



## Review

# Antiplatelet activity of drugs used in hypertension, dyslipidemia and diabetes: Additional benefit in cardiovascular diseases prevention

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## ARTICLE INFO

## Keywords:

Antiplatelet  
Hypertension  
Diabetes  
Drugs  
Cardiovascular diseases

## ABSTRACT

Beyond its function in hemostasis, platelets activation has an important role in cardiovascular diseases (CVD) development. There are different clinical conditions that can mediate abnormal platelet activation and favors pathological thrombosis and CVD. These include Hypertension, diabetes and dyslipidemia, all risks factors from CVD development. Different drugs employed in the handled of these conditions have showed decreases platelet activation and related markers. This effect is in part by improved the base condition; however someone of these drugs can modulate platelet targets. We discuss about underlying mechanisms and the possible implications in the treatment of CVD.

## 1. Introduction

Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) are the first cause of death in the world and strategies focuses in its prevention have been assembled, which includes changes in lifestyle and drug treatment. Due to the role of platelets in thrombosis development [1], they are frequent therapeutic target in the prevention of CVD [2]. Hypertension, diabetes and dyslipidemia are risk factors for the development of CVD [3] and pharmacological treatment focused on combating these factors is a spearhead in prevention schemes. Furthermore, in these conditions there is a state of platelet hyper-activation and a decrease in the effectiveness of antithrombotic therapy [1,4,5]. Different drugs used in the treatment of these risk factors have been shown decrease platelet activation and prevent the development of CVD. This effect could be due to an improvement in the base condition. However some of these drugs have been shown directly modulate platelet at clinically significant concentrations, which means an additional protective role against developing CVD. We review the antiplatelet effects of different drugs used in prevention of CVD focusing in hypertension, diabetes and dyslipidemia management, that involve a disorder in hemostasis and possible mechanisms behind these effects.

## 2. Management of cardiovascular disease

Because cardiovascular diseases are the first leading cause of death and disability in the world, health systems have developed strategies to decrease their prevalence in the population. Strategy focuses on general population aims reduce CVD in broad-spectrum population through lifestyle and environmental changes [6]. High-risk approach focused on management of people with high risk factors. Two levels are distinguished, those people who have high risk of developing a first cardiovascular event (*i.e.* primary prevention), or those with established CVD and high risk factor prevalence (*i.e.* secondary prevention) [6]. High risk approaches, in addition to considering the early detection of the population at risk and changes in lifestyle, generally include pharmacological treatment. Hypertension, dyslipidemia, hyperglycemia and diabetes are individual risk factors for the development of CVD. A common approach is to directly attack these factors with lifestyle changes [7–9] or by using pharmacological therapy [10,11].

## 3. Drugs used in prevention of cardiovascular diseases

Pharmacological treatment is pivotal on CVD prevention and it target specific state or risk factors.

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Received 13 October 2016; Received in revised form 3 February 2017; Accepted 21 March 2017

Available online 22 March 2017

1537-1891/ © 2017 Published by Elsevier Inc.

**Table 1**  
Drugs with antiplatelet activity.

| Use          | Type                              | Drug                            | Model                                                | Dossases        | Duration                                                                                                                               | Effects                                                                                                                | Ref                                                                                                   |      |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Hypertension | AT <sub>1</sub> receptor blockers | Losartan                        | Human                                                | 50 mg/day       | 4 weeks                                                                                                                                | Significantly reduced P-selectin platelets expression                                                                  | [47]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i> | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i>                      | 10 μM           |                                                                                                                                        | Reduced TxA2-R agonist induced aggregation                                                                             | [114]                                                                                                 |      |
|              | Calcium channel blockers          | Irbesartan                      | Hamsters                                             | 1 and 10 μM     | 16 weeks                                                                                                                               | Reduced TxA2-R agonist induced aggregation                                                                             | [51]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Nifedipine                      | Human                                                | 10 mg/kg        | 30–60 mg/day                                                                                                                           | Decreases P-selectin expression and modulate PI3K/Akt signaling                                                        | [46]                                                                                                  |      |
|              | NHE-1 inhibitors                  |                                 | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i>                      | Human           | 1, 5 μM                                                                                                                                | Reduced adrenaline- and collagen-stimulated aggregation                                                                | [53]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Amlodipine                      | Human                                                | 5–10 mg/day     | 24-Month                                                                                                                               | Increased the activity and intracellular expression of PPAR-β/-γ                                                       | [54]                                                                                                  |      |
| Cariporide   |                                   | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i> | Human                                                | 2 μg/ml         | Reduced platelet volume, P-selectin exp. and spelec and beta tromboglobulina (β-TG) levels                                             | [57]                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                       |      |
| Eniporide    |                                   | Human                           | 2.5 and 100 mg (i)                                   |                 | At low pH inhibited ADP induces P-selectin, PAC-1 union and platelet-leucocyte aggregates                                              | [66]                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                       |      |
| β-Blockers   | Zoniporide                        | Rabbits                         | 0.25–4 mg/kg/h                                       |                 | Inhibited NHE-1-mediated platelet swelling                                                                                             | [62]                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                       |      |
|              |                                   | Human                           | 5 mg/day                                             | 2 weeks         | Inhibited NHE-1-mediated platelet swelling                                                                                             | [63]                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                       |      |
|              | Pindolol                          | Human                           | 5 mg/day                                             | 2 weeks         | Threshold values of ADP and adrenaline for irreversible aggregation were higher than for propranolol. Increases plasmatic cAMP levels. | [67]                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                       |      |
|              | Propranolol                       | Human                           | 640 mg/day                                           |                 | Inhibited platelets thromboxane synthesis and platelet aggregation induced by thrombin or arachidonic acid.                            | [115]                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                       |      |
|              |                                   | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i> | Human                                                | 10–100 μM       |                                                                                                                                        | Inhibited TxB2 production induced by collagen, preserve cAMP levels at basal and forskolin stimulated, but no for PGE1 | [45]                                                                                                  |      |
|              | Dyslipidemies                     | Statins                         | Metoprolol                                           | Human           | 100 mg/day                                                                                                                             | 2 weeks                                                                                                                | Threshold values of ADP and adrenaline for irreversible aggregation were higher than for propranolol. | [79] |
| Simvastatin  |                                   |                                 | Human                                                | 20 mg/day       | 24 weeks                                                                                                                               | Decrease of platelet-derived microparticles, P-selectins and plasmatic P-selectin levels.                              | [67]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i> | Human                                                | 20–50 μM        |                                                                                                                                        | Decrease Ca2, TxA2 formation, PLCγ2 and PKC activation, increases NO, cAMP γ cGMP levels and VASP activation           | [76]                                                                                                  |      |
| Fibrates     |                                   | Atorvastatina                   | Human                                                | 10 mg/day       | 3 days                                                                                                                                 | Decrease platelet CD40L and plasmatic sCD40L                                                                           | [72]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Gemfibrozil                     | Human                                                | 10 mg/day       | 4 weeks                                                                                                                                | Decrease platelet P-selectin                                                                                           | [71]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   |                                 | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i> , enzymatic activity | Human           | 10–200 μM                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                        | sGC NO independent activator, inhibited platelet aggregation, VASP activation.                        | [79] |
| Diabetes     | Biguanidine                       | Metformin                       | Human                                                | 850–2550 mg/day | 12 weeks                                                                                                                               | Decrease 11-dehydro-thromboxane B(2) increase antioxidant levels                                                       | [88]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Sulfonylurea                    | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i>                      | Human           | 7.5–480 μM                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                        | ADP-induced platelet aggregation inhibitor IC25 15.9 μM                                               | [92] |
|              | Thiazolidinediones                | Glimepiride                     | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i>                      | Human           | 20–40 μM                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                        | Decrease Ca <sup>2+</sup> releases induced by thrombin, inhibited the cyclooxygenase pathway          | [94] |
|              |                                   | Gliclazide                      | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i>                      | Human           | 7.5–480 μM                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                        | ADP-induced platelet aggregation inhibitor IC25 18.6 μM                                               | [92] |
|              |                                   | Gliquidone                      | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i>                      | Human           | 7.5–480 μM                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                        | ADP-induced platelet aggregation inhibitor IC25 20.4 μM                                               | [92] |
|              |                                   | Glibendamide                    | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i>                      | Human           | 20–40 μM                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                        | Inhibited (Ca2 + j) elevation induced by thrombin, cyclooxygenase and 12-lipoxygenase pathways        | [94] |
|              |                                   | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i> | Human                                                | 1.56–25 μM      |                                                                                                                                        | Inhibited (Ca2 + j) elevation induced by arachidonic acid                                                              | [93]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Human platelets <i>in vitro</i> | Human                                                | 1–10 μM         |                                                                                                                                        | Inhibited aggregation induced by the TPR agonist                                                                       | [96]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Pioglitazone                    | Human                                                | 15–45 mg/day    | 24 weeks                                                                                                                               | Decreases PAC-1, p-selectin ADP induces activation                                                                     | [99]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Glipizide                       | Human                                                | 5–10 mg/day     | 24 weeks                                                                                                                               | Decreases PAC-1, p-selectin ADP induces activation                                                                     | [99]                                                                                                  |      |
|              |                                   | Rosiglitazone                   | Human                                                | 4–8 mg/day      | 12 weeks                                                                                                                               | Decreases P-selectin in patients without DMT2                                                                          | [100]                                                                                                 |      |

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