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Non Invasive Imaging (Echocardiography, Nuclear, PET, MR and CT)

RECENT TRENDS IN UTILIZATION OF CARDIOVASCULAR IMAGING AND INVASIVE CORONARY ANGIOGRAPHY IN THE LARGE SCALE UNITED STATES MILITARY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Poster Contributions
Poster Hall, Hall A/B
Sunday, March 11, 2018, 3:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Session Title: Non Invasive Imaging: Coronary CTA For Diagnosis and Prognosis
Abstract Category: 27. Non Invasive Imaging: CT/Multimodality, Angiography, and Non-CT Angiography
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Background: Utilization of cardiovascular imaging has not been well-studied outside of the Medicare population. Our goal was to assess recent trends in cardiovascular imaging in the US Military Healthcare System, which provides comprehensive, longitudinal care to more than 8 million adults.

Methods: Cardiovascular imaging procedures were identified from inpatient and outpatient settings using standard Current Procedural Terminology and International Classification of Diseases procedural codes for the years 2011-2016. Annual utilization rates were calculated per 1000 adult beneficiaries.

Results: The eligible population included a mean of 8,031,051 adults each year with patients who underwent testing of mean age 69 years (51% female). Transthoracic echocardiography is the most commonly performed test and has gradually increased over time, from 73.5 (per 1000) to 80.6. Diagnostic catheterization, stress echocardiography and cardiac single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) declined -7.9%, -21.7% and -18.1%, respectively. Use of cardiac MR, cardiac PET and cardiac CT has significantly increased (**Figure**). In 2016, there were 17.0, 19.5 and 4.8 SPECT studies performed for every CT, PET and stress echocardiogram study, respectively.

Conclusion: SPECT, while decreasing in utilization, is much more frequently performed compared to other imaging tests for coronary artery disease. Despite recent changes in imaging utilization, diagnostic catheterization rates have not increased.