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# Ranolazine decreases weekly anginal episodes in patients with chronic stable angina and type 2 diabetes

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

## Ranolazine decreases weekly anginal episodes in patients with chronic stable angina and type 2 diabetes

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I investigated the role of ranolazine in a 71-year-old African American male who had chronic stable angina and type 2 diabetes. My attending physician asked me to investigate the benefit ranolazine would provide for this patient. He and I found an article that investigated this exact issue, titled "Evaluation of ranolazine in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus and chronic stable angina: results from the TERISA randomized clinical trial (Type 2 Diabetes Evaluation of Ranolazine in Subjects With Chronic Stable Angina)."<sup>1</sup>

The study was a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial investigating the effects of ranolazine vs. placebo in reducing weekly anginal episodes in patients with type 2 diabetes and chronic stable angina. I concluded that their findings were applicable to my patient, namely that ranolazine can clinically improve my patient's symptoms.

Upon editorial review, I realized I had overlooked the role that the pharmaceutical sponsorship had on the way that the article presented their results. Gilead Sciences, the corporation producing ranolazine, sponsored the study and many authors had funding from them. While the article does demonstrate a statistically significant change in anginal episodes per week, the decrease is not clinically significant.

This reinforces the importance of remembering to differentiate statistical from clinical significance, especially when considering the role that this interpretation may play when implementing therapy for a patient.

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1. Kosiborod M, Arnold SV, Spertus JA, et al. Evaluation of ranolazine in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus and chronic stable angina: results from the TERISA randomized clinical trial (Type 2 Diabetes Evaluation of Ranolazine in Subjects With Chronic Stable Angina). *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2013;61:2038. doi: [10.1016/j.jacc.2013.02.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2013.02.011)

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