



**POSTER PRESENTATION**

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# Influence of presence and patterns of late gadolinium enhancement on left ventricular remodeling after heart transplantation

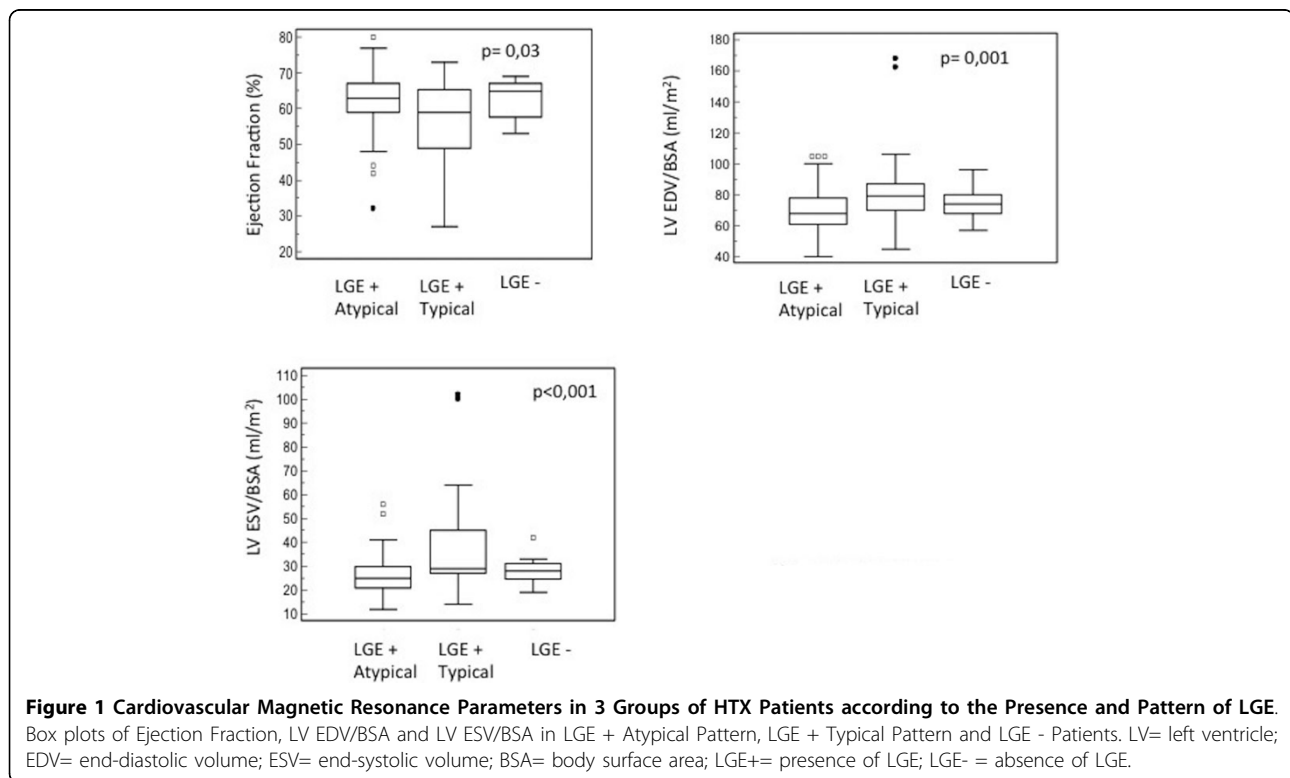
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## Background

The presence of late gadolinium enhancement (LGE) is related to cardiac remodeling and poorer prognosis in ischemic and non-ischemic cardiomyopathies. Non-inva-

sive LGE- cardiovascular magnetic resonance (LGE-CMR) is able to detect infarct-typical and -atypical patterns of LGE after heart transplantation (HTX), mainly due to post HTX coronary artery vasculopathy (CAV)



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and myocarditis. In this study, we sought to describe the influence of the presence and patterns of both LGE forms on left ventricular (LV) remodeling after HTX.

## Methods

153 HTX patients were divided into 3 groups depending on the presence and pattern of LGE (group I: atypical pattern, group II: typical pattern and group III: no LGE). 146 patients received coronary angiography within 4 weeks after CMR for assessment of CAV. Vector-ECG gated 32-channel parallel imaging cine SSFP sequences for standard imaging plane and LV volumetry acquisition were acquired on a 1.5T Whole Body MRI scanner (Achieva 1.5T, Philips Medical Systems). LGE-CMR (Gadolinium:0.2 mmol/kg) imaging was performed and analyzed blindly by two experienced observers. Patients were divided according to the presence and patterns of LGE. CAV was divided into three groups:1=mild;2=moderate;3=severe post transplant coronary artery disease. Data were expressed as mean and standard deviation or percentage. Groups were compared using Chi Square for categorical data and ANOVA or Kruskal-Wallis tests for continuous variables. P-values  $\leq 0.05$  were considered statistically significant.

## Results

Overall, 135 patients (88%) presented patterns of LGE, whereas infarct-atypical patterns were more prevalent (66%). Group II showed significantly lower ejection fractions ( $56 \pm 12\%$ ) when compared to group I ( $63 \pm 8\%$ ) and III ( $63 \pm 5\%$ ;  $p=0,03$ ) but significantly increased end-diastolic ( $83 \pm 26\text{ml}/\text{m}^2$ ) volumes/BSA (group I= $69 \pm 14\text{ml}/\text{m}^2$ ; III= $75 \pm 10\text{ml}/\text{m}^2$ ;  $p=0,001$ ) and end-systolic volumes/BSA ( $38 \pm 21\text{ml}/\text{m}^2$  vs. group I= $26 \pm 8\text{ml}/\text{m}^2$  and III= $28 \pm 5\text{ml}/\text{m}^2$ ;  $p<0,001$ , Figure 1). There was no significant difference related to LV morphology and function between groups II and III. Also, group II revealed less severe CAV presented with a smaller number of patients with mild coronary lesions (CAV1,  $p=0,02$ ) and a larger number with severe lesions (CAV3,  $p<0,01$ ).

## Conclusions

The presence of infarct-typical LGE-CMR is related to negative post HTX remodeling revealing lower ejection fractions and increased volumes in patients after HTX. Future studies are warranted to evaluate the long-term effect of infarct-typical and atypical patterns on future post HTX outcomes.

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