Experience of Electrophysiological Study and Radiofrequency Ablation of Paediatric Patients in Adult Cardiac Centre

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Introduction: In Myanmar, electrophysiological study and radiofrequency ablation service is developing in adult cardiac centres, but availability of service is still lacking for paediatric patients. As a tertiary referral centre in Myanmar, Department of Cardiology at Yangon General Hospital is receiving paediatric patients with history and documentation of tachycardia.

Methods: Patients under the age of 18 years with tachyarrhythmia who underwent electrophysiological study and radiofrequency ablation at adult cardiac centre from 2007 to June 2019 were retrospectively studied through the case records.

Result: A total of 145 patients (male 77, female 68) with 11% of patients under the age of 12 years underwent electrophysiological study at Department of Cardiology, Yangon General Hospital which is an adult cardiac centre. Among them, 53% were male patients. 11 patients (7.5%) had normal study and the rest of the patients underwent radiofrequency ablation. Among the various tachyarrhythmias, left sided accessory pathway was the commonest (33%) followed by right sided accessory pathway (27%). Atrioventricular nodal tachycardia was found in 18% and left sided fascicular ventricular tachycardia in 7.5% of the patients. Parahisian accessory pathway, atrial tachycardia and atrial flutter were found in minority of patients. Most of the paediatric patients (especially under 12 years of age) need general anaesthesia for better tolerability of the procedure.

Conclusion: As the number of paediatric patients with tachycardia who need ablation is increasing, the set up and service of electrophysiological study and ablation should develop and expand in the paediatric hospitals.