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- 0462 EFFECT OF SULPHINPYRAZONE (SP) ASPIRIN (ASA) AND DIPYRIDAMOLE (DP) ON PLATELET-VESSEL WALL INTERACTION AFTER ORAL ADMINISTRATION TO RABBITS. J.A. Davies* & V.C. Menys, University Department of Medicine, Leeds, U.K.

Clinical trials of anti-platelet drugs have suggested that they may be useful in the prevention of thrombotic disease. While such drugs inhibit platelet function, those which act on cyclo-oxygenase also reduce PGI_2 synthesis and may interfere with the natural antithrombotic properties of the vessel wall. We studied the effects of SP, ASA and DP *ex vivo* on the platelet-vessel wall interaction. Rabbits were dosed by mouth with drug (at about twice the weight-adjusted human dose) or placebo for 5 days, then exsanguinated and aortas removed. Washed platelets prepared from the blood were labelled with ^{51}Cr and their adhesion to everted aorta prepared from treated or control rabbits was measured in a perfusion device. PGI_2 -like activity in aortic rings was assayed by its inhibitory effect on platelet aggregation to ADP. Adhesion of platelets to aortas from SP-treated rabbits was increased ($p < 0.025$), PGI_2 -like activity was partially inhibited, but overall adhesion of SP-treated platelets to aortas from SP-treated animals reduced by 30% ($p < 0.02$). Adhesion to aortas of ASA-treated rabbits was slightly increased ($p > 0.1$), PGI_2 -like activity abolished, and no overall reduction in platelet adhesion seen. DP had no effect on adhesion or PGI_2 -like activity. These results support the evidence that cyclo-oxygenase inhibitors reduce the inherent resistance of the vessel wall to platelet adhesion. However with SP, inhibitory effects on platelets appear to be more important.

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- 0463 MODULATION BY DIPYRIDAMOLE OF THE ARACHIDONIC ACID METABOLIC PATHWAY IN PLATELETS. AN IN VIVO AND IN VITRO STUDY

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Dipyridamole is a useful antiplatelet agent in specific clinical conditions, but its effects on TxB_2 production by platelets are now being debated. Resting platelets from patients with 1.5-2 $\mu g/ml$ serum dipyridamole (spectrofluorimetric assay), administered by venous infusion or by oral route, showed an increased concentration (m.v. +58%, $P < 0.001$) of cAMP (radiometric assay). After stimulation with thrombin (5U/ml) platelets produced a significantly decreased amount of TxB_2 (m.v. -60%, $P < 0.001$) (radioimmunoassay with antibody kindly supplied by Doctor J.B. Smith, Philadelphia). However also after stimulation with arachidonic acid (A.A.) 1 mM TxB_2 production was decreased (m.v. -50%, $P < 0.001$). The incubation of control platelets with different concentrations of dipyridamole (0.5, 1 and 2 $\mu g/ml$) for 20 min at 37°C resulted in an increase of cAMP and in a decrease of TxB_2 production after stimulation with thrombin and with A.A. These results indicate that dipyridamole is endowed with direct antiaggregating activity caused by a decreased production of TxB_2 . This in turn seems due to an inhibitory modulating effect of cAMP on arachidonic acid cyclo-oxygenation. However our findings do not rule out an inhibitory effect also on phospholipase A_2 .

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- 0464 INCREASE OF CIRCULATING PGI_2 AND PGI_2 RELEASED BY VESSEL WALL AFTER DIPYRIDAMOLE

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PGI_2 present in circulating blood is produced by the lungs (Gryglewski et al. 1978) and in humans can be also produced by vessel wall after 3 min. ischemia (Neri Serneri et al. 1978). We studied the effects of Dipyridamole (Dp) on circulating PGI_2 and on its release by vessel wall induced by ischemia. PGI_2 was assayed by Vane superfusion technique. Dp in acute infusion such to deliver a 1.5-2 $\mu g/ml$ serum concentration (spectrofluorimetric determination) provoked in 4 patients an increase in circulating PGI_2 (between 30% and 500%); in 2 patients the appearance of PGI_2 previously undetectable; and no changes in the last 2 patients. Also PGI_2 production by vessel wall after ischemia was increased by Dp in 6 out of 8 patients but at a lesser extent (increase of PGI_2 output between 12% and 40%). The effects of Dp were prevented by pretreatment with indomethacin. Our results indicate that antiaggregating activity of Dp *in vivo* is connected not only with its effects on platelets, but also to enhanced production of PGI_2 not necessarily due to an increased level of intracellular cAMP.