Selection of Stent Type in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation Presenting With Acute Myocardial Infarction: An Analysis From the ACTION (Acute Coronary Treatment and Intervention Outcomes Network) Registry—Get With the Guidelines

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Background—Patients receiving oral anticoagulation in addition to dual-antiplatelet therapy are known to be at high risk for bleeding events; thus, the selection of a drug-eluting stent (DES) versus a bare metal stent (BMS) can have important implications for patients with atrial fibrillation (AF) presenting with acute myocardial infarction (MI).

Methods and Results—From the National Cardiovascular Data Registry ACTION (Acute Coronary Treatment and Intervention Outcomes Network) Registry—Get With the Guidelines, we identified 14 427 AF patients presenting with acute MI undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention from 2008 to 2014. Temporal trends and hospital variation in DES use were examined, as were patterns of use by stroke risk (CHA2DS2-VASc) and bleeding risk ATRIA (Anticoagulation and Risk Factors in Atrial Fibrillation). Among patients with linked Medicare data (n=2844), multivariable Cox regression modeling was used to compare risks for a composite outcome (all-cause mortality, readmission for stroke, or MI), readmission for stroke, revascularization, and major bleeding at 1 year. A DES was used in 8414 (58.9%) MI patients with AF, increasing from 47.1% in 2008 to 67.9% in 2014, with wide variation among hospitals. DES placement was more common than BMS placement among patients at high stroke risk (CHA2DS2-VASc ≥2) and high bleeding risk (ATRIA ≥4). Although aspirin and a P2Y12 inhibitor were prescribed for >95% of all patients regardless of stent type at discharge, warfarin was prescribed less frequently among patients receiving a DES than a BMS (31% versus 39%, P<0.001). The composite outcome was similar between patients with a DES or BMS at 1 year (22% versus 26%; adjusted hazard ratio: 0.88; 95% confidence interval [CI], 0.76–1.03).

Conclusions—Use of DESs among MI patients with AF has increased over time, but substantial hospital-level variation was observed. Patients with AF meeting indications for anticoagulation are more likely to receive a DES than a BMS, even among those at high predicted risk of both stroke and bleeding. (J Am Heart Assoc. 2017;6:e005280. DOI: 10.1161/JAHA.116.005280.)

Key Words: atrial fibrillation • myocardial infarction • stent
Methods

Data Source and Study Population

The ACTION Registry-GWTG is the largest quality improvement registry of acute MI in the United States and captures detailed clinical data on consecutive patients presenting with acute MI treated at each participating hospital. Details of the design and conduct of this registry have been described previously,13,14 and the registry is regularly and rigorously audited for data completeness and accuracy.15 Participation in the registry was approved by each hospital’s institutional review board, and because data are collected without individual patient identifiers, the requirement for individual informed consent was waived.

Between July 1, 2008, and March 31, 2014, we identified 554 214 eligible patients presenting with acute MI at 780 ACTION Registry-GWTG sites in the United States. We excluded patients who presented at hospitals without PCI or coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) capabilities (n=15 494). We then excluded patients who did not undergo PCI with stent placement (n=227 465) and patients for whom the information necessary to calculate the CHA2DS2-VASc or modified ATRIA (Anticoagulation and Risk Factors in Atrial Fibrillation) score was missing (n=3928). We also excluded patients without a history of AF or flutter (n=292 900) within the 2 weeks before presentation, as captured on the data collection form, yielding a final study population of 14 427 patients at 652 sites nationwide.

To obtain longitudinal outcomes, patients aged ≥65 years in this registry were linked with Medicare claims data using 5 indirect identifiers in combination (date of birth, sex, hospital identifier, date of admission, date of discharge) using previously described methodology.16 Linked patients were those discharged alive with Medicare Parts A and B fee-for-service eligibility at discharge who also had Medicare Parts A and B fee eligibility for the 12 months before the index hospitalization. In addition, because the latest available linkage records available were through 2012, we focused on patients who were discharged before 2011 to allow at least 1 year for follow-up. After exclusions, 2844 patients with AF presenting with acute MI at 379 sites were evaluated for 1-year outcomes (Figure 1).

Outcomes and Definitions

The presence of AF or flutter within the 2 weeks before the index hospitalization for acute MI was denoted on the ACTION Registry-GWTG data collection form, as was the type of stent (DES versus BMS) used during the index PCI procedure. Patients receiving both DES and BMS were classified as DES patients for this analysis. We calculated the CHA2DS2-VASc score using the data elements from the data collection form;
for this analysis, the presence of vascular disease was defined as having a history of prior MI, peripheral artery disease, prior PCI, or prior CABG. We calculated a modified ATRIA score that assigned points for anemia (hemoglobin <13 for men or <12 for women, 3 points), severe renal disease (glomerular filtration rate <30 or dialysis, 3 points), age ≥75 years (2 points), and hypertension (1 point). The ATRIA score assigns 1 point to history of prior bleeding, which was not captured in this registry; as such, the maximum score in this modified ATRIA model is 9 points, compared with 10 points from the actual ATRIA model.

For linked patients with longitudinal data, we evaluated 4 outcomes: (1) a composite end point including all-cause mortality and rehospitalization for MI or stroke; (2) readmission for stroke; (3) readmission for repeat revascularization; and (4) readmission for major bleeding. Readmission for MI, stroke, repeat revascularization, and major bleeding were defined using the primary International Classification of Disease, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) diagnosis code and procedure codes for subsequent hospitalizations after the index hospitalization (list of diagnosis codes is shown in Table S1). All-cause mortality was ascertained from the Medicare denominator file.

**Statistical Analysis**

We compared baseline demographic, presentation, in-hospital, and discharge characteristics for patients receiving a DES versus a BMS during the index presentation. Continuous variables are expressed as median values with 25th and 75th percentiles, whereas categorical values are presented as percentages. Pearson χ² tests were used to compare categorical variables, and Wilcoxon rank sum tests were used to compare continuous variables between 2 groups.

Temporal trends in DES use were plotted semiyearly, and the Cochran–Armitage trend test with a 2-sided P-value was used to test for significance. As a comparator, we evaluated DES use among patients meeting all other inclusion and exclusion criteria except for the presence of AF or flutter to demonstrate the temporal trend of DES use among non-AF patients. We identified site-level variation associated with the use of DES but excluded sites with <10 eligible patients.
(n=256 hospitals) during the study period. To evaluate for significant practice-level variation, we included hospital as a random effect in a generalized linear mixed model for DES implantation. The variance component was tested against 0 to evaluate the hypothesis that hospitals differ in their rates of DESs used. To evaluate whether hospital characteristics (including hospital type: PCI only versus surgery, academic centers, number of hospital beds, hospital region) were associated with an increased likelihood of DES implantation, we divided the remaining 396 sites into tertiles by proportion of DES use and summarized hospital characteristics by tertiles of DES use.

Using the calculated CHA₂DS₂-VASc and modified ATRIA scores, we divided patients by predicted stroke and bleeding risk, respectively. A CHA₂DS₂-VASc score of ≥2 denoted high stroke risk, and a modified ATRIA score ≥4 denoted high bleeding risk. Rates of DES implantation were compared for patients with high versus low ischemic and bleeding risk.

In the linked analysis, unadjusted rates of the 1-year composite end point of mortality and readmission for MI or stroke were estimated using the product limit method (Kaplan–Meier). The failure curves between patients with DESs and those with BMSs were compared using the log-rank test. The unadjusted cumulative incidence of each nonfatal adverse outcome of interest (readmission for stroke, readmission for repeat revascularization, readmission for major bleeding) was compared using Gray’s method to account for mortality as a competing risk for readmission. We then used multivariable Cox proportional hazards models to compare risk-adjusted outcomes between patients receiving a DES versus a BMS. For the readmission outcomes within 1 year of discharge, follow-up was censored at last follow-up or at death, if occurring before the event of interest. The resulting hazard ratios (HRs) estimated the cause-specific effect among patients still alive and at risk. Robust standard errors were used to adjust for within-hospital clustering, as patients treated at the same hospital tended to have more similar responses relative to patients treated at other hospitals. Outcomes were adjusted for the following variables based on the previously validated ACTION Registry-GWTG mortality risk model: demographics (age, sex, body mass index, race [white versus nonwhite]), medical history (hypertension, dyslipidemia, diabetes mellitus, prior MI, prior heart failure, prior PCI, prior CABG, stroke, peripheral artery disease), discharge medications (any P2Y₁₂ inhibitor, beta blockers, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor or angiotensin receptor blocker, statin), signs and symptoms at presentation (ST-segment–elevation MI versus non–ST-segment–elevation MI, heart failure, cardiogenic shock, multivessel disease [≥2 versus 1 and 0], ejection fraction), laboratory results (baseline hemoglobin [g/dL], baseline serum creatinine [mg/dL], initial troponin [times the upper limit of normal]), the number of admissions in the year before the index admission, and socioeconomic status (median household income in the past 12 months denoted in 2011 inflation-adjusted dollars, proportion of patients with a bachelor’s degree or higher). All continuous variables were fitted with restricted cubic spline, with 3 knots at 10%, 50%, and 90% of their empirical distribution. Given that the safety profiles of first- versus second-generation DESs may be different from that of BMSs, we performed a sensitivity analysis by dividing our study duration into 2 time periods—2008 to 2010 and 2011 to 2014—based on when operators in the United States transitioned from first- to second-generation DESs.

Statistical significance was defined as P<0.05. All analyses were performed by the NCDR data analysis center at the Duke Clinical Research Institute using SAS software (versions 9.3 and 9.4).

Results

After exclusions, we identified 14,427 patients with a history of AF presenting with acute MI who underwent PCI (Figure 1). Overall, DESs were used in 8494 (58.9%) patients. The proportion of patients receiving a DES increased from 47.1% in 2008 to 67.9% in 2014 (P<0.001). For comparison, among patients in the ACTION Registry-GWTG who met other inclusion and exclusion criteria but did not have AF (n=292 and n=900, respectively), the overall rate of DES use was 70.4%, increasing from 58.9% in 2008 to 79.1% in 2014 (Figure 2).

Patients receiving a DES were younger (median age 72 versus 75 years, P<0.001) and less often female. They more often had a history of diabetes mellitus and prior MI and revascularization with either PCI or CABG but less often had a history of prior stroke. Prior to admission, DES patients were more often treated with aspirin and a P2Y₁₂ inhibitor but less often treated with warfarin than BMS patients; however, 24.8% of patients receiving a DES were on warfarin at home. On admission, patients eventually receiving a DES less often presented with ST-segment elevation MI, heart failure, or cardiogenic shock on admission (Table 1).

Table 2 describes in-hospital characteristics of patients receiving a DES versus a BMS. Patients receiving a DES had smaller infarct size, as measured by peak troponin, and were less likely to develop heart failure, cardiogenic shock, stroke, or major bleeding (all P<0.001) compared with patients receiving a BMS. They were also less likely to receive blood transfusion (P<0.001). Differences were statistically significant but clinically modest.

There were similar rates of discharge on DAPT between patients receiving a DES versus a BMS (Table 3). DES patients
were more likely to be discharged on a higher potency P2Y12 inhibitor such as prasugrel or ticagrelor (17.0% versus 9.6%, \( P<0.001 \)). Only 34.0% of patients were discharged on warfarin, with lower rates among patients receiving DESs than BMSs (30.8% versus 39.0%, \( P<0.001 \)).

After excluding hospitals with <10 eligible patients during the study period (256 hospitals), we evaluated hospital-level variation in DES use. Figure 3 demonstrates the hospital level of percentage of DES use with an exact 95% binomial confidence interval (CI) for the remaining 396 hospitals rank-ordered by percentage of DES use. There was significant hospital level variation in the proportion of DESs used, with the median hospital utilizing DESs in 60.2% of patients (interquartile range: 50.0–73.7%) but ranging from 0% to 100%. Hospitals in the highest tertile of DES use had modestly fewer beds and were less likely to have CABG capability (Table 4).

We examined DES selection among patients classified as high versus low predicted bleeding and stroke risk. The median modified ATRIA score was 3 (interquartile range: 1–4). Overall, 4595 (31.9%) patients were at high bleeding risk, classified by a modified ATRIA score \( \geq 4 \). Among these patients, 2573 (56.0%) underwent DES placement, whereas 60.2% of patients at low bleeding risk (modified ATRIA score <4) underwent DES placement. The median CHA2DS2-VASc score in our study population was 4 (interquartile range: 3–5); 12 812 patients (88.8%) had a CHA2DS2-VASc score \( \geq 2 \). Among these patients, 7492 (58.5%) underwent DES placement, whereas among the 1615 patients at low stroke risk, 62.0% received a DES (Figure 4).

Among a subset of patients with Medicare-linked data (n=2844), the unadjusted cumulative incidence of the composite outcomes of all-cause mortality and readmission for MI or stroke was 22.9% among DES patients versus 26.9% among BMS patients (\( P=0.02 \)), although this difference was attenuated after multivariable adjustment (adjusted HR: 0.88; 95% CI, 0.76–1.03). Rates of mortality were lower in patients receiving a DES (16.1% versus 20.9%, \( P=0.001 \)) but were similar after multivariable adjustment. Rates of readmission for stroke at 1 year were similar between DES and BMS patients before and after multivariable adjustment (2.9% versus 2.6%, \( P=0.69 \); adjusted HR: 1.14; 95% CI, 0.70–1.88), as were rates of readmission for repeat revascularization (10.8% versus 9.0%, \( P=0.13 \); adjusted HR: 1.08; 95% CI, 0.84–1.39) and readmission for major bleeding (9.7% versus 9.0%, \( P=0.55 \); adjusted HR: 1.09; 95% CI, 0.87–1.36; Table 5). Cumulative incidence curves are shown in Figure S1.

We performed a sensitivity analysis to evaluate whether outcomes differed across generation of DES by dividing our study period into 2 periods when first-generation DESs (2008–2010) and second-generation DESs (2011–2014) were more broadly used. Our results were broadly consistent with the primary analysis (\( P=0.66 \), interaction for composite outcome). These results are shown in Table S1.

**Discussion**

Our study represents the first national examination of stent selection among patients with a history of AF presenting with
The rate of DES implantation has increased significantly over time, with more than two-thirds of AF patients now receiving a DES during their hospitalization for acute MI. However, there is significant hospital-level variation in the rate of DES implantation among MI patients, and, paradoxically, those at highest risk of stroke and bleeding were most likely to receive a DES. After adjusting for patient and presentation characteristics, there were no observed differences in adverse cardiovascular or bleeding outcomes between patients receiving a DES versus a BMS.

DESs have been shown to decrease the risk of in-stent restenosis by inhibiting neointimal hyperplasia compared with BMS, but longer duration DAPT is generally required to mitigate the increased risk of in-stent thrombosis, particularly in older generation DESs. Although current guidelines

### Table 1. Patient Characteristics According to Stent Type

|                          | BMS (n=5933) | DES (n=8494) | p Value |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------|
| **Demographics**         |              |              |         |
| Age, y                   | 75 (65–83)   | 72 (63–80)   | <0.001  |
| Female                   | 34.8         | 33.2         | 0.04    |
| BMI, kg/m²               | 27.6 (24.2–32.0) | 28.5 (25.1–32.9) | <0.001  |
| Race                     |              |              | 0.32    |
| White                    | 88.2         | 88.8         |         |
| Black                    | 6.7          | 5.8          |         |
| Asian                    | 1.0          | 1.1          |         |
| Other                    | 0.6          | 0.6          |         |
| Hispanic ethnicity       | 3.2          | 3.3          | 0.63    |
| **Clinical characteristics** |          |              |         |
| Prior myocardal infarction | 28.4        | 33.1         | <0.001  |
| Prior heart failure      | 24.8         | 24.1         | 0.29    |
| Prior PCI                | 25.7         | 36.9         | <0.001  |
| Prior CABG               | 18.2         | 22.1         | <0.001  |
| Prior stroke             | 14.2         | 11.3         | <0.001  |
| Peripheral arterial disease | 14.3      | 15.2         | 0.15    |
| Diabetes mellitus        | 34.4         | 39.4         | <0.001  |
| Hypertension             | 84           | 84.6         | 0.32    |
| Dyslipidemia             | 65.6         | 71.3         | <0.001  |
| Smoker                   | 22.8         | 21.9         | 0.23    |
| **Home antithrombotic therapy** |    |              |         |
| Aspirin                  | 45.6         | 53.8         | <0.001  |
| P2Y12 receptor inhibitor | 11.8         | 21.8         | <0.001  |
| High potency             | 0.52         | 1.6          | <0.001  |
| Warfarin                 | 33.4         | 24.8         | <0.001  |
| **Presentation features** |          |              |         |
| STEMI (vs non-STEMI)     | 49.3         | 35.6         | <0.001  |
| Signs of heart failure on admission | 22.5   | 20.7         | 0.01    |
| Cardiogenic shock on admission | 10.0   | 6.5          | <0.001  |
| Initial creatinine, mg/dL | 1.1 (0.9–1.4) | 1.1 (0.9–1.4) | 0.005   |
| Initial hemoglobin, g/dL  | 13.5 (12.0–14.9) | 13.7 (12.3–15.0) | <0.001  |
| Initial troponin (times ULN) | 1.9 (0.4–14.0) | 1.6 (0.4–10.0) | <0.001  |

Data are expressed as number (percentage) of patients for categorical variables and median (interquartile range) for continuous variables. BMI indicates body mass index; BMS, bare metal stent; CABG, coronary artery bypass grafting; DES, drug-eluting stent; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; STEMI, ST-segment-elevation myocardial infarction; ULN, institutional upper limit of normal.

### Table 2. In-Hospital Characteristics*

|                          | BMS (n=5933) | DES (n=8494) | p Value |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------|
| Peak troponin            | 81.5 (15.5–419) | 53.7 (10.4–272.7) |         |
| Left ventricular ejection fraction | 32.4     | 28.3         |         |
| Peak creatinine          | 1.3 (1.0–1.7)       | 1.2 (1.0–1.6)       |         |
| (among nondialysis)      |              |              |         |
| **Adverse event**        |              |              |         |
| Cardiogenic shock        | 8.2          | 5.6          |         |
| Heart failure            | 10.1         | 8.2          |         |
| Stroke                   | 1.5          | 0.8          |         |
| Major bleeding           | 15.3         | 12.1         |         |
| Blood transfusion        | 10.2         | 6.9          |         |

BMS indicates bare metal stent; DES, drug-eluting stent. All p<0.001.

acute MI. The rate of DES implantation has increased significantly over time, with more than two-thirds of AF patients now receiving a DES during their hospitalization for acute MI. However, there is significant hospital-level variation in the rate of DES implantation among MI patients, and, paradoxically, those at highest risk of stroke and bleeding were most likely to receive a DES. After adjusting for patient and presentation characteristics, there were no observed differences in adverse cardiovascular or bleeding outcomes between patients receiving a DES versus a BMS.

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### Table 3. Discharge Medications and Interventions

|                          | BMS (n=5933) | DES (n=8494) | p Value |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------|
| Aspirin                  | 98.5         | 98.4         | 0.52    |
| P2Y12 receptor inhibitor | 96.3         | 96.3         | 0.82    |
| High-potency (%)         | 9.6          | 17           | <0.001  |
| Warfarin                 | 39.0         | 30.8         | <0.001  |
| Beta blocker             | 96.7         | 96.8         | 0.98    |
| ACE inhibitor or ARB     | 74.6         | 75.7         | 0.21    |
| Statin                   | 93.3         | 94.1         | 0.15    |

Data are expressed as number (percentage) of patients for categorical variables and median (interquartile range) for continuous variables. ACE indicates angiotensin-converting enzyme; ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker; BMS, bare metal stent; DES, drug-eluting stent.

*Discharge therapies are expressed as proportion of use among patients without documented contraindications to each treatment.

DOI: 10.1161/JAHA.116.005280
recommend 12 months of DAPT following an acute MI, a provider's willingness to interrupt therapy might be affected by stent type and the risk of possible stent thrombosis. Consequently, stent selection may have important implications for the type and duration of antithrombotic therapy following acute MI, particularly in patients with a history of AF requiring lifelong anticoagulation. Despite some evidence that shorter duration of DAPT may be reasonable, current ACC/AHA guidelines still recommend 12 months of DAPT following DES placement but 30 days for patients treated with a BMS. This is different from the current European guidelines, which tailor antithrombotic strategy to bleeding risk and favor short-duration triple therapy in patients at high risk of bleeding. Although the current North American

Table 4. Hospital Characteristics by Tertile of Drug-Eluting Stent Use Presented at the Patient Level*

|                  | Lowest Tertile (132 Sites) | Middle Tertile (133 Sites) | Highest Tertile (131 Sites) |
|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Number of beds   | 407 (285–705)               | 398 (271–530)              | 362 (235–488)              |
| Region           |                             |                            |                            |
| West             | 7.9                         | 15.3                       | 14.7                       |
| Northeast        | 9.0                         | 6.9                        | 4.9                        |
| Midwest          | 34.8                        | 30.8                       | 27.6                       |
| South            | 48.3                        | 46.9                       | 52.8                       |
| Surgery capability | 93.4                       | 92.9                       | 90.1                       |
| Academic         | 23.3                        | 27.0                       | 21.2                       |

*All P<0.001.

Figure 3. Hospital-level variation in drug-eluting stent (DES) use. This figure rank-orders hospitals by percentage of DES use with exact 95% binomial confidence intervals.

Figure 4. Drug-eluting stent (DES) use by stroke and bleeding risk. This figure reports the percentage of DES use stratified by predicted stroke and bleeding risk. Low stroke risk is defined as a CHA2DS2-VASc score <2, and a low modified ATRIA score is defined as <4.
consensus guidelines recommend avoiding DESs in patients who are at high risk of bleeding or unable to comply with DAPT, European guidance now suggests DES placement for all patients, coupled with shorter duration DAPT; no randomized data support this strategy.

We found that this lack of clear evidence and the conflicting guidelines statements led to considerable variability in community practice. Nevertheless, we also found an overall trend toward greater use of DESs among AF patients over time. There may be a number of possible explanations for these trends. First, DES technology has improved during the study period, and coupled with refinements in stent-deployment technologies, current-generation DESs may have a similar or lower rate of stent thrombosis than BMSs.\(^1\)\(^2\)\(^24\)\(^–\)\(^26\)

More recently, the Norwegian Coronary Stent Trial (NORS-TENT) demonstrated a slightly lower rate of stent thrombosis with DESs compared with BMSs, although overall rates of stent thrombosis were very low.\(^3\) In addition, a number of studies have demonstrated that shorter duration of DAPT may not increase overall ischemic risk in this patient population.\(^22\)\(^,\)\(^23\) Therefore, investigators may feel more comfortable using DESs with a shorter duration of DAPT, particularly in patients at high risk of bleeding. The substantial practice variation that we observed in this study, however, suggests that the evidence base for stent selection in this high-risk population remains ill-defined, and there is no clear consensus about the benefits of a DES versus a BMS in patients currently on an OAC.

Despite current guidelines recommending risk stratification, particularly for bleeding, when selecting stent type, we report overall modest differences in DES use across the strata of bleeding and stroke risk, with DESs used more frequently than not among patients at increased risk of bleeding. For patients at high stroke risk requiring lifelong anticoagulation, we felt that further risk stratification by bleeding risk may affect DES selection, but the overall difference in DES use was modest between patients with high versus low bleeding risk. Conversely, DES use is only slightly higher among patients at low stroke risk who likely do not require anticoagulation, highlighting the lack of overall risk assessment prior to stent selection.

Our study also highlights the implications for DES use with respect to antithrombotic therapy strategy at discharge. In our study, there was almost universal discharge on DAPT. Although most patients were discharged on aspirin and clopidogrel, there was a small but sizeable proportion of patients discharged on more potent P2Y\(_{12}\) inhibitors despite a class 3 recommendation for their use among patients requiring an OAC. This suggests that these patients may be exposed to higher bleeding risk by combining a more potent antiplatelet agent with an OAC or may be subjected to downstream switching as the P2Y\(_{12}\) inhibitor is transitioned to clopidogrel once an OAC is added. In addition, a minority of patients were discharged on warfarin, regardless of the type of stent implanted. This result is concordant with a prior analysis from the DANISH Registry that analyzed antithrombotic therapy selection for AF patients with an indication for DAPT, although that analysis also did not capture information on stent-type selection.\(^27\) Although our study does not capture discharge on novel OAC agents, none are currently recommended for use in combination with DAPT. Our analysis suggests either that providers may be underestimating stroke risk in AF patients by implanting DESs and discharging patients without OACs or that the operators understand that the daily risk of stroke, even in high-risk patients, is low enough that treatment with DAPT for 1 month followed by reinstitution of OAC may not increase stroke risk. A number of trials are currently evaluating antithrombotic strategy among patients with AF undergoing PCI\(^{28\)–\(^30\)\), however, because all of these trials allow for stent selection at the discretion of the investigator, information gleaned about the effect of stent selection in optimizing patient outcomes in this population may be limited.

Our study must be considered in light of a number of important limitations. First, we did not capture individual provider rationale for stent selection. We also retrospectively

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**Table 5. Outcomes at 1 Year in Patients With Medicare-Linked Data**

| Outcome                                | Unadjusted Cumulative Incidence (%) | Adjusted Hazard |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                        | DES       | BMS       | Adjusted HR (95% CI) | P Value |
| Composite end point                    | 22.9      | 26.9      | 0.02               | 0.88 (0.76–1.03) | 0.11 |
| Mortality                              | 16.1      | 20.9      | 0.001              | 0.85 (0.71–1.01) | 0.07 |
| Readmission for MI                     | 7.7       | 6.2       | 0.12               | 0.96 (0.72–1.28) | 0.78 |
| Rehospitalization for stroke           | 2.9       | 2.6       | 0.69               | 1.14 (0.70–1.88) | 0.59 |
| Rehospitalization for repeat revascularization | 10.8      | 9.0       | 0.13               | 1.08 (0.84–1.39) | 0.54 |
| Rehospitalization for major bleeding   | 9.7       | 9.0       | 0.55               | 1.09 (0.87–1.36) | 0.45 |

BMS indicates bare metal stent; CI, confidence interval; DES, drug-eluting stent; HR, hazard ratio; MI, myocardial infarction.
calculated the CHA2DS2-VASc and the modified ATRIA scores; because we did not capture a history of prior hemorrhage, the maximum ATRIA score is 9 instead of 10. The lack of data on prior hemorrhage may affect the overall validity of the ATRIA score. Although it is possible that operators may have used another method of risk stratification, both the CHA2DS2-VASc and ATRIA scores have been well validated to accurately stratify stroke and bleeding risk in patients with AF. Next, we did not capture information on any of the novel OACs (dabigatran, rivaroxaban, apixaban, edoxaban); however, none are currently indicated for use in this patient population. In addition, because this information is not captured, the overall proportion of patients on an OAC coupled with DAPT is likely higher than what we reported in this study. Moreover, the ACTION Registry-GWTG does not capture information regarding stent generation. The second-generation DESs, which were predominantly used during most of the study period for this analysis, have a more favorable safety profile than first-generation DESs. Finally, because this analysis is observational, we are unable to draw causal inferences from these results, and we cannot exclude the possibility of unmeasured confounding.

Conclusions
Among AF patients presenting with acute MI, the use of DES has increased over time with substantial hospital-level variation. Paradoxically, patients with the highest risk of stroke and bleeding were most likely to receive a DES. After multivariable adjustment, we observed no differences in rates of adverse cardiovascular or bleeding outcomes between patients receiving a DES versus a BMS.

Acknowledgments
Partners and Sponsors: The ACTION (Acute Coronary Treatment and Intervention Outcomes Network) Registry—Get With the Guidelines is an initiative of the American College of Cardiology Foundation and the American Heart Association, with partnering support from the Society of Chest Pain Centers, the American College of Emergency Physicians, and the Society of Hospital Medicine.

Sources of Funding
This research was supported by the American College of Cardiology Foundation’s National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR). The views expressed in this article represent those of the author(s), and do not necessarily represent the official views of the NCDR or its associated professional societies identified at www.ncdr.com. Role of the Sponsor: The funding sources had no role in the design and conduct of the study; collection, management, analysis, and interpretation of the data; preparation, review, or approval of the article; and decision to submit the article for publication.

Disclosures
Dr Vora was funded by NIH T-32 training grant T32 HL09749 and L30 HL 124592. However, no relationships exist related to the analysis presented. Dr Wang reports research funding from AstraZeneca, Gilead, Lilly, The Medicines Company, and Canyon Pharmaceuticals (all significant); educational activities or lectures (generates money for Duke) for AstraZeneca (modest); consulting (including CME) for Medco (modest) and American College of Cardiology (significant). Dr Hess reports research funding from Gilead Sciences, Inc. Dr Lopes reports research funding from Bristol-Myers Squibb and Glaxo Smith Kline (all significant); consulting for Bayer (modest), Boehringer Ingelheim (modest), Bristol-Myers Squibb (modest), Merck (modest), Pfizer (significant), and Portola (modest). Dr Rao reports research funding from Bellerophon; consulting for Terumo Medical, The Medicines Company, and ZOLL. Dr Peterson reports research funding for the American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association, Eli Lilly & Company, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, and Society of Thoracic Surgeons (all significant); consulting (including CME) for Merck & Co (modest), Boehringer Ingelheim, Genentech, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, and Sanofi-Aventis (all significant). The remaining authors have no disclosures to report.

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SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL
Table S1. Sensitivity analysis of outcomes based on time period

| Outcome                                                                 | N   | HR  | 95% CI for HR (Lower) | 95% CI for HR (Upper) | P-value |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Composite of mortality/readmission of MI/Stroke                        |     |     |                        |                        |         |
| Year 2008 -- 2010                                                      | 1696| 0.86| 0.71                   | 1.05                   | 0.1314  |
| Year 2011 -- 2014                                                      | 1148| 0.92| 0.73                   | 1.16                   | 0.4666  |
| Readmission of Stroke                                                  |     |     |                        |                        |         |
| Year 2008 -- 2010                                                      | 1696| 1.09| 0.61                   | 1.95                   | 0.7797  |
| Year 2011 -- 2014                                                      | 1148| 1.22| 0.57                   | 2.60                   | 0.6061  |
| Readmission of Repeat Revascularization                                |     |     |                        |                        |         |
| Year 2008 -- 2010                                                      | 1696| 1.19| 0.87                   | 1.62                   | 0.2825  |
| Year 2011 -- 2014                                                      | 1148| 0.95| 0.65                   | 1.38                   | 0.7836  |
| Readmission of Major Bleeding                                          |     |     |                        |                        |         |
| Year 2008 -- 2010                                                      | 1696| 1.01| 0.75                   | 1.35                   | 0.9602  |
| Year 2011 -- 2014                                                      | 1148| 1.25| 0.85                   | 1.85                   | 0.2503  |

Model of outcome:                                                P-value for the interaction

Composite of mortality and readmission of MI / Stroke             0.66
Readmission of Stroke                                             0.80
Readmission of Repeat Revascularization                           0.35
Readmission of Bleeding                                           0.40
Figure S1. Cumulative incidence curves for: A) the composite endpoint (all-cause mortality, rehospitalization for stroke, rehospitalization for MI); B) all-cause mortality; C) rehospitalization for MI; D) rehospitalization for stroke; E) rehospitalization of repeat revascularization; F) rehospitalization for bleeding. Abbreviations: BMS, bare metal stent; CABG, coronary artery bypass grafting; DES, drug eluting stent; MI, myocardial infarction
