

Echocardiography in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

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Abstract

The role of echocardiography (ECHO) in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) has changed over the last two decades. Previously, nearly all ECHO exams in NICU were performed by pediatric cardiologists to diagnose or monitor congenital heart disease (CHD) and to screen for patent ductus arteriosus (PDA).

More recently, neonatologists have become interested in the echocardiographic assessment of critically ill neonates at bedside which are at a much higher risk for having underlying CHD.

Initial ECHO examination should always be a comprehensive study of both anatomy and function. First with segmenta approach CHD has been excluded and subsequent exam can focus on hemodynamic or functional assessment.

ECHO as bedside tool is able to provide crucial information and accurate decision that was not apparent on clinical assessment and may have a significant impact on improving management of patients in NICU. It is useful for real-time assessment and monitoring of therapeutic and procedural interventions.

The primary barrier to future universal adoption of this operator dependent “stethoscope of the future” is the lack of widespread, efficient, and affordable training solution. Appropriate training in echocardiography should be incorporated into the neonatal intensive care curriculum.

Biography:

Brankica Vasiljevic, MD, MSc in pediatric and ultrasonography field and PhD in neonatology field at Belgrade University, Serbia. She is Head of Maternity and Child Health Services in NMC Hospital DIP in Dubai, UAE. She has won the ESPNIC Educational Grant at 5th World Congress on Pediatric Intensive & Critical Care in Geneva Switzerland (2007). She has published more than 35 international publications in international indexed journals (100 citations), 5 chapters in various fields of neonatal medicine and have more than 30 presentations in international conferences.

Speaker Publications:

1. “Predictive value of color Doppler neuro-sonography for the development of neurological sequels in newborn infants with hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy”
2. “Normal Values of Cerebral Blood Flow Velocities in Neonates”
3. “P609 Maturation of macrosomic fetus and vaginal delivery”
4. “Ovulation stimulation after treatment for a molar pregnancy for or against?”
5. “The significance of Doppler flow in early detection of uterine sarcoma in older primigravida pregnancies”

[14th World Pediatric Congress](#); Webinar – December 11, 2020.

Abstract Citation:

Brankica Vasiljevic, Echocardiography in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, WPC 2020, 14th World Pediatric Congress; Webinar- December 11, 2020.

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