Patency of an Acutely Thrombosed Axillary-Subclavian Vein in a Woman with Paget-Schroëtter Syndrome

Patient History

48-year-old female presented to the vascular medicine clinic with complaints of a 10-day history of pain and swelling in her right arm:

- Physical examination was significant for equal blood pressures in both arms with normal cardiac and pulmonary examination
- Marked edema of entire right upper extremity from shoulder extending into her hand
- Venous duplex ultrasound of right upper limb demonstrated acute thrombus of the axillary and subclavian veins
- Right upper limb venography via the basilic vein obtained under ultrasound-guided access revealed fresh thrombus occluding the axillary-subclavian veins

Treatment

EKOS® (18 cm treatment zone) device was placed and:

- EKOS® ultrasound-accelerated thrombolysis along with 2mg/hr tPA and
- 200 units heparin were delivered for 4 hours

Results

Patient restudied after 4 hours of thrombolytic treatment with EKOS®:

- Patency of the vein restored
- PTA of the residual subclavian vein stenosis with a 12 mm balloon catheter
- Patient tolerated a transaxillary rib resection without complications, and was discharged home with low-molecular weight heparin bridging to warfarin