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Introduction and objectives. Each year the Spanish Society of Cardiology Working Group on Cardiac Catheterization and Interventional Cardiology reports on the data collected by the national registry of procedures performed. This report covers 2009. It contains information on the implementation of interventional cardiology across Spain and enables comparisons to be made with other countries.

Methods. Data were provided voluntarily and were analyzed by the Working Group’s steering committee.

Results. Data were submitted by 126 hospitals that mainly performed procedures in adults: 74 public and 52 private. Overall, 137,166 diagnostic procedures were carried out, including 122,961 coronary angiograms; the rate of 2,664 coronary angiograms per million population was little changed from the previous year. The number of percutaneous coronary interventions increased by 2% to reach 63,075, which corresponds to 1,391 per million population. In total, 102,850 stents were implanted (58.7% drug-eluting). In addition, 13,395 interventions were carried out during the acute phase of myocardial infarctions: this represents a 10% increase relative to 2008 and accounts for 21% of all percutaneous coronary interventions. The most frequent intervention for adult congenital heart disease was closure of an atrial septal defect, with 329 procedures. The most frequently performed valve procedure was mitral valvuloplasty, with 336 cases treated (success rate 96%), with the exception of percutaneous aortic valve implantation, which increased exponentially to a total of 426 in 2009.

Conclusions. The most significant increases in activity were in procedures for ST-segment elevation acute myocardial infarction and in percutaneous valve implantation. There was only a modest increase in the use of all other diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

Key words: Registry. Cardiac catheterization. Stent. Atrial septal defect closure.

Registro Español de Hemodinámica y Cardiología Intervencionista. XIX Informe Oficial de la Sección de Hemodinámica y Cardiología Intervencionista de la Sociedad Española de Cardiología (1990-2009)

Introducción y objetivos. La Sección de Hemodinámica presenta un informe anual con los datos del registro de actividad. El actual corresponde al año 2009. En él aparece la distribución nacional del intervencionismo cardíaco y ofrece datos para compararse con otros países.

Métodos. Los datos se entregarán de forma voluntaria y son analizados por la junta directiva de la Sección.

Resultados. Enviaron sus datos 126 hospitales (74 públicos y 52 privados) con actividad predominantemente en adultos. Se realizaron 137,166 estudios diagnósticos, con 122,961 coronariografías, sin apenas cambios respecto al año anterior, con una tasa de 2,664 coronariografías/millón de habitantes. Los procedimientos intervencionistas coronarios aumentaron un 2%, llegando a los 63,075, lo que supone 1,391 intervenciones/millón de habitantes. Se implantaron 102,850 stents (el 58% farmacoactivos). Se llevaron a cabo 13,395 procedimientos en el infarto agudo de miocardio, con un incremento del 10% respecto al 2008, que representan el 21% del total de intervenciones coronarias percutáneas. El intervencionismo más frecuente en las cardiopatías congénitas del adulto es el cierre de la comunicación interauricular, con 329 procedimientos. La valvuloplastia mitral, con 336 casos tratados (éxito en el 96%), es el procedimiento valvular más realizado, exceptuando el implante de válvulas aórticas percutáneas, que se ha incrementado espectacularmente hasta un total de 426 en el año 2009.

Conclusiones. El aumento más importante en la actividad ha tenido lugar en relación con el infarto agudo de miocardio con elevación del ST y el implante percutáneo de válvulas. El incremento de los demás procedimientos diagnósticos y terapéuticos ha sido moderado.

Palabras clave: Registro. Cateterismo cardíaco. Stent. Cierre de CIA.
ABBREVIATIONS
AMI: acute myocardial infarction
PCI: percutaneous coronary interventions
DES: drug-eluting stent
CAT: common arterial trunk
IVUS: intracoronary ultrasound
STEMI: ST-elevation acute myocardial infarction
ASD: atrial septal defect
PTCA: percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty
ADES: antiproliferative drug-eluting stents

INTRODUCTION

As in previous years and for over 2 decades now, one of the main tasks of the Board of the Spanish Society of Cardiology Working Group on Cardiac Catheterization and Interventional Cardiology is to collect and analyze data from Spanish hospitals engaging in these activities. The quality of the information obtained by the Working Group has improved year over year. The data for 2009 were presented to members of the Working Group at its Annual Meeting, which was held from 17th to 19th June in Sitges. The data can also be found on the Working Group’s website (http://www.hemodinamica.com).

The information obtained provides a picture of the current situation in Spain as well as allowing for comparisons with other countries. It also provides a means of evaluating and comparing the development of interventional cardiology across Spain’s autonomous regions. The data is made freely available to extend knowledge of the way resources are distributed and illustrate trends in the use of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

Two aspects are of particular interest this year. First, there has been a significant increase in interventional activity in myocardial infarction (AMI), particularly in terms of the number of primary angioplasties; this is in line with the European Society of Cardiology’s ‘Stent for Life’ initiative. The aim of this initiative is to increase the percentage of AMI patients with ST segment elevation in which this type of revascularization is performed and Spain was one of the target countries for the initiative. The second aspect of interest is the continued increase in the percutaneous implantation of aortic valves, which is now carried out in almost all of Spain’s autonomous regions.

This paper presents the nineteenth report on interventional cardiology activity in Spain and covers public centers as well as the majority of private centers.

METHODS

Data was collected on diagnostic and interventional cardiac activity in the majority of Spanish centers. Data collection was voluntary and no audit is performed though researchers submitting very inconsistent data are required to re-assess it. Data is collected using a standard questionnaire which is distributed to all catheterization laboratories in the country in two ways: on paper, and as an electronic form provided via the website of the Spanish Society of Cardiology Working Group on Cardiac Catheterization and Interventional Cardiology (http://www.hemodinamica.com). The latter can be completed online. Paper versions are distributed and collected by the Izasa company. The data obtained was analyzed by the Board of the Working Group and is made public in this article.

For national and regional population-level calculations, the National Institute of Statistics’ (NIS) estimates for January 1, 2009 were used, as published on the NIS website (http://www.ine.es). The Spanish population stood at 46,157,222 inhabitants.

As in previous records, centers were defined as public, independently of its source of funding, if they served a certain population area within the public health system. All other centers were considered to be private.

RESULTS

Infrastructure and Resources

A total of 126 hospitals performing interventional activity in adults participated in the present registry. Of these, 9 also performed interventions in pediatric patients (Appendix 1). All of the public centers (74 hospitals) and 52 private centers (5 fewer than last year; it should be noted here that the registry does not include all of the private institutions carrying out interventional activity) submitted their data. Almost all of the centers performing interventional activity in Spain are therefore represented. The centers included provided a total of 178 catheterization laboratories, of which 112 (62%) were located in public health centers. A 24 hour emergency team was available in 73% of public centers and 75% of the private centers; 65% of the centers performed cardiac surgery.

The 126 participating centers reported that 432 doctors performed interventional activity during 2009, giving a distribution of 3.42 professionals per
In 2009, as in 2008, public centers performed 85% of diagnostic activity, with 55 centers performing over 1000 coronary angiograms, and 14 of them, over 2000 (Figure 2). Centers performed an average of 1,088 diagnostic procedures (770 per laboratory), so again were essentially unchanged from the previous registries. Seventeen hospitals performed fewer than 1000 coronary angiograms.

As mentioned in the introduction, the national average was 2664 coronary angiograms per million inhabitants. Distribution by regions is shown in Figure 3. Apart from the region at the lowest end of the scale, the difference between the region with highest rate and that with the second to lowest rate was only 818.

With regard to intracoronary diagnostic techniques, intravascular ultrasound was the most frequently used technique, followed by the pressure guide wire. With respect to previous years, there was some stagnation in the use of intravascular ultrasound (only a 3.4% increase in use compared to 2008), while the use of pressure guide wires increased by 17.7% (its use declined 14% in the previous year). Use of optical coherence tomography continued to increase, to a total of 327 interventions, representing an increase of 17% over 2008. On the other hand, use of the intracoronary Doppler guide wire decreased drastically, by 49.5%, to a total of only 52 cases. Figure 4 shows the evolution of intracoronary diagnostic techniques in recent years.

**Diagnostic Activity**

A total of 137,166 diagnostic procedures were performed in 2009. This represents only a minimal increase (<1%) over the previous year but is to be expected as the number of centers or laboratories in public hospitals, where most activity takes place, remained virtually unchanged. Of the diagnostic procedures reported, 122,961 were coronary angiograms, meaning there was no increase over 2008; 22% of the procedures were performed in women and 21% in patients aged over 75 years. These figures were similar to the previous year and give a national average of 2664 coronary procedures per million inhabitants. That figure is virtually unchanged from 2008 and is still substantially below the 2005 European average of 4030 coronary angiograms per million inhabitants in countries participating in the Registry. In 2009, as in 2008, public centers performed 85% of diagnostic activity, with 55 centers performing over 1000 coronary angiograms, and 14 of them, over 2000 (Figure 2). Centers performed an average of 1,088 diagnostic procedures (770 per laboratory), so again were essentially unchanged from the previous registries. Seventeen hospitals performed fewer than 1000 coronary angiograms.

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As regards accessory pathways, the increased use of the radial artery seen in previous years was maintained, and approached parity with the femoral artery. It was used in 45% of cases in 2009, compared to 48% in 2008 and 41.7% in 2007.

**Coronary Interventions**

The increase in percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI) was virtually identical to the previous year (2%), with the number in 2009 standing at 63,075. The historical development of the intervention in Spain is shown in Figure 5. The number of PCIs per million inhabitants was 1391, a slight increase over the previous year (1%) but still well below the latest published European figures, with a rate of 1601 PCIs per million inhabitants in 2005. 18 90% of coronary interventions were performed in National Health Service centers.

The PCI/angiography ratio was 0.51 in 2009, which represented a slight increase over 2008. This reflected...
PCI was performed on one or more restenotic lesions (5.2% in 2008). The number of interventions for restenotic lesions has been relatively stable for almost 5 years, a fact which may be explained, at least in part, by the lack of any real increase in stent use over that period.

The significant increase in unprotected interventions in the common arterial trunk (CAT) is also noteworthy. The figure increased to 1973 operations, up 19% over the previous year, and representing 3.12% of total PCIs.

The larger increase in the number of PCIs compared to coronary angiograms. The number of procedures for multivessel disease fell by 2.2% over the year and represented 24.8% of the total number of PCIs. The frequency of ad hoc procedures performed during diagnosis also remained unchanged at 76% (47,902).

Distribution by sex and age was very similar to 2008 with 19.8% of procedures performed in women (compared to 18.9% the previous year) and 23.3% of procedures performed in patients over 75 years of age (compared to 20% in 2008). In 5.6% of cases, PCI was performed on one or more restenotic lesions (5.2% in 2008). The number of interventions for restenotic lesions has been relatively stable for almost 5 years. A fact which may be explained, at least in part, by the lack of any real increase in stent use over that period.

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Radial access in coronary interventions increased slightly to 45.5% and, for the first time, reached similar proportions to its use in diagnosis (45%). As regards femoral access, vascular closure was used in 40,450 cases, 10% more than last year. Collagen was used in 66.7% of cases, compared to suture in 19.3%. Other devices were used in 14% of cases.

Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa (GPIIb/IIIa) inhibitors and adjunctive antithrombotic drug therapy were used in 14,376 procedures (22.8%): 65.3% with abciximab, 11.5% with tirofiban, 7.1% with epifibatide, and 16% with bivalirudin. These figures represented an increase of almost 50% over the previous year. They refer to all procedures using antiGPIIb/IIIa; the time of drug administration is not specified, as this variable is not included in the data collection form.

The breakdown by regions for the 1391 PCIs per million inhabitants in Spain is shown in Figure 6. Regional distribution was similar to 2008 (836), although if the first and last two regions are excluded, levels were similar to those for 2007 and prior years (453). Figure 7 shows the distribution by centers. As can be seen, 58 centers performed over 500 PCIs throughout the year (46%), and 17 centers could be classified as high-volume (>1000).

Intracoronary diagnostic techniques (echocardiography, intracoronary ultrasound [IVUS] and pressure guide wire), which are used primarily to assess the severity of intermediate lesions or the result of the intervention, were similar in number to 2008, with IVUS and pressure guide wires representing 9.4% and 2.9% of total PCIs, respectively.

Figure 6. Distribution of percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI) per million population and region.
A total of 13,395 procedures were performed in the context of AMI (21.2% of all PCI), an increase of 10% over 2008. Of those, 17.3% were performed in women (identical to 2008) and 21.5% were performed in individuals over 75 years of age, 1.5% more than in the prior year.

Among the range of PCI procedures performed in the acute phase of AMI, there was a marked increase in primary angioplasty, which increased...
replacement continued to increase, from 75 in 2008 to 134 in 2009. The growth in percutaneous aortic valve implantation was spectacular, from 151 cases in 2008 to 426 cases in 2009. Of these, 224 were self-expanding (94% success, with hospital mortality of 5.8%) and 202 used expandable balloons (90.5% success, with hospital mortality of 9.4%). The breakdown by regions is shown in Figure 14.

The treatment of adult congenital heart disease continued to be the most common non-coronary interventional procedure in the current registry, with 731 procedures performed (up from 635 in 2008). The most frequent of these was atrial septal defect (ASD) closure, with a total of 329 cases and a 96% success rate. Of the cases treated, 2% had complications, including device embolization or tamponade. Procedure mortality was zero, as in 2006, 2007 and 2008. Closure of the foramen ovale was performed in 232 cases, with a success rate of 98%, and 37 aortic coarctations were performed (14 more than the previous year). Other procedures performed included closure of ductus, ventricular septal defects, and fistula.

In all, 92 paravalvular leaks were treated, almost double the number treated in 2008; 66 were mitral and 26 aortic.

Non-Coronary Interventions in Adults

Mitral valve replacement remained the most frequent non-coronary intervention (336 cases), with figures that were very similar to those of recent years. Outcomes were also the same as the previous year, with a success rate of 96% and major complications in 2% of procedures (Figure 13). Aortic valve replacement continued to increase, from 75 in 2008 to 134 in 2009. The growth in percutaneous aortic valve implantation was spectacular, from 151 cases in 2008 to 426 cases in 2009. Of these, 224 were self-expanding (94% success, with hospital mortality of 5.8%) and 202 used expandable balloons (90.5% success, with hospital mortality of 9.4%). The breakdown by regions is shown in Figure 14.

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Interventions in Pediatric Patients

Ten centers provided data on their activity in pediatric age patients (16 years of age or under). These included 84 CIA closures and 52 ductus closures, 134 aortic valvuloplasties, 37 treatments for aortic coarctation, and 33 lung valvuloplasties.
Figure 10. Distribution of percutaneous interventions (PCI) in acute myocardial infarction (AMI) per million population and region.

Figure 11. Distribution of primary angioplasty per million population and regions.
Variations between the regions were maintained as regards PCI in general and, in particular, for myocardial infarction.

The use of ADES increased by only 0.5% compared to 2008, to a national average of 58.7%, with considerable variety between regions and a similar distribution to that observed in previous Registries. The use of rotational atherectomy grew by only a small amount compared to growth recorded in the previous year (5.3% compared to 30.6%).

The radial accessory pathway was used in almost 50% of cases, both for diagnosis and in interventions and is used increasingly in the acute phase of stroke.

Moving beyond coronary interventions, percutaneous aortic valve implantation showed the strongest growth among all of the parameters examined, from 151 in 2008 to 426 in 2009. Of course, it may not be possible to maintain these levels of growth due to the economic situation in Spain and the high cost of these devices.

We would like to end by announcing the launch of a specific registry of percutaneous aortic valves and

CONCLUSIONS

The 2009 Registry indicates that we have generally reached a plateau in the evolution of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, though it is also true that angioplasty in the context of AMI, particularly primary angioplasty, has grown considerably, possibly because of the incorporation of new regions such as Catalonia into ‘open’ primary percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) programs. We believe that in subsequent years, given that there is no apparent increase in the number of public centers or operating theatres, any growth in the number of coronary interventions will come through primary angioplasty. This is now a focus for our working group, in parallel with the Spanish and European Cardiology Societies, the aim being to expand the ‘Stent for Life’ program to as many autonomous regions as possible.

Diagnostic activity in general was also very similar to the previous year, with a moderate increase in the use of intravascular ultrasound and a slightly larger increase in the case of the pressure guide wire.

Figure 12. Distribution of centers according to the number of percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI) in the context of acute myocardial infarction (AMI).

Figure 13. Evolution of mitral valvuloplasties in Spain.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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REFERENCES


Figure 14. Distribution of percutaneous aortic valve implantation by region.
APPENDIX 1. Hospitals Participating in the 2009 Registry

**Andalucía**
- **Jaén**
  - Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Jaén
- **Málaga**
  - Complejo Universitario Carlos Haya
  - Hospital Clínico Universitario Virgen de la Victoria
  - Hospital Costa del Sol
  - Xanit Internacional de Benalmádena
  - Parque San Antonio
  - USP Marbella
  - Clínica El Ángel
  - Clínica Santa Elena
  - Hospital Estepona
- **Sevilla**
  - Hospital Universitario Virgen del Rocío
  - Hospital Universitario Virgen Macarena
  - Hospital Universitario de Valme
- **Almería**
  - Complejo Hospitalario Torrecárdenas
  - Hospital Virgen del Mar
- **Cádiz**
  - Hospital Universitario Puerta del Mar
  - Hospital Universitario Puerto Real
  - Hospital de Jerez de la Frontera
  - Clínica Ntra. Sra. de la Salud
- **Córdoba**
  - Hospital Universitario Reina Sofía
- **Granada**
  - Hospital Universitario Virgen de las Nieves
- **Huelva**
  - Hospital Juan Ramón Jiménez
- **Aragón**
  - Zaragoza: Hospital Clínico Universitario Lozano Blesa
  - Hospital Universitario Miguel Servet
- **Asturias**
  - Hospital Central de Asturias
  - Centro Médico de Asturias
- **Balearic Islands**
  - Hospital Son Dureta
  - Policlínica Miramar
  - Clínica Rotger
  - Clínica Palmaplanas
  - Clínica Juandeda
  - Ibiza: Policlínica Ntra. Señora del Rosario

**Canary Islands**
- **Las Palmas**
  - Hospital de Gran Canaria Dr. Negrín
  - Hospital Universitario Insular de Gran Canaria
  - Clínica San Roque
- **Santa Cruz de Tenerife**
  - Complejo Hospitalario Ntra. Sra. de la Candelaria
  - Hospitén Rambla
  - Cantabria
  - Hospital Universitario Marqués de Valdecilla
- **Valladolid**
  - Hospital Clínico Universitario de Valladolid
  - Hospital Campo Grande (CEMIN)
  - Salamanca
  - Hospital Universitario de Salamanca
  - León
  - Hospital de León
  - Burgos
  - Hospital General Yagüe
  - Castilla-La Mancha
  - Toledo
  - Hospital Virgen de la Salud
  - Albacete
  - Hospital General de Albacete
  - Ibérica de Diagnóstico y Cirugía S.L
  - Guadalajara
  - Hospital Universitario de Guadalajara
  - Ciudad Real
  - Hospital General de Ciudad Real
  - Cataluña
  - Barcelona
  - Ciutat Sanitària i Universitaria de Bellvitge
  - Hospital Clínico i Provincial de Barcelona
  - Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau
  - Hospital General Universitari Vall d’Hebron
  - Hospital Universitari Germans Trias i Pujol
  - Hospital del Mar
  - Hospital Parc Taulí
  - Mútua de Terrassa
  - Hospital General de Catalunya
  - Centre Cardio-Vascular Sant Jordi
  - Centro Médico Teknon
  - Hospital Quirón
  - Hospital de Barcelona – SCIAS
Clínica Corachan  Hospital de Levante
Clínica La Alianza – ANGIOCOR  Hospital de Torrevieja
Centro Médico Delfos  Hospital Clínic Universitario de Valencia


Girona  Hospital Universitarii Dr. Josep Trueta
Tarragona  Hospital Joan XXIII
Lleida  Hospital Universitari Arnaud de Vilanova
Madrid Region  Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre
Hospital Clínico San Carlos  Hospital Universitario de La Princesa
Hospital Universitario Gregorio Marañón  Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón
Hospital Universitario La Paz  Hospital General Universitario Gómez Ulla
Hospital Militar Gómez Ulla  Hospital Ramón y Cajal
Fundación Hospital de Alcorcón  Fundación Jiménez Díaz

Valencia  Hospital General Universitario de Valencia
Hospital Universitario La Fe  Hospital Dr. Peset
Hospital de La Ribera  Hospital 9 Octubre
Clínica Virgen del Consuelo  Clínica Casa Salud

Castellón  Hospital General de Castellón
Región de Murcia  Hospital Universitario Virgen de la Arrixaca
Hospital Santa María del Rosell  Clínica San Carlos
Clínica Virgen de la Vega

Extremadura  Hospital Universitario Infanta Cristina de Cáceres
Badajoz  Cáceres Hospital de Cáceres

Galicia  Complexo Hospitalario Universitario de A Coruña

A Coruña  Complexo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago
Clínica USP Santa Teresa
Instituto Médico Quirúrgico San Rafael
Sanatorio Quirúrgico Modelo

Pontevedra  Complexo Hospitalario Universitario de Vigo
Hospital POVISA
Ultima Sanitaria
Hospital de Vigo

Navarra  Hospital de Navarra
Hospital de Galdakao
Clínica Universitaria de Navarra

Basque Country  Hospital Txagorrítxu
Álava  Policlinica Guipuzcoa
Guipúzcoa  Hospital de Basurto
Vizcaya  Hospital de Cruces

Clínica San Jaime de Torrevieja
Public hospitals and state-subsidized private hospitals are in bold.