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The effectiveness of using the perfusion balloon in a case of ST elevation myocardial infraction.

A eighty-year old woman who had a history of hypertension was taken to emergency department in the ambulance due to sudden-onset chest pain. Electrocardiogram showed ST elevation in V5, V6, I and aVL , and she was diagnosed as ST elevation myocardial infraction. The emergent coronary angiogram revealed that a left circumflex artery was totally occluded with thrombus. Though percutaneous coronary intervention was done with thrombus aspiration, small balloon dilatation and excimer laser ablation to obtain coronary reperfusion, much thrombus remained. To avoid coronary slow flow after stenting, we performed long time balloon inflation with perfusion balloon, and successfully could reduce the amount of thrombus. After that, we implanted stent and the final TIMI flow was grade 3. Through this case, we will report our experience of the effectiveness of the perfusion balloon along with literature review.