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AT-I RECEPTOR ANTAGONISM WITH CANDESAJAN CILEXITIL IMPROVES ENDOTHELIAL FUNCTION IN PATIENTS WITH HYPERTENSION AND CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE: A DOUBLE-BLIND, RANDOMIZED, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED TRIAL
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Endothelial dysfunction (ED) predicts adverse prognosis in patients with coronary artery disease (CAD) and in hypertensives (HTN). Since reversibility of ED has been reported to be associated with more favorable prognosis in HTN, evaluation of the effect of therapy on ED maybe clinically relevant.

We studied 28 patients (27 men) with controlled HTN and stable asymptomatic CAD while on beta-blocker and nitrate therapy, with evidence of sustained ED assessed by ultrasound measurement of % hyperemic flow-mediated dilation (FMD) of the brachial artery. FMD was evaluated at screening and after a 2 week run-in and only patients with reduced (<25th percentile of an age and sex-matched normal population) and stable (variation between the 2 measurements within the reproducibility range) FMD were randomized to a double-blind, 2-month treatment period with either placebo (PL) or candesartan cilexitil (C) 16 mg once-daily on top of usual therapy.

No side-effects occurred during the study in either group. At baseline systolic (119±10 vs 126±16 mmHg) and diastolic pressures (79±9 vs 78±8 mmHg) did not significantly differ in the C and PL groups. At the end of treatment diastolic pressure significantly decreased in the C group (72±12; p<0.01 vs baseline). Effects of treatment of endothelial function are reported in the Table below.

In stable patients with HTN and CAD, with sustained ED despite therapy, C improves ED within 2 months without significant hemodynamic effects. This action may favourably influence cardiovascular risk profile in such patients.

Key Words: Endothelial Function, Hypertension

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HYPOTENSIVE EFFECT OF 3-(3-[1,2,4]TRIAZOLO)-OXATRIAZILOM-5-Olate IS CAUSED BY NO-INDEPENDENT ACTIVATION OF SOLUBLE GUANYLYTE CYCLASE
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Soluble guanylate cyclase (sGC) is a crucial enzyme at NO/cGMP-mediated vasodilation. There are NO-independent mechanisms of sGC activation besides well-known enzyme activation by NO. Since 196 oxatriazilom-5-olate derivatives are known as hypotensive agents at