Chagas Heart Disease: A United States National Study

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Chagas Heart Disease: A United States National Study


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Background

- Chagas disease is a chronic, systemic condition endemic in Central and South America.
- One common manifestation of this parasitic infection, Chagas heart disease (ChD), is an underdiagnosed entity with serious clinical implications.
- Data are limited regarding the demographics and clinical aspects of this disease in the United States.

Methods

- Using the U.S. Nationwide Inpatient Sample databases 2003 through 2012 and appropriate ICD-9 codes, we identified hospitalizations in patients ≥ 18 years of age with a primary or secondary diagnosis of Chagas disease and CHD.
- Cases with missing data and other cardiomyopathies were excluded for analysis purposes.
- Demographics and various cardiac conditions were then analyzed using appropriate ICD-9 codes.

Results

- Of the 1,577 hospitalizations with a diagnosis of Chagas disease, **1050 (66.6%) had diagnosed CHD** (mean age 57±15 years, 50.0% women, 74.1% Hispanic).
- The largest numbers CHD cases were seen in California (33%), followed by Florida (14%) and New York (10%).
- **Congestive heart failure (CHF) (28%) was the most common primary discharge diagnosis, followed by dysrhythmias (9.4%).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Myocardial/Pump abnormalities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Congestive heart failure</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Dilated cardiomyopathy</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Ventricular aneurysm</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arrhythmias/ Conduction abnormality</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Atrial fibrillation</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Ventricular tachycardia</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Sinus node dysfunction</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Bundle branch Block</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5) Complete heart Block</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
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<tr>
<th>Cardiac Devices</th>
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<tr>
<td>1) Pacemaker</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) Implanted cardioverter defibrillator</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion

- In patients with CHD, **CHF was present in 63%, arrhythmias in 58.5%, conduction abnormalities in 12.2%, and cardiac devices in 41.2% (Figure).**
- Median length of stay was 5 days, median hospitalization charges were US$ 33,591, and all-cause inpatient mortality was 3.3%.

Disclosures

- None of the authors have any relevant disclosures.

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