Aspirin resistance ups severity in acute ischemic stroke

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In patients with acute ischemic stroke, aspirin resistance is associated with increased stroke severity and infarct size, according to research published online Nov. 19 in the Archives of Neurology.

The researchers identified aspirin resistance in 28.9 percent of the patients. In the cohort, the median aspirin reaction unit (ARU) was 486.0. For every one-point increase in ARU there was a significant 0.03-point increase in the NIHSS and a significant 0.02-point decrease in the ASPECTS. Every 33-point increase in ARU correlated with an approximate one-point increase in the NIHSS, while every 50-point increase in ARU correlated with a one-point decrease in the ASPECTS.

"Aspirin resistance is associated with increased clinical severity and stroke infarct volume in acute stroke patients," the authors write. "Our results support the need for a randomized controlled study to investigate alternative antiplatelet therapy in patients with aspirin resistance."

One author disclosed financial ties to Biometrictra, the Australian distributor of VerifyNow, the system used in the study to measure aspirin resistance.

More information: Abstract Full Text (subscription or payment may be required)