

**William A. Gray, MD, FACC, FSCAI**  
Lankenau Heart Institute/Main Line Health, Wynnewood, PA

## Background

- A summary-level meta-analysis reported a long-term safety signal in patients treated with paclitaxel-coated devices for PAD
- The purpose of this study was to assess the long-term five-year safety of the Stellarex drug-coated balloon (DCB) compared with percutaneous transluminal angioplasty (PTA) for symptomatic femoropopliteal peripheral artery disease (PAD) in a patient-level meta-analysis of the ILLUMENATE randomized controlled trials (RCTs)

## Methodology and Design

- Individual patient-level meta-analysis of two RCTs conducted by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party
  - ILLUMENATE Pivotal and ILLUMENATE EU RCT
- Pre-specified, systematic assessment of mortality for patients treated with Stellarex DCB for ATK lesions
- Test for homogeneity ( $I^2 = 0\%$ )
- Meta analysis to compare mortality through five years between Stellarex DCB and control (PTA) cohorts (N = 589)
  - DCB: 419 and PTA: 170
- Both studies included independent AE adjudication by CECs
- Over 90% vital status compliance

## Results

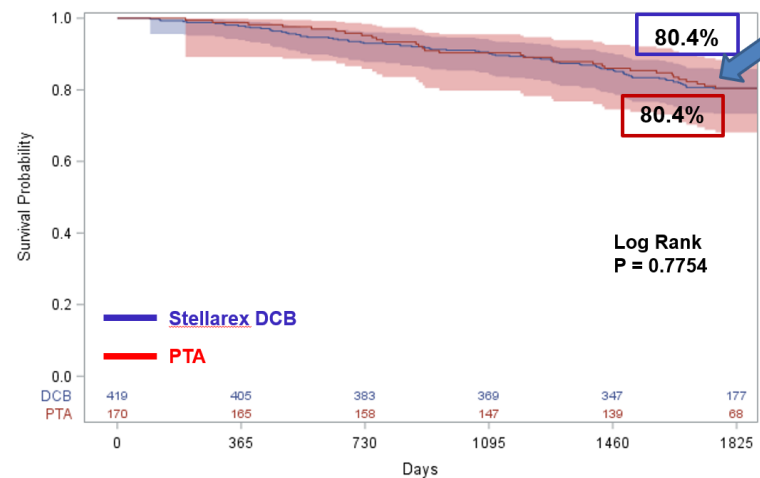
### Pooled RCT Baseline Characteristics

Patient Characteristics	DCB N=419	PTA N=170	P value [for DCB RCT vs. PTA RCTs] <sup>a</sup>
Median Age (IQR) (years)	67	69	0.02
Sex			
Men	64.2% (269)	65.3% (111)	0.85
Women	35.8% (150)	34.7% (59)	
Hypertension	85.2% (357)	89.4% (152)	0.19
Hyperlipidemia	74.2% (311)	81.2% (138)	0.09
Myocardial infarction	16.9% (71)	20.0% (34)	0.41
Angina	10.7% (45)	14.7% (25)	0.21
Congestive heart failure	9.1% (38)	8.2% (14)	0.87
Renal insufficiency	13.4% (56)	13.5% (23)	>0.99
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	16.0% (67)	16.5% (28)	0.90
Diabetes	43.0% (180)	45.3% (77)	0.65
Prior Peripheral Revascularization	32.2% (135)	36.5% (62)	0.34
Smoking	86.6% (363)	78.8% (134)	0.02
Calcification	54.4% (227)	57.1% (97)	0.58

<sup>a</sup>P values were calculated using two-tailed Fisher's exact tests

## Results

### Pooled Stellarex RCTs: No Difference in Survival through Five Years



ILLUMENATE EU RCT & Pivotal: Post hoc analysis

### Pooled Stellarex RCTs: No Difference in Crude All-Cause Mortality through Five Years

All Cause Mortality	DCB	PTA	P Value
12 months	2.2% (9/405)	1.2% (2/165)	0.5240
24 months	7.6% (29/383)	5.0% (8/159)	0.3516
36 months	10.8% (40/370)	10.9% (16/147)	>0.9999
48 months	17.0% (59/348)	16.4% (23/140)	>0.9999
60 months	25.2% (80/317)	24.8% (32/129)	>0.9999

ILLUMENATE EU RCT & Pivotal: Post hoc analysis

## Results

### Neither Paclitaxel, Nor Paclitaxel Dose, is a Predictor of Death in Stellarex Analysis

Multivariate Cox Proportional Hazards Model for Mortality

Covariate	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P value
With paclitaxel exposure forced into the model		
Renal insufficiency	2.380 (1.540, 3.677)	<0.0001
Age	1.053 (1.031, 1.075)	<0.0001
Length	1.005 (1.001, 1.009)	0.0069
Reference vessel diameter	1.250 (1.022, 1.527)	0.0295
Paclitaxel	1.149 (0.761, 1.734)	0.5085

With paclitaxel dose forced into the model		
Renal insufficiency	2.390 (1.546, 3.695)	<0.0001
Age	1.053 (1.031, 1.075)	<0.0001
Length	1.005 (1.001, 1.009)	0.0258
Reference vessel diameter	1.244 (1.018, 1.520)	0.0325
Paclitaxel dose (mg)	1.027 (0.959, 1.100)	0.4423

ILLUMENATE EU RCT & Pivotal: Post hoc analysis

## Conclusions

- Stellarex DCB continues to consistently demonstrate no difference in mortality compared with PTA cohort year-over-year through five years both within individual RCTs and pooled analysis
- This patient level meta-analysis represents the highest level of evidence to determine long-term mortality of a single DCB
  - Largest homogenous prospective RCT dataset to show no difference in mortality<sup>1,2</sup>
  - No evidence of paclitaxel (exposure or dose) as a predictor of mortality
- This independent meta-analysis confirms and reinforces the consistent and durable long-term safety profile of low dose Stellarex DCB in final five-year dataset

1. Katsanos et al. Risk of Death Following Application of Paclitaxel-Coated Balloons and Stents in the Femoropopliteal Artery of the Leg: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials. *JAMA*. 2018 Dec 8.  
2. Schneider et al. Paclitaxel exposure: Long-term safety and effectiveness of a drug-coated balloon for claudication in pooled randomized trials. *Catheter Cardiovasc Interv*. Aug 24 2020.