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Options in managing heart failure in pediatrics: What is new in the 2014 ISHLT guidelines?

Andreas C Petropoulos

Azerbaijan State Medical University, Azerbaijan

Heart failure (HF) in childhood is a clinical and pathophysiological syndrome resulting from: 1) Ventricular inotropic dysfunction, 2) Volume and/or Pressure overload, 3) Irregular heart rhythm, 4) Long standing hyper dynamic circulations. It presents as failure to thrive, respiratory distress, exercise intolerance and associated with circulatory, neurohormonal, molecular abnormalities. HF has numerous etiologies. It is a common clinical presentation as a consequence of cardiac or non-cardiac disorders, congenital or acquired. Worldwide prevalence is 322 cases/million children. From these 43% are under the age of 1 year old. In the CHD population 24% will present with HF and 70% will suffer from it in the 1st year following the diagnosis of CHD. At diagnosis 71% of DCMs and 13% HOCMs will present with HF. The aim of this paper is to present the current advances on evaluation and management of HF in childhood. It will focus on the 2014 International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT), guidelines. These improve the previous 2004 ISHLT guidelines and amalgamate scientific data from the 2013 ACCF/AHA for management of HF in adults. We will focus on the areas of diagnosis and variety in treatment strategies.

Biography

Andreas C Petropoulos graduated from Aristotle University's Medical School, Greece in 1989, followed by a 30 year career as a Medical Officer, Senior Flight Surgeon in the Hellenic Air-Force. He is specialized in Aviation, Hyperbaric Medicine, Pediatrics, Fetal, Pediatrics and Congenital Cardiology in USA and Europe. He holds MSc in Preventive Cardiology and is an AEPC Prevention Working Group member. He worked and lectured in Athens and Brussels universities. Currently he consults in Fetal, Pediatrics, Congenital Cardiology in Merkezi Klinika and is an Associate Professor at the State University and Post Graduate and CME Center in Azerbaijan. His research focuses on prevention, CVD imaging techniques, fetal cardiology and heart failure.

andrepetropoulos@gmail.com