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## KID'S HEART ABNORMALITIES FROM CHEMO TARGETED WITH NEW ECHO PROTOCOL

Baltimore, MD – Children who have suffered from cancer may also have lasting side effects from the drugs used in the treatment of cancer, a condition which is termed chemotherapy-induced cardiotoxicity. The use of anthracyclines, very effective chemotherapy drugs, can be limited by development of cardiotoxicity, which has been traditionally monitored by conventional echocardiography. A recent study at Children's Hospital of Michigan used real-time 3D imaging to detect early functional abnormalities associated with cardiotoxicity in the hearts of children following anthracycline chemotherapy.

"In our research study, we evaluated heart function of children who had completed anthracycline chemotherapy for cancer using a real-time 3D echocardiography technique. We found that, an average of five years after chemotherapy, asymptomatic children who had normal volume of the ventricles of the heart and normal ejection fraction, still had significant left ventricular dyssynchrony on the 3D echo. Dyssynchrony is a difference in contraction timing of various heart segments. The ability of this noninvasive bedside technique to diagnose cardiac dysfunction in the subclinical stage, even before abnormalities can be detected on a conventional echo, may open the possibilities of timely intervention and prevention of progression of the cardiotoxicity. Currently, when cardiotoxicity is detected, it can be irreversible. Further longitudinal studies are needed." said lead author Sanjeev Aggarwal, MD, pediatric cardiologist at The Children's Hospital of Michigan and Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, MI.

Researchers on the study, *Left Ventricular Dyssynchrony and Real Time 3 D Echocardiogram in Children Following Chemotherapy* include Sanjeev Aggarwal, MD and Gilda Kadiu, RDCS from Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit, MI.

Dr. Aggarwal will present a poster based on this research on Monday, June 5, 2017 during the ASE 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Sessions at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, MD. This research will also be presented during a session Investigate, Innovate, Incorporate: Top Abstracts from the 2017 Scientific Sessions, on Tuesday, June 6, 8:00 – 9:30 AM.

To schedule an interview with Dr. Aggarwal, please contact [Angie Porter](#).

*As the largest global organization for cardiovascular ultrasound imaging, the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is the leader and advocate, setting practice standards and guidelines. Comprised of over 17,000 physicians, sonographers, nurses, and scientists, ASE is a strong voice providing guidance, expertise, and education to its members with a commitment to improving the practice of ultrasound and imaging of the heart and cardiovascular system for better patient outcomes. For more information about ASE visit [ASEcho.org](http://ASEcho.org) and the 2017 Scientific Sessions, visit [ASEScientificSessions.org/](http://ASEScientificSessions.org/).*

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