

**O127****Impact of patient age on the performance of risk predictors in the reperfusion era**

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Aim of this study was to analyse the impact of patient age on the prognostic power of Heart Rate Turbulence (HRT) and other established risk predictors.

**Methods:** 1.657 consecutive patients with recent myocardial infarction presenting with sinus rhythm were prospectively enrolled. Minimum follow-up was 12 months (mean 22 months). 102 patients reached the primary endpoint (death of any cause). The following risk predictors were assessed: HRT-Onset and HRT-Slope, SDNN, SDANN, RMSSD, HRV triangular index, mean heart rate, number of VPCs, LVEF. For each variable, the area under the receiver-operator curve (AUC) was assessed in 10-year segments (sliding window technique). A segment was accepted for calculation of AUC if it contained  $\geq 10$  endpoints.

**Results:** The prognostic value of HRT-Onset and HRT-Slope, mean heart rate and that of RMSSD decreases with increasing age. In contrast, the prognostic value of SDNN, SDANN, HRV triangular index, number of VPCs and that of LVEF was practically unaffected by age.

**Conclusion:** The predictive power of HRT-Onset, HRT-Slope, mean heart rate and RMSSD declines with advanced age. For elderly patients, specific risk stratification protocols should be developed.