



Viability Assessment Which test? What role?

Mouaz Al-Mallah, MD MSc FACC FAHA

Associate Professor of Medicine, Wayne State University

Co-Director, Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging

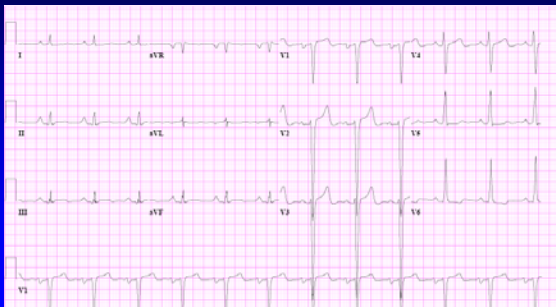
Associate Director, Cardiovascular Fellowship

Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI

Case

- 56 year old man with exertional angina and mild dyspnea last few months
- Posterior MI in 1992 → PTCA to LCx
- Hypertension, dyslipidemia
- Strong FH of CAD
- Exsmoker, alcohol use
- Current meds:
ASA, atenolol, lisinopril, atorvastatin

Case 1



Case 1 (echo)

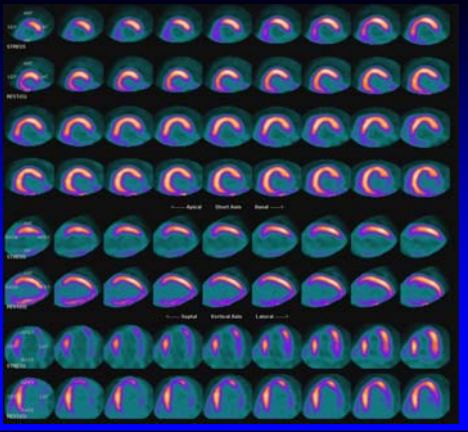
LVEDD = 7.7 mm
LVESD = 6.5 mm



Case 1

Stress

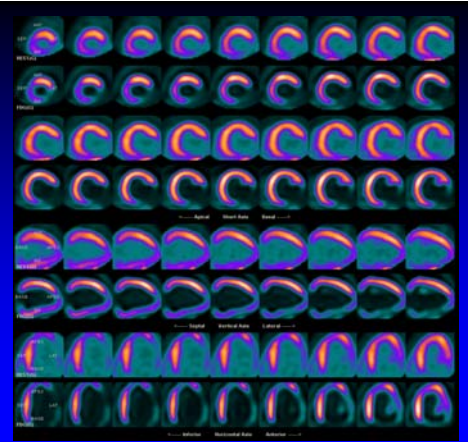
Rest



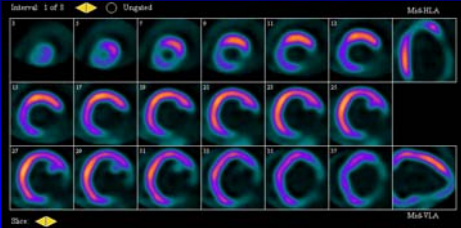
Case 1

Rest

FDG



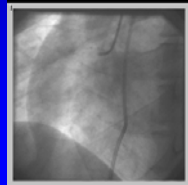
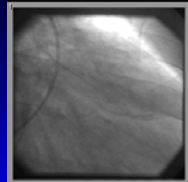
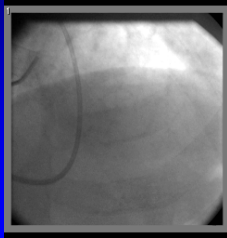
Case 1 (gated)



LVEDVI=236ml/m² LVESVI=196 ml/m² EF=17%

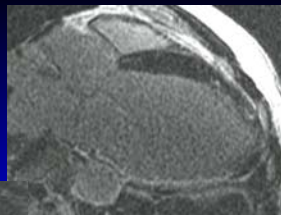
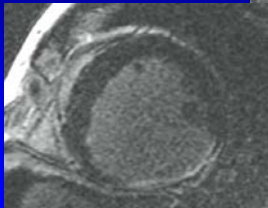
Case 1 (cath)

RA = 6 mmHg
RV = 48/7
PA = 47/25
PW = 24



Case 1

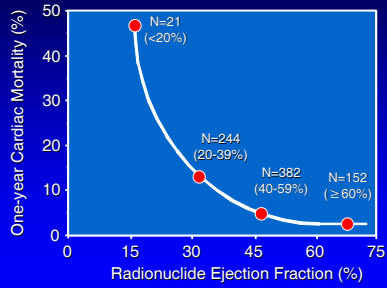
Delayed
Hyperenhancement



LVEDVI = 270ml/m² (nl <112)
LVESVI = 218ml/m²
EF = 19%
MR Regurg Fraction = 11%

Ischemic Cardiomyopathy

- CAD is the most common etiology of HF in developed countries



The Multicenter Post Infarction Research Group, N Engl J Med 1982;309

CHF

- Chronic Heart Failure in the US:
 - 550,000 new diagnosis annually each year
 - 5 million patients in the US have chronic HF
 - 1 million annual hospitalizations
 - Diagnostic and therapeutic costs are > 29 billion annually
 - 5-year Mortality from Framingham for the years 1990 - 1999 was 59% for men and 45% for women

- AHA - 2006 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics
- Schinkel et al. J Nuc Med 2007
- Schinkel et al. Am J Cardiol 2004

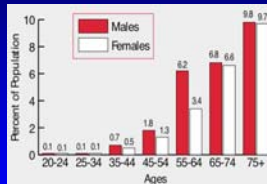
Congestive Heart Failure Facts

Hospital discharges for CHF 1970-2000

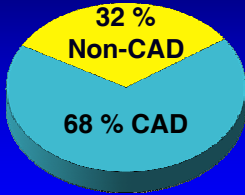


CDC/NCHS

Prevalence of CHF by age and gender 1988-1994



Prevalence of CAD in Heart Failure Treatment Trials



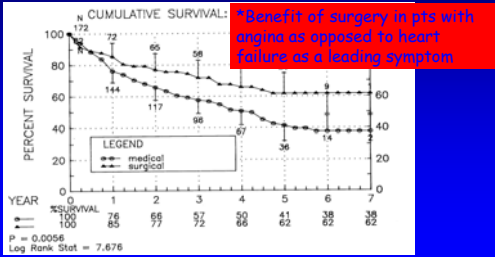
Data from 13 randomized multicenter HF trials in NEJM since 1986

Total = 20,190 patients

Gheorghiade and Bonow, Circ 1998

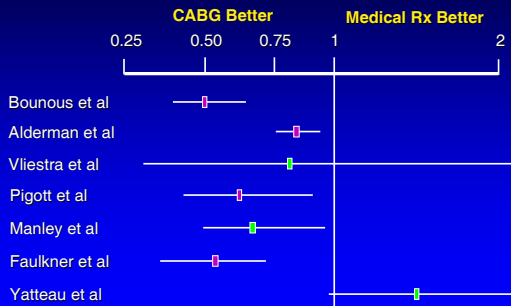
Ischemic Cardiomyopathy

- CASS study showed survival benefit of CABG over medical tx in pts with severe LV dysfunction

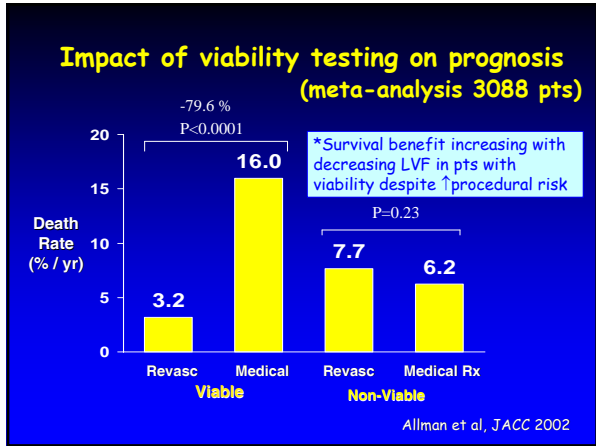


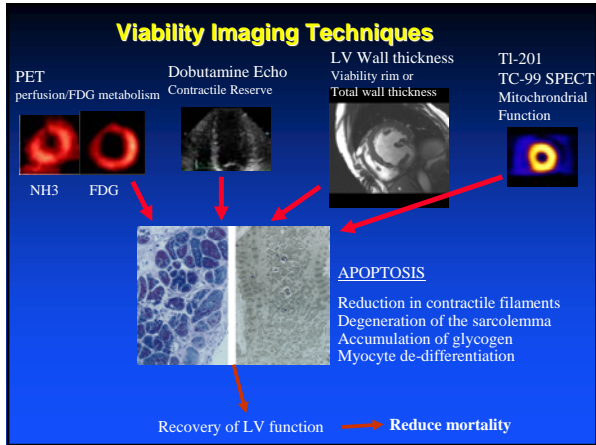
Alderman et al, Circulation 1983;4:785

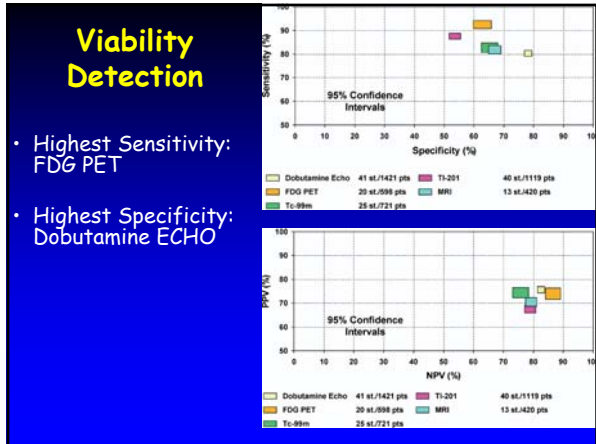
Coherent Studies of CABG vs Medical Treatment for Patients With LVEF ≤ 40%



Baker et al, JAMA 1994

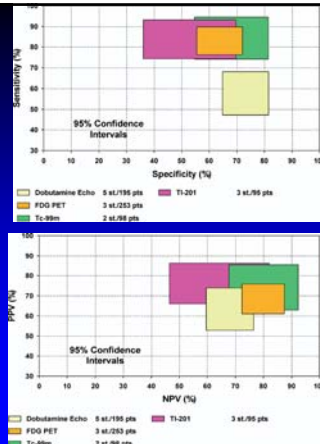






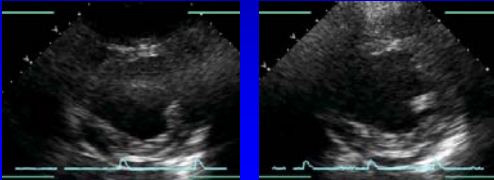
Recovery of Global Function

- Nuclear techniques are the most sensitive
- ECHO is the most specific



Dobutamine Echo for viability

- Improved WM with low dose Dobutamine (5-10mcg/kg/min)
- Improvement with low dose then worse with higher dose (biphasic response)
- Worsening WM even with low dose (ischemia)



Dobutamine for Viability

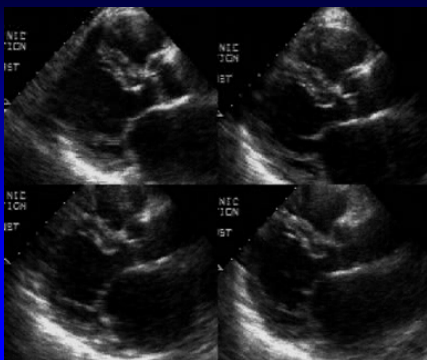
- Can use either a low dose dobutamine echo (LDDE) or high dose (HDDE) protocol
- Like with all echo techniques, since the myocardium is directly being visualized, the contractility of the wall segments is what is evaluated
- Subject to the same limitations of any general ECHO study - Body habitus, contraindication to dobutamine, etc.

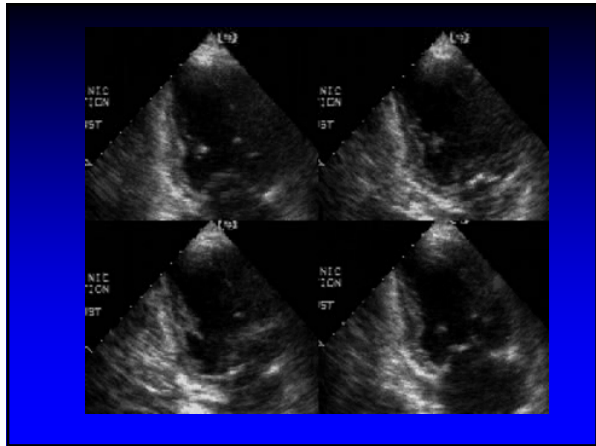
Response to Dobutamine

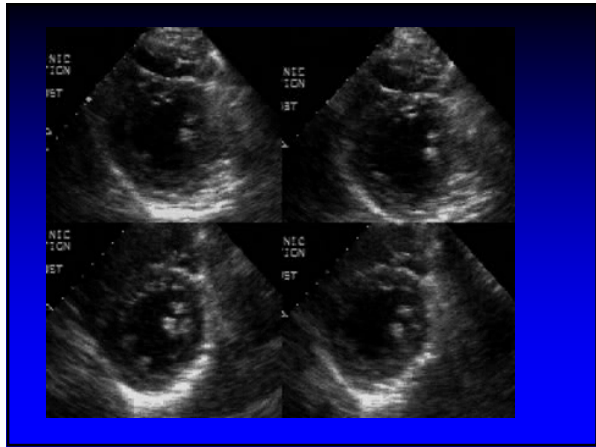
- Augmentation of segmental function (thickening) with low dose dobutamine and then increasing dysfunction at higher doses correlates with myocardial viability
- Additionally, myocardial segments that are less than 5-6mm in thickness are unlikely to recover function after coronary revascularization
 - Segment thickness:
 - < 6 mm - 5% likelihood of functional improvement after revascularization
 - > 6 mm - 50% likelihood of functional improvement after revascularization

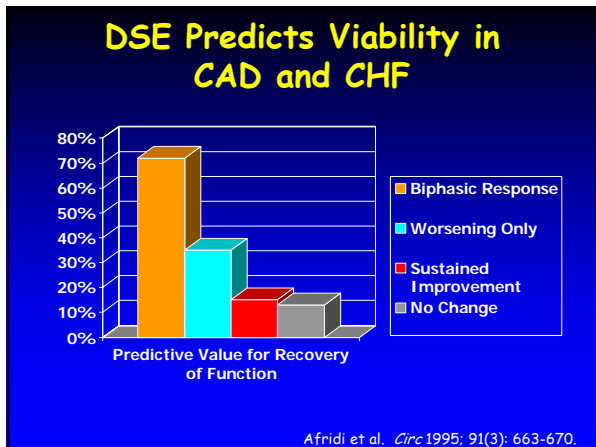
Responses to Dobutamine

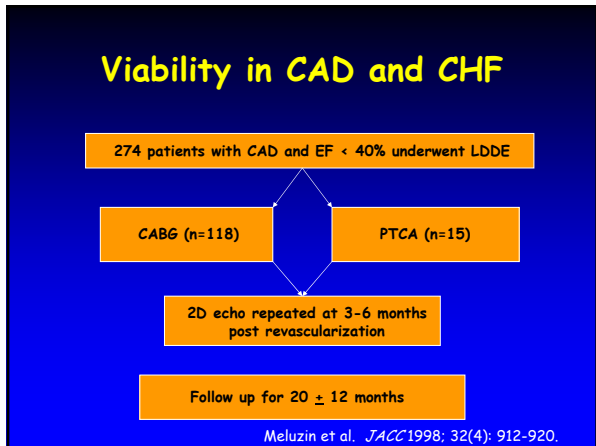
1. Biphasic - Initial improvement followed by worsening of wall motion
 - Viability w/ superimposed ischemia
2. Worsening - Direct deterioration of wall motion without initial improvement
 - Severe ischemia in an area supplied by a critically stenosed artery
3. Sustained Improvement - Improvement of wall motion without any subsequent deterioration
 - Subendocardial necrosis
4. No Change - No change throughout the entire study
 - Transmural scar

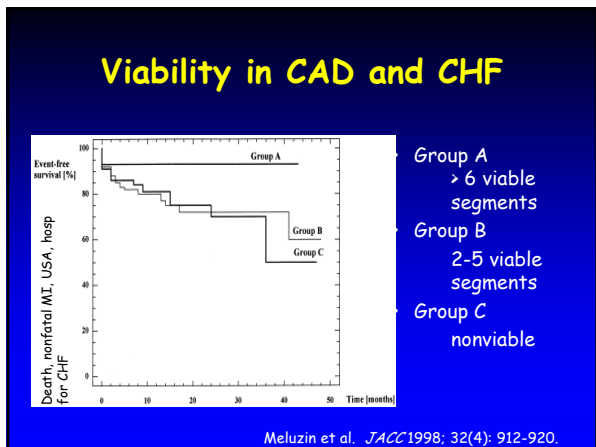












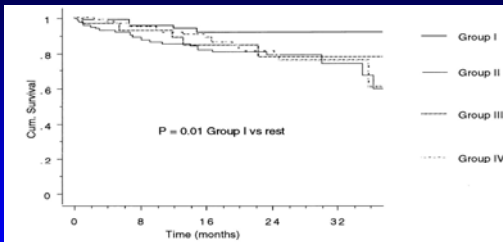
- ## Viability in CAD and CHF
- 318 patients with CAD and LVEF ≤ 35%
 - Viability defined as 4 or more dobutamine-responsive segments
 - Decision to revascularize made by physician, not randomized
 - Follow up for 18 ± 10 months
- Afridi et al. *JACC* 1998; 32(4): 921-926.

Viability in CAD and CHF

Group I (n=85)	Viable, Revascularized
Group II (n=119)	Viable, Not Revascularized
Group III (n=30)	Not Viable, Revascularized
Group IV (n=84)	Not Viable, Not Revascularized

Afridi et al. *JACC* 1998; 32(4): 921-926.

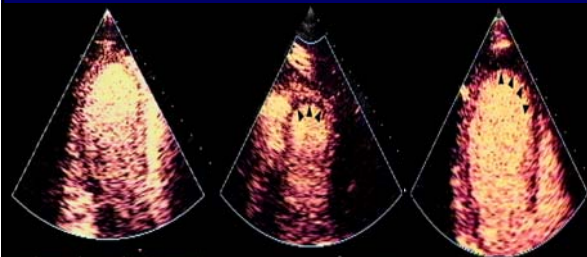
Viability in CAD and CHF



Group I	85	57	43	24	9
Group II	119	92	70	32	11
Group III	30	23	18	8	4
Group IV	84	78	67	33	10

Afridi et al. *JACC* 1998; 32(4): 921-926.

Grading of Myocardial Perfusion



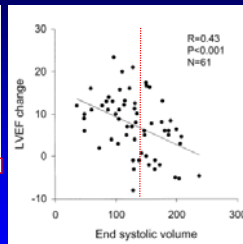
Normal = 2 Patchy = 1 Absent = 0

Studies Assessing the Predictive Accuracy of IV MCE in the Prediction of Functional Recovery following AMI

	Swinburn et al, 2001	Main et al, 2001
# of patients included in data analysis	96	34
# of patients revascularized during adm.	27 (28%)	30 (88%)
Mean # of akinetic segments within the IRA	4.2	6.0
Contrast agent used	Optison	Optison
Sensitivity(%) / Specificity(%)	59 / 76	77 / 83
PPV/ NPV	47 / 84	90 / 63

Why do patients with isch CMP and substantial amount of viable myocardium not always recover function after revascularization ?

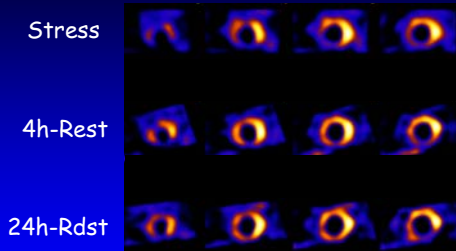
Clinical features	Patients with improvement (n = 41)	Patients without improvement (n = 20)	P value
Age (y)	61 ± 10	60 ± 9	.84
Male gender	33 (80%)	16 (80%)	1
Previous infarction	35 (85%)	20 (100%)	.18
Number of stenosed arteries	2.7 ± 0.6	2.7 ± 0.5	.54
NYHA functional class	2.8 ± 1.2	3.1 ± 1.2	.29
Baseline LVEF	28% ± 7%	28% ± 6%	.78
Number of viable segments	6.7 ± 2.5	6.7 ± 2.0	.98
End diastolic volume (mL)	174 ± 49	194 ± 66	.18
End systolic volume (mL)	121 ± 43	153 ± 41	.007



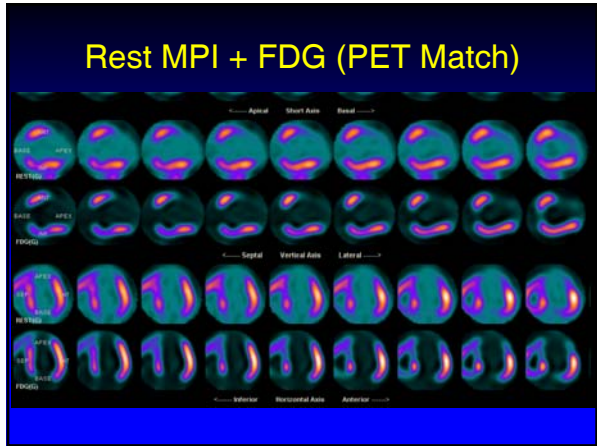
- 61 pts with viability in >25%LV on DE
- ESV >140 ml had the highest sensitivity & specificity to predict absence of LVEF improvement

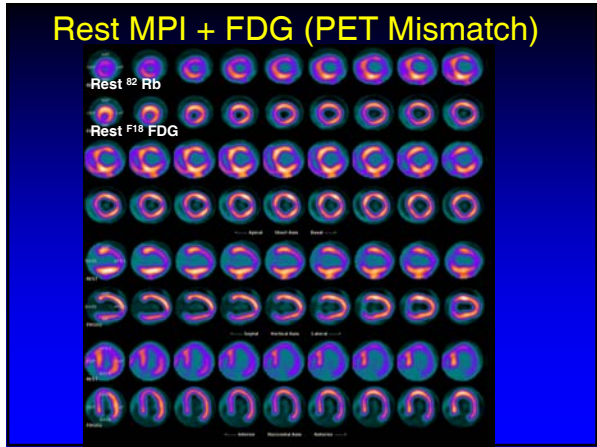
Schinkel et al, J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2004;127

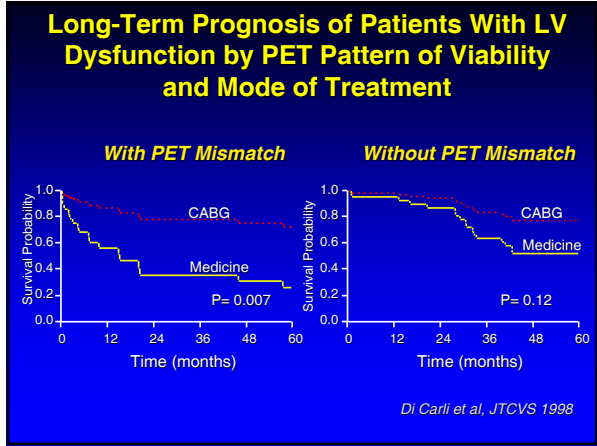
Tl²⁰¹ late-redistribution vs. reinjection



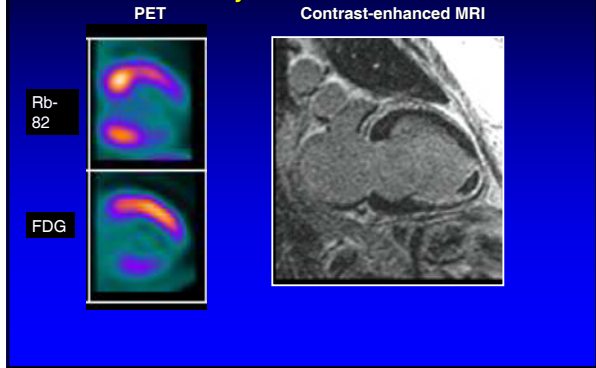
Stress→Rest→Reinjection 1-2mCi & image in 20min
Rest→Redistribution in 3-4 hrs



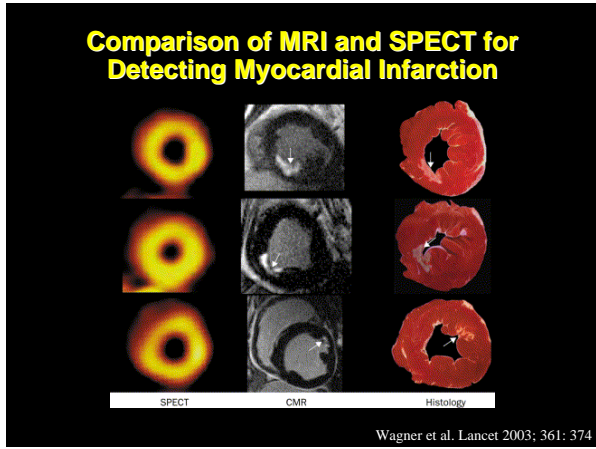


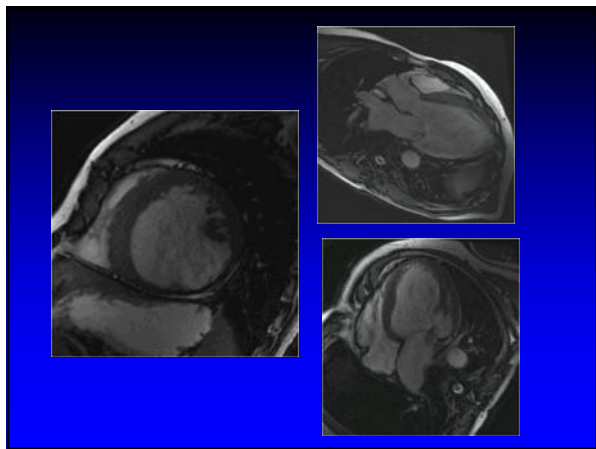


Extent of Viable and Nonviable Myocardium



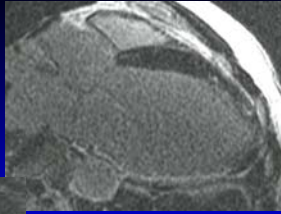
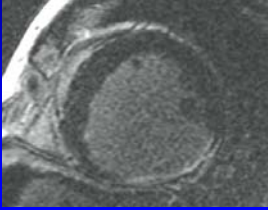
Comparison of MRI and SPECT for Detecting Myocardial Infarction





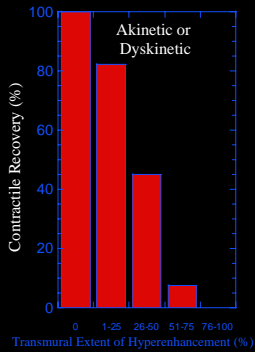
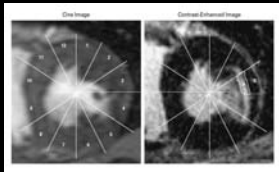
Case 1

Delayed
Hyperenhancement



LVEDVI = 270ml/m² (nl <112)
LVESVI = 218ml/m²
EF = 19%
MR Regurg Fraction = 11%

Transmural Extent of Hyperenhancement Predicts Functional Recovery



Kim RJ et al. NEJM 2000;343:1445

Transmural Extent of Hyperenhancement (%)

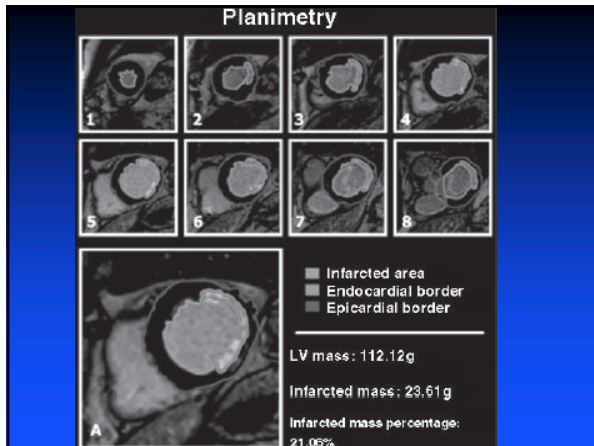
Infarct Convolution

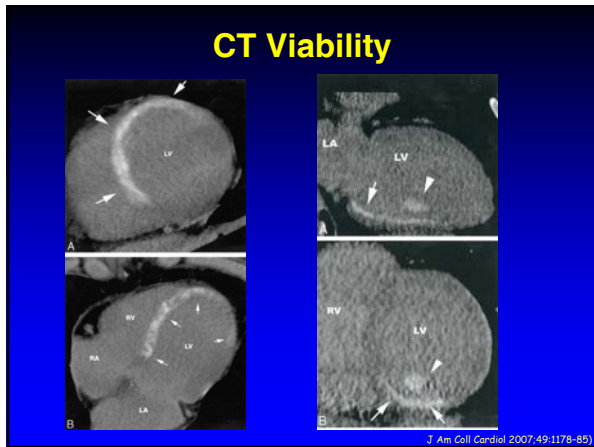


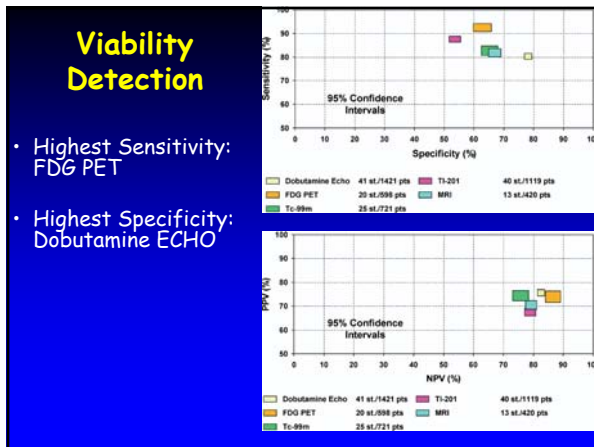
Early



3 Months Later

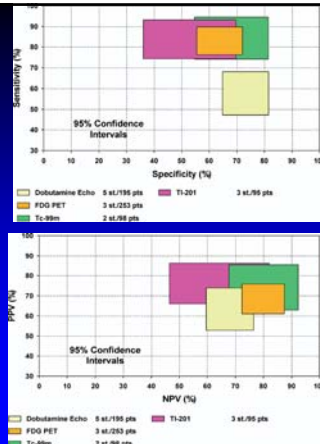




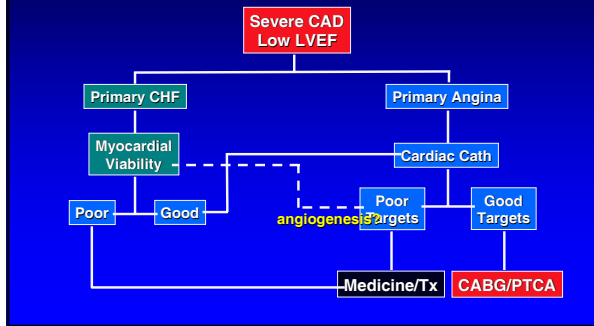


Recovery of Global Function

- Nuclear techniques are the most sensitive
- ECHO is the most specific



Role of Ischemia/Viability Assessment in Management Decisions in Patients With LV Dysfunction



Art of predicting functional recovery Things to consider...

- Presenting symptoms (angina vs HF)
- Amount of ischemia, viable tissue, scar
- LV volumes/severity of remodeling
- Completeness of revascularization and quality of target vessels
- Time to revascularization
- ? role of surgical ventricular restoration

In Conclusion...

- There is a continuum of structural and pathophysiological changes in chronically dysfunctional myocardium
- Different imaging methods are looking at different aspects of viability and can provide complimentary information.
- Nuclear techniques are considered more sensitive and DE more specific for LVF recovery post-revascularization
- Assessment of viability prior to CABG is currently recommended in pts with ischemic CMP with EF<35% and no definite angina
