



**REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA**  
Prevenire lo scompenso e le sue recidive

*Sessione II* - Prevenzione,  
terapia, riabilitazione

# La terapia farmacologica secondo le linee guida



# **ESC Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic heart failure 2008**

**The Task Force for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Acute and Chronic Heart Failure 2008 of the European Society of Cardiology. Developed in collaboration with the Heart Failure Association of the ESC (HFA) and endorsed by the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM)**

**Authors/Task Force Members: Kenneth Dickstein (Chairperson) (Norway)\*, Alain Cohen-Solal (France), Gerasimos Filippatos (Greece), John J.V. McMurray (UK), Piotr Ponikowski (Poland), Philip Alexander Poole-Wilson (UK), Anna Strömberg (Sweden), Dirk J. van Veldhuisen (The Netherlands), Dan Atar (Norway), Arno W. Hoes (The Netherlands), Andre Keren (Israel), Alexandre Mebazaa (France), Markku Nieminen (Finland), Silvia Giuliana Priori (Italy), Karl Swedberg (Sweden)**

# Objectives of treatment in chronic heart failure (ESC guidelines 2008)

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## 1. Prognosis

- Reduce mortality

## 2. Morbidity

- Relieve symptoms and signs
- Improve quality of life
- Eliminate oedema and fluid retention
- Increase exercise capacity
- Reduce fatigue and breathlessness
- Reduce need for hospitalization
- Provide for end of life care

# Objectives of treatment in chronic heart failure (ESC guidelines 2008)

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## 3. Prevention

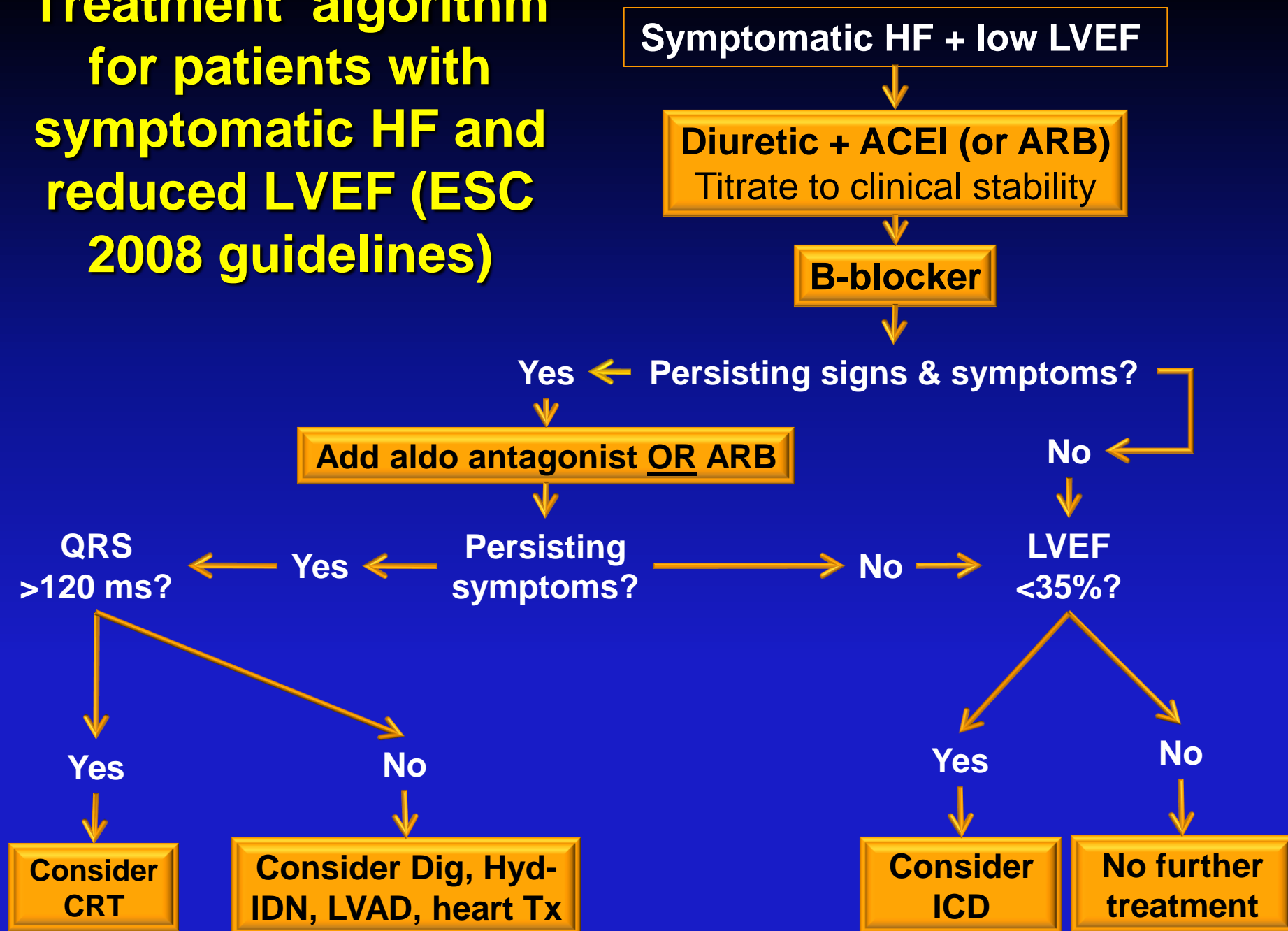
- Occurrence of myocardial damage
- Progression of myocardial damage
- Remodelling of the myocardium
- Recurrence of symptoms and fluid accumulation
- Hospitalization

# Non-pharmacologic management of HF

- Adherence to treatment
- Symptoms recognition
- Weight monitoring
- Sodium and fluid restriction
- Alcohol intake
- Weight reduction (obese) or unintentional weight loss
- Physical activity & exercise training
- Sexual activity
- Contraception
- Sleep disorders
- Depression and mood disorders



# Treatment algorithm for patients with symptomatic HF and reduced LVEF (ESC 2008 guidelines)



# Diuretics. ESC Guidelines 2008

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- Provide relief from the symptoms and signs of pulmonary and systemic venous congestion (class I, level of evidence B)
- Cause activation of the RAA system and should be used in combination with an ACEI/ARB
- Dose requirement must be tailored to the individual's patient 's need and requires careful clinical monitoring
- A loop diuretic is generally required in moderate to severe HF
- A thiazide may be used in combination with loop diuretics for resistant oedema but with caution (dehydration, hypovolaemia, hyponatremia, hypokalaemia)
- Essential to monitor K, Na, and creatinine levels

# Indications and dosing of diuretics in acute HF (ESC 2008 guidelines)

Fluid retention	Diuretic	Daily dose (mg)	Comments
Moderate	Furosemide or torasemide	20-40	Oral or iv symptoms
Severe	Furosemide Furosemide infusion	40-100 5-40 mg/h	i.v., increase dose Better than high bolus doses
	Torasemide	20-100	Oral
Refractory to loop diuretic	Add metolazone	2.5-10	More potent than HCTZ at CrCl<30 ml/m
	Add spironolactone	25-50	Best if no renal failure & normal/low K
Refractory to loop diuretics and thiazides	Add dopamine or dobutamine		Consider UF or haemodialysis



# Diuretics in AHF. ESC Guidelines 2008

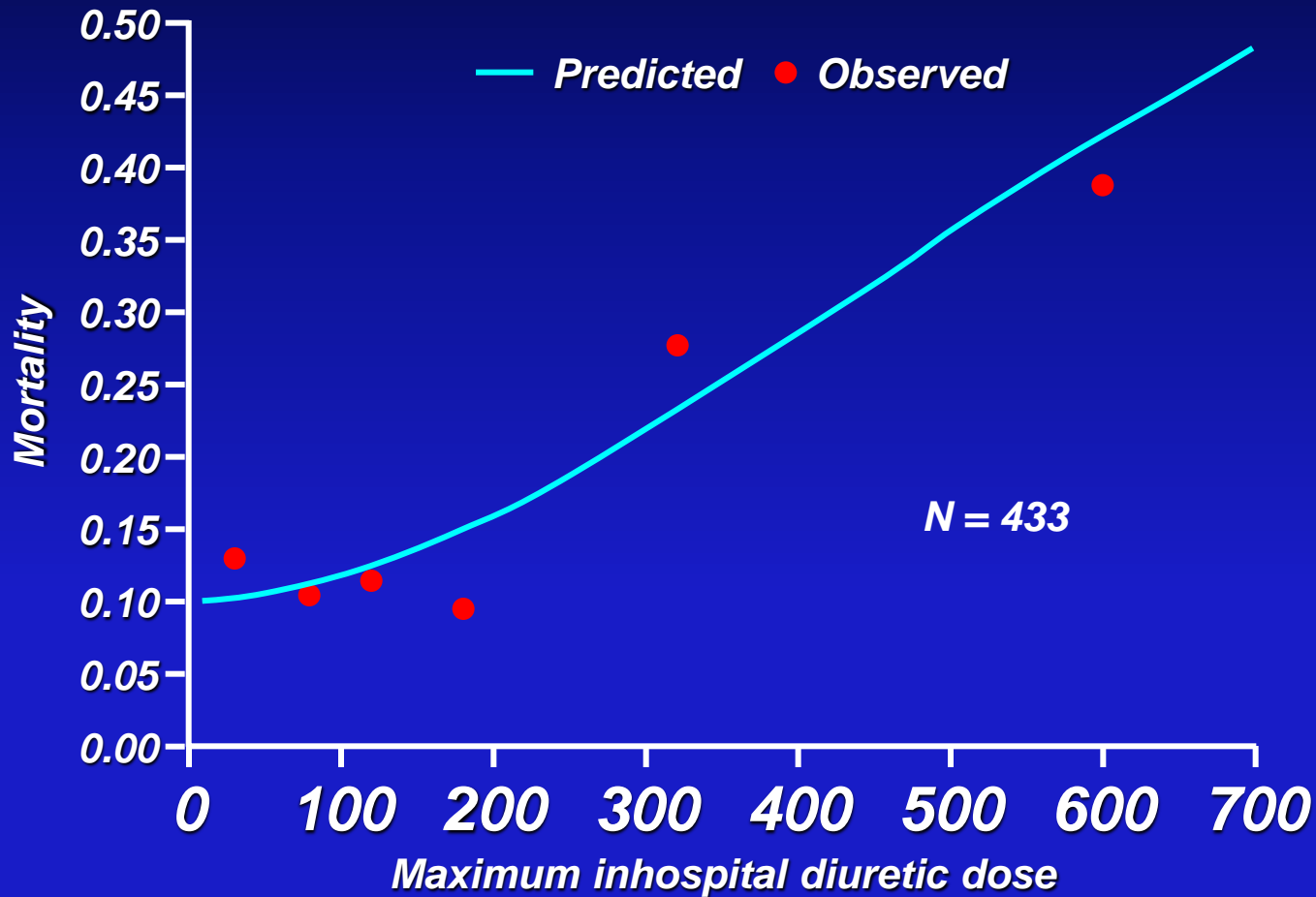
- IV administration recommended in AHF patients with symptoms secondary to congestion or volume overload. Class I, LoE B
- Symptomatic benefit and universal clinical acceptance has precluded formal evaluation in RCTs
- Patients with hypotension (SBP<90 mmhg), severe hyponatremia or acidosis are unlikely to respond to diuretics
- High doses of diuretics may lead to hypovolaemia & hyponatremia and increase likelihood of hypotension with ACEI/ARB
- Alternative treatments (e.g. vasodilators) may reduce the need of iv diuretics

# Untoward effects of furosemide treatment in heart failure

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- **Resistance**
- **Side effects**
  - **Electrolyte abnormalities**
  - **Neurohormonal activation**
  - **Worsening renal function**
- **Independently associated with a worse outcome**
  - **Cause? Epiphenomenon?**

# ESCAPE: High-Dose Loop Diuretics in HF Associated With Increased 6-Month Mortality



# Predictors of Worsening Renal Failure Among 318 Patients Hospitalized for AHF

## *Results of Multivariable Analysis*

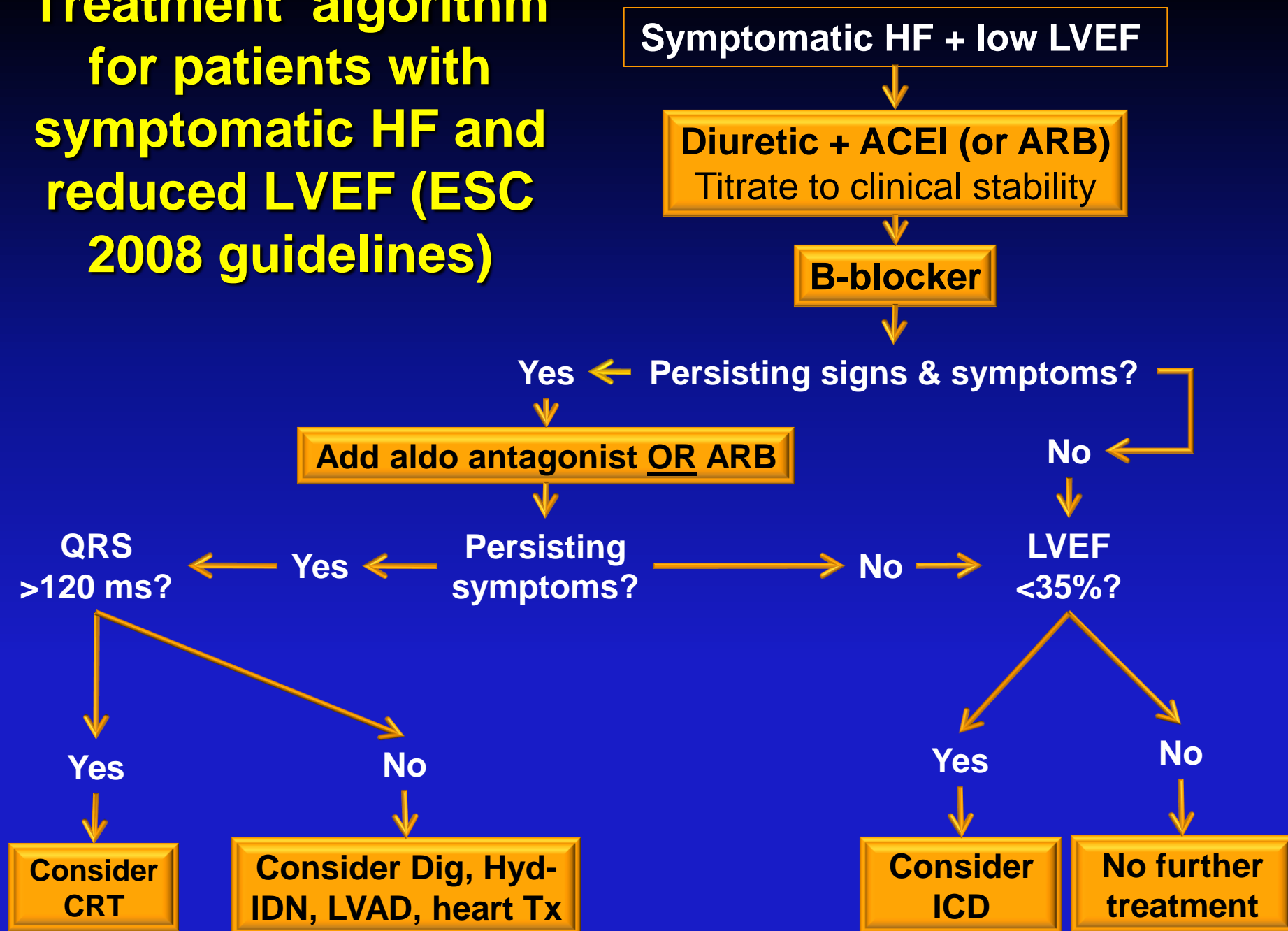
<b>Predictor</b>	<b>Odds ratio (95% CI)</b>	<b>P</b>
History of chronic kidney disease	1.84 (1.04 – 3.27)	< 0.0001
IV furosemide dose > 100 mg/d	2.18 (1.27 – 3.73)	0.004
NYHA class (IV vs. III)	2.07 (1.24 – 3.45)	0.005
LV ejection fraction < 30%	1.66 (1.01 – 2.75)	0.047

## Management of diuretic resistance (ESC guidelines 2008)

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- Check compliance and fluid intake
- Increase dose of diuretic
- Consider switching from furosemide to torasemide or bumetanide
- Add aldosterone antagonist
- Combine loop diuretic and thiazide/ metolazone
- Administer loop diuretic twice daily or on empty stomach
- Consider short-term iv infusion of loop diuretic

# Treatment algorithm for patients with symptomatic HF and reduced LVEF (ESC 2008 guidelines)



# ACEI in HF: Key evidence

Trial	Drug	Relative risk reduction	Absolute risk reduction	NNT to save 1 life
CONSENSUS	Enalapril	27%	14.6%	7
SOLVD Treatment	Enalapril	16%	4.5%	22
SOLVD Prevention	Enalapril	20% death or hospital.		
SAVE, AIRE, TRACE	Captopril, trandolapril, ramipril	26% death 27% HF hosp		

*ESC guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of HF, 2008*

# ACEI in HF

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- **Indications**

- LVEF  $\leq 40\%$ , irrespective of symptoms

- **Contraindications**

- History of angioedema
- Bilateral renal artery stenosis
- Serum potassium  $> 5.0$  mmol/L
- Serum creatinine  $> 2.5$  mg/dl
- Severe aortic stenosis

- **Doses**

- Titrate to target doses (uptitration every 2-4 ws)
- Check s-electrolytes & creatinine 1 and 4 ws after dose increase



# Side effects of ACEI

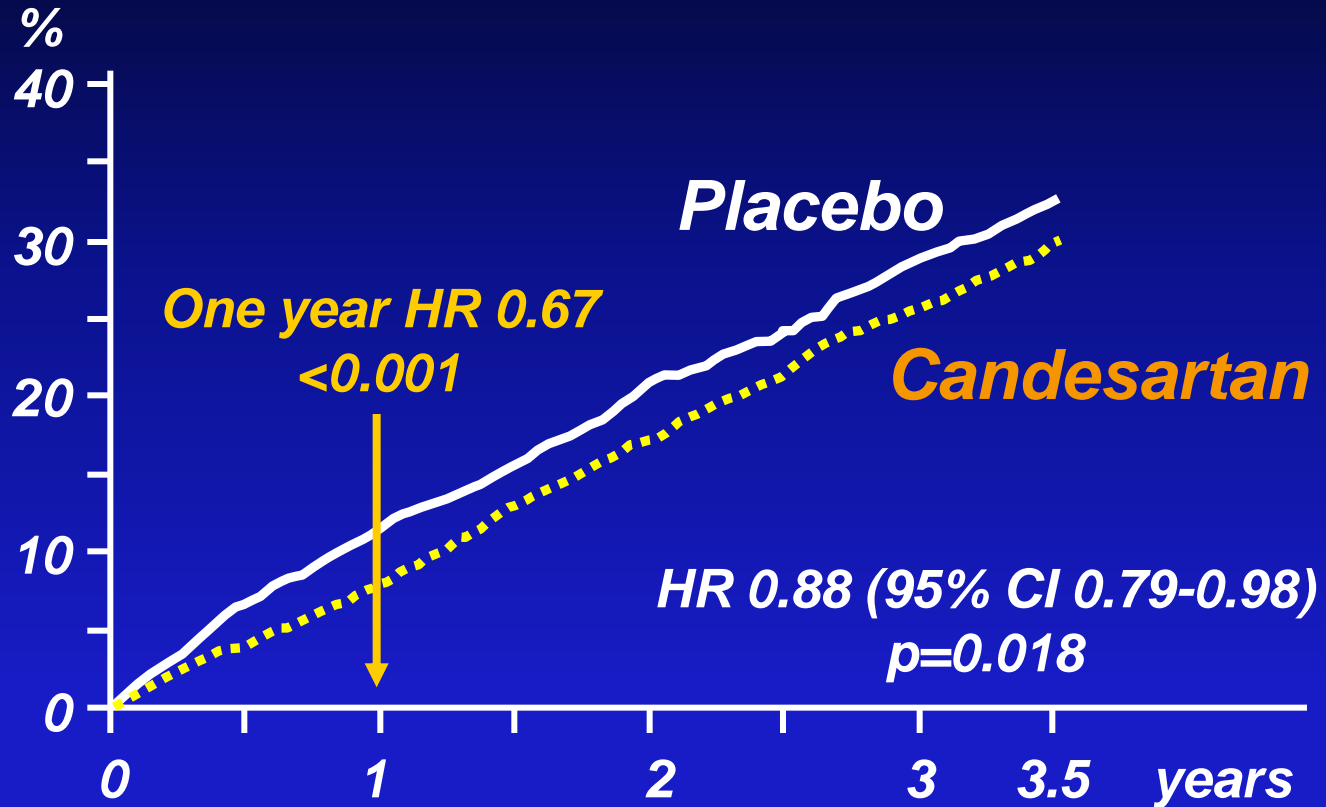
- **Worsening renal function**
  - Acceptable:  $\uparrow$ s-Creat  $<50\%$  or  $<3$  mg/dl
  - Moderate (s-Creat, 3 to 3.5 mg/dl):
    - half the ACEI dose & monitor blood chemistry
  - Severe (s-Creat  $>3.5$ )
    - Stop ACEI & monitor blood chemistry
- **Hyperkalemia**
- **Symptomatic hypotension**
  - Common, often improves with time, reassure pts.
  - Consider dose  $\downarrow$  diuretics and other hypotensive agents
  - No intervention if asymptomatic
- **Cough**
  - Switch to ARB

# Angiotensin Receptor Blockers in HF: Key evidence

Trial	drug	Relative risk reduction	Absolute risk reduction	Number needed to treat
CONSENSUS	Enalapril	27%	14.6%	7
SOLVD -Treatment	Enalapril	16%	4.5%	22
SOLVD Prevention	Enalapril	20%*		
CIBIS, MERIT-HF*	Bisoprolol metoprolol	34%	4.3%	23
COPERNICUS*	carvedilol	35%	7.1%	14
RALES	Spironol.	30%	11.4%	9
ValHeFT	Valsartan	24% HF hosp	3.3%*	30*
CHARM-Added	Candesartan	16%	4.4%*	23*
CHARM-alternative	Candesartan	23%*	7%*	14*

\* *Death or HF hospitalizations*

# CHARM - Low EF (Alternative+Added): All-cause death

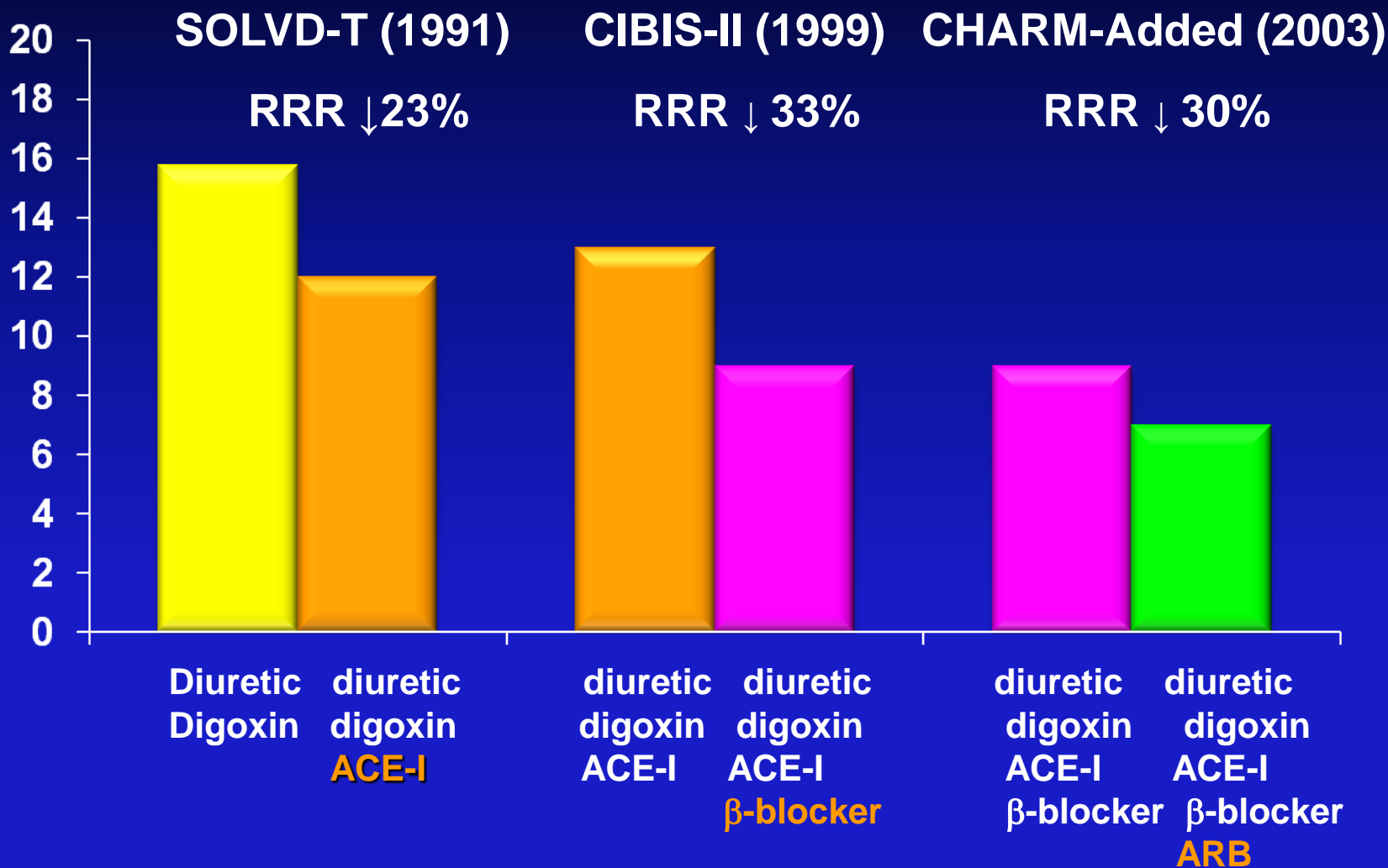


## Number at risk

Candesartan	2289	2105	1894	1382
Placebo	2287	2023	1811	1333

# Improving Survival in CHF

1 year mortality, %



McMurray, Pfeffer, Swedberg, Dzau. *Circulation* 2004; 110: 3281

# ACEI and BBs: Key evidence in ESC 2008 HF guidelines

Trial	Drug	Relative risk reduction	Absolute risk reduction	Number needed to treat
CONSENSUS	Enalapril	27%	14.6%	7
SOLVD -Treatment	Enalapril	16%	4.5%	22
SOLVD Prevention	Enalapril	20%*		
SAVE, AIRE, TRACE	Captopril, trandolapril, ramipril	26%		
CIBIS, MERIT-HF*	Bisoprolol, metoprolol	34%	4.3%	23
COPERNICUS*	carvedilol	35%	7.1%	14
SENIORS	nebivolol	14%**	3.8%	
RALES	Spiroonolact one	30% death 35% HF hosp.	11.4%	9

\* 90% of patients on ACEi \*\*Death or HF hospitalizations in SENIORS

# Danno miocardico

↑ stress miocardico  
↓ perfusione periferica

↑ sist. Simpatico,  
RAA...

Modificazioni  
recettoriali

Ischemia  
deficit energetico

Tossicità  
diretta

Ipertrofia  
rimodellamento

Necrosi

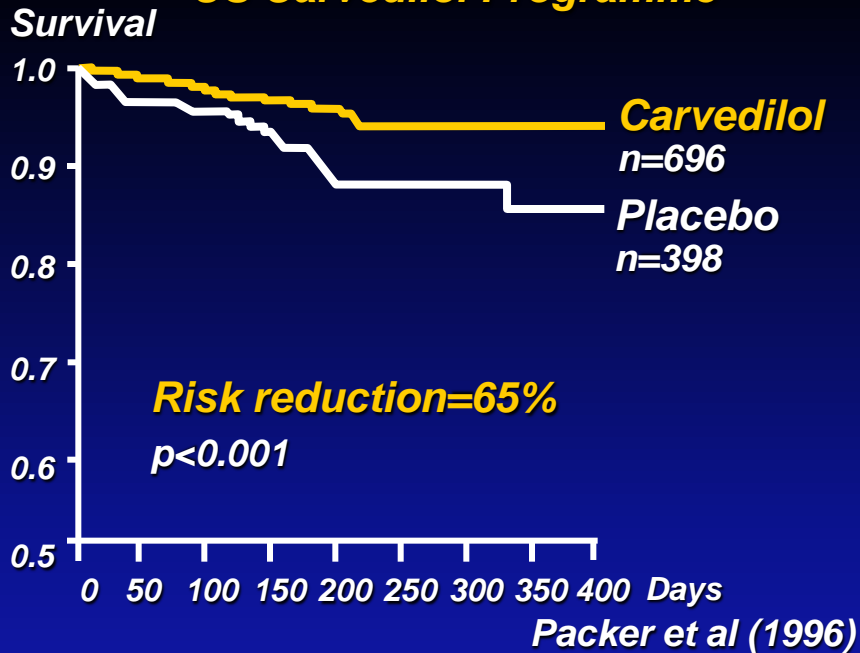
Apoptosi

Alterata  
espression  
e  
genica

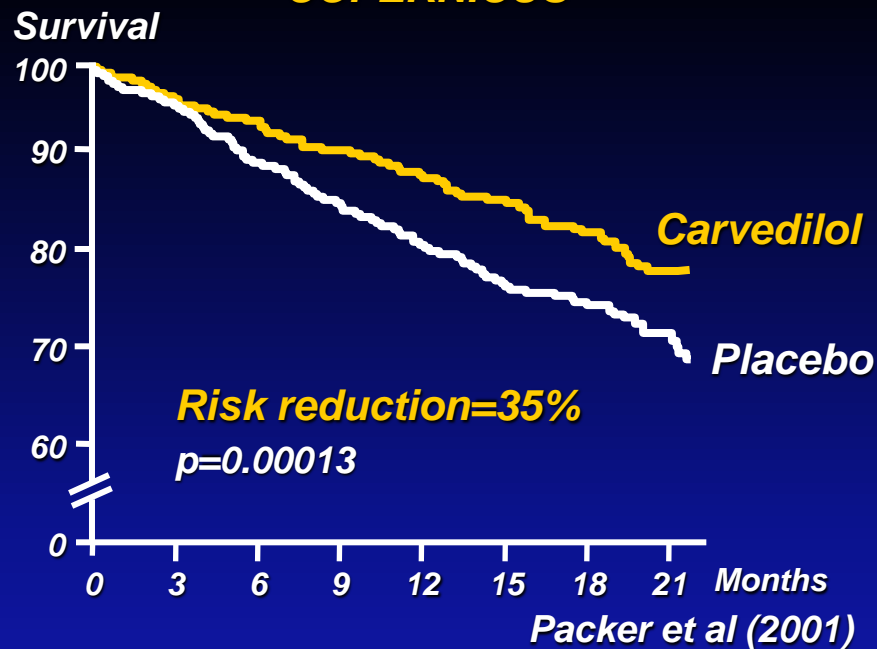
Sintomi, ↓ capacità  
funzionale

Disfunzione Vsinx  
Aumentata mortalità

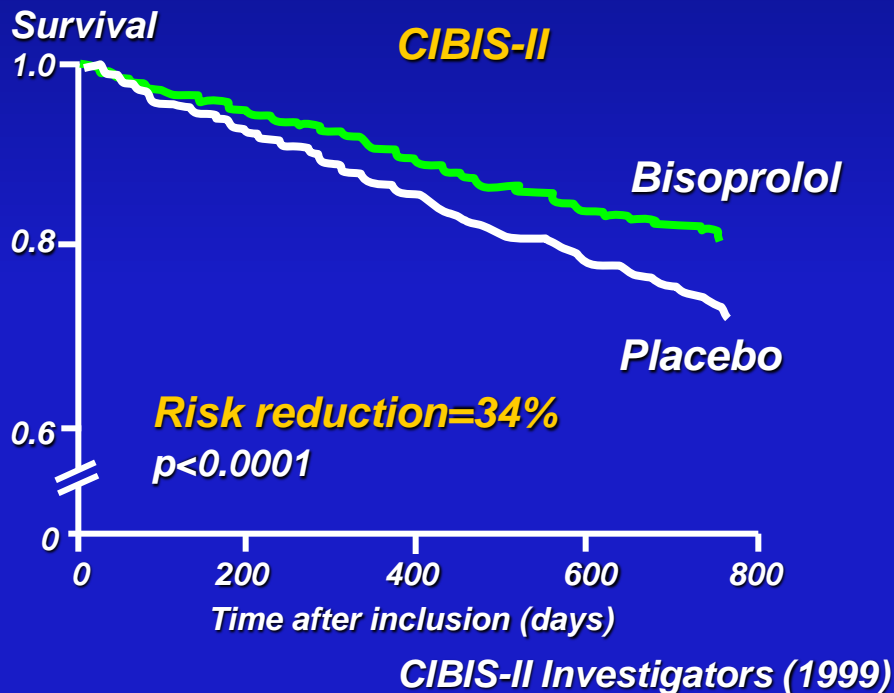
### US Carvedilol Programme



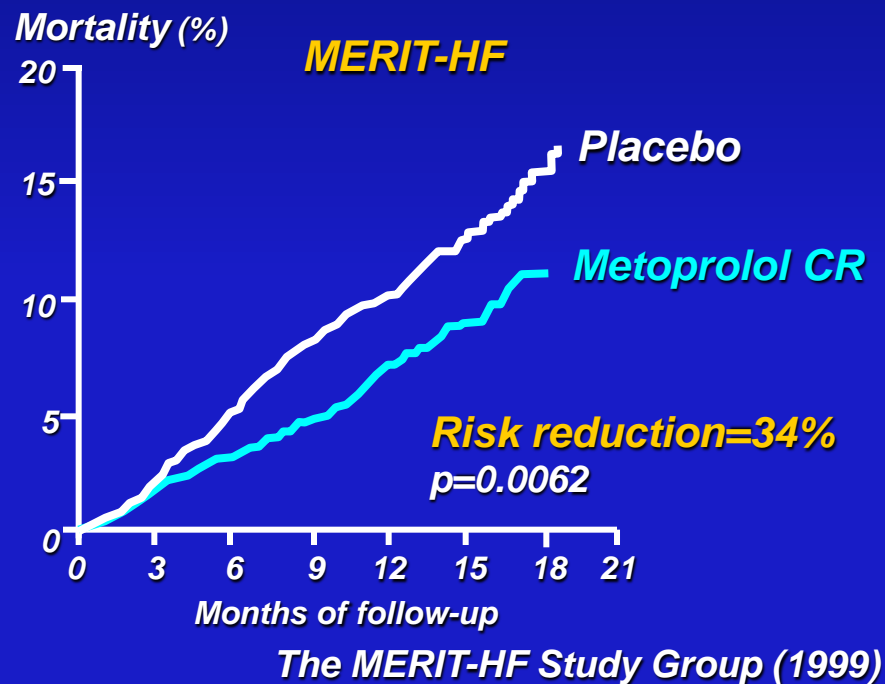
### COPERNICUS



### CIBIS-II



### MERIT-HF



# Use of beta-blockers in HF

- **Indications**

- LVEF  $\leq$ 40%
- NYHA class II-IV or asymptomatic postMI LVSD
- Optimal dosage of ACEI/ARB and Aldo antagonist, if indicated
- Clinically stable but predischARGE initiation is possible

- **Contraindications**

- Asthma (not COPD)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> degree AV block, sinus bradycardia (<50 bpm)

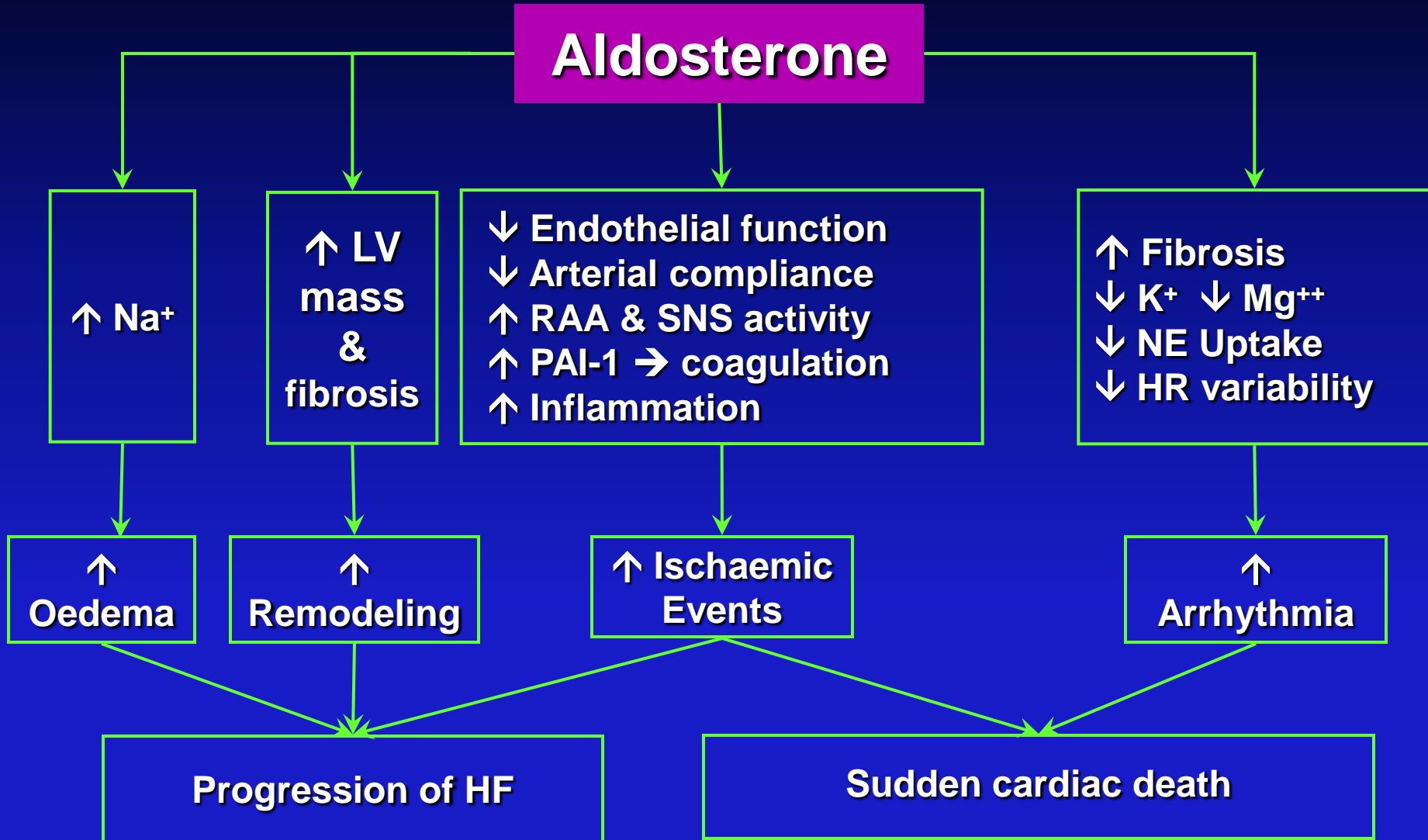


# Beta-blockers in patients hospitalised for HF

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- In patients admitted to hospital due to worsening HF, a reduction in the b-blocker dose may be necessary. In severe situations, temporary discontinuation can be considered.
- Low-dose therapy should be re-instituted and up-titrated as soon as the patient's clinical condition permits, preferably prior to discharge.

# Aldosterone and Cardiovascular Damage



# Use of aldosterone antagonists in HF

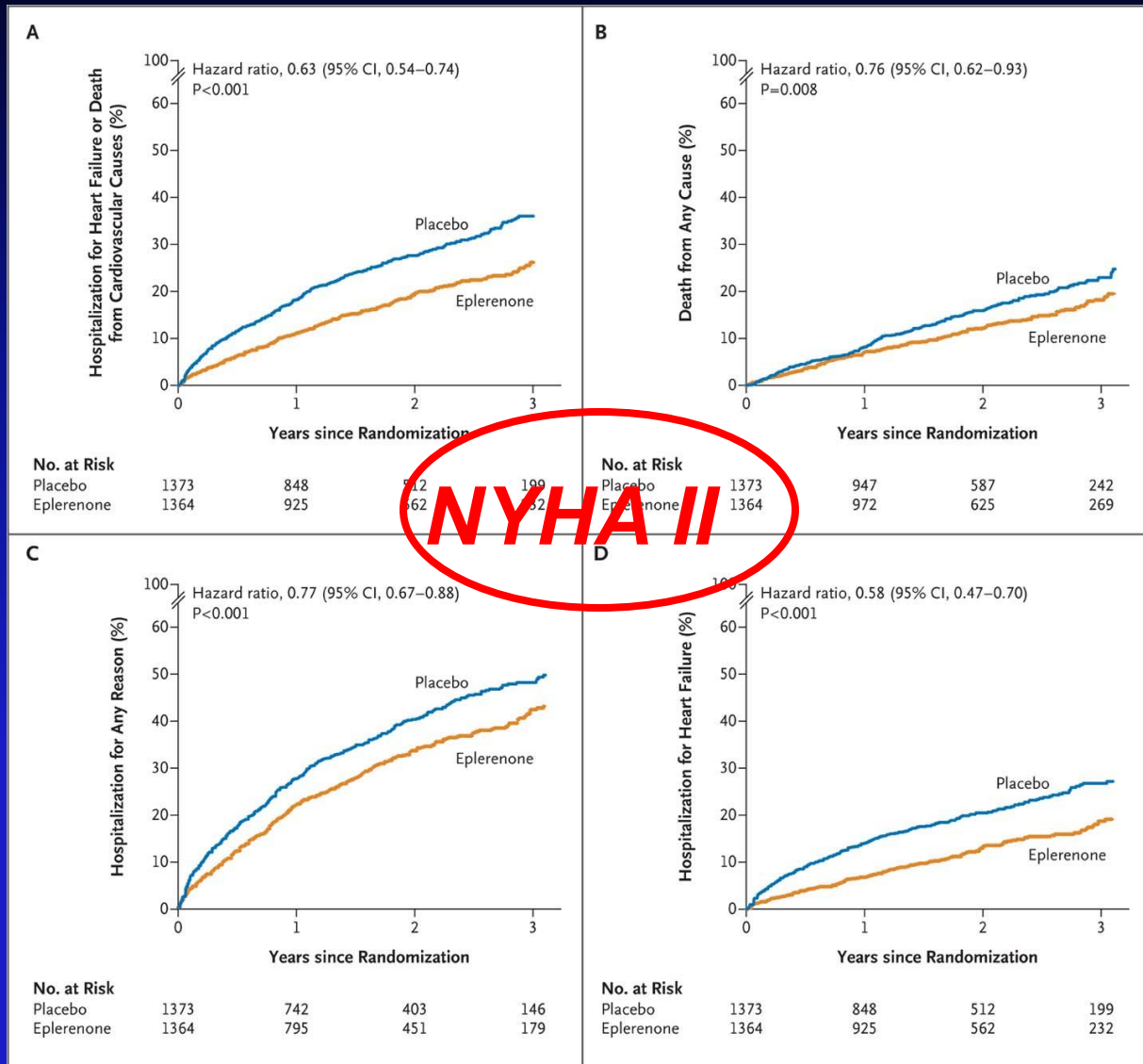
- **Indications**

- LVEF  $\leq 35\%$
- Severe symptomatic HF, NYHA class III-IV
- Optimal doses of ACEI or ARB but not both

- **Contraindications**

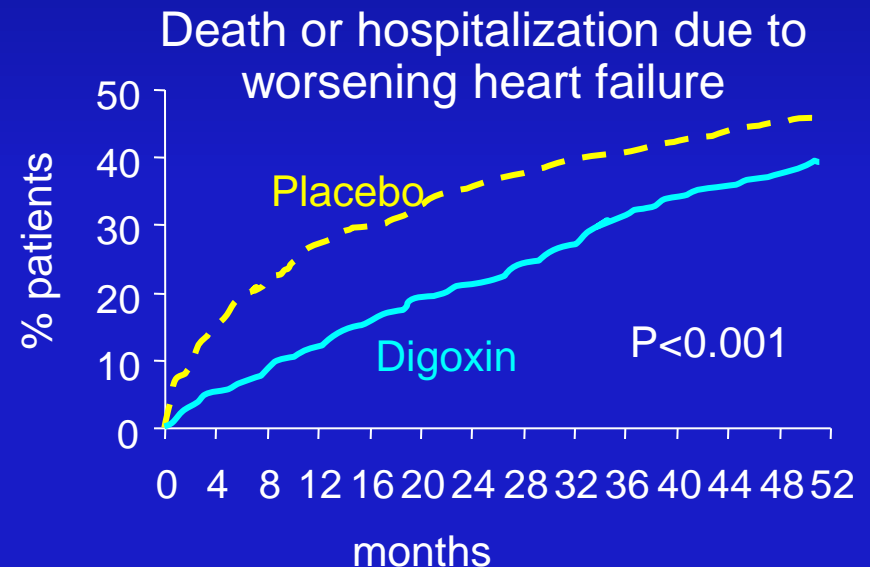
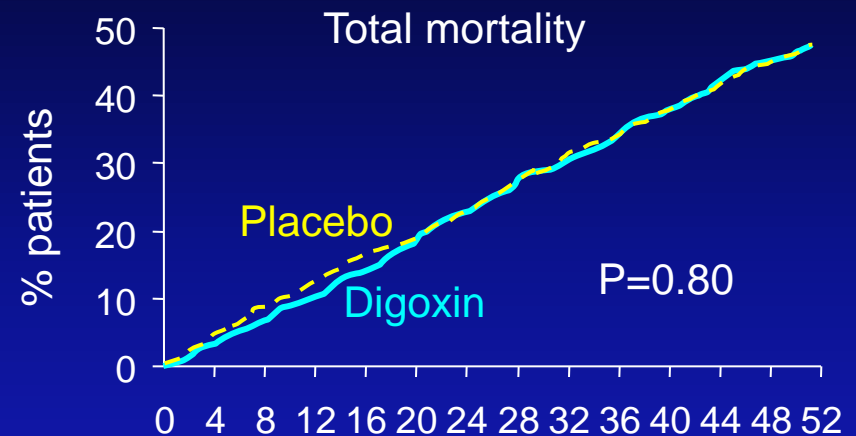
- Hyperkalemia (s-q/L)K>5.5 me
- Renal dysfunction
  - S-Creat 2.5  $\rightarrow$  spiro 25 mg on alternate days
  - S-Creat >3.0 mg/dl: stop spironolactone

# EMPHASIS: Eplerenone in Patients with Systolic Heart Failure and Mild Symptoms

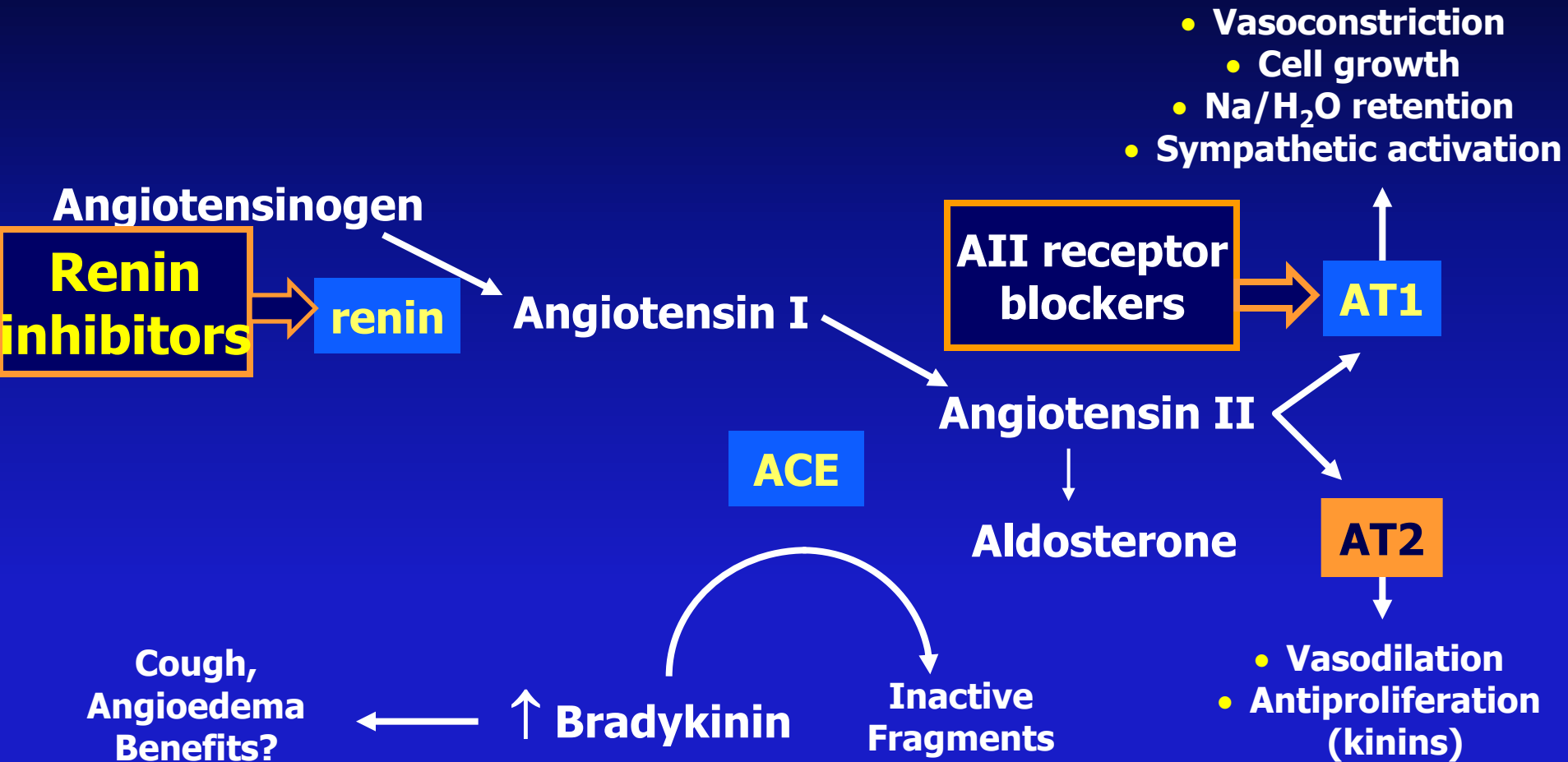


# Effetti della Digossina sulla Mortalità e Morbilità dei Pazienti con Insufficienza Cardiaca (DIG trial)

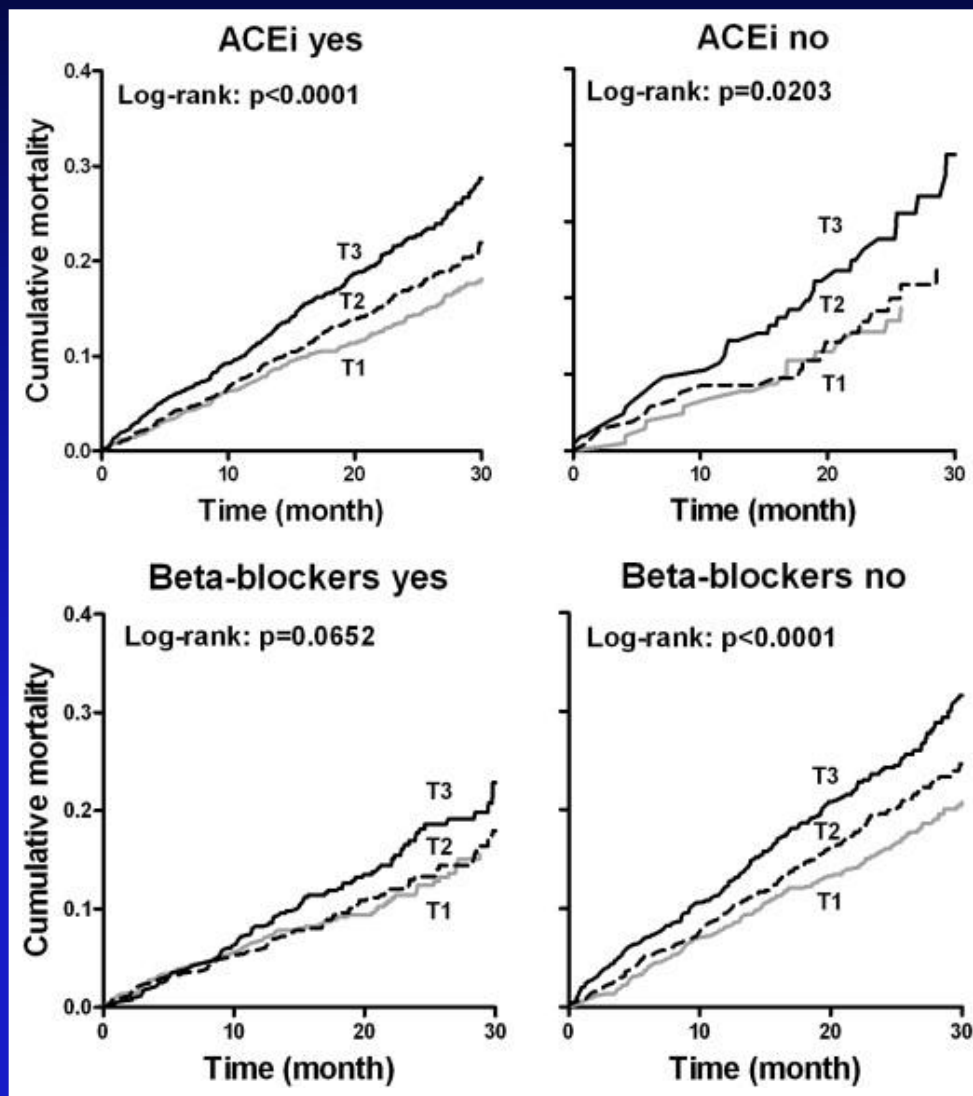
- **Casistica**
  - 6800 pz con FE  $\leq$  45%
  - 988 pz con FE  $>$  45%
- **Risultati (digossina vs. placebo)**
  - Follow up, 37 mesi (28-58)
  - Mortalità, n.s.
  - $\downarrow$  12% morti per CHF,  $p=0.06$
  - $\downarrow$  6% ospedalizzazioni totali
  - $\downarrow$  28% ospedalizzazioni per CHF,  $p < 0.001$
  - Nessuna differenza tra pazienti con FE  $\leq$  o  $>$  45%



# Pharmacologic modulation of the Renin-Angiotensin System

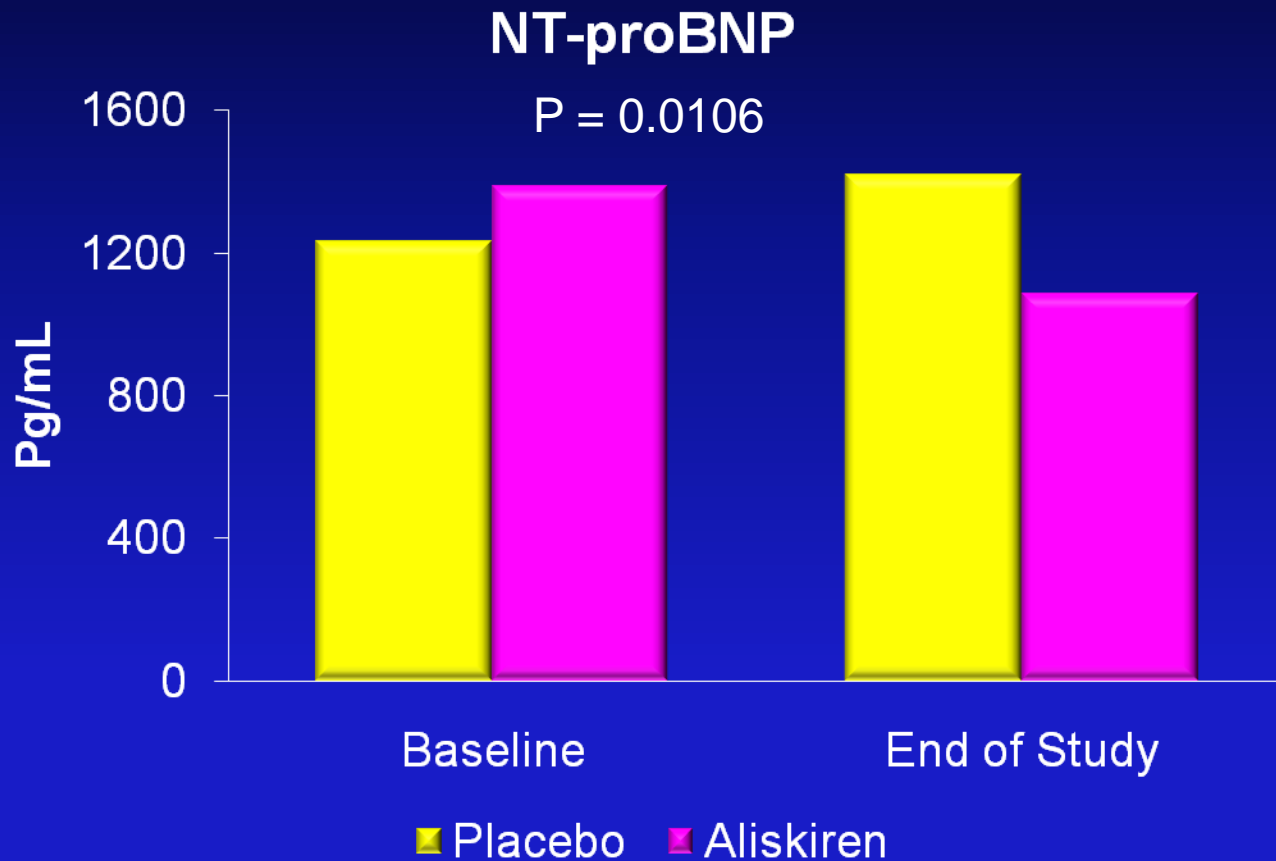


# Elevated plasma renin activity predicts adverse outcome in HF, independently of pharmacologic therapy: data from Val-HeFT



*Masson et al., J  
Card Fail  
2010;16:964-70*

# Effects of the Oral Direct Renin Inhibitor Aliskiren in 202 Patients With Symptomatic Heart Failure (ALOFT)





# Disegno dello studio

**Randomizzazione**  
(n = ~6600 pazienti)

Aliskiren 150 → 300 mg

Enalapril

Aliskiren/enalapril

Terapia convenzionale ad eccezione di ACE-I  
(e se necessario un ARB o un antagonista dell'aldosterone)

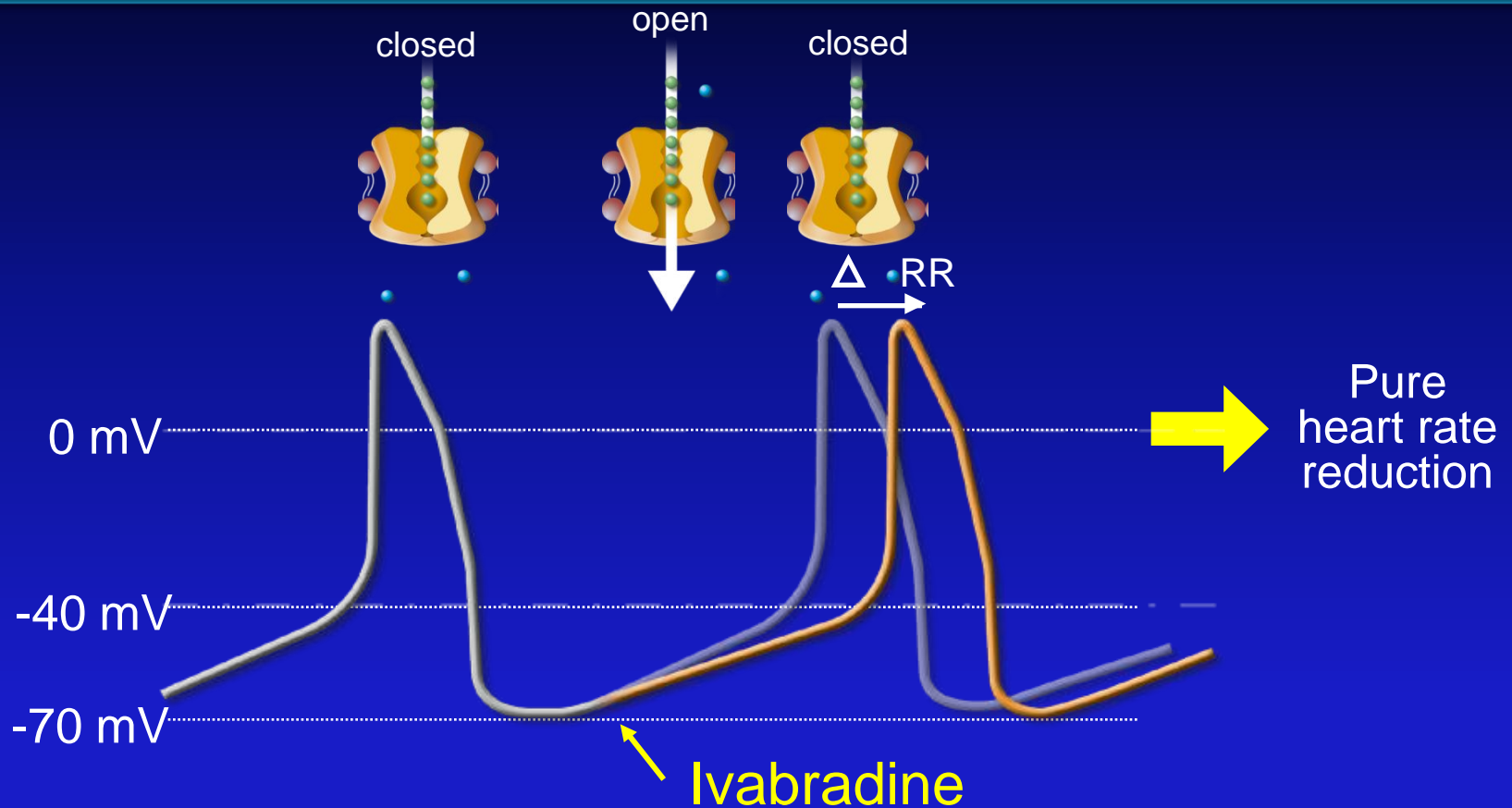
5-12 settimane

~3 anni (condizionati agli eventi)

ATMOSPHERE iniziato nel 1° trimestre del 2009

Periodo di run-in con  
farmaco attivo  
(enalapril e aliskiren)

# Ivabradine: pure heart rate reduction

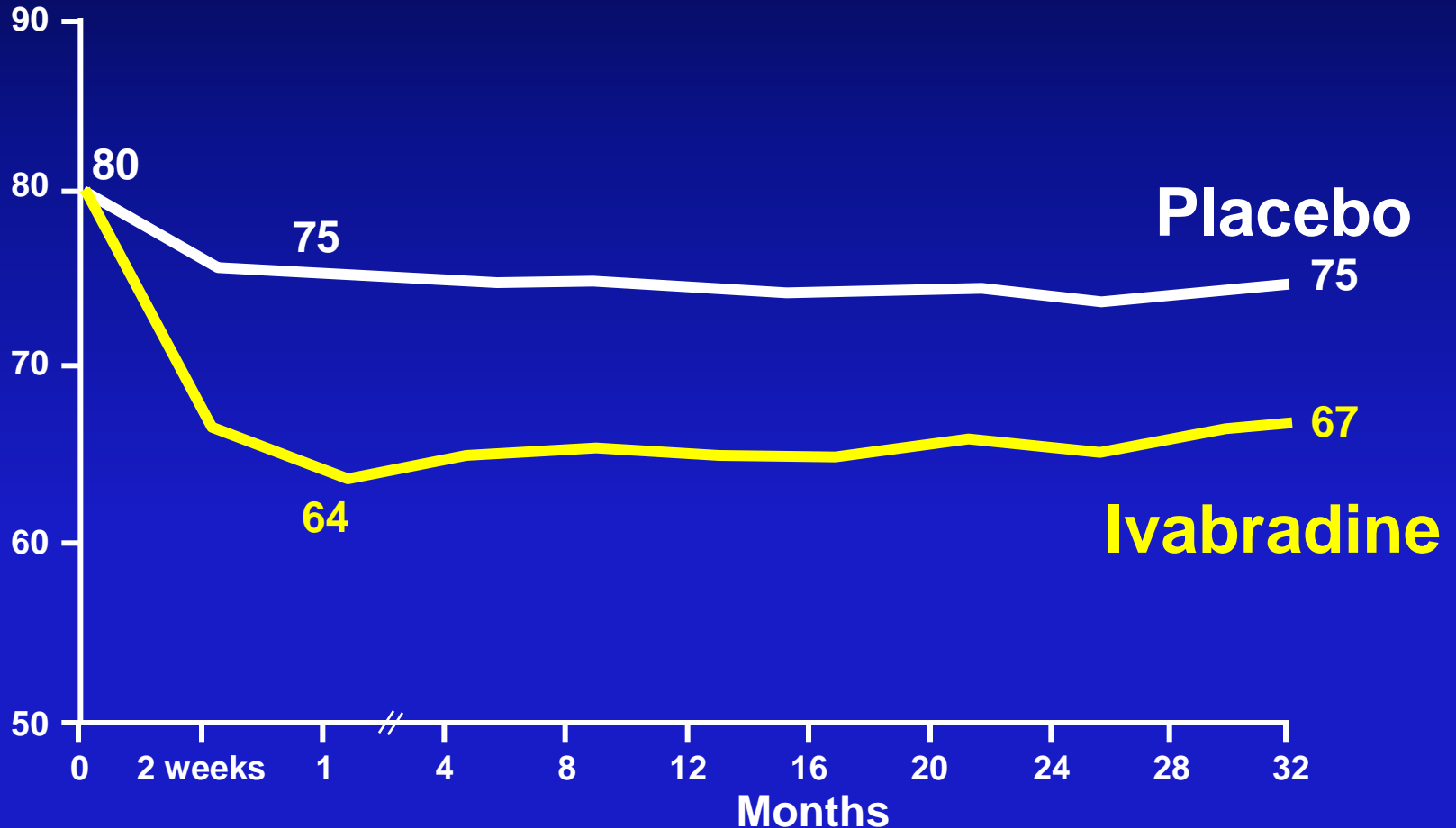


$I_f$  inhibition reduces the diastolic depolarization slope, thereby lowering heart rate

# Mean heart rate reduction

*70% of patients on ivabradine 7.5 mg bid*

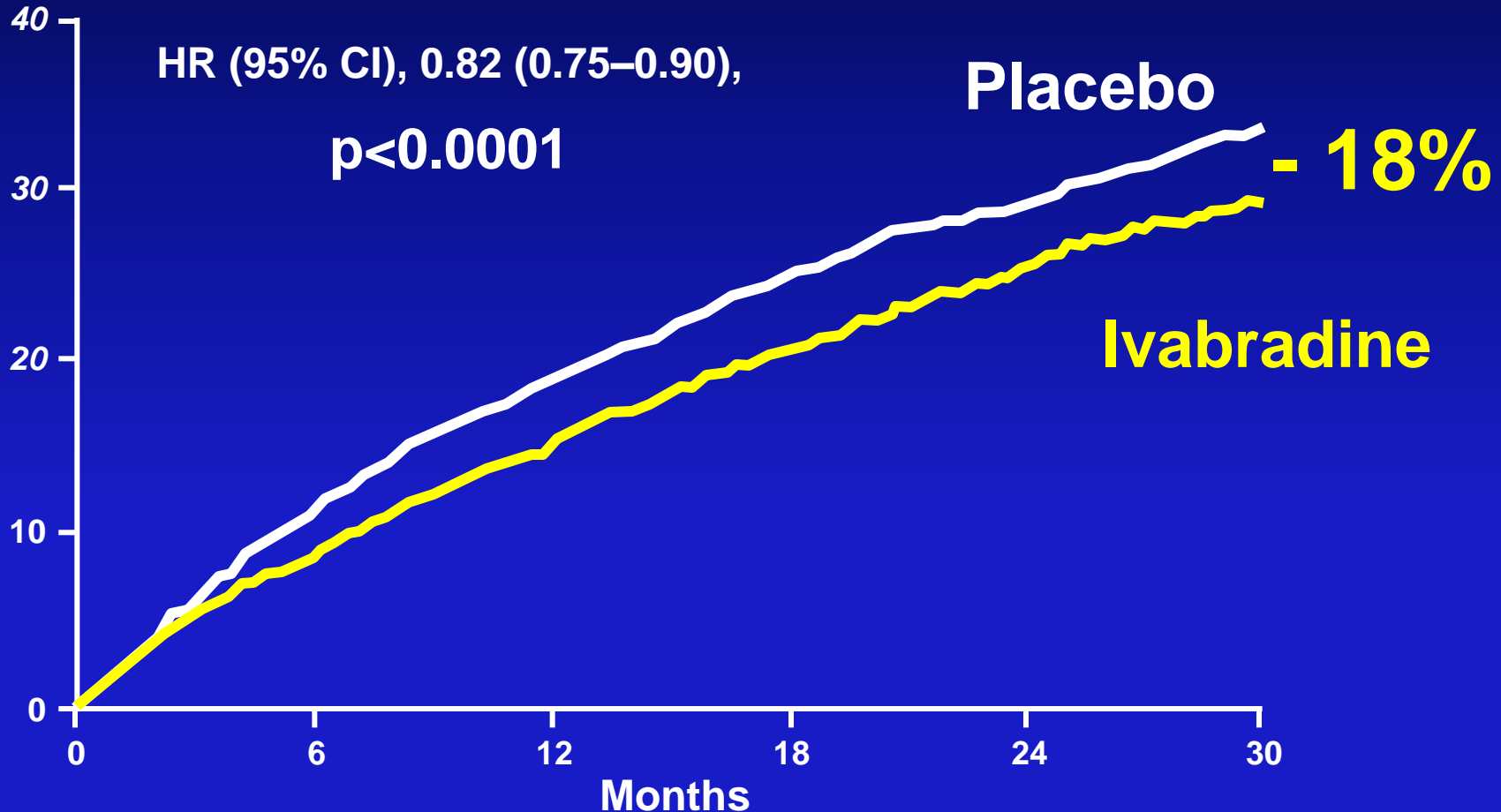
Heart rate (bpm)





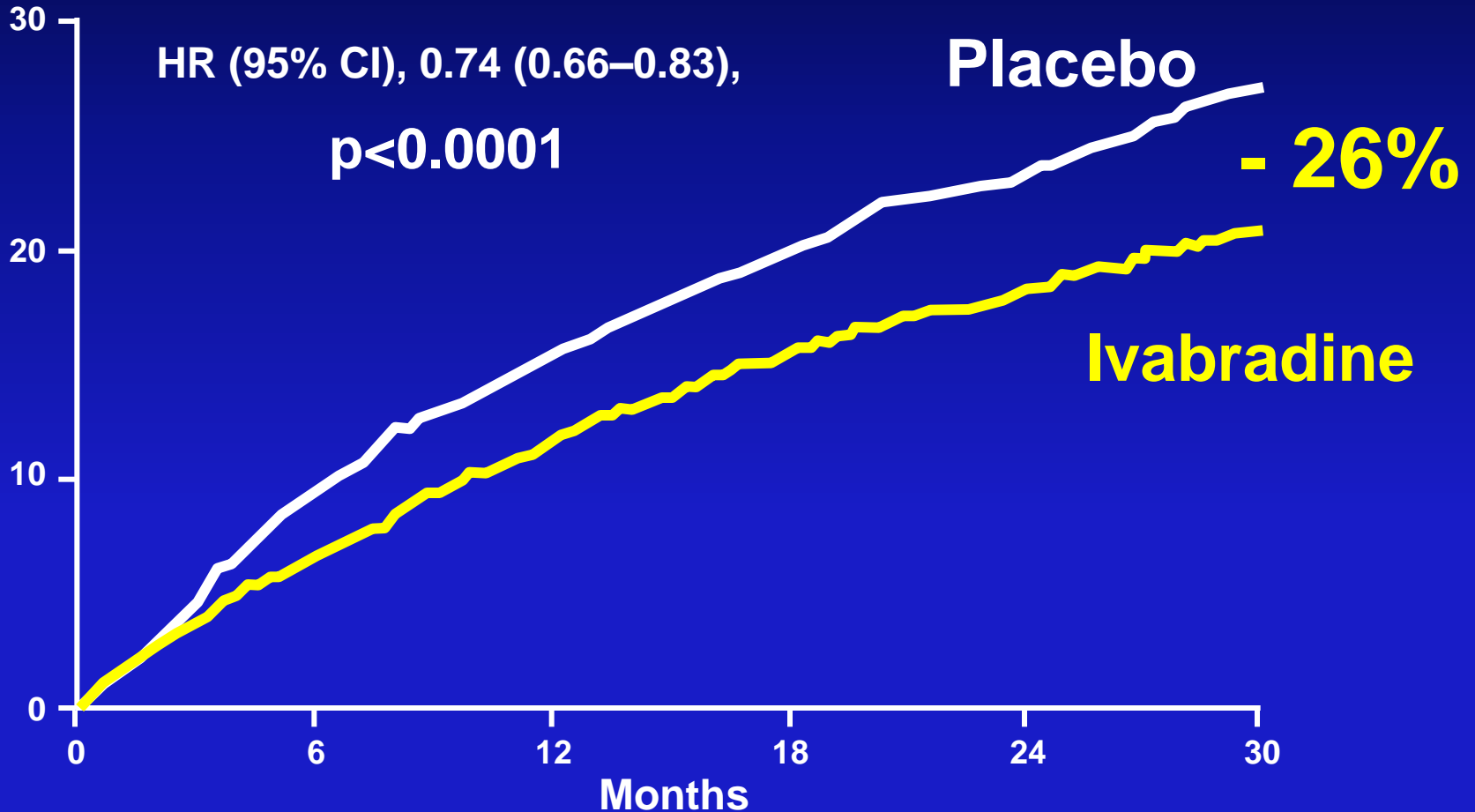
# Primary composite endpoint (CV death or hospital admission for worsening HF)

Cumulative frequency (%)



# Hospitalization for HF

Cumulative frequency (%)

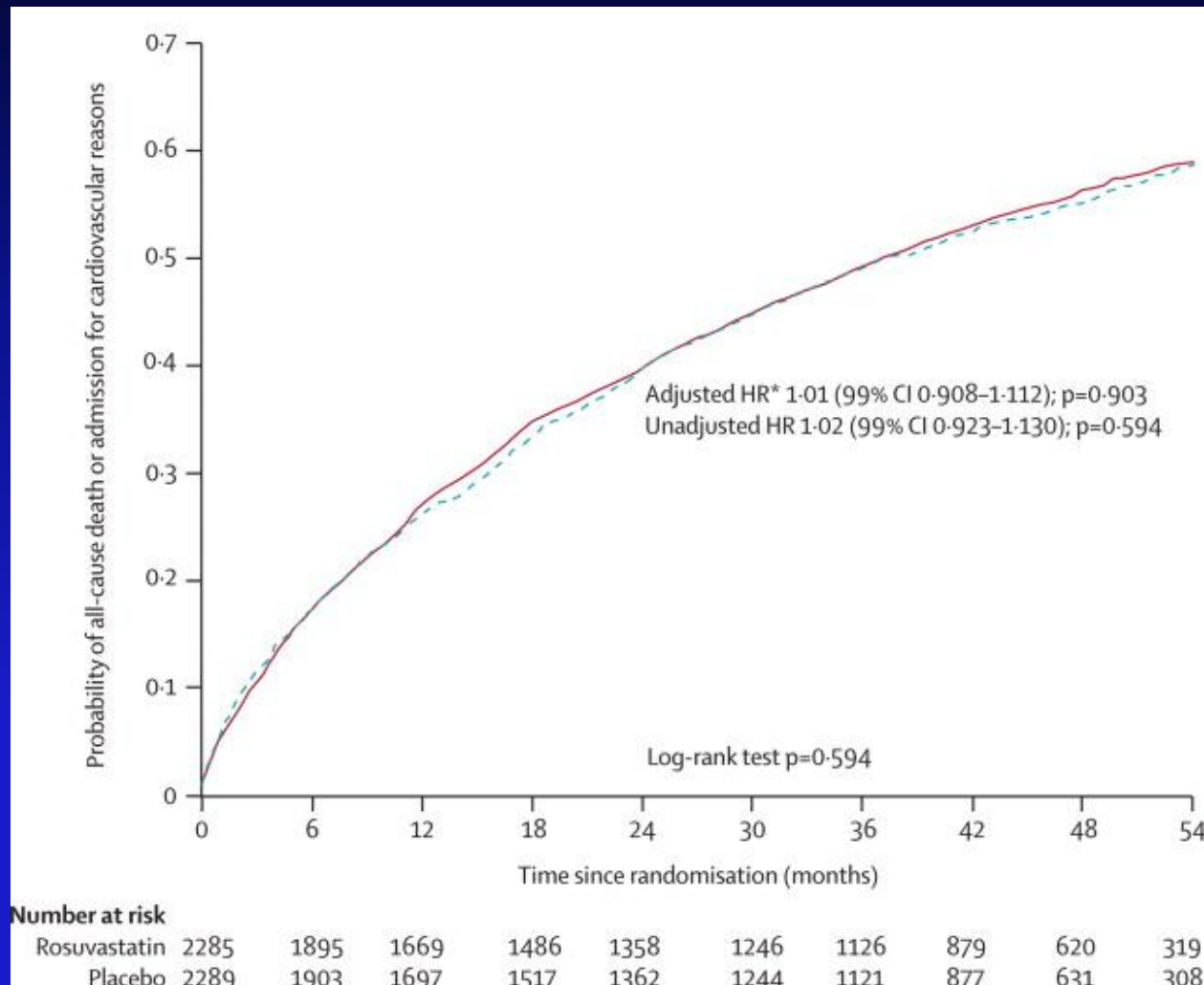


# Anti-thrombotic agents

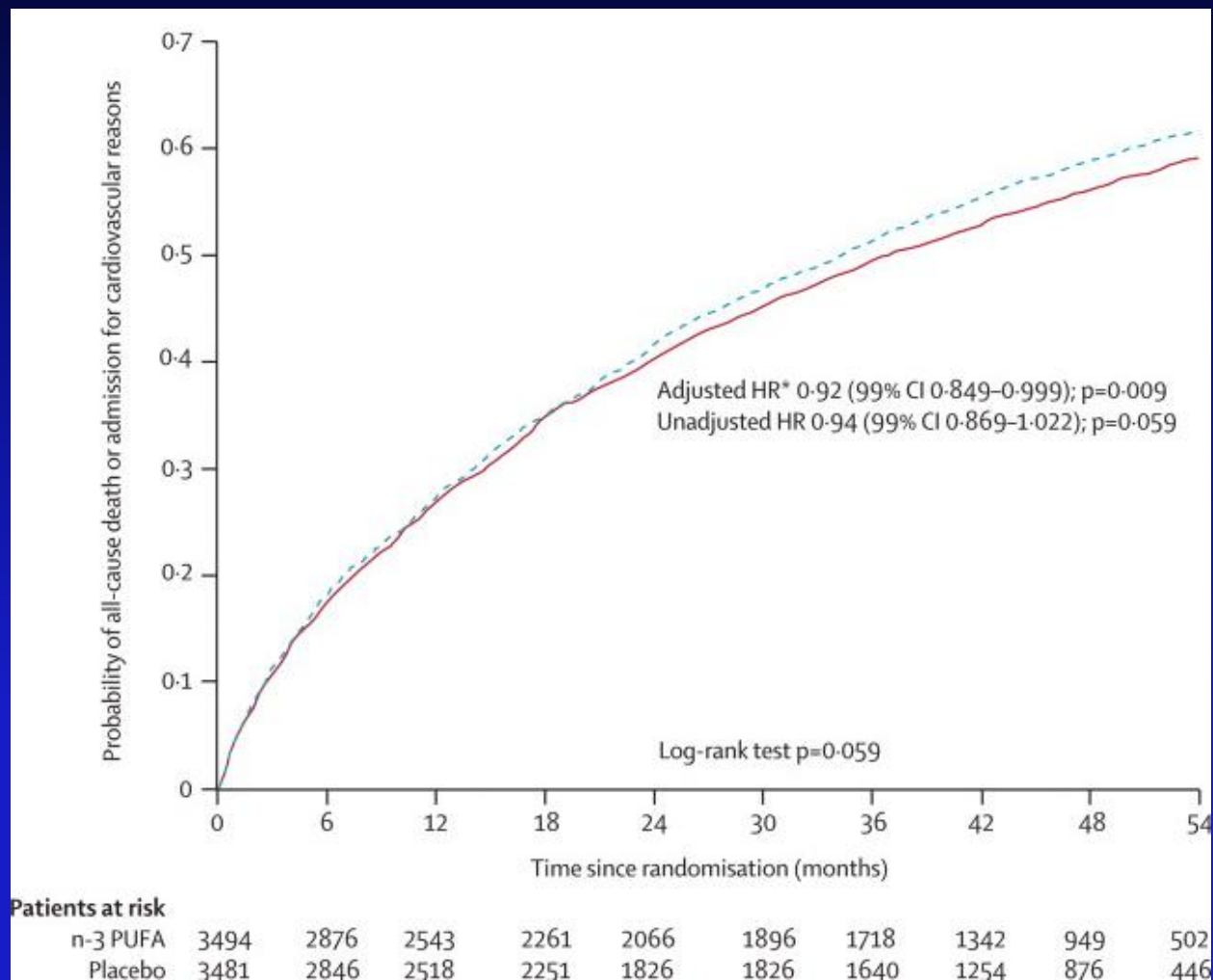
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- **Anti-coagulation**
  - Indicated in CHF with permanent, persistent, or paroxysmal atrial fibrillation without contraindications to anticoagulation
  - Evidence of systemic embolism
  - Intracardiac thrombus
- **Antiplatelet agents**
  - Associated with greater risk of hospitalisations
  - No evidence of reduction in atherosclerotic risk in patients with HF

# Effect of rosuvastatin in patients with chronic HF (the GISSI-HF trial)

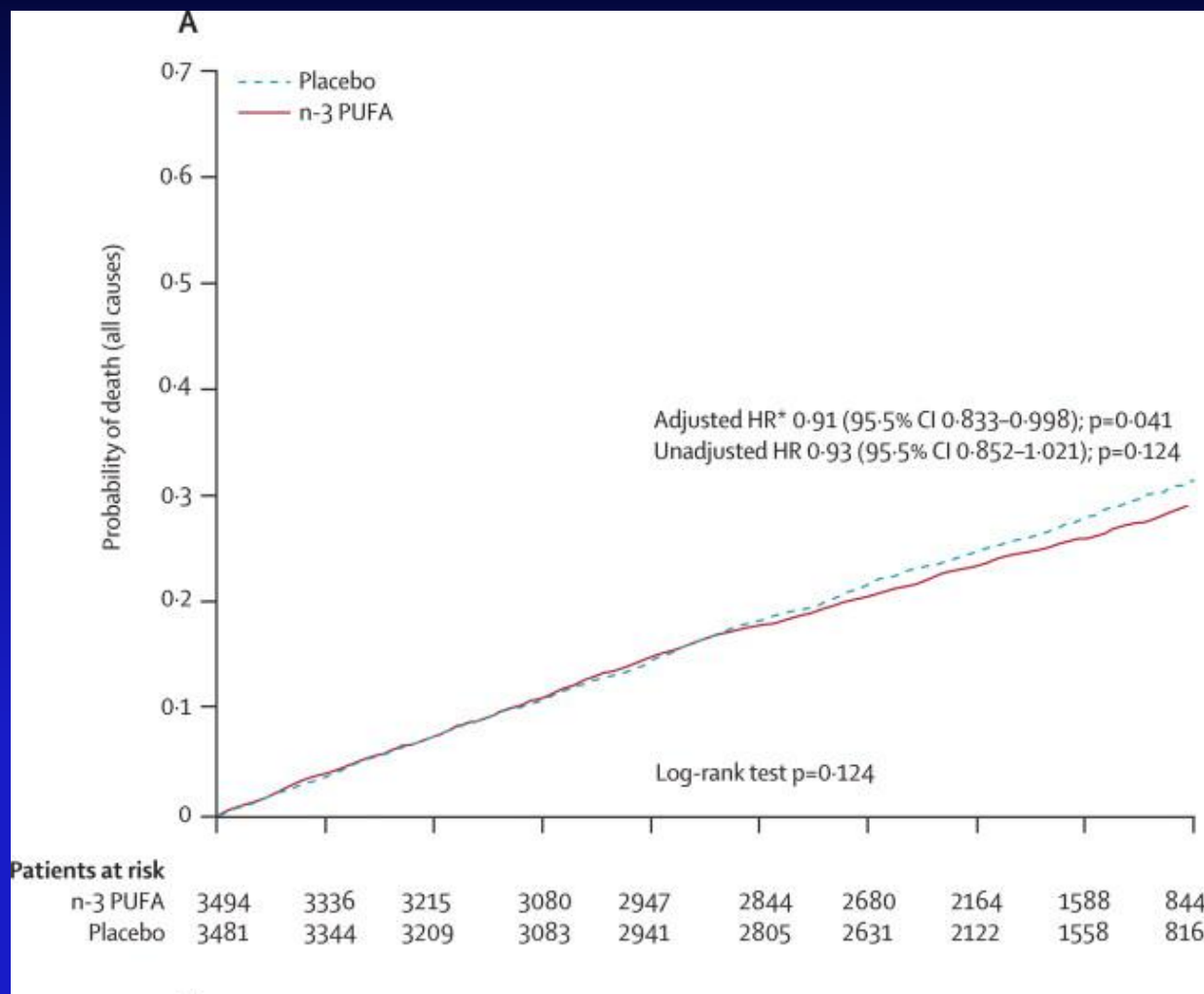


# Effect of n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids in patients with chronic HF (the GISSI-HF trial)

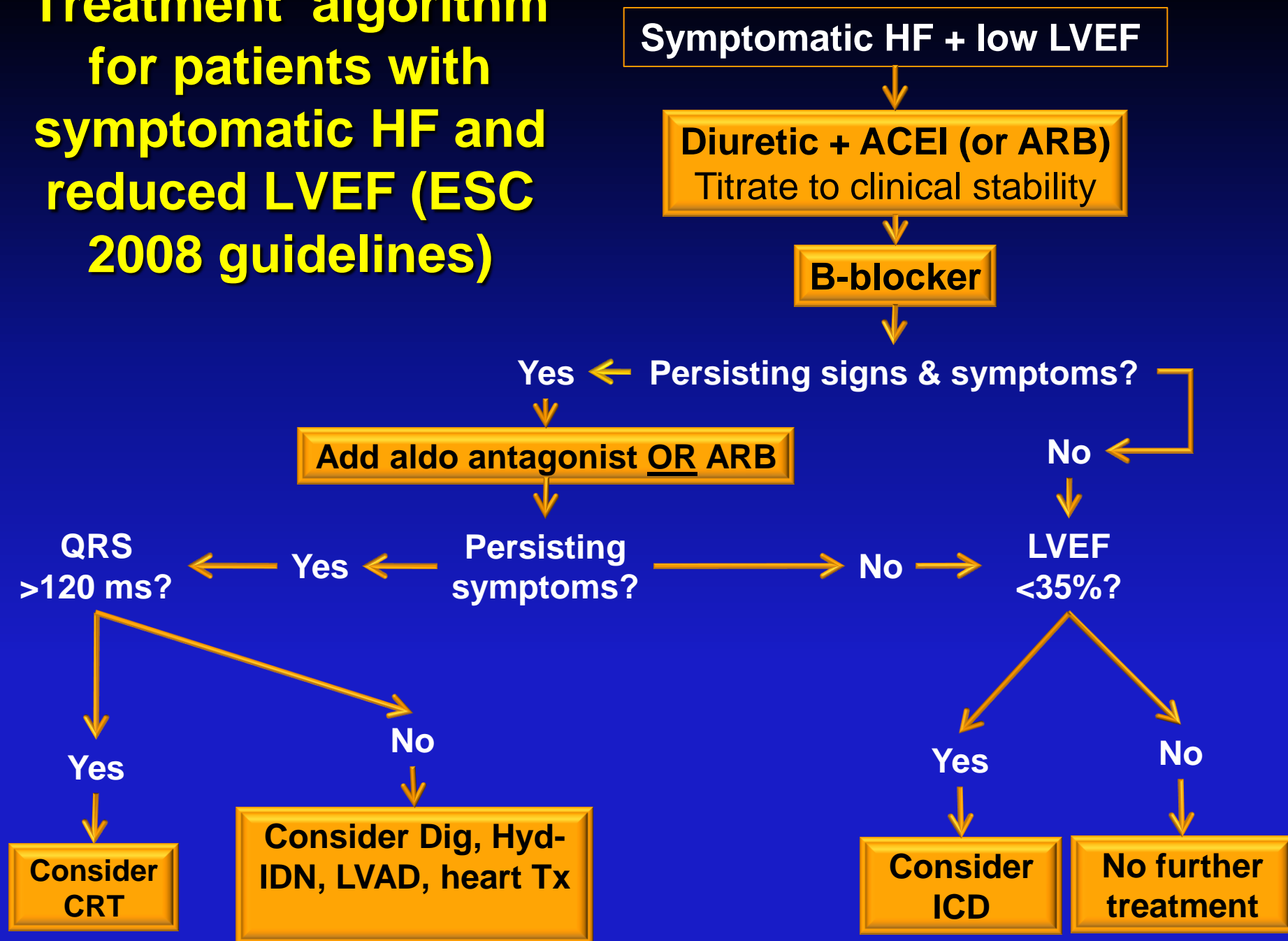




# Effect of n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids in patients with chronic HF (the GISSI-HF trial)



# Treatment algorithm for patients with symptomatic HF and reduced LVEF (ESC 2008 guidelines)



**Symptomatic HF + low LVEF**

**Diuretic + ACEI (or ARB)**

**B-blocker + Aldo antagonist? +CRT?**

**Intolerant to B-blocker?  
NYHA class II-IV?**

**No**

**Yes**

**LVEF  $\leq$ 35%, Resting HR  $\geq$ 70 bpm**

**No**

**Yes**

**Ivabradine**

**Persisting signs  
& symptoms?**

**No, LVEF <35%**

**Yes**

**No**

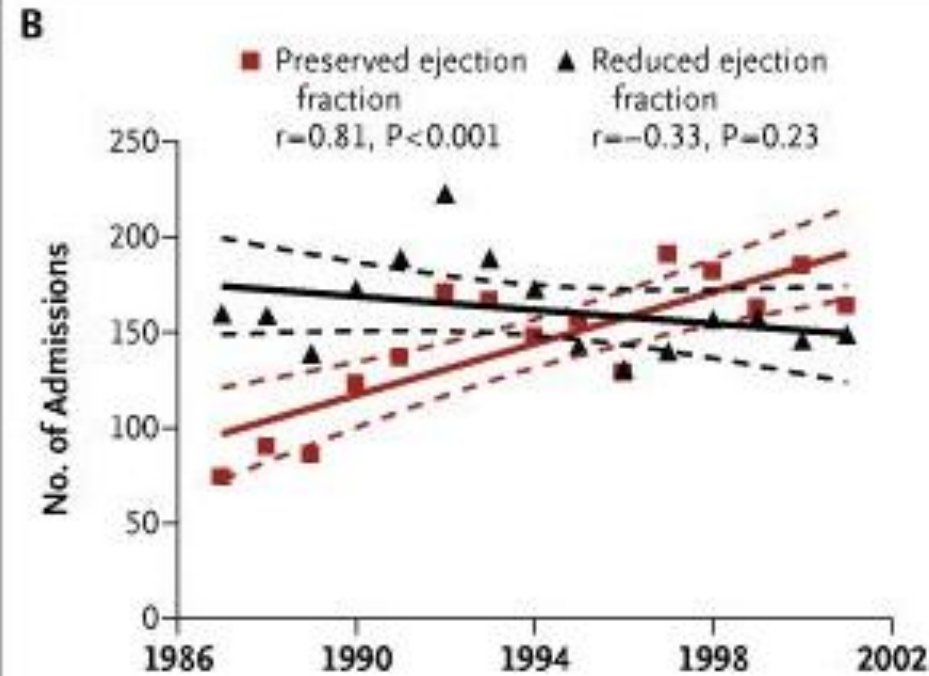
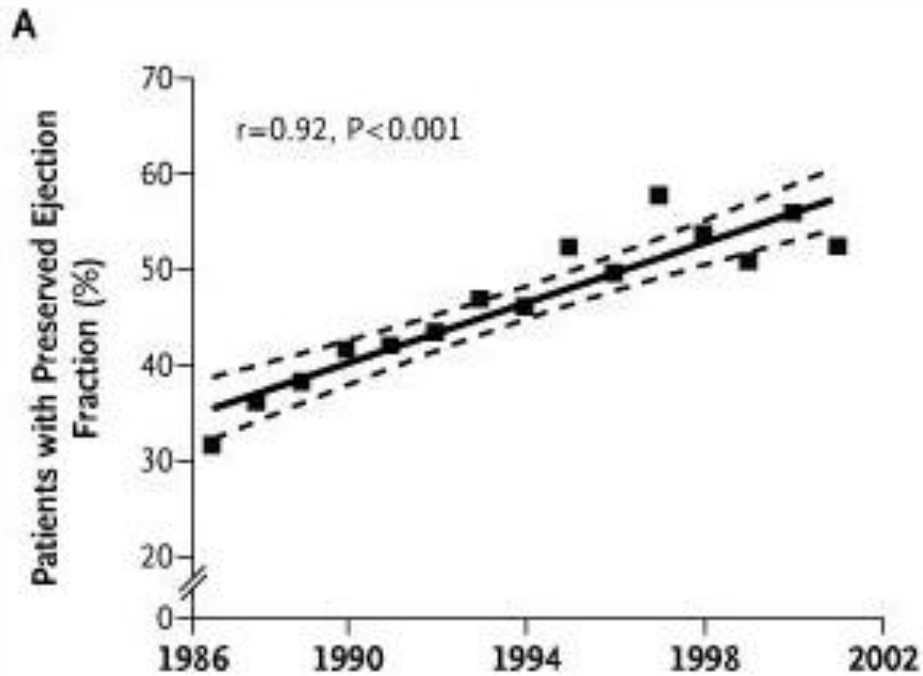
**CRT-D (QRS >120 ms)  
Dig, Hyd-IDN, LVAD,  
heart Tx**

**AICD or CRT-D  
(QRS >120 ms)**

**No further  
treatment**

**New guidelines?**

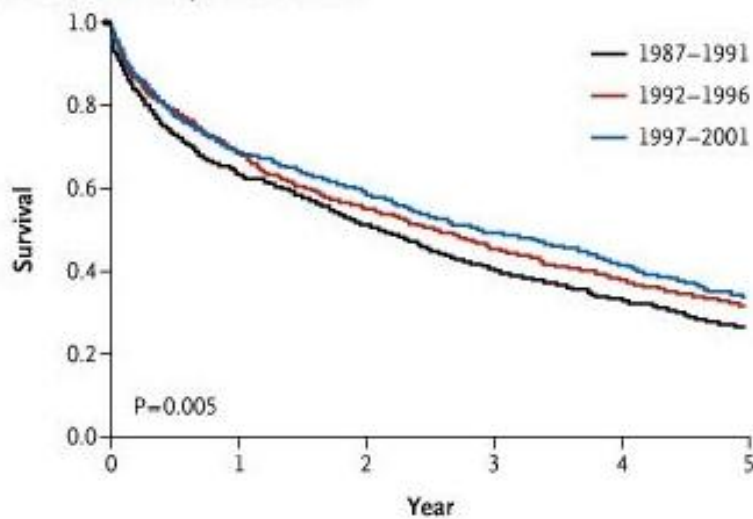
# Secular Trends in the Prevalence of Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction



# Increased Survival among Patients with Heart Failure Reduced EF but not in those with Preserved EF

All consecutive patients hospitalized with decompensated heart failure at Mayo Clinic Hospitals, Minnesota (n=4596)

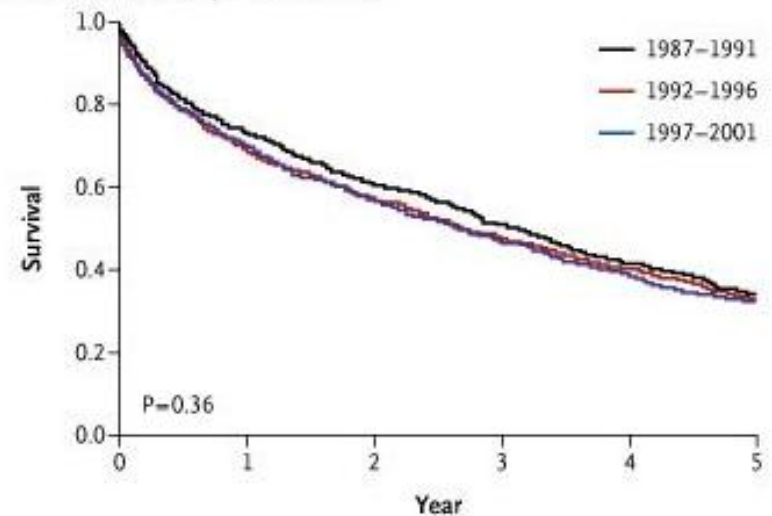
**A Patients with Reduced Ejection Fraction**



No. at Risk

1987-1991	819	525	424	336	274	220
1992-1996	857	594	481	395	331	273
1997-2001	748	520	447	319	210	114

**B Patients with Preserved Ejection Fraction**

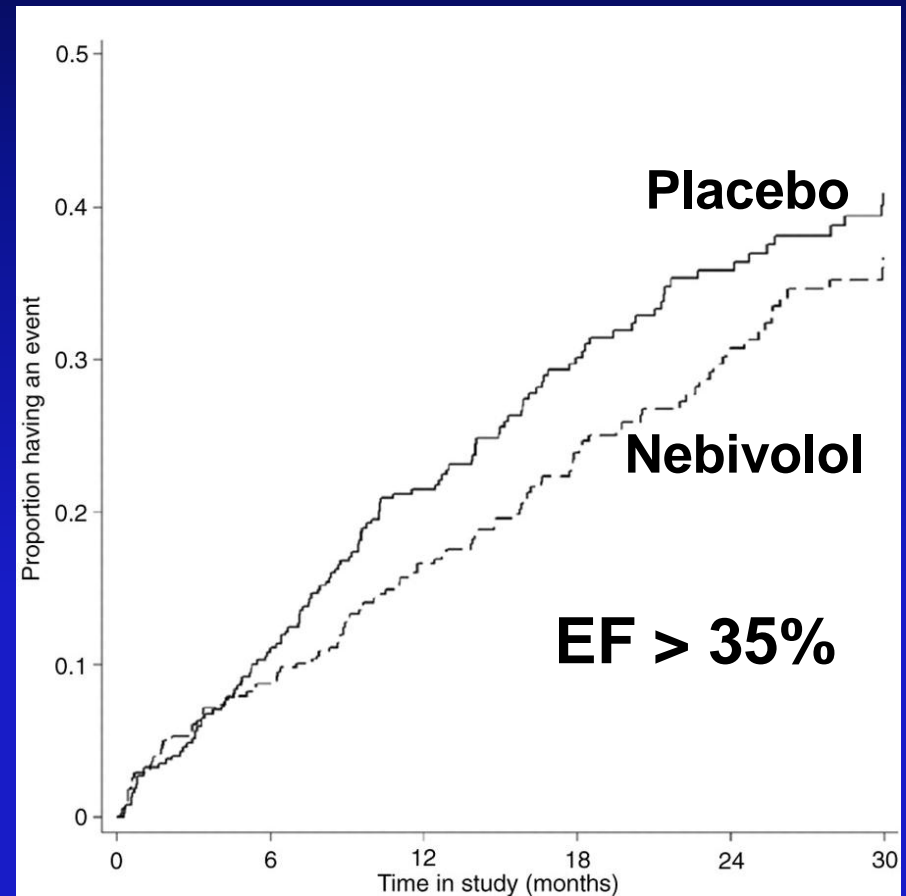
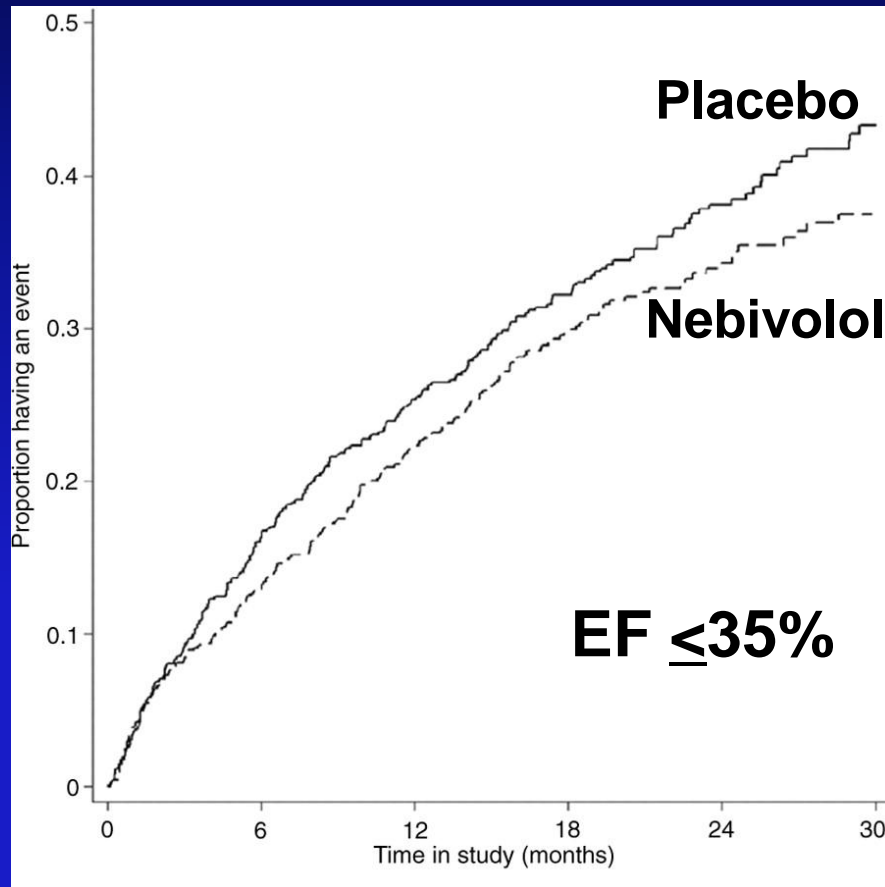


No. at Risk

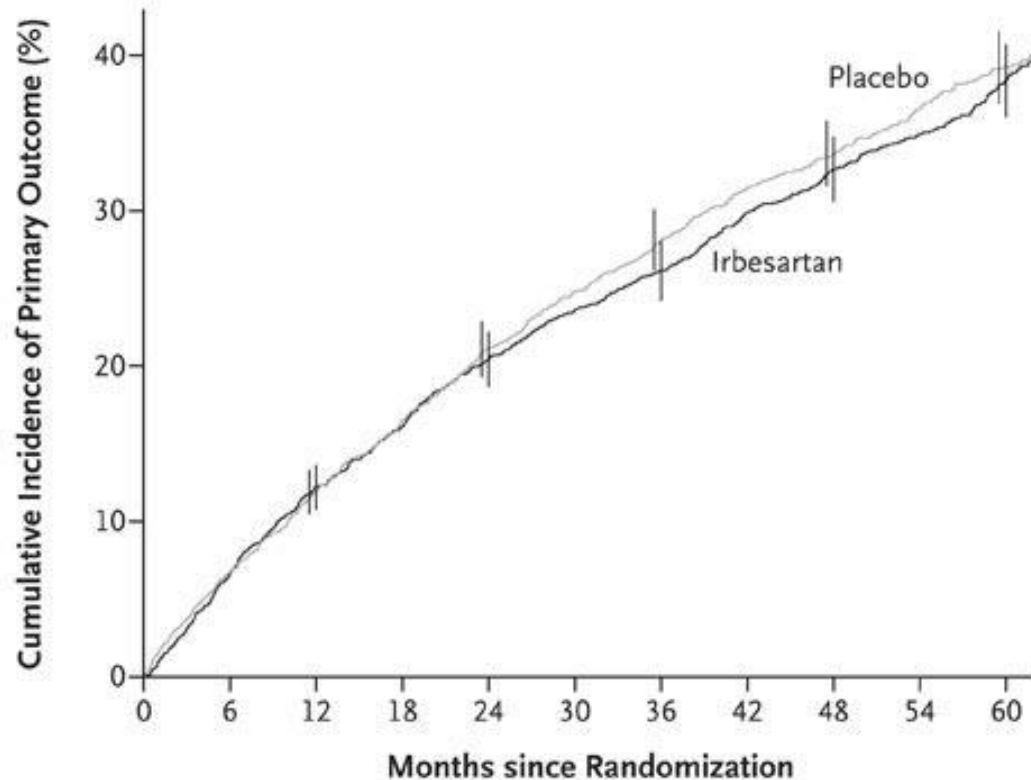
1987-1991	510	377	313	263	216	117
1992-1996	771	537	447	375	314	262
1997-2001	885	629	513	365	230	138

# Beta-Blockade With Nebivolol in Elderly Heart Failure Patients With Impaired and Preserved Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction

Data From SENIORS (Study of Effects of Nebivolol Intervention on Outcomes and Rehospitalization in Seniors With Heart Failure)



# I-PRESERVE. Kaplan-Meier Curves for the Primary Outcome (all-cause death or CV hospitalization)



## No. at Risk

Irbesartan	2067	1929	1812	1730	1640	1569	1513	1291	1088	816	497
Placebo	2061	1921	1808	1715	1618	1539	1466	1246	1051	776	446

# Aldosterone Antagonist Therapy for Adults With Heart Failure and Preserved Systolic Function: TOPCAT

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- Sponsor
  - National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)
- Primary Outcome Measures:
  - Aborted cardiac arrest
  - Composite of hospitalization for the management of heart failure
- Secondary Outcome Measures:
  - All cause mortality
  - Cardiovascular death or hospitalization
  - Hospitalization for heart failure
  - Sudden death or aborted cardiac arrest
- Randomization: placebo or spironolactone 1:1
- Estimated enrollment: 3515 patients
- Estimated completion date: December 2012



# Efficacia della terapia medica

- 14-34% dei pazienti vengono reospedalizzati entro 6 mesi dal precedente ricovero (1)
- Più del 60 % delle reospedalizzazioni sono causate da una inadeguata compliance alla terapia farmacologica e alla dieta (2,3)
- Solo circa il 50 % dei pazienti ha una adeguata compliance alla terapia prescritta (4)

<sup>1</sup> JB Reitsma et al: Increase in hospital admission rates for heart failure in the Netherlands 1980 - 1993; *Heart* 1996; 76:399-392

<sup>2</sup> F Blyth et al: Burden and outcomes of hospitalization for congestive heart failure, *Med J Aust* 1997; 167:67-70

<sup>3</sup> M Monane et al. Noncompliance with congestive heart failure therapy in the elderly; *Arch Intern Med* 1994; 154:433-437

<sup>4</sup> L Erhardt et al.: Organization of the care of patients with heart failure; *Lancet* 1998; 352 (suppl.): 15-18

# 2010 Focused Update of ESC Guidelines on Device Therapy in Heart Failure

An Update of the 2008 ESC guidelines for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Acute and Chronic Heart Failure and the 2007 ESC guidelines for Cardiac and Resynchronization Therapy, developed in collaboration with the HFA and EHRA

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***Grazie***

*Is Aruttas, Cabras (OR).*