required

Common physician-chosen parallel graft techniques **Chimney / Snorkel** Sandwich Periscope Octopus • Chimney and Snorkel terms often used interchangeably • Parallel stents for upwardorienting (retrograde-filling) • Parallel stents for downward-• Parallel stents implanted • Multiple branches anchored vessels orienting (antegrade-filling) between (i.e., 'sandwiched' into the limbs of the vessels • Femoral access typically between) the aortic main bifurcated aortic main body required body • Upper Extremity (e.g. brachial) access typically

comparison of self-expanding stents (SX) and balloon-expandable stents (BX) in parallel stenting applications

S

BX

- Stent frames are comprised of nitinol
- Nitinol shape memory allows for expansion to nominal diameter without support of a balloon

Typically:

- Weaker radial force / easily compressed
- Longer lengths potential to avoid additional stent grafts to extend length
- Lower delivery profiles
- High flexibility / conformability
- Potential for 'bow-stringing effect' (GORE® VIABAHN® Endoprosthesis)

- Generally comprised of stainless steel or cobalt chromium
- Mounted on balloon delivery systems to enable deployment

Typically:

- Higher radial force and good fluoroscopic visibility
- Shorter lengths may require additional stent grafts to extend length
- Precise placement in the target vessel
- Ability to be more tailored to the anatomy, post-dilation (ability to post-dilate the device to taper it to the vessel)*

What are "gutters" or "gutterleaks"?

"Gutters" are the spaces between parallel-implanted devices, where the inner-most device does not conform sufficiently around the outer device(s). These gaps could potentially lead to endoleaks, or "gutterleaks" as blood continues to flow through them.



Axial view of aorta



Correctly sized aortic stent graft: apposes vessel wall



Oversized aortic stent graft leads to device infolding which my lead to a Type I Endoleak



Appropriately-sized aortic stent graft conforming around two implanted parallel stents^{11, 18}



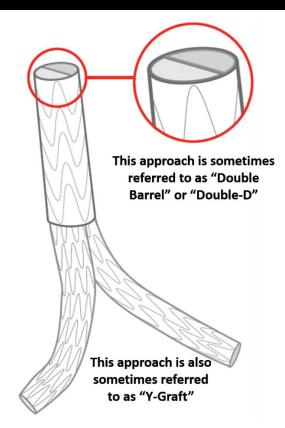
Undersized aortic stent graft – does not conform to parallel stents; the spaces between the grafts (aka 'gutters') may contribute to endoleak



Oversized aortic stent graft leads to infolding; device does not conform to vessel wall or parallel stents, resulting in 'gutters' or Type I Endoleaks^{10,17}

Physicians' best practice considerations when calculating *multiple devices* inside one larger device (the 'Double Barrel')

Physicians may decide to branch into more than one vessel by implanting multiple devices from inside one larger device. This approach is sometimes known as "Double Barrel" or "Y – Graft¹⁹."



Same Size Parallel Stents for 'Double Barrel'

Literature suggests that parallel stent sizing *NOT* be based on dividing larger graft diameter by 2, as doing so would lead to infolding²⁰.

20 mm larger device diameter

10 mm diameter

10 mm diameter

Instead, one study suggests the parallel stents be at 80% of the larger device diameter²⁰.



Note that the approach described above is just one example of how physicians might determine device sizing. The physicians you work with may have their own approach that is different.

3