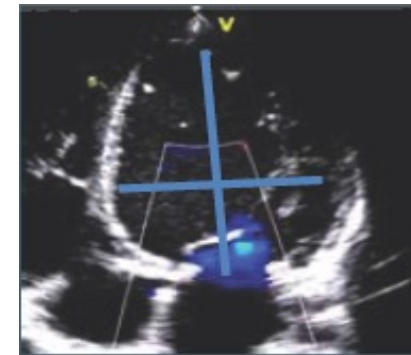
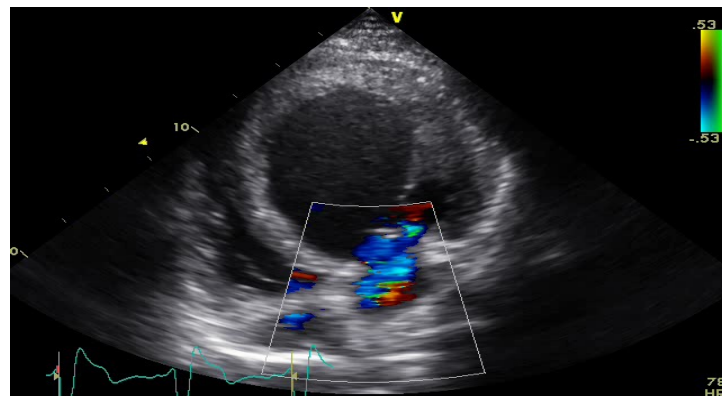
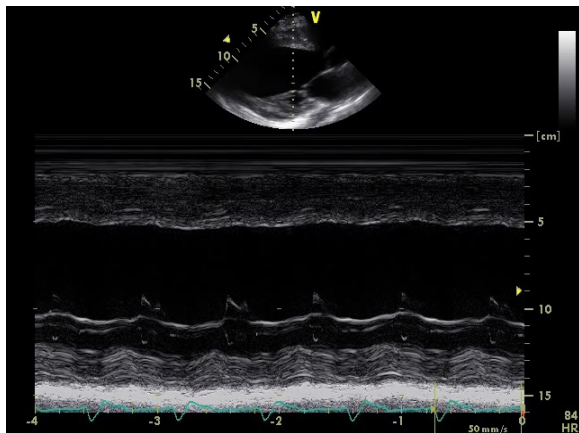
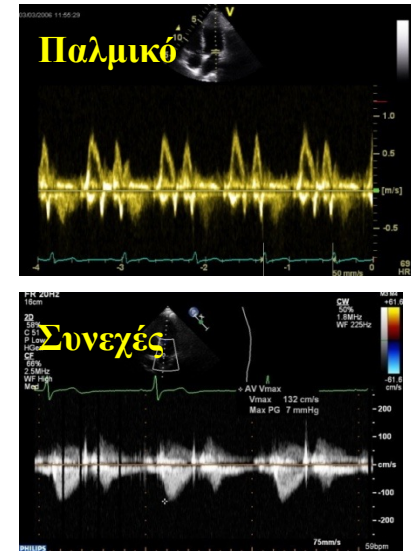
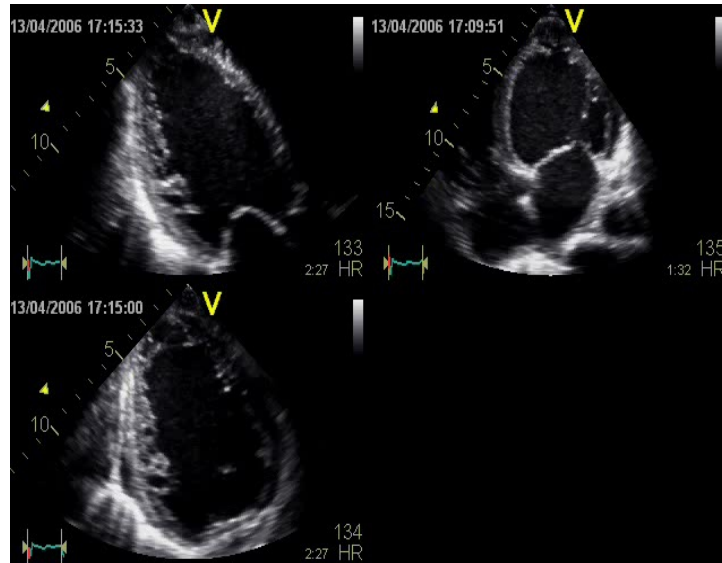
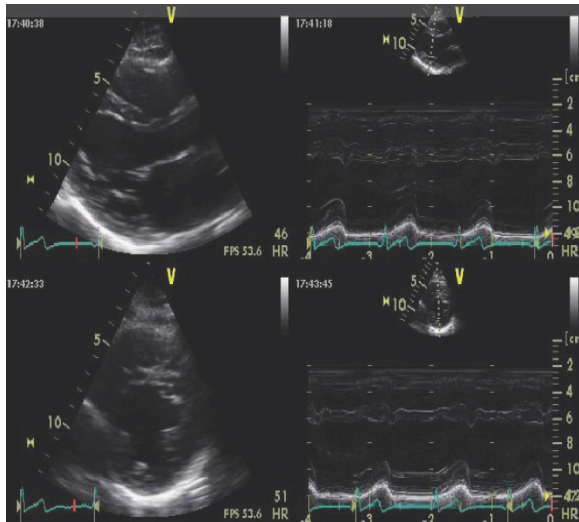


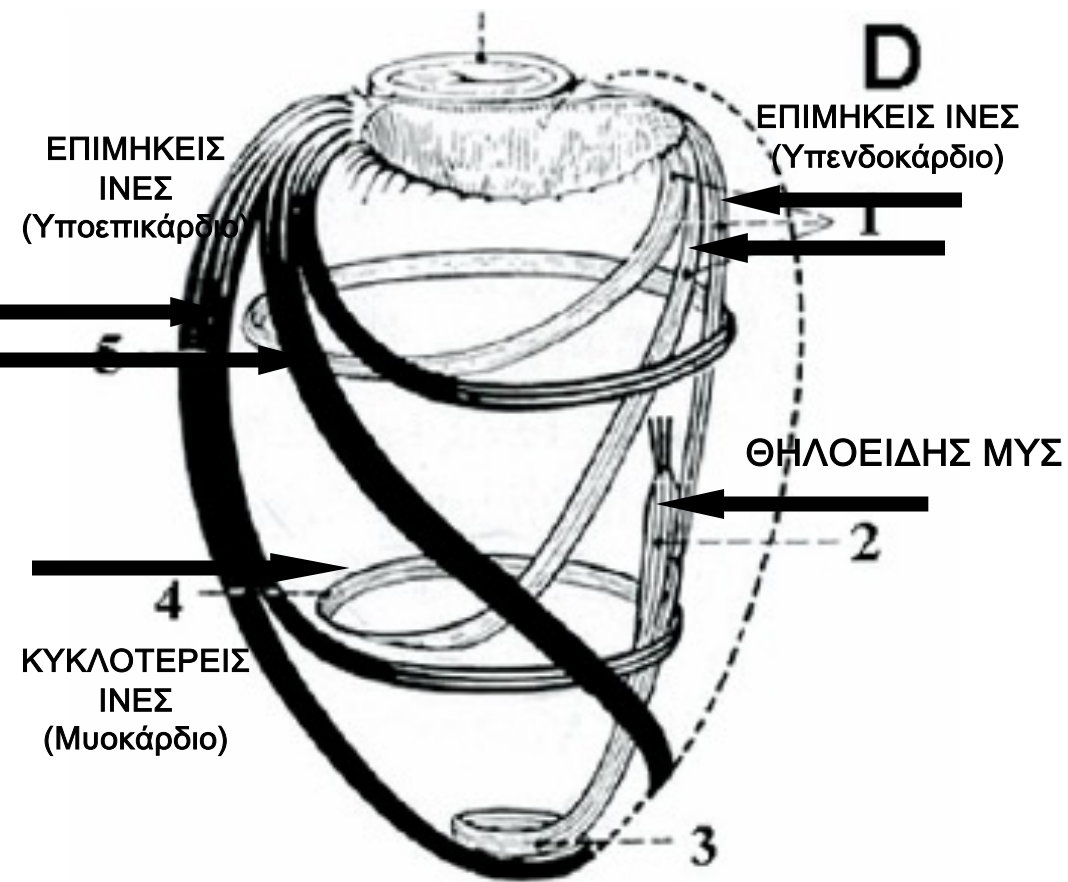
# Νέες μέθοδοι απεικόνισης με υπερήχους στην καρδιολογία

Τσούγκος Ηλίας MD PhD  
Επ. Καθηγητής Καρδιολογίας  
Διευθυντής ΣΤ Καρδιολογικής Κλινικής Υγεία  
Καρδιολόγος Εθνικής Ολυμπιακής Επιτροπής

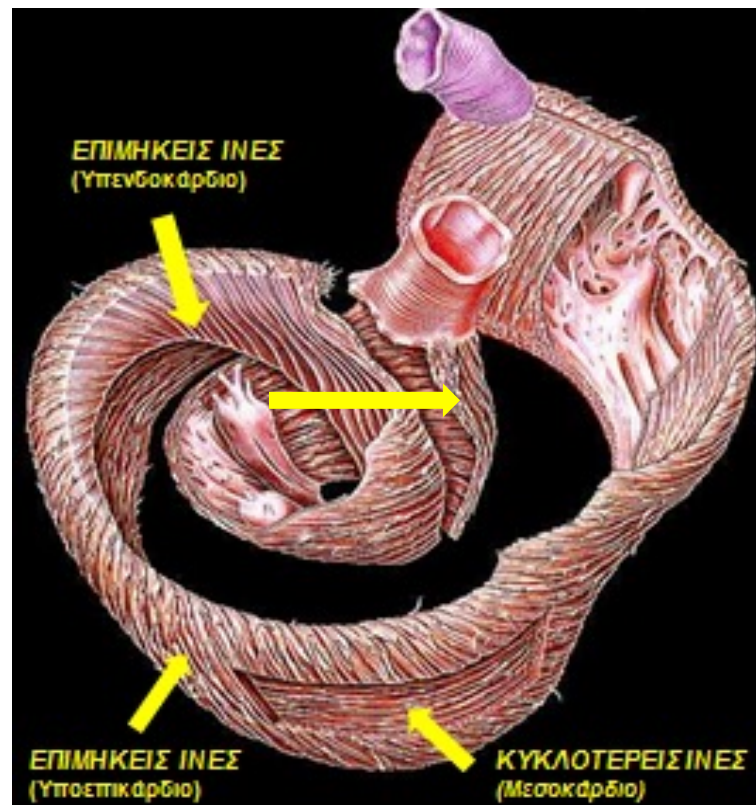
# Καθιερωμένες ηχοκαρδιογραφικές τεχνικές



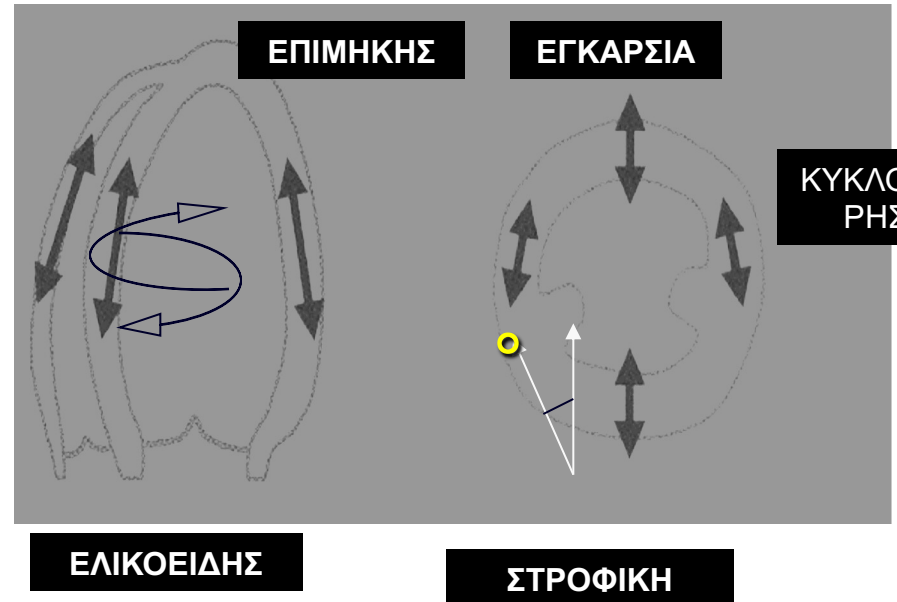
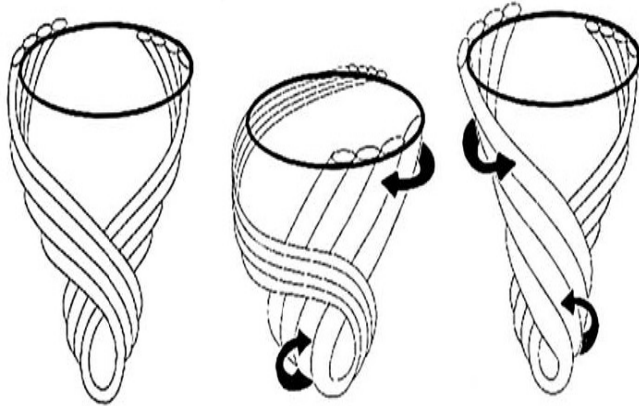
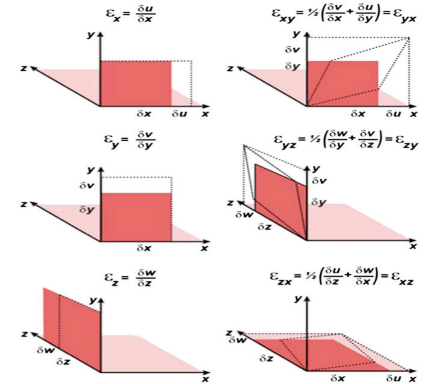
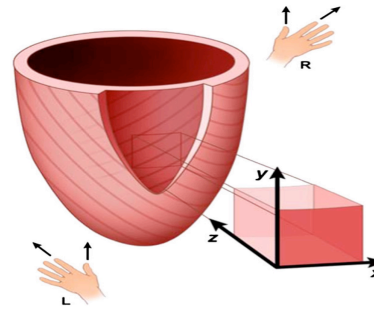
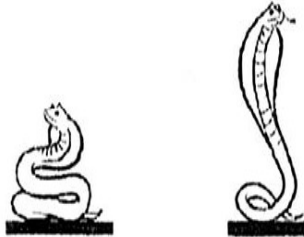
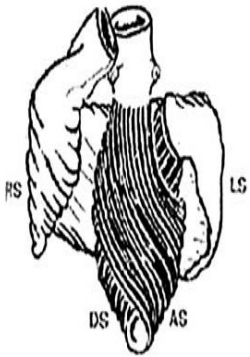
# ΠΟΛΥΠΛΟΚΗ ΑΡΧΙΤΕΚΤΟΝΙΚΗ



# ΤΡΙΑΔΑΣΤΑΤΟ ΟΡΓΑΝΟ



# Κίνηση Καρδιακών Τοιχωμάτων



# Περιορισμοί συμβατικών ηχοκαρδιογραφικών δεικτών

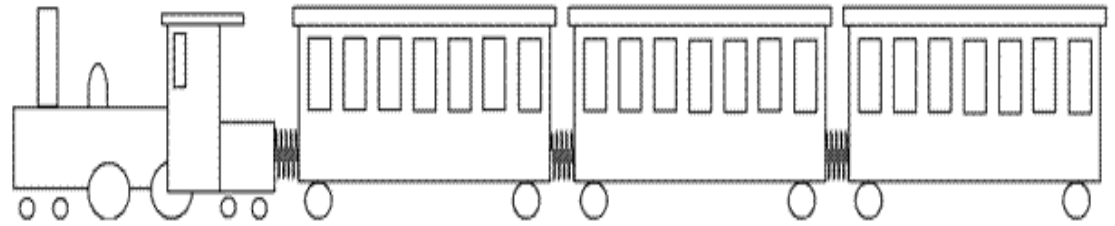
Προσπάθεια απεικόνισης ενός τριδιάστατου οργάνου σε 1 ή 2 διαστάσεις

Παραδοχή ότι η μορφή των καρδιακών δομών είναι συμμετρική

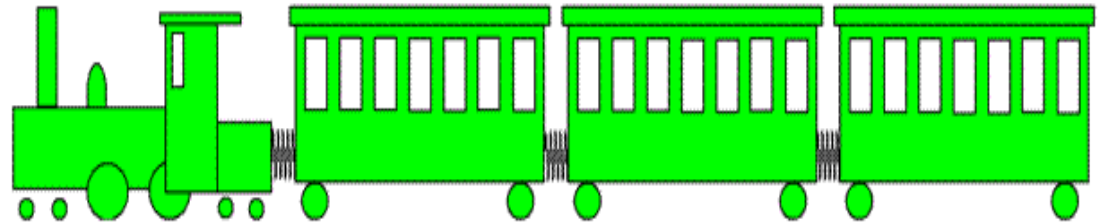
Αδυναμία απεικόνισης σύμπλοκων ανατομικών δομών, και σχέσης τους στο χώρο (πχ δεξιά κοιλία)

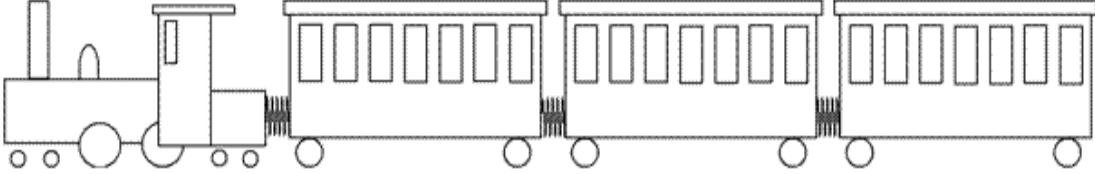
Περιορισμένη ακρίβεια - Μεγάλη διάρκεια πλήρους μελέτης

# ΚΙΝΗΣΗ



# ΠΑΡΑΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ - STRAIN

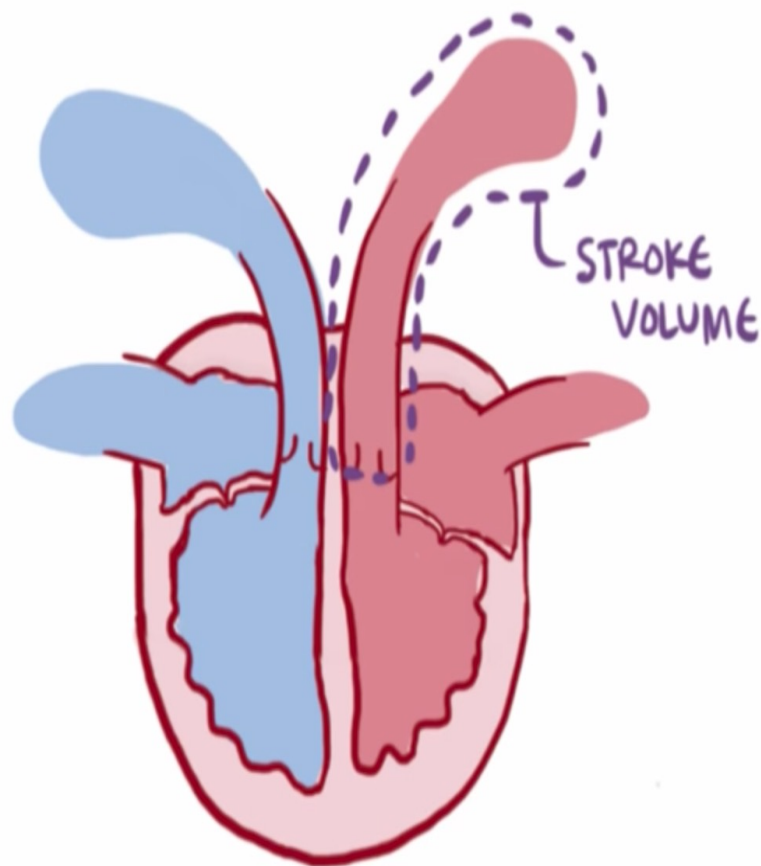




# Ejection Fraction

# SYSTOLIC HEART FAILURE

\* can't pump hard enough



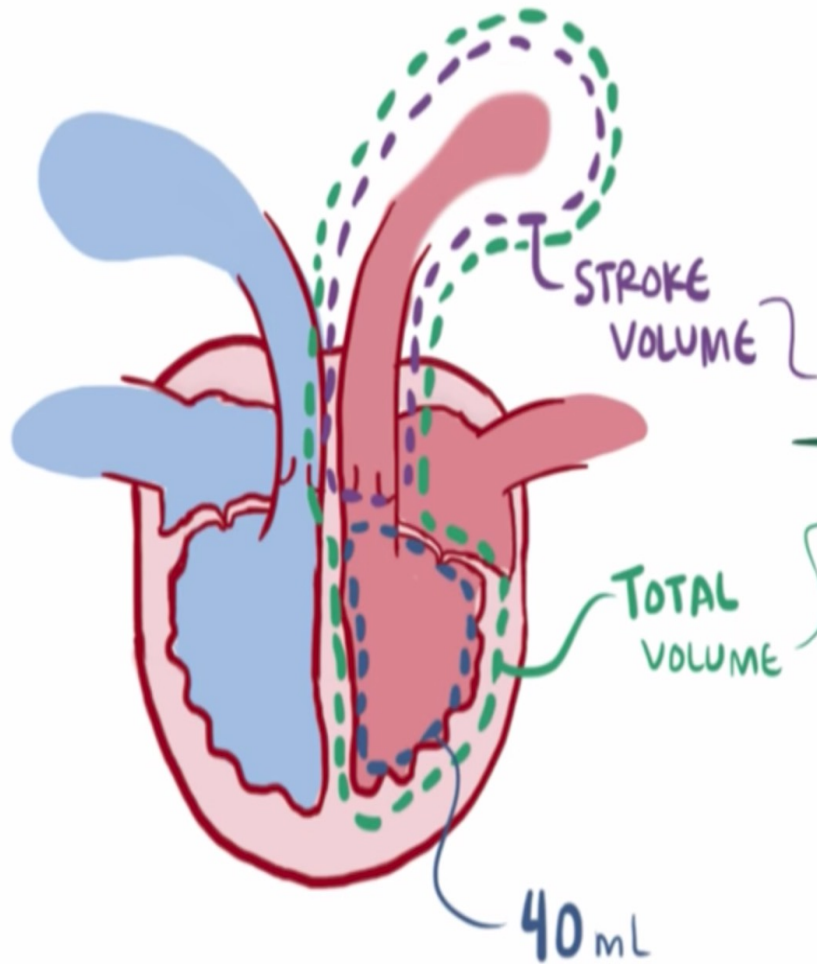
$$\left[ \frac{\text{VOLUME BLOOD}}{\text{MINUTE}} \right] \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{CARDIAL} \\ \text{OUTPUT} \end{array} \right\}$$



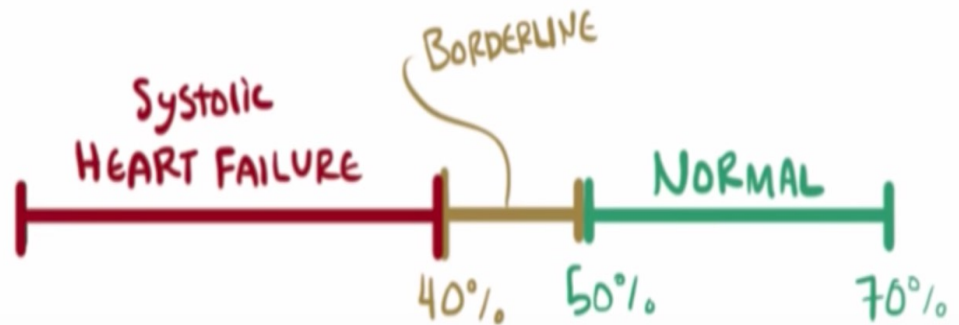
$$\left[ \frac{\text{BEATS}}{\text{MINUTE}} \right] \times \left[ \frac{\text{VOLUME BLOOD}}{\text{BEAT}} \right]$$
$$70 \frac{\text{beats}}{\text{min}} \times 70 \frac{\text{mL}}{\text{beat}} = 4900 \frac{\text{mL}}{\text{min}}$$
$$\approx 5 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{min}}$$

# SYSTOLIC HEART FAILURE

\* can't pump hard enough

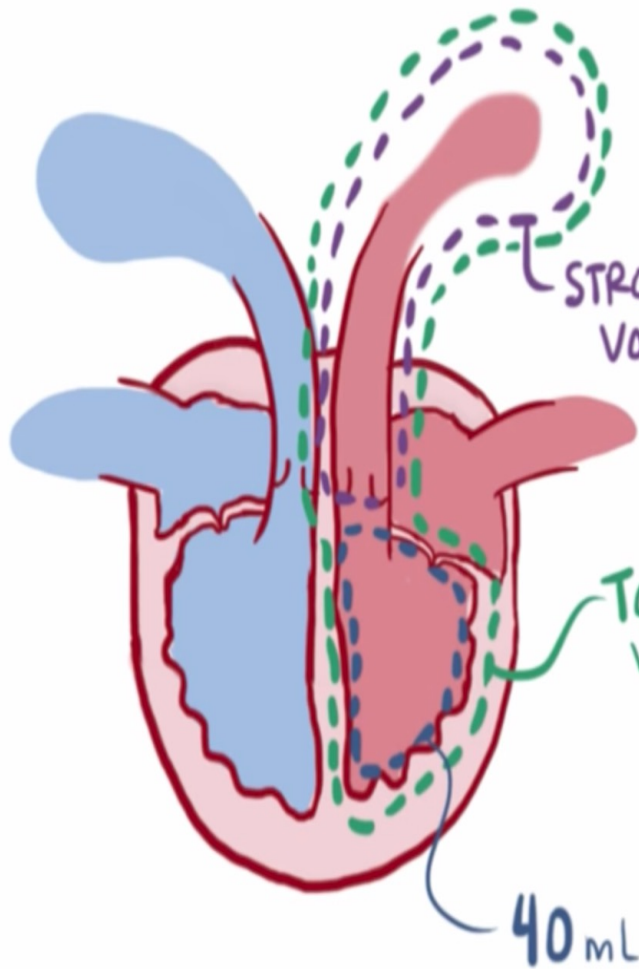


$$\frac{70 \text{ mL}}{110 \text{ mL}} = \text{EJECTION FRACTION} \approx 64\%$$

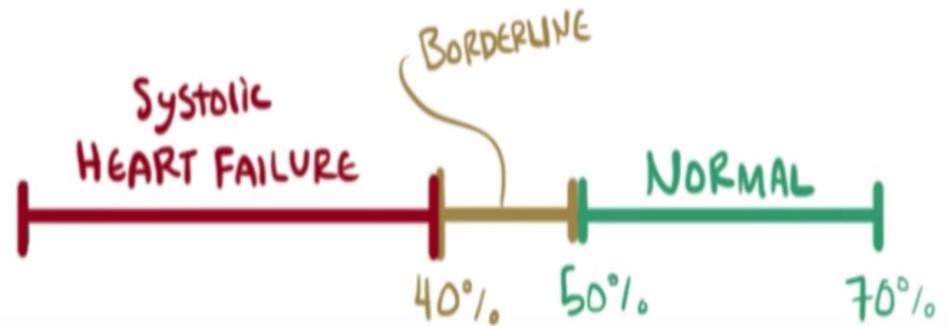


# SYSTOLIC HEART FAILURE

\* can't pump hard enough

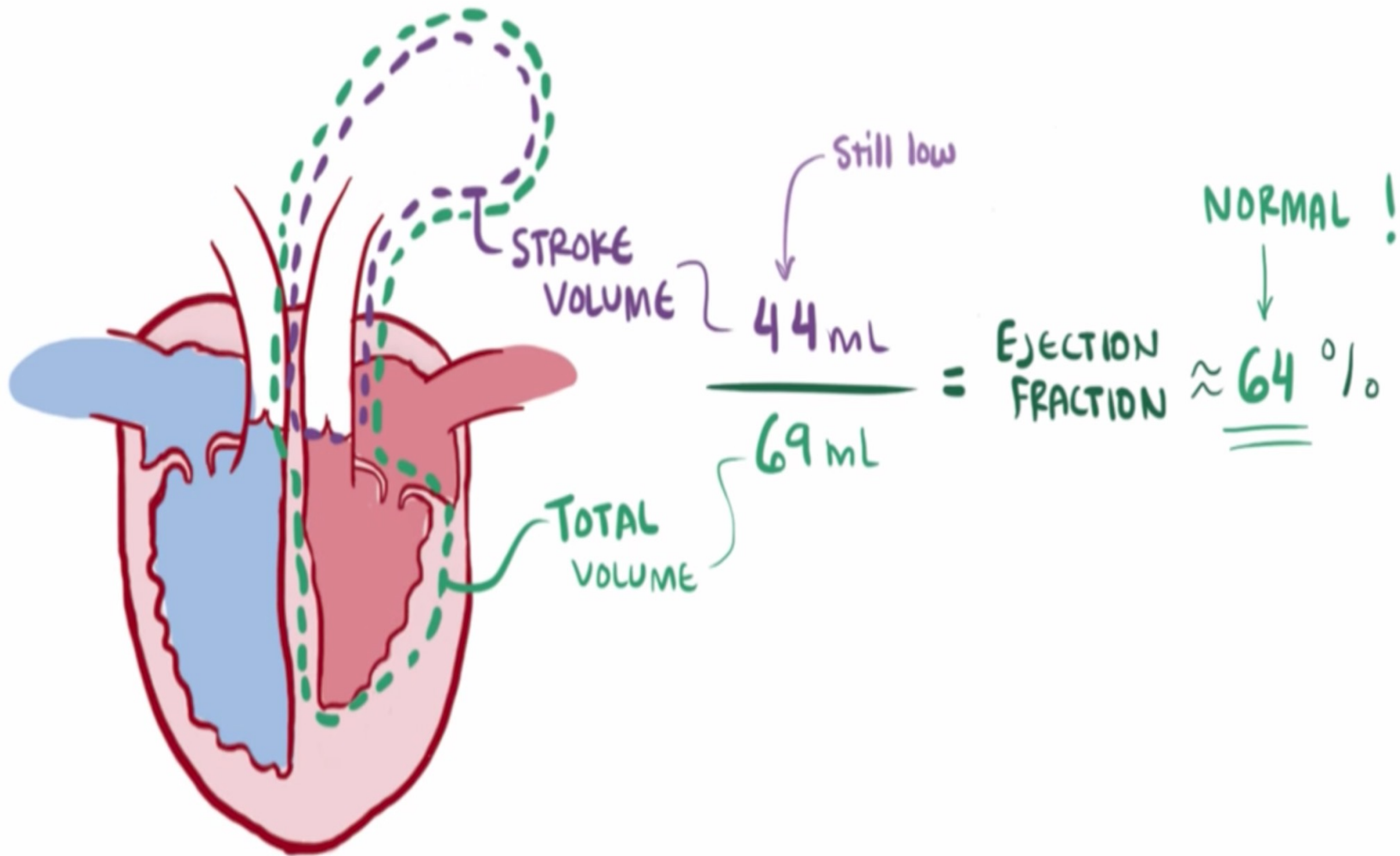


$$\frac{44 \text{ mL}}{110 \text{ mL}} = \text{EJECTION FRACTION} \approx 40\%$$

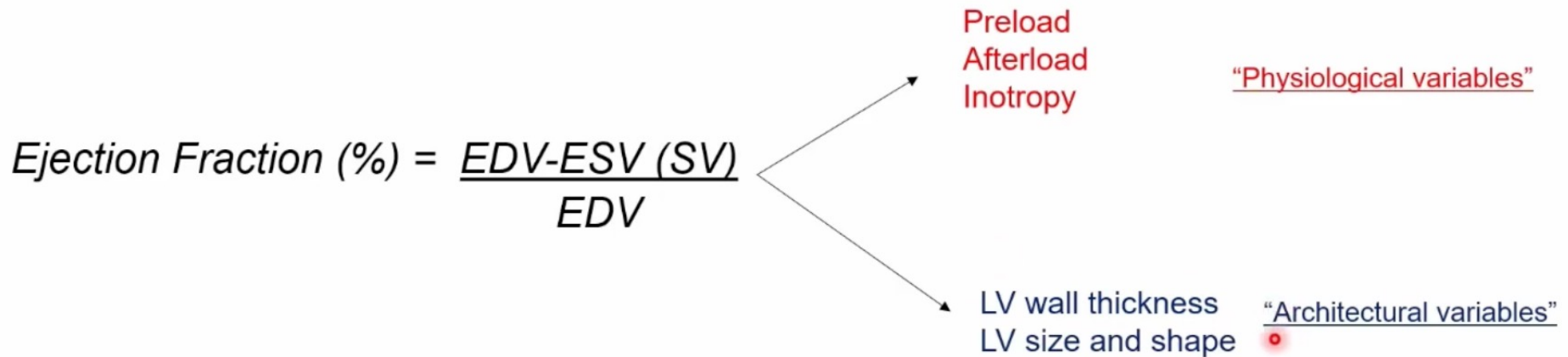


# DIASTOLIC HEART FAILURE

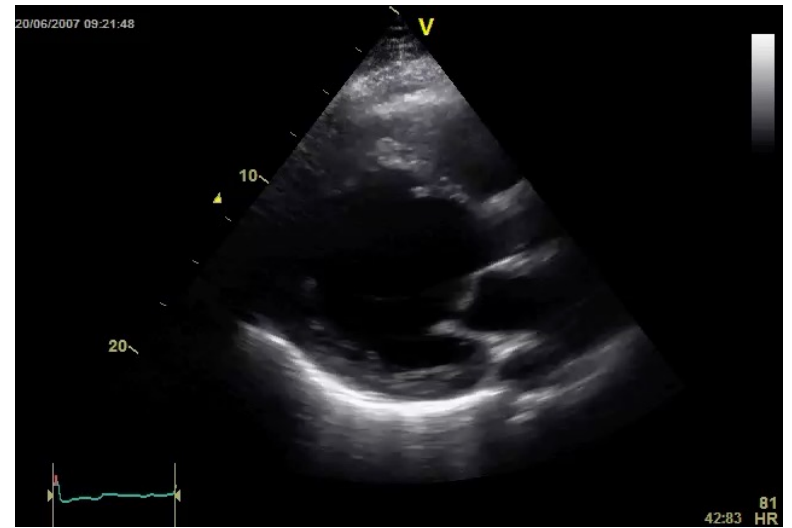
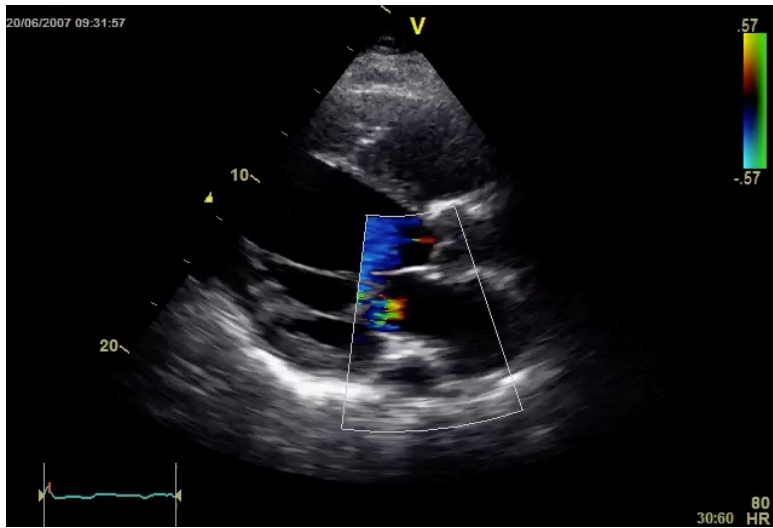
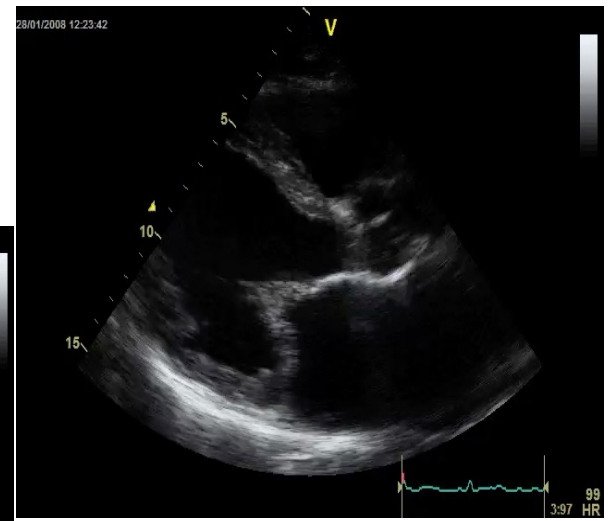
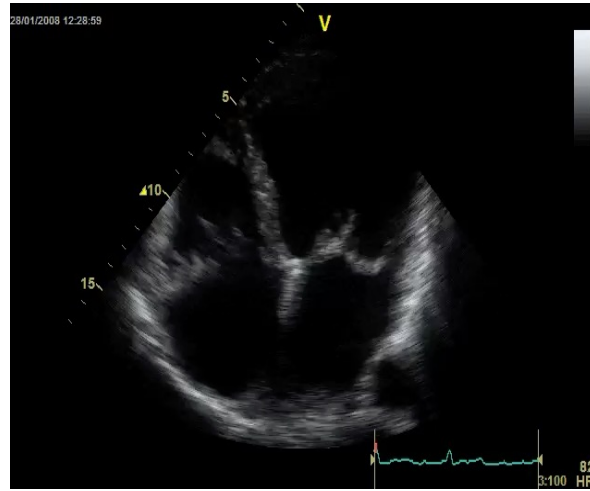
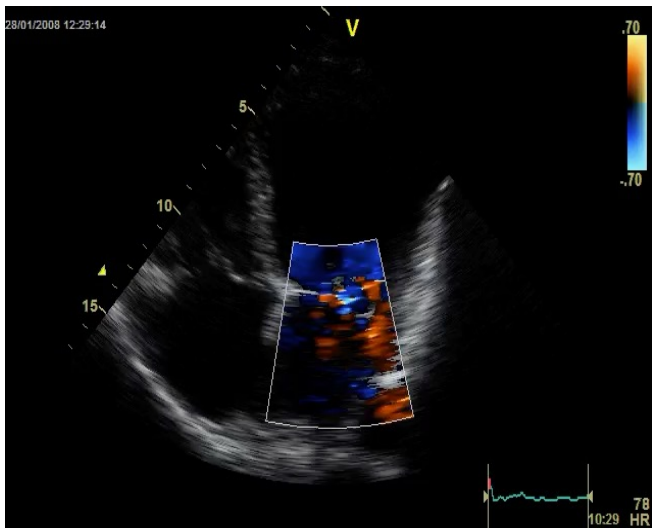
\* not filling enough

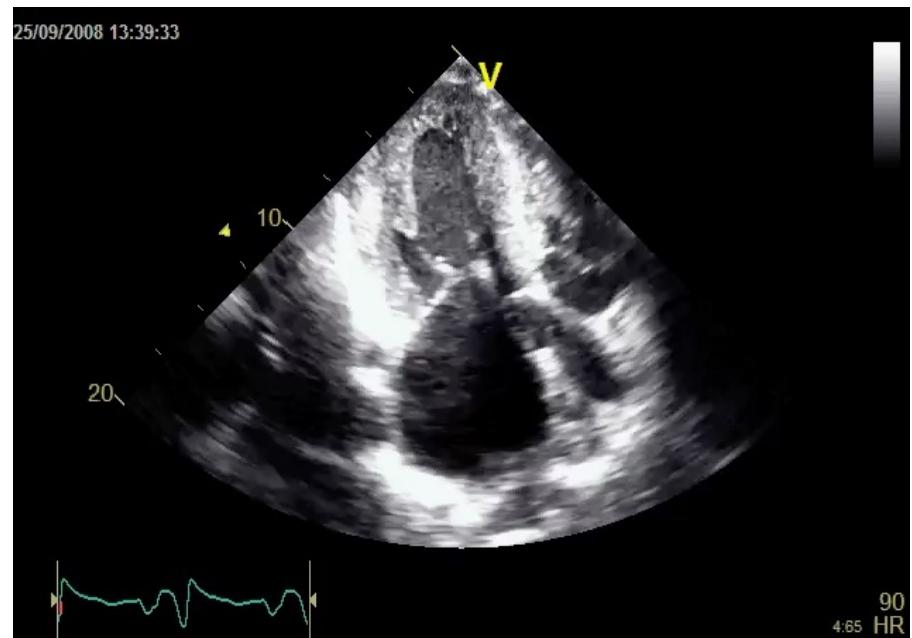
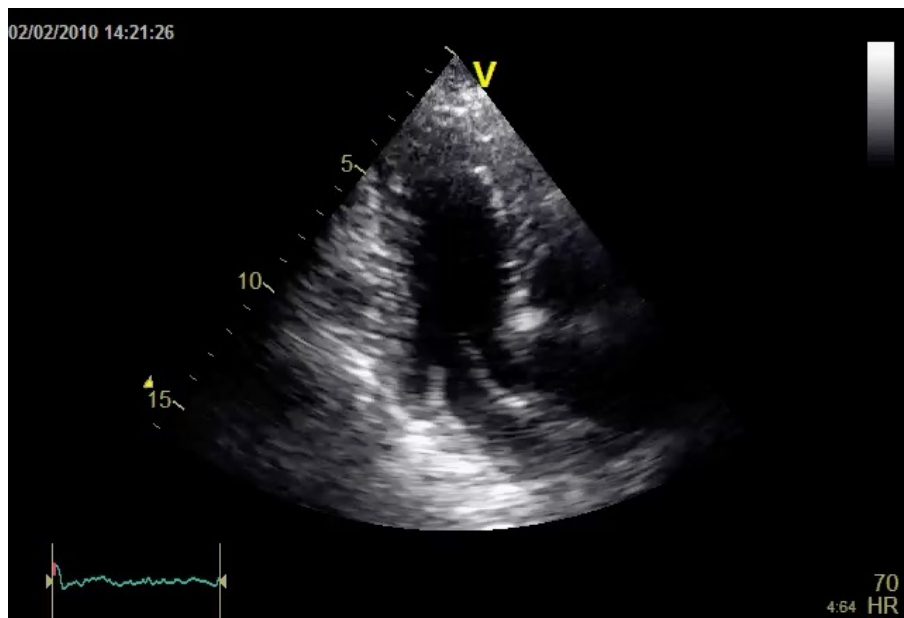
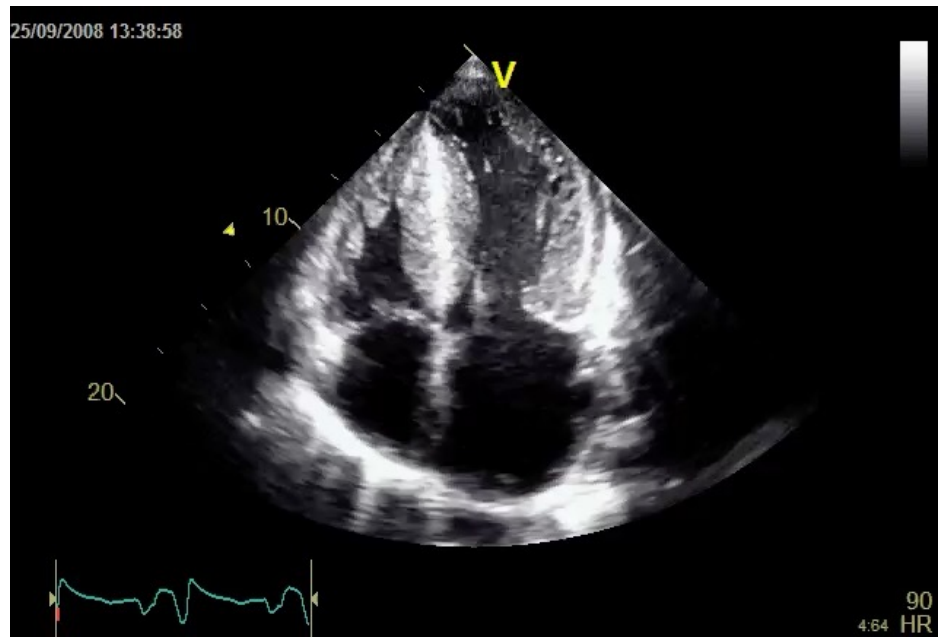


# Ejection Fraction: A Chimeric Index



*Katz AM, et al. Eur Heart J. 2016;37:449–454*





# Conclusion I

1. Sensitive to loading conditions for instance mitral insufficiency with mild dysfunction means actually great loss of EF
2. The term preserved could be misleading confusing and mistakenly reassuring

Intra and inter observer variability  
relatively unreliable



Original Investigation | Cardiology

## Variability in Ejection Fraction Measured By Echocardiography, Gated Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography, and Cardiac Magnetic Resonance in Patients With Coronary Artery Disease and Left Ventricular Dysfunction

Patricia A. Pelikka, MD, Llin She, PhD, Thomas A. Holly, MD, Grace Lin, MD, Padmini Varadarajan, MD, Ramdas G. Pai, MD, Robert O. Bonow, MD, MS, Gerald M. Pohost, MD, Julio A. Panza, MD, Daniel S. Berman, MD, David L. Price, MBBS, PhD, Federico M. Auci, MD, Salvador Borges-Neto, MD, Paul Grayburn, MD, Hussein R. Al-Khalid, PhD, Karol Muzicki-Janska, MD, PhD, Patrice Desjaigne-Nickens, MD, Kerry L. Lee, PhD, Eric J. Velazquez, MD, Jae K. Oh, MD

### Abstract

**IMPORTANCE** Clinical decisions are frequently based on measurement of left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF). Limited information exists regarding inconsistencies in LVEF measurements when determined by various imaging modalities and the potential impact of such variability.

**OBJECTIVE** To determine the intermodality variability of LVEF measured by echocardiography, gated single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT), and cardiovascular magnetic resonance (CMR) in patients with left ventricular dysfunction.

**DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS** International multicenter diagnostic study with LVEF imaging performed at 127 clinical sites in 26 countries from July 24, 2002, to May 5, 2007, and measured by core laboratories. Secondary study of clinical diagnostic measurements of LVEF in the Surgical Treatment for Ischemic Heart Failure (STICH), a randomized trial to identify the optimal treatment strategy for patients with LVEF of 35% or less and coronary artery disease. Data analysis was conducted from March 19, 2016, to May 29, 2018.

**MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES** At baseline, most patients had an echocardiogram and subsets of patients underwent SPECT and/or CMR. Left ventricular ejection fraction was measured by a core laboratory for each modality independent of the results of other modalities, and measurements were compared among imaging methods using correlation, Bland-Altman plots, and coverage probability methods. Association of LVEF by each method and death was assessed.

**RESULTS** A total of 2032 patients (mean [SD] age, 60.9 [9.6] years; 1759 [86.6%] male) with baseline LVEF data were included. Correlation of LVEF between modalities was  $r = 0.601$  (for biplane echocardiography and SPECT [ $n = 385$ ]),  $r = 0.493$  (for biplane echocardiography and CMR [ $n = 204$ ]), and  $r = 0.660$  (for CMR and SPECT [ $n = 134$ ]). Bland-Altman plots showed only moderate agreement in LVEF measurements from all 3 core laboratories with no substantial overestimation or underestimation of LVEF by any modality. The percentage of observations that fell within a range of 5% ranged from 43% to 54% between different imaging modalities.

**CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE** In this international multicenter study of patients with coronary artery disease and reduced LVEF, there was substantial variation between modalities in LVEF determination by core laboratories. This variability should be considered in clinical management and trial design.

### Key Points

**Question** What is the variability in left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) as measured by different cardiac imaging modalities?

**Findings** In this multicenter diagnostic study of 2032 patients with coronary artery disease and LVEF of 35% or less with imaging interpreted by core laboratories, correlation of LVEF between modalities ranged from  $r = 0.493$  (for biplane echocardiography and cardiovascular magnetic resonance) to  $r = 0.660$  (for cardiovascular magnetic resonance and gated single-photon emission computed tomography). There was no systematic overestimation or underestimation of LVEF for any modality.

**Meaning** There is substantial variability in LVEF assessment between modalities, which should be considered in trial design and clinical management.

### Supplemental content

Author affiliations and article information are listed at the end of this article.

### VIEWPOINT

## Redefining Heart Failure With a Reduced Ejection Fraction

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Milton Packer, MD  
Baylor Heart and Vascular Institute, Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, and Temple College London, United Kingdom

The current management of patients with chronic heart failure depends on the noninvasive measurement of left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF). In patients with an LVEF of 40% or lower, large-scale randomized clinical trials have demonstrated the benefits of inhibitors of the renin-angiotensin system, sympathetic nervous system, aldosterone, and neprilysin in reducing the risk of cardiovascular death and hospitalization for heart failure. Because these trials only enrolled patients with an LVEF of 40% or lower, a value of 40% has been used to define patients with heart failure and a reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF) for the past 30 years. Current guidelines strongly recommend the use of combination treatment with neurohormonal antagonists for patients with HFrEF.<sup>1</sup> By contrast, there are no evidence-based recommendations concerning the treatment of patients with LVEF greater than 40%, who have been conventionally referred to as having heart failure with a preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF). This lack of guidance is a concern because such patients now represent a majority of those with heart failure in the general community, particularly among women.<sup>2</sup>

### How Should Patients With Impaired Systolic Function Be Identified?

Despite its historical use, a value for LVEF of 40% does not distinguish patients with heart failure who have normal LVEF from those who have abnormally low LVEF values. Like many measurements in medicine, LVEF is a continuous variable, and the identification of normal values is dependent on various variables including sex and age. Guidelines indicate that the low end of normal for LVEF is 52% in men and 54% in women<sup>3</sup>; an LVEF of 41% to 51% in men and 41% to 53% in women is regarded as mildly reduced. However, despite having meaningful systolic dysfunction, these patients were not enrolled in trials of HFrEF because those studies were designed to have highest event rates to make their sample sizes financially feasible.

Because an LVEF of 40% or lower was used as a criterion for enrollment in studies of HFrEF, when trials of patients with HFpEF were first conducted, they focused on patients who had been excluded from trials of HFrEF, ie, they required patients to have an LVEF higher than 40%.<sup>4</sup> Early investigators deemed such patients to have preserved ejection fraction because they understood that the group included patients with a subnormal LVEF (<50%-55%) as well as patients with an LVEF in the normal range (>50%-55%). In 2013, the ACC/AHA (American College of Cardiology Foundation/American Heart Association) guidelines classified patients with heart failure who had an LVEF of 41% through 49% as having “HFpEF, borderline” and considered them to be distinct from those with HFrEF.<sup>5</sup> More recently, the 2016 ESC guideline classified patients with an LVEF of 40% through 49% as having “heart fail-

ure with a mid-range ejection fraction.”<sup>6</sup> The authors formulated this category to encourage further study of this intermediate group. However, this intent was widely misunderstood, and many physicians considered this mid-range group to represent a new distinct clinical entity.

Any classification of heart failure that relies on LVEF has inherent limitations. First, the measurement of LVEF is highly dependent on the method used for imaging, and even when the same method is used, there is considerable intraobserver and interobserver variability. Repeat measurements of LVEF in the same patients using the same methods by experts in echocardiography routinely vary by 7%; the variability is greater in clinical practice. When the echocardiograms of patients enrolled in clinical trials are reviewed using standardized criteria, differences between the values obtained by site investigators and the core laboratory routinely vary as much as 5% when reading the same images. Furthermore, the quality of images is highly operator-dependent, and the values for LVEF depend on loading conditions, ie, volume status and blood pressure. Hence, it is likely that a meaningful proportion of patients with an LVEF of 40% to 50% would be reclassified as having an LVEF of lower than 40% or higher than 50% if the measurement were repeated.

Perhaps more important, when assessed using biomarkers that reflect potential disease mechanisms, patients with HFpEF typically show evidence of increased circulating levels of proteins that reflect the occurrence of cardiomyocyte injury, loss, and stretch. In contrast, patients who have heart failure and an LVEF higher than 50% typically show biomarkers that reflect systemic inflammation and evidence of endothelial injury and myocardial fibrosis. It is therefore noteworthy that, in these studies, patients with an LVEF of 40% to 50% exhibit a pathophysiological profile that closely resembles patients with an LVEF lower than 40%, but manifest a profile that differs from patients with heart failure and an LVEF higher than 50%.<sup>6</sup>

### Benefit of Neurohormonal Antagonists in Patients With an LVEF of 40% to 50%

The concept that patients with heart failure and an LVEF of 40% to 50% have similar clinical features as those with an LVEF lower than 40% is strongly supported by the results of several large-scale randomized trials that enrolled patients with preserved ejection fraction. Each trial enrolled patients who had chronic mild to severe symptoms of heart failure, including those with and without underlying coronary artery disease or hypertension.

The CHARM Preserved trial<sup>7</sup> evaluated the effects of the angiotensin receptor blocker candesartan in 3023 patients with heart failure and LVEF higher than 40%. Compared with placebo, candesartan reduced the risk

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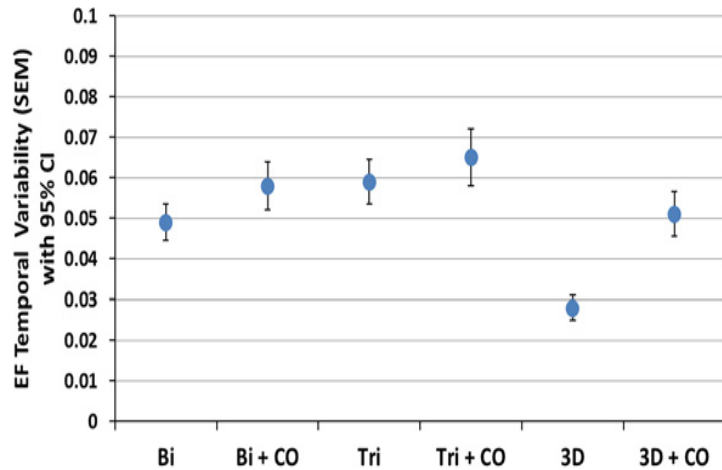
JAMA Published online September 11, 2018

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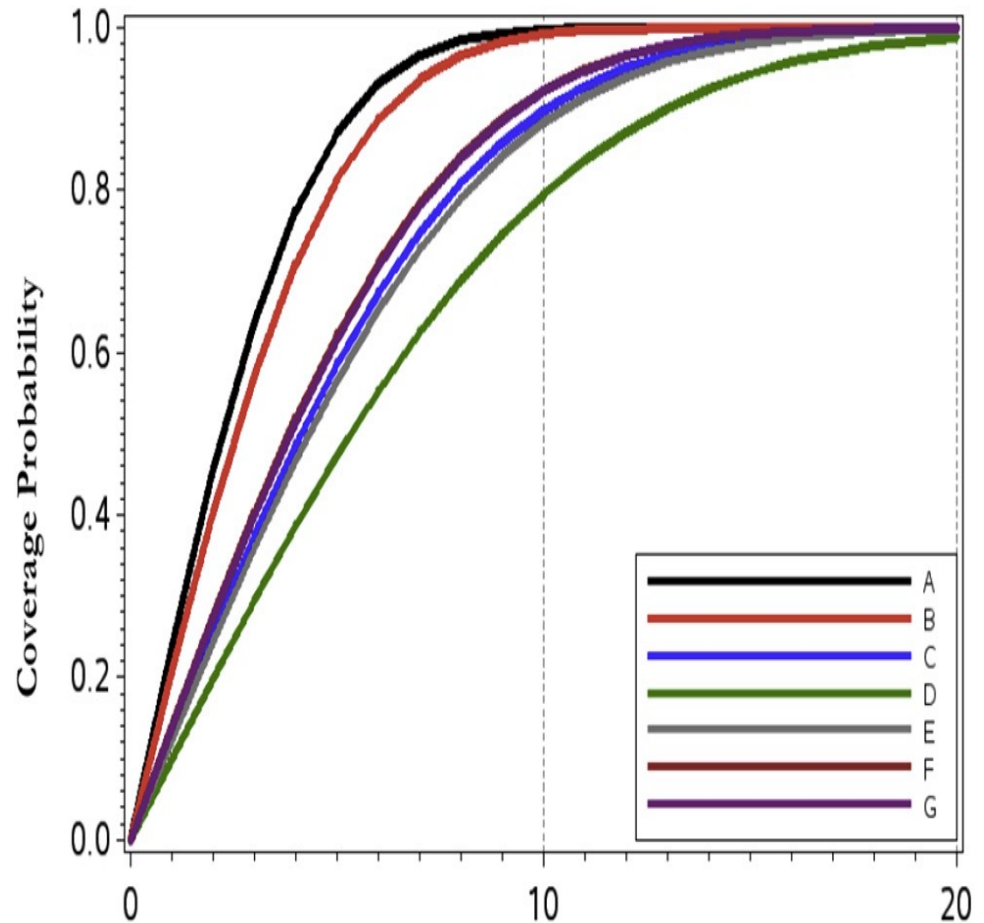
	Volumetric MRI	Biplane MRI	Volumetric Echocardiography	Biplane Echocardiography
<b>Interobserver</b>				
Variability (%)	3.6	13.4	8.3	17.8
Mean ± SD (%)	0.5 ± 1.5	-1.4 ± 5.9	-0.1 ± 3.8	1.3 ± 8.8
SEE	1.6	4.3	3.7	9.2
r <sup>2</sup>	0.99	0.94	0.96	0.82
<b>Intraobserver</b>				
Variability (%)	5.1	13.0	6.9	13.4
Mean ± SD (%)	-1.1 ± 2.1	-2.0 ± 5.6	-0.4 ± 3.1	-0.9 ± 6.8
SEE	2.1	5.4	3.3	6.7
r <sup>2</sup>	0.99	0.91	0.97	0.90

M. L. Chuang, et al J ACC 2000;35:477– 84



EF SEM	0.049	0.058	0.059	0.065	0.028	0.051
95% CI	(0.045–0.054)	(0.053–0.065)*	(0.054–0.065)	(0.058–0.072)	(0.025–0.031)	(0.046–0.057)*

P. Thavendiranathan et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2013;61:77–84



Pairwise Differences for Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction (%)

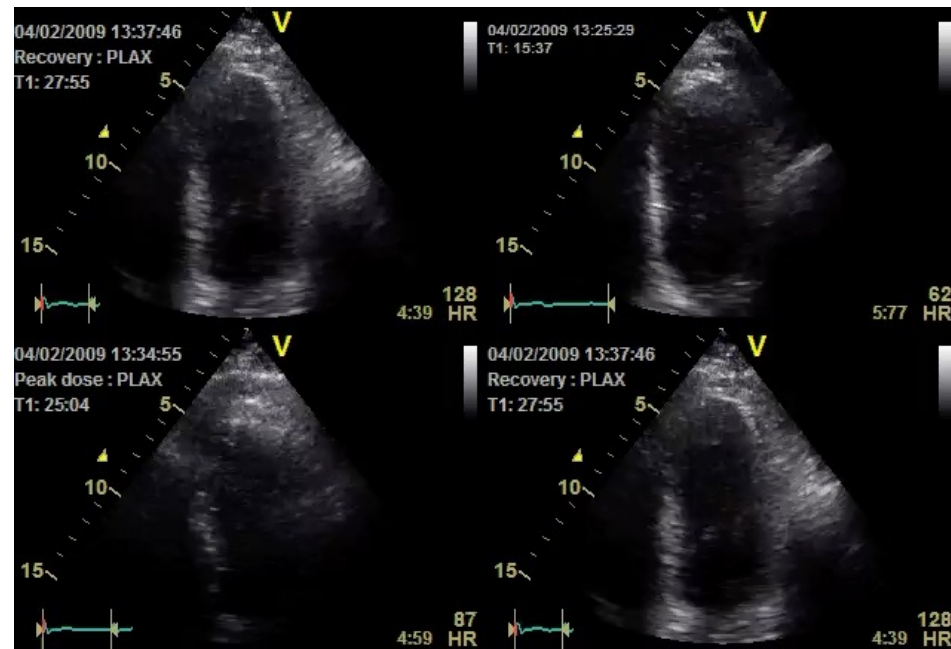
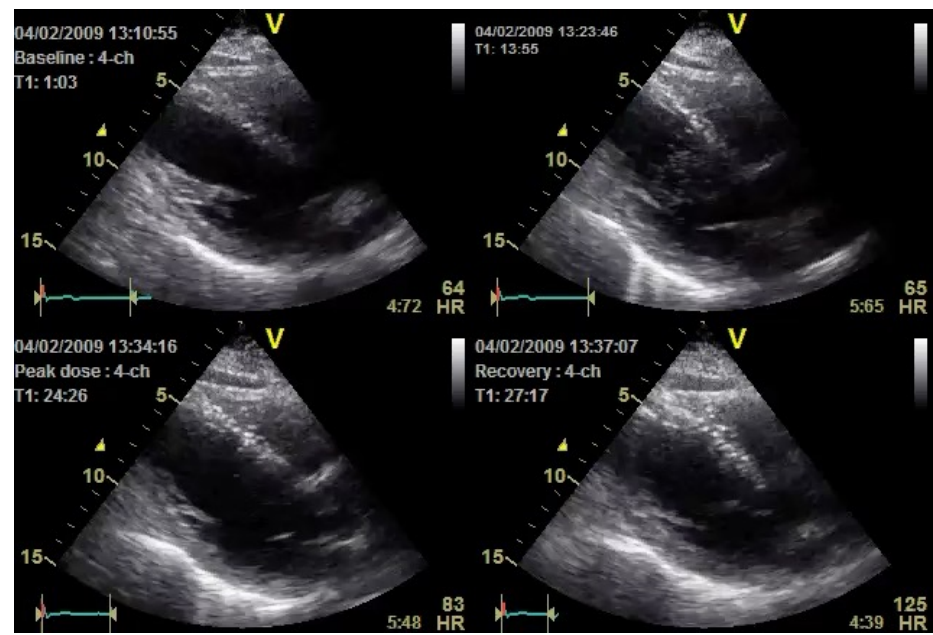
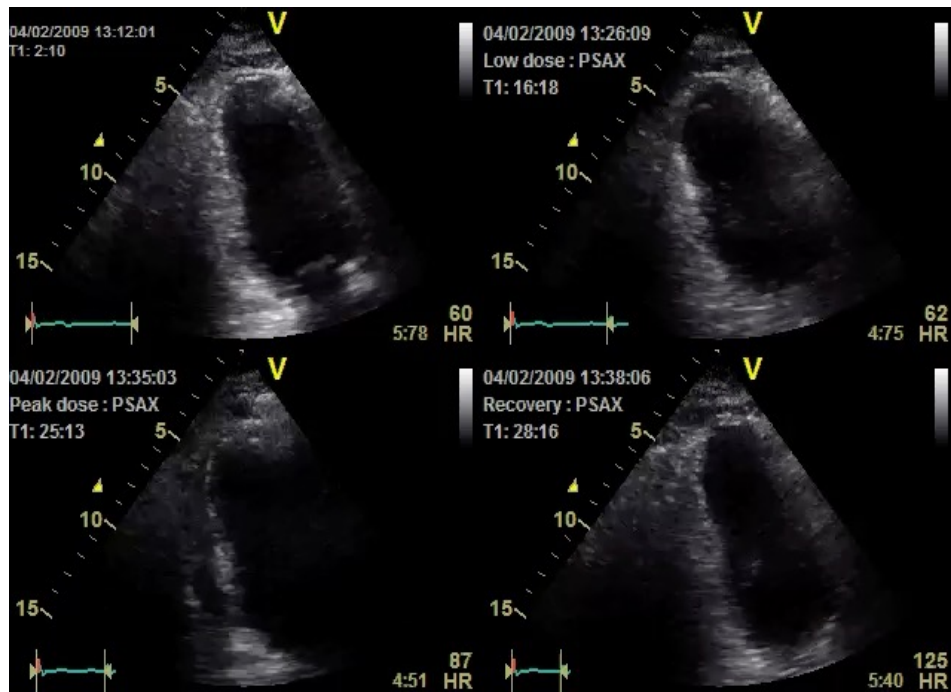
A.L. Crowley et al. J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2016;29:1144–54.)

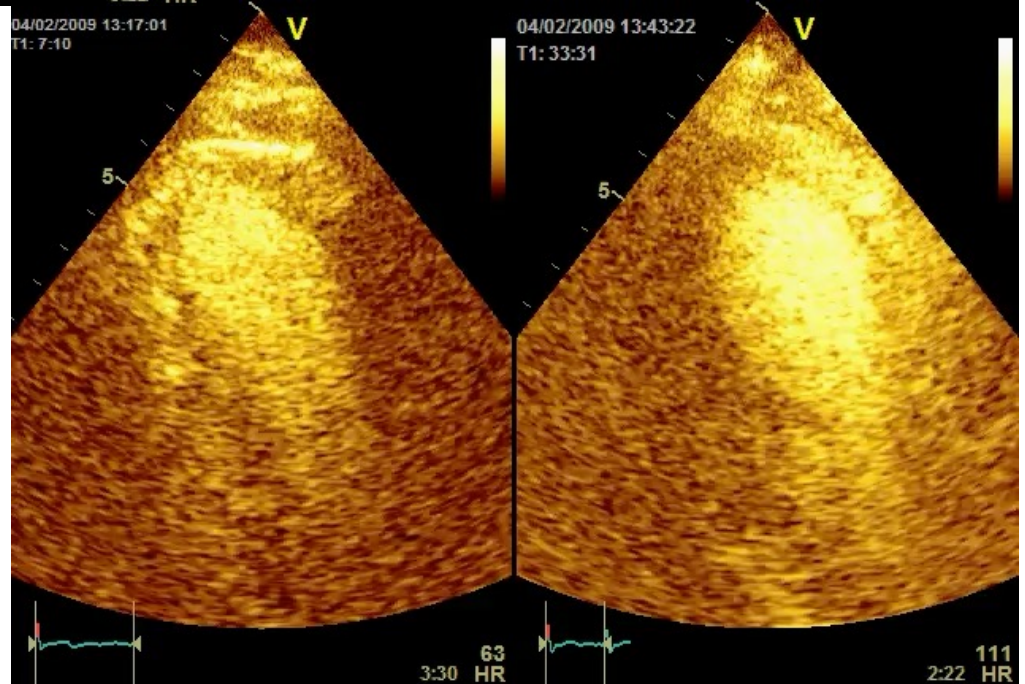
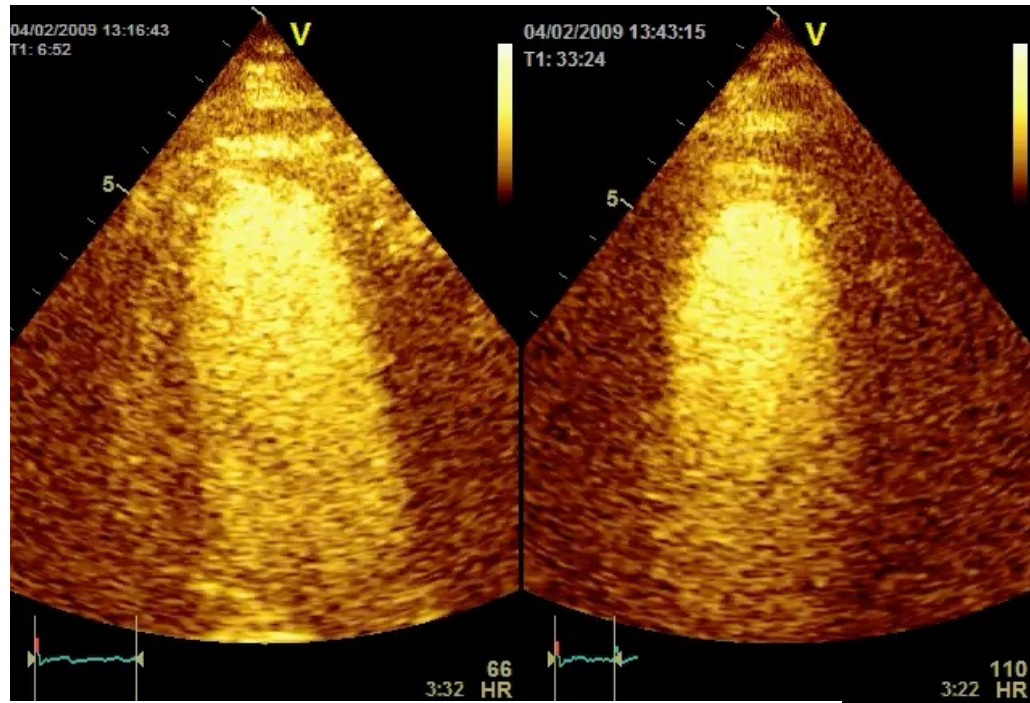
## Conclusion II

1. Intra and inter observer variability relatively unreliable
2. Unable to display complex anatomical structures - It hides structural functional heart abnormalities
3. Systolic and diastolic dysfunction is often present in HEpEF or HErEF

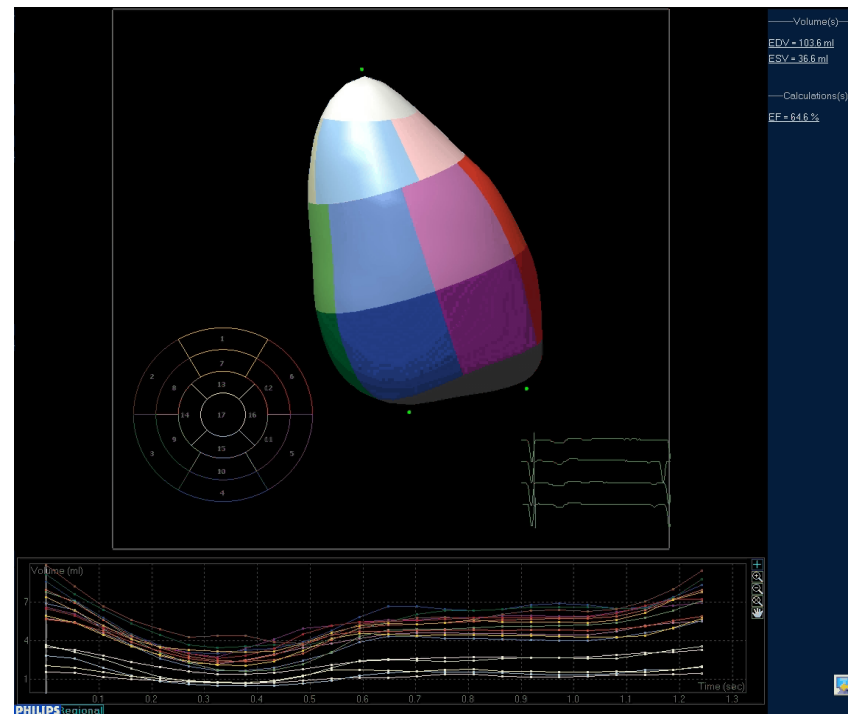
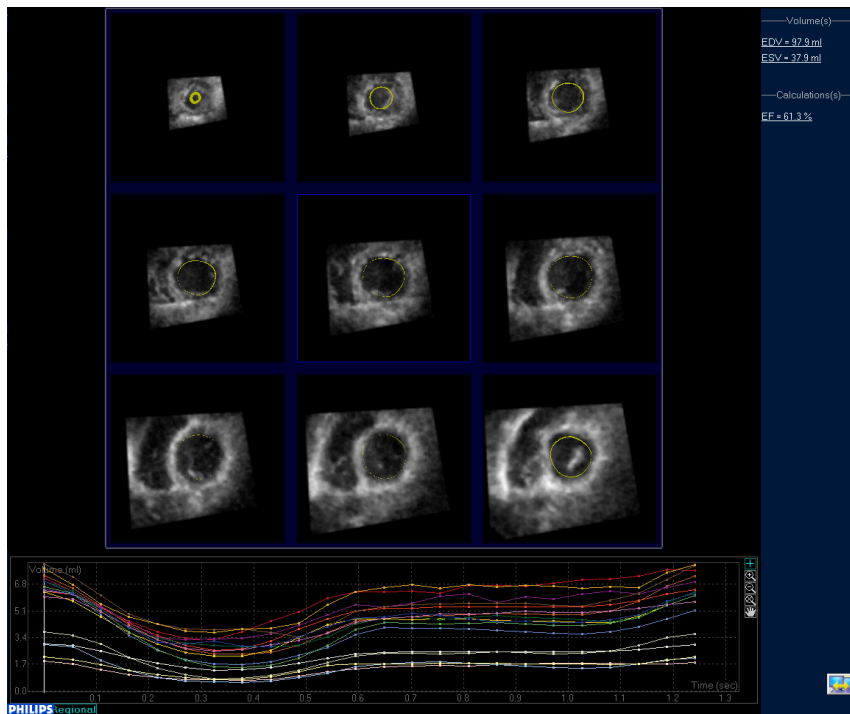
# New Techniques

## 3D Echo

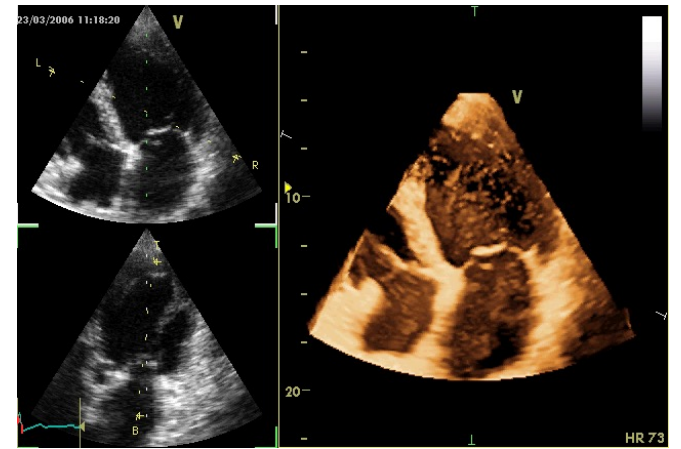
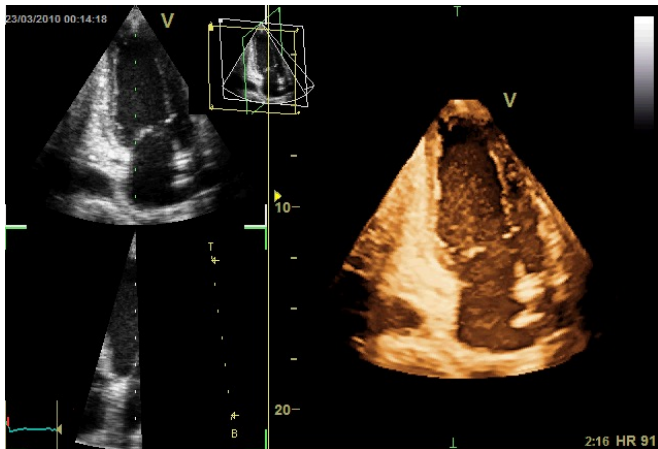
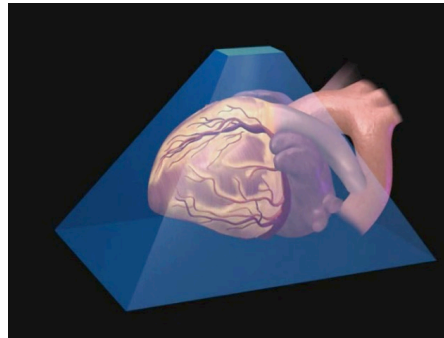
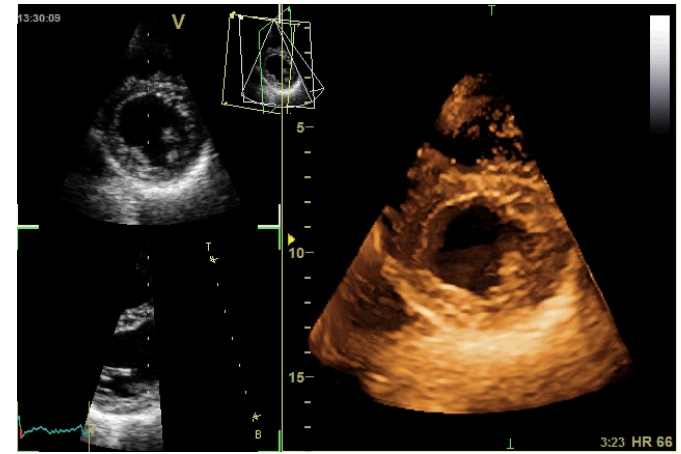
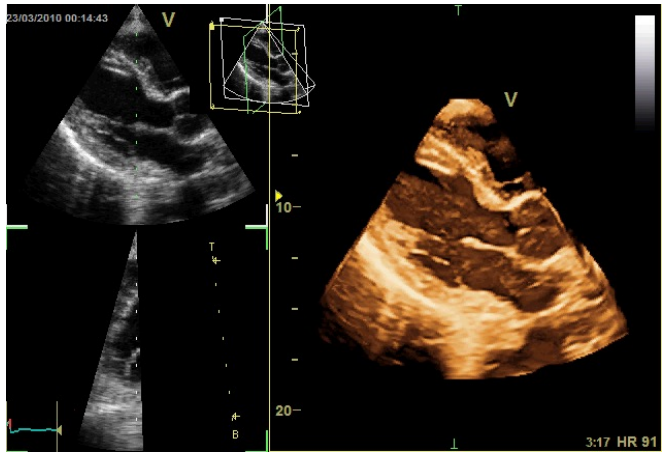




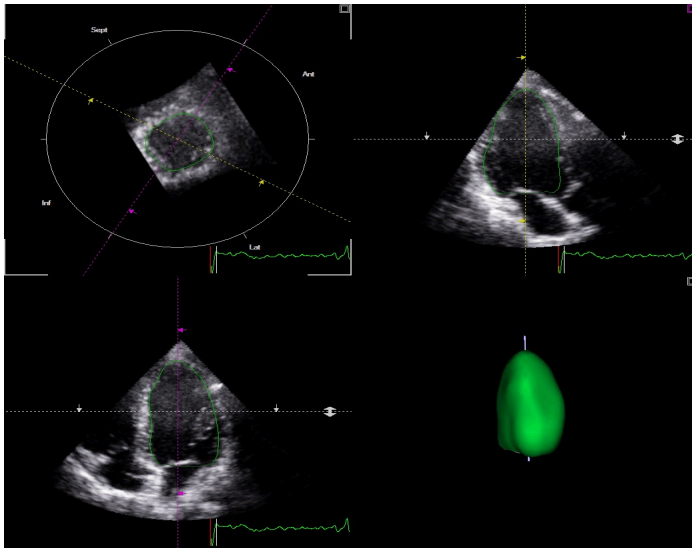
# New Techniques 3D Echo



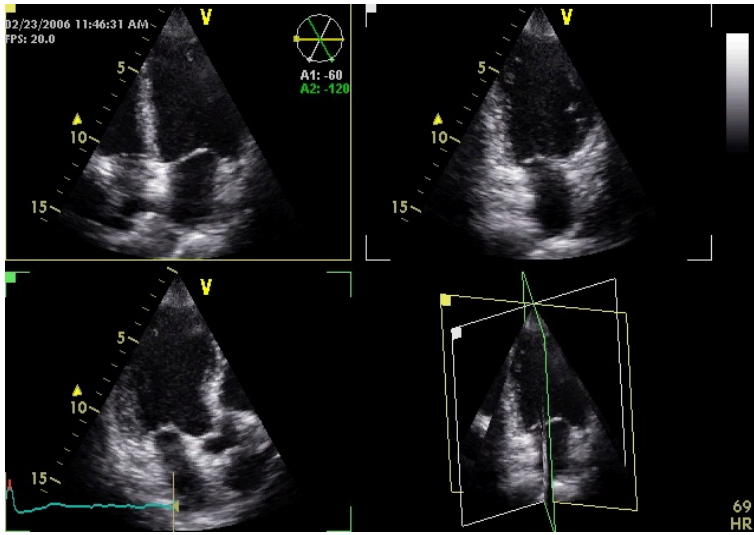
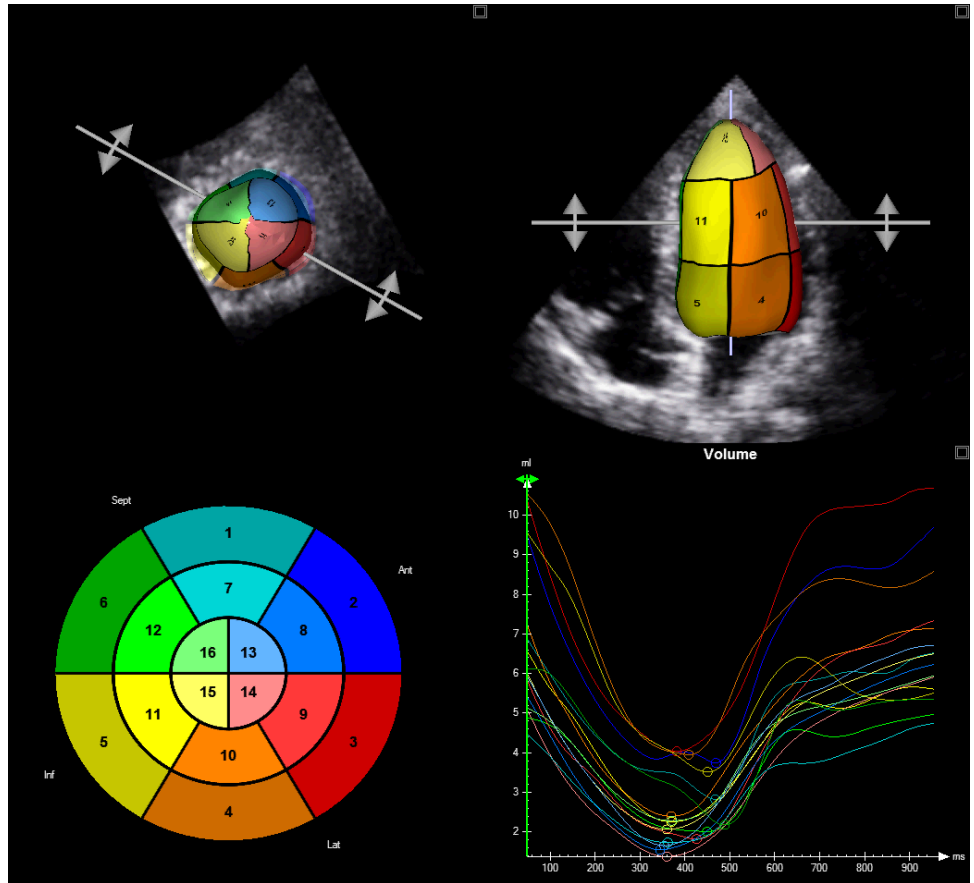
# New Techniques 3D Echo



# Estimation of the volume and functionality

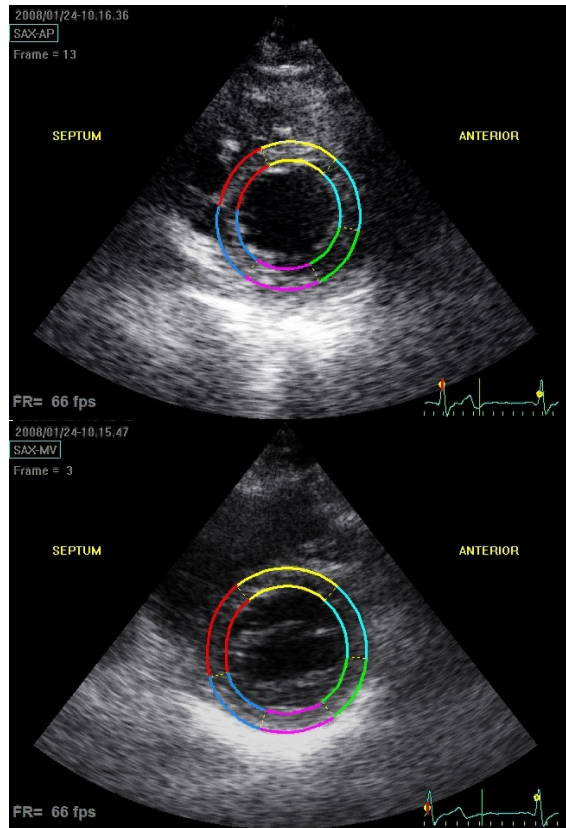


EDV	109.44 ml
ESV	41.98 ml
SV	67.46 ml
EF	61.64 %
SDI16	49 ms

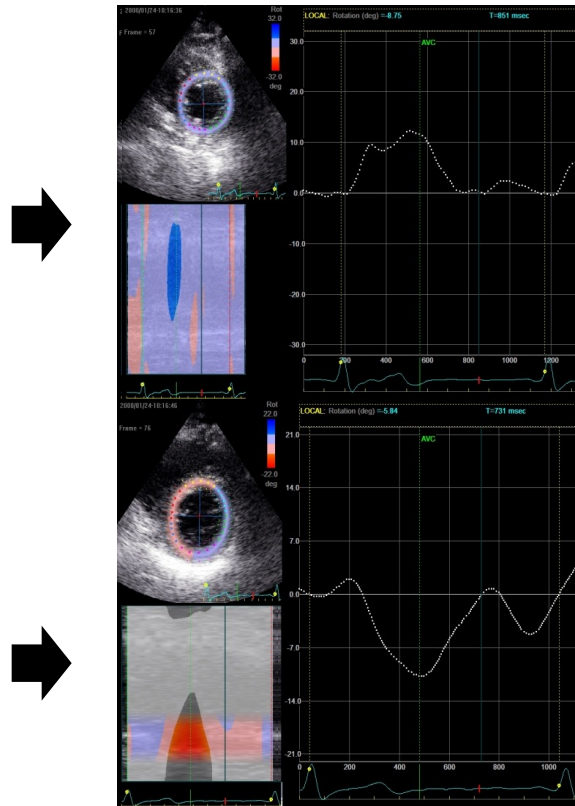


# Left Ventricular Rotation

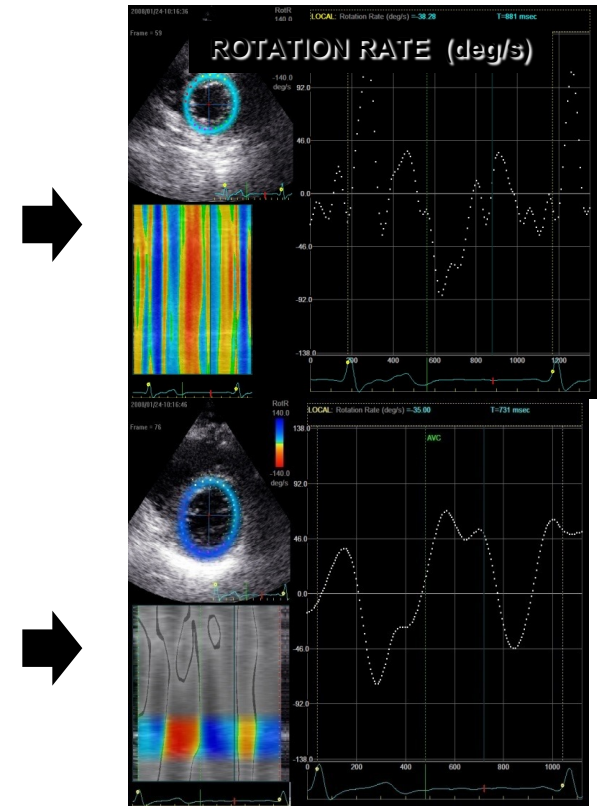
Counterclockwise movement



Top (A)

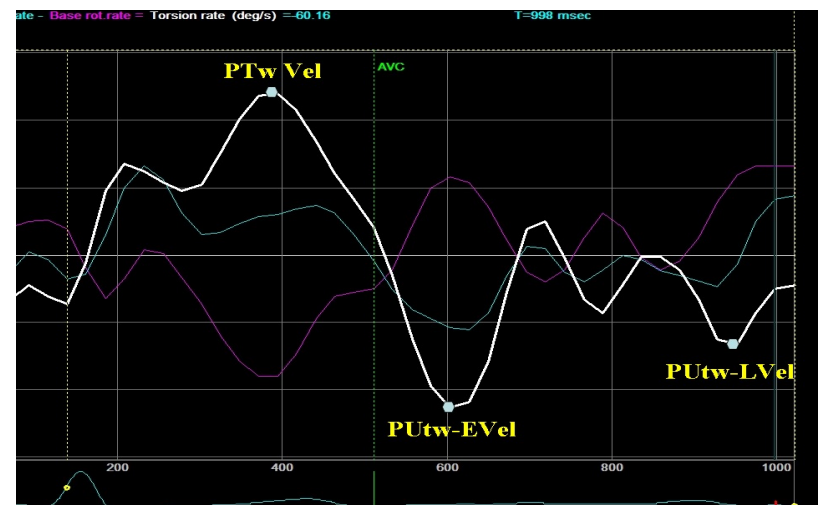
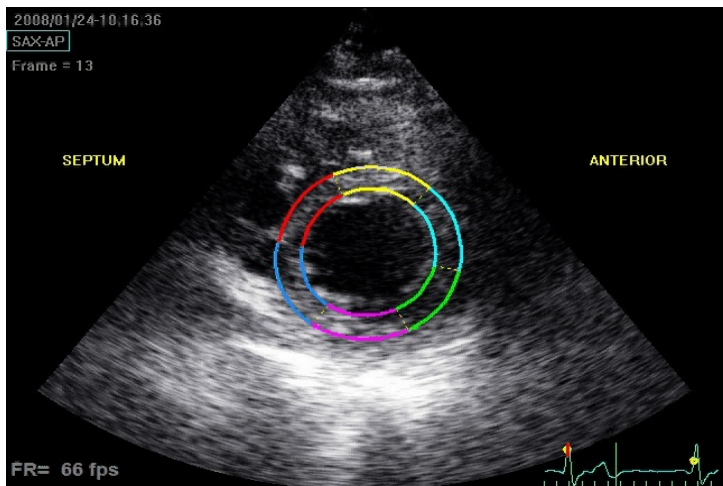
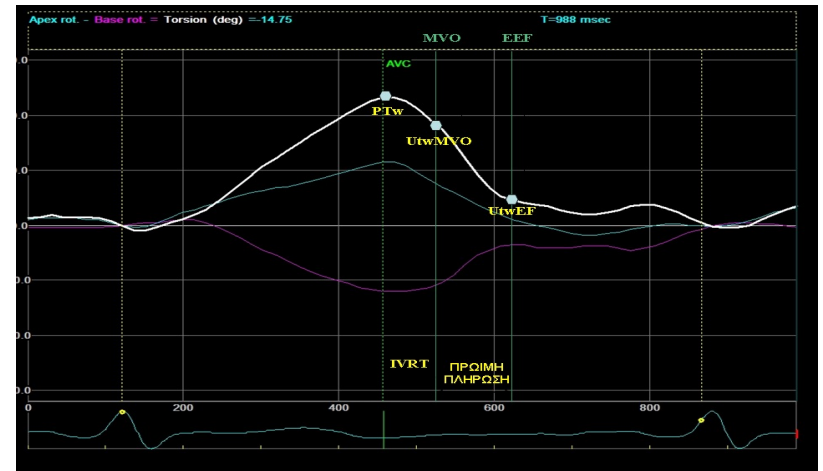
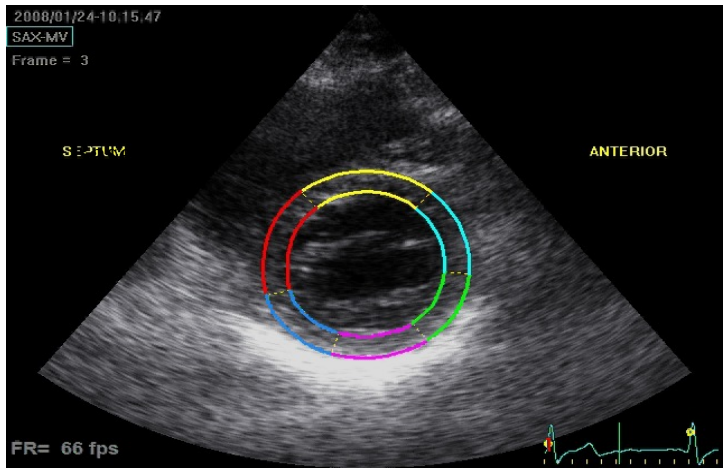


Base (B)



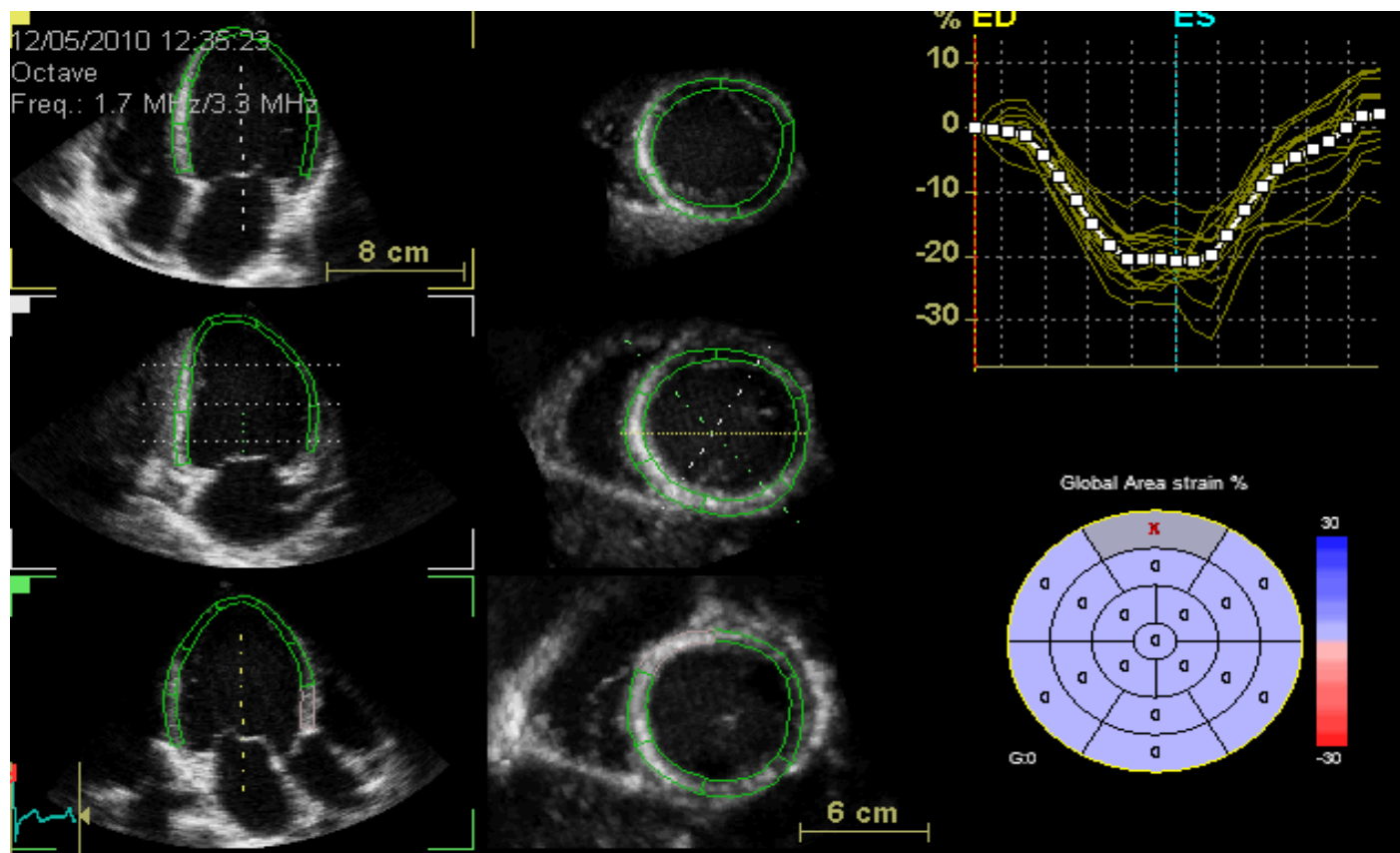
Clockwise movement

# From Rotation to Torsion



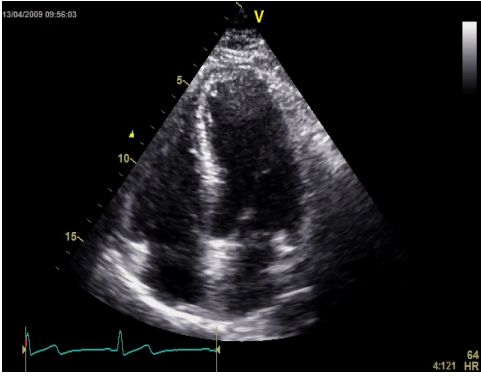
Helical cardiac motion where the top is directed counterclockwise and the base clockwise with longitudinal shortening and simultaneous transverse movement (thickening) of their walls

# 3D STRAIN (Wall Motion Tracking)

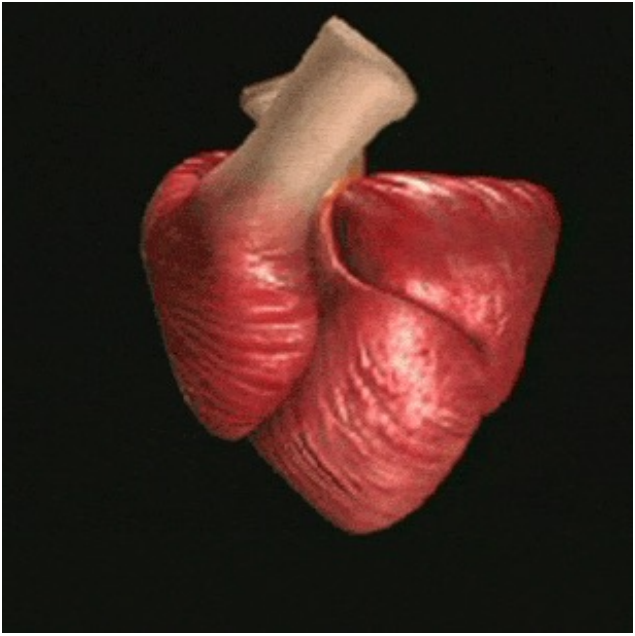
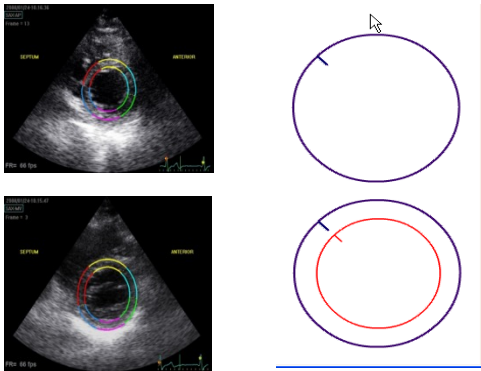
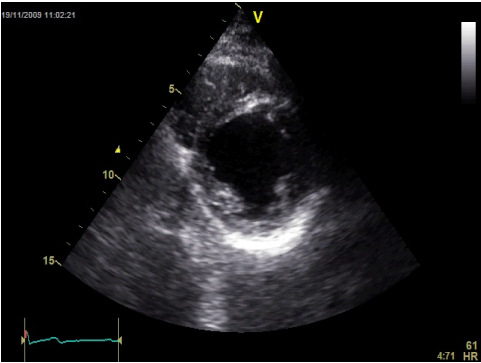


Time-strain curves from each of 16 segments

Longitudinal shortening



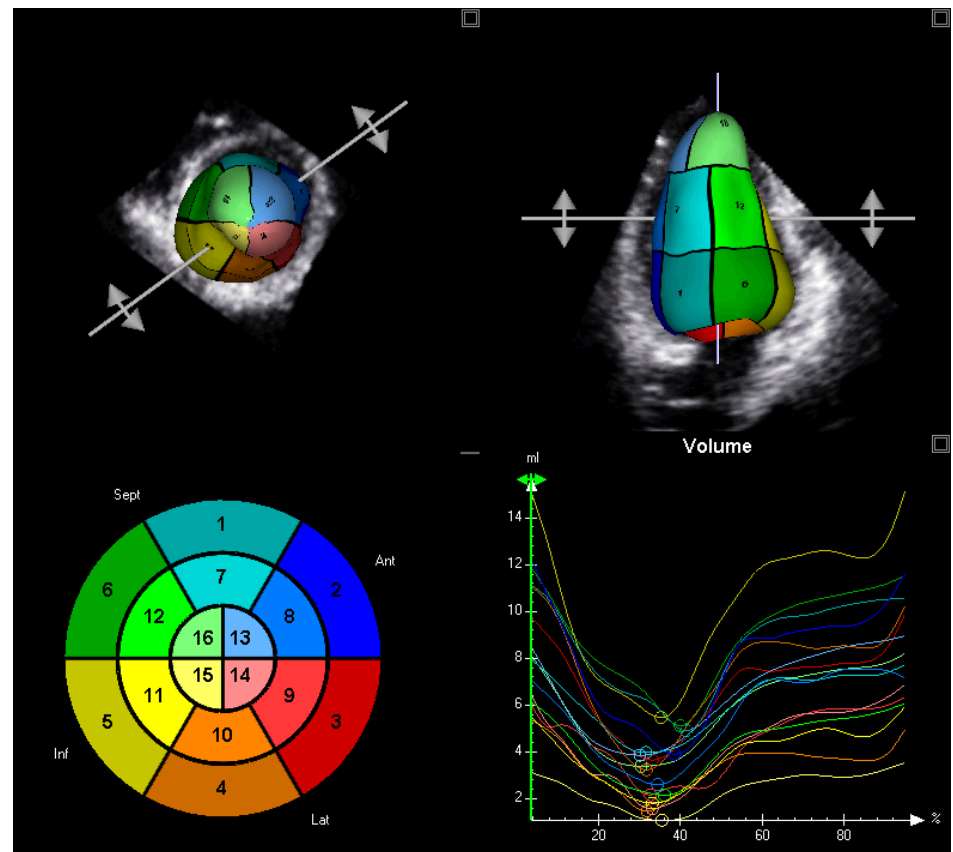
Cicumferential Radial shortening





# 4D Quantification of LV function

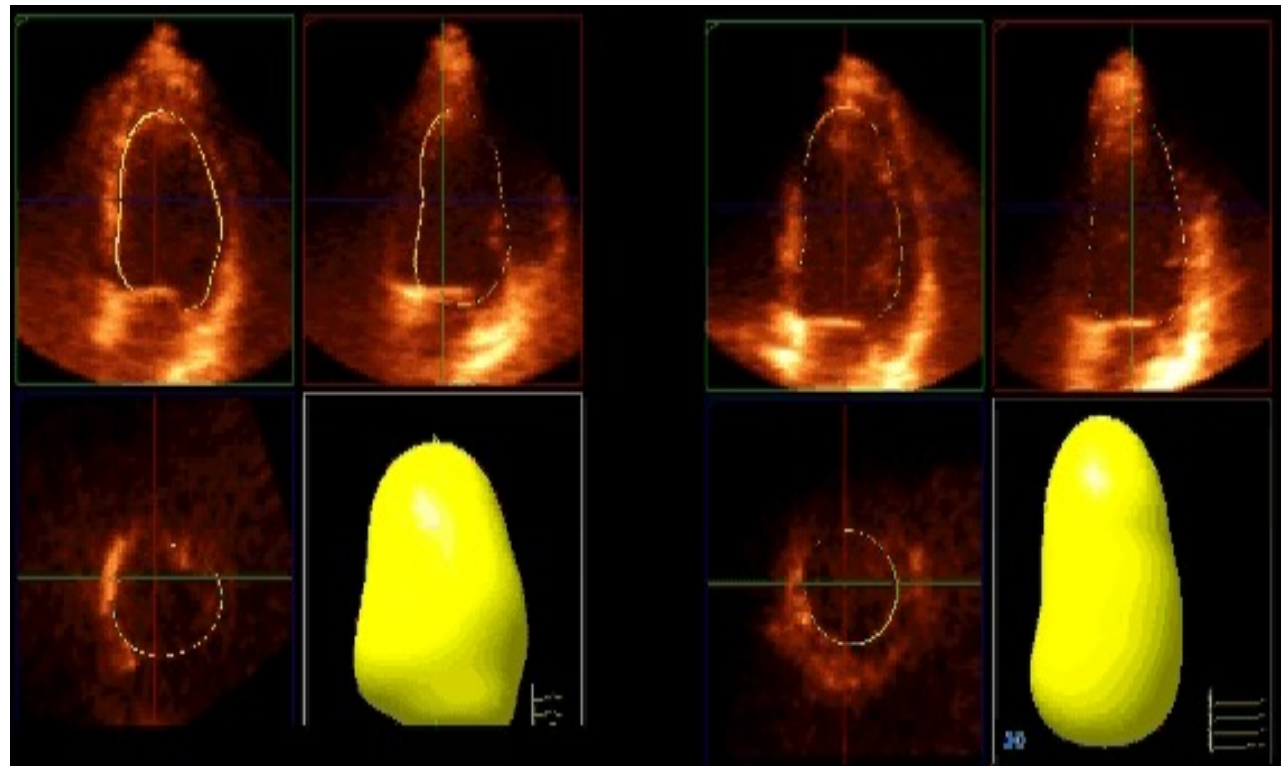
		<i>Mean difference ± SD vs MRI</i>	
		<b>RT3DE</b>	<b>2DE</b>
Jenkins 2004	EDV (ml)	-4±9	-54±33
	ESV (ml)	-3±18	-28±28
	EF (%)	0±7	-1±13
Caiani 2005	EDV (ml)	-4±29	-23±86
	ESV (ml)	-4±33	-19±60
	EF (%)	-8±14	+4±16
Jacobs 2006	EDV (ml)	-14±17	-23±29
	ESV (ml)	-7±16	-15±24
	EF (%)	-1±6	1±9



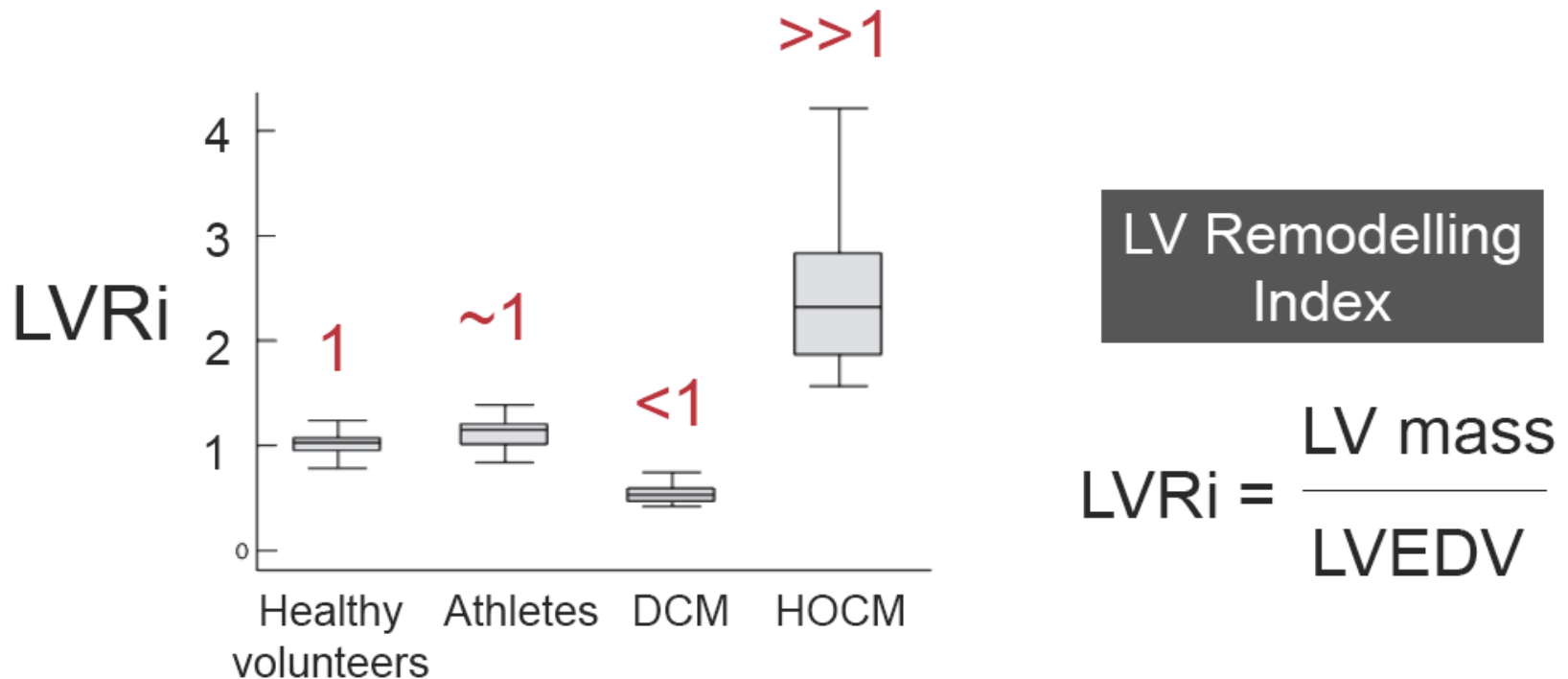
# LV Remodeling Index (LVRi) In Various Conditions by RT-3D Echo

220 subjects:  
normal athletes  
DCM HOCM

3D:  
Of line  
endocardial and  
epicardial border  
tracing



# RT-3D Echo-Derived LVRI in Various Pathophysiological Conditions



# Clinical Decision Making by 3D Echo

- 220 pts, 3 hospitals
- 3D: 83% feasible; add time 5.4±2 min

## Clinically-relevant measurement thresholds:

- **LVESV >50ml/m<sup>2</sup>**  
(surgery for regurgitant valve lesions)
- **LVESV >30ml/m<sup>2</sup>**  
(prognosis after MI)
- **LVEF <35%**  
(indication for ICD)
- **LVEF <40%**  
(indication for HF treatment)

## Reallocation by 3D

8.5%,	(5/59)
12.4%,	(13/105)
17.5%,	(11/63)
16.1%,	(13/81)

# Estimation of Diastolic and Systolic function

HEART FAILURE



European Journal of Heart Failure (2009) 11, 945–951  
doi:10.1093/eurjhf/hfp124

## Left Ventricular Mechanics in Idiopathic Dilated Cardiomyopathy: Systolic-Diastolic Coupling and Torsion

Jaroslav Meluzin, MD, PhD, FESC, Lenka Spinarova, MD, PhD, FESC, Petr Hudec, MD, Jan Krejci, MD, Hana Poloczкова, MD, Helena Podrouzkova, MD, Martin Pesl, MD, Marek Orban, MD, Ladislav Dusek, MD, PhD, and Josef Korinek, MD, PhD, *Brno and Prague, Czech Republic; Rochester, Minnesota*

**Background:** In idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy (IDC), myocardial deformational parameters and their mutual relationships remain incompletely characterized.

**Methods:** Thirty-seven patients with IDC underwent two-dimensional speckle-tracking echocardiography (2D-STE) to assess left ventricular rotation, torsion, and longitudinal, circumferential, and radial systolic and diastolic strains and strain rates. Additionally, 2D-STE was performed in 14 controls.

**Results:** All deformational parameters on 2D-STE were significantly lower in patients with IDC compared with controls. Seven patients exhibited opposite basal (positive, counterclockwise) and 11 patients exhibited opposite apical (negative, clockwise) rotation at end-systole. Circumferential, radial, and longitudinal early diastolic strain rates were correlated most strongly with the corresponding spatial components of systolic deformation.

**Conclusion:** In patients IDC, all torsional, systolic, and diastolic deformational parameters were decreased. Corresponding three-dimensional components of systolic and diastolic deformations were closely coupled. Considerable variation in the direction of basal and apical rotation exists in a subset of patients with IDC. (J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2009;22:486-493.)

**Keywords:** Left ventricular rotation, Torsion, Two-dimensional strain echocardiography

## Left ventricular remodelling and torsional dynamics in dilated cardiomyopathy: reversed apical rotation as a marker of disease severity<sup>†</sup>

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Received 18 June 2009; revised 29 July 2009; accepted 7 August 2009

### Aims

Decreased left ventricular (LV) rotation and torsion and even reversed systolic apical rotation have been described in patients with dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM). We sought to test in patients with DCM whether reversed apical rotation with loss of LV torsion is related to the extent of LV remodelling and to the severity of LV dysfunction.

### Methods and results

Fifty consecutive patients with DCM (aged 49 ± 13 years) were enrolled prospectively. Forty-seven healthy volunteers served as controls. All subjects underwent clinical examination, 12-lead electrocardiography, and a comprehensive echocardiogram. Basal and apical LV rotation and LV torsion were quantified by speckle tracking echocardiography. Left ventricular systolic rotation and torsion were reduced in patients, compared with controls ( $P < 0.001$ ). Normally directed (counterclockwise) apical rotation was found in 24 patients (group 1), whereas 26 had reversed (clockwise) apical rotation (group 2). Patients in group 2 had larger LV volume, increased LV sphericity ( $P \leq 0.02$ ), more severe systolic dysfunction (ejection fraction  $26 \pm 7$  vs.  $33 \pm 12\%$ ), and higher filling pressures (E/E' ratio  $19 \pm 10$  vs.  $14 \pm 6$ ;  $P < 0.05$ ). The main correlates of LV apical rotation were LV volume, sphericity index, and QRS duration.

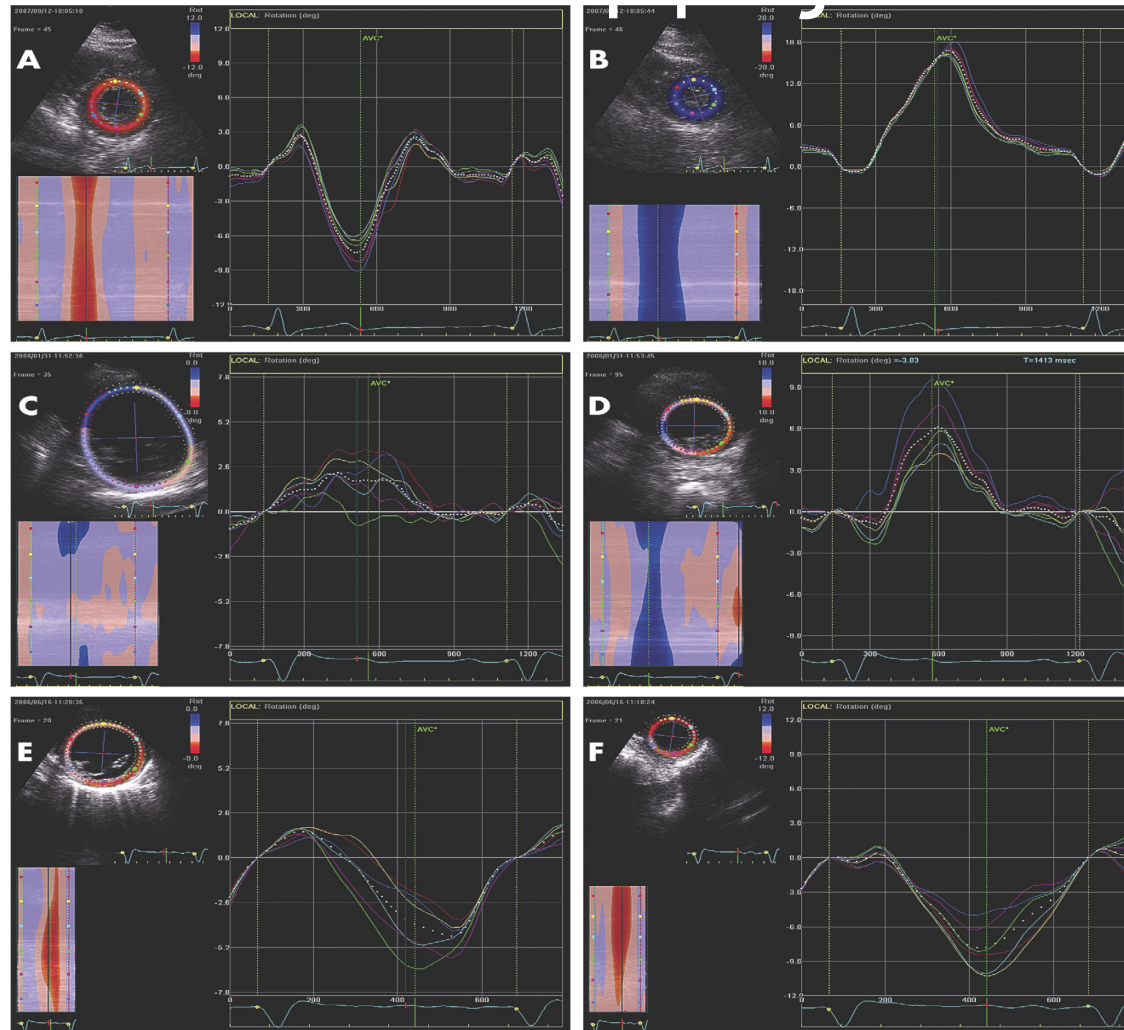
### Conclusion

Reversed apical rotation and loss of LV torsion in patients with DCM is associated with significant LV remodelling, increased electrical dyssynchrony, reduced systolic function, and increased filling pressures, indicating a more advanced disease stage.

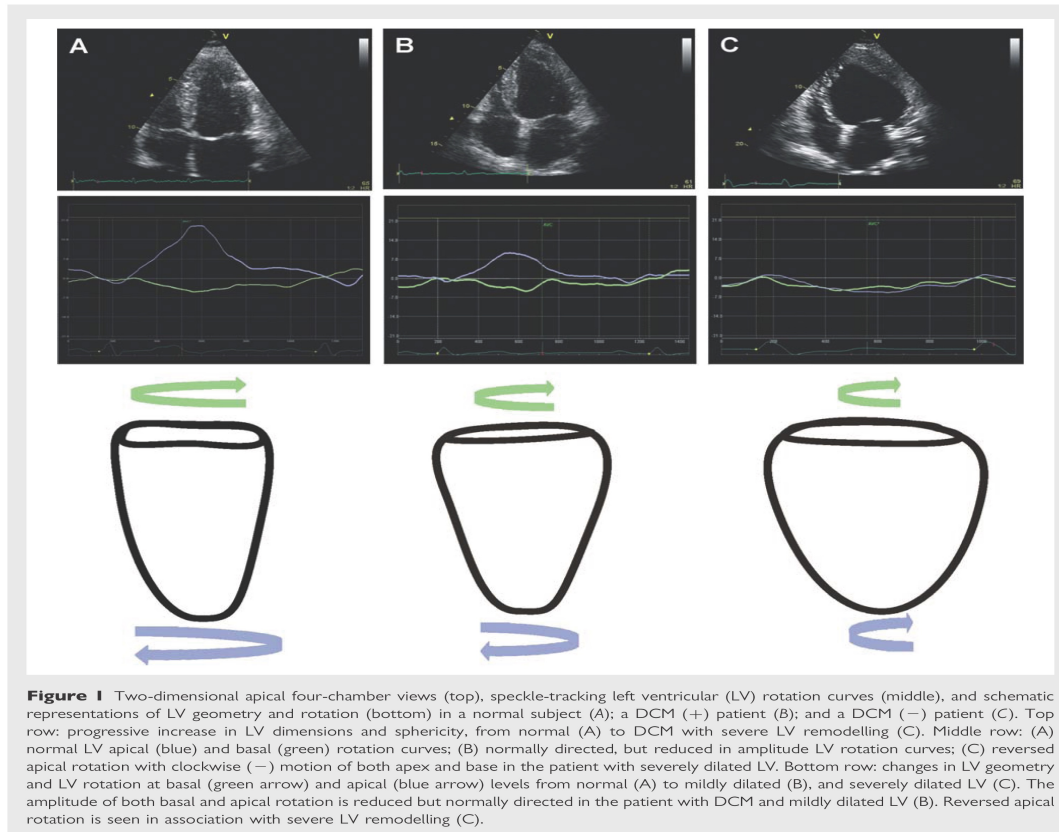
### Keywords

Dilated cardiomyopathy • Left ventricular remodelling • Apical rotation • Left ventricular torsion • Speckle tracking echocardiography

# Estimation of Diastolic and Systolic function



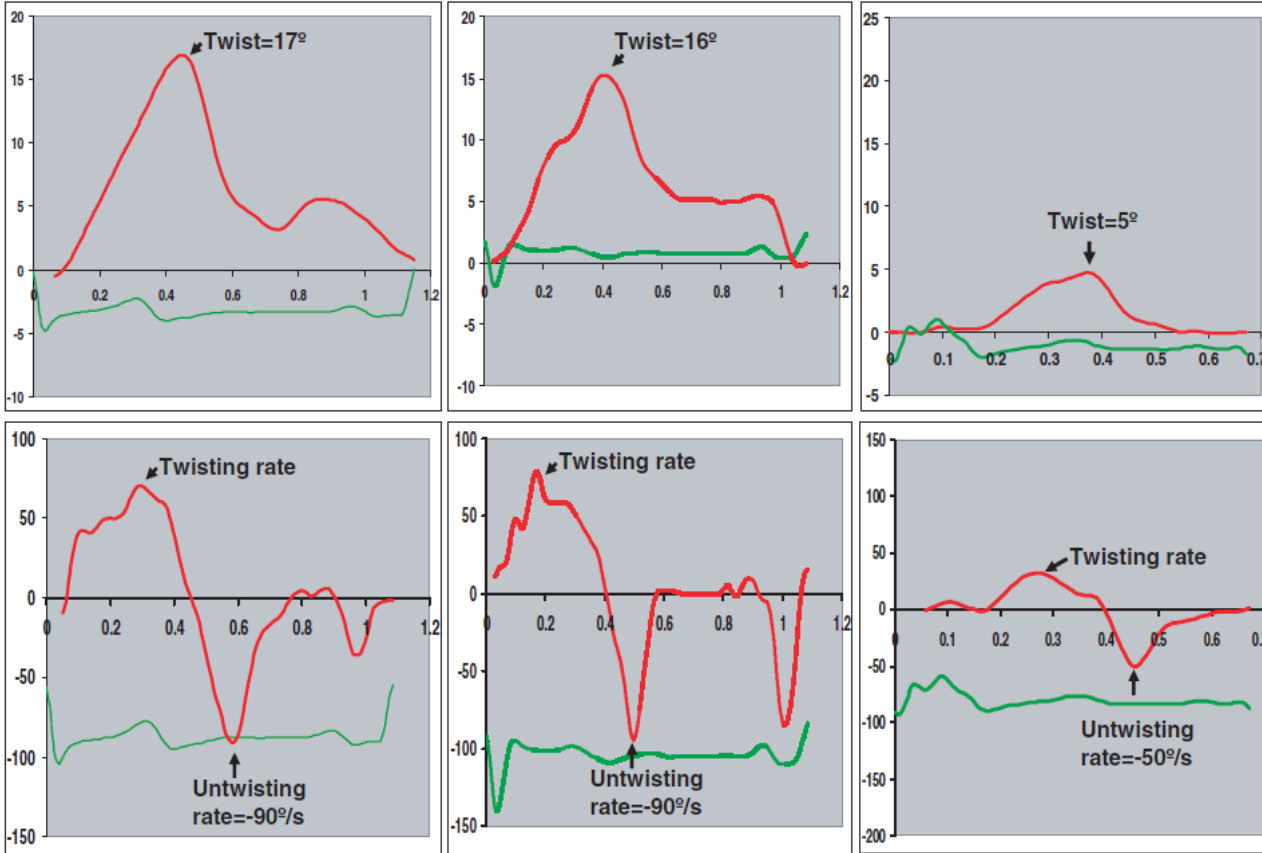
**Figure 1** Examples of normal and opposite basal and apical rotation curves obtained from a healthy volunteer and from two patients with IDC. Each color of the deformational curve represents one segment of the left ventricle, and the *dashed white curve* depicts mean rotation of 6 segments. (Top) Normal negative (clockwise) late systolic and end-systolic basal rotation (A) and normal positive (counterclockwise) late systolic and end-systolic apical rotation (B) in a healthy volunteer. (Middle) A patient with IDC with opposite (positive) late systolic and end-systolic basal rotation (C) and normal positive direction of apical end-systolic rotation (D). (Bottom) A patient with IDC with normal negative direction of basal end-systolic rotation (E) and opposite (negative) end-systolic apical rotation (F).



## Conclusions

Reversed apical rotation and loss of LV torsion in patients with DCM is associated with significant LV remodelling, altered ventricular geometry, increased electrical dyssynchrony, reduced systolic function, and increased LV filling pressures. These findings identify a subgroup of patients with more advanced disease.

# Torsion Behavior

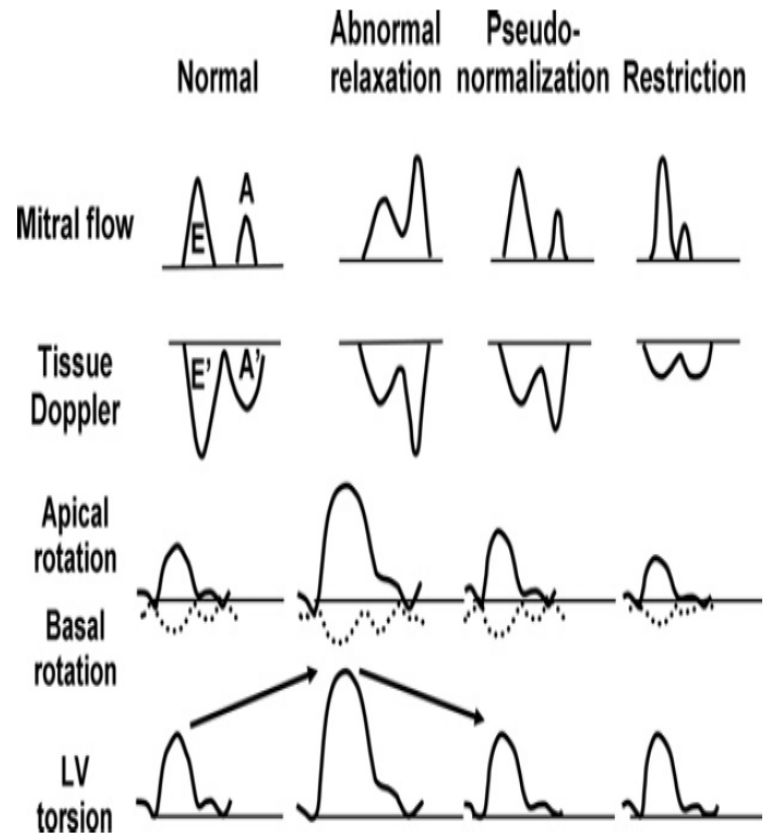
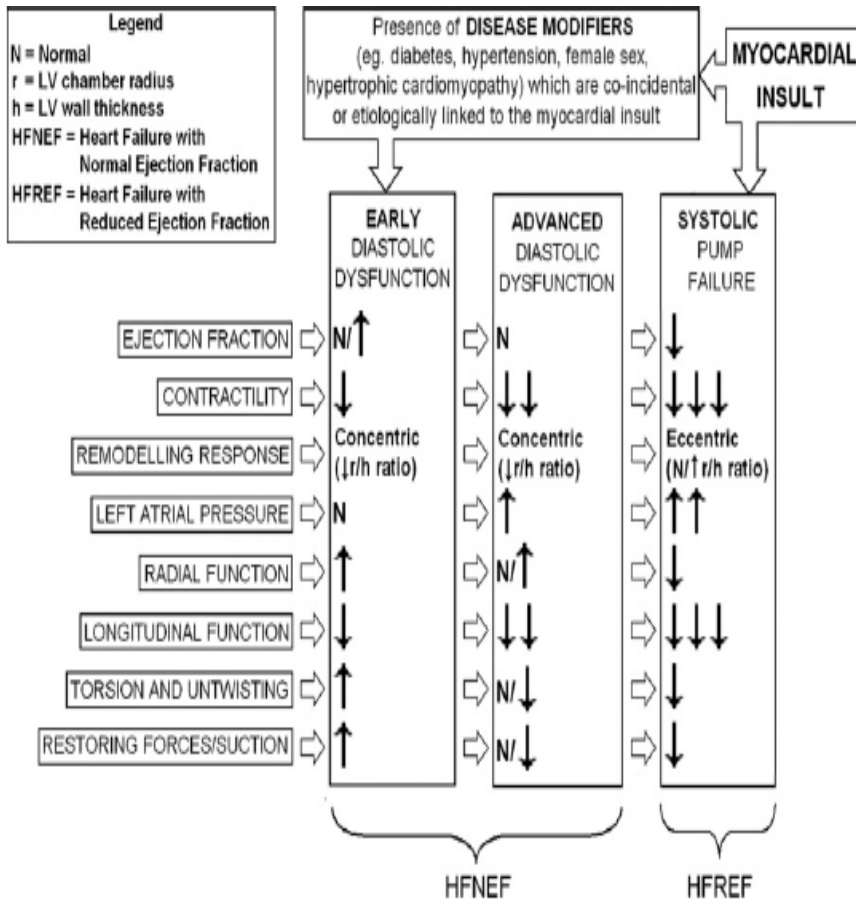


Control

Diastolic Dysfunction  
EF 70%

Systolic Dysfunction  
EF 33%

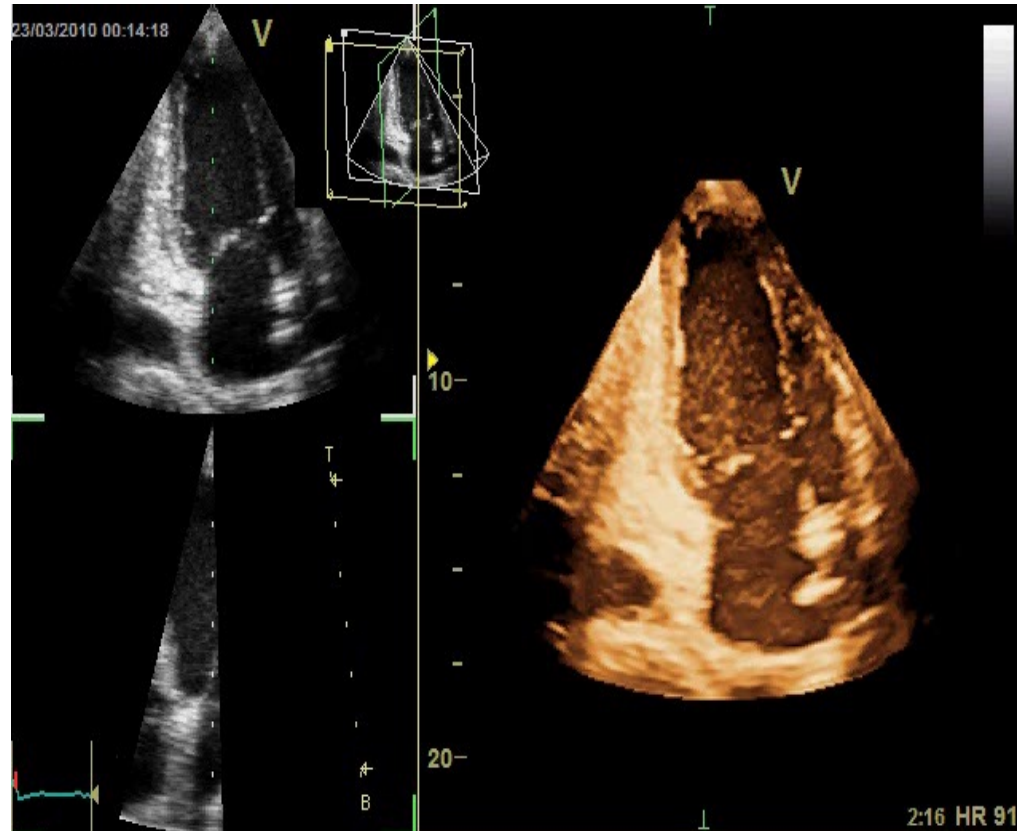
# Torsion & HF

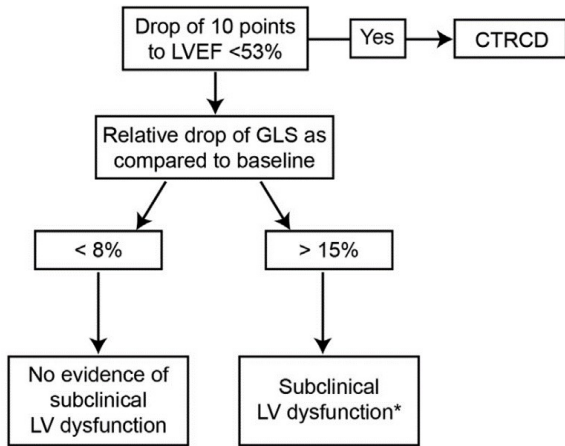


# Criteria to establish or Confirm a Diagnosis of Cardiac Dysfunction Cardioncology

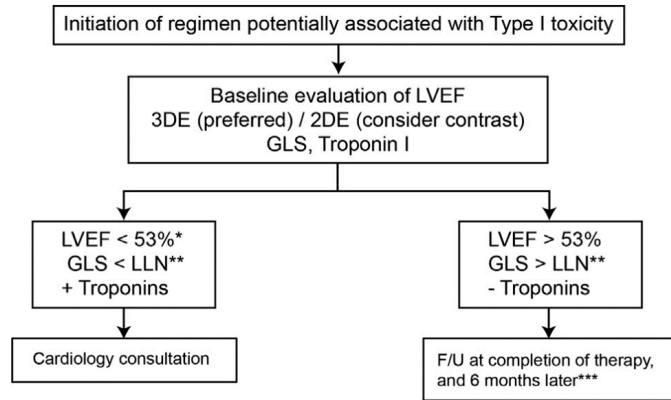
- A decline in LVEF of  $>5\%$  to  $<55\%$  with signs and symptoms of HF or a decline in LVEF of  $>10\%$  to  $<55\%$  without signs or symptoms of HF.

As a decrease in the LVEF of  $>10$  percentage points, to a value  $<53\%$ . This decrease should be confirmed by repeated cardiac imaging (2 to 3 weeks after the baseline).





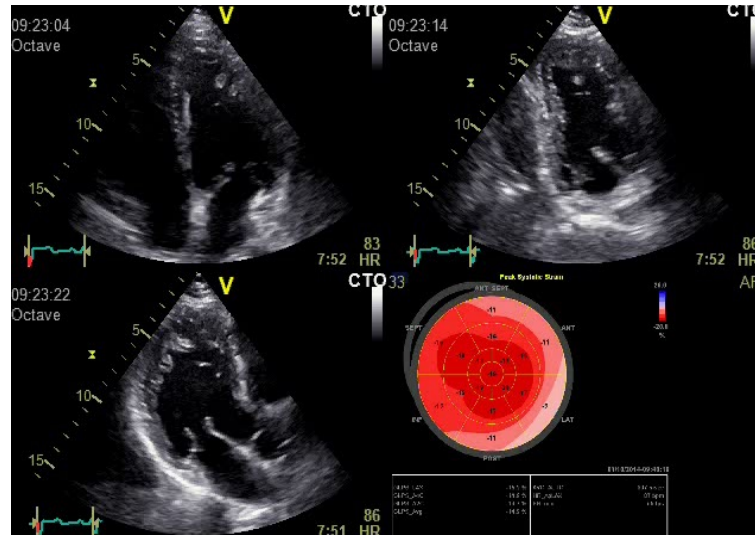
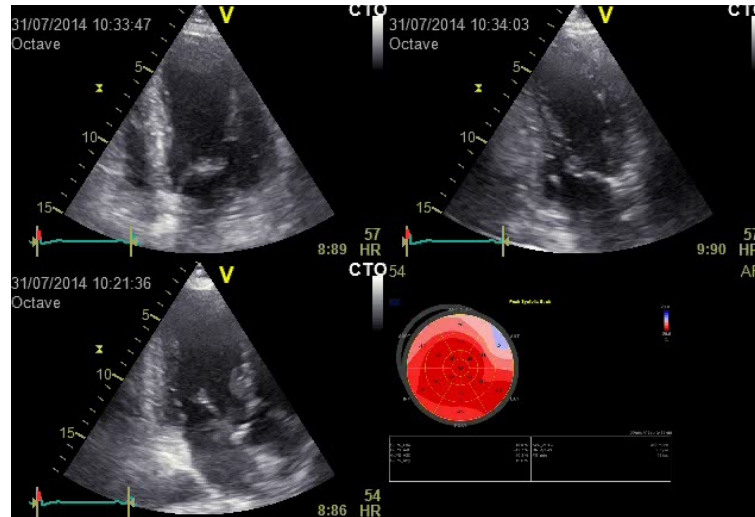
\* The data supporting the initiation of cardioprotection for the treatment of subclinical LV dysfunction is limited.



\* Consider confirmation with CMR.

\*\* LLN = Lower limit of normal. Please refer to Table 5 for normal GLS values based on vendor, gender and age.

\*\*\* If the dose is higher than 240 mg/m<sup>2</sup> (or its equivalent), recommend measurement of LVEF, GLS and troponin prior to each additional 50 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.



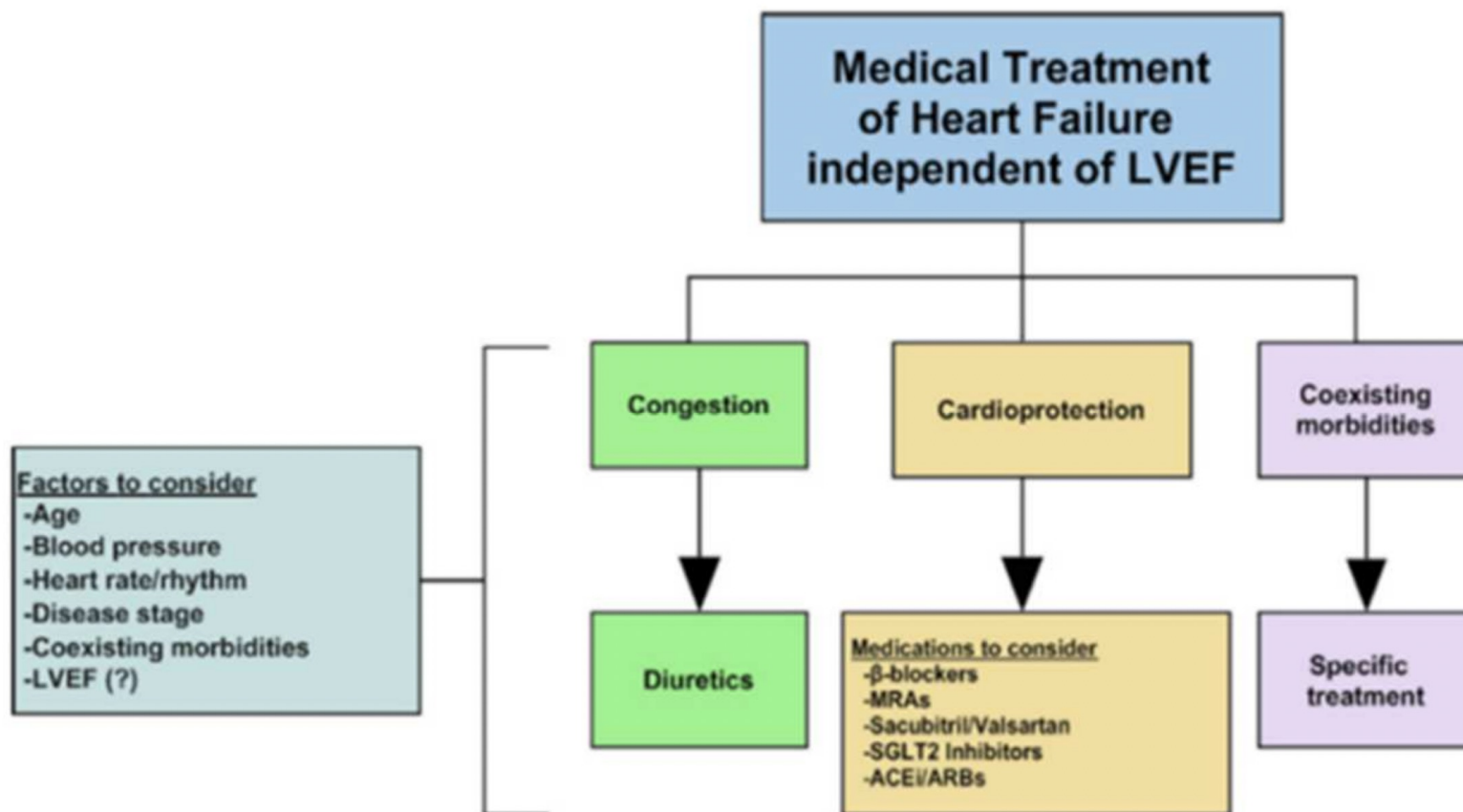
1. The neurohormonal overactivity is present in all heart failure phenotypes been highest on the low ejection fraction side and lowest on the high ejection fraction side of spectrum
2. Myocardial fibrosis and left ventricular remodelling are independent of ejection fraction

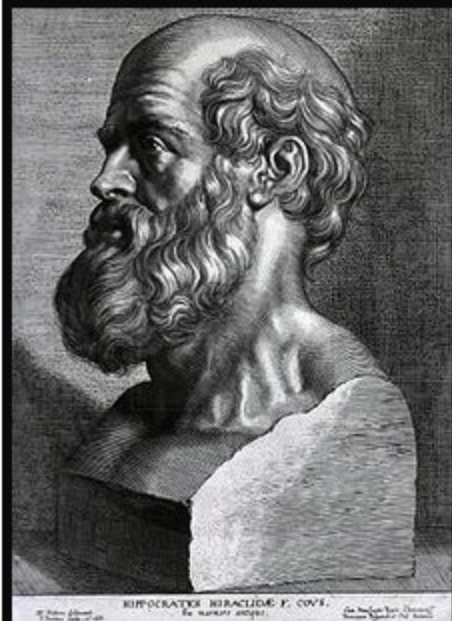


Review

# Reshaping Treatment of Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction

Nikolaos Karamichalakis <sup>1</sup>, Andrew Xanthopoulos <sup>2</sup>, Filippos Triposkiadis <sup>2,\*</sup>, Ioannis Paraskevaïdis <sup>1</sup> and Elias Tsougos <sup>1</sup>





Wherever the art of medicine is loved, there is also  
a love of humanity.

(Hippocrates)

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