What Is Hidden in The Bushes of Long Covid 19 Syndrome?

Mona Rayan

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND
The detection of myocardial involvement in patients with long covid syndrome is important for the long-term management and outcome of this category of patients.

OBJECTIVE
To estimate the degree of myocardial involvement in patients with long Covid syndrome using Echocardiography.

METHODS
An extended echocardiographic study was done to 16 consecutive patients who had post covid symptoms to assess global and regional LV longitudinal strain.

RESULTS
All included patients recovered from Covid 19 almost 21 ± 7days before the study. 56% of patients had palpitation and easy fatiguability and 39% of them had dyspnea on mild effort. 80% of patients were females with a mean age of 36.9 ± 9 years. All patients had normal left ventricular systolic function estimated EF of 66 ± 5.2%, normal diastolic function DT (164.7 ± 39 msec), normal right ventricular size and function TAPSE of 26.4 ± 4.6 estimated RVSP of 22.1 ± 6 mmHg. The most prevalent finding was reduced global longitudinal strain 16 ± 3.34 with the lateral wall being more affected than the septal wall (- 16.1 ± 3.3 vs. - 20.1 ± 3.2 p value=0.002).

CONCLUSION
Myocardial involvement in long Covid syndrome is highly prevalent as detected by global and regional LV longitudinal strain.

Professor of Cardiology, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt