

CORRECTION

Herpes zoster as a risk factor for stroke and TIA: A retrospective cohort study in the UK

The original version of the article “Herpes zoster as a risk factor for stroke and TIA: A retrospective cohort study in the UK” by J. Breuer et al. (*Neurology*[®] 2014;82:206–212), which was published online ahead of print on January 2, 2014, had errors in the abstract, tables 1 and 3, and related text. An Expression of Concern was published by the Editors (EDITORIAL EXPRESSION OF CONCERN: Herpes zoster as a risk factor for stroke and TIA: A retrospective cohort study in the UK, online ahead of print February 5, 2014) and the authors have since corrected the errors. The abstract should have indicated that the risk of stroke, TIA, and MI for those under 40 was 1.74 (1.13–2.66), 2.42 (1.34–4.36), and 1.49 (1.04–2.15), respectively. In tables 1 and 3, there were errors in the counts and percentages for stroke, MI, TIA, and stroke in HZO patients, as well as an error in the number of cases of stroke in HZO patients. Under “Study Outcomes,” the fifth sentence should read: “HZO normally accounts for approximately 16% of cases of HZ,¹² but was recorded in only 1,710 (1.6%) of cases in the THIN database.” The corrected tables are published below, and the journal will publish a corrected complete version of the article in an upcoming issue. The authors regret the errors.

Table 1 Comparison of patients with herpes zoster and matched controls

Characteristic	Patients with HZ (n = 106,601)	Matched controls (n = 213,202)	Total (N = 319,803)
Age at index date	57.9 (17.7)	57.7 (17.7)	
Sex, female	63,183 (59.3)	124,620 (59.2)	
HZO	1,710 (1.6)		
HZ in the head (including HZO)	2,324 (2.1)		
Other form of HZ/not specified	104,277 (97.8)		
Stroke	2,727 (2.56)	5,252 (2.46)	7,979 (2.49)
Myocardial infarction	2,762 (2.59)	4,835 (2.27)	7,597 (2.38)
TIA	2,275 (2.13)	3,904 (1.83)	6,179 (1.93)
Stroke in patients with HZO (cases = 1,710; controls = 3,420; total = 5,130)	68 (3.98)	130 (3.80)	198 (3.86)

Abbreviations: HZ = herpes zoster; HZO = HZ ophthalmicus. Data are n (%) unless otherwise specified.

Table 3 Hazard ratios (95% CI) for stroke, TIA, and MI after herpes zoster occurrence

Vascular event ^a	Cases (n = 106,601), n (%)	Controls (n = 213,202), n (%)	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	
			Unadjusted	Adjusted ^b
Stroke	2,727 (2.56)	5,252 (2.46)	1.04 (0.99-1.09)	1.02 (0.98-1.07)
MI	2,762 (2.59)	4,835 (2.27)	1.15 (1.09-1.20)	1.10 (1.05-1.16) ^c
TIA	2,275 (2.13)	3,904 (1.83)	1.17 (1.11-1.23)	1.15 (1.09-1.21) ^c
Stroke in patients with HZO (cases = 1,710; controls = 3,240)	68 (3.98)	130 (3.80)	1.06 (0.79-1.42)	1.03 (0.77-1.39)
Stroke in subjects 18-40 y (cases = 19,301; controls = 38,602)	40 (0.21)	45 (0.12)	1.79 (1.17-2.73)	1.74 (1.13-2.66) ^c
MI in subjects 18-40 y (cases 19,301; controls = 38,602)	51 (0.26)	67 (0.17)	1.53 (1.06-2.20)	1.49 (1.04-2.15) ^c
TIA in subjects 18-40 y (cases 19,301; controls = 38,602)	25 (0.13)	20 (0.05)	2.51 (1.39-4.52)	2.42 (1.34-4.36) ^c

Abbreviations: CI = confidence interval; HZO = herpes zoster ophthalmicus; MI = myocardial infarction.

^a Period of follow-up 1 to 23.7 years.

^b Hazard ratios were adjusted for sex, age, obesity (body mass index >30 kg/m²), smoking status, history of cholesterol >6.2 mmol/L, hypertension, diabetes, ischemic heart disease, atrial fibrillation, intermittent arterial claudication, carotid stenosis, and valvular heart disease.

^c p < 0.05.

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