**A STUDY ON THE EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF A LOW DOSE CLOPIDOGREL USAGE IN CHINESE PEOPLE AFTER DRUG ELUTING STENT IMPLANTATION FOR 3 YEARS**

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Objective: To evaluate the efficacy and safety of a low dose usage of clopidogrel after drug eluting stent implantation.

Background: A lower dose of clopidogrel maybe also effective and safe in Chinese people after drug eluting stent implantation.

Methods: 313 patients who were implanted sirolimus eluting stent were divided into two groups randomly. Acute ST-elevation myocardial infarction was excluded. Standard dose group (n=154) was treated with 75mg clopidogrel per day for one year after PCI while low dose group (n=159) was treated with 50mg clopidogrel. All patients were followed for 3 years. The primary endpoint was composite of cardiac death, non-fatal myocardial infarction, in stent restenosis and stent thrombosis. The side-effects including bleeding, leuykocytopenia and thrombocytopenia were analyzed.

Results: Baseline characteristics were similar except smoking status. After 3-year follow-up, there was no significant difference in the primary endpoint (all p£¾0.05). No cardiac death happened in the 3-year follow-up. The ratio of in stent restenosis was not significantly different between two groups (2.6% vs 3.1%, p=1.000). Stent thrombosis which cause the non-fatal myocardial infarction occurred in 1 patient in standard group (0.60% vs 0%, p=0.492). No significant difference was showed in the bleeding issue (1.3% vs 0.6%, p=0.618). Leuykocytopenia and thrombocytopenia also showed no significant difference (p£¾0.05).

Conclusion: Low dose clopidogrel therapy (50mg) did not increase the incidence of cardiac death, non-fatal myocardial infarction, in stent restenosis and stent thrombosis when compared with standard dose clopidogrel therapy (75mg).