

**RISK FACTOR PROFILE OF FEMALE PATIENTS
PRESENTING WITH ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION:
A SOUTH AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE**

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Submitted as the Dissertation component in partial fulfillment (25%) for the degree of Masters of Medicine in the Department of Internal Medicine, School of Clinical Medicine, College of Health Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban.

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Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

DECLARATION

I.....Dr Jaqueline Cindy Govender.....declare that

(i) The research reported in this dissertation, except where otherwise indicated, is my original work.

(ii) This dissertation has not been submitted for any degree or examination at any other university.

(iii) This dissertation does not contain other persons' data, pictures, graphs or other information, unless specifically acknowledged as being sourced from other persons.

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to the following people:

- 1) All my teachers and mentors, the great minds that have helped shaped my future.
- 2) My parents who have been by my side through every step of my journey towards becoming a doctor and thereafter a specialist and continue to support me every step of the way as I continue on this journey.

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- 5) The Department of Health KwaZulu-Natal for granting me the permission to conduct this study

OVERVIEW OF THE THESIS

The study was a retrospective single center study conducted at RK Khan hospital in Durban. The primary aim was to look at the incidence of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) in the female population in our setting with particular interest in the cardiovascular risk profile of female patients presenting with AMI. Data was extracted from a computerized database for the duration of the study period, which was from 2003 to 2016. Patient anonymity was maintained.

All adult female patients that presented to the study center during the study period, with a diagnosis of AMI, based on the European and American Society of Cardiology guidelines, were included in the study. Females with unstable angina were excluded. The cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factor profile was based on the Framingham risk profile for CVD and included the following: diabetes mellitus (DM), hypertension (HPT), cigarette smoking, dyslipidemia, obesity, a previous history of coronary artery disease and positive family histories of DM, HPT and coronary artery disease. The study population was broadly categorized into 2 age groups, namely <65 years of age and ≥ 65 years. Both groups were analyzed identically in terms of their age, clinical presentation, CVD risk factors, initial electrocardiogram, medical therapies and whether or not they were referred for angiogram and/or coronary artery bypass surgery. We also divided the study population into those with ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) versus Non ST elevation myocardial infarction. In the STEMI group we assessed the use of thrombolytic therapy or not. Finally we looked at the presence of major adverse cardiac events (MACE) in each of the age groups. MACE was defined as follows: Arrhythmias, cardiac failure, cardiogenic shock, complete heart block, recurrence of angina or myocardial infarction and death.

In addition to the primary study aim, by categorizing patients into 2 age groups we could determine if there was a difference in CVD risk factor profile and the presence of MACE between the younger and older age groups. Finally, by comparing the outcome of our study to studies done in male counterparts we were able to see if there was a difference in CVD risk profile between male and female patients, which in fact there was not. So basically in the presence of the traditional risk factors for coronary artery disease (CAD), males and females can be considered at equal risk of developing acute myocardial infarction and females are not protected by the cardio-protective effects of oestrogen hormone in the pre-menopausal age group as was previously thought. Females are an understudied population when it comes to coronary artery disease and very few studies have been conducted on females with cardiac disease. We believe that this study offers some very valuable information with regards to cardiac disease in females and that treatment strategies should be targeted to include optimizing risk factor control in at-risk females, so that the burden of disease can be reduced in this population.

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PART ONE

THE LITERATURE REVIEW

PART 1: THE REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Coronary artery disease is one of the leading causes of death and disability worldwide.^{1,2,3} Likewise in South Africa it has become a major cause of morbidity and mortality across all ethnic groups.^{12,15} Although **coronary** artery disease was previously thought to be a disease predominantly affecting males, it is now understood that females with underlying cardiovascular risk factors are equally at risk of developing coronary artery disease and specifically manifesting as acute myocardial infarction.^{2,16} The traditional and well-studied risk factors for coronary artery disease in males, namely **diabetes mellitus, hypertension**, dyslipidemia, obesity, cigarette smoking and a family history of coronary artery disease, appear to play the same role in female counterparts.¹⁷ Due to the cardio-protective effects of **oestrogen**, coronary artery disease in females generally occurs at an older age than when compared to males.^{2,3} Multiple studies have shown that women tend to present with coronary artery disease on average 6-10 years later than their male counterparts.^{2,5} Studies have also found that the average age of presentation in females in developing countries tends to be lower than that of westernized countries.^{17,18} However, although the disease was thought to predominantly affect post-menopausal females, younger females can also develop coronary artery disease in the presence of significant cardiovascular risk factors. In particular diabetes mellitus has been found to be an independent predictor of acute coronary syndrome in younger women, increasing their risk by 4 to 5 fold.¹ Furthermore smoking is an independent predictor of acute coronary syndrome in women less than 40 years of age.³¹ Although, even the presence of a single risk factor can predispose females to

the development of coronary artery disease, in particular acute myocardial infarction, like with males, the presence of multiple cardiovascular risk factors increases that risk significantly.²

Several studies have shown that females tend to have a higher risk of developing complications following acute myocardial infarction and have higher mortality rates compared to men.^{3,5,19,21,22,24,25}

Cardiovascular disease in females is understudied and there is limited data on the disease in females. According to a 2013 update on coronary artery disease in women,³ it was stated that coronary artery disease is the leading cause of mortality in females and requires further sex-specific research on the disease.

Whilst some risk factors like age, sex, genetic factors and family history, are non-modifiable, it is the modifiable risk factors (**diabetes mellitus**, hypertension, obesity, dyslipidemia and cigarette smoking) that will impact on future outcomes in these patients. Risk factor control is imperative and should be the focus of primary health care initiatives in reducing the risk of developing cardiovascular disease in females.

PART TWO

THE MANUSCRIPT

INTRODUCTION

Coronary artery disease [CAD] is a major cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide, and although previously reported to be more common in men, is now identified as a leading cause of death and disability in women in the United States.^{1,2,3} Significant differences occur between men and women with respect to the epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of CAD. This may explain the under-representation of women in many studies on CAD in the past, often leading to misdiagnosis and inappropriate treatment.^{1,5} These factors include that women are less likely than men to have typical angina, though the similarities in how men and women present with acute myocardial infarction [AMI] are greater than their differences, and women may not identify their initial symptoms and therefore may not seek prompt medical advice.^{4,5} In addition, there is an under-evaluation of both typical and atypical symptoms of ischemia in women by clinicians because of gender bias.⁶

Generally women with myocardial infarction are about 10 years older than men at the time of presentation and carry a greater burden of risk factors.^{1,2,3} In contrast, while myocardial infarction is an uncommon entity in young people, the incidence is higher in men less than 45 years of age because women of a similar age group are at lower risk due to of the protective influence of circulating oestrogens on the vascular endothelium.² These differences should be taken into account in the care of women with CAD.

Despite the growing evidence on CAD in women from developed countries, there is a paucity of data on the prevalence and mortality outcome of CAD in women from developing countries like South Africa. This study, therefore, was undertaken to

determine the incidence of AMI in women in a regional hospital in Durban, South Africa, with particular reference to risk profiles and major adverse cardiac events [MACE].

METHODS

This was a single-center retrospective study conducted at the Coronary Care Unit (CCU) at RK Khan Hospital (RKKH) in Chatsworth, Durban, over a 13-year period (2003-2016).

Consecutive female patients with a confirmed diagnosis of acute MI were included in the study while those with unstable angina were excluded. Acute MI was defined on admission based on a characteristic history of chest pain/ discomfort, electrocardiograph (ECG) changes consistent with acute ST or Non ST elevation MI (NSTEMI) and elevated cardiac biomarkers, specifically Troponin T levels, as outlined by the Joint European Society of Cardiology/ American College of Cardiology committee.⁷

Ethics approval was obtained from the local ethics committee at the University of Kwazulu-Natal prior to commencement of the study, and carried out according to the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. Patient anonymity was maintained at all times.

Clinical assessment:

Demographic and clinical data stored in an electronic database were obtained from all patients, including the presence of risk factors such as diabetes mellitus (DM), hypertension (HPT), dyslipidemia, smoking, previous angina or MI and a family history of vascular disease. Premature atherosclerosis was defined by a history of myocardial infarction in either parents, or in siblings or first degree relatives at the age of 55 years or younger for males and 65 years or younger for females, whilst a

family history of diabetes, hypertension, and cerebrovascular disease was defined as these conditions occurring at any age.⁸

Current smokers were defined as individuals who had smoked any tobacco within the past 12 months leading up to their MI, and former smokers as those who had not smoked for at least one year prior to their MI.

Anthropometric measurements including body mass index [BMI] and waist circumference were used to define obesity. The BMI was calculated as weight [kilograms] divided by height² [meters] according to World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines.⁹ A BMI ≥ 30 kg/m² was used as a cut-off to indicate obesity.

Waist circumference was measured midway between the lowest rib and the iliac crest on standing subjects, using a soft tape, and the central obesity threshold limits proposed by the International Diabetes Federation [IDF] [females ≥ 80 cm] were used to define visceral obesity.¹⁰

Patients with ST elevation MI (STEMI) who were eligible for thrombolysis received Metalyse (Tenecteplase) as a reperfusion therapy. Because coronary revascularization procedures such as percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG), are performed at only 1 tertiary public hospital in Kwa-Zulu Natal, only patients who consented for both coronary angiography and revascularization were referred, due to limited resources. Many patients declined intervention and were therefore treated medically.

The occurrence of MACE was recorded during hospital admission and 6 months post-discharge. This included the first occurrence of any of the following; cardiac failure,

cardiogenic shock, complete heart block, atrial or ventricular arrhythmias, recurrence of angina or MI, and death.

Biochemical analysis:

Routine biochemistry was performed on admission using standardized techniques. Troponin T measured on the Elecsys 2010 (Roche Diagnostics), was considered positive at a cut-off value greater than 0.03ng/ml. Fasting lipograms were performed after an overnight fast. Low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol levels were calculated utilising the formula of Friedewald.³³ The cut-points used to stratify patients were based on the updated South African Guidelines.^{11,12,13} Levels were considered abnormal if total cholesterol was > 4.5 mmol/L, LDL cholesterol >2.5 mmol/L, triglycerides \geq 1.7 mmol/L, and **high-density lipoprotein** (HDL) cholesterol < 1.29 mmol/L in females.

RESULTS

A total of 1311 females were screened of whom 1160 patients fulfilled the inclusion and exclusion criteria and were available for analyses. Of the 1160 females with AMI, the majority of participants were of Asian Indian origin [92.2%], Black African [4.4%], White [2.6%] and Coloured [0.9%] [Table 1]. The mean (SD) age of the study population was 61.6 ± 10.7 years and were stratified into 2 age groups; < than 65 years [n= 666 (57.4%)] and ≥ 65 years [n= 494 (42.6%)].

The commonest risk factors in this study group included dyslipidaemia [97.4%], hypertension [77%], diabetes [75.6%] and obesity [29.3%], while 59% of patients had a family history of premature atherosclerosis, diabetes [51.5%] and hypertension [46.6%]. When adjusted for age, a statistically greater number of patients < 65 years of age had dyslipidaemia [n=645, p-value=0.038], obesity [n=237, p-value<0.001], a history of smoking [n=196, p-value<0.001], and family histories of premature atherosclerosis [n=423, p-value<0.001], hypertension [n=341, p-value<0.001] and diabetes [n=376, p-value<0.001]. In contrast, patients ≥ 65 years were significantly more likely to present with hypertension [n=408, p-value<0.001] and a previous history of myocardial infarction and angina [n=75, p-value= 0.004 and n=94, p-value= 0.03, respectively] (Table 1).

Major adverse cardiac events were observed in 466 [40.2%] of patients with older patients having a significantly higher prevalence of events [46.8%] compared to their younger counterparts [35.3%,] Most patients presented with ST elevation MI [74%] of whom only 28% received pharmacological reperfusion with Tenecteplase according to standard guidelines. Patients in general received optimal medical

treatment which included statins, dual anti-platelet, b-blockers and RAS (renin angiotensio system) blockers.

Table 1 illustrates the distribution of MACE seen in the study population, cardiac failure was the adverse event found most commonly [54.4%] followed by death [28.1%], recurrence of infarction[16.5%], cardiogenic shock [15%], recurrence of angina [12.5%], while atrial arrhythmias [10.7%], ventricular arrhythmias [8.2%] and cerebrovascular events [6.2%] were detected less commonly.

Figure 2 shows the angiographic characteristics of patients that underwent coronary angiography at another referral hospital. Only 337 patients [29%] were subjected to angiographic studies because most patients either declined coronary revascularization, presented too late for percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or because of other significant co-morbidities. The majority of patients were found to have triple vessel disease [TVD 48.7%], 22.6 % each had double vessel disease [DVD] and single vessel disease [SVD 22.6%] and 6.2% had normal coronary epicardial vessels. Of those that were subjected to coronary angiography, 50% (n=169) underwent CABG. Of the total study population only 14.6% (n=169) underwent CABG compared to 4.7% (n=55) that received PCI+/-Stent. A majority of those that underwent CABG belonged to the younger (<65year) age group (n=121) (Table 1).

Following multivariable analysis using logistic regression, our data showed that a few clinical and laboratory parameters were significantly associated with MACE such as hyperglycaemia [p=0.006], hyperuricaemia [p= 0.001] and hypertriglyceridaemia [p= 0.014] [Table 2].

DISCUSSION

Multiple studies have indicated that females are understudied and undertreated with regards to CAD^{1,5} because CAD has always been noted to be one of the leading causes of death and disability in males worldwide. This study shows that CAD is also prevalent in the female population, who also have an increased likelihood of developing MACE post AMI (40% of the total study population).

In this study we looked at the risk factor profile of female patients presenting with AMI, and what we found was that in the presence of the traditional risk factors (diabetes mellitus, hypertension, dyslipidemia, obesity, cigarette smoking and a family history of coronary artery disease) for AMI, female patients were, like their male counterparts, predisposed to developing AMI.² The Framingham study¹⁷ has shown that the traditional risk factors for CAD in males, is applicable in females as well, and our study confirms that in the presence of these risk factors, females are at similar risk of developing CAD and more importantly, that they can present at an earlier age than previously thought.^{1,17} There were a total of 3698 patients (males and females) admitted to the Coronary Care Unit at RKKH during the study period and females with a diagnosis of AMI comprised 32% (n=1160) of that population. The commonest risk factors for AMI in our study were HPT, DM, Obesity (BMI), and family histories of CAD, DM and HPT. Although these risk factors were prevalent across both age groups of the study population, our study emphasized the fact that age is not a protective factor for females developing AMI, as was previously thought in other studies.¹ We had a greater proportion of our patients in the younger (<65years) age group (57% vs 43%). Furthermore the prevalence of DM, obesity (BMI),

dyslipidemia, smoking and family histories of DM, HPT and CAD were higher in the younger population which emphasizes the fact that these traditional risk factors play a big role in increasing the risk of the development of AMI irrespective of age or gender.

Previous studies have shown that women tend to present with coronary artery disease on average 6-10 years later (around 69-70 years of age) than their male counterparts² and this was believed to be in part due to the cardio-protective role of oestrogen.² In contrast, the majority of patients in our study presented in the younger age group and this concurs with previous reports which showed that the average age of presentation in females in developing countries tends to be lower than that of westernized countries (62 years versus 69-70 years in western countries).^{2,3,23}

Very few studies have been undertaken in the South African setting and the majority of information that we have on CAD in our female population has been obtained from other parts of Africa, with the Interheart study providing some valuable information.¹⁶ One study on CVD in Africa showed that females had a higher prevalence of hypertension, obesity and hyperlipidemia compared to men, with Hypertension being the major risk factor for females.¹⁸ Other studies have shown that the major risk factors for females with CAD are diabetes mellitus and hypertension +/- dyslipidemia.^{19,20} These studies however did not compare females of different age groups. Both DM and HPT were prevalent in both age groups in our study, with total values for DM and HPT being 76% and 77% respectively. Furthermore, for DM, the percentages were similar in each age group, with 76% in the <65 year age group and 75% in the ≥ 65 age group (Table 1). The large proportion of patients with family

history of vascular disease in our study re-emphasizes the significance of heritable disease in contributing to the risk of CAD.

Furthermore, besides the traditional risk factors (mentioned above) for AMI, we found in our study that hyperglycemia, hypertriglyceridemia and hyperuricemia were independent risk factors for the development of CAD and also negatively contributed to the development of MACE. Hyperuricemia is the end product of purine metabolism and its role as an independent risk factor in cardiovascular disease is still being debated.³⁴ Several patho-physiological mechanisms on how hyperuricemia contributes as a risk factor for CAD have been postulated including endothelial dysfunction, oxidative metabolism, and platelet adhesiveness and aggregation.

Several studies have shown that females have poorer outcomes following acute myocardial infarction and have higher mortality rates compared to men.^{1,3} In our study we found a large proportion of our patients to have developed MACE (n=466, 40%). This was greater than in any of the studies we had reviewed. The commonest adverse events in our study were cardiac failure (55%, n= 255) followed by death (28%, n=131) and this was similar to adverse events in other studies.^{23,25} The reasons for poorer outcomes are not well understood but are possibly linked to an array of events, including delayed presentation to hospital, refusal of medical therapies and invasive interventions, as well as the pathophysiological factors such as smaller coronary vessels in females with fewer collaterals. One possibility is that the prevalence of DM is so high in our study population and the cardiovascular disease risk is increased in the presence of diabetes mellitus. Cardiac failure, cardiogenic

shock and death had a slightly higher rate in the older females, whereas recurrence of angina seemed to occur more in the younger population.

Although most studies reported on males and females found that STEMI was less common in females²⁶ in our study 74% of subjects had STEMI (n=858). In addition, only a small proportion of those with STEMI went on to receive thrombolysis with Metalyse (n=325, 38%). This is in keeping with other studies were only a small proportion of females received thrombolysis.^{24,25}

The reasons for this may be multifactorial and could include delayed presentation to hospital, prolonged door to needle times for various reasons, or patients declining therapy. These are some of the reasons that have been found particularly amongst females in international studies^{1,5}.

A small proportion of our patients were up-referred for invasive intervention in the form of angiogram (n=337, 29%). The reasons for this again could most likely be patients declining further intervention and this would be in keeping with international studies⁵.

Of the patients that did agree to Angiogram a majority were found to have triple vessel disease (48.7%) indicating the severity of the disease in this population and the importance of early screening for the disease (Graph 2). Of the patients that underwent Coronary angiogram, 50% underwent CABG.

LIMITATIONS

A few potential limitations merit consideration. Firstly, this was a single center study of a predominantly Asian Indian population and a racial selection bias may exist because of this. This is important because we could not adequately compare race groups to determine if risk factors for AMI in females differ in different racial groups. Secondly, we had no available data on which of our patients belonged to the pre and post-menopausal age groups and as such were unable to accurately provide results that may have made a confounding difference in view of the believed cardio-protective role of oestrogen in premenopausal women. Thirdly, we had no information on which, if any our patients were receiving Hormone replacement therapy at the time of presentation with their acute MI, and given the assumed protective effects of female hormones on the endothelium, we cannot conclude on this further. Finally, although a majority of our patients had STEMI (n=858) only a small proportion received thrombolysis with Metalyse (n=325), due to late presentation or because of other contraindications to lytic therapy. Similarly, only 29% of patients were subjected to coronary angiographic studies, which are performed at another tertiary center (only one such center is capable of performing these procedures in the public domain in the province of Kwa-Zulu Natal), and therefore results for these smaller sub-groups should be interpreted with caution.

CONCLUSION

There were 2 major outcomes from our study. Firstly, we found that younger females presented with AMI in the presence of traditional risk factors for CAD. Females in our study comprised 32% of the total population of acute MI admitted to the study center, and of that >50% of patients were younger than the age of 65 years. This is younger than the average age of presentation of females with AMI in other studies^{2,3,5} and raises the question as to whether female hormones are cardio-protective in the presence of traditional risk factors for CAD. We also found that younger females tend to have multiple risk factors, of which a large proportion had diabetes mellitus and/or hypertension and dyslipidemia. There were also strong positive family histories for DM, HPT and CAD. This emphasizes the fact that heritable conditions contribute significantly to the risk of developing AMI, and is in keeping with other studies. The second biggest outcome of our study was the large proportion of patients that developed MACE with 466 subjects (40%) having developed some form of MACE, with over a half of this being cardiac failure (54,7%) and over a quarter being death (28%) we and believe that this is quite significant and proves that females are at an increased risk of developing MACE post MI.^{1,3,19} According to a 2013 update on coronary artery disease in women,⁵ it was stated that coronary artery disease is the leading cause of mortality in females and requires further sex-specific research on the disease. As such we need to be more vigilant in our screening and treatment of the female population presenting with risk factors that predispose them to CAD.

TABLE 1: Baseline characteristics according to age

	TOTAL	<65 years	≥65 years		P-value
	n=1160 (100%)*	n=666 (57.4%)	n=494 (42.6%)		
RACE :					
Asian	1069(92.2%)	595 (55.7%)	474 (44.3%)		
Black	51 (4.4%)	41(80.4%)	10(19.6%)		
Coloured	10 (0.9%)	9(90%)	1(10%)		
White	30 (2.6%)	21(70%)	9(30%)		
RISK FACTORS:					
Diabetes Mellitus	877(75.6%)	507 (76.1%)	370 (74.9%)		0.63
Hypertension	897 (77%)	489 (73.4%)	408 (82.6%)		<0.001
Dylipidemia	1130 (97.4%)	645 (98.9%)	465 (97.3%)		0.038
Obesity (BMI)	340 (29.3%)	237 (35.6%)	103 (20.9%)		<0.001
Smoking	243 (21%)	196 (29.4%)	47 (9.5%)		<0.001
Previous Myocardial infarction	139 (12%)	64 (9.6%)	75 (15.2%)		0.004
Previous Angina	189 (16.3%)	95 (14.3%)	94 (19%)		0.03
FAMILY HISTORY:					
Coronary artery disease	683 (59%)	423 (63.5%)	260 (52.6%)		<0.001
Cerebrovascular disease	229 (19.7%)	145 (21.8%)	84 (17%)		0.044
Hypertension	540 (46.6%)	341 (51.2%)	199 (40.3%)		<0.001
Diabetes Mellitus	597 (51.5%)	376 (56.5%)	221 (44.7%)		<0.001
MEDICATION AT DISCHARGE:					
Nitrates	1145(98.7%)	659 (98.9%)	486 (98.3%)		0.397
Disprin	1154(99.5%)	664 (99.7%)	490 (99.2%)		0.232
Statins	1097(94.6%)	640 (96.1%)	457 (92.5%)		0.008
ACE-I/ARB'S	964 (83.1%)	556 (83.5%)	408 (82.6%)		0.688
Beta-Blockers	753 (64.9%)	455 (68.3%)	298 (60.3%)		0.005
Calcium channel blockers	110 (9.5%)	68 (10.2%)	42 (8.5%)		0.326
MACE	466 (40.2%)	235 (35.3%)	231 (46.8%)		<0.001
STEMI	858 (74%)	505 (75.8%)	353 (71.5%)		0.094
NSTEMI	300 (25.9%)	160 (24%)	140 (28.3%)		0.097
Metalysé	325 (28%)	207 (31.1%)	118 (23.9%)		0.007
Coronary Angiogram	337 (29.1%)				
PCI +/- STENT	55 (16.3%)	45 (13.4%)	10 (3%)		<0.001
CABG	169 (50.1%)	121 (35.9%)	48 (14.2%)		<0.001
CONTINUOUS VARIABLES	TOTAL	<65years	>65years	Mean +SD	P-Value
	n=1160	n=666 (57.4%)	n=494 (42.6%)		
Systolic BP(mmHg)	1160	135.4 (29.2)	137.6 (29.8)	136.4+ 29.5	0.22
Diastolic BP(mmHg)	1160	81.1 (17.9)	77.0 (16.6)	79.4 + 17.6	0.0001
Abdominal Girth(cm)	905 (78.0%)	100.6 (13.2)	98.5 (12.7)	99.8 + 13.0	0.0182
BIOCHEMICAL DATA					
Total Cholesterol (mmol/L)	846 (72.9%)	5.6 (1.4)	5.3 (1.3)	4.8 + 0.2	0.100
LDL cholesterol (mmol/L)	1083 (93.4%)	3.5 (1.2)	3.4 (1.1)	2,6 + 0,1	0.3314
HDL cholesterol (mmol/L)	1113 (95.9%)	1.1 (0.5)	1.1 (0.4)	1.1 + 0.06	0.1655
Triglycerides (mmol/L)	1126 (97.1%)	2.3 (1.7)	1.7 (0.9)	2.4 + 0.1	<0.001
Haemoglobin (g/dL)	1155 (99.6%)	12.4 (1.9)	11.8 (1.9)	10.9 + 0.6	<0.001
Creatinine (mmol/L)	1156 (99.7%)	93.9 (58.5)	111.9 (76.0)	101.6 + 67.2	<0.001
Uric Acid (mmol/L)	1083 (93.4%)	0.4 (0.1)	0.4 (0.1)	0.4+ 0.02	0.0001

- 1160 patients is our study population, however it made up 88.5% of the total number of females presenting to the study centre with chest pain. The 1160 patients are those with a diagnosis of AMI.
- Significant p-values have been marked in bold.

BMI: Body mass index

ACE-I/ARB'S: Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor/Angiotensin receptor blockers

MACE: Major adverse cardiac events

STEMI: ST elevation myocardial infarction

NSTEMI: Non ST elevation myocardial infarction

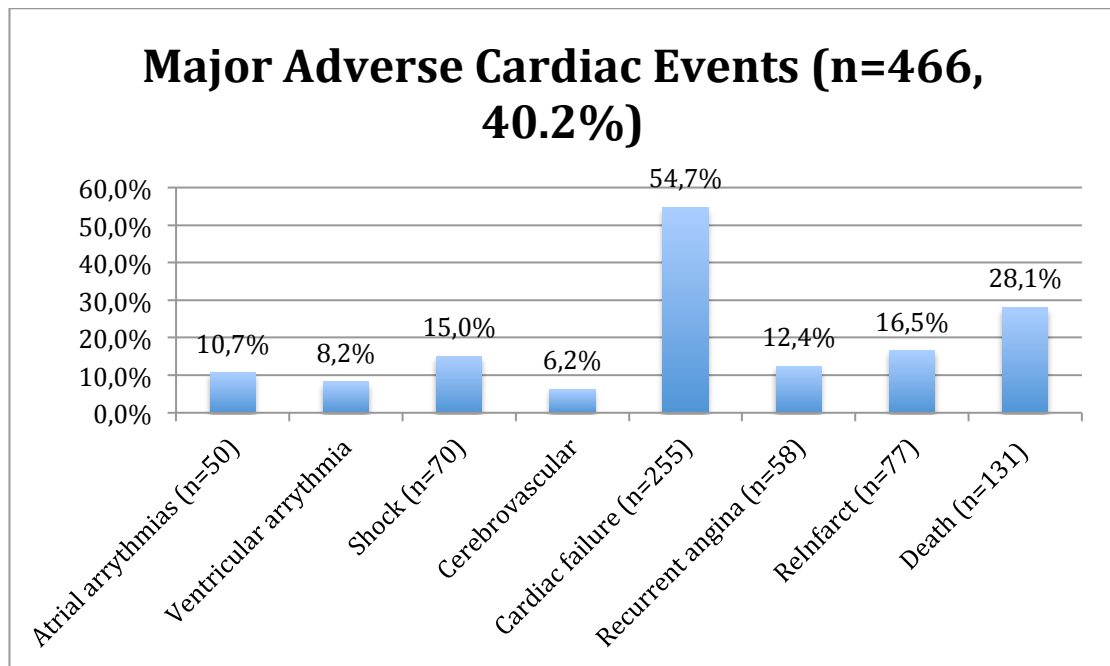
PCI: Percutaneous coronary angiography

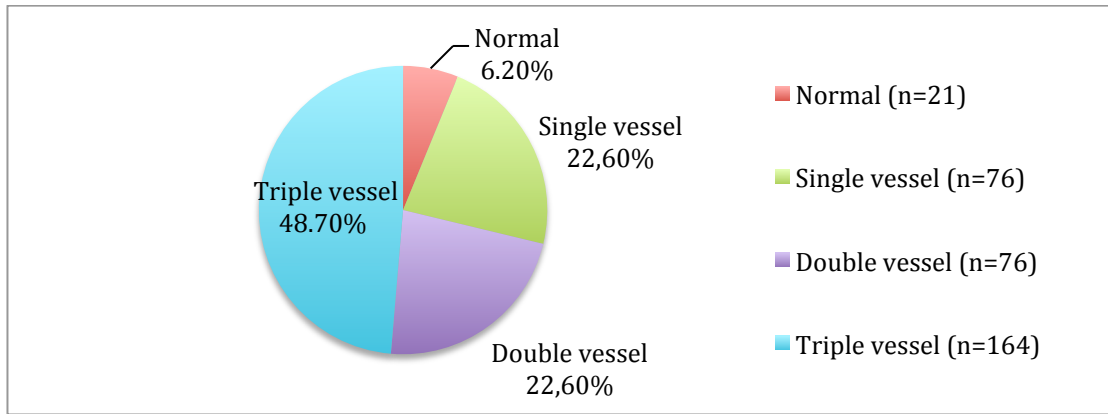
CABG: Coronary artery bypass graft

TABLE 2: Logistic Regression Analysis: Predictors of Mace

CHARACTERISTICS	ODDS RATIO (95% CI)	STD ERROR	P-VALUE
Age >=65	1.25 (0.91-1.70)	0.20	0.162
Dyslipidemia	0.87 (0.27-2.82)	0.52	0.817
Central obesity	1.53 (0.65-3.61)	0.67	0.333
Diabetes	1.43 (0.95-2.17)	0.30	0.089
Hypertension	0.93 (0.64-1.35)	0.18	0.698
Smoking	0.77 (0.52-1.14)	0.15	0.190
Family Hx CAD	0.77 (0.57-1.03)	0.12	0.082
STEMI	1.09 (0.78-1.53)	0.19	0.597
Elevated Urea (mmol/l)	1.05 (0.99-1.11)	0.31	0.112
Elevated Creatinine (mmol/l)	1.00 (0.99-1.00)	0.00	0.201
Hyperglycaemia (mmol/l)	1.04 (1.01-1.07)	0.01	0.006
Hypertriglyceridemia (mmol/l)	0.86 (0.76-0.97)	0.05	0.014
Hyperuricemia (mmol/l)	11.52 (2.81-47.20)	8.29	0.001

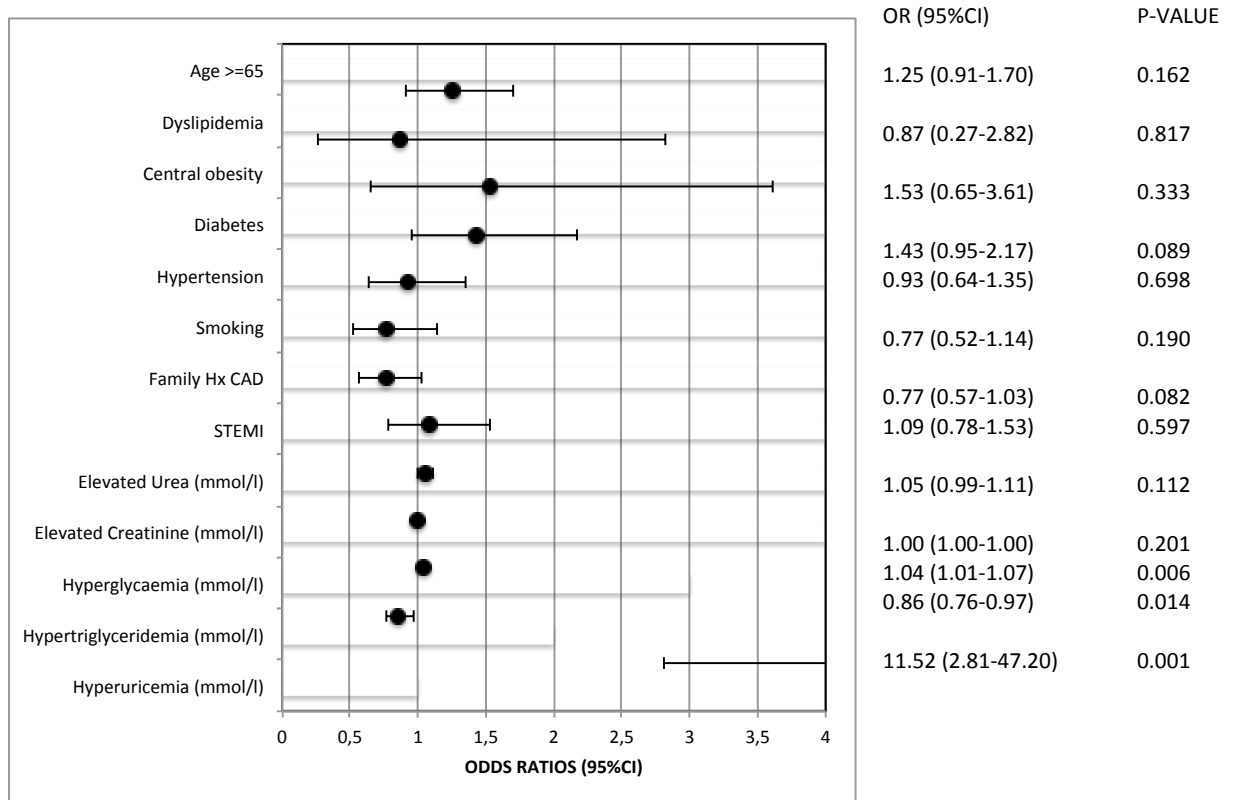
GRAPH 1





GRAPH 2: **Angiographic characteristics of the study population**
(n=337, 29.1% of the total study population only)

GRAPH 3: Forest Plot: Odds Ratio



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Appendix 1: The final study protocol as approved by BREC



PROTOCOL NUMBER:

.....
For office use only

RESEARCH OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS: Biomedical Research Ethics Administration, Westville Campus, Govan Mbeki Building, Private Bag X 54001, Durban, 4000, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa; Tel: +27 31 2602486; Email: BREC@ukzn.ac.za ; Website: <http://research.ukzn.ac.za/Research-Ethics/Biomedical-Research-Ethics.aspx>

SECTION A:

APPLICANT/PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: * For UKZN statistical reporting purposes										
Title:										
Mr		Ms		Mrs		Dr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prof		(Select option)
Name : JAQUELINE CINDY GOVENDER										
*Gender: FEMALE										
*Race: INDIAN										
UKZN College: NELSON R MANDELA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE										
UKZN School/Discipline:	HEALTH SCIENCES								NA	
Hospital/Institution where employed:	RK KHAN HOSPITAL								NA	
Professional status: DOCTOR- SPECIALIST PHYSICIAN										
Postal address: P.O.BOX 31347, MEREBANK, 4059, DURBAN										
Contact phone Numbers: 031 4596000										
Office:										
Mobile number: 082 302 5888										
Fax number: NONE										
Email address: cindygov@hotmail.com										
Full/Part time Employment: FULL TIME										
Current HPCSA Number (or equivalent): MP 0666734										
*if registration is pending, submit proof of application										
Purpose of research: If postgraduate degree (Please tick)	Hons	MMedSc	MMed	MSc	MFamMed	MHIV	PhD			
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Other degree not listed above: N/A										
Student Number and year of study: (if applicable) 211560810										

If for postgraduate degree, please confirm whether the application has been reviewed and approved by your school's Academic Leader (Research):	Yes		No ✓
If yes, provide approval date and attach approval letter: N/A			
Title of the research project: The risk factor profile assessment of female patients presenting with Acute Myocardial Infarction: A South African perspective			
Name and qualifications of Supervisor: PROFESSOR NARESH RANJITH e-mail address: RANJITH@LANTIC.CO.ZA			
Name and qualifications of Co-supervisor: N/A e-mail address:			
If not for degree purposes, state other (example, self-initiated research): N/A			
Has this study been, or is it likely to be, submitted to any other Research Ethics Committee?	Yes		No ✓
If yes, please name the Committee/s and or institution and give outcome - i.e. approved/rejected/pending/not applicable? <i>(If approved, attach approval letter)</i> N/A			
Please state name and number of Co-investigators in project:¹ (if additional space is required for more investigators details please add to the end of application)			
CO-INVESTIGATOR/S ROLE IN PROJECT : N/A NO-CO-INVESTIGATORS <i>For UKZN statistical reporting purposes</i>			
Name:			
Faculty:			
Department:			
*Gender:			
*Race:			
Role:			
e-mail address:			
Signature of Co-Investigator:			
Name:			
Faculty:			
Department:			
*Gender:			
*Race:			
Role:			
e-mail address:			
Signature of Co-Investigator:			
Name:			
Faculty:			

¹ Please note that because of conflict of roles and interests that can arise, academic supervisors and co-investigators should be separate individuals.

Department:				
*Gender:				
*Race:				
Role:				
e-mail address:				
Signature of Co-Investigator:				
Has the Principal Investigator or any of the co-investigators been previously/or are presently being investigated for alleged research misconduct? <i>(If yes, please provide details and dates)</i>	Yes		No ✓	
FUNDING OF THE RESEARCH:				
Has funding been secured?	Yes		No ✓	
Amount: R N/A				
Name of funder: <i>(full details)</i> N/A				
Is this project funded from a US DHHS funding source? N/A	Yes		No	
If yes, name the federal funagency: N/A				
Can this project proceed without funding? It is a retrospective chart review analyzing data that is stored in a computerized database and as such no funding is needed to proceed with the study. <i>(give a brief explanation)</i>	Yes ✓		No	
Has an application for funds been made to other sources to support this project?	Yes		No ✓	
If yes, state name/s of funding agency and amount requested: N/A				
Note:				
For all US Federally funded studies (e.g. NIH, CDC, NIAID, DAIDS, NIMH, etc), one complete copy of the original funding application and approval must accompany the BREC ethics application.				
All University contracts need to be uploaded on the Contracts Management online submission form with either the signed Approval letter (non-research) or Form 1 (research related). The website link to the system is http://legalservices.ukzn.ac.za/ContractsManagement.aspx				
If you require assistance with the completion of the online submission form, or with any aspect of the new system, please contact Mr Rendra Phalad on Ext 7455 for all contracts (non-research contracts), and Mr Deon Moodley on Ext 8199 (for research contracts).				
FAILURE TO MAKE FULL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES WILL DELAY ETHICS APPROVAL				
Please indicate whether a BREC review fee is applicable for this study? <i>(See Fee Schedule on BREC Website)</i>	Yes		No	✓
If Yes, is the study covered by your Centre/Unit's annual levy fee to BREC? N/A	Yes		No	

TYPE OF RESEARCH <i>(please tick)</i>				
Expedited	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Full review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Note:</p> <p>* Expedited review only applies to minimal risk studies – e.g. retrospective chart reviews, studies on stored samples etc., for details see BREC ToR and SoP at http://research.ukzn.ac.za/Research-Ethics/Biomedical-Research-Ethics.aspx</p>				

SECTION B:

NATURE OF STUDY

Quantitative

Type of Study: <i>(please tick)</i>	Epidemiological	Observational clinical study	Experimental	Clinical Trial	Observational
	Retrospective Chart Review ✓	Prospective Chart Review	Laboratory study on stored samples	Other:(Specify)	

Qualitative N/A

1. THE PROTOCOL FOR STUDY

1.1 Full title of research project: *(Please DO NOT use abbreviations or acronyms)*

Risk factor profile assessment of female patients presenting with Acute Myocardial Infarction: A South African Perspective

1.2 Aims (what you hope to achieve) and Objectives (how you will achieve your aims) of study:
(please list)

AIMS

- 1) The study will be a retrospective chart review from the year 2002 up to and including 2016. The primary aim of the study will be to determine the cardiovascular risk factor profile of female patients presenting with a diagnosis of Acute Myocardial Infarction to the Coronary Care unit at RK Khan Hospital in Chatsworth, Durban from the year 2002 until December 2016.
- 2) I would also like to determine if the cardiovascular risk factor profile differs between pre and post-menopausal age groups.

OBJECTIVES:

- 1) The main objective is to provide a detailed analysis of the cardiovascular disease risk factor profile and clinical presentation of all adult female patients admitted to the Coronary Care unit at RK Khan Hospital between 2002 and 2016 with a diagnosis of Acute myocardial infarction- which will include ST segment elevation Myocardial infarction as well as Non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction.
- 2) The study period continues for 6months post hospitalization where available and I will also evaluate for any Major adverse cardiac events that occurred in the study population, from the time of admission up to six months post discharge.
- 3) The area of infarction as determined by electrocardiogram findings will be stated for each patient and quantified for the study population following analysis of data.
- 4) For the study population we will determine what proportion of patients received reperfusion therapy or not.
- 5) Angiographic characteristics and disease severity will be assessed from Angiographic findings for those subjects who underwent an angiogram at the referral centre, Inkosi Albert Luthuli hospital.
- 6) To determine whether the risk factors, namely Diabetes mellitus, hypertension, obesity, dyslipidemia, obesity, smoking and a family history of coronary artery disease, is a predictor of major adverse cardiac events (MACE) namely Arrhythmias, cardiac failure, cardiogenic shock, complete heart block, recurrence of angina or myocardial infarction and death, in our study population (females presenting with acute myocardial infarction).

1.3 Hypothesis to be tested, or Research Question to be answered:

- 1) Is the cardiovascular disease risk factor profile for females presenting with an acute myocardial

infarction any different to that of their male counterparts? This will be determined from information obtained on studies done in male counterparts presenting with Acute myocardial infarction in the local setting, that being South Africa.

2) What is the most common cardiovascular risk factor amongst females presenting with an acute myocardial infarction?

3) How do the risk factors differ in the pre and post-menopausal groups?

1.4 Summary of the proposed research methodology (restrict to 100 words)

The study to be performed will be a retrospective single center study. Data from a computerized database will be extracted for the study period 2002-2016.

All adult female patients with a diagnosis of acute myocardial infarction based on European and American society of Cardiology guidelines will be selected on consecutive admissions for the above mentioned study period. Patient anonymity will be maintained throughout the study period. The cardiovascular risk factor profile which will include the following: Diabetes Mellitus, Hypertension, cigarette smoking (current or ex-smokers), Dyslipidemia, Obesity, a previous history of coronary artery disease and a positive family history of Coronary artery disease, will be reviewed and stratified to determine which of the risk factors play a more significant role in predisposing female patients to the development of an acute myocardial infarction.

Patients will be divided into 2 groups, namely those with ST segment elevation myocardial infarction and those with Non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction. Both groups will be analyzed identically in terms of their age, clinical presentation, cardiovascular risk factors, initial electrocardiogram, use of thrombolytic therapy or not and for the development of any major adverse cardiovascular events up to six months post myocardial infarction. The Major adverse cardiovascular events that will be assessed are as follows: Arrhythmias, cardiac failure, cardiogenic shock, complete heart block, recurrence of angina or myocardial infarction and death.

Finally we will also be able to sub-categorize study participants into a pre and post-menopausal group and determine whether the cardiovascular risk factor profile differs in these 2 groups.

1.5 Keywords (for database):

- Acute myocardial infarction
- Female gender
- Age
- Major adverse cardiac events
- Cardiovascular risk factors
- Coronary angiogram
- Coronary revascularisation surgery

1.6 Background and Literature Review (maximum 1 page):

Coronary artery disease is one of the leading causes of death and disability worldwide (4). Likewise in South Africa it has become a major cause of morbidity and mortality across all ethnic groups (1,2). Although Coronary artery disease was previously thought to be a disease predominantly affecting males, it is now understood that females with underlying cardiovascular risk factors are equally at risk of developing coronary artery disease and specifically manifesting as acute myocardial infarction(3,4,13).The traditional and well-studied risk factors for coronary artery disease in males, namely Diabetes Mellitus, Hypertension, dyslipidemia, obesity, cigarette smoking and a family history of coronary artery disease, appear to play the same role in female counterparts(3,4,11,12,13). Due to the cardio-protective effects of Oestrogen, coronary artery disease in females generally occurs at an older age than when compared to males(11,12). Multiple studies have shown that women tend to

present with coronary artery disease on average 6-10 years later than their male counterparts (7,8,10, 13, 14). Studies have also found that the average age of presentation in females in developing countries tends to be lower than that of westernized countries (7, 14). However, although the disease was thought to predominantly affect post-menopausal females, younger females can also develop coronary artery disease in the presence of significant cardiovascular risk factors. In particular, smoking and diabetes mellitus has been found to be an independent predictor of acute coronary syndrome in women below the age of 40 years (6). Although, even the presence of a single risk factor can predispose females to the development of coronary artery disease, in particular acute myocardial infarction, like with males, the presence of multiple cardiovascular risk factors increases that risk significantly (3).

Several studies have shown that females tend to have a higher risk of developing complications following acute myocardial infarction and have higher mortality rates compared to men(10, 11, 14). Cardiovascular disease in females is understudied and there is limited data on the disease in females. According to a 2013 update on coronary artery disease in women (5), it was stated that coronary artery disease is the leading cause of mortality in females and requires further sex-specific research on the disease.

Whilst some risk factors like age, sex, genetic factors and family history, are non-modifiable, it is the modifiable risk factors (Diabetes Mellitus, hypertension, obesity, dyslipidemia and cigarette smoking), that will impact on future outcomes in these patients as well as be the target of primary health care initiatives in reducing the risk of developing cardiovascular disease in females.

1.7 Key References:

(Give approximately 5 key references)

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48) J. Sial et al, Gender differences in presentation of Acute myocardial infarction, Pakistan Heart Journal, Volume 41, No. 3-4 July – December 2008.

2. PLAN OF INVESTIGATION FOR STUDY

* In the case of Higher Degrees, please state name and School of person consulted regarding the design:

2.1	Is this a retrospective chart review with no human contact?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2	Is this a study of stored tissue?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.3	Are host genetic factors being studied?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2.4 How many hours per week will the PI devote to this project? 6-8 HOURS ON AVERAGE
(Timetable the project in terms of the resources and time available)

2.5 Describe your data collection methods for the research project in detail: Data will be extracted from an electronic database that was used by the Coronary Care unit at RK Khan hospital. Patient anonymity will maintained throughout the study period.

3. STATISTICAL PLANNING AND DATA ANALYSIS

3.1	Has this project been approved by a professional statistician? If No, please justify.	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--	-----	-------------------------------------	----	--------------------------

3.2 If answered "yes" to (3.1), provide the name of the statistician: TARYLEE REDDY from Medical Research Council- DURBAN

3.4 Please provide a brief overview of statistical and data analytic considerations, including: Please refer to the attached document from the above statistician
How was the number of participants determined? Please include assumptions made in any power analysis (e.g. control incidence or mean and standard deviation of primary outcome variable, desired or anticipated effect of treatment or intervention, level of statistical significance and desired power), and list all planned statistical methods to be used. For descriptive studies list statistical operations to be performed.

SAMPLE SIZE CALCULATION:

The study is powered on estimating the prevalence of key risk factors in the population of females with Acute myocardial infarction with a high degree of precision. Based on previous research, we estimate that the prevalence of diabetes, hypertension etc in this group is greater than 60%. The most conservation approach would be to determine sample size based on a 50% prevalence. To detect a risk factor prevalence of 50% within a 5% margin of error, at a type 1 error rate of 5%, a minimum of 385 participants are required. The aforementioned sample size is also sufficient to estimate prevalence rates greater than or less than 50% with greater precision. We estimate that there will be approximately 1000 participants available which exceeds the minimum sample size of 385.

ANALYSIS PLAN:

The prevalence of factors (eg. Diabetes mellitus, hypertension etc) will be reported as proportions with 95% binomial confidence intervals. To determine whether the prevalence of risks factors differs between subgroups of women, the Chi-Square test and Fishers exact test, where appropriate, will be

used. Continuous variables will be summarized as means with standard deviations, or medians with interquartile ranges depending on the distribution. Univariate and multivariate logistic regression will be used to determine factors associated with MACE. All analysis will be conducted using Stata 14.

3.5 For *qualitative* studies: What is the analytic paradigm to be used for analysis of the data? **N/A as this is a retrospective chart review.**

4. PARTICIPANTS IN THE STUDY

4.1 Is this a multi-national study? Yes No
(If yes, state collaborating countries)

4.2 List all sites in South Africa in which the project will be carried i.e. geographic location (e.g. KwaZulu-Natal) and type of place (e.g. hospital, clinic, schools, community etc). **CORONARY CARE UNIT at RK KHAN HOSPITAL in CHATSOWRTH, DURBAN, KWAZULU NATAL.**

4.3 Source: <i>(Please indicate number per group)</i>	Inpatients <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Outpatients	Volunteers	Animals
--	---	-------------	------------	---------

4.4 Age (human studies) <i>(Please indicate number per group)</i>	Neonates (<28 days)	Infants (1-11 month)	Children (1-12 years)	Adolescent (13-17 years)	Adults <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--	---------------------	----------------------	-----------------------	--------------------------	---

4.5 Is there a control group(s)? Yes No

4.6 Demographic profile of participants *(please tick ALL appropriate boxes below.)*

4.6.1 Gender: Female Male

4.6.2 Population Group: Black Coloured Indian White

4.6.3 Language Group/s: Specify.....ENGLISH

4.7 Describe the recruitment process in detail for all groups. **The study is a retrospective chart review and all details will be obtained from an electronic database used by the Coronary care unit at RK Khan hospital.**

4.8 Will incentives be offered to facilitate recruitment? Yes No
(If yes, describe in detail)

4.9 Will participants be reimbursed in some way for participation? Yes No
(If yes, describe in detail) See SA DoH Guidelines on BREC Website

4.10 Will reimbursement for participants and investigators be in accordance with: *(If no, please explain)* **The study is a retrospective chart review and as such will not incur any expense for the participants.**

- Guidelines for Good Practice in the Conduct of Clinical Trials in Human Participants in South Africa: Department of Health (2006) and;
- Ethics in Health Research: Principles, Structures and Processes: (2015)?

Yes No

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current SA DoH Guidance on reimbursement (<i>See BREC website</i>) 					
<p>4.11 Will participants be insured against research related injury? N/A as this is a retrospective chart review and an analysis of computerised data so there are no interventions. <i>(If yes, please provide details; If no, please provide rationale)</i> Mandatory for Clinical Trials</p>	Yes		No	✓	
<p>4.12 List in detail the inclusion and exclusion criteria.</p> <p><u>INCLUSION CRITERIA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All adult females (≥ 18 years of age) admitted to the Coronary Care unit at RK Khan hospital with a diagnosis Acute myocardial infarction (MI) between the years 2002 and 2016. Acute myocardial infarction, both ST elevation MI and Non-ST elevation MI All races- Asian, Black, Coloured and White Risk factors: Diabetes Mellitus, Hypertension, Dyslipidemia, Cigarette smoking, Obesity and family history of Coronary artery disease <p><u>EXCLUSION CRITERIA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All male patients admitted to the coronary care unit during the aforementioned study period . All patients admitted to the coronary care unit at RK Khan hospital with a diagnosis of Unstable Angina All patients below the age of 18 years. 					

5. CLINICAL TRIALS					
5.1 Has Medicines Control Council (MCC) approval been applied for?	Yes		No	N/A	✓
5.2 Indicate current status of MCC approval application: N/A					
5.3 Has this clinical trial been registered with the SA National Clinical Trials Register?	Yes		No	N/A	✓
5.4 If "yes" to (5.3), please provide SANCTR registration number: N/A					
5.5 If "no" to (5.3), PI hereby undertakes to register the trial with SANCTR after final ethics and MCC approval					
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A					
5.6 Please provide the names of all members of the Data Safety and Monitoring Board (DSMB) (CLINICAL TRIALS ONLY) N/A					
5.7 The PI hereby undertakes to ensure that all DSMB reports are forwarded to BREC for comment as soon as possible.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A					
5.8 Are any of the intended research participants in other research studies and/ or trials? (<i>If yes, describe in detail</i>)	Yes		No	✓	
5.9 Is the PI presently involved in other research and/or clinical trial activities? (<i>If yes, please provide details and % time allocated to each</i>)	Yes		No	✓	
5.10 Has the funder imposed any restrictions on PI regarding	Yes		No	✓	

publication of study results? N/A If Yes , give details:				
6. POTENTIAL RISKS OR DISCOMFORT				
6.1 Can the project have any potential risks or discomfort on participants, members of the public, researchers, field staff or the physical environment?	Yes		No	✓
6.2 If "yes" to (6.1) indicate, for each study group/arm, the potential additional risks as follows: N/A 6.2.1 Biological risks 6.2.2 Psychological risks 6.2.3 Social Risks 6.2.4 Legal risks 6.2.5 Financial risks 6.2.6 Other risks 6.3 Please detail steps that will be taken to minimise the risks indicated above: N/A 6.3.1 Biological risks 6.3.2 Psychological risks 6.3.3 Social Risks 6.3.4 Legal risks 6.3.5 Financial risks 6.3.6 Other risks				

7. BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES				
7.1	Will human tissues (blood, blood products, gamete, gonads, oocyte, organs, flesh, bone, gland, skin, bone marrow or body fluids, waste materials such as urine and stools), microbial isolates and human genetic materials (DNA, RNA) be stored?	Yes	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.2	If "yes" to (6.1), give details of storage facilities (name, location, conditions and duration of storage). N/A			
7.2	Will human tissues, genetic materials and or microbial isolates be exported?	Yes	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.3	If "yes" to (7.2), please attach current copies of export and import permits and International Aviation Clearance Certificates and a Materials Transfer Agreement (<i>see template on BREC website</i>). It is illegal to export human tissues and biological materials without an export permit (National Health Act, 2003). N/A			
7.4	Please provide a rationale for export of biological materials (i.e. why the work cannot be done locally why local capacity cannot be upgraded) N/A			
7.5	<p>Conflict of Interest: Investigators should have no undisclosed conflict of interest with their study collaborators, sponsors or participants. Conflicts can arise, for example, when a commercial or other sponsor may not wish research results detrimental to their corporate image/interest to be disclosed, especially when the investigator is being remunerated by the sponsor for the research in question; or when an investigator has a vested interest in, or is an employee/shareholder/director in the sponsor's corporate entity. Conflicts of interest can also arise when an academic supervisor is also a co-investigator on a study with a student. Investigators should note that the duty to disclose a conflict of interest to BREC begins during application for ethical approval and continues until the research in question is complete and the research results are submitted to the sponsor/published (if applicable).</p> <p>If the investigator(s) has/have/foresees any such conflict of interest, please provide details here: NONE</p>			
8. GENERAL				
8.1	Indicate, for each study group, the likely additional, i.e., over and above standard of care:			
8.1.1	Duration of hospital stay (days): N/A			
8.1.2	Outpatient attendances (number): N/A			
8.1.3	Laboratory services used, including those appointed by the sponsor (name and location): N/A			
8.1.4	Type of samples and volumes to be drawn: N/A			
8.1.5	Which laboratory services will be used? N/A			
8.1.5.1	Has a preliminary agreement been reached with laboratory service providers? N/A			
		Yes	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	If Yes, attach letter of confirmation. N/A			
8.2	Has the nursing team who will be involved in the study been informed of the study and the nursing involvement which will be required? Nursing staff was not engaged in the study. <i>(If no, please explain; other, please specify)</i>	Yes	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8.3	In the case of participants drawn from patient populations, indicate, in respect of each sub-group, how management differs from that usually offered to patients with similar conditions. N/A			
8.4	In the case of community based studies, explain what consultation is planned within the community at the following stages: N/A			
8.4.1	Preparation			
8.4.2	Implementation of the study and			
8.4.3	Dissemination of the results thereafter			
8.5	State the expected benefits arising from this study under the following headings:			
8.5.1	Possible direct benefits to study participants			
8.5.1.1	There is a gender bias in terms of publication and females have been a poorly studied group with regards to coronary artery disease, so we hope that the data derived from this study will help narrow that gap and improve outcomes for coronary care in female patients.			

8.5.1.2	Public health: We will be able to determine if female patients with coronary artery disease behave differently to their male counterparts				
8.5.1.3	Financial: The results of the study will be of benefit to all centres admitting female patients with acute myocardial infarction and by improving the management of this patient population there will be reduced hospitalization and reduced financial costs.				
8.5.1.4	Prospects of tested intervention being available to the study population if proven effective NONE as there is no interventional work being done in this study				
8.5.1.5	Other (Specify): NIL				
8.5.2	Specify the Indirect benefits arising from this study: This study will assist in drawing up guidelines for cardiovascular disease in the female population and will impact on future management and outcomes in this population group.				
8.6	Describe the intended strategy for dissemination of study results				
8.6.1	To the scientific community: By publication in a scientific journal				
8.6.2	To research participants: They can be informed of the scientific journal that the article has been published in.				
8.6.3	To the general public (if applicable): If the results of this study are profound then It would be possible to get a newspaper publication.				
8.6.4	Other: Specify: NIL				
9. RESEARCH DATA/SAMPLES					
9.1	Please explain where the data/samples will be stored and how long they will be stored for? Data is currently stored on a computerized database where it will remain for the timeframe of the study and thereafter.				
9.2	Will data/samples be destroyed after analyses? Data will be stored for at least 15years in the Database. <i>(If no, please explain)</i>				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td></td> <td>No</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Yes		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Yes		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
10. INFORMED CONSENT: GIVEN TO PARTICIPANTS: Not applicable as the study is a Retrospective chart review in which data will be extracted from an existing database. Patient anonymity will be maintained.					
<p>See SAMPLE INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM ON UKZN BREC WEBSITE at http://research.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/Notices2011/BREC_Informed_consent_form_sflb.sflb.ashx</p> <p>Other consent forms are acceptable provided that they contain at least the essential elements outlined in the current UKZN BREC Terms of Reference (ToR) and Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) available at http://research.ukzn.ac.za/Research-Ethics/Biomedical-Research-Ethics.aspx</p> <p>If necessary, information sheets and consent forms, after ethics approval of the English version, must be translated into appropriate local languages and submitted to BREC for further approval prior to implementation, with a copy of the translator's certificate, and back translations if applicable.</p> <p>The correct and complete contact details for the UKZN Biomedical Research Ethics Committee should be in the information sheets and consent forms as follows:</p> <p>BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH ETHICS ADMINISTRATION Research Office, Westville Campus Govan Mbeki Building University of KwaZulu-Natal Private Bag X 54001, Durban, 4000 KwaZulu-Natal, SOUTH AFRICA Tel: 27 31 2602486 - Fax: 27 31 2604609 Email: BREC@ukzn.ac.za</p>					
11. QUESTIONNAIRES: GIVEN TO PARTICIPANTS					
Not applicable as the study is a Retrospective chart review in which data will be extracted from an existing database. Patient anonymity will be maintained.					
Provide 25 copies of all questionnaires, interview guides, data collection sheets etc.					

List all such attachments here:
DATA COLLECTION TOOL

12. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Conflict of Interest:

I declare that all potential conflicts of interest regarding my application for ethics approval to conduct this study have been declared in accordance with UKZN and BREC Terms of Reference and Standard Operating Procedures.

Oversight of study: Will this study be overseen by a professional Clinical Research Organisation or study sponsor?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	-------------------------------------

If Yes, please give details:

Undertaking:

I understand and accept that I will be required to submit a yearly recertification application, failing which authorisation to continue the study lapses. Progress reports may be required more frequently depending on level of risk and other factors – this will be detailed in the BREC approval letter. Where applicable, all reports from the Data Safety Monitoring Boards (or similar committees) will be provided to the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee within 7 days.

I undertake to request permission for any changes/amendments to the study from BREC in advance of implementing any such changes, unless they are emergencies required to prevent harm or save life. In such cases BREC must be notified urgently.

I agree to provide monitoring data if and when required.

I expect the project to be completed by Date.....

I agree to abide by the guidance contained in the SA Department of Health (2015) Ethics in Health Research: Principles, structures and processes and the (2006) South African Good Clinical Practice Guidelines and the current UKZN Biomedical Research Ethics Committee Terms of Reference and Standard Operating Procedures. These are available at <http://research.ukzn.ac.za/Research-Ethics/Biomedical-Research-Ethics.aspx>

I understand and accept that all information pertaining to this application is a true reflection of the project proposed and I take full responsibility should there be any transgression.

SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR.....

FULL NAME OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR.....

DATE.....

13. DECLARATION AND APPROVAL FROM SUPERVISOR AND CO-SUPERVISOR (if applicable)

(I HAVE READ AND CHECKED THE PROPOSAL AND IT IS READY FOR SUBMISSION;

Remarks:

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR

FULL NAME OF SUPERVISOR.....

DATE.....

SIGNATURE OF CO-SUPERVISOR

FULL NAME OF CO-SUPERVISOR.....

DATE.....

If applicable, attach a signed copy of the Supervision Agreement between the student, supervisor and any co-supervisor.

**14. DECLARATION AND APPROVAL OF LINE MANAGER/HOD/ACADEMIC LEADER
(Must include verification of interdepartmental agreements and co-operation)**

Remarks:

SIGNATURE OF ACADEMIC LEADER/HOD OR LINE MANAGER

FULL NAME OF ACADEMIC LEADER/HOD OR LINE MANAGER.....

DATE.....

NB: If applicant is ACADEMIC LEADER/DEAN/HOS, the ACADEMIC LEADER'S/DEAN'S/HOS's Line Manager (DVC) must sign.

SIGNATURE OF ACADEMIC LEADER's/ HOS's/DEAN's Line Manager.....

FULL NAME OF ACADEMIC LEADER's, HOS's/DEAN's Line Manager.....

DATE.....

Tel: 27 31 2602486 - Fax: 27 31 2604609
Email: BREC@ukzn.ac.za

11. QUESTIONNAIRES: GIVEN TO PARTICIPANTS

Not applicable as the study is a Retrospective chart review in which data will be extracted from an existing database. Patient anonymity will be maintained.

Provide 25 copies of all questionnaires, interview guides, data collection sheets etc.

List all such attachments here:

DATA COLLECTION TOOL

12. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Conflict of Interest:

I declare that all potential conflicts of interest regarding my application for ethics approval to conduct this study have been declared in accordance with UKZN and BREC Terms of Reference and Standard Operating Procedures.

Oversight of study: Will this study be overseen by a professional Clinical Research Organisation or study sponsor?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	-------------------------------------

If Yes, please give details:

Undertaking:

I understand and accept that I will be required to submit a yearly recertification application, failing which authorisation to continue the study lapses. Progress reports may be required more frequently depending on level of risk and other factors – this will be detailed in the BREC approval letter. Where applicable, all reports from the Data Safety Monitoring Boards (or similar committees) will be provided to the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee within 7 days.

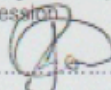
I undertake to request permission for any changes/amendments to the study from BREC in advance of implementing any such changes, unless they are emergencies required to prevent harm or save life. In such cases BREC must be notified urgently.

I agree to provide monitoring data if and when required.

I expect the project to be completed by Date.....

I agree to abide by the guidance contained in the SA Department of Health (2015) Ethics in Health Research: Principles, structures and processes and the (2006) South African Good Clinical Practice Guidelines and the current UKZN Biomedical Research Ethics Committee Terms of Reference and Standard Operating Procedures. These are available at <http://research.ukzn.ac.za/Research-Ethics/Biomedical-Research-Ethics.aspx>

I understand and accept that all information pertaining to this application is a true reflection of the project proposed and I take full responsibility should there be any transgression.

SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR.....


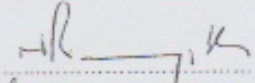
FULL NAME OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR..... JACQUELINE CINDY GOVENDER

DATE..... 7.03.2017.....

13. DECLARATION AND APPROVAL FROM SUPERVISOR AND CO-SUPERVISOR (if applicable)

(I HAVE READ AND CHECKED THE PROPOSAL AND IT IS READY FOR SUBMISSION;

Remarks:

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR 

FULL NAME OF SUPERVISOR..... PROF. N. RANSITH

DATE..... 9/3/2017

SIGNATURE OF CO-SUPERVISOR N/A

FULL NAME OF CO-SUPERVISOR.....

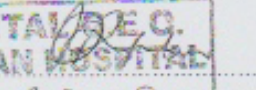
DATE.....

If applicable, attach a signed copy of the Supervision Agreement between the student, supervisor and any co-supervisor.

14. DECLARATION AND APPROVAL OF LINE MANAGER/HOD/ACADEMIC LEADER

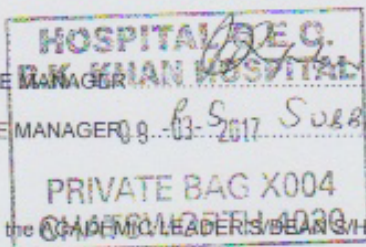
(Must include verification of interdepartmental agreements and co-operation)

Remarks:

SIGNATURE OF ACADEMIC LEADER/HOD OR LINE MANAGER 

FULL NAME OF ACADEMIC LEADER/HOD OR LINE MANAGER..... Subram

DATE..... 9/3/2017



NB: If applicant is ACADEMIC LEADER/DEAN/HOS, the ACADEMIC LEADER/DEAN/S/HOS's Line Manager (DVC) must sign.

SIGNATURE OF ACADEMIC LEADER's/ HOS's/DEAN's Line Manager.....

FULL NAME OF ACADEMIC LEADER's, HOS's/DEAN's Line Manager.....

DATE.....

SUGGESTED CURRICULUM VITAE FORMAT

(3 COPIES AND MAXIMUM 4 PAGES)

CURRICULUM VITAE (of Principal Investigator and all Co-Investigators)
(CVs to be completed and signed for each member of the research team)

Full name:

Date of birth:

Male/Female:

Telephone (Home):

Telephone (Business):

Cell:

Fax No:

E-mail Address:

Current HPCSA No: (or equivalent statutory health council registration No. as appropriate)

Present position:

Institution:

Department/Section:

Nationality/Permanent residency:

Previous positions held (last 10 years):

Qualifications:

University where obtained/year:

Area of study:

Number of Postgraduate theses supervised (Masters and Doctoral):

Publication list over the past 3 years:

Details of all other research studies presently being conducted:

Certificate of recent (past 3 years) research ethics and/or GCP training (GCP required for clinical trials):

Signature of PI/Co-PI:

CHECKLIST FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH ETHICS APPLICATIONS

NB: DO NOT BIND SUBMISSIONS (STAPLE ONLY)

Applications to be addressed to: The Administrator, Biomedical Research Ethics Committee, Govan Mbeki Building, University Road, Westville Campus, Tel: 031-260 4769 / 2486 Email: BREC@ukzn.ac.za

Note to Students:

PLEASE NOTE THAT ONLY **ONE** COPY OF APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS NEED BE SUBMITTED IF STUDY IS FOR DEGREE PURPOSES. ALL APPLICATIONS FOR DEGREE PURPOSES MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA THE COLLEGE POST-GRADUATE OFFICE WITH AN APPROVAL LETTER ATTACHED.

INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS MAY RESULT IN DELAYED REVIEW OF THE APPLICATION

For all non-degree, non-expedited (full) review applications:

- 25 TYPEWRITTEN COPIES OF APPLICATION (**Back-to-back (double-sided) copies preferred**)
- 5 COPIES OF THE PROTOCOL
- 5 COPIES OF CURRENT CV/s (**abbreviated 2 PAGES**)
- 5 COPIES OF EVIDENCE OF CURRENT GCP / RESEARCH ETHICS TRAINING
- 25 COPIES OF ALL QUESTIONNAIRES TO BE USED IN THE STUDY
- 25 COPIES OF THE INFORMED CONSENT FORMS (See BREC templates)
- 25 COPIES OF THE PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET (See BREC templates)
- HAVE YOU FAMILIARISED YOURSELF WITH THE BREC TERMS OF REFERENCE? (See <http://research.ukzn.ac.za/Research-Ethics/Biomedical-Research-Ethics.aspx>)
- DETAILS OF ALL FUNDING SUPPORT?
- ALL PERSONAL INFORMATION?
- ANSWERED ALL QUESTIONS?
- GIVEN DETAILS OF ALL RESEARCH PRESENTLY BEING UNDERTAKEN?
- DELETED UNNECESSARY BLANK SPACES IN THE DOCUMENT?
- **IS DECLARATION PAGE SIGNED BY PI AND HOS/DEAN OR SUPERVISOR?**

In addition: FOR CLINICAL TRIALS – SUBMIT:

- 5 COPIES OF THE INVESTIGATOR'S MANUAL
- 5 COPIES OF MCC APPROVAL
- 5 COPIES OF THE FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

FINAL CHECKLIST FOR FULL (Non-expedited) APPLICATIONS:

1	Proof of PI and Co-PI current HPCSA registration	YES	NO	N/A
2	Permission from hospital manager/clinics submitted	YES	NO	N/A
3	For degree purposes, please attach copy of postgraduate approval letter	YES	NO	N/A
4	Roles of PI & co-investigators given	YES	NO	N/A
5	CV of PI submitted	YES	NO	N/A
6	CV's of co-investigators submitted	YES	NO	N/A
7	GCP/ethics training certificate of PI	YES	NO	N/A
8	GCP/ethics training certificates of co-investigators	YES	NO	N/A
9	Have other REC approval letters been submitted?	YES	NO	N/A
10	Is applicant affiliated to BREC – e.g. BREC member? If yes, please specify	YES	NO	N/A
11	Clinical protocol submitted	YES	NO	N/A
12	BREC details on Information Sheet updated/checked	YES	NO	N/A
13	Statistics addressed	YES	NO	N/A
14	Information to participants submitted	YES	NO	N/A
15	Informed consent documents submitted	YES	NO	N/A
16	Signature of PI	YES	NO	N/A
17	Signed supervision agreement (if applicable)	YES	NO	N/A
18	Signature of ACADEMIC LEADER/HOS/DEAN or Line Manager	YES	NO	N/A
19	Signatures of co-investigators	YES	NO	N/A
20	Questionnaires submitted	YES	NO	N/A
21	Translation of documents certified	YES	NO	N/A
22	Materials Transfer Agreement (MTA)	YES	NO	N/A
23	Will genetic studies be performed? If yes, provide consent form	YES	NO	N/A
24	Export certificate for tissue storage/transportation	YES	NO	N/A
25	Permission from Department of Health/Province	YES	NO	N/A
26	One copy of grant funding proposal and Award notice if funded by any US DHHS source, e.g., NIH, CDC, DAIDS	YES	NO	N/A
27	Copy of MCC approval or application	YES	NO	N/A

Appendix 2: Ethical Approval



10 July 2017

Dr JC Govender (211560810)
Discipline of Medicine
School of Clinical Medicine
cindygov@hotmail.com

Dear Dr Govender

Protocol: Risk factor profile assessment of female patients presenting with acute myocardial infarction: A South African perspective. Degree: MMed BREC ref: BE225/17

A sub-committee of the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee has considered and noted your application received on 28 March 2017.

The study was provisionally approved pending appropriate responses to queries raised. Your response dated 27 June 2017 to BREC letter dated 23 May 2017 have been noted by a sub-committee of the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee. The conditions have now been met and the study is given full ethics approval and may begin as from 10 July 2017.

This approval is valid for one year from 10 July 2017. To ensure uninterrupted approval of this study beyond the approval expiry date, an application for recertification must be submitted to BREC on the appropriate BREC form 2-3 months before the expiry date.

Any amendments to this study, unless urgently required to ensure safety of participants, must be approved by BREC prior to implementation.

Your acceptance of this approval denotes your compliance with South African National Research Ethics Guidelines (2015), South African National Good Clinical Practice Guidelines (2006) (if applicable) and with UKZN BREC ethics requirements as contained in the UKZN BREC Terms of Reference and Standard Operating Procedures, all available at <http://research.ukzn.ac.za/Research-Ethics/Biomedical-Research-Ethics.aspx>.

BREC is registered with the South African National Health Research Ethics Council (REC-290408-009). BREC has US Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) Federal-wide Assurance (FWA 678).

The sub-committee's decision will be RATIFIED by a full Committee at its next meeting taking place on 08 August 2017.

We wish you well with this study. We would appreciate receiving copies of all publications arising out of this study.

Yours sincerely



Professor V Rambiritch
Deputy Chair: Biomedical Research Ethics Committee

cc supervisor: raniith@lantic.co.za

cc postgraduate administrator: scmpg@ukzn.ac.za

Biomedical Research Ethics Committee
Professor J Tsoka-Gwegweni (Chair)
Westville Campus, Govan Mbeki Building
Postal Address: Private Bag X54001, Durban 4000

Telephone: +27 (0) 31 260 2486 Facsimile: +27 (0) 31 260 4609 Email: brec@ukzn.ac.za

Appendix 3: Permission To Conduct Study At RK Khan Hospital



health

Department:
Health
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

R.K KHAN HOSPITAL

Postal Address: Private Bag X004, Chatsworth, 4030
Physical Address: 336 R. K. Khan Circle, Croftdene,
Chatsworth, 4030
Tel.: 031-459 6001
Fax: 031-401 1247
Email: siphephelo.mabatha@kznhealth.gov.za

OFFICE OF THE CEO

ENQUIRIES: DR P.S. SUBBAN

14 FEBRUARY 2017

Dr JC Govender

Dear Madam

RE: PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH: THE RISK FACTOR PROFILE OF FEMALE PATIENTS PRESENTING WITH ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION: A SOUTH AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

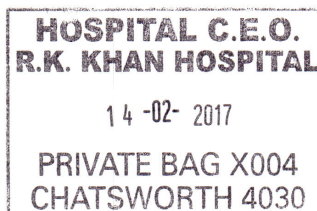
Permission is granted to conduct the study at this institution.

Please note the following:

1. Please ensure that you adhere to all the policies, procedures, protocols and guidelines of the Institution with regards to this research.
2. Please ensure this office is informed before you commence your research.
3. You will be expected to provide feedback on your findings to this institution.
4. You will be liaising with : Dr Mayise
 Tel.: 031 459 6410

Yours faithfully

DR P.S. SUBBAN
HOSPITAL CEO



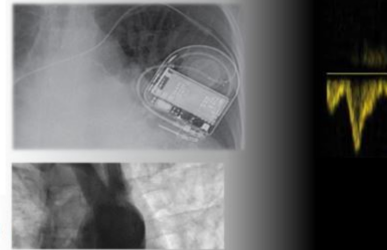
Appendix 4: The Guidelines for Authorship for the Journal selected for submission of the manuscript

ADMISSIONS

2019/01/28, 21:24



Journal of the South African Heart Association



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Home > About the Journal > Submissions

Submissions

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- Author Guidelines
- Copyright Notice
- Privacy Statement

Online Submissions

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Registration and login are required to submit items online and to check the status of current submissions.

Author Guidelines

Authors need to **register** with the journal as an Author prior to submitting or, if already registered, can simply **log in** and begin the five-step process.

For any technical problems, please contact – scholar@sun.ac.za / 021 808 9046

Download the **Author Manual** with regards to the Submission of articles, Reviewers Recommendations, Re-submission, etc.

Instructions for authors

SA Heart publishes peer reviewed articles dealing with cardiovascular disease, including original research, topical reviews, state-of-the-art papers and viewpoints. Regular features include an ECG quiz, image in cardiology and local guidelines. Case reports are considered for publication only if the case or cases are truly unique, incorporates a relevant review of the literature and makes a contribution to improved future patient management.

Publication policy

Articles must be the original, unpublished work of the stated authors. Written permission from the author or copyright holder must be submitted with previously published material including text, figures or tables. Articles under consideration elsewhere or previously published (except as abstracts not exceeding 400 words) may not be submitted for publication in SA Heart. On acceptance transfer of copyright to the South African Heart Association will be required. No material published in SA Heart may be reproduced without written permission. Permission may be sought from the Chief Editor (Email: afd@sun.ac.za).

Disclosures

Authors must declare all financial disclosures and conflicts of interest in the cover letter and on the title page of the manuscript.

Ethics

All studies must be in compliance with institutional and international regulations for human and animal studies such as the Helsinki declaration (2008) (<http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/17c.pdf>) and the South African MRC ethics guidelines (<http://www.sahealthinfo.org/ethics/index.htm>). Human studies require ethics committee approval and informed consent which must be documented in your manuscript. Animal studies require ethics committee approval and must conform to international guidelines for animal research, as well as the South African National Standard for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes. Compliance with these requirements must be documented in your manuscript.

Content

1. Title page: It should contain the title of the manuscript, the names of all authors in the correct sequence, their academic status and affiliations. If there are more than 4 authors, the contribution of each must be substantiated in the cover sheet. The main author should include his/her name, address, phone, fax and email address.
2. Authors are solely responsible for the factual accuracy of their work.
3. Articles should be between 3 000 and 5 000 words in length.
4. A 200-word abstract should state the main conclusions and clinical relevance of the article.
5. All articles are to be in English.
6. Abbreviations and acronyms should be defined on first use and kept to a minimum.
7. Tables should carry Roman numeral, I, II etc., and figures Arabic numbers 1, 2 etc.

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8. References should be numbered consecutively in the order that they are first mentioned in the text and listed at the end in numerical order of appearance. Identify references in the text by Arabic numerals in superscript after punctuation, e.g. ...trial.
9. Articles are to be submitted directly via the journal. The text should be in MS Word. Pages should be numbered consecutively in the following order wherever possible: Title page, abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, acknowledgements, tables and illustrations, references.
10. Where possible all figures, tables and photographs must also be submitted electronically. The illustrations, tables and graphs should not be imbedded in the text file, but should be provided as separate individual graphic files, and clearly identified. The figures should be saved as a 300 dpi jpeg file. Tables should be saved in a MS Word or PowerPoint document. If photographs are submitted, two sets of unmounted high quality black and white glossy prints should accompany the paper. Figures and photographs should be of high quality with all symbols, letters or numbers clear enough and large enough to remain legible after reduction to fit in a text column. Each figure and table must have a separate self-explanatory legend.
11. Remove all markings such as patient identification from images and radiographs before photographing.

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Articles

Kaplan FS, August CS, Dalinka MK. Bone densitometry observation of osteoporosis in response to bone marrow transplantation. *Clin Orthop* 1993;294:73-8. (If there are more than six authors, list only the first three followed by et al.)

Chapter in a book

Young W. Neurophysiology of spinal cord injury. In: Errico TJ, Bauer RD, Waugh T (eds). *Spinal Trauma*. Philadelphia: JB Lippincott; 1991:377-94.

Online media

Norback JS, Lwellyn DC and Hardin JR (2001). Shoptalk 101. Integrating workplace communication into undergraduate engineering curricula [online]. Retrieved February 15, 2012. <http://www.lionhrtpub.com/forms/forms-8-01/norback.html>.

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3. For online resources and where possible URLs for the references have been provided.
4. The text is single-spaced; uses a 12-point font; employs italics, rather than underlining (except with URL addresses); and all illustrations, figures, and tables are placed within the text at the appropriate points, rather than at the end.
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Appendix 5: Data collections tool (sample)

DATA COLLECTION TOOL BY DR JC GOVENDER- RK KHAN CORONARY CARE UNIT				
RISK FACTOR PROFILE OF FEMALE PATIENTS PRESENTING WITH AMI				
PERSONAL DETAILS	PATIENT NUMBER			
	AGE			
	SEX			
	RACE			
ONSET OF PAIN	DATE			
	TIME			
ADMISSION CRITERIA	DATE			
ADMISSION DIAGNOSIS	STEMI			
	NSTEMI			
SITE OF INFARCTION	ANTERIOR			
	ANTEROLATERAL			
	ANTEROSPITAL			
	INFERIOR			

	HIGH LATERAL			
	POSTERIOR			
	RIGHT VENTRICLE			
EXAMINATION	ABDOMINAL GIRTH			
	SYSTOLIC BLOOD PRESSURE			
	DIASTOLIC BLOOD PRESSURE			
RISK FACTOR PROFILE	DIABETES MELLITUS	Y/N		
		Duration		
	HYPERTENSION	Y/N		
		Duration		
	BMI	Normal		
		Pre-obese		
		Obese		
	DYSLIPIDEMIA	Y/N		
		Duration		
	SMOKING	Y/N		
		Current		

		Ex-smoker		
	PREVIOUS MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION	Y/N		
		Date		
	PREVIOUS ANGINA	Y/N		
	FAMILY HISTORY			
	Coronary artery disease	Y/N		
	Cerebrovascular disease	Y/N		
	Diabetes Mellitus	Y/N		
	Hypertension	Y/N		
INVESTIGATIONS				
	TOTAL CHOLESTEROL			
	LDL CHOLESTEROL			
	HDL CHOLESTEROL			
	TRIGLYCERIDES			
	HAEMOGLOBIN			
	CREATINIE			
	URIC ACID			
MAJOR ADVERSE CARDIAC EVENTS				
(Up to 6months post discharge)	VENTRICULAR ARRHYTHMIA			
	SUPRAVENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA			
	HEART BLOCK			

	CARDIAC FAILURE			
	CARDIOGENIC SHOCK			
	CEREBROVASCULAR ACCIDENT			
	REHOSPITALISATION			
	DEATH			
MEDICAL THERAPY				
	METALYSE	Y/N		
	NITRATES			
	DISPRIN/ASPIRIN			
	STATIN			
	ACE-I/ARB'S			
	B-BLOCKER			
	CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKER			
SURGICAL PROCEDURES				
	CORONARY ANGIOGRAM	Y/N		
	Normal			
	Single vessel disease			
	Double vessel disease			
	Triple vessel disease			
	PCI/STENT	Y/N		
	CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS GRAFT	Y/N		
	Type			

Appendix 6: Raw data (sample)

I	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	U	P	Q	R
ID	Adm dat	Adm tiri	Age	Sex	Rece	Diabetes	Hypertension	Smoking	Smoking status	Previous MI	Previous Angina	FH CAD	FH CVD	FH Hypertension	FH Diabetes Mellitus			
174	2880	22-Jul-04	1:10:00 AM	75 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE			
175	2881	26-Jul-04	3:15:00 PM	57 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE			
176	2887	28-Jul-04	4:30:00 PM	64 Female	Asian	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE			
177	2889	30-Jul-04	2:00:00 PM	60 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE			
178	2891	03-Jul-04	10:15:00 PM	62 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
179	2892	04-Aug-04	6:02:00 PM	57 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
180	2893	08-Aug-04	9:30:00 AM	70 Female	Asian	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
181	2899	05-Aug-04	3:00:00 AM	63 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE			
182	2902	09-Aug-04	2:30:00 AM	61 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE			
183	2909	10-Aug-04	11:00:00 AM	68 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
184	2910	10-Aug-04	7:15:00 PM	52 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
185	2913	15-Aug-04	10:50:00 PM	73 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
186	2915	18-Aug-04	10:35:00 PM	54 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE			
187	2917	23-Aug-04	12:00:00 PM	74 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
188	2918	21-Aug-04	1:50:00 AM	52 Female	Asian	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	Smoking	TRUE	Current	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
189	2920	22-Aug-04	10:05:00 AM	69 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
190	2922	26-Aug-04	5:10:00 AM	69 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
191	2923	07-Sep-04	9:05:00 PM	60 Female	Asian	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
192	2924	15-Sep-04	3:00:00 PM	68 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
193	2925	22-Sep-04	5:20:00 AM	71 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
194	2926	26-Sep-04	8:45:00 PM	67 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
195	2930	29-Sep-04	10:20:00 PM	63 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
196	2932	04-Oct-04	7:25:00 PM	64 Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Smoking	TRUE	Ex-smoker	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE			
197	2933	07-Oct-04	5:00:00 PM	69 Female	Black	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
198	2934	16-Oct-04	11:40:00 AM	55 Female	White	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	TRUE	Ex-smoker	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
199	2936	22-Oct-04	10:30:00 PM	40 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
200	2937	25-Oct-04	8:30:00 AM	78 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
201	2947	28-Oct-04	5:00:00 PM	71 Female	Asian	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
202	2950	28-Oct-04	3:30:00 PM	70 Female	Asian	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE			
203	2954	28-Oct-04	12:35:00 AM	72 Female	Black	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE			
204	2960	30-Oct-04	11:15:00 AM	66 Female	Asian	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Smoking	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE			

I	A	B	C	D	E	F	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ	AK	AL	AM	AN	AO	AP	AO	AR	AS	AT	AU	AV	AW	AX	AY	AZ
ID	Adm dtat	Adm titt	Age	Sex	Race	SVT	H.Block	Paced	Shock	CVA	VT	VF	C.FAIL	Roa	ROI	Death	MACE	Inferior	mbot2	Posterior	mbot2	Anteroseptal	mbot2	Anterolateral	mbot2		
42	4590	20-Mar-10	10:25:00 AM	53	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE		
43	4597	21-Mar-10	9:40:00 AM	73	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE		
44	4602	25-Mar-10	4:40:00 PM	65	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE		
45	4607	05-Apr-10	12:25:00 PM	69	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	
46	4609	02-Apr-10	10:40:00 AM	65	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	
47	4615	03-May-10	6:35:00 PM	63	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	
48	4616	09-May-10	12:22:00 AM	56	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	
49	4618	26-Apr-10	5:40:00 AM	64	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
50	4623	23-Apr-10	5:20:00 AM	61	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
51	4626	11-May-10	9:20:00 AM	47	Female	Black	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
52	4627	12-May-10	11:00:00 PM	69	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	
53	4630	15-May-10	10:00:00 PM	57	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
54	4632	21-May-10	3:55:00 AM	62	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
55	4634	22-May-10	11:05:00 AM	76	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
56	4636	15-Apr-10	3:30:00 AM	58	Female	Coloured	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
57	4641	26-May-10	6:30:00 PM	62	Female	Black	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
58	4647	26-May-10	5:50:00 AM	53	Female	Asian	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Non Q	
59	4655	29-May-10	1:40:00 PM	67	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
60	4656	06-Jun-10	11:20:00 PM	79	Female	Black	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
61	4657	08-Jun-10	7:50:00 PM	79	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
62	4660	17-Jun-10	12:40:00 PM	78	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
63	4662	16-Jun-10	3:20:00 AM	55	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
64	4665	04-Jun-10	1:50:00 PM	41	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
65	4670	25-Jun-10	8:50:00 AM	34	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
66	4671	01-Jul-10	3:05:00 PM	44	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
67	4676	04-Jul-10	8:50:00 PM	77	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
68	4678	08-Jul-10	8:00:00 AM	54	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
69	4681	09-Jul-10	10:19:00 AM	68	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
70	4685	11-Jul-10	5:53:00 PM	75	Female	Asian	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	