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SURGERY AND ANESTHESIA

SESSION TITLE: SURGICAL TREATMENT OF HEART FAILURE AND TRANSPLANTATION POSTERS

Abstract 9706: A Novel High Energy Phosphate Source Resuscitates Poorly Functioning Donor Hearts

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Abstract

Introduction: Over 60% of the time donor hearts cannot be *utilized* for transplant, mostly because of poor left ventricular ejection fraction (EF) of $\leq 40\%$ due to stress cardiomyopathy (i.e., demand ischemia) with depletion of myocardial adenosine triphosphate (ATP). The bioenergetic cyclocreatine phosphate (CCrP) is an *FDA Orphan Designated Drug for heart transplantation*. When CCrP is given prophylactically in an isoprenaline (ISO) rat model of demand ischemia, it restored ATP and maintained contractility.

Hypothesis: We hypothesized that administering CCrP therapeutically after ISO-induced myocardial dysfunction in rats (simulating rejected donor hearts), will prevent ischemic injury and sustain long-term restoration of EF.

Methods: Wistar male rats (180-220 g) were injected SC with ISO (85 and 170 mg/kg/day) for two consecutive days. CCrP (n=6, 0.8 gm/kg/day ip) and saline control (n=4) were administered 1 hour after completing the course of ISO injections and then daily for 2 weeks. A negative control group was injected with saline (n=4). Serum CK-MB and ECG/ST were measured 24 hours after last ISO injection. Evidence of stress cardiomyopathy was assessed after 14 days by ECHO analysis for EF and levels of hs-Troponin I (TnI) and BNP. One-way ANOVA analysis was used.

Results: Table I shows two main benefits of therapeutically administered CCrP in this stress cardiomyopathy model: 1) poor heart function was quickly restored in the *acute phase* (24 hours), as indicated by normal ECG/ST and CK-MB levels; and 2) the restoration of function was sustained over the long term (14 days), as indicated by normal EF% and levels of hs-TnI and BNP.

Conclusions: The bioenergetic CCrP is a novel cardioprotective drug that appears to *salvage cardiac dysfunction* and restore *normal EF%* in a rat model of stress cardiomyopathy. If this benefit translates into clinical organ donors with poor heart function, CCrP could be used to increase heart utilization for transplantation.

Table 1: CCrP therapeutically administered post drug-induced stress cardiomyopathy (ISO x 2 days) in rats prevented myocardial injury, salvaged cardiac dysfunction, and sustained long-term restoration of EF%.

	24 hours		14 days			
	ST (mv)	CK-MB (U/L)	EF (%)	hs-TnI (pg/ml)	BNP (pg/ml)	Activity score
Control saline	0.053±0.004	75.67±2.52	65.70±1.07	4.71±0.74	32.45±2.32	4.0±0.17
Stress + saline	0.144±0.016*	207.8±5.13*	35.58±1.53*	148.0±11.16*	185.0±10.39*	1.5±0.28*
Stress + CCrP	0.056±0.004#	61.33±2.89#	56.68±1.42#	21.08±2.99#	57.71±4.11#	3.7±0.20#

The results are presented as mean and standard error of mean, *: Statistically significant difference compared to the control saline group, #: Statistically significant difference compared to the stress saline group. Abbreviations: CCrP: Cyclocreatine phosphate, ST: Elevated ST segment, mv: millivolt, CK-MB: Creatine kinase-MB, EF: Ejection fraction, hs-TnI: High sensitive Troponin I, BNP: Brain natriuretic peptide.

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