# EFFECTS OF NEBIVOLOL AND IRBESARTAN ON AMBULATORY BLOOD PRESSURE IN HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS WITH INTRADIALYTIC HYPERTENSION: PRELIMINARY **RESULTS FROM A RANDOMIZED CROSS-OVER STUDY**

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### **INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES**

## **METHODS**

Blood pressure (BP) increase during or immediately after hemodialysis is an abnormal hemodynamic response to ultrafiltration and occurs in 5-20% of patients [1,2]. Intradialytic hypertension is associated with adverse clinical outcomes and is often poorly diagnosed and controlled [3,4]. This study aimed to evaluate the effects of nebivolol and irbesartan in 24hour ambulatory BP in hemodialysis patients with intradialytic hypertension.

This is a randomized cross-over pilot study in 31 hemodialysis patients (age: 61.3±11.6 years, male: 67.7%) with no clinical signs of volume overload. Intradialytic hypertension was defined as mean intradialytic rise ≥10 mmHg in systolic BP (SBP) over 6 consecutive hemodialysis sessions. After baseline evaluation, patients were randomly assigned to a single dose 1 hour before hemodialysis (n=16) or weekly intake (n=15) of nebivolol 5 mg and subsequently irbesartan 150mg, or vice versa. A two-week wash-out period took place before the initiation of the second drug. All patients underwent 24hour ambulatory BP monitoring with the Mobil-O-Graph device (IEM, Stolberg, Germany) over the relevant midweek session and the following 20hour interdialytic period.

# RESULTS

In total, 15 (48.4%) patients received nebivolol first and 16 (51.6%) received irbesartan first. Patients receiving a single dose of either nebivolol or irbesartan had lower post-dialysis SBP and diastolic BP (DBP) [Baseline: 161.6±17.5/95.4±12.0; Nebivolol: 146.3±21.7 (p=0.004), 86.1±12.2 (p=0.001); Irbesartan: 146.4±32.0 (p=0.015), 86.6±19.6 (p=0.059) mmHg; respectively], non-significantly lower 24-hour SBP and lower DBP [Baseline: 148.8±19.6/86.9±11.8; nebivolol: 142.8±20.4 (p=0.083), 83.7±12.3 (p=0.038); irbesartan: 144.1±22.8 (p=0.144), 84.2±13.9 (p=0.174) mmHg]. Patients on weekly administration of either nebivolol or irbesartan had significantly lower post-dialysis SBP and DBP (Baseline: 164.1±12.5/100.0±10.7; nebivolol: 142.7±16.0 (p<0.001), 89.5±12.5 (p=0.004); irbesartan: 144.9±24.3 (p=0.006), 88.2±13.6 (p=0.006) mmHg), significantly lower 24-hour SBP and DBP (Baseline: 146.7±11.2/92.7±9.5; nebivolol: 139.2±11.2 (p=0.003), 85.5±8.0 (p=0.003); irbesartan: 142.0±16.6 (p=0.332), 86.3±10.4 (p=0.042) mmHg;

accordingly) and significantly lower daytime and nighttime ambulatory SBP and DBP.



This pilot study indicates that both nebivolol and irbesartan reduce post-dialysis and 24-hour BP in patients with intradialytic hypertension. Nebivolol seemed numerically more potent than irbesartan; permanent administration of these agents may be more effective than pre-dialysis dosing.

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