

## **A Case Series of Patients with Cor Triatriatum Dexter: Unique Cause of Neonatal Cyanosis**

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### Abstract:

Cor triatriatum dexter is a rare congenital heart defect which accounts for about 0.1% of all congenital heart malformations [1]. It can lead to cyanosis in a newborn with an otherwise normal exam. We present a case series of three patients with cor triatriatum dexter, who were referred to, and diagnosed and treated at, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin between 2000 and 2013. The initial evaluation of these patients focused on searching for a pulmonary etiology for cyanosis. Later cardiac evaluation proved challenging, as the right atrial membrane can be difficult to visualize echocardiographically. Our cases ranged in presentation from mild to severe hypoxia and demonstrate how the clinical significance of cor triatriatum dexter depends on the degree of obstruction to blood flow through the tricuspid valve, as well as the amount of streaming of desaturated blood across the atrial septum [2,3]. In each case, the right atrial membrane was successfully resected and the atrial septal defect was closed with complete resolution of clinical symptoms. This series demonstrates that rare diagnoses, like cor triatriatum dexter, should be considered in any neonate with unexplained cyanosis. Careful evaluation of the right atrium by echocardiogram can lead to appropriate and timely operative therapy.

### References:

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