SNS COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCE, COIMBATORE -35.



(Affiliated to The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai)

B.Sc., CARDIAC TECHNOGY

PATHOLOGY PUZZLE

Logical Puzzle — *Cardiomyopathy*

Patients:

- A. 35-year-old man with history of chronic alcohol use, presenting with fatigue and shortness of breath.
- B. 20-year-old athlete who suddenly collapses during sports practice; his father died suddenly at 40.
- C. 55-year-old woman with long-standing hypertension and thickened ventricular wall on echo.
- D. 40-year-old woman who recently had viral myocarditis and now has a dilated heart on imaging.
- E. 45-year-old man whose echocardiogram shows small, stiff ventricles with normal size but poor filling; has signs of systemic amyloidosis.

Types of Cardiomyopathy:

- Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM)
- Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM)
- > Restrictive Cardiomyopathy (RCM)

Possible Causes:

- a. Chronic alcohol toxicity
- b. Genetic mutation involving sarcomere proteins
- c. Long-standing hypertension
- d. Viral myocarditis
- e. Amyloidosis (infiltrative disease)

Key Findings / Features:

- I. Dilated chambers with reduced ejection fraction (systolic failure).
- II. Markedly thickened ventricular wall and septum, diastolic dysfunction, possible sudden death.
- III. Normal-sized ventricles but stiff walls and impaired filling (diastolic failure)

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Clues

- 1. The **athlete** who collapsed had a **genetic cause** involving the **sarcomere**.
- 2. The **hypertensive woman** had thickened ventricular walls but **normal EF**, indicating a **diastolic problem**, not dilation.
- 3. The alcoholic man and the viral myocarditis patient both had dilated ventricles and systolic failure, but with different causes.
- 4. The **patient with amyloidosis** had **normal-sized but stiff ventricles**, making it hard for the heart to fill.
- 5. **Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy** is linked to sudden death in young athletes, while **restrictive cardiomyopathy** is often due to infiltrative disease.

Your Task

Match each Patient (A-E) \rightarrow Cause (a-e) \rightarrow Type of Cardiomyopathy (1-3) \rightarrow Key Finding (I-III)

RUBRICS

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	POINTS
1. Completeness	All 5 bones correctly identified (A,B,C,D,E)	5 pts
2. Accuracy	No wrong answers	3 pts
4. Neatness	Clear handwriting, no erasures	2 pts
	TOTAL	10 pts