

Medical Expertise*

"Development of the European Network in Orphan Cardiovascular Diseases"
„Rozszerzenie Europejskiej Sieci Współpracy ds Sierocych Chorób Kardiologicznych”

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CASE SUMMARY

A 60-year-old woman with total anomalous pulmonary venous return and atrial septal defect was admitted to our Centre in April 2013 for cardiologic evaluation. The heart defect was diagnosed in early childhood (no medical documentation from that period is available) but patient's mother and the patient herself did not agree for surgery. The exercise tolerance was limited since childhood but the patient reported significant deterioration from February 2013 which was also enhanced by some anxiety-depressive disorders after her husband's death.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In patients with total anomalous pulmonary venous return, oxygen-rich blood returns from the lungs to the right atrium or to a vein flowing into the right atrium, instead of the left side of heart. In other words, blood simply circles to and from the lungs and never gets out to the body. This heart disease should be operated in infant. There are no guidelines available for adults. However, in the last half of century dozens of cases of late surgical correction of total pulmonary venous return in adult were reported with satisfactory results and excellent long-term survival.

EXPERT'S OPINION

Before surgery, right ventricle function should be carefully evaluated. If it is poor, the result of the surgery will be unfavorable. In this heart defect RV is overloaded and might developed fibrosis which result in heart failure. Risk of the surgical correction is about 5-

10%. There is no indication for anticoagulants. |

CONCLUSION

| Decision regarding the surgical approach should be discussed with the patient thoroughly.
From the surgical point of view, performing a procedure is not very complicated, but the risk is high because of patient's age. |

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