

Long-term results of some interesting studies and more...

Run-He Qin et al., from China, determined the expression changes of miR-29a and its potential target gene, DNMT3A, in cardiac fibroblasts during cardiac fibrosis and explored the effects of their regulatory relationships on the process of cardiac fibrosis in Sprague Dawley rats.

Mingliang Rao et al., also from China, evaluated the role of the vagus nerve trunk and the intrinsic cardiac autonomic nervous system in the induction of atrial fibrillation (AF) using a canine model. They hope that these results may lead to a therapeutic option for AF.

Parkinson's Disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that affects about 10 million people worldwide. Dopamine agonists (DAs) are used frequently in treatment, but there are concerns about adverse cardiac effects. Hilal Erken Pamukcu et al., from Turkey, demonstrated the effects of these non-ergot DAs in patients with PD using two-dimensional echo techniques in various phases.

Muzaffer Akkoca et al. report on their prospective study of 67 patients with peripheral arterial diseases (PAD) caused by atherosclerosis and their examination of associations between local and systemic cardiovascular complications and endothelial-dependent and – independent microvascular relaxations, blood biomarkers, and biochemicals. The follow-up period was 54.1±10.3 months. The results will be of interest to you.

Özlem Sarısoy et al. retrospectively studied long-term outcomes in 496 patients with atrioventricular septal defect who had a surgical correction between 1996 and 2016. Their research included an analysis of the major risk factors for morbidity and mortality during and after surgery.

Finally, Yücel Balbay et al., in the first part of their study, warn all of us about the burden of cardiovascular diseases in Turkey, at present and in the future, using an additive burden of illness model. The results are significant and the cost is huge, especially given the recent exchange rate of the Turkish Lira.

A good invited review, interesting case reports, and original images complete this issue.

I hope this issue of our journal will be of interest to our readers.

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