

1 Good Prognosis of ALCAPA (Anomalous Origin of the Left
2 Coronary Artery from the Pulmonary Artery Syndrome) with
3 early Diagnosis and Surgical Treatment By Samah Alasrawi

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8 **Abstract**

9 Introduction: ALCAPA Anomalous origin of the left main coronary artery (LCA) from the
10 pulmonary artery (PA) is a rare malformation that presents with myocardial ischemia or
11 infarction and/or cardiac failure in infants (1). Surgical correction to re-establish a
12 two-coronary artery perfusion system is the treatment of choice (2).Objective: To present a
13 case of ALCAPA with early diagnosis and treatment, and a very good prognosis.Case Relate:
14 6 months old girl admitted with symptoms of heart failure, Echo, ECG and Cath showed signs
15 of ALCAPA with sever dilated cardiomyopathy. The baby sent for surgical repair, and direct
16 implantation of the LCA into the ascending aorta was done successfully. The baby followed in
17 our cardiology clinic monthly. After 6 month of surgical repair, the baby was good without
18 any complain, all symptoms resolved, the Echo showed acceptable contractility and function,
19 the dilated cardiomyopathy improved dramatically. Conclusion:In infants with DCM due to
20 coronary artery anomalies, early diagnosis and surgical treatment with optimal timing provide
21 an excellent prognosis.

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23 **Index terms**— ALCAPA, dilated cardiomyopathy, re-implantation of the coronary artery.

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37 Keywords: ALCAPA, dilated cardiomyopathy, re-implantation of the coronary artery.

38 **2 I. Introduction**

39 LCA Anomalous origin of the left main coronary artery (LCA) from the pulmonary artery (PA) is a rare
40 malformation also known as Bland-White-Garland syndrome that presents with myocardial ischemia or infarction

5 IV. CONCLUSION

41 and/or cardiac failure in infants(1). It is associated with a mortality rate of 90% within the first year of life.
42 Surgical correction to re-establish a twocoronary artery perfusion system is the treatment of choice. So we will
43 present a case of ALCAPA which corrected successfully by surgery (2).

44 3 II. Case Report

45 Author: Specialist Pediatric Cardiologist, AlJalila Children Heart Center, Dubai UAE. e-mail: samahis-
46 rawi@gmail.com She was full term baby, normal delivery without any complications, birth weight: 3.8kg.

47 On physical examination: tachypnea RR = 45/min, Failure to thrive (WT=4.9kg <3%, HT=55cm <3%),
48 Soft systolic murmur III/VI at the apex, chest: Harsh crackles bilateral Liver palpable about 4 cm below costal
49 margin, other systemic examination was normal Labs: WBC: 11000 (N 35%, L 62%), Hgb 11.2 g/dl, CRP
50 negative Electrolytes, liver function, renal function and Vit. D were normal.

51 Capillary Blood gases: PH = 7.51, PCO2 = 32, PO2 = 86, Hco3 = 26, So2 = 97% Chest XR: Cardiomegaly,
52 increased pulmonary vascularity bilateral (Figure 1). So we started heart failure medications and sent her to the
53 cathlab to complete the diagnosis.

54 Cath showed only RCA came from Aorta (AO) (Figure ??), LCA from Pulmonary artery.

55 The baby sent for surgical repair, and direct implantation of the LCA into the ascending aorta was done
56 successfully.

57 The Echo after surgery showed LCA came from Aorta as in the normal heart (Figure ??). We continued the
58 heart failure medications after surgery for 3 months, the baby followed in our cardiology clinic monthly.

59 After 6 month of surgical repair, the baby was good without any complain, all symptoms resolved, WT = 8.9
60 kg.

61 The Echo showed acceptable contractility and function, the dilated cardiomyopathy improved, EF became
62 about normal EF = 52% (Figure 8).

63 4 III. Discussion

64 ALCAPA is a rare but serious congenital anomaly. Presently, the prognosis for patients with ALCAPA
65 is dramatically improved as a result of both early diagnosis and treatment, The presenting features are
66 paroxysms of irritability, which correlate with signs of heart failure so dilated cardiomyopathy is an important
67 differential diagnosis and may also arise as a result of ALCAPA (3) as in our case which presented with dilated
68 cardiomyopathy symptoms (4).

69 During infancy, ALCAPA syndrome can be fatal and patients present with myocardial infarction, left
70 ventricular dysfunction, mitral regurgitation, or silent myocardial ischemia, which can lead to sudden cardiac
71 death (4). While adult patients can be completely asymptomatic, they may present with angina, dyspnea,
72 syncope, myocardial infarction, arrhythmia or sudden cardiac death (5). The electrocardiogram of a baby with
73 ALCAPA usually shows typical signs of an anterolateral myocardial infarction, manifested by abnormal Q waves
74 in leads I, AVL, V5, and V6, as well as by transient ST changes in these leads (we saw these changes in our
75 case). The ECG may be also entirely within normal limits (6).

76 In patients with ALCAPA syndrome, even if the patient is asymptomatic, or symptomatic, surgical treatment
77 is suggested. In our case, the patient was operated as soon as the diagnosis was reached. The objective of
78 surgical treatment is to restore a normal coronary circulation and improve myocardial perfusion. A few surgical
79 procedures are suggested based on the localization of the abnormal coronary artery ostium. In our case the LCA
80 was directly re-implanted to the Ao. After surgery regular follow up is mandatory especially during the recovery
81 period because of arrhythmia risk and sudden death. Early treatment may prevent irreversible myocardial damage
82 with its subsequent complications (7), and we saw that in our case which dramatically improved after surgical
83 repair.

84 5 IV. Conclusion

85 In infants with DCM, coronary artery anomalies should be considered a priority in establishing a diagnosis.
86 Coronary re-implantation is the technique of choice for surgical correction. Early diagnosis and surgical treatment
87 with optimal timing provide an excellent prognosis. ¹



Figure 1: Fig. 1 :

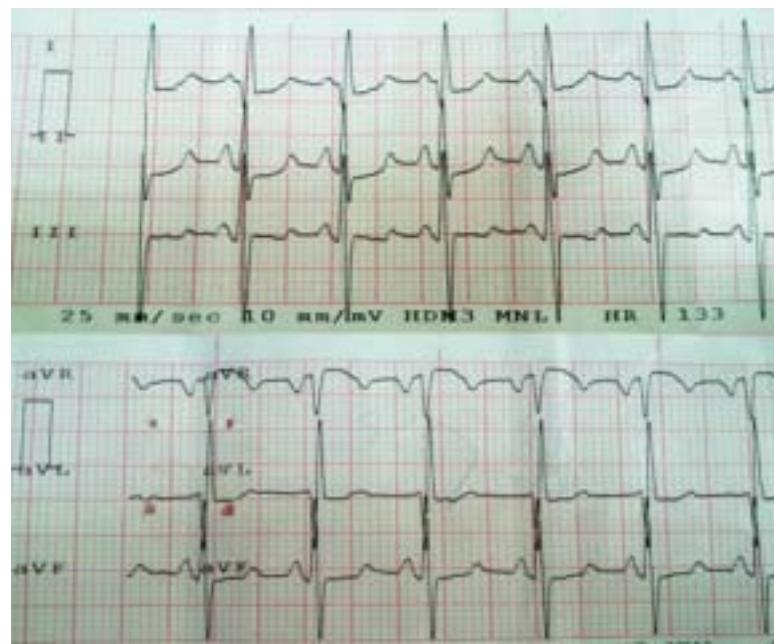


Figure 2:

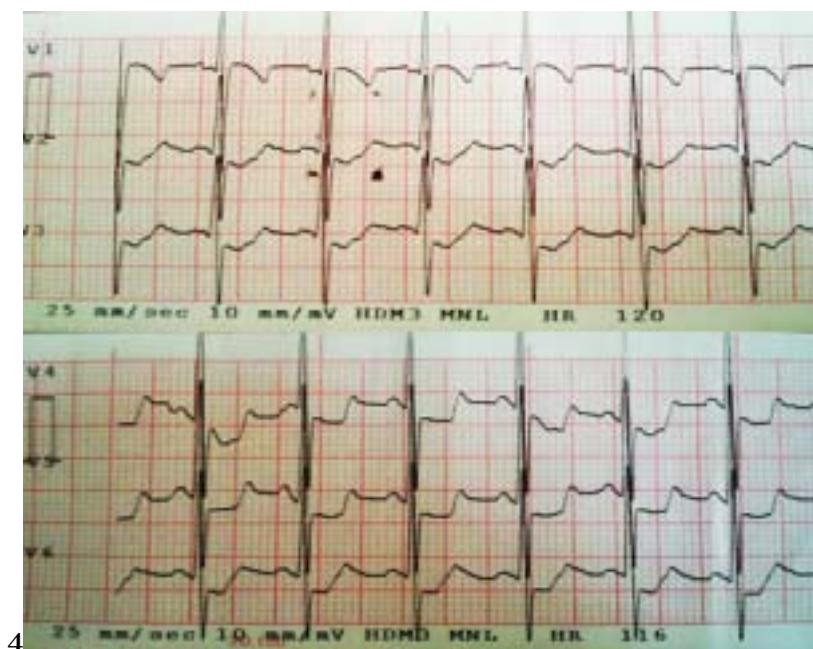
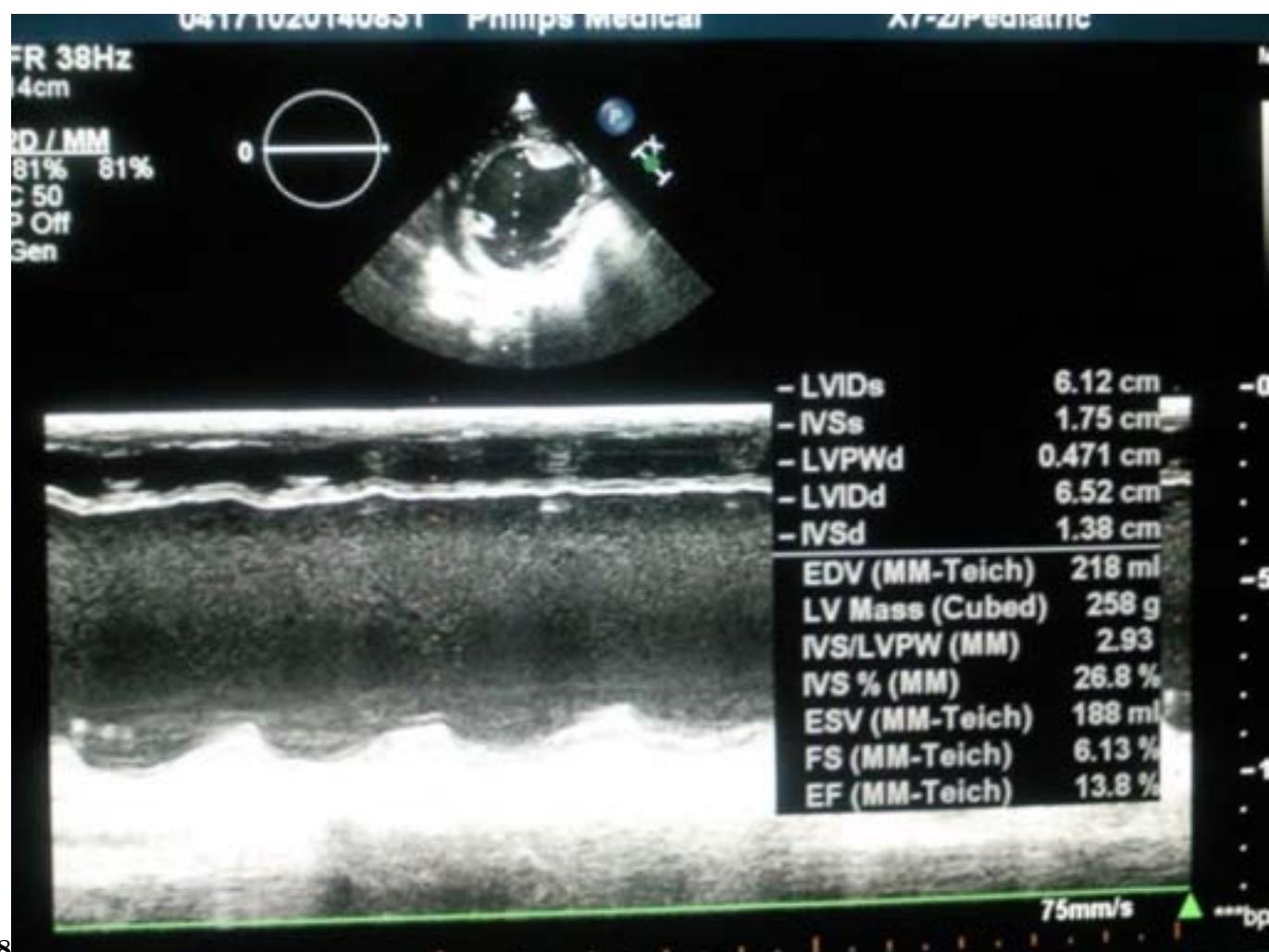


Figure 3: Fig. 4 :



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Figure 4: Fig. 8 :

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Figure 5:

