





# Lecture: Myocarditis and pericarditis

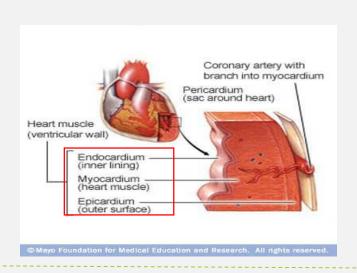
- important
- Extra notes
- Doctors notes

# Objectives:

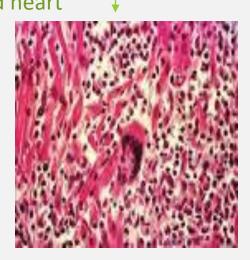
- Describe the epidemiology, risk factor for myocarditis.
- Explain the pathogenesis of myopericarditis.
- Differential between the various types of myocarditis and pericarditis.
- Name various etiological agents causing myocarditis and pericarditis.
- Describe the clinical presentation and differential diagnosis of myocarditis and pericarditis.
- Discuss the microbiological and non microbiological methods for diagnosis of myocarditis and pericarditis.
- Explain the management ,complication and prognosis of patient with myocarditis and/or pericarditis.

#### Introduction:

- Myocarditis: is inflammatory disease of the heart muscle.
- Mild & self-limited with few symptoms OR severe with progression to congestive heart failure & dilated cardiac muscle.
- Very localized or diffuse
- Myocarditis can be due to a variety of infectious and non infectious causes eg. Toxins, drugs & hypersensitivity immune response.
- Viral infection is the most common cause









#### Myocarditis: Epidemiology \ Etiology \ Risk Factors

- Epidemiology:
  - ✓ no accurate estimate of incidence as many cases are mild & brief and diagnosis is not made.
- **Etiology**: (in the next slide as a table)
- Giant cell myocarditis due to Thymoma, SLE (systemic lupus erythromatosis ) or Thyrotoxicosis.

(\*the patients don't usually go to the hospital because: they either present with flu-like symptoms or they die suddenly 10%)

Infectious	Noninfectious
Viruses:	Systemic Diseases
✓ Coxsackie virus B (an RNA) is the most common cause.	1. SLE
✓ HIV	2. Sarcoidosis
✓ Other virus : Coxsackie virus A, Echoviruses, Adenoviruses	3. Vasculities(Wegener's disease)
Influenza, EBV, Rubella, Varicella, Mumps, Rabies, Hepatitis viruses,	4. Celiac disease
Bacterial:	Neoplastic infiltration
1. Corynebacterium diphtheriae ( <u>cause</u> diphtheria) (cause heart block)	
2. <b>Treponema pallidum</b> ( <u>cause</u> Syphilis داء الزهري)	
3. Borrelia burgdorferi ( <u>cause</u> Lyme disease) it's Spirochete*	
4. or as a complication of bacterial endocarditis	
Parasite:	Drugs & Toxins
1. Trypanosoma cruzi ( <u>cause</u> Chagas disease)	1. Ethanol
2. Trichinella spiralis	2. Cocaine
3. Taxoplasma gondii (from cats)	3. Radiation
4. Echinococcus (prevalent in Africa)	4. Chemotherapeutic agents : Doxorubicin
Others organisms :	C. Diptheria: gram positive bacilli
Rickettsiae*, Fungi, Chlamydia*, enteric pathogens (salmonella typhi), ,	T. Pallidum: spirochete
Legionella* and Mycobacterium tuberculosis.	B. Burgdorferi: spirochete  * Gram negative non spore forming

#### Clinical Presentation of myocarditis

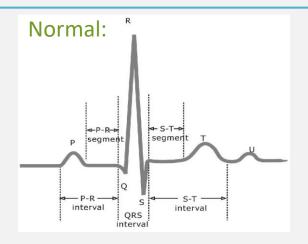
- Highly variable :may occur days to weeks after onset of acute febrile (with fever) illness or with heart failure without any known antecedent symptoms .
- Fever, headache, muscle aches, diarrhea, sore throat and rashes similar to most viral infections
- Presenting symptoms: Chest pain, arrhythmias, sweating, fatigue and may present with congestive heart failure.

#### Differential Diagnosis

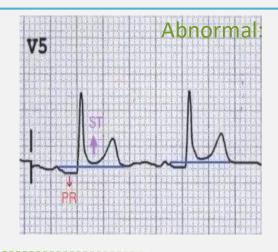
(They have the same symptoms as myocarditis)

- Acute Myocarditis
- Vasculitis
- Cardiomyopathy (due to drugs or radiation)

- Diagnosis of myocarditis
  - Hematology :WBCs, ESR, CBC
  - biochemistry: Troponin and CK-MB\* usually elevated ECG (nonspecific ST-T changes and conduction delays are common)
  - microbiology: Blood cultures / Viral serology (blood sample to look for antibodies IgM,IgG) and other specific test for Lyme disease, diphtheria and Chagas disease may be indicated on a case by case basis.
  - Radiology: Chest X-rays shows cardiomegaly (enlarged cardiac size) / ECG changes (but not specific like in pericarditis) / MRI and Echocardiogram
  - Heart muscle biopsy (the last step)

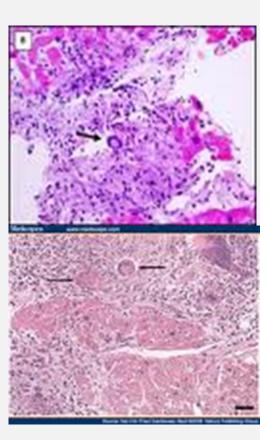


ECGs of normal heart & heart with myocarditis



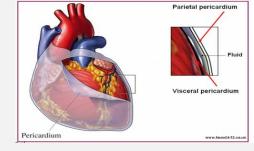
#### Endomyocardial Diagnosis

- Pathologic examination is not sensitive because of the patchy areas of distribution. . It may reveal lymphocytic inflammatory response with necrosis.
- "Giant cells" may be seen
- "Dallas" criteria for histopathologic diagnose (only in males slides).



#### Management of myocarditis

- Often supportive: restricted physical activity in heart failure.
- Specific antimicrobial therapy is indicated when an infecting agent is identified.
- Treatment of heart failure arrhythmia
- Other drugs indicated in special situations like anticoagulant, NSAID (nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs), steroid or immunosuppressive immunomodulatory agents.
- Heart transplant (last option)
- Most cases of viral myocarditis are self limited.
- Isolate and bed-rest
- One third of the patients are left with lifelong complications, ranging from mild conduction defects to severe heart failure.
- Patient should be followed regularly every 1-3 months.
- Sudden death may be the presentation of myocarditis in about 10% of cases.



- Pericarditis: is an inflammation of the pericardium usually of infectious etiology (viruses, bacterial, fungal or parasitic)
- Etiology :
  - Viral Pericarditis:
    - ✓ Coxsackie virus A and B, Echovirus are the most common causes.
    - ✓ Other viruses includes Herpes viruses, Hepatitis B , Mumps, Influenza, Adenovirus , Varicella and HIV.
  - Bacterial Pericarditis :
    - ✓ usually a complication of pulmonary infections (e.g. pneumonia ,empyema):
    - ✓ organisms: S. pneumonia (gram positive cocci), M. tuberculosis (the most common), S. aureus (gram positive cocci),
       H. influenza (gram negative coccobacilli), K. pneumoniae (gram negative bacilli) & Legionella.
    - ✓ HIV patients may develop pericardial effusions caused by: M.tuberculosis or M. avium complex.
  - Disseminated fungal infection caused by: \* usually affect immunosuppressed patients\*
    - ✓ Histoplasma, Coccidioides.
  - Parasitic infections :
    - ✓ eg.disseminated toxoplasmosis\*, contagious spread of Entamoeba histolytica are rare causes.

#### o Pathophysiology:

spread

- Contiguous (directly) spread:
  - lungs, pleura, mediastinal lymph nodes, myocardium, aorta, esophagus, liver.
- Hematogenous (blood) spread:
  - septicemia, toxins, neoplasm, metabolic
- Lymphangetic spread:
  - Traumatic or irradiation
- Inflammation provokes a fibrinous exudate with or without serous effusion
- The normal transparent and glistening pericardium is turned into a dull, opaque, and "sandy" sac Can cause pericardial scarring with adhesions and fibrosis (for that it will not move).

\*Within time of inflammation fibrosis occur, cause restriction during diastole = heart can't expand

\* If there is pus in the pericardium effusion that means it's a bacterial infection.

#### Types of Pericarditis:

- Caseous Pericarditis: commonly tuberculous in origin.
- Serous Pericarditis: due to autoimmune diseases (rheumatoid arthritis, SLE).
- <u>Fibrous Pericarditis:</u> a chronic pericarditis usually suppurative, caseous, or encased in a thick layer of scar tissue.\*it causes destruction of the heart \*

#### o Types of Effusive Fluid:

- Serous:
  - ✓ Transudative heart failure
- Suppurative: (discharge pus)
  - ✓ Pyogenic infection with cellular debris and large number of leukocytes
- Hemorrhagic:
  - ✓ Occurs with any type of pericarditis especially with infections and malignancies
- Serosanguinous: (suppurative + serous)

#### o Constrictive Pericarditis:

#### Causes:

- Idiopathic
- Radiotherapy
- Cardiac surgery
- Connective tissue disorders
- Dialysis
- Bacterial infection

#### Clinical presentation of pericarditis:

- Acute pericarditis\*:
  - Sudden pleuritic chest pain (stabbing pain) prominent (positional retrosternal)
  - Dyspnea
  - Fever
  - Friction rub
  - On examination: Pericardial rub, exaggerated pulses, paradoxus JVP and tachycardia.
  - As the pericardial pressure increases, palpitations, presyncope or syncope may occur.
- Chronic pericarditis:
  - Patient with Tuberculous pericarditis has insidious onset of symptoms.

\*Very severe pleural pain which generate from the back and goes away if he sit down .

#### Tuberculous Pericarditis :(chronic)

- Incidence of pericarditis in patients with pulmonary TB ranges from 1-8%
- Clinical findings: fever, pericardial friction rub, hepatomegaly
- Tuberculin skin test usually positive
- Fluid smear for acid fast bacilli (AFB) often negative
- Pericardial biopsy more definitive Pericardial biopsy: to detect granuloma.

- (If not caused by virus, it can be commonly TB (it can affect any organ including commonly pericarditis, after lung and extrapulmonary)
- (In TB, Pericarditis fluid is -ve of the mycobacterium because it contains mycolic acid that have a waxy material that causes it to stick to the tissues )

#### Investigations & Diagnosis:

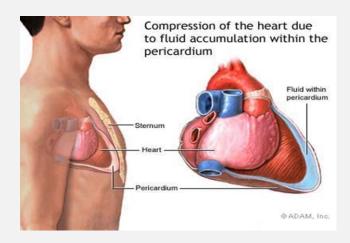
- ECG (specific) will show ST elevation, PR depression and T-wave inversion may occur later.
- Echocardiogram
- Blood culture
- Leukocytosis and an elevated ESR are typical
- Other routine testing: urea and creatinine.
- Tuberculin (PPD) skin test is usually positive in tuberculous pericarditis.
- Chest x-ray may show enlarged cardiac shadow or calcified pericardium and CT scan show pericardial thickening >5mm.
- Pericardial fluid or pericardial biopsy specimens for fungi.
- Immunology /Serology: Antinuclear antibody tests and Histoplasmosis complement fixation indicated in endemic area.

#### Acute Pericarditis:

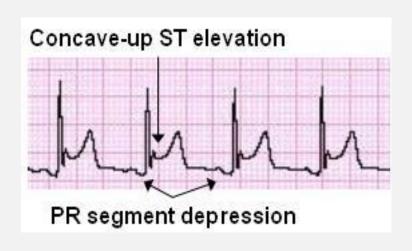
- Differential Diagnosis:
  - Acute myocardial infarction
     Pulmonary embolism
     Aortic dissection
     Pneumonia

#### Management of pericarditis:

- Management is largely supportive for cases of idiopathic and viral pericarditis including bed rest, NSAIDS and Colchicine.
- Corticosteroid use is controversial and anticoagulants usually contraindicated.
- Specific antibiotics must include activity against S. aureus and respiratory bacteria.
- Antiviral: Acyclovir for Herpes simplex or Varicella . Ganciclovir for CMV .

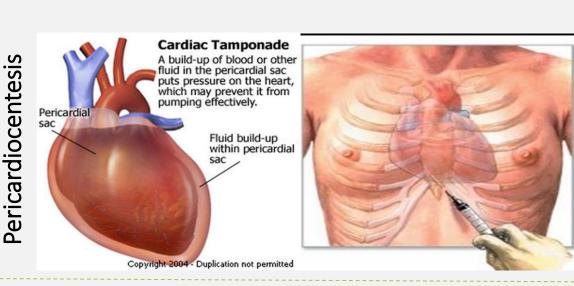






#### Management of pericarditis

- Pericardiocentesis: a therapeutic procedure to remove fluid from the pericardium (to relief Tamponade).
- Patients who recovered should be observed for recurrence.
- Symptoms due to viral pericarditis usually subsided within one month.
- Uremic, rheumatic, collagen in 30% of patients include pericardial effusion and tamponade, constrictive Pericarditis and pleural effusion.
- Restrictive Pericarditis and heart failure.



## **GOOD LUCK!**

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