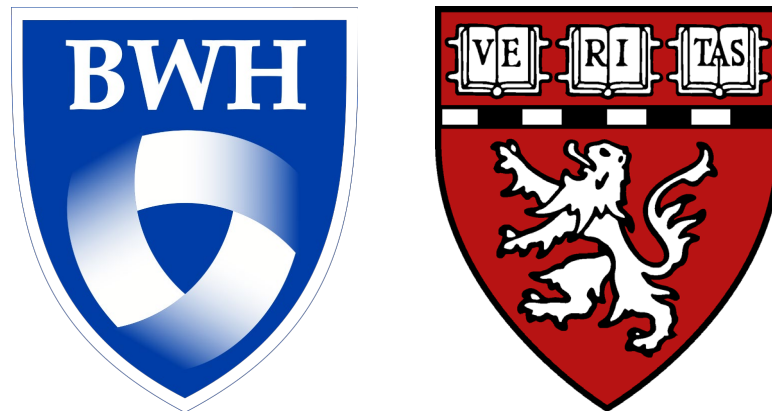


Effects of Finerenone in Renin-Angiotensin System Inhibitor-Naïve Participants in the FINEARTS-HF Trial



Finnian R. Mc Causland¹; Muthiah Vaduganathan¹; Brian L. Claggett¹; Akshay S. Desai¹; Pardeep S. Jhund²; Carolyn SP Lam³; Adriaan A. Voors⁴; Michele Senni⁵; Faiez Zannad⁶; Bertram Pitt⁷; John JV McMurray²; Scott D. Solomon¹

¹Brigham & Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA; ²University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom; ³National Heart Centre Singapore & Duke-National University of Singapore, Singapore; ⁴University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands; ⁵University of Milano-Bicocca ASST Papa Giovanni XXIII Hospital, Bergamo, Italy; ⁶University of Lorraine, Nancy, France; ⁷University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States

INTRODUCTION

- Renin-angiotensin system (RAS) inhibitors are considered foundational therapy for patients with several cardio-kidney-metabolic conditions.
- Finerenone, a non-steroidal mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist, was initially tested among patients with type 2 diabetes and CKD who were on maximally tolerated doses of RAS inhibitors.^{1,2}
- Whether the effects of finerenone differ by background use of RAS inhibitors among patients with heart failure (HF) is not clear.

AIMS

- Explore for differential treatment effects of finerenone according to baseline use of RAS inhibitors among participants of the Finerenone Trial to Investigate Efficacy and Safety Superior to Placebo in Patients with Heart Failure (FINEARTS-HF)³; a randomized trial of finerenone vs. placebo among patients with HF with mildly reduced or preserved ejection fraction.

METHODS

- We performed a prespecified analysis of the FINEARTS-HF trial (N=6,001), using semi-parametric models, stratified by left ventricular ejection fraction (<60, ≥60%) and region.
- RASi inhibitors included angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEi), angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), and angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitors (ARNi) at baseline.
- The primary outcome was the composite of cardiovascular death and total HF events. We also examined total and first worsening HF events.

RESULTS

Table 1. Baseline characteristics according to baseline use of RASi.

	No RASi	RASi
	n=1,242	n=4,759
Age, years	74 ± 10	71 ± 10
Female, n(%)	623 (50.2%)	2109 (44.3%)
Race, n(%)		
Asian	277 (22.3%)	719 (15.1%)
Black	23 (1.9 %)	65 (1.4 %)
Other	20 (1.6 %)	162 (3.4 %)
White	922 (74.2%)	3813 (80.1%)
Geographic Region, n(%)		
Asia	270 (21.7%)	713 (15.0%)
Eastern Europe	385 (31.0%)	2265 (47.6%)
Latin America	92 (7.4 %)	549 (11.5%)
North America	172 (13.8%)	299 (6.3 %)
Western Europe, Oceania and Others	323 (26.0%)	933 (19.6%)
Any prior hospitalization for HF, n(%)	809 (65.1%)	2810 (59.0%)
Systolic blood pressure, mmHg	127 ± 16	130 ± 15
Body-mass index, kg/m ²	29.2 ± 6.3	30.1 ± 6.1
Serum creatinine, mg/dL	1.2 ± 0.4	1.1 ± 0.4
eGFR, mL/min/1.73 m ²	59 ± 20	63 ± 20
Urine albumin:creatinine ratio, mg/g	19 [8, 77]	18 [7, 65]
Serum potassium, mmol/L	4.3 ± 0.5	4.4 ± 0.5
Left ventricular ejection fraction, (%)	54 ± 8	52 ± 8
NT-proBNP, pg/mL	1294 [591, 2427]	980 [424, 1833]
History of hypertension, n(%)	951 (76.6%)	4374 (91.9%)
History of Diabetes, n(%)	450 (36.2%)	1989 (41.8%)
History of stroke, n(%)	164 (13.2%)	544 (11.4%)
History of myocardial infarction, n(%)	243 (19.6%)	1298 (27.3%)
Beta-blocker, n(%)	1008 (81.2%)	4087 (85.9%)
Loop diuretic, n(%)	1141 (91.9%)	4098 (86.1%)
Thiazide diuretic, n(%)	77 (6.2 %)	754 (15.8%)
SGLT2i, n(%)	143 (11.5%)	674 (14.2%)
ACE inhibitor, n(%)	-	2155 (45.3%)
ARB, n(%)	-	2102 (44.2%)
ARNi, n(%)	-	513 (10.8%)

Figure 1. Treatment effect on CV outcomes according to baseline RASi use.

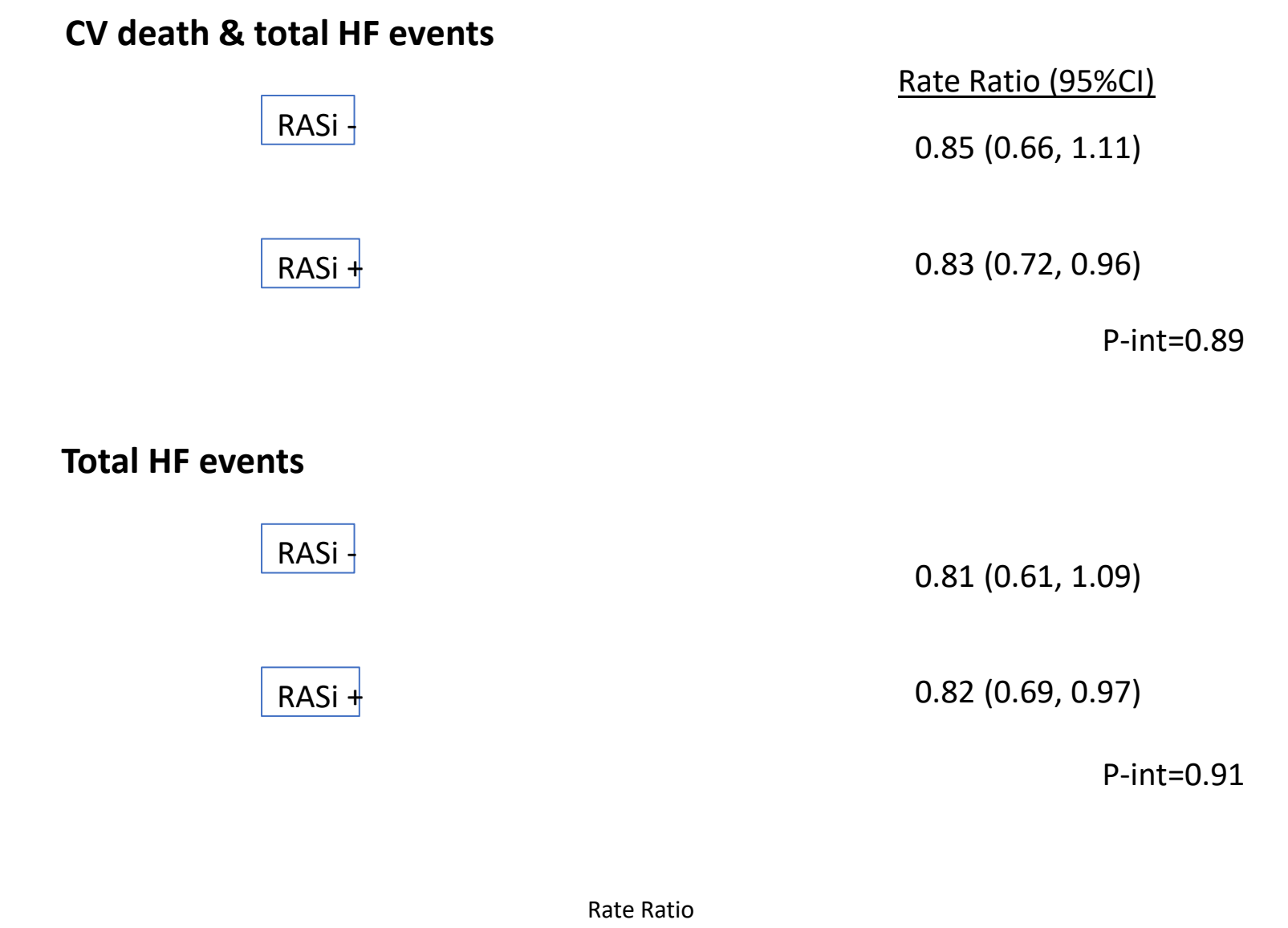


Table 2. Treatment effect on hyperkalemia according to baseline RASi use.

	No RASi		RASi		
Outcome	Placebo	Finerenone	Placebo	Finerenone	P-int
Hyperkalemia >5.5					
No. events/No. patients	36/591	64/592	163/2298	349/2306	
Rate/100 PY (95% CI)	2.7	4.8	3.0	6.9	
	(1.8, 3.7)	(3.6, 6.1)	(2.5, 3.5)	(6.1, 7.6)	
Hazard Ratio (95%CI)	1.75		2.27		0.28
	(1.16, 2.65)		(1.89, 2.74)		
Hyperkalemia >6.0					
No. events/No. patients	4/591	10/592	37/2298	76/2306	
Rate/100 PY (95% CI)	0.3	0.7	0.7	1.4	
	(0.0, 0.6)	(0.3, 1.2)	(0.4, 0.9)	(1.1, 1.7)	
Hazard Ratio (95%CI)	2.38		2.11		0.86
	(0.74, 7.66)		(1.43, 3.13)		

Fig 2. Kaplan-Meier analyses for first HF event according to randomized treatment and baseline RASi use

CONCLUSIONS

- Cardiovascular event rates were higher among those not taking (vs. taking) RASi at baseline.
- Finerenone reduced the composite of CV death and total HF events irrespective of baseline RASi use.
- The risk of hyperkalemia with finerenone was similar according to baseline RASi use.
- Baseline RASi use should not influence initiation of finerenone for patients with HFmrEF/HFpEF.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Finnian Mc Causland: fmccausland@bwh.harvard.edu

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