



Updates on Cardiomyopathy: Diagnosis and Management in FAOD

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Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Consulting

- Ultrageyx- discussing labeled use of Doljovi
- BioMarin
- Stealth

Funding

- NIH- NHLBI
- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
- American Heart Association

A little about me

Training in Pediatric Cardiology and Clinical Genetics
Pediatric Heart Failure and Heart Transplant

Perspective based on

- Clinical interest in genetic and syndromic causes of heart disease in children
- Research in mechanisms of heart failure
- Secondary defects in energy metabolism in heart failure (pediatric)
- Mechanisms of heart failure in cardiomyopathy in FAOD and other metabolic cardiomyopathies



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Overview: **where are we with treatment of cardiomyopathy (CM) in FAOD?**

- Cases- examples to illustrate following topics
- Basic overview of Cardiomyopathy and how and the FAOD phenotype
- Mechanisms
- *Natural history of Cardiomyopathy in FAOD*
- Treatment of heart failure in FAOD- conventional approaches
- *FAOD-specific treatments – Triheptanoin (Doljovi)*
- *Cardiologist perspective on heart failure in FAOD*
- Future directions and new treatments

Case #1: Infant diagnosed with VLCADD by NBS

- Second child in the family, older brother who is healthy
- Concern for hypoglycemic seizure in newborn nursery, discharged home no other concerns
- Readmitted to NICU for jaundice- NBS on DOL#4 concerning for VLCADD
- Started on Enfaport with MCT
- Parents are distantly related
- "Severe" mutation, truncating c.799_802delGTTA, p.Val267Glnfs*8
- Based on genetic testing, concern for early-onset cardiomyopathy type VLCADD
- ECHO screening frequently in first year of life
- No significant illness, few short hospitalizations

Case #2: Infant male diagnosed with LCHADD

- First child of this couple
- NBS screen most consistent with LCHADD, admitted to NICU at 7 days based on screen
- *HADHA* variants:
 - known LCHADD mutation c.1538G>C, p.E510Q
 - one variant of unknown significance in *HADHA* (p.G328R)
- Breast feeding and supplemented with Enfaport +MCT
- ECHO showed a small PDA, otherwise normal biventricular size and function

The background image shows a modern medical campus with a large orange and glass building. A prominent feature is a large, spherical wireframe sculpture in the foreground. The sky is blue with some clouds. The text "Review of Basics: Cardiomyopathy in FAOD" is overlaid in white.

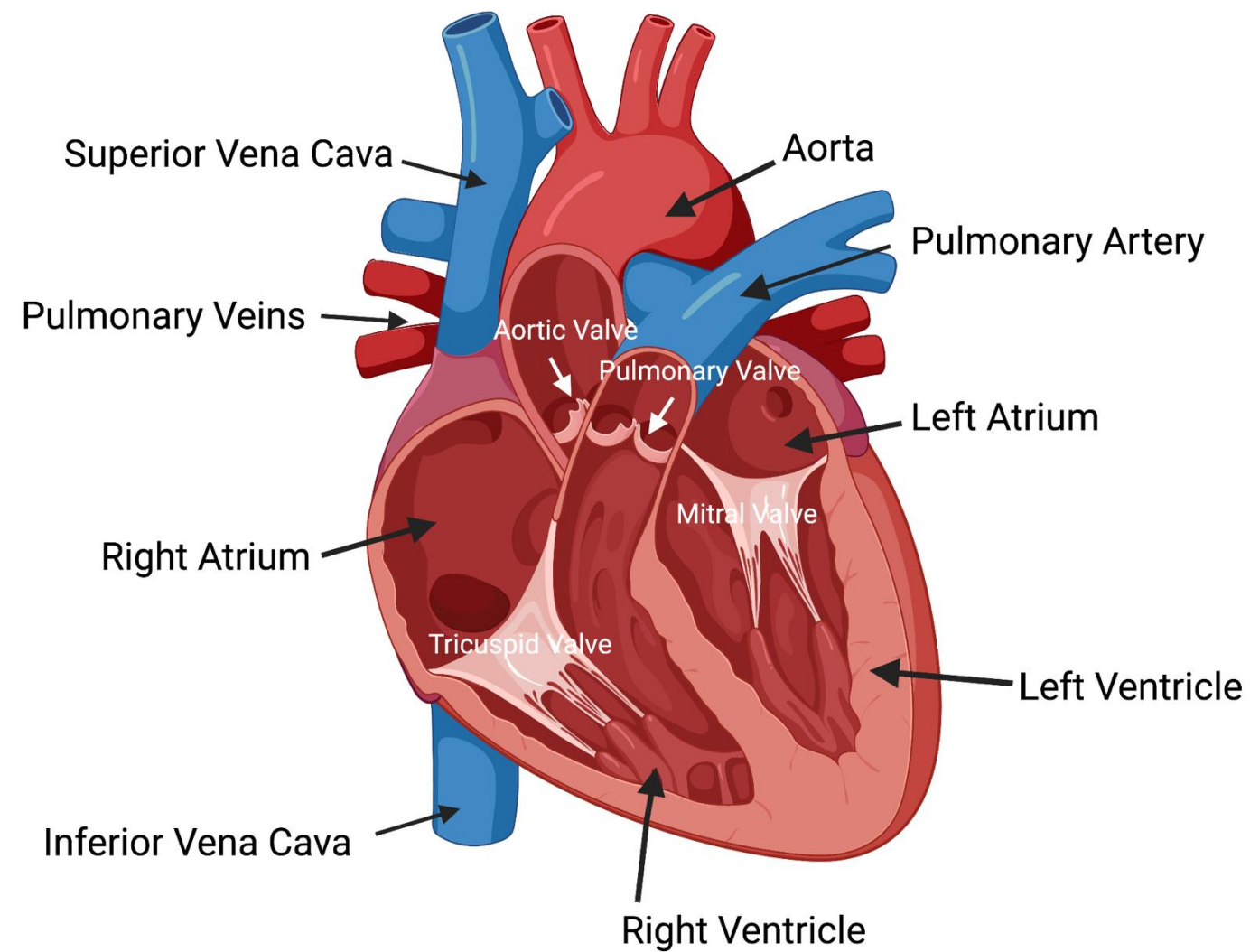
Review of Basics: Cardiomyopathy in FAOD



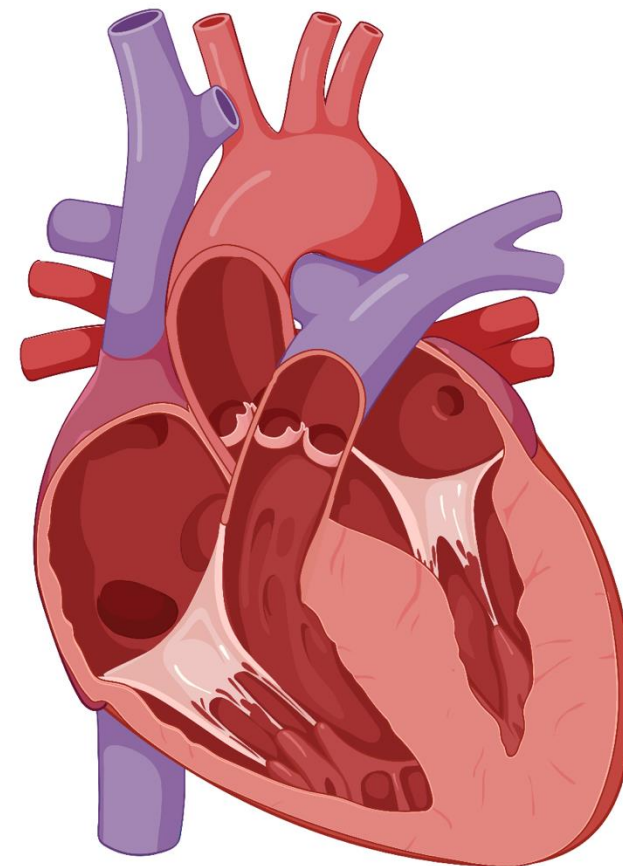
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Cardiomyopathies- disease of the muscle

Normal Cardiac Anatomy

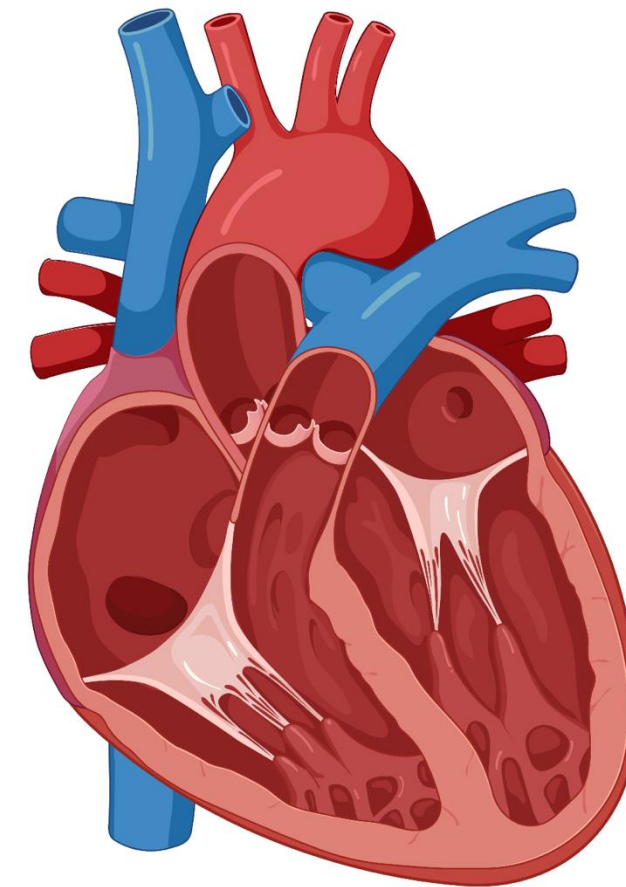


Disorder of diastolic function
(relaxation/filling)



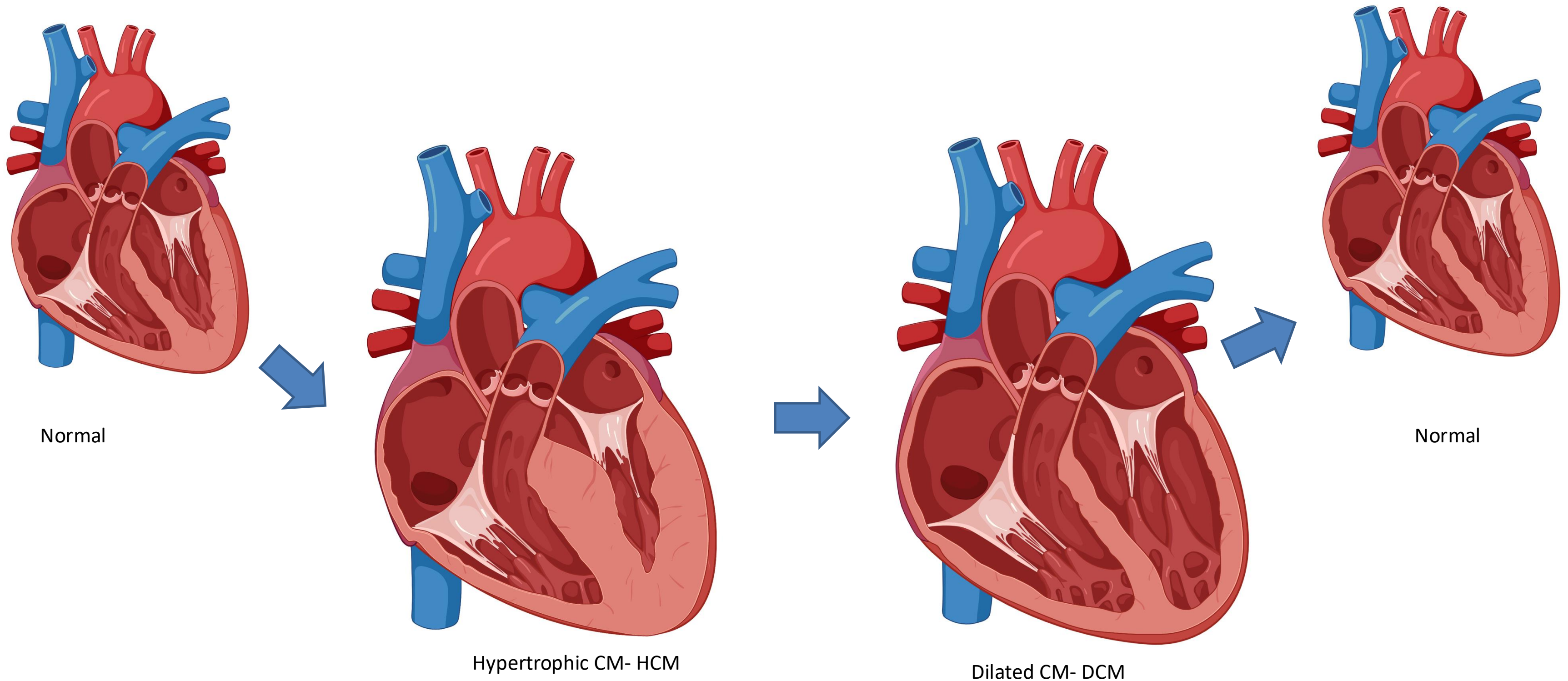
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Disorder of systolic function
(squeeze/pumping)



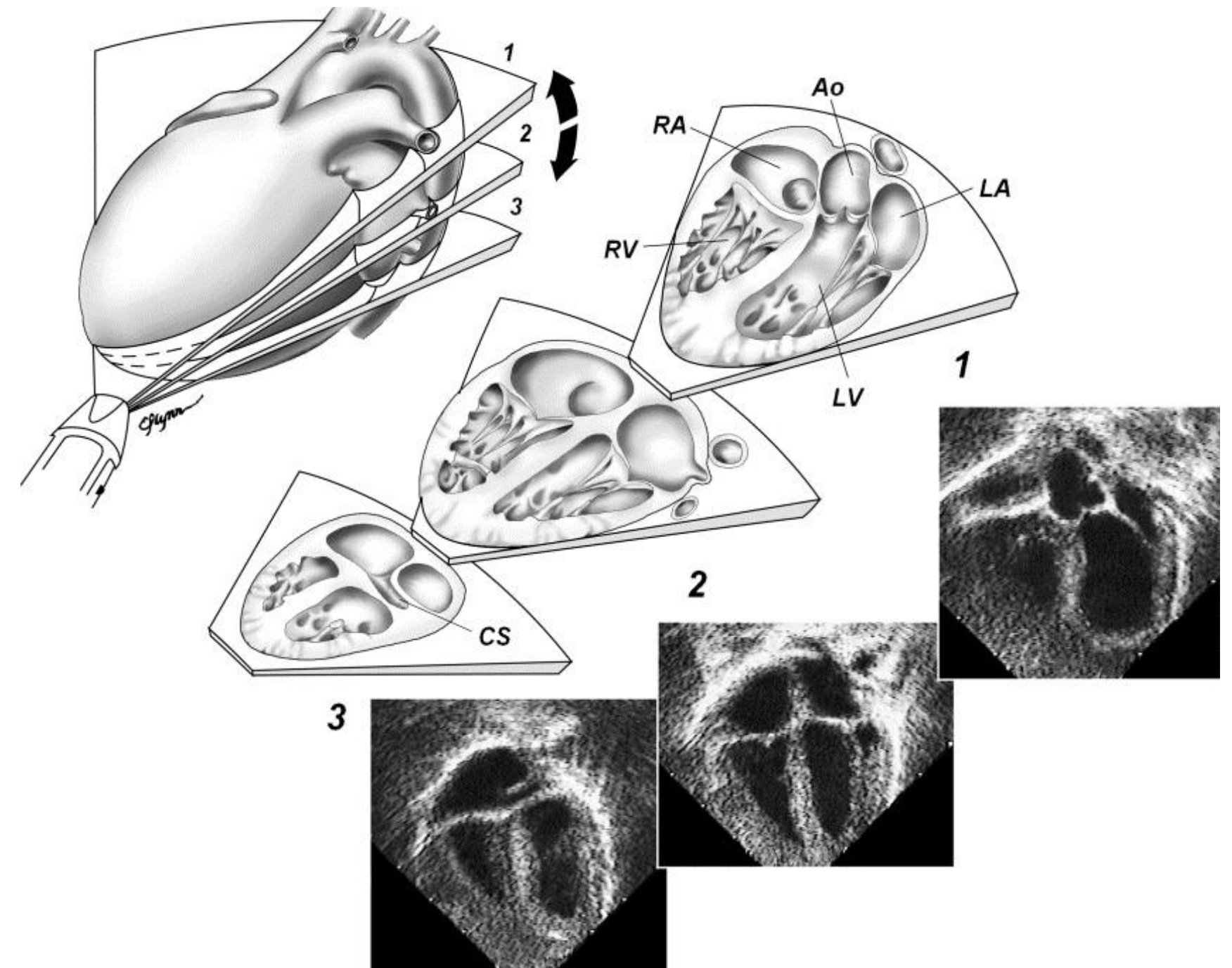
Dilated Cardiomyopathy

FAOD CM Phenotype:
Can look like hypertrophic, dilated CM or *both*
and can reverse remodel



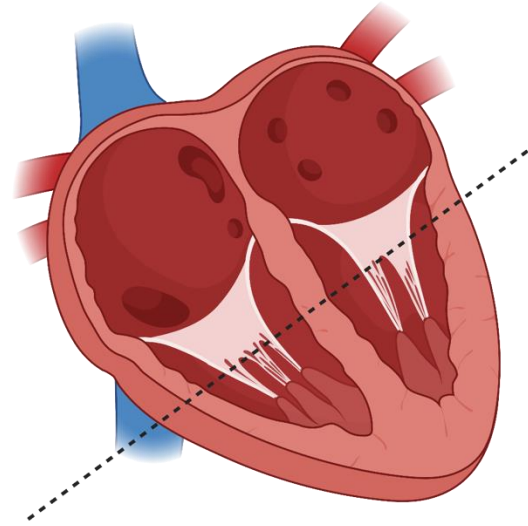
Making the diagnosis of CM: what normal looks like

- CXR, ECG (easy to do, inexpensive, but not best)
- ECHO (definitive)



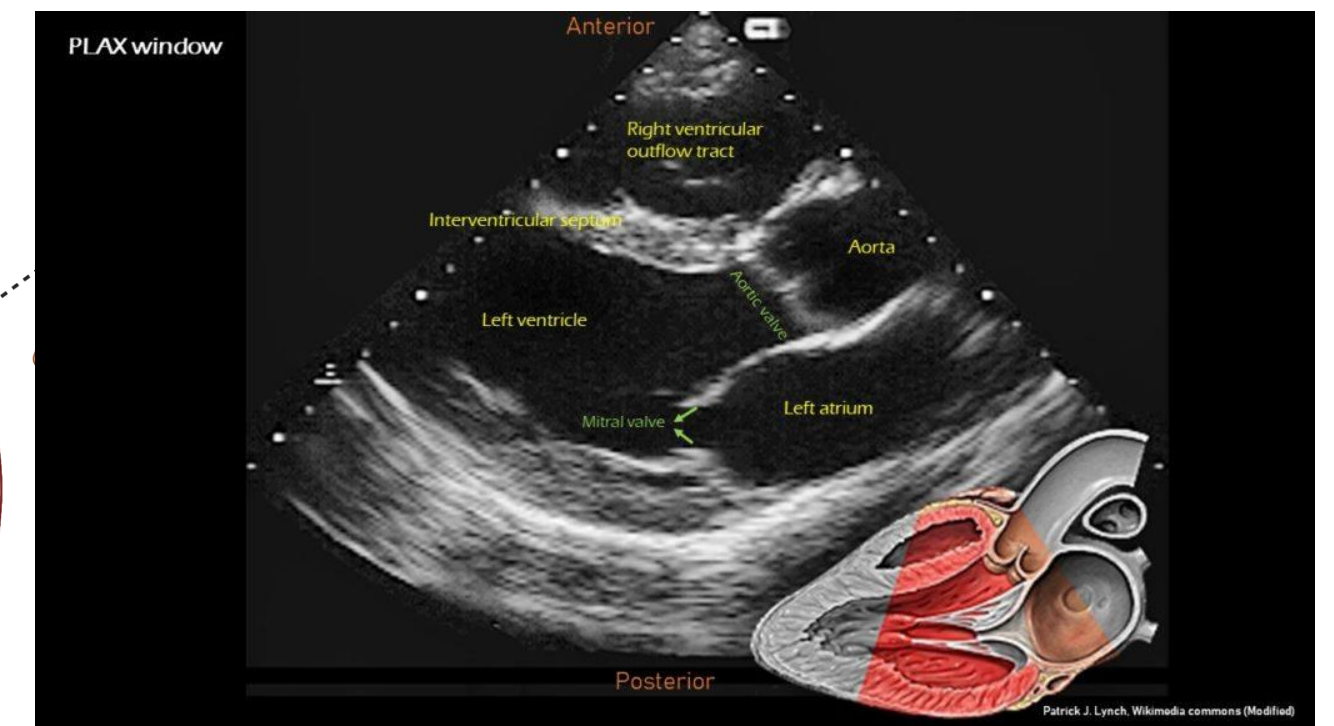
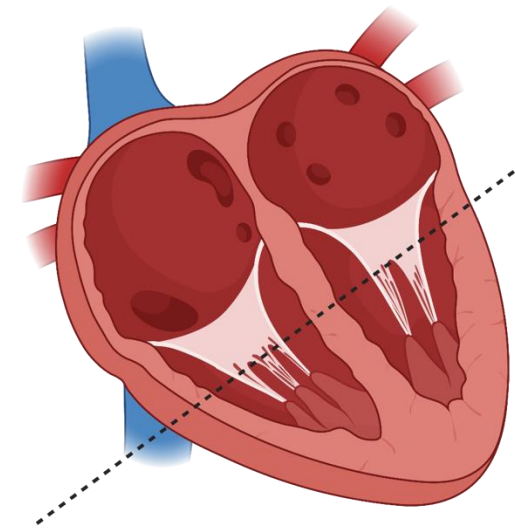
Making the diagnosis of CM: what normal looks like

- CXR, ECG (easy to do, inexpensive, but not best)
- ECHO (definitive)



Case example:

- What a normal heart looks like:

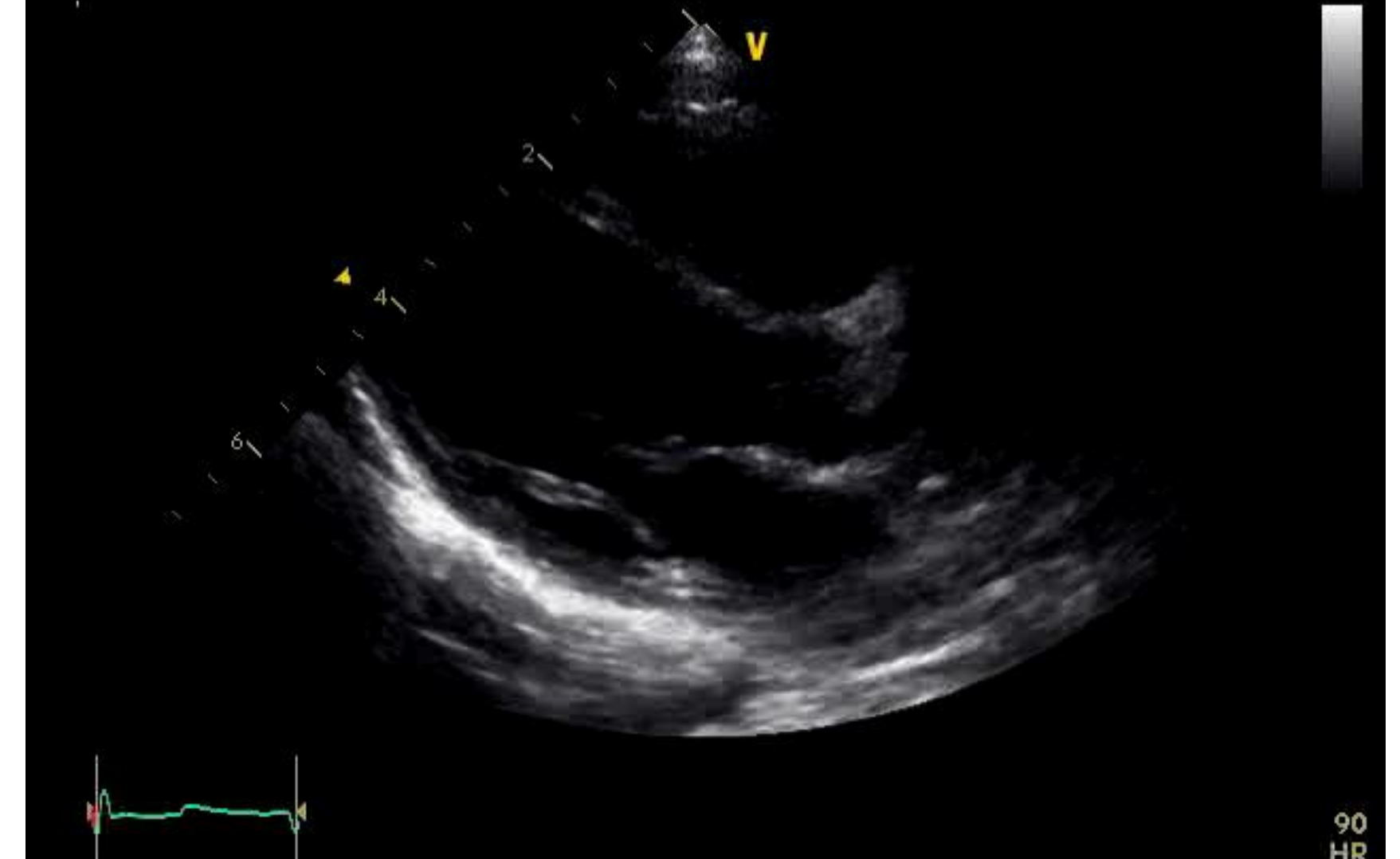


Lossy compression - not intended for diagnosis

Freq.: 3.1 MHz/6.2 MHz

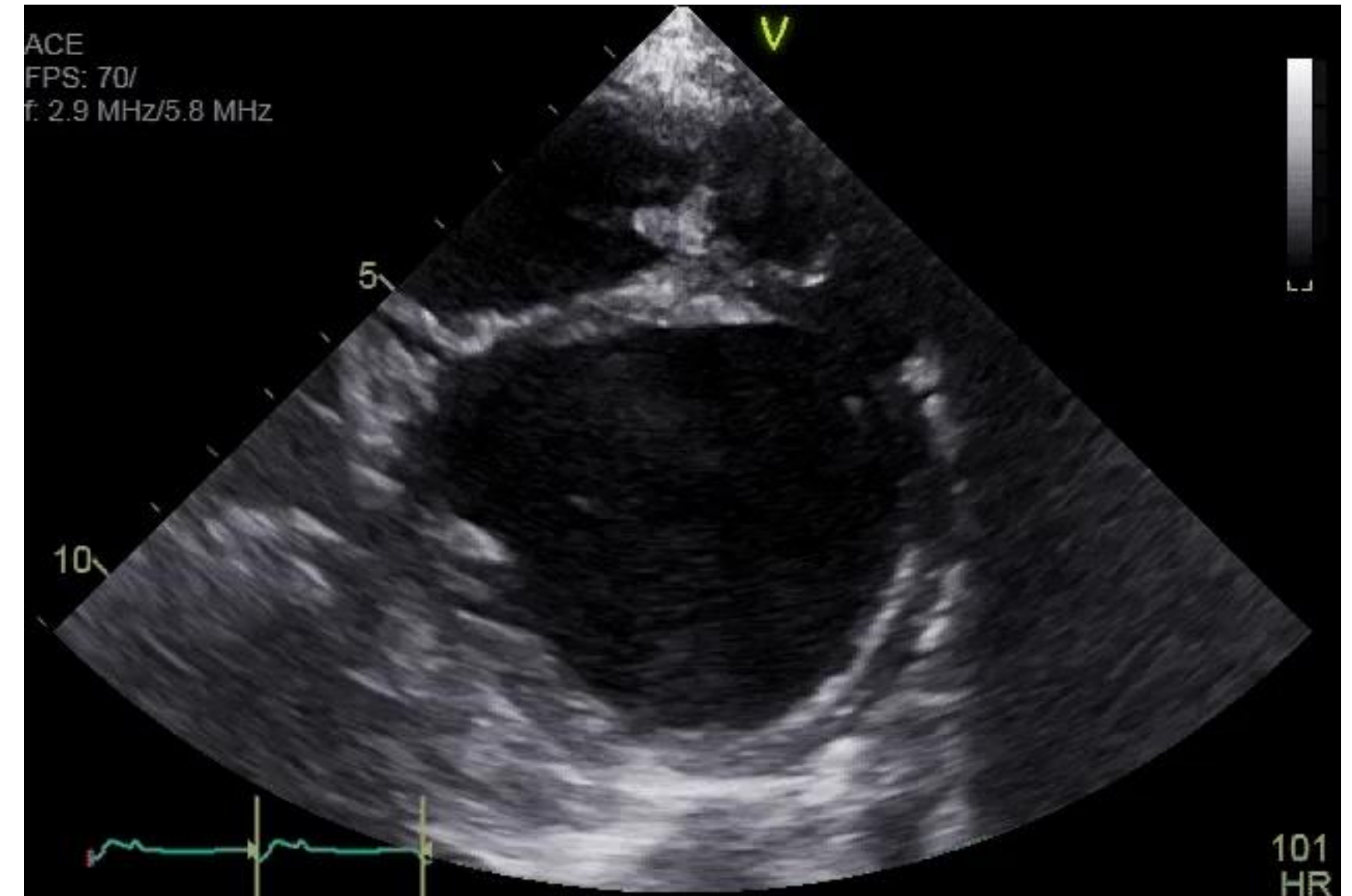
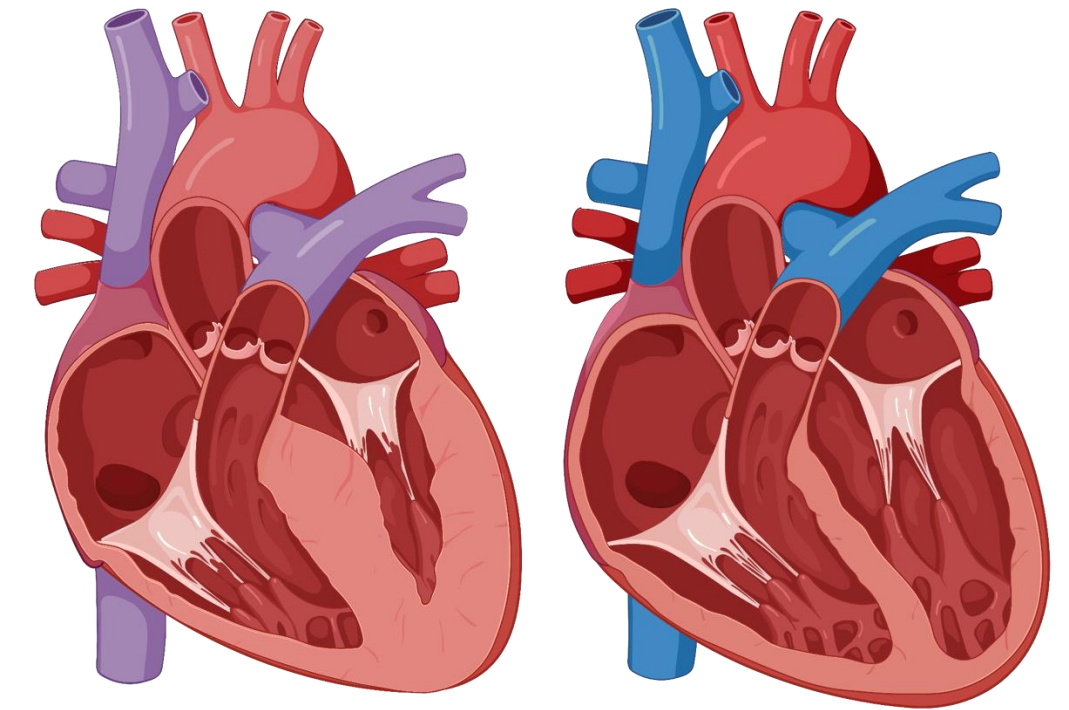


Lossy compression - not intended for diagnosis



What Abnormal looks like: making the diagnosis of CM

- Other testing:
- NT proBNP or BNP, other labs- end organ function
- Cardiac- role in FAOD is area of research
 - Considerations: cost, time, sedation, safety



Children with Cardiomyopathy and Heart Failure

- Cardiomyopathy \neq Heart Failure
- Heart Failure= measure of symptoms
- Sometimes signs/symptoms are subtle
- Slow changes are hard to recognize
- Can have moderate or severe dysfunction with no appreciated symptoms
- Kids compensate, until then don't...
- Surveillance is intended to catch early signs/ changes



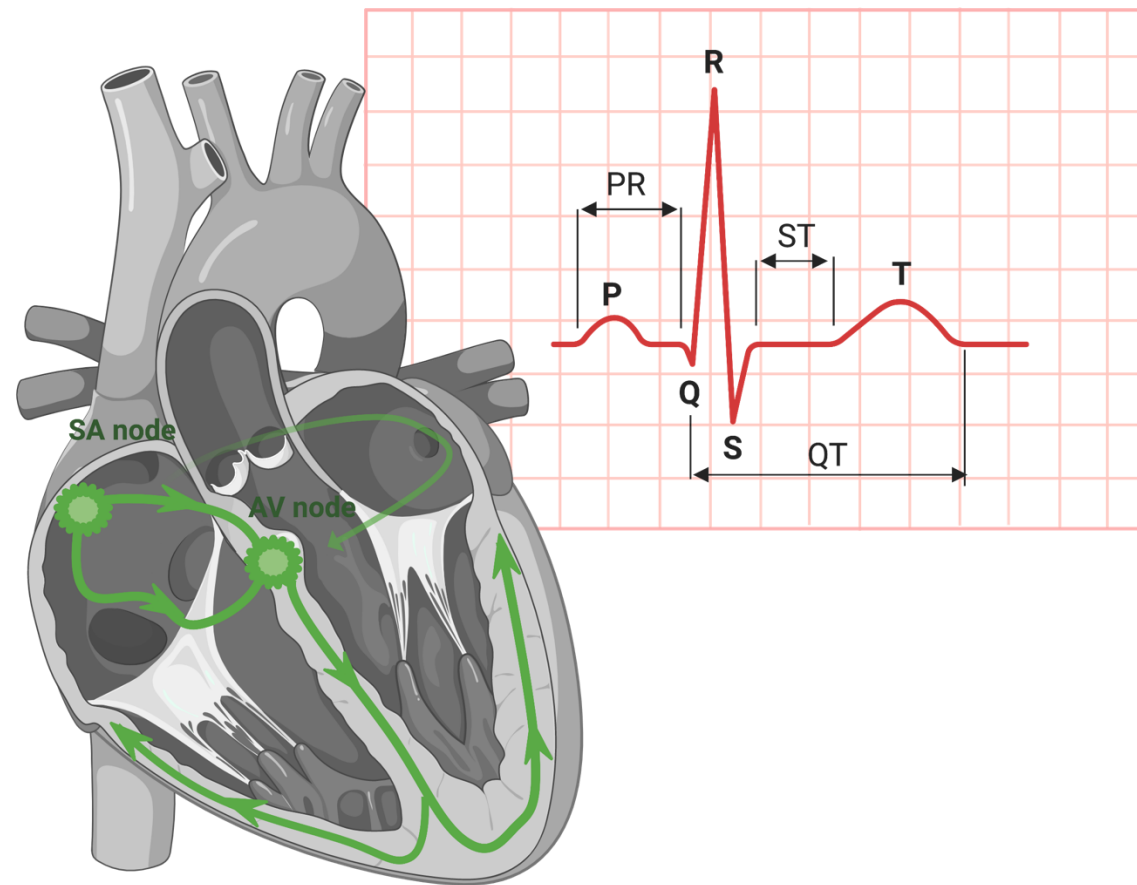
Cardiomyopathy phenotype in FAOD

- The CM phenotype in FAODs is similar across FAOD types/ genotypes
- Lumping FAODs together
- CM can be mixed type in the same patient or can change over time
- Variability between types of FAOD, and among patients with a specific FAOD
- Genotype not predictive (usually)

Gaps in knowledge

- *Predicting who will develop Cardiomyopathy and when*
- *Incidence of late-onset CM - unknown*

Arrhythmia phenotype in FAOD: Often accompanies CM



FAO defect	# patients	ECG abnl	Arrhythmia type	First symptom	CM (+/-)	Outcome
CPT-II	4	2/4	VT, VF	4/4	1/4	1 alive 4d- 17mo
CACT	6	5/6	SVT, VT/VF	6/6	0/6	1 alive 3d- 2mo
TFP	3	2/3	SVT, VT	3/3	3/3	11d-1mo
VLCAD	5	1/5	VT/VF	2/5	4/5	1 alive 3- 9mo
LCHAD	2	1/2	SVT, VT, VF	1/2	2/2	10mo- 18y
MADD	3	0/3	SVT, VT	2/3	0/3	7mo- 4y

- Small groups of patients from 20+ years ago
- ~25% of patients in cohort had arrhythmia a presenting feature
- Some differences may exist between FAOD, association of CM
- Early presentation of arrhythmia may have implication on prognosis

Case #1: Young child with VLCADD: Early Signs of Cardiomyopathy

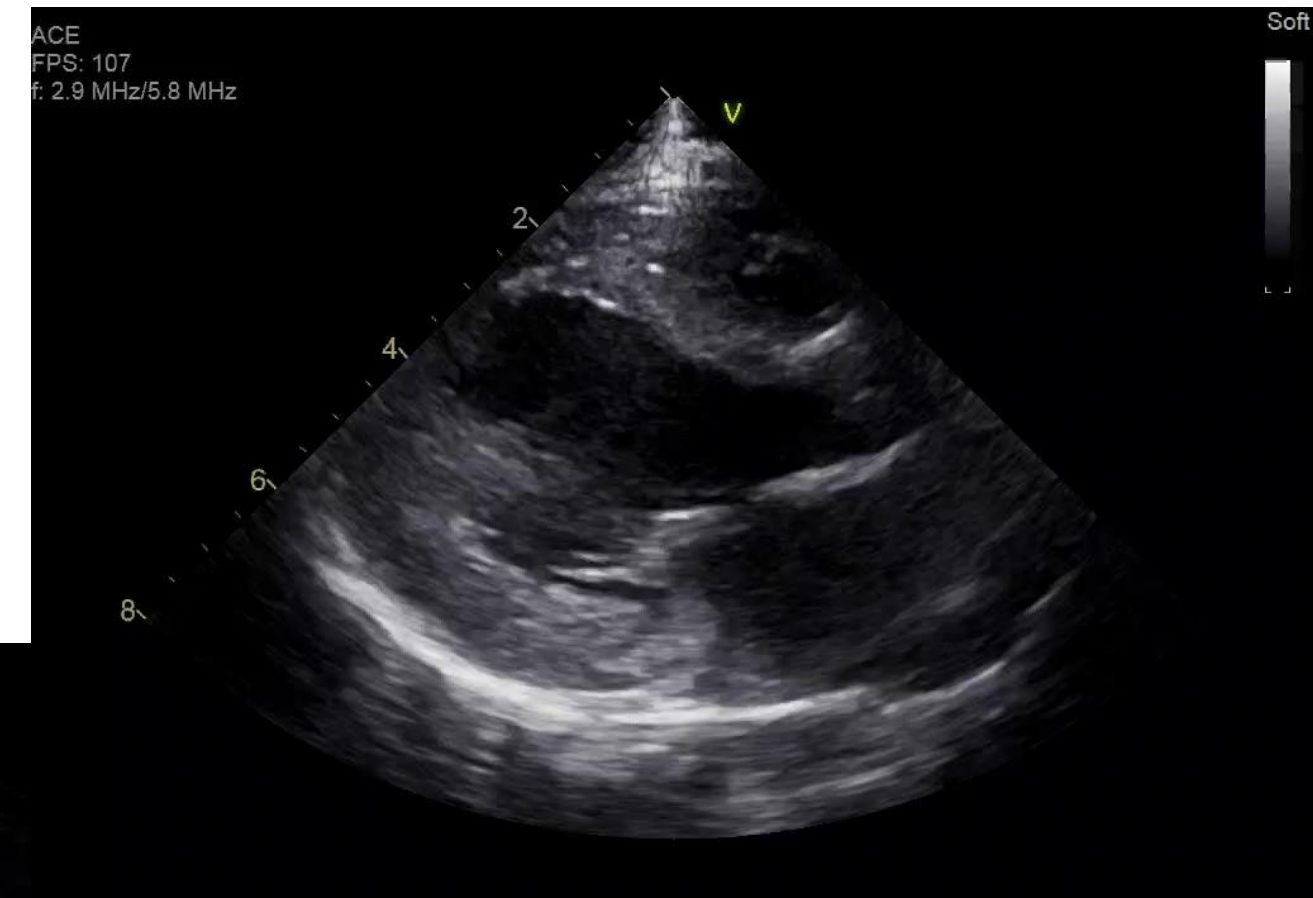
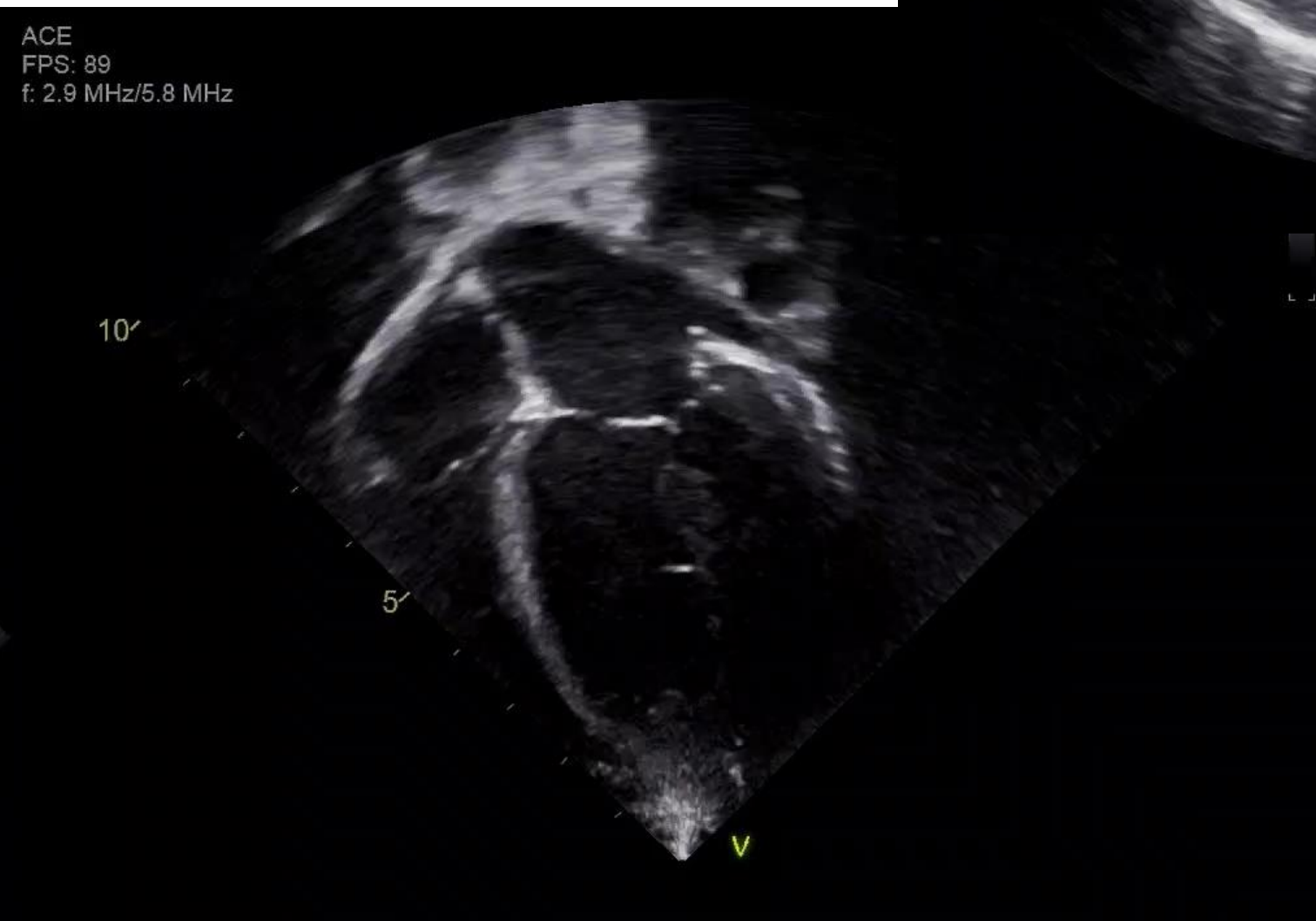
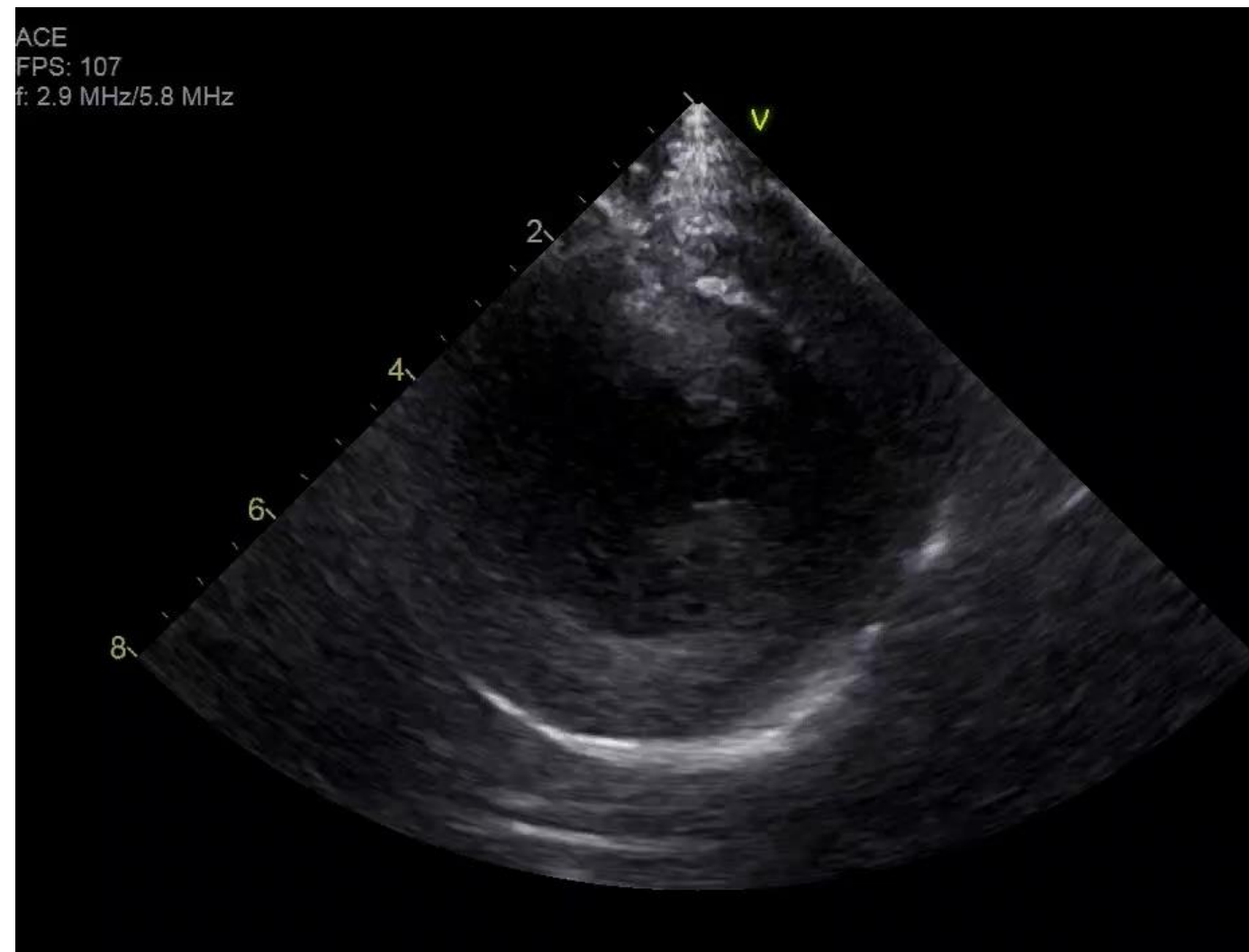
- Few hospitalizations in toddler years, no significant rhabdo or hypoglycemia
- Clues on echo suggest early cardiomyopathy



Case #1: Child with VLCADD: 3 years-old

Some worsening of heart function after winter URIs

- Sudden change observed by echo
- Guideline –directed medical therapy (GDMT) started (carvedilol)
- Continued work with metabolic RD to maximize daily calorie goals



Case #2: Male diagnosed with LCHADD

- 5 hospitalizations- precautionary in first 10 years of life
- Very active and interested in sports: baseball, basketball and football
- Has some muscle symptom with more intense exercise
- No evidence of cardiomyopathy, normal ECG



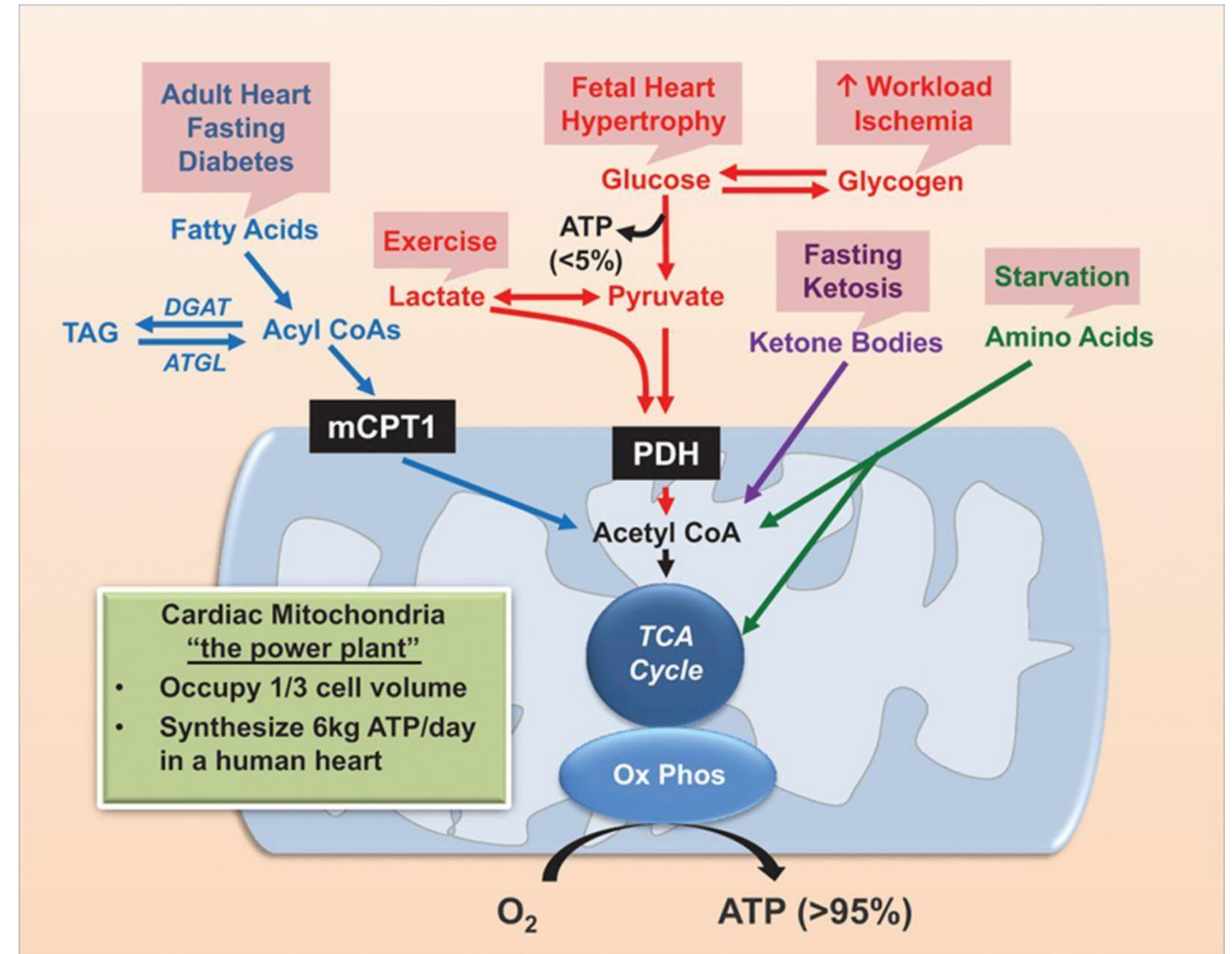
Mechanism of heart disease: mitochondria and metabolism



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Why the heart is affected by FAOD

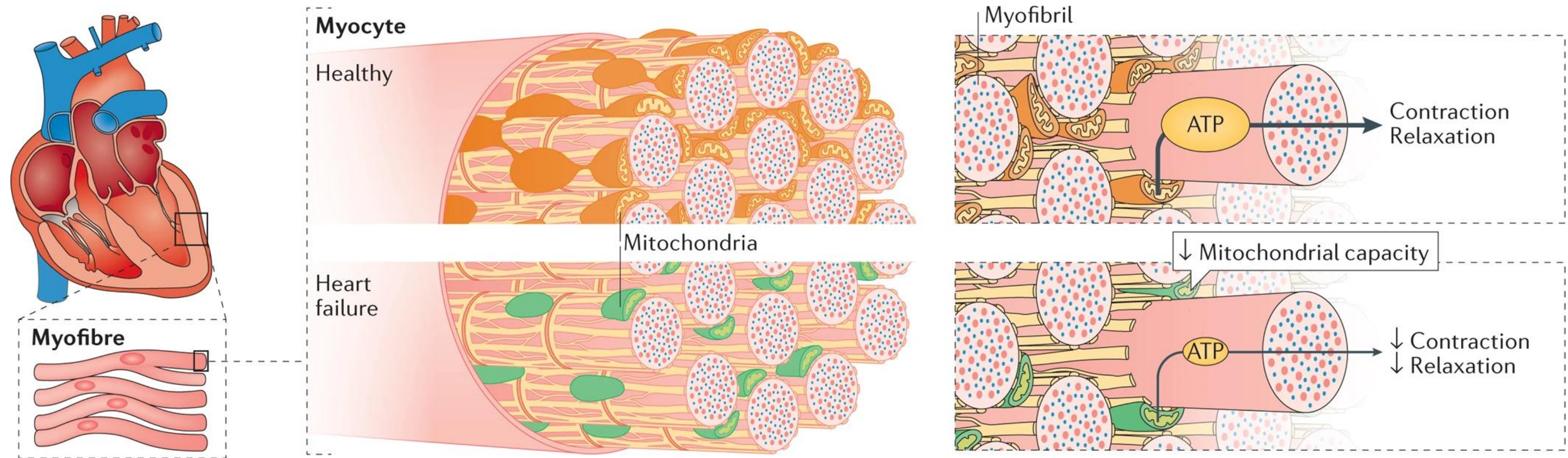
- Fuel (ATP) source needed constantly
- Heart uses fatty acids as a preferred fuel
- 95% of ATP generated in mitochondria
- Heart needs fuel for 2 major functions:
 - Muscle contraction (fueling the pump)
 - Conduction system (the electrical)
- Therapy should treat cardiac muscle and conduction problems



Kolwicz Jr et al, Cardiac Metabolism and its Interactions With Contraction, Growth, and Survival of Cardiomyocytes, Circ Res 2013

FAODs: Mechanism of Cardiac Disease

“Energetic failure” and toxic accumulation of fa-CoA

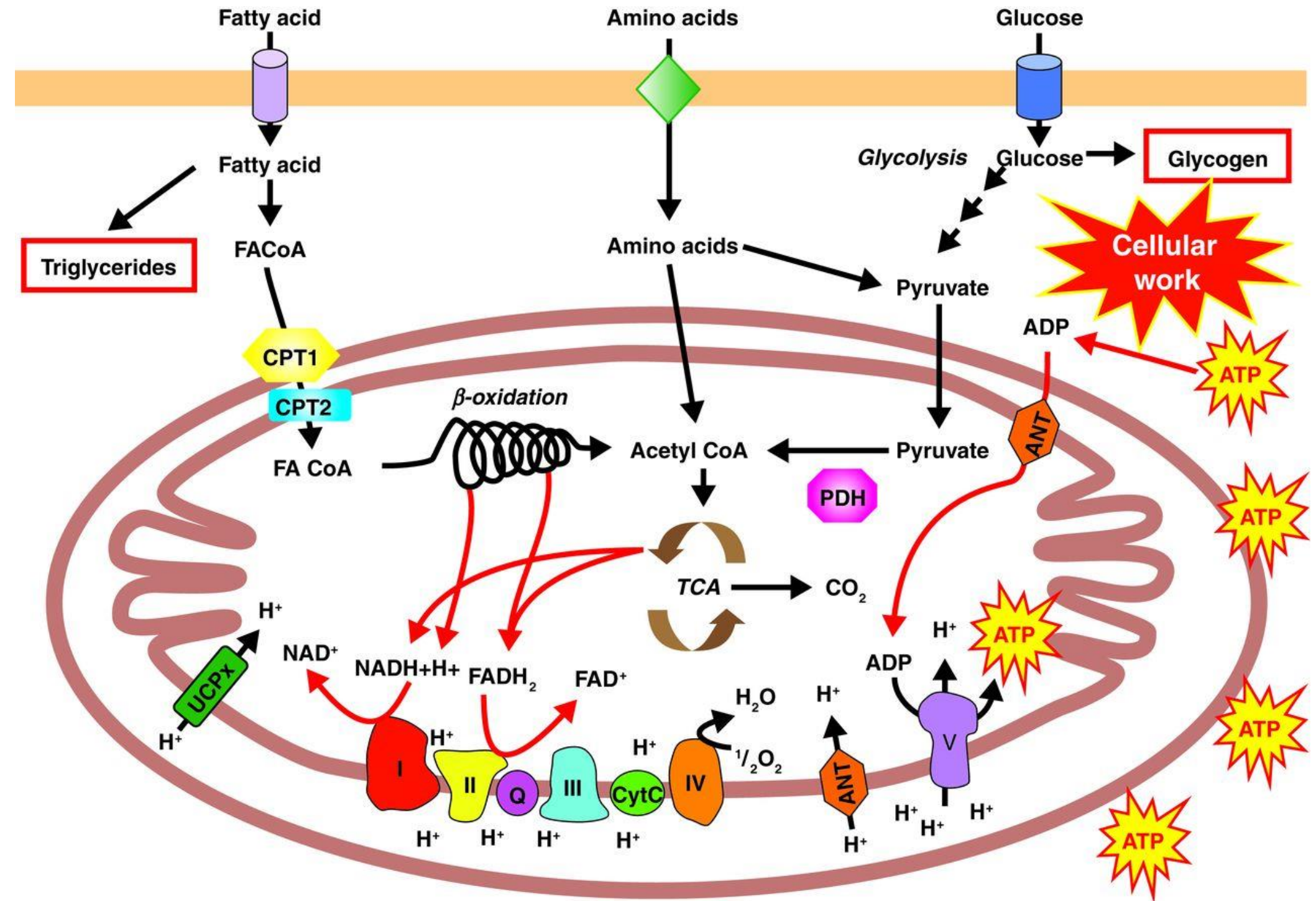


Nature Reviews | Cardiology

Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorder: Mechanism of Cardiac Disease

Other possible mechanisms:

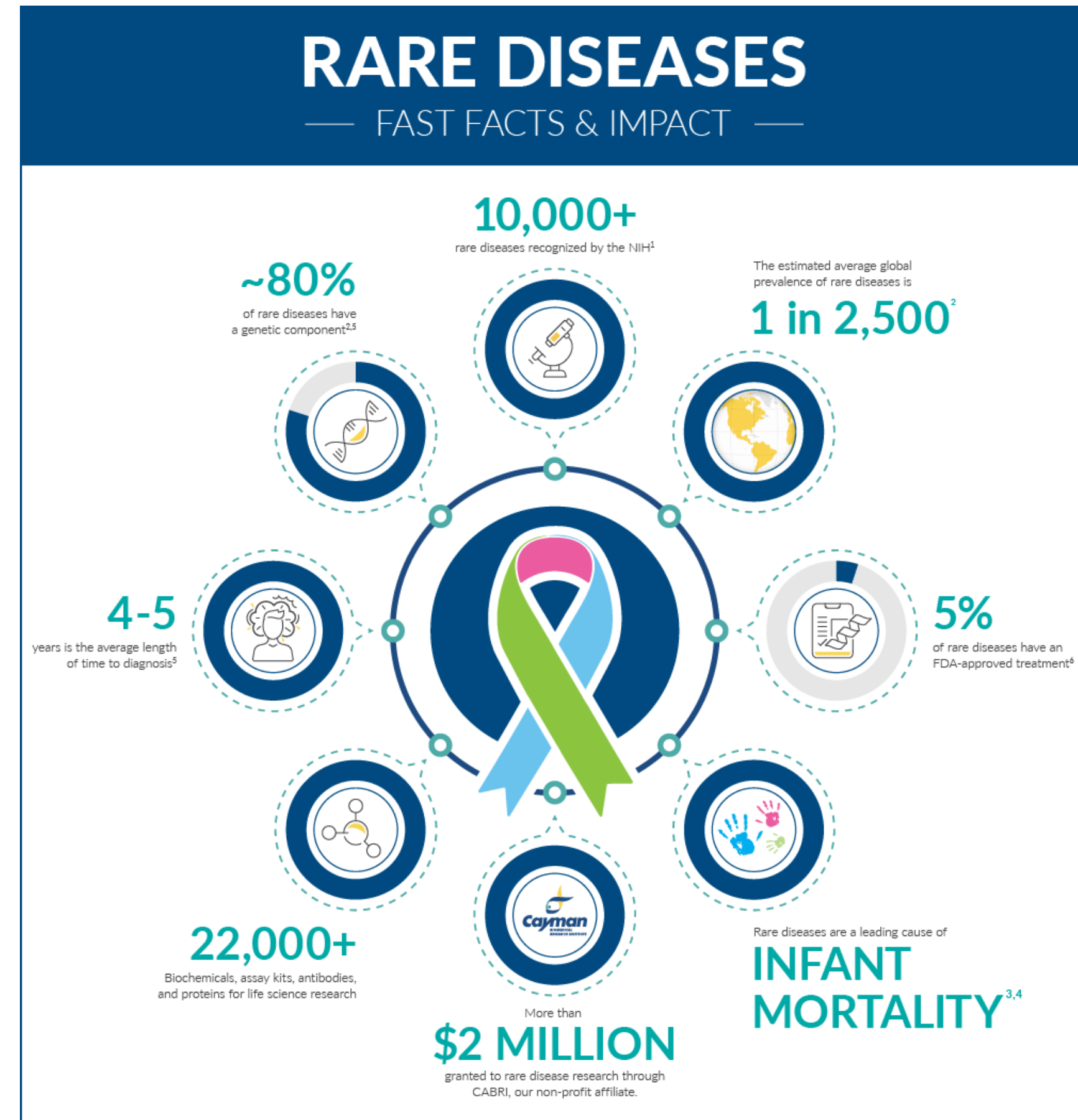
- Secondary respiratory chain dysfunction
- Decreased respiratory capacity
- Loss of metabolic “flexibility”
- Increased reactive oxygen species
- Altered mitochondrial phospholipid-Cardiolipin



Some evidence of these concepts in mouse models

Several mechanisms of cardiac pathology

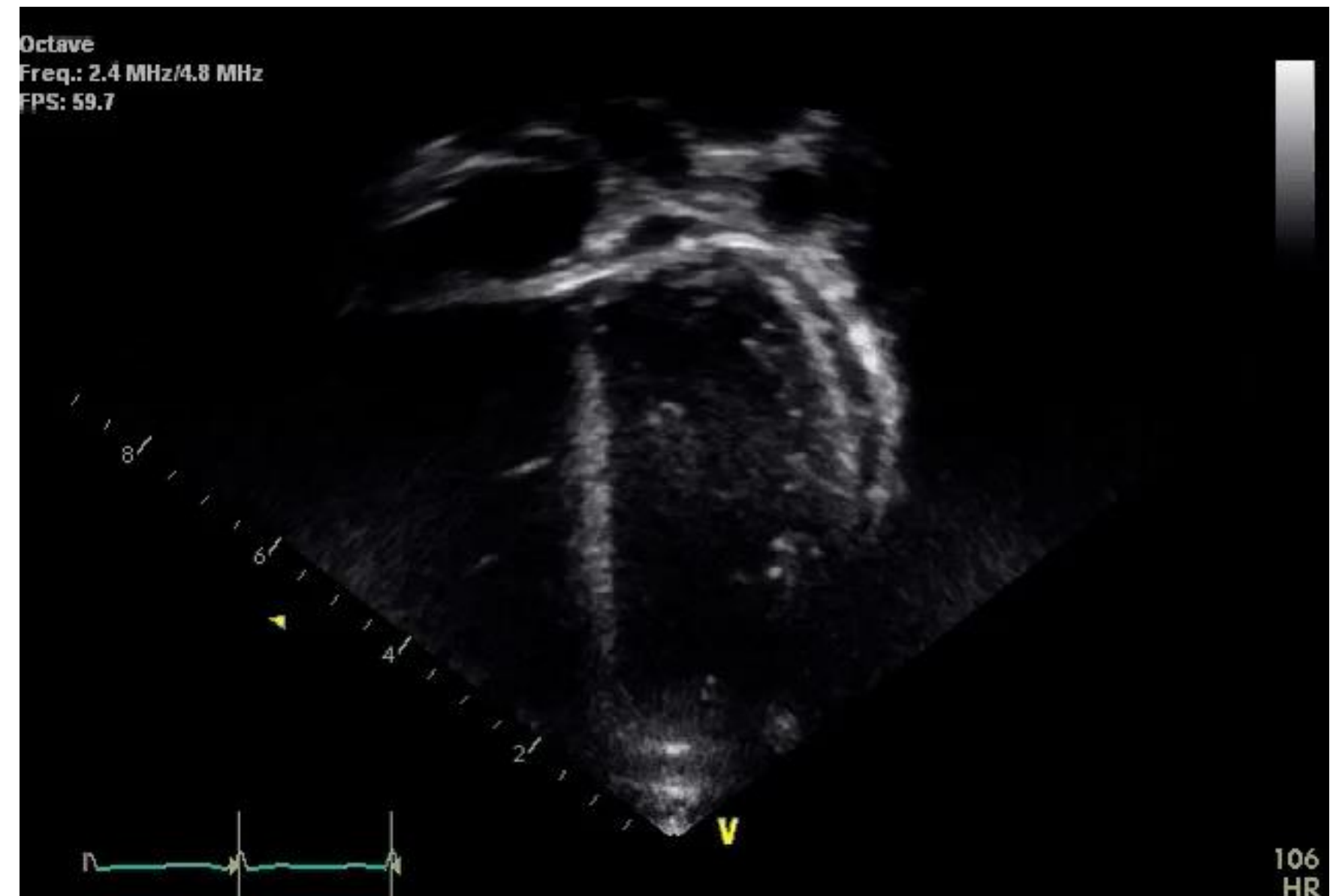
Lacking data specific to *heart* and in *humans*



Case #1: Child with VLCADD: 3 years-old

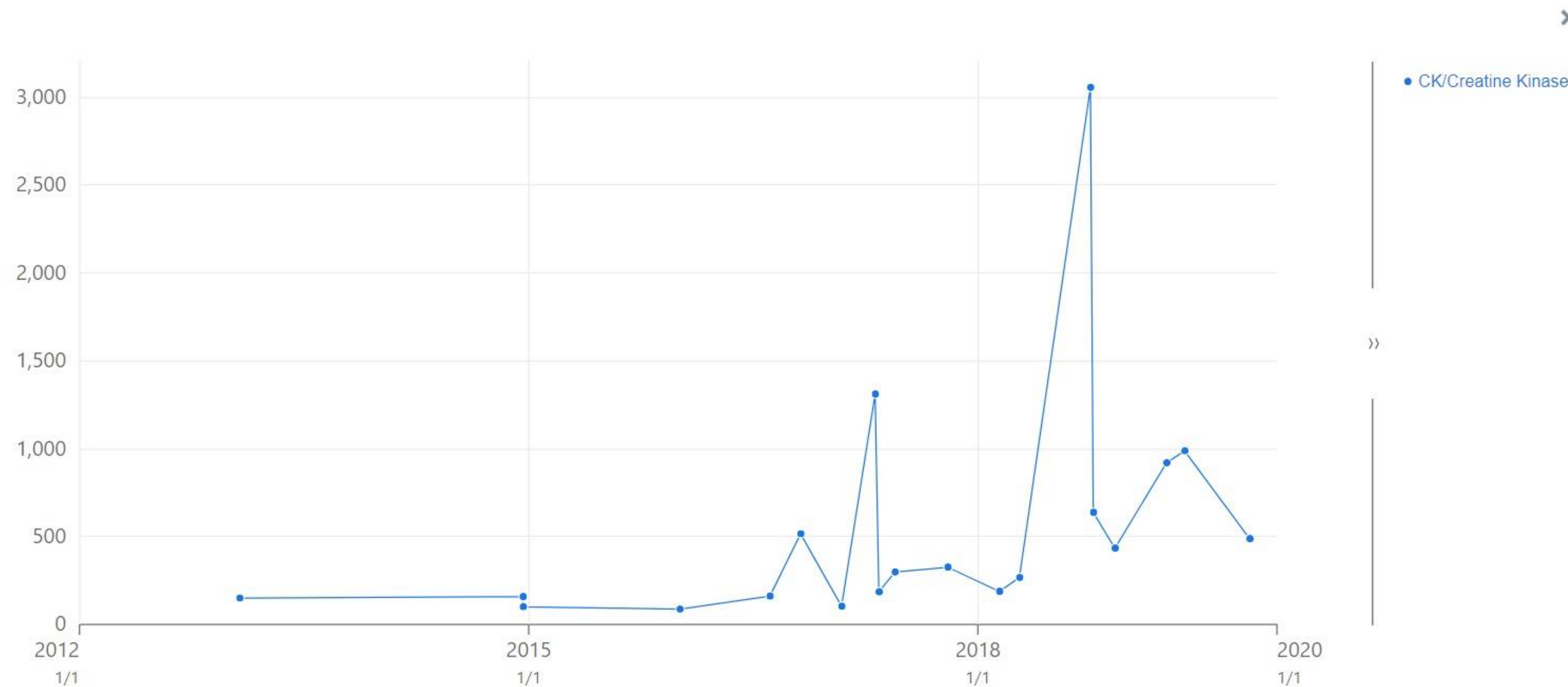
Resolution with GDMT

- Sudden change observed by echo
- Guideline –directed medical therapy (GDMT) started (carvedilol)
- Continued work with metabolic RD to maximize daily calorie goals



Case #2: Adolescent Male with “mild” LCHADD

- Continues to participate in sports, more bothersome muscle pain and elevations in CK with exercise.



A close-up photograph of a medical setting. A silver and black stethoscope lies on a light-colored wooden surface. To its right, a white pill bottle with a green cap is partially visible, slightly out of focus. The background shows a dark, textured surface, possibly a chair or another part of the desk.

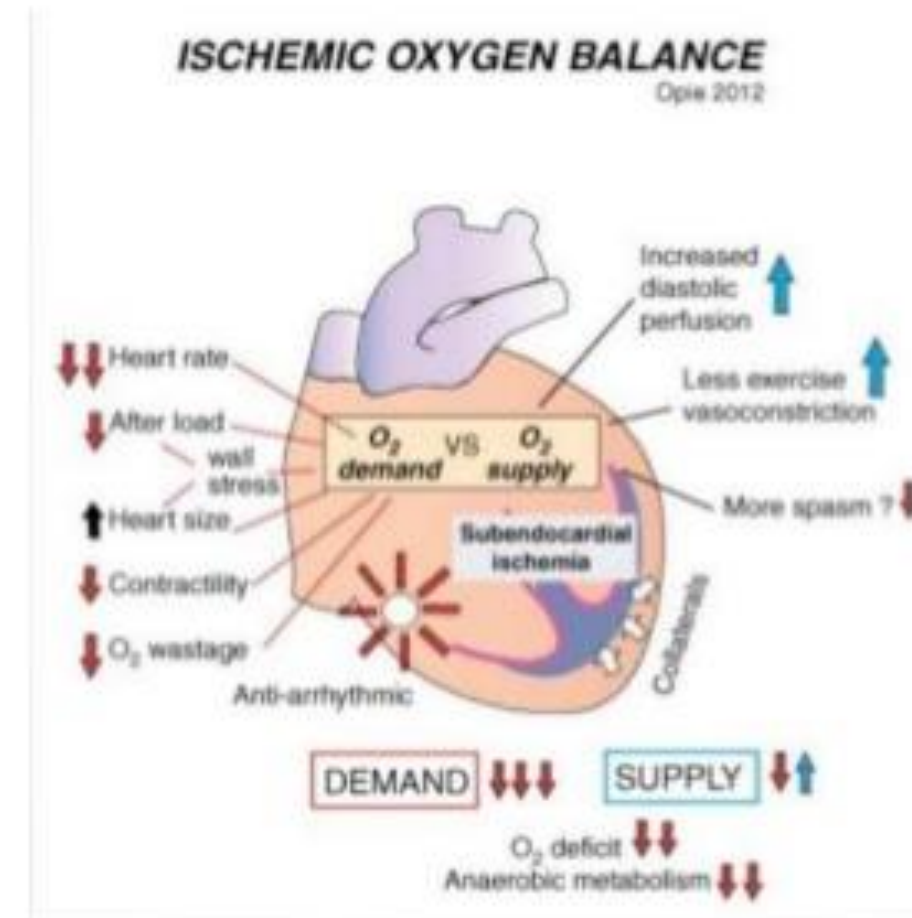
Current landscape: Treatment and outcome of cardiomyopathy in FAOD

Influence of conventional therapies?

Mechanism of Beta blocker

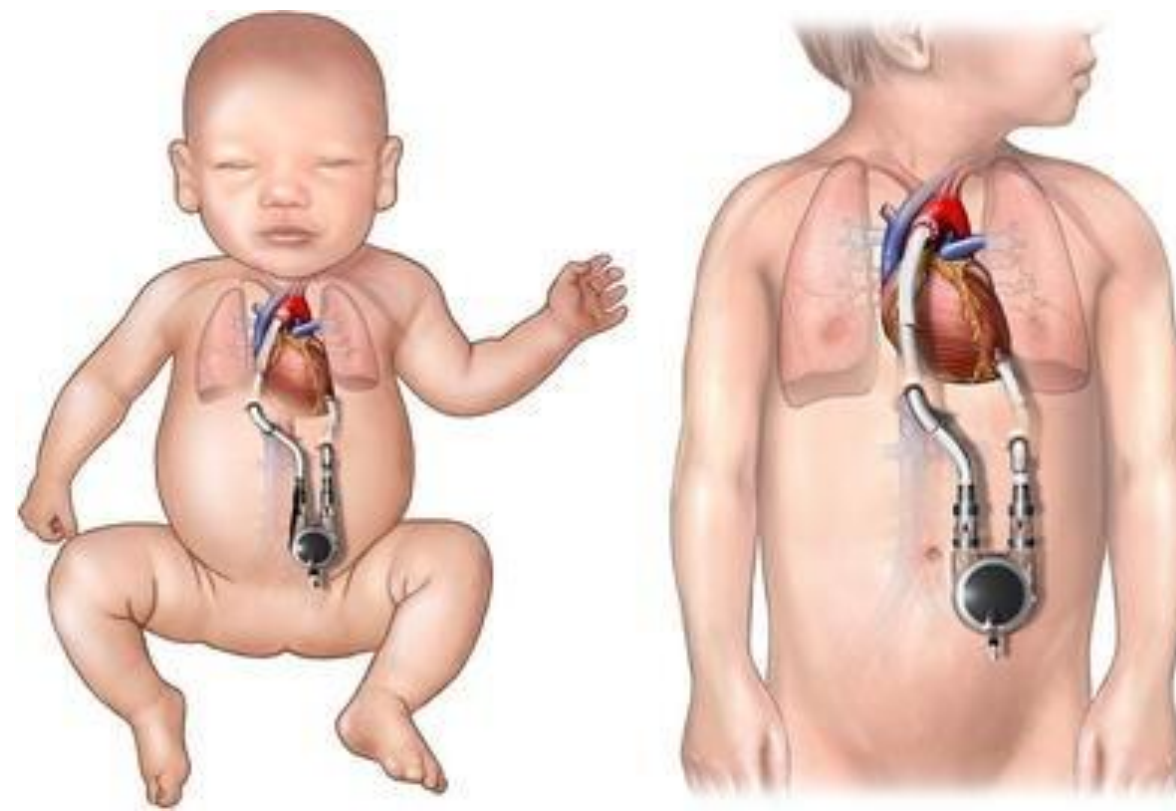
PROTECTIVE EFFECTS OF BETA BLOCKERS

- ↓ HR and contractility
- ↓ VO_2
- ↓ apoptosis signalling
- Anti-ischemic and anti-arrhythmic effects - ↓ VF
- Anti-inflammatory
- Increase synthesis of myocardial proteins
- Shift from FFA to glucose metabolism
- Peripheral antioxidant effect
- Reduce catecholamine release



Cardiologist perspective on CM in FAOD

- Not all children respond to Doljovi
- In some cases severe disease may not be reversible
- In some cases delivery of compound may be a factor
- Conventional heart failure therapies are still employed/required for recover
- Heart transplant- when and when not?
- VAD- bridge to recovery vs. transplant





HHS Public Access

Author manuscript

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J Inherit Metab Dis. 2017 November ; 40(6): 831–843. doi:10.1007/s10545-017-0085-8.

Triheptanoin versus trioctanoin for long-chain fatty acid oxidation disorders: a double blinded, randomized controlled trial

Melanie B. Gillingham¹, Stephen B. Heitner², Julie Martin¹, Sarah Rose^{1,3}, Amy Goldstein⁴, Areeg Hassan El-Gharbawy⁵, Stephanie Deward^{5,6}, Michael R. Lasarev⁷, Jim Pollaro⁸, James P. DeLany⁹, Luke J. Burchill², Bret Goodpaster^{9,10}, James Shoemaker¹¹, Dietrich Matern¹², Cary O. Harding¹, and Jerry Vockley⁵

FDA approval of Doljovi



June 30, 2020

Therapy utilization

- Biochemical Geneticists /Genetics providers
- Dieticians
- Cardiology- slow acceptance of therapy



Gillingham: Study population

Diagnosis	Triheptanoin C7	MCT C8
CPT-2	(n=5) Age 21–64	(n=6) Age 8-43
VLCAD	(n=4) Age 7–38	(n=5) Age 23-42; 22-31
LCHAD/TFP	(n=7) Age 7–29	(n=5) Age 8–17
TOTAL:	n=16	n=16

Participant Characteristics	Triheptanoin C7	MCT C8
Age (years)	7–64	8–43
Males (n)	6	6
Females (n)	10	10
History of Cardiac Complications	4	0

Cardiac function in Study Population

Cardiac function

- LCHAD/TFP Patients

- Three/12 had significant heart manifestations at the time of presentation that we resolved w diagnosis and treatment
- 1 patient had a recent history of sudden cardiac arrest w/ resuscitation
- **At the time of the study, all had normal cardiac function**

- VLCAD Patients

- 1 patient presented in infancy w/ severe cardiac complications that resolved after diagnosis and treatment but cardiac function subsequently deteriorated and was **abnormal at the time of the study**

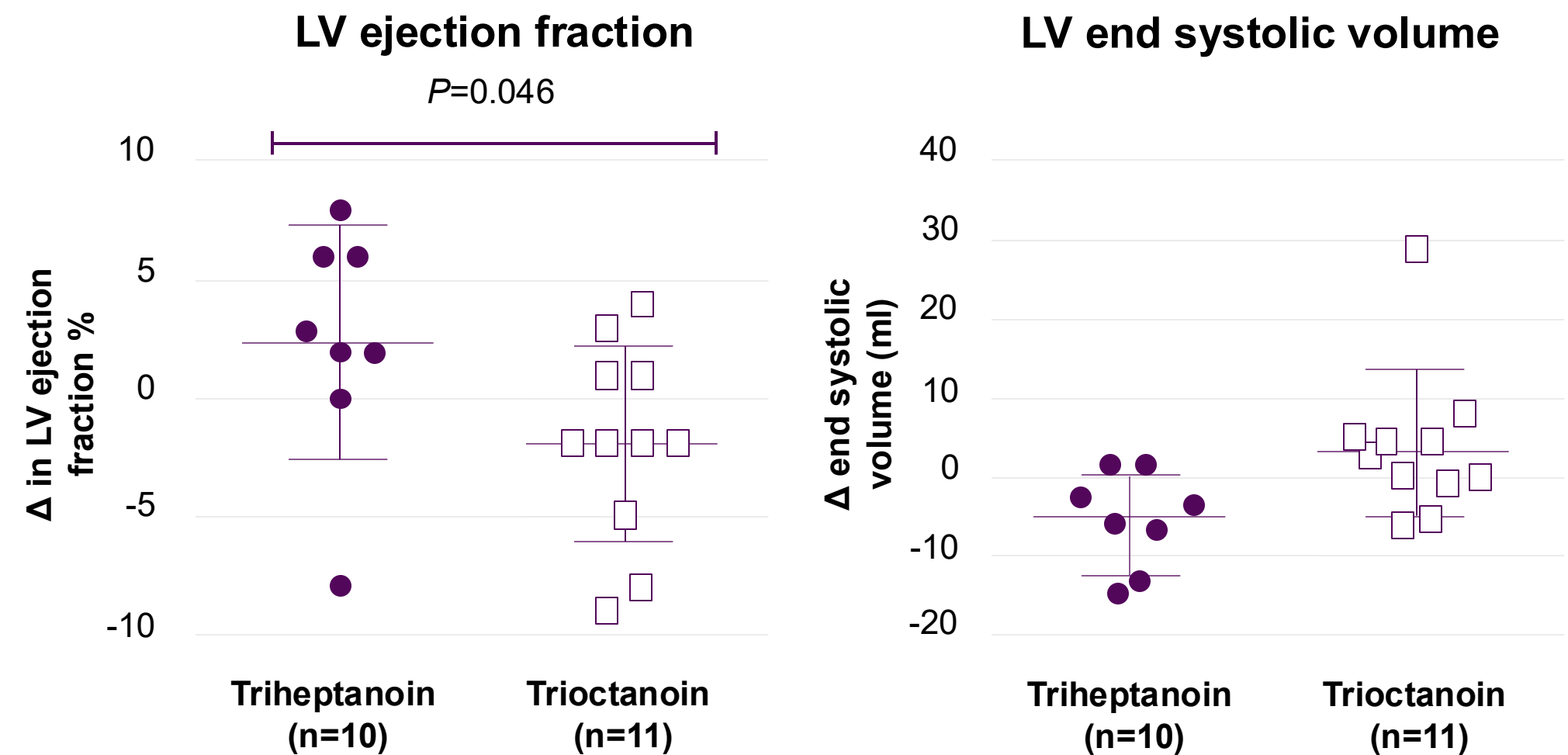
- CPT2 Patients

- **None of the patients had a history of cardiac disease**

LV Ejection Fraction and LV End Systolic Volume

- Patients treated with triheptanoin had **7.4% greater relative left ventricular (LV) ejection fraction** compared with patients treated with trioctanoin ($P=0.046$)
- Patients treated with triheptanoin had a **7% decrease in LV end systolic volume** compared while those treated with trioctanoin experienced an increase ($P=0.114$) measure of dilation

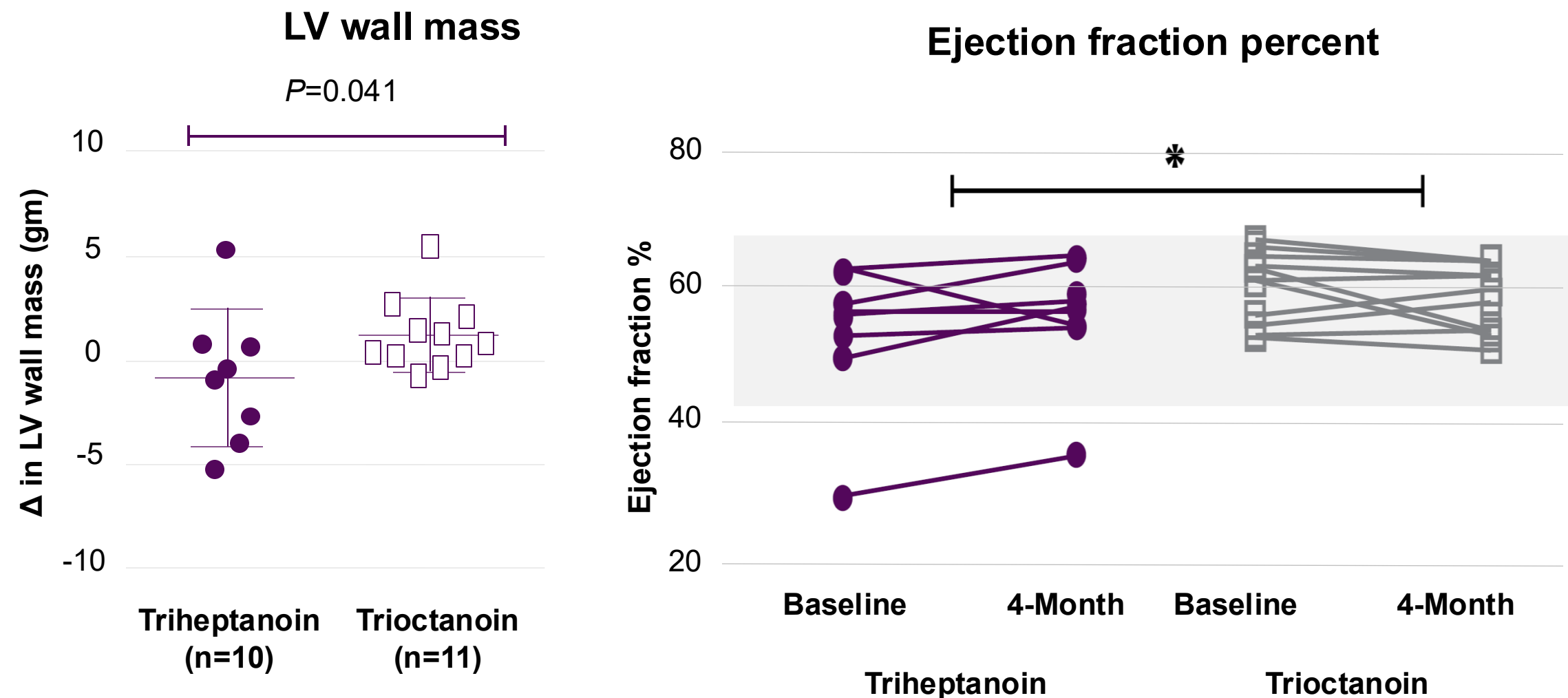
Change from baseline in LV ejection fraction and LV end systolic volume after 4 months of treatment



Gillingham: LV Wall Mass and Percent Ejection Fraction

- Patients treated with triheptanoin for 4 months experienced a **20% decrease in LV wall mass** compared with patients treated with trioctanoin for 4 months who experienced increased LV wall mass ($P=0.041$)
- All but 1 patient had a normal ejection fraction percent at baseline and most observed changes occurred within the normal range for LV ejection fraction.

Change from baseline in LV wall mass and percent ejection fraction

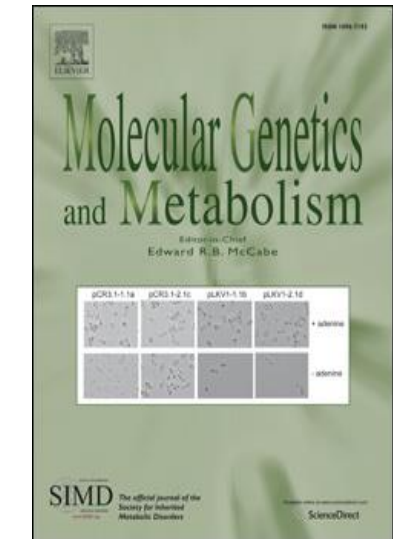




Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Molecular Genetics and Metabolism

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ymgme



Triheptanoin treatment in patients with pediatric cardiomyopathy associated with long chain-fatty acid oxidation disorders

J. Vockley^{a,*}, J. Charrow^b, J. Ganesh^c, M. Eswara^d, G.A. Diaz^e, E. McCracken^a, R. Conway^f, G.M. Enns^g, J. Starr^h, R. Wang^h, J.E. Abdenur^h, J. Sanchez-de-Toledo^a, D.L. Marsdenⁱ

J. Vockley et al. *Triheptanoin treatment in patients with pediatric cardiomyopathy associated with long chain-fatty acid oxidation disorders*. Molecular Genetics and Metabolism 119 (2016) 223–231.

Patient characteristics- all with CM

- Case reports from 10 patients (8 infants) with moderate or severe cardiomyopathy associated with LC-FAOD
 - VLCAD (n=4); CACT (n=2); TFP (2); n=LCHAD (n=2)
- Moderately to severely impaired ejection fraction (EF) ranging from 12–45% at baseline
- All patients were managed with standard treatment, including medium chain triglyceride (MCT) oil
 - While on this regimen, they presented with acute heart failure requiring hospitalization and cardiac support (ventilation, ECMO, vasopressors) and, in some cases, resuscitation
- The patients discontinued MCT oil and began treatment with triheptanoin (UX007)
 - UX007 target dose was 25–35% of total calories, as tolerated, which is equivalent to approximately 2-4 g/kg in infants and young children, decreasing to 1-2 g/kg for older children and adolescents, and 1 g/kg for adults. (Range in these cases were 1-4 g/kg/day based on age and tolerability)

Baseline Characteristics of LC-FAOD Patients

Case	Gender	LC-FAOD diagnosis	Genotype	Age at diagnosis	Initial presentation (Age/Symptoms)	Cardiomyopathy presentation (Age/Symptoms)	Age at trihep start	Prior MCT treatment
1	F	VLCAD	c.1678 + 3_1678 + 6 del AAGT	NBS	Neonatal hypoglycemia, metabolic acidosis	3 months; cardiac dysfunction	7 months	Y
2	M	VLCAD	Homozygous c.1807dupT (p.C603LfsX2)	NBS	Neonatal hypoglycemia, cardiac dysfunction	6 months; cardiac arrest, severe dilated CM	6 months	Y
3	F	TFP	c.1165 A > G c.1289 T > C	NBS	Neonatal hypoglycemia	8 months; significant left ventricular hypertrophy	8 months	Y
4	F	LCHAD	1528G > C 1528G > C	NBS	10 months; severe CM, heart failure	10 months; severe CM, heart failure	10 months	Y
5	F	CACT	c.84delT del + 3p21.31	NBS	Neonatal hypoglycemia, cardiac dysfunction	10 months; severe CM, heart failure, ascites	10 months	Y
6	F	TFP	Homozygous c.1678C > T	NBS	Neonatal hypoglycemia, mild biventricular dysfunction	1.5 months; heart failure	2.5 months	Y
7	F	VLCAD	c.1268C > T (p.S423 L)/c.1913C > T (p.S638F)	NBS	3 months; hypotensive, hypoglycemic, respiratory distress, hepatomegaly	3 months; cardiac failure	3 months	Y
8	F	VLCAD	c.887_888del c.1679- 6G > A	3.5 months	Neonatal hypoglycemia, hypothermia 3.5 months; acute CM w/biventricular hypertrophy, pericardial effusion, respiratory failure	3.5 months; acute CM with biventricular hypertrophy ¹ 20 years; acute CM, cardiogenic shock, cardiac arrest	5 years 20 years	Y
9	M	LCHAD	homozygous 1528 G > C	NBS	Prior to age 8; rhabdomyolysis	8 years; bradyarrhythmia, cardiac arrest	8 years	Y
10	M	CACT	c.823C > T (p.R275X)/del E 5-9	<1 month	Hypothermia, altered consciousness, hyperammonemia	Day 11; cardiomegaly, mild LVH, decreased LV function	6 months	Y

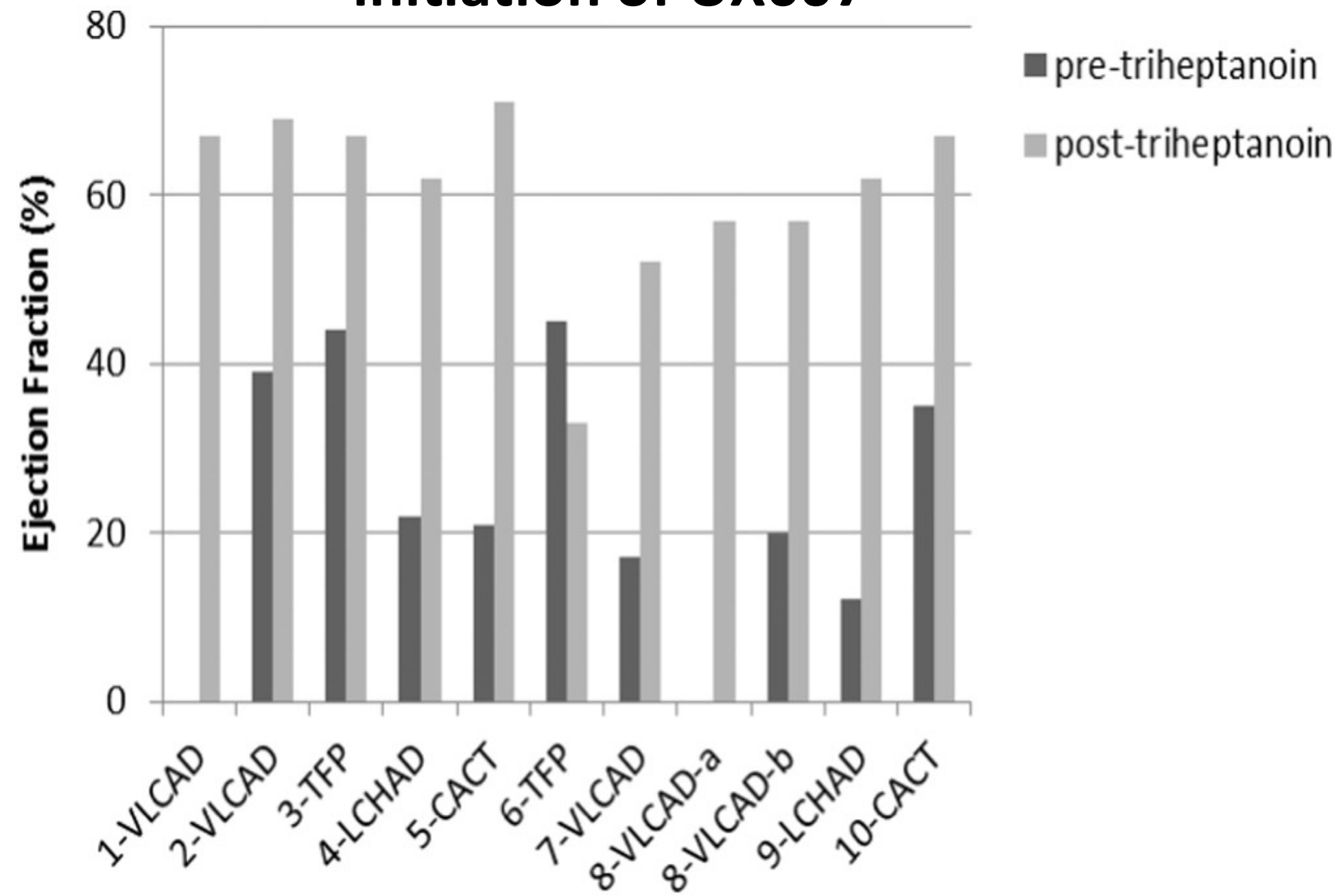
CM = cardiomyopathy; LVH = left ventricular hypertrophy; MCT = medium chain triglyceride oil; NBS = newborn screening.

¹ Previously described in Roe et al. 2002.

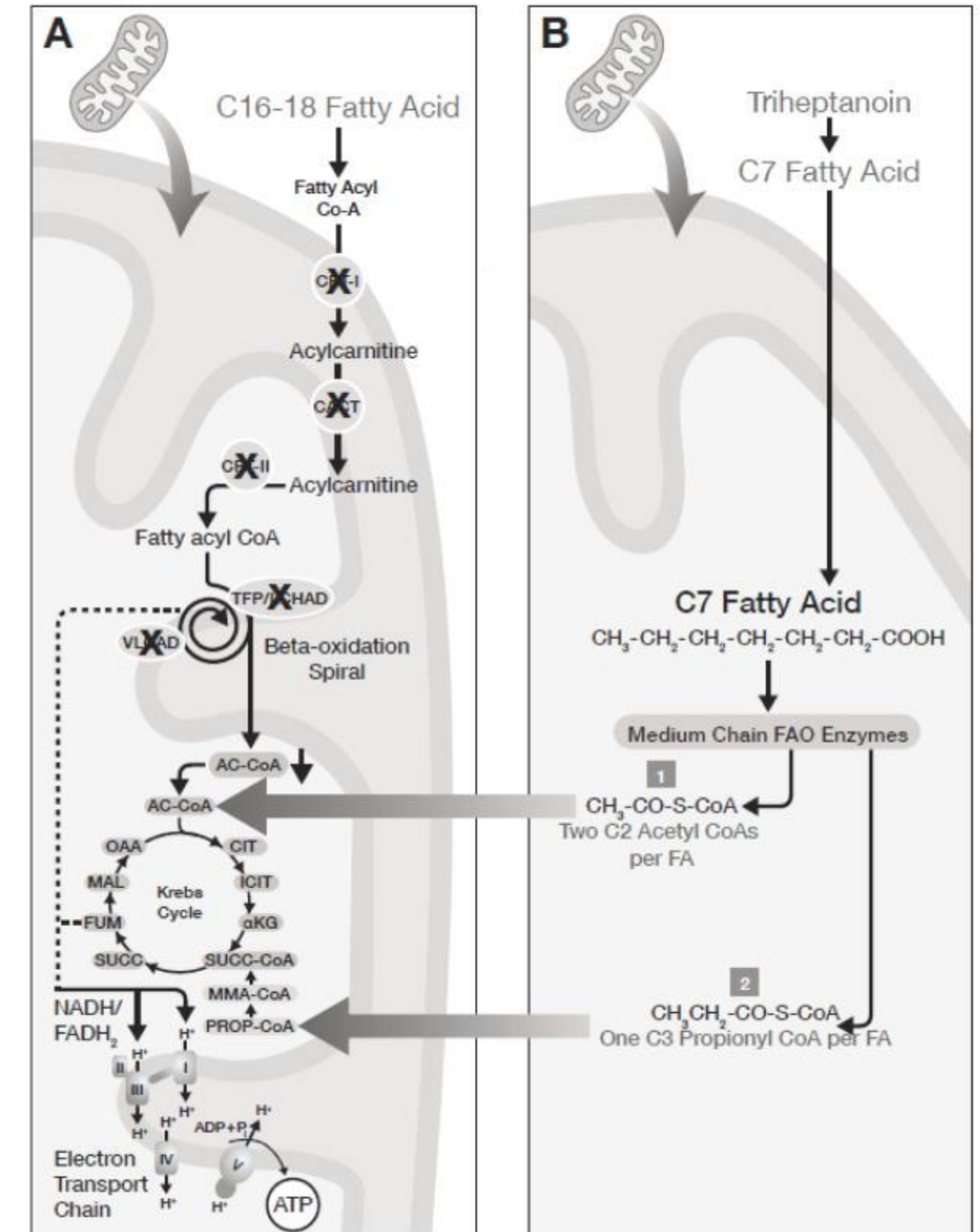
J. Vockley et al. *Triheptanoin treatment in patients with pediatric cardiomyopathy associated with long chain-fatty acid oxidation disorders*. Molecular Genetics and Metabolism 119 (2016) 223–231.

Changes in Peak Ejection Fraction

Peak ejection fraction (EF) improvements following initiation of UX007



Cases 1–10



Safety and Tolerability

- The most common adverse event observed was gastrointestinal distress
- Ten patients:
 - 7 continued on treatment
 - 1 discontinued due to tolerability issues
 - 2 infants died during treatment though neither death was attributed to the administration of UX007 by the reporting physician, rather appearing related to underlying disease
 - One VLCAD female died at ~3.5 months of age of sepsis/necrotizing fasciitis (case 7)
 - One TFP female died at ~3.5 months of age (case 6) after metabolic and lactic acidosis and respiratory distress requiring ventilation, pericardial effusions requiring repeated draining, refractory cardiogenic shock with severe pulmonary hemorrhage

Conclusions of triheptanoin studies

- Superior to MCT (non-inferior)
- Cardiomyopathy can resolve/normalize (reversibility)
- Not all severe cardiomyopathy patients have normalization, some still have poor outcome- death or heart transplant
- Triheptanoin does not replace conventional strategies to treat heart failure

Case #1 VLCADD: ECHO trends over time

Trends in LVEF, FS and mass over time

DATE of EXAM	patient condition	LVEF%	FS%	LV mass g/Ht ^{2.7}
1/24/22	Well- clinic	47.8	26.8	69.8
9/2/21	hosp f/u	48.9	27.8	58 (Dev)
8/23/21 after C7	Admit- URI	45.7	22.2	54.8
4/5/21	Well- clinic	47.7	27.2	55.8
7/6/20	Well- clinic	52.5	29	68.1
3/16/20	Admit- URI	51.7	24	73.9
12/23/19	Well- clinic	56.6	32.4	61.9
4/8/19 (Coreg stopped)	Well- clinic	58.4	32.8	ND
10/8/18	Well- clinic	53.8	33.2	56.6
7/23/18	Well- clinic	54.2	33	56.5
6/11/18	Well- clinic	51.7	26.7	77.6
5/23/18	Well- clinic	44.7	24.9	86.4
5/2/18	Well- clinic	44.2	25.3	104.1
4/2/18 (Coreg started)	Well- clinic	47.1	30	105.8
3/26/18	Well- clinic after illness	40.1	16.3	177
8/21/17	Well- clinic	ND	39.1	41.8
5/22/17	Well- clinic	65.5	37.8	44.8
4/23/17	Well- clinic	66.2	36.4	56.2

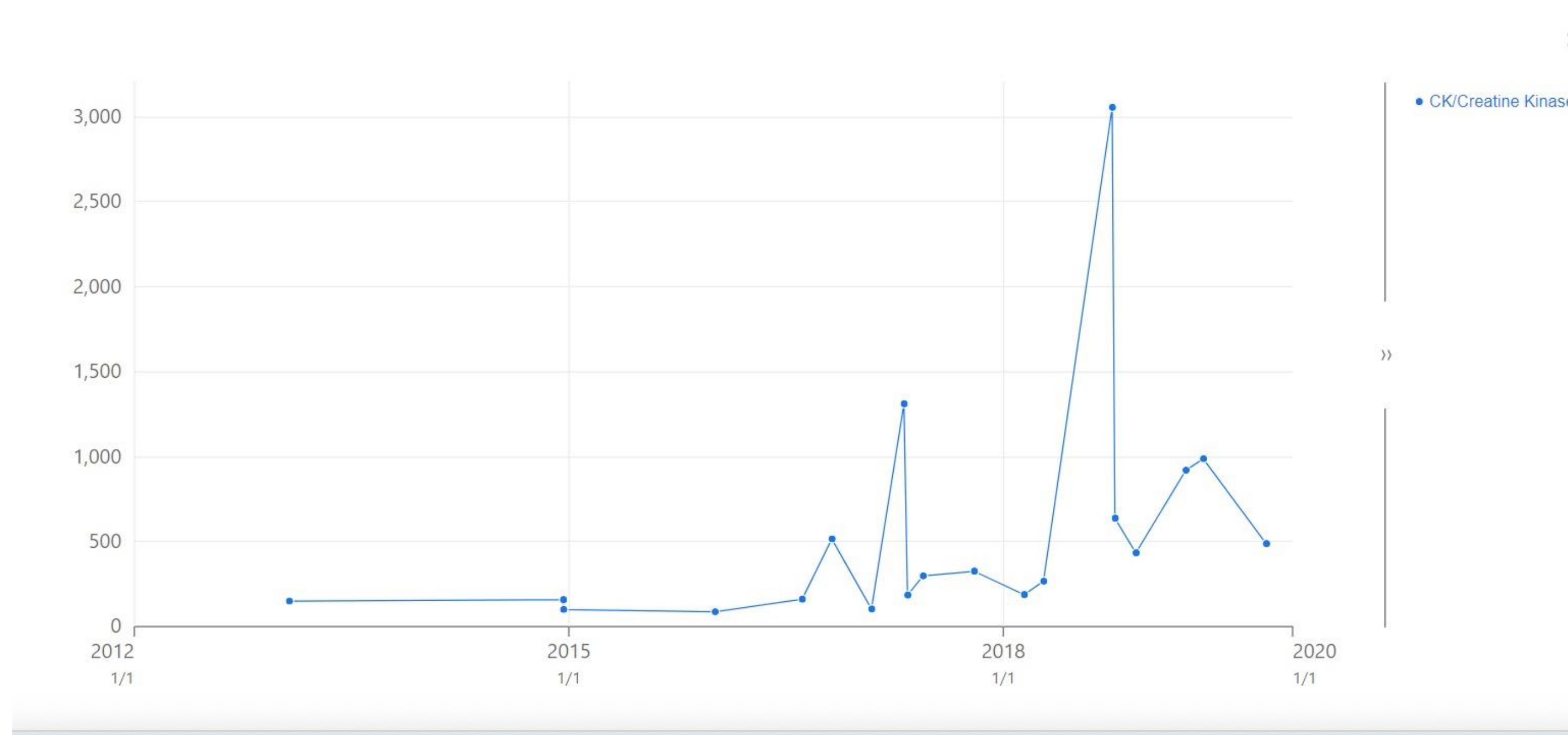
Case #1: VLCADD then things got worse again

- Slow decline becomes more rapid in spite of C7 and GDMT
- Admitted for NG feeding
- When stable enough for anesthesia, underwent G-tube placement



Case #2: Adolescent Male with “mild” LCHADD

- Continues to participate in sports, more bothersome muscle pain and elevations in CK with exercise.



Natural History of Cardiomyopathy in FAOD



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Presenting Signs and Symptoms in 50 LCHAD patients

Signs and Symptoms	11 Patients Presenting Without Acute Metabolic Derangement		39 Patients Presenting With Acute Metabolic Derangement	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Hepatomegaly	6/10*	60%	28/36*	78%
Hepatic dysfunction	8/10*	80%	31/39*	79%
Cholestasis	3/10*	30%	6/34*	18%
Cardiomyopathy	4/11*	36%	17/35*	49%
Failure to thrive	8/11*	73%	14/35*	40%
Feeding difficulties	6/11*	55%	16/35*	46%
Vomiting	5/11*	45%	13/33*	39%
Hypotonia	7/11*	64%	22/36*	61%
Lethargy	3/10*	30%	10/35*	29%
Psychomotor retardation	3/11*	27%	9/36*	25%
Peripheral neuropathy	1/11*	9%	1/33*	3%
Microcephaly	3/11*	27%	2/33*	6%

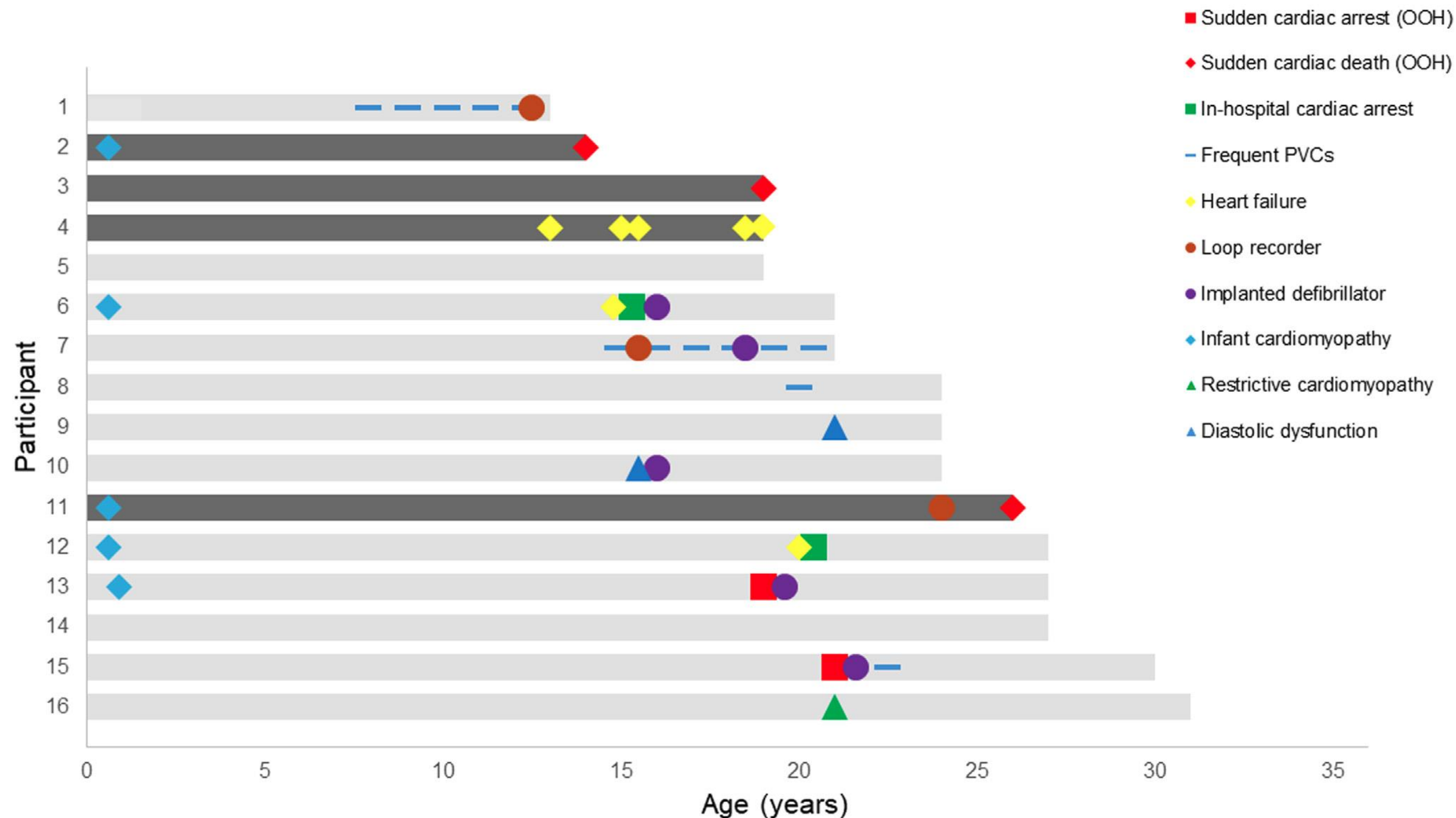
Updated natural history of CM in FAOD: modern treatment

- Abstract/ poster- Gillingham et al, Disease characteristics in adult patients with FAOD
- What happens to the patients with CM?

Natural History of Cardiomyopathy in LCHADD

- Largely unknown, little long-term studies
- Many case reports/series- often skewed
- Important study by Gillingham group (Elizondo et al)

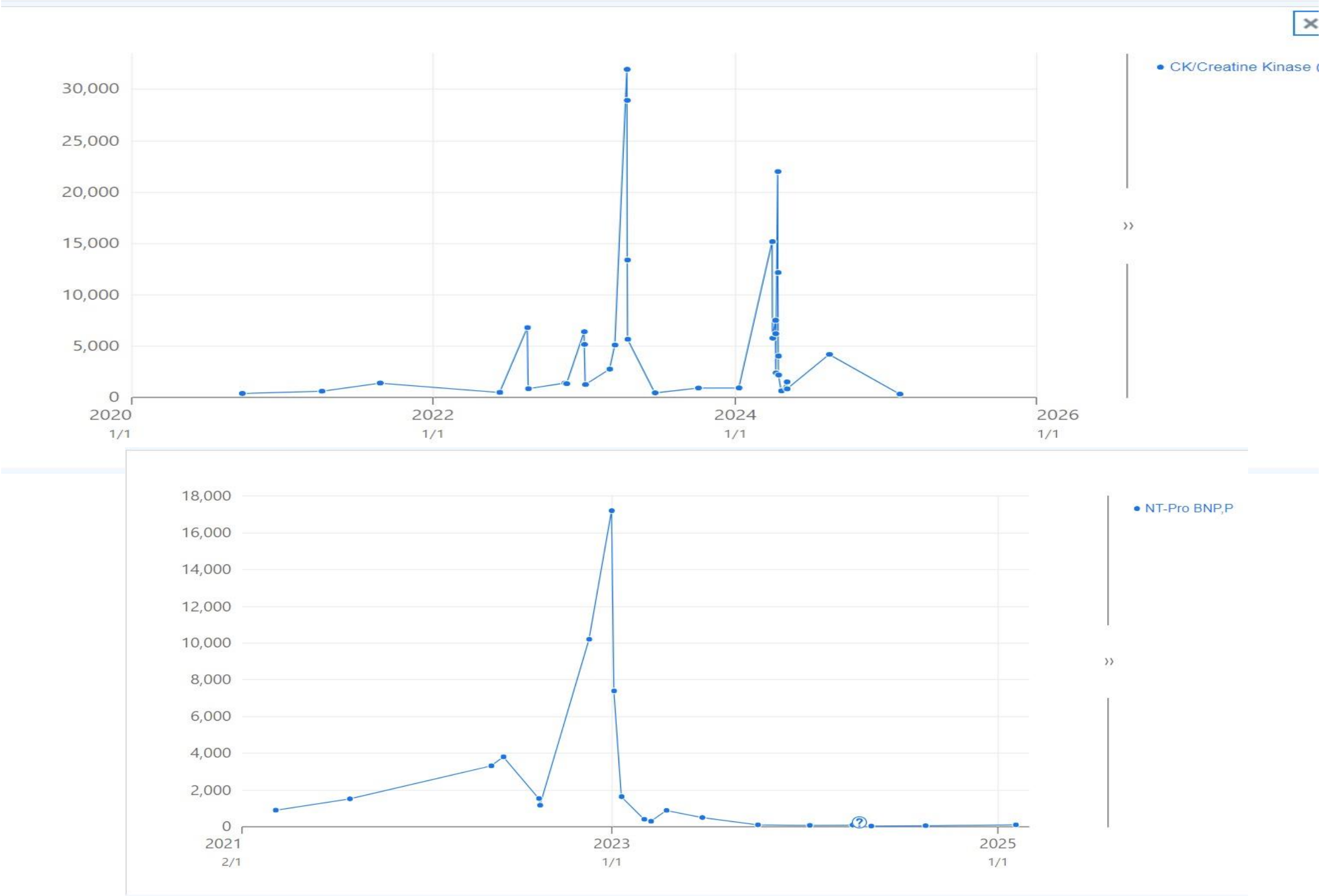
Participants' Timeline



Case #1: VLCADD 2 years after G-tube

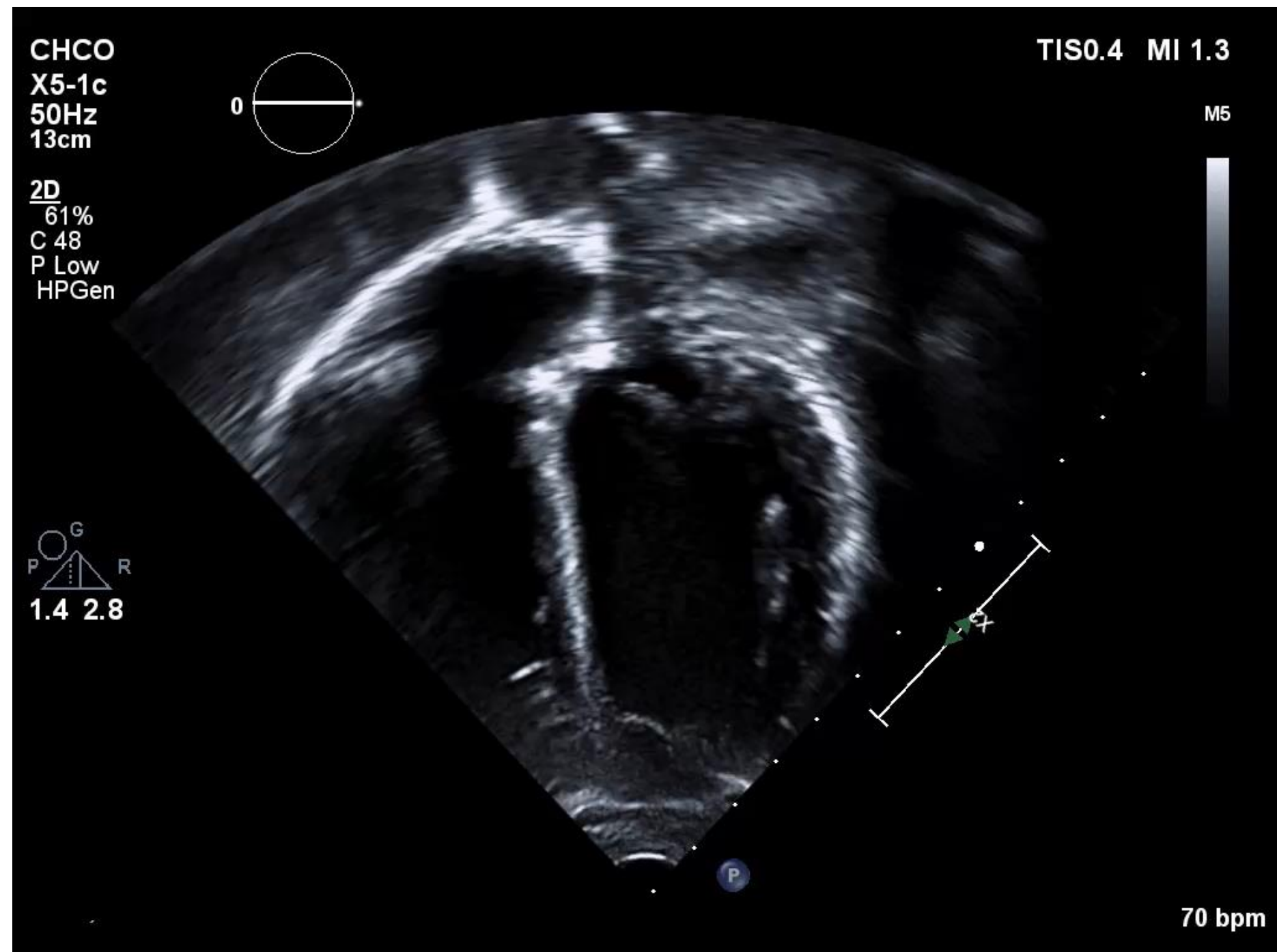
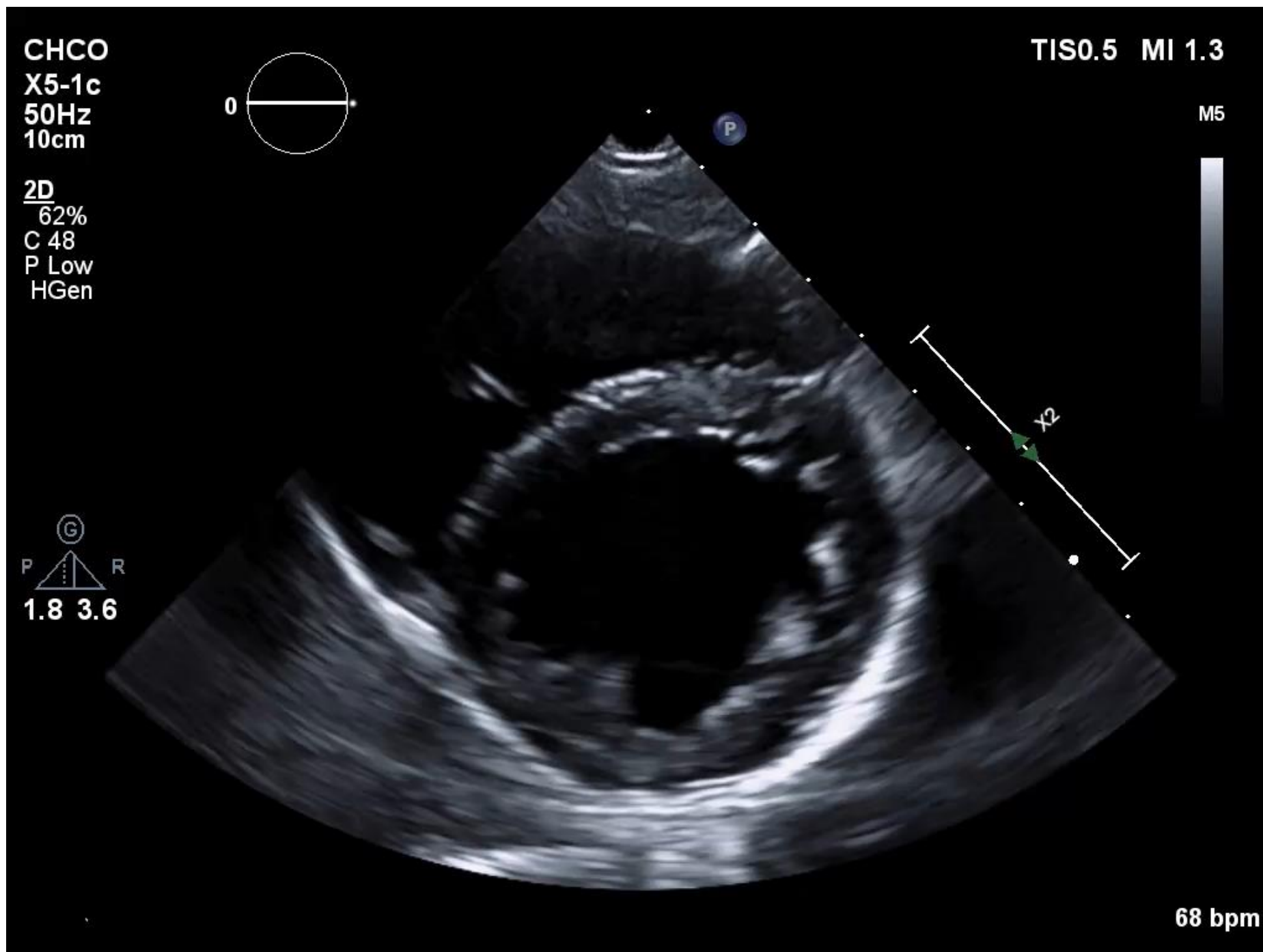


Case #1: VLCADD 2 years after G-tube



Case #2: Adolescent Male with “mild” LCHADD

- Continues to participate in sports, symptoms better with C7 therapy



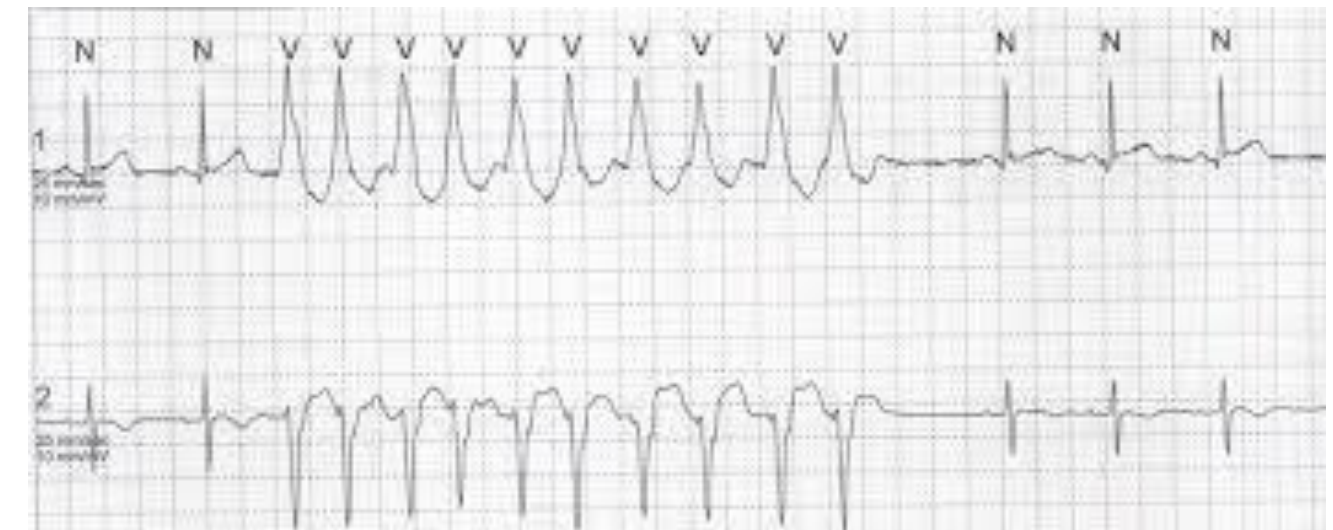
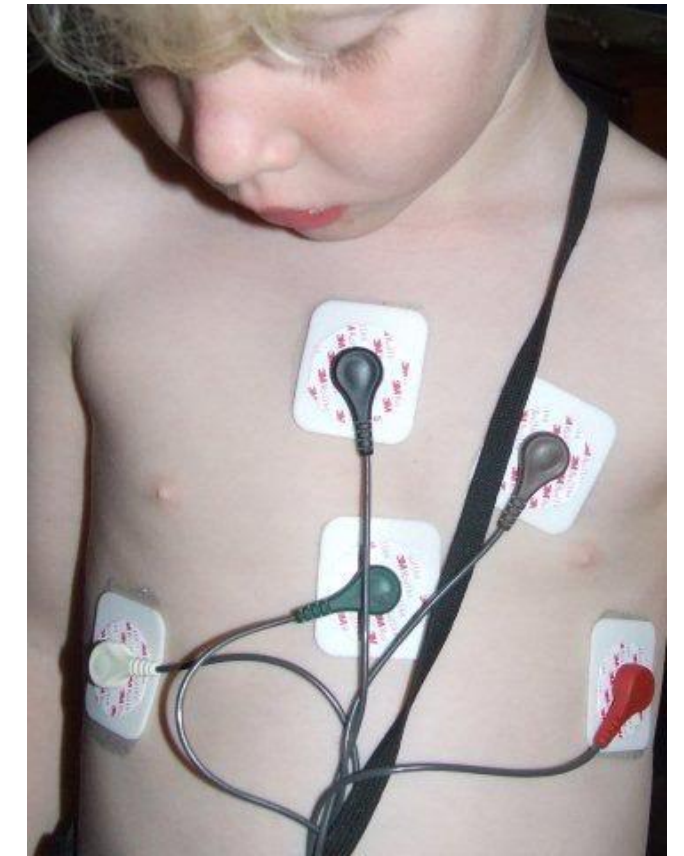
Unanswered questions and future directions



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Health Supervision Guidelines: updates?

- Echocardiogram at presentation and every year to evaluate for CM
- Echo as needed to evaluate shortness of breath, tachycardia, or other signs/symptoms of heart failure
- ECG annually to screen for abnormalities
- Holter monitor every few years- annual (Zio monitor)
- Holter/Zio/Loop monitor if any syncope (fainting) or other symptoms (palpitations) concerning for arrhythmia
- *Consider cardiac MRI-especially if history of CM or repeat episodes of heart failure*
- **Individualized care for each patient**
 - Based on genotype and phenotype



Future Research and Therapy

- New diagnostic approach- cardiac MRI
- Data collection on recovery of CM (ACTION)
- Following outcomes with C7 therapy over longer periods of time
- Predicting the “non-responders”
- Exploring C7 as adjunct to conventional medical therapies (like beta blocker)
- New therapies- anapleurosis, ROS scavenging, alternative metabolism, pharmacology, mitochondrial-targeted, mito biogenesis
- Identification of biomarkers that can predict likelihood of developing cardiac disease
- Prevention vs. reversal- is one more important?



55

network
care sites



1,100

network
members



6

industry
collaborators



16

ACTION
manuscripts



60

network
leaders



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THANK YOU