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ON-TIME-2: IS THERE A ROLE FOR PRE-HOSPITAL TIROFIBAN?

Report Will Show Whether Early Promise Holds at One Year

*****FINAL DATA NOT YET IN***FINAL DATA TO BE PRESENTED*****

Orlando, FL – Early results of the On-TIME-2 trial in patients suffering from a heart attack showed that pre-hospital delivery of a powerful drug that interferes with the formation of blood clots resulted in encouraging changes in key indicators doctors use to predict how much damage has been done to the heart and how fully patients will recover, according to research presented during the i2 Summit the American College of Cardiology’s 58th annual scientific session.

The results of the one-year follow-up in the Ongoing Tirofiban In Myocardial infarction Evaluation (On-TIME-2) study will provide insight into whether the long-term clinical benefits justify the delay in giving patients an infusion of tirofiban before transport to the cardiac catheterization laboratory for percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI).

“I regard this study as a landmark trial, because we take effective treatment to the patient instead of first transporting the patient to the hospital and starting treatment there, after some time delay,” said Christian W. Hamm, M.D., a professor of cardiology and director of the Kerckhoff Heart Center, Bad Nauheim, Germany. “Therefore, this represents a change in concept, with the aim to improve the outcome of heart attack.”

In the initial On-TIME 2 trial, researchers recruited 984 patients with ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI). Patients were randomly assigned to a high-dose infusion of tirofiban or to placebo. All patients received 600 mg of clopidogrel, another type of anti-clotting medication and underwent PCI. Tirofiban pretreatment resulted in better resolution of the abnormal electrocardiogram and lower levels of NT-proBNP, a predictor of heart failure. Researchers also noted a trend toward lower mortality at 30 days without any increased risk in bleeding.

Tirofiban is a glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitor, a type of medication that prevents platelets in the blood from clumping together to form clots. Blood clots are responsible for blocking a coronary artery and causing a heart attack. Since the effect of platelet inhibitors is greatest early in the formation of a blood clot when platelets clump together most quickly, it is possible that early tirofiban infusion might reduce clot size and further improve the effectiveness of PCI.

Dr. Hamm will present the study "Prehospital Tirofiban in ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction: One Year Outcome of ON-TIME-2" on Sunday, March 29 at 9:00 am, in the Valencia Ballroom.

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The American of Cardiology's Innovation in Intervention: i2 Summit 2009 features the latest in interventional science and is the leading forum and exposition for interventional cardiology. A platform for the world's leading interventional cardiologists to share knowledge, discuss new ideas and discover new innovations, the i2 Summit 2009, in partnership with the Cardiovascular Research Foundation, is being held in conjunction with ACC.09, the American College of Cardiology's 58th annual scientific meeting. The American College of Cardiology (www.acc.org) works to influence health care policy and represents the majority of board certified cardiovascular care specialists through education, research, promotion, and the development and application of standards and guidelines.