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Predictive value of nuclear myocardial perfusion imaging in the assessment of coronary artery disease among patients with hypokinesia on transthoracic echocardiography

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Introduction: Coronary artery disease prevalence increases with age for both men and women. Local data ranked cardiovascular disease among the top 10 leading causes of morbidity and mortality. With the high prevalence of myocardial ischemia, patients with either low or high risk for CAD undergo multiple diagnostic imaging as part of their work up plan. Detection of perfusion defect can be accomplished by numerous imaging modality such as SPECT, PET, MPI and coronary angiography. The role of this study is to avoid further unnecessary procedures and to detect those with high probability of CAD.

Method: This is a 1-year retrospective case series study which encompasses the period of January 2016 to December 2016. Patients included in the study will be those who have hypokinesia on 2D echocardiography and have undergone nuclear MPI and coronary angiography. Coronary angiogram was used as the gold standard in the assessment of CAD.

Result: A total of 131 patients with hypokinesia on transthoracic echocardiography were included in the study. The population age ranges from 33 to 86 years old, majority were males. The result of the study showed that nuclear MPI has high positive and negative predictive values as well as high sensitivity and specificity. Hence, nuclear MPI can be said to be appropriate in ruling in and ruling out CAD.

Strength: The strength of the study is that nuclear MPI results were confirmed via coronary angiogram.

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