

- All persons attending the Satellite Symposium must be registered either as full participants or as exhibitors; persons without such a badge will not be allowed to enter the room.

Preventing vascular events in patients with AF: Exploring the role of antiplatelet therapy

EUROPACE 2009

Berlin, Germany

Tuesday, 23 June 2009, 12:45–13:45

ICC Berlin – Room 6



Dear colleague,

As we all know, atrial fibrillation (AF) is an independent risk factor for stroke. Furthermore strokes related to AF are typically more severe than ischemic strokes in patients without AF. Because of this risk, antithrombotic therapy is a mainstay of treating patients with AF, especially in those patients that have associated risk factors such as age 75 or higher, hypertension, heart failure, and diabetes mellitus.

In patients with AF at high risk of stroke the ACC/AHA/ESC 2006 Guidelines recommend oral anticoagulants (OAC) with an international normalized ratio (INR) between 2 to 3. Even though the use of OAC is well established, contraindications to OAC are common in patients with AF. Moreover, we as physicians –for a variety of reasons- prefer not to initiate OAC in certain patient groups or patients themselves are unwilling to take OAC. This leads to low rates of OAC use. For these patients the only available alternative today is aspirin, which is less effective in reducing stroke.

This is the challenge that we face every day.

During the satellite symposium '**Preventing vascular events in patients with AF: Exploring the role of antiplatelet therapy**', we would like address this challenge by discussing:

- The clinical implications and impact of atrial fibrillation on cardiovascular disease.
- The limitations and opportunities of current therapies and guidelines on atrial fibrillation.
- Recent developments and future directions of antithrombotic therapy in patients with atrial fibrillation who cannot take OACs, with a focus on the ACTIVE-A trial results.

There will be opportunity for interactive discussion at the end of the session.

We look forward to seeing you in Berlin and hope you can join us on Tuesday June 23, from 12:45 until 13:45 in Room 6.

Sincerely, symposium chairmen,

Harald Darius, *Berlin, Germany*

Stefan Hohnloser, *Frankfurt, Germany*

Satellite Symposium

Preventing vascular events in patients with AF: Exploring the role of antiplatelet therapy

Tuesday June 23, 2009 – Room 6

Programme:

12:45 – 12:50	Welcome and introduction: learning objectives <i>Chairmen: S.H. Hohnloser – Frankfurt, Germany H. Darius – Berlin, Germany</i>
12:50 – 13:05	The clinical reality of AF in cardiovascular disease <i>H. Darius – Berlin, Germany</i>
13:05 – 13:20	Challenges in managing patients with AF & vascular risk: The limitations and opportunities of current therapies <i>A.J. Camm – London, UK</i>
13:20 – 13:35	Antithrombotic therapy in AF: Recent developments and future directions <i>S.J. Connolly – Ontario, Canada</i>
13:35 – 13:45	Panel discussion / Q&A <i>All faculty</i>