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Antibiotics for stable angina

A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized clinical trials

2017 - 7 - 1

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This report should be referenced as follows:

TrialResults-center.org; Results of all major randomized clinical trials about Antibiotics for stable angina.

Contents

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 0.1 | Synthesis of the meta-analysis results | 7 |
| 1 | Introduction | 9 |
| 1.1 | Aim of the report | 9 |
| 1.2 | Search strategy | 9 |
| 1.2.1 | Sources searched | 9 |
| 1.2.2 | Search restrictions | 9 |
| 1.3 | Inclusion criteria | 9 |
| 1.4 | Exclusion criteria | 10 |
| 1.5 | Meta-analysis strategy | 10 |
| 1.6 | Structure of the report | 10 |
| 2 | Overview of antibiotics | 11 |
| 2.1 | Included trials | 11 |
| 2.2 | Summary of meta-analysis results | 11 |
| 2.2.1 | Azithromycin | 11 |
| 2.2.2 | Clarithromycin | 11 |
| 2.2.3 | Gatifloxacin | 11 |
| 2.2.4 | Roxithromycin | 12 |
| 3 | Details for Azithromycin | 19 |
| 3.1 | Available trials | 19 |
| 3.2 | Meta-analysis results | 22 |
| 3.3 | Individual trial summaries | 25 |
| 4 | Details for clarithromycin | 32 |
| 4.1 | Available trials | 32 |
| 4.2 | Meta-analysis results | 35 |
| 4.3 | Individual trial summaries | 38 |
| 5 | Details for Gatifloxacin | 41 |
| 5.1 | Available trials | 41 |
| 5.2 | Meta-analysis results | 43 |
| 5.3 | Individual trial summaries | 45 |
| 6 | Details for Roxithromycin | 47 |
| 6.1 | Available trials | 47 |
| 6.2 | Meta-analysis results | 50 |
| 6.3 | Individual trial summaries | 53 |
| 7 | Global meta-analysis: all antibiotics | 57 |
| 7.1 | Global meta-analysis: all antibiotics versus placebo | 57 |
| 8 | Ongoing studies | 57 |
| 9 | Excluded studies | 57 |

0.1 Synthesis of the meta-analysis results

We found 12 trials concerning antibiotics.

Results obtained by the meta-analysis are reported in the following tables, with the endpoints categorized according their results. Three classes are considered: endpoints for which a benefit effect was detected, endpoints revealing a harmful effect and the other for which no statistically significant difference was obtained (no evidence).

Reports of 12 trials (including 26,190 patients) were identified .

Among these comparisons, 6 trials are about Azithromycin,two about clarithromycin,one about Gatifloxacin and 3 about Roxithromycin.

No trial was excluded on grounds of potentially flawed methodology or incomplete presentation of results. No ongoing trial was found.

Azithromycin

Results obtained with azithromycin for all the endpoints with data in at least one trial are summarized table 1.

Table 1: Results summary - Azithromycin

| Benefit | Harmful | No evidence |
|------------------------------------|---------|--|
| <i>Azithromycin versus placebo</i> | | |
| | | → acute coronary syndrome RR=0.96 ^{NS} [0.85;1.08] k=5 |
| | | → myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=0.97 ^{NS} [0.83;1.13] k=4 |
| | | → all cause death RR=1.01 ^{NS} [0.90;1.15] k=6 |

* p <0.05; † p <0.01; ‡ p <0.001 RR: relative risk

H: heterogeneity with fixed effect model detected (heterogeneity test p <0.05)

Clarithromycin

Results obtained with clarithromycin for all the endpoints with data in at least one trial are summarized table 2.

Table 2: Results summary - Clarithromycin

| Benefit | Harmful | No evidence |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Clarithromycin versus placebo</i> | | |
| | ↑ cardiovascular events RR=1.17* [1.02;1.35] k=1 | → acute coronary syndrome RR=0.70 ^{NS} [0.26;1.86] H k=2 |
| | | → myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=0.52 ^{NS} [0.19;1.37] k=1 |
| | | → coronary event RR=1.14 ^{NS} [0.99;1.31] k=1 |
| | | → all cause death RR=1.17 ^{NS} [0.95;1.43] k=2 |

continued...

| Benefit | Harmful | No evidence |
|---------|---------|-------------|
|---------|---------|-------------|

* p <0.05; † p <0.01; ¶ p <0.001 RR: relative risk

H: heterogeneity with fixed effect model detected (heterogeneity test p <0.05)

Gatifloxacin

Results obtained with gatifloxacin for all the endpoints with data in at least one trial are summarized table 3.

Table 3: Results summary - Gatifloxacin

| Benefit | Harmful | No evidence |
|------------------------------------|---------|--|
| <i>Gatifloxacin versus placebo</i> | | |
| | | → acute coronary syndrome RR=0.94 ^{NS} [0.79;1.11] k=1 |
| | | → myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=0.89 ^{NS} [0.72;1.12] k=1 |
| | | → all cause death RR=1.28 ^{NS} [0.89;1.84] k=1 |

* p <0.05; † p <0.01; ¶ p <0.001 RR: relative risk

H: heterogeneity with fixed effect model detected (heterogeneity test p <0.05)

Roxithromycin

Results obtained with roxithromycin for all the endpoints with data in at least one trial are summarized table 4.

Table 4: Results summary - Roxithromycin

| Benefit | Harmful | No evidence |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--|
| <i>Roxithromycin versus placebo</i> | | |
| | | → acute coronary syndrome RR=0.78 ^{NS} [0.34;1.77] k=3 |
| | | → myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=1.24 ^{NS} [0.20;7.56] H k=3 |
| | | → coronary event RR=1.20 ^{NS} [0.96;1.51] k=1 |
| | | → all cause death RR=1.08 ^{NS} [0.66;1.79] k=3 |

* p <0.05; † p <0.01; ¶ p <0.001 RR: relative risk

H: heterogeneity with fixed effect model detected (heterogeneity test p <0.05)

1 Introduction

1.1 Aim of the report

This report review all the randomized clinical trials of antibiotics for the treatment of stable angina in all type of patient.

1.2 Search strategy

The search aimed to identify all randomized clinical trials relating to the clinical effectiveness of antibiotics for the treatment of stable angina in all type of patient.

1.2.1 Sources searched

The following electronic databases were searched for relevant published literature for the period up to 2017 - 7 - 1:

- MEDLINE,
- EMBASE,
- Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR),
- Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CCTR),
- Health Technology Assessment (HTA) database,
- ISI Web of Science Proceedings (Index to Scientific and Technical Proceedings),
- ISI Web of Science Science Citation Index Expanded,

Each database was searched as far back as possible, with no language restrictions.

Search strategies of relevant clinical keywords were developed through reference to published strategies, and by iterative searching, whereby keywords identified in references retrieved by initial scoping searches were used to extend the search strategy and so increase the sensitivity of retrieval.

In addition, the reference lists of relevant articles were handsearched.

Attempts to identify further studies were made by consulting health technology assessment and guideline producing agencies, and research and trials registers via the Internet.

Titles and, when available, abstracts of all studies identified in the searches were assessed by a single researcher for relevance to the review. In cases of doubt, the full article was obtained.

1.2.2 Search restrictions

No language, study/publication or date restrictions were applied to the main searches.

1.3 Inclusion criteria

Participants only those studies were included in which the participants had been diagnosed as having established stable angina.

Interventions studies in which antibiotics was used.

Studies using other interventions in addition to antibiotics therapy were included only if the treatment received by the intervention and control groups was identical in all respects other than the use of antibiotics.

Methodology randomised controlled trials (RCTs). Trials were accepted as RCTs if the allocation of subjects to treatment groups was described by the authors as either randomised or double-blind.

1.4 Exclusion criteria

Studies considered methodologically unsound. The list of excluded studies with reason of their exclusion are given in a separate section for each treatment categories considered.

1.5 Meta-analysis strategy

Studies that met the reviews entry criteria were eligible for inclusion in the meta-analyses provided that they reported outcomes in terms of the number of subjects suffering clinical outcomes, as only this would allow calculation of the relative risk of subjects in the intervention group developing each outcome, compared with subjects in the control group.

Studies that only presented results in the form of relative risks, relative hazards or odds ratios, without the underlying numbers were also include in the meta-analyses.

Binary outcomes were analysed using the fixed-effect model. For continuous outcomes, weighted mean differences (WMDs) were analysed, using a fixed-effect model.

Heterogeneity was tested by the chi-2 test and the I² statistic was obtained to describe the proportion of the variability.

Where quantitative heterogeneity was indicated, analysis using a random-effects model was conducted for comparison with results of fixed effect-based analysis. Results of the meta-analysis should be considered as being based on fixed-effect model unless stated otherwise.

Meta-analyses were conducted for data on All cause death, Acute coronary syndrome, myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal), Coronary event, cardiovascular events, .

1.6 Structure of the report

Each of the eligible studies is summarised in part ???. A summary of the studies together with an evaluation of their quality is given in part ??? to ???, listed by therapeutic class. The therapeutic classes included antibiotics,

In these sections, studies in which an active intervention was compared with placebo or no treatment are discussed first, by intervention, followed by a discussion of those studies in which two or more active interventions were compared.

2 Overview of antibiotics

2.1 Included trials

A total of 12 randomized comparisons which enrolled 26190 patients were identified. In all, 6 randomized comparisons concerned Azithromycin, two clarithromycin, one Gatifloxacin and 3 Roxithromycin.

The detailed descriptions of trials and meta-analysis results is given in section 3 (page 19) for Azithromycin, in section 4 (page 32) for clarithromycin, in section 5 (page 41) for Gatifloxacin and in section 6 (page 47) for Roxithromycin.

The average study size was 2182 patients (range 60 to 7747). The first study was published in 1997, and the last study was published in 2006.

All trials were double blind in design. All included studies were reported in English language. We did not find any unpublished trial.

The table 2.1 (page 13) summarizes the main characteristics of all the included trials. More detailed description is given in the following section.

2.2 Summary of meta-analysis results

The meta-analysis of the available trials about antibiotics provide the results listed in tables 2.2 to 2.5 (page 15) and in the following graphs.

2.2.1 Azithromycin

No significant difference was found between **Azithromycin** and **placebo** in terms of acute coronary syndrome (RR=0.96, 95% CI 0.85 to 1.08, p=0.5253, 5 trials), myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) (RR=0.97, 95% CI 0.83 to 1.13, p=0.6964, 4 trials) and all cause death (RR=1.01, 95% CI 0.90 to 1.15, p=0.8144, 6 trials).

2.2.2 Clarithromycin

Clarithromycin was inferior to **placebo** in terms of cardiovascular events (RR=1.17, 95% CI 1.02 to 1.35, p=0.0267, 1 trial). No significant difference was found on acute coronary syndrome (RR=0.70, 95% CI 0.26 to 1.86, p=0.4696, 2 trials) with a random effect model in reason of a heterogeneity (Het. p=0.0044) (RR=0.52, 95% CI 0.19 to 1.37, p=0.1850, 1 trial), coronary event (RR=1.14, 95% CI 0.99 to 1.31, p=0.0795, 1 trial) and all cause death (RR=1.17, 95% CI 0.95 to 1.43, p=0.1309, 2 trials).

2.2.3 Gatifloxacin

No significant difference was found between **Gatifloxacin** and **placebo** in terms of acute coronary syndrome (RR=0.94, 95% CI 0.79 to 1.11, p=0.4694, 1 trial), myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) (RR=0.89, 95% CI 0.72 to 1.12, p=0.3221, 1 trial) and all cause death (RR=1.28, 95% CI 0.89 to 1.84, p=0.1849, 1 trial).

2.2.4 Roxithromycin

No significant difference was found between **Roxithromycin** and **placebo** in terms of acute coronary syndrome (RR=0.78, 95% CI 0.34 to 1.77, p=0.5478, 3 trials), myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) (RR=1.24, 95% CI 0.20 to 7.56, p=0.8174, 3 trials) with a random effect model in reason of a heterogeneity (Het. p=0.0036) (RR=1.20, 95% CI 0.96 to 1.51, p=0.1107, 1 trial) and all cause death (RR=1.08, 95% CI 0.66 to 1.79, p=0.7520, 3 trials).

Table 2.1: Main study characteristics - antibiotics

| Trial | Patients | Treatments | Trial design and method |
|---|---|---|---|
| Azithromycin | | | |
| Azithromycin versus placebo | | | |
| Gupta et al, 1997 [1] n = 43 vs. 41 | male patients at least 6 mo from documented MI and with titers to Chlamydia pneumoniae $\geq 1:64$ | azithromycin 500 mg/d for 3 d (28 received 1 course, 12 received 2 courses 3 mo apart) versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: not defined |
| ACADEMIC, 1999 [2] n = 150 vs. 152 | patients with CAD and C pneumoniae titers of $\geq 1:16$. Patients were at least 5 d from an MI | azithromycin 500 mg/d for 3 d then 500 mg/wk for 3 mo versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: CV death, MI, stroke, unstable angina, revascularization |
| STAMINA (Azithromycin), 2002 [3] n = 111 vs. 107 | patients with ACS | azithromycin 500 mg/d for 3 d plus omeprazole 20 mg 2/d for 1 wk plus metronidazole 400 mg 2/d for 1 wk versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: not defined 4 centres, England |
| AZACS, 2003 [4] n = 2004 vs. 2008 | patients with ACS | azithromycin 500 mg on day 1 followed by 250 mg/d for 4d versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: death, MI, revascularization |
| WIZARD, 2003 [5] n = 3879 vs. 3868 | patients with a history of MI of more than 6 weeks before and with C pneumoniae titers of $\geq 1:16$ | azithromycin 600 mg/d for 3 d then 1/wk for 11 wk versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: coronary events 271 centres, North America, Europe, Argentina, India |
| ACES, 2005 [6] n = 2004 vs. 2008 | patients with stable CAD | azithromycin 600 mg/wk for 1 y versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: coronary events 28 centres, US |

continued...

| Trial | Patients | Treatments | Trial design and method |
|---|--|--|--|
| Clarithromycin | | | |
| Clarithromycin versus placebo | | | |
| CLARIFY, 2001 [1] n = 74 vs. 74 | patients with ACS | clarithromycin 500 mg/d for 85 d versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: death, MI, unstable angina |
| CLARICOR, 2006 [2] n = 2172 vs. 2201 | patients with discharge diagnosis of myocardial infarction or angina pectoris | clarithromycin 500 mg/day versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: death, MI, unstable angina 5 centres, Denmark |
| Gatifloxacin | | | |
| Gatifloxacin versus placebo | | | |
| PROVE-IT, 2005 [1] n = 2076 vs. 2086 | patients hospitalized with ACS in the preceding 10 d | gatifloxacin 400 mg/d for 10 d/mo for 2y versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: coronary events |
| Roxithromycin | | | |
| Roxithromycin versus placebo | | | |
| ROXIS, 1999 [1] n = 102 vs. 100 | patients with documented history of CAD and ACS | roxithromycin 150 mg 2/d for 30 d versus placebo | double blind parallel groups |
| Leowattana et al, 2001 [2] n = 40 vs. 20 | patients with ACS | roxithromycin 150 mg/d for 30 d versus placebo | parallel groups |
| ANTIBIO, 2003 [3] n = 433 vs. 437 | patients with unstable angina or MI | roxithromycin 300 mg/d for 6 wk versus placebo | double blind parallel groups Primary endpoint: all cause death |

Table 2.2: Summary of all results for Azithromycin

| Endpoint | Effect | 95% CI | p ass | p het (I^2) | k | n |
|---|---------|-----------|--------|-----------------|---|-------|
| Azithromycin versus placebo | | | | | | |
| acute coronary syndrome | RR=0.96 | 0.85;1.08 | 0.5253 | 0.6916 (0.00) | 5 | 12338 |
| myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) | RR=0.97 | 0.83;1.13 | 0.6964 | 0.7549 (0.00) | 4 | 13475 |
| all cause death | RR=1.01 | 0.90;1.15 | 0.8144 | 0.9130 (0.00) | 6 | 13754 |

CI: confidence interval; p ass: p-value of association test; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients

Table 2.3: Summary of all results for clarithromycin

| Endpoint | Effect | 95% CI | p ass | p het (I^2) | k | n |
|---|----------------------|-----------|--------|-----------------|---|------|
| clarithromycin versus placebo | | | | | | |
| acute coronary syndrome | RR=0.70 ¹ | 0.26;1.86 | 0.4696 | 0.0044 (0.88) † | 2 | 4521 |
| cardiovascular events | RR=1.17 | 1.02;1.35 | 0.0267 | 1.0000 (0.00) | 1 | 4373 |
| myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) | RR=0.52 | 0.19;1.37 | 0.1850 | 1.0000 (1.00) | 1 | 181 |
| coronary event | RR=1.14 | 0.99;1.31 | 0.0795 | 1.0000 (0.00) | 1 | 4373 |
| all cause death | RR=1.17 | 0.95;1.43 | 0.1309 | 0.7971 (0.00) | 2 | 4521 |

CI: confidence interval; p ass: p-value of association test; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients

Table 2.4: Summary of all results for Gatifloxacin

| Endpoint | Effect | 95% CI | p ass | p het (I^2) | k | n |
|---|---------|-----------|--------|-----------------|---|------|
| Gatifloxacin versus placebo | | | | | | |
| acute coronary syndrome | RR=0.94 | 0.79;1.11 | 0.4694 | 1.0000 (0.00) | 1 | 4162 |
| myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) | RR=0.89 | 0.72;1.12 | 0.3221 | 1.0000 (0.00) | 1 | 4162 |
| all cause death | RR=1.28 | 0.89;1.84 | 0.1849 | 1.0000 (0.00) | 1 | 4152 |

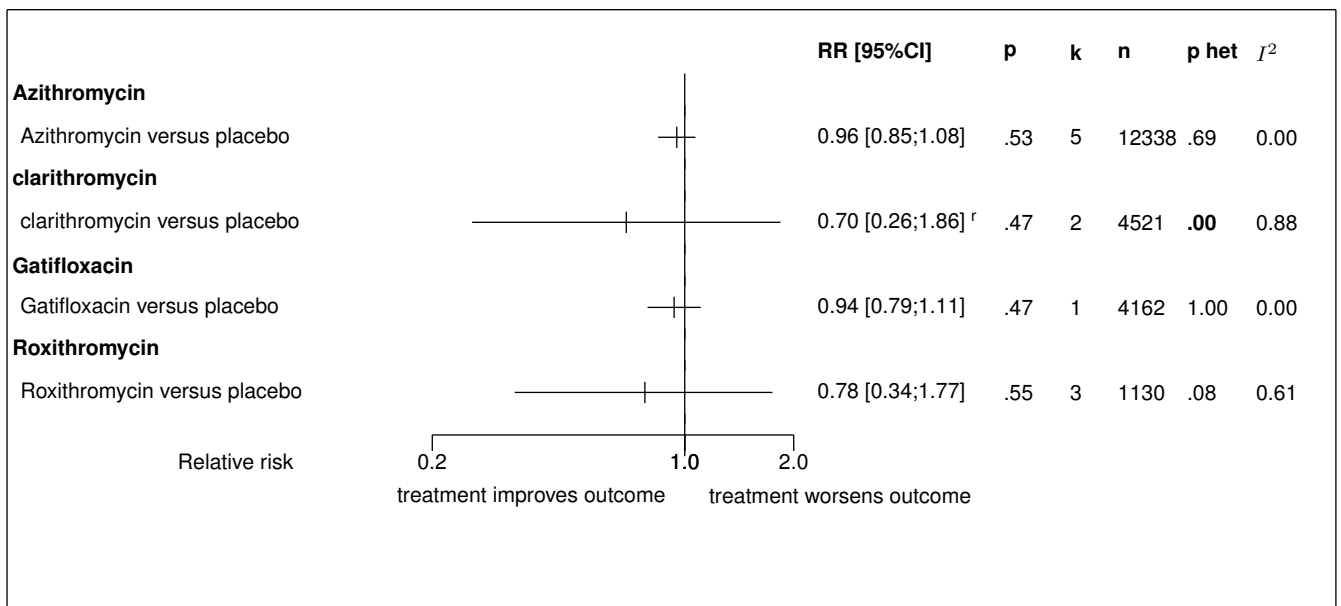
CI: confidence interval; p ass: p-value of association test; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients

¹with a random model ($\tau^2 = NaN$). The results with a fixed effect model was RRFE=0.99 95% CI 0.81;1.22

Table 2.5: Summary of all results for Roxithromycin

| Endpoint | Effect | 95% CI | p ass | p het (I^2) | k | n |
|---|----------------------|-----------|--------|-----------------|---|------|
| Roxithromycin versus placebo | | | | | | |
| acute coronary syndrome | RR=0.78 | 0.34;1.77 | 0.5478 | 0.0783 (0.61) | 3 | 1130 |
| myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) | RR=1.24 ² | 0.20;7.56 | 0.8174 | 0.0036 (0.82) † | 3 | 1491 |
| coronary event | RR=1.20 | 0.96;1.51 | 0.1107 | 1.0000 (0.00) | 1 | 868 |
| all cause death | RR=1.08 | 0.66;1.79 | 0.7520 | 0.9938 (0.00) | 3 | 1156 |

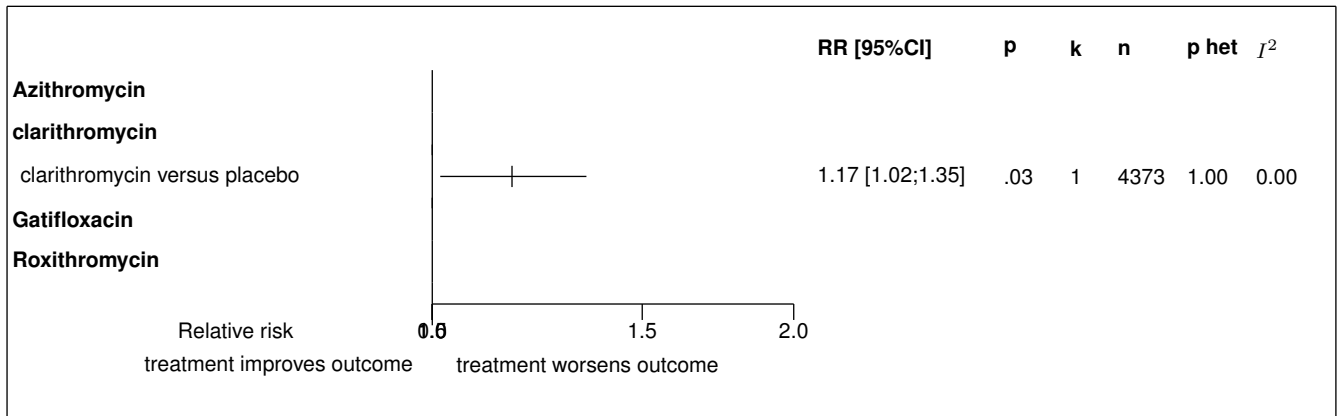
CI: confidence interval; p ass: p-value of association test; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients

Figure 2.1: Forest's plot for acute coronary syndrome

Results obtained with a fixed effect model except in case of heterogeneity where a random model was used
 RR: relative risk; 95% CI: 95% confidence interval; p: p-value of the association test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients involving in the pooled trials; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; ^r: random effect model used

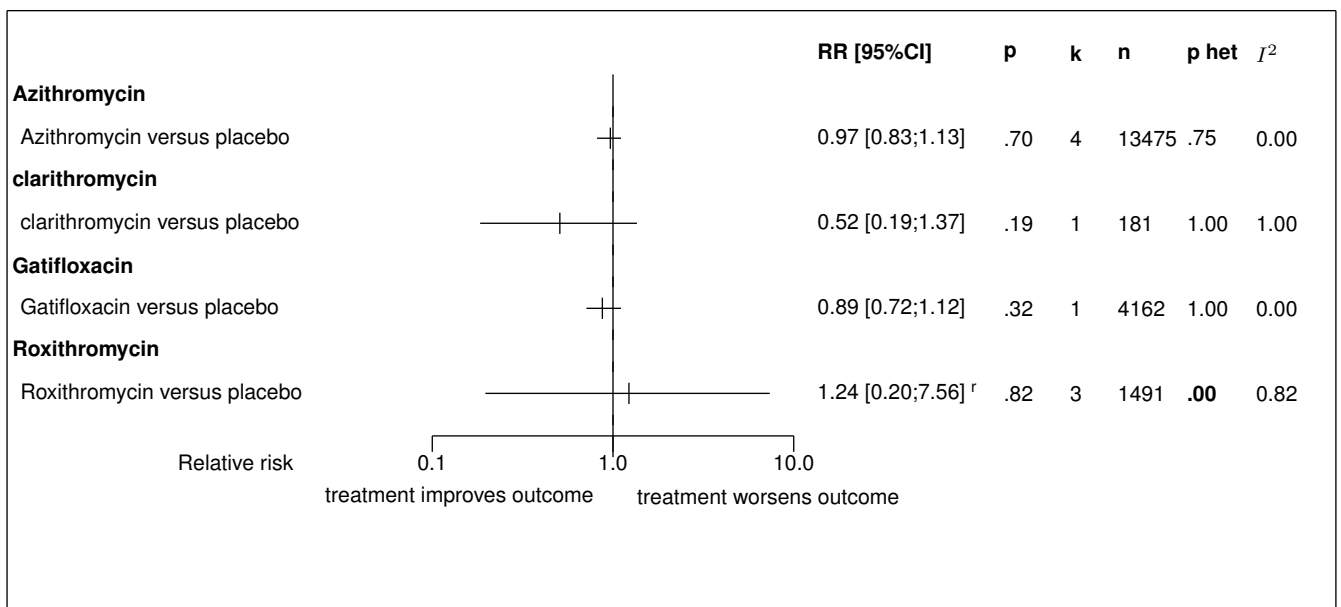
²with a random model ($\tau^2 = NaN$). The results with a fixed effect model was RRFE=1.19 95% CI 0.71;1.98

Figure 2.2: Forest's plot for cardiovascular events



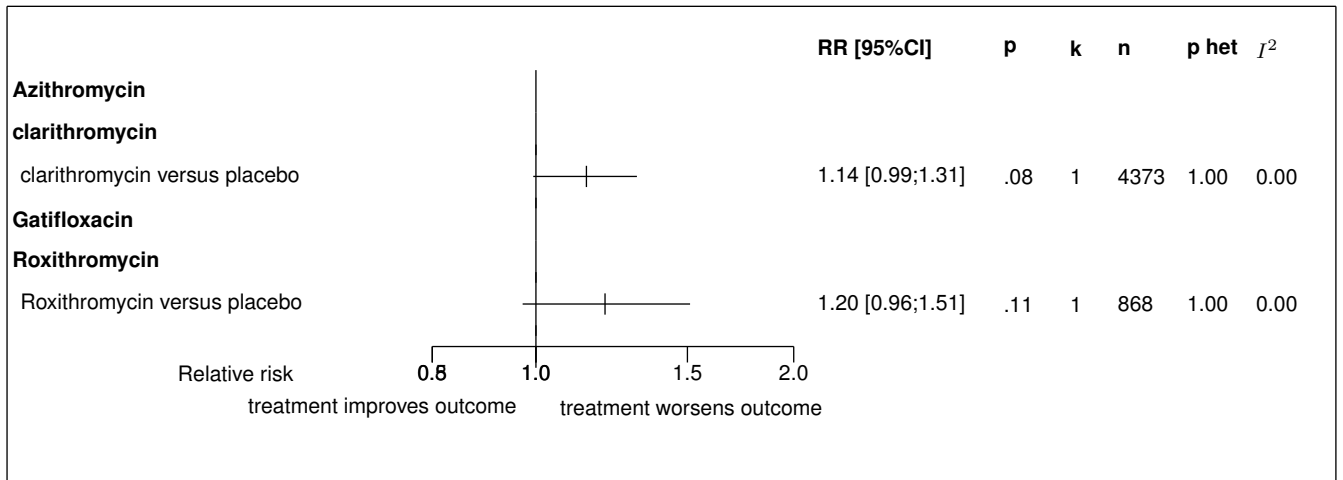
Results obtained with a fixed effect model except in case of heterogeneity where a random model was used
 RR: relative risk; 95% CI: 95% confidence interval; p: p-value of the association test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients involving in the pooled trials; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; †: random effect model used

Figure 2.3: Forest's plot for myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)



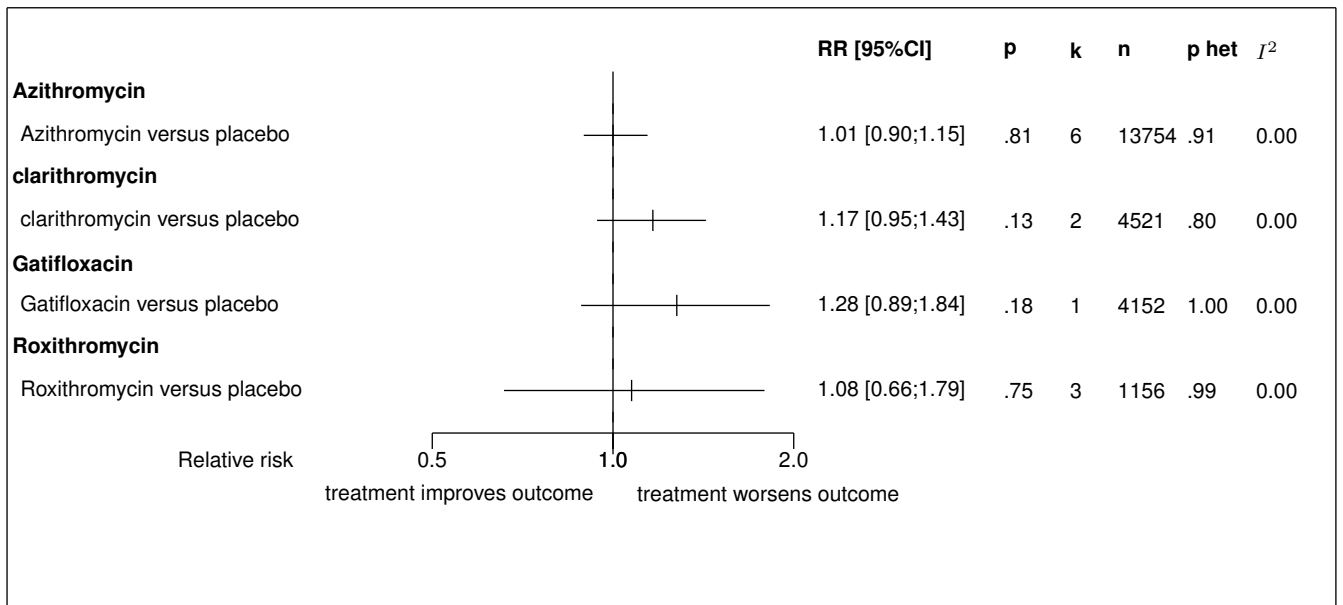
Results obtained with a fixed effect model except in case of heterogeneity where a random model was used
 RR: relative risk; 95% CI: 95% confidence interval; p: p-value of the association test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients involving in the pooled trials; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; †: random effect model used

Figure 2.4: Forest's plot for coronary event



Results obtained with a fixed effect model except in case of heterogeneity where a random model was used
 RR: relative risk; 95% CI: 95% confidence interval; p: p-value of the association test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients involving in the pooled trials; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; †: random effect model used

Figure 2.5: Forest's plot for all cause death



Results obtained with a fixed effect model except in case of heterogeneity where a random model was used
 RR: relative risk; 95% CI: 95% confidence interval; p: p-value of the association test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients involving in the pooled trials; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; †: random effect model used

3 Detailed results for Azithromycin

3.1 Available trials

A total of 6 RCTs which randomized 16375 patients were identified: all compared Azithromycin with placebo.

The average study size was 2729 patients (range 84 to 7747). The first study was published in 1997, and the last study was published in 2005.

All trials were double blind in design. All included studies were reported in English language. We did not find any unpublished trial.

All cause death data was reported in 6 trials; 5 trials reported data on acute coronary syndrome; and 4 trials reported data on myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal).

Following tables 3.1 (page 19), 3.2 (page 19), 3.4 (page 21), and 3.3 (page 20) summarized the main characteristics of the trials including in this systematic review of randomized trials of Azithromycin.

Table 3.1: Treatment description - antibiotics - Azithromycin

| Trial | Studied treatment | Control treatment |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Azithromycin versus placebo | | |
| Gupta et al (1997) [1] | Azithromycin 500 mg/d for 3 d (28 received 1 course, 12 received 2 courses 3 mo apart) | placebo |
| ACADEMIC (1999) [2] | Azithromycin 500 mg/d for 3 d then 500 mg/wk for 3 mo | placebo |
| STAMINA (Azithromycin) (2002) [3] | Azithromycin 500 mg/d for 3 d plus omeprazole 20 mg 2/d for 1 wk plus metronidazole 400 mg 2/d for 1 wk | placebo |
| AZACS (2003) [4] | Azithromycin 500 mg on day 1 followed by 250 mg/d for 4d | placebo |
| WIZARD (2003) [5] | Azithromycin 600 mg/d for 3 d then 1/wk for 11 wk | placebo |
| ACES (2005) [6] | Azithromycin 600 mg/wk for 1 y | placebo |

Table 3.2: Descriptions of participants - antibiotics - Azithromycin

| Trial | Patients |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Azithromycin versus placebo | |
| Gupta et al (1997) [1] | Male patients at least 6 mo from documented MI and with titers to Chlamydia pneumoniae $\geq 1:64$ |

continued...

| Trial | Patients |
|--|---|
| ACADEMIC (1999) [2] | Patients with CAD and C pneumoniae titers of $\geq 1:16$. Patients were at least 5 d from an MI |
| STAMINA (Azithromycin) (2002) [3] | Patients with ACS |
| AZACS (2003) [4] | Patients with ACS |
| WIZARD (2003) [5] | Patients with a history of MI of more than 6 weeks before and with C pneumoniae titers of $\geq 1:16$ |
| ACES (2005) [6] | Patients with stable CAD |

Table 3.3: Design and methodological quality of trials - antibiotics - Azithromycin

| Trial | Design | Duration | Centre | Primary end-point |
|--|--|-----------------|--|---|
| Azithromycin versus placebo | | | | |
| Gupta et al, 1997 [1] n=84 | Parallel groups double blind | 18mo | | not defined |
| ACADEMIC, 1999 [2] n=302 | Parallel groups double blind | 2y | | CV death, MI, stroke, unstable angina, revascu- larization |
| STAMINA (Azithromycin), 2002 [3] n=218 | Parallel groups double blind confirmatory trial at low risk of bias | 1y | England 4 centres | not defined |
| AZACS, 2003 [4] n=4012 | Parallel groups double blind | 6mo | | death, MI, revas- cularization |
| WIZARD, 2003 [5] n=7747 | Parallel groups double blind | 14mo | North America, Europe, Argentina, India 271 centres | coronary events |
| ACES, 2005 [6] n=4012 | Parallel groups double blind | 4y | US 28 centres | coronary events |

Table 3.4: *Trial characteristics - antibiotics - Azithromycin*

| Trial |
|--|
| Azithromycin versus placebo |
| Gupta et al, 1997 [1] |
| ACADEMIC, 1999 [2] |
| STAMINA (Azithromycin), 2002 [3] |
| AZACS, 2003 [4] |
| WIZARD, 2003 [5] |
| ACES, 2005 [6] |

3.2 Meta-analysis results

The results are detailed in table 3.5 (page 22). This table is followed by the Forest's plot corresponding to each endpoint.

Azithromycin versus placebo

A total of 5 of the 6 studies eligible for this comparison provided data on **acute coronary syndrome**. There was no statistically significant difference in acute coronary syndrome between azithromycin and placebo, with a RR of 0.96 (95%CI 0.85 to 1.08, $p=0.5253$) in favour of azithromycin. In other words, acute coronary syndrome was slightly lower in the azithromycin group, but this was not statistically significant. No heterogeneity was detected ($p = 0.6916$, $I^2 = 0.00\%$).

A total of 4 of the 6 studies eligible for this comparison provided data on **myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)**. When pooled together, there was no statistically significant difference between the groups in myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal), with a RR of 0.97 (95% CI 0.83 to 1.13, $p=0.6964$). No heterogeneity was detected ($p = 0.7549$, $I^2 = 0.00\%$).

All the 6 studies had extractable data about the number of participants with **all cause death**. When pooled together, there was no statistically significant difference between the groups in all cause death, with a RR of 1.01 (95% CI 0.90 to 1.15, $p=0.8144$). No heterogeneity was detected ($p = 0.9130$, $I^2 = 0.00\%$).

Table 3.5: Results details - antibiotics - Azithromycin

| Comparison Endpoint | Effect | 95% CI | p ass | p het | k | n |
|---|---------|-------------|--------|-----------------------|---|-------|
| Azithromycin versus placebo | | | | | | |
| acute coronary syndrome | RR=0.96 | [0.85;1.08] | 0.5253 | 0.6916 ($I^2=0.00$) | 5 | 12338 |
| myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) | RR=0.97 | [0.83;1.13] | 0.6964 | 0.7549 ($I^2=0.00$) | 4 | 13475 |
| all cause death | RR=1.01 | [0.90;1.15] | 0.8144 | 0.9130 ($I^2=0.00$) | 6 | 13754 |

CI: confidence interval; p ass: p-value of association test; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients; ES: effect size; I^2 : inconsistency degree

Figure 3.1: Forest's plot for acute coronary syndrome

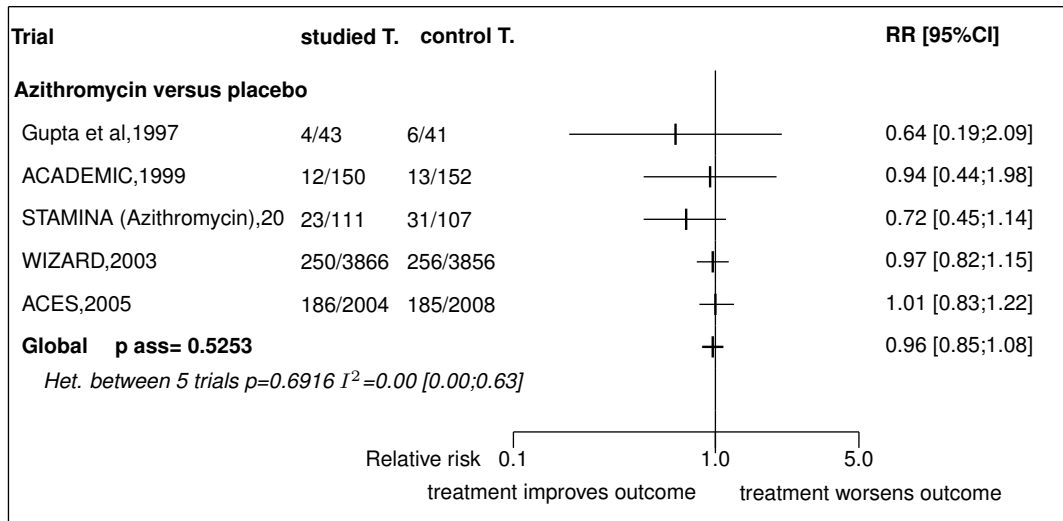


Figure 3.2: Forest's plot for myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)

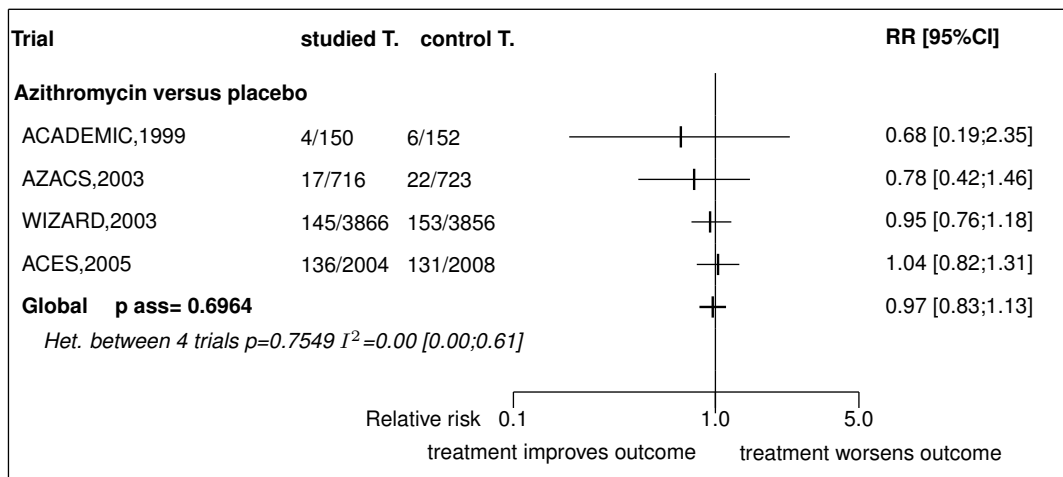
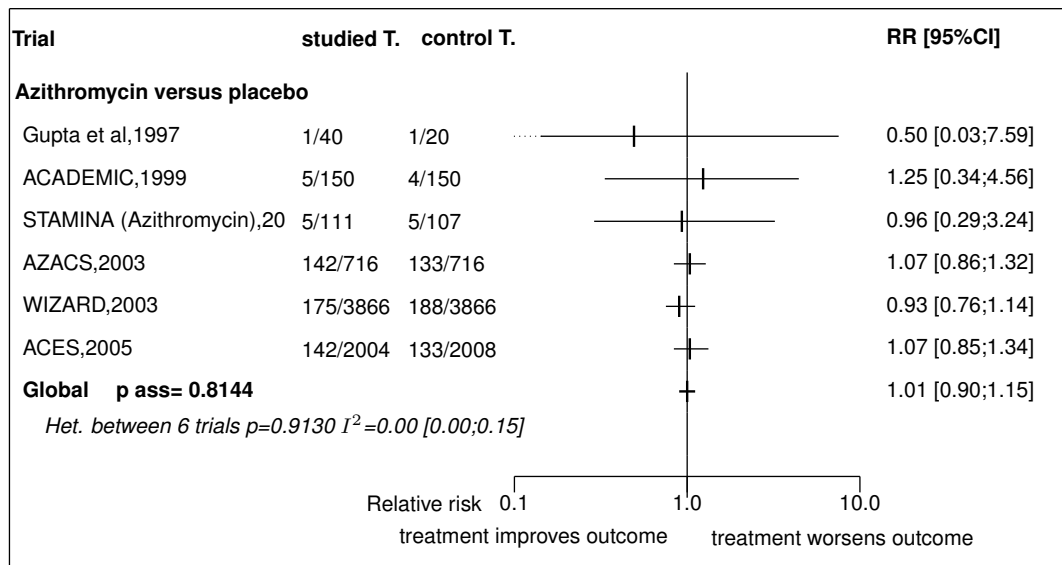


Figure 3.3: Forest's plot for all cause death

References

- [1] Gupta S, Leatham EW, Carrington D, Mendall MA, Kaski JC, Camm AJ. Elevated Chlamydia pneumoniae antibodies, cardiovascular events, and azithromycin in male survivors of myocardial infarction. *Circulation* 1997 Jul 15;96:404-7. [PMID=9244203]
- [2] Muhlestein JB, Anderson JL, Carlquist JF, Salunkhe K, Horne BD, Pearson RR, Bunch TJ, Allen A, Trehan S, Nielson C. Randomized secondary prevention trial of azithromycin in patients with coronary artery disease: primary clinical results of the ACADEMIC study. *Circulation* 2000 Oct 10;102:1755-60. [PMID=11023928]
- [3] Stone AF, Mendall MA, Kaski JC, Edger TM, Risley P, Poloniecki J, Camm AJ, Northfield TC. Effect of treatment for Chlamydia pneumoniae and Helicobacter pylori on markers of inflammation and cardiac events in patients with acute coronary syndromes: South Thames Trial of Antibiotics in Myocardial Infarction and Unstable Angina (STAMINA). *Circulation* 2002 Sep 3;106:1219-23. [PMID=12208796]
- [4] Cercek B, Shah PK, Noc M, Zahger D, Zeymer U, Matetzky S, Maurer G, Mahrer P. Effect of short-term treatment with azithromycin on recurrent ischaemic events in patients with acute coronary syndrome in the Azithromycin in Acute Coronary Syndrome (AZACS) trial: a randomised controlled trial. *Lancet* 2003 Mar 8;361:809-13. [PMID=12642046]
- [5] O'Connor CM, Dunne MW, Pfeffer MA, Muhlestein JB, Yao L, Gupta S, Benner RJ, Fisher MR, Cook TD. Azithromycin for the secondary prevention of coronary heart disease events: the WIZARD study: a randomized controlled trial. *JAMA* 2003 Sep 17;290:1459-66. [PMID=13129985]
- [6] Grayston JT, Kronmal RA, Jackson LA, Parisi AF, Muhlestein JB, Cohen JD, Rogers WJ, Crouse JR, Borrowdale SL, Schron E, Knirsch C. Azithromycin for the secondary prevention of coronary events. *N Engl J Med* 2005 Apr 21;352:1637-45. [PMID=15843666]

3.3 Individual trial summaries

Table 3.6: Gupta et al, 1997 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>n=84 (43 vs. 41)</p> <p>Follow-up duration: 18mo</p> <p>Study design: Randomized controlled trial</p> <p>Parallel groups</p> <p>Double blind</p> | <p>Male patients at least 6 mo from documented MI and with titers to Chlamydia pneumoniae >=1:64</p> | <p>Studied treatment: Azithromycin 500 mg/d for 3 d (28 received 1 course, 12 received 2 courses 3 mo apart)</p> <p>Control treatment: placebo</p> | <p>Acute coronary syndrome RR=0.64 [0.19;2.09]</p> <p>All cause death RR=0.50 [0.03;7.59]</p> |
| Reference | | | |
| <p>Gupta S, Leatham EW, Carrington D, Mendall MA, Kaski JC, Camm AJ. Elevated Chlamydia pneumoniae antibodies, cardiovascular events, and azithromycin in male survivors of myocardial infarction. <i>Circulation</i> 1997 Jul 15;96:404-7 [PMID=9244203]</p> | | | |

Table 3.7: ACADEMIC, 1999 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|--|--|---|--|
| n=302 (150 vs. 152) Follow-up duration: 2y Study design: Randomized controlled trial Parallel groups Double blind | Patients with CAD and C pneumoniae titers of $\geq 1:16$. Patients were at least 5 d from an MI | Studied treatment: Azithromycin 500 mg/d for 3 d then 500 mg/wk for 3 mo Control treatment: placebo | Acute coronary syndrome RR=0.94 [0.44;1.98] Myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=0.68 [0.19;2.35] All cause death RR=1.25 [0.34;4.56] |
| Reference | | | |
| Muhlestein JB, Anderson JL, Carlquist JF, Salunkhe K, Horne BD, Pearson RR, Bunch TJ, Allen A, Trehan S, Nielson C. Randomized secondary prevention trial of azithromycin in patients with coronary artery disease: primary clinical results of the ACADEMIC study. <i>Circulation</i> 2000 Oct 10;102:1755-60 [PMID=11023928] | | | |

Table 3.8: STAMINA (Azithromycin), 2002 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|---|-------------------|--|--|
| n=218 (111 vs. 107) | Patients with ACS | Studied treatment: Azithromycin 500 mg/d for 3 d plus omeprazole 20 mg 2/d for 1 wk plus metronidazole 400 mg 2/d for 1 wk Control treatment: placebo | Acute coronary syndrome RR=0.72 [0.45;1.14] All cause death RR=0.96 [0.29;3.24] |
| Follow-up duration: 1y | | | |
| Study design: Randomized controlled trial Parallel groups Double blind | | | |
| Confirmatory trial at low risk of bias England, 4 centres | | | |
| Reference | | | |
| Stone AF, Mendall MA, Kaski JC, Edger TM, Riskey P, Poloniecki J, Camm AJ, Northfield TC. Effect of treatment for <i>Chlamydia pneumoniae</i> and <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> on markers of inflammation and cardiac events in patients with acute coronary syndromes: South Thames Trial of Antibiotics in Myocardial Infarction and Unstable Angina (STAMINA). <i>Circulation</i> 2002 Sep 3;106:1219-23 [PMID=12208796] | | | |

Table 3.9: AZACS, 2003 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|---|--------------------------|--|---|
| <p>n=4012 (2004 vs. 2008)</p> <p>Follow-up duration: 6mo</p> <p>Study design: Randomized controlled trial</p> <p>Parallel groups</p> <p>Double blind</p> | <p>Patients with ACS</p> | <p>Studied treatment: Azithromycin 500 mg on day 1 followed by 250 mg/d for 4d</p> <p>Control treatment: placebo</p> | <p>Myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)</p> <p>RR=0.78 [0.42;1.46]</p> <p>All cause death</p> <p>RR=1.07 [0.86;1.32]</p> |
| Reference | | | |
| <p>Cercek B, Shah PK, Noc M, Zahger D, Zeymer U, Matetzky S, Maurer G, Mahrer P. Effect of short-term treatment with azithromycin on recurrent ischaemic events in patients with acute coronary syndrome in the Azithromycin in Acute Coronary Syndrome (AZACS) trial: a randomised controlled trial. <i>Lancet</i> 2003 Mar 8;361:809-13 [PMID=12642046]</p> | | | |

Table 3.10: WIZARD, 2003 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|---|---|--|--|
| n=7747 (3879 vs. 3868) Follow-up duration: 14mo Study design: Randomized controlled trial Parallel groups Double blind | Patients with a history of MI of more than 6 weeks before and with C pneumoniae titers of $\geq 1:16$ | Studied treatment: Azithromycin 600 mg/d for 3 d then 1/wk for 11 wk Control treatment: placebo | Acute coronary syndrome RR=0.97 [0.82;1.15] Myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=0.95 [0.76;1.18] All cause death RR=0.93 [0.76;1.14] |
| North America, Europe, Argentina, India, 271 centres | | | |
| Reference O'Connor CM, Dunne MW, Pfeiffer MA, Muhlestein JB, Yao L, Gupta S, Benner RJ, Fisher MR, Cook TD. Azithromycin for the secondary prevention of coronary heart disease events: the WIZARD study: a randomized controlled trial. JAMA 2003 Sep 17;290:1459-66 [PMID=13129985] | | | |

Table 3.11: ACES, 2005 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|--|--------------------------|---|--|
| n=4012 (2004 vs. 2008) Follow-up duration: 4y Study design: Randomized controlled trial Parallel groups Double blind US, 28 centres | Patients with stable CAD | Studied treatment: Azithromycin 600 mg/wk for 1 y Control treatment: placebo | Acute coronary syndrome RR=1.01 [0.83;1.22] Myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=1.04 [0.82;1.31] All cause death RR=1.07 [0.85;1.34] |
| Reference Grayston JT, Kronmal RA, Jackson LA, Parisi AF, Muhlestein JB, Cohen JD, Rogers WJ, Crouse JR, Borrowdale SL, Schron E, Knirsch C. Azithromycin for the secondary prevention of coronary events. <i>N Engl J Med</i> 2005 Apr 21;352:1637-45 [PMID=15849666] | | | |

4 Detailed results for clarithromycin

4.1 Available trials

A total of 2 RCTs which randomized 4521 patients were identified: all compared clarithromycin with placebo.

The average study size was 2260 patients (range 148 to 4373). The first study was published in 2001, and the last study was published in 2006.

All trials were double blind in design. All included studies were reported in English language. We did not find any unpublished trial.

Acute coronary syndrome data was reported in 2 trials; 2 trials reported data on all cause death; 1 trials reported data on cardiovascular events; 1 trials reported data on coronary event; and 1 trials reported data on myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal).

Following tables 4.1 (page 32), 4.2 (page 32), 4.4 (page 34), and 4.3 (page 33) summarized the main characteristics of the trials including in this systematic review of randomized trials of clarithromycin.

Table 4.1: Treatment description - antibiotics - clarithromycin

| Trial | Studied treatment | Control treatment |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Clarithromycin versus placebo | | |
| CLARIFY (2001) [1] | Clarithromycin 500 mg/d for 85 d | placebo |
| CLARICOR (2006) [2] | clarithromycin 500 mg/day | placebo |

Table 4.2: Descriptions of participants - antibiotics - clarithromycin

| Trial | Patients |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Clarithromycin versus placebo | |
| CLARIFY (2001) [1] | Patients with ACS |
| CLARICOR (2006) [2] | Patients with adischarge diagnosis of myocardial infarction or angina pectoris |

Table 4.3: Design and methodological quality of trials - antibiotics - clarithromycin

| Trial | Design | Duration | Centre | Primary end-point |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Clarithromycin versus placebo | | | | |
| CLARIFY, 2001 [1] n=148 | Parallel groups double blind | 1y | | death, MI, unstable angina |
| CLARICOR, 2006 [2] n=4373 | Parallel groups double blind confirmatory trial at low risk of bias | 3 years inclusion period: oct 1999 - apr 2000 | Denmark 5 centres | death, MI, unstable angina |

Table 4.4: Trial characteristics - antibiotics - clarithromycin

| Trial |
|--------------------------------------|
| Clarithromycin versus placebo |
| CLARIFY, 2001 [1] |
| CLARICOR, 2006 [2] |

4.2 Meta-analysis results

The results are detailed in table 4.5 (page 35). This table is followed by the Forest's plot corresponding to each endpoint.

Clarithromycin versus placebo

All the 2 studies had extractable data about the number of participants with **acute coronary syndrome**. There was no statistically significant difference in acute coronary syndrome between clarithromycin and placebo, with a RR of 0.70 (95%CI 0.26 to 1.86, $p=0.4696$) in favour of clarithromycin. In other words, acute coronary syndrome was slightly lower in the clarithromycin group, but this was not statistically significant. A random effect model was used because there was a substantial statistical heterogeneity detected between the studies ($p = 0.0044$, $I^2 = 0.88\%$).

Only one of the 2 studies eligible for this comparison provided data on **cardiovascular events**. The analysis detected a statistically significant difference in favor of placebo in cardiovascular events, with a RR of 1.17 (95% CI 1.02 to 1.35, $p=0.0267$).

Only one of the 2 studies eligible for this comparison provided data on **myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)**. No statistically significant difference between the groups was found in myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal), with a RR of 0.52 (95% CI 0.19 to 1.37, $p=0.1850$).

Only one of the 2 studies eligible for this comparison provided data on **coronary event**. No statistically significant difference between the groups was found in coronary event, with a RR of 1.14 (95% CI 0.99 to 1.31, $p=0.0795$).

All the 2 studies had extractable data about the number of participants with **all cause death**. When pooled together, there was no statistically significant difference between the groups in all cause death, with a RR of 1.17 (95% CI 0.95 to 1.43, $p=0.1309$). No heterogeneity was detected ($p = 0.7971$, $I^2 = 0.00\%$).

Table 4.5: Results details - antibiotics - clarithromycin

| Comparison Endpoint | Effect | 95% CI | p ass | p het | k | n |
|---|---------|-------------|--------|-----------------------|---|------|
| clarithromycin versus placebo | | | | | | |
| acute coronary syndrome | RR=0.70 | [0.26;1.86] | 0.4696 | 0.0044 ($I^2=0.88$) | 2 | 4521 |
| cardiovascular events | RR=1.17 | [1.02;1.35] | 0.0267 | 1.0000 ($I^2=0.00$) | 1 | 4373 |
| myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) | RR=0.52 | [0.19;1.37] | 0.1850 | 1.0000 ($I^2=1.00$) | 1 | 181 |
| coronary event | RR=1.14 | [0.99;1.31] | 0.0795 | 1.0000 ($I^2=0.00$) | 1 | 4373 |
| all cause death | RR=1.17 | [0.95;1.43] | 0.1309 | 0.7971 ($I^2=0.00$) | 2 | 4521 |

CI: confidence interval; p ass: p-value of association test; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients; ES: effect size; I^2 : inconsistency degree

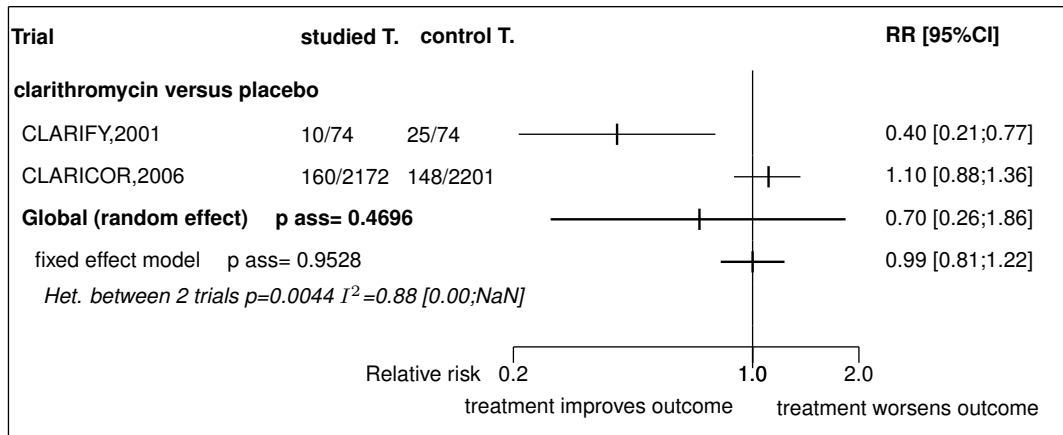
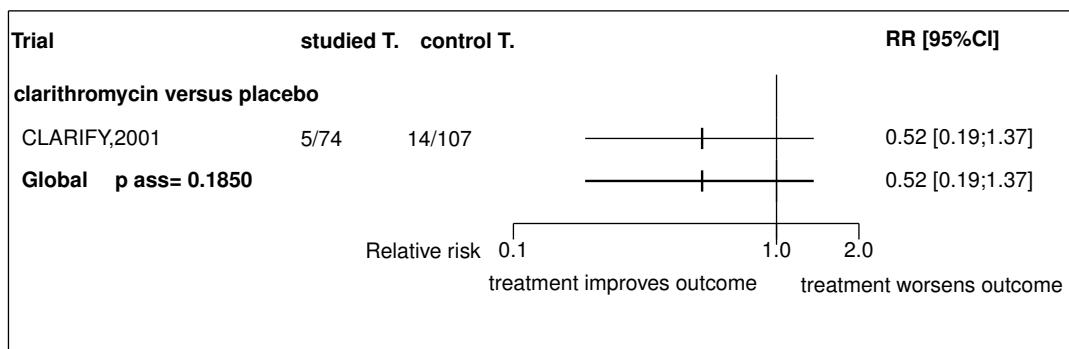
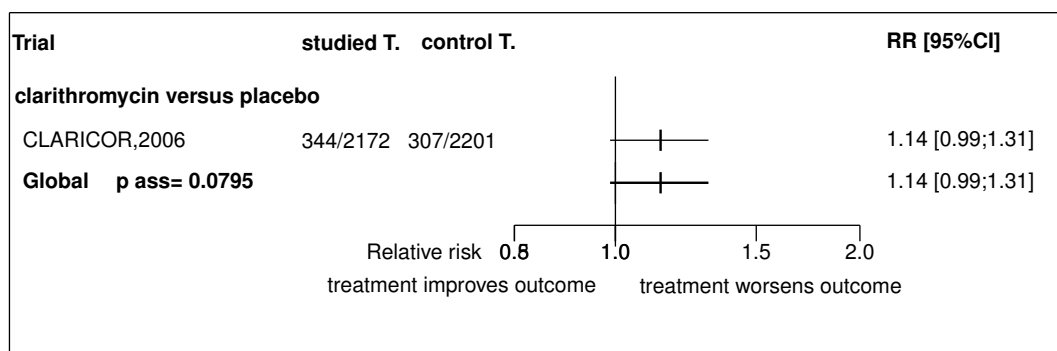
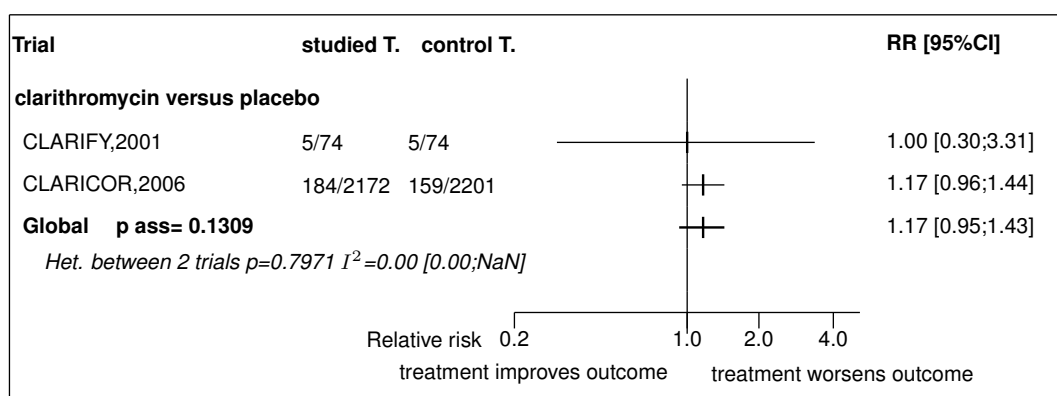
Figure 4.1: Forest's plot for acute coronary syndrome**Figure 4.2:** Forest's plot for cardiovascular events**Figure 4.3:** Forest's plot for myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)

Figure 4.4: Forest's plot for coronary event**Figure 4.5:** Forest's plot for all cause death

References

- [1] Sinisalo J, Mattila K, Valtonen V, Anttonen O, Juvonen J, Melin J, Vuorinen-Markkola H, Nieminen MS. Effect of 3 months of antimicrobial treatment with clarithromycin in acute non-q-wave coronary syndrome. *Circulation* 2002 Apr 2;105:1555-60. [PMID=11927522]
- [2] Jespersen CM, Als-Nielsen B, Damgaard M, Hansen JF, Hansen S, Hel OH, Hildebrandt P, Hilden J, Jensen GB, Kastrup J, Kolmos HJ, Kjeller E, Lind I, Nielsen H, Petersen L, Gluud C. Randomised placebo controlled multicentre trial to assess short term clarithromycin for patients with stable coronary heart disease: CLARICOR trial. *BMJ* 2006 Jan 7;332:22-7. [PMID=16339220]

4.3 Individual trial summaries

Table 4.6: CLARIFY, 2001 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|---|-------------------|---|--|
| n=148 (74 vs. 74) Follow-up duration: 1y Study design: Randomized controlled trial Parallel groups Double blind | Patients with ACS | Studied treatment: Clarithromycin 500 mg/d for 85 d Control treatment: placebo | Acute coronary syndrome RR=0.40 [0.21;0.77] Myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=0.52 [0.19;1.37] All cause death RR=1.00 [0.30;3.31] |
| Reference | | | |
| Sinisalo J, Mattila K, Valtonen V, Anttonen O, Juvonen J, Melin J, Vuorinen-Markkola H, Nieminen MS. Effect of 3 months of antimicrobial treatment with clarithromycin in acute non-q-wave coronary syndrome. <i>Circulation</i> 2002 Apr 2;105:1555-60 [PMID=11927522] | | | |

Table 4.7: CLARICOR, 2006 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|---|--|--|---|
| n=4373 (2172 vs. 2201) | Patients with adischarge diagnosis of myocardial infarction or angina pectoris | Studied treatment: clarithromycin 500 mg/day Control treatment: placebo | Acute coronary syndrome RR=1.10 [0.88;1.36] Cardiovascular events RR=1.17 [1.02;1.35] (CV death, ACS, stroke, PVD) Coronary event RR=1.14 [0.99;1.31] All cause death RR=1.17 [0.96;1.44] |
| Follow-up duration: 3 years | | | |
| Study design: Randomized controlled trial Parallel groups Double blind | | | |
| Confirmatory trial at low risk of bias | | | |
| Denmark, 5 centres | | | |
| Inclusion period: oct 1999 - apr 2000 | | | |
| Reference | Jespersen CM, Als-Nielsen B, Damgaard M, Hansen JF, Hansen S, Hel OH, Hildebrandt P, Hilden J, Jensen GB, Kastrup J, Kolmos HJ, Kjeller E, Lind I, Nielsen H, Petersen L, Gluud C. Randomised placebo controlled multicentre trial to assess short term clarithromycin for patients with stable coronary heart disease: CLARICOR trial. <i>BMJ</i> 2006 Jan 7;332:22-7 [PMID=16339220] | | |

5 Detailed results for Gatifloxacin

5.1 Available trials

Only one trial which randomized 4162 patients was identified: it compared Gatifloxacin with placebo.

This trial included 4162 patients and was published in 2005.

This trial was double blind in design.

It was reported in English language.

Acute coronary syndrome data was reported in 1 trials; 1 trials reported data on all cause death; and 1 trials reported data on myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal).

Following tables 5.1 (page 41), 5.2 (page 41), 5.4 (page 42), and 5.3 (page 41) summarized the main characteristics of the trial including in this systematic review of randomized trials of Gatifloxacin.

Table 5.1: Treatment description - antibiotics - Gatifloxacin

| Trial | Studied treatment | Control treatment |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Gatifloxacin versus placebo | | |
| PROVE-IT (2005) [1] | Gatifloxacin 400 mg/d for 10 d/mo for 2y | placebo |

Table 5.2: Descriptions of participants - antibiotics - Gatifloxacin

| Trial | Patients |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Gatifloxacin versus placebo | |
| PROVE-IT (2005) [1] | Patients hospitalized with ACS in the preceding 10 d |

Table 5.3: Design and methodological quality of trials - antibiotics - Gatifloxacin

| Trial | Design | Duration | Centre | Primary end-point |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|--------|-------------------|
| Gatifloxacin versus placebo | | | | |
| PROVE-IT, 2005 [1] n=4162 | Parallel groups double blind | 24mo | | coronary events |

Table 5.4: *Trial characteristics - antibiotics - Gatifloxacin*

| Trial |
|------------------------------------|
| Gatifloxacin versus placebo |
| PROVE-IT, 2005 [1] |

5.2 Meta-analysis results

The results are detailed in table 5.5 (page 43). This table is followed by the Forest's plot corresponding to each endpoint.

Gatifloxacin versus placebo

The single study eligible for this comparison provided data on **acute coronary syndrome**. There was no statistically significant difference in acute coronary syndrome between gatifloxacin and placebo, with a RR of 0.94 (95%CI 0.79 to 1.11, $p=0.4694$) in favour of gatifloxacin. In other words, acute coronary syndrome was slightly lower in the gatifloxacin group, but this was not statistically significant.

The single study eligible for this comparison provided data on **myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)**. No statistically significant difference between the groups was found in myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal), with a RR of 0.89 (95% CI 0.72 to 1.12, $p=0.3221$).

The single study eligible for this comparison provided data on **all cause death**. No statistically significant difference between the groups was found in all cause death, with a RR of 1.28 (95% CI 0.89 to 1.84, $p=0.1849$).

Table 5.5: Results details - antibiotics - Gatifloxacin

| Comparison Endpoint | Effect | 95% CI | p ass | p het | k | n |
|---|---------|-------------|--------|-----------------------|---|------|
| Gatifloxacin versus placebo | | | | | | |
| acute coronary syndrome | RR=0.94 | [0.79;1.11] | 0.4694 | 1.0000 ($I^2=0.00$) | 1 | 4162 |
| myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) | RR=0.89 | [0.72;1.12] | 0.3221 | 1.0000 ($I^2=0.00$) | 1 | 4162 |
| all cause death | RR=1.28 | [0.89;1.84] | 0.1849 | 1.0000 ($I^2=0.00$) | 1 | 4152 |

CI: confidence interval; p ass: p-value of association test; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients; ES: effect size; I^2 : inconsistency degree

Figure 5.1: Forest's plot for acute coronary syndrome

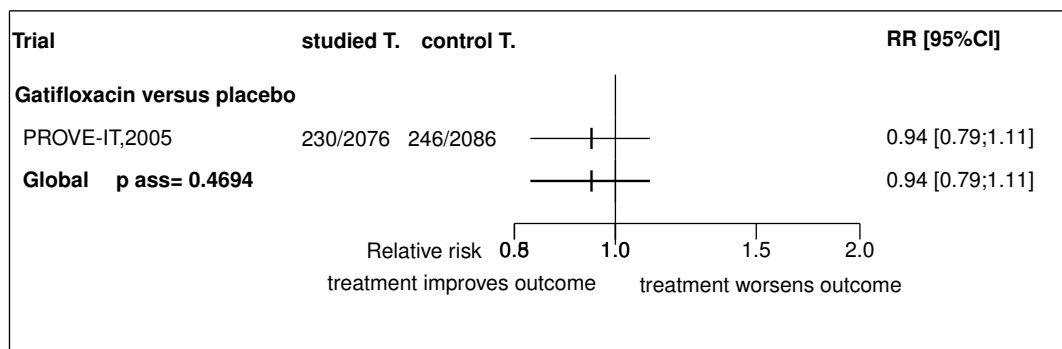
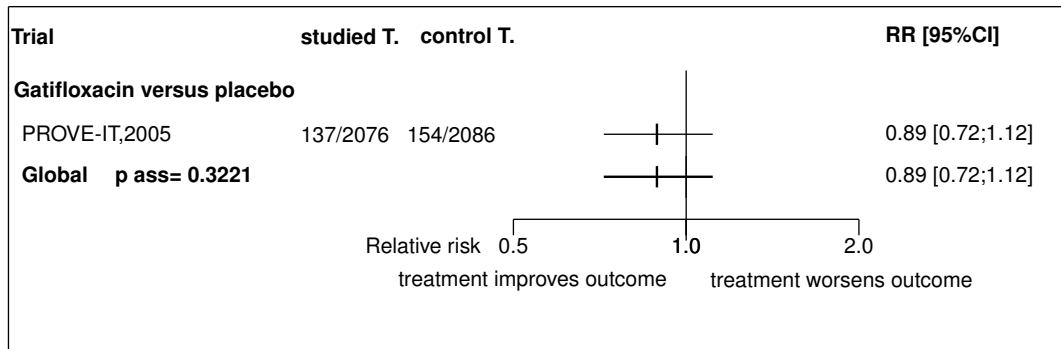
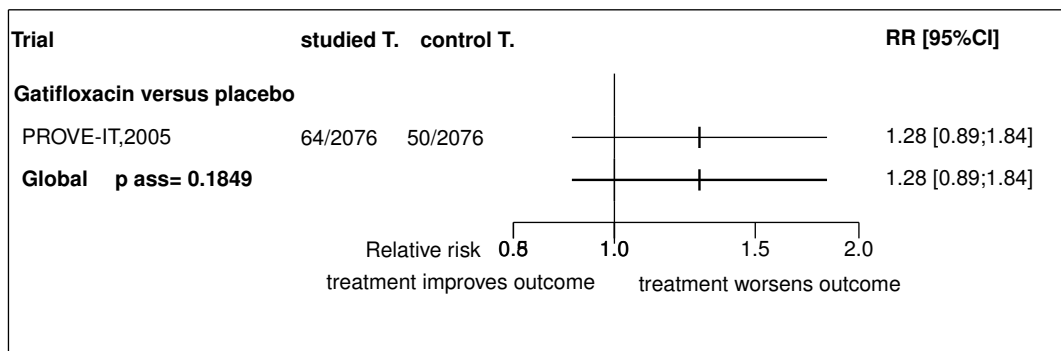


Figure 5.2: Forest's plot for myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)**Figure 5.3:** Forest's plot for all cause death

References

- [1] Cannon CP, Braunwald E, McCabe CH, Grayston JT, Muhlestein B, Giugliano RP, Cairns R, Skene AM. Antibiotic treatment of Chlamydia pneumoniae after acute coronary syndrome. N Engl J Med 2005 Apr 21;352:1646-54. [PMID=15843667]

5.3 Individual trial summaries

Table 5.6: PROVE-IT, 2005 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p>n=4162 (2076 vs. 2086)</p> <p>Follow-up duration: 24mo</p> <p>Study design: Randomized controlled trial</p> <p>Parallel groups</p> <p>Double blind</p> | <p>Patients hospitalized with ACS in the preceding 10 d</p> | <p>Studied treatment: Gatifloxacin 400 mg/d for 10 d/mo for 2y</p> <p>Control treatment: placebo</p> | <p>Acute coronary syndrome RR=0.94 [0.79;1.11]</p> <p>Myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=0.89 [0.72;1.12]</p> <p>All cause death RR=1.28 [0.89;1.84]</p> |
| Reference | | | |
| <p>Cannon CP, Braunwald E, McCabe CH, Grayston JT, Muhlestein B, Giugliano RP, Cairns R, Skene AM. Antibiotic treatment of Chlamydia pneumoniae after acute coronary syndrome. <i>N Engl J Med</i> 2005 Apr 21;352:1646-54 [PMID=15843667]</p> | | | |

6 Detailed results for Roxithromycin

6.1 Available trials

A total of 3 RCTs which randomized 1132 patients were identified: all compared Roxithromycin with placebo.

The average study size was 377 patients (range 60 to 870). The first study was published in 1999, and the last study was published in 2003.

All trials were double blind in design. All included studies were reported in English language. We did not find any unpublished trial.

Acute coronary syndrome data was reported in 3 trials; 3 trials reported data on all cause death; 3 trials reported data on myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal); and 1 trials reported data on coronary event.

Following tables 6.1 (page 47), 6.2 (page 47), 6.4 (page 49), and 6.3 (page 48) summarized the main characteristics of the trials including in this systematic review of randomized trials of Roxithromycin.

Table 6.1: Treatment description - antibiotics - Roxithromycin

| Trial | Studied treatment | Control treatment |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Roxithromycin versus placebo | | |
| ROXIS (1999) [1] | Roxithromycin 150 mg 2/d for 30 d | placebo |
| Leowattana et al (2001) [2] | Roxithromycin 150 mg/d for 30 d | placebo |
| ANTIBIO (2003) [3] | Roxithromycin 300 mg/d for 6 wk | placebo |

Table 6.2: Descriptions of participants - antibiotics - Roxithromycin

| Trial | Patients |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Roxithromycin versus placebo | |
| ROXIS (1999) [1] | Patients with documented history of CAD and ACS |
| Leowattana et al (2001) [2] | Patients with ACS |
| ANTIBIO (2003) [3] | Patients with unstable angina or MI |

Table 6.3: Design and methodological quality of trials - antibiotics - Roxithromycin

| Trial | Design | Duration | Centre | Primary end-point |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Roxithromycin versus placebo | | | | |
| ROXIS, 1999 [1] n=202 | Parallel groups double blind | 6mo | | |
| Leowattana et al, 2001 [2] n=60 | Parallel groups | 3mo | | |
| ANTIBIO, 2003 [3] n=870 | Parallel groups double blind | 1y | | all cause death |

Table 6.4: Trial characteristics - antibiotics - Roxithromycin

| Trial |
|-------------------------------------|
| Roxithromycin versus placebo |
| ROXIS, 1999 [1] |
| Leowattana et al, 2001 [2] |
| ANTIBIO, 2003 [3] |

6.2 Meta-analysis results

The results are detailed in table 6.5 (page 50). This table is followed by the Forest's plot corresponding to each endpoint.

Roxithromycin versus placebo

All the 3 studies had extractable data about the number of participants with **acute coronary syndrome**. There was no statistically significant difference in acute coronary syndrome between roxithromycin and placebo, with a RR of 0.78 (95%CI 0.34 to 1.77, $p=0.5478$) in favour of roxithromycin. In other words, acute coronary syndrome was slightly lower in the roxithromycin group, but this was not statistically significant. No heterogeneity was detected ($p = 0.0783$, $I^2 = 0.61\%$).

All the 3 studies had extractable data about the number of participants with **myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)**. When pooled together, there was no statistically significant difference between the groups in myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal), with a RR of 1.24 (95% CI 0.20 to 7.56, $p=0.8174$). A random effect model was used because there was a substantial statistical heterogeneity detected between the studies ($p = 0.0036$, $I^2 = 0.82\%$).

Only one of the 3 studies eligible for this comparison provided data on **coronary event**. No statistically significant difference between the groups was found in coronary event, with a RR of 1.20 (95% CI 0.96 to 1.51, $p=0.1107$).

All the 3 studies had extractable data about the number of participants with **all cause death**. When pooled together, there was no statistically significant difference between the groups in all cause death, with a RR of 1.08 (95% CI 0.66 to 1.79, $p=0.7520$). No heterogeneity was detected ($p = 0.9938$, $I^2 = 0.00\%$).

Table 6.5: Results details - antibiotics - Roxithromycin

| Comparison Endpoint | Effect | 95% CI | p ass | p het | k | n |
|---|---------|-------------|--------|-----------------------|---|------|
| Roxithromycin versus placebo | | | | | | |
| acute coronary syndrome | RR=0.78 | [0.34;1.77] | 0.5478 | 0.0783 ($I^2=0.61$) | 3 | 1130 |
| myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) | RR=1.24 | [0.20;7.56] | 0.8174 | 0.0036 ($I^2=0.82$) | 3 | 1491 |
| coronary event | RR=1.20 | [0.96;1.51] | 0.1107 | 1.0000 ($I^2=0.00$) | 1 | 868 |
| all cause death | RR=1.08 | [0.66;1.79] | 0.7520 | 0.9938 ($I^2=0.00$) | 3 | 1156 |

CI: confidence interval; p ass: p-value of association test; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients; ES: effect size; I^2 : inconsistency degree

Figure 6.1: Forest's plot for acute coronary syndrome

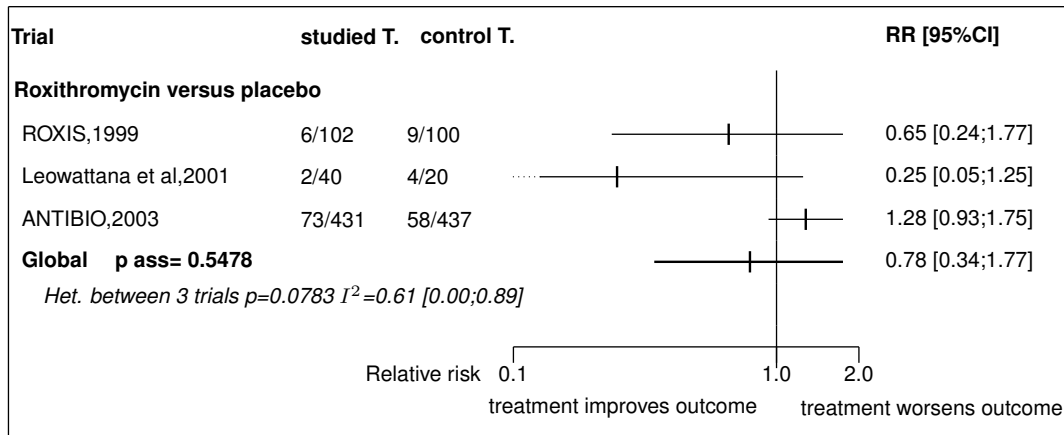


Figure 6.2: Forest's plot for myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal)

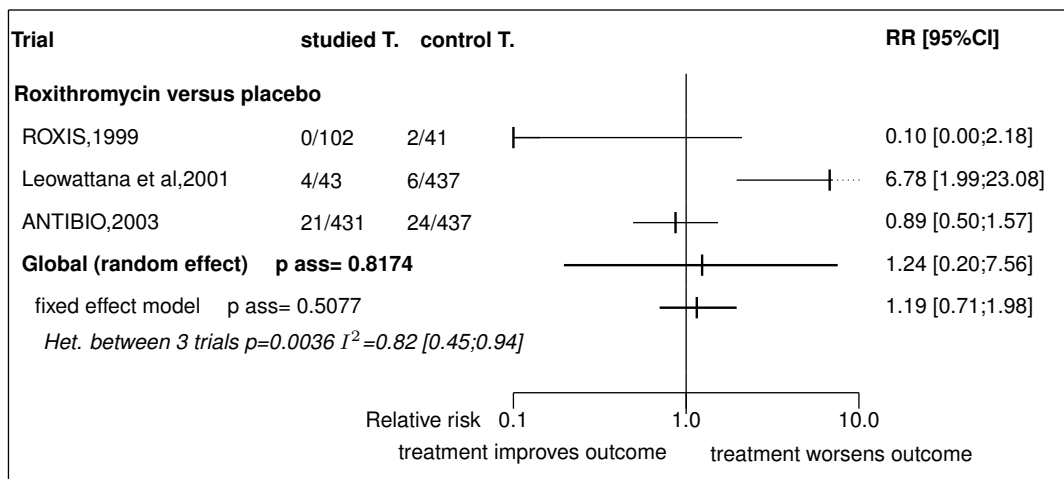


Figure 6.3: Forest's plot for coronary event

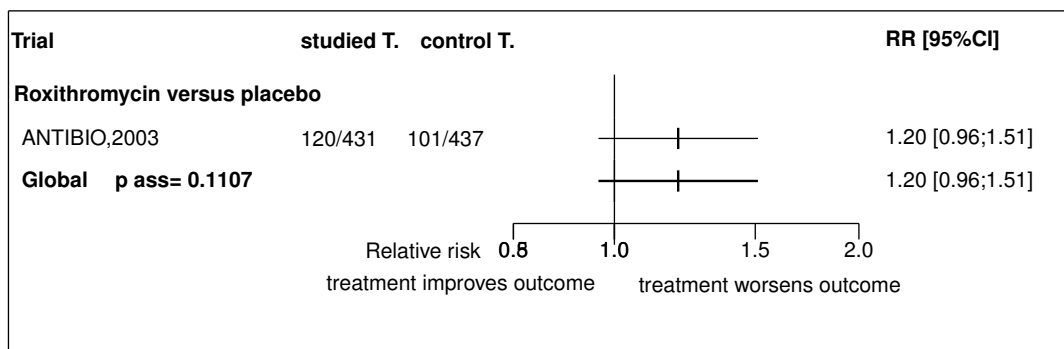
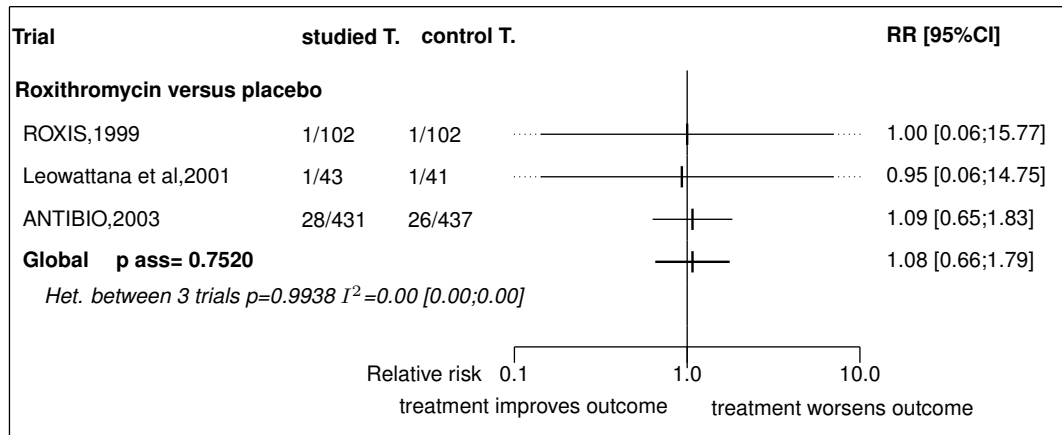


Figure 6.4: Forest's plot for all cause death

References

- [1] Gurfinkel E, Bozovich G, Beck E, Testa E, Livellara B, Mautner B. Treatment with the antibiotic roxithromycin in patients with acute non-Q-wave coronary syndromes. The final report of the ROXIS Study. Eur Heart J 1999 Jan;20:121-7. [PMID=10099908]
- [2] Leowattana W, Bhuripanyo K, Singhaviranon L, et al. . J Med Assoc Thai. 2001;84(suppl 3):S669-S675..
- [3] Zahn R, Schneider S, Frilling B, Seidl K, Tebbe U, Weber M, Gottwik M, Altmann E, Seidel F, Rox J, Hoffler U, Neuhaus KL, Senges J. Antibiotic therapy after acute myocardial infarction: a prospective randomized study. Circulation 2003 Mar 11;107:1253-9. [PMID=12628944]

6.3 Individual trial summaries

Table 6.6: ROXIS, 1999 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|--|---|--|---|
| n=202 (102 vs. 100) Follow-up duration: 6mo Study design: Randomized controlled trial Parallel groups Double blind | Patients with documented history of CAD and ACS | Studied treatment: Roxithromycin 150 mg 2/d for 30 d Control treatment: placebo | Acute coronary syndrome RR=0.65 [0.24;1.77] All cause death RR=1.00 [0.06;15.77] |
| Reference Gurfinkel E, Bozovich G, Beck E, Testa E, Livellara B, Mautner B. Treatment with the antibiotic roxithromycin in patients with acute non-Q-wave coronary syndromes. The final report of the ROXIS Study. Eur Heart J 1999 Jan;20:121-7 [PMID=10099908] | | | |

Table 6.7: Leowattana et al, 2001 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|---|-------------------|--|--|
| n=60 (40 vs. 20) Follow-up duration: 3mo Study design: Randomized controlled trial Parallel groups | Patients with ACS | Studied treatment: Roxithromycin 150 mg/d for 30 d Control treatment: placebo | Acute coronary syndrome RR=0.25 [0.05;1.25] Myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=6.78 [1.99;23.08] All cause death RR=0.95 [0.06;14.75] |
| Reference | | | |
| Leowattana W, Bhuripanyo K, Singhaviranon L, et al. . J Med Assoc Thai. 2001;84(suppl 3):S669-S675. | | | |

Table 6.8: ANTIBIO, 2003 - Trial synopsis

| Trial details | Patients | Treatments | Outcomes |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| n=870 (433 vs. 437) Follow-up duration: 1y Study design: Randomized controlled trial Parallel groups Double blind | Patients with unstable angina or MI | Studied treatment: Roxithromycin 300 mg/d for 6 wk Control treatment: placebo | Acute coronary syndrome RR=1.28 [0.93;1.75] Myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) RR=0.89 [0.50;1.57] Coronary event RR=1.20 [0.96;1.51] All cause death RR=1.09 [0.65;1.83] |
| Reference | | | |
| Zahn R, Schneider S, Frilling B, Seidl K, Tebbe U, Weber M, Gottwik M, Altmann E, Seidel F, Rox J, Hoffler U, Neuhaus KL, Senges J. Antibiotic therapy after acute myocardial infarction: a prospective randomized study. <i>Circulation</i> 2003 Mar 11;107:1253-9 [PMID=12628944] | | | |

7 Global meta-analysis: all antibiotics

7.1 Global meta-analysis: all antibiotics versus placebo

Table 7.1: All antibiotics versus placebo

| Endpoint | Effect | 95% CI | p ass | p het (I^2) | k | n |
|---|---------|-----------|--------|-----------------|----|-------|
| acute coronary syndrome | RR=0.95 | 0.83;1.08 | 0.4462 | 0.0803 (0.40) | 11 | 22151 |
| cardiovascular events | RR=1.17 | 1.02;1.35 | 0.0267 | 1.0000 (0.00) | 1 | 4373 |
| myocardial infarction (fatal and non fatal) | RR=0.94 | 0.76;1.17 | 0.5817 | 0.0589 (0.47) | 9 | 19309 |
| coronary event | RR=1.15 | 1.02;1.30 | 0.0197 | 0.6669 (0.00) | 2 | 5241 |
| all cause death | RR=1.07 | 0.97;1.18 | 0.1783 | 0.9710 (0.00) | 12 | 23583 |

CI: confidence interval; p ass: p-value of association test; p het: p-value of the heterogeneity test; k: number of trials; n: total number of patients; ES: effect size; I^2 : inconsistency degree

8 Ongoing studies

No ongoing trial was identified.

9 Excluded studies

No trial was excluded.

References

