



Queen Mary Hospital



Hong Kong College of Cardiology ASM 2019

Is there still a role for aspirin in primary prevention?

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Division of Cardiology, Medicine

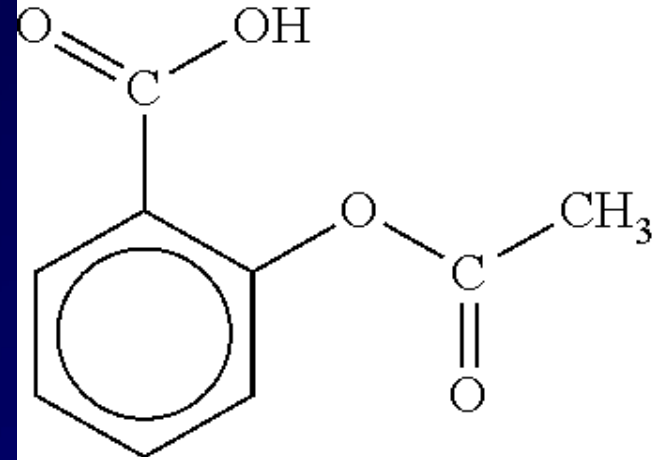
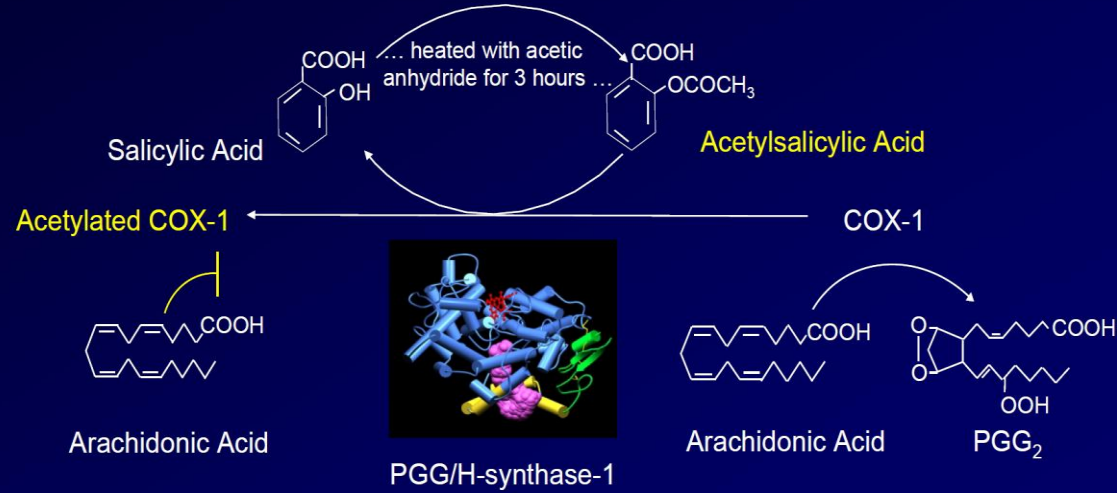
Queen Mary Hospital, University of Hong Kong



Dr. Felix Hoffmann



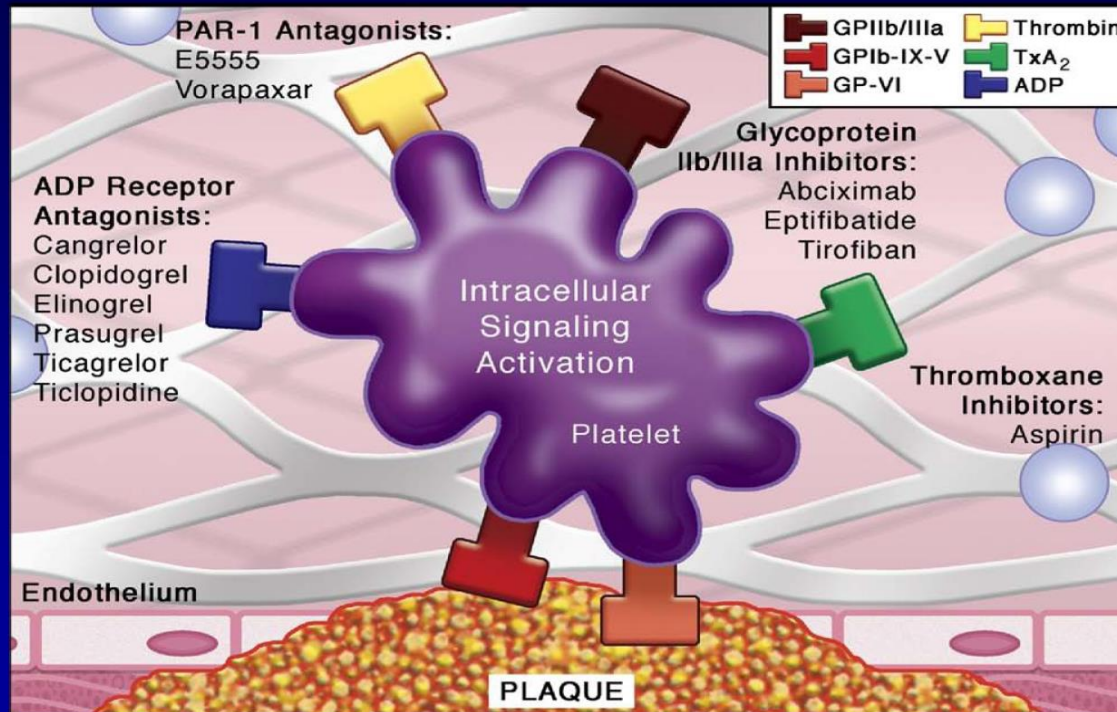
August 10, 1897



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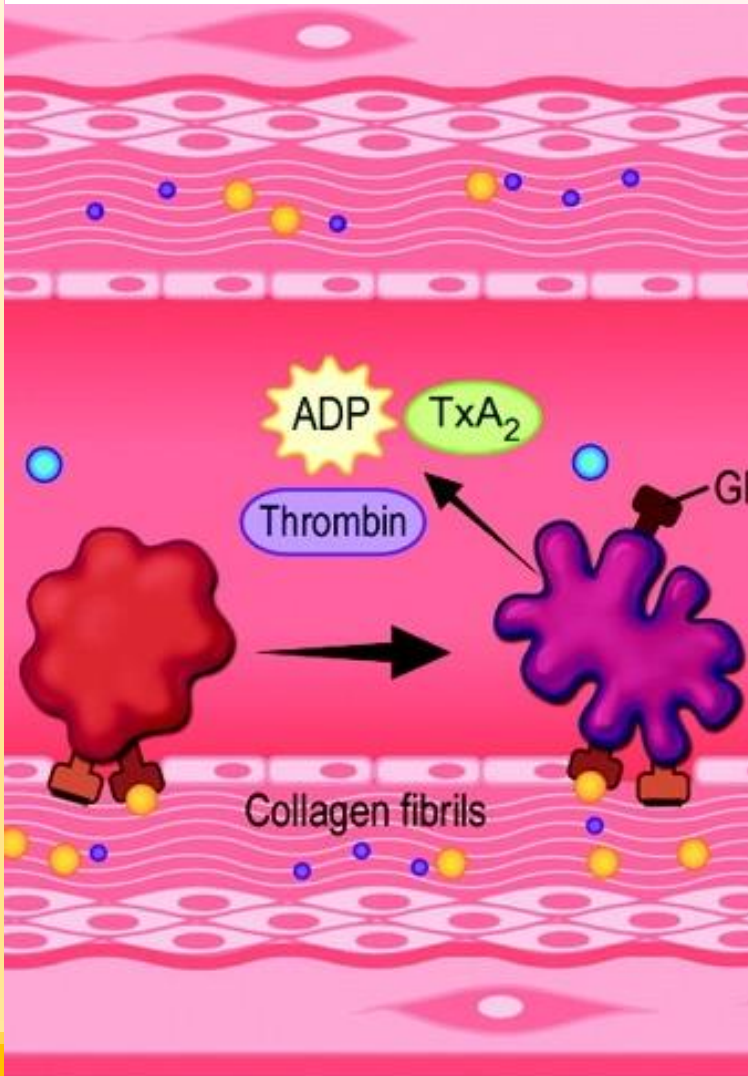


"An aspirin a day will help prevent a heart attack if you have it for lunch instead of a cheeseburger."

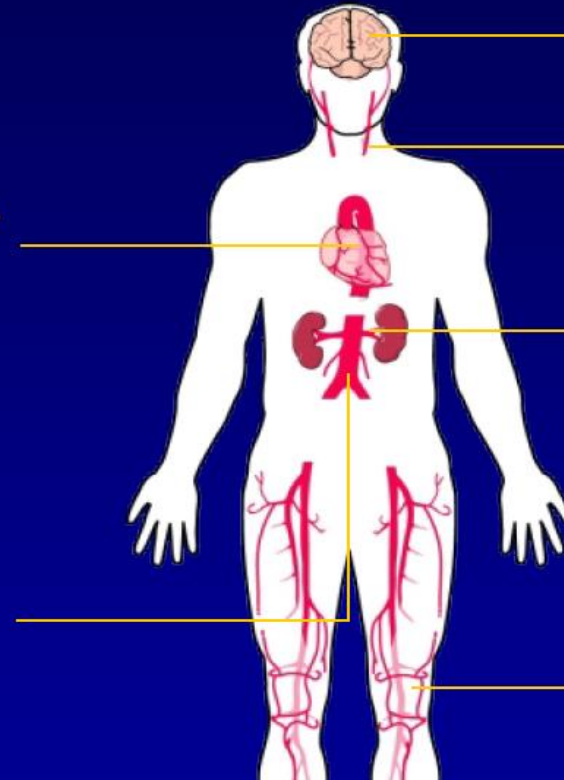


Rationale of using Aspirin in CAD

Atherothrombosis



Acute coronary syndromes
– STEMI
– NSTEMI
– Unstable angina
Stable CAD
Atrial Fibrillation
Angioplasty
Bare metal stent
Drug eluting stent
CABG
Abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA)



Stroke
TIA
Intracranial stenosis
Carotid artery stenosis
CEA
Carotid stenting
Renal artery stenosis
Renal artery stenting
Peripheral arterial disease
Acute limb ischemia
Claudication
Amputation
Endovascular stenting
Peripheral bypass
ABI

Aspirin inhibits platelets, reduces chance of thrombosis

Anti-platelet and bleeding

As with all anti-platelet agents, reducing ischemia means increasing bleeding risks



Art of balance

**Ischemia
VS
Bleeding**



Using Aspirin: benefit vs risk



Acute phase of event
Eg MI, stroke



Post event
Eg post MI, PCI, CABG



Evidence of atherosclerosis
Eg +ve CTA, mild CAD, carotid IMT



High risk of CVD
Eg DM, high ASCVD score

Risk of death

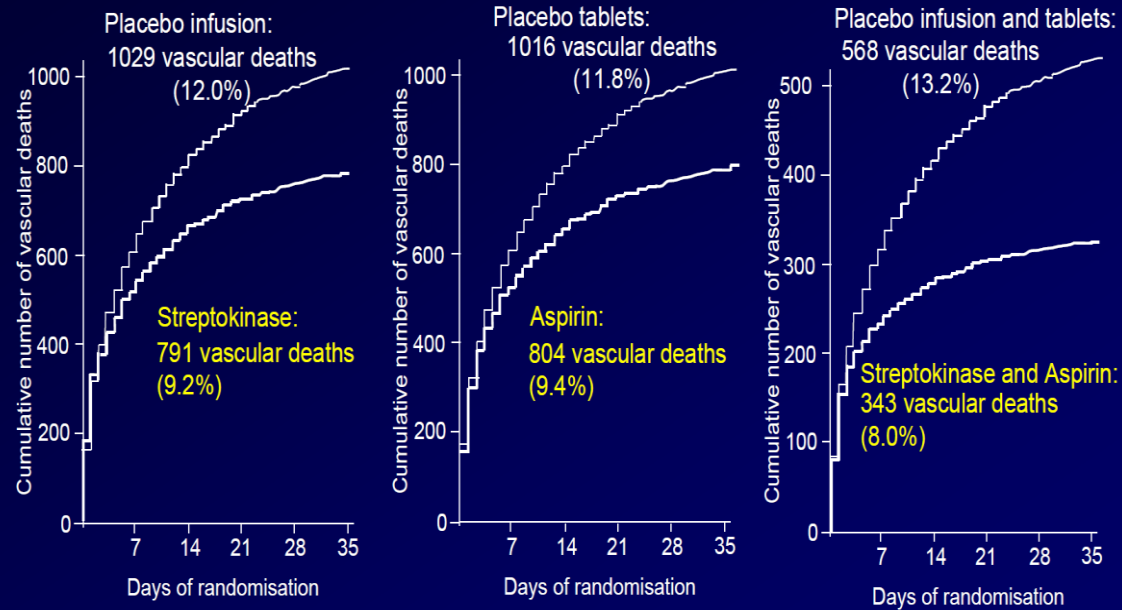
Secondary prevention

'1.5' prevention

Primary prevention

Aspirin in secondary prevention

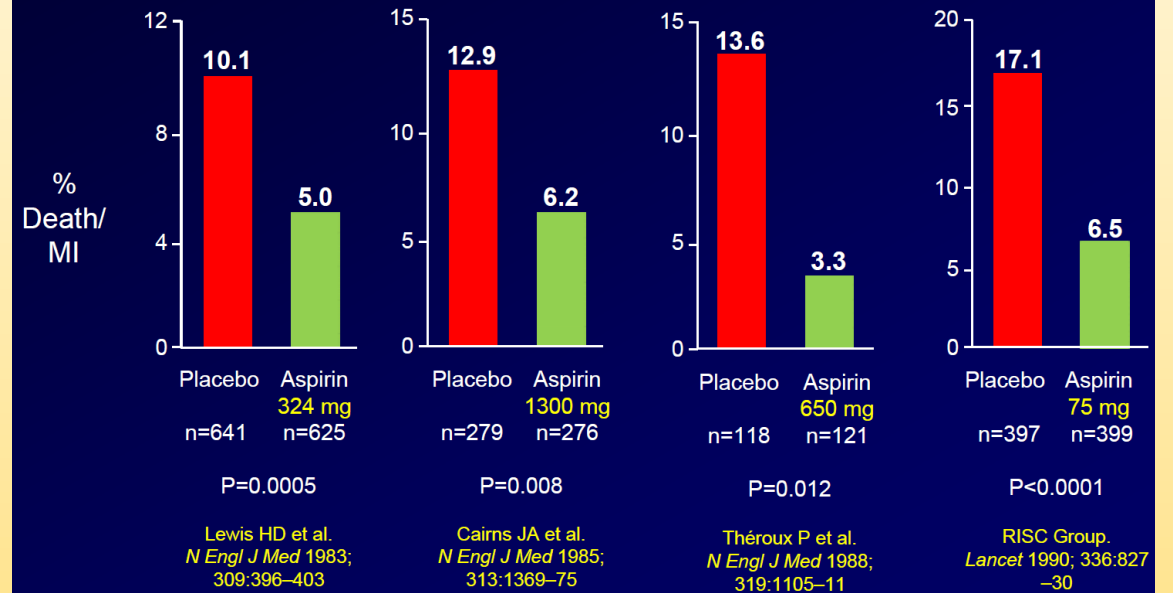
Randomised Trial of Intravenous Streptokinase, Oral Aspirin, Both, or Neither among 17187 Cases of Suspected Acute Myocardial Infarction: ISIS-2



Aspirin and streptokinase superior in acute STEMI

Aspirin for the Acute Treatment of ACS

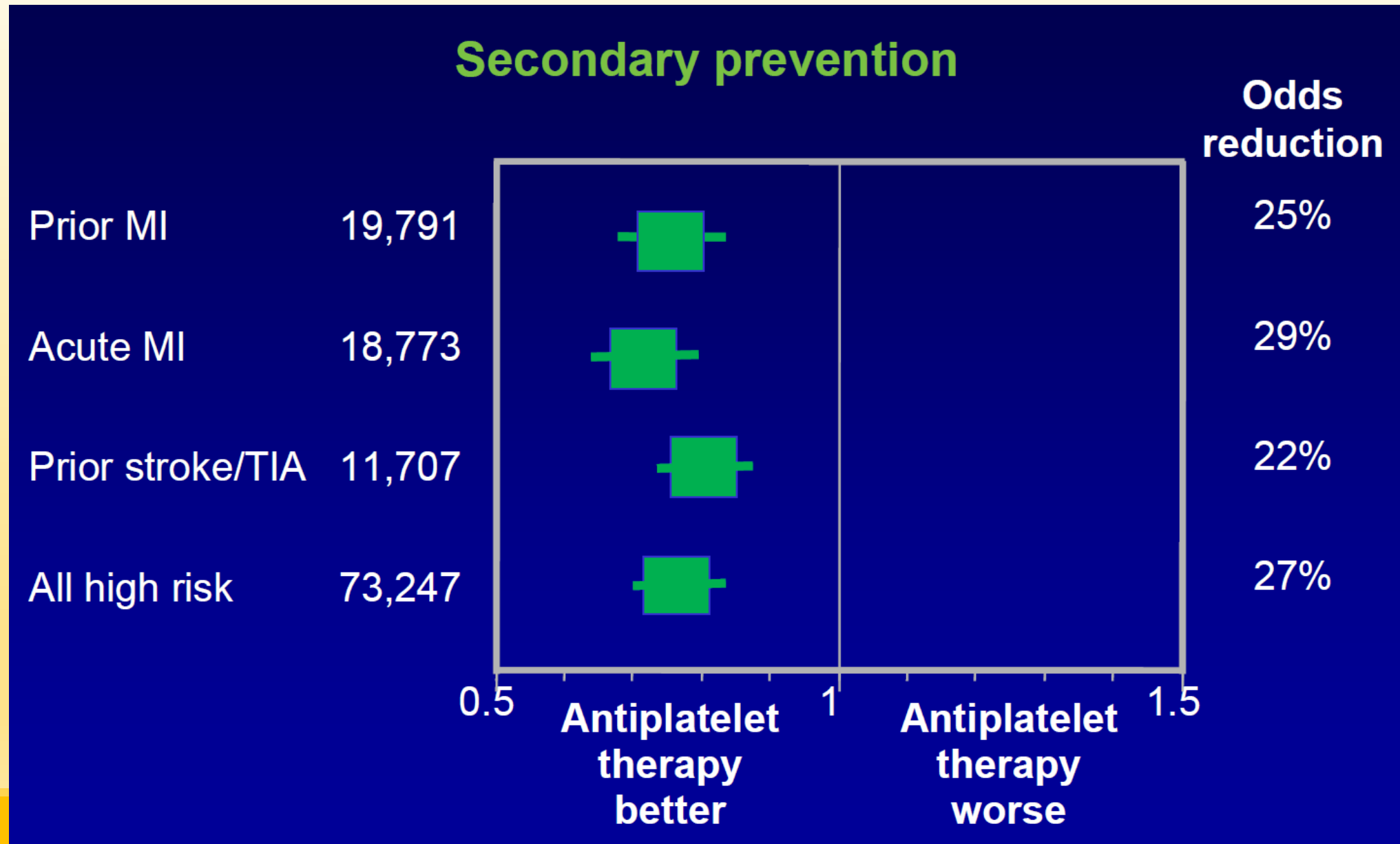
Reduction in Death/MI



Aspirin beneficial in NSTEMI-ACS

Aspirin's role undeniable in acute event

Antiplatelet Trialists' Collaboration



Antiplatelet Therapy



Treatment with aspirin 75 to 162 mg daily should be **continued indefinitely** in the absence of contraindications in patients with SIHD.



Treatment with clopidogrel is reasonable when aspirin is contraindicated in patients with SIHD.



*Helping Cardiovascular Professionals
Learn. Advance. Heal.*



Aspirin and Primary prevention

Physicians' Health Study

Subjects randomized	22,071
Follow-up, y	5 (mean)
Patient population	Apparently healthy male physicians
Age range	40-84
Female sex, %	0
ASA dosage	325 mg every other day

*44% reduction in risk of a first MI,
 $p < 0.001$*

*Reduction in the risk of MI was
apparent only among those >50
years*

*No benefit on all cause mortality,
CV death and stroke*

Aspirin and Primary prevention

Women's Health Study: Low-Dose Aspirin in Primary Prevention Trial

39,876 initially healthy* women, aged ≥ 45 yrs
Randomized, blinded, factorial

Low-Dose Aspirin
100 mg on alternate days
n=19,934

Placebo
n=19,942

End points (mean, 10.1 yrs):

- Combined end point of nonfatal MI, nonfatal stroke, or total cardiovascular death
 - Incidence of total malignant neoplasms of epithelial cell origin

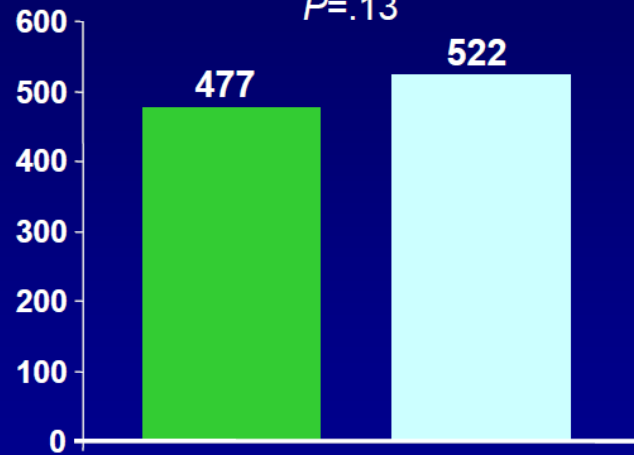
*No history of coronary heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, cancer (except nonmelanoma skin cancer), or other major chronic illness; no history of side effects to any of the study medications; not taking aspirin or nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medications (NSAIDs) more than once a week (or were willing to forgo their use during the trial); not taking anticoagulants or corticosteroids; and not taking individual supplements of vitamin A, E, or beta carotene more than once a week.

Aspirin and Primary prevention

Women's Health Study: Low-Dose Aspirin in Primary Prevention Trial

Primary Composite End Point: Major Cardiovascular Events

Relative Risk [RR] 0.91
95% CI, 0.80-1.03
 $P=.13$

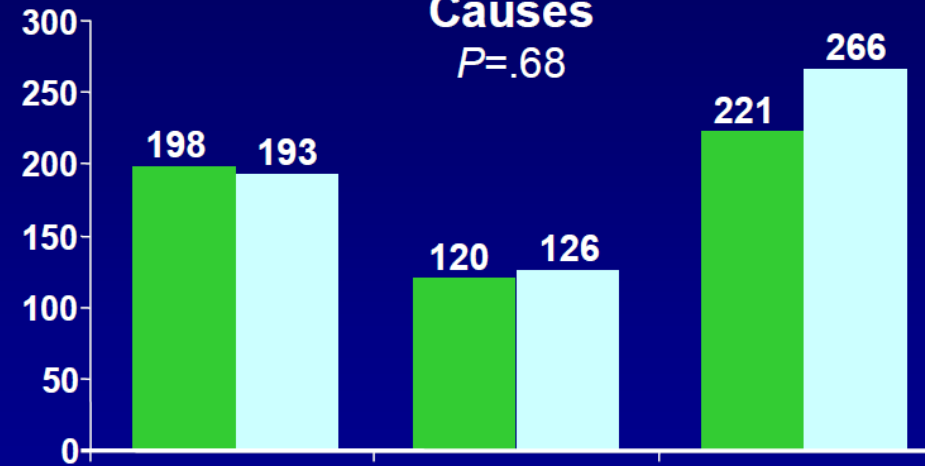


Composite Components:

MI
 $P=.83$

Death
from CV
Causes
 $P=.68$

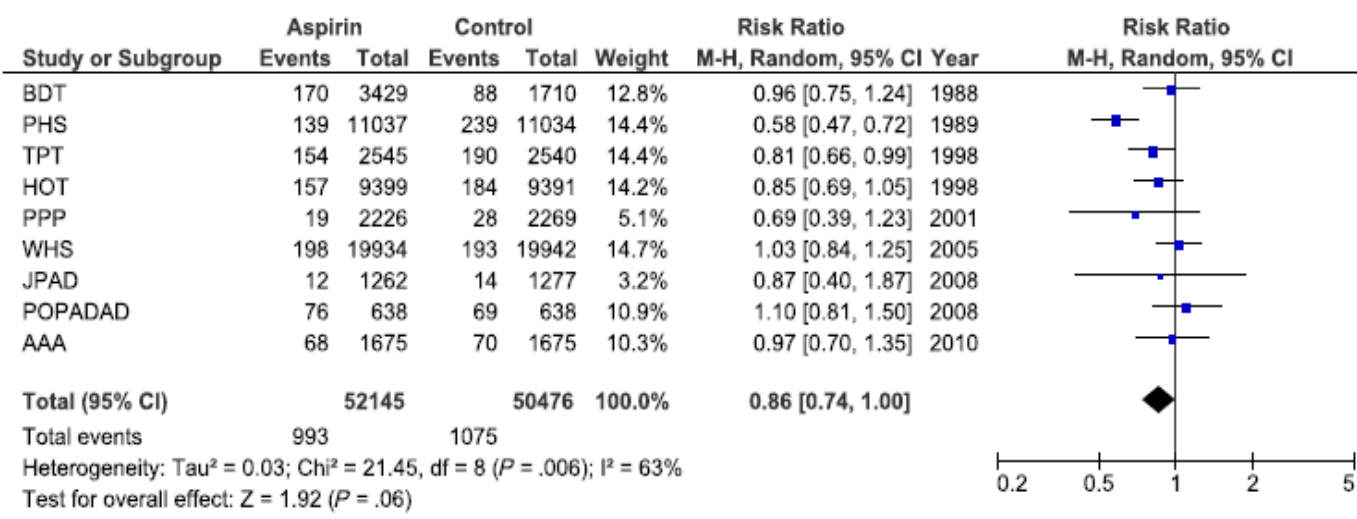
Stroke
 $P=.04$



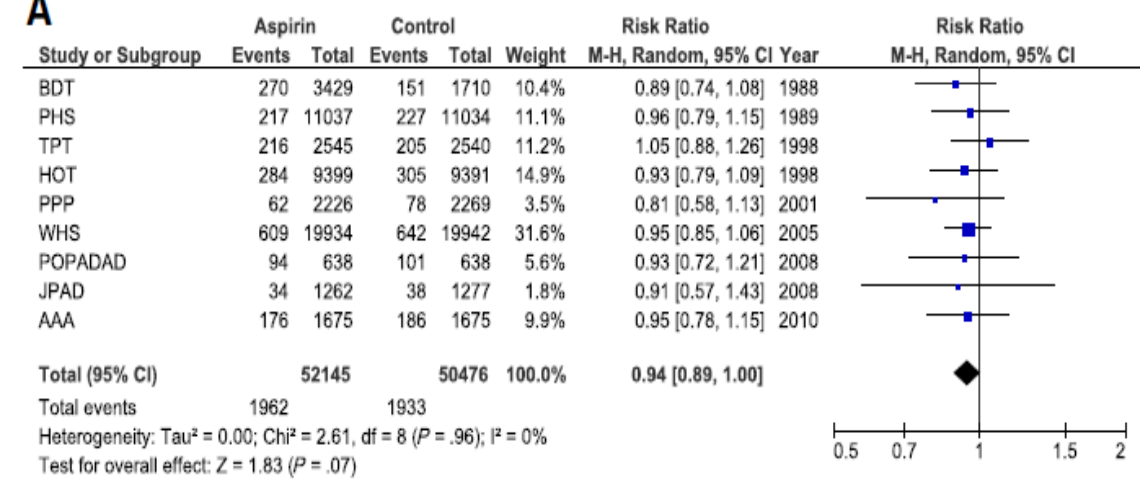
■ Aspirin ■ Placebo

Aspirin and Primary prevention

Fatal/non-fatal MI



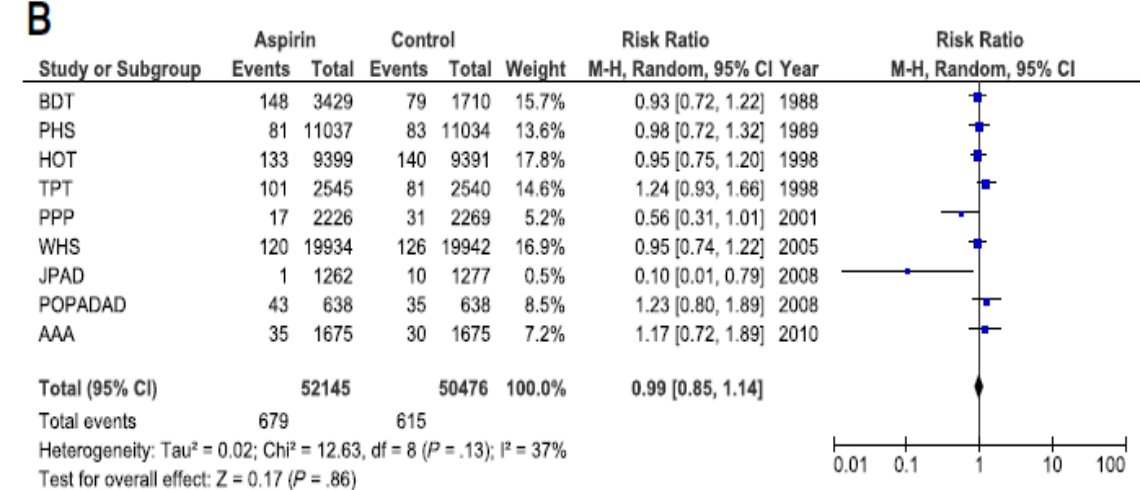
All cause mortality



Meta-analysis:
 ‘Aspirin prevent MI’

Heterogenous study results
 Most benefit derived from Physican
 Health Study

CV death



AHA/ADA Scientific Statement

Update on Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in Adults With Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in Light of Recent Evidence

A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association and the American Diabetes Association

Recommendations

1. Low-dose aspirin (75–162 mg/d) is reasonable among those with a 10-year CVD risk of at least 10% and without an increased risk of bleeding (ACC/AHA Class IIa; Level of Evidence B) (ADA Level of Evidence C).
2. Low-dose aspirin is reasonable in adults with diabetes mellitus at intermediate risk (10-year CVD risk, 5%–10%) (ACC/AHA Class IIb; Level of Evidence C) (ADA Level of Evidence E).

Class IIa

Class IIb

European Guidelines on cardiovascular disease prevention in clinical practice (version 2012)

Aspirin or clopidogrel cannot be recommended in individuals without cardiovascular or cerebrovascular disease due to the increased risk of major bleeding.

III

B

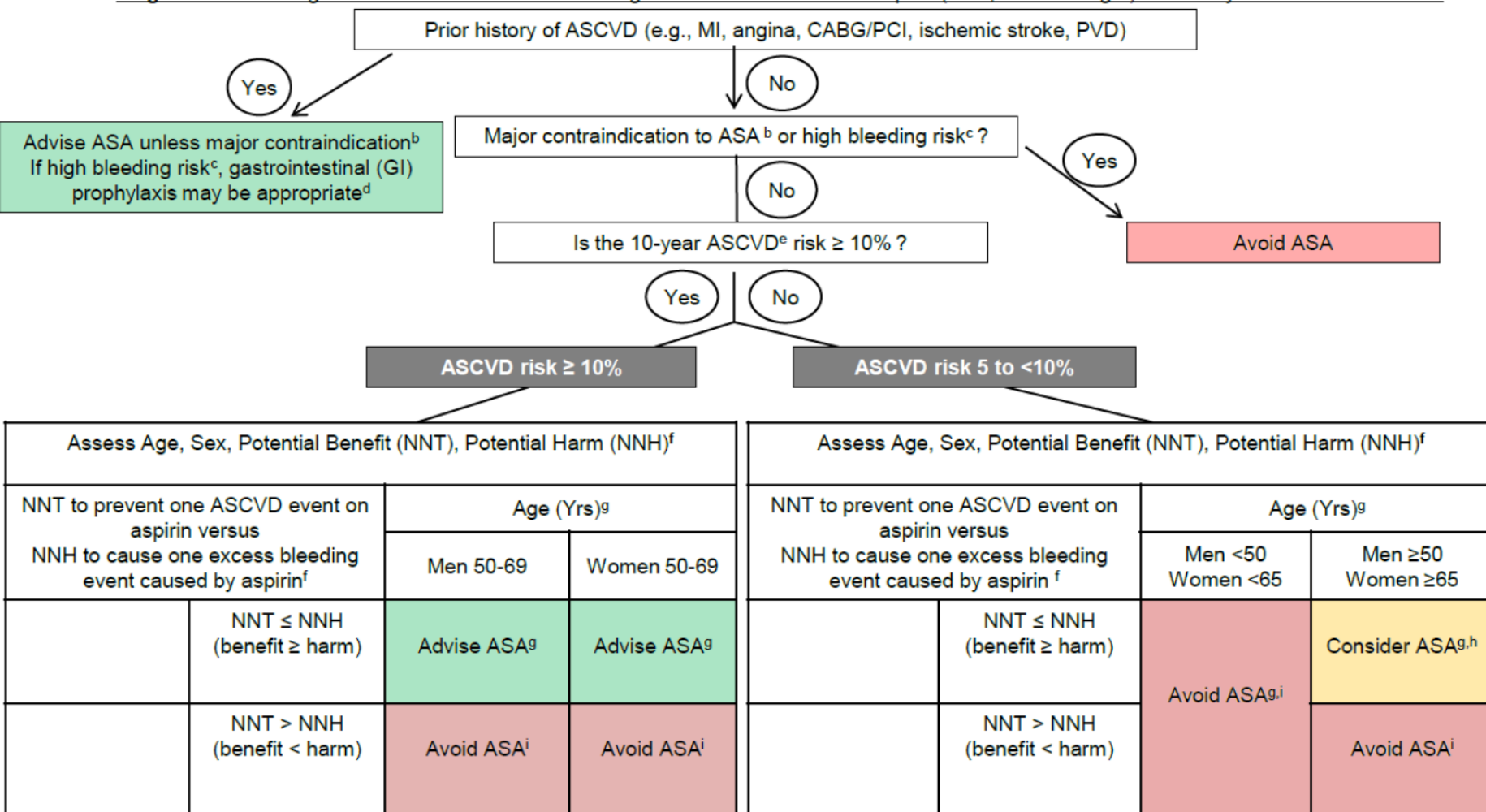
What does FDA say?

The screenshot shows the FDA website's 'Drugs' section. The main heading is 'Use of Aspirin for Primary Prevention of Heart Attack and Stroke'. The text states that the FDA has reviewed available data and does not believe the evidence supports the general use of aspirin for primary prevention of a heart attack or stroke. A red arrow points to the sentence: 'The FDA has reviewed the available data and does not believe the evidence supports the general use of aspirin for primary prevention of a heart attack or stroke.' The sidebar on the left contains links for 'Resources for You', 'Information for Consumers (Drugs)', 'Educational Resources', 'JumpStarting Drug Review', 'Questions & Answers', 'Buying & Using Medicine Safely', and 'Tips for Seniors'.

attack or stroke is called primary prevention. The FDA has reviewed the available data and does not believe the evidence supports the general use of aspirin for primary prevention of a heart attack or stroke. In fact, there are serious risks associated with the use of aspirin, including increased risk of bleeding in the stomach and brain, in situations where the benefit of aspirin for primary prevention has not been established.

Aspirin-Guide: A personalized approach and mobile app for shared decision making

eFigure. Practical Algorithm for Shared Decision Making in the Use of Low-Dose Aspirin (ASA, 75 to 81 mg/d) in Primary Prevention of ASCVD^a



www.aspiringuide.com

^a USPSTF guidelines consider insufficient data for aspirin use in individuals <50 or ≥ 70 years; detailed clinical assessment recommended for individuals <50 or ≥ 70 years.

^b Based on randomized clinical trial sex-specific subgroup analyses. In both sexes, avoid ASA if the 10-year ASCVD risk score is $<5\%$.

ⁱ Could consider ASA + GI prophylaxis if NNT \leq NNH, when recalculated on GI prophylaxis in patients with elevated GI bleeding risk.

Aspirin and Primary prevention in 2019

Traditional CV risk factors

ASCVD Risk scores

Bleeding risk factors

Risk scores

DM

History of bleeding

BALANCING RISK

CV event

Bleeding



Alternative treatment for CVD prevention

Eg statins, PCSK9 inh, SGLT-2 inhibitors, GLP-1

Alternative treatment to reduce bleeding risk

Eg PPI, HP eradication, endoscopic therapies

ARRIVE study

THE LANCET

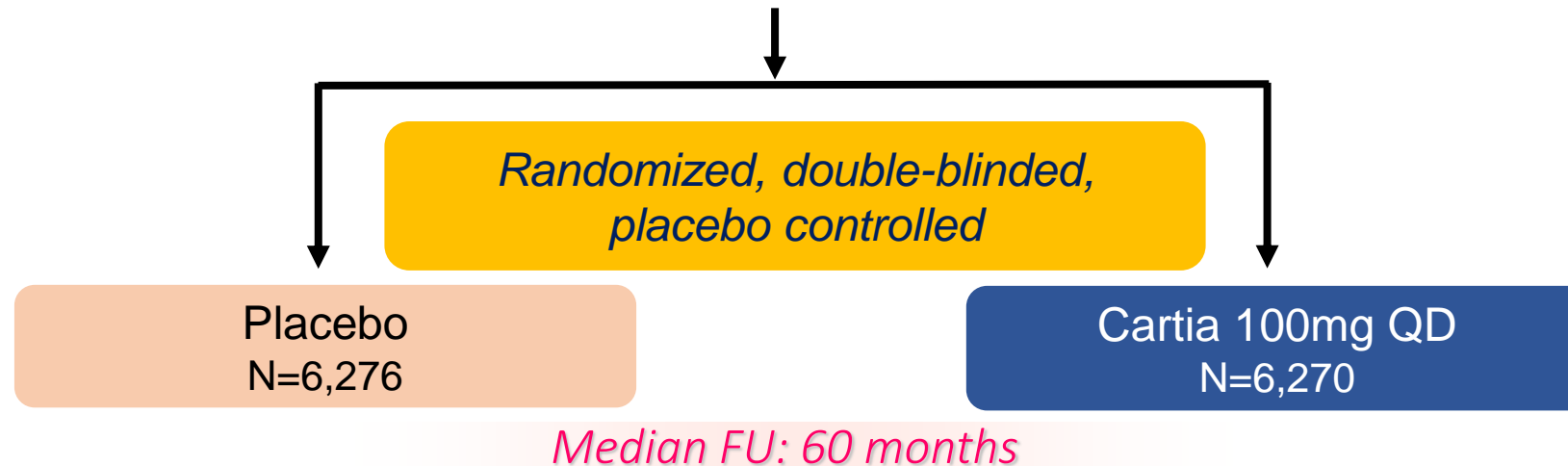
Use of aspirin to reduce risk of initial vascular events in patients at moderate risk of cardiovascular disease (ARRIVE): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

J Michael Gaziano, Carlos Brotons, Rosa Coppolecchia, Claudio Cricelli, Harald Darius, Philip B Gorelick, George Howard, Thomas A Pearson, Peter M Rothwell, Luis Miguel Ruilope, Michal Tendera, Gianni Tognoni; the ARRIVE Executive Committee

ARRIVE study: *Study Design*

Primary prevention in high CV risk

- Male ≥ 55 , 2/more CV risk factors; Female ≥ 60 , 3/more CV risk factors
- Calculated cardiovascular risk (10-year risk of CHD of 10–20%)
- No Diabetes
- No history of vascular event
- No history of serious bleeding



Primary endpoint:

Composite outcome consisting of time to first occurrence of confirmed myocardial infarction, stroke, cardiovascular death, unstable angina, or transient ischaemic attack

ARRIVE study: Study Population

Primary prevention in high CV risk

(Intent-to-Treat Population)

	Placebo Arm (n= 6276)	Aspirin Arm (n= 6270)
Age at Randomization (year)		
Mean	63.9	63.9
SD	7.05	7.10
Median	63.0	63.0
Min – Max	50 - 97	50 - 91

Actual event rate lower than expected (calculated)
Reflecting the effective contemporary CV medications

	25.89%
	52.70%
	21.42%
	29.52%
	70.48%

White, %	97.9	97.8
Current antihypertensive medication, %	65.3	64.4
Elevated total cholesterol, %	58.3	58.2
Mean Framingham 10-year CHD risk score	14.1%	13.9%
Mean ACC/AHA 10-year ASCVD risk score	17.4%	17.3%

Note: Percentages based on number of subjects randomized to the indicated treatment group

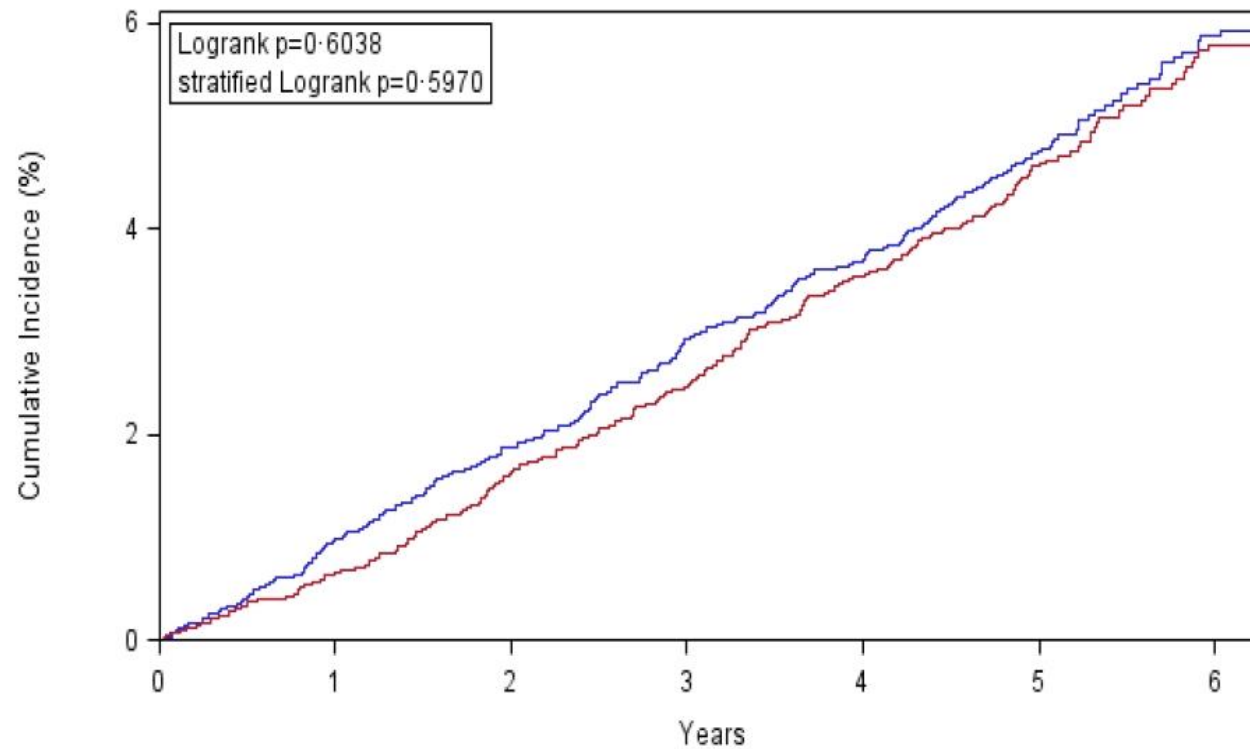
Observed ASCVD event rate normalized to 10 years **8.43%** **8.80%**

ARRIVE study: *Efficacy Outcome*

Primary prevention in high CV risk

Primary Efficacy Endpoint: CVD Death, MI, UA, Stroke or TIA

Time to First Occurrence of CV Death, MI, UA, Stroke or TIA (Intent-to-Treat population)



HR (95% CI)*
0.96 (0.81;1.13)

p-Value*
0.6038

*Comparison: Aspirin vs Placebo

1: Placebo	6276	5790	5409	5067	4732	4352	1745
2: Aspirin	6270	5771	5405	5110	4773	4380	1699

ARRIVE study: *Safety Outcome*

Primary prevention in high CV risk

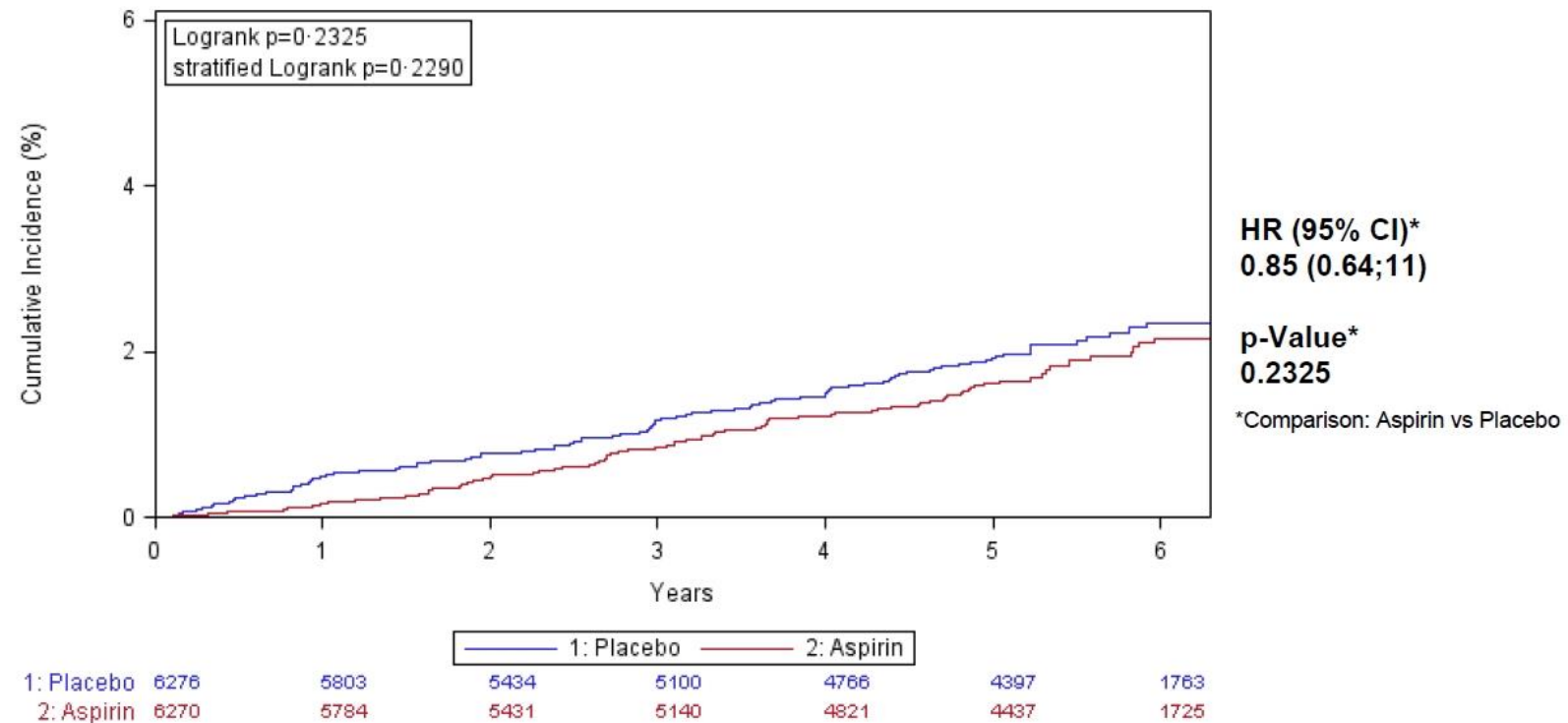
Gastrointestinal Bleeding (Intent-to-Treat Population)

Gastrointestinal Bleeding Adjudication	Placebo Arm (n=6276)	Aspirin Arm (n=6270)
Time to First GI Bleeding		
Patients with events, n (%)	29 (0.46%)	61 (0.97%)
Hazard Ratio (95% CI)*	2.11 [1.36;3.28]	
p-Value*	0.0007	
Severity of adjudicated first GI Bleeding		
Mild, n (%)	22 (0.35%)	42 (0.67%)
Moderate, n (%)	5 (0.08%)	15 (0.24%)
Severe, n (%)	2 (0.03%)	4 (0.06%)

*Comparison: Aspirin vs Placebo; p-Value from log-rank test of time to first event
Note: Percentages based on number of subjects randomized to the indicated treatment group

Cumulative Incidence Curve for Time to Fatal or Non-Fatal MI (Intent-to-Treat Population)

Time to first occurrence of Fatal or Non-Fatal MI (Intent-to-Treat population)

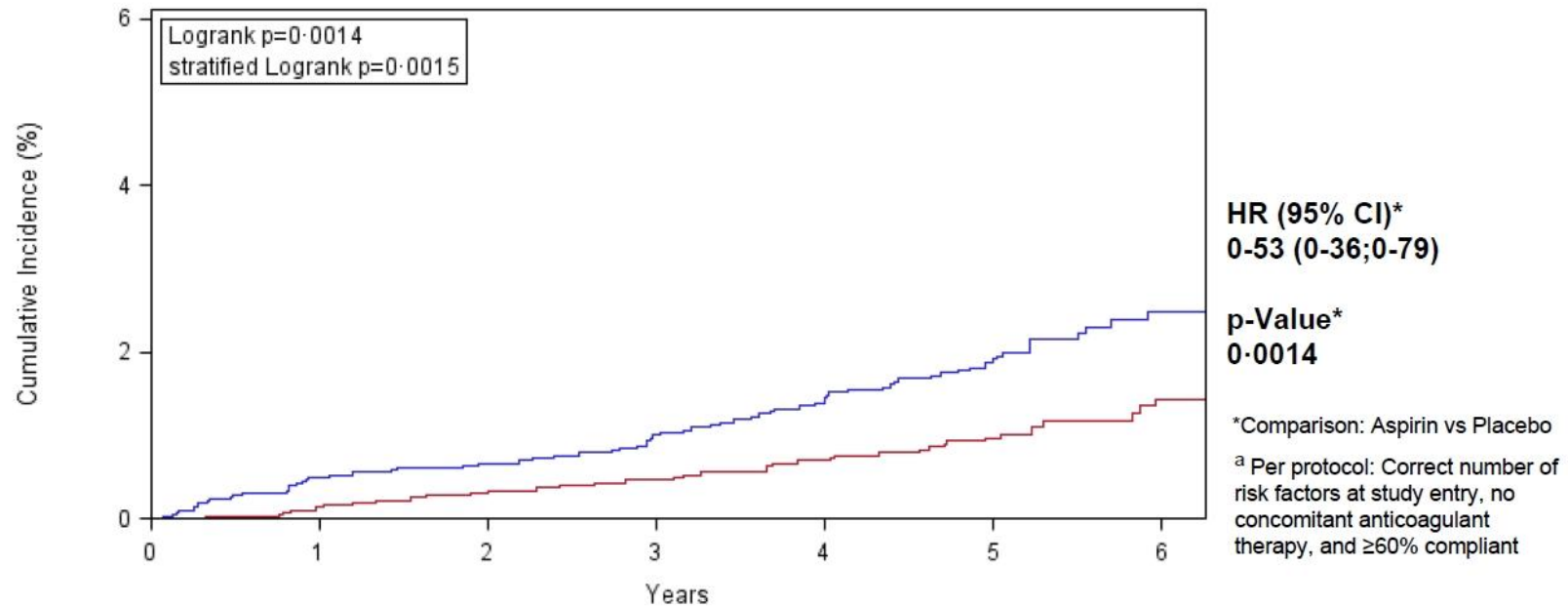


ARRIVE study: *Efficacy Outcome*

Primary prevention in high CV risk

Cumulative Incidence Curve for Time to Fatal or Non-Fatal MI (Per-Protocol Population ^a)

Time to First Occurrence of Fatal or Non-Fatal MI (Per-Protocol Population)



Per-Protocol analysis (N=7,702): only select subjects with reasonably good drug compliance

ARRIVE study:

Conclusions

Primary prevention in high CV risk

- With contemporary treatment, actual CV event rate seemed to decrease
- It is difficult to conduct primary prevention trials as patient compliance is fair in long run
- Aspirin seemed can reduce risk of MI if compliance is good, with increased risk of GI bleeding



ASPREE study

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Effect of Aspirin on Disability-free Survival in the Healthy Elderly

J.J. McNeil, R.L. Woods, M.R. Nelson, C.M. Reid, B. Kirpach, R. Wolfe, E. Storey, R.C. Shah, J.E. Lockery, A.M. Tonkin, A.B. Newman, J.D. Williamson, K.L. Margolis, M.E. Ernst, W.P. Abhayaratna, N. Stocks, S.M. Fitzgerald, S.G. Orchard, R.E. Trevaks, L.J. Beilin, G.A. Donnan, P. Gibbs, C.I. Johnston, J. Ryan, B. Radziszewska, R. Grimm, and A.M. Murray,
for the ASPREE Investigator Group*

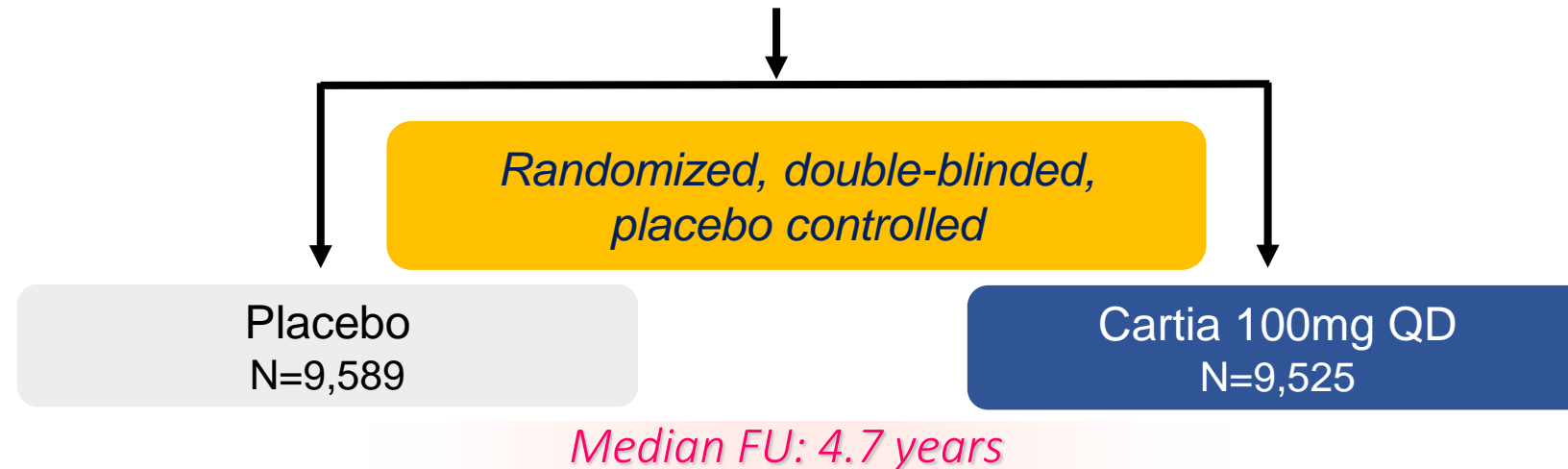
Effect of Aspirin on Cardiovascular Events and Bleeding in the Healthy Elderly

J.J. McNeil, R. Wolfe, R.L. Woods, A.M. Tonkin, G.A. Donnan, M.R. Nelson, C.M. Reid, J.E. Lockery, B. Kirpach, E. Storey, R.C. Shah, J.D. Williamson, K.L. Margolis, M.E. Ernst, W.P. Abhayaratna, N. Stocks, S.M. Fitzgerald, S.G. Orchard, R.E. Trevaks, L.J. Beilin, C.I. Johnston, J. Ryan, B. Radziszewska, M. Jelinek, M. Malik, C.B. Eaton, D. Brauer, G. Cloud, E.M. Wood, S.E. Mahady, S. Satterfield,* R. Grimm, and A.M. Murray, for the ASPREE Investigator Group†

ASPREE study: *Study Design*

Primary prevention in Elderly

- Age ≥ 70
- No history of cardiovascular, cerebrovascular disease
- No history of chronic illness which limit life expectancy
- No history of serious bleeding



Primary endpoint: survival free from dementia or persistent physical disability
Key secondary endpoints: major hemorrhage and cardiovascular disease (defined as fatal CHD, nonfatal MI, fatal or nonfatal stroke, or hospitalization for heart failure)

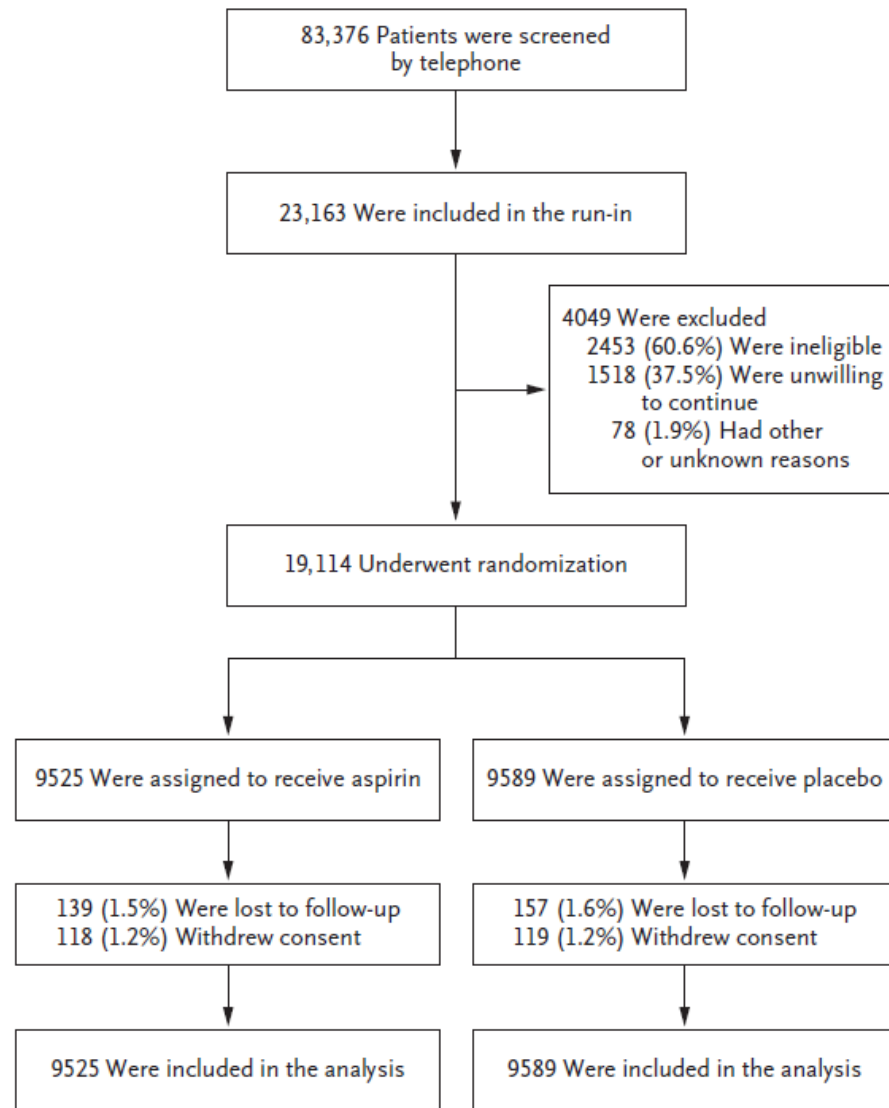
ASPREE study: Study population

Primary prevention in Elderly

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics, Cardiovascular Risk Factors, and Treatment of the Participants at Randomization.*

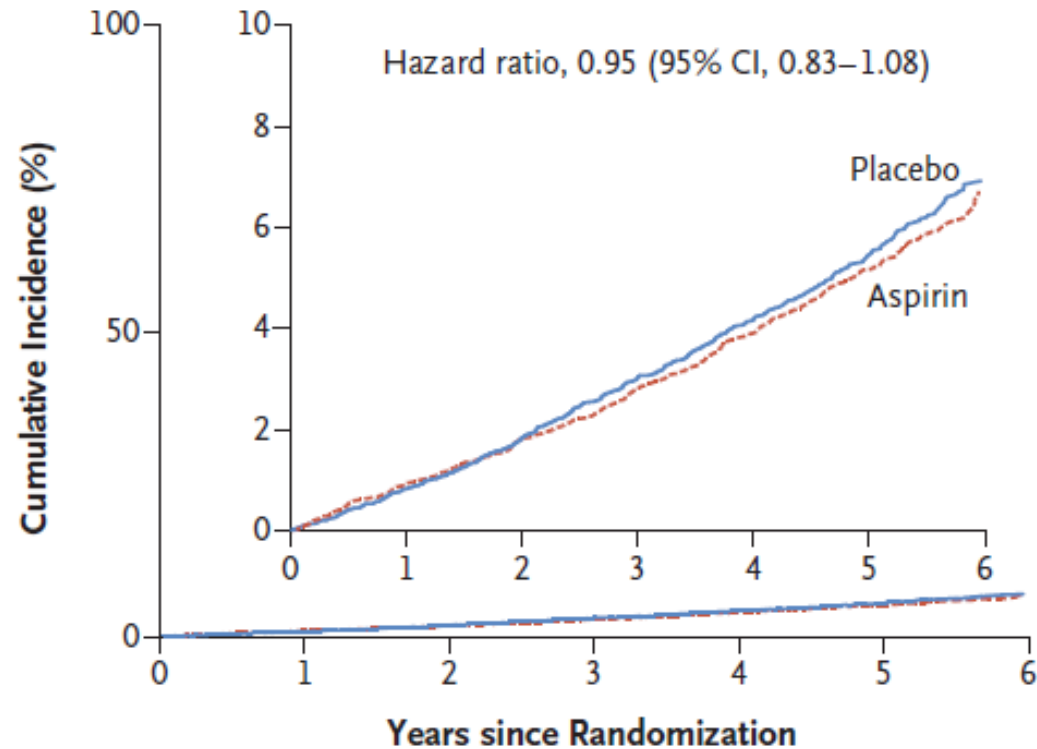
Variable	Aspirin (N=9525)	Placebo (N=9589)
	no. (%)	
Male sex	4152 (44)	4179 (44)
Age ≥74 yr	4806 (50)	4766 (50)
Black race†	451 (5)	450 (5)
Obese‡	2820 (30)	2857 (30)
Smoking		
Current	352 (4)	383 (4)
Former	3909 (41)	3890 (41)
Never	5264 (55)	5316 (55)
Diabetes§	1027 (11)	1030 (11)
Hypertension¶	7065 (74)	7148 (75)
Dyslipidemia	6159 (65)	6308 (66)
Chronic kidney disease**	2456 (26)	2464 (26)
Number of cardiovascular risk factors††		
0 or 1	2935 (31)	2885 (30)
2	3968 (42)	4049 (42)
3 or 4	2622 (28)	2655 (28)
Previous regular aspirin use‡‡	1053 (11)	1041 (11)
Statin use at trial entry§§	3244 (34)	3226 (34)
Use of nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug at trial entry	1371 (14)	1342 (14)
Use of H ₂ -receptor blocker at trial entry	189 (2)	183 (2)
Use of proton-pump inhibitor at trial entry	2340 (25)	2374 (25)

~10% DM



ASPREE study: *Efficacy Outcome*

Primary prevention in Elderly



No significant benefit in CV event

Table 2. Cardiovascular Events.*

End Point	Overall (N=19,114)	Aspirin (N=9525)		Placebo (N=9589)		Hazard Ratio (95% CI)
	no. of participants with event	no. of participants with event	rate per 1000 person-yr	no. of participants with event	rate per 1000 person-yr	
Cardiovascular disease†	922	448	10.7	474	11.3	0.95 (0.83–1.08)
Major adverse cardiovascular event‡	701	329	7.8	372	8.8	0.89 (0.77–1.03)
Fatal cardiovascular disease§	159	78	1.8	81	1.9	0.97 (0.71–1.33)
Hospitalization for heart failure	171	88	2.1	83	1.9	1.07 (0.79–1.44)
Fatal or nonfatal myocardial infarction	355	171	4.0	184	4.3	0.93 (0.76–1.15)
Fatal or nonfatal ischemic stroke¶	315	148	3.5	167	3.9	0.89 (0.71–1.11)

ASPREE study: Safety Outcome

Primary prevention in Elderly

Table 3. Major Hemorrhagic Events.*

End Point	Overall (N=19,114)		Aspirin (N=9525)		Placebo (N=9589)		Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P Value
	no. of participants with event	no. of participants with event	rate per 1000 person-yr	no. of participants with event	rate per 1000 person-yr			
Major hemorrhage†	626	361	8.6	265	6.2	1.38 (1.18–1.62)	<0.001	
Intracranial bleeding								
Any	179	107	2.5	72	1.7	1.50 (1.11–2.02)	—	
Hemorrhagic stroke	77	43	1.0	34	0.8	1.27 (0.81–2.00)	—	
Subdural or extradural hemorrhage	61	39	0.9	22	0.5	1.79 (1.06–3.02)	—	
Subarachnoid hemorrhage‡	32	18	0.4	14	0.3	1.30 (0.64–2.60)	—	
Extracranial bleeding								
Upper gastrointestinal bleeding	137	89	2.1	48	1.1	1.87 (1.32–2.66)	—	
Lower gastrointestinal bleeding	127	73	1.7	54	1.3	1.36 (0.96–1.94)	—	
Bleeding at another site§	189	101	2.4	88	2.1	1.16 (0.87–1.54)	—	
Fatal bleeding								
Fatal major hemorrhage¶	52	28	0.7	24	0.6	1.18 (0.68–2.03)	—	
Fatal hemorrhagic stroke	26	13	0.3	13	0.3	1.01 (0.47–2.17)	—	

*Increased risk
of major
bleeding*

Research

Original Investigation

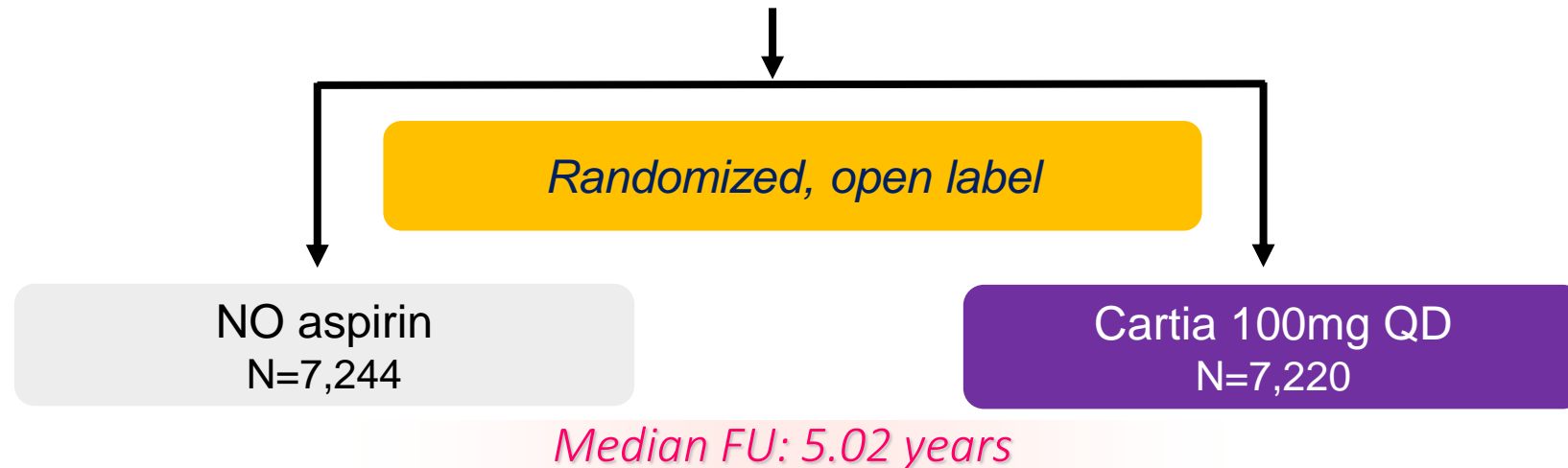
Low-Dose Aspirin for Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Events in Japanese Patients 60 Years or Older With Atherosclerotic Risk Factors A Randomized Clinical Trial

Yasuo Ikeda, MD; Kazuyuki Shimada, MD; Tamio Teramoto, MD; Shinichiro Uchiyama, MD; Tsutomu Yamazaki, MD; Shinichi Oikawa, MD; Masahiro Sugawara, MD; Katsuyuki Ando, MD; Mitsuru Murata, MD; Kenji Yokoyama, MD; Naoki Ishizuka, PhD

JPPP study: *Study Design*

Primary prevention in high CV risk

- Age 60-85
- Hypertension OR hyperlipidemia OR DM
- No history of atherosclerosis, cardiovascular, cerebrovascular disease
- No history of serious bleeding



Primary endpoint: composite of death from cardiovascular causes (myocardial infarction, stroke, and other cardiovascular causes), nonfatal stroke (ischemic or hemorrhagic, including undefined cerebrovascular events), and nonfatal myocardial infarction

JPPP study: *Study population*

Primary prevention in high CV risk

	Aspirin (n = 7220)	No Aspirin (n = 7244)
Patient demographics		
Age, mean (SD), y	70.6 (6.2)	70.5 (6.2)
Age, No. (%)		
<70 y	3234 (44.8)	3259 (45.0)
≥70 y	3986 (55.2)	3985 (55.0)
Men, No. (%)	3055 (42.3)	3068 (42.4)
Waist circumference, mean (SD), cm	85.2 (9.9)	84.7 (10.0)
Weight, mean (SD), kg	58.7 (10.4)	58.6 (10.3)
BMI ≥25, No. (%)	2644 (36.6)	2604 (35.9)
Risk factors for vascular events, No. (%)		
HT	6133 (84.9)	6145 (84.8)
DL	5198 (72.0)	5200 (71.8)
DM	2445 (33.9)	2458 (33.9)
HT and DL	4276 (59.2)	4264 (58.9)
DL and DM	1794 (24.8)	1798 (24.8)
HT and DM	1932 (26.8)	1939 (26.8)
HT, DL, and DM	1446 (20.0)	1442 (19.9)
BMI, mean (SD)	24.2 (3.5)	24.2 (3.4)

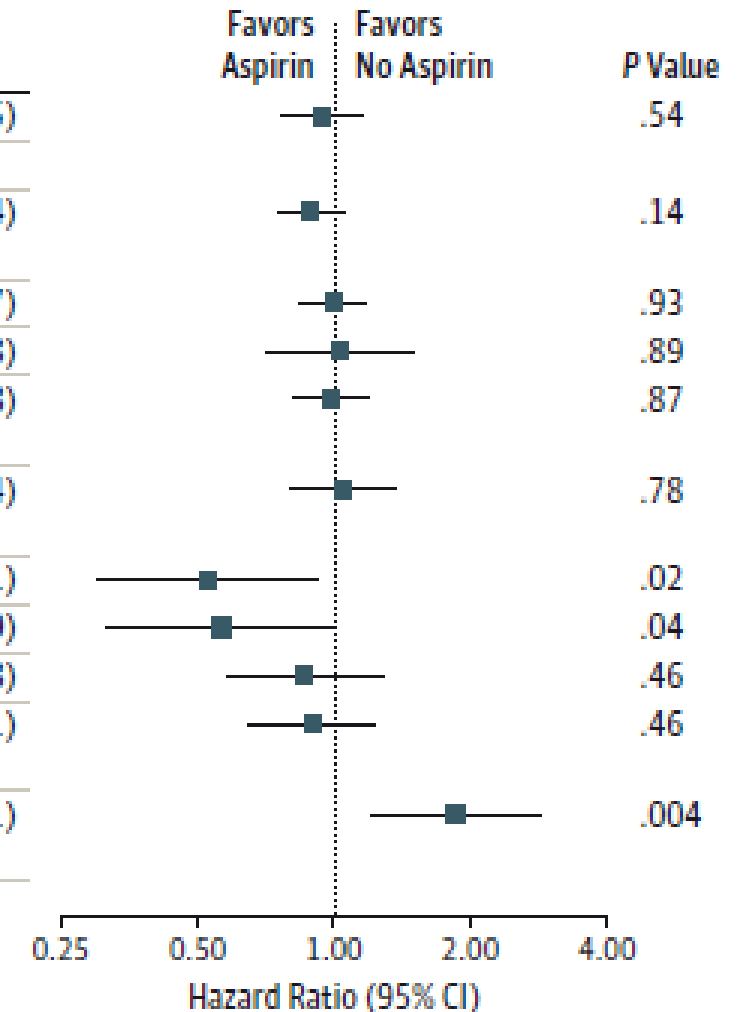
~30% DM

	Aspirin (n = 7220)	No Aspirin (n = 7244)
Blood pressure, mm Hg		
Systolic	137.1 (15.8)	137.2 (15.6)
Diastolic	77.7 (10.4)	77.6 (10.2)
Currently smoking, No. (%)	959 (13.3)	934 (12.9)
Family history of premature CV disease, No. (%)		
No	4058 (56.2)	4086 (56.4)
Yes	1981 (27.4)	1982 (27.4)
Unknown	1181 (16.4)	1176 (16.2)
Laboratory values, mean (SD)		
Cholesterol, mean (SD), mg/dL		
Total	202.9 (32.9)	203.6 (32.5)
Low-density lipoprotein ^a	119.2 (30.5)	119.8 (30.3)
High-density lipoprotein	57.8 (15.8)	58.2 (15.7)
Triglycerides, mean (SD), mg/dL	132.8 (76.0)	131.0 (75.9)
Fasting blood glucose, mean (SD), mg/dL	107.8 (31.2)	107.7 (32.0)
HbA _{1c} , mean (SD), % ^b	6.1 (1.0)	6.0 (1.0)

JPPP study: *Efficacy and safety outcome*

Primary prevention in high CV risk

End Point	Aspirin (n=7220)		No Aspirin (n=7244)		Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P Value
	No. of Events	Event Rate Over 5 Years, % (95% CI)	No. of Events	Event Rate Over 5 Years, % (95% CI)		
Primary end point ^a	193	2.77 (2.40-3.20)	207	2.96 (2.58-3.40)	0.94 (0.77-1.15)	.54
Secondary end point						
Any atherosclerotic or cardiovascular event ^b	280	4.00 (3.55-4.50)	319	4.59 (4.11-5.13)	0.89 (0.75-1.04)	.14
Any cause of death	297	4.29 (3.83-4.82)	303	4.11 (3.66-4.62)	0.99 (0.85-1.17)	.93
Death from cardiovascular disease	58	0.86 (0.66-1.12)	57	0.78 (0.60-1.02)	1.03 (0.71-1.48)	.89
Death from causes other than cardiovascular disease	239	3.46 (3.04-3.94)	246	3.36 (2.94-3.83)	0.99 (0.82-1.18)	.87
Nonfatal cerebrovascular disease (ischemic or hemorrhagic)	117	1.65 (1.37-1.99)	114	1.64 (1.36-1.98)	1.04 (0.80-1.34)	.78
Nonfatal myocardial infarction	20	0.30 (0.19-0.47)	38	0.58 (0.42-0.81)	0.53 (0.31-0.91)	.02
Transient ischemic attack	19	0.26 (0.16-0.42)	34	0.49 (0.35-0.69)	0.57 (0.32-0.99)	.04
Angina pectoris	46	0.66 (0.49-0.89)	54	0.81 (0.61-1.07)	0.86 (0.58-1.28)	.46
Arteriosclerotic diseases requiring surgery or intervention	75	1.08 (0.86-1.36)	85	1.24 (0.99-1.55)	0.89 (0.65-1.21)	.46
Serious extracranial hemorrhage requiring transfusion or hospitalization	62	0.86 (0.67-1.11)	34	0.51 (0.37-0.72)	1.85 (1.22-2.81)	.004



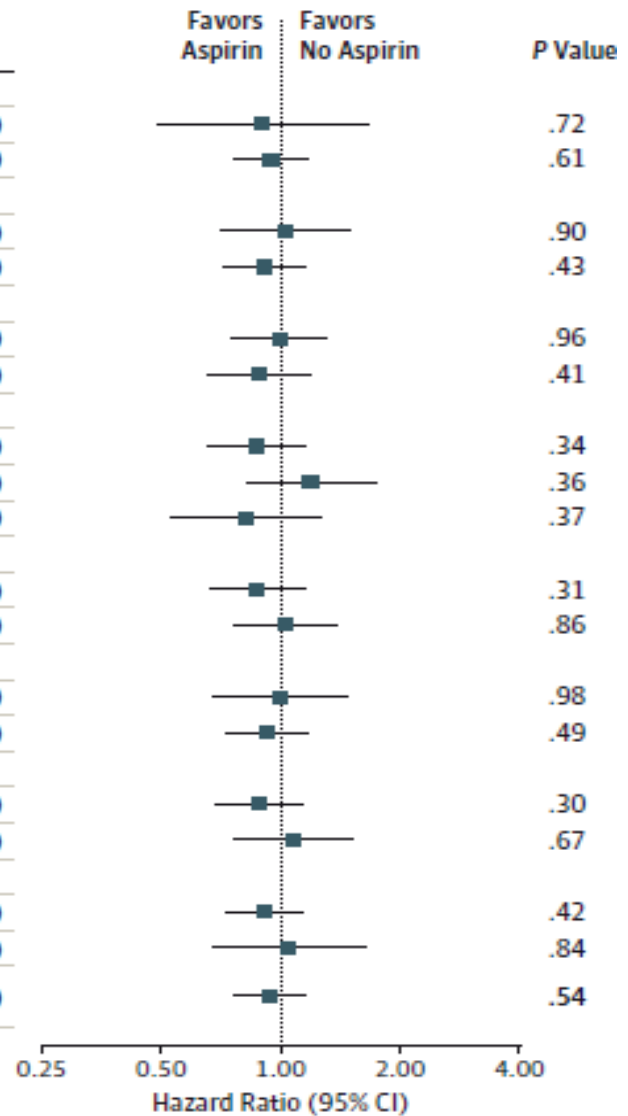
*No difference in primary endpoint
Reduction in non-fatal MI*

Increase major bleeding

JPPP study: *Study population*

Primary prevention in high CV risk

Disease Risk Factor	Aspirin			No Aspirin			Hazard Ratio (95% CI)
	No. of Events	No. of Patients	Event Rate per 5 Years, % (95% CI)	No. of Events	No. of Patients	Event Rate per 5 Years, % (95% CI)	
Hypertension							
No	20	1087	1.74 (1.08-2.80)	23	1099	2.12 (1.40-3.20)	0.90 (0.49-1.63)
Yes	173	6133	2.95 (2.54-3.44)	184	6145	3.11 (2.68-3.60)	0.95 (0.77-1.17)
Dyslipidemia							
No	56	2022	2.89 (2.21-3.78)	56	2044	2.93 (2.26-3.81)	1.02 (0.71-1.48)
Yes	137	5198	2.73 (2.30-3.23)	151	5200	2.97 (2.52-3.50)	0.91 (0.72-1.15)
Diabetes mellitus							
No	107	4775	2.30 (1.89-2.79)	109	4786	2.36 (1.95-2.86)	0.99 (0.76-1.30)
Yes	86	2445	3.70 (2.99-4.58)	98	2458	4.14 (3.38-5.06)	0.89 (0.66-1.18)
Family history^b							
No	94	4058	2.44 (1.98-3.00)	109	4086	2.72 (2.24-3.30)	0.87 (0.66-1.15)
Yes	61	1981	3.13 (2.42-4.03)	52	1982	2.83 (2.16-3.72)	1.19 (0.82-1.72)
Unknown	38	1181	3.33 (2.41-4.59)	46	1176	4.01 (2.98-5.37)	0.82 (0.54-1.26)
Sex							
Men	99	3055	3.42 (2.80-4.18)	114	3068	3.85 (3.19-4.65)	0.87 (0.67-1.14)
Women	94	4165	2.30 (1.87-2.83)	93	4176	2.32 (1.88-2.85)	1.03 (0.77-1.37)
Age, y							
<70	52	3234	1.67 (1.27-2.21)	53	3259	1.73 (1.31-2.28)	1.00 (0.68-1.46)
≥70	141	3986	3.67 (3.10-4.34)	154	3985	3.98 (3.39-4.67)	0.92 (0.73-1.16)
BMI							
<25	122	4576	2.75 (2.29-3.29)	141	4640	3.21 (2.71-3.79)	0.88 (0.69-1.12)
≥25	71	2644	2.82 (2.22-3.57)	66	2604	2.53 (1.97-3.25)	1.08 (0.77-1.50)
Smoker							
No	150	6261	2.48 (2.10-2.92)	167	6310	2.71 (2.32-3.17)	0.91 (0.73-1.14)
Yes	43	959	4.76 (3.51-6.43)	40	934	4.69 (3.43-6.40)	1.05 (0.68-1.61)
Overall	193	7220	2.77 (2.40-3.20)	207	7244	2.96 (2.58-3.40)	0.94 (0.77-1.15)





ASCEND study

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

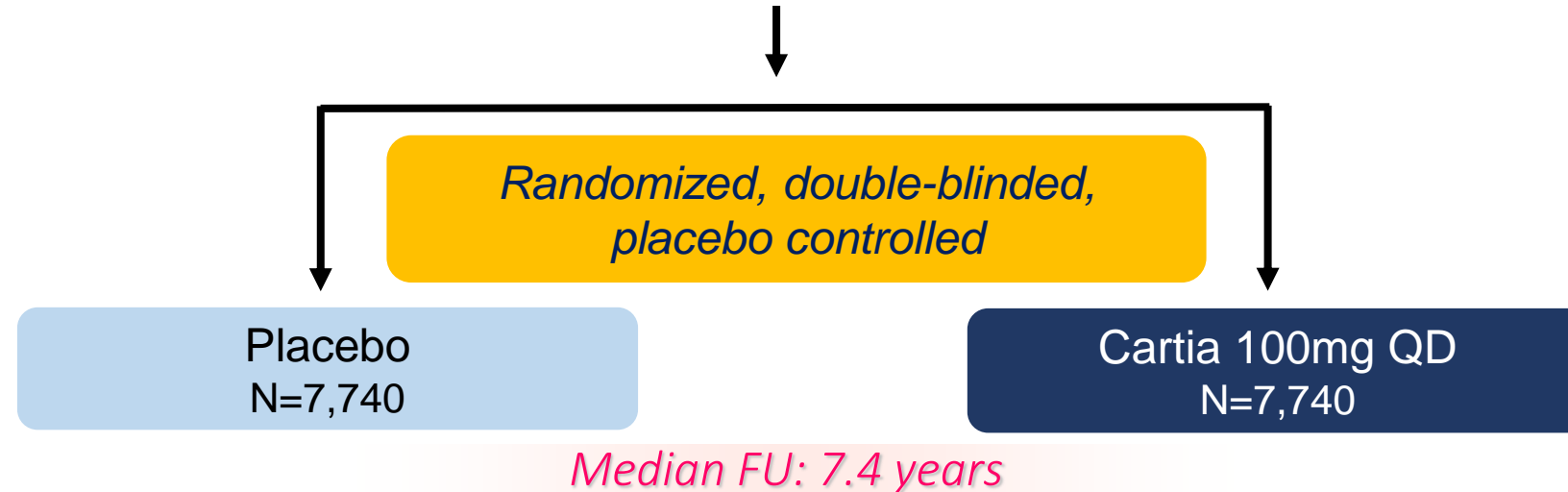
Effects of Aspirin for Primary Prevention in Persons with Diabetes Mellitus

The ASCEND Study Collaborative Group*

ASCEND study: *Study Design*

Primary prevention in DM

- Age ≥ 40
- Diabetes Mellitus
- No history of cardiovascular disease



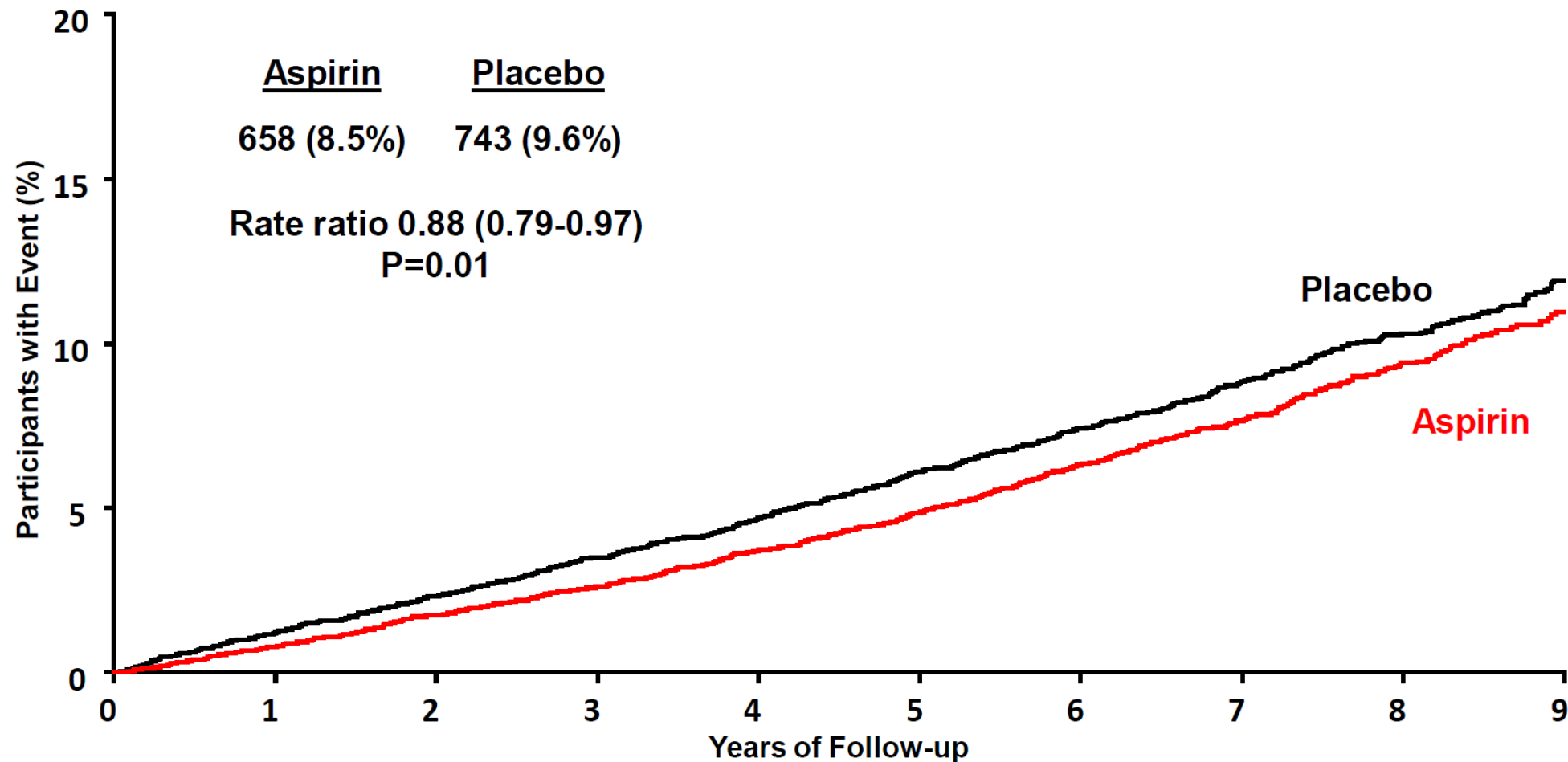
Primary endpoint: first Serious Vascular Event (SVE), which was defined as a composite of nonfatal myocardial infarction, nonfatal stroke or transient ischemic attack, or death from any vascular cause.

Primary safety endpoint: first occurrence of any major bleeding event

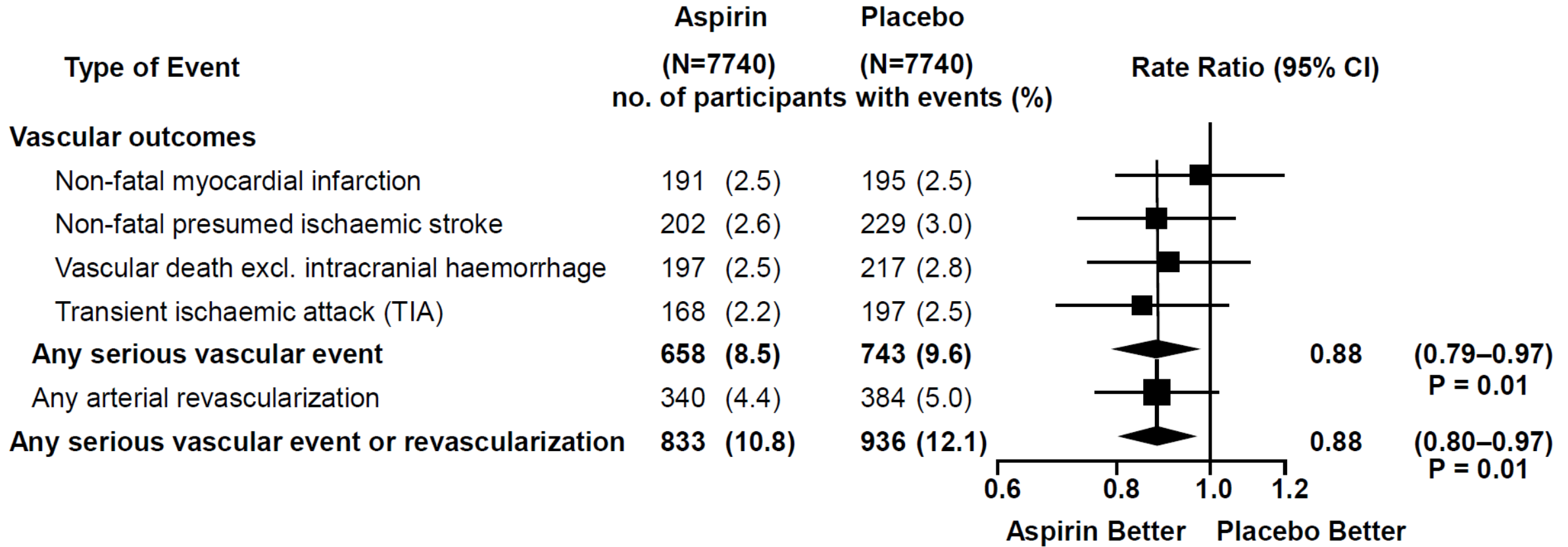
Baseline demographics (N=15,480)

Characteristic	Aspirin	Placebo
Age, years	63	63
Male	63%	63%
Type 2 diabetes	94%	94%
Diabetes duration, median years	7	7
Hypertension	62%	62%
Statin use	76%	75%
Body Mass Index, kg/m ²	31	31
Glycated haemoglobin, mmol/mol	55 (7.2%)	55 (7.2%)

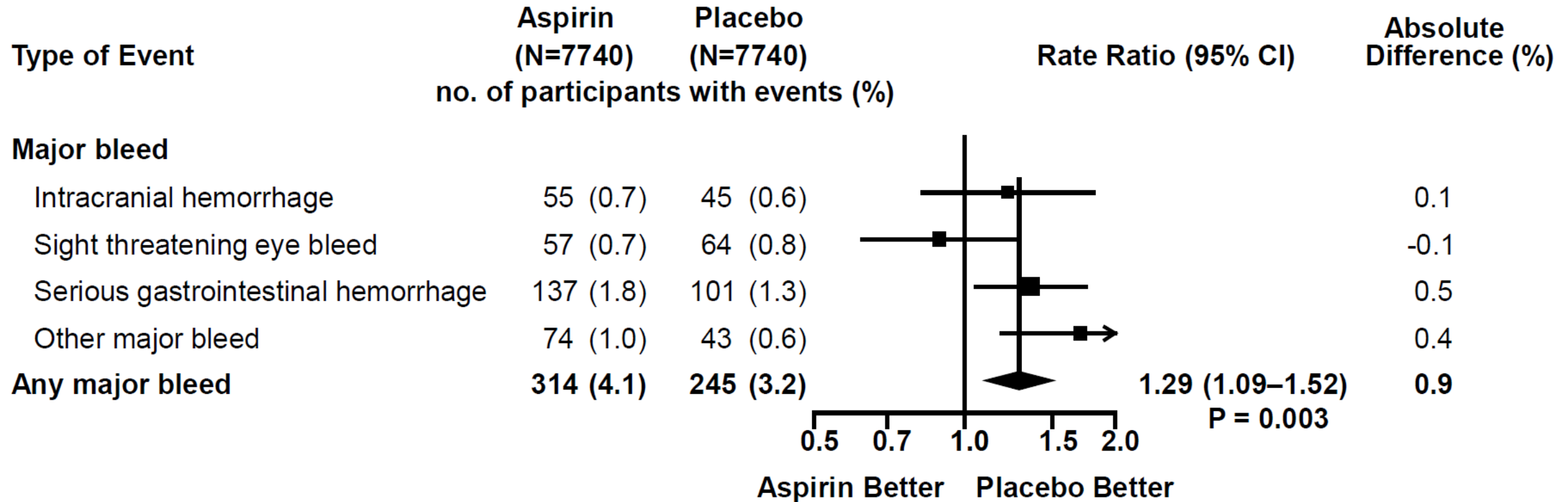
Effect of aspirin on Serious Vascular Events



Components of the primary efficacy outcome plus revascularization

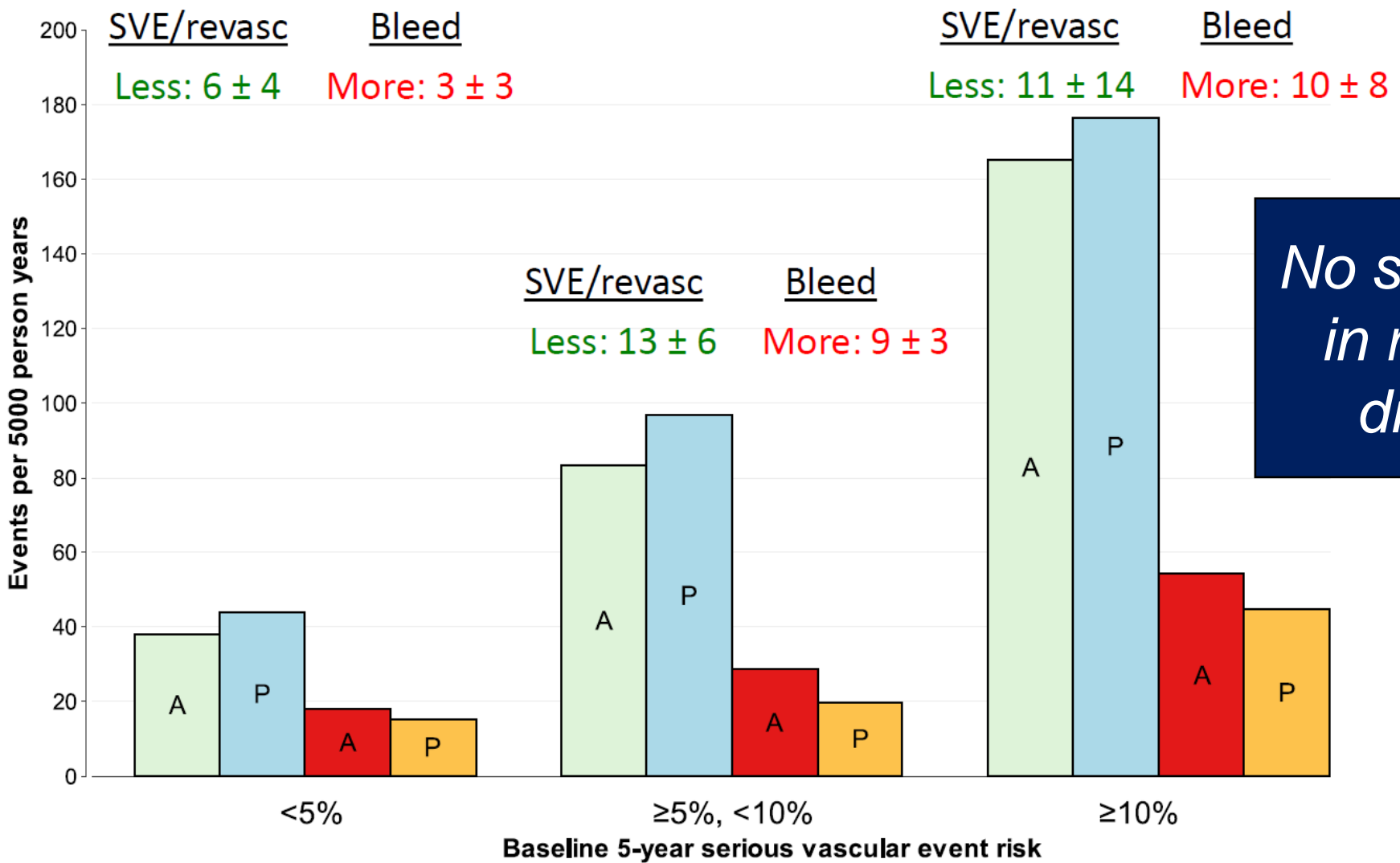


Effect of aspirin on major bleed



ASCEND study: *Risk benefit ratio*

Primary prevention in DM



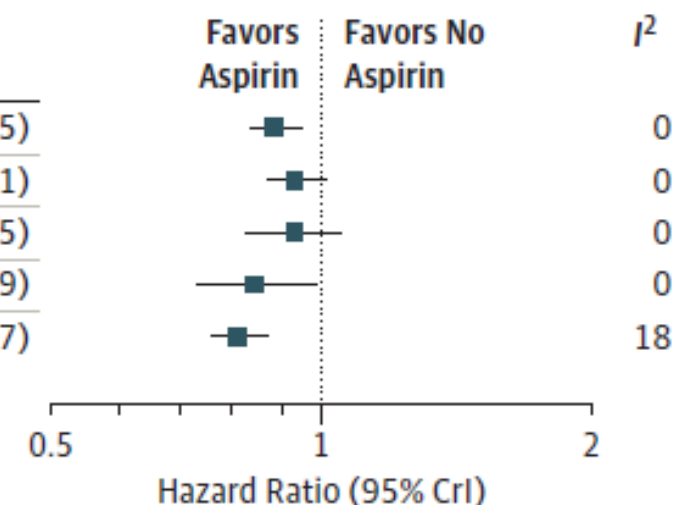
No significant difference in risk-benefit ratio in different subgroup

Meta-analysis in 2019

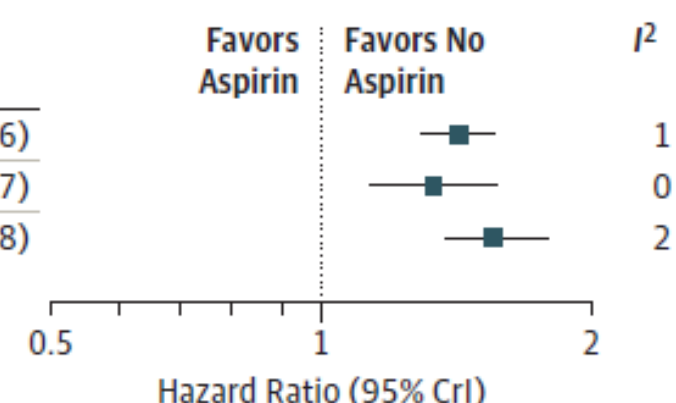
13 trials randomizing 164,225 participants with 1,050,511 participant-years of follow-up

Figure 1. Cardiovascular and Bleeding Outcomes in all Participants

Cardiovascular Outcomes	No. of Studies	Aspirin		No Aspirin		Absolute Risk Reduction, % (95% CI)	HR (95% CrI)	Favors Aspirin	Favors No Aspirin	I ²
		No. of Events	No. of Participants	No. of Events	No. of Participants					
Composite CV outcome	11	2911	79717	3072	78147	0.38 (0.20 to 0.55)	0.89 (0.84-0.95)	■		0
All-cause mortality	13	3622	81623	3588	80057	0.13 (-0.07 to 0.32)	0.94 (0.88-1.01)	■		0
CV mortality	13	995	81623	997	80057	0.07 (-0.04 to 0.17)	0.94 (0.83-1.05)	■		0
Myocardial infarction	13	1469	81623	1599	80057	0.28 (0.05 to 0.47)	0.85 (0.73-0.99)	■		0
Ischemic stroke	10	831	65316	942	63752	0.16 (0.06 to 0.30)	0.81 (0.76-0.87)	■		18



Bleeding Outcomes	No. of Studies	Aspirin		No Aspirin		Absolute Risk Increase, % (95% CI)	HR (95% CrI)	Favors Aspirin	Favors No Aspirin	I ²
		No. of Events	No. of Participants	No. of Events	No. of Participants					
Major bleeding	11	1195	74715	834	73143	0.47 (0.34 to 0.62)	1.43 (1.30-1.56)		■	1
Intracranial bleeding	12	349	80985	257	79419	0.11 (0.04 to 0.18)	1.34 (1.14-1.57)		■	0
Major GI bleeding	10	593	70336	380	70465	0.30 (0.20 to 0.41)	1.56 (1.38-1.78)		■	2

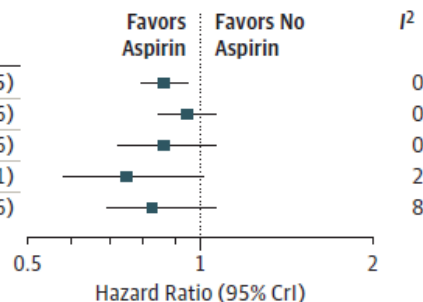


*Probably reduces CV event
Increases major bleeding*

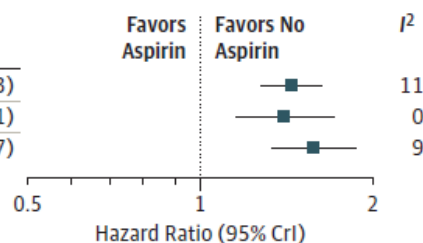
Meta-analysis in 2019

A Participants with low CV risk

Cardiovascular Outcomes	No. of Studies	Aspirin		No Aspirin		Absolute Risk Reduction, % (95% CI)	HR (95% CrI)
		No. of Events	No. of Participants	No. of Events	No. of Participants		
Composite CV outcome	6	1559	56212	1753	56354	0.34 (0.14 to 0.52)	0.87 (0.79-0.95)
All-cause mortality	6	1903	56212	1905	56354	0.01 (-0.27 to 0.27)	0.95 (0.85-1.06)
CV mortality	6	405	56212	448	56354	0.07 (-0.03 to 0.16)	0.87 (0.72-1.06)
Myocardial infarction	6	649	56212	793	56354	0.27 (0.00 to 0.49)	0.75 (0.58-1.01)
Ischemic stroke	5	508	49942	593	50078	0.16 (0.02 to 0.29)	0.83 (0.69-1.06)



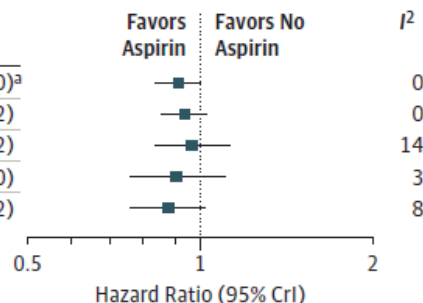
Bleeding Outcomes	No. of Studies	Aspirin		No Aspirin		Absolute Risk Increase, % (95% CI)	HR (95% CrI)
		No. of Events	No. of Participants	No. of Events	No. of Participants		
Major bleeding	5	665	49942	465	50078	0.40 (0.25 to 0.57)	1.45 (1.28-1.63)
Intracranial bleeding	6	245	56212	175	56354	0.13 (0.05 to 0.22)	1.41 (1.16-1.71)
Major GI bleeding	5	359	48992	228	49110	0.27 (0.15 to 0.40)	1.58 (1.34-1.87)



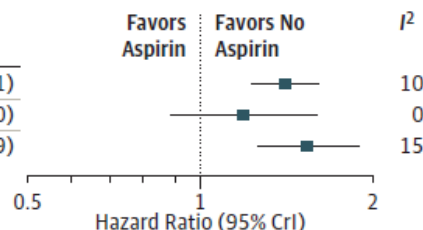
Similar outcome across low OR high CV risk

B Participants with high CV risk

Cardiovascular Outcomes	No. of Studies	Aspirin		No Aspirin		Absolute Risk Reduction, % (95% CI)	HR (95% CrI)
		No. of Events	No. of Participants	No. of Events	No. of Participants		
Composite CV outcome ^c	6	1352	23505	1319	21793	0.51 (0.06 to 0.93)	0.92 (0.84-1.00) ^a
All-cause mortality	7	1719	25411	1683	23703	0.43 (-0.02 to 0.84)	0.94 (0.86-1.02)
CV mortality	7	590	25411	549	23703	0.04 (-0.27 to 0.32)	0.97 (0.84-1.12)
Myocardial infarction ^c	8	820	25411	806	23703	0.32 (-0.16 to 0.74)	0.91 (0.76-1.10)
Ischemic stroke ^c	6	323	15374	350	13674	0.28 (-0.12 to 0.63)	0.88 (0.76-1.02)



Bleeding Outcomes	No. of Studies	Aspirin		No Aspirin		Absolute Risk Increase, % (95% CI)	HR (95% CrI)
		No. of Events	No. of Participants	No. of Events	No. of Participants		
Major bleeding	6	530	24773	369	23065	0.64 (0.35 to 0.97)	1.41 (1.23-1.61)
Intracranial bleeding	6	104	24773	82	23065	0.07 (-0.04 to 0.21)	1.19 (0.89-1.60)
Major GI bleeding	5	34	19452	30	19444	0.39 (0.16 to 0.69)	1.54 (1.26-1.89)

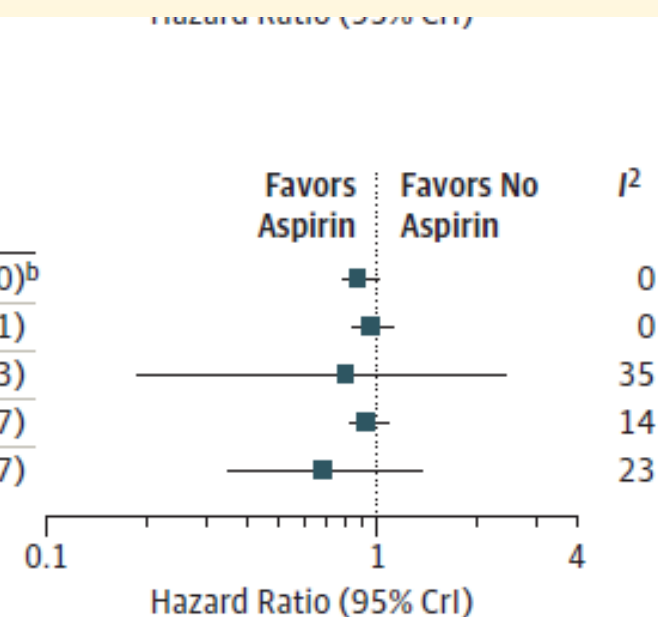


Increase risk of bleeding

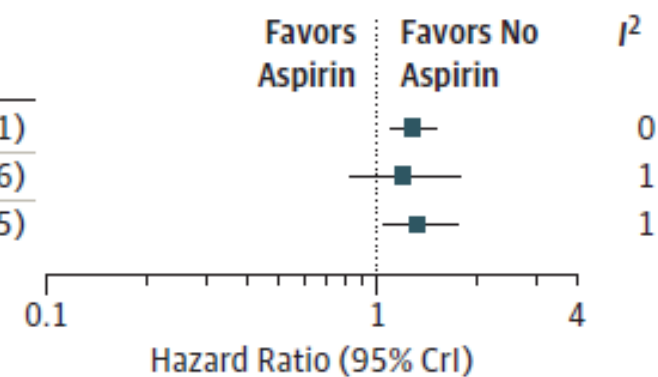
Meta-analysis in 2019

C Participants with diabetes

Cardiovascular Outcomes	No. of Studies	Aspirin		No Aspirin		Absolute Risk Reduction, % (95% CI)	HR (95% CrI)
		No. of Events	No. of Participants	No. of Events	No. of Participants		
Composite CV outcome	7	850	14278	940	14260	0.65 (0.10 to 1.16)	0.89 (0.80-1.00) ^b
All-cause mortality	5	1028	11938	1055	11946	0.24 (-0.49 to 0.91)	0.97 (0.85-1.11)
CV mortality	4	264	10159	279	10167	0.05 (-1.27 to 0.94)	0.82 (0.19-2.43)
Myocardial infarction	8	472	11788	490	11700	0.26 (-0.47 to 0.88)	0.94 (0.83-1.07)
Ischemic stroke	3	275	9535	317	9511	0.83 (-0.50 to 1.70)	0.70 (0.36-1.37)



Bleeding Outcomes	No. of Studies	Aspirin		No Aspirin		Absolute Risk Increase, % (95% CI)	HR (95% CrI)
		No. of Events	No. of Participants	No. of Events	No. of Participants		
Major bleeding	3	370	10029	287	10047	0.80 (0.29 to 1.39)	1.29 (1.11-1.51)
Intracranial bleeding	2	63	9002	52	9017	0.12 (-0.09 to 0.43)	1.21 (0.84-1.76)
Major GI bleeding	2	142	9002	105	9017	0.41 (0.06 to 0.86)	1.35 (1.05-1.75)



Meta-analysis in 2019

13 trials; 134,446 participants

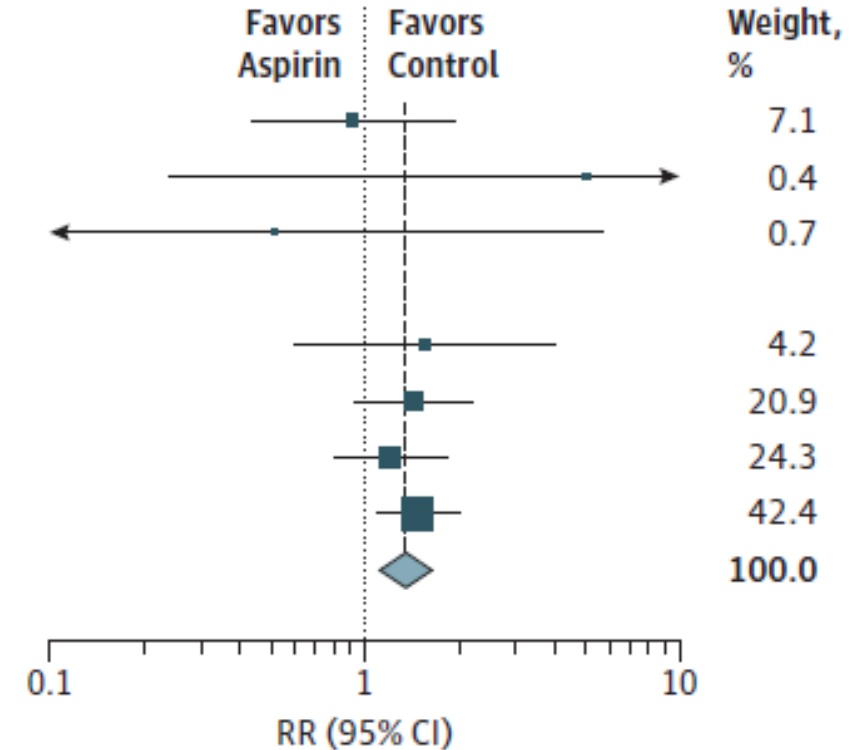
Intracranial hemorrhage

A Any intracranial hemorrhage

Study or Subgroup	Aspirin		Placebo		RR (95% CI)
	No. of Events	No. of Patients	No. of Events	No. of Patients	
Hansson et al (HOT), ³² 1998	14	9399	15	9391	0.93 (0.45-1.93)
de Gaetano (PPP), ²⁹ 2001	2	2226	0	2269	5.10 (0.24-106.10)
Landolfi et al (ECLAP), ³⁴ 2004	1	253	2	265	0.52 (0.05-5.74)
Erkan et al (APLASA), ³⁰ 2007	0	48	0	50	Not estimable
Fowkes et al (AAA), ³¹ 2010	11	1675	7	1675	1.57 (0.61-4.04)
Ikeda et al (JPPP), ³³ 2014	52	7220	36	7244	1.45 (0.95-2.21)
Bowman et al (ASCEND), ¹⁴ 2018	55	7740	45	7740	1.22 (0.83-1.81)
McNeil et al (ASPREE), ¹⁵ 2018	107	9525	72	9589	1.50 (1.11-2.01)
Total (95% CI)		38086		38223	1.37 (1.13-1.66)
Total events	242		177		

Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2_{df=6} = 3.22$; $P = .78$; $I^2 = 0\%$

Overall effect: $z = 3.17$; $P = .002$



Increases risk of ICH

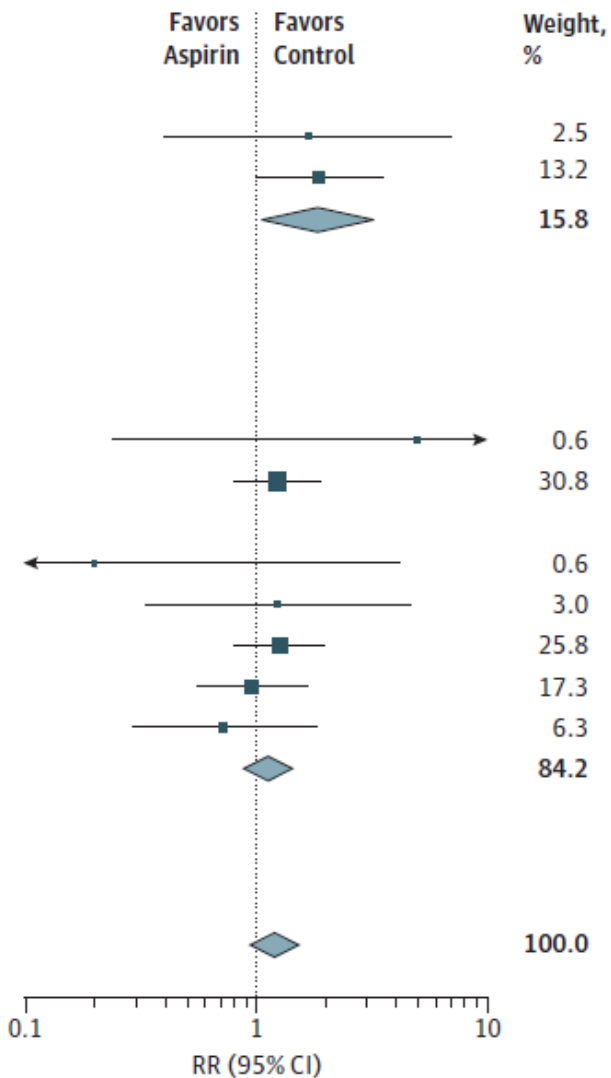
Meta-analysis in 2019

A Asian and non-Asian patients

Study or Subgroup	Aspirin		Placebo		RR (95% CI)
	No. of Events	No. of Patients	No. of Events	No. of Patients	
Asian Patients					
Ogawa et al (JPAD), ³⁵ 2008	5	1262	3	1277	1.69 (0.40-7.04)
Ikedo et al (JPPP), ³³ 2014	28	7220	15	7244	1.87 (1.00-3.50)
Subtotal (95% CI)		8482		8521	1.84 (1.04-3.27)
Total events	33		18		
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2_1 = 0.02$; $P = .90$; $I^2 = 0\%$					
Overall effect: $z = 2.09$; $P = .04$					

Non-Asian Patients					
Thrombosis Prevention Trial, ²⁵ 1998	2	1268	0	1272	5.02 (0.24-104.37)
Ridker et al (WHS), ³⁷ 2005	51	19934	41	19942	1.24 (0.83-1.88)
Erkan et al (APLASA), ³⁰ 2007	0	48	0	45	Not estimable
Belch et al (POPADAD), ²⁶ 2008	0	318	2	318	0.20 (0.01-4.15)
Fowkes et al (AAA), ³¹ 2010	5	1675	4	1675	1.25 (0.34-4.65)
McNeil et al (ASPREE), ¹⁵ 2018	43	9525	34	9589	1.27 (0.81-1.99)
Bowman et al (ASCEND), ¹⁵ 2018	25	7740	26	7740	0.96 (0.56-1.66)
Gaziano et al (ARRIVE), ¹³ 2018	8	6270	11	6276	0.73 (0.29-1.81)
Subtotal (95% CI)		46778		46857	1.14 (0.89-1.46)
Total events	134		118		
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2_6 = 3.91$; $P = .69$; $I^2 = 0\%$					
Overall effect: $z = 1.03$; $P = .30$					

Total (95% CI)		55260		55378	1.23 (0.98-1.54)
Total events	167		136		
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.00$; $\chi^2_8 = 6.20$; $P = .62$; $I^2 = 0\%$					
Overall effect: $z = 1.77$; $P = .08$					
Subgroup differences: $\chi^2_1 = 2.27$; $P = .13$; $I^2 = 56.0\%$					



Intracranial hemorrhage

Asians at higher risk

Stable atherosclerosis ('1.5 prevention')

Mild CAD on CTA
Mild CAD on CORO
Stable angina

Carotid IMT, mild carotid stenosis
Mild peripheral vascular disease (PVD)

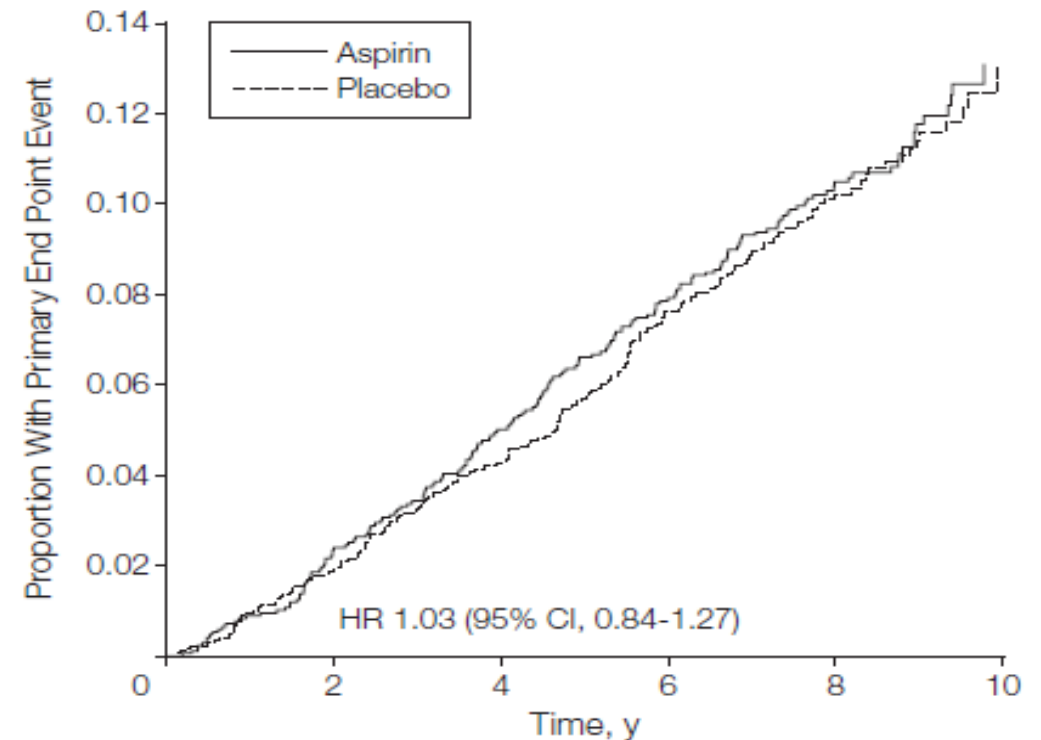
Aspirin for asymptomatic atherosclerosis study

N=3,350, age 50-75

No history of MI or stroke or taking
Aspirin

ABI \leq 0.95

(PVD, asymptomatic atherosclerosis)



Stable atherosclerosis ('1.5 prevention')

THEMIS

Design and main eligibility criteria

Type 2 diabetes; men and women ≥ 50 years
 ≥ 6 months glucose lowering drug treatment
At high risk for CV events*
No previous MI or stroke
No planned use of ADP receptor antagonist
or planned revascularisation

Low-dose ASA background
therapy based on individual risk

* At high risk of CV events
defined as history of PCI or
CABG or angiographic
evidence of $\geq 50\%$ lumen
stenosis of at least 1
coronary artery

Ticagrelor

Placebo

Event driven study; 1034 CV events required. 2 years mean follow-up. (n=19 000)

Primary endpoint : Composite of CV death, MI or stroke

Secondary endpoint: Composite of all-cause death, MI or stroke; CV death; All-cause death

Primary safety: TIMI Major bleeding

Stable atherosclerosis ('1.5 prevention')

News > Medscape Medical News

THEMIS Top-Line Results: Ticagrelor Cuts CV Event Risk in Diabetics With Coronary Disease

N=19,271

DM patients

No MI/stroke

Documented CAD

Details pending

Post PCI vs CABG vs just
atherosclerosis

**Aspirin + Ticagrelor
Vs
Aspirin**



Aspirin in prevention of CV event

Practical considerations



Acute phase of event
Eg MI, stroke

Post event
Eg post MI, PCI,
CABG

Aspirin indicated



Stable atherosclerosis

Aspirin if no C/I or low risk of bleeding
(also depends on extent of atherosclerosis)



High CV risk, DM

Need to discuss with patients benefit and risk of Aspirin

In the contemporary practice of alternative treatment

*Eg Statins, PCSK9
SGLT-2 inh, GLP-1 for DM*

Benefit: probably reduces chance of MI

Risk: risk of bleeding (particularly GIB)



Queen Mary Hospital



Hong Kong College of Cardiology ASM 2019

Thank you

Dr Tam Frankie CC 譚礎璋醫生

Division of Cardiology, Medicine

Queen Mary Hospital, University of Hong Kong

Source	Aspirin Dose, mg	Comparator	Trial Design	Study Population	Country	Study Period	Total Randomized	Male Participants, No. (%)	Age at Entry, Mean (SD), y	Diabetes, No. (%)	Current Smokers	Hypertension	SBP, Mean (SD), mm Hg	Total Cholesterol, Mean (SD), mmol/L	BMI	10-y Risk of Primary Outcome, % (95% CI) ^a	Overall Risk of Bias
British Doctors Study, ¹⁹ 1988	500 or 300 daily	No aspirin	Randomized, open-label, end point blind	Male physicians	United Kingdom	1978-1984	5139	5139 (100)	61 (7)	101 (2)	661 (13)	508 (10)	136 (17)	NR	24.4 (2.5)	13.9 (11.7-16.4)	High
Physicians' Health Study, ²⁰ 1989	325 alternate day	Placebo	Randomized, double-blind	Male physicians aged 40-84 y	United States	1982-1988	22 071	22 071 (100)	53 (10)	533 (2)	2438 (11)	5297 (24)	126 (12)	5.5 (1.2)	24.9 (3.0)	6.7 (6.0-7.4)	Low
Hypertension Optimal Treatment, ²⁰ 1998	75 daily	Placebo	Randomized, double-blind; factorial design with hypertension treatment targets	Individuals with hypertension aged 50-80 y	26 Countries across Europe, North and South America, and Asia	1992-1997	18 790	9959 (53)	61 (7)	1503 (8)	2988 (16)	18 790 (100)	170 (14)	6.0 (1.1)	28.4 (4.7)	10.7 (9.7-11.9)	Low
Thrombosis Prevention Trial, ²² 1998	75 daily	Placebo	Randomized, double-blind; factorial design with warfarin	Men aged 45-69 y in the top 20%-25% of CV risk score	United Kingdom	1984-1997	5085 ^c	5085 (100)	57 (7)	102 (2)	2100 (41)	814 (16)	139 (18)	6.4 (1.0)	27.4 (3.6)	15.9 (14.0-18.0)	Low
Primary Prevention Project, ²³ 2001	100 daily	No aspirin	Randomized, open-label, blind end point; factorial design with vitamin E	Individuals with ≥1 CV risk factor	Italy	1994-1998	4495	1912 (42)	64 (7.6)	742 (17)	667 (15)	3065 (68)	145.2 (16.0)	6.1 (1.2)	27.6 (4.7)	8.1 (6.2-10.3)	High
Women's Health Study, ²⁴ 2005	100 alternate day	Placebo	Randomized, double-blind; factorial design with vitamin E	Female health professionals ≥45 y	United States	1992-2004	39 876	0 (0)	54 (7.1)	1037 (3)	5224 (13)	10 328 (26)	NR	5.2 (1.0)	26.1 (5.2)	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	Low
Prevention of Arterial Disease and Diabetes (POPADAD), ²⁵ 2008	100 daily	Placebo	Randomized, double-blind; factorial design with antioxidant	Individuals with diabetes, ABPI ≤0.99, aged ≥40 y	United Kingdom	1997-2006	1276	563 (44)	60 (10)	1276 (100)	NR	NR	145 (21)	5.5 (NR)	29.2 (NR)	NA	Low
Japanese Primary Prevention of Atherosclerosis With Aspirin for Diabetes, ²⁸ 2008	81 or 100 daily	No aspirin	Randomized, open-label, blind end point	Individuals with diabetes aged 30-85 y	Japan	2002-2008	2539	1387 (55)	65 (10)	2539 (100)	537 (21)	1473 (58)	135 (15)	5.2 (0.9)	24 (4)	12.5 (9.8-15.9)	High

Source	Aspirin Dose, mg	Comparator	Trial Design	Study Population	Country	Study Period	Total Randomized	Male Participants, No. (%)	Age at Entry, Mean (SD), y	Diabetes, No. (%)	Current Smokers	Hypertension	SBP, Mean (SD), mm Hg	Total Cholesterol, Mean (SD), mmol/L	BMI	10-y Risk of Primary Outcome, % (95% CI) ^b	Overall Risk of Bias
Aspirin for Asymptomatic Atherosclerosis, ²⁷ 2010	100 daily	Placebo	Randomized, double-blind	Individuals aged 50-75 y with ABPI ≤ 0.95	United Kingdom	1998-2008	3350	954 (28)	62 (6.7)	88 (3)	1085 (32)	NR	147.5 (22)	6.2 (1.1)	NR	12.8 (11.0-14.8)	Low
Japanese Primary Prevention Project, ²⁶ 2014	100 daily	No aspirin	Randomized, open label, blind endpoint	Individuals aged 60-85y, with hypertension, dyslipidemia, or diabetes	Japan	2005-2012	14 464	6123 (42)	71 (6.2)	4903 (34)	1893 (13)	12 278 (85)	137.2 (15.7)	5.3 (0.8)	24.2 (3.5)	5.7 (4.9-6.5)	High
A Study of Cardiovascular Events in Diabetes (ASCEND), ⁵ 2018	100 daily	Placebo	Randomized, double-blind; factorial design with n-3 fatty acid	Individuals with diabetes aged ≥ 40 y	United Kingdom	2005-2017	15 480	9684 (63)	63 (9.2)	15 480 (100)	1279 (8)	9533 (62)	136.2 (15.3)	4.2 (0.9)	30.7 (6.3)	10.2 (9.4-11.1)	Low
Aspirin to Reduce Risk of Initial Vascular Events (ARRIVE), ⁶ 2018	100 daily	Placebo	Randomized, double-blind	Males with ≥ 2 and females with ≥ 3 CV risk factors. Aimed to recruit patients with 10-y CV risk of 10%-20%	Germany, Italy, Ireland, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom, and United States	2007-2016	12 546	8838 (70)	64 (7.1)	0 (0)	3594 (29)	7866 (63)	143.8 (90-199) ^d	NR	28.4 (4.3)	6.9 (6.1-7.9)	Low
Aspirin in Reducing Events in the Elderly (ASPREE), ^{13,18} 2018	100 daily	Placebo	Randomized, double-blind	Black or Hispanic individuals in the United States aged ≥ 65 y and other individuals aged ≥ 70 y	Australia and United States	2010-2014	19 114	8331 (44)	74 (NR) ^d	2057 (11)	735 (4)	14 283 (74)	139.2 (16.5)	5.3 (1.0)	28.1 (4.7)	8.3 (7.4-9.1)	Low

Abbreviations: ABPI, ankle-brachial pressure index; BMI, body mass index (calculated as weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared); CV, cardiovascular; NA, not applicable; NR, not reported in study publication; SBP, systolic blood pressure.

SI conversion factor: To convert cholesterol data to mg/dL, multiply by 0.0259.

^aData are presented as mean (SD) unless otherwise specified.

^b10-Year risk of the primary cardiovascular outcome was calculated by multiplying the annualized event rate for the primary cardiovascular outcome in the control group by 10 years.

^c5085 Participants were randomized in a 2x2 factorial design warfarin, aspirin, warfarin and aspirin, or placebo. 2545 Were randomized to warfarin and excluded from analysis.

^dData reported as median (range).

