

Volume-9 | Issue-105 | August 5, 2018

Price: 5/-

Honorary Editor : Dr. Tejas V. Patel



#### From the Desk of Hon. Editor:

43 yrs old Businessman, presented a year ago with acute ischemic stroke (right MCA territory). He was successfully thrombolysed with IV tPA. He recovered well and was able to resume his work. In subsequent 5 months he had two episodes of transient ischemic attack (TIA). His carotids were normal without any significant stenosis. Routine ECG & ECHO were normal. Routine blood tests didn't show any abnormalities. How should this case be further evaluated? My friends, I am sure you must have faced this kind of clinical

situation where etiology of recurrent

stroke remains an enigma, and the

management remained unclear. Let's

briefly have discussion of this impo-

rtant clinical scenario.

#### **CRYPTOGENIC STROKE**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

In its most useful clinical sense, the term cryptogenic stroke (CS) designates the category of ischemic stroke for which no probable cause is found despite a thorough diagnostic evaluation. It is defined as cerebral ischemia of obscure or unknown origin. Large epidemiologic studies have consistently reported that cryptogenic stroke accounts for 25 to 40 % of ischemic stroke (almost one third of the ischemic strokes). CS is more frequent in younger than older patients.

Most cryptogenic strokes are likely embolic of undetermined source. The criteria for ESUS (embolic stroke of undetermined source) are:

- Stroke detected by CT or MRI that is not lacunar
- Absence of atherosclerosis causing
   50% luminal stenosis of the artery supplying the area of ischemia
- No major-risk cardioembolic source of embolism (like- no permanent or paroxysmal atrial fibrillation, intracardiac thrombus, prosthetic cardiac valve, mitral stenosis, left ventricular ejection fraction <30%, valvular vegetations, or infective endocarditis)

■ No other specific cause of stroke identified (eg, arteritis, dissection, migraine, vasospasm, drug abuse)

#### ETIOLOGY / MECHANISM

- Embolism from occult sources in the heart or aorta
  - Occult Paroxysmal atrial fibrillation
  - Atrial septal abnormalities: PFO, atrial septal aneurysm, and atrial

#### RISK FOR STROKE IN PATIENTS WITH AF



Well-established data indicate that AF is associated with a 5-Fold increase in the risk for ischemic stroke<sup>1</sup>



Ischemic Stroke associated with AF is nearly twice as likely to be fatal as non-AF stroke<sup>2</sup>



In patients with AF, oral anticoagulants decrease the risk for stroke by 64% compared with placebo<sup>3</sup>

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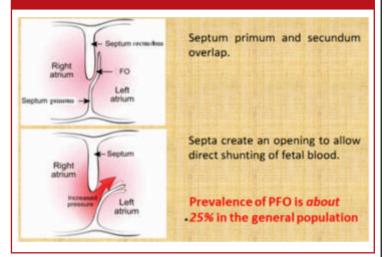
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#### PATENT FORAMEN OVALE



septal defect [Paradoxical emb-olism]

- Aortic Arch Atheroma
- Undefined thrombophilia (hyper-coagulable states antiphospholipid antibodies or occult malignancy)
- Substenotic cerebrovascular disease (<50%)

#### **CLINICAL PRESENTATION**

- Stroke with embolic infarct topo-graphy on brain imaging (Cortical or large subcortical infarcts)
- Recurrent stroke
- Multiple territory involvement (sho-wer of embolization)

#### **EVALUATION & DIAGNOSIS**

- Cryptogenic stroke is a diagnosis of exclusion
- Standard evaluation
  - Brain imaging: CT, MRI (Cortical or large subcortical infarcts in multiple vascular territories)
  - Vessel imaging: MRA, CTA, Doppler
  - Cardiac evaluation: ECG, TTE, TEE
  - Blood tests
- Special evaluation
  - Prolonged cardiac monitoring: 24- or 48-hour Holter monitors, ambulatory ECG, ILR
  - Contrast ECHO: Intracardiac shunt (occult PFO), Extracardial shunt (Pul AV fistula)
  - Cardiac MRI: Isolated left ventricular non-compaction

#### MANAGEMENT - SECONDARY PREVENTION

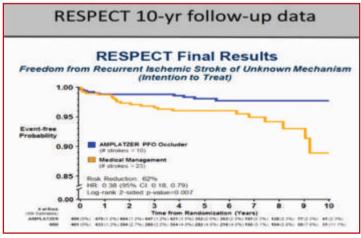
\*If documented Atrial Fibrillation or thrombus in LA/LA appendage: Oral anticoagulation (OAC) – Warf or NOACs

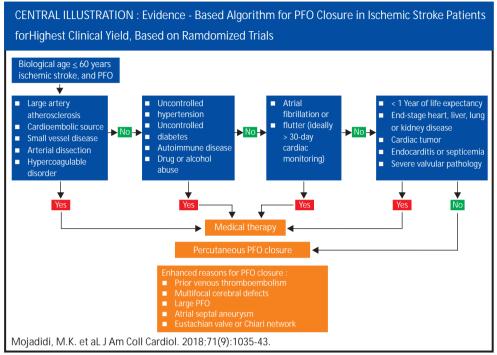
\*If no documented Atrial Fibrillation or thrombus: As per

WARSS study, role of OAC is controversial. But empirical Warf or NOACs can be considered in - 1) High CHA2DS2-VASc score, 2) Presence of cortical or large subcortical infarcts in multiple vascular territories, 3) Evidence of left atrial cardiopathy (eg. left atrial dilatation, strain).

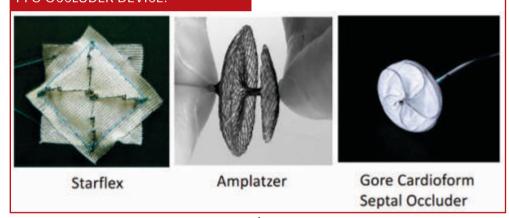
\*Cryptogenic stroke & PFO: PFO closure may be considered for patients with recurrent Cryptogenic Stroke despite optimal medical therapy [Class IIb, Level of Evidence: C – AHA/ASA guidelines]. A meta-analysis of patient-level data from CLOSURE I, PC, and RESPECT studies shown that PFO closure was superior to medical therapy for the prevention of recurrent ischemic stroke. In the last year, two new randomized controlled trials of PFO closure versus medical therapy were published: CLOSE and REDUCE. At conclusion, PFO closure is of moderate benefit compared to antiplatelet therapy alone in the prevention of recurrent ischemic stroke in adults up to 60 years of age. It remains unknown how PFO closure compares to systemic anti-coagulation (e.g., with NOACs) for the prevention of recurrent ischemic stroke.

# Patent Foramen Ovale Closure or Antiplatelet Therapy for Cryptogenic Stroke RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL PFO closure + Antiplatelet therapy alone n=441 Clinical ischemic stroke median of 3.2 years (P=0.002) 1.4% Clinical ischemic stroke median of 3.2 years (P=0.002) 22/383 patients (5.7%) MRI + clinical stroke Sondergaard et al. N Engl J Med 2017





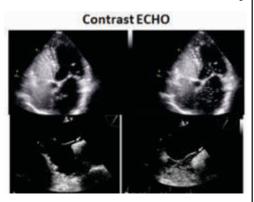
#### PFO OCCLUDER DEVICE:



#### COMING BACK TO OUR CASE...

The patient was referred to me by one of my Neurologist friend.

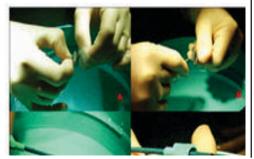
Recheck TTE was normal. Ambulatory

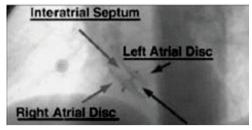


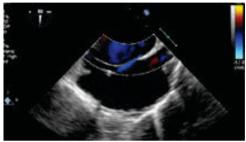
ECG (7days) was normal (no Atrial fibrillation).

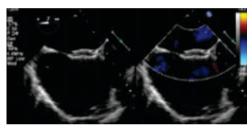
Contrast ECHO & Trans-esophageal ECHO (TEE) picked up PFO.

We did PFO closure with Amplatzer device. The procedure is very similar to ASD device closure.









#### CONCLUSION

Cryptogenic stroke accounts for 25-40% of ischemic stroke. It is a diagnosis of exclusion. Look for 2 most imp cardiac causes: 1) Occult paroxysmal atrial fibrillation and 2) Paradoxical embolism via PFO. The clinical evidence is strong in favour of trans-catheter PFO closure in reducing the risk of recurrent stroke in young patients (age <60 years) suffering with cryptogenic stroke.

#### Dr. Tejas V. Patel

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# CIMS Learning Centre

Skills Development Centre

#### **DIABETES & ENDOCRINOLOGY**

#### September 02, 2018 (Sunday)

Course Director : Dr. Vivek Patel

Duration : 1 day Number of Seats : 50

Venue : CIMS Auditorium

#### Programme Overview:

Endocrinology is a complex specialty that encompasses a wide range of disorders. The field of endocrinology is now moving towards an increasingly personalized approach to patient management. This symposium will provide a problem-orientated approach to the management of clinical problems in endocrinology.

Online registration & payment on www.cims.org /clc

Registration Fees: `500/- | Spot Registration Fees: `1,000/-

#### Programme Highlights:

- Diabetes management in special populations: elderly, CKD, CLD
- · Gestational diabetes mellitus
- Diabetic foot management: newer therapeutic options
- Management of diabetic ketoacidosis: what NOT to do?
- Common mistakes in interpretation of thyroid function tests
- Approach to patient with hyperprolactinemia
- Management of osteoporosis: beyond bisphosphonates
- latrogenic Cushing's Syndrome: how to stop steroids when no longer needed?

#### Non-refundable

#### For any query, please email on : clc@cimshospital.org

> Certificate of attendance will be given at the end of the course.

#### ART OF CLINICAL CARDIAC EXAMINATION: REVISITED

September 09, 2018 (Sunday)

Course Directors : Dr. Milan Chag / Dr. Satya Gupta

Dr. Vipul Kapoor / Dr. Tejas V Patel

Duration : 1 day Number of Seats: 50

Venue : CIMS Auditorium

#### Programme Overview:

Art of clinical examination is not forgotten in current era! Let us rewind history as it is a must for clinical assessment of any patient. Let us learn the cardiovascular part of history-taking and clinical examination before we go a head with other diagnostic modalities.

Online registration & payment on www.cims.org /clc

Registration Fees: ` 500/- | Spot Registration Fees: ` 1,000/-

#### Programme Highlights:

- · History taking
- Pulse
- JVP
- · General examination
- · Inspection and palpation
- Apical impulse
- X-ray chest

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#### **FEVER CLINIC**

Got these signs?

#### DENGUE



Signs & Symptoms

High Fever
Muscle & Joint pains
Pain behind the eyes
Diarrhea & Vomiting
Skin Rashes

#### MALARIA



Signs & Symptoms

Diarrhea & Vomiting
Sweating
Headache
Nausea
Abdominal Pain
Shaking Chills - High Fever
Chills and Rigors

#### **CHIKUNGUNYA**



Signs & Symptoms

Fever
Joint Pains
Muscle Pains
Headache
Nausea

## SWINE FLU (H1N1 INFLUENZA)

#### Signs & Symptoms

High Fever
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Complications could occur due to Swine Flu and could involve different organs such as Lung injury, Pneumonia, Kidney Failure, Brain Infection, etc.

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January 4-6, 2019

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#### PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

DAY 1

JANUARY 4, 2019, FRIDAY

#### Internal Medicine Symposium

#### Satellite Session

- An Evening of Pharmacology & Therapeutics-I
- An Evening of Pharmacology & Therapeutics-II
- An Evening of Cardiology Guidelines (15 Points to Remember for Physicians)
- Cardiology Guidelines

DAY 2

JANUARY 5, 2019, SATURDAY

#### Main Session

- Introduction Session
- Coronary Artery Disease / Acute Coronary Syndrome
- Interventional Cardiology
- All You Need to Know: Valvular Heart Disease / Hypertension
- Stroke / Hypertension
- Clinical Case Based Approach : Hypertension Lipids & Cardiovascular Risk Management

#### Satellite Session

- STEMI (Case Based Session)
- Hypertension (Case Based Session)
- Heart Failure / ECMO-LVAD (Case Based Session)
- Lipid & CV Risk Management

Oncology

DAY 3

JANUARY 6, 2019, SUNDAY

#### Main Session

- Interactive ECGs / Arrhythmia
- Arrhythmia & Heart Failure
- Clinical Cases
- Case Presentations

- CIMS JIC Oration
- Plenary Lectures
- Live Case Session Case Presentation

Oncology

Neuro

Critical Care in Chronically ill

Endocrinology

IVF & Gynaec





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Published on 5<sup>th</sup> of every month

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Printed, Published and Edited by Dr. Keyur Parikh on behalf of the CIMS Hospital Printed at Hari Om Printery, 15/1, Nagori Estate, Opp. E.S.I. Dispensary, Dudheshwar Road, Ahmedabad-380004. Published from CIMS Hospital, Nr. Shukan Mall, Off Science City Road, Sola, Ahmedabad-380060.

