

CARDIAC SURGERY IN THE ELDERLY – OUR EXPERIENCE.

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Aim: In a few last years, the number of octogenarians undergoing cardiac surgery was growing up. The aim of this study was to evaluate the early results of cardiac surgical treatment in this group of patients.

Materials and method: The study included 110 patients aged 80 to 89 years old, which underwent surgery in the Department of Cardiac Surgery Medical University in Lublin since January 2008 to December 2012. Eighty seven patients (79.2%) underwent coronary artery bypass grafting, eleven (10%) aortic valve prosthesis implantation, ten patients (9%) underwent complex procedures – coronary artery bypass grafting combined with implantation of aortic valve prosthesis and two patients (1.8%), other cardiac surgery.

Results: Nine patients died (8.2%). Postoperative complications were reported in 30 patients (27.3%). Low cardiac output syndrome requiring inotropics and intraaortic balloon, respiratory failure with prolonged mechanical ventilation more than 24 hours were observed respectively in 11 (10%), 15 (13.6%) patients. Other complications were rare. All patients had coexisting diseases like hypertension in 81 patients (73.6%) and diabetes type 2 in 25 (22.7%) patients.

Conclusions: Octogenarians undergoing cardiac surgery have an acceptable risk of death and postoperative complications.