

However, echo-Doppler changes denoting alterations in cardiac functions and hemodynamics in some children with APGN, were recently reported (Roguin et al, 1993, Balat et al, 1993, and Kamisago and Hirayama, 1994).

In this study, with the aid of echo-Doppler, we aimed at assessing noninvasively the cardiac performance in children suffering from APGN with variable severity as evidenced by clinical, biochemical, radiological or electrocardiographic alterations. We also aimed at evaluating the influence of increased preload with or without increased afterload on the cardiac functions and hemodynamics. Furthermore, to prove whether the congestive symptoms and signs commonly observed in children with APGN represent a pure state of non cardiac circulatory congestion or a state of myocardial dysfunction.