

Imagistic assessment of stem cell therapy outcome in patients with ischemic cardiac disease

Evaluarea imagistica a rezultatelor terapiei celulare la pacientii cu boala cardiaca ischemica

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In spite of significant advancements of contemporary medicine as regards the treatment of ischemic cardiac disease, the illness continues to affect millions of people worldwide, with dramatic invalidating effects.

Cellular therapy has emerged as a hopeful and attractive strategy in this direction, addressing myocardial hypoperfusion and the loss of myocytes, the ultimate ambition being to prompt heart regeneration.

Clinical trials had promising results with reference to safety and efficacy of stem cell therapy in ischemic cardiac disease, but also pointed out the necessity to conduct larger studies with longer follow-up and complex methods for outcome assessment.

Studies varied in terms of clinical or surrogate endpoints, as well as diagnostic tests and procedures used. The most exploited imagistic method was cardiac echocardiography followed by cardiac magnetic resonance, while left ventricle angiography and single-photon emission computed tomography being used less frequently.

This presentation will provide a comprehensive overview of imagistic assessment of stem cell therapy outcome in clinical studies to assess the feasibility and efficacy of this novel therapeutic strategy in ischemic cardiac disease.

Keywords: ischemic cardiac disease, stem cells, cardiac regeneration

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