

CASE REPORT

Removing Organized Femoral Clot With the Pounce™ XL Thrombectomy System

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PATIENT PRESENTATION

A man in his mid-80s with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and a former smoker had undergone an open thrombectomy for left lower extremity (LLE) acute limb ischemia (ALI) several months earlier. Since then, he was readmitted for another episode of ALI while taking apixaban and was treated with aspiration thrombectomy, achieving limited clot removal but restoring some outflow in the distal superficial femoral artery (SFA) and popliteal artery with the help of percutaneous transluminal angioplasty. He subsequently developed a left groin abscess from the initial surgery and was readmitted for incision and drainage. A few weeks after this procedure, he presented again with recurrent LLE ALI despite taking apixaban and clopidogrel.

DIAGNOSTIC FINDINGS

Initial angiography conducted via contralateral groin access revealed organized clot in the proximal SFA (Figure 1A), calcification with reduced flow in the distal SFA and popliteal artery (Figure 1B), and minimal tibial runoff (Figure 1C).

TREATMENT

The Pounce™ XL Thrombectomy System (Surmodics, Inc.) was introduced through a 7 Fr sheath, with the baskets deployed in the mid-SFA and the funnel deployed in the external iliac artery. Two passes with the Pounce™ XL System removed significant subacute thrombus (Figure 2A) and restored flow into the SFA and popliteal artery (Figure 2B). Next, angioplasty was performed in the proximal

anterior tibial (AT) artery to treat the outflow disease, followed by deployment of a long drug-coated balloon (DCB) in the mid-to-distal SFA and intravascular lithotripsy (IVL) in the common femoral artery. Final angiography showed restored flow in the femoral and popliteal arteries (Figure 3).

POSTPROCEDURE OUTCOMES

Due to the history of rethrombosis on apixaban, the patient was bridged with enoxaparin, warfarin, and clopidogrel with a target international normalized ratio of 2 to 2.5 without aspirin to minimize bleeding risk. The patient had no recurrent events at 3-month follow-up. The Pounce™ XL Thrombectomy System enabled fast and efficient removal of subacute organized clot in a patient with a complex treatment history. ■



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Disclosures: Consultant to Abbott Vascular, Cordis, Johnson & Johnson, Philips, Penumbra, and Surmodics.

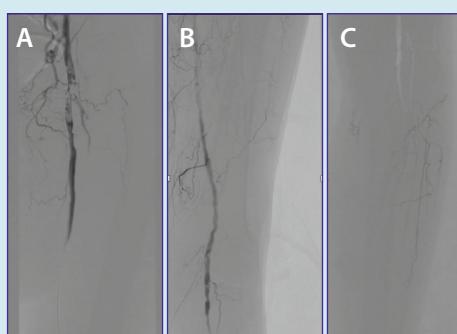


Figure 1. Initial angiography showing organized thrombus in the proximal SFA (A), with compromised flow in the distal SFA and popliteal artery (B) and minimal tibial runoff (C).

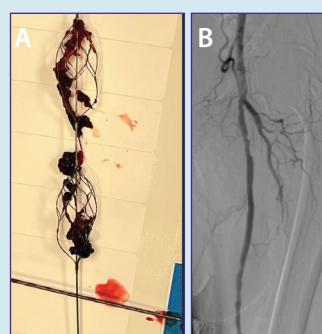


Figure 2. Subacute SFA thrombus removed with the Pounce™ XL System (A). Restoration of flow into the SFA and popliteal arteries with two passes of the Pounce™ XL System (B).

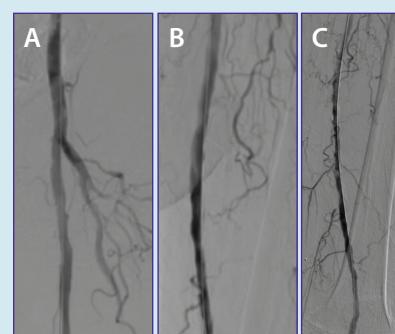


Figure 3. Final angiography showing restoration of flow to proximal SFA (A), mid-SFA (B), and distal SFA/popliteal artery (C) following Pounce™ XL System thrombectomy, angioplasty, DCB treatment, and IVL treatment.

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