The influence of weather conditions on the occurrence of paroxysmal atrial fibrillation.

[Article in Polish]
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Abstract
The effect of the changing weather conditions on the incidence of the paroxysmal atrial fibrillation (PAF) has not been documented before.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:
This analysis retrospectively assessed the influence of the weather conditions on 1153 PAF cases over the period of 10 years. The average age of the studied population was 64.9 +/- 9.2 years. There was 60% males in the group. The majority (84%) had an existing heart disease, the remaining part was diagnosed as the lone PAF.

RESULTS:
The following factors favoured the FA occurrence: high air temperature (> 25 Centigrade) for more than 3 days, low temperature (< 8 Centigrade), water vapor pressure > 16.5 kPa, accelerated increase of the air pressure > 8hPa over 2 days.

CONCLUSIONS:
The following weather conditions such as: temperature, air humidity and pressure have a definite impact on the occurrence of the paroxysmal atrial fibrillation episodes in 87% of patients especially those with co-existing coronary heart disease, hypertension or older age.

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