

## **COUGH IN PATIENTS TREATED FOR HYPERTENSION**

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In prospective, non-invasive research conducted in 2009 frequency of cough in hypertension patients treated in 200 locations all over the country. Group of 2482 suffering from dry, persistent cough were tested- according to the doctors, the cough was due to ACE-I treatment. About half of them (49.6%) had been administered ACE-I for over a year, 43%- for 1 to 12 weeks. In more than 21% developed cough only after a year of therapy. The research revealed significant correlation between intensity of cough and administered dose of the drug ( $p < 0.05$ ). There was no correlation found between cough intensity, duration of therapy and type of ACE-I administered. Switching patients into selective ARBs resulted in 96% cough reduction in patients, both males and females. Smoking did not influence that effect. In patients with diseases potentially influencing presence of cough (asthma, COPD, GERD) a significant presence of cough frequency after declining ACE-I was observed comparing to patients not suffering from such diseases.