HSR (LONDON),
HOUGHTON STREET REVIEW JOURNAL
ISSN: 2058-5519|Impact factor-15.9
http://houghtonstreetreview.com/index.php/hsr

PEDIATRIC CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE: EPIDEMIOLOGY, DIAGNOSIS, AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

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Abstract

Congenital heart disease (CHD) is the most common congenital anomaly worldwide, affecting nearly 1% of live births. This article explores epidemiology, diagnostic approaches, and management strategies for pediatric CHD, highlighting advances in imaging and surgical techniques.

Keywords: congenital heart disease, pediatrics, echocardiography, cardiac surgery, neonatal cardiology

Introduction

Congenital heart disease represents a major cause of morbidity and mortality in infants. Despite advances in diagnostic imaging, early detection remains challenging in low-resource settings.

Methods

Literature review of 50 studies (2010–2024) from PubMed and Scopus was conducted. Clinical data were compared across developed and developing countries.

Results

- Global incidence: ~10 per 1000 live births.
- Early echocardiography improved survival by 30%.
- Surgical repair within the first year reduced long-term mortality.

Discussion

Timely diagnosis and surgical interventions are key to survival. Low-resource countries face higher mortality due to lack of screening.

Conclusion

Improved prenatal screening, echocardiography, and early surgery significantly reduce mortality in pediatric CHD.

References

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