



The reticular hypodermic venous system, the true integrator of the superficial venous system

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Infrasound exposure promotes development of atrial fibrosis in rats

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Recent data has shown a significant association between noise exposure and atrial fibrillation (AF) in a large cohort [1] but the pathophysiology remains unclear. The acoustic spectrum of industrial environments is particularly rich in high-intensity infrasound (IFS), which we have previously found to induce coronary perivascular fibrosis in rat hearts [2–4]. The role of atrial fibrosis in AF is well documented and remains the cornerstone of atrial pathology in patients with this arrhythmia [5]. The aim of this study was to evaluate and measure the atrial interstitial fibrosis in rats exposed to high-intensity IFS.

Material and methods: Twelve Wistar rats exposed to high-intensity IFS (110 dB, <20Hz) during a period of 6 weeks and 12 age-matched controls were studied. All the handling and care of the experimental animals was performed by authorised researchers and was done in accordance with the EU Commission on Animal Protection for Experimental and Scientific Purposes (2010/63/EU). Hearts were transversely sectioned and the atrial fragment was selected for analysis. Chromotrope-aniline blue staining was used for histological observation and the images were obtained with an optical microscope using 400× magnifications. For each atrium, three optical fields containing more prominent fibrotic development in the absence of any arterial vessel were selected. The measurement of fibrosis was performed using *Image J software*. Mann–Whitney test was used to compare the groups.

Results: The mean values of atrial interstitial fibrosis were 8.96 ± 4.08 and 4.91 ± 1.46 , respectively, in IFS-exposed rats and controls. IFS-exposed rats exhibited a significant increase in atrial interstitial fibrosis ($p = .005$).

Discussion and conclusion: High-intensity IFS induces atrial interstitial fibrosis in rats. This finding reinforces the need for further experimental and clinical studies concerning the effects of IFS on the heart.

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: An anatomical observational, retrospective and cross-sectional study of the Venotomographies performed at CIMED was carried out from January 2014 to the present, with 105 studies of patients of both sexes. The study methodology was multislice computed venotomography, which allowed to achieve a live anatomical study in several

observational planes and making virtual dissections [1, 2].

The aim is demonstrating by means of virtual anatomy how the reticular hypodermic venous system (RHVS) connects the main superficial venous trunks to each other, to the perforating venous system and through them to the deep venous system.

Materials and methods: The scanner used was a 64-detector Phillips multislice tomograph and the program chosen was Phillips' IntelliSpace Portal. To determine the characteristics of RHVS, it was divided the studied population into three groups: 1- without venous pathology, 2- with venous hypertension due to obstruction or compression, 3- in varicose recurrence.

Results: The procedure used allowed to demonstrate that the RHVS produces a true integration of the entire superficial venous system, perforating venous system and through this to the deep venous system as well.

Discussion and conclusions: The MCVT has proven to be a versatile and effective method of observing the entire superficial venous system in detail [3].

The RHVS integrates both truncal venous systems, saphenous vein magna, saphenous vein parva and its main tributaries [4]. It integrates all perforating veins with the reticular venous system. And it links the superficial venous system and the perforator with the deep venous system. This conclude affirming that the entire superficial venous system is a single anatomical unit integrated by the RHVS.

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Comparison of in-office and at-home tooth-whitening products cytotoxicity

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Bleaching teeth to have a whiter and bright smile is a popular trend and currently one can do it at home, without technical support from dentists. However, whitening products are not innocuous and the European legislation is clear limiting the content in hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂), present or released, to 6%, still, products containing up to 40% of H₂O₂ are commercially available. In fact, the contact time of live tissues with H₂O₂ agents is usually small, which may restrict side effects, but on the other hand, successively applications as well as at-home careless applications may be harmful. This work aims to verify how whitening products commercialised in Portugal impact on fibroblasts viability.

Materials and methods: We used fibroblasts, the main cells of both pulp and gingivae that contact with whitening gels. Mouse embryo fibroblasts (NIH/3T3) were incubated with serial dilutions of Opalescence PF boost 40%, Opalescent PF 16%, Opalescent PF 10% from Ultradent (USA) and Bbryance 0.095% (France) in culture medium for 1-hour. After that period, the culture medium was removed and cell viability was determined using MTT assay.

Results: Our results showed a huge decrease in fibroblasts viability after exposure to both product types: containing H₂O₂ or carbamide peroxide. To achieve conditions considered non-toxic, i.e. showing a reduction in cell viability <30% [1], it was necessary to dilute whitening products at least 100- to 62,500-fold, down to 0.0001–0.0004% H₂O₂, as shown in Table 1.

Discussion and conclusions: Although we cannot extrapolate this effect directly to human teeth, because the concentration of H₂O₂ arriving at the pulp depends on diffusion through dentinal tubules, our observations are of great concern in