**SPONTANEOUS CORONARY ARTERY DISSECTION: A CASE SERIES EMPHASIZING THE POTENTIAL FOR UNDERESTIMATION**

M. Pfeiffer, **G.A. Baquero**, T. Fugate, M. Kozak

Penn State College of Medicine. Hershey. PA. USA

Spontaneous coronary artery dissection (SCAD) is considered a very rare disorder in the spectrum of cardiovascular disease. Our knowledge base for SCAD is limited and derive from case reports and retrospective reviews. Several aspects of this disorder including its rarity, heterogeneity of its presentation and lack of identification during initial assessment propose obstacles to reliably secure an accurate diagnosis and consequently we believe that the incidence of this disorder is likely underestimated in the literature.We present a case series of five patients with SCAD and outline the aspects of their history, presentation and work-up, which exhibit features of this disorder that pose diagnostic challenges. We propose that improved awareness of this disorder and associated trends might improve a clinician’s index of suspicion and lead to a better diagnostic approach. Case reports and reviews remain vital to our understanding of this disorder and its true prevalence.