We used the term “de novo” in our case report to mean a new instance, and perhaps were not attentive enough to its very specific genetic nomenclature. Regarding the comments on SGCD variant of “unknown significance,” there are many instances of single point mutations causing serious disease (e.g., sickle cell anemia). While we cannot definitively conclude that the mutation caused the heart pathology, we believe it is important to report this and similar cases, as these are relevant to whether these variants could merit further study. We agree that larger cardiologic clinical studies and sophisticated genetic studies carried out by specialists are required to clarify these issues. However, this lies outside the scope of the current work.

Çetin Lütfi Baydar
Department of Forensic Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Near East University, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Reference


Address for Correspondence: Dr. Çetin Lütfi Baydar
Near East University, Faculty of Medicine
Department of Forensic Medicine, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus
E-mail: drcetinlutfi@yahoo.com

Author’s Reply

To the Editor,

We read with great interest the article published in Anatolian Journal of Cardiology by Astarcıoğlu et al. (1) entitled “ABO blood types: impact on development of prosthetic mechanical valve thrombosis.” Several risk factors of prosthetic valve thrombosis (PVT) are well known. The search for new categories of risks should continue to refine even more the initial therapeutic decision in PVT. In this work, the authors evaluated the association between blood group status and PVT. They reported that patients with non-O blood groups have greater incidence of PVT compared with O blood groups. This result suggests that non-O group may be a risk factor that favors developing PVT.

It is increasingly recognized that individuals with non-O blood groups may be at elevated risk of venous and arterial thromboembolic events compared with individuals with blood group O. This increased risk has been attributed to higher concentrations of factor VIII and von Willebrand factor (2).