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Evaluation of the Outcome of Cases Admitted In Pediatric Cardiac ICU during the First 6 month of the year 2008 in Pediatric Hospital, Cairo University

Submitted for fulfillment of the Masters degree in Pediatric medicine

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Abstract

Background: Although great progress in pediatric cardiac surgery has been achieved in recent years, significant gaps still persist between our pediatric cardiac surgery centers and international centers.. Compared with developed countries, prominent gaps exist in surgical treatment of certain types of complex congenital heart diseases.

Aim of the study: The current study highlights how the practice of pediatric cardiac surgery in the **Pediatric Cardiac ICU**, **Children's hospital**, **Cairo University** compares with first-world standards and outline some of the problems faced by pediatric cardiac services in developing nations.

Patients and methods: Our study included a total of 234 patients admitted to the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU), Children's Hospital, Cairo University during the 6 months period between 1/1/2008 to 30/6/2008. Of the included 234 patients, 121 underwent cardiovascular surgeries and 113 underwent cardiac catheterization.

Results: Retrospective analysis of the data of the patients records was done. Types of cardiothoracic surgeries included in this retrospective study were either closed which was done in 36.4% of cases or open which was done in 63.6% of cases. Type of procedure was either corrective surgery which was done in 82.6% of cases, palliative surgery in 12.3% of cases and others in 5.1% of cases and the mortality rate was 26% and the main cause of death was found to be surgery-related (24% of cases). The most commonly performed operation in the current study was VSD closure followed by PDA closure followed by arterial switch operation. Truncus arteriosus Correction has the worst outcome with 100% mortality. The best outcomes were reported with closure of PDA, TAPVR, Fontan operation, atrial switch and ASD closure with zero mortality rate. Post-operative complications were reported in 63% of cases and the most striking finding was the high prevalence of pneumonia as the commonest complication as it was encountered in 35.5% of cases. Regarding the cardiac catheterization, our study

included **113** cases undergoing catheterization which was diagnostic in 48 cases (42%) or interventional in 65 cases (58%). Balloon valvoplasty was the commonest procedure done. **Death** was encountered in only **12%** of cases with hypoxic spells as the most common cause of death . **Complications** developed in **30%** of cases and the commonest were vascular complications .

Conclusion: As a conclusion, it is important to point out that mortality rate of cardiothoracic surgery in our study was 26 % and surgery-related causes were the most common cause of death. Mortality rate of cardiac catheterization was 12% and hypoxemic spells were the most common cause of death. The rate of complications following cardiothoracic surgery was 63% and the most frequent complication was infections particularly pneumonia. The rate of complications following cardiac catheterization was 30% and the most frequent complication was vascular complications.

Keywords: Pediatric cardiothoracic surgery, Pediatric cardiac catheterization, mortality rate, morbidity rate.

List of Abbreviations

- AAP (Average Atrial Pressure)
- APTT (Activated Partial Thromboplastine time)
- ARF (Acute Renal Failure)
- ASA (American Society of Anathesiologist)
- ASD (Atrial Septal Defect)
- ASO (Arterial Switch operation)
- AV (Atrio Ventricular)
- AVSD (Atrioventricular Septal defect)
- BDG (Bidirectional Glenn)
- BT Shunt (Blalock-Taussig Shunt)
- C.O (Cardiac Output)
- CHD (Congenital heart disease)
- CoA (Coarctation of aorta)
- CPAP (Continous positive airway pressure)
- CVP (Central Venous Pressure)
- DIC (Disseminated Intravascular Coagulopathy)
- ECC (ExtraCorporeal Circulation)
- ECG (ElecroCardiogram)
- FIO2 (Fraction of Inspired Oxygen)
- H.F (Heart Failure)
- Hb (Hemoglobin)
- HLHS (Hypoplastic Left heart syndrome)
- Ht (Hematocrite)

- HTN (Hypertension)
- ICU (Intensive Care Unit)
- JET (Junctional Ectopic Tacchycardia)
- LAP (Left Atrial Pressure)
- LV (Left Ventricle)
- LVOT (Left Ventricular outflow tract)
- MAPCAs (Multiple Aorto Pulmonary Collateral arteries)
- NO (Nitric Oxide)
- OR (Operating room)
- PAB (Pulmonary Artery Banding)
- PDA (Patent Ductus Arteriosus)
- PEEP (Positive end expiratory pressure)
- PF/S (Pleural fluid serum ratio lymphs,lymphocytes)
- PHT (Pulmonary Hypertension)
- PICU (Pediatric Intensive Care unit)
- PMN (Polymorphonuclear leucocytes)
- PVO (Pulmonary Venous Obstruction)
- PVR (Pulmonary Venous return)
- RVOTO (Right Ventricular outflow tract obstruction)
- S (Serum)
- SaO2 (Arterial Oxygen Saturation)
- SAP (Systemic Arterial Pressure)
- SAS (Subaortic Stenosis)
- SIADH (Syndrome of Inappropriate Antidiuretic Hormone)
- SVC (Superior Vena Cava)

- SVO2 (Systemic Venous Oxygen Saturation)
- SVR (Systemic Venous return)
- SVT (Supra Ventricular Taccychardia)
- TA (Truncus Arteriosus)
- TAPVR (Total Anomalous pulmonary venous return)
- TGA (Transposition of great arteries)
- TOF (Tetrology of Fallot)
- TT (Thrombin Time)
- TV (Tricuspid Valve)
- VSD (Ventricular Septal Defect)

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Review Of Literature

Introduction

The care of children with congenital heart disease has changed significantly because of advancements in multiple fields. Advancements in cardiology, surgical techniques, postoperative care, and medications have improved the long-term survival rate of infants and children with congenital heart disease. Postoperative care should focus on anticipating harmful events and promoting a proactive approach in the management of these patients. Most interventions in the immediate postoperative period focus on the prevention of low cardiac output and the adverse events in the major organ systems (*Ascenzi et al.*, 2007).

Ideal postoperative care of the patient following either reparative or palliative operations requires a thorough understanding and systematic evaluation of the following: (a) the underlying anatomic defect, (b) the pathophysiology of the preoperative state (including secondary effects on other organ systems from altered cardiac output preoperatively), (c) the anesthetic regimen used during surgery, (d) CPB issues (e.g., duration of bypass and circulatory arrest), (e) the details of the operative procedure and any concerns of the surgeon regarding the potential for residual defects, (f) data available from monitoring catheters, echocardiography, and cardiac catheterization. Optimal management of these critically ill children can best be achieved through a harmonious team approach, combining the expertise of cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, anesthesiologists, intensivists, and respiratory therapists nurses, (*Nicholas*, 2006).

Convalescence after cardiac surgery may be characterized as normal or abnormal. Normal convalescence is recovery that is expected given the preoperative state of the patient, the procedure performed, and the expected effects of cardiopulmonary bypass or other interventions. Abnormal convalescence is recovery that is prolonged or unexpected given what is known about the patient and the interventions that have been performed. It may be due to unknown or underappreciated abnormal preoperative anatomy or physiology, to unexpected complications of bypass, to residual anatomic defects, or to abnormalities in other organ systems such as pneumonia or sepsis. It is crucial to identify abnormal convalescence and to characterize it thoroughly so that appropriate intervention can take place in a timely fashion (*Fuhrman & Zimmerman*, 2005).

A. Postoperative Cardiac complications:

- I. General postoperative complications
- II. Postoperative complications specific to each type of surgery:
 - i. Corrective surgeries
 - ii. Palliative surgeries

I. General Postoperative complications:

Majority of the mortality and morbidity after cardiac surgery results from complications arising from systems other than the heart. A small percentage of the mortality is directly related to the cardiac condition. It begins with a major insult to one particular system such as pulmonary, neural, or renal. Following that the events cascade onto the other systems like a domino effect that eventually leads to mortality and morbidity in that patient. The occurance of such an initial insult is predictable in certain patient population even though we can't identify which of those patients is going to suffer a fatal blow from such complications (*Nikam & Livesay*, 2005)

The incidence of some of these events leading to a significant morbidity or mortality can be reduced by preventing events that precipitate a given complication or by early recognition treatment that can minimize the morbidity and hopefully prevent mortality (*Polese et al.*, 1999).

Table (1) System approach to postoperative care following surgery for congenital heart disease

	congenital heart disease
System and problem	Etiology
Nervous system	
• Coma	Global ischemia Prolonged anesthetic effect Hypoglycemia
 Focal lesions 	• Emboli (air, thrombi)
 Seizures 	Metabolic, Ischemic, embolic
 Diaphragmatic paralysis 	Phrenic nerve injury
 Vocal cord paralysis 	 Traction on recurrent laryngeal nerve
	 Dissection of subclavian artery with
• Horner syn drome	sympathetic chain injury
• Paraplegia	Postcoarctation repair with spinal artery ischemia Surgical trauma
	• Stress
• Pain	
Respiratory SystemARDS postpump syndrome	Possible release of vasoactive substance by cardiopulmonary bypass
Pulmonary oedema	 Heart failure, left sided obstruction, fluid overload Hemothorax, early serous effusion
• Pleural effusion	&delayed postcardiotomy syndrome
Chylothorax	Injury to thoracic duct
 Atelectasis 	 Hypoventilation, poor cough
 Pneumonia 	 Aspiration,nosocomial,bacterial
 Pulmonary hypertension 	 Pre-operative pulmonary
0.11	hypertension,repair of TAPVR
• Stridor	Vocal cord oedema,paralysis
Cardiovascular System	
Bradycardia , sick sinus syndrome ,	Injury to interatrial or interventricular
atrioventricular block	conduction system
Right bundle branch block The description of the second sec	Right ventriculotomy
 Tachyarrythmias 	 Supraventricular , junctional tachycardia , ventricular tachycardia
Poor cardiac output	Cardiogenic Right ventriculotomy Prolonged pump or cross clamp time or infarction Hypogologynic hypogologyic
Pericardial temponade	 Hypocalcemia ,hypovolemia Pericardial effusion , acute hemorrhage , serous pericardiotomy syndrome
• Hypertension	Stress, pain Postcoarctectomy syndrome
Mesenteric arteritis	
Renal-metabolic	