



Atrial Fibrillation, Alcohol, Obesity and more....

Dear Readers

Congratulations on the successful completion of the 33rd Annual Heart Rhythm Society sessions and Cardiostim 2012. The attendance was amazing and the science presented in both the meetings was top notch. It is probably time to start thinking about converting all those wonderful abstracts into meaningful manuscripts.

This issue of the journal brings you several important topics of great electrophysiologic interest and relevance. Shteinshnaider et al presented their work on the clinical and prognostic differences in patients with atrial fibrillation who develop it outside the hospital versus those who develop it while they are in the hospital. Makrides described a case of dramatic ST elevation in a young man with what seems to be a vagally mediated episode of AF. The electrophysiologic observations and mechanism on such phenomenon seem to be very interesting. There are several thoughtful articles that outline the morbidity and mortality risk associated with AF. The MGH group has presented a nice review on the impact of vascular disease in patients with AF on stroke and death. Similarly Bordignon et al outlined a comprehensive review of mortality trends in AF associated with heart failure and stroke. Gibson et al did a thorough assessment of cost effectiveness of stroke prophylaxis therapy in AF.

Kidney disease and AF are two common associated comorbidities. A detailed overview of the relation between these two conditions was presented by two different groups with different perspectives. I am sure you will enjoy these two articles. In a modern world of ever increasing waist line body mass index (BMI) never fails in coming back to discussion table time and time again. Martinek et al have

presented an impressive summary of available literature on the association between BMI and quality of life in patients with AF and the impact of catheter ablation. Mukamal et al reviewed the link between AF and alcohol. Hersi wraps it all with association between sleep disordered breathing and cardiac arrhythmias.

Have a great rest of the summer and will talk to you all in Fall.

Best wishes

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