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Role of selvester scores in patients with acute coronary syndrome



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ABSTRACT

Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) is a major cardiovascular problem because it increases mortality and morbidity. ACS is the acute manifestation of coronary arteries atheromatous plaque torn or ruptured. ECG had been developed to enhance the clinical benefits. Selvester score is one of the assessment method in the ECG that aims to detect and determine the location of damage due to myocardial

infarction, judging from the complex of QRS. In some studies it has been reported that Selvester score correlated with the extent of damage after myocardial infarction. By using a specific scoring criteria, with the total number of points earned, Selvester scores are considered a non-invasive tool to assess myocardial damage that is easy to use and provides precise results by using ECG especially in areas with limited diagnostic tools.

Key words: Acute, Coronary, Selvester

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INTRODUCTION

Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) is a major cardiovascular problem because it increases mortality and morbidity. Every year in the United States it is estimated that there are approximately 735,000 people with acute coronary syndrome; about 525,000 people first received ACS and about 210,000 have had ACS before.^{1,2}

In Indonesia, the World Health Organization (WHO) on Non Communicable Diseases (NCD) Country Profiles, 2014, found that cardiovascular disease is a leading cause of death, amounting to 37% of total mortality. In research conducted at the department of Prof. Dr. R. D. Kandou Manado in North Sulawesi, it was found that there were 55 cases of acute coronary syndrome in 2006; 104 cases in 2007; 166 cases in 2008; 251 cases in 2009; and 354 cases in 2010.^{3,5}

Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) is a term used to describe the symptoms caused by acute myocardial ischemia. ACS which causes necrosis of the myocardium is called a myocardial infarction. ACS is divided into three categories: the first of myocardial infarction with ST-segment elevation or ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), which is both myocardial infarction without ST-segment elevation or non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI) and a third unstable angina pectoris or unstable angina pectoris (UAP).^{1,6}

One way to determine the extent and location of damage to the myocardium caused by infarction is recording an electrocardiogram (ECG) with 12 leads performed within 10 minutes of the patient's arrival in the emergency room as recommended by the

guidelines of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) NSTEMI 2015. ECG is an examination that does not require a huge costs and is easy to use and works fast. Some of the modalities of non-invasive investigations, such as echocardiography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), angiography radionucleid, Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography (SPECT), or Positron Emission Tomography (PET), are not cheap and need a long vetting process. One option that is an affordable non-invasive examination is to assess the extent and location of infarction, that is, Selvester Score, assessing the QRS wave of the ECG, so as to make it easier to assess the location and myocardial damage in patients with ACS. Any points earned on the Selvester score indicate damage amounting to 3% in miokard.^{1,7-11}

In this literature review will discuss the role of the Selvester score in determining the extent and location of damage caused by myocardial infarction in patients with acute coronary syndrome.

ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROME

ACS is the acute manifestation of coronary arteries atheromatous plaque torn or ruptured. It is associated with changes in plaque composition and thinning of the fibrous cap covering the plaque. This event will be followed by a process of platelet aggregation and activation of the coagulation pathway, thus forming a platelet-rich thrombus (white thrombus). This thrombus will clog coronary arteries, either totally or partially or become micro emboli that can clog the distal coronary arteries. Besides,

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the release of vasoactive substances that cause vasoconstriction aggravates interruption of coronary blood flow. Reduction in coronary blood flow causes myocardial ischemia. Oxygen supply stopped for over 20 minutes causes myocardial necrosis (myocardial infarction). Myocardial infarction is not always caused by total occlusion of the coronary arteries. Subtotal obstruction accompanied by dynamic vasoconstriction can lead to ischemia and necrosis of heart muscle tissue (myocardium). As a result of ischemia, it can also cause myocardial contractility due process and stunning hibernating (after ischemia missing), dysrhythmia, and ventricular remodeling (changes in shape, size, and ventricular function). Most patients do not experience ACS plaque rupture as described above. They experience ACS as a dynamic obstruction due to local spasm of an epicardium coronary artery

(Prinzmetal angina). Narrowing of the coronary arteries, without any spasm or thrombus, may also be caused by the progression of plaque or restenosis after Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (IKP). Some extrinsic factors, such as fever, anemia, thyrotoxicosis, hypotension, and tachycardia, can trigger the occurrence of ACS in patients who already have atherosclerosis plaque.^{1,12-16}

Based on history, physical examination, ECG, and cardiac markers examination ACS is divided into three categories: STEMI, NSTEMI, and UAP. STEMI is an indicator of the incidence of total occlusion of coronary arteries. This situation requires revascularization to restore blood flow and myocardial reperfusion as soon as possible, medically using fibrinolytic agent or mechanically by primary percutaneous coronary intervention. STEMI diagnosis is made when there is a complaint of acute angina pectoris with persistent ST segment elevation in two adjacent leads. Initiation revascularization procedure requires waiting for results from an increase in cardiac markers. Diagnosis NSTEMI and UAP can be enforced if there are complaints of angina pectoris without ST segment elevation acutely persistent in two adjacent leads. ECG recordings can be either ST segment depression, T wave inversion, flat T waves, pseudo-normalization of T wave, or even without any changes. While UAP and NSTEMI is distinguished by the incidence of myocardial infarction, they were also marked by an increase in cardiac markers. Cardiac markers that are commonly used are Troponin I/T or creatinine kinase-MB (CK-MB). When the results of the cardiac markers increased significantly, the diagnosis becomes NSTEMI. At UAP, cardiac markers do not increase significantly. At ACS, the threshold value for the increase in CK-MB is abnormal as some units exceeded the upper-normal value (upper limits of normal, ULN). As stated in the ESC guidelines NSTEMI 2015-B class I recommend recording 12 leads of ECG within 10 minutes after the patient's arrival in the emergency room. If the initial ECG showed no abnormalities (normal) or non-diagnostic while angina is still ongoing, the examination is repeated 10 to 20 minutes later. If a repeat ECG still showed a non-diagnostic picture while complaints of angina it is very suggestive of ACS, and the patient should be monitored for 12 to 24 hours. ECG was repeated every 6 hours and at every recurrent instance of angina. All patients with complaints of chest pain or other complaints that may lead to ischemia should undergo an ECG with 12 leads as soon as possible when they arrive at the emergency room. In addition, V3R and V4R, and V7-V9 leads should be recorded in all patients with ECG changes that lead to ischemia of

Table 1 Simplified Selvester Scores

Leads	Q Duration (msec)	R Duration (msec)	Ratio	Point	Max
I	≥ 30		R/Q ≤ 1	1 1	2
II	≥ 40 ≥ 30			2 1	2
aVL	≥ 30		R/Q ≤ 1	1 1	2
aVF	≥ 50 ≥ 40 ≥ 30		R/Q ≤ 1 R/Q ≤ 2	3 2 1 2 1	5
V ₁	Q	≥ 50 ≥ 40	R/S ≥ 1	1 2 1 1	4
V ₂	Q	Or ≤ 20 ≥ 60 ≥ 50	R/S ≥ 1.5	1 2 1 1	4
V ₃	Q	Or ≤ 30		1	1
V ₄	≥ 20		R/Q or R/S ≤ 0.5 R/Q or R/S ≤ 0.1	1 2 1	3
V ₅	≥ 30		R/Q or R/S ≤ 1 R/Q or R/S ≤ 3	1 2 1	3
V ₆	≥ 30		R/Q or R/S ≤ 1 R/Q or R/S ≤ 3	1 2 1	3

References: Wagner GS, Freye CJ, Palmeri ST et al. Evaluation of a QRS scoring system for estimating myocardial infarct size. I. Specificity and observer agreement. *Circulation*. 1982;65:342-7.

Table 2 Selvester scores with 54 criteria and 32 points

Lead	Criteria	Point	Max	
I	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	2	
	R/Q ≤ 1	1		
	R ≤ 0.2 mV	1		
II	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	2	
	Q ≥ 30 ms	1		
aVL	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	2	
	R/Q ≤ 1	1		
aVF	Q ≥ 50 ms	3	5	
	Q ≥ 40 ms	2		
	Q ≥ 30 ms	1		
	R/Q ≤ 1	2		
	R/Q ≤ 2	1		
V ₁	Anterior	Q	1	2
		Q or S ≥ 1.8 mV	1	
	Posterior	R/S ≥ 1	1	
		R ≥ 50 ms	2	
		R ≥ 1 mV	2	
		R ≥ 40 ms	1	
		R ≥ 0.6 mV	1	
		Q and S ≤ 0.3 mV	1	
V ₂	Anterior	Q	1	1
		R ≤ 10 ms	1	
		R ≤ 0.1 mV	1	
		R ≤ R V1 mV	1	
	Posterior	R/S ≥ 1.5	1	
		R ≥ 60 ms	2	
		R ≥ 2 mV	2	
		R ≥ 50 ms	1	
		R ≥ 1.5 mV	1	
		Q and S ≤ 0.4 mV	1	
V ₃	Q	1	1	
	R ≤ 20 ms	1		
	R ≤ 0.2 mV	1		
V ₄	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	3	
	R/S ≤ 0.5	2		
	R/Q ≤ 0.5	2		
	R/S ≤ 1	1		
	R/Q ≤ 1	1		
	R ≤ 0.7 mV	1		
	Notch R	1		
V ₅	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	3	
	R/S ≤ 1	2		
	R/Q ≤ 1	2		
	R/S ≤ 2	1		
	R/Q ≤ 2	1		
	R ≤ 0.7 mV	1		
V ₆	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	3	
	R/S ≤ 1	2		
	R/Q ≤ 1	2		
	R/S ≤ 2	1		
	R/Q ≤ 2	1		
	R ≤ 0.7 mV	1		
	Notch R	1		

References: Selvester RH, Wagner S, Hindman. The Selvester QRS scoring system for estimating myocardial infarct size. Arch Intern Med. 1985;145:1877-81.

the inferior and posterior. Wherever possible, the ECG recording should be made within 10 minutes after patient's arrival in the emergency room. ECG should be repeated for every incidence of angina complaint thereafter.^{1,15-18}

Role of Electrocardiogram in ACS

In 1912, Einthoven described an equilateral triangle formed by I, II, and III leads, which was then known as the Einthoven triangle. Electrocardiogram in cases of acute myocardial infarction was first published by Harold Pardee of New York in 1920 and was described as a high T starting from point decline in R wave, hereinafter known as ST-segment elevation. Clinical use of precordial leads was initiated by Charles Wolfert and Francis Wood in 1932 when diagnosing coronary occlusion. Furthermore, Emanuel Goldberger in 1942 added unipolar leads aVR, aVL, and aVF and formed the 12-lead ECG. In 1954, the American Heart Association (AHA) set the standard ECG recording tool with 12 leads as used now. ECG had been developed to enhance the clinical benefits. In 2005, Clemmensen et al. reported the success of reducing the time between the onset of chest pain and primary angioplasty with the use of wireless electrocardiogram of the patient from the ambulance to a handheld Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) for heart specialists at the hospital. Thus, patients in critical situation can be handled as soon as possible.^{10,19-23,42-43}

ECG is recorded on paper at a speed of 25 mm/sec. Each small block of ECG paper has an area of 1 mm². The horizontal axis measures time, distance 1, small box, which the ECG paper translates into 0.04 seconds (40 ms) and one large box consists of 5 small boxes of 0.2 seconds; a vertical axis measures the voltage where the distance between the small squares is 0.1 mV and between large boxes is 0.5 mV.²⁴⁻²⁵

Distribution changes of ECG provide some information about myocardial area involved, that ECG changes on V2-V6 leads show a decrease in anterior ischemia. Extensive infarction in this area is associated with a high risk of heart failure, arrhythmias, mechanical complications, and premature death. Changes in I, aVL, V5, and V6 leads shows lateral ischemia; infarction in this area has a good prognosis compared with large anterior infarctions. Changes in II, III, and aVF leads showed inferior ischemia. High R wave in V1-V3 is associated with depression of the ST segment that can also indicate ischemia of posterior.²⁶

Selvester Scores in Acute Coronary Syndrome

Selvester score is one of the assessment methods used with the ECG that aims to detect the

Table 3 Selvester scores criteria in ECG with conduction disturbance

Lead	RBBB		LAFB		LAFB + RBBB		LVH		Max
	Criteria	Point	Criteria	Point	Criteria	Point	Criteria	Point	
I	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	2
	R/Q ≤ 1	1	R/Q ≤ 1	1	R/Q ≤ 1	1	R/Q ≤ 1	1	
	R ≤ 0.2 mV		R ≤ 0.2 mV		R ≤ 0.2 mV		R ≤ 0.2 mV		
II	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	2
	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	
aVL	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 40 ms	1	Q ≥ 40 ms	1	Q ≥ 40 ms	1	2
	R/Q ≤ 1	1	R/Q ≤ 1	1	R/Q ≤ 1	1	R/Q ≤ 1	1	
aVF	Q ≥ 50 ms	3	Q ≥ 50 ms	3	Q ≥ 50 ms	3	Q ≥ 60 ms	3	5
	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	Q ≥ 50 ms	2	
	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 40 ms	1	
	R/Q ≤ 1	2	R/Q ≤ 1	2	R/Q ≤ 1	2	R/Q ≤ 1	2	
	R/Q ≤ 2	1	R/Q ≤ 2	1	R/Q ≤ 2	1	R/Q ≤ 2	1	
V ₁ anterior	Q ≥ 50 ms	2	QR	1	Q ≥ 50 ms	2	QR	1	(2)
	Q R ≤ 20 ms	1			Q R ≤ 20 ms	1	.04 R notch		
V ₁ posterior (kecuali **)			R/S ≥ 1	1			R/S ≥ 1	1	4
	Init R ≥ 60 ms	2	Init R ≥ 50 ms	2	Init R ≥ 60 ms	2	Init R ≥ 50 ms	2	
	Init R ≥ 1.5 mV		Init R ≥ 1 mV		Init R ≥ 1.5 mV		Init R ≥ 1 mV		
	Init R ≥ 50 ms	1	Init R ≥ 40 ms	1	Init R ≥ 50 ms	1	Init R ≥ 40 ms	1	
	Init R ≥ 1.0 mV		Init R ≥ 0.7 mV		Init R ≥ 1.0 mV		Init R ≥ 0.7 mV		
V ₂ anterior			Q&S ≤ 0.2 mV	1			Q&S ≤ 0.2 mV	1	(2)
	Q ≥ 50 ms	2			Q ≥ 50 ms	2	QR		
	Q	1	QR	1	Q	1	(or QS')	1	
	R ≤ 10 ms		R ≤ 10 ms		R ≤ 10 ms		.04 S notch		
	R ≤ 0.1 mV		R ≤ 0.1 mV		R ≤ 0.1 mV				
V ₂ posterior (kecuali ***)			R/S ≥ 1.5	1			R/S ≥ 1.5	1	4
	Init R ≥ 70 ms	2	R ≥ 60 ms	2	Init R ≥ 70 ms	2	R ≥ 60 ms	2	
	Init R ≥ 2.5 mV		R ≥ 2 mV		Init R ≥ 2.5 mV		R ≥ 2 mV		
	Init R ≥ 50 ms	1	R ≥ 50 ms	1	Init R ≥ 50 ms	1	R ≥ 50 ms	1	
	Init R ≥ 2.0 mV		R ≥ 1.5 mV		Init R ≥ 2.0 mV		R ≥ 1.5 mV		
V ₃			Q&S ≤ 0.3 mV	1			Q&S ≤ 0.3 mV	1	2
	Q ≥ 30 ms	2	Q ≥ 30 ms	2	Q ≥ 30 ms	2	QR+Q ≥ 30 ms	2	
	R ≤ 10 ms		R ≤ 10 ms		R ≤ 10 ms				
	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	.04 S notch	1	
	R ≤ 20 ms		R ≤ 20 ms		R ≤ 20 ms		QR (or QS')		
V ₄	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	3
	R/Q ≤ 0.5	2	R/Q ≤ 0.5	2	R/Q ≤ 0.5	2	R/Q ≤ 0.5	2	
	R/S ≤ 0.5		R/S ≤ 0.5		R/S ≤ 0.5		R/S ≤ 0.5		
	R/Q ≤ 1	1	R/Q ≤ 1	1	R/Q ≤ 1	1	R/Q ≤ 1	1	
	R/S ≤ 1		R/S ≤ 1		R/S ≤ 1		R/S ≤ 1		
	R ≤ 0.5 mV		R ≤ 0.5 mV		R ≤ 0.5 mV		R ≤ 0.5 mV		
	.04 R notch		.04 R notch		.04 R notch		.04 R notch		
V ₅	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	3
	R/Q ≤ 1	2	R/Q ≤ 1	2	R/Q ≤ 1	2	R/Q ≤ 1	2	
	R/S ≤ 1		R/S ≤ 1		R/S ≤ 1		R/S ≤ 1		
	R/Q ≤ 2	1	R/Q ≤ 2	1	R/Q ≤ 2	1	R/Q ≤ 2	1	
	R/S ≤ 2		R/S ≤ 1.5		R/S ≤ 1.5		R/S ≤ 2		
	R ≤ 0.6 mV		R ≤ 0.6 mV		R ≤ 0.6 mV		R ≤ 0.6 mV		
.04 R notch		.04 R notch		.04 R notch		.04 R notch			

Table 3 Continuous....

Lead	RBBB		LAFB		LAFB + RBBB		LVH		Max
	Criteria	Point	Criteria	Point	Criteria	Point	Criteria	Point	
V ₆	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	3
	R/Q ≤ 1	2	R/Q ≤ 1	2	R/Q ≤ 1	2	R/Q ≤ 1	2	
	R/S ≤ 1		R/S ≤ 1		R/S ≤ 1		R/S ≤ 1		
	R/Q ≤ 3	1	R/Q ≤ 3	1	R/Q ≤ 3	1	R/Q ≤ 3	1	
	R/S ≤ 3		R/S ≤ 2		R/S ≤ 2		R/S ≤ 3		
	R ≤ 0.6 mV		R ≤ 0.6 mV		R ≤ 0.6 mV		R ≤ 0.6 mV		
	.04 R notch		.04 R notch		.04 R notch		.04 R notch		

*LVH criteria if there is ≥ 4 point anterior or apical (beside QS), better count QS in V1-V3; **Posterolateral criteria is not used if there is sign of right atrium overload (refer to RVH) if P wave amplitude was positive in V1 or V2 ≥ 0.1 mV or aVF P ≥ 0.175 mV.

References: Strauss DG, Selvester R. The QRS complex—a biomarker that “images” the heart: QRS scores to quantify myocardial scar in the presence of normal and abnormal ventricular conduction. *Journal of Electrocardiology*. 2009;42:85–96.

Table 4 Criteria of Selvester score in ECG without conduction disturbance

Lead	Others conduction disturbance		Max
	Criteria	Point	
I	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	2
	R/Q ≤ 1	1	
	R ≤ 0.2 mV		
II	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	2
	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	
aVL	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	2
	R/Q ≤ 1	1	
aVF	Q ≥ 50 ms	3	5
	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	
	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	
	R/Q ≤ 1	2	
V ₁ anterior	R/Q ≤ 2	1	1
	Q	1	
V ₁ posterior	R/S ≥ 1	1	4
	Init R ≥ 50 ms	2	
	Init R ≥ 1 mV		
	Init R ≥ 40 ms	1	
V ₂ anterior	Init R ≥ 0.7 mV		1
	Q&S ≤ 0.2 mV	1	
	Q	1	
V ₂ posterior	R ≤ 10 ms		4
	R ≤ 0.1 mV		
	R/S ≥ 1.5	1	
	R ≥ 60 ms	2	
	R ≥ 2 mV		
	R ≥ 50 ms	1	
	R ≥ 1.5 mV		

Table 4 Continuous....

Lead	Others conduction disturbance		Max
	Criteria	Point	
V ₃	Q&S ≤ 0.3 mV	1	2
	Q ≥ 30 ms	2	
	R ≤ 10 ms		
	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	
V ₄	R ≤ 20 ms		3
	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	
	R/Q ≤ 0.5	2	
	R/S ≤ 0.5		
V ₅	R/Q ≤ 1	1	3
	R/S ≤ 1		
	R/Q ≤ 2	1	
	R/S ≤ 2		
V ₆	R ≤ 0.6 mV		3
	.04 R notch		
	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	
	R/Q ≤ 1	2	
	R/S ≤ 1		
	R/Q ≤ 3	1	
	R/S ≤ 3		
	R ≤ 0.6 mV		
	.04 R notch		

References: Strauss D.G, Selvester R, The QRS complex—a biomarker that “images” the heart: QRS scores to quantify myocardial scar in the presence of normal and abnormal ventricular conduction. *Journal of Electrocardiology*. 2009;42:85–96.

Table 5 Criteria of Selvester score in ECG with LBBB conduction disturbance

Lead	LBBB		Max
	Criteria	Point	
Anterosuperior side			
I	R/Q ≤ 1.5	1	1
	R/S ≤ 1.5		
	Q ≥ 50 ms	2	
	Q ≥ 40 ms	1	
aVL	R/S ≤ 0.5	2	4*
	R/Q ≤ 0.5		
	R/S ≤ 1	1	
	R/Q ≤ 1		
Inferior side			
II	Q ≥ 40 ms	2	3
	Q ≥ 30 ms	1	
	R/S ≤ 0.5	1	
	R/Q ≤ 0.5		
aVF	Q ≥ 50 ms	2	3
	Q ≥ 40 ms	1	
	R/S ≤ 0.5	1	
	R/Q ≤ 0.5		
Anteroseptal side**			
V ₁	NCHINIT 40	1	3**
	R ≥ 30 ms	2	
	R ≥ 0.3 mV		
	R ≥ 20 ms	1	
	R ≥ 0.2 mV		
V ₂	NCHINIT 40	1	3**
	R ≥ 30 ms	2	
	R ≥ 0.4 mV		
	R ≥ 20 ms	1	
	R ≥ 0.3 mV		

Table 5 Continuous....

Lead	LBBB		Max
	Criteria	Point	
Posterolateral side			
V ₁	S/S' ≥ 2	3	3
	S/S' ≥ 1.5	2	
	S/S' ≥ 1.25	1	
V ₂	S/S' ≥ 2.5	3	3
	S/S' ≥ 2	2	
	S/S' ≥ 1.5	1	
4 apical segment			
I	Q	1	2
	R ≤ 0.2 mV		
	R/Q ≤ 1	1	
V ₅	R/S ≤ 1		4
	Q	1	
	R/R' ≥ 2	2	
	R/R' ≥ 1	1	
	R/S ≤ 2		
V ₆	R ≤ 0.5 mV	1	4
	Q ≥ 20 ms	1	
	R/R' ≥ 2	2	
	R/R' ≥ 1	1	
	R/S ≤ 2		
Total Point			33

*If there is a figure of right atrium overload (RVH) (positive P wave amplitude in V₁ or V₂ ≥ 0.1 mV or aVF ≥ 0.175 mV) release Criteria Point from anteroseptal; **if there is axis deviation to the right (mean axis QRS ≥ 90°) release Criteria Point from anterosuperior.

References: Strauss DG, Selvester R, The QRS complex—a biomarker that “images” the heart: QRS scores to quantify myocardial scar in the presence of normal and abnormal ventricular conduction. *Journal of Electrocardiology*. 2009;42:85–96.

location of damage to myocardial judging from the complex of QRS.⁸ Selvester scores were introduced by Selvester et al. in 1972. The Selvester scores method has been used to assess the location of the area of myocardial damage of the heart, where the ECG criteria have accumulated into a point scoring system. From 10 leads of ECG (I, II, aVL, aVF, V₁–V₆ leads) with 57 criteria with the maximum points of 32, each point earned a portrait of 3% of the left ventricle muscle. In 1982 Wagner et al. simplified Selvester score to 37 criteria that assess the duration and QRS complexes where the maximum value of the points is 29, and this can be seen in Table 1. In 1985 Selvester et al. evaluated the criteria of Selvester scores to assess posterior infarction; the results of the criteria are presented in Table 2.^{8,27-36,42}

In 2008, Andresen and Selvester reevaluates the Selvester scores by adding the criteria for age and

sex. In 2009 Strauss and Selvester renewed the score of Selvester on ECG with conduction disturbances such as Left/Right Bundle Branch Block (LBBB/RBBB), Left Anterior Fascicular Block (LAFB), Left ventricle hypertrophy (LVH), and a combination of LAFB with RBBB can be seen in Tables 3–5.⁸

If more criteria for Selvester scores were found in the patient's ECG, it means more damage to the myocardium. Selvester also predicts areas of myocardial damage through specific scoring criteria. Selvester scores can also be used as a non-invasive tool to quickly and easily assess the location and extent of myocardial damage.³⁷

Role of Selvester Scores in Acute Coronary Syndrome

In some studies it was reported that Selvester scores correlated with the extent of damage after myocardial infarction. Some recent studies discuss the

usefulness of the Selvester scores in determining left ventricular ejection fraction after occurrence of ACS and its relationship with ejection fraction results obtained from the ECG examination.⁴¹

In Palmeri et al.'s (1982) study it was mentioned that a Selvester score of more than 3 points was associated with infarction that causes a decrease in left-ventricular ejection fraction. Wagner et al. also mentioned the clinical utility of Selvester score on the ECG to assess left-ventricular function in patients with myocardial infarction. Ashkenazi et al. evaluated left-ventricular ejection fraction by the number of R waves of the QRS complex in 6 precordial leads obtained on echocardiography. Samuel et al. found a significant correlation between left-ventricular ejection fraction obtained by QRS score and a left-ventricular ejection fraction obtained in the ECG examination.^{8,40-41}

Bergovec et al. (1993) studied 71 patients with infarction-rated ejection fraction of the left-ventricle using radionuclide ventriculography and comparable assessment of the QRS score; therefore, it was concluded that Selvester scores are an easy method to assess the ejection fraction of the left ventricle. According to Uyarel Hussein et al. (2006), QRS score is an independent predictor factor return of ST segment in patients with STEMI who underwent primary Percutaneous Coronary Intra (IKPP) and 30-day mortality. Walther's (2007) study of patients with acute myocardial infarction who had thrombolytic and non-thrombolytic showed the same results significantly by using ratings of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) of the heart which was in contrast to the evaluations made using Selvester scores. Shaimaa et al. (2015) used Selvester scores where judgment was easily done at affordable prices and the results were compared with SPECT to assess the extensive damage caused by infarction in 30 patients with STEMI who qualified for IKPP. Watanabe et al. (2015) reported that Selvester scores can be used to assess microvascular obstruction and concluded that Selvester scores are a good parameter to assess microvascular obstruction.⁴⁶⁻⁴⁸

CONCLUSION

Acute coronary syndrome is an acute manifestation from atheromatous plaque rupture, divided into STEMI, NSTEMI, and UAP, which is a major problem because it increases cardiovascular mortality and morbidity. AHA had set the 12-lead ECG as the standard, which is currently used in the field. ESC recommends that 12-lead ECG recording be carried out within 10 minutes after first medical contact. By using a specific scoring criteria, with the total number of points earned, Selvester scores are

considered a non-invasive tool that assess myocardial damage and is easy to use and yields precise results especially when using ECG in areas with limited diagnostic tools.

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