

**Diagnostic accuracy of two dimensional  
speckle tracking echocardiography in  
prediction of coronary artery stenosis  
severity**

Thesis

Submitted for partial fulfillment of MD degree in  
Critical Care Medicine

By

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# *Summary*

## INTRODUCTION

Echocardiographic evaluation of segmental and global myocardial function plays a critical role in the diagnosis and management of coronary artery disease. Speckle-tracking echocardiography (STE) is a new noninvasive imaging technique that quantitatively analyzes global and regional myocardial function. It presents an objective, semiautomatic, and angle-independent analysis of longitudinal peak systolic strain (LS) based on speckle tracking and provides a single bull's-eye summary of the LV segmental wall strain.

## Objectives

- 1- To assess the accuracy of global and segmental longitudinal strain (LS) using speckle tracking echocardiography (STE) to detect resting myocardial ischemia compared with visual assessment by conventional 2-dimensional echocardiography (2DE) using coronary angiography as a gold standard.
- 2- To evaluate the diagnostic accuracy of 2D global longitudinal strain (GLS) obtained by 2D-STE speckle tracking echocardiography in prediction of severity of coronary artery disease (CAD) in correlation with coronary angiography results.

## PATIENTS AND METHODS:

The study included 100 patients with ACS who were admitted to medical ICU and CCU with mean age of 58.3 years, 56 patients (56%) of them were males. Patients were classified into groups according to angiographic results. We classified the patients according to the severity of the lesion into group with lesion more than 70% included 74 (74%) patients and group with lesion less than 70% included 26 (26%) patients and we also classified the patients by the number of vessels affected into three groups: one vessel group was 41 (41%) patients, two vessel group was 38 (38%) patients and three vessel group was 21 (21%) patients. Patients with bundle branch block with QRS more than 120 ms, severe valvular disease, previous heart surgery, extensive comorbidity with short life expectancy, atrial fibrillation with heart rate more than 100 beat per minute, or any condition interfering with the patient's ability to comply were excluded from this study.

**All patients were examined and subjected to the following:**

- 1- Clinical evaluation. Full history taking , full clinical examination as regarding body surface area ,heart rate , blood pressure (systolic and diastolic),also including risk factors as regarding (age, sex, hypertension ,DM, dyslipidemia, smoking) , pharmacological therapy as regarding (ACEIs, ARBS, Beta blockers, Statins, Aspirin and Clopidogril) and laboratory evaluations were done to all patients.
- 2- Electrocardiogram:The ECG was obtained at admission. Evidence of ischaemia defined as STEMI [ST-elevation  $\geq 0.1$  mV ( $0.2$  mV in precordial leads V1–V3)] in two or more contiguous leads on any ECG during admission, any ST-deviation  $\geq 0.5$  mm or symmetric T-wave inversion  $\geq 0.3$  mm in two or more contiguous leads. The sum of all ST-segment deviations exceeding 0.5mm was recorded.
- 3- Biochemical analyses:A diagnosis of MI was based on elevated CK MB and troponin I above the upper limit of normal defined by the laboratory at our hospital. Blood samples were drawn immediately after admission.
- 4- Echocardiography:Echocardiography was performed using Philips Epic 7C immediately prior to coronary angiography. Three consecutive cycles in three apical planes (four-chamber, two-chamber, and long axis) were obtained by conventional two-dimensional echocardiography, using second harmonic imaging. LV ejection fraction (LVEF) was calculated from four- and two chamber images, using the modified Simpson's rule. Wall motion score (WMS) was assessed in a 16-segment model. Segmental wall motion was judged by an experienced cardiologist as normal, 1; hypokinetic, 2; akinetic, 3; and dyskinetic, 4. WMS index (WMSI) represents the average value of analysed segments. Longitudinal strain was measured by speckle tracking echocardiography (STE) using the 17-segment model. Values of all segments were averaged to obtain global longitudinal strain (GLS).
- 5- Coronary angiography: Coronary angiography was performed on clinical indication by standard (Judkins) technique, using digital imaging acquisition and storage.

## **Results:**

A correlation analysis was done between echocardiographic data including (EF and WMSI) and angiographic data regarding number of vessels affected showed good significant correlation ( $p$  value  $< 0.0001$ ). A correlation analysis also was done between segmental and global strain results and angiographic data regarding number of vessels affected showed good significant

correlation in most of segments (p value <0.001).And a good significant correlationbetween GLS and number of vessels affected (p value <0.0001).According to angiographic results regarding the severity of lesion patients We found that the optimal cutoff value of GLS was 15.9 for predicting lesion more than 70%. The sensitivity, specificity of GLS versus WMSI were (88.1% &90.2%)vs(68.5% vs68.3%), respectively for predicting lesion more than 70%.

### **Conclusion:**

Global longitudinal strain (GLS) has higher sensitivity, specificity and diagnostic accuracy for the detection of severity of lesion, number of vessel affected than WMSI. GLS can also predict culprit artery affected.