

PLACE

PLATFORM OF LABORATORIES FOR ADVANCES IN CARDIAC EXPERIENCE

ROMA

Centro Congressi
di Confindustria

**Auditorium
della Tecnica**

9^a Edizione

30 Settembre

1 Ottobre

2022



Stratificazione del rischio e terapia nelle malattie neuromuscolari *applicazione delle linee guida nella pratica clinica*

V • Università
degli Studi
della Campania
Luigi Vanvitelli

OSPEDALI DEI COLLI
MONALDI - COTUGNO - C.T.O.

Vincenzo Russo MD PhD MMSc



| Myopathy | Gene | Heart involvement | Frequency of heart involvement | Ventricular arrhythmia | Atrial arrhythmia | Sudden death reported |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Duchenne | Dystrophin | DCM | >90% | PVC | Only at late stage | Yes |
| Becker | Dystrophin | DCM | 60–75% | VT associated with DCM | Associated with DCM | Yes |
| Myotonic, type 1 | CGT repeat expansion | Conduction disease and DCM | 60–80% | VT, ICD indicated | Age dependent | Yes, 30% of death |
| Myotonic, type 2 | CGT repeat expansion | Conduction disease | 10–25% | Uncommon | Uncommon | Yes |
| Emery-Dreifuss | Emerin, lamin A and C | Conduction disease and DCM | >90% | VT, ICD indicated | Common, atrial standstill | Yes, 30% of death |
| Limb-girdle type 1B | Lamin A and C | Conduction disease and DCM | >90% | VT, ICD indicated | Common | Yes, 30% of death |
| Limb-girdle type 2C–2F | Sarcoglycans | DCM | <25% | Uncommon | Limited data | Unknown |
| Limb-girdle type 2I | Fukutin-related protein | DCM | 20–80% | Uncommon | Not reported | Unknown |
| Facioscapulohumeral | D4Z4 repeat contraction | Conduction disease | 5–15% | Rare VTs | Rare | No |

Muscular Dystrophies are an **heterogeneous group** of inherited diseases characterized by **muscular and cardiac involvement**, that occurs as a degenerative process with fibrosis and fatty replacement of the myocardium



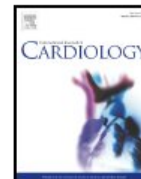
International Journal of Cardiology 207 (2016) 284–285



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

International Journal of Cardiology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijcard



Correspondence

Sudden cardiac death in neuromuscular disorders: Time to establish shared protocols for cardiac pacing

Vincenzo Russo *, Anna Rago, Gerardo Nigro

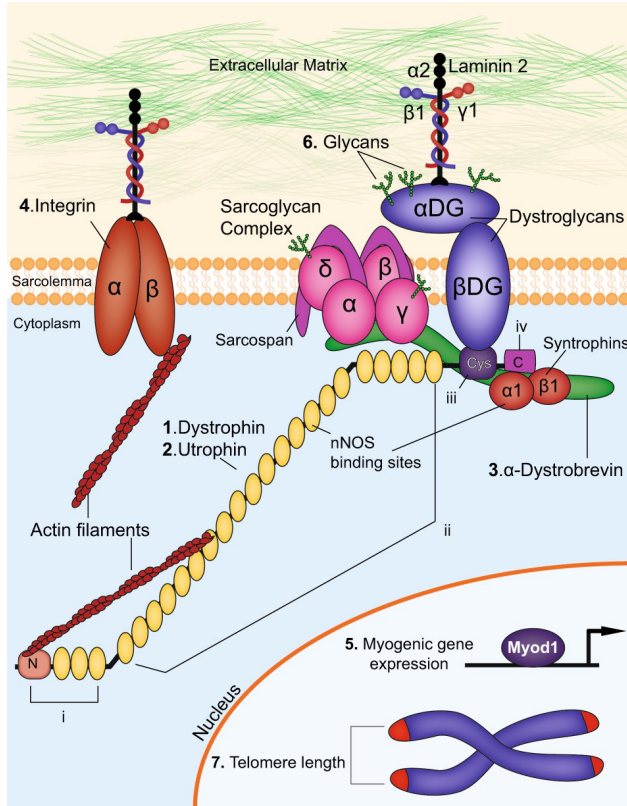
Chair of Cardiology, Second University of Naples – Monaldi Hospital, Italy





2022 HRS expert consensus statement on evaluation and management of arrhythmic risk in neuromuscular disorders

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 Dario C. Sobral Filho, MD, PhD,^{27,##} Bruce S. Stambler, MD, FHRS,²⁸
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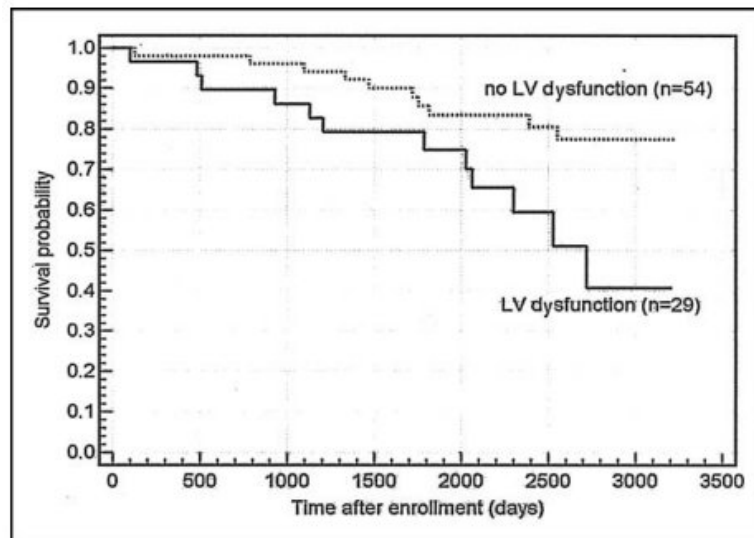
Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
Becker Muscular Dystrophy
Limb Girdle type 2 Muscular Dystrophy



| | | | |
|---|------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | B-NR | 3. In patients with DMD, BMD, or LGMD2, cardiac evaluation including physical examination, ECG, ambulatory ECG, and cardiac imaging (echocardiography or cardiac magnetic resonance imaging [CMR]) at diagnosis with periodic retesting is recommended even in the absence of cardiac symptoms. | 40-44,46,47,59-69 |
|---|------|--|-------------------|



The presence of systolic dysfunction was a powerful predictor of mortality but ECG abnormalities, late potentials or ventricular arrhythmias were not predictive





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Trends in Cardiovascular Medicine

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com



ACE inhibition to slow progression of myocardial fibrosis in muscular dystrophies

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Alberto Palladino MD^b, Luisa Politano MD, PhD^b, Gerardo Nigro, MD, PhD^a

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- Use of ACEI or ARB for all neuromuscular disorder patients with reduced systolic cardiac function and suggests to consider such treatment before the onset of reduced systolic cardiac function in boys with DMD age ≥ 10 .
- The relatively low risk of usage of ACE-Is and ARBs should encourage the consideration of earlier therapy.



Pacemaker

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|--|-----------------------|
| 1 | B-NR | 1. In patients with DMD, BMD, or LGMD2 with documented symptomatic bradycardia due to any degree of sinus node dysfunction or AV block, permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status. | 79-82 |
| 1 | B-NR | 2. In patients with DMD, BMD, or LGMD2 and third-degree or advanced second-degree AV block at any anatomical level, with or without symptoms, permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status. | 79-81 |

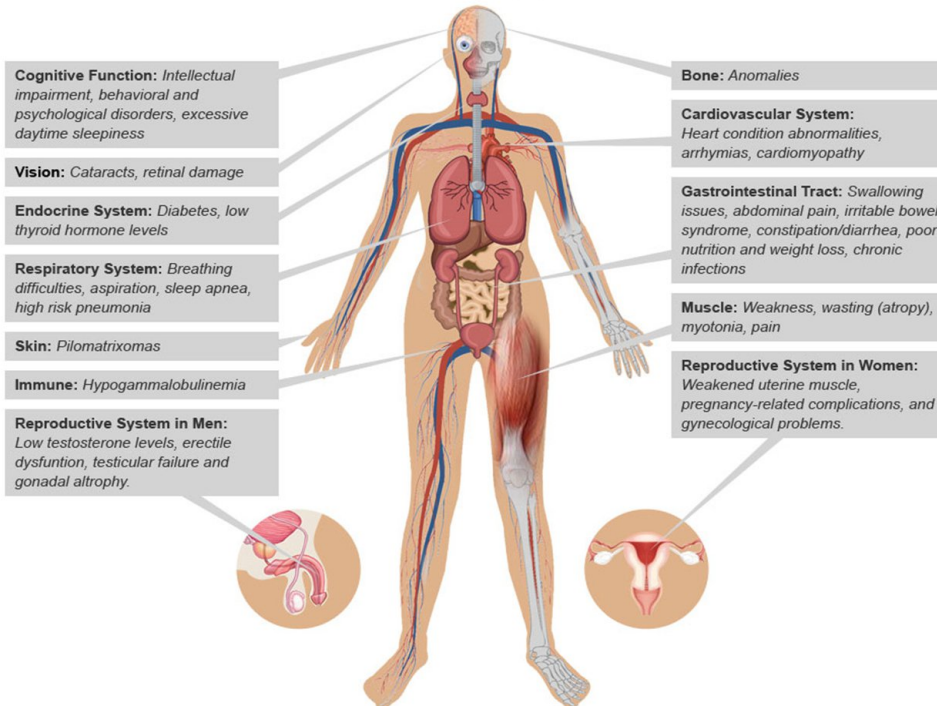
ICD

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---|--------------------------|
| 2a | B-NR | 2. In patients with DMD, BMD, or LGMD2 with an LVEF \leq35% despite guideline-directed medical therapy, ICD therapy is reasonable if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status. | 68,97-99 |
|-----------|-------------|---|--------------------------|



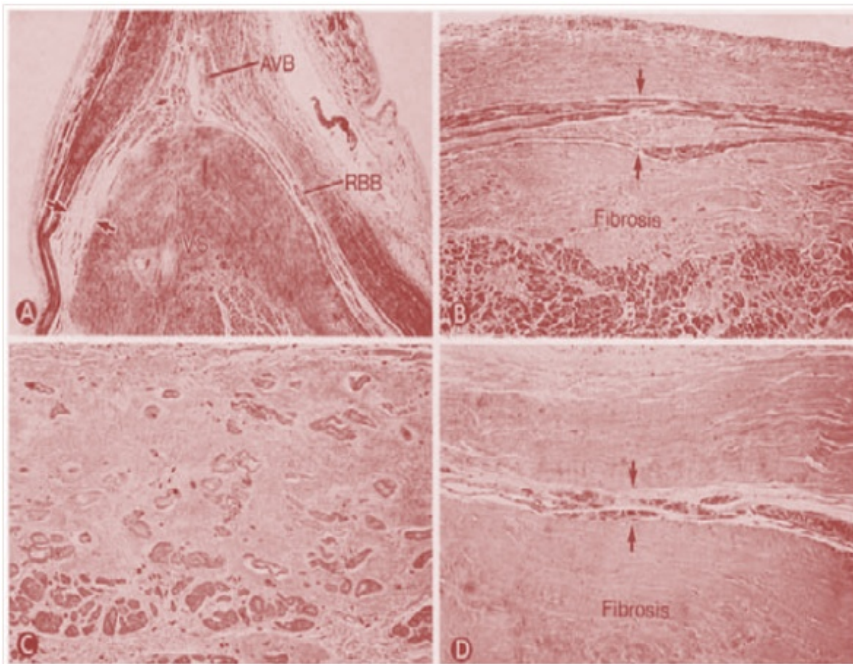
Major Effects of Myotonic Dystrophy Type 1

www.myotonicdystrophy.com





Cardiac involvement, often preceding the skeletal muscle one, occurs in 80% of DM1 patients and represents the second most common cause of death, after respiratory causes



Cardiac involvement is due to **interstitial fibrosis** and **fatty replacement** in the specialized conduction system and in both atria and ventricles



- Atrio-Ventricular Blocks
 - *first degree*
 - *second degree*
 - *third degree*

- Supraventricular Arrhythmias
 - *atrial fibrillation*
 - *atrial flutter*
 - *atrial tachycardia*

- Ventricular Dysfunction

- Ventricular Tachycardia

30%

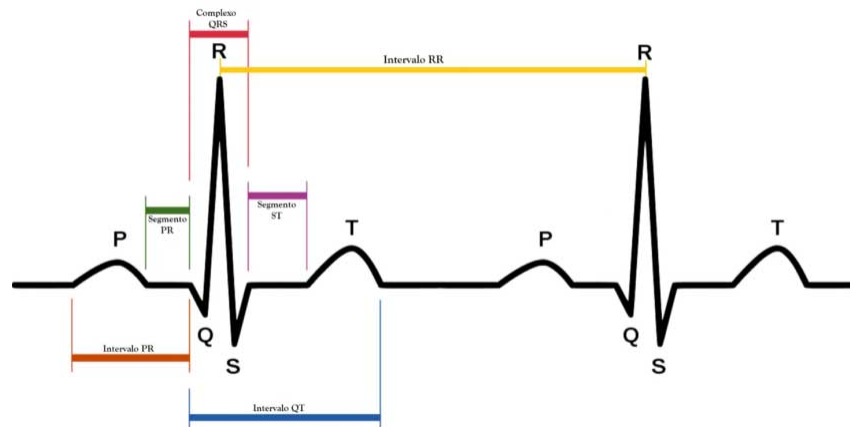


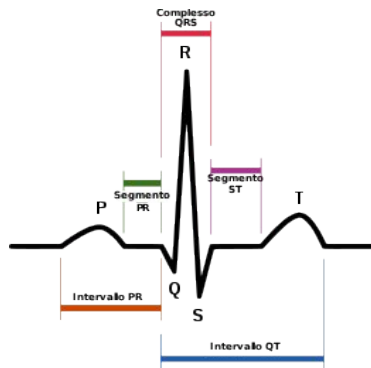
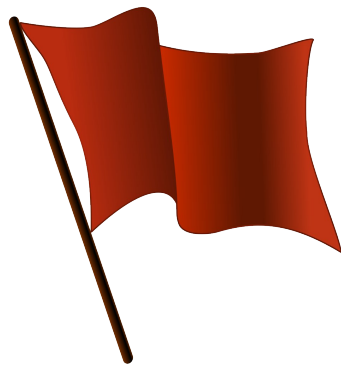
3%



Recommendations for diagnostic testing and risk stratification in myotonic dystrophy types 1 and 2

| COR | LOE | Recommendations | References |
|-----|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | C-EO | 1. Coordinated care of patients with DM1 or DM2 should be conducted in a medical setting where there is access to expertise in the neurological, cardiac, arrhythmic, pulmonary, and genetic manifestations of these disorders. | |
| 1 | B-NR | 2. In patients with DM1 or DM2, cardiac evaluation including physical examination, ECG, ambulatory ECG, and cardiac imaging (echocardiography or CMR) at diagnosis with periodic retesting is recommended even in the absence of cardiac symptoms. | 24,26,104,106,108, 110,114,115 |
| 1 | C-LD | 3. In patients with DM1 or DM2 and cardiac conduction disorder, close monitoring for arrhythmic complications is recommended when using mexiletine (or other sodium channel blockers). | 116-119 |





$PR \geq 240 \text{ ms}$

$QRS \geq 120 \text{ ms}$



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

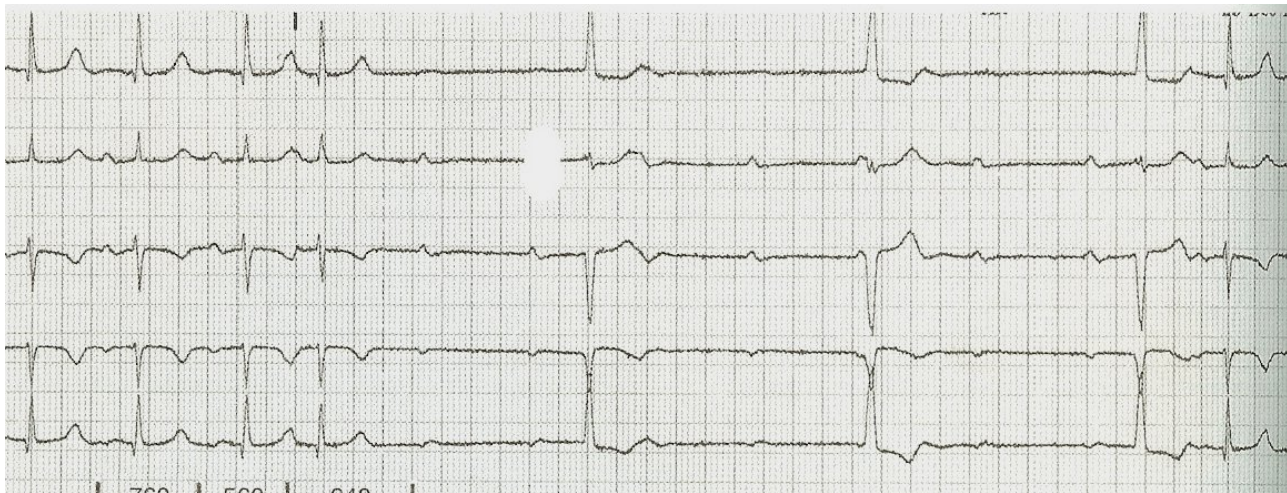
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Electrocardiographic Abnormalities and Sudden Death in Myotonic Dystrophy Type 1

William J. Groh, M.D., M.P.H., Miriam R. Groh, M.S., Chandan Saha, Ph.D., John C. Kincaid, M.D., Zachary Simmons, M.D., Emma Ciafaloni, M.D., Rahman Pourmand, M.D., Richard F. Otten, M.D., Deepak Bhakta, M.D., Girish V. Nair, M.D., M.S., Mohammad M. Marashdeh, M.D., Douglas P. Zipes, M.D., and Robert M. Pascuzzi, M.D.

| Characteristic | Sudden Death | | Death from Progressive Neuromuscular Respiratory Failure | | Death from Any Cause | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------|--|---------|------------------------|---------|
| | Relative Risk (95% CI) | P Value | Relative Risk (95% CI) | P Value | Relative Risk (95% CI) | P Value |
| Age† | 1.16 (0.76–1.75) | 0.50 | 1.81 (1.20–2.74) | 0.005 | 1.46 (1.13–1.87) | 0.003 |
| Muscular-impairment score‡ | | | | | | |
| 1 or 2 | | | 1.0 | | 1.0 | |
| 3 | | | 1.28 (0.20–8.19) | 0.80 | 1.13 (0.47–2.73) | 0.79 |
| 4 | | | 2.85 (0.60–13.55) | 0.19 | 1.47 (0.67–3.19) | 0.33 |
| 5 | | | 13.07 (2.77–61.61) | 0.001 | 4.54 (2.02–10.19) | <0.001 |
| Heart failure | | | 5.39 (1.46–19.82) | 0.01 | 2.85 (1.20–6.74) | 0.02 |
| Atrial tachyarrhythmia | 5.18 (2.28–11.77) | <0.001 | 2.41 (1.10–5.31) | 0.03 | 2.59 (1.55–4.32) | <0.001 |
| Pacemaker | 1.35 (0.51–3.56) | 0.54 | 1.80 (0.77–4.20) | 0.17 | 1.46 (0.82–2.60) | 0.19 |
| Ventricular tachyarrhythmia | | | | | 6.41 (2.30–17.89) | <0.001 |
| Severe ECG abnormality§ | 3.30 (1.24–8.78) | 0.02 | 1.33 (0.53–3.33) | 0.55 | 1.58 (0.90–2.81) | 0.11 |

Groh *et al.* found that DM1 patients – even when asymptomatic – presenting with **prolonged PR intervals** (≥ 240 ms), **wide QRS complex** (≥ 120 ms), or **atrial tachyarrhythmias** were at higher risk of SCD when compared to those with normal ECGs



Because the risk of SCD most often appears to be associated to **paroxysmal complete AV block**, it has become common practice to implant a PM in DM1 patients when they have ECG abnormalities suggestive of advance conduction system disease, even if they are asymptomatic.


 European Heart Journal (2017) 38, 751–758
 doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehw569

CLINICAL RESEARCH
Heart failure/cardiomyopathy

Incidence and predictors of sudden death, major conduction defects and sustained ventricular tachyarrhythmias in 1388 patients with myotonic dystrophy type 1

Karim Wahbi^{1,2,3}, Dominique Babuty⁴, Vincent Probst⁵, Ludivine Wissocque⁶, Fabien Labombarda⁷, Raphaël Porcher⁸, Henri Marc Bécane², Arnaud Lazarus⁹, Anthony Béhin², Pascal Laforêt^{2,10}, Tanya Stojkovic², Nicolas Clementy⁴, Aurélie Pattier Dussauge^{5,11}, Jean Baptiste Gourraud⁵, Yann Pereon¹², Arnaud Lacour¹³, Françoise Chapon¹⁴, Paul Milliez⁷, Didier Klug⁶, Bruno Eymard^{2,10}, and Denis Duboc^{1,2,3}

Table 3 Multiple variable analysis of association between baseline characteristics and clinical outcomes

| | Overall survival | | Sudden death | | Sustained ventricular tachyarrhythmia | | Major conduction defect | |
|---|----------------------|---------|----------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------|
| | Adjusted HR (95% CI) | P | Adjusted HR (95% CI) | P | Adjusted HR (95% CI) | P | Adjusted HR (95% CI) | P |
| Age, per year | 1.07 (1.06–1.08) | <0.0001 | 1.05 (1.02–1.08) | 0.0006 | – | – | 1.02 (1.01–1.04) | 0.0005 |
| Male sex | 1.47 (1.12–1.93) | 0.005 | – | – | – | – | 1.49 (1.05–2.11) | 0.024 |
| Family history of sudden death | 0.99 (0.63–1.57) | 0.98 | 2.82 (1.21–6.53) | 0.016 | – | – | 1.07 (0.58–1.95) | 0.84 |
| History of | | | | | | | | |
| Coronary artery disease | 0.72 (0.40–1.30) | 0.27 | – | – | 2.77 (0.64–11.9) | 0.17 | 0.68 (0.30–1.52) | 0.35 |
| Atrial fibrillation | 0.99 (0.69–1.42) | 0.95 | 1.69 (0.76–3.77) | 0.20 | 2.46 (0.89–6.77) | 0.081 | 2.12 (1.41–3.17) | 0.0003 |
| Ventricular tachycardia | | | | | | | | |
| Non-sustained | 0.94 (0.45–1.96) | 0.86 | 2.36 (0.69–8.08) | 0.17 | 8.57 (2.59–28.3) | 0.0004 | 1.86 (0.91–3.80) | 0.090 |
| Sustained | 1.65 (0.51–5.33) | 0.40 | – | – | 2.13 (0.36–12.7) | 0.41 | – | – |
| Major conduction defect | 1.30 (0.65–2.62) | 0.46 | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Syncope | 1.60 (1.13–2.28) | 0.008 | – | – | – | – | 2.39 (1.61–3.56) | <0.0001 |
| Heart rate, per 10 bpm | 1.17 (1.08–1.26) | <0.0001 | 1.16 (0.97–1.39) | 0.099 | – | – | 1.10 (0.98–1.24) | 0.095 |
| 1 st degree atrioventricular block | 1.73 (1.31–2.28) | 0.0001 | 1.55 (0.79–3.04) | 0.21 | 1.37 (0.54–3.48) | 0.51 | 1.60 (1.12–2.30) | 0.010 |
| Bundle branch block | | | | | | | | |
| Left | 1.40 (0.98–2.01) | 0.063 | 2.57 (1.23–5.37) | – | – | – | 1.85 (1.18–2.91) | 0.007 |
| Right | 1.27 (0.84–1.93) | 0.26 | – | – | – | – | 1.91 (1.17–3.11) | 0.010 |
| Left ventricular ejection fraction <50% | 1.06 (0.64–1.75) | 0.82 | 0.93 (0.27–3.17) | 0.90 | 1.92 (0.57–6.50) | 0.30 | 1.59 (0.90–2.79) | 0.11 |

CI = confidence interval; HR = hazard ratio.

Age, family history of SD and LBBB were independent predictors of SD

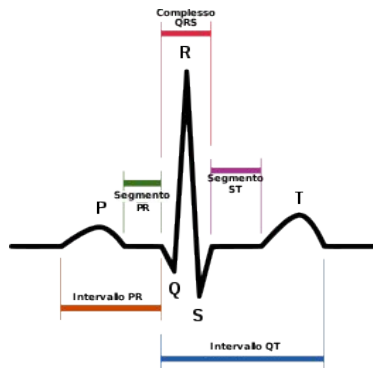
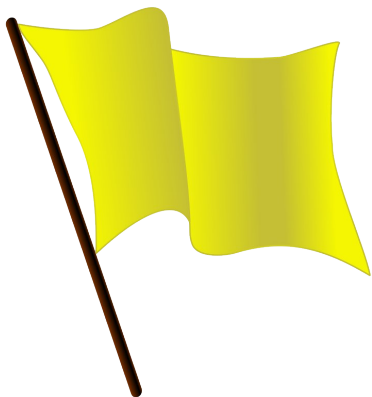


2a

B-NR

4. In patients with DM1 or DM2 and marked first-degree AV block (PR interval ≥ 240 ms) or intraventricular conduction delay (native QRS duration ≥ 120 ms), permanent pacemaker implantation is reasonable if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status.

106

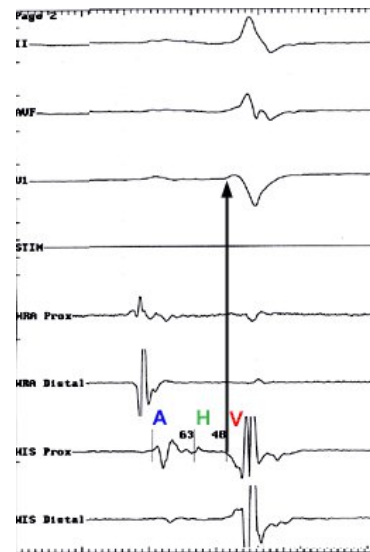
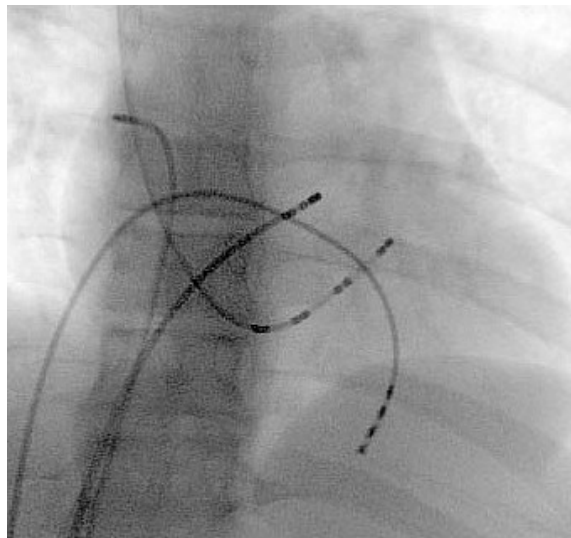


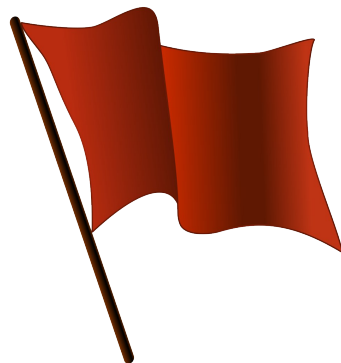
$PR > 200 \text{ ms}$

$QRS > 100 \text{ ms}$



| | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---|------------|
| 2a | B-NR | <p>4. In patients with DM1 or DM2 with symptoms consistent with bradycardia and with ECG evidence of mild to moderate conduction disorder and when noninvasive testing is nondiagnostic, electrophysiological testing is reasonable for risk stratification for AV block and sudden cardiac death.</p> | 26,120-123 |
|-----------|-------------|---|------------|





$HV > 70 \text{ ms}$

2a

B-NR

5. In patients with DM1 or DM2 with HV interval ≥ 70 ms on electrophysiological study, permanent pacemaker implantation is reasonable if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status.

120,123-126

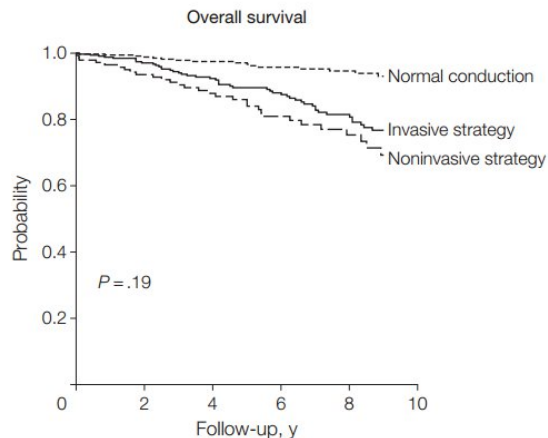


JAMA. 2012 Mar 28;307(12):1292-301. doi: 10.1001/jama.2012.346.

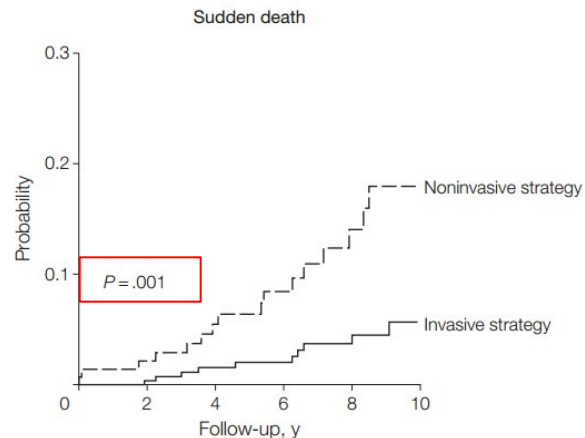
Electrophysiological study with prophylactic pacing and survival in adults with myotonic dystrophy and conduction system disease.

Wahbi K, Meune C, Porcher R, Bécane HM, Lazarus A, Laforêt P, Stojkovic T, Béhin A, Radvanvi-Hoffmann H, Eymard B, Duboc D.

Pierre et Marie Curie-Paris 6 University, Myology Institute, Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital, 75013 Paris, France. karim.wahbi@cch.aphp.fr



| No. at risk | 0 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Normal conduction | 373 | 317 | 257 | 192 | 136 | |
| Invasive strategy | 341 | 270 | 205 | 165 | 106 | |
| Noninvasive strategy | 145 | 124 | 98 | 67 | 43 | |



| No. at risk | 0 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Invasive strategy | 341 | 270 | 205 | 165 | 106 | |
| Noninvasive strategy | 145 | 124 | 98 | 67 | 43 | |



Article in Press

Role of electrophysiological evaluation for the best device choice to prevent sudden cardiac death in patients with Myotonic Dystrophy Type 1 and Emery Dreifuss Muscular Dystrophy

[Vincenzo Russo](#) , [Luisa Politano](#), [Gerardo Nigro](#)





Pacemaker and Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillator Use in a US Myotonic Dystrophy Type 1 Population

DEEPAK BHAKTA, M.D.,* CHANGYU SHEN, Ph.D.,† JACK KRON, M.D.,‡
ANDREW E. EPSTEIN, M.D.,§ ROBERT M. PASCUZZI, M.D.,¶
and WILLIAM J. GROH, M.D., M.P.H.*

In the **largest registry published to date**, 406 DM1 were followed for 9.5 years; forty-six patients received pacemakers for conduction abnormalities and twenty one patients received ICDs primarily for LV dysfunction. During follow-up period the authors showed seven sudden cardiac deaths in the pacemaker group, and **6.5% of patients had sudden death due to ventricular tachyarrhythmias** compared with no patients in the group who received ICDs.

For the high risk of VT/VF and sudden death the ICDs rather than pacemakers should be considered for these patients.



| | | | |
|----|------|--|---------------------|
| 1 | B-NR | 4. In patients with DM1 or DM2 in whom clinically relevant ventricular arrhythmias are induced during electrophysiological study, ICD therapy is recommended if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status. | 110,124-126,132,133 |
| 2b | B-NR | 5. In patients with DM1 or DM2 in whom permanent pacemaker implantation is indicated, ICD therapy may be considered if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status. | 106,121,132 |



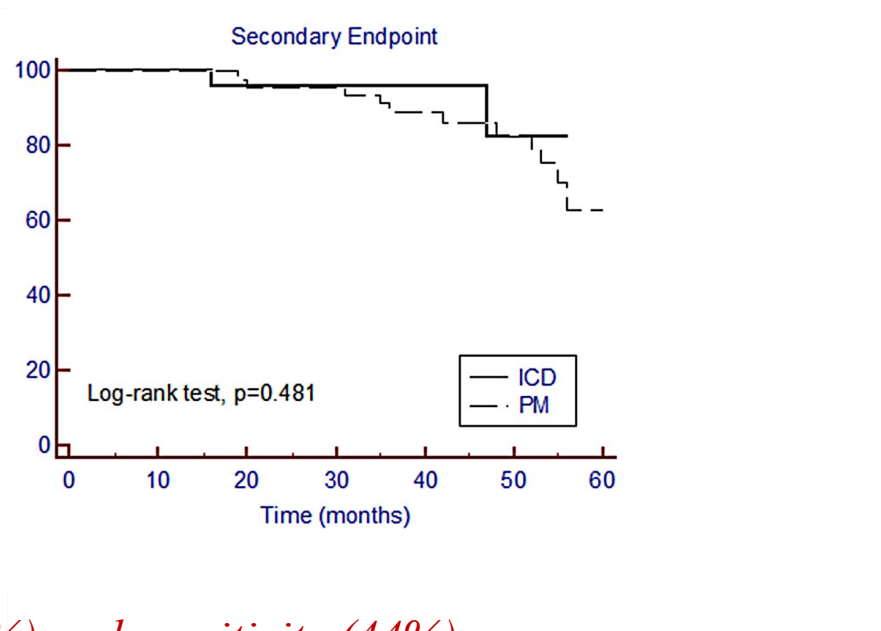
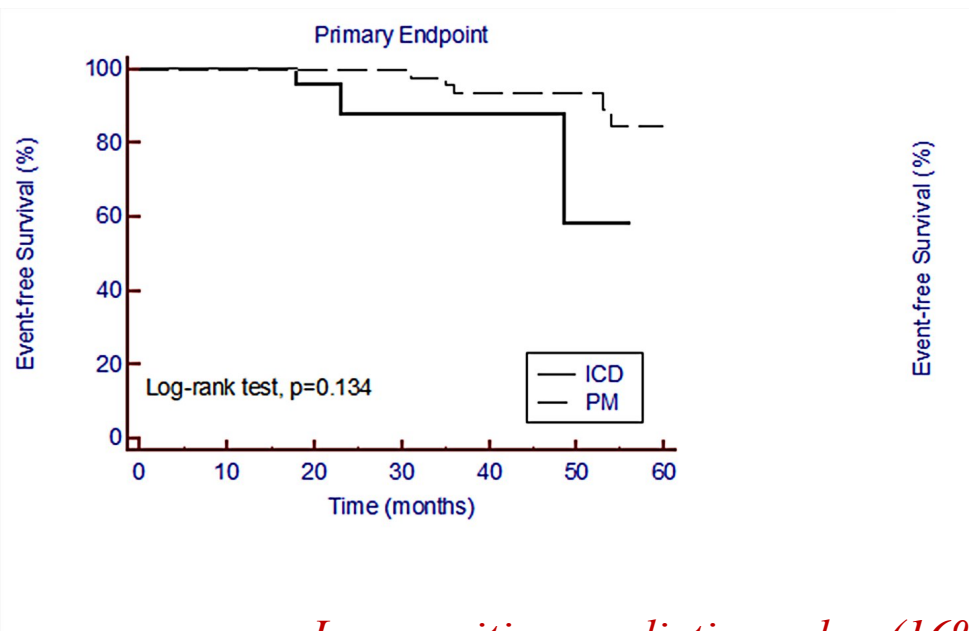
JOURNAL ARTICLE

Arrhythmic CARDIAC DEATH in MYotonic dystrophy type 1 patients (ACADEMY 1) study: the predictive role of programmed ventricular stimulation

Get access >

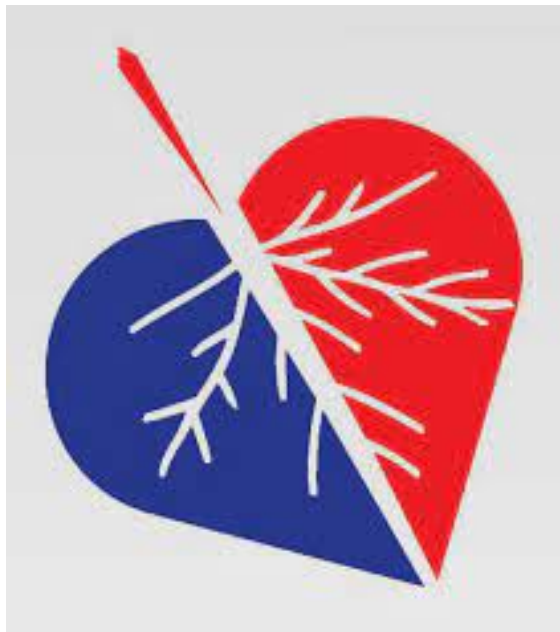
Vincenzo Russo, Andrea Antonio Papa ✉, Anna Rago, Carmine Ciardiello, Anna Maria Martino, Alessandra Stazi, Paolo Golino, Leonardo Calò, Gerardo Nigro

EP Europace, Volume 24, Issue 7, July 2022, Pages 1148–1155,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/europace/euab282>



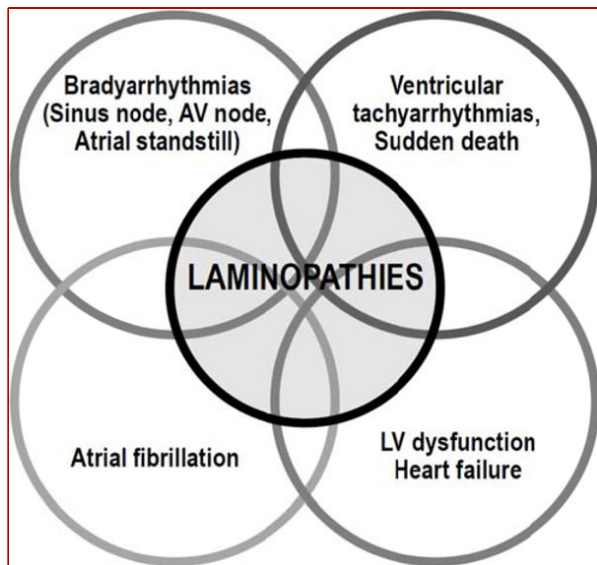
Low positive predictive value (16%) and sensitivity (44%)

High negative predictive value (90%) and specificity (67%)





LMNA-related Myopathies: *Cardiac Arrhythmias*



Patients with **cardiolaminopathies** may present a wide range of arrhythmic disorders, which include either:

Bradyarrhythmias

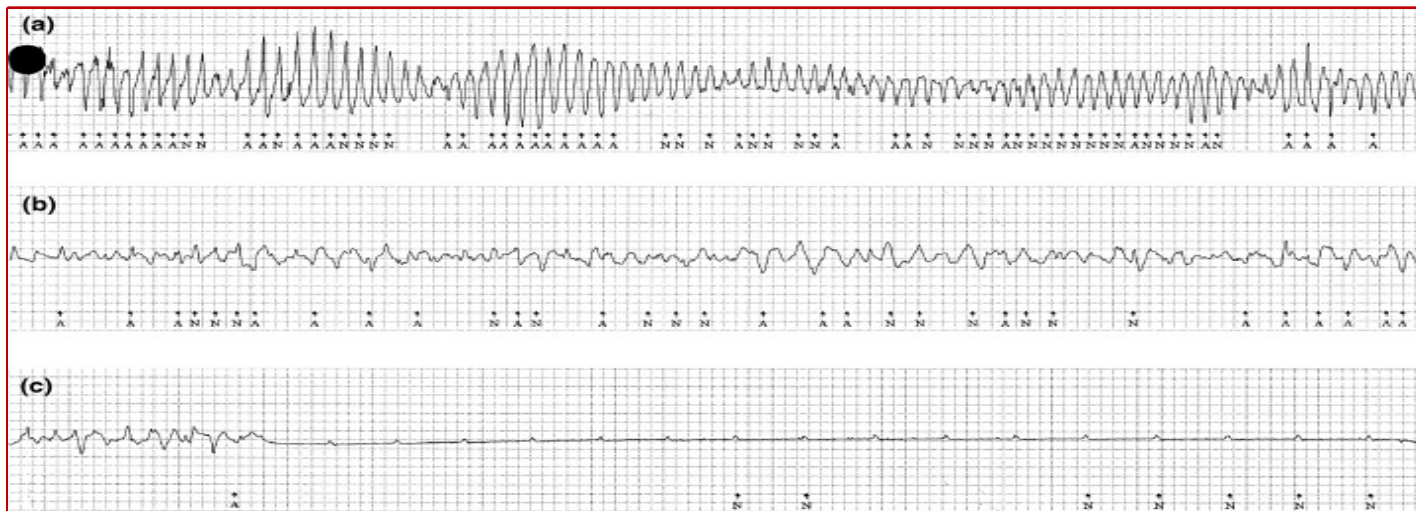
Atrial fibrillation

Ventricular tachyarrhythmias

in variable combinations, and with frequent association with left ventricular dysfunction and heart failure



- **Ventricular Tachyarrhythmias (VT/VF)** can also occur in the **early phase** of the disease, before and independently of the development of ventricular dilatation.
- **Sudden death** can be the **first manifestation** in some cases of **VT/VF**





ICD

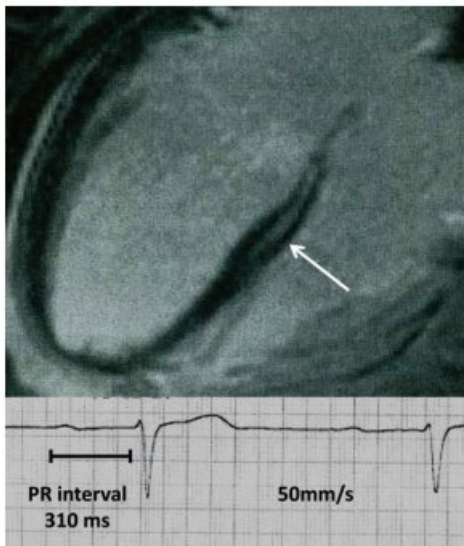
| | | | |
|---|------|---|-----------------|
| 1 | B-NR | <p>3. In patients with EDMD or LGMD1B with at least one of the following: second-degree or third-degree AV block, PR interval ≥ 230 ms, or spontaneous HV ≥ 70 ms, ICD therapy is recommended if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status.</p> | 141,148,161-163 |
| 1 | B-NR | <p>5. In patients with EDMD or LGMD1B in whom clinically relevant ventricular arrhythmias are induced during electrophysiological study, ICD therapy is recommended if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status.</p> | 124-126,141,155 |



Europace (2014) 16, 563–571
doi:10.1093/europace/eut291

CLINICAL RESEARCH

Channelopathies



Risk prediction of ventricular arrhythmias and myocardial function in Lamin A/C mutation positive subjects

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Prolonged PR-interval was the best predictor of Ventricular Arrhythmias in LMNA mutation-positive subjects.

Prolonged PR-interval was associated with VA, reduced myocardial function and septal fibrosis in Lamin A/C mutation-positive subjects.



ICD

2a

B-NR

6. In patients with EDMD or LGMD1B with LVEF <45% and nonsustained VT, an ICD is reasonable if concordant with the patient's goals of care and clinical status.

29,146



Genetic Disorders

Risk Factors for Malignant Ventricular Arrhythmias in Lamin A/C Mutation Carriers

A European Cohort Study

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LMNA mutation carriers presenting with at least two of these four risk factors
Non-sustained VT, LVEF <45%, Male sex, Non-missense mutations
were at **high risk** to develop malignant ventricular arrhythmias


Recommendations for shared decision-making and end-of-life decisions

| COR | LOE | Recommendations | References |
|-----|------|---|------------|
| 1 | C-EO | 1. In patients with NMDs who are considering or have a pacemaker or ICD, education on function including deactivation should be periodically discussed with the patient, their family members, and/or health care decision makers. | |
| 1 | C-EO | 2. In patients with NMDs in whom the presence of conduction disorder portends a risk of ventricular arrhythmias, the decision of whether to implant a pacemaker or ICD should be concordant with the patient's overall medical care goals and clinical status. | |
| 1 | C-EO | 3. In patients with NMDs who are considering ICD replacement and are undertaking advanced care planning, discussing the options of deferring ICD replacement is recommended. | |
| 1 | C-EO | 4. In patients with NMDs who have an ICD and are undertaking advanced care planning, discussing the option of deactivation of ICD shock therapy is recommended. | |
| 1 | C-EO | 5. In patients with NMDs who have an ICD and are experiencing ventricular arrhythmias with shocks refractory to available therapies, discussion of management of ICD therapy including shock deactivation is recommended, with careful attention to the patient's goals of care. | |
| 2a | C-EO | 6. In patients with NMDs who have a pacemaker or ICD and are nearing the end of life, if the patient or their health care decision maker requests pacing inactivation, it is reasonable to comply after education on the consequences of inactivation, with careful attention to the patient's goals of care. | |

PLACE

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di Confindustria

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della Tecnica**

9^a Edizione

30 Settembre

1 Ottobre

2022



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