

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Cardiology

Manuscript NO: 61460

Title: Efficacy and safety of Dabigatran, Rivaroxaban, and Apixaban compared to Warfarin in Asian patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Reviewer's code: 00742373

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-12-08

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-01-07 01:05

Reviewer performed review: 2021-01-07 03:38

Review time: 2 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript titled “Efficacy and safety of Dabigatran, Rivaroxaban, and Apixaban compared to Warfarin in Asian patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation: A systematic review and meta-analysis” reviewed and synthesized the data of the efficacy and safety of dabigatran, rivaroxaban, and apixaban compared to warfarin for stroke prevention in Asian patients without atrial fibrillation. The manuscript included 12 studies with 440563 patients resulting in the conclusion of that dabigatran, rivaroxaban, and apixaban were associated with a significant reduction in the incidence of ischemic stroke, all-cause mortality, and major bleeding compared to warfarin. They suggested these novel oral anticoagulants were superior to warfarin in both efficacy and safety in Asians with non-valvular AF. Stroke is the second leading cause of death and a major cause of disability worldwide. In recent decade, the wide use of novel oral anticoagulants (NOACs) for stroke prevention have been reported. A systematic review to conclude the outcomes is helpful for clinicians to choose the best preventive medicine, especially for these Asians with non-valvular AF. The study procedure was formal and complete with the registration to PROSPERO, conduct the meta-analysis with the guideline of PRISMA. The searching terms were focused but also including various related terms. The including and excluding criteria were clearly described. The meta-analysis conducted a well study on dabigatran, rivaroxaban, and apixaban comparing to warfarin individually for ischemic stroke, all-cause mortality and major bleeding. The anticoagulant mechanism of these drugs in preventing stroke were also discussed in the manuscript. Comments and suggestions: • While reviewing the database including in the study, reviewer feel it would be better including ClinicalTial.gov database into the synthesized meta-analyzing. • Figure E, data for apixaban is lack of the gastrointestinal



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bleeding data. • Tables, suggest to use three-line tables, or following the guidelines for tables of the journal.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Cardiology

Manuscript NO: 61460

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Reviewer's code: 00742373

Position: Editorial Board

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Professional title: Professor

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Author's Country/Territory: United States

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Reviewer chosen by: Han Zhang (Part-Time Editor)

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-02-22 06:39

Reviewer performed review: 2021-02-22 07:01

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is pleased to see the improvement in the present manuscript. By reviewing the comments to the first manuscript, the ClinicalTial.gov database was included into the synthesized meta-analyzing, data for apixaban added to Fig E, and tables were improved.