Improving Clinical Decisions of Cardiologists' in Managing Patients Post-PCI (Micro-Practice Analysis)

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BACKGROUND

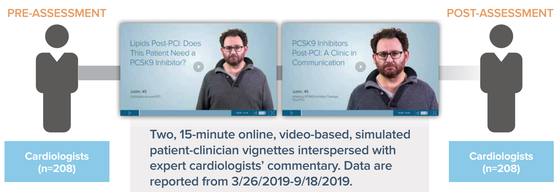
Proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 (PCSK9) inhibitors have demonstrated substantial additional lowering of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) when added to statin therapy, with a good safety profile.[1,2] However, the use of these effective medications in eligible patients is suboptimal. Physicians who manage patients with recent cardiovascular (CV) events and underlying dyslipidemia are often not able to implement evidence-based lipid-lowering strategies into clinical care, due to both physician and patient-related barriers, leaving their patients at risk for CV events.[3]

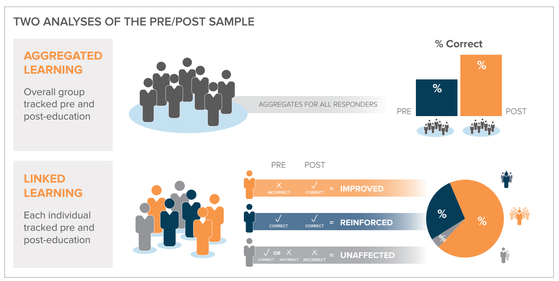
The objective of this educational outcomes analysis was to determine the impact of online, case-based CME with video vignettes that facilitate decision-making and communication, on cardiologists' competence related to:

- Implementation of monitoring and follow up strategies to improve outcomes for patients on PCSK9 therapy
- Using effective strategies to overcome barriers to initiation of PCSK9 inhibitor therapy
- Patient identification for PCSK9 inhibitor therapy post-percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)
- Tailoring lipid lowering therapy for patients with dyslipidemia post-PCI

METHODS

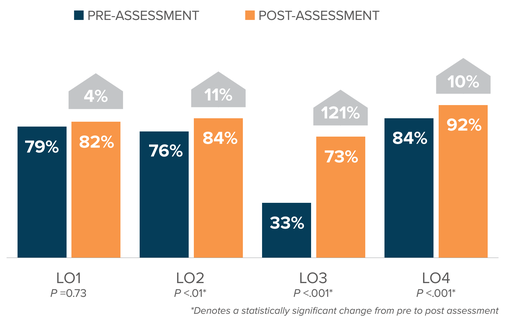
The educational effects were assessed using a repeated pairs pre-assessment/post-assessment study design, where individual participants served as his/her own control. McNemar's tests, *P* <.05, determined statistical significance. Learners who improved (answered ≥1 questions correctly pre-education than post) or were reinforced (answered equivalent number of questions correctly before and after education) were identified. Data are reported from March 26, 2019 to September 18, 2019.



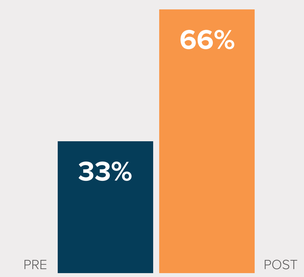


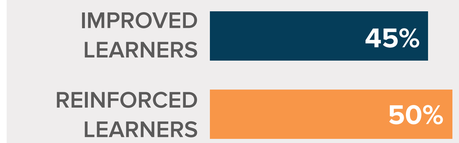
RESULTS

% CORRECT PRE/POST RESPONSES TO ALL QUESTIONS



AVERAGE % OF CORRECT RESPONSES





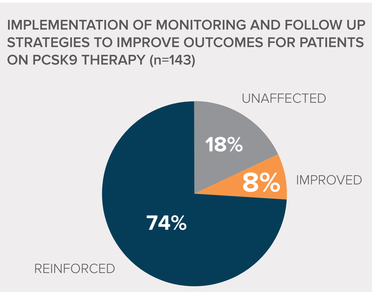
MCNEMAR'S CHI-SQUARE TEST

P <.001

SIGNIFICANCE (P <.05)

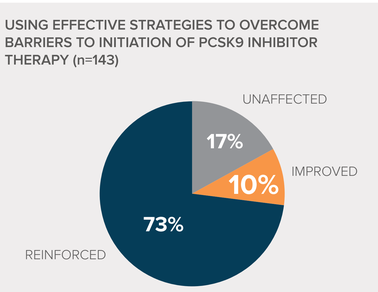
LO1 RESULTS

82% improved/reinforced competence related to implementation of monitoring and follow up strategies to improve outcomes for patients on PCSK9 inhibitor therapy



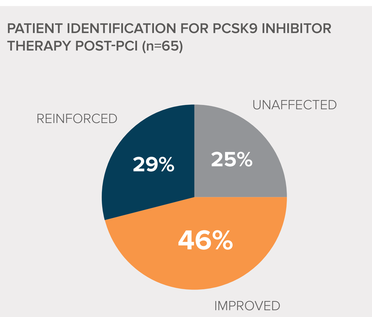
LO2 RESULTS

83% improved/reinforced competence regarding using effective strategies to overcome barriers to initiation of PCSK9 inhibitor therapy.



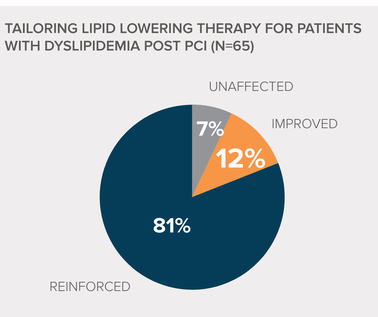
LO3 RESULTS

75% improved/reinforced competence related to patient identification for PCSK9 inhibitor therapy post-PCI.



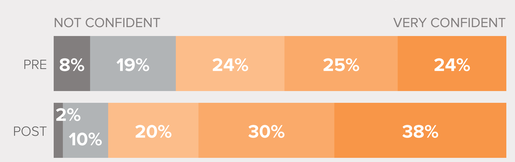
LO4 RESULTS

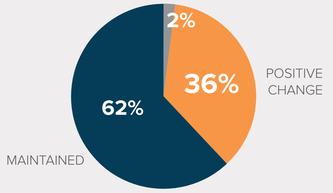
93% improved/reinforced competence related to tailoring lipid lowering therapy for patients with dyslipidemia post PCI.



SELF-EFFICACY RESULTS

Greater confidence in own ability to identify patients for PCSK9 therapy and understanding overcoming barriers.





CONCLUSION

- **This study demonstrated the effectiveness of online patient-clinician vignettes interspersed with expert commentary, which is in line with a Medscape study that showed 81% of EU doctors have a preference to learn with patient cases[4]**
- **This format provided both opportunities for reinforcement and improvement on clinical decisions of the cardiologists**
- **27% of cardiologists still need information on patient identification for PCSK9 inhibitor therapy post-PCI, warranting a need for further education within this area**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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