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The short-term outcomes of tirofiban use in primary percutaneous coronary intervention for acute ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI)

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Abstract---Introduction: When patients suffering from acute ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) undergo for percutaneous coronary intervention, tirofiban is mostly prescribed. Objective: In this study, patients undergoing for primary percutaneous coronary intervention for ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction were evaluated to determine the impact of a high bolus dose (HBD) of

tirofiban on clinical outcomes. **Methods:** This study included 272 acute STEMI patients aged less than 79 years, admitted to the Hayatabad Medical Complex hospital, Peshawar from April 2021 to February 2022. According to the random number table, these patients were divided into four groups: the control group (n= 65), low-dose group (n=69), medium-dose group (n=71) and high-dose group (n=67). **Results:** After percutaneous coronary intervention, the high-dose group experienced higher rates of corrected TIMI frame count (CTFC), Thrombolysis In Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) grade 3, and total frequency of ST-segment resolution greater than 50% than the other 3 groups while compared to the low- dose group as well as control group, the CTFC were greater in the medium dose group. Furthermore, the LVEF of the medium-dose group was much better than that of the low-dose group, and as compared to other groups, the left ventricular end diastolic and end systolic dimensions of the high-dose group remained suggestively elevated. **Conclusion:** In light of the patient's circumstances and hemorrhagic risk, judicious dosage administration of tirofiban has become more important. Patients with low hemorrhagic risk may benefit from a medium dose of 10 µg/kg.

Keywords---tirofiban, different dose, percutaneous coronary intervention, myocardial infarction.

Introduction

When someone has STEMI, blood flow in the arteries affected by the infarct is crucial. Blood flow must always be fully and instantly established in such a channel. The concurrent action of blood vessels static friction and nervous-humoral coordination drives a coronary atherosclerotic plaque to rupture, which resulting in STEMI. This rupture causes a chain reaction of events that eventually block the coronary arteries [1-2]. The principal purposes of STEMI management are to open up the infarct vasculature accurately, systematically, and immediately, to strengthen myocardial microcirculation, to ensure recovery of infarct myocardium as rapidly as conceivable, to treat the almost necrotic myocardium, and to improve cardiac function [3-4]. The two primary forms of management for reperfusion are intravenous thrombolysis (IT) and direct PCI [5].

PCI is a crucial and efficient procedure which used vascularize the target artery and save the lives of STEMI patients [6-7]. Clinical experimental studies and survey design have shown that the adjunct infusion of glycoprotein IIb/IIIa blockers is associated with enhanced clinical outcomes and lower morbidity in STEMI patients [8-10]. An intravenous bolus, an intracoronary bolus dosage, and a 12- to 72-hours IV infusion make up a typical Tirofiban prescription [11-12]. It is unclear whether giving Tirofiban for an extended length of time would improve their clinical outcomes and lower their risk of complications. Considering this, a case-controlled study was conducted using a total of 272 STEMI patients who already had PCI and administered a diversity of tirofiban regimens in order to investigate short-term treatment benefit, cardiac function, and safety profiles.

Material and Methods

This retrospective study included 272 acute STEMI patients aged less than 79 years, admitted to the Hayatabad Medical Complex hospital, Peshawar (Pakistan) during April 2021 and February 2022, who had PCI. The inclusion criteria was: Patients seen between age ranges of 45 and 78; clinical signs including nausea, vomiting and chest pain; electrocardiography demonstrating ST-segment elevation greater than 0.2 mV in at least 2 leads; elevated concentrations of creatinine kinase-MB and Troponin-I.

The following conditions disqualified patients from engaging in the study: a cardiac function class III or IV (Killip classification); a history of cerebral haemorrhage or cerebral infarction during the last six months or visceral bleeding in the past month; severe hypertension (blood pressure greater than 180/110 mmHg); a clear resistance to or allergy to anti-platelet medicines; non-STEMI, PCI, or coronary artery bypass grafting during the last six months; greater than 45% left main artery stenosis or a significant triple vascular lesion; hemodialysis patients with blood clotting disorders and a platelet count of 178 millimoles per litre (mmol/L); hemodialysis patients with blood clotting issues and a platelet count of 178 mmol/L; inability to perform the surgery through the radial artery and a lack of interest in taking part in the trial.

According to the random number table, these participants were assigned arbitrarily to the control group (65 patients, 0 milligram/kg), low-dose group (LDG) (69 patients, 5 µg/kg), medium-dose group (MDG) (71 patients, 10 µg/kg), and high-dose group (HDG) (67 patients, 20 µg/kg). All patients were given clopidogrel (600 mg) and aspirin (300 mg) prior to being catherized with 3500 IU heparin and vaccinated via the radial artery. As a result, no tirofiban was given to the control group. A bolus of 5 µg/kg tirofiban was intravenously vaccinated to the LDG in 5 minutes after which it was injected constantly for 36 hours at a rate of 0.5 µg/kg. In the MDG, a bolus of 10 µg/kg tirofiban was intravenously inoculated around 10 minutes, proceeded by a 36-hour period of continual intravenous injection at a rate of 0.10 µg/kg. In the HDG, a bolus of 20 µg/kg tirofiban was intravenously supplied approximately 10 minutes, followed by a 36-hour period of continuous intravenous administration at 0.220 µg/kg. All participants undergo oral clopidogrel (75 mg/daily) and aspirin (100 mg/daily) for at least a year subsequent PCI. Coronary angiography was conducted out after the catheter was implanted to view the infarcted arteries then use a puncture through the right radial artery.

Patients had routine balloon dilation medication based on the target lesions, continued by the routine implant of stents with the proportion of stent diameter to vessel diameter. During surgery, just the artery leading to the infarction was severed. These participants then had a coronary arteriography evaluation. In respect of myocardial reperfusion parameters, PCI medication was applied to evaluate myocardial reperfusion. There were three assessments made: the 90-minute sum-ST-segment resolution (sumSTR), corrected TIMI frame count, and thrombolysis in myocardial infarction (TIMI) grade 3 flow. The left ventricular end systolic diameter (LVESD), left ventricular end diastolic diameter (LVEDD) and the left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) were evaluated using the cardiac function

indexes. Major adverse cardiac events (MACE), such as myocardial infarction, angina pectoris, abrupt heart failure, target vessel revascularization (TVR), cardiac mortality and others, were reported for the study's primary clinical end point after 1 month following the PCI. Considering haemorrhage and thrombocytopenia: After PCI, haemorrhage has been mostly caused by bleeding at the puncture site and tunica mucosal bleeding, cerebral bleeding, gastrointestinal bleeding and other types of bleeding. A record of the thrombocytopenia was also made.

All statistical assessments were made using STATA version 12.0. Counts or proportions (%) or mean values with standard deviation (SD) were utilized to depict continuous data. When predicted cell values were less than 5, quantitative information was compared through using Chi-Square test or Fisher's accurate test. P value under 0.05 was deemed significant.

Ethical Statement

The guidelines of the National Institutes of Health's Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals were strictly followed when conducting this study. The DHQ Daggar Buner approves the research. Written consents were obtained from participants and every attempt was made to lessen pain during sample collection.

Results

Between April 2021 and February 2022, our institution treated 272 acute STEMI sufferers who had PCI. Patients were sorted into four groups at random: the control group (65 cases), the LDG (69 instances), the MDG (71 cases), and the HDG (71 cases) (67 cases). General findings for the 4 groups did not demonstrate any appreciable differences (table 1). The HDG considerably outperformed the LDG and MDG and control groups in terms of CTFC, TIMI grade 3 flow and sumSTR greater than 50%, whereas the MDG significantly outperformed the LDG, control group in terms of CTFC. However, there were no statistically significant changes between the control group, LDG, and MDG when TIMI grade 3 flow and sumSTR (>50%) were compared (table 2).

Table 1: Evaluations of patient demographic information

| Variables | Control group (n= 65) | LDG (n=69) | MDG (n=71) | HDG (n=67) | P (n=) | P value |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| Age in years: Mean±SD | 57.63 ± 9.77 | 56.48 10.51 | ±56.62 11.27 | ±55.84 10.29 | | ±.785 |
| Sex category | | | | | | |
| Men: Frequency (%) | 47 (72.31) | 41 (59.42) | 53 (74.66) | 37 (55.22) | | |
| Women: Frequency (%) | 18 (27.69) | 28 (40.58) | 18 (25.34) | 30 (44.78) | | .249 |
| Diabetes: Frequency (%) | 11 (16.92) | 16 (23.18) | 14 (19.71) | 15 (22.38) | | .617 |
| Smoker: Frequency (%) | 41 (63.07) | 46 (66.67) | 51 (71.83) | 45 (67.16) | | .632 |
| BMI: Mean±SD | 23.48 ± 3.69 | 24.56 3.49 | ±24.35 2.32 | ±23.66 3.45 | | ±.231 |
| Hyperlipidemia: Frequency | 31 (47.69) | 28 (40.57) | 35 (49.29) | 34 (50.74) | | .787 |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------|------|
| (%) | | | | | | |
| Hypertension: Frequency (%) | 43 (66.15) | 49 (71.01) | 47 (66.19) | 48 (71.64) | .736 | |
| CRUSADE bleeding risk score: Mean±SD | 31.23 ± 7.25 | 30.49 ± 7.48 | ±28.71 ± 7.51 | ±29.08 ± 8.61 | ±.178 | |
| Killip class | | | | | | |
| Class I: Frequency (%) | 41 (63.09) | 45 (65.24) | 48 (67.62) | 42 (62.68) | | |
| Class II: Frequency (%) | 13 (20.0) | 16 (23.18) | 14 (19.71) | 16 (23.88) | | |
| Class III: Frequency (%) | 7 (10.76) | 5 (7.24) | 6 (8.45) | 6 (8.95) | | |
| Class IV: Frequency (%) | 4 (6.15) | 3 (4.34) | 3 (4.22) | 3 (4.49) | | .863 |
| Infarct-related artery | | | | | | |
| Right coronary artery: Frequency (%) | 15 (23.07) | 18 (26.09) | 19 (26.76) | 17 (25.38) | | .952 |
| Circumflex artery: Frequency (%) | 18 (27.70) | 23 (33.33) | 21 (29.57) | 21 (31.34) | | |
| Anterior descending: Frequency (%) | 32 (49.23) | 28 (40.58) | 31 (43.67) | 29 (43.28) | | |
| Diseased vessels | | | | | | |
| 1: Frequency (%) | 24 (36.92) | 29 (42.02) | 32 (45.07) | 31 (46.27) | | |
| 2: Frequency (%) | 29 (44.62) | 24 (34.79) | 25 (35.21) | 19 (28.35) | | .876 |
| 3: Frequency (%) | 12 (18.46) | 16 (23.19) | 14 (19.7) | 17 (25.38) | | |
| intra-aortic balloon pump | 11 (16.92) | 19 (27.53) | 16 (22.53) | 13 (19.40) | | .435 |
| Pacemaker: Frequency (%) | 23 (35.38) | 22 (31.88) | 28 (39.43) | 24 (35.82) | | .763 |
| Onset-to-PCI time (h): Mean±SD | 5.68 ± 1.49 | 5.34 ± 1.59 | ±5.76 ± 1.48 | ±5.61 ± 1.70 | ±.349 | |

Table 2: Acute myocardial reperfusion parameter evaluations

| | Control group (n = 65) | LDG (n= 69) | MDG (n= 71) | HDG (n= 67) | P value |
|--------------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------|
| SumSTR >50% | 47 (72.30) | 52 (75.36) | 53 (74.64) | 61 (91.04)a,b,c | <0.001 |
| CTFC | 26.05 ± 6.97 | 24.21 ± 4.59 | 21.87 ± 4.23a,b | 19.03 ± 5.09a,b,c | <0.001 |
| TIMI grade 3 | 52 (80.00) | 55 (79.71) | 57 (80.28) | 61 (91.04)a,b,c | 0.04 |

a,b and c compared with control group, LDG and MDG respectively (P value less than 0.05); CTFC, Cardiac Thin Filament Complex; TIMI, Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction.

There were no differences between the 4 groups when evaluating LVEDD, LVEF, and LVESD before the PCI. The LVEF, LVESD, and LVEDD of the HDG were all better than those of the control group, LDG, and MDG at 1 week and 1 month following the PCI. The LVEDD, LVESD, and LVEF of the MDG were superior to those of the control group at one month following the PCI, and the LVEF of the MDG was higher to that of LDG. The differences noted above indicated statistical

significance (Table 3). Within a month, there were 43.07%, 33.33%, 21.12%, and 11.94% cases of MACE in the control group, LDG, MDG, and HDG, respectively. The incidence of MACE in the HDG was much lower than that in the LDG, MDG, and control groups. The MDG was also considerably lower than the control group (Table 4). The incidence of haemorrhage was 12.30%, 7.24%, 12.67%, and 34.32% in the control group, LDG, MDG, and HDG, respectively. The incidence of thrombocytopenia was 4.61%, 7.24%, 14.08%, and 26.86% in each group. As compared to the control group, LDG, and MDG, the incidence of haemorrhage and thrombocytopenia was considerably greater in the HDG. However, there was no discernible difference in the occurrence of haemorrhage and thrombocytopenia between the control group, LDG, and MDG (Table 5).

Table 3: Parameter evaluations for cardiovascular output

| Control group (n = 65) 71) | | | LDG (n= 69) HDG (n= 67) | MDG (n= P value | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Earlier PCI | 48.56 ± 5.68 | | 46.64 ±49.17 ± 4.71 4.69 | 48.79 ± 4.25 | .856 |
| LVEDD | | | | 41.34 ± 4.95 | |
| 1 week afterward PCI | 44.96 ± 6.58 | | 44.30 ±43.81 ± 5.34 5.29 | a,b,c | < .001> |
| 1 month afterward PCI | 44.32 ± 6.19 | | 43.64 ±42.38 ± 4.114,62a | 40.32 ± 4.13 | < .001> |
| Earlier PCI | 37.82 ± 4.23 | | 37.14 ±35.82 ± 4.24 3.16 | 36.76 ± 3.21 | .140 |
| 1 week afterward PCI | 36.15 ± 3.43 | | 34.12 ±33.81 ± 4.41 3.51 | 31.15 ± 4.20 | < .001> |
| 1 month afterward PCI | 33.56 ± 3.19 | | 32.53 ±31.43 ± 4.763,23a | 30.92 ± 3,43a,b,c | < .001> |
| Earlier PCI | 43.18 ± 5.78 | | 43.34 ±43.68 ± 5.15 5.18 | 44.91 ± 5.71 | .247 |
| 1 week afterward PCI | 52.79 ± 5.87 | | 53.34 ±54.95 ± 3.23 5.12 | 56.65 ± 5,73a,b,c | < .001> |
| 1 month afterward PCI | 51.35 ± 5.93 | | 52.12 ±54.43 ± 5.595,76a,b | 58.98 ± 6,16a,b,c | < .001> |

a, b and c compared with control group, LDG and MDG respectively (P value less than .05). left ventricular end systolic diameter: LVESD, left ventricular end diastolic diameter: LVEDD, left ventricular ejection fraction: LVEF, percutaneous coronary intervention: PCI.

Table 4: Evaluations of the frequency of MACE

| | Control group (n = 65) | LDG (n= 69) | MDG (n= 71) | HDG (n= 67) | P value |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|---------|
| Angina pectoris | 12 (18.46) | 8 (11.59) | 6 (8.45) | 4 (5.97) | |
| Myocardial infarction | 9 (13.84) | 7 (10.14) | 5 (7.04) | 3 (4.47) | |
| Cardiac death | 0 (0.00) | 2 (2.89) | 0 (0.00) | 0 (0.00) | |
| Acute heart failure | 10 (15.38) | 8 (11.59) | 5 (7.04) | 3 (4.47) | |
| MACE | 28 (43.07) | 23 (33.33) | 15 (21.12)a | 8 (11.94)a,b,c | |

| | | | | | |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| TVR | 6 (9.23) | 5 (7.24) | 3 (4.22) | 0 (0.00) | < .001 |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|

a, b and c compared with control group, lower dose group: LDG and medium dose group: MDG respectively (P value less than .05). Major adverse cardiac events: MACE, target vessel revascularization: TVR.

Table 5: Evaluations of the prevalence of the thrombocytopenia and hemorrhage

| | Control group (n = 65) | LDG (n= 69) | MDG (n= 71) | HDG (n= 67) | P value |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Hemorrhage | | | | | |
| Intracranial hemorrhage | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 (4.47) | |
| Gastrointestinal hemorrhage | 2 (3.07) | 0 | 3 (4.22) | 6 (8.95) | |
| Hemorrhage at puncture place | 2 (3.07) | 3 (4.34) | 5 (7.04) | 9 (13.43) | |
| Extra hemorrhage | 4 (6.15) | 2 (2.89) | 1 (1.40) | 5 (7.46) | Less than 0.01 |
| Total prevalence | 8 (12.30) | 5 (7.24) | 9 (12.67) | 23 (34.32) ^{a,b,c} | |
| Thrombocytopenia | 3 (4.61) | 5 (7.24) | 10 (14.08) | 18 (26.86) ^{a,b,c} | |

a, b and c compared with control group, LDG and MDG respectively (P value less than .05).

Discussion

Past study established the astonishing effect of PCI on STEMI patients, which may restore myocardial ischemia reperfusion injuries and enhance the patency of infarction relevant blood vessels [13-15]. Studies have discovered that applying IIb/IIIa receptor antagonists in combined effect with PCI for patients with acute myocardial infarction can dramatically improve post - operative myocardial TIMI discharge categorization of endorse myocardial perfusion, infarction-linked coronary artery and decrease the MACE frequency [16-18]. Tirofiban can improve early microcirculation, minimize the incidence of MACE, and inhibit inflammatory and vasoconstrictive components [19]. The effectiveness of tirofiban in the therapy of STEMI has gained consideration on a global scale. The common clinical dosage is 10 µg per kg, followed by a 0.15 µg per kg continuous subcutaneous injection, which is frequently linked by a high risk of MACE recurrence [20]. As a result, there is still debate over the ideal tirofiban dose.

In this study, at 1 week and 1 month, the LVESD, LVEF and LVEDD of the HDG remained completely higher than those of the control group, LDG, and MDG. Additionally, the MDG's LVEDD, LVEF, and LVESD were all better than those of the control group, and the MDG's LVEF was better than that of LDG at 1 month following PCI. These findings, which are in line with other studies, imply that increasing the dosage of tirofiban may have some links to improving efficacy [21]. The biggest issue with tirofiban's safety is the possibility of bleeding. Tirofiban use increases the danger of bleeding-linked problems, particularly plain ones such

cerebral haemorrhage, which could be fatal in some individuals. Tirofiban use can also result in thrombocytopenia [22,23]. For STEMI patients having PCI, multiple doses of tirofiban were utilized to examine the clinical impact and safety of the drug. The findings showed that the MACE occurrence in HDG was suggestively lesser compare to control group, MDG and LDG, and that improvements in cardiac function and myocardial ischemia-reperfusion injury were significantly better in HDG than in control group, MDG and LDG. This suggests that higher dosage of tirofiban can enhance Heart task and lesser the MACE prevalence. The substantial inhibitory action of large doses of tirofiban on platelets, which can enhance myocardial cell blood supply and improve coronary artery flow, may be the mechanism behind this effect. More significantly, it can induce ST segment down-regulation and lower the area of myocardial infarction [24]. However, the HDG had a considerably greater incidence of bleeding than the control group, LDG, and MDG [25]. According to Fabris et al [26], prehospital therapy with tirofiban can lower MACE incidence and death at 1 month and 1 year. The Velibey et al [27] noted that tirofiban was linked to decreased short- and long-term mortality despite a greater frequency of comorbidities during hospitalization. In line with this claim, the MACE Prevalence in the HDG group was also significantly greater at 1 month (11.94% vs 43.07%, 33.33%, and 21.12%), associated with increased haemorrhage complications (34.32 vs 12.30%, 7.24%, and 12.67%). These results indicated that the patient's hemorrhagic risk should be taken into consideration while giving the correct dosage of tirofiban.

The study's findings showed that using tirofiban to treat STEMI patients who had PCI might reduce myocardial ischemia-reperfusion damage, encourage quick restoration of cardiac function, and have higher clinical effectiveness. An additional study, Zhang et al [28] came to the conclusion that 10 µg/kg tirofiban may safely manage hemorrhagic risk, successfully avoid stent thrombosis, and reduce the inflammatory response in PCI patients.

Study limitations

Only individuals without a risk of hemorrhaging were included in this study because patients with a risk of hemorrhaging could not have been studied using this approach. Additionally, this study's sample size was too small, which might have caused some statistical bias.

Conclusion

Tirofiban's effectiveness in treating STEMI patients who had PCI showed a good dose-response relationship. The risk of bleeding rises along with the clinical symptoms when the dosage was high. As a result, the optimal dose might be determined by taking into account the unique circumstances of the individuals whose hemorrhagic risk is being evaluated. For patients with a low risk of hemorrhagic, a 10 µg/kg of average dosage may be adequate.

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