

THE OUTCOME OF CARDIAC CASES IDENTIFIED PERI-NATALLY IN A DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL IN UNITED KINGDOM

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Aims: To identify the annual incidence of congenital heart disease (CHD) in our population and to assess the pick up rate during antenatal ultrasound.

Methods: Retrospective analysis of cases diagnosed with CHD between January 2007 - April 2010.

Results: Forty-four cases of CHD were diagnosed during the study period. Of these, 19 cases were diagnosed antenatally and 25 cases postnatally.

Of the 19 cases:

- 7 four-chamber anomalies
- 7 out-flow tract anomalies and
- 5 cases of cardiomegaly

5 cases were terminated [associated with syndromes], 2 resulted in miscarriages, 5 suffered neonatal deaths and 7 survived (survival rate- 37%).

Of the 25 cases diagnosed postnatally:

Twenty babies were term deliveries and 5 were pre-term. 16-cases (64%) were diagnosed within the 1st month of delivery.

Eight (32%) of the 25 cases were cyanotic CHD.

Following are the specific diagnosis of postnatal CHD.

- Transposition of great arteries- 4
- Aortic stenosis- 1
- Pulmonary stenosis- 5
- Septal defects- 7
- Ebstein anomaly- 1
- Tetralogy of Fallot- 3
- Coarctation of aorta- 2
- Dextrocardia- 1
- Coronary artery fistula- 1

16-cases were treated with surgical corrections and 9-cases treated conservatively. 24-neonates survived (survival rate- 96%).

Conclusion: Annual incidence rate of CHD in our population was 1.4% with 43% of cases identified during antenatal scans. Following the audit, following measures have been introduced.

- Merging antenatal cardiac clinics and paediatric cardiac clinics
- “Tiny Tickers”- The Regional Foetal Cardiac Training Group for the Ultrasonographers are introducing a training program.