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Cardiac hydatid disease; a systematic review

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Abstract

Background and objectives Human cystic echinococcosis (CE), is a common health problem in low- and middle-income countries. Cardiac involvement is a relatively rare manifestation of *Echinococcus* infection. This study aims to summarize the evidence regarding the features of cardiac CE.

Methods Case series of the patients with cardiac CE, were included in this study. Non-English papers, case reports, reviews, letters, , commentaries, and conference abstracts were not included. A systematic search was conducted in PubMed and EMBASE databases and the risk of bias in the included studies was assessed using the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Critical Appraisal Checklist.

Results Out of 3985 results of the searches, finally 37 studies were included in this systematic review. Based on available evidence, cardiac involvement is an uncommon but serious presentation of CE which presents with some non-specific signs and symptoms. Dyspnea, chest pain, and palpitation are the most common symptoms of the disease and normal sinus rhythm is the most common Electrocardiogram (ECG) feature. The disease is not associated with high mortality in case of timely diagnosis and appropriate management.

Discussion Consecutive and complete inclusion of participants, statistical analysis, and appropriate reporting of the demographics were the sources of bias in the included studies. The exclusion of non-English papers was a limitation during the review process.

Funding The research protocol was approved and supported by the Student Research Committee, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences (grant number: 69380).

Registration This study was registered in the International prospective register of systematic reviews (PROSPERO ID: CRD42022381204).

Keywords Echinococcosis, Cardiac Echinococcosis, Systematic review

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Introduction

Human cystic echinococcosis (CE), also known as hydatid disease, is a tissue infestation, which is endemic in many sheep-farming areas of the world, notably Mediterranean countries, the Middle East, South America, and Australia [1, 2]. Echinococcosis is a common health problem in low- and middle-income countries [3], and the European Registry of CE found it a neglected health problem in these countries [4]. CE has a considerable economic impact, with the cost of the disease approximated at 0.03% of the country's gross domestic product in Iran [5]. CE occurs mainly as a result of infection with the larvae of *Echinococcus granulosus*. Most often, dogs and other carnivores are the primary hosts and sheep are intermediate hosts, whereas humans are accidental hosts of the parasite. Humans usually become infected by ingesting food, milk, or water contaminated by dog feces containing the ova of the parasite [6, 7]. The most common sites of CE involvement are the liver and lung [8]; however, it can affect other organs in the body such as the heart, too [9]. Cardiac CE is a relatively rare manifestation of *Echinococcus* infection, which represents 0.5 to 2% of CE cases [10–12]. Despite the multiple studies regarding the features of cardiac CE [13, 14], there was no systematic review of the literature on this topic; therefore this study aimed to determine the characteristics of cardiac CE disease based on available evidence.

Methods

This study was conducted following the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA) 2020 statement [15].

Eligibility criteria

Case-series studies which presented the features of cardiac CE were considered for inclusion in this systematic review. Non-English studies, case reports, conference abstracts, review articles, letters, and commentaries were excluded.

Literature search

Medline via PubMed and EMBASE databases were searched systematically from inception to March 2022 with the following keywords: ((Echinococc* OR Hydatid*) AND (Heart OR cardi*)) OR Cardiac Hydatid in title, abstract, and author keywords. During the search, no restrictions on language and type of study were applied. Also, forward and backward searches from references and cited studies of included studies were performed for a comprehensive coverage of the published studies.

Study selection and data collection

Two authors separately reviewed the full-texts of the studies after being primarily screened based on title/

abstract. The data from the included studies were extracted into a Microsoft Excel table. Information from eligible studies, including the name of the first author, publication year, study setting, patients' demographics, the site of the heart's involvement, the involvement of other organs, clinical manifestations, Electrocardiogram (ECG) findings, echocardiography, Chest X-ray (CXR) or magnetic resonance imaging, laboratory findings, management, final outcome, and follow-up, is extracted by two authors and cross-checked. Disagreements between authors were solved by the third author.

Risk of bias assessment

The potential for risk of bias in the studies was assessed by The Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Critical Appraisal tool for Case Series. The validity and reliability of condition evaluation, the contiguous recruitment of participants, the reporting of patient demographic and clinical data, clinical management, and follow-up are the sources of bias that being evaluated by this checklist.

Results

Search and selection process

Electronic searches in the databases results in 3985 records and finally, 37 studies met our criteria for inclusion in this systematic review. The details of the selection process are presented in Fig. 1.

Study characteristics

Seventeen studies were conducted in Turkey and the setting in other studies were Tunisia (5 studies), Iraq (3 studies), Spain, Syria, China, Greece (2 studies for each), Saudi Arabia, Kyrgyzstan, India, and France (1 study for each). The sample of cardiac CE in the studies varies between 2 and 62.

Risk of bias in studies

Figure 2 is a summary of the risk of bias assessments based on The JBI Critical Appraisal tool for Case Series. The details are reported in supplementary material 1. Based on our assessments, the most common possible sources of bias in the included studies were regarding the consecutive and complete inclusion of participants and statistical analysis, which were not reported in a clear form for a conclusive judgment. Inappropriate reporting of the demographics was also another source of bias in the studies.

Results of individual studies

The evidence regarding the site of involvement, other organ involvement, signs and symptoms, ECG findings, echocardiography or CXR findings, laboratory findings, management, outcome, and follow-up are summarized and presented in Table 1. Cardiac CE can infect people

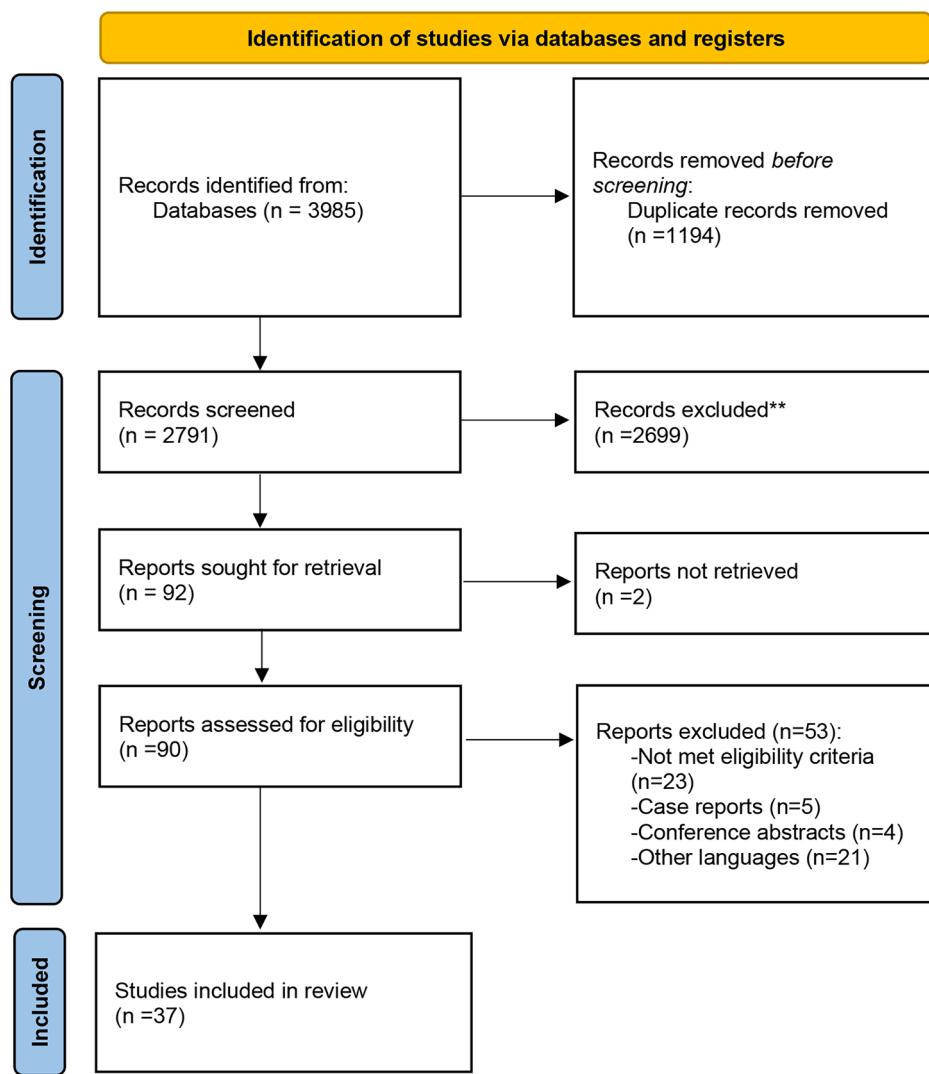


Fig. 1 PRISMA 2020 flow diagram

of any age in both males and females. LV is reported as the most common site of infection. Studies suggested that cardiac CE can be secondary to other site infections, such as lung, liver, and spleen; however, cases of cardiac involvement without other organ involvement are also documented. The most commonly reported symptoms were chest pain, dyspnea, and palpitation and normal sinus rhythm (NSR) was the most common declared ECG feature. Regarding the laboratory findings, serological tests such as echinococcus indirect hemagglutination (EIHA) and enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), as well as eosinophilia, and positive casoni were the most commonly reported findings. A combination of surgical methods, such as cardiopulmonary bypass, and pharmacological management were reported in the studies; which were associated with appropriate

outcomes, so the rate of mortality and recurrence were not considerable.

Discussion

This study is the first systematic review to summarize the evidence regarding the features of cardiac CE. Cardiac involvement occurs mainly by invasion of myocardium from the coronary arteries or pulmonary veins as a result of rupture of pulmonary echinococcal cysts [16]. Various locations of the heart can be infected with CE; however, LV is the most common site [17–22] and it can be presented in the pericardium as well as the myocardium layer, too [23, 24]. The main reason for higher rate of LV involvement can be the dominance of the left coronary artery [13, 25].

The clinical presentation of CE ranges from asymptomatic to life-threatening conditions and sudden death.

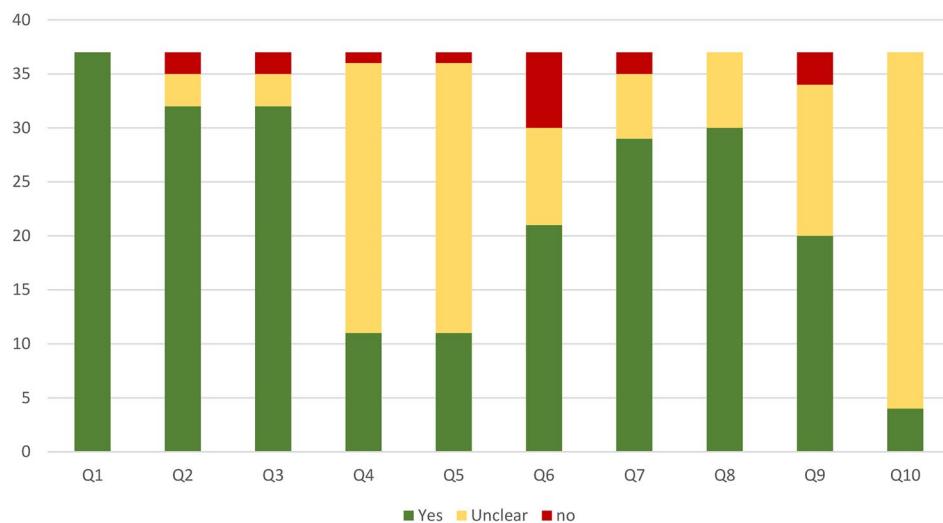


Fig. 2 Summary of risk of bias assessments based on The Joanna Briggs Institute Critical Appraisal tool for Case Series

Q1: Were there clear criteria for inclusion in the case series?

Q2: Was the condition measured in a standard, reliable way for all participants included in the case series?

Q3: Were valid methods used for identification of the condition for all participants included in the case series?

Q4: Did the case series have consecutive inclusion of participants?

Q5: Did the case series have complete inclusion of participants?

Q6: Was there clear reporting of the demographics of the participants in the study?

Q7: Was there clear reporting of clinical information of the participants?

Q8: Were the outcomes or follow up results of cases clearly reported?

Q9: Was there clear reporting of the presenting site(s)/clinic(s) demographic information?

Q10: Was statistical analysis appropriate?

Symptoms depend on location, size, compression, or involvement of abutting structures. The most frequent symptoms of CE are dyspnea, chest pain, and palpitation. The stretch of pericardium and/or compression of coronary vessels can be an explanation for this [11, 26, 27]. Also, the NSR is the most common ECG finding in CE patients, which suggested a crucial role of imaging and laboratory methods in the detection of cardiac CE.

Cardiac CE can affect almost everyone in each age group in the endemic areas; however, non-specific signs and ECG changes, make it a diagnostic challenge. Trans-thoracic echocardiogram (TTE) is suggested to be sensitive and specific in the diagnosis of cardiac CE [28, 29]. Classic cystic CE lesions appear as well-defined echolucent structures on echocardiographic images, whereas those that have become solidified, calcified, or degenerated can be hyper-echogenic and, thus, mimic semi-solid or solid mass lesions [30]. In a case series 6/16 (37.5%) of increased cardiothoracic ratio was reported [24]. Also, 5 cases of pericardial effusion were reported in the included studies [31–33]; which suggested that these features can be sign of cardiac CE, too. Cardiac CE infection is predominantly secondary to more commonly involved organs such as the liver and lung [34], therefore, in patients with CE in other organs, imaging and blood tests can help detect the cardiac form of the disease. Serological methods such as EIHA and ELISA are suggested as

highly sensitive and specific tests for CE [14, 35]; however, the diagnostic accuracy of these blood tests, specifically in the cardiac form of the disease is not investigated. Most of the included studies reported a considerable rate of positive EIHA in patients with cardiac CE; however, there is a need for future diagnostic accuracy studies of EIHA in cardiac CE, for clinical recommendation.

Cardiac CE is an uncommon but serious condition; however, it is not associated with a high rate of mortality in case of timely diagnosis and appropriate surgical and non-surgical management [36]. Overall, there was no significant cardiac CE-related mortality in the included studies. Rupture of the cyst during surgery, pulmonary embolism, and multi-organ failure was the cause of mortality in cardiac CE patients [17, 37, 38]. Also, pharmacotherapy with mebendazole or albendazole for 6–24 months postoperatively, is recommended for prevention of the recurrence of the disease [39].

Systematic and predefined approach of the review and a comprehensive database search as well as hand searching for full coverage of the published evidence were the main strengths of this study. The exclusion of non-English papers was the main limitation of this study. Future multi-center studies with larger sample sizes and comprehensive reports of the characteristics of the disease can strengthen the evidence in this regard and help appropriate management in cardiac CE patients. Also,

Table 1 – summary of included studies

Study	Setting (Hospit- al, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involve- ment	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
Alptekin Yasim (2017) [17]	Southeast Anatolian, Turkey	25	15/ 10	33.4±12.6 (15–75)	Intracavitory (11) including: IAS (3), IVS (2), RV (2), RA (2), RV outflow tract (1), mitral valve poste- rior annulus (1), extra-cavitory (14) including: LV wall (10), RV wall (1), Multiple cysts in the LV lateral wall and apex (1), LV wall and left atrial outer wall (2)	Dyspnea (18), Palpitation (7), Chest pain (7), Fatigue (2) Left arm pain (1)	NSR (13), nonspe- cific ST-T changes and T-wave negativity (11), RBBB (1)	-	WBC: 9.716±1.855 Neutrophil: 62.7% ± 8.2% Lymphocyte: 26.1% ± 7.2% Eosinophil: 2.8% ± 3.1% ESR: 34.4±13.7 CRP: 17.6±8.5 EHHA + (23)	CPB (24); Alben- dazole for 28 days for four additional cycles of 28 days each with 14 days 28-daycycle.	Mortality due to hepatitis failure two years after the surgery (1)	
von Sinner (1995) [40]	Saudi Arabia	15	8/ 7	(15–56)	mediastinum - in 4 primary involvements; LV/pericardium (1), IVS/pericar- dium (1), LA/ pericardium/ mitral valve (1), RA/pericardium/ tricuspid valve (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Omac Tufekcoglu (2007) [24]	Turkey	16	7/9	41±18.3	Pericardium: LV lateral wall (3), RV free wall (1), posterior of RA (1), RV apex (1), RV free wall (1) Myocardium: LV lateral wall (3), RV apex (2), LV septum (1), LV aspect of septum (1), LV apex (1), RV outlet (1), LV posterior wall (1) Anterior ascend- ing aorta (1)	Dyspnea (5), Palpitations (4), Angina (3), Ascites and pretibial edema (1), none (3)	LBBB (3), RBBB (2), NSR (11)	Increased cardiotho- racic ratio (6)	Serology + (16)	Surgical resection and albendazole (16)	No recur- rence or complications	

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospi- tal, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involvement	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
Ali Gurbuz (2003) [41]	Atatürk Hos- pital, Tellifurt, İzmir, Turkey.	6	1/5	40±5	RV outflow tract (2), LV outflow tract (1), RA (1), the RV (1), the right atrioventric- ular groove (1)	Liver (2), Spleen (1)	Dyspnea (6), chest pain (3), dizziness (1), palpitation (2)	NSR (3), Ventricular premature beat (1), non-specific ST changes (1), V3-6 negative T waves (1)	Myxo- matous peduncu- lated mass adhered to IAS (1)	EHAs + (5)	Stomotomy, CPB mild hypothermia (28°C) (5)	ventricular sep- tal defect after 2 years (1)
Cemal Levent Birincioglu (2003) [42]	Turkey.	10	7/3	-	LV cavity (5), RV (3), RA (1), Intra- pericardial (1)	Lung (1), Spleen (1)	Dyspnea (8), Syncope (3), Vomiting (1), chest pain (6), palpitation (3), fever (1)	NSR (5), Sinus tachy- cardia (2), D1-3, V4-6: T(-)V5-6: Q(1), V4-6, D1-øVL; T (-) (1), V1-3: T(-)ST in- creased (1)	Eosinophilia (1) RA (1)	Eosinophilia EHAs + (8)	benzimidazole derivatives (pre- operatively and postoperatively) (10), albenda- zole for 5 years postoperatively (1)	Reoperation 68 months after first operation due to reoccu- rence (1)
Maria Diaz- Menendez (2012) [43]	Ramóny Cajaí Hospi- tal, Madrid, Spain	11	7/4	49.4	RA (6), MS (2), LA and pericardium (2), RV (1), IVC involvement (5)	Lung (7), Liver (7), Kidney (2), Spleen (2)	chest pain (7), dyspnea (4), he- moptysis (2), no symptoms (2)	atrial hy- pertrophy (1), LBBB (1), RBBB (1)	-	Eosino- philia (400 cells/mm³) (6) EHAs + (11)	CPB (9), albenda- zole 15 mg/Kg/d (9) praziquantel 40 mg/Kg/d (6) for average of 37 months	AF responsive to antiarrhyth- mic drugs (1) Mortality during surgery due to rupture of the cyst in IVC (1)

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospi- tal, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involvement	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
Rüçhan Akar (2003) [37]	Ankara, Turkey	62	23/39	-	LV(29), VS(12), RV(12), RA(7), LA(1), Sinus of Valsalva(1)	Dyspnea(39), Palpitation (25), Chest Pain (14), Syncope (3), Cough(8), Hepatomegaly (7), Hemoptysis (6), Pulmonary embolism(4), Acute abdomen (2), Peripheral embolism(3), Asymptomatic (3), Cyanosis(2), Cerebral embo- lism(2), Constrict- ive Pericarditis (1), Anaphylactic reaction(1), Car- diac tumor(1)	AF(6), RBBB (5)	Casoni+(11) EHA+(42)	Thoracotomy with CPB(50)	Mortality due to pulmonary embolism(2), Mortality due to rupture of IVS(1)		
Jaffar Shehatha (2009) [44]	Ibn-Anafis Hospital, Baghdad, Iraq	4	-	33.75	LV(4)	Liver(3), Lung (1)	Dyspnea(4), pal- pitation(4), easy fatigability(4)	pericar- tic layer consisted of fibrous tissue(4)	Casoni+(4) NSR(13)	Thoracotomy with CPB(4), Alberda- zole after surgery (4)	No recur- rence or complications	
Eylem Tuncer (2010) [45]	s	13	7/6	36±18.3	RA base(1), LV anterior wall (1) LA posterior wall(1), VS(2), LV anterolateral wall(1), AS(1), RV mural anterior wall(1), LV mural anterior(1), RV mural wall(1), RV inferior mural wall (1), LV intracavi- tary apical wall (1), LV mural apical wall(1)	Dyspnea(5), Fatigue(2), Palpi- tation(3), Fever (1), Cough(1), Chest pain(3), Syncope(1)	-	-	Thoracotomy with CPB(13)	complete atrioven- tricular block (necessitated pacemaker) (1), reoperation for recurrent cardiac hyda- tidosis, one year after the initial surgery(1)		

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospi- tal, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involvement	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
A. Abid (1991) [31]	Lu Rabta Hos- pital, Tunis, Tunisia	6	2/4	22	LV (3), Multiple cysts rupturing in pericardium (3)	-	-	NSR (4), ST changes (2)	pericardial effusion (2)	-	Thoracotomy with CPB (6)	Septicemia due to Enterobacter (1)
Djochibayev (2003) [33]	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan	5	2/3	18	pericardial and epicardial involvement (1), apicolateral wall of the LV (1), IVS (3)	None	Neck vein distention (1), hepatomegaly (3), hypoten- sion (1), fever (1), Palpitations (1), Oedema (2), Dyspnea (2), Weakness (2)	-	pericardial effusion (1)	-	Thoracotomy with CPB (3), Surgery on a beating heart (2), Albendazole for 2 years after surgery (5)	No recur- rence or complications
Tall Basshour (1996) [46]	Aleppo, Syria	19	13/6	48	LV cavity (10), RV cavity (6), Pericar- dial (2)	-	Chest pain (19), dyspnea (11), palpitation (8), fever (1)	T inversions (15), ST depression (8), (7), premature ventricular beats (8), incomplete or complete BBB (11)	-	Casoni + (9)	-	-
Khalidoun Ben-Hamida (2003) [47]	Fattouma Bourguiba Hospital, Monastir, Tunisia	14	7/7	27.7	Pericardium (3), LV anterior wall (3), IVS (4), RV (2), LV apex (1)	Liver (4), Lung (5), Spleen (1)	Chest pain (6), Dyspnea (2), systolic murmur in pulmonary area (3), Pulmonary hy- pertension (1)	Inverted T waves (6), RBBB (2), NSR (5), RV hypertrophy (2)	-	EHA + (13)	-	-

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospi- tal, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involvement	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
Birincioğlu (2013) [48]	Turkey	41	19/22	36	Lateral LV (5), Pericardium (14), Apex (9), Septum (9), Posteriorlateral LV (9), Anterior RV (8), Anterolateral LV (6), Inferior LV (7), Behind aorta (1), RV outflow tract (1), behind pulmonary vein (1), Between RA and aortic sinus of Valsalva (3)	Lung (9), Liver (6), Spleen (3), Brain (2), lumbosacral vertebrae (1), kidney (1)	dyspnea (23), chest pain (19), palpitations (13), syncope (6), weakness (4)	-	-	ElHA + (27)	Albendazole 15 mg/kg 2 weeks before and 12 weeks after surgery	Mortality in the postoperative period due to hemodynamic collapse after rupture of the cyst (1), relapse (1)
Hatem Bouraoui (2005) [49]	Fathat Hached Hos- pital, Sousse, Tunisia	12	2/10	40	LV (3), RV (3), RA (3), pericardium (3)	Lung (2)	chest pain (7), dyspnea by exertion (4), palpitation (1)	T wave inversion (8), ST de- pression (5), incomplete RBBB (2), AF (1)	intracystic trabecula- tion (4), a cystic mass with a central nucleus and some small echolucent areas (4), The spheri- cal mass (3), 15 mm echogene mass at- tached to the septal tricuspid valve (1)	eosinophilia (7) serology + (6)	-	
Vedat Ererzug (2004) [50]	Kosuyolu Heart and Research Hospital, Istanbul, Turkey	6	2/4	20–68	RV anterior wall (1), IVS (2), LV posterior wall (1), RV apical (1), RV inferior wall (1)	Lung (2), Liver (3), Brain (1), Kidney (1)	dyspnea (2), Palpitation (2), Asymptomatic (4)	-	-	Thoracotomy with CPB (6)	No recur- rence or complications.	
										Albendazole 400 mg/day (6)		

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospital, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involvement	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
Fei Yan (2015) [51]	Xinjiang, China	26	15/11	28.9±7.6	LV(7), RV(5), RA(2), MS(1), Pericardium(6), Multiple(5)	Liver(3), Lung (3), Lung and liver(1)	Asymptomatic (3), Dyspnea(15), Chest pain(11), Palpitation(8), Cough(7), Fever (2)	NSR(7), LVH (5), RVH(2), incomplete RBBB(3), incomplete LBBB(1), ST changes(8)	- Eosinophilia (15), Casoni+(15), EHHA+(15)	Thoracotomy with CPB(26), punc- ture-aspiration cystectomy, intact endocyst endo- cyst resection.(26), Albendazole after surgery(26)	No recur- rence or complications	
Niyazi Gormus (2004) [52]	Konya, Turkey.	7	2/5	37	Pericardium and RV(2), LV(2), RA (1), LA(1), RV outlet(1)	Pulmonary emboli(1), As- ymptomatic(6)	-	-	EHHA+(7)	CPB cystectomy Capitonnage(7)	No recur- rence or complications	
Vivek Wadhawa (2018) [32]	Gujarat, India	10	6/4	35.9±12.04	LV anterolateral wall(2), LV mural wall(1), LV/LA, IVS(1). Pericardial cyst and RV mural anterior wall(1), Pericardium and LV posterolateral wall(1), LV pos- terolateral wall (1), IVS(1)	Lung(1) Kidney(1)	Dyspnea(7), Chest pain(7), Palpitation (1), Cough(1), Asymptomatic (1), Fatigue(6)	- moderate pericardial effusion(1)	EHHA+(5), Casoni+(2)	Thoracotomy with CPB(9), cystec- tomy and partial pericardectomy without CPB(1), al- bendazole 400 mg BD for 12 weeks after surgery(10)	No recur- rence or complications	
Marah Jamli (2020) [53]	Sahloul Hos- pital, Sousse, Tunisia	27	Male predomi- nance (sex ratio of 1.7)	35	LV(5) RV(7) LA(3) - RA(2) Pulmonary artery(2) SVC(1) Inferior vena cava (1) Right inferior pulmonary vein (1) Septal(5) Ven- tricular septum (3) Atrial septum (2)	Nontypical chest pain(17), Dyspnea(10), Palpitations(16), Hemoptysis(5), Syncope(2), Lipothymia(3) Cough(6) Con- strictive chest pain(1), Asymp- tomatic(8)	T inversion (15) LBBB(4)	Serology + (10)	Thoracotomy with CPB(27)	mortality duo to severe acute cardiac failure at postoperative hour 17(1), mortality duo to multorgan failure on postoperative day 8(1)		

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospi- tal, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involvement	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
Sami S Kabbani (2007) [54]	Damascus, Syria	19	8/11	25.6±12.8	RA (1), LA (1), LV anterior wall (2), LV posterior wall (2), LV cardiac apex (2), RV ante- rior wall extending to tricuspid annulus (1), RV outflow (1), IVS (6), IVS combined with LV epicardial cyst (1), Pericar- dium (2),	Lung (4) Liver (2) Kidney (1)	dyspnea (9), Chest pain (6), Cough (6), Hemoptysis (5), Palpitations (4), Abdominal pain (4), Dysphagia (1), Anaphylactic shock (2), Skin rash (2), Seizures (2), Cerebrovascular accident (1)	LVH (2) RVH (1) Incomplete RBBB (6) Incomplete LBBB (2) Non-specific ST/T changes (8)	-	ELHA + (12) elevated ESR (10) eosino- philia (6)	Thoracotomy with CPB (19)	Mortality due to cerebral hydatidosis 2 years postoperatively (1), Mortality due to multorgan failure after the surgery (1)
Mehmet Kaplan (2001) [55]	Siyami Ersek, Istanbul, Turkey	8	1/7	33.6±14.3	RV outlet (2), RV apex (1), LV apex (1), LA free wall (1), RV (1), LV (1), Muscular septum right side (1)	Liver (1)	Dyspnea (8) Palpitation (7)	-	CPB (8) Mebendazole 250 mg BID 6 months after	Thoracotomy with No recur- rence or complications	No recur- rence or complications	
F. Kardaras (1996) [38]	Evangelismos General Hos- pital, Athens, Greece.	10	6/4	46.5	LV (4), RA (1), IVS (1), IAS (1), Pericardium (1), RV (1), Multiple myocardium cysts (1)	-	Asymptomatic (2) Chest pain (5) Anaphylactic episodes (2) CHF (1)	-	Casoni + (4) ELISA + (4) Weiberg (4) ELHA + (4)	surgery (8)	Mortality duo rupture of pulmonary echinococcal cyst (1), Mortal- ity duo massive pulmonary hy- datid embolism (1), Mortality duo rupture of an undiagnosed hydatid cyst of the RA during cannulation for CPB (1), Recur- rent systemic embolism and became hemiplegic (1)	

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospital, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involvement	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
A. Miralles (1994) [56]	La Pitié Hos- pital, Paris, France.	8	3/5	27±17	LV wall (7), RV wall (1)	Liver (5), Lung (3), Kidney (1), Costal (1)	Asymptomatic (4)	-	-	Thoracotomy with CPB (8)	atrioventricular block with a cyst invading the VS (1)	
Vakili Murat (2007) [57]	Urumqi, China.	15	9/6	23.0±8.5	RA (3), left ante- rior myocardium (7), pericardium (5)	Not involved	-	-	Serology + (12)	Thoracotomy with CPB (8)	recurrent cysts (4)	
Omer Tanyeli (2017) [58]	Konya, Turkey.	12	6/6	42.6	RA (2), RV (2), RV outlet (1) LV (5), LA (1), IVS (1)	-	-	-	No recur- rence or complications	Thoracotomy with CPB (10), Thora- cotomy without CPB (1)	Left AL thor- acotomy without CPB (1)	
Kutay Taşdemir (2000) [59]	Kayseri, Turkey	2	2/0	18	LV (1), IVS (1)	-	Dyspnea and syncope (1)	-	400 mg bid	Mebendazole (6) Albendazole (6)	No recur- rence or complications	
Ertan Onursal (2001) [60]	Istanbul Medical Fac- ulty, Istanbul, Turkey.	8	4/4	33.5	IVS (2), RA (1), Pericardium (5)	Liver (4), Lung (3), Brain (1)	Extremity isch- emia (1)	Chest pain (5), Cough (3), Dys- pnea (4), Fever (3), Palpitation (3), Abdominal pain (1), Syncope (1), Acute respi- ratory distress (1), Headache (1), Vomiting (1)	nonspecific ST wave changes (3), premature ventricu- lar beats (1), supra ventricular tachycardia (1)	Thoracotomy with CPB (2) Thoracotomy without CPB (6)	mortality duo septic shock on the 23rd postoperative day (1)	

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospital, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involvement	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
Kutay Tasdemir (2009) [61]	Kayseri, Turkey.	10	8/2	27	RV(2), LV(5); RA(1), LA(1), Descending aorta, abdominal aorta (1)	Lung (1)	Pain (3), pallor (3), pulselessness (3), paresthesia (3), paralysis of lower limb (3), dyspnea (1), Palpitation (1)	-	-	Thoracotomy with CPB (8)	mortality because of acute renal insufficiency after 48 h of the first operation (1), mortality due to a ruptured cyst while operating (1)	
Haitham Noaman (2017) [20]	Ibn Al-Bitar Hospital, Bagdad, Iraq.	19	8/11		LV(9), pericardium (5), RV (3), IVS (2)	Lung (1)	chest heaviness (2), chest pain (2), dyspnea (2), palpitations (2), arrhythmias (2)	-	-	open-heart surgery (19)	lost to follow-up (13), no recurrence or complications (6)	
Jose M. Oliver (1988) [62]	Madrid, Spain.	13	8/5		Pericardium (3), LA wall (1), LV (3), RV (2), interventricular septum (5)	Lung (8), Liver (2), Brain (2), Kidney (2)	Dyspnea (1), Chest pain (4), Anaphylaxis (2), Pulmonary hypertension (2)	Nonspecific ECG changes (4)	Cardio-megaly (1), Tricuspid stenosis (1), Tricuspid regurgitation (1), LV, RV protrusion Pericardial effusion (1), SVC syndrome (1)	-		
Ashur Y. Oraha (2018) [63]	Kurdistan, Iraq.	4	2/2		pericardium (1), IVS (1), Apex (1), LV (1)	Liver, spleen (1), lung (2)	-	-	nausea and vomiting (1), Fever (1), chest pain (2), Stridor (1), Palpitations (2), Dyspnea (1)	median sternotomy and CPB	-	

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospi- tal, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involvement	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
A Abid (2003) [64]	La Rabta Hos- pital, Tunis, Tunisia	7	3/4	19±4	RV (3), IVS (4), RA (2)	Lung (6)	Palpitations (2), Chest pain (2), Hemoptysis (2), dyspnea (1), <0 (3), Ventricular Extrasysto- les (1)	NSR (3), ST modifica- tions (3), T wave <0 (3), Ventricular Extrasysto- les (1)	Serology + (4)	Right ventricu- lotomy (1), Right auriculotomy (6)	Satisfactory (5) Right pneumo- thorax (1) Left pneumo- thorax (1)	
Özge Altas (2014) [65]	Sakarya, Turkey.	3	3/0	38	IVS (2), LV (1)	Liver (1)	Dyspnea (2) Chest pain (1) Fatigue (1)	T wave changes in inferior Leads (2)	a fluid con- tent with a homo- geneously hypointense signal	-	elective operation through median sternotomy, and CPB	No recur- rence or complications
Dursun Attilan (2002) [66]	Istanbul, Turkey.	3	1/2	39.25	RA (1), IVS (1), LV (1)	-	Palpitation (2), dyspnea (2), Fatigue (1), Cough (1)	inverted T waves	-	-	albendazole digoxin, furosemide, spironolactone surgery	No recur- rence or complications

Table 1 (continued)

Study	Setting (Hospital, City, Country)	Num- ber of cases	Male/ Female	Age	Site of involve- ment in heart	Other organs involved	Signs and symptoms	ECG findings	Echocar- diography or CXR findings	Laboratory findings	Management	Final outcome and follow-up
John Barbetseas (2005) [18]	Hippokration Hospital, Ath- ens, Greece.	3 1/2		31	LV (2) IVS (1) pericardium (1)	Liver (1)	Palpitation (1), anaphylactic symptoms (1), left-sided hemiplegia (1)	first-degree atrioven- tricular Block, T-wave inversion	- + (2)	Serology albendazole	Surgery	No recur- rence or complications
Nazim Kankılıç (2020) [19]	Şanlıurfa, Turkey.	4 0/4		23	LV (2) RA (1) RV (1)	Lung (3) Liver (1) Brain (1)	Palpitation (1), chest pain (1), Dyspnea (4), Headache (1), abdominal pain and abdominal swell- ing (1)	-	-	Normothermia + CPB+cystectomy	-	

ECG: electrocardiogram; WBC: White Blood Cell; LV: left ventricle; RV: right ventricle; RA: right atrium; IVS: interatrial septum; IAS: interventricular septum; NSR: Normal sinus rhythm; AF: Atrial fibrillation; SVC: Superior vena cava; ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay; EIHA: echinococcus indirect hemagglutination; CPB: Cardiopulmonary bypass; ESR: Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate;

it is recommended to report more details of cardiac CE patients in future studies.

Conclusion

Cardiac involvement is an uncommon presentation of CE which is associated with some non-specific signs and symptoms such as dyspnea, chest pain, palpitation, and fatigue. In the case of diagnosed CE in other organs such as the lungs and liver, cardiac CE, should be considered by clinicians. Non-specific signs and symptoms make cardiac CE a diagnostic challenge; however, imaging methods such as TTE as well as serological tests, can help diagnosis of the disease. Cardiac CE is not associated with considerable mortality in the case of timely diagnosis and appropriate management.

Supplementary Information

The online version contains supplementary material available at <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12879-023-08576-3>.

Supplementary Material 1

Acknowledgements

The research protocol was approved and supported by Student Research Committee, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences (grant number: 69380). Also, this study was registered in International prospective register of systematic reviews (PROSPERO ID: CRD42022381204). Also, we very much appreciate Dr. Leila Nikniaz, Associate Professor of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, for her kind supports and guidance in this study.

Authors' contributions

E.B, K.B, R.B, S.H, S.N, Z.S, and A.N: systematic search; study selection, data extraction, risk of bias assessment; E.B and A.N: preparing the figures and writing the manuscript; H.O and E.J: supervision and critically editing the manuscript. All authors approved the final version for submission.

Funding

The research protocol was approved and supported by the Student Research Committee, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences (grant number: 69380).

Data Availability

All data generated during this study are included in this published article and its supplementary information file.

Declarations

Ethics approval and consent to participate

The ethics committee of Tabriz University of Medical Science, reviewed and approved the study protocol (Ethical Code: IR.TBZMED.VCR.REC.1401.154).

Consent for publication

Not applicable.

Competing interest

The authors declare no competing of interest.

Conflict of interest

None.

Received: 1 April 2023 / Accepted: 29 August 2023

Published online: 13 September 2023

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