Reviewer's report

Title: EARLY Treatment with Azilsartan Compared to ACE-Inhibitors in Anti-Hypertensive Therapy - Rationale and Design of the EARLY Hypertension Registry

Version: 1 Date: 20 May 2013

Reviewer: Carmine C Savoia

Reviewer's report:

This paper presents the study protocol of the prospective observational registry (EARLY) that aims at documenting BP control and its impact on cardiovascular and renal events during 12 months of follow-up in patients with either AZM or ACE-inhibitor treatment.

The registry has two co-primary objectives (description of the safety profile of AZM, and Achievement of BP targets) and secondary objectives (absolute and relative BP reduction with antihypertensive treatment over 12 months; documentation of the adherence to guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of hypertension in ambulatory care; persistence to therapy; documentation of adverse events, and cardiovascular and renal events; pharmaco-economic evaluation of AZM use).

The study protocol is well designed and clearly written. I have just one comment: Since the authors will perform ABPM in a subgroup of patients, the number of patients included in these groups should be stated in the methods.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests