

中文題目:斑疹傷寒增加急性冠心症的風險

英文題目:**Scrub typhus increases the risk of acute coronary syndrome**

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**Background:** Taiwan is an endemic area for scrub typhus. Studies investigating the epidemiological relationship between scrub typhus and the subsequent development of acute coronary syndrome (ACS) are lacking. Therefore, we conducted a nationwide longitudinal cohort study in Taiwan to explore whether patients with scrub typhus are at an increased risk of developing ACS.

**Methods:** This study investigated the incidence and risk factors for ACS in 5215 patients newly diagnosed with scrub typhus from hospitalization records of the Taiwan National Health Insurance Research Database between 2000 and 2011. The comparison cohort contained 20 860 persons from the general population without scrub typhus. The follow-up period ran from the time of the initial diagnosis for scrub typhus to the date of an ACS event, censoring, or December 31, 2011. We used Cox proportional hazard regression models to analyze the risk of ACS by including the variables of sex, age, and comorbidities.

**Results:** The incidence of ACS was higher in patients with scrub typhus than in the comparison cohort (3.10 vs 1.92 per 1000 person-y). The hazard ratio of developing ACS increased by 33% in patients with scrub typhus after adjusting for age, sex, and comorbidities. Men, increased age, hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease were identified as independent risk factors of developing ACS after controlling for covariates. The prominent effect of scrub typhus on subsequent ACS development appeared within 1 year after infection.

**Conclusion:** This nationwide study determined that patients with scrub typhus exhibited a 33% increase in the risk of subsequently developing ACS compared with that of the general population.