

Three Dimensional Echocardiography Navigation of the mitral valve in patients with left ventricular dysfunction and functional mitral regurgitation

THESIS

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Abstract

Purpose: to describe the detailed geometric changes in the mitral valve apparatus occurring in patients with left ventricular dysfunction and functional mitral regurgitation.

Methods: prospective study that included 40 patients who had left ventricular systolic dysfunction and functional mitral regurgitation of varying severity from June 2015 to June 2016 referred to the department of Cardiovascular Medicine Cairo University ; they were divided into two groups according to the coronary angiography (done at least within 30 days next to their enrollment): group 1: 25 patients (LV dysfunction is due ischemic cardiomyopathy) and group 2: 15 patients (LV dysfunction is due to idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy).

We evaluated the different deformity indices of the mitral valve apparatus in these patients using 2D and 3D echocardiography with the new mitral valve navigation software, and compared the results between the two study groups.

Results: The effective regurgitant orifice area (EROA), as an index of mitral regurgitation severity, was positively correlated with mitral valve anteroposterior diameter, mitral valve annular 3 dimensional (3D) circumference, mitral valve annular 2 dimensional area, mitral valve annular 3D area, mitral valve anterior and posterior leaflet 3D area, mitral valve tenting volume and tenting height, and annular ellipsicity in the whole study population. The mitral annular area, anterolateral and posteromedial tethering showed a strong correlation with indices of left ventricular dysfunction. There was no significant relationship between mitral regurgitation severity indices and those of LV systolic dysfunction as measured by left ventricular ejection fraction.

Conclusion: Mitral valve navigation using 3D TEE provided us with detailed mapping of the geometric changes occurring in the mitral valve apparatus in patients with functional mitral regurgitation.

Key words of thesis:

- 1- Mitral valve navigation
- 2- Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

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List of contents

List of abbreviations	i
List of figures	ii
List of tables	vii
Introduction	1
Aim of the work	3
Review of literature:	
CHAPTER 1: <i>Mitral valve anatomy.</i>	4
CHAPTER 2: <i>Mechanisms of functional mitral regurgitation.</i>	18
CHAPTER3: <i>Imaging techniques for functional mitral regurgitation</i>	28
Methodology	55
Results	73
Discussion	98
Limitations	106
Summary	107
Conclusion	109
References	110
Master table	132
Arabic summary	

List of abbreviations

2D	Two- Dimensional
3D	Three- Dimensional
A 4C	Apical 4 chamber view.
AML	Anterior mitral leaflet.
CRT	Cardiac resynchronization therapy.
CMR	Cardiac magnetic resonance imaging.
CW	Continuous wave
DCM	Dilated cardiomyopathy.
ECG	Electrocardiography
ECM	Endothelial mesenchymal differentiation
EMT	Extracellular matrix
EROA	Effective regurgitant orifice area.
FMR	Functional mitral regurgitation
LA	Left atrium
LV	Left ventricle
LVOT	Left ventricular outflow tract.
MA	Mitral annulus
MR	Mitral regurgitation.
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging.
MRVol	Mitral regurgitation volume.
MVN	Mitral valve navigation
MVQ	Mitral valve quantification
PW	Pulsed wave
PISA	Proximal isovelocity surface area.
P ₁ , P ₂ , P ₃	Posterior mitral leaflet scallops
PM	Papillary muscle
PML	Posterior mitral leaflet.
P SAX	Parasternal short axis view
TTE	Transthoracic echocardiography
TEE	Transeosophygeal echocardiography.
TVI	Time velocity integral
VC	Vena contracta.

List of figures

<i>Figure number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page number</i>
1	Components of the mitral valve apparatus.	4
2	Description of the coaptation zone of the mitral valve.	7
3	Surgical view of the open and closed mitral	9
4	Standardized 2D echo views of the mitral leaflet scallops	10
5	Forces acting on mitral valve.	19
6	Mechanism for the higher incidence of ischemic mitral regurgitation in inferior versus anterior myocardial infarction	20
7	Apical long-axis view showing marked asymmetric tethering of the posterior leaflet as a result of a limited inferoposterior myocardial infarction.	22
8	A: Asymmetric tethering. B: Symmetric tethering.	23
9	Measurement of the tenting area and the coaptation depth in the apical four-chamber view.	24
10	Echocardiogram of two representative patients with the same degree of mitral annular dilatation and considerably different degrees of functional mitral regurgitation (MR).	25
11	Mechanisms of mitral regurgitation according to the Carpentier's functional classification.	31
12	(A) M-Mode measurement of LV diameters; (B) estimation of LV volumes and ejection fraction by summation method of disc; (C) 3D echo assessment of LV volumes; (D) estimation of left atrial volume by the summation method of disc.	33

<i>Figure number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page number</i>
13	Visual assessment of mitral regurgitant jet using colour-flow imaging.	34
14	Semi-quantitative assessment of MR severity using the vena contracta width obtained from the apical four-chamber and two chamber views in a patient with ischemic functional MR.	36
15	Quantitative assessment of MR severity using the PISA method. Stepwise analysis of MR.	37
16	Three-dimensional shape of the flow convergence in functional (A) (hemielliptic) and organic MR (B) (hemispheric).	39
17	Three examples of various degrees of MR.	40
18	Assessment of mitral valvular deformation and global and regional left ventricular remodeling in patients with secondary mitral regurgitation	43
19	Three-dimensional (3D) reconstruction of the mitral annulus in secondary mitral regurgitation	48
20	Analysis process for MV quantification. Analysis processes for 3D quantification of MV	50
21	Three-dimensional (3D)transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) to guide mitral valve annuloplasty in secondary mitral regurgitation	53
22	LA diameter measured in parasternal long axis in end-systole, perpendicularly to the LA walls.	57
23	LA area at end-systole, on the frame just before the opening of the mitral valve using a good apical 4 chamber view.	57
24	Measurement of LV sphericity index in apical 4-chamber view.	58

<i>Figure number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page number</i>
25	(A) MR with a predominant posterior leaflet restriction leading to an asymmetric tenting pattern. (B) MR with a bileaflet restriction leading to a symmetric tenting pattern.	59
26	Measuring mid systolic mitral annular diameter using the parasternal long axis	60
27	The coaptation triangle and the mitral valve geometry.	61
28	Coaptation depth and tenting area.	61
29	Practical method to measure papillary muscle (PM) tethering distance.	62
30	Assessment of MR severity using the vena contracta width (VC).	63
31	Calculation of EROA by PISA method	63
32	Measurement of the circumferential strain in the short axis mid level view.	65
33	Cardiac motion quantification; measurement of the longitudinal strain in the apical four chamber view using Qlab software	65
34	Mitral valve navigation by Qlab software.	67
35	Identification of the dimensions of the mitral valve automatically measured during geometric analysis .	69
36	Geometric measurements during mitral valve analysis	69
37	Three-dimensional (3D) mapping of mitral valve geometry	70
38	Parameters of mitral valve 3-dimensional geometry	71

Figure number	Title	Page number
39	Correlation between global longitudinal and circumferential strain (GLS, GCS) and tethering distance of the anterolateral papillary muscle	79
40	Correlation between global longitudinal strain (GLS) and posteromedial tethering distance (tethering PM)	80
41	Correlation between left ventricular ejection fraction (LV EF) and mitral valve annular 3D circumference (MV.ann3D.circ)	81
42	Correlation between the global longitudinal strain (GLS) and mitral valve annular 2D and 3D areas (MV.ann2D.area,MV.ann3D area)	82
43	Correlation between the mitral valve anterior leaflet 3D area (MV.A.leaf.3D.area) and global longitudinal strain (GLS) ,left ventricular ejection fraction respectively	83
44	Correlation between the effective regurgitant orifice area (EROA) and the mitral annular area (MAA).	83
45	Correlation between the mitral regurgitation volume and the mitral annular area (MAA).	84
46	Bland Altman plot of interobserver measurements of Coaptation distance.	92
47	Bland Altman plot of intra-observer measurements of Coaptation distance	92
48	Bland Altman plot of interobserver measurements of tenting area	93
49	Bland Altman plot of intra-observer measurements of tenting area	93
50	Bland Altman plot of interobserver measurements of the mitral valve tenting volume	94

Figure number	Title	Page number
51	Bland Altman plot of intra-observer measurements of the mitral valve tenting volume.	94
52	Bland Altman plot of interobserver measurements of the mitral valve commissure to commissure diameter	95
53	Bland Altman plot of intra-observer measurements of the mitral valve commissure to commissure diameter.	95
54	Mitral valve navigation in a patient with dilated cardiomyopathy by Qlab 10, Philips Medical software, <i>Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Cairo University 2016</i>	96
55	Mitral valve navigation in a patient with ischemic cardiomyopathy by Qlab 10, Philips Medical software, <i>Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Cairo University 2016</i>	97

List of tables

<i>Table number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page number</i>
1	Mitral annulus dimensions in normal human hearts and in patients with dilated cardiomyopathy	12
2	Characteristics of mitral regurgitation due to asymmetric and symmetric tethering.	21
3	Guideline based reference ranges for grading secondary mitral regurgitation 2014 AHA/ACC Guidelines	29
4	The severity of mitral regurgitation according to the Doppler echocardiography	42
5	Two and Three-dimensional Echocardiography derived parameters in functional mitral regurgitation	46
6	Baseline and clinical characteristics of the whole study participants	74
7	Echocardiographic indices of left ventricular remodeling in both study groups	75
8	Echocardiographic indices of left ventricular systolic function.	76
9	2D Transthoracic echocardiographic parameters of mitral regurgitation severity in both study groups.	76
10	Echocardiographic parameters of mitral valve deformity by 2DTTE	77
11	Three Dimensional mitral valve analysis parameters in both study groups	78

<i>Table number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page number</i>
12	Correlations between the effective regurgitant orifice area, as an index of mitral regurgitation severity, and different echocardiographic indices of mitral valve deformation by 3D imaging in the whole study population	85
13	Correlations between the mitral regurgitation volume, as an index of mitral regurgitation severity, and different echocardiographic indices of mitral valve deformation by 3D imaging in the whole study population	86
14	Correlations between the effective regurgitant orifice area, as an index of mitral regurgitation severity, and different echocardiographic indices of mitral valve deformation by 3D imaging in Group 1 patients	87
15	Correlations between the mitral regurgitation volume, as an index of mitral regurgitation severity, and different echocardiographic indices of mitral valve deformation by 3D imaging in Group 1 patients	88
16	Correlations between the effective regurgitant orifice area, as an index of mitral regurgitation severity, and different echocardiographic indices of mitral valve deformation by 3D imaging in the Group 2 (non-ischemic) patients	89
17	Correlations between the mitral regurgitation volume, as an index of mitral regurgitation severity, and different echocardiographic indices of mitral valve deformation by 3D imaging in Group 2 patients	90
18	The intraclass correlation coefficient (ICC) for intraobserver and interobserver variability	91

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Functional Mitral regurgitation (FMR) develops in approximately 20% of the patients following acute myocardial infarction (MI) without papillary muscle (PM) rupture and 50% of those with congestive heart failure ⁽¹⁻⁵⁾.

Due to the large number of patients with acute MI, the incidence of ischemic mitral regurgitation (MR) is also high. MR affects patients' prognosis, doubling mortality following myocardial infarction and heart failure ⁽¹⁻⁴⁾.

While only severe MR due to organic lesions has been shown to affect prognosis, even mild ischemic MR can significantly affect survival ^(3,4). Therefore, ischemic MR presents a clinical problem, which requires established therapeutic strategies based on mechanistic understanding.

FMR is characterized mechanistically by incomplete mitral leaflet closure, namely displacement of the leaflet coaptation apically within the left ventricular cavity ⁽⁶⁾, involving a spectrum of anatomic abnormalities of both the left ventricle (LV) and papillary muscles (PMs). Post-infarct, outward displacement of PMs leads to stretching of the chordae tendinae and increased tethering forces on the mitral leaflets, which causes the apical coaptation and restricted closure. Annular dilatation may also contribute by stretching leaflets and causing incomplete closure. Accordingly, FMR is classified as type IIIB in the Carpentier classification ⁽⁷⁾.

In clinical practice, FMR varies widely despite the same degree of LV dysfunction. Therefore, evaluation of the LV shape and mitral geometry might help in the assessment of the mechanisms of FMR.

The complex pathophysiology of FMR makes a challenge for surgery. Optimal repair of functional mitral regurgitation (FMR) requires an understanding of its mechanisms and identification of the mitral valve geometric changes that occurred. Therefore, the use of multiple echocardiographic parameters to assess FMR severity and its major mechanism for planning therapeutic options may be expedient.

Recent two-dimensional (2D) and three-dimensional (3D) studies have examined the mechanisms of FMR. Three-dimensional echocardiography, with its higher spatial resolution, has been used to effectively quantitate the morpho-anatomic changes associated with FMR⁽⁸⁻¹⁴⁾. Specifically, it has demonstrated that changes in left ventricular shape rather than function cause shifts in annular-papillary muscle relationships leading to abnormal leaflet tension. Recently, 3D echocardiography also suggested that mitral valve leaflets may be elongated in response to the stress imposed by increased tethering caused by dilated cardiomyopathy or post myocardial infarction^(8,12,13,15).

Development of novel approaches to understand mitral valve geometry by echocardiography may improve understanding of the mechanism, clinical trajectory, and reparability of ischemic mitral regurgitation.