Percutaneous Closure of Patent Foramen Ovale in Migraine with Aura

PRIMA

David Hildick-Smith, Heinrich P. Mattle, Stefan Evers, Werner J. Becker, Helmut Baumgartner, Jeremy Chataway, Marek Gawel, Hartmut Göbel, Axel Heinze, Eric Horlick, Iqbal Malik, Adam Zermansky, Simon Ray, Oliver Findling, Stephan Windecker, Bernhard Meier.

On Behalf of the PRIMA Investigators





Disclosure Statement of Financial Interest

Within the past 12 months, I or my spouse/partner have had a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with the organization(s) listed below.

Affiliation/Financial Relationship

- Grant/Research Support
- Consulting Fees/Honoraria

Company

St. Jude Medical





Migraine and PFO - Background

Migraine is common

- estimated prevalence of 8% to 13%
- ~55 million people across USA and Europe
- PFO closure associated with high rate of resolution of incidental migraine

Hypothesis of right-to-left shunting of chemical or physical triggers for migraine





MIST (Migraine Intervention with Starflex)





Migraine Intervention With STARFlex Technology (MIST) Trial : A Prospective, Multicenter, Double-Blind, Sham-Controlled Trial to Evaluate the Effectiveness of Patent Foramen Ovale Closure With STARFlex Septal Repair Implant to Resolve Refractory Migraine Headache

Andrew Dowson, Michael J. Mullen, Richard Peatfield, Keith Muir, Arif Anis Khan, Christopher Wells, Susan L. Lipscombe, Trevor Rees, Joseph V. De Giovanni, W. Lindsay Morrison, David Hildick-Smith, Giles Elrington, W. Stewart Hillis, Iqbal S. Malik and Anthony Rickards





MIST

- Failed to meet primary endpoint
- Secondary endpoints: promising trends
 - Migraine frequency
 - Migraine severity





PRIMA

Purpose

 To evaluate whether percutaneous PFO closure is effective in reducing migraine headache in patients who have migraine with aura refractory to medical treatment





PRIMA

Design

- Multicenter: 20 sites
 - Canada, Germany, Switzerland, United Kingdom
- Prospective, Randomized, "Open label"
- Closure Group
 - Amplatzer PFO Occluder implantation
 - 3 months clopidogrel; 6 months aspirin
- Medical Group
 - Continuation of current medication
 - 3 months clopidogrel; 6 months aspirin





PRIMA

Sample Size

- Reduction in migraine days
 - 50% closure group
 - 25% medical group
- Planned 144 subjects

Sponsor

- St. Jude Medical, St. Paul, MN
- Study initiated under AGA Medical, Plymouth, MN





Study Governance and Organization

Steering Committee

- Werner Becker, MD, University of Calgary-Foothills Hospital
- Stefan Evers, MD, University Hospital, Muenster
- David Hildick-Smith, MD, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals
- Heinrich Mattle, MD, Bern University Hospital
- Bernhard Meier, MD, Bern University Hospital

Clinical Endpoint Committee

- James R. Couch, MD, PhD, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
- Lawrence D. Robbins, MD, Robbinsville Headache Clinic

| Data Safety | |
|-------------|-------|
| Monitoring | Board |

- Felix Berger, MD, German Heart Center, Berlin
- Marek Jauss, MD, OEHK Hospital, Muehlhausen / Thueringen
- Volker Limmroth, MD, Merheim Hospital, Cologne
- Frederick Taylor, MD, Park Nicollet Headache Clinic and Research Center
- Marc Schwartz, Biostatistician

Echo Core Lab

Victor Davila-Roman, MD, CVR Consulting, PC





Sites involved in PRIMA

St. Mary's Hospital London, United Kingdom J. Chataway, I. Malik

University Hospital of Muenster Muenster, Germany E. Baumgartner, S. Evers

University Hospitals of South Manchester Manchester, United Kingdom C. McCollum, S. Ray, A. Zermansky

Davisville Medical Center Toronto, Canada M. Gawel, E. Horlick

Kiel Migraine and Headache Centre Kiel, Germany H. Göbel, A. Heinze

Montreal Heart Institute Montreal, Canada R. Ibrahim, L. Marchand

Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals Brighton, United Kingdom D. Hildick-Smith, A Romi Saha Headache Center Hirslanden Zurich, Switzerland R. Agosti, P. Wagdi

University of Calgary - Foothills Hospital Calgary, Canada W. Becker, F. Spence

Bern University Hospital Bern, Switzerland H. Mattle, B. Meier

Unfallkrankenhaus Berlin Berlin, Germany L. Bruch, I. Schmehl

Quebec Heart and Lung Institute/Laval University Quebec City, Canada J. Rodés-Cabau, D. Rivest

Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg Halle, Germany S. Gielan, S. Zierz





Inclusion criteria

- Migraine headache with aura
- Migraine onset before age 50
- > 3 migraine attacks or 5 migraine days per month
- < 14 headache days per month</p>
- Failed >=2 commonly accepted migraine medications
- Preventative migraine medications stable for 4 weeks prior to and during screening
- Right-to-left shunt documented by TTE or TCDPFO documented by TEE





Exclusion criteria

- Patient age <18 years or >65 years
- Medication overuse (defined by IHS criteria)
- Contraindication to aspirin and/or clopidogrel
- Clinical indication for aspirin/clopidogrel/warfarin
- Severe nickel allergy





Study endpoints

Primary Endpoint

Reduction in migraine days 1 year after randomization

- Mean number of migraine days in months 10-12, subtracted from...
- Mean number of migraine days in months "-3" to 0 (3 months roll-in)





Study endpoints

Secondary Endpoints

- Change in responder rate
 - (≥50% reduction in number of migraine days)
- Change in the number of monthly migraine attacks
- Change in use of acute migraine medications
- Change in MIDAS score
- Quality of life measures
- Beck Depression Inventory Score
- Effects of antiplatelet medication during study
- Completeness of PFO closure at 12 months





Screening Visit 1

Neurologist

- Consent
- Inclusion/exclusion criteria
- Compliance with possible PFO closure
- Compliance with headache diaries







Shunt Assessment

Cardiologist

- TTE or TCD to demonstrate presence/absence of R to L shunt
- TEE to confirm presence/absence of PFO







Screening Visit 2 and 3

Neurologist

- Headache diary review
- Medication review
- MIDAS
- Depression inventory
- QOL







Randomization







Device Arm (Closure)







Both Groups







Patient Flow







Baseline Characteristics

| | Closure N=53, n (%) | Medical N=54, n (%) |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Age (years) | 44 ± 11 | 43 ± 11 |
| Female | 45 (85%) | 45 (83%) |
| Mood disorder | 1 (2%) | 5 (10%) |
| Hypertension | 4 (8%) | 3 (6%) |
| Arrhythmia | 1 (2%) | 1 (2%) |
| Diabetes | 0 (0%) | 1 (2%) |
| Transient ischemic attack (TIA) | 1 (2%) | 0 (0%) |
| Unresponsive to two medications | 52 (98%) | 53 (98%) |
| IHS classification - migraine with aura | 53 (100%) | 53 (98%) |
| Majority of migraines with aura | 28 (55%) | 30 (58%) |





RESULTS





Primary Endpoint Reduction in Migraine Days







Secondary Endpoint Reduction in Migraine with Aura Days









Secondary Endpoint Reduction in Migraine with Aura Attacks









Secondary Endpoint Effect of aspirin and clopidogrel on headache days

| | Mean at Baseline | Mean at Months 1-3 | Mean at Months 4-6 | Mean at Months 10-12 |
|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Antiplatelet treatment | None | Aspirin Clopidogrel | Aspirin | None |
| Closure | 9.2 | 6.7 | 5.8 | 6.3 |
| Medical | 9.4 | 7.7 | 8.2 | 7.5 |





Secondary Endpoint Responder Rate

| | Responder | P-Value | |
|---------|------------|---------|--|
| Closure | 15 (37.5%) | 0.02 | |
| Medical | 6 (14.6%) | 0.02 | |





Secondary Endpoint Freedom from Migraine

| | Freedom from Migraine | Freedom from Migraine with Aura | P- Value |
|---------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Closure | 4 (10%) | 16 (40%) | ~0.05 |
| Medical | 0 (0%) | 4 (10%) | ~0.05 |





Adverse Events

Closure group:

- Major vascular complication with bleeding (n=1)
- Atrial fibrillation requiring DC cardioversion (n=1)
- Medical group:
 - none





Limitations

- High screen-to-recruitment ratio
- Long recruitment phase
- Patients not blinded to allocation
- High dropout post-randomization
- Failure to undergo randomized treatment
- Early termination





CONCLUSIONS

- Interventional studies in migraine/aura patients are difficult to do
- 40% of patients in PRIMA had a R to L shunt
- PFO closure is safe in these patients
- PFO closure did not reduce total migraine days significantly compared to medical therapy





CONCLUSIONS

- Migraine with aura days significantly reduced
- 40% of device closure patients had headache burden reduced by ≥50%
- 10% of closure patients became migraine free
 40% of closure patients became free of migraine with aura





CONCLUSIONS

- There remains an intriguing relationship between PFO, PFO closure, migraine and migraine with aura
- This relationship is unequivocal
- Real and tangible benefit accrues to some migraine patients after PFO closure
- Results of PREMIUM are awaited with interest



