

Emory Healthcare starts enrollment for an international study to compare treatment options for patients with stable ischemic heart disease

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Emory Healthcare under the leadership of PI Leslee Shaw, Arshed Quyyumi (EUH), and Henry Liberman (Midtown) have started recruitment for the International Study of Comparative Health Effectiveness With Medical and Invasive Approaches (ISCHEMIA) trial. ISCHEMIA is a randomized controlled trial that will determine whether a routine early invasive strategy with cardiac catheterization (a diagnostic procedure) followed by revascularization (stenting or bypass surgery) plus optimal medical therapy with lifestyle changes is superior to a conservative strategy of optimal medical therapy that reserves invasive procedures for patients who fail medical therapy.

The trial will enroll approximately 8,000 participants with stable ischemic heart disease.

Inclusion Criteria: At least moderate ischemia on a stress imaging test with nuclear myocardial perfusion ($\geq 10\%$ myocardium), echo or cardiac magnetic resonance wall motion ($\geq 3/16$ segments with stress-induced severe hypokinesis or akinesis), or cardiac magnetic resonance perfusion ($\geq 12\%$ myocardium).

Protocol: patients will have a CT angiogram before randomization to exclude presence of left main disease or normal coronary arteries. This will be read by the Core lab and not available to referring physicians. If eligible, patients will then be randomized to either cardiac catheterization (Cath) or no Cath. They will be followed for 3-5 years. They will continue to be managed by their physicians. Patients randomized to OMT can undergo cath/revascularization if they become symptomatic or progress.

The ISCHEMIA trial will include approximately 400 medical centers across the U.S. and the world. The clinical coordinating center is located at NYU. In addition to Drs. Hochman and Maron, the ISCHEMIA leadership committee includes faculty from Emory University, Dr Leslee Shaw who is directing the Imaging Core. The study is funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

Coordinators involved with the study will be screening for suitable subjects from the imaging laboratories at all Emory healthcare hospitals. If a suitable subject is identified, they will approach you regarding participation. If you have suitable subjects for the study, please contact Khuram Ashraf at 404-712-7762 or Arshed Quyyumi at 404-727-3655.