

Table 3 Clinical characteristics and treatment in acute myocardial infarction patients admitted to coronary care unit at Tripoli medical centre (n = 622)

Variable	No.	%
Presenting symptoms		
Chest pain	558	89.7
Nausea and vomiting	441	70.9
Epigastric pain	109	17.5
Breathlessness	89	14.3
Dizziness	62	10.0
Fatigue	58	9.3
Duration of stay in hospital (days)^a		
< 8	128	26.7
8-14	251	52.3
> 14	101	21.0
In-hospital treatment		
Aspirin	562	90.4
Beta-blocker	363	58.4
Streptokinase	336	54.0
ACE inhibitor	263	42.3
ECG location		
Anterior	389	62.5
Inferior	203	32.6
Subendocardial	20	3.2
Posterior	6	1.0
Right ventricle	4	0.6
Duration of symptoms prior to presentation (hours)^b		
< 4	185	32.2
4-6	83	14.4
7-12	101	17.5
> 12	207	35.9
Treatment at discharge^c		
Aspirin	406	91.6
Beta-blocker	233	52.6
ACE inhibitor	213	48.1

^aFor 480 discharged patients (patients who left against medical advice were excluded); ^bData available for 576 patients; ^cTreatment at discharge was available for 443 patients.

ACE inhibitor = angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor; ECG = electrocardiograph.