



# L'aderenza terapeutica nell'anziano

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# Key Issues in Outcomes Research

## Medication Adherence Its Importance in Cardiovascular Outcomes

P. Michael Ho, MD, PhD; Chris L. Bryson, MD, MS; John S. Rumsfeld, MD, PhD

**Abstract**—Medication adherence usually refers to whether patients take their medications as prescribed (eg, twice daily), as well as whether they continue to take a prescribed medication. Medication nonadherence is a growing concern to clinicians, healthcare systems, and other stakeholders (eg, payers) because of mounting evidence that it is prevalent and associated with adverse outcomes and higher costs of care. To date, measurement of patient medication adherence and use of interventions to improve adherence are rare in routine clinical practice. The goals of the present report are to address (1) different methods of measuring adherence, (2) the prevalence of medication nonadherence, (3) the association between nonadherence and outcomes, (4) the reasons for nonadherence, and finally, (5) interventions to improve medication adherence. (*Circulation*. 2009;119:3028-3035.)

“Drugs don’t work in patients who don’t take them.”

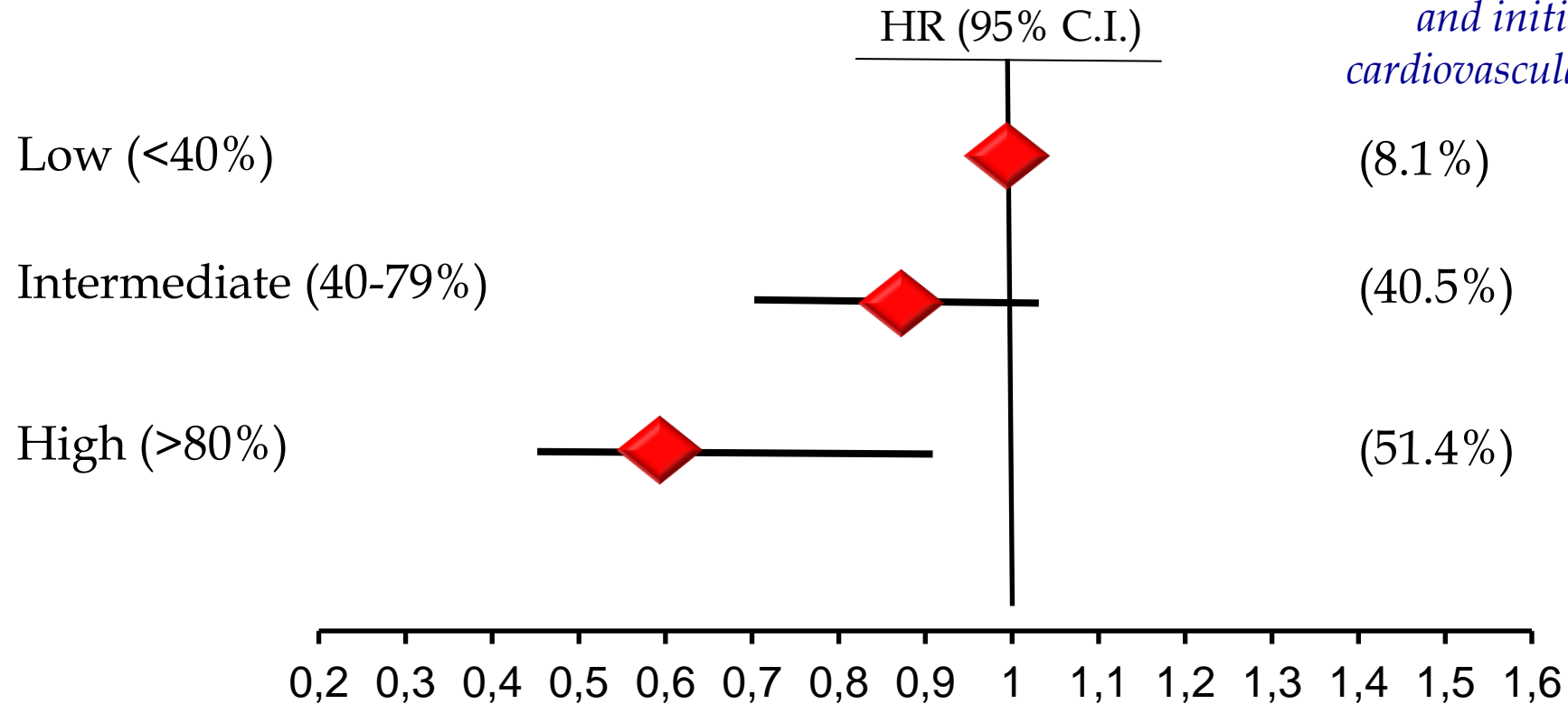
C. Everett Koop, MD



# Adherence to Antihypertensive Medications and CV Morbidity Among Newly Diagnosed Hypertensive Patients

## Adherence to AHT (6 months) and CV events (PDC)

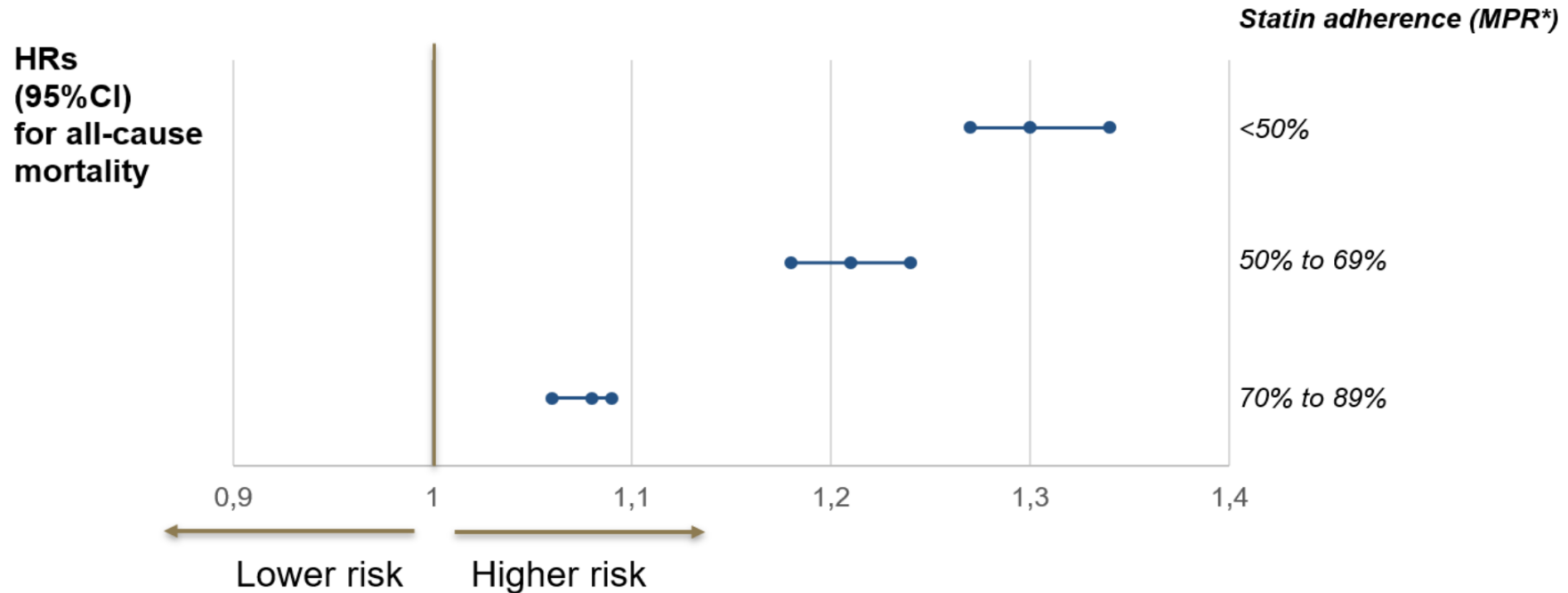
*18 806 newly diagnosed hypertensives, newly treated for hypertension and initially free of cardiovascular diseases*





# Long term statin adherence inversely associated with all-cause mortality in n Patients With Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease

A retrospective cohort study using data from the **VA Health System** (N=347.104)

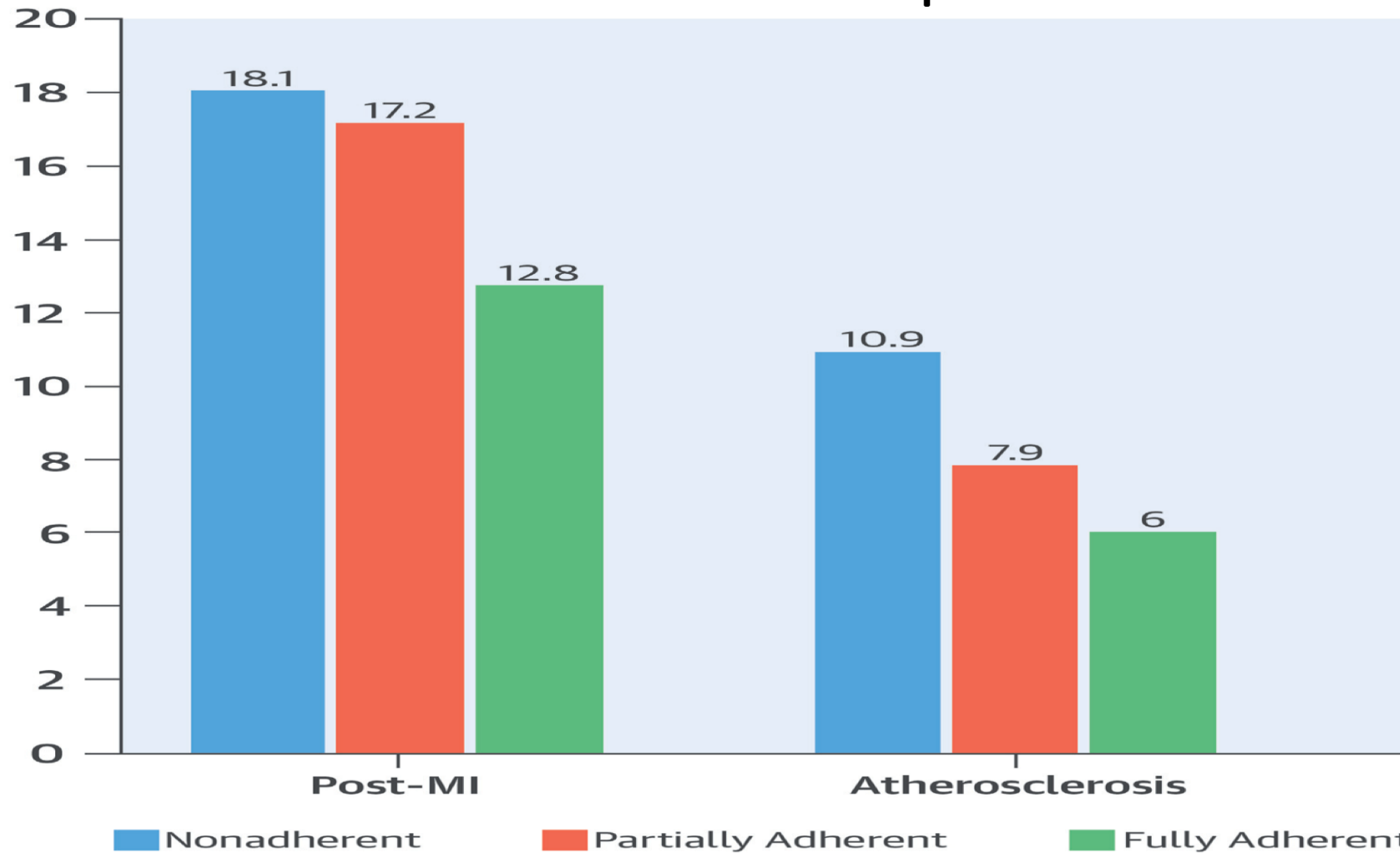


ASCVD: atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease

\*MPR (medication possession rate): The number of days of outpatient statin supplied during a 12-month period divided by the number of days that the patient was not hospitalized and alive during the 12-month period



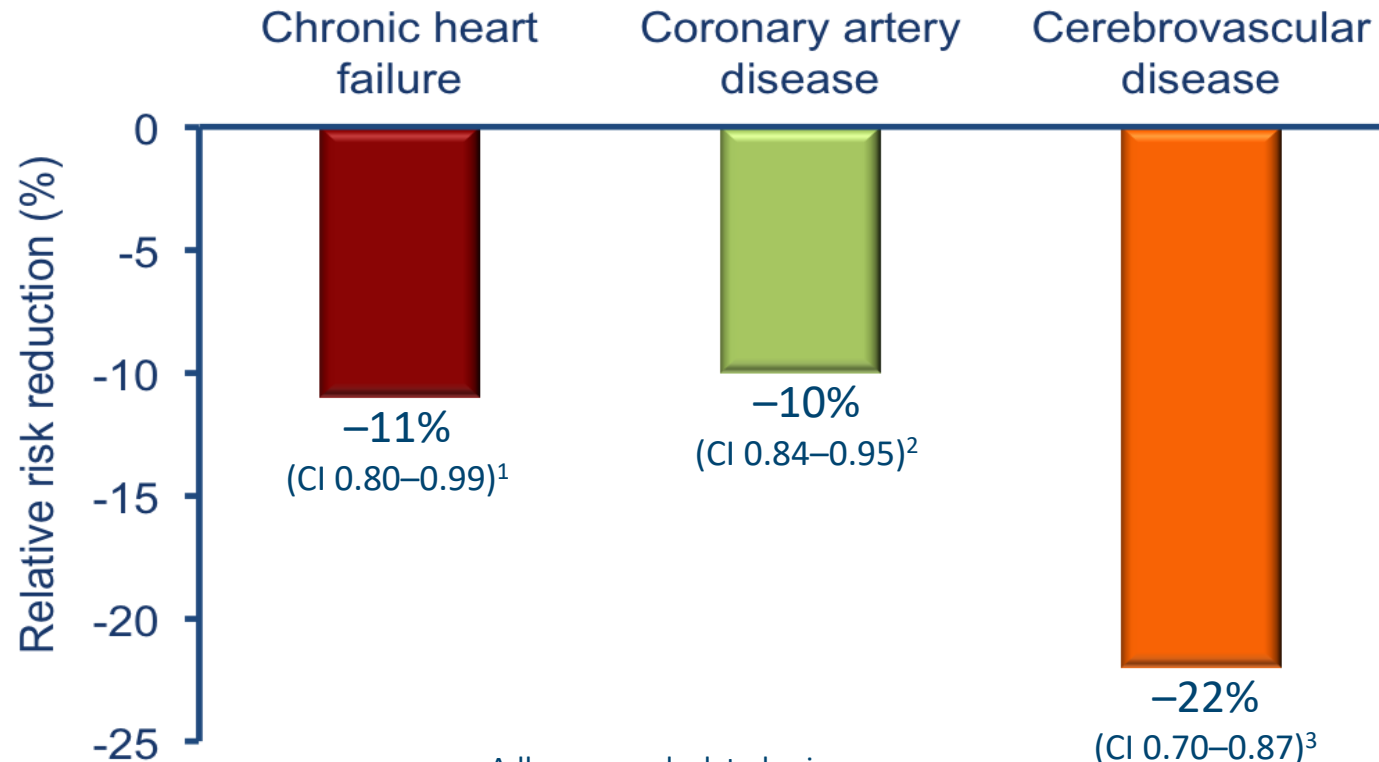
# Medication Adherence and Cardiovascular Outcomes: Rates of MACE-Related Hospitalizations





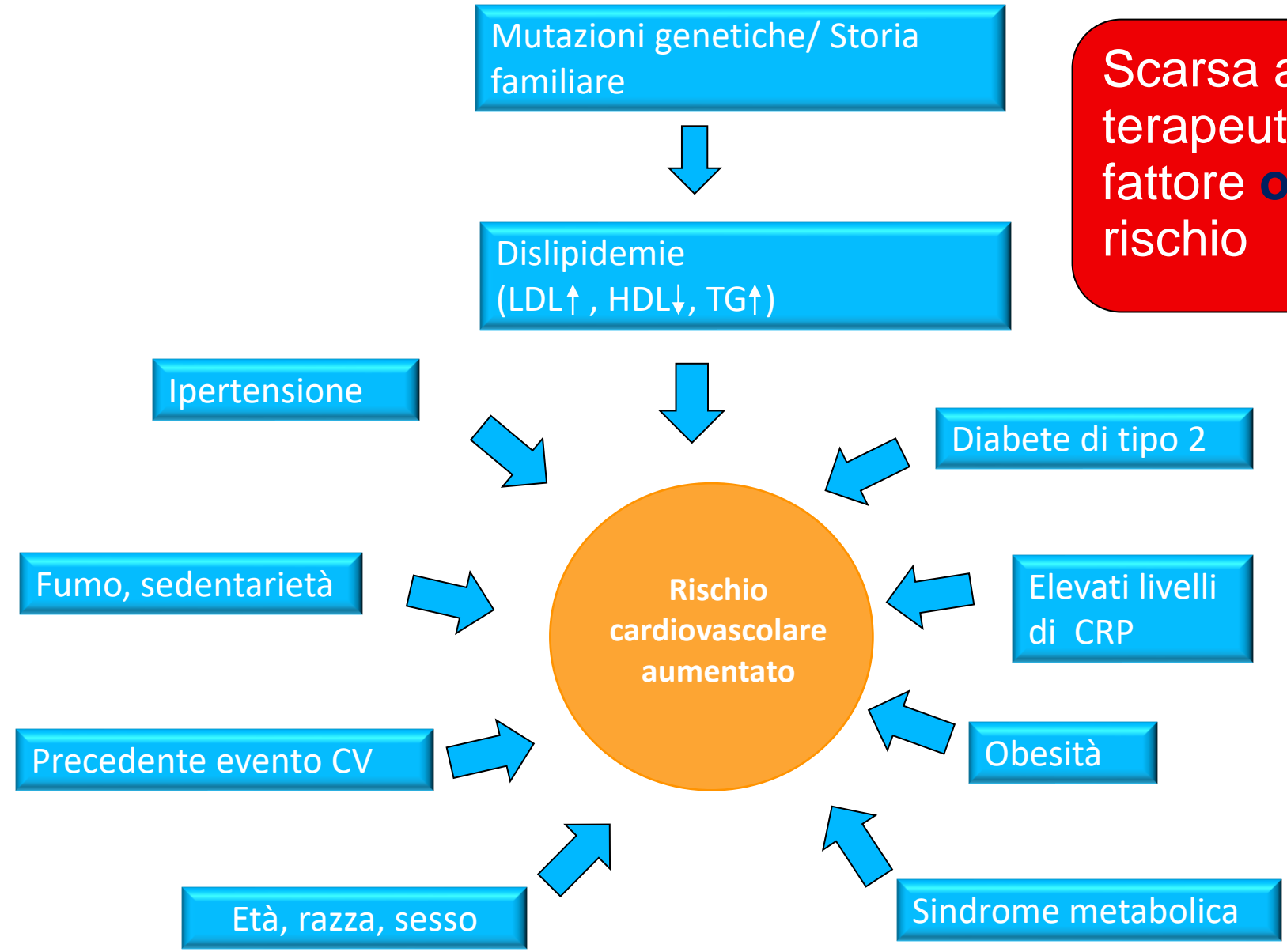
# Good adherence is associated with a lower risk of events

Compared with patients with low (<80%) adherence, those with high (≥80%) adherence showed:



Adherence calculated using medication possession ratio: total number of days' supply of dispensed medication divided by duration of follow up

1. Perreault, Dragomir, White, et al. J Intern Med 2009;266:207–18
2. Perreault, Dragomir, Roy, et al. Br J Clin Pharmacol 2010;69:74–84
3. Kettani, Deragomir, Côté, et al. Stroke 2009;40:213–20



Scarsa aderenza terapeutica: un fattore **occulto** di rischio



# 2023 ESH Guidelines for the management of arterial hypertension

## *The Task Force for the management of arterial hypertension of the European Society of Hypertension*

Endorsed by the International Society of Hypertension (ISH) and the European Renal Association (ERA)

Screening for <b>non-adherence</b> to treatment is recommended in all patients with apparent resistant hypertension.	I	A
Consider screening for <b>non-adherence</b> patients who are on combination treatment (i.e. at least 2 drugs) and have an inadequate BP response to this treatment.	II	C
<b>Check adherence</b> prior to screening for secondary hypertension.	I	A





### Indicatori di aderenza al trattamento con farmaci l'ipertensione e lo scompenso cardiaco nella popolazione di età ≥45 anni nel periodo 2019-2022 e variazione 2022-2021

	Alta aderenza*						Alta aderenza*					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	Δ % 22-21	Δ % 22-19	2019	2020	2021	2022	Δ % 22-21	Δ % 22-19
	<b>Totale N=273.179</b>						<b>Nord N=127.331</b>					
45-54 anni	54,8	54,9	54,0	54,0	-1	-1	56,7	56,8	55,6	55,1	-3	-1
55-64 anni	55,4	54,6	54,7	54,1	-2	-2	56,5	56,0	55,9	55,2	-2	-1
65-74 anni	53,9	53,0	53,9	53,0	-2	-2	54,6	54,3	54,5	54,0	-1	-1
75-84 anni	49,5	48,2	49,7	49,1	-1	-1	50,6	49,5	51,1	50,4	0	-1
≥85 anni	41,0	40,9	42,7	40,9	0	0	42,1	43,0	44,6	43,8	4	-2
Femmine	48,7	48,1	48,6	47,9	-2	-2	49,9	49,5	49,9	49,4	-1	-1
Maschi	58,0	57,3	57,8	57,3	-1	-1	58,7	58,5	58,6	58,0	-1	-1
<b>Totale</b>	<b>53,1</b>	<b>52,5</b>	<b>53,0</b>	<b>52,4</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>54,1</b>	<b>53,8</b>	<b>54,0</b>	<b>53,5</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>-1</b>
	<b>Centro N=56.128</b>						<b>Sud N=89.720</b>					
45-54 anni	55,8	55,9	55,5	56,1	1	1	52,3	52,2	51,3	51,4	-2	-2
55-64 anni	56,7	55,7	56,4	55,8	-2	-2	53,5	52,2	52,1	51,6	-3	-3
65-74 anni	55,9	53,5	54,9	55,0	-2	-2	51,8	51,1	52,2	50,1	-3	-3
75-84 anni	50,0	48,7	50,2	50,0	0	0	47,3	45,6	46,5	46,1	-2	-2
≥85 anni	41,2	39,5	42,5	40,2	-2	-2	39,0	38,8	39,6	36,2	-7	-7
Femmine	49,5	48,4	49,4	49,4	0	0	46,7	46,1	46,3	45,0	-4	-4
Maschi	59,5	58,2	59,4	59,1	-1	-1	56,2	55,2	55,6	55,2	-2	-2
<b>Totale</b>	<b>54,1</b>	<b>53,0</b>	<b>54,1</b>	<b>53,9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>51,2</b>	<b>50,5</b>	<b>50,8</b>	<b>49,9</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>-3</b>



### Indicatori di aderenza al trattamento con farmaci ipolipemizzanti nella popolazione di età ≥45 anni nel periodo 2019-2022 e variazione 2022-2021

	Alta aderenza*						Alta aderenza*					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	Δ % 22-21	Δ % 22-19	2019	2020	2021	2022	Δ % 22-21	Δ % 22-19
	<b>Totale N=290.263</b>						<b>Nord N=127.468</b>					
45-54 anni	40,2	41,7	42,7	42,3	-1	5	43,1	45,9	46,2	45,3	-2	5
55-64 anni	41,5	42,2	43,8	43,7	0	5	44,6	45,1	46,8	46,5	-1	4
65-74 anni	40,3	41,8	42,6	43,4	2	8	42,7	44,7	45,3	45,8	1	7
75-84 anni	40,6	41,9	42,2	43,7	4	8	43,1	43,9	44,5	46,1	4	7
≥85 anni	40,7	41,6	40,9	42,0	3	3	43,0	44,4	43,5	44,6	2	4
Femmine	35,7	37,2	38,1	39,1	3	10	38,2	39,5	40,5	41,6	3	9
Maschi	46,3	47,2	48,4	48,3	0	4	48,8	50,2	51,2	50,9	-1	4
<b>Totale</b>	<b>40,7</b>	<b>41,9</b>	<b>42,8</b>	<b>43,3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>43,4</b>	<b>44,8</b>	<b>45,6</b>	<b>46,0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>
	<b>Centro N=58.627</b>						<b>Sud N=104.168</b>					
45-54 anni	41,7	40,8	42,8	43,0	0	3	37,2	38,6	39,3	38,9	-1	5
55-64 anni	42,1	42,8	44,2	44,0	0	5	38,2	39,4	40,5	40,3	-1	5
65-74 anni	40,9	41,8	42,2	44,1	5	8	37,5	38,8	39,5	40,0	1	7
75-84 anni	40,9	42,0	41,5	42,9	3	5	37,2	39,2	39,1	40,4	3	9
≥85 anni	42,5	42,2	41,4	43,8	6	3	36,8	38,1	37,0	37,2	1	1
Femmine	36,4	37,0	38,1	39,5	4	8	32,9	35,0	35,3	35,9	2	9
Maschi	47,1	47,7	48,2	48,6	1	3	43,1	43,8	45,0	44,7	-1	4
<b>Totale</b>	<b>41,4</b>	<b>42,0</b>	<b>42,7</b>	<b>43,6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>37,6</b>	<b>39,0</b>	<b>39,7</b>	<b>39,9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>



### Indicatori di aderenza al trattamento con farmaci anticoagulanti nella popolazione di età ≥45 anni nel periodo 2019-2022 e variazione 2022-2021

	Alta aderenza*						Alta aderenza*					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	Δ % 22-21	Δ % 22-19	2019	2020	2021	2022	Δ % 22-21	Δ % 22-19
	<b>Totale N=70.561</b>						<b>Nord N=35.059</b>					
45-54 anni	62,8	62,7	64,0	62,1	-3	-1	66,5	63,5	65,5	64,3	-2	-3
55-64 anni	64,9	66,1	69,8	64,5	-8	-1	65,3	66,1	70,1	67,3	-4	3
65-74 anni	64,0	67,2	68,8	64,8	-6	1	63,5	68,3	70,5	67,3	-5	6
75-84 anni	47,0	50,1	49,5	47,5	-4	1	47,1	51,9	51,8	49,9	-4	6
≥85 anni	25,5	25,9	24,2	24,5	1	-4	26,2	27,9	25,3	25,7	2	-2
Femmine	46,0	47,9	49,4	47,6	-4	4	45,3	48,4	49,8	48,7	-2	8
Maschi	53,1	55,8	58,8	55,1	-6	4	53,4	57,5	60,8	57,8	-5	8
<b>Totale</b>	<b>49,6</b>	<b>52,0</b>	<b>54,3</b>	<b>51,6</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>49,6</b>	<b>53,2</b>	<b>55,7</b>	<b>53,6</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>8</b>
	<b>Centro N=14.324</b>						<b>Sud N=14.324</b>					
45-54 anni	56,1	60,8	59,3	60,3	2	8	62,1	62,6	65,0	59,7	-8	-4
55-64 anni	61,0	64,2	68,8	62,7	-9	3	66,5	67,2	69,9	61,5	-12	-8
65-74 anni	60,0	65,4	67,0	61,7	-8	3	66,9	66,9	67,7	62,8	-7	-6
75-84 anni	45,3	48,8	48,8	46,4	-5	2	47,8	48,1	46,3	43,7	-6	-9
≥85 anni	22,9	25,4	24,3	23,7	-2	3	26,3	23,3	22,2	22,8	3	-13
Femmine	42,3	46,1	47,0	44,7	-5	6	48,9	48,6	50,7	47,9	-6	-2
Maschi	49,6	53,4	56,6	53,1	-6	7	54,8	55,0	57,3	51,8	-10	-5
<b>Totale</b>	<b>46,0</b>	<b>49,8</b>	<b>52,0</b>	<b>49,1</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>51,8</b>	<b>51,8</b>	<b>54,0</b>	<b>49,9</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>-4</b>



## Determinanti del successo (o dell'insuccesso...) terapeutico

- Inerzia terapeutica da parte del medico nel perseguire il raggiungimento dei target terapeutici



## Global report on hypertension: the race against a silent killer 19 September 2023

controlled hypertension:  
SBP <140 mmHg and DBP <90 mmHg  
and taking medication for hypertension

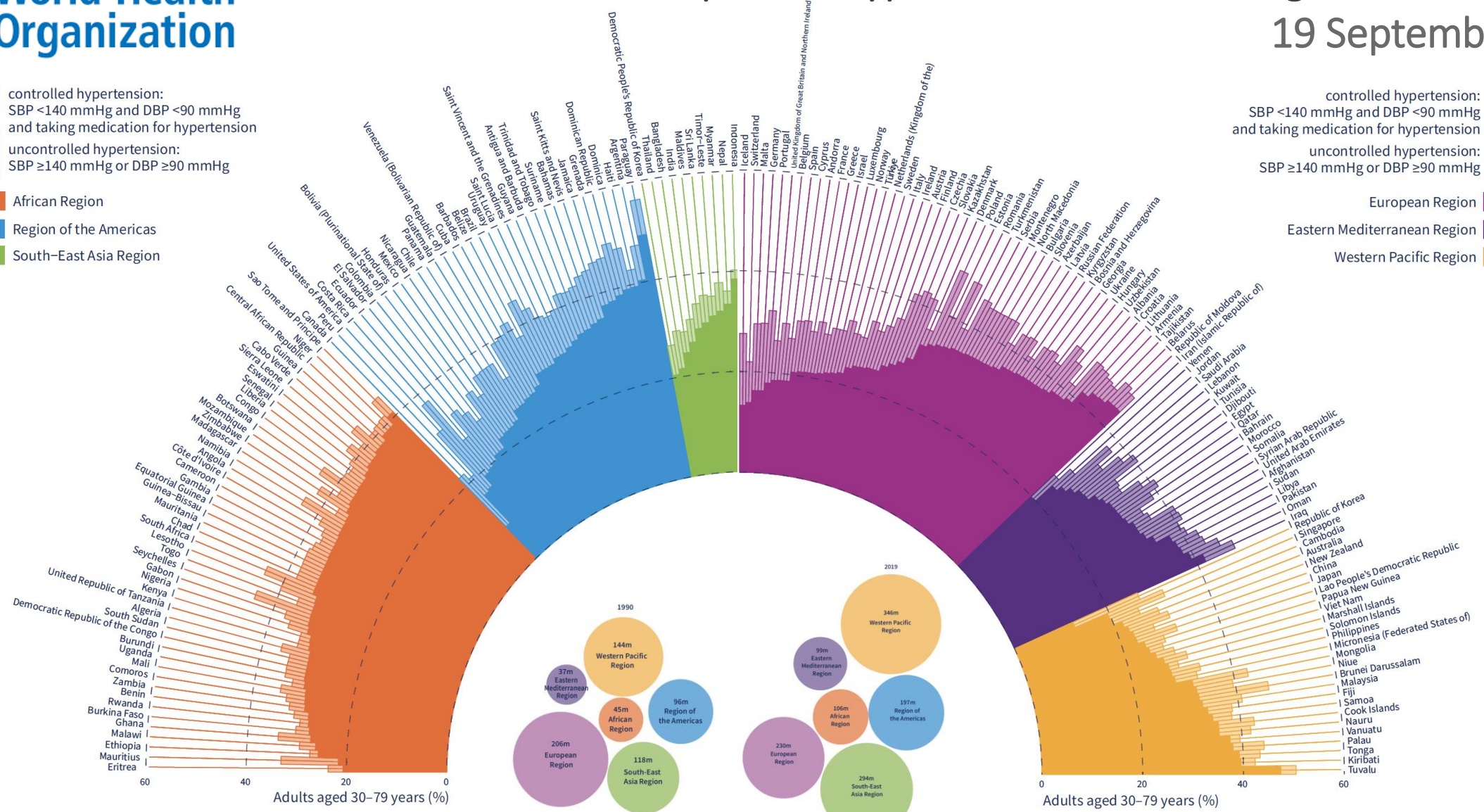
uncontrolled hypertension:  
SBP ≥140 mmHg or DBP ≥90 mmHg

African Region  
Region of the Americas  
South-East Asia Region

controlled hypertension:  
SBP <140 mmHg and DBP <90 mmHg  
and taking medication for hypertension

uncontrolled hypertension:  
SBP ≥140 mmHg or DBP ≥90 mmHg

European Region  
Eastern Mediterranean Region  
Western Pacific Region





## Office BP targets in the general adult hypertensive population

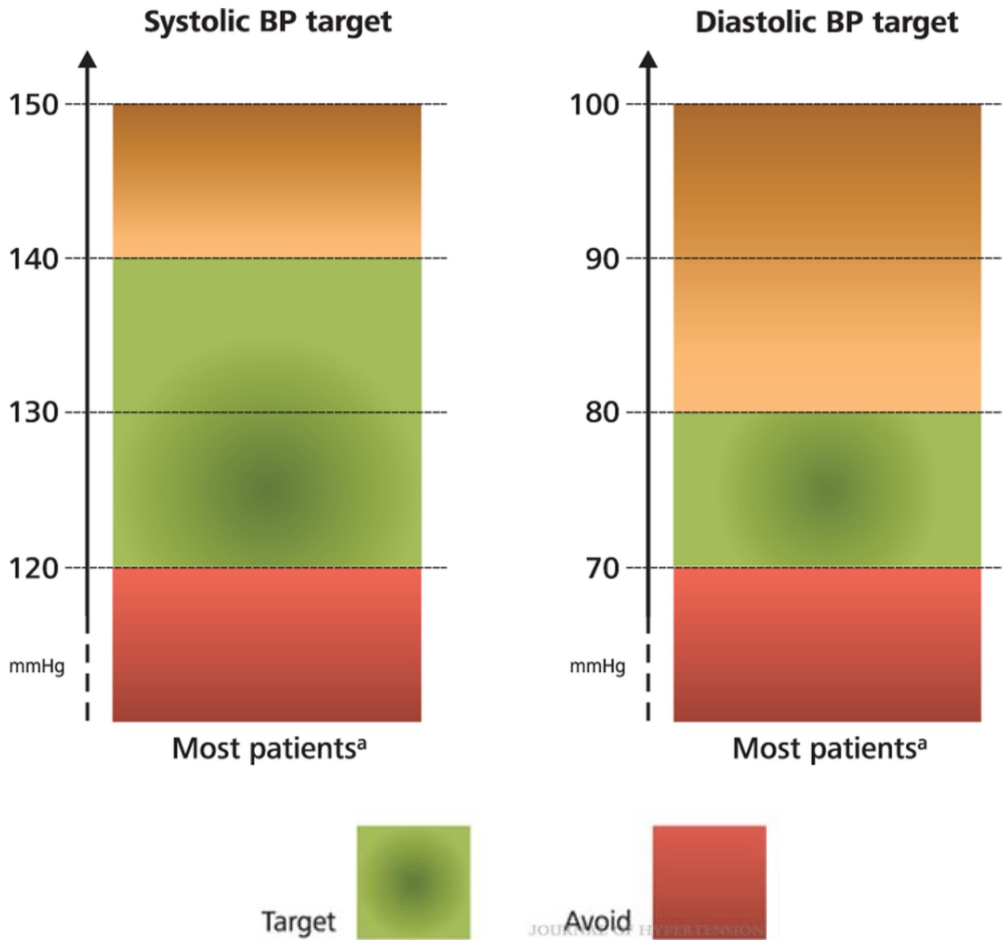


TABLE 21. Adapting BP-lowering strategies in patients older than 80 years according to their functional/autonomy status

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Fit</b>	<b>Slowed but autonomous for most activities</b>	<b>Severely dependent</b>
Diagnosis	-ADL (Katz) $\geq 5/6$ and -absence of clinically significant dementia (MMSE $\leq 20/30$ ) and -routine walking activities	-Profile between Groups 1 and 3	-ADL (Katz) $\leq 2/6$ or -severe dementia or -(MMSE $\leq 10/30$ ), chronic bedridden or -end of life
Therapeutic strategy	- As recommended below	-Individualize treatment	-Individualize treatment -Prioritize therapeutic strategies according to comorbidities and polypharmacy issues

Katz Index of Independence in Activities of Daily Living (ADL) is a scale rated from 0 (completely dependent) to 6 (completely autonomous). This scale comprises 6 ADL: Bathing, Dressing, Toileting, Transferring, Feeding and Continence. For each ADL, '0' means that the person is unable to do it without assistance, 0.5 need of some assistance, 1 no need of any assistance [973]. MMSE, Mini mental status evaluation.

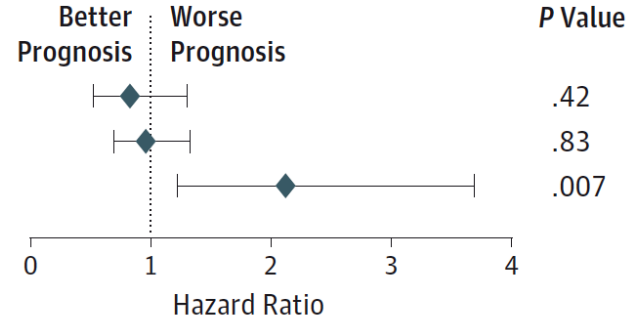
Prioritize therapeutic strategies according to comorbidities and polypharmacy issues



## Treatment With Multiple Blood Pressure Medications, Achieved Blood Pressure, and Mortality in Older ( $\geq 80$ ys) Nursing Home Residents - The PARTAGE Study

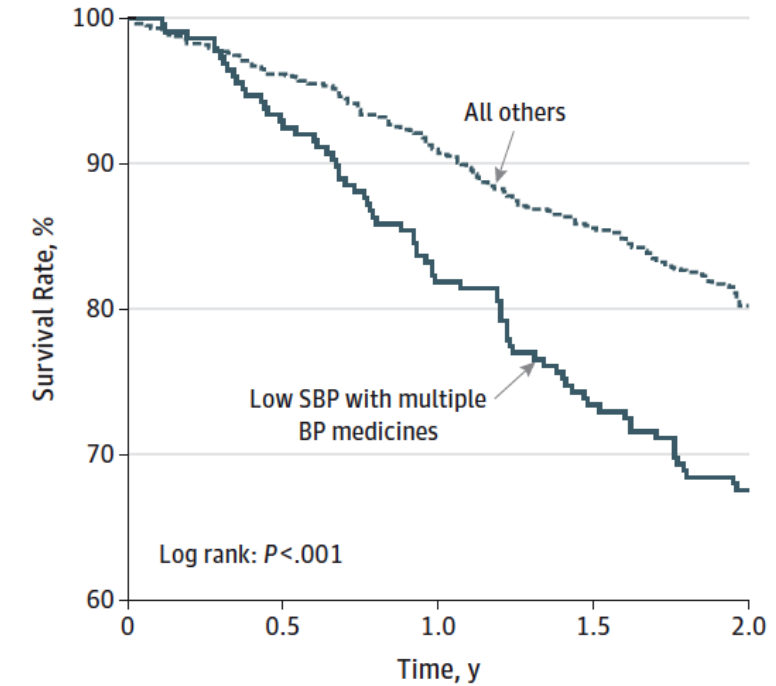
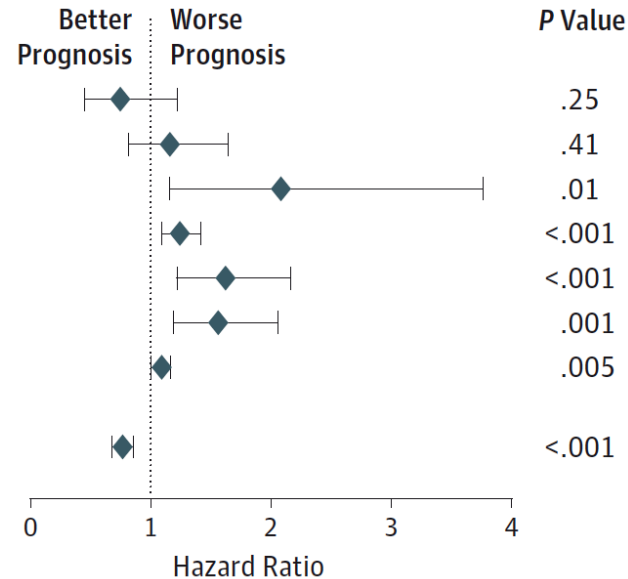
**A** **Unadjusted analysis**

	HR (95% CI)
SBP <130 mm Hg	0.83 (0.53-1.31)
$\geq 2$ Anti-HTN drugs	0.97 (0.70-1.33)
SBP <130 mm Hg and $\geq 2$ anti-HTN drugs	2.13 (1.23-3.69)



**B** **Adjusted analysis**

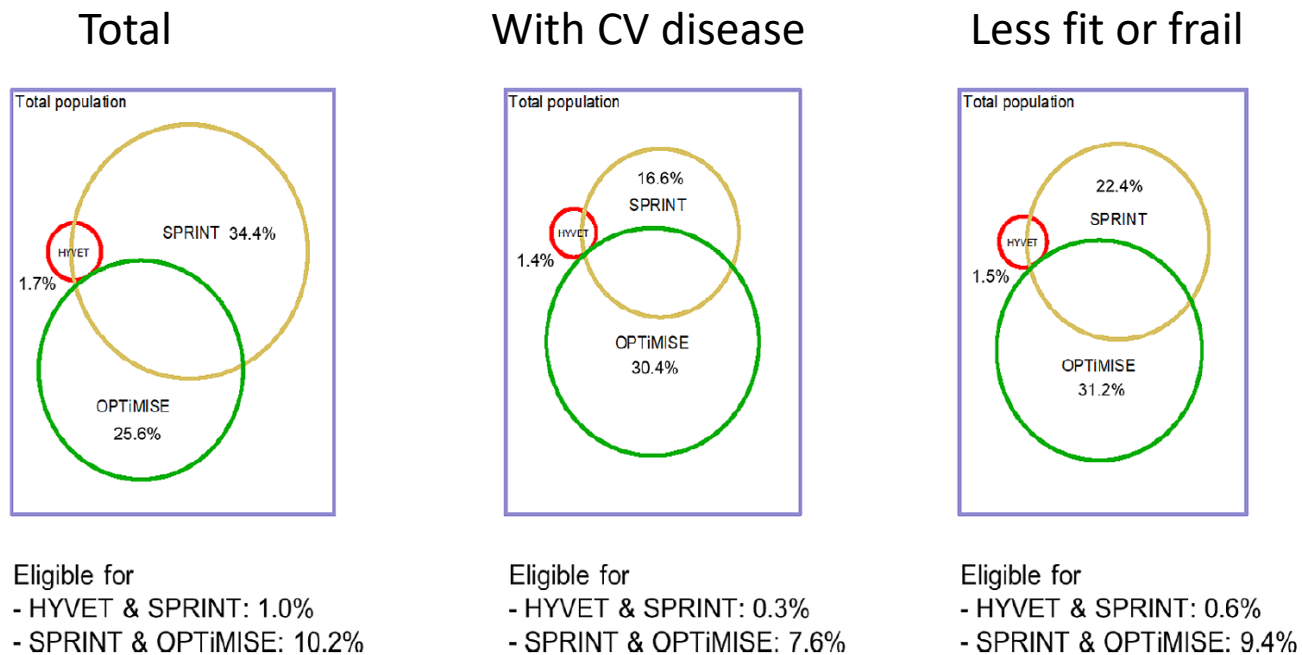
	HR (95% CI)
SBP <130 mm Hg	0.75 (0.46-1.22)
$\geq 2$ Anti-HTN drugs	1.16 (0.82-1.64)
SBP <130 mm Hg and $\geq 2$ anti-HTN drugs	2.09 (1.16-3.77)
Age, per 5 y	1.25 (1.10-1.42)
Male sex	1.63 (1.22-2.17)
BMI $\leq 25$	1.57 (1.19-2.06)
Charlson Comorbidity Index score, per 1-point increase	1.09 (1.03-1.16)
ADL score, per 1-point increase	0.77 (0.68-0.86)



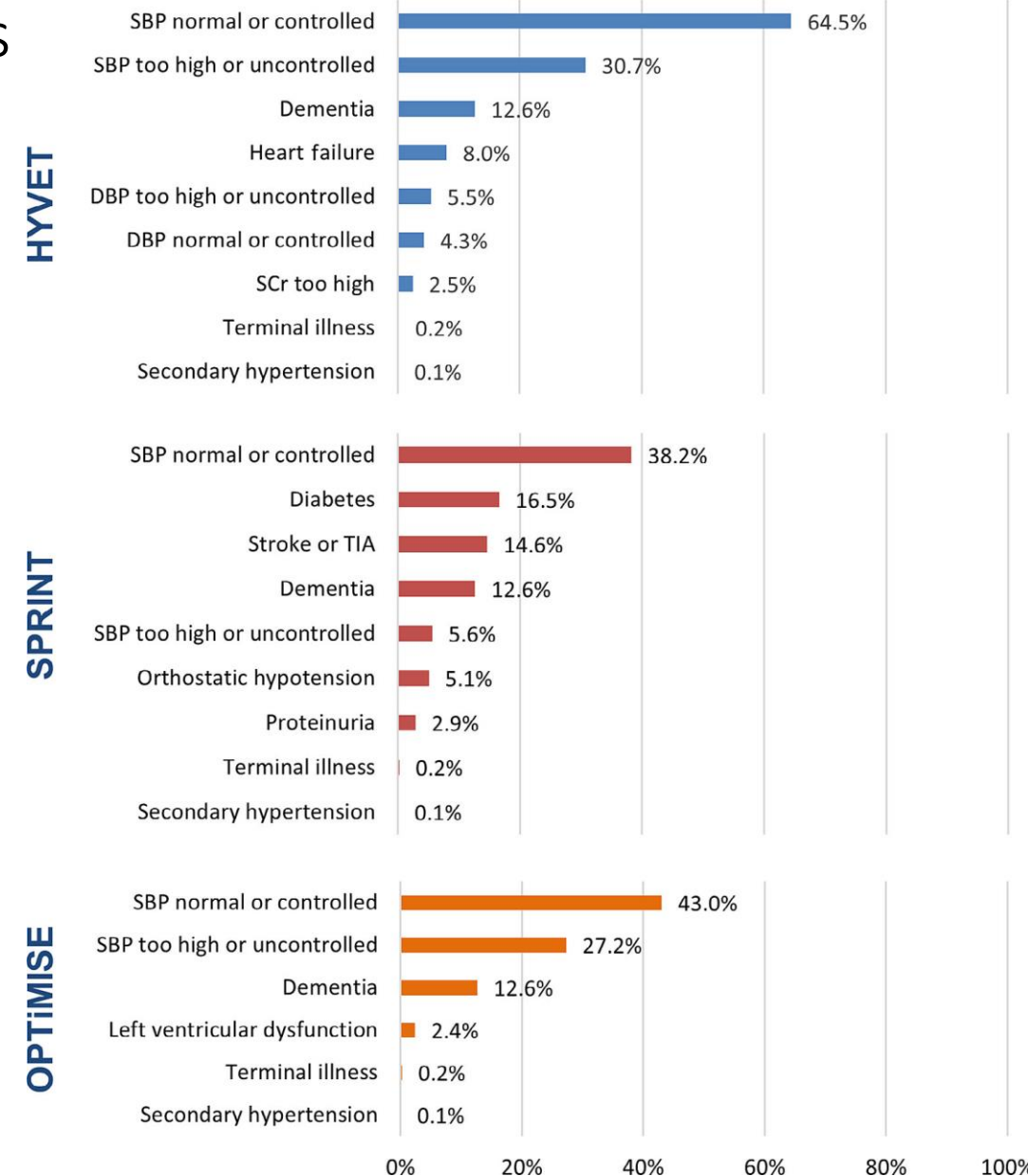
	Patients Left at Risk	0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0
Low SBP with multiple BP medicines	227	210	184	163	70	
All others	900	859	800	747	271	
SBP/anti-HTN drugs						
<130 mm Hg/<2	149	145	138	126	49	
$\geq 130$ mm Hg/ $\geq 2$	423	404	376	360	129	
$\geq 130$ mm Hg/<2	328	310	286	261	93	



# Generalizability of Blood Pressure Lowering Trials to Older Patients: Cross-Sectional Analysis



- 24 general practices in England.
- 15,376 patients identified, aged 80 and older







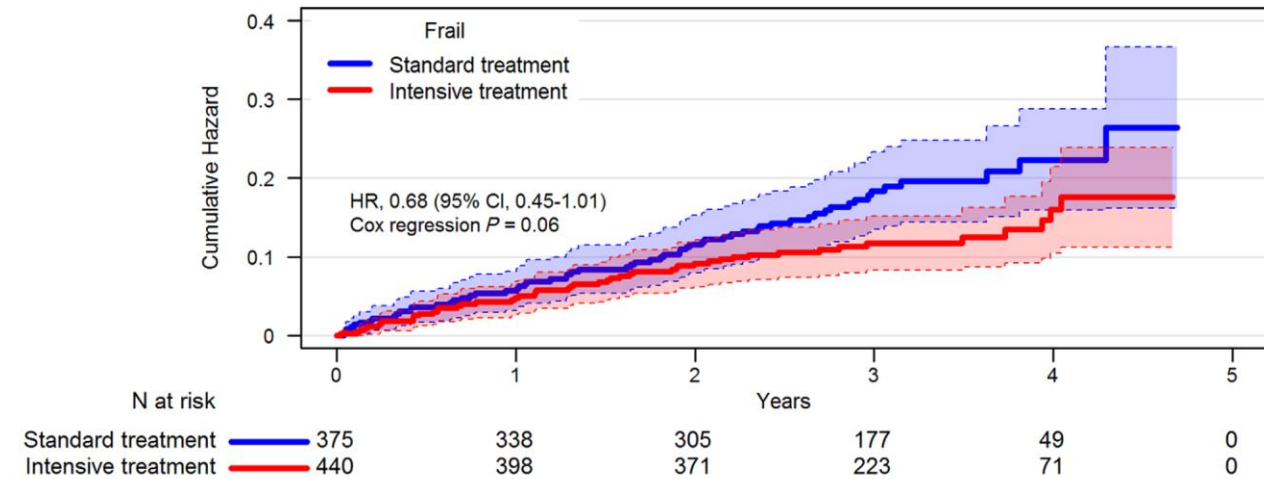
## BP Control in Older Adults: Toward a More Personalized Medicine Approach

*But these metrics come with **confounding biases** and leave many older adults vulnerable to new disability, over- or undertreatment, and otherwise poor care from inadequate evidence.*

*Together, **observational studies and randomized controlled trials** can provide the evidence to inform individualized care across the spectrum of older people.*

*This is the best common ground on which to stand scientifically and clinically. **Patients expect no less of us.***

*Let us hope that the young scientists watching us will observe us finding common ground and continue to follow this principle in the conduct of future research.*

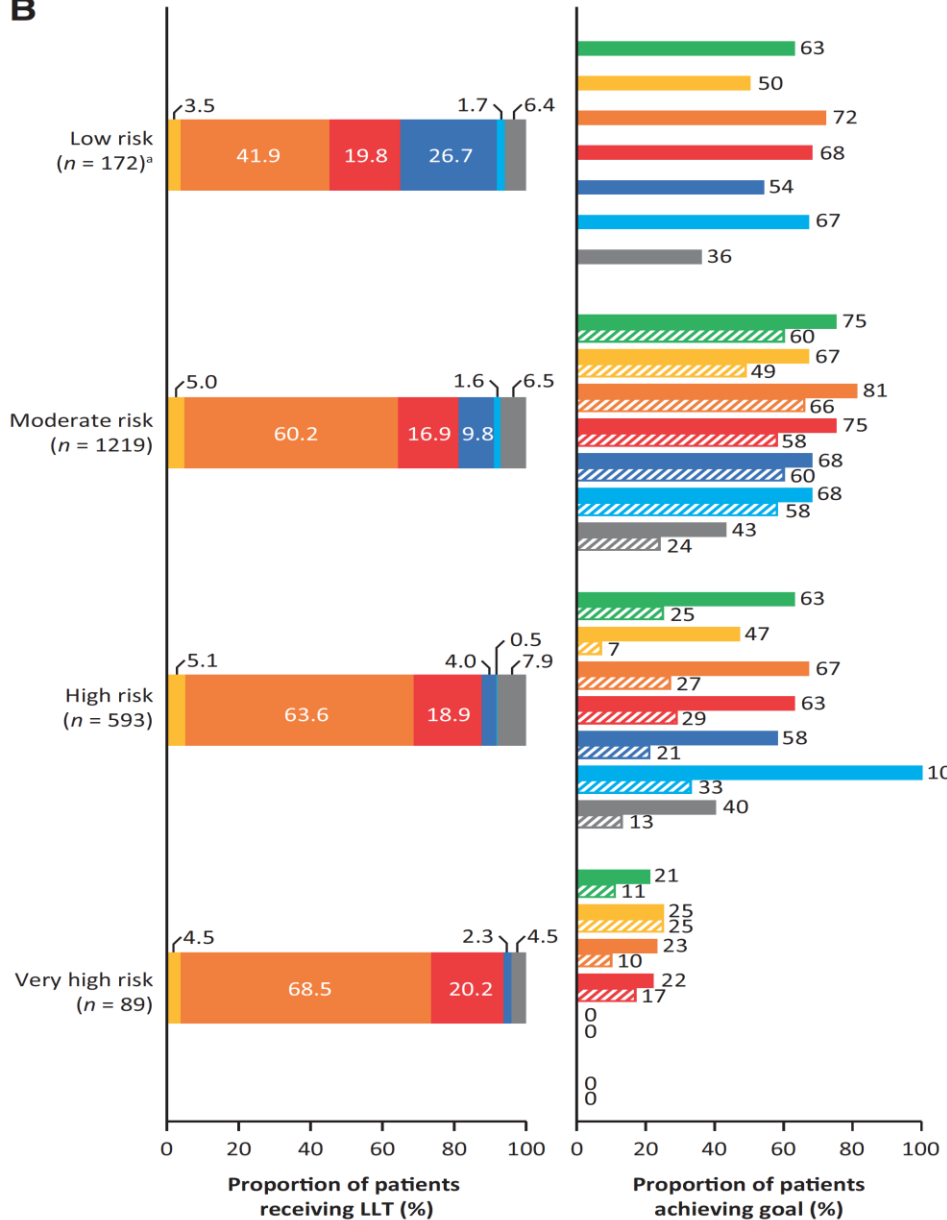


*...Many geriatricians went into academic geriatrics because we were caring for larger and larger numbers of older people during training without guidelines for individualizing patient care of this group.*

***The only guide was “experience” or “extrapolation.”***



**B**

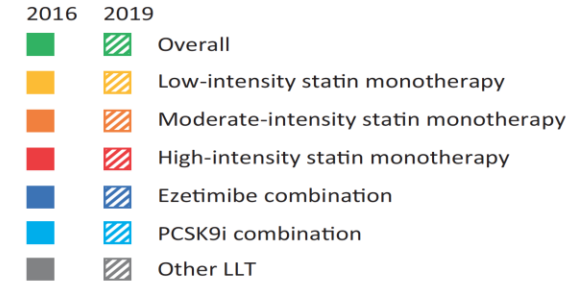


Overall (n = 172)  
 Low-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 6)  
 Moderate-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 72)  
 High-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 34)  
 Ezetimibe combination (n = 46)  
 PCSK9i combination (n = 3)  
 Other LLT (n = 11)

Overall (n = 1219)  
 Low-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 61)  
 Moderate-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 734)  
 High-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 206)  
 Ezetimibe combination (n = 119)  
 PCSK9i combination (n = 19)  
 Other LLT (n = 80)

Overall (n = 593)  
 Low-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 30)  
 Moderate-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 377)  
 High-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 112)  
 Ezetimibe combination (n = 24)  
 PCSK9i combination (n = 3)  
 Other LLT (n = 47)

Overall (n = 89)  
 Low-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 4)  
 Moderate-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 61)  
 High-intensity statin monotherapy (n = 18)  
 Ezetimibe combination (n = 2)  
 PCSK9i combination (n = 0)  
 Other LLT (n = 4)



## EU-Wide Cross-Sectional Observational Study of Lipid-Modifying Therapy Use in Secondary and Primary Care: the DAVINCI study

The primary prevention group summarized by level of risk and statin regimen.



SANTORINI



No LMT (n=1488) 21.4%



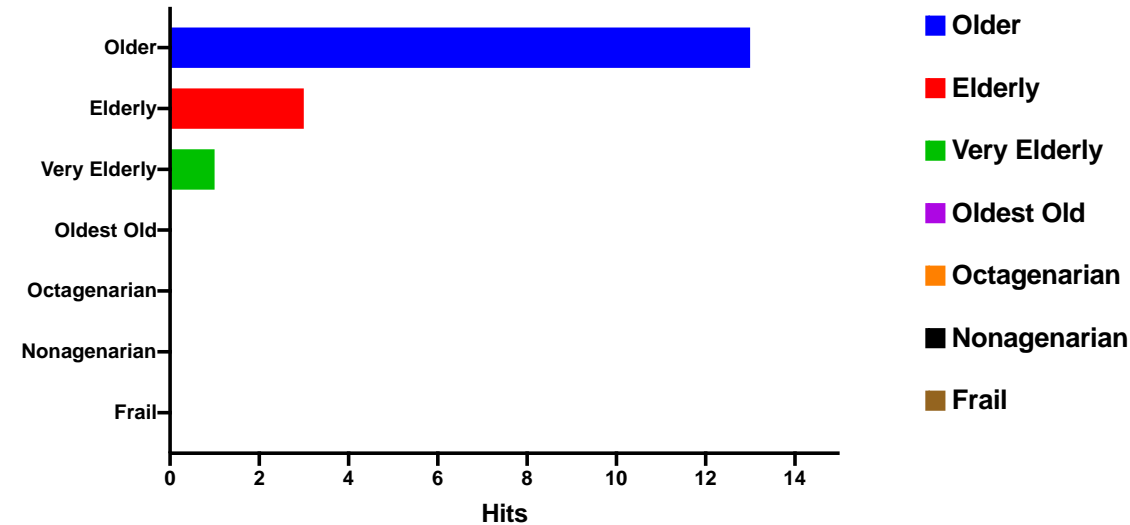
No LMT (n=645) 32.6%





## 2019 ESC/EAS Guidelines for the management of dyslipidaemias: *lipid modification to reduce cardiovascular risk*

The Task Force for the management of dyslipidaemias of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS)



### Recommendations for the treatment of dyslipidaemias in older people (aged >65 years)

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
Treatment with statins is recommended for older people with ASCVD in the same way as for younger patients. <sup>217</sup>	I	A
Treatment with statins is recommended for primary prevention, according to the level of risk, in older people aged ≤75 years. <sup>217</sup>	I	A

ASCVD = atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease; LDL-C = low-density lipoprotein cholesterol.

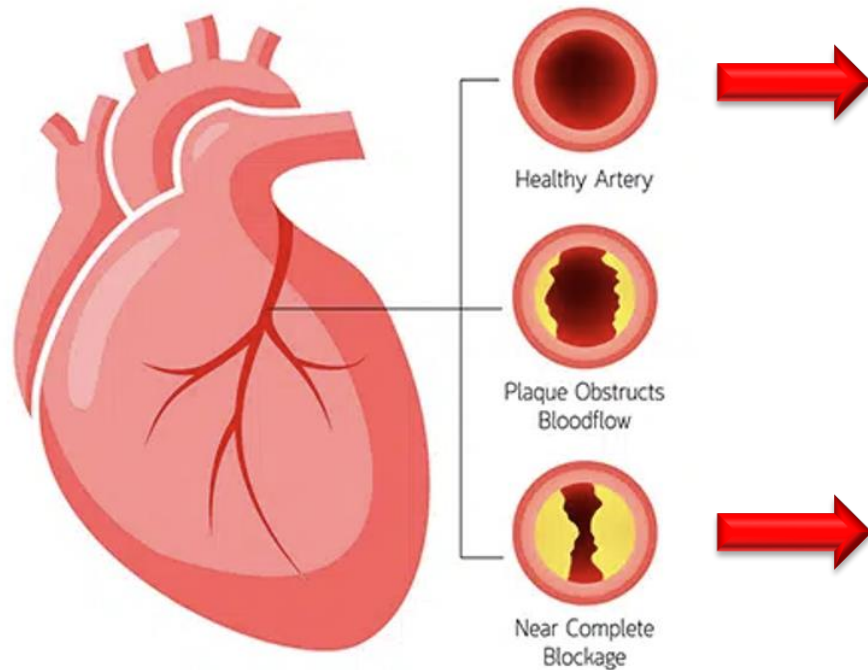
<sup>a</sup>Class of recommendation.

<sup>b</sup>Level of evidence.



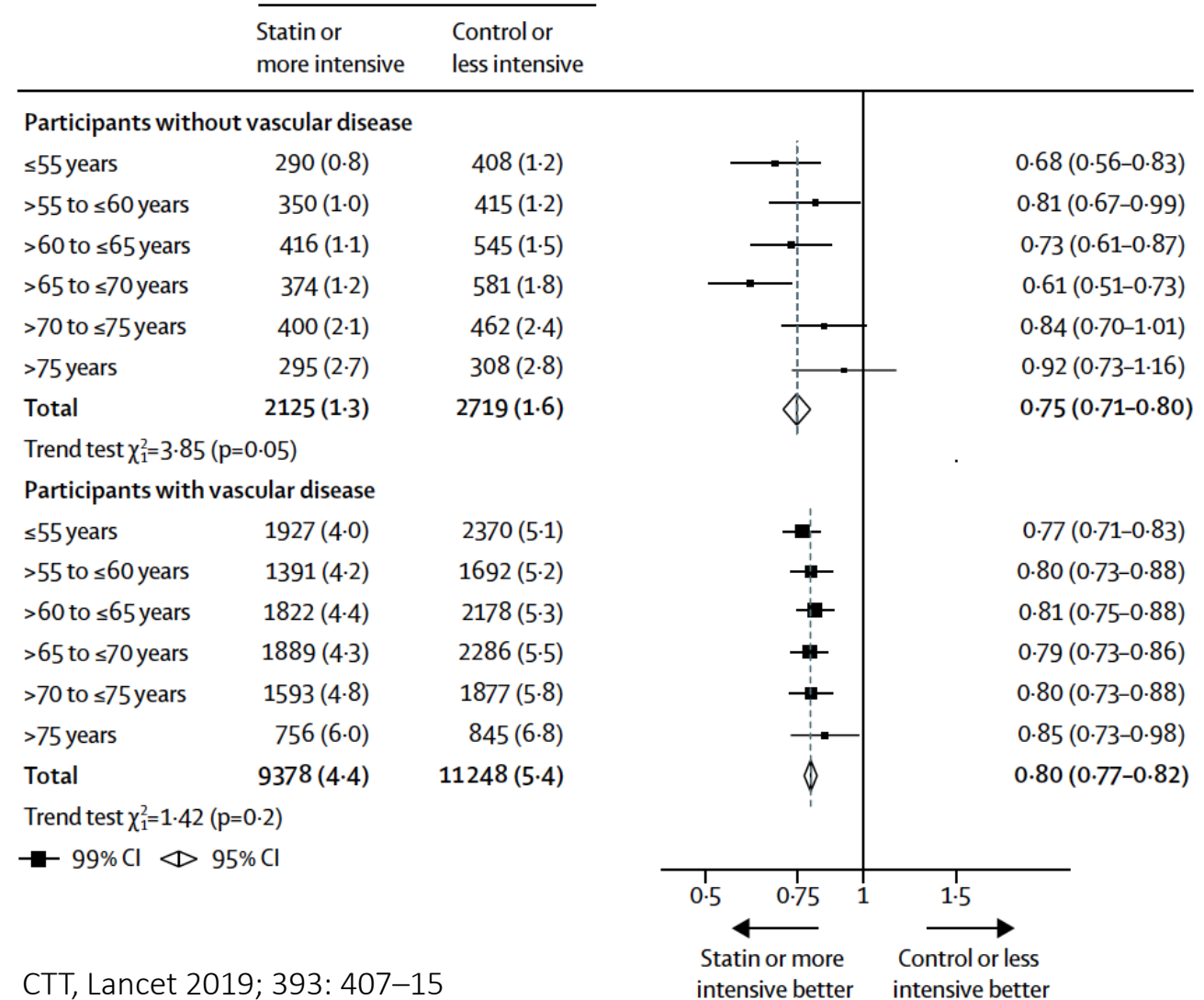
### Efficacy and safety of statin therapy in older people: a meta-analysis of individual participant data from 28 randomised controlled trials

Cholesterol Treatment Trialists' Collaboration\*



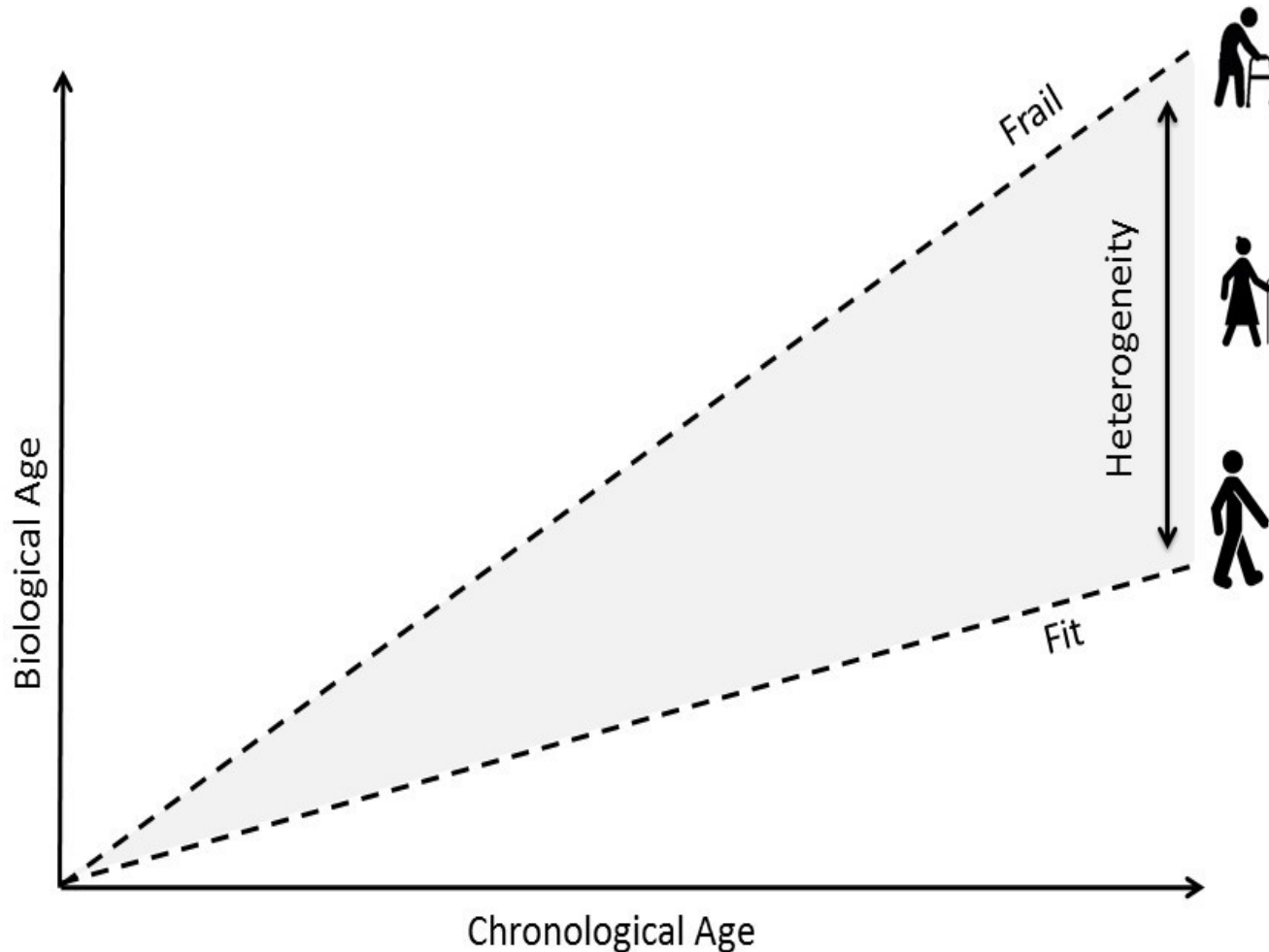
Events (% per annum)

RR (CI) per 1 mmol/L reduction in LDL cholesterol





# Treatment of hypercholesterolaemia in older adults calls for a patient-centred approach



**Patient 2** Female, 75 years  
Smoker, osteoporosis, HT

RR 160/90 mmHg  
HDL 1.3, LDL-c 3.8 mmol/L  
Total no. drugs 6  
eGFR 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>

10-year CV risk 26%  
10-year ARR 6.5%  
Life expectancy ± 10 yrs

High absolute risk of CVD.  
Life expectancy is long enough to benefit in terms of gain in CVD-free years. Initiate LLD.

**Patient 1** Female, 75 years  
Osteoarthritis

RR 140/85 mmHg  
HDL 1.3, LDL-c 3.8 mmol/L  
Total no. drugs 3  
eGFR 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>

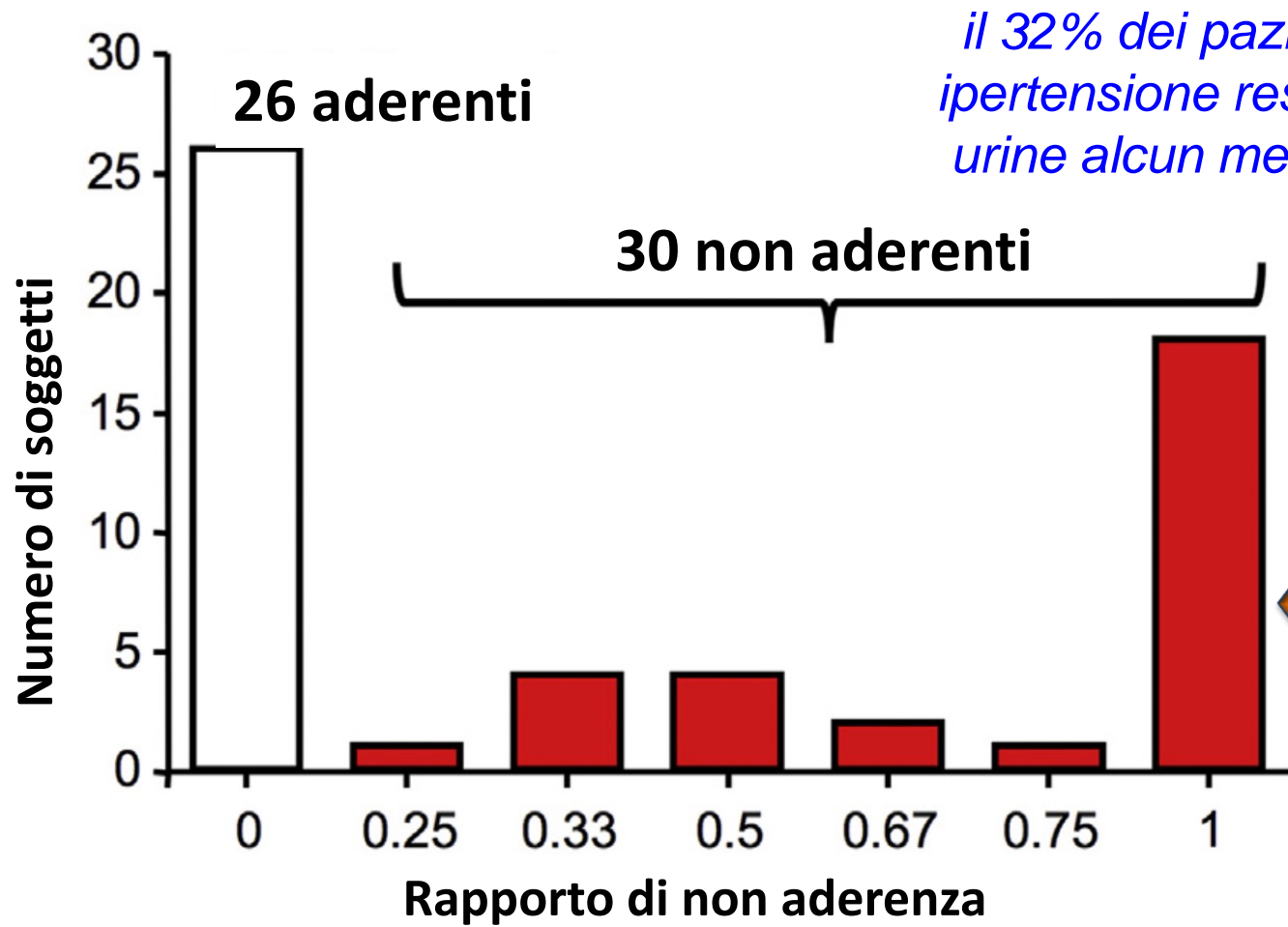
10-year CV risk: 13%  
Life expectancy ± 14 yrs

Despite long remaining life expectancy, lifetime absolute risk is too low to benefit in terms of gain in CVD-free years. Do not initiate LLD.



## Determinanti del successo (o dell'insuccesso...) terapeutico

- Inadeguata aderenza da parte del paziente alle prescrizioni terapeutiche

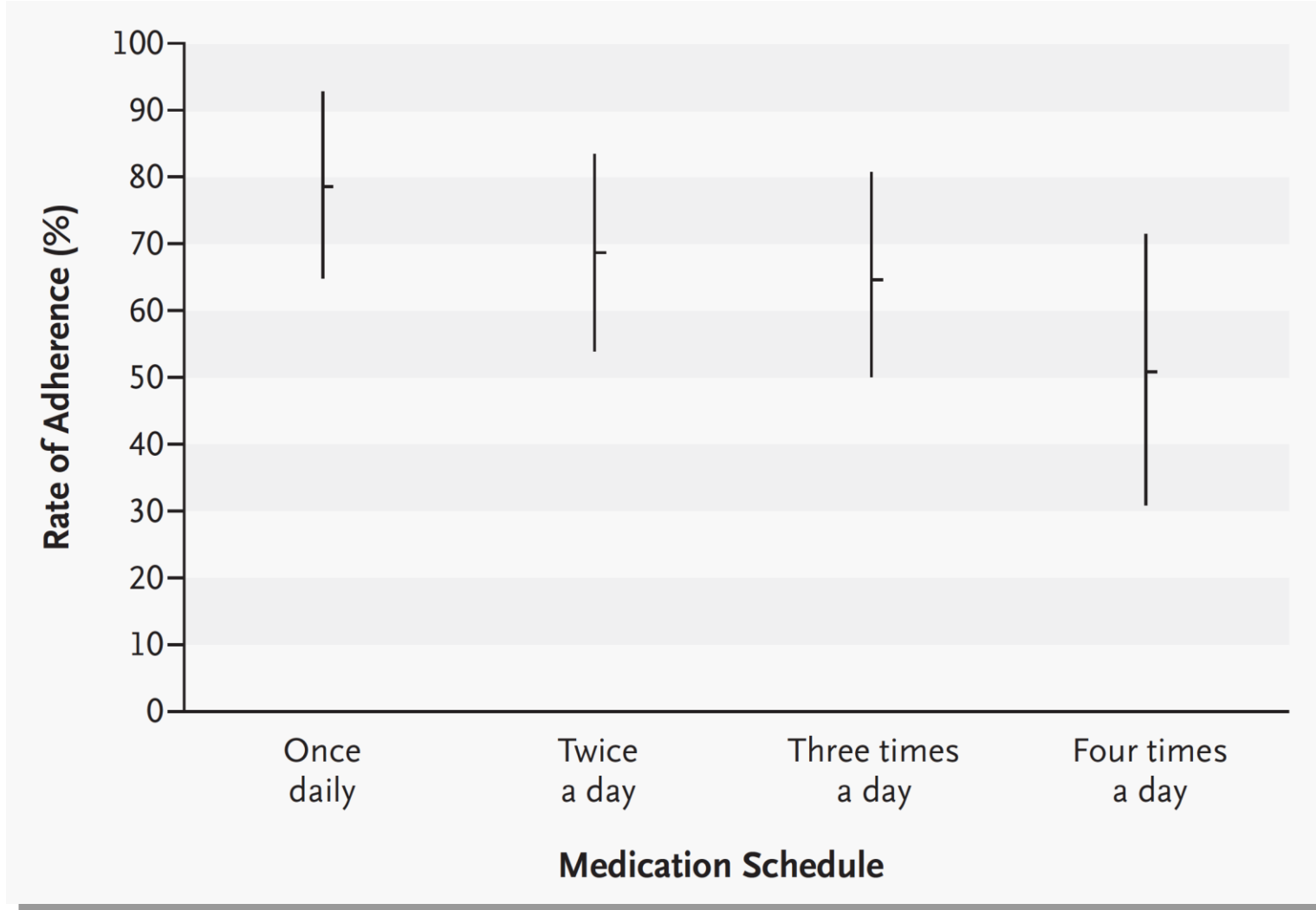


*il 32% dei pazienti che in questo studio risultavano affetti da ipertensione resistente alla terapia ottimale non avevano nelle urine alcun metabolita dei farmaci che dicevano di assumere*

Livelli non rilevabili di TUTTI i farmaci anti-HT: 32%

*Rapporto di non aderenza = rapporto tra il numero di farmaci antipertensivi non rilevabili ed il numero totale di farmaci antipertensivi testati tra i pazienti con RH sottoposti a monitoraggio terapeutico del farmaco*

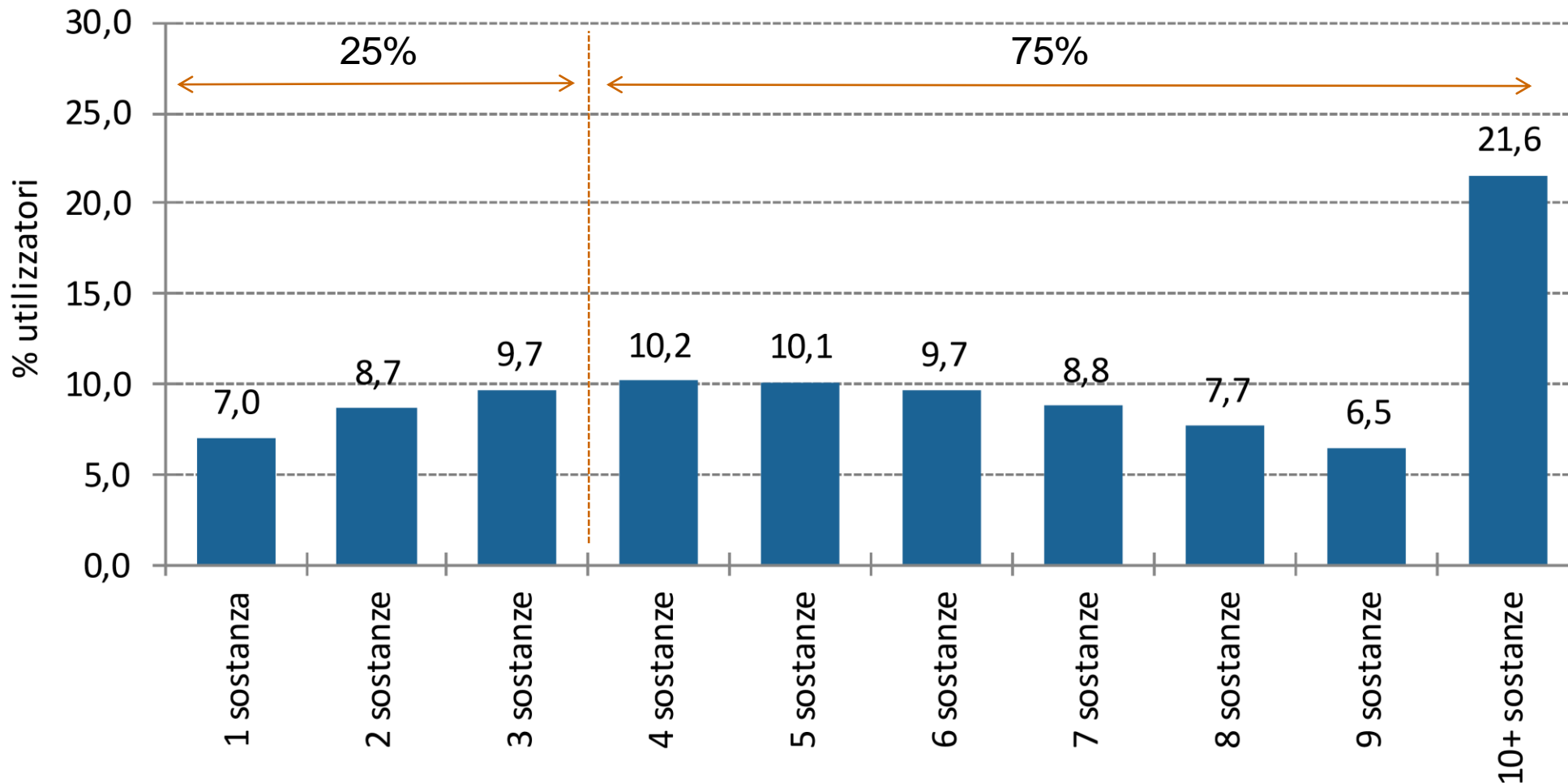




## Aderenza al farmaco in base alla frequenza delle dosi

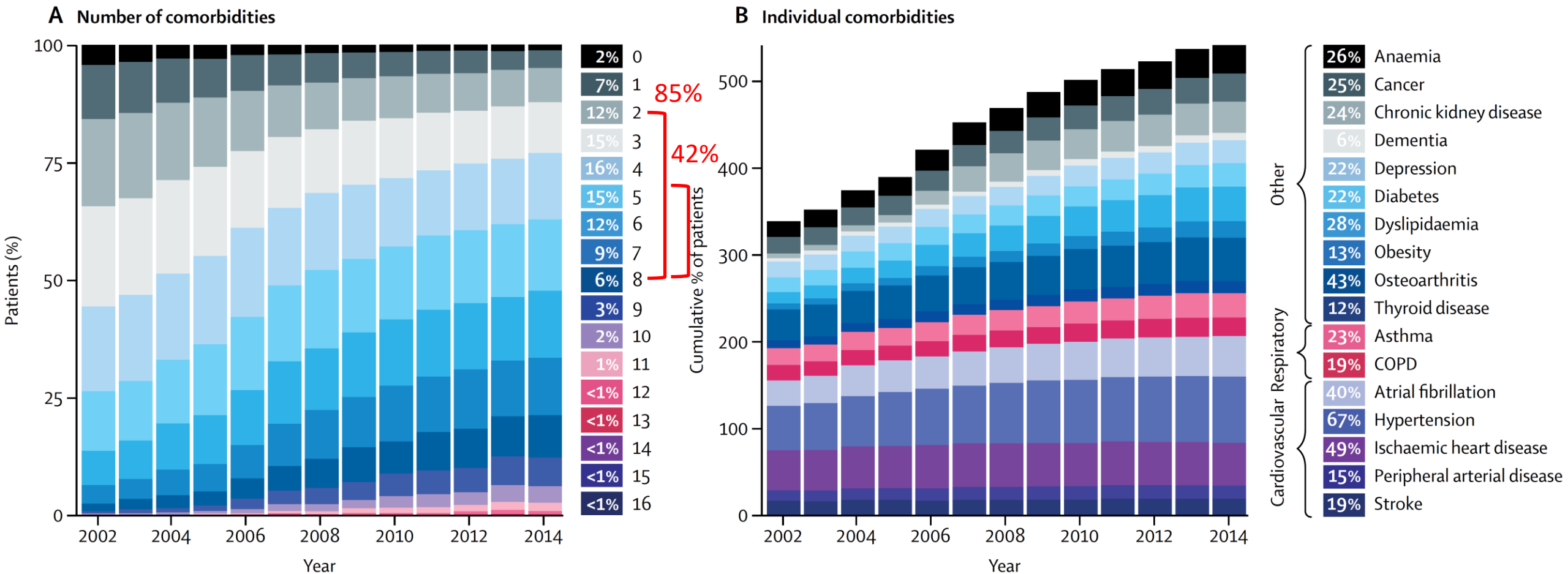


## Distribuzione degli utilizzatori nella popolazione di età $\geq 65$ anni per numero di sostanze diverse





# Temporal trends in comorbidities among patients diagnosed with incident heart failure, from 2002 to 2014





## Clinical Practice Guidelines and Quality of Care for Older Patients With Multiple Comorbid Disease Implications for Pay for Performance

The patient would take 12 separate medications with a medication complexity score of 14. This regimen requires 19 doses per day, taken at 5 times during a typical day, assuming that albuterol “as needed” is taken twice daily, plus weekly alendronate.

**SPECIAL COMMUNICATION**

JAMA, August 10, 2005—Vol 294, No. 6

Treatment Regimen Based on Clinical Practice Guidelines for a Hypothetical 79-Year-Old Woman With Hypertension, Diabetes Mellitus, Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis, and COPD\*

Time	Medications†	Other
7:00 AM	Ipratropium metered dose inhaler 70 mg/wk of alendronate	Check feet Sit upright for 30 min on day when alendronate is taken Check blood sugar
8:00 AM	500 mg of calcium and 200 IU of vitamin D 12.5 mg of hydrochlorothiazide 40 mg of lisinopril 10 mg of glyburide 81 mg of aspirin 850 mg of metformin 250 mg of naproxen 20 mg of omeprazole	Eat breakfast 2.4 g/d of sodium 90 mmol/d of potassium Low intake of dietary saturated fat and cholesterol Adequate intake of magnesium and calcium Medical nutrition therapy for diabetes‡ DASH‡
2:00 PM		Eat lunch 2.4 g/d of sodium 90 mmol/d of potassium Low intake of dietary saturated fat and cholesterol Adequate intake of magnesium and calcium Medical nutrition therapy for diabetes‡ DASH‡
1:00 PM	Ipratropium metered dose inhaler 500 mg of calcium and 200 IU of vitamin D	
7:00 PM	Ipratropium metered dose inhaler 850 mg of metformin 500 mg of calcium and 200 IU of vitamin D 40 mg of lovastatin 250 mg of naproxen	Eat dinner 2.4 g/d of sodium 90 mmol/d of potassium Low intake of dietary saturated fat and cholesterol Adequate intake of magnesium and calcium Medical nutrition therapy for diabetes‡ DASH‡
11:00 PM	Ipratropium metered dose inhaler	
As needed	Albuterol metered dose inhaler	

### SOUNDING BOARD

#### Potential Pitfalls of Disease-Specific Guidelines for Patients with Multiple Conditions

Mary E. Tinetti, M.D., Sidney T. Bogardus, Jr., M.D., and Joseph V. Agostini, M.D.

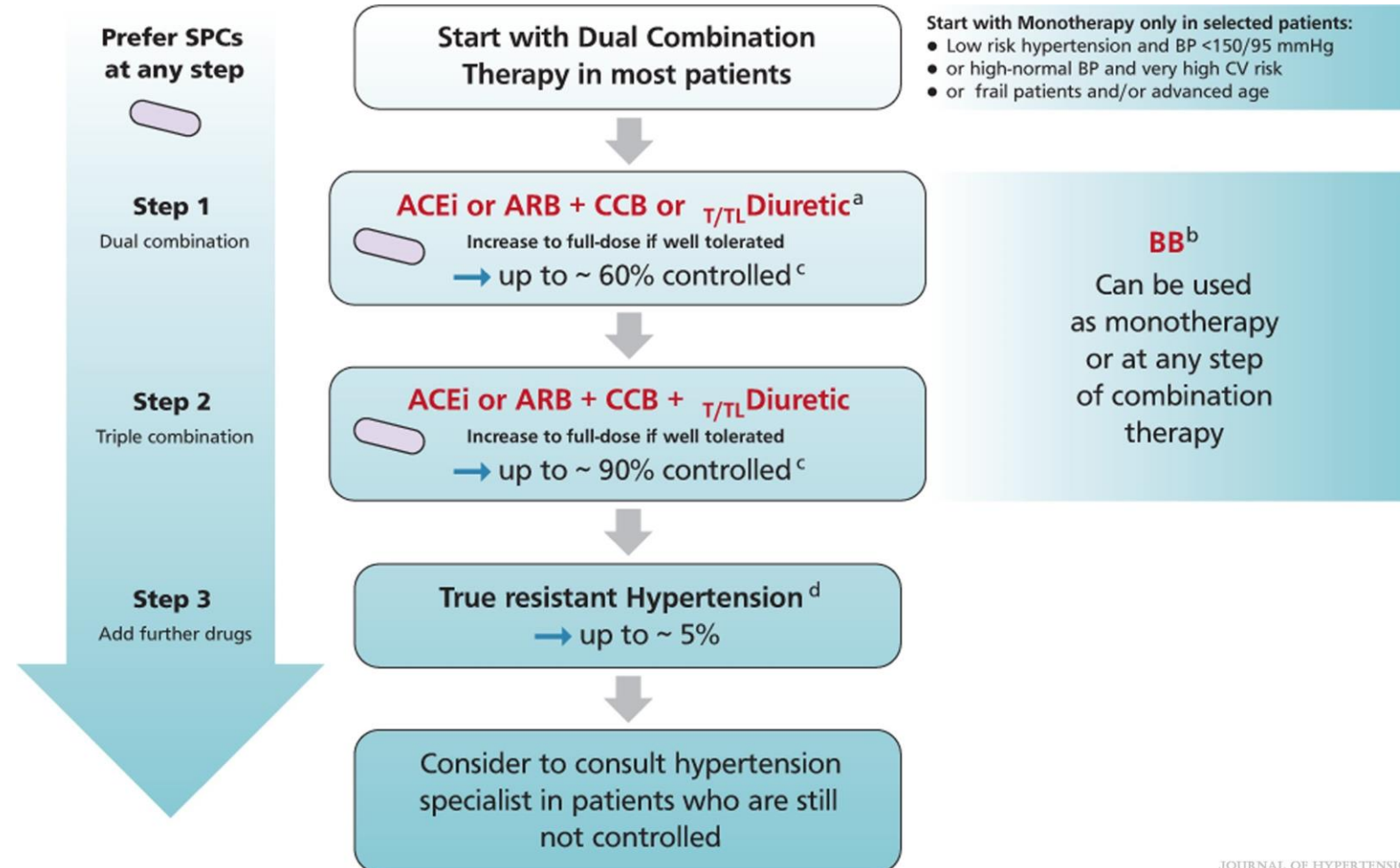


## Determinanti del successo (o dell'insuccesso...) terapeutico

- Scelte terapeutiche non (completamente) adeguate al raggiungimento dei target raccomandati dalla linee guida

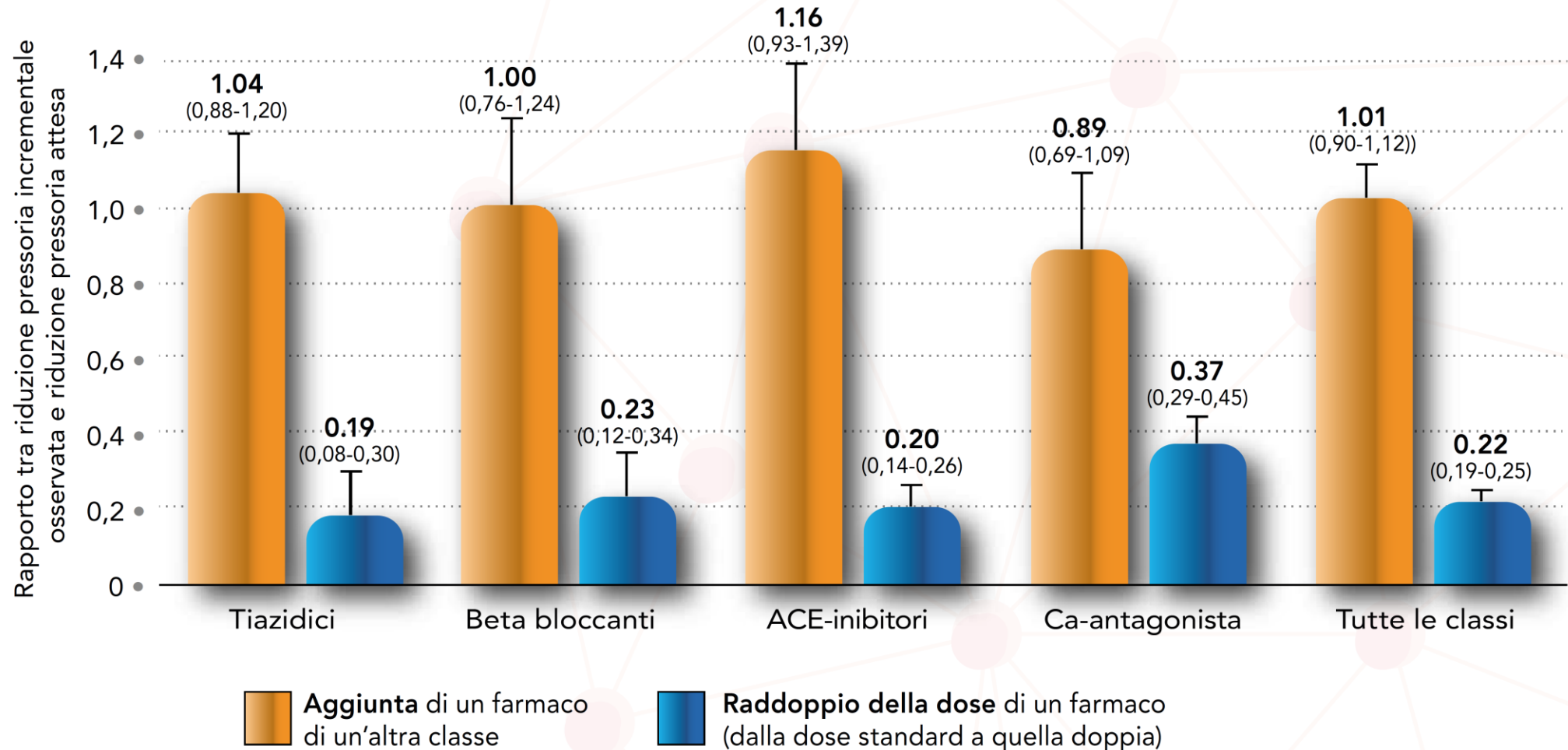


## General BP lowering strategy in patients with Hypertension.



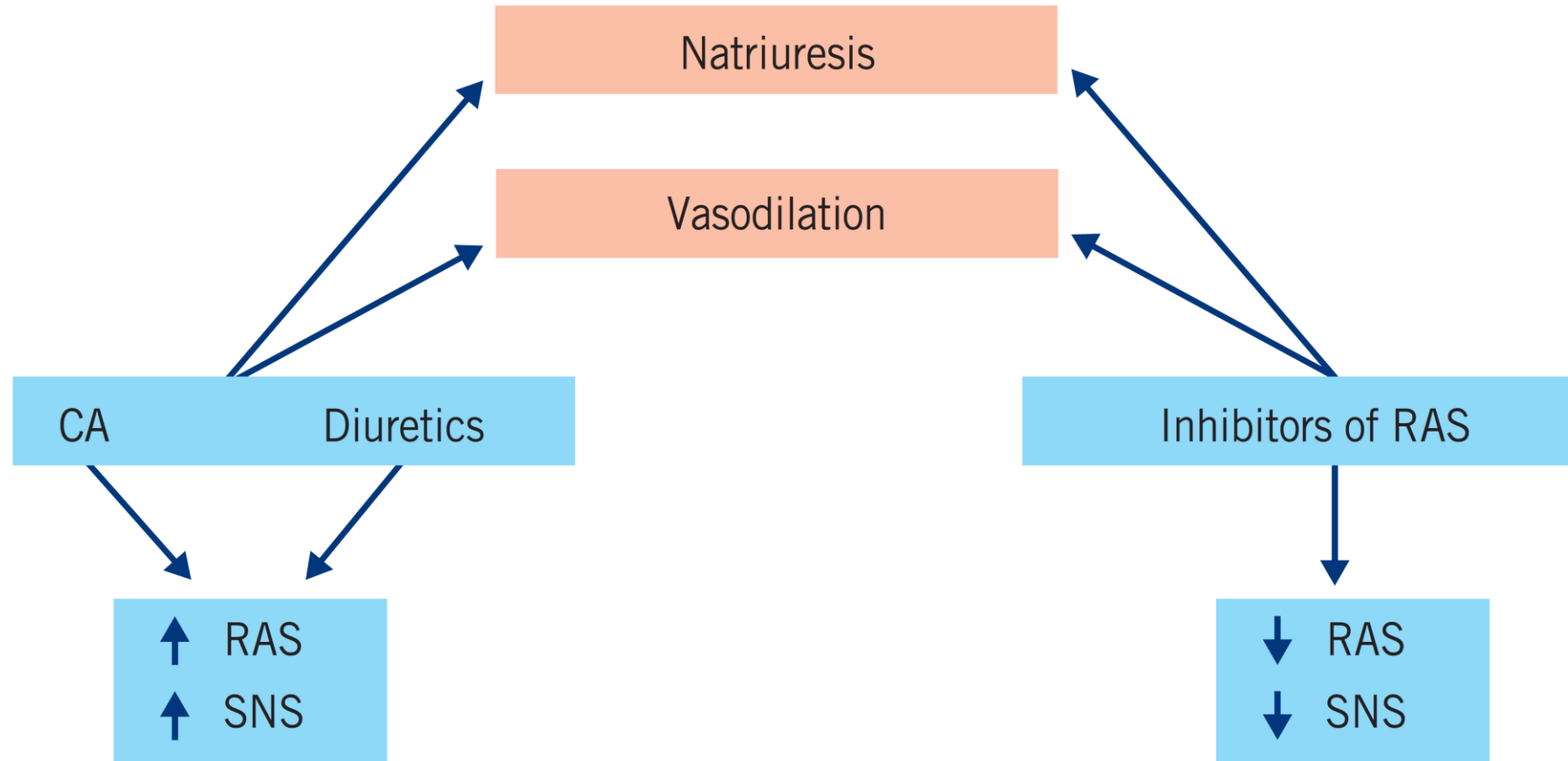


La riduzione pressoria incrementale che si ottiene combinando 2 classi di antipertensivi è 5 volte superiore a quello ottenibile raddoppiando la dose di un singolo farmaco



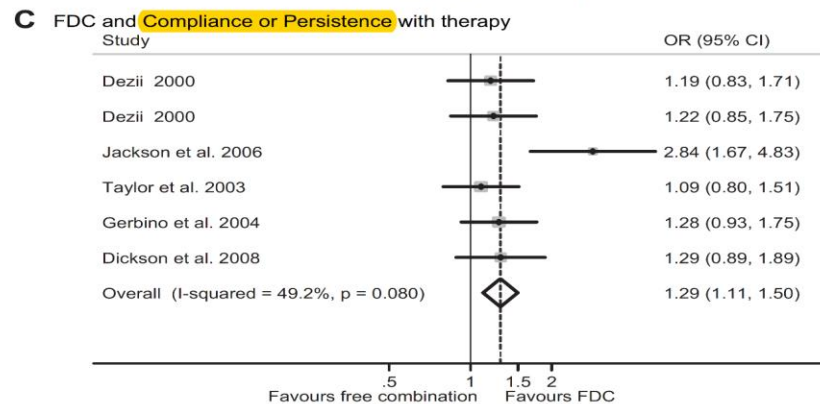
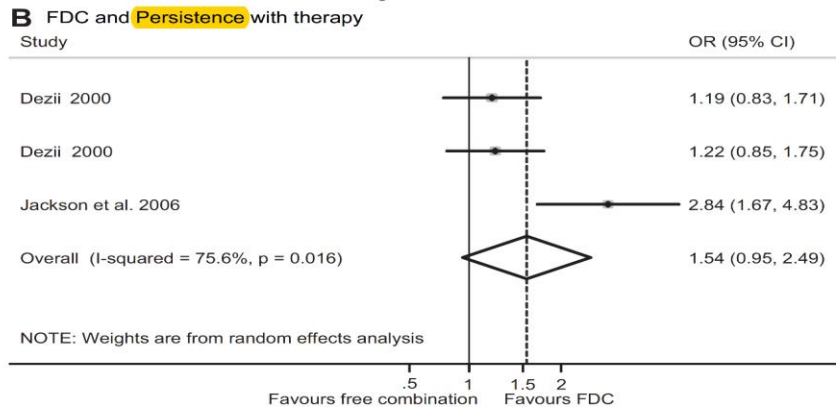
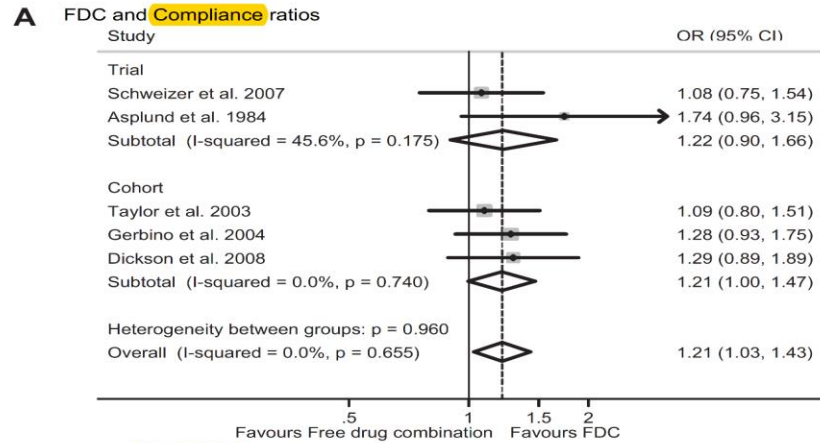


# Reciprocal action mechanism of inhibitors of angiotensin renin system diuretics and calcium channel blockers



CA: Calcium channel blockers; RAS: Renin angiotensin system; SNS: Sympathetic nervous system



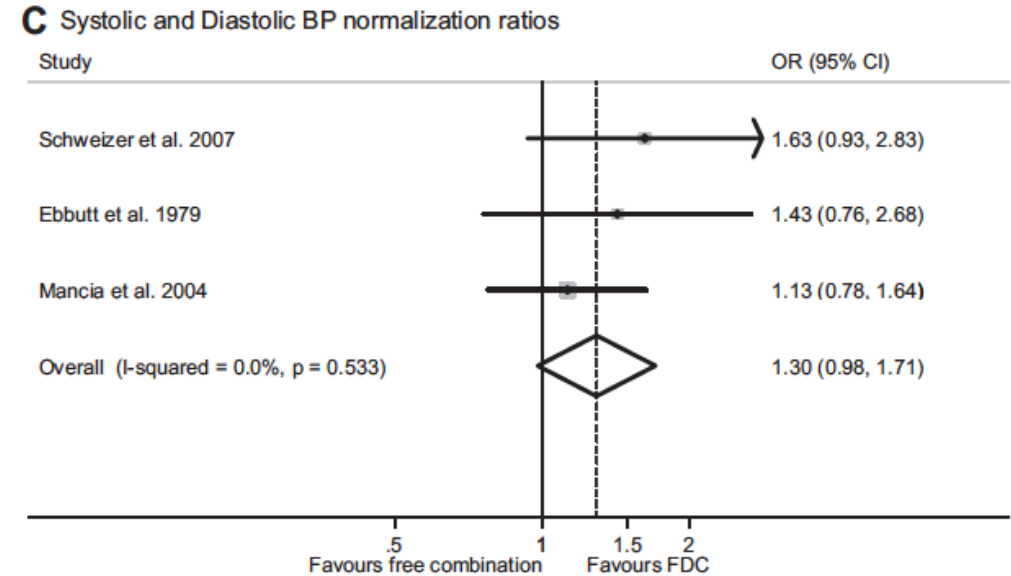


## Antihypertensive Agents, Compliance

### Compliance, Safety, and Effectiveness of Fixed-Dose Combinations of Antihypertensive Agents

#### A Meta-Analysis

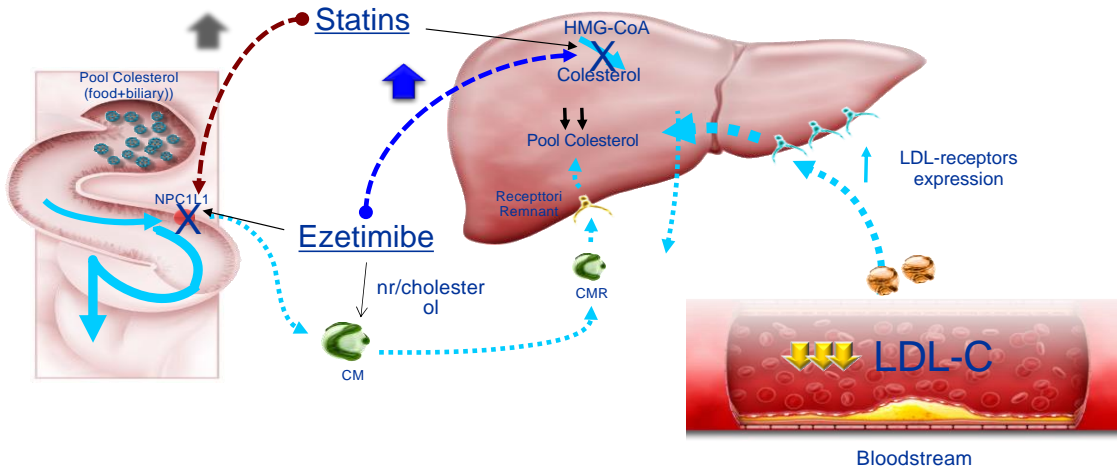
Ajay K. Gupta, Shazia Arshad, Neil R. Poulter



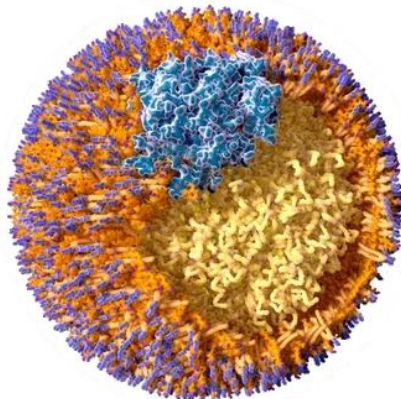
...In conclusion, compared with free-drug combinations, FDCs of antihypertensive agents are associated with a **significant improvement in compliance** and with nonsignificant beneficial trends in BP and adverse effects.



## Complementary mechanism of action of Statins and Ezetimibe on lipid profile



NPC1L1 = Niemann-Pick C1-like 1;  
HMG-CoA = 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl acetyl coenzyme A;  
CMR = chylomicron remnant.



Grigore L et al. Vas Health Risk Manag. 2008;4:267-278  
Mach F et al. European Heart Journal (2020) 41, 111188



European Heart Journal (2020) 41, 111-188  
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehz455

ESC/EAS GUIDELINES



## 2019 ESC/EAS Guidelines for the management of dyslipidaemias: lipid modification to reduce cardiovascular risk

The Task Force for the management of dyslipidaemias of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS)

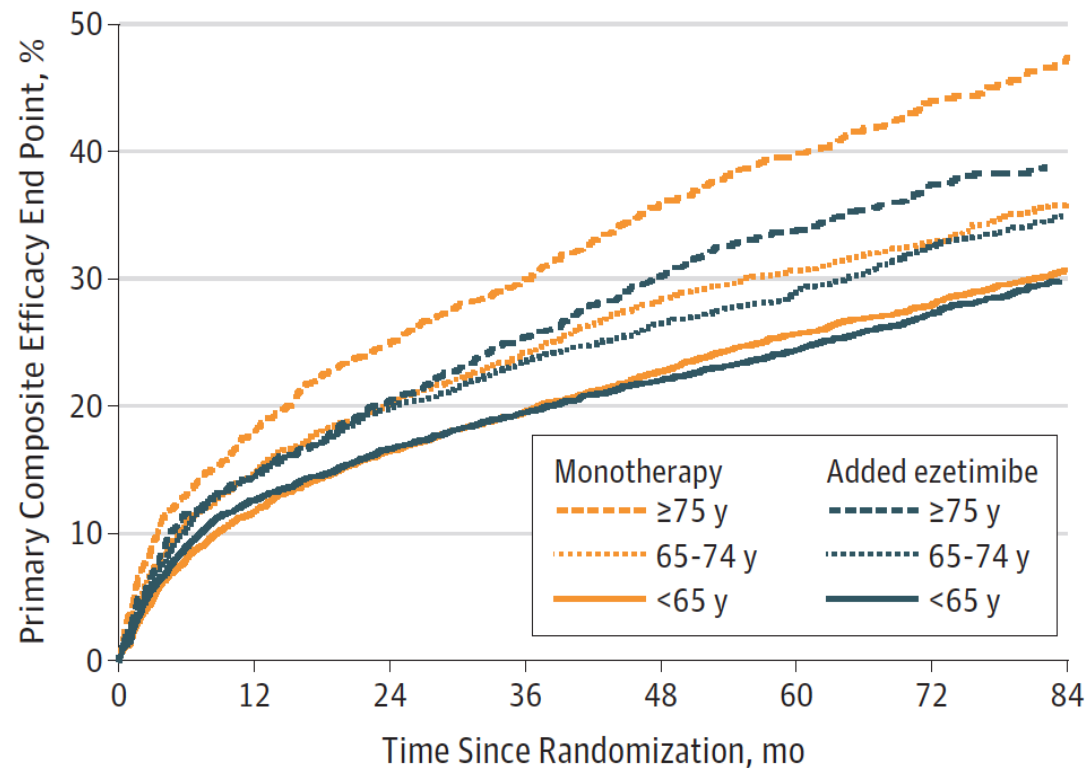
### Intensity of lipid lowering treatment

Treatment	Average LDL-C reduction
Moderate intensity statin	≈ 30%
High intensity statin	≈ 50%
High intensity statin plus ezetimibe	≈ 65%
PCSK9 inhibitor	≈ 60%
PCSK9 inhibitor plus high intensity statin	≈ 75%
PCSK9 inhibitor plus high intensity statin plus ezetimibe	≈ 85%

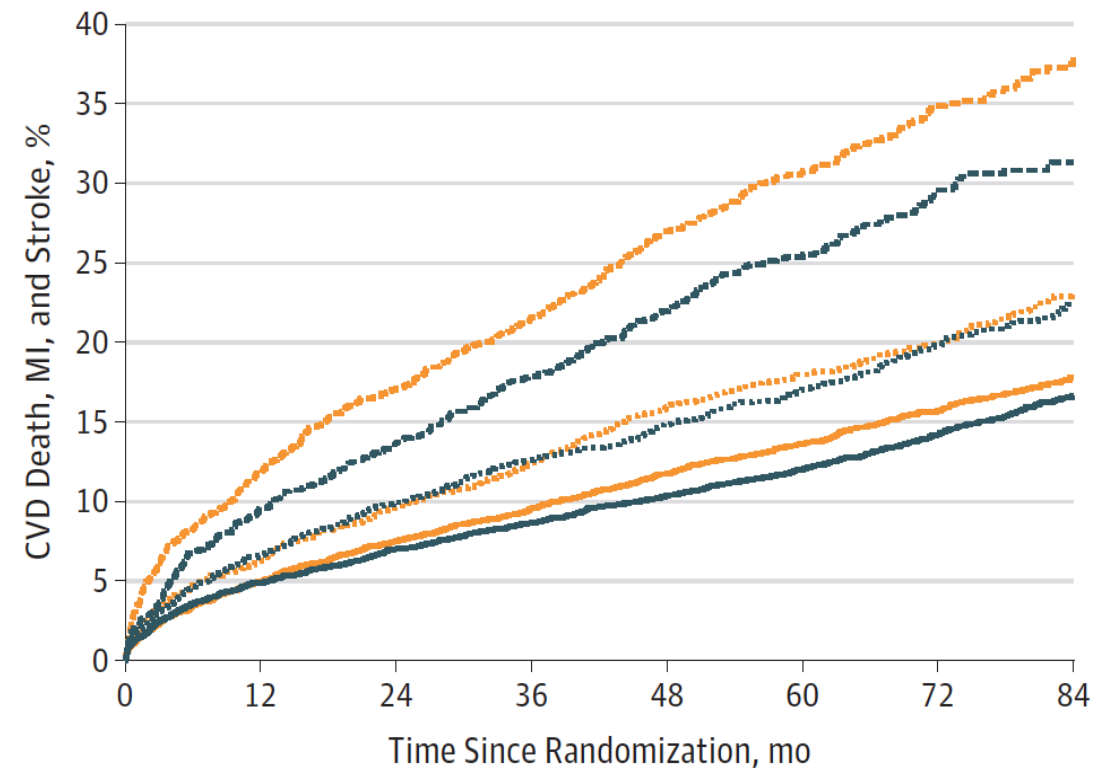


# Effect of Simvastatin-Ezetimibe Compared With Simvastatin Monotherapy After Acute Coronary Syndrome Among Patients 75 Years or Older - A Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial

**A** Primary composite efficacy end point



**B** CVD death, MI, and stroke

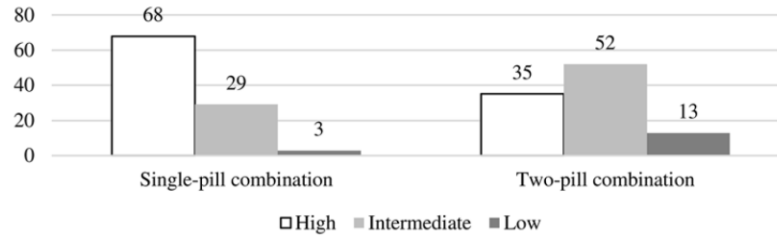




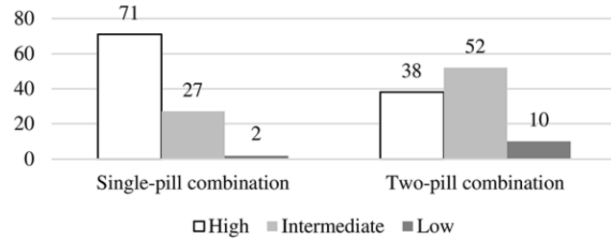
# Adherence to Lipid-Lowering Treatment by Single-Pill Combination of Statin and Ezetimibe

PDC >75%: highly adherent  
PDC <25%: poorly adherent

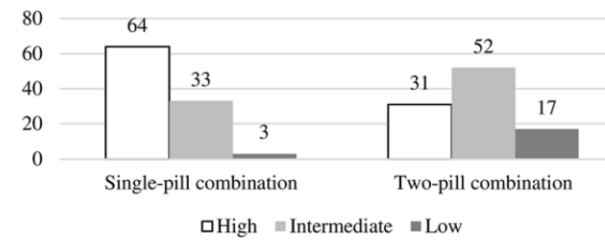
Overall



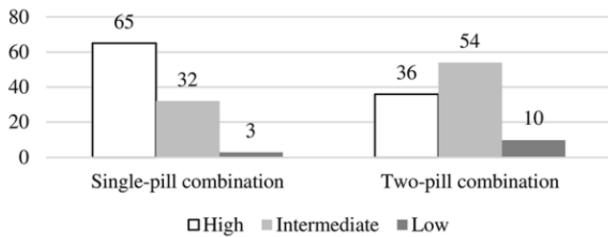
Men



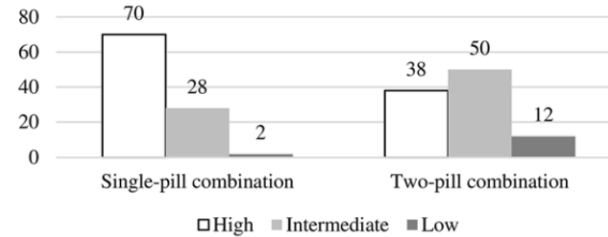
Women



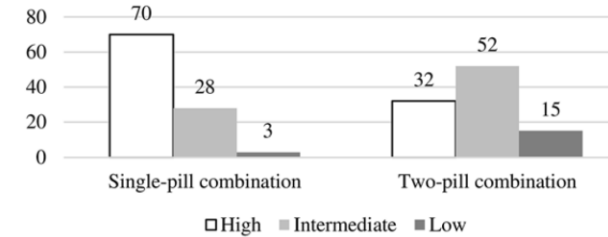
Age 40-54



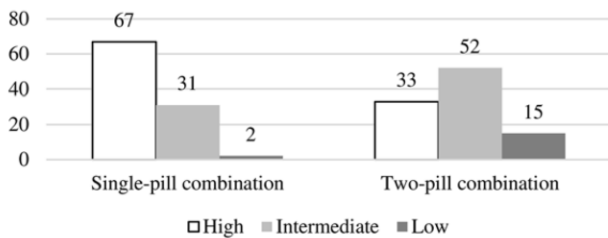
Age 55-64



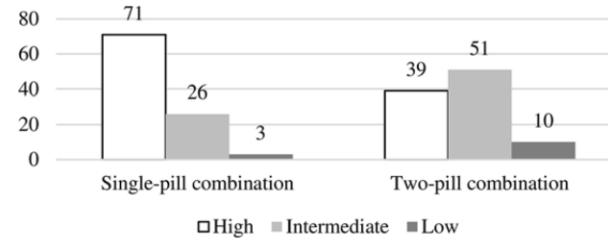
Age 65-80



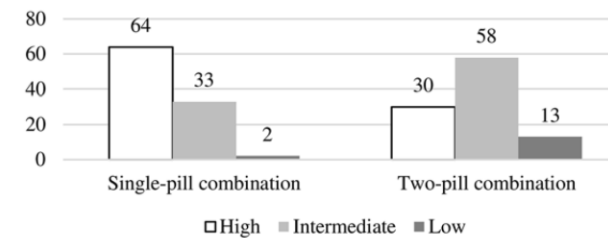
Clinical status: good



Clinical status: intermediate



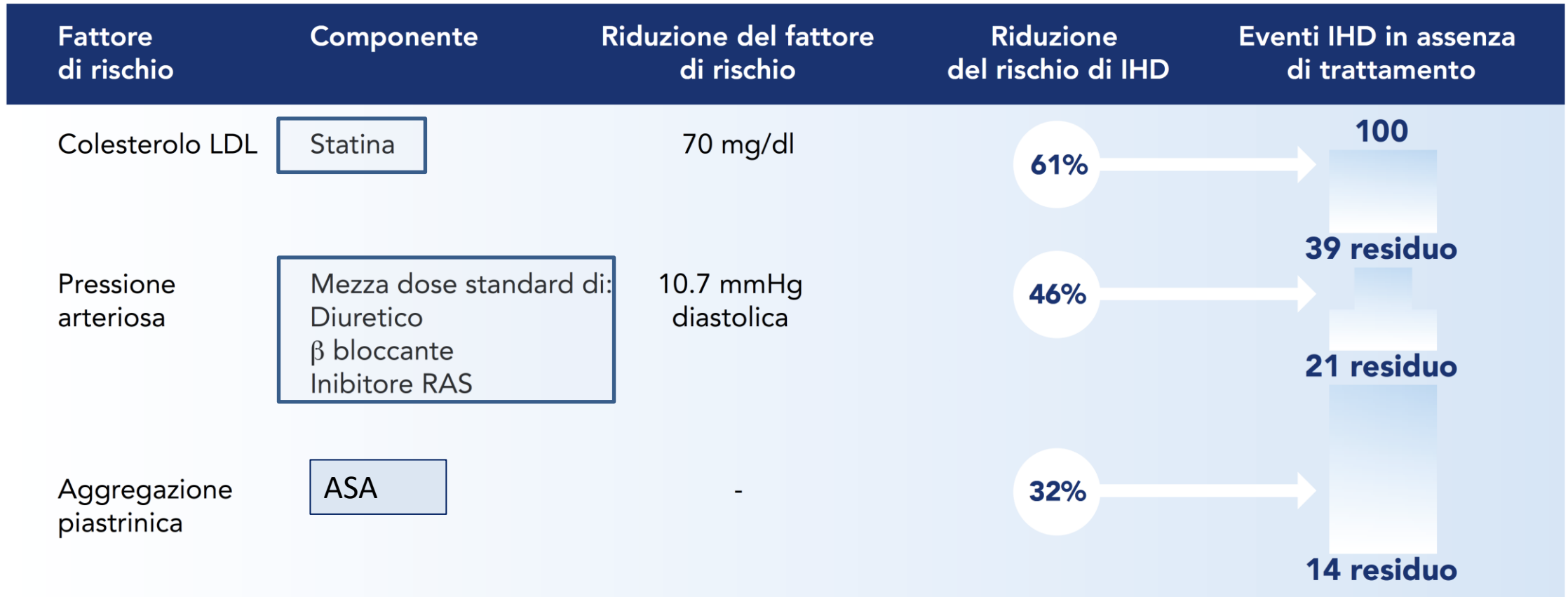
Clinical status: poor





Sir Nicholas  
John Wald

## Polipillola: una strategia per ridurre gli eventi cardiovascolari di più dell'80%



**Effetto combinato 100-14= 86% prevenuti**



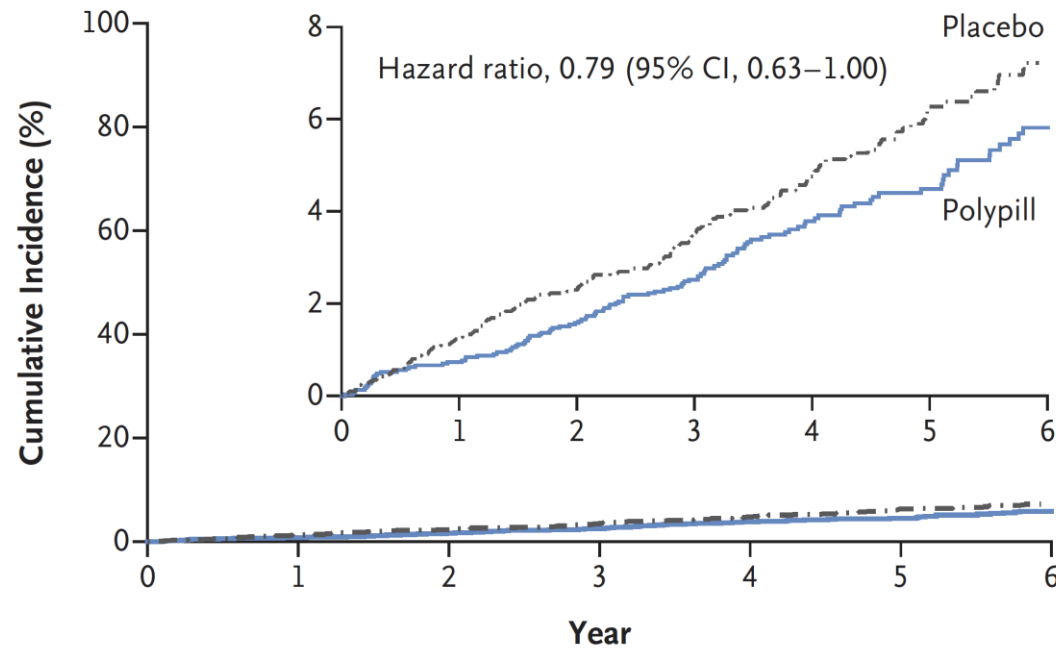
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Polypill with or without Aspirin in Persons without Cardiovascular Disease

S. Yusuf, P. Joseph, A. Dans, P. Gao, K. Teo, D. Xavier, P. López-Jaramillo, K. Yusoff, A. Santoso, H. Gamra, S. Talukder, C. Christou, P. Girish, K. Yeates, F. Xavier, G. Dagenais, C. Rocha, T. McCreedy, J. Tyrwhitt, J. Bosch, and P. Pais, for the International Polycap Study 3 Investigators\*

40 mg of simvastatin  
100 mg of atenolol  
25 mg of hydrochlorothiazide  
10 mg of ramipril

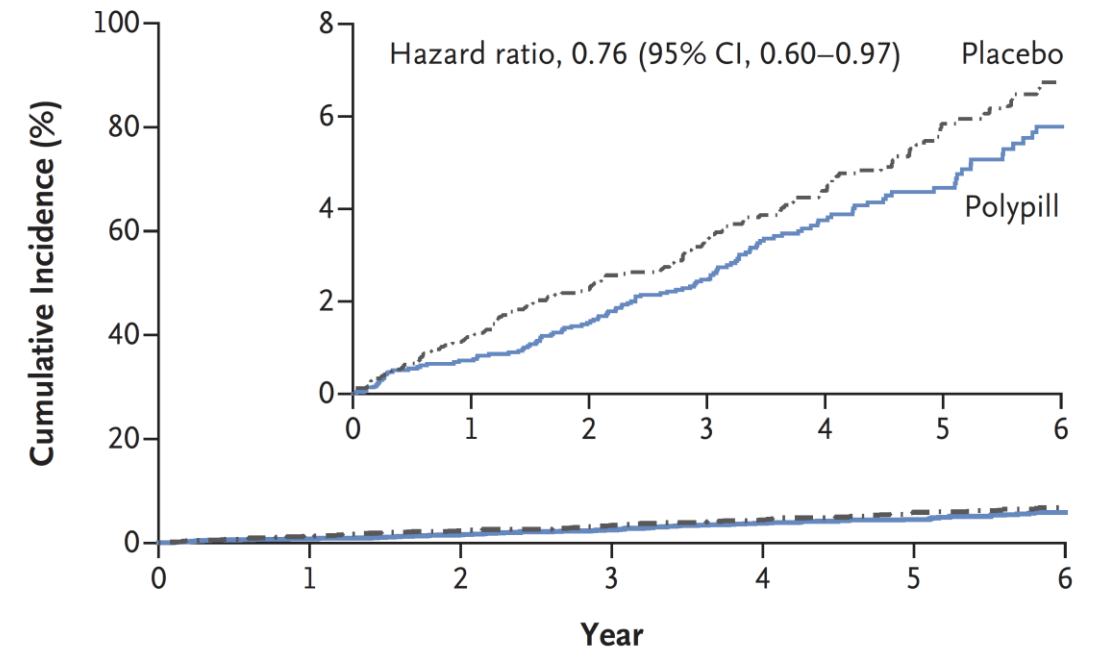
A First Event of the Primary Outcome



No. at Risk

Placebo	2852	2781	2725	2499	1552	984	634
Polypill	2861	2814	2759	2536	1581	1020	676

B First and Recurrent Events of the Primary Outcome



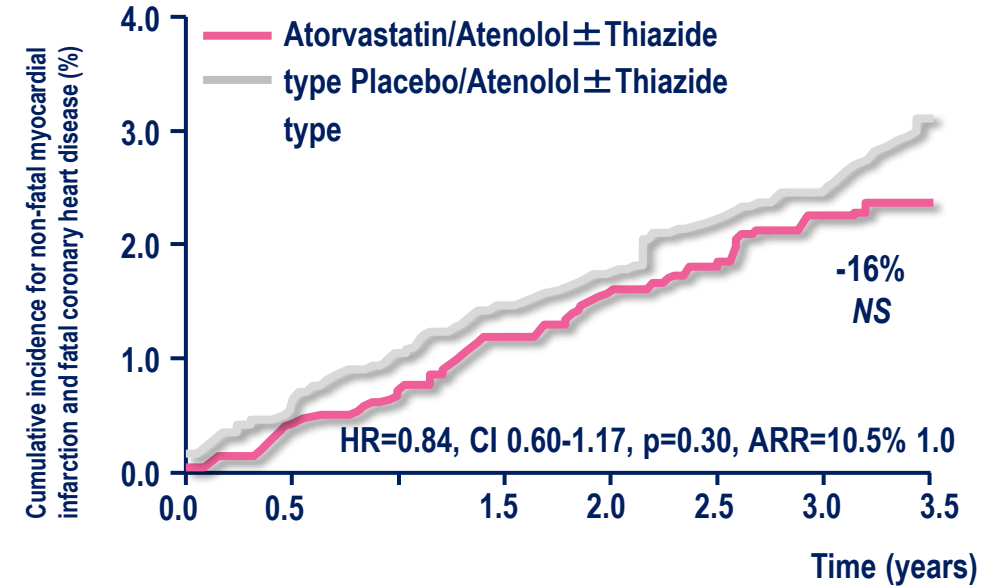
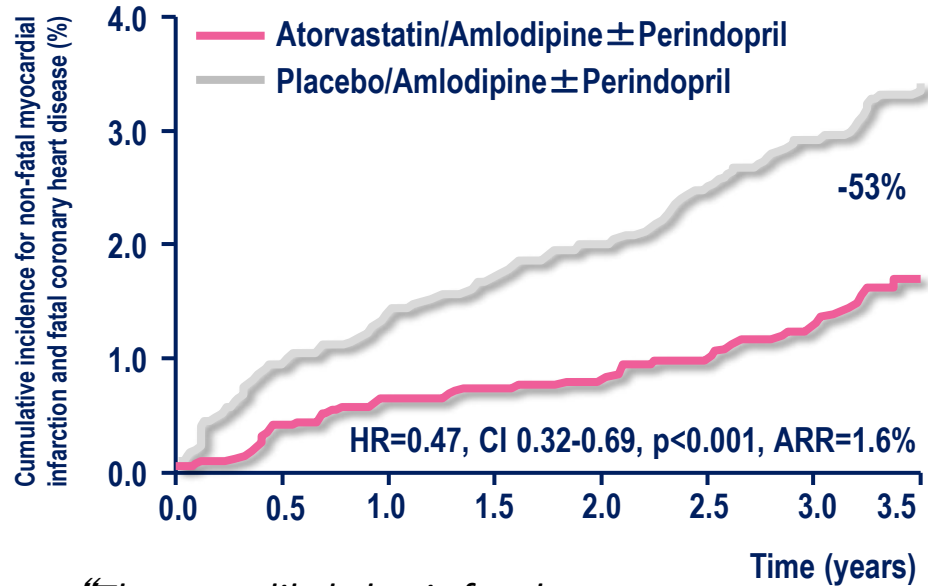
No. at Risk

Placebo	2852	2782	2725	2516	1570	996	716
Polypill	2861	2818	2760	2610	1620	1055	768



# Synergy between atorvastatin, amlodipine and perindopril for CV protection

ASCOT-LLA, RCT: n=10,305 hypertensive patients with at least 3 cardiovascular risk factors and total cholesterol ≤6.5 mmol/L. Follow-up 3.3 years



“The more likely basis for the proposed **synergy** is supported by the observation that significant benefits of atorvastatin were seen in the amlodipine/perindopril-based treatment limb within 3 months of assignment to treatment”

Endpoint	Risk ration (95% CI)		
CV mortality, nonfatal MI and stroke	0.58 (0.40 to 0.85)		<b>-42%</b>
Nonfatal MI, fatal CHD and coronary revascularization	0.61 (0.38 to 0.97)		<b>-39%</b>
Total CV events and procedures	0.76 (0.59 to 0.97)		<b>-24%</b>



### The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812 SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 VOL. 387 NO. 11

#### Polypill Strategy in Secondary Cardiovascular Prevention

J.M. Castellano, S.J. Pocock, D.L. Bhatt, A.J. Quesada, R. Owen, A. Fernandez-Ortiz, P.L. Sanchez, F. Marin Ortuño, J.M. Vazquez Rodriguez, A. Domingo-Fernández, I. Lozano, M.C. Roncaglioni, M. Baviera, A. Foresta, L. Ojeda-Fernandez, F. Colivicchi, S.A. Di Fusco, W. Doehner, A. Meyer, F. Schiele, F. Ecarnot, A. Linhart, J.-C. Lubanda, G. Barczi, B. Merkely, P. Ponikowski, M. Kasprzak, J.M. Fernandez Alvira, V. Andres, H. Bueno, T. Collier, F. Van de Werf, P. Perel, M. Rodriguez-Manero, A. Alonso Garcia, M. Proietti, M.M. Schoos, T. Simon, J. Fernandez Ferro, N. Lopez, E. Beghi, Y. Bejot, D. Vivas, A. Cordero, B. Ibañez, and V. Fuster, for the SECURE Investigators\*

N=2500 Post MI >65

+ At Least One



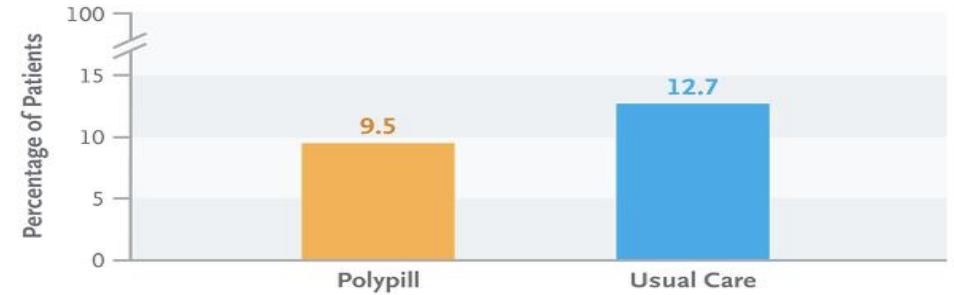
- a. Documented DM
- b. Mild to moderate CKD
- c. Prior MI
- d. Prior coronary revascularization
- e. Prior stroke
- f. Age ≥ 75 years

Median FU: 3 years

The primary composite endpoint cardiovascular death, MI, stroke, or urgent revascularization.  
The key secondary endpoint cardiovascular death, MI, or stroke.

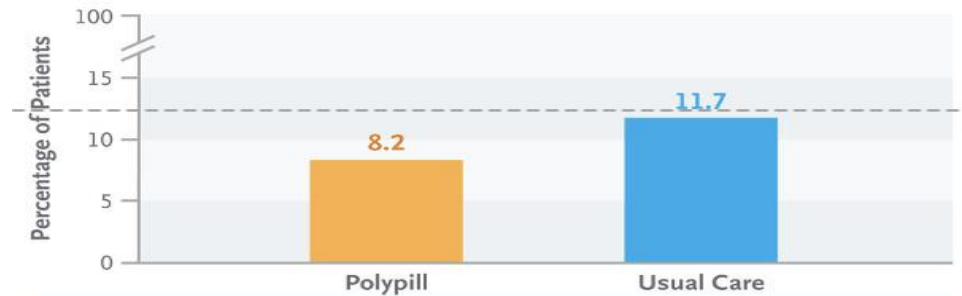
#### Cardiovascular Death, Nonfatal MI, Nonfatal Ischemic Stroke, or Urgent Coronary Revascularization at 3 Yr

HR, 0.76 (95% CI, 0.60–0.96); P=0.02 for superiority

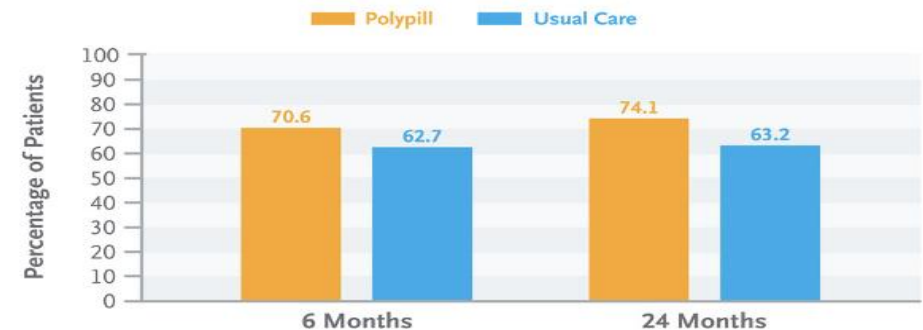


#### Cardiovascular Death, Nonfatal MI, or Nonfatal Ischemic Stroke at 3 Yr (Secondary Outcome)

HR, 0.70 (95% CI, 0.54–0.90); P=0.005



#### Medication Adherence as Reported by the Patients



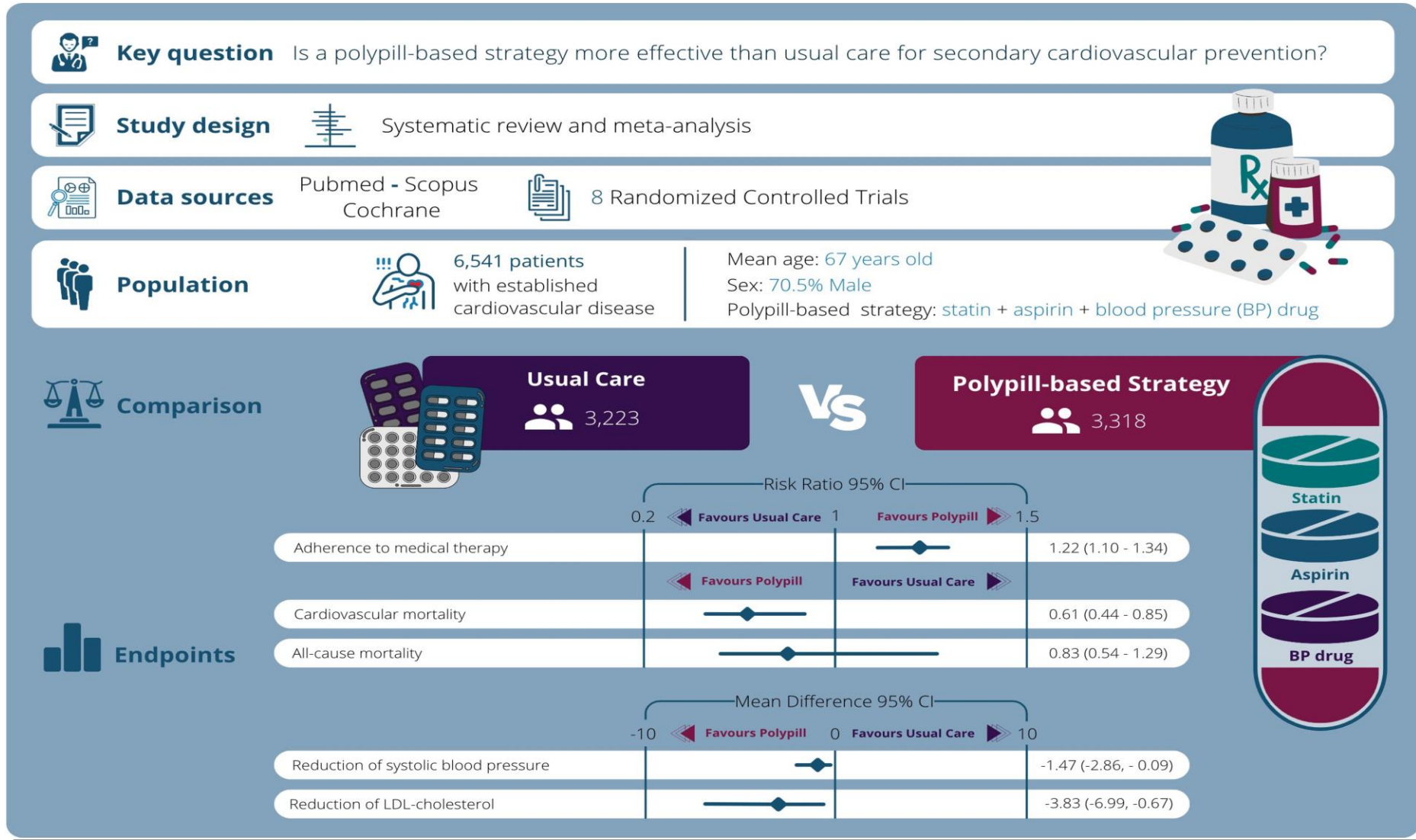
Demographic Characteristics of the Patients at Baseline.\*

Characteristic	Polypill Group (N=1237)	Usual-Care Group (N=1229)
Age		
Mean — yr	75.8±6.7	76.1±6.5
Distribution — no. (%)		
<75 yr	516 (41.7)	482 (39.2)
≥75 yr	721 (58.3)	747 (60.8)





## Polypill-based strategy vs. usual care for secondary prevention of CVD: a meta-analysis of RCTs





## The polypill in cardiovascular prevention: evidence, limitations and perspective – position paper of the European Society of Hypertension

J Hypertens 2017, 35(8):1546-1553.

Antonio Coca<sup>a</sup>, Enrico Agabiti-Rosei<sup>b,c</sup>, Renata Cifkova<sup>d</sup>, Athanasios J. Manolis<sup>e</sup>, Josep Redón<sup>f</sup>, and Giuseppe Mancía<sup>g,h</sup>

### Clinical situations in which use of the polypill for secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease may be considered

Patients not adherent to one or more components of drug therapy recommended for secondary cardiovascular prevention

Patients with blood pressure or low-density lipoprotein cholesterol not at the recommended target with free drug administration who have a suspected low adherence to treatment

Patients with adequate control of BP and lipid profile with free antihypertensive and lipid lowering drug administration (substitution strategy)

2023 ESH Guidelines for the management of arterial hypertension

Use of a polypill containing two BP lowering drugs and a statin for LDL cholesterol lowering can be considered in hypertensive patients for primary prevention.

II A

The use of the polypill and combination therapy to increase adherence to drug therapy may be considered.

IIb

B

2017 ESC Guidelines for the management of acute myocardial infarction in patients presenting with ST-segment elevation



European Heart Journal (2018) 39, 119–177  
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehx393



✧ Synergy

✧ Simplification

✧ Deprescription



Characteristic	No. (%)		Adjusted OR (95% CI)	
	Anticoagulation in the last 6 mo of life (n = 5033)	No anticoagulation in the last 6 mo of life (n = 10 184)		
>1 y in nursing home	2154 (42.8)	2399 (23.6)	2.68 (2.48-2.89)	*
CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> VASC score <sup>b</sup>				
<4	681 (13.5)	1661 (16.3)	1 [Reference]	
5-6	1914 (38.0)	4242 (41.7)	1.10 (0.99-1.23)	
>7	2438 (48.4)	4281 (42.0)	1.38 (1.23-1.54)	*
ATRIA score <sup>c</sup>				
<3	796 (15.8)	2205 (21.7)	1 [Reference]	
4-6	1690 (33.6)	3584 (35.2)	1.19 (1.07-1.32)	
>7	2547 (50.6)	4395 (43.2)	1.25 (1.13-1.39)	*
Other clinical factors				
Rejection of care	454 (9.0)	844 (8.3)	1.03 (0.91-1.17)	
Falls	1690 (33.6)	3214 (31.6)	1.04 (0.96-1.12)	
Weight loss	1856 (37.0)	3363 (33.5)	1.09 (1.01-1.18)	*
Pressure ulcer	2052 (40.8)	3228 (31.7)	1.37 (1.27-1.48)	*
Difficulty swallowing	1136 (22.6)	2008 (19.8)	1.12 (1.02-1.22)	*
Restraint use	189 (3.8)	433 (4.3)	0.79 (0.66-0.95)	
Hospice use	1296 (25.8)	3375 (33.1)	0.76 (0.70-0.83)	*

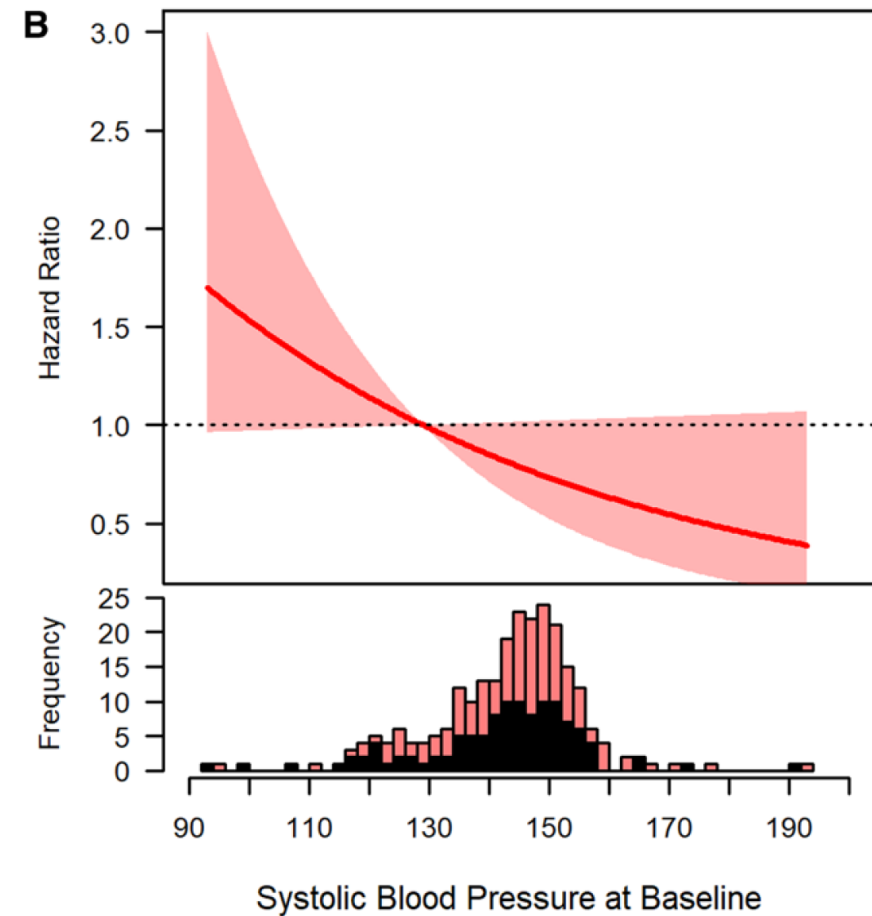
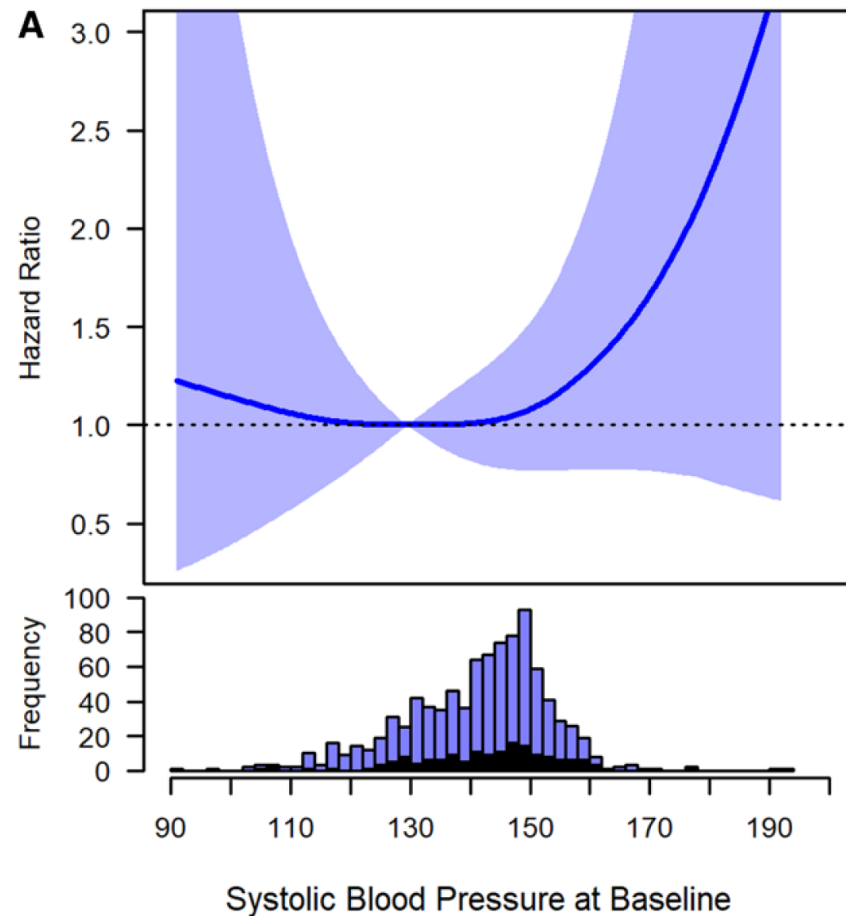
## Anticoagulant Use for Atrial Fibrillation Among Persons With Advanced Dementia at the End of Life

Among 15,217 nursing home residents with AF and advanced dementia (mean age, 87.5±6.76 years, 68.2% women), **5033 (33.1%)** received an anticoagulant in the last 6 months of life.



## Systolic Blood Pressure and Mortality in Community-Dwelling Older Adults: Frailty as an Effect Modifier - ActiFE Study Group

Splines for the association between systolic blood pressure and 8-y all-cause mortality stratified by frailty.





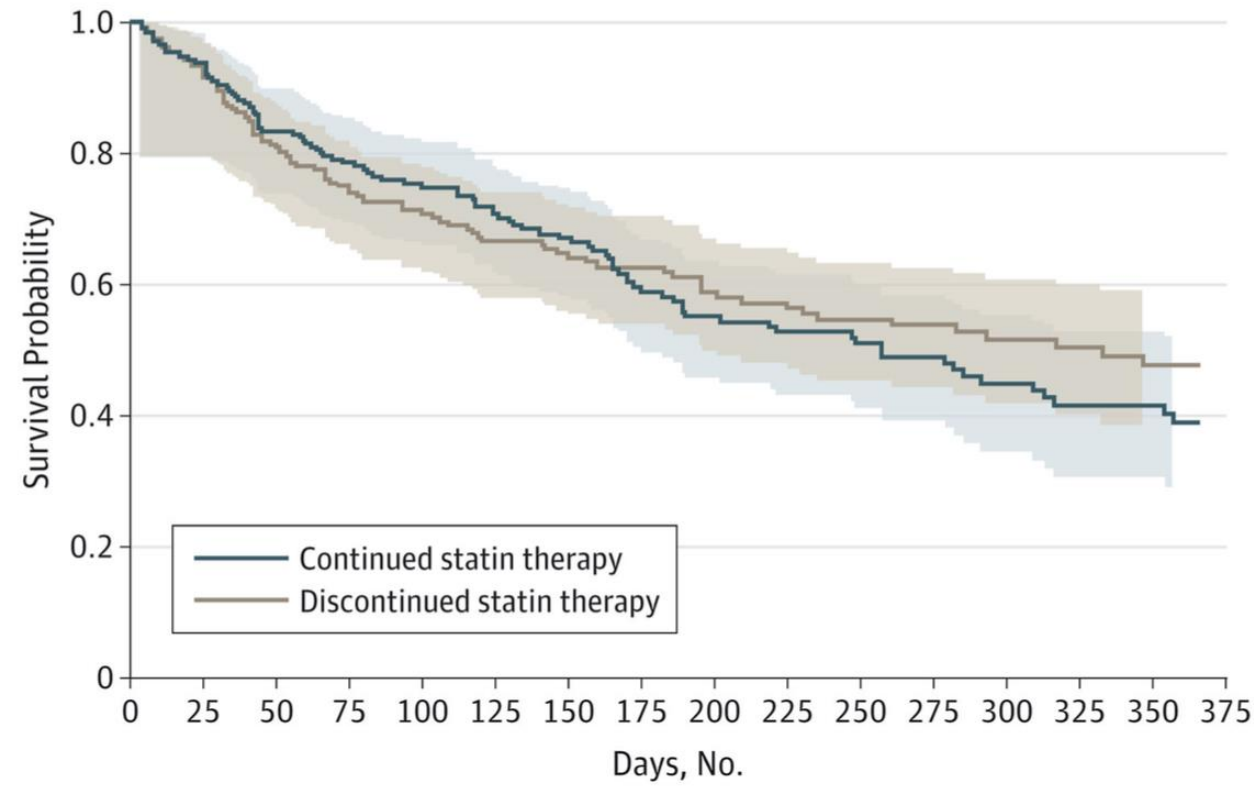
## Effect of Antihypertensive Medication Reduction vs Usual Care on Short-term Blood Pressure Control in Patients With Hypertension Aged 80 Years and Older The OPTIMISE RCT

**Question** Among older adults taking multiple antihypertensive medications, is a strategy of antihypertensive medication reduction noninferior to usual care with regard to short-term blood pressure control?

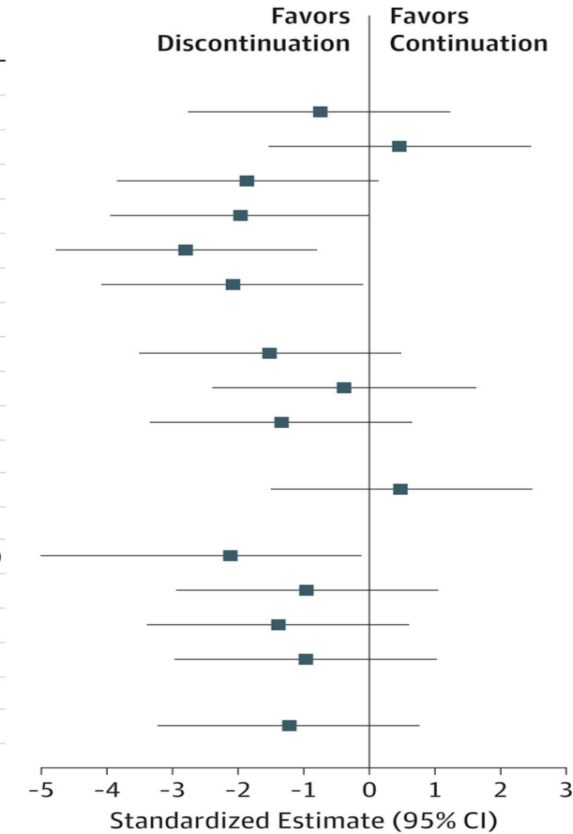
**Patients:** subjects who, **in opinion of their physicians**, might potentially benefit from medication reduction due to 1 or more of the following existing characteristics: **polypharmacy, comorbidity, nonadherence or dislike of medicines, or frailty.**



# Safety and Benefit of Discontinuing Statin Therapy in the Setting of Advanced, Life-Limiting Illness



Domain Measure	Estimate (95% CI)
<b>Quality of life</b>	
Overall	0.18 (-0.28 to 0.64)
Physical	-0.08 (-0.43 to 0.26)
Psychological	0.39 (-0.02 to 0.80)
Well-being	0.32 (0.00 to 0.64)
Support	0.53 (0.16 to 0.90)
Total	0.26 (0.02 to 0.50)
<b>Symptoms</b>	
Standard items	-2.19 (-5.01 to 0.63)
Statin items	-0.23 (-1.39 to 0.93)
All items	-2.45 (-6.02 to 1.12)
<b>Performance status</b>	
AKPS scale score	-0.80 (-4.11 to 2.50)
<b>Medications</b>	
Total medications	-0.67 (-1.29 to -0.05)
Regular	-0.25 (-0.77 to 0.27)
PRN ≥1/2 d	-0.19 (-0.46 to 0.08)
PRN <1/2 d	-0.11 (-0.32 to 0.11)
<b>Satisfaction</b>	
Recommend care	0.08 (-0.05 to 0.20)





In 75-year-old primary prevention patients previously adherent to statin therapy for at least 2 years, discontinuation of statins was associated with an increased risk of admission for a cardiovascular event

CV effect of discontinuing statins for primary prevention at the age of 75 years: a nationwide population-based cohort study in France

### Principal result

