

# Late Breaking Clinical Trials: 2017

Wayne N. Leimbach, Jr. MD, FACC,

Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine  
University of Oklahoma College of Medicine - Tulsa

Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories  
Oklahoma Heart Institute at Hillcrest Medical Center

Medical Director of Cardiology  
Oklahoma Heart Institute

# From Gene Discovery to Clinical Trials

N ENGL JMED 366;12 NEJM.ORG MARCH 22, 2012

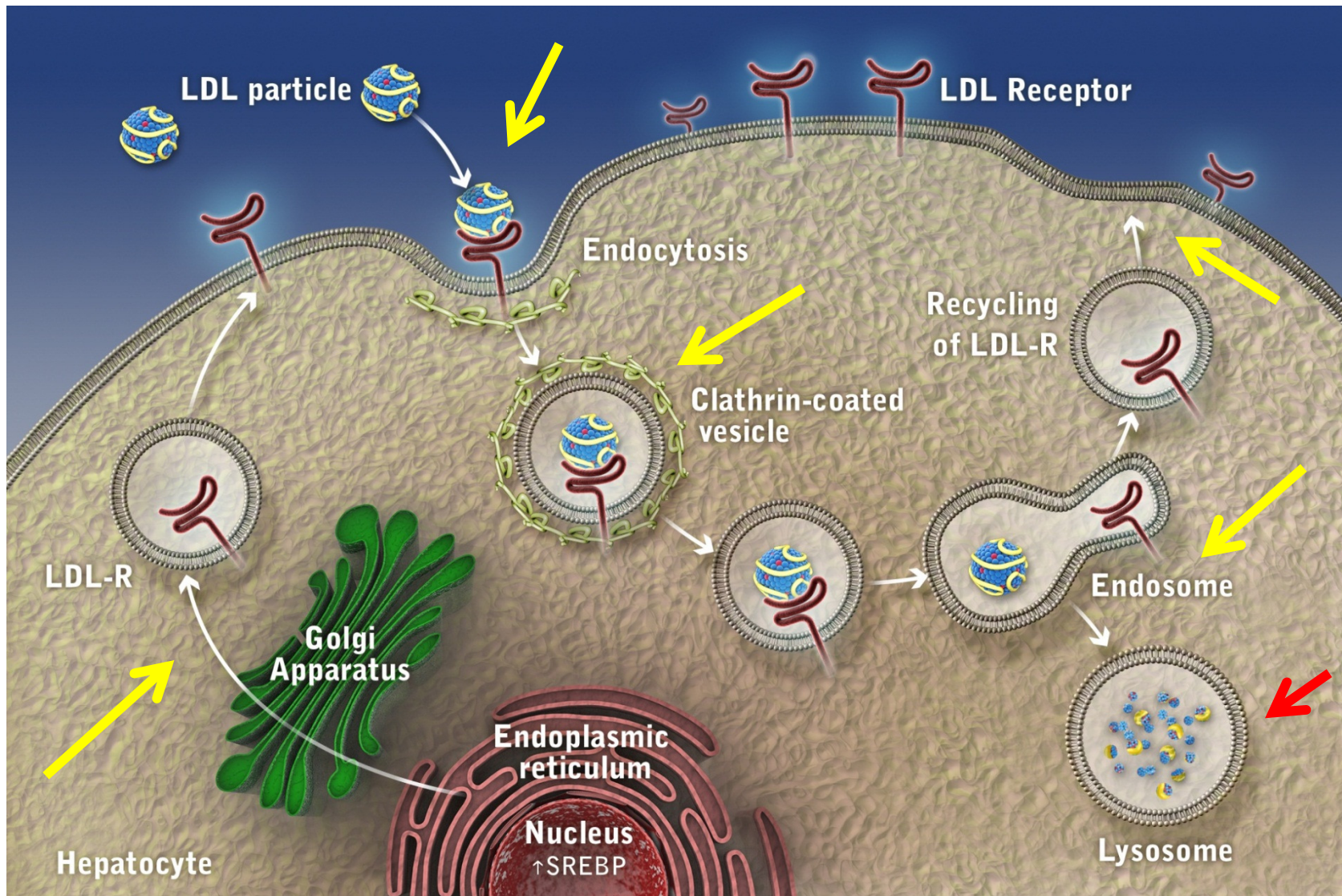
*The* NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Effect of a Monoclonal Antibody to PCSK9 on LDL Cholesterol

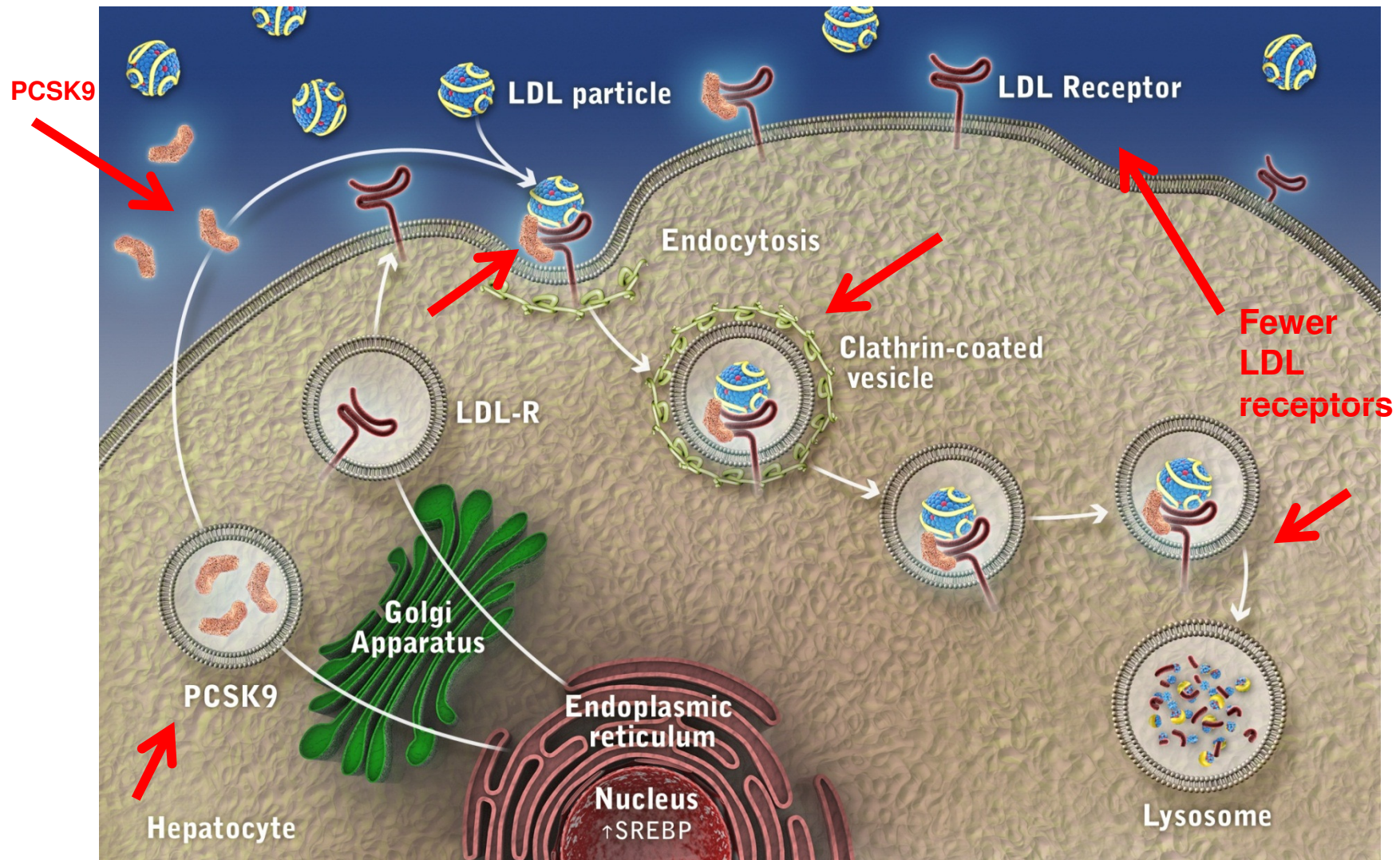
Evan A. Stein, M.D., Ph.D., Scott Mellis, M.D., Ph.D.,  
George D. Yancopoulos, M.D., Ph.D., Neil Stahl, Ph.D., Douglas Logan, M.D.,  
William B. Smith, M.D., Eleanor Lisbon, M.D., M.P.H., Maria Gutierrez, M.D.,  
Cheryle Webb, M.D., Richard Wu, Ph.D., Yunling Du, Ph.D.,  
Therese Kranz, R.N., M.B.A., Evelyn Gasparino, B.S.,  
and Gary D. Swergold, M.D., Ph.D.

# LDL Receptor Function and Life Cycle



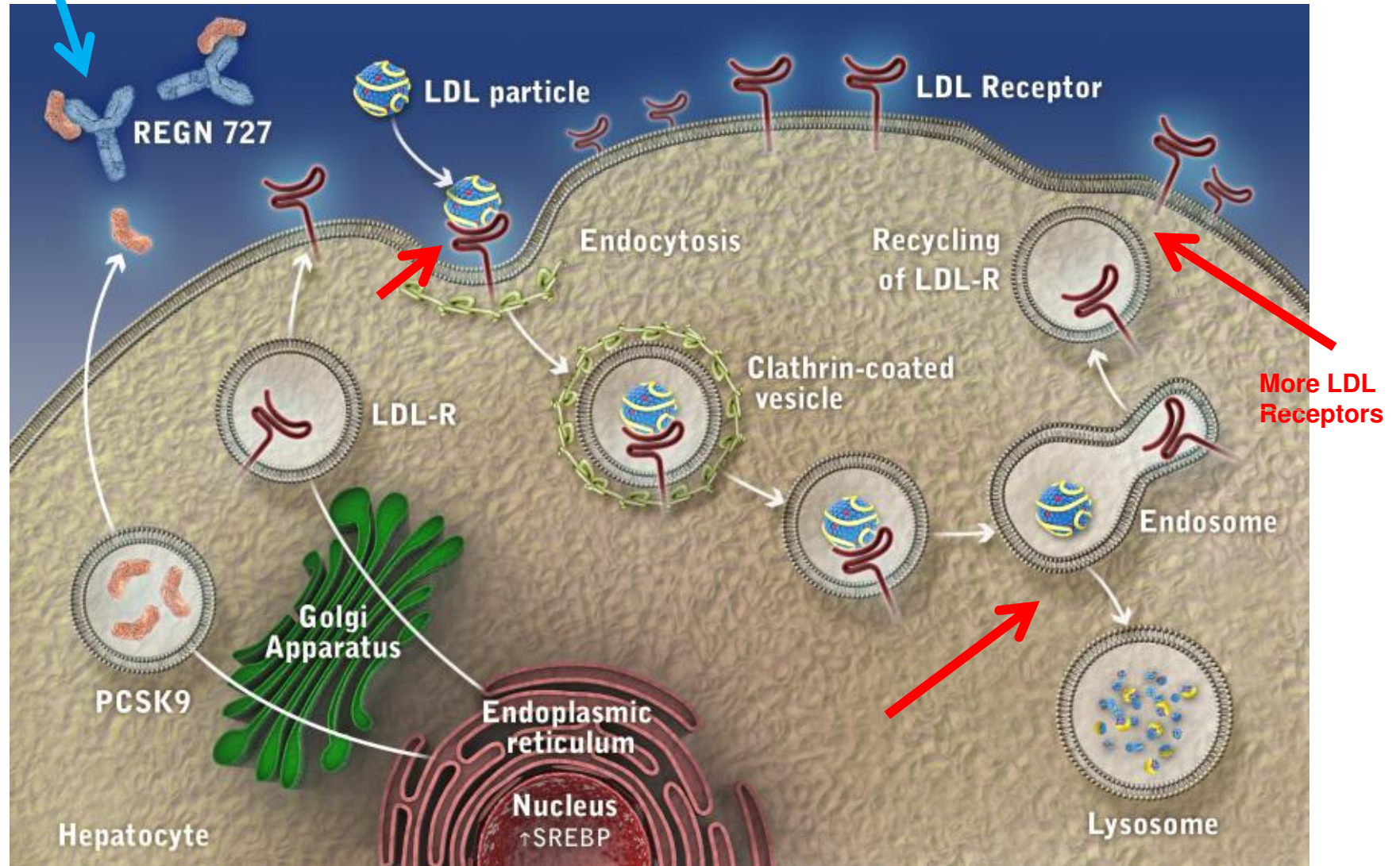


# The Role of PCSK9 in the Regulation of LDL Receptor Expression

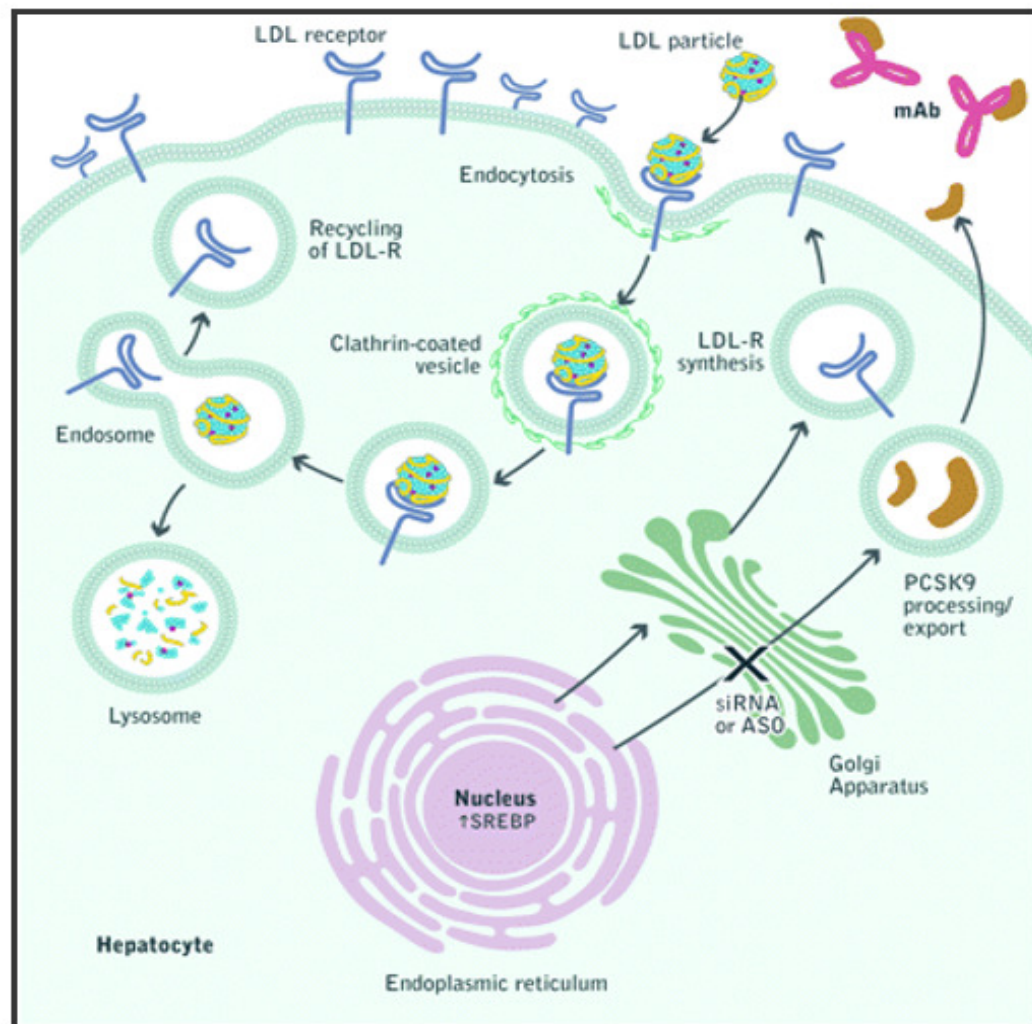




# Impact of an **PCSK9 mAb** on LDL Receptor Expression



## Monoclonal Antibodies to PCSK9 and Recycling of the LDL Receptor: Cardiovascular Outcomes Trials



Evolocumab (Amgen)  
FOURIER  
NCT 01764633

Alirocumab (Sanofi/Regeneron)  
ODYSSEY  
NCT 01663402

Bococizumab (Pfizer)  
SPIRE-1, SPIRE-2  
NCT 01975376  
NCT 01975389

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# FOURIER Trial

*The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE*

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Evolocumab and Clinical Outcomes in Patients with Cardiovascular Disease

Marc S. Sabatine, M.D., M.P.H., Robert P. Giugliano, M.D., Anthony C. Keech, M.D.,  
Narimon Honarpour, M.D., Ph.D., Stephen D. Wiviott, M.D., Sabina A. Murphy, M.P.H.,  
Julia F. Kuder, M.A., Huei Wang, Ph.D., Thomas Liu, Ph.D., Scott M. Wasserman, M.D.,  
Peter S. Sever, Ph.D., F.R.C.P., and Terje R. Pedersen, M.D.,  
for the FOURIER Steering Committee and Investigators\*

## ABSTRACT

### BACKGROUND

Evolocumab is a monoclonal antibody that inhibits proprotein convertase subtilisin–kexin type 9 (PCSK9) and lowers low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol levels by approximately 60%. Whether it prevents cardiovascular events is uncertain.

From the Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) Study Group, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston (M.S.S., D.B.G., S.D.W.).

# FOURIER TRIAL

- Randomized trial of 27,564 patients with preexisting high risk cardiovascular disease.
- Double blind therapy with subcutaneous Evolocumab ( Repatha) either 140 mg q 2 weeks or 420 mg q month versus placebo injections



# FOURIER TRIAL

- Patients had baseline LDL-C levels of at least 70 mg/dl while on statin therapy which was continued throughout the study
- 69% on high – intensity statin therapy
- The rest were on moderate – intensity statin therapy.

# FOURIER TRIAL

Median LDL-C level plunged from  
92 mg/dl to 30 mg/dl in Evolocumab group  
**(59% reduction)**

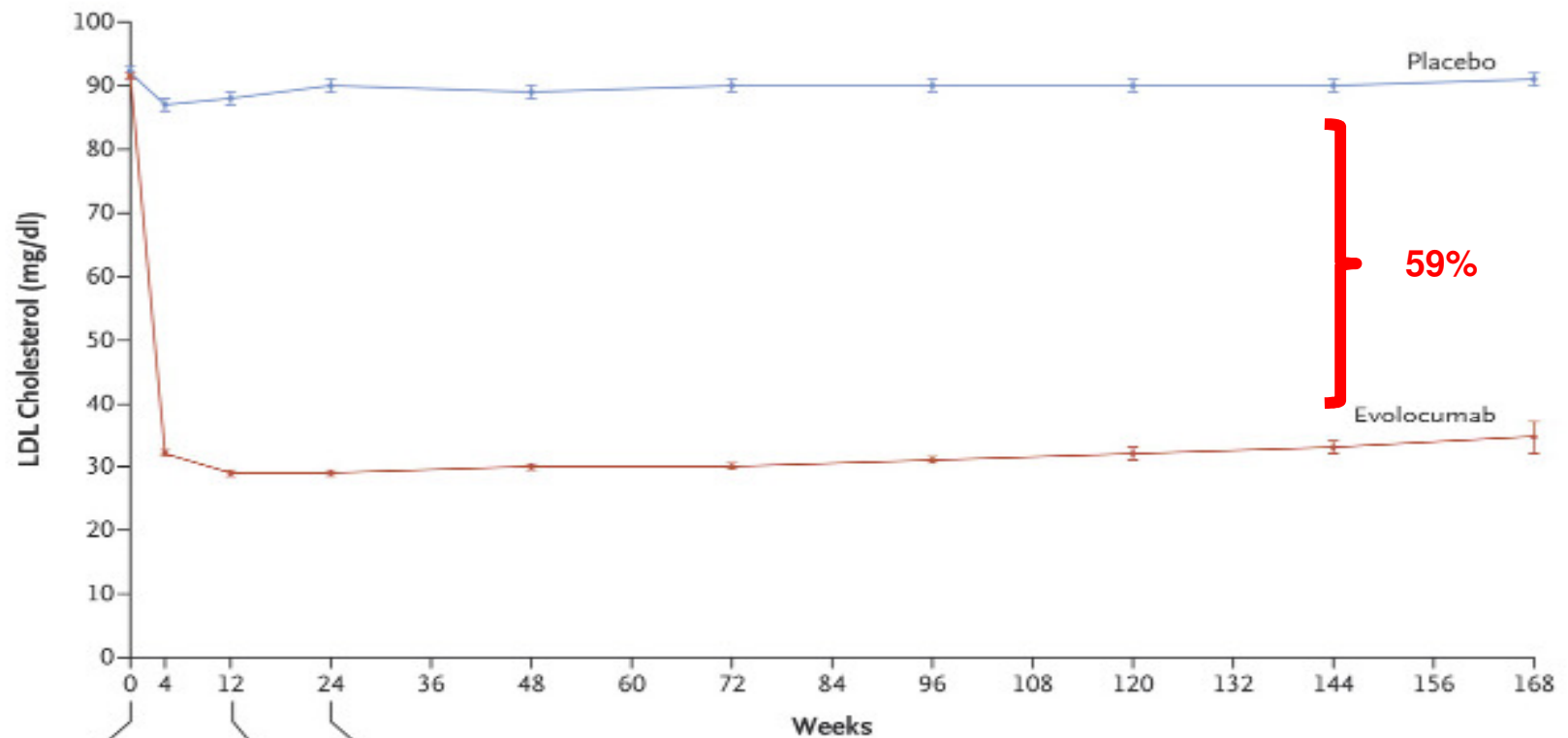
One quarter of patients had LDL-C less  
than 20 mg/dl

LDL-C reductions remained durable over  
median of 26 months follow-up



# Reduction In LDL-C

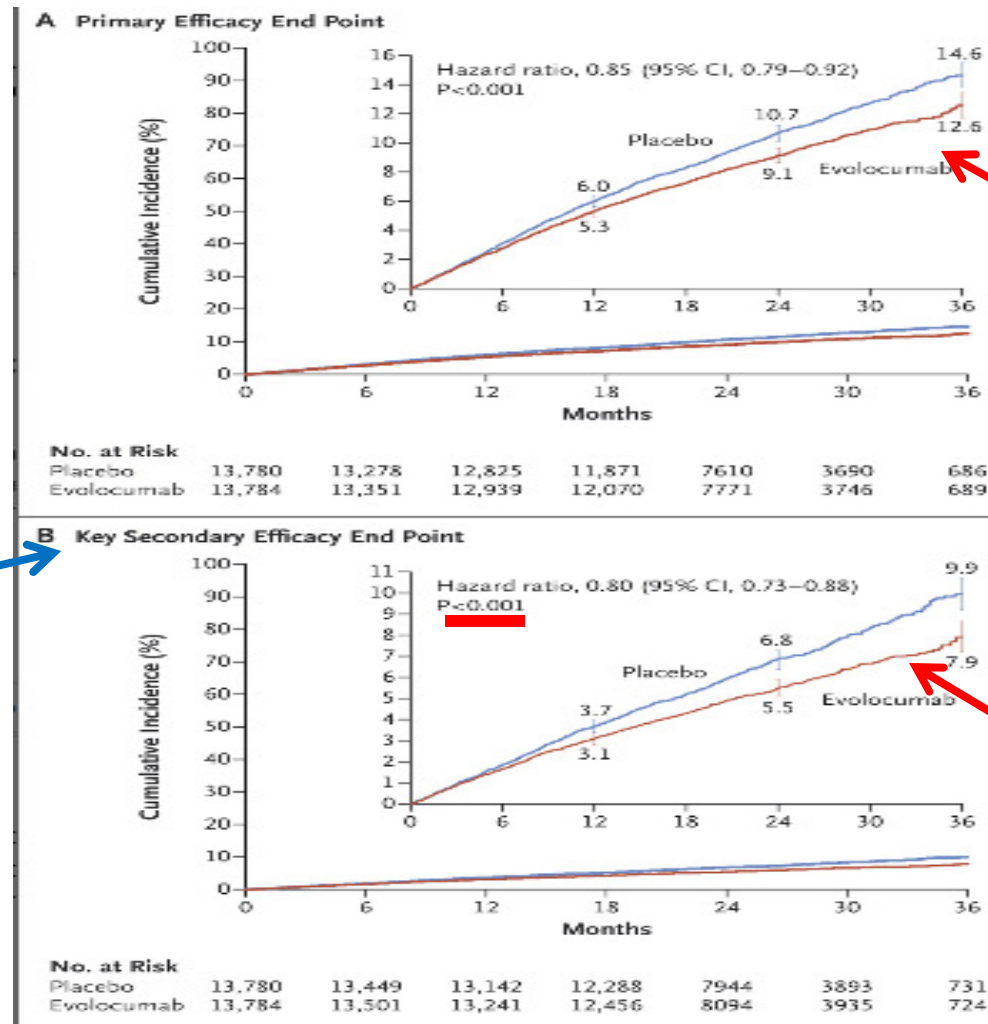
## Fourier Trial



### No. at Risk

Placebo	13,779	13,251	13,151	12,954	12,596	12,311	10,812	6926	3352	790
Evolocumab	13,784	13,288	13,144	12,964	12,645	12,359	10,902	6958	3323	768
Absolute difference (mg/dl)		54	58	57	56	55	54	52	53	50
Percentage difference		57	61	61	59	58	57	55	56	54
P value		<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001

# Reduction In Events With PCSK9 Inhibitor Fourier Trial



CV Death, MI, CVA



# FOURIER TRIAL: Results

- **15%** relative risk reduction in primary endpoint of CV death, MI, CVA, Hosp for USA or coronary revascularization;  
**(11.3% control vs 9.8% drug;  $p < 0.001$ )**
- **20%** relative risk reduction in secondary endpoint of CV death, MI, CVA;  
**( $p < 0.001$  for 7.4% control vs 5.9% drug)**

# FOURIER TRIAL: **Results**

- **19%** reduction of fatal and nonfatal MI or CVA in first 12 months
- **33%** reduction of fatal and nonfatal MI or CVA in the subsequent months of follow up

**Table 3. Adverse Events and Laboratory Test Results.**

Outcome	Evolocumab (N = 13,769)	Placebo (N = 13,756)
Adverse events — no. of patients (%)		
Any	10,664 (77.4)	10,644 (77.4)
Serious	3410 (24.8)	3404 (24.7)
Thought to be related to the study agent and leading to discontinuation of study regimen	226 (1.6)	201 (1.5)
Injection-site reaction*	296 (2.1)	219 (1.6)
Allergic reaction	420 (3.1)	393 (2.9)
Muscle-related event	682 (5.0)	656 (4.8)
Rhabdomyolysis	8 (0.1)	11 (0.1)
Cataract	228 (1.7)	242 (1.8)
Adjudicated case of new-onset diabetes†	677 (8.1)	644 (7.7)
Neurocognitive event	217 (1.6)	202 (1.5)
Laboratory results — no. of patients/total no. (%)		
Aminotransferase level >3 times the upper limit of the normal range	240/13,543 (1.8)	242/13,523 (1.8)
Creatine kinase level >5 times the upper limit of the normal range	95/13,543 (0.7)	99/13,523 (0.7)

\* The between-group difference was nominally significant ( $P < 0.001$ ).

† The total numbers of patients were 8337 in the evolocumab group and 8339 in the placebo group, because patients with prevalent diabetes at the start of the trial were excluded.

# FOURIER TRIAL

## Conclusion

### CONCLUSIONS

In our trial, inhibition of PCSK9 with evolocumab on a background of statin therapy lowered LDL cholesterol levels to a median of 30 mg per deciliter (0.78 mmol per liter) and reduced the risk of cardiovascular events. These findings show that patients with atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease benefit from lowering of LDL cholesterol levels below current targets. (Funded by Amgen; FOURIER ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT01764633.)

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The New England Journal of Medicine

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# EBBINGHAUS:

## ***- A Cognitive Study of Patients Enrolled in the FOURIER Trial***

RP Giugliano, F Mach, K Zavitz, AC Keech, TR Pedersen,  
MS Sabatine, P Sever, C Kurtz, N Honarpour, BR Ott,  
on behalf of the EBBINGHAUS Investigators

*American College of Cardiology – 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Session  
Late-Breaking Clinical Trial  
March 18, 2017*



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# Cognition and Statins

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- Case series and 2 small, 6-month RCTs with statins raised concern regarding cognitive deficits
- In 2012 FDA added risk of adverse cognitive effects to label of all statins
- However analyses from large scale RCTs do not support these findings and 2014 Statin Cognitive Safety Task Force\* concluded that statins are not associated with cognitive side effects.



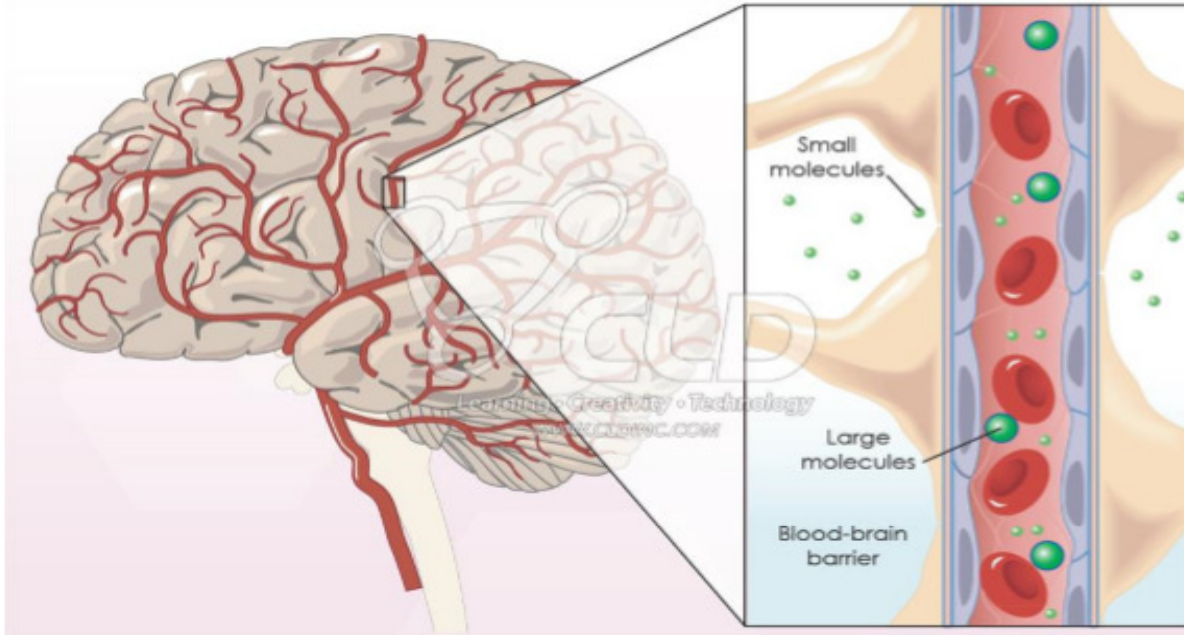
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\*The National Lipid Association  
Rojas-Fernandez CH, et al. *J Clin.Lipidol.* 2014;8(3 Suppl):S5-16.



# Cognition and PCSK9 Inhibitors

Brain synthesizes cholesterol locally



mAb (e.g., evolocumab) are too large to cross the intact blood-brain barrier

The question is whether significant lowering of the LDL-Cholesterol levels would affect Cholesterol levels in the brain and produce cognitive side effects.



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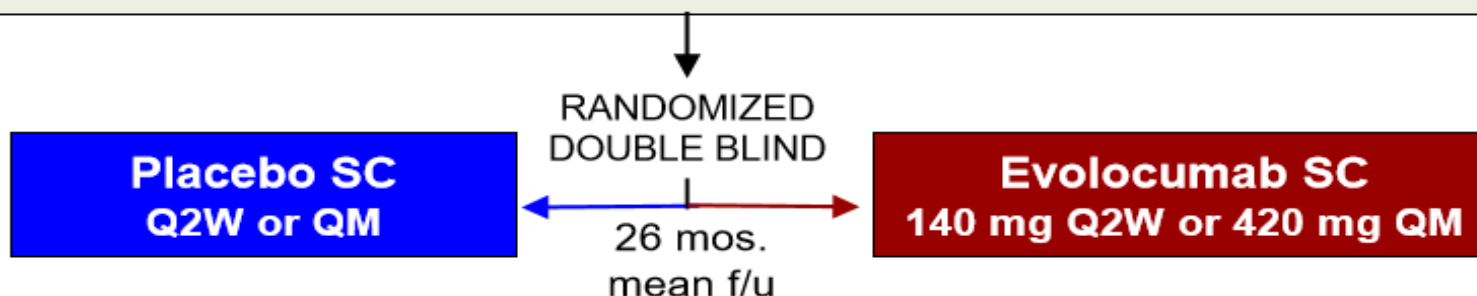
\*Lipinski MJ, et al. *Eur Heart J.* 2016;37(6):536-54



# FOURIER: Summary Results



**FOURIER Study Population:** 27,564 stable patients with CV disease, age 40-85 years; additional CV risk factor(s), LDL  $\geq$  70 mg/dL (or non-HDL  $\geq$  100)



## Evolocumab on background of statin c/w placebo:

- ↓ LDL-C by 59%
- ↓ CV outcomes on background of statin therapy
- Safe and well-tolerated



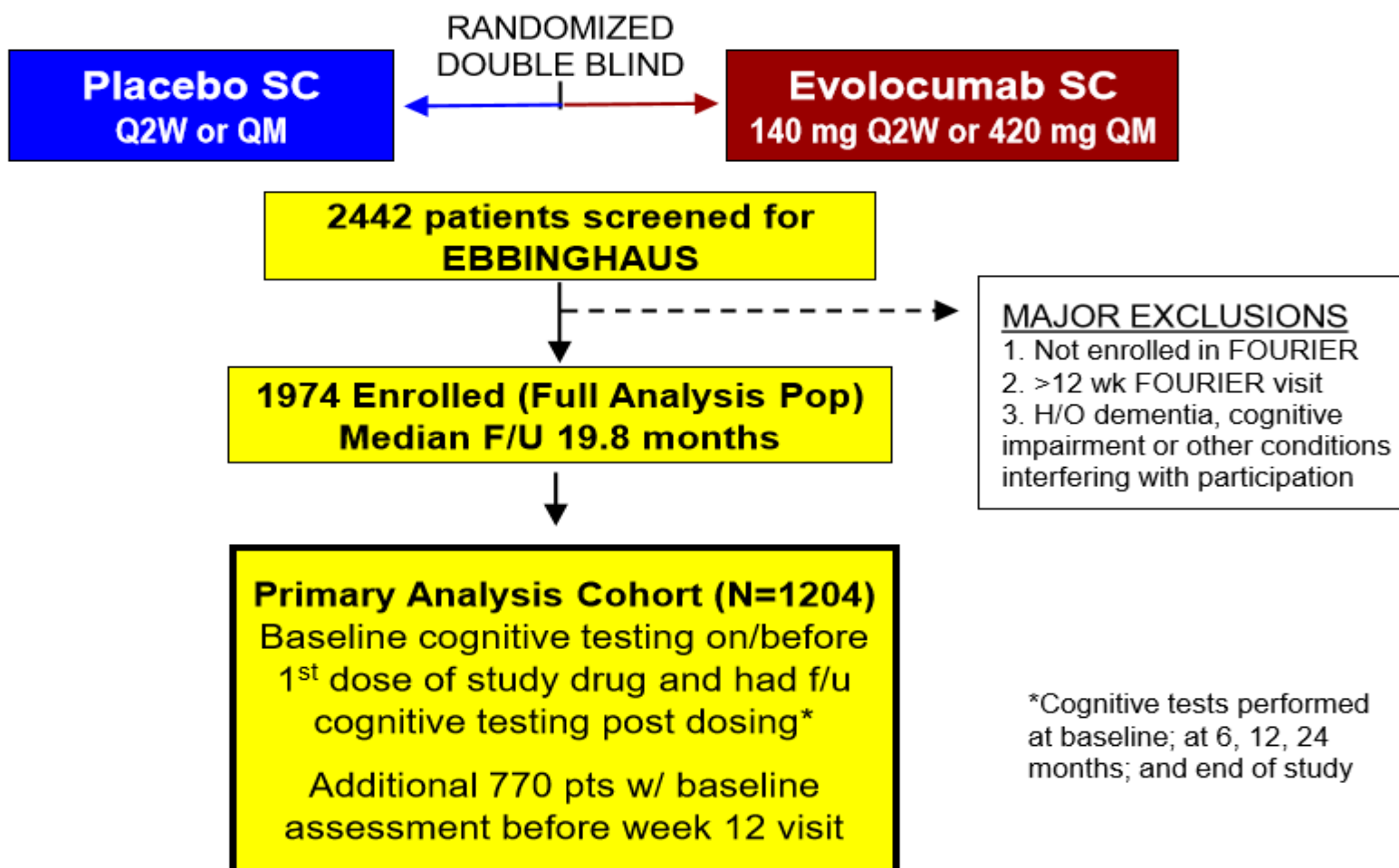
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Sabatine, MS et al. *New Eng J Med*.2017.DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1615664 (on line March 17, 2017)





# Trial Design



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Giugliano RP et al. *Clin Card* 2017;40:59–65



# Endpoints



## 1. Cambridge Neuropsychological Test Automated Battery (CANTAB) Assessments, a standardized, well-validated computer tablet-based testing platform.

Assessed at baseline, 6, 12, 24, 48 mos and study end.

– **Primary:**            **Spatial working memory strategy index of executive function**

– Secondary:            Spatial working memory between errors  
Paired associates learning  
Reaction time

– Exploratory:            Global score (combines above 4 tests)

## 2. Patient survey of everyday cognition\* at study end

## 3. Investigator report of cognitive AEs

\*Memory and executive function domains



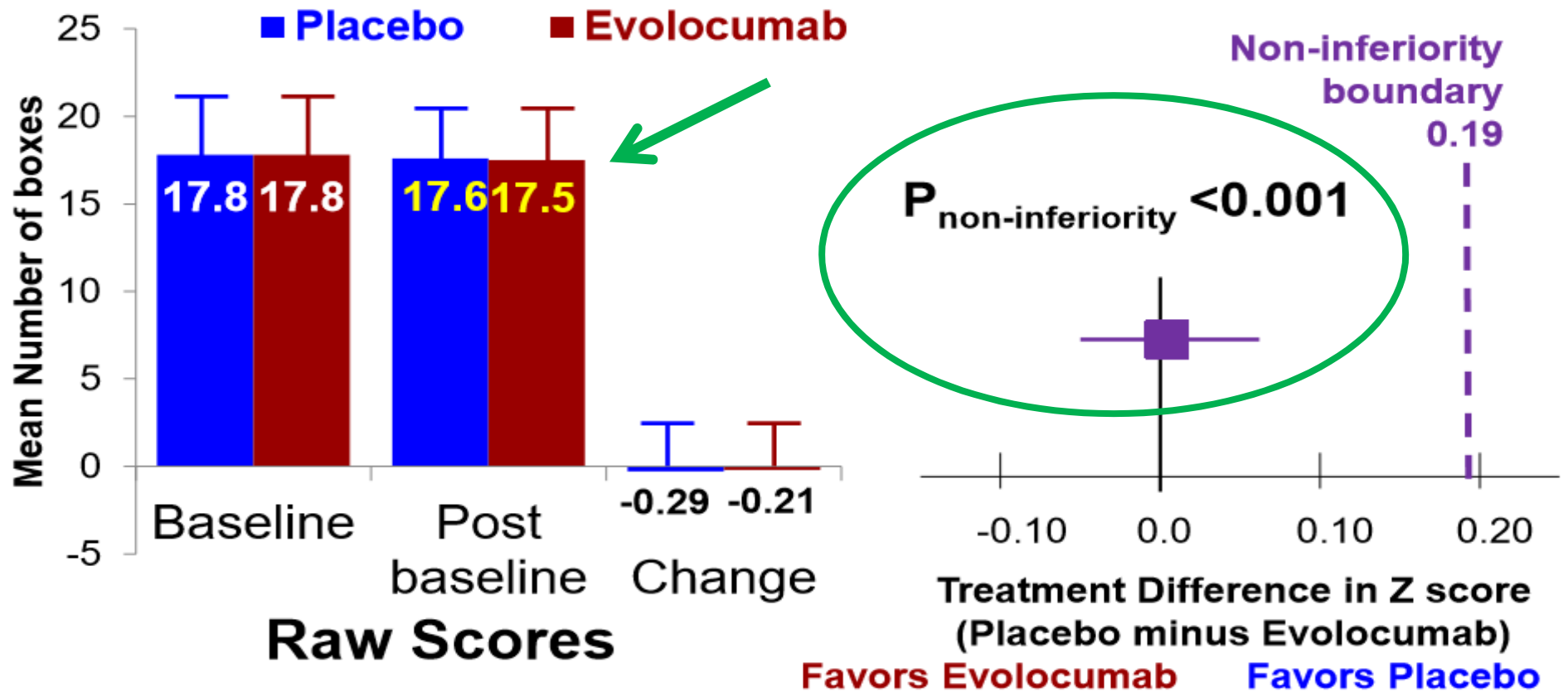
Owen 1990 PMID: 2267054; Sahakian 1988, PMID: 3382917; Owen 1996 PMID: 8714706; Kollins PMID: 21476931  
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Giugliano RP et al. *Clin Card* 2017;40:59-65



# Primary Endpoint

## Spatial Working Memory Strategy Index



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$P_{\text{NI}}$  is from fixed estimate

# Secondary Endpoints

Test Name	Task description	Scoring
Spatial Working Memory Between Errors Score	Find the hidden blue token	# times a box is re-visited in which a blue token had already been found
Paired Associates Learning	Memory matching game (Concentration)	# times errors made in finding a match
Reaction Time	Touch yellow dot quickly after it appears on screen	Time in milliseconds until dot touched

Lower scores (fewer errors, faster time) are better

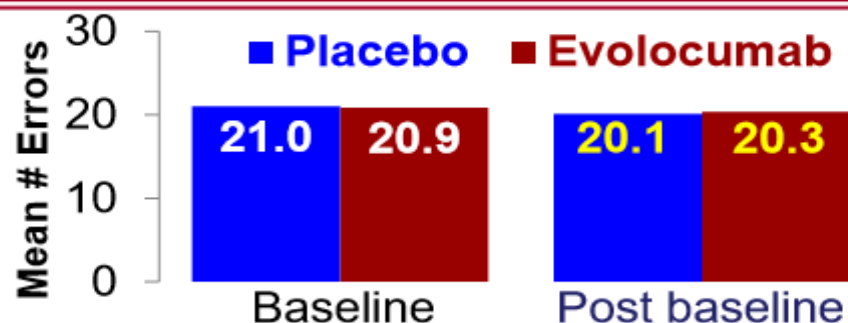




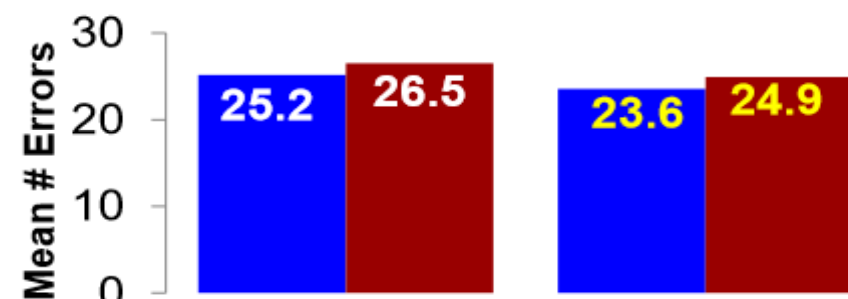
# Secondary Endpoint Results



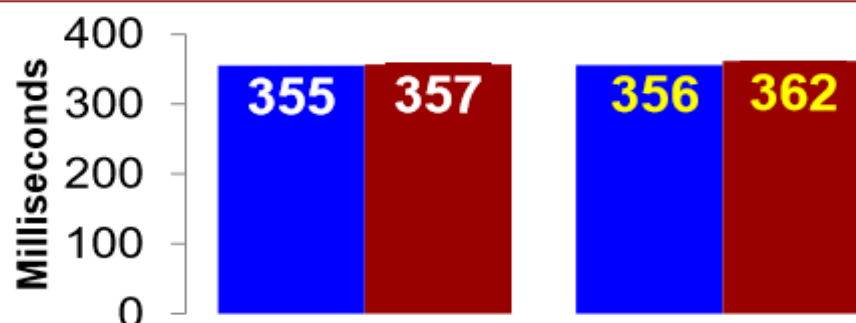
## Spatial Working Memory Between Errors Score



## Paired Associates Learning



## Median 5-Choice Reaction Time



Trt diff of  $\Delta$   
in Z-scores     $P_{\text{superiority}}$

0.033    **0.36**

**No  
Differences**

0.023    **0.49**

0.073    **0.06**

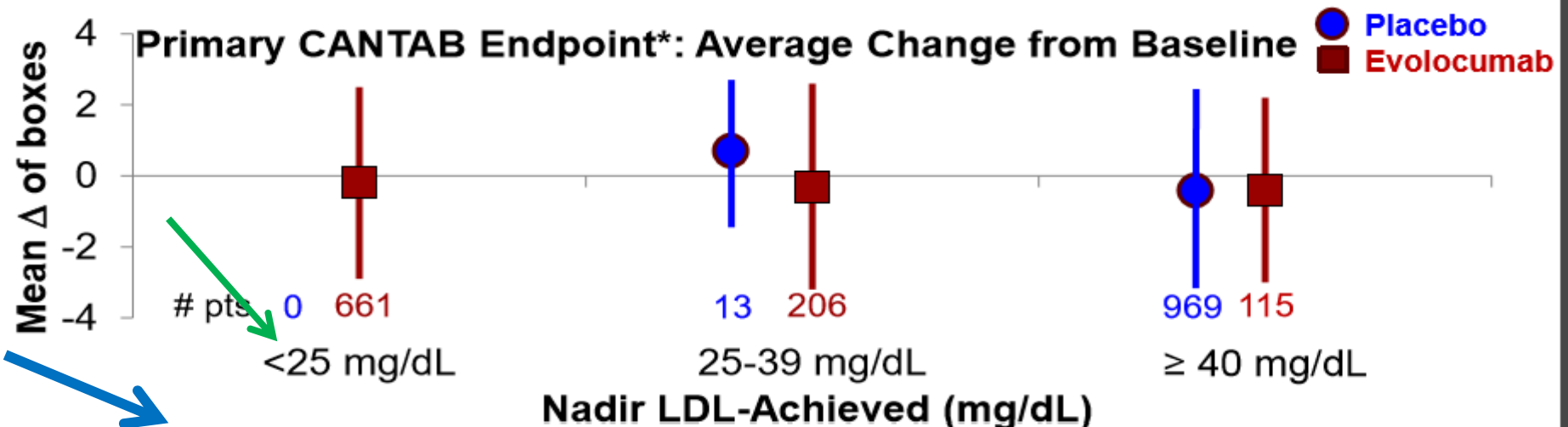


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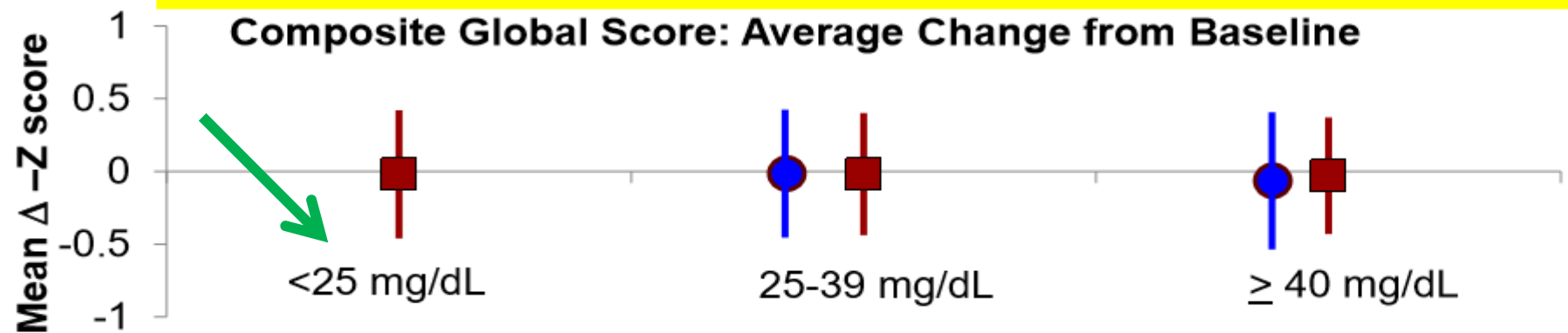
Lower raw scores (fewer errors, faster time) are better



# Cognitive Assessments by Nadir Achieved LDL-C and Treatment (Full Pop)



**P=NS across LDL values achieved and also between treatments**



Negative score  $\rightarrow$  improvement  
Lower scores are better

\*Spatial working memory strategy index of executive function, raw score



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# Patient Self-Report: 23 Questions Regarding Everyday Cognition



No  
Differences

All Patients	Placebo (N=781) Mean (SD)	Evolocumab (N=800) Mean (SD)	P-Value
Memory	1.16 (0.39)	1.17 (0.39)	0.81
Executive functioning total score	1.11 (0.32)	1.12 (0.32)	0.28
Planning	1.08 (0.31)	1.10 (0.32)	0.20
Organization	1.09 (0.32)	1.10 (0.33)	0.57
Divided attention	1.15 (0.42)	1.16 (0.41)	0.54
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>1.13 (0.33)</b>	<b>1.14 (0.33)</b>	<b>0.42</b>

Patient self-report at end of study as compared to randomization, graded as

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. <i>Better or no change</i>         | 2. <i>Questionable / occasionally worse</i> |
| 3. <i>Consistently a little worse</i> | 4. <i>Consistently much worse</i>           |

Lower scores represent better cognition



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Results shown are in the full study population



Oklahoma Heart Institute



# Conclusions



**In patients with known cardiovascular disease on background statin followed for 20 months**

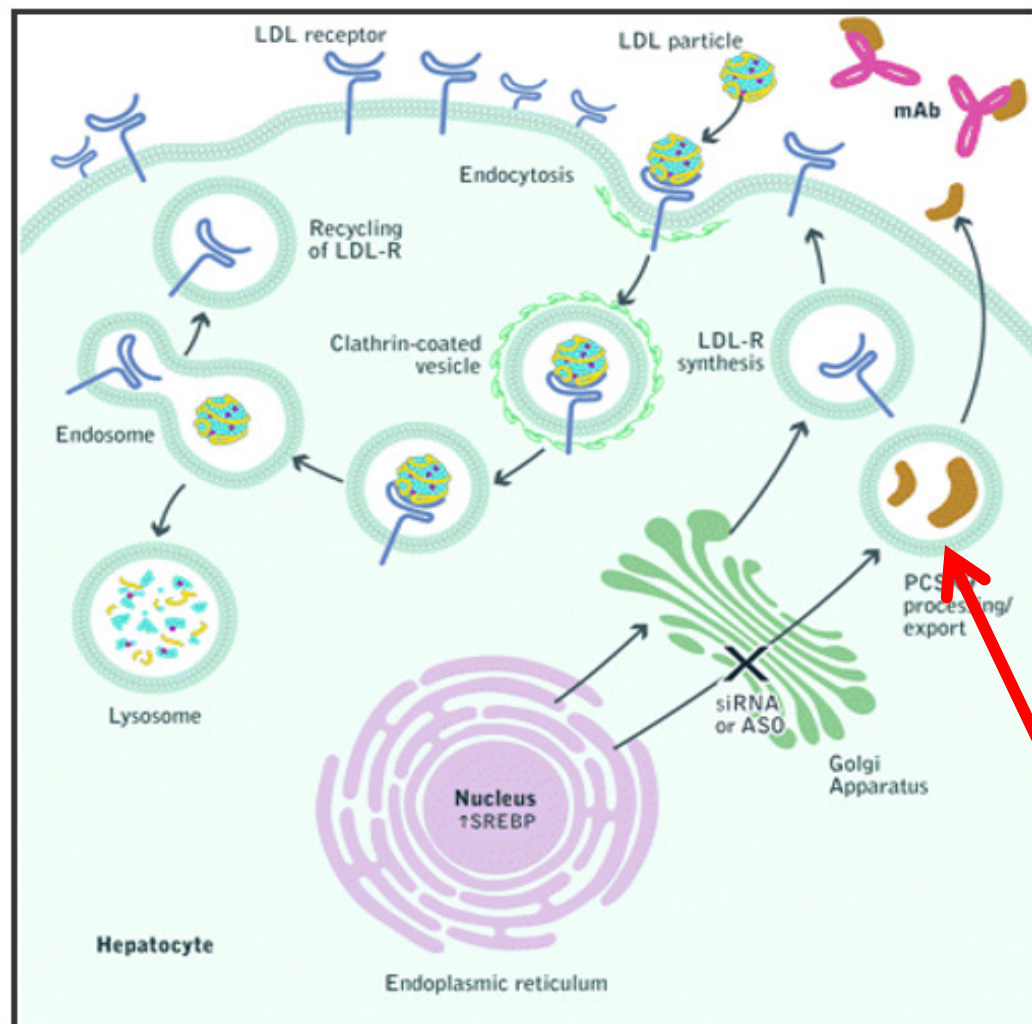
- 1. No differences btw evolocumab vs placebo**
  - A. A battery of cognitive tests
  - B. Patient-reported everyday cognition
  - C. Adverse cognitive events reported by MD
  
- 2. No evidence of differences in cognitive tests by achieved nadir LDL-C, even <25 mg/dL**



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## Monoclonal Antibodies to PCSK9 and Recycling of the LDL Receptor: Cardiovascular Outcomes Trials



Evolocumab (Amgen)  
FOURIER  
NCT 01764633

Alirocumab (Sanofi/Regeneron)  
ODYSSEY  
NCT 01663402

~~Bococizumab (Pfizer)  
SPIRE-1, SPIRE-2  
NCT 01875376  
NCT 01975389~~

**Don't Make PCSK9  
Option**

Ridker ACC 2017

Original Article

# **Inclisiran** in Patients at High Cardiovascular Risk with Elevated LDL Cholesterol

Kausik K. Ray, M.D., Ulf Landmesser, M.D., Lawrence A. Leiter, M.D., David Kallend, M.D., Robert Dufour, M.D., Mahir Karakas, M.D., Tim Hall, M.D., Roland P.T. Troquay, M.D., Traci Turner, M.D., Frank L.J. Visseren, M.D., Peter Wijngaard, Ph.D., R. Scott Wright, M.D., and John J.P. Kastelein, M.D., Ph.D.

N Engl J Med  
Volume 376(15):1430-1440  
April 13, 2017



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# Study Overview

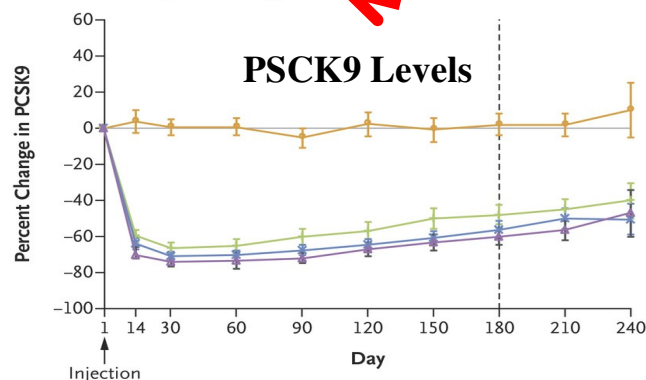
- **Inclisiran**, is a small interfering RNA that targets *PCSK9* mRNA. It was given as a single injection at baseline or in two doses at baseline and 90 days.
- At 180 days, LDL cholesterol was significantly lowered among persons at high cardiovascular risk who had elevated levels at baseline.



# Effect of Inclisiran on PCSK9 and Low-Density Lipoprotein (LDL) Cholesterol Levels.

—●— Single-dose placebo    —●— Single-dose inclisiran, 200 mg    —●— Single-dose inclisiran, 300 mg    —●— Single-dose inclisiran, 500 mg  
 - - - - - Two-dose placebo    - - - - - Two-dose inclisiran, 100 mg    - - - - - Two-dose inclisiran, 200 mg    - - - - - Two-dose inclisiran, 300 mg

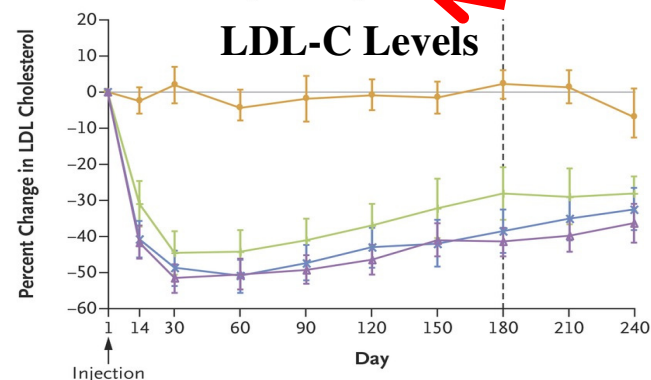
**A Changes in PCSK9 Levels with the Single-Dose Regimen**



No. at Risk

Single-dose placebo	65	64	65	62	64	65	62	64	61	14
Single-dose inclisiran, 200 mg	60	60	60	60	60	58	60	60	60	23
Single-dose inclisiran, 300 mg	61	60	61	61	61	61	60	60	59	19
Single-dose inclisiran, 500 mg	65	65	64	62	64	61	63	61	59	28

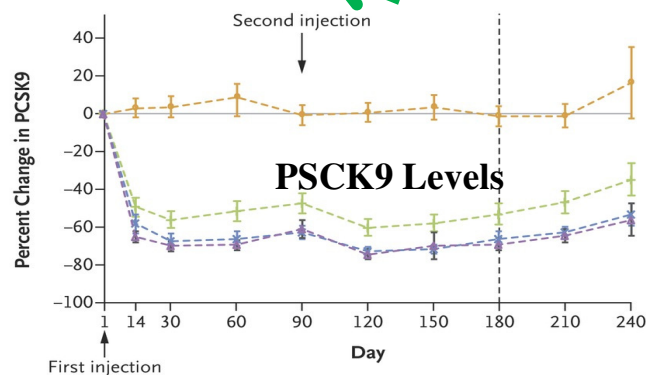
**B Changes in LDL Cholesterol Levels with the Single-Dose Regimen**



No. at Risk

Single-dose placebo	65	65	65	62	64	65	62	64	62	27
Single-dose inclisiran, 200 mg	60	60	59	60	60	58	60	60	60	49
Single-dose inclisiran, 300 mg	61	61	61	61	60	61	60	60	61	50
Single-dose inclisiran, 500 mg	65	65	65	62	64	60	63	60	61	57

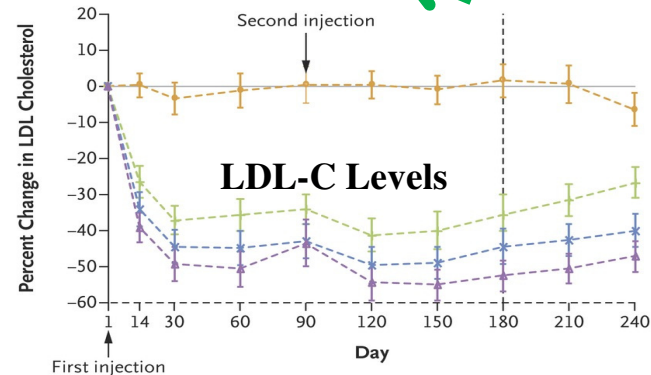
**C Changes in PCSK9 Levels with the Two-Dose Regimen**



No. at Risk

Two-dose placebo	62	62	60	62	60	61	61	61	59	13
Two-dose inclisiran, 100 mg	61	57	60	58	60	58	58	59	57	27
Two-dose inclisiran, 200 mg	62	61	62	62	61	59	57	60	58	29
Two-dose inclisiran, 300 mg	61	61	61	61	60	59	60	59	57	32

**D Changes in LDL Cholesterol Levels with the Two-Dose Regimen**



No. at Risk

Two-dose placebo	62	62	61	62	60	61	61	61	60	29
Two-dose inclisiran, 100 mg	61	58	60	58	60	58	57	59	59	49
Two-dose inclisiran, 200 mg	62	62	62	62	61	59	58	60	60	56
Two-dose inclisiran, 300 mg	61	61	61	61	60	59	59	59	58	57



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## Adverse Events That Occurred during Treatment through Day 210.

**Table 3.** Adverse Events That Occurred during Treatment through Day 210.\*

Event	Single-Dose Regimen				Two-Dose Regimen			
	Placebo (N=65)	200 mg Inclisiran (N=60)	300 mg Inclisiran (N=61)	500 mg Inclisiran (N=65)	Placebo (N=62)	100 mg Inclisiran (N=61)	200 mg Inclisiran (N=62)	300 mg Inclisiran (N=61)
	<i>number of patients (percent)</i>							
Any event that occurred during treatment	46 (71)	47 (78)	44 (72)	49 (75)	50 (81)	48 (79)	47 (76)	47 (77)
Serious events	3 (5)	6 (10)	5 (8)	6 (9)	6 (10)	11 (18)	6 (10)	7 (11)
Severe events	2 (3)	2 (3)	4 (7)	5 (8)	7 (11)	5 (8)	6 (10)	8 (13)
Death	0	0	0	1 (2)*	0	0	1 (2)‡	0
Injection-site reaction§	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4 (7)
ALT level >3 times the upper limit of the normal range	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (2)
AST level >3 times the upper limit of the normal range	1 (1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALP level >2 times the upper limit of the normal range	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bilirubin level >2 times the upper limit of the normal range	1 (2)	0	0	0	0	1 (2)	0	0
Creatine kinase level >5 times the upper limit of the normal range	1 (2)¶	0	3 (5)**	0	0	0	2 (3)††	0
Myalgia	3 (5)	2 (3)	5 (8)	3 (5)	3 (5)	7 (11)	5 (8)	5 (8)
	<i>percentage change from baseline</i>							
Glycated hemoglobin‡‡	-0.2±7.0	-0.1±6.1	-0.1±3.3	0±6.9	0.3±13.7	0.6±10.4	0.5±5.4	-1.0±6.4
Platelets§§	1.7±12.0	4.8±12.6	0.7±12.5	1.4±15.6	5.6±20.3	-0.1±10.9	4.3±17.5	0.7±15.6

\* Plus-minus values are means ±SD. The numbers of patients completing follow-up to day 210 in each group were as follows: in the single-dose cohort: 63 patients in the placebo group, 60 in the 200-mg inclisiran group, 61 in the 300-mg inclisiran group, and 61 in the 500-mg inclisiran group; in the two-dose cohort: 60 in the placebo group, 59 in the 100-mg inclisiran group, 60 in the 200-mg inclisiran group, and 59 in the 300-mg inclisiran group. ALP denotes alkaline phosphatase, ALT alanine aminotransferase, and AST aspartate aminotransferase.

† The death was due to a myocardial infarction.

‡ The death was due to sepsis and pneumonia after complications of surgery for aortic disease.

§ This category included rash, erythema, and pruritus.

¶ The elevated ALT and AST levels were in the same patient.

‖ The creatine kinase level in this patient was more than 73 times the upper limit of the normal range at baseline.

\*\* One patient had a creatine kinase level that was more than 8 times the upper limit of the normal range at baseline.

†† One patient had a creatine kinase level that was more than 4 times the upper limit of the normal range at baseline.

‡‡ Glycated hemoglobin was measured in plasma and was assessed at day 180.

§§ Platelet count was measured in whole blood.

**No Significant Differences  
Seen with Small Numbers**



## Conclusions

- In this trial, **inclisiran** was found to lower PCSK9 and LDL cholesterol levels among patients at high cardiovascular risk who had elevated LDL cholesterol levels.
- Injections could be given **once or twice** a year.



**Original Article**

# **Closure of Patent Foramen Ovale versus Medical Therapy after Cryptogenic Stroke**

John D. Carroll, M.D., Jeffrey L. Saver, M.D., David E. Thaler, M.D., Ph.D.,  
Richard W. Smalling, M.D., Ph.D., Scott Berry, Ph.D., Lee A. MacDonald,  
M.D., David S. Marks, M.D., David L. Tirschwell, M.D., for the RESPECT  
Investigators

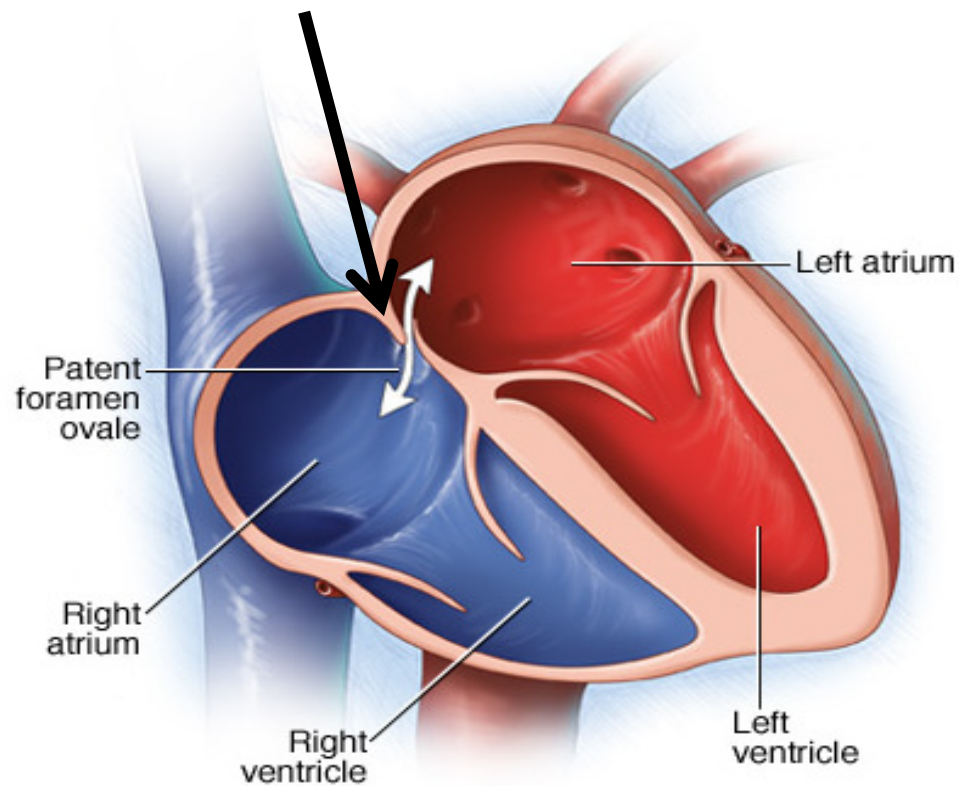
N Engl J Med  
Volume 368(12):1092-1100  
March 21, 2013



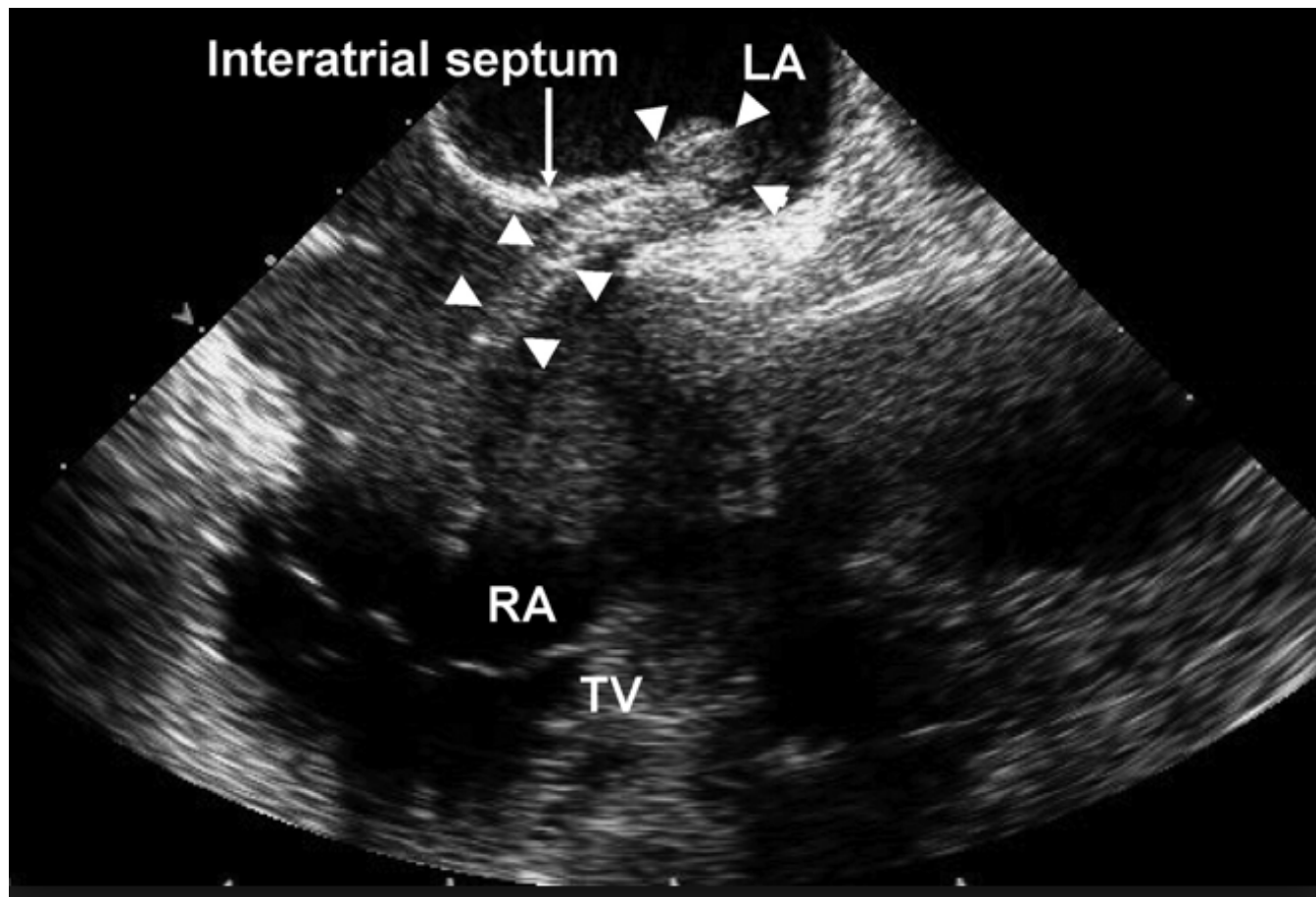
The NEW ENGLAND  
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

# Patent Foramen Ovale: The Risk Of Paradoxical Emboli

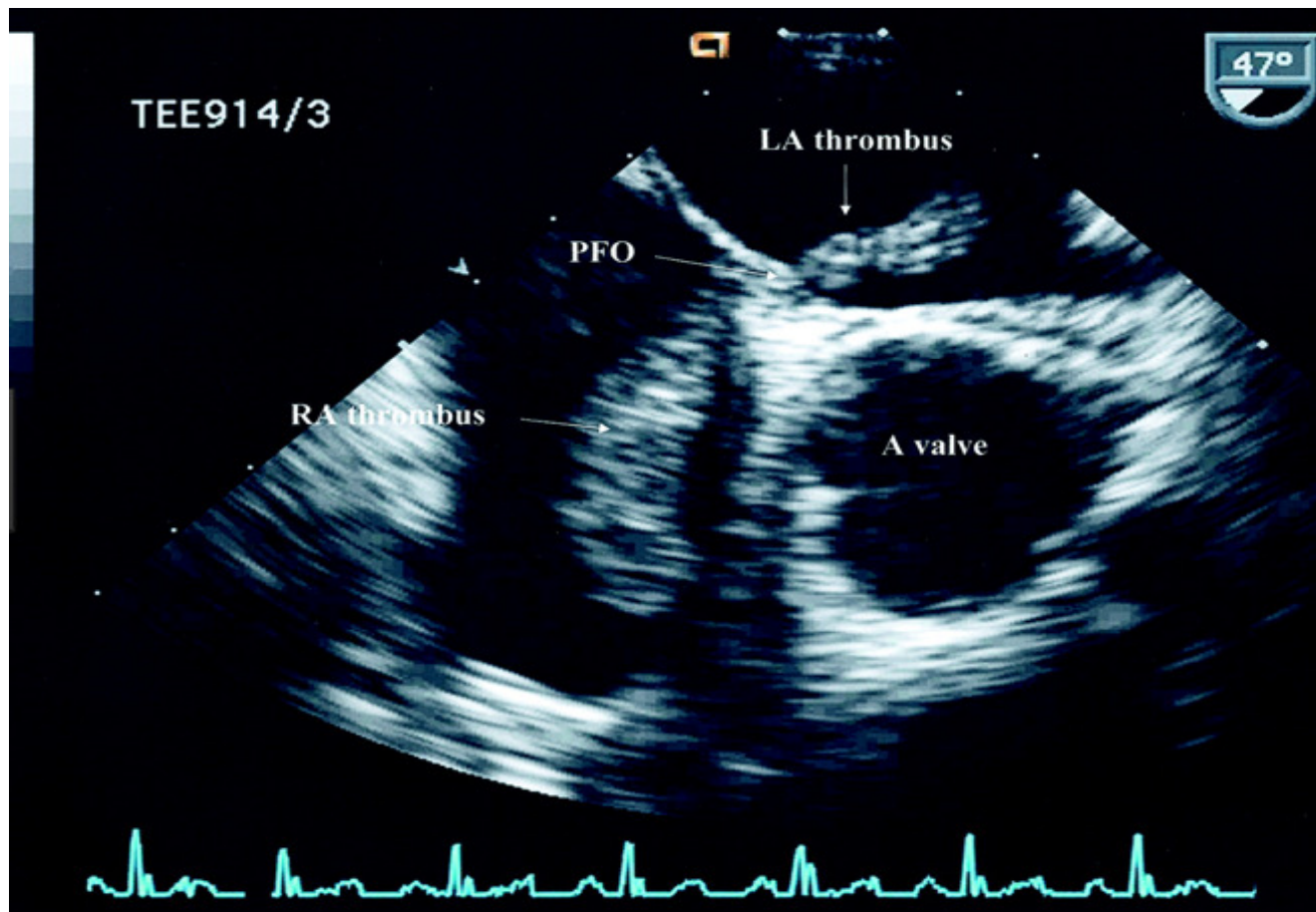
Patent foramen ovale



# PFO With Thrombus In The Defect

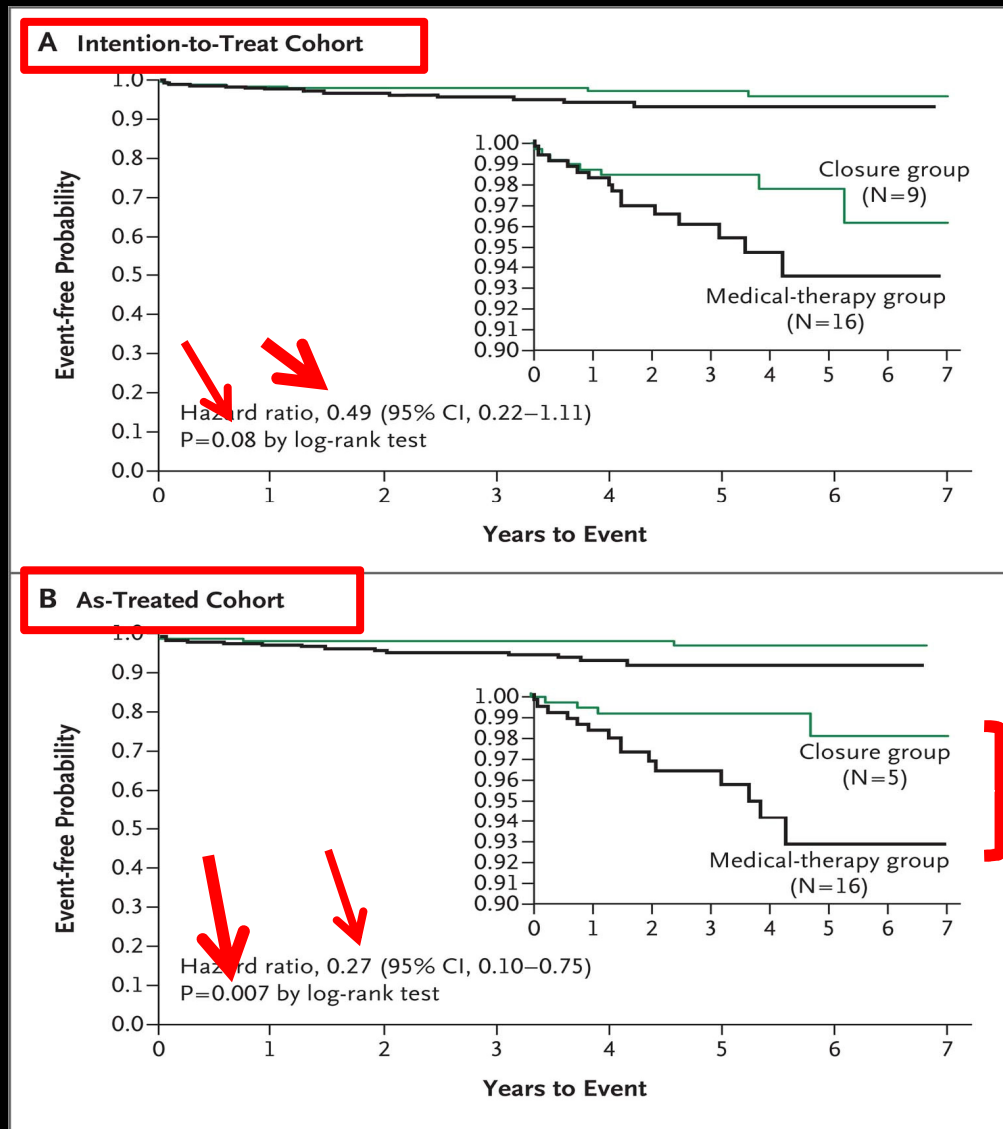


# The Risk Of Paradoxical Emboli: Large Thrombus In A PFO





# Primary End-Point Events in the Intention-to-Treat and As-Treated Cohorts.



## Conclusions

- In the primary intention-to-treat analysis, there was no significant benefit associated with closure of a patent foramen ovale in adults who had had a cryptogenic ischemic stroke.
- However, closure was superior to medical therapy alone in the prespecified per-protocol and as-treated analyses, with a low rate of associated risks.



**Now 3 Years Later**

**Long-term Comparison of Patent Foramen  
Ovale (PFO) Closure versus Medical  
Therapy after Cryptogenic Stroke:  
Final Results of the RESPECT Trial**

**David E. Thaler, M.D., Ph.D.**  
*Chairman of Neurology, Tufts University School of Medicine*

**On Behalf of RESPECT Investigators**

# Background

- ~25% of all ischemic strokes are “cryptogenic”<sup>1</sup>
- 34-46% of ischemic strokes occur between 18-60 years<sup>2,3</sup>
- PFO present in 40-50% of cryptogenic stroke patients<sup>4,5</sup>
- Young and middle aged patients have continued exposure to PFO-related recurrence risk
- No RCT has reported long-term outcomes of PFO closure

<sup>1</sup> Hart et al. *Lancet Neurology* 2014;13:429-436.

<sup>2</sup> Putaala et al. *Stroke* 2009;40:1195-1203.

<sup>3</sup> Wolf et al. *Cerebrovascular Dis* 2015;40:129-135.

<sup>4</sup> Lechat et al. *NEJM* 1988;318:1148-1152.

<sup>5</sup> Webster et al. *Lancet* 1988;332:11-12.

# RESPECT Trial

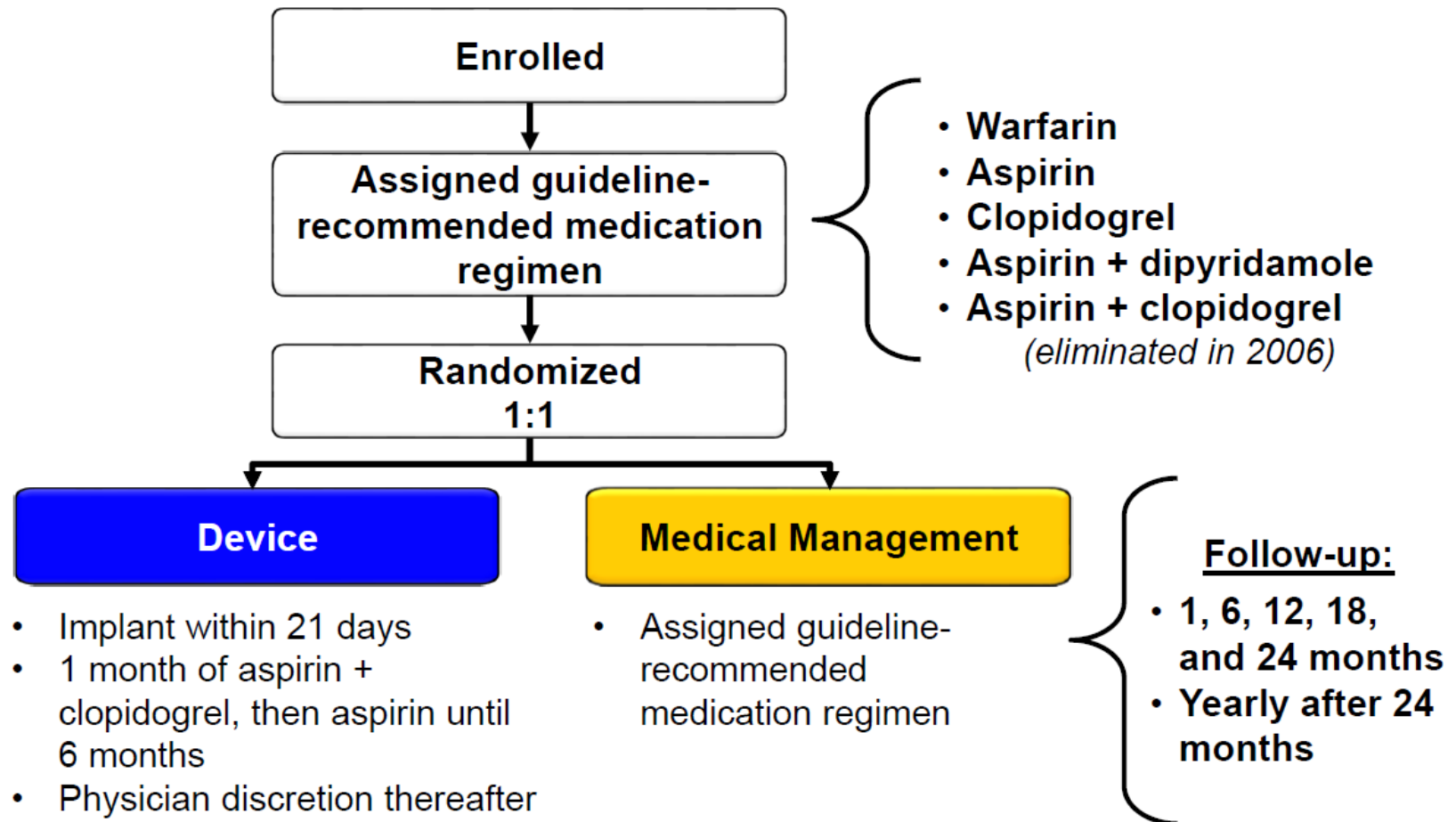
- Randomized, event-driven, open-label trial with blinded endpoint adjudication
- Patients randomized 1:1 to AMPLATZER PFO Occluder (device) vs. guideline-directed medical management (MM)
- 980 subjects enrolled from 2003 to 2011
- 69 sites in U.S. and Canada



# Primary Endpoint

- **Composite of:**
  - Recurrent nonfatal ischemic stroke
  - Fatal ischemic stroke
  - Early post-randomization death (within 45 days)
- **Stroke definition:**
  - Acute focal neurological deficit due to cerebral ischemia with:
    - Neuroanatomically relevant infarct on imaging
    - or*
    - Symptoms >24 hours

# Patient Flow



# Baseline Characteristics Balanced Between Groups

Characteristic	AMPLATZER™ PFO Occluder (N=499)	Medical Management (N=481)
Age (yr), mean ± SD	48 ± 10	46 ± 10
Male	54%	56%
Hypercholesterolemia	39%	41%
Family h/o CAD	33%	33%
Hypertension	32%	32%
COPD	0.8%	1.5%
Congestive heart failure	0.6%	0%
History of DVT	4.0%	3.1%
Atrial septal aneurysm	36%	35%
Substantial shunt	50%	48%

# Procedural Results and Follow-up

- **Technical Success\***      **99.1%**
- **Procedural Success\*\***   **96.1%**
- **Mean Follow-up:**        **5.9 years (0-12 years)**
  - Device
    - Mean 6.3 years; Total 3141 patient-years
  - Medical Management
    - Mean 5.5 years; Total 2669 patient-years

\*Delivery and release of the device

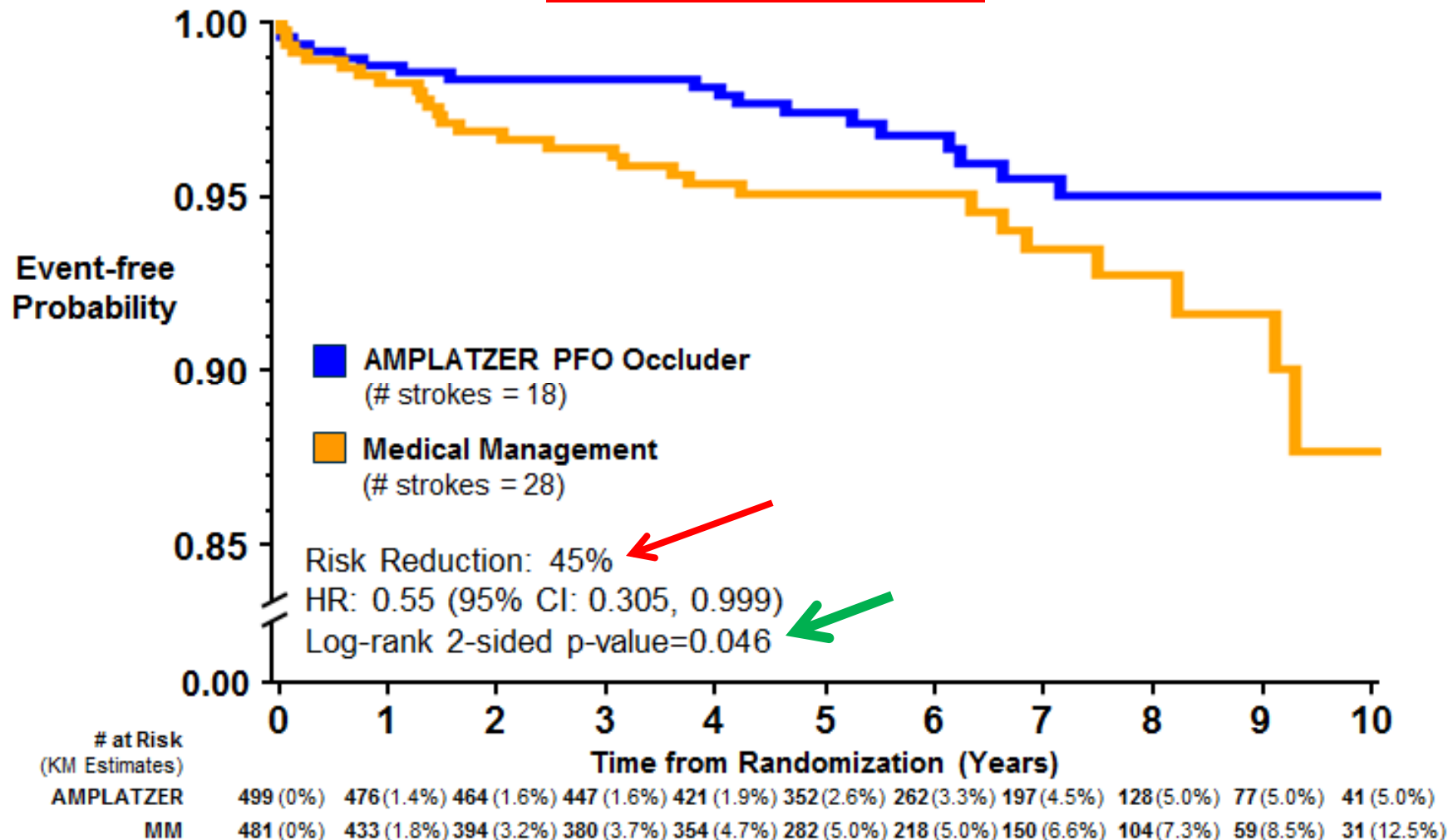
\*\*Implantation without in-hospital SAE

# RESULTS



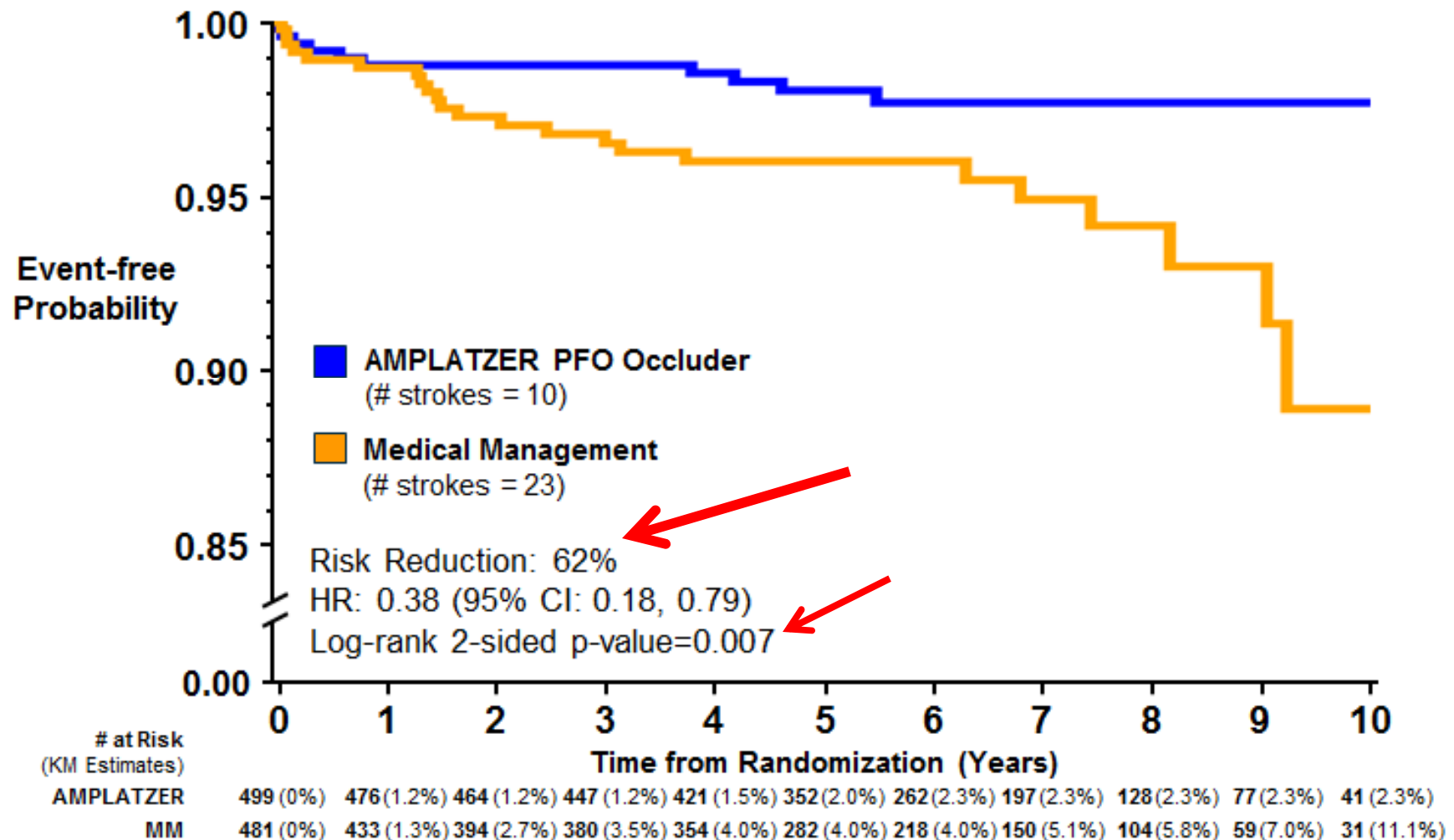
# RESPECT Final Results

## *Freedom from Recurrent Ischemic Stroke (Intention to Treat)*



# RESPECT Final Results

## *Freedom from Recurrent Ischemic Stroke of Unknown Mechanism (Intention to Treat)*



# **DSMB Adjudicated Procedure or Device Related SAEs**

- **No intra-procedural strokes**
- **No device embolization**
- **No device thrombosis**
- **No device erosion**
- **Major vascular complications (0.9%) and device explants (0.4%)**

# Adjudicated SAEs of Interest

Event Type	AMPLATZER™ PFO Occluder (N=499) [3141 Pt-Yrs]		Medical Management (N=481) [2669 Pt-Yrs]		P-value**
	Events	Rate*	Events	Rate*	
Atrial fibrillation	8	0.25	4	0.15	0.37
Major bleeding	18	0.57	15	0.56	0.96
Death from any cause	7	0.22	11	0.41	0.21
<b>DVT/PE</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.006</b>

\* Rate expressed as number of events per 100 patient-years

\*\*Based on the normal approximation to a difference in Poisson rates

# Conclusions

- In the RESPECT trial, PFO closure with the **AMPLATZER™ PFO Occluder** was more beneficial than medical management alone
- Collaboration between a cardiologist and neurologist is important for proper patient selection
- For patients with cryptogenic stroke and PFO, closure with the **AMPLATZER™ PFO Occluder** is an appropriate treatment option that reduces the risk of recurrent stroke

# FDA Approval 10/28/16

The AMPLATZER™ PFO Occluder is indicated for percutaneous transcatheter closure of a patent foramen ovale (PFO) to reduce the risk of recurrent ischemic stroke in patients, predominantly between the ages of 18 and 60 years, who have had a cryptogenic stroke due to a presumed paradoxical embolism, as determined by a neurologist and cardiologist following an evaluation to exclude known causes of ischemic stroke.



# **SURTA VI**

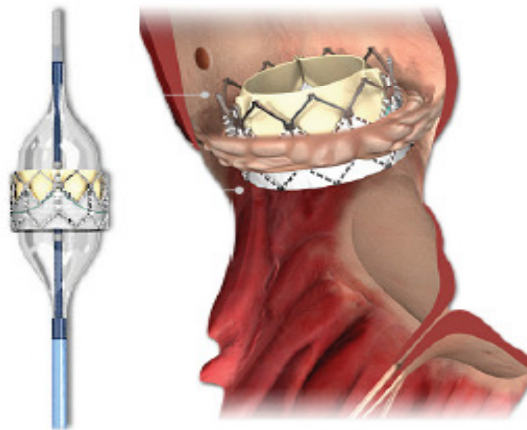
**Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement ( TAVR )  
Versus  
Surgical Aortic Valve Replacement (SAVR)  
In Intermediate Risk Patients  
STS Score  $\geq 3$**

# Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement: TAVR

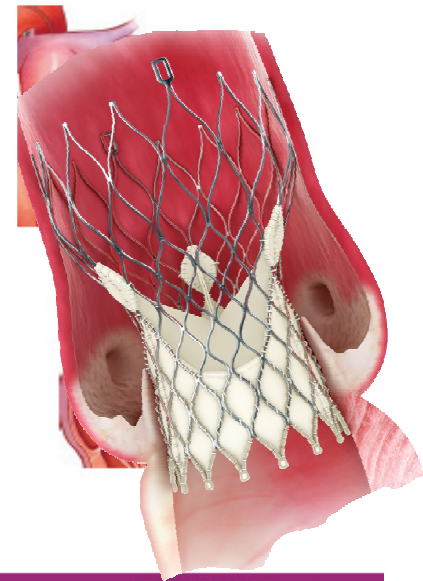
## Background (II)



**Balloon-expandable THV**  
**Edwards Sapien XT**  
(Cobalt chromium stent frame, bovine pericardium)



**Self-expandable THV**  
**Medtronic CoreValve**  
(Nitinol stent frame, porcine pericardium)



# **SURTAVI Trial**

## **TAVR vs SAVR**

- 1,746 patients at 87 centers randomized
- STS Mortality scores of  $\geq 3$  and  $< 15$  %
- Mean age = 80 years old
- 56% male

# **SURTA VI Trial: Results**

## **TAVR vs SAVR**

**At Two Years Primary Endpoint of  
All-Cause Mortality or Disabling CVA:**

**\*12.6% TAVR vs 14.0% SAVR**

**P < 0.005 for non-inferiority**

**The disabling Stroke Rates were:**

**\* 2.6% TAVR vs 4.5% SAVR**

**P = NS**

# TAVR vs SAVR: Issues

- **Two trials showing non-inferiority of TAVR to SAVR in intermediate risk patients**
- **(Edwards Sapien Balloon Expandable Valve and Medtronic Self - Expanding Core Valve )**
- **AVA consistently better for TAVR**
- **Still do not know the longevity/ durability data on TAVR for patient's living longer than 5 to 7 years**

# RESOLVE Trial

- Subclinical leaflet thrombosis of bioprosthetic valves (TAVR and SAVR )
- 4% to 12% incidence seen
- DAPT not effective in preventing
- Oral anticoagulation was effective in preventing and treating



# TAVR New Guidelines

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2016.12.006>

## ACC CLINICAL DOCUMENT

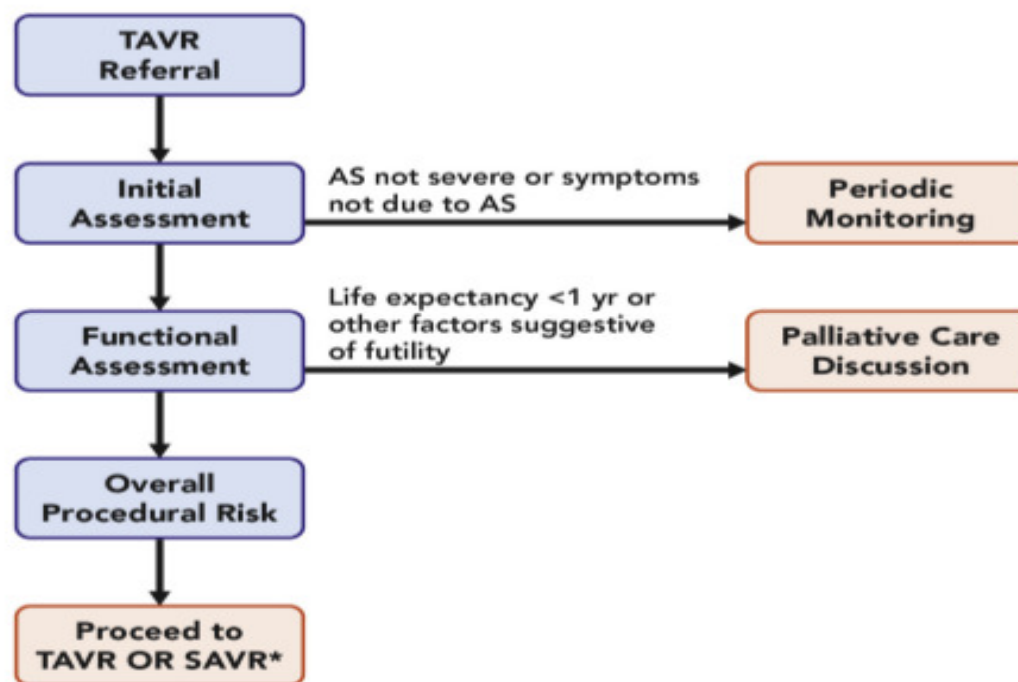
# 2017 ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway for Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement in the Management of Adults With Aortic Stenosis



A Report of the American College of Cardiology Task Force on Clinical Expert Consensus Documents

# TAVR Referral Evaluation: 2017

**FIGURE 2** Pre-TAVR Considerations by the Heart Valve Team



**Abbreviations:**

AS = aortic stenosis, AVR = aortic valve replacement,  
TAVR = transcatheter aortic valve replacement

\*per current AHA/ACC Guideline for the Management  
of Patients with Valvular Heart Disease

# Rivaroxaban or Aspirin for Extended Treatment of Venous Thromboembolism

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Dr. Phil Wells

on behalf of the EINSTEIN CHOICE Steering Committee and Investigators

Weitz JI et al. N Engl J Med 2017 (DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1700518)

NCT02064439

# EINSTEIN CHOICE: Trial

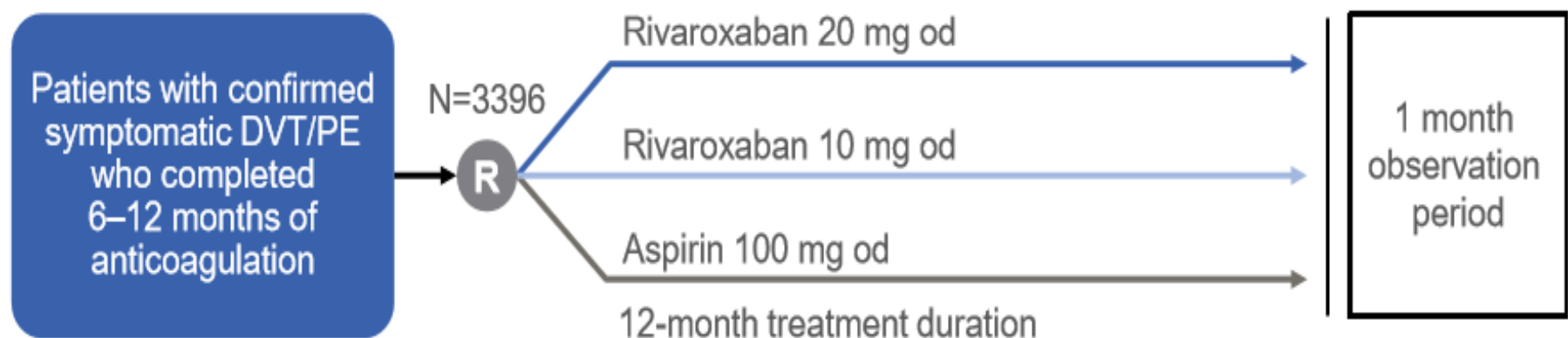
## Background

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- ◆ In patients without reversible risk factors, the risk of recurrent venous thromboembolism is up to 10% in the first year if anticoagulation therapy is stopped
- ◆ Although extended anticoagulation therapy prevents recurrent venous thromboembolism, concerns about bleeding often lead to reluctance to continue treatment beyond 6 to 12 months
- ◆ Lower dose anticoagulant therapy, or aspirin instead of an anticoagulant may reduce this bleeding risk
- ◆ Head-to-head comparison is necessary to determine the relative efficacy and safety of these approaches

## Study Design

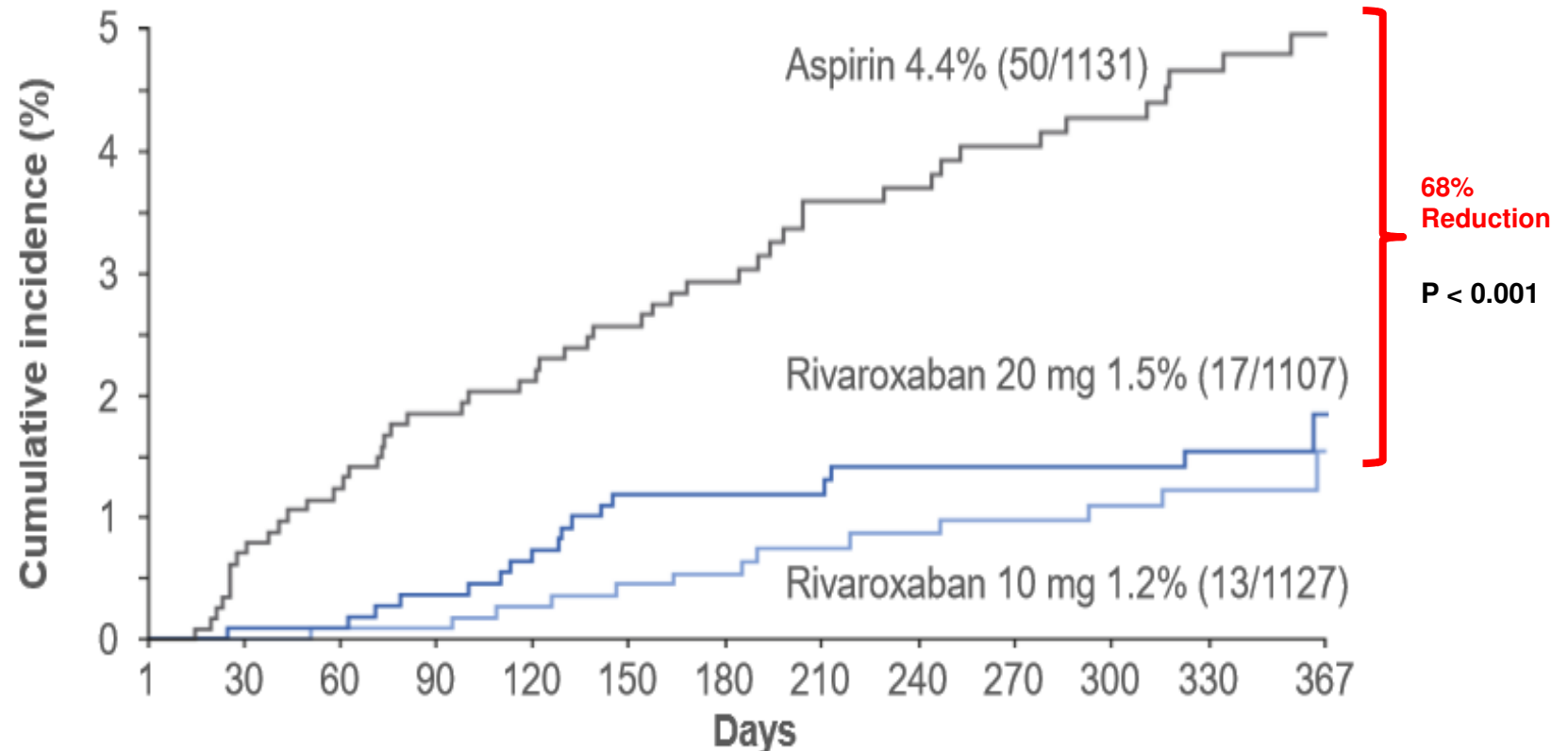
- ◆ Aim: Compare the efficacy and safety of once daily rivaroxaban (20 or 10 mg) with aspirin (100 mg) in VTE patients who completed 6 to 12 months of treatment and with equipoise regarding the need for extended anticoagulation
- ◆ Randomized, double-blind, active-comparator, event-driven, superiority study



Weitz JI et al. *Thromb Haemost* 2015;114:645–50

**eINSTEIN CHOICE**

## Recurrent VTE – Cumulative Incidence



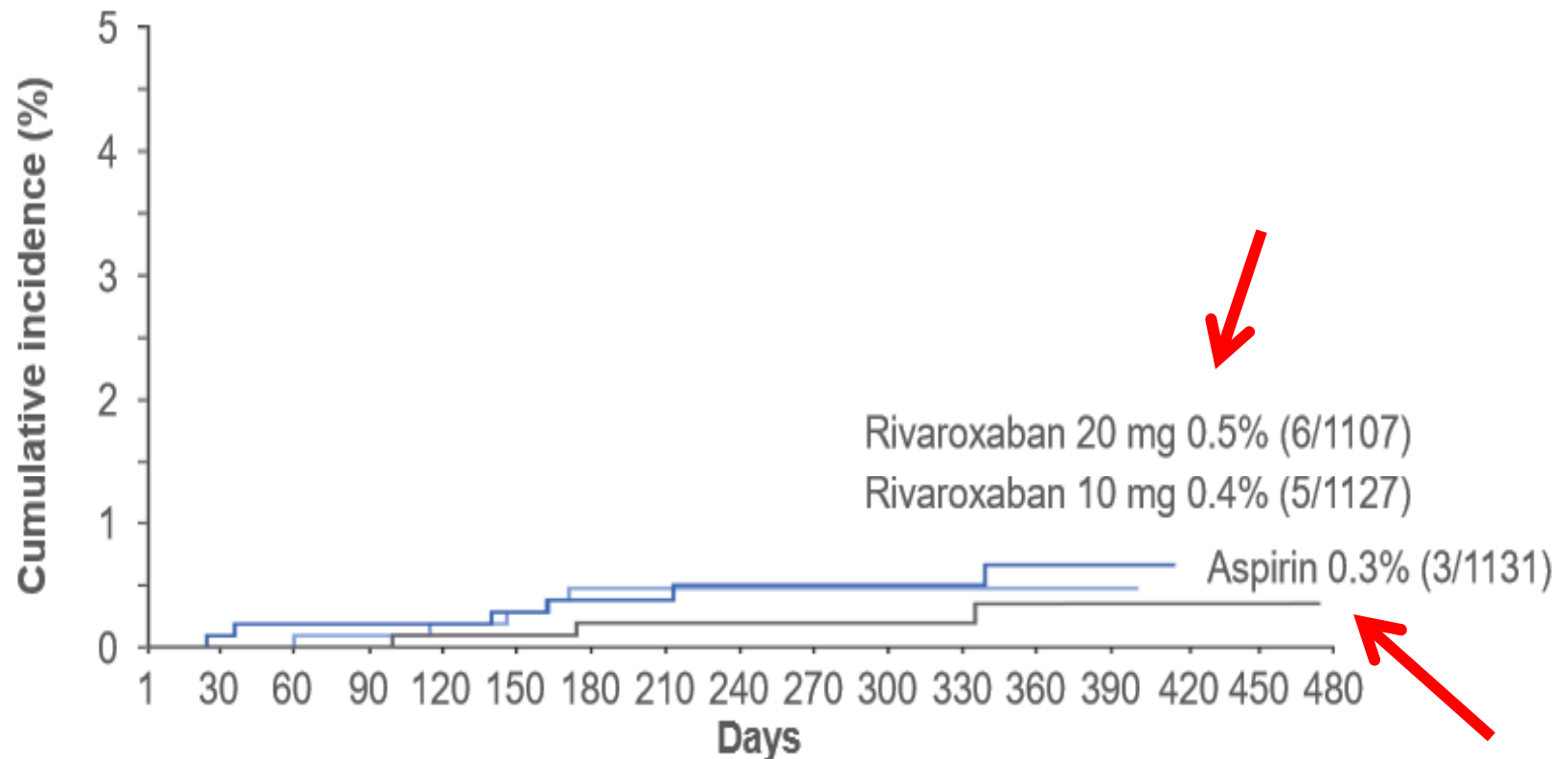
Number of patients at risk													
Rivaroxaban 20 mg	1107	1102	1095	1090	1084	1079	997	876	872	860	794	718	0
Rivaroxaban 10 mg	1126	1124	1119	1118	1111	1109	1029	890	886	867	812	723	0
Aspirin	1131	1121	1111	1103	1094	1088	1010	859	857	839	776	707	0

VTE, Venous thromboembolism; HR, hazard ratio

**EINSTEIN CHOICE**



## Major Bleeding – Cumulative Incidence



Number of patients at risk																	
Rivaroxaban 20 mg	1107	1081	1063	1048	1036	1024	963	818	801	780	712	642	449	10	0	0	0
Rivaroxaban 10 mg	1126	1103	1080	1070	1058	1046	988	823	812	790	733	653	469	8	0	0	0
Aspirin	1131	1096	1075	1058	1040	1023	970	800	791	768	709	645	445	5	2	2	0

Treatment-emergent major bleeding: onset during study treatment up to 2 days after stop of study treatment

**EINSTEIN CHOICE**

## Summary and Conclusions

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- ◆ In patients with symptomatic VTE who completed 6 to 12 months of treatment and with equipoise regarding the need for extended anticoagulation
  - Both rivaroxaban regimens (20 or 10 mg once daily) are superior to aspirin for the primary and other efficacy outcomes and are associated with similar rates of bleeding
  - Compared with aspirin, numbers needed to treat with rivaroxaban 20 or 10 mg for one year to prevent one VTE without an increase in bleeding are 33 and 30, respectively
  - Consistent results in subgroups of patients
  
- ◆ Rivaroxaban 10 mg once daily provides an additional option for extended VTE treatment
  - Patients requiring full-dose anticoagulant therapy were excluded and may need extended treatment with the 20 mg once daily rivaroxaban regimen

\*Number needed to treat (NNT) compared with aspirin for primary efficacy outcome up to 1 year

**EINSTEIN CHOICE**

# EINSTEIN CHOICE Trial

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Rivaroxaban or Aspirin for Extended Treatment of Venous Thromboembolism

J.I. Weitz, A.W.A. Lensing, M.H. Prins, R. Bauersachs, J. Beyer-Westendorf, H. Bounameaux, T.A. Brighton, A.T. Cohen, B.L. Davidson, H. Decousus, M.C.S. Freitas, G. Holberg, A.K. Kakkar, L. Haskell, B. van Bellen, A.F. Pap, S.D. Berkowitz, P. Verhamme, P.S. Wells, and P. Prandoni,  
for the EINSTEIN CHOICE Investigators\*



ACC.17

66<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Session & Expo

# Digoxin And Mortality in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation With and Without Heart Failure: Does Serum Digoxin Concentration Matter?

Renato D. Lopes, MD, PhD, FACC  
on behalf of the ARISTOTLE Investigators



# Background



- Digoxin is used in  $\approx 30\%$  of patients with atrial fibrillation (AF) worldwide, despite the lack of randomized clinical trials to assess its efficacy and safety in this setting.<sup>1–3</sup>
- Current AF guidelines recommend digoxin for rate control in patients with AF with and without heart failure (HF).<sup>4,5</sup>
- There are no specific recommendations about serum digoxin concentration monitoring in the AF guidelines.

<sup>1</sup>Allen LA, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2015;65:2691-8. <sup>2</sup>Washam JB, et al. Lancet 2015;385:2363-70. <sup>3</sup>Granger CB, et al. N Engl J Med 2011;365:981-92. <sup>4</sup>January CT, et al. Circulation 2014;130:2071-104. <sup>5</sup>Kirchhof P, et al. Eur Heart J 2016;37:2893-962.

# Research Context: “A Controversial Topic”



European Heart Journal  
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehv143

## CLINICAL RESEARCH

### Atrial fibrillation

## Digoxin-associated mortality: a systematic review and meta-analysis of the literature

*J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2015 June 30; 65(25): 2691–2698. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2015.04.045.

### Digoxin use and subsequent outcomes among patients in a contemporary atrial fibrillation cohort

Larry A. Allen, MD, MHS<sup>\*</sup>, Gregg C. Fonarow, MD<sup>†</sup>, DaJuanicia N. Simon, MS<sup>‡</sup>, Laine E. Thomas, PhD<sup>‡</sup>, Lucas N. Marzec, MD<sup>\*</sup>, Sean D. Pokorney, MD, MBA<sup>‡</sup>, Bernard J. Gersh, MB

### Digoxin use in patients with atrial fibrillation and adverse cardiovascular outcomes: a retrospective analysis of the Rivaroxaban Once Daily Oral Direct Factor Xa Inhibition Compared with Vitamin K Antagonism for Prevention of Stroke and Embolism Trial in Atrial Fibrillation (ROCKET AF)

Jeffrey B Washam, Susanna R Stevens, Yuliya Likhnygina, Jonathan L Halperin, Günter Breithardt, Daniel E Singer, Kenneth W Mahaffey, Graeme J Hankey, Scott D Berkowitz, Christopher C Nessel, Keith A A Fox, Robert M Califf, Jonathan P Piccini, Manesh R Patel, for the ROCKET AF Steering Committee and Investigators

European Heart Journal (2013) **34**, 1481–1488

### Increased mortality among patients taking digoxin—analysis from the AFFIRM study

European Heart Journal (2013) **34**, 1489–1497

### Lack of evidence of increased mortality among patients with atrial fibrillation taking digoxin: findings from *post hoc* propensity-matched analysis of the AFFIRM trial

European Heart Journal (2013) **34**, 1468–1470

### Digoxin for patients with atrial fibrillation and heart failure: paradise lost or not?<sup>†</sup>

European Heart Journal (2013) **34**, 1465–1467

### When ‘digoxin use’ is not the same as ‘digoxin use’: lessons from the AFFIRM trial

(*Circ Cardiovasc Qual Outcomes.* 2013;6:511-513.)

## Editorial

### Digitalis, Yesterday and Today, But Not Forever

Lionel H. Opie, MD, DSc



# Atrial Fibrillation with at Least One Additional Risk Factor for Stroke



## Inclusion risk factors

- Age  $\geq 75$  years
- Prior stroke, TIA, or SE
- HF or LVEF  $\leq 40\%$
- Diabetes mellitus
- Hypertension

*Randomize  
double blind,  
double dummy  
(n = 18,201)*

## Exclusion

- Mechanical prosthetic valve
- Severe renal insufficiency
- Need for aspirin plus thienopyridine

**Apixaban 5 mg oral twice daily  
(2.5 mg BID in selected patients)**

**Warfarin  
(target INR 2–3)**

## Biomarker substudy (n=14,892)

- Blood samples at baseline
- Plasma aliquots stored at  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$

Warfarin/warfarin placebo adjusted by INR/sham INR  
based on encrypted point-of-care testing device

**Primary outcome: stroke or systemic embolism**

Lopes RD, et al. Am Heart J 2010;159:331–9.

Granger CB, et al. N Engl J Med 2011;365:981–92.



**Duke Clinical Research Institute**

**UCR<sup>©</sup>**  
Uppsala Clinical Research Center

# Objectives



## Using data from the ARISTOTLE trial, we aimed to:

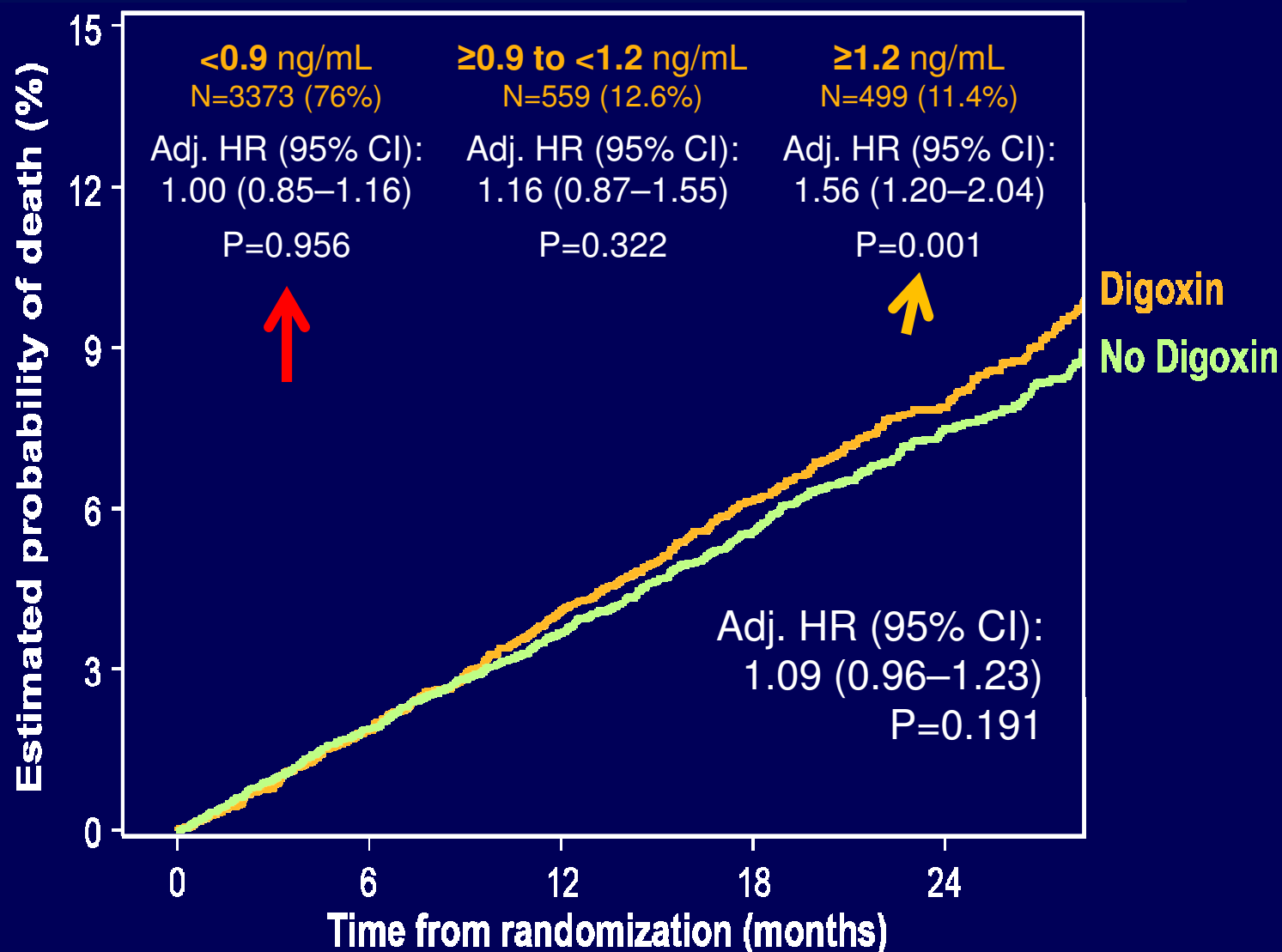
- Explore the association between digoxin use and mortality
  - According to serum digoxin concentration
  - In patients with and without HF
- Assess the efficacy and safety of apixaban versus warfarin in patients taking and not taking digoxin.



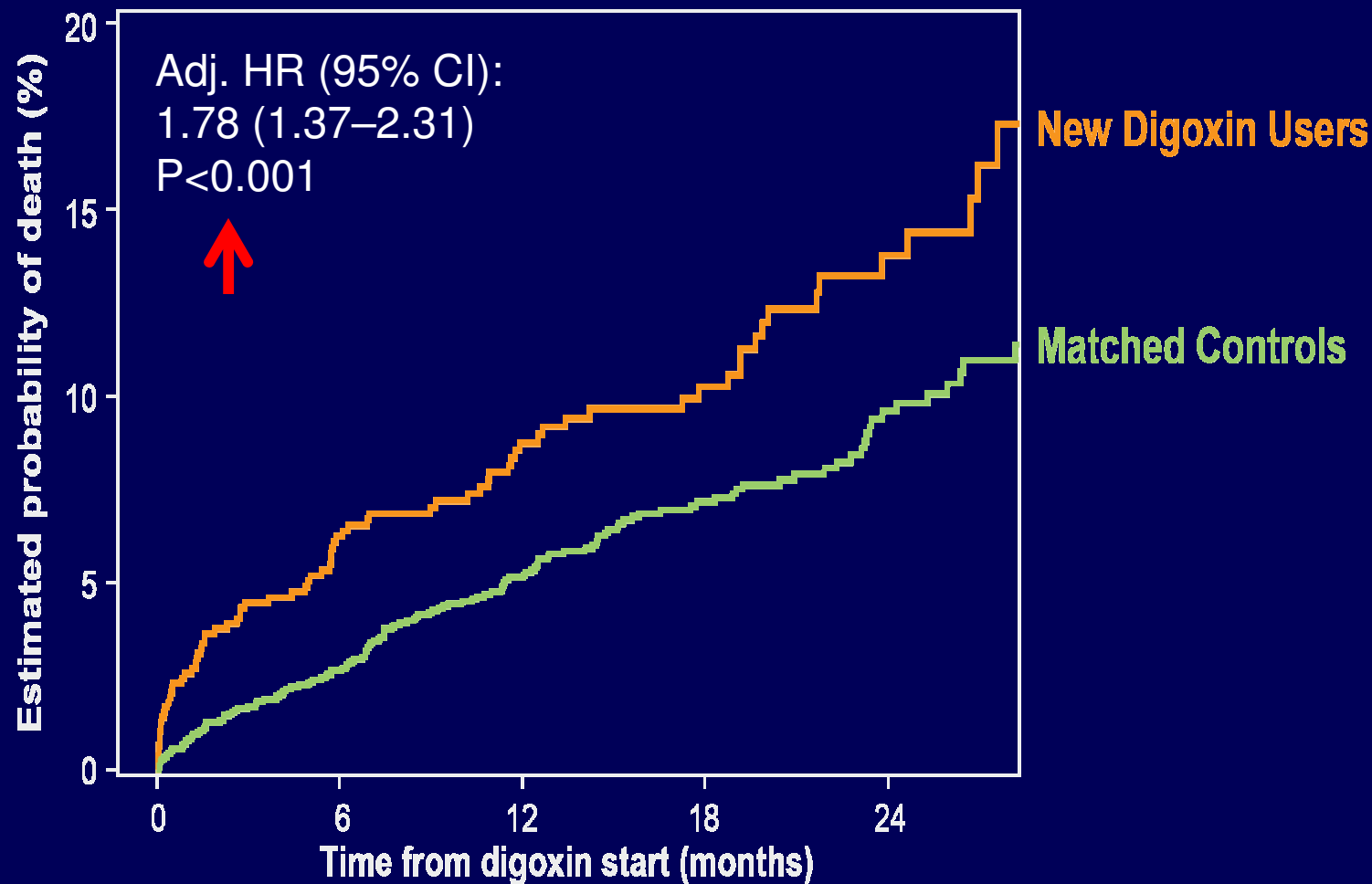
# Digoxin and Mortality

## **MAIN RESULTS**

# Baseline Serum Digoxin Concentration and Adjusted Mortality

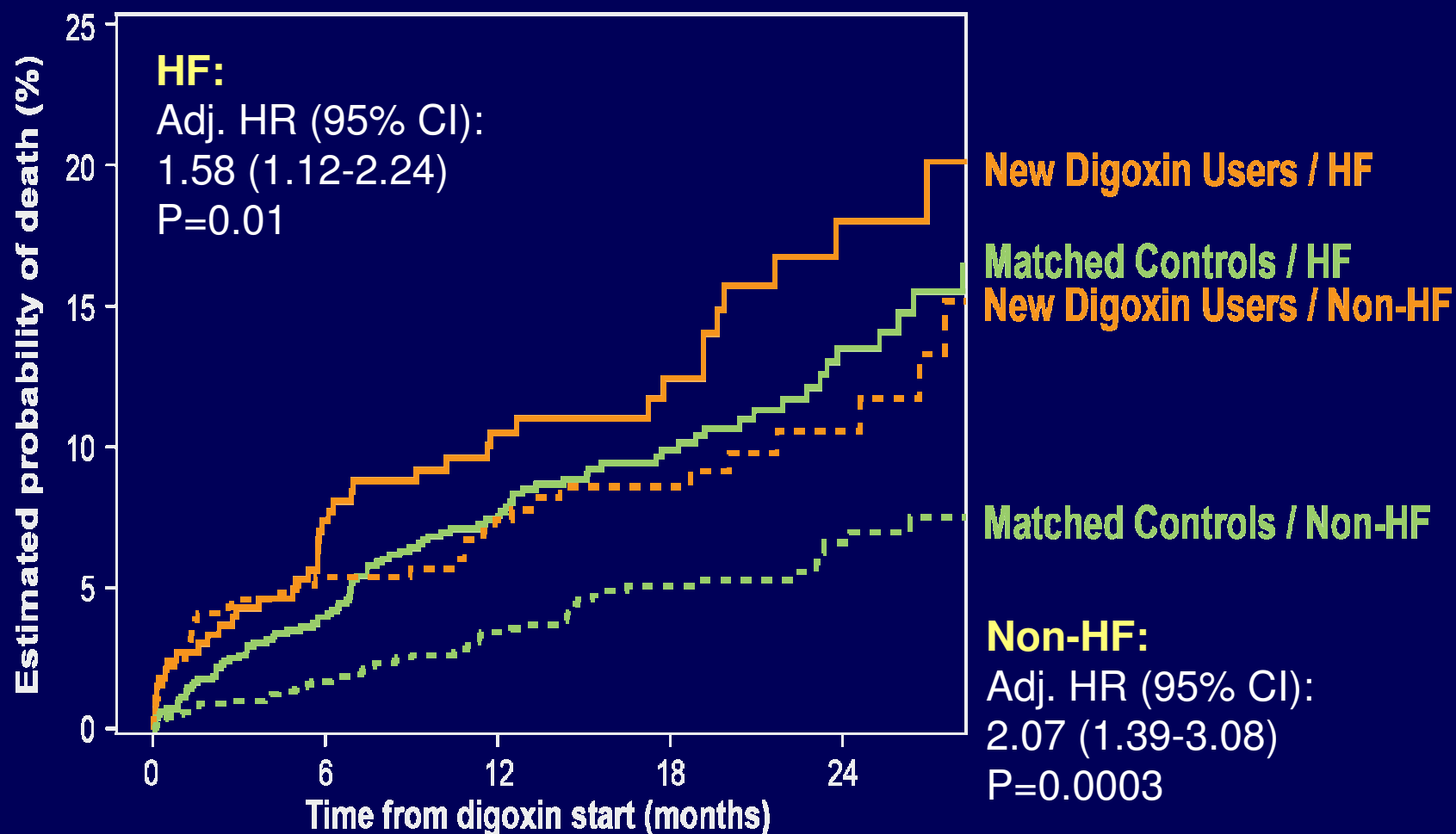


# Adjusted Mortality in New Digoxin Users versus Matched Controls



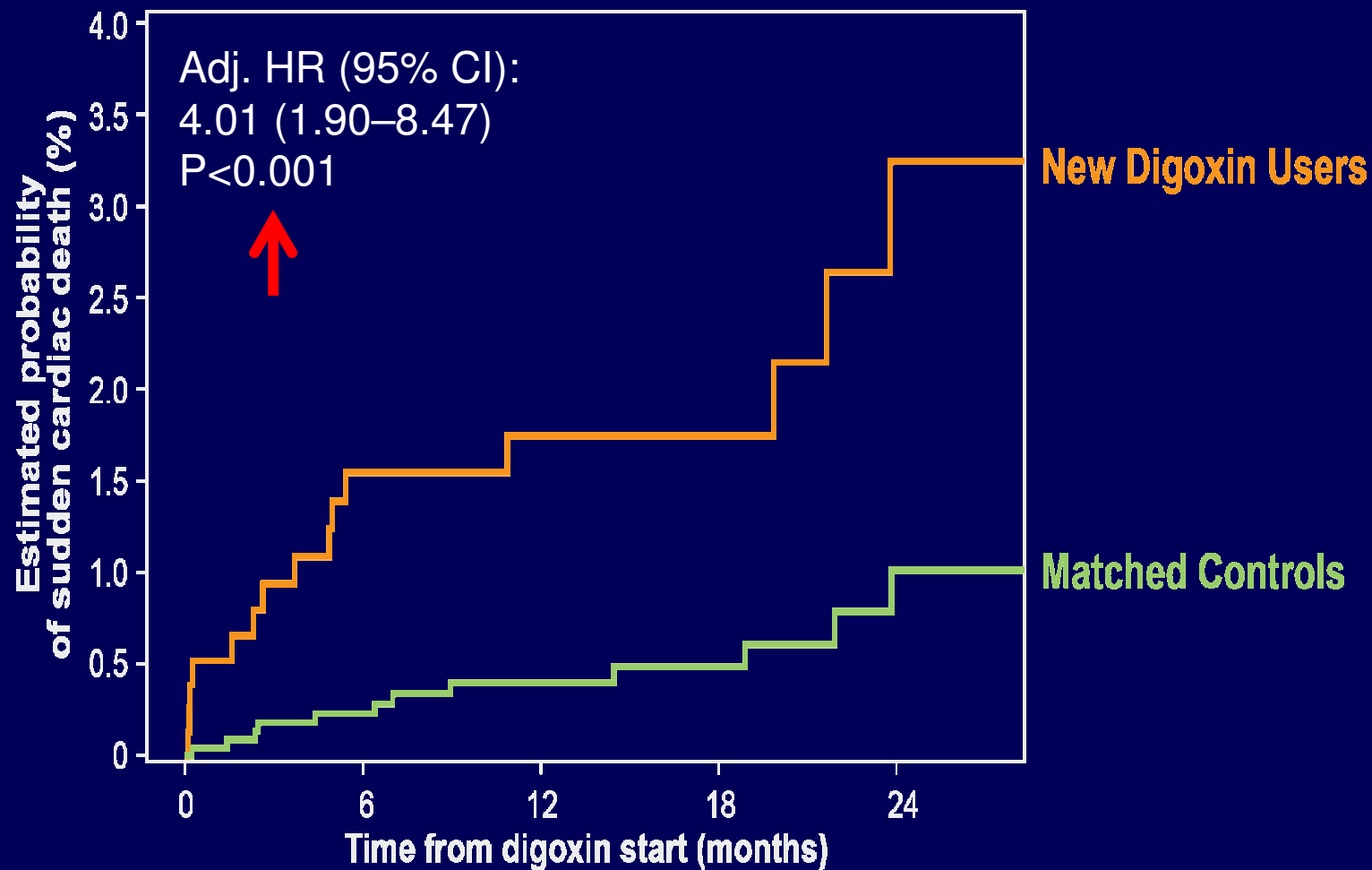
New Digoxin Users	779	619	447	290	150
Matched Controls	2337	1910	1386	867	431

# Adjusted Mortality in New Digoxin Users versus Matched Controls With and Without Heart Failure



New Digoxin Users / HF	333	266	191	120	62
New Digoxin Users / Non-HF	446	353	256	170	88
Matched Controls / HF	999	810	606	378	179
Matched Controls / Non-HF	1338	1100	780	489	252

# Adjusted Sudden Death in New Digoxin Users versus Matched Controls



New Digoxin Users	779	619	447	290	150
Matched Controls	2337	1910	1386	867	431



# Conclusions



- In patients with AF currently taking digoxin, the risk of death is independently related to digoxin serum concentration and is highest in patients with concentrations  $\geq 1.2$  ng/mL.
- Initiating digoxin is independently associated with higher mortality in patients with AF, regardless of HF.
- The benefits of apixaban over warfarin are consistent in digoxin users and non-users.

## Clinical Implication



- In the absence of randomized trial data showing its safety and efficacy, digoxin should not be prescribed for patients with AF, particularly if symptoms can be alleviated with other treatments.
- In patients with AF already taking digoxin, monitoring its serum concentration may be important, targeting blood levels  $<1.2$  ng/mL.

# COMPARE-ACUTE



ACC.17

## Randomised trial of FFR-guided complete revascularization *versus* infarct artery only treatment in multivessel STEMI patients

On behalf of all COMPARE-ACUTE investigators

Pieter Smits

Maasstad Hospital

Rotterdam, The Netherlands



Oklahoma Heart Institute



# Introduction

- Approximately 50% of the STEMI patients have multivessel disease at presentation; meaning 50% or more diameter stenosis in one or more non-infarct-related arteries (non-IRAs)
- What and when to do with these non-infarct-related artery (non-IRA) lesions remains a unresolved clinical dilemma



# Trial design



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Acute STEMI patients  
undergoing primary PCI

885 stable multivessel  
STEMI pts. randomized

1 : 2 randomization

FFR was  
measured  
by Pd/Pa in  
rest and after  
adenosine iv  
or ic

295 pts

Acute FFR-guided complete  
revascularization of non-IRA lesions

590 pts

Infarct related artery only treatment  
+ blinded FFR of non-IRA lesions

45 day treatment window for  
elective clinically indicated PCI

Follow-up at 30 days, 12, 24 and 36 months



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# COMPARE ACUTE Trial

## Endpoints

### Primary endpoint:

The composite of all-cause death, recurrent myocardial infarction, recurrent revascularization and cerebrovascular event (MACCE) at 12 months follow-up



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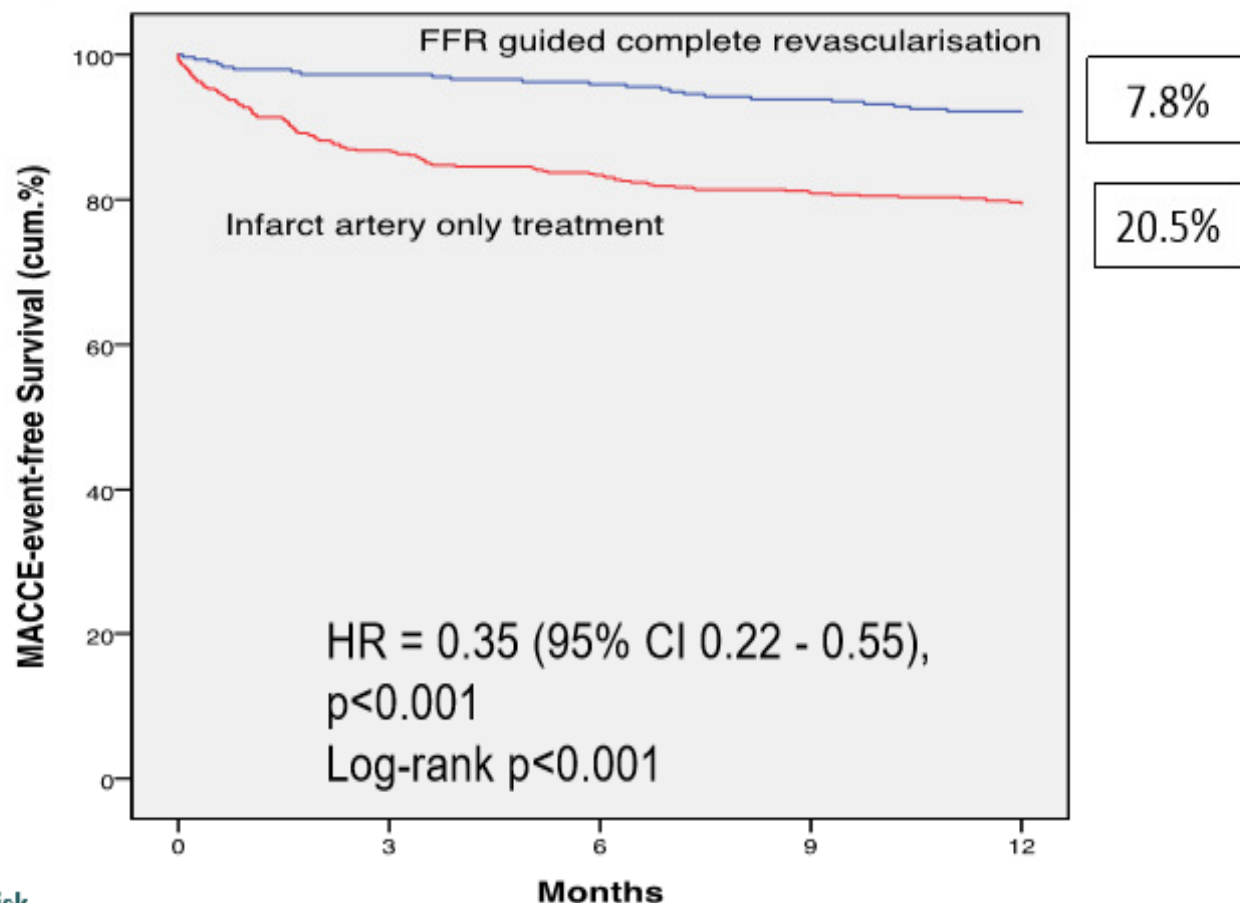


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# Primary outcome



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No. at risk

FFR guided  
complete

Culprit lesion only

295

286

281

264

215

590

512

492

457

371



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# Conclusions

- In multivessel STEMI patients, FFR-guided complete revascularization of non-infarct-related lesions in the acute phase of primary PCI significantly reduced the risk of the composite MACCE outcome as compared with a strategy of treatment of the infarct-related artery only
- This reduction was mainly driven by the decreased need for subsequent revascularization



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# Conclusions

- Approximately half of the lesions in non infarct-related arteries considered significant on coronary angiograms had an FFR value  $>0.8$  and were therefore not physiologically significant
- Deferring treatment of angiographically significant coronary lesions in non-infarct related arteries with an FFR  $> 0.8$  is safe and efficient



Oklahoma Heart Institute

# COMPARE ACUTE Trial



The NEW ENGLAND  
JOURNAL of MEDICINE



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## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Fractional Flow Reserve–Guided Multivessel Angioplasty in Myocardial Infarction

Pieter C. Smits, M.D., Ph.D., Mohamed Abdel-Wahab, M.D., Franz-Josef Neumann, M.D.,  
Bianca M. Boxma-de Klerk, Ph.D., Ketil Lunde, M.D., Carl E. Schotborgh, M.D.,  
Zsolt Piroth, M.D., David Horak, M.D., Adrian Wlodarczak, M.D., Paul J. Ong, M.D.,  
Rainer Hambrecht, M.D., Oskar Angerås, M.D., Gert Richardt, M.D., Ph.D.,  
and Elmir Omerovic, M.D., for the Compare-Acute Investigators\*



Oklahoma Heart Institute

# Late Breaking Clinical Trials: 2017

Wayne N. Leimbach, Jr. MD, FACC,

Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine  
University of Oklahoma College of Medicine - Tulsa

Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories  
Oklahoma Heart Institute at Hillcrest Medical Center

Medical Director of Cardiology  
Oklahoma Heart Institute