When is freezing harmful?

Authors' reply Pulmonary vein stenosis is a rather rare complication of cryoballoon ablation (0.17% according to Andrade et al),¹ but it is observed much more frequently after radiofrequency catheter ablation and ranges from 3% to even 42%, depending on the method of venous stenosis assessment and the ablation technique used.² A growing number of performed procedures, regardless of their type, translates into a higher number of observed complications. The aim of our article was to attract the attention of pulmonologists to pulmonary vein stenosis as a potential cause of hemoptysis and lung infiltrations and prompt radiologists to search for even a mild degree of pulmonary vein stenosis in chest computed tomography in symptomatic patients. It will shorten the time to diagnosis and markedly reduce costs, allowing to avoid invasive procedures such as video-assisted thoracoscopy.

We would like to thank you for your interest in our article.

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