Lung Cancer Mortality Higher in Smokers on HT

BY MARY JO M. DALES

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ORLANDO — Hormone therapy with estrogen plus progestin for more than 5 years increased the risk of death in women diagnosed with non-small cell lung cancer, based on secondary analyses from the Women's Health Initiative reported at the annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

The increased risk was most notable in

PLAVIX[®] clopidogrel bisulfate tablets

Rx only

Event

or bleeding † e-threatening bleeding

IDICATIONS AND USAGE PLAVIX (clopidogrel bisulfate) is indicated for the reduction of atherothrombotic events

INVN: Recent MI, Recent Stroke or Established Peripheral Arterial Disease For natients with a history of recent myocardial infarction (MI) recent stroke, or establish.

- comparents with a misory of recent importantial matching (m), recent subset, of established peripheral arterial disease, PLAVIX has been shown to reduce the rate of a combined end-point of new ischemic stroke (fatal or not), new MI (fatal or not), and other vascular death
- peripreral arterial disease, PLAVIX has been shown to reduce the rate of a combined end-point of new sixemic stoke flatal or not), new Mi (fatal or not), and other vascular death. Acute Coronary Syndrome For patients with non-ST-segment elevation acute coronary syndrome (unstable angina/non-O-wave MI) including patients who are to be managed medically and those who are to be managed with percutaneous coronary intervention (with or without stent) or GABG, PLAVIX has been shown to decrease the rate of a combined endpoint of cardio-vascular death, MI, stroke, or refractory ischemia. For patients with ST-segment elevation acute myocardial infarction, PLAVIX has been shown to reduce the rate of death from any cause and the rate of a combined endpoint of death, re-infarction or stroke. This benefit is not known to pertain to patients who receive primary angioplasty. CONTRAINDICATIONS The use of PLAVIX is contraindicated in the following conditions: Hypersensitivity to the drug substance or any component of the product. Active pathological bleeding such as peptic ulcer or intracranial hemorrhage. WARNINGS

s iic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP): neen reported rarely following use of PLAVIX, sometimes after a sh TTP has been reported rarely following use of PLAVIX, sometimes after a short expos 22 weeks. TTP is a serious condition that can be fatal and requiries urgent treatm inconging plasmapheresis (plasma exchange). It is characterized by thrombocytope nicroangiopathic hemolytic anemia (schistocytes [fragmented RBG) seen on periph mean, neurological findings, renal dysfunction, and lever. (See **ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

PRECAUTIONS General PLAVIK prolongs the bleeding time and therefore should be used with caution in patients who may be at risk of increased bleeding from trauma, surgery, or other pathological conditions (particularly gastrointestina) and intraocular). If a patient is to undergo elective surgery and an antiphatelet effect is not desired, PLAVIK should be discontinued 5 days prior to surgery. Due to the risk of bleeding and undesirable hematological effects, blood cell count determi-nation and/or other appropriate testing should be provided the Mercer such suspected dinical symptoms raise during the course of treatment (see ADVESSE REACTIONS). In patients with recent TA or stroke who are at high risk of recurrent ischemic events, the combination of aspirin and PLAVIK has not been shown to be more effective than PLAVIK alone, but the combination has been shown to be more effective than PLAVIK alone, but the combination has been shown to be more effective than PLAVIK alone, but the combination has been shown to increase major bleeding. G Bleeding: In CAPRIE, PLAVIK was associated with a rate of gastrointestinal bleeding use at might induce such lesions should be used with caution in patients with severe hepatic that might induce such lesions should be used with caution in patients taking PLAVIK. Use in hepatically Impaired Patients: Experience is limited in patients with severe hepation. Les in Real-liking there is a proteint with caution in the severe hepation.

Use in Renally-impaired Patients: Experience is limited in patients with severe renal impairment. PLAVIX should be used with caution in this population.

impairment. PLAVIX should be used with caution in this population. Information for Patients Patients should be told that it may take them longer than usual to stop bleeding, that they may bruise and/or bleed more easily when they take PLAVIX or PLAVIX combined with asymin, and that they should report any unusual bleeding to their physician. Patients should inform physicians and dentists that they are taking PLAVIX and/or any other product wown to affect bleeding before any surgery is scheduled and before any new drug is taken.

should inform physicians and denists that they are taking PLAWX and/or any other product known to affect drug interactions yielded the following results: Asprin: Asprin did not modify the clopidogrel-mediated inhibition of ADP-induced platelet agregation. Concomitant administration of 500 mg of asprint wice a day for 1 day did not significantly increase the prolongation of bleeding time induced by PLAVX. PLAVX potentiated the effect of asprint on collager-induced platelet agregation. FLAVX and asprint have been administration of top one year. Heparin: In a study in healthy volunteres, PLAVX did not necessitate modification of the heparin dose or alter the effect of heparin on cagalation. Coadministration of theparin had no effect on inhibition of platelet agregation induced by PLAVX. Nonstreoidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSUDS): In healthy volunteers receiving naprocen, concomitant administration of LevAIX was associated with increased occult gastrointestinal blood loss. NSUDs and PLAVX should be coadministered with acution. Warfarin: Because of the increased risk of bleeding, the concomitant administration of warfarin metase of the increased risk of bleeding. The committant doministration and niceliptine. The pharmacodynamic adviry of PLAVX was associations were observed when PLAVX was coadministered with acution. See **PEGCAUTIONS-General**) of the coadministerion of **phenobarbital**, **cinecliptine**, or both atenold and niceliptine. The pharmacodynamic adviry of PLAVX was association so the acadministration of **VAVX** (lopidogrel biulfate). At high concentations is *n* **unconstant**, **administration**, **at plate anti-stration of PLAVX** (lopidogrel biulfate). At high concentations is *n* **unconstant**, **at modifications**, warding and intelprine or both atenold anti-toremide, **Huava and unconstant**, **administration**, **bitabital**, **at plate anti-stration of PLAVX** (lopidogrel biulfate). At high concenteritions is *n* **unconstration**, **tatowarding**, **p AUXX** may interfere with the metabolism of **phenytoin**, **tamost**

e no data with which to pre-ed when any of these drugs addition to the above spe th PLAVIX received a variet

when any of these drugs is coadministered with PLAVIX. didition to the above specific interaction studies, patients entered into clinical ti PLAVIX received a variety of concomitant medications including diuretics, b king agents, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, calcium antagon esterol lowering agents, coronary vasodilators, antidiabetic agents (including), thrombolytics, heparins (unifactionated and LMWH), GPIIb/IIIa antagoni pileptir agents and hormone replacement therapy without evidence of clinic finant adverse interactions.

he concomitant use of oral anticoagulants, non study oral a ic NSAIDs with clopidogrel. oratory Test Interactions

None known. Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility There was no evidence of tumorigenicity when clopidogrel was administered for 78 wee to mice and 104 weeks to rats at dosages up to 77 mg/kg per day, which afforded plase repostres >25 times that in humans at the recommended daily dose of 75 mg. Clopidogrel was not genotoxic in four *in vitro* tests (Ames test, DNA-repair test in rat hepa orkes, gene mutation assay in Chinese hanster fibrohadiss, and metaphase chromosome ans sis of human lymphocytes) and in one *in vivo* test (micronucleus test by oral route in mice) sis of human lymphocytes) and in one *in vivo* test (micronucleus test by oral route Clopidogrel was found to have no effect on fertility of male and female rats at to 400 mg/kg per day (52 times the recommended human dose on a mg/m2

p to 400 mg/kg per day /22 times the recommendent numbar dose on a mg/m basis, regnancy Category B. Reproduction studies performed in rats and rabbits at doses 500 and 300 mg/kg/day (respectively, 65 and 78 mines the recommended dai/hum see on a mg/m² basis), revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or feotoxicity due opidogref. There are, however, no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregn omen. Because animal reproduction studies are not always perdicitive of a hum sponse, PLAVIX should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers Studies in rats have shown that clopidogrel and/or its metabolites are excreted in the m It is not known whether this drug is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs excreted in human milk and because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in n ing infants, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to disconti the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the nursing woman.

the drug taking into account the importance of the drug to the nursing woman. **Pediatric Use** Safety and effectiveness in the pediatric population have not been established. **Geriatric Use** Of the total number of subjects in the CAPRIE, CURE and CLARITY controlled clinical stud-ies, approximately 50% of patients treated with PLAVIX were 65 years of age and older, and 15% were 75 years and older. In COMMIT, approximately 58% of the patients treated with PLAVIX were 60 years and older, 126% of whom were 70 years and older. The observed risk of thrombotic vents with copilogref loss aspirin versus placeho plus aspirin by age category is provided in Figures 3 and 6 for the CURE and COMMIT trials, respectively (see **CLINICAL STUDIES**). The observed risk of bleeding events with dopidogref loss aspirin by subjecto plus aspirin by age category is provided in Tables 5 and 6 for the 2004. aspirin versus placebo plus aspirin by age category is provided in Tables 5 and 6 for URE and COMMIT trials, respectively (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

women who were current smokers. One in 100 current smokers using combined hormone therapy (HT) in the trial experienced an avoidable death from non-small cell lung cancer during the 8 years of this study, said Dr. Rowan Chlebowski, a medical oncologist at the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and the study's lead author.

The findings "should influence dis-

cussions between physicians and women considering hormone therapy use, especially for those with a smoking history," Dr. Chlebowski said. Women who smoke and are seeking or already receiving hormone therapy should be strongly advised to quit smoking.

The Women's Health Initiative (WHI) was a randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial that examined the health effects of continued use of conjugated

dditional clinically relevant events to those observed in CAPRIE with a frequency , have been reported during the CURE and CLARITY controlled studies. COMMIT ted only limited safety data.

collected only limited safety data. Other adverse experiences of potential importance occurring in 1% to 2.5% of patients receiving PLAVIX (clopidogrel bisulfate) in the controlled clinical trials are listed below regardless of relationship to PLAVIX. In general, the incidence of these events was similar to that in patients receiving aspirin (in CAPRIE) or placebo + aspirin (in the other clinical trial.

In patients receiving aspann (in CPAR) or pacedo – aspinn (in the onle clinical omic Nervous System Disorders: Syncope, Palpitation. Body as a Whole-general eral nervous System disorders: Caranis patients of the synchronic system disorders: Cardiac failure: Central and eral nervous system disorders: Crossipation, Vonoting, Heart area and thythm ers: Fibrillation atrial. Liver and biliary system disorders: Hepatic enzymes increased. Gisdorders: Caranis disorders: Contiguation, Vonoting, Heart area and thythm eds. Musculo-skeletal system disorders: Athritis, Arthrosis. Platelet, bleeding & gisdorders: Gi henorthage, hematoma, platelet decreased. Psychiatic disorders: I, Insomia. Red blood cell disorders: Carana, Conjunctivitis. Detentially serious adverse events which may be of inicial interest but were rarely ed (<18) in patients who received PLAVIX in the controlled clinical triats are listed exardless of received PLAVIX. In general, the incidence of these events was

ther potentially serious adverse events which may be of clinical interest but were rarely ported (-1%) in atteins who received PLAVIX. In tecntrolled clinical trials are listed low regardless of relationship to PLAVIX. In general, the incidence of these events was milar to that in patients receiving aspirin (in CAPRE) or placebo + aspirin (in the other nical trials). The placebo + aspirin (in CAPRE) or placebo + aspirin (in the other nical trials). The placebo + aspirin (in the placebo + aspirin (in the other nical trials), site of the second second second second second day says and shores: Biltrubinemia, hepatits infections, liver fault , Placet, bleeding d cloting disorders: Biltrubinemia, hepatits infections, liver fault , Placet, bleeding d cloting disorders: Biltrubinemia, hepatits infections, liver fault , Placet, bleeding and placebo + linonary hemorthage, to purpura allergic, thromboytopenia. Red blood cell disorders: normal prensitors, schemothorax, *Sin and appendage disorders*: Bullous erup-n, rash erythematous, rash maciopapular, uritaria. Urinary sistem disorders: normal renal function, acute renal failure. White cell and reticuloendothelial system sorders: Arganulocytosis, ganulocytopenia, leukemia, leukopenia, neutropenia.

Postmarketing Experience The following events have been reported spontaneously from worldwide postn

Body as a whole: -hopesensitivity reactions, anaphylactoid reactions, serum sickness Central and Peripheral Nervous System disorders: -contision, hallucinations, taste disorders: -abnormal liver function test, hepatitis (non-infectious), acute liver failure Patelet, Bleeding and Cotting disorders: -cases of bleeding with Itaal outcome (especially intracranial, gastrointestinal and retroperitonel hemorrhage) -thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP) – some cases with fatal outcome – [see WARNINGS] NGS)

- . Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epid

- Intromotic thromosotyopenic purpura (IIP) (see WARINKOS) (see W cerative or lymphocytic colitis), pancreatitis, stomatitis inective tissue and bone disorders:

overaged OverRoosaGE Overdose following clopidogrel administration may lead to prolonged bleeding time and subsequent bleeding complications. A single oral dose of clopidogrel at 1500 or 2000 mg/kg was lethal to mice and to rats and at 3000 mg/kg to baboons. Symptoms of acute toxicity were voniting (in baboons), prostration, difficult breathing, and gastrointestinal hemo-rhage in all species.

Ill species. endations About Specific Treatment: n biological plausibility, platelet transfus ological effects of PLAVIX if quick reversal ion may be appropriate to reverse

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION Recent MI, Recent Stroke, or Established Peripheral Arterial Disease The recommended daily dose of PLAVIX is 75 mg once daily.

The recommended daily does of FLVVIA 6 /2 ing unite using. **Acute Coronary Syndrome** For patients with non-ST-segment elevation acute coronary syndrome (unstable angina/non-Q-wave MI), PLAVIX should be initiated with a single 300-mg loading dose and then continued at 75 mg once daily. Asprint (75 mg-325 mg once daily) should be initiated and continued in combination with PLAVIX. In CURE, most patients with Acute Coronary Syndrome also received heparin acute (see CLINICAL STUDIES). For patients with ST-segment elevation acute myocardial infarction, the recommended dose of PLAVIX is 75 mg once daily, administered in combination with apyrinn, with or without thrombolytics. FLAVIX may be initiated with or without a loading dose (300 mg was used in (TANTY'see CLINICAL STUDIES). used in CLARITY; see **CLINICAL STUDIES**). VIX can be administered with or without food.

o dosage adjustment is necessary for elderly e **Clinical Pharmacology: Special Population** patients or patients with renal disease

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equine estrogen plus medroxyprogesterone in 16,608 mostly healthy postmenopausal women. In current practice, HT is recommended for brief use in the treatment of menopausal symptoms, offers alternative hormone sources, and is given at doses that are about half of those used in the WHI. The WHI was launched in 1993; the estrogen-progestin arm of the WHI was stopped in 2002.

Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) is the leading cause of cancer death in women. Previous research indicates that hormones play a role in NSCLC, but this is the first study to examine a specific correlation in a randomized, doubleblind design and with a large, ethnically



Women who smoke and are seeking or already receiving HT should be strongly advised to quit smoking.

DR. CHLEBOWSKI

diverse population. A limitation of this study was the secondary nature of the analyses. The findings on the risk and outcome of lung cancer were not a primary objective of the WHI.

NSCLC incidence and mortality were examined during the 5.6 years of intervention with HT or placebo and 2.4 additional years of follow-up.

While the incidence of NSCLC diagnosis was not significantly different for controls and women on HT, survival after diagnosis was significantly lower in the hormone therapy group. There were 67 deaths among 96 women on HT and 39 deaths in 72 cases in the control group. Further, median survival was 9.4 months in the HT group and 16.1 months in the control group.

The HT and control groups were evenly matched for smoking history with 50% never smokers, 40% former smokers, and 10% current smokers. But when the data on NSCLC deaths were analyzed by tobacco use, the risk was higher in current smokers and considerably higher in smokers also taking HT.

Of the 67 NSCLC deaths in the hormone therapy group, 27 occurred in 800 current smokers. The other 38 deaths occurred in 9 of 4,178 never smokers and in 29 of 3,362 former smokers. Of the 39 NSCLC deaths in the control group, 19 occurred in 838 current smokers. The other 20 deaths occurred in 5 of 3,999 never smokers and in 15 of 3,157 past smokers.

The nature of HT has changed since the WHI, with most women on lowerdose therapies for shorter periods of time, Dr. Chlebowski acknowledged in an interview.

Dr. Chlebowski disclosed that he is a consultant and adviser to many pharmaceutical companies. These disclosures were not relevant to the WHI analysis.

A related video is at www.youtube.com/ InternalMedicineNews (search for 67159).

 Life-threatening bleeding
 22
 1.8
 0.13

 Fatal
 0.2
 0.2
 0.2

 Fatal
 0.2
 0.2
 0.2

 SgdL hemoglobin drop
 0.9
 0.9
 9

 Requiring surgical intervention
 0.7
 0.7
 1.0

 Hemorrhagic strokes
 0.1
 0.1
 1.0

 Requiring translusion (24 units)
 1.2
 1.0
 0.005

 Significant/disabing
 0.4
 0.3
 1.0

 Minor bleeding with
 3.0
 0.005
 0.03

 Requiring 1.23 units of blood
 1.3
 0.9

 Minor bleeding 2.1
 2.4
 <0.001</td>

 * Other standard therapies were used as appropriate.
 1.1
 1.4
 <0.001</td>

 * Other standard therapies were used as appropriate.
 1.1
 1.4
 <0.001</td>

 * Other standard therapies were used as appropriate.
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 * Other standard therapies were used as appropriate.
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 * Major bleeding event rate for PANW + aspirin was dose-dependent on aspirin:
 <0.001 me2.0%, 100.2 Body as a whole

0.001

2.7 § 1.8 0.2 0.9 0.7 0.1 0.5 1.0 1.0 0.3

1) ccu to interruption of study medication. Ninety-two percent (32%) of the patients in the CURE study received heparin/LMWH, and the rate of bleeding in these patients was similar to the overall results. There was no excess in major bleeds within seven days after coronary bypass graft surgery in patients who stopped therapy more than five days prior to surgery (event rate 4.4% PLAVIX + aspirin; 53% placebo + aspirin). In patients who remained on therapy within five days of bypass graft surgery, the event rate was 9.6% for PLAVIX + aspirin; and 6.3% for placebo + aspirin. In (LABIY) the incidence design bleed.

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Type of bleeding	PLAVIX (+ aspirin) (N=22961)	Placebo (+ aspirin) (N=22891)	P-value
Major* noncerebral or cerebral bleeding**	134 (0.6%)	125 (0.5%)	0.59
Major noncerebral	82 (0.4%)	73 (0.3%)	0.48
Fatal	36 (0.2%)	37 (0.2%)	0.90
Hemorrhagic stroke	55 (0.2%)	56 (0.2%)	0.91
Fatal	39 (0.2%)	41 (0.2%)	0.81
Other noncerebral bleeding (non-major)	831 (3.6%)	721 (3.1%)	0.005
Any noncerebral bleeding	896 (3.9%)	777 (3.4%)	

or bleeds are cerebral bleeds or non-cerebral bleeds thought to have caused death or equired transfusion. ^A Major Diedeö are cerebral birecto on indirectorial waves moreover the entropy of the transfusion.
^{a+} The relative rate of major noncerebral or cerebral bleeding was independent of age. Event rates for PAUNK + asginin by age were: <60 years = 0.3%, 20 to <70 years = 0.7%, 270 years 0.5%. Event rates for placebo + aspirin by age were: <60 years = 0.4%, 260 to <70 years = 0.6%, 270 years 0.7%, divers = 0.4%, 260 to <70 years = 0.5%, 270 years 0.5%. Adverse version of age. The spiring of placebo + aspiring by age were: <60 years = 0.4%, 260 to <70 years = 0.5%, 270 years 0.5%. Adverse version of the spiring of placebo + aspiring by age were: <60 years = 0.4%, 260 to <70 years = 0.5%, 270 years 0.7%. The median duration of the trapy was 20 months, with a maximum of 3 years.</p> **Table 7: Adverse Events 0 ccurring in ≥ 2.5% of PLAVIX Patients in CAPRIE**

•	% Incidence (% Discontinuation)		
Body System Event	PLAVIX [n=9599]	Aspirin [n=9586]	
Body as a Whole – general disorders			
Chest Pain	8.3 (0.2)	8.3 (0.3)	
Accidental/Inflicted Injury	7.9 (0.1)	7.3 (0.1)	
Influenza-like symptoms	7.5 (<0.1)	7.0 (<0.1	
Pain	6.4 (0.1)	6.3 (0.1)	
Fatigue	3.3 (0.1)	3.4 (0.1)	
Cardiovascular disorders, general			
Edema	4.1 (<0.1)	4.5 (<0.1	
Hypertension	4.3 (<0.1)	5.1 (<0.1	
Central & peripheral nervous system disorders			
Headache	7.6 (0.3)	7.2 (0.2)	
Dizziness	6.2 (0.2)	6.7 (0.3)	
Gastrointestinal system disorders			
Any event	27.1 (3.2)	29.8 (4.0)	
Abdominal pain	5.6 (0.7)	7.1 (1.0)	
Dyspepsia	5.2 (0.6)	6.1 (0.7)	
Diarrhea	4.5 (0.4)	3.4 (0.3)	
Nausea	3.4 (0.5)	3.8 (0.4)	
Metabolic & nutritional disorders	()		
Hypercholesterolemia	4.0 (0)	4.4 (<0.1	
Musculo-skeletal system disorders			
Arthralgia	6.3 (0.1)	6.2 (0.1)	
Back Pain	5.8 (0.1)	5.3 (<0.1	
Platelet, bleeding, & clotting disorders			
Purpura/Bruise	5.3 (0.3)	3.7 (0.1)	
Epistaxis	2.9 (0.2)	2.5 (0.1)	
Psychiatric disorders			
Depression	3.6 (0.1)	3.9 (0.2)	
Respiratory system disorders			
Upper resp tract infection	8.7 (<0.1)	8.3 (<0.1	
Dyspnea	4.5 (0.1)	4.7 (0.1)	
Rhinitis	4.2 (0.1)	4.2 (<0.1	
Bronchitis	3.7 (0.1)	3.7 (0)	
Coughing	3.1 (<0.1)	2.7 (<0.1	
Skin & appendage disorders			
Any event	15.8 (1.5)	13.1 (0.8)	
Rash	4.2 (0.5)	3.5 (0.2)	
Pruritus	3.3 (0.3)	1.6 (0.1)	

3.1 (0)

3.5 (0.1)

ADVERSE REACTIONS PLVNIX has been evaluated for safety in more than 42,000 patients, including over 9,000 patients treated for 1 year or more. The clinically important adverse events observed in CAPRE, CURE, CURE, CURE, CURINIT are discussed below. The overall tolerability of PLVNX in CAPRIE was similar to that of aspirin regardless of age, gender and race, with an approximately equal incidence (13%) of patients withdrawing from treatment because of adverse reactions in the morrhagic. In CAPRIE patients receiving PLVNX, gastrointestinal hemorrhage occurred at rate of 2,0%, and required hospitalization in 0.7%. In patients receiving aspirin, the corresponding rates were 2,7% and 1,1%, respectively. The incidence of intracranial hemor-nage was 0.4% for PLVNX compared to 0.5% for aspirin. In CURE, PLVNX use with aspirin was associated with an increase in bleeding compared to placebo with aspirin (see Table 5). There was an excess in major bleeding in patients receiv-ing PLVNX plus aspirin (compared with placebo plus aspirin, primarily gastrointestinal and puncture sits. The incidence of intracranial hemorrhage (0.1%), and fatal bleeding (0.2%), were the same in both groups. The overall incidence of bleeding is described in Table 5 for patients receiving both PLVNX plus adjurin in CURE.

 Table 5: CURE Incidence of bleeding complications (% patients)

 PLAVIX
 Placebo
 P-value

(+ aspirin) (n=6259) 3.7 ‡ 2.2 0.9 0.7 0.1 0.5 1.2 1.6 0.4