

High blood sugar lowers chances of surviving a heart attack

March 26 2012

Patients with high blood sugar run an increased risk of dying if they have a heart attack, and diabetics are less likely to survive in-hospital cardiac arrest than non-diabetics, reveals research at the Sahlgrenska Academy, at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

Diabetes is common among patients with [coronary artery disease](#), and this is a potentially lethal combination: a thesis from the University of Gothenburg's Sahlgrenska Academy reveals that diabetes in coronary artery disease patients brings a significantly increased risk of [premature death](#).

Doctoral student and researcher Petur Petursson investigated the connection between blood sugar disorders and survival following heart attacks and cardiac arrest. His thesis shows that patients with diabetes have a smaller chance of surviving in-hospital [cardiac arrest](#). Diabetes and pre-diabetes are also associated with a less favourable prognosis following coronary artery surgery.

“Type 2 diabetics with suspected coronary artery disease who are on insulin therapy have lower survival,” he explains. “We’ve not been able to demonstrate the exact cause, but much of it may be because those on insulin therapy have more severe disease.”

Petur Petursson says that the results underline the need for careful management of patients with coronary artery disease and the importance of accurately diagnosing and managing blood sugar disorders.

“Medical personnel can pretty much assume that coronary artery disease patients will have some kind of blood sugar disorder, so there must be established strategies for managing these disorders at every heart clinic in the country.”

The thesis Aspects of Abnormal Glucose Regulation in Various Manifestations of Coronary Artery Disease was defended on 23 February.

More information: Tissue factor and PAR1 promote microbiota-induced intestinal vascular remodeling, Christoph Reinhardt, Mattias Bergentall, Thomas U. Greiner, Florence Schaffner, Gunnel Östergren-Lundén, Lars C. Petersen, Wolfram Ruf & Fredrik Bäckh, *Nature*, March 11.

Provided by University of Gothenburg

Citation: High blood sugar lowers chances of surviving a heart attack (2012, March 26) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2012-03-high-blood-sugar-lowers-chances.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.