



AMERICAN
COLLEGE of
CARDIOLOGY®

GUARD-AF

Screening For Undiagnosed Atrial
Fibrillation (AFib) and Stroke Prevention



JACC®

OBJECTIVE

To determine whether screening for AFib reduces stroke and provides a net clinical benefit compared with usual care.

STUDY METHODS

TOTAL NO. OF PATIENTS: 11,905

(56.6% Female, 88.1% White, 7.1% Black and 3.6% Asian)

INCLUSION CRITERIA:

Adults aged ≥ 70 years from 149 primary care practices in the U.S.;
no oral anticoagulant at enrollment

STUDY DESIGN:

Randomized 1:1 to screening using 14-day continuous ECG patch or usual care (Note: Early study termination due to COVID-19 pandemic.)

PRIMARY ENDPOINTS

**COMPARED TO CONTROLS, PATIENTS SELECTED FOR
AFIB SCREENING HAD SIMILAR RATES OF:**



STROKE

0.7% VS. 0.6%



BLEEDING

1.0% VS. 1.1%

CONCLUSION

One-time screening for AFib using a 14-day, patch-based continuous ECG monitor in individuals aged ≥ 70 years did not reduce rates of bleeding or stroke.