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Sleep apnea, atrial fibrillation and conduction disorders

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Sleep apnea (SA) is a common breathing disorder that affects approximately 5% of North American adults, but is largely underdiagnosed. It is associated with a myriad of medical conditions including increased cardiovascular morbidity and mortality. This is the main reason for cardiologists to learn about this condition and get involved in the management of SA.

Recent studies have shown that cardiac arrhythmias and conduction disorders are common in patients with SA. The mechanisms of this association include increased sympathetic tone, systemic and pulmonary hypertension, intermittent hypoxia and inflammation. All these conditions facilitate structural and electrical remodeling which is considered to be the electrical substrate for different arrhythmias and conduction disorders.

SA has also been linked to heart failure, hypertension, coronary artery disease and stroke.

The purpose of this presentation is to analyze the available information that links SA with different cardiac arrhythmias and conduction disorders, and the role of intracardiac devices for the diagnosis and management of this condition. In addition, the link between SA and heart failure and coronary artery disease will be also discussed.

Biography

Adrian Baranchuk, a native of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Baranchuk was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Queen's University to join the Division of Cardiology in June 2006. In 2009 he received his cross-appointment with the Department of Physiology and Biomolecular Sciences. He has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Medicine and Physiology in 2010. The recipient of a teaching award (Outstanding Contribution in the Core Internal Medicine Program) and nominated in 2009, 2010 & 2012 for teaching awards from the Faculty of Health Sciences. Baranchuk has been very active presenting his work at national and international meetings. In the last 4 years, he visited Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Venezuela, Russia, Brazil, Poland, Germany, Spain, USA, Scotland and several places in Canada. His first book, *Atlas of Advanced ECG Interpretation*, has been recently released (REMEDICA, UK) and represents a big collaboration effort from well-recognized electrophysiologists of all around the world. He has published more than 235 articles in well-recognized international journals, 20 book chapters and presented more than 160 abstracts all around the world. He is the Director of the Electrocardiology Council of the Interamerican Society of Cardiology (SIAC).

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