Diastolic function in patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and left ventricle outflow tract obstruction after alcohol septal ablation

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INTRODUCTION: Alcohol septal ablation (ASA) is established treatment method for symptomatic patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) and left ventricle outflow tract (LVOT) obstruction who do not respond to medical treatment. LV diastolic dysfunction is one of the causes of the symptoms in these patients and also of the left atrial (LA) enlargement.¹⁻³ Since LA size provides important prognostic implications, we wanted to evaluate impact of SAA on diastolic function and LA size and function.

METHODS AND RESULTS: We analyzed retrospectively echocardiography exams of 18 HCM patients with LVOT obstruction who were treated with SAA in period from 2010 to 2014. Only data from 10 patients (age 57 (50-58) years, 7 men) who were in sinus rhythm and had complete echocardiography exams before and 355 (69-459) days after successful SAA were included in our study. LVOT gradient significantly decreased from 76 (70-87) mmHg to 15 (11-30) mmHg, p=0.0007. Several parameters of diastolic function (E and A wave velocity, E/A, deceleration time, isovolumic relaxation time, A wave duration, E/E') as well as left atrial end-systolic area, volumes and ejection fraction were studied. We found no significant changes in these parameters after successful ASA.

CONCLUSION: We found no significant changes in echocardiographic diastolic function or LA size and function parameters in our small group of patients with HCM and LVOT obstruction after successful ASA. Larger studies are needed to evaluate these parameters in this patient population.

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