## Dilated Cardiomyopathy





Images from an MRI can help your doctor understand if there are issues with your heart

## SYMPTOMS AND DESCRIPTION

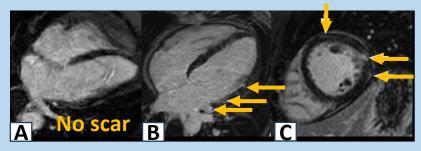
<u>Symptoms include:</u> Shortness of breath, leg swelling, skipped beats, dizziness, and fainting spells.

<u>Description</u>: This is a disease where you have a large heart due to dilation of the left and or right ventricle. Your heart is weak and does not pump as well. You can inherit this from your family or develop this over time.

## **WHY MRI**

Heart MRI is one of the best ways to check if your heart is dilated and if it is pumping properly. Your doctor can see if your heart muscle has damage, which could increase your risk for complications such as rhythm abnormalities.

## **IMAGES**



A dilated heart with normal heart muscle is shown in A. A different patient with damage in the middle of the heart wall (orange arrows) is shown in B and C. This improved after treatment.

Ask your doctor about: Cardiac MRI with contrast

Images provided courtesy of:Michael Gannon, MD, Aoife Sweeney MBBS, Christian Hamilton-Craig, MBBS, PhD, Srividya Katikireddi, MBBS, Allan J. Wesley, MBBS. Created by: Michael Gannon, MD and Kanae Mukai, MD