



**Gervasio A. Lamas, MD**  
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Dear Doctor,

Your patient is participating in the Trial to Assess Chelation Therapy (TACT) for coronary artery disease. This is an NIH sponsored randomized double-blind controlled trial study, lasting 5 years that will examine the safety and efficacy of EDTA chelation therapy vs. placebo in post-MI patients. High dose vs. low dose vitamins are also being studied. The primary endpoint is a combination of all cause mortality, myocardial infarction, stroke, coronary revascularization, and hospitalization for angina. This trial is not meant to interfere with the care you are already providing for your patient.

An integral part of this study is to promote and support evidence based medical therapy of post-MI patients in accordance with clinical practice guidelines. We want you to be aware of these two sets of guidelines.

- National Cholesterol Education Program's (NCEP) clinical practice guidelines on cholesterol management Update July 2004 advises physicians to consider new, more intensive treatment options for people at high and moderately high risk for a heart attack. These options include setting lower treatment goals for LDL cholesterol and initiating cholesterol-lowering drug therapy at lower LDL thresholds. Internet link for guidelines and update: <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/cholesterol/index.htm>
- The ACC/AHA guidelines recommend that medical therapy for post-MI patients includes statins, aspirin, and beta-blockers. In addition, ACE inhibitors are up titrated to appropriate levels in patients with reduced EFs. In patients who are ACE intolerant, e.g., angioedema, angiotensin receptor blocker therapy is indicated. Internet link to pocket guide: <http://www.acc.org/clinical/guidelines/nov96/PCKTAMIS.PDF>.

We are looking forward to your patient's participation in TACT. Please let us know if there are any questions that you may have or any issues that you would like to discuss please feel free to contact your patient's TACT site investigator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Lamas", written over a horizontal line.

Gervasio A. Lamas, MD  
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Mount Sinai Medical Center, Miami Beach Florida