**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

***Study Site:*** This study was carried out in the Department of Cardiology, Rajah Muthiah Medical College and Hospital, a tertiary care hospital under Annamalai University, Chidambaram, Tamilnadu, India.

***Study design:*** A prospective observational study done on coronary artery disease patients.

***Study period***: July 2021- June 2022, One year.

***Sample size***: A total of 151 patients diagnosed with CAD from both outpatient and in-patient units in the Department of Cardiology were taken for the study.

***Study Participants:***

*INCLUSION CRITERIA*:

* Patients with the established diagnosis of CAD, attending outpatient department or admitted in the ward of Cardiology unit, RMMCH.
* Older than 18 years of age and younger than 80 years of age of either gender.
* Patients with/without mild and moderate co-morbidities, such as Diabetes Mellitus, Bronchial Asthma, Hypertension, or any other diseases.
* Patients who are willing to give written informed consent.

*EXCLUSION CRITERIA:*

* Patients who are not willing to participate in the study.
* Patients with severe co-morbidities, such as chronic kidney disease stage 4, and those in critical condition.

***Study procedure:*** The proposal for this Drug Utilization Study was submitted to the Institutional Human Ethics Committee Rajah Muthiah Medical College, Annamalai University, and approval was obtained before commencing the study. The data were obtained from patients attending Cardiology OPD/IPD during the period July 2021- June 2022. The data were collected using a pre-designed proforma. The individual participants were explained about the study in their own language and were assured that their identity would be kept confidential and that they can refuse to participate at any time. Written and informed consent was obtained from the participants.

***Data Collection and analysis:***

The patient data were collected with Name, Age, Gender, Occupation, Comorbidities, and drugs prescribed with their dosage and schedule. The data was collected directly through patient interviews, after getting their informed consent, and then analyzed descriptively through Microsoft Excel 2016.

**Data Analysed:**

1. Analysis of prescribing indicators using WHO criteria.
2. Classification and consumption of prescribed drugs as per WHO ATC/DDD system.
3. The prescribed daily dose (PDD) and its ratio to DDD was calculated.
4. Analysis of the prescription pattern of drugs in coronary artery disease.