

Letter to the Editor

Galectin-3, Carbohydrate Antigen 125 and Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation



Galectina 3, antígeno carbohidrato 125 e implante percutáneo de prótesis aórtica

To the Editor,

We read the publication Differential Prognostic Value of Galectin-3 According to Carbohydrate Antigen 125 (CA125) Levels in Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation with a great interest.¹ Rheude et al. concluded that “In patients undergoing TAVI, Gal-3 predicts adverse clinical outcomes, but only in the presence of elevated CA125 values.”¹ In fact, galectin-3 is a new biomarker that has been reported to be useful in diagnosing cardiac disorders as well as other medical problems (such as cancer and endocrine disorders).^{2,3} Several pathological conditions can result in abnormal galectin-3 levels. In the present report, it is not possible to rule out any other concomitant medical disorders. The interesting question concerns the source of elevated carbohydrate antigen 125 levels in some cases. Carbohydrate antigen 125 might increase in some patients with heart failure⁴ but it can also increase in several conditions in women, such as ovarian tumors and endometriosis. To enhance the diagnostic capability of carbohydrate antigen 125 in cardiac problems, a recent report showed that coinvestigating for copeptin level is useful.⁵

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