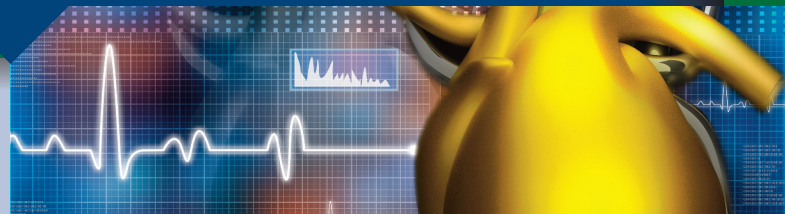


ArrhythmiaNews

Winter 2016



NIH Funds Multicenter Multinational Randomized Clinical Study in Patients With AF Who Are Eligible for Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy. *Dr. Jonathan Steinberg to Lead Trial.*

Cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT) is an effective device intervention for patients with broad QRS and ventricular dysfunction and is a class I indication for patients in sinus rhythm, LBBB and $EF \leq 30-35\%$. However, many patients with heart failure (HF) are unable to maintain sinus rhythm and approximately 30% of CRT patients are in atrial fibrillation (AF). Unfortunately, there is lack of evidence for the benefits of CRT in the absence of sinus rhythm.

There is retrospective and observational data that suggest that only CRT patients with AF who undergo atrioventricular junctional (AVJ) ablation can respond as well as patients in sinus rhythm. AVJ ablation regularizes rhythm, eliminates tachycardia, and forces 100% biventricular pacing without fusion or pseudofusion. In the absence of a randomized clinical trial, however, there are concerns regarding making a significant proportion of CRT patients pacemaker dependent. It is believed that AVJ ablation is performed in only small numbers of patients at the present time.

A randomized controlled clinical trial will be performed in patients with perma-

nent AF who are eligible for CRT to test the benefit of AVJ on clinical outcome. The primary aim of the pilot phase is to determine if patients with permanent AF who meet conventional criteria for CRT and undergo AVJ ablation have reduced ventricular remodeling (as analyzed in the Echo Core Lab, directed by Dr. Gorcsan at the U of Pittsburgh), a potent marker of subsequent clinical deterioration, compared to patients who do not undergo AVJ ablation. This study is designed to test feasibility of enrollment and short-term improvement in surrogate endpoints, with anticipation of a full-scale large randomized clinical trial using hard outcome events if this phase is promising.

The study will be directed by Dr. Steinberg and the Co-Principal Investigator will be Dr. Zareba, who will direct the Data Coordinating Center at the University of Rochester. These trial leaders will be assisted by a Steering Committee comprised of Dr. Gorcsan, as well as Drs. Jessup and Epstein of the U of Pennsylvania, Dr. Singh of Harvard, Dr. Moss of U of Rochester, and Dr. Gasparini of Milan, Italy.

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 20, 2017

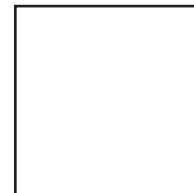
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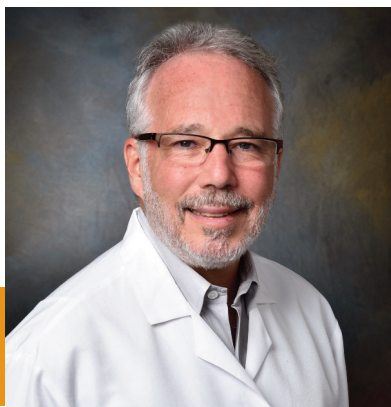
JONATHAN STEINBERG, MD JOINS ROBERT ALTMAN, MD, DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL CARDIAC ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY, IN SUMMIT MEDICAL GROUP'S EXPANDING OFFERINGS IN CARDIAC ARRHYTHMIA MANAGEMENT.

Dr. Steinberg, founder of the Arrhythmia Institute at Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, NJ and New York, NY and St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center, has joined Summit Medical Group as Director of the SMG Arrhythmia Center and Director of Cardiac Clinical Trials and Education. He is also a Professor of Medicine (adj) at the University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry and formerly Professor of Medicine at Columbia University. Dr. Steinberg specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of heart rhythm disorders, and has an international reputation for expertise in arrhythmia diagnosis, AF management and catheter ablation of cardiac arrhythmias.

Dr. Steinberg has an extensive clinical and research track record in the field, having practiced for more than 25 years. He has led or participated in

hundreds of research studies in his area of expertise, and has authored more than 200 papers in peer-reviewed high-profile publications. He is the recipient of numerous research grants, has served as editor of several electrophysiology textbooks and is currently on the electrophysiology subcommittee of the American Board of Internal Medicine preparing board questions for his peers.

NY Magazine has again identified Dr. Steinberg as a Top Doctor, the only EP in New Jersey so recognized by his peers in the NY Metro Area.



Dr. Jonathan Steinberg is seeing patients at these two locations:

-  85 Woodland Road
Short Hills, NJ 07078
-  6 Brighton Road
Clifton, NJ 07012
-  973-436-4155

Dr. Robert Altman is seeing patients at these two locations:

-  1 Diamond Hill Road
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922
-  75 E. Northfield Road
Livingston, NJ 07039
-  973-436-1330

To learn more about Drs. Altman and Steinberg, visit arrhythmia.org.