



Brazilian Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery

ISSN: 0102-7638

ISSN: 1678-9741

Sociedade Brasileira de Cirurgia Cardiovascular

Magoon, Rohan; Jose, Jes  
Prognostic Implications of Quantifying Haemodynamic Support: Looking Beyond a Snapshot Score  
Brazilian Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery, vol. 37, no. 4, 2022, July-August, p. 609  
Sociedade Brasileira de Cirurgia Cardiovascular

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21470/1678-9741-2021-0106>

Available in: <https://www.redalyc.org/articulo.oa?id=398972448028>

- How to cite
- Complete issue
- More information about this article
- Journal's webpage in [redalyc.org](https://www.redalyc.org)

The logo for Redalyc.org, featuring the text 'redalyc.org' in a stylized font with a red heart-like shape integrated into the 'y'.

Scientific Information System Redalyc  
Network of Scientific Journals from Latin America and the Caribbean, Spain and  
Portugal

Project academic non-profit, developed under the open access initiative

# Prognostic Implications of Quantifying Haemodynamic Support: Looking Beyond a Snapshot Score

DOI: 10.21470/1678-9741-2021-0106

Dear Editor,

Baysal et al.<sup>[1]</sup> study, published recently in the Brazilian Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery, epitomizes an important concept of objectively quantifying the degree of haemodynamic support by computing the vasoactive-inotropic score (VIS). The authors attribute prognostic implications to a postoperative VIS >5.5 as an independent predictor of morbidity and mortality after coronary artery bypass grafting in their prospective evaluation.

However, the authors' findings need to be carefully interpreted in the absence of VIS estimation in the intensive care unit (ICU) in the index study, particularly when the predictive links of postoperative VIS are being sought with mortality and dynamic ICU morbid outcomes, such as renal failure, central nervous damage, etc. in a small cohort of 290 patients<sup>[1]</sup>. Appropriate to the context, Koponen et al.<sup>[2]</sup> study deserves a mention here which aimed to retrospectively evaluate the association between the highest VIS in the first 24 hours post-ICU admission and a composite poor outcome in 3,213 adult cardiac surgical patients. While their elucidation of a linear increase in the odds of adverse primary postoperative outcome with escalating ICU-VIS scores is noteworthy, it also does adequately emphasize the relevance of a continuous assessment of the VIS scores extending well into the period beyond ICU admission<sup>[2]</sup>.

At the same time, with the understanding of the fact that VIS only allows for the haemodynamic support quantification at a single time-point, the conceptualization of a VIS index by Crow et al.<sup>[3]</sup> aims at an additional account for the prolonged haemodynamic support requirement<sup>[4]</sup>. They describe a cumulative VIS calculation as follows:  $VIS_{0-24h}(\text{maximum}) + VIS_{24-48h}(\text{maximum}) + 2 \times VIS_{48-72h}(\text{maximum})$ , which is subsequently divided by 10 to compute an integer VIS index. Alongside a heightened discriminative performance when compared to the VIS (maximum) alone, a VIS index  $\geq 3$  has been outlined to be associated with an accentuated risk of poor composite outcome after cardiac surgery<sup>[3,4]</sup>.

Ahead of the augmented standardization achieved by employing objective haemodynamic support scores like VIS, their outcome predictive potential evaluation needs to be more

deliberate with a simultaneous consideration to the two equally critical factors of magnitude and duration of haemodynamic support rather than envisaging a snapshot score concept.

**Rohan Magoon<sup>1</sup>, DM, MD,**

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4633-8851>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Cardiac Anaesthesia, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences (ABVIMS) and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Baba Khark Singh Marg, New Delhi, India.  
E-mail: rohanmagoon21@gmail.com

**Jes Jose<sup>2</sup>, MD**

<sup>2</sup>Department of Cardiac Anaesthesia, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Jayanagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India.

## REFERENCES

1. Baysal PK, Güzelmeriç F, Kahraman E, Gürcü ME, Erkinç A, Orki T. Is vasoactive-inotropic score a predictor for mortality and morbidity in patients undergoing coronary artery bypass surgery? *Braz J Cardiovasc Surg*. 2021. doi:10.21470/1678-9741-2020-0219.
2. Koponen T, Karttunen J, Musialowicz T, Pietiläinen L, Uusaro A, Lahtinen P. Vasoactive-inotropic score and the prediction of morbidity and mortality after cardiac surgery. *Br J Anaesth*. 2019;122(4):428-36. doi:10.1016/j.bja.2018.12.019.
3. Crow SS, Robinson JA, Burkhart HM, Dearani JA, Golden AW. Duration and magnitude of vasopressor support predicts poor outcome after infant cardiac operations. *Ann Thorac Surg*. 2014;98(2):655-61. doi:10.1016/j.athoracsurg.2014.04.041.
4. Belletti A, Leroise CC, Zangrillo A, Landoni G. Vasoactive-inotropic score: evolution, clinical utility, and pitfalls. *J Cardiothorac Vasc Anesth*. 2021;35(10):3067-77. doi:10.1053/j.jvca.2020.09.117.



This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License.