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**ROTIGAPTIDE REMODELS CONNEXIN 43
EXPRESSION IN A PROLONGED VENTRICULAR-
FIBRILLATION IN SWINE**

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Objective In the present study the effect of ZP123 on different-duration VF was evaluated by analysing VF mean frequency (VF_{mf}) and amplitude (VF_{ma}).

Methods Twenty pigs randomly received either ZP123 (drug group: 10 μ g/kg/h; n=10) or saline infusion (control group: 50 ml/h, n=10) over 15 min before VF electrically induced. VF_{mf} and VF_{ma} obtained from electrocardiography were analysed by a multipurpose polygraph. Haemodynamics, the rate of the first three successful defibrillation and return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) were recorded.

Results In drug versus control animals, VF_{mf} during the whole 8-minute VF was 11.8 ± 2.1 Hz vs 10.4 ± 2.0 Hz ($p < 0.05$), VF_{ma} was 0.24 ± 0.10 V vs 0.31 ± 0.16 V ($p < 0.05$) and hemodynamic during VF in the two groups were comparable ($p > 0.05$). There was no difference in the rate of successful defibrillation and ROSC between the two groups ($p > 0.05$). However, in the first 4 min, VF_{mf} of the drug group was higher ($p < 0.05$) and VF_{ma} was roughly equal to that of control group ($p > 0.05$). Hemodynamic of the first 4 min in the drug group was higher ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusion while ZP123 could not improve the rate of successful defibrillation and ROSC in prolonged VF, it may still play a positive role in short-duration VF no more than 4 min.