

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Heart rate variability is used to assess cardiac autonomic function. Spectral power analysis permits assessment of both sympathetic and parasympathetic activity. It is influenced by various physiological factors including age, postural changes and time of day and various pathological conditions such as congestive heart failure, diabetic neuropathy and coronary heart diseases.

The results of the present work showed that there is significant reduction of all the measures of HRV in patients with DCM in relation to normal control subjects. Also it showed that there is a significant correlation between the reduction of HRV and the degree of left ventricular systolic dysfunction.