A Survey of Cholesterol Disease Management in Pediatric Cardiology

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BACKGROUND
Gene cholesterol diseases are very common and frequently unrecognized. Although adult heart disease is the most common cause of death in the US and has its origins in childhood, pediatric cardiologists may not be consistently addressing this issue in their clinical practice. Little information exists regarding the management practices of cholesterol diseases by pediatric cardiologists.

RESULTS
Although genetic cholesterol diseases are common, serious and have their origin in childhood, many pediatric cardiologists have limited training and comfort treating them.

CONCLUSIONS
Although most pediatric cardiologists made clinical recommendations consistent with published guidelines, considerable training deficits and knowledge gaps remain.

METHODS
We sent an anonymous online survey to the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery and the Pediheart online community regarding the diagnosis and management of cholesterol disease in children and adolescents. Respondents’ clinical recommendations in five clinical vignettes were compared to published American Heart Association (AHA) guidelines. We received 100 responses which could be analyzed.

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