**CRYO ABLATION OF ATRIAL FIBRILLATION: IS IT READY FOR PRIME TIME?**

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Atrial fibrillation ablation has become a common procedure with varying degrees of success. Pulmonary vein isolation remains the main goal with additional ablation sets in persistent and permanent ablation. Radiofrequency energy with point to point ablation is the most commonly used method of atrial fibrillation ablation. However, operator dexterity and degree of contact remains a hurdle and collateral damage results in serious complications. Cryo balloon ablation is an attractive alternative as the pulmonary vein isolation is achieved by inflating a balloon. Operator learning curve is less steep and success rates are similar to radiofrequency ablation. However, cryo balloon ablation cannot be used as the sole procedure in persistent and permanent atrial fibrillation ablation. Nevertheless, circumferential isolation of a vein with balloon inflation is gaining significant foothold in paroxysmal atrial fibrillation.