

# **ASSESSMENT OF LEFT VENTRICULAR FUNCTION IN VENTRICULAR SEPTAL DEFECT BY ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY**

*Thesis*

Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the  
Master Degree in  
Paediatrics

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**1993**



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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I would like to express my deep gratitude and appreciation to *Prof. Dr. Sowsan El-Sokkary*, Professor of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for granting me the privilege of working under her supervision and for her great encouragement and advice throughout the whole work.

I am sincerely indebted to *Dr. Tawhida Yassin Abdel Gaffar*, Lecturer of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for her great support, eminent advice, and patience in revising the whole study.

I would like to thank *Dr. Tarek Abdel Gawad*, Lecturer of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University.

Also, my deepest appreciation are due to *Dr. Hany Amin*, for his skillful participation.

Last, but not by all means the least, I thank my family and all my patients and their families, for without their help, this work would have never been accomplished.



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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

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<b>AS</b>	: Aortic stenosis
<b>ASD</b>	: Atrial septal defect
<b>A-V</b>	: Atrio-ventricular
<b>BAV</b>	: Bicuspid aortic valve
<b>CA</b>	: Coarctation of aorta
<b>CHD</b>	: Congenital heart disease
<b>CHF</b>	: Congestive heart failure
<b>C.O.P.</b>	: Cardiac output
<b>C/T ratio</b>	: Cardiothoracic ratio
<b>Dd</b>	: Diastolic diameter
<b>Ds</b>	: Systolic diameter
<b>E/A</b>	: "E" velocity / "A" velocity
<b>ECD</b>	: Endocardial cushion defect
<b>ECG</b>	: Electrocardiogram
<b>EDD</b>	: End diastolic diameter
<b>EDV</b>	: End diastolic volume
<b>EF%</b>	: Percentage ejection fraction
<b>ESD</b>	: End systolic diameter
<b>ESV</b>	: End systolic volume
<b>ET</b>	: Ejection time
<b>FS%</b>	: Percentage fraction shortening



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<b>LAD</b>	: Left atrial diameter
<b>LV</b>	: Left ventricle
<b>LVD</b>	: Left ventricular dilatation
<b>LVH</b>	: Left ventricular hypertrophy
<b>LVIV</b>	: Left ventricular inflow volume
<b>LVOV</b>	: Left ventricular outflow volume
<b>MR</b>	: Mitral regurgitation
<b>MRI</b>	: Magnetic resonance imaging
<b>MVP</b>	: Mitral valve prolapse
<b>PDA</b>	: Patent ductus arteriosus
<b>PS</b>	: Pulmonary stenosis
<b>PVOD</b>	: Pulmonary valve obstructive disease
<b>QP/QS</b>	: Pulmonary to systemic pressure
<b>RVD</b>	: Right ventricular dilatation
<b>RVH</b>	: Right ventricular hypertrophy
<b>SV</b>	: Stroke volume
<b>VSD</b>	: Ventricular septal defect

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*Introduction  
&  
Aim of Work*

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# INTRODUCTION & AIM OF THE WORK

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Ventricular septal defect is a congenital defect of the interventricular septum allowing free communication between the ventricular chambers (Soto and Pacifico, 1990).

It is one of the most common congenital cardiac malformations accounting for approximately 30-40% of all children with CHD (Harrigan and Lee, 1985). It can occur either alone or in association with other cardiovascular anomalies (Canale et al., 1981).

The size of the defect and the relationship between systemic and pulmonary vascular resistance determine the degree and direction of shunting (Hamigan and Lee, 1985). Ventricular septal defect leads to increase pulmonary blood flow and this leads to increase left atrial diameter and left ventricular end diastolic volume, which will lead to increase left ventricular work and left ventricular dilatation. Very large pulmonary blood flow will result in additional right ventricular hypertrophy (Anderson et al., 1987). The assessment of left ventricular function has become progressively very important in the diagnosis and management of children with congenital and acquired heart disease since the

preservation of myocardium is now the standard by which therapy should be measured (Wilse, 1990).

The question of when to recommend operation in a patient with heart disease represent a difficult problem that is still not fully solved, early surgical treatment aims at avoiding irreversible left ventricular damage which eventually leads to postoperative cardiac failure and even death but premature operation is undesirable because of the problems of valvular prosthesis and other types of operative and post operative morbidities (Ross, 1981). Although many recent techniques for evaluating left ventricular performance have been established, echocardiography has gained great popularity as a safe, inexpensive and non-invasive technique (Kraus, 1985). Doppler signal with the two-dimensional echocardiographic instrument may give information in both a qualitative and quantitative sense (Goldberg et al., 1988).

The aim of this work is to study VSD as regard site, size and pressure gradient across it in order to find the relation of symptoms to the size of VSD and to asses the effect of VSD on left ventricular function and dimensions.

*Review  
of  
Literature*

# *Chapter I*

## *Ventricular Septal Defect*

## VENTRICULAR SEPTAL DEFECT

Congenital heart disease refers to structural or functional heart disease that is present at birth, even if it is discovered much later (Hoffman, 1990). VSD is a congenital defect of the interventricular septum allowing free communication between the ventricular chambers (Soto and Pacifico, 1990). VSD occurs either as an isolated malformation as an essential part of more complex malformations (Rao et al., 1971), or in association with unrelated cardiac anomalies of which the VSD does not form an essential part (Girod et al., 1966). A major portion of this chapter will be concerned with isolated VSD.

### *\* Development of the Interventricular Septum*

Formation of the heart tube takes place in the visceral mesoderm between the yolk sac and the intraembryonic coelam which will later become the pericardium.

The embryonic heart soon acquires several curvatures and becomes an S-shaped organ. This transformation process is called "looping" (Wenink, 1987). The major septa of the heart are formed between the 27th and the 37th day of development as the embryo grows in length. In the first mechanism of septation, masses of actively growing tissue fuse together to bridge the cardiac lumen.