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Title: RHEUMATIC MITRAL REPAIR IN NEPAL: EARLY EXPERIENCE

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Background & Aims: Rheumatic mitral valvular disease is among the commonest surgical procedure in our country. This study aims to find out the early results of patients undergoing rheumatic mitral valve repair done by a single surgeon (author himself) at Shahid Gangalal National Heart Center, Kathmandu Nepal.

Methods: Patients undergoing rheumatic mitral valve repair from June 2016 to August 2021 over a period of 5 years 2 months were studied retrospectively. Their echo study of preop, 3 months post op, one year post op and yearly echo follow-up from that time was reviewed

Results: There were total of 135 patients, 46 (34%) were male and 89 (66%) were female. Age of the patients ranged from 6 years to 68 years with the mean of 24 years. Majority (105 patients) had severe mitral regurgitation as the main surgical indication for mitral valve repair. About half of the patients (51.85%) also underwent tricuspid valve repair. About one fifth (21.48%) of the patients also underwent aortic valve replacement along with mitral repair.

At 3 months of follow-up, among 51 patients, 39 (76.5%) had no or mild mitral regurgitation. At one year of follow-up among 36 patients, 21 (58%) had no or mild mitral regurgitation. At 3 years of follow-up among 6 patients, 3 (50%) had no or mild mitral regurgitation.

Four patients had undergone redo sternotomy for mitral valve replacement. The early hospital mortality occurred among 4 (2.9%) patients.

Conclusions: Despite having poor follow-up records among our patients, majority of the patients had no or mild mitral regurgitation and the rate of redo surgery is quite low in the early follow-up period. Mid term and long term results are yet to be seen.