



[Calcium antagonists in the treatment of hypertension and heart failure. A comment to recently published results of clinical trials]

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Abstract: Several studies have been published recently on the effect of calcium-antagonists in the treatment of hypertension and heart failure. Except for an American case-control study, in which negative results may have been caused by selection bias, other studies show that calcium-antagonists have a positive effect. They appear to reduce cardiovascular complications, lower mortality and slow down the progression of atherosclerosis. However, large trials of adequate design and force are in progress (STOP II, NORDIL, HOT, INSIGHT, ALLHAT). It is hoped that the results of these trials will clarify whether calcium-antagonist are warranted in the treatment of hypertension and associated cardiovascular disease.

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