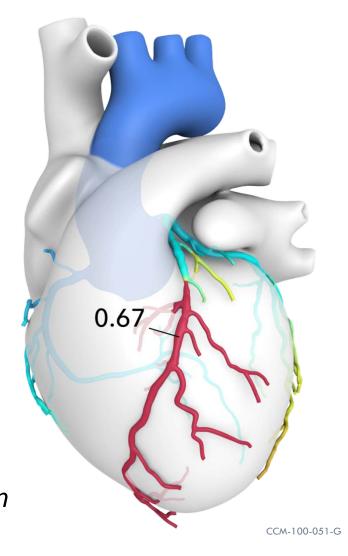
# Cardiac CT FFR: The New Gold Standard

### Charles A. Taylor, Ph.D.

Founder, Chief Technology Officer, HeartFlow, Inc. Adjunct Prof. of Bioengineering, Stanford University Adjunct Prof. of Computational Science & Engineering, U.T. Austin Part-time Prof. of Biomedical Eng., T.U. Eindhoven, Netherlands



### Disclosures

Founder, Shareholder, Employee of HeartFlow, Inc., Redwood City, California



### Alternate treatments for Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)

Invasiveness, Cost



Optimal Medical Therapy (OMT) (drugs, lifestyle modification)

Efficacy for treating significant CAD

Percutaneous

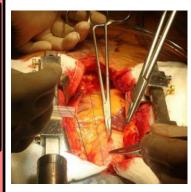
Intervention (PCI)

Coronary

A *focal* anatomic

to warrant PCI

<u>narrowing</u> (obstructive CAD) and <u>lesion-specific</u> <u>ischemia</u> are <u>both</u> needed

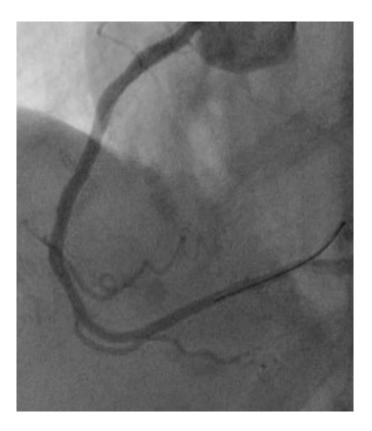


Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG)

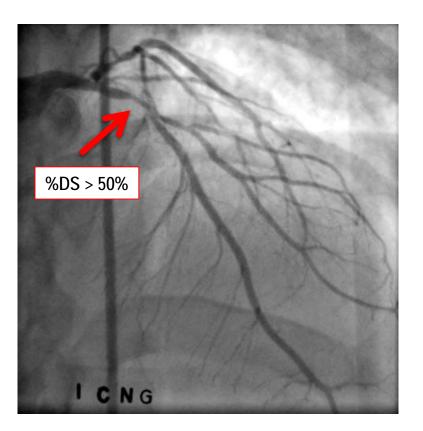
### **Diagnosing Anatomic and Functionally-Significant CAD**

	<u>ANATOMY</u> Identify obstructive CAD	<u>FUNCTION</u> Identify lesion-specific ischemia that may benefit from PCI
Invasive	2	2

## Coronary Angiography (CAG) is the gold-standard for identifying obstructive CAD



Normal coronary artery

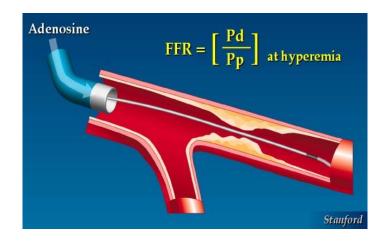


**Diseased coronary artery** 

## FFR is the gold-standard test to identify lesion-specific ischemia resulting from obstructive CAD

#### • Fractional Flow Reserve (FFR)

- Defines the functional significance of coronary lesions\*
- Measured with pressure wire during coronary angiography
- Adenosine used to elicit maximum hyperemia (i.e. to simulate exercise in the cardiac catheterization)



\*Pijls NH et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2007 Pijls NH et al. J. Am. Coll. Cardiol. 2010

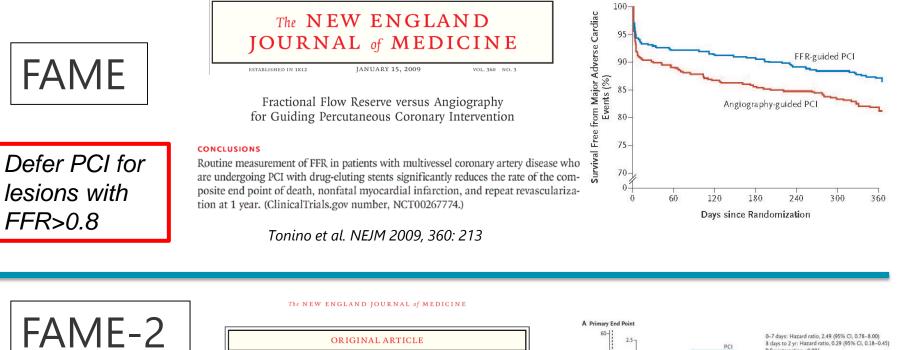








## Robust clinical evidence has established FFR as the gold-standard test to identify lesion-specific ischemia



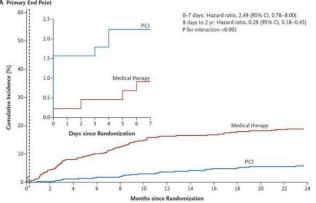
Fractional Flow Reserve–Guided PCI versus Medical Therapy in Stable Coronary Disease

#### Perform PCI for lesions with FFR≤0.8

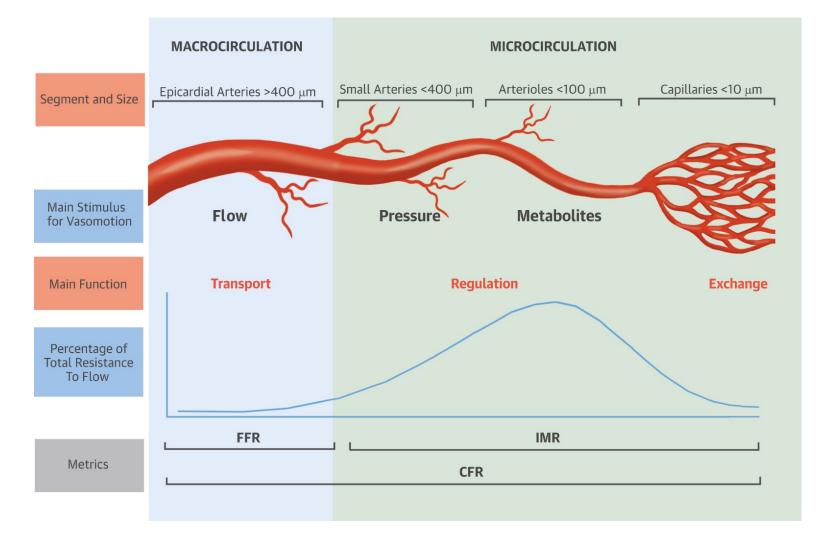
#### CONCLUSIONS

In patients with stable coronary artery disease and functionally significant stenoses, FFR-guided PCI plus the best available medical therapy, as compared with the best available medical therapy alone, decreased the need for urgent revascularization. In patients without ischemia, the outcome appeared to be favorable with the best available medical therapy alone. (Funded by St. Jude Medical; ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT01132495.)

De Bruyne et al. NEJM 2012, 367: 991

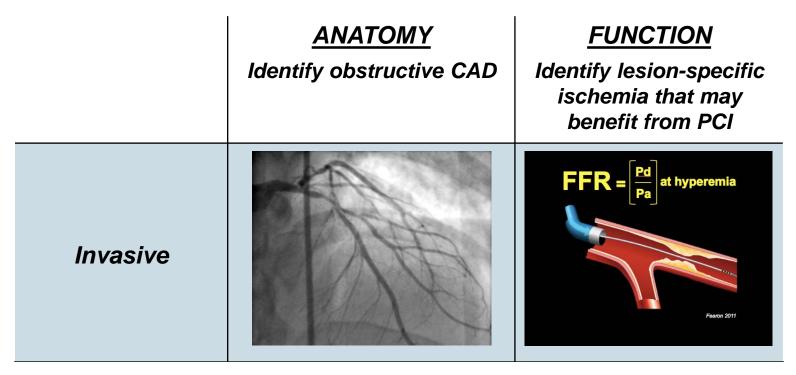


## FFR uniquely <u>isolates</u> CAD in epicardial arteries causal of ischemia, i.e. that is treatable by revascularization



Bernard De Bruyne, Keith G. Oldroyd, Nico H.J. Pijls, Microvascular (Dys)Function and Clinical Outcome in Stable Coronary Disease, Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Volume 67, Issue 10, 2016, 1170–1172

### **Diagnosing Anatomic and Functionally-Significant CAD**



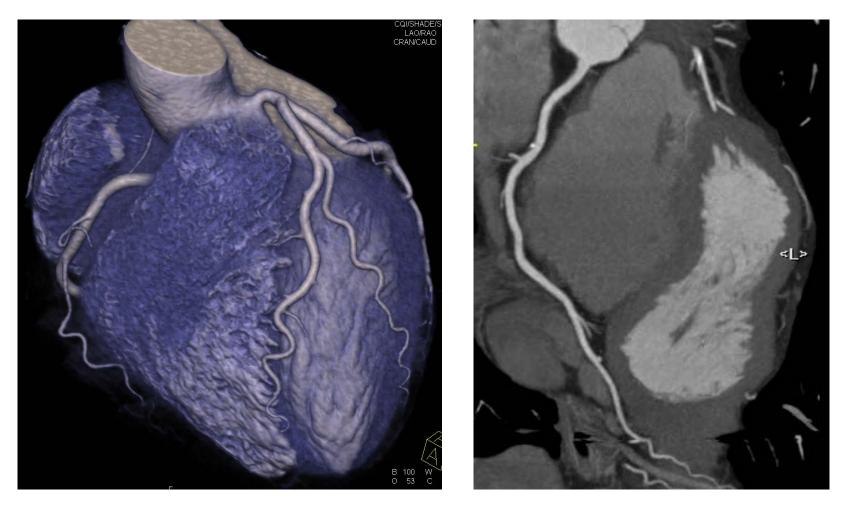
- Angiography and FFR require invasive cardiac catheterization
- Most patients that enter the cath lab <u>do not</u> have obstructive coronary artery disease on angiography let alone positive FFR

Can we identify obstructive CAD and lesion-specific ischemia **BEFORE** ccm-100-051-G patients go the cath lab?

### **Diagnosing Anatomic and Functionally-Significant CAD**

	<u>ANATOMY</u> Identify obstructive CAD	<u>FUNCTION</u> Identify lesion-specific ischemia that may benefit from PCI
Invasive		FFR = $Pd$ Pa at hyperemia
Non-invasive		2

#### Does this patient have coronary artery disease?



Very little. May or may not benefit from medical therapy

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Images provided by J. Leipsic

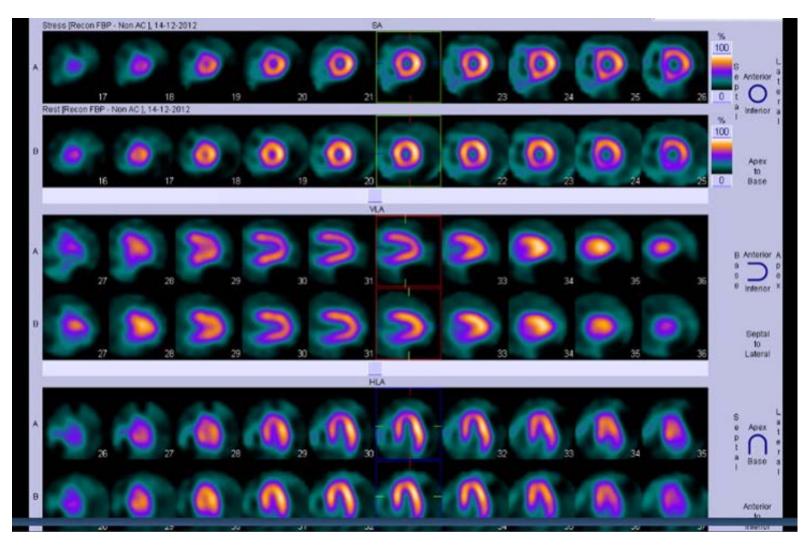
## Does this patient have coronary artery disease and if so how should it be treated?



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cCTA read by core lab as having a **severe proximal LAD lesion** 

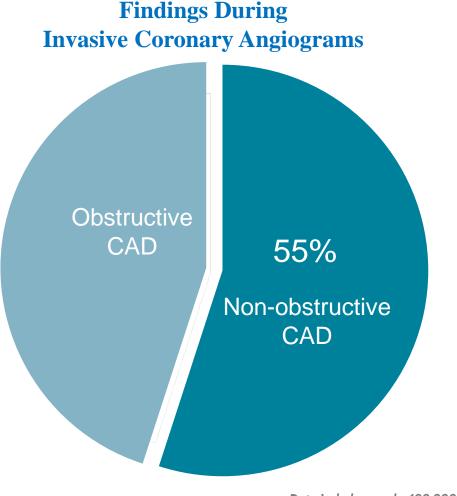
## Does this patient have coronary artery disease and if so how should it be treated?



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SPECT read by core lab as negative

## Noninvasive Stress Testing Leads to Overutilization of Invasive Procedures



Because standard non-invasive stress testing is low yield

**Over half of patients** who undergo invasive angiograms **have no disease** 

and could have avoided ICA if better non-invasive screening were available

Data includes nearly 400,000 patients at over 650 US hospitals

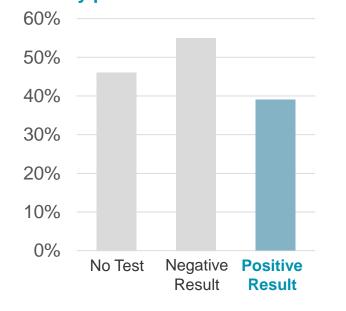
Patel et al, NEJM 2010. Patel et al, AHJ 2014.

#### Stress Testing Does Not Provide Actionable Information

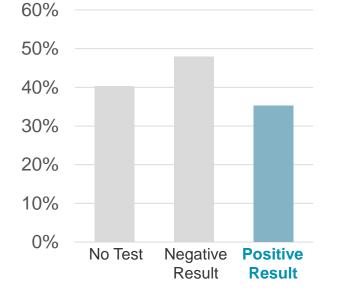
A recent study of over 15,000 ICA patients found that

- Patients with a positive stress test were the least likely to
  - Have Obstructive CAD
  - Receive a Revascularization

#### ICA findings of Obstructive CAD by prior stress test results

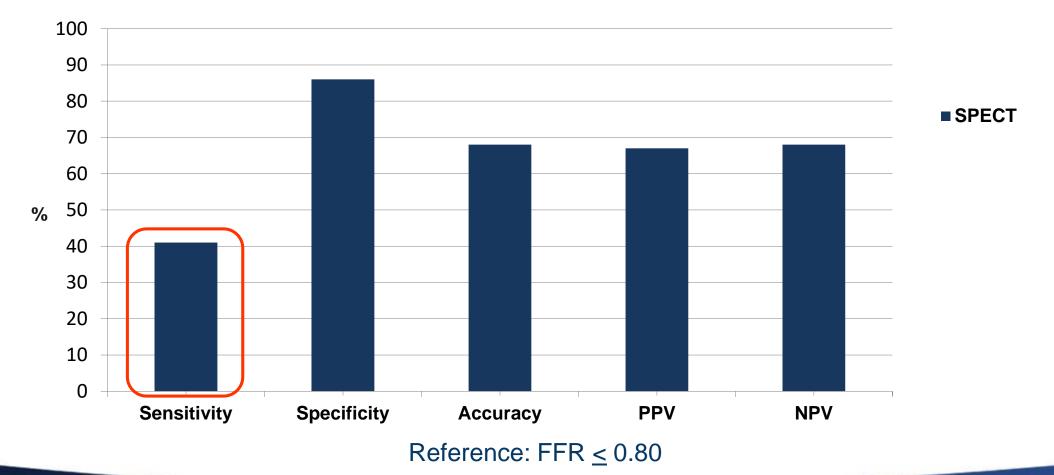


#### Revascularization Rates by prior stress test results



Vavalle et al, JAMA Cardiology 2016.

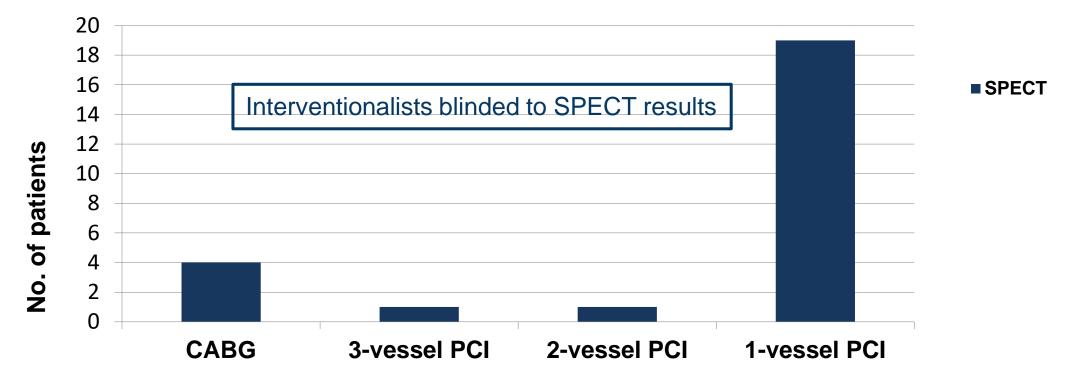
## Per-Patient Diagnostic Performance of SPECT vs FFR (143 Patients enrolled after positive cCTA)







## Revascularization outcome for Patients with a False Negative SPECT vs FFR



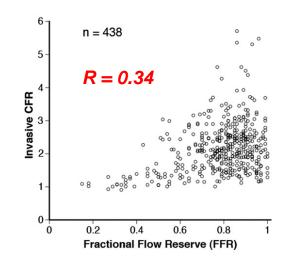
- 59/143 Patients enrolled had a positive FFR
- 25 patients were revascularized and had a negative SPECT study





#### Why are perfusion tests (SPECT, MRMPI, PET) discordant with FFR?

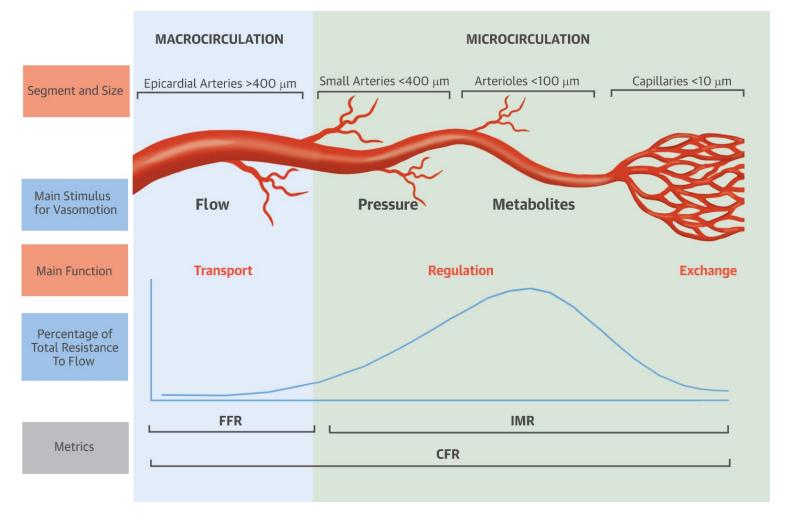
- FFR quantifies ratio of flow through diseased vessel to flow through hypothetically normal vessel
  - Identifies lesions that, if stented, will result in increased blood flow
  - Supported by robust clinical evidence demonstrating utility in planning PCI
- Perfusion imaging quantifies ratio of hyperemic flow to baseline flow, i.e. coronary flow reserve (CFR)
  - Provides measure of global myocardial ischemia useful for assessing long-term prognosis of patients, but does not identify lesions that may benefit from PCI
- FFR and CFR are different physiologic metrics that do not correlate well



Johnson, N.P., Kirkeeide, R.L., Gould, K.L.

"Is Discordance of Coronary Flow Reserve and Fractional Flow Reserve Due to Methodology or Clinically Relevant Coronary Pathophysiology?" JACC Cardiovascular Imaging, Vol. 5, No. 2, 2012

### Why are perfusion tests (SPECT, MRMPI, PET) discordant with FFR?

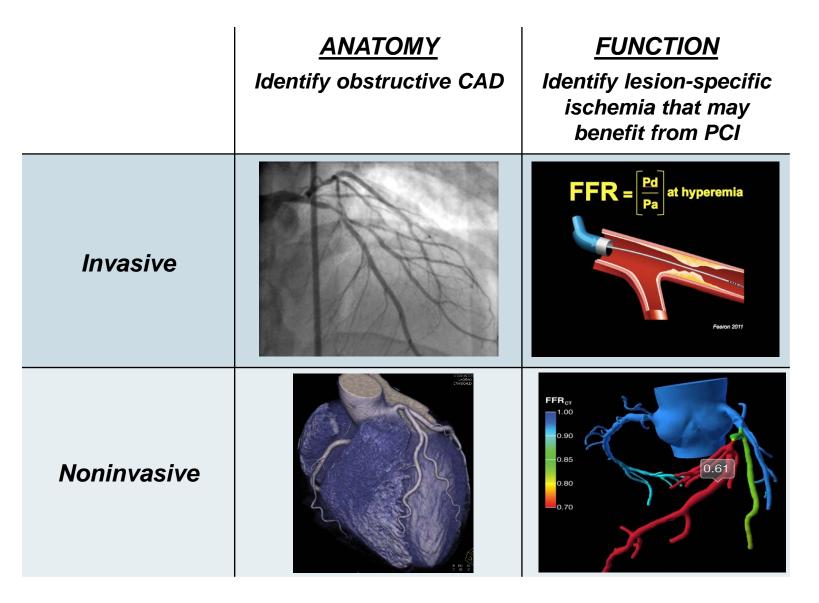


A1: They measure global myocardial ischemia, not lesion-specific ischemia

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Bernard De Bruyne, Keith G. Oldroyd, Nico H.J. Pijls, Microvascular (Dys)Function and Clinical Outcome in Stable Coronary Disease, Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Volume 67, Issue 10, 2016, 1170–1172

### **Diagnosing Anatomic and Functionally-Significant CAD**





### Interactive Results

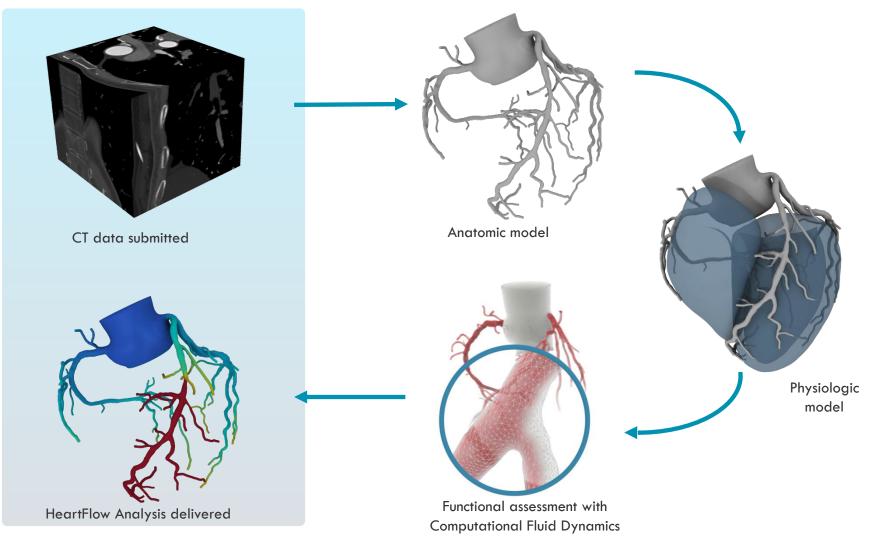
Heart Flow

CCM-100-081-B

CCM-100-051-G

Refer to product Instructions For Use for patient populations in which FFR<sub>CT</sub> has been clinically evaluated, relevant clinical data, and product warnings.

### The FFR<sub>CT</sub> Analysis Process





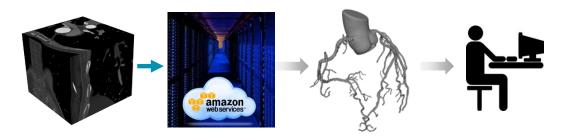
#### $FFR_{CT}$ Process



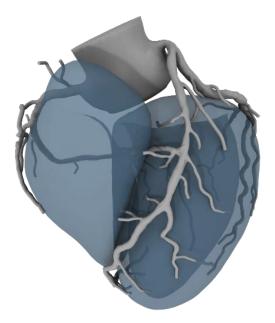
A standard cardiac **CT scan** is performed and the data is uploaded to secure application on Amazon Web Services (AWS)



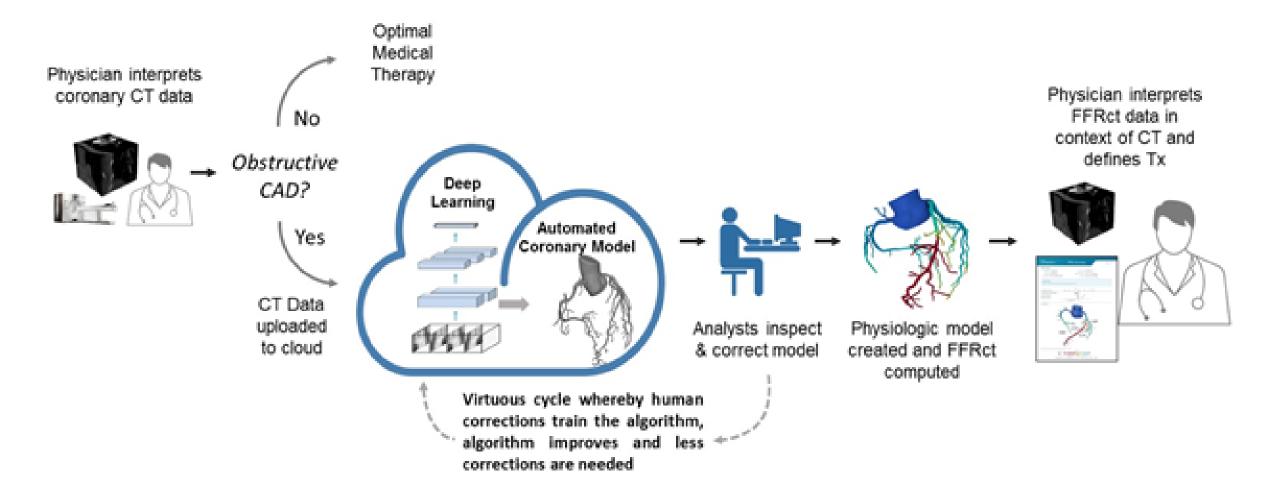
#### $FFR_{CT}$ Process



- A standard cardiac **CT scan** is performed and the data is uploaded to HeartFlow via AWS
- Deep learning methods are used to create a personalized, digital 3D model of the coronary arteries. Model is then inspected and corrected by trained image analysts.

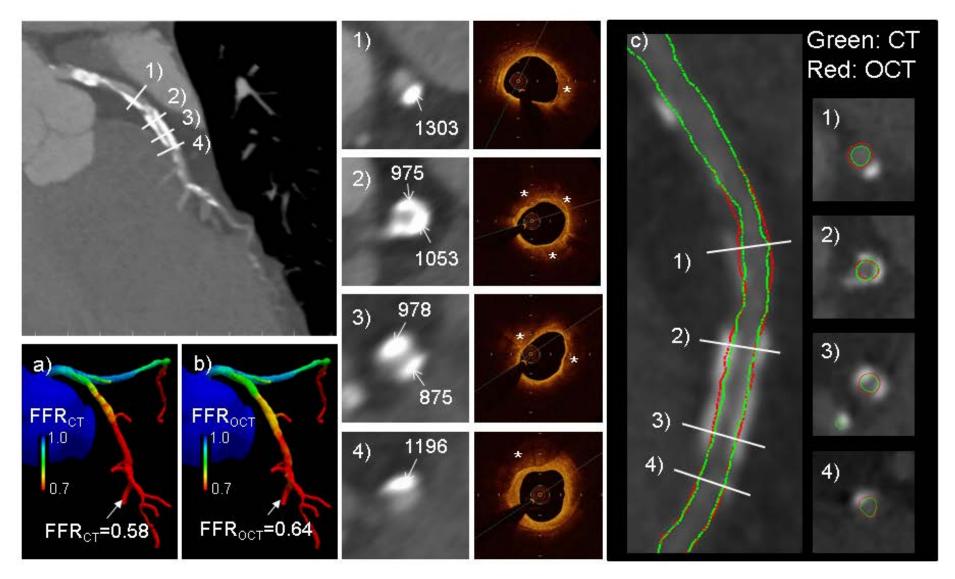


#### Automation via Deep Learning Image Analysis



Large quantities of rigorously annotated data mandatory for deep learning

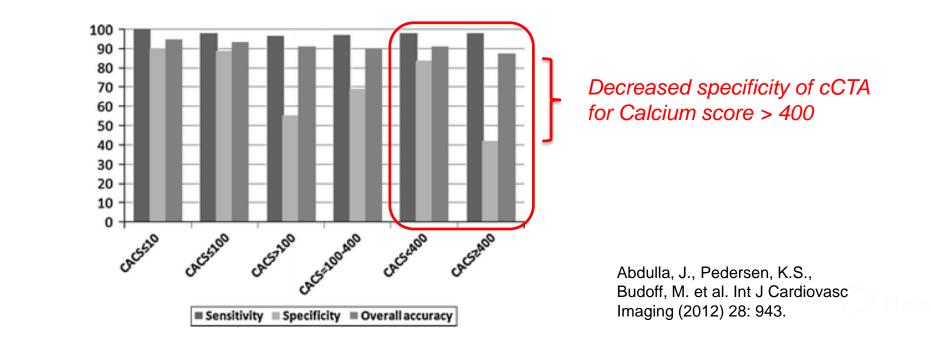
#### FFR<sub>CT</sub> lumen accuracy validated with OCT data



Uzu et.al. Eurointervention, 2018

### Limitations of coronary CTA with high calcium

- Coronary CTA often limited to patients with low-intermediate risk
  - High NPV of coronary CTA can rule out obstructive CAD and lesionspecific ischemia
  - PPV of coronary CTA to rule-in obstructive CAD declines significantly with increasing disease burden, especially with calcified vessels



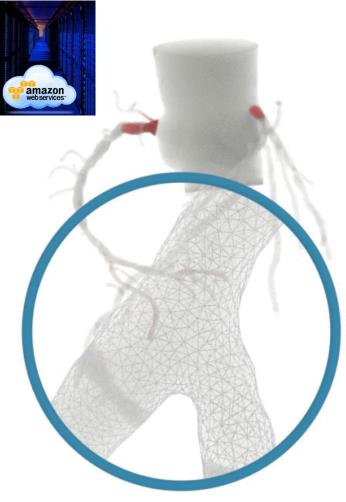
#### FFR<sub>CT</sub> technology can account for calcium blooming

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#### FFR<sub>CT</sub> Process

A standard cardiac **CT scan** is performed and the data is uploaded to HeartFlow via AWS

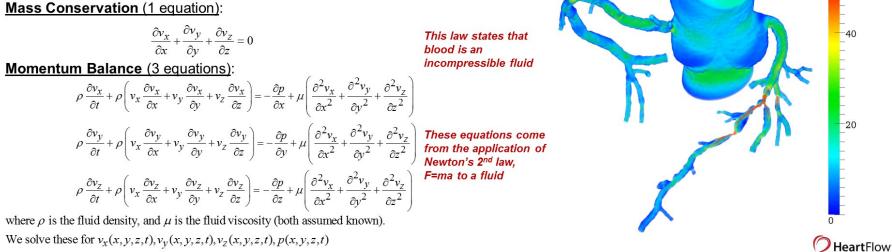
- Deep learning methods are used to create a personalized, digital 3D model of the coronary arteries. Model is then inspected and corrected by trained image analysts.
- **Powerful computer algorithms** solve equations of blood flow to assess the impact of coronary artery disease





## Computational fluid dynamic analysis can be used to quantify blood flow and pressure

3D Modeling of Blood Flow Requires Solving the Governing Partial Differential Equations



for every point in the 3D model and over whatever time interval we are interested in.

"People who wish to analyze nature without using

mathematics must settle for a reduced understanding"
Richard Feynman, PhD, Nobel Laureate in Physics



Speed (cm/s)



### Physiologic Model of FFR<sub>CT</sub>

1. Total baseline 2. Distribute baseline flow 3. Reduce terminal flow from based on vessel size, resistances to model myomass compute terminal hyperemia resistances  $Q_c^{\ baseline} \propto M_{mvo}^{\ 3/4}$ 1.25 inde 58.1 % MBF R=8.21 g/s/mm 3 0.75 32.2 % MBF R=14.8 g/s/mr × 0.5 Δ total 0.25 11.0 % MBF R=43.4 a/s/mn 35 70

Modeling coronary blood flow:

- 1. Compute total baseline myocardial blood flow from segmented LV myocardium
- 2. Distribute baseline flow proportionally based on vessel size to define baseline microvascular resistance
- 3. Reduce terminal resistance values from initial values until maximal vasodilatory threshold reached
- 35 70 100 140 Intravenous Adenosine (µg/kg/min)

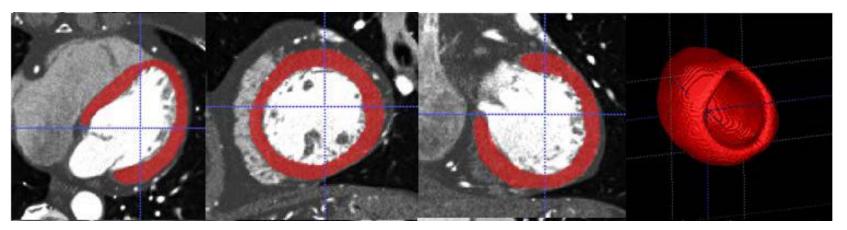
140

mcg/kg/min

### Baseline coronary blood flow is proportional to myocardial mass

In  $FFR_{CT}$ , allometric scaling laws are applied to estimate total baseline coronary flow, from myocardial mass

 $Q_c^{rest} \propto M_{myo}^{3/4}$ 

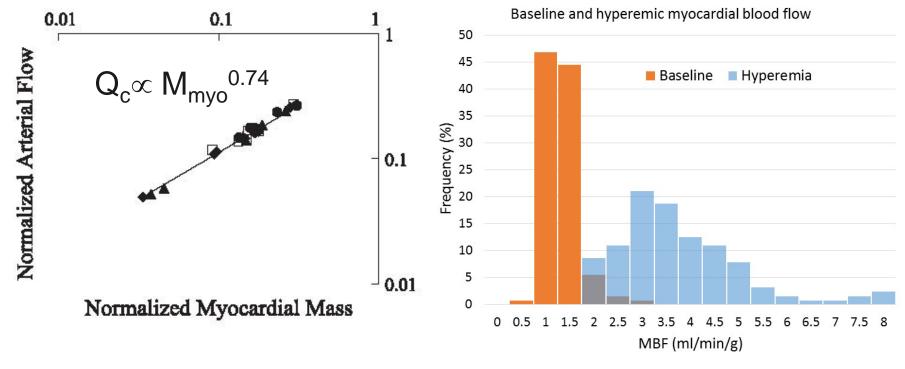


Left Ventricle Myocardial Volume can be extracted from CT data and used to compute average total coronary blood flow at rest

Taylor et al. JACC 2013, 61:2, 2233-41.

### Baseline coronary blood flow is proportional to myocardial mass

Data from animal studies and perfusion imaging demonstrates that baseline coronary blood flow is indeed proportional to myocardial mass

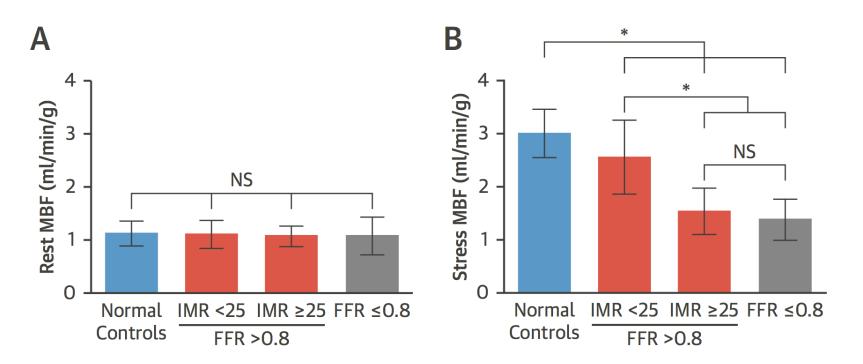


Choy et. al., J Appl Physiol, 2008.

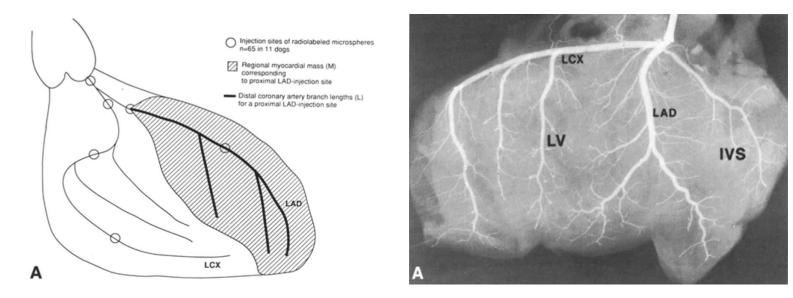
Adapted from Danad et. al., Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging. 2012

Baseline coronary blood flow is proportional to myocardial mass

Data from animal studies and perfusion imaging demonstrates that **baseline coronary blood flow is indeed proportional to myocardial mass** 



### Resistance of microcirculatory vascular bed at rest is inversely proportional to size of feeding vessel



"there is a curvilinear relation between coronary artery lumen area and dependent regional myocardial mass comparable to that in humans, reflecting fundamental physical principles underlying the structure of the coronary artery tree".

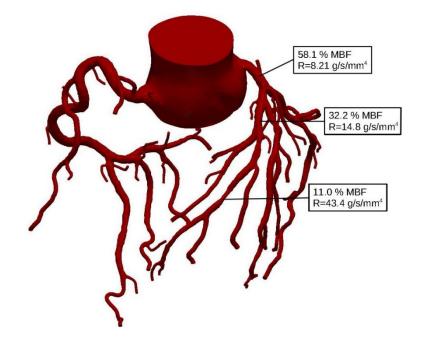
Seiler, C., R.L. Kirkeeide, and K.L. Gould, *Measurement from arteriograms of regional myocardial bed size distal to any point in the coronary vascular tree for assessing anatomic area at risk.* J Am Coll Cardiol, 1993. **21**(3): p. 783-97.

#### Myocardial Perfusion territory $\Rightarrow$ Coronary Artery Flow $\Rightarrow$ Coronary Artery Size

Therefore, coronary artery size is related to coronary artery flow

### Resistance of microcirculatory vascular bed at rest is inversely proportional to size of feeding vessel

- 1. Healthy and diseased vessels adapt to amount of flow they carry
- 2. Power law relationships of form  $Q \propto d^k$  apply to different vascular beds – including coronary arteries
- 3. Since mean pressure (P) is essentially constant down the length of the coronary arteries at rest,  $R \propto d^{-k}$

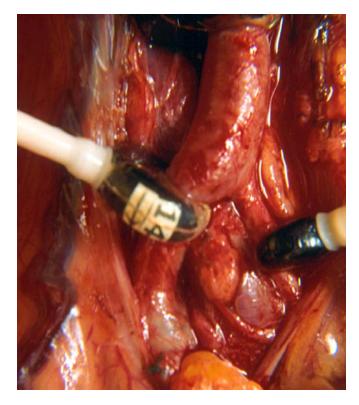


Vascular Bed	Power law exponent, k	Species	Reference
Coronary	2.7±1.3 (N=57)	Human	Hutchins et al., Circ Res, 38;572-576, 1976
Coronary	2.7 (N=5)	Porcine	Zhou et al. Phys Med Biol,47: 977–993, 2002
Cerebral	2.9±1.2 (N=47)	Human	Ingebrigtsen et al. Neurosurg 101:108–113, 2004
Cerebral	2.9±0.7 (N=157)	Human	Rossitti and Lofgren, Stroke 24:371-377, 1993
Brachial	2.75 (N=56)	Human	Wang et al. Ultrasound Med Biol, in press, 2011

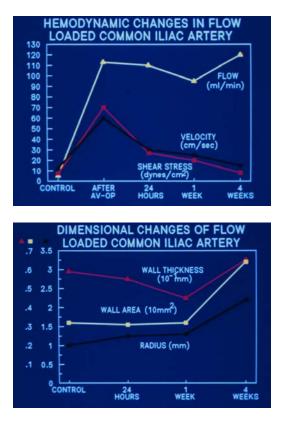
Scientific Principle #2

# Resistance of microcirculatory vascular bed at rest is inversely proportional to size of feeding vessel

Evidence for shear stress autoregulation theory - Zarins et al. AV-fistula models



Rabbit iliac artery enlarged after AVF



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Zarins CK, Zatina MA, Giddens DP, Ku DN, Glagov S. Shear stress regulation of artery lumen diameter in experimental atherogenesis. J Vasc Surg 5(3): 413-420, 1987

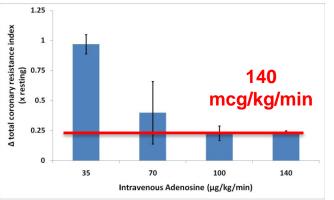
#### **Scientific Principle #3**

#### Predictable microcirculatory response to adenosine

- 1. When the heart lacks  $O_2$ , breakdown of ATP results in release of Adenosine  $\rightarrow$  vasodilation
- 2. Exogenous administration of Adenosine elicits the maximum hyperemic response by forcing complete smooth muscle cell relaxation
- 3. Standard of care for induction of hyperemia in non-invasive tests and the cath lab



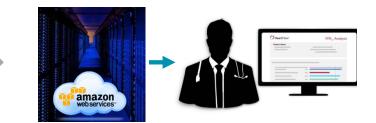
Adenosine relaxes smooth muscle cells lining arterioles resulting in vasodilation



Intravenous administration of adenosine elicits remarkably consistent vasodilatory response in normal subjects at sufficient doses

> Adapted from Wilson, et. al., Circulation 1990



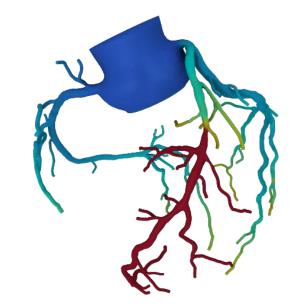


A standard cardiac **CT scan** is performed and the data is uploaded to HeartFlow via AWS

amazor

FFR<sub>CT</sub> Process

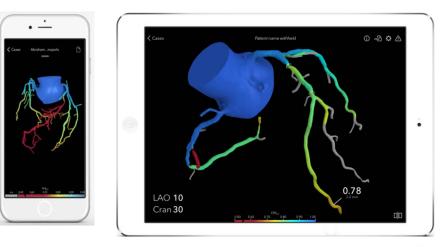
- HeartFlow proprietary software, using **deep** learning, creates a personalized, digital 3D model of the coronary arteries. Model is then inspected and corrected by HeartFlow analysts
- Powerful computer algorithms solve incompressible Navier-Stokes equations to assess the impact of coronary artery disease
- Physicians interrogate the model and interpret the FFR<sub>CT</sub> results to assess, vesselby-vessel, if sufficient blood is reaching the heart



# Accessing $\mathsf{FFR}_{\mathsf{CT}}$ results

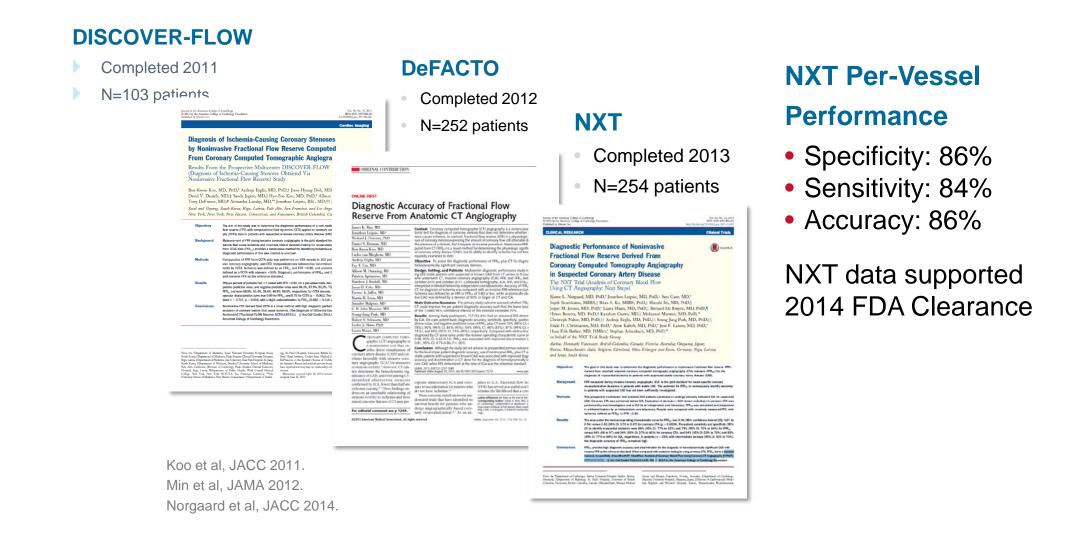




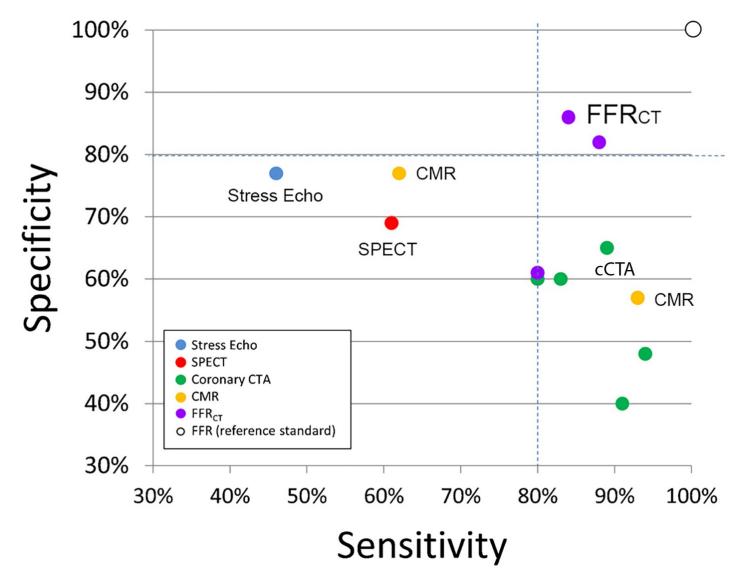




# High Accuracy of $FFR_{CT}$ Compared to Invasive FFR gold standard



# Performance of Coronary Diagnostic Tests for Lesion-specific Ischemia



Nørgaard, et al., Euro Radiology 2015; 25(8): 2282-90. Based on Figure 3.

#### Factors affecting concordance between $FFR_{CT}$ and FFR

#### Patient-based

- 1. Low-Intermediate vs. high pre-test likelihood of disease
- 2. Patient's responsiveness to vasodilator during measured FFR

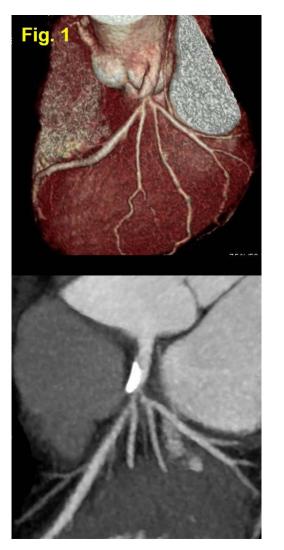
#### **Experimental**

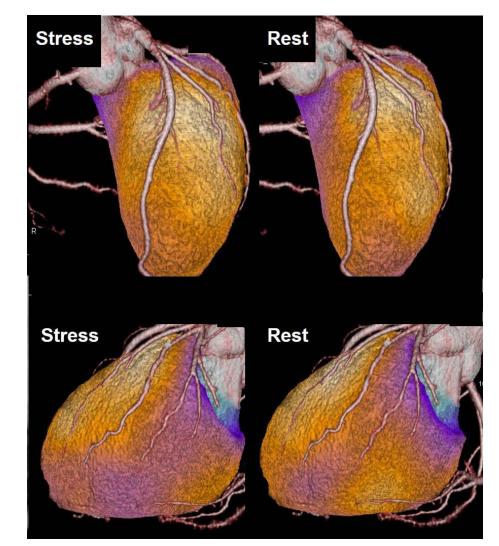
- 1. Differences in patient state between time of cCTA and cardiac catheterization, esp. nitrate protocol
- 2. Image quality
- 3. Quality of FFR measurement, e.g. calibration protocol

#### Methodologic

- 1. Fidelity of CT-derived anatomic model to actual patient
- 2. Quality of (population-derived) physiologic model and appropriateness of application to individual patient
- 3. Flow calculation method, e.g. 3D vs 1D
- 4. Process for matching FFR<sub>CT</sub> prediction with measurement locations

# Does this patient have coronary artery disease and if so how should it be treated?



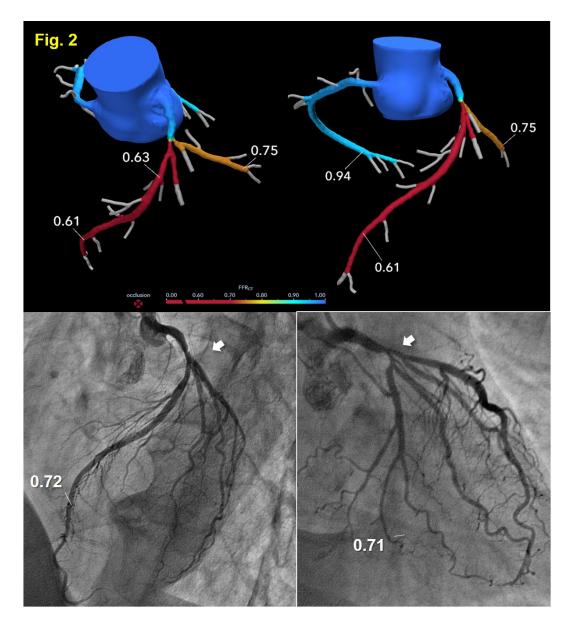


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CT positive

SPECT read as negative

Does this patient have coronary artery disease and if so how should it be treated?



# PLATFORM - Prospective clinical utility trial



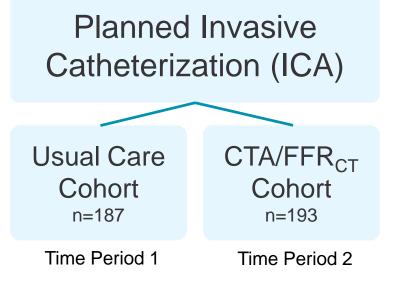


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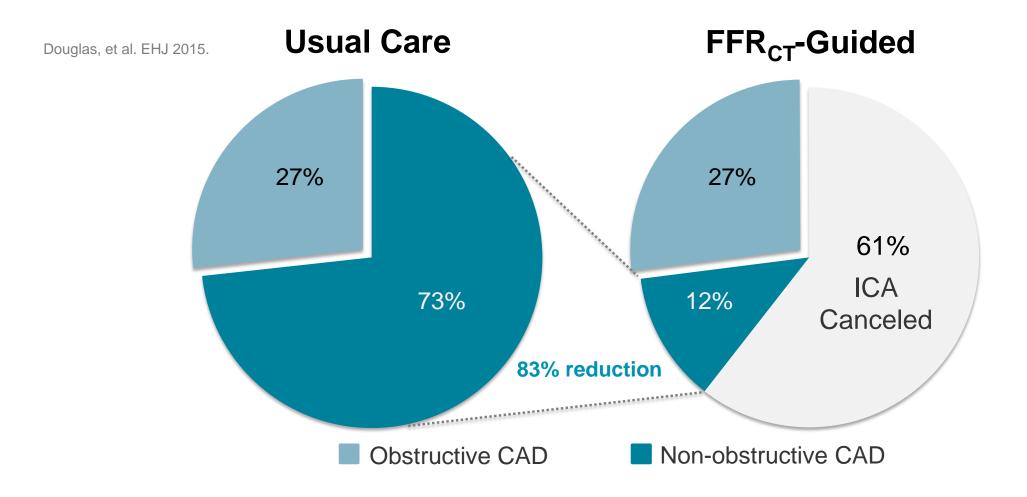
Douglas, et al. EHJ 2015. Hlatky, et al. JACC 2015. Douglas, et al. JACC 2016.

# **Trial Design**

- **P**rospective **L**ongitudin**A**I **T**rial of **F**FR<sub>CT</sub>: **O**utcome and **R**esource I**M**pacts
  - Prospective, controlled, pragmatic comparative effectiveness trial utilizing a comparative cohort design
  - Comparing the effectiveness of two distinct clinical strategies
  - 584 patients with suspected CAD (pre-test likelihood of 20-80%) were enrolled at 11 centers in 6 EU countries
    - Primary Endpoint: For patients with a planned ICA
      - Are patients evaluated using a CTA/FFR<sub>CT</sub> guided strategy less likely to undergo ICAs that show no obstructive CAD?



# Dramatic Reduction in Invasive Catheterization (ICA) with No Obstructive Disease

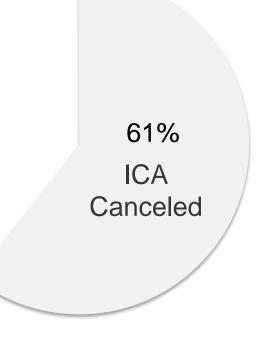


#### Proven Safety with Durable Results through 1 Year

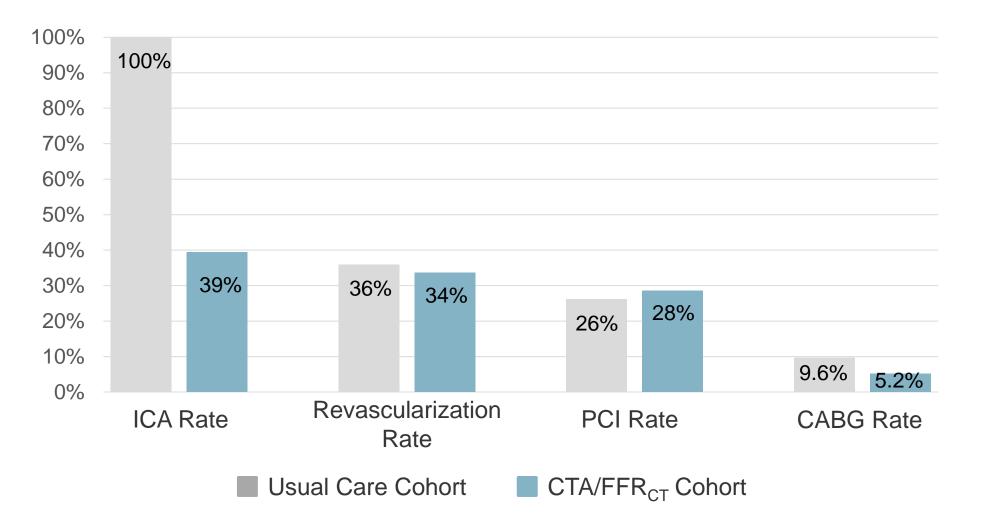
Douglas, et al. JACC 2016.

#### No adverse clinical events

occurred in any of the 117 patients whose ICA was canceled based on the findings from a  $FFR_{CT}$  guided strategy.

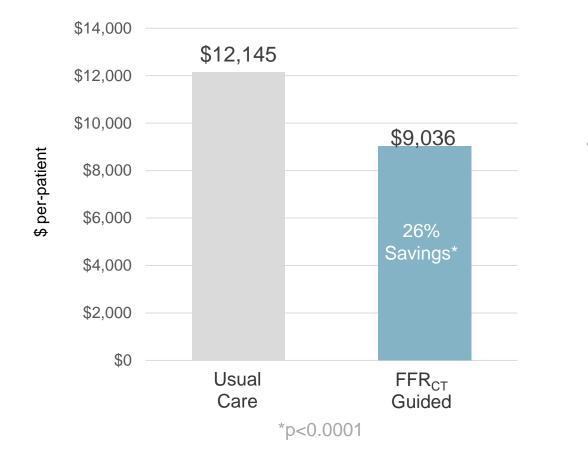


### No Difference in Revascularization Rates in Patients with a Planned ICA

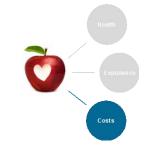


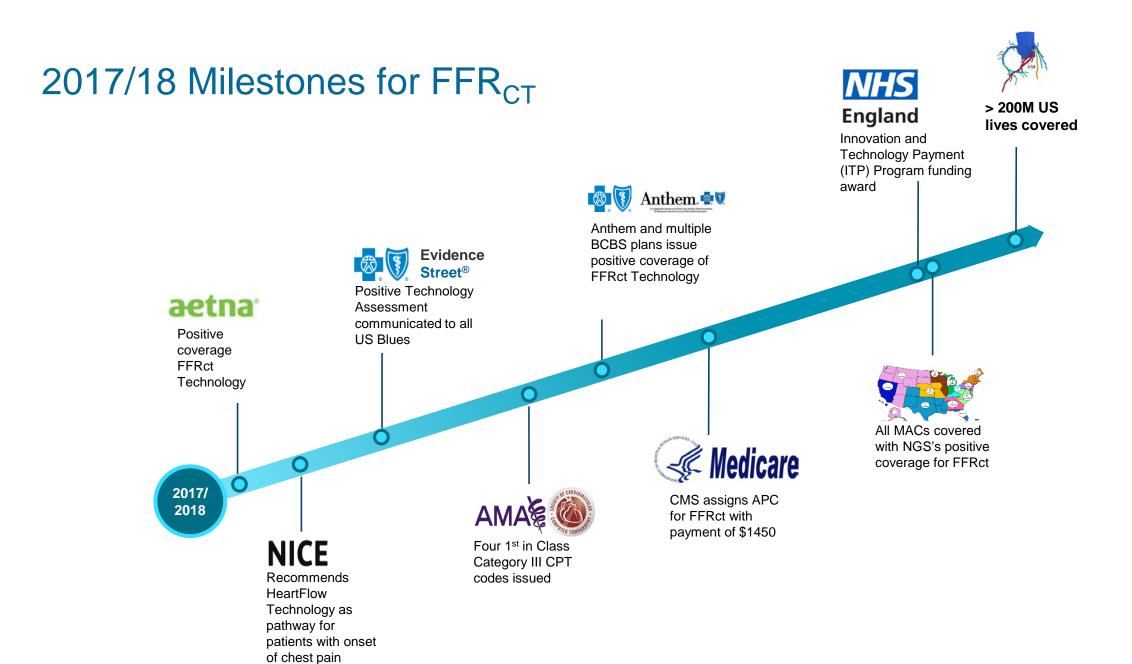
# Significant Savings to the Healthcare System

Costs Over 1 Year – Patients with Planned ICA



### Cost savings of 26% to the health system after accounting for the cost of the HeartFlow Analysis.





# **BCBS Evidence Street Pathway**

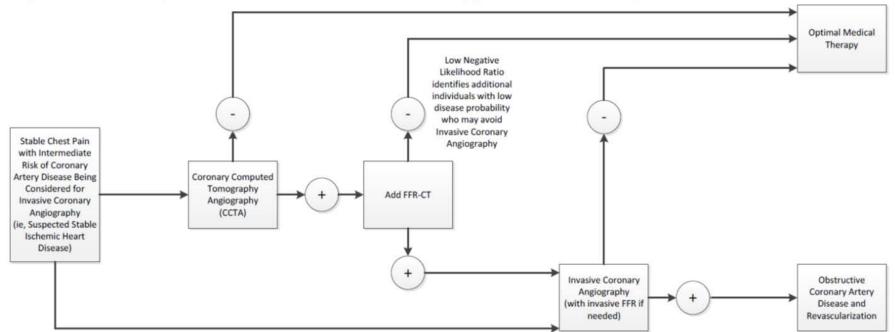


Figure 1. Pathway for Clinical Use of FFR-CT to Support Clinical Utility

FFR-CT: fractional flow reserve using coronary computed tomography angiography.

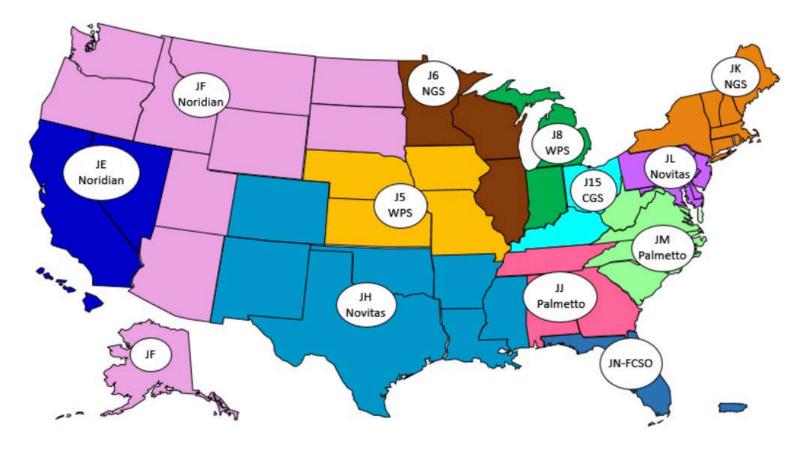


Evidence Street<sup>®</sup> Where the Market Meets Evidence

"Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography With Selective Noninvasive Fractional Flow Reserve," BCBSA Evidence Street Review, June 2017.

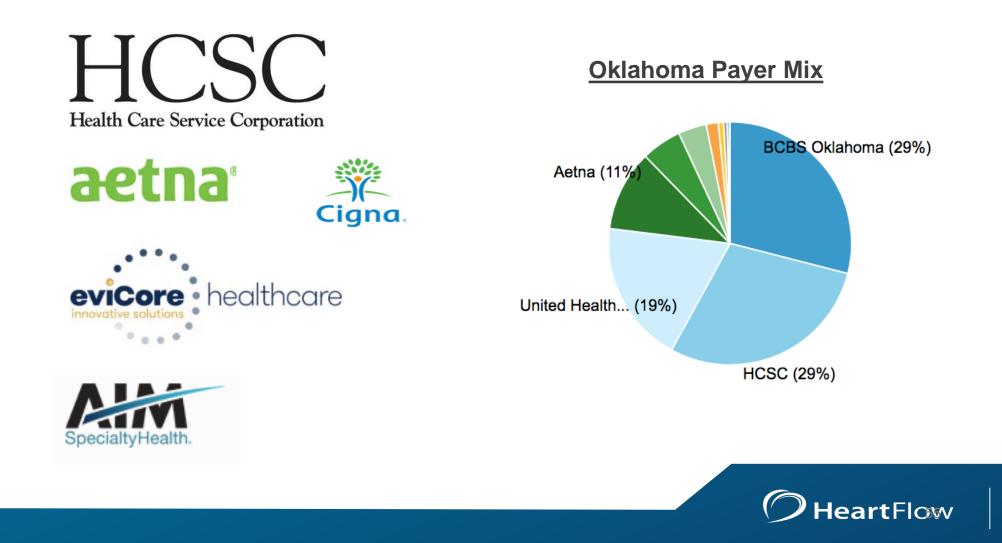
### Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs)

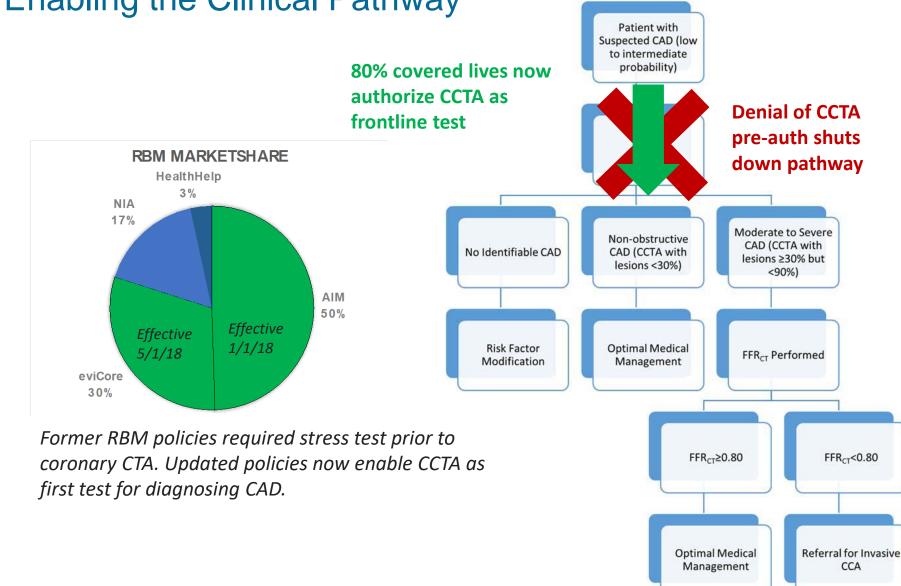
- CMS final rule assigned CPT 0503T to a New Tech APC for payment of \$1450.50 effective January 1, 2018
- Since then, Palmetto, NGS, WPS have issued positive coverage decisions
- Novitas (OK MAC) has been paying for FFR<sub>CT</sub> on a claim-by-claim basis



# >140M Commercial Covered Lives

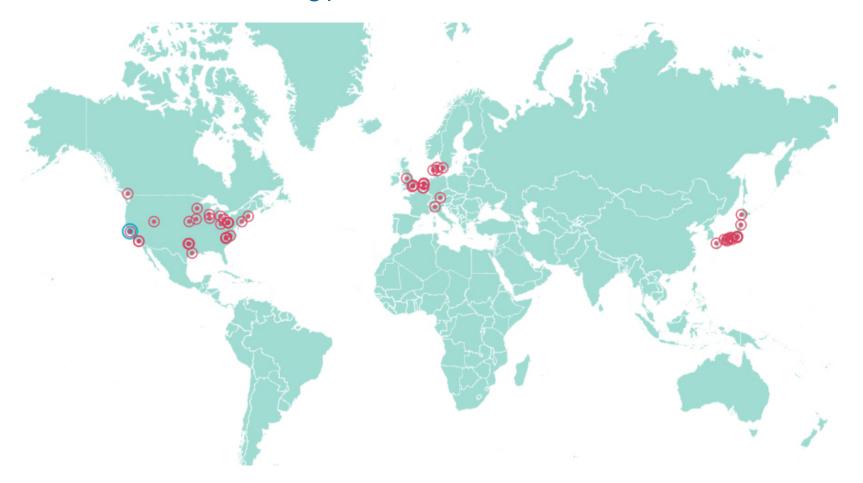
Nearly all major US health plans provide coverage for the FFR<sub>CT</sub> Analysis.





#### **RBMs: Enabling the Clinical Pathway**

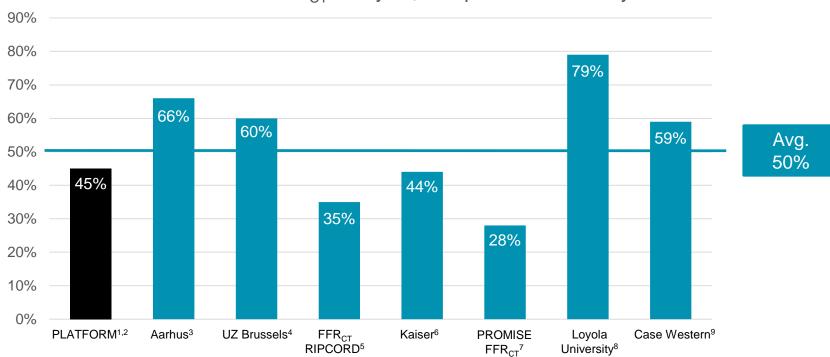
# Worldwide Adoption of FFR<sub>CT</sub>



Approximately 20,000 Patients have received FFR<sub>CT</sub> worldwide What has been learned?

# Lesson 1: Use of $\ensuremath{\mathsf{FFR}_{\mathsf{CT}}}$ decreases cath rate and increases cath lab efficiency

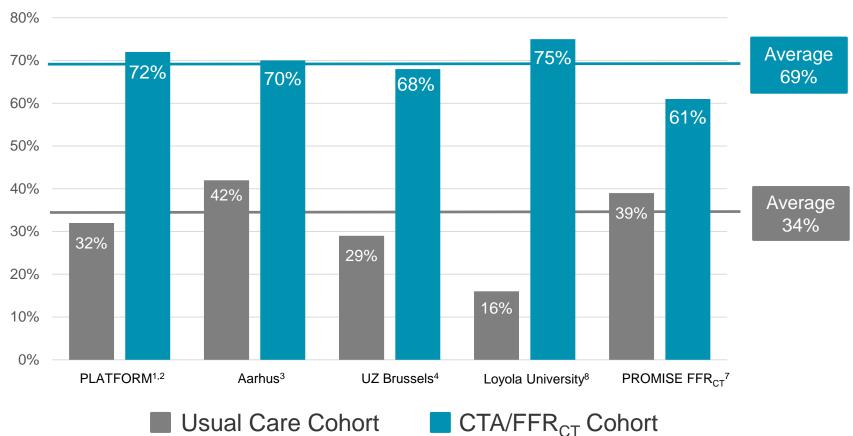
#### Adding FFR<sub>CT</sub> Reduces the Rate of ICAs by 50% on Average



ICA Cancellation Rate with FFR<sub>CT</sub> Analysis, compared to coronary CTA alone

 PLATFORM: Within the FFR<sub>CT</sub>-guided pathway, 45% of patients who would have been referred to ICA based on coronary CTA results were deferred based on FFR<sub>CT</sub>

# Lesson 1: Use of FFR<sub>CT</sub> decreases cath rate and <u>increases</u> <u>cath lab efficiency</u>



Ratio of Revascularization to ICA Volume

n= 745 patients

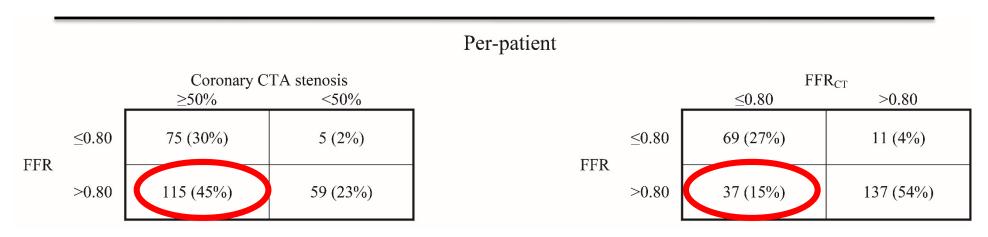
# Lesson 2: Safe to defer patients w/ FFR<sub>CT</sub> > 0.80

- PLATFORM
  - No adverse clinical events occurred in any of the **117** patients whose ICA was canceled based on the findings from a FFR<sub>CT</sub> guided strategy.
- Aarhus Real-world clinical experience
  - No adverse cardiac events occurred in any of the 123 patients with ICA cancelled during a median (range) followup of 12 (6-18) months
- Advance Registry
  - Zero adverse events seen in patients whose ICA was cancelled (n=1406)

Douglas et al. JACC 2016 Norgaard et. al. JACC: CV Imaging 2016

# Lesson 3: FFR<sub>CT</sub> identifies CT-false positive patients

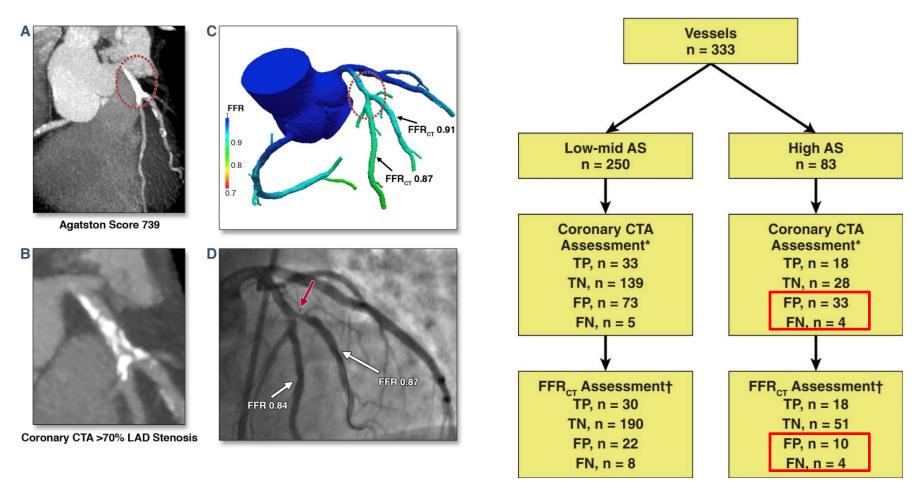
NXT



FFR<sub>CT</sub> reclassified **68%** of CT false positives as true negatives

Nørgaard et al, JACC Vol. 63, No. 12, 2014

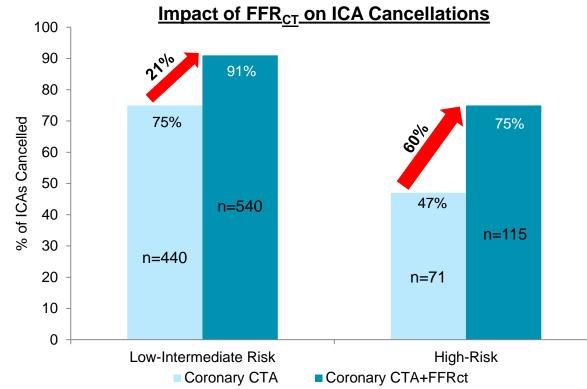
# Lesson 4: FFR<sub>CT</sub> performs well with high calcium



Nørgaard et. al., Influence of Coronary Calcification on the Diagnostic Performance of CT Angiography Derived FFR in Coronary Artery Disease, JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging, Volume 8, Issue 9, Pages 1045-1055

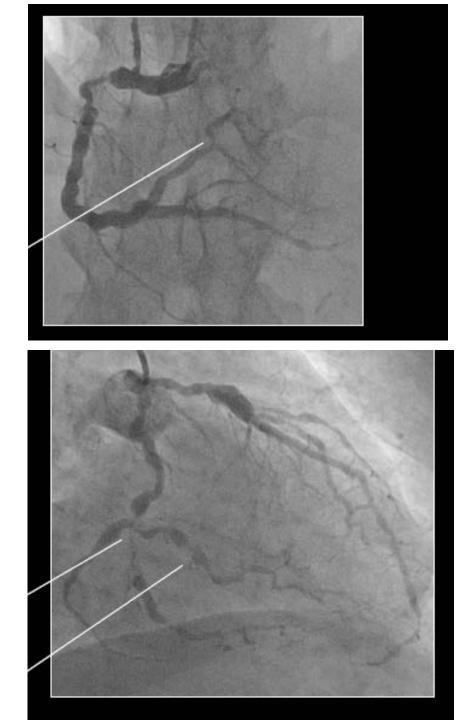
# 3-fold reduction in false positives by adding FFR<sub>CT</sub> to coronary CTA, even with high Agatson calcium score

# Lesson 5: Increased value of $FFR_{CT}$ in patients with high disease burden



- A frontline cCTA and FFR<sub>CT</sub> testing strategy cancelled 75% of ICAs in the high-risk group
- The incremental impact of FFR<sub>CT</sub> was greater in high-risk as compared with the lowintermediate risk group
  - 60% in high-risk versus 21% in low-intermediate risk

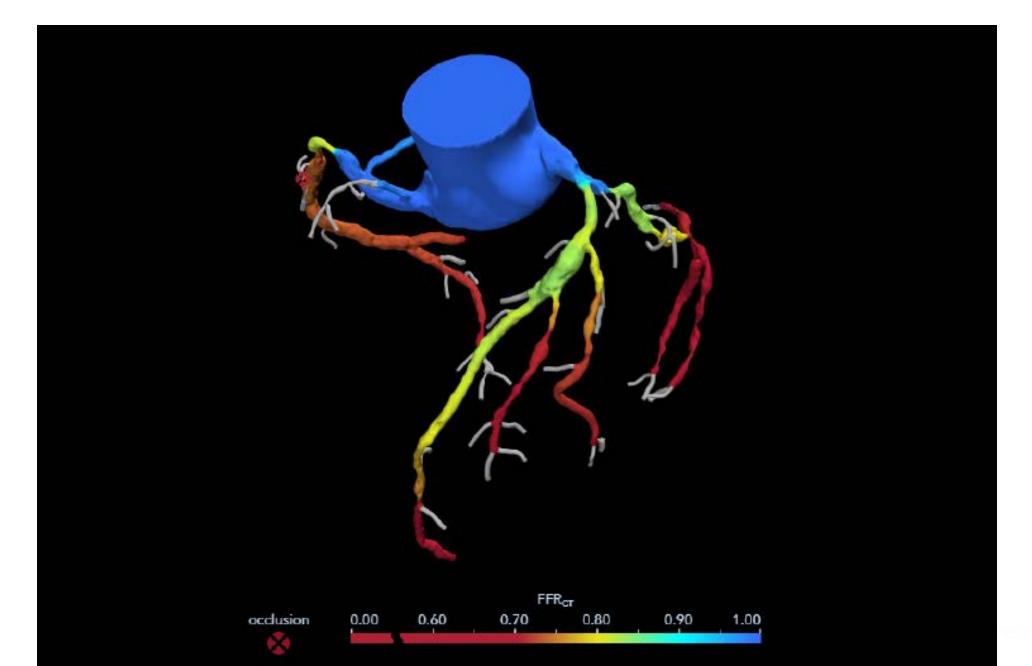
Jensen et. al., Computed tomography derived fractional flow reserve testing in stable patients with typical angina pectoris: influence on downstream rate of invasive coronary angiography, 2017



# Case: Complex MVD



# Case: FFRct

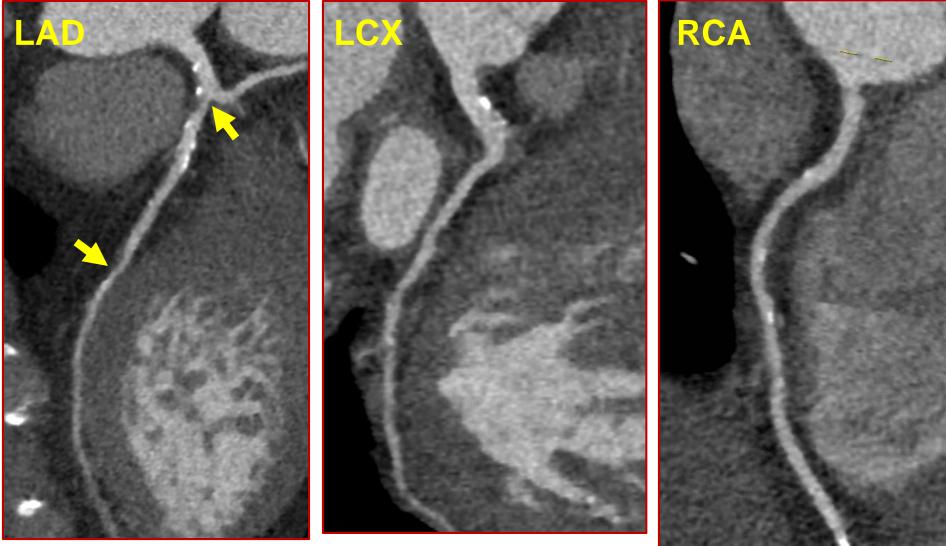


# Case 1 - Oklahoma Heart

- ▶ 69 year-old man
- Chronic recurrent exertional chest tightness and breathlessness
- Known cardiomyopathy and nonstenotic coronary arteries on cath 6 years ago
- Sinus with left bundle branch block on resting ECG
- Recent SPECT showed anterior wall nontransmural infarct pattern

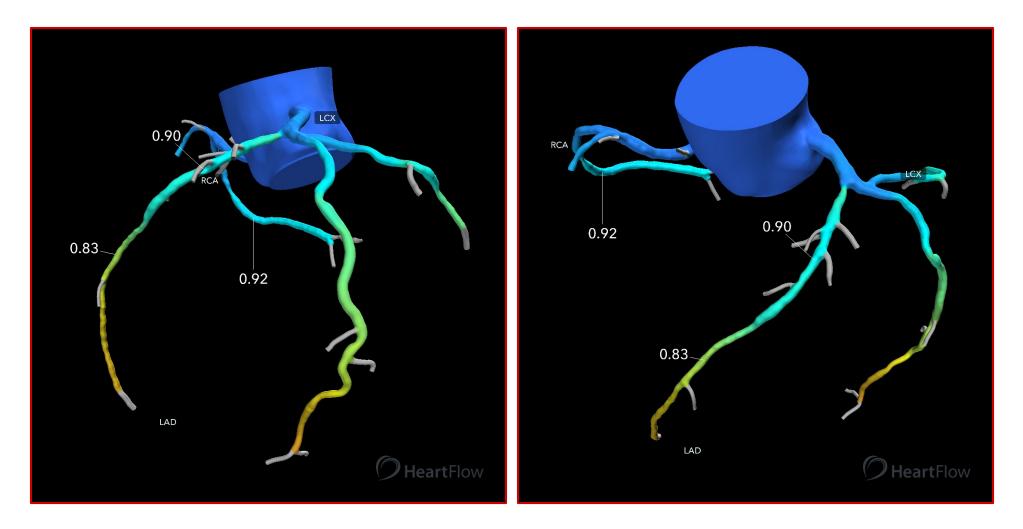


# Case 1 - Oklahoma Heart



CAD-RADS 3, 50-69% ostial LAD, 50-69% mid LAD

# Case 1 - Oklahoma Heart



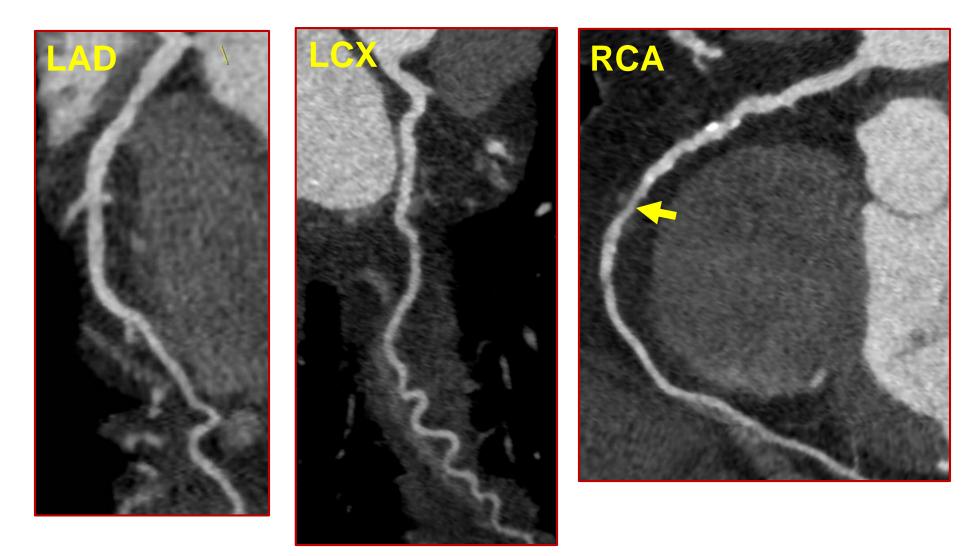
SPECT result felt to be probably artifactual, no cardiac events at 6 months

# Case 2 - Oklahoma Heart

- 74 year-old woman
- Hypertension and GERD
- Nonexertional central chest ache with radiation to both arms, difficult to tell if fits her typical reflux
- Normal resting ECG



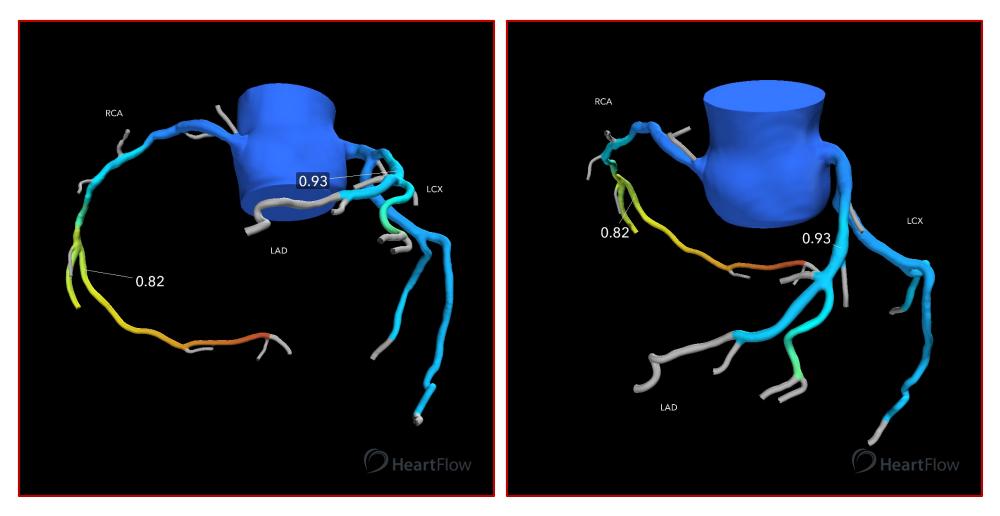
# Case 2 - Oklahoma Heart



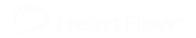
#### CAD-RADS 3, 50-69% mid RCA



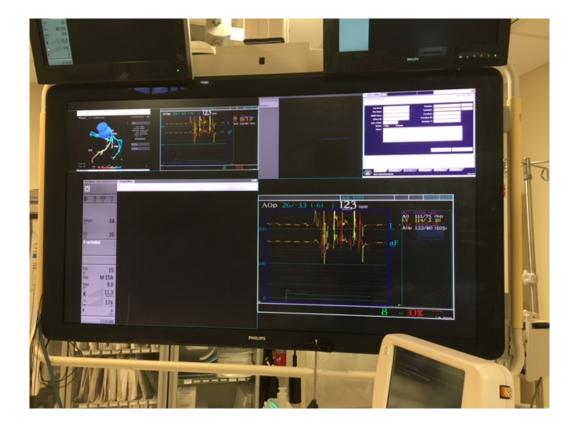
# Case 2 - Oklahoma Heart

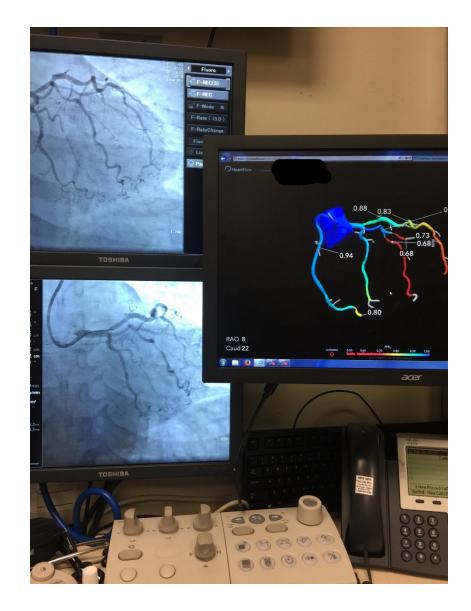


- Referred for MPS 1 months later: Equivocal inferior wall reversible defect
- Office visit at 7 months: Chest pain free
- Follow-up to date 12 months: No cardiac events

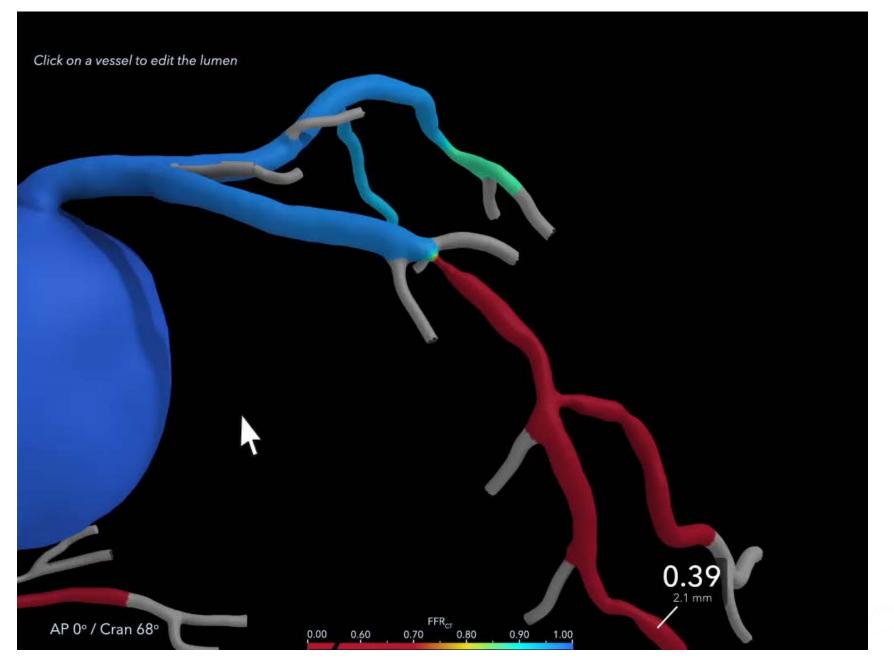


# Bringing $FFR_{CT}$ into the cath lab



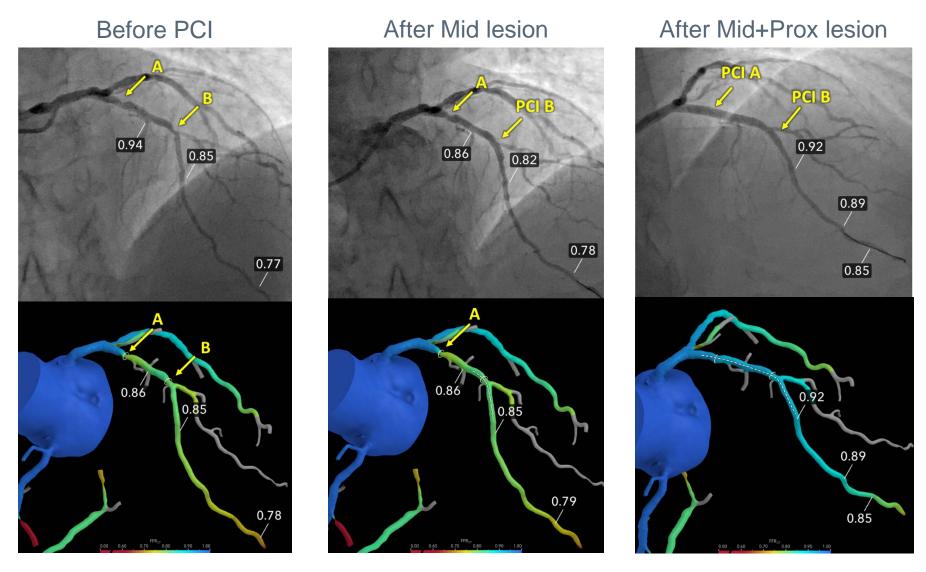


# Virtual Intervention Planner



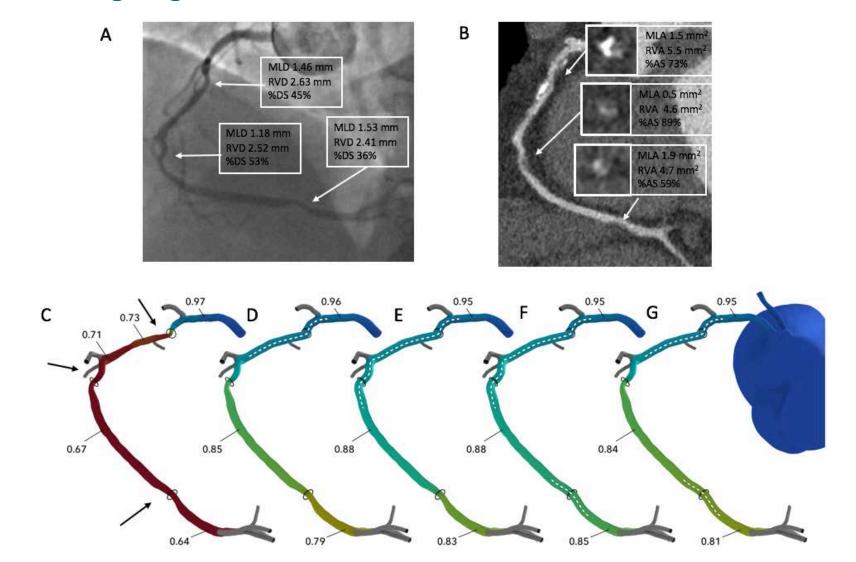
**Heart**Flow<sup>®</sup>

# Recent Highlights : Presented at SCCT 2017



Indayhid et. al. JACC CV Interventions, 2017

# Recent Highlights: Presented at TCT 2017



Sonck et. al, Eurointervention, 2017

# Summary

- FFR<sub>CT</sub>
  - validated in 4 prospective multicenter clinical trials and over 1200 patients
  - reduces negative diagnostic cardiac catheterizations, but not PCI
  - could result in significant cost savings while improving patient care
  - used clinically in 20,000 patients
  - Planning for large RCTs underway
- Technology platform will enable
  - Fast turn-around for ER patients
  - New data to aid in decision-making
  - Virtual intervention planning
  - Identification of plaques at higher risk of rupture (EMERALD study)

# Diagnosing Anatomic and Functionally-Significant CAD ANATOMY Identify obstructive CAD Identify lesion-specific ischemia that may benefit from PCI Invasive

Noninvasive

