Supplementary Table 4. Baseline characteristics of patients before and after reimbursement

Variable	Pre-reimbursement period[a] (n = 23)	Post-reimbursement period[a] (n = 27)	p value
Clinical			
Age, yr	71.0 (64.0–77.0)	63.0 (54.0–72.0)	0.036
Male sex	22.9 (21.2–24.4)	23.6 (21.7–24.8)	0.750
Body mass index, kg/m^2	1.7 (1.6–1.9)	1.7 (1.6–1.9)	0.480
Body surface area, m^2	1.6 ± 0.1	1.7 ± 0.1	0.397
Severe diabetes mellitus	9 (39.1)	6 (22.2)	0.193
Chronic renal disease	9 (39.1)	13 (48.1)	0.662
Prior cardiac surgery	10 (43.4)	6 (22.2)	0.108
Ischemic heart disease	14 (60.8)	14 (51.8)	0.522
INTERMACS profile			
Critical cardiogenic shock	2 (8.6)	0	0.207
Progressive decline	7 (30.4)	8 (29.6)	0.951
Stable but inotrope-dependent	14 (60.8)	16 (59.2)	0.908
Resting symptoms	0	3 (11.1)	0.240
LV ejection fraction	22.5 (19.7–27.0)	22.5 (15.0–26.0)	0.225
> 50%	0	0	-
40%–49%	0	0	-
30%–39%	4 (17.3)	3 (11.1)	0.689
20%–29%	12 (52.1)	13 (48.1)	0.777
< 20%	7 (30.4)	11 (40.7)	0.449
LV end-diastolic diameter, cm	6.9 (5.9–7.7)	6.6 (6.3–7.4)	0.368
NYHA class			
III	6 (26.0)	1 (3.7)	0.039
IV	17 (73.9)	26 (96.2)	0.039
Laboratory			
Hemoglobin, g/dL	10.1 (9.4–11.9)	11.8 (9.2–13.3)	0.164
White blood cell count, × 1,000/μL	6.8 (5.2–8.7)	7.8 (6.4–8.9)	0.754
Platelets, × 1,000/μL	119.0 (93.0–197.0)	160.0 (90.0–229.0)	0.373
Blood urea nitrogen, mg/dL	29.3 (17.3–53.4)	17.7 (15.2–30.1)	0.075
Creatinine, mg/dL	1.4 (0.9–2.0)	1.2 (0.9–1.6)	0.496
Albumin, g/dL	3.4 (2.9–3.9)	3.6 (3.3–4.0)	0.221
ALT, μ/L	21.0 (16.0–48.0)	28.0 (17.0–90.0)	0.447
AST, μ/L	28.0 (24.0–61.0)	30.0 (21.0–62.0)	0.838
Total bilirubin, mg/dL	1.4 (0.9–2.8)	1.5 (0.8–2.2)	0.612
INR	1.3 (1.2–1.4)	1.2 (1.0–1.4)	0.087
Sodium, mmol/L	135.0 (132.0–138.0)	134.0 (130.0–138.0)	0.317
hsCRP, mg/L	30.6 (3.5–49.3)	11.7 (3.1–22.3)	0.216
NT-proBNP, pg/mL	9,314 (4,681–22,066)	8,435 (5,358–14,769)	0.540
Preoperative			
ECMO bridged	7 (30.4)	4 (14.8)	0.184

Supplementary Table 4. Continued

Variable	Pre-reimbursement period[a] (n = 23)	Post-reimbursement period[a] (n = 27)	p value
Dialysis	7 (30.4)	8 (29.6)	0.951
IABP	1 (4.3)	0	0.460
Ventilator	7 (30.4)	8 (29.6)	0.951
Hemodynamic			
Mean RA pressure, mmHg	14.0 (4.5–15.5)	11.5 (8.0–16.0)	0.513
Mean PA pressure, mmHg	34.0 (29.0–41.0)	40.5 (32.0–43.8)	0.111
Mean PWP, mmHg	24.0 (17.0–28.5)	28.5 (23.3–32.5)	0.042
Cardiac output, L/min	3.4 (2.9–4.3)	3.0 (2.5–3.6)	0.189
Medications			
ARB or ARNI	14 (60.8)	18 (66.6)	0.670
ACE inhibitor	7 (30.4)	9 (33.3)	0.827
Amiodarone	12 (52.1)	17 (62.9)	0.441
Beta blocker	12 (52.1)	15 (55.5)	0.811
Aldosterone antagonist	22 (95.6)	26 (96.2)	1.000
Ivabradine	0	12 (44.4)	0.000
Loop diuretics	22 (95.6)	27 (100)	0.460
Phosphodiesterase inhibitors	11 (47.8)	12 (44.4)	0.811
ICD	8 (34.7)	5 (18.5)	0.191
CRT	2 (8.6)	7 (25.9)	0.152
Implant strategy			
BTT/BTC	12 (52.2)	18 (66.7)	0.297
DT	11 (47.8)	9 (33.3)	0.297
Device type			
Heartmate II™	6 (26.0)	11 (40.7)	0.276
HVAD™	17 (73.9)	16 (59.2)	0.276

Values are presented as median (interquartile range), mean ± standard deviation, or number (%).

INTERMACS, Interagency Registry for Mechanically Assisted Circulatory Support; LV, left ventricle; NYHA, New York Heart Association; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; INR, international normalized ratio; hsCRP, high-sensitivity C-reactive protein; NT-proBNP, N-terminal-pro hormone B-type natriuretic peptide; ECMO, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation; IABP, intra-aortic balloon pump; RA, right atrium; PA, pulmonary artery; PWP, pulmonary wedge pressure; ARB, angiotensin II receptor blocker; ARNI, angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitor; ACE, angiotensin-converting enzyme; ICD, implantable cardioverter-defibrillator; CRT, cardiac resynchronization therapy; BTT/BTC, bridge to transplantation/bridge to candidacy; DT, destination therapy; HVAD, HeartWare Ventricular Assist Device.

[a]The national insurance commenced reimbursement for pre-approved cases since October, 2018.