## 27th European Cardiology Conference

October 22-24, 2018 | Rome, Italy

## Risk factors and consequences of new onset atrial fibrillation in hospitalized patients

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There is a significant burden on the healthcare system implemented by new-onset atrial fibrillation (NOAF) and the extension in hospital stay lengths. In critically ill patients, for example, the incidence of NOAF ranges between 5-46%. The scoring systems currently at place, such as CHADS<sub>2</sub>, CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc and HATCH, have their limitations and aren't able to accurately predict NOAF among various patient groups. Additionally, many hospitals are now being penalized if patients have extended hospital stay from preventable causes. We conducted a literature review to determine the various factors which predispose patients to NOAF. There is limited literature available that has evaluated NOAF in diverse groups of patients. Current literature reveals that post-operative patients are one of the subset of patients with an increased risk of NOAF. Multiple logistic regression analysis has shown that increasing age, renal dysfunction, pulmonary disease and systemic inflammation have also been associated with NOAF. There are various predictors that are not included together in any of the above-mentioned scoring systems such as COPD, ESRF, sepsis, CRP levels and diabetes mellitus to name a few. A retrospective observational study is currently underway at Townsville Hospital to determine risk factors shared amongst patients who developed NOAF. The aim is to discern these factors and develop a NOAF risk assessment tool to identify at-risk patients so that appropriate prophylaxis may be initiated. This will help in significantly decreasing the burden of NOAF on the healthcare system by preventing onset and decreasing both risk of complications and length of hospital stay.

## Biography

Harmanjit Dev graduated with an MBBS from James Cook University in Townsville, Australia. She is currently undertaking her internship at Townsville Hospital in Queensland. She is passionate about research and is currently involved in research pertaining to general surgery and cardiology. She has previously had poster and oral presentations at the Indian Association of Cardiothoracic Surgery Conference and World Congress of Surgery held in Switzerland in 2017. She will be commencing her Master's Degree course in Surgery in September this year and hopes to enter surgical training in the near future.

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