Objective

To clarify angiographic criteria of massive pulmonary thrombotic masses for stratification of the risk of death in patients with pulmonary embolism according to the recommendations of the European society of cardiology (2014).

Material and methods

We analyzed the volume of pulmonary lesions in 371 patients with pulmonary embolism with different risk of early death according to the criteria of the European society of cardiology (2014)

Results

It was found that patients with high, moderately high, and moderately low risk of death from pulmonary embolism did not differ significantly in the volume and degree of obstruction of the arteries of the small circle of blood circulation. Early death risk stratification is most accurate when patients were hospitalized on the first day of the development of symptoms of the disease. At this time, the most informative indicators were plasma concentration of troponin and brain natriuretic peptide that came back to normal levels after 3 and 5 days, respectively. When patients were admitted to hospital at a later date, these laboratory indicators were not specific for the stratification of the risk of death. This leads to undervalued assessment of the risk of death in this category of patients, and therefore it may cause not enough adequate choice of tactics of management of these patients. Estimation of the volume of pulmonary bed thrombotic occlusion could be useful to neutralize this difference between the groups can estimate the volume of thrombotic occlusion of the pulmonary bed. Total absence of blood flow in 10 or more segmental arteries was critical for manifestation of clinical, ECG and EchoCG symptoms of volumetric overload of the right heart.

Conclusion

The total absence of blood flow in 10 or more segmental arteries is comparable with occlusion of one main pulmonary artery and can be treated as a massive lesion of the small circle of blood circulation. The application of this assessment of pulmonary lesions severity in pulmonary embolism is not inferior to the classification proposed by the European society of cardiology in 2014 due to high prevalence of all criteria used in this classification.

Keyword

Pulmonary embolism, massive lesions, segmental arteries.