Cadaveric study of fossa ovalis

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ABSTRACTS

Introduction: The interatrial septum of heart presents the fossa ovale, an oval depression above and to the left of the orifice of the inferior vena cava. Atrial septal defect is one of the most common but least severe congenital heart diseases in adult. Patent foramen ovale is a hemodynamically insignificant interatrial communication present in >25% of the adult population.

Material and Methods: This cross sectional study was conducted on 40 cadavers with age range of 60 to 80 years in the dissection laboratory of various medical colleges of ahmedabad, Gujarat, India. Standard dissection method was used and foramen ovale was observed after opening up the right atrium and data about the situation, shape, floor and margin of foramen ovale was noted.

Result and Observation: Commonest position of fossa ovalis was the middle of the interatrial wall followed by mouth of the inferior caval vein and mouth of the superior caval vein. In 33 hearts the fossa was oval and in 07 hearts it was round.

The floor was very thick 19, moderately thick in 13 and thin in 08. Two hearts had fenestrated floor.

Conclusion: Patients with isolated atrial septal defects (ASD) have benefited from important recent advances in the diagnosis, evaluation, & management of their conditions. More studies are necessary to address several unresolved issues related to patent foramen ovale for benefit of patients.

KEY WORDS

Fossa Ovalis, Interatrial septal defct, Patent foramen ovale

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