P.009: ATORVASTATIN ABROGATES THE DETERIORATION OF ENDOTHELIAL FUNCTION INDUCED BY ACUTE INFLAMMATION IN DYSLIPIDEMIC PATIENTS


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were also decreased with ramipril and valsartan (PWV by 0.5 ± 0.3 and 0.6 ± 0.6 m/s, P < 0.005 and <0.01 respectively; Aix by 5.2 ± 4 and 5.8 ± 4 respectively, P < 0.005 for both). When the effect of ramipril on systolic and diastolic pressure, PWV, and Aix was compared to that of valsartan, no difference was observed in any parameter.

Conclusions: Ramipril reduce aortic stiffness and wave reflections to the same degree as valsartan in patients after SCR. Their beneficial effects should be taken into account when treatment in SCR patients is considered.

P.009
ATORVASTATIN ABROGATES THE DETERIORATION OF ENDOTHELIAL FUNCTION INDUCED BY ACUTE INFLAMMATION IN DYSLIPIDEMIC PATIENTS
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Introduction: Acute inflammation is associated with a deterioration of endothelial function. Statins reduce cardiovascular risk by lipid lowering and non-lipid pleiotropic effects. It has not been defined whether atorvastatin modifies the effects of acute inflammation on endothelial function in dyslipidemic patients.

Methods: We generated a transient systemic inflammation by Salmonella Typhi vaccination in 30 volunteers with mild dyslipidemia. They were studied 4 days after randomly taking atorvastatin 40 mg or placebo once daily at bedtime. Conduit artery endothelial performance was assessed before and 8 hours after vaccination. Flow-mediated dilatation (FMD) of the brachial artery, an index of endothelial function, and the endothelium-independent nitrate-induced dilatation (NID) were measured by using high resolution ultrasonography.

Results: There were no differences in all baseline characteristics among the two groups. In the placebo group, vaccination caused a significant decrease of FMD at 8 hours (by 2.6 ± 1.08%, P < 0.05, left figure), indicating an unfavourable effect of inflammation on endothelial function. In contrast, in the pretreated with atorvastatin group, the decrease of FMD after vaccination (by 0.22 ± 0.53%) was significantly smaller compared with placebo (P < 0.05 by 2-way repeated-measures ANOVA, left figure), denoting that the adverse effect of inflammation on endothelial function is abrogated by atorvastatin. We did not observe any significant change of NID after vaccination in any group (P=NS, right figure).

Conclusions: In dyslipidemic patients, atorvastatin abrogates the deterioration of endothelial function caused by an acute inflammatory stimulus. This finding provides valuable insights into the protective effect of atorvastatin on arterial function and on the cardiovascular system overall.

P.010
DO PULSE WAVE VELOCITY AND AUGMENTATION INDEX MEASURE DIFFERENT MODES OF AORTIC STIFFNESS?
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Introduction: Aortic pulse wave velocity (aPWV) and augmentation index (Aix) are tools to assess aortic stiffness. This study examined the relationship between aPWV using a validated, direct method, results from pulse wave analysis (PWA), using the indirect method from tonometry at the radial artery (via the SphygmoCor).

Methods: aPWV was measured as the speed of aortic waveforms between a) the junctions of left subclavian and aortic arch and b) bifurcation of the abdominal aorta, using Doppler probes. PWA was undertaken immediately after aPWV measurement in all participants.

Results: High quality data were obtained from 33 postnatal, healthy women aged 22-49y, with mean systolic/diastolic blood pressure (SBP/DBP) of 109.9/68.2 mmHg (95% CI: 105.8-114.3/64.4-69.3). Correlation coefficients for aPWV and Aix (Augmentation Index), AP (augmentation pressure) were only 0.18 and 0.09, not ‘significant’. Factors affecting these parameters were as follows: age (both), 2-hour glucose levels from the glucose tolerance test (GTT) influenced AP (r = 0.67, p = 0.047) and SBP for aPWV (r = 0.39, p = 0.027).

Conclusions: Different factors affect aortic stiffness as assessed by these methods, young, healthy women in our study group.

P.011
EFFECT OF GLUCOSE FLUX DURING OGTT ON AORTIC FUNCTION
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Introduction: Hyperglycaemia or related factors lead to micro and macrovascular complications. The aim was to relate wave propagation velocity (aPWV) with glucose flux during a 75 g oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT). Our null hypothesis was that aPWV does not change significantly during the OGTT.

Methods: 72 pre-menopausal women (age 35.0, 33.5-36.5 years) underwent anthropometry and aPWV measurements at 0, 30 and 120 min of an OGTT. aPWV was measured as speed of the aortic flow waveform between the (a) junction of the left subclavian artery and arch of the aorta and (b) bifurcation of the abdominal aorta by using Doppler probes.

Results: aPWV decreased by 30 min during an OGTT by 8.6% (95%CI: 3.3-14.0%), p < 0.0001, but reverted by 2 hr (p = 0.16). In regression analysis, 30 min aPWV was affected by age (beta = -1.8, p = 0.008), body mass index (BMI) (beta = -0.7, p = 0.03) and smoking exposure (beta = -0.24, p = 0.045), and the fall in aPWV between fasting and 30 min by age (beta = -1.6, p = 0.05) and body fat percentage (beta = -1.8, p = 0.008).

Conclusions: Aortic function as assessed by aPWV changes during an OGTT, and its degree of change is primarily affected by age and adiposity, but not glycaemia.

P.012
COMPARISON OF OSCILLOMETRIC AND TONOMETRIC DERIVED PULSE WAVE VELOCITY

Objective: Measurements of the aortic pulse wave velocity (PWV) with applanation tonometry is broadly accepted, but investigator-dependent, time-consuming, and expensive. Recently a new method to determine PWV derived from oscilometric pressure curves with a simple upper arm cuff has been developed. The aim of the present study was to compare the PWV derived from two well established and clinically validated tonometric methods (SphygmoCor, Compior and Arteriograph, respectively. 36 patients we measured in a second session following the same protocol. We then compared the means of the PWVs for each patient per session (n = 87).

Results: The correlations of the PWVs assessed by Arteriograph compared to SphygmoCor was r = 0.67 (p < 0.001) and to Compior r = 0.69 (p < 0.001). SphygmoCor- and Compior-assessed PWVs showed a correlation of r = 0.87.

Conclusions: The new oscilometric method of assessing PWV is highly correlated to the tonometrically derived PWV. Further studies are necessary to define the clinical use of the oscilometrically derived PWV.