

MEDICAL / PHARMACEUTICAL

RENAL / RADIOCONTRAST NEPHROPATHY • CLIENT: AXIA PHARMACEUTICAL

Controlled trials reported in JAMA, AKJD (American Journal of Kidney Diseases), JACC (Journal of the American College of Cardiology), as well as the European Heart Journal have shown some remarkable success rates in prevention of renal failure due to proper IV or oral N-Acetylcysteine (NAC) protocol. “Estimates of in-hospital mortality rates are as high as 34% in patients who develop acute renal failure.”* Results published on several trials have shown a significant reduction of serum creatinine concentration when patients at risk for radiocontrast-induced nephropathy (RCN) received the targeted protocol of NAC before and after procedure, though some trials have not had as promising results. The successful JAMA published study was a double blind, placebo-controlled trial conducted at the Grantham Hospital at the University of Hong Kong. Participants were selected from scheduled elective coronary angiography patients, adults with known chronic renal impairment but otherwise reasonably healthy. Doses of oral Acetylcysteine were given before procedures, day of, and after to the NAC group and placebos to the control group. Data collected concluded that Acetylcysteine protected patients with moderate chronic renal insufficiency from RCN and adverse reactions to renal function. Findings in the successful AKJD published study were the result of unblinded and blinded randomized controlled trials with patients known to have pre-existing chronic kidney disease (CKD). The study found that NAC was effective in preventing RCN in adult patients with pre-existing CKD, and recommended it to all incoming patients who are at high risk for RCN.

* American Journal of Kidney Diseases V. 43, No. 1

Referenced Material:

AKJD, JAMA, Journal of the American College of Cardiology, European Heart Journal