The Role of Palliative and Hospice Care in Patients with Left Ventricular Assist Devices

Description:
There is a growing incidence of heart failure in the United States. The etiology is likely multifactorial and may include an aging population, improvements in the treatment of acute cardiovascular disease and HF, or a combination of these factors. An increased number of end stage heart failure patients are opting for the implantation of a left ventricular assist device (LVAD), either for destination therapy or for a bridge to transplantation. LVADs can lead to improved mortality, yet also carry potential psychosocial burdens. The session will describe the role of palliative care and hospice care for those patients who are declining despite implantation of the LVAD device.

Speakers:

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