

1. Hypertension Increases Risk of Mitral Chordae Tendineae Rupture

Many cases of "idiopathic" mitral chordae tendineae rupture are associated with pre-existing hypertension, according to a report by a team of researchers in Taiwan.

Dr. Lai and colleagues conducted a cross-sectional study to investigate the association between pre-existing hypertension and chordae tendineae rupture in 494 patients. This included 351 patients with idiopathic chordae tendineae rupture and 143 patients with secondary idiopathic chordae tendineae rupture. The findings are published in the June issue of *Heart*.

Patients in the idiopathic chordae tendineae rupture group were 6.0 times more likely than patients with secondary chordae tendineae rupture to have hypertension, the authors report, and there were significantly more patients without adequate blood pressure control in the idiopathic chordae tendineae rupture group (23.1%) than in the secondary chordae tendineae rupture group (4.9%).

The investigators think that Idiopathic mitral chordae rupture might not be really idiopathic, and hypertension contributes significantly to this disease. They also wanted to stress on the importance of recognizing and treating hypertension and add rupture of mitral chordae as a new member in the list of hypertension complications.

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