G19 Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Dysplasia/Cardiomyopathy a Not So Infrequent Cause of Sudden Death - A Danbury Hospital Five Year Experience (June 2002 - June 2007)

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The goal of this presentation is to increase the database of deaths due to arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia/cardiomyopathy in USA.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by illustrating the victim, scenario, and autopsy findings of arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia/cardiomyopathy deaths so that proper cause and manner of death can be classified and the epidemiology understood.

Ten(10) cases of ARVD/Cardiomyopathy were reviewed that were autopsied at Danbury Hospital, CT, since June 2002 until June 2007. This number represents 3.75% of the total (270) adult full autopsies performed in our institution during the same period.

Age, sex, and ethnic background were noted. Associated cardiac and non cardiac related diseases were reviewed.

Medications, social and family history (sudden death of sibling), as well as body habitus (obesity) were tabulated. Prior symptoms (fainting episodes, palpitations) and pre-terminal circumstances (place of death) were examined. Autopsy findings (cardiovascular and systemic) were correlated. Conclusions are compared with recent literature including review articles.

Arrhythmogenic, Right Ventricle, Dysplasia

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