

A photograph of a modern building interior, likely a hospital or university building, featuring a large, curved, white lattice sculpture hanging from the ceiling. The building has multiple levels with glass railings and large windows. The text is overlaid on a dark blue background.

# **Emerging treatments in heart failure**

**John Atherton**

**Department of Cardiology, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital**

**Faculty of Medicine, University of Queensland**

**Faculty of Health, Queensland University of Technology**

**Faculty of Science, Health, Education and Engineering, University of Sunshine Coast**

# Disclosures

## *Honoraria, sponsorship, or advisory boards (listed)*

- AstraZeneca: Hyperkalaemia advisory board
- Bayer
- Boehringer Ingelheim: Diabetes advisory board
- Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Eli Lilly: Diabetes advisory board
- Menarini
- Novartis: Heart failure advisory board
- Otsuka: Tolvaptan advisory board
- Servier
- Vifor Pharma: Hyperkalaemia medical advisory board



# Emerging treatments in heart failure

- Acute heart failure
- Chronic heart failure with reduced LVEF
- Chronic heart failure with preserved LVEF
- Valvular heart disease



# Cardiac decompensation: Current concepts

## *General principles of treatment*

ALBERTO RAMÍREZ, M.D., AND  
WALTER H. ABELMANN, M.D.

ty. In the presence of acute pulmonary edema, morphine sulfate is the drug of choice; 10 to 15 mg subcutaneously or 5 to 8 mg intravenously is well tolerated

Identify and treat correctable causes

phine,  
m its  
ase in  
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hibi-

Improve oxygenation (sitting position, oxygen  $\pm$  positive pressure, furosemide)

identify the causes of cardiac decompensation at the

administered through a well fitted mask; nasal cath-

Increase myocardial contractility

tration of oxy-  
he inspired air  
ances, oxygen  
ve pressure is  
rendered more

Nitroglycerin, nitroprusside

uniform, and alveolar pressure is increased, reducing  
m alveolar capillaries as well  
ngs, resulting in a fall in pul-  
lung stiffness and hence the  
duced. Endotracheal intuba-  
sitive pressure is reserved for

the most desperately ill patient when routine measures have failed and examination of arterial-blood gases in-

NEJM 1974  
290:499

<b>Phase 3 RCT's</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>OPTIME</b>	2002	Milrinone	Neutral. Increased AE's.
<b>VMAC</b>	2002	Nesiritide	Greater decrease PCWP (vs. placebo/ GTN) and symptoms (vs. placebo).
<b>VERITAS</b>	2007	Tezosentan	Neutral. Increased AE's.
<b>SURVIVE</b>	2007	Levosimendan	Neutral (vs. dobutamine).
<b>EVEREST</b>	2007	Tolvaptan	Improved symptoms. No effect on mort./ hosp.
<b>PROTECT</b>	2010	Rolofylline	Neutral. Increased seizures.
<b>DOSE</b>	2011	Frusemide	Neutral (Continuous vs. bolus; HD vs. LD).
<b>ASCEND-HF</b>	2011	Nesiritide	Neutral (symptoms, mort./ hosp.).
<b>CARESS</b>	2012	Ultrafiltration	Inferior (vs. stepped drug therapy).
<b>RELAX-AHF</b>	2013	Serelaxin	Positive (VAS AUC). Reduced 180d mort.
<b>ASTRONAUT</b>	2013	Aliskiren	Neutral.
<b>REVIVE</b>	2013	Levosimendan	Improved clinical status. Increased AE's.
<b>ROSE</b>	2013	LD dopamine/ nesiritide	Neutral.
<b>TRUE-AHF</b>	2016	Ularitide	Neutral
<b>RELAX-AHF-2</b>	2017	Serelaxin	Neutral

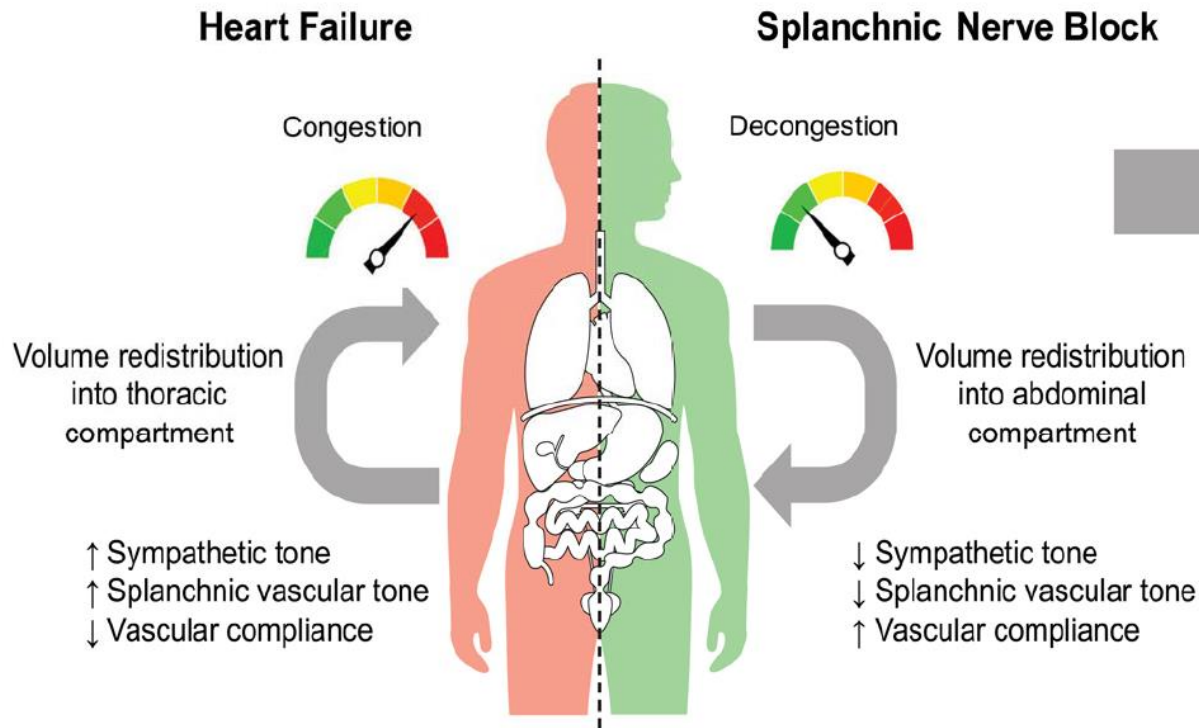
\* comparisons are vs. placebo unless otherwise stated

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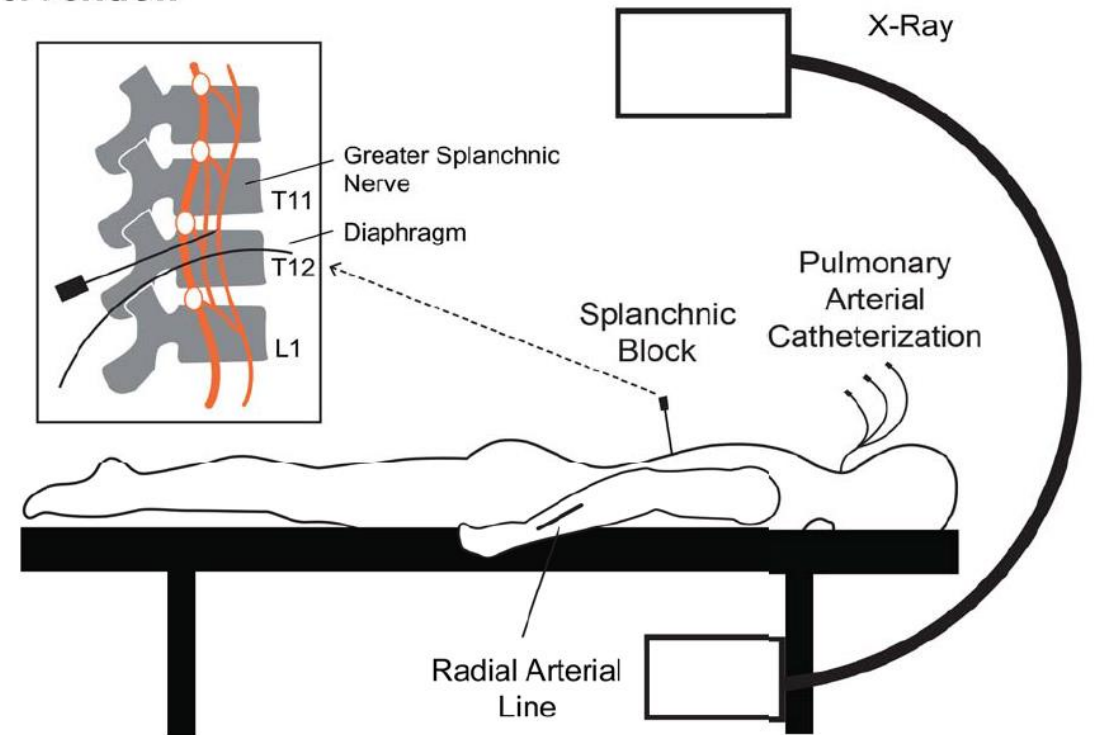
\* comparisons are vs. placebo unless otherwise stated

# Splanchnic nerve block for AHF?

## A: Concept



## B: Intervention



# Emerging treatments in heart failure

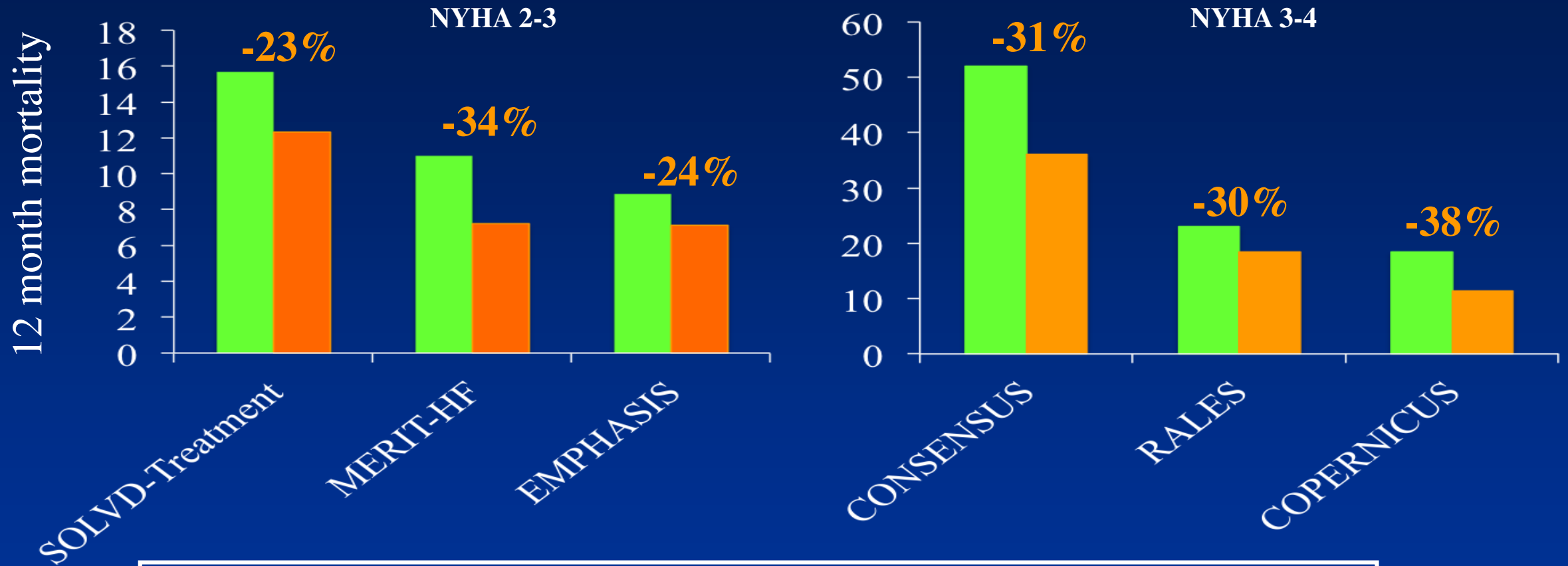
- Acute heart failure

- Chronic heart failure with reduced LVEF

- Chronic heart failure with preserved LVEF



# ACEI + Beta blocker + MRA



**60-70% RRR mortality in HFrEF**

# ACEi+BB+MRA in HF with LVEF $\leq$ 35-40%

What next?

Switch ACEi to ARNI

Add ivabradine

Intravenous iron

Add ICD

Add CRT

AF ablation

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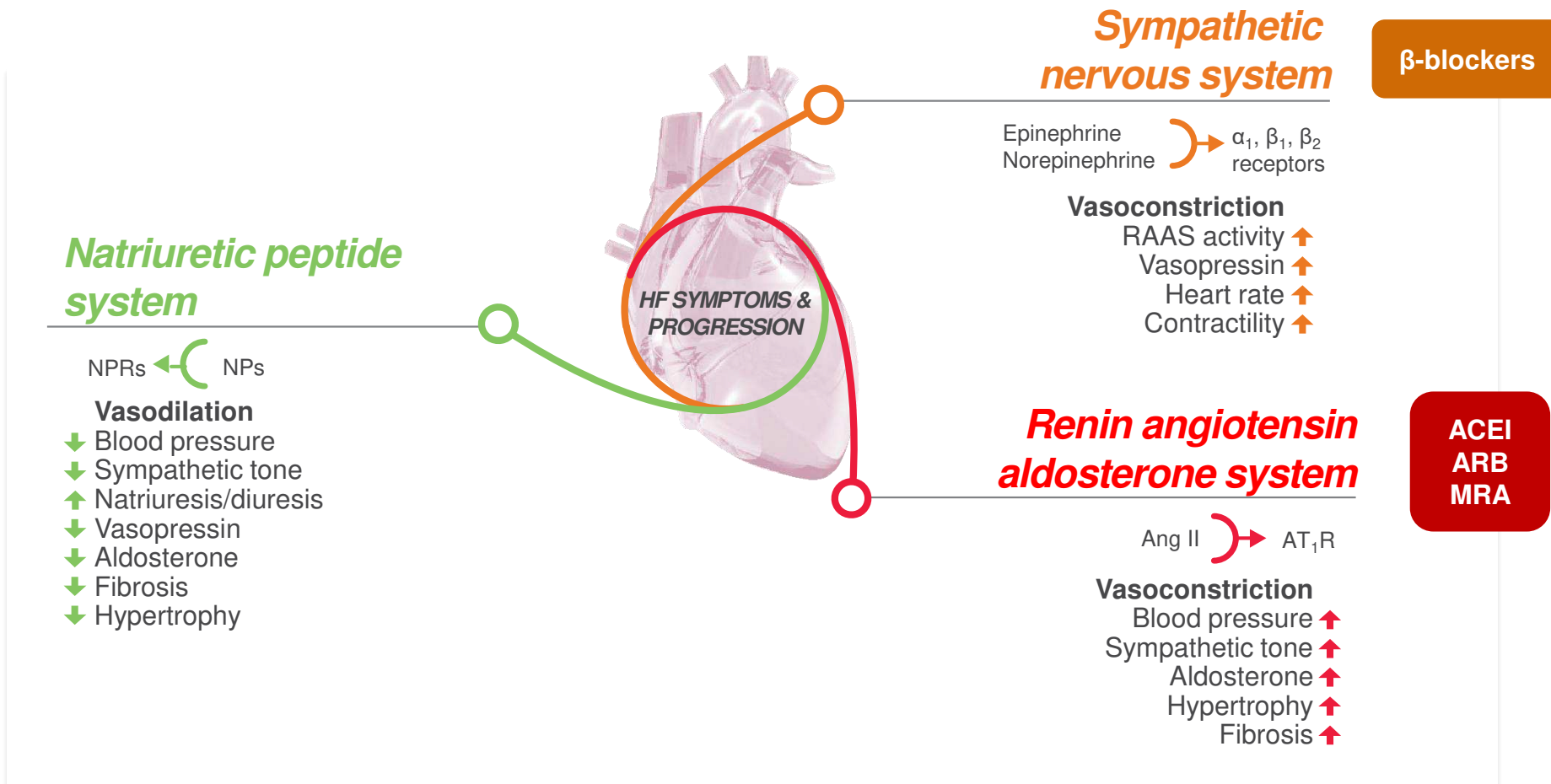
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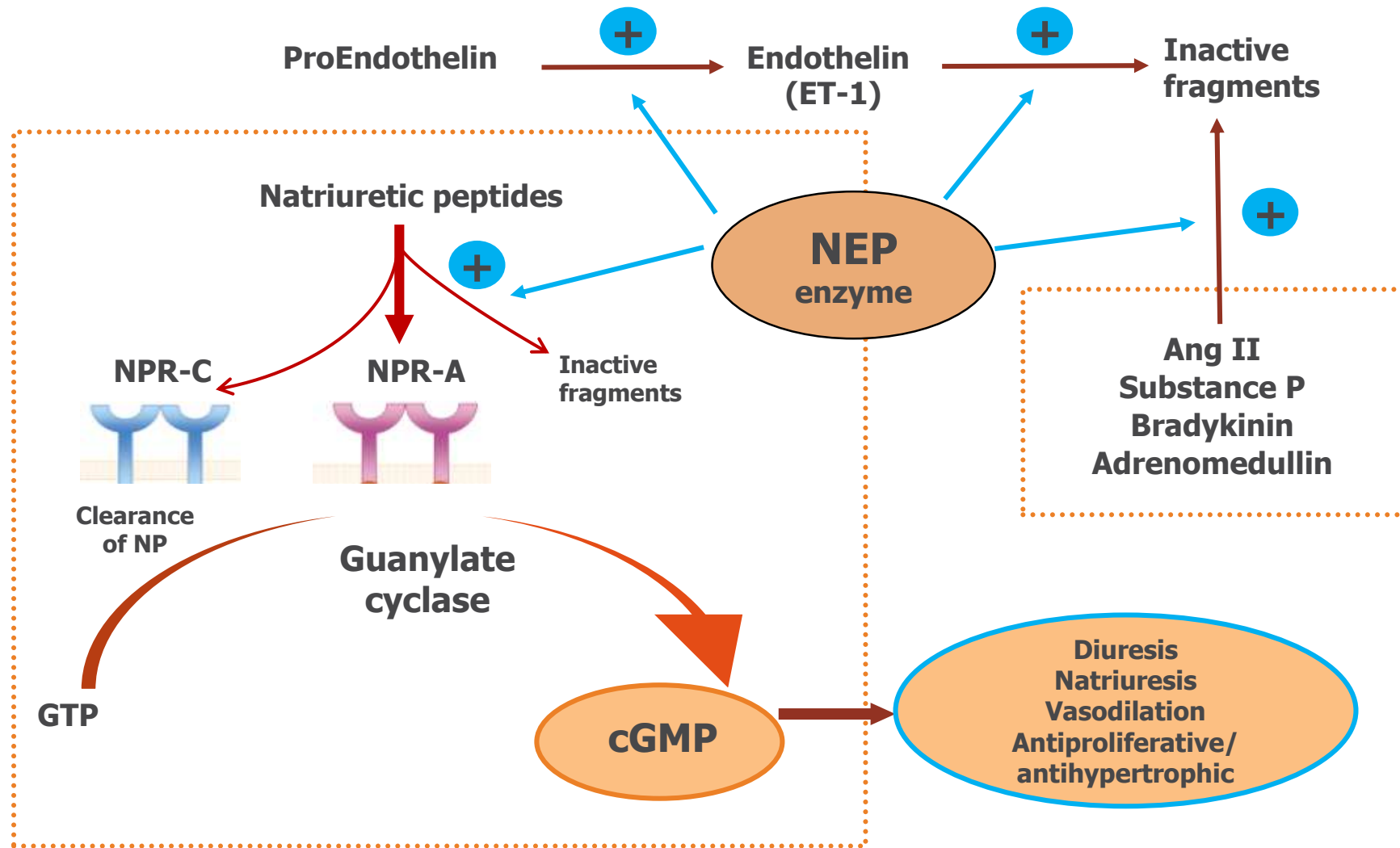
AF ablation

# Neurohormonal modulation vs. antagonism in CHF

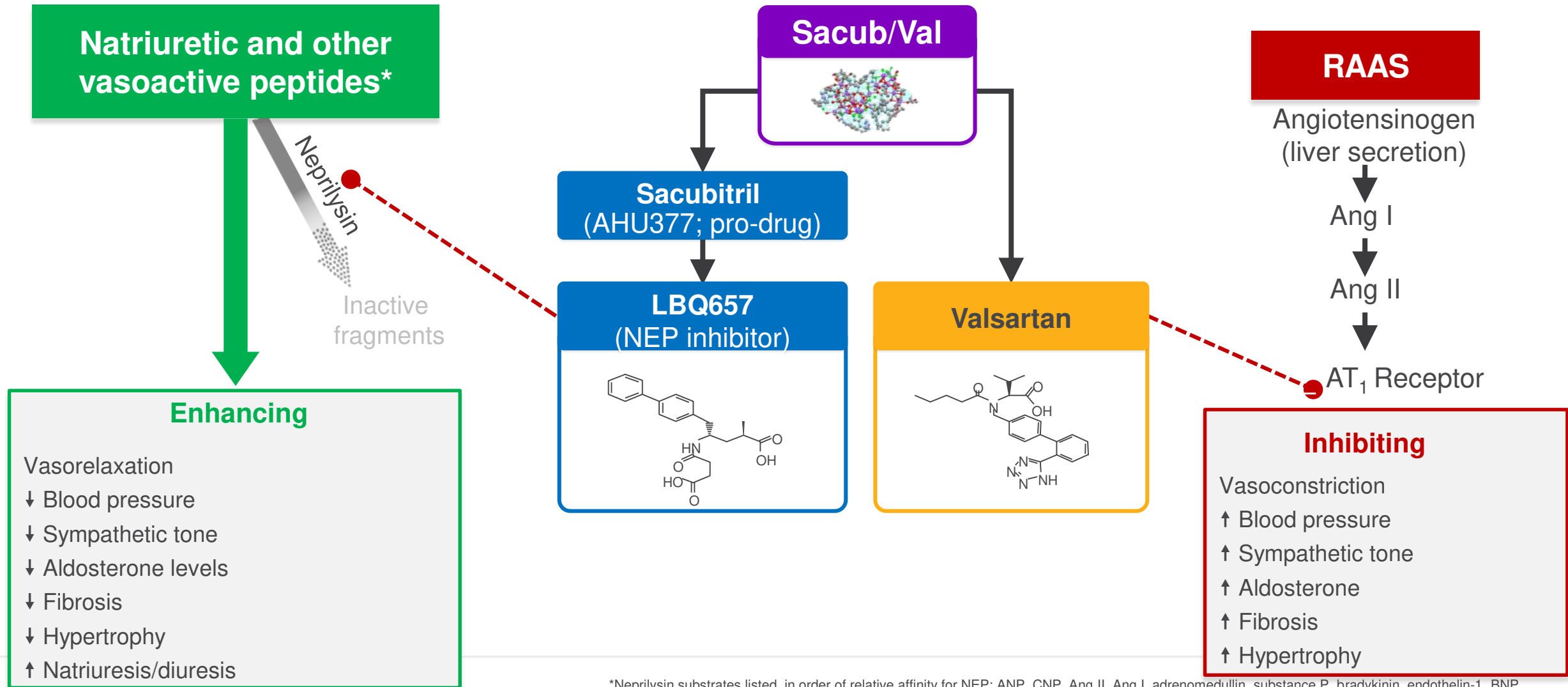




# Clearance of Natriuretic Peptides



# Sacubitril/ Valsartan simultaneously inhibits NEP (via LBQ657) and blocks the AT<sub>1</sub> receptor (via valsartan)



\*Neprilysin substrates listed in order of relative affinity for NEP: ANP, CNP, Ang II, Ang I, adrenomedullin, substance P, bradykinin, endothelin-1, BNP  
 Levin et al. N Engl J Med 1998;339:321–8; Nathisuwan & Talbert. Pharmacotherapy 2002;22:27–42;  
 Schrier & Abraham N Engl J Med 2009;341:577–85; Langenickel & Dole. Drug Discov Today: Ther Strateg 2012;9:e131–9;  
 Feng et al. Tetrahedron Letters 2012;53:275–6

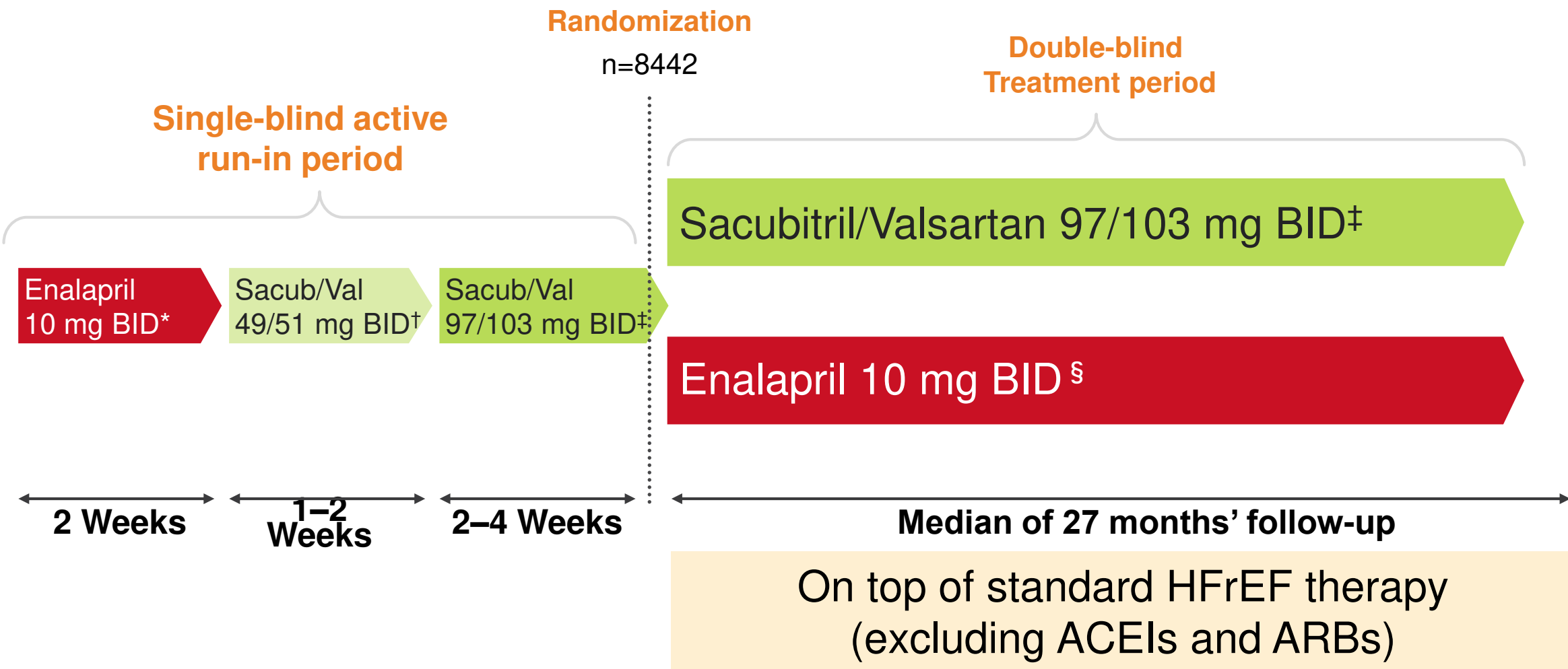
# PARADIGM-HF: Key inclusion criteria

- Chronic HF NYHA FC II–IV with LVEF  $\leq 40\%$ \*
- BNP (or NT-proBNP) levels as follows:
  - $\geq 150$  (or  $\geq 600$  pg/mL), or
  - $\geq 100$  (or  $\geq 400$  pg/mL) and a hospitalization for HFrEF within the last 12 months
- $\geq 4$  weeks' stable treatment with an ACEI or an ARB<sup>#</sup>, and a  $\beta$ -blocker
- Aldosterone antagonist should be considered for all patients (with treatment with a stable dose for  $\geq 4$  weeks, if given)

\*The ejection fraction entry criteria was lowered to  $\leq 35\%$  in a protocol amendment

<sup>#</sup>Dosage equivalent to enalapril  $\geq 10$  mg/day

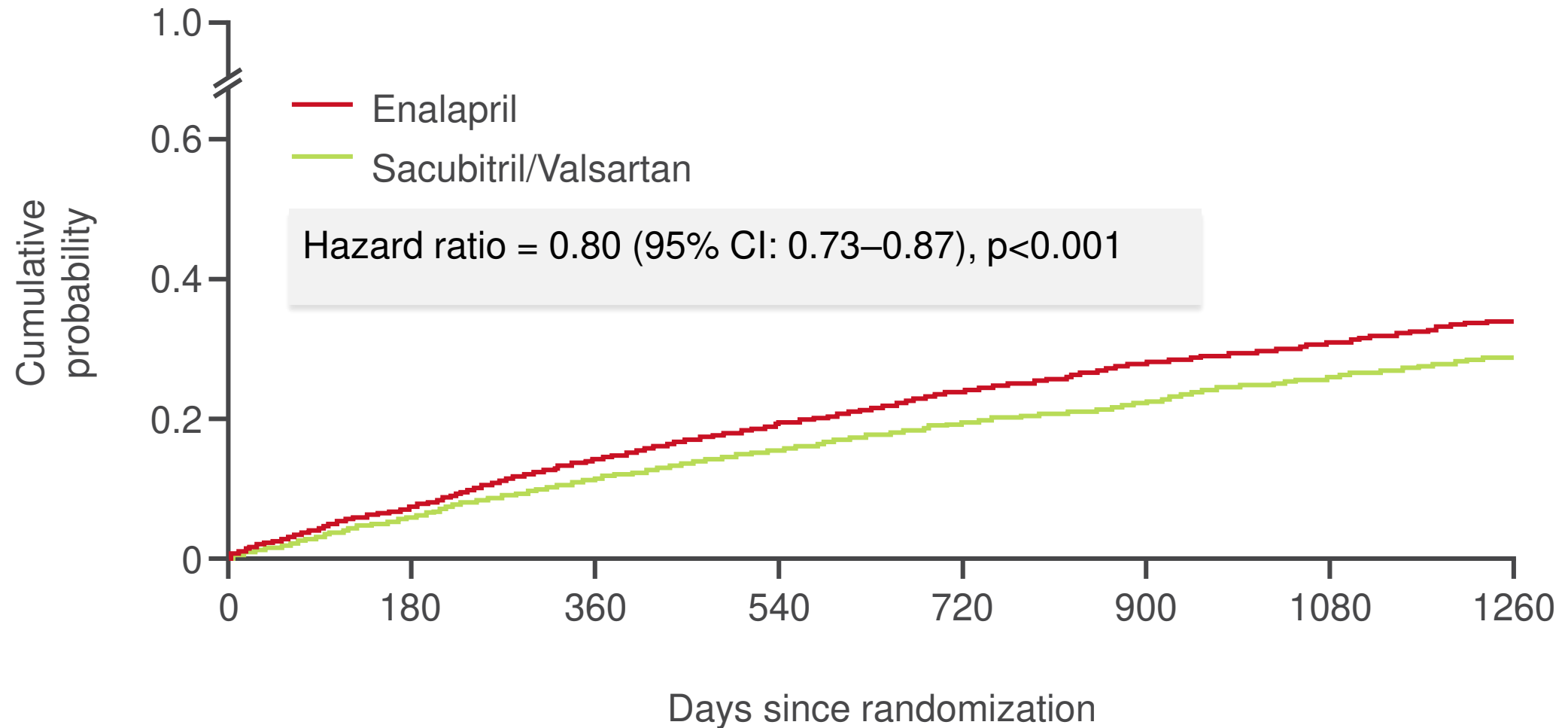
# PARADIGM-HF: Study design



\*Enalapril 5 mg BID (10 mg TDD) for 1-2 weeks followed by enalapril 10 mg BID (20 mg TDD) as an optional starting run-in dose for those patients who are treated with ARBs or with a low dose of ACEI; †200 mg TDD; ‡400 mg TDD; §20 mg TDD. McMurray et al. Eur J Heart Fail. 2013;15:1062-73; McMurray et al. Eur J Heart Fail. 2014;16:817-25; McMurray, et al. N Engl J Med 2014; ePub ahead of print: DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1409077.



# PARADIGM-HF; Primary endpoint: CV death or first hospitalization for HF



# Prospectively defined safety events

Event, n (%)	Sacub/Val (n=4187)	Enalapril (n=4212)	p-value‡
<b>Hypotension</b>			
Symptomatic	588 (14.0)	388 (9.2)	<0.001
Symptomatic with SBP <90 mmHg	112 (2.7)	59 (1.4)	<0.001
<b>Elevated serum creatinine</b>			
≥2.5 mg/dL	139 (3.3)	188 (4.5)	0.007
≥3.0 mg/dL	63 (1.5)	83 (2.0)	0.10
<b>Elevated serum potassium</b>			
>5.5 mmol/L	674 (16.1)	727 (17.3)	0.15
>6.0 mmol/L	181 (4.3)	236 (5.6)	0.007
<b>Cough</b>	474 (11.3)	601 (14.3)	<0.001
<b>Angioedema</b> (adjudicated by a blinded expert committee)			
No treatment or use of antihistamines only	10 (0.2)	5 (0.1)	0.19
Catecholamines or glucocorticoids without hospitalization	6 (0.1)	4 (0.1)	0.52
Hospitalized without airway compromise	3 (0.1)	1 (<0.1)	0.31
Airway compromise	0	0	---

- Fewer patients in the Sacubitril/Valsartan group than in the enalapril group stopped their study medication because of an AE (10.7 vs 12.3%, p=0.03)

# ACEi+BB+MRA in HF with LVEF $\leq 35-40\%$

What next?

Switch ACEi to ARNI      Morbidity and mortality benefit

Add ivabradine

Intravenous iron

Add ICD

Add CRT

AF ablation

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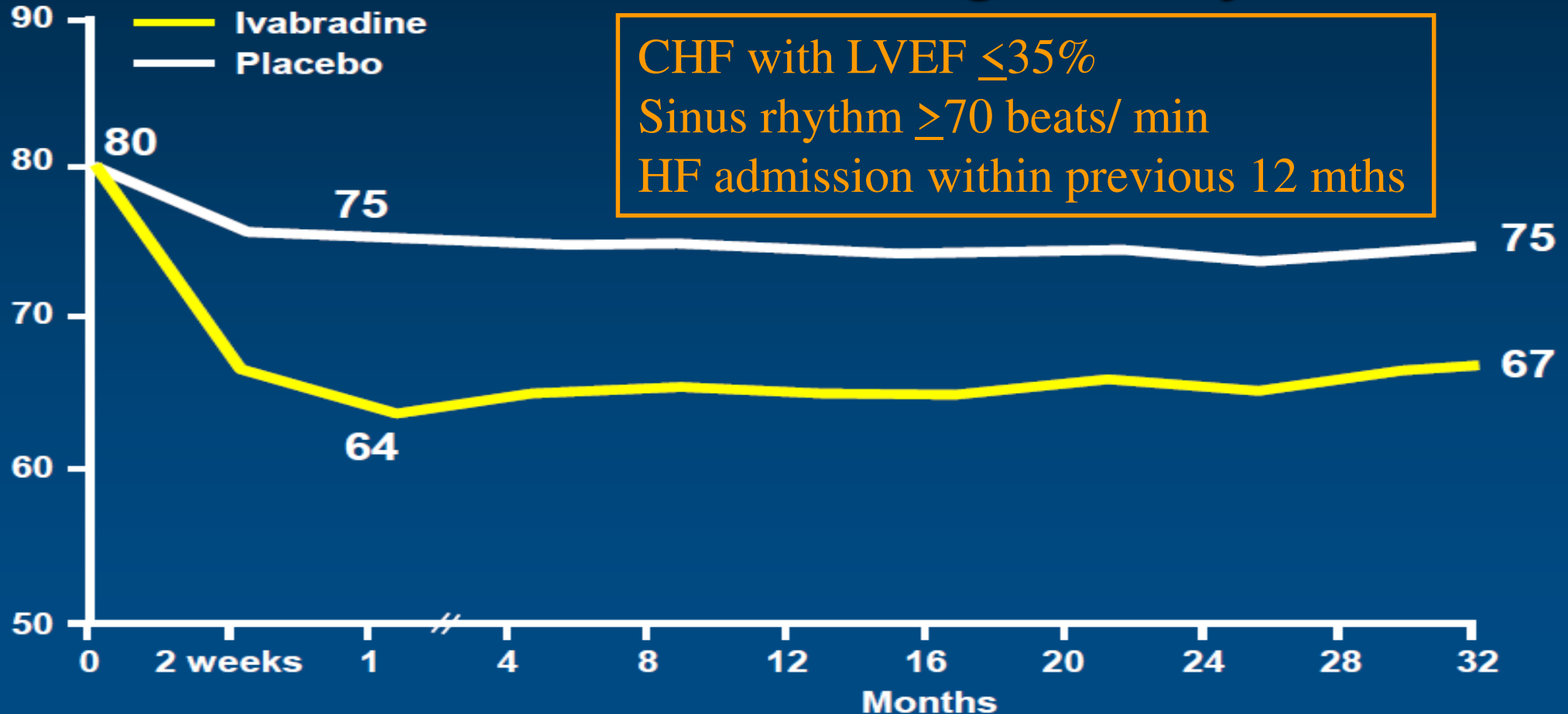
AF ablation



## Mean heart rate reduction

Mean ivabradine dose: 6.4 mg bid at 1 month  
6.5 mg bid at 1 year

Heart rate (bpm)





# Primary composite endpoint

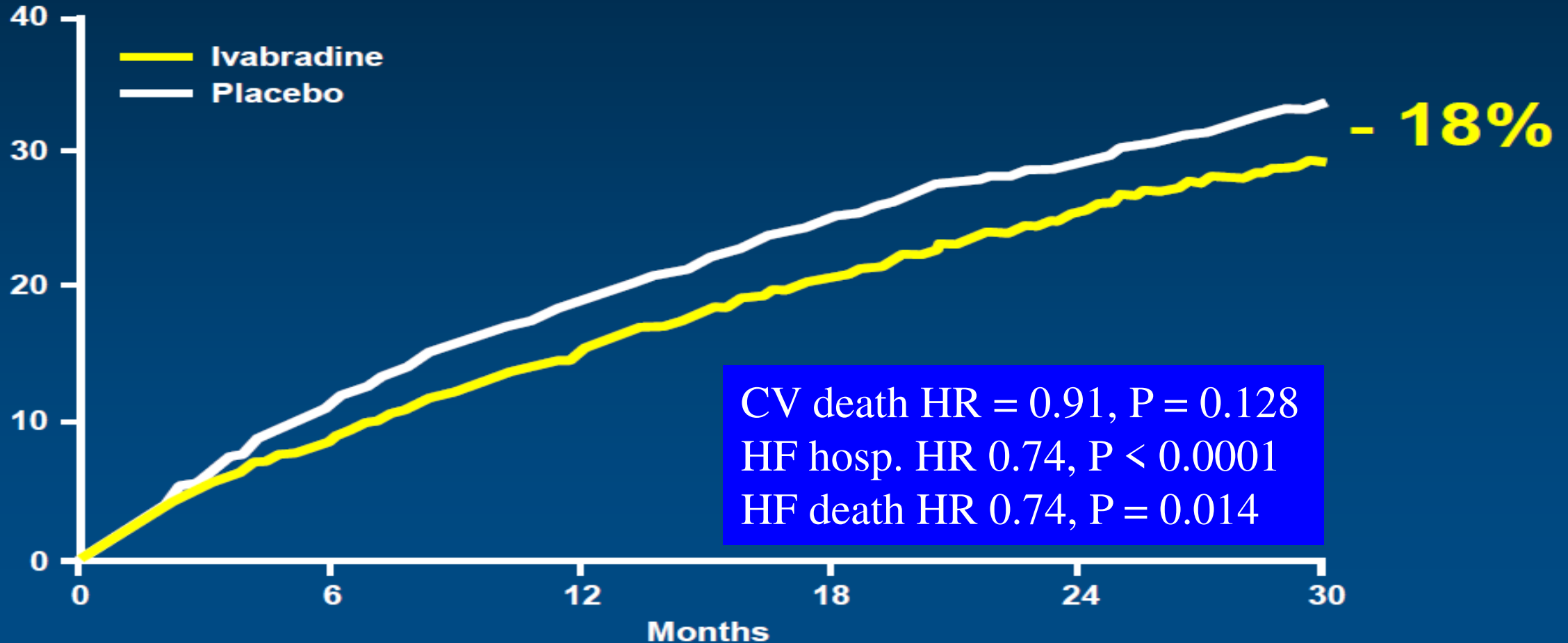
Cardiovascular death or heart failure hospitalisation

Ivabradine n=793 (14.5%PY)

Placebo n=937 (17.7%PY)

HR = 0.82 [95% CI 0.75-0.90] p<0.0001

Cumulative frequency (%)



Krum and Sindone CSANZ 2013	Baseline HR≥77 bpm Subgroup (Hazard Ratio [95% CI])	p value	All SHIFT Patients (Hazard Ratio [95% CI])	p value
Primary composite endpoint	0.75 [0.67; 0.85]	<0.0001	0.82 [0.75; 0.90]	<0.0001
CV death	0.81 [0.69; 0.96]	0.0137	0.91 [0.80; 1.03]	0.128
Hospitalisation for worsening CHF	0.69 [0.59; 0.80]	<0.0001	0.74 [0.66; 0.83]	<0.0001
All-cause death	0.81 [0.69; 0.94]	0.0074	0.90 [0.80; 1.02]	0.092
Death from CHF	0.61 [0.45; 0.83]	0.0017	0.74 [0.58; 0.94]	0.014
Hospitalisation for any cause	0.82 [0.74; 0.91]	0.0002	0.89 [0.82; 0.96]	0.003
Hospitalisation for CV reason	0.79 [0.71; 0.89]	<0.0001	0.85 [0.78; 0.92]	0.0002

# ACEi+BB+MRA in HF with LVEF $\leq 35-40\%$

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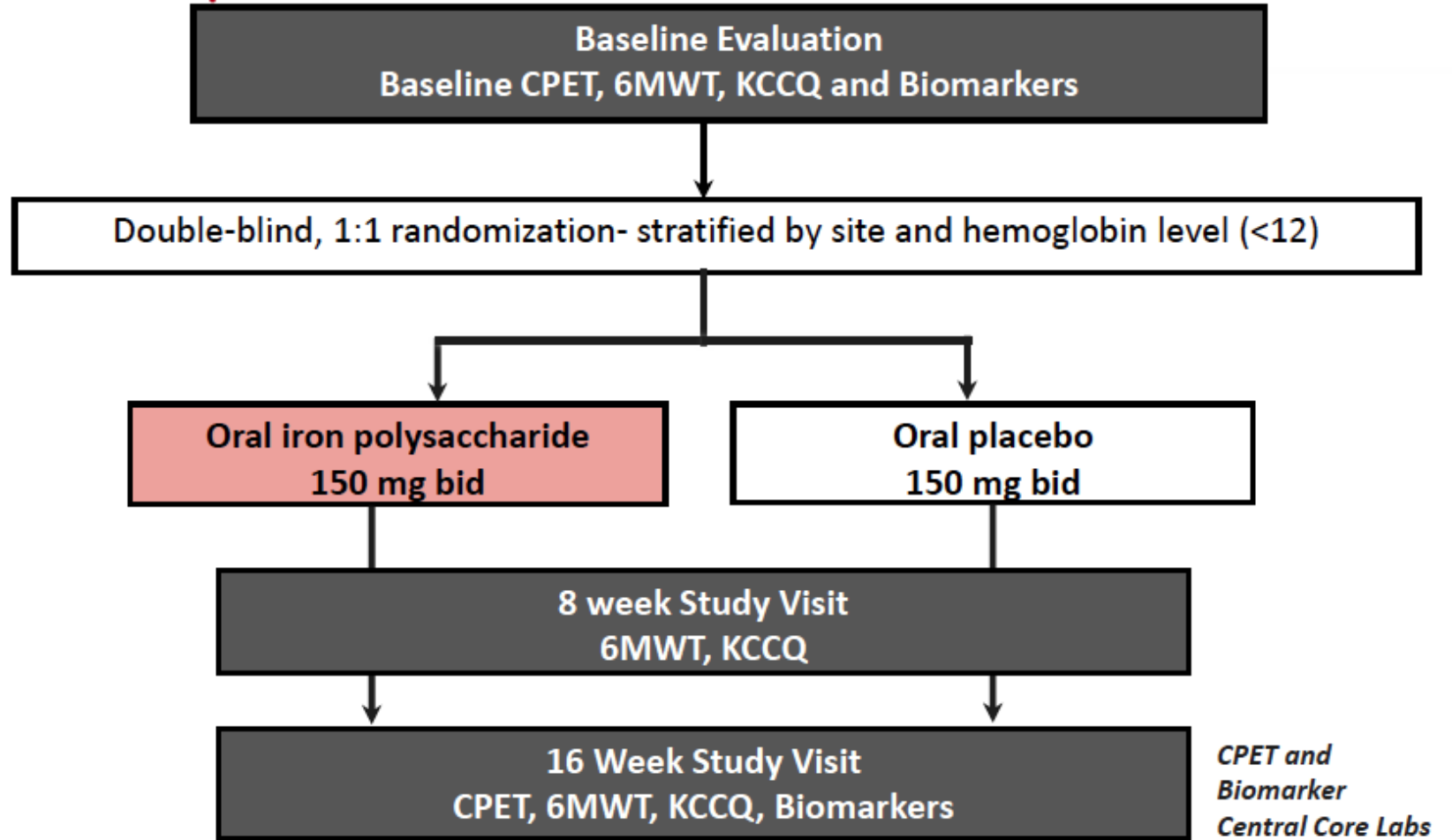
# Efficacy of intravenous iron in HFrEF

	n	Design	Inclusion	Treatment	F/U	Outcome
Bolger 2006	16	Open, pre-post	Ferritin $\leq$ 400	Iron sucrose	92 days	$\uparrow$ Hb, $\uparrow$ HRQoL, $\uparrow$ 6MWT, $\downarrow$ NYHA
Toblli 2007	40	DB, PC, RCT	Ferritin $<$ 100 and/or TSAT $\leq$ 20%	Iron sucrose	6 mths	$\uparrow$ Hb, $\uparrow$ HRQoL, $\uparrow$ 6MWT, $\uparrow$ LVEF, $\downarrow$ NYHA, $\uparrow$ CrCl, $\downarrow$ NT-proBNP, $\downarrow$ Hosp.
Okonko 2008	35	SB, RCT	Ferritin $<$ 100 or 100–300 + TSAT $<$ 20%	Iron sucrose	18 wks	$\downarrow$ HF symp. (PGA, NYHA), $\uparrow$ peak VO <sub>2</sub> /kg, $\downarrow$ Fatigue
Usmanov 2008	32	Open, pre-post	Ferritin not specified	Iron sucrose	26 wks	$\downarrow$ NYHA (in NYHA class III) $\uparrow$ Hb, Reverse remodelling
Anker 2009	459	DB, PC, RCT	Ferritin $<$ 100 or 100–300 + TSAT $<$ 20%	Ferric carboxymaltose	24 wks	$\downarrow$ HF symp. (PGA, NYHA), $\uparrow$ 6MWT, $\uparrow$ HRQoL, $\uparrow$ eGFR
Gaber 2012	40	Open, pre-post	Ferritin $<$ 100, TSAT $<$ 20%	Iron dextran	12 wks	$\downarrow$ NYHA, $\uparrow$ 6MWT, Tissue Doppler/strain improved
Beck-da-Silva 2013	16	DB, PC, RCT	Ferritin $<$ 500, TSAT $<$ 20%	Iron sucrose	3 mths	Underpowered
Ponikowski 2015	304	DB, PC, RCT	Ferritin $<$ 100 or 100–300 + TSAT $<$ 20%	Ferric carboxymaltose	52 wks	$\uparrow$ 6MWT, $\downarrow$ HF symp. (PGA, NYHA), $\uparrow$ HRQoL, $\downarrow$ Fatigue, $\downarrow$ HF hosp.
van Velduisen 2017	174	Open, RCT	Ferritin $<$ 100 or 100–300 + TSAT $<$ 20%	Ferric carboxymaltose	24 wks	$\uparrow$ peak VO <sub>2</sub> , $\downarrow$ HF symp (PGA, NYHA)

# IRONOUT HF



## Study Design



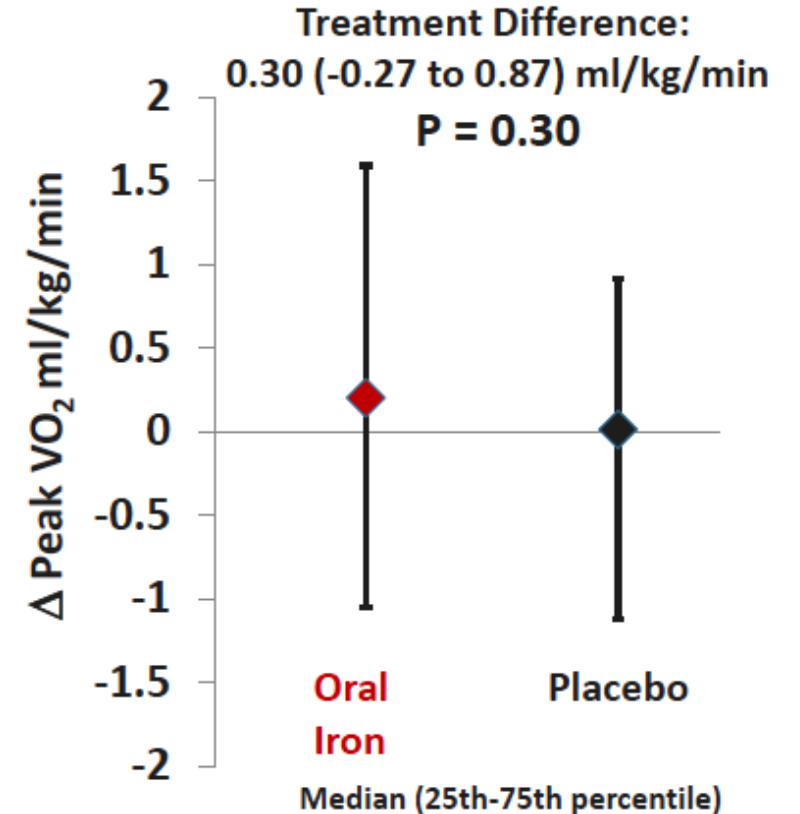
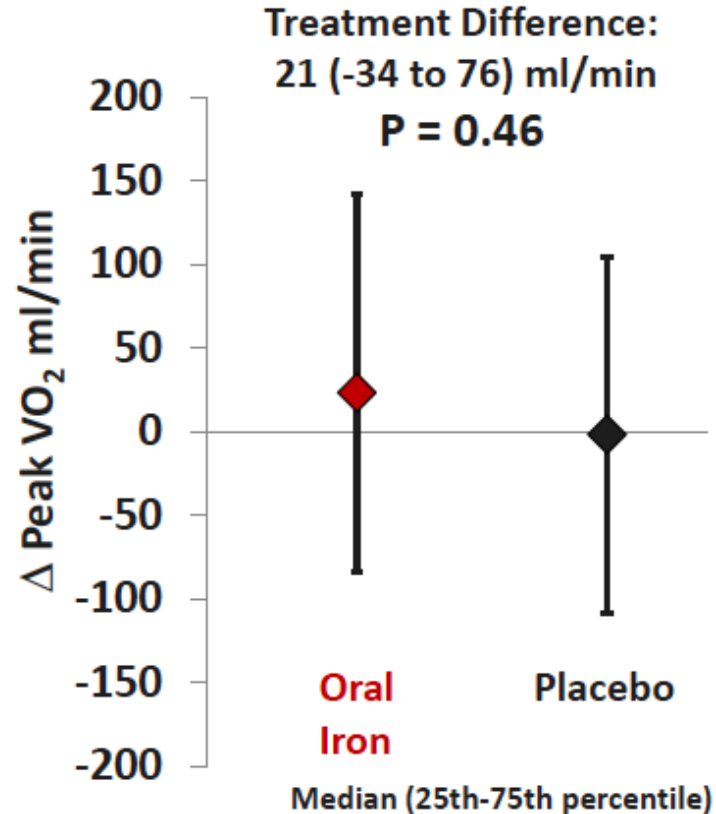
Lewis GD et al.  
JAMA 2017;  
317:1958-66.

American Heart Association Scientific Sessions 2016



# IRONOUT HF

## Primary Endpoint



Lewis GD et al.  
JAMA 2017;  
317:1958-66.

American Heart Association Scientific Sessions 2016

# ACEi+BB+MRA in HF with LVEF $\leq 35-40\%$

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Intravenous iron	Symptom/ QoL benefit if iron deficient

Add ICD

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AF ablation

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Intravenous iron

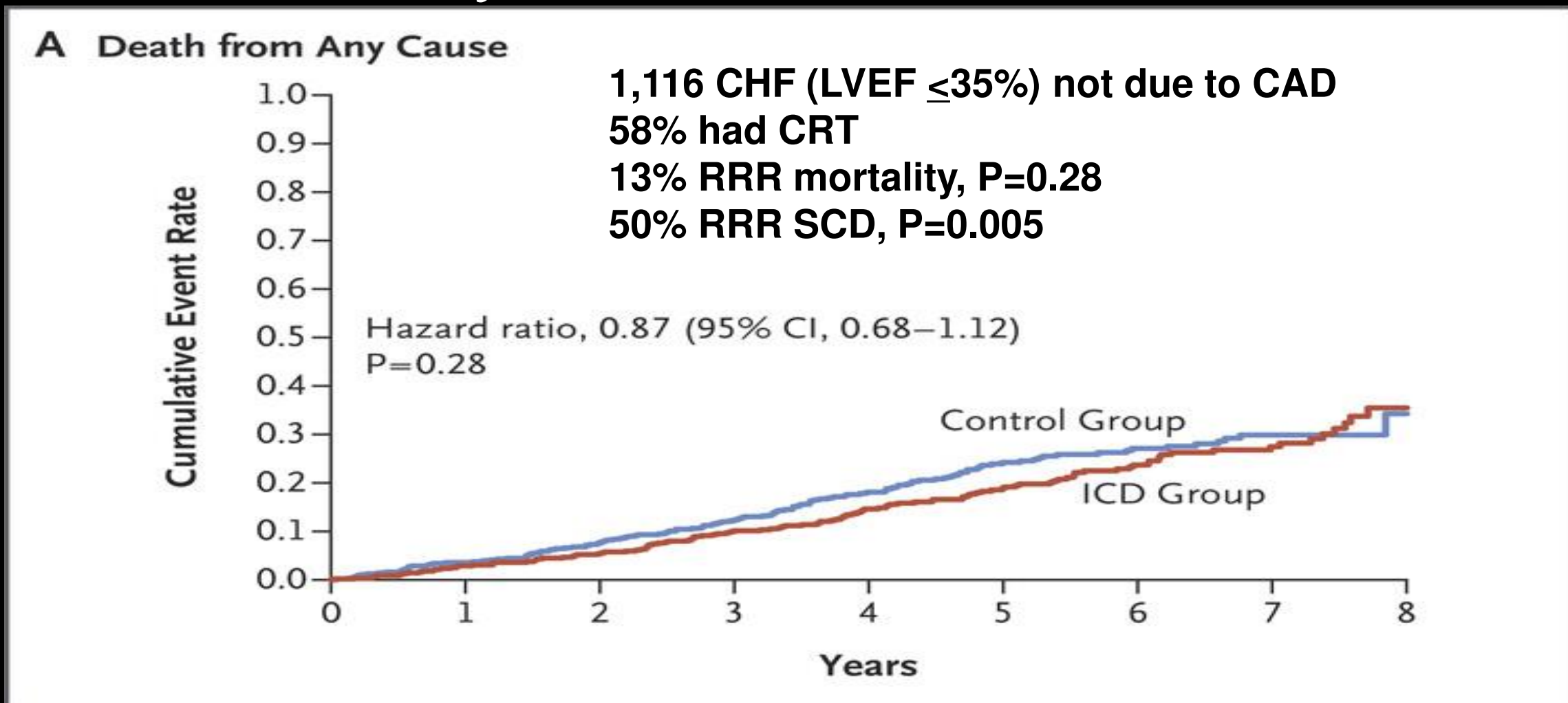
Symptom/ QoL benefit if iron deficient

Add ICD

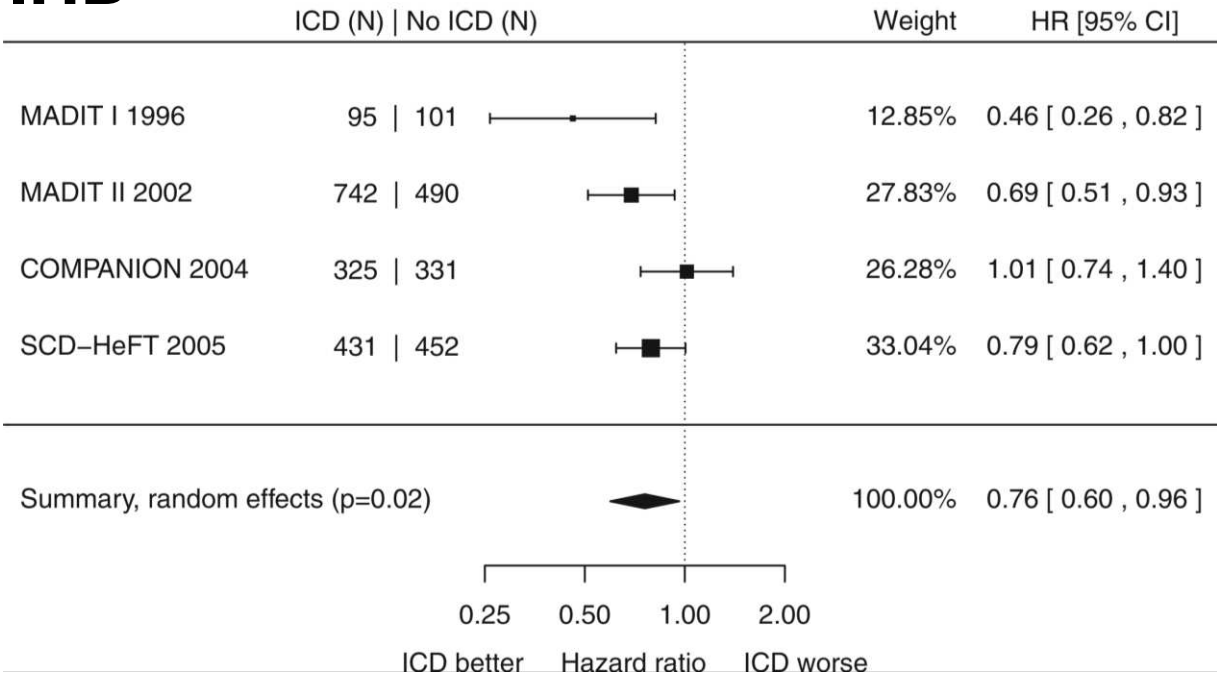
Add CRT

AF ablation

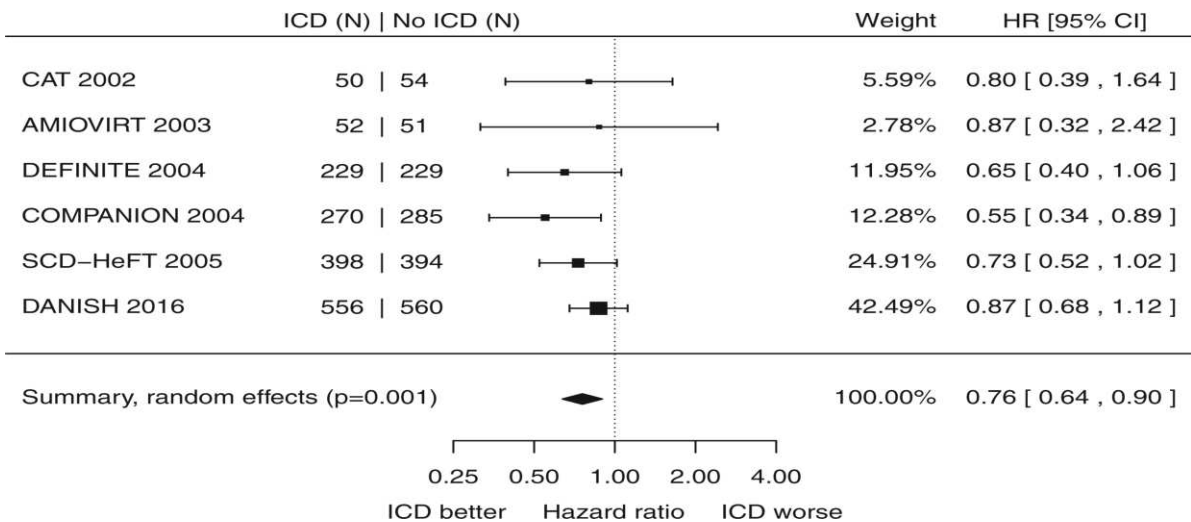
# DANISH: Defibrillator Implantation in Patients with Nonischemic Systolic Heart Failure



# IHD



# No IHD



**Meta-analysis of ICDs for primary prevention of death in LV dysfunction (8567 patients in 11 trials)**

**Similar mortality relative risk reduction with or without IHD**

**Shun-Shin MJ et al.  
Eur Heart 2017;38:1738-46.**

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# Cardiac Resynchronisation (CRT)



**CHF patients**

**NYHA Class 2-4 symptoms**

**QRS  $\geq 130$ ms (esp. LBBB?)**

**LVEF  $\leq 30-35\%$**

**Optimal drug therapy**

**Improves symptoms**

**Decreased hospitalisation**

**Decreased mortality**

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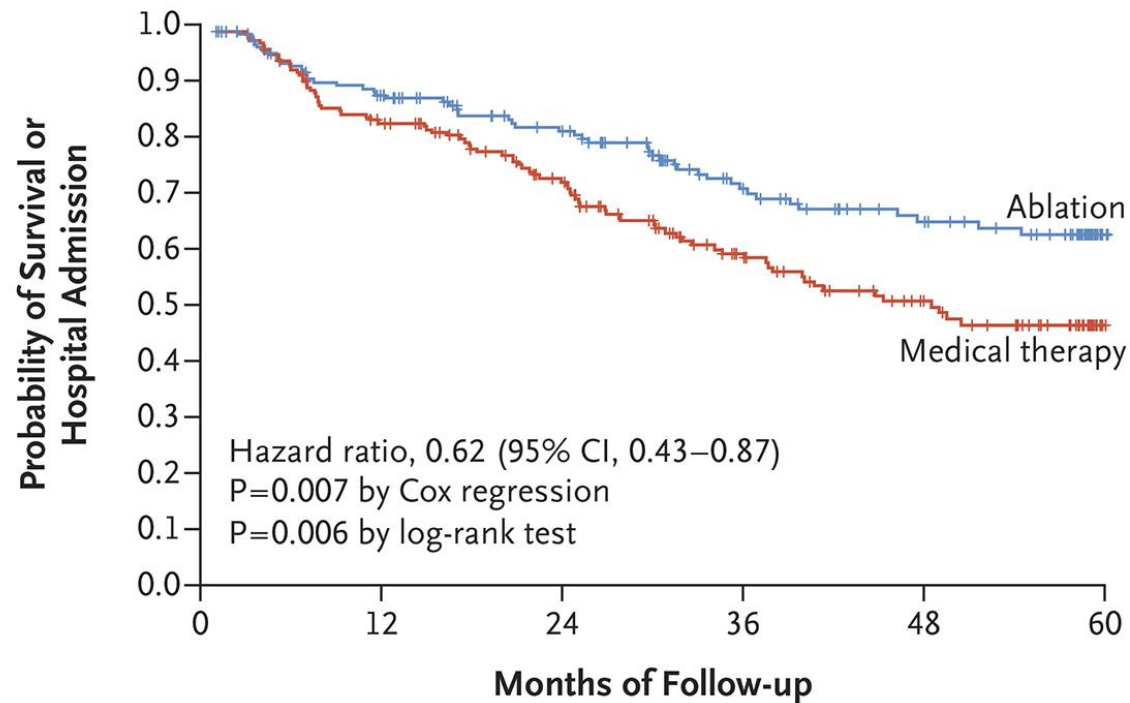
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AF ablation	

# CASTLE-AF

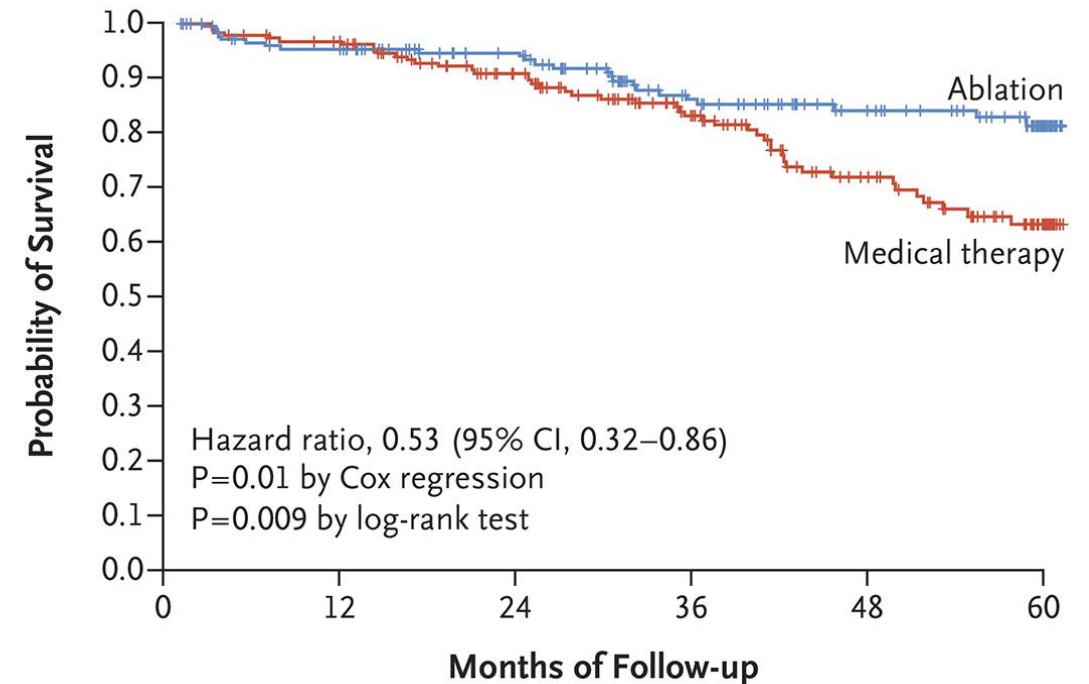
## AF catheter ablation

- Symptomatic paroxysmal or persistent AF
- Failure/ intolerance  $\geq 1$  AAD (or unwilling)
- HFrEF with LVEF  $\leq 0.35$
- NYHA class  $\geq 2$
- ICD or CRT-D with home monitoring

Death or Hospitalization for Worsening Heart Failure



Death from Any Cause

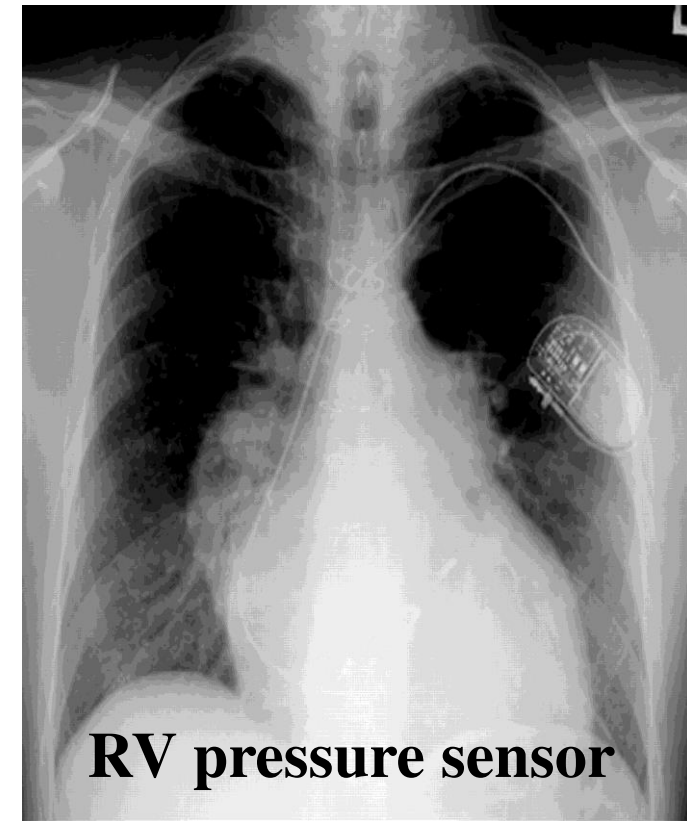
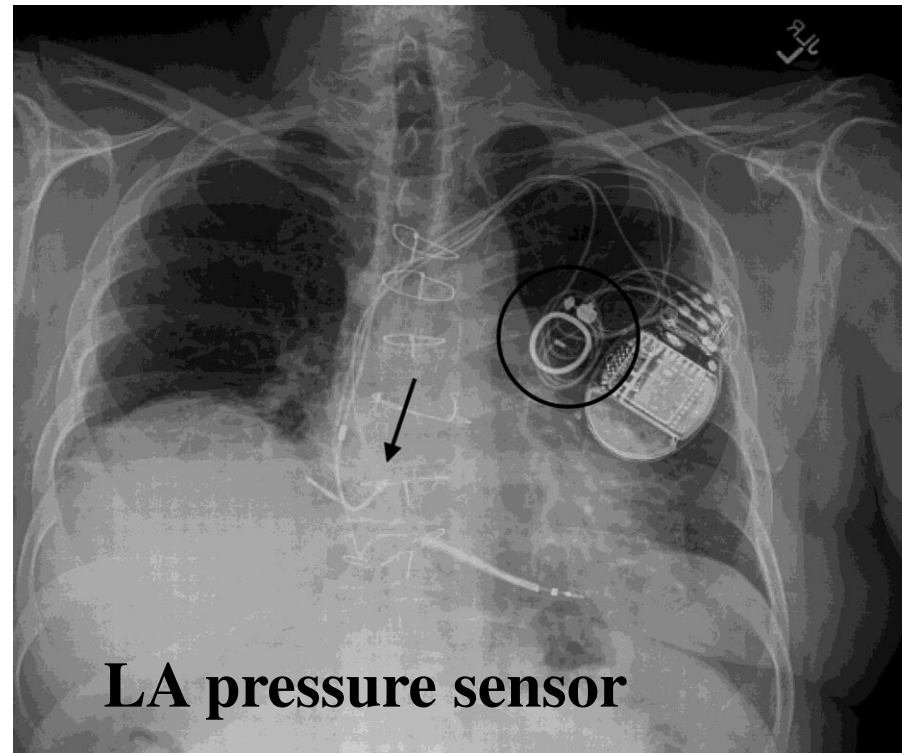
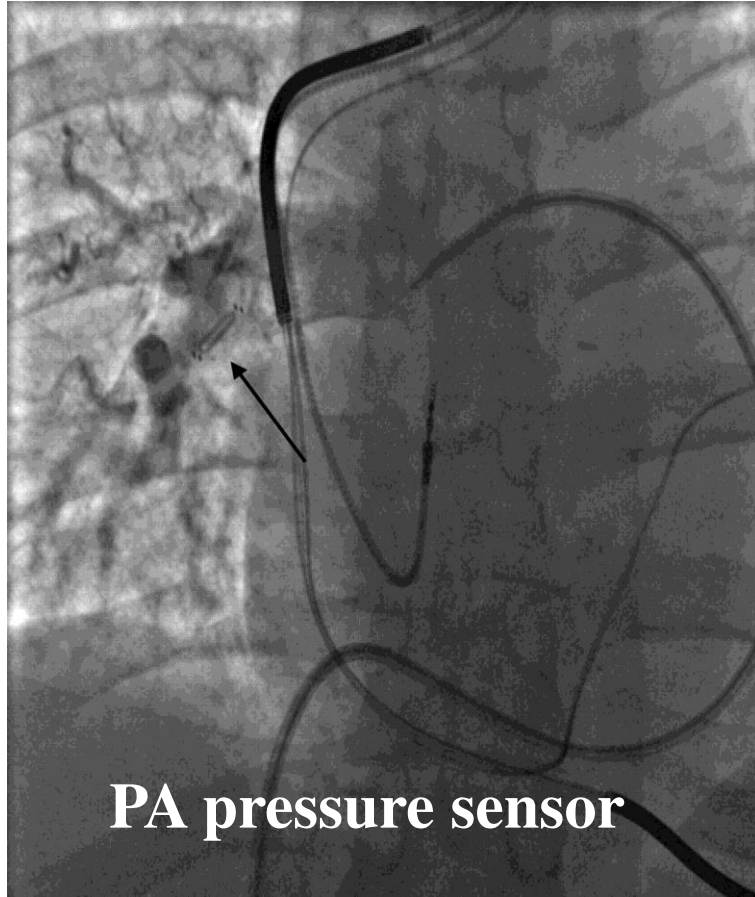


# ACEi+BB+MRA in HF with LVEF $\leq 35-40\%$

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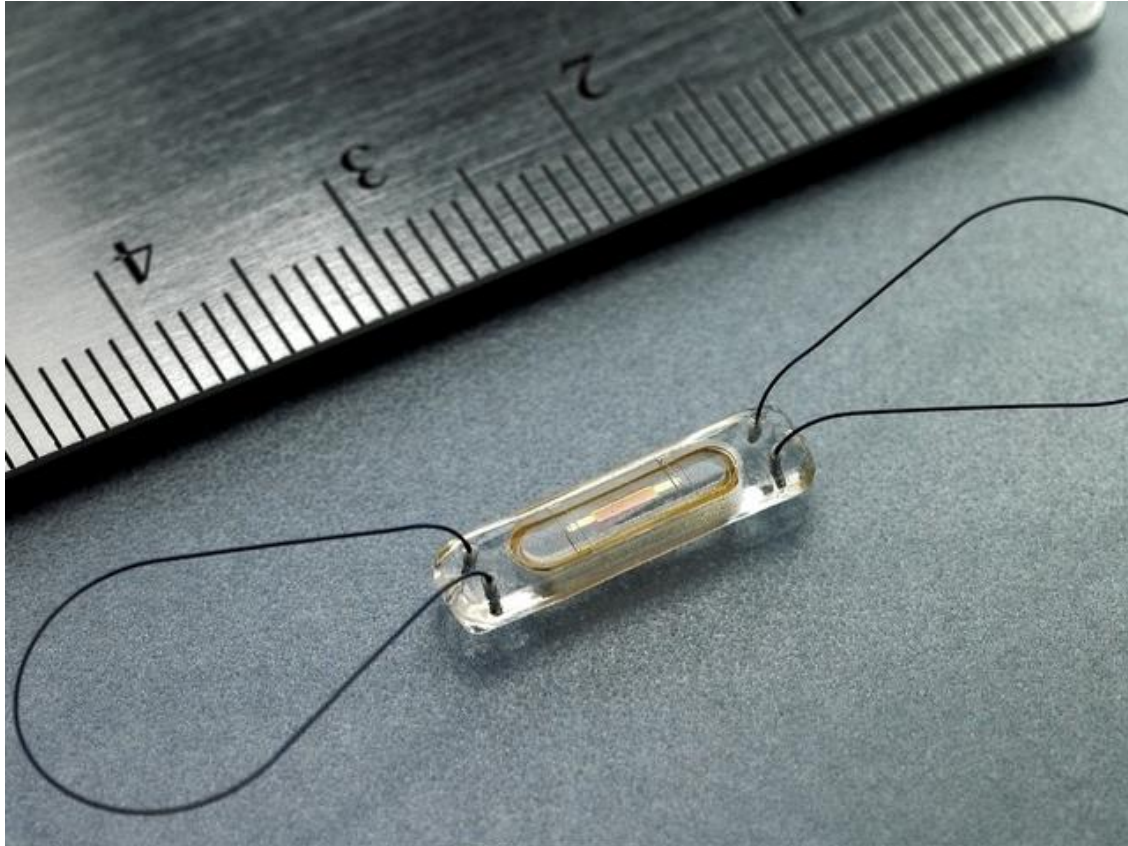
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Add ICD	Mortality benefit
Add CRT	Morbidity and mortality benefit for QRS $\geq 130$ ms
AF ablation	Morbidity and mortality benefit for recurrent AF

# Implantable haemodynamic sensors





# CHAMPION: PA pressure monitoring in CHF



- 550 NYHA III CHF pts
- Single blind RCT
- Implanted PA sensor (wireless)
- 30% RRR HF hosp. 6 mths,  $P < 0.001$  (Prim. EP) and 15 mths
- 30% RRR any hosp.,  $P = 0.02$
- Improved QOL
- Lower PAP
- Benefit in reduced and preserved systolic LVEF

Abraham et al. Lancet 2011;377:658-66.



# Emerging treatments in heart failure

- Acute heart failure
- Chronic heart failure with reduced LVEF
- Chronic heart failure with preserved LVEF

<b>Drug class</b>	<b>HFrEF major RCT's</b>		<b>HFpEF major RCT's</b>	
<b>ACEi</b>	<b>CONSENSUS SOLVD-T</b>	<b>Positive Positive</b>	<b>PEP-CHF</b>	<b>Neutral</b>
<b>Beta blockers</b>	<b>CIBIS-II MERIT-HF COPERNICUS BEST</b>	<b>Positive Positive Positive Neutral</b>	<b>J-DHF</b>	<b>Neutral</b>
<b>MRA</b>	<b>RALES EMPHASIS-HF</b>	<b>Positive Positive</b>	<b>TOPCAT</b>	<b>Neutral</b>
<b>ARNI</b>	<b>PARADIGM-HF</b>	<b>Positive</b>	<b>PARAGON</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>ARB</b>	<b>CHARM-Alternative CHARM-Added Val-HeFT</b>	<b>Positive Positive Positive</b>	<b>CHARM-Preserved I-Preserve</b>	<b>Neutral Neutral</b>
<b>Ivabradine</b>	<b>SHIFT</b>	<b>Positive</b>		
<b>n3-PUFA</b>	<b>GISSI-HF</b>	<b>Positive</b>		

# Vericiguat in patients with worsening chronic heart failure and preserved ejection fraction: results of the SOLuble guanylate Cyclase stimulator in heArT failurE patientS with PRESERVED EF (SOCRATES-PRESERVED) study

Pieske B et al. Eur Heart J 2017;38:1119-27.

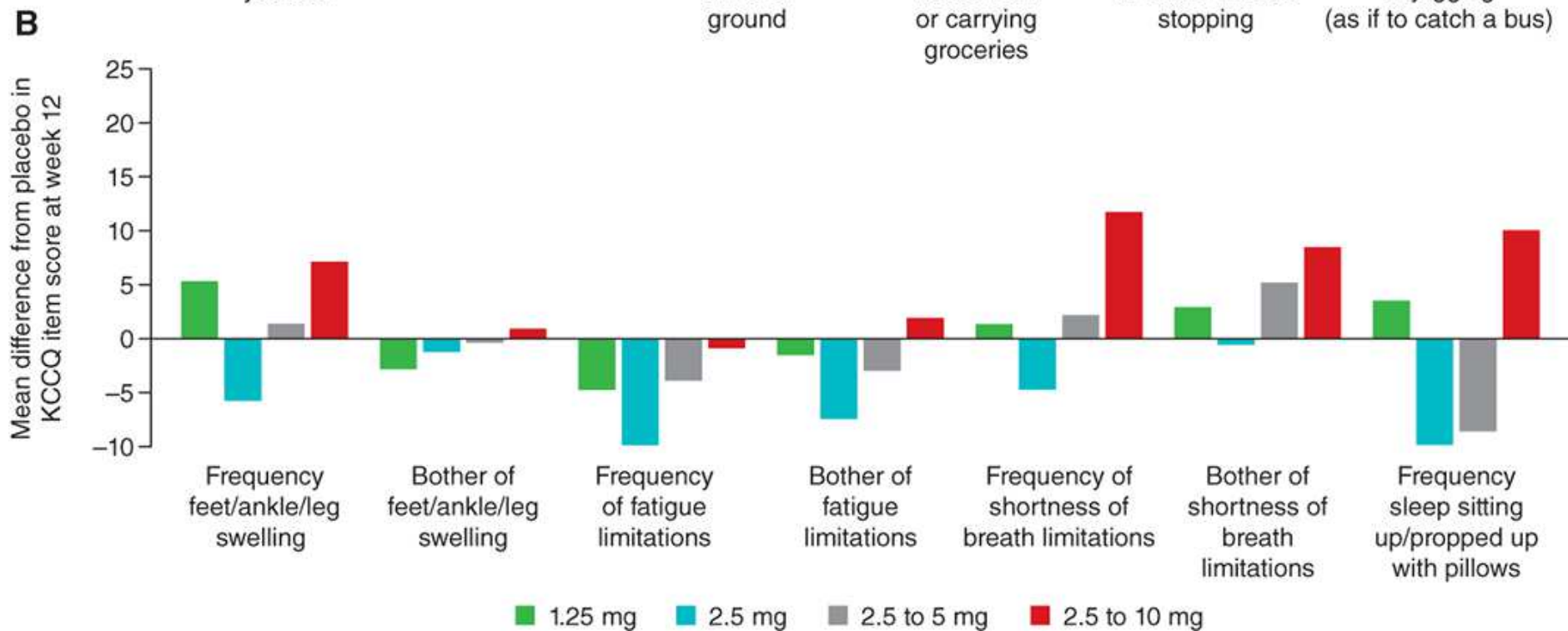
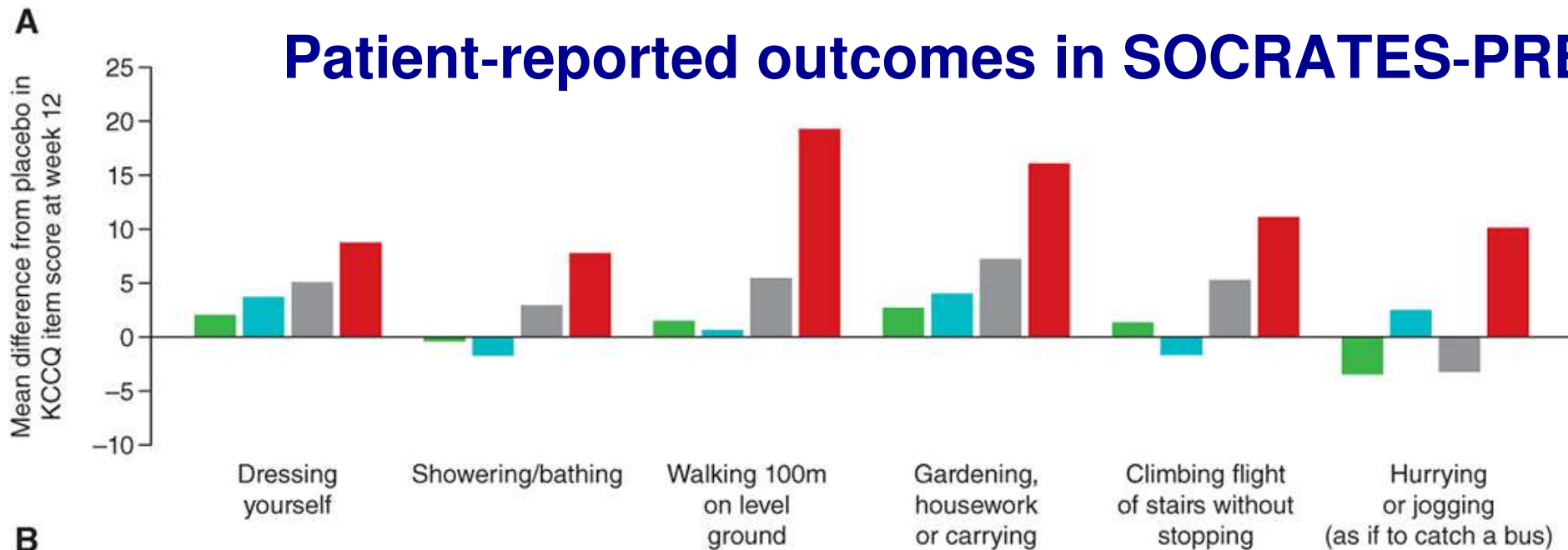
## Aims

To determine tolerability and the optimal dose regimen of the soluble guanylate cyclase stimulator vericiguat in patients with chronic heart failure and preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF).

## Conclusion

Vericiguat was well tolerated, did not change NT-proBNP and LAV at 12 weeks compared with placebo but was associated with improvements in quality of life in patients with HFpEF. Given the encouraging results on quality of life, the effects of vericiguat in patients with HFpEF warrant further study, possibly with higher doses, longer follow-up and additional endpoints.

# Patient-reported outcomes in SOCRATES-PRESERVED



Filippatos G B et al.  
 Eur J Heart Fail  
 2017;19:782-91.



# Sacubitril/Valsartan Outcomes Program

## *CHF and high-risk AMI*

### HFrEF

Chronic Heart Failure  
with reduced ejection fraction



- First-in-class (ARNI)
- Replace current SoC
- Superior to ACEI
- Reduced CV mortality and HF hospitalization

### HFpEF

Chronic Heart Failure  
with preserved ejection fraction



- No effective therapy today
- Establish SoC
- PARAMOUNT Phase 2: Positive Proof of Concept
- PARAGON-HF Phase 3 ongoing

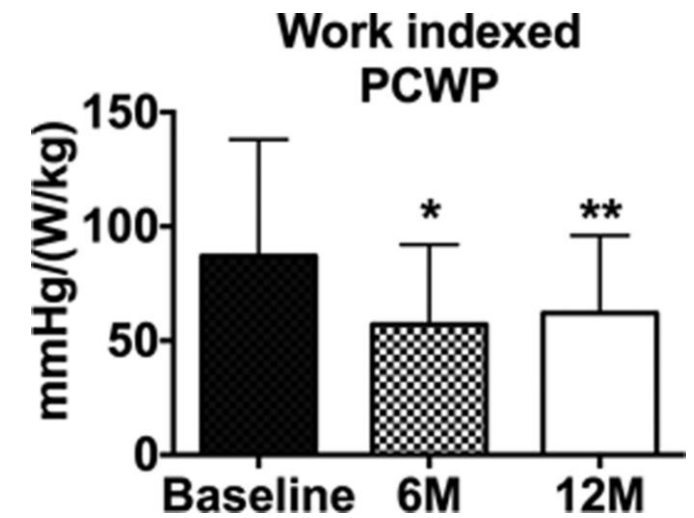
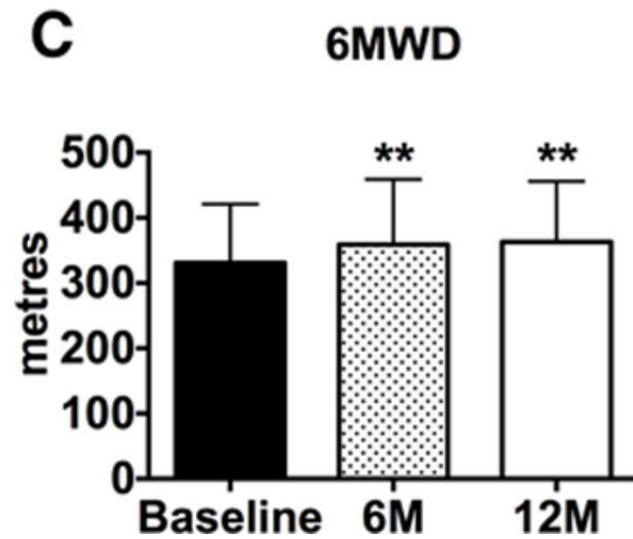
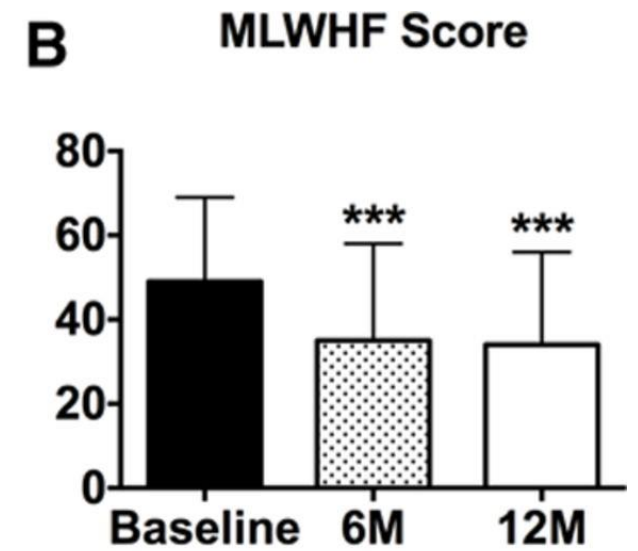
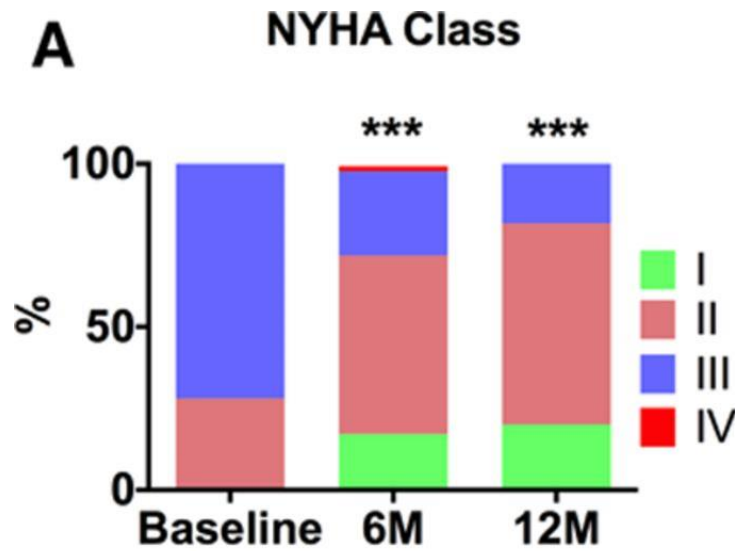
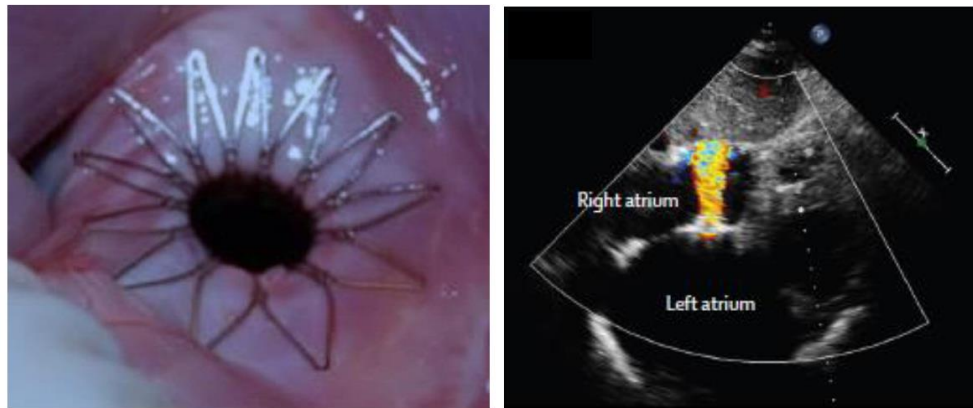
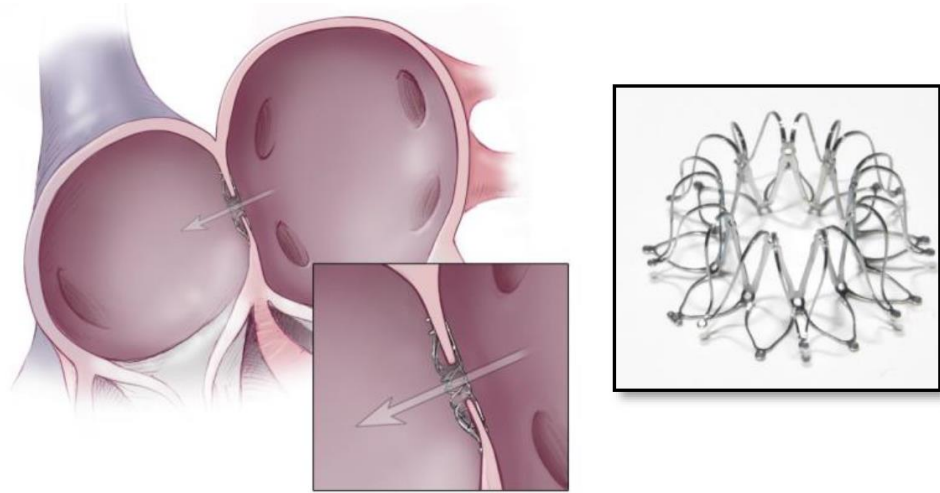
### Post-AMI

Post-Acute Myocardial Infarction



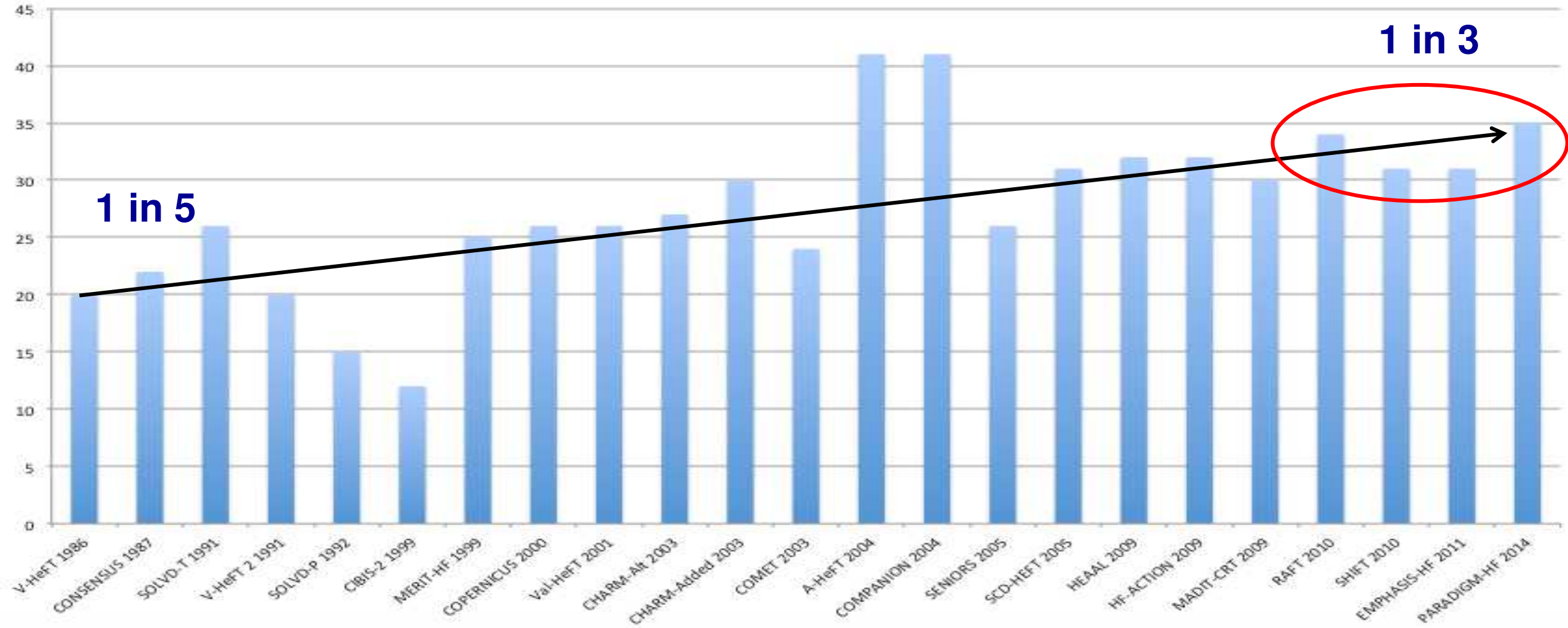
- Beyond chronic HF: HF prevention and reduction of CV mortality
- Front-loading event accrual enables shorter patient follow-up

# REDUCE LAP-HF



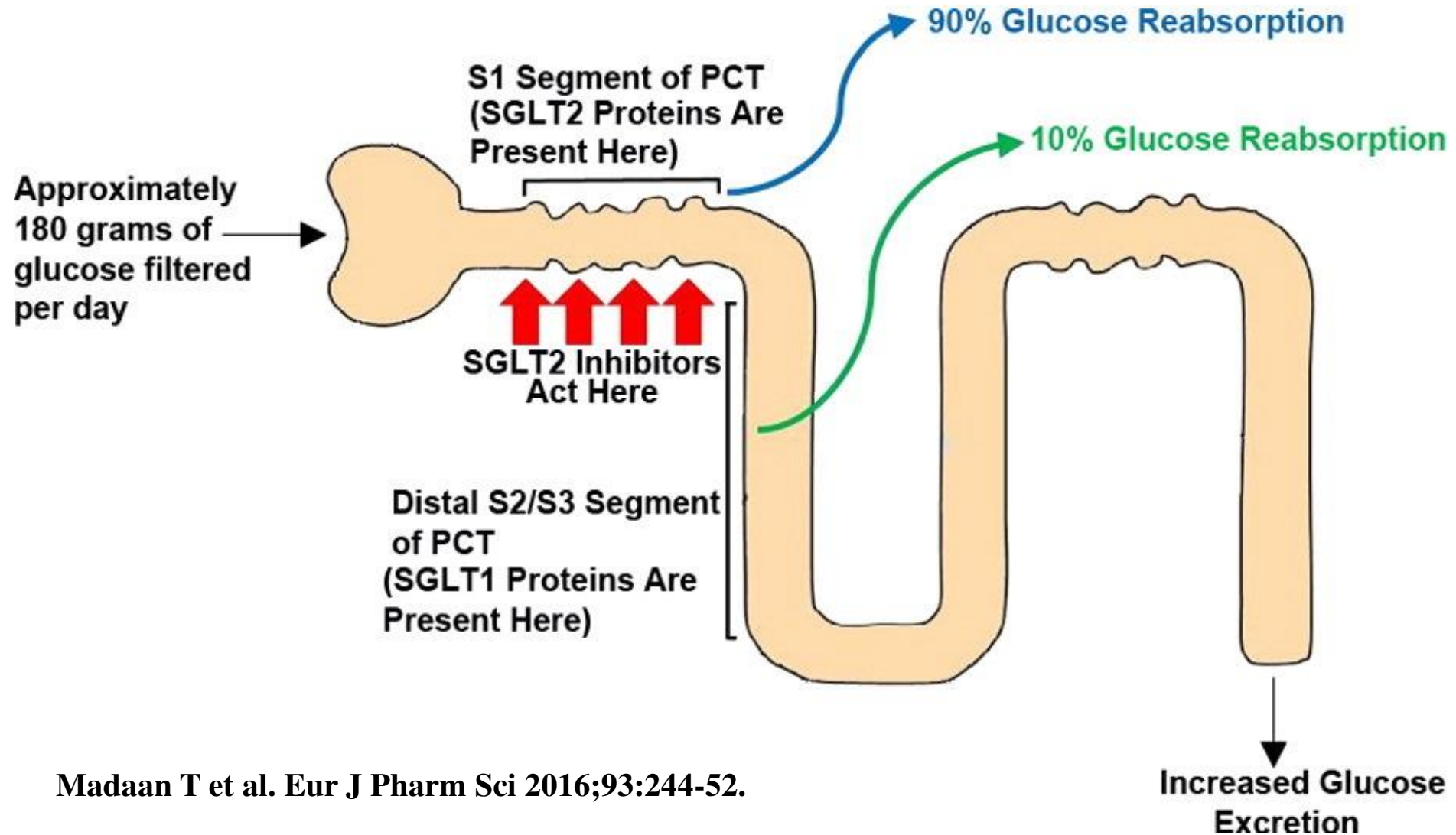
# Diabetes in positive HFrEF trials

Proportion with diabetes





# SGLT2 Inhibitors



# SGLT2 Inhibitor Outcome RCTs

	<b>EMPA-REG OUTCOME</b>	<b>CANVAS</b>
CV death/ MI/ CVA	0.86 (0.74-0.99)	0.86 (0.75-0.97)
CV death	0.62 (0.49-0.77)	0.87 (0.72-1.06)
Nonfatal MI	0.87 (0.7-1.09)	0.85 (0.69-1.05)
Nonfatal CVA	1.24 (0.92-1.67)	0.90 (0.71-1.05)
Death	0.68 (0.57-0.82)	0.87 (0.74-1.01)
HF hospitalisation	0.65 (0.50-0.85)	0.67 (0.52-0.87)
CV death/ HF hosp.	0.66 (0.55-0.79)	0.78 (0.67-0.91)

Zinman B et al. N Engl J Med 2015. Neal B et al. N Engl J Med 2017.

# Emerging treatments in heart failure

- AHF pharmacotherapy unchanged >30 years
- ACEi/BB/MRA decreases mortality by 60% in HFrEF
- Switch ACEi/ ARB to ARNI if persistent HF with LVEF  $\leq 40\%$
- Further treatment options in selected patients with persistent HFrEF include ivabradine, ICD/ CRT, AF catheter ablation and intravenous iron
- HFpEF management remains empiric





# CSANZ 2018

66th Annual Scientific Meeting of the  
Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand  
Hosted by CSANZ QLD | Thursday 2 August - Sunday 5 August  
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre



**CSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting – Hosted by CSANZ QLD  
2-5 August 2018, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre**

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