

# Remote Ischemic Preconditioning (RIPC)

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Supervised by Dr Shum HP  
15/9/2015

# Ischemia

- A vascular disease due to restriction in blood supply
- Shortage of oxygen and vital nutrients
- Hampering normal cellular metabolism
- Reperfusion injury results in release of oxygen free radicals, cytokines and increase expression of adhesion molecules

# What is preconditioning?

- Induce a stimulus near to but below the threshold of damage to the organism
- Tissues and organs develop resistance or tolerance to the same or similar noxious stimuli
- Preventing or reducing the damage it may induce
- Include many stimuli:
  - ischemia, hypoxia, hypothermia, drugs.....

# ANNALS OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

VOLUME 53

AUGUST, 1960

NUMBER 2

## SOME CLINICAL ASPECTS OF LIFE AT HIGH ALTITUDES \*

By ALBERTO HURTADO, M.D., *Lima, Peru*

CONTINUOUS exposure to a high-altitude environment, where the lowered partial pressure of the oxygen in the inspired air originates a certain degree of hypoxia, demands some adaptative mechanisms. These, in general, and in their main objectives, introduce an economy in the drop of the  $pO_2$  gradient from alveolar air to tissue level, and make possible the acquisition and utilization of the oxygen in the cell metabolism. In our experience, and from observations carried out mainly in Morococha, Peru, at an altitude of 4,540 meters (14,900 feet), with an average barometric pressure of 444 mm. Hg, these mechanisms attain their highest degree of efficiency in the Indian natives, born and living permanently at a high level.<sup>1</sup> There is some evidence<sup>2</sup> that chemical processes in the tissues have a fundamental importance in what may be called "natural acclimatization."

But a high-altitude environment is not only a fertile field to study tolerance to hypoxia. When this is permanent, it may also give rise to functional and organic alterations, and may influence the development and characteristics of certain conditions which may be considered to be of a pathologic or clinical nature. We will comment very briefly on some of these latter aspects.

It has been demonstrated<sup>3</sup> that healthy people living permanently at high altitudes have a moderate but constant degree of pulmonary hypertension, in contrast to the presence of low systolic and diastolic pressures in the peripheral circulation (figure 1). The factors responsible for this elevation

\* Received for publication April 15, 1960.

Presented as the Lilly Lecture at the Forty-first Annual Session of The American College of Physicians, San Francisco, California, April 6, 1960.

From the Department of Pathological Physiology, and the Institute of Andean Biology, University of San Marcos Faculty of Medicine, Lima, Peru.

Requests for reprints should be addressed to Alberto Hurtado, M.D., Dean and Professor of Pathological Physiology, University of San Marcos Faculty of Medicine, Lima, Peru.

*As early as in 1960*

*Reported lower  
incidence of myocardial  
infarction in people  
living at high altitude*

# 2 subsequent animal studies

## **Preconditioning with ischemia: a delay of lethal cell injury in ischemic myocardium**

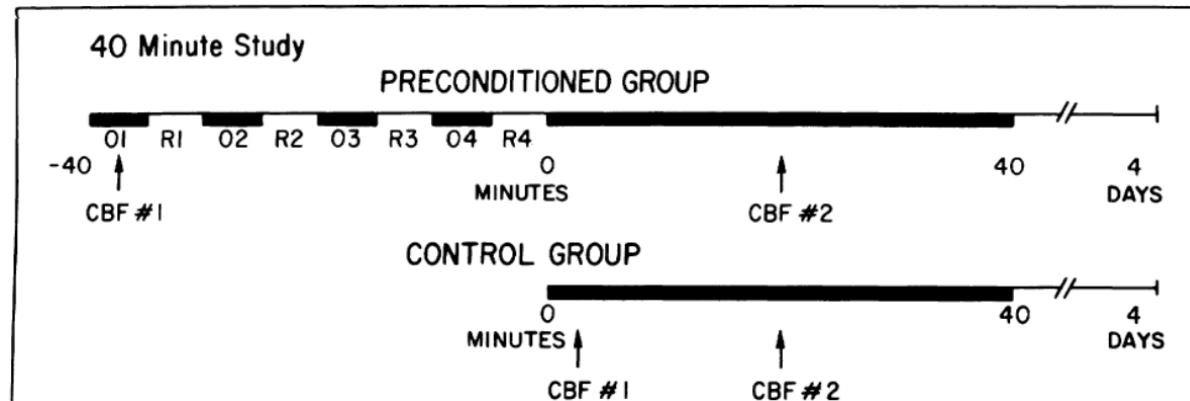
CHARLES E. MURRY, B.S., ROBERT B. JENNINGS, M.D., AND KEITH A. REIMER, M.D., PH.D.

*Circulation* 74. No. 5. 1124–1136. 1986.

**ABSTRACT** We have previously shown that a brief episode of ischemia slows the rate of ATP depletion during subsequent ischemic episodes. Additionally, intermittent reperfusion may be beneficial to the myocardium by washing out catabolites that have accumulated during ischemia.<sup>1</sup> Thus, we

# 2 subsequent animal studies

- 44 dogs
- Anaesthetized and intubated
- Thoracotomy and suspend the heart
- Snare the LCx
- Measure blood flow by radiolabeled microspheres
- Cardioversion if VF

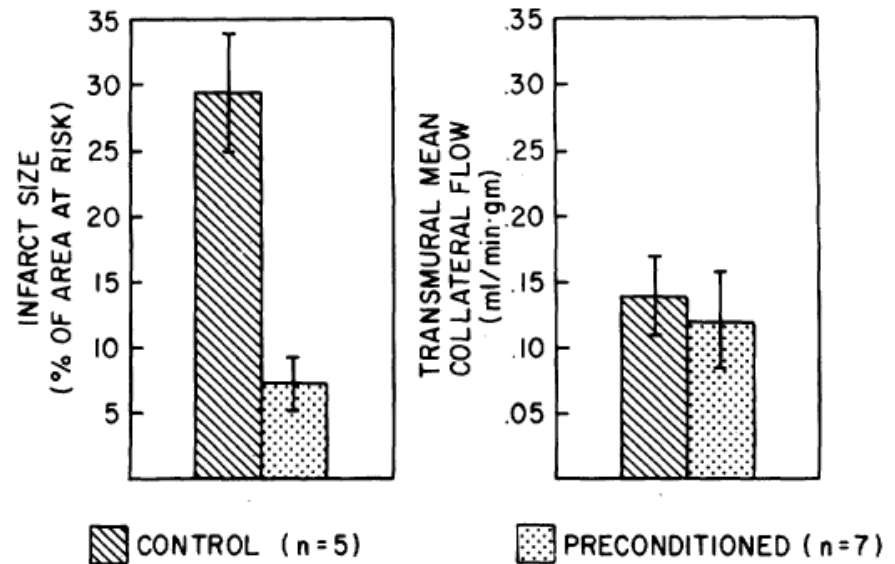
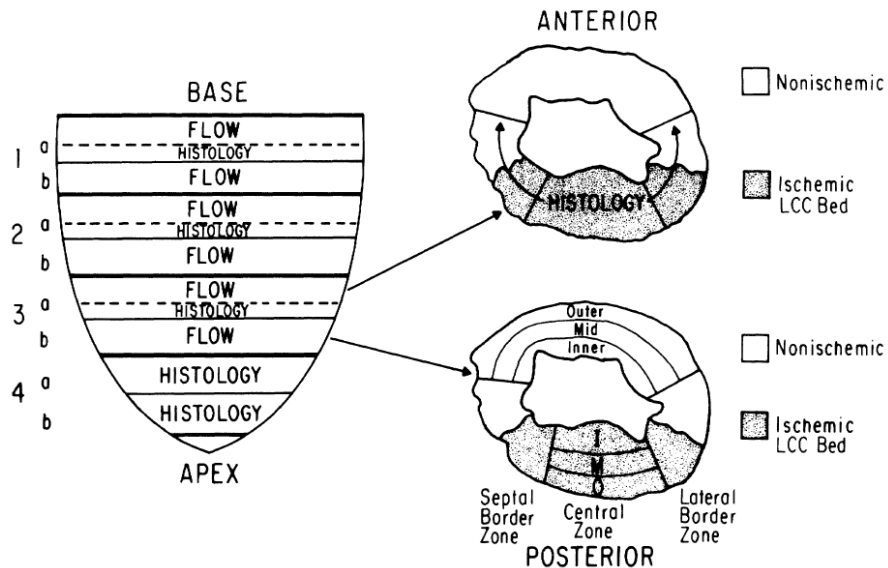


4 cycles 5-min  
ischemia

- Dogs were allowed to survive for 4 days to delineate the necrotic muscle
- Hearts were excised for postmortem

# 2 subsequent animal studies

- Results:



*Some mechanism is protecting the heart from ischemia ?*

# 2 subsequent studies

## **Hypoxic preconditioning of ischaemic canine myocardium**

*Yukitaka Shizukuda, Robert T Mallet, Shang-Chuin Lee, H Fred Downey*

*Cardiovascular Research 1 May 1992*

- Demonstrated similar results in dogs
- Introduced the term “hypoxic preconditioning”

# Evolution

- From intra-cardiac to inter-organ (Remote)
- From ischemic to non-ischemic trigger
- From pre- to per-/ post-conditioning
- Started to have human studies
- Initially mainly cardiac, some brain/ vascular
- Later on some focused on kidney

# From intra-organ to inter-organ

## Myocardial protection by brief ischemia in noncardiac tissue

by Ben C.G. Gho, Regien G. Schoemaker, Mirella A. van den Doel, Dirk J. Duncker, and Pieter D. Verdouw

*Circulation* Volume 94(9):2193-2200  
November 1, 1996

## Bradykinin mediates cardiac preconditioning at a distance

*Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol*  
278: H1571-H1576, 2000.

REGIEN G. SCHOEMAKER AND CAROLINE L. VAN HEIJNINGEN  
*Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences,  
Erasmus University, NL-3000 DR Rotterdam, The Netherlands*

## Sites of action of adenosine in interorgan preconditioning of the heart

DAVID A. LIEM, PIETER D. VERDOUW, HARALD PLOEG,  
SHAHLA KAZIM, AND DIRK J. DUNCKER  
*Experimental Cardiology, Thoraxcenter, Erasmus University  
Rotterdam, 3000 DR Rotterdam, The Netherlands*

Received 27 November 2001; accepted in final form 14 February 2002

## Transient Limb Ischemia Induces Remote Ischemic Preconditioning In Vivo

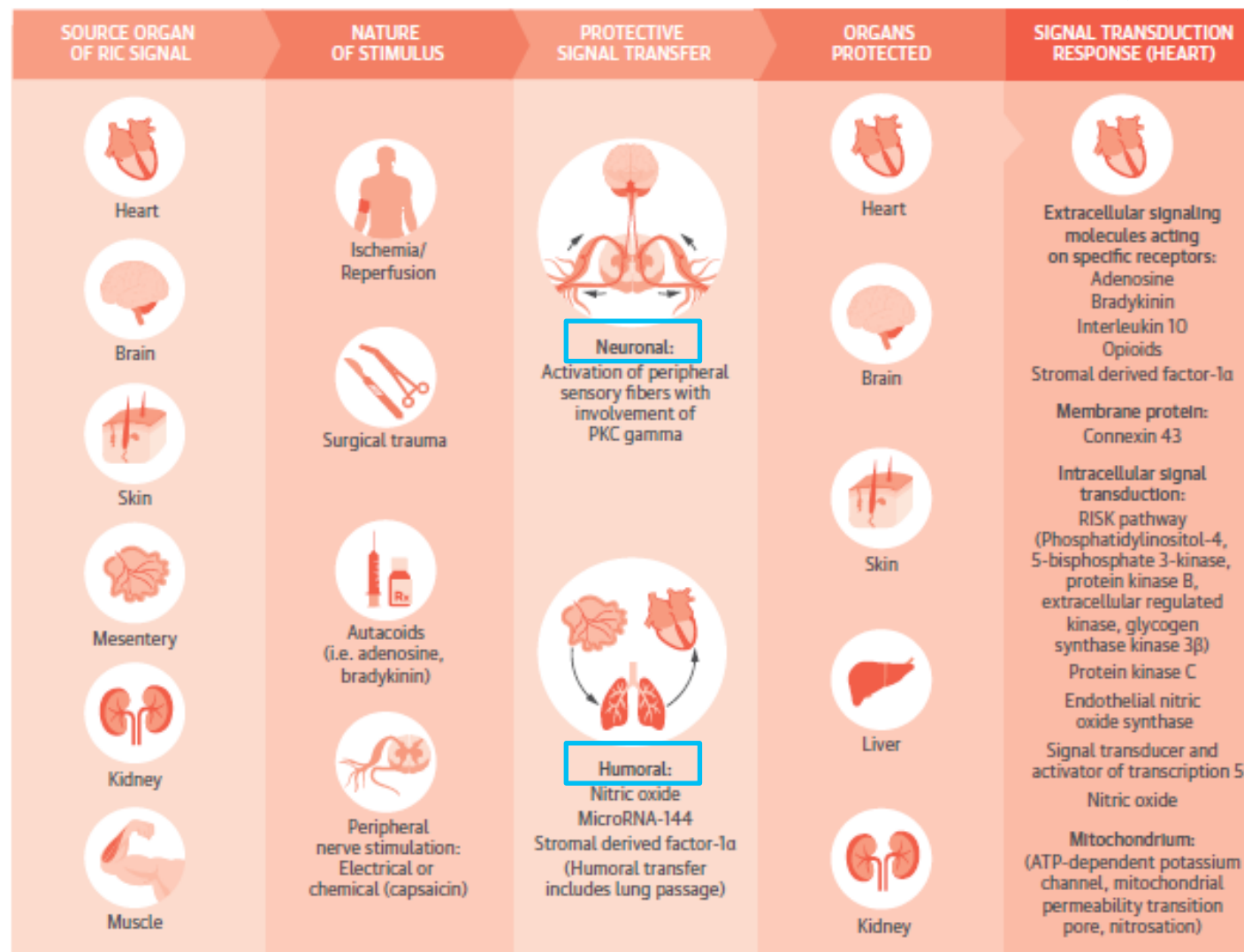
R.K. Kharbanda, MRCP; U.M. Mortensen, MD; P.A. White, PhD; S.B. Kristiansen, MD;  
M.R. Schmidt, MD; J.A. Hoschitzky, MSc, MRCSEd; M. Vogel, MD, PhD; K. Sorensen, MD;  
A.N. Redington, MD, FRCP; R. MacAllister, MD, FRCP

*Circulation*. 2002;106:2881-2883

# What is REMOTE ischemic preconditioning?

- Brief episodes of ischemia-reperfusion in one vascular bed
- Protect a distant organ against a subsequent longer ischemic insult

# CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION Signal Transduction of Remote Ischemic Conditioning



Heusch, G. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2015; 65(2):177-95.

ATP — adenosine triphosphate; microRNA — microribonucleic acid; PKC — protein kinase C; RIC — remote ischemic conditioning; RISK — reperfusion injury salvage kinase.

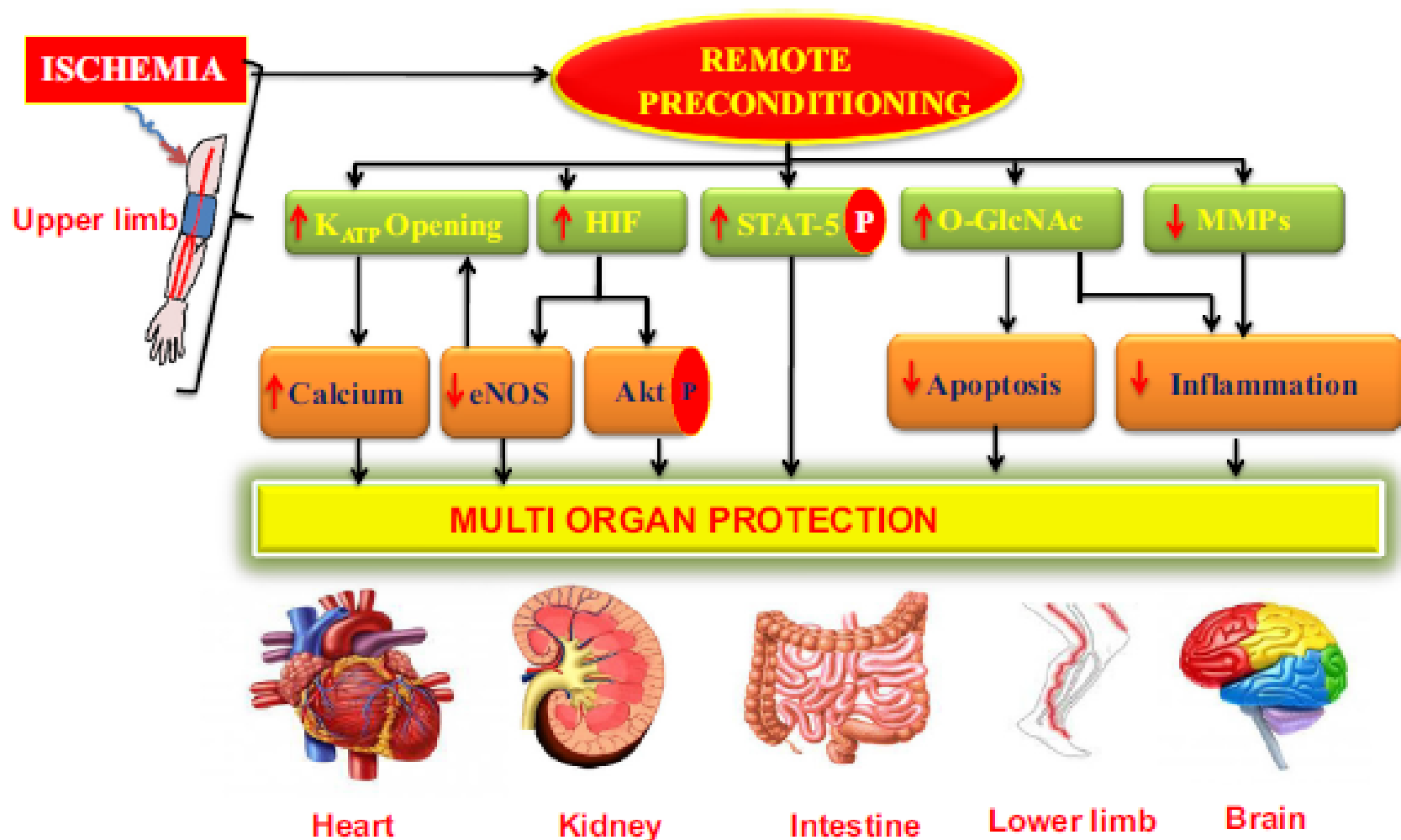


Fig. 1. Representation of RIPc-induced multi-organ protection and possible mechanisms.

# Use of RIPC in cardiovascular surgery

Occupied most of the studies about RIPC

# Remote preconditioning and major clinical complications following adult cardiovascular surgery: Systematic review and meta-analysis<sup>☆</sup>

International Journal of Cardiology 176 (2014) 20–31

- 23 trials of RIPC in 2200 patients
- undergoing major cardiovascular surgery
- RIPC did not have significant effect on clinical end points
- But sample size limited the results

# Remote preconditioning and major clinical complications following adult cardiovascular surgery: Systematic review and meta-analysis<sup>☆</sup>

International Journal of Cardiology 176 (2014) 20–31

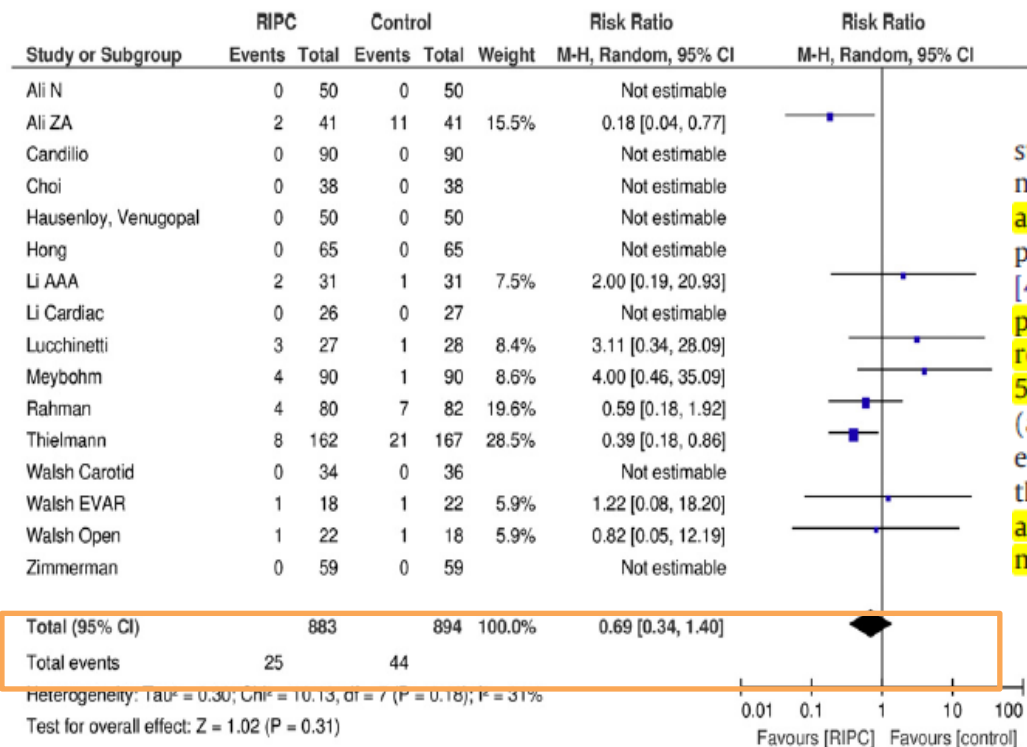
**Table 1**  
Details of prior systematic reviews and meta-analyses on RIPC and cardiovascular surgery.

| Author year         | Procedure types         | Number of included CVS trials   | Number of included CVS patients | Outcomes reported                                                                           | Results                                                                    |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Takagi [8] 2008     | CVS                     | 4                               | 184                             | Biomarkers                                                                                  | Significant reduction in cardiac biomarkers                                |
| Takagi [9] 2011     | CVS                     | 9                               | 482                             | Biomarkers, mortality and peri-operative MI                                                 | Significant reduction in cardiac biomarkers but no clinical benefit        |
| Yetgin [10] 2012    | PCI and CABG            | 13 — also included 4 PCI trials | 891 — not including PCI         | Biomarkers                                                                                  | Significant reduction in cardiac biomarkers                                |
| Alreja [11] 2012    | CVS and PCI             | 13 — also included 4 PCI trials | 814 — not including PCI         | Biomarkers and MI, CVA, AF, ventricular arrhythmia, CHF, inotrope usage, HD need, mortality | Significant reduction in biomarkers and MI rate across CVS and PCI studies |
| Pilcher [12] 2012   | Cardiac surgery         | 10                              | 693                             | Biomarkers and mortality                                                                    | Significant biomarker reduction only                                       |
| Zhou [13] 2012      | Cardiac surgery         | 15                              | 1155                            | Biomarkers and mortality, MV duration, ICU LOS, hospital LOS                                | Significant biomarker reduction only                                       |
| Brevoord [14] 2012  | CVS and PCI             | 19 — also included 4 PCI trials | 1166 — not including PCI        | Biomarkers and mortality, CVA, MI, AF, kidney injury, hospital LOS, ICU LOS                 | Significant reduction in biomarkers and MI rate.                           |
| D'Ascenzo [15] 2012 | CABG                    | 9                               | 704                             | Biomarkers and length of hospital stay                                                      | Significant cardiac biomarker reduction.                                   |
| Yang [16] 2013      | Cardiac surgery         | 19                              | 1234                            | Biomarkers, mortality, complications, hospital and ICU LOS.                                 | Significant cardiac biomarker reduction.                                   |
| Heusch [5] 2013     | Cardiac surgery and PCI | 20                              | 1239                            | Biomarkers                                                                                  | Most studies found benefits at biomarker level.                            |
| Yasin [17] 2014     | Cardiac surgery         | 25                              | 1762                            | Biomarkers, kidney injury, lung injury, mortality, ICU and hospital LOS, ventilation time.  | Significant cardiac biomarker reduction.                                   |

# Remote preconditioning and major clinical complications following adult cardiovascular surgery: Systematic review and meta-analysis<sup>☆</sup>

International Journal of Cardiology 176 (2014) 20–31

D.A. Healy et al. / International Journal of Cardiology 176 (2014) 20–31



study reflects sample size. However, there are grounds for optimism – notably, we found that the incidence of peri-operative MI in the RIPC arm was almost half that of the control arm (2.8% versus 4.9%). As peri-operative MI in cardiac surgery occurs with a frequency of 4–5% [43,44], a reduction by half would be clinically important. About 1200 patients would be required in each arm of a trial to confirm that RIPC reduces peri-operative MI rates from 4% to 2% with 80% power at the 5% significance level. While there was some heterogeneity in the cohort (a combination of cardiac and vascular surgery patients), there was no evidence of statistical heterogeneity in relation to the MI analysis and the funnel plot did not suggest bias. Therefore, the results of the MI analysis provide an encouraging indication that remote preconditioning may affect clinical end-points in cardiovascular surgery patients.

The use of RIPC to prevent AKI

# RIPC and AKI

AJKD

Original Investigation

## Remote Ischemic Preconditioning for Prevention of Acute Kidney Injury: A Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Yi Yang, PhD, MD,<sup>1,\*</sup> Xia-bing Lang, BS,<sup>1,\*</sup> Ping Zhang, MD,<sup>1</sup> Rong Lv, MD,<sup>1</sup>  
Yong-fei Wang, BS,<sup>2</sup> and Jiang-hua Chen, MD<sup>1</sup>

*Am J Kidney Dis.* 64(4):574-583. © 2014 by the National Kidney Foundation, Inc.

**Background:** Remote ischemic preconditioning (RIPC) to prevent acute kidney injury (AKI) following cardiac and vascular interventions is a controversial practice.

**Study Design:** We conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis using the MEDLINE database (1966 through November 2013), EMBASE (1988 through November 2013), and Cochrane Library database.

**Setting & Population:** Patients undergoing cardiac and vascular interventions.

**Selection Criteria for Studies:** Randomized controlled trials comparing patient outcome with or without RIPC for prevention of AKI following cardiac and vascular interventions.

**Intervention:** RIPC using an inflatable tourniquet around the limb or cross-clamping the iliac arteries versus non-RIPC.

**Outcomes:** AKI, need for renal replacement therapy, postoperative kidney biomarkers, in-hospital mortality, and length of intensive care unit and hospital stay.

2007 - 2013

Table 1. Demographic Data of Included Trials

| Study                                  | No. of Patients <sup>a</sup> | Mean Age (y) <sup>a</sup> | Surgical Procedure                       | Contrast Dose (mL) | RIPC Procedures                          | Baseline Scr <sup>a,b</sup> (μmol/L) | AKI Definition                                  |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Ali et al <sup>17</sup> (2007)         | 41/41                        | 74/75                     | Elective open AAA repair                 | None               | Cross-clamping of iliac arteries         | 102/101                              | Peak Scr > 177 μmol/L                           |
| Walsh et al <sup>18</sup> (2009)       | 18/22                        | 74/76                     | Elective endovascular AAA repair         | 309/286            | Inflatable tourniquet around lower limbs | 95/94                                | Decrease in eGFR ≥ 20% from baseline            |
| Hoole et al <sup>19</sup> (2009)       | 104/98                       | 63.2/61.8                 | Elective PCI                             | 196.7/187.5        | Inflatable tourniquet around upper arms  | NA                                   | Scr > 25% increase from baseline                |
| Rahman et al <sup>20</sup> (2010)      | 80/82                        | 63/65                     | CABG                                     | None               | Inflatable tourniquet around upper arms  | 98.1/96.4                            | Scr > 0.5 mg/dL increase from baseline          |
| Thielmann et al <sup>21</sup> (2010)   | 27/26                        | 63.4/64.1                 | Elective CABG                            | None               | Inflatable tourniquet around upper arms  | NA                                   | NA                                              |
| Walsh et al <sup>22</sup> (2010)       | 22/18                        | 75/72                     | Elective open AAA repair                 | None               | Cross-clamping of iliac arteries         | 97/88                                | Decrease in eGFR ≥ 20% from baseline            |
| Zimmerman et al <sup>23</sup> (2011)   | 59/59                        | 62/65                     | Elective cardiac surgery with CPB        | None               | Inflatable tourniquet around lower limbs | 82.2/84.0                            | AKIN criterion                                  |
| Choi et al <sup>24</sup> (2011)        | 38/38                        | 57/60                     | Elective complex valvular heart surgery  | None               | Inflatable tourniquet around lower limbs | 80.4/81.3                            | AKIN criterion                                  |
| Er et al <sup>25</sup> (2012)          | 50/50                        | 73.2/72.7                 | Elective coronary angiography            | 124/103            | Inflatable tourniquet around upper arms  | 144.1/143.2                          | Scr ≥ 25% or ≥ 0.5 mg/dL increase from baseline |
| Young et al <sup>26</sup> (2012)       | 48/48                        | 65.5/64.4                 | High-risk cardiac surgery with CPB       | None               | Inflatable tourniquet around upper arms  | 102/95                               | RIFLE criterion                                 |
| Pedersen et al <sup>27</sup> (2012)    | 54/51                        | 1.0/0.9                   | Complex congenital heart disease surgery | None               | Inflatable tourniquet around lower limbs | 35/32                                | RIFLE criterion                                 |
| Lucchinetti et al <sup>28</sup> (2012) | 27/28                        | 59/62                     | Elective CABG                            | None               | Inflatable tourniquet around lower limbs | 91.7/88.0                            | NA                                              |
| Luo et al <sup>29</sup> (2013)         | 101/104                      | 59.2/59.3                 | Elective PCI                             | 154/145            | Inflatable tourniquet around upper arms  | NA                                   | Scr ≥ 25% increase from baseline                |

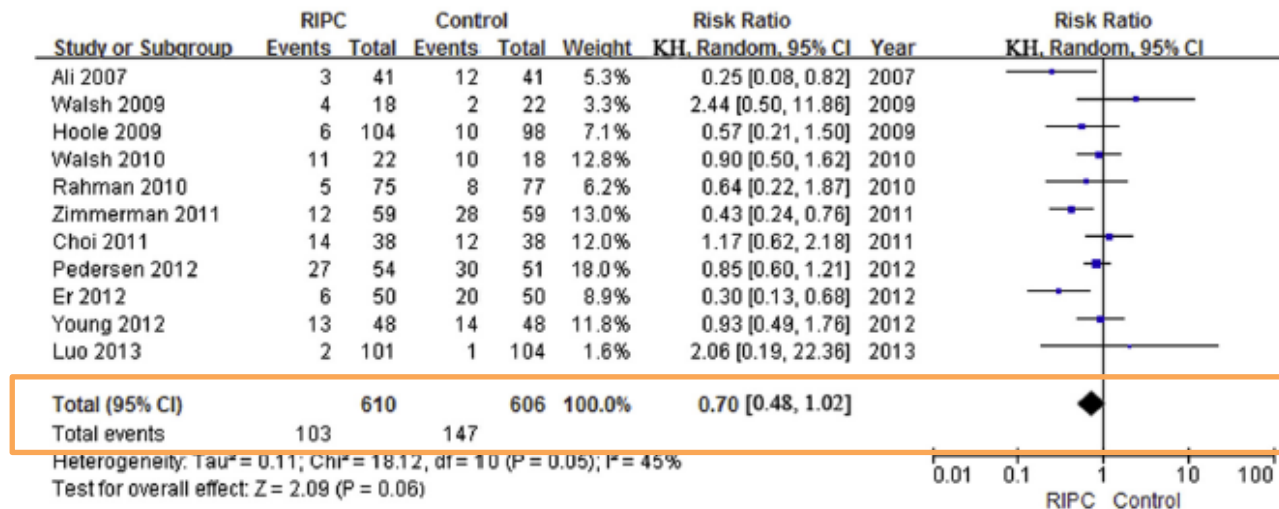
Abbreviations: AAA, abdominal aortic aneurysm; AKI, acute kidney injury; AKIN, Acute Kidney Injury Network; CABG, coronary artery bypass grafting; CPB, cardiopulmonary bypass; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; NA, not available; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; RIFLE, risk, injury, failure, loss, and end-stage disease; RIPC, remote ischemic preconditioning; Scr, serum creatinine.

<sup>a</sup>RIPC group/control group.

<sup>b</sup>Baseline Scr refers to Scr level in all trials except Pedersen et al,<sup>27</sup> which refers to plasma creatinine level.

13 trials ; 1,334 participants

*Am J Kidney Dis.* 64(4):574-583. © 2014 by the National Kidney Foundation, Inc.



**Figure 2.** Comparison of remote ischemic preconditioning (RIPC) versus control group for the incidence of acute kidney injury (AKI). Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; KH, Knapp-Hartung method.

## Results:

- RIPC decreased the risk of AKI with marginal statistical
- There were no differences in postoperative kidney biomarkers ( Cr, GFR ), incidence of RRT, in-hospital mortality, hospital stay, or ICU stay

## Conclusion:

- RIPC might be beneficial for the prevention of AKI following cardiac and vascular interventions, but the current evidence is not robust enough to make a recommendation.

Results were not that positive...  
But until 2015..

Original Investigation | CARING FOR THE CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT

# Effect of Remote Ischemic Preconditioning on Kidney Injury Among High-Risk Patients Undergoing Cardiac Surgery

## A Randomized Clinical Trial

Alexander Zarbock, MD; Christoph Schmidt, MD; Hugo Van Aken, MD; Carola Wempe, PhD; Sven Martens, MD; Peter K. Zahn, MD; Britta Wolf, MD; Ulrich Goebel, MD; Christian I. Schwer, MD; Peter Rosenberger, MD; Helene Haeberle, MD; Dennis Görlich, PhD; John A. Kellum, MD; Melanie Meersch, MD; for the RenalRIPC Investigators

*JAMA*. 2015;313(21):2133-2141. doi:10.1001/jama.2015.4189

Published online May 29, 2015.

# Background

- Up to 30% develop AKI after cardiac surgery
- ~1% dependent on RRT
- Mechanism of AKI not fully understood, but injury to renal tubular epithelial cells is a universal aspect of the disease

# Objective and Study Design

- OBJECTIVE:
  - To determine whether RIPC reduces the rate and severity of AKI in patients undergoing cardiac surgery
- METHODS:
  - Multicenter, double-blind, RCT
  - Patients high risk for AKI undergoing cardiac surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass
  - Aug 2013 – June 2014
  - 240 patients from 4 hospitals in Germany

**eTable S1: Cleveland Clinic Foundation Score** according to Thakar et al.<sup>1</sup>

| Risk Factor                                                  | Points |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Female gender                                                | 1      |
| Congestive heart failure                                     | 1      |
| Left ventricular ejection fraction < 35%                     | 1      |
| Preoperative use of Intra-aortic ballon pump (IABP)          | 2      |
| Chronic obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)                 | 1      |
| Insulin-requiring diabetes                                   | 1      |
| Previous cardiac surgery                                     | 1      |
| Emergency surgery                                            | 2      |
| Valve surgery only                                           | 1      |
| Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting + valve surgery              | 2      |
| Other cardiac surgeries                                      | 2      |
| Preoperative creatinine 1.2 to <2.1 mg/dl (reference to 1.2) | 2      |
| Preoperative creatinine $\geq$ 2.1 /reference to 1.2)        | 5      |

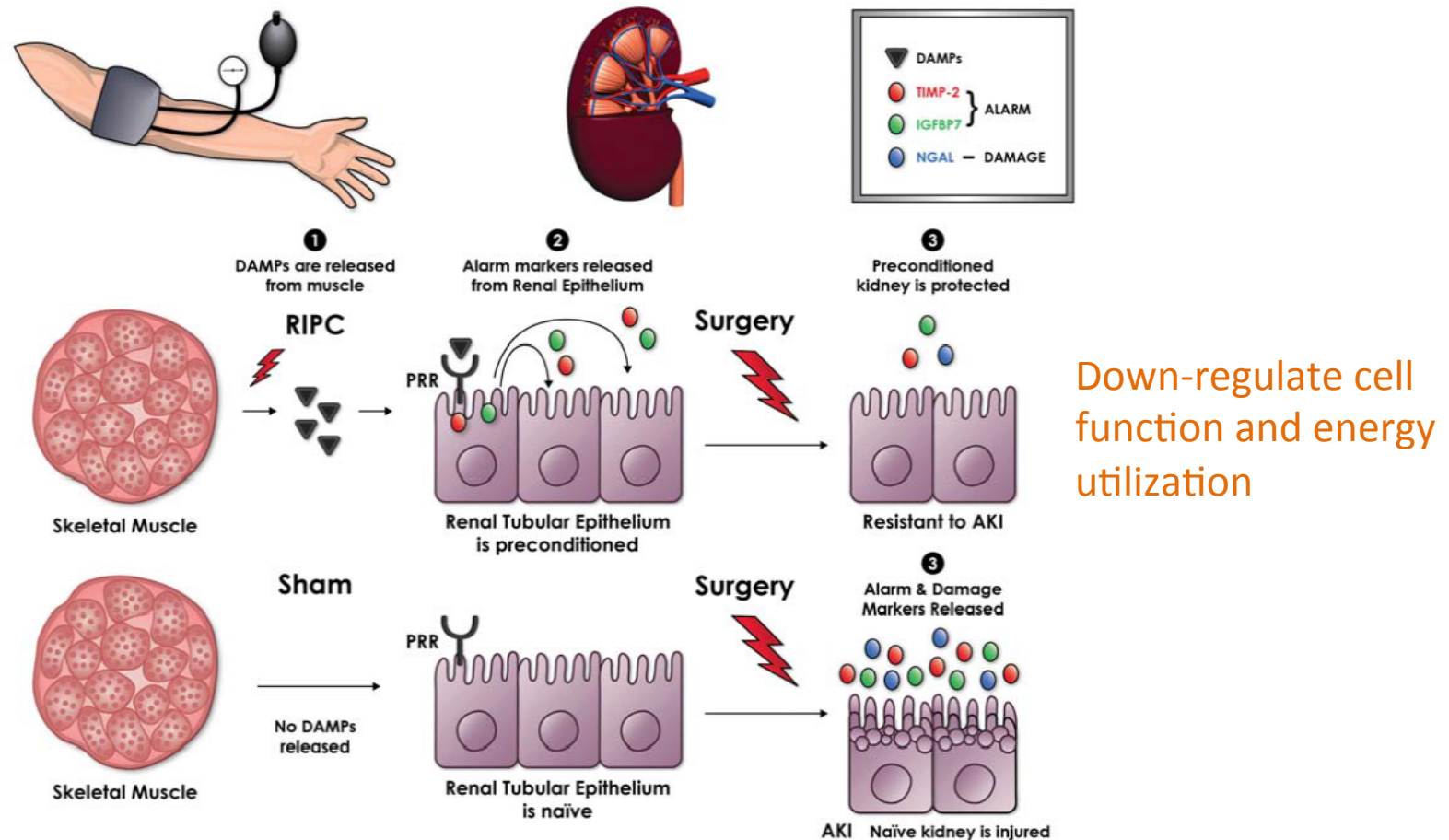
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| Exclusion criteria                       |
|------------------------------------------|
| • acute myocardial infarction $\leq$ 7 d |
| • age < 18 y                             |
| • off-pump heart surgery                 |
| • pre-existing AKI                       |
| • kidney transplantation                 |
| • CKD with eGFR < 30 ml/min              |
| • pregnancy                              |
| • pAVK of upper limb                     |
| • hepatorenal syndrome                   |
| • sulfonamide and nicorandil             |

Score  $\geq$  6 : high risk patient, included into study

# Proposed mechanism

eFigure S3. - Proposed conceptual model for how RIPC results in fewer AKI events.

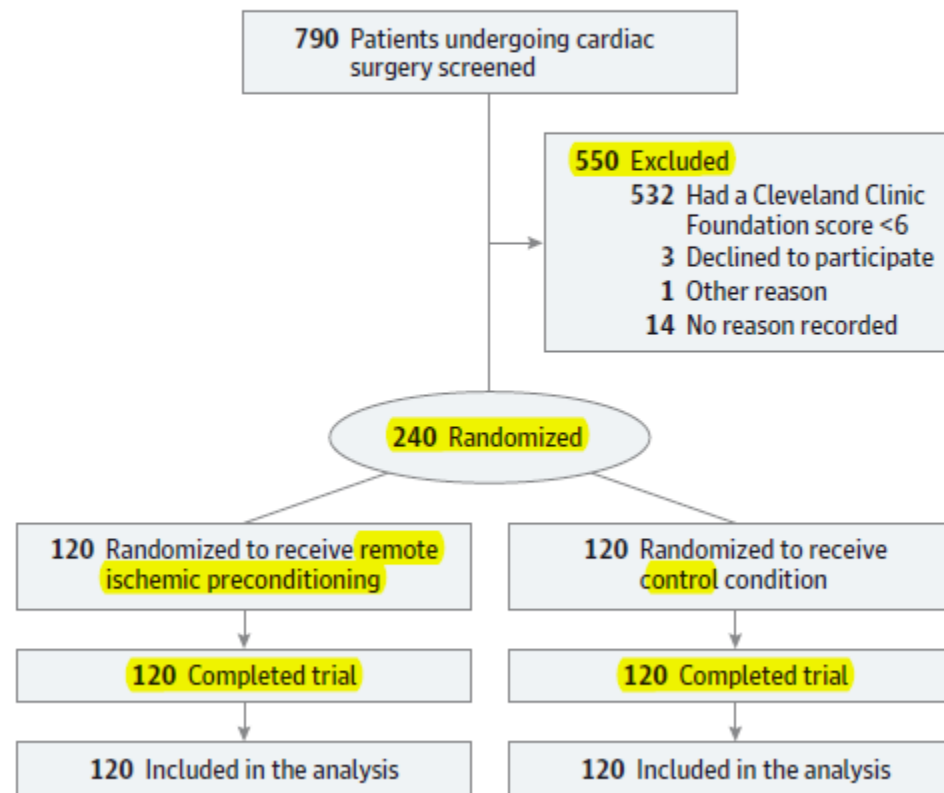


# Randomization and Procedures

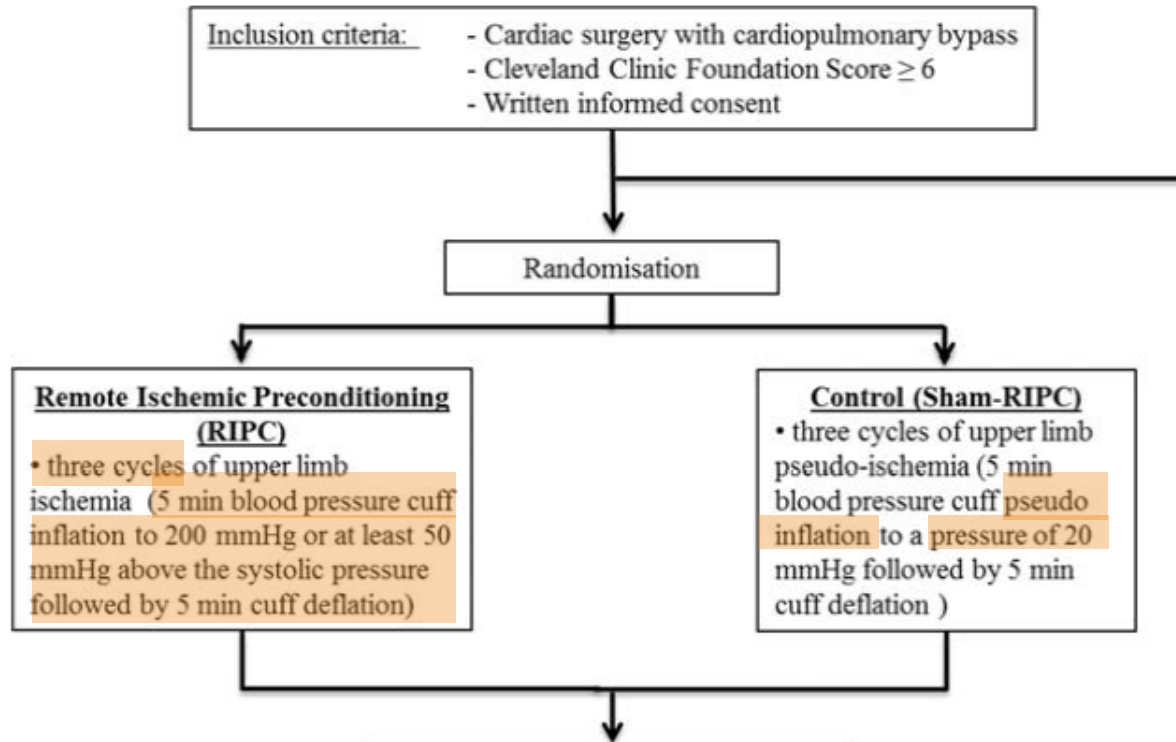
- Randomized on 1:1 basis
- Randomization codes were generated by computers and concealed
- Intervention provided by investigator not involving in care of patient
- Patients, anaesthesiologists, surgeons, ICU doctors all unaware of Tx assignment

# Randomization and Procedures

Figure 1. Participant Flow of Remote Ischemic Preconditioning in Patients Undergoing Cardiac Surgery



# Randomization and Procedures



Anaesthesia maintained with volatile anaesthetics

Cardiopulmonary bypass:

- MAP 60-70 mmHg
- Non-pulsatile
- Hct 0.25 – 0.3
- Glucose < 200mg/dL

# Baseline

Table 1. Baseline and Operative Characteristics

|                                                                      | Control<br>(n = 120) | RIPC<br>(n = 120) |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Age, mean (SD), y                                                    | 70.6 (9.9)           | 70.1 (9.1)        |
| Male sex, No. (%)                                                    | 75 (62.5)            | 76 (63.3)         |
| ASA grade, No. (%) <sup>a</sup>                                      |                      |                   |
| 1                                                                    | 0                    | 0                 |
| 2                                                                    | 24 (20.0)            | 27 (22.5)         |
| 3                                                                    | 88 (73.3)            | 86 (71.7)         |
| 4                                                                    | 8 (6.7)              | 7 (5.8)           |
| New York Heart Association class, No. (%)                            |                      |                   |
| I                                                                    | 6 (5.4)              | 5 (4.5)           |
| II                                                                   | 28 (25.0)            | 32 (28.8)         |
| III                                                                  | 60 (53.6)            | 57 (51.4)         |
| IV                                                                   | 18 (16.1)            | 17 (15.3)         |
| Cleveland Clinic Foundation score, median (IQR), points <sup>b</sup> | 6 (6-6)              | 6 (6-6)           |
| Preoperative creatinine, mean (SD), mg/dL                            | 1.2 (0.4)            | 1.1 (0.4)         |
| eGFR, mean (SD), mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>                          | 56.4 (15.8)          | 56.7 (13.4)       |
| Comorbidities, No. (%)                                               |                      |                   |
| Hypertension                                                         | 116 (96.7)           | 116 (96.7)        |
| Congestive heart failure                                             | 101 (84.2)           | 101 (84.2)        |
| Diabetes                                                             | 44 (36.7)            | 46 (38.3)         |
| Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease                                | 40 (33.3)            | 36 (30.0)         |
| Chronic kidney disease                                               | 39 (32.5)            | 35 (29.2)         |
| Previous heart surgery                                               | 14 (11.7)            | 13 (10.8)         |
| Left ventricular ejection fraction <35%                              | 13 (10.8)            | 23 (19.2)         |

# Baseline

| Medication, No. (%)                                 |                    |                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Aspirin                                             | 66 (55.0)          | 77 (64.2)          |
| Clopidogrel                                         | 15 (12.5)          | 11 (9.2)           |
| β-Blockers                                          | 78 (65.0)          | 68 (56.7)          |
| Statins                                             | 85 (70.8)          | 80 (66.7)          |
| Diuretics                                           | 71 (59.2)          | 63 (52.5)          |
| ACE inhibitors or ARBs                              | 73 (60.8)          | 71 (59.2)          |
| Intraoperative times, median (IQR), min             |                    |                    |
| Aortic cross-clamp                                  | 78.0 (58.5-112.0)  | 86.0 (65.0-105.0)  |
| Cardiopulmonary bypass                              | 116.0 (89.5-165.0) | 120.0 (99.5-150.0) |
| Procedure, No. (%)                                  |                    |                    |
| CABG only                                           | 36 (30.0)          | 44 (36.7)          |
| Valve only                                          | 21 (17.5)          | 28 (23.3)          |
| Combined or other                                   | 63 (52.5)          | 48 (40.0)          |
| Baseline urine biomarkers, median (IQR)             |                    |                    |
| Urine (TIMP-2) × (IGFBP7), ng/mL <sup>2</sup> /1000 | 0.2 (0.1-0.5)      | 0.3 (0.1-0.7)      |
| Urine NGAL, ng/mL                                   | 10.7 (4.5-30.5)    | 9.9 (4.9-25.2)     |
| Urine HMGB-1, ng/mL                                 | 0 (0-0)            | 0 (0.0-20.5)       |
| (TIMP-2) × (IGFBP7) ≥0.5, No. (%)                   | 31 (26.3)          | 40 (33.6)          |

# Outcomes

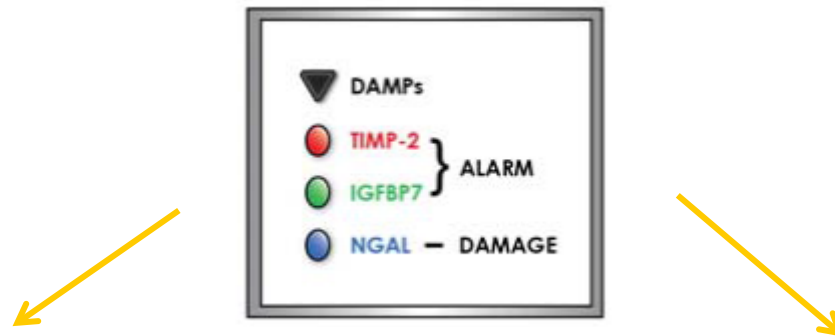
- Primary endpoint
  - Occurrence of AKI within first 72 hours after surgery
  - Define according to KDIGO guideline
- Secondary endpoint
  - Severe acute kidney injury (stage 2-3) within 72 hours
  - 30-day all-cause mortality
  - Need for RRT
  - Duration of ventilator support
  - Length of ICU and hospital stay
  - In-hospital death
  - Concentrations of various urinary biomarkers in the first 24
  - Perioperative MI and stroke

# Calculation

- Estimated sample size:
  - Expected AKI rate in control : 50%
  - Expected absolute risk reduction : 18%
  - Power: 80%
  - Calculated sample size per treatment group: 117 patients
- 240 patients recruited in the study
- Follow intention- to- treat principle

# The Biomarkers

- Blood and urine sampled:
  - Before and immediately after RIPC
  - At 4, 12, 24 hours after surgery



- Insulinlike growth factor–binding protein 7 (**IGFBP7**)
- Tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinases 2 (**TIMP-2**)
- Inducers of G1 cell cycle arrest
- Predict AKI

## • **ALARM MARKER**

- Urine neutrophil gelatinase–associated lipocalin (**NGAL**)
- Released after kidney injury

## • **DAMAGE MARKER**

# Results – Primary and Secondary Outcome

Table 2. Primary and Secondary Study Outcomes, by Group

|                                                  | Control<br>(n = 120) | RIPC<br>(n = 120) | ARR or Median Difference (95% CI) | P Value    |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Primary Outcome, No. (%)</b>                  |                      |                   |                                   |            |
| <b>AKI within 72 h</b>                           | <b>63 (52.5)</b>     | <b>45 (37.5)</b>  | <b>15 (2.56 to 27.44)</b> ←       | <b>.02</b> |
| <b>AKI stage</b>                                 |                      |                   |                                   |            |
| 1 ←                                              | 32 (26.7)            | 30 (25)           |                                   |            |
| 2 ←                                              | 14 (11.7)            | 8 (6.7)           |                                   |            |
| 3 ←                                              | 17 (14.2)            | 7 (5.8)           |                                   |            |
| <b>Secondary Outcomes</b>                        |                      |                   |                                   |            |
| <b>RRT, No. (%)</b>                              | <b>19 (15.8)</b>     | <b>7 (5.8)</b>    | <b>10 (2.25 to 17.75)</b> ←       | <b>.01</b> |
| Mechanical ventilation, median (IQR), h          | 15 (12-21)           | 14 (11-21)        | 1 (–1.54 to 4) <sup>a</sup>       | .16        |
| <b>Intensive care unit stay, median (IQR), d</b> | <b>4 (2-7)</b>       | <b>3 (2-5)</b>    | <b>1 (0 to 2)<sup>a</sup></b> ←   | <b>.04</b> |
| Hospital stay, median (IQR), d                   | 13 (10-19)           | 12 (9-19)         | 1 (–2 to 2.5) <sup>a</sup>        | .45        |
| In-hospital death, No. (%)                       | 4 (3.3)              | 6 (5.0)           | 1.67 (0 to 6.72) <sup>b</sup>     | .54        |
| 30-d mortality, No. (%)                          | 5 (4.2)              | 7 (5.8)           | 1.67 (0 to 7.18) <sup>b</sup>     | .77        |
| Myocardial infarction, No. (%)                   | 5 (4.2)              | 6 (5.0)           | 0.83 (0 to 6.12) <sup>b</sup>     | .76        |
| Stroke, No. (%)                                  | 3 (2.5)              | 2 (1.7)           | 0.83 (0 to 4.45) <sup>b</sup>     | .65        |

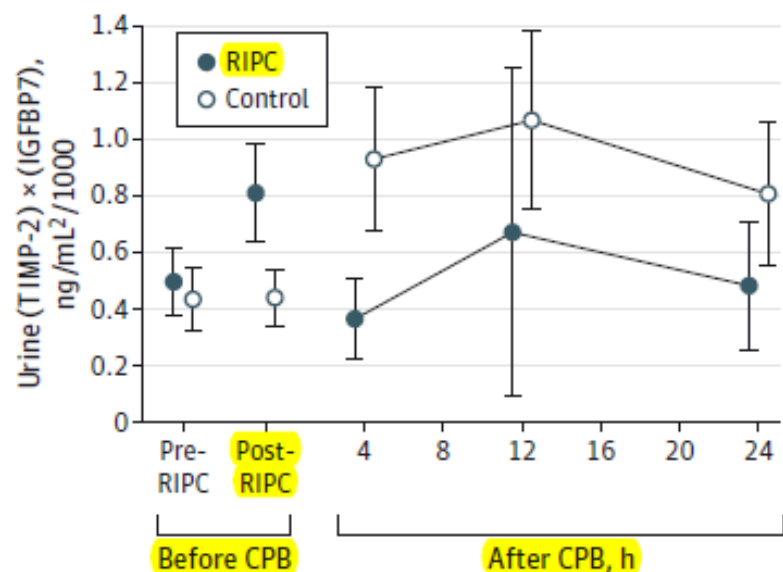
: KDIGO criteria according the KDIGO guidelines <sup>2</sup>

| Serum creatinine                            | Urine output                 |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1.5-1.9 times baseline                      | < 0.5 ml/kg/h for 6-12 hours |
| OR                                          |                              |
| ≥ 0.3 mg/dl increase                        | < 0.5 ml/kg/h for ≥ 12 hours |
| 2.0-2.9 times baseline                      |                              |
| 3.0 times baseline                          | < 0.3 ml/kg/h for ≥ 24 hours |
| OR                                          |                              |
| Increase in serum creatinine to ≥ 4.0 mg/dl | Anuria for ≥ 12 hours        |
| OR                                          |                              |
| Initiation of renal replacement therapy     |                              |

# Results – Biomarkers

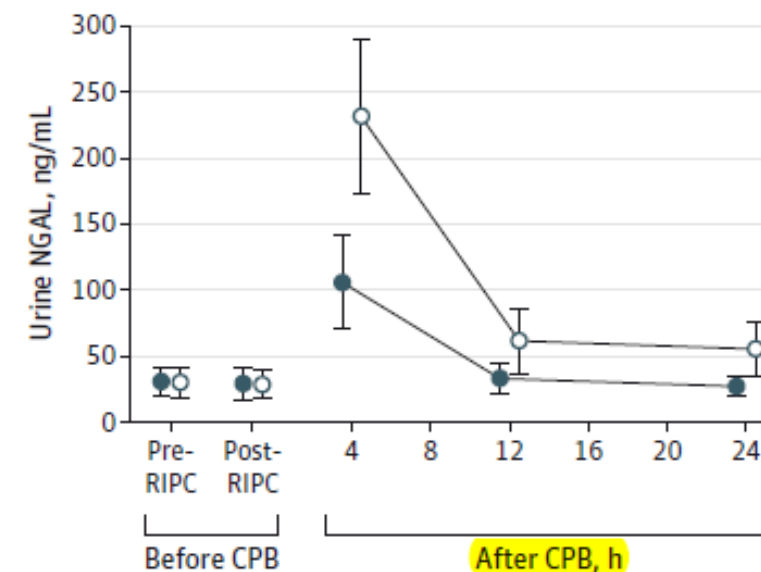
Figure 2. Analysis of Acute Kidney Injury Biomarkers

## A Urine (TIMP-2) × (IGFBP7) *ALARM MARKER*



|                 |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| No. of patients |     |     |     |     |     |
| Control         | 118 | 113 | 109 | 116 | 117 |
| RIPC            | 119 | 118 | 105 | 114 | 113 |

## B Urine NGAL *DAMAGE MARKER*



|                 |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| No. of patients |     |     |     |     |     |
| Control         | 115 | 113 | 112 | 111 | 111 |
| RIPC            | 117 | 117 | 110 | 116 | 113 |

# Discussion

- RIPC lowers rate of AKI, RRT, ICU stay after cardiac bypass surgery
- Pathophysiology of AKI and exact protective mechanism cannot be proven yet
- RIPC may release mediators inducing G1 cell-cycle arrest
- The short period of G1 cell-cycle arrest protects the kidney until insults have passed

# Discussion

- If to calculate 30-days mortality results
- With a power of 80%
- Would need > 4000 patients (183 deaths) to detect a difference of mortality

How about RIPC in AAA repair ?

# Results not always positive ...

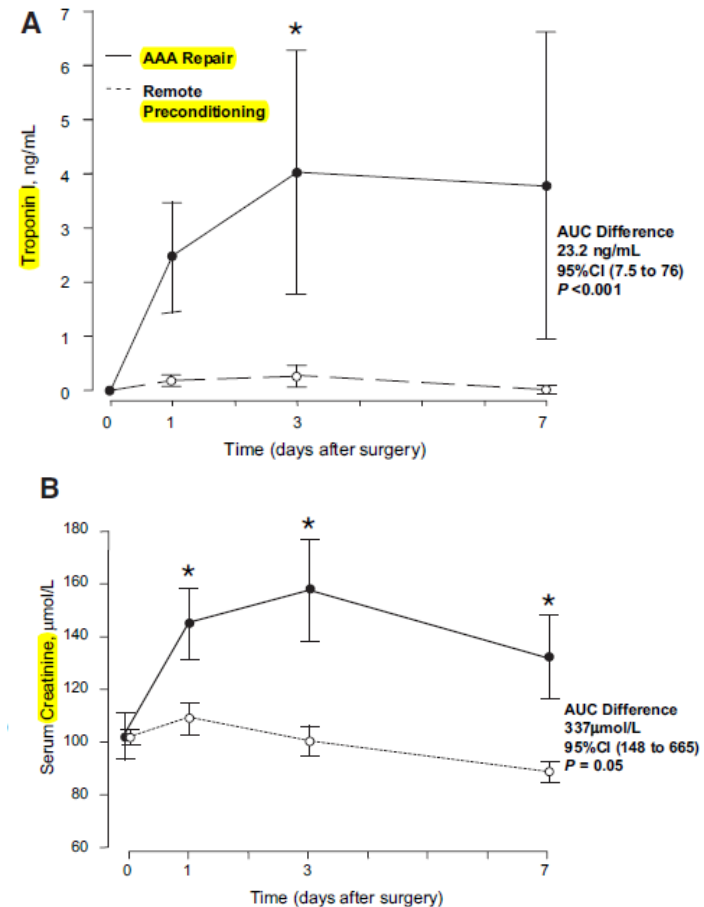
\*\* For AAA repair in open approach\*\*

# Remote Ischemic Preconditioning Reduces Myocardial and Renal Injury After Elective Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repair *Circulation.* 2007;116

## A Randomized Controlled Trial

**TABLE 3. Major Adverse Outcomes After Open AAA Repair**

|                                | Remote<br>Preconditioning | Conventional<br>AAA Repair | <i>P</i> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Sample size                    | 41                        | 41                         |          |
| In-hospital                    |                           |                            |          |
| Myocardial injury, no. (%)     | 5 (12)                    | 16 (39)                    | 0.005    |
| Myocardial infarction, no. (%) | 2 (5)                     | 11 (27)                    | 0.006    |
| Renal impairment, no. (%)      | 3 (7)                     | 12 (30)                    | 0.009    |
| In-hospital death, no. (%)     | 2 (5)                     | 3 (7)                      | 0.77     |



**Conclusions**—In patients undergoing elective open abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, RIPC reduces the incidence of postoperative myocardial injury, myocardial infarction, and renal impairment. (*Circulation.* 2007;116[suppl I]:I-98–

# Remote Ischemic Preconditioning Does Not Affect the Incidence of Acute Kidney Injury After Elective Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repair

Noelle Murphy, MB, BCh, BAO,\* Ajith Vijayan, MB, BCh, BAO,|| Stephen Frohlich, MB, BCh, BAO,\*  
Frank O'Farrell,† Mary Barry, MB, BCh, BAO,‡ Stephen Sheehan, MB, BCh, BAO,‡  
John Boylan, MB, BCh, BAO,§ and Niamh Conlon, MB, BCh, BAO§

*Journal of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Anesthesia*, Vol 28, No 5 (October), 2014: pp 1285–1292

Randomised 62 patients in 1:1 ratio  
3 cycles 5-mins arm ischemia

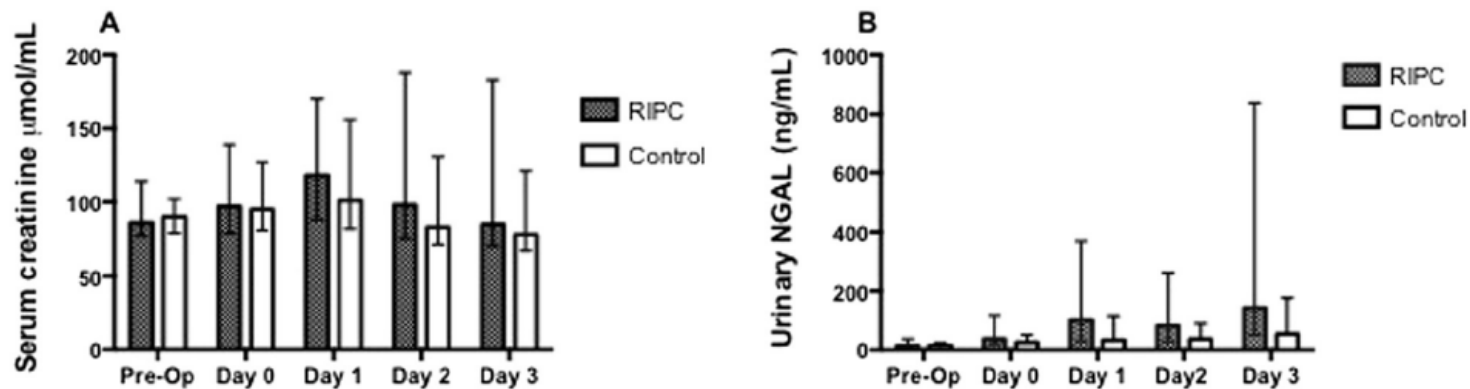


Fig 2. Biomarkers of renal injury up to postoperative day 3. (A) Median serum creatinine ( $\mu\text{mol/mL}$ ) and (B) median urinary NGAL ng/mL.

Table 5. Postoperative Cardiac Events

|                                                | RIPC     | Control  | p Value |
|------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|---------|
| New troponin elevation, no. (%)                | 16 (51%) | 9 (29%)  | 0.11    |
| Myocardial infarction, no. (%)                 | 4 (13%)  | 2 (6%)   | 0.67    |
| New arrhythmia, no. (%)                        | 5 (16%)  | 1 (3%)   | 0.2     |
| Postoperative vasopressors Requirement no. (%) | 14 (45%) | 11 (35%) | 0.61    |

**Conclusion:** RIPC did not reduce the risk of postoperative renal failure or myocardial injury in patients undergoing open AAA repair. The authors' results do not support the introduction of this technique to routine clinical practice.

# How about in EVAR ??

I can only find one study between AKI  
and EVAR AAA..

# RIPC in AAA repair

RESEARCH

Open Access

Remote ischaemic preconditioning versus sham procedure for abdominal aortic aneurysm repair: an external feasibility randomized controlled trial



Ronelle Mouton<sup>1\*</sup>, Jon Pollock<sup>2</sup>, Jasmeet Soar<sup>1</sup>, David C. Mitchell<sup>3</sup> and Chris A. Rogers<sup>4</sup>

# RIPC in AAA repair

- In UK, prevalence of AAA is 5-7% in men aged 65-74
- At risk of perioperative MI and renal impairment
- A pilot study
  - To investigate whether RIPC could be successfully introduced in elective AAA repair
  - To obtain information to design a multi-center RCT

# RIPC in AAA repair

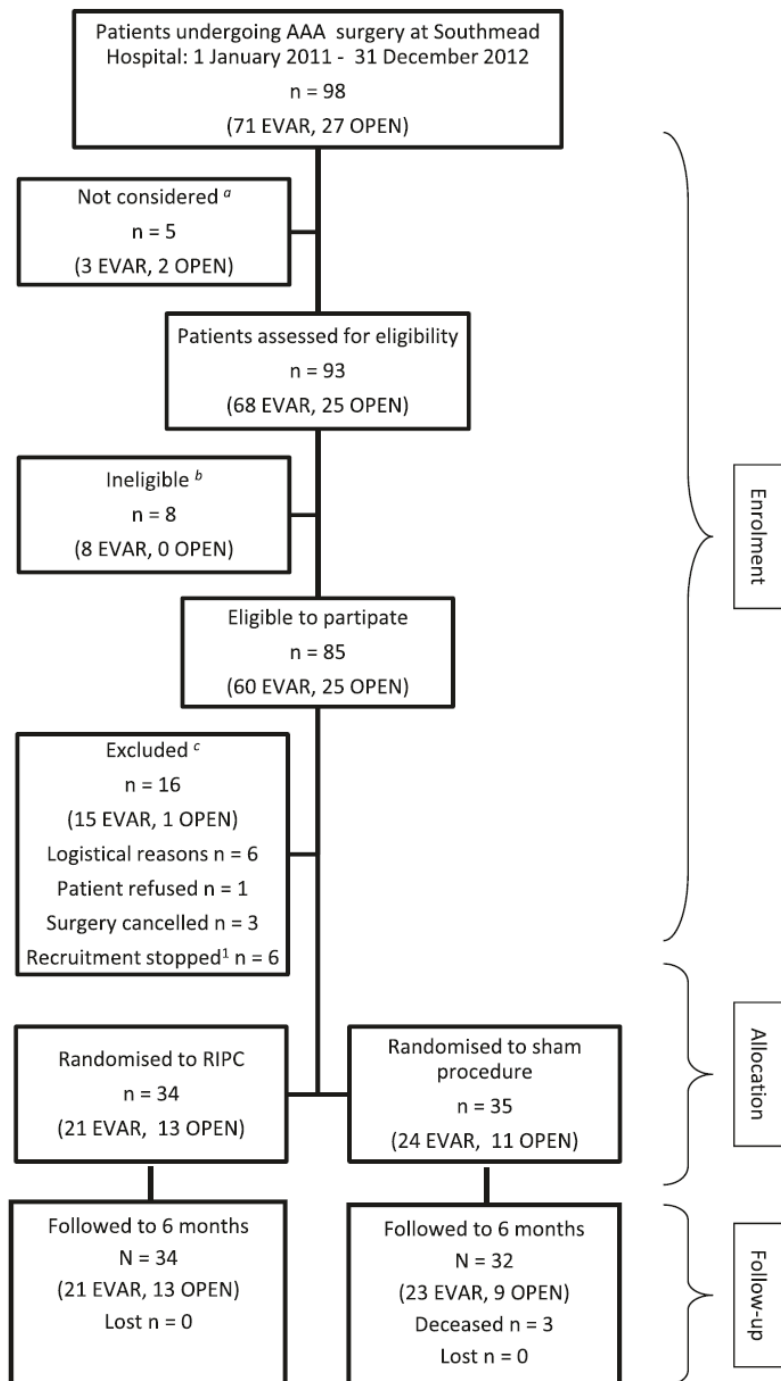
- UK single large city hospital
- EVAR or open approach
- 2010 - 2012

## Study group:

- 3 cycles
- 5 mins arm ischemia (cuff inflated 40mmHg above SBP)
- 5 mins reperfusion

## Control group:

- Cuff inflated to 40mmHg only
- Except anesthetists
- All others were blinded



# RIPC in AAA repair - baseline

**Table 1** Baseline patient characteristics

|                                 | Randomised allocation |               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
|                                 | RIC (n = 34)          | SHAM (n = 35) |
| Age (years)                     | 72 (6)                | 72 (7)        |
| Creatinine (μmol/L)             | 102 (52)              | 91 (19)       |
| Urea (mmol/L)                   | 7 (4)                 | 6 (2)         |
| Hb (g/dL)                       | 14 (2)                | 14 (2)        |
| Albumin (g/L)                   | 37 (5)                | 37 (4)        |
| Anaerobic threshold (ml/kg/min) | 12 (2)                | 13 (2)        |
| VO <sub>2</sub> max (ml/kg/min) | 14 (3)                | 17 (6)        |
| VE/VCO <sub>2</sub> (l/l)       | 33 (6)                | 31 (4)        |
| V-POSSUM                        | 19 (4)                | 19 (4)        |
| ACEI                            | 20 (59 %)             | 17 (49 %)     |
| Statin                          | 26 (77 %)             | 25 (71 %)     |
| Beta-blocker                    | 12 (35 %)             | 11 (31 %)     |
| Hypertension                    | 26 (77 %)             | 25 (71 %)     |
| Ischaemic heart disease         | 13 (38 %)             | 9 (26 %) ←    |
| Cerebrovascular disease         | 6 (18 %)              | 7 (20 %)      |
| Congestive cardiac failure      | 5 (15 %)              | 1 (3 %) ←     |
| Predicted complex EVAR          | 10 (29 %)             | 1 (3 %) ←     |

**Table 2** Operative characteristics

|                          | Randomised allocation |               |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
|                          | RIC (n = 34)          | SHAM (n = 35) |
| Procedure time (hours)   |                       |               |
| EVAR                     | 2.96 (0.86) ←         | 2.28 (0.45)   |
| Open                     | 4.07 (0.22)           | 4.87 (0.73)   |
| Anaesthetic time (hours) |                       |               |
| EVAR                     | 0.71 (0.05)           | 0.64 (0.04)   |
| Open                     | 1.16 (0.10)           | 1.36 (0.23)   |

Data are shown as mean (SD)

In RIC group, more :

- history of IHD
- CHF
- Predicted complex EVAR procedure (anatomical difficulties)
- Reflected in longer OT time in RIC EVAR group

Mouton *et al. Trials* (2015) 16:377  
DOI 10.1186/s13063-015-0899-3

# RIPC in AAA repair - results

**Table 3** Clinical Outcomes

|                                          | Randomised allocation |               |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
|                                          | RIC (n = 34)          | SHAM (n = 35) |
| Acute kidney injury                      |                       |               |
| AKIN 1                                   | 9 (27 %)              | 7 (20 %)      |
| AKIN 2                                   | 7 (21 %)              | 3 (9 %)       |
| AKIN 3                                   | 0 (0 %)               | 2 (6 %)       |
| Myocardial Infarction                    | 5 (15 %)              | 2 (6 %)       |
| New post-op ECG changes                  | 7(20 %)               | 7 (20 %)      |
| New arrhythmia                           | 7 (21 %)              | 5 (14 %)      |
| Troponin T > 14 ng/L                     | 16 (47 %)             | 10 (29 %)     |
| Other post-operative issues <sup>a</sup> | 13 (38 %)             | 12 (34 %)     |
| Death                                    | 0 (0 %)               | 3 (9 %)       |

- AKI and MI more in RIC group
- BUT, Ix showed  
↑complication was related to predicted complexity of EVAR

|     | Complex EVAR (11) | Non complex EVAR/ open (57) |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| AKI | 6                 | 22                          |
| MI  | 3                 | 4                           |

# RIPC in AAA repair - results

## Participant and staff interviews

scrub and theatre staff. From the staff interview questions, 86 % indicated no or minimal effect of the intervention on day-to-day practice, 11 % reported a small effect or minor point, and 1 % a moderate effect or significant point. The surgeons and radiologist all universally rated the intervention as having minimal impact on normal work patterns.

average 50 min longer. The randomization scheme for an adequately powered definite RCT should take into account surgical procedure, surgical complexity and participant risk, to avoid the imbalance between groups in these potential confounders, as was observed in this study.

You may question CIN may also  
take into account of AKI ...

# RIPC & Contrast Induced Nephropathy (CIN)

Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg (2015) ■, 1–6

## Remote Ischemic Preconditioning To Reduce Contrast-Induced Nephropathy: A Randomized Controlled Trial

T.P. Menting <sup>a</sup>, T.B. Sterenborg <sup>a</sup>, Y. de Waal <sup>b</sup>, R. Donders <sup>c</sup>, K.E. L.J. SchultzeKool <sup>e</sup>, M.C. Warlé <sup>a,\*</sup>

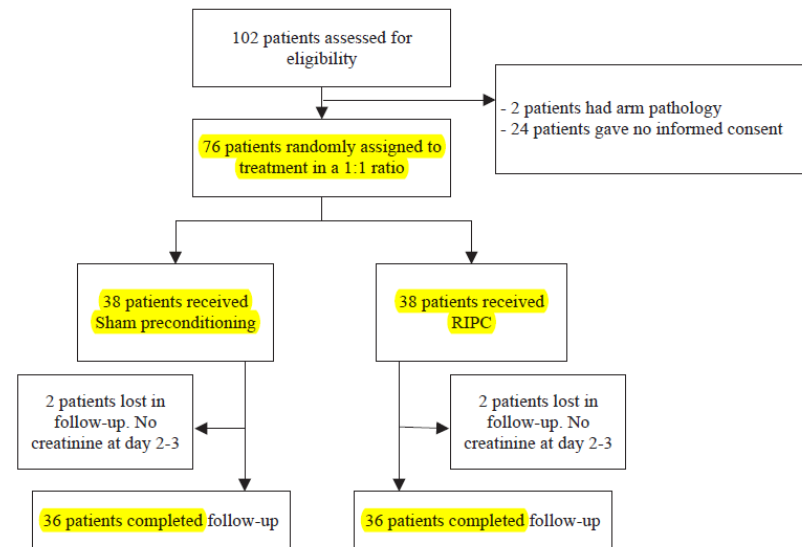


Figure 1. Study flow chart.

**Methods:** The RIPCIN study is a multicenter, single blinded, randomized controlled trial in which 76 patients at risk of CIN received standard hydration combined with RIPC or hydration with sham preconditioning. RIPC was applied by four cycles of 5 min ischemia and 5 min reperfusion of the forearm. The primary outcome measure was the change in serum creatinine from baseline to 48 to 72 hours after contrast administration.

# RIPC & CIN

Table 3. Trial outcomes.

|                                                                         | Sham group ( <i>n</i> = 36) | RIPC group ( <i>n</i> = 36) | <i>p</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| <b>Primary endpoint</b>                                                 |                             |                             |          |
| Change in serum creatinine from baseline to 48–72 hr, $\mu\text{mol/L}$ | $-0.3 \pm 14.7$             | $0.25 \pm 14.6$             | .87      |
| <b>Secondary endpoints</b>                                              |                             |                             |          |
| Change in serum creatinine from baseline to 4–6 hr, $\mu\text{mol/L}$   | $-14.5 \pm 11.8$            | $-11.4 \pm 11.0$            | .26      |
| Contrast induced nephropathy, <i>n</i> (%)                              | 2 (6)                       | 2 (6)                       | 1.00     |
| Re-hospitalization within 6 wk                                          | 0 (0)                       | 0 (0)                       | n.a.     |
| Dialysis within 6 wk                                                    | 0 (0)                       | 0 (0)                       | n.a.     |
| Mortality within 6 wk                                                   | 2 (6)                       | 0 (0)                       | 0.49     |

Data given in mean  $\pm$  SD, *n* (%).

RIPC = remote ischaemic preconditioning; wk = weeks.

Table 4. Change in serum creatinine per group divided by Mehran risk score.

| Mehran risk score | <i>n</i> | Group                 | Change in serum creatinine (mean $\pm$ SD) | <i>p</i> |
|-------------------|----------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------|
| <5                | 32       | Sham ( <i>n</i> = 15) | $-0.2 \pm 14.2$                            | .83      |
|                   |          | RIPC ( <i>n</i> = 17) | $0.9 \pm 13.1$                             |          |
| 6–10              | 29       | Sham ( <i>n</i> = 16) | $-6.1 \pm 8.2$                             | .18      |
|                   |          | RIPC ( <i>n</i> = 13) | $1.1 \pm 18.6$                             |          |
| $\geq 11$         | 11       | Sham ( <i>n</i> = 5)  | $17.8 \pm 20.1$                            | .048     |
|                   |          | RIPC ( <i>n</i> = 6)  | $-3.3 \pm 9.8$                             |          |

RIPC = remote ischaemic preconditioning.

**Conclusion:** RIPC, as an adjunct to standard preventive measures, does not improve serum creatinine levels after contrast administration in patients at risk of CIN according to the Dutch guideline. However, the present data indicate that RIPC might have beneficial effects in patients at a high or very high risk of CIN (Mehran score  $\geq 11$ ).

How to perform RIPC?

Table 3

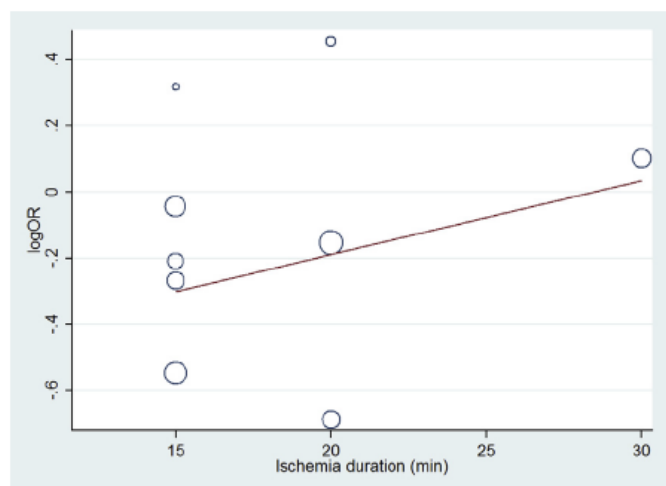
Characteristics of included trials on cardiac surgery.

| Author year participant number (RIPC:Control) | Significant primary outcome result in favour of RIPC | Type of surgery                                 | Site and method of applying of the ischaemia/reperfusion stimulus                                                                         | Timing of the stimulus in relation to anaesthetic and surgery                        | Use of volatile anaesthetic agents                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hausenloy [21] 2007 27/30                     | Yes                                                  | Elective CABG on CPB                            | Upper limb 3 × 5min cycles                                                                                                                | After induction of anaesthesia and before surgery.                                   | No volatile agents.                                                          |
| Venugopal [22] 2009 23/22                     | Yes                                                  | Elective CABG on CPB                            | Upper limb 3 × 5 min cycles                                                                                                               | After induction of anaesthesia and before surgery.                                   | 17/22 in control group and 17/23 in RIPC group had inhalational anaesthesia. |
| Ali N [24] 2010 50/50                         | Yes                                                  | Elective CABG on CPB                            | Upper limb 3 × 5 min cycles.                                                                                                              | After induction of anaesthesia and before extracorporeal bypass.                     | General anaesthesia. No further details stated.                              |
| Li Cardiac [25] 26/27 2010                    | No                                                   | Valve replacement on CPB                        | Lower limb 3 × 4 min cycles                                                                                                               | After induction of anaesthesia. Time in relation to surgery commencement not stated. | Isoflurane used for maintenance                                              |
| Rahman [29] 2010 80/82                        | No                                                   | Elective and emergency CABG on CPB              | Upper limb 3 × 5 min cycles                                                                                                               | After induction of anaesthesia. Time in relation to surgery commencement not stated. | Enflurane or sevoflurane maintenance while on CPB.                           |
| Hong [30] 2010 65/65                          | No                                                   | Elective CABG without CPB                       | Upper limb 4 × 5 min cycles                                                                                                               | After induction of anaesthesia with surgery proceeding.                              | Maintenance with sevoflurane.                                                |
| Choi [31] 2011 38/38                          | No                                                   | Elective valve surgery under CPB                | Lower limb 3 × 10 min cycles                                                                                                              | After induction of anaesthesia and at least 10 min before CPB.                       | Maintenance with sevoflurane.                                                |
| Zimmerman [32] 2011 60/60                     | Yes                                                  | Elective CABG +/- aortic valve surgery with CPB | Lower limb 3 × 5 min cycles                                                                                                               | After induction of anaesthesia and at least 10 min before CPB.                       | Maintenance with isoflurane.                                                 |
| Karupassamy [33] 2011 27/27                   | No                                                   | Elective CABG surgery with CPB                  | Upper limb 3 × 5 min cycles                                                                                                               | After induction of anaesthesia. Time in relation to surgery commencement not stated. | Maintenance with isoflurane until CPB.                                       |
| Wu [34] 2011 25/25                            | No                                                   | Mitral valve replacement with CPB.              | Upper limb 3 × 5 min cycles. This trial had 3 arms and as summary outcome data only were provided, we excluded the lower limb RIPC group. | After induction of anaesthesia and before surgery.                                   | No volatile agents                                                           |
| Young [35] 2012 48/48                         | No                                                   | Elective CABG +/- valve surgery                 | Upper limb 3 × 5 min cycles                                                                                                               | After induction and beginning at first incision.                                     | All had maintenance with propofol and isoflurane.                            |

**Table 3.** Details of RIPC Trials Using Tourniquet Cuff Around Limb

| Reference                              | Limb Used for RIPC    | No. of Limbs Used for RIPC | Ischemia/Reperfusion Interval (min) | Total Ischemia Duration (min) |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Walsh et al <sup>18</sup> (2009)       | Lower limb            | 2                          | 10                                  | 20                            |
| Hoole et al <sup>19</sup> (2009)       | Nondominant upper arm | 1                          | 5                                   | 15                            |
| Rahman et al <sup>20</sup> (2010)      | Left upper arm        | 1                          | 5                                   | 15                            |
| Thielmann et al <sup>21</sup> (2010)   | Left upper arm        | 1                          | 5                                   | 15                            |
| Zimmerman et al <sup>23</sup> (2011)   | Lower limb            | 1                          | 5                                   | 15                            |
| Choi et al <sup>24</sup> (2011)        | Lower limb            | 1                          | 10                                  | 30                            |
| Er et al <sup>25</sup> (2012)          | Upper arm             | 1                          | 5                                   | 20                            |
| Young et al <sup>26</sup> (2012)       | Upper arm             | 1                          | 5                                   | 15                            |
| Pedersen et al <sup>27</sup> (2012)    | Lower limb            | 1                          | 5                                   | 20                            |
| Lucchinetti et al <sup>28</sup> (2012) | Lower limb            | 1                          | 5                                   | 20                            |
| Luo et al <sup>29</sup> (2013)         | Upper arm             | 1                          | 5                                   | 15                            |

Abbreviation: RIPC, remote ischemic preconditioning.



**Figure 6.** Metaregression analysis indicated there was **no dose effect** of remote ischemic preconditioning using tourniquet cuff around the limb for acute kidney injury prevention **based on different ischemia durations** (coefficient = 0.08; 95% confidence interval, -0.74 to 0.90;  $P = 0.8$ ).

No consensus on exact method

But usually:

- After induction of anaesthesia, before surgery
- 3-4 cycles 5 mins ischemia-reperfusion
- Upper arm
- 40-50mmHg above SBP or at 200mmHg
- No dose-effect relationship



Simple sphygmometer



Electronic device for RIPC

# Conclusion

- Remote ischemic preconditioning (RIPC)
  - Easy
  - Non-invasive
  - Cost – effective
  - Simple
- Growing evidence to show its effectiveness in reducing post op AKI, RRT, MI, ICU stay in major cardiovascular surgery
- Study on its use in AAA EVAR repair is currently limited by the complexity of EVAR procedure
- May also have beneficial effect in patients with high or very high risk of CIN