

# Clarification of misused terminology in the context of thebesian veins

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I am writing in response to the article titled “Dynamic Thebesian veins anomaly in a patient with recurrent takotsubo-like syndrome” published in your esteemed journal [1]. As a dedicated follower and contributor to the evolving field of cardiovascular pathology, I appreciate the efforts made by the authors to detail a complex case. However, I must point out what seems to be a critical misuse of terminology regarding the Thebesian veins, which may lead to confusion among readers and fellow researchers.

In this article, the authors describe a “Thebesian veins anomaly” associated with a takotsubo-like syndrome. The delineation of Thebesian veins as a pathway for “coronary stealing” and their contribution to left-to-left shunting is inconsistent with anatomical definitions and established medical understanding. As extensively documented in previous publications [2, 3], Thebesian veins, or vena cardiaca minima, are known for their specific function in coronary vein-cameral connections and not for the arterial-cameral connections described as potentially causative in the syndrome detailed by the article.

The confusion seems to stem from a longstanding issue in cardiovascular terminology, where Thebesian veins have been misattributed in functions related to arterial connections, which are accurately termed as vessels of Wearn, as defined by Wearn *et al.* in their seminal 1933 publication [2–4]. Misnaming such anatomical structures can lead to significant implications in understanding cardiovascular pathologies and their treatments.

I urge the journal and the authors to consider these points and recognise the importance of accurate terminology in medical literature. As we move forward, a unified understanding and application of these terms are essential for clear and effective communication within the scientific and medical communities.

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## Conflict of interest

The author declares no conflict of interest.

## References

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