**CORP: COlchicine for Recurrent Pericarditis**

**BACKGROUND:** Because colchicine is safe and effective in the management of recurrent pericarditis after failure of conventional treatment, it may be effective in treatment of the first attack of recurrent pericarditis and prevention of further recurrences.

**PURPOSE:** Safety and Effectiveness study of colchicine in the treatment and prevention of recurrent pericarditis (first episode).

**DESIGN:** Safety and efficacy of colchicine (6 months) in treatment of first attack of recurrent pericarditis compared to placebo, and secondary prevention of recurrences when used in addition to conventional treatment.

**PRIMARY ENDPOINT:** Recurrence rate of pericarditis at 18 months.

**RESULTS:** Colchicine significantly reduced the incidence of recurrences at 18 months as compared to placebo (24% vs. 55%, \(P<0.001\)). In addition, symptom persistence at 72 hours was lower in the colchicine group than in the placebo group (23.3% vs. 53.3%, \(P=0.001\)) as were the mean number of recurring episodes. The rate of remission at one week was higher in those patients given colchicine than placebo (82% vs. 48%; \(P<0.001\)), as was the time to a subsequent recurrence. The rate of side effects was similar in the colchicine and placebo groups (7% vs. 7%; \(P>0.99\)).

**CONCLUSIONS:** Colchicine, when given in addition to conventional therapy, was more effective than placebo in reducing the incidence of recurrence and the persistence of symptoms of pericarditis in a randomized controlled trial. This is the first time that the efficacy of colchicine in preventing recurrent episodes of pericarditis has been demonstrated in a double-blind multicentre randomized trial.