

Case of Atypical TakoTsubo Cardiomyopathy in the Postpartum Period



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Background

Atypical TakoTsubo cardiomyopathy (aTCM) is a variant of cardiomyopathy - Transient left ventricular dysfunction

Apical sparing with regional wall motion abnormalities in the context of chest pain and elevated troponins

Case Report

- A 29-year-old female, G3P3, presented 5 days postpartum with worsening **epigastric pain**, new onset **hypertension** (156/100mmHg) and **sinus bradycardia** (40bpm).
- Pregnancy was complicated by oligohydramnios and growth restriction with no obvious cause.
- She delivered a 2855g male vaginally at term.
- Troponin levels peaked at 136.
- Electrocardiogram demonstrated sinus bradycardia.
- Sestamibi showed no evidence of ischaemia.

- Echocardiogram revealed normal left ventricular size with moderate segmental dysfunction, apical sparing and moderate mitral regurgitation.
- **DIAGNOSIS:** aTCM secondary to late-onset pre-eclampsia
- **MANAGEMENT:** (medical therapy)
 - aspirin 100mg/day
 - ticagrelor 90mg/BD
 - frusemide 20mg/day; and
 - perindopril 2.5mg/day.
- Clinical and biochemical improvements were noted within a week
- Repeat echocardiogram 1 year later - improvement to trivial mitral regurgitation (see Figure 1)

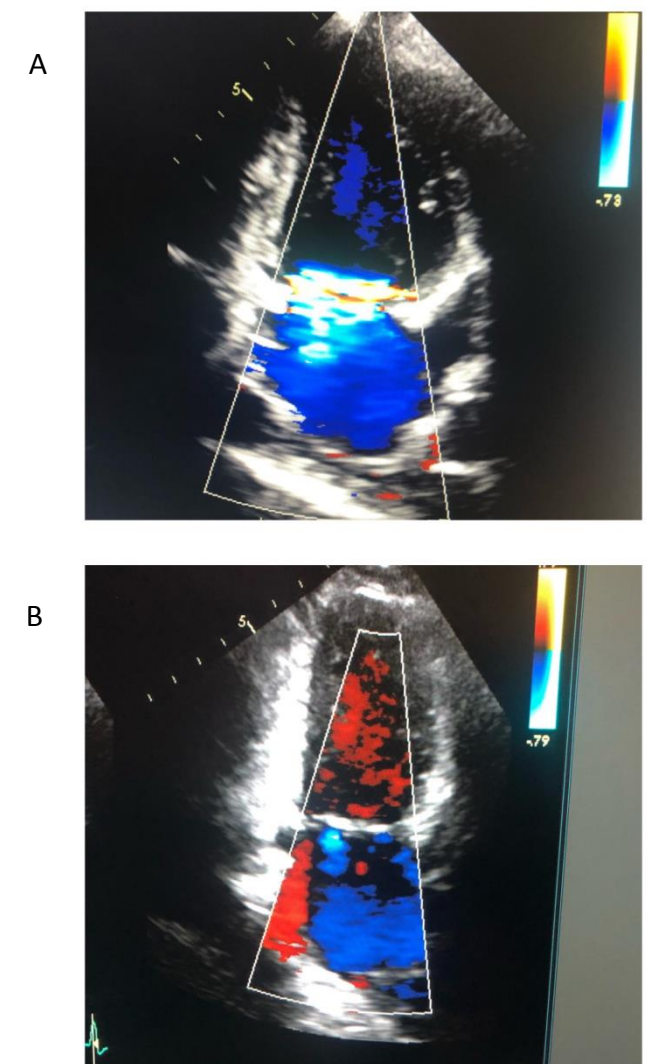
Discussion

- aTCM is characterised by regional wall motion abnormality secondary to catecholamine excess following a significant physical or emotional stressor.
- Suggestive findings may include ST segment elevations in the precordial leads and T wave inversion on ECG
- In most patients, cardiac biomarker troponin is elevated.

- The ST elevation and troponin leak are usually less than those patients with a STEMI.
- Angiography and ECHO is used to confirm suspicion depicting wall motion abnormalities in the absence of significant coronary artery disease.
- The condition carries a good prognosis with medical therapy, in particular, ACE inhibitors.

Figure 1:

A) 11/12/2017 – moderate mitral regurgitation
B) 7/12/2018 – trivial mitral regurgitation



References

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