

Role of ECMO as advanced life care support in end stage heart disease

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Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation is utilized for providing both cardiac and respiratory support to heart and lungs for maintenance of adequate gas exchange to sustain life. Its main use is in children and adults with advanced respiratory failure like hypercapnaeic respiratory failure with an arterial pH of less than 7.20., in refractory cardiogenic shock, advanced heart failure, cardiac arrest and as a bridge to either cardiac transplantation or placement of a VAD with improved survival rates in these situations. Venous-Venous type of ECMO is used for Respiratory failure and Venous-Arterial type of cardiac failure. In general VA ECMO trials are shorter than V-V trials because of higher risk of thrombus formation in the former. Major complications

of ECMO are neurological injury, life threatening bleeding, heparin induced thrombocytopenia (HIT) and problems during cannulation. Its relative contraindications are conditions incompatible with normal life if the person recovers and futility in those who are too sick.

Speaker Biography

Adarsh Kumar has been Professor & Head of cardiology department in GMC Amritsar (India) for the last about 25 years with main field of Research in heart failure and CAD. Has published more than 80 Research papers in different International /National conferences all over the world. Ex President of International college of Cardiology. Awarded gold medal for outstanding work/research in Cardiology all over the world by Health Minister, Govt. of India.

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