

Comparison of the effect of single versus dual antiplatelet treatment on the recurrent rates and bleeding risk in patients after the second stroke

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Statement of the Problem: In clinical practice, it is a standard intervention to use of anti-platelet agents (Aspirin) to prevent the recurrent event for ischemic stroke population. The risk of the recurrent event is the highest during the first 90 days after stroke. The risk of gastrointestinal bleeding is estimated to be the highest within the first two months, and gradually reduced in the following treatment period with kept effect of stroke prevention. Result supported the long term use of Aspirin (Bokey) as the primary strategy to prevent the recurrent stroke. The use of alternative anti-platelet agents or dual anti-platelet therapy should be considered while stroke is still recurrent. The purpose of this study is to compare dual antiplatelet therapy versus aspirin monotherapy in recurrent stroke prevention, including treatment effect and risk difference.

Method: A prospective, repeated measures design was adopted. Patients with recurrent ischemic stroke were recruited from a regional hospital in central Taiwan. Measurements included were: the HAS BLED score and regular laboratory data of liver and renal functions, as well as other chronic diseases that increase risk of stroke. Descriptive statistics, Chi-square test, repeated measures ANOVA and t-test analysis will be used to examine the medical condition and bleeding rate between these two groups.

Finding: The total case number is expected to be 56. The preliminary data from the completed 18 cases revealed that there were no serious bleeding events occurred in dual antiplatelet therapy group. The study is still ongoing.

Conclusions & Significance: There were no significant difference in the effect of recurrent prevention and bleeding risk between single and dual-antiplatelet agent therapy. This study provides valuable reference for clinical practice in the use of anti-platelet agent to prevent recurrent stroke, monitoring the bleeding indicators, management of the serious bleeding events.

Biography

Tzu-Jung Huang is a graduate student of Master's program at Hangkuang University at Taichung, Taiwan and also a Nurse Practitioner for many years in Neurology Department of Kuang Tien General Hospital Taichung, Taiwan. Her clinical specialty is taking care of stroke patient.

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