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Disertační práce

Vybrané aspekty akutního infarktu myokardu u mladých nemocných

Specifics of Acute Myocardial Infarction in Young Adults

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**Abstract**

Coronary heart disease is the leading cause of death in adults in the western world. Myocardial infarction can represent the lethal manifestation of coronary heart disease leading to sudden cardiac death. Although myocardial infarction mainly occurs in patients older than 45 years, the young population can be affected as well. Despite the relatively low incidence of myocardial infarction in the young population, the mortality rates and long-term disability make acute myocardial infarction in young patients an important clinical issue. Consequences of myocardial infarction usually have great impact on the young patient’s psychology, ability to work and the overall quality of life. The management of young myocardial infarction patients should differ at least slightly from the older ones. Young patients usually have a different risk factor profile, clinical presentation, and prognosis in comparison with older patients. These differences should be taken into consideration. Early stabilisation should be followed by risk stratification and secondary preventive measures in all young patients admitted with myocardial infarction. During the course of time, assessment of cardiovascular epidemiology expanded from traditional cardiovascular risk factors assessments to direct evaluation of subclinical vascular damage and early structural or functional changes of the vessel wall. This emerging clinical tool may be very useful in the assessment of premature atherosclerosis. The objectives of this Thesis were to compare selected clinical parameters, risk factors and quality of life in young male and female patients after myocardial infarction with age and sex matched healthy controls.

**Key words:** acute myocardial infarction, ischemic heart disease, premature atherosclerosis, young patients, risk factors, quality of life