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Radial angioplasty ideal for elderly heart patients: Expert
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"Heart attacks in elderly people can safely be treated by radial angioplasty, a technique that involves making a small incision in the wrist, widening the blocked artery and restoring blood flow," said Dr HK Bali, director cardiology of a Mohali hospital, while addressing a medical seminar on "Cardiac problems among old age people" here yesterday.

Dr Bali said elderly people commonly suffered from diseases like hypertension and diabetes, which could ultimately lead to heart attacks and heart failure.

Most diseases were lifestyle related and occurred due to faulty lifestyle, lack of exercise and high levels of stress. However, early diagnosis could prevent the progression of heart diseases in them and carotid artery stenting could prevent paralytic strokes, he added.

He said heart attack could be silent and occurred with non-specific symptoms like sudden breathlessness, palpitation or loss of consciousness. It was important that such symptoms were not ignored by the aged.

