

Special Issue

Blood Pressure, Heart Rate, and Hypertension among Patients with Diabetes

Message from the Guest Editors

Diabetes represents one of the most important and prevalent cardiovascular risk factors in the global population. Heart rate and heart rate variability have great importance and represent significant predictors of cardiovascular and total morbidity and mortality in diabetic patients. Arterial hypertension and diabetes have a synergistic negative effect on cardiovascular remodeling and cardiovascular outcomes. Therefore, the cut-off blood pressure value for the introduction of antihypertensive therapy as well as target blood pressure in diabetic patients remain matters of debate. Comprehensive cardiac assessment that includes 24-h ECG, 24-h ambulatory blood pressure monitoring, and echocardiographic examination is now available for the evaluation of cardiac damage in diabetic patients. Using 24-h ECG, one can obtain heart rate variability, which is a useful non-invasive tool for the evaluation of the autonomic nervous system, which has a key role in adverse outcomes in diabetic patients. Furthermore, 24-h ambulatory blood pressure monitoring provides data regarding daytime, nighttime, and 24-h blood pressure values, as well as circadian blood pressure patterns.

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