

Late presenting complete heart block after pediatric cardiac surgical and catheter intervention

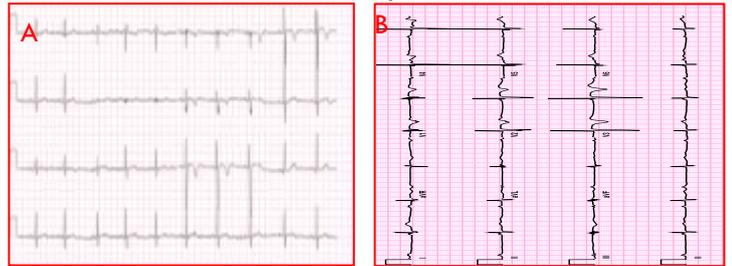
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Abstract

Children undergoing cardiac surgery or catheter intervention may develop brady arrhythmia and heart block immediately after intervention or surgery. Majority of the time, the slow cardiac rhythm is transitional and recovers within one to two weeks post intervention if no recovered permanent pacemaker insertion is usually indicated. On rare occasions, there are children who develop late heart block after initial period of normal rhythm. This type of rare presentation is called late presenting heart block. We encountered three cases of late presenting heart block, two after AVSD repair appearing at two and six years post-surgical repair respectively. The third case was life threatening complete heart block appearing one week after VSD device closure. All cases had a normal sinus rhythm when they were discharged home following initial surgery or intervention but subsequently developed late presenting heart block with significant clinical symptoms and in one case life threatening condition. This complication though rare but clinician need to be aware about it and may warrant follow up at least annual of the post surgical or interventional pediatric cardiac cases with periodic ECG screening for long term follow up.



One year old with AVSD repair and normal sinus rhythm post-surgery (A). He subsequently developed CHB after six years of surgery (B).

Biography= Dr. Nasib Kabbani is a fresh graduate from AlFaisal University
