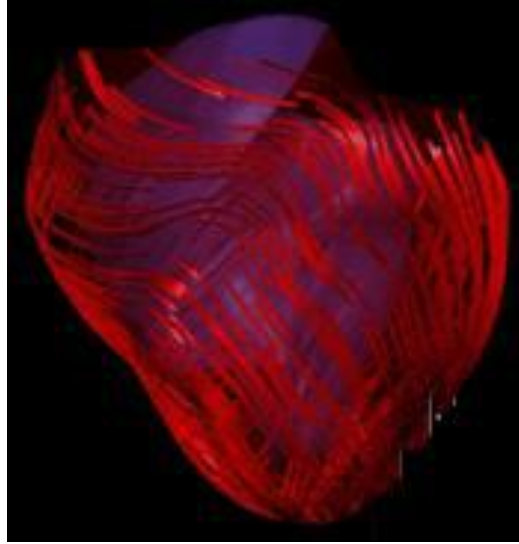


Assessment of the Right Heart



Jonathan R. Lindner, MD, FASE, FACC
Frances Myers Ball Professor of Medicine
Vice-Chief for Research, Cardiovascular Division
Robert M. Berne Cardiovascular Research Center
University of Virginia

Research Support and Disclosures

Research Support/Disclosures:

- NIH: R01-HL130036
- NIH: R01-HL165442
- NIH R01-HL1711377
- NASA: 18-18HCFBP_1_009
- Lantheus Medical Imaging (IIT research grant)

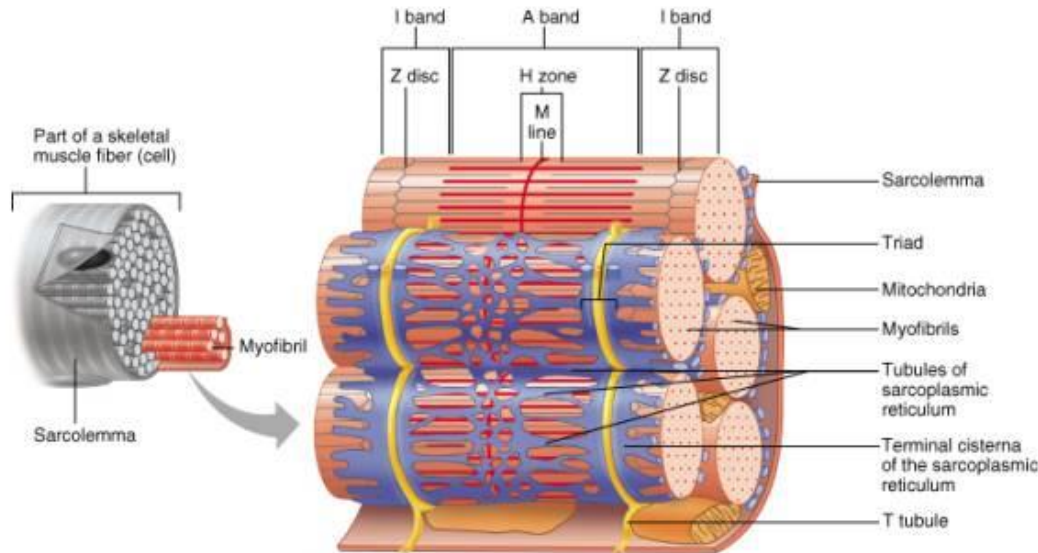
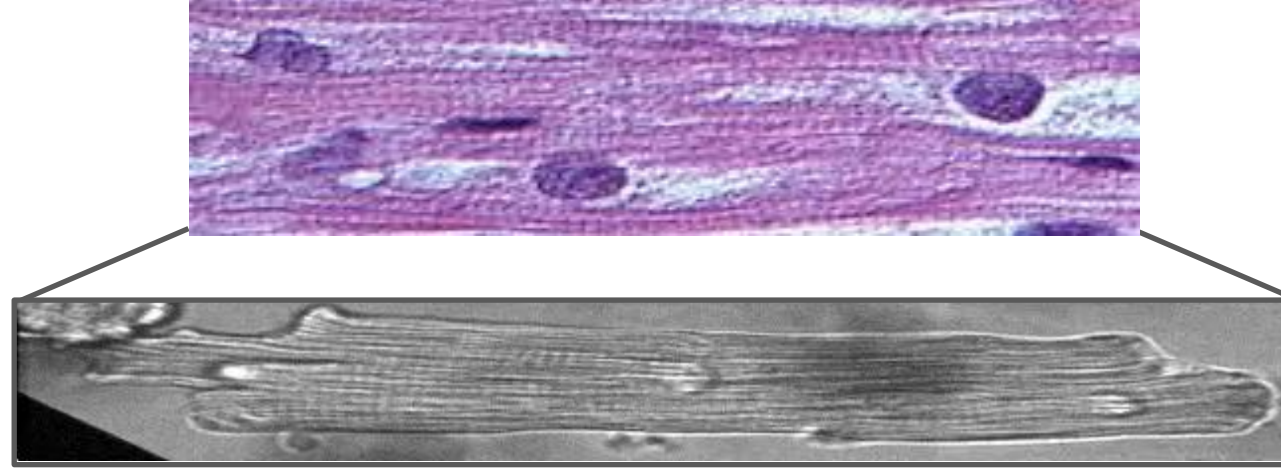
Scientific Advisory Board:

- BioMarin Pharma Inc.
- Regeneron

Characteristics of the LV and RV

Characteristics	Right Ventricle	Left Ventricle
End-diastolic Volume (mL/m ²)	75±15	66±12
Ejection Fraction (%)	45-60	55-70
Normal End-diastolic Thickness (mm)	0.5	1.1
Mass (g/m ²)	26±5	88±12
Systolic/Diastolic Pressure (mm Hg)	25/5	120/80
Elastance (mm Hg/mL)	1.3±0.8	5.5±1.2
Stroke Work (g/m ² per beat)	8±2	50±20
Myocardial Blood Flow (ml/min/g)	0.4	1.0

Myocyte Function



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Dynamic Morphometrics

Myocyte shortening: 15%

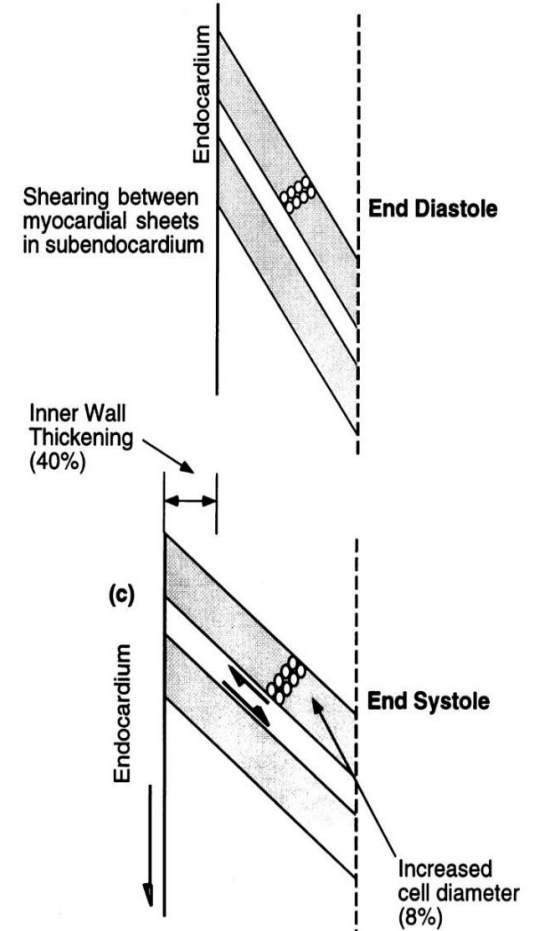
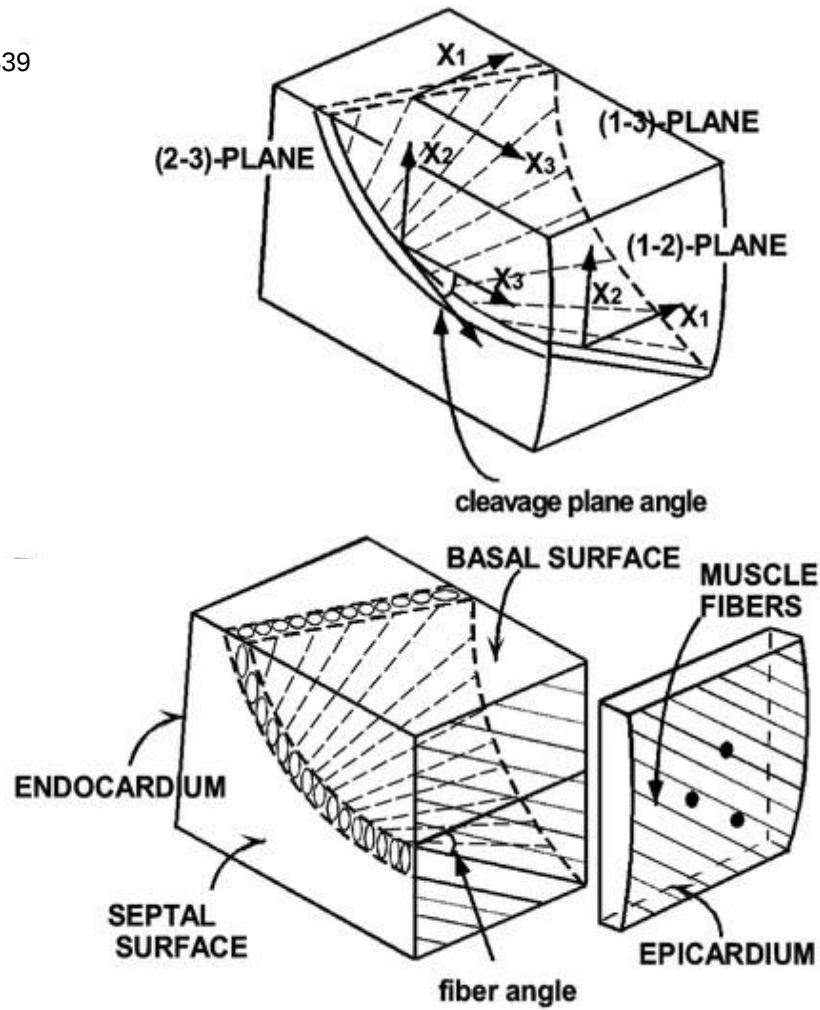
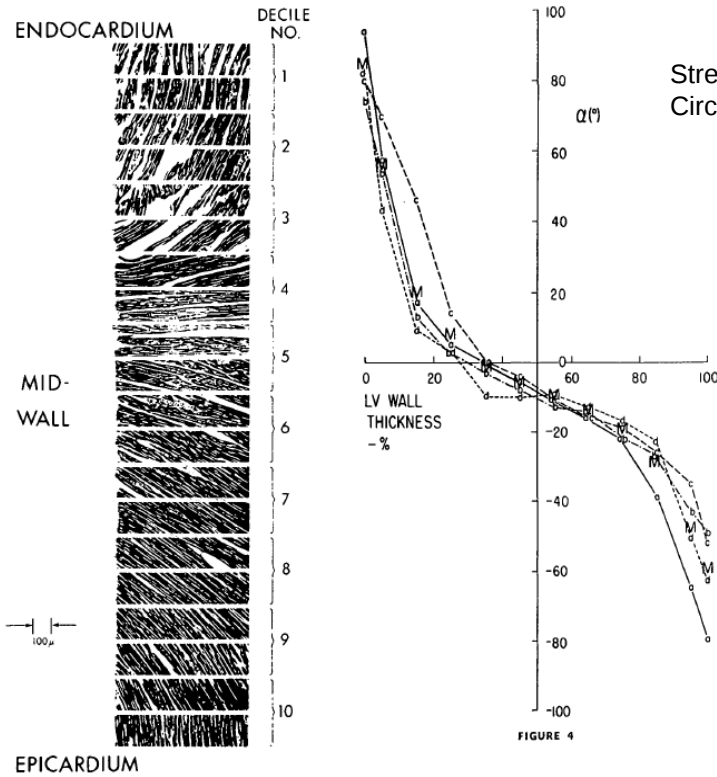
Myocyte thickening: 8%

Wall thickening: 30-50% (for LV)

Ejection Fraction:

LVEF 55-70%, RVEF 45-60%

Making the Most of Myocyte Function with Tilted Sheets

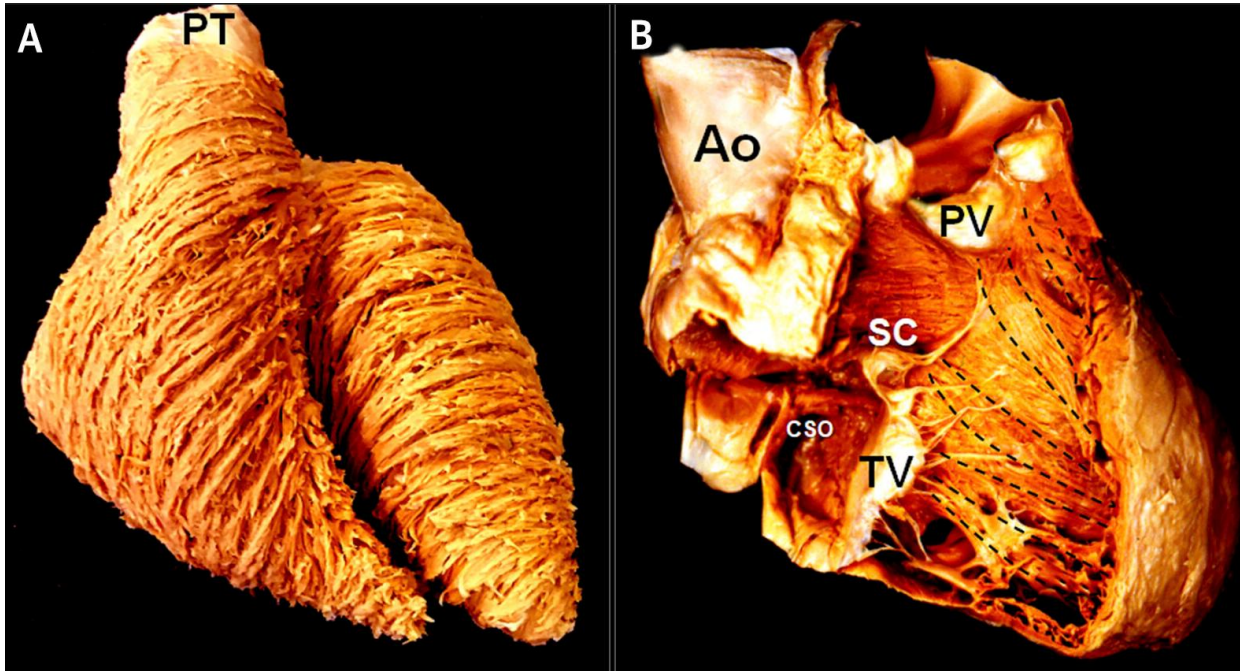


Buckberg G, JTCS 2002:863

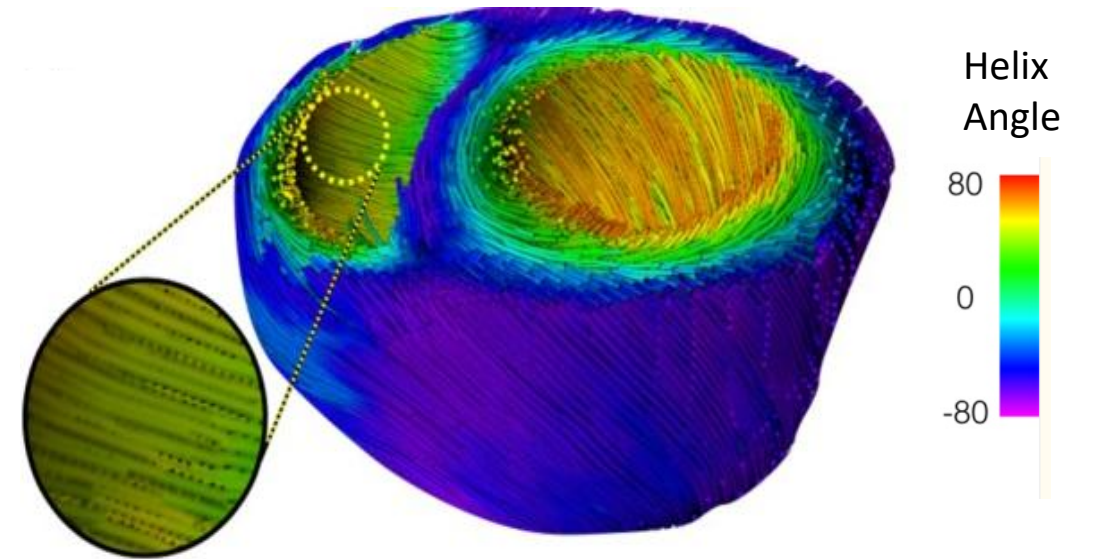
Y Takayama et al. Am J Physiol 2002;282:H1510

IJ LeGrice et al. Circ Res. 1995;77:182

RV Doesn't Work the Same Way



Sanz J, et al., JACC 2019;73:1463



Gomez AD, et al., J Biomech Eng 2017;139:0810041

Geometric Concepts for Ventricular Function

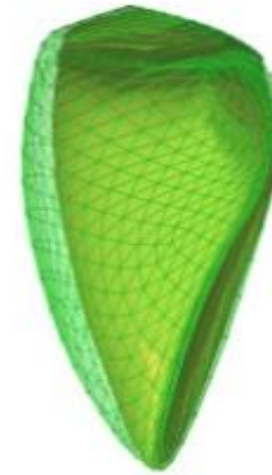
Left Ventricle



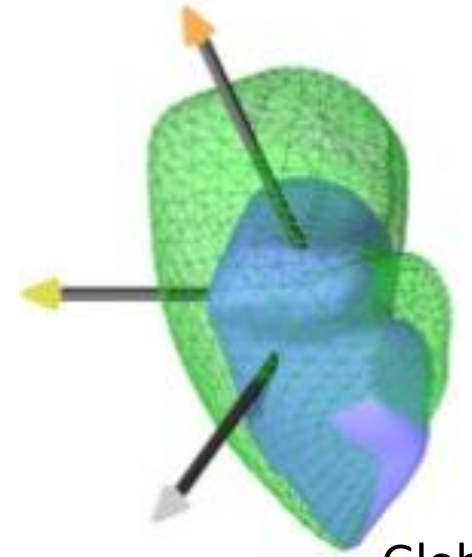
Right Ventricle



Longitudinal

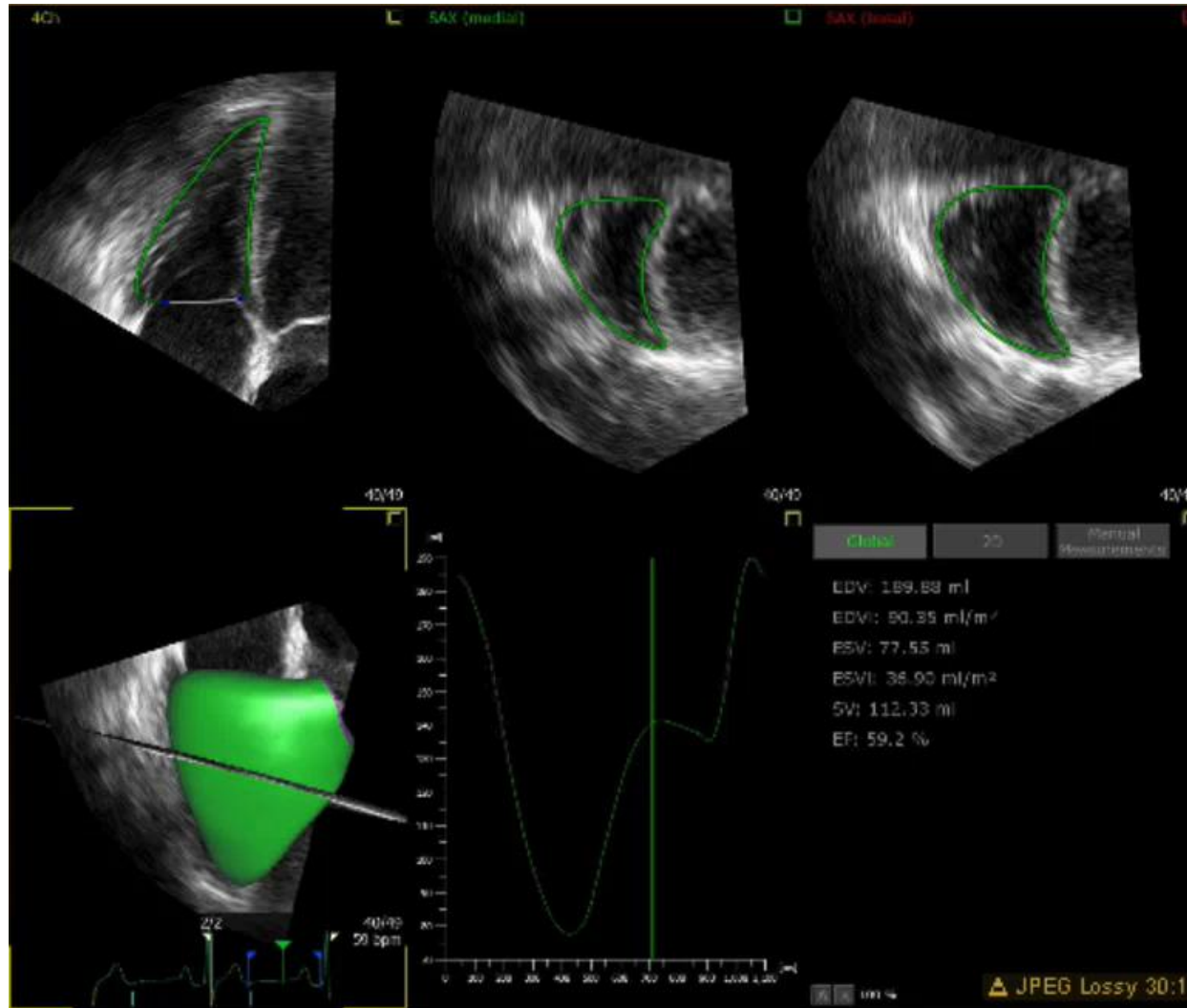


Radial

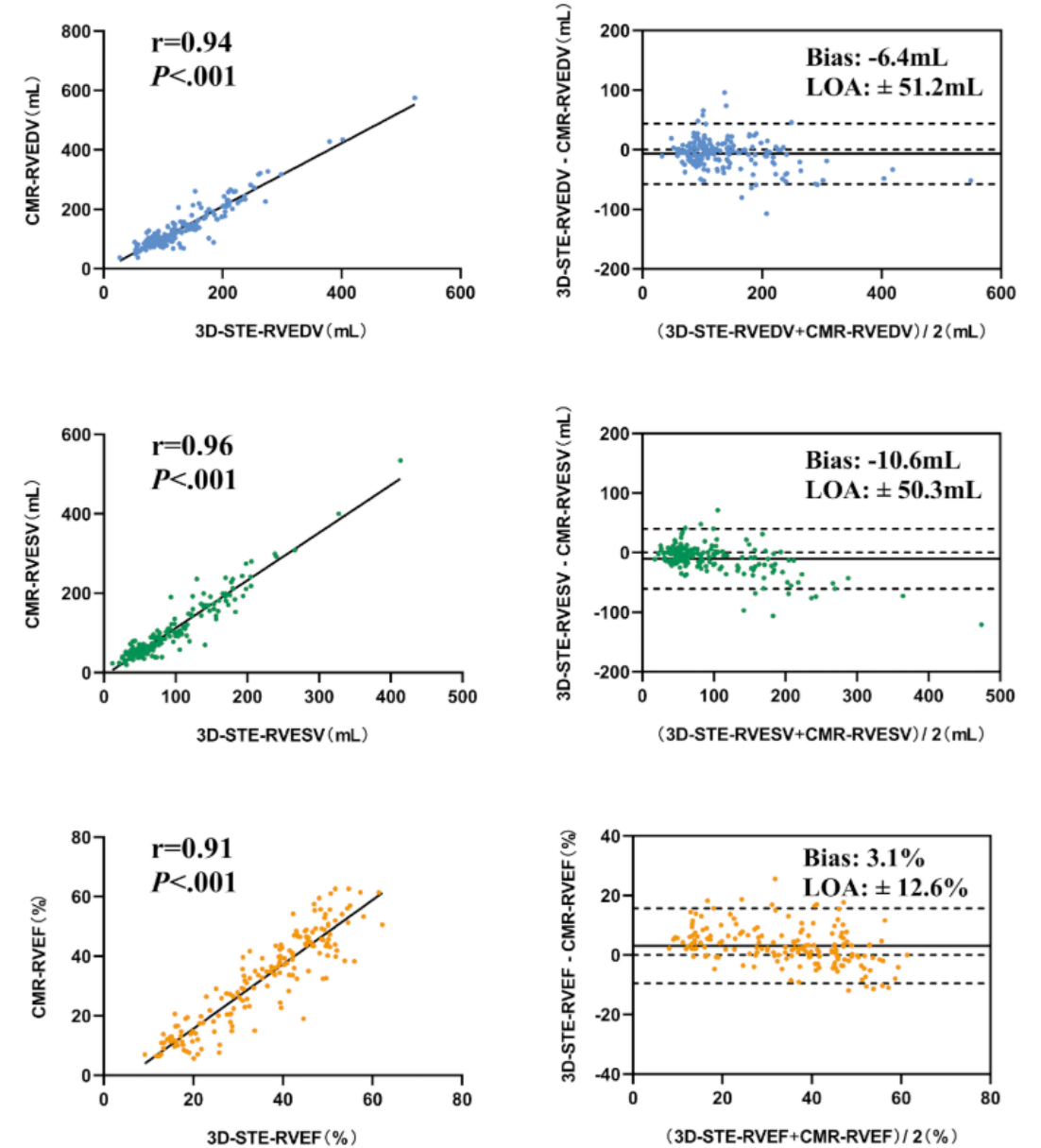


Global

Is 3D Volumetric Assessment All We Need?



Courtesy of L Sugeng



Li Y, et al. J Am Soc Echocardiog 2021;34:472

Imaging Assessment of the Periodic Pump



Muscle Squeeze

dp/dt
Tissue Doppler
Strain
Strain rate
Isovolumic acceleration
~~Torsion & Twist~~

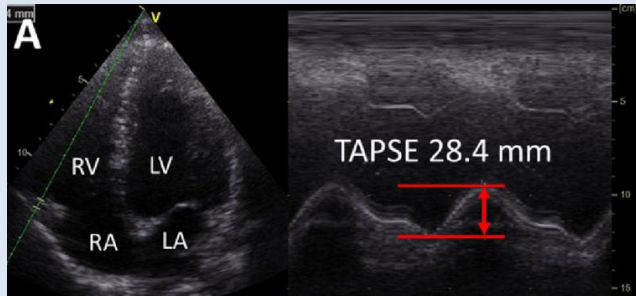


Volume ($\pm$ pressure)

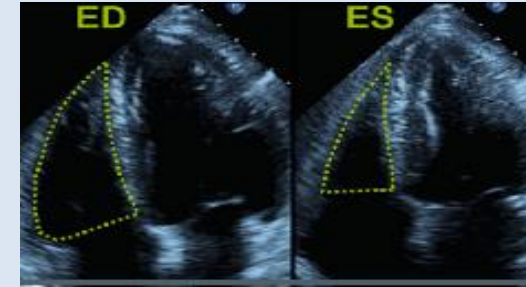
Ejection fraction
FAC
Stroke volume
Stroke work
ESV-ESP relation
~~Shortening fraction~~

Assessment of RV Function by Echocardiography

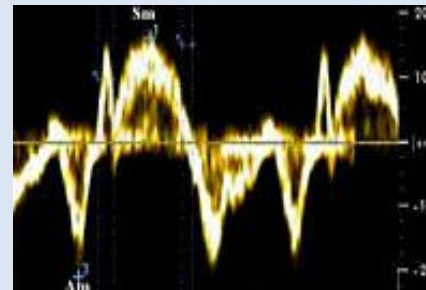
TAPSE



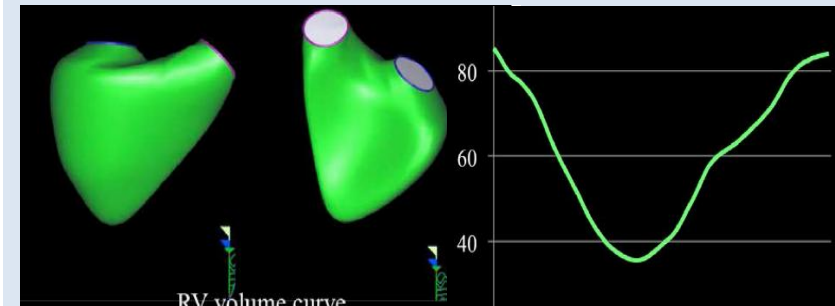
Fractional Area Change



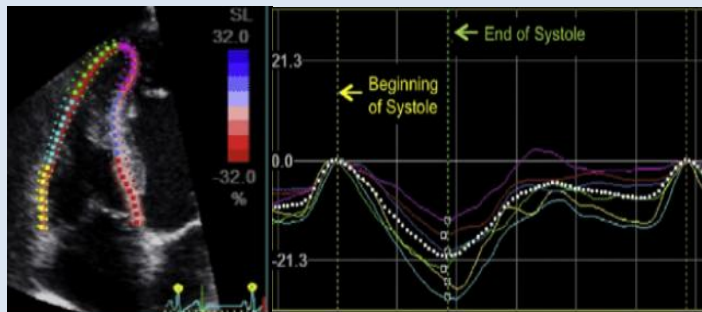
Systolic Velocity



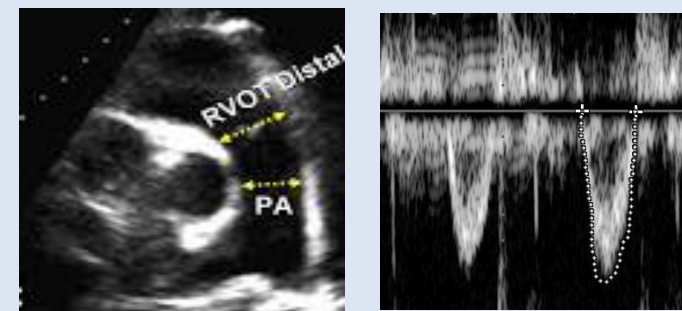
3D RVEF



RV Strain

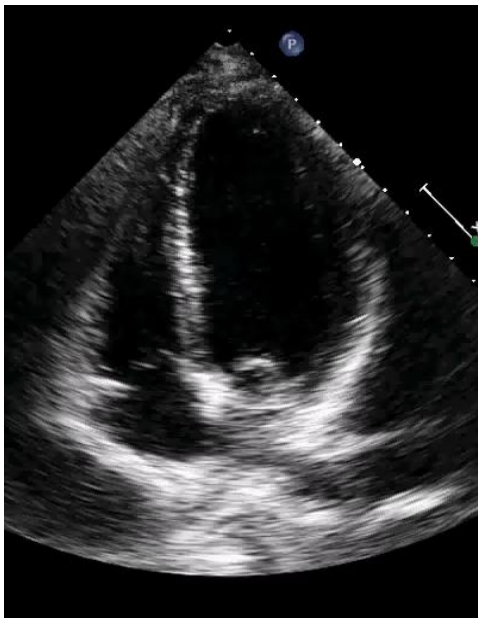


Stroke Volume

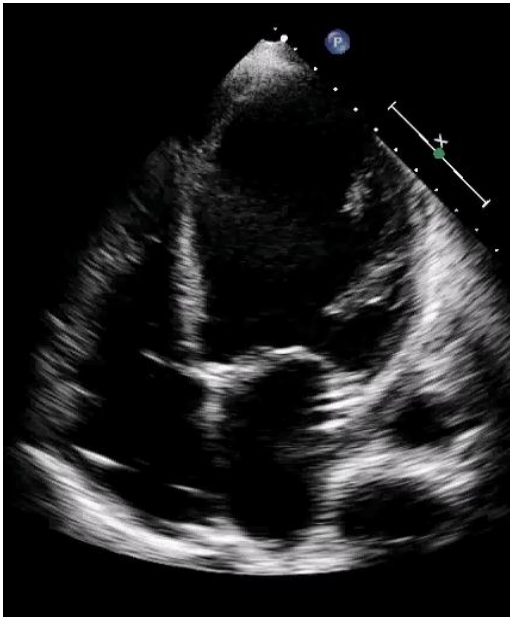


RV Function by Echocardiography: Expect Discongruence

Normal



RV dysfunction



RV enlargement
Normal function



RV enlargement &
dysfunction



RVEF or FAC
Stroke volume
Strain or S'

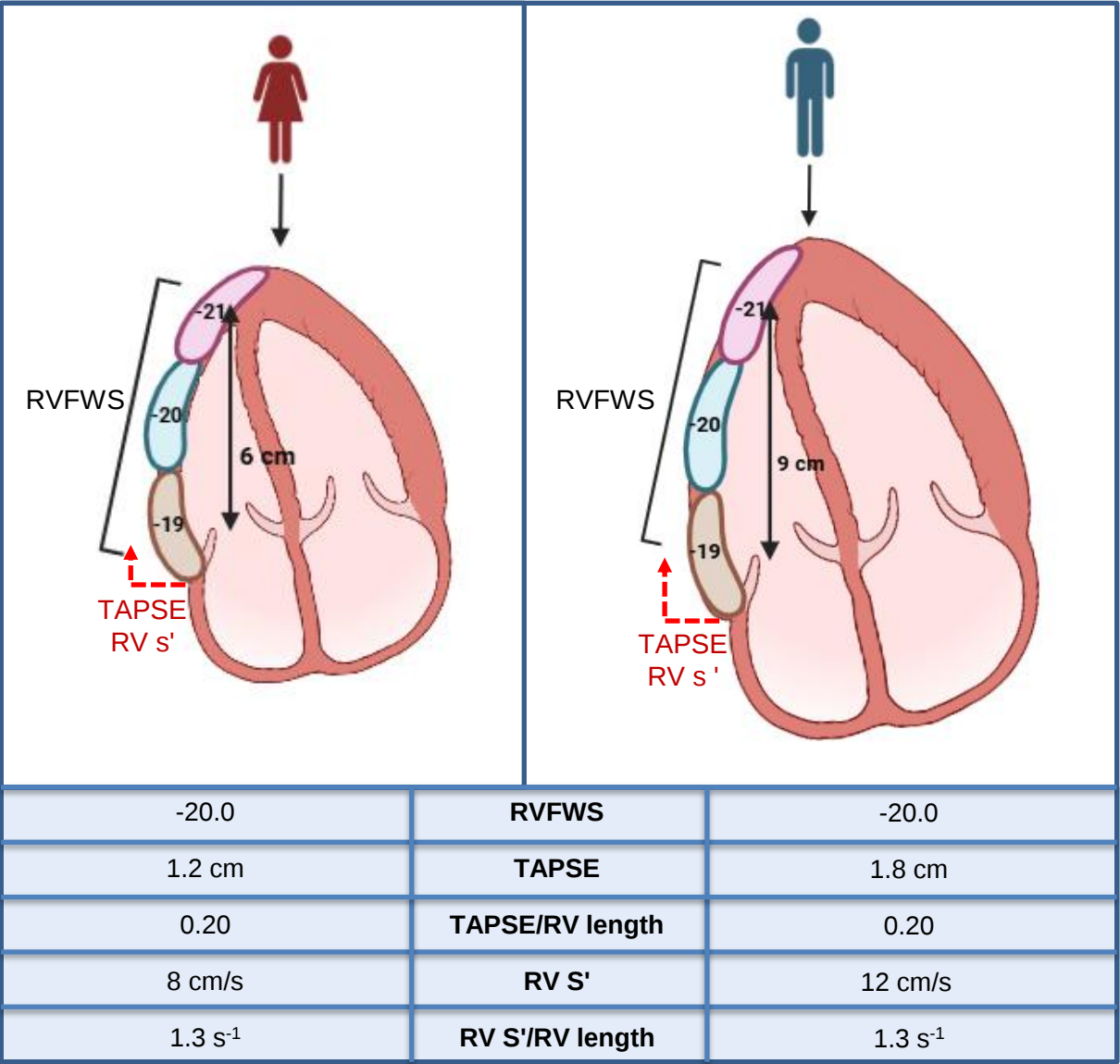
normal
normal
normal

↓↓
↓↓
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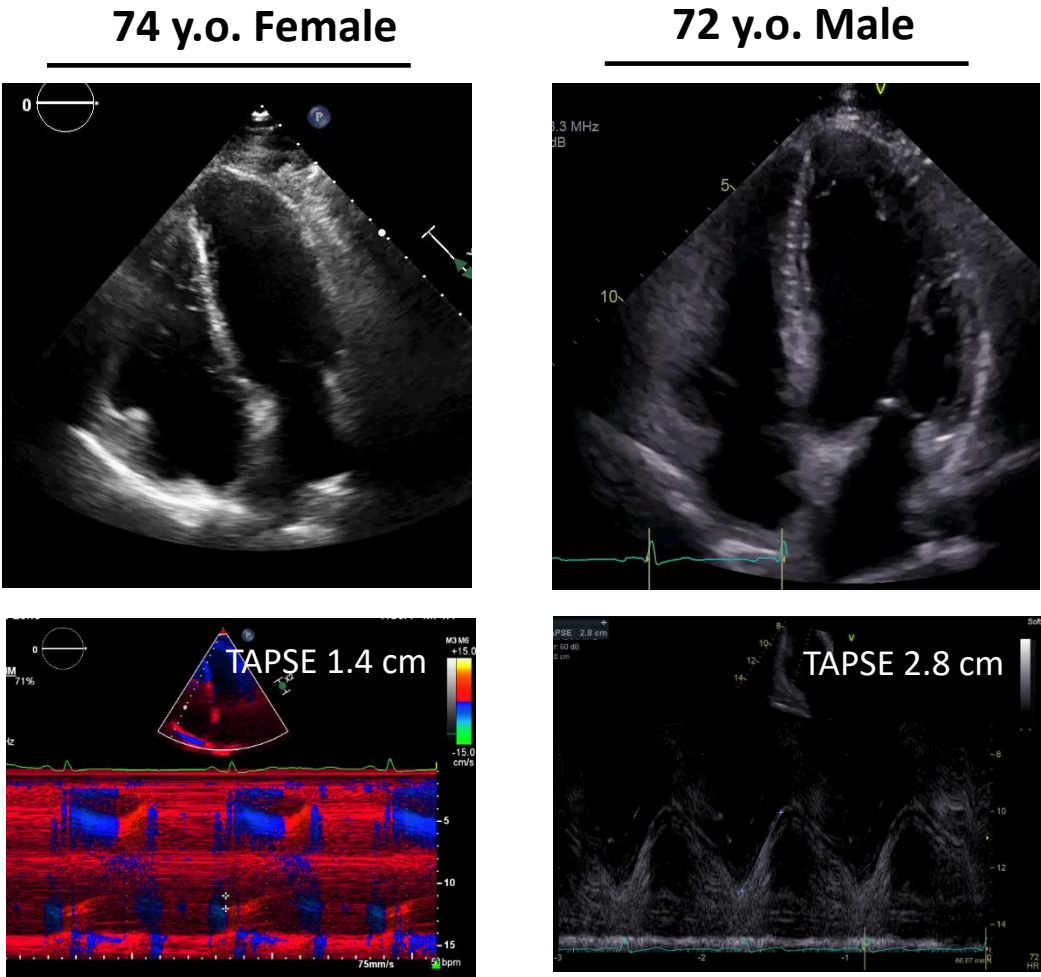
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normal

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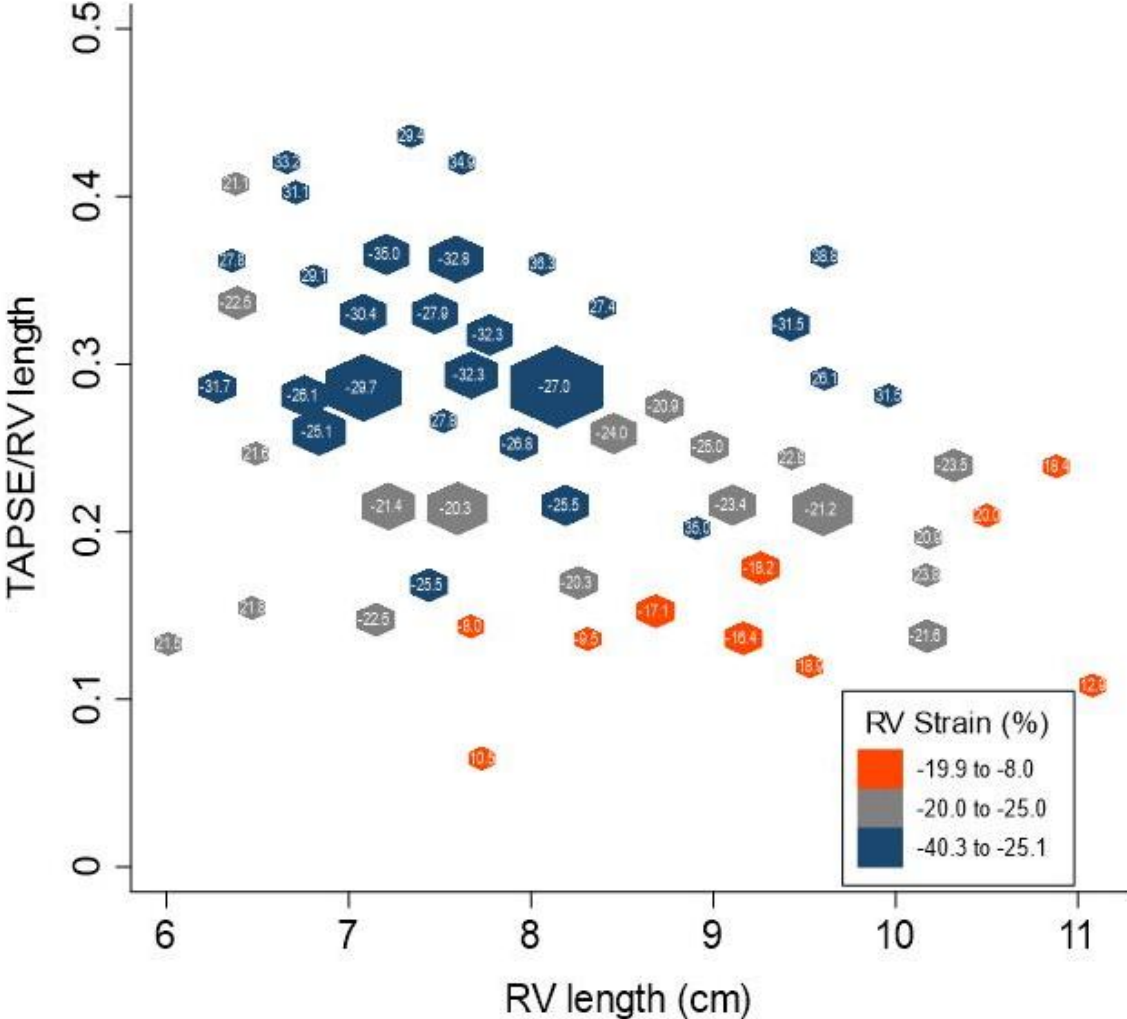
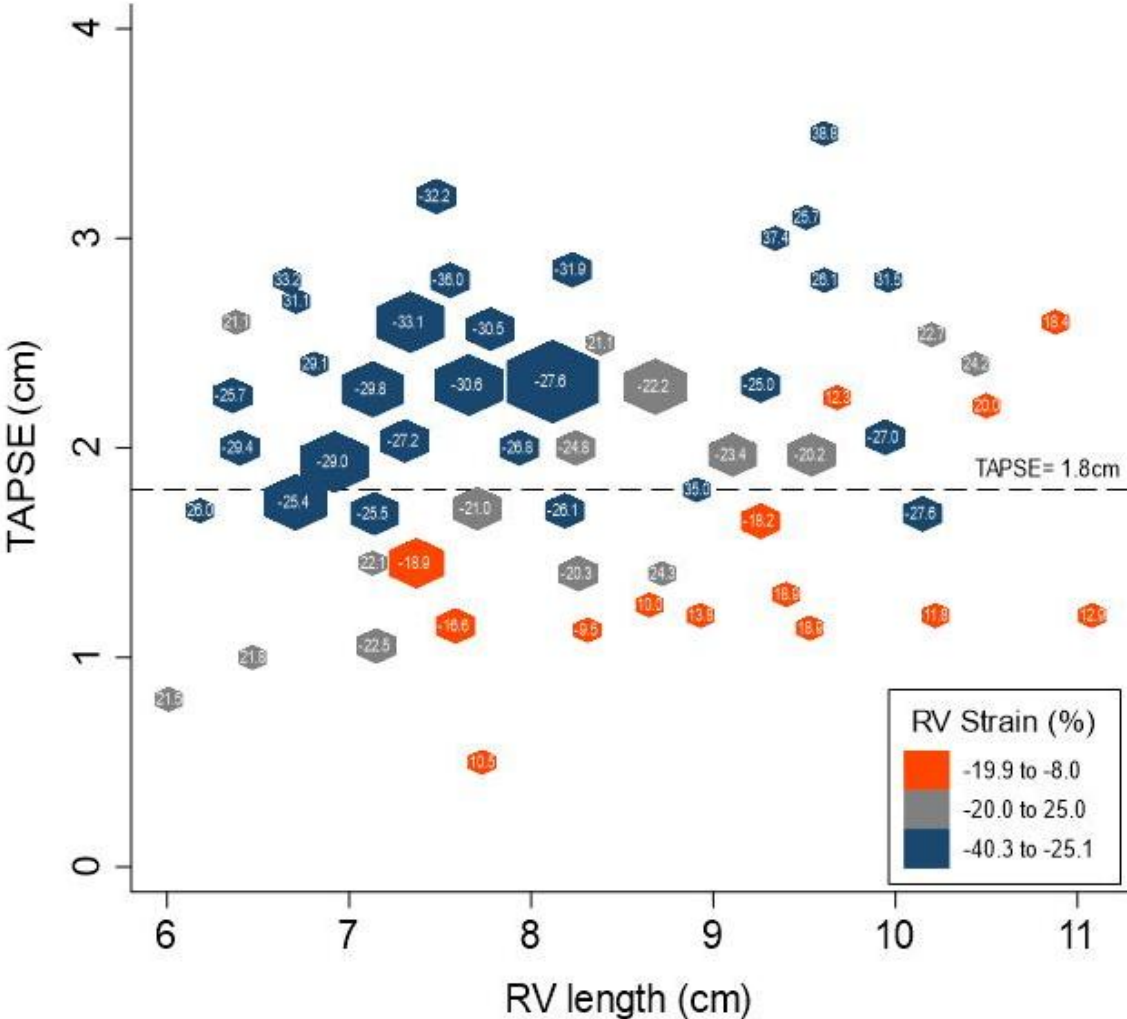
Congruency in RV Deformation vs Displacement



Huang J, et al. Am Soc Echocardiogr 2025 (in press)



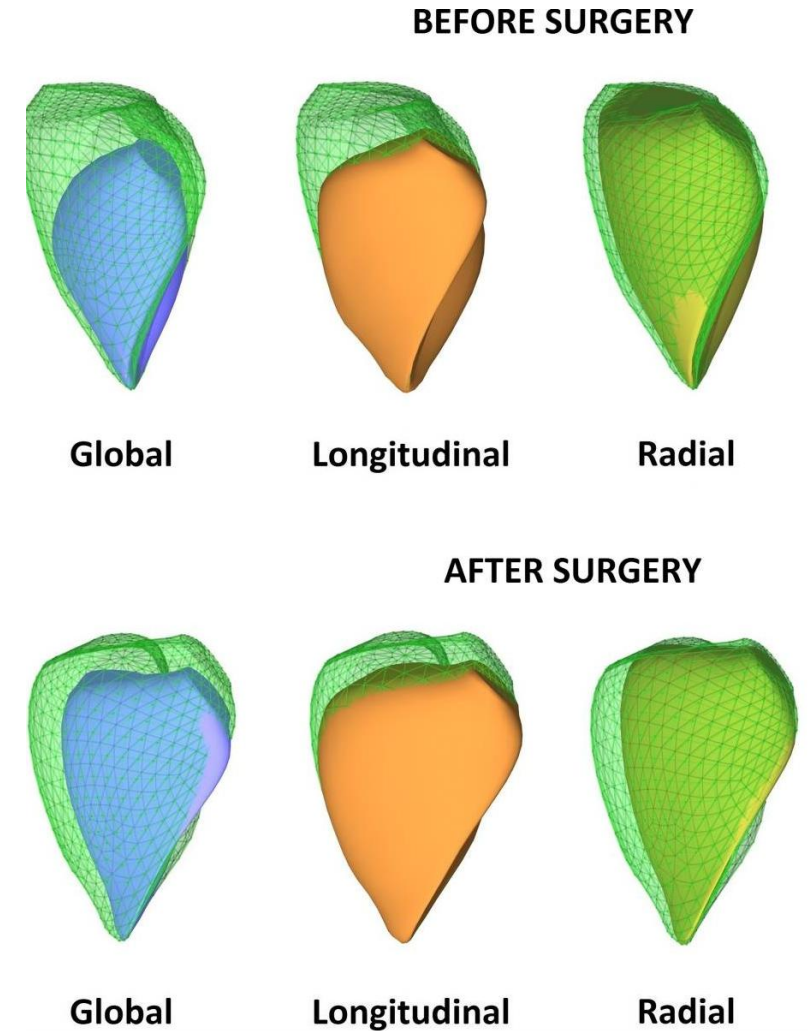
Impact of Normalizing TAPSE and S' to RV Length



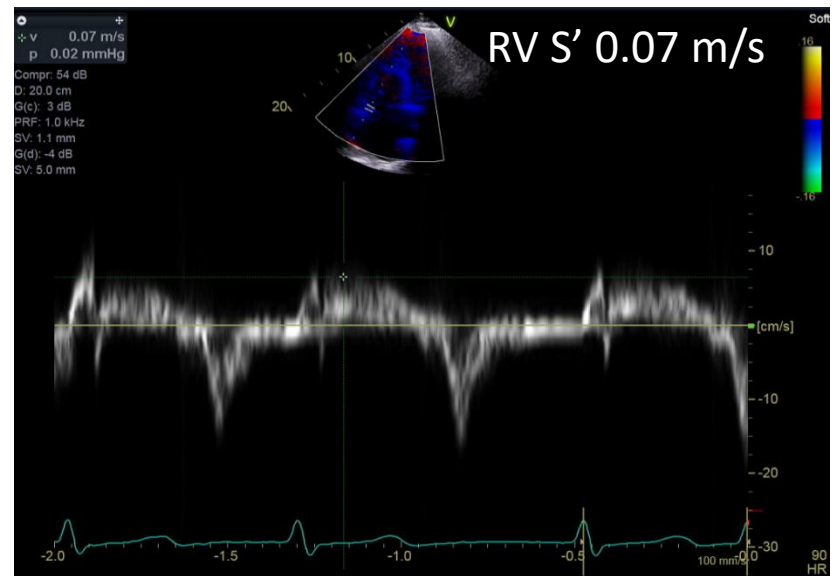
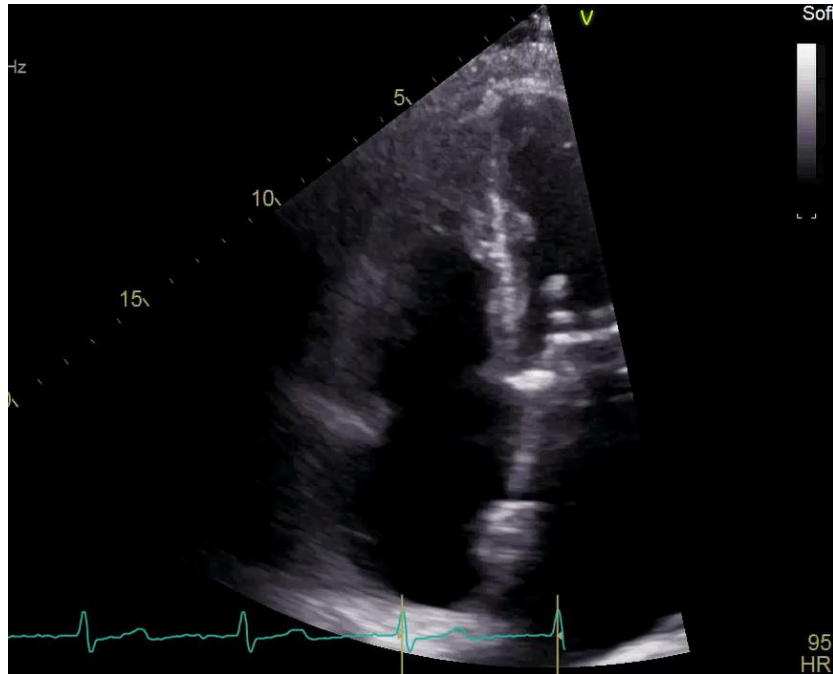
Problems with Longitudinal Assessment Post-pericardiectomy

Table 3
Results of Conventional and 3D Echocardiography

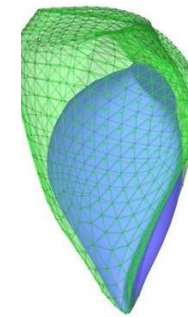
	TTE		
	In the Week Before Surgery	4 to 5 Days After Surgery	p Value
Right ventricular systolic function			
TAPSE (mm)	25 ± 3	12 ± 2	<0.001*
RV S' (mm/s ¹)	13 ± 3	8 ± 3	<0.001*
RIMP	0.48 ± 0.14	0.48 ± 0.15	0.81
IVA (m/s ²)	4.0 ± 0.5	4.1 ± 0.4	0.38
RV EDD basal (mm)	37 ± 4	39 ± 6	0.052
RV EDD midcavity (mm)	27 ± 4	29 ± 5	0.086
RV FS (%)	29 ± 11	42 ± 9	<0.001*
RV FAC (%)	45 ± 3	50 ± 5	<0.001*
Right ventricular 3-dimensional analysis			
RV EDV (ml)	136 ± 17	139 ± 21	0.31
RV ESV (ml)	73 ± 12	75 ± 12	0.27
RV stroke volume (mL)	62 ± 9	64 ± 11	0.50
RV EF (%)	46 ± 3	45 ± 3	0.58
Left ventricular systolic function			
LVEF	61 ± 3	61 ± 3	0.56
Left ventricular diastolic function			
LV E/E' ratio	10 ± 2	12 ± 4	0.008*
Left ventricular eccentricity index			
LVEI ES	1.01 ± 0.12	1.01 ± 0.12	0.98
LVEI ED	1.07 ± 0.10	1.05 ± 0.12	0.31



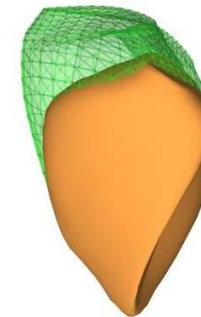
Problems with Longitudinal Assessment Post-pericardiectomy



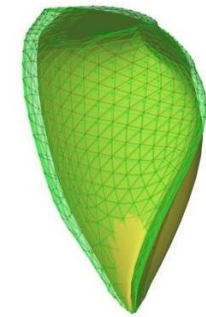
BEFORE SURGERY



Global

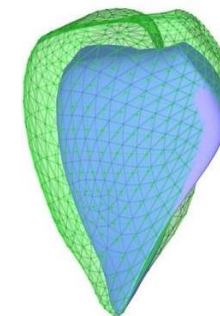


Longitudinal



Radial

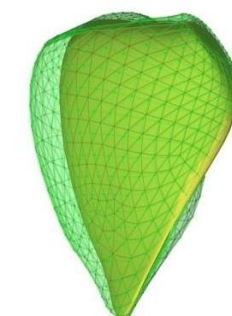
AFTER SURGERY



Global

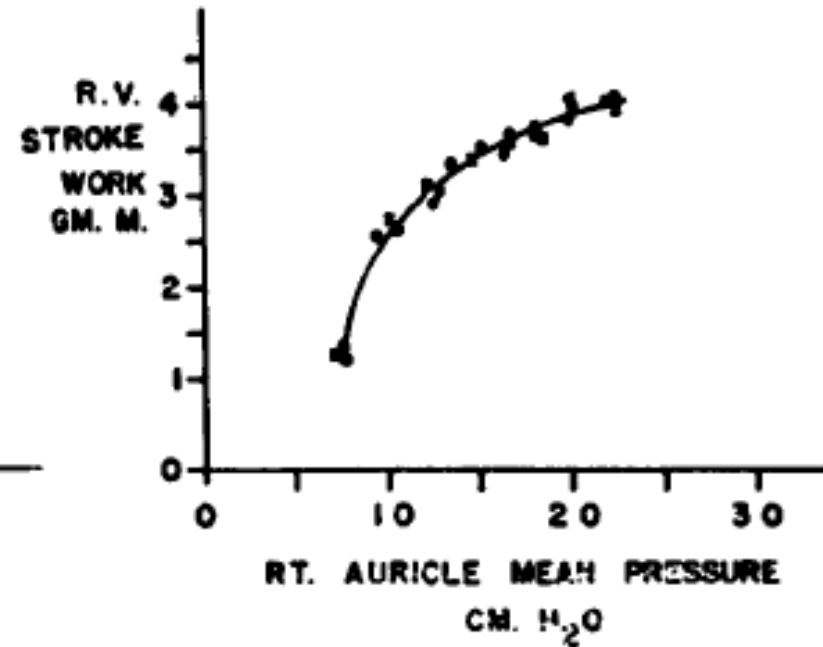
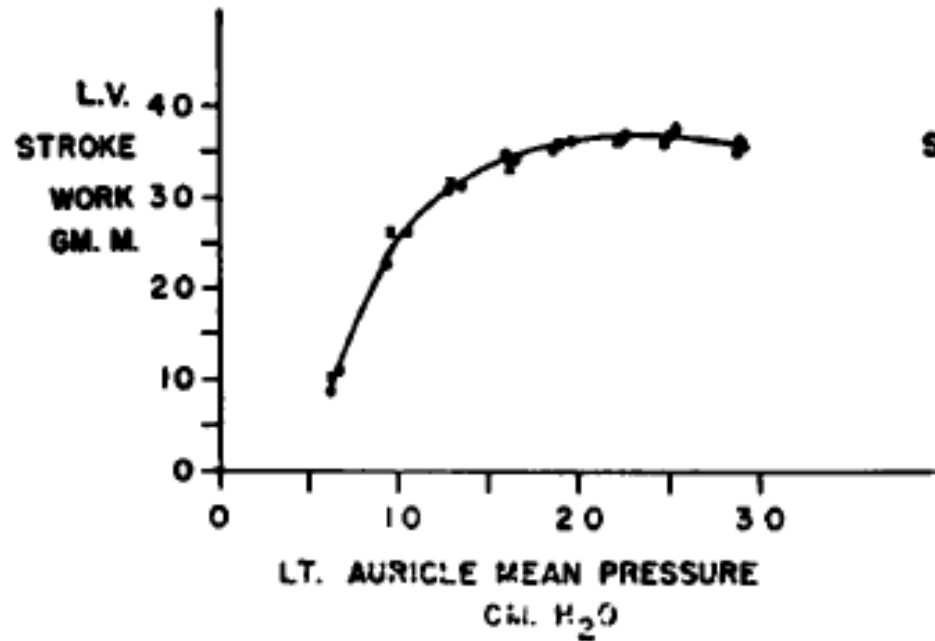


Longitudinal



Radial

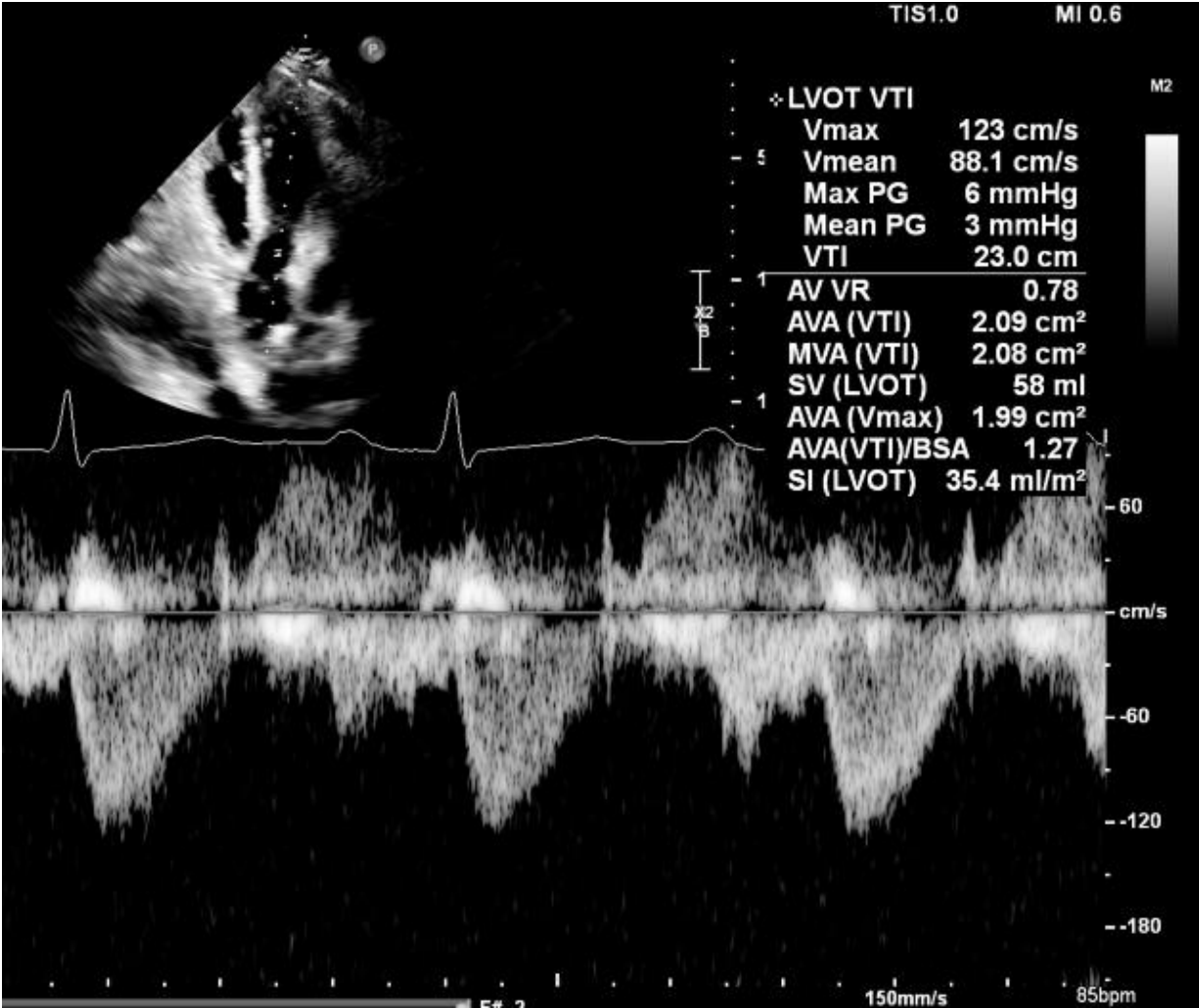
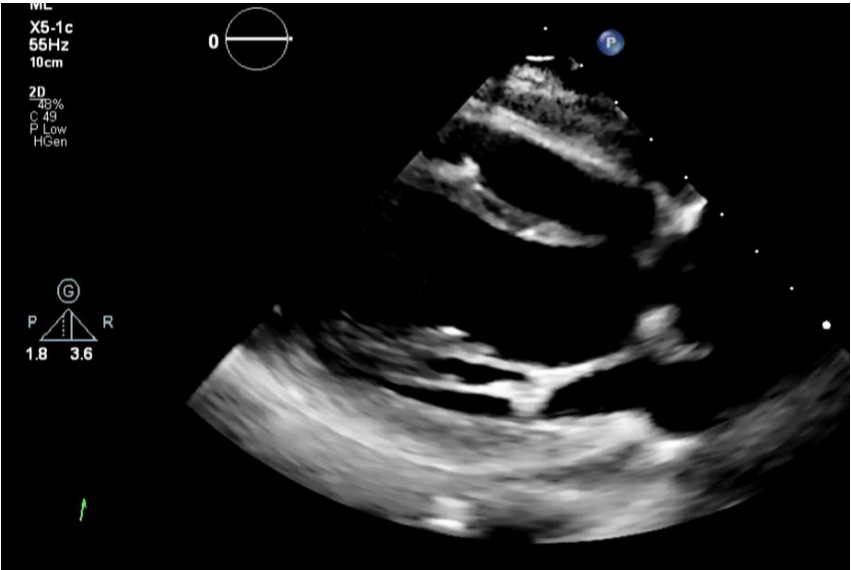
RV Function and Preload (Frank-Starling goes Dextro)



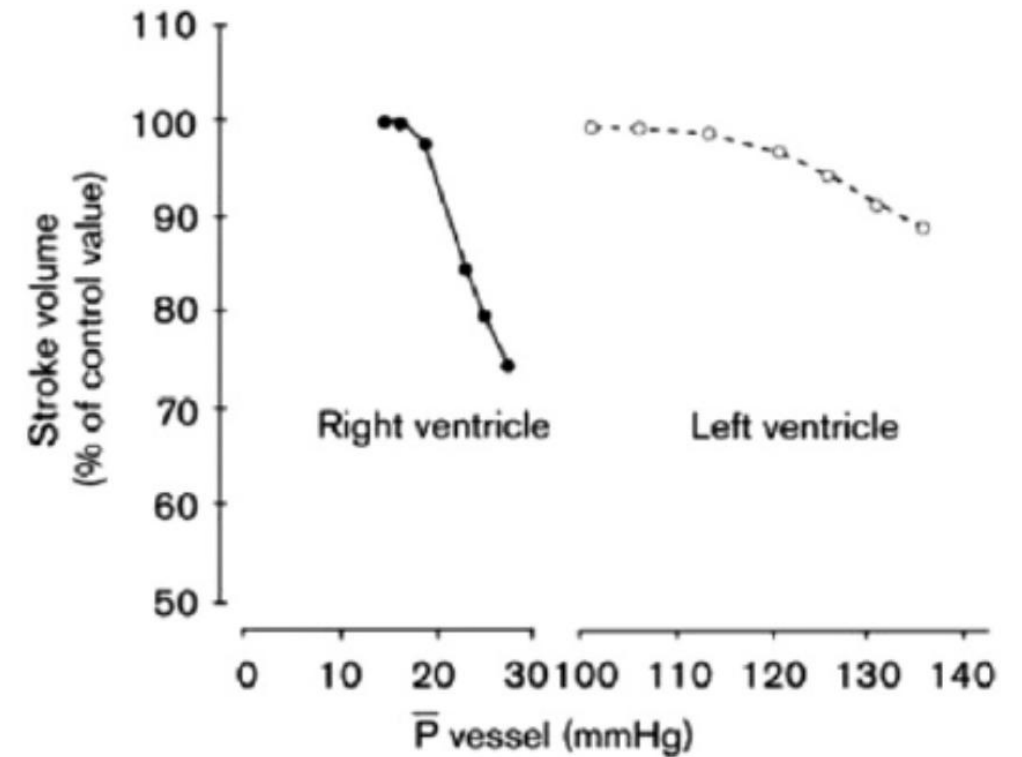
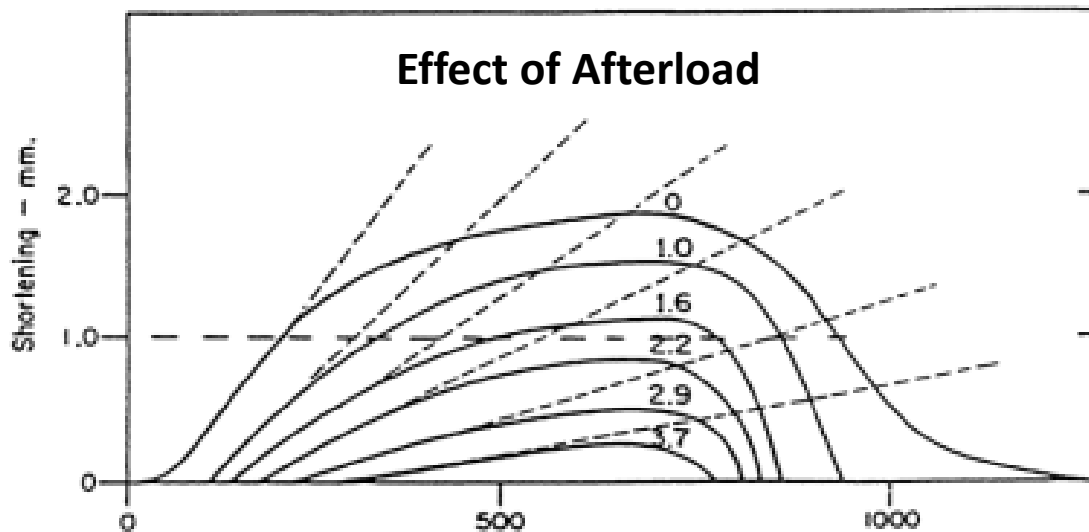
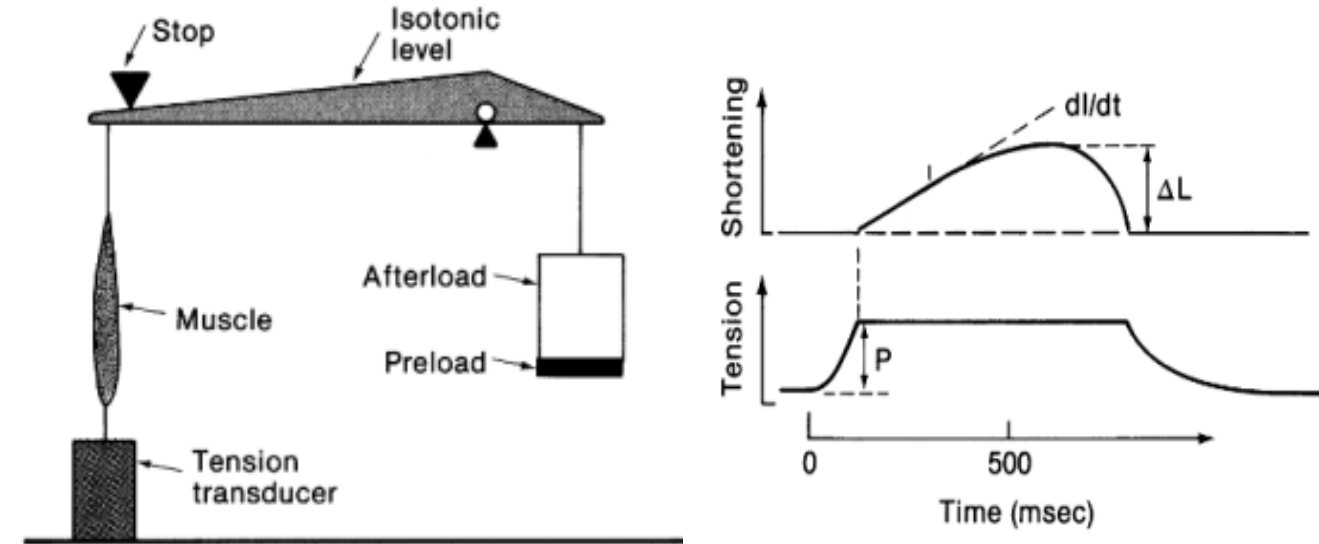
Sarnoff SA, et al.,
Circulation 1954;9:706

- Intravascular volume status
- Tricuspid stenosis
- Tamponade physiology
- Tachycardia
- PEEP
- Others (keep vigilant)

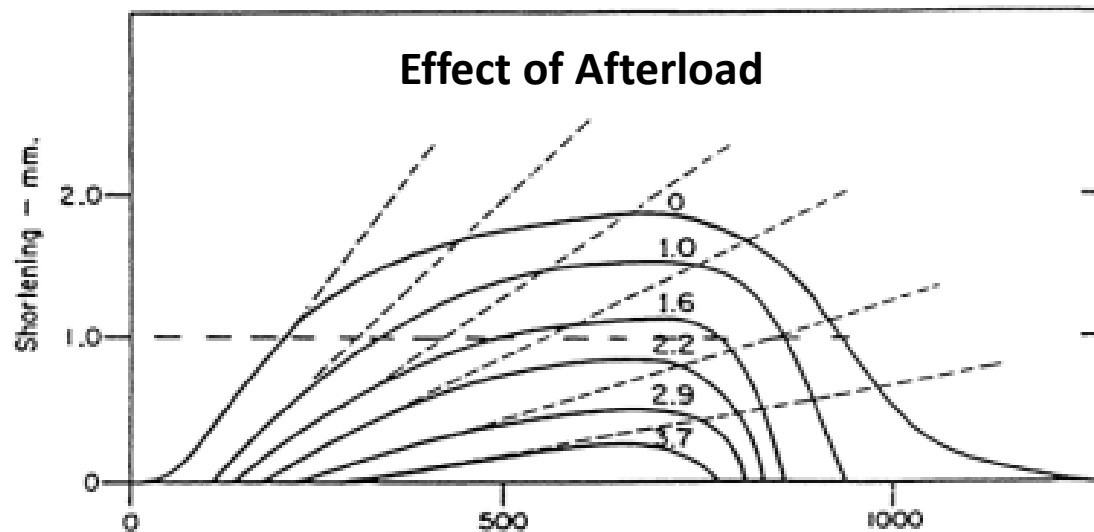
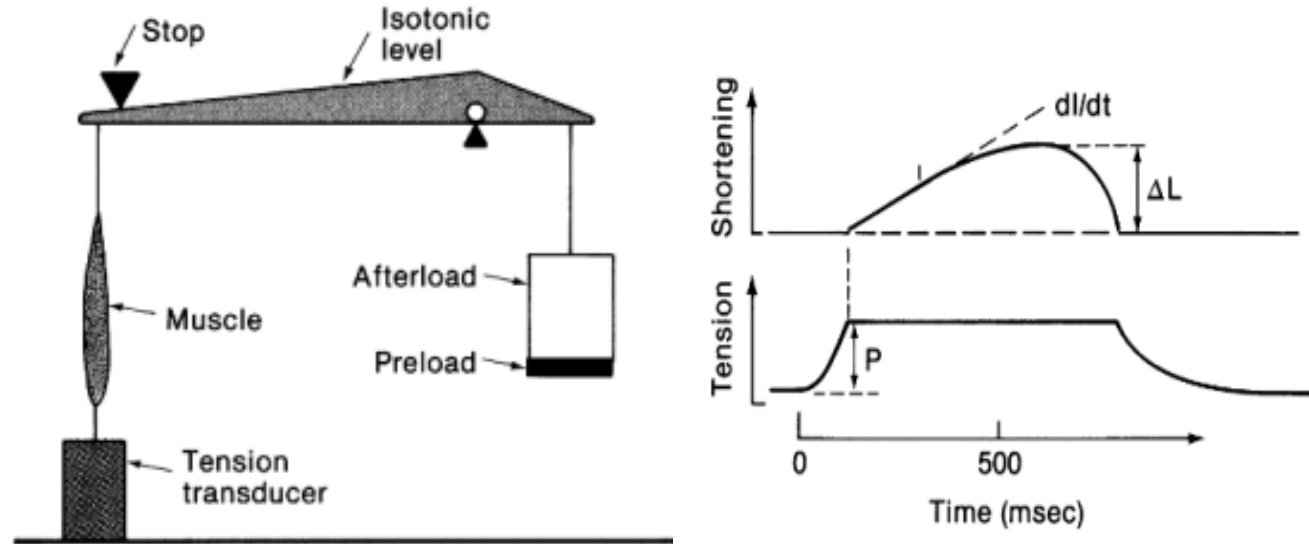
RV Preload Reduction from Pectus ECR



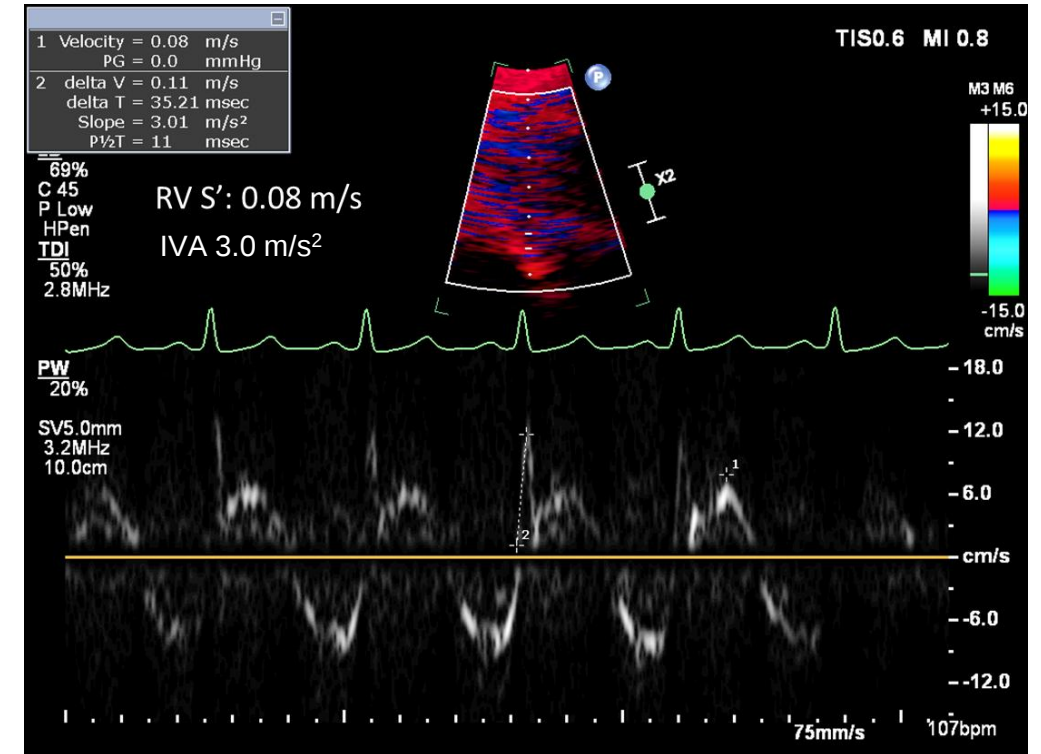
Afterload and Myocardial Dysfunction



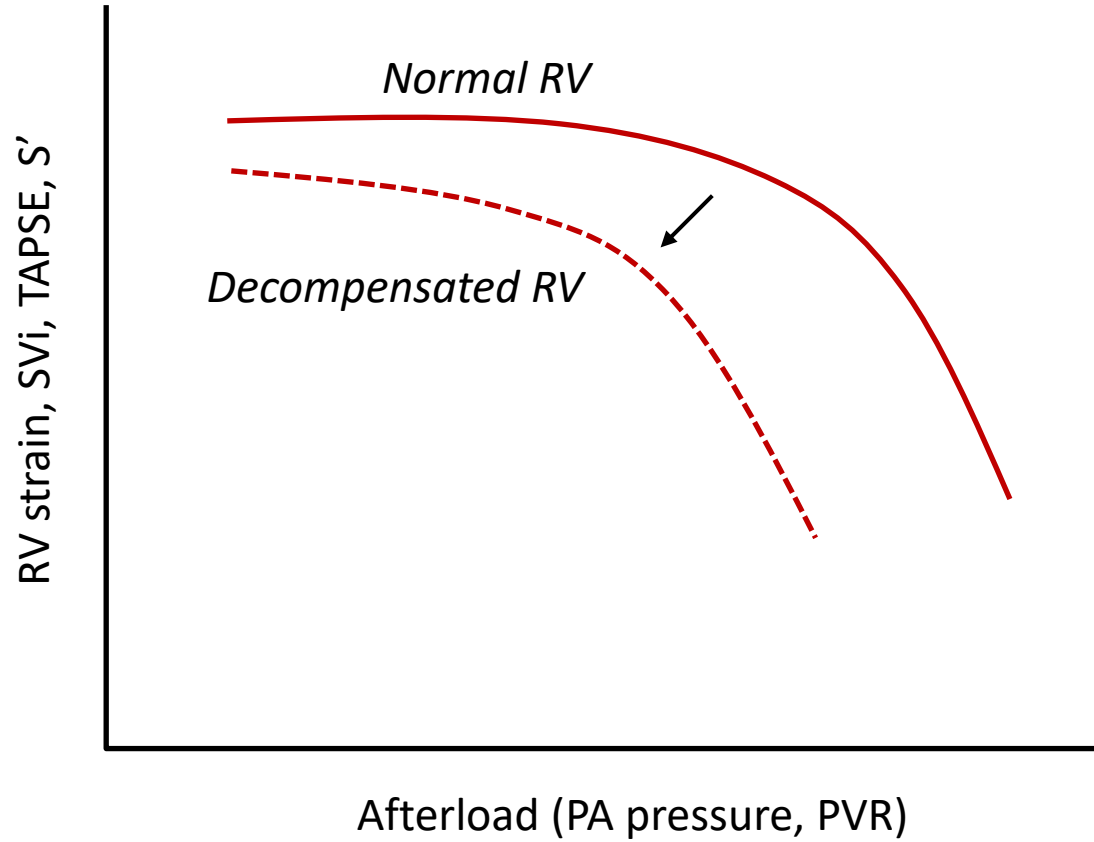
Afterload and Myocardial Dysfunction



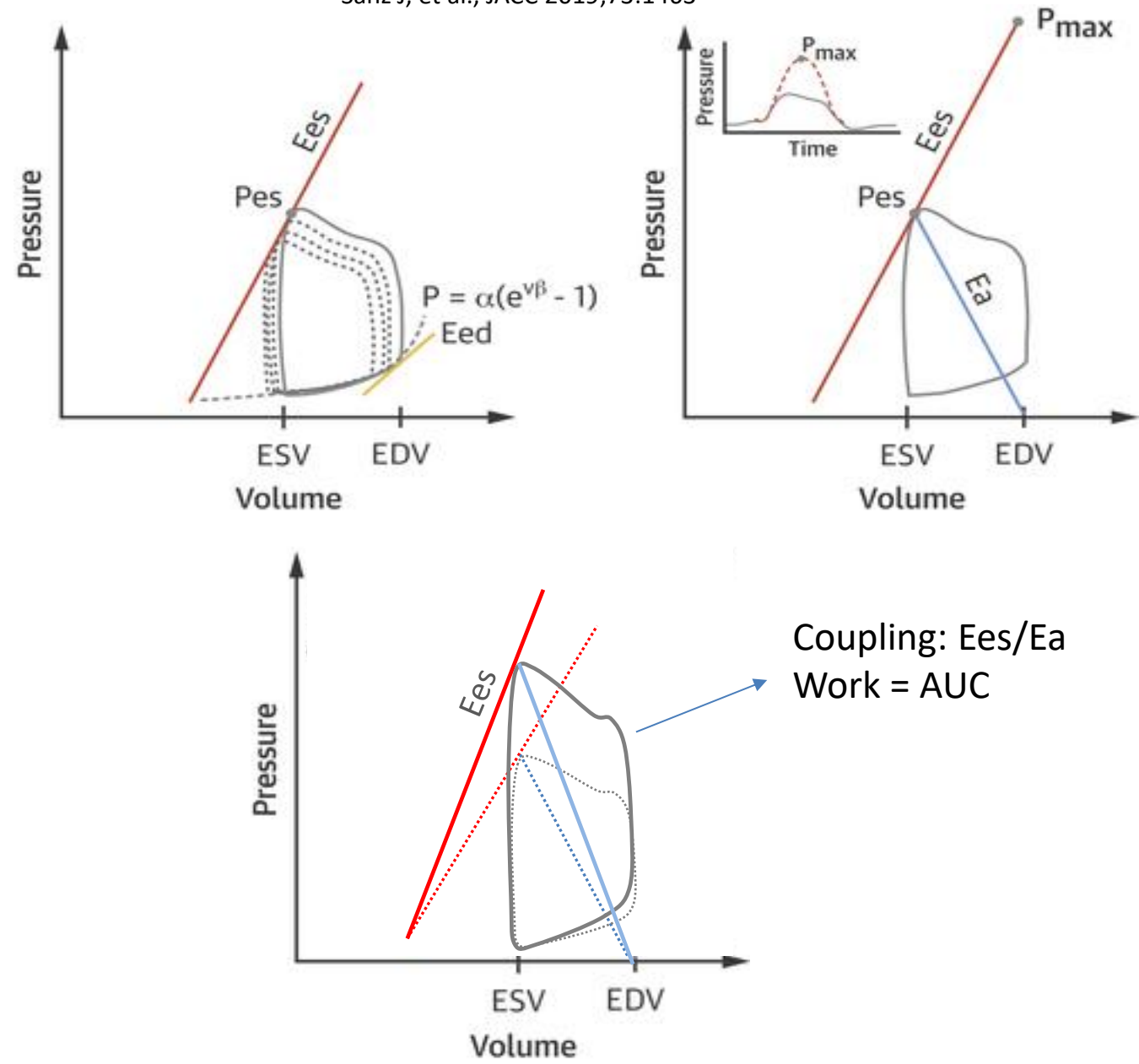
Sonnenblick EH, et al. Am J Physiol 1962;205:931



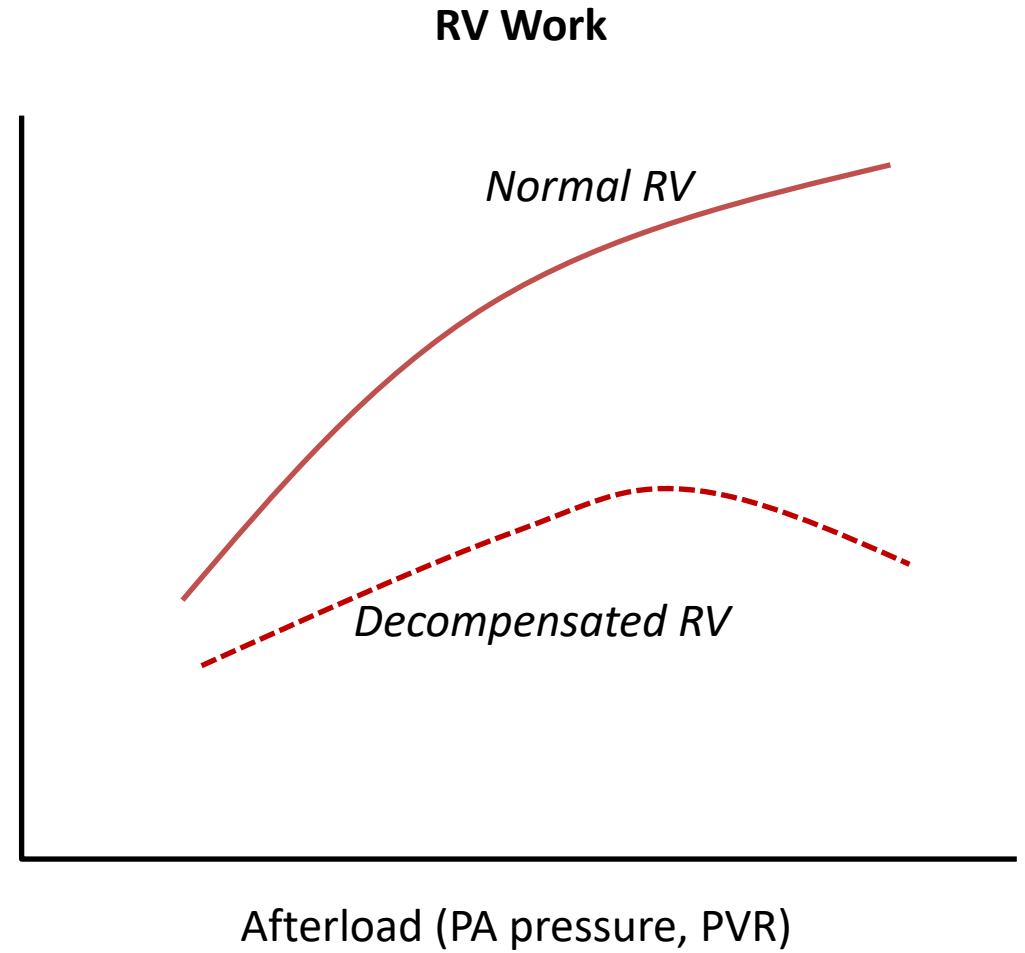
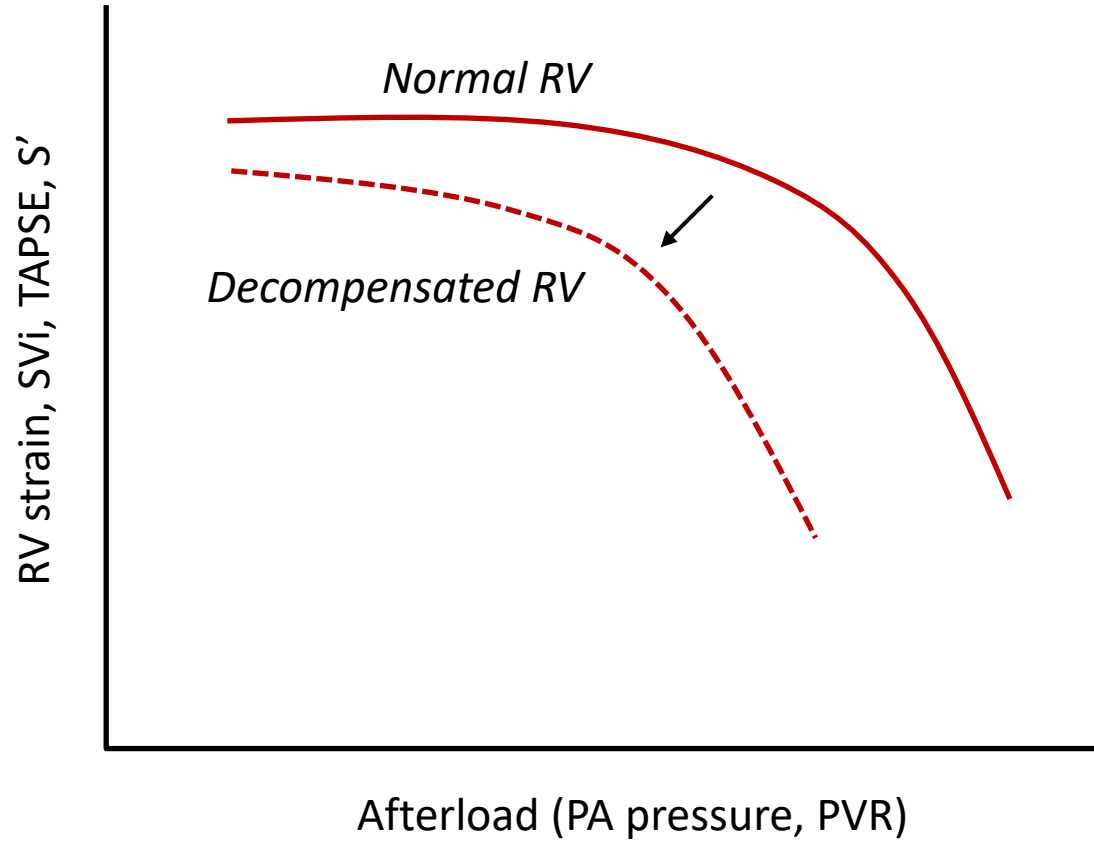
The Pressure Loaded RV



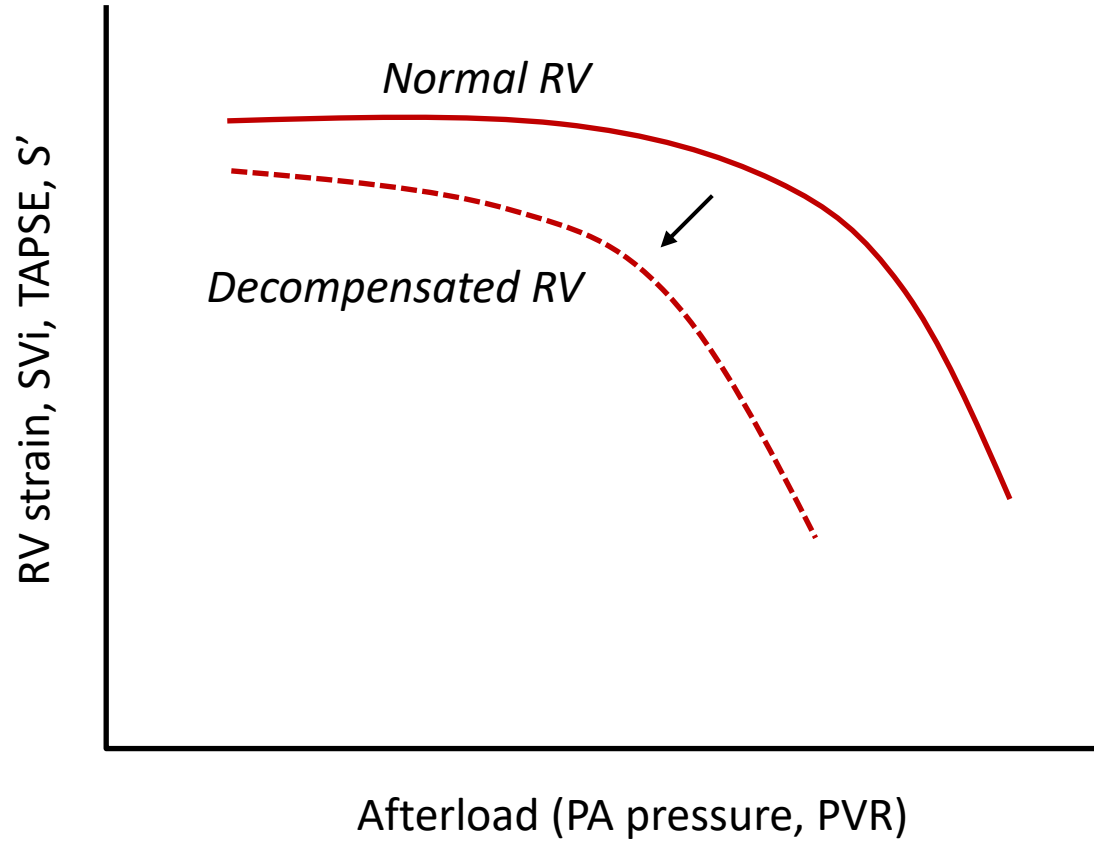
Sanz J, et al., JACC 2019;73:1463



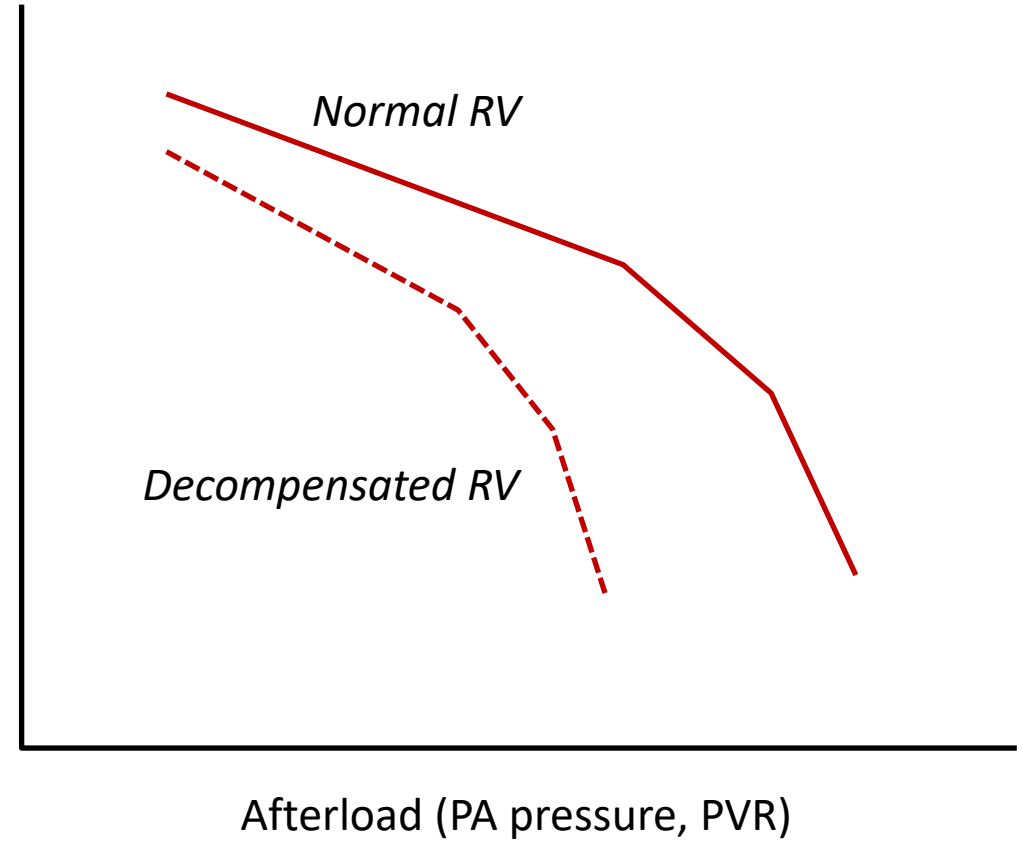
The Pressure Loaded RV



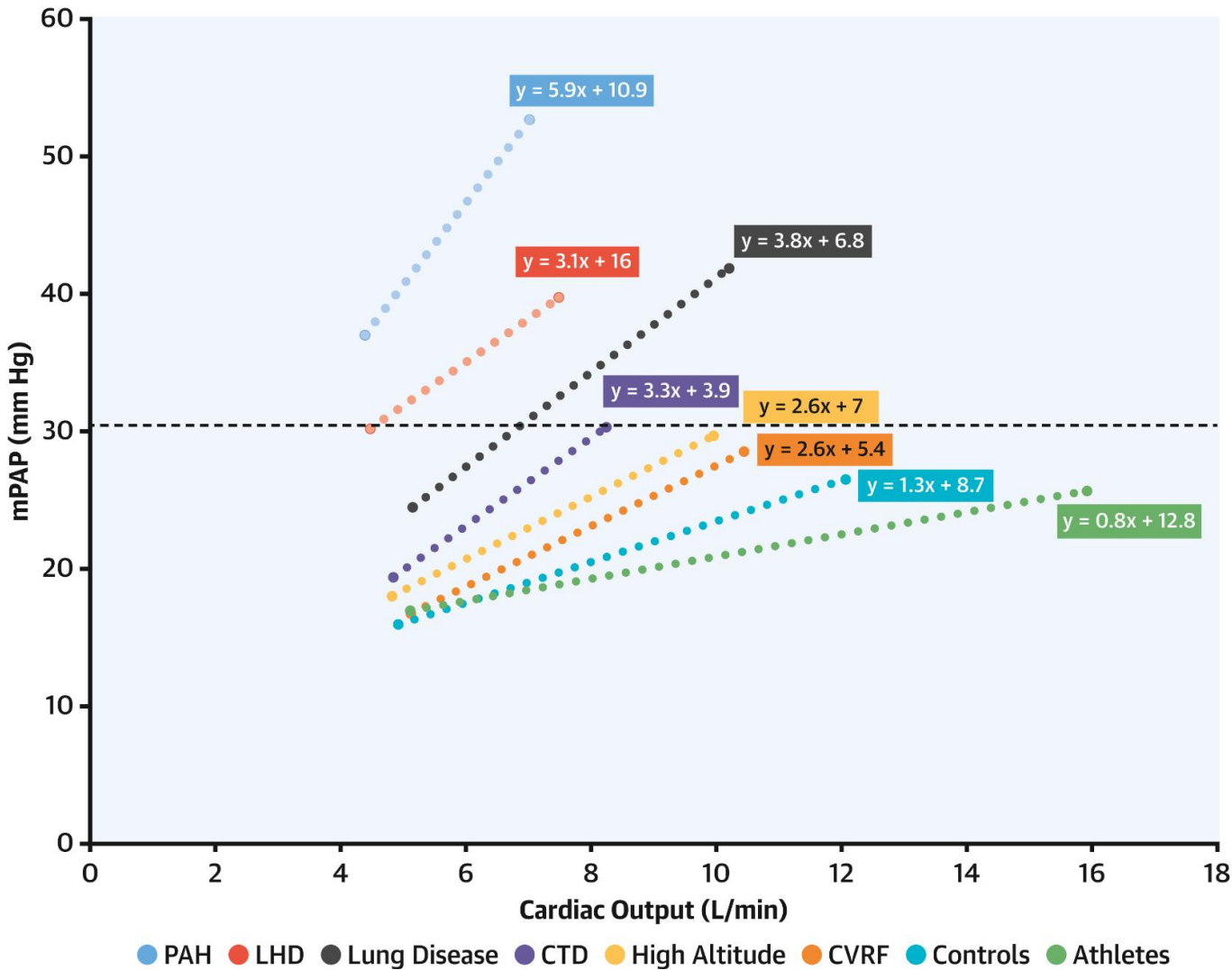
The Pressure Loaded RV



RV "coupling index" = $\text{TAPSE} / \text{PASP}$

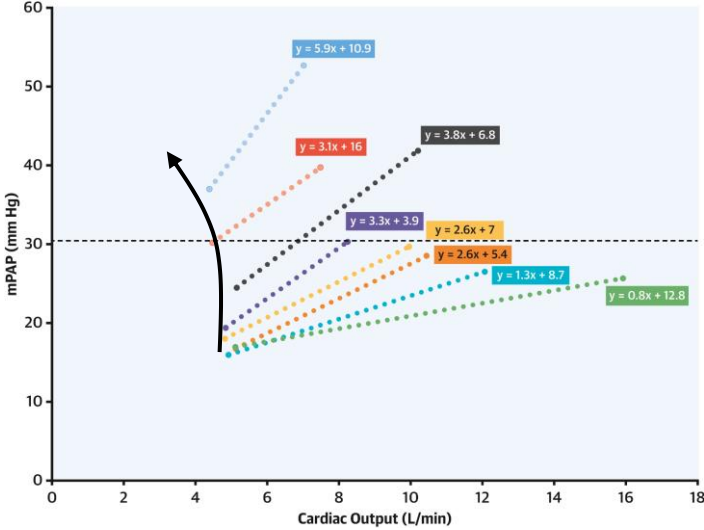


Stress Echo for Investigating RV Dysfunction

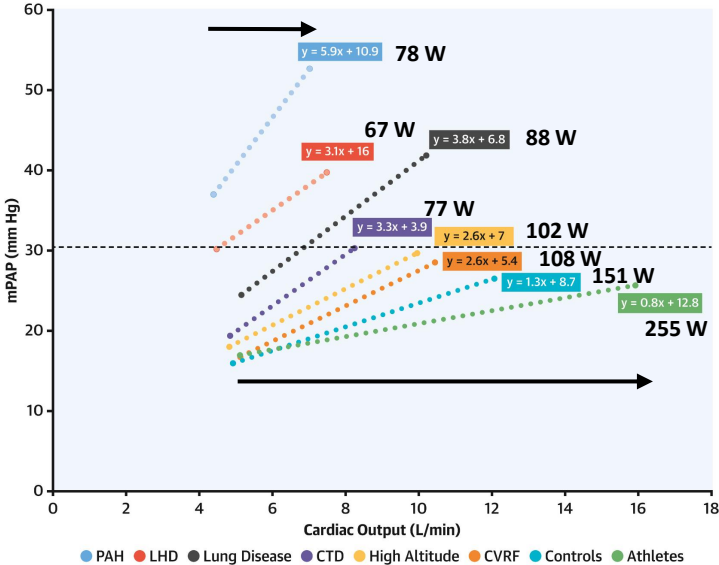


Gargani L, et al. JACC 2023;82:1973

Rest PASP influences C.O. (SV)

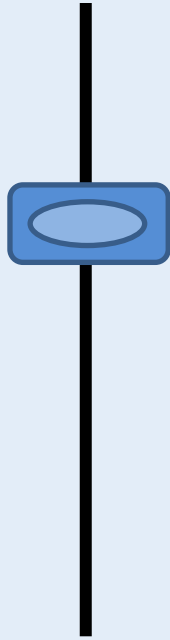


↑ Resistance, ↓ exercise and recruitable C.O.



Summary

Expert



Competent

Understands applications *and* limitations of new echo technology and the physiologic influences of function

Knowledge and reporting of new technologies (3D, strain)

Knowledge, reporting, and problem solving for standard RV measures