

# ROLE OF CARDIAC MAGNETIC RESONANCE IN DIAGNOSIS AND PROGNOSIS OF CARDIOMYOPATHY

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- “Increasingly, cardiology is a visual field, so recognizing tracings, recognizing images and knowing how to use MRIs is a challenge and a skill that need to be practiced”.

Dr Eugene Braunwald

Eugene Braunwald and the  
Rise of Modern Medicine

# CARDIAC MRI STUDY

- Cardiac Anatomy -Congenital Heart Disease
- Ventricular Function
- Differentiation of ischemic and nonischemic .
- **Cardiomyopathies**
- Cardiac masses
- Pericardial disease
- Valvular disease
- Coronary artery disease
- Pulmonary vein assessment

# DEFINITION OF CARDIOMYOPATHIES

## **1995 World Health Organization/International Society and Federation of Cardiology**

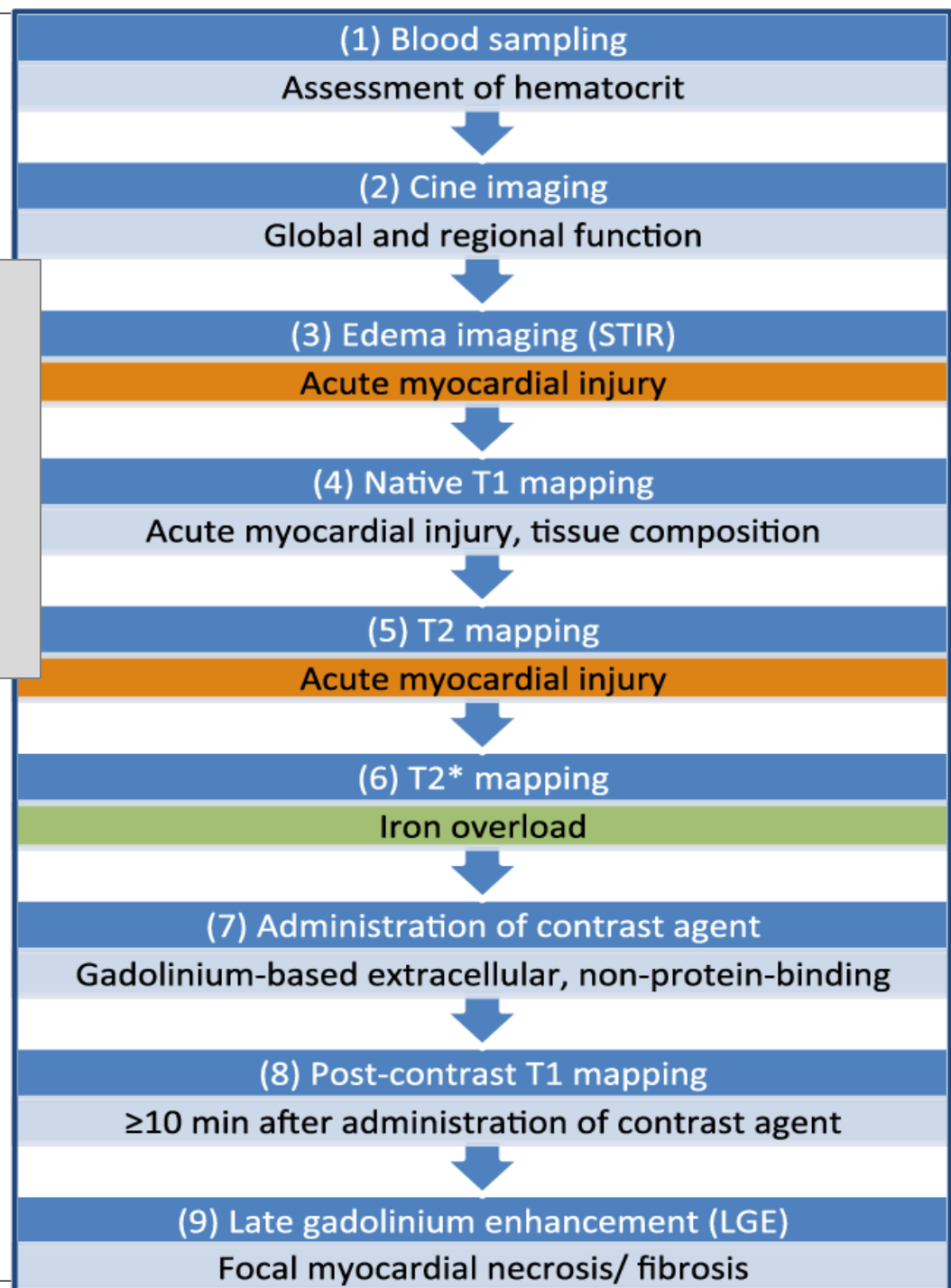
Cardiomyopathies are defined as diseases of the myocardium associated with cardiac dysfunction.

# MOGE(S) CLASSIFICATION OF CARDIOMYOPATHIES-WHF 2013

| NOTATION        | M<br>MORPHO-FUNCTIONAL<br>PHENOTYPE  | O<br>ORGAN/SYSTEM<br>INVOLVEMENT   | G<br>GENETIC INHERITANCE<br>PATTERN  | E<br>ETIOLOGY  | S<br>STAGE   |
|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHARACTERISTICS | Proband's<br>cardiomyopathy<br>diagnosis<br>(M, RCM,<br>LVNC)  | Clinical history<br>and evaluation<br><br>Organ<br>involvement:<br>Extracardiac<br>organs/tissues<br><br>Multidisciplinary<br>evaluation<br>according per<br>clinical needs<br>or diagnostic<br>hypothesis   | Genetic counseling<br>with pedigree<br><br>Clinical<br>family screening<br><br>Affected,<br>asymptomatic<br>relative<br>unaware of<br>the disease<br><br>Relatives<br>with ECG<br>and/or Echo<br>abnormalities<br><br>Healthy family<br>members<br>with normal<br>ECG and ECHO   | Genetic testing<br>in the proband<br><br>Positive<br><br>Cascade<br>genetic<br>testing in<br>relatives<br><br>Negative<br><br>New tests<br>novel<br>genes<br><br>Regular<br>monitoring<br>in relatives       | Functional<br>status<br>ACC/AHA,<br>NYHA   |
| SUBSCRIPT       | D Dilated<br>H Hypertrophic<br>R Restrictive<br>R EMF<br>Endomyocardial<br>fibrosis<br>LV=left ventricle<br>RV=right ventricle<br>RLV=biventricular<br>A ARVC<br>M=major<br>m=minor<br>c=category<br>LV= left ventricle<br>RV=right ventricle<br>RLV=biventricular<br>NC LVNC<br>E Early, with type<br>in parentheses<br>NS Nonspecific<br>phenotype<br>NA Information<br>non available<br>O Unaffected* | H Heart<br>LV=left ventricle<br>RV=right ventricle<br>RLV=biventricular<br>M Muscle (skeletal)<br>N Nervous<br>C Cutaneous<br>E Eye, Ocular<br>A Auditory<br>K Kidney<br>G Gastrointestinal<br>Li Liver<br>Lu Lung<br>S Skeletal<br>O Absence of<br>organ/system<br>involvement*,<br>e.g. in family<br>members who<br>are healthy<br>mutation carriers;<br>the mutation is<br>specified in E and<br>inheritance in G | N Family history negative<br>U Family history unknown<br>AD Autosomal dominant<br>AR Autosomal recessive<br>XLD X-linked dominant<br>XLR X-linked recessive<br>XL X-linked<br>M Matrilineal<br>O Family history not investigated*<br>Undet Inheritance still undetermined<br>S Phenotypically Sporadic<br>(apparent or real) | G Genetic cause<br>OC Obligate carrier<br>ONC Obligate non-carrier<br>DN De novo<br>Neg Genetic test negative for<br>the known familial mutation<br>N Genetic defect not identified<br>O No genetic test, an | ACC-AHA<br>stage<br>represented<br>as letter<br>A, B, C, D<br>NA not applicable<br>NU not used<br>followed by<br>A class<br>I, II, III, IV |

# CARDIAC MRI PROTOCOL FOR MYOCARDIAL CHARACTERIZATION

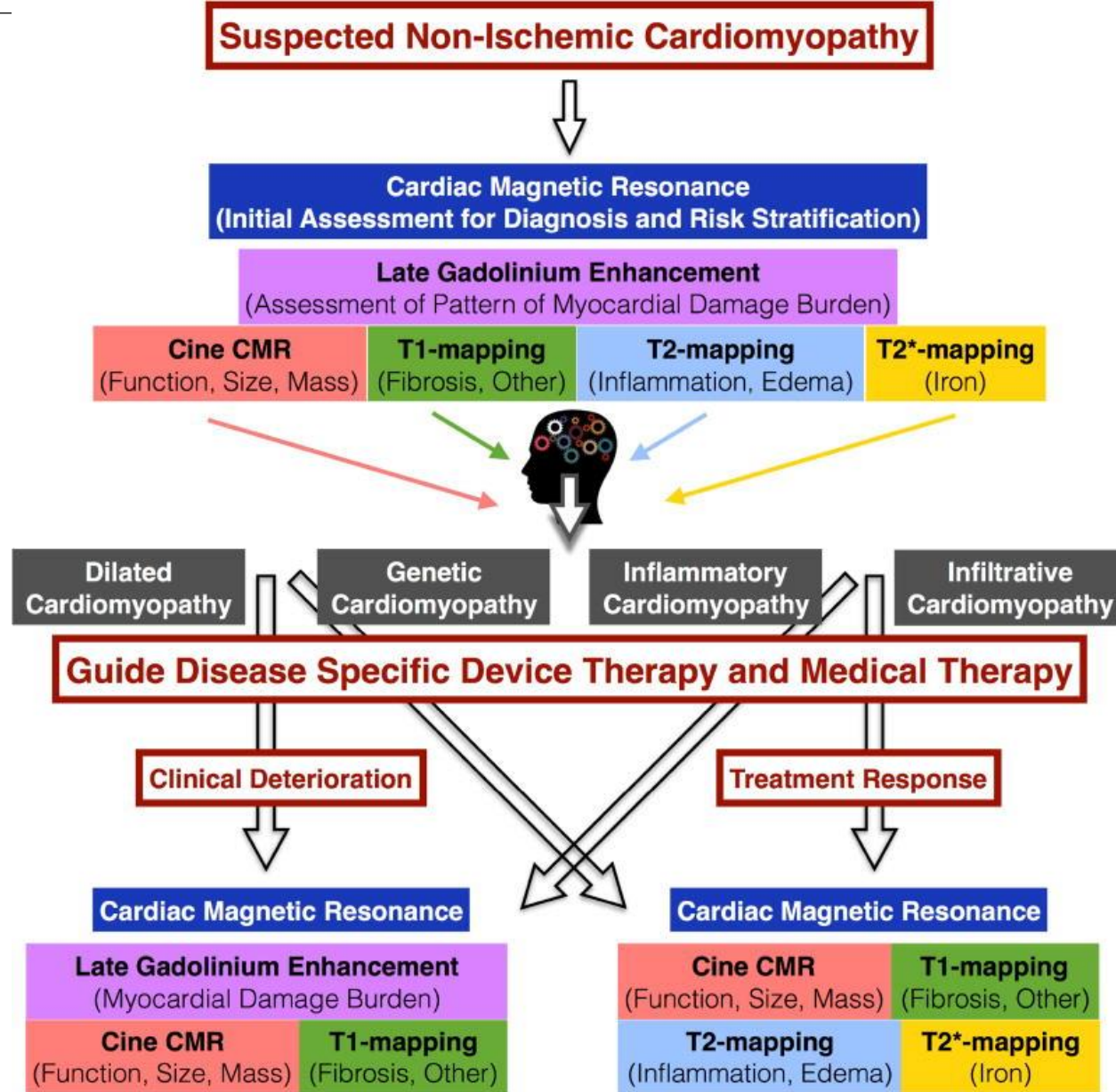
Early enhancement (first 5 min  
after injection Gd)  
Late enhancement (5 to 20 min  
after injection Gd)



# CMR Report

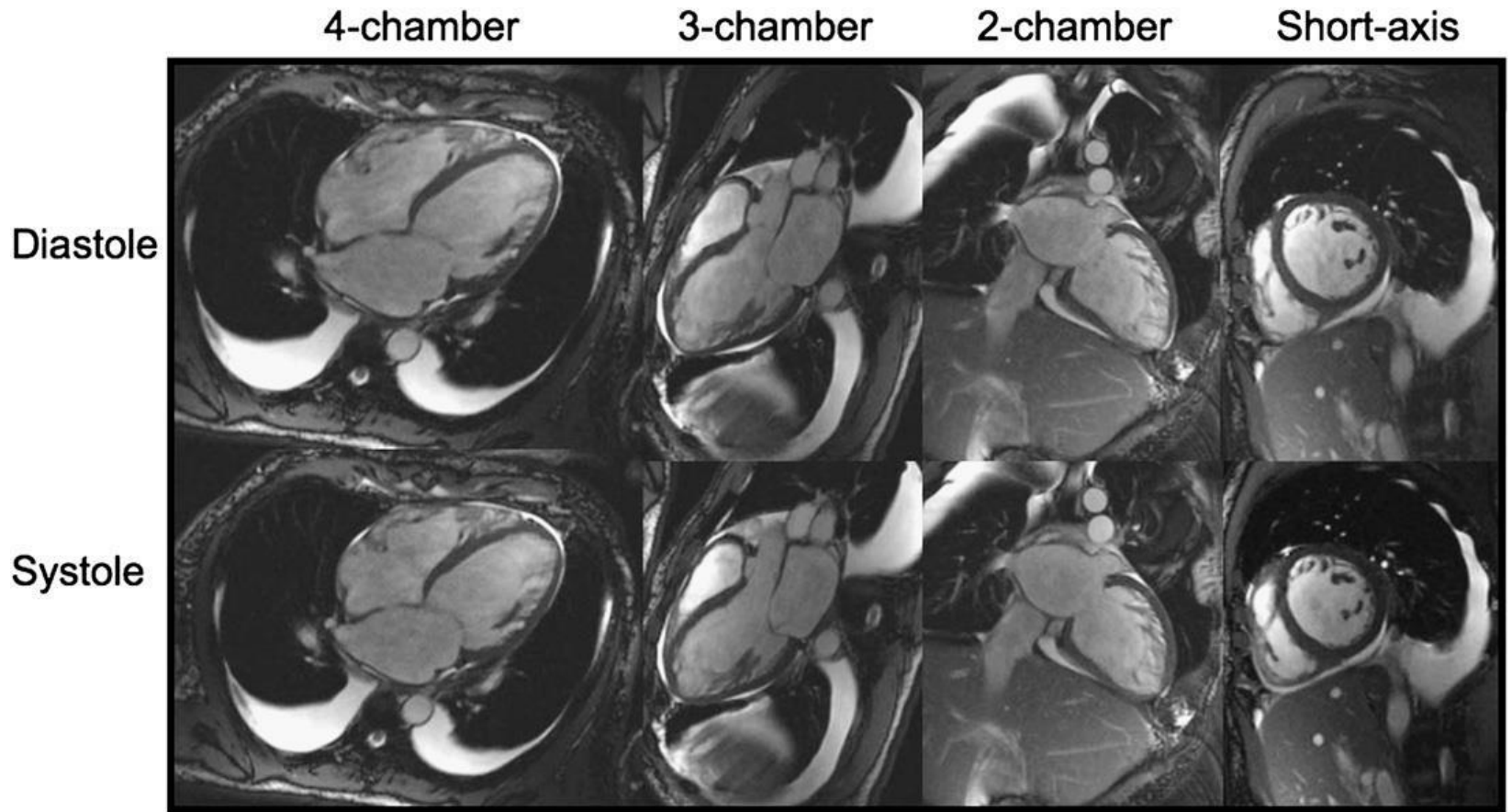
- **Dimensions, mass** (corrected for BSA) Thickness of interatrial septum, ventricle wall.
- **Function**
  - LV: EDV, ESV , SV, EF, longitudinal function, mass
  - RV: EDV, ESV, SV, EF, longitudinal function
  - Regional wall motion abnormalities
- **Valve regurgitation**
- **LGE pattern**
- **Pericardial / pleural effusion.**
- **Cardiac ion overload.**

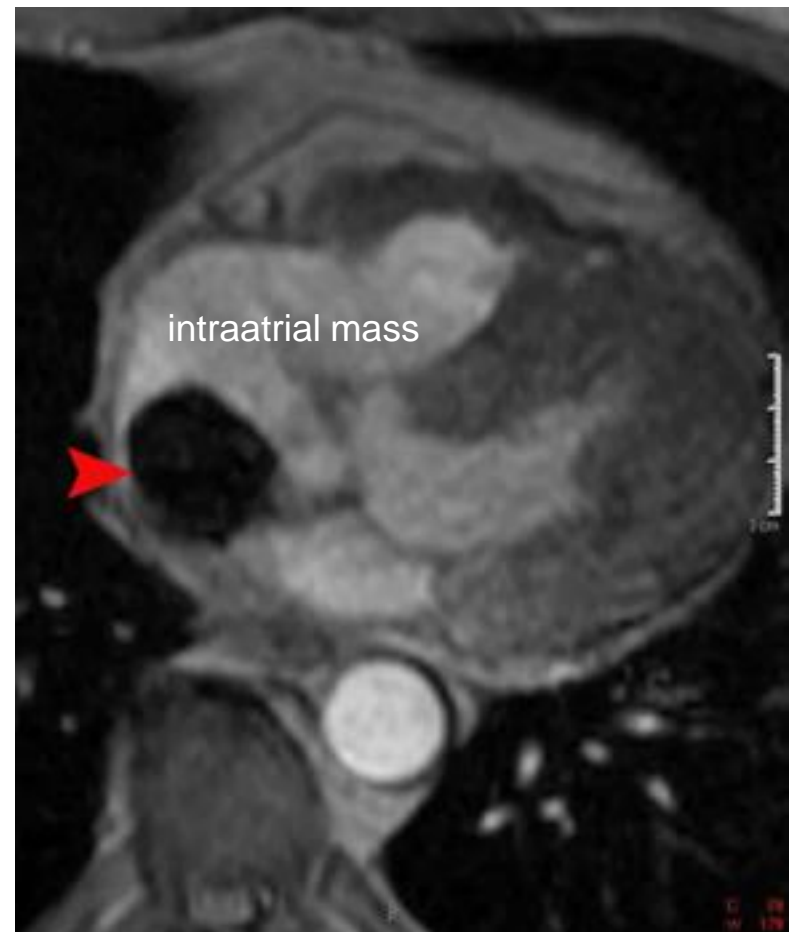






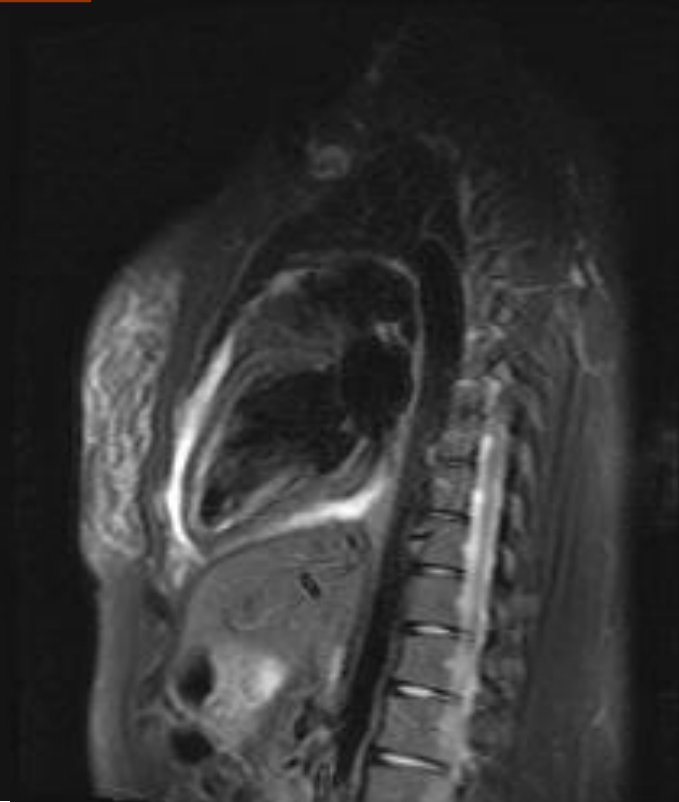
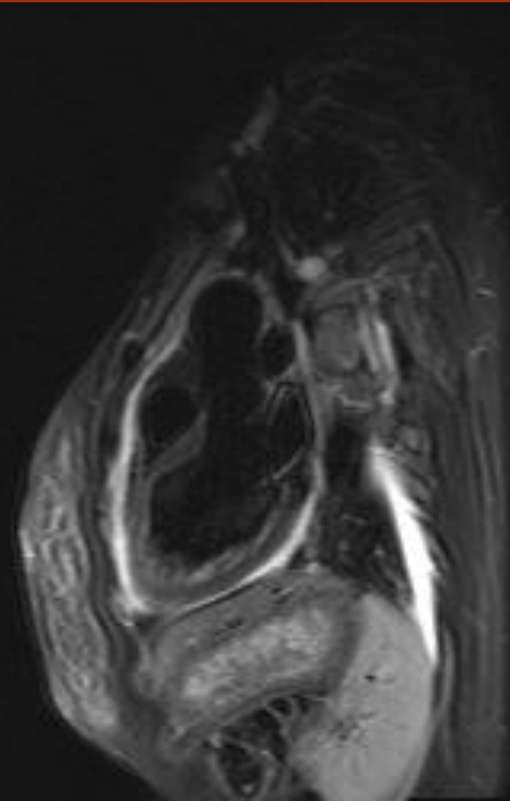
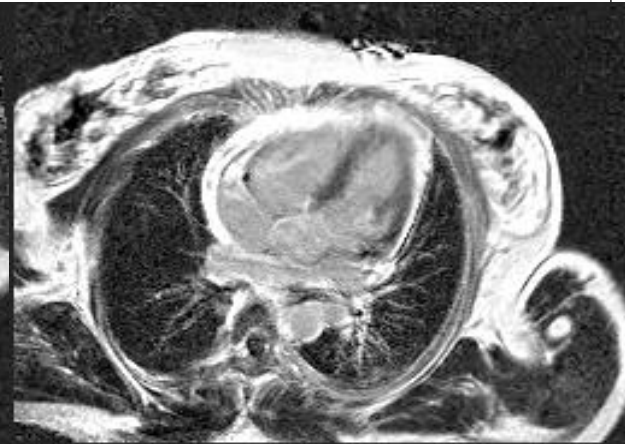
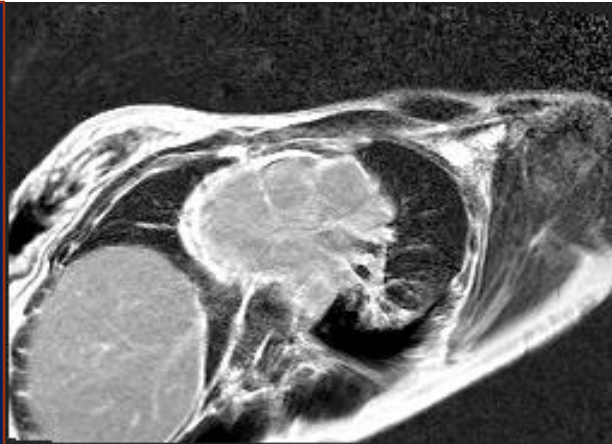
# Cine image



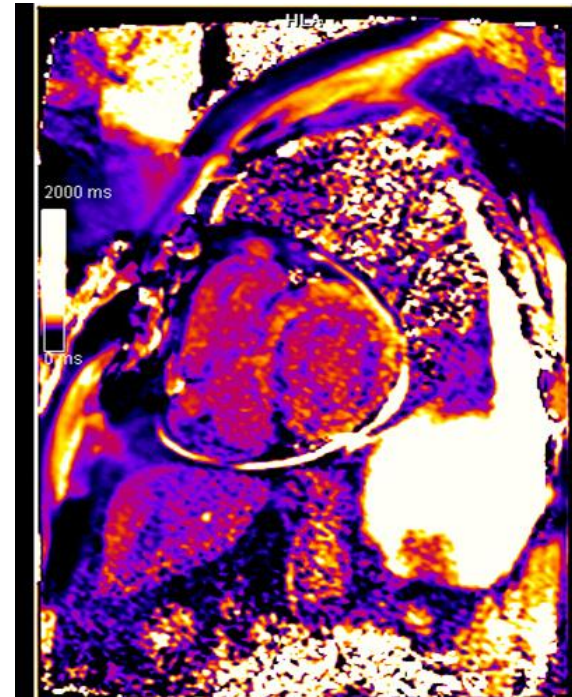
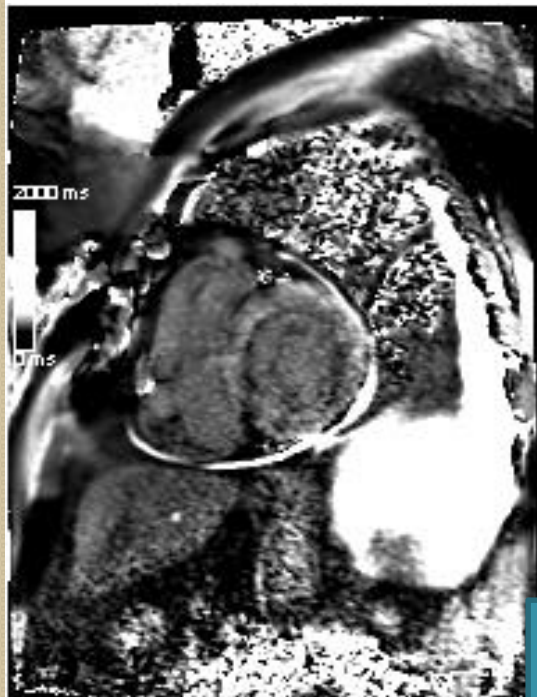
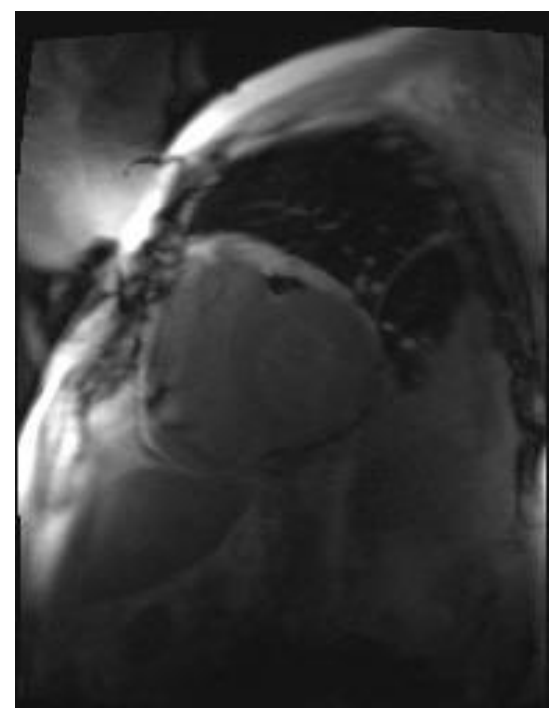
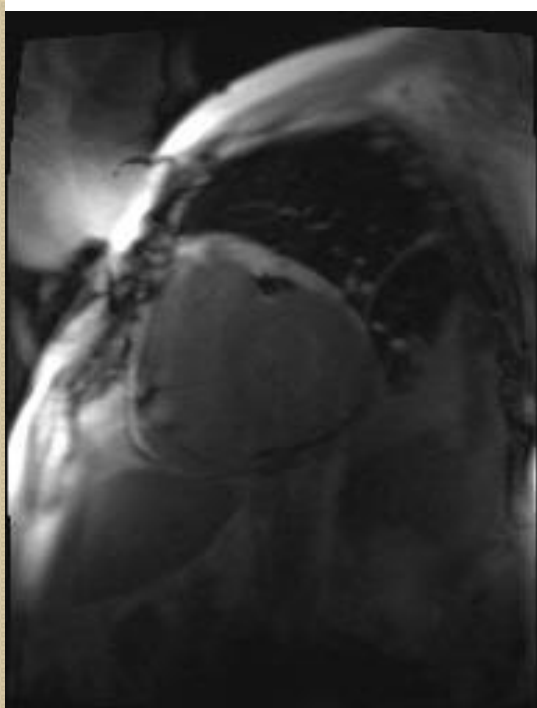


delayed enhanced IR image shows two small thrombi at the apex of the left ventricle (arrowhead).

Delayed enhancement MR: Diffuse and bright enhancement of the pericardium.

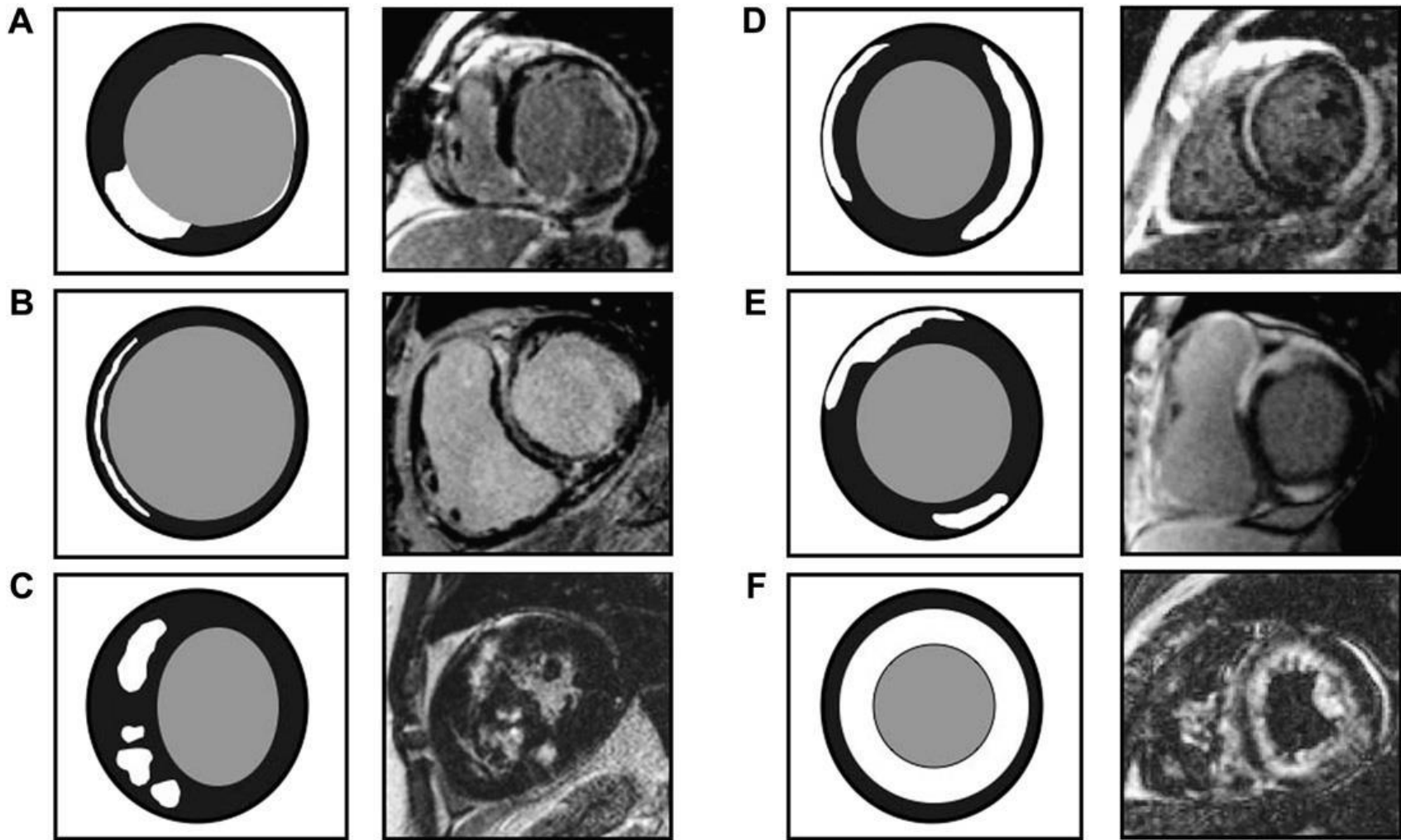




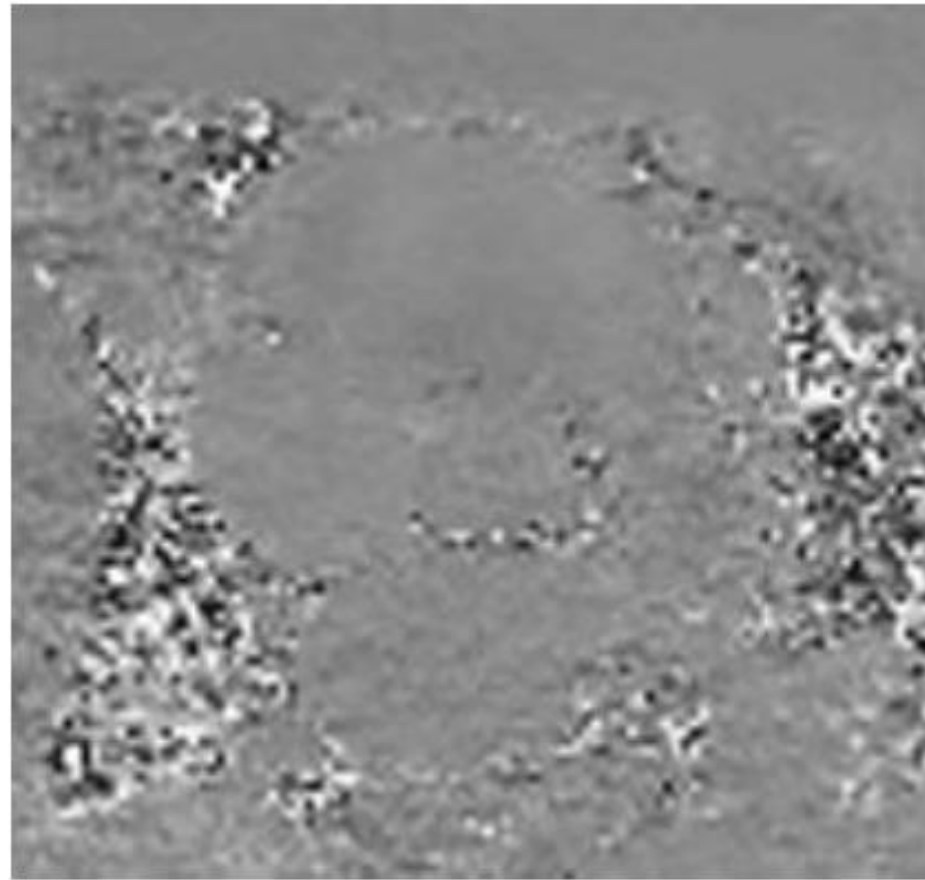
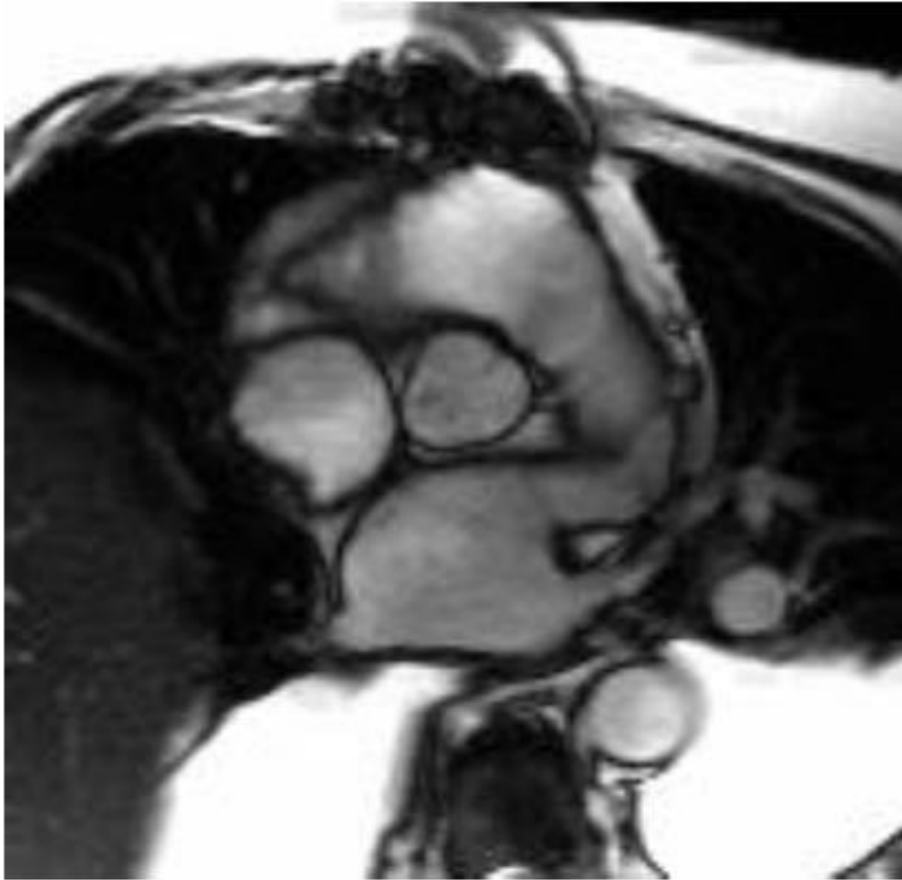


T1 map post-amyloidosis

# LGE PATTERNS

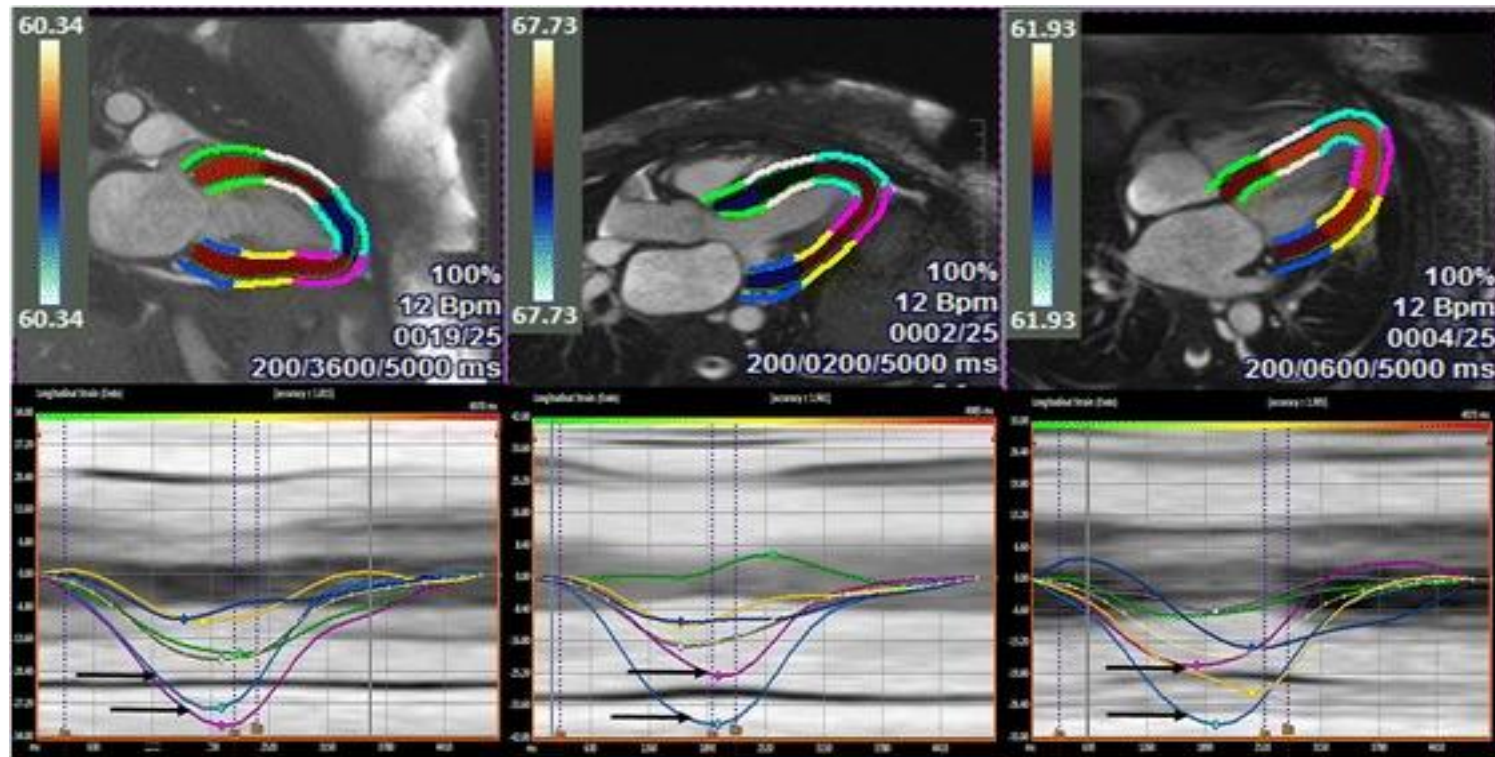


## Velocity Flow Mapping





Representative examples of VVI strain analysis and curves in the 2, 3, and 4-chamber long axis views in a patient with cardiac amyloidosis.



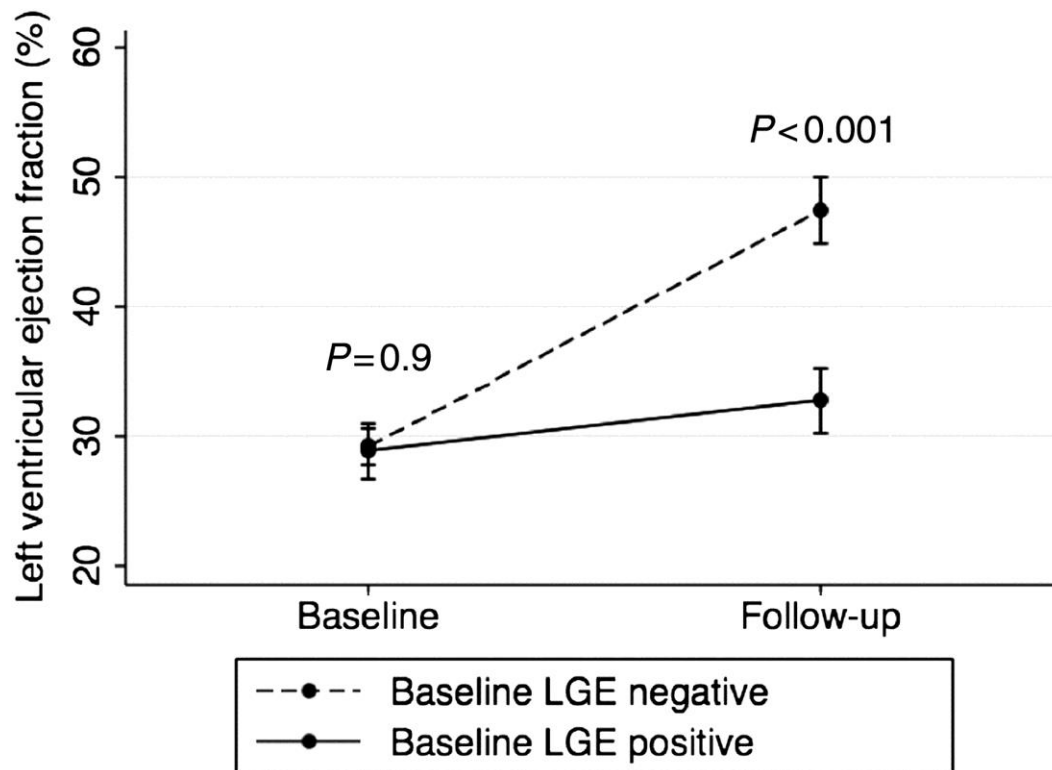
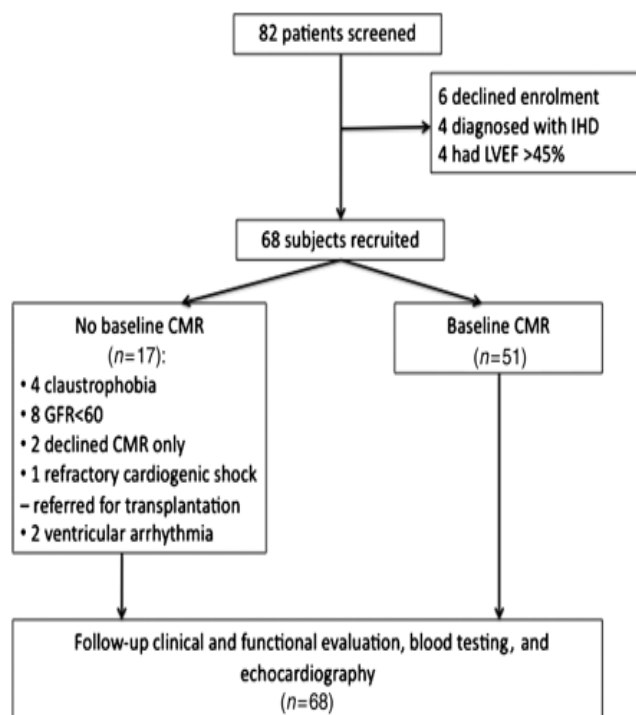
The lower panel demonstrates regional strain curves, with the coloured curves corresponding to the segments in the upper panel. In each of the views, the basal segments are represented by the blue and green curves, the mid-ventricular segments by the white and yellow curves, and the apical segments by the turquoise and pink curves. Note the highest regional strain values are consistently seen in the apical segments (highlighted by the black arrows) in all three long-axis views.



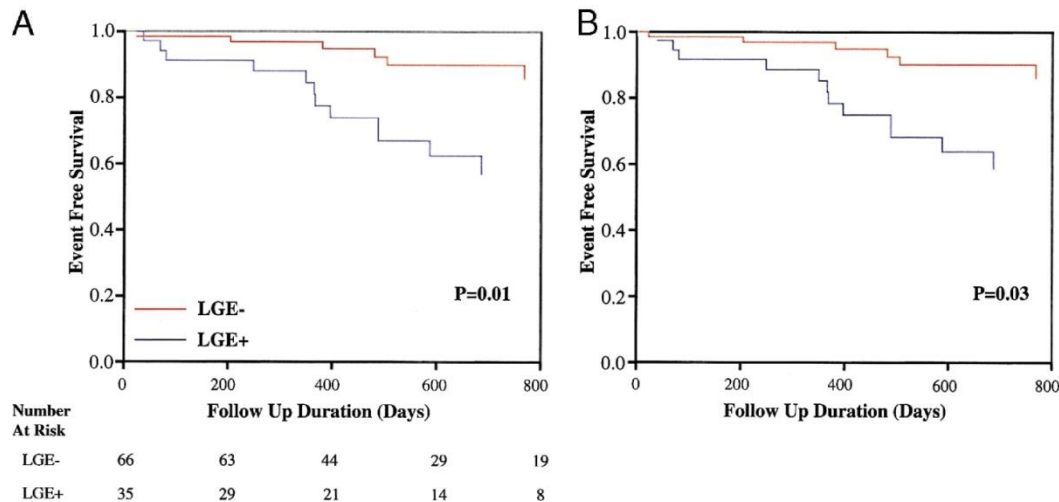
# Idiopathic Dilated Cardiomyopathy

- Rule out ischemic cardiomyopathy.
- LGE :
  - Poor response to medical therapy(\*)
  - Sudden death and inducible ventricular tachycardia, independent of LV size and function(\*\*).
- The presence and extent of LGE were predictive of all-cause mortality.
- (\*) Leong DP, Chakrabarty A, Shipp N, et al: Effects of myocardial fibrosis and ventricular dyssynchrony on response to therapy in new-presentation idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy: Insights from cardiovascular magnetic resonance and echocardiography. Eur Heart J 33:640, 2012.
- (\*\*) Karamitsos TD, Francis JM, Myerson S, et al: The role of cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging in heart failure. J Am Coll Cardiol 54:1407, 2009.

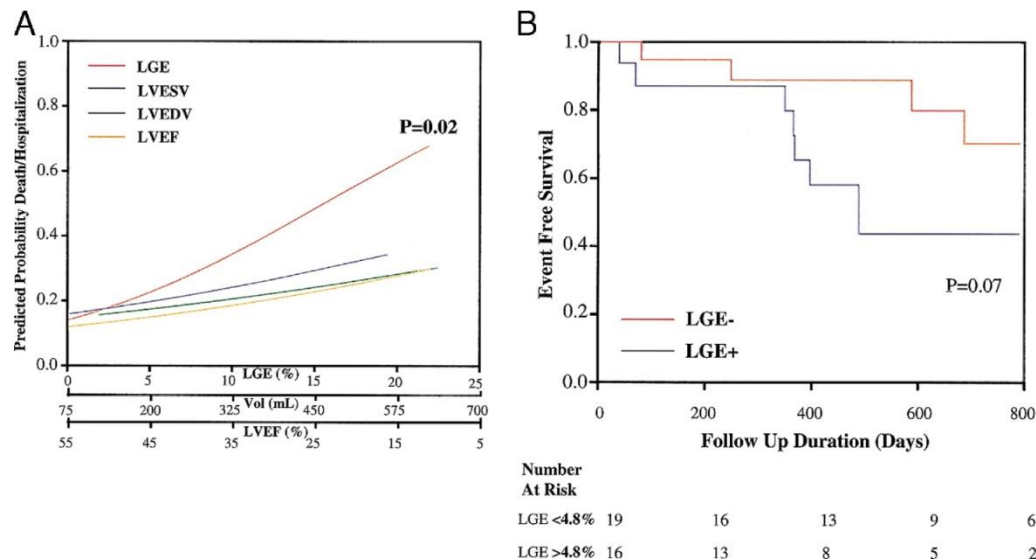
## Graph illustrating the influence of baseline late-gadolinium enhancement status on the left ventricular ejection fraction.



Darryl P. Leong et al. Eur Heart J 2012;33:640-648



Kaplan-Meier survival estimates for the secondary end point of sudden cardiac death or sustained ventricular tachycardia. **(B)** Same data adjusted for baseline differences in left ventricular ejection fraction.

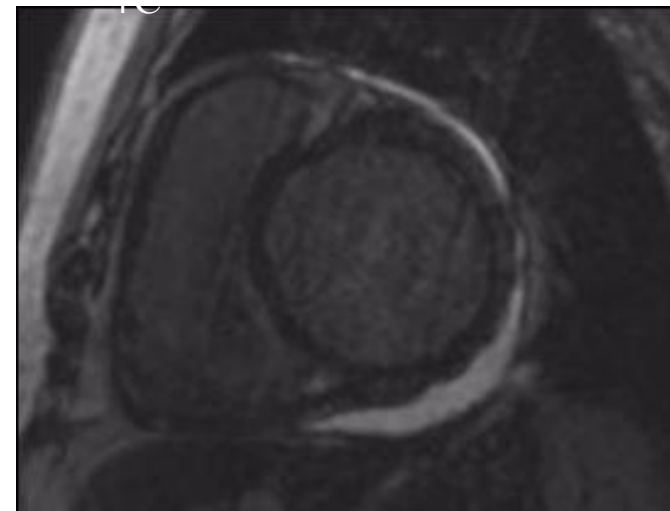
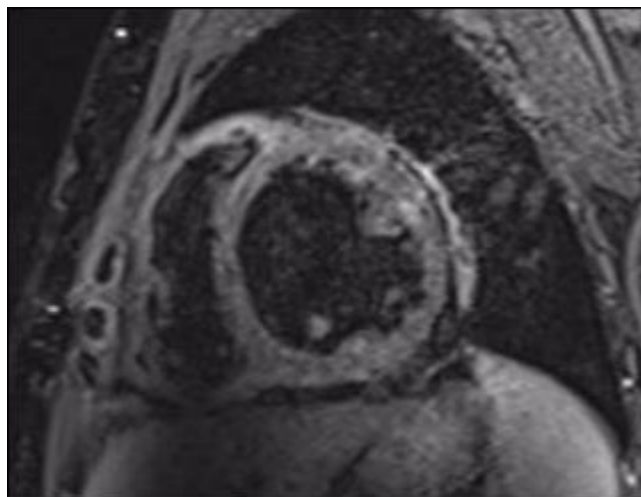
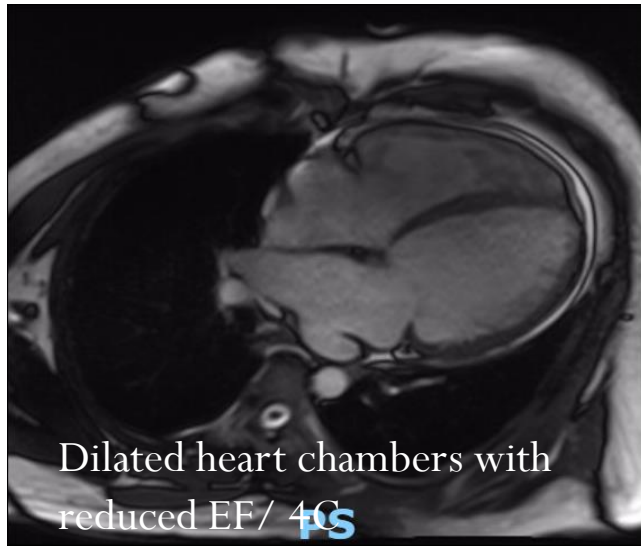


Binary logistic regression analysis comparing the extent of late enhancement (%LGE), left ventricular end-systolic volume (LVESV), left ventricular end-diastolic volume (LVEDV), and left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) as predictors of death or hospitalization. There was a strong association between %LGE and outcome, and %LGE was the sole significant predictor of the primary end point (odds ratio 1.12, 95% confidence interval 1.03 to 1.24,  $p = 0.02$ )

# CMR findings in DCM

- **Cine:** Dilated LV and/or RV with Reduced LVEF.
- **STIR/ Stress Perfusion:** normal
- **EGE:** Normal or hyposignal intensity within the LV if thrombus.
- **LGE:** Mid-wall septal(commonest) EpicardialDiffuse

# CMR in DCMP



# HYPERTROPHIC CARDIOMYOPATHY

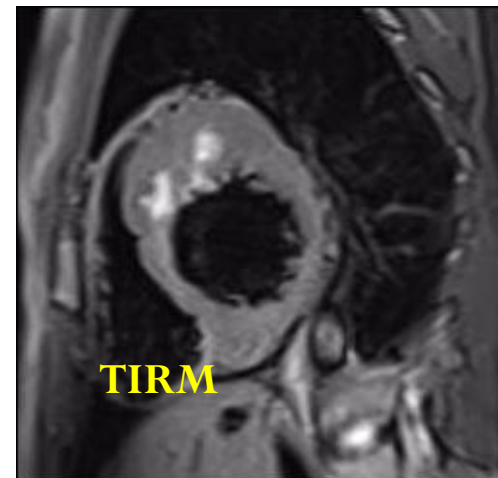
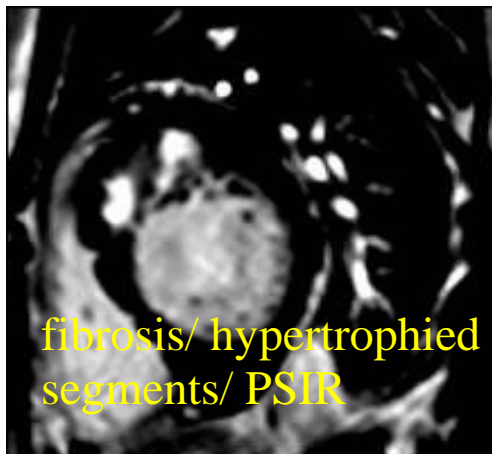
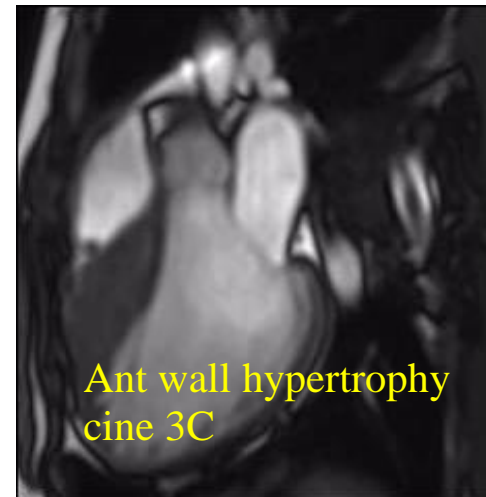
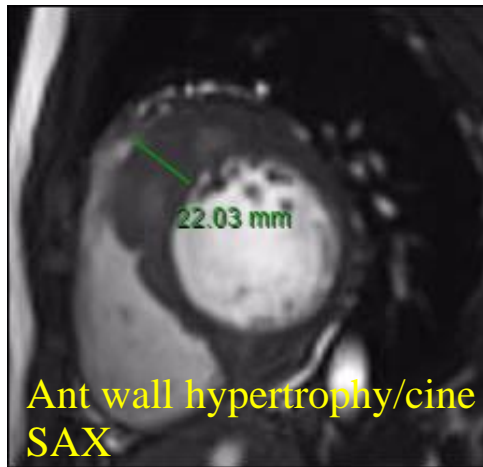
- CINE CARDIAC STRUCTURE/FUNCTION:
  - Localised area of hypertrophy
  - LV apical aneurysm
  - Abnormal motions of hypertrophic wall.
- MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION: abnormal microcirculation  
-thickened myocardial segments
- LGE IMAGING: fibrosis/ hypertrophied segments
- ASSOCIATED CMR FINDINGS :
  - Phase contrast imaging : Outflow obstruction
  - Systolic anterior motion of mitral leaflet  $\pm$  mitral regurgitation

# HYPERTROPHIC CARDIOMYOPATHY

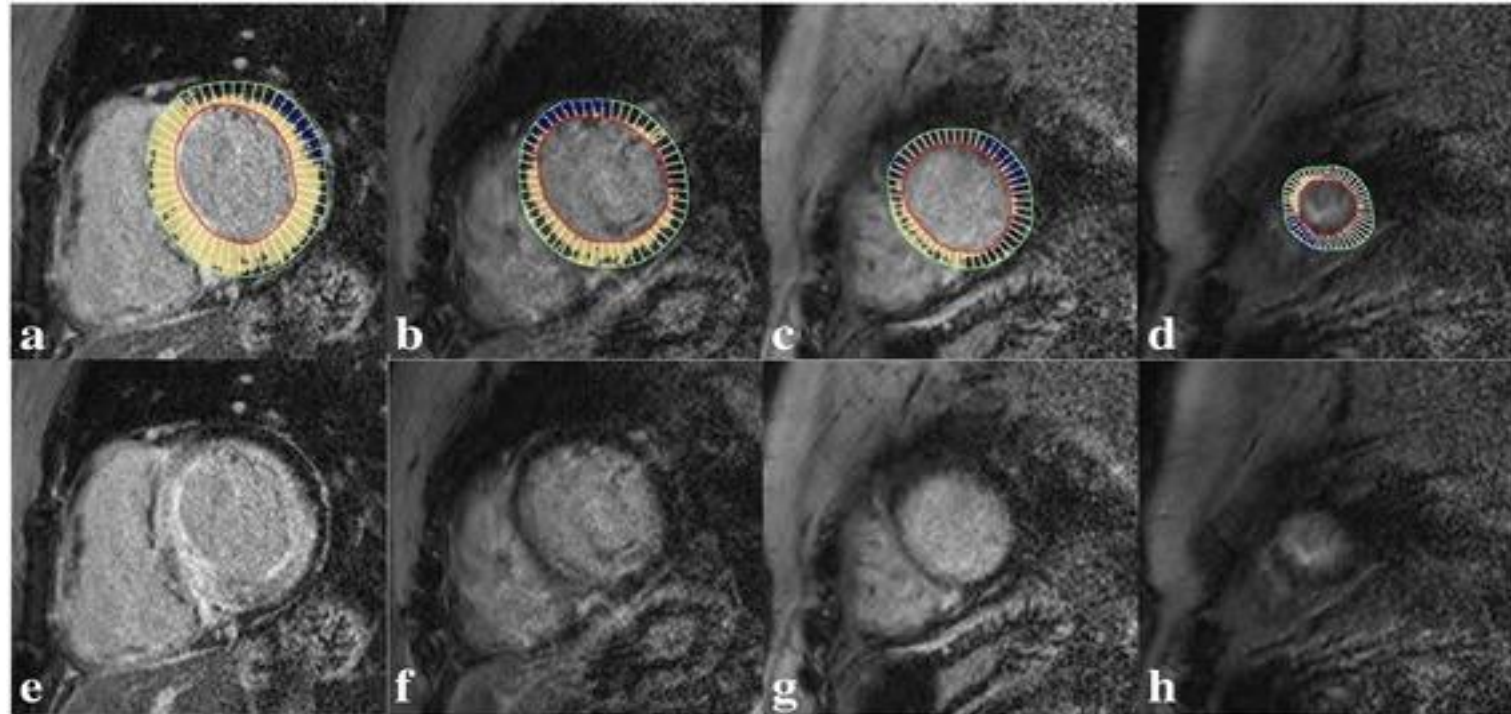
- Diagnosing variant types of HCM, including apical (Yamaguchi's) and lateral wall hypertrophies
- High accuracy in wall thickness measurement# prognostic value(\*)
- Flow dynamics and dynamic obstruction of the LV outflow tract
- LGE # areas of fibrosis # increased risk of re-entrant tachycardias, ventricular tachycardia, and sudden cardiac death(\*)



# CMR FINDINGS IN HCMP



# Late gadolinium enhancement (LGE) quantification



CoComparison between the contoured (**a-d**) and source (**e-h**) LGE images in the same slice position to illustrate the quantification method and the resulting difference in the burden of LGE from the basal (**a** and **e**) towards the apical segments (**d** and **h**). For each of the contoured slices (**a-d**) the endocardial (*red*) and epicardial (*green*) as well as the reference area of non-enhanced myocardium (*blue*) have been defined

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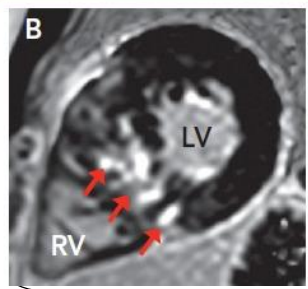
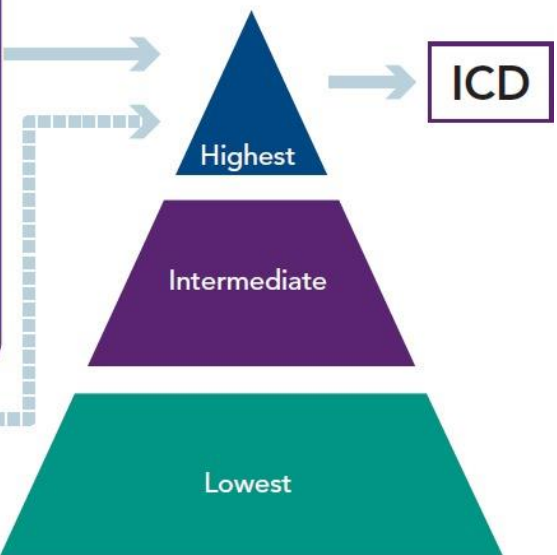
# Recommendations for cardiovascular magnetic resonance evaluation in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

# ESC GUIDELINE ON DIAGNOSTIC AND MANAGEMENT OF HYPERTROPHIC CARDIOMYOPATHY 2014

|   | Class <sup>a</sup> | Level <sup>b</sup> |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| It is recommended that CMR studies be performed and interpreted by teams experienced in cardiac imaging and in the evaluation of heart muscle disease.                            | I                  | C                  |
| In the absence of contra-indications, CMR with LGE is recommended in patients with suspected HCM who have inadequate echocardiographic windows, in order to confirm the diagnosis | I                  | B                  |

|   |     |   |
|---|-----|---|
| In the absence of contra-indications, CMR with <u>LGE</u> should be considered in patients fulfilling diagnostic criteria for HCM, to assess cardiac anatomy, ventricular function, and the presence and extent of myocardial fibrosis. | Ia  | B |
| CMR with LGE imaging should be considered in patients with suspected apical hypertrophy or aneurysm.  | Ia  | C |
| CMR with LGE imaging should be considered in patients with suspected cardiac amyloidosis.   | Ia  | C |
| CMR with LGE may be considered before septal alcohol ablation or myectomy, to assess the extent and distribution of hypertrophy and myocardial fibrosis.  | Iib | C |

- 2° Prevention:  
Cardiac arrest/sustained VT
- 1° Prevention:  
Familial history of HCM-SD  
Unexplained syncope  
Multiple-repetitive NSVT  
Abnormal exercise BP response  
Massive LVH ≥30 mm  
LGE ≥15 % of LV mass\*
- Rare subgroups:  
LV apical aneurysms  
End-stage HCM (EF <50 %)



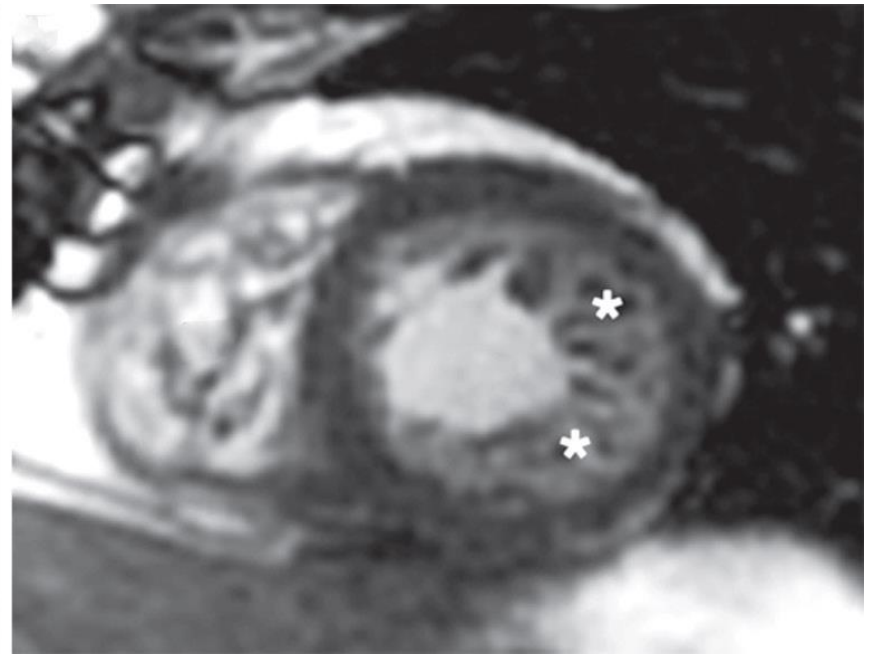
CMR = cardiac magnetic resonance; HCM = hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

# Left ventricular noncompaction (LVNC)

- CMR criteria for diagnosis of LVNC include noncompacted to compacted myocardial thickness ratio of  $>2.3$  (sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative predictions of 86%, 99%, 75%, and 99%, respectively)
- Trabeculated LV mass  $>20$  percent of global LV mass (sensitivity of 94% and specificity of 94%).

*Patel and Kramer JACC : CARDIOVASCULAR IMAGING, VOL. 10, NO. 10, 2017 CMR and Nonischemic Cardiomyopathy*

# Left ventricular noncompaction (LVNC)



Left ventricular noncompaction. A, B, Note the heavy trabeculations in the left ventricle (LV) and right ventricle (RV) (asterisks), with a ratio of trabeculated myocardium to nontrabeculated myocardium of 5:1. LA = left atrium; RA = right atrium.  
*Braunwald's Heart Disease A Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine, Tenth Edition*



# Myocarditis

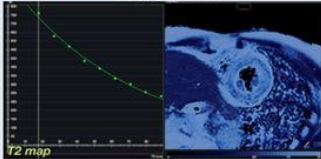
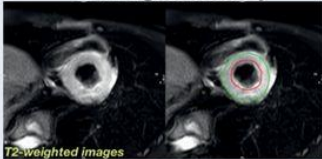
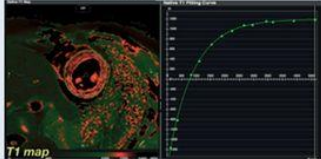
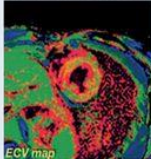
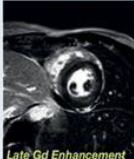
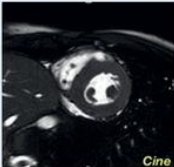
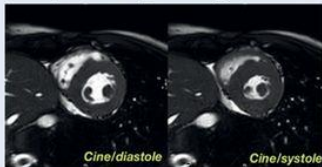
*Abdel-Aty H*

- CMR targets the three main :
  - Myocardial edema by T2-weighted imaging (ss70%, sp 71%,)
  - Regional hyperemia and capillary leak by early gadolinium enhancement ratio (EGEr) (ss.74%,sp.83% )
  - Myocardial necrosis or fibrosis by LGE imaging (ss59% , sp86%)

*Abdel-Aty H. Diagnostic performance of cardiovascular magnetic resonance in patients with suspected acute myocarditis: comparison of different approaches. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2005*

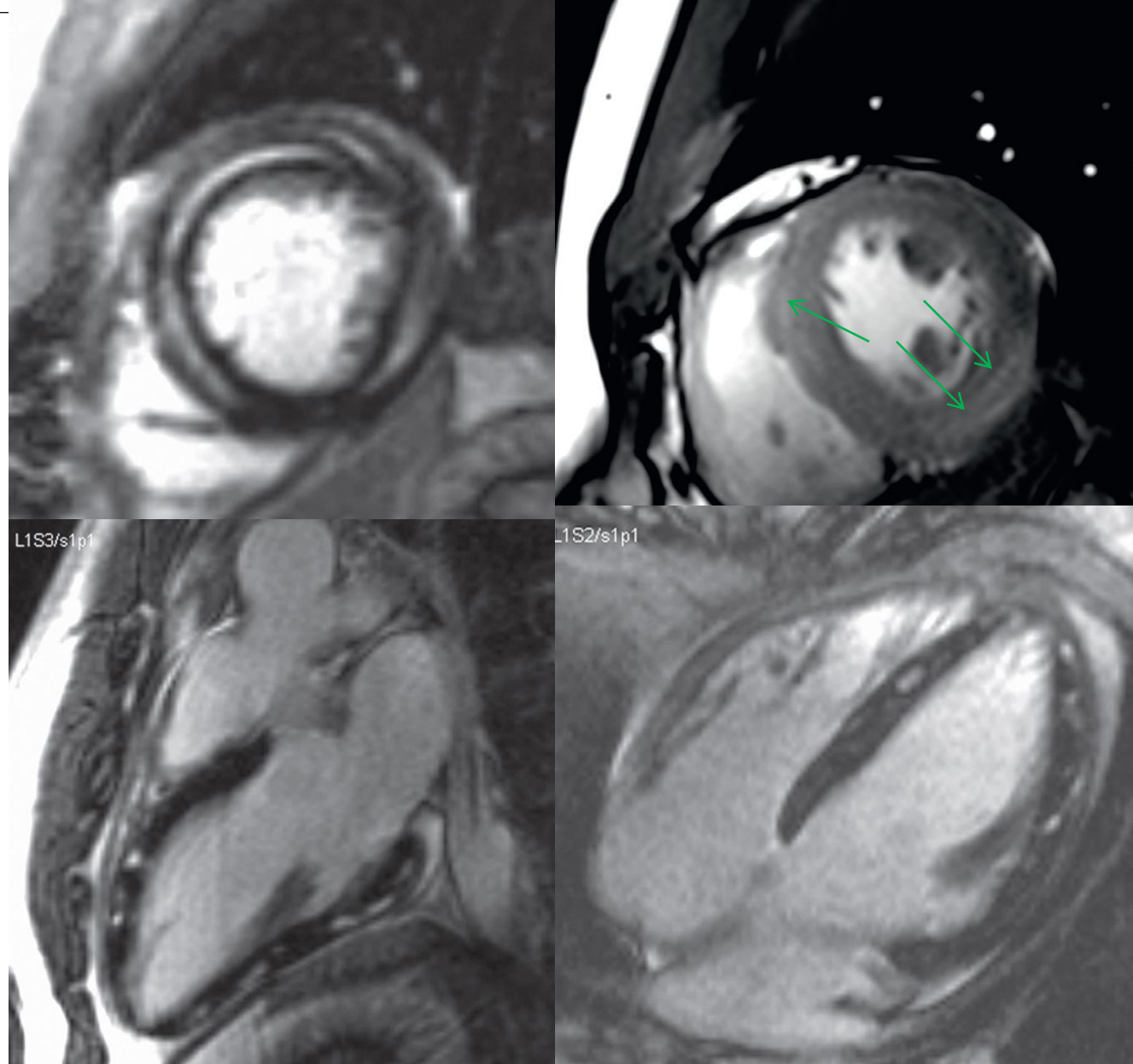
# Myocarditis

## CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Overview of the Updated Lake Louise Criteria

|                     | 2018 Lake Louise Criteria   | CMR Image Examples   |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Main Criteria       | Myocardial Edema<br>(T2-mapping or T2W images)                          | Regional or global increase of native T2<br> or<br>   |
|                     | Non-ischemic Myocardial Injury<br>(Abnormal T1, ECV, or LGE)            | Regional or global increase of native T1<br> or<br>Regional or global increase of ECV<br> or<br>Regional LGE signal increase<br> |
| Supportive Criteria | Pericarditis<br>(Effusion in cine images or abnormal LGE, T2, or T1)    | Pericardial effusion<br>   |
|                     | Systolic LV Dysfunction<br>(Regional or global wall motion abnormality) | Regional or global hypokinesis<br>  |

Ferreira, V.M. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2018;72(24):3158-76.



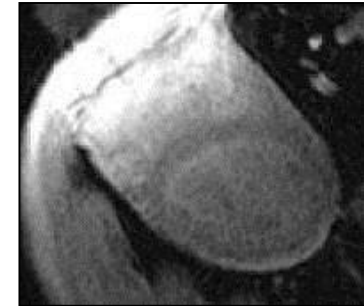
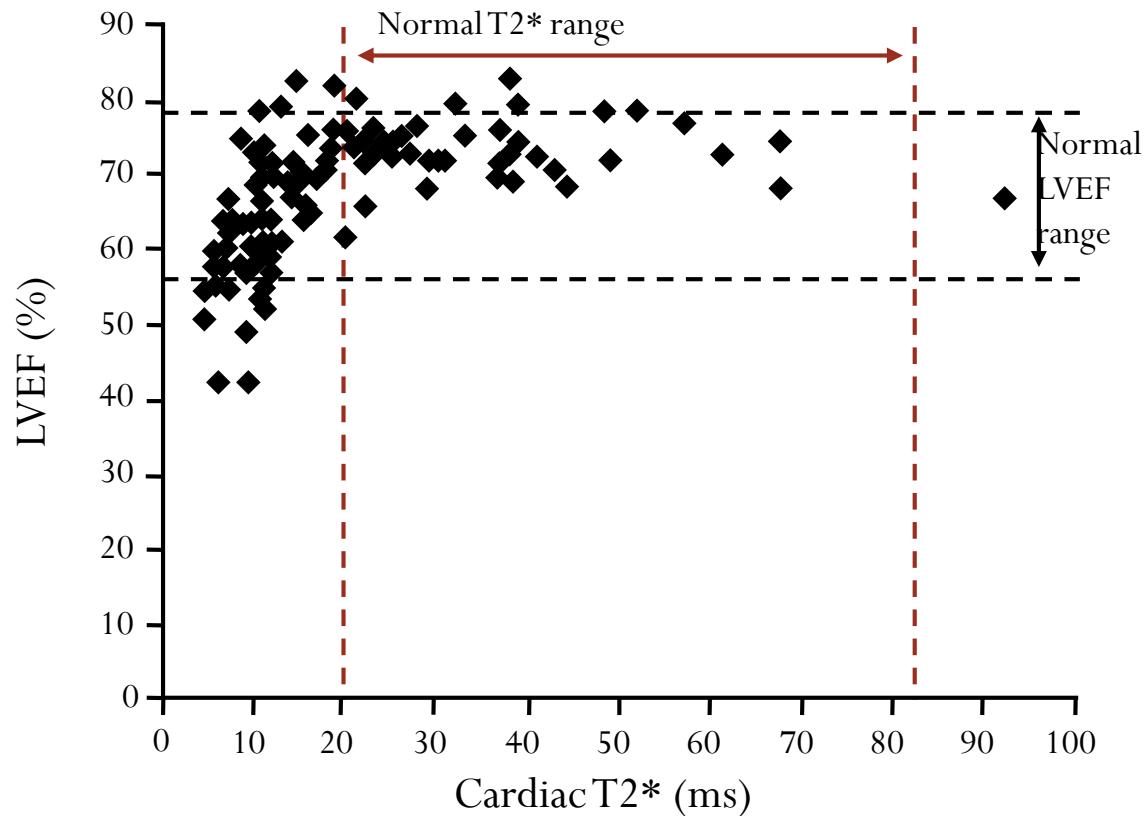


the multiple areas of LGE (left panels and right lower panel) and diffuse T2 enhancement consistent with edema (right upper panel: *green arrows highlighting regions of high signal in this SSFP cine image*), strongly suggestive of the diagnosis of acute myocarditis (*Braunwald's Heart Disease A Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine 10<sup>th</sup>*)

# Cardiac Siderosis

- Primary (genetic): hemochromatosis
  - Secondary (transfusion dependent) :iron overload.
  - T2-star (T2\*) technique: iron overload.
  - Chelation therapy# cardiomyopathy secondary to iron overload is reversible
  - There is no reliable relationship between myocardial T2\* and serum ferritin or liver T2\*
- 
- *Anderson L. Cardiovascular T2-star (T 2\*) magnetic resonance for the early diagnosis of myocardial iron overload. Eur Heart J. 2001*

# Cardiac T2\*: Relationship with LVEF



Cardiac T2\* value of 37 ms in a normal heart



Cardiac T2\* value of 4 ms in a significantly iron-overloaded heart

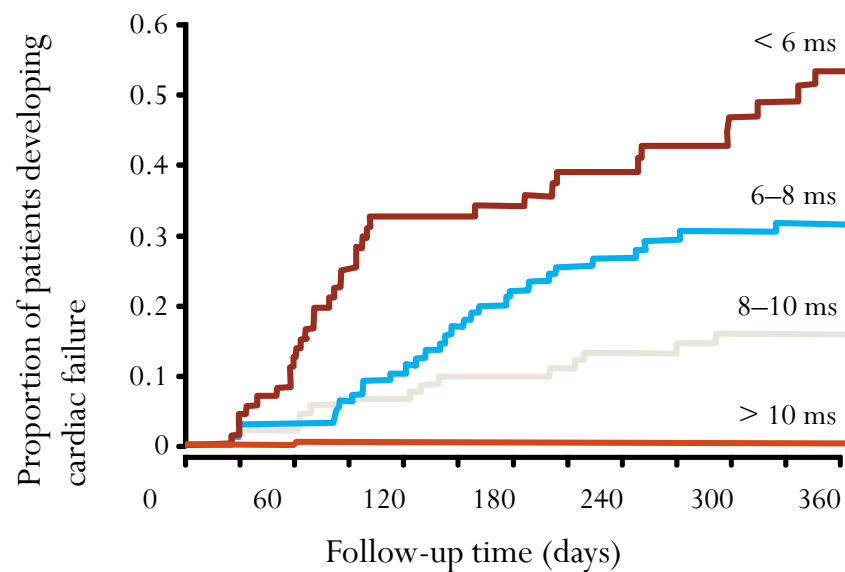
Myocardial T2\* values < 20 ms are associated with a progressive and significant decline in LVEF

*LVEF = left-ventricular ejection fraction.*

*Anderson LJ, et al. Eur Heart J. 2001;22:2171-9.*

# Cardiac T2\*: Relationship with cardiac failure and arrhythmia

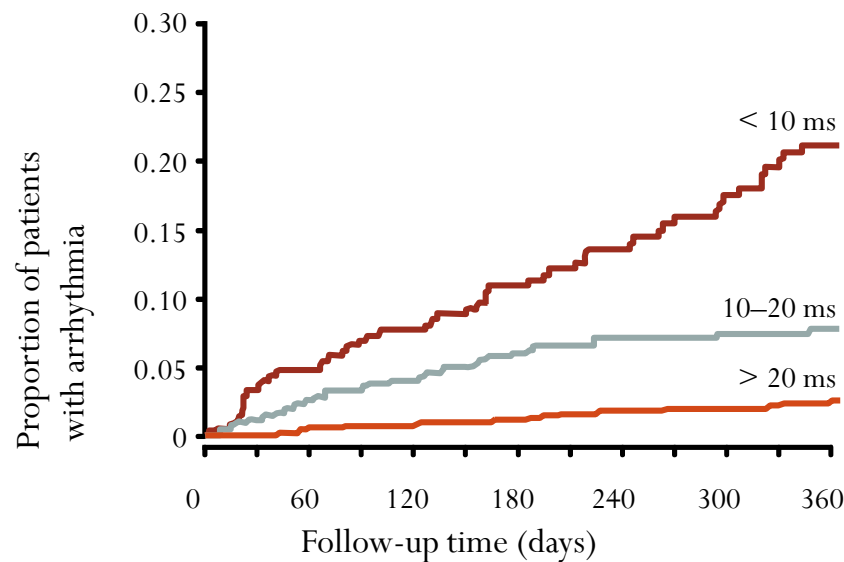
## Cardiac failure



T2\* < 10 ms: relative risk 159 (p < 0.001)

T2\* < 6 ms: relative risk 268 (p < 0.001)

## Arrhythmia

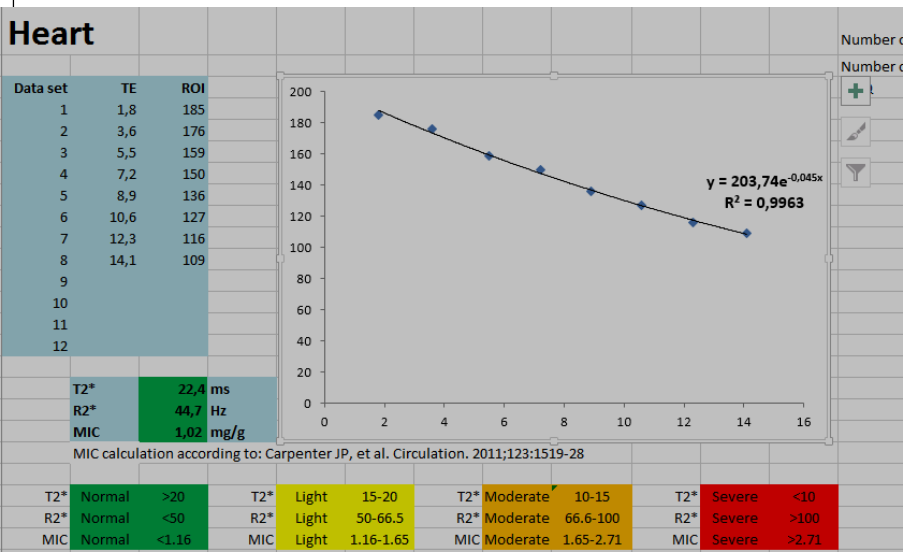


T2\* < 20 ms: relative risk 4.6 (p < 0.001)

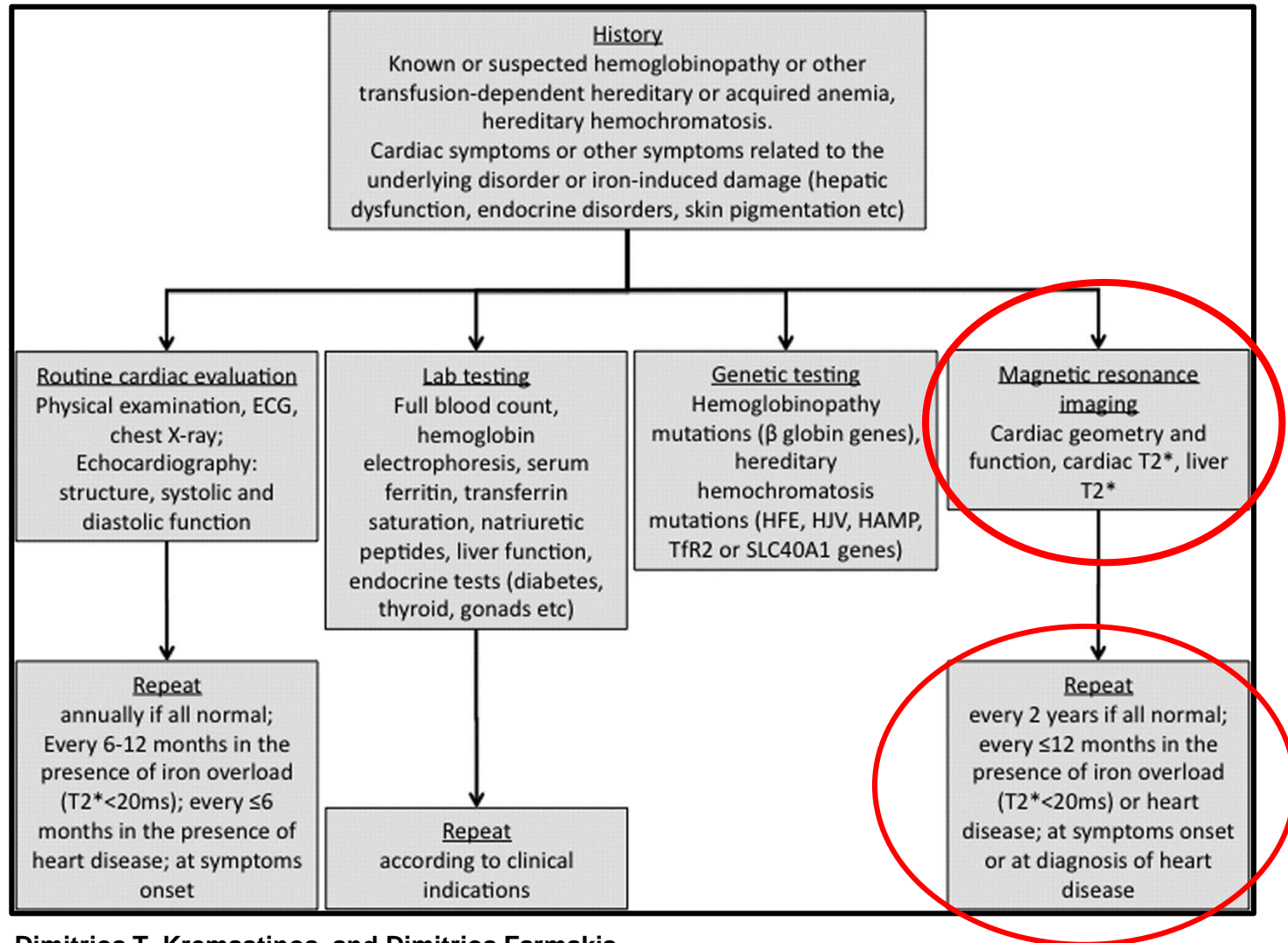
T2\* < 6 ms: relative risk 8.65 (p < 0.001)

Low myocardial T2\* predicts a high risk of developing cardiac failure and arrhythmia

| Manually  | Post-processing software   |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excel spreadsheet</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ThalassaemiaTools (CMRtools)</li> <li>cmr<sup>42</sup></li> <li>FerriScan</li> <li>MRmap</li> <li>MATLAB</li> </ul> |



**A proposed algorithm for the diagnostic evaluation and follow-up of patients with known or suspected iron overload cardiomyopathy or at risk for iron overload cardiomyopathy.**



Dimitrios T. Kremastinos, and Dimitrios Farmakis  
Circulation. 2011;124:2253-2263

# Amyloidosis

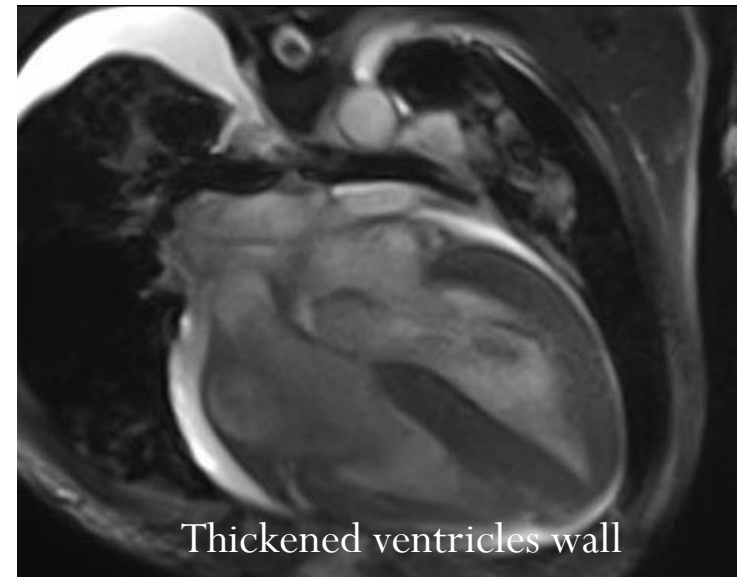
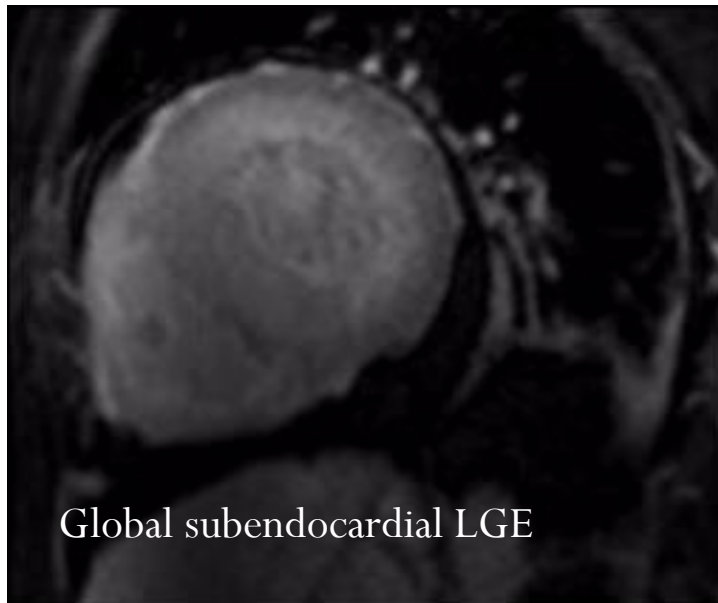
- CMR with LGE has been shown to have greater sensitivity and specificity than TTE.
- Cardiac amyloidosis appears as global subendocardial myocardial hyperenhancement on LGE.
- CMR with LGE has been reported to have sensitivity, specificity, positive predictive, and negative predictive values of between 86–88%, 86–90%, 88–95%, and 67–90%.
- *Ruberg F.L. Diagnostic and prognostic utility of cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging in light-chain cardiac amyloidosis. Am J Cardiol. 2009;103:544–549.*



# CMR findings

- **Restrictive LV pattern**
- **Global LV hypertrophy**
- **LGE**
  - Difficult to NULL
  - **Sub-endocardial distribution/** patchy subendocardial or transmural
  - Cardiac involvement without any LGE is rare
- **Atrial septum hypertrophy of >6mm** (20% of cases)
- **Pericardial and pleural effusion**

# CMR IN AMYLOIDOSIS



*CMR of 36yo man admitted to UMC because of new onset of heart failure.*

*Left: Diffuse circumferential LGE and difficulty in finding the right inversion time in “nulling” normal myocardium signal during LGE imaging.*

*Right: Cine imaging Thickened ventricles wall.*

# CMR-based differentiation of amyloidosis types

|                         | AL amyloidosis   | ATTR amyloidosis   |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| <b>LV Mass</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mildly increased &lt; 100 g/m<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Markedly increased &gt; 100 g/m<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>        |
| <b>Septum thickness</b> | Septum AL < Septum ATTR  |  |
| <b>LGE</b>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less extensive LGE</li> <li>Often (global)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More extensive LGE</li> <li>Often more diffuse and</li> </ul> |
| <b>Native T1</b>        | Native T1 <sub>AL</sub> (> 1050 - 1150 ms) > Native T1 <sub>ATTR</sub>                       |  |
| <b>ECV</b>              | ECV <sub>AL</sub> < ECV <sub>ATTR</sub> (>0.40)  |  |
| <b>Therapy</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chemotherapy</li> </ul>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Novel TTR-specific treatment (Phase III)</li> </ul>           |
| <b>Prognosis</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worse (despite less extensive LGE)</li> </ul>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better (despite more extensive LGE)</li> </ul>                |

- Dungu JN, Valencia O, Pinney JH, et al. *CMR-based differentiation of AL and ATTR cardiac amyloidosis*. JACC Cardiovasc Imaging. 2014 Feb;7(2):133-42.

# CONCLUSION

- Cardiomyopathy is often suspected on the basis of symptoms, an associated abnormal ECG and echocardiographic findings.
- CMR with LGE, T1 mapping, ECV, T2 mapping, and T2\* imaging provides important insights into the underlying etiology of cardiomyopathy.
- Allowing pre-clinical detection of disease process and novel parameters for risk stratification.



*Thank you for your attention*