Supplemental Table 2: Characteristics of each trial

	Pehlivannoglu 1996	**Singh 1996**	**Iyer 1999**	**Kobulia 2002**	**Tarantini 2006**	**Xue 2007**
Patients (n)	18	101	60	98	2330	96
Inclusion Criteria	First acute anterior MI treated with thrombolytic agents.	Clinical diagnosis of suspected acute STEMI, symptoms onset <24h	Age < 80 years Acute anterior wall MI Admission to ICU within 24 hours of chest pain Satisfactory 2D Echo imaging of LV allowing delineation of LV contours in both end-diastole and end systole	Typical chest pain lasting > 30 minutes ST segment elevation < 12 hours between onset of symptoms and randomization in the study; < 80 years of age	Typical chest pain x 30 mins unrelieved by nitrates, symptoms onset within 12h before randomization, persistent ST elevation	Anginal chest pain within 24 h of hospitalization, one of the following ECG changes: transient or persistent ST depression >/=1 mm, or newly developed T wave inversion >/=3 mm. All patients had elevation of blood creatine kinase-MB, (CK-MB), and/or troponin I.
Protocol	Study protocol not given. The L-carnitine group received 9g/d IV x 5 days then 3g/d PO x 3 months.	Randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial. L-carnitine administered as 2g/d x 28 days	Randomized, placebo-controlled study. L-carnitine or placebo administered to patients at 6 gm daily for 7 days, then 3 gm daily (1 gm TID) for three months	Phase III, multicenter, randomized, double- blind, placebo-controlled study. The dose of 9 g/day of active drug (3 g three times a day by continuous iv infusion) was administered for 5 initial days, whereas 4 g/day (2 g two times a day by oral route) was administered from the 6th to the 180th day.	Randomized, double-blinded, multicenter, placebo-controlled. L-carnitine administered as 9mg/d continuous infusion during the 5 initial days. Then 4g daily PO x 6 months.	Open-label, single blind design. L-carnitine 5g IV bolus followed by 10 g/day IV infusion X 3 days. All patients also underwent PCI within 24 h from the onset of chest pain.
Baseline and ending blood pressure	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	<u>L-Carnitine</u> Start SBP: 142 ± 10.9 DBP: NS End : NS <u>Control</u> Start SBP: 146 ± 13.6
Baseline and ending heart rate	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Baseline	L-carnitine Start: 39.8±7.97% End: 52±4.76%	NS	L-Carnitine Start EF: 33% ± 2 End: 37 ± 2	NS	NS	NS

and ending ejection fraction	Control Start: 37.8±8.11% End: 46.8±9.36%		Control Start EF: 36% ± 2 End: 42% ± 4			
Follow-up	5th day, 10th day, 1st and 3rd months	28 days	2D Echo evaluation at admission, at 7 days, and at 3 months	6 months	6 months	Plasma levels of creatine kinase-MB and troponin-I were measured immediately before and 8, 12 and 24 h after PCI. (Not clearly specified)
AMI index event type	Acute anterior MI	100% STEMI	Acute Anterior MI	100% STEMI	100% STEMI	Non-STEMI
Risk of Bias*	± ± ±	± ± +	± ± ±	+ + +	+ + +	± ± ±

*Represents risk of bias based on: sequence generation of allocation; allocation concealment and blinding. '+' represents low bias risk, '-' high bias risk and '±' unclear bias risk.