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Intensity of Statin Treatment in Patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction and Very Low LDL Cholesterol

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Abstract

Objective: For patients with acute myocardial infarction (MI) whose baseline low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol levels are very low, there is a paucity of data regarding the intensity of statin therapy. We sought to assess the impact of statin intensity in patients with acute MI and LDL cholesterol <70 mg/dL.

Methods: A total of 1,086 patients with acute MI and baseline LDL cholesterol <70 mg/dL from the Korea Acute Myocardial Infarction Registry-National Institute of Health database were divided into less intensive statin (expected LDL reduction <40%, n = 302) and more intensive statin (expected LDL lowering ≥40%, n = 784) groups. The primary endpoint was major adverse cardiac and cerebrovascular events (MACCE), a composite of cardiac death, MI, revascularization occurring at least 30 days after admission, or stroke, at 12 months.

Results: After 1:2 propensity matching, there were no differences between less intensive (n = 302) and more intensive stain (n = 604) groups in the incidences of cardiac death (0.3% vs. 0.3%) and hemorrhagic stroke (0.3% vs. 0.5%, p = 0.727) at 12 months. Compared to less intensive statin group, more intensive statin group showed lower target-vessel revascularization (4.6% vs. 1.8%, p = 0.027) and MACCE (11.6% vs. 7.0%, p = 0.021). Major bleeding was not different between less intensive and more intensive groups (1.0% vs. 2.6%, p = 0.118).

Conclusion: More intensive compared to less intensive statin therapy was associated with significantly lower major adverse cardiovascular events in patients with acute MI and very low LDL cholesterol.

Keywords

Cholesterol; Myocardial Infarction; Statins