

# **Closing the Gaps in the Continuum of Care for Patients with Acute Coronary Syndromes: Implications for Optimal Antiplatelet Use**

**Supported by an educational grant  
from AstraZeneca**

# Opening Remarks

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**Boston, Massachusetts**

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# Announcements

- The session is being videotaped. Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.
- ARS keypads are provided on the table for use during the symposium.
- During the panel discussion, please use the Question Cards located on each table.
- Complete and return a CME Evaluation Form at the conclusion of the symposium.



# ***Antiplatelet Agents Across the ACS Spectrum***

**Deepak L. Bhatt, MD, MPH**

***Executive Director of Interventional Cardiovascular Programs, BWH Heart and Vascular Center  
Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School***



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# Disclosures for Dr. Bhatt

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This presentation discusses off-label and/or investigational uses of various drugs and devices.

# ARS QUESTION 1

ARS

A 73-year-old female comes in with a NSTEMI and receives a DES to the proximal left circumflex artery. In addition to aspirin, which antiplatelet agent would you discharge her on?

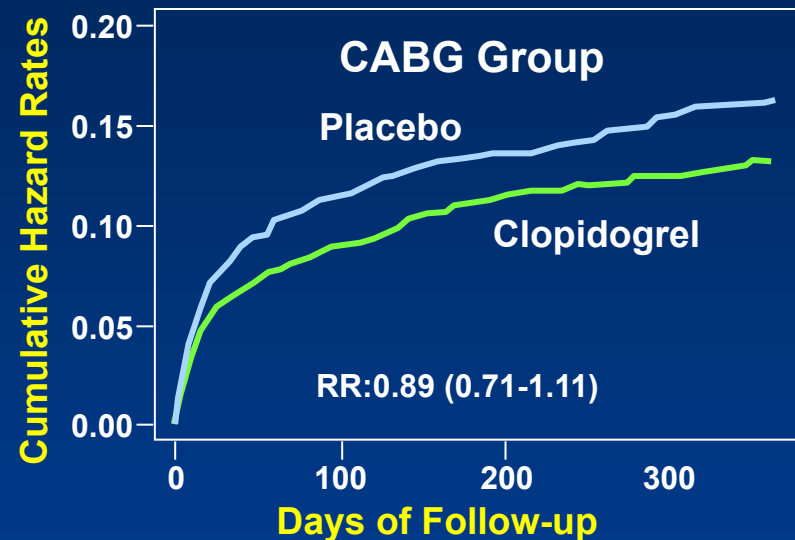
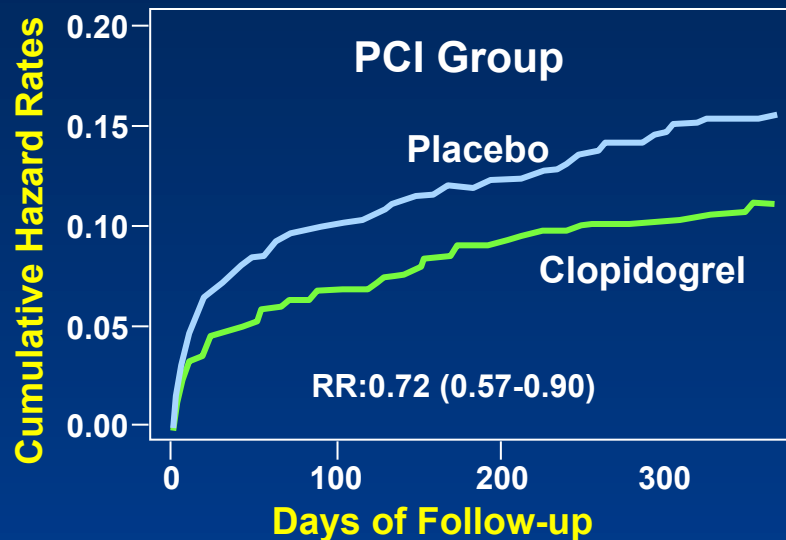
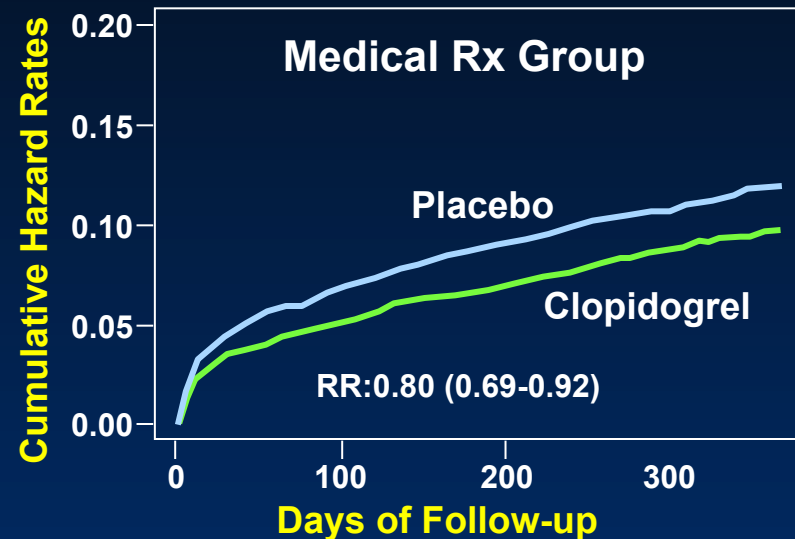
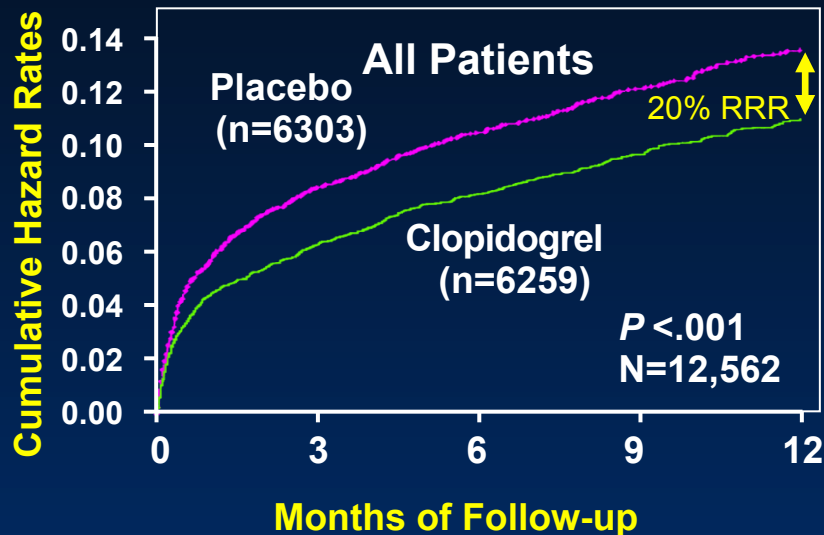
- A. Clopidogrel
- B. Prasugrel
- C. Ticagrelor

## ARS QUESTION 2

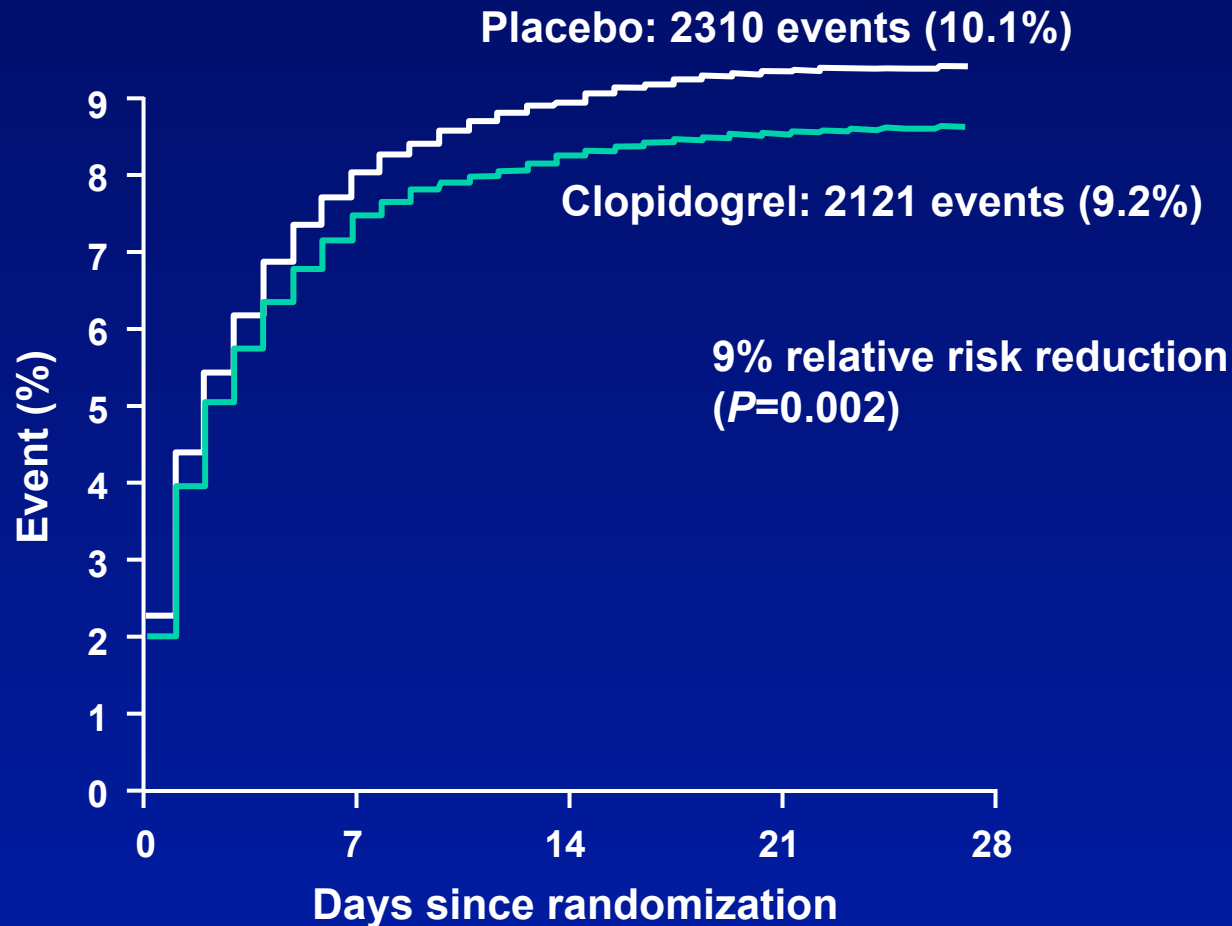
A 78-year-old male comes in with a NSTEMI and is found to have diffuse three vessel disease. Medical management is elected. In addition to aspirin, which antiplatelet agent would you discharge him on?

- A. Clopidogrel
- B. Prasugrel
- C. Ticagrelor

# CURE: Primary Outcome by Management Strategy



# COMMIT: Incidence of Death, Re-MI, or Stroke at 28 Days



# CURRENT-OASIS 7: Clopidogrel Results

Patients with UA/NSTEMI or STEMI planned for early invasive strategy  
(ie, intended for PCI as early as possible within 72 hours)

Randomize

## Clopidogrel Standard-dose Group

Clopidogrel 300 mg (+ placebo) day 1 followed  
by 75 mg (+ placebo) from days 2 to 7;  
75 mg from days 8 to 30

## Clopidogrel High-dose Group

Clopidogrel 600 mg LD day 1  
followed by 150 mg from days 2 to 7;  
75 mg from days 8 to 30

|                           | Standard | Double | HR (95% CI)      | P-value |
|---------------------------|----------|--------|------------------|---------|
| <b>CV death/MI/Stroke</b> |          |        |                  |         |
| Overall (N=25,086)        | 4.4      | 4.2    | 0.94 (0.83-1.06) | 0.30    |
| PCI (n=17,263)            | 4.5      | 3.9    | 0.86 (0.74-0.99) | 0.039   |
| No PCI (n=7823)           | 4.3      | 4.9    | 1.14 (0.92-1.40) | 0.23    |

**LD = loading dose.**

CURRENT-OASIS 7 Investigators et al. N Engl J Med. 2010;363:930-42.

Mehta et al. Lancet. 2010;376:1233-43.

# CURRENT-OASIS 7: Clopidogrel Std vs Double Dose Bleeding Outcome in PCI Population

| Outcome                     | Clopidogrel         |                  | Hazard Ratio | 95% CI    | P     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
|                             | Standard<br>N= 8703 | Double<br>N=8560 |              |           |       |
| TIMI Major <sup>1</sup>     | 0.7                 | 1.0              | 1.36         | 0.97-1.90 | 0.07  |
| CURRENT Major <sup>2</sup>  | 1.1                 | 1.6              | 1.41         | 1.09-1.83 | 0.009 |
| CURRENT Severe <sup>3</sup> | 0.8                 | 1.1              | 1.34         | 0.99-1.82 | 0.06  |
| Fatal                       | 0.2                 | 0.07             | 0.46         | 0.18-1.22 | 0.12  |
| ICH                         | 0.05                | 0.04             | 0.77         | 0.17-3.43 | 0.73  |
| RBC transfusion ≥ 2U        | 0.9                 | 1.3              | 1.42         | 1.06-1.91 | 0.02  |
| CABG-related Major          | 0.07                | 0.1              | 1.70         | 0.62-4.69 | 0.30  |

<sup>1</sup>ICH, Hb drop ≥ 5 g/dL (each unit of RBC transfusion counts as 1 g/dL drop) or fatal

<sup>2</sup>Severe bleed + disabling or intraocular or requiring transfusion of 2-3 units

<sup>3</sup>Fatal or ↓Hb ≥ 5 g/dL, sig hypotension + inotropes/surgery, ICH or transfusion of ≥ 4 units



# Study Design

**ACS (STEMI or UA/NSTEMI) & Planned PCI**

**ASA**      ↓      **N= 13,600**

**Double-blind**

**CLOPIDOGREL**

**300 mg LD/ 75 mg MD**

**PRASUGREL**

**60 mg LD/ 10 mg MD**

**Median duration of therapy - 12 months**

**1° endpoint: CV death, MI, Stroke**

**2° endpoints: CV death, MI, Stroke, Rehosp-Rec Isch  
CV death, MI, UTVR**

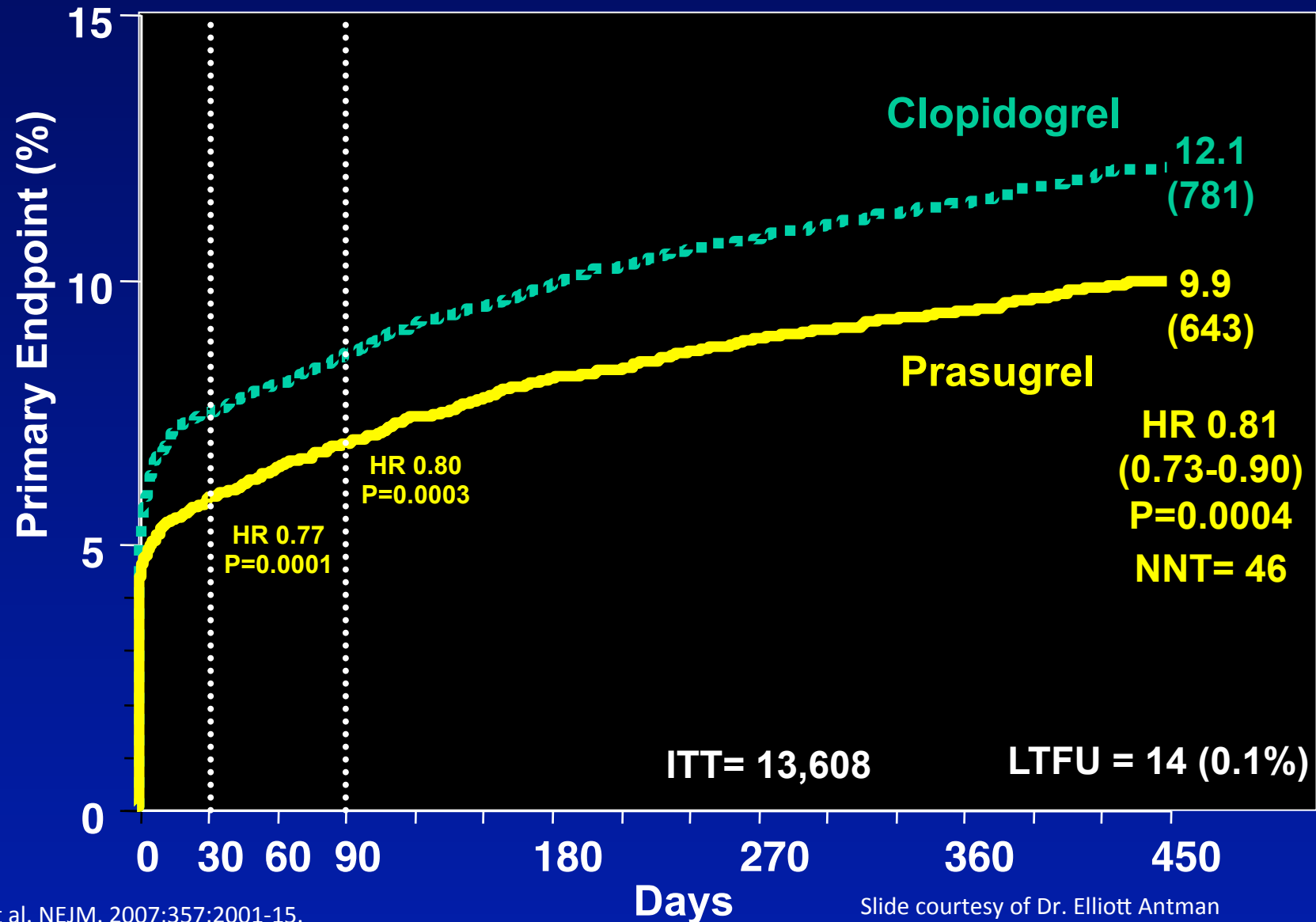
**Stent Thrombosis (ARC definite/prob.)**

**Safety endpoints: TIMI major bleeds, Life-threatening bleeds**

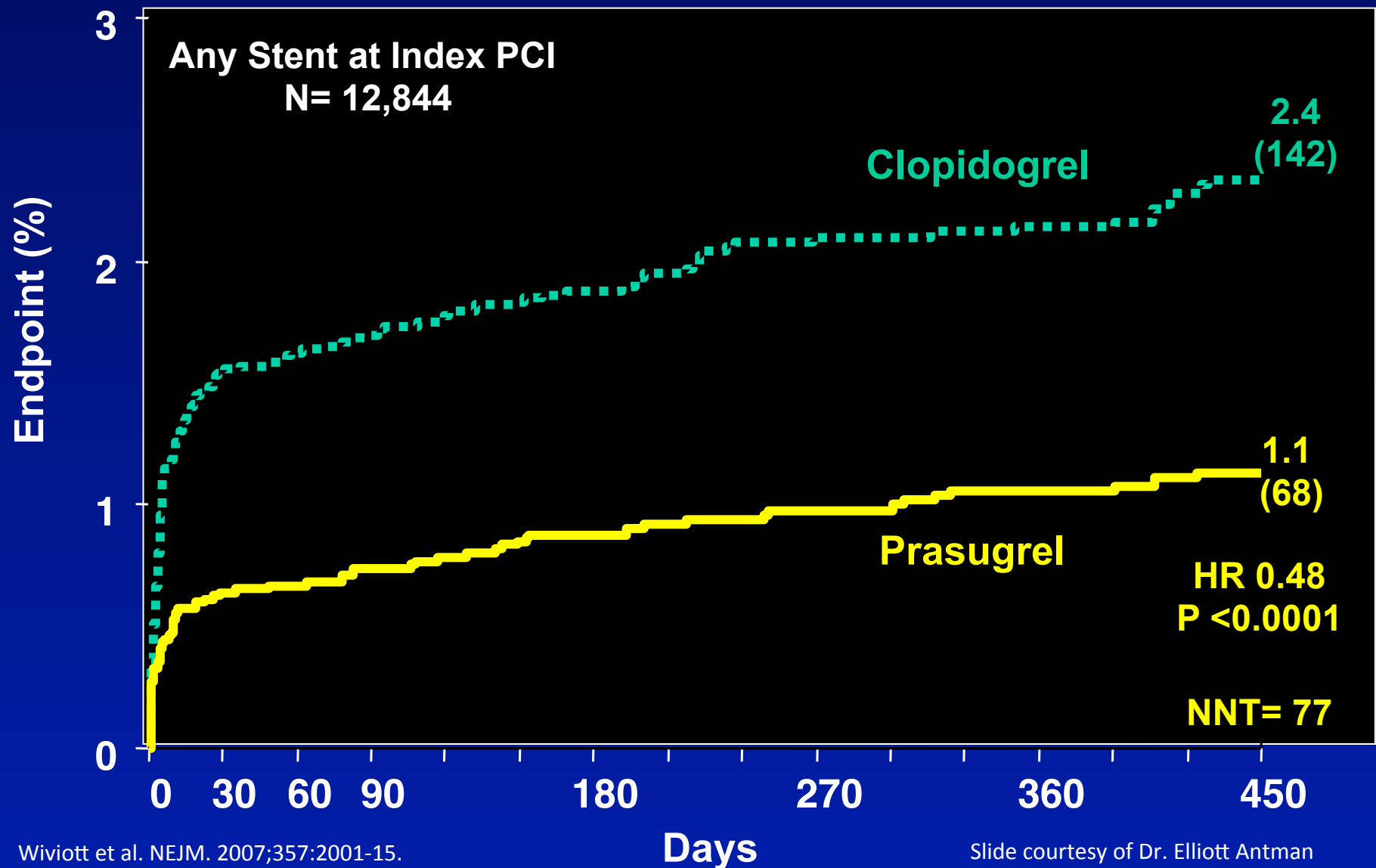
**Key Substudies: Pharmacokinetic, Genomic**

# TRITON – TIMI 38

## CV Death, MI, Stroke



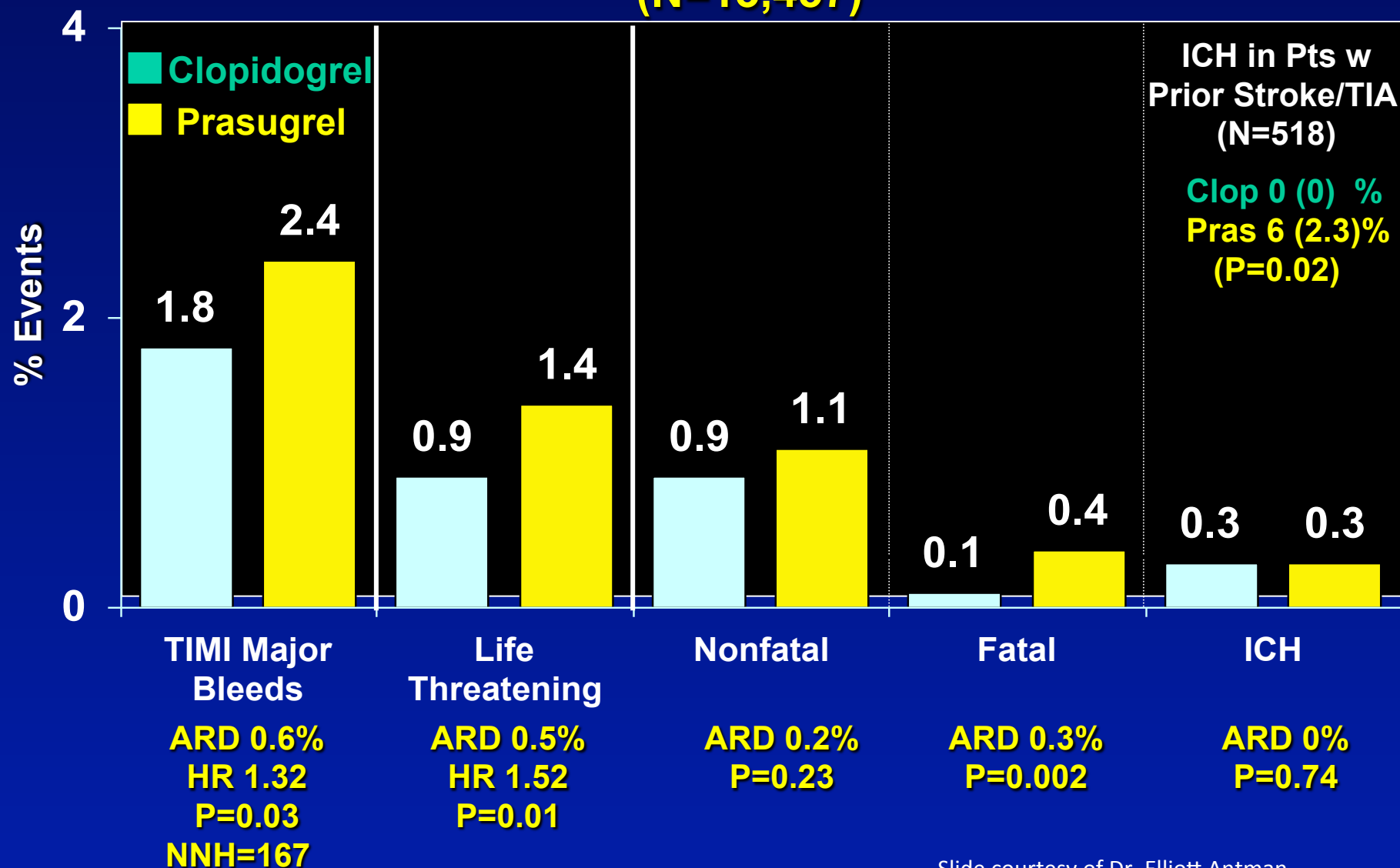
# TRITON-TIMI 38: Stent Thrombosis (ARC Definite + Probable)



# TRITON-TIMI 38: Bleeding Events

## Safety Cohort

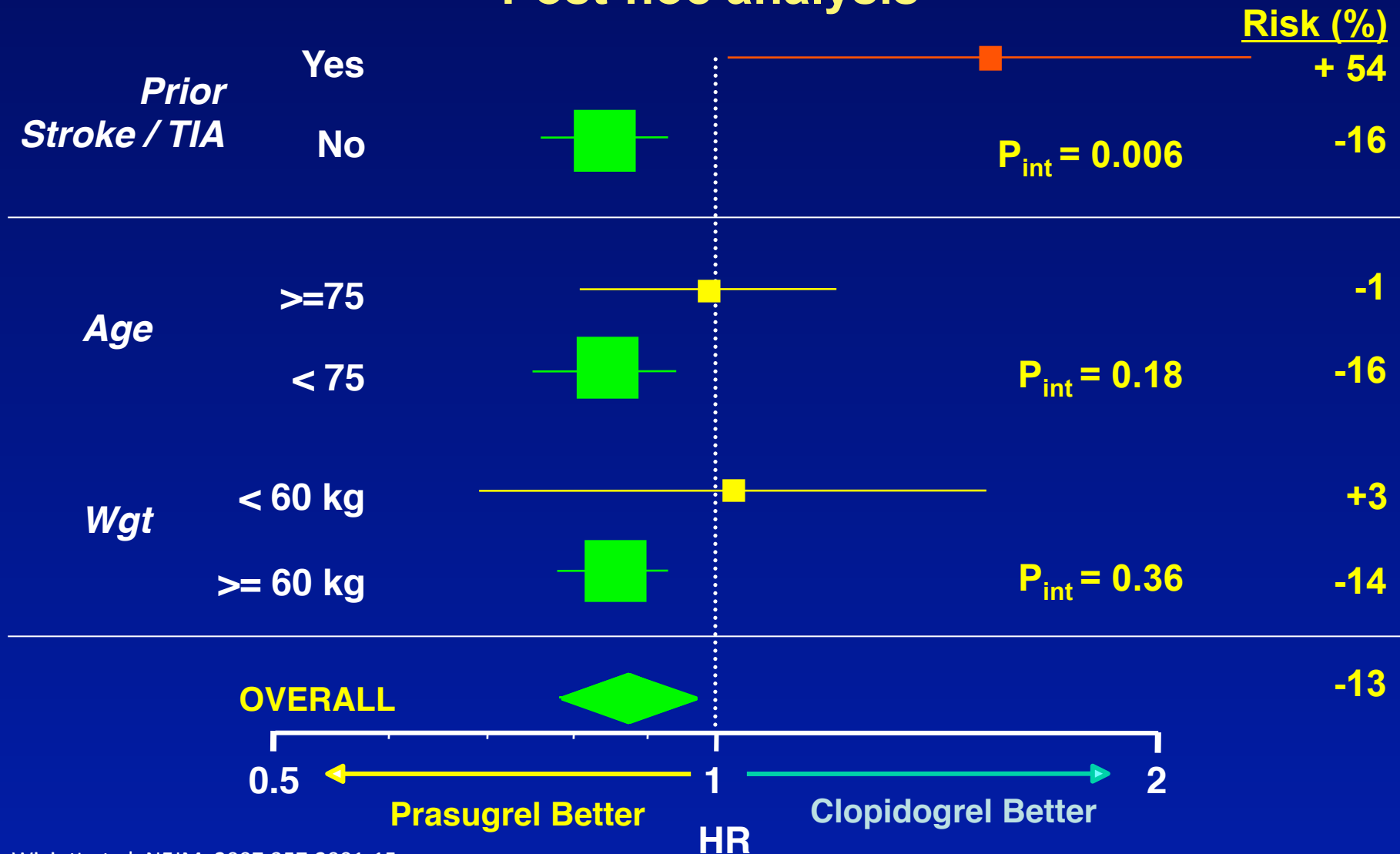
(N=13,457)



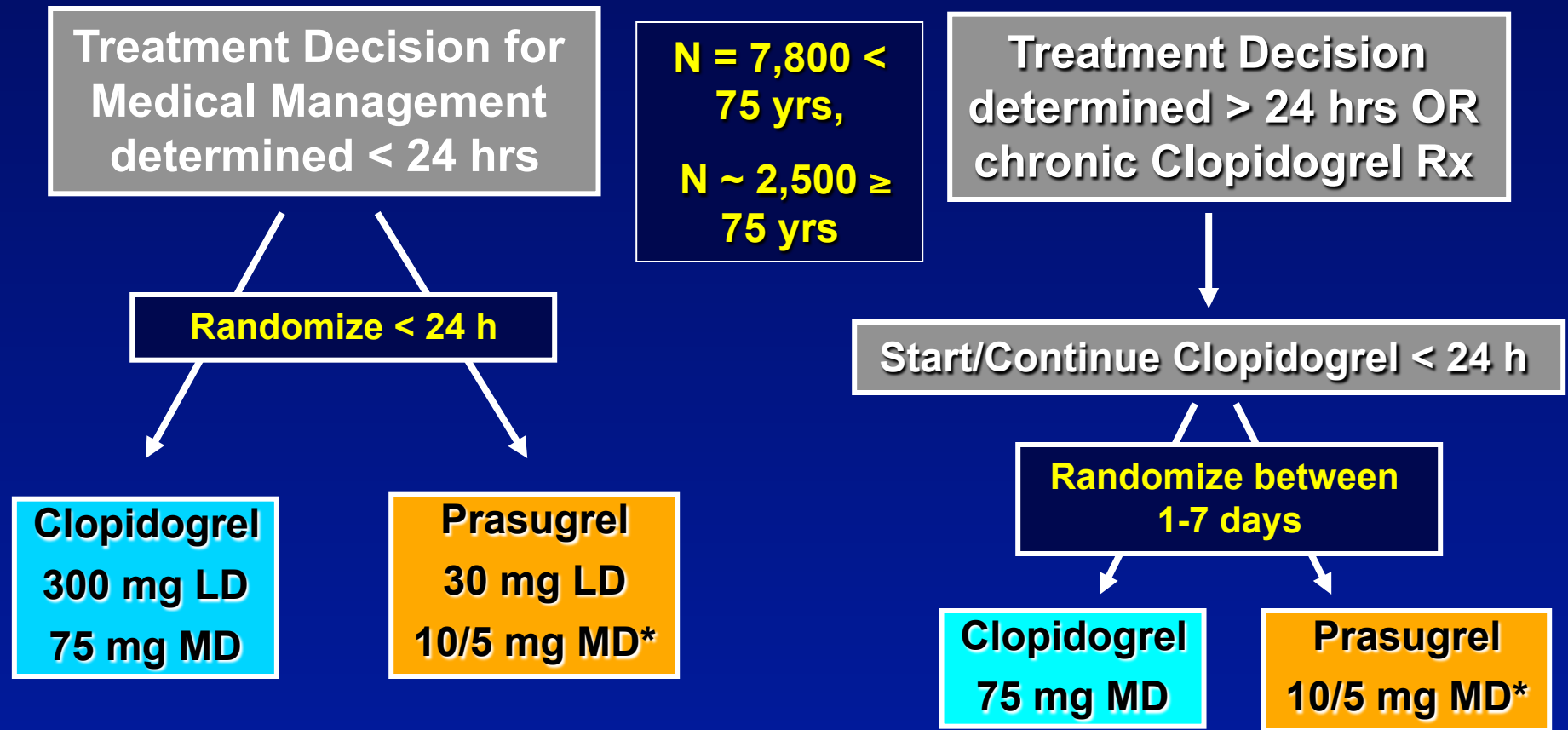
# TRITON TIMI-38: Net Clinical Benefit

## Bleeding Risk Subgroups

Post-hoc analysis



# TRILOGY-ACS



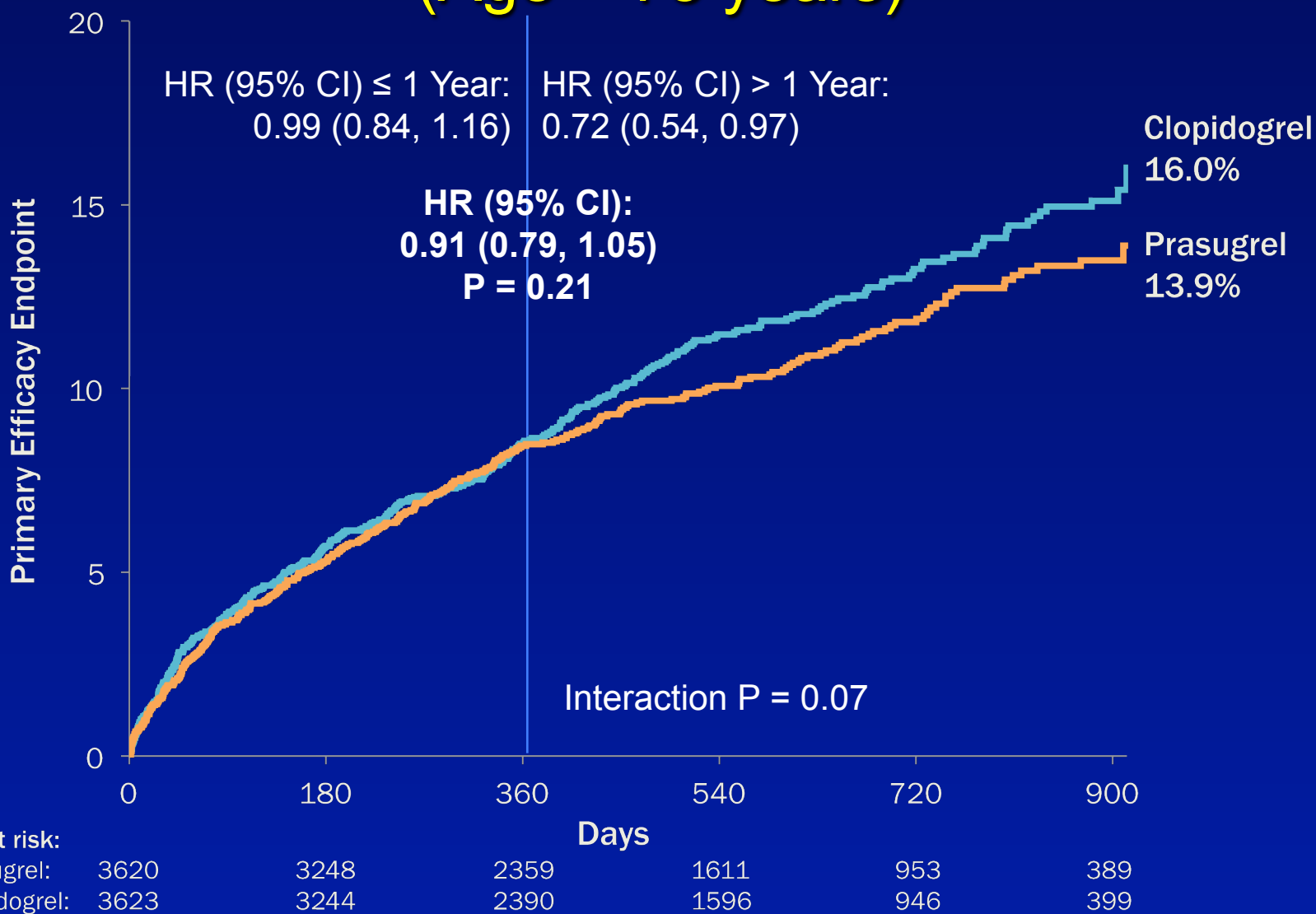
\* 5 mg MD of prasugrel for age ≥ 75 yrs or weight < 60 kg

Slide courtesy of Drs. Ohman and Roe.

Roe et al. N Engl J Med 2012;367:1297-1309.

Median duration of treatment ~ 18 months

# TRILOGY-ACS: Primary Endpoint to 30 Months (Age < 75 years)



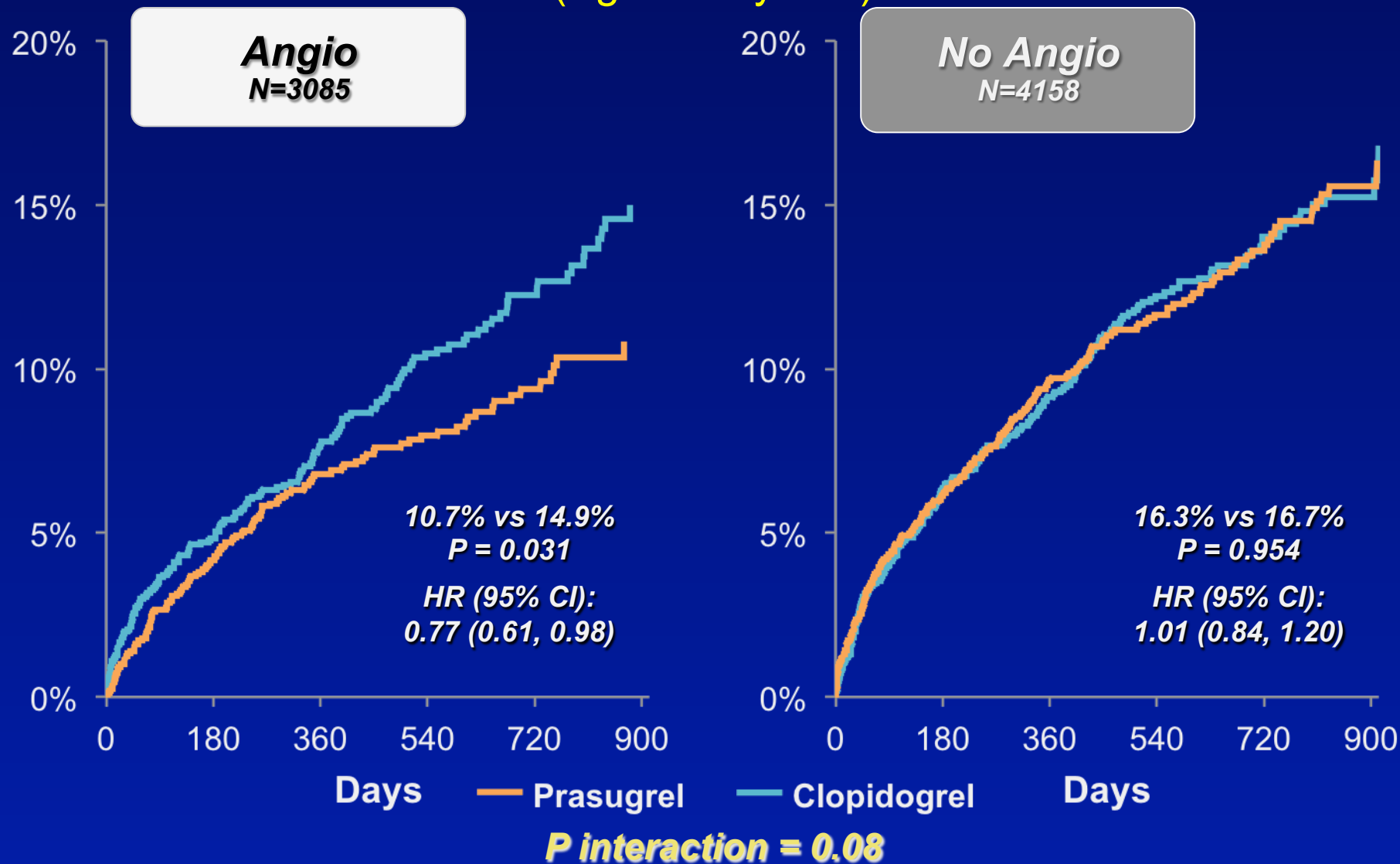
# Prasugrel versus clopidogrel for patients with unstable angina or non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction with or without angiography: a secondary, prespecified analysis of the TRILOGY ACS trial

*Stephen D Wiviott, Harvey D White, E Magnus Ohman, Keith A A Fox, Paul W Armstrong, Dorairaj Prabhakaran, Gail Hafley, Yuliya Lokhnygina, William E Boden, Christian Hamm, Peter Clemmensen, Jose C Nicolau, Alberto Menozzi, Witold Ruzyllo, Petr Widimsky, Ali Oto, Jose Leiva-Pons, Gregory Pavlides, Kenneth J Winters, Matthew T Roe, Deepak L Bhatt*



# TRILOGY-ACS: Primary Efficacy Endpoint to 30 Months

(Age < 75 years)



# PLATO Study Design

**NSTE-ACS (moderate-to-high risk) STEMI (if primary PCI)  
Clopidogrel-treated or -naive;  
randomised within 24 hours of index event  
(N=18,624)**

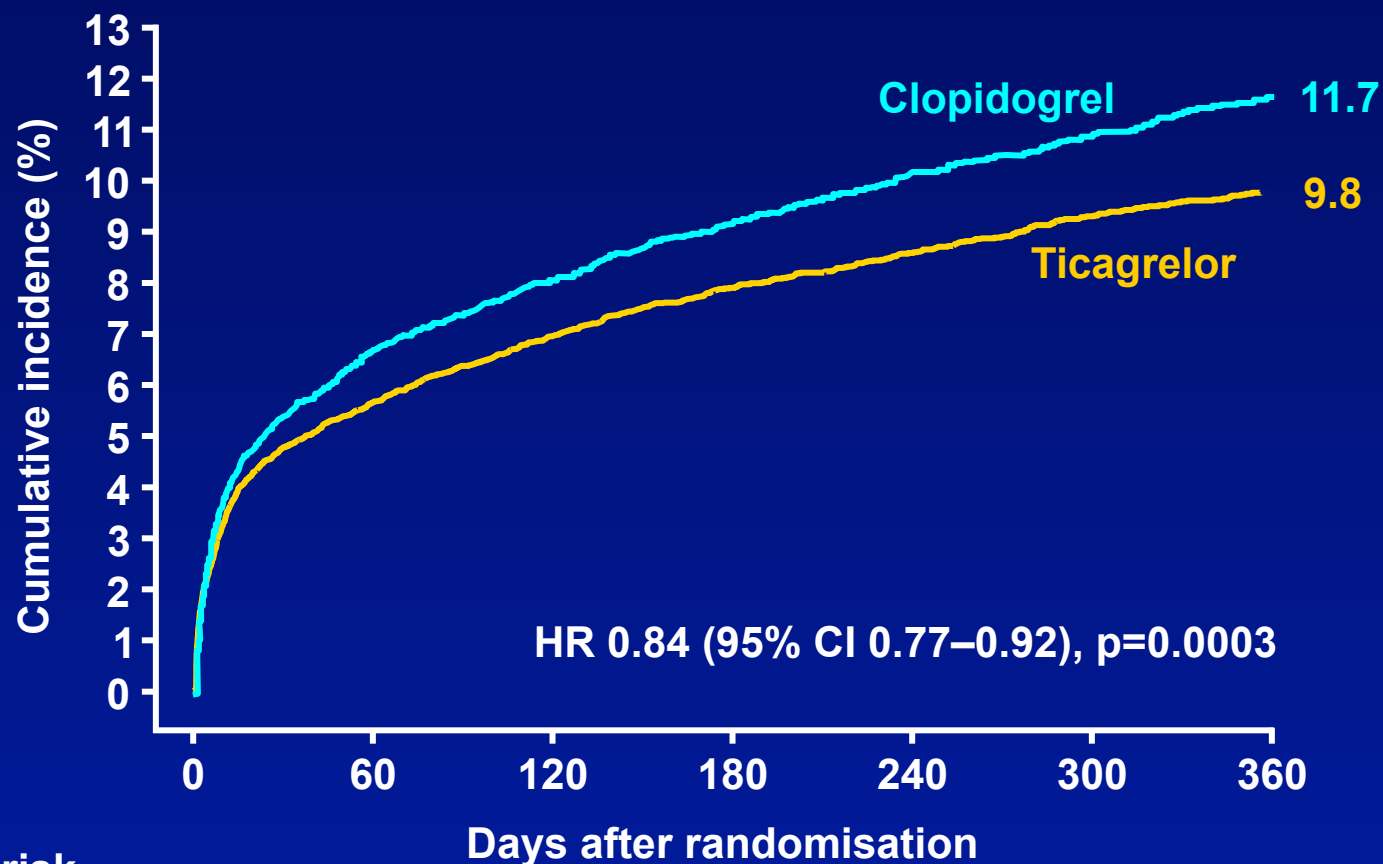
**Clopidogrel**  
If pre-treated, no additional loading dose;  
if naive, standard 300 mg loading dose,  
then 75 mg qd maintenance;  
(additional 300 mg allowed pre PCI)

**Ticagrelor**  
180 mg loading dose, then  
90 mg bid maintenance;  
(additional 90 mg pre-PCI)

**6–12-month exposure**

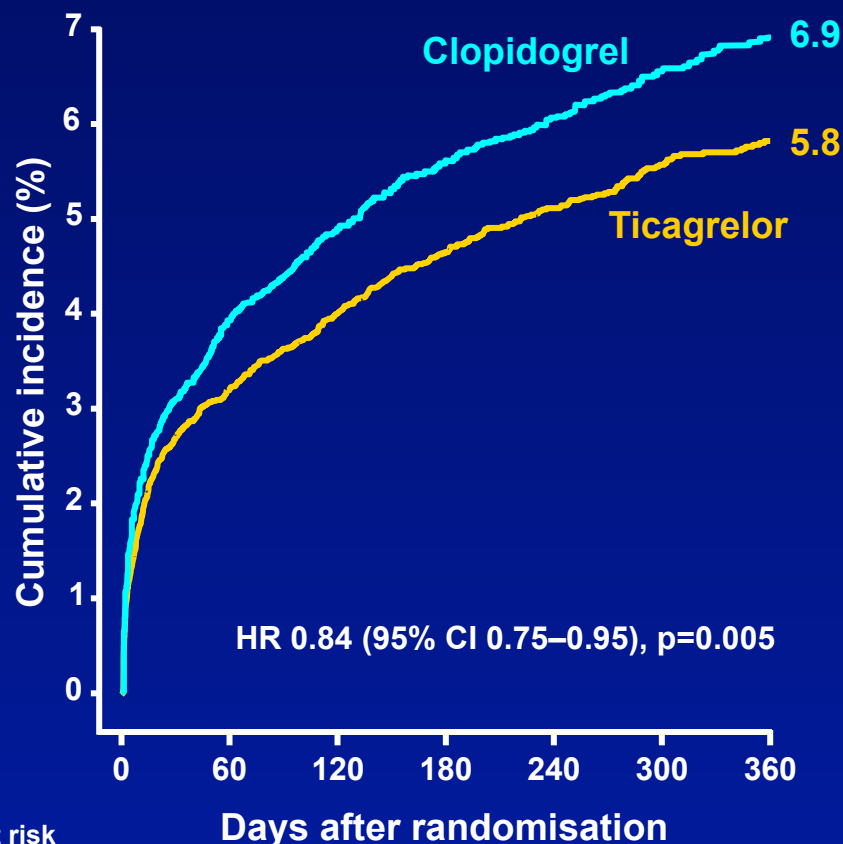
**Primary endpoint: CV death + MI + Stroke  
Primary safety endpoint: Total major bleeding**

# PLATO: CV Death, MI, or Stroke

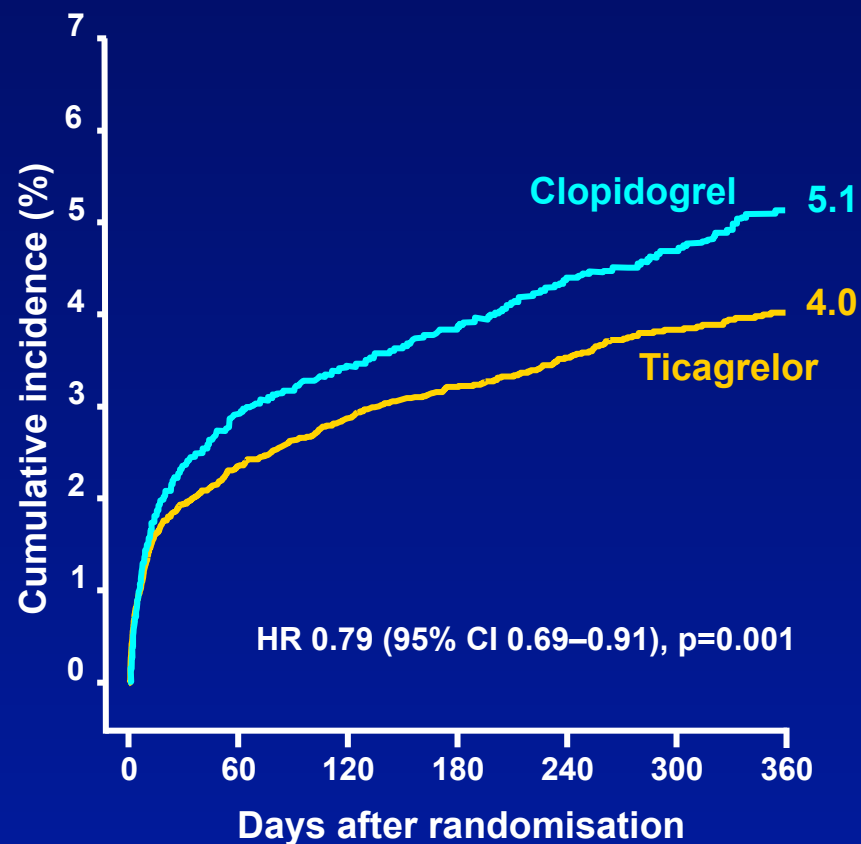


# PLATO: Secondary Efficacy Endpoints

## Myocardial infarction



## Cardiovascular death

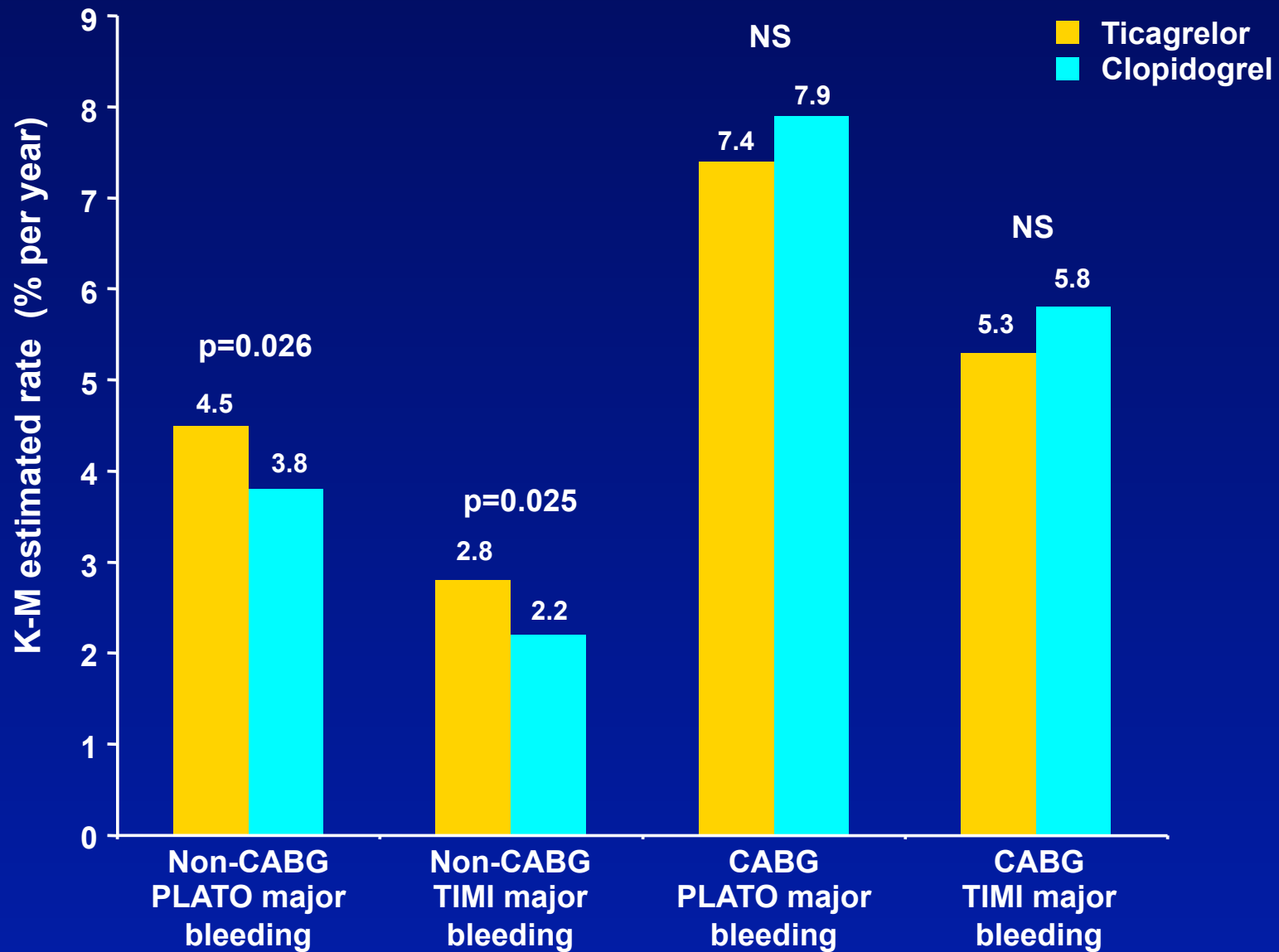


No. at risk

|             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Ticagrelor  | 9,333 | 8,678 | 8,520 | 8,279 | 6,796 | 5,210 | 4,191 |
| Clopidogrel | 9,291 | 8,560 | 8,405 | 8,177 | 6,703 | 5,136 | 4,109 |

|       |       |       |       |      |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| 9,333 | 8,294 | 8,822 | 8,626 | 7119 | 5,482 | 4,419 |
| 9,291 | 8,865 | 8,780 | 8,589 | 7079 | 5,441 | 4,364 |

# Major Bleeding: Non-CABG vs CABG



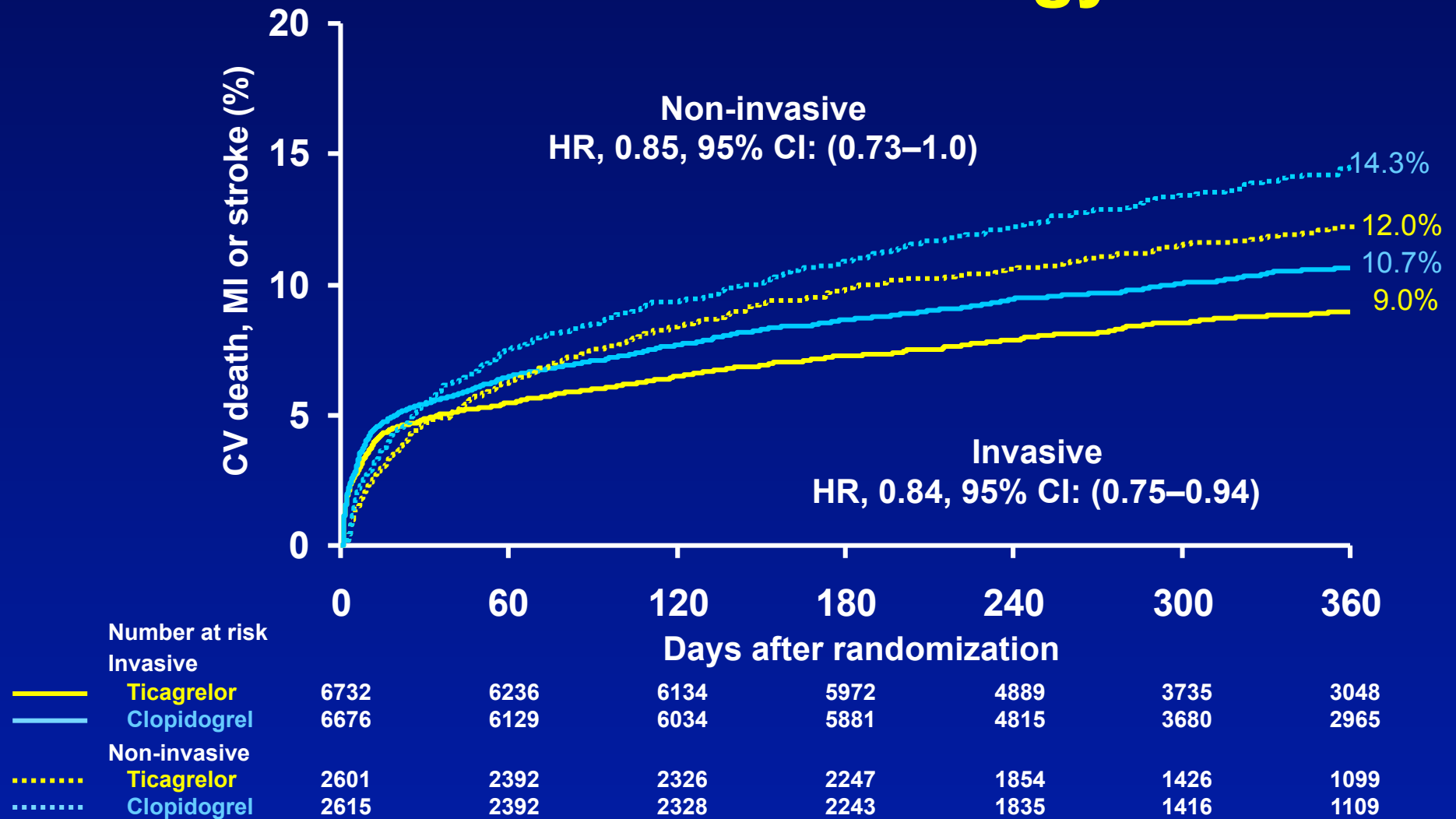
# PLATO: Major Bleeding, Holter Monitoring, and Other Related Events

| Bleeding                                | Ticagrelor (n=9235) | Clopidogrel (n=9186) | P-value  |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Total Major — PLATO criteria, %         | 11.6                | 11.2                 | 0.43     |
| Total Major — TIMI criteria, %          | 7.9                 | 7.7                  | 0.57     |
| Non-CABG Major — PLATO criteria, %      | 4.5                 | 3.8                  | 0.026    |
| Non-CABG Major — TIMI criteria, %       | 2.8                 | 2.2                  | 0.025    |
| Holter Monitoring at First Week         | Ticagrelor (n=1451) | Clopidogrel (n=1415) | P-value  |
| Ventricular pauses ≥3 seconds, %        | 5.8                 | 3.6                  | 0.01     |
| Ventricular pauses ≥5 seconds, %        | 2.0                 | 1.2                  | 0.10     |
| All Patients                            | Ticagrelor (n=9235) | Clopidogrel (n=9186) | P-value* |
| Dyspnea, %                              |                     |                      |          |
| Any                                     | 13.8                | 7.8                  | <0.001   |
| With discontinuation of study treatment | 0.9                 | 0.1                  | <0.001   |
| Bradycardia-related Event, %            |                     |                      | P-value  |
| Syncope                                 | 1.1                 | 0.8                  | 0.08     |
| Bradycardia                             | 4.4                 | 4.0                  | 0.21     |

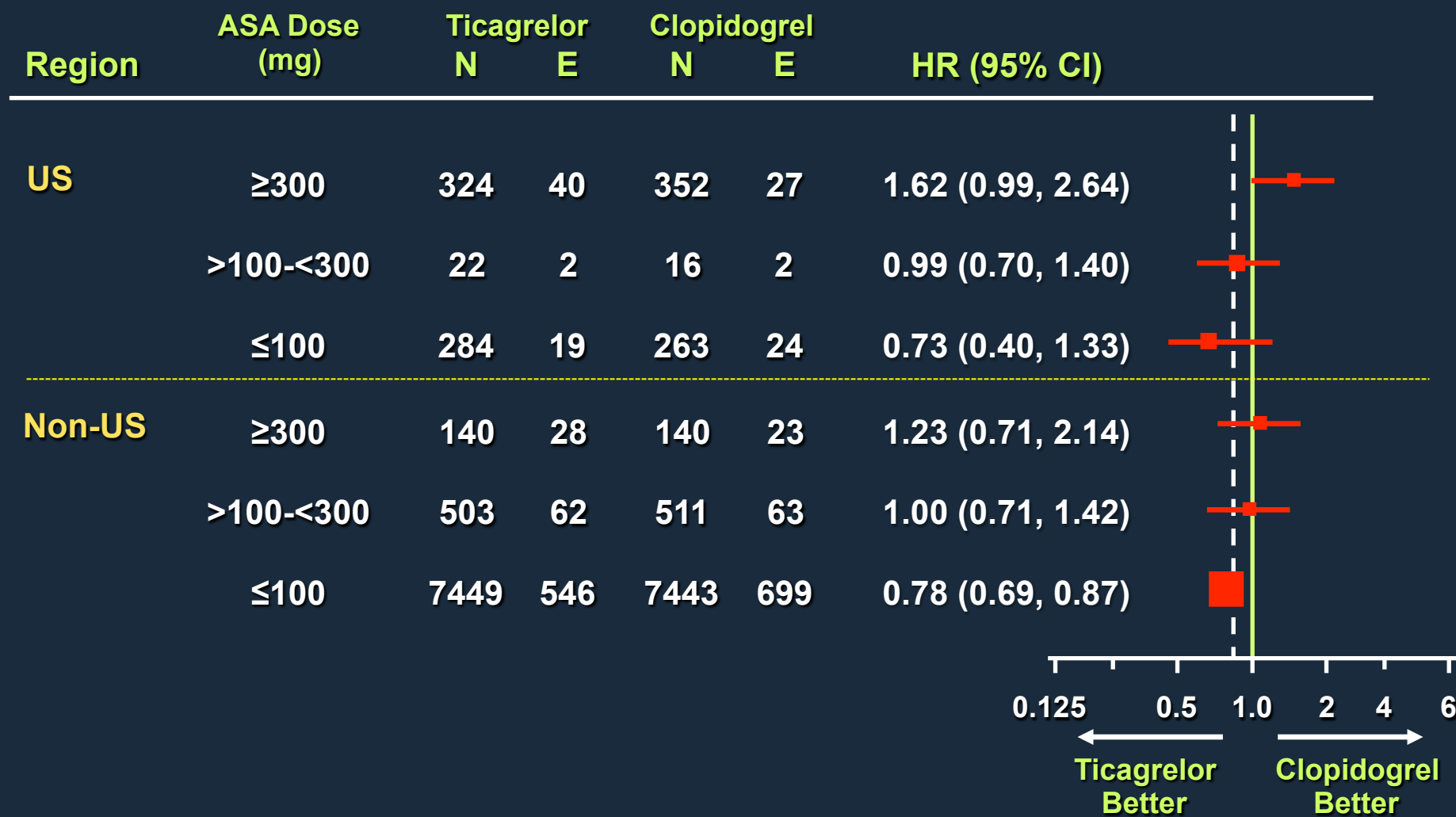
\*P-values were calculated using Fischer's exact test

Wallentin et al. N Engl J Med. 2009;361:1045-57.

# PLATO: Stratification by Invasive vs Conservative Strategy



# PLATO: Treatment Effects in Relation to ASA Maintenance Dose in US and Non-US



N, number of patients; E, number of events



# Summary

- Clopidogrel superior to placebo across ACS (in addition to ASA)
- Prasugrel superior to clopidogrel in ACS undergoing PCI
- Prasugrel not superior to clopidogrel in med management of ACS
- Ticagrelor superior to clopidogrel across the full spectrum of ACS



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***Thank You!***

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# Upstream therapy in ACS: does timing of antiplatelet therapy matter ?

**Ph. Gabriel Steg**

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# PG. Steg – Disclosures

- **Research grants (Unité INSERM U-1148):** Sanofi, Servier
- **Consultant or speaker:** Amarin, AstraZeneca, Bayer, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Daiichi-Sankyo/Lilly, GlaxoSmithKline, Merck, Novartis, Orexigen, Otsuka, Pfizer, Sanofi, Servier, The Medicines Company, Vivus
- **Stockholder:** Aterovax
- **Steering committee member for:**
  - The TRITON/TIMI 38 trial with prasugrel
  - The PLATO trial with ticagrelor
  - The CURRENT/OASIS 7 trial with clopidogrel

# « Upstream therapy »: What Does it Mean?

- **Pre-hospital treatment**

In systems and countries where drug treatment can be started upstream of the hospital (does not necessarily require physicians)

Or

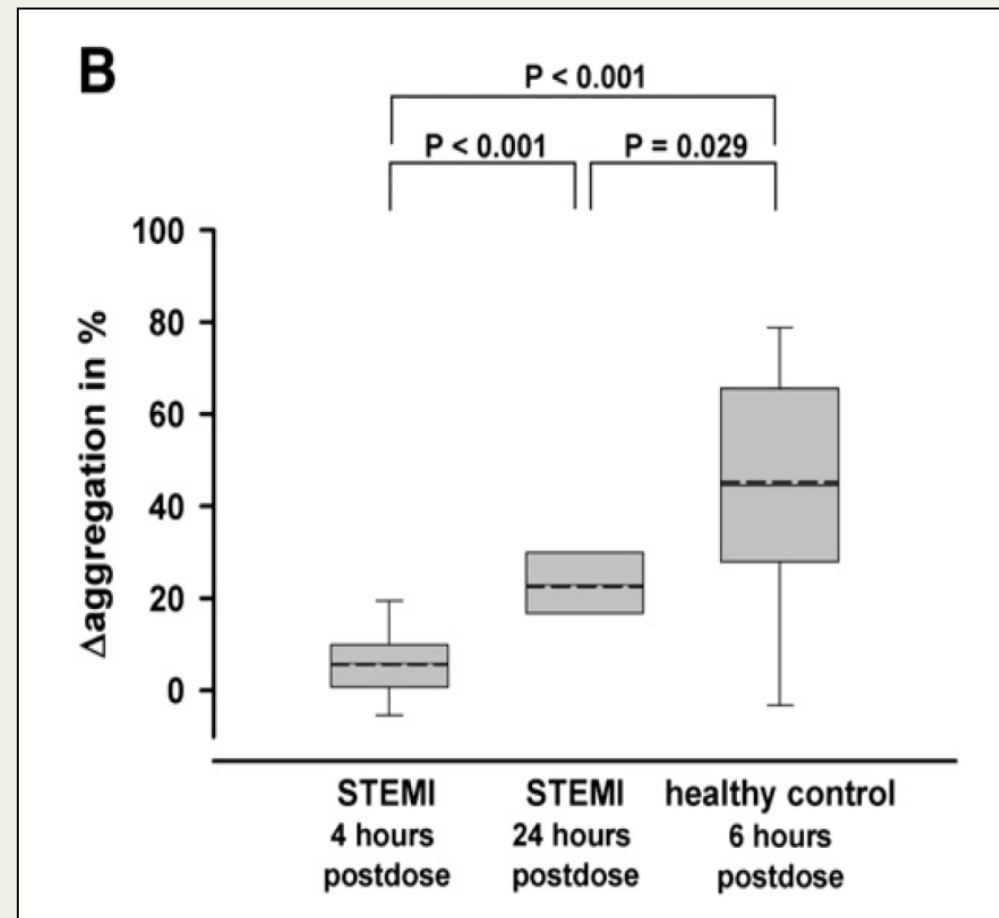
- **Treatment upstream of coronary angiography**

# Pre-hospital Treatment with Oral Antiplatelet Agents (vs in-hospital)

- **STEMI**

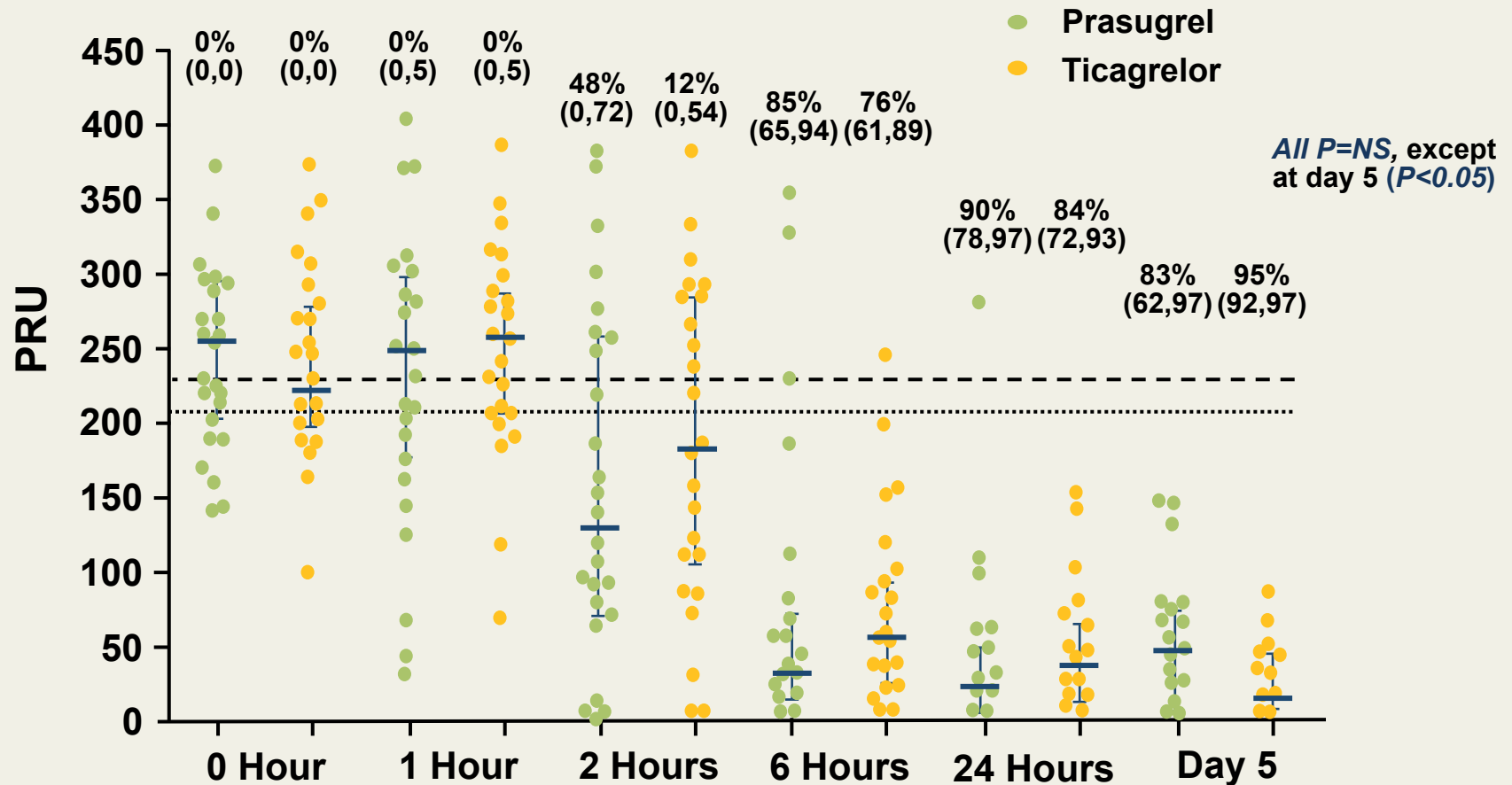
- Diagnosis is often clear from clinical and ECG findings
- Risk of urgent surgery is low
- Oral antiplatelet therapy requires several hours to reach efficacy

# Bioavailability of Clopidogrel is Markedly Reduced in STEMI Patients



# Ticagrelor and Prasugrel PD in STEMI

Verify Now P2Y12 at 0, 1, 2, 6, 24 hrs, and 5 days post randomisation in 55 STEMI pts (standard dosing). % inhibited:





# Pre-hospital Treatment with Oral Antiplatelet Agents (vs in-hospital)

## STEMI

- Diagnosis is often clear from clinical and ECG findings
- Risk of urgent surgery is low
- Oral antiplatelet therapy requires several hours to reach efficacy

—————→ **The earlier, the better?**

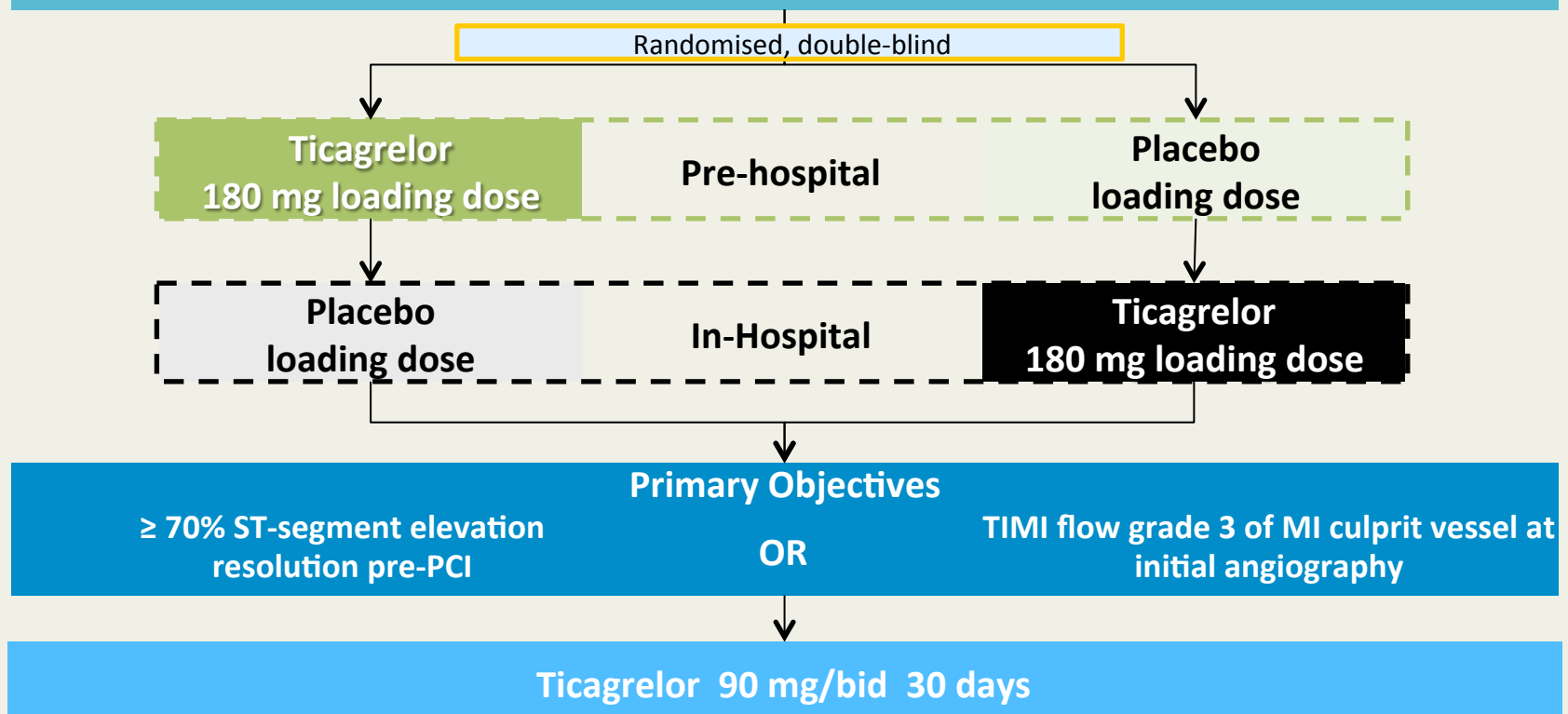
However, no trial demonstration until the ATLANTIC trial



# ATLANTIC Study Design

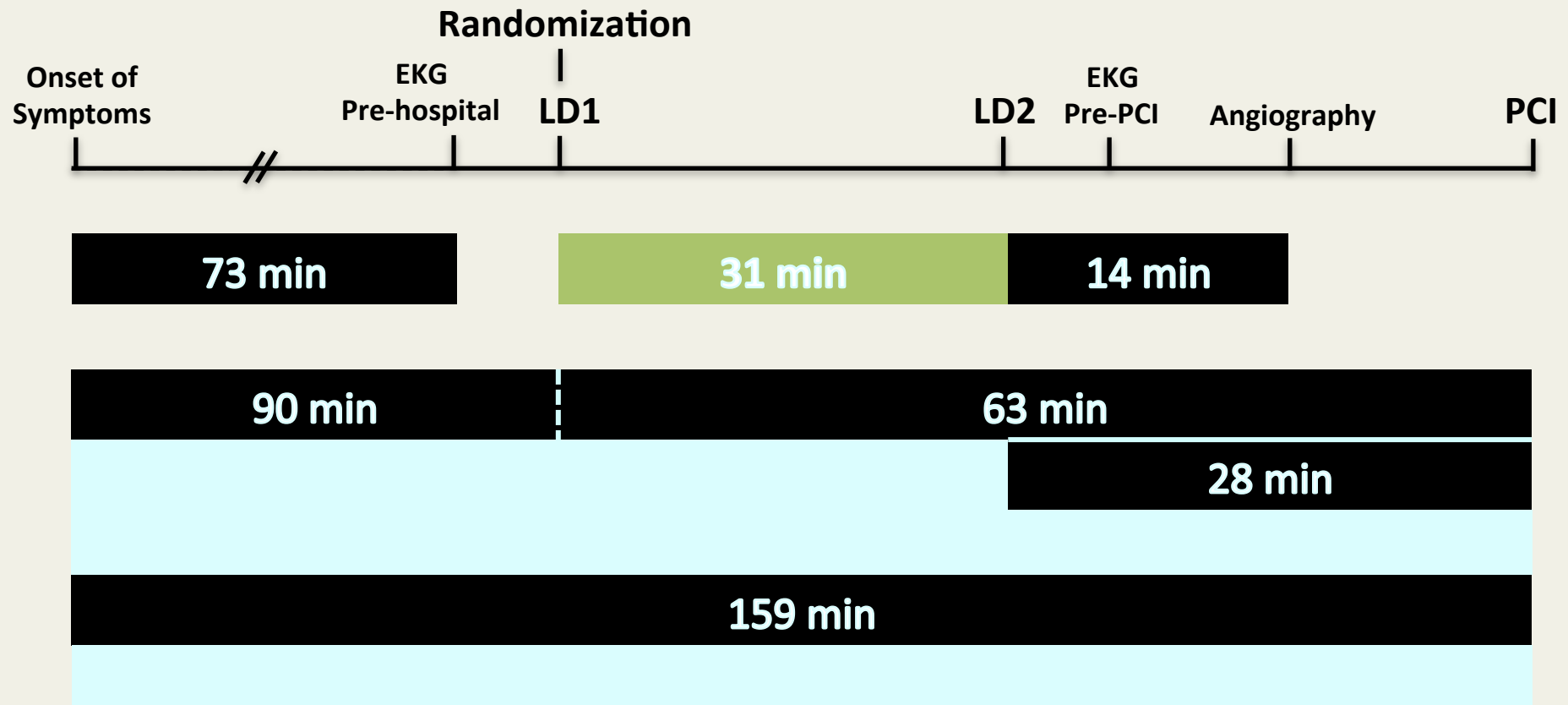
- Male and female patients aged 18 years and over
- With documented evidence of **STEMI**
- Planned for **angioplasty (PCI)**
- **onset of ischaemic symptoms within 6 h** before randomization
- **initially managed by ambulance physician/personnel in pre-hospital settings**; also concerning patients not pre-treated for STEMI in **emergency rooms of non-PCI hospitals**

## STE-ACS planned for PCI (N = 1862)



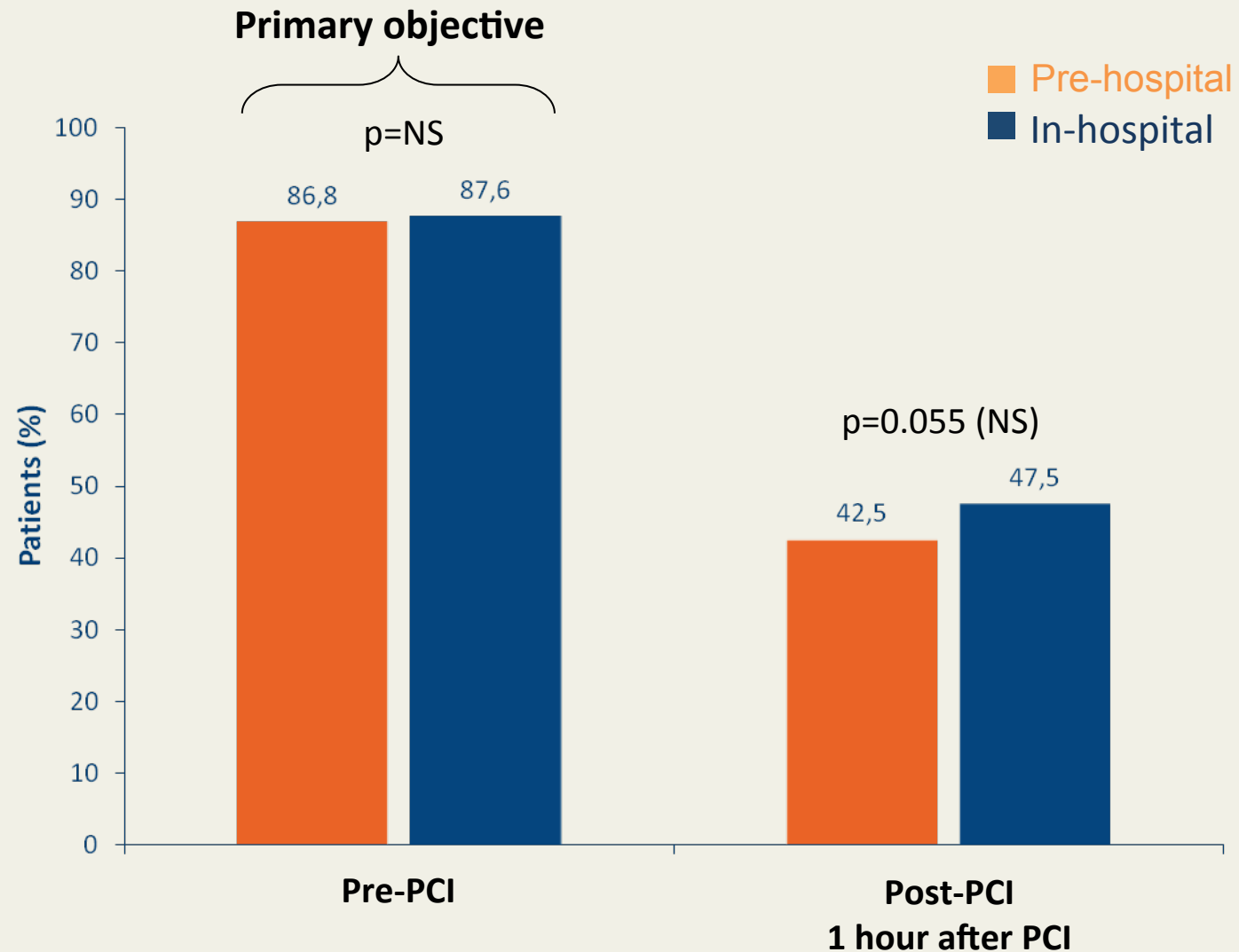


## Median times to pre- and in-hospital steps





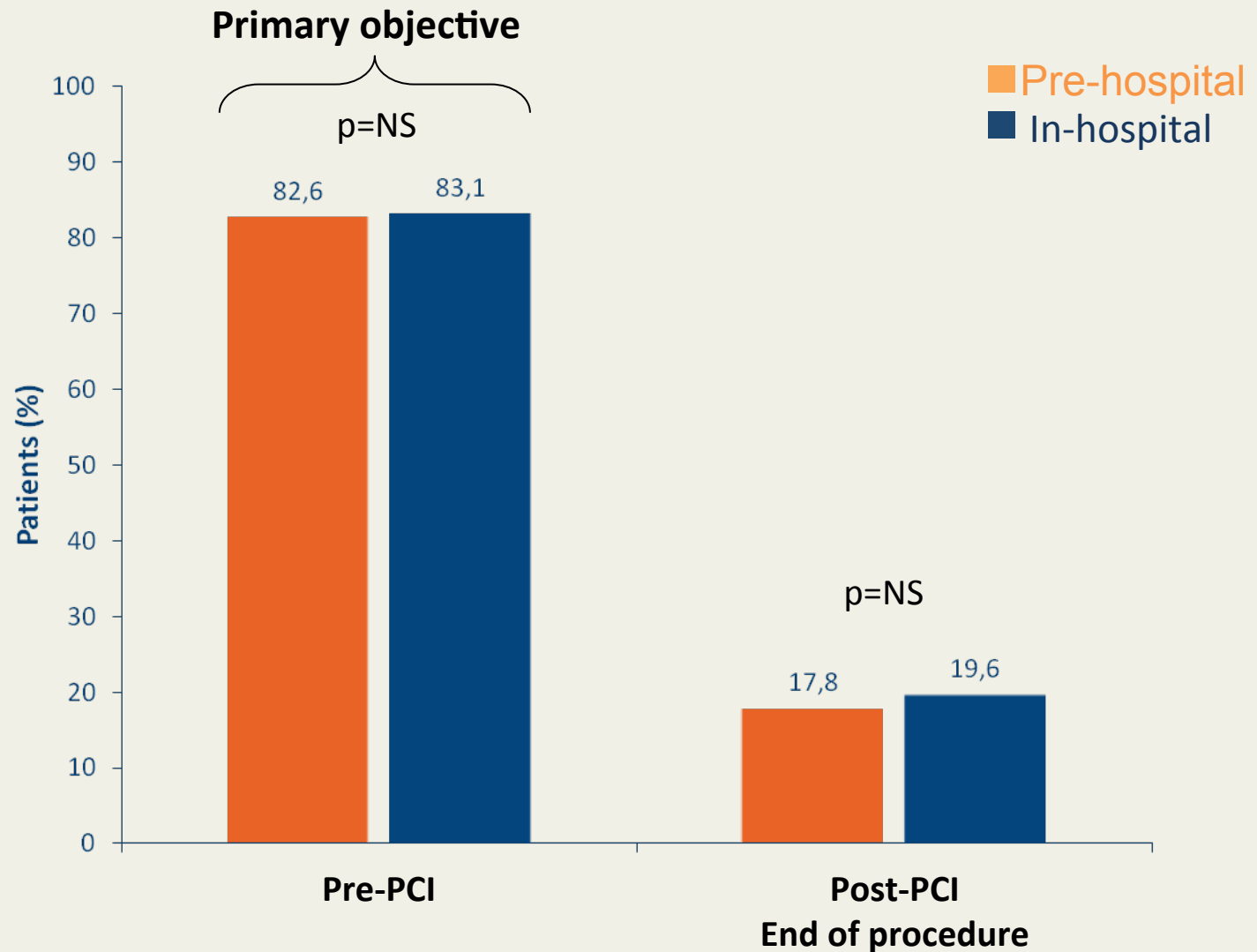
## Co-primary efficacy endpoints (mITT) Absence of ST-segment elevation $\geq 70\%$



- Pre-PCI<sup>†</sup>
  - Pre-hospital n=774
  - In-hospital n=824
- Post-PCI<sup>‡</sup>
  - Pre-hospital n=713
  - In-hospital n=743



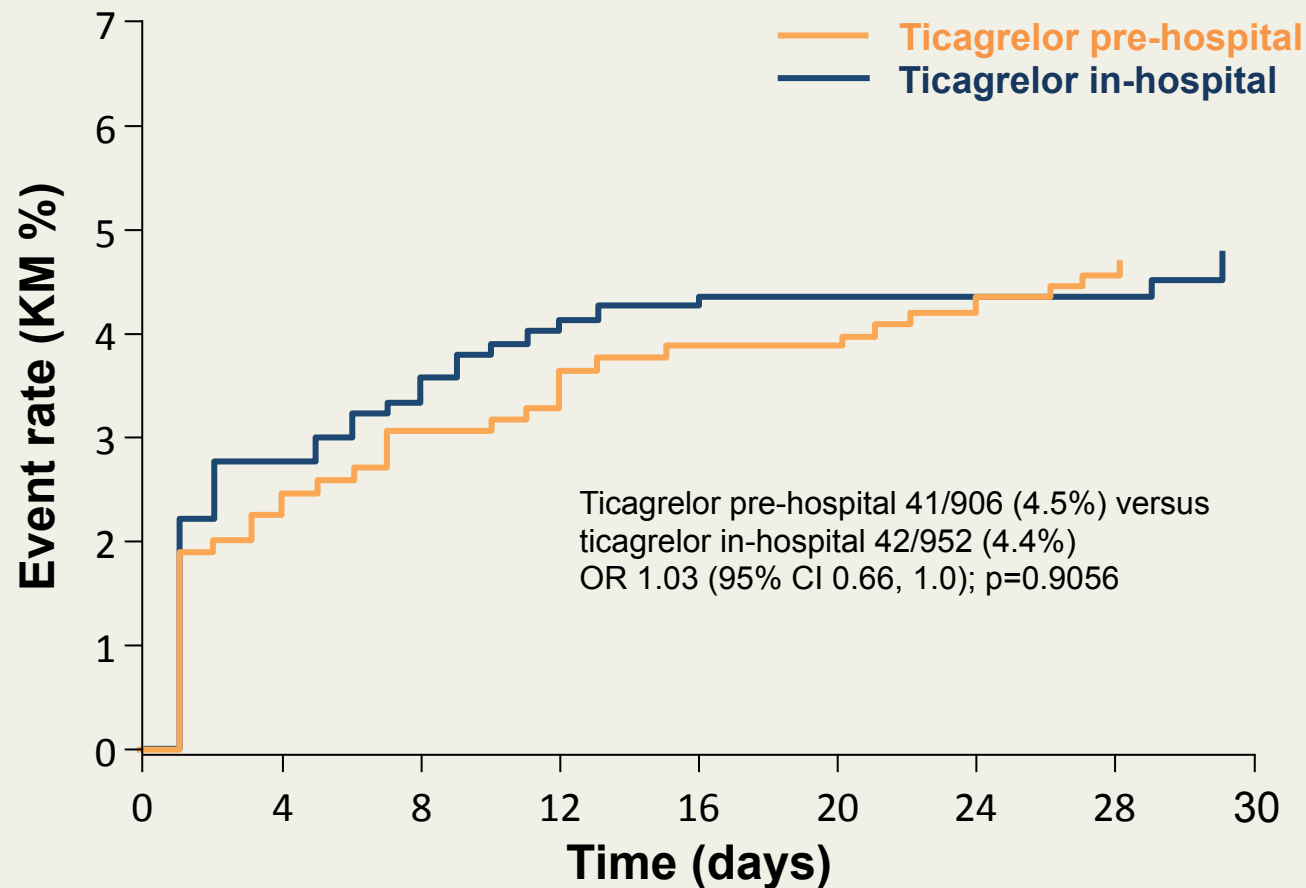
# Co-primary efficacy endpoints (mITT) Absence of TIMI flow grade 3 in infarct-related artery



- Pre-PCI<sup>†</sup>
  - Pre-hospital n=824
  - In-hospital n=856
- Post-PCI<sup>‡</sup>
  - Pre-hospital n=760
  - In-hospital n=784



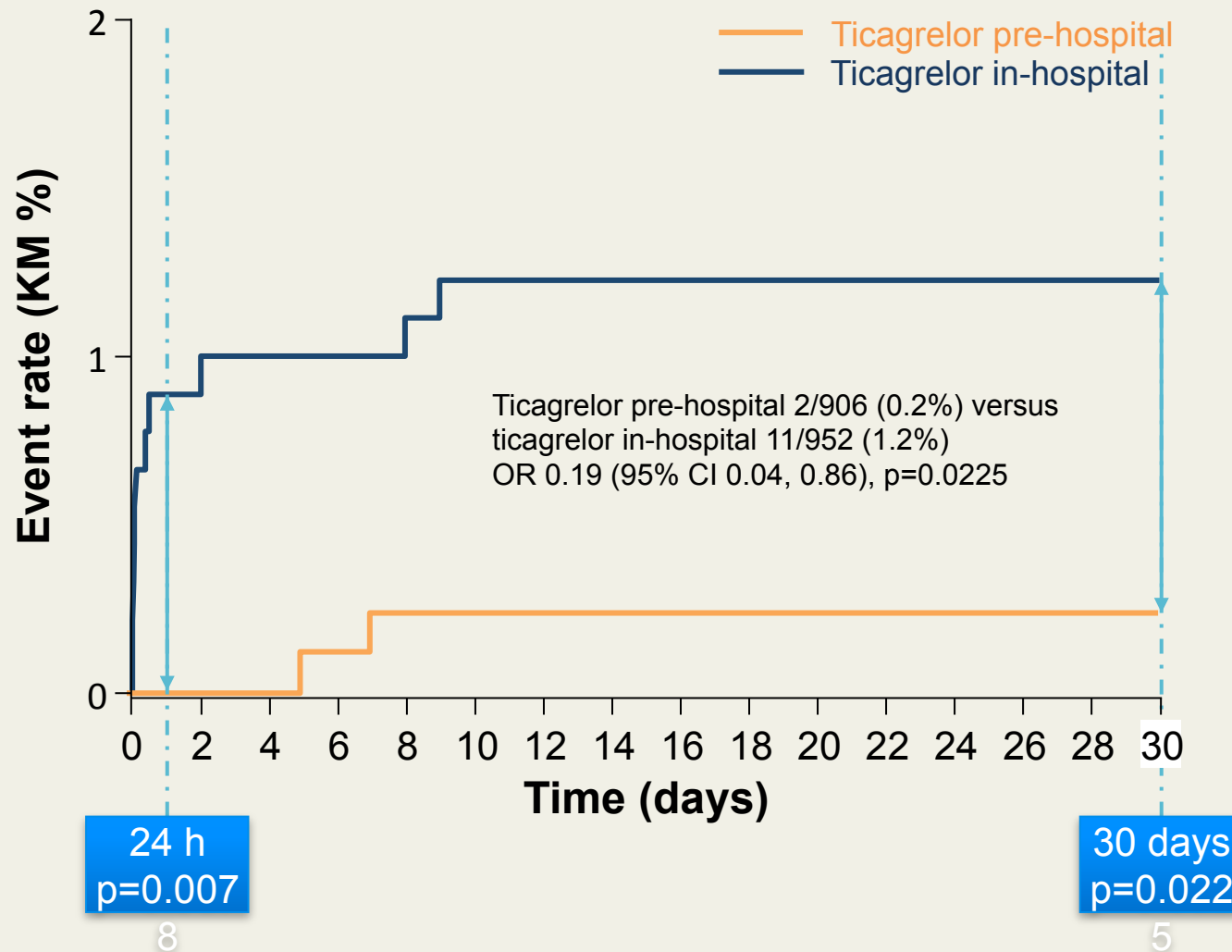
## Major adverse CV events up to 30 days: Kaplan–Meier curves



Major adverse CV events: death, myocardial infarction, stroke or urgent revascularisation



## Definite acute stent thrombosis up to 30 days: Kaplan–Meier curves





## Clinical endpoints at 30 days

| Values are %                         | Ticagrelor<br>pre-hosp<br>(n=906) | Ticagrelor<br>in-hosp<br>(n=952) | Odds ratio<br>(95% CI) | p-value          |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Death (all-cause)                    | 3.3                               | 2.0                              | 1.68<br>(0.94, 3.01)   | 0.08             |
| MI                                   | 0.8                               | 1.1                              | 0.73<br>(0.28, 1.94)   | 0.53             |
| Stroke                               | 0.4                               | 0.2                              | 2.11<br>(0.39, 11.53)  | 0.39             |
| TIA                                  | 0                                 | 0.1                              |                        | Not<br>estimable |
| Urgent coronary<br>revascularization | 0.6                               | 0.8                              | 0.66<br>(0.21, 2.01)   | 0.46             |
| Bail-out GP IIb/IIIa inhibitors      | 8.6                               | 10.5                             | 0.80<br>(0.59, 1.10)   | 0.17             |



# Pre-hospital Treatment with Oral Antiplatelet Agents (vs in-hospital)

## In Non-STE-ACS

- Diagnosis is often very uncertain in the pre-hospital setting and includes ACS and other diagnoses
- Management pathways are highly variable and some patients may require urgent surgery
- Angiography and PCI will often be delayed by several hours or even days (and therefore delaying treatment start by an hour is unlikely to affect outcomes)

 **Starting therapy when diagnosis is confirmed makes sense**

# Starting Oral Antiplatelet Therapy Before Angiography in NSTEMI-ACS

## Rationale:

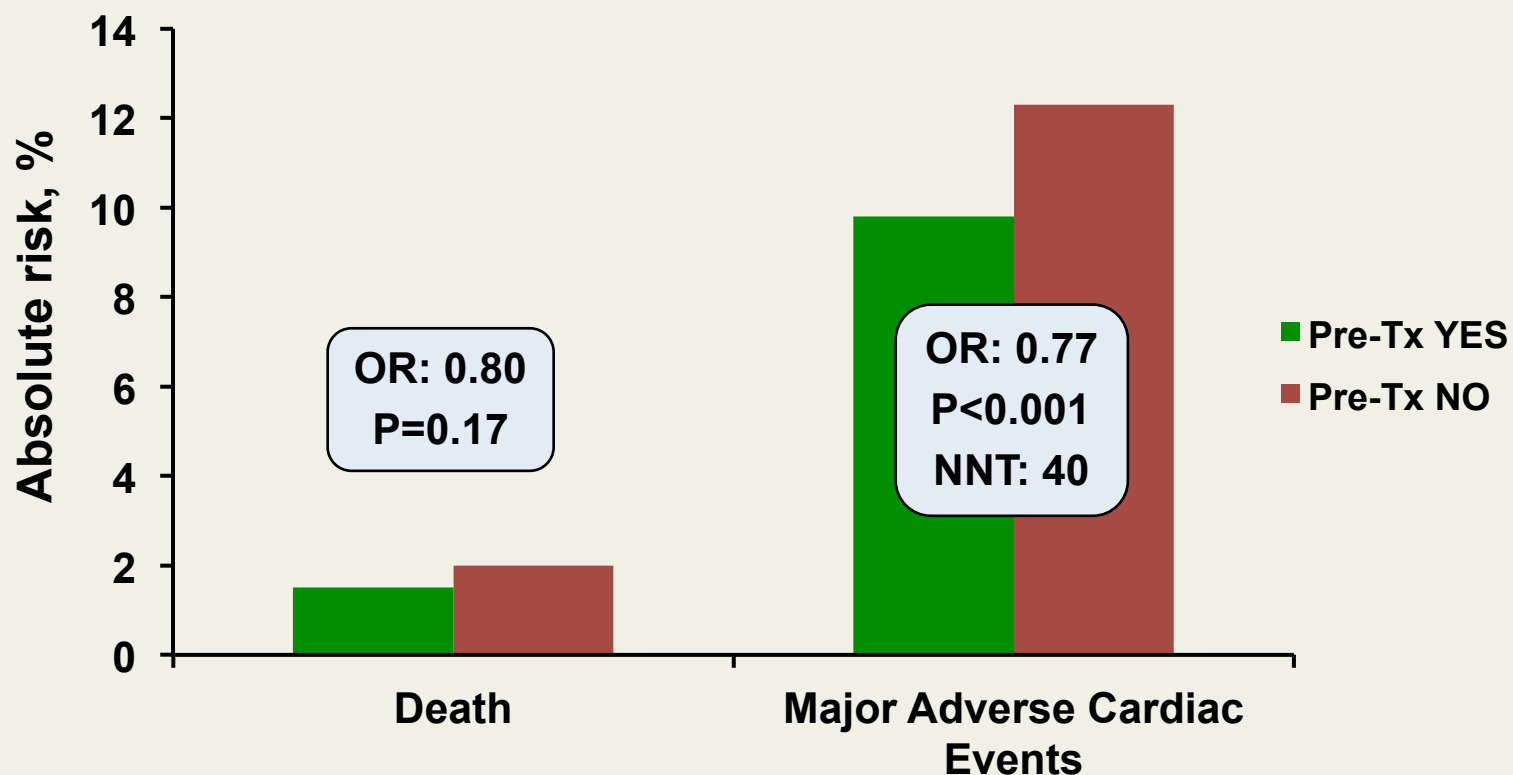
- Allowing time to full efficacy prior to performing PCI for those pts who will require stenting
- Providing antithrombotic protection against death/MI at the time of greatest thrombotic risk: which is early after symptom onset...
- Delay from diagnosis to angiography may range from few hours to... several days

## Caveats:

- In non ST-ACS, diagnostic uncertainty is frequent: 15% of patients may end up with a non-ACS diagnosis, 30% of patients will not undergo PCI
- 5 to 12% of patients will require surgery and if P2Y<sub>12</sub> inhibitors have been given, the risk of bleeding is increased and requires waiting

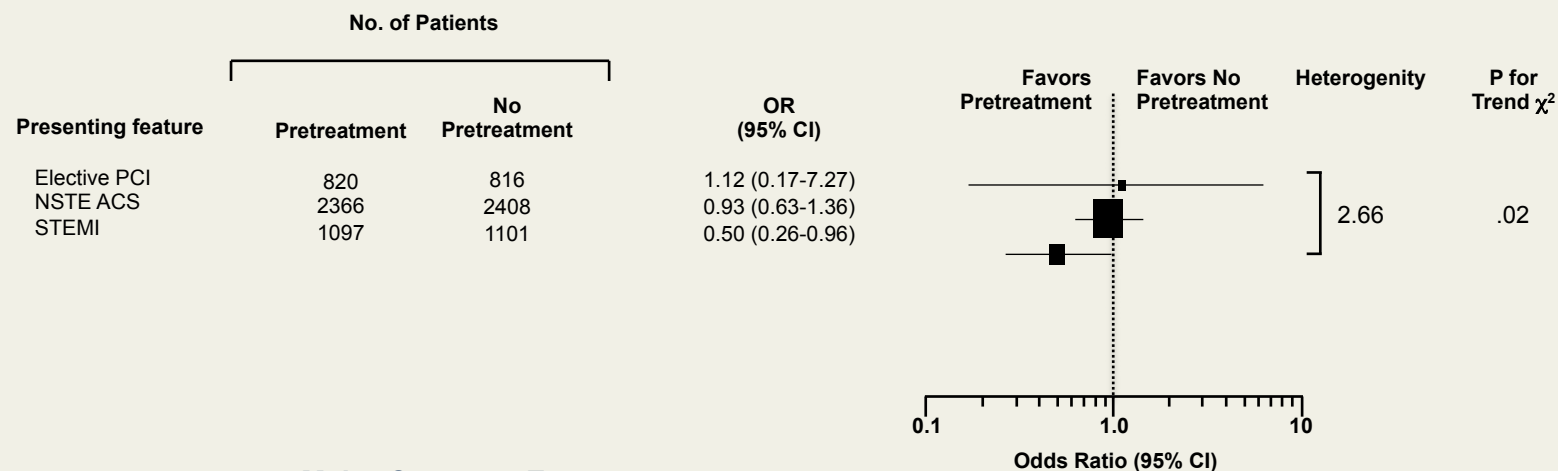
# Clopidogrel and Pre-treatment in PCI: A Meta-analysis

8608 patients out of 7 RCTs undergoing PCI, including  
NSTEACS, STEMI, and elective PCI

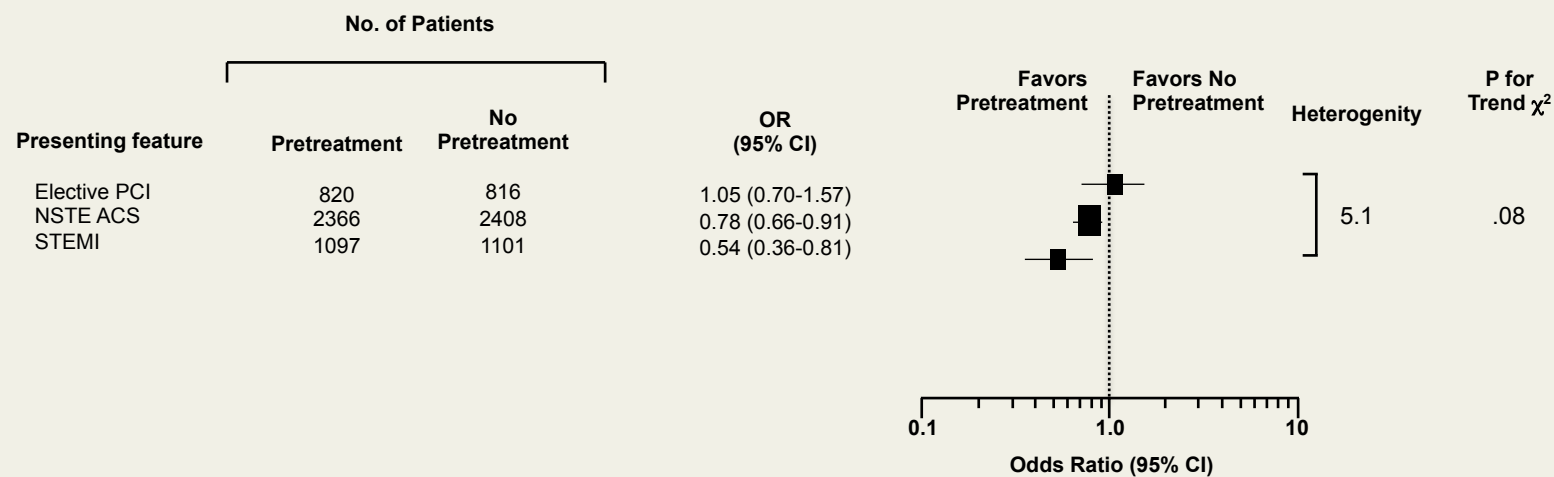


# Upstream therapy with Clopidogrel in ACS vs Elective PCI

## All-cause Mortality

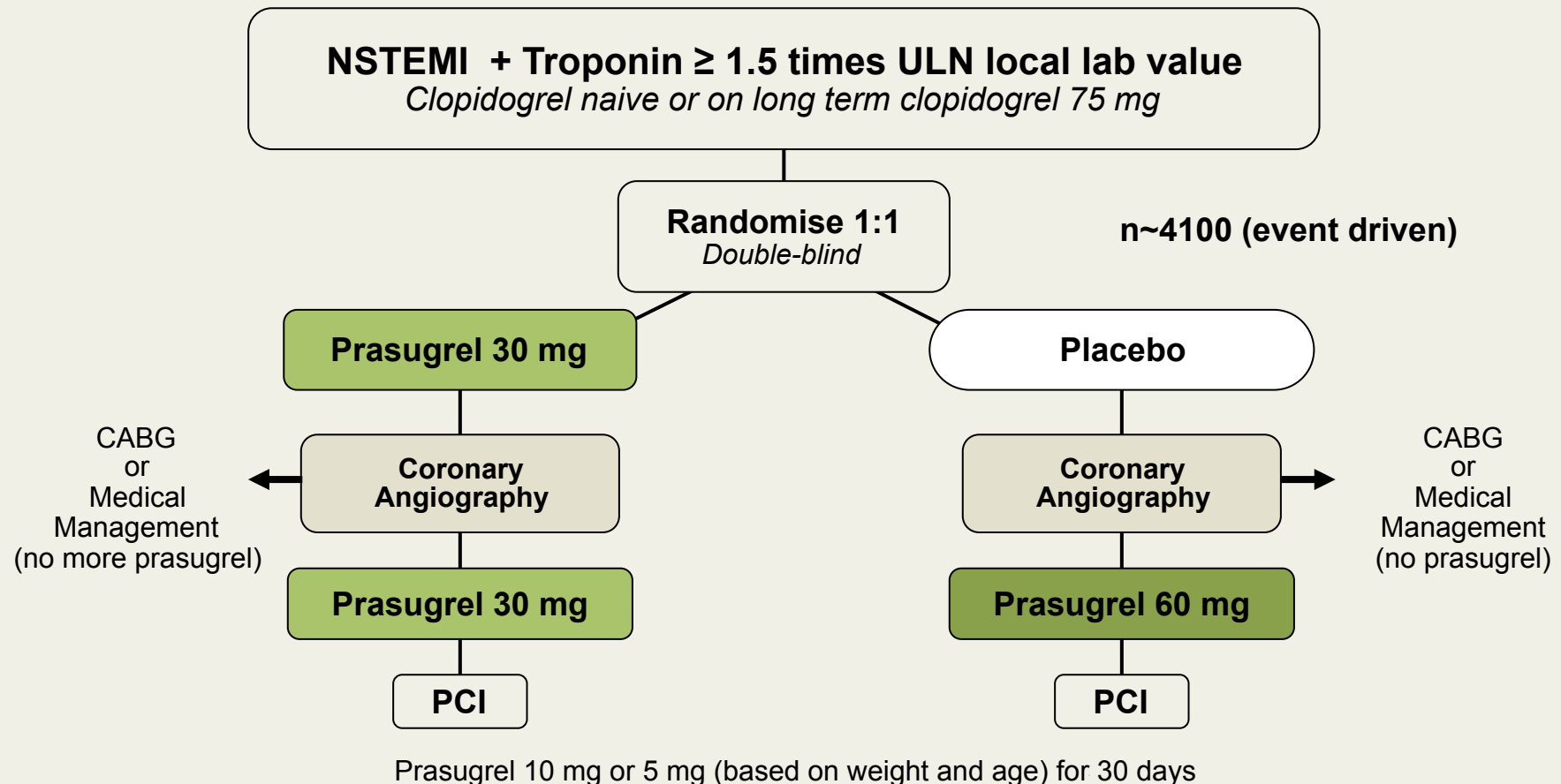


## Major Coronary Event





# ACCOAST Design



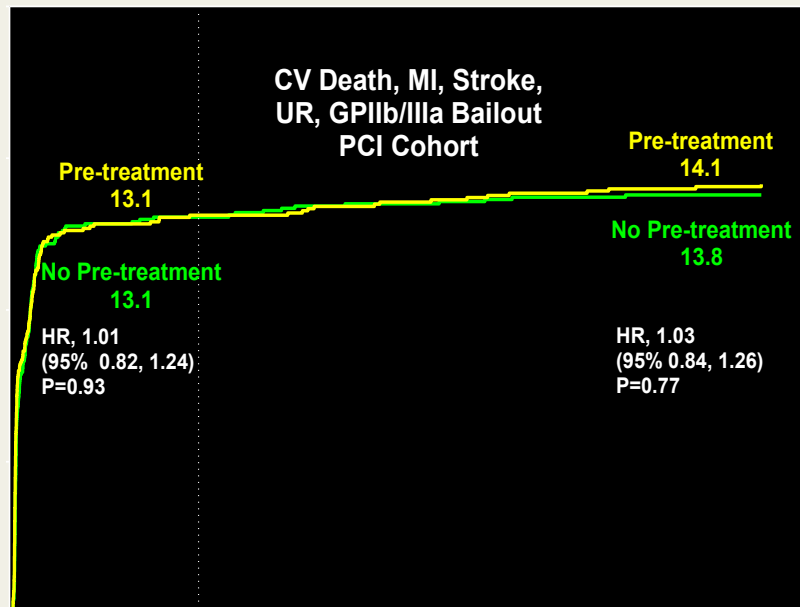
**1°Endpoint: CV Death, MI, Stroke, Urg Revasc, GP IIb/IIIa bailout, at 7 days**



# The ACCOAST Trial: Lack of Benefit but Real Harm of Prasugrel Upstream Compared to Downstream Loading

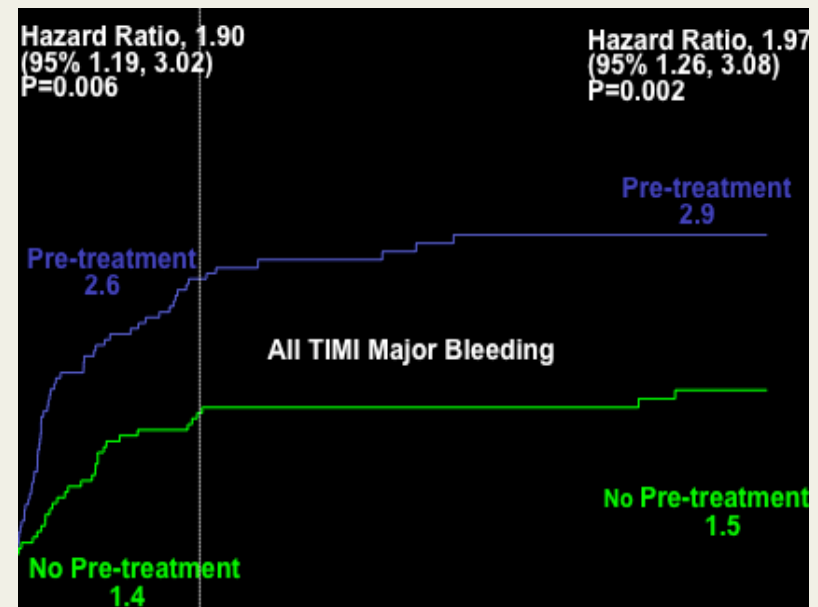
## Primary efficacy endpoint

CV Death, MI, Stroke, Urg Revasc,  
GP IIb/IIIa bailout

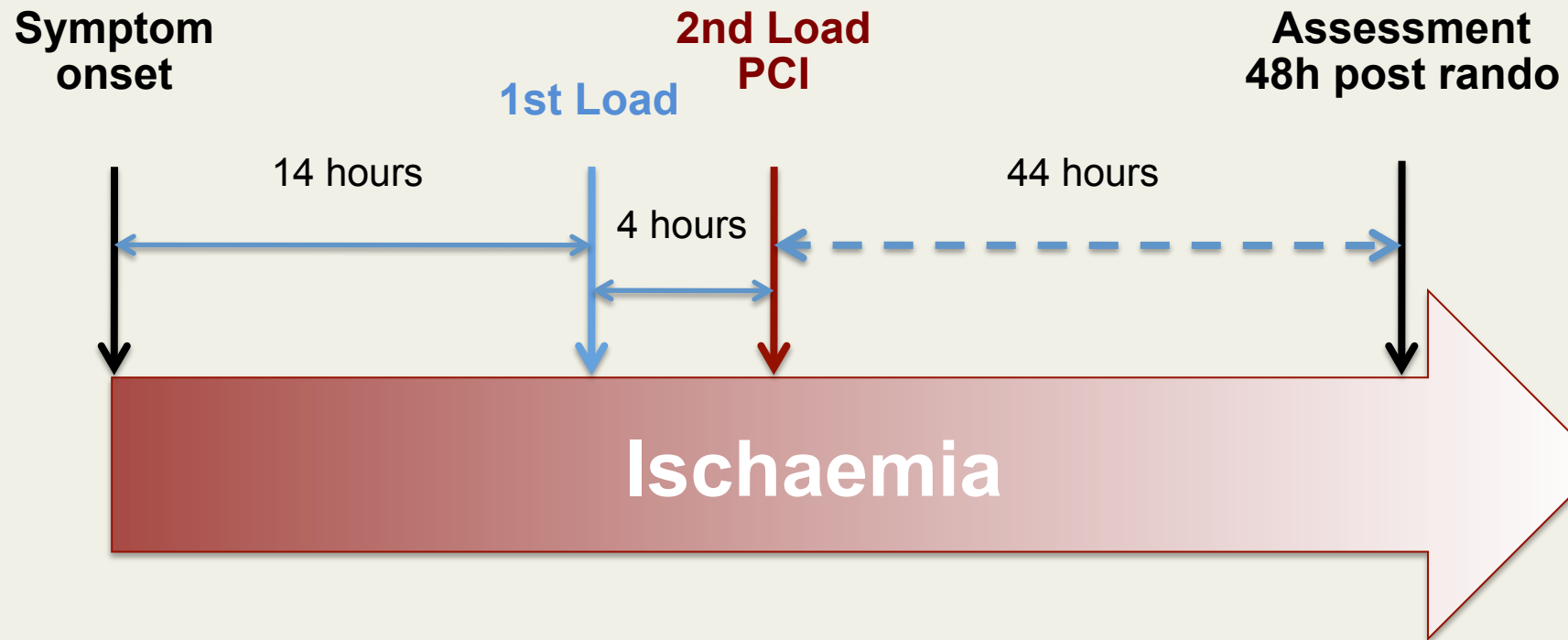


## Primary safety endpoint

TIMI major bleeding



# Timelines in ACCOAST

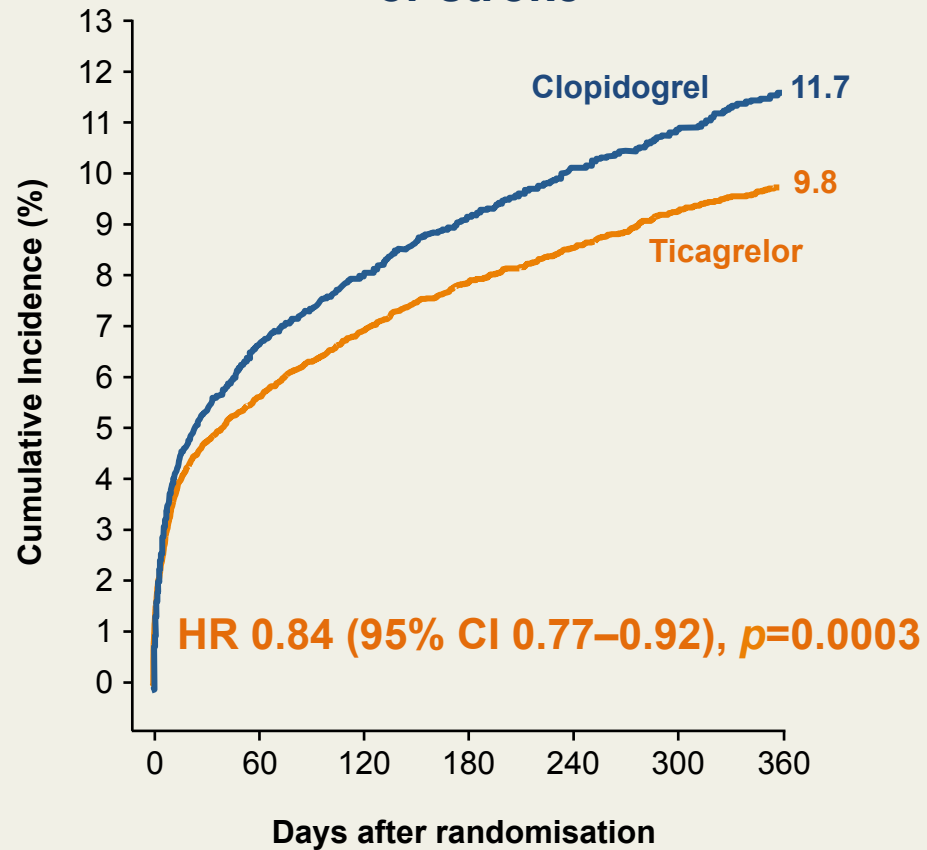


Short delay between 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> load:

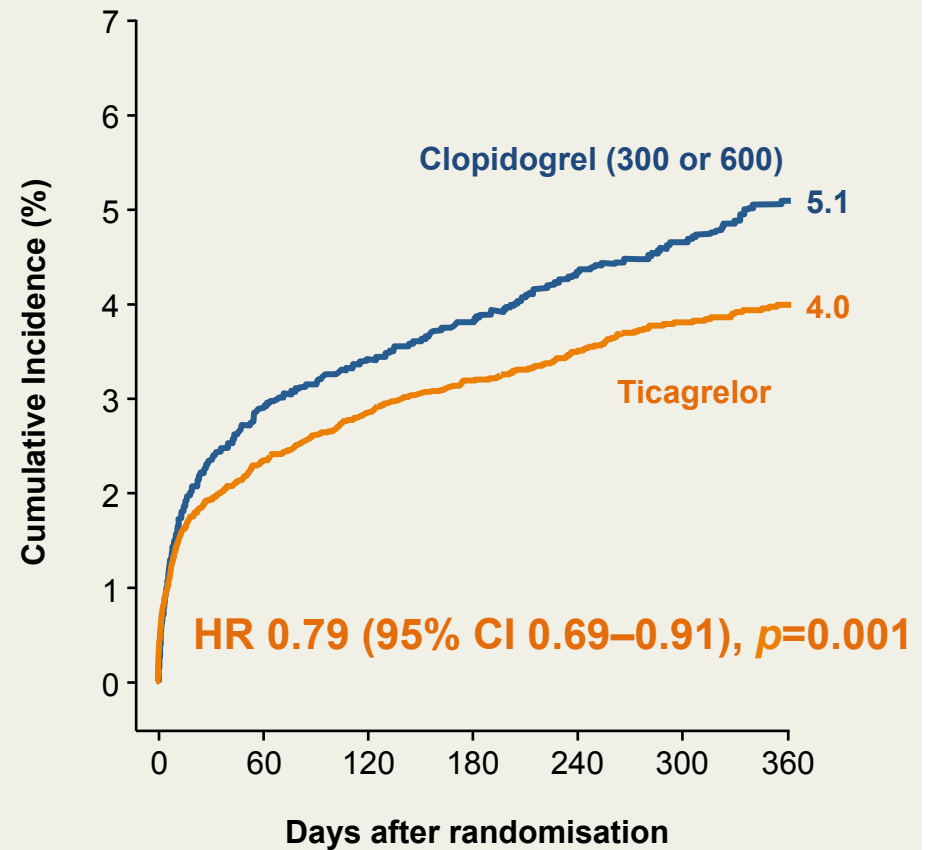
- minimises contrast between study arms
- impairs ascertainment of periprocedural MIs, which are undistinguishable from index MI

# PLATO: ticagrelor vs clopidogrel in ACS

## Primary endpoint time to CV death, MI or stroke



## Cardiovascular death over time





# Upstream Therapy in ACS

- **Pre-hospital treatment with OAP therapy seems logical in STEMI patients going on to Primary PCI**
- **Pre-hospital treatment of non-STE-ACS patients is probably not wise**
- **In hospital « upstream therapy» before angiography**
  - Probably does not matter for patients going on rapidly to angiography and PCI
  - But may be useful if patients will wait for angiography or if clopidogrel is used (given its slow onset of action)
  - Had no demonstrated benefits with prasugrel if patients go to the cath lab rapidly (4h) in ACCOAST
  - Was an effective strategy with ticagrelor in PLATO



**Thank you!**



STANFORD  
M E D I C I N E

**Closing the Gaps in the Continuum of Care for  
Patients with Acute Coronary Syndromes:  
Implications for Optimal Antiplatelet Use**  
High Risk Patients with ACS: What Are the  
Concerns

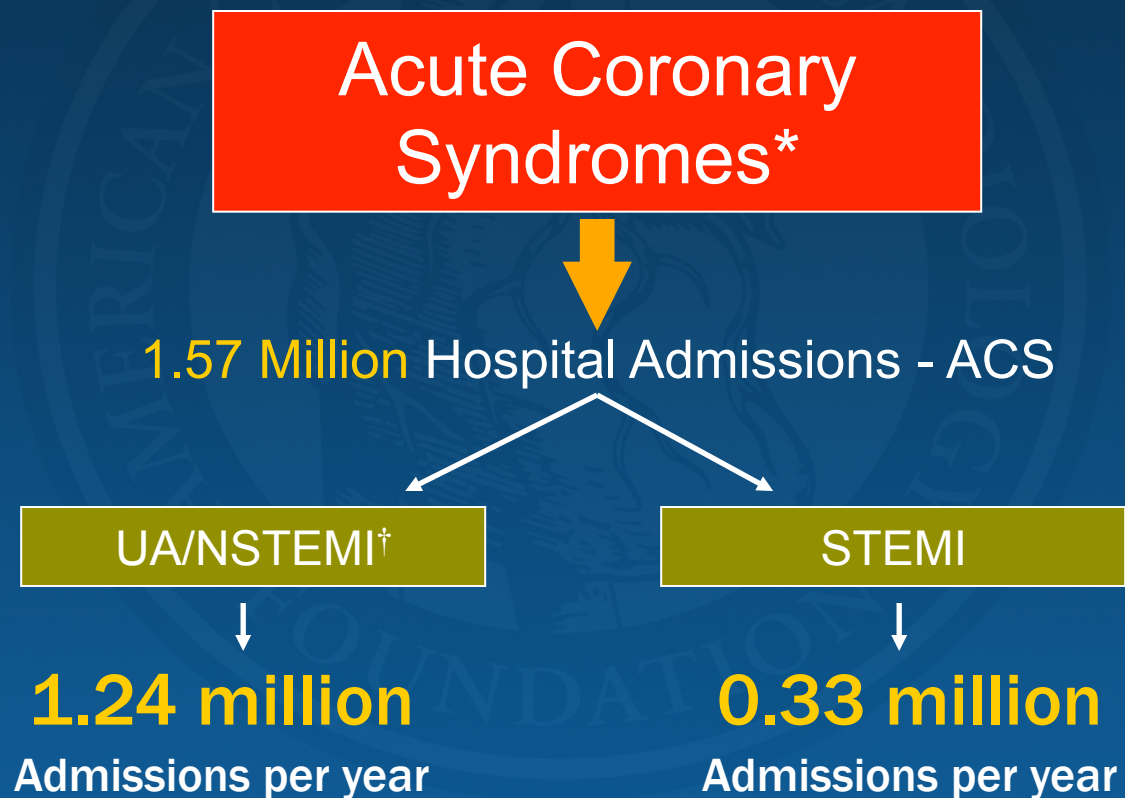
Robert A. Harrington MD, FACC, FAHA, FESC  
Arthur L. Bloomfield Professor of Medicine  
Chair, Department of Medicine  
Stanford University

# High Risk ACS: What Are the Concerns



- Initial assessment of acute chest pain
  - Based on 12-lead ECG (STE versus NSTE)
  - Cardiac biomarkers (information from CKMB and troponin)
- Evolution of risk scores
  - For prognosis
  - For therapeutic decision making
- Moving from acute to long term care
- General concepts of antithrombotic therapy use
  - Balancing ischemia and bleeding
- What's next?
  - Adherence
  - Lipids
  - inflammation

# US ACS Hospitalizations



\*Primary and secondary diagnoses. †About 0.57 million NSTEMI and 0.67 million UA.  
Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics – 2007 Update. Circulation 2007; 115:69–171.

# GUSTO II

**The MI  
Iceberg**

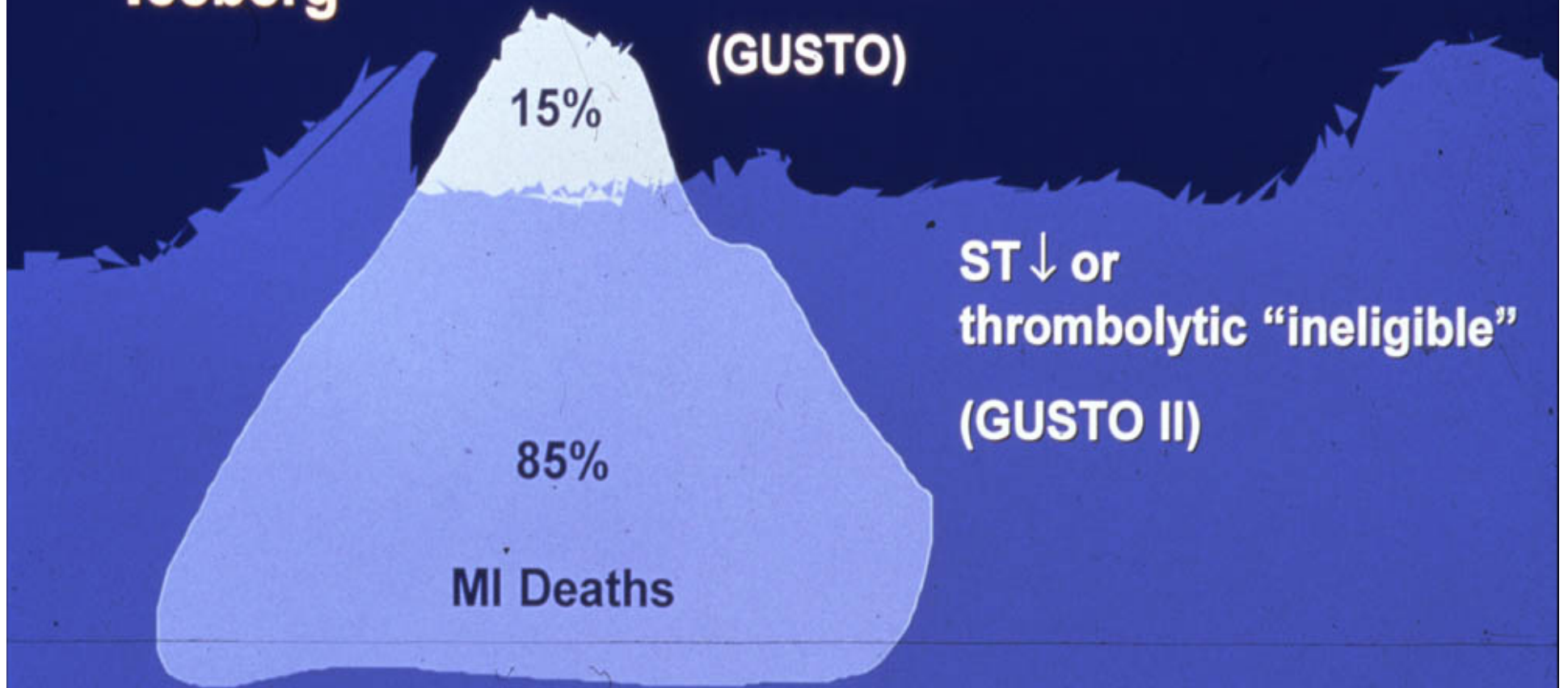
**ST $\uparrow$  or  
thrombolytic treated  
(GUSTO)**

15%

**ST $\downarrow$  or  
thrombolytic “ineligible”  
(GUSTO II)**

85%

**MI Deaths**





# First UA Guidelines

## Diagnosing and Managing Unstable Angina

Eugene Braunwald, MD (Panel Chair); Robert H. Jones, MD; Daniel B. Mark, MD;  
Jay Brown, MD; Leslie Brown, MPH, JD; Melvin D. Cheitlin, MD; Craig A. Concannon, MD;  
Marie Cowan, PhD, RN; Conan Edwards, PhD; Valentin Fuster, MD, PhD; Lee Goldman, MD;  
Lee A. Green, MD, MPH; Cindy L. Grines, MD; Bruce W. Lytle, MD;  
Kathleen M. McCauley, PhD, RN, CS; Alvin I. Mushlin, MD, ScM; Gregory C. Rose, MD;  
Earl E. Smith III, MD; Julie A. Swain, MD; Eric J. Topol, MD; and James T. Willerson, MD

**Abstract** This *Quick Reference Guide for Clinicians* contains recommendations on the care of patients with unstable angina based on a combination of evidence obtained through extensive literature reviews and consensus among members of an expert panel. Principal conclusions include the following. (1) Many patients suspected of having unstable angina can be discharged home after adequate initial evaluation. (2) Further outpatient evaluation may be scheduled for up to 72 hours after initial presentation for patients with clinical symptoms of unstable angina judged at initial evaluation to be at low risk for complications. (3) Patients with acute ischemic heart disease judged to be at intermediate or high risk of complications should be hospitalized for careful monitoring of their clinical course. (4) Intravenous thrombolytic therapy should not be

administered to patients without evidence of ST segment elevation and acute myocardial infarction. (5) Assessment of prognosis by noninvasive testing often aids selection of appropriate therapy. (6) Coronary angiography is appropriate for patients judged to be at high risk for cardiac complications or death based on their clinical course or results of noninvasive testing. (7) Coronary artery bypass surgery should be recommended for almost all patients with left main disease and many patients with three-vessel disease, especially those with left ventricular dysfunction. (8) The discharge care plan should include continued monitoring of symptoms; appropriate drug therapy, including aspirin; risk-factor modification; and counseling. (*Circulation*. 1994;90:613-622.)

# Assessing Risk in UA

**TABLE 5. Short-term Risk of Death or Nonfatal Myocardial Infarction in Patients With Symptoms Suggesting Unstable Angina**

| High Risk   | Intermediate Risk   | Low Risk  |
|---|---|---|
| At least one of the following features must be present    | No high-risk feature but must have any of the following                       | No high- or intermediate-risk feature but may have any of the following |
| Prolonged ongoing (>20 min) rest pain                     | Rest angina now resolved but not low likelihood of CAD                        | Increased angina frequency, severity, or duration                       |
| Pulmonary edema   | Rest angina (>20 min or relieved with rest or nitroglycerin)                  | Angina provoked at a lower threshold                                    |
| Angina with new or worsening mitral regurgitation murmurs | Angina with dynamic T-wave changes  | New-onset angina within 2 weeks to 2 months                             |
| Rest angina with dynamic ST changes $\geq 1$ mm           | Nocturnal angina  | Normal or unchanged ECG   |
| Angina with S <sub>3</sub> or rales                       | New-onset CCSC III or IV angina in past 2 weeks but not low likelihood of CAD |   |
| Angina with hypotension                                   | Q waves or ST depression $\geq 1$ mm in multiple leads                        |   |
|   | Age >65 years   |   |



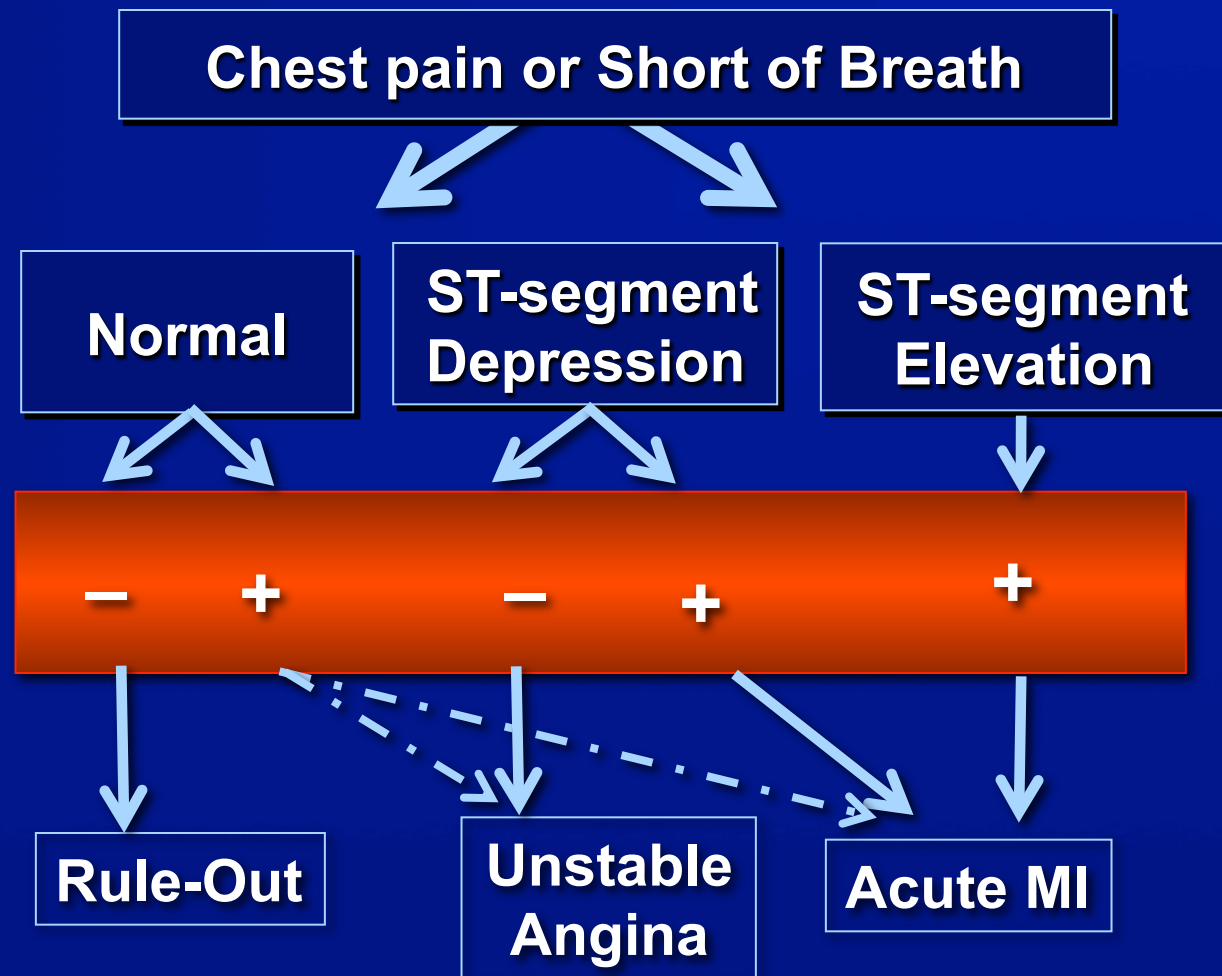
# Time Dependent Emergency Evaluation of ACS

Presentation

ECG

Markers

Diagnosis

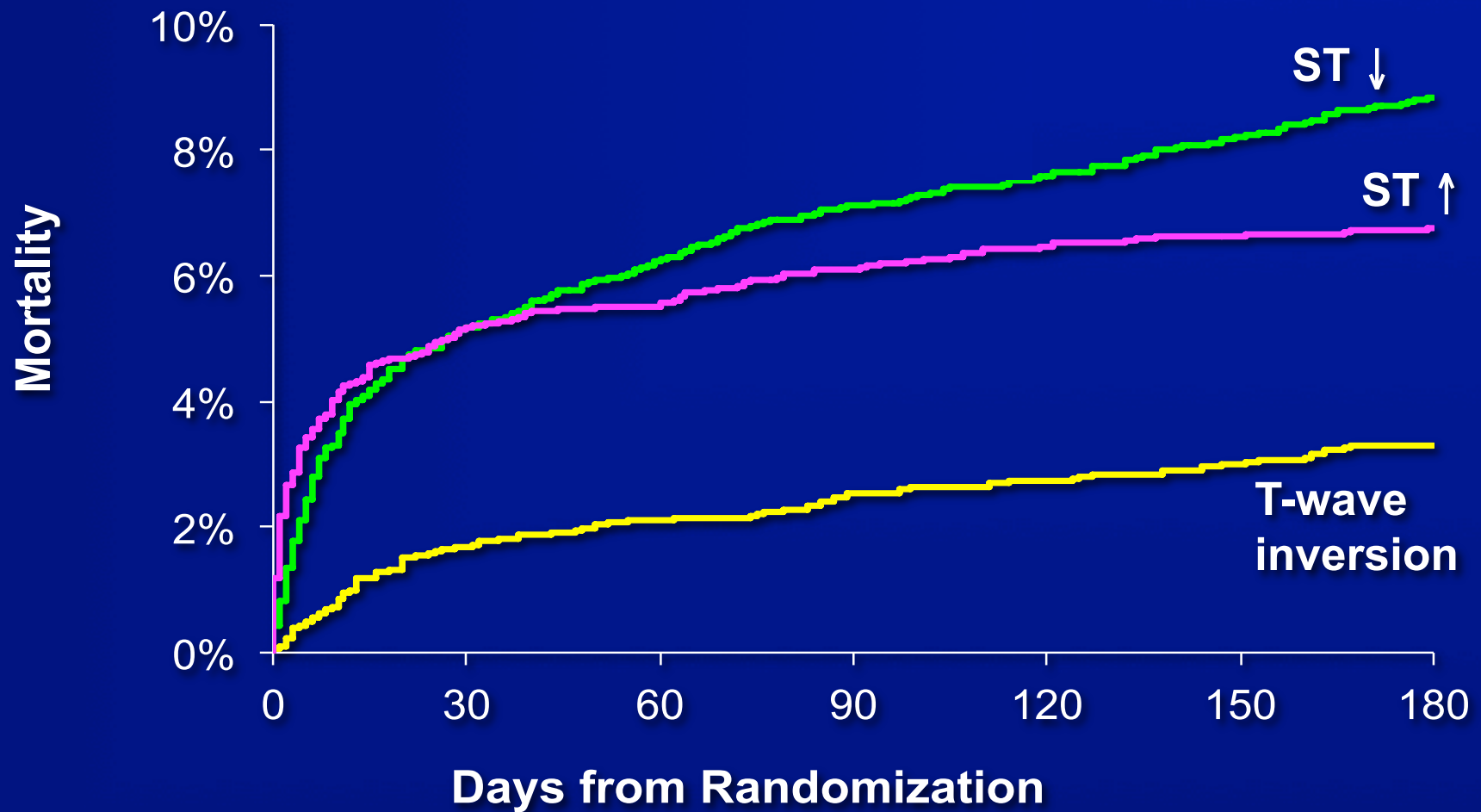


## Baseline Characteristics STEMI vs. NSTEMI

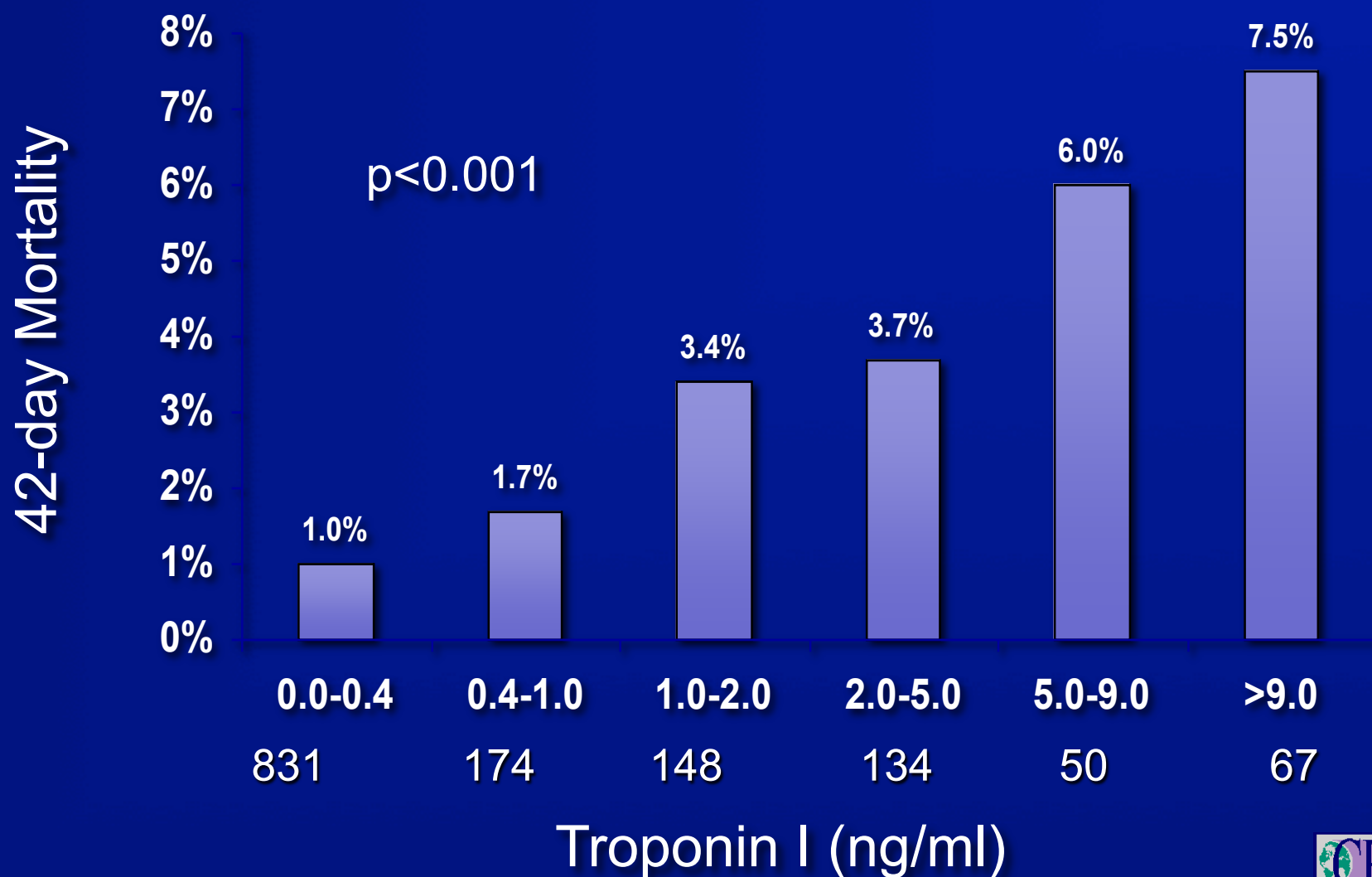
| Variable          | STEMI<br>(n= 56,761 ) | NSTEMI<br>(n= 88,407 ) |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Mean age (yrs)    | 62                    | 67                     |
| Female sex        | 30%                   | 39%                    |
| Diabetes mellitus | 25%                   | 39%                    |
| Prior MI          | 19%                   | 30%                    |
| Prior HF          | 5%                    | 17%                    |
| Prior PCI         | 20%                   | 28%                    |
| Prior CABG        | 7%                    | 18%                    |
| Prior stroke      | 5%                    | 10%                    |

ACTION Registry-GWTG DATA: January 01, 2012 - December 31, 2012

## ACS without Persistent ST Elevation: Initial ECG ST Status and Risk: GUSTO II



## Mortality by Quantitative Troponin I: TIMI-IIIB



-Antman E et al. NEJM 1996



## Combining ECG Findings and Cardiac Markers

### Mortality by ECG and TnT Status in GUSTO-IIa

|                  | N   | Total | TnT<br>>0.1 ng/ml | TnT<br>≤0.1 ng/ml |
|------------------|-----|-------|-------------------|-------------------|
| ST Elevation     | 435 | 7.4%  | 13.0%             | 4.7%              |
| ST Depression    | 88  | 8.0%  | 11.6%             | 4.4%              |
| ECG Confounders* | 69  | 11.6% | 15.4%             | 6.7%              |
| T-wave inversion | 133 | 1.2%  | 4.1%              | 0                 |

\*LBBB, LVH, Paced

Ohman, NEJM , 1997

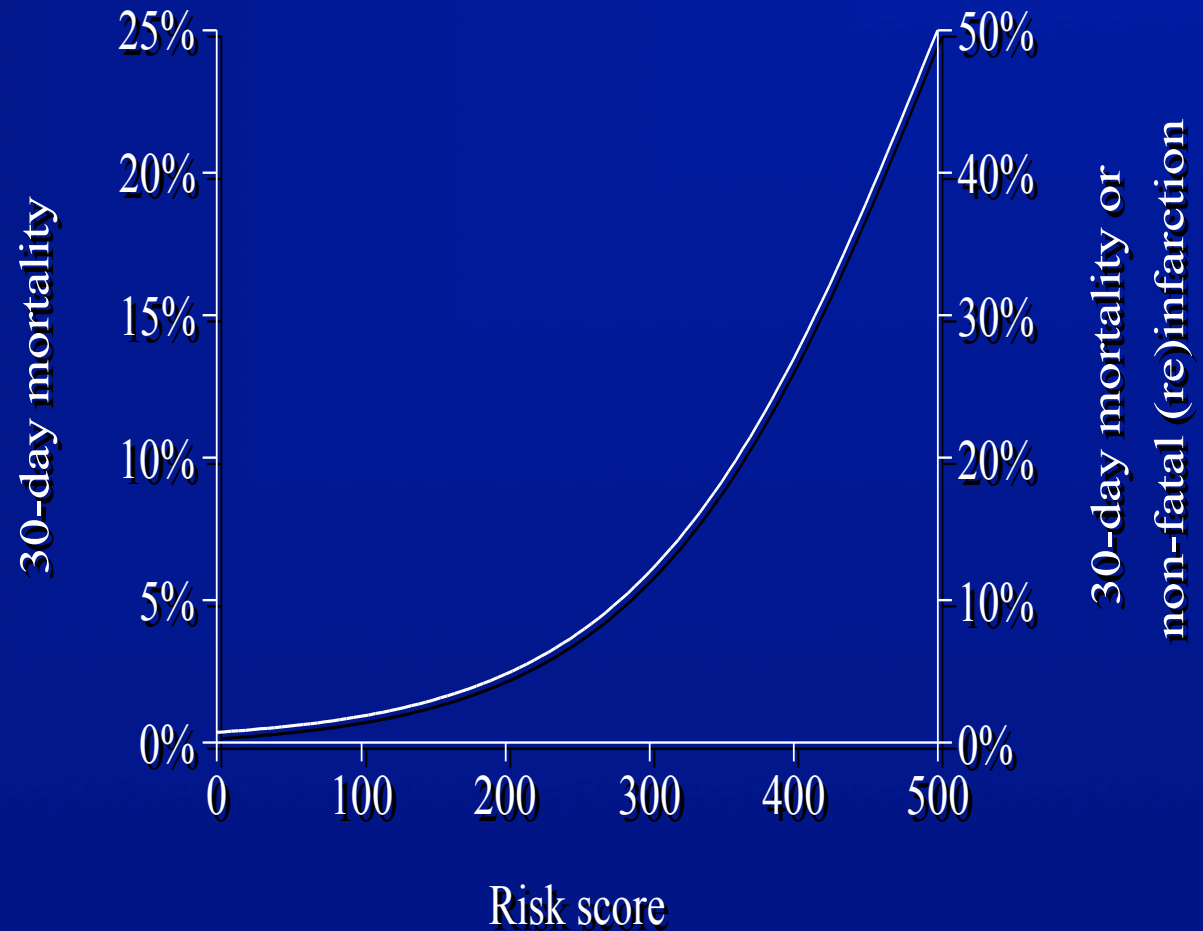


# Predicting Risk in ACS without Persistent ST↑

## Creating a 30-Day Risk Score

### Pre-Randomization Variables

- Age
- Gender (male)
- Prior angina (CCS Class)
- Heart rate
- Systolic BP
- Rales
- ST depression



-Boersma E et al. Circulation 2000;101:2557

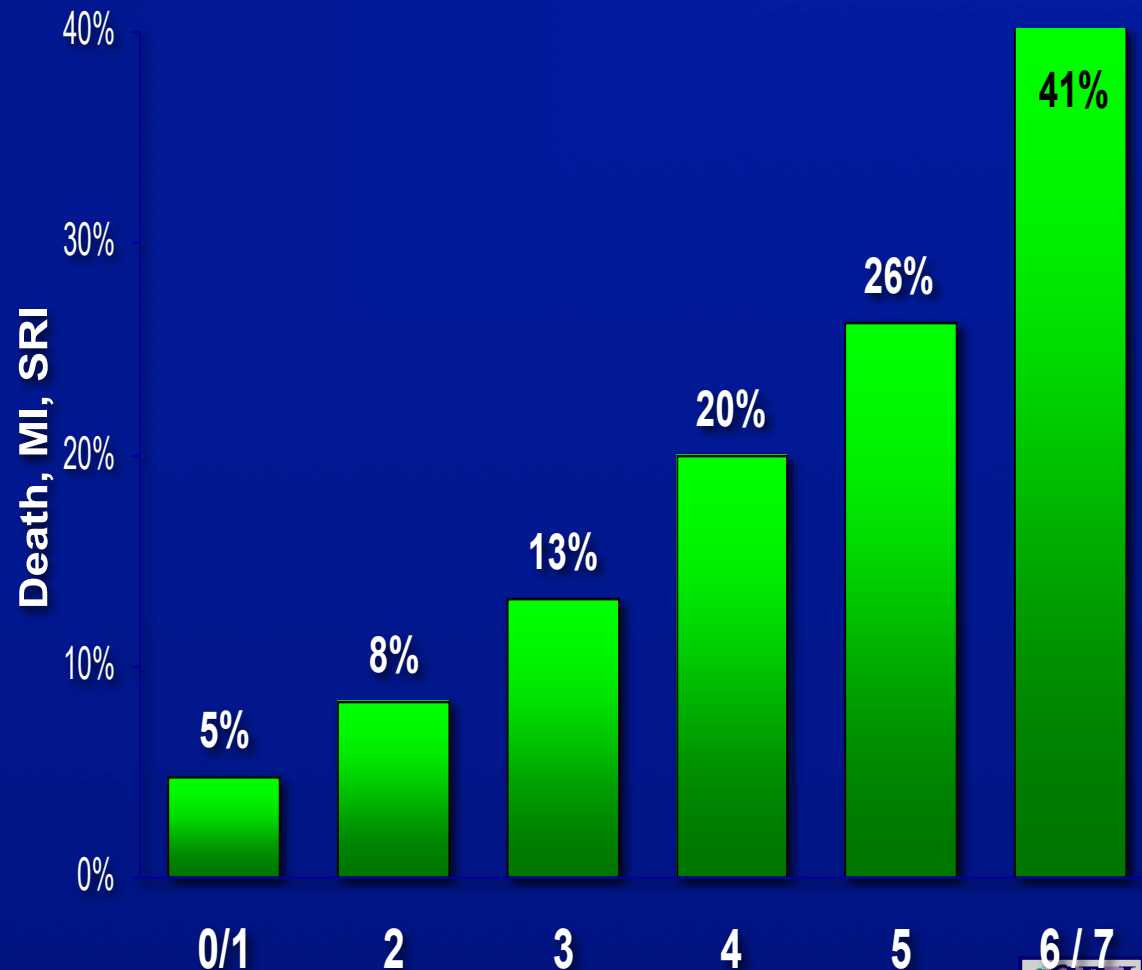


# TIMI Risk Score for UA/Non ST $\uparrow$ MI

*From ESSENCE/TIMI 11B*


## Variables

- Age  $\geq 65$
- $\geq 3$  risk factors
- Prior coronary stenosis  $\geq 50\%$
- ST deviation
- 2 anginal events in 24 hr
- ASA in prior 7d
- Elevated cardiac markers





# GRACE ACS Risk Model



## ACS Risk Model

At Admission (in-hospital/to 6 months)

At Discharge (to 6 months)

Age

HR

SBP

Creat.

CHF

☐ Cardiac arrest at admission

☐ ST-segment deviation

☐ Elevated cardiac enzymes/markers

| Probability of | Death                           | Death or MI                     |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| In-hospital    | <input type="text" value="--"/> | <input type="text" value="--"/> |
| To 6 months    | <input type="text" value="--"/> | <input type="text" value="--"/> |

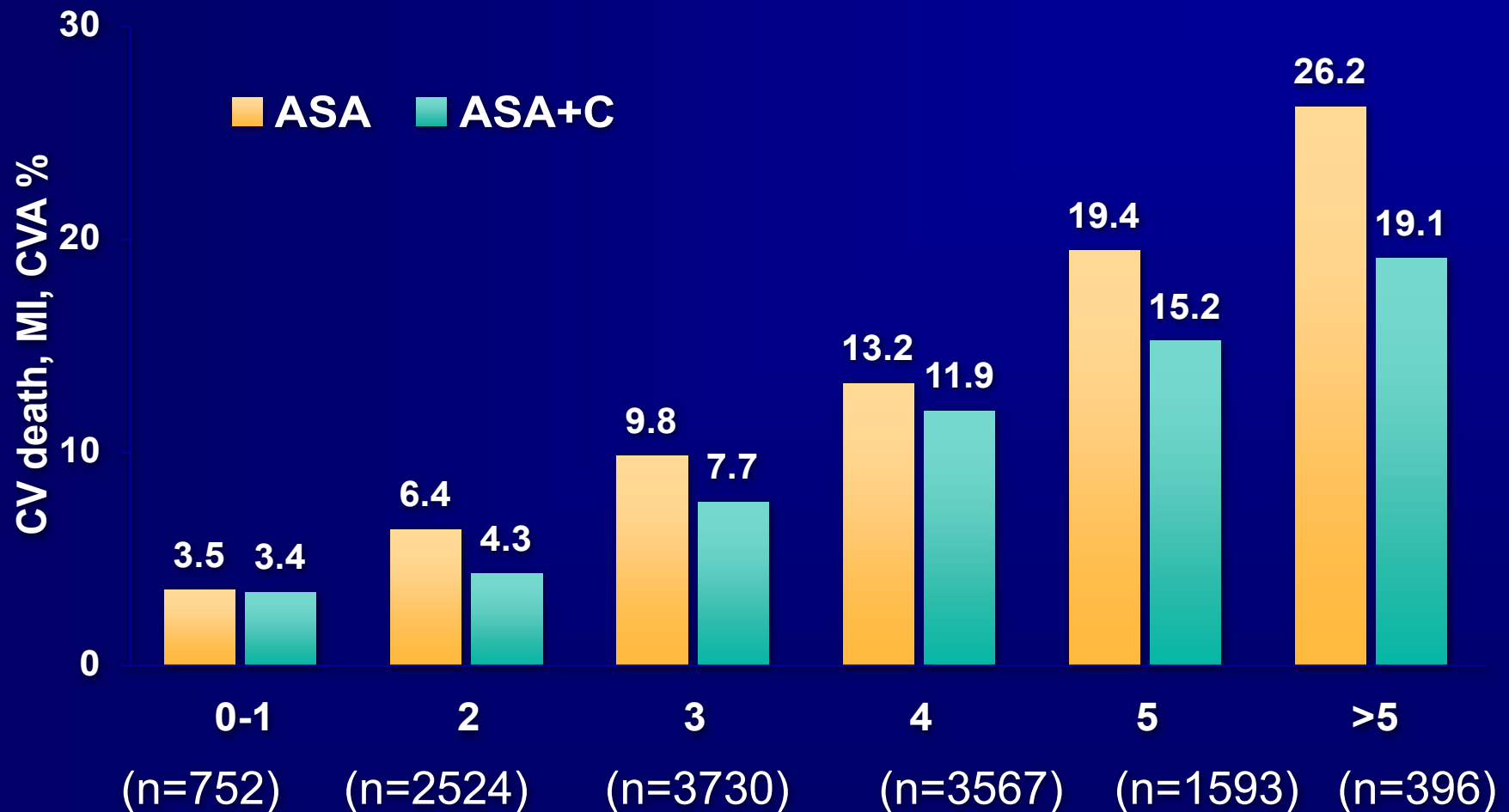
[Calculator](#) | [Instructions](#) | [GRACE Info](#) | [References](#) | [Disclaimer](#)

*ESC Guidelines for the Management of NSTEMI-ACS*



# Clopidogrel and ASA in ACS:

## Benefit by Risk Groups in CURE (Outcome vs. TIMI Score)



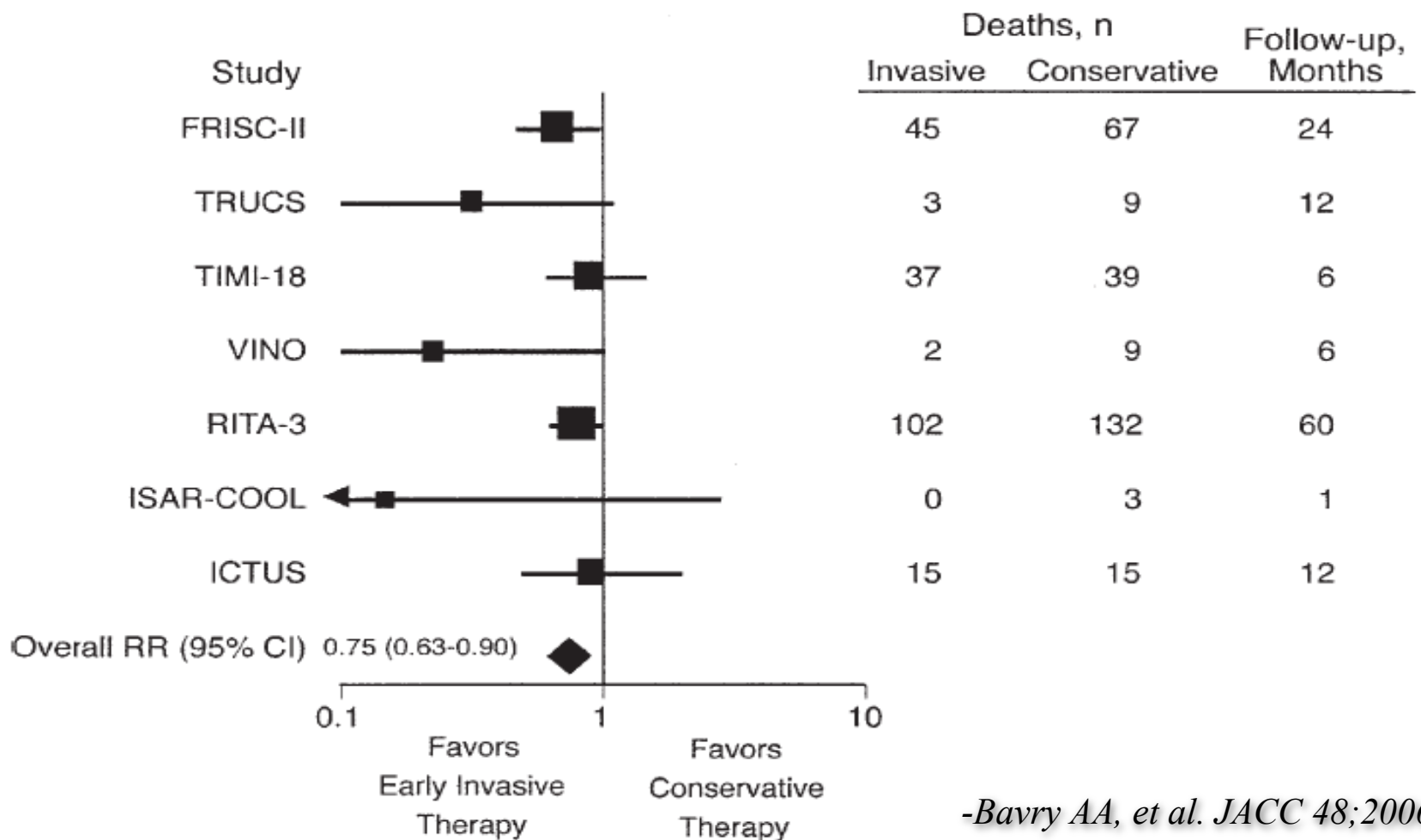
DUKE UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER

—Budaj A, et al. *Circ* 106:1622;2002

Duke Clinical  
Research Institute



# Invasive versus Conservative Rx in NSTEMI ACS



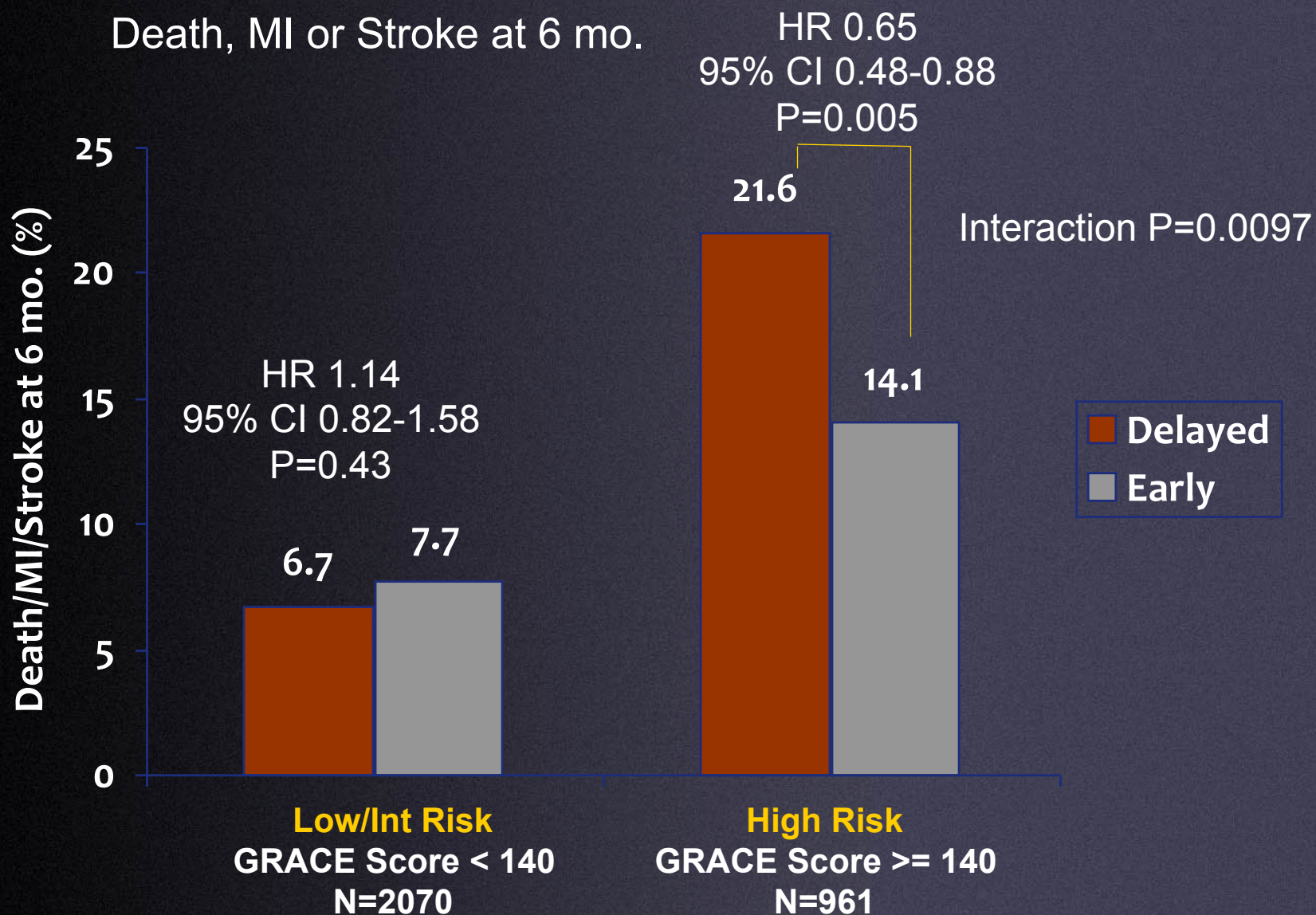
**Figure 1.** Relative risk of all-cause mortality for early invasive therapy compared with conservative therapy at a mean follow-up of 2 years. The



TIMACS

## GRACE Risk Score: Primary Outcome

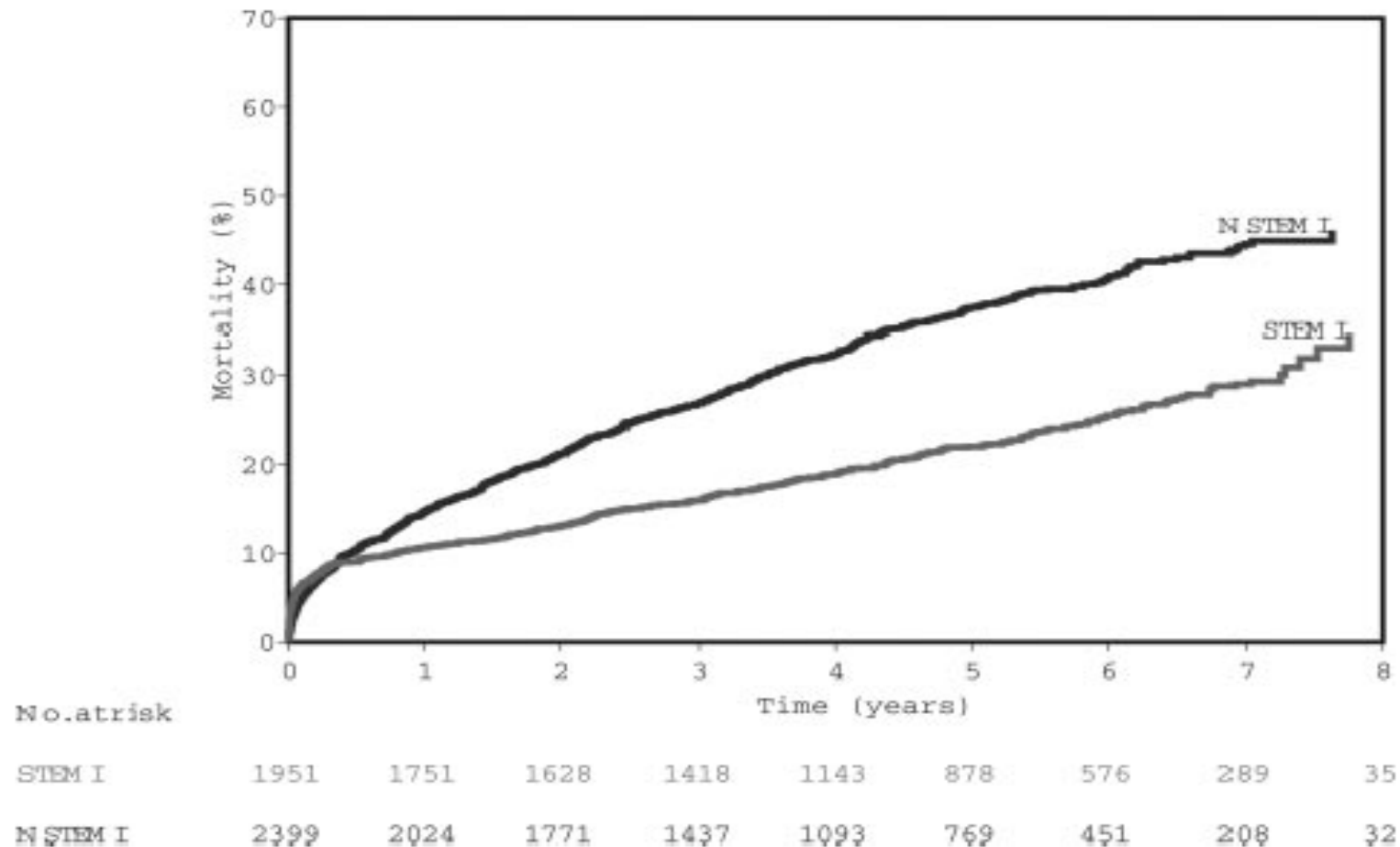
Death, MI or Stroke at 6 mo.





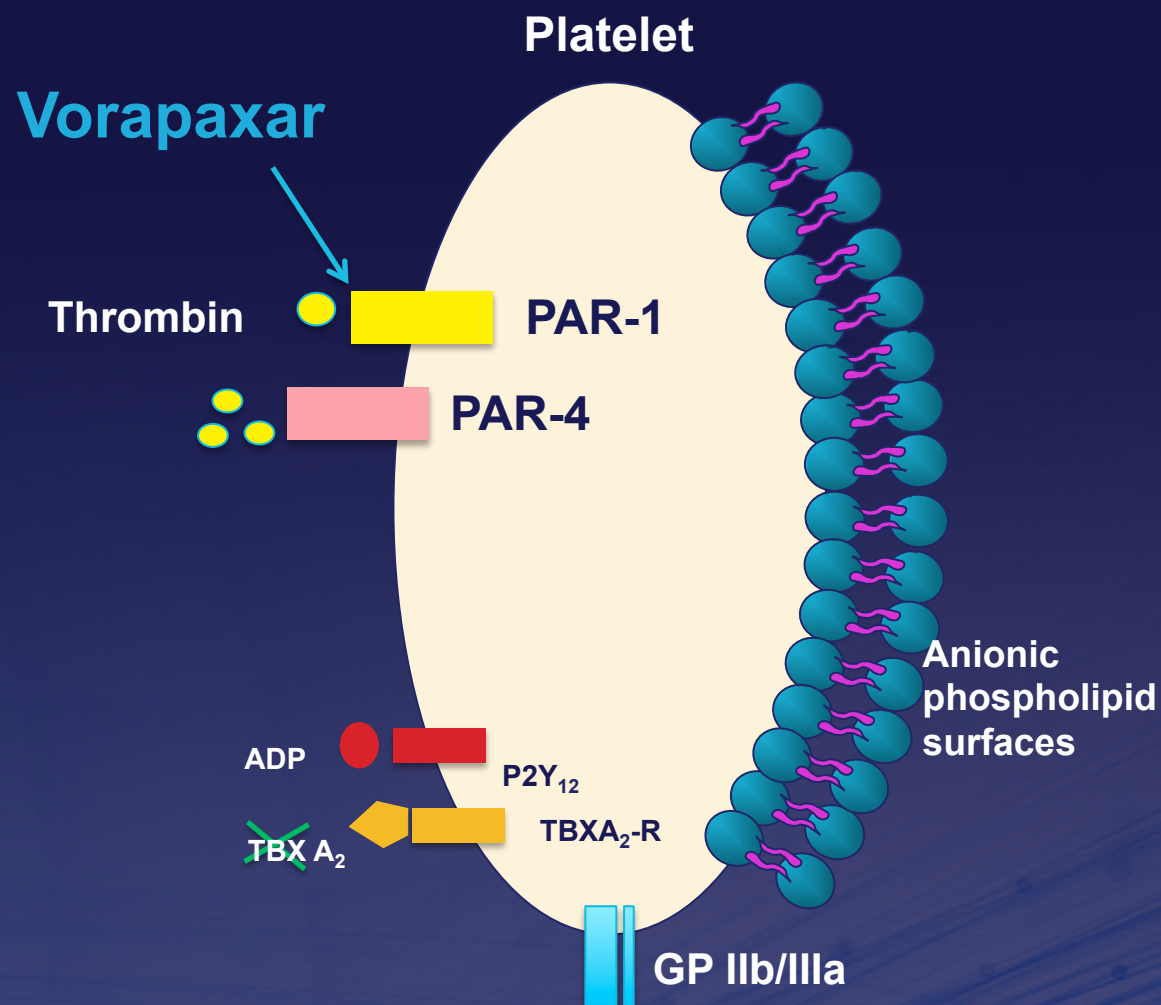
# Long-term Mortality: NSTEMI versus STE MI

## Duke Databank Experience



-Chan MY, et al. *Circulation* 119; 2009

# Background

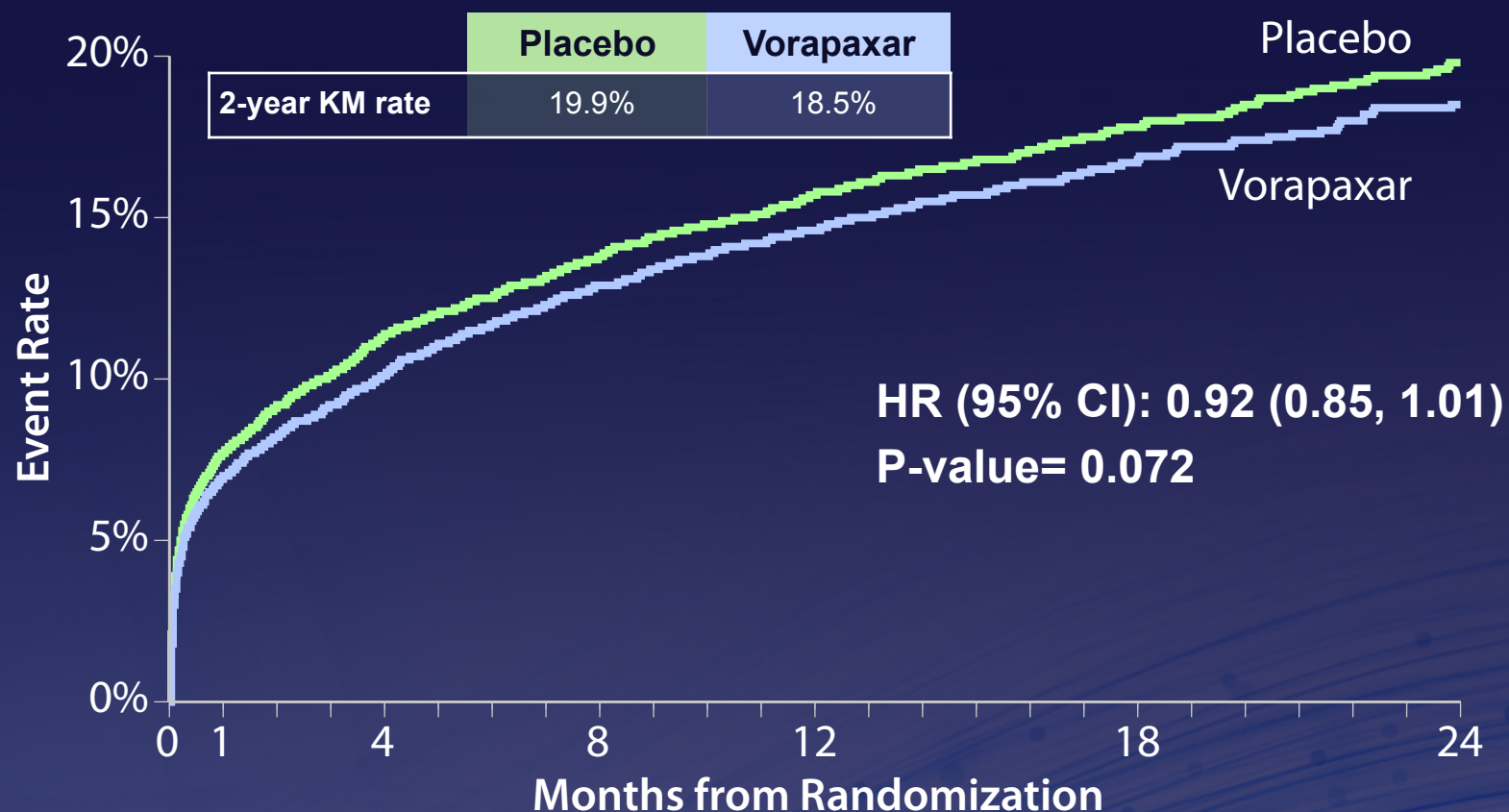


- Vorapaxar:
  - First-in-class
  - Oral PAR-1 inhibitor
- Metabolism:
  - Primarily hepatic via CYP 3A4
  - Terminal half-life: ~126–269 hr
- PK-PD
  - Exposure to vorapaxar is dose-proportional with predictable PD
- Prior ACS and elective PCI trials with no increase in bleeding and fewer MIs



# Primary Endpoint

CV Death, MI, Stroke, Hospitalization for Ischemia, Urgent Revascularization

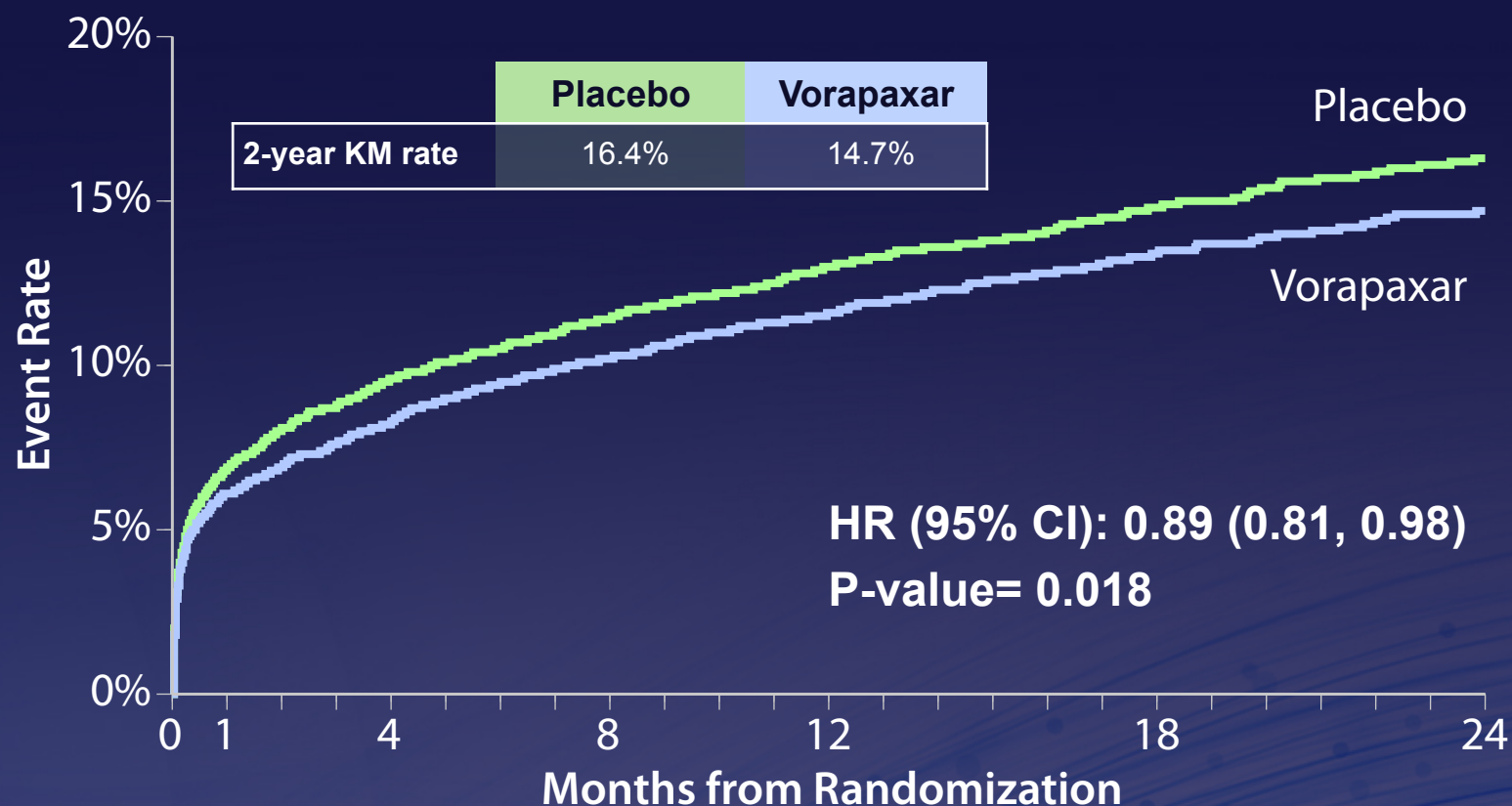


No. at risk

|           |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| Placebo   | 6471 | 5844 | 5468 | 5121 | 3794 | 2291 | 795 |
| Vorapaxar | 6473 | 5897 | 5570 | 5199 | 3881 | 2318 | 832 |

# Key Secondary Endpoint

CV Death, MI, Stroke

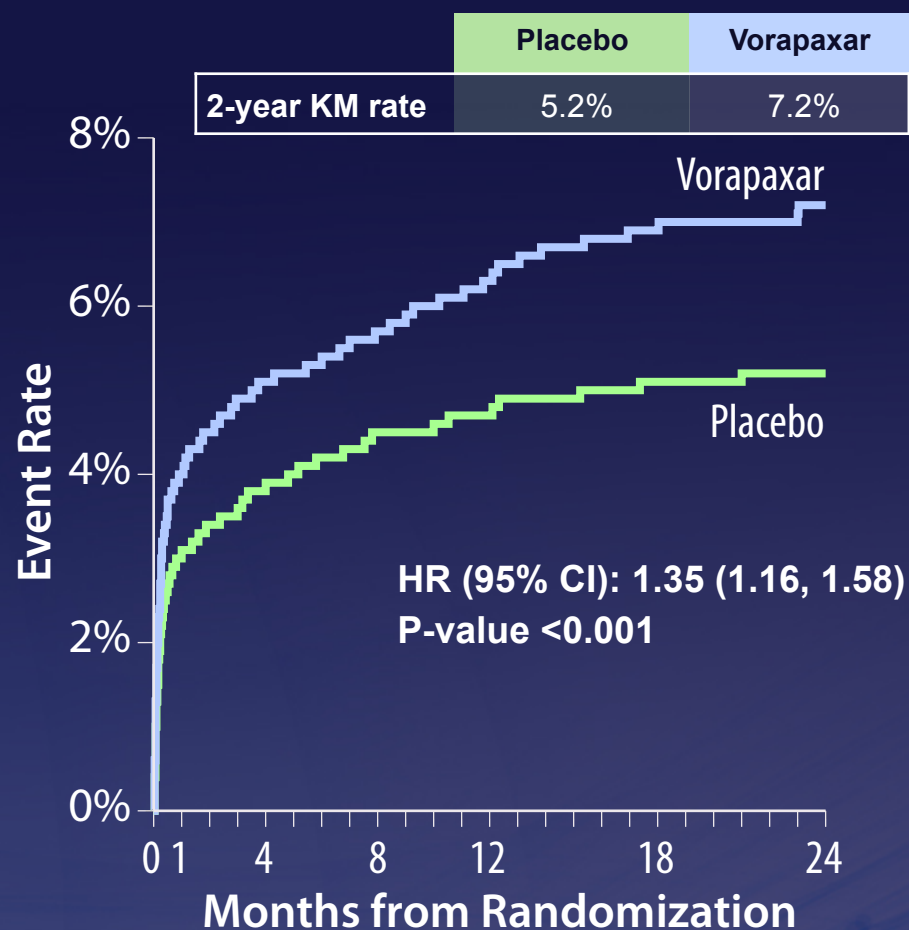


No. at risk

|           |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| Placebo   | 6471 | 5895 | 5575 | 5263 | 3922 | 2383 | 830 |
| Vorapaxar | 6473 | 5949 | 5684 | 5356 | 4023 | 2427 | 868 |

# Bleeding Outcomes

## GUSTO Moderate/Severe

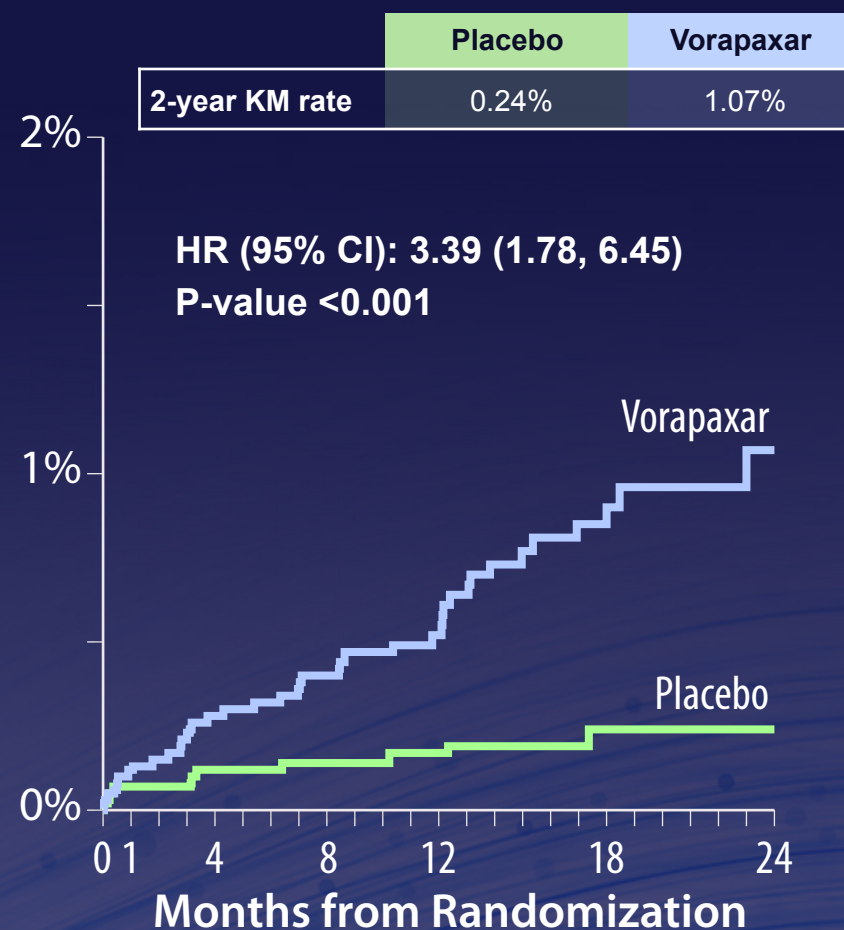


No. at risk

|      |      |      |      |      |      |     |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| 6441 | 5536 | 5137 | 4674 | 3393 | 1972 | 650 |
| 6446 | 5529 | 5108 | 4598 | 3278 | 1883 | 625 |



## ICH



No. at risk

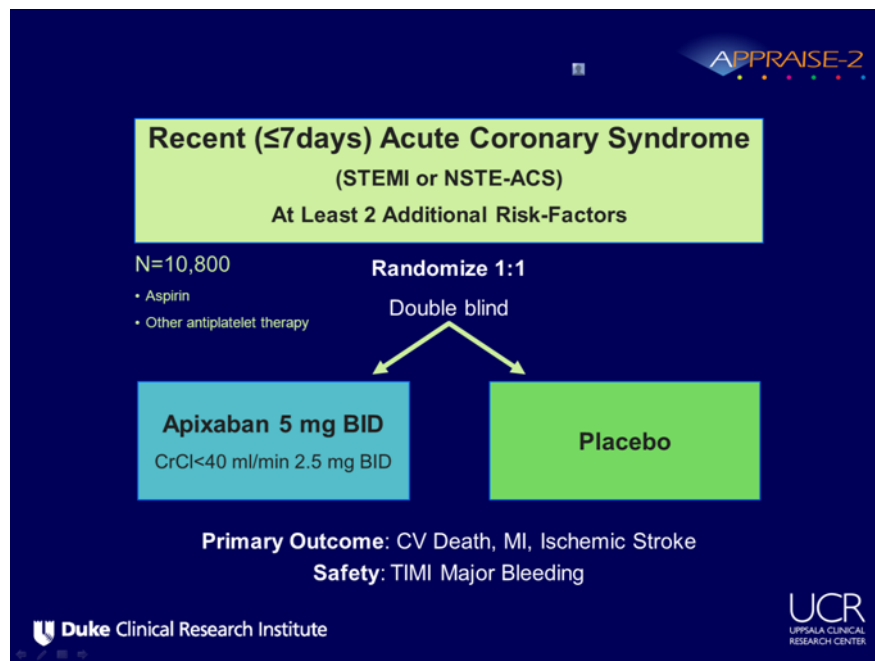
|      |      |      |      |      |      |     |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| 6441 | 5673 | 5281 | 4823 | 3511 | 2038 | 678 |
| 6446 | 5694 | 5272 | 4760 | 3411 | 1965 | 657 |



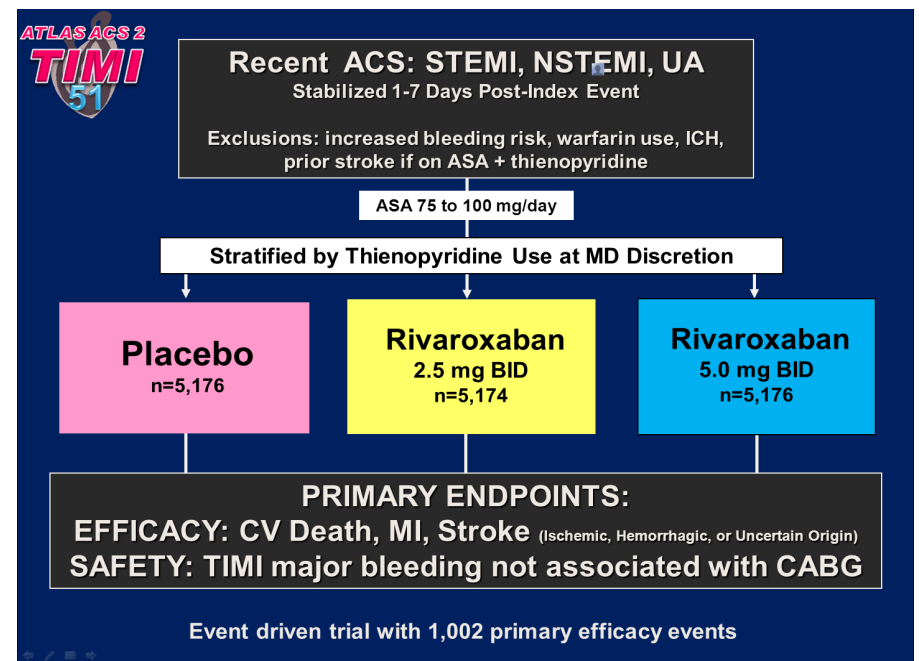


# Adding OAC Rx to Antiplatelet Rx Longterm Post ACS

## APPRAISE-2



## ATLAS ACS-2

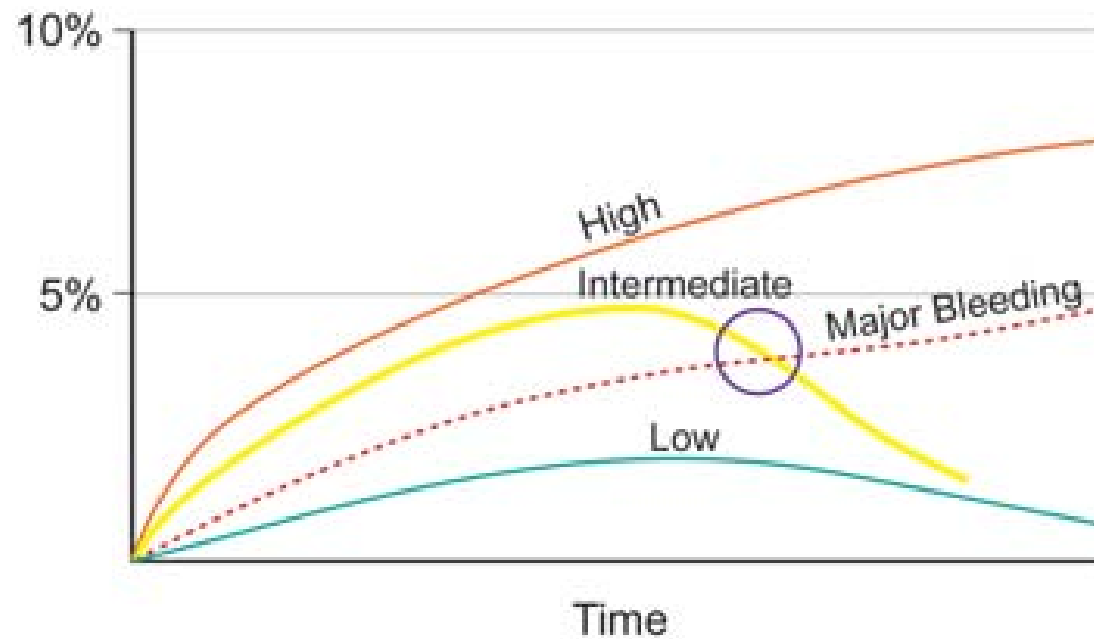


## Road mapping ATLAS ACS 2: are we there yet?

Paul W. Armstrong<sup>1</sup> and Robert A. Harrington<sup>2</sup>

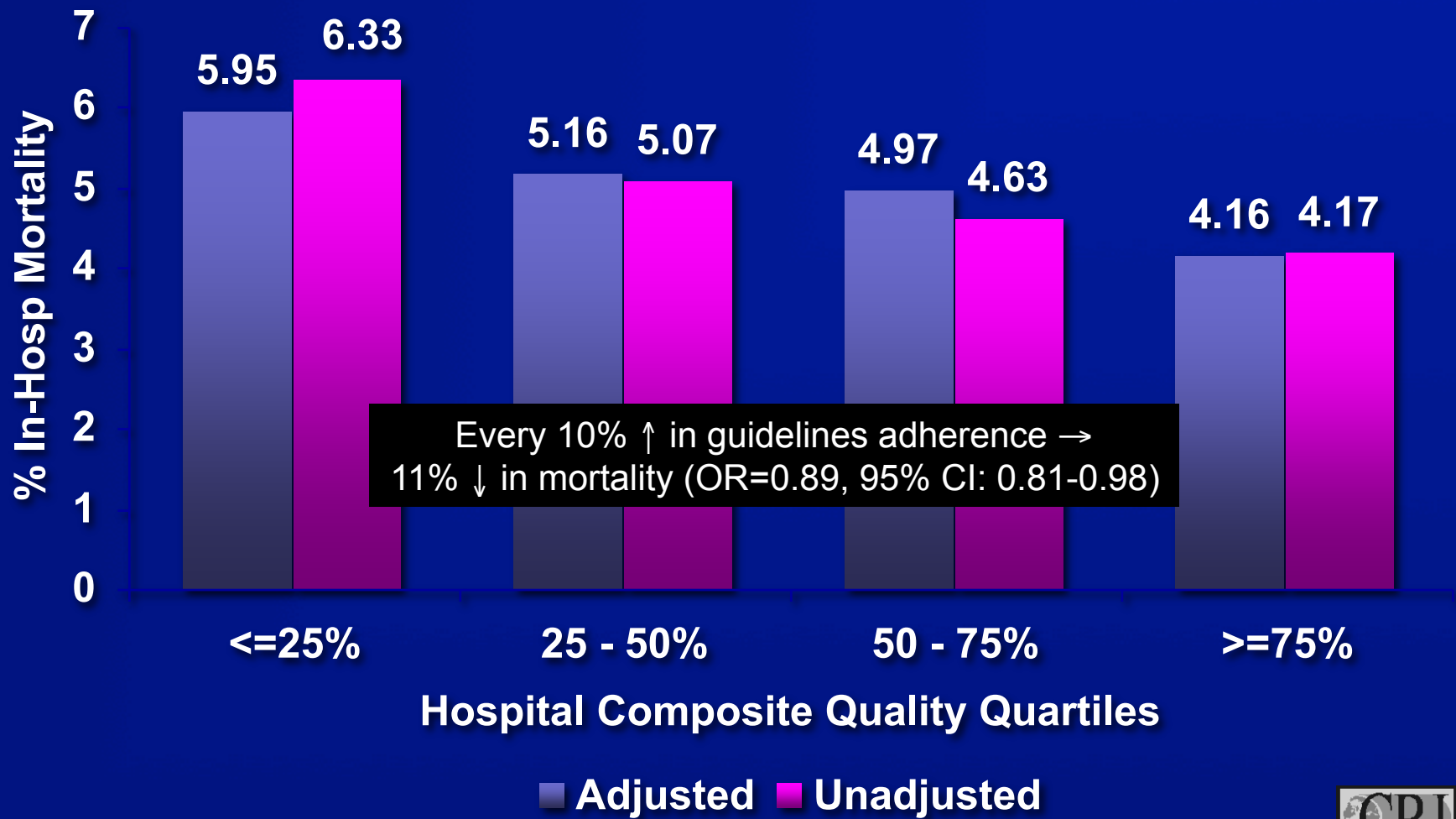
<sup>1</sup>University of Alberta, 251 Medical Sciences Building, Edmonton AB T6G 2H7, Canada; and <sup>2</sup>Duke Clinical Research Institute, Durham, NC, USA

Online publish-ahead-of-print 31 January 2012





## Link Between Overall Guidelines Adherence and Mortality



-Peterson E et al. JAMA 2006



# IMPROVE IT Study Design

Patients stabilized post Acute Coronary Syndrome < 10 days  
LDL < 125 mg/dL (or < 100 mg/dL if prior statin)

*Double-blind*

**ASA + Standard Medical Therapy**

*N=10,000*

**Simvastatin 40 mg**

**Eze/Simva 10/40 mg**

**•Follow-Up Visit Day 30, Every 4 Months**

**Duration: Minimum 2 1/2 year follow-up (>2955 events)**

**Primary Endpoint: CV Death, MI, Hospital Admission for UA, revascularization (> 30 days after randomization), or Stroke**



Duke Clinical Research Institute  
DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

# High Risk ACS: What Are the Concerns



- Initial assessment of acute chest pain
  - Based on 12-lead ECG (STE versus NSTE)
  - Cardiac biomarkers (information from CKMB and troponin)
- Evolution of risk scores
  - For prognosis
  - For therapeutic decision making
- Moving from acute to long term care
- General concepts of antithrombotic therapy use
  - Balancing ischemia and bleeding
- What's next?
  - Adherence
  - Lipids
  - inflammation

# **Minimizing Readmission Rates Post-ACS: Why Should Clinicians Care & What Can They Do About It?**

**Jeffrey L. Anderson, MD, FACC, FAHA, MACP**

**Director, Cardiovascular Research**

**Intermountain Medical Center**

**Professor of Medicine**

**University of Utah**

**Salt Lake City, Utah**

# Readmissions After ACS: Why Should Clinicians Care?

- “On October 1, 2012, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) began to penalize hospitals for higher standardized early (30 day) readmission rates for heart failure, **acute myocardial infarction**, and pneumonia. It is anticipated that these penalties will increase and also expand to include other diseases, making this provision one of the most severe penalties mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.”

# The Rise in National Health Spending: An Unsustainable Trend

National Health Spending 1997–2010.



Anderson J L et al. Circulation. 2014;129:2329-2345



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# Circulation

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION



**ACC/AHA Statement on Cost/Value Methodology in Clinical Practice Guidelines and Performance Measures: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Performance Measures and Task Force on Practice Guidelines**

Jeffrey L. Anderson, Paul A. Heidenreich, Paul G. Barnett, Mark A. Creager, Gregg C. Fonarow, Raymond J. Gibbons, Jonathan L. Halperin, Mark A. Hlatky, Alice K. Jacobs, Daniel B. Mark, Frederick A. Masoudi, Eric D. Peterson and Leslee J. Shaw

*Circulation*. 2014;129:2329-2345; originally published online March 27, 2014;

doi: 10.1161/CIR.0000000000000042

*Circulation* is published by the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231

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Print ISSN: 0009-7322. Online ISSN: 1524-4539

# Cost Impact of Readmissions

- “Using 2005 Medicare data, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission estimated that 13.3% of 30-day hospital readmissions were potentially preventable and cost an additional **\$12 billion.**”
- CMS chose to initially target heart failure, acute coronary syndromes, and pneumonia as the biggest contributors to readmission costs.

Axon and Williams. JAMA 2011; 305:504-5.

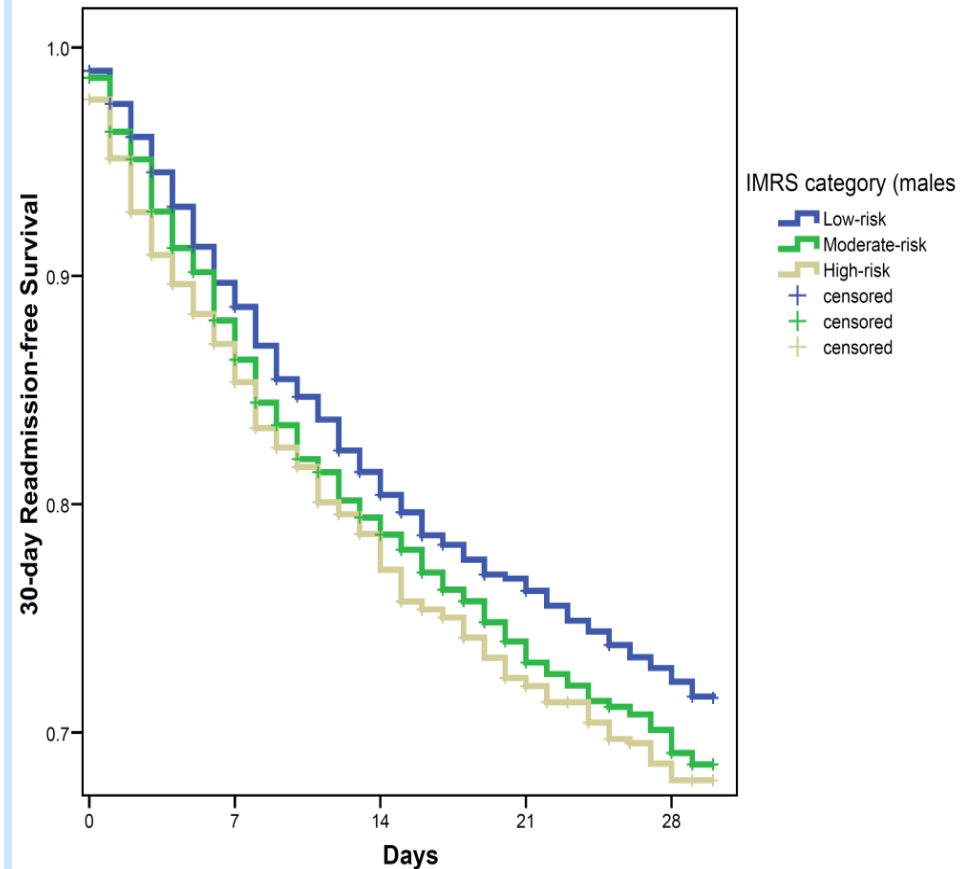
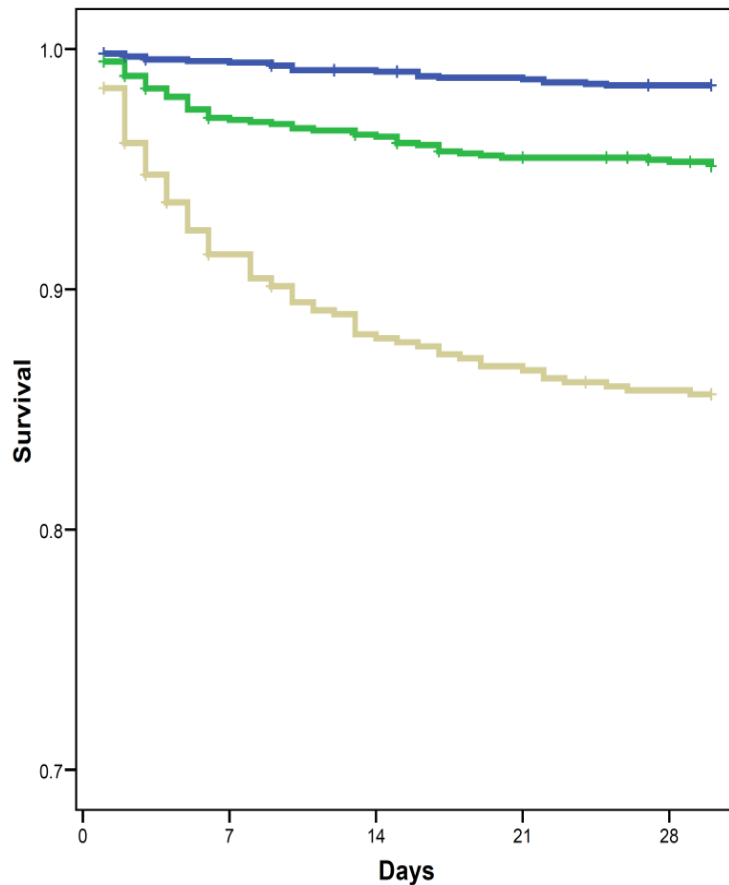
# Critique of Readmission Rate as a Quality Metric

- 30-day readmission rate fails the premise that a quality metric should be rigorously tested and validated in target populations before implementation to ensure feasibility and effectiveness in improving clinical outcomes.
- CMS algorithms are proprietary (i.e., cannot be externally tested, validated) and poorly predictive (c-stat  $\approx 0.6$ ).
- No distinction made between “good” and “bad” readmissions and between readmissions related and unrelated to primary condition (i.e., ACS).
- Lower mortality rates may predispose to higher readmission rates (survivor bias).
- No adjustment made for socioeconomic factors: may penalize hospitals caring for poor, minorities, disadvantaged.
- No demonstration that readmission rate tracks with improvements in care processes or patient outcomes.

Vaduganathan et al. JAMA 2013; 309:345-6; Axon and Williams. JAMA 2011; 305:504-5

# **What Factors Predict 30-Day Readmission Rates After ACS?**

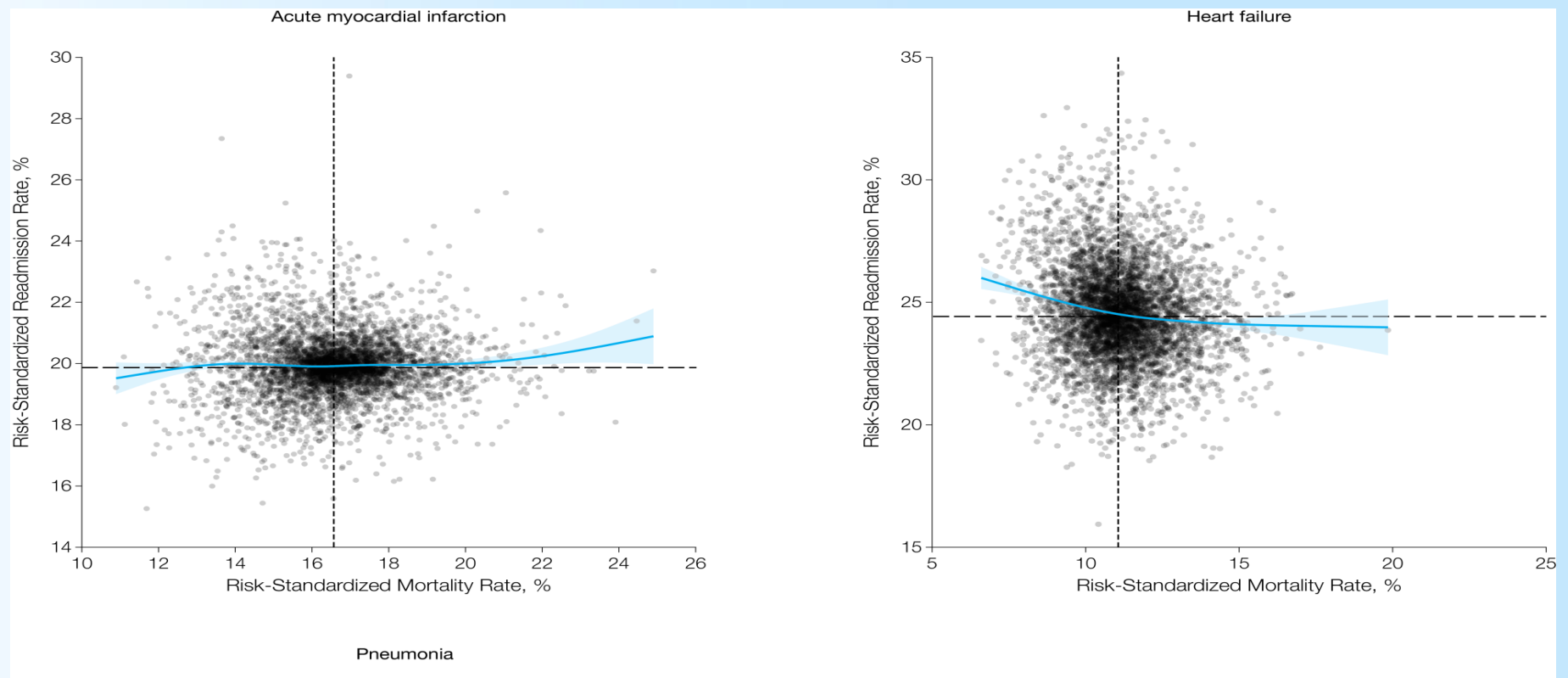
# The Intermountain Risk Score for Post-ACS Mortality Does Not Predict Readmission\*



\*Based on age, sex, CBC, BMP.

Horne et-al. Circulation 2012; 126 (suppl): A16794.

# No Relationship Between Hospital Readmission and Mortality Rates in Patients with MI or HF



Krumholz et al. JAMA 2013; 309:587-93

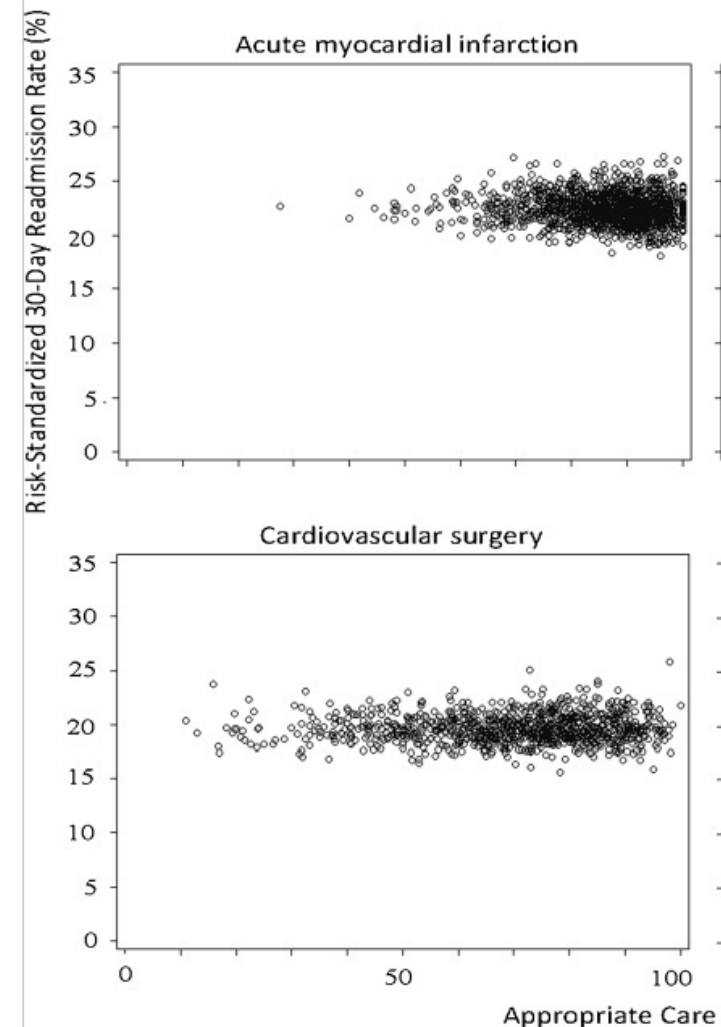
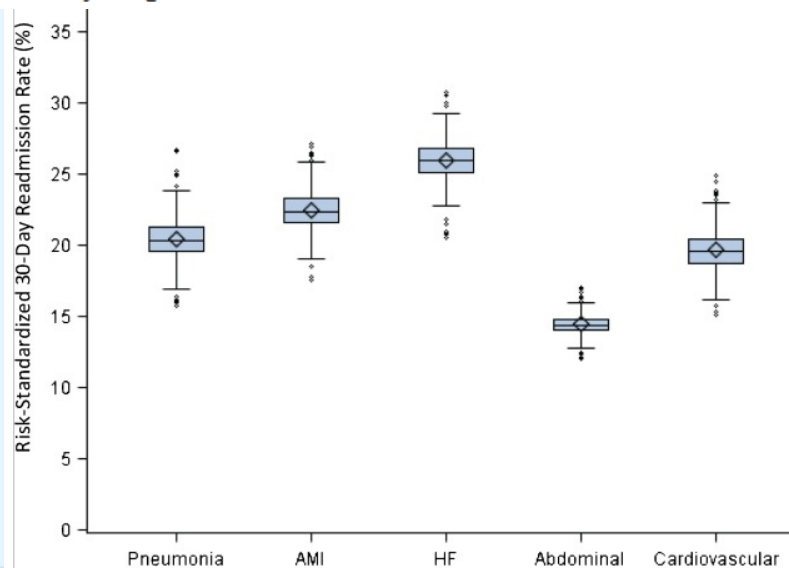
# Do Hospital Performance Measures Predict 30-Day Readmission Rates?

## Condition-Specific Process of Care Performance Measures

### Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI)

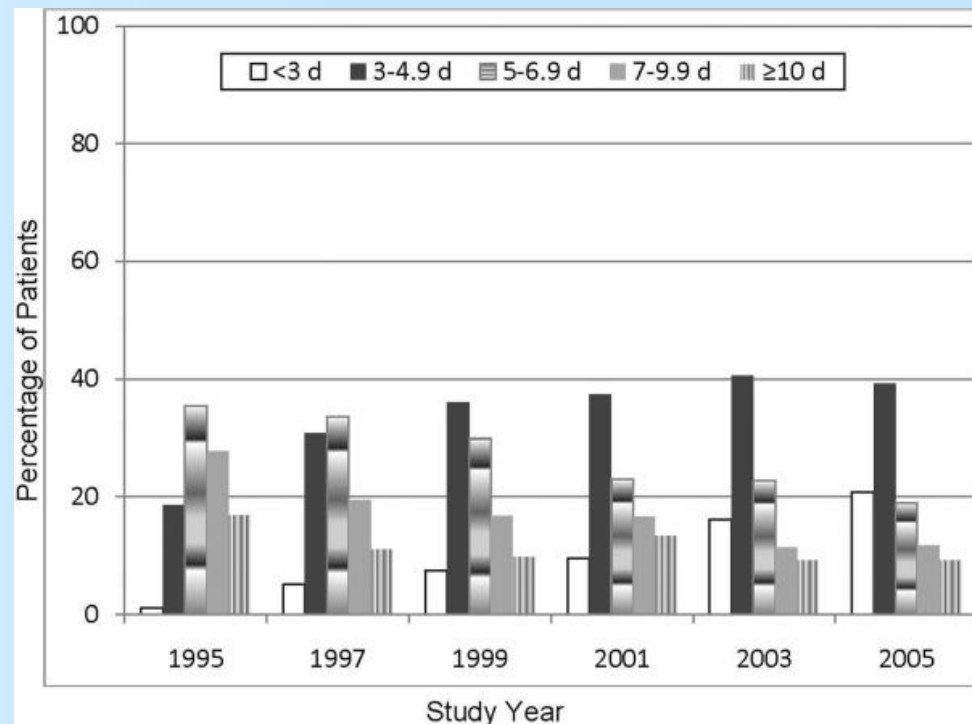
- AMI-1 Aspirin use at arrival
- AMI-2 Aspirin prescribed at discharge
- AMI-3 Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor or angiotensin receptor blocker
- AMI-4 Adult smoking cessation advice/counseling
- AMI-5 Beta blocker prescribed at discharge
- AMI-6 Beta blocker at arrival
- AMI-7a Thrombolytic agent received within 30 min of arrival

Stefan et al.  
J Gen Intern Med  
2013; 28:377-85.



# Declining Lengths of Stay Do Not Impact Readmission Rates

- Compared with patients hospitalized for shorter than the median length of stay during 2003 and 2005 (4 days), those who were hospitalized for 4 or more days had lower rates of rehospitalization at 7 days (5.7% vs 5.0%) but higher rates at 1 month (14.5% vs 17.9%), 3 months (24.7% vs 31.0%), and 1 year (41.3% vs 48.4%) after hospital discharge.



Saczynski et al. Am J Med 2010; 123: 1007-15



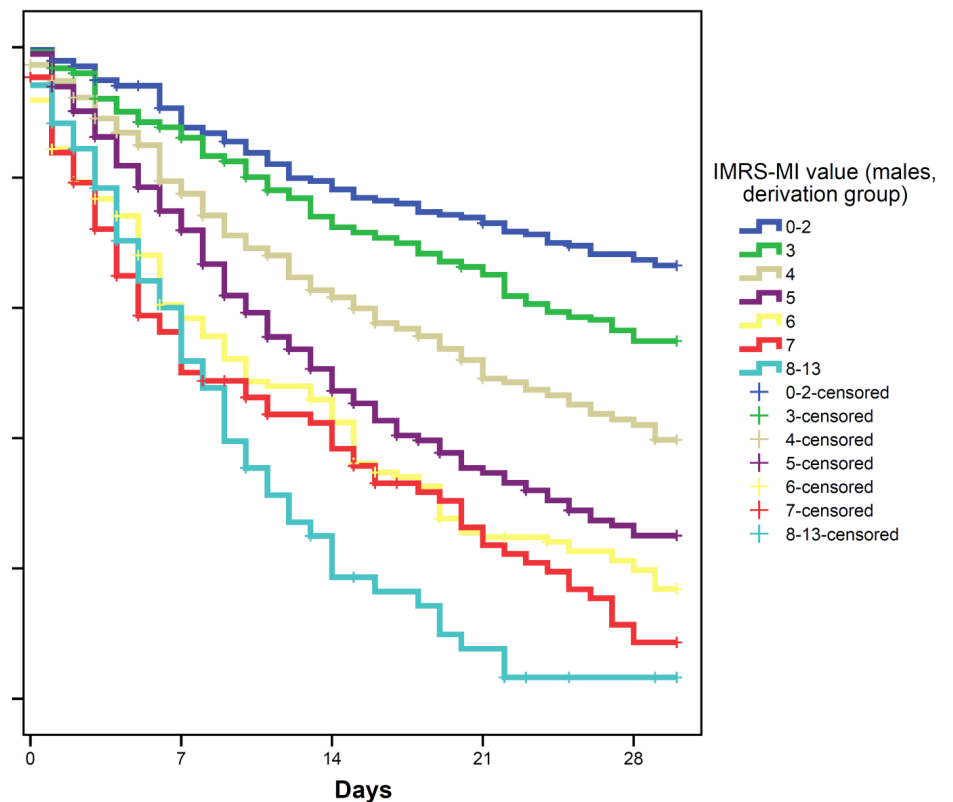
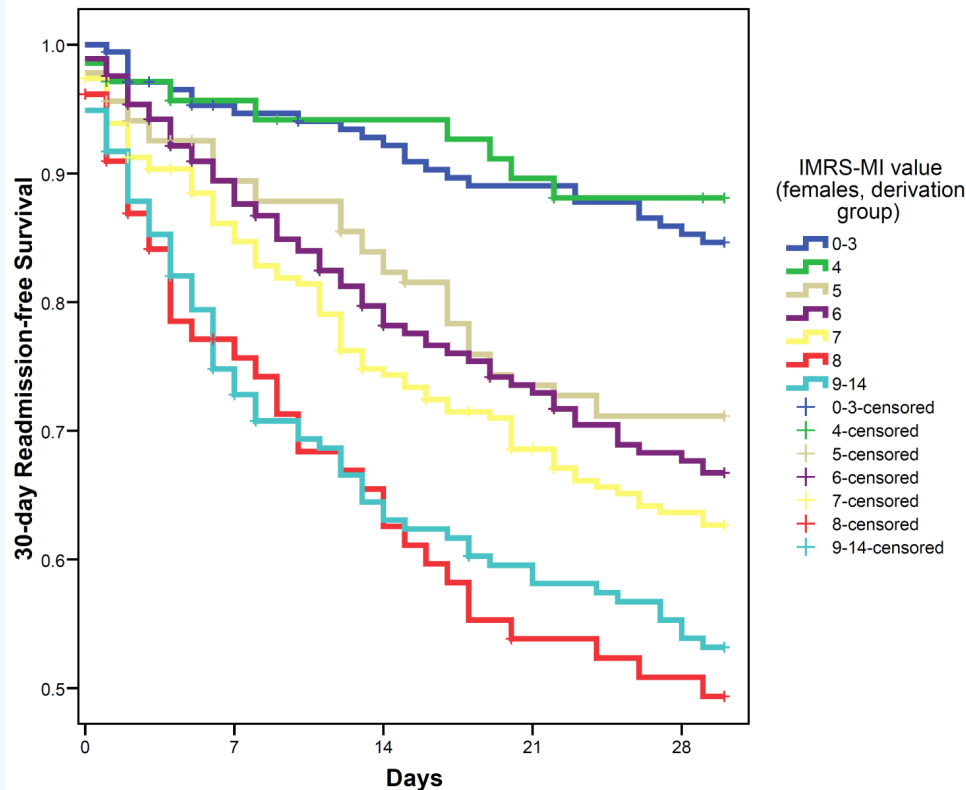
## Associations Between Reduced Hospital Length of Stay and 30-Day Readmission Rate and Mortality: 14-Year Experience in 129 Veterans Affairs Hospitals

Peter J. Kaboli, MD, MS; Jorge T. Go, MD, MS; Jason Hockenberry, PhD; Justin M. Glasgow, BS, MS; Skyler R. Johnson, BS, MS; Gary E. Rosenthal, MD; Michael P. Jones, PhD; and Mary Vaughan-Sarrazin, PhD

**Conclusion:** Veterans Affairs hospitals demonstrated simultaneous improvements in hospital LOS and readmissions over 14 years, suggesting that as LOS improved, hospital readmission did not increase. This is important because hospital readmission is being used as a quality indicator and may result in payment incentives. Future work should explore these relationships to see whether a tipping point exists for LOS reduction and hospital readmission.

# A New Intermountain Risk Score for 30-Day Readmission After MI

- Derived from 4,101 patients based on age, sex, CBC, BMP, and 31 other risk factors and diagnostic and treatment variables; validated in 1,919. Derivation c-stats 0.64, 0.61 for women, men; validation c-stats 0.62, 0.59.



Horne et al. Circulation 2012; 126 (suppl): A16794

# **An Improved Analytics Approach to Predicting 30-Day Avoidable Readmissions After MI**

- Medicare pays out \$17 billion/year on 20% of patients readmitted within 30 days of discharge.
- Current models poorly predict readmission risk (c-stat $\approx$ 0.6).
  - Do not discriminate planned vs unnecessary readmissions
  - Do not consider h/o readmissions and change in risk factors.
- A tree-based classification method was developed to estimate readmission probability incorporating patient h/o readmissions and changes in risk factors over time.
- Method was validated in 2011-12 VHA database for AMI, HF, pneumonia, and COPD in Michigan.
- Results show improved discrimination (c-stat >0.80) and good calibration.

# Psychological Stress as a Predictor of 30-Day All-Cause Readmission in ACS Patients

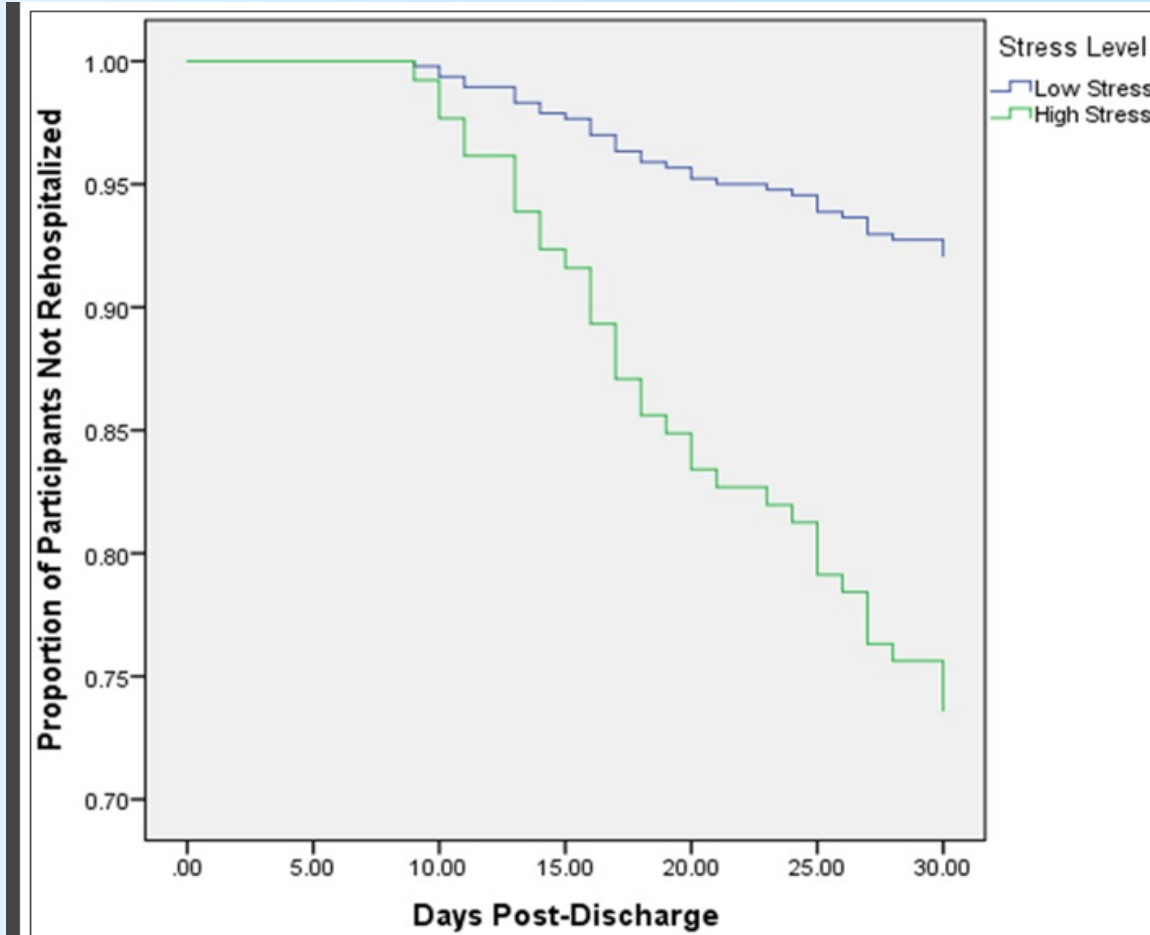


Figure 1

[Cox proportional hazards regression analysis predicted survival curves for acute coronary syndrome \(ACS\) patients by stress category, adjusted for age, sex, race, ethnicity, type of ACS, Charlson comorbidity index score, Global Registry of Acute Coronary ...](#)

Edmondson et al. Plos One 2014; 12; 9(3):d91466

# Adding Socioeconomic Data Markedly Narrows the Range of Variation in Calculated (Predicted) Hospital Readmission Rates

## Exhibit 1

Hospital Risk-Standardized Readmission Rates, By Calculation Method, June 2009 To May 2012

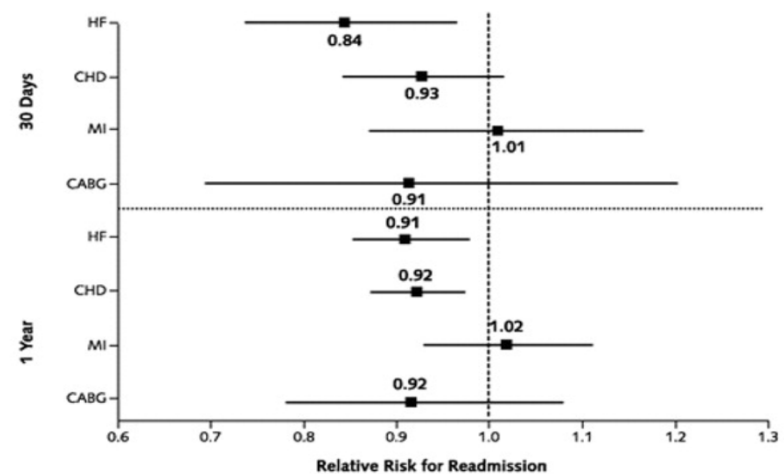
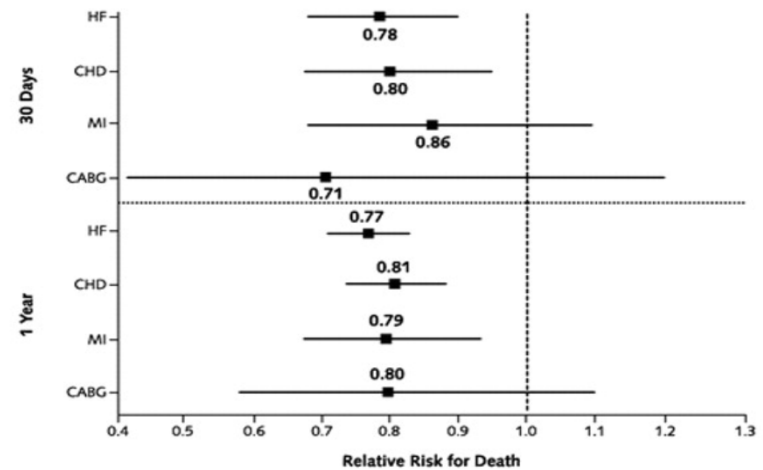
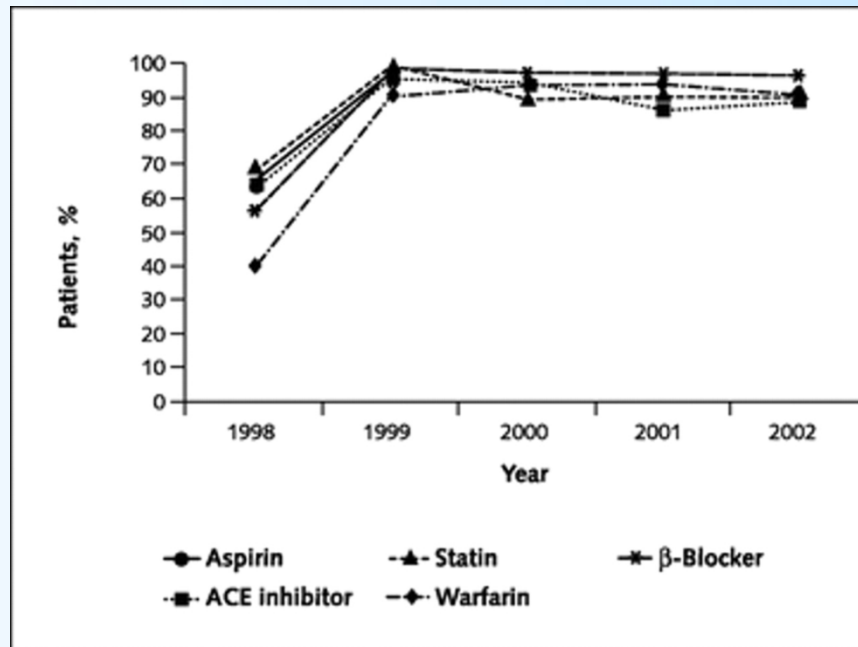
|                             |                  | Hospital risk-standardized readmission rates |           |                                     |           |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
|                             |                  | Baseline model                               |           | Socioeconomic-factor-enriched model |           |
| Principal diagnosis         | No. of hospitals | Mean (%)                                     | Range (%) | Mean (%)                            | Range (%) |
| Acute myocardial infarction | 49               | 16.4   | 14.0–20.5 | 16.3                                | 15.3–17.1 |
| Heart failure               | 100              | 19.3   | 14.5–28.5 | 19.5                                | 17.6–25.0 |
| Pneumonia                   | 109              | 15.1   | 11.2–18.6 | 15.1                                | 13.4–17.1 |

Nagasako et al. Health Aff (Millwood) 2014; 33:786-91

# **What Interventions Impact 30-Day Hospital Readmissions After ACS?**

## Improvements in 1-Year Cardiovascular Clinical Outcomes Associated with a Hospital-Based Discharge Medication Program

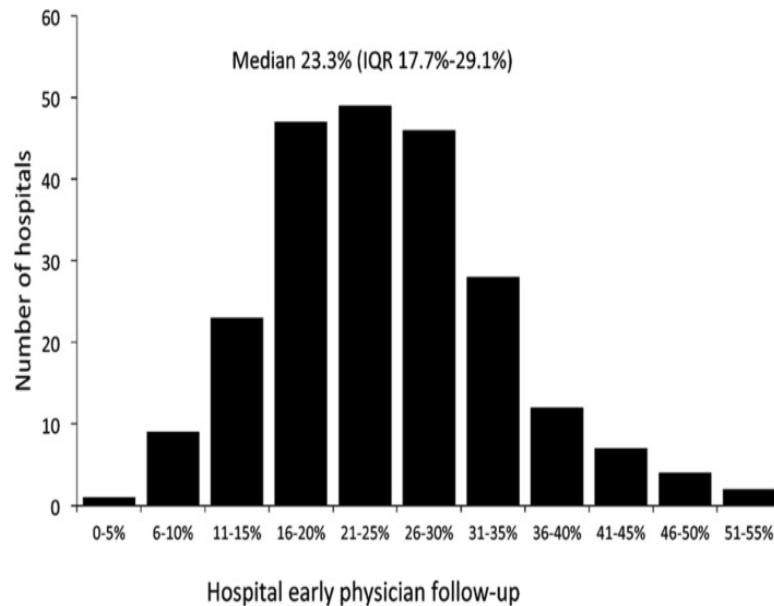
Jason M. Lappé, MS; Joseph B. Muhlestein, MD; Donald L. Lappé, MD; Rodney S. Badger, MD; Tami L. Bair, BS; Ruth Brockman, RN, MBA; Thomas K. French, MStat; Linda C. Hofmann, MS, BSN; Benjamin D. Horne, MStat, MPH; Susan Kralick-Goldberg, RN, MSN; Nan Nicponski, RN, MBA; Janette A. Orton, RN, MS; Robert R. Pearson, BS; Dale G. Renlund, MD; Holly Rimmasch, RN, MSN; Colleen Roberts, RN, MS; and Jeffrey L. Anderson, MD



Lappé et al. Ann Intern Med 2004; 141:446-53

# No Relation Between Early ( $\leq 7$ -Day) Physician Follow-up and 30-Day Readmissions After NSTEMI

Variation in hospital-level early physician follow-up.

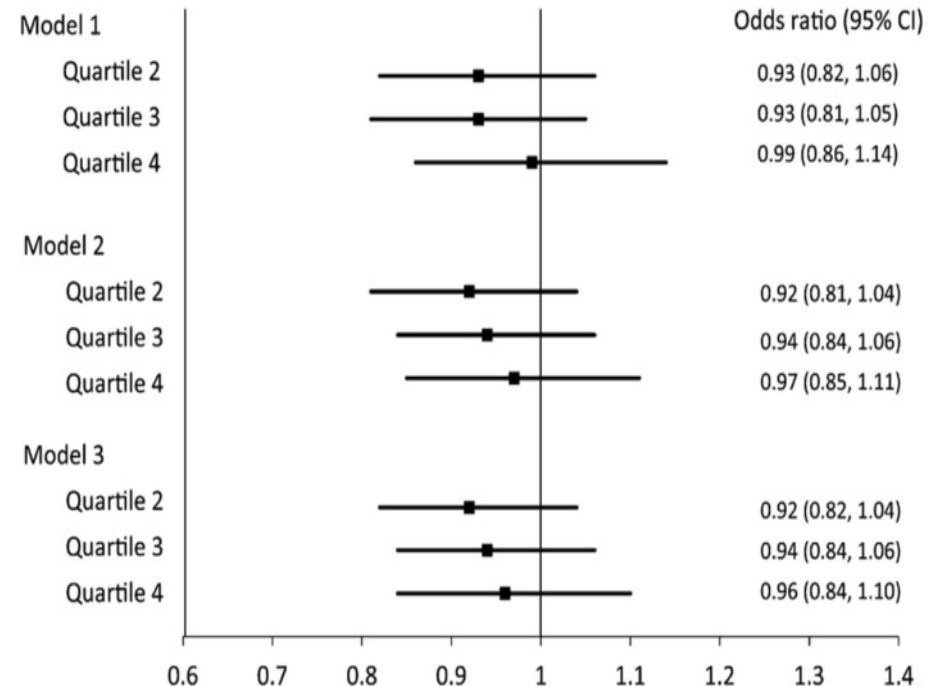


Hess C N et al. Circulation. 2013;128:1206-1213



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Adjusted 30-day all-cause readmission by hospital-level early physician follow-up.



Hess C N et al. Circulation. 2013;128:1206-1213



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Hess et al. Circulation 2013; 128:1206-13

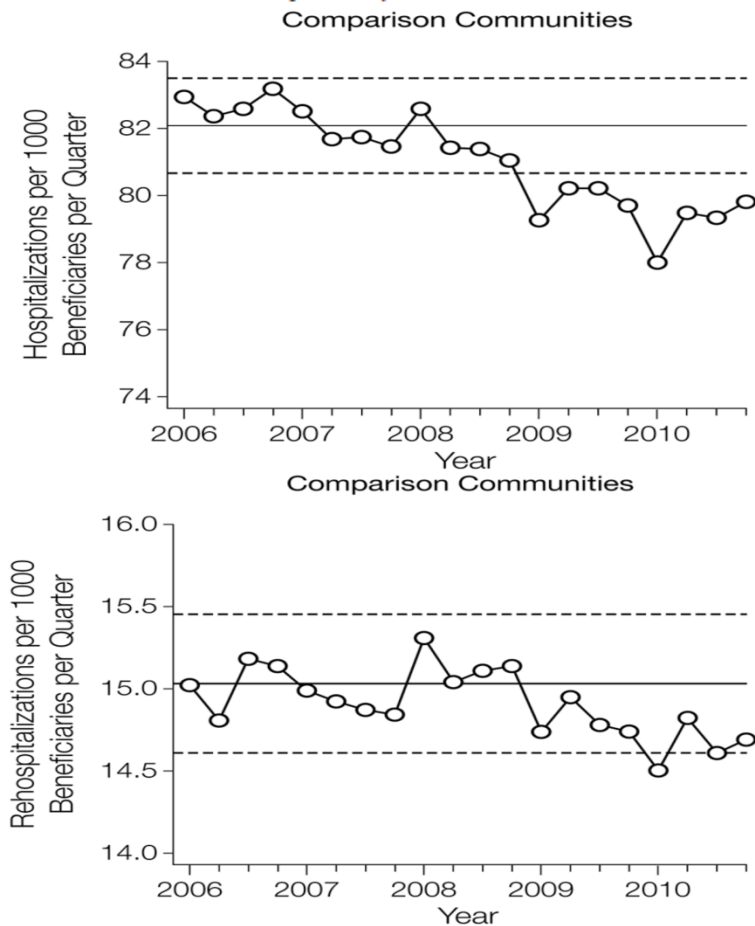
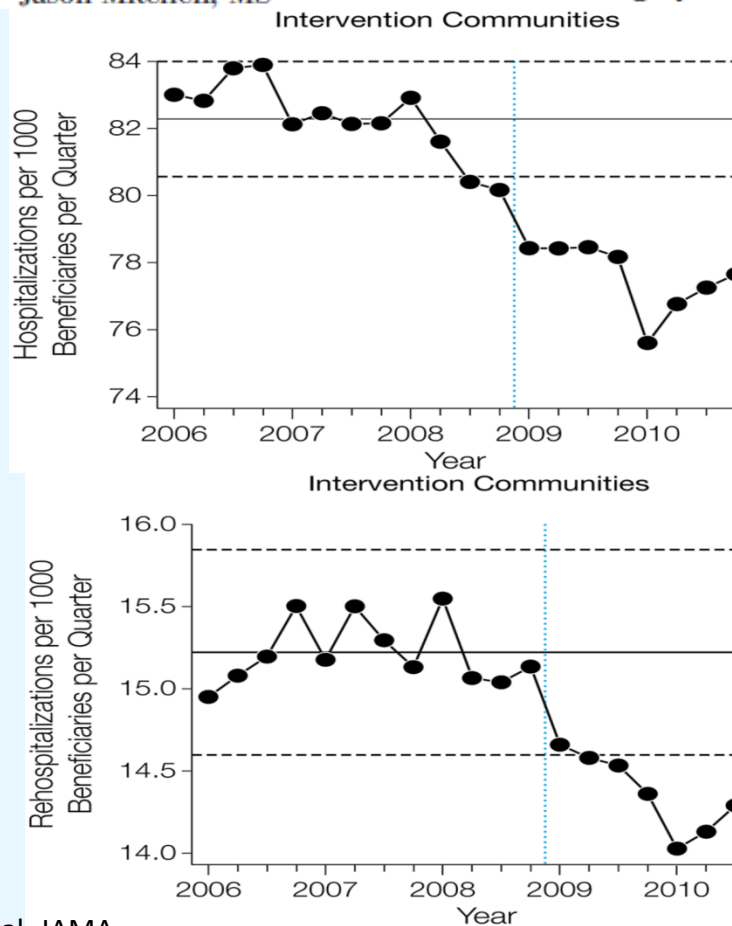


# Association Between Quality Improvement for Care Transitions in Communities and Rehospitalizations Among Medicare Beneficiaries

Jane Brock, MD, MSPH

Jason Mitchell, MS

**Importance** Medicare beneficiaries experience errors during transitions among care settings, yielding harms that include unnecessary rehospitalizations.



Brock et-al. JAMA  
2013; 309; 381-91

**Pre- vs. Post- between group differences were NS: (0.22%, p=0.14)**

Cardiometabolic Health Congress • October 22 - 25, 2014 • Boston, MA

# Does Improved Coordination of Care Using Health Information Technology (i.e., Health Information Exchange Program) Decrease Readmission Rates?

Unadjusted and Adjusted Readmission Rates by % of Participation in Health Information Exchange

| Condition     | Health Information Exchange Participant | Unadjusted Readmission Rate (%) | <i>P Value</i><br>(Relative to Reference) | Adjusted Readmission Rate (%) | <i>P Value</i><br>(Relative to Reference) |
|---------------|---|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| AMI           | No                                      | 20.0                            | <i>Ref</i>                                | 19.9                          | <i>Ref</i>                                |
|               | Yes                                     | 19.8                            | 0.14                                      | 19.8                          | 0.18                                      |
| Heart Failure | No                                      | 24.6                            | <i>Ref</i>                                | 24.4                          | <i>Ref</i>                                |
|               | Yes                                     | 24.3                            | 0.003                                     | 24.2                          | 0.11                                      |
| Pneumonia     | No                                      | 18.2                            | <i>Ref</i>                                | 18.2                          | <i>Ref</i>                                |
|               | Yes                                     | 18.1                            | 0.68                                      | 18.1                          | 0.68                                      |

# Transitional Care Interventions to Prevent Readmissions for Persons With Heart Failure

## A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Cynthia Feltner, MD, MPH; Christine D. Jones, MD, MS; Crystal W. Cené, MD, MPH; Zhi-Jie Zheng, MD, PhD, MPH; Carla A. Sueti, MD, PhD; Emmanuel J.L. Coker-Schwimmer, MPH; Marina Arvanitis, MD; Kathleen N. Lohr, PhD, MPhil, MA; Jennifer C. Middleton, PhD; and Daniel E. Jonas, MD, MPH

| Category                             | Impact on 30-d readmissions      | Strength of Evidence |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| High-intensity home-visiting program | ↓ All-cause readmission or death | Low SOE              |
| Structured telephone support         | Insufficient evidence            | ----                 |
| Multidisciplinary-HF clinics         | No data available                | ----                 |
| Telemonitoring                       | Insufficient evidence            | ----                 |
| Educational interventions            | No data available                | ----                 |

# Current Summary and Future Possibilities

- 30-day readmission rate after ACS is a reportable statistic with reimbursement implications.
- Current determination of expected readmission rate by CMS fails to discriminate between appropriateness/type of readmission and does not incorporate socioeconomic data.
- Current models poorly predict readmission rates, and how and whether readmissions can be reduced is unclear. Improved predictive models are clearly needed.
- A more nuanced and comprehensive approach will be required to effectively alter the post-discharge course of ACS pts.
- Robust risk adjustment must account for mental and physical comorbidities and socioeconomic factors.
- Specific post-hospital quality of care metrics should be rigorously tested and validated before implementation.

# **Panel Discussion**

**Moderator: Deepak L. Bhatt, MD, MPH**

**Discussants: Jeffrey L. Anderson, MD**

**Robert A. Harrington, MD**

**P. Gabriel Steg, MD**



## ARS QUESTION 1

A 73-year-old female comes in with a NSTEMI and receives a DES to the proximal left circumflex artery. In addition to aspirin, which antiplatelet agent would you discharge her on?

- A. Clopidogrel
- B. Prasugrel
- C. Ticagrelor



## ARS QUESTION 2

A 78-year-old male comes in with a NSTEMI and is found to have diffuse three vessel disease. Medical management is elected. In addition to aspirin, which antiplatelet agent would you discharge him on?

- A. Clopidogrel
- B. Prasugrel
- C. Ticagrelor