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Short title: RADIANCE-HTN SOLO 36-month analysis

Durability of blood pressure reduction after ultrasound renal denervation: three-year follow-up of the treatment arm of the randomised RADIANCE-HTN SOLO trial

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on behalf of the RADIANCE-HTN investigators.

A list of study collaborators can be found in the Appendix.

This paper also includes supplementary data published online at: <https://eurointervention.pcronline.com/doi/10.4244/EIJ-D-22-00305>

Abstract

Background: While the blood pressure (BP)-lowering effect of renal denervation (RDN) has been established, long-term durability is a key prerequisite for a broader clinical implementation.

Aims: Our aims were to assess the long-term durability of the office BP (OBP)-lowering efficacy, antihypertensive medication (AHM) use, and safety of ultrasound RDN (uRDN).

Methods: Four weeks after withdrawal of AHM, patients with untreated daytime ambulatory BP $\geq 135/85$ mmHg and $< 170/105$ mmHg were randomised to uRDN (n=74) or sham (n=72) in the RADIANCE-HTN SOLO trial. Initiation of AHM was encouraged for home BP $> 135/85$ mmHg following primary endpoint ascertainment at 2 months. Patients and physicians were unblinded at 6 months.

Results: Fifty-one of 74 patients (age: 53.9 ± 11 years; 67% men) originally randomised to uRDN completed the 36-month follow-up. Initial screening OBP upon study entry was $145/92 \pm 14/10$ mmHg on a mean of 1.2 AHM (range: 0-2.0). Baseline OBP after AHM washout was $154/99 \pm 13/8$ mmHg. At 36 months, patients were on an average of 1.3 AHM (range: 0-3.0) with 8 patients on no AHM. OBP decreased by $-18/-11 \pm 15/9$ mmHg from baseline to 36 months ($p < 0.001$ for both). Overall, OBP control ($< 140/90$ mmHg) improved from 29.4% at screening to 45.1% at 36 months ($p = 0.059$). For patients uncontrolled at screening (n=36), systolic OBP decreased by -10.8 mmHg ($p < 0.001$) at 36 months on similar AHM ($p = 0.158$).

Conclusions: The safety and effectiveness of uRDN was durable to 36 months, with reduced OBP and improved OBP control despite a similar starting medication burden. No new uRDN-related long-term safety concerns were identified.

Keywords

- clinical research
- clinical trials
- renal sympathetic denervation

Abbreviations

- **ABP:** ambulatory systolic blood pressure
- **BP:** blood pressure
- **CI:** confidence interval
- **DBP:** diastolic blood pressure
- **HR:** heart rate
- **HTN:** hypertension
- **OBP:** office measured blood pressure
- **SBP:** systolic blood pressure
- **uRDN:** ultrasound renal denervation

Introduction

Hypertension is the most potent modifiable risk factor for cardiovascular death worldwide [1]. However, hypertension control rates remain dismal [2] and, specifically in the US, hypertension control rates have recently worsened [3]. Medication nonadherence and therapeutic inertia continue to be major obstacles to adequate blood pressure (BP) reduction among treated hypertensives [4] [5]. Therefore, non-pharmacological approaches to BP lowering, in addition to lifestyle changes, may be of utility as add-on therapy for those with difficult-to-control hypertension.

Although the first large randomised sham-controlled trial [6] of renal denervation (RDN) did not show a statistically significant difference in ambulatory or office BP (OBP) between patients who were randomised to RDN compared to those randomised to a sham procedure, a contemporary series of subsequent randomised sham-controlled trials have demonstrated the BP-lowering effects of radiofrequency and ultrasound RDN (uRDN) with between-group differences in office systolic BP (ranging from -6.5 to -7.7 mmHg) [7] [8] [9] [10] [11]. If these reductions in BP are sustained, they would likely imply a meaningful reduction of cardiovascular risk as seen with antihypertensive medication (AHM) [12]. At this stage, establishing durability of RDN's BP-lowering effect as well as its long-term safety is crucial before broader implementation can be recommended. Durability of renal denervation up to 36 months has been shown in the Global SYMPPLICITY Registry [13] and in the SPYRAL HTN-ON MED study [14]. We report for the first time the long-term OBP response and safety of uRDN in hypertensive patients at 36 months in the sham-controlled RADIANCE-HTN SOLO trial [11].

Methods

STUDY DESIGN

The RADIANCE-HTN SOLO trial design and results have been described previously [11]. The study compared changes in ambulatory and OBP with uRDN with the Paradise RDN system (ReCor Medical) to a sham procedure consisting of a renal angiogram only. The study was approved by local ethics committees or institutional review boards and conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki, and all patients provided written informed consent. Between March 28, 2016 and December 28, 2017, patients were recruited into the international, multicentre, randomised, sham-controlled RADIANCE-HTN SOLO trial from 21 centres in the United States and 18 in Europe (located in France, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, and the United Kingdom).

STUDY POPULATION

Key inclusion criteria as previously described [15] were uncontrolled hypertension with OBP $\geq 140/90$ mmHg and $< 180/110$ mmHg on 0-2 AHM or controlled hypertension with OBP $< 140/90$ mmHg on 1 or 2 AHM, an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) of ≥ 40 mL/min/1.73 m² (based on the Modification of Diet in Renal Disease formula), suitable renal artery anatomy confirmed by imaging, and no history of cardiovascular or cerebrovascular events. Patients who met these initial inclusion criteria were taken off all AHM and qualified for randomisation if mean daytime ambulatory BP was ≥ 135 mmHg systolic and ≥ 85 mmHg diastolic and renal anatomy was considered appropriate for the procedure. 146 patients were randomised, 74 to the uRDN arm and 72 to the sham arm. Thirty-six of the patients in the sham arm crossed over to the uRDN arm [16]. The current analysis focuses on the 51 patients that were randomised to uRDN and completed 36-month follow-up.

PROCEDURES

Throughout the first 2 months of follow-up, patients were to remain off AHM, unless specified safety BP criteria were exceeded (180/110 mmHg for office or 170/105 mmHg for home). Between 2 and 6 months, if monthly measured home BP was $\geq 135/85$ mmHg, a standardised stepped-care AHM protocol was recommended as previously described [15]. Patients and clinical staff were unblinded to group assignment (uRDN or sham) after the 6-month efficacy and safety endpoints were ascertained. At that point, the protocol recommended intensification of AHM if assessed home BP was $\geq 135/85$ mmHg; however, it was not a requirement and therefore, after 6 months, AHM were prescribed at the treating physician's and patients' discretion per community standard of care.

At 24 and 36 months, seated OBP, heart rate (HR), adverse events, and concomitant medications were obtained. OBP was measured with the Omron M10-IT as previously described [11]. Ambulatory and home BP were not collected at the longer-

term follow-up.

OUTCOMES

The main efficacy endpoint was the change in OBP from baseline (off antihypertensive medications) to 36 months. Additionally, change in OBP from screening (on 0 to 2 AHM) to 36 months was assessed. Medication burden was assessed by total number of AHM (regardless of the dose) [11]. To further confirm long-term durability, changes in OBP and AHM use between the 12- and 36-month follow-up visits were assessed. Additional subgroup analyses were performed on those patients who were uncontrolled based on OBP at screening (≥ 140 systolic or ≥ 90 mmHg diastolic).

Safety assessments were performed as previously reported. All prespecified potential device- or procedure-related and/or serious adverse events reported by study sites were sent for independent adjudication. An independent data safety monitoring board reviewed safety study data quarterly for all enrolled patients.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Analysis was performed on the 51 uRDN patients with OBP data available at 36 months. Data in an additional nine enrolled patients reaching 36 months were not available due to logistical restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. There was no imputation for missing OBP values.

Results from and comparison to the sham group are not provided given that 33 (46%) of patients in the sham group crossed over prior to 36 months and there were only 20 patients (28%) remaining at 36 months with office BP data available (**Supplementary Figure 1**).

Continuous variables are expressed as mean (range) and mean \pm standard deviation, and categorical variables as number (n) and percentage (%). Paired t-tests and Wilcoxon signed rank tests were used to compare BP values and the number of medications between timepoints. All analyses were performed using Statistical Analysis System (SAS) software version 9.4 (SAS Institute). A p-value lower than 0.05 (two-sided) was considered significant.

Results

STUDY POPULATION

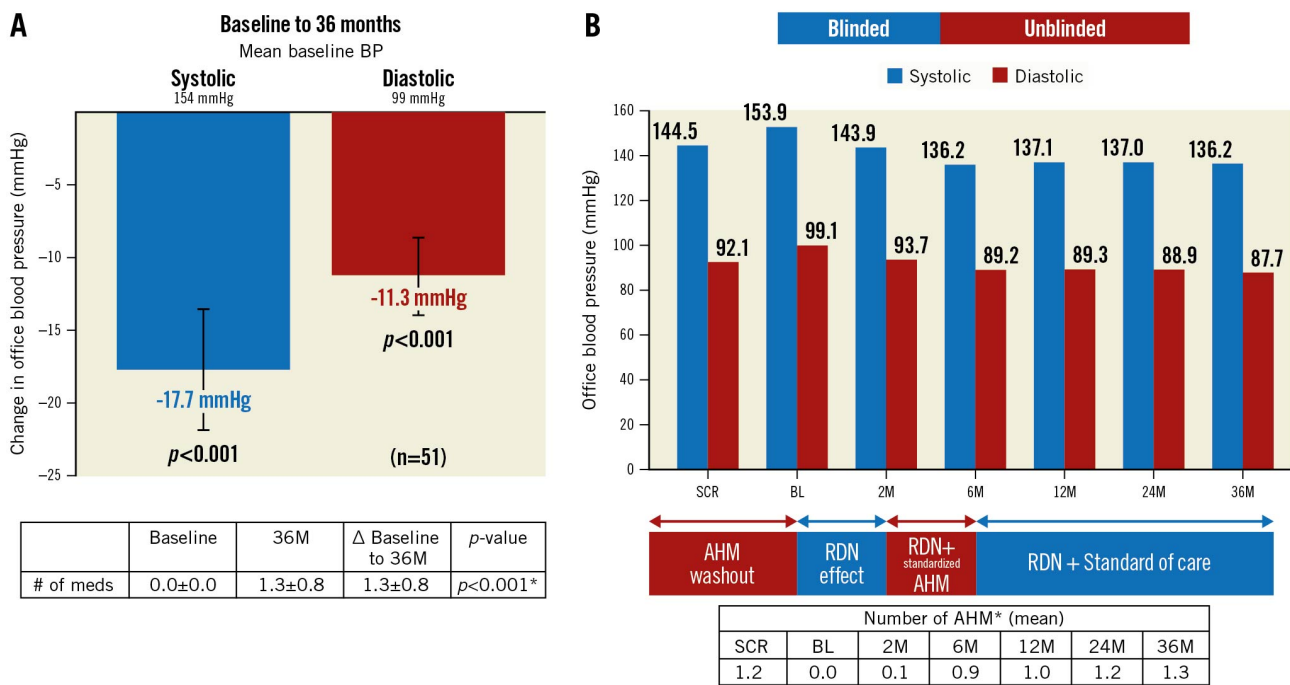
Of the 74 patients initially randomised to the uRDN group, 7 were lost to follow-up, 6 withdrew consent to participate, 9 missed their 36-month office visit, and 1 did not receive any emissions at the time of randomisation and received a uRDN procedure at 23 months. The remaining 51 patients had 36-month OBP measurements and were included in this analysis. (**Supplementary Figure 1**). The mean age of the analysis population was 53.9 years, 66.7% were male, 82.4% Caucasian, 52.9% had abdominal obesity and 7.8% reported sleep apnoea (**Table 1**). The population with data at 36 months was similar to the overall randomised population (**Supplementary Table 1**) [11]. Screening OBP before AHM washout was 145/92 \pm 14/10 mmHg and baseline OBP after washout was 154/99 \pm 13/8 mmHg. The average number of AHM at screening was 1.2 \pm 0.7 (range: 0-2.0). At screening, 15.7% of patients were not receiving any AHM, 51.0% were receiving one, and 33.3% were receiving two.

Table 1. Baseline characteristics.

| Clinical characteristics | | n=51 |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Age, years | | 53.9±11.4 |
| Female sex | | 33.3 (17/51) |
| Race | White | 82.4 (42/51) |
| | Black | 13.7 (7/51) |
| | Other | 3.9 (2/51) |
| Body mass index, kg/m ² | | 29.8±6.1 |
| Abdominal obesity | | 52.9 (27/51) |
| eGFR – ml/min/1.73 m | | 86.1±17.6 |
| eGFR <60 ml/min/1.73 m | | 0 (0/51) |
| Type 2 diabetes | | 0 (0/51) |
| Sleep apnoea | | 7.8 (4/51) |
| Screening blood pressure (before anti-HTN med washout) | | |
| Office BP, mmHg | | 144.5/92.1±13.6/10.4 |
| Baseline blood pressure (after anti-HTN med washout) | | |
| Office BP, mmHg | | 153.9/99.1±12.7/7.8 |
| Daytime ABP, mmHg | | 150.8/93.2±7.4/4.9 |
| 24-hour ABP, mmHg | | 142.7/87.2±7.8/5.0 |
| Antihypertensive medications | | |
| Number of antihypertensive medications at screening | | 1.2±0.7 |
| Antihypertensive load index at screening | | 0.5±0.4 |
| Number of antihypertensive medications at screening | 0 | 15.7 (8/51) |
| | 1 medication | 51.0 (26/51) |
| | 2 medications in combination | 33.3 (17/51) |
| Types of medication at screening | | |
| Renin angiotensin system blockers | | 58.8 (30/51) |
| Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor | | 37.3 (19/51) |
| Angiotensin receptor blocker | | 19.6 (10/51) |
| Direct renin inhibitor | | 2.0 (1/51) |
| Calcium channel blocker | | 23.5 (12/51) |
| Thiazide-like diuretic | | 25.5 (13/51) |
| Alpha-1 receptor blocker | | 3.9 (2/51) |
| Beta blocker | | 5.9 (3/51) |
| Values are mean±SD or % (n/N). Abdominal obesity was defined as a waist circumference >102 cm for men and >88 cm for women. ABP: ambulatory blood pressure; BP: blood pressure; eGFR: estimated glomerular filtration; HTN: hypertension; M: months | | |

OUTCOMES

After the AHM washout following the study screening, BP increased by 9.3±12 mmHg (screening: 144.5±13.6 mmHg; baseline: 153.9±12.7 mmHg). However, after randomisation to uRDN, BP fell by 10.0±14.7 mmHg at 2 months and then, after reinstatement of medications, it fell 17.7±15 mmHg from baseline to 6 months (additive effect of uRDN plus medications). The average decrease in office systolic/diastolic BP (SBP/DBP) from baseline (after AHM washout) to 36 months was 18/11±15/9 mmHg, respectively (p<0.001 for both) (**Central illustration**). Change from screening (before washout) in office SBP/DBP to 36 months was -8/-4±17/11 mmHg (p<0.001 and p=0.004, respectively) (**Figure 1**). AHM at screening was 1.2±0.7, compared to 1.3±0.8 at 36 months (p=0.461) (**Table 1, Supplementary Table 2**). Furthermore, hypertension (HTN) control (<140/90 mmHg) improved from 29.4% (15/51) at screening to 45.1% (23/51) at 36 months (p=0.059), on a similar number of AHM (p=0.213). Of the 23 patients who were controlled at 36 months, 2 were on no AHM. On average, patients in the RDN group had an office SBP ≤140 mmHg at 54% of their available follow-up visits from baseline to 36 months.



Central illustration. Office blood pressure and medication usage up to 36 months. A) Change in office blood pressure from baseline to 36 months. Values are presented as mean±SD. B) Office blood pressures and medication usage from screening to 36 months. Values are presented as mean. *Antihypertensive medications. AHM: antihypertensive medications; BL: baseline; BP: blood pressure; M: months; RDN: renal denervation; SCR: screening

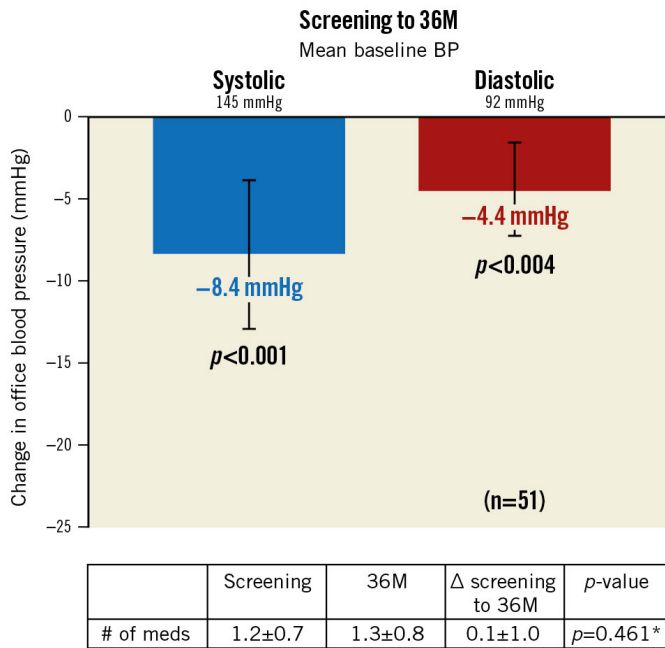
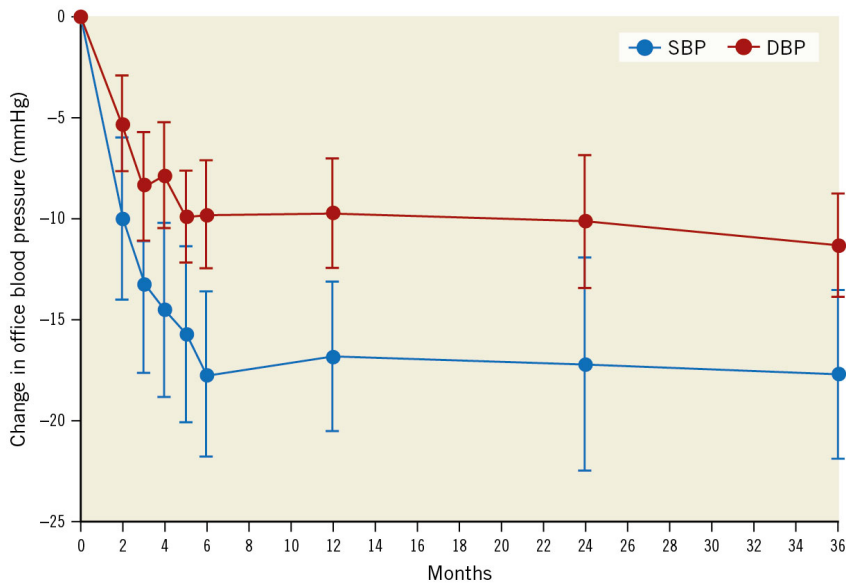


Figure 1: Office blood pressure change. Change in office blood pressure from screening (pre-washout). Values are presented as mean±SD. *Wilcoxon signed rank tests. Error bars represent 95% confidence interval. BP: blood pressure; M: months

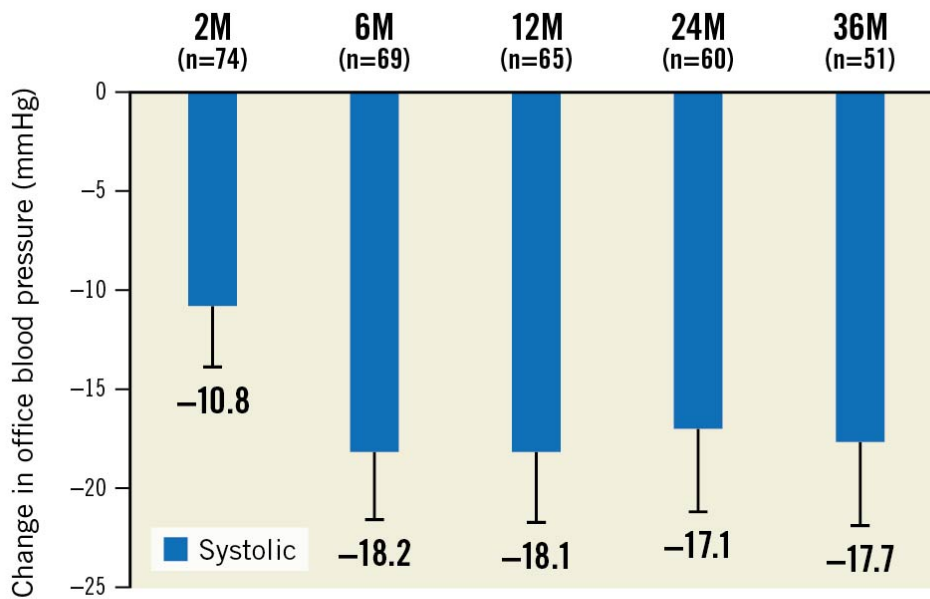
The post-procedural trend in OBP between 12 and 36 months remained flat without a statistically significant increase in either office SBP (Δ SBP -0.9 ± 18.2 mmHg; $p = 0.713$) or DBP (Δ DBP -1.6 ± 11.7 mmHg; $p = 0.341$). This effect of uRDN was achieved with a stable number of AHM compared to screening ($p = 0.461$) but a very modest increase of AHM between the 12-month and 36-month follow-up visit (Δ medication number 0.3 ± 0.8 ; $p = 0.023$) (**Figure 2**).



| Number of antihypertensive medications (mean) | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| BL | 2M | 6M | 12M | 24M | 36M |
| 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.3 |

Figure 2: Office blood pressure change from baseline to 36 months in the analysis population. Values are presented as mean±SD. Error bars represent 95% confidence interval. DBP: diastolic blood pressure; M: months; SBP: systolic blood pressure

The OBP decrease in the 36-month analysis population was consistent with the OBP decrease observed in the available patient cohorts analysed at 2, 6, 12 and 24 months. (**Figure 3, Supplementary Figure 2**). Patients with uncontrolled OBP at screening (SBP ≥140 or DBP ≥90 mmHg; n=36) on 0.9±0.6 AHM had a strong decrease in office SBP/DBP at 36 months from screening (−11/−7±17/11 mmHg; p<0.001 for both) and from baseline (off medications, −17/−11±16/9 mmHg; p<0.001 for both) (**Figure 4**).



| Number of antihypertensive medications (mean) | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 2M | 6M | 12M | 24M | 36M |
| 0.1 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.3 |

Figure 3: Office blood pressure changes from baseline for HTN-SOLO RDN population. Values are presented as mean±SD. Error bars represent 95% confidence interval. Baseline office systolic BP: 2M: 154.5; 6M: 154.7; 12M: 154.3; 24M: 154.4; 36M 153.9. M: months

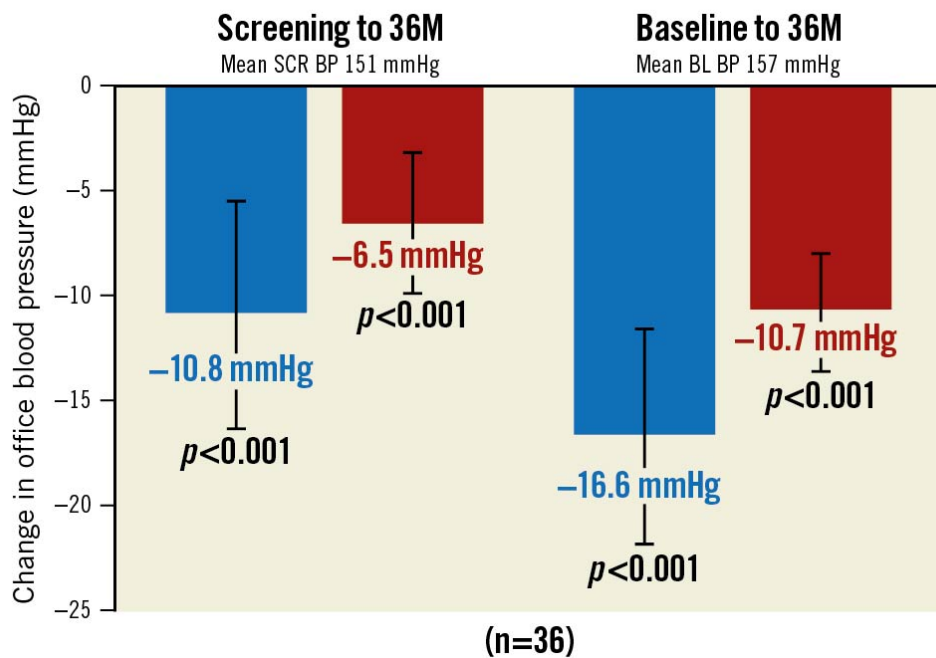


Figure 4. Office blood pressure change for those uncontrolled at screening. Values are presented as mean±SD. Error bars represent 95% confidence interval for the lesion which measured 57% prior to stent placement at 6 months. BL: baseline; BP: blood pressure; M: months; SCR: screening

SAFETY OUTCOMES

There were no new safety signals during the 36-month follow-up (**Table 2**). As previously reported, one subject had renal artery stenosis with stent placement 6 months post-procedure. One additional subject was classified as having at least 50% narrowing of the right renal artery ostium by calcific atherosclerosis at 779 days post-procedure. However, an independent radiologist review classified the stenosis as 25% and present at the time of pre-procedure imaging. There was one episode of transient ischaemic attack at 458 days and one hypertensive event at 1,076 days after renal denervation. None of the events were deemed as being related to the device or procedure.

Table 2. Safety events.

| Events | % |
|---|-------------------------|
| Death | 0 (0/74) |
| Acute renal injury* | 0 (0/74) |
| End stage renal disease, the need for permanent renal replacement therapy (i.e., the need for dialysis); doubling of plasma creatinine | 0 (0/74) |
| Significant embolic events resulting in end organ damage | 0 (0/74) |
| Any renal artery complication requiring intervention (e.g., dissection; perforation) | 0 (0/74) |
| Major access site complications requiring intervention | 0 (0/74) |
| Hypertensive emergency resulting in hospitalisation | 1.4 (1/74) |
| Hypotensive emergency resulting in hospitalisation | 0 (0/74) |
| Hospitalisation for heart failure | 0 (0/74) |
| Stroke, transient ischaemic attack, cerebrovascular accident [†] | 1.4 (1/74) |
| Acute myocardial infarction (STEMI/non-STEMI) | 0 (0/74) |
| Any coronary revascularisation | 0 (0/74) |
| Significant (>50%) and severe (>75%) new onset renal stenosis as diagnosed by duplex ultrasound and confirmed by renal CTA/MRA or as diagnosed/confirmed by renal CTA/MRA | 1.4 (1/74) [‡] |
| Need for renal artery angioplasty or stenting | 1.4 (1/74) [§] |

Values are % (n/N). *Defined as: Increase in plasma/serum creatinine by ≥ 0.3 mg/dl (≥ 26.5 μ mol/l) within 48 hrs of the procedure or, increase in serum/plasma creatinine to ≥ 1.5 times baseline known to have occurred within 7 days post-procedure or urine volume < 0.5 ml/kg/h for 6 hours; [†]TIA at day 458 due to underlying risk factors, timing does not support relationship to procedure or study device; [‡]One patient had renal artery stenosis of at least 50% as classified by the site at 779 days post procedure. Independent reviewer classified it as 25% and present at the time of pre-procedure imaging; [§]One patient had unrecognised pre-existing renal artery stenosis of 44% and underwent stenting for the lesion which measured 57% prior to stent placement at 6 months. CTA: computed tomography angiography; MRA: magnetic resonance angiography; STEMI: ST-elevation myocardial infarction

Discussion

In this long-term follow-up of patients with mild-to-moderate hypertension who were randomised to uRDN in the RADIANCE-HTN SOLO trial [11], we present 3 major findings: 1) sustained decreases in OBP from screening (before washout of AHM) and from baseline (after washout) were observed and maintained through to 36 months; 2) these reductions of OBP were seen despite a similar amount of prescribed AHM at 36 months compared to screening; 3) among patients who had uncontrolled BP at screening, changes of OBP from screening were better than those of the entire 36-month cohort.

After disappointing negative results of a large sham-controlled, randomised trial of radiofrequency RDN compromised by several confounding factors [6], a number of well-designed randomised clinical trials have now demonstrated the BP-reducing effects of radiofrequency RDN [7] [8] [9] and uRDN [10] [11] over sham procedures. While the between-group difference in office systolic BP in these randomised trials (ranging from -6.5 to -7.7 mmHg) [7] [8] [9] [10] [11] has been lower than those seen in uncontrolled early studies [17], this difference is in line with results reported in a recent meta-analysis of drug-placebo trials in hypertension [18] and would still be expected to provide meaningful reductions in hypertension-related cardiovascular risk as seen with AHM [12].

A meta-analysis of drug-placebo trials in patients with hypertension showed a 5.1 mmHg difference in office BP favouring active treatment versus placebo from 12 months to the end of follow-up (average 4 years) [18]. A drop of 5 mmHg in office BP has been shown to result in a 10% decreased risk of major cardiovascular events [19]. Given the known risk reductions from BP drops of this magnitude in pharmaceutical studies, similar risk reductions may also be expected with uRDN. Moreover, a therapy which is “always on” and not affected by medication adherence should have a better “time-in-target BP range” [20] compared to antihypertensive therapy with medications that could be weakened by uncertain adherence [5]. An improved “time-in-target BP range” has been associated with lower cardiovascular events [20].

In this study, we have shown a durable change in office BP of -17.7 mmHg from baseline to 36 months with the addition of 1.3 AHM, and -8.4 mmHg from screening to 36 months on similar AHM. These results are consistent with the 36-month results of the RDN group in the SPYRAL HTN-ON MED study, which used a different form of energy to obtain RDN [14]. In this study, OBP in the RDN group was reduced by 20.9 mmHg at 36 months compared to baseline with the addition of approximately 1 AHM. This consistency between the studies reinforces the available evidence for the durability of RDN.

In the SPYRAL HTN-ON MED 36-month results [14], they also reported OBP and 24-hour ABP data compared to the sham group using the last observation carried forward (LOCF) method for the crossover patients. In our study, given that there

were only 20 control patients (28%) with office BP data available at 36 months and 33 patients who had crossed over before 36 months, we would need to impute 62% (33/53) of the data, which we did not feel was methodologically sound.

USA HTN control rates peaked in 2010 at 53% and have decreased to 43.7% in 2018 [3] despite the availability of an array of AHM classes. In addition, HTN control rates may have further decreased due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it is having on people's blood pressure [21].

Beyond COVID-19, the reason for the decline in hypertension control rates is unclear. While medication nonadherence is a widely accepted cause of poor HTN control [5] [22], it has to be assumed that nonadherence rates should remain relatively stable or improve with ongoing campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of HTN control [23]. As well, clinical inertia –the reluctance of clinicians to intensify AHM when facing poorly controlled BP – could be one reason for worsening control rates [14] [24]. More lenient BP goals in higher-risk older adults may have contributed to worsening HTN control rates after 2014 [3], a trend that hopefully will change direction as the 2017 AHA/ACC and 2018 ESC hypertension guidelines and their more stringent BP goals for most hypertensives start to gain traction [25] [26].

The durability of BP reductions after uRDN seen in our study is reassuring in several ways. First, it confirms longer-term BP reductions without the late upward trend seen in previous uncontrolled trials [27] and confirms published registry and randomised study data [13] [14]. Second, adherence to antihypertensive medications decreases over time [28]. Because most patients in RADIANCE-HTN SOLO were restarted on medications during the follow-up period, we could have anticipated a slight uptrend in BP over the 30-month period that followed this medication titration from worsening medication adherence. However, this effect was not observed in this study. Furthermore, the natural expected trajectory of BP is such that SBP increases with patients ageing [29]. Again, one would expect an upward trend in BP over time, due to this trajectory, during long-term follow-up after uRDN; but again, we did not observe such a trend. Finally, OBP is affected by the white-coat reaction, a common neurogenically mediated alerting reaction which leads to higher office than out-of-office BP. This white-coat tendency has been shown to increase over time [30]. This would also explain a slight upward trend in OBP during the years after uRDN. The fact that we did not see any increase in BP despite these 3 well-established causes for positive BP trajectories over time is reassuring and suggests that concerns of renal nerve regeneration are not warranted.

Although hypertension control rates slightly increased after uRDN, they remained disappointing, especially in light of the fact that most patients were enrolled at facilities with experience in treating hypertension. These data further emphasise the need for efforts to achieve greater degrees of BP control for patients with hypertension. It is possible that the less frequent yearly follow-ups beyond the 12-month visit led to therapeutic inertia, with the long intervals between visits making adequate titration of AHM difficult.

Limitations

Our study was limited by several factors, including that only OBP measurements and not ambulatory BP were recorded after the 12-month follow-up visit and the study was not powered for OBP at the long-term timepoints. In addition, chemical analysis for determination of medication adherence and measurement of eGFR as a measure of kidney function were no longer performed as a protocol requirement. However, instances of worsening renal function or renal failure were required to be reported as adverse events and did not occur in this cohort during long-term follow-up.

Given that patients and physicians were unblinded after the 6-month visit and patients in the sham group could cross over after the primary endpoint was met (after 12 months), no between-group differences can be evaluated from our data [16]. Even though the baseline characteristics and decrease in OBP of this cohort are similar to the overall cohort of 74, we cannot be sure that these results represent the full cohort. Finally, OBP is affected by many factors, including the white-coat or alerting reaction [30] and poor BP measurement techniques. To minimise these problems, we estimated OBP from averaging repeat BP measurements at each office encounter (which reduces the white-coat effect) and used the same BP cuff size and monitors during follow-up visits to further reduce measurement errors. Importantly, OBP assessment remains the mainstay of hypertension management in clinical practice [25].

Conclusions

In this analysis of patients with mild-to-moderate hypertension who underwent uRDN in the RADIANCE-HTN SOLO trial, we found that OBP reductions were sustained throughout the 36 months of follow-up (–17.7/11.3 mmHg) on a stable number of antihypertensives from screening (1.3 medications). Our results suggest that long-term BP reductions and improvement of HTN control rates can be achieved with a combination of uRDN and antihypertensive medications. Importantly, long-term follow-up did not show any unexpected safety signals of uRDN.

Impact on daily practice

Both durability and long-term safety are prerequisites for broader implementation of uRDN for the treatment of hypertension. Here we establish 36-month follow-up data on OBP reduction, as well as safety data among patients with mild-to-moderate hypertension who underwent uRDN. The main findings of this study are that the BP lowering effect of uRDN was durable through to 36 months, with reduced OBP and improved OBP control on a relatively stable number of antihypertensive medications as compared to screening. During long-term follow-up, there were no new safety signals.

Funding

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Appendix.

COLLABORATORS.

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The trial executive committee designed the protocol in conjunction with the sponsor. The sponsor was responsible for selection of clinical sites in collaboration with the executive committee, as well as collection, monitoring, and analysis of the data. The article was written by the lead author (Florian Rader) with significant contributions from the co-authors. All authors had access to all the data, and Florian Rader was responsible for the decision to submit the manuscript. Candace McClure, PhD, employee of NAMSA, helped with statistical programming.

Conflict of interest statement

F. Rader has received personal fees from ReCor Medical, Medtronic and Bristol-Myers Squibb. A.J. Kirtane reports institutional funding to Columbia University and/or Cardiovascular Research Foundation from Medtronic, Boston Scientific, Abbott Vascular, Amgen, CSI, Philips, ReCor Medical, Neurotronic, Biotronik, Chiesi, Bolt Medical, Magenta Medical, Canon, SoniVie, and Merck. In addition to research grants, institutional funding includes fees paid to Columbia University and/or Cardiovascular Research Foundation for consulting and/or speaking engagements in which Dr. Kirtane controlled the content. He reports consulting fees from IMDS; travel expenses/meals from Medtronic, Boston Scientific, Abbott Vascular, CSI, Siemens, Philips, ReCor Medical, Chiesi, OpSens, Zoll, and Regeneron. J. Daemen has received institutional research support from ReCor Medical, Medtronic, Boston Scientific, Abbott Vascular, Acist Medical, AstraZeneca, Pie Medical, and Pulse Cath and is a consultant to ReCor Medical, Sanofi, Medtronic, Acist Medical, Boston Scientific, Pie Medical, and Pulse Cath. P. Lurz has received institutional grants from ReCor Medical, Medtronic and Edwards Lifesciences and speaker honoraria from ReCor Medical. M. Saxena has received institutional grant funding and personal fees from ReCor Medical. M. Azizi has received research grants from the European Horizon 2020 programme; has received grant support and non-financial support from ReCor Medical and Idorsia; and has received personal fees from Alnylam Pharmaceutical, Novartis, Medtronic and Poxel Pharma. A.P. Scicli is an employee of ReCor Medical. L. Thackeray is an employee of NAMSA, a contractor for ReCor Medical. M.A. Weber has received personal fees from ReCor Medical, Medtronic, Boston Scientific, and Ablative Solutions. J. Basile has received research grants from ReCor Medical and Ablative Solutions and personal fees from Medtronic, Up-to-Date and Eli Lilly. M.J. Bloch has received personal fees from ReCor Medical and Medtronic. M.D. Lobo has received personal fees from ReCor Medical, Medtronic, Ablative Solutions, and Vascular Dynamics, and research grants from Medtronic. F. Mahfoud has received research grants from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Kardiologie (DGK), Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (SFB TRR219), Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Medtronic, and ReCor Medical and personal fees from Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Medtronic, and ReCor Medical. R.E. Schmieder has received research grants and personal fees from ReCor Medical, Medtronic, and Ablative Solutions. A.S.P. Sharp has received personal fees from ReCor Medical, Medtronic, Philips, and Boston Scientific. C.K. McClure is an employee of NAMSA and a contractor for ReCor Medical. G. Chertow has received personal fees from ReCor Medical, Akebia, Ardelyx, AstraZeneca, Cricket, Gilead, Miromatrix, Reata, Sanifit, Vertex, Bayer, Mineralys, Palladio, Satellite Healthcare and other support from Ardelyx, Direct, CloudCath, Miromatrix, and Outset. T. Kahan has received personal fees from ReCor Medical and research grants from Medtronic. H. Dauerman has received consulting fees from ReCor Medical and Medtronic and research grants from Medtronic and Boston Scientific. S. Ullery has received personal fees from ReCor Medical. The other authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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Supplementary data

Supplemental Table 1. Baseline characteristics of all RADIANCE-HTN SOLO patients randomised to uRDN.

Supplementary Table 2. Number and type of antihypertensive medications at 36 months.

Supplementary Figure 1. Patient disposition.

Supplementary Figure 2. Office blood pressure changes for the 24-month population.