



# Safety aspects of enhanced MDCT – Highlights from the presentation

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# The ideal contrast medium

- It must be totally inert.
- It may not have any interaction with the organism at any level
- It must be excreted fast and completely.



# The ideal contrast medium

- It must be

**It does not exist**

**However, the newer generations of contrast media are approaching that**

- It is excreted fast and completely.



# Adverse reactions

- Acute: 0 – 60 min.
  - Renal e.g. Nephrotoxicity
  - Non-renal e.g. Larynxedema
- Late: 1 hour – 7 days
  - Skin reactions
- Very late: > 7 days
  - Thyrotoxicosis



# Adverse reactions to I-CM

- Mild
  - Short, self-limiting and requires no treatment
  - Incidence: 1-15%
- Moderate
  - Response to adequate therapy
  - Incidence: 0.2-0.4%
- Severe
  - Requires instant therapy
  - Incidence: 0.01%
  - Death: 1:70,000 ???



# Adverse reactions to I-CM

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- Moderate
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  - Incidence
- Severe
  - Requires instant therapy
  - Incidence: 0.01%
  - Death: 1:70,000 ???

**There is no evidence of a difference between the various non-ionic agents**



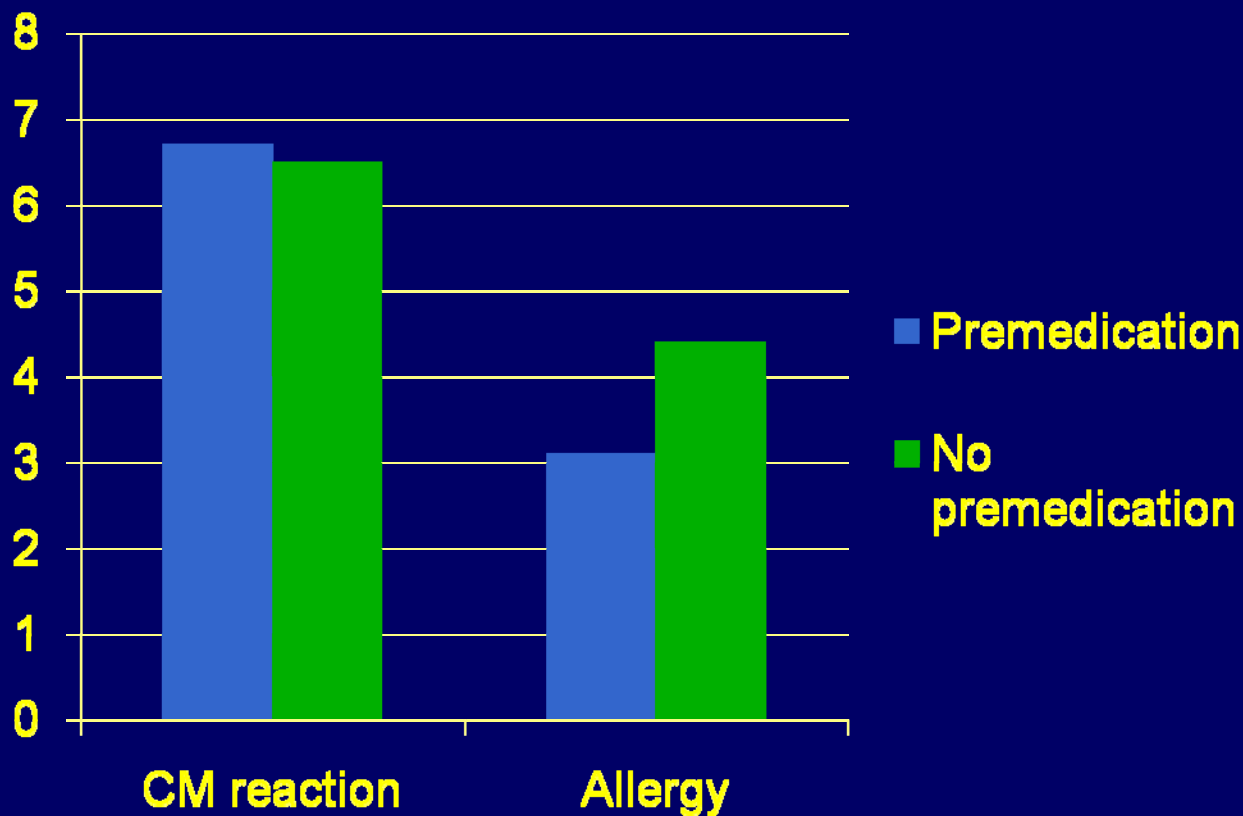
# Prevention

- Be calm.
- Be sure that drugs for first line treatment are present.



# Premedication?

The incidence of acute adverse reactions was not altered by the use of premedication







# Premedication?

- Only 23 - 46 % of risk patients received premedication
- Preference
- Asia – Corticosteroids
- USA – H1-blockers
- Europe – in between



# Fact

- Radiologist and trainee knowledge of immediate life-threatening contrast reaction is deficient e.g.:
  - 53% of questions were answered correctly
  - 43% knew the adrenaline dose
    - Incorrect doses were mainly too high doses
  - 45% knew the emergency telephone number
  - 45% of rooms contained not an immediately visible chart for contrast reaction management



## When it occurs

- Instant treatment of severe acute reactions is often mandatory: **HERE & NOW.**
- The venous access used for the injection is often no longer present.
- The right procedure must be instituted.



Second line should be taken care  
of by a resuscitation team

They are more experienced



# Finally

- Remember training
- Experience in the management of adverse reactions can only come from regular, compulsory training.



**For details**



ESUR Guidelines  
on **Contrast Media**

**version 6.0**



CIN

Contrast induced Nephropathy



# Awareness of CIN

- Telephone or on-line survey involving 509 radiologists from 10 European countries.
  - Important factors
    - Renal impairment 97%
    - Dehydration 90%
    - Diabetes mellitus 89%
      - Age 26%
      - CM dose 30%
      - Congestive heart failure 46%





# CIN

## Definition:

CIN is a condition in which an impairment in renal function (an increase in serum creatinine by more than 25% or 44  $\mu\text{mol/l}$ ) occurs within 3 days following the intravascular administration of a contrast medium (CM) in the absence of an alternative etiology.



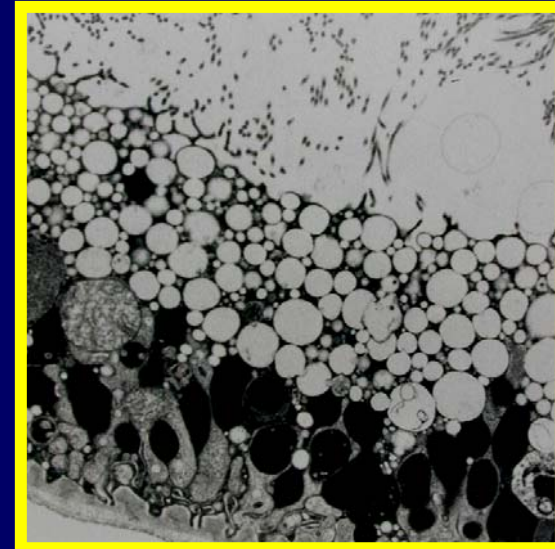
# The kidney is the main route of elimination of CM

- Increase RVR
- Decrease GFR
- Diuresis
- Natriuresis
- Enzymuria
- Structural changes [Osmotic nephrosis]

## Modulation of production of intrarenal vasoactive mediators

- ↑ Endothelin (vasoconstriction)
- ↑ Adenosine (vasoconstriction)
- ↓ NO (vasodilatation)
- ↓ Prostacycline (vasodilatation)

It represents the normal response of the kidney to CM exposure



RVR = Renal vascular resistance

GFR = Glomerular Filtration Rate



CM → Normal kidneys , No risk factors

↓  
No clinical problem

↓  
Risk factors

↓  
**Renal impairment + DM**  
**Dehydration**  
**Congestive heart failure**  
**Age over 70 years old**  
**Administration of nephrotoxic drugs**  
**Dose and type of CM**





# Incidence of CIN after IV injection in high risk patients

- **Range from 0 to 21%**
  - **Se Cr > 220  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  21%**
    - (Tepel et al, New England Journal of Medicine 2000; 343: 180-184)
  - **Se Cr > 176  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  0%**
    - (Thomsen et al. Invest Radiol 2008 – in press)
- **Precise true incidence is not clear**



# CIN

## Clinical Course

- Although self limiting in most cases (resolve within 1-2 weeks)

**There is a clinical concern**



# Clinical Importance of CIN

Rihal et al; Circulation 2002; 105: 2259-2265.

Bartholemew et al, Am J Cardiol 2004; 93: 1515-

1519 Marenzi et al, JACC 2004; 44:1780-1785

- CIN increases the incidence of **non-renal complications** and prolongs hospital stay
  - Sepsis
  - Bleeding
  - Stroke
  - Respiratory failure
  - Fifteen fold increase in major adverse cardiac events (MACE) post PCI



## Conclusion 1

Forget the Gd-CM for CT  
“CIN and NSF”



Iodine CM

LOCM

less nephrotoxic than

HOCM

14 years ago





# Pooled odds ratio for use of LOCM vs. HOCM

	No. studies	No. subjects	Pooled odds ratio (CI)
All patients	25	4589	0.61 (0.48, 0.77)
Normal renal function	20	2865	0.75 (0.52, 1.1)
SCr >120 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ or GFR <70 ml/min	8	1418	0.5 (0.36, 0.7)



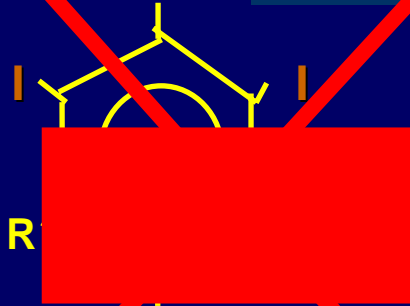
## Conclusion 2

Forget the HOCCM for CT



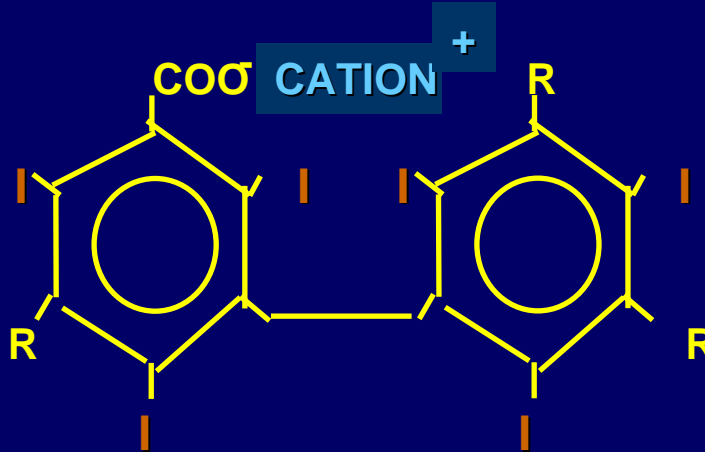
# Classification

$\text{COO}^-$  CATION  $+$



**Ionic monomer.**

Ratio: 1,5. Osm.: 1500

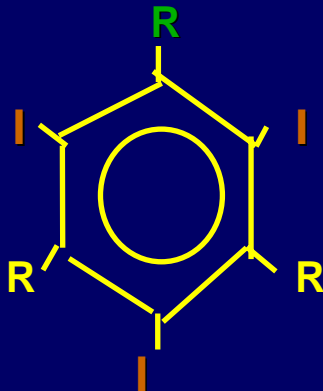


**Ionic**

**dimer.**

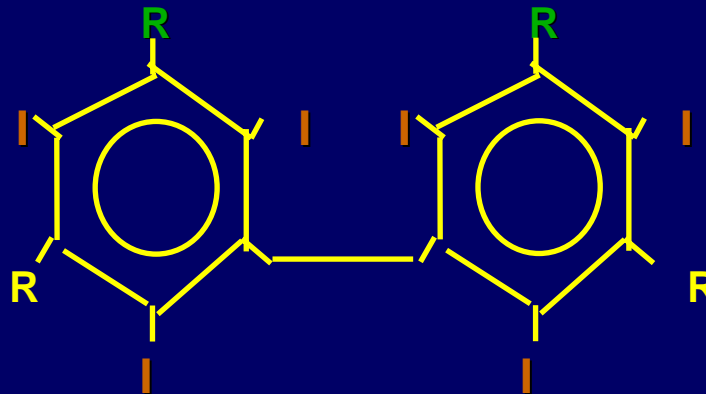
Ratio: 3,0.

Osm.: 600.



**Non-ionic monomer.**

Ratio: 3,0. Osm.: 520-750



**Non-ionic**

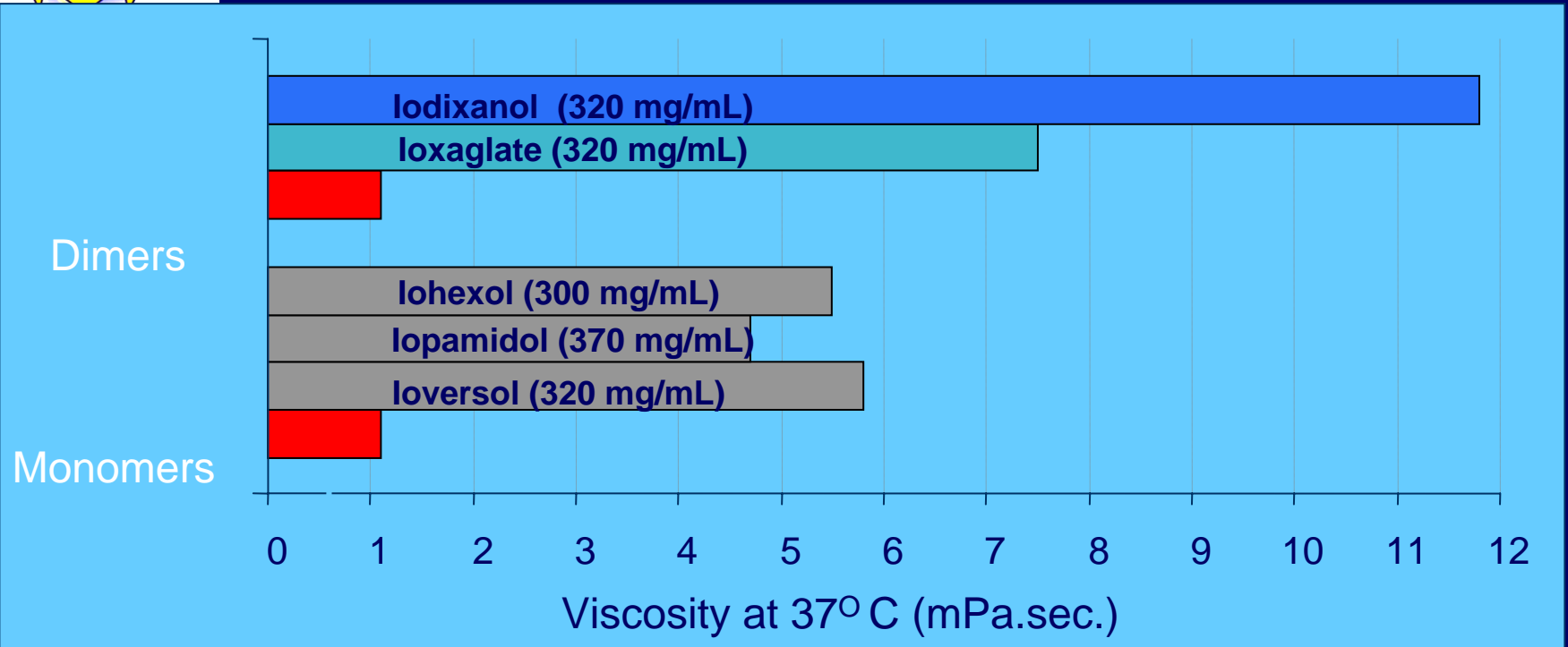
**dimer.**

Ratio: 6,0.

Osm.: 280.



# Viscosity of Low- or Iso-Osmolar Agents



Plasma



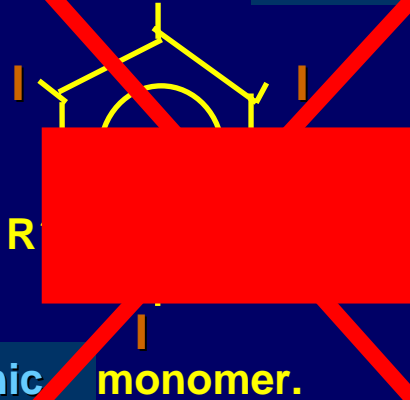
# And many other factors

- Hydrophilicity
- Chemotoxicity
- Other substances



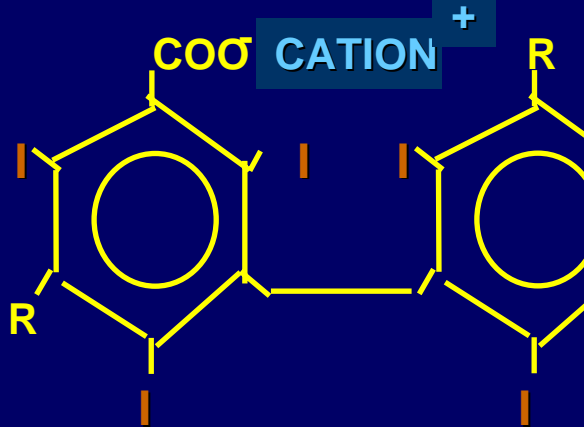
# Classification

~~COO<sup>-</sup> CATION<sup>+</sup>~~



~~Ionic monomer.~~

~~Ratio: 1,5. Osm.: 1500~~



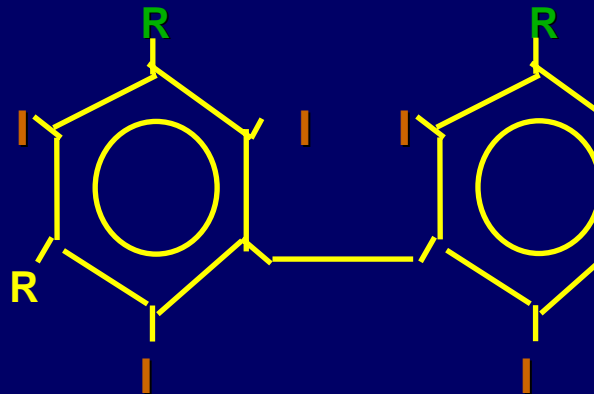
1

Osm.: 600.

8

Non-ionic monomer.

Ratio: 3,0. Osm.: 520-750



1



# Analogy

- For many years we have gathered all Gd-CM into one class despite differences in f. ex. stability and osmolality.
- To day we know that it was a great mistake.
- It may also be a mistake for Iodine-CM.
- Each iodine based compound should be evaluated individually due to the differences in viscosity, osmolality, chemotoxicity, hydrophilicity et c.



# MDCT

- We have access to 10 compounds with various specifications.
- What is available regarding CIN, CT and those 10 compounds?





# The sad story

- Too little
- The overwhelming CIN-literature deals with angiography, not CT



# Incidence of CIN after IV injection in high risk patients

- Number of studies on IV injection is limited; over the last 40 years, only 40 for IV injection in comparison to >3000 after IA injection”



# Average Baseline eGFR 52ml/min

Endpoint	Iopromide-370 (n=56)	Iodixanol-320 (n=61)	Fisher's exact test p-value
SCr increase $\geq$ 44 $\mu\text{mol/L}$	10 (18.5%)	3/61 (5.1)	0.037
The Nephric definition of CIN			
	Intravenous injection (CT) 37 gl per patient		



# IMPACT

Endpoint	Iopamidol-370 (n=77)	Iodixanol-320 (n=76)	Fisher's exact test p-value
SCr increase $\geq$ 44 $\mu\text{mol/L}$	0	2 (2.6%)	0.2
The Nephric definition of CIN			
	Intravenous injection (CT) 40 gl per patient		



# ACTIVE

Endpoint	Iomeron-400 (n=76)	Iodixanol-320 (n=72)	Fisher's exact test p-value
SCr increase $\geq 44$ $\mu\text{mol/L}$	0	5 (6.9%)	0.025
The Nephric definition of CIN			
	Intravenous injection (CT) 40 gl per patient		



# PREDICT

All have diabetes and eGFR between 20 and 59 ml/min (CKD 3 & 4)

Endpoint	Iopamidol-370 (n=125)	Iodixanol-320 (n=123)	Fisher's exact test p-value
SCr increase $\geq$ 25%	7 (5.6%)	6 (4.9%)	0.2
Definition different from IMPACT and ACTIVE			
	Intravenous injection (CT) Min 65 ml.		



# CIN with Head-to-Head Comparisons Risk Patients Receiving I.V. Contrast Material

<b>Study</b>	<b>LOCM (monomers)</b>	<b>Iodixanol</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Carraro et al (1998)	0/32 (iopromide)	1/32	50% ↑ SCr
Nguyen et al 2008	10/65 (iopromide)	3/61	44 μmol/L ↑ SCr
Kolehmainen et al (2003)	4/25 (Iobiditrol)	4/25	44 μmol/L ↑ SCr
Barrett et al (2006)	0/77 (iopamidol)	2/76	44 μmol/L ↑ SCr
Thomsen et al (2008)	0/76 (Iomeron)	5/72	44 μmol/L ↑ SCr
Kuhn et al (2008)	7/125 (iopamidol)	6/123	25% ↑ SCr
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21/400 (5.25%)</b>	<b>21/393 (5.34%)</b>	<b>NO DIFFERENCE</b>



# IMPACT + ACTIVE

High-risk patients: MDRD clearance 15 - 40 ml/min

Endpoint	Iomeron-400 Iopamidol-370 (n=72)	Iodixanol-320 (n=59)	Fisher's exact test p-value
SCr increase $\geq$ 44 $\mu\text{mol/L}$	0	6 (10.2%)	0.0059
The Nephric definition of CIN			
	Intravenous injection (CT) 40 gl per patient		





# ACTIVE + IMPACT + PREDICT

- Include only patients with stable renal function prior to CM-administration determined by at least S-cr/eGFR measurements
- Patients enrolled are not on the fast downslope, which may be the case if you have only one S-Cr pre and post.



## Conclusion 3

No documented advantage of the available dimer in CT both in moderate and high-risk patients (CKD 3, 4 & 5)

**According to randomized, prospective studies !!!!!**



# Arteriography

LOCM (n)	IOCM (n)	S-Cr	DM	Statistical result	Ref.
48	54	273	35%	No dif.	Chalmer (1999)
65	64	132	100%	Iodixanol > Iohexol	Aspelin (2003)
125	134	176	52%	No dif.	Rudnick (2005)
204	210	128	41%	No dif.	Solomon (2006)
135	140	118	48%	Iodinaxol > ioxaglate ?	Jo (2006)
74	71	161	46%	No dif	Mehran (2006)
48	51	N/A	100%	No dif.	Hardiek (2006)



# CONTRAST

37 % had diabetes; 99% eGFR between 20 and 59 ml/min (CHD 3 & 4), 1 % below

Endpoint	Iopamidol-350 (n=162)	Iodixanol-320 (n=162)	p-value
SCr increase $\geq$ 25% or $\geq$ 0.5 mg/dl	27.7%	22.2%	0.25
Definition different from NEPHRIC			
	Intraarterial 365 ml IOD $\pm$ 158 ; IOM $\pm$ 170 ml		



# CONTRAST

37 % had diabetes; 99% eGFR between 20 and 59 ml/min (CHD 3 & 4), 1 % below

Endpoint	Iomeprol-350 (n=162)	Iodixanol-320 (n=162)	p-value
SCr increase $\geq$ 1 mg/dl Severe CIN	3.7 %	6.2%	0.30
DIALYSIS	0.6%	1.9%	0.31
	Intraarterial 365 ml IOD $\pm$ 158 ; IOM $\pm$ 170 ml		



# Arteriography

- Only in 1 out of 8 prospective randomized arteriographic studies there is a statistical significant difference in CIN-rate between IOCM and some of the LOCM.



## Conclusion 4

Below 800 mOsm, the osmolality is not a very important factor in CIN



# Recent Review

- Never-the-less:
- The NEPHRIC study influenced the recommendations of several guidelines, despite the fact that the result have never been confirmed in a larger series.





# Pharmacologic manipulation

- Nearly nothing – all angiographic!!!!
- However, there are two interesting studies.



# Acetylcysteine

- Patients with renal impairment [mean serum creatinine 211  $\mu\text{mol/l}$ ]
- Acetylcysteine (600mg) orally twice daily 24 hours before and continued for 24 hours after 75ml IV iopromide
- Hydration with 0.45% saline

## CIN

Acetylcysteine + Hydration

Hydration alone

2%

21%

**No difference  
regarding dialysis**

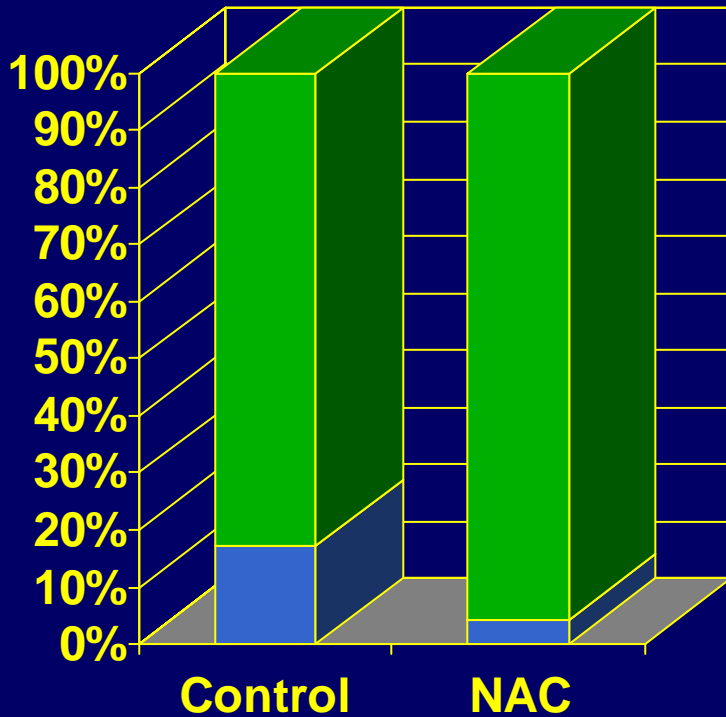


# I.V. CM and acetylcysteine

- Surprising result.,
- The same big difference is not confirmed in the ~40 other angiographic studies.
- The latest meta-analyses have not confirmed a renoprotective effect of NAC but severe inhomogeneity among the various studies.

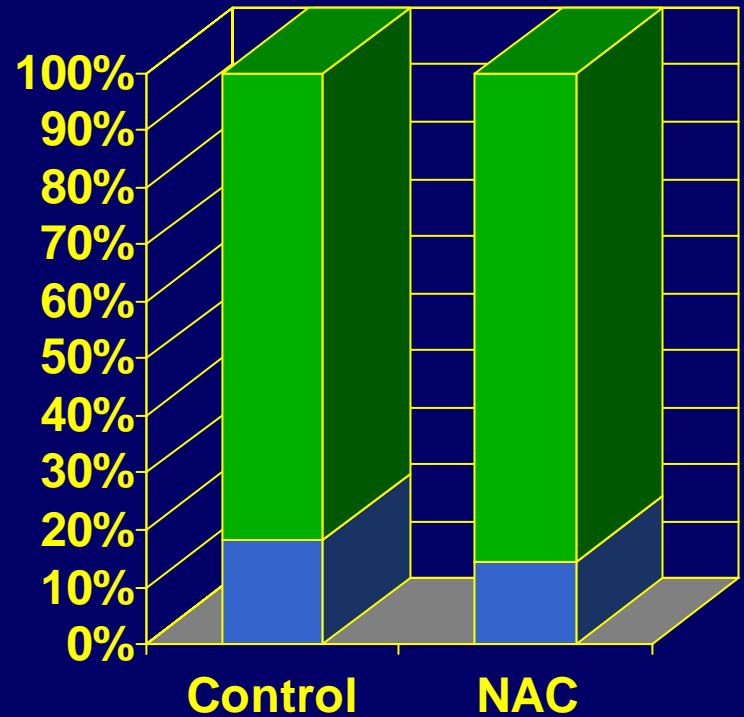


25% increase after 100 ml 300  
mg/ml intravenously



**Se-creatinine**

**P = 0.026**



**Cystatin C**

**P = 0.59**



# NAG

- Newer studies
- No difference between S-Cr and Cystatin C
- Effect of NAC when Cystatin C used
- Inconsistent results continue



## Conclusion 5

There is no evidence that any pharmacologic manipulation prior to enhanced CT protects the kidney against CIN



# Hydration or inducing a diuresis

10 RCT published between 1992 and 2006:

- Both normal and decreased renal function
- Both intraarterial and intravenous routes of administration
- Variety of contrast media
- Study size: 18-1620
- Less than 2500 patients in total



# What doesn't work

- Forced diuresis: adding mannitol or furosemide
- Rapid bolus: Isotonic saline (250-300 ml) at time of CM exposure
- Water alone: Oral hydration (unrestricted, no minimum) starting 12 hour before CM exposure





# What works

- Hypotonic saline starting 12h before and continuing for 12 h after CM exposure at 1 ml/kg/h.
- Isotonic saline starting 4 h before and continuing for 12 h after CM exposure at 1 ml/kg/h.
- Oral hydration (1000 ml – 10 h) followed by hypotonic saline (300 ml/h) starting ½ h before and continuing for 6 h total.



## Conclusion 6

Hydrate with saline



# The history of CIN !!!!!!!!!

- One day a preventive factor seems promising
- The next day the opposite is shown or no effect is shown.



# 1

Never base your decision on a single report  
Look at the evidence



# Take home point

- Follow the ESUR guidelines



[www.esur.org](http://www.esur.org)



# ESUR

- ESUR guidelines (version 1- 6) have been printed in > 100.000 copies and translated into 6 languages:
  - Japanese
  - Chinese
  - Russian
  - Spanish
  - Portuguese
    - Greek

[www.esur.org](http://www.esur.org)





Thank you for your attention

