

# 25° Congresso Nazionale



Società Italiana  
Interdisciplinare  
NeuroVascolare



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11-13 Novembre 2016

Centro di San'Elia, Piazza Pio, Via A. Fiumi  
San Giovanni Rotondo

Corso teorico-pratico di Neurosonologia

Sul recente sviluppo di tecniche innovative e di metodologie innovative per la diagnosi e la cura



ST JAMES MEDICAL



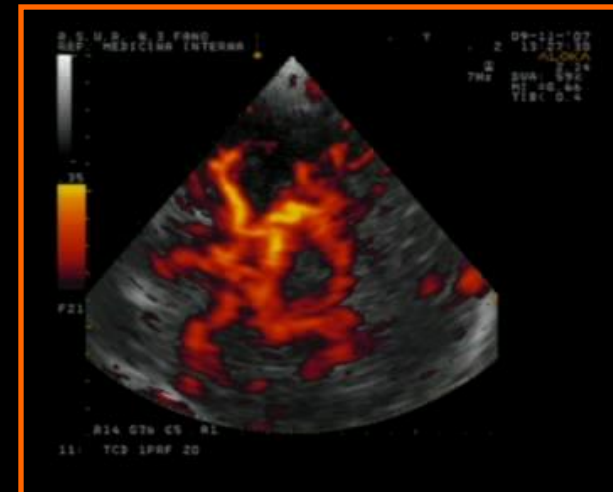
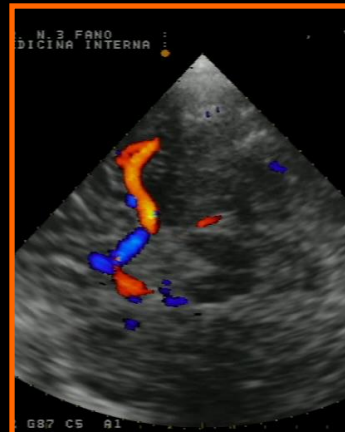
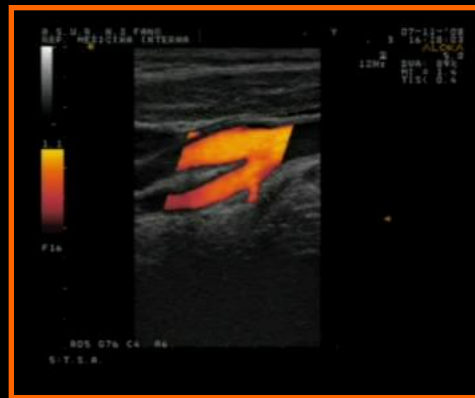
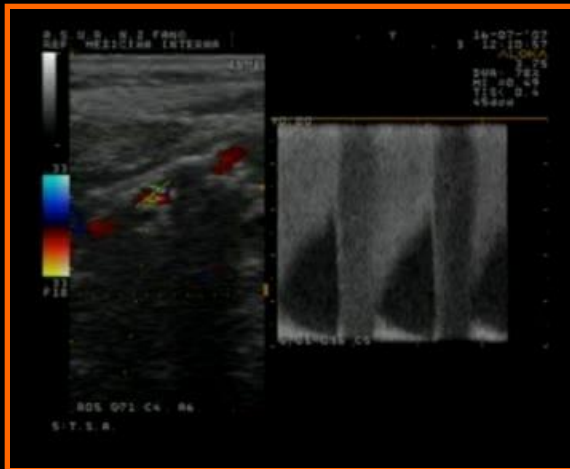
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Lo studio eco-color-doppler  
del circolo anteriore:  
dalle carotidi extracraniche  
al circolo di Willis

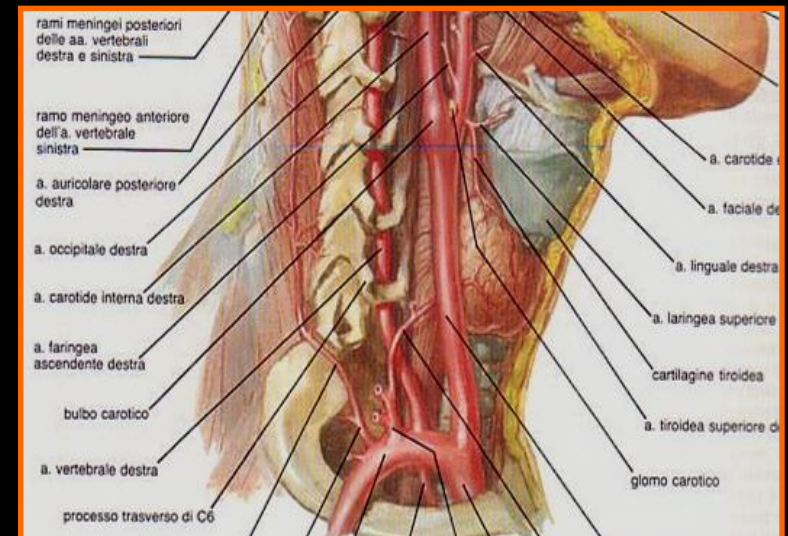
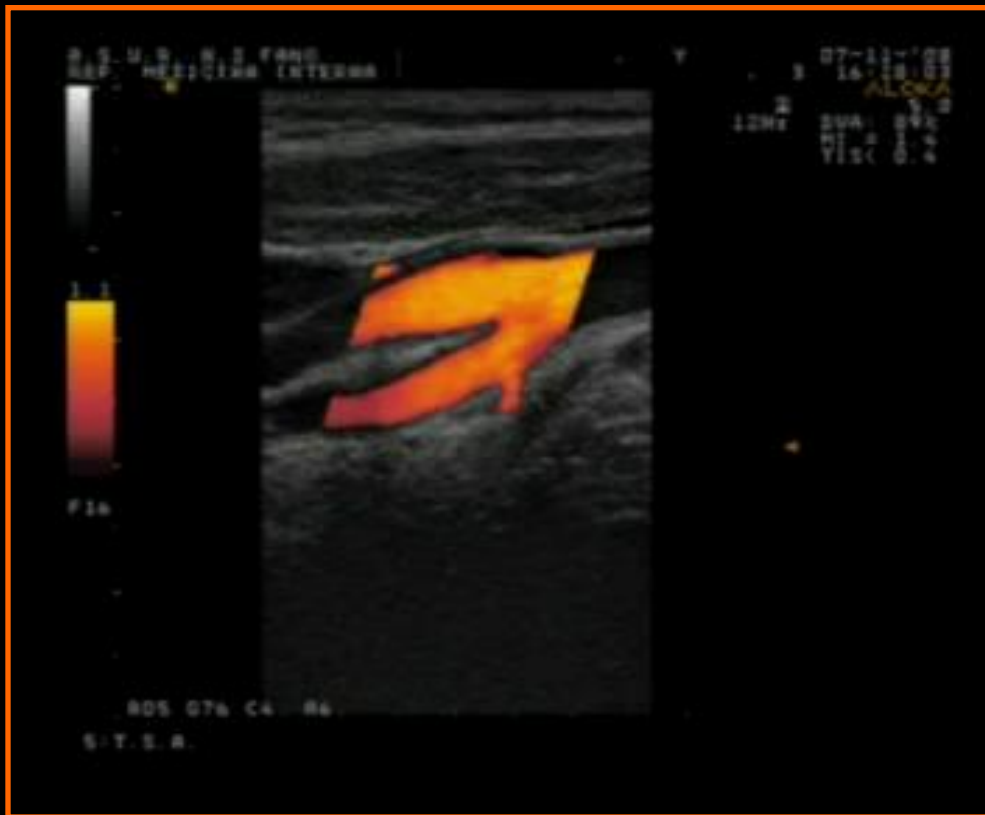
Dr Giancarlo Francolini  
Resp. UOS Stroke Unit  
U.O.C. Medicina Interna Fano  
Dir. Resp. Dr. G. Frausini

Lo studio eco-color-doppler  
del circolo anteriore:  
dalle carotidi extracraniche al circolo di Willis

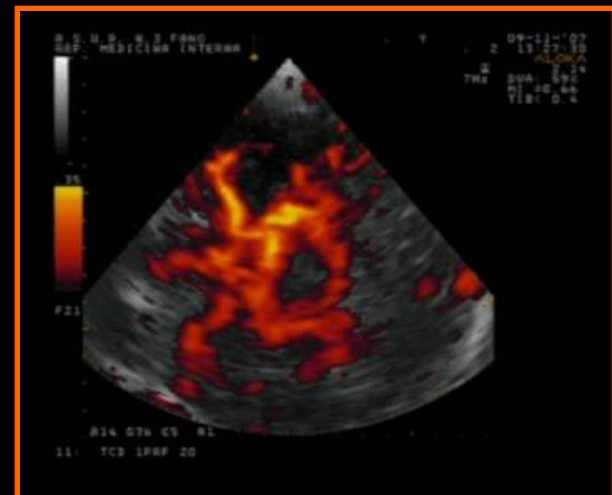
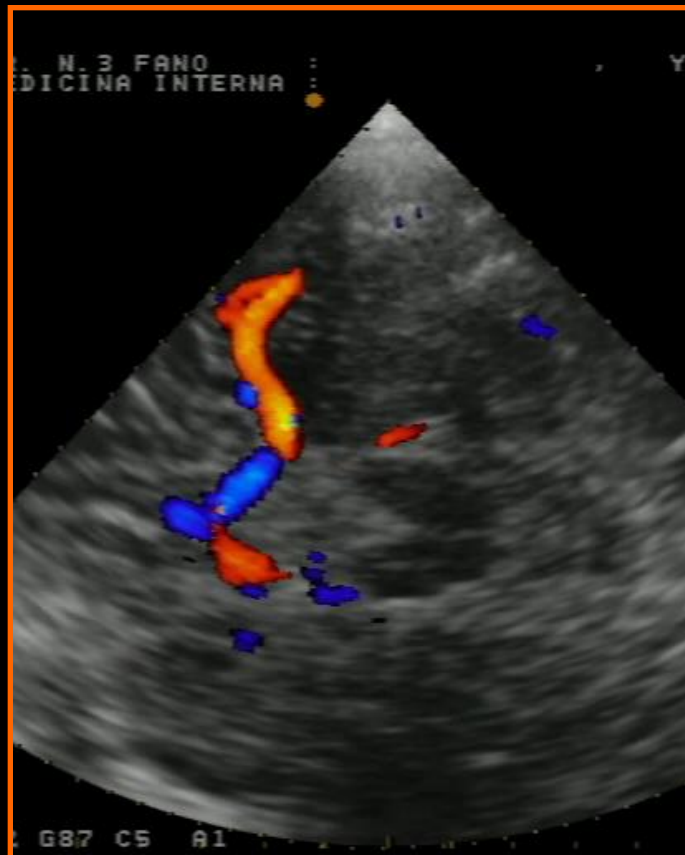


# Eco-color-doppler

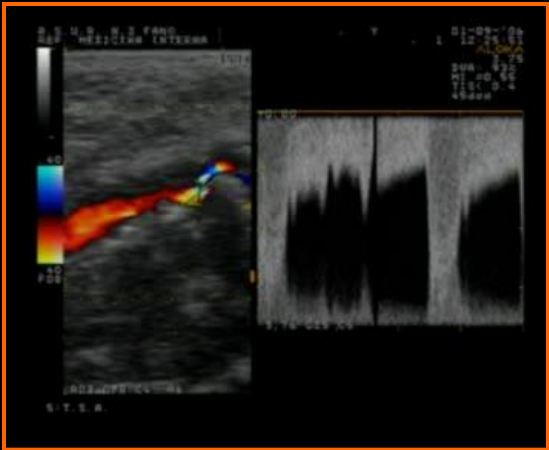
## Tronchi Sopra-Aortici



# Eco-color-doppler Transcranico (TCCD)



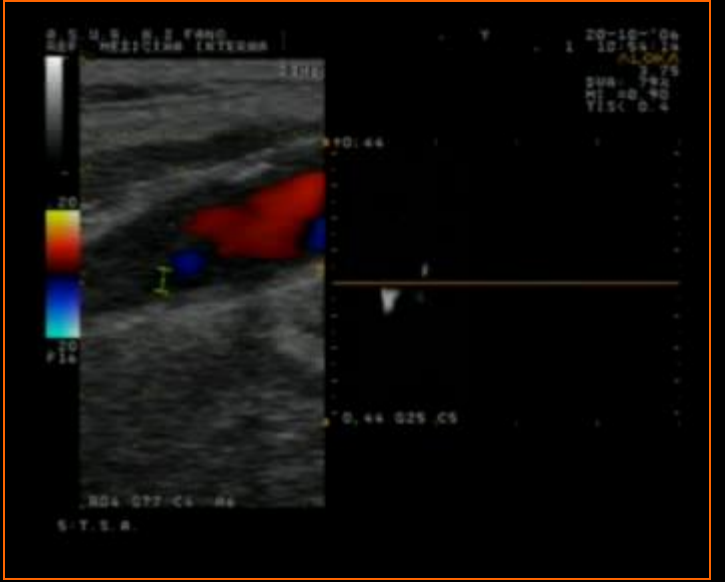
## Stenosi carotide interna



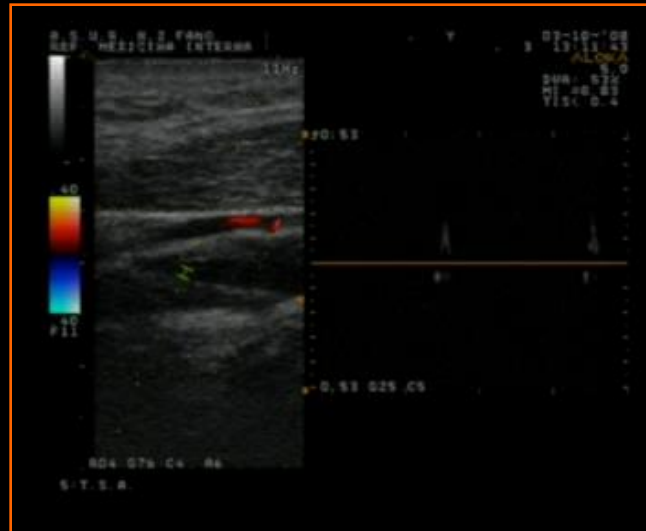
# Trombosi carotide interna



# Trombosi carotide interna



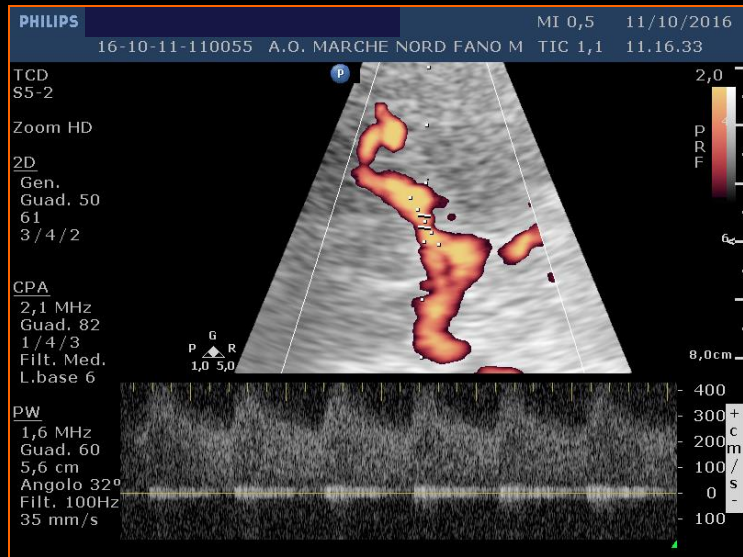
# Dissecazione carotide interna



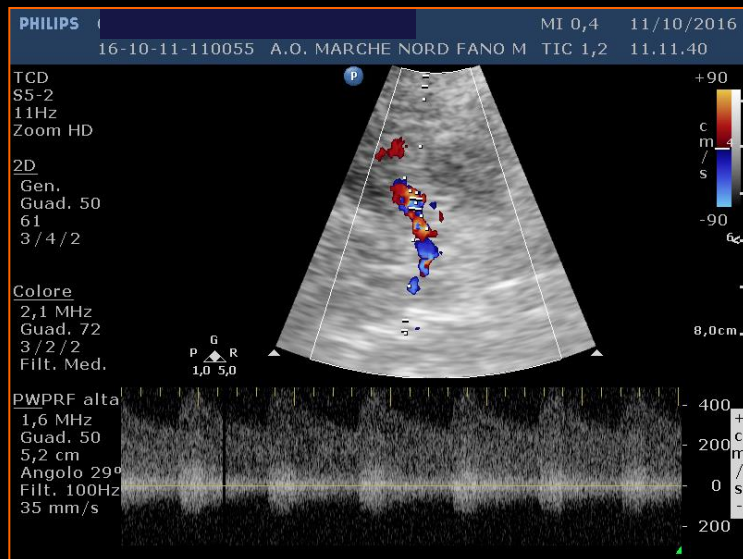
# Arterite di Takayasu



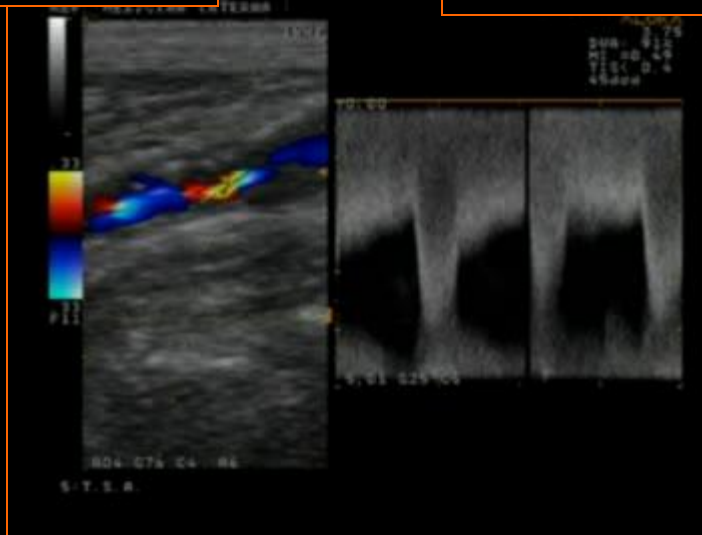
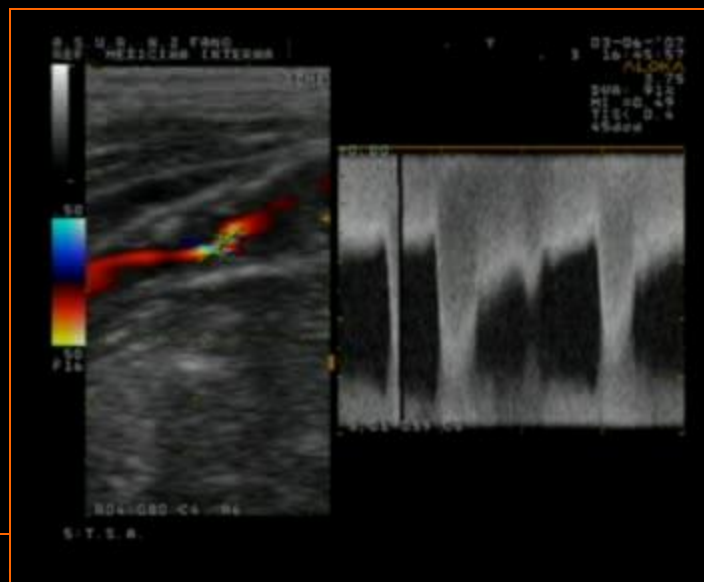
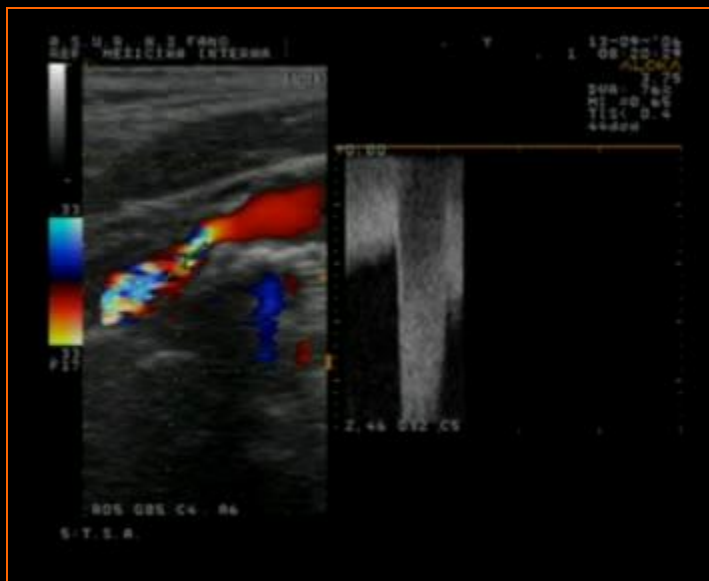
# Stenosi cerebrale media



# Trombosi cerebrale media



# Stenosi carotide interna



# Eco-color-doppler Tronchi Sopra-Aortici

Percentuale di stenosi



Caratteristiche morfo-strutturali della placca

# STRANDNESS

## UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON VELOCITY AND SPECTRAL WAVEFORM CRITERIA FOR CLASSIFICATION OF INTERNAL CAROTID ARTERY DISEASE

| ■ ARTERIOGRAPHIC<br>DIAMETER REDUCTION | ■ PEAK SYSTOLIC<br>VELOCITY | ■ END-DIASTOLIC<br>VELOCITY | ■ SPECTRAL WAVEFORM<br>CHARACTERISTICS                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0% (normal)                            | <125 cm/s                   | —                           | Minimal or no spectral broadening; boundary layer separation present in the carotid bulb                         |
| 1%-15%                                 | <125 cm/s                   | —                           | Spectral broadening during deceleration phase of systole only                                                    |
| 16%-49%                                | <125 cm/s                   | —                           | Spectral broadening throughout systole                                                                           |
| 50%-79%                                | ≥125 cm/s                   | <140 cm/sec                 | Marked spectral broadening                                                                                       |
| 80%-99%                                | ≥125 cm/s                   | ≥140 cm/sec                 | Marked spectral broadening                                                                                       |
| 100% (occlusion)                       | —                           | —                           | No flow signal in the internal carotid artery; decreased diastolic flow in the ipsilateral common carotid artery |

Diameter reduction is based on arteriographic methods that compared the residual internal carotid artery lumen diameter to the estimated diameter of the carotid bulb.

Velocity criteria are based on the angle-adjusted velocity using a Doppler angle of  $\leq 60^\circ$ .

# Criteri velocitometrici per definire la stenosi carotidea

| Autore     | Stenosi | PSV IC | EDV IC | PSV IC/CC | SENS | SPEC |
|------------|---------|--------|--------|-----------|------|------|
| Carpentier | ≥ 60 %  | 170    |        |           | 98   | 87   |
| Moneta     | ≥ 60 %  | 260+   | 70     |           | 84   | 94   |
| Carpentier | ≥ 70 %  | 210    |        |           | 94   | 77   |
| Moneta     | ≥ 70 %  |        |        | 4         | 91   | 87   |
| Alexandrov | ≥ 70 %  | 250    |        |           | 93   | 86   |

# Criteri ultrasonografici per la valutazione del grado di stenosi

*(Stanford Stroke Center)*

| Grado di stenosi | PSV            | EDV           | PSV ICA/CCA |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| < 50%            | < 150 cm/s     | < 50 cm/s     | < 1,8       |
| 50% - 70%        | 150 – 250 cm/s | 50 – 90 cm/s  | 1,8 – 2,8   |
| 70% - 90%        | 250 – 400 cm/s | 90 – 150 cm/s | 2,8 – 5     |
| 90% - 99%        | > 400 cm/s     | > 150 cm/s    | > 5         |

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**Index terms:**

Carotid arteries, flow dynamics  
 Carotid arteries, stenosis or  
 obstruction, 172.4311, 172.4312,  
 172.721

Carotid arteries, US, 172.12981,  
 172.12983, 172.12984

**Special Reports**

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 10.1148/radiol.2292030516  
 Radiology 2003; 229:340–346

<sup>1</sup> From the Dept of Radiology, Univ of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine, USC University Hospital, 1500 San Pablo St, Los Angeles, CA 90033 (E.G.G.); Dept of Radiology, Brigham and Women's Hosp, Harvard Med School, Boston, Mass (C.B.B., J.F.F.); Dept of Surgery, Oregon Health and Science Univ, Portland, Ore (G.L.M.); Cerebrovascular Ultrasound and Stroke Treatment Team, Univ of Texas Houston Med School (A.V.A.); Dept of Surgery, West Los Angeles VA Med Ctr, Calif (J.D.B.); Dept of Radiology, Ochsner Clinic, New Orleans, La (E.I.B.); Dept of Radiology, Duke Univ Med School, Durham, NC (B.A.C., B.S.H.); Dept of Biostatistics, Univ of Calgary, Alberta, Canada (M.E.); Midwest Heart Specialists Vascular Lab and La Grange Memorial Vascular Laboratory, Downers Grove, Ill (C.V.).

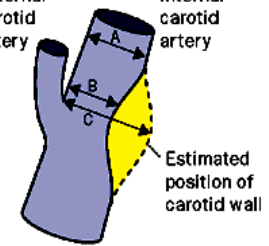
## Carotid Artery Stenosis: Gray-Scale and Doppler US Diagnosis—Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound Consensus Conference<sup>1</sup>

The Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound convened a multidisciplinary panel of experts in the field of vascular ultrasonography (US) to come to a consensus regarding Doppler US for assistance in the diagnosis of carotid artery stenosis. The panel's consensus statement is believed to represent a reasonable position on the basis of analysis of available literature and panelists' experience. Key elements of the statement include the following: (a) All internal carotid artery (ICA) examinations should be performed with gray-scale, color Doppler, and spectral Doppler US. (b) The degree of stenosis determined at gray-scale and Doppler US should be stratified into the categories of normal (no stenosis), <50% stenosis, 50%–69% stenosis, ≥70% stenosis to near occlusion, near occlusion, and total occlusion. (c) ICA peak systolic velocity (PSV) and presence of plaque on gray-scale and/or color Doppler images are primarily used in diagnosis and grading of ICA stenosis; two additional parameters, ICA-to-common carotid artery PSV ratio and ICA end-diastolic velocity may also be used when clinical or technical factors raise concern that ICA PSV may not be representative of the extent of disease. (d) ICA should be diagnosed as (i) normal when ICA PSV is less than 125 cm/sec and no plaque or intimal thickening is visible; (ii) <50% stenosis when ICA PSV is less than 125 cm/sec and plaque or intimal thickening is visible; (iii) 50%–69% stenosis when ICA PSV is 125–230 cm/sec and plaque is visible; (iv) ≥70% stenosis to near occlusion when ICA PSV is greater than 230 cm/sec and visible plaque and lumen narrowing are seen; (v) near occlusion when there is a markedly narrowed lumen at color Doppler US; and (vi) total occlusion when there is no detectable patent lumen at gray-scale US and no flow at spectral, power, and color Doppler US. (e) The final report should discuss velocity measurements and gray-scale and color Doppler findings. Study limitations should be noted when they exist. The conclusion should state an estimated degree of ICA stenosis as reflected in the above categories. The panel also considered various technical aspects of carotid US and methods for quality assessment and identified several important unanswered questions meriting future research.

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# Consensus Panel Gray-scale and Doppler US Criteria for diagnosis of ICA Stenosis

| Degree of Stenosis (%)           | Primary Parameters         |                              | Additional Parameters |                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|                                  | ICA PSV (cm/sec)           | Plaque Estimate (%)*         | ICA/CCA PSV Ratio     | ICA EDV (cm/sec) |
| Normal                           | <125                       | None                         | <2.0                  | <40              |
| <50                              | <125                       | <50                          | <2.0                  | <40              |
| 50-69                            | 125-230                    | ≥50                          | 2.0-4.0               | 40-100           |
| ≥70 but less than near occlusion | ≥230                       | ≥50                          | >4.0                  | >100             |
| Near occlusion                   | High, low, or undetectable | Visible                      | Variable              | Variable         |
| Total occlusion                  | Undetectable               | Visible, no detectable lumen | Not applicable        | Not applicable   |

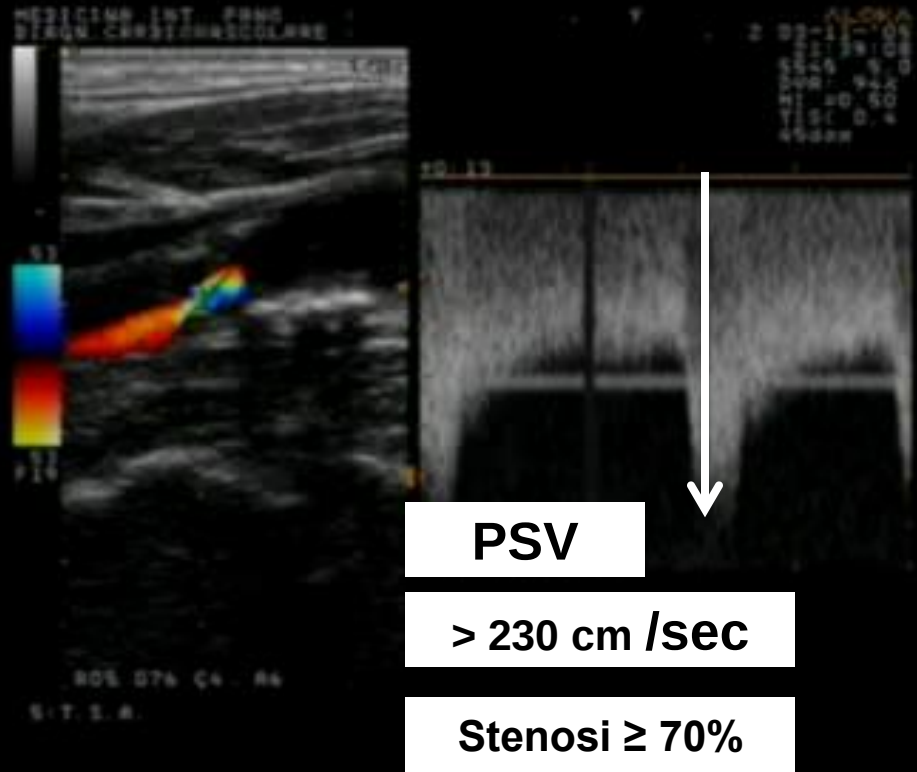
| Difference between NASCET and ECST in measurement of internal carotid artery stenosis                                             |                 |      |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------|-----------------|
|                                                |                 |      |                 |
|                                                                                                                                   | NASCET          | ECST |                 |
|                                                                                                                                   | 30              | 65   |                 |
|                                                                                                                                   | 40              | 70   |                 |
|                                                                                                                                   | 50              | 75   |                 |
|                                                                                                                                   | 60              | 80   |                 |
|                                                                                                                                   | 70              | 85   |                 |
|                                                                                                                                   | 80              | 91   |                 |
|                                                                                                                                   | 90              | 97   |                 |
| Approximate equivalent degrees of internal carotid artery stenosis used in NASCET and ECST according to recent direct comparisons |                 |      |                 |
| NASCET                                                                                                                            | $\frac{A-B}{A}$ | ECST | $\frac{C-B}{C}$ |

Plaque estimate  
%

(diameter reduction) with gray-scale and color Doppler US.

# Velocità di picco sistolico ( ICA PSV cm/sec)

| Degree of Stenosis (%)           | Primary Parameters         |                              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                  | ICA PSV (cm/sec)           | Plaque Estimate (%)*         |
| Normal                           | <125                       | None                         |
| <50                              | <125                       | <50                          |
| 50-69                            | 125-230                    | ≥50                          |
| ≥70 but less than near occlusion | >230                       | ≥50                          |
| Near occlusion                   | High, low, or undetectable | Visible                      |
| Total occlusion                  | Undetectable               | Visible, no detectable lumen |

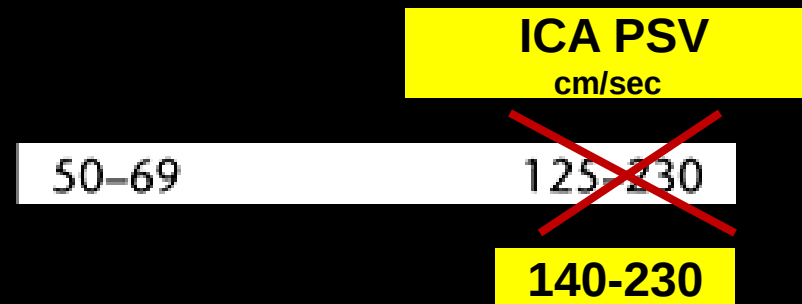


# Velocità di picco sistolico (ICA PSVcm/sec)



# Velocità di picco sistolico ( ICA PSV cm/sec)

| Degree of Stenosis (%)           | Primary Parameters         |                              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                  | ICA PSV (cm/sec)           | Plaque Estimate (%)*         |
| Normal                           | <125                       | None                         |
| <50                              | <125                       | <50                          |
| 50-69                            | 125-230                    | ≥50                          |
| ≥70 but less than near occlusion | ≥230                       | ≥50                          |
| Near occlusion                   | High, low, or undetectable | Visible                      |
| Total occlusion                  | Undetectable               | Visible, no detectable lumen |



-the consensus criteria can be accurately used for diagnosing  $\geq 70\%$  stenosis; however, the accuracy can be improved for detecting 50% to 69 % stenosis if the ICA PSV is changed to 140 to  $< 230$  cm/s, with a sensitivity of 94%, specificity of 92%, and overall accuracy of 92%.

“Critical appraisal of the carotid duplex consensus criteria in the diagnosis of carotid artery stenosis,” AbuRahma, M. Srivastava, P. A. Stone et al., Journal of Vascular Surgery 2011

# Stima placca

(riduzione percentuale di diametro)

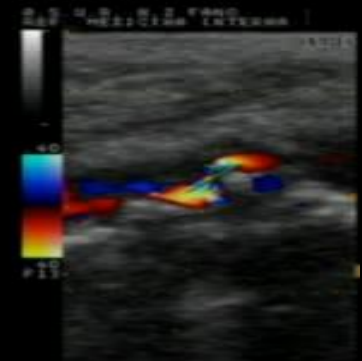
| Degree of Stenosis (%)           | Primary Parameters         |                              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                  | ICA PSV (cm/sec)           | Plaque Estimate (%)*         |
| Normal                           | <125                       | None                         |
| <50                              | <125                       | <50                          |
| 50-69                            | 125-230                    | ≥50                          |
| ≥70 but less than near occlusion | >230                       | ≥50                          |
| Near occlusion                   | High, low, or undetectable | Visible                      |
| Total occlusion                  | Undetectable               | Visible, no detectable lumen |



Scala dei grigi



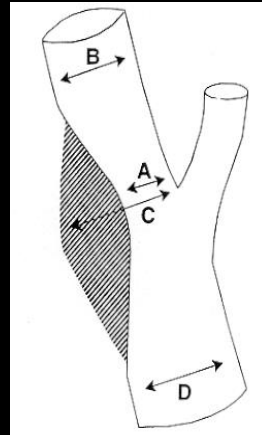
Power



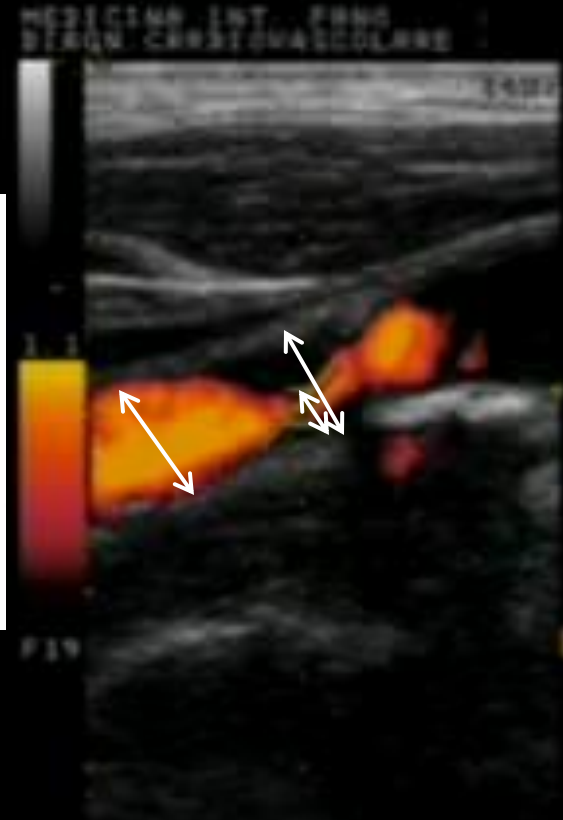
Color

# Riduzione % di diametro

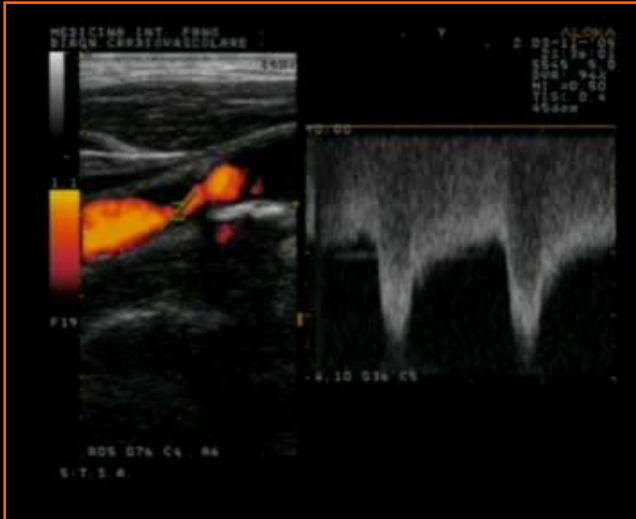
Scala dei grigi



Power



# Velocità di picco sistolico ( ICA PSV cm/sec)



Stima placca (%)  
(riduzione percentuale di  
diametro)



# Pitfalls

Presenza di stenosi tandem

Presenza di stenosi di alto grado controlaterale o occlusioni

Attivazione dei circoli collaterali di compenso

Completezza del circolo di Willis

Flusso vertebrale

Stato cardiaco iperdinamico

Bassa gettata cardiaca

# Consensus Panel

## Gray-scale and Doppler US Criteria for diagnosis of ICA Stenosis

| Degree of Stenosis (%)           | Primary Parameters         |                              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                  | ICA PSV (cm/sec)           | Plaque Estimate (%)*         |
| Normal                           | <125                       | None                         |
| <50                              | <125                       | <50                          |
| 50-69                            | 125-230                    | ≥50                          |
| ≥70 but less than near occlusion | >230                       | ≥50                          |
| Near occlusion                   | High, low, or undetectable | Visible                      |
| Total occlusion                  | Undetectable               | Visible, no detectable lumen |

| Additional Parameters |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| ICA/CCA PSV Ratio     | ICA EDV (cm/sec) |
| <2.0                  | <40              |
| <2.0                  | <40              |
| 2.0-4.0               | 40-100           |
| >4.0                  | >100             |
| Variable              | Variable         |
| Not applicable        | Not applicable   |

## Grading Carotid Stenosis Using Ultrasonic Methods

Gerhard-Michael von Reutern, MD, PhD; Michael-Wolfgang Goertler, MD, PhD; Natan M. Bornstein, MD; Massimo Del Sette, MD; David H. Evans, PhD, DSc; Andreas Hetzel, MD, PhD; Manfred Kaps, MD, PhD; Fabienne Perren, MD, PhD; Alexander Razumovsky, PhD; Toshiyuki Shiogai, MD, PhD; Ekaterina Titianova, MD, PhD, DSc; Pavel Traubner, MD, PhD; Narayanaswamy Venketasubramanian, MD; Lawrence K.S. Wong, MD; Masahiro Yasaka, MD, PhD; on behalf of the Neurosonology Research Group of the World Federation of Neurology

**Abstract**—The controversy as to whether Doppler ultrasonic methods should play a role in clinical decision-making in the prevention of stroke is attributable to reported disagreement between angiographic and ultrasonic results and the lack of internationally accepted ultrasound criteria for describing the degree of stenosis. Foremost among the explanations for both is the broad scatter of peak systolic velocities in the stenosis, the criterion that has so far received most attention. Grading based on a set of main and additional criteria can overcome diagnostic errors. Morphological measurements (B-mode images and color flow imaging) are the main criteria for low and moderate degrees of stenosis. Increased velocities in the stenosis indicate narrowing, but the appearance of collateral flow and decreased poststenotic flow velocity prove a high degree stenosis ( $\geq 70\%$ ), additionally allowing the estimation of the hemodynamic effect in the category of high-degree stenosis. Additional criteria refer to the effect of a stenosis on prestenotic flow (common carotid artery), the extent of poststenotic flow disturbances, and derived velocity criteria (diastolic peak velocity and the carotid ratio). This multiparametric approach is intended to increase the reliability and the standard of reporting of ultrasonic results for arteriosclerotic disease of the carotid artery. (Stroke. 2012;43:916-921.)

**Key Words:** carotid stenosis ■ degree of stenosis ■ duplex sonography ■ peak systolic velocity  
■ transcranial sonography ■ ultrasound diagnosis

# Main and Additional Criteria combined for Grading Internal Carotid Stenosis

Table. Combined Criteria for Grading Internal Carotid Stenosis

| Degree of Stenosis as Defined                           |                    | Grading of Internal Carotid Stenosis |            |                  |            |          |                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|------------------|------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Main criteria                                           |                    |                                      |            |                  |            |          |                            |
| 1. B-mode image, diameter                               | Applicable         | Possibly applicable                  |            |                  |            |          | Imaging of occluded artery |
| 2. Color Doppler image                                  | Plaque delineation | Flow                                 | Flow       | Flow             | Flow       | Flow     | Absence of flow            |
| 3. PSV threshold (cm/s)                                 |                    | 125                                  |            | 230              |            | NA       | NA                         |
| 4a. PSV average (cm/s)                                  | <160               | 210                                  | 240        | 290              | 270        | Variable | NA                         |
| Additional criteria                                     |                    |                                      |            |                  |            |          |                            |
| 6. Prestenotic flow (diastole) (CCA)                    |                    |                                      |            | Possibly reduced | Reduced    | Reduced  | Reduced                    |
| 7. Poststenotic flow disturbances (severity and length) |                    | Moderate                             | Pronounced | Pronounced       | Pronounced | Variable | NA                         |
| 8. End-diastolic flow velocity in the stenosis (cm/s)   |                    |                                      | <100       | >100             |            | Variable | NA                         |
| 9. Carotid ratio ICA/CCA (severity and length)          | <2                 | ≥2                                   | ≥2         | >4               | >4         | Variable | NA                         |
| 8. End-diastolic flow velocity in the stenosis (cm/s)   |                    |                                      | <100       | >100             |            | Variable | NA                         |
| 9. Carotid ratio ICA/CCA                                | <2                 | ≥2                                   | ≥2         | >4               | >4         | Variable | NA                         |

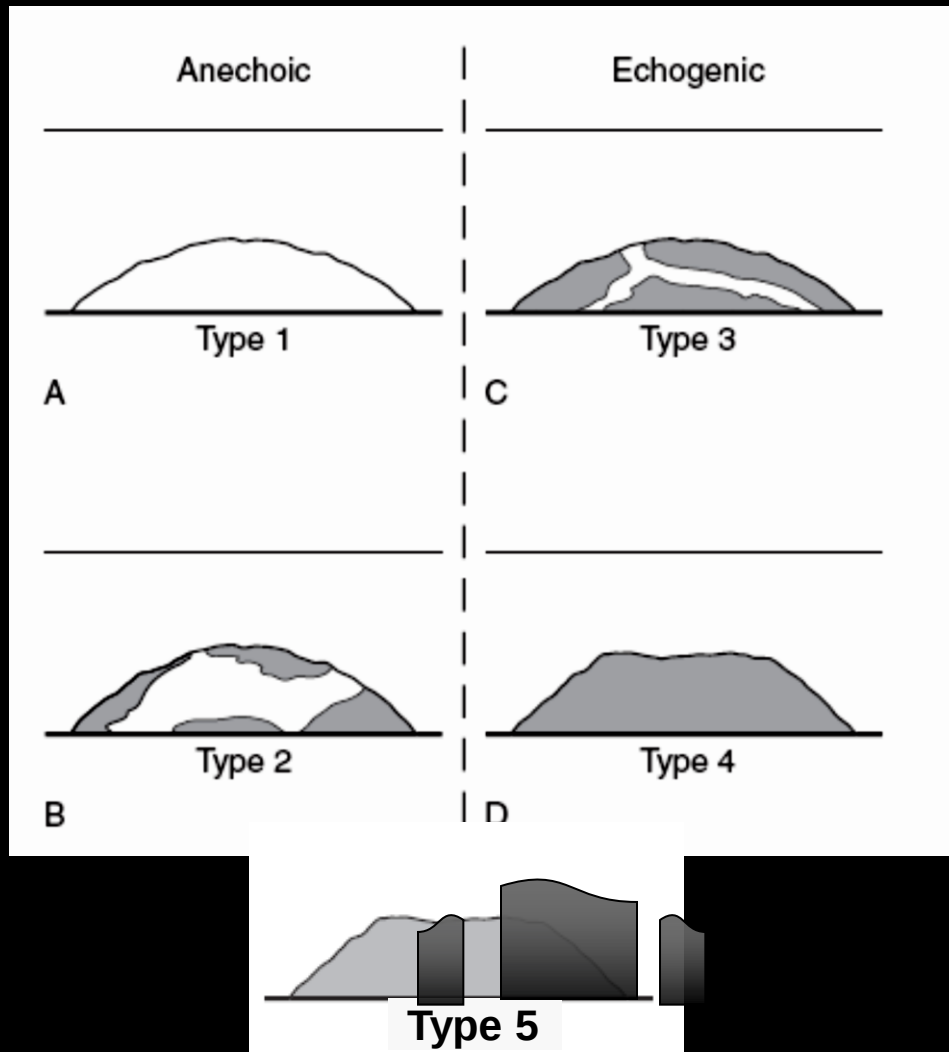
## Percentuale di stenosi



# **La “placca “carotidea: caratteristiche ecografiche e rischio di ictus**

**La placca “vulnerabile”**

# CLASSIFICAZIONE di Gray-Weale



**TIPO 1:** Uniformemente ipo-anecogena: meno del 15% dell'area è occupato da aree iperecogene.

**TIPO 2:** Prevalentemente ipo-anecogena: aree iper-ecogene dal 15 al 50%

**TIPO 3:** Prevalentemente ecogena: le aree iper-ecogene dal 50-85%

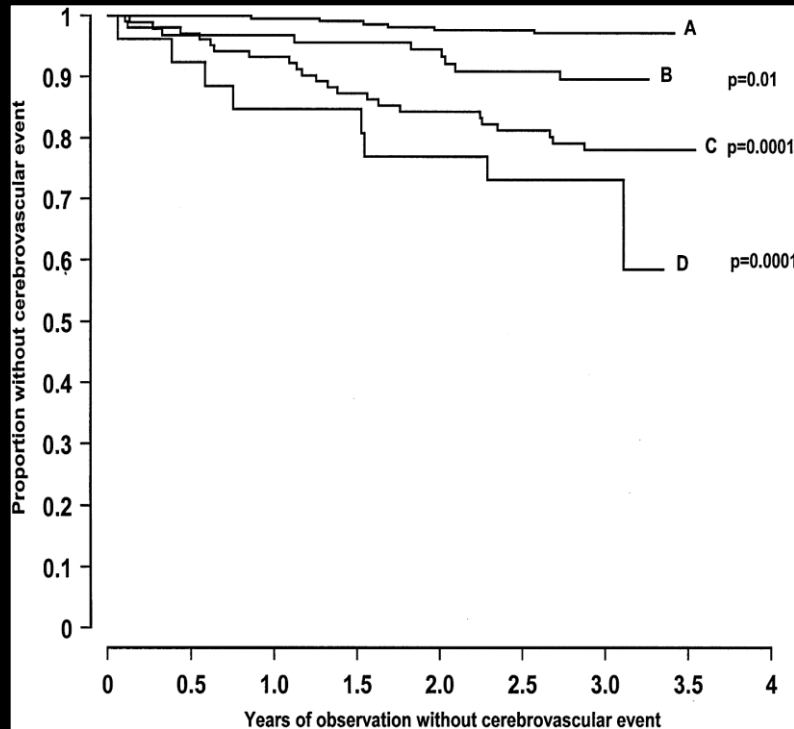
**TIPO 4:** Uniformemente ecogena: aree iperecogene più dell'85%

**TIPO 5:** Superficie calcifica > 15%, con "cono d'ombra" che impedisce di visualizzare la placca

# La placca carotidea "vulnerabile"

Ecogenicità di placca ed eventi CV

**The Tromso Study**



**Gray Weale**

**Tipo I:  
echolucent**

**Tipo II:  
predominantly  
echolucent**

**Tipo III:  
predominantly  
echogenic**

**Tipo IV:  
echogenic**

**eventi CV a 3 anni**

**29.6%**

**21.4%**

**9.7%**

**9.5%**

# Plaque Echolucency and Stroke Risk in Asymptomatic Carotid Stenosis

## A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Ajay Gupta, MD; Kartik Kesavabhotla, MD; Hedyeh Baradaran, MD; Hooman Kamel, MD;  
Ankur Pandya, PhD; Ashley E. Giambone, PhD; Drew Wright, MS, MLS; Kevin J. Paine, BA;  
Edward E. Mui, MD; Jasjit S. Suri, MS, MBA, PhD; Pina C. Sanelli, MD, MPH;  
Alvin I. Mushlin, MD, ScM

**Background and Purpose**—Ultrasonographic plaque echolucency has been studied as a stroke risk marker in carotid atherosclerotic disease. We performed a systematic review and meta-analysis to summarize the association between ultrasound-determined carotid plaque echolucency and future ipsilateral stroke risk.

**Methods**—We searched the medical literature for studies evaluating the association between carotid plaque echolucency and future stroke in asymptomatic patients. We included prospective observational studies with stroke outcome ascertainment after baseline carotid plaque echolucency assessment. We performed a meta-analysis and assessed study heterogeneity and publication bias. We also performed subgroup analyses limited to patients with stenosis  $\geq 50\%$ , studies in which plaque echolucency was determined via subjective visual interpretation, studies with a relatively lower risk of bias, and studies published after the year 2000.

**Results**—We analyzed data from 7 studies on 7557 subjects with a mean follow-up of 37.2 months. We found a significant positive relationship between predominantly echolucent (compared with predominantly echogenic) plaques and the risk of future ipsilateral stroke across all stenosis severities (0% to 99%; relative risk, 2.31; 95% confidence interval, 1.58–3.39;  $P<0.001$ ) and in subjects with  $\geq 50\%$  stenosis (relative risk, 2.61; 95% confidence interval, 1.47–4.63;  $P=0.001$ ). A statistically significant increased relative risk for future stroke was preserved in all additional subgroup analyses. No statistically significant heterogeneity or publication bias was present in any of the meta-analyses.

## CONCLUSIONS:

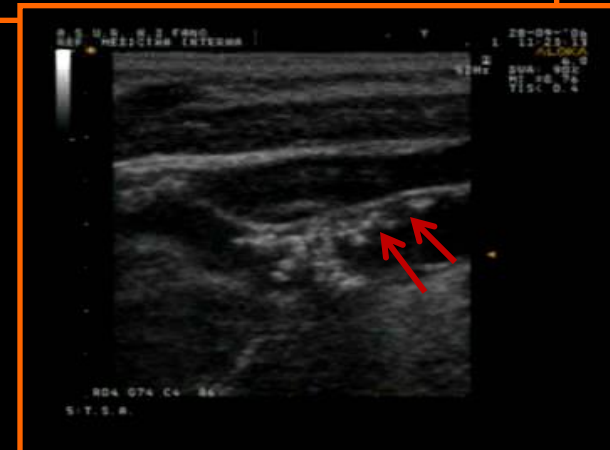
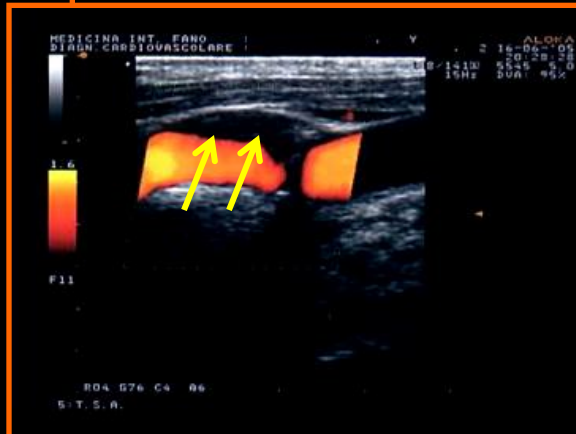
The presence of ultrasound-determined carotid plaque echolucency provides predictive information in asymptomatic carotid artery stenosis beyond luminal stenosis. However, the magnitude of the increased risk is not sufficient on its own to identify patients likely to benefit from surgical revascularization.

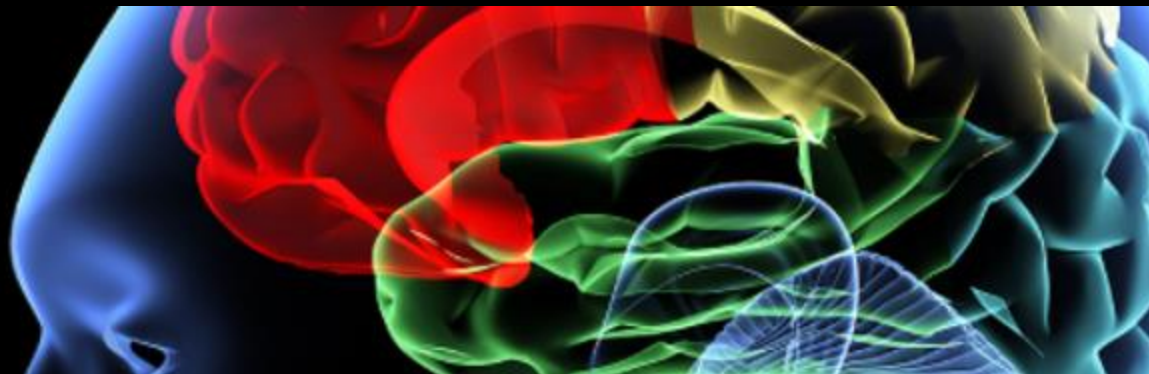
# La placca "vulnerabile"

Placche ana-ipoecogene (core lipidico-necrotico, emorragia intraplacca ► Tipo1 e Tipo2 GW)

Cappuccio fibroso sottile

Placca a superficie irregolare-ulcerata ( Irregolare: 0.4-2 mm Ulcerata: >2 mm)





### **Raccomandazione Forte a favore**

Lo studio ecocolordoppler dei tronchi sovra-aortici è raccomandato nei soggetti con TIA o ictus ischemico recente per un migliore inquadramento eziopatogenetico.

### **Raccomandazione Forte a favore**

Lo studio ecocolordoppler dei tronchi sovra-aortici è **raccomandato nella valutazione della stenosi carotidea ai fini della scelta terapeutica in senso chirurgico, quale indagine conclusiva e quindi sostitutiva dell'angiografia**, dopo averne verificato l'accuratezza, eventualmente completata con i dati di altre tecniche non invasive di neuroimmagine (angio-RM; angio-TC).

# % stenosi carotidea e chirurgia carotidea

| PAZIENTE     | % STENOSI NASCET |        |      |                   |           |
|--------------|------------------|--------|------|-------------------|-----------|
| SINTOMATICO  | ≤50%             | 50-69% | ≥70% | Near<br>occlusion | Occlusion |
| ASINTOMATICO |                  |        | ≥70% |                   |           |



## Raccomandazione Forte a favore

**L'endarterectomia carotidea è raccomandata** nella stenosi sintomatica compresa fra il **50% ed il 69%** (equivalente a metodo NASCET) nel paziente con almeno una delle seguenti condizioni se il rischio perioperatorio (fino a 1 mese dall'intervento) di morte e ogni tipo di ictus è inferiore a 6%:

- ischemia recente ( < 2 mesi dal sintomo)
- sintomo cerebrale e non oculare
- placca ulcerata – vulnerabile
- sesso maschile
- assenza di diabete



### **Raccomandazione Debole a favore**

L'intervento di endoarteriectomia, in caso di stenosi carotidea asintomatica uguale o maggiore al 70% (equivalente a metodo NASCET), è indicato solo se l'aspettativa di vita del paziente è di almeno 3 anni e se il rischio perioperatorio (fino a 1 mese dall'intervento) di complicanze (morte e ogni tipo di ictus) è inferiore a 3%, con vantaggio dell'intervento tanto maggiore quanto minore è tale rischio.

Le attuali evidenze sul beneficio dell'endoarteriectomia nella stenosi carotidea asintomatica sottolineano l'importanza di valutare il vantaggio della terapia chirurgica nei confronti della miglior terapia medica. Il rischio di ictus nei pazienti trattati con la miglior terapia medica risulta oggi mediamente inferiore all'1% per anno (cioè inferiore al rischio della procedura chirurgica nell'ACAS e nell'ACST), pertanto l'intervento non può essere raccomandato di routine, ma indicato solo in pazienti selezionati, e in centri specialistici con documentato rischio perioperatorio di ictus/morte più basso possibile, inferiore a 2% e ancora meglio se inferiore a 1%. Alcuni studi indicano sottogruppi di pazienti a più netto beneficio dall'intervento in quanto a maggior rischio di ictus se non operati, quali pazienti con pregressi infarti alla TC encefalo, più alto grado di stenosi carotidea o più rapida progressione di stenosi, presenza di occlusione carotidea controlaterale, morfologia di placca ulcerata o irregolare agli ultrasuoni o all'RM e/o presenza di segnali microembolici omolaterali all'ecodoppler transcranico. Altri studi indicano viceversa sottogruppi di pazienti a più scarso o senza beneficio dall'intervento in quanto a maggior rischio di complicanze se operati. Sono auspicabili quindi altre revisioni sistematiche e ulteriori studi che stratifichino i vari fattori di rischio medico e chirurgico, onde specificare meglio le indicazioni o controindicazioni all'intervento.



#### Raccomandazione Debole a favore

**In caso di stenosi carotidea asintomatica** l'endoarteriectomia, comportando un beneficio modesto rispetto alla miglior terapia medica, è indicata nel paziente che è considerato "a rischio" se trattato solo con terapia medica e che presenta quindi almeno una di queste condizioni: pregresso infarto anche silente alla TC/RM encefalo, **placca vulnerabile o ulcerata o a rapida crescita**, stenosi pre-occlusiva, stenosi tra 70-80% (equivalente a metodo NASCET) con occlusione della carotide controlaterale o con presenza all'ecodoppler transcranico di segnali microembolici omolaterali. E' invece indicata la sola miglior terapia medica nel paziente con aspettativa di vita inferiore a quella presunta per ottenere il beneficio dall'endoarteriectomia, quale il paziente ultraottantenne o con diabete insulino-dipendente o cardiopatia grave o broncopatia grave o insufficienza renale cronica in trattamento dialitico.

# Eco-color-doppler Tronchi Sopra-Aortici /TCCD

- Caratteristiche ecogeniche della placca
- Presenza di stenosi di alto grado controlaterale o occlusioni
- Registrazione di segnali microembolici
- Presenza di stenosi intracraniche
- Individuazione circoli collaterali attivati



La mente umana come il paracadute: funziona al meglio quando è aperta

(Charlie Chan)

# Eco-color-doppler Transcranico (TCCD)

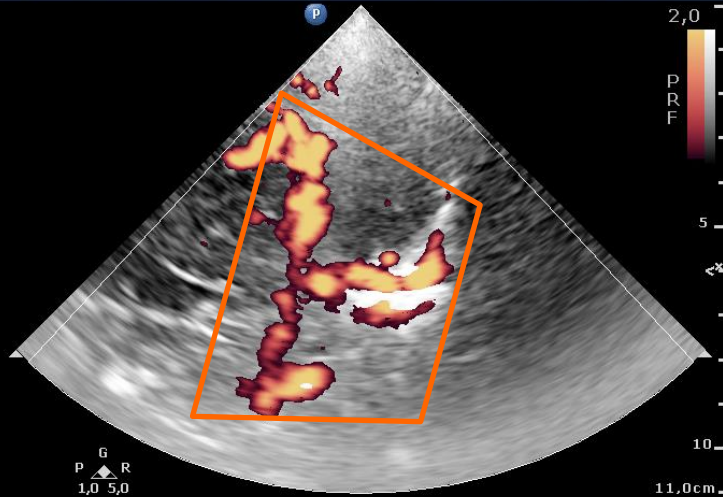


PHILIPS MATTEUCCI MI 1,1 29/09/2015  
MATTEUCCI A.O. MARCHE NORD FANO Medicir TIC 4,2 11.26.22

TCD1  
S5-2  
8Hz  
11,0cm

2D  
Gen.  
Quad. 77  
57  
3/4/2

CPA  
2,1 MHz  
Quad. 88  
1/4/3  
Filt. Med.  
L.base 6

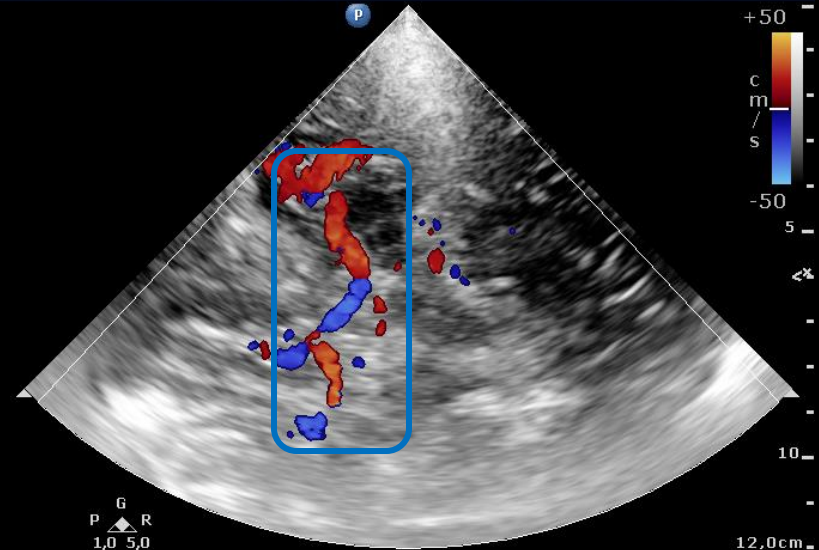


MATTEUCCI A.O. MARCHE NORD FANO Medicir TIC 4,2 11.21.47

TCD1  
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7Hz  
12,0cm

2D  
Gen.  
Quad. 77  
57  
3/4/2

Colore  
2,1 MHz  
Quad. 80  
3/2/2  
Filt. Med.



# Eco-color-doppler Transcranico e ictus ischemico acuto

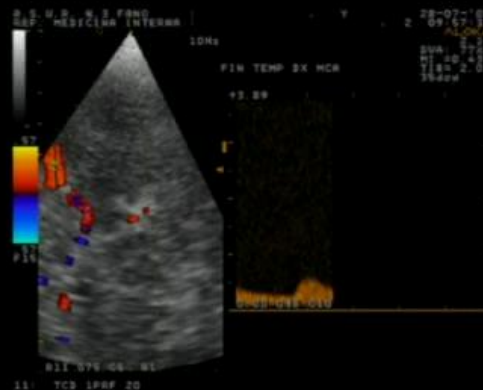
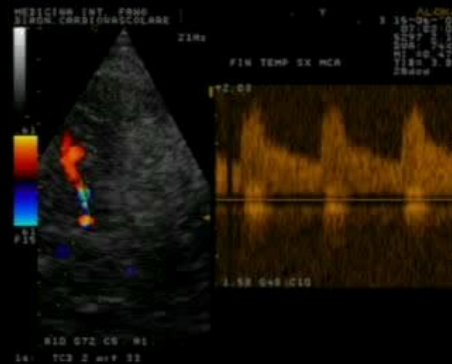
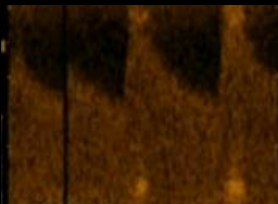
Individuare la presenza di stenosi intracraniche

## Stenosi della a. cerebrale media



STENOSI M1 MCA

MCA: max. flow vel. = 3,24 m/sec.



**ACA: max. flow vel. = 2,31 m/sec**

# STATO VASCOLARE INTRACRANICO

## Criteri emodinamici di stenosi intracranica

**Baumgartner R.W. (Stroke '99):**

**$\geq 50\%$**

**$\geq 220$  cm.sec**

**$\geq 155$  cm.sec**

**$\geq 145$  cm.sec**

**$\geq 120$  cm.sec**

**$\geq 140$  cm.sec**

**$\leq 50\%$**

**$\geq 155$  cm.sec**

**$\geq 120$  cm.sec**

**$\geq 100$  cm.sec**

**$\geq 90$  cm.sec**

**$\geq 100$  cm.sec**

**(arteria cerebrale media)**

**(arteria cerebrale anteriore)**

**(arteria cerebrale posteriore)**

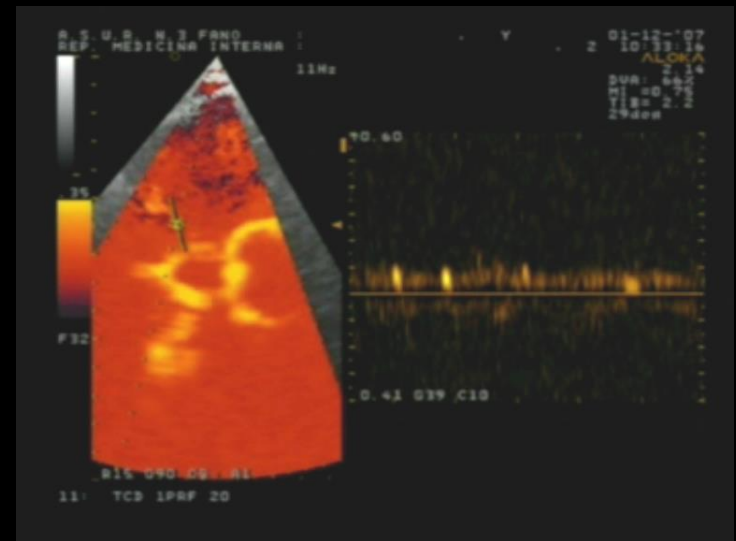
**(arteria vertebrale)**

**(arteria basilare)**

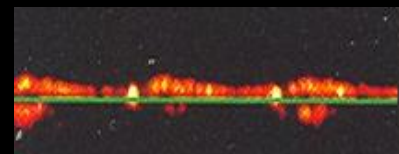
# Eco-color-doppler transcranico (TCCD) e ictus ischemico acuto

Identificare la sede dell' occlusione

## Occlusione della cerebrale media



TIBI flow grade



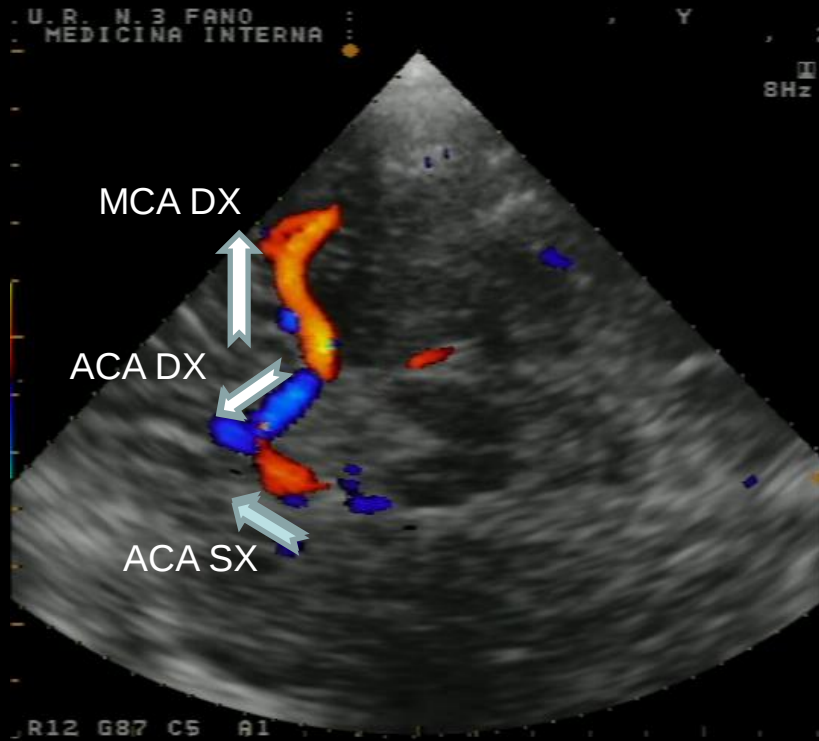
1 Minimal flow signal  
Absend end-diastolic flow

# Criteri di occlusione vasale

Assenza del segnale colore e  
perdita dello spettro doppler  
nel segmento occluso  
mentre gli altri vasi del circolo di Willis  
possono essere chiaramente individuati

# Flusso invertito sulla ACA A1 (a. comunicante anteriore attivata)

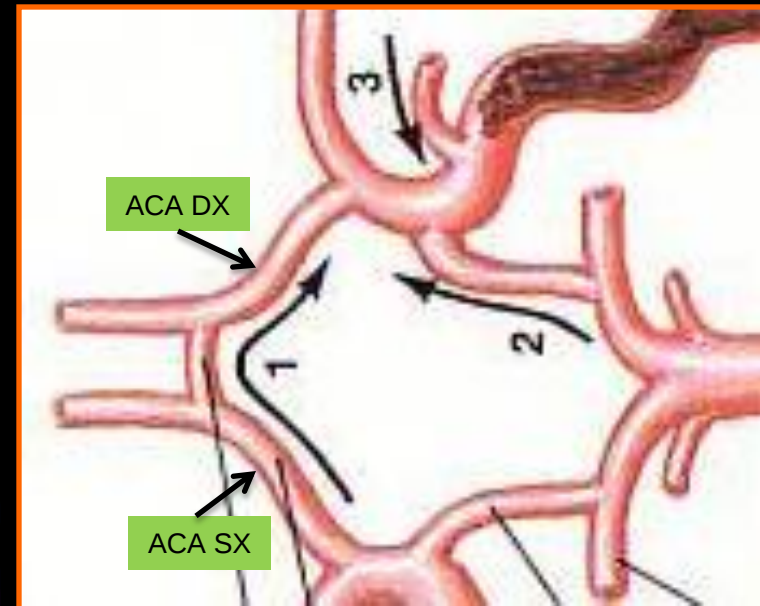
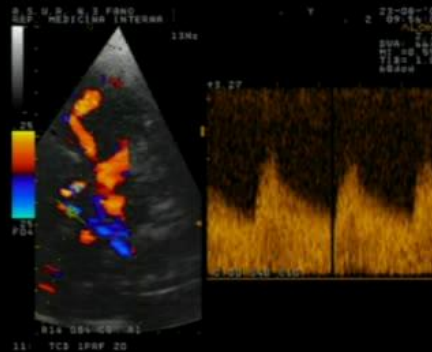
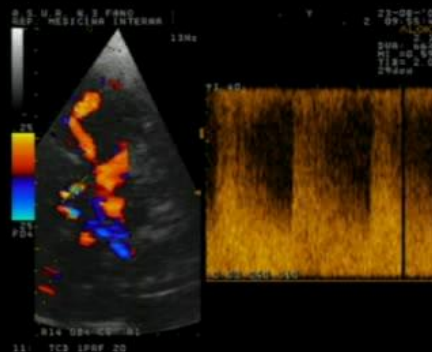
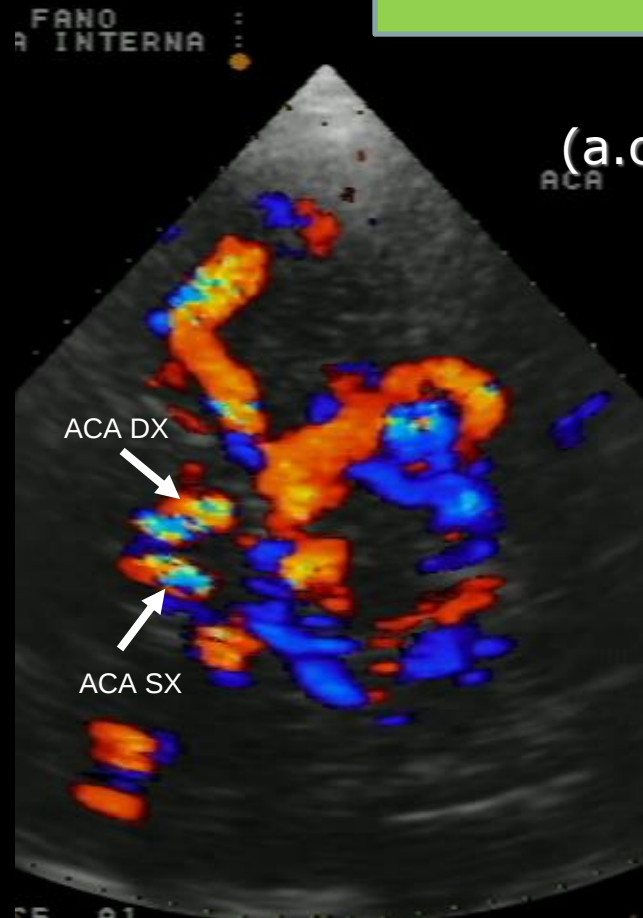
Studiare l'attivazione dei circoli collaterali di compenso



# Eco-color-doppler transcranico (TCCD) e ictus ischemico acuto

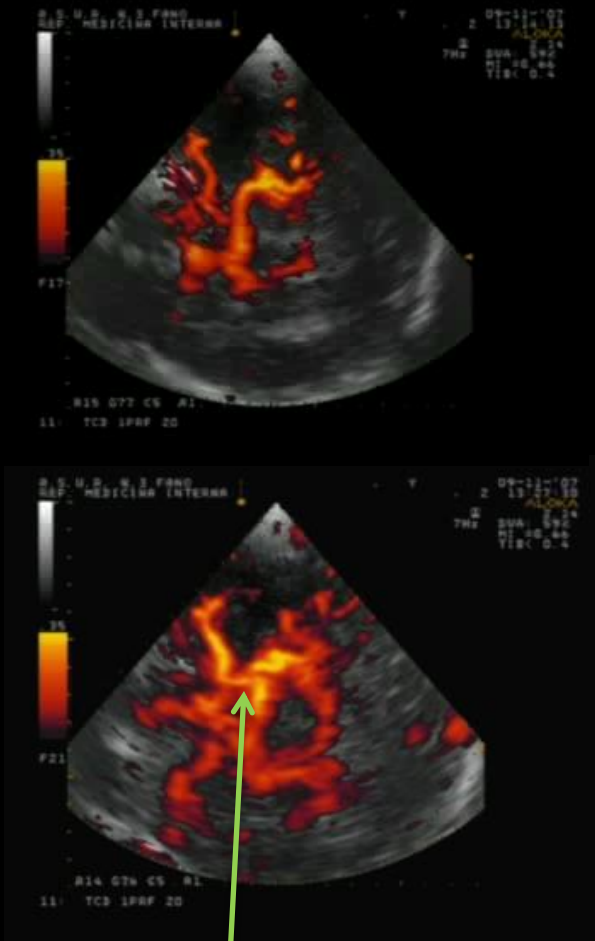
Studiare l'attivazione dei circoli collaterali di compenso

Flusso invertito ACA A1  
(a.comunicante anteriore attivata)



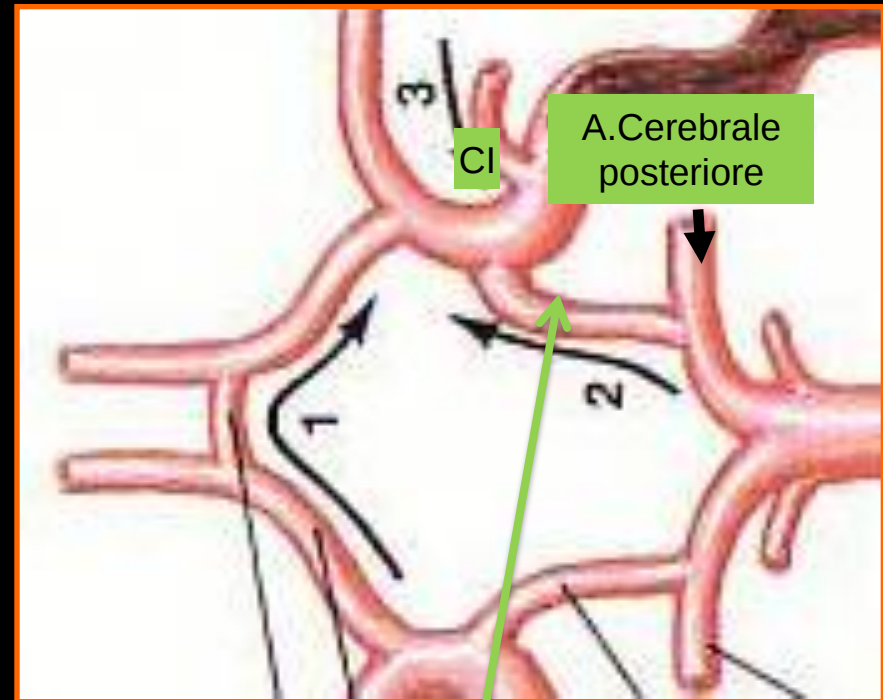
# Eco-color-doppler transcranico (TCCD) e ictus ischemico acuto

Studiare l'attivazione dei circoli collaterali di compenso



A. Comunicante posteriore

A. Comunicante posteriore

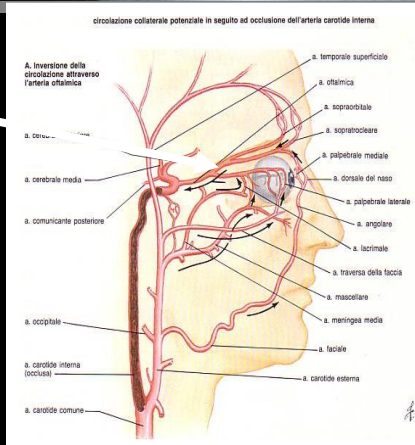
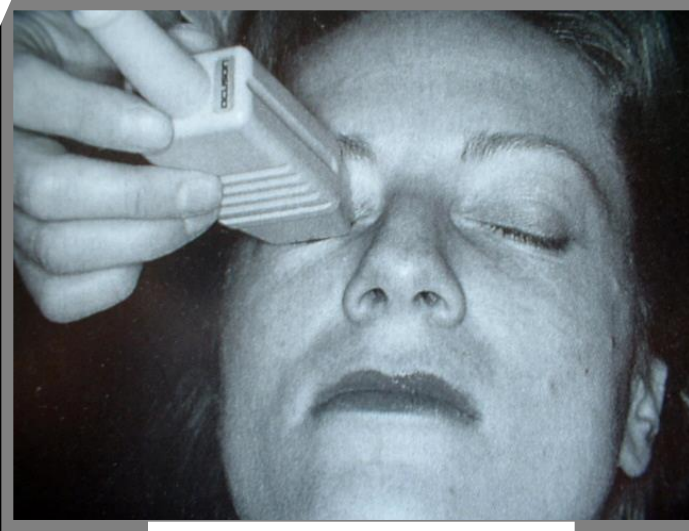


A. Comunicante posteriore

# Eco-color-doppler transcranico (TCCD) e ictus ischemico acuto

Studiare l'attivazione dei circoli collaterali di compenso

- Inversione di flusso sulla a. oftalmica



Oftalmica invertitata

Oftalmica normodiretta

# TSA + TCCD

**nell'ictus cerebrale ischemico acuto**

*"If you don't know  
where you're going  
every path will take you  
there"*

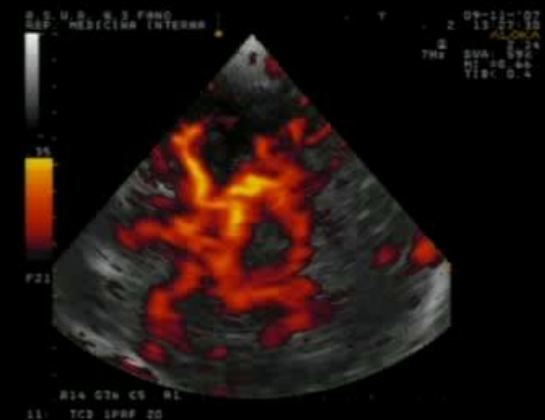
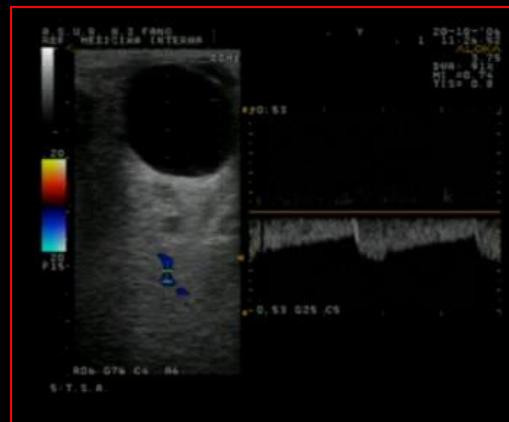
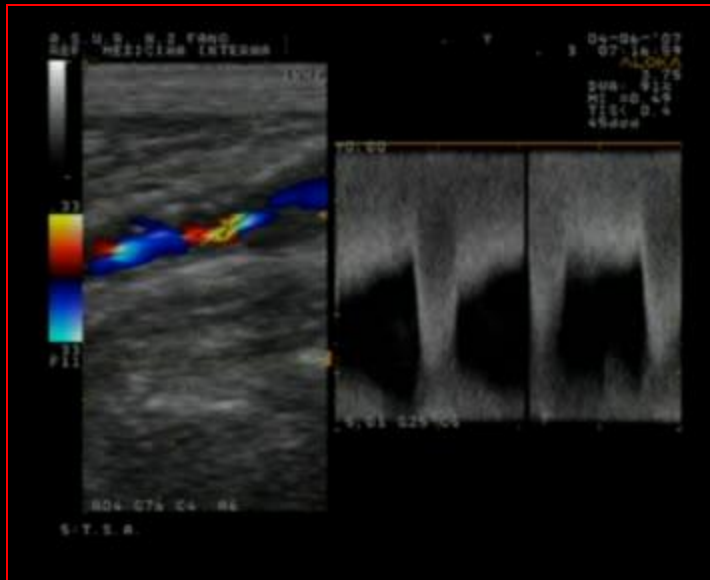
# Antico proverbio pellerossa

- Diagnosi
- Prognosi
- Trattamento



# TSA + TCCD

## nell'ischemia cerebrale transitoria



# Grazie per l'attenzione













# Grading Carotid Stenosis Using Ultrasonic Methods

Gerhard-Michael von Reutem, MD, PhD; Michael-Wolfgang Goertler, MD, PhD; Natan M. Bornstein, MD; Massimo Del Sette, MD; David H. Evans, PhD, DSc; Andreas Hetzel, MD, PhD; Manfred Kaps, MD, PhD; Fabienne Perren, MD, PhD; Alexander Razumovsky, PhD; Toshiyuki Shiogai, MD, PhD; Ekaterina Titianova, MD, PhD, DSc; Pavel Traubner, MD, PhD; Narayanaswamy Venketasubramanian, MD; Lawrence K.S. Wong, MD; Masahiro Yasaka, MD, PhD; on behalf of the Neurosonology Research Group of the World Federation of Neurology

**Abstract**—The controversy as to whether Doppler ultrasonic methods should play a role in clinical decision-making in the prevention of stroke is attributable to reported disagreement between angiographic and ultrasonic results and the lack of internationally accepted ultrasound criteria for describing the degree of stenosis. Foremost among the explanations for both is the broad scatter of peak systolic velocities in the stenosis, the criterion that has so far received most attention. Grading based on a set of main and additional criteria can overcome diagnostic errors. Morphological measurements (B-mode images and color flow imaging) are the main criteria for low and moderate degrees of stenosis. Increased velocities in the stenosis indicate narrowing, but the appearance of collateral flow and decreased poststenotic flow velocity prove a high degree stenosis ( $\geq 70\%$ ), additionally allowing the estimation of the hemodynamic effect in the category of high-degree stenosis. Additional criteria refer to the effect of a stenosis on prestenotic flow (common carotid artery), the extent of poststenotic flow disturbances, and derived velocity criteria (diastolic peak velocity and the carotid ratio). This multiparametric approach is intended to increase the reliability and the standard of reporting of ultrasonic results for arteriosclerotic disease of the carotid artery. (*Stroke*. 2012;43:916-921.)

**Key Words:** carotid stenosis ■ degree of stenosis ■ duplex sonography ■ peak systolic velocity  
■ transcranial sonography ■ ultrasound diagnosis

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**Key Words:** carotid stenosis ■ degree of stenosis ■ duplex sonography ■ peak systolic velocity  
■ transcranial sonography ■ ultrasound diagnosis





# Endarterectomy, Stenting, or Neither for Asymptomatic Carotid-Artery Stenosis

J. David Spence, M.D., and A. Ross Naylor, M.D.  
N Engl J Med 2016; 374:1087-1088

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Long-Term Results of Stenting versus Endarterectomy for Carotid-Artery Stenosis

Thomas G. Brott, M.D., George Howard, Dr.P.H., Gary S. Roubin, M.D., Ph.D., James F. Meschia, M.D., Ariane Mackey, M.D., William Brooks, M.D., Wesley S. Moore, M.D., Michael D. Hill, M.D., Vito A. Mantese, M.D., Wayne M. Clark, M.D., Carlos H. Timaran, M.D., Donald Heck, M.D., Pierre P. Leimgruber, M.D., Alice J. Sheffet, Ph.D., Virginia J. Howard, Ph.D., Seemant Chaturvedi, M.D., Brajesh K. Lal, M.D., Jenifer H. Voeks, Ph.D., and Robert W. Hobson II, M.D.,\* for the CREST Investigators†

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Randomized Trial of Stent versus Surgery for Asymptomatic Carotid Stenosis

Kenneth Rosenfield, M.D., M.H.C.D.S., Jon S. Matsumura, M.D., Seemant Chaturvedi, M.D., Tom Riles, M.D., Gary M. Ansel, M.D., D. Chris Metzger, M.D., Lawrence Wechsler, M.D., Michael R. Jaff, D.O., and William Gray, M.D., for the ACT I Investigators\*

# Plaque Echolucency and Stroke Risk in Asymptomatic Carotid Stenosis

## A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Ajay Gupta, MD; Kartik Kesavabhotla, MD; Hediye Baradaran, MD; Hooman Kamel, MD; Ankur Pandya, PhD; Ashley E. Giambrone, PhD; Drew Wright, MS, MLS; Kevin J. Pain, BA; Edward E. Mtui, MD; Jasjit S. Suri, MS, MBA, PhD; Pina C. Sanelli, MD, MPH; Alvin I. Mushlin, MD, ScM

**Background and Purpose**—Ultrasonographic plaque echolucency has been studied as a stroke risk marker in carotid atherosclerotic disease. We performed a systematic review and meta-analysis to summarize the association between ultrasound-determined carotid plaque echolucency and future ipsilateral stroke risk.

**Methods**—We searched the medical literature for studies evaluating the association between carotid plaque echolucency and future stroke in asymptomatic patients. We included prospective observational studies with stroke outcome ascertainment after baseline carotid plaque echolucency assessment. We performed a meta-analysis and assessed study heterogeneity and publication bias. We also performed subgroup analyses limited to patients with stenosis  $\geq 50\%$ , studies in which plaque echolucency was determined via subjective visual interpretation, studies with a relatively lower risk of bias, and studies published after the year 2000.

**Results**—We analyzed data from 7 studies on 7557 subjects with a mean follow-up of 37.2 months. We found a significant positive relationship between predominantly echolucent (compared with predominantly echogenic) plaques and the risk of future ipsilateral stroke across all stenosis severities (0% to 99%; relative risk, 2.31; 95% confidence interval, 1.58–3.39;  $P < 0.001$ ) and in subjects with  $\geq 50\%$  stenosis (relative risk, 2.61; 95% confidence interval, 1.47–4.63;  $P = 0.001$ ). A statistically significant increased relative risk for future stroke was preserved in all additional subgroup analyses. No statistically significant heterogeneity or publication bias was present in any of the meta-analyses.

The presence of ultrasound-determined carotid plaque echolucency provides predictive information in asymptomatic carotid artery stenosis beyond luminal stenosis. However, the magnitude of the increased risk is not sufficient on its own to identify patients likely to benefit from surgical revascularization.

# Main and Additional Criteria combined for Grading Internal Carotid Stenosis

| von Reutern and Goertler                                      |  | Grading Carotid Stenosis             |    |    |    |    | 919       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----------|
| <b>Main criteria</b>                                          |  | <b>Internal Carotid Stenosis</b>     |    |    |    |    |           |
|                                                               |  | Grading of Internal Carotid Stenosis |    |    |    |    |           |
|                                                               |  | 50                                   | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | Occlusion |
| 1. B-mode image, diameter                                     |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| 2. Color Doppler image                                        |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| 3. PSV threshold (cm/s)                                       |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| 4a. PSV average (cm/s)                                        |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| 4b. PSV poststenotic (cm/s)                                   |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| 5. Collateral flow (periorbital arteries or circle of Willis) |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| <b>Additional criteria</b>                                    |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| <b>Additional criteria</b>                                    |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| 6. Prestenotic flow (diastole) (CCA)                          |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| 7. Poststenotic flow disturbances (severity and length)       |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| 8. End-diastolic flow velocity in the stenosis (cm/s)         |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |
| 9. Carotid ratio ICA/CCA                                      |  |                                      |    |    |    |    |           |

The hierarchical order of main and additional criteria and the change of reliability of each criterion are given in the text under "Main and Additional Criteria" and "Advantages of a Multiparametric method."

needed to prove no flow.

In case of a short neck or a bifurcation in high position, respectively, these criteria are difficult to scan head position behind the jaw angle or a scan head with a lower frequency, as for abdominal sonography.

examinations, may give access to the more distal lying segments of the ICA. Another possibility is the examination of the distal ICA with 2-MHz pulsed Doppler sonography.

Criterion 6: "Reduced" means side-to-side difference, mainly in diastolic velocity.

Modified from reference 11.

CCA indicates common carotid artery; ICA, internal carotid artery; NA, not applicable; PSV, peak systolic velocity.

# Main and Additional Criteria combined for Grading Internal Carotid Stenosis

von Reutern and Goertler

Grading Carotid Stenosis

919

Table. Combined Criteria for Grading Internal Carotid Stenosis

| Degree of Stenosis as Defined by NASCET (%)                   | Grading of Internal Carotid Stenosis |                     |      |          |         |          |                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------|----------|---------|----------|----------------------------|
|                                                               | 10-40                                | 50                  | 60   | 70       | 80      | 90       | Occlusion                  |
| 1. B-mode image, diameter                                     | Applicable                           | Possibly applicable |      |          |         |          | Imaging of occluded artery |
| 2. Color Doppler image                                        | Plaque delineation                   | Flow                | Flow | Flow     | Flow    | Flow     | Absence of flow            |
| 3. PSV threshold (cm/s)                                       |                                      | 125                 |      | 230      |         | NA       | NA                         |
| 4a. PSV average (cm/s)                                        | ≤160                                 | 210                 | 240  | 330      | 370     | Variable | NA                         |
| 4b. PSV poststenotic (cm/s)                                   |                                      |                     |      | ≥50      | <50     | <30      | NA                         |
| 5. Collateral flow (periorbital arteries or circle of Willis) |                                      |                     |      | Possible | Present | Present  | Present                    |
| 8. End-diastolic flow velocity in the stenosis (cm/s)         |                                      |                     | <100 | >100     |         | Variable | NA                         |
| 9. Carotid ratio ICA/CCA                                      | <2                                   | ≥2                  | ≥2   | >4       | >4      | Variable | NA                         |

These criteria do not apply for external carotid stenosis. Note the hierarchical order of main and additional criteria and the change of reliability of each criterion for different degrees of stenosis. Examples how to use this Table are given in the text under "Main and Additional Criteria" and "Advantages of a Multiparametric Approach." For definition of classes of stenosis, see Figure legend.

Criterion 1: Visualization of the ICA by B-mode imaging is needed to prove no flow.

Criterion 4a: Values taken from Figure.

Criterion 4b: Poststenotic indicates measured distal to turbulences. In case of a short neck or a bifurcation in high position, respectively, these criteria are difficult to assess with a conventional duplex technique. Then, a lateral scan head position behind the jaw angle or a scan head with a lower frequency, as for abdominal examinations, may give access to the more distal lying segments of the ICA. Another possibility is the examination of the distal ICA with 2-MHz pulsed Doppler sonography.

Criterion 6: "Reduced" means side-to-side difference, mainly in diastolic velocity.

Modified from reference 11.

CCA indicates common carotid artery; ICA, internal carotid artery; NA, not applicable; PSV, peak systolic velocity.

## Main criteria

1. B-mode image, diameter
2. Color Doppler image
3. PSV threshold (cm/s)
- 4a. PSV average (cm/s)
- 4b. PSV poststenotic (cm/s)
5. Collateral flow (periorbital arteries or circle of Willis)

# Main and Additional Criteria combined for Grading Internal Carotid Stenosis

Table. Combined Criteria for Grading Internal Carotid Stenosis

| Degree of Stenosis as Defined by NASCET (%)                    | Grading of Internal Carotid Stenosis |                     |      |          |         |          |                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------|----------|---------|----------|----------------------------|
|                                                                | 10-40                                | 50                  | 60   | 70       | 80      | 90       | Occlusion                  |
| <b>Main criteria</b>                                           |                                      |                     |      |          |         |          |                            |
| 1. B-mode image, diameter                                      | Applicable                           | Possibly applicable |      |          |         |          | Imaging of occluded artery |
| 2. Color Doppler image                                         | Plaque delineation                   | Flow                | Flow | Flow     | Flow    | Flow     | Absence of flow            |
| 3. PSV threshold (cm/s)                                        |                                      | 125                 |      | 230      |         | NA       | NA                         |
| 4a. PSV average (cm/s)                                         | ≤160                                 | 210                 | 240  | 330      | 370     | Variable | NA                         |
| 4b. PSV poststenotic (cm/s)                                    |                                      |                     |      | ≥50      | <50     | <30      | NA                         |
| 5. Collateral flow (peri-orbital arteries or circle of Willis) |                                      |                     |      | Possible | Present | Present  | Present                    |

## Additional criteria

|                                                         |          |            |            |                  |            |          |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|----------|---------|
| 6. Prestenotic flow (diastole) (CCA)                    |          |            |            | Possibly reduced | Reduced    | Reduced  | Reduced |
| 7. Poststenotic flow disturbances (severity and length) | Moderate | Pronounced | Pronounced | Pronounced       | Pronounced | Variable | NA      |
| 8. End-diastolic flow velocity in the stenosis (cm/s)   |          |            | <100       | >100             |            | Variable | NA      |
| 9. Carotid ratio ICA/CCA                                | <2       | ≥2         | ≥2         | >4               | >4         | Variable | NA      |

Criterion 10: Evaluation of reduced flow velocity in the stenosis, in case of a distal neck or a stenosis in high position, respectively, these criteria are difficult to assess with a conventional duplex technique. Then, a lateral scan head position behind the jaw angle or a scan head with a lower frequency, as for abdominal examinations, may give access to the more distal lying segments of the ICA. Another possibility is the examination of the distal ICA with 2-MHz pulsed Doppler sonography.

Criterion 6: "Reduced" means side-to-side difference, mainly in diastolic velocity.

Modified from reference 11.

CCA indicates common carotid artery; ICA, internal carotid artery; NA, not applicable; PSV, peak systolic velocity.

# Velocità di picco sistolico ( ICA PSV cm/sec)

| Degree of Stenosis (%)           | Primary Parameters         |                              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                  | ICA PSV (cm/sec)           | Plaque Estimate (%)*         |
| Normal                           | <125                       | None                         |
| <50                              | <125                       | <50                          |
| 50-69                            | 125-230                    | ≥50                          |
| ≥70 but less than near occlusion | ≥230                       | ≥50                          |
| Near occlusion                   | High, low, or undetectable | Visible                      |
| Total occlusion                  | Undetectable               | Visible, no detectable lumen |

