

Delayed-Enhanced Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance in the diagnosis and management of Cardiac Sarcoidosis

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Propositions accompanying the PhD-thesis

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Jan-Peter Smedema, 4 July 2019

1. Delayed- enhanced cardiovascular magnetic resonance demonstrates cardiac involvement to be present in approximately thirty percent of patients with pulmonary sarcoidosis. (current thesis)
2. Delayed- enhanced cardiovascular magnetic resonance should be reserved for the evaluation of sarcoidosis patients with cardiac symptoms, and/or abnormalities with electrocardiography or cardiac ultrasound. (current thesis)
3. Delayed-enhanced cardiovascular magnetic resonance has markedly increased the diagnostic accuracy for cardiac sarcoidosis when compared to diagnostic guidelines which relied on evaluation with electrocardiography, cardiac ultrasound, and nuclear perfusion scintigrams (Japanese Guidelines, 1993). Delayed-enhanced cardiovascular magnetic resonance has recently been included in the updated Japanese, European and North American guidelines. (current thesis)
4. Delayed right ventricular enhancement is present in nearly half of patients with left ventricular and pulmonary sarcoidosis. (current thesis)
5. Delayed right ventricular enhancement correlates with systolic right ventricular dysfunction, and predicts ventricular tachy-arrhythmias as well as all cause death during follow up. (current thesis)
6. Delayed biventricular enhancement at presentation is the strongest, independent predictor of adverse outcome during long-term follow up of sarcoidosis patients. Asymptomatic small myocardial scar < 8% of left ventricular mass carries a favourable long-term outcome. (current thesis)
7. Contemporary management including device therapy has markedly improved the outcomes in patients with cardiac sarcoidosis.
8. The rigorous physical fitness and strength regimens introduced and exemplified by mr Fitness Gary Player in the 1950ties have revolutionized the game of golf.
9. Although sometimes referred to as Cape of Storms (Bartolomeu Dias, 1488), and by others Cape of Good Hope (Prince Henry the Navigator, 1488), to each the southern tip of Africa remains home to the Fairest Cape of them all (Sir Francis Drake, 1580). [Visuals accessible at YouTube- Donald Rallis – The Fairest Cape in all the World (South Africa).]
10. Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. (Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela)