Pericardial Disease: Patient Volume

2014 Volume (N = 1754)

2010 – 2014

Pericardial disease includes a group of conditions that affect the pericardium, the double-layered sac that surrounds the heart. Cleveland Clinic’s Center for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Pericardial Disease serves patients with a variety of pericardial syndromes. The multispecialty approach used at Cleveland Clinic includes cardiologists, surgeons, and imaging specialists, which enhances collaboration in the management of these diseases. There were 1754 visits to the center in 2014.

Pericardial Disease Syndromes – Outpatient Clinic Volume, New Consult Patients (N = 573)

2014

The majority of patients seen in Cleveland Clinic’s pericardial disease center in 2014 were diagnosed with pericardial effusion with pericarditis. This category includes pericardial cysts, neoplasms, pericardial fistula, pericardial thickening, pericardial calcification, and patients with a history of pericardial disease.

30% of patients seen at Cleveland Clinic for pericardial disease were from outside the state of Ohio. Patients traveled from 32 states for treatment.
Pericardial Disease (continued)

Echocardiography

- Detection of pericardial effusion and cardiac tamponade
- Detection of myocardial involvement

Computed Tomography

- Detection of loculated pericardial effusion
- Pericardial effusion in traumatic cases

Cardiac MRI

- Detection of pericardial inflammation
- Detection of myocardial involvement

Pericardial Disease Etiology (N = 573)

2014

Pericarditis can be caused by a number of conditions; however, it is common for the cause to be unknown. In 2014, a total of 368 new consult patients seen at Cleveland Clinic had pericarditis of unknown origin.

- 74% Idiopathic (N = 368)
- 8% Autoimmune (N = 51)
- 7% Postpericardiotomy syndrome (N = 89)
- 4% Infectious (N = 13)
- 4% Other (N = 47)
- 3% Radiation (N = 5)

Pericardial Procedures (N = 195)

2014

The majority of pericardial procedures performed at Cleveland Clinic in 2014 were pericardiocentesis procedures. This percutaneous treatment is used to drain large pericardial effusions. Echocardiography is used during the procedure to help improve outcomes.

- 48% Pericardiocentesis (N = 94)
- 27% Pericardectomy (N = 53)
- 25% Window (N = 48)