



Arrhythmias

QUALITY OF LIFE BEFORE AND AFTER CATHETER ABLATION IN ATRIAL FIBRILLATION PATIENTS WITH LOW LEFT VENTRICULAR EJECTION FRACTION

Poster Contributions

Poster Sessions, Expo North

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Background: QoL being a subjective perception is mostly influenced by symptom burden of AF than by AF type. Additionally, in symptomatic heart failure QoL is seen to be impaired equally in both preserved and low left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) population. This study examined QoL in paroxysmal (PAF) and non-PAF (NPAF) patients in preserved versus low LVEF population pre- and post-ablation.

Method: Seventy-two consecutive patients with low EF (<55%) (Study group, 64±8 years, 77% male, 24% PAF) and 100 patients with preserved EF (Control, 62±5 years, 79% male, 27% PAF) undergoing ablation, were prospectively enrolled. Medical Outcome Survey (SF-36) was used to measure QoL at baseline and 6-mo.

Result: In low-EF group, NPAF cohort had significantly lower baseline QoL compared to PAF, in 4 of 8 SF-36 subscales [physical functioning (PF), energy fatigue, emotional wellbeing (MH) and general health (GH)]. In control group, no significant difference was observed between NPAF and PAF cohorts at baseline scores in all except social functioning. At 12±5 months, in low-EF group, ablation success was associated with significant improvement in PF, MH, GH, role limitation due to physical health and role limitation due to emotional problem subscales; whereas no improvement was observed in patients with recurrence (Table).

Conclusion: Low EF and NPAF have a synergistic negative effect on QoL in AF and successful catheter ablation significantly improves it.

Table: Pre and Post-ablation SF-36 scores in Low EF patients

SF-36 Subscales	No Recurrence			Recurrence		
	PRE	POST	p	PRE	POST	p
PHYSICAL FUNCTIONING (PF)	59±29	76±31	0.031	59±18	83±17	0.080
LIMIT PHY HEALTH (RP)	67±15	100	0.003	52±21	80±6	0.065
LIMIT EMO PROBL (RE)	65±23	94±13	0.001	60±12	93±14	0.070
ENERGY FATIGUE or VITALITY (VT)	63±28	75±10	0.340	63±15	63±29	0.062
EMO WELLBEING(MH)	67±12	90±8	0.024	83±7	84±16	0.875
SOCI FUNCTIONING (SF)	87±19	91±15	0.570	82±39	77±33	0.860
PAIN (BP)	78±23	87±12	0.375	78±28	78±20	0.920
GEN HEALTH (GH)	46±21	69±23	0.033	66±15	66±21	0.780