

Operations Memo No. 17



VA COOPERATIVE STUDIES PROGRAM # 424

Clinical Outcomes Utilizing Revascularization and Aggressive DruG Evaluation

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From: Pamela Hartigan, PhD, Study Statistician

Subj: Lipid profiles performed prior to baseline

To: Study Personnel

Thru: Trial Leadership

In the event that a lipid panel (fasting or nonfasting) was performed within 90 days of the baseline evaluation on a COURAGE Trial-eligible patient, and the LDL and triglyceride values are within range for study inclusion, it is not necessary to wait for the baseline lipid measurement to determine patient eligibility.

If the lipid values on a lipid profile drawn within 90 days of the baseline evaluation fall outside the inclusion criteria (LDL > 250 mg/dl [6.49 mmol/L], LDL > 200 mg/dl [5.19 mmol/L] on statin therapy or TG > 400 mg/dl [4.52 mmol/L]), a baseline *fasting* lipid panel must be drawn to determine patient eligibility.

Whenever the triglycerides are > 400 mg/dl [4.52 mmol/L], it is worth repeating a fasting lipid panel to confirm whether or not the patient is eligible.