



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

The activity of the interventional cardiology centers in Romania: a 2016 overview and 2014-2016 trends

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Abstract: This article summarizes the activity of the interventional cardiology centers of Romania during 2016. All interventional cardiology centers from Romania were requested to fill a standard reporting model. Data was divided in 4 categories: coronary interventions, peripheral interventions, other procedures like TAVI, mitraclip, aortic endoprothesis, interventions in structural heart diseases and outcomes during hospitalization. The report highlights the differences in total number of percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI), percutaneous procedures, stents and drug eluting stents during 2014 to 2016. **Keywords:** interventional cardiology, percutaneous coronary interventions, stents

Rezumat: Articolul sintetizează activitatea centrelor de cardiologie intervențională din România în anul 2016. Toate centrele de cardiologie intervențională din România au fost rugate să completeze un model standard de raportare. Datele au fost împărțite în 4 categorii: intervenții coronariene, intervenții periferice, alte proceduri precum TAVI, mitraclip, endoproză aortică, intervenții în boala cardiacă structurală și evenimentele din timpul spitalizării. Raportul evidențiază diferențele dintre numărul total de intervenții coronariene percutane, numărul total de proceduri percutane, numărul total al stenturilor implantate între anii 2014 și 2016.

Cuvinte cheie: cardiologie intervențională, intervenții coronariene percutane, stenturi

This article summarizes the activity of the interventional cardiology centers of Romania during 2016 and it highlights trends in different areas of intervention in interventional cardiology between 2014 to 2016.

All started in 2014 with the initiative of the interventional cardiology working group of Romanian Society of Cardiology. The working group has proposed that every interventional cardiology center from Romania to use a standard reporting model to report annually their activity. Data was divided in 4 categories: coronary interventions, peripheral interventions, other procedures like TAVI, mitraclip, aortic endoprothesis, interventions in structural heart disease), and the final category of outcomes during hospitalization. All information are easy to collect and report and have practical importance, like total number of coronary angioplasty, total number of drug eluting stent that were implanted, the utilization of intracoronary imaging like OCT, IVUS, different types of peripheral angioplasty (carotid or renal angioplasty).

The purpose of this initiative was to have a clear picture of the magnitude of the activity of interventional cardiologist at a national level, to know the total number of different types of procedures, and to identify any tendencies.

This report summarizes the data from 2016 provided by 33 out of 35 public and private interventional cardiology centers of Romania (Table 1). Currently, there are 35 interventional cardiology centers in Romania, of which 14 are private centers and 21 public centers with 49 functional angiographs. In 2016, in Romania were 85 independent interventional cardiologists and 61 interventional cardiologists in training.

A direct comparison of 2014 with 2015 and 2016 was done, that highlights the continuous increase in the activity of the interventional cardiology centers in Romania. The total number of PCIs in 2015 increased with 35% compared to 2014, while in 2016 there was a small increase compared to 2015 in total number of PCI, with only 5% (Figure 1-4). In 2016, in Romania,

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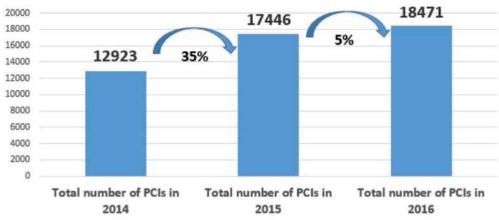


Figure 1. Total number of PCIs in 2014, 2015 and 2016 in Romania.

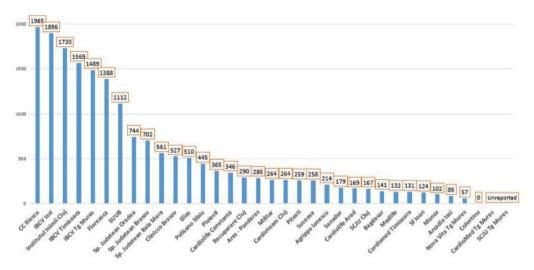


Figure 2. Total number of PCIs in 2016 in all interventional centers from Romania.

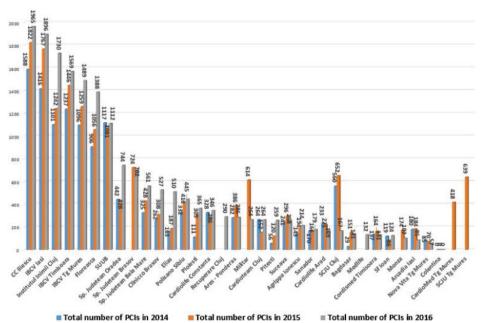


Figure 3. Total number of PCIs in 2014, 2015 and 2016 in all interventional centers from Romania.

Table 1. Reported data from Interventional Cardiology Centers in Romania in 2016

City					icharest			
Hospital	C.C. Iliescu	SUUB	Floreasca	Agrippa Ionescu	Militar	Bagdasar	Elias	Sf. Ioan
Nr. of Cathlabs	3	2	I	I	I.	I.	2	I
Nr. Independent	8	5	4	2	3	2	6	2
operators								
Nr. of in training	12	7	3	0	0	2	I	0
operators								
Total number	5943	2161	2461	1456	2183		1078	1043
of procedures								
(diagnostic + PCI)								
Coronary Interventio	4204	2118	2392	1242	973	438	557	635
Coronarography Total nr. of PCI	1965	1112	1388	214	264	430	510	124
PCI without stents	1965	40	1300	214	264	0	37	
PCI with stents	109	1072		8 206	262	141	37 473	0
STEMI	1856	1072	880	206	180	5	473 345	124 14
Stents per patient ²	1026	1.5	1.12	د ۱.37	1.8	1.75	1.09	14
Total nr. of stents	2962	1.5	1.12	294	588	247	557	
Nr. of DES		907	1364	294	586 8	247	382	176 98
	2633	907 54.2	81.2	98.9	20	82.6	68.6	
DES/stents ratio (%) BVS	88.9							55.6
	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Cutting, Scoring	80	2	10 0	0	3 0	0	6 0	0
Rotabalation FFR/IFR	6	5		2	0	0	0	
	33		41	9	-	-	-	0
IVUS	23 0	2	12	0	0	0	0	0
ОСТ	-	2	5	7	0	0	0	17
Peripheral interventi		0		40	102	1	2	42
Peripheral PTA ³	296	0		49	193		2	43
Renal PTA Carotid PTA	14 18	3		2	14	0	0	14 0
Total nr. of stents in	18	0		35	5 380	2	0	25
peripheral PTA	140	0			380	Z	U	25
Peripheral angiography	789	50		487	538	43	65	284
Other interventions								
TAVI	24	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
MitraClip	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aortic endoprothesis	11	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Interventions in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
structural heart								
disease ⁴								
MACE								
Death	60	80		0		0	5	0
Periprocedural AMI	2	5		0		l I	2	0
Stroke	4	10	5	0		l I	0	0
Stent Thrombosis	3	3	0	0		0	0	0
Major bleeding⁵	4	5		2		0	0	0
Coronary rupture	0	2		0		0	0	0

Table I. continued

City			Buchares	t	
Hospital	Sanador	Ares - Monza	Ares - Ponderas	Colentina	Medlife
Nr. Of Cathlabs	I	2	I	I	I
Nr. Independent operators	11	10	5	2	2
Nr. of in training operators	0	0	0	I	0
Total number of procedures (diagnostic + PCI) ¹	2379	463	844	43	
Coronary Interventions					
Coronarography	1617	280	411	43	271
Total nr. of PCI	179	102	286		132
PCI without stents	8		5		9
PCI with stents	171	102	281		123
STEMI	9				4
Stents per patient ²	1.46	1.6	2.0		1.3
Total nr. of stents	262	159	549		171
Nr. of DES	260	159	549		166
DES/stents ratio (%)	99.2	100	100		97
BVS	2	4	47		0
Cutting, Scoring	2	4	3		9
Rotablation	0	5	5		0
FFR/IFR	1	0	0		0
IVUS	0	0	0		0
OCT	0	0	0		0
Peripheral interventions					
Peripheral PTA ³	67	16	25		28
Renal PTA	4	4			6
Carotid PTA	2	8	7		20
Total nr. of stents in peripheral PTA	32	31	31		70
Peripheral angiography	388	22	27	9	142
Other interventions					
TAVI	3	2	2		0
MitraClip	0	0	3		0
Aortic endoprothesis	4		6		0
Interventions in structural heart disease ⁴	0	4	32		22
MACE					
Death	0	0	0		0
Periprocedural AMI	0	0	0		0
Stroke	0	l I			0
Stent Thrombosis	0	0	0		0
Major bleeding ⁵	0		2		0
Coronary rupture	0	0	0		0

Table I. continued

City	Cluj Napoca				lași		
Hospital	Institutul Inimii Cluj	SCJU Cluj	Cardioteam	Recuperare	IBCV Iași	Arcadia	
Nr. of Cathlabs	2	I.	I	I	2	I	
Nr. Independent operators	8	3	I	I	6	3	
Nr. of in training operators	4	7	2	2	3	0	
Total number of procedures (diagnostic + PCI) ¹		464		909	3573	586	
Coronary Interventions							
Coronarography	3452	297	432	766	3340	464	
Total nr. of PCI	1730	167	264	290	1896	85	
PCI without stents	134	8	4	32	158	2	
PCI with stents	1596	159	260	258	1738	83	
STEMI	764	54	L.	6	887	0	
Stents per patient ²	1.43	1.81	1.8	1.3	1.19	1.2	
Total nr. of stents	2475	303	475	298	2084	110	
Nr. of DES	1363	281	427	270	1849	110	
DES/stents ratio (%)	55	92.7	89.9	90.6	88.7	100	
BVS	0	0	48	0	0	0	
Cutting, Scoring	12	0	12	0	0	0	
Rotablation	0	0	0	0	0	0	
FFR/IFR	3	0	1	0	0	0	
IVUS	16	0	0	0	0	0	
ОСТ	1	0	2	0	0	0	
Peripheral interventions							
Peripheral PTA ³	52	28	15	29	49	14	
Renal PTA	18	2	5	0	10	1	
Carotid PTA	12	6	26	0	29	7	
Total nr. of stents in peripheral PTA	36		21	23	64	10	
Peripheral angiography	261	98	36	143	581	64	
Other interventions							
TAVI	0	0	0	0	11	0	
MitraClip	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Aortic endoprothesis	2	0	0	0	8	0	
Interventions in structural heart disease ⁴	20	0	4	0	3	3	
MACE							
Death	45	7	0	0	57	0	
Periprocedural AMI	12	0	2	0	0	0	
Stroke	15	0	2	0	l.	L.	
Stent Thrombosis	10	0	0	0	0	0	
Major bleeding ⁵	11	3	1	0	3	0	
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Marin Postu et al. The activity of the interventional cardiology centers in Romania

Table	I. continued	I

City		Târgu Mureș			Timișoara	
Hospital	IBCV Tg Mureş	Cardio Med	SCJU Tg Mureş	Nova Vita	IBCV Timişoara	Cordismed
Nr. of Cathlabs	2	C	C	I	, I	I
Nr. independent operators	6	nre	nre	5	6	3
Nr. of in training operators	2	po	po	0	3	3
Total number of procedures (diagnostic + PCI) ¹	4545	Unreported	Unreported	1037	3175	
Coronary Interventions						
Coronarography	4398			900	3175	415
Total nr. of PCI	1489			57	1569	131
PCI without stents	94			1	76	11
PCI with stents	1395			56	1393	120
STEMI	278			0	1041	0
Stents per patient ²	1.3			1.1	1.78	1.74
Total nr. of stents	1868			63	2492	209
Nr. of DES	1804			61	1701	198
DES/stents ratio (%)	96.6			96.8	68.2	94.7
BVS	16			0	0	3
Cutting, Scoring	23			0	0	0
Rotablation	22			0	0	1
FFR/IFR	80			0	5	0
IVUS	0			0	3	0
OCT	60			0	5	0
Peripheral interventions						
Peripheral PTA ³	81				17	45
Renal PTA	5			0	4	12
Carotid PTA	24			0	35	18
Total nr. of stents in peripheral PTA	76				9	50
Peripheral angiography	500			60	841	50
Other interventions						
TAVI	4			0	0	0
MitraClip	0			0	0	0
Aortic endoprothesis	10			0		0
Interventions in structural heart disease ⁴	20			0	0	2
MACE						
Death	32			0	72	0
Periprocedural AMI	8			0	4	0
Stroke	4			0	10	0
Stent Thrombosis	4			0	3	0
Major bleeding ⁵	4			0	3	0
Coronary rupture	4			0	3	2

Table I. continued

City		așov	Oradea	Arad	Suceava
Hospital	Clinicco	Sp. Județean	Sp. Județean	Cardiolife	Med New Life
Nr. of Cathlabs	I	2	2	I	2
Nr. independent operators	2	3	4	I	2
Nr. of in training operators	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of procedures (diagnostic + PCI) ¹	2229	2236	1802	786	703
Coronary Interventions					
Coronarography	1988	1336	1741	578	303
Total nr. of PCI	527	702	744	169	258
PCI without stents	17	71	42	0	16
PCI with stents	510	631	702	164	242
STEMI	14	408	328	48	290
Stents per patient ²	1.5	1.4	1.39	1.8	1.25
Total nr. of stents	793	904	1035	305	304
Nr. of DES	722	837	565	254	162
DES/stents ratio (%)	91	92.6	54.6	83.3	53.3
BVS	35	9	0	0	0
Cutting, Scoring	0	2	1	0	0
Rotablation	0	0	0	0	0
FFR/IFR	2	2	0	0	0
IVUS	0	0	0	0	0
OCT	0	1	10	0	0
Peripheral interventions					
Peripheral PTA ³	11	1	7	41	117
Renal PTA	0	0	0	4	Ι.
Carotid PTA	3	5	0	5	9
Total nr. of stents in peripheral PTA	13	0	0	35	59
Peripheral angiography	30	9	236	75	25
Other interventions					
TAVI	0	0	0	0	0
MitraClip	0	0	0	0	0
Aortic endoprothesis	0	0	0	0	0
Interventions in structural heart disease ⁴	0	0	0	0	0
MACE					
Death	0	16	6	3	20
Periprocedural AMI	0	10	4	0	0
Stroke	0	2	0	0	L.
Stent Thrombosis	l. I	5	3	0	2
Major bleeding⁵	0	0	0	0	0
Coronary rupture	0	0	2	0	0

Marin Postu et al. The activity of the interventional cardiology centers in Romania

Table I. continued

City	Baia Mare	Sibiu	Constanța	Ploiești	Pitești
Hospital	Sp. Județean	Polisano	Cardiolife	Ploiești	Pitești
Nr. of Cathlabs	2	I	I	I	I
Nr. independent operators	2	2	I	2	3
Nr. of in training operators	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of procedures (diagnostic + PCI) ¹	1181	1256	1133	1017	976
Coronary Interventions					
Coronarography	820	1087	780	759	573
Total nr. of PCI	561	445	346	365	259
PCI without stents	36	25	2	26	16
PCI with stents	525	420	344	339	243
STEMI	309	25	158	184	32
Stents per patient ²	1.6	1.6	1.33	1.22	1.25
Total nr. of stents	677	721	459	447	305
Nr. of DES	245	391	247	248	119
DES/stents ratio (%)	36.2	54.2	53.8	55.5	39
BVS	0	0	0	0	0
Cutting, Scoring	6	25	0	0	5
Rotablation	0	0	0	0	0
FFR/IFR	0	20	0	0	0
IVUS	0	0	0	0	0
OCT	0	0	0	0	0
Peripheral interventions					
Peripheral PTA ³	27	16	2	32	62
Renal PTA	0	1	0	0	3
Carotid PTA	0	1	2	0	0
Total nr. of stents in peripheral PTA	13	25	3	1	27
Peripheral angiography	208	46	3	221	191
Other interventions					
TAVI	0	2	0	0	0
MitraClip	0	0	0	0	0
Aortic endoprothesis	0	14	0	0	0
Interventions in structural heart disease4	0	7	0	0	0
MACE					
Death	20	L.	12	2	1
Periprocedural AMI	l. I.	2	5	l. I	3
Stroke	0	0	0	l I	0
Stent Thrombosis	l. I.	l. I	2	1	1
Major bleeding⁵	0	0	2	0	4
Coronary rupture	0	L.	1	0	0

All procedures performed in the intervention center, both diagnostic and therapeutic, coronary and peripheral, will be introduced. If in the same procedure the patient is diagnosed with coronary angiogram followed by angioplasty, it will be described as a procedure. If a patient performs coronary angiogram, and in a subsequent session will perform angioplasty, two procedures will be considered.
It will represent the ratio between the total number of implanted stents and the total number of patients undergoing PCI

Number of peripheral angioplasty (lower and upper limbs artery, not including carotid arterial)
Number of peripheral angioplasty (lower and upper limbs artery, not including carotid arterial)
Interventions in cardiac structural diseases: percutaneous closures of DSA, DSV, PFO, arterial duct, balloon valvulotomies, left atrial appendage closure
Major bleeding; fatal bleeding, intracranial hemorrhage, bleeding with hypovolemic shock (SBP <90 mmHg), hemoglobin decreased by >3 g/dl)

Romanian Journal of Cardiology Vol. 27, No. 3, 2017

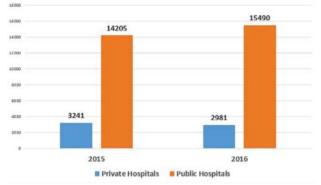


Figure 4. Total number of PCIs in 2015 and 2016 in private vs public hospitals in Romania.

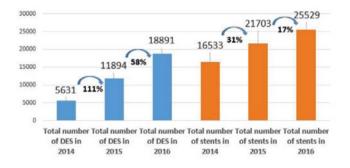


Figure 5. Total number of stents implanted in 2014-2016 in Romania.

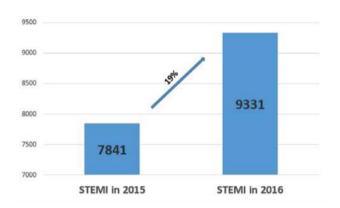


Figure 6. Total number of STEMI in 2015 vs 2016 in interventional centers from Romania.



Figure 7. Imaging and invasive coronary hemodynamics testing.

Marin Postu et al. The activity of the interventional cardiology centers in Romania

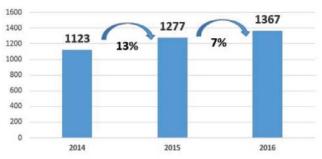


Figure 8. Total number of peripheral angioplasty in 2014-2016 in Romania (only in interventional cardiology centers).

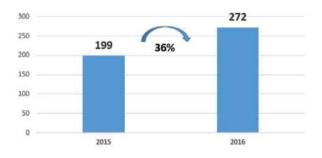
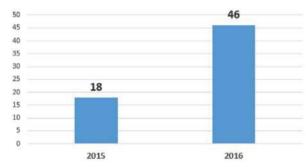


Figure 9. Total number of carotid angioplasty in 2015 vs 2015 in Romania (only in interventional cardiology centers).





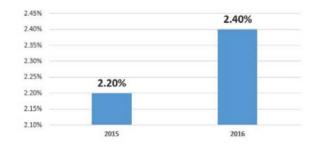


Figure 11. Mortality rate during PCI in 2015 vs 2016 in Romania.

Romanian Journal of Cardiology Vol. 27, No. 3, 2017

were made 18471 coronary interventions. The total number of coronary angiogram in 2016 (42785) increased with 23% compared to total number of coronary angiogram in 2015 (34624).

We see the same trend in the total number of implanted stents (Figure 5). An important thing is that the total number of drug eluting stent implanted in 2015 increasing more than two folds compared with 2014. The same trend was found in 2016. The number of implanted stents per patient in 2016 was 1.46.

The total number of STEMI increased by 20% in 2016 compared to 2015 (Figure 6), which is probably due to the greater accessibility to the catheterization centers, the foundation of new catheterization centers that entered the STEMI program, and the clinical cardiologists are more familiar with this national program.

A very good finding is that the utilization of intracoronary imaging like OCT and IVUS and the utilization of invasive coronary hemodynamic measurements like IFR and FFR increased in 2016 with 90% compared to 2015 (Figure 7).

The total number of peripheral angioplasty slightly increased from 2014 to 2016, so the activity in this field is somehow unchanged; but we don't have the data from interventional radiologists (Figure 8). Maybe we need more interventional radiologist and interventional cardiologist dedicated to this field. However, the total number of carotid angioplasty in 2016 increased with 36% compared to 2015, which is a great progress (Figure 9).

In 2016 an important progress was achieved in what concerns other types of procedures, like TAVI (in 2016 were implanted percutaneous 46 aortic valves compared to only 18 in 2015) (Figure 10), mitraclip (were reported 3 cases) and aortic endoprothesis (were reported 57 cases).

Regarding outcomes, the mortality rate during PCI in unselected patients in 2015 was 2.2% and it had a slight increase in 2016 to 2.4% (Figure 11).

There is a continuous need of implementing a Mandatory Interventional Cardiology National Registry, capable of monitoring objectively these key health care services in a standard manner. This national registry can guide further development of the interventional cardiology in Romania.

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