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EVALUATION OF REGIONAL MYOCARDIAL SYSTOLIC FUNCTION OF LEFT VENTRICULAR IN PATIENTS WITH CONSTRICTIVE PERICARDITIS BY TWO-DIMENSIONAL SPECKLE-TRACKING IMAGING

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Objective To evaluate regional myocardial systolic function of left ventricular in patients with constrictive pericarditis (CP) by two-dimensional speckle-tracking imaging (STI).

Methods Study population consisted of 26 patients with CP and 37 normal control subjects. High frame rate two-dimensional images were acquired from the apical four-chamber, two-chamber and long-axis views of the left ventricle respectively. The peak systolic longitudinal strain of the left ventricle free wall was measured using STI software, and compared the indexes between the two groups.

Results Compared with the control group, the Epi-strain in patients with CP was significantly decreased ($p < 0.05$). No significant difference in the Endo-strain was found between the control group and CP group.

Conclusions STI could objectively evaluate the regional myocardial systolic function of left ventricular in patients with CP. The epi-strain in the left ventricle free wall has decreased in patients with CP, which means the epi-myocardial systolic properties of left ventricular are impaired in patients with CP.