

Echocardiography to Assess Viability

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Abstract

The prevalence of heart failure (HF) is increasing worldwide mainly as the result of coronary artery disease (CAD), responsible for almost two-thirds of cases of left ventricular (LV) dysfunction. Established treatment options for ischaemic HF include medical therapy, revascularization, and cardiac transplantation. Cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT) has been recently introduced as a treatment modality of HF, but other treatment strategies remain investigational.¹ Despite significant therapeutic advances, outcome of medical therapy in severe HF is poor. In specific subsets of patients, the potential benefits of revascularization must be weighed against the potential high peri-procedural risks.

Keywords

Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, Acute Myocardial Infarction, Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy, Myocardial Viability, Tissue Doppler Imaging