

Poster presentation

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Impairment of functional integrity of the vasculature is not changed in patients starting abacavir

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Purpose of the study

In order to explore a possible pathogenetic mechanism of abacavir (ABC) cardiovascular toxicity, we assess the impact of beginning the drug on endothelial function via assessment of brachial artery diameter (BAD) and flow-mediated dilation (FMD).

Methods

Cross-sectional observational study that included all consecutive HIV-infected patients seen at a metabolic clinic who had BAD and FMD evaluation before and 9 months after beginning ABC as a component of a new drug regimen.

Summary of results

There were no overt metabolic, virological or antiretroviral drug-related factors associated with BAD and FMD change over time among patients starting ABC. (Figure 1)

Conclusion

Change in impairment of functional integrity of the vasculature is not an associated factor related with ABC use. Cardiovascular disease risk among HIV-infected HAART-experienced persons is likely governed by complex pathophysiologic and treatment factors.

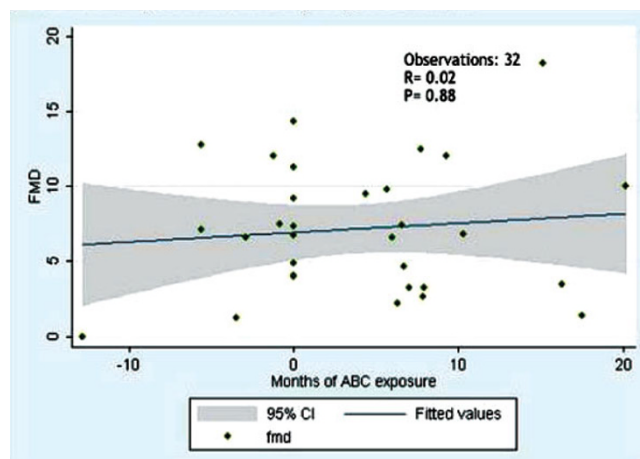


Figure 1
FMD change over time including multiple observations.