

RCPE Cardiology Symposium

Thursday 29 October 2020

Evaluation of heart failure - Dr Marianna Fontana

Q. How common is cardiac amyloidosis in the UK? Annual incidence and over all prevalence?

A: True prevalence is unknown. Estimated high in TAVI pts (up to 15%) and HFpEF (up to 15%), but the prevalence in general population unknown.

Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Disease: new bases of early prediction and prevention - Professor Valentin Fuster

Q: Thank you for an excellent presentation. If small vessel brain disease interferes with brain structure and function, do we have similar evidence for the heart and kidneys?

A: Certainly: diabetes, hypertension.

Q: Are we at the point where we should be screening for atherosclerosis rather than using risk factors to guide primary prevention?

A: Soon 3D ultrasound will be available. At present conventional risk factors should be the priority.

Q: Although the data you presented showed some sort of link between thrombus formation and Alzheimer's, why are we not seeing much of thrombosis on the cerebral vasculature in patients with Alzheimer's disease?

A: Because it is the microvasculature affected.

Congenital heart disease emergencies - Dr Louise Coats

Q: Excellent presentation. RE Information, it is really difficult to get especially in ED. Have you considered giving complex patients "passports" so that they have critical information such as underlying condition, operative repairs, routine sats, and routine Hb on a small card or e-doc on their phone?

A: Thanks for the question. This is not in place yet, but certainly something that has been thought about and may exist in some places on a local level. Patients are encouraged to have medic alert bracelets and carry copies of their last clinic letter and ECG. However, it is a point well taken and with the change to Network delivery of care for congenital heart disease in the last year or two it is to be hoped that better engagement with primary care and emergency departments that this sort of initiative becomes more formalised.