Outcomes of patients with atrial fibrillation and ischaemic stroke despite receiving oral anticoagulation

COMBINE AF Investigators

**Aim**
To estimate the incidence of recurrent ischaemic stroke and mortality in patients with atrial fibrillation (AF) suffering an ischaemic stroke while on treatment with a direct oral anticoagulant (DOAC) or a vitamin K antagonist (VKA)

**Data source**
COMBINE AF: individual patient data from study participants enrolled in the RE-LY, AVERROES, ROCKET AF, ARISTOTLE, and ENGAGE AF-TIMI 48 trials

**Population**
All patients with a first post-randomisation ischaemic stroke while on oral anticoagulation (DOAC or VKA), excluding (1) those with permanent discontinuation of study drug prior to the first ischaemic stroke and (2) those randomised to aspirin in AVERROES

**Outcomes:**
1. Recurrent ischaemic stroke
2. Mortality

Follow-up (index event = day 90)
Recurrent ischaemic stroke

Analysis includes 1,163 patients with a first post-randomisation ischaemic stroke on oral anticoagulation

Cumulative incidence at
1 year 7.0% (95% CI 5.2–8.7%)
2 years 10.3% (95% CI 7.8–12.8%)

Results were consistent in an analysis starting on day 15, and only including those without permanent discontinuation of study drug since the index event (N=640):

Cumulative incidence at 1 year 6.8% (95% CI 4.6–8.9%)
Mortality

Analysis includes 1,163 patients with a first post-randomisation ischaemic stroke on oral anticoagulation

Cumulative incidence at
90 days 12.4% (95% CI 10.5–14.4%)
1 year 18.1% (95% CI 15.7–20.4%)