

Sacubitril/Valsartan: A New Antihypertensive Drug in the Future?

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<u>ABSTRACT</u>

Hypertension is one of the leading epidemic factors of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease around the world. Many researchers have found that Sacubitril/Valsartan, the single angiotensin receptor-neprilysin inhibitor, played a critical role in lowering hypertension. However, Sacubitril/Valsartan's indications and usage for hypertension has not been accepted in the world, except for China. The mechanism of Sacubitril/Valsartan's antihypertensive effect is clear, including inhibiting renin-angiotensin system and reducing natriuretic peptides' degradation. In this article, we retrieved and reviewed all clinical studies that explored the effect of Sacubitril/Valsartan or its safety in the treatment of hypertension patients. Most studies concluded that in comparison with traditional antihypertensive drugs (mainly including angiotensin receptor blockers or amlodipine), Sacubitril/Valsartan was firmly effective and safe. Thus, we deduce that Sacubitril/Valsartan' indication for hypertension will be paid more attention and may be included in guideline for hypertension soon.

Key Words: Sacubitril/Valsartan; Hypertension; Efficacy; Safety

INTRODUCTION

Hypertension, as a main risk factor for cardio-cerebrovascular disease, is prevalent all over the world [1]. As a critical clinical treatment for hypertension, antihypertensive drugs have mainly included angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, angiotensin II receptor antagonists, beta-blockers, diuretics, and calcium channel blockers. Although these antihypertensive drugs are used widely, the control rate of hypertension is still low [1]. In consideration that one of the main adverse events from Sacubitril/Valsartan was hypotension in the treatment of heart failure, large numbers of studies paid much attention to the antihypertensive effect of Sacubitril/Valsartan in hypertension patients. The pharmacological mechanisms of Sacubitril/ Valsartan in lowering hypertension are inhibiting degradation of natriuretic peptides by neprilysin and antagonizing renin-angiotensin system [2]. Until now, Sacubitril/Valsartan's indication for the treatment of hypertension has not been enrolled, except for China. In this review, we listed these studies in **Table 1** and discussed the evidence on Sacubitril/Valsartan lowering hypertension.

Table 1: Ten RCTs, seven meta-analyses and one open-label study showed the evidence on Sacubitril/Valsartan lowering hypertension

RCT	Open-label study	RCT	RCT	RCT	RCT(the PARAMETER study)	RCT(the RATIO study)	RCT	RCT
24446062	25693859	29338113	28992296	29029087	28093466	28338503	28030431	30536595
Received:	01-August-	2022	Manuscript N	lo: ipjda-2	2-14255			
Editor assigned:	03-August-	2022	PreQC No:	ipjda-2	2-14255(PQ)			
Reviewed:	17-August-	-2022	QC No:	ipjda-2	2-14255			
Revised:	22-August-	2022	Manuscript N	lo: ipjda-2	2-14255			
Published:	29-August-	2022	DOI:	10.366	48/2471-853X.	22.8.111		

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Citation Liu B, Rui Z, Zhang A, Jian W, Guangfang Z, et al. (2022) Sacubitril/Valsartan: A New Antihypertensive Drug in the Future? J Drug Abuse. 8:111.

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https://doi. org/10.1161/ hypertensiona- ha.113.02002 Kario et al. 2014 Japan Sacubitril/ valsartan vs. Placebo 100/200/400	https://doi. org/10.1038/ hr.2015.1 Ito et al. 2015 Japan Sacubitril/valsar- tan vs. Baseline	https://doi. org/10.1111/ jch.13153 Cheung et al. 2017 USA Sacubitril/ valsartan vs. Olmesartan 200 mg vs.	https://doi. org/10.1093/ ajh/hpx111 Supasyndh et al. 2017 Japan Sacubitril/ valsartan vs. Olmesartan 200 mg vs.	https://doi. org/10.1093/ eurheartj/ ehx525 Schmieder et al. 2017 Germany Sacubitril/ valsartan vs. Olmesartan 400 mg vs. 40	https://doi. org/10.1161/ hypertensiona- ha.116.08556 Williams et al. 2017 The United Kingdom Sacubitril/ valsartan vs. Olmesartan 400 mg vs. 20	https://doi.org /10.1097/fjc.00 000000 00000485 Izzo et al. 2017 USA Sacubitril/ valsartan vs. Valsartan 400 mg vs. 320	https://doi.or g/10.1097/hjh.0 0000000 00001219 Wang et al. 2017 China Sacubitril/valsar- tan/amlodipine vs. Amlodipine 200 mg/5 mg vs.	https://doi. org/10.1111/ jch.13437 Huo et al. 2019 China Sacubitril/ valsartan vs. Olmesartan 200/400 mg
mg	400 mg	20 mg	20 mg	mg	mg	mg	5 mg	vs. 20 mg
389 0	32 0. wa a ka	376	588	114 15 we also	454	907	255 0 waaka	1438 9. waaka
9 weeks The least squares mean differences in change from baseline in clinic diastolic blood pressure were -7.84, -7.29, and -8.76 mmHg for sacubitril/ valsartan 100, 200, and 400mg, respectively, compared with placebo (all P<0.0001). Similarly, the least squares mean differenc- es in change from baseline in clinic systolic blood pressure were -11.86, -12.57, and -15.38 mmHg for sacubitril/ valsartan 100, 200, and 400mg, respectively, compared with placebo (all P<0.0001).	9 weeks The mean sitting systolic blood pressure (mSSBP)±s.d. was reduced from 151.6±10.3 mmHg at baseline to 138.2±12.1 mmHg at week 2, followed by a further decrease to 132.2±10.8 mmHg at week 4, which remained stable there- after at week 6 (132.5±13.1 mmHg) and at week 8 (131.2±11.1 mmHg) and at week 8 (131.2±11.1 mmHg). The mean±s.d. de- crease in mSSBP from baseline to week 8 end point was 20.5±11.3 mmHg. The mean sitting diastolic blood pressure (msDBP) was reduced from 86.9±10.8mmHg at baseline to 81.7±10.1 mmHg at week 2, followed by a further decrease to 80.1±10.0 mmHg at week 4 and 79.4±10.4 mmHg at week 6 and remained stable until week 8 (78.8±10.7 mmHg). Mean±s.d. de- crease in msDBP from baseline to week 8 end point was 8.3±6.3 mmHg.	8 weeks Sacubitril/ valsartan 200 mg provided superior reductions in 24-hour mean ambulatory systolic blood pres- sure from baseline to week 8 vs. olmesartan 20 mg. Com- pared with olmesartan, sacubitril/ valsartan provided significantly greater least square mean reduction in 24-hour mean ambulatory diastolic blood pres- sure from baseline at week 8.	52 weeks At week 10, sacubitril/ valsartan provided su- perior office mean sitting systolic blood pressure reductions vs. olmesar- tan (22.71 vs. 16.11 mm Hg, respec- tively; P < 0.001).	15 weeks Central systolic blood pressure (SBP) and diastolic blood pressure (DBP) both decreased from baseline to 52 weeks, with no-signifi- cant differenc- es between the sacubitril/ valsartan and olmesar- tan patients (mean differ- ence: SBP: -3.03mmHg; 95% CI: -7.23, 1.17; P= 0.156; DBP: 0.11mmHg; 95% CI: -2.85, 3.08; P=0.939). The decrease in central pulse pressure was significantly greater in the sacubitril/val- sartan group (-6.54mmHg, 95% CI: -8.4, -4.67) compared to the olmesar- tan group (-3.04mmHg, 95% CI: -4.91, -1.17) after 52 weeks (mean difference: -3.50mmHg; 95% CI: -6.15, -0.85; P = 0.010).	52 weeks At week 12, sacubitril/val- sartan reduced central aortic systolic pres- sure greater than olmesartan by -3.7 mmHg (P=0.010), further cor- roborated by secondary assessments at week 12 (central aortic pulse pressure, -2.4 mmHg, P<0.012; mean 24-hour ambulatory brachial systolic blood pressure and central aortic systolic pressure, -4.1 mmHg and -3.6 mmHg, respectively, both P<0.001). Differences in 24-hour ambu- latory pressures were pro- nounced during sleep. After 52 weeks, blood pressure pa- rameters were similar between treatments (P<0.002); however, more patients required add-on antihyperten- sive therapy with olmesartan (47%) versus sacubitril/val- sartan (32%; P<0.002).	8 weeks Compared with valsartan 320 mg, sacubitril/ valsartan 400 mg provided significantly greater office blood pressure and pulse pres- sure reductions at endpoint: least squares mean (LSM) between-treat- ment difference (standard error) of -5.7 (1.7) mmHg for office systolic blood pressure, -2.3 (1.1) mmHg for office and diastolic blood pressure, and -3.4 (1.3) mmHg for office pulse pressure (P<0.05 for all).	8 weeks Sacubitril/valsar- tan/amlodipine combination therapy provided greater reductions in 24-h ambu- latory systolic blood pressure compared with amlodipine monotherapy, with an least- squares mean between-treat- ment difference of 13.1 (95% Cl;14.4, 11.8) mmHg (P<0.001) at week 8.	8 weeks Sacubitril/ valsartan 200 mg provided a significantly greater reduction in mean sitting systolic blood pres- sure than olmesartan 20 mg at week 8 (between□ treatment difference: -2.33 mmHg [95% confidence interval (CI) -4.00 to -0.66 mm Hg], P < 0.05 for non□in- feriority and superiority). Greater reductions in mean sitting sys- tolic blood pressure were also observed with sacubi- tril/valsartan 400 mg vs olmesar- tan 20 mg (-3.52 [-5.19 to -1.84 mmHg], P< 0.001 for superiority).

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In this study, all doses of sacubitril/ valsartan were well tolerated, and no cases of angioedema or death were reported.	The incidence of any adverse events was 43.8% in patients with hypertension and renal dys- function without a decline in renal function.	The overall incidence of adverse events was comparable between the sacubitril/ valsartan (23.4%) and the olmesar- tan (21.9%) groups.	The inci- dence of ad- verse events was 47.6% in the sacubitril/ valsartan group and 38.7% in the olmesartan group. Similar proportions of patients had adverse events related to the study treat- ment in both the treatment groups (sacubitril/val- sartan group, 12(4.1%) pa- tients; olme- sartan group, 15 (5.1%) patients).	The incidence of adverse events was slightly higher in the sacubitril/ valsartan-based regimen (57.6%) compared with the olmesar- tan-based regimen (53.8%), with nasopharyn- gitis being the most common adverse event.	N/A	The overall inci- dence of adverse events was similar between the sacubitril/val- sartan/amlodiping group and the amlodiping group (20.0% and 21.3%, respec- tively).	I he inci- dence of severe ad- verse events was rare and similar in all
RCT	Meta-anal- ysis	Meta-anal- ysis	Meta-analysis	Meta-analysis	Meta-anal- ysis	Meta-analysis	Meta-analysis
RCT 35058583			Meta-analysis 30937854	Meta-analysis 30664018		Meta-analysis 33951700	Meta-analysis 35672897
	ysis	ysis	-		ysis		
35058583 https://doi. org/10.1038/ s41440-021-	ysis 28793821 https://doi. org/1 0.1177/1 0742	ysis 31305392 https://doi.o rg/10.1097/ md.0000000	30937854 https://doi. org/10.1007/ s40292-019-00313-	30664018 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ mjt.00000000	ysis 32726791 https://doi. org/10.1 159/0	33951700 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ fjc.00000000	35672897 https://doi. org/10.21 037/apm-22-
35058583 https://doi. org/10.1038/ s41440-021- 00819-7	ysis 28793821 https://doi. org/1 0.1177/1 0742 48417693379	ysis 31305392 https://doi.o rg/10.1097/ md.000000 000016093	30937854 https://doi. org/10.1007/ s40292-019-00313- 9	30664018 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ mjt.00000000 00000925	ysis 32726791 https://doi. org/10.1 159/0 00507327	33951700 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ fjc.00000000 00001001	35672897 https://doi. org/10.21 037/apm-22- 503
35058583 https://doi. org/10.1038/ s41440-021- 00819-7 Rakugi et al.	ysis 28793821 https://doi. org/1 0.1177/1 0742 48417693379 Zhao et al.	ysis 31305392 https://doi.o rg/10.1097/ md.0000000 000016093 Li et al.	30937854 https://doi. org/10.1007/ s40292-019-00313- 9 Vecchis et al.	30664018 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ mjt.00000000 00000925 Malik et al.	ysis 32726791 https://doi. org/10.1 159/0 00507327 Geng et al.	33951700 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ fjc.00000000 00001001 Yang et al.	35672897 https://doi. org/10.21 037/apm-22- 503 Wu et al.
35058583 https://doi. org/10.1038/ s41440-021- 00819-7 Rakugi et al. 2022	ysis 28793821 https://doi. org/1 0.1177/1 0742 48417693379 Zhao et al. 2017	ysis 31305392 https://doi.o rg/10.1097/ md.0000000 000016093 Li et al. 2019	30937854 https://doi. org/10.1007/ s40292-019-00313- 9 Vecchis et al. 2019	30664018 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ mjt.00000000 00000925 Malik et al. 2019	ysis 32726791 https://doi. org/10.1 159/0 00507327 Geng et al. 2020	33951700 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ fjc.00000000 00001001 Yang et al. 2021	35672897 https://doi. org/10.21 037/apm-22- 503 Wu et al. 2022
35058583 https://doi. org/10.1038/ s41440-021- 00819-7 Rakugi et al. 2022 Japan Sacubitril/ valsartan vs.	ysis 28793821 https://doi. org/1 0.1177/1 0742 48417693379 Zhao et al. 2017 China Sacubitril/ valsartan vs.	ysis 31305392 https://doi.o rg/10.1097/ md.0000000 000016093 Li et al. 2019 China Sacubitril/ valsartan vs.	30937854 https://doi. org/10.1007/ s40292-019-00313- 9 Vecchis et al. 2019 Italy Sacubitril/valsartan	30664018 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ mjt.00000000 00000925 Malik et al. 2019 USA Sacubitril/valsartan	ysis 32726791 https://doi. org/10.1 159/0 00507327 Geng et al. 2020 China Sacubitril/ valsartan vs.	33951700 https://doi.or g/10.1097/ fjc.00000000 00001001 Yang et al. 2021 China Sacubitril/ valsartan vs.	35672897 https://doi. org/10.21 037/apm-22- 503 Wu et al. 2022 China Sacubitril/ valsartan vs.

8 weeks to 52 8 weeks weeks

4 weeks to 52 weeks

8 weeks to 52

weeks

4 weeks to 48 weeks

5 weeks to 52 weeks

4 weeks to 52 8 weeks to 52 weeks

weeks

The effects

of reducing

Sacubitril/ valsartan 200 mg provided a significantly greater reduction in mean sitting systolic blood pression from baseline than olmesartan at week 8 (between-treatment difference: -5.01 mmHg [95% confidence interval: -6.95 to -3.06 mmHg, P< 0.001 for noninferiority and superiority]). Greater reductions in mean sitting systolic blood pression with sacubitril/valsartan 400 mg vs. olmesartan. as well as in mean sitting diastolic blood pressure and mean sitting pluse pression with both doses of sacubitril/ valsartan vs. olmesartan (P < 0.05 for all), were also observed.

compared with ARBs, achieved a better blood pressure control rate (OR 1.24, 95% CI: 1.14 to 1.35), specifically, sacubitril/ valsartan was better Sacubitril/ at reducing valsartan was systolic blood more effective pressure in reducing [weightblood presed mean sure (odds difference ratio [OR]= (WMD) 4.11 5.34; 95% CI: mmHg, 95% 4.49 to 6.36; CI: (5.13, P < 0.01) and 3.08) mmHg] had a higher diastolic blood rate of blood pressure pressure con-IWMD 1.79 trol compared mmHg, 95% with ARBs CI: (2.22, (OR =1.52; 1.37) mmHg], 95% CI: 1.37 mean 24-hour to 1.69; P < ambulatory 0.01). systolic blood pressure [WMD 3.24 mmHq, 95% CI: (4.48, 1.99) mmHg] and mean 24-hour ambulatory diastolic blood pressure [WMD 1.25 mmHg, 95% CI: (1.81, 0.69) mmHg].

Evidences showed sacu-

bitril/valsartan,

Compared with ARBs, after 12 weeks there was a significant reduction in systolic blood pressure in the sitting position and diastolic blood pressure in the sitting position (weight mean difference [WMD] = – 5.41 mmHa. 95% CI - 7.0 to - 3.8; P < 0.01), msDBP (WMD = -1.22)mmHg, 95% CI : - 2.15 to - 0.3; P < 0.01), ambulatory systolic blood pressure (WMD = - 4.58 mmHg, 95% Cl: - 5.62 to - 3.54; P < 0.01) and ambulatory diastolic blood pressure (WMD = - 2.17 mm Hg, 95% Cl: - 2.78 to - 1.56; P < 0.01).

Compared with ARBs, 200 mg of sacubitril/valsartan reduced systolic blood pressure and diastolic blood pressure by 4.62 mmHg (95% confidence interval, 3.33 to 5.90, P<0.001) and 2.13 mmHg (95% confidence interval, 1.69 to 2.57, P<0.001), respectively. Similarly, 400mg of sacubitril/valsartan reduced systolic blood pressure and diastolic blood pressure by 5.50 mmHg (2.94 to 8.07, P<0.001) and 2.51 mmHg (1.80-3.21, P<0.001), respectively, in comparison with ARBs.

Compared with ARBs, sacubitril/ valsartan 100mg, 200mg, 400mg caused a significant reduction in systolic blood pressure and diastolic blood pressure, respectively. And sacubitril/ valsartan 200mg, 400mg caused a significant reduction in 24-h ambulatory systolic blood pressure and and 24-h ambulatory diastolic blood pressure.

mean reductions in sitting systolic blood pressure and Compared with mean reduc-ARBs, a signiftions in sitting icant reduction diastolic blood in mean sitting pressure in systolic blood the sacubitril/ pressure (WMD valsartan 24.79 mmHg; group were 95% CI: 25.46 significantly to 24.11 mmHg; better than P<0.001) and that in the mean sitting ARBs group diastolic blood (mean pressure (WMD reductions in 22.12mmHg; sitting systolic 95% CI: 22.53 blood presto 21.71 mmHg; sure: mean P<0.001) was difference observed with (MD) =-4.70, 95% CI: -5.79 hypertensive patients reto -3.61, ceiving therapy P<0.001: of sacubitril/ mean reductions in sitting diastolic blood pressure: MD =-2.29, 95% CI: -2.53 to -2.04, P<0.001).

valsartan.

The inci- dences of any adverse events were 34.9%, 35.3% and 39.1% in sacubitril/ valsartan 200 mg group, sacubitril/ valsartan 400 mg group and olmesartan 20mg group.	Sacubitril/val- sartan had no difference in the incidence of adverse events (OR=1.05; 95% CI: 0.94 to 1.18; P=0.38) or serious ad- verse events (OR=0.80; 95% CI: 0.51 to 1.24; P=0.31) compared to ARBs.	There was no difference in the events of adverse events (risk ratio [RR] 1.01, 95% CI: 0.39 to 1.09), serious adverse events (RR 0.80, 95% CI: 0.52 to 1.22) and discon- tinuation of treatment for any adverse events (RR 0.79, 95% CI: 0.56 to 1.11) between sacubitril/ valsartan group and ARB/placebo group, except sacubitril/ valsartan re- duced the rate of headaches (RR 0.69, 95% CI: 0.48 to 0.99) while increased cough (RR 2.12, 95% CI: 1.11 to 4.04; P = 0.02).	It showed that adverse events were more frequent in sacubitril/valsartan group than olme- sartan or valsartan groups (odds ratio = 1.27, 95% CI 1.03 to 1.57, P= 0.03)	Sacubitril/valsartan therapy was not found to be associ- ated with any high- er adverse effects or serious adverse effects compared with either placebo or an ARB.	N/A	We discov- ered that the result shows no statistical differ- ence in the rate of any adverse events between sacubitril/ valsartan and ARBs group (RR = 1.10; 95% Cl: 0.96 to 125; P = 0.17).	There was no significant difference in the incidence of adverse events, severe adverse events, and discontinu- ations due to adverse events between the sacubitril/val- sartan group and the ARBs group (ad- verse events: OR =1.14, 95% CI: 1.00 to 1.31, P=0.06; se- vere adverse events: OR =1.06, 95% CI: 0.64 to 1.76, P=0.81; discontinu- ations due to adverse events: OR =0.86, 95% CI: 0.51 to 1.46, P=0.58).
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THE EFFICACY OF SACUBITRIL/VALSAR-TAN IN LOWERING HYPERTENSION

Ten RCTs, seven meta-analyses and one open-label study showed the evidence on Sacubitril/Valsartan lowering hypertension. We detailedly presented these researches in Table 1.

The first trial on assessing Sacubitril/Valsartan's efficacy in lowering hypertension was published on Lancet in 2010. In this study, 1328 patients with mild-to-moderate hypertension were treated by Sacubitril/Valsartan or valsartan in 8 weeks. After 8 weeks' treatment, Sacubitril/Valsartan's anti-hypertension effect was more obvious in comparison with valsartan [3]. One RCT investigated the antihypertensive effects of Sacubitril/Valsartan 200 mg per day versus olmesartan 20 mg per day in hypertension patients. Sacubitril/Valsartan presented a superior effect on lowering mean sitting systolic blood pressure (msSBP) than olmesartan (-22.71 versus -16.11 mmHg; P<0.001) in 10 weeks. And this antihypertensive effect was still stable in 14 weeks (-22.53 versus -16.75 mmHg; P<0.001) [4]. Another study evaluated the effect of lowering blood pressure by Sacubitril/Valsartan or olmesartan in patients with high SBP ranging from 145 mmHg to 180 mmHg. It found that the reduction of 24 hours mean ambulatory SBP were more obvious in the Sacubitril/Valsartan group versus the olmesartan group (P<0.001) [5]. And the reduction of office SBP was larger by Sacubitril/Valsartan (-14.2 versus -10.0 mmHg) after 8 weeks in comparison with olmesartan [5]. Sacubitril inhibiting the catabolism of natriuretic peptides probably enhances Sacubitril/Valsartan's antihypertensive effect. A recent published RCT showed that the decrease of msSBP, mean sitting diastolic blood pressure and mean sitting pulse pression were more significant in Sacubitril/ Valsartan 200/400 mg group versus olmesartan 20 mg group at week 8 (P<0.05 for all) [6]. The effect of drug combination therapy by Sacubitril/Valsartan and other anti-hypertension drugs was also explored. One study evaluated the efficacy of Sacubitril/Valsartan in hypertension patients who were treated by amlodipine 5 mg/ day and did not obtain the standard of normal blood pressure after 4 weeks [7]. Larger reductions in 24 h SBP were obtained in Sacubitril/Valsartan+amlodipine group in week 8, compared with amlodipine group (P<0.001). The study indicated that Sacubitril/ Valsartan+amlodipine might be a better choice for patients who failed to lower hypertension with amlodipine. The PARAMETER trial, enrolled elderly patients with systolic hypertension and arterial sclerosis, verified that Sacubitril/Valsartan had a more significant antihypertensive effect, especially in reduction of central aortic and brachial pressures, compared with olmesartan [8]. Another trial, enrolled 32 hypertension patients with renal disfunction from Japan, showed that Sacubitril/Valsartan not only lowered hypertension but also did not aggravate renal function [9]. Sacubitril/Valsartan might be suitable for hypertension patients with renal disfunction. But it was noteworthy that many RCTs on exploring Sacubitril/Valsartan's efficacy in hypertension patients were funded by corporations. Although the number of RCTs on evaluating Sacubitril/Valsartan's antihypertensive effect was large, the real world study was few.

Seven meta-analyses compared the efficacy between Sacubitril/

Valsartan and angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs) in hypertension patients. A meta-analysis, enrolled 9 RCTs, provided compelling evidence that the intensity of lowering hypertension was more significant in Sacubitril/Valsartan group than ARBs group, including a higher blood pressure control rate, more obvious reduction in systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, mean 24 hours ambulatory systolic blood pressure, and mean 24 hours ambulatory systolic blood pressure [10].

All in all, Sacubitril/Valsartan was likely to have obviously antihypertensive effect in hypertension patients. Most of studies showed that Sacubitril/Valsartan lowered high blood pressure including systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, mean 24 hours ambulatory systolic blood pressure, and mean 24 hours ambulatory systolic blood pressure. And the effect might be more obvious when Sacubitril/Valsartan combined with amlodipine.

THE SAFETY OF SACUBITRIL/VALSARTAN IN LOWERING HYPERTENSION

According to statistics, the adverse events (AEs) of Sacubitril/Valsartan in lowering hypertension mainly include hyperuricemia, hypotension, dizziness, hyperkalemia, cough, headaches, nasopharyngitis, and angioedema [2]. The mechanism of happening AEs may be related with the effect of Sacubitril/Valsartan to vessels and kidney or inhibiting degradation of bradykinin. Eight RCTs, one open-label study and six meta-analyses explored Sacubitril/Valsartan's safety in hypertension patients (Table 1). A RCT detected the safety of Sacubitril/Valsartan in Asian patients who had mild-tomoderate hypertension. This trial indicated that compared with olmesartan (20 mg), Sacubitril/Valsartan (200 and 400 mg) had the slightly higher incidence of dizziness and cough. However, the incidences of hyperkalemia and hypotension were similar [11]. Another RCT, enrolled 376 hypertension patients, showed that the incidence of AEs was comparable between Sacubitril/Valsartan group (23.4%) and olmesartan groups (21.9%) [5].

A meta-analysis, including 9 RCTs, detected Sacubitril/Valsartan's safety in the treatment of hypertension patients. In detail, the meta-analysis's data indicated that the incidence of AEs (risk ratio (RR) 1.01, 95% CI: 0.39 to 1.09), serious AEs (RR 0.80, 95% CI: 0.52 to 1.22) and discontinuation of treatment for any AEs (RR 0.79, 95% CI: 0.56 to 1.11) were not significantly different between the Sacubitril/Valsartan group and the ARB/placebo group. And Sacubitril/Valsartan decreased the incidence of headaches (RR 0.69, 95% CI: 0.48 to 0.99) while increased the incidence of cough (RR 2.12, 95% CI: 1.11 to 4.04), compared with ARB/placebo [10]. Another recent meta-analysis evaluated Sacubitril/Valsartan's safety in hypertension patients who were middle-aged and elderly [12]. This meta-analysis, enrolled 7 RCTs, showed that the incidence of AEs [odds ratio (OR)=1.14, 95% CI: 1.00 to 1.31, P=0.06], serious AEs (OR=1.06, 95% CI: 0.64 to 1.76, P=0.81), and discontinuations due to AEs (OR=0.86, 95% CI: 0.51 to 1.46, P=0.58) were comparable between Sacubitril/Valsartan group and ARBs group [12].

DISCUSSION

Most of meta-analyses supported the result that Sacubitril/Valsartan was safe in the treatment for hypertension patients, compared with ARBs. However, one meta-analysis, enrolled 5 RCTs, showed the different standpoint. It proved that the incidence of AEs from Sacubitril/Valsartan was higher than the incidence from ARB in hypertension patients who were over 55 years old. The incidence of AEs was 37.6% in Sacubitril/Valsartan group versus 28.7% in ARB group. And drug-related AEs were more frequent in Sacubitril/Valsartan group in comparison with ARB groups (OR=1.27, 95% CI: 1.03 to 1.57, P=0.03) [13]. Nasopharyngitis, dizziness, hyperuricemia, and respiratory infection might be the most common AEs [13].

Although most of studies, explore Sacubitril/Valsartan's safety in hypertension patients, showed that Sacubitril/Valsartan was safe, it is necessary to implement large-scale RCTs and meta-analyses to further explore the safety of Sacubitril/Valsartan in hypertension patients.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, RCTs and meta-analyses reported that Sacubitril/ Valsartan had an obvious antihypertensive effect. And compared with ARBs, Sacubitril/Valsartan's safety was reliable in hypertension patients. Sacubitril/Valsartan is likely as a promising antihypertensive agent in the future.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This work was funded by the Shandong Province Natural Science Foundation (ZR2021QH262,ZR2020QH005). The authors declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

COMPETING INTEREST

The authors of this paper hereby validate that there were no conflicts of interest (either financial or non-financial) when conducting the study.

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