

Role of interventions in pediatric cardiac emergencies

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Early recognition of cardiac emergency is important, because prompt institution of appropriate therapy is often crucial for survival. This is particularly true with infants and with some rare conditions in older children. Pediatric Cardiac emergencies are 1) cardiogenic shock 2) congestive heart failure (CHF) 3) cyanotic spells 4) Cardiac arrhythmias 5) hypertensive crisis. Rosen: "any neonate /infant in shock that does not respond to fluids or pressors has LV outflow obstruction until proven otherwise" Critical aortic / COA /pulmonary stenosis in the neonate is life threatening and the child starts deteriorating as the PDA starts closing and can present in shock or CHF". ABV/PBV/Aortoplasty is technically demanding but literally life saving. In case of critical stenosis pulmonary flow depends on PDA and attempt to close the PDA medically is suicidal and should never be done. Cyanotic spells can be occasionally life threatening and needs urgent medical interventions with drugs and in some infants palliative PBV/ BT shunt may be required. Dysrhythmias either tachyarrhythmia or bradyarrhythmias can also present as a cardiac emergency requiring medical interventions at the earliest. Older children can present with hypertensive crisis. Quick control of BP is required to save the child and prevent permanent damage to these organs.

Biography

Vijayalakshmi, MD Gold medalist, skilled interventionalist, pioneer in Paediatric cardiology. Brilliant academic career, secured 22 gold medals, 52 publications, 105 research papers (32 international), delivered 210 scientific lectures Authored "Step by Step to ECHO in CHD" and edited monogram on "ARF & RHD". Proposed the Echo criteria for the early and precise diagnosis of carditis in Acute Rheumatic fever and National Policy for Congenital Heart Disease. Best presentation award for "My nightmare case" at PICS at Chicago and in Boston, first prize for outstanding scientific presentation at World Congress of Echocardiography. Has received many prestigious awards for her academic and literary work.

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