Case Presentation Commentary on “Deciding wisely: A case for an effective use of myocardial perfusion imaging”

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In this issue of the Journal of Nuclear Cardiology, Dr. Rami Douky presents an excellent case of the utility of myocardial perfusion imaging in the evaluation of ischemic heart disease.¹ The results of the nuclear stress test put the patient in a high-risk category and the patient subsequently underwent revascularization. Central to this case, however, is the decision of which diagnostic test is best for this clinical scenario. As noted in this case, the 2013 Multimodality Appropriate Use Criteria² provides guidance to a referring physician regarding which tools in the cardiac evaluation armamentarium can be utilized for a particular indication. All clinicians involved in ordering and performing cardiac diagnostic testing must have a solid understanding of these decision support tools. For many indications, however, multiple testing modalities may fall in the same category. In this case, diagnostic testing with Stress MPI, Stress Echocardiography, Stress CMR, and invasive coronary angiography all fall in the appropriate category without

guidance on which test to use. The clinician must maintain the ability in practice to choose among these tests to determine the best test, for the individual patient.

Disclosure

Lawrence Phillips has nothing to disclose.

Reference

1. Douky R. Deciding wisely: A case for an effective use of myocardial perfusion imaging. J Nucl Cardiol 2017. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12350-017-1136-0>
2. Ronan G, Wolk MJ, Bailey SR, Doherty JU, Douglas PS, Hendel RC, et al. ACCF/AHA/ASE/ASNC/HFSA/HR/SCAI/SCCT/SCMR/STS 2013 multimodality appropriate use criteria for the detection and risk assessment of stable ischemic heart disease: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation Appropriate Use Criteria Task Force, American Heart Association, American Society of Echocardiography, American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, Heart Failure Society of America, Heart Rhythm Society, Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography, Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, and Society of Thoracic Surgeons. J Nucl Cardiol 2014;21:192-220.

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