IMAGES IN SURGERY

SURVIVING BY A THREAD OF LIFE For 20 years

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A 79-years old gentleman, presented with complaints of angina (Canadian Cardiovascular Society-III) for the past 3 months. Coronary angiography (CAG) (Figure-1,D-F) revealed 100% left main coronary artery (LMCA) ostial stenosis with inability to hook it and 99% ostial stenosis of the right coronary artery (RCA). Left anterior descending artery (LAD) and left circumflex artery (LCX) arteries were opacified retrogradely on injection of RCA. On reviewing his previous records, he had undergone the same procedure 20 years back too, which revealed 99% LMCA ostial stenosis and normal RCA, LAD and LCX arteries (Figure-1,A-C). But due to some financial and personal issues, the patient did not undergo any form of invasive treatment, and continued on medical management. But this time, the patient finally agreed to undergo coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG). The patient successfully underwent off-pump CABG and was successfully discharged on post-operative day-6. This patient, inadvertently spent 20 years surviving by a string of blood flowing through the LMCA.

