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### **Encouraging Research for Patients Suffering from Obstructive HCM Will Be Presented at ASE 2022**

(SEATTLE, June 10, 2022)—Research being presented at the American Society of Echocardiography’s 33rd Annual Scientific Sessions, June 10-13, 2022, in Seattle, Wash., will share encouraging findings where echocardiography was paramount in showing the effectiveness of a novel drug for patients with symptomatic obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (oHCM).

It wasn’t until the last three years that specific medical therapy existed for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM)—a condition that causes the heart muscle to thicken and work harder than it should. A recent study examined how a novel cardiac myosin inhibitor drug, known as *Aficamten*, helped patients suffering from oHCM. *Aficamten* is one of two cardiac myosin inhibitor drugs currently in various stages of development.

“*Aficamten* is a new class of drug for oHCM that has been shown to improve symptoms and gradients in patients,” says Theodore P. Abraham, MD, FACC, FASE, lead author on the study, a cardiologist and the Meyer Friedman Distinguished Professor of Medicine at the University of California San Francisco. “We found that *Aficamten* positively influences or reverses key problems in oHCM, such as diastolic function and valvular regurgitation.”

Echocardiography, or cardiac ultrasound, was the modality used to determine a patient’s eligibility for the study and to measure the effectiveness of the drug throughout. Participants were given *Aficamten* or a placebo and regular cardiac ultrasounds determined the effects of the drug on patients’ hearts, including the critical monitoring of potential side effects.

The findings demonstrate that *Aficamten* resulted in significant and wide-ranging downstream beneficial changes to heart structure and function, while also making patients feel better and reducing their abnormal cardiac pressure gradients.

Dr. Abraham says that the study’s results are important for oHCM patients since it provides objective proof that there are treatments on the horizon whose results can bring positive changes in the heart and advance patient care options.

The research titled, *Early Cardiac Structural and Functional Reverse Remodeling in Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy After 10 Weeks of Aficamten Therapy: Analyses from REDWOOD-HCM*, will be presented at ASE

2022 during a poster presentation on Saturday, June 13, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Learn more about ASE 2022 and download the conference's final event program at [ASEScientificSessions.org](https://www.ase-scientificsessions.org).

### **About ASE**

The American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is the Society for Cardiovascular Ultrasound Professionals™. Founded in 1975, ASE is the largest global organization representing cardiovascular ultrasound imaging. ASE is the leader and advocate for physicians, sonographers, scientists, veterinarians, students, and all those with an interest in echocardiography, setting practice standards and guidelines for the field. The Society is committed to advancing cardiovascular ultrasound to improve lives. For more information about ASE, visit: [ASEcho.org](https://www.asecho.org) and follow us [@ASE360](https://twitter.com/ASE360).

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