

Novel aspects of the Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System

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Propositions

Belonging to the thesis:

***“Novel aspects of the Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System.
A focus on hyperaldosteronism and glycation”***

1. Excessive aldosterone secretion is blunted in aldosterone-producing adenoma with KCNJ5 mutations by the use of macrolides, opening a new perspective for the diagnosis and treatment of PA patients. (This thesis)
2. The raised AT1AA titer in APA patients persisted after cure of hyperaldosteronism, and these autoantibodies are weak stimulators of aldosterone biosynthesis. (This thesis)
3. Activation of the AT1R is in mice linked to an increase of the glucose metabolite methylglyoxal, a precursor of advanced glycation endproducts and a driver of cardiovascular disease and vascular complications in diabetes. (This thesis)
4. Irbesartan does not lower plasma levels of methylglyoxal. (This thesis)
5. The glycation pathway is a promising target to improve both prediction and treatment of CVD. (Research impact)
6. As knowledge of the RAAS expands, practical use of that knowledge can be employed to further optimize RAAS blockade and identify patients most likely to benefit.
7. A negative result is a result that may still require replication.
8. Consider your origin. You were not formed to live like brutes but to follow virtue and knowledge (Dante Alighieri, "The Divine Comedy: Inferno")
9. Above all, don't fear difficult moments. The best comes from them. (Rita Levi-Montalcini)

Maria Piazza, 4 October 2021