

POSTER PRESENTATION

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# Multiplanar 4D strain analysis with spatial mapping to 3D LGE quantification: relationships in chronic Ischemic Cardiomyopathy

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From 18th Annual SCMR Scientific Sessions  
Nice, France. 4-7 February 2015

## Background

Myocardial strain analysis has been proposed as a surrogate for regional replacement fibrosis (scar) in patients with ischemic cardiomyopathy (ICM). However, contractile function is often degraded in non-scarred tissue, conceivably due to a composite of interstitial fibrosis, metabolic aberrations and abnormal electro-mechanical coupling. We tested a novel 4D strain analysis tool to examine strain characteristics of scarred and non-scarred myocardium in patients with advanced ICM.

## Methods

Nineteen patients with ICM and 10 healthy controls were studied. Cine and Late Gadolinium Enhancement (LGE) imaging was performed using 3.0T MRI. LV signal threshold-based ( $>6SD$ ) %LGE maps were obtained using cvi42 (Circle Cardiovascular Inc., Calgary, Canada). 4D strain analysis (Figure 1) was performed using novel prototype software employing a 4D displacement field, providing spatially matched Green-Lagrange 2<sup>nd</sup> principal, radial, circumferential and longitudinal strain maps. %LGE and strain were co-registered to a 72-segment model.

## Results

Mean age of ICM patients was  $72.3 \pm 6.8$  years with LVEF of  $26.5 \pm 7.7\%$ . Among 1368 analyzed segments, 823 had no LGE ( $<5\%$ ), 299 had 5-50%LGE, 246 had LGE  $\geq 50\%$  (transmural). Mean age of healthy controls

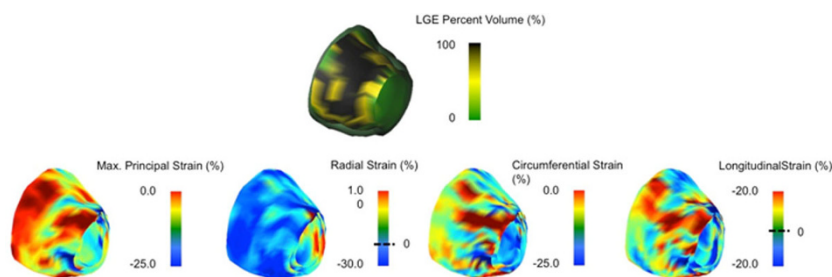
was  $28.2 \pm 7.5$  years with LVEF of  $61.8 \pm 7.4\%$ , all segments with no LGE. Segmental strain analysis using all 4 metrics showed substantial reductions in mean peak amplitude for ICM segments without LGE versus healthy controls ( $p < 0.05$ ). Within the ICM cohort, LGE  $\geq 50\%$  segments showed reduced strain amplitudes versus segments without LGE (mean reduction  $29.0 \pm 13.6\%$  - Figure 2) for all strain metrics ( $p < 0.05$ ). Significant difference was found between LGE  $< 50\%$  and LGE  $\geq 50\%$  segments. ROC analysis identified AUCs for detection of LGE  $\geq 50\%$  of 0.63, 0.28, 0.62, and 0.62, respectively. Using optimal cut-offs, corresponding sensitivity was 59.8%, 32.5%, 58.5%, and 57.7%, while specificity was 59.1, 32.3%, 58.2 and 57.8%. AUCs for identifying viable (LGE  $< 50\%$ ) segments were 0.37, 0.72, 0.38 and 0.38, the greatest sensitivity and specificity being 68.5% and 67.5%, respectively, for Radial Strain. The PPV and NPV achieved for identifying a viable segment were 90.6% and 32.0%, respectively.

## Conclusions

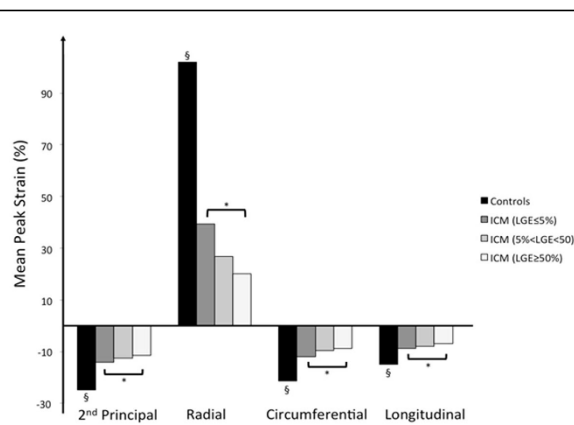
In chronic ICM, spatially matched 4D strain/LGE analysis identifies reduced strains in scarred segments, however also significant pathology in remote tissue compared to healthy controls. The latter limits the NPV of strain analysis for identifying non-scarred segments. However, this study demonstrates a novel capacity of CMR-based strain quantification to characterize the global health of remote tissue. As such, this provides a novel imaging marker for the quantification of remote tissue remodeling / functional integrity and warrants investigation for its prognostic value in ICM.

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**Figure 1 Scar and strain LV 3D distribution.** Top Pane: Distribution of Late Gadolinium Enhancement (Relative Enhanced Area) across the endocardial LV surface. Bottom Pane: Peak-Systolic 3D distribution of Maximum Principal, Radial, Circumferential and Longitudinal Strain.



**Figure 2 Mean peak strain amplitude.** Mean peak strain amplitude for healthy controls and for Ischemic Cardiomyopathy (ICM) patients with no LGE ( $\leq 5\%$ ), non-transmural LGE (5%-50%), and transmural LGE ( $\geq 50\%$ ). \* $p < 0.05$  between indicated groups, §  $p < 0.05$  versus all other groups

## Funding

Dr. Satriano receives support from Mitacs Canada and Medtronic of Canada, Ltd. Dr. White is supported by a New Investigator Award from Alberta Heart and Stroke Foundation.

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Published: 3 February 2015

doi:10.1186/1532-429X-17-S1-P33

**Cite this article as:** Satriano et al.: Multiplanar 4D strain analysis with spatial mapping to 3D LGE quantification: relationships in chronic Ischemic Cardiomyopathy. *Journal of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance* 2015 **17**(Suppl 1):P33.

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