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Diabetic cardiovascular disease: An unmet medical need: What works and what doesn't?

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The major cause of death and complications in patients with type 2 diabetes is cardiovascular disease. More than 60% of all patients with type 2 diabetes die of cardiovascular disease, and an even greater percentage have serious complications. The impact of glucose lowering on cardiovascular complications is a hotly debated issue and recent large clinical trials, the Action in Diabetes and Vascular Disease (ADVANCE), Action to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes (ACCORD) and Veterans Affairs Diabetes Trial (VADT) reported no significant decrease in cardiovascular events with intensive glucose control. Risk remains high even after correcting diabetes-associated dyslipidemia (high triglycerides and low HDL). Several mechanisms are likely to contribute to the accelerated atherosclerosis and increased cardiovascular disease risk seen in type 2 diabetics. Of these, post prandial glycemia/lipemia, insulin resistance and inflammation may be the most important and under controlled contributing factors to vascular disease. We will review current therapies and review emerging research and therapeutic approaches that target these pathological mechanisms that contribute to cardiovascular disease in diabetes.

Biography

Sivaram Pillarisetti currently heads Research at Kareus Therapeutics with focus on discovery and development of novel therapeutics to treat diabetes and pain. The diabetes drug from Kareus Therapeutics is currently entering Phase 1. Prior to that Dr. Pillarisetti was a vice president and head of Research at Dr. Reddy Laboratories US. There he oversaw cardiovascular drug discovery program focusing on atherosclerosis and dyslipidemia (currently in Phase 2). Prior to that Dr. Pillarisetti was an Assistant professor at Columbia University and Albert Einstein College of Medicine and was an Investigator of the American Heart Association NY. He has over 60 publications and patents.

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