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Focus Transesophageal Echocardiography for Emergency Physicians and Critical Care

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In critically ill patients, transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) offers several advantages over transthoracic echocardiography (TTE), with reliable, continuous image acquisition and superior image quality. The hemodynamic monitoring capability and safety (without major complications), of a single-use miniaturized transesophageal echocardiography (mTEE) probe, left in place in ventilated critically ill patients, has been proven to provide useful information to invasive monitoring and has an impact on hemodynamic management inpatients with hemodynamic failure on ventilatory support(3,4).

Despite these advantages, TEE is not widely used by emergency physicians. TEE by emergency physicians (EPs) remains rare, with no many described training or focused TEE protocols for emergency department (ED) use been described. ED point-of-care based TEE, has showed a high degree of feasibility and clinical utility, with a diagnostic (up to 78%) and therapeutic influence (up to 67%) seen in the majority of cases. Focused TEE, specially the midesophageal four-chamber and transgastric view of the left ventricle, has a great value among intubated patients with either undifferentiated shock or cardiac arrest. EPs can successfully perform focused TEE protocols after a short workshop with retention of these skills at 6 weeks.(2).

Biography:

Jacobo Moreno Garijo is a full time Clinician-Scientist in the Department of Anesthesia at the Toronto General Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto since February 2015, his field expertise is in transesophageal echocardiography, being certified in Advanced Perioperative Transesophageal Echocardiography, as per the National Board of Echocardiography of the United States. He has been trained in the fields of Anesthesia (2004-08, Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Barcelona, Spain), Critical Care Medicine (2008-09, University of Toronto, Canada), Emergency Medicine (2009-10, Master's degree, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain), and Cardio-Thoracic Anesthesia (2013-15, Clinical Fellowship, Toronto General Hospital, University of Toronto, Canada).