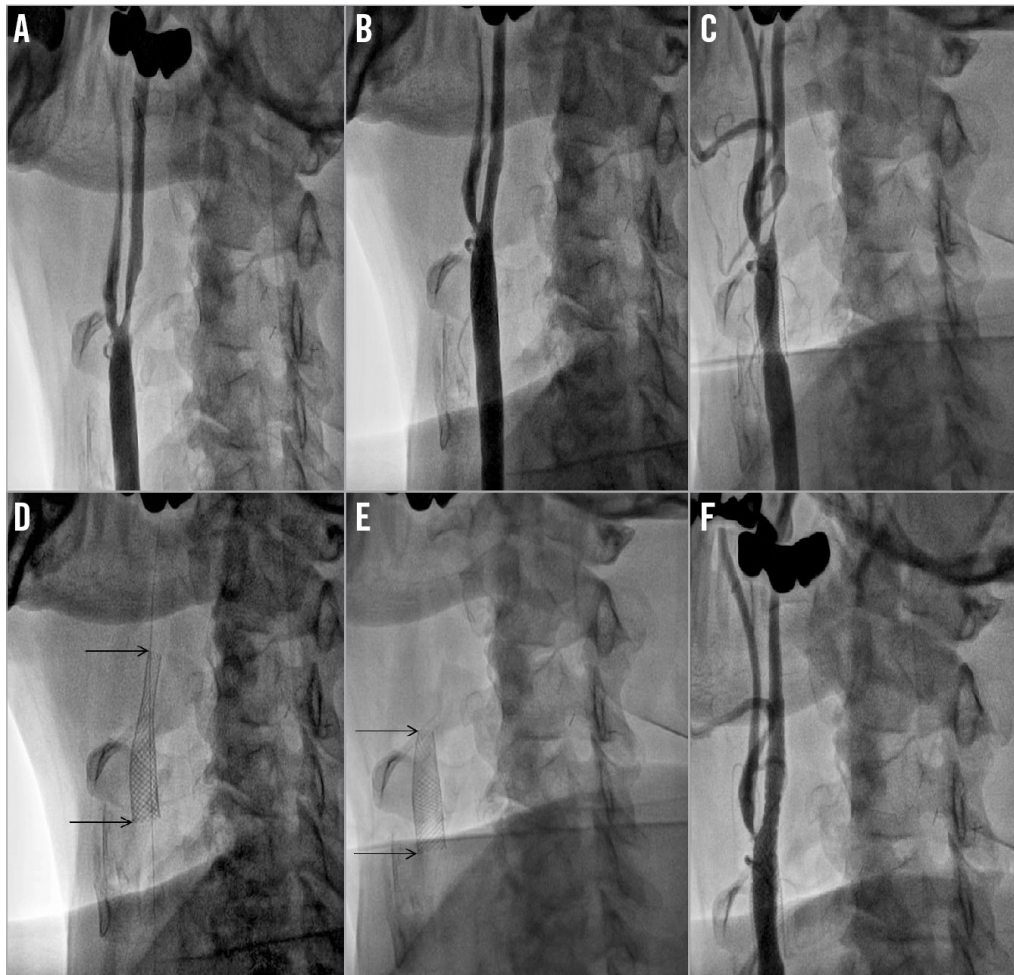


The shrinking carotid stent



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A 77-year-old man with an asymptomatic 80% stenosis of the right internal carotid artery (ICA) underwent successful carotid artery stenting (CAS) with the Carotid WALLSTENT™, 7.0×30 mm (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA, USA) under distal embolic protection in February 2011 (**Panel A, Panel B**). Five months later he presented with a three-week history of intermittent dizziness and vision impairment. Cerebral magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) showed no signs of cerebral ischaemia. Angio MRI revealed a high grade restenosis of the right ICA. This finding was confirmed during angiography. It showed a 95% restenosis of the ICA in the same segment, just above the bifurcation, which was stenosed prior to stent implantation (**Panel C**). The stent was located proximally to the restenosis and

appeared shorter in size now. Measurements showed a shrinkage of approximately 30% (**Panel D, Panel E**). A re-stenting using a Precise®, 7×30 mm (Cordis, Johnson & Johnson, Warren, NJ, USA) of the ICA under distal embolic protection was successfully performed (**Panel F**). A follow-up angio MRI two years later revealed no restenosis.

Delayed Carotid WALLSTENT shortening and restenosis can occur even after successful CAS. Therefore, regular short-term follow-up evaluation is important to detect unexpected complications such as stent shortening.

Conflict of interest statement

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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