



31 GIORNATE CARDIOLOGICHE TORINESI

TURIN
October
24th-26th
2019

THE HEART IS ON FIRE- WHAT TO DO?

Pragmatic approach to pericarditis

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**Disclosures: Advisory Board member for SOBI and Kiniksa*





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THE HEART IS ON FIRE- PERICARDITIS

Pragmatic approach in 10 questions

1. How to make the diagnosis?
2. What are the main causes?
3. Who should be admitted?
4. How to treat pericarditis?
5. How to use NSAIDs?
6. When to use colchicine?
7. How to use corticosteroids?
8. When to use alternative therapies?
9. What complications can be anticipated?
10. What is the risk of constriction?



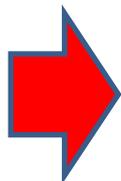
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1. How to make the diagnosis?

Pericarditis	Definition and diagnostic criteria
Acute	<p>Inflammatory pericardial syndrome to be diagnosed with at least 2 of the 4 following criteria:</p> <div data-bbox="386 642 1497 885" style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px;"><ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pericarditic chest pain2. Pericardial rubs3. New widespread ST elevation or PR depression on ECG4. Pericardial effusion (new or worsening)</div> <p>Additional supporting findings:</p> <p><u>Elevation of markers of inflammation (i.e. C-reactive protein, erythrocyte sedimentation rate and white blood cell count)</u></p> <p><u>Evidence of pericardial inflammation by an imaging technique (computed tomography, cardiac magnetic resonance)</u></p>

Clinical
criteria



Biomarkers



Imaging



RECURRENT PERICARDITIS IF A SYMPTOM FREE INTERVAL > 4-6 weeks
or
INCESSANT PERICARDITIS IF SYMPTOM FREE TIME < 4-6 weeks

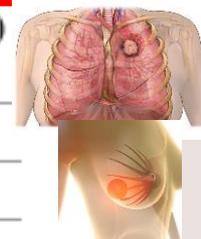


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2. What are the main causes?

	Permanyer-Miralda (Spain)	Zayas (Spain)	Imazio (Italy)	Reuter ^a (South Africa)	Gouriet (France)
Patients (<i>n</i>)	231	100	453	233	933
Years	1977–1983	1991–1993	1996–2004	1995–2001	2007–2012
Geographic area	Western Europe	Western Europe	Western Europe	Africa	Western Europe
Idiopathic	199 (86.0 %)	78 (78.0 %)	377 (83.2 %)	32 (13.7 %)	516 (55.0 %)
Specific aetiology	32 (14.0 %)	22 (22.0 %)	76 (16.8 %)	201 (86.3 %)	417 (46.0 %)
5-10% Neoplastic	13 (5.6 %)	7 (7.0 %)	23 (5.1 %)	22 (9.4 %)	85 (8.9 %)
<5% Tuberculosis	9 (3.9 %)	4 (4.0 %)	17 (3.8 %)	161 (69.5 %)	<1 %
5-20% Autoimmune	4 (1.7 %)	3 (3.0 %)	33 (7.3 %)	12 (5.2 %)	197 (21 %)
<5% Purulent	2 (0.9 %)	1 (1.0 %)	3 (0.7 %)	5 (2.1 %)	29 (3.0 %)



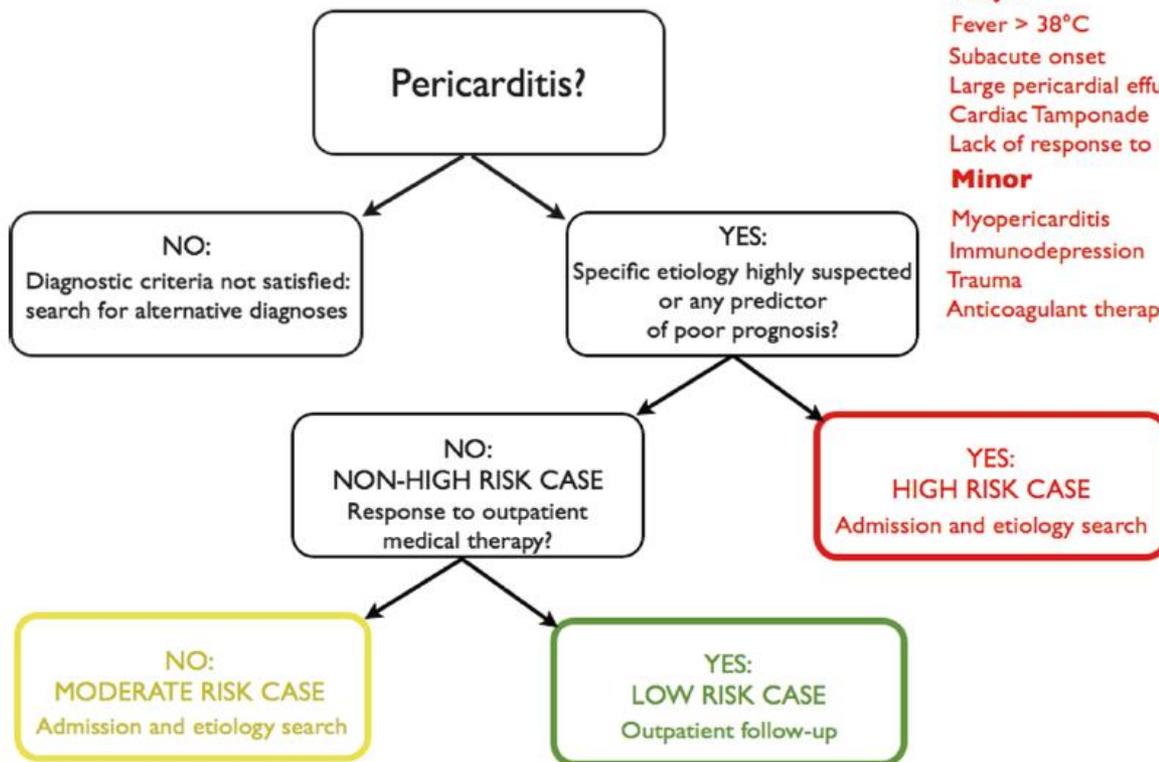


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3. Who should be admitted?

Triage of pericarditis



Predictors of poor prognosis:

Major

- Fever > 38°C
- Subacute onset
- Large pericardial effusion
- Cardiac Tamponade
- Lack of response to empiric aspirin or NSAID

Minor

- Myopericarditis
- Immunodepression
- Trauma
- Anticoagulant therapy



**Red
flags**



4. How to treat pericarditis?

First level tx: Aspirin or NSAID plus colchicine



Second level tx: Corticosteroids plus colchicine



Third level tx: Aspirin/NSAID plus colchicine and
Corticosteroids (Triple therapy)



Fourth level tx: Use of alternative drugs (e.g.
azathioprine or IVIG or anakinra)



Fifth level tx: Pericardiectomy

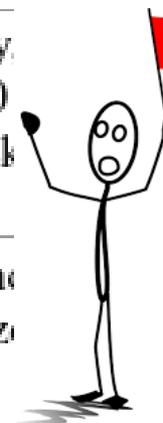


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5. How to use NSAIDs?

Drug	Usual dosing	Duration	Tapering
Aspirin	750–1000 mg every 8 h	1–2 weeks	1. Proper dosing and times
Ibuprofen	600 mg every 8 h	1–2 weeks	2. Add colchicine on top 3. Consider tapering
Colchicine	0.5 mg once (<70 kg) or 0.5 mg BID (≥70 kg)	3 months	Not mandatory, other day (<70 kg) in the last week 0.5 mg every other day (<70 kg) or 0.5 mg once (≥70 kg)



Therapy duration is individualized when guided by symptoms and attack dose and taper only if asymptomatic and CRP is normalized (LOE B)

Realization: keep the recommendation,



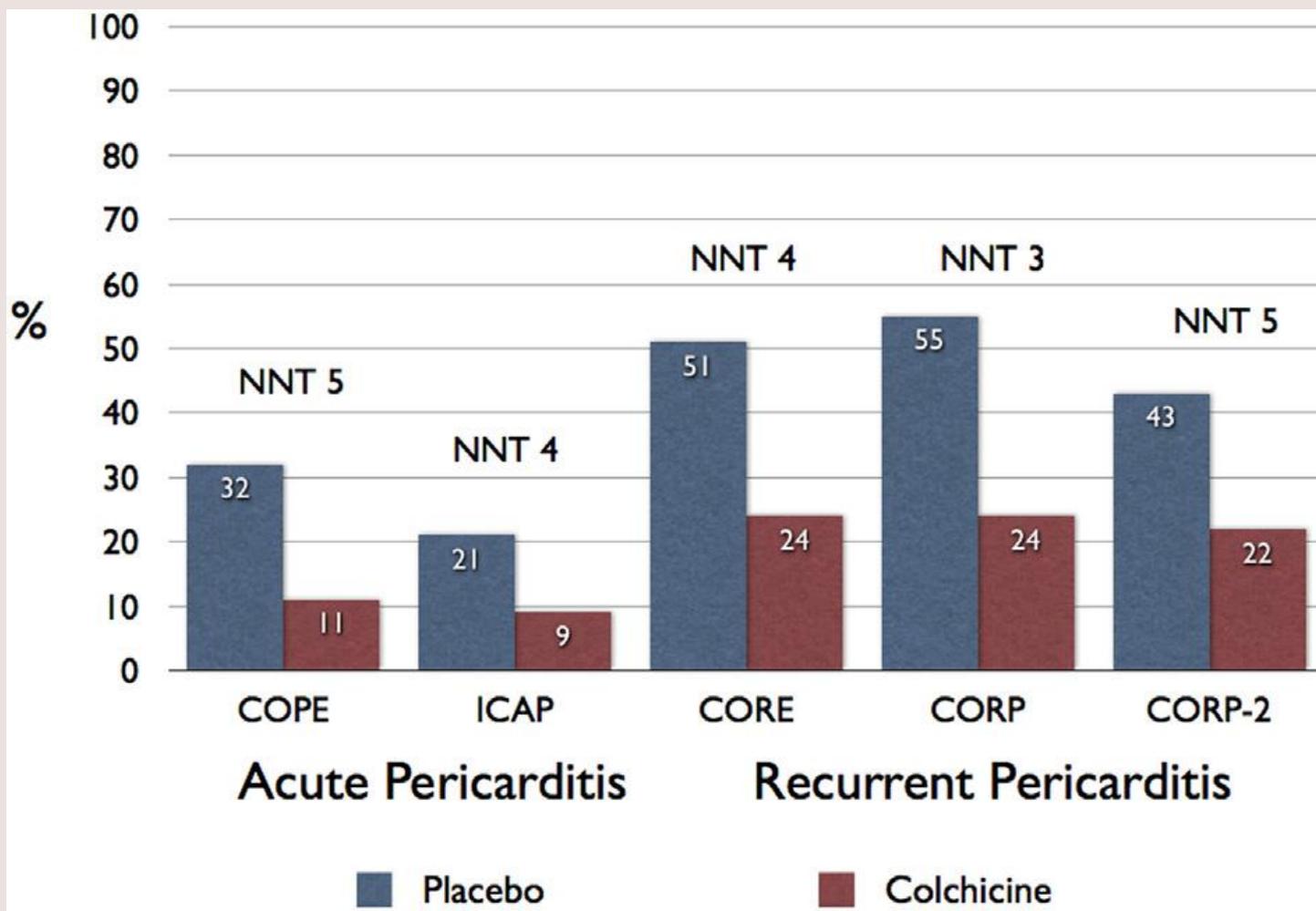
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6. When to use colchicine?



Registered indication
in Italy from April
2017:
No more off-label





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7. How to use corticosteroids?

The 5 indications to corticosteroids in pericarditis

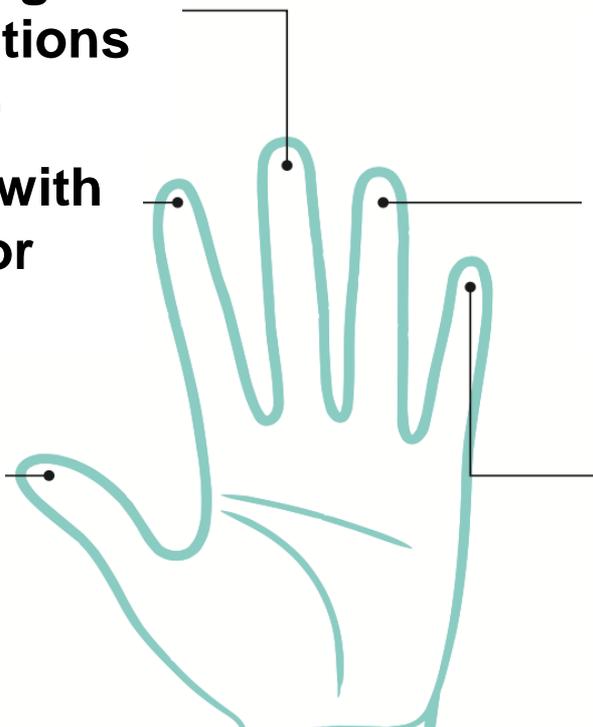
Specific diseases (e.g. rheumatological conditions on steroids, PPS)

As combined therapy (with NSAID/colchicine) for recurrences

Contraindications or failure of ASA/NSAID

Specific physiological conditions or concomitant diseases (e.g. pregnancy, renal failure)

Concomitant therapies (e.g. oral anticoagulants)



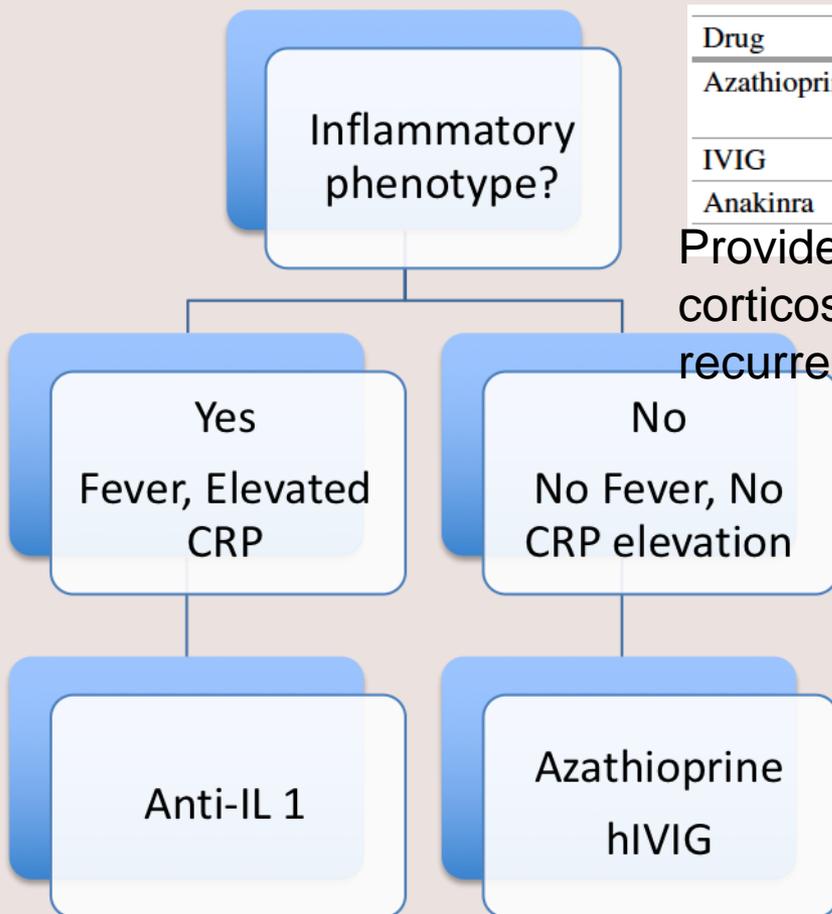
Low to moderate doses
(e.g. prednisone 0.2-0.5 mg/kg/day) with slow tapering



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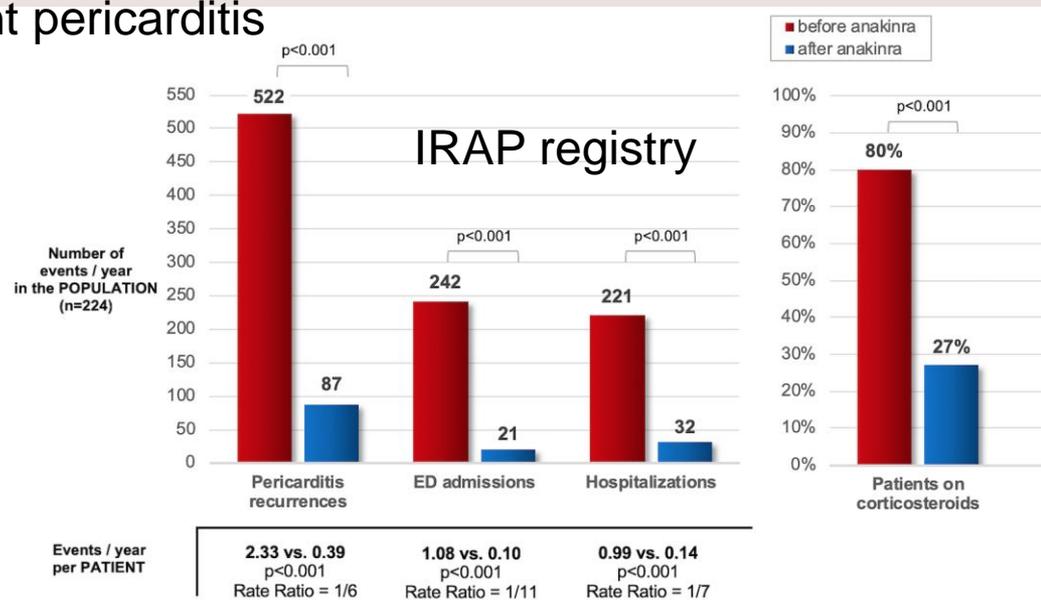
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8. When to use alternative therapies?



Drug	Dosing
Azathioprine	Starting with 1 mg/kg day then gradually increased to 2–3 mg/kg/day for several months
IVIG	400-500 mg/kg/day for 5 days
Anakinra	1–2 mg/kg/day up to 100 mg/day in adults for several months

Provided by SSN according to Law 648/1196:
corticosteroid dependent and colchicine resistant
recurrent pericarditis





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9. What complications can be anticipated?

- Recurrences in 20 to 30% of cases (pre-colchicine time) but halved by colchicine
- Risk of cardiac tamponade very low during follow-up if specific causes excluded (e.g. systemic inflammatory diseases, bacterial and neoplastic etiologies)
- Risk of constriction related to the etiology and not the number of recurrences (never reported in idiopathic recurrent pericarditis)



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10. What is the risk of constriction?



- 20-30% bacterial etiologies (TB, purulent)
- 2-5% neoplastic etiology, systemic inflammatory diseases, post-cardiac injury syndromes
- <1% viral or "idiopathic" pericarditis

Working Group on Myocardial & Pericardial Diseases

About

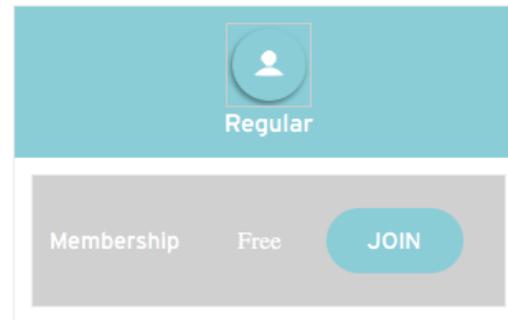
Education

Membership

ESC Working Group on Myocardial and Pericardial Diseases

Join the Working Group today!

All healthcare professionals involved in these Working Group fields are invited to join our network!



Regular

Membership Free **JOIN**

[Find out more about the application process](#)

Membership is free and for life.

When applying online, you will be requested to login via your My ESC account.

Candidates should

- Be involved in clinical care, diagnosis and management and promote research of heart muscle and pericardial diseases
- Be ready to participate in and promote educational and research activities of the working group

See you in Torino for 2020 Annual Meeting of the ESC WG on Myocardial and Pericardial Diseases!

