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☆ **Spotlight on Special Topics**

**THE CLINICAL COURSE OF PATIENTS WITH A HISTORY OF ACUTE PERICARDITIS FOLLOWING VACCINATION AGAINST SARS-COV2**

Poster Contributions

For exact presentation time, refer to the online ACC.22 Program Planner at <https://www.abstractsonline.com/pp8/#!/10461>

Session Title: Spotlight on Special Topics Flatboard Poster Selections: COVID  
Abstract Category: 61. Spotlight on Special Topics: Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Authors: *Yishay Wasserstrum, Sofia Nadav, Amitai Segev, Dor Lotan, Dov Freimark, Michael Arad, Sheba Medical Center in Tel-Ha'Shomer, Ramat-Gan, Israel*

**Background:** Acute pericarditis may have a relapsing pattern that may impair quality of life and lead to the use of chronic steroid immunomodulatory therapy. Vaccines against SARS-COV2 have been crucial in efforts against COVID19, yet there have been reports of pericarditis following vaccination with mRNA-based vaccines.

**Methods:** We questioned consecutive patients with a history of acute pericarditis who were evaluated in the pericardial disease during 3-11/2020 in a single tertiary center in Israel. Patients with significant myocardial involvement or pericarditis secondary to a rheumatic, malignant or other systemic disease were excluded.

**Results:** We included 54 patients in the final analysis, of which 50 (93%) were vaccinated with at least 2 doses of the BNT162b2 vaccine, and 36 (72%) were given a third dose. Mean age was 51 (±18), 30 (60%) were male and 39 (78%) patients had a history of recurrent disease, with 27 (54%) having ≥3 episodes. Symptoms following vaccination were reported in 14 cases (28%), including mild chest pain, weakness and fatigue. In 2 cases (4%), pericarditis recurred with an uncomplicated course (figure). Breakthrough infections occurred in 2 cases.

**Conclusion:** In patients with a history of acute or recurrent pericarditis, the use of an mRNA-based vaccine against SARS-COV2 was mostly uneventful, but some disease recurrences which were uncomplicated did occur. Future studies should focus on the safety of vaccines that may cause pericarditis in this subgroup of patients.

