



## PerCorso Diabete 1

# Neuropatia diabetica autonomica: diagnosi e terapia



Roma,  
9-11 novembre 2012

## Cardiopatia autonomica

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# Neuropatia diabetica autonomica: diagnosi e terapia



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### ***Neuropatia autonomica diabetica cardiovascolare***

- ***impatto clinico***
- ***diagnosi e sua rilevanza***
- ***terapia patogenetica***
- ***trattamento delle forme sintomatiche***



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## Neuropatia diabetica autonomica: diagnosi e terapia



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DOCUMENTI

### Raccomandazioni sull'uso dei test cardiovascolari nella diagnosi di neuropatia autonomica diabetica

Vincenza Spallone, Giuseppe Bax, Federico Bellavere, Katherine Esposito, Pierluigi Melga, Roberto Morganti, Roberto Quadri, Luciano Scionti, Giorgio Viviani, per il Gruppo di Studio SID "Neuropatia Diabetica"

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Nutrition,  
Metabolism &  
Cardiovascular Diseases

REVIEW

### Recommendations for the use of cardiovascular tests in diagnosing diabetic autonomic neuropathy<sup>☆</sup>

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**endorsement dell'AINV**

# Diabetic Neuropathies: Update on Definitions, Diagnostic Criteria, Estimation of Severity, and Treatments

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 ON BEHALF OF THE TORONTO DIABETIC NEUROPATHY EXPERT GROUP\*

Diabetes Care 33:2285–2293, 2010



DIABETES/METABOLISM RESEARCH AND REVIEWS

*Diabetes Metab Res Rev* 2011; 27: 639–653.

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REVIEW ARTICLE

## Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy in diabetes: clinical impact, assessment, diagnosis, and management

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Luciano Bernardi<sup>5</sup>

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DIABETES/METABOLISM RESEARCH AND REVIEWS

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REVIEW ARTICLE

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Roy Freeman<sup>8</sup> Phillip Low<sup>9</sup>

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Paul Valensi<sup>11</sup> on behalf of The Toronto Consensus Panel on Diabetic Neuropathy†

## Methods of investigation for cardiac autonomic dysfunction in human research studies

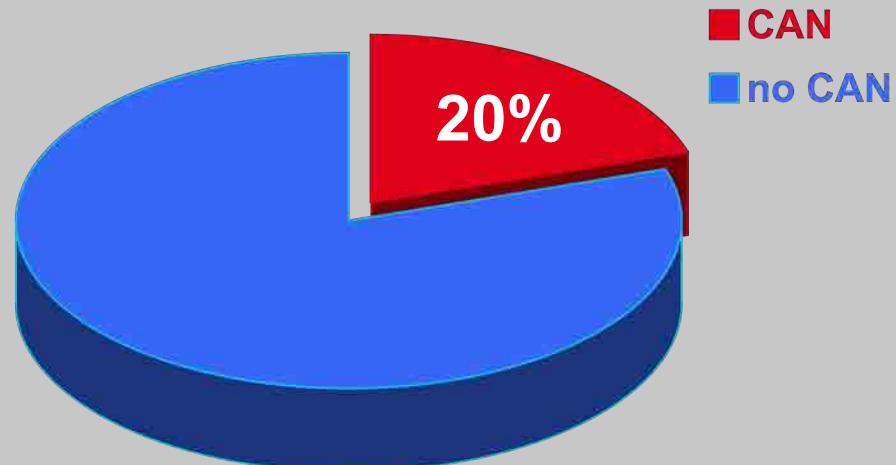
## ***Diabetic autonomic neuropathy: definition***

# **Diabetic autonomic neuropathy: definition**

***Diabetic autonomic neuropathy (DAN) is a disorder of the autonomic nervous system in the setting of diabetes or metabolic derangements of pre-diabetes after the exclusion of other causes.***

***Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy (CAN) is defined as the impairment of autonomic control of the cardiovascular system in the setting of diabetes after exclusion of other causes. CAN is usually documented using several cardiovascular autonomic reflex tests.***

## Diabetic autonomic neuropathy: epidemiology



**CAN is present in one diabetic patient out of 5**

### *Prevalence increases with*

- *age: until 38% in type 1 and 44% in type 2 of 40-70 years old*
- *diabetes duration: until 35% in type 1 and 65% in type 2*

Neil HAW et al. *Diabetic Med* 1989  
Ziegler D et al. *Diabetic Med* 1993  
Valensi P et al. *Metabolism* 1993  
Stephenson J et al. *Diabetologia* 1994

O'Brien IAN et al. *Q J Med* 1986  
Töyry JP et al. *Diabetes* 1996  
May O et al. *J Intern Med* 2000  
Low P et al. *Diabetes Care* 2004

Ko S-H et al *Diabetes Care* 2008  
Pop-Busui R et al. *Circulation* 2009  
Abbott C et al. *Diabetes Care* 2010

**Clinical forms may present with signs and symptoms regarding heart, vessels, gut, bladder, erectile and sudomotor function.**

- Cardiovascular system
- Respiratory system
- Gastrointestinal system
- Urogenital system
- Hormonal secretion
- Pupillary function
- Sudomotor function

### Cardiovascular symptoms

- tachycardia
- exercise intolerance
- orthostatic symptoms

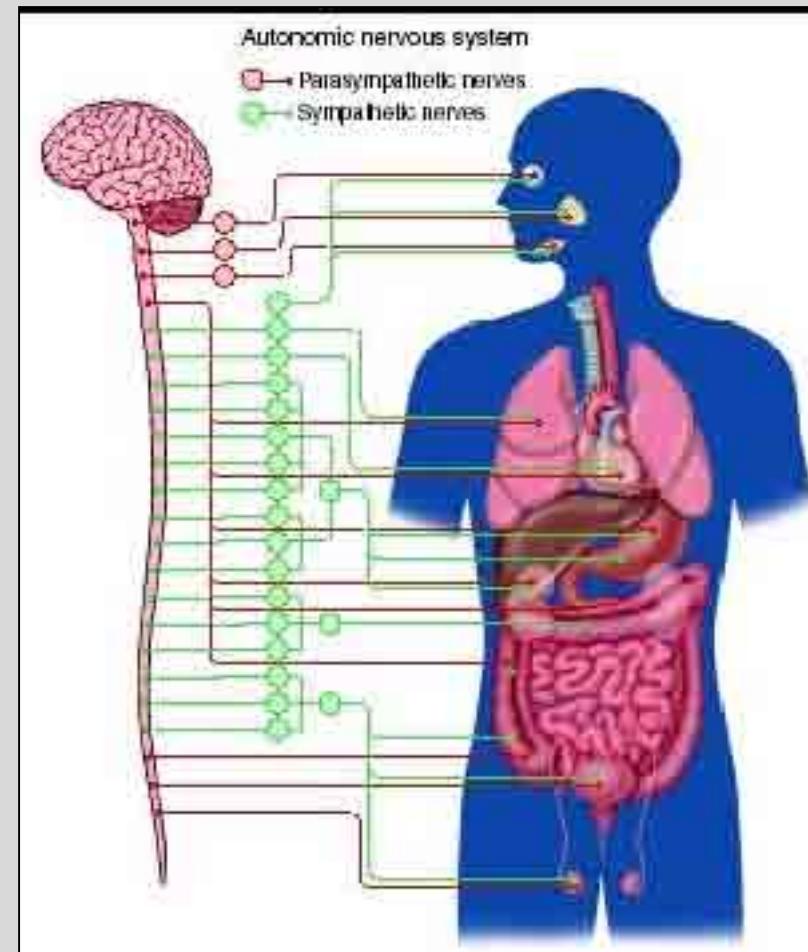
### Gastrointestinal symptoms

- gastric symptoms
- diarrhoea, fecal incontinence, stipsis

### Urinary symptoms

### Erectile dysfunction

### Sweating abnormalities



# CAN as a predictor of mortality

**Meta-analysis of 15 studies (1966-2001)**  
**2900 patients followed for 1-16 years**

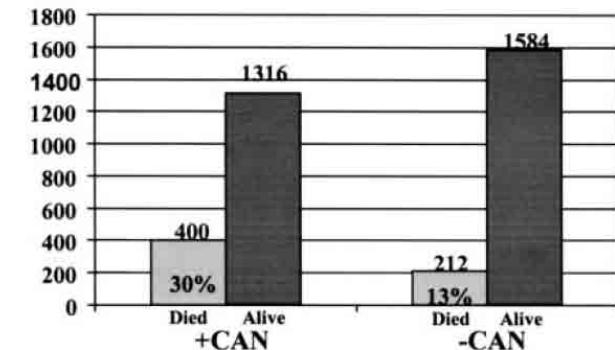
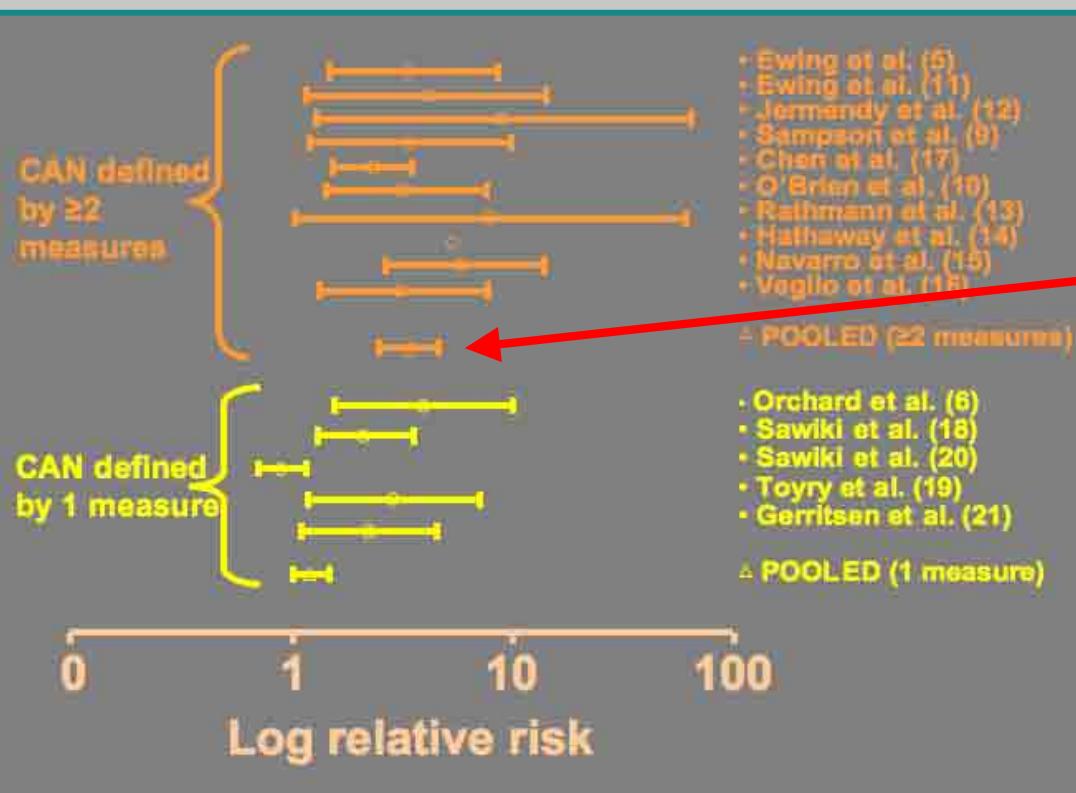


Figure 2. Relative risks and 95% confidence intervals for association between cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy and mortality in 15 studies.

**RR = 3.65**  
(95% C.I. 2.66-4.47)  
with 2 abnormal tests

**RR = 2.14**  
(95% C.I. 1.83-2.51)  
with at least 1 abnormal test

## CAN as a predictor of vascular morbidities

- Association with perioperative instability during surgery (in 7 out of 8 studies)
- Association with or independent predictor value for
  - *silent myocardial ischemia*
  - coronary artery disease
  - cardiovascular morbidity
  - stroke in type 2 diabetes (in 4 studies)
- Progression promoter of diabetic nephropathy (in 6 out of 8 studies)

Sundkvist G et al. *Diabetes Care* 1993;  
Weinraub LA et al. *Am J Hypertens* 1998;  
Burger AJ et al. *Int J Cardiol* 2002;  
Forsén A et al. *Diabet Med* 2004;21:852-8;  
Maguire AM et al *Diabetes Care* 2007;  
Brotman DJ et al. *J Am Soc Nephrol* 2010

Burgos LG et al *Anesthesiology* 1989;  
Linstedt U et al *Anaesthetist* 1993;  
Kitamura A et al *Anesthesiology* 2000;  
Keyl C et al. *Anesth Analg* 1999

Vinik A et al. *Diabetes Care* 2003;  
Wackers FJ et al *Diabetes Care* 2004;  
Young LH et al *JAMA* 2009;  
Liao P et al. *Diabetes* 2002;  
Astrup et al *Diabetes Care* 2006;  
Toury JP et al *Stroke* 1996;  
Cohen JA et al, *Auton Neurosci* 2003; 31;108:73-8  
Cordolo CRL et al *Stroke* 2003;  
Ko SH et al *Diabetic Med* 2008

## Abnormalities associated with CAN at the level of cardiovascular system and peripheral vascular function

- Forms of cardiovascular morbidity
- Risk markers or factors for mortality and morbidity
- Potential pathogenetic link between CAN and mortality/morbidity

### Cardiovascular system

- Perioperative instability
- Exercise intolerance
- Postprandial hypotension
- Silent myocardial ischemia
- Orthostatic hypotension
- Resting tachycardia
- QT interval prolongation
- Nondipping, reverse dipping
- Impaired BRS
- Loss of reflex heart rate variations
- Reduced HRV
- Sympatho-vagal imbalance
- Cardiac sympathetic dysinnervation
- Dysregulation of cerebral circulation
- ↓ Sympathetically mediated vasodilation of coronary vessels
- Left ventricular dysfunction
- ↑ Arterial stiffness

### Peripheral vascular function

- ↑ Peripheral blood flow and warm skin
- ↑ Arteriovenous shunting and swollen veins
- ↑ Venous pressure and oedema
- Loss of protective cutaneous vasomotor reflexes
- Loss of venoarteriolar reflex with oedema and microvascular damage
- ↑ Incapillary permeability
- Medial arterial calcification



## **Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy in diabetes: clinical impact, assessment, diagnosis, and management**

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behalf of The Toronto

Rodica Pop-Busui<sup>6</sup>

Consensus Panel on Diabetic

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Neuropathy<sup>†</sup>

Peter Kempler<sup>8</sup> Jannik Hilsted<sup>9</sup>

# **Clinical impact of CAN**

## **Recommendations**

- **CAN is a risk marker of mortality (level A) as well as a risk marker and likely a risk factor for cardiovascular morbidity (level B), and possibly a progression promoter of diabetic nephropathy (level C).**
- Orthostatic hypotension is associated with a worse prognosis than cardiovagal neuropathy (level C).
- QT<sub>i</sub> prolongation has prognostic value in diabetes (level B).
- Non-dipping status is associated with an adverse cardiovascular prognosis in diabetes (level C).
- Non-dipping status predicts the progression from micro and macroalbuminuria to renal failure in type 2 diabetes (level C).

## Methods of CAN assessment

- Assessment of symptoms
- Assessment of signs
- Cardiovascular tests based on heart rate and BP
- Ambulatory BP Monitoring (ABPM) for dipping status
- HRV time- and frequency-domain indices
- BRS measures
- Scintigraphic studies
- Muscle Sympathetic Nerve Activity (MSNA)
- Cathecolamine assessment

Clinical diagnosis	Research	End-points
no	no	no
yes	yes	no
yes	yes	yes
yes	yes	no
yes	yes	yes
possible	yes	yes
no	yes	yes
no	yes	possible
no	yes	possible

# Cardiovascular Reflex Tests

- measure the heart rate and BP response to provocative physiological manoeuvres
- established measures of autonomic function and the gold standard in autonomic testing (Class II, Level A)

## Heart rate tests

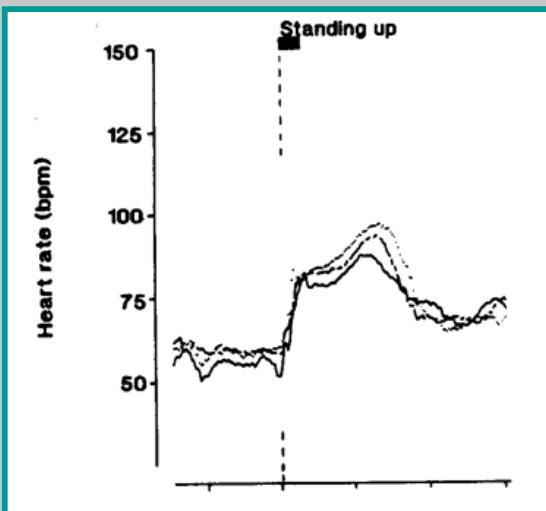
deep breathing (Deep Breathing)

standing (Lying to Standing)

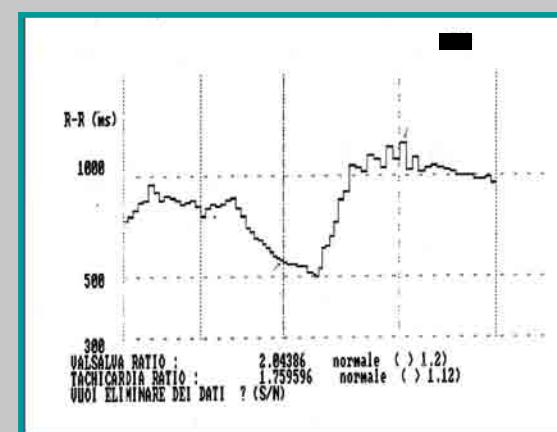
Valsalva manoeuvre

Orthostatic hypotension test

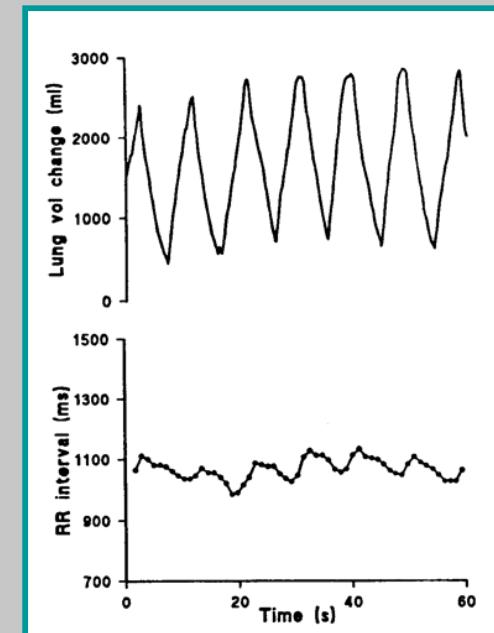
## Lying to standing



## Valsalva manoeuvre



## Deep Breathing



Anonymous. *Neurology* 46: 873-880, 1996; England JD et al. *Neurology* 72:177-184, 2009;  
Spallone V et al. on behalf of Diabetic Neuropathy Study Group of the Italian Society of Diabetology. *Nutr Metab Cardiovasc Dis* 21:69-78, 2011.  
Spallone V et al on behalf of the Toronto Consensus Panel on Diabetic Neuropathy. *Diabetes Metab Res Rev* 27:639–653, 2011

# Confounding factors that can impact reliability of CARTs

- Patients' compliance and standardisation
- Age
- Respiratory pattern
- Body position
- Basal heart rate and BP
- Physical exercise
- Coffee, alcohol, smoking
- Meals
- Obesity
- Hypoglycaemia, hyperglycaemia
- Insulin
- Respiratory, cardiovascular diseases
- Drugs

Spallone V et al on behalf of the Toronto Consensus Panel on Diabetic Neuropathy. *Diabetes Metab Res Rev* 2011;  
 Spallone V et al on behalf of the Diabetic Neuropathy Study Group of the Italian Society of Diabetology *Nutr Metab Cardiovas Dis* 2011

Table 3. Confounding factors on cardiovascular autonomic testing

Physiological confounders	Advice	Recommendation
Standardization	Follow the standard procedures in performing tests and control or minimize the influence of confounding factors	Standardization of testing procedure and control of confounding factors are essential to the reliability of cardiovascular tests
Patients' compliance	Provide detailed information to the subject	Instructions to patients and their familiarization with the tests allow a better standardization of stimuli
Age	Use normal age-related values	Age-related normal reference values are strictly required to correctly interpret the results of all the heart rate-based cardiovascular tests (level B)
Respiratory pattern	Control for respiratory pattern	Accurate instruction on timed deep breathing and on avoidance of deep or irregular breaths after the Valsalva manoeuvre and after standing is advisable (level C)
Body position	Allow a sufficient supine rest before orthostatic test	Adequate supine rest before standing is necessary to increase reproducibility and test reliability
Basal heart rate and blood pressure	Caution in interpreting the results of heart rate tests with a resting heart rate >100 bpm and of orthostatic hypotension test with supine systolic blood pressure >160 mmHg or <120 mmHg	No correction is needed for the resting heart rate (level C), the possible confounding effect of supine systolic blood pressure should be taken into account when evaluating orthostatic hypotension test (level B)
Physical exercise	Avoid strenuous exercise 24 h before testing	Patients should be requested to avoid strenuous physical exercise in the 24 h preceding the tests
Coffee, alcohol, smoking	Avoid consumption of coffee and alcohol, and smoking before testing	Patients should be requested to avoid caffeine beverages, smoking, and alcohol at least 2 h prior to the tests
Meals	Avoid testing just after main meals	It is advisable to perform the tests at least 2 h after a light meal
Pathophysiological confounders intercurrent diseases	Avoid testing in the presence of intercurrent diseases associated with fever, infection, or dehydration	It is advisable to avoid testing during acute disease, stressful condition, fever, infection, dehydration
Hypoglycaemia, hyperglycaemia	Avoid testing during hypoglycaemia or marked hyperglycaemia	Tests should not be performed during hypoglycaemia or marked hyperglycaemia (level C)
Insulin	Avoid testing just after short-acting insulin administration	Tests should be performed at least 2 h after short-acting insulin administration (level C)
Respiratory and cardiovascular disease	Control for associated diseases	Test results should be interpreted with caution in presence of respiratory or cardiovascular diseases, in particular heart failure (level C)
Drugs	Control for medications	An appropriate wash-out of interfering drugs, particularly diuretics, sympatholytic agents and psychoactive drugs should be pursued, if not feasible, results should be interpreted with caution

## Confounding factors that can impact reliability of CARTs

- Patients' compliance and standardisation
- Age
- Respiratory pattern
- Body position
- Basal heart rate and BP
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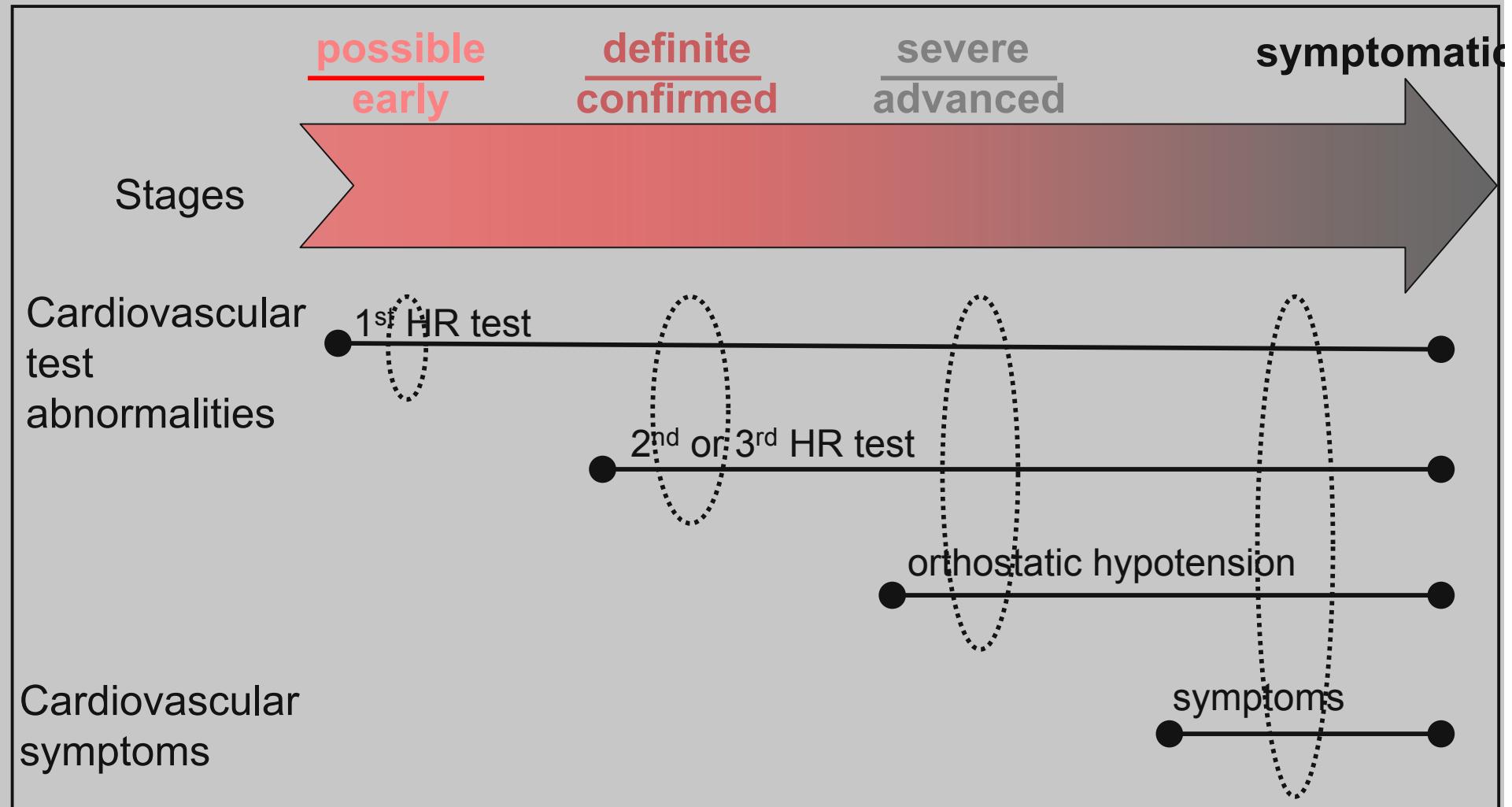
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Age	Use normal age-related values	Age-related normal reference values are strictly required to correctly interpret the results of all the heart rate-based cardiovascular tests (level B)
Respiratory pattern		timed deep breathing (level C)
Body position		change of position from supine to standing (level C)
Basal heart rate		reliability of the resting heart rate (level C)
Physical exercise		possible (level C)
Coffee		should be avoided when evaluating the test (level B)
Meals	alcohol, and smoking before testing Avoid testing just after main meals	caffein beverages, smoking, and alcohol at least 2 h prior to the tests it is advisable to perform the tests at least 2 h after a light meal
Pathophysiological confounders		
intercurrent diseases	Avoid testing in the presence of intercurrent diseases associated with fever, infection, or dehydration	it is advisable to avoid testing during acute disease, stressful condition, fever, infection, dehydration
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**Caution in interpreting the results of heart rate tests with a resting heart rate >100 bpm and of orthostatic hypotension test with supine systolic blood pressure >160 mmHg or <120 mmHg**

# CAN stages



# CAN stages



Cardiovascular  
test  
abnormalities

**Progressive stages are associated  
with increasingly worse prognosis**

Cardiovascular  
symptoms

orthostatic hypotension

symptoms

## Cardiovascular autonomic tests and suggested indications for their use

	Clinical diagnosis	Research	End-point in clinical trials
<b>HR cardiovascular tests</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Orthostatic hypotension test</b>	Yes	Yes	No (low sensitivity)
<b>QT interval</b>	Yes (additional information and risk stratification)	Yes	No (low sensitivity)
<b>ABPM for dipping status</b>	Yes (risk stratification)	Yes	No (low sensitivity)
<b>HRV time- and frequency-domain indices</b>	Yes (early additional information and risk stratification)	Yes	Yes
<b>BRS measures</b>	No (early additional information and risk stratification but low availability)	Yes	Yes
<b>Scintigraphic studies</b>	No (low availability, limited standardisation)	Yes	Yes
<b>MNSA</b>	No (low availability, limited data in CAN)	Yes	Possible (used in life-style intervention trials in obesity)
<b>Catecholamine assessment</b>	No (low availability)	Yes	Possible (used in life-style intervention trials in obesity)



# Correlati clinici della Neuropatia Autonomica Cardiovascolare



Roma,  
9-11 novembre 2012

- Età
- Durata diabete
- Controllo glicemico
- Retinopatia, nefropatia
- Polineuropatia sensitivomotoria
- Fattori di rischio cardiovascolare
  - pressione arteriosa
  - BMI e obesità (tipo 2) (dati controversi)
  - circonferenza vita
  - fumo (solo studi trasversali)
  - colesterolemia (alto LDL e basso HDL)
  - trigliceridemia
- Insulinemia (tipo 2)
- Malattia cardiovascolare
- Farmaci antiipertensivi (tipo 2)

## Prevention and treatment of CAN

### Lifestyle intervention

- weight loss and/or physical activity (in prediabetes and in small, mostly open studies in type 2 diabetes)
- slow breathing in type 1 diabetes (on BRS)

### Disease modifying treatments

- glycaemic control (in type 1 diabetes)
- multifactorial cardiovascular risk intervention (in type 2 diabetes)
- $\alpha$ -lipoic acid, aldose reductase inhibitors, C-peptide, Vitamin E (limited unconfirmed data)

Carnethon MR et al *Diabetes Care* 2006; 29:914–919  
Maser RE e Lenhard MJ. *Curr Diab Rev* 2007  
Loimaala A et al *Diabetes* 2003; 52:1837–1842  
Zoppini G et al *Diabet Med* 2007;24: 370–6  
Kanaley JA et al *Int J Obes (Lond)* 2009;33:1198-206

Rosengård-Bärlund M et al *Diabetologia* 2011;54:1862-70  
Anonymous *Diabetologia* 1998; 41: 416–423  
Pop-Busui R et al *Circulation* 2009; 119: 2886–2893.  
Gaede P et al *N Engl J Med* 2008; 358: 580–591.  
Ziegler D et al *Diabetes Care* 1997; 20: 369–373.



## **Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy in diabetes: clinical impact, assessment, diagnosis, and management**

*Diabetes Metab Res Rev* 2011; 27: 639–653.

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behalf of The Toronto  
Consensus Panel on Diabetic  
Neuropathy<sup>†</sup>

## **Management of Cardiovascular Autonomic Neuropathy**

### **Conclusions**

- **Intensive diabetes therapy retards the development of CAN in type 1 diabetes (level A).**
- **Intensive multifactorial cardiovascular risk intervention retards the development and progression of CAN in type 2 diabetes (level B).**
- **Lifestyle intervention may improve HRV in pre-diabetes (level B) and diabetes (level B).**

### **Recommendations**

- **Diabetes therapy in patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes should consider the individual risk profile and comorbidities (class I).**
- **Lifestyle intervention should be offered as a basic preventive measure (class I).**
- **Given the limited evidence from very few large scale randomized clinical trials, recommendations cannot be given for pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments of CAN.**

## Treatment of clinical consequences of CAN

### Treatments targeted to clinical consequences of CAN

- **sympathovagal unbalance:** avoid drugs which may lead to sympathetic activation and HRV reduction, prefer those with possible favourable effect on HRV (i.e. ACE inhibitors, ARBs)
- **tachycardia:** cardioselective  $\beta$  blockers
- **nondipping:** in hypertensive subjects bedtime treatment with  $\geq 1$  hypertension medication
- **nocturnal hypertension:** non pharmacological measures, transdermal nitroglycerine (low dose)
- **orthostatic hypotension:** non pharmacological measures, midodrine or fludrocortisone

Aronson D *Diabetologia* 1997; 40: 476–481

Hermida RC et al *Diabetes Care* 2011; 34:1270–1276

Shannon J et al *Hypertension* 1997;30:1062-1067

Freeman R *N Engl J Med* 2008; 358: 615–624

# **Trattamento sintomatico dell'ipotensione ortostatica nelle neuropatie autonomiche**

**Quando?**

**Solo se presenti sintomi ortostatici**

**Obiettivi del trattamento**

**Minimizzare i sintomi (non mirare a valori pressori normali)**

**Come?**

- **Identificare altre cause di ipotensione ortostatica**
- **Educare a strategie comportamentali**
- **Misure non farmacologiche**
- **Se inefficaci misure farmacologiche**

# **Trattamento non farmacologico dell'ipotensione ortostatica nelle neuropatie autonomiche**

## **Identificare altre cause di ipotensione ortostatica**

- deplezione di volume
- ipotensivi (alfalitici), psicofarmaci (antidepressivi triciclici)

## **Evitare situazioni favorenti**

- alzarsi in piedi rapidamente (al risveglio)
- prolungata stazione eretta
- sforzo durante minzione e defecazione
- attività fisica intensa (primo mattino e dopo i pasti)
- esposizione al caldo, docce e bagni troppo caldi
- pasti abbondanti ricchi di carboidrati
- assunzione di alcol

# Trattamento farmacologico dell'ipotensione ortostatica nelle neuropatie autonomiche

## Misure non farmacologiche

- dormire con la testa del letto sollevata (20°)
- adeguato apporto di liquidi e sale (almeno 1.5 L di acqua al giorno e 4-6 g di sale)
- pasti piccoli e frequenti
- esercizio fisico prudente (incluso il nuoto)
- calze elastiche in ortostatismo
- contromanovre fisiche
  - incrociare le gambe stando in piedi
  - accovacciarsi
  - piegare in avanti il busto a braccia incrociate
  - comprimere l'addome
  - sollevare un piede su una sedia
  - sedersi su seggiolino portatile (38 cm)
- se sintomi ortostatici in acuto bere 2 bicchieri da 250 ml di acqua in rapida successione

## Trattamento farmacologico dell'ipotensione ortostatica nelle neuropatie autonomiche

### Farmaci di 1<sup>a</sup> linea

- Fluoroidrocortisone acetato
- Midodrina

### Farmaci di 2<sup>a</sup> linea

- Desmopressina (DDAVP) (*per poliuria notturna*)
- Eritropoietina ricombinante (rHuEPO) (*se coesiste anemia*)
- Octreotide (*per ipotensione postprandiale*)
- Caffeina (*per ipotensione postprandiale*)
- Acarbosio (*per ipotensione postprandiale*)



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*Diabetes Metab Res Rev* 2011; 27: 639–653.

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# Management of CAN

## Conclusions

- Symptomatic orthostatic hypotension may be improved by non-pharmacological measures (level B) and by midodrine (level A) and/or fludrocortisone (level B).
- Drug treatment of **symptomatic** orthostatic hypotension in diabetic patients with CAN may be challenging and should be thoroughly **balanced between the goal of increasing standing blood pressure and the avoidance of a marked increase in supine blood pressure (level C)**.

## Recommendations

- The first therapeutic approach in symptomatic orthostatic hypotension should consider the **exclusion of drugs exacerbating orthostatic hypotension, correction of volume depletion (class I), and other non-pharmacological measures (class IIa)**.
- Pharmacotherapy of symptomatic orthostatic hypotension should include **midodrine (class I) or fludrocortisone or a combination of both in non-responders to monotherapy (class IIa)**.
- **Because of the limited evidence, the potential risk of any pharmacological treatment should be thoroughly weighed against its possible benefit (class I)**.

## **Cardiopatia autonomica: *take home message***

- La CAN è una complicanza frequente.
- Interessa diverse funzioni cardiovascolari ed è marker di rischio di morbilità e mortalità cardiovascolare.
- I test cardiovascolari sono il gold standard per la sua diagnosi e ne consentono la stadiazione.
- I segni clinici di CAN - seppur tardivi - sono identificabili nella pratica clinica.
- La diagnosi di CAN è rilevante nella pratica clinica per la diagnosi e il trattamento delle forme cliniche, e per la stratificazione del rischio di complicanze cardiovascolari.
- Vi sono evidenze sulla azione preventiva del controllo glicemico nel diabete di tipo 1, non su terapie patogenetiche.
- Il trattamento dell'ipotensione ortostatica ha come obiettivo il controllo dei sintomi e comprende misure non farmacologiche e farmacologiche.