

Letter to the Editor

Investigation of the Main and Residual Risk Factors in the Success Rates of Premature Ventricular Contraction Ablation

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To the Editor;

We read with interest the paper by Kanat et al. entitled “Effect of Echocardiographic Epicardial Adipose Tissue Thickness on Success Rates of Premature Ventricular Contraction Ablation”. The authors evaluated the relationship between epicardial adipose tissue thickness, and success rates of premature ventricular contraction ablation. We had comments about this study (1).

Most patients with frequent ventricular premature complexes have no demonstrable cause, but structural heart diseases such as ischemic heart disease, valvular heart disease, cardiomyopathy and ventricular hypertrophy are known to cause PVCs. In structurally normal hearts, they are present, albeit at a lower prevalence. (2) In searching for prior literature on the subject, we came across another study by Kırıř et al. (3). As mentioned by the authors, assessing the relation between epicardial adipose tissue, and the disposition to frequent premature ventricular complexes. Kırıř et al. matched statistically equivalent but relatively small trial and control groups and concluded that an increase in frequent PVC formation can be seen in individuals with an increased epicardial adipose tissue thickness.

Myocardial damage, scarring and the resulting disruption of the normal electrical conduction system of the heart are usually attributed as the causes of frequent PVC formation and the associated increase in mortality in structural heart disease (4). Epicardial adipose tissue mass and atherosclerotic plaque burden are both increased in individuals with increased body-mass index and waist circumference (5).

We thought that this study can benefit from the addition of hypotheses explaining the relation between proposed decrease in ablation success, the mechanisms of alterations to the conduction system of the heart in individuals with an increased epicardial adipose tissue thickness.

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