

**A REAL-life study on short-term Dual Antiplatelet treatment in
Patients with ischemic stroke or Transient ischemic attack
(READAPT)**

Protocol version 1.0

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PROTOCOL SYNOPSIS

Title:	A REAL-life study on short-term Dual Antiplatelet treatment in Patients with ischemic stroke or Transient ischemic attack (READAPT)
Objectives:	Aim of the present study is to evaluate the benefits and harms of dual antiplatelet treatment in patients fulfilling different possible definitions of minor or moderate acute ischemic stroke or high risk transient ischemic attack (TIA) and to evaluate risk and benefits in subgroups of patients which were not addressed in the randomized clinical trials.
Study design and setting:	Observational multicenter Italian study including centers affiliated to the Italian Stroke Organization.
Population:	Patients with ischemic stroke or transient ischemic attack aged at least 18 years.
Key inclusion criteria:	Consecutive patients with mild or moderate acute ischemic stroke or high-risk TIA treated with a short course of dual antiplatelet treatment.
Key exclusion criterion:	Patients with acute ischemic stroke or TIA who receive dual antiplatelet treatment because of vascular stenting, acute coronary syndrome, or any other indication not related to the acute cerebrovascular event.
End points:	The main considered endpoints will be occurrence of total stroke, ischemic stroke, TIA, death, disability, intracerebral bleeding, systemic bleeding. Treatment adherence will also be evaluated.
Recruitment period:	Planned study duration is of 2 years (24 months).
Follow-up:	Patients will be followed-up for 90 days with in-person visits or telephone calls.
Statistical analyses:	We will evaluate occurrence of outcome events in the overall cohort and will perform sensitivity analyses by groups which are considered relevant according to the clinical perspective (i.e. type of event, time to dual antiplatelet treatment [DAPT], type of DAPT, DAPT duration, clinical severity of the index event and its acute treatment).

STUDY PROTOCOL

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND SCIENTIFIC RATIONALE

Recent data from randomized controlled trials (RCTs) indicate that short-term dual antiplatelet therapy (DAPT) with aspirin and clopidogrel or aspirin and ticagrelor for 21-30 days may provide benefits over treatment with a single antiplatelet agent in patients with mild or moderate ischemic stroke or high-risk transient ischemic attack (TIA)¹⁻⁴. Also a recent Cochrane meta-analysis including data from 15 RCTs confirmed the benefit of DAPT in reducing stroke recurrence, which outweigh the harm of the treatment⁵.

Three RCTs (CHANCE, FASTER, POINT) tested the combination of aspirin and clopidogrel versus aspirin and placebo (Table).¹⁻³ Only patients with mild ischemic stroke and high-risk TIA were included in those trials. Minor ischemic stroke was defined as a National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS) score of 3 or less in the POINT, CHANCE and FASTER trials. High-risk TIA was defined as an ABCD₂ score of 4 or more in CHANCE and POINT trials,^{1,3} while in the FASTER trial, TIA patients needed to have either weakness or speech disturbance as part of the symptom complex with a duration of at least 5 minutes to qualify for inclusion in the study.² More recently, one RCT (THALES) tested aspirin and ticagrelor versus aspirin and placebo in people with mild or moderate ischemic stroke, i.e. NIHSS score of 5 or less, or high-risk TIA defined as ABCD₂ score of 6 or more⁴ (Table 1).

It is not established if findings of RCTs can be replicated in real-life settings. In fact, to be included in the trials, patients had to meet strict inclusion and exclusion criteria which are not always fulfilled by patients, who in real-life receive DAPT. Patients with low-risk TIA or only possible TIA were not included in any of the identified RCTs. Moreover, definition of mild ischemic stroke was inconsistent among the RCTs, and patients eligible for revascularization procedures were excluded, as well as patients with events attributed to procedures such as carotid endarterectomy.

2. STUDY OBJECTIVES

The aim of the present study is to evaluate the benefits and harms of dual antiplatelet treatment in patients with mild-to-moderate acute ischemic stroke or high-risk TIA in a real-life setting. The study will aim to evaluate if findings of the RCTs can be replicated and to explore subgroup of patients who were not included in the trials for whom information was unclear. Additionally, this study will evaluate adherence to the prescribed treatment in a real-life setting.

3. METHODS

3.1 Study design

The study is a prospective observational multicenter Italian study.

3.2 Study setting

The study will involve patients from 126 Neurology departments and Stroke Units located in Italy and affiliated to the Italian Stroke Organization (ISO).

All Centers affiliated to the ISO were contacted. The list of participating Centers is reported in **Appendix 1**.

The University of L'Aquila and the Neurology department of SS Filippo e Nicola hospital in Avezzano will have the role of coordinating center.

Further centers could join the project depending on study needs. Participation of any new center must be approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of the coordinating center. A communication to the IRB of all the participating centers will be also sent.

3.3 Study population

The study will include consecutive patients referring to the selected Centers who fulfill the criteria to participate in the study.

3.4 Inclusion criteria

The study will include all subjects who meet all the following inclusion criteria:

1. Patients with mild or moderate non-cardioembolic ischemic stroke or high-risk TIA treated with a short course of DAPT (usually 21-30 days but up to 90-day at the physician's discretion) for the acute event;
2. Male or female aged at least 18 years;
3. Providing signed and dated informed consent form;
4. Willing to comply with all study procedures and to be available for the duration of the study.

As one the major study aim is to evaluate DAPT in the real-life setting, the protocol will not adopt predefined criteria to define mild-to-moderate ischemic stroke or high-risk TIA. Data on ischemic stroke severity as defined by the NIHSS and on TIA-related stroke risk as defined by the ABCD² score will be collected to stratify patients and perform subgroup analyses.

For the same reason we did not adopt any pre-defined inclusion criteria for initiation of DAPT after the acute event as one of the objectives of the study is to describe timing from acute event to initiation of the acute treatment and provide data for efficacy and safety stratified for subgroups.

Moreover, we will not adopt stringent criteria referring to duration of DAPT but we will try to maximize adherence to guidelines or treatment paradigm of the RCTs.¹⁻⁶ Conventional duration of DAPT is from 21 to 90 days.

We also recognize that at the time of starting the study, ticagrelor will be probably not approved in Italy for stroke prevention and thus patients treated with ticagrelor will not be included in the study. Anyhow, the protocol was drafted to allow the inclusion of patients treated with ticagrelor if the drug will receive the approval before study completion.

3.5 Exclusion criteria

Subjects presenting with the following characteristics will not be included in the study:

1. Patients receiving DAPTs after endovascular procedures with stenting;
2. Patients who are randomized in any interventional RCTs on stroke prevention;
3. Presence of any condition which at the physician judgement may preclude reliability of the collected information;

3.6 Variables of interest

The study will collect information on patients' characteristics, vascular risk factors, pre-event treatment, stroke severity (as measured by the NIHSS), ABCD² score, carotid or intracranial stenosis, pre- and post-event disability (as measured by the modified Rankin Scale [mRS] score), time from symptom onset to initiation of DAPT, type of DAPT with loading and daily dosage, duration of DAPT, neuroimaging characteristics, findings at examinations to ascertain the cause of the event, treatment in the acute phase (thrombolysis/thrombectomy), treatment at discharge, outcome and adverse events occurring during the follow-up.

A detailed list of the variables of interest which will be collected for the present study is reported in the **Appendix 2** which displays the baseline case report form (CRF) of the study.

3.7 Recruitment

Each participating center will be requested to include in the study all consecutive patients (hospitalized or non-hospitalized) who will meet inclusion criteria for the study. We anticipate that the study will mostly include patients who will be hospitalized for the index event. Inclusion of non-hospitalized patients managed in the emergency department of dedicated TIA outpatient clinics will be allowed and encouraged.

3.8 Study duration

Recruitment period will last two years from the approval of the Institutional Review Board of the coordinating center. Follow-up will last for 90 days for each included patient.

3.9 Follow-up

A single follow-up visit will be scheduled for each patient at 90±5 days from symptom onset. Follow-up visits may be in-person or via a telephone call depending on the center practice. Scheduled telephone calls will be performed by trained research staff or health care staff at the local clinic. Consent to be contacted for a telephone interview is included in the consent form subscribed before inclusion in the study.

At the follow-up visit the local PI or the co-investigators will fill-in the control visit data collection form. The detailed list of variables of interest for the follow-up visit can be found in the follow-up CRF shown in **Appendix 3**.

3.10 Study Outcomes

The primary efficacy outcome will be a composite of new stroke events (ischemic or hemorrhagic) or death at 90 days.

The primary safety outcome will be any moderate-to-severe bleeding event.

Key secondary efficacy outcomes will include ischemic stroke, intracerebral hemorrhage, subarachnoid hemorrhage, myocardial infarction, vascular death, and any hospitalization. Key secondary outcome will also include disability as measured by the mRS and adherence to DAPT and other stroke preventive agents.

Secondary safety outcome will include minor bleeding events.

Outcomes will be adjudicated at each center by the local Principal Investigator (PI). Adjudication of outcomes will be based on review of medical charts.

3.11 Study procedures

The study is observational and no change in diagnostic and treatments procedures will be made. Patients will be treated according to the doctor's decisions and in line with the available guidelines and current good clinical practice.

Data will be collected locally by physicians and other health care professionals involved in patient care. At each visit, a paper copy of collected data for each included patient will have to be stored at local Centers. The paper copy will contain demographic information, along with a patient ID that will be unique for each patient and will be created upon insertion of the data in the e-CRF. The record ID of the patient will be requested in the e-CRF at follow-up visits. Only local Centers will know the identity of included patients. In the e-CRF patients will be identified by their ID.

4. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Statistical analyses will be performed by the statistical data manager under the advice of the SC.

All analyses will be performed according to the intention-to-treat principle in all patients died within 90 days or completing the 90-day follow-up.

Descriptive statistics will be used to report baseline information.

We will analyze the time from event to the first occurrence of primary and secondary outcome events with the use of a Cox proportional hazards model. We will use two statistical models; Model 1 will be unadjusted, while Model 2 will be adjusted for age, arterial hypertension, diabetes mellitus, cigarette smoking, and baseline mRS score. P values for interaction will be calculated according to the following subgroups: type of event (ischemic stroke vs TIA), time to DAPT (≤ 24 hours vs > 24 hours from symptom onset), type of DAPT (aspirin+clopidogrel vs aspirin+ticagrelor), DAPT duration (≤ 21 vs > 21 days and ≤ 30 vs > 30 days), NIHSS score at onset (≤ 3 vs > 3 and ≤ 5 vs > 5), revascularization procedure (i.v. thrombolysis and/or mechanical thrombectomy vs no interventions). Hazard ratios with 95% confidence intervals will be reported. Should multiple events of the same type occur, the time to the first event will be used in the model. Data from patients who had no events during the study will be censored at the time of study termination or death.

Assuming a 95% confidence interval, we estimate that a sample size of 347 subjects would be required to detect a 6% proportion of primary outcome occurrence with a two-sided 5% margin of error. The 6% proportion was taken from the THALES trial.⁴

Tests will be two-sided, and a P value of 0.05 will be considered to indicate statistical significance. All statistical analyses will be performed with the use of SPSS software.

5. ETHICS

5.1 Ethical approval

The study will be firstly approved by the Institutional Review Board of the coordinating center and then submitted to local Ethic Committee (EC) or IRB of all the participating centers.

All study procedures will start after EC or IRB approval. Additionally, any other necessary approvals required by sites will be obtained prior to initiation of the study at each site.

Each center will be in charge of storing its own Ethical Documentation.

5.2 Patient Information Sheet and patient informed consent

The patient information sheet and informed consent have to be approved at each study site. A master patient information sheet and informed consent form will be provided to all participating centers in Italian language. Each Center will be in charge adapt to local procedures.

The research staff will seek consent from any eligible patient for enrolment into the study. At the time of the first visit an explanation of the study, a patient information sheet, and an informed consent form will be provided. Adult patients able to understand the study information must personally sign the informed consent form before being included in the study. In the presence of aphasia or any other condition impairing the ability to provide an informed consent, the consent will be requested to the patients' legal representatives or to a proxy.

Signed informed consent forms will be stored locally upon the responsibility of the local PI, who will be responsible for providing them upon request of authorized auditors and authorities.

5.3 Privacy of data

The CRF includes anonymized data which will not allow to identify or contact the patient. Only the recruiting center will be aware of the patient identity.

5.4 Withdrawal from participation

Included patients may request to have their information deleted from the study at any time. Included patients do not have to disclose their reasons for withdrawal of consent. The local PI will inform the study manager and include a record of end of study participation.

5.5 Modifications of the study protocol

Any modification of the registry protocol, including substantial changes in collected information, will require a formal amendment to the protocol.

5.6 Risk analysis

The study is observational and does not change the usual clinical practice. The study does not put patients at any specific risk related to study procedures.

5.7 Premature termination of the study

This study may be suspended or prematurely terminated for predictable and unpredictable causes. Premature termination of the study can be decided by the SC. Circumstances that may warrant termination include, but are not limited to:

- Insufficient adherence to protocol requirements.
- Data that are not sufficiently complete and/or evaluable.

- Determination of futility.

If the study is prematurely terminated or suspended, the local PI will promptly inform the EC and will provide the reason(s) for suspension or termination.

6. DATA SECURITY, MANAGEMENT, QUALITY, AND PROPERTY

6.1 Data collection and storage

Data will be collected using the REDcap software. Detailed information on security of the system can be found at <https://projectredcap.org>.

The local PI or the co-investigators will be able to upload patient data through a single form specifically created for the study, which will include a user-friendly drop-down menu.

Anonymized data are stored on a secured server upon the responsibility of University of L'Aquila. The data are automatically backed-up once a week.

Data will not be shared with unauthorized persons.

6.2 Quality management

The database incorporates automated inputs to prevent errors.

Plausibility of the entered data will be checked. After data from each CRF is entered into the registry, data will be manually verified by the study manager and the statistical data manager and data queries will be resolved with the study site. Cases with missing data or unresolved queries will be rejected to ensure only the highest quality data are retained in the registry.

Data from centers not ensuring consecutive recruitment of patients or adequate follow-up will not be included in the final data base.

6.3 Property of data

Aggregated data belong to the ISO.

6.4 Governance of data

Local PIs will have unrestricted access to the data of their patients. The study SC, the study manager, and the statistical data manager will have access to the whole database.

Data from the study can be shared upon reasonable request and for scientific purposes only after the approval of all the members of the SC.

7. STUDY MANAGEMENT

The study has a SC who is responsible of the study design and the whole project. The study will have a study manager and a statistical data manager.

The study manager will create and manage the electronic CRF. Upon the course of the study, the study manager will check the quality of the data entered into the database and contact centers sending queries to solve possible problems. The study manager will issue a periodic newsletter for study participants reporting progresses of the study and will provide reminds to participating centers for follow-up visits.

The statistical data manager will be in charge of exporting data from the server and of providing preliminary reports. The statistical data manager will perform all the statistical analyses under the guide of the SC.

7.1 Local study staff

Each center will be led by a local PI. The local PI will select the local co-investigators. Participation of the local co-investigators has to be approved by the local EC or IRB. The local PI will inform the SC and the study manager of the personnel involved in the study and of any change that may occur over time. The study manager will store a list of all the investigators contributing to the study and will update this list as needed.

7.2 Staff training

The study manager will perform a specific training upon request from the involved clinical site before starting enrollment. The training will be done remotely. During the training all the study procedures will be explained to the local PI and coinvestigators and CRF will be explained in detail.

8. FUNDINGS AND STUDY COSTS

This is a no-profit study. Local PIs and co-investigators will not have to pay any fee to participate in the project and will not be compensated. All procedures will be covered through the standard of care insurance or public health system covering the patients' medical care. Participants will receive no payment for participation in this study.

The present study may receive funding by application to research agencies or private parties. Any funding shall be approved by the SC and managed through the ISO office or University Departments.

9. DATA SHARING AND PUBLICATIONS

9.1 Scientific publications

Data from this study will lead to aggregated reports which will be published in Scientific Journals and presented at national and international conferences.

The publication plan is decided by the SC. Proposals of publications can also be received by the local PIs. Any proposal of data analysis and publication derived from this study has to be approved by the SC. Each proposal must report a clear aim and a detailed statistical analysis plan.

For each approved publication the SC will designate one leading (first author of the paper) and one guarantee author (last author of the paper). The leading author will be in charge of drafting the manuscript, of organizing the statistical analyses, and coordinating the study group. The guarantee author will support the leading author in writing the manuscript, in revising the text and in all the procedures which will be necessary to finalize the project.

9.2 Authorship

To meet authorship criteria, local investigators shall include all consecutive patients meeting study criteria and provide the complete follow-up data for each included and consenting patient. Investigators from centers with poor data quality which will not be included in the analysis will not meet authorship criteria.

Maximal effort will be done to include the local investigators of the participating centers as study contributors in all the publications derived from the study. When Journals will put a limit in the number of contributing authors, selection for authorship will be done by giving priority to one investigator per center as first criterion and to the centers including higher number of patients as second criterion. In any case, all local PIs and co-investigators will receive group

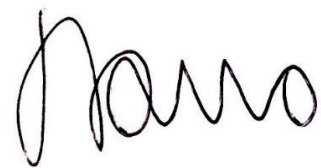
authorship in every publication derived from this study; in this case “on behalf of the Italian Stroke Organization” will be used as the preferred terminology to assign group authorship.

9.3 Costs of publications

The SC may ask to the ISO to cover the publication fees for articles published in open-access journals. Other funding to cover publication costs can be searched. Any funding should be approved by the study SC. Funding can be used also to cover possible costs for medical writing of statistical analyses.

Avezzano, 24 December 2020

Professor Simona Sacco

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sacco', written in a cursive style.

REFERENCES

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Table 1. Randomized Clinical Trials on short-term Dual Antiplatelets Treatments in patients with ischemic stroke or Transient Ischemic attack.

Trial	Age range	Time-window	Population	Main exclusion criteria	Treatment regimen	Dual antiplatelet treatment duration
CHANCE ¹	≥40 years	≤24 h	-Ischemic stroke with NIHSS ≤ 3 - High-risk TIA (ABCD ² ≥4)	TIA with isolated sensory symptoms (i.e., numbness), isolated visual changes, or isolated dizziness or vertigo; thrombolysis for the event; pre-morbid mRS≥2; anticipated use of NSAIDs; use of anticoagulants within 10 days before randomization; planned or probable revascularization; TIA or minor stroke caused by procedure	Aspirin: loading dose 75-300 mg followed by 75 mg daily Clopidogrel: loading dose of 300 mg followed by 75 mg daily aspirin on days 22 through 90.	21 days
FASTER ²	≥40 years	≤24 h (efforts to have a relevant proportion of patients starting treatment ≤ 12 h)	-Ischemic stroke with NIHSS ≤ 3 -TIA (defined by weakness or speech disturbance, dysarthria or dysphasia, for greater than 5 min)	Acute coronary syndrome, pre-morbid mRS≥3, event secondary to a procedure (ie, carotid stenting)	Aspirin: loading dose of 162 mg (if patients were naïve to aspirin) followed by 81 mg daily Clopidogrel: 300 mg loading dose followed by 75 mg daily	90 days
POINT ³	≥18 years	≤12 h	-Ischemic stroke with NIHSS ≤ 3 -High-risk TIA (ABCD ² ≥4)	Candidates for thrombolysis, endovascular therapy, or endarterectomy; use of NSAIDs for more than 7 days during the trial period	Aspirin: 50- 325 mg daily Clopidogrel: 600-mg loading dose followed by 75 mg daily.	90 days
THALES ⁴	≥40 years	≤24 h within onset or from the last time seen well	-Ischemic stroke with NIHSS ≤5 -TIA with ABCD ² ≥6 or symptomatic intracranial or extracranial arterial stenosis (≥50% narrowing in the diameter of the lumen of an artery that could account for the TIA)	Intravenous or intraarterial thrombolysis or mechanical thrombectomy; history of atrial fibrillation or ventricular aneurysm or a suspicion of a cardioembolic cause of the TIA or stroke, planned carotid endarterectomy; major surgery within 30 days before randomization	Aspirin: loading dose of 300- 325 mg followed by 75-100 mg daily Ticagrelor: 180 mg loading dose followed by 90 mg daily	30 days

Abbreviations in the table: modified Rankin scale (mRS); National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS); Transient ischemic attack (TIA); Non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)

Appendix 1: Center List

Center	City (district)	Principal investigator	Contact
Unità di trattamento neurovascolare, Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Policlinico Umberto I	Roma (RM)	Danilo Toni	danilo.toni@uniroma1.it
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Neurologia, Ospedale SS Annunziata	Sulmona (AQ)	Mario Di Napoli	mariodinapoli@katamail.com
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Appendix 1: Center List

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Neurologia e Stroke Unit, ASUR Marche AV2 Jesi	Jesi (AN)	Emanuele Medici	emanuelemedici@yahoo.it
Neurologia, Ospedale Vito Fazi	Lecce (LE)	Leonardo Barbarini	clasi33@libero.it
Stroke Unit, Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Sant'Andrea	Roma (RM)	Mario Beccia	beccia.mario@gmail.com
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Neurologia e Stroke Unit, ASST Settelaghi	Varese (VA)	Federico Carimati	federico.carimati@asst-settelaghi.it
Neurologia, ASUR Area Vasta 4 (ex ZT11)	Fermo (FM)	Patrizio Cardinali	patrizio.cardinali@sanita.marche.it
Stroke Unit, Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria Careggi	Firenze (FI)	Patrizia Nencini	nencinip@aou-careggi.toscana.it
Neurologia Ospedale Sant'Andrea, Azienda Sanitaria Locale n. 5 "Spezzino" La Spezia	La Spezia (SP)	Elisa Giorli	Elisa.giorli@me.com

Appendix 1: Center List

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Neurologia e Stroke Unit, Ospedale Santa Maria delle Croci	Ravenna (RA)	Pietro Querzani	pietro.querzani@auslromagna.it
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Neurologia e Stroke Unit, Ospedale di Desio ASST Monza	Desio (MB)	Ignazio Santilli	i.santilli@asst-monza.it
Neurologia Terapia Sub-Intensiva Stroke Unit, Azienda ospedaliera Santa Maria di Terni	Terni (TR)	Carlo Colosimo	c.colosimo@aosp terni.it
Medicina e Chirurgia d'Accettazione e d'Urgenza Azienda USL 6 Livorno	Livorno (LI)	Paolo Pennati	paolo.pennati@uslnordovest.toscana.it
Stroke Unit, Ospedale San Giacomo	Novi Ligure (AL)	Eugenia Rota	eugenia.rota.md@gmail.com
Neurologia, Casa sollievo della sofferenza	San Giovanni Rotondo (FG)	Pietro Di Viesti	pietro.diviesti@gmail.com
Neurologia e Stroke Unit Ospedale di Legnano	Legnano (MI)	Francesco Muscia	francesco.muscia@asst-ovestmi.it
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Appendix 1: Center List

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Neurologia, Azienda Ospedaliera Cannizzaro	Catania (CT)	Maria Giovanna Pennisi	mariagiovannapennisi@virgilio.it
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Clinica Neurologica e Stroke Unit Ospedali Riuniti Ancona	Ancona (AN)	Giovanna Viticchi	viticchi.g@gmail.com
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Neurologia e Stroke Unit, Ospedale San Giuseppe	Milano (MI)	Paola Santalucia	p_santalucia@hotmail.com
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Appendix 1: Center List

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Appendix 1: Center List

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Appendix 1: Center List

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Neurologia e Stroke Unit, Ospedale S Elia	Caltanissetta (CL)	Maria Giovanna Randisi	giovannarandisi@gmail.com

Baseline CRF

Please fill in the survey to record baseline characteristic of your patient.

Please notice that patients, who early discontinue the dual antiplatelet treatment SHOULD be included.

Please refer to this link for the study protocol, CRF instructions and more useful tools:<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vdMcXNSho0IFpv2AcZ1f8ArnrjPNoG33?usp=sharing>

1. DEMOGRAPHICS

Center and patient's code (please note the code on patient's documents, it will be necessary for the follow-up CRF)

(Please insert the XXX code of the center followed by patient's number 000)

Was the patient hospitalized?

- Yes
 No

Duration of the hospitalization (days)

Gender

- Male
 Female

Race

- White
 Black
 Asian
 Other

Date of birth

Height (cm)

Weight (kg)

Body Mass Index (kg/m²)

(This field is automatically calculated)

2. RISK FACTORS, COMORBIDITIES AND MEDICAL HISTORY

Current or previous cigarette smoker

- Yes
 No

Smoking status

- Current
 Former

Arterial hypertension

- Yes
 No

Diabetes mellitus

- Yes
 No

Hypercholesterolemia

- Yes
 No

Hypertriglyceridemia

- Yes
 No

History of cancer

- Yes-current
 Yes-past *
 No
 (* absence of disease in the past 5 years, otherwise consider the option "current")

Type of cancer

- Gastrointestinal cancer
 Lung cancer
 Prostate cancer
 Breast/ovarian cancer
 Hematopoietic/lymphoid cancer
 Skin cancer
 Other

Previous history of ischemic stroke or TIA

- Yes
 No

Type of previous ischemic event

- Ischemic stroke
 TIA

Previous history of intracerebral hemorrhage

- Yes
 No

Location of previous intracerebral hemorrhage

- Lobar
 Non-lobar
 Uncertain
 (For the classification please refer to https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/1535936/1/Werring_Th)

History of myocardial infarction

- Yes
 No

History of angina Yes
 No

Congestive heart failure Yes
 No

Valvular heart disease Yes
 No

Peripheral artery disease Yes
 No

Vascular disease (prior myocardial infarction,
peripheral vascular disease or aortic plaque)

(This field is automatically calculated)

3. PREVIOUS OR CONCOMITANT MEDICATIONS

Was the patient taking aspirin before the event? Yes
 No

Was the patient taking clopidogrel before the event? Yes
 No

Was the patient taking ticagrelor before the event? Yes
 No

Was the patient taking a statin before the event? Yes
 No

Was the patient taking any antihypertensive before
the event? Yes
 No

Was the patient taking any antidiabetic treatment
before the event? Yes
 No

modified Rankin Scale score before the event

4. INDEX EVENT

Date of the event

Was the event related to a procedure (event occurring
after endarterectomy, coronary stenting, or any
other procedure)? Yes
 No

Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)

Diastolic blood pressure (mmHg)

Symptoms duration >24 h
 < 24 h

Presence of a lesion in CT or MRI scan consistent with symptoms Yes
 No

NIHSS score at onset or before any acute procedure

(In case of TIA please report 0)

Was the patient treated with intravenous thrombolysis? Yes
 No

Was the patient treated with endovascular treatment? Yes
 No

Was the patient treated with carotid endoarterectomy? Yes
 No

Days from onset to carotid endoarterectomy

Hemorrhagic infarction Yes asymptomatic
 Yes symptomatic (sICH)
 No
 Unknown
(sICH defined according to SITS-MOST: Parenchymal hematoma H2 or Parenchymal hematoma r2 on imaging 22 to 36 hours after treatment, or earlier if scanned because of clinical deterioration, combined with a neurologic deterioration of ≥ 4 NIHSS points or leading to death within 24 hours (Neurology 2015;85:2098-2106))

Classification of hemorrhagic infarction HI1: Scattered small petechiae, no mass effect
 HI2: Confluent petechiae, no mass effect
 PH1: Hematoma within infarcted tissue, occupying < 30%, no substantive mass effect
 PH2: Hematoma occupying 30% or more of the infarcted tissue, with obvious mass effect
 PH remote from infarcted brain tissue
 Intraventricular hemorrhage
 Subarachnoid hemorrhage
 Subdural hemorrhage
(PH= parenchymal hematoma; HI=Hemorrhagic infarction REFERENCE: Stroke. 2015;46:2981-2986.)

Date of hemorrhagic infarction

Days to hemorrhagic infarction

(This field is automatically calculated)

NIHSS score at 24 h from onset

modified Rankin scale at discharge

4.1. CLINICAL PRESENTATION

Symptoms of the event (select all that apply)

- Motor weakness
- Aphasia
- Dysarthria
- Sensory disturbance
- Visual field defect
- Diplopia
- Vertigo
- Loss of balance
- Monocular visual loss
- Other

Symptom location

- Unknown
- Right hemisphere or eye
- Left hemisphere or eye
- Posterior circulation
- Multiple vascular districts

Age

(This field is automatically calculated)

Age ≥ 60 years

(This field is automatically calculated)

Age 65-74 years

(This field is automatically calculated)

Age ≥ 75 years

(This field is automatically calculated)

BP $\geq 140/90$ mmHg

- Yes
 - No
- (Initial BP. Either SBP ≥ 140 or DBP ≥ 90)

Clinical features of the TIA

- Unilateral weakness
- Speech disturbances without weakness
- Other symptoms

Duration of TIA symptoms

- < 10 minutes
- 10-59 minutes
- ≥ 60 minutes

ABCD₂ score

(This field is automatically calculated)

CHA₂DS₂-VASc

(This field is automatically calculated)

4.2 EXAMINATIONS

Examinations performed (select all that apply)

- ECG
- Epi-aortic doppler ultrasonography
- CT extracranial angiography
- MRI extracranial angiography
- Transcranial doppler
- CT intracranial angiography
- MRI intracranial angiography
- Angiography
- Transthoracic echocardiogram
- Transthoracic echocardiogram with bubble study
- Transesophageal echocardiogram
- Transesophageal echocardiogram with bubble study
- Immunologic screening
- Coagulation screening

Brain CT

- Yes
- No

Brain CT timing

- Acute (within 24h from onset) only
- Follow-up (24h or more from onset) only
- Both acute and follow-up

CT markers of small vessel disease

- Leukoaraiosis
 - Prior lacunar infarcts (asymptomatic)
 - None
- (REFERENCE: Neurol 2020;94:e439-e452)

Leukoaraiosis severity (anterior regions)

- No lucency
 - Lucency restricted to region adjoining ventricles
 - Lucency covering entire region from lateral ventricle to cortex
- (REFERENCE: Neurol 2020;94:e439-e452)

Leukoaraiosis severity (posterior regions)

- No lucency
 - Lucency restricted to region adjoining ventricles
 - Lucency covering entire region from lateral ventricle to cortex
- (REFERENCE: Neurol 2020;94:e439-e452)

Leukoaraiosis score

(This field is automatically calculated)

Ischemic lesion volume at brain CT (ml)

(Estimated on the brain CT performed after the acute phase by the ABC/2 method. Reference can be found here: <https://radiopaedia.org/articles/abc2>. Please report "0" if lesion is absent.)

Brain MRI

- Yes
- No

Number of acute lesions at brain MRI

- None
- One
- Two
- More than two

Were the lesions in the same vascular territory?

- Yes
 No

MRI markers of small vessel disease (select all that apply)

- White matter hyperintensity
 Lacune
 Perivascular space
 Cerebral microbleeds
 Brain atrophy
 Cortical superficial siderosis
 None
 (REFERENCE: Lancet Neurol 2013 Aug;12(8):822-38)

Fazekas scale for white matter lesions (periventricular white matter)

- No white matter lesions (grade 0)
 "Caps" or pencil-thin lining (grade 1)
 Smooth "halo" (grade 2)
 Irregular periventricular signal extending into the deep white matter (grade 3)
 (REFERENCE:
<https://radiopaedia.org/articles/fazekas-scale-for-white-mat>

Fazekas scale for white matter lesions (deep white matter)

- No white matter lesions (grade 0)
 Punctate foci (grade 1)
 Beginning confluence (grade 2)
 Large confluent areas (grade 3)
 (REFERENCE:
<https://radiopaedia.org/articles/fazekas-scale-for-white-mat>

Ischemic lesion volume at brain MRI (ml)

(Estimated by the ABC/2 method. If multiple acute lesions, consider the larger one. Reference can be found here:
<https://radiopaedia.org/articles/abc2>. Please report "0" if lesion is absent.)

Electrocardiography monitoring

- Yes
 No

Duration of electrocardiography monitoring

- < 24 hours
 24 hours-7 days
 7-30 days
 >30 days

5. CAUSE OF THE EVENT

Presence of right carotid stenosis/occlusion

- Yes
 No
 Unknown (not performed examinations to explore extracranial arteries)

Degree of right carotid stenosis

- 1-30%
 31-49%
 50-69%
 70-99%
 Occlusion

Presence of left carotid stenosis/occlusion	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown (not performed examinations to explore extracranial arteries)
Degree of left carotid stenosis	<input type="radio"/> 1-30% <input type="radio"/> 31-49% <input type="radio"/> 50-69% <input type="radio"/> 70-99% <input type="radio"/> Occlusion
Presence of vertebrobasilar stenosis/occlusion	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Vertebrobasilar stenosis/occlusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Right vertebral artery <input type="checkbox"/> Left vertebral artery <input type="checkbox"/> Basilar artery
Presence of intracranial stenosis?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown (not performed examinations to explore intracranial arteries)
Symptomatic intracranial stenosis (i.e. consistent with symptoms of index event)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Presence of aortic arch plaque?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown
Presence of patent foramen ovale (PFO)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown (PFO identified through transthoracic, transesophageal echocardiography or transcranial doppler with bubble study)
Other anatomic features associated with PFO	<input type="checkbox"/> Atrial septal aneurysm <input type="checkbox"/> Hypertrophy of the interatrial septum <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of the Eustachian valve <input type="checkbox"/> Aortic root dilation <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Severity of the shunt	<input type="radio"/> 1-10 MES small shunt <input type="radio"/> > 10 MES medium shunt <input type="radio"/> > 10 MES with "curtain effect," large shunt
Cause of the event	<input type="radio"/> Large vessel stroke <input type="radio"/> Lacunar stroke <input type="radio"/> Stroke or TIA due to other defined cause <input type="radio"/> Stroke or TIA of undetermined cause (In case of PFO check "stroke of undetermined cause")
Other determined cause:	<input type="radio"/> dissection <input type="radio"/> vasculitis <input type="radio"/> hypercoagulable state <input type="radio"/> other

Undetermined cause:

- more than one probable cause
- negative evaluation
- incomplete evaluation

Does the event fulfill the characteristics of ESUS?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable (required examinations not performed)

(DEFINITION: Non-lacunar ischemic stroke; absence of atherosclerosis causing >50% stenosis in arteries supplying ischemic area; no major risk cardioembolic source, no other specific cause of stroke identified. REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS: imaging of the brain, intra- and extracranial vessels, 12-lead ECG, ≥24h cardiac monitoring, and precordial echocardiography. REFERENCE: Lancet Neurol 2014;13:429-438.)

6. ANTIPLATELET TREATMENT

Type of dual antiplatelet treatment

- clopidogrel and aspirin
- ticagrelor and aspirin

Timing of initiation of dual antiplatelet treatment

- < 12 h
- 12-24 h
- 25-48 h
- >48 h

Did the patient receive a loading dose of aspirin?

- Yes
- No

Did the patient receive a clopidogrel loading dose?

- Yes
- No

Did the patient receive a ticagrelor loading dose?

- Yes
- No

Follow-up CRF

Please complete the survey below adding the follow-up data of your patients.

Thank you!

Please refer to this link for the study protocol, CRF instructions and more useful tools:<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vdMcXNSHo0IFpv2AcZ1f8ArnrJPN0G33?usp=sharing>

Center and patient's code (please insert the code reported on the baseline CRF)

(Please insert the XXX code of the center followed by patient's number 000)

Lost to follow-up?

- Yes
 No

1. ANTIPLATELET TREATMENT DURATION

Date of dual antiplatelet treatment start

Was the patient compliant with the prescribed dose and duration of dual antiplatelet?

- Yes
 No

Did the patient early discontinue the treatment with dual antiplatelet?

- Yes
 No

Which was the antiplatelet discontinued? (Select all that apply)

- Cardioaspirin
 Ticagrelor/clopidogrel

Reason for early dual antiplatelet discontinuation

- Adverse events
 Lack of compliance
 Diagnosis of atrial fibrillation or other condition requiring anticoagulant treatment
 Other

Adverse event leading to discontinuation

- Allergic reaction
 Bleeding

Duration of treatment with dual antiplatelet (days)

Antiplatelet prescribed after DAPT cessation

- Aspirin
 Clopidogrel
 Ticagrelor
 None

2. VISIT DETAILS, COMPLIANCE TO TREATMENTS AND OTHER THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

Date of follow-up visit

Type of visit

- On site
 Remote

	Yes	No	N/A (not prescribed)
Compliance to antihypertensives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Compliance to statins	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Compliance to antidiabetics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Did the patient undergo endarterectomy?

- Yes
 No
 N/A (not applicable)

Did the patient undergo PFO closure?

- Yes
 No
 N/A (not applicable)

3. OUTCOMES

Ischemic stroke or TIA

- Yes
 No

Symptoms duration

- >24 h
 < 24 h

Presence of a lesion in CT or MRI scan consistent with symptoms?

- Yes
 No

Date of ischemic event

Days to ischemic event

(This field is automatically calculated)

Symptom location

- Unknown
 Right hemisphere or eye
 Left hemisphere or eye
 Posterior circulation
 Multiple vascular districts

NIHSS score of ischemic stroke at onset

(In case of TIA please report 0)

Clinical features of TIA

- Unilateral weakness
 Speech disturbances without weakness
 Other symptoms

Duration of TIA symptoms

- < 10 minutes
 10-59 minutes
 ≥60 minutes

Cause of the ischemic stroke or TIA

- Large vessel stroke
 Lacunar stroke
 Cardioembolism
 Stroke or TIA due to other defined cause
 Stroke or TIA of undetermined cause

Other determined cause of the ischemic stroke or TIA

- dissection
 vasculitis
 hypercoagulable state
 other

Undetermined cause

- more than one probable cause
 negative evaluation
 incomplete evaluation

Does the ischemic stroke fulfill the characteristics of ESUS?

- Yes
 No
 Not applicable (required examinations not performed)
 (DEFINITION: Non-lacunar ischemic stroke; absence of atherosclerosis causing >50% stenosis in arteries supplying ischemic area; no major risk cardioembolic source, no other specific cause of stroke identified. REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS: imaging of the brain, intra- and extracranial vessels, 12-lead ECG, ≥24h cardiac monitoring, and precordial echocardiography. REFERENCE: Lancet Neurol 2014;13:429-438.)

Intracerebral hemorrhage

- Yes
 No

Date of intracerebral hemorrhage

Days to intracerebral hemorrhage

(This field is automatically calculated)

NIHSS score of intracerebral hemorrhage at onset

Intracerebral hemorrhage location

- Lobar
 Non-lobar
 Uncertain
 (For the classification please refer to

https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/1535936/1/Werring_Th

Intracerebral hemorrhage cause

Probable amyloid angiopathy (lobar location AND age >55 years)
 Hypertensive angiopathy (SBP>160mmHg OR DBP>100mmHg OR history of antihypertensive medication)
 Other/Unknown
 (Hypertensive patients aged >55 years and with lobar ICH are included in the "Probable amyloid angiopathy" category)

Subarachnoid hemorrhage

Yes
 No

Date of subarachnoid hemorrhage

Days to subarachnoid hemorrhage

(This field is automatically calculated)

Other intracranial bleeding

Yes
 No
 (Intracranial bleeding is an hemorrhage within the cranial vault regardless the etiology)

Type of intracranial bleeding

Subdural hematoma
 Epidural hematoma
 Other
 (Intracranial bleeding is an hemorrhage within the cranial vault regardless the etiology)

Date of intracranial bleeding

(Intracranial bleeding is an hemorrhage within the cranial vault regardless the etiology)

Days to intracranial bleeding

(This field is automatically calculated)

Myocardial infarction

Yes
 No

Date of myocardial infarction

Days to myocardial infarction

(This field is automatically calculated)

Vascular death (i.e. death due to stroke (ischemic or hemorrhagic), systemic hemorrhage, myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, pulmonary embolism, sudden death, or arrhythmia)

Yes
 No

Date of vascular death

Days to vascular death

(This field is automatically calculated)

Non-vascular death (i.e. death occurring for any cause different from those of the previous variable)

- Yes
 No
-

Date of non-vascular death

Days to non-vascular death

(This field is automatically calculated)

Any hospitalization

- Yes
 No
-

Date of hospitalization

Days to hospitalization

(This field is automatically calculated)

Severe bleeding (i.e. fatal hemorrhage or hemorrhage causing hemodynamic compromise that required blood or fluid replacement, inotropic support, or surgical intervention)

- Yes
 No
-

Date of severe bleeding

Days to severe intracranial bleeding

(This field is automatically calculated)

Moderate bleeding (i.e. bleeding that required transfusion of blood but did not lead to hemodynamic compromise requiring intervention)

- Yes
 No
-

Date of moderate bleeding

Days to moderate bleeding

(This field is automatically calculated)

Minor bleeding (i.e. any bleeding not requiring blood transfusion and not leading to hemodynamic compromise)

- Yes
 No
-

Date of minor bleeding

Days to minor bleeding

(This field is automatically calculated)

modified Rankin Scale score at 90 days
