Is It Safe to Do Percutaneous Coronary Intervention in Moderate to Severe Chronic Kidney Disease Patients? A Prospective Cohort Study

Yudistira Santosa 1, Aiziah Dhena Harca 2, Angelina Yuwono 1, Amanda Hermanto 3, Muhammad S. Oliver 3, Edwin Sukmadja 4, Ratna Soewardi 5

1. Internal Medicine, Atma Jaya Catholic University of Indonesia, Jakarta, IDN 2. Emergency Department, Primaya Hospital, Jakarta, IDN 3. Emergency Department, Primaya Hospital, Banten, IDN 4. Emergency Department, Primaya Hospital, Tangerang, IDN

Corresponding author: Yudistira Santosa, yudistiraps@gmail.com

Abstract

Introduction: Contrast-induced acute kidney injury (CI-AKI) is a common and potentially serious complication of percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) procedures, as it induces acute kidney injury (AKI), especially in previously diagnosed chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients, particularly in those who also have diabetes. Adequate hydration and using a minimal volume of contrast media are the recommended measures to decrease CI-AKI in CKD patients. A combination of sodium bicarbonate and N-acetylcysteine (NAC) may be a superior strategy for preventing CI-AKI. This study is aimed to evaluate the safety of PCI in moderate to severe CKD patients.

Method: This was a prospective, single-center study, from 2019 to 2021. We included all chronic kidney disease who undergo PCI procedures. The kidney level was measured on admission and 24 hours after the PCI procedure. The patients received 75 meq/500 mL of sodium bicarbonate one to six hours before procedures, oral acetylcysteine 600 mg bid for three days, and rehydration with 1000 ml of normal saline infusion for eight hours in patients without congestive heart failure. SPSS Version 23.0 (IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 23.0., IBM Corp., Armonk, NY) was used to input and process the data.

Results: This study included 118 subjects, with baseline characteristics of age 58.77 ± 9.08 years, 80.5% male, 47.5% diabetic, 50% hypertension, and 59.5% congestive heart failure. From the coronary angiogram, we found most of our subjects (57.6%) had three-vessel disease, 28.8% had two-vessel disease, and 15.6% had one-vessel disease. About 67.8% of subjects used <50 ml of low molecular contrast. The baseline creatinine level was 2.46 ± 1.04 mg/dL and the estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) was 30 ± 12.65 mL/min. There were 19 (16.1%) patients with stage 3A CKD, 45 (38.1%) stage 3B, 41 (34.7%) stage 4, and 41 (34.7%) stage 5. The kidney function test after 24 hours of contrast admission showed a creatinine level of 2.37 ± 1.20 mg/dL (P<0.05) and the eGFR of 34.74 ± 16.10 mL/min. There was no significant difference in creatinine levels between stage 3A and stage 5 CKD. There was a significant reduction in creatinine in stage 3B CKD, from 1.917 ± 0.22 to 1.71 ± 0.37 mg/dL (P = 0.001); and stage 4 CKD, from 2.77 ± 0.55 to 2.72 ± 0.94 mg/dL (P = 0.013).

Discussion: CKD is a risk factor for developing CI-AKI after PCI, which is a marker of poor long-term outcomes. The development of CI-AKI is a strong predictor of post-PCI bleeding, which aggravates hemodynamic instability. The combination of NAC and NaHCO3 exerts a better antioxidative effect, which reduces the harmful short-term and long-term consequences of contrast media. Previous studies revealed the use of low-to-zero contrast media was safer in CKD patients who had undergone PCI. By applying these measures, our study showed a good outcome of PCI with no worsening renal function in CKD patients.

Conclusion: With good prophylaxis measures, such as using minimal volume contrast media, adequate rehydration, and the combination of sodium bicarbonate and acetylcysteine, it is safe to do PCI in moderate to severe CKD patients.

Categories: Cardiology, Internal Medicine, Nephrology

Keywords: percutaneous coronary intervention, chronic kidney disease, contrast induced nephropathy prophylaxis, rehydration, acetylcysteine, sodium bicarbonate

Introduction

Contrast-induced acute kidney injury (CI-AKI) is a potentially life-threatening complication of percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) procedures. According to the acute kidney injury network (AKIN), CI-AKI is diagnosed if at least one of the following criteria is met: (1) absolute increase in serum creatinine (SCr) by
>0.5 mg/dL from baseline; (2) relative increase in Scr by >50% from baseline; and (3) urine output is reduced to <0.5 ml/kg/hours for at least six hours [1]. Others defined CI-AKI as over 0.5 mg/dL or >25% increase in serum creatinine 48 hours after the administration of the contrast medium, without any other cause of AKI [2].

Various studies reported that CI-AKI occurred in up to 30% of patients receiving intra-arterial contrast media [3-6]. In a previous study in Indonesia from a state hospital in Bali, 7 out of 50 patients developed CI-AKI after contrast administration [7]. Patients who undergo PCI procedures and develop CI-AKI are at higher risk of short- and long-term mortality. CI-AKI is also associated with post-PCI cardiovascular events and in-hospital events such as the need for bypass surgery, bleeding and blood transfusion, and other vascular complications [8,9]. Several factors contribute to the development of AKI due to contrast media, such as diabetes mellitus, age, congestive heart failure, and previous history of kidney disease [2]. Of all factors, the history of stage 3 to 5 chronic kidney disease (CKD) and diabetes are known to be the most powerful independent risk factors for developing contrast-induced AKI [8,10].

Iodinated contrast (tri-iodinated benzene) is used in the coronary angiography procedure. Cytotoxicity occurs after the contrast administration and the endothelial cells produce vasoactive mediators (nitrous oxide, adenosine, prostataglandin, endothelin, and reactive oxygen species (ROS)), which later cause prolonged renal vasocstriction, impaired renal perfusion, and ischemia [11]. The renal medulla injury is the end result of ischemia due to CI-AKI [12]. Adequate preprocedural hydration, using a minimal volume of contrast media and high-intensity statin has been recommended to prevent CI-AKI in CKD patients undergoing angiography [8,13]. Bicarbonate sodium and high-dose acetylcysteine have been studied as CI-AKI prevention, although it is not recommended in routine practices, some studies showed the benefit of CI-AKI prevention [14,15]. In this study, we aim to evaluate renal function 24 hours after administering contrast media for PCI in CKD patients, who were also given hydration, minimal volume contrast media, bicarbonate sodium, and acetylcysteine.

**Materials And Methods**

**Study population**

This was a single-center, prospective cohort study, which was conducted at Primaya Hospital, Tangerang City, Banten, Indonesia. Study participants were taken using the consecutive sampling method. We included patients over 18 years old who had a history of CKD stage 3 or over, a history of coronary arterial disease (CAD) (stable), underwent the PCI procedure and were checked for serum creatinine level on admission and 24 hours after the procedure. Patients with unstable hemodynamics were excluded from the trial.

**Study protocol**

All patients received 75 mg/m2 bicarbonate sodium one to six hours before procedures, oral acetylcysteine 600 mg bid for three days, and rehydration with 1000 ml for eight hours (given two hours pre-contrast and six hours after contrast). Kidney function measurement was assessed on admission and 24 hours after PCI procedures to see any kidney function decline within the first 24 hours. This study was approved by the ethics committee of Primaya Hospital Tangerang (previously known as Awal Bros Hospital), with reference number 001/KOMED-EXT/RSAKT/TX/2019.

**Data collection and definition of variable**

The patients were classified by sex (male and female), a history of previously diagnosed hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and heart failure was obtained. The contrast volume used was classified as less than 50 ml or over 50 ml. From the coronary angiogram, we described the number of vessels affected (1/2/3 vessel disease). We used the 2012 Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) CKD classification to group the CKD patients, whereas CKD is defined as a function or structural abnormalities of the kidney presented at least three months. Glomerular filtration rate (GFR) is used for the classification of CKD, of which over 90 ml/min/1.73 m2 is classified as stage 1, 60-90 ml/min/1.73 m2 is classified as stage 2, 45-59 ml/min/1.73 m2 is classified as stage 3A, 30-44 ml/min/1.73 m2 is classified as stage 3B, 15-29 ml/min/1.73 m2 is classified as stage 4, and less than 15 ml/min/1.73 m2 is stage 5 [16]. The kidney function is measured as serum creatinine (mg/dL). All data is input and processed with SPSS Version 23.0 (IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 23.0., IBM Corp., Armonk, NY). We used a dependent t-test to evaluate serum creatinine changes pre- and post-contrast.

**Results**

This study included 118 subjects, with baseline characteristics (Table 1) of age 58.77 ± 9.08 years, 80.5% male, 47.5% diabetic, 50% hypertension, and 59.5% congestive heart failure. From the coronary angiogram, we found most of our subjects (57.6%) had three-vessel disease, 28.8% had two-vessel disease, and 15.6% had one-vessel disease. About 67.8% of subjects used <50 ml of low molecular contrast. The baseline creatinine level was 2.46 ± 1.04 mg/dL and the estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) was 30 ± 12.65 ml/min. There were 19 (16.1%) patients with stage 3A CKD, 45 (38.1%) with stage 3B, 41 (34.7%) with stage
4, and 41 (34.7%) with stage 5. The kidney function test after 24 hours of contrast admission showed a creatinine level of 2.37 ± 1.20 mg/dL (P<0.05) and the eGFR of 34.74 ± 16.10 mL/min. There was no significant difference in creatinine levels between stage 3A and stage 5 CKD. There was a significant reduction in creatinine in stage 3B CKD, from 1.917 ± 0.22 to 1.71 ± 0.37 mg/dL (P = 0.001); and stage 4 CKD, from 2.77 ± 0.55 to 2.72 ± 0.94 mg/dL (P = 0.013). The comparison of kidney function can be seen in Table 2.

| Variables                        | Total patients (%) n = 118 | Mean (±SD)  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Age (years)                      |                            | 58.77 ± 9.08|
| Sex                              |                            |             |
| Male                             | 95 (80.5%)                 |             |
| Female                           | 23 (19.5%)                 |             |
| Hypertension                     |                            |             |
| Yes                              | 59 (50%)                   |             |
| No                               | 59 (50%)                   |             |
| Type 2 diabetes mellitus         |                            |             |
| Yes                              | 56 (47.5%)                 |             |
| No                               | 62 (52.5%)                 |             |
| Heart failure                    |                            |             |
| Yes                              | 70 (59.3%)                 |             |
| No                               | 48 (40.7%)                 |             |
| Volume contrast                  |                            |             |
| Below 50 cc                      | 80 (67.8%)                 |             |
| Above 50 cc                      | 38 (32.2%)                 |             |
| Angiogram                        |                            |             |
| One vessel disease               | 16 (13.6%)                 |             |
| Two vessel disease               | 34 (28.8%)                 |             |
| Three vessel disease             | 68 (57.6%)                 |             |
| Stages of chronic kidney disease |                            |             |
| Stage 3A                         | 19 (16.1%)                 |             |
| Stage 3B                         | 45 (38.1%)                 |             |
| Stage 4                          | 41 (34.7%)                 |             |
| Stage 5                          | 13 (11%)                   |             |

**TABLE 1**: Baseline characteristics of the subjects.
TABLE 2: Kidney function pre-PCI and post-PCI.

| Variables | Total patients | Kidney function | P-value |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|---------|
| Pre-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 2.46 ± 1.04 | | |
| Post-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 2.37 ± 1.20 | | P = 0.000157 |
| Pre-PCI eGFR (ml/min/1.73 m^2) | 30.90 ± 12.65 | | P = 0.000003 |
| Post-PCI eGFR (ml/min/1.73 m^2) | 34.74 ± 16.10 | | |
| Stage 3A | 19 (16.1%) | | |
| Pre-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 1.56 ± 0.14 | | |
| Post-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 1.55 ± 0.32 | | 0.0387 |
| Stage 3B | 45 (38.1%) | | |
| Pre-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 1.917 ± 0.22 | | |
| Post-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 1.71 ± 0.37 | | 0.001 |
| Stage 4 | 41 (34.7%) | | |
| Pre-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 2.77 ± 0.55 | | |
| Post-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 2.72 ± 0.94 | | 0.013 |
| Stage 5 | 13 (11%) | | |
| Pre-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 4.73 ± 1.05 | | |
| Post-PCI creatinine (mg/dl) | 4.73 ± 1.21 | | 0.753 |

Discussion

CKD, especially stages 4 and 5, causes a chronic and systemic proinflammatory state that results in the formation of atherosclerotic lesions, vascular calcification, vascular senescence, myocardial fibrosis, and cardiac valve calcification. This increases the prevalence of cardiovascular events, which is the leading cause of death in CKD patients [17]. Coronary angiography remains as the gold standard for diagnosing coronary arterial disease (CAD) [14]. Iodinated contrast medium given intravenously during the procedure is a common precipitator of CI-AKI [18]. Nevertheless, the risk of CI-AKI precipitating AKI and the need for dialysis in CKD patients should be weighed against the benefit of the diagnostic test. The ISCHEMIA-CKD trial, which consisted of 777 CKD subjects, revealed a significantly higher incidence of stroke, death, and initiation of dialysis in subjects who received invasive strategies (coronary angiography and revascularization) [19]. Both medical and invasive treatment risks and benefits bring a dilemma in daily practices and lead into "therapeutic nihilism" in many CKD subjects [19,20]. The previous study showed CKD patients have more severe CAD than patients with normal kidney function. The study revealed that CKD patients were often found to have three-vessel or left main disease, and the severity of CAD was proportional to the degree of CKD [21]. Our study also showed most of our CKD subjects had three-vessel disease (57.6%).

The usage of low or minimal contrast volume, adequate hydration, and the use of high-dose statins have been recommended in CI-AKI prevention. Creatinine monitoring should be done once daily for the first five days after the injection of the contrast medium [22]. A previous study showed a small volume of contrast medium (30 ml) was still able to trigger AKI in high-risk patients [23]. Some suggested giving the volume not more than twice the patient’s baseline eGFR or adjusting to the patient’s body weight [23]. In this study, the majority of patients (67.8%) received less than 50 ml of contrast media. The development of nonionic low osmolar contrast media (LOCM) or nonionic iso-osmolar contrast media (IOCM) also decreases the risk of CI-AKI in patients with pre-existing kidney disease [24].

Adequate hydration should be ensured in all patients undergoing coronary angiography because it prevents CI-AKI [8,14]. The renin-angiotensin system and vasopressin are inhibited by intravenous hydration. Hydration also increases the urinary flow rate, which reduces the concentration and the transit time of...
contrast in the renal tubules, thus reducing the risk of direct exposure between the renal tubules and contrast media [25]. For the prevention of CI-AKI in patients with kidney disease, it is recommended to give hydration with a normal saline infusion at the rate of 1 ml/kg/hour over 6-12 hours pre-procedure and it should be continued for 24 hours after the procedure [26,27]. Some randomized control trials and meta-analyses compared the effectiveness between intravenous fluid and oral fluid, and studies revealed that oral hydration is as effective as IV saline [26]. Hydration should be continued for 24 hours during and 48 hours beyond the procedure to reduce the risk of CI-AKI. Some studies demonstrated that there was a protective effect of intravenous sodium bicarbonate in patients with acute kidney injury [26,27]. Our subjects had been given a limited volume of contrast media, received intravenous normal saline for hydration pre- and post-procedure, and also received both intravenous bicarbonate sodium and N-acetylcysteine, which have antioxidative effects. In our study, we found there was no worsening serum creatinine in the first 24 hours after the procedure in the CKD patients, but further study should be done assessing the 48 hours renal function. We suggest comparing the first 24 hours and 48 hours post-contrast serum creatinine to see if the first 24 hours’ creatinine level may predict the incidence of CI-AKI. This study was not compared between CKD patients and non-CKD patients because we aimed to see if these prevention measures may be an option for CKD patients to prevent CI-AKI. The limitation of this study is that we did not assess the daily serum creatinine as per the previous study protocols, to assess the decline in renal function per day. We also did not compare the outcome of each comorbidity with the effect of CI-AKI prevention.

Conclusions

With good prophylaxis measures, such as using minimal volume contrast media, adequate rehydration, and the combination of sodium bicarbonate and acetylcysteine, worsening renal function was not found in the first 24 hours in CKD patients. Further studies with larger samples and assessing the 48 hours serum creatinine and the long-term outcome of kidney function with these measures of prevention should be done.

Additional Information

Disclosures

Human subjects: Consent was obtained or waived by all participants in this study. Awal Bros Tangerang Hospital issued approval 001/KOMED-EXT/RSABT/IX/2019. Animal subjects: All authors have confirmed that this study did not involve animal subjects or tissue. Conflicts of interest: In compliance with the ICMJE uniform disclosure form, all authors declare the following: Payment/services info: All authors have declared that no financial support was received from any organization for the submitted work. Financial relationships: All authors have declared that they have no financial relationships at present or within the previous three years with any organizations that might have an interest in the submitted work. Other relationships: All authors have declared that there are no other relationships or activities that could appear to have influenced the submitted work.

References

1. Lakhal K, Ehrmann S, Chaari A, Laissy JP, Régnier B, Wolff M, Pajot O: Acute kidney injury network definition of contrast-induced nephropathy in the critically ill: incidence and outcome. J Crit Care. 2011, 26:595-9. 10.1016/j.jcrc.2011.05.010
2. Moro AB, Strauch IJG, Grote AD, Toregeani JF: Creatinine level variation in patients subjected to contrast-enhanced tomography: a meta-analysis. J Vasc Bras. 2021, 20:e20200161. 10.1590/1677-5449.200161
3. Mohammed NM, Mahfouz A, Achkar K, Rafie IM, Hajr R: Contrast-induced nephropathy. Heart Views. 2015, 14:106. 10.4103/1995-705X.125926

4. Elseerafy AS, Okasha N, Hegazy T: Prevention of contrast induced nephropathy by ischemic preconditioning in patients undergoing percutaneous coronary angiography. Egypt Heart J. 2018, 70:107-11. 10.1016/j.ehj.2017.12.004

5. Kuboyama O, Tokunaga T: The prevalence and prognosis of contrast-induced acute kidney injury according to the definition in patients with acute myocardial infarction who underwent primary percutaneous coronary intervention. Clin Trials Regul Sci Cardiol. 2016, 13:29-33. 10.1016/j.ctscc.2015.11.004

6. Kumar D, Laiquat H, Sial JA, et al.: Risk factors associated with contrast-induced nephropathy after primary percutaneous coronary intervention. Cureus. 2020, 12:e9721. 10.7759/cureus.9721

7. Kandarini Y, Wulandari Pj, Mahadita GW: Faktor resiko contrast induced nephropathy pada pasien yang menjalani prosedur coronary intervention. J Penyakit Dalam Udayana. 2021, 5:20-5. 10.3621/jpdp.v5i1.148

8. Caraciolo A, Scalise BF, Ceresa F, et al.: Optimizing the outcomes of percutaneous coronary intervention in patients with chronic kidney disease. J Clin Med. 2022, 11:2380. 10.3390/jcm11092380

9. Bloom JE, Dinh DT, Noaman S, et al.: Adverse impact of chronic kidney disease on clinical outcomes following percutaneous coronary intervention. Cathet Cardiovasc Intervent. 2021, 97:801-9. 10.1002/ccd.29456

10. Schols SS, Lauder L, Ewen S, et al.: One-year clinical outcomes in patients with renal insufficiency after contemporary PCI: data from a multicenter registry. Clin Res Cardiol. 2020, 109:845-56. 10.1007/s00392-019-01575-y

11. Shoukat S, Gowsani SA, Jafferani A, Dhakam SH: Contrast-induced nephropathy in patients undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention. Cardiol Res Pract. 2010, 2010:1-12. 10.4061/2010/691464

12. Gupta RK, Bang TJ: Prevention of contrast-induced nephropathy (CIN) in interventional radiology practice. Semin Interv Radiol. 2010, 27:548-59. 10.1055/s-0030-1267860

13. Chau CH, Williams DO: Prevention of contrast-induced renal failure for the interventional cardiologist. Circ Cardiovasc Intervent. 2016, 9:e004122. 10.1161/CIRCINTERVENTIONS.116.004122

14. Lawton IS, Tamis-Holland JE, Bangalore S, et al.: 2021 ACC/AHA/SCAI guideline for coronary artery revascularization: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines. Circulation. 2022, 145:e18. 10.1161/CIR.0000000000001058

15. Inda-Filho AI, Caetano A, Mangiini M, Schor N: Do intravenous N-acetylcysteine and sodium bicarbonate prevent high osmolal contrast-induced acute kidney injury? A randomized controlled trial. PLoS One. 2014, 9:e107602. 10.1371/journal.pone.0107602

16. Willis K, Cheung M, Stifer S: KDIGO 2012 clinical practice guideline for the evaluation and management of chronic kidney disease. Kidney Int Suppl. 2013, 3:1-150.

17. Jankowski J, Floege J, Fliiter D, Böhm M, Marx N: Cardiovascular disease in chronic kidney disease: pathophysiological insights and therapeutic options. Circulation. 2021, 145:1157-72. 10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.120.050866

18. Wichmann JL, Katzberg RW, Litwin SE, et al.: Contrast-induced nephropathy. Circulation. 2015, 132:1951-6. 10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.115.014672

19. Levine GN, Ujmar Khalid M: ISCHEMIA-CKD: contemporary randomized clinical data at last. Circulation. 2020, 142:520-2. 10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.120.040509

20. Shroff GR, Carlson MD, Mathew RO: Coronary artery disease in chronic kidney disease: need for a heart-kidney team-based approach. Eur Cardiol. 2021, 16:e48. 10.15420/et.2021.50

21. Na KY, Kim CW, Song YR, Chin HJ, Chae DW: The association between kidney function, coronary artery disease, and clinical outcome in patients undergoing coronary angiography. J Korean Med Sci. 2009, 24:S87-S94. 10.3346/jkms.2009.24.S1.S87

22. Gokshah J, Nasri H, Gharpour M: Contrast-induced nephropathy; a literature review. J Nephroluph. 2014, 3:51. 10.12860/jnp.2014.12

23. Goldfarb S, McCullough PA, McDermott J, Gay SB: Contrast-induced acute kidney injury: specialty-specific protocols for interventional radiology, diagnostic computed tomography radiology, and interventional cardiology. Mayo Clin Proc. 2009, 84:170-9. 10.4065/84.2.170

24. Eisenberg JM: Contrast-Induced Nephropathy (CIN): Current State of the Evidence on Contrast Media and Prevention of CIN. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Rockville, MD; 2007.

25. Cui T, Zhao J, Bei W, Böhm M, Marx N: Cardiovascular disease in chronic kidney disease: pathophysiological insights and therapeutic options. Circulation. 2021, 145:1157-72. 10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.120.050866

26. Aljwali A, Alotaibi M, Alanazi R, et al.: Role of hydration in contrast-induced nephropathy: a review. JIMDC. 2020, 2344:50. 10.24911/JIMDC.51-1602705304

27. Liu Y, Chen JY, Tan N, et al.: Safe limits of contrast vary with hydration volume for prevention of contrast-induced nephropathy after coronary angiography among patients with a relatively low risk of contrast-induced nephropathy. Circ Cardiovasc Interv. 2015, 8:e001859. 10.1161/CIRCINTERVENTIONS.114.001859

28. Thaysen P, Lassen JF, Jensen SE, et al.: Prevention of contrast-induced nephropathy with N-acetylcysteine or sodium bicarbonate in patients with ST-segment-myocardial infarction: a prospective, randomized, open-labeled trial. Circ Cardiovasc Intervent. 2014, 7:216-24. 10.1161/CIRCINTERVENTIONS.113.000663

29. Hagikura A, Goto K, Takebayashi H, et al.: The role of saline and sodium bicarbonate preprocedural hydration to prevent mid-term renal insufficiency in patients with chronic kidney disease undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention. Intern Med. 2019, 58:1057-65. 10.2169/internalmedicine.1442-18

30. Shabir A, Kj, Ali O: Contrast-induced nephropathy in PCI: an evidence-based approach to prevention. Br J Cardiol. 2015, 22:34. 10.5837/bjc.2015.001