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90% of idiopathic cases are presumed to be due to viral etiologies [4]. Common viruses include enteroviruses, including coxsackievirus and echovirus, herpesviruses, adenoviruses and parvovirus B19 [4]. While the pathogenesis of viral CP is not completely understood, evidence suggests a role of auto-antibodies against cells of the pericardium.

Discussion

CP refers to the process of inflammatory and fibrotic loss of elasticity and compliance of the pericardium, a sack of mesothelial cells and collagen that envelope the heart, resulting in diminished diastolic filling, causing acute diastolic heart failure [1,2]. A report in 1962 noted that approximately 50% of cases of CP were caused by Tuberculosis in North America. Worldwide, the causes included Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and AIDS [2]. More recent studies of the etiologies of CP have revealed other causes. In a retrospective study of 57 patients, prior cardiothoracic surgery was found to be the most common cause [3]. 80-

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