Figure 1 Flow diagram demonstrating follow-up of enrolled patients

Patients hospitalized for ACS in Cardiology Department during study period

Informed consent and assessment of eligibility
Therapeutic education during hospital stay

Patients hospitalized for ACS with consent (n=99)

Randomization

Group A: 54 assigned to NRT initiation during hospitalization, 1 day after ACS

Loss to follow-up = 10
Regional hindrance (n=2)
Death (n=0)
Declined participation (n=8)

Treatment weeks: 1–24
Completed follow-up (n=44)

Week: 24
End point assessment: 53
Not contactable (n=1)

Group B: 45 assigned to NRT initiation during hospital discharge, 14 days after ACS

Loss to follow-up = 15
Regional hindrance (n=2)
Death (n=2)
Declined participation (n=8)

P = 0.931
Completed follow-up (n=30)

ITT
End point assessment: 43
Death (n=2)

ACS = acute coronary syndrome; ITT = intention to treat; NRT = nicotine replacement therapy