Second International Syncope Workshop

Title: Syncope acute first assessment: what do we know? What do we need to know? How are we going to find it? – Data and expertise sharing to solve clinical dilemmas.

Purpose: To address the following questions: the role of ECG monitoring; risk management strategies and the usefulness of hospitalization in the first assessment of syncope patients.

Location: Palermo, Italy;

Date: May 18-19th, 2017;

Main themes:

1. ECG monitoring;
2. In search for a risk management strategy;
3. The role of hospitalization.

Aims: discussion among clinical and methodology experts about priorities in syncope research and clinical management

Scientific Committee: Giorgio Costantino Benjamin Sun, Franca Barbic, Giovanni Casazza, James Quinn, Matthew Reed, Robert Sheldon, Monica Solbiati, Venkatesh Thiruganasambandamoorthy, Raffaello Furlan, Win Shen.

Methodology:

For each topic we will identify:

• What is the evidence;
• What evidence is needed;
• How we are going to find it;
• How to manage the patients with what we know.

The workshop will be organized as follows:

Before:

• Identify focused questions among each topic;
• Systematic reviews on each question;
• Organize data sharing in order to answer the questions;

During:

• Presentation of the data from the systematic review performed on each topic;
• Presentation of the data obtained by the new studies and on data sharing among authors;
• Identification of the main problems and questions of each issue;
• Use of a “World Café Method”* to find consensus on the topic.
**The World Café Method**

Drawing on seven integrated design principles, the World Café methodology is a simple, effective, and flexible format for hosting large group dialogue.

World Café can be modified to meet a wide variety of needs. Specifics of context, numbers, purpose, location, and other circumstances are factored into each event’s unique invitation, design, and question choice, but the following five components comprise the basic model:

1) Setting: small tables. There should be few chairs at each table.

2) Welcome and Introduction: the host begins with a warm welcome and an introduction to the World Café process, setting the context, sharing the Café Etiquette, and putting participants at ease.

3) Small Group Rounds: the process begins with the first of three or more twenty minute rounds of conversation for the small group seated around a table. At the end of the twenty minutes, each table coordinator group moves to a different new table.

4) Questions: each round is prefaced with a question specially crafted for the specific context and desired purpose of the World Café by the coordinator group. The same questions can be used for more than one round, or they can be built upon each other to focus the conversation or guide its direction.

5) Harvest: after the small groups (and/or in between rounds, as needed), individuals are invited to share insights or other results from their conversations with the rest of the large group. These results are reflected visually in a variety of ways, most often using graphic recording in the front of the room.

Preliminary program

Day 1 (May 17, 2017)
Arrival in the afternoon
19:30-21:00 Welcome and dinner

Day 2 (May 18, 2017)
7:00-8:30 Breakfast
8:00-8:30 Registration

Welcome and overview
Moderators: Giorgio Costantino, Benjamin Sun, Franca Barbic, Giovanni Casazza, James Quinn, Matthew Reed, Robert Sheldon, Monica Solbiati, Venkatesh Thiruganasambandamoorthy, Raffaello Furlan, Win Shen.

8:30-8:45
Welcome and workshop's presentation
(Raffaello Furlan and Giorgio Costantino)

8:45-9:25
From Gargnano to Palermo
8:45-9:05: presentation of the two consensus papers
(Ben Sun and Giorgio Costantino)

9:05-9:25: introducing AHA and ESC guidelines
(Win Shen and Matthew Reed)

9:25-9:40
Analysis of the survey sent to the first workshop's participants
(Monica Solbiati and Robert Sheldon)
9:40-10:10
Outcomes to be considered in syncope studies
(James Quinn)

10:10 – 10:40
Coffee break

10:40 – 11:10
Data sharing from individual-patient data meta-analysis to common data
(Members of the data sharing committee)

11:10 – 11:40
Watson: Cognitive Approaches for Data Analysis
(Mauro Gatti and Chiara Marchiori)

11:40 – 12:10
Aim of the workshop and methodology
(Giorgio Costantino and Raffaello Furlan)

Session one - ECG monitoring

Moderators: Matthew Reed, Monica Solbiati, Venkatesh Thiruganasambandamoorthy, Win Shen.

12:10 – 12:40
ECG monitoring: State of the art
12:10-12:20 AHA/ACC guidelines (W. Shen)
12:20-12:30 ESC guidelines (M. Reed)
12:30-12:40 Syncope observational protocols studies (B. Sun)

12:40-14:00 Lunch
14:00 – 14:20
What devices are available for syncope first assessment? (M. Reed, M. Solbiati)
(in-hospital telemetry, remote monitoring, Holter monitoring, patches, event recorders)

14:20 – 14:50
What are the adverse events observed and their time frames?
5-minutes presentations of data from unpublished studies (V. Thiruganasambandamoorthy, G. Costantino, B. Sun, others to be possibly identified)
10 minutes results of aggregate data (M. Solbiati/M. Reed)

14:50 – 15:20
What are the diagnostic yield and accuracy of ECG monitoring in the ED?
5-minutes presentations of data from unpublished studies (V. Thiruganasambandamoorthy, G. Costantino, B. Sun, others to be possibly identified)
10 minutes results of aggregate data (M. Solbiati/M. Reed)

15:20 – 15:30
Conclusions and introduction to the world café session (W. Shen)

15:30-17:30
World café method - ECG Monitoring
(each table should focus the discussion on 1) agreement, 2) gaps, 3) future)

Table 1: What syncope patients should be assigned a cardiac monitoring bed in the ED?
Table 2: How long should patients be monitored in the ED?
Table 3: What intensity of care is needed for monitored patients?
Table 4: What essential characteristics must a device for outpatients’ medium-term ECG monitoring have?
Table 5: When should ECG monitoring be considered positive?
Table 6: In search for a common data collection form
Session Two – In search of a risk management strategy
Moderators: Giorgio Costantino, Giovanni Casazza, James Quinn

17.30 – 18:00 Scores and rules in syncope: What is the evidence?
17:30 -17.40 What is the evidence on risk stratification tools (G. Casazza)
17.40-17.50 The Canadian syncope risk score (V. Thiruganasambandamoorthy)
17.50-18.00 Neural networks for syncope risk stratification (G. Falavigna)

Day 3

Morning

8.30 – 9:00
New frontiers in risk stratification
5-minutes presentations of data from unpublished studies (G. Costantino, B. Sun, M. Solbiati others to be possibly identified)
8.50-9.00 Do we need more tools? (G. Casazza)

9:00 – 9:30
Extensive pulmonary embolism assessment
9:00-9.08 The PESIT study (A. Visonà)
9.08-9.16 Syncope and pulmonary embolism, a meta-analysis (R. Sheldon)
9.16-9.24 Syncope and pulmonary embolism, administrative database (M. Ruwald)
9.24-9.30 discussion

9:30 – 10:00
From risk stratification to risk management (J. Quinn)

10:00 – 12:00
Word café method - In search of a risk management strategy

(each table should focus the discussion on 1) agreement, 2) gaps, 3) future)

Table 1: What outcomes should be considered?
Table 2: The future of risk stratification tools
Table 3: Should we extensively assess patients for pulmonary embolism?
Table 4: Proposals for risk management strategies
Table 5: Defining the risk: diagnosis, procedures, frailty
Table 6: In search for a common data collection form
Session Three - The role of hospitalization

Moderators: Benjamin Sun, Franca Barbic, Robert Sheldon, Raffaello Furlan

12:00 – 12:15
State of the art
(Robert Sheldon)

12:15 – 12:45 Heterogeneity in admission rate in different countries
12:15-12:30 Confounders affecting hospital admission/discharge (F. Barbic)
12:30-12:45 Reasons for Hospitalization (V. Thiruganasambandamoorthy)

12:45-14:15 Lunch

14:15-14:30
Does hospital admission affect outcomes?
(R. Furlan)

14:30-15.00
Towards zero admission rate?

14:30-14:45 Role of ED Observation Unit (B. Sun)
14:45-15:00 Role of Syncope Unit (R. Kenny)

15:00-15:30
Hospital admission: pros and cons
(S. Raj and C. Morillo)

15:30-17:30
World café method – Hospital Admission for Syncope
(each table should focus the discussion on 1) agreement, 2) gaps,3) future)

Table 1: Reasons for heterogeneity in admission rates

How to deal with potential admission confounders?

Table 2: How to assess the role of hospital admission?
“Hard” indications for admission
-Admission vs Observation vs Outpatient
-Appropriate testing in hospital / observation settings

Table 3: What are the most appropriate outcomes to evaluate hospital admission clinical utility?
Table 4: Standards for in-hospital unexplained syncope management?
Table 5: Make protocols uniform in observation units
Table 6: In search for a common data collection form

World café method commentary
17:45 – 18:15

Conclusions and workshop closing
18:15 -18:30

19:30-21:00 Dinner

Day 4 (May 20, 2017)
7:00-8:30 Breakfast. Leaving in the morning