Response to HYVET Ambulatory Blood Pressure Substudy

Bursztyn et al speculate that our ambulatory blood pressure (ABP) participants were not representative of the whole trial. We agree this is possible but very unlikely in view of the similarity of the participant characteristics given in Table 1. As the elderly frequently nap, he wonders if this would substantially reduce daytime pressure. However, we also looked at morning ABP to confirm our findings, and this would not be affected by a postlunch sleep.

The online-only Data Supplement gives some details on the much smaller number (52) of participants who had ABP before and after the initiation of treatment. Bursztyn et al select the 17 participants who had white coat hypertension and active treatment and note that their ABP did not change. They conclude that active treatment does not lower ABP in those with white coat hypertension. This is not true as the placebo-active pressure difference was 21/10 mm Hg when the groups were compared. The rise with placebo and no change with active treatment are almost certainly because of regression to the mean, and an identical result was observed in the Systolic Hypertension in Europe (Syst-Eur) trial.

Disclosures

None.

Christopher J. Bulpitt
Department of Medicine
Imperial College London
London, United Kingdom
Brighton and Sussex Medical School
Brighton, United Kingdom

Nigel Beckett
Ruth Peters
Department of Medicine
Imperial College London
London, United Kingdom

Jan A. Staessen
Department of Cardiology
University of Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

Ji-Guang Wang
Centre for Epidemiological Studies and Clinical Trials
Ruijin Hospital
Shanghai Institute of Hypertension, China

Marius Comsa
Strada Narciselor
Fagaras, Romania

Robert H. Fagard
Department of Cardiology
University of Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

Dan Dumitrescu
Spitalul Județean Cluj
Clinica Medica 2
Cluj, Romania

Vesselka Gergova
Department of Cardiology
Medical University of Sofia
Sofia, Bulgaria

Riitta L. Antikainen
Oulu City Hospital and Institute of Health Sciences (Geriatrics)
Oulu University
Oulu, Finland

Elizabeth Cheek
School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics
University of Brighton
Brighton, United Kingdom

Chakravarthi Rajkumar
Brighton and Sussex Medical School
Brighton, United Kingdom

Response to HYVET Ambulatory Blood Pressure Substudy

Christopher J. Bulpitt, Nigel Beckett, Ruth Peters, Jan A. Staessen, Ji-Guang Wang, Marius Comsa, Robert H. Fagard, Dan Dumitrascu, Vesselka Gergova, Riitta L. Antikainen, Elizabeth Cheek and Chakravarthi Rajkumar

Hypertension. 2013;61:e43; originally published online March 4, 2013;
doi: 10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.111.00897

The online version of this article, along with updated information and services, is located on the World Wide Web at:
http://hyper.ahajournals.org/content/61/5/e43

Permissions: Requests for permissions to reproduce figures, tables, or portions of articles originally published in Hypertension can be obtained via RightsLink, a service of the Copyright Clearance Center, not the Editorial Office. Once the online version of the published article for which permission is being requested is located, click Request Permissions in the middle column of the Web page under Services. Further information about this process is available in the Permissions and Rights Question and Answer document.

Reprints: Information about reprints can be found online at:
http://www.lww.com/reprints

Subscriptions: Information about subscribing to Hypertension is online at:
http://hyper.ahajournals.org//subscriptions/