

pulse

LSU Health Sciences — Section of Cardiology Newsletter

Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month

October is sudden cardiac arrest awareness month. Sudden cardiac arrest refers to the abrupt cessation of cardiac activity with hemodynamic collapse. It accounts for 15% of total mortality in the United States, and is often associated with coronary artery disease. In patients with known coronary heart disease, sudden cardiac death is the cause of death in 60% of patients. However, more worrisome is that sudden cardiac arrest is in the initial manifestation of coronary artery disease in 15% of patients.

Implantable defibrillators are the treatment of choice in patients who have survived sudden cardiac arrest. However, this therapy is also often indicated in individuals who have not experienced prior arrest, but are at increased risk — particularly those with history of myocardial infarction. Adequate screening and risk stratification may help to identify those at higher risk, in populations both with and without prior history of myocardial infarction. Risk stratification may commonly involve assessment of systolic function with echocardiography and/or exercise

stress testing, but in some cases, invasive electrophysiology studies may be necessary.

While most sudden cardiac arrest occurs in patients with coronary artery disease, it is estimated that 1 in every 4 cases occurs in patients without such disease. Patients with other forms of structural heart disease or those with primary electrical disorders may also be at increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest. Such conditions include hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy, arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy, the long QT syndromes, and Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome. Further risk stratification with cardiac MRI, genotyping, and/or invasive electrophysiology studies may be both useful and necessary to determine either appropriate medical or device-based therapy. Even if an implantable defibrillator is necessary, the management of unexplained sudden cardiac arrest does not end there. Our board certified electrophysiologists can provide the necessary tailored device programming and medical therapy.



By some estimates, sudden cardiac arrest accounts for 15% of total mortality in the U.S., frequently in patients without structural heart disease, but commonly in those without.

Risk stratification and screening with both non-invasive and invasive methods can help identify individuals who may benefit from ICD therapy.

To make an appointment or to contact a physician call 504-412-1366 or 504-568-2718.

An Introduction to Our Section

Our internationally acclaimed board certified cardiologists see a full range of cardiac and vascular problems including valvular heart disease, atherosclerosis and coronary artery disease, peripheral arterial disease, congenital heart disease, arrhythmia and syncope, and heart failure, cardiomyopathy and pulmonary hypertension.

Our arrhythmia service offers a full spectrum of service, including invasive electrophysiologic testing and radiofrequency ablation for all arrhythmias and device based therapies for patients with heart failure, including cardiac resynchronization

therapy. Notably, we performed the first non-surgical epicardial ablation in the state of Louisiana within the past year for treatment of an atrial arrhythmia.

Interventional cardiologists here at LSU are skilled in performing complex coronary, peripheral arterial, and renal interventions, including treatment of resistant hypertension. We also offer state of the art diagnostic non-invasive testing including 3D echocardiography, Ultrafast Cardiac CT, Cardiac MRI, and Nuclear Cardiology in addition to providing a full line of interventional and invasive diagnostics and treatments.

The LSU Section of Cardiology provides Clinic services in three private practice locations, and five hospitals in the New Orleans metropolitan area in addition to our leading role in the public hospital system of Louisiana.

Interim Louisiana Public Hospital, Mid City
Inpatient consult and outpatient clinics

The LSU Multispecialty Clinic at 3700 St. Charles Ave, Uptown
Outpatient clinics are available daily

Touro Infirmary and Ochsner Baptist Medical Center, Uptown
Inpatient management and consults

Ochsner Kenner
Inpatient consults and outpatient clinics

Louisiana Medical Center and Heart Hospital, Lacombe, LA
Outpatient and Inpatient consults for advanced heart rhythm management

Bogalusa Medical Center, Bogalusa, LA
Inpatient consult and outpatient clinics

Lallie Kemp Regional, Independence, LA
Outpatient clinics

Arrhythmia/Electrophysiology

Paul LeLorier, MD
Jameel Ahmed, MD

*Epicardial Ablations
Atrial Fibrillation Ablation
Atrial and Ventricular
Tachyarrhythmias
Pacemakers
Implantable Defibrillators
Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy
Syncope*

Interventional Cardiology

Murtuza Ali, MD
Elias Hanna, MD
Roberto Quintal, MD
Pramilla Subramaniam, MD

*Coronary Angioplasty and Stents
Peripheral Arterial Angioplasty and Stents
Renal Artery Interventions*

Heart Failure

Frank Smart, MD
Vijay Jaligam, MD

*Heart Failure/Cardiomyopathy
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy
Congenital Heart Disease
Pulmonary Hypertension*

Non-invasive Cardiology

David Glancy, MD
Frederick Helmcke, MD
Neeraj Jain, MD
Prashanti Atluri, MD

*Valvular Disorders
Echocardiography
Cardiac CT
Cardiac MRI*

