

# Introduction

## INTRODUCTION

The conventional Treatment for patient with cardiovascular disease, in whom deterioration is evident, is directed towards; optimization of electrolytes and Acid-base balance state, oxygenation and ventilation, heart rate and rhythm and blood volume. Some patients remain haemodynamically unstable in spite of maximal pharmacological support (*Richenbacher and Pierce, 2001*).

Heart failure may be seen in the setting of post myocardial infarction, postcardiopulmonary bypass and advanced cardiomyopathies. As well as secondary to congenital heart disease and following trauma, therapeutic with cardiac transplantation being a common goal. Because donor hearts are increasingly in short supply and some of these processes are potentially reversible, a variety of cardiac devices and circulatory assist devices have become available for both developmental and general use (*Galla et al., 1999*).

However, the cardiac devices and the mechanical assist devices are capable of supplementing and replacing cardiac pump function for variable length of time. It is assumed that if the devices used correctly in appropriate patients; mechanical circulatory assistance devices are successful in prolonging life expectancy and improving the quality of that life (*Thomas and Kramer, 1993*).

Cardiac pacemaker, ventricular assist devices (VADs) automatic implantable cardioverter defibrillator (AICD), Intra-aortic balloon pump (IABP), are currently available cardiac and circulatory assist devices (*Dinardo, 1998*).

## **Historical review:**

Mechanical circulatory assistance for the failing circulation has interested and challenged cardiac specialists for decades. The field of mechanical circulatory assistance is dynamic and evolving one. Technological and engineering advances have contributed to the development of mechanical assist devices.

Blood pumps, which are major component in mechanical circulatory assist devices, were taken in consideration for researchers. *Bruckhonenko and Tchetchuline (1929)* have designed a machine that used an excised lung from a donor animal as an oxygenator and to mechanically actuated blood pumps. Their machine was used initially to perfuse isolated organs but later was used to perfuse entire animals. *Dale and Schuster (1928)* developed a double perfusion pump capable of a variable pulsatile output and intended to carry out whole body perfusion and was the best known at that time.

At the beginning of 1960, cardiopulmonary bypass was sufficiently established to allow open-heart surgery around the world.

Other breakthroughs led to new approaches for assisting the circulation. Improved myocardial perfusion was described by *Sanfrowitz (1953)*, when they demonstrated the concept of increasing coronary blood flow by retarding the systolic pressure pulse. This phenomenon, termed diastolic augmentation was further exploited in compression the aorta during diastole using a surgically transferred hemidiaphragm (*Sanfrowitz and McKinnon, 1959*).

**Harken (1958)** described for the first time the concept of counterpulsation, which is the basis of intraaortic balloon pump (IABP) and as originally proposed involved the removal of blood via the femoral artery during ventricular systole and the rapid reinfusion of the same amount during diastole to increase coronary perfusion pressure. By this method, in normotensive preparations, one could decrease left ventricular work and increase coronary blood flow, thereby, improving the balance between myocardial oxygen supply and oxygen demand. However, **Bregman (1978)** stated that, this method as described has several drawbacks, among these: appreciable haemolysis, the need for bilateral femoral arteriotomies or subclavian arteriotomy and failure to increase coronary blood flow in hypotensive states.

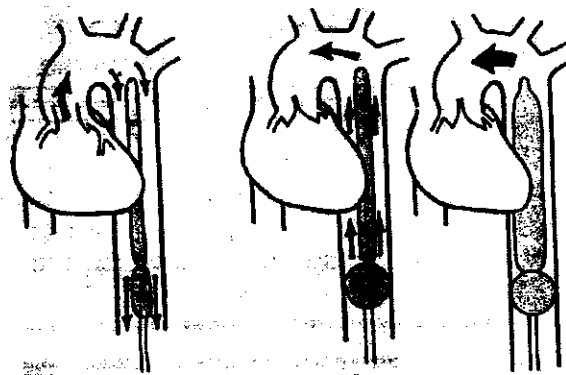
In the early 1960s, **Clauss et al. (1961)** and **Moulopoulos et al. (1962)** conceived the concept of using timed inflation of a balloon, positioned in the central aorta, to generate a positive pressure pulse during diastole to improve coronary blood flow, and then deflation of it during systole to reduce resistance to systolic ejection, thereby reducing myocardial oxygen requirements.

**Dennis et al. (1963)** and **Osbern et al. (1964)** conceived the method of external counterpulsation (ECP) for achieving counterpulsation in a relatively noninvasive fashion. Pressure variations are applied to the legs synchronous with the heart beats, thereby using the femoral arterial tree as the pumping chamber in diastole. The initial clinical trials of ECP apparatus produces an effective arterial diastolic augmentations, but the observations concerning systolic unloading are not consistent and some investigators have reported an increase in left ventricular after-load. Major drawbacks seem to be patient discomfort,

haematuria, and varying degrees of injury to the low extremities when ECP is used for any length of time (*Bregman, 1978*).

However, the first clinical use of intraaortic balloon pump was done by *Kantrowitz et al. (1968)* to treat cardiogenic shock. The patient was a 45-year old female who had sustained a posterior wall myocardial infarction. She was in deep cardiogenic shock, comatose and anuric. Over a 7-hour period, balloon pumping restored normal circulatory dynamics. The most impressive moment occurred when the urine collection bag began to fill with urine.

Subsequently, *Bregman and Goetz (1972)* developed a dual-chambered balloon that was designed with a large proximal balloon and a smaller distal balloon. The rationale behind this design was to produce a unidirectional blood flow proximally to the brain and coronary arteries by initial inflation of the distal smaller balloon. This resulted in locking of the distal blood flow and an augmentation of proximal flow. Later on, in the early 1990s *Kantrowitz et al. (1992)* published clinical studies of a new generation, fully automated intraaortic balloon pump that continuously optimizes diastolic augmentations beat by beat without operator intervention.



**Fig. (1):** Dual-chambered intraaortic balloon (*Bregman, 1972*)

As the need for different forms of these devices was more obvious, *DeBakey et al. (1966)* performed the first successful use of an implantable pulsatile, air – driven, ventricular assist device (VAD) in a patient of poor condition after aortic valve operation. Although the patient died of pulmonary complications after four days of support, the assist device functioned well and successfully improved the circulation and haemodynamic parameters.

In the middle of 1960s, DeBakey (1971) used left ventricular assist device (LVAD) in a female patient with rheumatic aortic and mitral valve diseases and left ventricular failure. She underwent double valve replacement, but her heart could not be weaned from cardiopulmonary bypass. The device was used successfully for 10 days and this woman was probably the first patient to be weaned from an assist device and to leave the hospital.

Subsequently, *Normal et al. (1978)* performed the first clinical use of a left ventricular assist device as a bridge to cardiac transplantation. The abdominally positioned, externally powered, and single chambered device supported the patient for five days, after which cardiac transplantation was done. Although he died two weeks later of infection, this experience demonstrated that such a device could provide adequate circulatory support.

Few years later, in the middle of 1980s, the first successful bridge to cardiac transplantation with an implantable left ventricular assist device done by over and colleagues using electric type into a 51-year old patient with ischaemic cardiomyopathy. In the same year, he used the external pneumatic pierce/Donachy left ventricular assist device to support a 47

years old patient with post-infarction cardiogenic shock. The patient was transplanted successfully two days later and survived as the first success with an external left ventricular assist device (*Westaby, 1998*).

Subsequently, in 1992, food and Drug Administration (FDA) gave the first approval of a pneumatic left ventricular assist device for use in a patient with postcardiotomy cardiogenic shock while the first approval, for use in a patient as a bridge to cardiac transplantation was given in 1994. on the other hand, the first FDA approved clinical trial in which an electric left ventricular assist device was implanted as a permanent form of circulatory support was initiated in 1998 and in the same year the first approval of such a device for use in a patient as a bridge to cardiac transplantation (*Richenbacher, 1999*).

Since the first pacemaker implantation in 1985, cardiac pacing has continued to grow. So that today more than 500,000 patients in the united states have implanted pacemakers or pacemaker cardioverter defibrillator (PCD), Approximately 400,000 such devices are implanted world wide each year (*Barrold and Zipes, 1997*).

Pacemakers are used to treat brady arrhythmias, and can restore normal or near normal hemodynamics during rest and exercise. PCDs are used to prevent sudden death from ventricular tachy arrhythmias (*Kusumoto and Goldschlager, 1996*).

However, a complication – free device suitable for permanent implantation is not yet available thus. The research and development of mechanical assist device supported by a vigorous infra-structures of basic science in biology and medicine, chemistry and pharmacology engineering and computer technology are going to develop new and safe techniques and equipment for circulatory support.

This essay has focused on cardiac physiological review and the development of the cardiac devices and their recent advances, haemodynamic and pathophysiologic changes associated with their use and the anesthetic management of patient with one of these cardiac devices including pre-operative, intraoperative, post-operative and intensive care management.