Variations in the Risk of Contrast-Induced Nephropathy Post Percutaneous Coronary Intervention

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Background: Several definitions have been used to assess rates of contrast-induced nephropathy (CIN) in patients undergoing PCI. Whether the definition influences observed rates of CIN is unclear.

Aim: The Oxilan Registry was a prospective analysis of the efficacy and safety of ioxilan (low-osmolar and low-viscosity contrast medium), including rates of CIN assessed by multiple definitions, post PCI.

Methods: 400 consecutive patients undergoing PCI using ioxilan were enrolled. Serum creatinine (SCr) and estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) were assessed at baseline and 3 to 5 days after PCI. CIN was defined by 1 of 4 definitions: (1) absolute increase in SCr \geq 0.5 mg/dl over baseline, (2) relative decrease in eGFR \geq 25% from baseline, (3) relative increase in SCr \geq 25% over baseline, and (4) a composite of the preceding 3 definitions. Furthermore, patients with CIN were subdivided into 3 categories based upon whether their baseline and 3-5 day follow-up SCr was normal or abnormal: 1) normal (baseline)-to-normal (follow-up), 2) normal-to-abnormal, and 3) abnormal-to-abnormal.

Results: CIN rates were 3.3% (SCr increase ≥0.5 mg/dl), 7.6% (eGFR decrease ≥25%), 10.2% (SCr increase ≥25%), and 10.5% (composite). According to changes in SCr, for patients who developed CIN defined as a rise in SCr U>U0.5 mg/dL, none (0%) were in the normal-to-normal category. In contrast, 43% of patients with CIN defined as a U>U25% decrease in eGFR and 50% of the patients defined as a U>U25% increase in SCr were in the normal-to-normal category. Hospitalization was prolonged in 3.4% of patients with CIN and none required dialysis. Conclusions: In this unselected population undergoing PCI, CIN ranged in frequency from 3.3% to 10.5% depending on the definition used and was not associated with in-hospital mortality or substantial morbidity. The wide variation in CIN and its lack of association with adverse outcomes underscore the need for a standardized, clinically relevant definition.