Colchicine for Post-operative Pericardial Effusion: The post-operative pericardial effusion (POPE-2) Study

**Background:** Asymptomatic pericardial effusion incidence is high following cardiac surgery.

**Purpose:** evaluate effectiveness of colchicine to reduce post-operative pericardial effusion vol.

**Trial Design:** Multicenter, randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled; n=197 patients at high risk for tamponade (POPE grade 2,3, or 4) after cardiac surgery (7-30 days); colchicine 1mg daily vs placebo for 14 days

**Primary Endpoint:** change in effusion grade after 14 days of treatment

**Secondary endpoint:** frequency of late cardiac tamponade

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**Trial Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placebo/treatment</th>
<th>No difference</th>
<th>P value = 0.23</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiac Tamponade</td>
<td>6.6% after 2 weeks of treatment</td>
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**Conclusions:** The results were negative: no reduction in volume of effusions and did not prevent occurrence of cardiac tamponade

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