

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GLOSSARY	3
RESUME	7
ABSTRACT	9
LIST OF FIGURES	10
LIST OF TABLES	13
1. INTRODUCTION	14
1.1 AORTIC VALVE.....	14
1.1.1 <i>Anatomy structure and function</i>	14
1.1.2 <i>Aortic valve regurgitation</i>	15
1.1.2.1 Definition	15
1.1.2.2 Epidemiology	16
1.1.2.3 Etiology	17
1.1.2.4 Pathophysiology.....	18
1.1.2.5 Natural history and treatments	20
1.1.2.6 Treatments.....	21
1.2 EXPERIMENTAL AORTIC REGURGITATION	23
1.3 OMECAMTIV MECARBIL	25
1.3.1 <i>Background</i>	25
1.3.2 <i>Pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics</i>	28
1.3.3 <i>Bioenergetic aspects</i>	30
1.3.4 <i>Clinical efficacy</i>	31
1.4 CARDIAC BIOMARKERS	33
1.4.1 <i>N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide (NT-proBNP)</i>	33
1.4.2 <i>Soluble suppression of tumorigenicity 2 (also called interleukin 1 receptor-like 1; sST2)</i>	33
1.5 LEFT VENTRICULAR GENE EXPRESSION PROFILE	35
1.5.1 <i>Apoptosis and oxidative stress determinants</i>	35
1.5.1.1 Mitochondrial members Bax and Bcl-2.....	35
1.5.1.2 Biomarkers of oxidative stress	35
1.5.2 <i>Molecules implicated in energy substrate use</i>	36
1.5.2.1 AMPK, PPAR α , and PPAR γ	36
1.5.2.2 Glucose transporters Glut1 and Glut4	37
1.5.2.3 PDK4 and CPT1.....	38
1.5.2.4 CD36, Lox 1, and ALOX15	39
1.5.3 <i>Vasoactive determinants</i>	40
1.5.3.1 Angiotensin receptors AT1 and AT2.....	40
1.5.3.2 ACE1 and ACE2.....	41
1.5.3.3 eNOS and iNOS	41
1.5.3.4 Kallikrein-kinin signalling.....	42
1.5.3.5 Bradykinin receptors	43
1.5.3.6 Calcium-dependent myocardial contraction.....	44
2. GENERAL HYPOTHESIS AND AIMS OF THE RESEARCH WORK	46
3. METHODS.....	49
3.1 EFFECTS OF OMECAMTIV MECARBIL ON CARDIAC FUNCTION, AORTIC REGURGITATION AND LV WALL STRESS IN AN EXPERIMENTAL RAT'S MODEL	49
3.1.1 <i>Experimental animals</i>	49

3.1.2 Anesthesia and surgical procedure.....	50
3.1.3 Cardiac measurements	50
3.1.4 Calculation of wall stress variables.....	52
3.1.5 Invasive blood pressure measurement	52
3.1.6 Experimental design	53
3.1.7 Statistical analyses	53
3.2 EFFECTS OF OMECAMTIV MECARBIL AND AORTIC REGURGITATION ON CARDIAC BIOMARKERS IN AN MODEL	EXPERIMENTAL RAT 54
3.2.1 Study protocol.....	54
3.2.2 Study Design	54
3.2.3 Measurements of plasma levels of sST2 and NT-proBNP	55
3.2.4 Statistical analysis	56
3.3 EFFECTS OF OMECAMTIV MECARBIL AND AORTIC REGURGITATION ON LEFT VENTRICLE IN AN EXPERIMENTAL RAT'S MODEL	56
3.3.1 Protocol and experimental design	57
3.3.2 Real-time quantitative polymerase chain reaction (RTq-PCR)	57
3.3.3 Statistical analysis	63
4. RESULTS	64
4.1 EFFECTS OF AR ON RATS LEFT VENTRICLE, CARDIAC BIOMARKERS AND LV GENES EXPRESSION.....	64
4.1.1 AR and LV measurements.....	64
4.1.2 AR effects on wall stress and blood pressure	67
4.1.3 Effects of AR on cardiac biomarkers	67
4.1.3.1 Plasma NT-proBNP levels in rats with AR.....	67
4.1.3.2 Plasma sST2 levels in rats with AR	68
4.1.4 Effects of AR in rats LV genes expression	71
4.1.4.1 AR and LV expression of genes regulating apoptosis and oxidative stress	71
4.1.4.2 AR impacted LV expression profile of key determinants of cardiac energy substrate use	73
4.1.4.3 AR altered LV expression of genes implicated in cardiac contractility.....	75
4.2 EFFECTS OF OM AND PLACEBO ON LV RATS WITH AR	76
4.2.1 Effects of placebo in rats with AR.....	76
4.2.2 Effects of OM rat with AR	79
4.2.3 Effects of OM compared with placebo rats with AR.....	80
4.2.4 effects of OM in sham-operated rats	84
4.3 EFFECTS OF OM AND PLACEBO ON CARDIAC BIOMARKERS.....	85
4.3.1 Effects of OM and placebo on plasma NT-proBNP levels	85
4.3.2 Effects of OM and placebo on plasma sST2 levels	86
4.4 OM AND LV GENES EXPRESSION	87
4.4.1 OM and LV Expression of Genes Regulating Apoptosis and Oxidative Stress.....	87
4.4.2 OM and LV Expression of genes determinants of Cardiac Energy Substrate Use.....	88
4.4.3 OM and LV Expression of Genes Implicated in Cardiac Contractility	91
5. GENERAL DISCUSSION	93
5.1 EFFECT OF AR ON CARDIAC FUNCTION.....	93
5.2 EFFECT OF OM ON AR AND WALL STRESS	95
5.3 EFFECT OF OM ON CARDIAC FUNCTION	96
5.4 THE DIFFERENTIAL RESPONSE OF CARDIO BIOMARKERS TO OM IN EXPERIMENTAL MODEL OF AR.....	99
5.5 OM AND LV RAT'S GENE EXPRESSION	102
5.6 COMBINED VOLUME AND PRESSURE OVERLOAD AND LV RAT'S GENE EXPRESSION	107
5.7 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDIES AND PERSPECTIVES.....	110
6. CONCLUSION	111

7. REFERENCES	112
8. APPENDIX A.....	142
.....	143
.....	145
.....	146
9. APPENDIX B.....	151
.....	152
.....	153
.....	154
.....	155
.....	156
.....	157
10. APPENDIX C.....	161
.....	162
.....	164
.....	166
.....	167
11. APPENDIX D.....	169
.....	171
.....	173
.....	174
.....	177
.....	179
.....	180
.....	181
12. APPENDIX E	184
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	209