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Carditis in Zika Virus Infection

Dear Editor, the Zika virus infection becomes a big global problem at present. The clinical manifestation of this infection can be from asymptomatic to severe acute febrile illness with hemorrhagic complication. Focusing on cardiovascular effect, there are some reports on the problem. Recently, the problem of carditis due to Zika virus infection becomes a big concern in cardiology. The report by Aletti et al. [1], on transient myocarditis leads to the great concern by the cardiologist. Aletti et al. [1], noted that "We recommend an electrocardiogram and an troponin if any cardiac symptoms are present in a patient with acute Zika infection." Indeed, based on the nanostructural consideration of Zika virus and the similar pathology and pathogenesis between Zika virus and dengue infections, the cardiovascular problem due to Zika virus infection can be expected [2]. How Zika virus affects heart and what kind of mechanisms are the interesting questions in cardiology. There are many proposed mechanisms. The Zika virus might directly attach heart tissue or there might be some immunopathological process. The direct cardiac involvement or cardiopathy as a consequence of immunopathology or non-immunopathology in the course of Zika virus infection is an interesting issue for further research in cardiology.

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