Secondary Prevention in Myocardial Infarction

Myocardial infarction (MI), or heart attack, occurs when the blood supply to the heart is suddenly blocked. Lack of blood to the heart can cause damage to the heart muscle and may be life-threatening.¹

However, fewer than 50% of those eligible is receiving treatment to reduce the risk of experiencing another heart attack – secondary prevention – according to the World Health Organization, even though this is generally low cost.²

There are ways to reduce the risk of secondary CV events, including MI; quitting tobacco, eating a healthy diet, and being physically active are beneficial, as are treatments for other risk factors such as blood pressure and cholesterol, for which there are a variety of medical therapies.³,⁴,⁵

MI remains a serious health problem with an estimated 7 million people suffering an event each year.²

Those who experience an MI are at significant risk of a subsequent cardiovascular (CV) event within 12 months of the attack.³

In a review of the medical records of more than 4,000 people with a median age of 74, who had experienced a heart attack and who also had chronic health problems such as diabetes, kidney disease or heart failure, up to 1 in 6 people went on to experience another MI, stroke or death in the following 3 years.⁴


VEEVA: Z4-4569 | Date of preparation: June 2017 | Date of expiry: June 2018 | For use with medical, trade and consumer media | Before use with media, this document will require local review and Nom Sig approval