



11th ANNUAL HEART FAILURE UPDATE 2024

Friday May 24 - Saturday May 25
Marriott Chateau Champlain, Montreal, Quebec



Canadian Heart Failure Society
Société canadienne d'insuffisance cardiaque

X @CanHFSociety #HFupdate

CLINICAL CONUNDRUMS IN GENETIC CARDIOMYOPATHY

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cardiovasculaire
du Canada



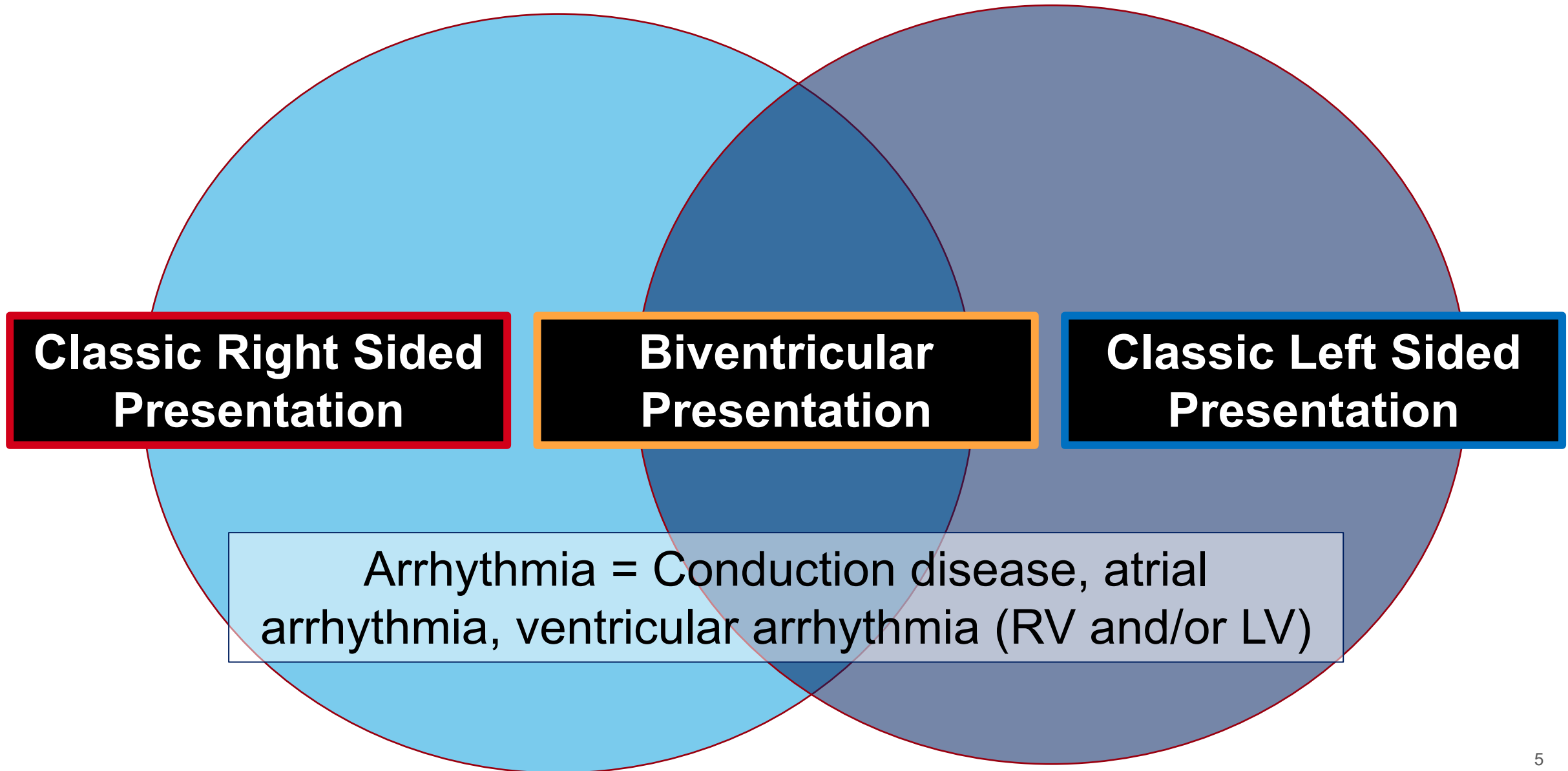
Disclosures

- Speaker/Honoraria for Medtronic, Abbott, Boston Scientific

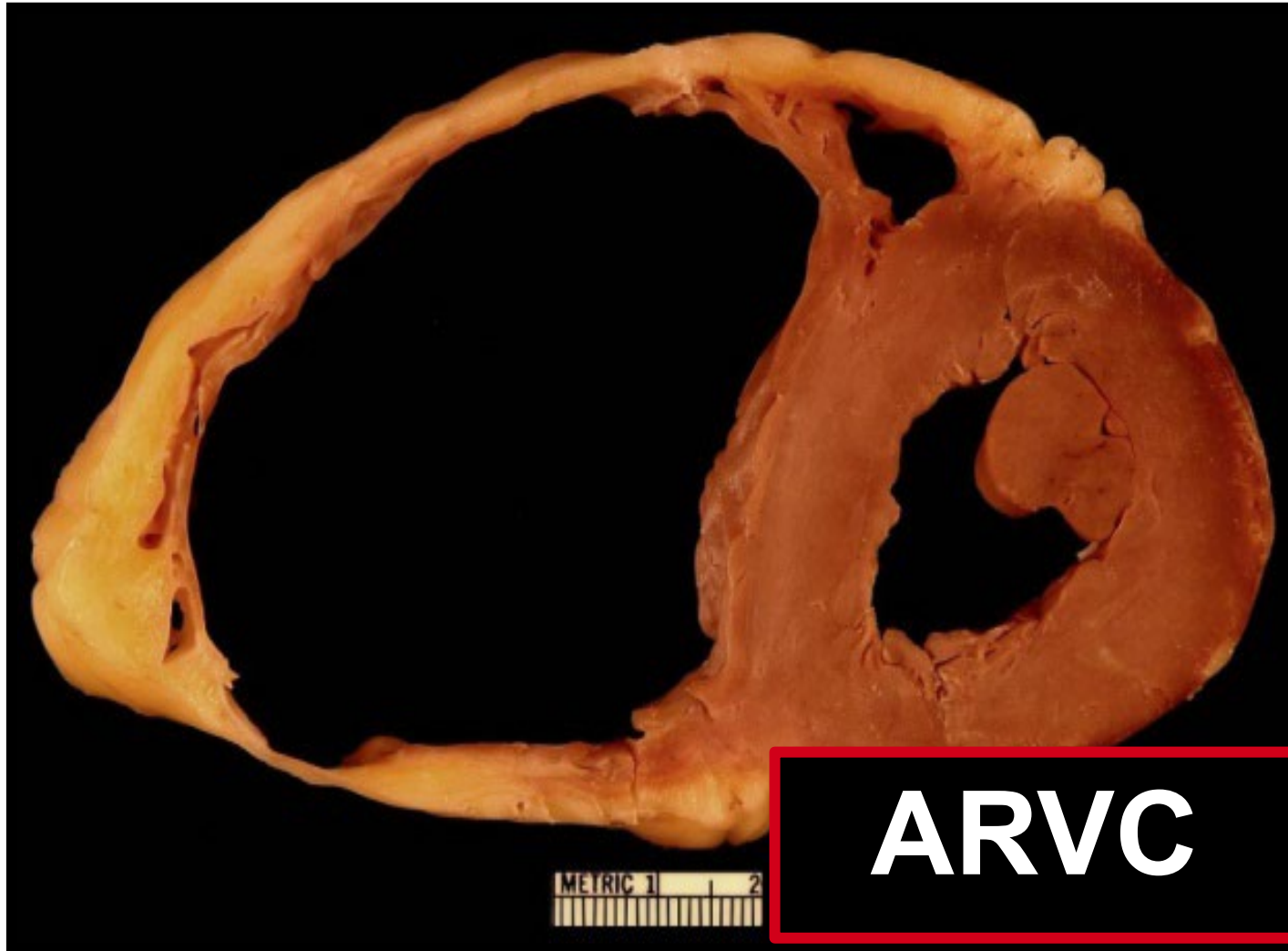
Learning Objectives

- Review the key clinical features of the arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathies
- Discuss the different genetic subtypes of ACM
- Identify the implications for clinical management of genetic testing results
- Recognize the impact that genetic testing can have on individual patient management
- Review who with ACM may need an ICD

Genetic Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy



Genetic Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy



Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy



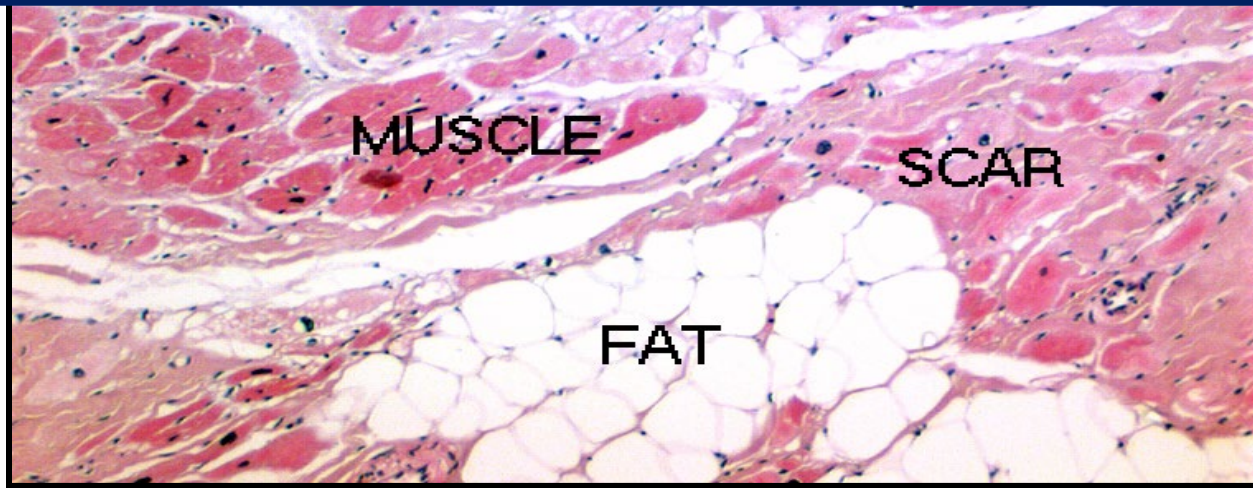
- Prevalence: 1:2000 – 1:5000
- Slight (55-60%) male predominance
- Age dependent penetrance (majority diagnosed between 2nd and 4th decades of life)
- Predominant **RV INVOLVEMENT**
- Left bundle morphology **VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA**
- Replacement of the RV (+/- LV myocardium) with **FAT** and **FIBROSIS**
- Often familial with predominantly **AUTOSOMAL DOMINANT** inheritance
- “Classic ARVC” usually caused by variants encoding desmosomal proteins
- Internationally agreed upon guidelines for diagnosis

Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy

- Known incidences of ARVC account for 17% of all sudden deaths in young adults

- SCA is the initial manifestation of ARVC in 20-50% of cases

- Ventricular arrhythmias of LBBB-morphology **OFTEN PRECEDE** significant structural disease (“concealed stage”)



Clinical Approach to ARVC

ASSESSMENT

- History and pedigree
- ECG, SAECG, Holter
- Echo, MRI
- Genetic testing

	MAJOR	MINOR
	Global or regional dysfunction and structural alterations by echo, MRI or angiography	
	Tissue characterization of wall (endomyocardial biopsy)	
	Repolarization abnormalities (ECG)	
	Depolarization abnormalities (ECG; SAECG)	
	Arrhythmias	
	Family History	
	First degree relative satisfying TFC	FDR with ARVC (cannot confirm TFC)
	Pathology confirmation at surgery or autopsy	Sudden death (<35) due to suspected ARVC in FDR
	<u>Pathogenic mutation in patient under assessment</u>	Pathology confirmation or TFC in second degree relative

Definite: 2 major or 1 major and 2 minor or 4 minor criteria from different categories

Borderline: 1 major and 1 minor or 3 minor criteria from different categories

Possible: 1 major or 2 minor criteria from different categories

Genetics of ARVC

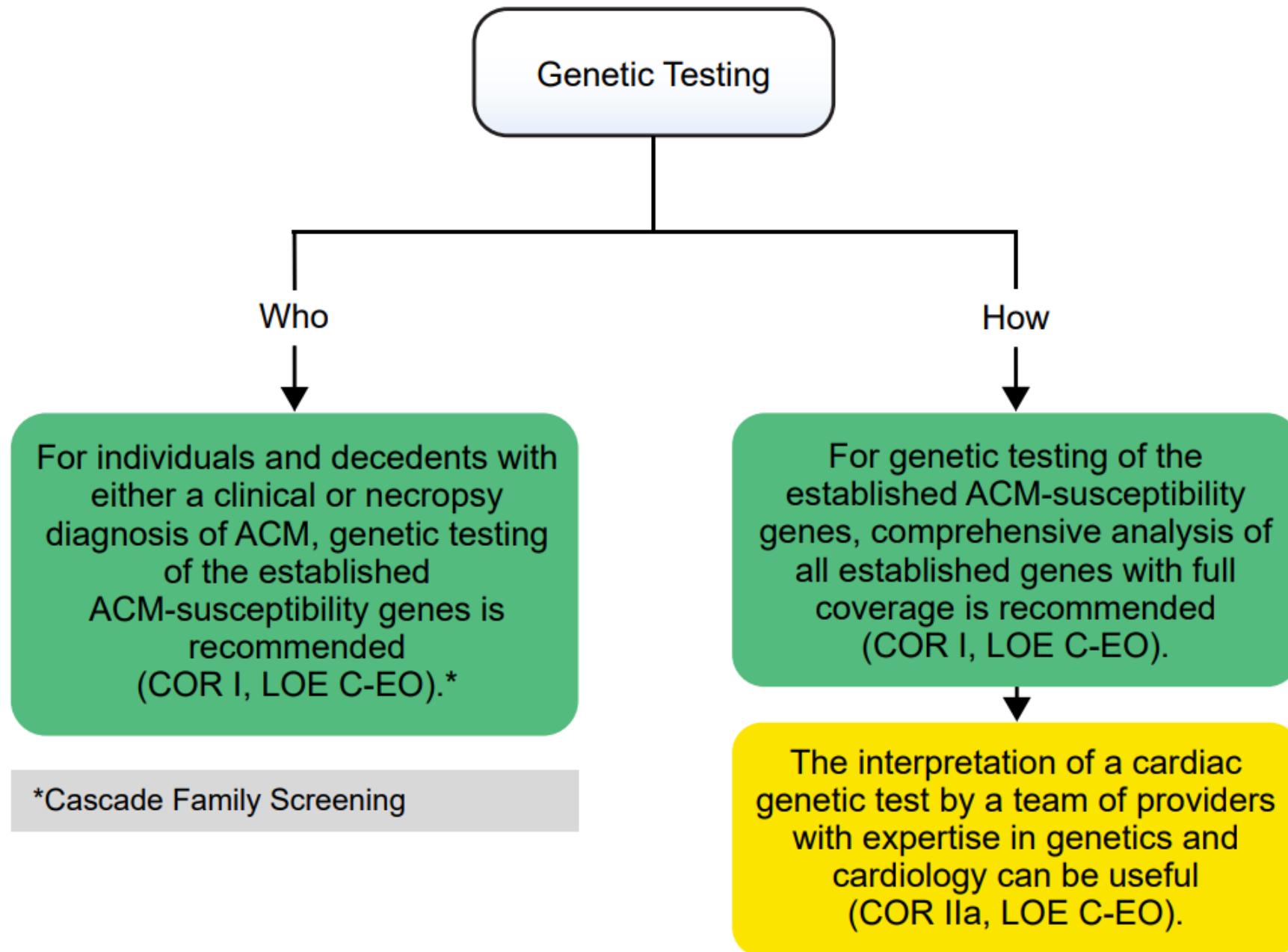
DESMOSOMAL GENES

- PKP2 (20 – 46%)
- DSP (10%)
- DSG2 (10%)
- DSC2 (5%)
- JUP (<1%)

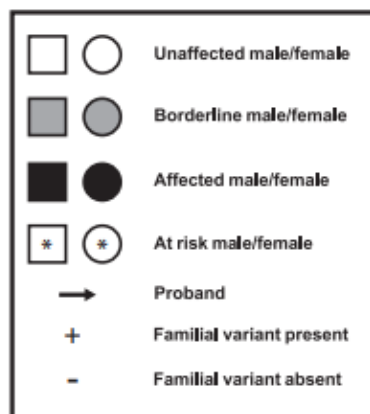
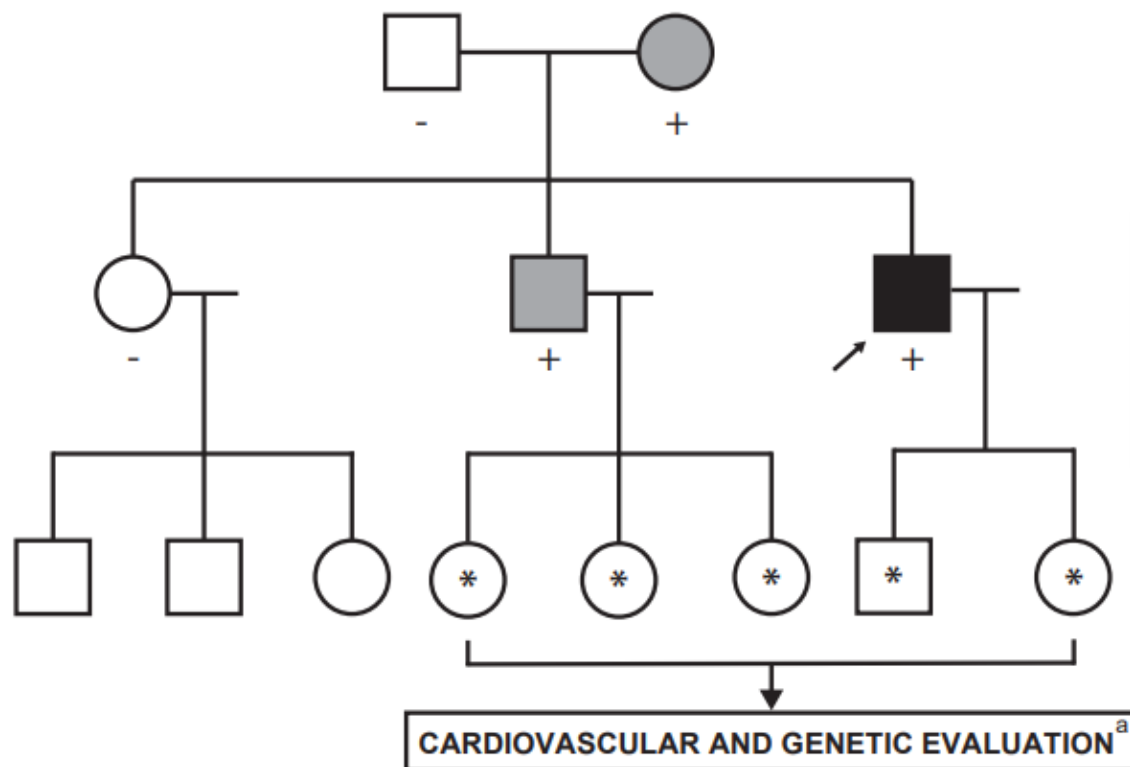
NON- DESMOSOMAL GENES

- TMEM43
- DES
- PLN

- 2/3 of patients who fulfill ARVC diagnostic TFC have a causal variant
- 50-60% of ARVC is caused by variants affecting genes encoding desmosomal proteins



THREE-GENERATION PEDIGREE



It is recommended that a genetic counselor or appropriately experienced clinician obtain a comprehensive 3-generation family history (COR I, LOEC-EO).

It is recommended that first-degree relatives undergo clinical evaluation every 1–3 years^b starting at 10–12 years of age^c (COR I, LOE B-NR).

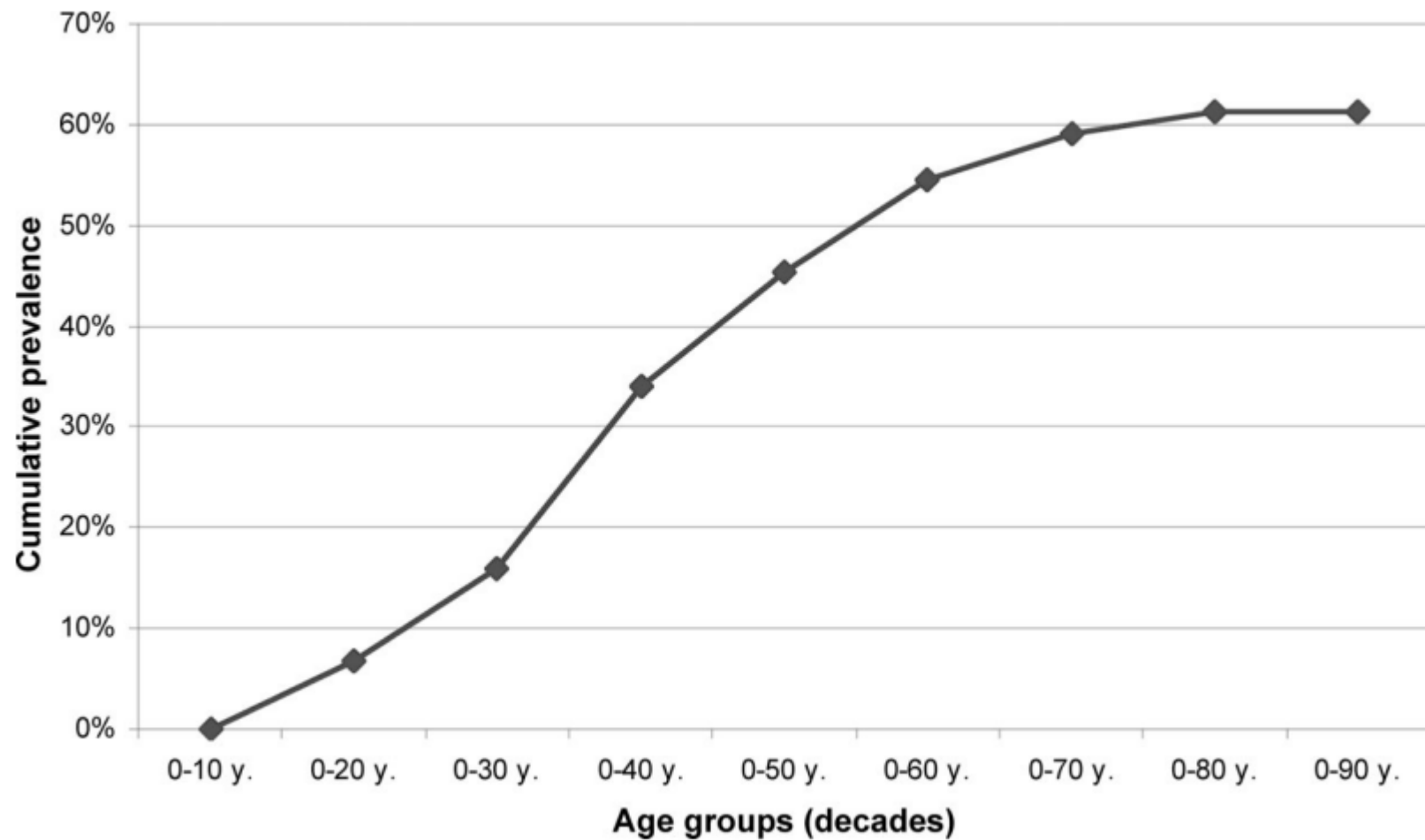
Cardiovascular evaluation should include 12-lead ECG, ambulatory ECG, and cardiac imaging (COR I, LOE B-NR).

Exercise stress testing (arrhythmia provocation) may be considered as a useful adjunct to cardiovascular evaluation (COR IIb, LOE C-LD).

a. The use of genetic testing assumes prior identification of a pathogenic variant in the proband.

b. May vary with age, lifestyle, and family history.

c. Unless family history of disease suggests potential for earlier onset or presence of pathogenic variant in family supports presymptomatic genetic testing.



Cumulative proportion by age of penetrant disease among gene positive first-degree relatives

Do the Genetics Really Matter in ACM?

- Pathogenic PKP2 variants: most common cause of ACM in North America
- PKP2 ACM typically presents as “classic ARVC”

More likely to fit the **2010 Task Force Criteria**

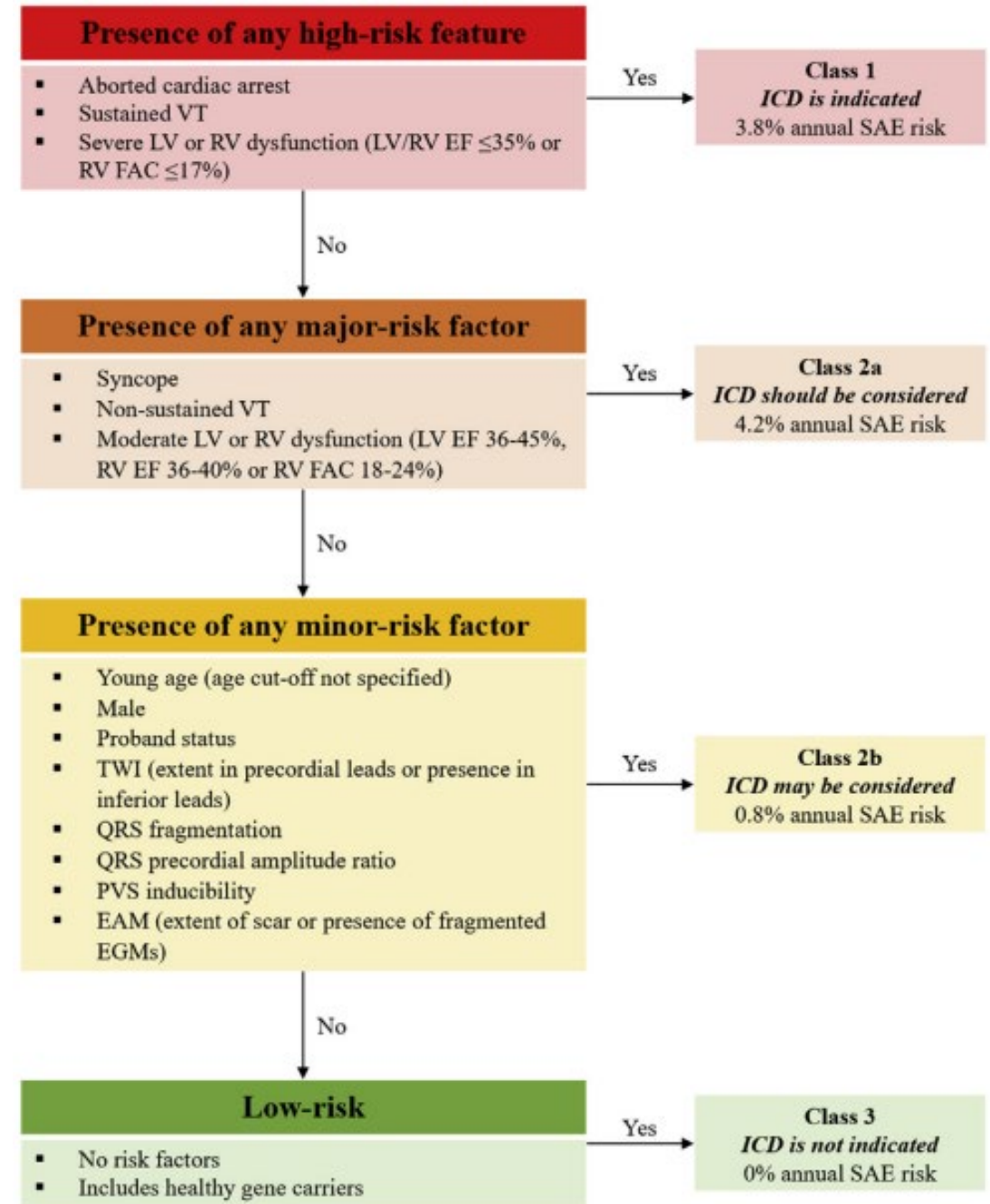
- Precordial T wave inversion
- LBB VT
- RV dyskinesia
- Clear correlation between vigorous (esp. endurance) exercise and disease penetrance and progression

**There may be specific management considerations ”
for a specific genetic substrate**

ARVC Risk Stratification

ESTABLISHED MARKERS

- Cardiac arrest
- Ventricular tachycardia
- Age
- Male sex
- Cardiogenic syncope
- Extent of TWI
- PVC count
- Reduced LV/RV function



ARVCRISK.COM

Estimates the risk of
ventricular arrhythmias
within 5 years for patients
with definite ARVC
(primary prevention
patients only)

Age at diagnosis

Age at which the patient fulfilled ARVC diagnosis as per 2010 Task Force Criteria (Marcus et al. 2010)

Sex

☐ Male

☐ Female

Cardiac syncope (<6 months)

☐ Yes

☐ No

Syncope suspected to be caused by cardiac arrhythmia within 6 months prior to diagnosis.

Number of inverted T-waves

0

Total number of precordial and inferior leads with inverted T-waves on standard 12-lead ECG.

Maximum 24 hours PVC count

Maximum number of PVCs in 24 hours registered by continuous ECG monitoring (e.g. Holter)

History of non-sustained VT

☐ Yes

☐ No

Specified as a recorded ventricular tachycardia (>100bpm) ending spontaneously within 30 seconds.

Right ventricular ejection fraction (%)

50

As measured by cardiac MRI.

ALL PATIENTS WITH DEFINITE ARVC

Risk of fast VT/VF/SCA, within:

☒ 5 years ☐ 2 years ☐ 1 year

Calculate

Do the Genetics Really Matter?

ARVC
PREDOMINANT

Biventricular
Presentation

ALVC
PREDOMINANT

Certain variants require
specific considerations

JUP

TMEM43

RBM20

CASE: A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing?

20-year-old presents for evaluation of recurrent myocarditis

“How worried are you about this problem?”

PATIENT

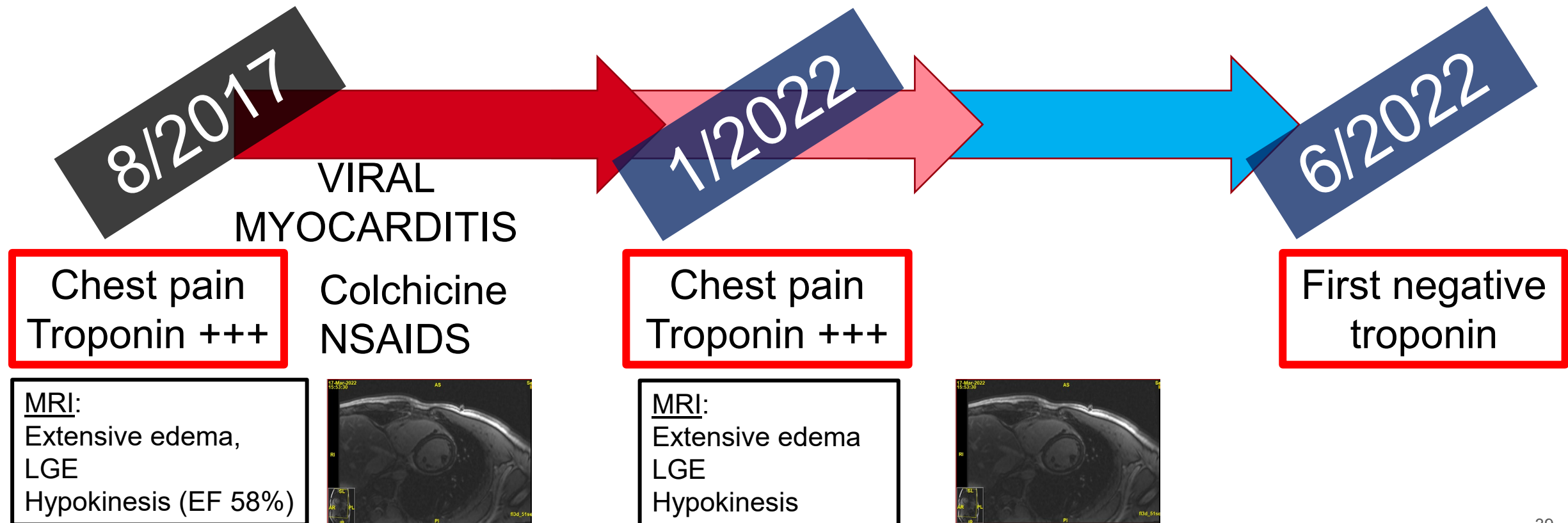
“Not at all”

MOM

“Really worried”

A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

20-year-old presents for evaluation of recurrent myocarditis



Now What?

Dismiss

Holter

Stress test

Genetic Testing

ICD

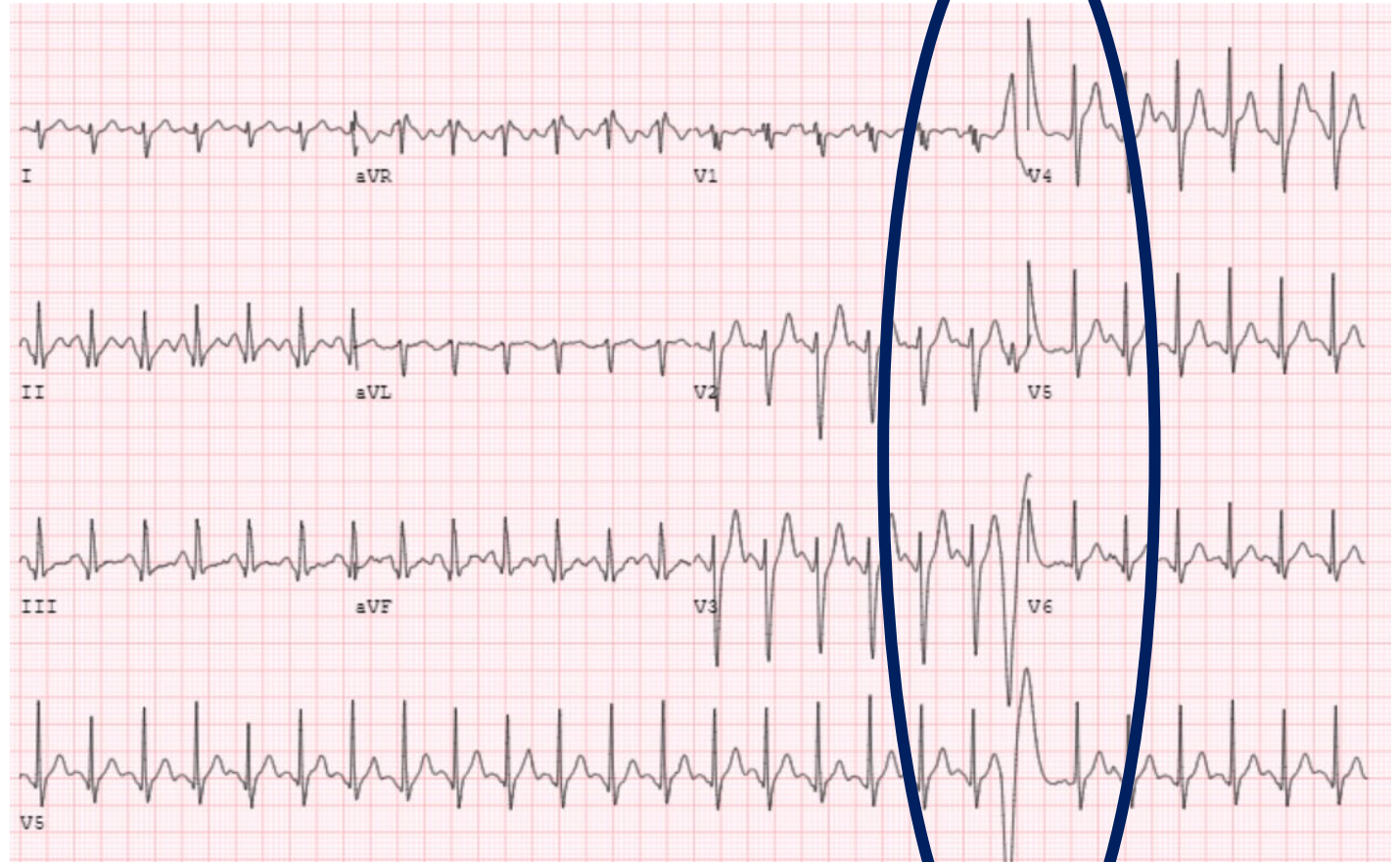
Testing

24 Hour Holter:

Sinus rhythm
(41 – 111); PVCs (780)

ECHO:

Mild LV enlargement
No RWMA
LVEF 55%
Borderline enlarged RV
Normal RVEF



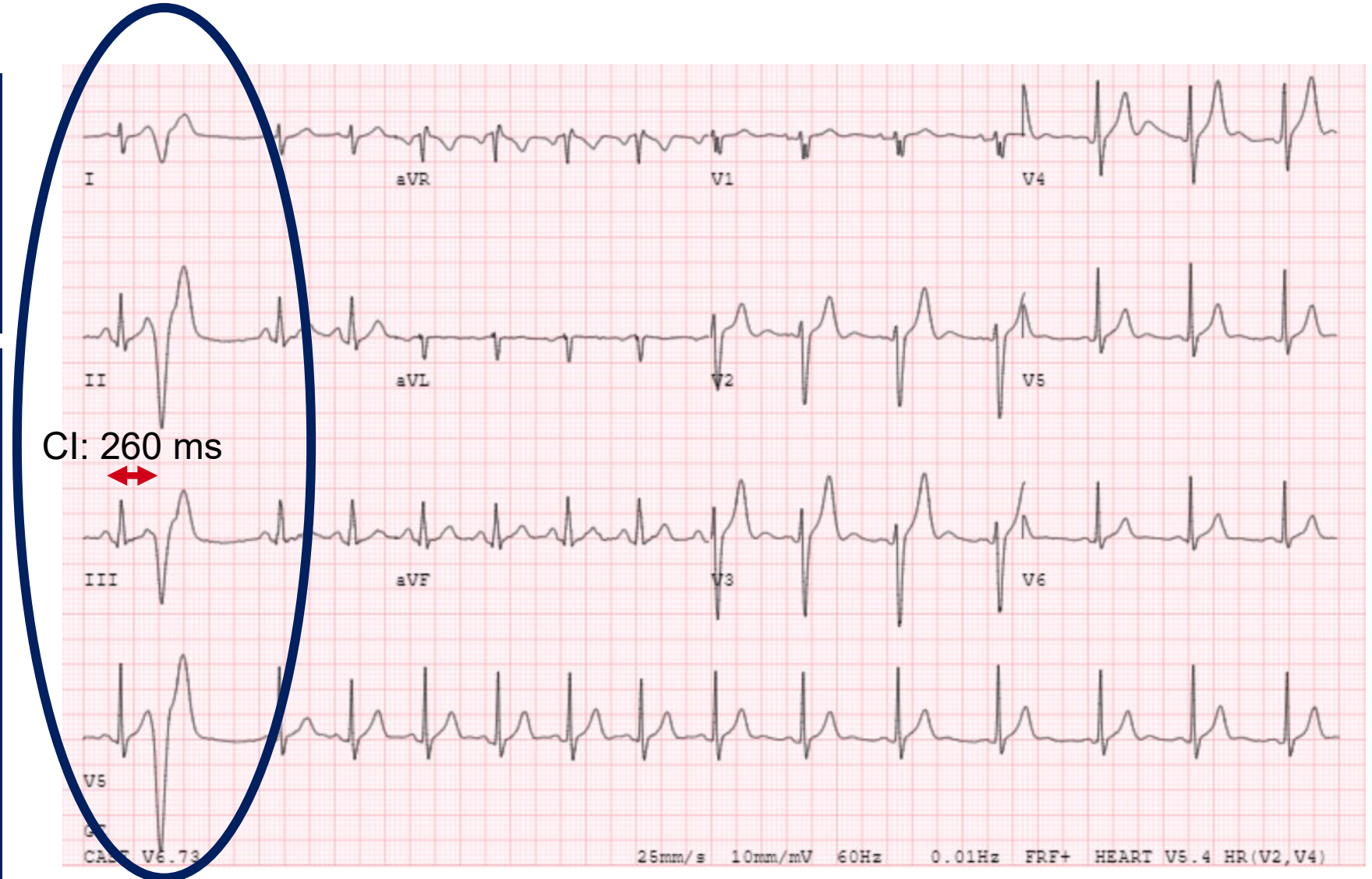
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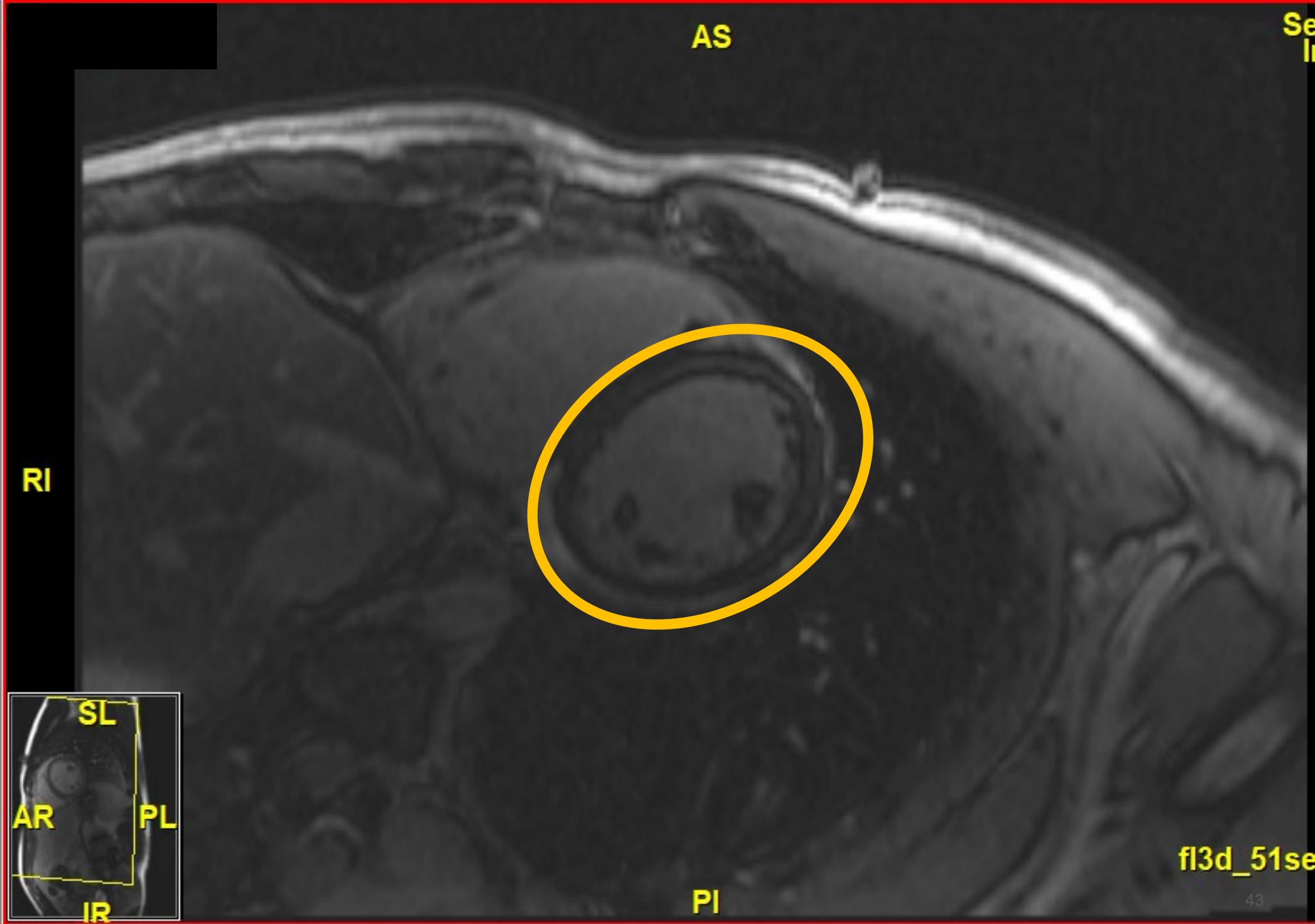
ECHO:

Mild LV
enlargement
No RWMA
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Borderline
enlarged RV
Normal RVEF



CARDIAC
MRI

Ring like
LGE



Now What?

**DSP c.6496C>T
(p.Arg2166Ter)**

Pathogenic

Now What?

Dismiss

Monitor for LV
dysfunction

ICD

Desmoplakin Mediated ACM

CLINICAL FEATURES

- Episodes of chest pain/recurrent myocardial injury (positive troponin)
- PET may be positive!
- “Ring like” subepicardial LGE (precedes LV systolic dysfunction)

PHENOTYPE IS
KEY

IT FITS!!!!

Desmoplakin Mediated ACM

CLINICAL FEATURES

- Episodes of chest pain/recurrent myocardial injury (positive troponin)
- PET may be positive!
- “Ring like” subepicardial LGE (precedes LV systolic dysfunction)

AN ICD IS
REASONABLE IF:

LVEF < 55%

Especially if:

Frequent PVCs

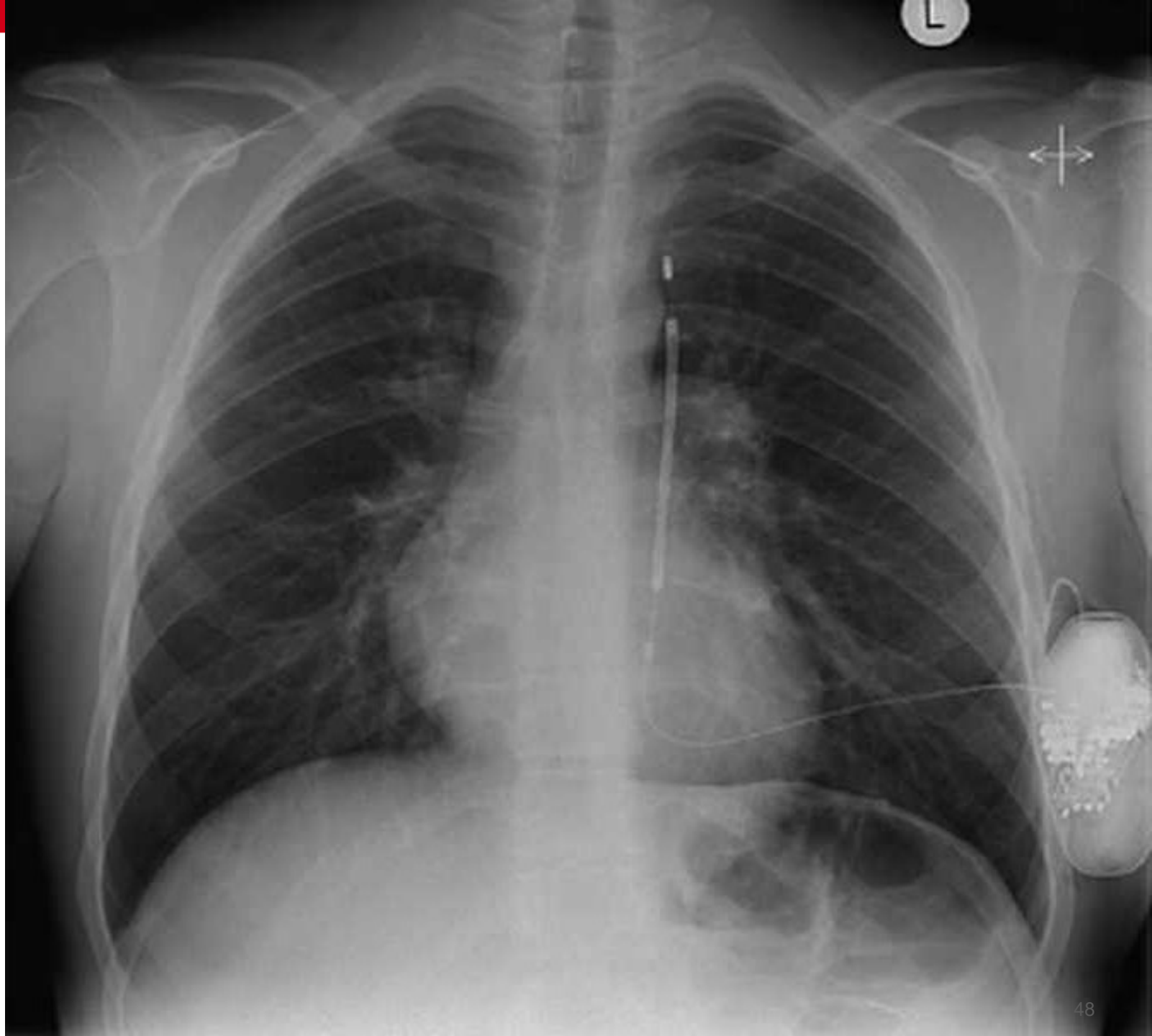
LV LGE

FREQUENT
(>500/24h)
SHORT
COUPLED

EXTENSIVE
“RING LIKE”

PRIMARY
PREVENTION
ICD IMPLANTED

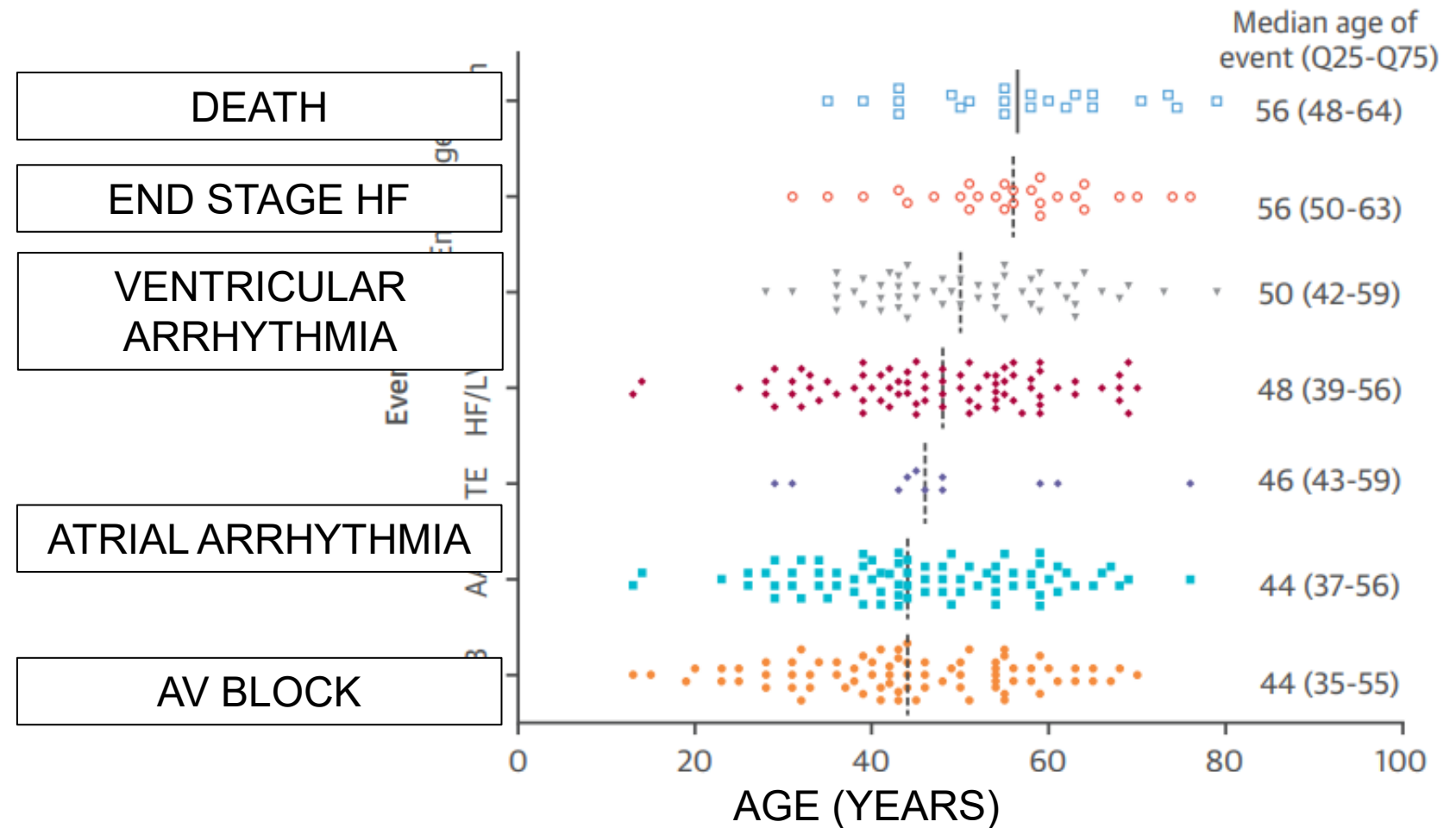
CASCADE
FAMILY
SCREENING
ONGOING



LMNA

CLINICAL FEATURES

- Atrial arrhythmia
- Conduction system disease
- Ventricular arrhythmia
- LV systolic dysfunction



The median age at which clinical events occurred demonstrated a stepwise increment as disease intensified. AA = atrial arrhythmia; AVB = atrioventricular block; HF = heart failure; LVD = left ventricular dysfunction; TE = thromboembolism; VA = ventricular arrhythmia.

LMNA

CLINICAL FEATURES

- Atrial arrhythmia
- Conduction system disease
- Ventricular arrhythmia
- LV systolic dysfunction

AN ICD IS REASONABLE IF
2 or MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

LVEF < 45%

NSVT

Male Sex

OR

Pacing indication

FLNC

CLINICAL FEATURES

- Biventricular cardiomyopathy (but LEFT dominant most common)
- High arrhythmia risk
- Extensive subepicardial LGE
- Low voltage ECG
- Inferolateral or lateral TWI (common)

RISK FACTORS FOR SUDDEN DEATH

T wave inversion

LGE on MRI

NOT

LV dilation

LV systolic dysfunction

FLNC

CLINICAL FEATURES

- Biventricular cardiomyopathy (but LEFT dominant most common)
- High arrhythmia risk
- Extensive subepicardial LGE
- Low voltage ECG
- Inferolateral or lateral TWI (common)

A PRIMARY
PREVENTION ICD IS
REASONABLE IF:

$LVEF < 45\%$

PLN

CLINICAL FEATURES

- Low voltage ECG
- Ventricular arrhythmias (+++)
- Biventricular heart failure
- Progression to end stage heart failure

RISK FACTORS FOR SUDDEN DEATH

T wave inversion

LGE on MRI

NOT

LV dilation

LV systolic dysfunction

PLN

CLINICAL FEATURES

- Low voltage ECG
- Ventricular arrhythmias (+++)
- Biventricular heart failure
- Progression to end stage heart failure

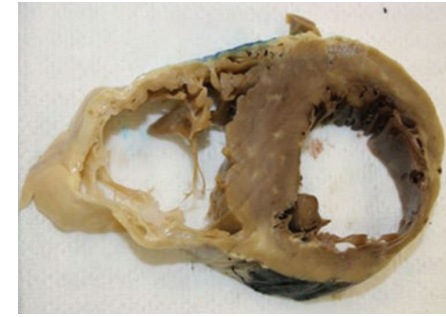
AN ICD IS
REASONABLE IF:

$LVEF < 45\%$

NSVT

TMEM43 p.S358L

- Very penetrant and very arrhythmic
- High mortality
- Males >>> Females
- Poor R wave progression
- (2 x more likely in males)
- LV dilation/heart failure
- Ventricular ectopy occurs early
- ICD in variant positive post pubertal males as PP



What about “Genome first” diagnosis

- Expansive genetic testing is more widely available
- Almost all ACM genes are “reportable” secondary findings
- Rising number of incidental findings in ACM genes

CAUTION!

Remember:

REDUCED penetrance

Often NO family history

Often NO clinical story

Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy: Future Is Now?

- The era of precision – medicine is now

- Genetic counseling and testing is strongly recommended as part of the diagnosis, management and risk stratification of patients with ACM



• Can facilitate **CASCADE FAMILY SCREENING**

MUSCLE SCAR

- Can facilitate appropriate **RISK STRATIFICATION** (one size does not fit all)



FAT

Q&A Period

THANK YOU!

Please remember to complete the session evaluation



Next Up! Please make your way down to the *Exhibit Hall (Samuel ABC)* for a *Health Break* and then proceed to the *Champlain Ballroom* for *Plenary 2 Clinical Pearls and Conundrums in HF Clinical Care* beginning at 3:00 pm.