

# Switching dual antiplatelet therapy beneficial after ACS

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(HealthDay)—Switching dual antiplatelet therapy (DAPT) from aspirin

plus ticagrelor or prasugrel to aspirin plus clopidogrel after acute coronary syndrome (ACS) provides benefits regardless of initial platelet reactivity, according to a study published in the Dec. 26 issue of *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions*.

Pierre Deharo, M.D., from CHU Timone in Marseille, France, and colleagues randomly assigned 645 ACS patients, event-free one month after coronary stenting, to either aspirin and clopidogrel (switched DAPT) or continuation of the DAPT regimen. Platelet function testing results were used to classify patients.

The researchers found that 47 percent of patients were classified as having low on-treatment platelet reactivity (LTPR; platelet reactivity index vasodilator-stimulated phosphoprotein  $\leq 20$  percent). Patients with LTPR were less likely to have diabetes ( $P = 0.01$ ), had lower [body mass index](#) ( $P$

"Switched DAPT was superior regardless of initial [platelet](#) reactivity but the benefit was greater in LTPR patients," the authors write. "Indeed, the switched strategy was highly effective in this group, which had impaired prognosis with unchanged DAPT but similar prognosis after switching."

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical and medical device industries.

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