



Colchicine for Post-operative Pericardial Effusion: The Post-Operative Pericardial Effusion (POPE-2) Study.

A Multicenter, Double-blind, Randomized Trial

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Disclosures

- ✓ Concerning this study: no conflict of interest
 - All the authors/investigators worked for free
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- ✓ Other relationships with pharmaceutical companies:
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Background and Objectives



Post-Operative Pericardial Diseases

- ✓ Before post-op day 7: Phase 1
 - Post-operative pericardial effusion (POPE): 50-80% patients
 - Early tamponades: haemopericardium: 0.5 to 1% of the patients
- ✓ After post-op day 7: Phase 2
 - Post pericardiotomy syndrom (PPS): COPPS-1¹ and **2** studies
 - Persisting moderate to large POPE: POPE-1² and **2** studies

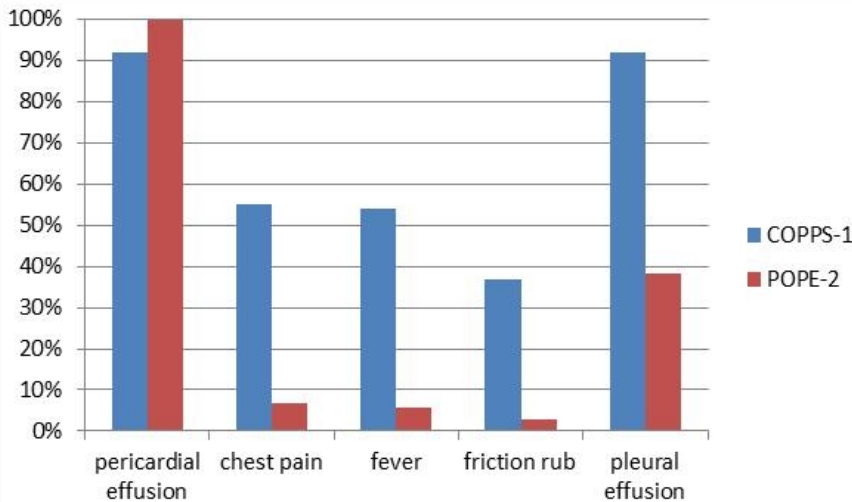


Post Operative Pericardial Diseases after day 7: PPS and POPES are very different

Symptoms :

PPS : yes 

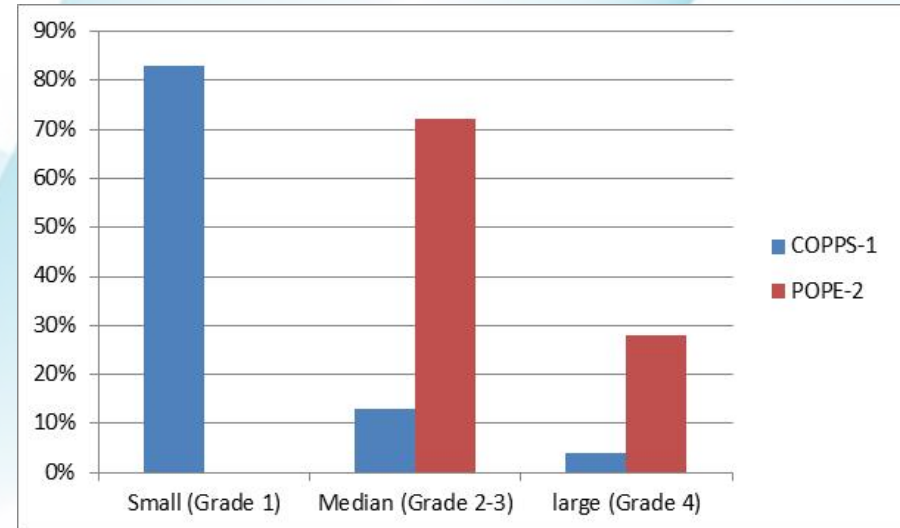
POPES ≈ no 



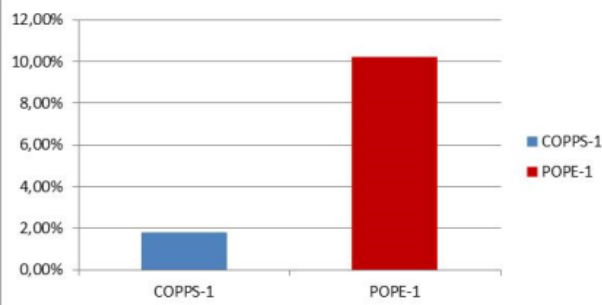
Effusions:

PPS ≈ no or small 

POPES: yes, large 



Pericardial Drainage Necessity



To sum-up:

- PPS: acute **Pericarditis**, but low Tamponade Risk
- POPES: **Effusion** initially asymptomatic, but high Tamponade Risk



Treatment of POPEs

- ✓ Non Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) are useless¹
- ✓ What about colchicine ?
 - Very efficient to treat acute pericarditis²
 - (Add-on NSAID or aspirin)
 - Efficient to prevent Post Pericardiotomy Syndrom³
 - Efficient to treat post operative pericardial effusions ?



POPE-2 **Study:** Methods



POPE-2 **Study: methods (1)**

- ✓ **Objective:** to assess whether colchicine was effective in reducing post operative pericardial effusion (POPE) volume.
- ✓ **Design:** multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study
- ✓ **Setting:** Ten post operative cardiac rehabilitation centers (POCRC).
- ✓ **Patients:** 197 patients at high risk of tamponade
- ✓ **Treatment administration:** 14 days (colchicine or placebo)
 - Pts \geq 70kg: 2.0 mg for the first day followed by a maintenance dose of 1 mg daily
 - Pts $<$ 70 kg 1 mg per day without a loading dose

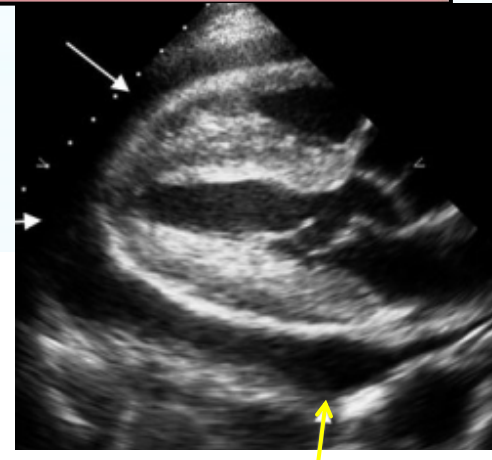
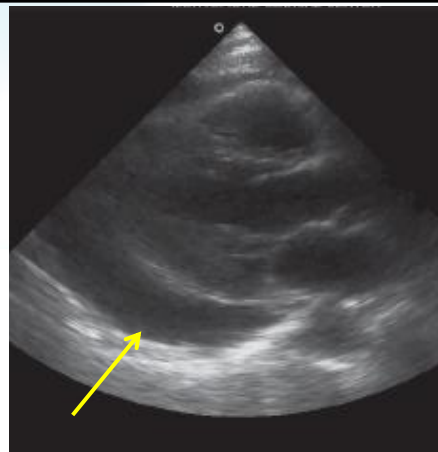


Methods (2)

Quantification of POPEs: echocardiographic classification 1,2

Grade at Day 15 (8-29)	Loculated	Circumferential	Estimated Late Tamponade Risk at Day 30
0	0	0	0
1- Small	< 10 mm	0	0
2-Moderate	10-14 mm	< 10 mm	2-7%
3-Medium	15-19 mm	10-14 mm	15%
4-Large	≥ 20 mm	≥ 15 mm	25-45%

Blue brackets on the right side of the table group the rows for grades 2, 3, and 4, with a label $\approx 10\%$ pointing to the 15% risk value for grade 3.





POPE-2 Study: Methods (3)

- ✓ Inclusion criteria:
 - Persistent pericardial effusion \geq grade 2 on the echocardiography performed at admission in POCRC (8 to 30 days after surgery)

- ✓ Exclusion criteria:
 - Colchicine contra-indication (allergy, pregnancy, renal failure, ...)
 - Cardiac transplantation or correction of congenital heart anomalies



Methods (4)

Quantification of POPEs Volume

Main endpoint:

**Mean (echographic) Pericardial Effusion Grade (MPEG)
evolution in the 2 groups (colchicine and placebo)**

Example:

Determination of the Mean Pericardial Effusion Grade of a group of patients:

(Fictional) Group: 3 patients

Patient n°1: Grade 2 POPE

Patient n°2: Grade 3 POPE

Patient n°3: Grade 4 POPE

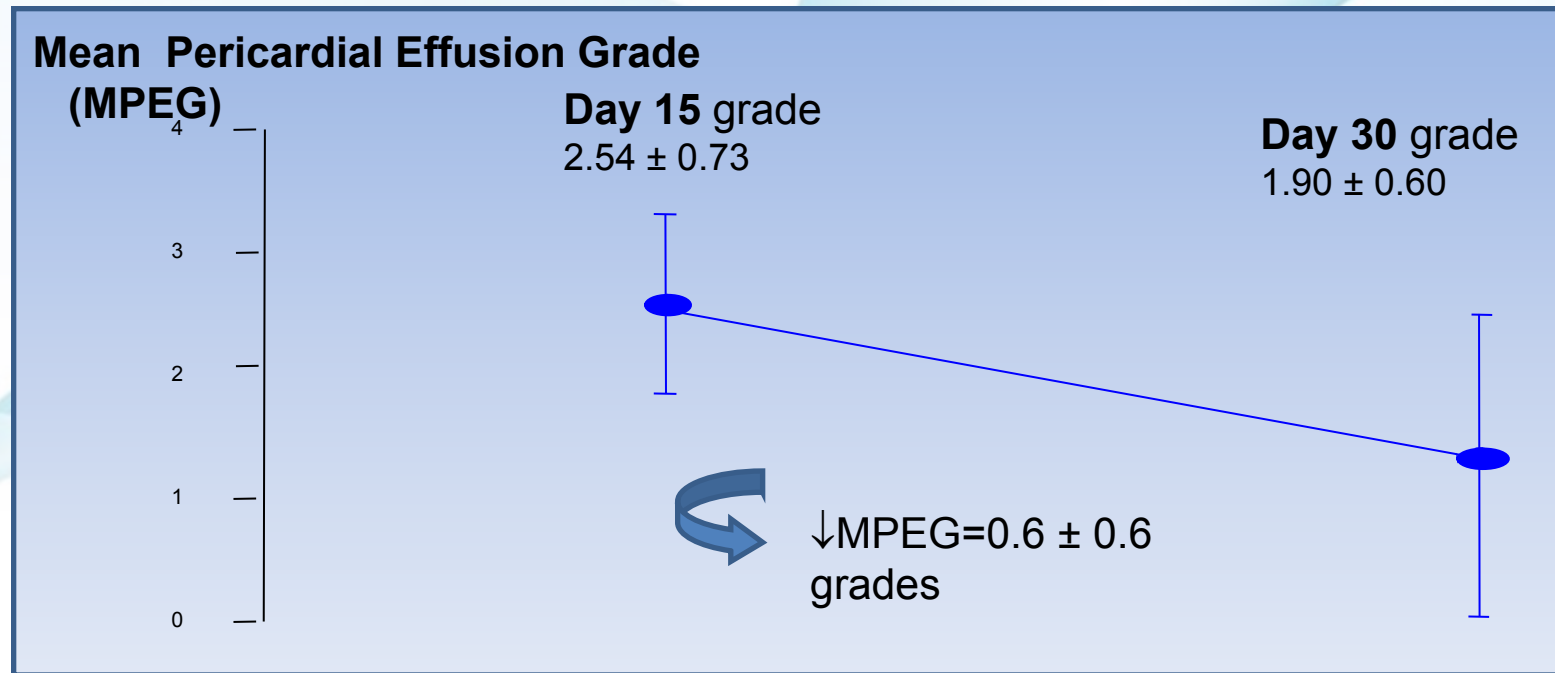
Mean Pericardial Effusion Grade of this fictional Group=
 $(2+3+4)/3= 3$



Methods (5)

Spontaneous evolution of the Mean pericardial Effusion Grade: Data from a previous study¹

Follow up of POPEs in 1277 consecutive patients





Methods (6):

Statistical Power

- ✓ Mean pericardial effusion grade (MPEG) decrease
 - Between the inclusion and the final echocardiographies
 - Expected to be of 0.6 grades in the placebo group
- ✓ Sample size assessment: 86 patients per group
 - 80% power to detect a supplementary reduction of 50% of the MPEG with colchicine (versus placebo)
 - Two-sided type 1 error of 5 %

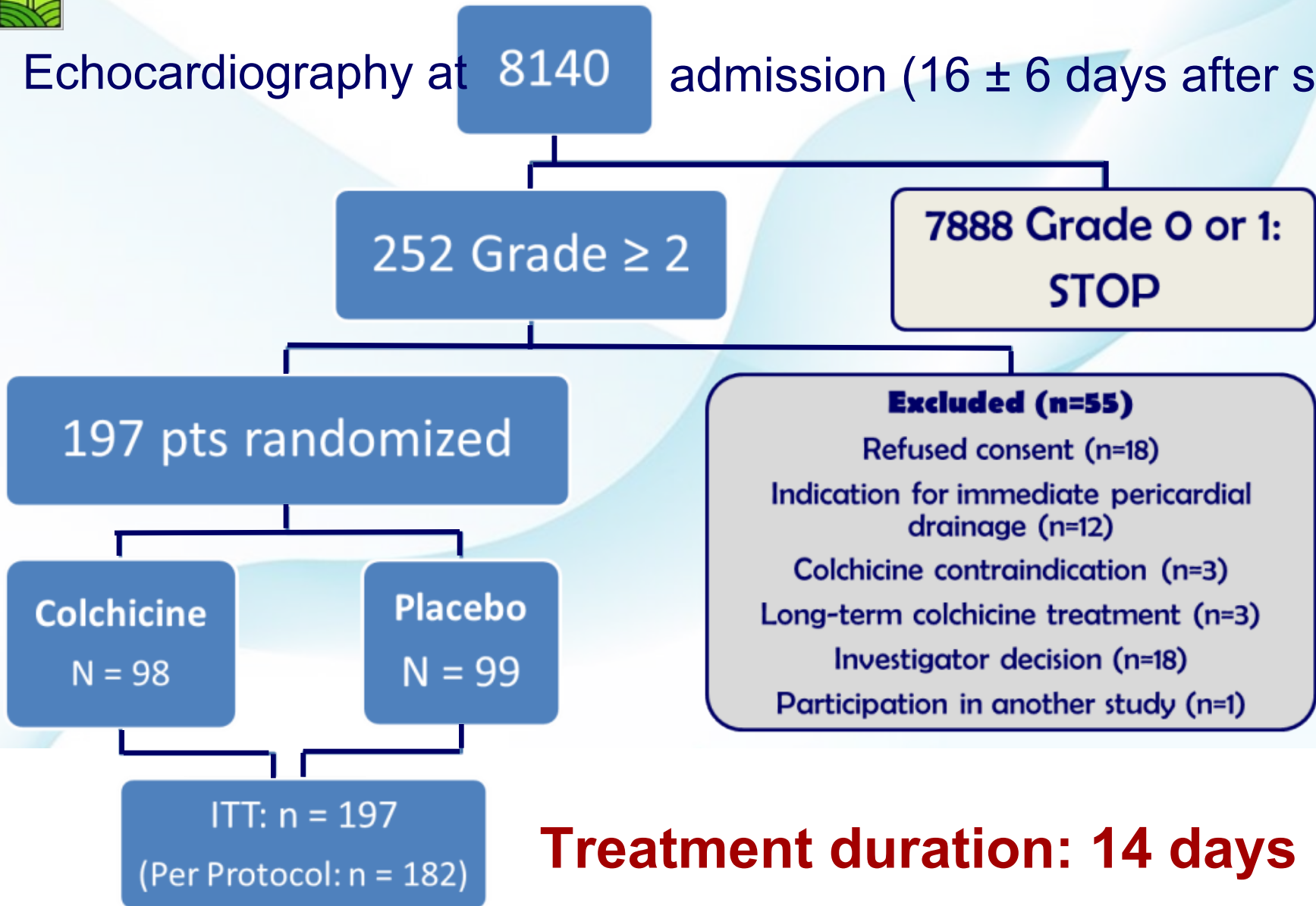


Results

From April 2011 to March 2013



Echocardiography at 8140 admission (16 ± 6 days after surgery)



Treatment duration: 14 days

Baseline Characteristics

	Placebo Group (n = 99)	Colchicine Group (n = 98)
Mean Age (SD), years	65±10.	64±12
Male (%)	88 (89%)	82 (84%)
Surgery performed	52%	59%
- CABG	48%	35%
- Ao Valve Replacement	39%	27%
- Mitral Valve Surgery	15%	15%
- Root Aorta Surgery		
Delay surgery-inclusion	16 ±5	16±5
Oral anticoagulants	51 %	53 %
- INR at inclusion (SD)	2.4 ± 0,7	2.4 ± 0,79
POPE mean grade: MPEG	2.9 ± 0.8	3.0 ± 0.8
Grade 2	35%	27%
Grade 3	36%	43%
Grade 4	28%	28%

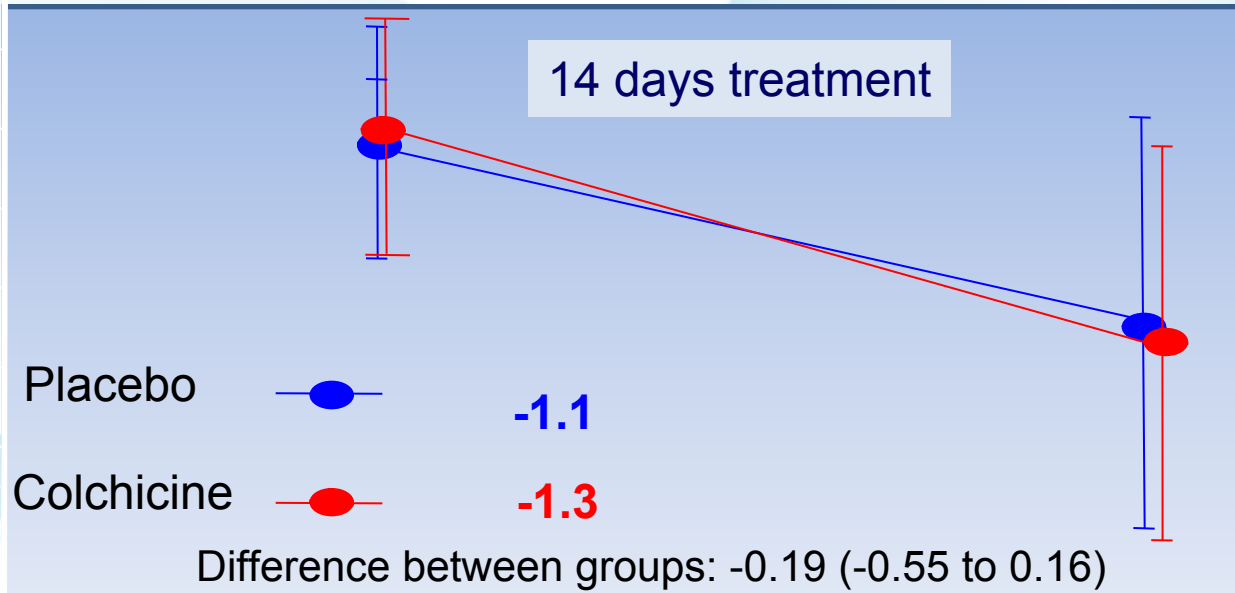


Primary Endpoint: Mean Pericardial Effusion Grade Decrease



Echo n°1

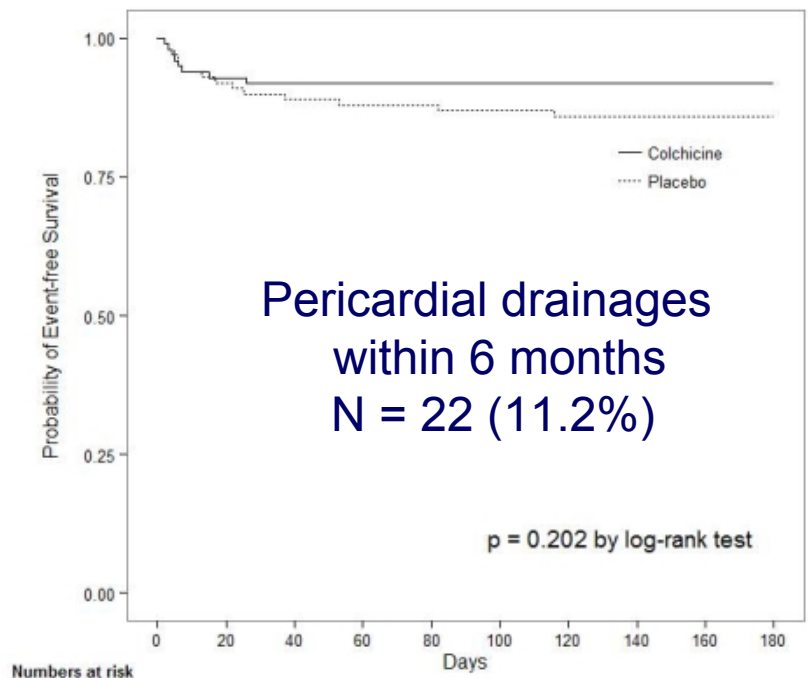
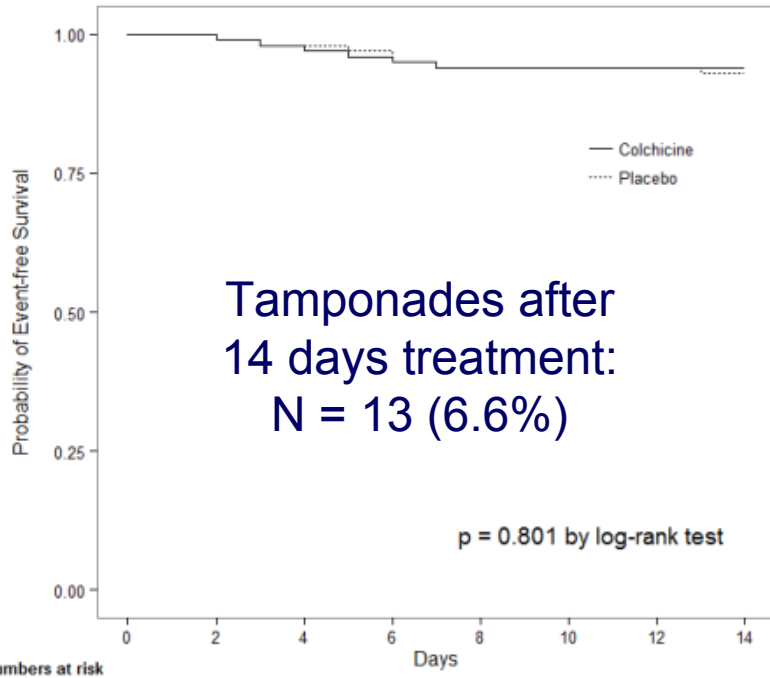
Echo n°2



Grade	Placebo	Colchicine	Mean (95% CI)	p
	2.9 ± 0.8	3.0 ± 0.8		
	1.8 ± 1.3	1.7 ± 1.2		
	-1.1 ± 1.3	-1.3 ± 1.3	-0.19 (-0.55 to 0.16)	0.23



Secondary Endpoints



	Placebo Group (n = 99)	Colchicine Group (n = 98)	p
Patients with at least 1 grade decrease	67%	74%	0,27
Reduction of the Echo free space width (mm)	-4.7 ± 6.9	-5.8 ± 6.1	0.23
Atrial Fibrillation at the end of the study	12%	15%	0,51



Prespecified Sub-Groups Analysis

MPEG decrease (grades) in Patients	Placebo Group (n=99)	Colchicine Group (n=98)	95% CI	p
With CRP level \geq 30mg/l (n=82)	-1.3 \pm 1.4	-1.4 \pm 1.4	-0.11 (-0.72 to 0.49)	0.81
Receiving an oral anticoagulant (n=102)	-0.9 \pm 1.3	-1.4 \pm 1.2	-0.48 (-0.99 to 0.02)	0.06
Per Protocol Analysis (n=182)	-1.1 \pm 1.3	-1.3 \pm 1.3	0.18 (-0.56 to 0.20)	0.28



Conclusion:

**Moderate to large persisting (> 7 days)
post operative pericardial effusion:
What does this study add ?**

1-

High risk patients: 11,5% reoperation within 6 months:

- 6,6 % tamponades in the 2 following weeks
- Another 5 % will require pericardial drainage within 6 months

2- Colchicine administration seems to be useless

[PS: NSAID administration seems to be useless (POPE-1



Thanks to

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Patients



Back-up slide

- ✓ High power of the study to assess Colchicine effectiveness
 - Theoretical sample size: 172
 - Included: 197

- ✓ Study underpowered to test colchicine safety:
 - 13 patients did not complete the study
 - 10 in the colchicine group:
 - ✓ Diarrhea (n = 7), constipation (n = 1), digestive haemorrhage (n = 1), leucopenia (n = 1)
 - 3 in the placebo group
 - ✓ Stroke (n = 1), constipation (n = 1), consentment withdrawal (n = 1)