

Case Report

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40 Years of Angioplasty in Zurich; we Keep Having Flashbacks to the First-in-Human Coronary Angioplasty!

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78 years old gentleman diagnosed as non-ST-segment elevation acute coronary syndrome (NSTEMI-ACS). The Culprit lesion was a mid left anterior descending artery (LAD) stenosis (arrow A), a similar lesion to the first in-man coronary angioplasty which was performed at the same cardiac center (University Heart Center Zurich) (arrow

B) exactly the same day (arrow C) 40 years back (16th September 1977) by Dr. Andreas R. Grüntzig! This time the lesion was treated with drug-eluting stent (arrow E) that considered a gold standard now. Another mind-blowing coincidence is that our patient was born in 1939 (arrow D), likewise Dr. Grüntzig and Mr. Bachman (the first angioplasty patient)! Figure.



Figure 1

Starting from the pioneering invention of Dr. Grüntzig in the 1970s towards today's state-of-the-art percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) 40 years later, it has been a fascinating and is a still an ongoing evolutionary journey driven by courage, innovation and most importantly, persistence.

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Conflict Of Interest

No conflict of interest.