

THE PRESENT AND FUTURE

STATE-OF-THE-ART REVIEW

2017 Cardiovascular and Stroke Endpoint Definitions for Clinical Trials



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ABSTRACT

This publication describes uniform definitions for cardiovascular and stroke outcomes developed by the Standardized Data Collection for Cardiovascular Trials Initiative and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA established the Standardized Data Collection for Cardiovascular Trials Initiative in 2009 to simplify the design and conduct of clinical trials intended to support marketing applications. The writing committee recognizes that these definitions may be used in other types of clinical trials and clinical care processes where appropriate. Use of these definitions at the FDA has enhanced the ability to aggregate data within and across medical product development programs, conduct meta-analyses to evaluate cardiovascular safety, integrate data from multiple trials, and compare effectiveness of drugs and devices. Further study is needed to determine whether prospective data collection using these common definitions improves the design, conduct, and interpretability of the results of clinical trials. (*J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018;71:1021-34) Published jointly by the American College of Cardiology Foundation and American Heart Association, Inc.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACC = American College of Cardiology

ACS = acute coronary syndrome

AHA = American Heart Association

AMI = acute myocardial infarction

CABG = coronary artery bypass graft surgery

CEC = clinical events committee

CK = creatine kinase

cTn = cardiac troponin

CV = cardiovascular

ESC = European Society of Cardiology

HF = heart failure

hs-cTn = high-sensitivity cardiac troponin

MI = myocardial infarction

PCI = percutaneous coronary intervention

STEMI = ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction

SCTI = Standardized Data Collection for Cardiovascular Trials Initiative

UDMI = Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction

URL = upper reference limit

This publication describes uniform definitions for cardiovascular (CV) and stroke outcomes developed by the Standardized Data Collection for Cardiovascular Trials Initiative (SCTI) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA established the SCTI in 2009 to simplify the design and conduct of clinical trials intended to support marketing applications. Specifically, the FDA convened the SCTI based on the need for standardization following the FDA's publication in December 2008 of the guidance for industry titled "Diabetes Mellitus—Evaluating Cardiovascular Risk in New Antidiabetic Therapies to Treat Type 2 Diabetes" (1) and in response to a growing interest in developing a universal medical vocabulary for CV and stroke outcomes. The SCTI includes representatives from academia, professional societies, the Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium (CDISC), Health Level 7 International, the Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative, pharmaceutical and CV device manufacturers, and the FDA, including the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and the Center for Devices and Radiological Health (Online Appendix 1 and SCTI Contributors). A major limitation in comparing outcomes among trials within and across drug and device development programs has been

the lack of uniform definitions for key endpoint events. Pre-specified endpoint definitions that are characterized by objective criteria and reported uniformly can help address this problem. Drafts of the SCTI's CV and stroke outcome definitions have been available in the public domain since 2009 ("Standardized Definitions for Cardiovascular Outcomes Trials: Draft Recommendations," dated July 22, 2009 and discussed at the public meeting on September 11, 2009). SCTI posted these definitions for public comment on the CDISC website from November 2010 through January 2011 and on the American College of Cardiology (ACC)/American Heart Association (AHA) website from March through April of 2014 (2).

The goal of this document is to provide a framework of definitions for CV and stroke outcomes in clinical trials to assess the safety and effectiveness of a particular treatment (Online Appendixes 2 to 12). These definitions are based on published medical data; clinical and research expertise; published definitions and guidelines; and SCTI's interpretation of specific laboratory tests, diagnostic tests, and imaging techniques.

All definitions have limitations and will not be satisfactory in every case. Some flexibility in applying the proposed definitions may be necessary to address the specific population being studied, intervention under investigation, duration of follow-up, and disease process. Outcome measures appropriate for a particular trial may vary according to the type and objectives of the clinical trial itself, the therapeutic

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