

2010 Pedro Cossio Foundation Award

PEDRO R. COSSIO

During the course of the XXXVI Argentinian Congress on Cardiology, developed in Buenos Aires between 7th and 9th October, 2010, it was given for the twenty-fourth time Fundación Dr. Pedro Cossio Award.

The winner work was:

- "Non-compaction cardiomyopathy. Risk stratification of sudden death for automatic implantable cardioverter-defibrillator indication", of Drs. Nestor O. Galizio, Joseph L. Gonzalez, Liliana E. Favaloro, Mirta Diez, Adrian Fernandez, Eduardo Guevara, Alejandro A. Palazzo, Federico Robles, Joseph H. Cassava, carried out at Hospital Universitario, Fundación Favaloro.

This is a very interesting work in which 80 carrying patients were studied with this rare disease and it was made a careful monitoring to them in order to describe, from the results got from a prospective register, its evolution according to selected criteria of risk stratification of sudden death to decide the indication of an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator, as in the guidelines of the American College of Cardiology, the American Heart Association and the Heart Rhythm Society 2008 it is recommended device implantation in all patients with non-compaction cardiomyopathy by the absence of randomized trials or registers.

Patients eventually formed two groups, one of them (n = 26) indicated an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator was placed following the criteria for the existence of sudden death and sustained ventricular tachycardia, ejection fraction of LV below 30%, family history of sudden death, syncope and nonsustained ventricular tachycardia. In the remaining 54 carrying patients of the disease, because of not having these criteria they did not receive an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator, after the follow up there was no sudden death.

Therefore, according to the results of the study, patients could be stratified to select those with greater risk of sudden death and who might benefit with implantable cardioverter-defibrillator from those who do not require it, thereby creating a clear handling guidance of this pathology.

The remaining works were:

- "First Latin American risk score for cardiac surgery (ArgenSCORE): external validation and time-related to 10 years of its development," by Drs. Victorio C. Carosella, Hugo Grancelli, Walter Rodriguez, Miguel Sellanes, Miguel Cáceres, Hernán Cohen Arazi, Cesar Cardenas, Carlos Nojek.

It is an excellent contribution and a very important work done in four cardiological centers with high-quality cardiovascular surgery and meticulous observation study results for 10 years with an important validation that, although as any validation may be debatable, it serves to orient us on risks and it has a value that allows us to know our numbers (ArgenSCORE) instead of having to use the EuroSCORE.

I consider it very useful to be able to provide you numbers of risk to patients and their families and thus contribute to decision-making, all applicable to a graphic of simple use.

- "Atheromatosis of the thoracic aorta: its value as a predictor of cardiovascular mortality and cerebrovascular and coronary events," Drs. Héctor Alfredo Deschler, Pablo Oberti, Jorge Lowenstein, Carlos Rodríguez Correa, Gaston Lanternier, Salvador Spina, Mariano Falconi, Eduardo Guevara, Silvia Makhoul, Maria Elena Adaniya.

This work analyzed 601 patients by transesophageal echocardiography, the presence and severity of thoracic aortic atherosclerosis and their relation to mortality and cerebrovascular and coronary events.

I wish to thank Drs. Daniel Pineiro and Liprandi Álvaro Sosa, who as Jury Prize contributed to its success.

Finally, Fundación Cossio is pleased to announce a new edition of the Award in 2011, at which time will be uninterrupted 25 years, an event that makes us proud.

Pedro R. Cossio
President of Fundación Cossio