

Author's reply

Sir,

We thank the authors for their letter and appreciate their effort in bringing the issue to our notice. We agree with the authors and hereby clarify that the gradient of 20 mmHg mentioned in points “i” to “v” under the subheading “Indications for intervention” in coarctation of the aorta in the guideline document^[1] refers to the gradient between upper and lower limb systolic blood pressure, instead of Doppler gradient, as per the European Society of Cardiology guidelines.^[2]

Point “v” should be read as follows:

- v. Intervention is not indicated if gradient between upper and lower limb systolic blood pressure is <20 mmHg with normal left ventricular function and no upper limb hypertension (Class III).

We agree that Doppler peak gradients tend to be overestimates, as they reflect the peak instantaneous pressure gradient instead of the peak-to-peak pressure gradient, and hence are not recommended to decide intervention in coarctation of the aorta.

Acknowledgments

We express thanks to Children's HeartLink Group (Ms. Bistra Zheleva, Ms. Adriana Dobrzycka, and Ms. Veera Rajasekhar), Pediatric Cardiac Society of India and Dr. Arun Singh, National Advisor, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

Financial support and sponsorship

Nil.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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Submitted: 03-Mar-2020

Accepted: 21-Mar-2020

Published: 19-Jun-2020

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Access this article online	
Quick Response Code: 	Website: www.annalspc.com
	DOI: 10.4103/apc.APC_32_20

How to cite this article: Saxena A, Relan J. Author's reply. *Ann Pediatr Card* 2020;13:273.

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