

Colchicine: A Promising Adjunct for Secondary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease

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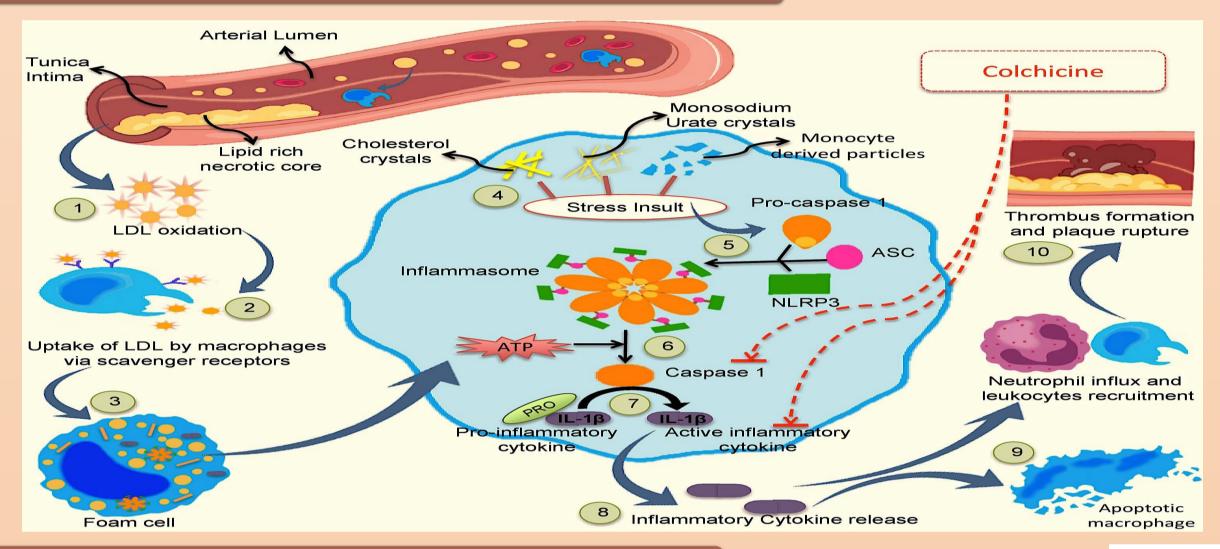
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Background:

- Colchicine, a well-known anti-inflammatory drug, has primarily been used for the treatment of acute gout and pericarditis.
- Recently its use has been expanding with the latest indication being an adjunct for secondary cardiovascular prophylaxis.
- Inflammation serves as a key component in the development of atherosclerosis and acute coronary events.
- Theoretically, we could use colchicine to mitigate inflammation, thereby reducing the risk of cardiovascular events in CAD patients.
- We did a literature review to assess the role of colchicine for cardiovascular protection.

Mechanism of Action of Colchicine for Secondary Prophylaxis of ACS:



Trials proving potential use of colchicine as an anti-inflammatory:

2012 LoDoCo

2019

2020



COLCOT

- Open label trial involving 532 patients
- Adding colchicine to standard therapy significantly reduced the risk of cardiovascular events
- Randomized, double-blind trial involving 4745 patients
- Colchicine 0.5mg daily led to significant low risk of ischemic cardiovascular disease compared to placebo

LoDoCo-2

- International multi-center randomized controlled doubleblind trial involving 5525 patients
- 0.5mg/day colchicine significantly reduced the risk of cardiovascular events in patients with chronic coronary disease

Key Messages:

- Owing to its widespread availability, low cost, and ease of administration, colchicine could be a major breakthrough, especially in developing nations.
- The LoDoCo2 trial gave a Grade 2B recommendation to add colchicine 0.5 mg/day in patients with stable coronary artery disease, as an adjunct to other secondary preventive strategies, e.g. statins, aspirin, etc.
- However, colchicine raises the issue of the long-term safety of anti-inflammatory therapy

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