Thrombosed IVC Filter: How To Recanalize The Cava And Manage The Filter

Jose I. Almeida MD, FACS
Founder, Miami Vein
Voluntary Professor of Surgery
Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

Faculty Disclosure
Jose I. Almeida, MD, FACS, RPVI, RVT
Nothing To Disclose

Conclusions:
Stenting across an obstructed IVC filter is safe. Patency is related to the severity of postthrombotic disease


Best To Remove IVC Filter To Avoid Long-term Filter Related Complications

IVC Filter Occludes Vena Cava
10 Years Out

Filter Struts In Aorta & Lumbar Vertebrae
Localized extravasation of contrast visualized after extraction. Patient remained hemodynamically stable.

5 Fr Cook Tri-force system provides good columnar support.

.035 angled stiff glidewire for recanalization of left iliac vein.

If Cannot Remove IVCF
1. Endo-smash
2. Endo-trash
Occluded permanent IVC filter (Braun) traversed with sharp end of an .035 Amplatz super-stiff wire supported with 45cm 16 FR Cook sheath and 5 FR 55 cm Triforce system.

Channel created between IVC and left common iliac vein to allowed passage of an .014 floppy tip wire from below without having to snare from above.

Amplatz Superstiff Guidewire (back end – sharp)

With through-and-through access from left femoral vein to right internal jugular vein serial balloon dilatation begun.

Here we "endosmash" the IVC filter using a 16 mm Bard Atlas balloon.

Filter “endotrashed” to the caval sidewall.

stenting across 24 mm Wallstent

Post-stent dilatation of IVC with 20 mm Bard Atlas balloon, inflations to 16 atm.

Stent fenestration initiated by traversing stent struts right iliac vein recanalized with .035 angled glide wire supported by Triforce system.
Stent fenestrum created with serial balloon dilatation; finishing with 14 mm Atlas balloon.

Caval Occlusion Bi-conical IVCF
“A Little Tougher Case”

- 25 mm Z-stent in infrarenal IVC to correct para renal caval stenosis
- 24 mm Wallstent to endosmash IVC filter
- 15 mm Z-stent in fenestrum mitigates jailing of the left side
- 16 mm Wallstents in common and external iliac veins bilaterally

16 Fr sheath
Conclusion:

1. Try to get the filter out
2. Need a little "uncomfortable" force
3. Extravasation well tolerated

Thank you!