Conflict of Interest None

78 CARDIOVASCULAR MANIFESTATIONS OF DENGUE

Jahanzeb Malik, 2Danish Iltaf Satti. 1Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology, Rawal Road, Rawalpindi, 46000, Pakistan; 2Cardiovascular Analytics Group, Hong Kong China-UK collaboration

Objective Dengue is one of the most important viral diseases globally and a majority of symptomatic infections result in a benign course. However, a small number of patients develop severe manifestations, including myocardial impairment, arrhythmias, and fulminant myocarditis. This review outlines the incidence of cardiovascular (CV) manifestations of dengue.

Methods Electronic databases, including PubMed/MEDLINE, EMBASE, Scopus, and CINAHL were searched for articles incorporating cardiac manifestations of dengue fever (DF). All article types [randomized controlled trials (RCTs), observational studies (prospective or retrospective), case reports/series, letter to the editors] reporting CV manifestations of DF were included in this review.

Results The literature search identified 2,313 citations from the databases. Out of these, 86 were included in the systematic review. Included studies involved 6,773 patients and 3,122 (46.1%) exhibited at least one cardiac manifestation with DF. Electrocardiogram (ECG) abnormalities (30.6%) included sinus bradycardia (8.8%), non-specific ST-T changes (8.6%), ST depression (7.9%), and T-wave inversion (2.3%). Mechanical sequelae were present in 10.4%, including left ventricular (LV) systolic dysfunction (5.7%), and myocarditis (2.9%). Pericardial involvement was noted as pericarditis (0.1%), pericardial effusion (1.3%), and pericardial tamponade (0.1%). Apart from that, the cardiac injury was depicted through a rise in cardiac enzymes (4.5%).

Conclusion Lack of high-quality evidence creates equipoise. Decision-making is influenced by the risks of major bleeding and ischemic events, and patient factors.

79 QUALITATIVE STUDY ON INFLUENCES ON ANTICOAGULANT PRESCRIBING FOR STROKE PREVENTION IN ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

Rawand Jarrar. Newcastle University, Institute of Health and Society, Baddiley Clark BuildingNewcastle Upon Tyne, TWR NE2 4BN, United Kingdom

Introduction The licensing of the four direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) as alternatives to warfarin was followed by increases in overall anticoagulant prescribing for patients with atrial fibrillation (AF) and a shift towards DOACs [1]. Since available anticoagulants possess different characteristics that could be valued differently by different patients, patient preferences need to be understood in this context. This study worked to fill the gap in knowledge about anticoagulant prescribing practice after the introduction of DOACs by exploring the views and preferences of patients with AF on anticoagulants prescribing practice.

Methods Semi-structured interviews with patients with AF living in England were performed between September and December 2020. Convenience sampling recruited study participants. Interviews were either conducted online or by telephone depending on participants’ preferences. Interviews were transcribed verbatim and field notes were taken after each interview. Transcripts were thematically analysed using NVIVO 12 software for qualitative analysis.

Results Nineteen patients with AF were interviewed; participants varied in their experience with AF and experience with anticoagulants. Analysis of transcripts identified five main themes related to influences on prescribing, these were: balance of risks and benefits, drug characteristics, information about anticoagulants, cost, and decision-making. The balance of stroke and bleeding risks was considered by all patients when deciding to initiate anticoagulation; patients accepted the bleeding risk associated with anticoagulation in order to reduce stroke risk. Drug characteristics, namely: monitoring requirements, lifestyle restrictions, and dosing regimens, influenced the choice between warfarin and DOACs and the choice of individual medications. A few participants who switched from warfarin to DOACs discussed the difference in direct costs with their physicians, but cost was not a barrier to switching. Participants talked about information sources about anticoagulants and referring to other people’s experiences as factors influencing their perceptions and preferences for a particular anticoagulant. Physicians were trusted to make the...
right decision for patients with AF. Not all participants were aware of all the different options before being prescribed an anticoagulant. Some wished they had received more information from their physicians, while others did not feel they needed to ask for information.

Conclusion A range of factors influence patient preferences for anticoagulation. However, these might not have been always considered as involvement in prescribing decisions varied across participants. This calls for standardisation of communication and information material when prescribing anticoagulants for AF. More qualitative exploration of patient and clinician views and preferences is also needed to better guide practice.

Conflict of Interest NONE

**Abstract 80 Figure 1**

**Conclusion** Our virtual conference provided opportunities to students that the COVID-19 pandemic would have otherwise affected, however its utility and educational impact will need to be assessed within its individual context of delivery.

Conflict of Interest Nil

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**Abstract 81**

**Meeting in the Metaverse - A New Paradigm for Scientific Mentorship**

**Introduction** The metaverse, first conceptualised in science fiction, has gradually become a reality and incorporated into our daily lives. Recent work has focused on the delivery of teaching using such platforms. In this study, we share our initial experience of the Cardiovascular Analytics Group, an online mentorship platform with recent innovations in incorporating our mentorship activities in the metaverse.

**Methods** This was a two-part prospective study conducted over four weeks. All participants provided informed consent for the use of their avatars as well as oral and written responses for publication. Invitations were sent to all group members along with joining instructions for AltspaceVR, a metaverse platform. Meet and greet and informal drop-in sessions were held weekly for four weeks. Hybrid sessions were provided involving both the metaverse platform and with direct streaming to Microsoft Teams for the Group’s monthly meeting. Surveys were sent to solicit their views and experiences on the metaverse. Questions focused on its roles in facilitating virtual mentorship including accessibility, communication and internationalisation.

**Results** Our group currently consists of 86 members from 20 countries. Of these, 23 members participated in the metaverse. A total of 18 members (78%) responded to our survey (mean age: 28.57 years old; 28% female). On a scale of 1 to 5 (from least to most satisfied), 78% of members were satisfied with the platform. After the series of sessions, 72% of members found that the platform facilitated interactions with new members and 67% found the platform facilitated interactions...