Recanalizing chronically occluded venous stents

Akhilesh K. Sista, MD FSIR
Associate Professor, NYU School of Medicine
Division Chief, Vascular and Interventional Radiology

Disclosures
• Research Grant, Penumbra, Inc., administered through NYU school of medicine
• Scientific Advisory Board, Thrombolex, Inc. (Unpaid)

Primary Patency of stents placed for chronic DVT
60-70% at 5 years

Secondary patency in setting of chronic DVT is ~85% at 5 years

Crossing techniques - Simple

Crossing techniques - Moderate
Crossing techniques - Difficult

Difficult continued
Need More Data – with the potential need for reintervention, are we benefiting patients more often than not?

Conclusions

- Stent occlusions are inevitable – up to 4 in 10 stented patients with chronic DVT will need reintervention in 5 years
- Our tools are very mechanical and range from elbow grease to powered devices
- Even successful recanalization will be met with eventual re-occlusion
- While we think stenting for post-thrombotic patients is a good idea, we need better data – C-TRACT is coming