
**CLINICAL PROFILE OF PATIENTS WITH CARDIOEMBOLIC STROKE
IN A TERTIARY CARE CENTRE**

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION:- Embolic stroke is recognized increasingly as an important cause of stroke. This is the commonest cause of stroke. The characteristic feature is the abrupt onset of a focal neurologic deficit. In most cases of cerebral embolism, the embolic material consists of a fragment that has broken away from a thrombus within the heart. Somewhat less frequently the source is intra-arterial, from the distal end of a thrombus within the lumen of an occluded or severely stenotic carotid or vertebral artery or the distal end of a carotid dissection, or possibly from an atheromatous plaque that has ulcerated into the lumen of the carotid sinus. Single or sequential emboli may also arise from large atheromatous plaques in the ascending aorta. Thrombotic or infected material (endocarditis) that adhere to the aortic or mitral heart valves and break away are also well appreciated sources of embolism. ⁽¹⁾

Cardioembolic stroke accounts for approximately 15% of all strokes and is thought to be one of the more preventable types of strokes⁽²⁾.