

Use of Left Ventricular Assist Devices as Destination Therapy in End-Stage Congestive Heart Failure: A Systematic Review



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(Junior Lesch)

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Createspace. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 48 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.1in. Several common chronic conditions such as atherosclerotic heart disease and hypertension as well as other diseases can result in heart failure, a reduced ability of the heart to pump blood and maintain normal bodily functions. More than 100, 000 people in the U. S. with progressive heart failure are refractory to available treatments and have high rates of hospitalization and mortality and a poor quality of life due to limited physical and social activities and psychological stress. Heart transplantation is currently the preferred treatment for end-stage heart failure. Unfortunately, the supply of donor hearts is far less than needed and many patients do not meet the criteria for heart transplantation primarily due to old age and comorbidities such as diabetes with damage to vital organs, pulmonary hypertension, renal insufficiency, malignancies and morbid obesity. Implantable mechanical pumps that assist the circulation of blood by one or both ventricles of the heart have evolved over several decades. Typically blood flows from the native left ventricle of the heart into the surgically implanted assist device and is pumped out into the aorta via an implanted conduit. Currently, long-term implantable left ventricular assist devices require an external source of power and control module. Surgical placement of a left ventricular assist device is increasingly done as a last resort for patients with refractory heart failure who are not eligible for heart transplantation, so called destination therapy. Some patients may improve after they receive a ventricular assist device as destination therapy and become eligible for heart transplantation even though this was not the initial therapeutic goal. A limited number may recover enough heart function to not need a heart transplant or mechanical assist device. Although survival with...

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