



Highlights from:

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Procedural simplification of left atrial appendage occlusion using the VersaCross connect system: First in-human experience

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ First in-human experience using the **VersaCross Connect™** LAAC Access Solution for **WATCHMAN FLX™** implantation was successful in all patients with no procedural complications.
- ▶ **VersaCross Connect™** improved procedure efficiency and saved six steps compared to the standard needle-based workflow.

INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Left atrial appendage closures (LAAC) traditionally require several device exchanges from transseptal puncture (TSP) to device delivery.
- ▶ The new **VersaCross Connect™** LAAC Access Solution (Baylis Medical*) is designed to integrate with the **WATCHMAN FLX™** delivery sheath (Boston Scientific) to access the left atrium (LA).
- ▶ This study reports the first in-human experience using the **VersaCross Connect™** LAAC Access Solution.

METHODS

- ▶ Prospective case series using the **VersaCross Connect™** system for **WATCHMAN FLX™** LAAC device at two different centers.
- ▶ Preprocedural planning involved cardiac computed tomography for all patients and all LAAC procedures were guided by transesophageal echocardiography (TEE).
- ▶ After vascular access, the **VersaCross Connect™** system, comprised of the **VersaCross™** RF Wire and the **VersaCross Connect™** dilator, was used in conjunction with the **WATCHMAN** sheath to cannulate the superior vena cava (SVC), and perform infero-posterior TSP to access the LA (Figure 1).
- ▶ The **WATCHMAN** sheath was placed in the left atrial appendage (LAA) over the pigtail **VersaCross™** RF Wire for **WATCHMAN FLX™** device placement.

RESULTS

- ▶ Nine consecutive cases of **WATCHMAN FLX™** LAAC were performed using the **VersaCross Connect™** system.
- ▶ LAAC was successful in 100% of patients with no procedural complications.
 - Time from TSP to **WATCHMAN FLX™** release was 12.2 ± 1.9 min.
 - Overall procedure time was 31 ± 6.3 min.
 - Fluoroscopy time was 6.7 ± 4.9 min.
- ▶ The **VersaCross Connect™** system was directly inserted into the right femoral vein in all but one patient.

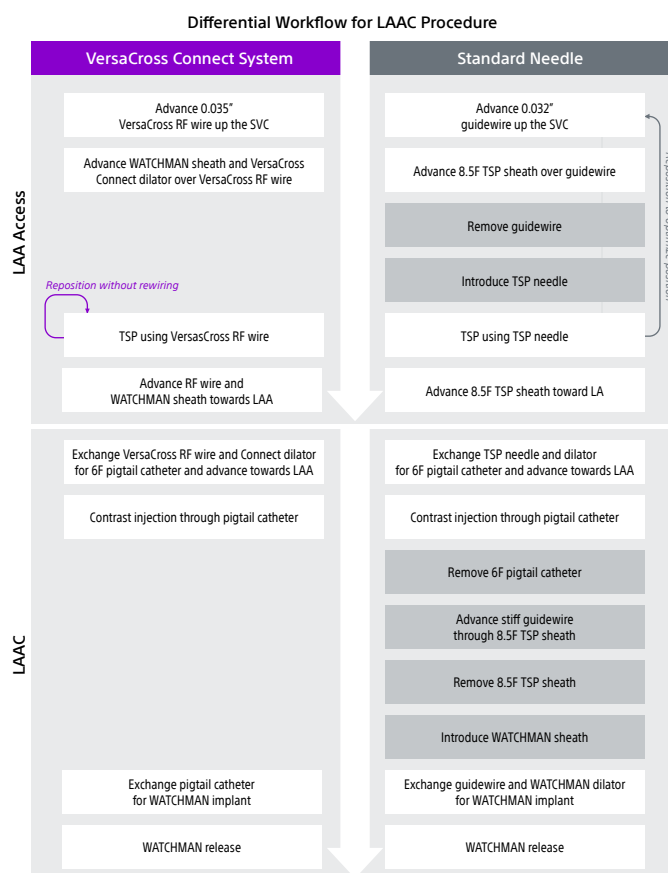


Figure 1. VersaCross Connect™ LAAC Access Solution (Baylis Medical*) eliminates six steps from **WATCHMAN FLX™** (Boston Scientific) LAAC procedures compared to standard needle workflow. LA: left atria. LAAC: left atrial appendage closure. RF: radiofrequency. SVC: superior vena cava. TSP: transseptal puncture

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

- ▶ Streamlining LA access and simplifying LAAC procedures by eliminating multiple sheath exchanges can reduce the risk of air embolism and perforation.
- ▶ Short overall procedure time (31 min) and interval between LAA access and device deployment (12 min) were observed with the **VersaCross Connect™** Access Solution system.
- ▶ The **VersaCross Connect™** LAAC Access Solution allowed for safer and more efficient **WATCHMAN FLX™** LAAC procedures.

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