



### Review of Articles that Might Alter Clinical Behavior –II

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Articles assessed for general validity & for applicability to the population we serve.

#### NSAIDs and Bleeding

Relation of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) to serious bleeding and thromboembolism risk in patients with atrial fibrillation receiving antithrombotic therapy [1].

Population studied – 1997-2011 new atrial fibrillation in Denmark

NSAID dose – assumed utilized, even if not refilled.

– estimated from prescription refills

Outcome measure of event within 14 days of a NSAID dose

– serious bleeding within 14 days

– thromboembolic stroke or systemic embolism

Result - 11.3% serious bleeding

- 13% thromboembolic event

Admitted defects – failure to assess adequacy or overdose (INR) of anticoagulant

– failure to control for smoking, body mass index

Interpretation:

- Effect of NSAIDs on bleeding and thromboembolic event rates in this study is uninterpretable without knowledge of anticoagulation quality

- Adequacy of anticoagulation monitoring should be of prime concern

#### Implication of this study for clinical practice

No alteration of clinical practice indicated on the basis of this study, based on the above flaws.

#### NSAIDs and Strokes

Preadmission use of nonaspirin nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and 30-day stroke mortality [2].

Population studied – Denmark – derived from same study as above

NSAID dose – used within 60 days of event

– estimated from prescription refills

Outcome measure – ischemic stroke

Result - 0.15-2.37 adjusted deaths with celebrex

- 0.62-1.30 for etodolac

- 0.87-1.48 for diclofenac

- 0.64-2.55 for naprosyn

Defects – neither controlled for smoking, NSAID indication, nor apparently for aspirin use.

Interpretation:

Uninterpretable because of failure to control for con-comitant aspirin use and for presence of anti-phospholipid syndrome

#### Implication of this study for clinical practice

No alteration of clinical practice indicated on the basis of this study, based on the above defects.

#### References

1. Lamberts M, Gregory Y.H. Lip, Morten Lock Hansen, Jesper Lindhardsen, Jonas Bjerring Olesen (2014) Relation of Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs to Serious Bleeding and Thromboembolism Risk in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation Receiving Antithrombotic Therapy: A Nationwide Cohort Study. *Ann Intern Med* 161: 690-702.
2. Bola M, Gall C, Moewes C, Fedorov A, Hinrichs H, Sabel BA (2014) Brain functional connectivity network breakdown and restoration in blindness *Neurology* 83: 1-10.

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