

# Efficacy of glyceryl trinitrate to facilitate the rewarming process during cardiopulmonary bypass

<b>Submission date</b> 05/08/2017	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 16/08/2017	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 13/08/2020	<b>Condition category</b> Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

Many types of cardiac (heart) surgery can only be performed with the patient being placed on a heart-lung bypass machine, otherwise known as cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB). The CPB circuit maintains a patient's cardiac output, blood pressure, oxygenation and removal of carbon dioxide, thereby keeping them alive whilst undergoing cardiac surgery. It is normal practice for a patient to be cooled whilst on the CPB machine for organ protection. Before a patient can be taken off or separated from the CPB machine their temperature has to be returned to normal, so there is a phase of rewarming before separation from the CPB machine. Glyceryl trinitrate (GTN) is a vasodilator drug that widens blood vessels. Currently it is left to the discretion of the individual anaesthetist to set the rate at which GTN is administered (infusion rate) during the rewarming phase of CPB. The infusion rate may have an impact on patient temperature and blood gas levels after the operation. There may be a slight benefit from an increased infusion rate of GTN during rewarming. The aim of this study is to find out whether an increased GTN infusion rate during the rewarming phase before separation from CPB will lead to a more thorough and complete rewarming.

### Who can participate?

Patients aged over 18 undergoing cardiac surgery requiring CPB

### What does the study involve?

Participants are randomly allocated to either the low or high dose GTN infusion rate during rewarming before separation from CPB. Their temperature is recorded after receiving anaesthesia, at rewarming from CPB, separation from CPB, application of surgical dressing (end of surgery) and arrival in the ICU.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Participating will help to improve care for patients undergoing cardiac surgery. GTN is already given to all patients undergoing cardiac surgery at different doses.

Where is the study run from?  
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital (Ireland)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?  
January 2017 to June 2019

Who is funding the study?  
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital (Ireland)

Who is the main contact?  
Dr Darren Mullane

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
Dr Darren Mullane

**Contact details**  
Mater Misericordiae Hospital  
Eccles Street  
Dublin  
Ireland  
7

## Additional identifiers

**EudraCT/CTIS number**  
2017-002785-44

**IRAS number**

**ClinicalTrials.gov number**

**Secondary identifying numbers**  
N/A

## Study information

**Scientific Title**  
Efficacy of glyceryl trinitrate to facilitate the rewarming process during cardiopulmonary bypass: a prospective randomised trial

**Study objectives**  
GTN is a vasodilator drug (widens blood vessels). It has been extensively used for coronary artery vasodilatation in patients with angina, and for blood pressure reduction both on a maintenance basis and intra-operatively. GTN has been used in a medical setting for more than 100 years.

GTN administration during the rewarming phase of CPB may potentially allow a more complete rewarming, washing out peripheral cold blood containing waste products such as lactate and reducing the tendency for the patients to cool down again after the rewarming process and following separation from CPB. Currently some cardiothoracic anaesthetists at the Mater Hospital use an increased rate of GTN infusion during the rewarming phase to vasodilate blood vessels potentially allowing a more complete washout of cold blood and waste products, facilitating the rewarming process. However, practice is heterogenous and there is no consensus approach.

One more commonly used GTN dosing regimen used at the Mater has not been examined in any robust way in the literature. An audit of Mater practice showed evidence that a GTN infusion at ~0.5mcg/kg/min caused a slower rewarming process but a more sustained normothermia post-operatively with lower lactate levels in the initial post-operative period. However, as this was merely an audit of current practice it is subject to considerable bias, given some anaesthetists use the increased GTN infusion rate during rewarming and some don't.

The trialists hypothesise that an increased GTN infusion rate during the rewarming phase prior to separation from CPB will lead to a more thorough and complete rewarming thereby reducing temperature falls and decreasing raised plasma lactate levels in the early post-operative period (whilst the patient is in ICU).

### **Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

### **Ethics approval(s)**

Mater Misericordiae University Hospital Institutional Review Board, 18/01/2017, ref: 1/378/1869

### **Study design**

Prospective randomised trial

### **Primary study design**

Interventional

### **Secondary study design**

Randomised controlled trial

### **Study setting(s)**

Hospital

### **Study type(s)**

Treatment

### **Participant information sheet**

Not available in web format, please use the contact details to request a patient information sheet

### **Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Cardiac surgery necessitating CPB

### **Interventions**

All patients scheduled to undergo cardiac surgery will be reviewed as per usual by the one of the cardiothoracic anaesthesia fellows, both of whom are part of the study team.

Patients, if eligible for the study, will be given a PIL and informed about the study. Following a cool off period to allow the patient time to consider their participation in the study if the patient wishes to participate in the study they will sign a consent form. At this point baseline patient details will be recorded.

Each study subject will be randomized via a computer randomization programme to either the low or high dose GTN infusion rate during rewarming prior to separation from cardiopulmonary bypass (approximately 30-minute duration).

Standard pre-operative assessment will be performed with recording of the following baseline demographics:

1. Patient age at surgery
2. Patient gender
3. Patient height, weight, BMI and body surface area
4. Planned surgery
5. Use of vasodilator therapy pre-operatively
6. Co-morbidities including presence of peripheral vascular disease and renal impairment
7. Left ventricular ejection fraction
8. EuroScore II

Patient induction and anaesthetic care will be as standard (as per the individual anaesthetizing consultant's preference). Doses of all drugs administered during the surgical procedure will be recorded, as per standard practice. Invasive arterial pressure monitoring and central venous pressure monitoring lines will be placed as normal standard practice prior to knife to skin. All haemodynamic and temperature indices will be monitored continuously and recorded 5 minutely as standard practice.

Intra-operative:

Pre-CPB:

Standard monitoring will be initiated at induction for both groups to include:

1. Temperature monitoring:
  - 1.1. Core (bladder)
  - 1.2. Peripheral (nasopharyngeal)
  - 1.3. Skin (temporal)
  - 1.4. Urinary catheter contains bladder temperature probe.
  - 1.5. Skin probe to be placed in temporal position.
  - 1.6. Nasopharyngeal probe to be placed at a standardized depth: 5cm from nostril aperture.
2. Invasive blood pressure measurement, via an invasive arterial cannula
3. Arterial blood gas monitoring (standard measurements pre and post-CPB)
4. Invasive central venous pressure (CVP) monitoring
5. ECG
6. Continuous end tidal carbon dioxide and inhalational anaesthetic gas measurements
7. Continuous peripheral saturation monitoring
8. Bispectral index monitoring (depth of anaesthesia monitoring)
9. TOE monitoring if indicated by procedure

Pre-CPB conduct of anaesthesia will be standard care and at the discretion of the anaesthetizing consultant

1. Intrathecal opioid at discretion of anaesthetizing anaesthetist

2. Infusions of standard vasoactive drugs will be connected to CVP line as is standard practice and doses will be dictated by patient haemodynamic parameters as usual practice:
  - 2.1. GTN infusion at standard concentration (30mg diluted to 50mls with 5% glucose)
  - 2.2. Inotrope and vasopressor infusions as per preference of individual anaesthetist, at standard concentrations; to include potentially:
    - 2.2.1. Adrenaline infusion (3mg diluted to 50mls with 5% glucose)
    - 2.2.2. Noradrenaline infusion (3mg diluted to 50mls with 5% glucose)
    - 2.2.3. Dobutamine infusion (200mg diluted to 50 mls with 5% glucose)
    - 2.2.4. Other infusions again as preference of anaesthetizing anaesthetist:
      - 2.2.4.1. Actrapid infusion at standard concentration (50 units diluted to 50mls with 0.9% sodium chloride solution)
      - 2.2.4.2. Opioid infusion (fentanyl, remifentanyl or morphine sulphate) as per preference of individual anaesthetist
3. Doses of paralysis, opioids and heparin at the discretion of anaesthetist
4. ABG monitoring as per standard procedure

#### Commencement of CPB:

1. Standard care with anaesthesia maintained by volatile anaesthetic into CPB circuit for both patient groups
2. Benzodiazepine and paralysis administration at the discretion of the anaesthetizing anaesthetist
3. Heparin doses as necessary to maintain ACT > 400 secs as per standard practice
4. Mean arterial pressure to be maintained at level set by anaesthetist according to patient's co-morbidities as per usual practice, usually > MAP 60-80 mmHg
  - 4.1. Metaraminol doses as necessary to achieve MAP target
5. Study protocol does not permit the use of propofol TIVA during CPB
6. ABG monitoring as per standard procedure

#### Rewarming:

1. At initiation of rewarming instruction by Consultant surgeon patient will receive either:
  - 1.1. High dose infusion: GTN infusion rate at 0.5 mcg/kg/min via CVP line
  - 1.2. Low dose infusion: GTN infusion rate at 0.01 mcg/kg/min via CVP line
2. Once core temperature and peripheral temperatures > 36°C and patient is ready for separation from CPB circuit, GTN infusion rate will be set according to preference of the anaesthetist according to patient haemodynamics and co-morbidities
3. Time taken for completion of rewarming process (both core and peripheral temperatures > 36°C) and duration of GTN infusion (low or high rate) will be recorded
4. ABG monitoring as per standard procedure

#### Post-CPB:

1. On separation from CPB, rates of infusions of all vasoactive drugs will be set according to clinical need and at discretion of anaesthetist as indicated for haemodynamic control
2. ABG monitoring as per standard procedure

#### Intervention Type

Drug

#### Phase

Not Applicable

Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)

Glyceryl trinitrate

### **Primary outcome measure**

1. Time to completion of rewarming prior to separation from CPB circuit
2. Early post-op patient peripheral – core temperature gradient
3. Time to maintenance of normothermia (core temperature > 36.5°C) for minimum of 2 hours in the initial post-op period and including skin temperature reaching a plateau
4. Plasma lactate concentrations initially post-CPB

Nasopharyngeal, skin and bladder temperature are recorded at baseline post induction of anaesthesia, rewarming from CPB, separation from CPB, application of surgical dressing (end of surgery) and arrival in ICU.

### **Secondary outcome measures**

Time to extubation, measured from application of surgical dressing (end of surgery) to actual time of removal of endotracheal tube (extubation)

### **Overall study start date**

16/01/2017

### **Completion date**

14/08/2019

## **Eligibility**

### **Key inclusion criteria**

1. Adult patients (aged over 18)
2. Capacity to consent
3. Undergoing cardiac surgery necessitating CPB

### **Participant type(s)**

Patient

### **Age group**

Adult

### **Lower age limit**

18 Years

### **Sex**

Both

### **Target number of participants**

100

### **Total final enrolment**

82

### **Key exclusion criteria**

1. Age < 18 years old
2. Allergy to GTN
3. Cardiac surgery necessitating deep hypothermic circulatory arrest (DHCA)
4. Cardiac surgery not involving CPB (eg. off-pump cardiopulmonary bypass grafting)
5. Lack of capacity to consent
6. Use of TIVA propofol whilst on CPB

**Date of first enrolment**

30/01/2017

**Date of final enrolment**

14/07/2019

## **Locations**

**Countries of recruitment**

Ireland

**Study participating centre**

**Mater Misericordiae University Hospital**

Eccles Street

Dublin

Ireland

7

## **Sponsor information**

**Organisation**

Mater Misericordiae University Hospital

**Sponsor details**

Eccles Street

Dublin

Ireland

7

**Sponsor type**

Hospital/treatment centre

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/040hqpc16>

# Funder(s)

## Funder type

Hospital/treatment centre

## Funder Name

Mater Misericordiae University Hospital

# Results and Publications

## Publication and dissemination plan

Protocol and statistical plan will be available if needed. Planned publication in a high-impact peer reviewed journal.

## Intention to publish date

01/02/2020

## Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study will be coded and electronically stored in the Mater Hospital which is password protected.

## IPD sharing plan summary

Stored in repository

## Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	01/12/2020	13/08/2020	Yes	No