



Letter to the Editor

Reply: The challenge of risk stratification in Takotsubo stress cardiomyopathy

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Dear Dr. Huang et al.:

Prognosis of any disease state presents a difficult challenge to clinicians and Takotsubo Syndrome (TTS) is no exception. In TTS the triggering events, emotional vs physical stress, appears to play a key factor in determining prognosis [1]. Due to the different responses seen by these two groups it may be useful to develop risk stratification tools for each group independently. Besides malignancy and depression mentioned in our work, the co-morbidities raised by Dr. Huang and other non-cardiac co-morbid conditions merit future research to determine their roll in emotionally triggered TTS prognosis, since non-cardiac mortality death may be more prominent in this group [2].

Besides clinically relevant co-morbidities' Dr. Huang rightfully stresses the importance of biomarkers in prognostication. While our study was limited to troponins, NT-proBNP has a role in disease prognostication with other biomarkers such as microRNAs under investigation [3]. The exact selection of biomarkers that confer prognostic information requires extensive further study.

While patients with TTS overall do not have good outcomes, this may reflect the overall health of the patient as opposed the TTS itself, especially in emotionally triggered states. As our understanding of the wide variability in prognosis among patients with continues to evolve it seems likely a multi-modal prognostication model using clinical information, biomarkers and imaging may best serve patient with TTS moving forward.

Conflict of interest

The authors certify that they have no affiliations with or involvement in any organization or entity with any financial interest or non-financial interest in the subject matter or materials discussed in this manuscript.

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