ISRCTN41829447 https://doi.org/10.1186/ISRCTN41829447

TRial of Atorvastatin for the primary prevention of Cardiovascular Events in Rheumatoid Arthritis

Submission date	Recruitment status	[X] Prospectively registered
14/06/2006	No longer recruiting	[_] Protocol
Registration date	**Overall study status**	[_] Statistical analysis plan
26/07/2006	Completed	[X] Results
Last Edited	**Condition category**	[_] Individual participant data
06/02/2020	Musculoskeletal Diseases	

Plain English summary of protocol
Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

Contact name
Dr George Kitas

Contact details
Department of Rheumatology
Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Trust
Russells Hall Hospital
Dudley
United Kingdom
DY1 2HQ
+44 (0)1384 244842
g.d.kitas@bham.ac.uk

Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number
N/A

Study information

Scientific Title
TRial of Atorvastatin for the primary prevention of Cardiovascular Events in Rheumatoid Arthritis

Acronym
TRACE/RA

Study objectives
The principal research question is to establish whether atorvastatin, used in conjunction with standard therapy for rheumatoid arthritis will protect rheumatoid arthritis sufferers aged 40 years and above from fatal and non-fatal atherosclerotic events.

Please note that as of 30/04/2008 this trial was updated. All changes can be found in the relevant field under the above date. Please also note that the overall trial start and end dates have been updated. The previous dates of this trial were:
Previous overall trial start date: 01/12/2006
Previous overall trial end date: 01/12/2014

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Southampton and South West Hampshire Research Ethics Committee B, 20/12/2006, ref: 06/Q1704/171

Study design
Multicentre randomised double-blind placebo-controlled trial

Primary study design
Interventional

Study type(s)
Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Rheumatoid arthritis

Interventions
Patients will be randomised to either the atorvastatin arm (40 mg of atorvastatin oral tablet taken once daily) or placebo arm (placebo atorvastatin oral tablet taken once daily) of the trial.

Intervention Type
Drug

Phase
Not Applicable

Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)
Atorvastatin

Primary outcome(s)
Cardiovascular primary endpoint for all patients: all cardiovascular events (analysed by time to FIRST event) briefly defined as: fatal myocardial infarction, other acute coronary heart disease death, definite or probable hospital-verified non-fatal acute myocardial infarction, resuscitated cardiac arrest, definite silent myocardial infarction verified by an electrocardiogram (ECG),

coronary revascularisation procedures, hospital admission for acute coronary syndrome, fatal stroke or peripheral arterial event (using predefined standard definitions) and hospital-verified non-fatal stroke or peripheral atherosclerotic events. The endpoints assessment committee will adjudicate this.

Rheumatology primary outcome (disease activity substudy only): Disease Activity Score 28 (DAS28) at six months, response will be judged using the European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) response criteria.

Key secondary outcome(s))
Secondary endpoints for all patients:
1. All-cause mortality
2. Changes in fasting lipids and C-Reactive Protein (CRP)
3. Functional outcome (assessed by the Health Assessment Questionnaire [HAQ] and EuroQoL instrument [EQ5D])
4. Statin safety-related outcomes.

Rheumatology secondary outcomes (disease activity substudy only): Disease-Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug (DMARD) changes, DAS28 at years one, two and five.

Not applicable as of 30/04/2008:
Radiological outcome (assessed by the Larsen score in X-rays of hands and wrists - only at year two.

Completion date
01/08/2014

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
Current inclusion criteria as of 30/04/2008:
1. Patients must satisfy the 1987 ACR criteria for rheumatoid arthritis applied cumulatively
2. Patients must be aged more than 50 or have had RA disease duration for more than 10 years
3. Patients must provide their written informed consent

Previous inclusion criteria:
1. Patients must satisfy the 1987 ACR criteria for rheumatoid arthritis applied cumulatively
2. Patients must be 40 years or older
3. Patients must provide their written informed consent

Participant type(s)
Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed
No

Age group
Adult

Sex
All

Total final enrolment
3002

Key exclusion criteria
Current exclusion criteria as of 30/04/2008:
1. Patients who are pregnant or women of child-bearing age not using adequate contraception
2. Known primary muscle disorder
3. Known atherosclerotic disease
4. Known familial hyperlipidamia requiring drug therapy
5. Known diabetes
6. Known hypersensitivity or intolerance to statins
7. Active liver disease or hepatic dysfunction with Aspartate aminotransferase (AST) or Alanine aminotransferase (ALT) more than two times Upper Limit of Normal (ULN)
8. Severe renal dysfunction (creatinine >150 micromol/l)
9. Creatinine phosphokinase (CK) more than three times ULN
10. Uncontrolled hypothyroidism (defined as any elevation of Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone [TSH] above ULN)
11. Participation in another clinical trial concurrently or within 30 days prior to screening for entry into this study (patients may be participating in an observational study such as the British Society for Rheumatology Biologics register)
12. Other serious illness or significant abnormalities that may compromise the patient's safety or successul participation in the study
13. Any illness which, in the doctor's opinion, means that the patient is unable to give informed consent
14. Known alcohol abuse

Previous exclusion criteria:
1. Patients who are pregnant or women of child-bearing age not using adequate contraception
2. Known primary muscle disorder
3. Known atherosclerotic disease
4. Known familial hyperlipidamia requiring drug therapy
5. Known diabetes
6. Calculated absolute ten year Cardio-Vascular Disease (CVD) risk of 20% or higher, using the Joint British Societies revised risk calculator
7. Known hypersensitivity or intolerance to statins
8. Active liver disease or hepatic dysfunction with Aspartate aminotransferase (AST) or Alanine aminotransferase (ALT) more than two times Upper Limit of Normal (ULN)
9. Severe renal dysfunction (creatinine >150 micromol/l)
10. Creatinine phosphokinase (CK) more than three times ULN
11. Uncontrolled hypothyroidism (defined as any elevation of Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone [TSH] above ULN)
12. Participation in another clinical trial concurrently or within 30 days prior to screening for entry into this study (patients may be participating in an observational study such as the British Society for Rheumatology Biologics register)
13. Other serious illness or significant abnormalities that may compromise the patient's safety or successul participation in the study
14. Any illness which, in the doctor's opinion, means that the patient is unable to give informed consent
15. Known alcohol abuse

Date of first enrolment

07/08/2007

Date of final enrolment
01/08/2014

Locations

Countries of recruitment
United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre
Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Trust
Dudley
United Kingdom
DY1 2HQ

Sponsor information

Organisation
University of Manchester (UK)

ROR
https://ror.org/027m9bs27

Funder(s)

Funder type
Research organisation

Funder Name
British Heart Foundation (UK)

Alternative Name(s)
The British Heart Foundation, the_bhf, BHF

Funding Body Type
Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype
Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

Location
United Kingdom

Funder Name
Arthritis Research Campaign (ARC) (UK) (ref: 16514)

Funder Name
Pfizer UK Ltd (UK)

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary
Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article	results	20/04/2015		Yes	No
Results article	results	01/09/2019	06/02/2020	Yes	No
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes
Study website	Study website	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes