Analysis of the Different Cardioversion Strategies in the Emergency Department in a Secondary Hospital

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

CONCLUSION

MATERIAL AND METHODS

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

RESULTS

• To analyse the strategies to restore sinus rhythm for ED patients with acute AF and the results obtained
• To analyse the time from AF onset to restoration of sinus rhythm

• Observational, retrospective, multidisciplinary study
• Inclusion criteria: patients >18 years treated at the ED (June 2020-February 2021) with diagnosis of AF in which it was decided to restore sinus rhythm

• Conversion to normal sinus rhythm (yes/no)
• Time to restoration of rhythm
• Rescue cardioversion if failure

Demographic
Comorbidities (chronic renal failure, diabetes, obesity)
Haemodynamic stability

Structural heart disease
Type of cardioversion (ECV or pharmacological)
Drug used in pharmacological cardioversion

186 patients with a diagnosis of acute AF → 83 (45%) Rhythm control

Pharmacological cardioversion (92%)

Age 66±13 years
Haemodynamically unstable patients 11%
Sex 58% women
Structural heart disease 34%
Comorbidities 47%

![Pie chart showing drug usage in cardioversion](chart.png)

Vernakalant 3%
Propafenone 1%
Flecainide 41%
Amiodarone 55%

Cardioversion failed in 25% of patients
Rescue therapy: 67% alternative cardioversion strategy and 33% rate control approach

![Bar chart showing time from AF onset to restoration of sinus rhythm](chart2.png)

Time from AF onset to restoration of sinus rhythm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time (H)</th>
<th>ECV</th>
<th>Amiodarone</th>
<th>Flecainide</th>
<th>Vernakalant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;2</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-6</td>
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<td>40%</td>
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<td>3%</td>
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<td>7%</td>
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<td>&gt;12</td>
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CONCLUSION

• Although the gold standard therapy is ECV, it was underused in our sample of patients
• Amiodarone was the most widely prescribed drug, although the time to restore sinus rhythm was shorter with other therapies (ex. flecainide). More trials comparing different strategies are needed