

# Journal presentation

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EFFECT OF INTRAVENOUS OMEPRAZOLE ON RECURRENT BLEEDING  
AFTER ENDOSCOPIC TREATMENT OF BLEEDING PEPTIC ULCERS

## Background

- Peptic ulcer bleeding recurs in **15 - 20 %** of patients after endoscopic treatment
- Inhibition of gastric acid -> neutral/higher intragastric pH -> facilitation of platelet aggregation -> stabilizing clots -> prevention of recurrent bleeding
- Role of acid suppression in the management of bleeding peptic ulcers, **particularly after endoscopic treatment**, remains unclear
- Evidence of the effectiveness of histamine H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists is conflicting
  - High-dose PPI is theoretically better than H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonist

## Objective / Aim

- Evaluate the efficacy of **continuous intravenous** PPI treatment after peptic ulcer bleeding
- Primary end point: Recurrent bleeding within **30 days** after endoscopy

## Methods: Study design

- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study
- Enrolment between May 1998 - July 1999
- Eligibility:
  - > 16 years
  - Admitted to Prince of Wales Hospital (Hong Kong)
  - Endoscopic treatment of actively bleeding ulcers or ulcers with nonbleeding visible vessels had been successful
  - No inclusion:
    - Unsuccessfull endoscopic treatment -> immediate surgery
    - Ulcers with clean bases or flat pigments

## Methods: Study Treatment

- Random assignment
  - Intravenous infusion of placebo vs. omeprazole:
  - **80-mg bolus** injection followed by continuous infusion of **8 mg/h** for a period of 72 hours
- Enrollment of 240 patients, 120 in each group

## Methods: Follow-up

- Monitored in a surgical ward for signs of **further bleeding**
- **Blood pressure** and **pulse rate** were recorded hourly during the first 24 hours after infusion and 4 hourly thereafter until the patients were discharged
- Bleeding was considered to have recurred:
  - vomiting of fresh blood
  - shock (systolic blood pressure of  $\leq 90$  mmHg, pulse rate of  $\geq 110$  bpm) with melena
  - drop in hemoglobin  $> 2$  g/dl within 24 hours after transfusion to a level of 10 g/dl

## Methods: Follow-up

- Recurrent bleeding -> urgent gastroscopy
- Confirmation of recurrent bleeding:
  - active bleeding (spurting or oozing hemorrhage)
  - Coffeeground material or fresh blood in the stomach near a vessel
    - repeated endoscopic treatment (epinephrine injection or thermocoagulation)
- End of the **omeprazole or placebo** infusion (72 h) -> omeprazole 20 mg/d p.o. for 8 weeks

## Methods: Statistical analysis

- Kaplan–Meier method to assess primary end point (recurrent bleeding within **30 days** after endoscopy)
- Comparison of patients' baseline characteristics and outcome measures:
  - Student's t-test for parametric data
  - Mann–Whitney U test for nonparametric data
  - Pearson's chi-square / Fisher's exact test for proportions



# Results

TABLE 2. OUTCOMES AFTER ENDOSCOPIC THERAPY.

OUTCOME		OMEPRAZOLE GROUP (N = 120)	PLACEBO GROUP (N = 120)	RELATIVE RISK (95% CI)*	P VALUE
• Recurrence	Recurrent bleeding — no. of patients				
	By day 3	5	24	4.80 (1.89–12.2)	<0.001
	By day 7	7	26	3.71 (1.68–8.23)	<0.001
• Placebo	By day 30	8†	27†	3.38 (1.60–7.13)	<0.001
	Recurrent bleeding within 30 days — no. of patients/total no.				
	Actively bleeding ulcers	3/64	10/58	4.24 (1.10–16.3)	0.04
• Haz	Ulcers with nonbleeding visible vessels	5/56	17/62	3.85 (1.31–11.3)	0.02
	Endoscopic retreatment successful — no. of patients	6	23	3.83 (1.62–9.08)	<0.001
	Surgery — no. of patients	3	9	3.00 (0.83–10.8)	0.14
• Recurrence	Median hospital stay <5 days — no. of patients (%)	56 (46.7)	38 (31.7)		0.02
	Duration of hospitalization — days				
	Patients admitted for bleeding peptic ulcers				
• Omeprazole	Median	4	5		0.006
	Range	3–65	3–64		
	Patients in whom bleeding developed in the hospital				
• Placebo	Median	13	9		0.33
	Range	3–40	4–46		
	Units of blood transfused‡	2.7 ± 2.5	3.5 ± 3.8		0.04
• Rel	Before endoscopic therapy	1.0 ± 1.3	1.1 ± 1.5		0.46
	After endoscopic therapy	1.7 ± 1.9	2.4 ± 3.2		0.03
	Death within 30 days — no. of patients	5	12	2.40 (0.87–6.60)	0.13
	Ulcer healing at 8 wk — no. of patients/total no. assessed endoscopically	72/85	77/83	1.10 (0.98–1.22)	0.14

## Results

- **Need for surgery** after bleeding:
  - Omeprazole group: 3 patients (4.2 percent)
  - Placebo group: 9 (20 percent)
    - Relative risk, 4.80
- **Death** within 30 days after endoscopy:
  - Omeprazole group: 5 patients (4.2 percent)
  - Placebo group: 12 (10 percent)
    - Relative risk, 2.40

# Discussion

- Ulcer healing
  - Omeprazo
  - Placebo gr

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## Strengths

- RCT / Double blinded
- Comparability (adjustment for confounding covariates) between groups



## Limitations

- Single centre (Prince of Wales Hospital)
- Only asian population (smaller parietal-cell mass)
- No measurement of intragastric pH

## Outlook / Take home

- After endoscopic treatment of bleeding peptic ulcers, high-dose infusion of omeprazole substantially:
  - Reduces risk of recurrent bleeding
  - Decreases need for endoscopic retreatment and blood transfusions
  - Shortens the length of hospitalization
- No significant difference after 8 weeks of oral PPI

**Thank you for your attention!**

