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The Safety and Efficacy of Drug Eluting Stents in Post-Heart Attack Recovery

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Poster Presentation P17

**THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF DRUG ELUTING STENTS IN
POST-HEART ATTACK RECOVERY**

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Recent concerns regarding the safety and efficacy of drug-eluting stents has led to further studies in post-heart attack recovery. Some researchers report an increased incidence of acute stent thrombosis (AST) leading to subsequent myocardial infarctions within the stented regions of the heart after anti-platelet drugs have been discontinued. The purpose of this study was to determine the safety and efficacy of Taxus® drug eluting stent and the correlation between the length of anti-platelet administration and further problems. The study population included patients who had an ST-elevated myocardial infarction within the past three years and were given drug eluting stents. Excluded patients included those who had bare metal stents, those who could not tolerate anti-platelet therapy, and those patients who had stents implanted prior to the study's beginning. Patients were interviewed and records were obtained from consenting individuals. Endpoints of death, incidence of acute stent thrombosis, and of recurrent myocardial infarction due to either target lesion revascularization or target vessel revascularization were determined. The results of this study will be used to evaluate any relationship recurrent heart attack, acute stent thrombosis and length of anti-platelet therapy.