ICD

KEY QUESTIONS AND DECISION VARIABLES FOR APPROPRIATE IMPLANTATION OF A CARDIAC DEFIBRILLATOR

1. Are risk factors present that would raise the patient’s risk for sudden cardiac death?
   • Prior ventricular fibrillation or sustained ventricular tachycardia
   • Syncope
   • Recent MI
   • Left ventricular ejection fraction
   • Cardiomyopathy
   • Heart failure NYHA Functional Classification
   • Genetic conditions
   • Family history of sudden cardiac death
   • Timing of events and procedures related to VT or VF (e.g. is the cause reversible?)

2. Are there comorbidities or other conditions that would modify the decision to implant?
   • Life expectancy less than 1 year
   • Cognitive impairment
   • Class IV heart failure and not a candidate for transplant
   • Inability to manage compliance and follow-up care
TOP REASONS FOR WHICH IMPLANTATION OF A CARDIAC DEFIBRILLATOR IS RARELY APPROPRIATE

1. Single or recurrent VF or polymorphic VT with acute MI (<48 hours)
   • LVEF >35%
   • Revascularization complete

2. Post-acute MI (≤40 days) and LVEF ≤40% without inducible VT
   • No NSVT
   • Revascularized after Acute MI
   • No pacing indication or pre-existing chronic cardiomyopathy

3. Unexplained syncope
   • Normal ECG with no structural heart disease or genetic reason

4. Unexplained syncope with CAD but no MI
   • LVEF ≥50% and no inducible VT

5. Life expectancy less than 1 year

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