

Top 48

Unanswered Questions

1. In patients with AAOCA, what impact does the development of scar tissue in the coronary arteries have on long-term effects (outcomes)?
2. What are the long-term effects (outcomes) of AAOCA?
3. What is the likelihood that patients with AAOCA will have a cardiac event (e.g. cardiac arrest)?
4. What are the long-term effects (outcomes) of surgery on patients with AAOCA compared to those who do not have surgery?
5. In patients with AAOCA who undergo surgery, is the risk of a sudden cardiac event different than it was prior to surgery?
6. What are the best strategies for providers to use when educating patients and parents about AAOCA and including them in the decision-making process?
7. In patients with AAOCA, what is the risk of death if a cardiac event occurs?
8. What are the long-term outcomes if a provider recommends surgery for AAOCA and a patient chooses not to have it?
9. What are the long-term outcomes of different types of surgeries to treat AAOCA?
10. In patients with AAOCA, what can increase your chances of having a sudden cardiac event?
11. In patients with AAOCA, what are the risks of not having surgery for AAOCA compared to the risks of having surgery?
12. What is the long-term quality of life in patients with AAOCA?
13. What are concerning/critical symptoms in AAOCA?
14. How do you determine the risk of different types of AAOCA (different variations of coronary anatomy)?
15. What are the best tests and imaging for patients with suspected AAOCA and at what age can these be done?
16. In patients with AAOCA, who play high-level/full contact sports, what management strategies are best?
17. What are the reasons (indications) a patient would receive surgery to treat AAOCA?
18. What is the best treatment strategy for patients with AAOCA?
19. What is the best hospital follow-up schedule for patients with AAOCA and what is its impact on their treatment?
20. How does the diagnosis and treatment of AAOCA impact the mental health of patients and families?
21. What are the effects & outcomes of AAOCA surgery?

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22. In patients with AAOCA who are high-performing athletes (e.g. professional or collegiate), what medical or surgical interventions should they undergo to allow them to continue playing sports?
23. In patients with AAOCA, what causes a sudden cardiac event to happen?
24. For patients newly diagnosed with AAOCA, what information and resources should ideally be provided to help with understanding of the diagnosis?
25. What are the questions patients with AAOCA and their families should or should not be asking providers?
26. In patients with AAOCA, how does the condition affect participation in collegiate or professional athletics?
27. What is the best timing for surgery to treat AAOCA?
28. How do patients with AAOCA communicate their diagnosis with others (friends, families, coaches)?
29. What is the epidemiology of AAOCA (who gets AAOCA and why) in the general population?
30. In patients with AAOCA, do tests of cardiac function and coronary blood flow impact management?
31. What are the mental health needs of families of AAOCA patients?
32. When patients with AAOCA and their families receive differing medical opinions regarding treatment, how should they choose which one to follow?
33. In pediatric patients with AAOCA, what symptoms are concerning as they get older?
34. Are there any new innovations (novel techniques) to treat AAOCA compared to the current treatment options?
35. How does the presence of AAOCA impact the development of other cardiac disease?
36. What communication strategies can parents use to explain the diagnosis of AAOCA to their children?
37. What are the risks and benefits of exercise restriction in patients with AAOCA?
38. What are the differences in outcomes in AAOCA patients who have symptoms compared to patients who do not have symptoms?
39. For patients waiting for surgery to treat AAOCA, what precautions should be taken to ensure their safety and wellbeing prior to surgery?
40. What is the risk during pregnancy for women with AAOCA?
41. In children with AAOCA, what impact does surgery have on cognitive (intellectual) function and neurodevelopment?
42. What is the impact of AAOCA on a patient's activity and athletic ability?

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43. In pediatric patients who decide against surgery to treat AAOCA, should the decision be revisited once they are adults?
44. What is the best strategy for transitioning a patient with AAOCA from pediatric to adult medical care?
45. What precautions during childhood have the greatest impact on reducing AAOCA complications?
46. What are the appropriate exercise restrictions after surgery to treat AAOCA?
47. How do symptoms of AAOCA change over time?
48. How many patients with AAOCA are treated with surgery compared to conservatively (without surgery)?