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Poster Presentation Abstract

P4 – Clinical Science

P4.02

ASSESSING VENTRICULAR–VASCULAR INTERACTIONS NON-INVASIVELY IN HEALTHY ADOLESCENTS*

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Background: Characterization of normal ventricular–vascular interactions by non-invasive assessment in healthy adolescents may provide new mechanistic insights into altered physiological states in congenital and acquired heart disease in this age group.

Methods: Ventricular and vascular measures were non-invasively determined in 113 healthy adolescents (57 females, aged 10–18 years) on the same occasion. Ventricular assessment included standard echocardiographic M-mode and 2D volumetric techniques, and pulse and tissue Doppler imaging. Vascular assessment included carotid and brachial artery ultrasound, applanation tonometry and echo-Doppler of the aorta. Arterial (Ea) and

left ventricular (LV) end-systolic (Ees) elastance were estimated noninvasively and their ratio used to assess ventricular-arterial coupling. Sample characteristics were assessed against a standard normal distribution. Relationships were tested using Pearson's correlations. Statistical significance was considered at $p < 0.01$.

Results: All measures were normally distributed. Carotid intima-media thickness (CIMT) had significant positive correlations (see Table) with LV mass-indexed to BSA, LV mean velocity of circumferential fibre shortening corrected (VCFc), mitral valve (MV) pulse/tissue Doppler velocity ratio (E/E') and Ea/Ees ratio, but a negative correlation with Ees. Central pulse wave velocity (PWV) around the aortic arch by echo-Doppler assessment had significant positive correlations with LV ejection fraction (EF) and myocardial performance index (MPI). Aortic PWV from carotid to femoral artery by applanation tonometry and flow-mediated dilatation (FMD) showed no significant correlations.

Conclusions: Ventricular-vascular interactions were found with proximal rather than distal aortic and arterial structure and function. These non-invasively determined ventricular-vascular interactions may be of benefit in monitoring progression and therapeutic response in adolescent disease populations.

Variable	CIMT	FMD	Aortic PWV	Central PWV
Mean±SD	0.431±0.046 mm	7.4±3.1%	5.0±0.9 m/s	4.5±1.1 m/s
LV EF	$r = +0.06, p = 0.54$	$r = +0.07, p = 0.53$	$r = -0.01, p = 0.99$	$r = +0.26, p < 0.01$
61±6%				
LV VCFc	$r = +0.28, p < 0.005$	$r = -0.06, p = 0.57$	$r = +0.01, p = 0.91$	$r = +0.19, p = 0.05$
1.13±0.17 circ/s				
LV mass-indexed	$r = +0.25, p < 0.01$	$r = -0.08, p = 0.42$	$r = -0.08, p = 0.43$	$r = +0.09, p = 0.37$
65±12 g/m ²				
LV MPI	$r = +0.17, p = 0.08$	$r = +0.05, p = 0.63$	$r = +0.03, p = 0.73$	$r = +0.30, p < 0.01$
0.3±0.09				
MV E/E'	$r = +0.25, p < 0.01$	$r = -0.08, p = 0.44$	$r = +0.06, p = 0.56$	$r = +0.15, p = 0.12$
5.2±0.9				
Ea	$r = -0.17, p = 0.08$	$r = +0.06, p = 0.55$	$r = -0.13, p = 0.18$	$r = +0.15, p = 0.11$
1.63±0.44 mmHg/ml				
Ees	$r = -0.27, p < 0.01$	$r = +0.08, p = 0.40$	$r = -0.11, p = 0.26$	$r = +0.07, p = 0.46$
3.13±1.01 mmHg/ml				
Ea/Ees	$r = +0.28, p < 0.01$	$r = -0.14, p = 0.17$	$r = +0.03, p = 0.74$	$r = +0.09, p = 0.36$
0.54±0.12				

* Poster Presentation at the Artery 12 conference, Tech Gate, Vienna, Austria 18–20 October 2012. This Poster Presentation Abstract (P4.02) should have been included alongside the Poster Presentation Abstracts published in Artery Research 6/4.