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# Effect of high-dose allopurinol on exercise in patients with chronic stable angina: a randomised, placebo controlled crossover trial

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# Rationnel

- L'allopurinol est avant tout un hypouricémiant mais aussi un antioxydant qui peut être bénéfique pour les coronaires car:
  - Il protège l'endothélium vasculaire
  - Il diminue l'inflammation endothéliale
  - Il diminue l'athérogénèse et le risque de thrombose.

De plus l'allopurinol pourrait diminuer la MVO<sub>2</sub>

Tous ces effets ont été rapportés chez l'animal mais pas chez l'homme.

# Méthodes

**Methods** 65 patients (aged 18–85 years) with angiographically documented coronary artery disease, a positive exercise tolerance test, and stable chronic angina pectoris (for at least 2 months) were recruited into a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, crossover study in a hospital and two infirmaries in the UK. We used computer-generated randomisation to assign patients to allopurinol (600 mg per day) or placebo for 6 weeks before crossover. Our primary endpoint was the time to ST depression, and the secondary endpoints were total exercise time and time to chest pain. We did a completed case analysis. This study is registered as an International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial, number ISRCTN 82040078.

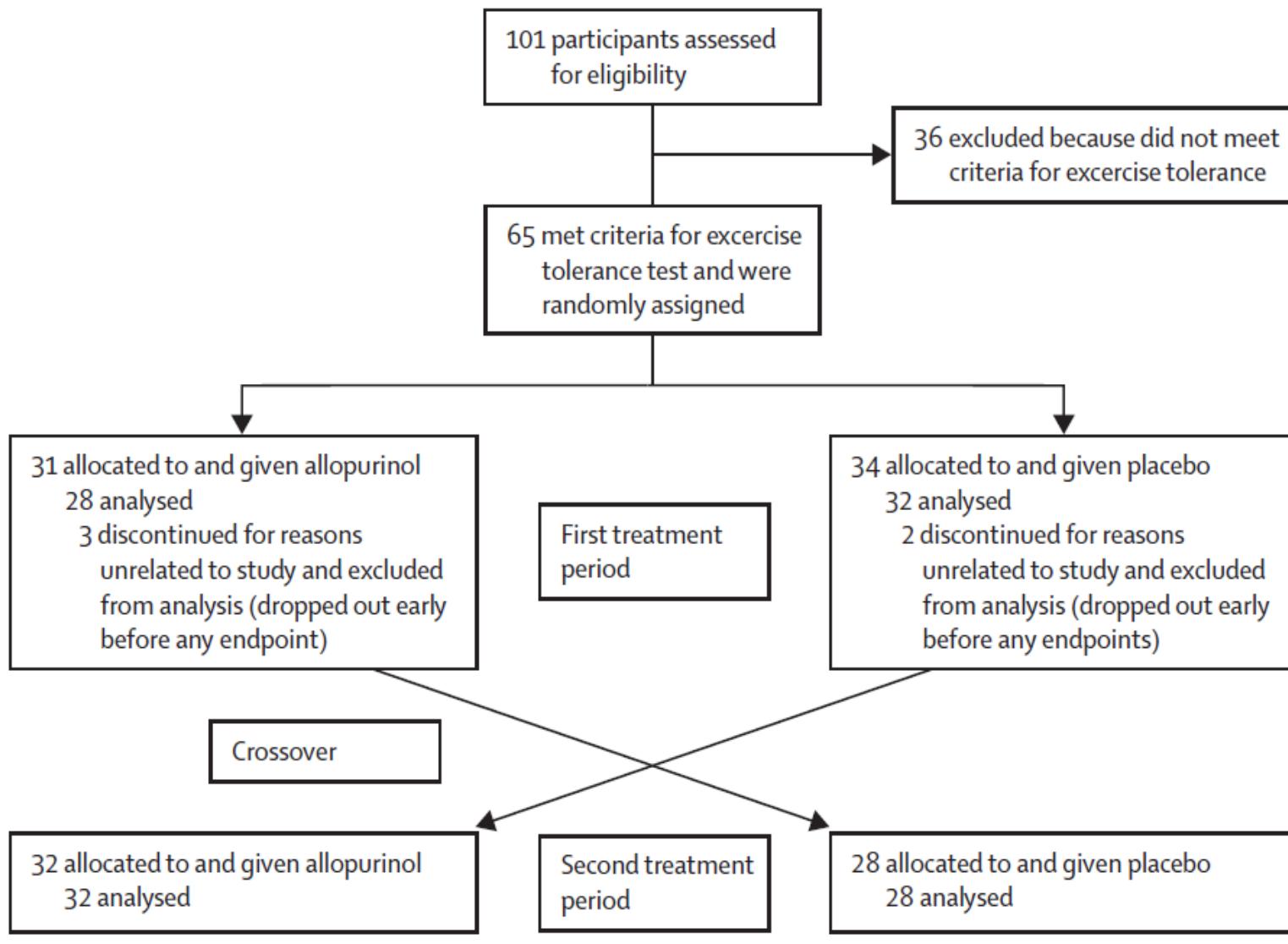


Figure 1: Trial profile

	All (n=60)	Placebo first (n=32)	Allopurinol first (n=28)	Dropouts (n=5)
Age (years; mean, SD)	64·6 (9·3)	64·0 (8·9)	65·2 (9·6)	66·6 (7·7)
Men	50 (83%)	28 (88%)	22 (79%)	3 (60%)
Women	10 (17%)	4 (13%)	6 (21%)	2 (40%)
Angina Canadian Cardiovascular Society stage <sup>16</sup>				
I	9 (15%)	4 (13%)	5 (18%)	0
II	42 (70%)	23 (72%)	19 (68%)	3 (60%)
III	9 (15%)	5 (16%)	4 (14%)	2 (40%)
Number of vessels with coronary artery disease				
1	10 (17%)	4 (13%)	6 (21%)	1 (20%)
2	24 (40%)	14 (44%)	10 (36%)	2 (40%)
3	26 (43%)	14 (44%)	12 (43%)	2 (40%)
Left ventricle systolic function				
Normal	51 (85%)	26 (81%)	25 (89%)	4 (80%)
Mild impairment	9 (15%)	6 (19%)	3 (11%)	1 (20%)
Renal function				
Normal	55 (92%)	28 (88%)	27 (96%)	4 (80%)
Mild impairment	5 (8%)	4 (13%)	1 (4%)	1 (20%)

	All (n=60)	Placebo first (n=32)	Allopurinol first (n=28)	Dropouts (n=5)
<b>Medical history</b>				
Hypertension	27 (45%)	13(41%)	14 (50%)	2 (40%)
Diabetes mellitus	7 (12%)	4 (13%)	3 (11%)	1 (20%)
Hypercholesterolaemia	26 (43%)	15 (47%)	11 (39%)	2 (40%)
Peripheral vascular disease	1 (2%)	1 (3%)	0	0
Cerebral ischaemic attack or transient ischaemic attack	4 (7%)	3 (9%)	1 (4%)	1 (20%)
Myocardial infarction	12 (20%)	7 (22%)	5 (18%)	0
Percutaneous coronary intervention	7 (12%)	3 (9%)	4 (14%)	0
Coronary artery bypass graft	7 (12%)	4 (13%)	3 (11%)	0
<b>Smoking status</b>				
Current smoker	5 (8%)	4 (13%)	1 (4%)	0
Ex-smoker	31 (52%)	14 (44%)	17 (61%)	2 (40%)
Non-smoker	24 (40%)	14 (44%)	10 (36%)	3 (60%)
<b>Drugs</b>				
Aspirin	60 (100%)	32 (100%)	28 (100%)	4 (80%)
β blocker	52 (87%)	27 (84%)	25 (89%)	4 (80%)
Oral nitrate	29 (48%)	16 (50%)	13 (46%)	4 (80%)
Calcium antagonists	13 (22%)	7 (22%)	6 (21%)	0
Nicorandil	13 (22%)	8 (25%)	5 (18%)	1 (20%)
Angiotensin-converting-enzyme inhibitor	28 (47%)	17 (53%)	11 (39%)	2 (40%)
Angiotensin-receptor blocker	6 (10%)	2 (6%)	4 (14%)	1 (20%)
Statin	58 (97%)	31 (97%)	27 (96%)	3 (60%)

Data are number (%), unless otherwise indicated. Percentages might not add up to 100% because of rounding.

**Table 1:** Baseline characteristics of participants

	Baseline	Placebo	Allopurinol
Haemoglobin (g/L)	13·8 (1·3)	13·6 (1·1)	13·5 (1·4)
White blood cells ( $\times 10^9$ per L)	6·7 (1·6)	6·8 (1·6)	6·6 (1·4)
Platelets ( $\times 10^9$ per L)	224·4 (60·3)	219·6 (58·6)	218·4 (73·1)
Sodium (mmol/L)	140·5 (2·7)	140·4 (2·6)	140·4 (2·6)
Potassium (mmol/L)	4·3 (0·3)	4·3 (0·3)	4·3 (0·3)
Urea (mmol/L)	6·4 (1·5)	6·9 (1·8)	6·5 (1·7)
Creatinine ( $\text{μmol/L}$ )	84·9 (16·1)	85·0 (17·3)	82·9 (15·9)
Estimated glomerular filtration rate (mL per min)	59·6 (1·7)	59·1 (3·2)	59·4 (2·4)

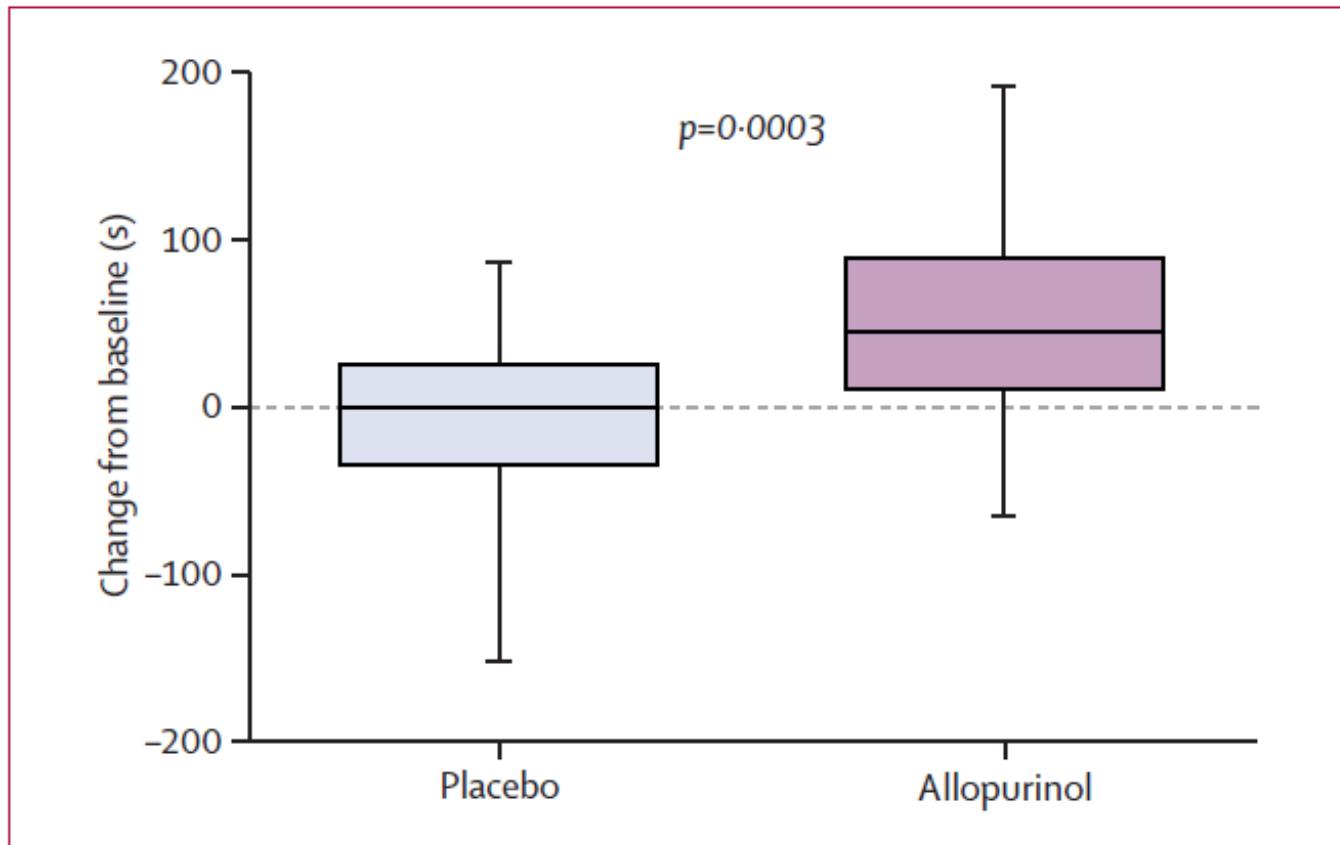
Data are mean (SD).

**Table 2: Haematology and biochemistry results**

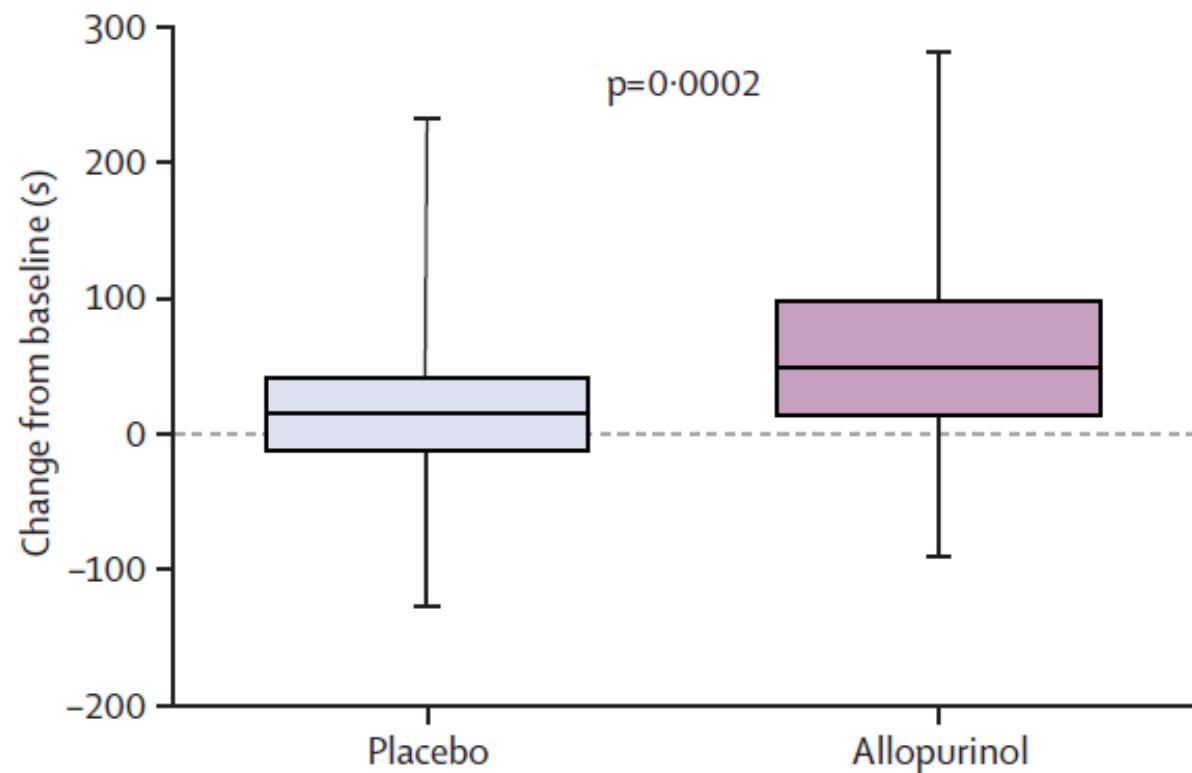
	Baseline	Placebo	Allopurinol	Point estimate* (95% CI)	Mann-Whitney p value*
Total exercise time (s)	301 (251-447)	307 (232-430)	393 (280-519)	58 (45-77)	0.0003
Time to ST depression (s)	232 (182-380)	249 (200-375)	298 (211-408)	43 (31-58)	0.0002
Time to symptoms (s)	234 (189-382)	272 (200-380)	304 (222-421)	38 (17-55)	0.001

Data are median (IQR), unless otherwise indicated. \*For difference between allopurinol and placebo.

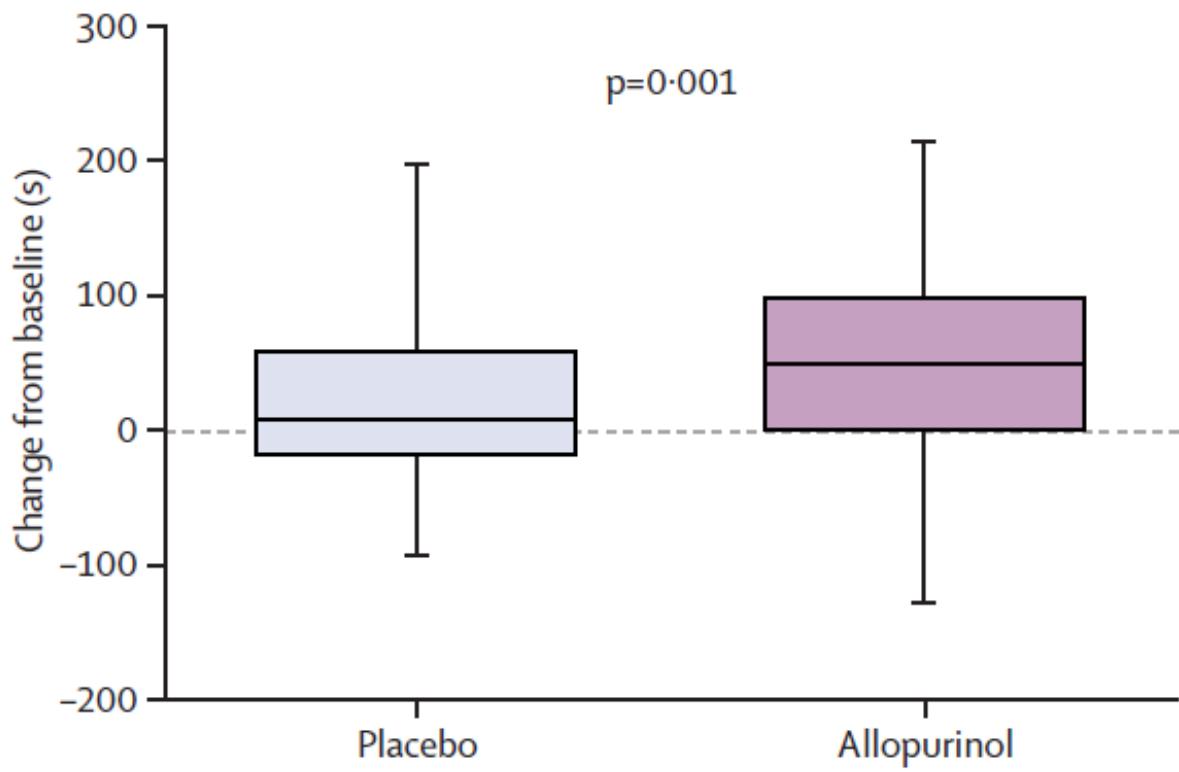
**Table 3:** Effect of allopurinol on total exercise time, time to ST depression, and time to symptoms



**Figure 2:** Change in total exercise time from baseline  
Data are median (IQR).



**Figure 3:** Change in time to ST depression from baseline  
Data are median (IQR).



**Figure 4:** Change in time to chest pain symptoms from baseline  
Data are median (IQR).

	Baseline	Placebo	Allopurinol	p value*
<b>Heart rate (beats per min)</b>				
Baseline	62.3 (10.3)	61.3 (9.2)	63.8 (8.6)	0.025
Stage 1	95.2 (13.7)	94.3 (13.3)	95.6 (13.5)	0.154
Peak exercise	113.6 (15.3)	112.4 (15.6)	118.5 (15.2)	0.0006
<b>Systolic blood pressure (mm Hg)</b>				
Baseline	126.8 (16.6)	124.3 (13.7)	123.7 (16.2)	0.755
Stage 1	141.6 (21.0)	140.0 (16.1)	135.5 (19.3)	0.042
Peak exercise	159.3 (22.6)	155.1 (18.4)	158.7 (22.4)	0.116
<b>Diastolic blood pressure (mm Hg)</b>				
Baseline	72.8 (8.6)	72.9 (7.7)	72.2 (9.9)	0.577
Stage 1	72.9 (10.6)	74.8 (8.6)	71.7 (10.1)	0.008
Peak exercise	76.1 (12.7)	78.5 (10.2)	75.4 (11.9)	0.015
<b>Rate pressure product (beats per min×mm Hg)</b>				
Baseline	7897 (1709)	7607 (1471)	7910 (1577)	0.123
Stage 1	13 349 (2997)	13 114 (2617)	12 756 (2798)	0.174
Peak exercise	18 210 (4104)	17 484 (3655)	18 842 (3791)	0.001

Data are mean (SD). \*For difference between allopurinol and placebo.

**Table 4:** Haemodynamic responses during exercise testing

	Placebo	Allopurinol	p value*
<b>All responders (n=43)</b>			
Angina episodes per week	1·0 (0·2·5)	0·5 (0·1·5)	0·153
Glyceryl trinitrate (tablets per week)	0·2 (0·2·0)	0·2 (0·1·2)	0·157
<b>Responders with one or more angina per week (n=26)</b>			
Angina episodes per week	2·3 (1·5–4·4)	1·3(0·5–2·3)	0·053
Glyceryl trinitrate use (tablets per week)	1·9 (0·9–3·4)	0·5 (0·2·0)	0·064

Data are median (IQR). \*For difference between allopurinol and placebo.

**Table 5:** Angina episodes

# COMMENTAIRES

- L'allopurinol semble efficace dans le traitement de fond de l'insuffisance coronarienne.
- Reste à voir si ça se confirme sur un essai contrôlé.