

Accurate assessment of the ventricular function in neonates

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Abstract

Ventricular function may be depressed in neonatal disease processes such as hypoxia, sepsis, haemolytic disease of new-born, surfactant deficiency lung disease, PPHN and transient tachypnoea of new-born. In contrast to adult patients, little is known about the best way to assess ventricular function. Invasive monitoring of central venous pressure, capillary wedge pressure and cardiac output are seldom done in the neonate especially the preterm.

Usually heart rate and blood pressure are the only measured indices of cardiac function and they may be misleading. A dysfunctional heart may be tachycardic, bradycardic, or have a normal rate. In hypotensive neonatal cardiac function may be depressed, normal, or even hyperdynamic.

Therapeutic interventions may modify cardiac function or cardiac output intentionally or incidentally, so an index of ventricular performance is needed to make sure that such interventions are appropriate this is now possible by echocardiography serial measurements allow rapid assessment of the effectiveness of therapeutic interventions. In this presentation, or poster, I will discuss how to assess: Systolic function of both Left ventricle and right ventricle including new principles in assessing right ventricular function.

Diastolic functions; especially that in recent years have seen an enormous increase in interest in other cardiology and the role of the diastole in ventricular performance particularly in ischemic heart disease, ventricular hypertrophy cardiomyopathy, and pericardial disease. Now that diabetic cardiomyopathy and dexamethasone induce cardiac hypertrophy are recognised in neonates, the assessment of the diastolic function should be an important subject of research.

Keywords: Heart functions, Haemodynamic, Neonatal circulation.

Biography:

Dr Michael has completed his residency training at the age of 25 years from Ain Shames University in Egypt, and postgraduate studies from Royal Collage of Paediatric and Child Health. He is currently one of speciality trainee in paediatrics in the United Kingdom. He has a passion toward paediatric cardiology and haemodynamic assessment.

[17th International Conference on Pediatrics and Pediatric Cardiology](#); Webinar; June 18-19, 2020.

Abstract Citation:

Michael Sammaan, Accurate assessment of the ventricular function in Neonates, Pediatric Cardiology 2020, 17th International Conference on Pediatrics and Pediatric Cardiology; Webinar; June 18-19, 2020 (<https://pediatriccardiology.conferenceseries.com/europe/abstract/2020/accurate-assessment-of-the-ventricular-function-in-neonates>)

