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## **PRE-HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION OF TIROFIBAN IMPROVES SURVIVAL AFTER HEART ATTACK**

**CHICAGO, IL.** –According to study results presented today at the American College of Cardiology’s 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Session (ACC.08), tirofiban administered to patients with ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) while en route to the hospital for percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) resulted in significantly better clinical outcomes. Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa receptor inhibitors help to open blocked arteries after a heart attack and reduce thrombotic complications in patients undergoing PCI. ACC.08 is the premier cardiovascular medical meeting, bringing together cardiologists and cardiovascular specialists to further breakthroughs in cardiovascular medicine.

In this study, known as the Ongoing Tirofiban In Myocardial infarction Evaluation (On-TIME) 2 trial, a multicenter, randomized, double-blind European trial, researchers sought to evaluate the benefits of pre-hospital initiation of high-dose tirofiban in 984 patients with STEMI who were also scheduled for primary PCI. The patients were randomized 1:1 to receive treatment in the ambulance with 25 µg/kg bolus and 0.15 µg/kg/min maintenance infusion of tirofiban or with placebo, and all patients also received a 600 mg loading dose of clopidogrel.

Patients who received tirofiban had significantly better ST resolution (i.e., their electrocardiogram returned to normal) one hour after they underwent primary PCI compared with the group who did not receive tirofiban. The tirofiban-treated group also had fewer deaths and recurrent heart attack, and less need for urgent target vessel revascularization or thrombotic bailout at 30 days post-PCI.

“Treatment for acute myocardial infarction [or heart attack] should start in the ambulance, i.e., as early as possible. Since many patients receive glycoprotein IIb/IIIa

antagonists in the cath lab within the framework of primary PCI, this treatment can be started when the patient is first seen, which would be outside of the hospital in most cases,” said Christian Hamm, M.D., Professor and Director of the Kerckhoff Heart Center, Bad Nauheim, Germany, and lead author of the study. “Our results were very striking and will have an impact on the treatment of acute myocardial infarction, particularly in the pre-hospital phase. This is a landmark study.”

*Dr. Hamm will present this study, “Results of the ON-TIME 2 Trial: Prehospital Tirofiban in STEMI,” on Tuesday, April 1 at 1:30 p.m. in North Hall B1.*

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The American College of Cardiology ([www.acc.org](http://www.acc.org)) represents the majority of board certified cardiovascular physicians in the United States. Its mission is to advocate for quality cardiovascular care through education, research, promotion, development and application of standards and guidelines- and to influence health care policy. ACC.08 is the largest cardiovascular meeting, bringing together cardiologists and cardiovascular specialists to share the newest discoveries in treatment and prevention, while helping the ACC achieve its mission to address and improve issues in cardiovascular medicine.