ISSN 2321 – 7359 EISSN 2321 – 7367

discovery

Medical Science

The International Weekly Journal for Medicine

Left Atrium: Pulmonary Vein Variations and Their Drainage Pattern

Vidhya

discovery

Pulmonary veins carry oxygenated blood from the lungs to the left atrium. Variations are quite common in the number and pattern of drainage. It plays an important role in generating atrial fibrillation. During the development of left atrium, a single embryonic pulmonary vein develops as an outgrowth from its posterior wall. On further development, the pulmonary veins and its branches are incorporated into the left atrium. At the end of the embryonic period independent four pulmonary veins drain into left atrium. In the initiation and maintenance of atrial fibrillation pulmonary veins and posterior part of left atrium play a critical role. Depending upon the number of pulmonary veins they are classified into type A to type D. If the pulmonary ostia is equal to the number of pulmonary veins, it is placed under subtype I and if the pulmonary ostia is less than the number of pulmonary vein it is placed under subtype II, III & IV. These veins play a pivotal role in atrial fibrillation which is treated by ablation. Therefore, for successful ablations and surgeries without any complication, it is very important to have a detailed knowledge of pulmonary venous anatomy.

REFERENCES

1. Sabah Y, Mariya, Nitya W. A Study of Pulmonary Vein Variations and Their Drainage Pattern into the Left Atrium. *Medical Science*, 2014, 5(18), 81-86

Medical Science

Vidhya,
Left Atrium: Pulmonary Vein Variations and Their Drainage Pattern,
Medical Science, 2014, 6(19), 8,
http://www.discovery.org.in/md.htm

© 2014 discovery publication. All rights reserved