

Title	Randomized placebo controlled trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of single low dose intracoronary insulin like growth factor following percutaneous coronary intervention in acute myocardial infarction (RESUS-AMI)
Authors	Caplice, Noel M.;DeVoe, Mary C.;Choi, Janet;Dahly, Darren L.;Murphy, Theodore;Spitzer, Ernest;Van Geuns, Robert;Maher, Michael M.;Tuite, David;Kerins, David M.;Ali, Mohammed T.;Kalyar, Imtiaz;Fahy, Eoin F.;Khider, Wisam;Kelly, Peter;Kearney, Peter P.;Curtin, Ronan J.;O'Shea, Conor;Vaughan, Carl J.;Eustace, Joseph A.;McFadden, Eugene P.
Publication date	2018-04-03
Original Citation	Caplice, N. M., DeVoe, M. C., Choi, J., Dahly, D., Murphy, T., Spitzer, E., Van Geuns, R., Maher, M. M., Tuite, D., Kerins, D. M., T.Ali, M., Kalyar, I., Fahy, E. F., Khider, W., Kelly, P., Kearney, P. P., Curtin, R. J., O'Shea, C., Vaughan, C. J., Eustace, J. A. and McFadden, E. P. 'Randomized placebo controlled trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of single low dose intracoronary insulin like growth factor following percutaneous coronary intervention in acute myocardial infarction (RESUS-AMI)', American Heart Journal, In Press. doi: 10.1016/j.ahj.2018.03.018
Type of publication	Article (peer-reviewed)
Link to publisher's version	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0002870318301029 - 10.1016/j.ahj.2018.03.018
Rights	© 2018 Published by Elsevier Inc. This manuscript version is made available under the CC-BY-NC-ND 4.0 license. - http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/
Download date	2024-04-20 01:12:25
Item downloaded from	https://hdl.handle.net/10468/5770



University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Accepted Manuscript

Randomized placebo controlled trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of single low dose intracoronary insulin like growth factor following percutaneous coronary intervention in acute myocardial infarction (RESUS-AMI)



Noel M. Caplice, Mary C. DeVoe, Janet Choi, Darren Dahly, Theodore Murphy, Ernest Spitzer, Robert Van Geuns, Michael M. Maher, David Tuite, David M. Kerins, Mohammed T.Ali, Imtiaz Kalyar, Eoin F. Fahy, Wisam Khider, Peter Kelly, Peter P. Kearney, Ronan J. Curtin, Conor O'Shea, Carl J. Vaughan, Joseph A. Eustace, Eugene P. McFadden

PII: S0002-8703(18)30102-9
DOI: doi:[10.1016/j.ahj.2018.03.018](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ahj.2018.03.018)
Reference: YMHJ 5657

To appear in:

Received date: 18 September 2017
Accepted date: 24 March 2018

Please cite this article as: Noel M. Caplice, Mary C. DeVoe, Janet Choi, Darren Dahly, Theodore Murphy, Ernest Spitzer, Robert Van Geuns, Michael M. Maher, David Tuite, David M. Kerins, Mohammed T.Ali, Imtiaz Kalyar, Eoin F. Fahy, Wisam Khider, Peter Kelly, Peter P. Kearney, Ronan J. Curtin, Conor O'Shea, Carl J. Vaughan, Joseph A. Eustace, Eugene P. McFadden , Randomized placebo controlled trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of single low dose intracoronary insulin like growth factor following percutaneous coronary intervention in acute myocardial infarction (RESUS-AMI). The address for the corresponding author was captured as affiliation for all authors. Please check if appropriate. Ymhj(2018), doi:[10.1016/j.ahj.2018.03.018](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ahj.2018.03.018)

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

Randomized placebo controlled trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of single low dose intracoronary insulin like growth factor following percutaneous coronary intervention in acute myocardial infarction (RESUS-AMI)

Noel M. Caplice^{1,2*}, Mary C. DeVoe², Janet Choi^{1,2}, Darren Dahly⁶, Theodore Murphy¹, Ernest Spitzer⁷, Robert Van Geuns⁷, Michael M. Maher³, David Tuite³, David M. Kerins⁴, Mohammed T. Ali¹, Imtiaz Kalyar¹, Eoin F. Fahy¹, Wisam Khider¹, Peter Kelly¹, Peter P. Kearney¹, Ronan J. Curtin¹, Conor O'Shea⁵, Carl J. Vaughan⁴, Joseph A. Eustace⁶, Eugene P. McFadden¹

1. Department of Cardiology, Cork University Hospital, Wilton Rd, Cork, Ireland
2. Centre for Research in Vascular Biology, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland
3. Department of Radiology, Cork University Hospital, Wilton Rd, Cork, Ireland
4. Mercy University Hospital, Grenville Place, Cork, Ireland
5. Bon Secours Hospital, College Rd, Cork, Ireland
6. HRB Clinical Research Facility Cork, Mercy University Hospital, Grenville Place, Cork, Ireland
7. Cardialysis BV, Westblaak 98, 3012 KM, Rotterdam, Netherlands

*: Denotes senior and corresponding author

Address for correspondence:

Professor Noel M Caplice

Centre for Research in Vascular Biology

University College Cork,

Cork, Ireland

Telephone :Int + 353 214901329

Email: n.caplice@ucc.ie

Funding: This trial was funded by the Health Research Board of Ireland HRB TRA/2010/20.

Conflict of Interest: N.M.Caplice is a named inventor on intellectual property owned by University College Cork relating to cardiac repair post myocardial infarction.

Background: Residual and significant post-infarction left ventricular (LV) dysfunction, despite technically successful percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) for ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), remains an important clinical issue. In preclinical models low dose insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF1) has potent cytoprotective and positive cardiac remodelling effects. We studied the safety and efficacy of immediate post PCI low dose intracoronary IGF1 infusion in STEMI patients.

Methods: Using a double-blind, placebo controlled, multi-dose study design, we randomized 47 STEMI patients with significantly reduced ($\leq 40\%$) LV ejection fraction (LVEF) after successful PCI to single intracoronary infusion of placebo (n=15), 1.5ng IGF1 (n=16) or 15ng IGF1 (n=16). All received optimal medical therapy. Safety endpoints were freedom from hypoglycaemia, hypotension or significant arrhythmias within 1 hour of therapy. The primary efficacy endpoint was LVEF and secondary endpoints were LV volumes, mass, stroke volume, and infarct size at 2 months follow up, all assessed by MRI. Treatment effects were estimated by analysis of covariance adjusted for baseline (24hrs) outcome.

Results: No significant differences in safety endpoints occurred between treatment groups out to 30 days (chi squared test, p-value = 0.77). There were no statistically significant differences in baseline (24 hrs post STEMI) clinical characteristics or LVEF among groups. LVEF at 2 months, compared to baseline, increased in all groups with no statistically significant differences related to treatment assignment. However, compared with placebo or 1.5ng IGF1, treatment with 15ng IGF1 was associated with a significant improvement in indexed LV end-diastolic volume (p=0.018), LV mass (p=0.004) and stroke volume (p=0.016). Late gadolinium enhancement (\pm SD) at 2 months was lower in 15ng IGF1 (34.5 ± 29.6 g) compared to placebo (49.1 ± 19.3 g) or 1.5ng IGF1 (47.4 ± 22.4 g) treated patients, though the result was not statistically significant (p = 0.095).

Conclusion: In this pilot trial, low dose IGF1, given after optimal mechanical reperfusion in STEMI, is safe but does not improve LVEF. However, there is a signal for a dose dependent benefit on post MI remodeling that may warrant further study.

ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Introduction

Despite timely reperfusion by primary PCI (PPCI) a significant cohort of patients develop adverse left ventricular remodelling with clinical sequelae such as arrhythmia and heart failure[1]. Therapeutic approaches to avert such remodeling, including a variety of cell therapy and ischemia- reperfusion-injury mitigation trials have achieved modest success[2,3]. Thus, there remains a significant opportunity for novel therapies in this field.

Conceptually one approach to aid remodeling post large myocardial infarction (MI) would be to target early cardiomyocyte death reducing subsequent inflammation, loss of myocardial mass and fibrous scar formation post STEMI. Insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF1) is a potential candidate for such a role: it is essential for constitutive cardiomyocyte function and survival[4], has high receptor expression in at risk cardiomyocytes post infarction[5], and acts both as a potent inhibitor of cell death and a stimulant of resident stem cell mobilization, tissue repair and cardiac remodeling post infarction when administered exogenously by diverse delivery approaches[6-10]. However, IGF1 therapy has never been used in humans post MI predominantly due to previous negative experience with high dose studies of human growth hormone in heart failure trials in the mid 1990s [11-14]. Due to unproven efficacy and side effects experienced with hGH (which acts via IGF1 *in vivo*) [14] it was presumed that IGF1 would present similar challenges to use in humans and given the presence of several IGF binding peptides in the circulation it was also expected that exogenous IGF1 would have reduced bioavailability when administered intravenously[8].

However, IGF1, a small protein, may be ideal for intracoronary delivery into the infarct related artery as it exits the permeable coronary microvasculature downstream post-delivery and can act on at risk cardiomyocytes within 30 mins of administration as shown by previous receptor-specific signaling in pre-clinical studies [5]. In this work single low dose IGF1 given exogenously early after reperfusion post MI induced specific activation of the cognate IGF1 receptor and downstream activation of pro-

survival signaling in at risk cardiomyocytes leading to preservation of LV wall function and marked improvement in LV remodeling in the months post therapy [5].

Our aim in the current study was to examine the safety and initial efficacy across two low doses (a log-fold apart) of IGF1, compared to placebo, with respect to LV function and structural remodeling post infarction in the setting of PPCI for STEMI.

Methods

Patient Selection

Between November 2011 and July 2016 we performed a randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled multi-dose study of LD-IGF1 in STEMI patients who had undergone successful PPCI. All patients were treated at a single site (Cork University Hospital). We included STEMI (> 2mm ST elevation in two contiguous leads) patients, aged between 18-75 years, with significant LV dysfunction at angiography (LVEF≤40%). To ensure exclusion of aborted infarcts we excluded patients presenting within 2 hrs of symptoms and included those up to 12 hours of symptoms. The rationale for studying subjects up to 12 hours of symptoms related to preclinical data supporting cytoprotective effects of IGF1 on border-infarct zone myocardium up to 12 hours post artery occlusion. We excluded all those patients with a previous history of structural heart disease, LV dysfunction, MI, CABG or PCI in addition to all major co-morbidities including significant prior renal and hepatic dysfunction (detailed exclusion criteria are outlined in Supplementary Figure 1). Prespecified safety and efficacy endpoints are included in Supplementary Figure 2.

The trial was approved by the Clinical Research Ethics Committee at Cork University Hospital and the Irish Medicines Board (since renamed the Health Products Regulatory Authority) and written informed consent was obtained from all patients. The authors are solely responsible for the design and conduct of this study, all study analyses, the drafting and editing of the paper and its final

contents. This trial was registered on clinical trials.gov NCT01438086 and was funded by the Health Research Board of Ireland HRB TRA/2010/20.

Study design and procedures

The design of the study is shown in Figure 1. Patients were randomly assigned, (with stratification for diabetes) [15] to each treatment group in a 1:1:1 ratio, using sequentially numbered sealed envelopes prepared by a statistician independent of the study. We used a block size of 9 for the first 18 subjects in each stratum and a 3 subject block size thereafter. LV angiography was done just after PCI. LVEF was assessed using a validated automated QVA system (Philips, NL) to determine LVEF as $\leq 40\%$. Following successful PPCI and with TIMI 3 flow in the infarct related artery placebo containing 0.9% sodium chloride, 1.5ng IGF1 (Mecasermin-Increlex) and 15ng IGF1 each diluted in 0.9% sodium chloride were prepared in 3 ml syringes. The method for reconstituting selected doses of IGF1 and placebo and the maintenance of double blinding and randomization to the point of administration down the coronary artery is outlined in supplementary methods section. Therapy was delivered *via* a perfusion catheter (Progreat, Terumo) with the catheter tip placed at the distal end of the stent used to treat the culprit lesion, and 3 mls of the assigned solution was injected slowly over 2 minutes. Coronary angiography was performed post injection to ensure artery patency.

MRI Analysis

We performed cardiac MRI (1.5T- Siemens) at 24 hours (range 18-36 hours) and 8 weeks post MI. All scans were performed using commercially available MRI software, cardiac dedicated surface coils and ECG triggering. Global and regional LV function was assessed on breath-hold cine MRI in cardiac short, vertical and long axis. Infarct area was defined as a zone of bright signal on late enhanced images (approximately 10mins after 10-15mls intravenous bolus injection of gadolinium contrast) using inversion recovery gradient echo technique.

MRI datasets were analyzed on an off-line workstation (CAAS MRV 4.1, Pie Medical Imaging B.V., The Netherlands) by an independent MRI core laboratory (Cardialysis B.V., The Netherlands) unaware of treatment allocation. For assessment of global and regional LV function and calculation of LV mass, endocardial and epicardial borders were traced in end-diastolic and end-systolic short-axis slices. Papillary muscles were excluded from all analyses. The long axis correction method using the 2-chamber and 4-chamber view was applied[6] and LV end-diastolic and end-systolic volumes (LVEDV and LVESV) were calculated. Infarct areas were defined as hyperintense signals on late-enhanced images with inversion-recovery gradient-echo sequences. The full-width-half-max method was used, and further correction with a slider and manual corrections were allowed. Microvascular obstruction was included in the infarct area.

Statistical Analysis

Statistical analysis was performed blinded to treatment assignment by staff at the statistical department of Cork University Clinical Research Facility. The sample size of 15 patients in each arm was based on an expected improvement in global LVEF (GLVEF) of 8 percentage points in the patients treated with 1.5 ng LD-IGF-1 (based on preclinical large animal data generated by our group [5] vs. a 2.2 percentage point increase in the placebo arm[16], with a shared SD of 5 percentage points. Under these assumptions and alpha of 0.05, we would detect the anticipated difference between the placebo and 1.5 ng LD-IGF-1 arms (15:15) with a power of 0.84; while the power would be 0.94 if comparing placebo to both treatment arms combined (15:30). Regarding adverse events, a sample size of 15 in a given arm would give a 95% confidence interval (CI) of 0 to 22% for any non-observed events.

Categorical data were described as counts and percentages, and continuous variables were described by their medians and IQRs. For estimates of adverse event rates, binomial 95% CIs were calculated using the Pearson-Klopper method. Mean outcome differences between each treatment arm and placebo were estimated with ANCOVA, adjusted for baseline outcome and diabetes status

at recruitment. We reported estimates, 95% CI, and the corresponding p-values from the two-sided test of the null hypothesis of no difference. Models were estimated using complete case samples, thus assuming missing data were missing completely at random. Analyses were done on an intention-to-treat basis, or on a modified intention to treat basis in the presence of missing data (and for no other reason). All analyses were conducted using the R Project for Statistical Computing version 3.2 [17].

Results

From 473 patients screened for eligibility 47 patients agreed to participate and were randomized. The enrolment pathway and trial profile is shown in Figure 2. The majority of the 426 patients excluded had systolic function that was greater than the threshold for study inclusion (LVEF<40%). 46 patients completed the 8 week follow up. Baseline clinical characteristics did not statistically differ among treatment groups (Table 1). Median time from symptom onset to PCI was 4hours and from initiation of PCI to drug administration was approximately 70mins and did not vary among groups. The overall mean time from final balloon inflation to drug administration was 23.8 minutes. The per arm means were as follows: Placebo-19.6min; 1.5ngIGF1- 25.9min; 15ngIGF1- 25.6min. Although the mean times in the two active treatment arms were about 6 minutes greater than placebo the data were consistent with the null hypothesis in that there was no statistically significant difference between the groups (ANOVA $p = 0.52$). Use of thrombolysis was variable between treatment groups but TIMI flow prior to PCI was not significantly different statistically among groups and all patients enrolled had TIMI 3 flow after PCI (Table 1).

LV dysfunction (mean LVEF) on LV angiogram prior to drug administration was similar in all groups (Table 1). During hospital stay or at discharge there was also no significant difference in medications between groups and all patients adhered to their discharge medical regimen as determined at 30 day phone follow up (Table1).

None of the pre-specified safety endpoints (hypoglycaemia, significant hypotension or tachyarrhythmia) occurred in the 1 first hour after study drug administration (Table 2). With respect to side effects previously reported for human growth hormone no patient (0/47) in the study reported jaw discomfort, arthralgia or persistent headache out to 30 days post drug administration. With respect to pre-specified clinical events in hospital there was no significant difference between groups (Table 2). Moreover there was no significant difference in ischemic outcomes between groups out to 30 day follow up (Table 2).

There were 14 patients who experienced an arrhythmia (29% of 47 patients, 95% CI 17% to 45%), with four in the placebo arm, five in the 1.5ng IGF1 arm, and five in the 15ng IGF1 arm. Eight arrhythmias occurred on the day of the procedure, three at +1 day, two at +2 days, and one at +3 days. There was also one recurrent MI (+284 days) in the 15ng IGF1 arm, one recurrent severe ischemia (+93 days) in the 1.5ng IGF1 arm, and one death (+14 days) in the 15ng IGF1 arm (total sample 95% CIs for these singular events are 0 to 11%). There was no target vessel revascularisation (total sample 95% CIs for non-observed events are 0 to 7.5%), and there were no significant differences in the event rate across study arms out to 30 days (chi squared test p-value = 0.77). The 1 patient death occurred at day 10 post MI and the patient died whilst sleeping at home 3 days after hospital discharge. The death was presumed due to ventricular arrhythmia and no autopsy was performed.

Forty two patients had cardiac MRI performed at baseline and 8 weeks with 5 patients having no MRI data due to claustrophobia (4 patients) and 1 death (Figure 2). One additional patient had an MRI of insufficient quality due to incomplete breath hold because of pulmonary congestion during the baseline scan. Baseline and 8 week MRI data are presented for placebo, 1.5ng IGF1- and 15ng IGF1- patients on Figure 3 and Table 3. Forty one patients had complete MRI data suitable for GLVEF, LV volumes, mass, and stroke volume analysis both at baseline and 8 weeks. Eleven patients had scans that were not suitable for late gadolinium enhancement analysis all due to inadequate

prolonged breath-hold at the end of the scan at baseline (8 patients) and at 8 weeks (3 patients). Thirty one patients had gadolinium enhancement suitable for infarct size analysis both at baseline and at 8 weeks.

There was no apparent impact of treatment on the primary efficacy endpoint. Mean GLVEF at 24 hrs post-treatment was 39.4% (7.5 SD) in the placebo arm, and 41.2% (9.5) and 44.9% (8.0) in IGF1 1.5ng and 15ng arms respectively. This increased after 2 months in all three arms to 45.9% (5.8), 48.5% (13.5), and 50.2% (9.6) respectively (Figure 3). The difference in adjusted mean GLVEF compared to placebo was 1.76% (95% CI -3.35 to 6.87; $p = 0.51$) for 1.5 ng IGF1, and -0.90% (95% CI -6.09 to 4.29; $p = 0.74$) for 15 ng IGF1. With reference to the assumptions underpinning the sample size calculation, GLVEF was more variable than expected, and there was a larger than anticipated improvement in GLVEF in the placebo arm.

With regard to secondary efficacy endpoints compared with placebo, the 15ng IGF1 treatment was associated with a significant reduction in LV end-diastolic volume index (-16.38 ml/m^2 , 95% CI -29.30 to -3.46 ; $p = 0.018$), LV mass index (-15.48 g/m^2 , 95% CI -23.97 to -7.00 ; $p = 0.001$) and stroke volume (-16.02 ml , 95% CI -28.49 to -3.56 ; $p = 0.016$). There were no apparent differences in any of these endpoints between the placebo and the IGF1 1.5ng arms (Table 3).

There was a non-significant reduction in late contrast enhancement (LateCE) in the higher dose 15ng IGF1 - patients compared to the other two groups (95% CI -22.3 to 1.4 , $p = 0.095$, Table 3). Using the Benjamini-Hochberg procedure to adjust for multiple comparisons, by controlling the false discovery rate at 5%, all three secondary effects above remained significant for the higher dose IGF1 group when adjusted based on the ANCOVA p-values.

Discussion

This randomized double-blind placebo controlled clinical trial is the first to evaluate the safety and cardioprotective effects of low dose IGF1 in STEMI patients. While there were no safety concerns the

primary efficacy endpoint of greater enhancement in global LV systolic function was not met for either dose of IGF1 compared to placebo. In control and IGF1 treated subjects LVEF increased over the 2 month follow up consistent with prior revascularization trials using thrombolytics or PCI[18-20]. With regard to secondary outcomes 15ng IGF1 significantly reduced LV volume (LVEDVI) in addition to attenuation of LV mass and stroke volume increases compared to 1.5ng dose IGF1 and placebo.

The safety of both low doses of IGF1 in this trial is not surprising given that the concentrations of drug used was 100,000 fold less than doses previously proven safe to administer to normal human volunteer subjects (personal communication-Increlex manufacturer's brochure). We were concerned specifically about acute (within the first hour of IC administration) glycemic, hypotensive and tachycardia side effects none of which occurred in the 32 subjects who received IGF1. As IGF1 has a half-life of 14 mins in the circulation we anticipated that side effects would most likely manifest early post injection. Moreover, there was no increase in later arrhythmias or any other major adverse cardiac events in the IGF1 treated subjects compared to placebo treated controls. We paid particular attention to hGH (which mediates effects through IGF1)-like side effects such as myalgia, arthralgia, headache and jaw pain all of which were not detected in any of the groups studied. There was one death in the higher IGF1 treated group (15 ng) but this patient died at day 10 post STEMI presumably of ventricular arrhythmia and it was felt that this did not relate to IGF1 treatment given the time of death and the known risk of ventricular arrhythmia in patients with LVEF <40% post STEMI. Thus this pilot study suggests that IGF1 at the doses administered in this trial is safe in the setting of acute STEMI.

The rationale for evaluating the efficacy of intracoronary IGF1 in improving cardiac remodeling in patients undergoing myocardial infarction was based on experimental evidence supporting a key role of low dose IGF1 in initiating cardiomyocyte cytoprotection in the presence of reperfusion injury [5,9,10,14]. Briefly, in a porcine model of 90 mins LAD occlusion and 2 hours into reperfusion IGF 1 at the lower dose range (1.5ng) used in this study improved cardiomyocyte survival and 2 month

remodeling of LV compared to placebo post experimental infarction [5]. Parallel signaling studies performed at 30 mins post IGF1 injection indicated specific phosphorylation of cognate IGF1 receptor in cardiomyocytes in the infarct /border zone. Apoptotic assays at 24 hours indicated that cell death was effectively inhibited in the infarct border zone which abrogated later inflammatory and fibrotic changes in the infarcted heart [5].

Moreover, previous preclinical porcine work had shown that IGF1 in conditioned media at concentrations similar to the lower dose used in this trial was in part responsible for the cardioprotective effect of paracrine factors secreted from endothelial progenitor cells [21,22]. The timing of IGF1 injection in patients was also based on this preclinical experience where early injection of conditioned media in the reperfusion phase post infarct injury successfully attenuated acute cardiomyocyte death, early inflammation and later scar formation and adverse LV dilatation post MI [22]. The reason why these promising preclinical data [5,22] were not predictive in the current human trial may relate to the complexity and heterogeneity of the human disease as well as reduced inter-subject variability in the porcine model used.

Given the short half life of IGF1 [23] it is possible that some secondary efficacy effects seen in this trial may have been initiated early after injection. Experimental models have previously indicated that exogenous IGF1 delivered *via* the infarct-related artery enters at-risk myocardium, within minutes, most likely through permeable microvasculature in the infarct and border zones [5]. This event initiates a signaling cascade, in cardiomyocytes presenting IGF1 receptor, which includes Akt/PI3 kinase and GSK3 β pro-survival pathways [5] the latter being implicated in regulation of crucial mitochondrial permeability-transition pore function[5]. In this way early cytoprotection especially in the infarct border zone may act as a bulwark against further infarct expansion and maladaptive LV remodelling in the months post infarction. For instance, later cavity expansion is associated with compensatory hypertrophy increasing LV mass with attendant increases in stroke volume both of which are potentially indicators of maladaptive remodeling and may contribute to longterm heart failure [24,25]. The strong trend to reduced infarct size in the 15ng IGF1 group would

support an early cytoprotective effect of IGF1 and is consistent with previous preclinical observations in multiple experimental models [5,9,10,14,21,22].

The major limitations of this pilot study include small sample size, variability in LVEF and other baseline characteristics especially pre-PCI thrombolysis TIMI 3 flow rate and the significant drop out rate of late gadolinium enhancement determination in 11 patients. Together these limitations give insufficient power to determine the full clinical efficacy of intracoronary IGF1. The attained vs. expected % change in LVEF from baseline to 8 weeks was $8 (\pm 5)$ vs. $8.2 (\pm 7.5)$ for 15ng IGF1 dose and $2.2 (\pm 5)$ vs $6.5 (\pm 6.3)$ for placebo so LVEF as a parameter was more variable than expected, and the change in placebo was larger than expected. Thus future studies to test 15ng IGF1 vs placebo, based on the effect size and variance seen in the current trial would require 200 subjects in each arm with power = 0.8 and alpha = 0.05, based on t-test with common variance. There was variability in the DES stents used, and acute pharmacotherapy including thrombolytics, IIb/IIIa antagonists used although none of these parameters reached statistical significance in terms of group differences (Table 1). Despite this, it is likely that any future studies evaluating IGF1 should restrict patients to those with TIMI 0/1 flow on presentation and guidance on pharmacotherapy and stent treatment should aim to reduce inter-subject variability to a minimum. This current study reflected real world practice and left PPCI management of patients in catheterization lab to the discretion of the interventional cardiologist.

Approximately 25% (11/42) of patients had gadolinium enhancement images unsuitable for analysis primarily due to difficulties in sustaining adequate breath-holding especially at the 24 hour baseline scan (8/11). In future studies it may therefore be beneficial to perform baseline scanning at 3 days rather than 24 hours post MI. Eight weeks was used as the follow up interval for repeat MRI based on previous large animal data. It may have been useful to look at a later timepoint of 4 months where non-infarct remodeling becomes more evident in terms of EDV and LV mass. We hope to capture some of this data in future analysis of 6 month echocardiography follow up (not included

here). Among patients missing any outcome data, there were no apparent differences from those with no missing data, with respect to the patient characteristics reported in Table 1. Moreover there were no appreciable differences when comparing patients who were missing any late CE data at baseline or 8 weeks (Supplementary Table 1). We cannot exclude the possibility of differences in unmeasured variables such as complexity of coronary artery disease or clinical risk scores. There was no statistically significant difference in peak troponins between treatment groups but temporal tracking of acute cardiomyocyte death (troponin release profile) was not specified as an efficacy endpoint and thus it is not clear whether IGF1 had any acute pro-survival effect. Given the previous safety profile of many log-fold higher doses of IGF1 in normal and IGF1 deficient human subjects (personal communication – Increlex manufacturers brochure) it is conceivable, that higher doses of IGF1 than used in this study would be safe and may have additional therapeutic potential. Moreover slow release IGF1 preparations or sequential dosing over time may extend the temporal window for therapeutic efficacy of this cytoprotective approach especially given that cardiomyocyte death is an ongoing process in the 24-72 hours post infarction [26]. Finally it is likely that increasing LVEF entry threshold to <45% may have enhanced enrolment and reduced the large number of screening failures in this trial.

In conclusion, this study suggests that low dose IGF1 is safe when administered via the intracoronary route in the setting of STEMI undergoing PPCI. The failure to achieve a positive primary outcome added to several study limitations indicate that our secondary outcome data results can only be viewed as exploratory. Acknowledging design limitations in the current study any future trial involving a larger number of patients should aim to reduce the variability in clinical presentation (TIMI flow, ischemic time) and MRI (LVEF, gadolinium drop-out) parameters observed in this study.

Figure 1 Study design

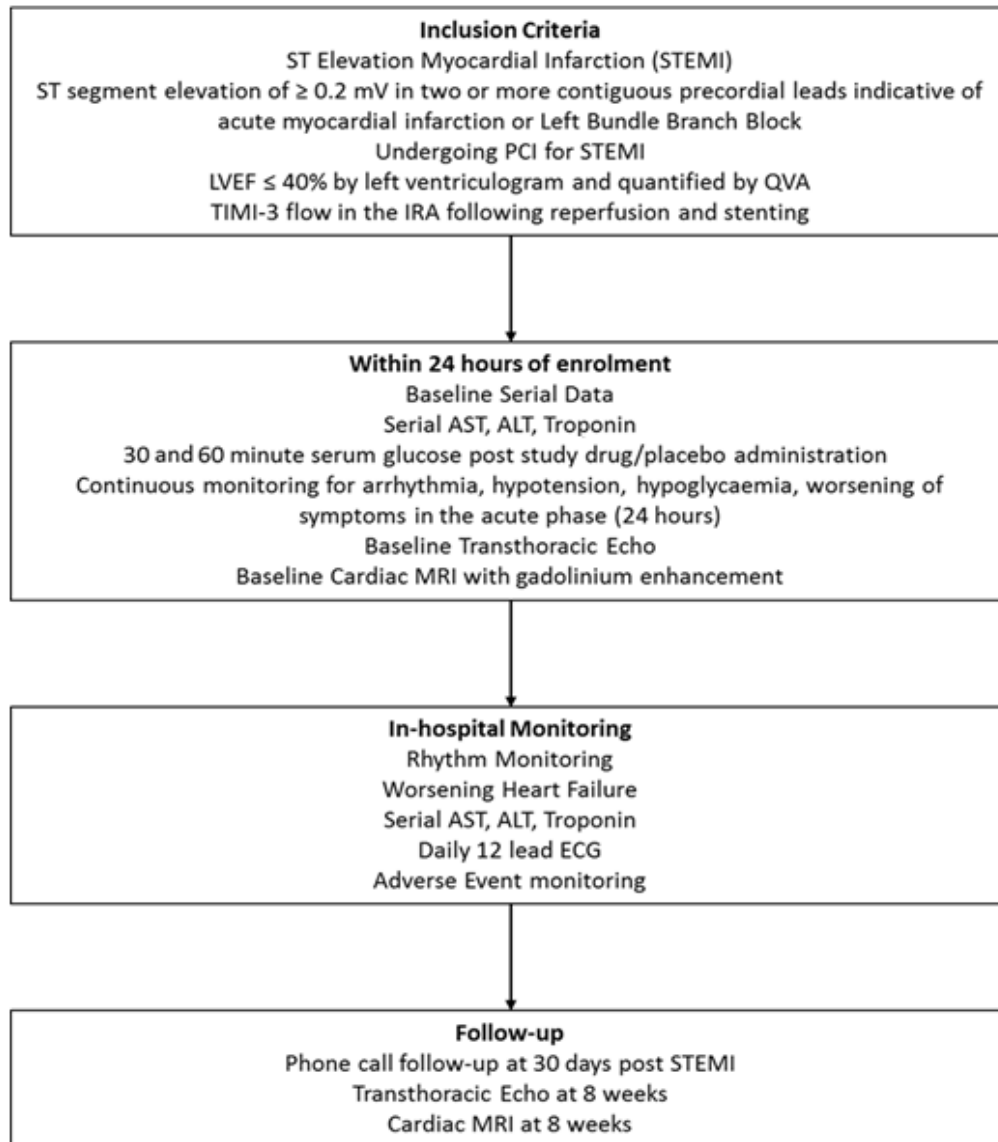


Figure 2. Trial Profile

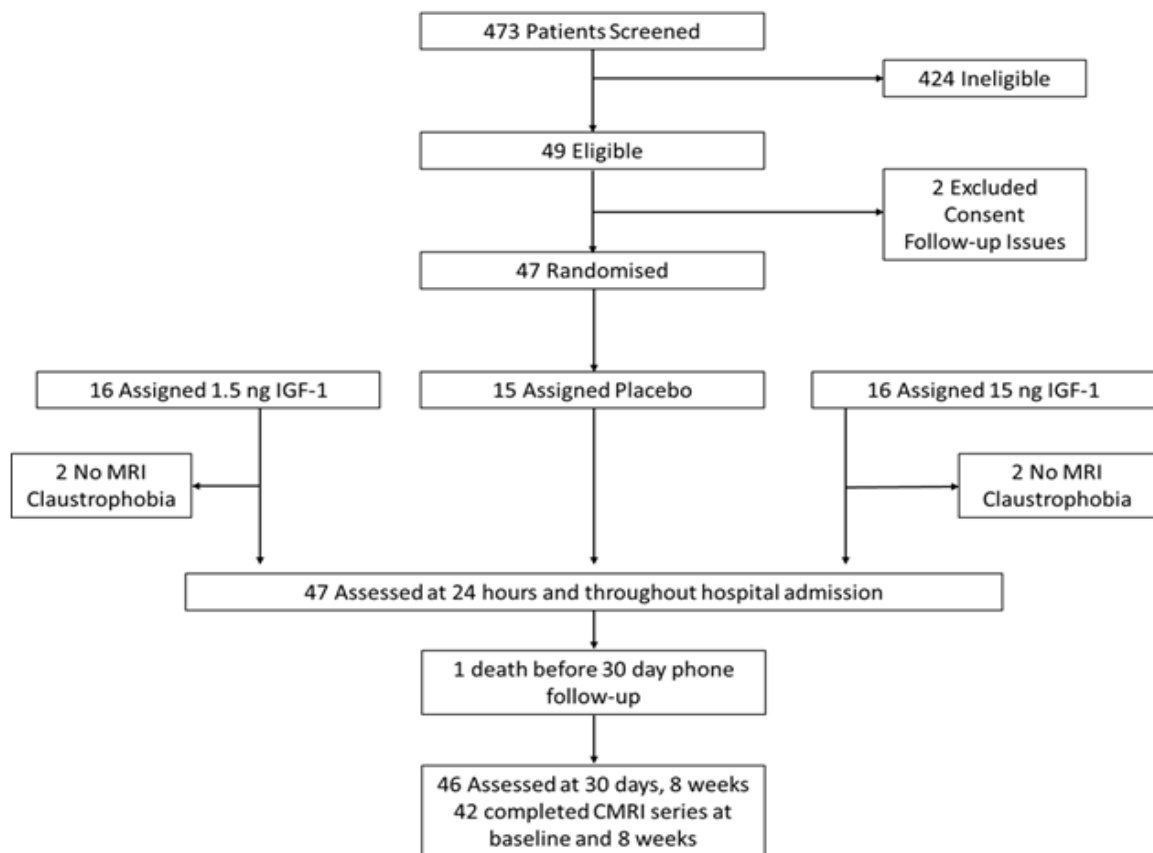


Figure 3. Treatment effect of IGF1 and placebo on global LV ejection fraction (GLVEF)

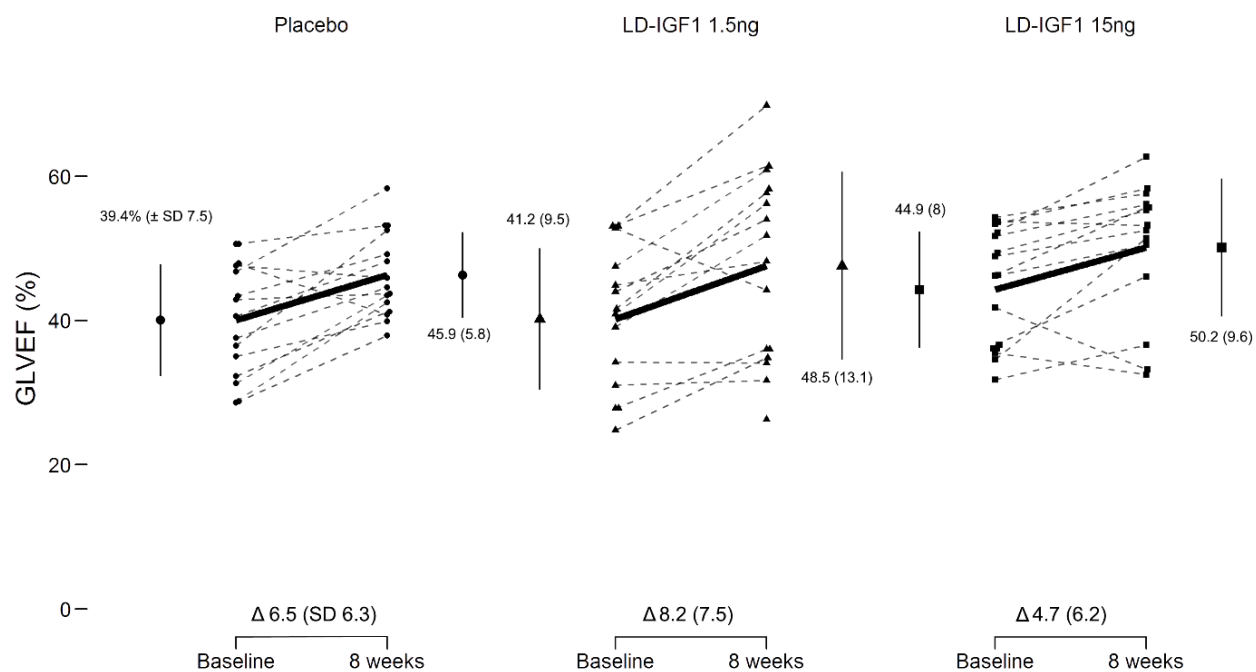


TABLE 1. Baseline Characteristics

Variable	Total (n = 47)	Placebo (n = 15)	IGF1 1.5ng (n = 16)	IGF1 15ng (n = 16)	Test p-value
Age (years)	59 [50, 66]	55 [51.5, 66]	57.5 [45.8, 65.5]	61.5 [52.2, 65.2]	0.78
Sex					0.57
Male	37 (78.7%)	11 (73.3%)	12 (75%)	14 (87.5%)	
Female	10 (21.3%)	4 (26.7%)	4 (25%)	2 (12.5%)	
Smoking					0.88
0	11 (23.4%)	3 (20%)	3 (18.8%)	5 (31.2%)	
1	10 (21.3%)	4 (26.7%)	3 (18.8%)	3 (18.8%)	
2	26 (55.3%)	8 (53.3%)	10 (62.5%)	8 (50%)	
Hypertension					0.97
No	27 (57.4%)	9 (60%)	9 (56.2%)	9 (56.2%)	
Yes	20 (42.6%)	6 (40%)	7 (43.8%)	7 (43.8%)	
Dyslipidemia					0.11
No	37 (78.7%)	14 (93.3%)	10 (62.5%)	13 (81.2%)	
Yes	10 (21.3%)	1 (6.7%)	6 (37.5%)	3 (18.8%)	
Diabetes					0.32
No	44 (93.6%)	13 (86.7%)	16 (100%)	15 (93.8%)	
Yes	3 (6.4%)	2 (13.3%)	0 (0%)	1 (6.2%)	
Family history of cardiac disease					0.05
No	30 (68.2%)	12 (80%)	6 (42.9%)	12 (80%)	
Yes	14 (31.8%)	3 (20%)	8 (57.1%)	3 (20%)	
SBP (mmHg)	118 [106, 126.5]	128 [108.5, 142.5]	118 [103.8, 124.2]	113.5 [104.5, 119.2]	0.17
DBP (mmHg)	75 [67, 84.5]	76 [70.5, 86.5]	73.5 [70, 84.5]	72.5 [60, 81.5]	0.51
Heart rate (bpm)	84 [72.5, 94.5]	85 [76.5, 97]	82 [70.8, 91.8]	83.5 [74.5, 90]	0.46
Height (cm)	172.7 [167, 179]	170.2 [168.5, 180.5]	170 [163, 174.8]	174.9 [172, 178.5]	0.18
Weight (kg)	76.2 [69.9, 90]	71.1 [62.5, 92.7]	75.5 [66.5, 82.1]	81.2 [75.2, 90]	0.25
BMI (kg/m ²)	25.4 [22.8, 28.5]	23 [21.3, 28.5]	24.7 [23.1, 28.4]	26 [25.3, 28.9]	0.4
TIMI flow prior to PCI					0.11
0	23 (50%)	10 (66.7%)	9 (60%)	4 (25%)	
1	4 (8.7%)	2 (13.3%)	0 (0%)	2 (12.5%)	
2	6 (13%)	2 (13.3%)	1 (6.7%)	3 (18.8%)	
3	13 (28.3%)	1 (6.7%)	5 (33.3%)	7 (43.8%)	
Infarct related artery					0.34
LAD	46 (97.9%)	14 (93.3%)	16 (100%)	16 (100%)	
LCx	1 (2.1%)	1 (6.7%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Thrombolysis prior to PCI					0.23
No	42 (89.4%)	15 (100%)	13 (81.2%)	14 (87.5%)	
Yes	5 (10.6%)	0 (0%)	3 (18.8%)	2 (12.5%)	
Post PCI LVEF	37.1 [33.3, 38.9]	36.9 [34.5, 38.5]	35 [27.8, 38.4]	37.8 [35.3, 38.8]	0.39

TABLE 1. Baseline Characteristics(contd.)

Variable	Total (n = 47)	Placebo (n = 15)	IGF1 1.5ng (n = 16)	IGF1 15ng (n = 16)	Test p-value
Stent Type					0.83
DES	33 (70.2%)	12 (80%)	10 (62.5%)	11 (68.8%)	
BMS	4 (8.5%)	1 (6.7%)	2 (12.5%)	1 (6.2%)	
Bioabsorb-DES	10 (21.3%)	2 (13.3%)	4 (25%)	4 (25%)	
Baseline KILLIP					0.21
1	40 (87%)	13 (92.9%)	15 (93.8%)	12 (75%)	
2	6 (13%)	1 (7.1%)	1 (6.2%)	4 (25%)	
Peak troponin T (HS-ng/L) post PCI	5790 [3109, 8577]	6183 [4174, 8940]	5900 [3884, 9212]	5389 [1876, 7993]	0.87
Ischemia to PCI (min)	255 [200, 399]	240 [209, 323]	254 [222, 414]	279 [181, 451]	0.83
Time from start of PCI to drug administration (min)	71 [57, 86]	62 [57.5, 79]	76.5 [57.5, 93.5]	79 [55, 87.2]	0.7
Medications					
<i>Antiplatelet</i>					
ASA	47 (100%)	15 (100%)	16 (100%)	16 (100%)	-
Clopidogrel	18 (38.3%)	9 (60%)	3 (18.8%)	6 (37.5%)	0.06
Prasugrel	16 (34%)	3 (20%)	8 (50%)	5 (31.2%)	0.2
Ticagrelor	13 (29.8%)	3 (20%)	5 (31.2%)	5 (31.2%)	0.72
GPIIb/IIIa Antagonist	26 (56.5%)	8 (53.3%)	8 (53.3%)	10 (62.5%)	0.84
<i>2° Prevention</i>					
Beta Blocker	47 (100%)	15 (100%)	16 (100%)	16 (100%)	-
Statin	47 (100%)	15 (100%)	16 (100%)	16 (100%)	-
<i>Heart failure</i>					
ACEI	42 (89.4%)	14 (93.3%)	13 (81.2%)	15 (93.8%)	0.43
Aldosterone antagonist	17 (36.2%)	5 (33.3%)	5 (31.2%)	7 (43.8%)	0.73
NYHA at discharge					0.94
1	28 (59.6%)	9 (60%)	10 (62.5%)	9 (56.2%)	
2	19 (40.4%)	6 (40%)	6 (37.5%)	7 (43.8%)	

LAD-Left anterior descending; LCx-Left circumflex; DES-Drug eluting stent; BMS-Bare metal stent; Bioabsorb-DES-Bioabsorbable drug eluting stent.

TABLE 2. Safety Endpoints

	Placebo n= 15	IGF-1 (1.5ng) n= 16	IGF-1 (15ng) n= 16
Hemodynamic and blood glucose parameters			
Hypotension	0	0	0
Tachycardia	0	0	0
Hypoglycemia	0	0	0
Arrhythmias in the first 24 hours			
Supraventricular Tachycardia	0	0	0
Atrial Fibrillation	2	1	2
Atrial Flutter	0	0	0
Ventricular Tachycardia	0	0	0
Non Sustained Ventricular Tachycardia	1	2	1
Ventricular Fibrillation	0	0	0
Arrhythmias during rest of hospital admission			
Supraventricular Tachycardia	0	0	0
Atrial Fibrillation	2	0	2
Atrial Flutter	0	0	0
Ventricular Tachycardia	1	0	0
Non Sustained Ventricular tachycardia	0	0	0
Ventricular Fibrillation	0	0	0
Subacute Ischaemic Outcomes to 30 Days			
Death	0	0	1
Recurrent MI	0	0	0
Repeat Revascularization IRA	0	0	0
Heart Failure	0	0	0
Stroke	0	0	0

There were no significant differences in the pre-specified safety event rates across study arms out to 30 days (chi squared test p-value = 0.77)

TABLE 3. Secondary efficacy endpoints

	Baseline		8 Weeks		Change		ANCOVA		
	n	Mean (SD)	n	Mean (SD)	n	Mean (SD)	Estimate*	95%CI	p
LVEDV Index (ml/m²)									
Placebo	14	96 (16.2)	14	114.5 (20.6)	14	18.5 (14.2)		ref	
IGF1 1.5 ng	13	98.6 (17.3)	15	105.1 (22.4)	13	9.1 (18)	-10.251	(-23.495 to 2.992)	0.138
IGF1 15 ng	15	93.6 (9.7)	14	95 (24)	14	2.3 (18.9)	-16.383	(-29.304 to -3.462)	0.018
LVESV Index (ml/m²)									
Placebo	14	58.7 (15)	14	62.2 (14.6)	14	3.6 (10.3)		ref	
IGF1 1.5 ng	13	58.8 (17.3)	15	55.4 (21.5)	13	-2.6 (15.5)	-6.594	(-16.85 to 3.663)	0.216
IGF1 15 ng	15	51.8 (10.4)	14	49.5 (19.2)	14	-1.2 (13.4)	-5.351	(-15.611 to 4.908)	0.313
LV Mass Index (g/m²)									
Placebo	10	85.8 (17)	12	85 (14.8)	9	0.5 (8.6)		ref	
IGF1 1.5 ng	9	93 (17.1)	12	90.8 (7.2)	8	-2 (13.4)	-1.083	(-10.663 to 8.498)	0.827
IGF1 15 ng	15	92.5 (19.9)	13	75.9 (18.4)	13	-17 (13.4)	-15.484	(-23.969 to -6.998)	0.001
Stroke Volume (ml)									
Placebo	14	71.4 (20.3)	14	99.9 (26.1)	14	28.4 (17.8)		ref	
IGF1 1.5 ng	13	74.2 (17.4)	15	92 (27)	13	21.6 (17.2)	-7.801	(-20.123 to 4.521)	0.223
IGF1 15 ng	15	83.6 (15.7)	14	94.8 (14.9)	14	10.9 (14.1)	-16.024	(-28.487 to -3.56)	0.016
Late CE									
Placebo	10	56.2 (29)	12	49.1 (19.3)	9	-12.5 (20.4)		ref	
IGF1 1.5 ng	10	59.2 (34.3)	12	47.4 (22.4)	9	-12.4 (21.2)	-1.089	(-14.022 to 11.845)	0.87
IGF1 15 ng	15	56.8 (48.7)	13	34.5 (29.6)	13	-18.2 (26.2)	-10.448	(-22.254 to 1.359)	0.095

* Expressed as differences (vs. Placebo) in adjusted means (ANCOVA, adjusted for baseline outcome and diabetes status) with corresponding 95% CIs and p-value from the two sided test of no difference.

References

1. Miller, A.L., et al., Left ventricular ejection fraction assessment among patients with acute myocardial infarction and its association with hospital quality of care and evidence-based therapy use. *Circ Cardiovasc Qual Outcomes*, 2012. 5(5): p. 662-71.
2. Behfar, A., et al., Cell therapy for cardiac repair--lessons from clinical trials. *Nat Rev Cardiol*, 2014. 11(4): p. 232-46.
3. Heusch, G. and T. Rassaf, Time to Give Up on Cardioprotection? A Critical Appraisal of Clinical Studies on Ischemic Pre-, Post-, and Remote Conditioning. *Circ Res*, 2016. 119(5): p. 676-95.
4. Wang, L., et al., Regulation of cardiomyocyte apoptotic signaling by insulin-like growth factor I. *Circ Res*, 1998. 83(5): p. 516-22.
5. O'Sullivan, J.F., et al., Potent long-term cardioprotective effects of single low-dose insulin-like growth factor-1 treatment postmyocardial infarction. *Circ Cardiovasc Interv*, 2011. 4(4): p. 327-35.
6. Kirschbaum, S.W., et al., Addition of the long-axis information to short-axis contours reduces interstudy variability of left-ventricular analysis in cardiac magnetic resonance studies. *Invest Radiol*, 2008. 43(1): p. 1-6.
7. O'Neill, H.S., et al., A Collagen Cardiac Patch Incorporating Alginate Microparticles Permits the Controlled Release of HGF and IGF-1 to Enhance Cardiac Stem Cell Migration and Proliferation. *J Tissue Eng Regen Med*, 2016.
8. Anversa, P., et al., Myocardial infarction and the myocyte IGF1 autocrine system. *Eur Heart J*, 1995. 16 Suppl N: p. 37-45.
9. LeRoith, D. and C.T. Roberts, Jr., Insulin-like growth factor I (IGF-I): a molecular basis for endocrine versus local action? *Mol Cell Endocrinol*, 1991. 77(1-3): p. C57-61.
10. Li, Q., et al., Overexpression of insulin-like growth factor-1 in mice protects from myocyte death after infarction, attenuating ventricular dilation, wall stress, and cardiac hypertrophy. *J Clin Invest*, 1997. 100(8): p. 1991-9.
11. Conti, E., et al., Recombinant human insulin-like growth factor-1: a new cardiovascular disease treatment option? *Cardiovasc Hematol Agents Med Chem*, 2008. 6(4): p. 258-71.
12. Lee, W.L., et al., Changes of the insulin-like growth factor I system during acute myocardial infarction: implications on left ventricular remodeling. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*, 1999. 84(5): p. 1575-81.
13. Fazio, S., et al., A preliminary study of growth hormone in the treatment of dilated cardiomyopathy. *N Engl J Med*, 1996. 334(13): p. 809-14.
14. Osterziel, K.J., et al., Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of human recombinant growth hormone in patients with chronic heart failure due to dilated cardiomyopathy. *Lancet*, 1998. 351(9111): p. 1233-7.

15. Malmberg, K., et al., Effects of insulin treatment on cause-specific one-year mortality and morbidity in diabetic patients with acute myocardial infarction. DIGAMI Study Group. Diabetes Insulin-Glucose in Acute Myocardial Infarction. *Eur Heart J*, 1996. 17(9): p. 1337-44.
16. Janssens, S., et al., Autologous bone marrow-derived stem-cell transfer in patients with ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction: double-blind, randomised controlled trial. *Lancet*, 2006. 367(9505): p. 113-21.
17. Team, R.D.C. R: a language and environment for statistical computing. 2011 [cited 2017 02/04/2017]; Available from: <http://www.gbif.org/resource/81287>.
18. Montalescot, G., et al., Platelet glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibition with coronary stenting for acute myocardial infarction. *N Engl J Med*, 2001. 344(25): p. 1895-903.
19. Van de Werf, F. and A.E. Arnold, Intravenous tissue plasminogen activator and size of infarct, left ventricular function, and survival in acute myocardial infarction. *British Medical Journal*, 1988. 297(6660): p. 1374-1379.
20. Ottervanger, J.P., et al., Long-term recovery of left ventricular function after primary angioplasty for acute myocardial infarction. *Eur Heart J*, 2001. 22(9): p. 785-90.
21. Huang, C.L., et al., Synthetic chemically modified mrna-based delivery of cytoprotective factor promotes early cardiomyocyte survival post-acute myocardial infarction. *Mol Pharm*, 2015. 12(3): p. 991-6.
22. Hynes, B., et al., Potent endothelial progenitor cell-conditioned media-related anti-apoptotic, cardiostrophic, and pro-angiogenic effects post-myocardial infarction are mediated by insulin-like growth factor-1. *Eur Heart J*, 2013. 34(10): p. 782-9.
23. Kemp, S.F., Insulin-like growth factor-I deficiency in children with growth hormone insensitivity: current and future treatment options. *BioDrugs*, 2009. 23(3): p. 155-63.
24. Cohn, J.N., R. Ferrari, and N. Sharpe, Cardiac remodeling--concepts and clinical implications: a consensus paper from an international forum on cardiac remodeling. Behalf of an International Forum on Cardiac Remodeling. *J Am CollCardiol*, 2000. 35(3): p. 569-82.
25. Mann, D.L. and M.R. Bristow, Mechanisms and models in heart failure: the biomechanical model and beyond. *Circulation*, 2005. 111(21): p. 2837-49.
26. Zhao, Z.Q., et al., Reperfusion induces myocardial apoptotic cell death. *Cardiovasc Res*, 2000. 45(3): p. 651-60.