

TABLE I Baseline characteristics, management and outcome

	Early period: Year 1998-2000			Late period: Year 2004-2006			Periods compared p-value
	Men (n=10151)	Women (n=5546)	p-value	Men (n=9386)	Women (n=4994)	p-value	
Age, in years (standard deviations)	66.4 (12.2)	72.9 (11.5)	<0.001	65.9 (12.2)	72.4 (12.1)	<0.001	0.11
Median symptom-to-door time, h:m (IQR)	2:45 (1:39 – 5:10)	3:15 (1:54 – 6:15)	<0.001	3:00 (1:40 – 5:50)	3:30 (2:00 – 6:30)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Median time from 1 st ECG to balloon, h:m (IQR)	1:00 (0:35 – 1:39)	0:58 (0:35 – 1:42)	0.60	1:10 (0:42 – 1:49)	1:15 (0:45 – 1:59)	<0.001	<0.001
Median time from 1 st ECG to needle, h:m (IQR)	0:43 (0:27 – 1:05)	0:47 (0:30 – 1:15)	<0.001	0:36 (0:20 – 1:02)	0:41 (0:23 – 1:08)	0.001	<0.001
Co-morbidity							
Current smoker	2762 (28.9)	1220 (23.8)	<0.001	2680 (30.9)	1224 (27.6)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Previous myocardial infarction	1781 (17.5)	742 (13.4)	<0.001	1062 (11.3)	529 (10.6)	0.19	<0.001†
Previous PCI	287 (2.9)	87 (1.6)	<0.001	372 (4.0)	110 (2.2)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Previous coronary artery bypass grafting	307 (3.1)	58 (1.1)	<0.001	308 (3.3)	82 (1.7)	<0.001	0.05 ‡
Diabetes Mellitus	1758 (17.3)	1198 (21.6)	<0.001	1679 (17.9)	1014 (20.3)	<0.001	0.82
Hypertension	2736 (27.2)	1972 (36.0)	<0.001	3053 (32.8)	2195 (44.5)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Congestive heart failure	586 (5.8)	518 (9.3)	<0.001	406 (4.3)	455 (9.1)	<0.001	<0.001†
Previous stroke	769 (7.6)	509 (9.2)	<0.001	780 (8.3)	523 (10.5)	<0.001	0.04‡
Chronic kidney disease	89 (0.9)	40 (0.7)	0.30	113 (1.2)	72 (1.4)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	448 (4.4)	358 (6.5)	<0.001	465 (5.0)	440 (8.8)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Cancer within 3 years	246 (2.4)	160 (2.9)	0.08	277 (3.0)	149 (3.0)	0.91	0.05‡
Therapy on arrival							
Aspirin	2680 (26.6)	1512 (27.5)	0.25	2127 (22.9)	1440 (29.2)	<0.001	<0.001†
Other platelet inhibitor	37 (0.4)	16 (0.3)	0.43	309 (3.3)	195 (3.9)	0.05	<0.001‡
Beta-blocker	2525 (25.1)	1544 (28.1)	<0.001	2194 (23.6)	1565 (31.8)	<0.001	0.57
ACE inhibitor/ARB	1081 (10.7)	586 (10.7)	0.89	1553 (16.7)	924 (18.7)	0.002	<0.001‡
Statin	750 (7.5)	318 (5.8)	<0.001	1249 (13.4)	621 (12.6)	0.16	<0.001‡
Oral anticoagulant	271 (2.7)	109 (2.0)	0.006	232 (2.5)	119 (2.4)	0.76	0.91
Calcium-channel blocker	1304 (13.0)	786 (14.3)	0.02	1075 (11.6)	722 (14.6)	<0.001	0.04†
Diuretics	1453 (14.4)	1520 (27.7)	<0.001	1182 (12.7)	1407 (28.5)	<0.001	0.04†
Digitalis	388 (3.9)	343 (6.3)	<0.001	156 (1.7)	214 (4.3)	<0.001	<0.001†
Long-acting nitrates	1053 (10.5)	679 (12.4)	<0.001	487 (5.2)	435 (8.8)	<0.001	<0.001†
CCU procedures and therapies							
Echocardiography	6200 (64.2)	2970 (57.8)	<0.001	6842 (73.7)	3282 (66.5)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Coronary angiography	2539 (25.0)	975 (17.6)	<0.001	7686 (81.9)	3316 (66.4)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Reperfusion therapy, all	7194 (70.9)	3500 (63.1)	<0.001	7065 (75.3)	3174 (63.6)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Fibrinolysis (% of all patients)	6419 (63.3)	3223 (58.2)	<0.001	1944 (21.0)	1006 (20.4)	0.44	<0.001‡
Fibrinolysis (% of patients receiving reperfusion therapy)	6419 (89.3)	3223 (92.2)	<0.001	1944 (28.0)	1006 (32.4)	<0.001	<0.001
Primary PCI (% of all patients)	713 (7.0)	248 (4.5)	<0.001	4898 (52.2)	2033 (40.7)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Primary PCI (% of patients receiving reperfusion therapy)	713 (9.9)	248 (7.1)	<0.001	4898 (69.3)	2033 (64.1)	<0.001	<0.001
Complications							
Killip class II-IV	2912 (29.5)	2077 (38.6)	<0.001	991 (11.1)	847 (18.4)	<0.001	<0.001
Major bleeding †	67 (1.1)	62 (2.0)	<0.001	104 (1.6)	120 (4.0)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Re-infarction during hospital stay	281 (2.9)	205 (3.9)	0.001	150 (1.6)	94 (1.9)	0.21	<0.001†
Therapy at discharge in hospital survivors							
Aspirin	7994 (87.5)	4004 (86.1)	0.02	8318 (93.6)	4062 (91.2)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Other platelet inhibitor	800 (8.8)	330 (7.1)	0.001	6978 (78.5)	3045 (68.4)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Beta-blocker	7801 (85.4)	3812 (82.1)	<0.001	8105 (91.2)	3895 (87.5)	<0.001	<0.001‡
ACE inhibitor/ARB	3934 (43.4)	1952 (42.4)	0.25	5894 (66.4)	2719 (61.1)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Statin	3991 (44.0)	1757 (38.1)	<0.001	7570 (85.2)	3279 (73.8)	<0.001	<0.001‡
Outcome							
In-hospital mortality	837 (8.3)	800 (14.5)	<0.001	464 (4.9)	521 (10.4)	<0.001	<0.001†
One year mortality	1576 (15.5)	1324 (23.9)	<0.001	961 (10.3)	955 (19.1)	<0.001	<0.001†

Data presented as numbers (percentages) if not otherwise indicated. † Intracranial haemorrhage, mortal bleeding or given blood transfusion in patients treated with reperfusion therapy. ‡ More in early period † More in late period
IQR, interquartile range; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; ACE, angiotensin converting enzyme; ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker; CCU, coronary care unit