ANTITHROMBOTIC THERAPY LANCELOT RESULTS PUBLISHED

The safety and tolerability of PAR-1 antagonist atopaxar have been assessed in two parallel, international, phase II randomized, controlled studies of 720 individuals with CAD and 603 patients who had experienced an ACS.

In LANCELOT-CAD, more CURE bleeding and a trend towards more TIMI bleeding were observed in the patients on atopaxar. However, only CURE minor bleeding and TIMI minimal bleeding that required medical attention were increased in these patients; rates of CURE major bleeding, TIMI major bleeding, and TIMI minor bleeding were unaffected. Trends towards more bleeding with higher atopaxar doses were observed (daily doses of 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg were assessed). More elevations in levels of liver enzymes and modest increases in QTcF were seen in the atopaxar-treated patients, particularly in those receiving the high doses. Compared with the placebo group, more individuals assigned to the highest dose of atopaxar discontinued the trial.

In LANCELOT-ACS, no statistically significant atopaxar-associated increases nor any dose-related trends in bleeding were observed. More abnormalities in liver function and relative QTcF prolongation were noted in the patients who received the highest dose (200 mg) of atopaxar, compared with those who received placebo. Notably, the study was underpowered to assess safety events such as intracranial hemorrhage. Although also not powered to assess clinical efficacy, atopaxar was associated with a 34% reduction in Holter-detected ischemia within 48 h after the 400 mg loading dose.

Overall, atopaxar was generally well-tolerated in both studies, particularly at the lower doses assessed. Larger studies assessing clinical safety and efficacy outcomes are eagerly awaited.

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Original articles Wiviott, S. D. *et al.* Randomized trial of atopaxar in the treatment of patients with coronary artery disease: the Lessons From Antagonizing the Cellular Effect of Thrombin-Coronary Artery Disease Trial. *Circulation* **123**, 1854–1863 (2011) | O'Donoghue, M. L. *et al.* Safety and tolerability of atopaxar in the treatment of patients with acute coronary syndromes: the Lessons From Antagonizing the Cellular Effects of Thrombin-Acute Coronary Syndromes Trial. *Circulation* **123**, 1843–1853 (2011)