

# Impact of bleeding on mortality in patients with acute myocardial infarction complicated by cardiogenic shock

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#### **Aims**

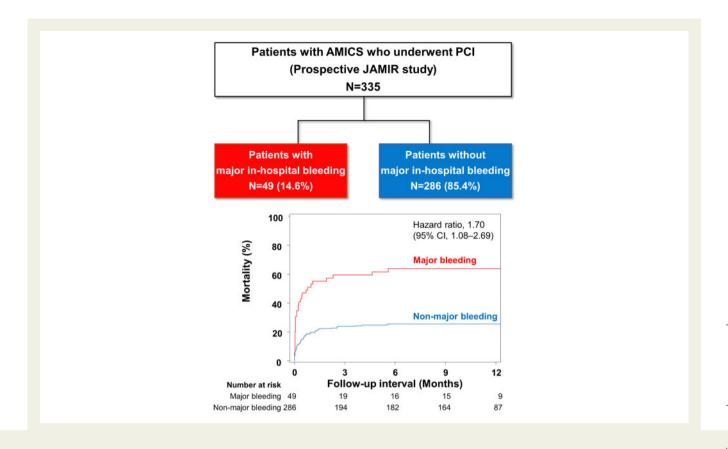
Acute myocardial infarction complicated by cardiogenic shock (AMICS) is associated with substantial mortality, although there are limited data available on bleeding in this critical condition. This study sought to investigate the incidence and impact of major in-hospital bleeding on all-cause mortality in patients with AMICS who undergo percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI).

# Methods and results

Between 2015 and 2017, a total of 3411 patients hospitalized within 24 h after symptom onset were prospectively enrolled in the Japan Acute Myocardial Infarction Registry (JAMIR) and followed up for a median of 293 (interquartile range, 22–375) days. AMICS developed in 335 (9.8%) patients (mean age, 71.3  $\pm$  13.6 years). Overall, the rate of major in-hospital bleeding (Bleeding Academic Research Consortium types 3 and 5) and in-hospital mortality was 14.6% and 28.7%, respectively. The majority of major in-hospital bleeding (73.5%) occurred within 48 h after PCI. Compared to patients without major in-hospital bleeding, those with it had higher rates of renal failure, left main coronary artery culprit lesion, and intra-aortic balloon pump or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation support, and had longer door-to-device time. The cumulative incidence of 1-year all-cause mortality was significantly higher in the major bleeding group compared to the non-major bleeding group (63.8% vs. 25.5%; log-rank P < 0.001). After adjusting for confounders, major in-hospital bleeding was independently associated with increased all-cause mortality (hazard ratio, 1.70; 95% confidence interval, 1.08–2.69).

#### **Conclusions**

These findings of JAMIR indicate that major in-hospital bleeding is associated with all-cause mortality in patients with AMICS who undergo PCI.



**Keywords** 

Acute myocardial infarction • Bleeding • Coronary intervention • Shock

#### Introduction

Cardiogenic shock (CS) is the leading cause of death in patients hospitalized due to acute myocardial infarction (AMI). Despite advances in reperfusion therapy and the establishment of cardiac intensive care units, mortality remained high, in the range of 40–50%, during the last two decades. 1,2 Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), which is beneficial in achieving rapid reperfusion, is preferred as an effective treatment in this critical condition; the procedure requires dual antiplatelet therapy.<sup>3,4</sup> Additionally, mechanical circulatory support devices to stabilize haemodynamics are widely used for patients with AMI complicated by CS (AMICS); such patients require anticoagulant therapy and insertion of a larger sheath into the femoral artery. 1,5 These invasive and pharmacological therapies and critical end-organ hypoperfusion due to CS, which might subsequently cause disseminated intravascular coagulation, pose increased bleeding risks. 1,2,5-8 However, there have been few reports about the prognostic implication of in-hospital bleeding in patients with AMICS.

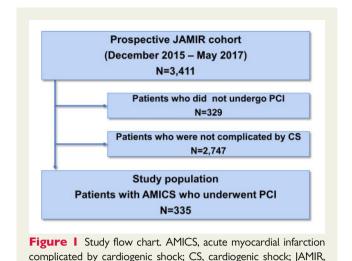
The Japan Acute Myocardial Infarction Registry (JAMIR) study, a multicentre, nationwide, prospective registry, was established to investigate the current antiplatelet therapy with a potent P2Y12 inhibitor, and the clinical outcomes of patients with AMI in real-world clinical practice. <sup>9,10</sup> The JAMIR dataset included 1-year ischaemic events and bleeding events based on Bleeding Academic Research Consortium (BARC) criteria. <sup>9,10</sup>

The aim of this study was to investigate the incidence and predictors of major in-hospital bleeding, and to evaluate the relationship between this complication and all-cause mortality in patients with AMICS who undergo PCI, using a sub-analysis of the JAMIR study.

# **Methods**

#### **Study population**

The JAMIR study is a prospective observational multicentre registry. The design and patient enrolment in the JAMIR were described previously. 9,10 Using the database of JAMIR, this study investigated the incidence and clinical characteristics of major in-hospital bleeding, and its impact on allcause mortality in patients with AMICS who underwent PCI. Briefly, 3411 consecutive patients with type 1 and type 2 myocardial infarction within 24 h after symptom onset were enrolled at 50 Japanese centres between December 2015 and May 2017. AMI was diagnosed by investigators at each study site based on the universal definition, with allowance of the Monitoring of Trends and Determinants in Cardiovascular Disease (MONICA) criteria according to the institutional setting. 11,12 Indeed, 99% of registered patients were diagnosed on the basis of the universal definition. In the present analysis, 329 patients who did not undergo PCI and 2747 patients who were not complicated by CS were excluded. Finally, the study population consisted of 335 patients (Figure 1). Follow-up information was collected by investigators, clinical research coordinators, or local data managers at each study site, 9-15 months after the onset of



Japan Acute Myocardial Infarction Registry; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention.

AMI. Clinical events were also adjudicated by those at each study site. Quality checks of the database were conducted at an independent data management centre. The median duration of follow-up was 293 (interquartile range, 22–375) days. Complete 1-year follow-up information was available for 91.9% of patients.

This study was conducted in accordance with the tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki. The institutional review boards or ethics committees at all 50 participating centres approved the study protocol. Written informed consent was not obtained from the study subjects because of the observational nature of this registry; however, details about the study were posted on a website and at the study sites to inform the subjects of the content and to ensure that they had the opportunity to refuse inclusion in this registry (opt-out). This study was registered with the Japanese UMIN Clinical Trials Registry (UMIN000019479).

#### **Definitions and endpoints**

CS was defined as systolic blood pressure <90 mmHg or need for supportive measures to maintain systolic blood pressure at  $\geq$ 90 mmHg with adequate volume, and clinical signs of hypoperfusion, such as cold extremities, oliguria, mental confusion, dizziness, and narrow pulse pressure.  $^{1,13,14}$ 

The primary outcome in this study was all-cause mortality. In-hospital, 1-month, and 1-year all-cause mortality were evaluated. The incidences of major in-hospital bleeding, in-hospital ischaemic event, and cardiac death were also evaluated. Major bleeding during hospitalization was defined as BARC types 3 and 5 bleeding, involving a decrease in haemoglobin of >3 g/dL, need for blood transfusion, cardiac tamponade, surgical intervention, intracranial haemorrhage, or fatal bleeding. <sup>10,15,16</sup> Then, the onset timing of major in-hospital bleeding (within or later than 48 h) was analysed. Ischaemic event included non-fatal myocardial infarction, nonfatal stroke and cardiac death. Investigators, clinical research coordinators, or local data managers at each study site independently evaluated these outcomes and registered the data using the JAMIR registration system.

#### Statistical analysis

Categorical variables are presented as numbers and percentages. They were compared using the chi-squared test or Fisher's exact test, as

appropriate. Continuous variables are presented as means and standard deviations or medians and interquartile ranges, according to the distribution of the data. They were analysed using the t-test or Mann–Whitney U test, as appropriate. We constructed a multivariate logistic regression model to identify predictors of major in-hospital bleeding, with adjustment for variables with a P-value < 0.1 in univariate analyses. Results are presented as odds ratios (ORs) with 95% confidence intervals (Cls). Then, we used the Kaplan-Meier method to estimate the cumulative incidences of all-cause mortality and assessed the difference using the logrank test. Additionally, we conducted a landmark analysis at 1-month to evaluate all-cause mortality at different time periods. We also used the following two multivariate Cox proportional hazards models to estimate the hazard ratio (HR) of major in-hospital bleeding for all-cause mortality: Model 1, adjusted for age and sex, and Model 2, adjusted for all variables with a P-value <0.1 in univariate analyses. Additionally, we conducted post hoc analyses focusing on cardiac death and onset timing of major bleeding (major bleeding within 48 h vs. major bleeding after 48 h). The results are presented as HRs with 95% Cls. All analyses were performed using SAS version 9.4 (SAS Institute, Cary, NC, USA). All tests were twotailed, and a P-value of <0.05 was considered statistically significant.

#### Results

#### **Baseline characteristics**

Baseline clinical characteristics of the 335 patients with AMICS are shown in *Table 1*. The overall mean age was 71.3 ± 13.6 years, 95 (28.4%) were female, and 299 (89.3%) patients had ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction. Three hundred and seventeen (94.6%) and 57 (17.0%) patients were treated with dual antiplatelet therapy and oral anticoagulants, respectively. Among patients treated with clopidogrel, 43.2% received a 300 mg loading dose and 93.5% received a 75 mg maintenance dose. Among patients treated with prasugrel, 79.4% received a 20 mg loading dose and 96.8% received a 3.75 mg maintenance dose. No patients received thrombolytic therapy in this study. The PCI success rate, defined as final Thrombolysis In Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) flow grade 3, was 84.5%.

Overall, major in-hospital bleeding (BARC type 3 and 5) occurred in 14.6% of patients with AMICS (*Table 1*). Of the patients who experienced major in-hospital bleeding, the proportion of BARC type 5 was 16.3%, and periprocedural bleeding within 48 hours after PCI occurred in 73.5%. In-hospital ischaemic events including non-fatal myocardial infarction, non-fatal stroke, and cardiac death occurred in 27.2% in the overall population, 55.1% in the major bleeding group, and 22.4% in the non-major bleeding group, respectively. In-hospital mortality was 28.7% in the overall population, 59.2% in the major bleeding group, and 23.4% in the non-major bleeding group, respectively.

Compared to patients without major in-hospital bleeding, those with major in-hospital bleeding were older and more likely to be female, had a lower estimated glomerular filtration rate, and higher rates of intra-aortic balloon pump (IABP) or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) support and left main coronary artery culprit lesion. Radial artery access for PCI was less common in patients with major in-hospital bleeding than in those without it. Door-to-device time was longer and the proportion of patients achieving a door-to-device time of <90 min was lower in the major bleeding group. Prasugrel was less common and switching between

**Table I** Patient characteristics

	Overall, <i>n</i> = 335	Non-major bleeding, n = 286 (85.4%)	Major bleeding, n = 49 (14.6%)	P-value
Baseline characteristics				
Age, years	71.3 ± 13.6	70.6 ± 13.8	75.3 ± 11.8	0.026
Age $\geq$ 75 years, $n$ (%)	146 (43.6)	117 (40.9)	29 (59.2)	0.017
Female sex, n (%)	95 (28.4)	75 (26.2)	20 (40.8)	0.036
Body weight $\leq$ 50 kg ( $n = 301$ ), n (%)	78 (25.9)	65 (25.0)	13 (31.7)	0.362
Ambulance use, n (%)	316 (94.3)	271 (94.8)	45 (91.8)	0.499
Hypertension, n (%)	209 (62.4)	178 (62.2)	31 (63.3)	0.891
Diabetes mellitus, n (%)	130 (38.8)	110 (38.5)	20 (40.8)	0.755
Dyslipidaemia, <i>n</i> (%)	229 (68.4)	197 (68.9)	32 (65.3)	0.619
Previous myocardial infarction or PCI, $n$ (%)	53 (15.8)	45 (15.7)	8 (16.3)	0.916
Previous stroke, n (%)	48 (14.3)	42 (14.7)	6 (12.2)	0.652
Peripheral artery disease, n (%)	19 (5.7)	14 (4.9)	5 (10.2)	0.138
eGFR, mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	$48.00 \pm 21.0$	49.8 ± 20.1	$37.6 \pm 23.3$	< 0.001
eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> , n (%)	68 (20.3)	49 (17.1)	19 (38.8)	<0.00
Peak CPK, IU/L	2857 (1283–6567)	2864 (1283–6167)	2704 (1467–8740)	0.241
Peak CK-MB, IU/L (n = 279)	295 (119–569)	288 (123–537)	394 (117–763)	0.221
Presentation	273 (117 307)	200 (123 337)	371(117 703)	0.221
STEMI, n (%)	299 (89.3)	256 (89.5)	43 (87.8)	0.714
Out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, $n$ (%) ( $n$ = 329)	62 (18.8)	57 (20.3)	5 (10.4)	0.115
Heart rate, beats/min	80 (57–103)	79 (57–103)	84 (64–110)	0.312
Systolic blood pressure, mmHg	90 (73–121)	90 (72–119)	106 (83–124)	0.101
Angiographic and procedural characteristics	70 (73–121)	70 (72–117)	100 (03–124)	0.101
Radial access, <i>n</i> (%)	98 (29.3)	90 (31.5)	8 (16.3)	0.031
IABP or ECMO support, n (%)	193 (57.6)	154 (53.9)	39 (79.6)	<0.00
IABP support, $n$ (%)	193 (57.8)	154 (53.5)	` '	0.004
	` ,	` '	37 (75.5)	<0.00
ECMO support, n (%)	49 (14.6)	29 (10.1)	20 (40.8)	<b>\0.00</b>
Infarct-related artery location	120 (41 F)	124 (42.4)	4F (20 ()	0.004
Right coronary artery, n (%)	139 (41.5)	124 (43.4)	15 (30.6)	0.094
Left main coronary artery, n (%)	30 (9.0)	20 (7.0)	10 (20.4)	0.002
Left anterior descending artery, n (%)	158 (47.2)	132 (46.2)	26 (53.1)	0.371
Left circumflex, $n$ (%)	36 (10.8)	34 (11.9)	2 (4.1)	0.134
Bypass graft or unknown, n (%)	3 (1.0)	2 (0.7)	1 (2.0)	0.379
Multivessel disease, n (%)	187 (55.8)	160 (55.9)	27 (55.1)	0.913
Stent use, n (%)	304 (90.8)	261 (91.3)	43 (87.8)	0.426
Final TIMI flow grade 3, n (%)	283 (84.5)	243 (85.0)	40 (81.6)	0.552
Onset-to-device time, min $(n = 305)$	175 (122–287)	169 (121–276)	230 (136–364)	0.063
Door-to-device time, min	76 (56–110)	73 (53–104)	95 (70–145)	<0.00
Door-to-device time $<$ 90 min, $n$ (%)	204 (60.9)	181 (63.3)	23 (46.9)	0.030
Orugs during hospitalization	/			
Aspirin, n (%)	322 (96.1)	276 (96.5)	46 (93.9)	0.415
P2Y12 inhibitor				0.016
Clopidogrel, n (%)	46 (13.7)	37 (12.9)	9 (18.4)	
Prasugrel, n (%)	252 (75.2)	223 (78.0)	29 (59.2)	
Switching between prasugrel and clopidogrel, n (%)	22 (6.6)	15 (5.2)	7 (14.3)	
None, <i>n</i> (%)	15 (4.5)	11 (3.9)	4 (8.2)	
Dual antiplatelet therapy, n (%)	317 (94.6)	273 (95.5)	44 (89.8)	0.159
Oral anticoagulant use, n (%)	57 (17.0)	48 (16.8)	9 (18.4)	0.785
Duration of hospitalization, days	16 (9–29)	16 (10–28)	15 (2-38)	0.409

Data are expressed as means  $\pm$  SD, n (%), or medians (interquartile range).

CK-MB, creatine kinase—myocardial band; CPK, creatine phosphokinase; ECMO, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; IABP, intra-aortic balloon pump; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; SD, standard deviation; STEMI, ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; TIMI, thrombolysis in myocardial infarction

Table 2 Predictors of major in-hospital bleeding in patients with AMICS undergoing PCI

	OR (95% CI)	P-value
Age ≥75 years	1.89 (0.87–4.11)	0.109
Female sex	1.36 (0.61–3.03)	0.448
eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	2.59 (1.11–6.04)	0.027
Radial access	0.44 (0.15–1.28)	0.131
IABP or ECMO support	2.63 (1.07–6.47)	0.035
Left main coronary artery culprit lesion	3.06 (1.10-8.52)	0.032
Right coronary artery culprit lesion	1.21 (0.52–2.84)	0.658
Longer onset-to-device time <sup>a</sup>	1.05 (0.48–2.27)	0.909
Longer door-to-device time <sup>a</sup>	2.41 (1.09–5.35)	0.030
Clopidogrel (vs. prasugrel)	1.44 (0.56–3.75)	0.451
Switching between prasugrel and Clopidogrel (vs. prasugrel)	4.89 (1.41–16.98)	0.013
Non-P2Y12 inhibitor (vs. prasugrel)	1.35 (0.33–5.57)	0.679

The multivariate logistic regression model was adjusted for variables with a P-value < 0.1 in univariate analyses.

AMICS, acute myocardial infarction complicated by cardiogenic shock; CI, confidence interval; ECMO, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; IABP, intra-aortic balloon pump; OR, odds ratio; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention.

aLonger onset-to-device time and door-to-device time were defined as longer than the median time (onset-to-device time, 175 min; door-to-device time, 76 min).

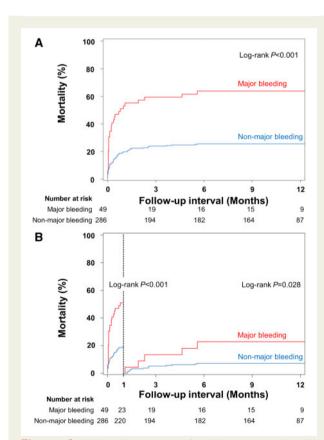


Figure 2 Kaplan–Meier curves for all-cause mortality. (A) Cumulative incidence curves for all-cause mortality in acute myocardial infarction complicated by cardiogenic shock patients with and without major in-hospital bleeding. (B) Cumulative incidence curves for all-cause mortality within and beyond 1 month. Major inhospital bleeding was defined as BARC types 3 and 5. AMICS, acute myocardial infarction complicated by cardiogenic shock; BARC, Bleeding Academic Research Consortium.

prasugrel and clopidogrel was more frequent in the major bleeding group, but the use of aspirin and oral anticoagulants did not differ between the two groups (Table~1). In multivariate logistic regression analysis, estimated glomerular filtration rate <30 mL/min/1.73 m² (OR 2.59; 95% CI 1.11–6.04), IABP or ECMO support (OR 2.63; 95% CI 1.07–6.47), left main coronary artery culprit lesion (OR 3.06; 95% CI 1.10–8.52), longer door-to-device time (OR 2.41; 95% CI 1.09–5.35) and switching between prasugrel and clopidogrel (OR 4.89; 95% CI 1.41–16.98) were independently associated with major inhospital bleeding (Table~2).

#### **All-cause mortality**

All-cause mortality at 1 year was 30.2% in the overall population, 63.8% in patients with major in-hospital bleeding, and 25.5% in those without it, respectively. Kaplan-Meier analysis showed that the cumulative incidence of all-cause mortality was significantly higher in the major bleeding group compared to the non-major bleeding group (log-rank P < 0.001) (Figure 2A). Landmark analysis at 1-month also showed the higher all-cause mortality in the major bleeding group both from 0 to 1 month and beyond 1 month (Figure 2B). Multivariate Cox proportional hazards analysis identified major in-hospital bleeding (HR 1.70; 95% CI 1.08-2.69) as being significantly associated with higher all-cause mortality, as was age ≥75 years (HR 1.81; 95% CI 1.19–2.74), estimated glomerular filtration rate <30 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> (HR 1.89; 95% CI 1.21-2.96), IABP or ECMO support (HR 1.75; 95% CI 1.08-2.83), left main coronary artery culprit lesion (HR 3.10; 95% CI 1.75-5.46), multivessel disease (HR 1.73; 95% CI 1.09-2.75), final TIMI flow grade <3 (HR 1.90; 95% CI 1.14-3.19), and longer doorto-device time (HR 1.73; 95% CI 1.14-2.64), whereas dual antiplatelet therapy (HR 0.27; 95% CI 0.15-0.51) was associated with lower all-cause mortality. Even after adjusting for age and sex, major inhospital bleeding (HR 3.05; 95% CI 1.98-4.71) was significantly associated with all-cause mortality (Table 3). Also, the cumulative incidence of cardiac death was significantly higher in the major bleeding group

Table 3 Cox proportional hazards analysis of all-cause mortality in patients with AMICS undergoing PCI

	Univariate analysis		Age, sex-adjusted analysis		Fully adjusted analysis <sup>a</sup>	
	HR (95% CI)	P-value	HR (95% CI)	P-value	HR (95% CI)	P-value
Major in-hospital bleeding <sup>b</sup>	3.29 (2.16–5.02)	<0.001	3.05 (1.98–4.71)	<0.001	1.70 (1.08–2.69)	0.023
Age $\geq$ 75 years	2.21 (1.50–3.28)	< 0.001	2.20 (1.46–3.32)	<0.001	1.81 (1.19–2.74)	0.005
Female sex	0.82 (0.53–1.28)	0.379	0.54 (0.34–0.86)	0.010		
Diabetes mellitus	1.10 (0.74–1.62)	0.643				
Previous myocardial infarction or PCI	0.90 (0.48-1.67)	0.727				
Previous stroke	1.29 (0.77–2.18)	0.332				
eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	2.41 (1.60–3.63)	< 0.001			1.89 (1.21–2.96)	0.005
Large infarct size estimated using peak CPK <sup>c</sup>	1.42 (0.96–2.10)	0.076			1.22 (0.80–1.85)	0.353
STEMI	0.63 (0.37–1.07)	0.089			0.93 (0.52–1.65)	0.805
IABP or ECMO support	2.53 (1.62–3.95)	< 0.001			1.75 (1.08–2.83)	0.023
Left main coronary artery culprit lesion	3.28 (2.01–5.35)	< 0.001			3.10 (1.75–5.46)	< 0.001
Multivessel disease	1.75 (1.16–2.64)	0.007			1.73 (1.09–2.75)	0.020
Final TIMI flow grade <3	1.74 (1.09–2.79)	0.021			1.90 (1.14–3.19)	0.014
Longer door-to-device time <sup>d</sup>	2.01 (1.35–3.01)	<0.001			1.73 (1.14–2.64)	0.010
Dual antiplatelet therapy	0.39 (0.16–0.95)	0.039			0.27 (0.15-0.51)	<0.001

AMICS, acute myocardial infarction complicated by cardiogenic shock; CI, confidence interval; CPK, creatine phosphokinase; ECMO, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; HR, hazard ratio; IABP, intra-aortic balloon pump; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; STEMI, ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; TIMI, thrombolysis in myocardial infarction.

compared to the non-major bleeding group (log-rank P < 0.001; adjusted HR 2.74; 95% CI 1.68–4.47) (Figure 3A).

And then, Kaplan–Meier analysis and multivariate Cox proportional hazards analysis showed that all-cause mortality of patients with major in-hospital bleeding within 48 h was numerically higher than that of patients with major in-hospital bleeding after 48 h, although the difference was not significant (log-rank P = 0.051; adjusted HR 2.31; 95% CI 0.93–5.74) (*Figure 3B*). As a sub-analysis, we also evaluated 2,747 non-CS patients. Major in-hospital bleeding was associated with all-cause mortality even in the non-CS group (log-rank P < 0.001; adjusted HR 4.90; 95% CI 2.78–8.62) (Supplementary material online, *Figure S1*).

#### **Discussion**

The major findings of this study following 1-year outcomes were as follows: (i) among these with AMICS who underwent PCI, the PCI success rate, major in-hospital bleeding rate, and in-hospital mortality were 84.5%, 14.6%, and 28.7%, respectively; (ii) lower estimated glomerular filtration rate, IABP or ECMO support, left main coronary artery culprit lesion, longer door-to-device time, and switching between prasugrel and clopidogrel were independent determinants of major in-hospital bleeding; and (iii) major in-hospital bleeding was associated with all-cause mortality.

CS is defined as a state of critical end-organ hypoperfusion and hypoxia due to reduced cardiac output, and is the leading cause of

death in patients with AMI. 1,2 The previous studies reported that CS occurs in 3–13% of patients with AMI. 1,2 Indeed, in this study, among 3082 patients with AMI who underwent PCI, 335 (10.9%) had CS as a complication. The SHOCK (Should We Emergently Revascularize Occluded Coronaries for Cardiogenic Shock) trial demonstrated improved short- and long-term survival with early mechanical revascularization in patients with AMICS. 17,18 Emergency revascularization with either PCI or coronary artery bypass grafting irrespective of the time delay from symptom onset is a guideline-recommended therapy for patients with AMICS. 1-4 However, despite therapeutic advances, especially early revascularization, the mortality of AMICS remained high, in the range of 40–50%, during the last two decades. 1,2 In this study, the in-hospital mortality rate was as high as 28.7% in patients with AMICS, indicating that the management of patients with AMICS is still challenging even in the primary PCI era. Mechanical circulatory support devices for haemodynamic support failed to show an improvement in mortality in patients with AMICS. 1,5,6,19 In the IABP-SHOCK II trial, IABP could not reduce 30-day mortality in this population.<sup>5,19</sup> Also, recent retrospective studies could not demonstrate the superiority of Impella heart pump support on survival compared to IABP support. 6,20,21 It can be speculated that the haemodynamic effect provided by the Impella might be neutralized by the higher incidence of peripheral vascular complications, including severe or lifethreatening bleeding.

In the recent study performed as a pre-defined sub-analysis of the randomized CULPRIT-SHOCK (PCI Strategies in Patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction and Cardiogenic Shock) trial, patients

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Adjusted for variables with a *P*-value <0.1 in univariate analyses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Major in-hospital bleeding was defined as Bleeding Academic Research Consortium types 3 and 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup>Large infarct size estimated using peak CPK was defined by peak CPK higher than the median peak CPK (2.857 IU/L).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup>Longer door-to-device time was defined as longer than the median time (76 min).

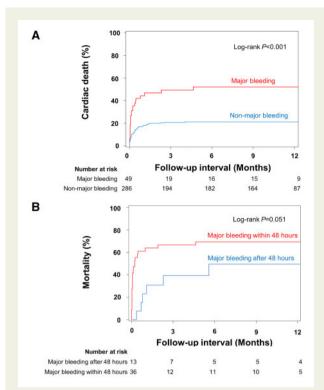


Figure 3 Kaplan-Meier curves. (A) Cumulative incidence curves for cardiac death in acute myocardial infarction complicated by cardiogenic shock patients with and without major in-hospital bleeding. (B) Cumulative incidence curves for all-cause mortality according to onset timing of major bleeding (major bleeding within 48 h vs. major bleeding after 48 h). Major in-hospital bleeding was defined as BARC types 3 and 5. AMICS, acute myocardial infarction complicated by cardiogenic shock; BARC, Bleeding Academic Research Consortium.

with any bleeding (BARC types 1–5) had a significantly higher probability of short-term mortality at 30 days. However, there have been few reports evaluating the relationship between major inhospital bleeding and 1-year mortality in patients with AMICS, which addressed in this study. The unique features of the real-world JAMIR study are that it provides detailed data on emergency care, including ambulance use, primary PCI and door-to-balloon time, and that it explores the impact of major in-hospital bleeding on 1-year all-cause mortality in patients with AMICS who underwent PCI. Indeed, compared to patients in the randomized CULPRIT SHOCK trial, those in the JAMIR were older, and had higher rates of comorbidities (e.g. diabetes mellitus, previous stroke and advanced stages of chronic kidney disease) and ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction. <sup>22</sup>

The present JAMIR study showed that major in-hospital bleeding, defined as BARC types 3 and 5 bleeding, occurred in 14.6% of patients with AMICS, and that renal dysfunction, IABP or ECMO support, left main coronary artery culprit lesion, door-to-device time, and switching between prasugrel and clopidogrel were associated with this adverse event. Moreover, this study also demonstrated that

major in-hospital bleeding was an independent predictor of all-cause mortality in this population. IABP and ECMO support require puncture of a femoral artery, insertion of a larger sheath and anticoagulant therapy, resulting in an increased risk of bleeding. 5,22,23 Additionally, impaired liver and renal function due to critical hypoperfusion affect drug metabolism and haemostasis, increasing bleeding in patients with AMICS.8 We recently reported that door-to-device time was shorter in more serious and unstable left main coronary arteryrelated AMI patients.<sup>24</sup> The present study demonstrated that doorto-device time was longer in the major bleeding group than the nonmajor bleeding group. The delay in reperfusion therapy for patients with AMICS might have further exacerbated multi-organ damage, resulting in bleeding events. As a result, patients with major bleeding might require discontinuation of antiplatelet therapy and might experience adverse effects of transfusion, all of which can lead to increased all-cause mortality. 15,16,25 And then, switching between prasugrel and clopidogrel was associated with major in-hospital bleeding in this study. Bioavailability of these orally administered antiplatelet agents and of their active metabolites might be influenced owing to impaired gastrointestinal absorption and to decreased metabolism by an ischaemic liver in shock states.<sup>26</sup> Although there are no randomized data on the impact of access site in AMICS and although this variable was not significantly different according to the multivariate analysis in this study, several studies reported that radial access might reduce bleeding complications and improve early outcomes in patients with AMICS. 27,28 Our results, together with those of previous studies, suggest that major in-hospital bleeding considerably affects all-cause mortality, and efforts are needed to reduce bleeding complications, for instance by employing radial access during PCI in patients with AMICS and shortening the duration of ischaemia and hypoperfusion.

#### **Limitations**

This study has several limitations. First, the number of participants in this study might have been too small to reach definitive conclusions. Second, this was an observational study, not a randomized controlled trial. Also, we could not perform a falsification analysis to evaluate the presence of any potential confounding, as appropriate falsification endpoints were unavailable within the dataset.<sup>29</sup> Since the study might involve selection bias and unmeasured confounders, further research is required to determine a causal relationship. Third, we did not compare outcomes between patients who initially underwent PCI of only the culprit lesion and those who underwent immediate multivessel PCI. Fourth, the JAMIR study did not include patients without return of spontaneous circulation on admission after out-ofhospital cardiac arrest. A recent study suggested that out-of-hospital cardiac arrest was associated with major bleeding.<sup>30</sup> Exclusion of these patients might affect the incidence of bleeding. Fifth, although all-cause mortality was not significantly different between patients with major in-hospital bleeding within 48 h and those with major inhospital bleeding after 48 h, since the pathophysiology might differ depending on the timing of bleeding, further studies are needed to evaluate this in greater detail. Finally, endpoint adjudication by local

investigators, mixed follow-up periods, and lack of detailed causes of death were also limitations of this study.

### **Conclusions**

This real-world study of JAMIR following 1-year outcomes demonstrated that major in-hospital bleeding is associated with all-cause mortality in patients with AMICS who undergo PCI.

# Supplementary material

Supplementary material is available at European Heart Journal: Acute Cardiovascular Care online.

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