EFFECT OF RAMIPRILAT-COATED STENT IN A PORCINE CORONARY RESTENOSIS MODEL

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Background: The major problems of commonly used drug-eluting stents were strong peri-stent inflammatory response and delayed arterial healing. The aim of this study was to examine the anti-proliferative and anti-inflammatory effects and arterial healing of ramiprilat-coated stent in a porcine coronary overstretch restenosis model.

Methods: Pigs were randomized into two groups in which the coronary arteries (16 pigs, 16 coronaries in each group) had either a ramiprilat-coated MAC stent or control MAC stent (AMG, Munich, Germany). Stents were deployed with oversizing (stent/artery ratio 1.3:1) in porcine coronary arteries, and histopathologic analysis was assessed at 28 days after stenting.

Results: There were no significant differences in the neointima area normalized to injury score and inflammation score between the two groups (1.58±0.43, 1.60±0.39 in ramiprilat stent group vs. 1.60±0.57, 1.62±0.49 in control stent group, respectively). In neointima, most inflammatory cells were lymphohistiocytes. Overall, significant positive correlations were found between the lymphohistiocyte count and the neointima area (r=0.567, p<0.001) and between the lymphohistiocyte count and the percent area stenosis (r=0.478, p<0.001). Lymphohistiocyte count (170±121 cells vs. 162±83 cells) and fibrin scores (0.15±0.06 vs. 0.17±0.07, p=0.8) were low in ramiprilat stent group as same as those in control group. There was a strong trend of smaller neointima area (1.06±0.51 mm² vs. 1.28±0.35 mm², p=0.083) and percent area stenosis (18.9±8.7% vs. 22.8±7.2%, p=0.088) in the ramiprilat stent group compared with control group.

Conclusions: Ramiprilat-coated stent showed a good inhibitory effect on neointimal hyperplasia without differences in inflammatory reaction and arterial healing compared with bare-metal stent in a porcine coronary restenosis model.