**PROSTHETIC VALVE THROMBOSIS: UNDERSTANDING THE GUIDELINES**

**S.V. Pislaru**

Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, USA

Prosthetic valve thrombosis is not an uncommon complication, occurring in up to ~6% of patients. Diagnosis is difficult, especially for bioprosthetic valves. Current ACC/AHA Guidelines address this issue to a limited extent, and favor surgical intervention over thrombolytic therapy for occlusive disease of left-sided valves. Therapy of right-sided prosthesis receives only class IIb indications. Furthermore, the guidelines do not distinguish between treatment of bioprostheses and mechanical prostheses. We will review current guidelines as well as updated options for treatment of prosthetic valve thrombosis.