

# **2008 ESC GUIDELINES: Management of acute myocardial infarction in patients presenting with persistent ST-segment elevation (STEMI)**

# 2008 ESC STEMI GUIDELINES: Task Force

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# Key Messages remain unchanged:

- Early diagnosis
- Reperfusion therapy as soon as possible
- Optimal secondary prevention

# Main Differences with 2003 Guidelines

- Early pre-hospital diagnosis/triage and networks
- Selection criteria for primary PCI vs. fibrinolytic therapy
- Antithrombotic co-therapies
- Angiography in patients not undergoing primary PCI
- Secondary prevention

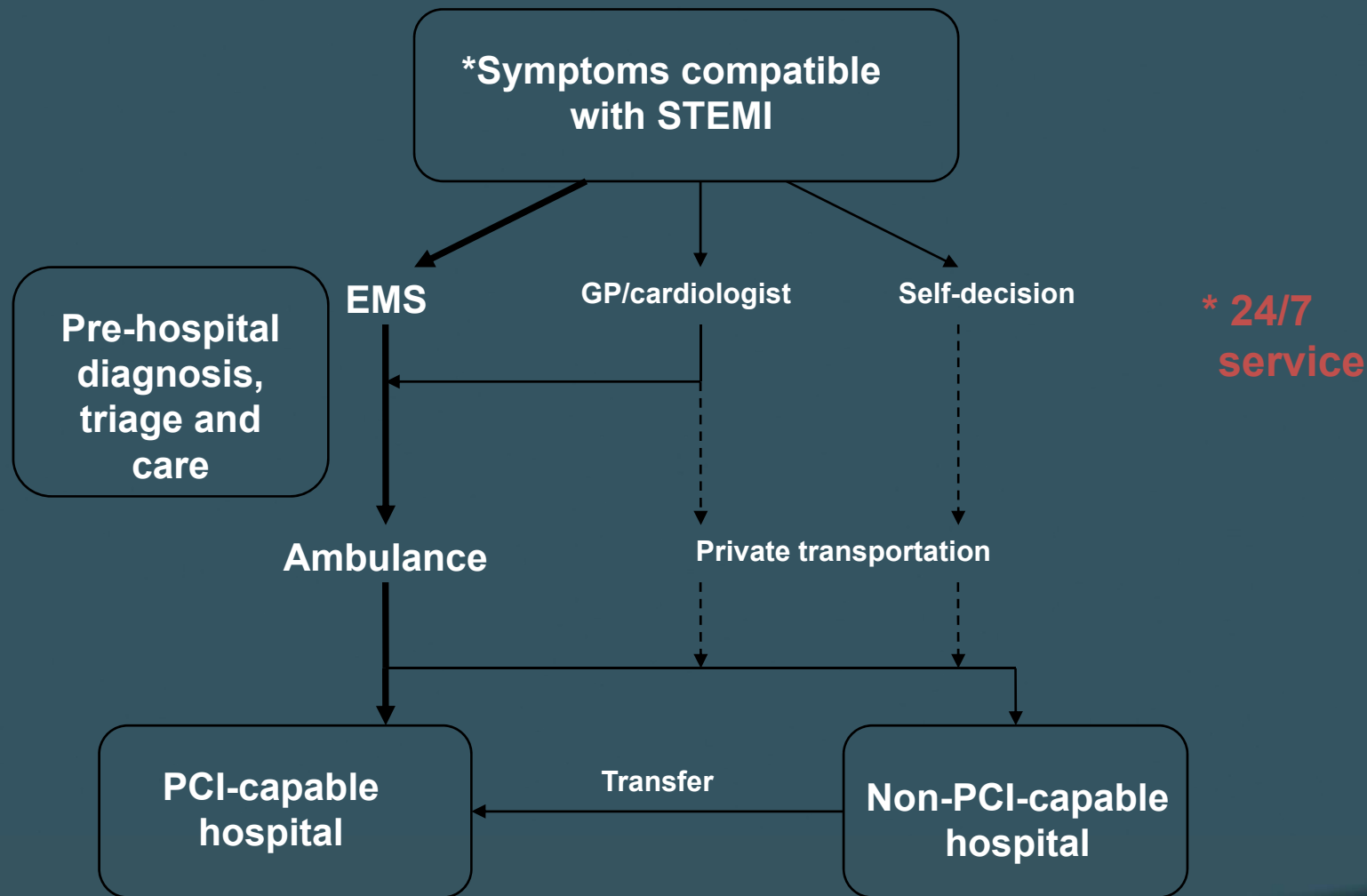
# Classes of Recommendations

| Classes of Recommendations | Definition                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Class I</b>             | Evidence and / or general agreement that a given treatment or procedure is beneficial, useful, effective.                        |
| <b>Class II</b>            | Conflicting evidence and / or a divergence of opinion about the usefulness / efficacy of the given treatment or procedure.       |
| <i>Class IIa</i>           | Weight of evidence / opinion is in favour of usefulness / efficacy.                                                              |
| <i>Class IIb</i>           | Usefulness / efficacy is less well established by evidence / opinion.                                                            |
| <b>Class III</b>           | Evidence or general agreement that the given treatment or procedure is not useful / effective, and in some cases may be harmful. |

# Levels of Evidence

|                            |                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Level of Evidence A</b> | <b>Data derived from multiple randomized clinical trials or meta-analyses.</b>                      |
| <b>Level of Evidence B</b> | <b>Data derived from a single randomized clinical trial or large non-randomized studies.</b>        |
| <b>Level of Evidence C</b> | <b>Consensus of opinion of the experts and/or small studies, retrospective studies, registries.</b> |

# Pre-hospital Management



EMS: Emergency Medical System; STEMI: Acute ST-segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction; GP: General Practitioner; PCI: Percutaneous Coronary Intervention  
Thick arrows: preferred patient flow; dotted line: to be avoided

# Initial Diagnosis

- History of chest pain / discomfort
- Persistent ST-segment elevation or (presumed) new LBBB. Repeated ECG recordings often needed
- Elevated markers of myocardial necrosis (CK-MB, troponins). One should not wait for the results to initiate reperfusion treatment
- 2-D echocardiography to rule out major acute myocardial ischaemia and other causes of chest pain / discomfort

# Relief of Pain, Breathlessness and Anxiety

| Recommendations                                                                          | Class | LOE |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| i.v. opioids (4 to 8 mg morphine) with additional doses of 2 mg at 5 to 15 min intervals | I     | C   |
| O <sub>2</sub> (2–4 L/min) if breathlessness or other signs of heart failure             | I     | C   |
| Tranquilliser - in very anxious patients                                                 | Ila   | C   |

# Reperfusion Therapy

[www.escardio.org](http://www.escardio.org)



# Reperfusion Therapy

| Recommendations                                                                                                             | Class | LOE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| ■ Indicated in all pts with chest pain/discomfort of < 12 h and with persistent ST-segment elevation or (presumed) new LBBB | I     | A   |
| ■ Should be considered if there is clinical and/or ECG evidence of ongoing ischaemia if symptoms started > 12 h before      | IIa   | C   |
| ■ Reperfusion (PCI) in stable pts presenting > 12 h to 24 h after symptom onset                                             | IIb   | B   |
| ■ PCI of totally occluded infarct artery in stable pts > 24 h after symptom onset without signs of ischaemia                | III   | B   |

# Reperfusion Therapy: Primary PCI

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                              | Class | LOE |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Preferred reperfusion treatment if performed by an experienced team as soon as possible after FMC</li> </ul>                                                        | I     | A   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Time from FMC to balloon should be &lt; 2 h in any case and &lt; 90 min in pts presenting early (e.g. &lt; 2 h) with large infarct and low bleeding risk</li> </ul> | I     | B   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Indicated for patients in shock and those with contraindications to fibrinolytic therapy irrespective of time delay</li> </ul>                                      | I     | B   |
| <u>Rescue PCI</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ After failed fibrinolysis in patients with large infarcts if performed within 12 h</li> </ul>                                                     | IIa   | A   |

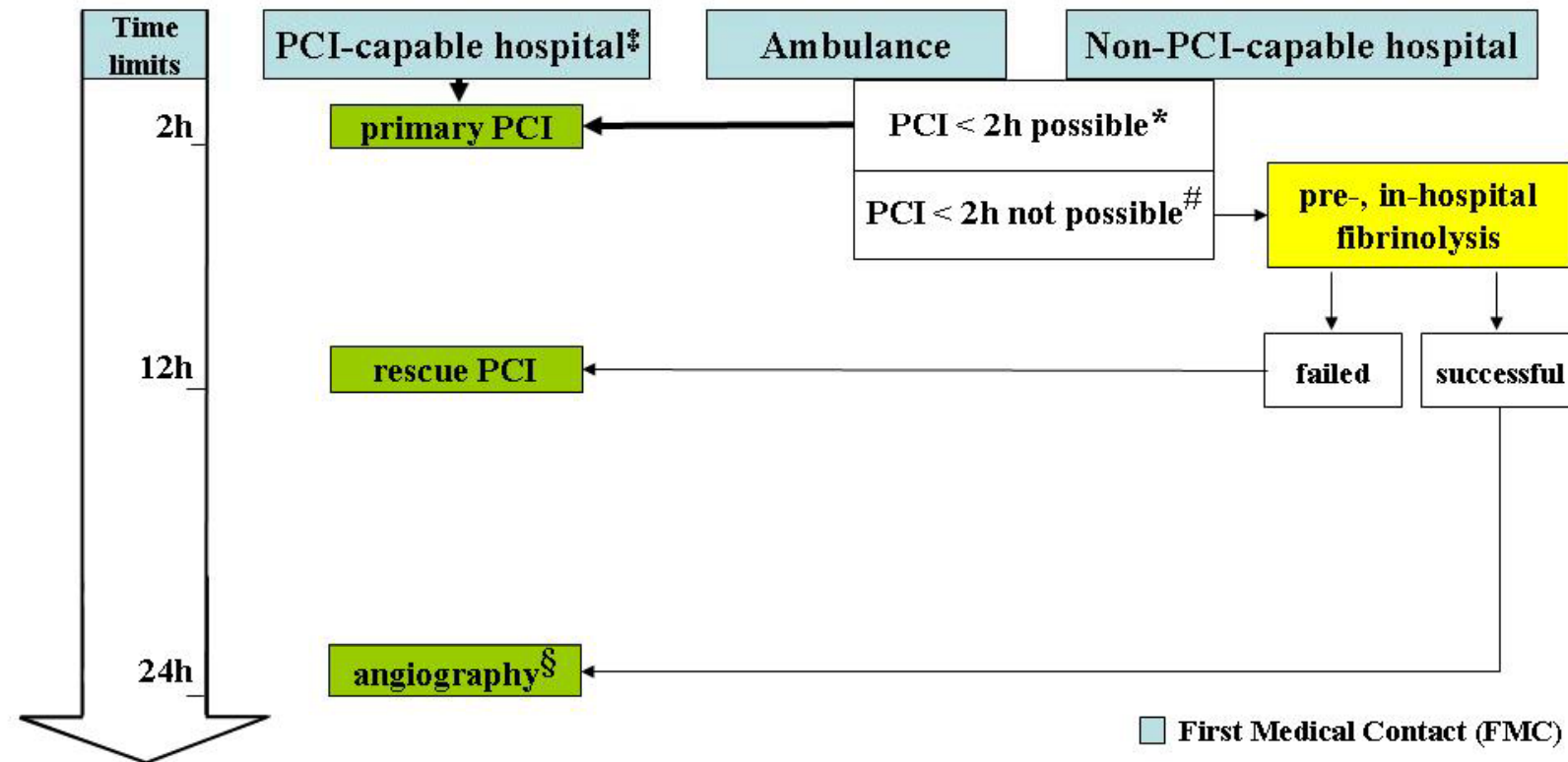


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# Reperfusion Therapy: Fibrinolytic Therapy

| Recommendations                                                                                          | Class | LOE |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| ■ In the absence of contraindications and if primary PCI cannot be performed within the recommended time | I     | A   |
| ■ A fibrin-specific agent should be given                                                                | I     | B   |
| ■ Pre-hospital initiation of fibrinolytic therapy                                                        | Ila   | A   |

# Reperfusion Strategies



\* Time FMC to first balloon inflation must be shorter than 90 min in patients presenting early (< 2 h after symptom onset), with large amount of viable myocardium and low risk of bleeding.

# If PCI is not possible < 2 h of FMC, start fibrinolytic therapy as soon as possible.

§ Not earlier than 3 h after start fibrinolysis

‡ 24/7 service

# Primary PCI: Adjunctive Therapies

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Class                                                                                                                                                                | LOE                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Antiplatelet co-therapy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ aspirin</li> <li>□ NSAID and COX-2 selective inhibitors</li> <li>□ clopidogrel loading dose</li> <li>□ GPIIb/IIIa antagonist                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ abciximab</li> <li>▪ tirofiban</li> <li>▪ eptifibatide</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>■ <b>Antithrombin co-therapy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ heparin</li> <li>□ bivalirudin</li> <li>□ fondaparinux</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ <b>Adjunctive devices</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ thrombus aspiration</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I</li> <li>III</li> <li>I</li> <li>IIa</li> <li>IIb</li> <li>IIb</li> <li>I</li> <li>IIa</li> <li>III</li> <li>IIb</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>B</li> <li>B</li> <li>C</li> <li>A</li> <li>B</li> <li>C</li> <li>C</li> <li>B</li> <li>B</li> <li>B</li> </ul> |

# Fibrinolytic Therapy: Antithrombotic Co-therapy

| Recommendations                                                                                                                | Class | LOE |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b>■ <u>Antiplatelet co-therapy</u></b>                                                                                        |       |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> if not already on aspirin oral (soluble or chewable / no enteric-coated) or i.v. dose of aspirin plus | I     | B   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> clopidogrel oral loading dose if age $\leq 75$ years                                                  | I     | B   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> if age $> 75$ years start with maintenance dose                                                       | Ila   | B   |

# Fibrinolytic Therapy: Antithrombotic Co-therapy

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Class | LOE |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <u>Antithrombin co-therapy</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ with <u>alteplase</u>, <u>reteplase</u> and <u>tenecteplase</u>:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <u>enoxaparin</u> i.v. bolus followed 15 min later by first s.c. dose; if age &gt; 75 years no i.v. bolus and start with reduced first s.c. dose</li> <li>■ if enoxaparin is not available: a weight-adjusted bolus of i.v. <u>heparin</u> followed by a weight-adjusted i.v. infusion with first aPTT control after 3 h</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> | I     | A   |

# Fibrinolytic therapy: Antithrombotic Co-therapy

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Class | LOE |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b><u>Antithrombin co-therapy</u></b><br><br><b>□ with <u>streptokinase</u>:</b><br><br><b>■ an i.v. bolus of <u>fondaparinux</u> followed by a s.c. dose 24 h later or</b><br><br><b>■ <u>enoxaparin</u> i.v. bolus followed 15 min later by first s.c. dose; if age &gt; 75 years no i.v. bolus and start with reduced s.c. dose</b><br><br><b>■ or weight-adjusted dose of i.v. <u>heparin</u> followed by weight-adjusted infusion</b> | Ila   | B   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Ila   | B   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Ila   | C   |

# Contraindications to Fibrinolytic Therapy (1)

- **Absolute contraindications**
  - Haemorrhagic stroke or stroke of unknown origin at any time
  - Ischaemic stroke in preceding 6 months
  - Central nervous system trauma or neoplasms
  - Recent major trauma/surgery/head injury (within preceding 3 weeks)
  - Gastro-intestinal bleeding within the last month
  - Known bleeding disorder
  - Aortic dissection
  - Non-compressible punctures (e.g. liver biopsy, lumbar puncture)

# Contraindications to Fibrinolytic Therapy (2)

- **Relative contraindications**
  - Transient ischaemic attack in preceding 6 months
  - Oral anticoagulant therapy
  - Pregnancy or within 1 week post partum
  - Refractory hypertension (SBP > 180 mmHg and/or DBP > 110 mmHg)
  - Advanced liver disease
  - Infective endocarditis
  - Active peptic ulcer
  - Refractory resuscitation

# Doses of Fibrinolytic Agents

|                               | Initial treatment                                                                                                                       | Specific contraindications |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Streptokinase (SK)</b>     | 1.5 million units over 30-60 min i.v.                                                                                                   | Prior SK or anistreplase   |
| <b>Alteplase (t-PA)</b>       | 15 mg i.v. bolus<br>0.75 mg/kg over 30 min then<br>0.5 mg/kg over 60 min i.v.<br>Total dosage not to exceed 100 mg                      |                            |
| <b>Reteplase (r-PA)</b>       | 10 U + 10 U i.v. bolus given 30 min apart                                                                                               |                            |
| <b>Tenecteplase (TNK-tPA)</b> | Single i.v. bolus<br>30 mg if < 60 kg<br>35 mg if 60 to < 70 kg<br>40 mg if 70 to < 80 kg<br>45 mg if 80 to < 90 kg<br>50 mg if ≥ 90 kg |                            |

# Antithrombotic Treatment without Reperfusion Therapy

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                      | Class | LOE |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b><u>Antiplatelet co-therapy</u></b>                                                                                                                                                |       |     |
| ■ if not already on <u>aspirin</u> oral (soluble or chewable / no enteric-coated) or i.v. dose of aspirin                                                                            | I     | A   |
| ■ oral dose of <u>clopidogrel</u>                                                                                                                                                    | I     | B   |
| <b><u>Antithrombin co-therapy</u></b>                                                                                                                                                |       |     |
| ■ i.v. bolus of <u>fondaparinux</u> followed 24 h later by s.c. dose                                                                                                                 | I     | B   |
| ■ if fondaparinux is not available: <u>enoxaparin</u> i.v. bolus followed 15 min later by first s.c. dose; if age > 75 years no i.v. bolus and start with reduced first s.c. dose or | I     | B   |
| ■ i.v. <u>heparin</u> followed by a weight-adjusted i.v. infusion with first aPTT control after 3 h                                                                                  | I     | B   |

# Doses of Antiplatelet Co-therapies

## With Primary PCI

|                               |                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Aspirin:</b>               | <b>Oral dose of 150-325 mg or i.v. dose of 250 to 500 mg if oral ingestion is not possible</b>                         |
| <b>Clopidogrel:</b>           | <b>Oral loading dose of 300 or 600 mg</b>                                                                              |
| <b>GPIIb/IIIa inhibitors:</b> | <b>Abciximab: i.v. bolus of 0.25 mg/kg bolus followed by 0.125 µg/kg per min infusion (maximum 10 µg/min for 12 h)</b> |

# Doses of Antiplatelet Co-therapies

## With Fibrinolytic Treatment

**Aspirin:** Oral dose of 150-325 mg or i.v. dose of 250 mg if oral ingestion is not possible

**Clopidogrel:** Loading dose of 300 mg if age  $\leq$  75 years; 75 mg if age  $>$  75 years

# Doses of Antiplatelet Co-therapies

## Without Reperfusion Therapy

**Aspirin:** Oral dose of 150-325 mg

**Clopidogrel:** Oral dose of 75 mg

# Doses of Antithrombin Co-therapies

## With Primary PCI

**Heparin:** i.v. bolus at a usual starting dose of 100 U/kg weight (60 U/kg if GPIIb/IIIa antagonists are used). If the procedure is being performed under activated clotting time (ACT) guidance, heparin is given at a dose able to maintain an ACT of 250 to 350 s (200-250 s if GPIIb/IIIa antagonists are used). Infusion should be stopped after sheath removal.

**Bivalirudin:** i.v. bolus of 0.75 mg/kg followed by an infusion of 1.75 mg/kg/h not titrated to ACT and usually terminated at the end of the procedure.

# Doses of Antithrombin Co-therapies

## With Fibrinolytic Treatment

- Enoxaparin:** In patients < 75 years and creatinine levels  $\leq 2.5$  mg/mL or  $\leq 221$   $\mu$ mol/L (men) or  $\leq 2$  mg/ml or 177  $\mu$ mol/L (women): i.v. bolus of 30 mg followed 15 min later by s.c. dose of 1 mg/kg every 12 h until hospital discharge for a maximum of 8 days. The first two s.c. doses should not exceed 100 mg.  
In patients > 75 years: no i.v. bolus; start with first s.c. dose of 0.75 mg/kg with a maximum of 75 mg for the first two s.c. doses. In patients with creatinine clearance of < 30 mL/min, regardless of age, the s.c. doses are repeated every 24 h
- Heparin:** i.v. bolus of 60 U/kg with a maximum of 4000 U followed by an i.v. infusion of 12 U/kg with a maximum of 1000 U/h for 24 to 48 h. Target aPTT: 50-70 s to be monitored at 3, 6, 12 and 24 h
- Fondaparinux:** 2.5 mg i.v. bolus followed by a s.c. dose of 2.5 mg once daily up to 8 days or hospital discharge if creatinine  $\leq 3$  mg/mL or 265  $\mu$ mol/L

# Doses of Antithrombin Co-therapies

## Without Reperfusion Therapy

Fondaparinux, enoxaparin,  
heparin:

Same dose as with fibrinolytics

# Angiography after Fibrinolytic Therapy

| Recommendations                                                                                  | Class      | LOE      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Evidence of failed fibrinolysis or uncertainty about success: <u>immediate</u>                   | <b>IIa</b> | <b>B</b> |
| Recurrent ischaemia, reocclusion after initial successful fibrinolysis: <u>immediate</u>         | <b>I</b>   | <b>B</b> |
| Evidence of successful fibrinolysis: <u>within 3 to 24 h</u> after start of fibrinolytic therapy | <b>IIa</b> | <b>A</b> |
| In unstable patients who did not receive reperfusion therapy: <u>immediate</u>                   | <b>I</b>   | <b>C</b> |
| In stable patients who did not receive reperfusion therapy: <u>before discharge</u>              | <b>IIb</b> | <b>C</b> |

# Grading of Coronary Flow

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>TIMI 0</b> | <b>There is no antegrade flow beyond the point of occlusion.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>TIMI 1</b> | <b>The contrast material passes beyond the area of obstruction, but "hangs up" and fails to opacify the entire coronary bed distal to the obstruction for duration of the cine run.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>TIMI 2</b> | <b>The contrast material passes across the obstruction and opacifies the coronary bed distal to the obstruction. However, the rate of entry of contrast material into the vessel distal to the obstruction or the rate of clearance from the distal bed (or both) are perceptibly slower than entry into or clearance from comparable areas not perfused by the previously occluded vessel, e.g., the opposite coronary artery or the coronary bed proximal to the obstruction.</b> |
| <b>TIMI 3</b> | <b>Antegrade flow into the bed distal to the obstruction occurs as promptly as antegrade flow into the bed proximal to the obstruction, and clearance of contrast material from the involved bed is as rapid as clearance from an uninvolved bed in the same vessel or the opposite artery.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                     |

# Grading of Myocardial Blush

|              |                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MBG 0</b> | <b>No myocardial blush or staining of blush (due to leakage of dye into the extravascular space)</b>                                          |
| <b>MBG 1</b> | <b>Minimal myocardial blush</b>                                                                                                               |
| <b>MBG 2</b> | <b>Moderate myocardial blush, less than that obtained during angiography of a contralateral or ipsilateral non-infarct-related artery</b>     |
| <b>MBG 3</b> | <b>Normal myocardial blush, comparable with that obtained during angiography of a contralateral or ipsilateral non-infarct-related artery</b> |

# Recommendations for Prevention and Treatment of No-reflow

| Recommendations                                                       | Class | LOE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b><u>Prevention</u></b>                                              |       |     |
| ■ Thrombus aspiration                                                 | IIa   | B   |
| ■ Abciximab 0.25 mg/kg bolus and 0.125 µg/kg/min infusion for 12-24 h | IIa   | B   |
| <b><u>Treatment</u></b>                                               |       |     |
| ■ Adenosine: 70 µg/kg/min i.v. over 3 h i.v. during and after PCI     | IIb   | B   |
| ■ Adenosine: bolus of 30 to 60 µg i.c. during PCI                     | IIb   | C   |
| ■ Verapamil: bolus 0.5 -1 mg i.c. during PCI                          | IIb   | C   |

# Haemodynamic States

## Normal

Normal blood pressure, heart and respiration rates, good peripheral circulation

## Hyperdynamic State

Tachycardia, loud heart sounds, good peripheral circulation

# Haemodynamic States

## Hypotension

- Bradycardia:** 'warm hypotension', bradycardia, venodilatation, normal jugular venous pressure, decreased tissue perfusion. Usually in inferior infarction, but may be provoked by opiates. Responds to atropine or pacing
- RV infarction:** high jugular venous pressure, poor tissue perfusion or shock, bradycardia, hypotension
- Hypovolaemia:** venoconstriction, low jugular venous pressure, poor tissue perfusion. Responds to fluid infusion

# Haemodynamic States

## Pump Failure

**Pulmonary congestion:** tachycardia, tachypnoea, basal rales

**Pulmonary oedema:** tachycardia, tachypnoea, rales over 50 % of lung fields

**Cardiogenic shock:** clinical signs of poor tissue perfusion (oliguria, decreased mentation), hypotension, small pulse pressure, tachycardia, pulmonary oedema

# Treatment of Pump Failure and Cardiogenic Shock (I)

| Recommendations                                                                                | Class | LOE |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <u>Treatment of mild heart failure (Killip class II)</u>                                       |       |     |
| ■ O <sub>2</sub>                                                                               | I     | C   |
| ■ Loop diuretics: i.e. furosemide: 20–40 mg i.v. repeated at 1–4 hourly intervals if necessary | I     | C   |
| ■ nitrates: if no hypotension                                                                  | I     | C   |
| ■ ACE-inhibitor in the absence of hypotension, hypovolaemia or renal failure                   | I     | A   |
| ■ angiotensin receptor blocker (valsartan) if ACE-inhibitor is not tolerated                   | I     | B   |

# Treatment of Pump Failure and Cardiogenic Shock (II)

| Recommendations                                             | Class | LOE |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <u>Treatment of severe heart failure (Killip class III)</u> |       |     |
| ■ O <sub>2</sub>                                            | I     | C   |
| ■ ventilatory support according to blood gasses             | I     | C   |
| ■ furosemide: cfr. supra                                    | I     | C   |
| ■ nitrates if no hypotension                                | I     | C   |
| ■ inotropic agents: dopamine                                | IIb   | C   |
| and/or dobutamine                                           | IIa   | B   |
| ■ haemodynamic assessment with balloon floating catheter    | IIb   | B   |
| ■ early revascularization                                   | I     | C   |

# Treatment of Pump Failure and Cardiogenic Shock (III)

| Recommendations                                           | Class | LOE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <u>Treatment of shock (Killip class IV)</u>               |       |     |
| ■ O <sub>2</sub>                                          | I     | C   |
| ■ mechanical ventilatory support according to blood gases | I     | C   |
| ■ haemodynamic assessment with balloon floating catheter  | IIb   | C   |
| ■ inotropic agents: dopamine                              | IIb   | B   |
| and dobutamine                                            | IIa   | C   |
| ■ intra-aortic balloon pump                               | I     | C   |
| ■ LV assist devices                                       | IIa   | C   |
| ■ early revascularization                                 | I     | B   |

# Management of Arrhythmias and Conduction Disturbances in the Acute Phase

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Class             | LOE         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| <u>Haemodynamically unstable VT and VF:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DC cardioversion</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | I                 | C           |
| <u>Haemodynamically unstable, sustained monomorphic VT refractory to DC cardioversion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ i.v. amiodarone</li> <li>▪ or lidocaine or sotalol*</li> <li>▪ transvenous catheter pace termination if refractory to cardioversion or frequently recurrent despite antiarrhythmic medication</li> </ul> | IIa<br>IIa<br>IIa | B<br>C<br>C |

\*i.v. sotalol or other  $\beta$ -blockers should not be given if EF is low, DC: direct current, LV: left ventricular, AV: atrio-ventricular, i.v.: intravenous, VT: ventricular tachycardia, LMWH: low-molecular-weight heparin.

# Management of Arrhythmias and Conduction Disturbances in the Acute Phase

| Recommendations                                                                           | Class | LOE |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <u>Repetitive symptomatic salvos of non-sustained monomorphic VT</u>                      |       |     |
| ▪ i.v. amiodarone, sotalol* or other $\beta$ -blockers*                                   | IIa   | C   |
| <u>Polymorphic VT</u>                                                                     |       |     |
| □ If baseline QT is normal                                                                |       |     |
| ▪ i.v. sotalol* or other $\beta$ -blockers*, amiodarone or lidocaine                      | I     | C   |
| □ If baseline QT is prolonged                                                             |       |     |
| ▪ correct electrolytes, consider magnesium, overdrive pacing, isoproterenol, or lidocaine | I     | C   |
| ▪ urgent angiography should be considered                                                 | I     | C   |

\*i.v. sotalol or other  $\beta$ -blockers should not be given if EF is low. DC: direct current, AV: atrio-ventricular, VT: ventricular tachycardia, LMWH: low-molecular-weight heparin.

# Management of Arrhythmias and Conduction Disturbances in the Acute Phase

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                          | Class | LOE |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b><u>Rate control of atrial fibrillation</u></b>                                                                                                                                        |       |     |
| ■ i.v. beta blockers or non-dihydropyridine calcium antagonists (e.g. diltiazem, verapamil)**. If no clinical signs of heart failure, bronchospasm (only for beta blockers), or AV block | I     | C   |
| ■ i.v. amiodarone to slow a rapid ventricular response and improve LV function                                                                                                           | I     | C   |
| ■ i.v. digitalis if severe LV dysfunction and/or heart failure                                                                                                                           | IIb   | C   |
| ■ Electrical cardioversion if severe haemodynamic compromise or intractable ischaemia, or when adequate rate control cannot be achieved with pharmacological agents.                     | I     | C   |

\*\* These calcium antagonists should be used cautiously or avoided in patients with heart failure because of their negative inotropic effects.

DC: direct current, AV: atrio-ventricular, VT: ventricular tachycardia, LMWH: low-molecular-weight heparin.

# Management of Arrhythmias and Conduction Disturbances in the Acute Phase

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Class  | LOE    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| <u>Anticoagulation for atrial fibrillation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ i.v. administration of a therapeutic dose of heparin or a LMWH</li> </ul>                                                          | I      | C      |
| <u>Sinus bradycardia associated with hypotension</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ i.v. atropine</li> <li>■ temporary pacing if failed response to atropine</li> </ul>                                          | I<br>I | C<br>C |
| <u>AV block II (Mobitz 2) or AV block III</u><br>with bradycardia that causes hypotension or heart failure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ i.v. atropine</li> <li>■ temporary pacing if atropine fails</li> </ul> | I<br>I | C<br>C |

DC: direct current, AV: atrio-ventricular, VT: ventricular tachycardia,  
LMWH: low-molecular-weight heparin.

# Intravenous Doses of Recommended Antiarrhythmic Medications

| Drug         | Bolus                                                                                                                                                                   | Maintenance infusion                                                           |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Amiodarone:  | 150 mg over 10 min. Supplemental boluses of 150 mg may be given over 10 to 30 min for recurrent arrhythmias, but limited to 6-8 supplemental boluses in any 24-h period | 1 mg/min for 6 h and then 0.5 mg/min may be necessary after initial bolus dose |
| Esmolol:     | 500 µg/kg over 1 min, followed by 50 µg/kg/min over 4 min.                                                                                                              | 60 to 200 µg/kg/min                                                            |
| Metoprolol:  | 2.5 - 5 mg over 2 min; up to 3 doses                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                              |
| Atenolol:    | 5 - 10 mg (1 mg/min)                                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                              |
| Propranolol: | 0.15 mg/kg                                                                                                                                                              | -                                                                              |
| Digoxin:     | 0.25 mg each 2 h, up to 1.5 mg                                                                                                                                          | -                                                                              |
| Lidocaine:   | 0.5 - 0.75 mg/kg                                                                                                                                                        | -                                                                              |
| Sotalol:     | 20 - 120 mg over 10 min (0.5 - 1.5 mg/kg). May be repeated after 6 h (maximum 640 mg/24 h).                                                                             | -                                                                              |
| Verapamil:   | 0.075 - 0.15 mg/kg over 2 min                                                                                                                                           | -                                                                              |
| Diltiazem:   | 0.25 mg/kg over 2 min                                                                                                                                                   | -                                                                              |

## Intravenous Doses of Recommended Anti-bradycardia Medications

| Drug           | Bolus                                                                                    | Maintenance infusion |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Atropine:      | rapid bolus of at least 0.5 mg, repeated up to a total dose of 1.5 – 2.0 mg (0.04 mg/kg) | -                    |
| Isoproterenol: | 0.05 – 0.1 µg/kg/min, up to 2 µg/kg/min. Dosage adjusted to heart rate and rhythm        | -                    |

# Routine Prophylactic Therapies in the Acute Phase

| Recommendations                                      | Class | LOE |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| ■ Aspirin: maintenance dose of 75-100 mg             | I     | A   |
| ■ Clopidogrel: maintenance dose of 75 mg             | I     | A   |
| ■ Nonselective and selective COX-2 agents            | III   | C   |
| ■ i.v. beta-blocker                                  | IIb   | A   |
| ■ Oral beta-blocker                                  | I     | A   |
| ■ ACE inhibitor: oral formulation on first day       |       |     |
| □ for all patients in whom it is not contraindicated | IIa   | A   |
| □ for high-risk patients                             | I     | A   |
| ■ Nitrates                                           | IIb   | A   |
| ■ Calcium antagonists                                | III   | B   |
| ■ Magnesium                                          | III   | A   |
| ■ Lidocaine                                          | III   | B   |
| ■ Glucose-insulin-potassium infusion                 | III   | B   |

## Dosages of Inhibitors of the Renin-angiotensin-aldosterone System in Trials after Myocardial Infarction

|                    | Initial dosage                                                            | Target dosage        |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| GISSI-3 lisinopril | 5 mg initially                                                            | up to 10 mg daily    |
| ISIS-4 captopril   | 6.25 mg initially, 12.5 mg in 2 h, 25 mg at 10–12 h                       | up to 50 mg b.i.d.   |
| CHINESE captopril  | 6.25 mg initially, 12.5 mg 2 h later if tolerated                         | up to 12.5 mg t.i.d. |
| SMILE zofenopril   | 7.5 mg initially, repeated after 12 h and repeatedly doubled if tolerated | up to 30 mg b.i.d.   |
| AIRE ramipril      | 2.5 mg b.i.d. increased to 5 mg b.i.d. if tolerated                       | up to 5 mg b.i.d.    |
| SAVE captopril     | test of 6.25 mg, increased if tolerated to 25 mg t.i.d.                   | up to 50 mg t.i.d.   |
| TRACE trandolapril | test of 0.5 mg                                                            | up to 4 mg daily     |
| VALIANT valsartan  | 20 mg initially uptitrated in 4 steps                                     | up to 160 mg b.i.d.  |
| OPTIMAAL losartan  | 12.5 mg                                                                   | up to 50 mg daily    |
| EPHESUS eplerone   | 25 mg initially                                                           | up to 50 mg daily    |

# Imaging Modalities: Timing and Usefulness

|                                       | At presentation           | Within 48 h                              | Before and after discharge                             |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Echo at rest                          | if required for diagnosis | for LV function and presence of thrombus | for LV function, heart failure, shock or new murmur    |
| Stress ECG                            |                           |                                          | for ischaemia                                          |
| Stress perfusion SPECT                |                           |                                          | for viability and ischaemia, infarct size              |
| Stress echo                           |                           |                                          | for viability and ischaemia                            |
| PET (rest)                            |                           |                                          | for viability                                          |
| MRI (rest, stress, contrast-enhanced) |                           |                                          | for LV function, infarct size, viability and ischaemia |

Echo: transthoracic echocardiography or transoesophageal if required, MRI: magnetic resonance imaging, PET: positron emission tomography, SPECT: single photon emission computed tomography;

# Long-Term Medical Treatment

| Recommendations                                                                               | Class | LOE |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b><u>Antiplatelets</u></b>                                                                   |       |     |
| ■ Aspirin for ever (75 to 100 mg daily) in all patients without allergy                       | I     | A   |
| ■ Clopidogrel (75 mg daily) for 12 months in all patients irrespective of the acute treatment | IIa   | C   |
| ■ Clopidogrel (75 mg daily) in all patients with contraindication to aspirin                  | I     | B   |

# Long-Term Medical Treatment

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                             | Class | LOE |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b><u>Anticoagulants</u></b>                                                                                                                                |       |     |
| ■ Oral anticoagulant at INR 2-3 in patients who do not tolerate aspirin or clopidogrel                                                                      | IIa   | B   |
| ■ Oral anticoagulant at recommended INR when clinically indicated (e.g. atrial fibrillation, LV thrombus, mechanical valve)                                 | I     | A   |
| ■ Oral anticoagulant (at INR 2-3) in addition to low-dose aspirin (75-100 mg) in patients at high risk of thromboembolic events                             | IIa   | B   |
| ■ Oral anticoagulant in addition to aspirin and clopidogrel (recent stent placement plus indication for oral anticoagulation)*                              | IIb   | C   |
| ■ Oral anticoagulant in addition to clopidogrel or aspirin (recent stent placement plus indication for oral anticoagulation and increased risk of bleeding) | IIb   | C   |

\*If long-term oral anticoagulation is required use of a bare metal stent rather than a drug-eluting stent will expose the patient to a shorter duration of triple therapy and hence a lower bleeding risk

# Long-term Medical Treatment

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Class | LOE |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <u>Beta-blockers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Oral beta-blockers in all patients who tolerate these medications and without contraindications, regardless of blood pressure or LV function</li> </ul>                                                                                                               | I     | A   |
| <u>ACE-I and ARB</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ ACE-I should be considered in all patients without contraindications, regardless of blood pressure or LV function</li> <li>■ ARB in all patients without contraindications who do not tolerate ACE-inhibitors, regardless of blood pressure or LV function</li> </ul> | IIa   | A   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | IIa   | C   |
| <u>Statins</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Statins in all patients, in the absence of contraindications, irrespective of cholesterol levels, initiated as soon as possible to achieve LDLc &lt; 100 mg/dL (2.5 mmol/L)</li> </ul>                                                                                      | I     | A   |
| <u>Influenza immunization</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ In all patients</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | I     | B   |

# Long-term Management of Specific Coronary Risk Factors

| Recommendations                                                                       | Class | LOE |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b><u>Smoking cessation</u></b>                                                       |       |     |
| ■ Assess smoking status and advise to quit and to avoid passive smoking at each visit | I     | B   |
| ■ Bupropione and nicotine treatment in patients who keep smoking at follow-up         | I     | B   |
| ■ Antidepressants                                                                     | IIa   | C   |
| <b><u>Physical activity</u></b>                                                       |       |     |
| ■ Exercise test-guided moderate intensity aerobic exercise at least 5 times per week  | I     | B   |
| ■ Medically supervised rehabilitation programmes for high-risk patients               | I     | B   |
| <b><u>Diabetes management</u></b>                                                     |       |     |
| ■ Lifestyle changes and pharmacotherapy to achieve HbA1C < 6.5 %                      | I     | B   |
| ■ Intensive modification of other risk factors (hypertension, obesity, dyslipidaemia) | I     | B   |
| ■ Coordination with a physician specialized in diabetes                               | I     | C   |

## Long-term Management of Specific Coronary Risk Factors

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                    | Class | LOE |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b><u>Diet and weight reduction</u></b>                                                                                                            |       |     |
| ■ Weight reduction is recommended when BMI is $\geq 30$ kg/m <sup>2</sup> or more, and when waist circumference is more than 102/88 cm (men/women) | I     | B   |
| ■ Diet based on low intake of salt and saturated fats and regular intake of fruit, vegetables and fish                                             | I     | B   |
| ■ Increased consumption of omega-3 fatty acids (oily fish)                                                                                         | IIb   | B   |
| ■ Supplementation with 1 g of fish oil in patients with a low intake of oily fish                                                                  | IIa   | B   |
| ■ Moderate alcohol consumption should not be discouraged                                                                                           | I     | B   |
| <b><u>Blood pressure control</u></b>                                                                                                               |       |     |
| ■ Lifestyle changes and pharmacotherapy to achieve BP < 130/80 mmHg                                                                                | I     | A   |

## Long-term Management of Specific Coronary Risk Factors

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                | Class | LOE |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| <b><u>Lipid management</u></b>                                                                                                                                                 |       |     |
| ■ Statins in all patients, in the absence of contraindications, irrespective of cholesterol levels, initiated as soon as possible to achieve LDLc < 100 mg/dl (2.5 mmol/L)     | I     | A   |
| ■ Further reduction of LDLc < 80 mg/dL (2 mmol/L) should be considered in high risk patients                                                                                   | Ila   | A   |
| ■ Lifestyle change emphasized if TG > 150 mg/dL (1.7 mmol/L) and/or HDLc < 40 mg/dL (1.0 mmol/L)                                                                               | I     | B   |
| ■ Fibrates and omega-3 supplements should be considered in patients who do not tolerate statins, especially if TG > 150 mg/dL (1.7 mmol/L) and/or HDLc < 40 mg/dL (1.0 mmol/L) | Ila   | B   |



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# Long-term Management of Heart Failure or LV Dysfunction

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Class | LOE |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| ■ Oral beta-blockers in all patients without contraindications                                                                                                                                                      | I     | A   |
| ■ ACE-inhibitors in all patients without contraindications                                                                                                                                                          | I     | A   |
| ■ ARB (valsartan) in all patients without contraindications who do not tolerate ACE-inhibitors                                                                                                                      | I     | B   |
| ■ Aldosterone antagonists if EF $\leq$ 40% and signs of heart failure or diabetes if creatinine is $< 2.5$ mg/dL (221 $\mu$ mol/L) in men and $< 2.0$ mg/dL (177 $\mu$ mol/L) in women and potassium $< 5.0$ mmol/L | I     | B   |

# Long-term Management of Heart Failure or LV Dysfunction

| Recommendations                                                                                                                                                          | Class | LOE |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| ■ CRT in patients with EF $\leq$ 35% and QRS duration of $\geq$ 120 msec who remain in NYHA class III-VI in spite of optimal medical therapy if stunning can be excluded | I     | A   |
| ■ ICD if EF $\leq$ 30 % to 40 % and NYHA $\geq$ II or III at least 40 days after STEMI                                                                                   | I     | A   |
| ■ ICD if EF $\leq$ 30 % to 35 % and NYHA I at least 40 days after STEMI                                                                                                  | IIa   | B   |

# Recommended Logistics

- **Pre-hospital triage / care:**
  - EMS
    - unique telephone number
    - tele-consultation
  - Ambulance
    - 12-ECG recorder / defibrillator
    - staff able to provide basic and advanced life support
- **Networks:**
  - implementation of a network of hospitals with different levels of technology connected by an efficient ambulance service using the same protocol
- **Targets:**
  - < 10 min ECG transmission
  - < 5 min tele-consultation
  - < 120 min to first balloon inflation
  - < 30 min start fibrinolytic therapy

# 2008 ESC STEMI GUIDELINES: Task Force Meeting / Approval Dates

- Face-to-face meetings:
  - March 16, 2007
  - January 8, 2008
- Approval: August 19, 2008

# 2008 STEMI GUIDELINES: Acknowledgements

- Krista Bogaert, Roos Struyven and Anita Meuris, University of Leuven, Belgium
- Veronica Dean, Catherine Despres, ESC