

CU1.

DRUG TREATMENT OF ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION: FIRST 48 HOURS

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A descriptive cross sectional study was conducted to survey the drugs prescribed to patients with acute myocardial infarction (AMI) within the first 48 hours of admission to a cardiology unit, Teaching hospital, Kandy (CUTHK) and to trace for deviations from the standard therapy, if any.

The study sample consisted of 68 patients with AMI admitted to the CUTHK from 1998 October 1st to December 31st. The standard and adjuvant drugs prescribed for AMI within the first 48 hours of admission were extracted from the clinical records by using a pre-prepared questionnaire.

Of 68 patients 47 received morphine for pain; streptokinase has been administered to 57 patients and reasons for omission were sub-endocardial infarction, (n-5) presenting after 12 hours of onset of chest pain (n-4), and severe hypertension (n-2). All the study patients were given aspirin. Angiotensine converting enzyme inhibitor was prescribed to 56% of patients (n 38/68) As an adjuvant, nitrates have been used in almost all the study subjects (n 64/68).

All the four drugs recommended for AMI in the standard therapy have been used, whilst nitrates have been routinely prescribed as an adjuvant. No deviations observed from the standard therapy.

References:

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