DO PATIENTS UNDERGOING ELECTIVE PERCUTANEOUS CORONARY INTERVENTION UNDERSTAND THEIR RISK FOR FUTURE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION?

i2 Poster Contributions
Georgia World Congress Center, Hall B5
Sunday, March 14, 2010, 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Session Title: DES II, Restenosis, Left Main and Outcomes
Abstract Category: Outcomes/Operator Volume/Public Reporting/Misc. Topics/Guidelines
Presentation Number: 2502-517

Authors: Alexis Ann D'Elia, Abdul Moiz Hafiz, Srihari S. Naidu, Thomas Chengot, Kevin P. Marzo, Winthrop University Hospital, Mineola, NY

Background: Studies have demonstrated that patients undergoing elective Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) perceive their risk for future myocardial infarction (MI) as decreased by the procedure. A National Heart Lung and Blood Institute campaign: “Act in Time to Heart Attack Signs” is one example calling patients to recognize early signs and symptoms of MI. We examined if patients undergoing elective PCI understood the risk of future MI after PCI, and whether they received appropriate education on acting in time to heart attack signs.

Methods: We performed a cross sectional survey of 41 consecutive patients following elective PCI using a multiple choice questionnaire with close ended answers. Our study was performed at a single center tertiary care facility over a two month period. Patients were asked what type of stent they received (bare metal vs. drug eluting), how the procedure would affect their cardiovascular health, their perceived risk of having a future MI, and whether they were educated on how to recognize symptoms of an MI and when to seek emergent evaluation.

Results: We found that 46.3% patients were unaware of the type of stent placed. 12.2% identified that the placement of the stent was to relieve symptoms of angina. The majority (85.4%) felt that stent placement would prevent future MI’s, however 78% of patients did respond that they were still at risk for future MI. Of concern was the finding that only 39% were educated during their hospital stay on how to recognize MI signs and symptoms and when to seek emergent evaluation.

Conclusions: The majority of patients who underwent elective PCI perceived that stents would prevent an MI but still felt at risk for a future coronary event. In this population already at high risk for future events including MI’s and acute coronary syndrome, the post PCI discharge should incorporate formal education. Just as a Heart Failure Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services Core Measure includes discharge instructions as a performance indicator helping patients manage heart failure symptoms, post PCI education should also be included and reported as a performance measure to help early recognition to facilitate early reperfusion and optimize myocardial salvage.