

Platelet reactivity testing enables the identification of patients with an inadequate response to [antiplatelet](#) agents who might benefit from a more intense antiplatelet regimen, as well as those exhibiting hyper-responsiveness.

[Clopidogrel](#) is commonly used for secondary [stroke prevention](#) in patients with [large vessel stenosis](#). Reduced Clopidogrel high on treatment platelet reactivity (CR) can lead to Clopidogrel underactivity (CU) causing acute [thrombosis](#). However, the prevalence of CU among patients with acute symptomatic [carotid artery disease](#) remains unknown. Therefore, Honig et al. aimed to find the [prevalence](#) and identify the [predictors](#) for CU among patients with acutely symptomatic carotid stenosis.

Over the span of 14 months, CR was measured at the time of [endovascular procedure](#) in all patients undergoing [angiography](#) and [stenting](#) because of acute symptomatic carotid stenosis. Only patients treated per institutional protocol with a combination of Clopidogrel and [Aspirin](#) were included. CR was measured with P2Y12 reaction units (PRU) and CU was defined as PRU > 208. Patients with CU were compared to those without CU.

Thirty-five patients were included (mean age  $71.3 \pm 10$ , 76% men) and twelve (34.3%, mean age  $71.8 \pm 8.4$ , 58% men) had CU at the time of endovascular intervention. On [univariate analysis](#) more severe carotid stenosis was seen in CU patients ( $92.6 \pm 6.5\%$  vs  $81.6 \pm 13.6\%$ ,  $p = 0.013$ ) and percent stenosis was independently associated with CU on multivariate analysis ( $p = 0.023$ ).

[Clopidogrel](#) underactivity (CU) is present in 1 of every 3 patients with acutely symptomatic [carotid artery disease](#). The current results suggest that [platelet reactivity testing](#) should become part of routine care in patients with acutely symptomatic carotid disease <sup>1)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

Honig A, Sacagiu T, Filioglo A, Simaan N, Kalish Y, Gomori JM, Horev A, Leker RR, Cohen JE. [Clopidogrel](#) underactivity is a common in patients with acute symptomatic severe carotid stenosis. J Neurol Sci. 2021 Apr 14;425:117450. doi: 10.1016/j.jns.2021.117450. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33878658.

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Last update: **2024/06/07 02:50**

