Results SAs exhibited a significantly lower iliofemoral atheroma burden (regional SAS 0.0 ± 0.0 vs 1.9 ± 6.9, p = 0.048) and a trend towards lower overall atheroma burden (WB SAS 0.7 ± 0.8 vs 1.8 ± 2.3, p = 0.1). They had significantly lower indexed left ventricular mass (46.9 ± 11.8 vs 56.9 ± 13.4 ml/m², p = 0.008), end diastolic volume (63.9 ± 10.4 vs 75.2 ± 11.4 ml/m², p = 0.001), end systolic volume (20.5 ± 6.1 vs 24.6 ± 6.8 ml/m², p = 0.03) and stroke volume (43.4 ± 6.6 vs 50.6 ± 7.9 ml/m², p = 0.001), but with no significant difference in functional indices.

Conclusion South Asians have a lower peripheral atherosclerotic burden and smaller hearts than Western Europeans even in a healthy population. Thus the paradoxical high risk of CVD compared with PVD risk may be due to an adverse cardiac haemodynamic status incurred by the smaller heart rather than atherosclerosis.

015 PREVALENCE, PATTERN AND SIGNIFICANCE OF LATE GADOLINIUM ENHANCEMENT IN A HEALTHY ASYMPTOMATIC COHORT

Introduction Unrecognised myocardial infarctions (UMIs) have been described in 19–30% of the population using late gadolinium enhancement (LGE). However these studies have focussed on unslected cohorts including those with known cardiovascular disease. The aim of the current study was to ascertain the prevalence of UMIs in a non-high risk population and their physiological significance.

Methods 5,000 volunteers >40 years with no history of cardiovascular disease (CVD) and a 10 year risk of CVD of less than 20% were recruited to the Tayside Screening for Cardiac Events (TASCFORCE) study. Those with a BNP level greater than their gender-specific median were invited for a whole-body MR angiogram and cardiac MR including LGE. LGE was classed as absent, UMI, or non-specific.

Results 5,290 completed the imaging study with 53 (3.6%) excluded due to missing data or inadequate LGE image quality. 10 of the remaining 1476 (0.67%) displayed LGE. However these studies have focussed on unslected cohorts including those with known cardiovascular disease. The aim of the current study was to ascertain the prevalence of UMIs in a non-high risk population and their physiological significance.

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