






Superficial temporal artery access for coronary angiography

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Coronary angiography is an invasive diagnostic used to visualize the coronary arteries. The first selective coronary angiography was accidentally performed by Dr. Mason Sones Jr. on October 30, 1958 at the Cleveland Clinic. In the following years, coronary angiography became an important diagnostic method in clinical practice and the basis of contemporary invasive and interventional cardiology. Nowadays, the most common vascular approach for performing coronary angiography is through the radial or femoral artery. In patients with severe peripheral arterial disease, e.g. occlusion of the subclavian, femoral, or radial arteries, the usual vascular access for coronary angiography cannot be used. Uncommon and very rarely used alternative approach (only a few cases in the world) is through the superficial temporal artery. This is a relatively small artery and is a branch of the external carotid artery.^{1,2} The procedure begins with puncturing the superficial temporal artery and placing an introducer. Then the catheter passes through the internal carotid artery, brachiocephalic artery, aorta to the coronary artery. Such an approach requires knowledge, skill and expertise. Nursing procedures for temporal coronary angiography include a number of activities: preoperative preparation, preparation of the patient, materials and equipment, assisting during the procedure, monitoring of vital signs, and postoperative care. Nursing procedures and care require extensive knowledge and skills, especially for new and rarely performed procedures and therapy. Coronary angiography using the superficial temporal artery access is a very rare and specific technique that requires expertise, and is used when conventional approaches are not possible. Nursing procedures are crucial for the successful outcome of the procedure and patient safety. Nursing procedures and care can significantly reduce the risk of complications and improve patient recovery. Technical knowledge, practical skills, and emotional intelligence are essential for providing high-quality nursing care.

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LITERATURE 

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