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EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE: June 10, 2016

CALCULATING AORTIC FLOW RATE SUPERIOR TEST FOR PATIENT RISK STRATIFICATION

Seattle, WA – Researchers from Mayo Clinic believe they have found a better way to risk stratify some of their most fragile patients. Patients with reduced left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) being evaluated with dobutamine, a medically induced “stressor,” to view their heart function at work need special care. Looking at a cohort of these patients, the researchers found that using echocardiography to measure their aortic flow rate was a good predictor for their risk. “Our work highlights, for the first time, the importance of calculating aortic valve flow rate to risk stratify patients undergoing dobutamine stress echo for a low-flow, low-gradient aortic stenosis. We showed that flow rate goes above and beyond contractile reserve, which is what is being used right now, to risk stratify these patients,” said Said Alsidawi, MD.

Researchers on the study, *Low-flow, Low-gradient Aortic Stenosis: Prognostic Value of Flow Rates vs. Stroke Volume During Dobutamine Echocardiography*, included Said Alsidawi, Robert B. McCully, Christopher G. Scott, Sorin V. Pislaru, Patricia A. Pellikka, Mackram F. Eleid, Jae K. Oh, and Vuyisile T. Nkomo from the Division of Cardiovascular Diseases, Mayo Clinic School of Medicine, Rochester, MN.

This finding could be useful for many clinicians as patients presenting with low ejection fractions (EF) could be exhibiting an early sign of heart failure. These clinicians need good diagnostic options to assess whether valve replacement surgery or other therapies are needed.

Dr. Alsidawi will present a poster based on this research on Sunday, June 12, 2016 during the American Society of Echocardiography 27th Annual Scientific Sessions at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle. This research was submitted as part of the “Valvular Heart Disease” topic area.

To schedule an interview with Dr. Alsidawi, please contact [Angie Porter](mailto:aporter@asecho.org).

As the largest global organization for cardiovascular ultrasound imaging, the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is the leader and advocate, setting practice standards and guidelines. Comprised of nearly 17,000 physicians, sonographers, nurses, and scientists, ASE is a strong voice providing guidance, expertise, and education to its members with a commitment to improving the practice of ultrasound and imaging of the heart and cardiovascular system for better patient outcomes. For more information about ASE and the 2016 Scientific Sessions, visit ASEScientificSessions.org/.

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