

Echocardiographic assessment of diastolic function

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In clinical practice, importance of left ventricular (LV) diastolic function estimation is in noninvasive left ventricular filling pressure assessment, instead of its invasive determination. It is substantially as for some cardiac diseases differential diagnosis, as well as for their prognosis. Echocardiographic left ventricular diastolic function evaluation should be part of routine examinations, particularly in patients referred with symptoms of dyspnea or diagnosis of heart failure. In 2016 an update of ASE/EACVI recommendations of LV diastolic function evaluation was published. The primary goal of this update is to simplify the approach and thus increase the utility of the guidelines in daily clinical practice. It is recommended that in report is specific comments on the status of left ventricular filling pressures. The conclusion could be one of three options: normal, elevated or cannot be determined. In indefinite cases, diastolic stress test can be considered.

Key words: echocardiography, left ventricular diastolic function, diastolic dysfunction