

WORLD CONGRESS ON
RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE

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CLINICAL
PRESENTATION
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MANAGEMENT



TRENDS IN RHEUMATIC
HEART DISEASE IN
EGYPT (2006-2023)
DATA FROM THE NATIONAL
RHEUMATIC HEART PREVENTION
AND CONTROL PROGRAM



Authors, A, Elghamrawy,
N, Elghamrawy

1 Consultant Cardiology, National Rheumatic Heart Control
Program in Egypt. Department of Non-Communicable
Diseases, Ministry of Health and Population, Cairo
2 Specialist Cardiology, Mahalla cardiac center, Mahalla Egypt



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Introduction

Rheumatic heart disease (RHD) is one of the leading non communicable disease in low- and middle- income countries, it affects young people and if neglected it can lead to serious complication and premature death. To reduce the large number of deaths caused by RHD in Egypt, the national RHD prevention and control program was established in 2006 through 30 RHD centers distributed allover the country that are connected to tertiary level cardiac centers. All the international guidelines for identification and management of pharyngitis, Rheumatic fever (RF) and RHD are applied in the program. The prevalence rate of RHD is (4 -1000,) The program is projected to save around 2 billion USD, the cost of valve replacement surgeries as required for the number of RHD cases if they are neglected.

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Aim

The ultimate aim of this study is to contribute to the overarching goal of eliminating rheumatic heart disease (RHD) in Egypt, with the aspiration for Egypt to be free from RHD.

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Method

A cross sectional study was conducted in RHD center. Over a decade (2006-2023) a total (25177) were enrolled and evaluated. Data collection was done through direct interviewing using a pre- designed questionnaire. Although John's criteria were used for diagnosis of all cases, ECG and color Doppler echocardiography are considered the gold standard for RHD diagnosis.

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Conclusions

Misdiagnosis of RF is still high. Lack of data documentation and poor compliance with LaP may affect efforts for prevention of disease complications. Updating national guidelines, strengthening the quality of LaP, data collection and documentation, increase awareness of RHD screening and prophylaxis and reliance on appropriate investigation should be emphasized. The presence of hereditary or familial tendency for RF needs to be confirmed by further investigations.

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Contact information

Dr.Alaa Elghamrawy
Consultant cardiology
Mahalla Cardiac Center Egypt
Mobile:+201001834994

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Results

(25177)cases were examined most of the screened subjects were in the age group 5-15 years (62.0%), females (61.2%), rural residents (61.2%), had primary education (42.9%), and of low socioeconomic standard (49.0%). Screening of siblings and relatives of RHD case revealed 21% cases suggesting hereditary or familial tendency of the disease, 12% case were diagnosed with RHD, 9% had RhA, and 37% were free of any cardiac insult, 42 % were misdiagnoses.

