

Prevalence of valvular heart diseases in adult cadaver's autopsies in Iran, 2003

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Abstract

Background & Aims: Valvular Heart Disease is an important group of cardiovascular diseases all over the world. The prevalence of it studied in 500 cases from April 2003 to April 2004 in legal medicine organization, Tehran, Iran.

Materials & Methods: In this cross-sectional study 500 cadavers of adult between 15 – 65 years in four different groups were studied for gross and microscopic pathologic findings of the heart. Their past medical history was reviewed also. Data were analyzed with software of SPSS Ver. 12.

Results: 80% of these were male and 20% were female. Most of cases (64.8%) were 19 – 44 years old. 17.2% of cases had over-weight heart. 5.6% of cases had valvular disease. We evaluated valvular diseases in two categories: Dependent and independent to size of valve. Size independent lesions were more common in 45 – 64 years old Cadavers. At this group, Sclerotic Valvular lesions were more common (2.8%), Followed by Mitral valve prolapse (1.4%), Rheumatic valvular lesions (1%), Bicuspid Aortic Valve (0.2%), and Tricuspid bacterial endocarditis (0.2%).

In size dependent group, Aortic valves in 15% of cases, Mitral valves in 10.4%, Tricuspid valves in 6.2% and Pulmonary valves in 4.6% had abnormal size.

Conclusion: Results of this study correspond with other studies and we found that age dependent sclerotic change of valve is the most common lesion in valvular diseases, and also most of these cases with these changes had over-weight heart and positive history of Hypertension in their life.

Key Words: Valvular, Heart, Autopsy.

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