

2019 HRS expert consensus statement on evaluation, risk stratification, and management of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy: Executive summary



Jeffrey A. Towbin, MS, MD (Chair)^{1,2} William J. McKenna, MD, DSc (Vice-Chair)³
Dominic J. Abrams, MD, MRCP, MBA,⁴ Michael J. Ackerman, MD, PhD,^{5,*}
Hugh Calkins, MD, FHRS, CCDS,⁶ Francisco C.C. Darrieux, MD, PhD,^{7,†}
James P. Daubert, MD, FHRS,⁸ Christian de Chillou, MD, PhD,^{9,‡}
Eugene C. DePasquale, MD,^{10,§} Milind Y. Desai, MD,^{11,¶}
N.A. Mark Estes III, MD, FHRS, CCDS,¹² Wei Hua, MD, FHRS,^{13,#}
Julia H. Indik, MD, PhD, FHRS,¹⁴ Jodie Ingles, MPH, PhD, FHRS,^{15,**}
Cynthia A. James, ScM, PhD, CGC,⁶ Roy M. John, MBBS, PhD, CCDS, FHRS,¹⁶
Daniel P. Judge, MD,^{17,††} Roberto Keegan, MD,^{18,19,‡‡} Andrew D. Krahm, MD, FHRS,²⁰
Mark S. Link, MD, FHRS,^{21,§§} Frank I. Marcus, MD,¹⁴
Christopher J. McLeod, MBChB, PhD, FHRS,⁵ Luisa Mestroni, MD,²²
Silvia G. Priori, MD, PhD,^{23,24,25} Jeffrey E. Saffitz, MD, PhD,²⁶
Shubhayan Sanatani, MD, FHRS, CCDS,^{27,¶¶} Wataru Shimizu, MD, PhD,^{28,##}
J. Peter van Tintelen, MD, PhD,^{29,30} Arthur A.M. Wilde, MD, PhD,^{24,29,31}
Wojciech Zareba, MD, PhD³²

Document Reviewers: Peter Aziz, MD; Mina K. Chung, MD, FHRS; Shriprasad Deshpande, MBBS, MS; Susan Etheridge, MD, FACC; Marcio Jansen de Oliveira Figueiredo, MD; John Gorcsan III, MD, FASE; Denise Tessariol Hachul, MD; Robert Hamilton, MD; Richard Hauer, MD; Minoru Horie, MD, PhD; Yuki Iwasaki, MD, PhD; Rajesh Janardhanan, MD, MRCP, FACC, FASE; Neal Lakdawala, MD; Andrew P. Landstrom, MD, PhD; Andrew Martin, MBChB, CCDS; Ana Morales, MS; Brittney Murray, MS; Santiago Nava Townsend, MD; Stuart Dean Russell, MD; Frederic Sacher, MD, PhD; Mauricio Scanavacca, MD; Kavita Sharma, MD; Yoshihide Takahashi, MD; Harikrishna Tandri, MBBS, MD; Gaurav A. Upadhyay, MD, FACC; Christian Wolpert, MD

From the ¹Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, ²University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, Tennessee, ³University College London, Institute of Cardiovascular Science, London, United Kingdom, ⁴Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts, ⁵Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, ⁶Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, ⁷Universidade de São Paulo, Instituto do Coração HCFMUSP, São Paulo, Brazil, ⁸Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina, ⁹Nancy University Hospital, Vandoeuvre-lès-Nancy, France, ¹⁰University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, ¹¹Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio, ¹²University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, ¹³Fu Wai Hospital, Beijing, China, ¹⁴University of Arizona, Sarver Heart Center, Tucson, Arizona, ¹⁵Agnes Ginges Centre for Molecular Cardiology at Centenary Institute, The University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia, ¹⁶Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee, ¹⁷Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, South Carolina, ¹⁸Hospital Privado Del Sur, Buenos Aires, Argentina, ¹⁹Hospital Español, Bahía Blanca, Argentina, ²⁰The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, ²¹UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, ²²University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado, ²³University of Pavia, Pavia,

Italy,²⁴European Reference Network for Rare and Low Prevalence Complex Diseases of the Heart (ERN GUARD-Heart),²⁵ICS Maugeri, IRCCS, Pavia, Italy,²⁶Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, Massachusetts,²⁷Children's Heart Center, Vancouver, Canada,²⁸Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Nippon Medical School, Tokyo, Japan,²⁹University of Amsterdam, Academic Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands,³⁰Utrecht University Medical Center Utrecht, University of Utrecht, Department of Genetics, Utrecht, the Netherlands,³¹Department of Medicine, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, New York, and³²University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, New York.

*Representative of the American College of Cardiology (ACC)

†Representative of the Sociedade Brasileira de Arritmias Cardíacas (SOBRAC)

‡Representative of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA)

§Representative of the International Society for Heart & Lung Transplantation (ISHLT)

¶Representative of the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE)

#Representative of the Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society (APHRS)

**Representative of the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC)

††Representative of the Heart Failure Society of America (HFSA)

‡‡Representative of the Latin American Heart Rhythm Society (LAHRS)

§§Representative of the American Heart Association (AHA)

¶¶Representative of the Pediatric & Congenital Electrophysiology Society (PACES)

##Representative of the Japanese Heart Rhythm Society (JHRS)

Abstract

Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy (ACM) is an arrhythmogenic disorder of the myocardium not secondary to ischemic, hypertensive, or valvular heart disease. ACM incorporates a broad spectrum of genetic, systemic, infectious, and inflammatory disorders. This designation includes, but is not limited to, arrhythmogenic right/left ventricular cardiomyopathy, cardiac amyloidosis, sarcoidosis, Chagas disease, and left ventricular noncompaction. The ACM phenotype overlaps with other cardiomyopathies, particularly dilated cardiomyopathy with arrhythmia presentation that may be associated with ventricular dilatation and/or impaired systolic function. This expert consensus statement provides the clinician with guidance on evaluation and management of ACM and includes clinically relevant information on genetics and disease mechanisms. PICO questions were utilized to

evaluate contemporary evidence and provide clinical guidance related to exercise in arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy. Recommendations were developed and approved by an expert writing group, after a systematic literature search with evidence tables, and discussion of their own clinical experience, to present the current knowledge in the field. Each recommendation is presented using the Class of Recommendation and Level of Evidence system formulated by the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association and is accompanied by references and explanatory text to provide essential context. The ongoing recognition of the genetic basis of ACM provides the opportunity to examine the diverse triggers and potential common pathway for the development of disease and arrhythmia.

KEYWORDS Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy; Arrhythmogenic left ventricular cardiomyopathy; Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy; Cascade family screening; Catheter ablation; Diagnosis of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy; Disease mechanisms; Electrophysiology; Exercise restriction; Genetic testing; Genetic variants; ICD decisions; Left ventricular noncompaction; Risk stratification; Treatment of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy

ABBREVIATIONS ACE = angiotensin-converting enzyme; ACM = arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy; ALVC = arrhythmogenic left ventricular cardiomyopathy; ARB = angiotensin receptor blocker; ARVC = arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy; AV = atrioventricular; CMR = cardiac magnetic resonance imaging; COR = Class of Recommendation; DCM = dilated cardiomyopathy; ECG = electrocardiogram; EPS = electrophysiology study; ICD = implantable cardioverter defibrillator; LOE = Level of Evidence; LV = left ventricle; LVNC = left ventricular noncompaction; MET = metabolic equivalent; NSVT = nonsustained ventricular tachycardia; NYHA = New York Heart Association;

PVC = premature ventricular contraction; RV = right ventricle; VF = ventricular fibrillation; VT = ventricular tachycardia (Heart Rhythm 2019;16:e373–e407)

Developed in collaboration with and endorsed by the American College of Cardiology (ACC), the American Heart Association (AHA), the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE), the Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society (APHRS), the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA), the Heart Failure Society of America (HFSA), the International Society for Heart & Lung Transplantation (ISHLT), the Japanese Heart Rhythm Society (JHRS), the Latin American Heart Rhythm Society (LAHRS), the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC), the Pediatric & Congenital Electrophysiology Society (PACES), and the Sociedade Brasileira de Arritmias Cardíacas (SOBRAC). For copies of this document, please contact the Elsevier Inc. Reprint Department (reprints@elsevier.com). Permissions: Multiple copies, modification, alteration, enhancement, and/or distribution of this document are not permitted without the express permission of the Heart Rhythm Society. Instructions for obtaining permission are located at <https://www.elsevier.com/about/our-business/policies/copyright/permissions>. Correspondence: Heart Rhythm Society, 1325 G Street NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005. E-mail address: clinicaldocs@hrsonline.org.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 1 Introduction	e375
Section 2 Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy	e377
Section 2.1 Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy	e378
Section 2.2 Final common pathways in arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy	e380
Section 3 Diagnosis and treatment of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy	e380
3.1 Diagnosis and evaluation of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy	e381
3.1.1 Evaluation overview	e381
3.2 Electrocardiogram features in arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy	e382
3.2.1 Repolarization abnormalities	e382
3.2.2 Depolarization and conduction abnormalities	e382
3.3 Genetic testing	e383
3.3.1 Variant and gene interpretation	e383
3.3.2 Which test to use	e383
3.3.3 Advantages and disadvantages of various methods	e383
3.3.4 The use of genetic testing in risk stratification and management	e384
3.4 Cascade family screening	e384
3.4.1 Family history	e384
3.4.2 Age-related penetrance of disease in at-risk relatives	e384
3.4.3 Cascade cardiac investigations	e385
3.4.4 Cascade genetic testing	e385
3.5 Risk stratification and implantable cardioverter defibrillator decisions	e386
3.6 Management of ventricular arrhythmia and dysfunction	e388
3.6.1 Medications Including Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors, Beta-Blockers, and Antiarrhythmic Drugs	e388
3.6.2 Role of catheter ablation	e390
3.7 Prevention of disease progression	e391
3.7.1 Exercise and other arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathies	e392
Section 4 Disease mechanisms	e393
Section 5 Other disorders	e393
5.1 Amyloidosis	e395
5.2 Left ventricular noncompaction	e397
Section 6 Future directions and research recommendations	e397
References	e397
Appendix 1 Author Disclosure Table	e401
Appendix 2 Peer Reviewer Disclosure Table	e405

Section 1 Introduction

This international consensus statement is intended to help cardiologists and other health care professionals involved in the care of adult and pediatric patients with arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy (ACM), which encompasses a broad range of disorders, by providing recommendations for evaluation and management and supporting shared decision making between health care providers and patients in a document format that is also useful at the point of care.

This consensus statement was written by experts in the field chosen by the Heart Rhythm Society (HRS) and collaborating organizations. Twelve societies collaborated with the HRS in this effort: the American College of Cardiology (ACC), the American Heart Association (AHA), the Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society (APHRS), the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE), the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA), the Heart Failure Society of America (HFSA), the International Society for Heart & Lung Transplantation (ISHLT), the Japanese Heart Rhythm Society (JHRS), the Latin American Heart Rhythm Society (LAHRS), the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC), the Pediatric & Congenital Electrophysiology Society (PACES), and the Sociedade Brasileira de Arritmias Cardíacas (SOBRAC).

In accordance with the policies of the HRS, disclosure of any relationships with industry and other entities was required from the writing committee members ([Appendix 1](#)) and from all peer reviewers ([Appendix 2](#)). Of the 30 committee members, 16 (53%) had no relevant relationships with industry, including the document Chair and Vice-Chair. Sections that contain recommendations were written by committee members who were free of any relevant relationships with industry.

The writing committee reviewed evidence gathered by electronic literature searches (MEDLINE/PubMed, Embase, Cochrane Library). No specific year was chosen for the oldest literature. Search terms included but were not limited to the following: arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy, arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy, dilated cardiomyopathy, lamin, ventricular tachycardia, ventricular arrhythmia, Fabry, noncompaction, phospholamban, cardiac amyloidosis, amyloid heart, heart failure, right ventricular failure, ARVC therapy, ARVC amiodarone, ARVC sotalol, ARVC flecainide, ablation, family screening, family risk, family member, relative, and electrocardiography. Evidence tables were constructed to describe the evidence, including study type, with observational cohorts representing the predominant form of evidence. Case reports were not used to support recommendations. This document also used a PICO question to focus the search for evidence in section [3.7](#). A member of the

CLASS (STRENGTH) OF RECOMMENDATION		LEVEL (QUALITY) OF EVIDENCE†	
CLASS I (STRONG)	Benefit >> Risk	LEVEL A	
Suggested phrases for writing recommendations:		■ High-quality evidence‡ from more than 1 RCTs ■ Meta-analyses of high-quality RCTs ■ One or more RCTs corroborated by high-quality registry studies	
■ Is recommended ■ Is indicated/useful/effective/beneficial ■ Should be performed/administered/other ■ Comparative-Effectiveness Phrases†: <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Treatment/strategy A is recommended/indicated in preference to treatment B◦ Treatment A should be chosen over treatment B			
CLASS IIa (MODERATE)	Benefit > Risk	LEVEL B-R	(Randomized)
Suggested phrases for writing recommendations:		■ Moderate-quality evidence‡ from 1 or more RCTs ■ Meta-analyses of moderate-quality RCTs	
■ Is reasonable ■ Can be useful/effective/beneficial ■ Comparative-Effectiveness Phrases†: <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Treatment/strategy A is probably recommended/indicated in preference to treatment B◦ It is reasonable to choose treatment A over treatment B			
CLASS IIb (WEAK)	Benefit ≥ Risk	LEVEL B-NR	(Nonrandomized)
Suggested phrases for writing recommendations:		■ Moderate-quality evidence‡ from 1 or more well-designed, well-executed nonrandomized studies, observational studies, or registry studies ■ Meta-analyses of such studies	
■ May/might be reasonable ■ May/might be considered ■ Usefulness/effectiveness is unknown/unclear/uncertain or not well established			
CLASS III: No Benefit (MODERATE) <i>(Generally, LOE A or B use only)</i>	Benefit = Risk	LEVEL C-LD	(Limited Data)
Suggested phrases for writing recommendations:		■ Randomized or nonrandomized observational or registry studies with limitations of design or execution ■ Meta-analyses of such studies ■ Physiological or mechanistic studies in human subjects	
■ Is not recommended ■ Is not indicated/useful/effective/beneficial ■ Should not be performed/administered/other			
CLASS III: Harm (STRONG)	Risk > Benefit	LEVEL C-EO	(Expert Opinion)
Suggested phrases for writing recommendations:		Consensus of expert opinion based on clinical experience	
■ Potentially harmful ■ Causes harm ■ Associated with excess morbidity/mortality ■ Should not be performed/administered/other			

Figure 1 ACC/AHA Recommendation System: Applying Class of Recommendation and Level of Evidence to Clinical Strategies, Interventions, Treatments, and Diagnostic Testing in Patient Care.* Reproduced with permission of the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association.²

writing committee, free of relationships with industry and educated in evidence-based medicine and clinical practice document methodology, oversaw the evaluation of the evidence and determination of the Level of Evidence (LOE) for each recommendation.

Recommendations were formulated using the Class of Recommendation (COR) and LOE system formulated by the ACC and AHA (Figure 1). This system provides a transparent mechanism to judge benefit relative to risk using a classification scheme (I, IIa, IIb, and III), supported by

COR and LOE are determined independently (any COR may be paired with any LOE).

A recommendation with LOE C does not imply that the recommendation is weak. Many important clinical questions addressed in guidelines do not lend themselves to clinical trials. Although RCTs are unavailable, there may be a very clear clinical consensus that a particular test or therapy is useful or effective.

* The outcome or result of the intervention should be specified (an improved clinical outcome or increased diagnostic accuracy or incremental prognostic information).

† For comparative-effectiveness recommendations (COR I and IIa; LOE A and B only), studies that support the use of comparator verbs should involve direct comparisons of the treatments or strategies being evaluated.

‡ The method of assessing quality is evolving, including the application of standardized, widely used, and preferably validated evidence grading tools; and for systematic reviews, the incorporation of an Evidence Review Committee.

COR indicates Class of Recommendation; EO, expert opinion; LD, limited data; LOE, Level of Evidence; NR, nonrandomized; R, randomized; and RCT, randomized controlled trial.

evidence quality and quantity using an LOE rating (A, B-R, B-NR, C-LD, C-EO); all recommendations are listed with a COR and LOE rating. For clarity and usefulness, each recommendation contains the specific references from the literature used to justify the LOE rating, which are also summarized in the evidence tables (Appendix 3). Recommendations based solely on the writing committee opinion are given an LOE rating of C-EO. Each recommendation is accompanied by explanatory text or knowledge “byte.” Flow diagrams and appropriate tables provide a summary of the recommendations, intended to

Table 1 Relevant clinical practice documents

Title	Organization	Publication year
2017 AHA/ACC/HRS Guideline for Management of Patients with Ventricular Arrhythmias and the Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death ³	AHA, ACC, HRS	2017
ACC/AHA/HRS 2008 Guidelines for Device-Based Therapy of Cardiac Rhythm Abnormalities ⁴	ACC, AHA, HRS	2008
HRS/EHRA Expert Consensus Statement on the State of Genetic Testing for the Channelopathies and Cardiomyopathies ⁵	HRS, EHRA	2011
HRS/EHRA/APHRS Expert Consensus Statement on the Diagnosis and Management of Patients with Inherited Primary Arrhythmia Syndromes ⁶	HRS, EHRA, APHRS	2013
2016 ACC/AHA/HFSA Focused Update on New Pharmacological Therapy for Heart Failure: An Update of the 2013 ACCF/AHA Guideline for the Management of Heart Failure ⁷	ACC, AHA, HFSA	2016
2013 ACCF/AHA Guideline for the Management of Heart Failure ⁸	ACC, AHA	2013
2016 ESC Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Acute and Chronic Heart Failure ⁹	ESC	2016
Marcus et al. Diagnosis of Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy/Dysplasia: Proposed Modification of the Task Force Criteria ¹⁰	NA	2010
Hershberger et al. Genetic Evaluation of Cardiomyopathy—A Heart Failure Society of America Practice Guideline ¹¹	HFSA	2018
Corrado et al. Treatment of Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy/Dysplasia: An International Task Force Consensus Statement ¹²	NA	2015

assist health care providers at the point of care. A comprehensive discussion (Section 4) is presented to further the understanding of molecular mechanisms underlying ventricular dysfunction and arrhythmogenesis in ACM. For additional information on HRS clinical practice document development, please refer to the HRS methodology manual.¹ Clinical practice documents that are relevant to this document are listed in Table 1.

To reach consensus, the writing committee members participated in surveys, requiring a predefined threshold of 75% approval for each recommendation, with a quorum of two-thirds of the writing committee. An initial failure to reach consensus was resolved by subsequent discussions, revisions as needed, and re-voting. The mean consensus over all recommendations was 94%.

An industry forum was conducted to achieve a structured dialogue to address technical questions and gain a better understanding of future directions and challenges. Because of the potential for actual or perceived bias, HRS imposes strict parameters for information sharing to ensure that industry participates only in an advisory capacity and has no role in either the writing or review of the document. This consensus statement underwent internal review by the HRS Scientific and Clinical Documents Committee and was approved by the writing committee. Public comment on recommendations was obtained. The document underwent external peer review by reviewers appointed by HRS and each of the collaborating societies, and revisions were made by the chairs.

Section 2 Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy

ACM refers to an arrhythmogenic disorder of myocardium not secondary to ischemic, hypertensive, or valvular heart disease. In this expert consensus statement, ACM incorporates a broad spectrum of genetic, systemic, infectious, and inflammatory

disorders. This designation includes, but is not limited to, arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC), arrhythmogenic left ventricular cardiomyopathy (ALVC), ion channel abnormalities, amyloidosis, and left ventricular noncompaction (LVNC). The ACM phenotype overlaps with other cardiomyopathies, particularly dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM), with arrhythmia presentation accompanied by ventricular dilatation and/or impaired systolic function. ACM is a type of hereditary cardiovascular disease that demonstrates a “final common pathway” with genetic heterogeneity but similar phenotypes resulting from abnormalities in genes encoding proteins of similar function or genes encoding proteins participating in a common pathway cascade.

The top ten take-home messages based on novel concepts and Class I recommendations for ACM are as follows:

- 1) ACM is an inclusive designation referring to an arrhythmogenic disorder of myocardium characterized by a clinical presentation with documented and/or symptomatic arrhythmia as a distinguishing feature.
- 2) Genetic testing is indicated for all disease-associated genes and variants in patients and decedents.
- 3) Genetic counseling with a comprehensive 3-generation family history should be performed.
- 4) Clinical evaluation including electrocardiogram (ECG), cardiac imaging, and ambulatory monitoring is recommended for first-degree relatives every 1–3 years beginning at 10–12 years of age.
- 5) Implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) placement for primary and secondary prevention of sudden cardiac death is recommended in individuals with ACM who have suffered a cardiac arrest with ventricular tachycardia (VT) or ventricular fibrillation (VF), in individuals with ACM who have sustained VT not hemodynamically tolerated, in individuals with ACM and LVEF 35% or lower and NYHA class II–III symptoms and an expected

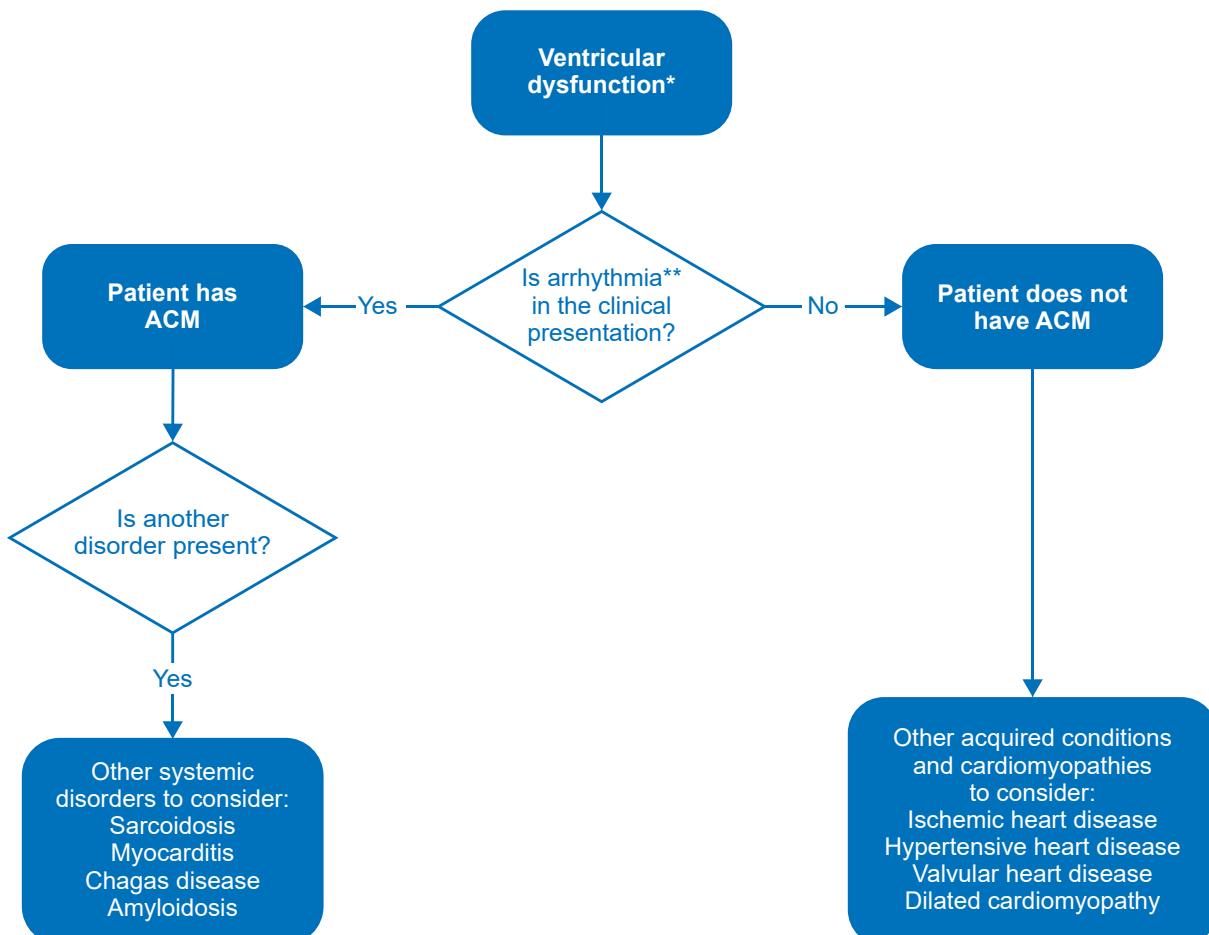
- meaningful survival of greater than 1 year, and in individuals with ACM not due to ARVC and hemodynamically tolerated VT.
- 6) A shared decision-making approach to ICD placement should be used.
 - 7) Beta-blocker therapy should be used for sinus tachycardia, supraventricular arrhythmias, atrial fibrillation, or atrial flutter with ventricular rates resulting in ICD therapy.
 - 8) For exercise with ARVC, clinicians should counsel adolescent and adult individuals with a positive genetic test for ARVC but who are phenotype-negative that competitive or frequent high-intensity endurance exercise is associated with increased likelihood of developing ARVC and ventricular arrhythmias.
 - 9) For cardiac amyloidosis, symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals with cardiac amyloidosis and second-degree AV block type II, high-grade AV block or third-degree AV block, should receive a permanent pacemaker, and individuals with cardiac amyloidosis who have survived a

cardiac arrest, should receive an ICD if meaningful survival greater than 1 year is expected.

- 10) In individuals with LVNC, if the proband has a disease-causing gene variant, it is recommended that first-degree relatives undergo clinical screening for the disease along with genetic counseling and genetic testing. ICD implantation is recommended in individuals with LVNC if there is evidence of ventricular tachyarrhythmias associated with syncope or resuscitated sudden death and if meaningful survival greater than 1 year is expected, and anticoagulation is recommended in individuals with LVNC if there is atrial fibrillation and/or previous embolic events.

This section discusses the features and presentation of ACM ([Figure 2](#), [Figure 3](#), and [Figure 4](#)), ARVC, ALVC, and the final common pathways in ACM ([Figure 5](#) and [Figure 18](#)), where with similar phenotypes and genetic heterogeneity will occur due to abnormalities in genes encoding proteins of similar function or genes encoding proteins participating in a common pathway cascade.

Section 2.1 Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy



*Not explained by ischemic, hypertensive, or valvular heart disease

**Arrhythmia includes conduction disease, atrial arrhythmias, ventricular arrhythmias

Figure 2 Algorithm to consider the presence of an arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy (ACM).

Genotype	Phenotype
Desmosomal	ARVC/ALVC, hair/skin abnormalities
Lamin A/C	Conduction disease, ventricular arrhythmia/sudden death, DCM, lipodystrophy, muscular dystrophy
SCN5A	Brugada syndrome, conduction disease, AF, VT/VF, DCM
PLN	Low-voltage ECG, VT/VF, DCM, HCM, ARVC
TMEM43	Sudden death M > F, DCM
FLNC	Sudden death, DCM
RBM20	DCM, AF; ventricular arrhythmia/sudden death uncommon as an early feature
Desmin	Skeletal myopathy, DCM; arrhythmia uncommon as an early feature

Figure 3 Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy (ACM): phenotypes associated with the most common genetic causes of ACM. AF = atrial fibrillation; ALVC = arrhythmogenic left ventricular cardiomyopathy; ARVC = arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy; DCM = dilated cardiomyopathy; ECG = electrocardiogram; F = female; FLNC = filamin-C; M = male; HCM = hypertrophic cardiomyopathy; PLN = phospholamban; RBM20 = RNA binding motif protein 20; VF = ventricular fibrillation; VT = ventricular tachycardia; SCN5A = sodium voltage-gated channel alpha subunit 5; TMEM43 = transmembrane protein 43.

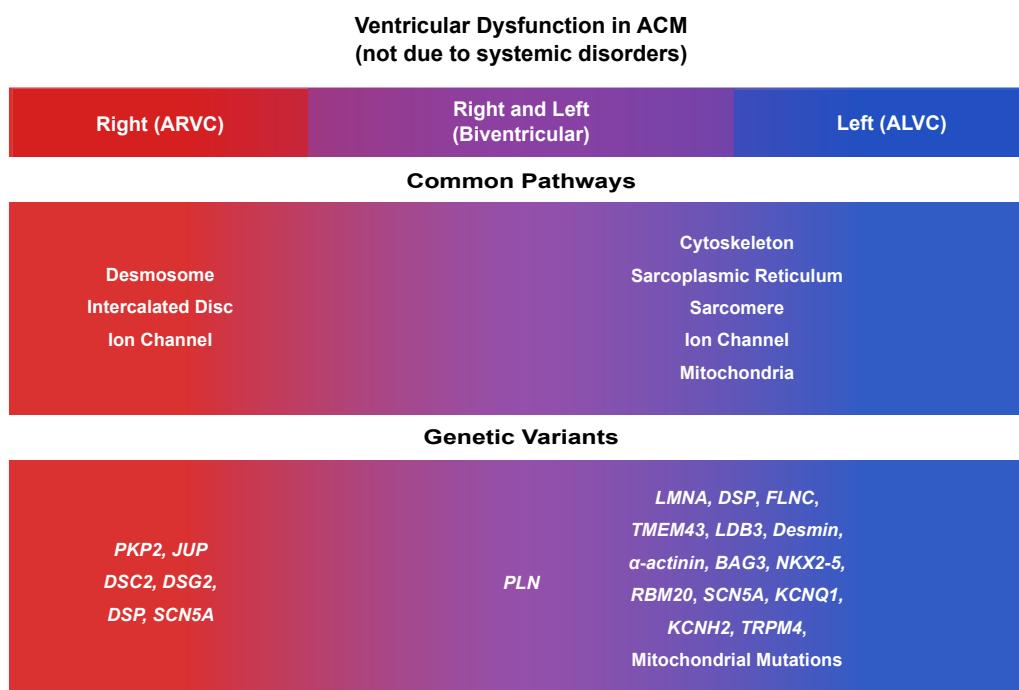


Figure 4 Approach to understanding the common pathway and genetic variants in a patient with arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy (ACM) according to the predominant ventricular dysfunction. See also Table 3. ALVC = arrhythmogenic left ventricular cardiomyopathy; ARVC = arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy; BAG3 = BCL2 associated athanogene 3; DSC2 = desmocollin-2; DSG2 = desmoglein-2; DSP = desmoplakin; FLNC = filamin-C; JUP = junction plakoglobin; KCNH2 = potassium voltage-gated channel subfamily H member 2; KCNQ1 = potassium voltage-gated channel subfamily Q member 1; LDB3 = LIM domain binding 3; LMNA = lamin A/C; NKX2-5 = NK2 homeobox 5; PKP2 = plakophilin-2; PLN = phospholamban; RBM20 = RNA binding motif protein 20; SCN5A = sodium voltage-gated channel alpha subunit 5; TMEM43 = transmembrane protein 43; TRPM4 = transient receptor potential melastatin 4.

Section 2.2 Final common pathways in arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy

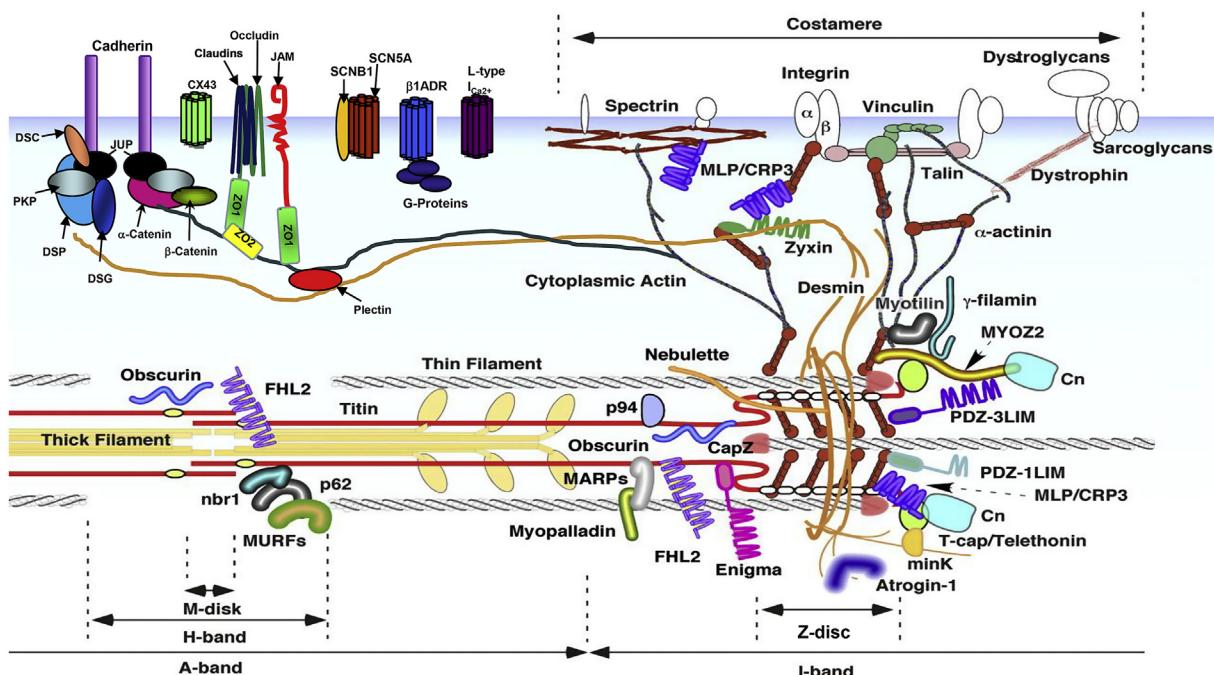


Figure 5 Cytoskeletal protein complexes within the cardiomyocyte costamere and Z-disc. Force is distributed externally from the costameres and internally throughout the myocyte by the Z-disc. Structural and signaling proteins within the costamere and Z-disc are shown. Many of these proteins have been implicated in mechano-sensing or sarcomere assembly. MYOZ2 = myozinin 2; Cn = calcineurin; PDZ-3LIM = one-PDZ and three-LIM domain protein; PDZ-1LIM = one-PDZ and one-LIM domain protein; MLP/CRP3 = muscle LIM protein/cysteine-rich protein 3; FHL2 = four-and-a-half LIM protein 2; MAPRs = muscle ankyrin repeat proteins; MURFs = muscle-specific ring-finger proteins. Modified with permission of the American Physiological Society.¹³

Section 3 Diagnosis and treatment of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy

This section covers the diagnosis and evaluation of ACM. The modified Task Force Criteria for ARVC (Figure 6) is discussed. ECG features in ARVC including repolarization and conduction abnormalities (Figure 7), depolarization and activation duration (Figure 8), ECG abnormalities in ACM other than ARVC, ambulatory ECG monitoring, and signal-averaged ECG. Cardiac imaging, electrophysiology testing, and endomyocardial biopsy to diagnose ACM are also covered. Genetic testing for the diagnosis and management of ARVC and other ACMs is discussed in detail including variant and gene interpretation (Table 2), choice of genetic test (Table 3), advantages and disadvantages of various methods for screening genes (Table 4), recommendations for who to study, and the role of genetic testing in ACM. Within genetic testing, the use of genetic testing for ACM risk stratification and management includes the topics of left ventricular (LV) dysfunction, multiple variants, and the specific genes and variants for which there is evidence for a clinically actionable relationship between genotype and phenotype. The specific genes and variants covered are desmosomal genes (Figure 9), lamin A/C (*LMNA*), desmoplakin (*DSP*), Transmembrane Protein 43 (*TMEM43*), and phospholamban (*PLN*). Limitations of

genetic testing are also discussed, and a genetic testing recommendation flow chart is provided (Figure 10). Cascade family screening considerations for ACM, including family history, cardiac evaluation, age-related penetrance of disease in at-risk relatives, cascade cardiac investigations, and cascade genetic testing in adults and minors are presented with recommendations and a recommendation flow chart (Figure 11). Treatment considerations for ACM begin with a discussion of risk stratification and ICD decisions with recommendations and a flow chart (Figure 12). Management of ventricular arrhythmia and dysfunction, including angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, beta-blockers, and antiarrhythmic drugs, is discussed in terms of medical therapies for LV failure, medical therapies for right ventricular (RV) failure, antithrombotic therapy in ACM, and arrhythmia management. Medical therapy recommendation flow charts are shown in Figures 13 and 14. The role of catheter ablation in ACM with recommendations and a recommendation flow chart (Figure 15) is discussed. Finally, the prevention of disease progression is presented in terms of exercise restrictions for ARVC. The clinical exercise questions used to direct the literature search are included, and also exercise definitions, exercise increasing age-related penetrance among genotype-positive relatives, exercise for carriers of pathogenic variants detected incidentally, exercise and relatives of “gene-elusive” patients

with ARVC, exercise increasing arrhythmic risk and structural dysfunction in patients with ARVC, and exercise and other ACMs are discussed. Exercise restriction recommendations

are included with a recommendation flow chart (Figure 16), and the metabolic equivalents (METs) associated with common types of endurance exercise (Figure 17).

3.1 Diagnosis and evaluation of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy

3.1.1 Evaluation overview

Modified Task Force Criteria for ARVC – Diagnostic Categories Major and Minor Criteria		
	Major	Minor
Global or regional dysfunction and structural alterations determined by echo, MRI, or RV angiography:		
Echo	<p>Definite: 2 major OR 1 major and 2 minor, OR 4 minor criteria from different categories Borderline: 1 major and 1 minor, OR 3 minor criteria from different categories Possible: 1 major, OR 2 minor criteria from different categories</p> <p>Regional RV akinesia, dyskinesia, or aneurysm and 1 of the following (end diastole):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) PLAX RVOT ≥ 32 mm (PLAX/BSA ≥ 19 mm/m2) b) PSAX RVOT ≥ 36 mm (PSAX/BSA ≥ 21 mm/m2) c) Fractional area change $\leq 33\%$ 	<p>Regional RV akinesia, dyskinesia, or aneurysm and 1 of the following (end diastole):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) PLAX RVOT ≥ 29 mm to <32 mm (PLAX/BSA ≥ 16 to <19 mm/m2) b) PSAX RVOT ≥ 32 to <36 mm (PSAX/BSA ≥ 18 to <21 mm/m2) c) Fractional area change >33 to $\leq 40\%$
MRI	<p>Regional RV akinesia or dyskinesia or dyssynchronous RV contraction and 1 of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ratio RVEDV/BSA ≥ 110 mL/m2 (male), ≥ 100 mL/m2 (female) b) RVEF $\leq 40\%$ 	<p>Regional RV akinesia or dyskinesia or dyssynchronous RV contraction and 1 of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ratio RVEDV/BSA ≥ 100 to <110 mL/m2 (male), ≥ 90 to 100 mL/m2 (female) b) RVEF >40 to $\leq 45\%$
RV angiography	Regional RV akinesia, dyskinesia, or aneurysm	
Tissue characterization of wall		
Endomyocardial biopsy showing fibrous replacement of the RV free wall myocardium in ≥ 1 sample, with or without fatty replacement and with:	Residual myocytes $<60\%$ by morphometric analysis (or $<50\%$ if estimated)	Residual myocytes 60% to 75% by morphometric analysis (or 50% to 65% if estimated)
Repolarization abnormalities		
ECG	Inverted T waves in right precordial leads (V ₁ , V ₂ , and V ₃) or beyond in individuals >14 years of age (in the absence of complete RBBB)	<p>I. Inverted T waves in leads V₁ and V₂ in individuals >14 years of age (in the absence of complete RBBB) or in V₄, V₅, or V₆.</p> <p>II. Inverted T waves in leads V₁, V₂, V₃, and V₄ in individuals >14 years of age in the presence of complete RBBB</p>
Depolarization/conduction abnormalities		
ECG	Epsilon wave (reproducible low-amplitude signals between end of QRS complex to onset of the T wave) in the right precordial leads (V ₁ to V ₃)	<p>I. Late potentials by SAEKG in ≥ 1 of 3 parameters in the absence of QRS duration of ≥ 110 ms on the standard ECG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Filtered QRS duration (fQRS) ≥ 14 ms b) Duration of terminal QRS <40 μV (low-amplitude signal duration) ≥ 38 ms c) Root-mean-square voltage of terminal 40 ms ≤ 20 μV <p>II. Terminal activation duration of QRS ≥ 55 ms measured from the nadir of the S wave to the end of the QRS, including R' in V₁, V₂, or V₃ in the absence of complete RBBB</p>
Arrhythmias		
	Nonsustained or sustained VT of LBBB with superior axis (negative or indeterminate QRS in leads II, III, and aVF and positive in lead aVL)	<p>I. Nonsustained or sustained VT or RV outflow configuration, LBBB morphology with inferior axis (positive QRS in II, III and aVF and negative in lead aVL) or of unknown axis</p> <p>II. >500 ventricular extrasystoles per 24 hours (Holter)</p>
Family history		
	<p>I. ARVC confirmed in a first-degree relative who meets current Task Force Criteria</p> <p>II. ARVC confirmed pathologically at autopsy or surgery in a first-degree relative</p> <p>III. Identification of a pathogenetic mutation categorized as associated or probably associated with ARVC in the patient under evaluation</p>	<p>I. History of ARVC in a first-degree relative in whom it is not possible or practical to determine whether the family member meets current Task Force Criteria</p> <p>II. Premature sudden death (<35 years of age) due to suspected ARVC in a first-degree relative</p> <p>III. ARVC confirmed pathologically or by current Task Force Criteria in second-degree relative</p>

Figure 6 Modified Task Force Criteria for arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC) showing the diagnostic categories for major and minor criteria according to the 2010 ARVC Task Force Criteria. These criteria are sensitive and specific in differentiating patients with ARVC from control populations but have not been adequately tested in relation to other arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathies (ACMs) with overlapping phenotypes (eg, cardiac sarcoidosis, myocarditis).¹⁴ BSA = body surface area; ECG = electrocardiogram; echo = echocardiogram; MRI = magnetic resonance imaging; PLAX = parasternal long-axis; PSAX = parasternal short-axis; RBBB = right bundle branch block; RV = right ventricle; RVEDV = right ventricular end-diastolic volume; RVEF = right ventricular ejection fraction; RVOT = right ventricular outflow tract; SAEKG = signal-averaged electrocardiogram; VT = ventricular tachycardia.

3.2 Electrocardiogram features in arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy

3.2.1 Repolarization abnormalities

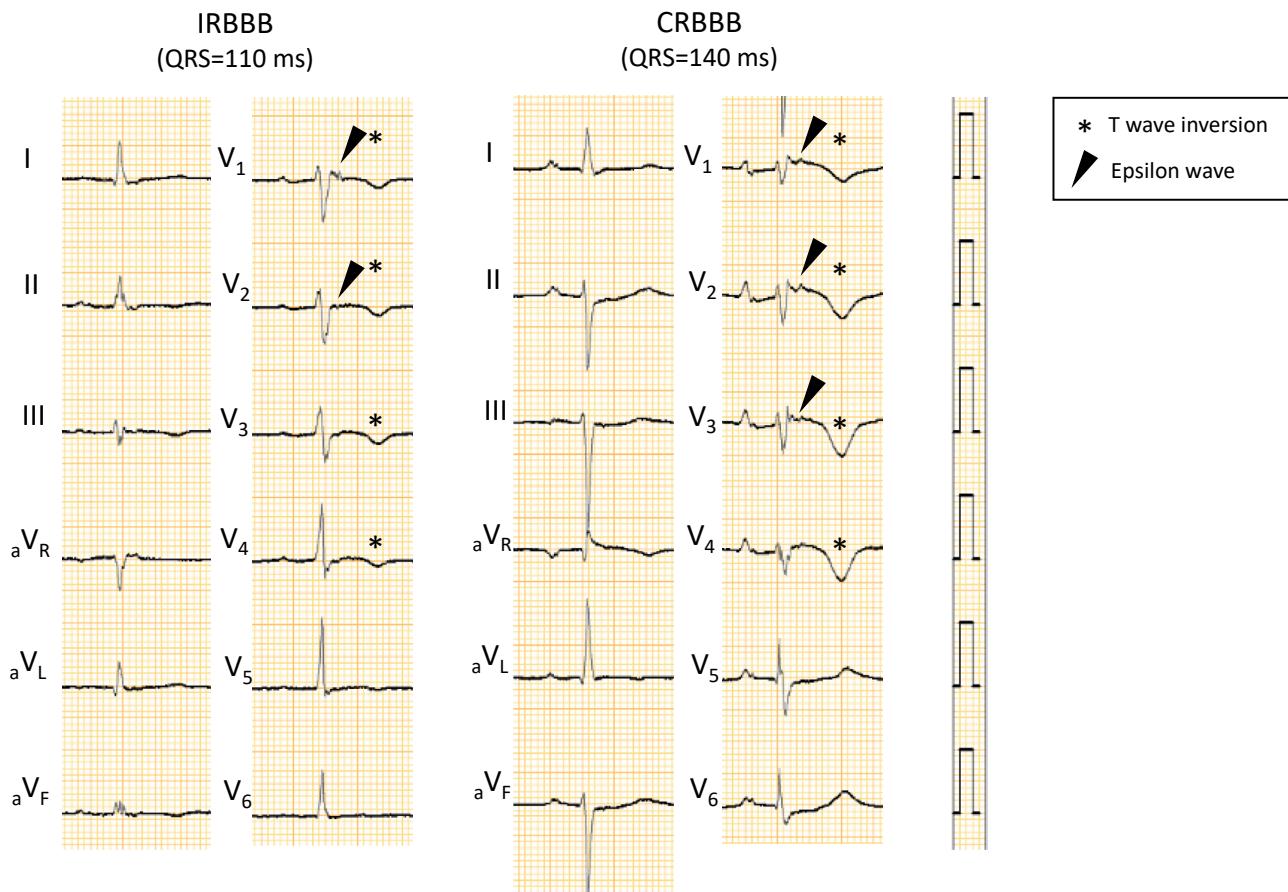


Figure 7 Representative 12-lead electrocardiogram (ECG) obtained from patients with arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC) with incomplete right bundle branch block (IRBBB) and complete right bundle branch block (CRBBB). QRS duration of IRBBB and CRBBB was 110 ms and 140 ms, respectively. The closed arrow indicates an epsilon wave, which was defined as low-amplitude deflection located between the end of the QRS and the onset of the T wave in leads V₁–V₃. The asterisk indicates the T wave inversion recorded in V₁–V₄ in patients with ARVC and IRBBB or CRBBB.

3.2.2 Depolarization and conduction abnormalities

3.2.2.1 Prolonged terminal activation duration



Figure 8 Terminal activation duration (TAD) is measured from the nadir of the S wave to the end of all depolarization deflections and is prolonged if ≥ 55 ms in any of the V₁–V₃ leads in the absence of complete right bundle branch block. Modified with permission of Oxford University Press on behalf of the European Society of Cardiology.¹⁵

3.3 Genetic testing

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
I	C-EO	For individuals and decedents with either a clinical or necropsy diagnosis of ACM, genetic testing of the established ACM-susceptibility genes is recommended.	
I	C-EO	For genetic testing of the established ACM-susceptibility genes, comprehensive analysis of all established genes with full coverage is recommended.	
IIa	C-EO	The interpretation of a cardiac genetic test by a team of providers with expertise in genetics and cardiology can be useful.	

3.3.1 Variant and gene interpretation

Table 2 Classification of likelihood of pathogenicity of a variant

Classification of variant	Description	Likelihood of being pathogenic
Class 5	Pathogenic	>95%
Class 4	Likely pathogenic	>90%
Class 3	Variant of uncertain significance	10–90%
Class 2	Likely benign	<10%
Class 1	Benign	<5%

Adapted from Plon et al.¹⁶

3.3.2 Which test to use

Table 3 Minimum set of genes to be prioritized in arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy (ACM)

Gene	Protein type	Predominant type of mutation	OR/EF ¹⁷	Signal: background ²⁷	Remarks	References
BAG3	Chaperone	Truncating and missense	NA	NA	Also causes myofibrillar myopathy	²⁸
DES	IF	Truncating and missense	NA	NA	Also causes myofibrillar myopathy	²⁹
DSC2	Desm	Truncating and missense	NT 2.15 (EF 0.53) T 21.5* (EF 0.95)	ns ns	Rare	³⁰
DSG2	Desm	Truncating and missense	NT 2.83* (EF 0.65) T 19.8* (EF 0.95)	2:1* (NT/T)	Rarely recessive	³¹
DSP	Desm	Truncating and missense	NT 2.1* (EF 0.52) T 89.9* (EF 0.99)	ns ns	Recessive: Carvajal syndrome	^{32,33}
FLNC	Actin crosslink	Truncating and missense	NA	NA	Also causes myofibrillar myopathy	³⁴
JUP	Desm	Missense	NT 7.8* (EF 0.87) T 28.1 (EF –)		Recessive: Naxos syndrome	^{35,36}
LDB3	Z-band	Missense	NA	NA	Cypher/ZASP	³⁷
LMNA	NE	Truncating and missense	NA	NA	AV block; CD	³⁸
NKX2-5	Homeobox	Truncating and missense	NA	NA	AV block, CD, CHD	³⁹
PKP2	Desm	Truncating	NT 1.3 (EF 0.23) T 484.7* (EF 1.0)	10:1* 42:1*	Large deletions 1-2%	⁴⁰
PLN	Ca	Missense, nonsense, and deletion	NA	NA	Predominantly R14del	^{41,42}
RBM20	Splice factor	Missense	NA	NA	Mostly in exon 9	⁴³
SCN5A	Sodium channel	Mostly missense	NA	NA	Brugada, SND, CD	⁴⁴
TMEM43	NE	Missense	NT 0.76 (EF –) T 13 (EF –)	ns	p.S358L disease-causing; also called LUMA	⁴⁵

These genes have multiple lines of evidence indicating involvement in ACM and its subtypes (arrhythmogenic left ventricular cardiomyopathy, arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy). OR/Ef and Signal:Background data are largely derived from cohorts with western European ancestry, and other ethnicities can be different.

AV = atrioventricular; BV = biventricular; Ca = calcium handling; CD = conduction delay; CHD = congenital heart disease; CPVT = catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia; DES = desmin; Desm = desmosomal; DSC2 = desmocollin-2; DSG2 = desmoglein-2; EF = etiological fraction; IF = intermediate filament; LD = left dominant; NA = data not available; NE = nuclear envelope; ns = not significant; NT = nontruncating variants; OR = odds ratio; RD = right dominant; SND = sinus node dysfunction; T = truncating variants.

*Genes with significant excess in cases over ExAc reference samples.¹⁷ Other genes that have been identified in ACM with insufficient or conflicting evidence are: ABC9,¹⁸ TGFB3,¹⁹ TTN,²⁰ CTNNA3,²¹ sarcomeric genes (MYH7, MYBPC3),^{22,23} SCN3B,²³ CDH2,^{24,25} TJP1.²⁶

3.3.3 Advantages and disadvantages of various methods

Table 4 Different methods for screening genes

	Target	Coverage	CNVs	Flexibility	Costs
Sanger sequencing	Single gene(s)	++	--	-	IE
Targeted NGS panel	Panel of genes of interest	+	+	-	+/-
WES filtered against genes of interest	Set of genes of interest	+/-	+/-	+	+
WES	All genes	+/-	+/-	+	+
WGS	All genes and intronic sequences	+	+	+	++

CNVs = copy number variations; IE = inefficient (expensive for large amounts of sequencing but inexpensive for a small amount); NGS = next generation sequencing; WES = whole exome sequencing; WGS = whole genome sequencing; ++ = very high; + = high; +/- = intermediate; - = low; -- = very low.

3.3.4 The use of genetic testing in risk stratification and management

3.3.4.1 Specific variants and genes

3.3.4.1.1 Desmosomal genes

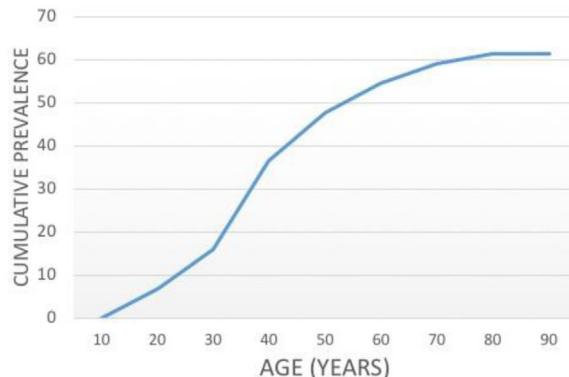


Figure 9 Cumulative prevalence of disease expression in family members at risk of arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC).⁴⁶

3.4 Cascade family screening

3.4.1 Family history

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
I	C-E0	It is recommended that a genetic counselor or appropriately experienced clinician obtain a comprehensive 3-generation family history.	

3.4.2 Age-related penetrance of disease in at-risk relatives

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
I	B-NR	It is recommended that first-degree relatives undergo clinical evaluation every 1–3 years starting at 10–12 years of age.	34,47–52
I	B-NR	Cardiovascular evaluation should include 12-lead ECG, ambulatory ECG, and cardiac imaging.	46,51–57

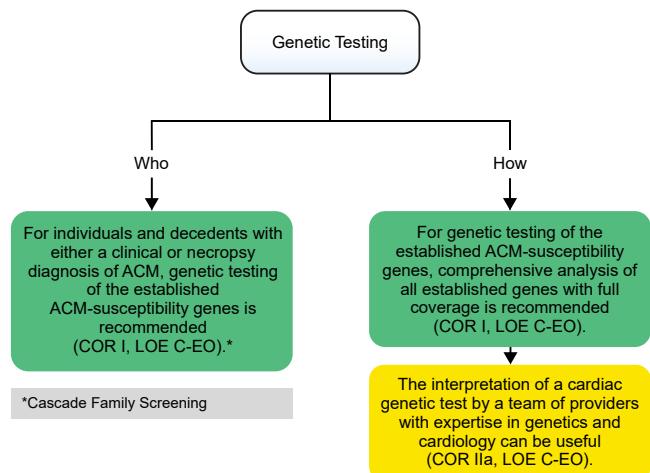


Figure 10 Genetic testing recommendations. * = Cascade family screening: see Section 3.4. ACM = arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy; COR = Class of Recommendation; LOE = Level of Evidence. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

3.4.3 Cascade cardiac investigations

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
IIb	C-LD	Exercise stress testing (arrhythmia provocation) may be considered as a useful adjunct to cardiovascular evaluation.	58

3.4.4 Cascade genetic testing

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
IIb	C-EO	In families with a variant classified as pathogenic, it may be reasonable for asymptomatic members of a family who do not have the familial variant and have a normal cardiovascular evaluation to be released from regular screening and educated to return if disease symptoms occur.	

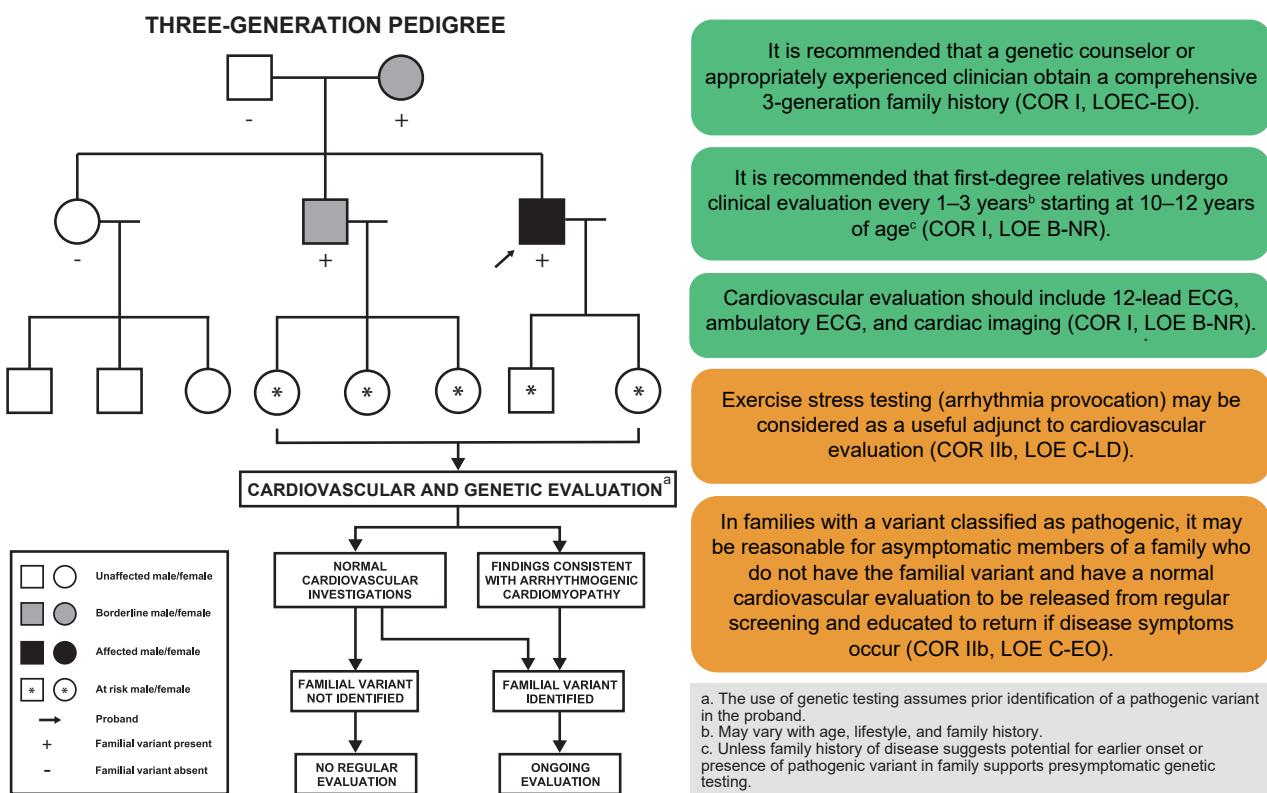


Figure 11 Summary of family screening recommendations. COR = Class of Recommendation; ECG = electrocardiogram; LOE = Level of Evidence. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

3.5 Risk stratification and implantable cardioverter defibrillator decisions

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
I	C-E0	The decision to implant an ICD in an individual with ACM should be a shared decision between the patient and the physician, taking into account the risks and benefits of the ICD over the potential longevity of the patient.	
I	B-NR	In individuals with ACM who have suffered a cardiac arrest with VT or VF, an ICD is recommended.	59–64
I	B-NR	In individuals with ACM who have sustained VT not hemodynamically tolerated, an ICD is recommended.	59–62,64
I	B-NR	In individuals with ACM (other than ARVC) and hemodynamically tolerated VT, an ICD is recommended.	50,65
I	B-R	In individuals with ACM with LVEF 35% or lower and NYHA class II–III symptoms and an expected meaningful survival of greater than 1 year, an ICD is recommended.	64,66–70
IIa	B-R	In individuals with ACM with LVEF 35% or lower and NYHA class I symptoms and an expected meaningful survival of greater than 1 year, an ICD is reasonable.	69
IIa	B-NR	In individuals with ACM and syncope suspected to be due to a ventricular arrhythmia, an ICD is reasonable.	59–62,66,68–74
IIa	B-NR	In individuals with ARVC with hemodynamically tolerated sustained VT, an ICD is reasonable.	60–62,72
IIa	B-NR	ICD implantation is reasonable for individuals with ARVC and three major, two major and two minor, or one major and four minor risk factors for ventricular arrhythmia.*	61,62,72,75
IIa	B-NR	In individuals with phospholamban cardiomyopathy and LVEF <45% or NSVT, an ICD is reasonable.	50
IIa	B-NR	In individuals with lamin A/C ACM and two or more of the following: LVEF <45%, NSVT, male sex, an ICD is reasonable.	65
IIa	C-LD	In individuals with lamin A/C ACM and an indication for pacing, an ICD with pacing capabilities is reasonable.	49,74,76
IIa	C-LD	In individuals with <i>FLNC</i> ACM and an LVEF <45%, an ICD is reasonable.	34
IIb	B-NR	ICD implantation may be reasonable for individuals with ARVC and two major, one major and two minor, or four minor risk factors for ventricular arrhythmia.*	61,62,72,75

*Major criteria: nonsustained ventricular tachycardia (NSVT), inducibility to VT at electrophysiology study (EPS), LVEF ≤49%. Minor criteria: male sex, >1000 premature ventricular contractions (PVCs)/24 hours, RV dysfunction (as per major criteria of the 2010 Task Force Criteria, see Figure 6), proband status, 2 or more desmosomal variants. If both NSVT and PVC criteria are present, then only NSVT can be used.

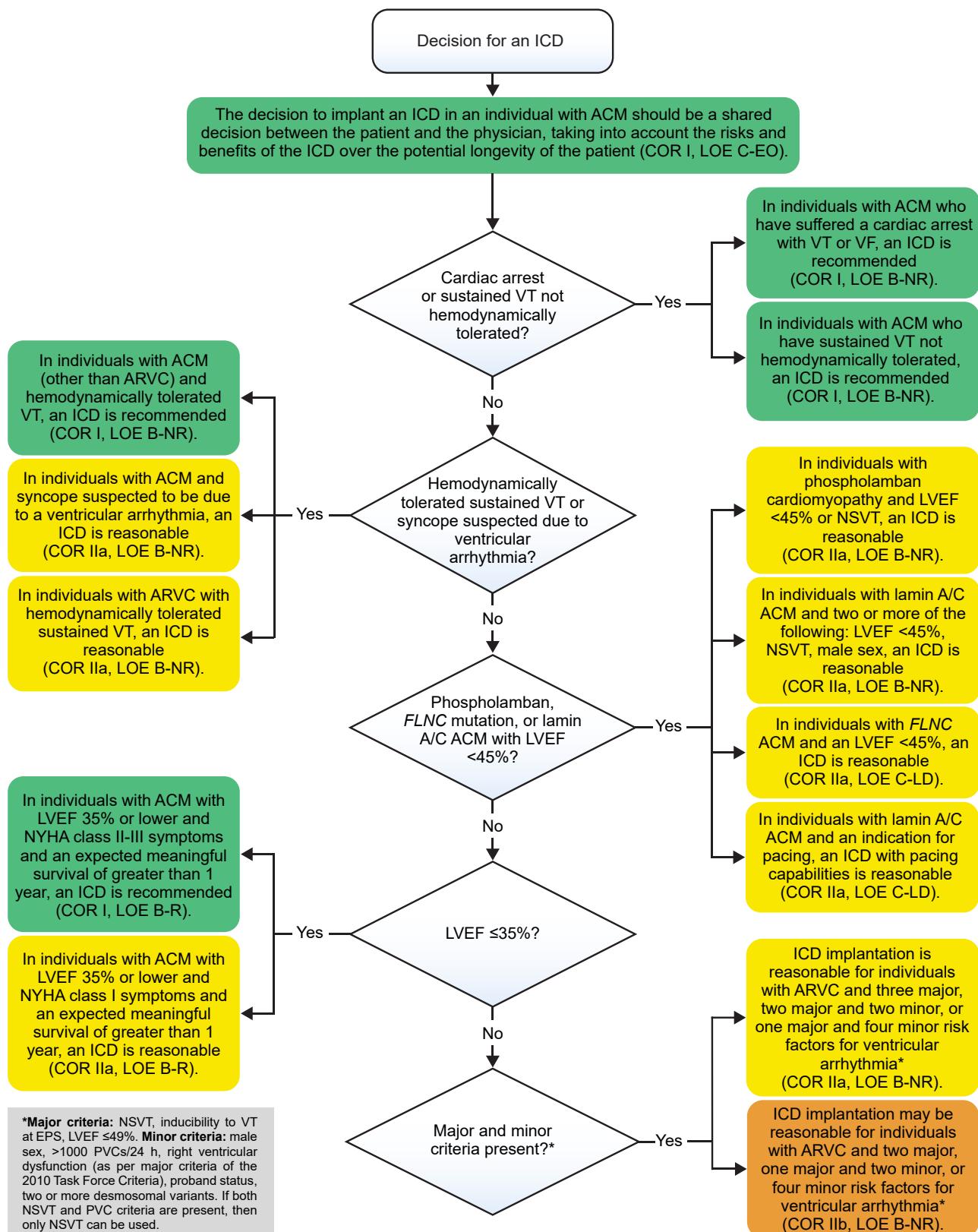


Figure 12 Implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) recommendations. See Section 5 for recommendations regarding left ventricular noncompaction. ACM = arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy; ARVC = arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy; COR = Class of Recommendation; EPS = electrophysiology studies; *FLNC* = filamin-C; LOE = Level of Evidence; LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction; NSVT = nonsustained ventricular tachycardia; NYHA = New York Heart Association; PVC = premature ventricular contraction; VF = ventricular fibrillation; VT = ventricular tachycardia. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

3.6 Management of ventricular arrhythmia and dysfunction

3.6.1 Medications Including Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors, Beta-Blockers, and Antiarrhythmic Drugs

3.6.1.1 Medical Therapies for Right Ventricular Failure

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
IIa	C-EO	In individuals with ACM and symptomatic RV dysfunction, the use of ACE inhibitors or angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), as well as beta-blockers, aldosterone antagonists, and diuretics is reasonable.	
IIb	C-EO	In symptomatic individuals with ACM and RV dysfunction, the use of isosorbide dinitrate to reduce preload may be considered.	

3.6.1.2 Antithrombotic therapy in arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
I	B-NR	In individuals with ACM, in the presence of atrial fibrillation, intracavitory thrombosis, or venous/systemic thromboembolism, anticoagulant therapy is recommended.	77
IIb	C-EO	Antithrombotic therapy may be reasonable in individuals with LV or RV aneurysm.	

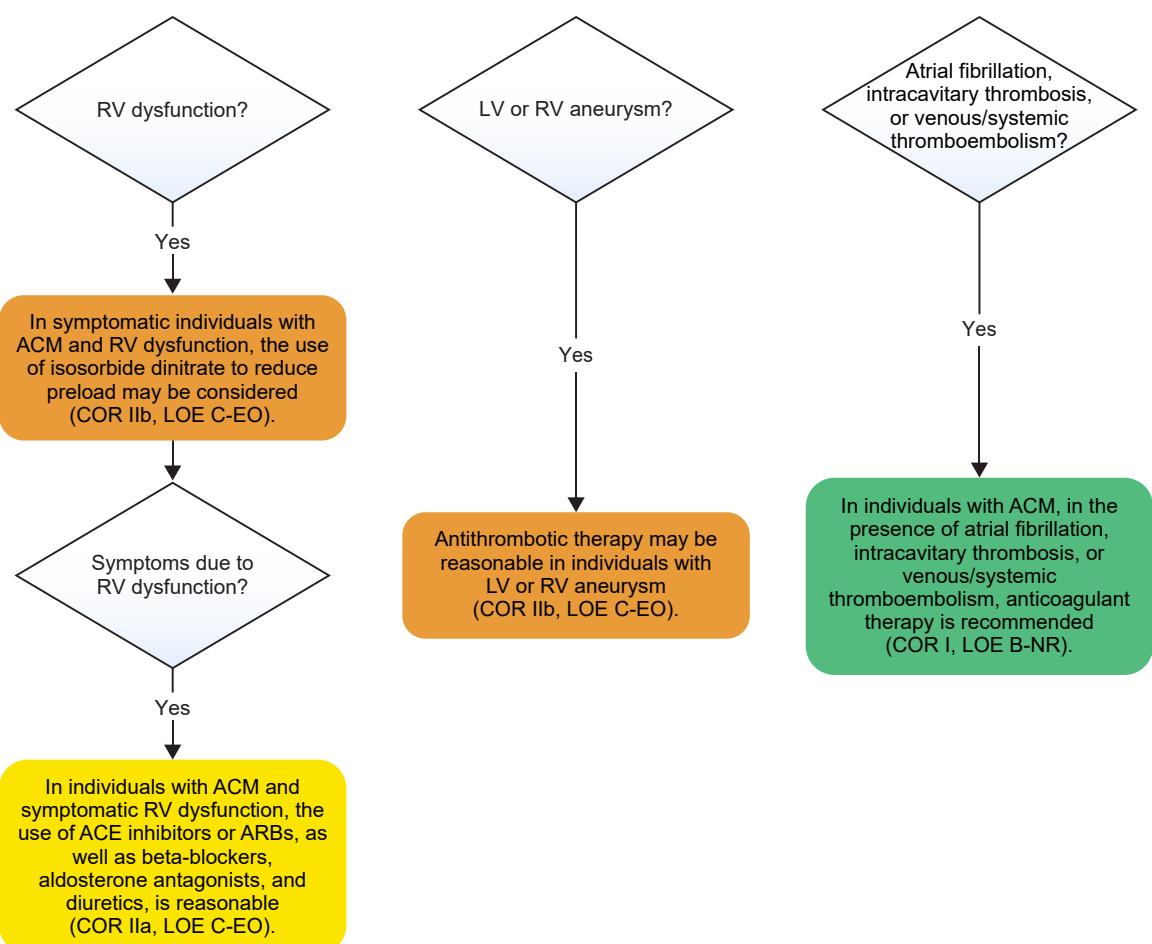


Figure 13 Recommendations for ventricular dysfunction and antithrombotic medical therapy in individuals with arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy (ACM). ACE = angiotensin-converting enzyme; ARB = angiotensin receptor blocker; COR = Class of Recommendation; LOE = Level of Evidence; LV = left ventricle; RV = right ventricle. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

3.6.1.3 Arrhythmia management

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
I	C-LD	Beta-blocker therapy is recommended in individuals with ACM with inappropriate ICD interventions resulting from sinus tachycardia, supraventricular tachycardia, or atrial fibrillation/flutter with high ventricular rate.	78
IIa	C-EO	Beta-blocker therapy is reasonable in individuals with ACM who do not have an ICD.	
IIb	B-NR C-LD	Amiodarone (LOE B-NR) and sotalol (LOE C-LD) may be reasonable in individuals with ACM for control of arrhythmic symptoms or to reduce ICD shocks.	72,79,80
IIb	C-LD	Flecainide in combination with beta-blockers and in the absence of other antiarrhythmic drugs may be reasonable in individuals with ACM, an ICD, and preserved LV and RV function for control of ventricular arrhythmias that are refractory to other therapies.	81

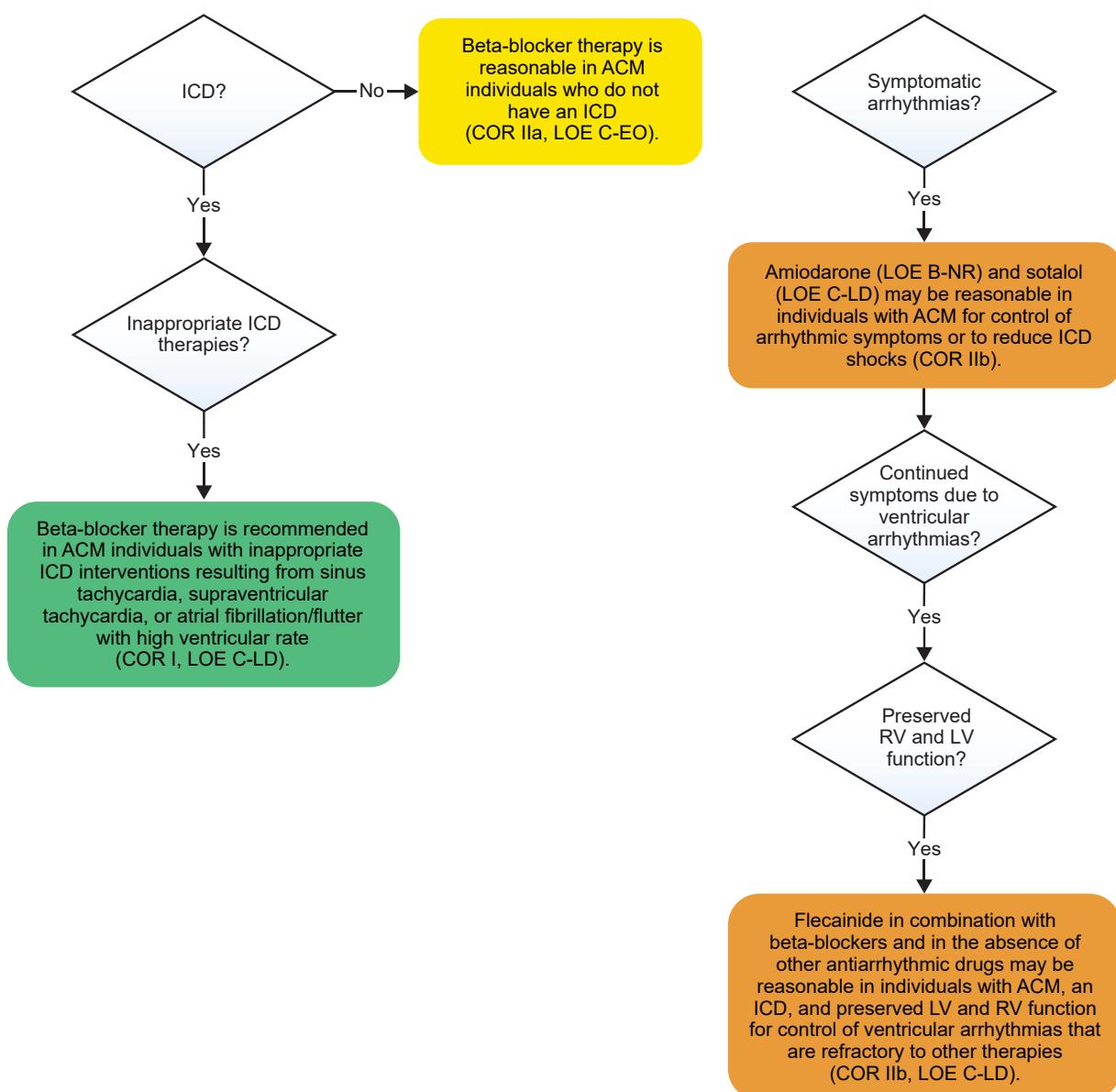
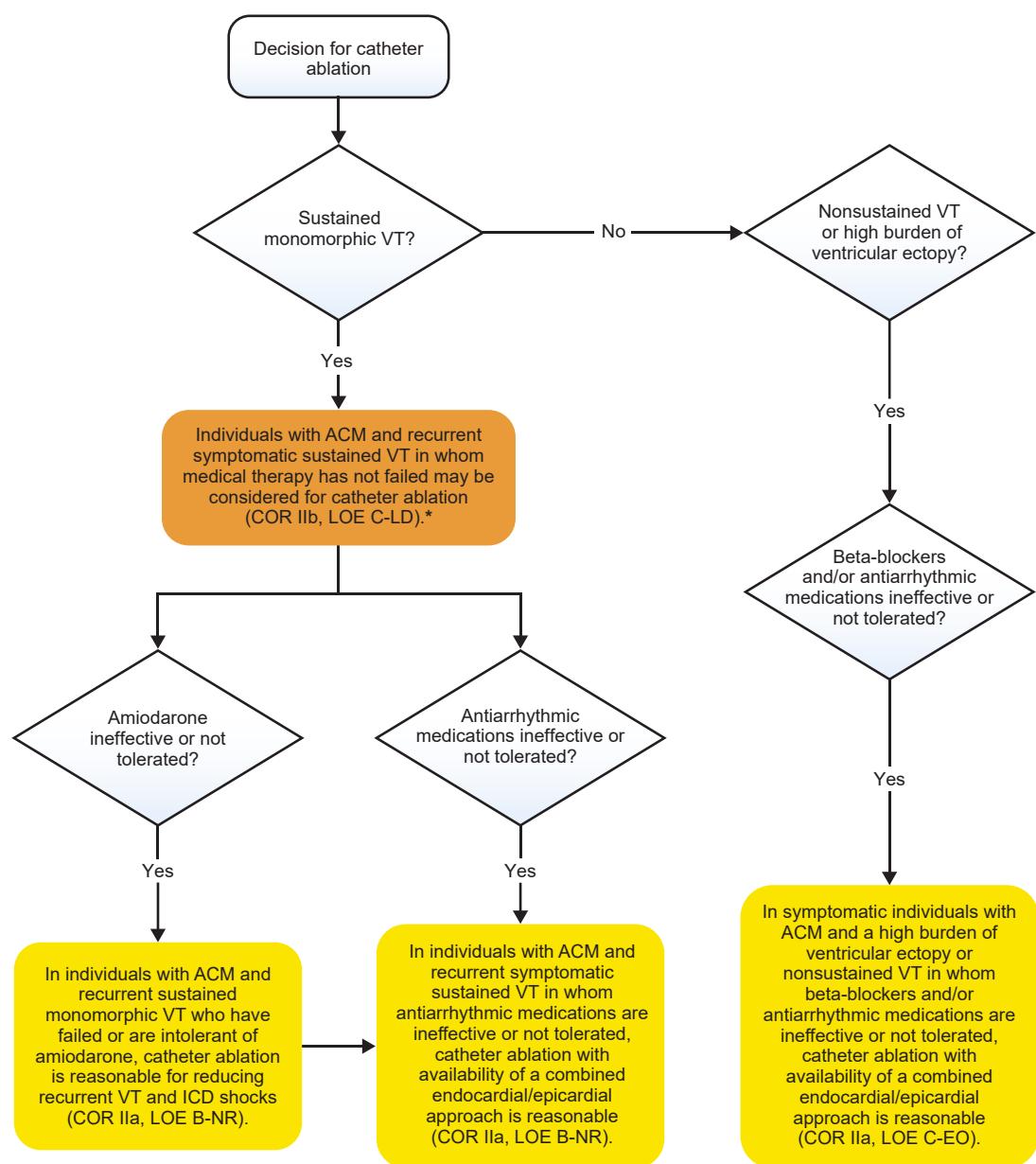


Figure 14 Medical therapy recommendations for arrhythmias. ACM = arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy; COR = Class of Recommendation; ICD = implantable cardioverter defibrillator; LOE = Level of Evidence; LV = left ventricle; RV = right ventricle. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

3.6.2 Role of catheter ablation

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
IIa	B-NR	In individuals with ACM and recurrent sustained monomorphic VT who have failed or are intolerant of amiodarone, catheter ablation is reasonable for reducing recurrent VT and ICD shocks.	82–92
IIa	B-NR	In individuals with ACM and recurrent symptomatic sustained VT in whom antiarrhythmic medications are ineffective or not tolerated, catheter ablation with availability of a combined endocardial/epicardial approach is reasonable.	86,88–92
IIa	C-EO	In symptomatic individuals with ACM and a high burden of ventricular ectopy or nonsustained VT in whom beta-blockers and/or antiarrhythmic medications are ineffective or not tolerated, catheter ablation with availability of a combined endocardial/epicardial approach is reasonable.	
IIb	C-LD	Individuals with ACM and recurrent symptomatic sustained VT in whom medical therapy has not failed may be considered for catheter ablation.	86,88,90



*This recommendation does not exclude the choice to continue medical therapy that has not failed and not proceed with ablation

Figure 15 Catheter ablation recommendations for individuals with arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy (ACM). COR = Class of Recommendation; ICD = implantable cardioverter defibrillator; LOE = Level of Evidence; VT = ventricular tachycardia. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

3.7 Prevention of disease progression

3.7.1 Exercise and other arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathies

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
I	B-NR	Clinicians should counsel adolescent and adult individuals with a positive genetic test for ARVC but who are phenotype-negative that competitive or frequent high-intensity endurance exercise is associated with increased likelihood of developing ARVC and ventricular arrhythmias.	93–96
III: Harm	B-NR	Individuals with ARVC should not participate in competitive or frequent high-intensity endurance exercise as this is associated with increased risk of ventricular arrhythmias and promoting progression of structural disease.	72,93–98

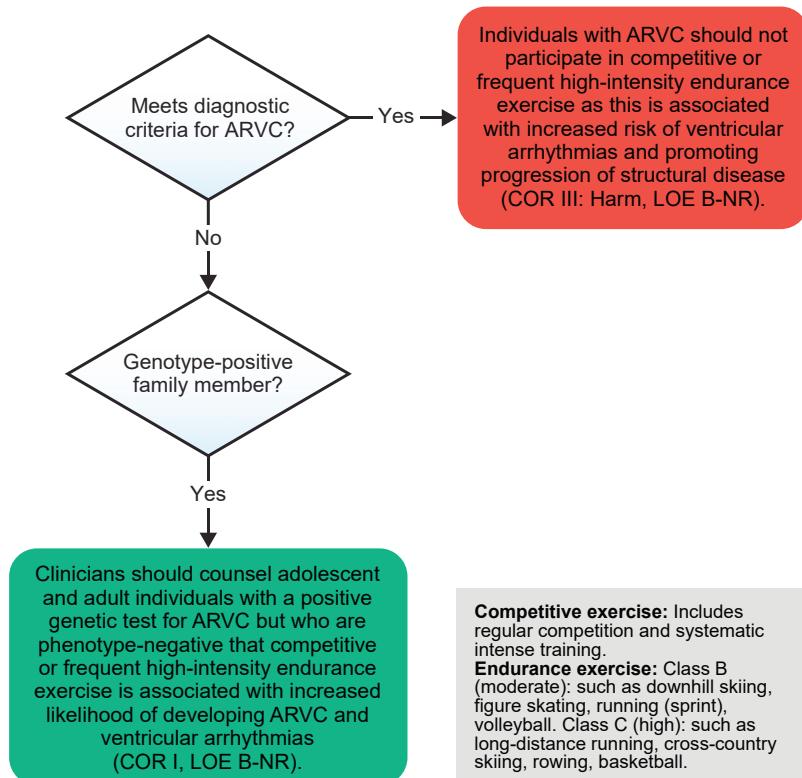


Figure 16 Exercise recommendations for individuals with arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC). COR = Class of Recommendation; LOE = Level of Evidence. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

Frequency	Intensity	METs	Examples of METs associated with endurance exercise
Never/ Rare	High	16	Competitive cycling
		15	Cross-country ski racing (>8.0 mph)
		12	Canoeing, rowing, crew in competition
		10	Soccer, competitive
		9.8	Running—6 mph (10 minutes/mile)
		8	Basketball game
		7	Racquetball
		5.8	Swimming laps, freestyle—light-moderate effort
		5.3	Downhill skiing—moderate effort
		5	Walking for exercise—4 mph (very brisk pace, level, firm surface)
		4.8	Golf
		3.5	Walking for pleasure or transportation
		3.3	Sailing (boat and board sailing, windsurfing, ice sailing)
		3	Canoeing/rowing for pleasure
Regular	Low	2.5	Yoga

Figure 17 Metabolic equivalents (METs) Associated with Common Types of Endurance Exercise (<https://sites.google.com/site/compendiumofphysicalactivities/>).^{99,100} Inverse association between intensity of exercise (METs) and recommended frequency of participation among patients with arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC). Aiding patients and at-risk family members in making choices about participation in various types of exercise involves ongoing discussion and shared decision making. Based on data suggesting that higher exercise intensity and doses (intensity*duration) are associated with poorer outcomes,^{93,96,97,101} vigorous-intensity activities (red/orange) should be performed rarely if at all, and lower-intensity activities (green) more regularly. This figure is provided to aid the clinician in understanding METs associated with a variety of common activities⁹⁹ and to aid in discussions with patients and families.

Section 4 Disease mechanisms

This section presents an overview of the basic science details of the mechanisms responsible for the forms of ACM (Figure 18). Desmosomal defects, ion channel

defects, sarcomeric defects, metabolic defects, mitochondrial forms, and histiocytoid (oncocytic) cardiomyopathy are discussed.

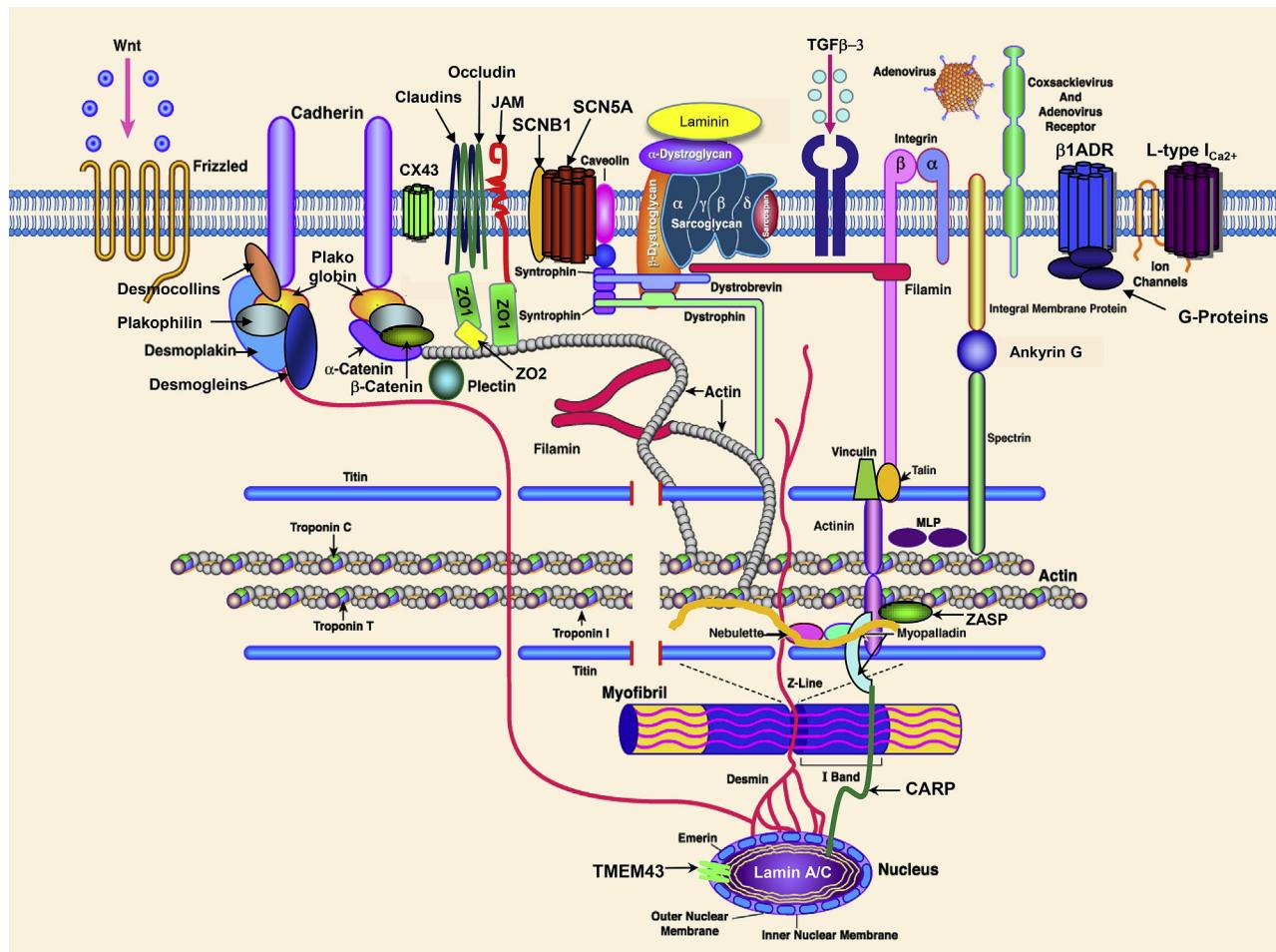


Figure 18 Disease mechanisms for arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy. Cardiomyocyte showing the extracellular matrix, sarcolemma, sarcomere, nucleus, and key proteins that provide structure for ventricular function and cardiac rhythm. Descriptions of the functions of these proteins are included in section 4.

Section 5 Other disorders

This section discusses other disorders of ACM, including amyloidosis, Brugada syndrome, potassium channels (KCNQ1, KCNH2, and TRMP4), phospholamban, and LVNC. Recommendations for amyloidosis arrhythmia

treatment are presented with a flow chart (Figure 19). LVNC diagnostic methods, diagnostic criteria (Table 5), and treatment are discussed in detail including recommendations and flow charts for diagnosis (Figure 20) and treatment (Figure 21).

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
I	B-NR	In both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals with cardiac amyloidosis and second-degree atrioventricular (AV) block type II, high-grade AV block or third-degree AV block, a permanent pacemaker is recommended.	102–105
I	C-EO	In individuals with cardiac amyloidosis who have survived a cardiac arrest, an ICD is recommended if meaningful survival greater than 1 year is expected.	
IIb	B-NR	In individuals with cardiac amyloidosis, the use of digoxin may be considered if used with caution due to the high risk of toxicity.	106
IIb	B-NR	In individuals with AL-type cardiac amyloidosis with nonsustained ventricular arrhythmias, a prophylactic ICD may be considered if meaningful survival greater than 1 year is expected.	107
IIb	C-LD	In individuals with cardiac amyloidosis and symptomatic atrial arrhythmias, cardiac ablation may be considered.	108
IIb	C-EO	In individuals with cardiac amyloidosis and symptomatic atrial arrhythmias, the use of sotalol, dofetilide, or amiodarone may be considered.	

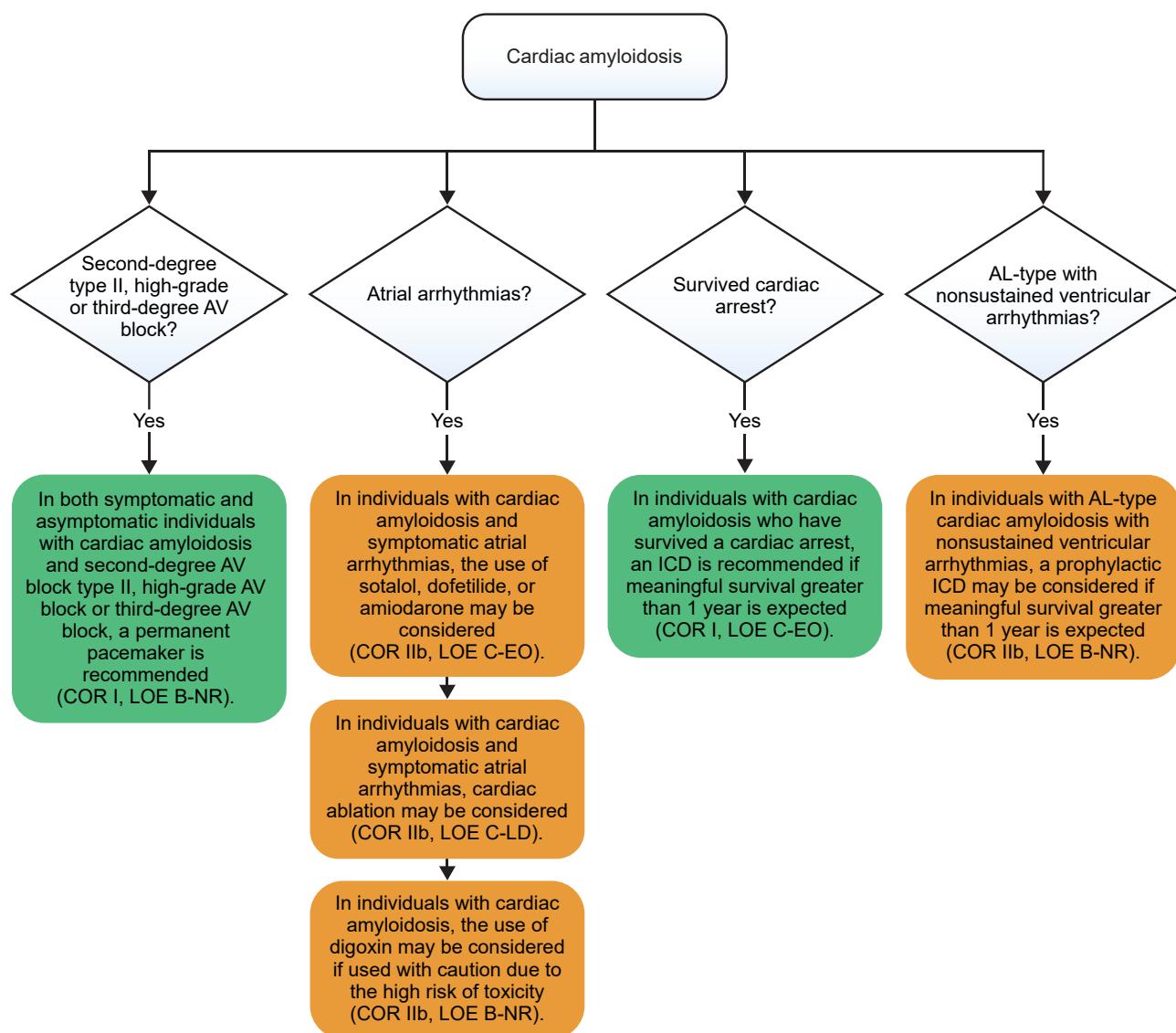


Figure 19 Amyloidosis arrhythmia treatment recommendations. AL = amyloid light-chain; AV = atrioventricular; COR = Class of Recommendation; ICD = implantable cardioverter defibrillator; LOE = Level of Evidence. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

5.1 Amyloidosis

COR	LOE	Recommendations	References
I	B-NR	If the proband has a disease-causing gene variant, it is recommended that first-degree relatives of individuals with LVNC undergo clinical screening for the disease along with genetic counseling and genetic testing.	109–111
I	B-NR	ICD implantation is recommended in individuals with LVNC and evidence of ventricular tachyarrhythmias associated with syncope or resuscitated sudden death if meaningful survival greater than 1 year is expected.	112
I	B-NR	Anticoagulation is recommended in individuals with LVNC with atrial fibrillation and in those with previous embolic events.	113
IIa	B-NR	In individuals with the clinical diagnosis of pathologic LVNC, genetic counseling and genetic testing are reasonable for diagnosis and for gene-specific targeted cascade family screening.	109,111
IIa	B-NR	ICD implantation is reasonable in individuals with LVNC and evidence of nonsustained VT associated with a reduced ejection fraction.	112,114
IIb	B-NR	Anticoagulation may be reasonable in individuals with LVNC with evidence of ventricular dysfunction.	113
IIb	B-NR	In individuals with suspected LVNC, the diagnostic criteria by echocardiography or cardiac magnetic resonance imaging (CMR), measured as the maximal ratio of noncompaction to compaction (NC/C), may be reasonable for establishing a diagnosis.	115–119
IIb	B-NR	In individuals with suspected LVNC and ventricular arrhythmias, CMR or other advanced cardiac imaging may be reasonable for establishing a diagnosis and for risk stratification.	118–120

Table 5 Diagnostic criteria for left ventricular noncompaction (LVNC)

References	Modality	N	LVNC diagnostic criteria
121	Echo	8	2 layers, excessively prominent ventricular trabeculations, progressively increased total myocardial wall thickness from mitral valve and towards the apex, $CM/(NCM + CM) \leq 0.5$ at end-diastole (short-axis parasternal and/or apical views)
122	Echo	34	2 layers, intertrabecular recesses by CFD, no co-existing structural abnormality, $NC/C \text{ layer } \geq 2$
123	Echo	62	>3 trabeculations protruding from LV wall apically to papillary muscle. End-diastolic $NC/C \text{ layer } \geq 2$
124	MRI	7	2 layers. End-diastolic $NC/C > 2.3$
125	MRI	16	Total LV trabeculated mass without papillary muscles. End-diastolic NC layer volume $>20\%$

C = compaction; CM = compacted myocardium; echo = echocardiogram; LV = left ventricle; MRI = magnetic resonance imaging; NC/C = maximum noncompaction to compaction ratio; NCM = noncompacted myocardium.

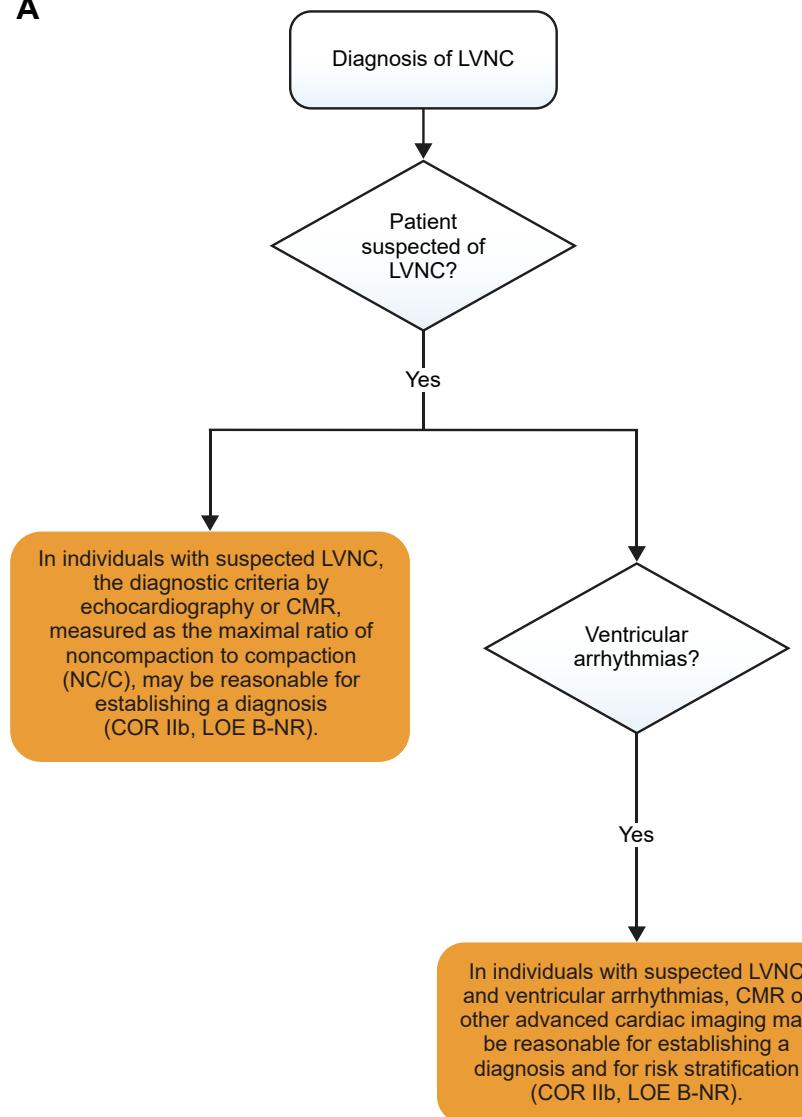
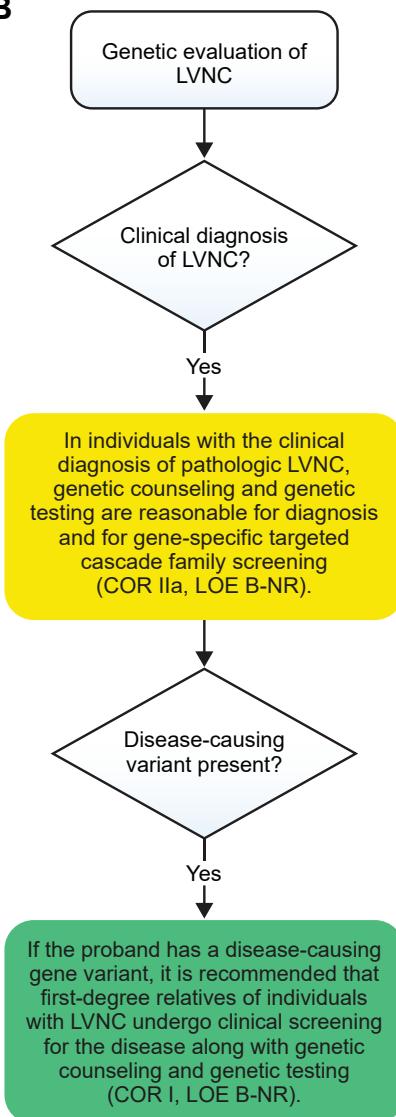
A**B**

Figure 20 Diagnosis and risk stratification of left ventricular noncompaction (LVNC) (A) and family and genetic evaluation of LVNC (B). CMR = cardiac magnetic resonance imaging; COR = Class of Recommendation; LOE = Level of Evidence; NC/C = maximum noncompaction to compaction ratio. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

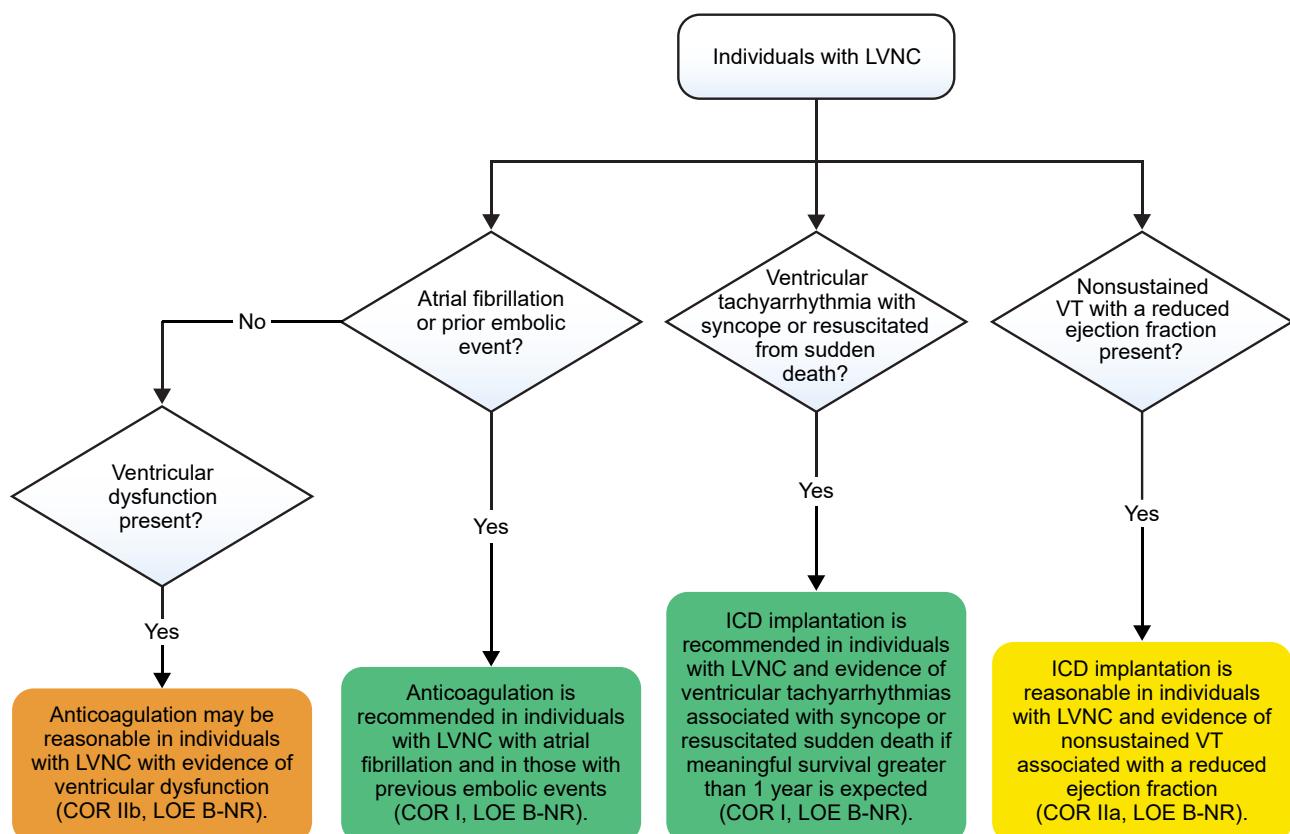


Figure 21 Left ventricular noncompaction (LVNC) treatment recommendations. Anticoagulation refers to vitamin K antagonists and direct oral anticoagulants. Children are often administered aspirin. COR = Class of Recommendation; ICD = implantable cardioverter defibrillator; LOE = Level of Evidence; LVNC = left ventricular noncompaction; VT = ventricular tachycardia. Colors correspond to COR in Figure 1.

5.2 Left ventricular noncompaction

Section 6 Future directions and research recommendations

This section lists future directions for the understanding of mechanisms responsible for the development and progression of ACM and lists recommended topics for research.

Appendix Supplementary Data

Supplementary data (Appendix 3) and interview video associated with this article can be found in the online version at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hrthm.2019.09.019>.

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Appendix 1 Author disclosure table

Writing group member	Employment	Honoraria/ Speaking/ Consulting	Speakers' bureau	Research*	Fellowship support*	Ownership/ Partnership/ Principal/ Majority stockholder	Stock or stock options	Intellectual property/ Royalties	Other
Jeffrey A. Towbin, MS, MD (Chair)	Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee; University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, Tennessee	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
William J. McKenna, MD, DSc (Vice-Chair)	University College London, Institute of Cardiovascular Science, London, United Kingdom	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Dominic J. Abrams, MD, MRCP, MBA	Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts	1: Audentes Therapeutics	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Michael J. Ackerman, MD, PhD	Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota	0: Abbott; 0: Audentes Therapeutics; 0: Boston Scientific; 0: Gilead Sciences; 0: MyoKardia; 1: Invitae; 1: Medtronic	None	5: NIH	None	None	None	0: AliveCor; 0: Blue Ox Healthcare; 0: StemoniX	None
Hugh Calkins, MD, FHRS, CCDS	Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland	1: Abbott; 1: Biosense Webster; 1: Boston Scientific; 1: Sanofi Aventis; 1: Toray Industries; 2: Medtronic; 3: Boehringer Ingelheim	None	2: Boston Scientific	None	None	None	None	None
Francisco C.C. Darriue, MD, PhD	Universidade de São Paulo, Instituto do Coração HCFMUSP, São Paulo, Brazil	1: Bayer; 1: Boehringer Ingelheim; 1: Daiichi-Sankyo; 1: Pfizer	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
James P. Daubert, MD, FHRS	Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina	1: Abbott; 1: ACC; 1: Biosense Webster; 1: Boston Scientific; 1: Iowa Approach; 1: LivaNova; 1: VytronUS; 1: ZOLL Medical Corporation; 2: Gilead Sciences; 2: Medtronic	None	0: Abbott; 0: Biosense Webster; 0: Boston Scientific; 0: Medtronic	3: Biosense Webster; 3: Boston Scientific; 3: Medtronic	None	None	None	None
Christian de Chillou, MD, PhD	Nancy University Hospital, Vandoeuvre-lès-Nancy, France	1: Abbott; 1: Biosense Webster; 1: Boston Scientific; 1: Medtronic	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

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Appendix 1 *(Continued)*

Christopher J. McLeod, MBChB, PhD, FHRS	Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Luisa Mestroni, MD	University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado	1: MyoKardia	None	4: AHA; 4: NIH; 5: Fondation Leducq	None	None	None	None	None
Silvia G. Priori, MD, PhD	University of Pavia, Pavia, Italy and European Reference Network for Rare and Low Prevalence Complex Diseases of the Heart; ICS Maugeri, IRCCS, Pavia, Italy	None	None	2: Cardurion	None	None	None	None	None
Jeffrey E. Saffitz, MD, PhD	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, Massachusetts	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Shubhayan Sanatani, MD, FHRS, CCDS	Children's Heart Center, Vancouver, Canada	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Wataru Shimizu, MD, PhD	Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Nippon Medical School, Tokyo, Japan	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
J. Peter van Tintelen, MD, PhD	Utrecht University Medical Center Utrecht, University of Utrecht, Department of Genetics, Utrecht, the Netherlands; University of Amsterdam Academic Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Arthur A.M. Wilde, MD, PhD	University of Amsterdam, Academic Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands; Department of Medicine, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, New York; European Reference Network for Rare and Low Prevalence Complex Diseases of the Heart	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

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Appendix 1 (Continued)

Writing group member	Employment	Honoraria/ Speaking/ Consulting	Speakers' bureau	Research*	Fellowship support*	Ownership/ Partnership/ Principal/ Majority stockholder	Stock or stock options	Intellectual property/ Royalties	Other
Wojciech Zareba, MD, PhD	University of Rochester, Rochester, New York	None	None	5: BIOTRONIK; 5: EBR Systems; 5: Gilead Sciences; 5: LivaNova	None	None	None	None	None

Number value: **0** = \$0; **1** = $\leq \$10,000$; **2** = $> \$10,000$ to $\leq \$25,000$; **3** = $> \$25,000$ to $\leq \$50,000$; **4** = $> \$50,000$ to $\leq \$100,000$; **5** = $> \$100,000$.

ACC = American College of Cardiology; AHA = American Heart Association; NIH = National Institutes of Health; NSGC = National Society of Genetic Counselors.

*Research and fellowship support are classed as programmatic support. Sources of programmatic support are disclosed but are not regarded as a relevant relationship with industry for writing group members or reviewers.

Appendix 2 Peer reviewer disclosure table

Peer reviewer	Employment	Honoraria/ Speaking/ Consulting	Speakers' bureau	Research*	Fellowship support*	Ownership/ Partnership/ Principal/ Majority stockholder	Stock or stock options	Intellectual property/ Royalties	Other
Peter Aziz, MD	Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Mina K. Chung, MD, FHRS	Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio	2: ABIM	None	5: AHA; 5: NIH	None	None		1: Elsevier; 1: UpToDate	0: ACC (EP Section Leadership Council member); 0: AHA (Chair, ECG & Arrhythmias Committee; Member, Clinical Cardiology Leadership Committee; Member, Committee on Scientific Sessions Programming); 0: Amarin (Data monitoring committee member); 0: BIOTRONIK; 2: AHA (Associate Editor, <i>Circulation</i> <i>Arrhythmia and</i> <i>Electrophysiology</i>)
Shriprasad Deshpande, MBBS, MS	Children's National, Washington, DC	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Susan Etheridge, MD, FACC	University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah	1: UpToDate	None	0: NIH	None	None	None	None	0: Sudden Arrhythmia Death Foundation
Marcio Jansen de Oliveira Figueiredo, MD	University of Campinas, Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil	1: Boehringer Ingelheim; 1: Daiichi-Sankyo	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
John Gorcsan III, MD, FASE	Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri	1: EBR systems; 1: V- wave, Inc.	None	2: V-wave Inc.; 2: EBR Systems	None	None	None	None	None
Denise Tessariol Hachul, MD	Heart Institute, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Robert Hamilton, MD	The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

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Appendix 2 (Continued)

Peer reviewer	Employment	Honoraria/ Speaking/ Consulting	Speakers' bureau	Research*	Fellowship support*	Ownership/ Partnership/ Principal/ Majority stockholder	Stock or stock options	Intellectual property/ Royalties	Other
Richard Hauer, MD	ICIN-Netherlands Heart Institute, Utrecht, the Netherlands	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Minoru Horie, MD, PhD	Shiga University of Medical Sciences, Shiga, Japan	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Yuki Iwasaki, MD, PhD	Nippon Medical School, Tokyo, Japan	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Rajesh Janardhanan, MD, MRCP, FACC, FASE	University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson, Arizona	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Neal Lakdawala, MD	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts	1: Array Biopharma; 1: MyoKardia	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Andrew P. Landstrom, MD, PhD	Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, North Carolina	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Andrew Martin, MBChB, CCDS	Green Lane Cardiovascular Service, Auckland, New Zealand	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Ana Morales, MS	The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio	1: NSGC	None	4: NIH	None	None	None	None	None
Brittney Murray, MS	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland	1: Clear Genetics; 1: My Gene Counsel; 1: PWN Health	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Santiago Nava Townsend, MD	Departamento de Electrofisiología Cardíaca, Instituto Nacional de Cardiología Ignacio Chávez, Mexico City, Mexico	1: Cook Medical; 2: CORDIS-Johnson & Johnson	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Stuart Dean Russell, MD	Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, North Carolina	1: Medtronic	None	0: Abbott Laboratories; 0: SubQ Pharmaceuticals	None	None	None	None	None

Frederic Sacher, MD, PhD	LIRYC Institute/ Bordeaux University, Pessac, France	1: Abbott Laboratories; 1: Bayer; 1: Biosense Webster; 1: Boehringer Ingelheim; 1: Boston Scientific; 1: LivaNova; 1: Medtronic; 1: Pfizer	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Mauricio Scanavaca, MD	Instituto do Coração, São Paulo, Brazil	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Kavita Sharma, MD	Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland	1: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation	None	3: NIH; 3: AHA	None	None	None	None	None
Yoshihide Takahashi, MD	Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo, Japan	1: Abbott; 1: Biosense Webster; 1: BIOTRONIK; 1: Japan Lifeline	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Harikrishna Tandri, MBBS, MD	Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland	1: Abbott	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Gaurav A. Upadhyay, MD, FACC	University of Chicago Medicine, Chicago, Illinois	1: Abbott Laboratories; 1: BIOTRONIK; 1: CardioNet; 1: Medtronic; 1: ZOLL Medical Corporation	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Christian Wolpert, MD	University Hospital Mannheim, Ludwigsburg, Germany	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

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