



Outcomes of Pediatric patients with constrictive pericarditis post pericardiectomy

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Background

Constrictive pericarditis is a disabling disease characterised by impaired diastolic ventricular filling

Caused by Thickening scarred fibrotic Pericardium

■ TB pericarditis accounts for 50-70% of pericardial disease in Africa

Pericardiectomy is the definitive therapy for CP

CP associated with high early mortality /morbidity and low long-term survival

Preoperative prognostic factors and clinical outcomes after pericardiectomy remain to be elucidated

Methods

Retrospective chart analysis of pediatric patients undergoing pericardiectomy between January 2005 and December 2017

 Diagnosis of CP based on clinical and echocardiographic findings, Calcification on chest xray and CT scan

Patient characteristics

- 15 patients underwent pericardiectomy
- Ages 3- 16 mean (9.5)
- 4 Females
- 11 Males
- 5 patients were HIV positive (33%)

- 12 patients had PTB (80%)
- 2 Staphylococcus (13%)
- **■** CMV infection (6.6%)
- 4 Pericardiocentecis were done on 1 pts prior to surgery
- 1 open drainage prior to pericardiectomy

Clinical presentation

- Dyspnea on exertion
- Chest pain
- Peripheral edema
- Raised JVP
- Ascites

- Pleural effusion 12
- Hepatomegaly
- NHYA 111 and 1V
- Duration of symptoms >6 months in 80% of patients

Early post op complications

Pleural effusions

Low cardiac output syndrome

Transient hepatic dysfunction

Outcome

2 patients died from low cardiac output syndrome 13.3%

- Average icu stay 2-5 days
- All patients were inotropes (dobutamine and adrenalin
- Average hospital stay post op (7-10 days)

Outcomes

Improvement in functional class 86.7%

- All patient were on low dose diuretics until 6 weeks
- 1 patient required ACEI on discharge for poor LV function
- 2 patients were lost to follow up after 6 months

Discussion

- Pericardiectomy successful in 80-90%
- Evidence of abnormal diastolic filling patters persists for months despite clinical improvement
- More than 60%- complete resolution
- Prognostic parameters- include myocardial atrophy or fibrosis
- Extensive pericardial calcification

LCOS – in severely symptomatic

Stringent precautionary perioperative measures and experience surgeon to avoid imminent death

RV failure should be anticipated and adequate measures be in place to avoid mortality after pericardiectomy

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