



המרכז הרפואי  
הלל יפה

# Pregnancy in Non-Peripartum Cardiomyopathy

Avraham Shotan, Lubov Vasilenko, Michael Shochat, Mark Kazatsker, David Blondheim, Yaniv Levi,

Simcha Meisel, Alicia Vazan

Heart Institute, Hillel Yaffe Medical Center, Hadera

## **Dilated Cardiomyopathy**

Patients with DCM should be advised against pregnancy, because of the high chance of deterioration both during gestation and peripartum

If pregnancy occur, termination should be advised if EF is  $<50\%$  and/or LV dimensions are definitely above normal

If termination is refused the patients must be seen frequently and LV function be checked by echo.

Early admission to hospital is wise especially as both ACE-I and Angiotensin II antagonists are contraindicated and treatment options are much more limited than outside pregnancy

Rania V.: June 2004

24 yrs old, a **teacher for science** in Rahat (a Beduine city)

At the age of **10 months** she was diagnosed as **Dilate CMP**

Treatment:	<b>Carvedilol</b>	12.5 mg BID
	<b>Captopril</b>	25 mg TID
	<b>Digoxin</b>	0.25 mg QD

During the last decade she is active and **asymptomatic** – NYHA FC I

Echo: **LVEF 35-40%, MR +2**

**Can she get pregnant?**

If positive, she plans to get married!

9 Feb 2005

To: Dr. Shotan  
From: Dr. Tuvia Ben Gal – Heart Failure unit

This patient is under our surveillance due to Non-Ischemic CMP. Asymptomatic

She expressed her will to get pregnant, but as her **left ventricle is significantly impaired**,  
I expressed my reservations, specifying the increased risk.

...

**Holter:** Short runs of asymptomatic VT.

Currently it seems that she **doest not need ICD**

Rania V.: 24 Nov 2005

12<sup>th</sup> week of **twin pregnancy**

**Asymptomatic**

Treatment:	Carvedilol	12.5 mg BID
	Captopril	discontinued at 6 <sup>th</sup> week
	Digoxin	0.25 mg QD

ECG: Sinus, VPB's, normal P wave, PR 0.19, **LBBB (QRS 0.14 sec)**

30 Jan 2006 - 22<sup>nd</sup> week

**Asymptomatic**

**Echo:** LVEDD 62, ESD 54, LA 40 mm

LVEF( Simpson) **35%** with **diffuse hypokinesis**

**Moderate diastolic dysfunction**

**MR – +3 (moderate-severe)**

At the end of 34<sup>th</sup> week dyspnea, Initially during effort later at rest

6 May 2006 36<sup>th</sup> week

She was hospitalized in our high risk pregnancy unit.

On admission: BP 120/70, p 82 regular, lungs are clear, SM 3/6.

Hb – 9.4 gr/dL

**Echo: Severe LV dysfunction** (LVEF <30%), MR +4 (severe), Sys PAP 50 mmHg

I.V. Furosemide 40 mg BID was added

8 May 2006 - 36<sup>th</sup> week

She underwent **CS** under epidural anesthesia without SG catheter.

She gave birth to 2 boys: 1,926 gr and 1,774 gr with normal Apgar score and PH.

The operative course was uneventful. Postoperatively she got 2 PC

We continued diuretics, carvedilol and digoxin and renewed captopril

Hb – 11.0 gr/dL

She became asymptomatic and was discharged on 15 May 2006 (8<sup>th</sup> PP day)

Rania V.: 25 May 2006

2.5 weeks PP

Asymptomatic

Echo: LVEDD 72 (baseline 62), ESD 59 (54), LA 45 (40) mm , LVEF <30%, MR +4,  
Sys PAP 45 mmhg

10 week PP

Asymptomatic. She gets help at home.

We discussed the timing of mitral valve surgery

The question of a subsequent pregnancy was raised.

I explained that currently it is contraindicated.

Rania V.: 23 Aug 2006

She didn't show up to the scheduled visit

I called her husband few days later

On the morning of 23 Aug 2005 (**15<sup>th</sup> week PP**).

R. entered the bathroom to wash one of her babies

A noise was heard. She was found on the floor

Mobile CCU team found her in VF

CPR was unsuccessful



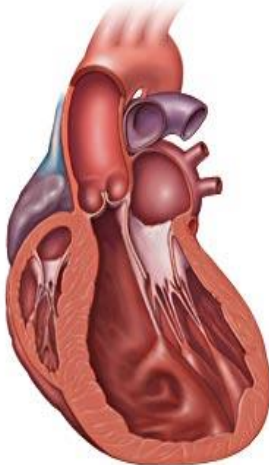
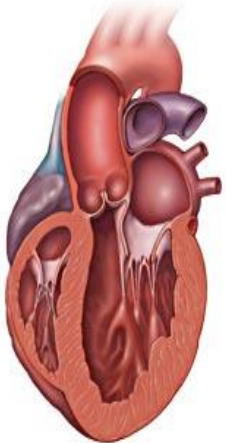


Suggested topic for CPP 2014 congress in Venice:

**Management of women with heart disease  
during pregnancy:  
what do we know,  
what do we think we know,  
and what we would like to know?**

Normal heart

Heart with  
dilated cardiomyopathy



**Samuel Siu**

**Toronto, Canada**



Grewal J, Siu SC, Ross HJ, Mason J, Balint OH, Sermer M, Colman JM, Silversides CK  
**Pregnancy Outcomes in Women With Dilated Cardiomyopathy**



J Am Coll Cardiol 2010;55:45–52

◀ **12/1994 – 7/2008**

◀ **32 women: 27 idiopathic DCM (84%)**

**5 doxorubicin-induced CMP (16%)**

◀ **4 – HF episode before pregnancy:**

<b>2 mild</b>	} <b>LV systolic dysfunction</b>
<b>1 moderate</b>	
<b>1 severe</b>	

◀ **NYHA FC I 24 (67%)**

**II 6 (17%)**

**III-IV 6 (17%)**

## Pregnancy Outcomes in Women With Dilated Cardiomyopathy

J Am Coll Cardiol 2010;55:45–52



**Table 1** Baseline Characteristics of Pregnant Women (n = 36)

Clinical	
Pregnancies	36
Women	32
Nulliparity	16 (44)
Age at enrollment, yrs	32 (27–35)
Other cardiac defects	
Secundum ASD*	3 (8)
MVP (>mild MR)	3 (8)
History of cardiovascular events	
Heart failure	4 (11)
Transient Ischemic attack	1 (3)
Supraventricular tachycardia	2 (6)
Atrial fibrillation/flutter	2 (6)
Other medical conditions	
Hypertension	3 (8)
Hyperlipidemia	1 (3)
Smoking history	4 (11)
Epilepsy	1 (3)
Cancer†	5 (14)
Prior cardiac intervention	1 (3)

## Pregnancy Outcomes in Women With Dilated Cardiomyopathy

J Am Coll Cardiol 2010;55:45–52



### Cardiac medications at first antenatal visit

ACE inhibitors	4 (11)
Beta-blockers	13 (36)
Digoxin	8 (22)
Diuretic	7 (19)

### Echocardiographic

#### Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

Mild	18 (50)
Moderate	8 (22)
Severe	10 (28)
Moderate/severe MR	10 (28)
Moderate/severe TR	7 (19)



Grewal J, Siu SC, Ross HJ, Mason J, Balint OH, Sermer M, Colman JM, Silversides CK

## Pregnancy Outcomes in Women With Dilated Cardiomyopathy

J Am Coll Cardiol 2010;55:45–52



- **14 of 36 (39%)** pregnancies (up to 6 mths PP) were complicated by **≥1 adverse maternal cardiac** event.
- **1 – HF** at 13 wks followed by **NSVT** → **therapeutic abortion**. 24 wks afterwards recurrent VT.
- **Atrial fibrillation / flutter** in **4 – antepartum** (17, 23, 28, and 36 wks); **1 during labor & delivery**.
- **HF** in **3** during **antepartum** (20, 28, 38 wks); **1** during **labor & delivery**; **4 post-partum** (2 & 5 d, 12 & 16 wks).
- **TIA** in **1** at 19 wks.
- **All** adverse maternal cardiac events were **successfully managed** with **medical therapy**.

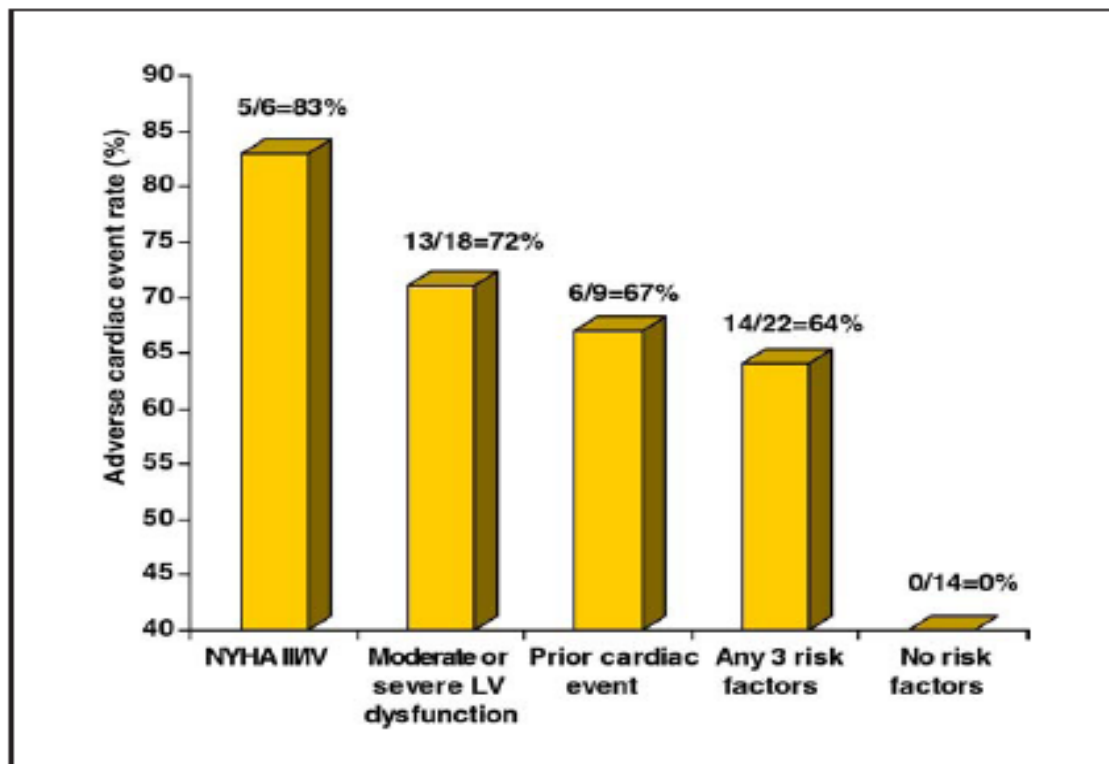
**Table 2** Maternal Adverse Cardiovascular Outcomes During Pregnancy

	Any Cardiac Event	Cardiac Arrest or Death	Heart Failure	Arrhythmia	Stroke/TIA	Angina or MI
Total	17	0	9	7	1	0
Timing of events						
Antepartum	10	0	4	5	1	0
Labor and delivery	2	0	1	1	0	0
Post-partum (6 months)	5	0	4	1	0	0



## Pregnancy Outcomes in Women With Dilated Cardiomyopathy

J Am Coll Cardiol 2010;55:45–52



**Figure 1**

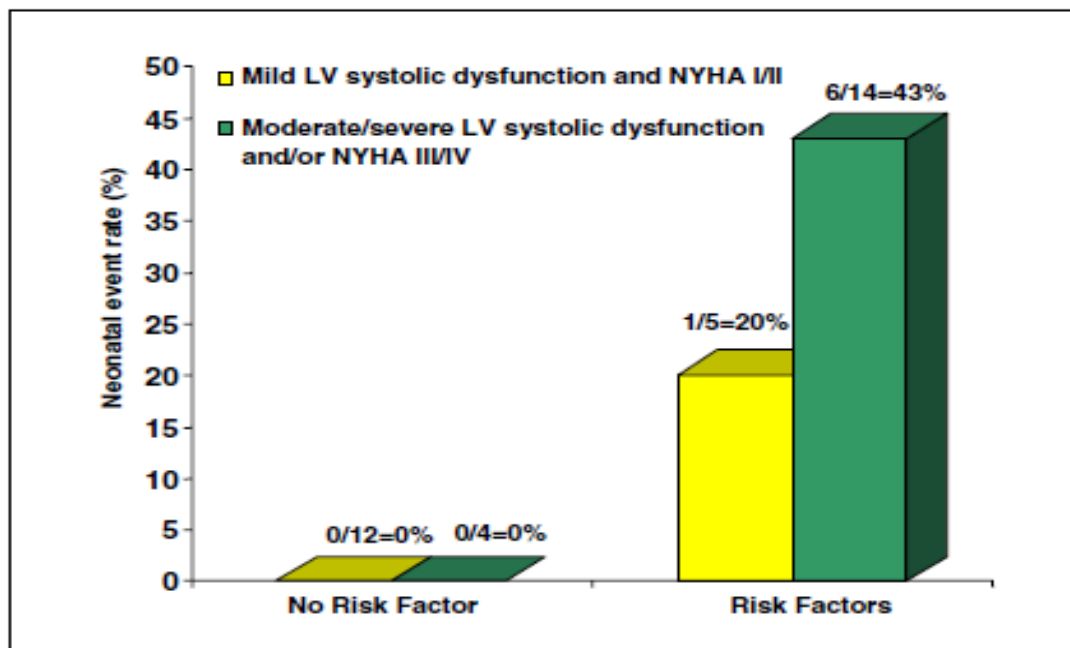
### Incidence of Adverse Cardiac Events According to Maternal Risk Factors

The first 3 risk categories are not mutually exclusive. Any risk factor refers to the presence of any 1 of the 3 risk factors (moderate or severe left ventricular [LV] dysfunction, New York Heart Association [NYHA] functional class III or IV, previous cardiac events).



## Pregnancy Outcomes in Women With Dilated Cardiomyopathy

J Am Coll Cardiol 2010;55:45–52



**Figure 2**

### Frequency of Neonatal Events In Women With and Without Risk Factors

**Yellow bars** represent women with both mild LV systolic dysfunction and NYHA functional class I or II. **Green bars** represent women with moderate or severe LV systolic dysfunction and/or NYHA functional class III or IV. Risk factors of adverse fetal and/or neonatal events included both obstetric and nonobstetric parameters. Obstetric risk factors include a history of premature delivery or rupture of membranes, incompetent cervix, cesarean delivery, and during the present pregnancy, intrauterine growth retardation, antepartum bleeding >12 weeks gestation, febrile illness, and uterine/placental abnormalities. Nonobstetric risk factors include smoking, anticoagulation use, multiple gestation, and maternal age <20 and >35 years. Abbreviations as in Figure 1.



## Pregnancy Outcomes in Women With Dilated Cardiomyopathy

J Am Coll Cardiol 2010;55:45–52

**Table 4** Obstetric and Fetal Outcomes

	Pregnancies, n (%)
<b>Adverse obstetric outcomes</b>	
Total events*	5/36 (14)
Pre-eclampsia	3 (8)
Post-partum hemorrhage	2 (5)
Noncardiac death	0 (0)
<b>Adverse fetal outcomes</b>	
Total events†	7/35 (20)
Live birth weight <2,500 g	5 (14)
Pre-term delivery (<37 weeks)	5 (14)
Intraventricular hemorrhage	0 (0)
Respiratory distress	1 (3)
Fetal death‡	1 (3)
Neonatal death	0 (0)
Intrauterine growth retardation	1 (2)

\*Percentage of total 36 pregnancies that had an obstetric complication. †Percentage of 35 pregnancies that had a neonatal complication (36 pregnancies minus the therapeutic abortion). Each twin and triplet pregnancy was counted as a single pregnancy: the twins and triplets all had low birth weight (<2,500 g), and the triplets were also premature (<37 weeks). ‡Occurred at 28 weeks of gestation in a woman who developed pulmonary edema.





# Short and Long Term Outcome of Pregnant Women with Preexisting Dilated Cardiomyopathy – NTproBNP & Echocardiography Guided Study



Blatt A, Svirski R, Morawsky G, Uriel N, Neeman O, Sherman D, Vered Z,

Krakover R. IMAJ 2010; 12: 613–616

- ◀ Period: June 2005 to October 2006
- ◀ Aim: Usefulness of prospective serial echocardiographic follow-up and plasma NT-pro-BNP
- ◀ Population: **7** women with **DCM** either known or diagnosed in the first trimester

**Table 1.** Characteristics of patients with preexisting dilated cardiomyopathy

Age (yrs)	33.5 ± 3.3
<b>Ethnicity</b>	
Caucasian	6
Black	1
<b>Risk factors</b>	
Hypertension	1
Diabetes mellitus	1
<b>Gestation-induced</b>	
Hypertension	0
Diabetes mellitus	0
Hypothyroidism	4
<b>NYHA Functional class</b>	
I	4
II	3
Prior heart failure acute decompensation	2
<b>Medication</b>	
None	3
Beta-blocker	2
ACE/ARB	4
Diuretic	1



## Short and Long Term Outcome of Pregnant Women with Preexisting Dilated Cardiomyopathy – NTproBNP and Echocardiography Guided Study

Blatt A, Svirski R, Morawsky G, Uriel N, Neeman O, Sherman D, Vered Z,

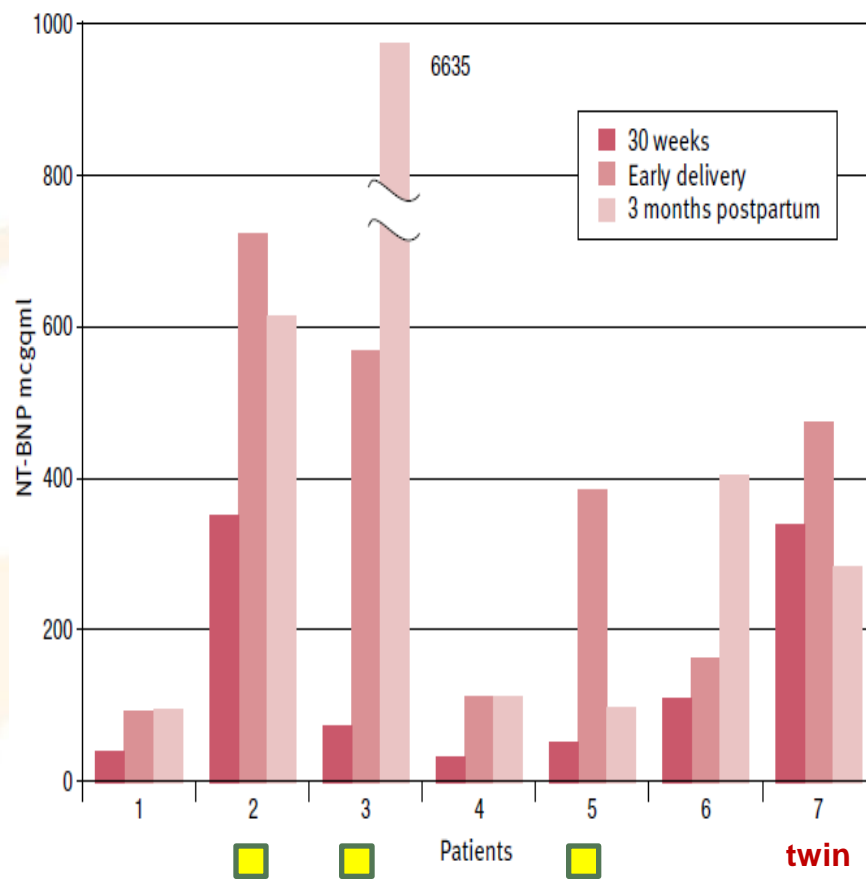
Krakover R. IMAJ 2010; 12: 613–616

- ◀ The delivery and post-partum were complicated in 3 patients (42%)
- ◀ 2 - acute heart failure resolved conservatively
- ◀ 1 - major pulmonary embolism
- ◀ LVEF was stable

	Baseline	35% ±2.8
	30 weeks	33% ±2.9
post-partum	1 day	35% ±2.8
	90 days	34% ±3.1

- ◀ The **NT-ProBNP** levels raised significantly in the peripartum in all 3 patients with complications.

Figure 2. NT-BNP levels during pregnancy and postpartum



# Cardiomyopathies

Carole W. Warnes: Pregnancy and Heart Disease

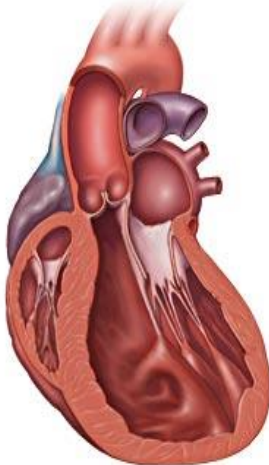
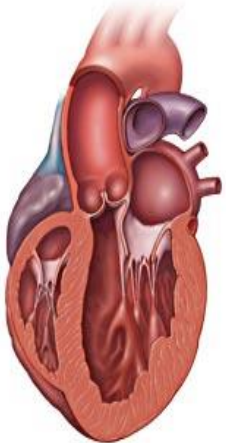
Braunwald's Heart Disease

9<sup>th</sup> edition, 2012; p 1776



Normal heart

Heart with  
dilated cardiomyopathy



- **Patients with idiopathic dilated CMP are usually counseled not to have pregnancy if LVEF is <40%**
- **Because ACE-I are contraindicated in pregnancy, ventricular function must be assessed without the drug**
- **Exercise testing may be helpful because women with LVEF 40-50% may not tolerate pregnancy if they have poor functional aerobic capacity**
- **Early delivery may be necessary**

# ESC Guidelines on the management of cardiovascular diseases during pregnancy

The Task Force on the Management of Cardiovascular Diseases during  
Pregnancy of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)



- **Differentiation from PPCM is supported by the time of manifestation.**
- If not known before conception, the condition is **most often unmasked during the first or second trimester** when the haemodynamic load is increasing. A **family history** of DCM speaks in favour of the DCM diagnosis and against PPCM.
- The few cases of classical DCM in pregnancy describe marked deterioration during pregnancy.
- Secondary cardiomyopathies, such as infiltrative or toxic cardiomyopathies, or storage diseases and other rare forms, can also manifest themselves in pregnancy. Hypertensive or ischaemic heart diseases can also cause similar clinical pictures.
- **Maternal and offspring risk Women with DCM should be informed about the risk of deterioration of the condition during gestation and peripartum. (IC)**  
**They should be counselled based on individual risk stratification.**
- If pregnancy occurs, **LVEF<40%** is a predictor of high risk, and close monitoring in a tertiary centre should be advised.
- If LVEF is **<20%**, maternal mortality is very high, and termination of the pregnancy should be considered.



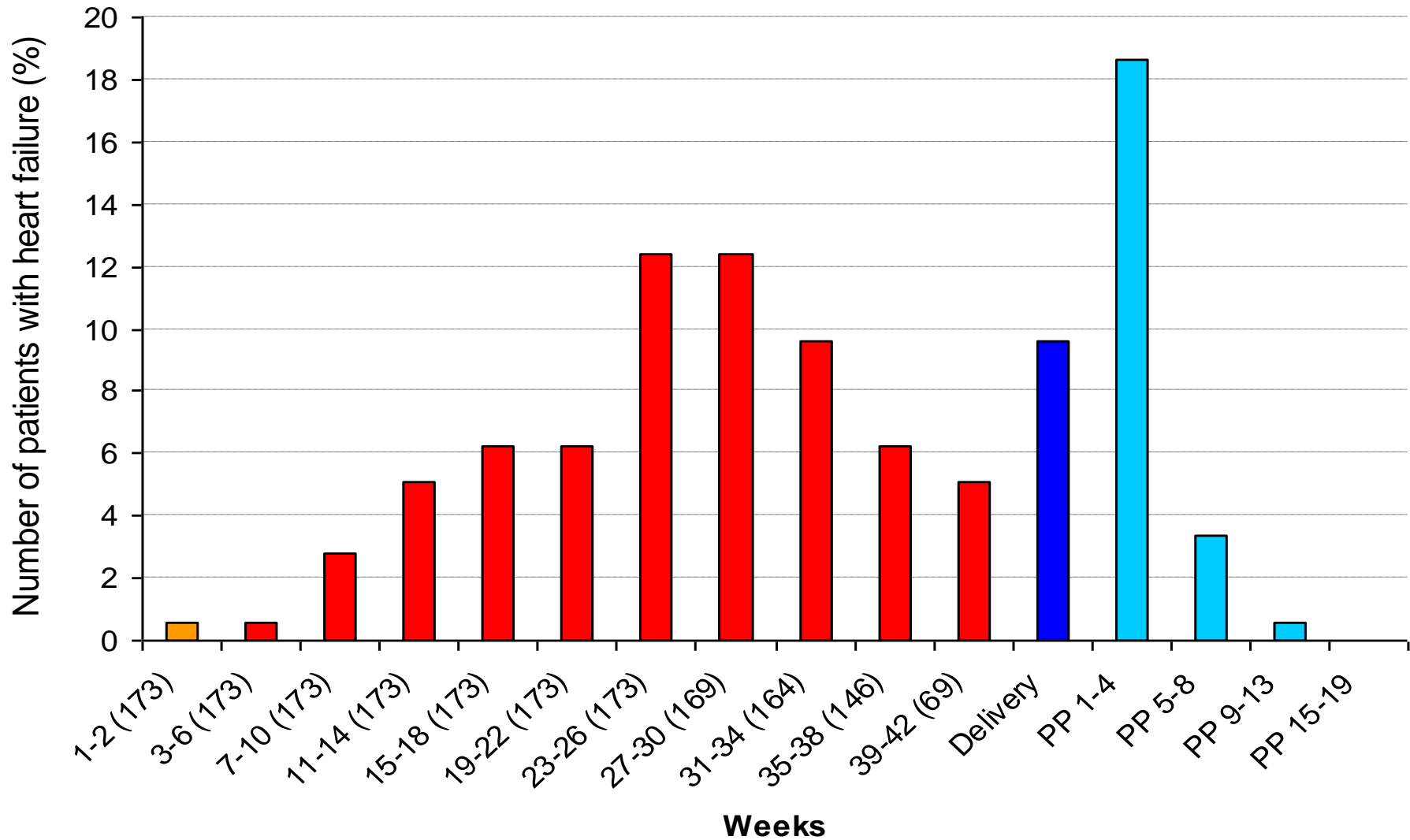
# ROPAC

**European Registry on Pregnancy and Heart Disease**

**Euro Heart Survey Programme**



# Results of ROPAC: when does heart failure occurs? 173 patients (13%) with heart failure



# Maternal outcome?



	Patients with HF (n=173)	Patients without HF (n=1148)	p value
Maternal mortality (%)	4,8	0,5	<0,001
<b>Cardiac</b>			
Atrial fibrillation (%)	1,2	0,9	0,71
Ventricular arrhythmias (%)	2,9	1,8	0,35
Thrombo-embolic events (%)	1,2	0,3	0,14
Endocarditis (%)	1,2	0,1	0,006
Bleeding complications during pregnancy (%)	2,9	1,4	0,14
Bleeding complications post partum (%)	4,6	5	0,85
<b>Obstetric</b>			
Intra uterine growth retardation (%)	13	4,6	<0,001
Pregnancy induced hypertension (%)	2,9	2,4	0,67
Pre-eclampsia (%)	12	1,9	<0,001



# Fetal outcome

Fetal outcome	Patients with HF (n=173)	Patients without HF (n=1148)	p value
Fetal death (%)	4,6	1,2	0,001
Neonatal death (%)	0,7	0,6	0,92
Premature birth < 37 weeks (%)	30	13	<0,001
Birthweight < 2500 gram (%)	24	13	<0,001
Apgar score < 7 (%)	13	9,3	0,10
Adjusted mean birthweight (grams)	3328	3358	0,46

# More data is needed!

Help including patients!



[eorp@escardio.org](mailto:eorp@escardio.org)

## The Risk of Pregnancy in Dilated CMP



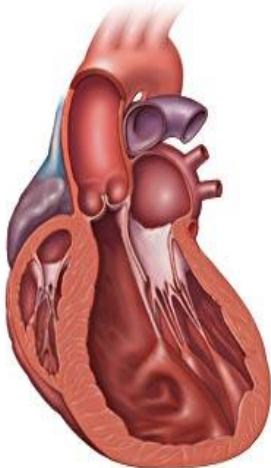
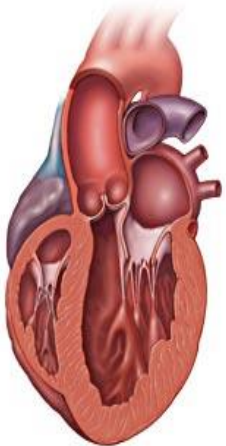
1. **Malignant arrhythmias**

2. **Pump failure**

3. **↑ Non-cardiac morbidity, like: TIA/CVA, PE**

Normal heart

Heart with  
dilated cardiomyopathy



- ◀ **I.H.**
- ◀ **27 yr, a teacher**
- ◀ **Usually healthy**
- ◀ **Jogging – 5 km 3/week**
- ◀ **No family history**
- ◀ **2007 – Spontaneous abortion at 21<sup>st</sup> week**
- ◀ **She presented at 4/2009 with labor at her 38<sup>th</sup> week (2<sup>nd</sup> pregnancy)**

I. H.

During epidural catheter insertion **severe dyspnea**

Physical Examination: **severe pulmonary congestion, HR 140, O2 sat 82%**

Treatment: I.V. Furosemide + Oxygen → HF symptoms and signs resolved

**Normal vaginal delivery**

CT angio – **no PE**

Echo – **LVEF < 30%, LVEDD - 56, ESD - 51,**

**severe diastolic dysfunction (restrictive), sys PAP – 45 mmHg**

**Dyspnea on mild effort (phone conversation) since gestational 20<sup>th</sup> week**

I. H.

**DD: PPCM or DCM**

- ◀ **Bromocriptine** for 6 months
- ◀ **Carvedilol** 50-100 mg /d
- ◀ **Ramipril** 10mg /d
- ◀ **Digoxin** 0.125 mg 6/w
- ◀ **Isosorbide mononitrate** 100 mg /d
- ◀ **Spirolactone** 25 mg /d

**Levosimendan IV course (potential improving restriction)**

**Asymptomatic**

**No change during 2 years of follow-up**

**CRTD was implanted**

**I didn't approve a subsequent pregnancy.**

**Surrogacy program – 2 yrs**

# Our Experience

	Age	Diagnosis	Echo	Gestation		Delivery	Outcome
RV 2006		Dilated CMP Age 10 mths	LVEF 40%, EDD 62 MR +2, Diastolic dysfunction	Twin	Deteriorate 34 <sup>th</sup> w	CS 36 <sup>th</sup> w uneventful	Sudden death 15 w pp
IH 2009	27	Dilated CMP 38 <sup>th</sup> w Symptoms 20 <sup>th</sup> w PPCM vs. DCM	LVEF <30%, EDD 56 Restrictive pattern		Pulm edema 38 <sup>th</sup> w	Normal vaginal 38 <sup>th</sup> w	
LS 2012	35	1995 – acute CP ↑ST, CPK 10,000 Normal coronaries 1997 syncope - ICD	LVEF <30%, EDD 60				
MS	26	Age 3 Wilm's- Surgery, Chemotherapy adriamycin Age 18 LVEF 35%, NYHA I	LVEF – 25%, EDD 52 No diast dysfunction				
KAS	38	LVD post 1 <sup>st</sup> preg PPCM vs. DCM	LVEF 40% MR +1-2				

- ◀ **K.A.S. 36 yr**
- ◀ **Few weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> delivery LV dysfunction – PPCM vs. DCM**
- ◀ **2<sup>nd</sup> marriage younger husband**
- ◀ **Asymptomatic. Walking, dancing.**
- ◀ **LVEF 40%, MR +1-2**
- ◀ **2011 – 2<sup>nd</sup> pregnancy. At 28<sup>th</sup> w dyspnea and mild congestion after a birthday party**
- ◀ **Hospitalized: LVEF 30%, MR +3. I.V. Furosamide, triamcinolone**
- ◀ **Discharged after 2 days. Asymptomatic.**
- ◀ **Repeated echo – LVEF 40% MR +1-2.**
- ◀ **Bio-impedance – return to baseline**
- ◀ **Delivery at 39<sup>th</sup> week – normal vaginal.**
- ◀ **Post-partum - uneventful**



- ◀ K.A.S. 38.5 yr
- ◀ 7/2012 – 8<sup>th</sup> w - 3<sup>rd</sup> pregnancy
- ◀ Asymptomatic
- ◀ B.P. 85/60, pulse 90 irregular.
- ◀ Lungs are clear, SM 2/6 at erb and apex
- ◀ ECG – Sinus rhythm, Non-Sustained VT 3-5 beats.
- ◀ She refused abortion.
- ◀ 9<sup>th</sup> w – ICD (CRTD + Plug) was implanted
- ◀ Bisoprolol 2.5 mg QD,
- ◀ Digoxin 0.125 mg QD,
- ◀ Iron
- ◀ Bio-impedance throughout 3<sup>rd</sup> pregnancy no decline (no HF)

# KAS - 3<sup>rd</sup> pregnancy

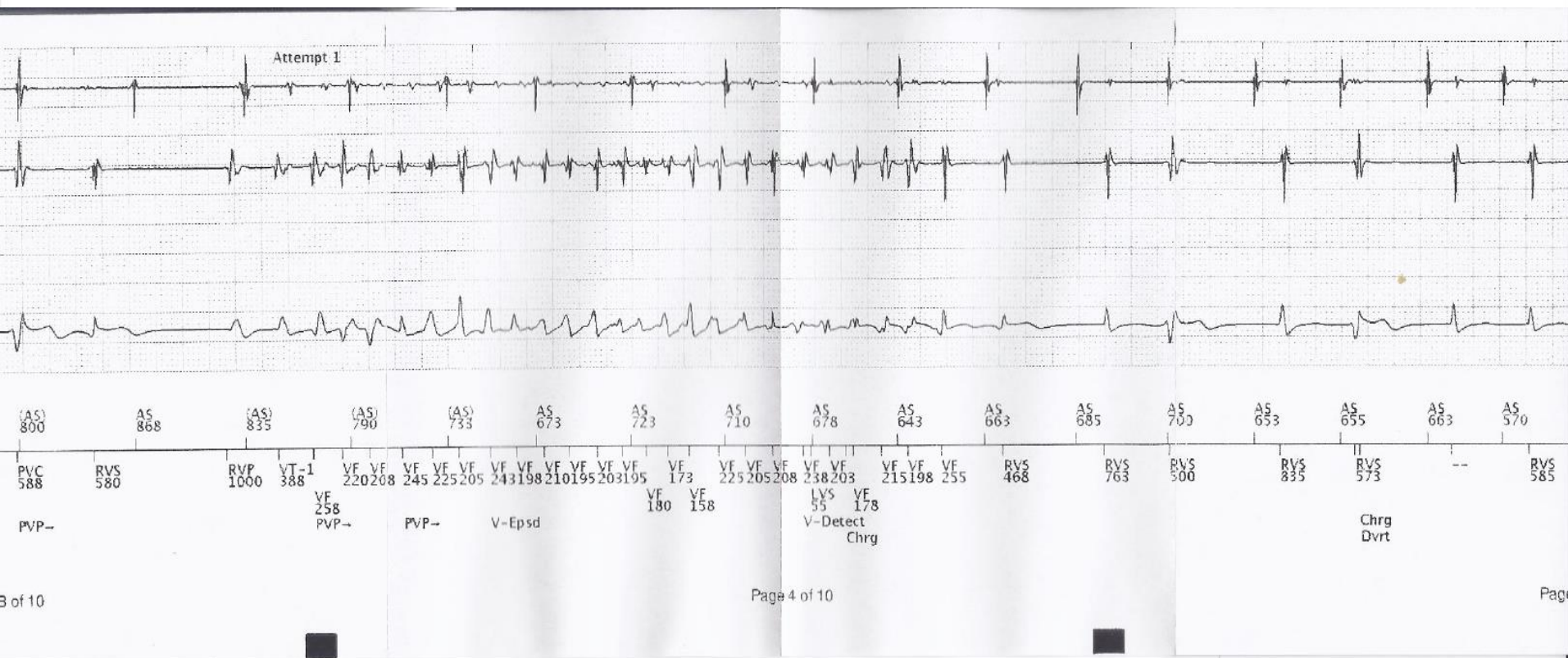
27<sup>th</sup> w

Practically asymptomatic. NYHA FC I

Device interrogation: Numerous NSVT

10 episodes of VF 19-40 s'

5 DC shock – she felt once or twice short “pinch”



# Our Experience

	Age	Diagnosis	Echo	CRTD	Gestation		Delivery	Outcome
RV 2006		Dilated CMP Age 10 mths	LVEF 40%, EDD 62 MR +2, Diastolic dysfunction		Twin	Deteriorate 34 <sup>th</sup> w	CS 36 <sup>th</sup> w uneventful	Sudden death 15 w pp
IH 2009	27	Dilated CMP 38 <sup>th</sup> w Symptoms 20 <sup>th</sup> w PPCM vs. DCM	LVEF <30%, EDD 56 Restrictive	2012		Pulm edema 38 <sup>th</sup> w	Normal vaginal 38 <sup>th</sup> w	Surrogacy
LS 2012	35	1995 – acute CP ↑ST, CPK 10,000 Normal coronaries 1997 syncope - ICD	LVEF <30%, EDD 60	Upgrade 2012	2013 spontaneous abortions (2) at 8 <sup>th</sup> w			
MS 2013	26	Age 3 Wilm's- Surgery, Chemotherapy adriamycin Age 18 LVEF 35%, NYHA I	LVEF – 25%, EDD 52 No diast dysfunction	Recomm.				Surrogacy
CA	38	LVD post 1 <sup>st</sup> preg PPCM vs. DCM	LVEF 40% MR +1-2	2012 + plug	2011  2012	Deteriorate HF 28 <sup>th</sup> w 2 <sup>nd</sup> p NSVT 27 <sup>th</sup> VF	Vaginal 39 <sup>th</sup> w  Vaginal 40 <sup>th</sup> w	Successful deliveries



## Pregnancy in DCM – Our limited experience

- ◀ **Associated with substantial risk to both – mother and fetus (IC)**
- ◀ **Preconception evaluation and preventive measures, like:**
  - ICD/CRTD**
  - Discontinue ACE-I, ARBs at 5-6<sup>th</sup> w**
  - Correct significant valvular / congenital malformations**
- ◀ **CRTD / ICD – Stronger indication / Lower threshold**
- ◀ **Close monitoring – frequent evaluation**
  - Clinical**
  - Echocardiographic**
  - BNP**
  - Bio-impedance**
  - Telemedicine, Carelink**
- ◀ **Try to sleep better at night and wish the patient and yourself “*Mazal & Bracha*”**



# CPP

# 2014

The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on  
**Cardiac Problems in Pregnancy**

Hilton Molino Stucky Venice, Italy

**February 20-23, 2014**

**PLAN TO BE WITH US**  
**FEBRUARY 20-23, 2014**  
[www.cppcongress.com](http://www.cppcongress.com)





המרכז הרפואי  
הלל יפה

**Thank You**



**תודה רבה**