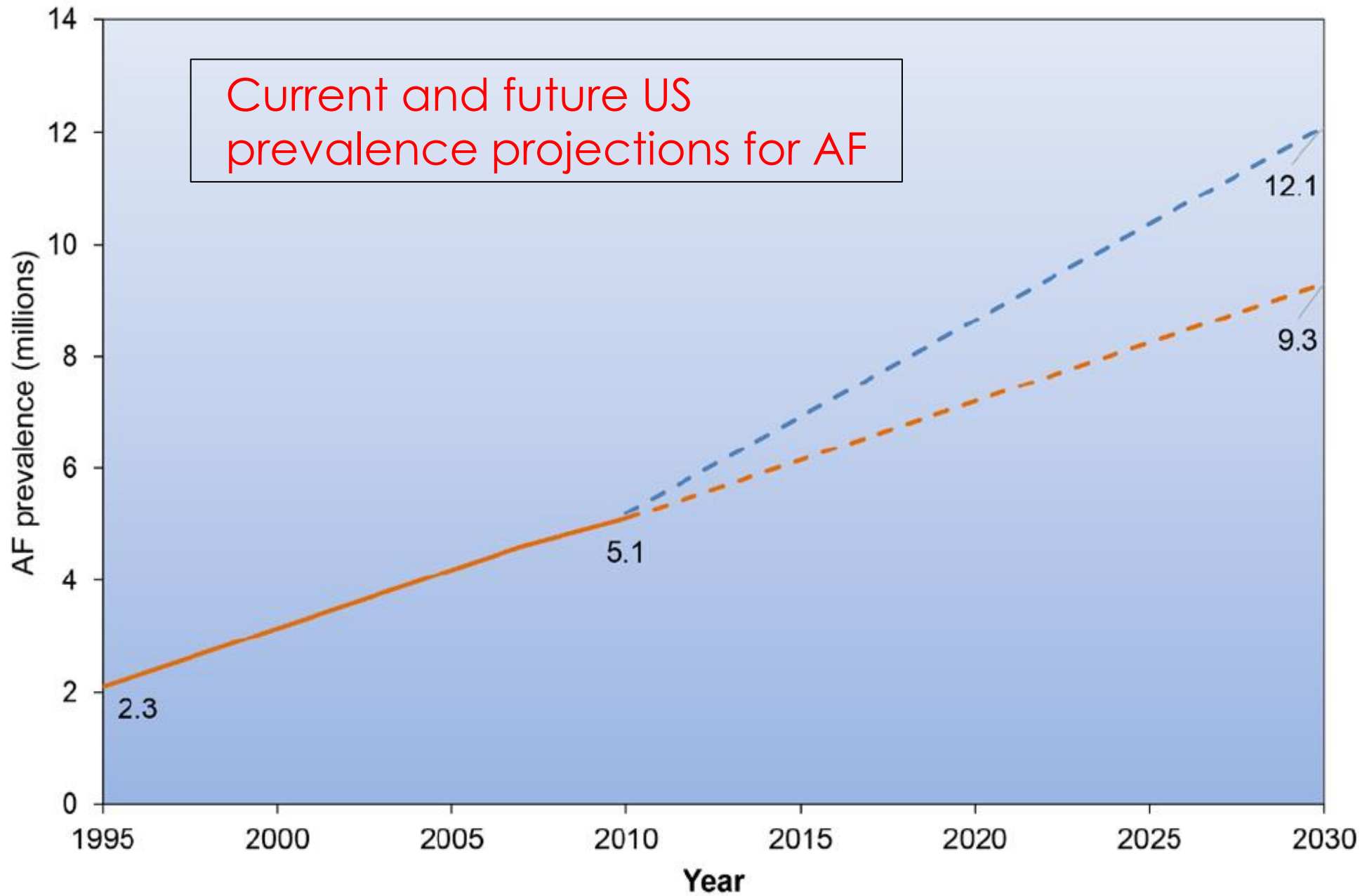


# MANAGING THE DIFFICULT COMORBIDITY OF ATRIAL FIBRILLATION AND HEART FAILURE

Hong Kong College of Cardiologist ASM 2019

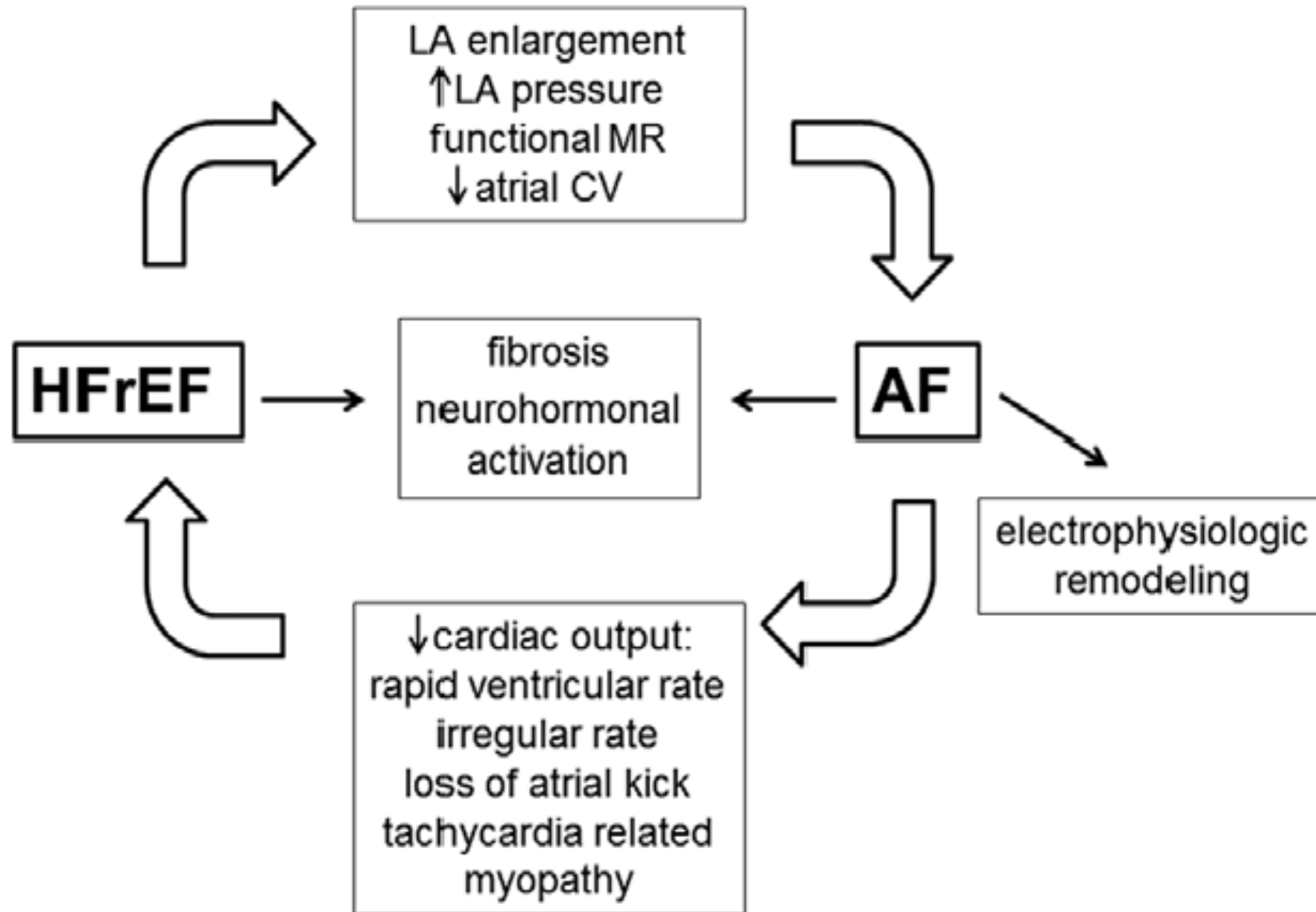
Steve WK Lai  
MBBS(HK), MSc, FHKAM, FRCP (Edin), FACC  
Consultant Cardiologist  
Union Hospital



# ATRIAL FIBRILLATION AND HEART FAILURE CHICKEN & EGG

- AF and HF share many fundamental predisposing risk factors
- Aging, Hypertension, Diabetes mellitus, Obesity, Coronary artery disease, Thyrotoxicosis
- Structural heart disease, Chronic lung disease
- Obstructive sleep apnea,
- Alcohol/Stimulant use

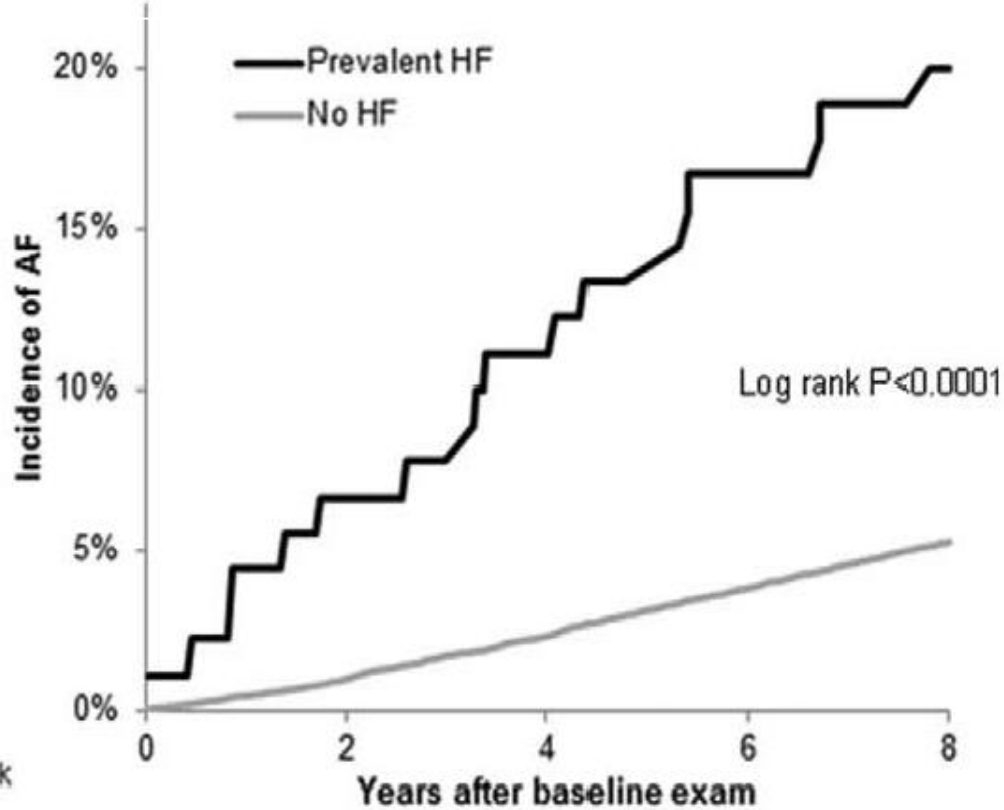




# AF BEGETS HEART FAILURE AND VICE VERSA

Cumulative incidence of AF

**A**

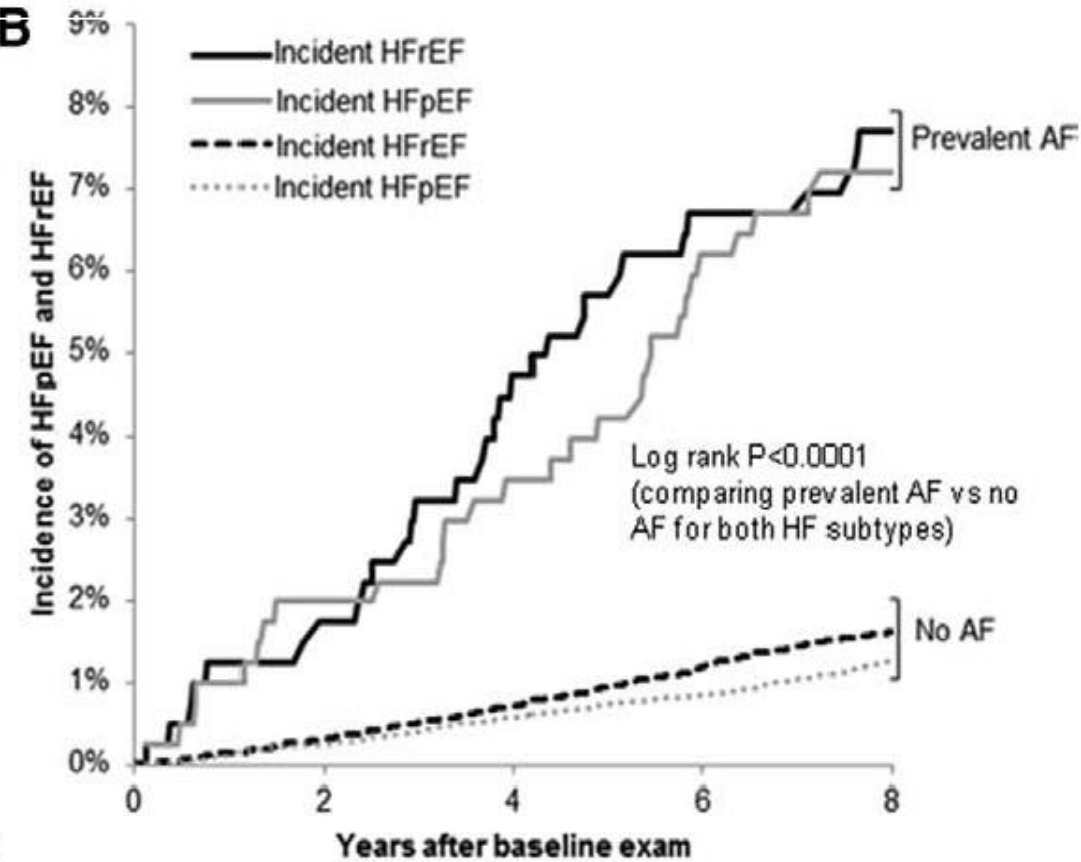


Number at Risk

Prevalent HF	90	64	51	34	25
No HF	14774	14395	13847	13237	12613

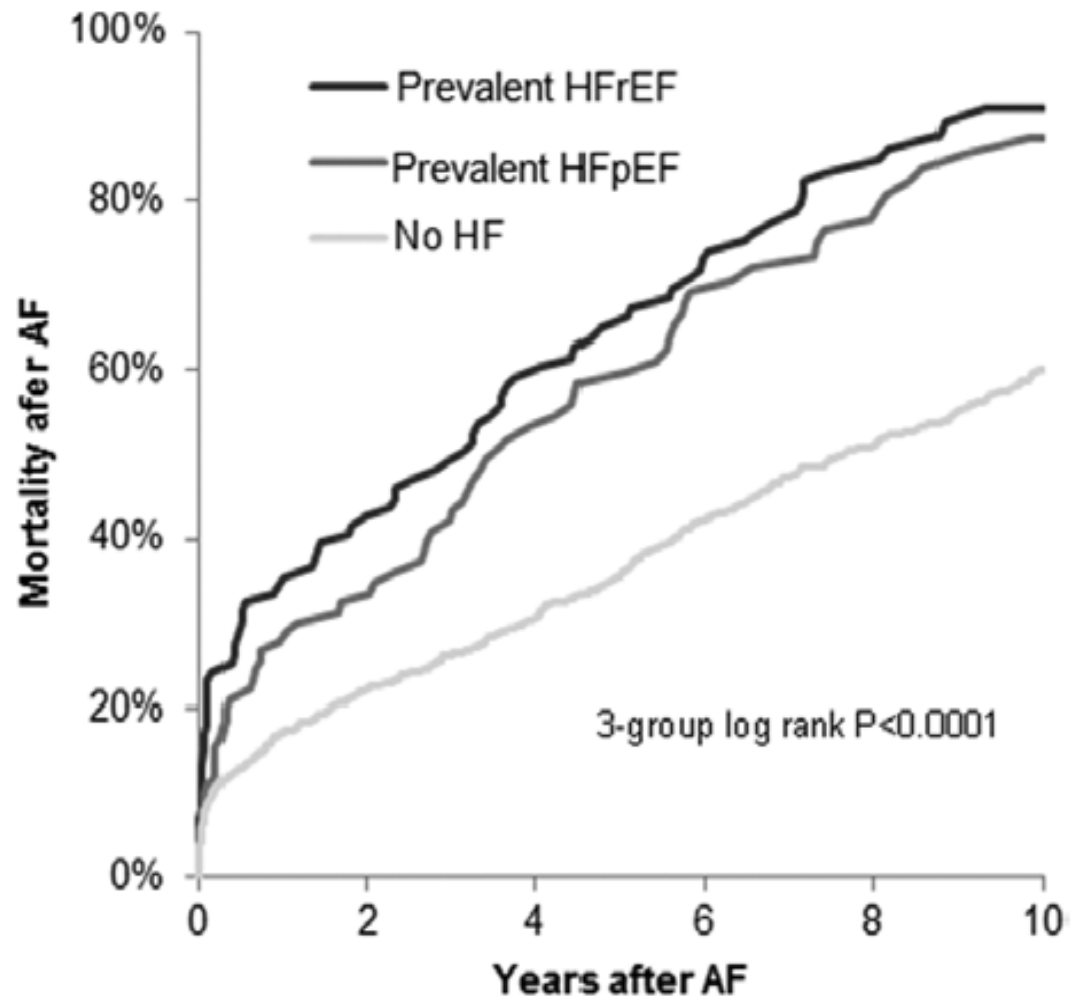
Cumulative incidence of HF

**B**



Number at Risk

Prevalent AF	403	354	293	247	209
No AF	14800	14478	14004	13477	12934



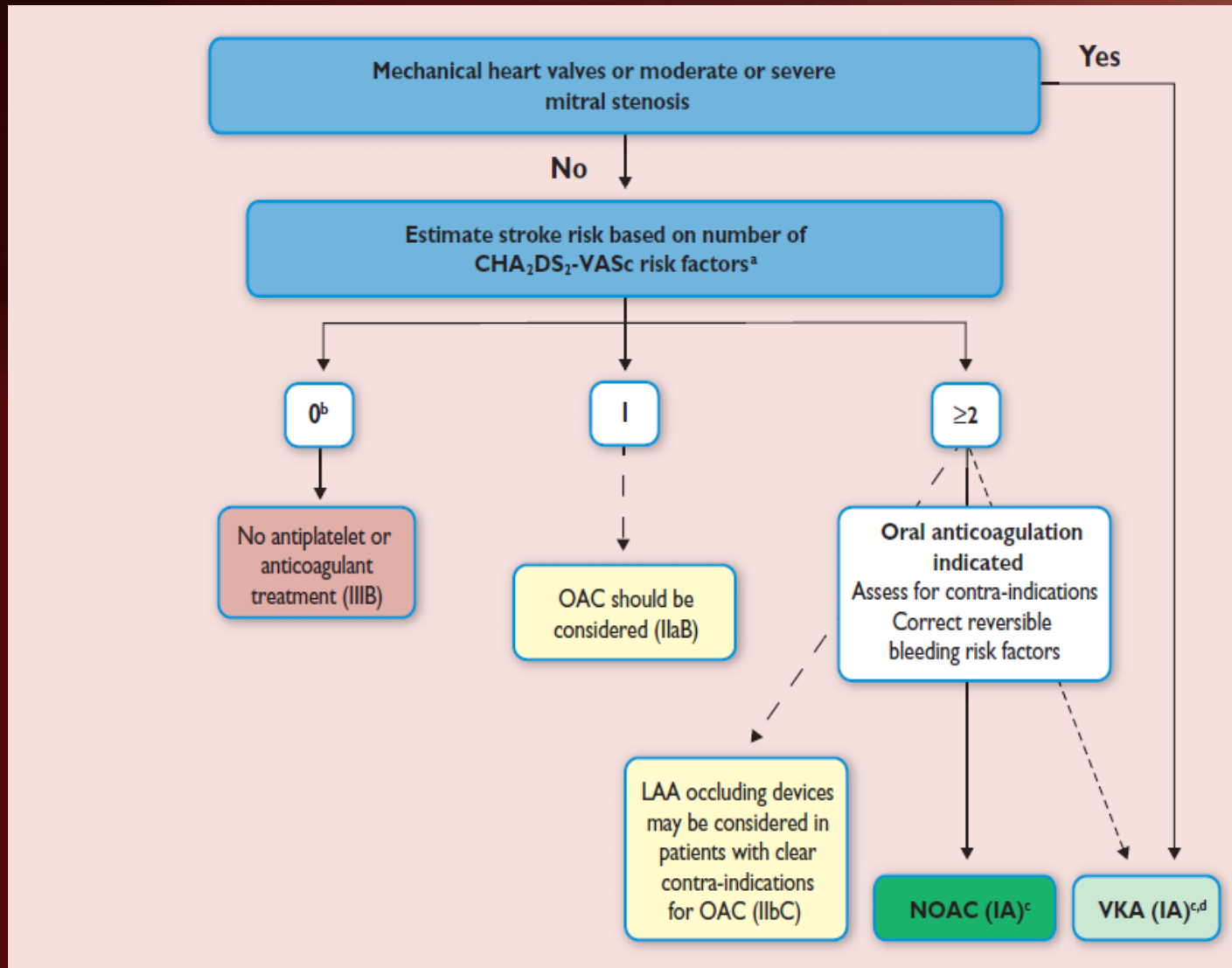
Number at Risk

Prevalent HFrEF	99	56	37	25	15	6
Prevalent HFpEF	91	58	37	24	16	4
No HF	977	715	590	444	346	254

# MANAGEMENT

- Stroke prevention
- Anti-heart failure Therapy
- Rate control
- Catheter Ablation

# 2016 ESC GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT OF AF



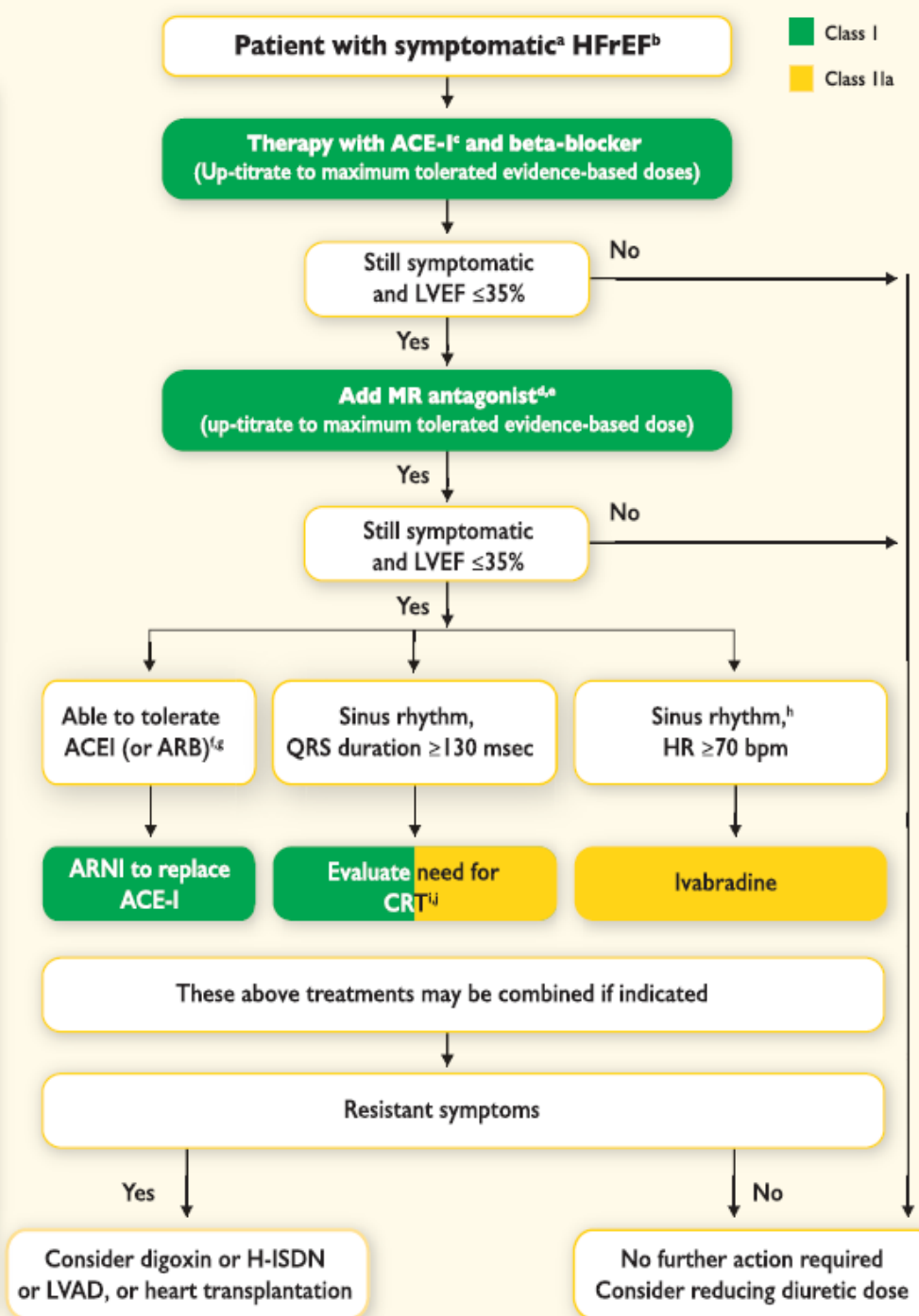


# Hazard Ratio of Stroke, TIA, or systemic embolism according to Left ventricular function and Heart Failure Severity (From ACTIVE Study)

Composite Stroke/TIA/ Systemic Embolism, per Year	Risk, N (% per 100 Person Years)			Permanent AF vs Nonpermanent AF		
	Overall (n=3484)	Nonpermanent AF (n=862)	Permanent AF (n=2622)	HR (95% CI)	<i>P</i> Value	<i>P</i> Value for Interaction
Overall	385 (4.5)	85 (3.8)	300 (4.7)	1.22 (0.96–1.56)	0.10	
HF-PEF	110 (4.3)	27 (3.0)	83 (5.0)	1.61 (1.04–2.49)	<u>0.03</u>	0.047
HF-REF	115 (4.4)	31 (4.8)	84 (4.2)	0.88 (0.58–1.33)	0.54	
LV dysfunction						
None	82 (4.2)	21 (3.0)	61 (4.9)	1.64 (1.00–2.70)	0.05	
Mild	58 (4.2)	14 (3.9)	44 (4.4)	1.13 (0.62–2.06)	0.70	0.13
Moderate	57 (4.6)	13 (4.0)	44 (4.8)	1.19 (0.64–2.21)	0.58	
Severe	27(4.4)	9 (7.0)	18 (3.7)	0.52 (0.23–1.16)	0.11	
NYHA Class						
I	84 (4.8)	23 (3.9)	62 (5.3)	1.33 (0.83–2.16)	0.24	
II	235 (4.5)	51 (3.8)	184 (4.7)	1.24 (0.91–1.69)	0.18	0.91
III or IV	66 (4.0)	11 (3.6)	55 (4.1)	1.14 (0.60–2.17)	0.70	

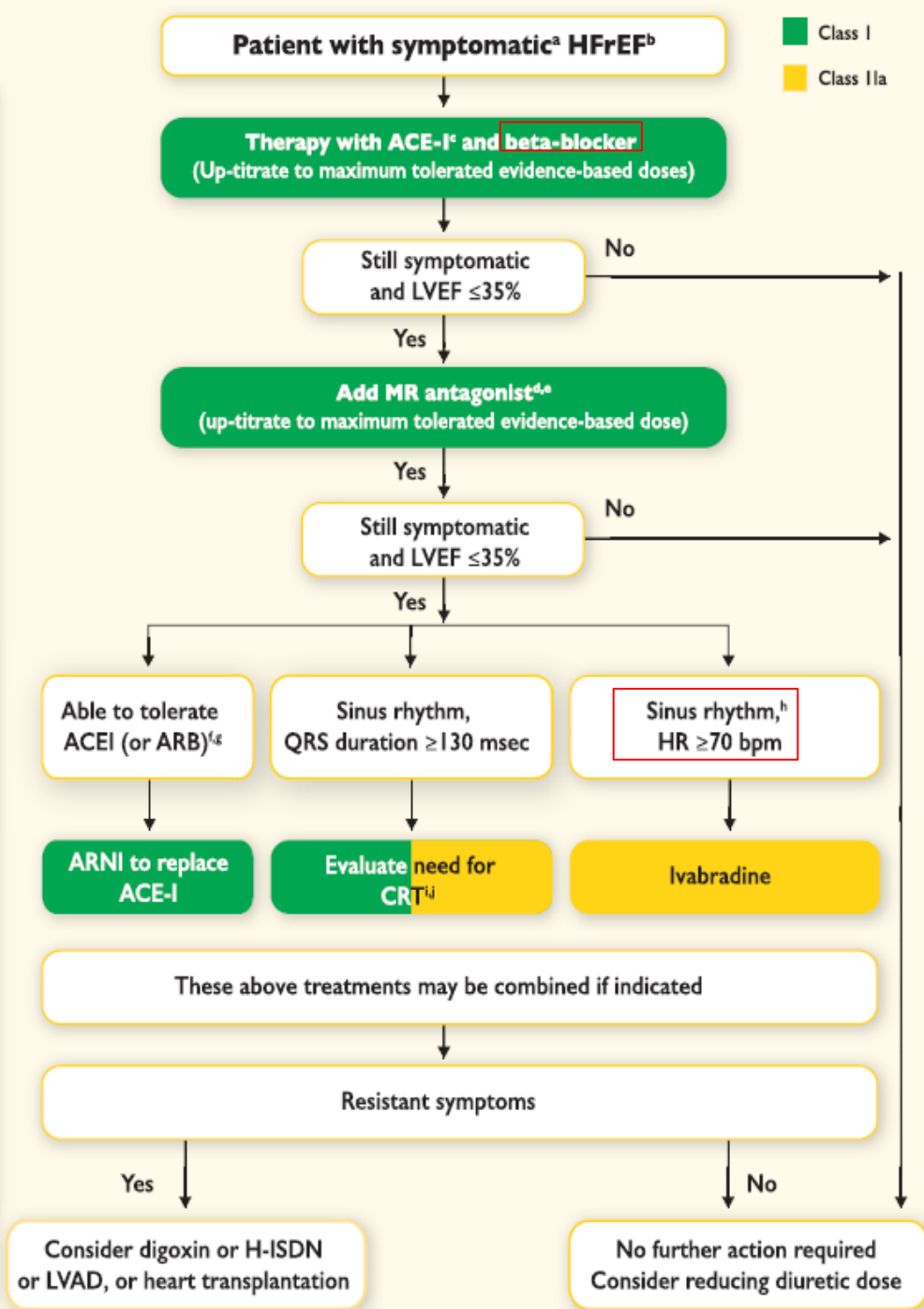
Diuretics to relieve symptoms and signs of congestion

If LVEF  $\leq 35\%$  despite OMT or a history of symptomatic VT/VF, implant ICD

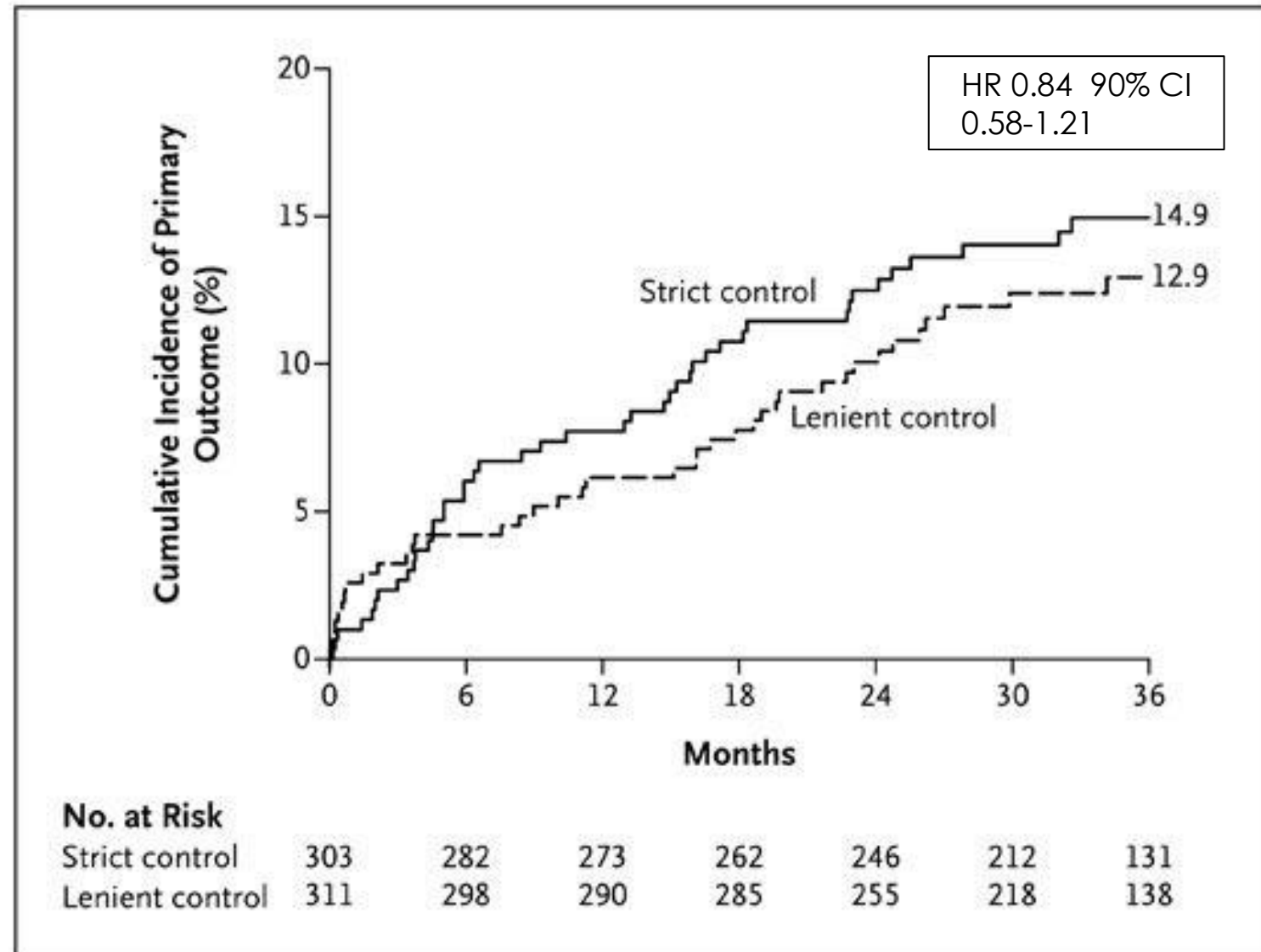


Diuretics to relieve symptoms and signs of congestion

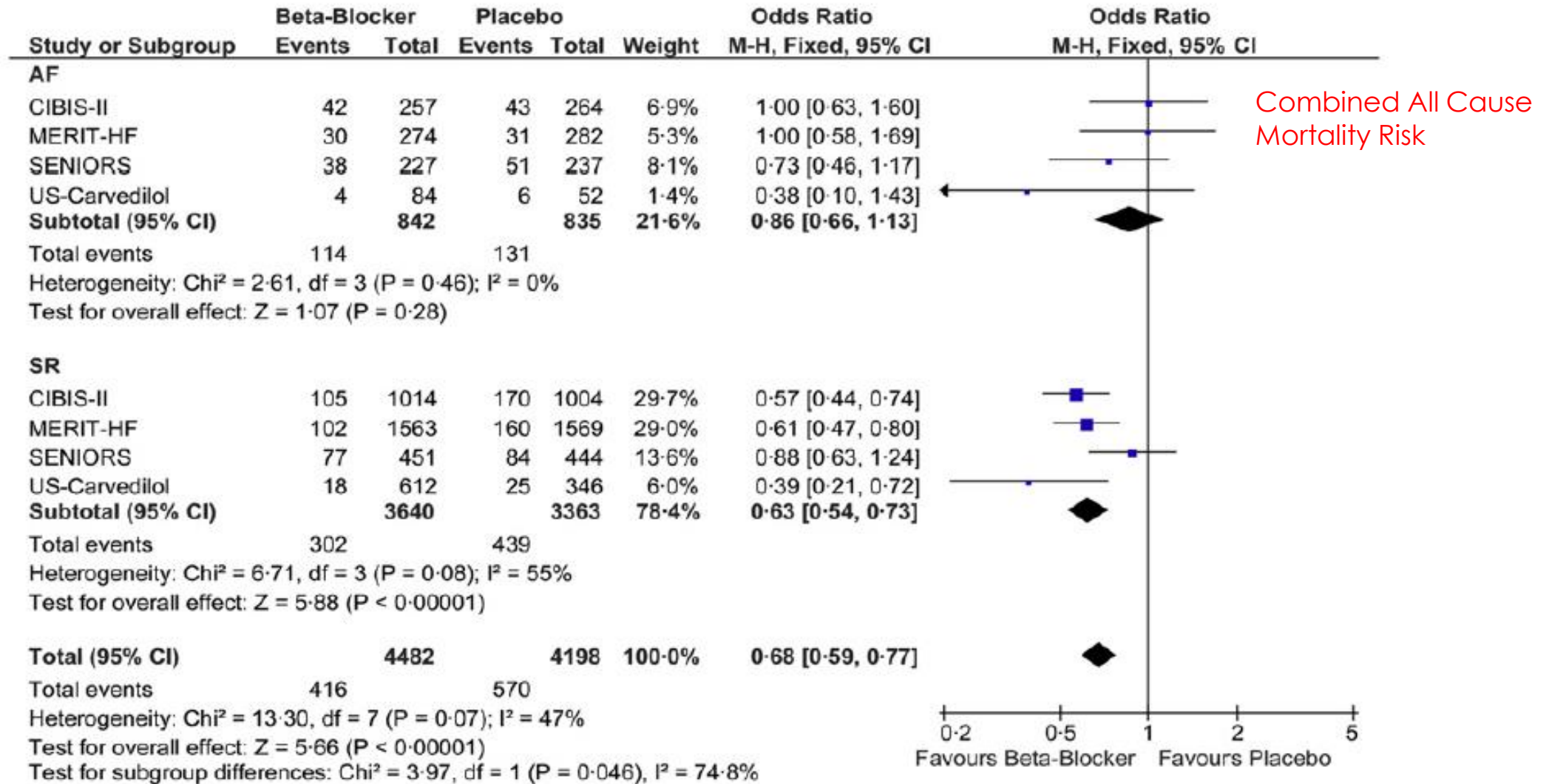
If LVEF  $\leq 35\%$  despite OMT or a history of symptomatic VT/VF, implant ICD



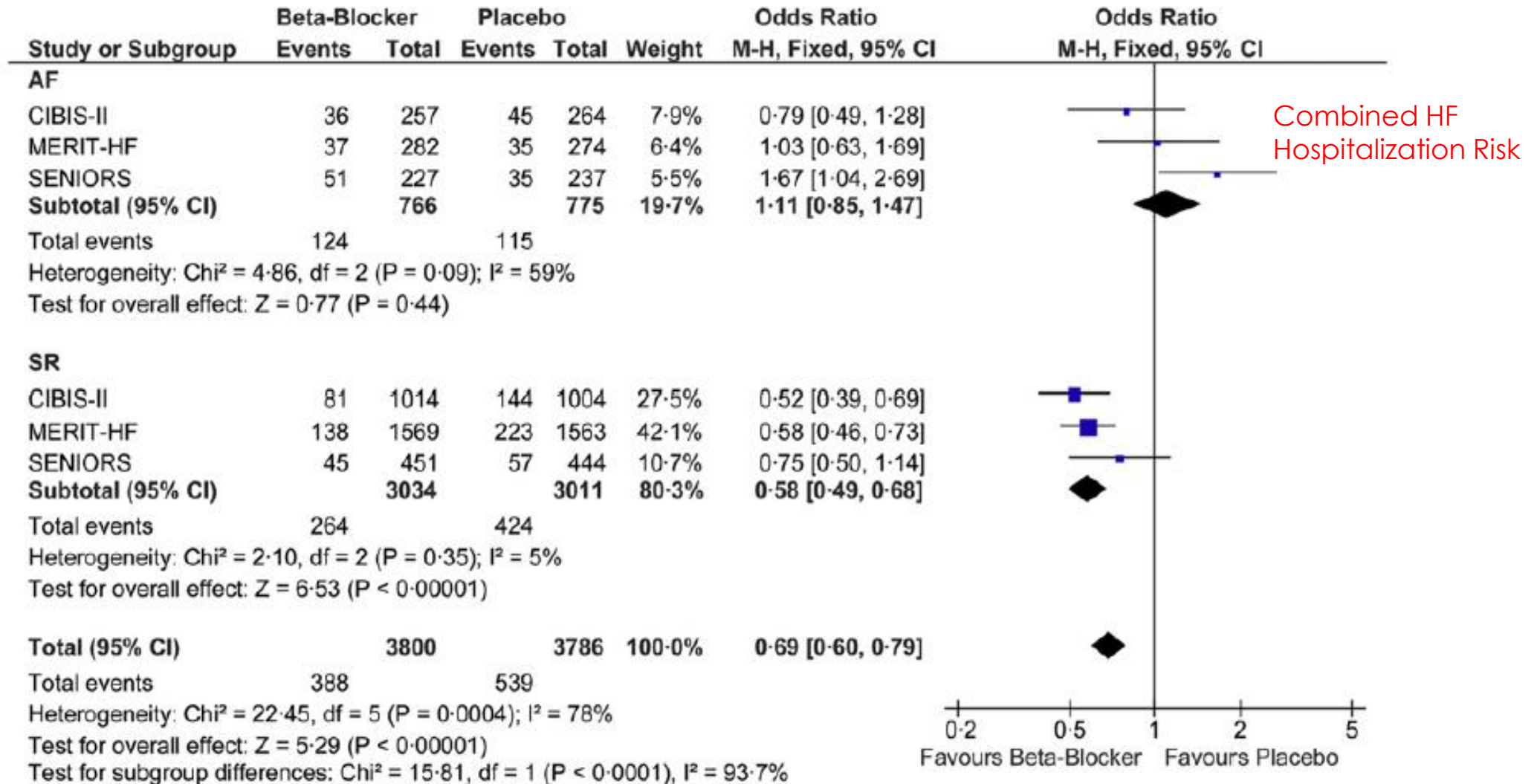
# RACE II STUDY



# META ANALYSIS: EFFECT OF BETA-BLOCKER IN PATIENTS IN SR VS AF



# META ANALYSIS: EFFECT OF BETA-BLOCKER IN PATIENTS IN SR VS AF

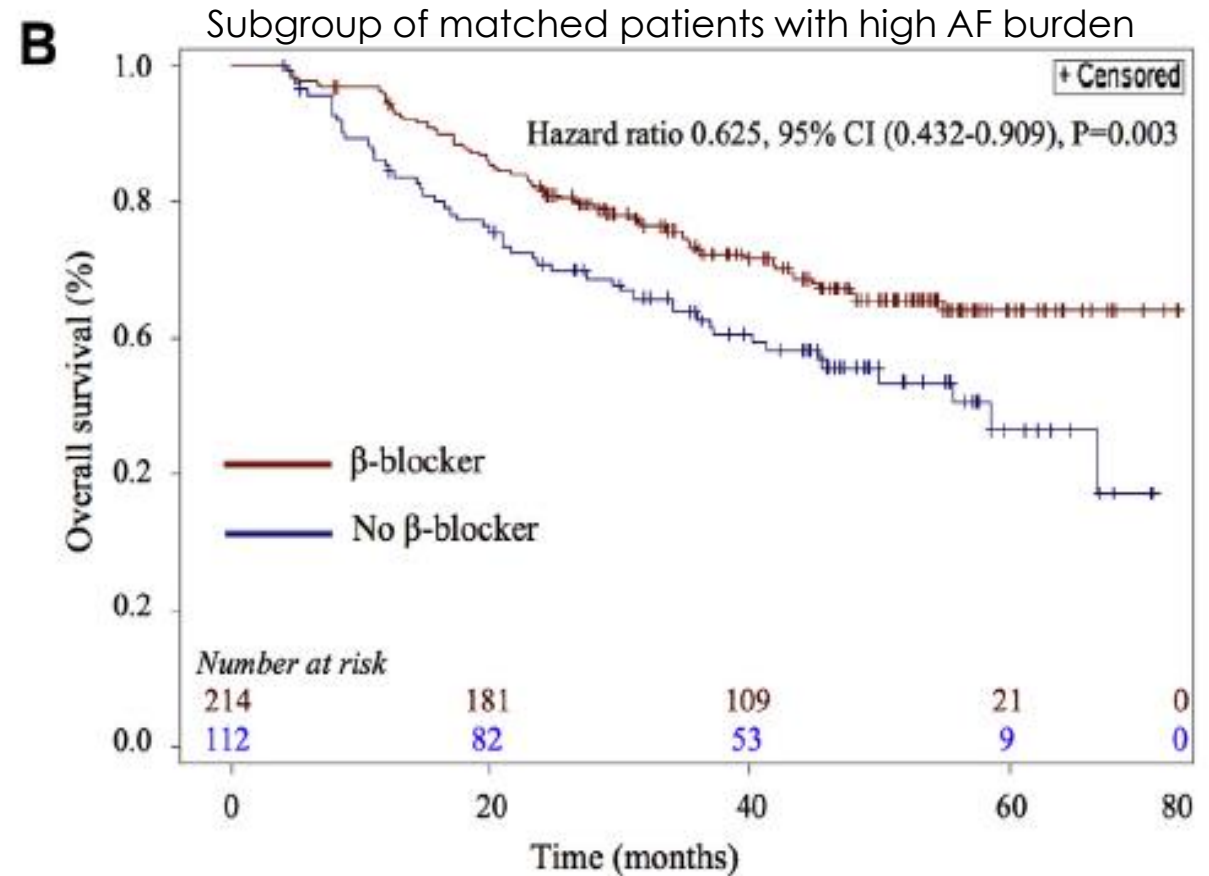
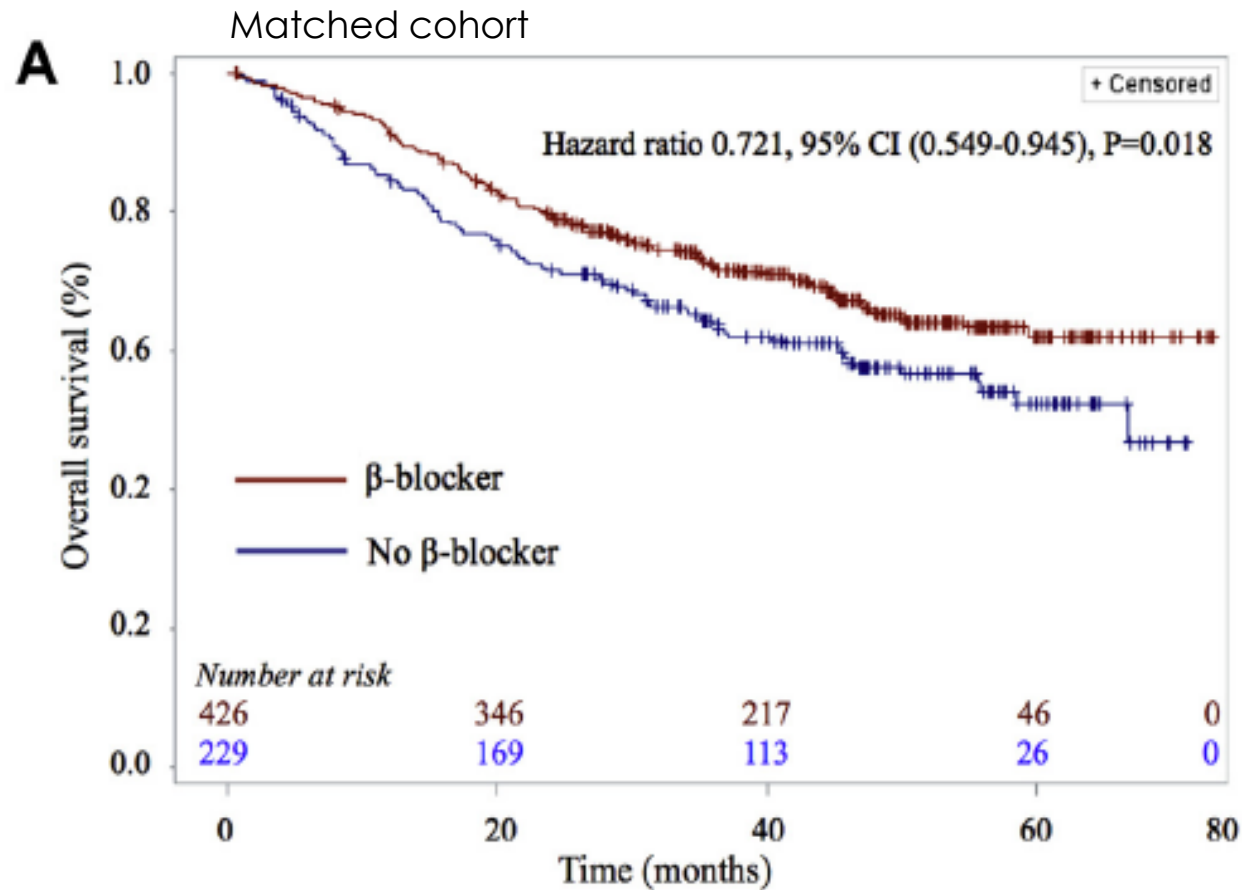


# SWEDISH HEART FAILURE REGISTRY

	No. of Deaths/Patients (% Per Person-Year)	Univariable Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P Value	Multivariable Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P Value
$\beta$ -Blocker use in sinus rhythm					
HR strata, beats per min			<0.001	All cause mortality	<0.001
≤60	670/2565 (7.7%)	Reference	—	Reference	—
61–70	1022/3063 (10.9%)	1.41 (1.27–1.55)	<0.001	1.29 (1.17–1.42)	<0.001
71–80	861/2507 (11.5%)	1.48 (1.34–1.64)	<0.001	1.40 (1.26–1.56)	<0.001
81–90	464/1274 (12.7%)	1.63 (1.45–1.84)	<0.001	1.50 (1.33–1.70)	<0.001
91–100	203/594 (12.4%)	1.58 (1.35–1.85)	<0.001	1.79 (1.52–2.11)	<0.001
>100	127/288 (18.1%)	2.30 (1.90–2.78)	<0.001	2.60 (2.14–3.17)	<0.001
$\beta$ -Blocker use in atrial fibrillation					
HR strata, beats per min			>0.05		<0.05
≤60	358/792 (15.7%)	Reference		Reference	—
61–70	595/1348 (16.2%)	1.03 (0.90–1.17)	0.697	1.03 (0.90–1.18)	0.700
71–80	753/1787 (15.6%)	0.99 (0.87–1.12)	0.871	1.11 (0.97–1.27)	0.119
81–90	536/1329 (15.5%)	0.98 (0.86–1.12)	0.761	1.10 (0.96–1.27)	0.162
91–100	325/824 (15.1%)	0.96 (0.82–1.11)	0.547	1.09 (0.94–1.28)	0.260
>100	268/659 (15.8%)	1.00 (0.90–1.11)	0.995	1.29 (1.09–1.53)	0.003

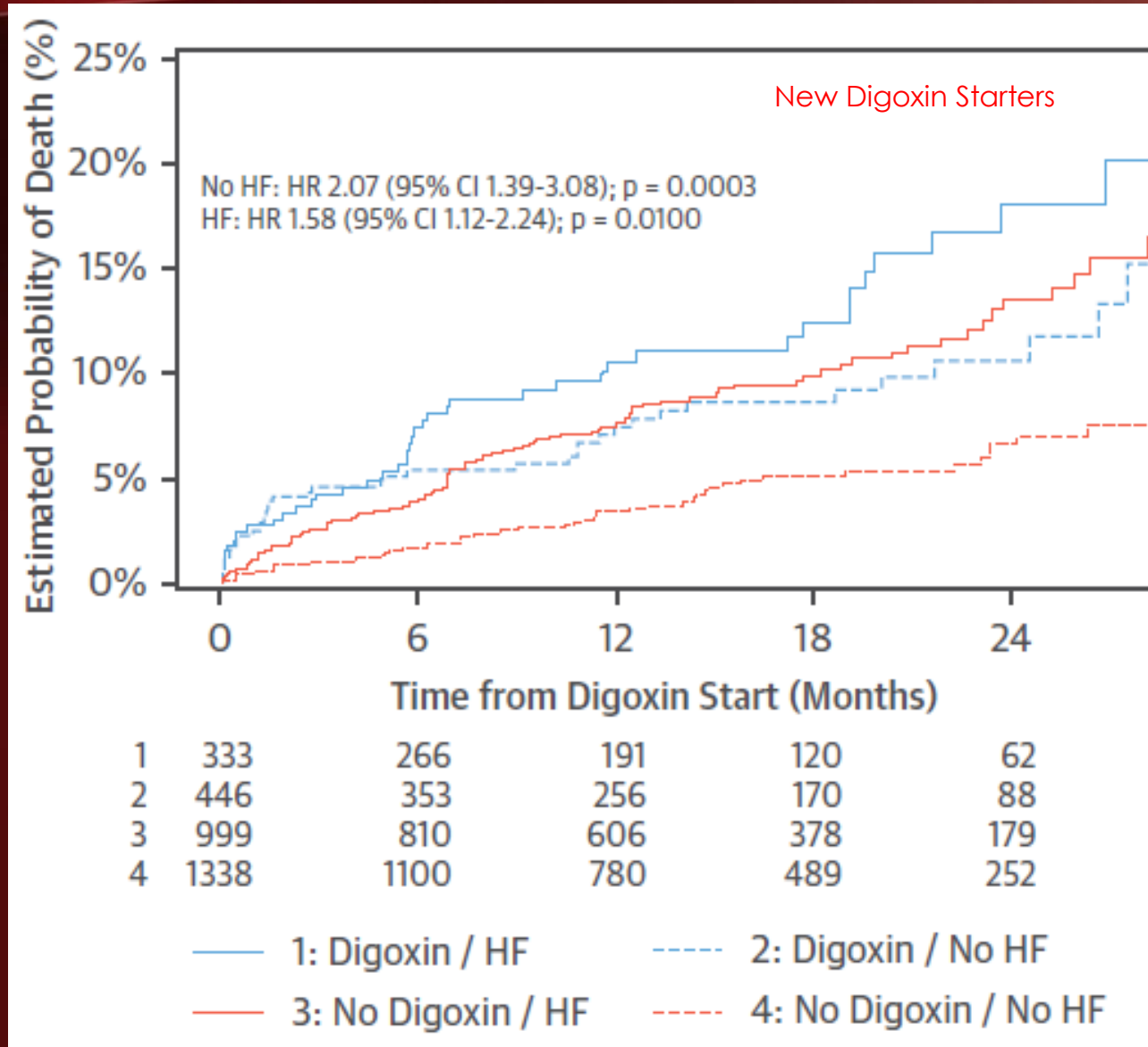
# AF-CHF Sub-study

## All Cause Mortality in Patients with and Without Betablocker

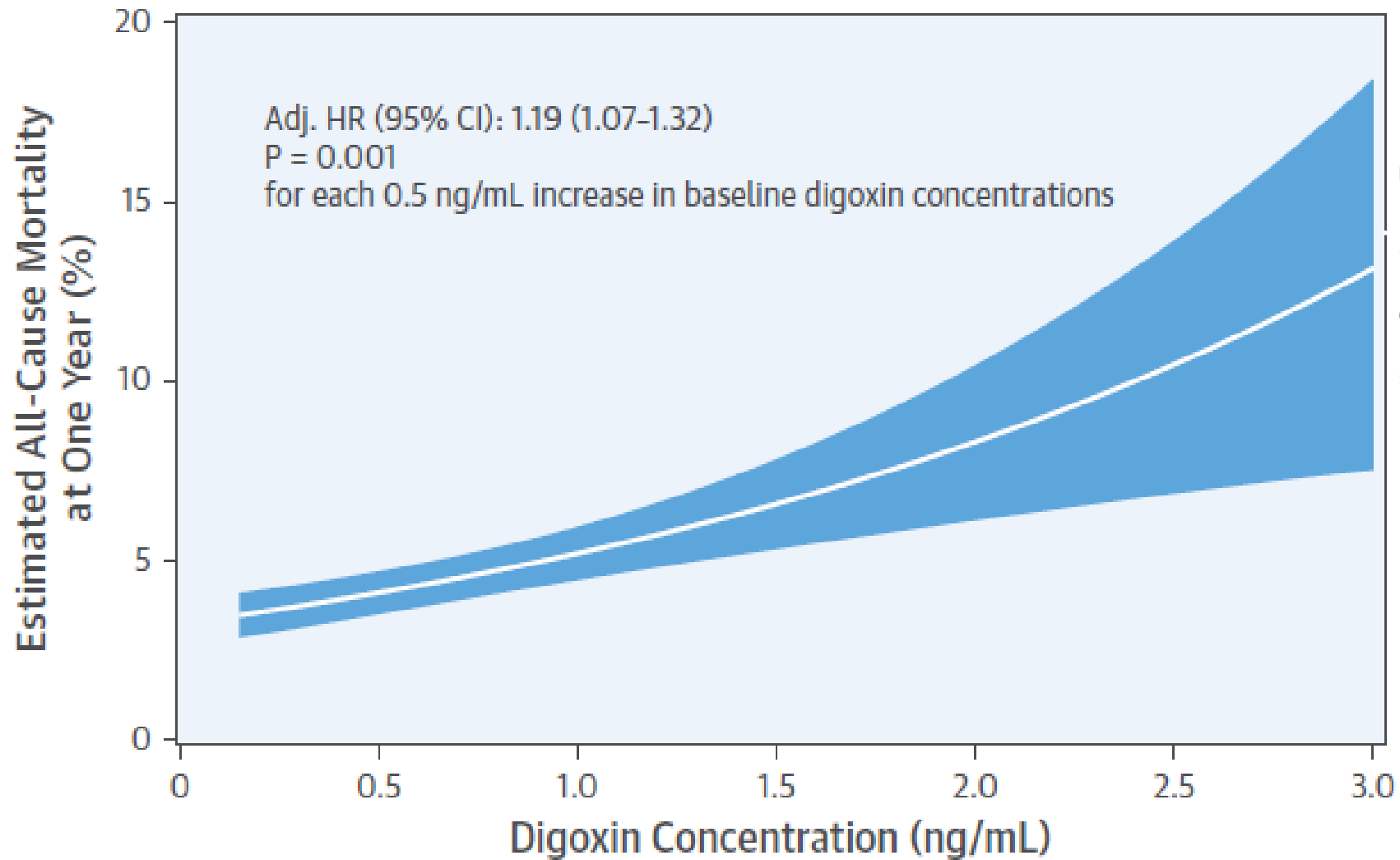




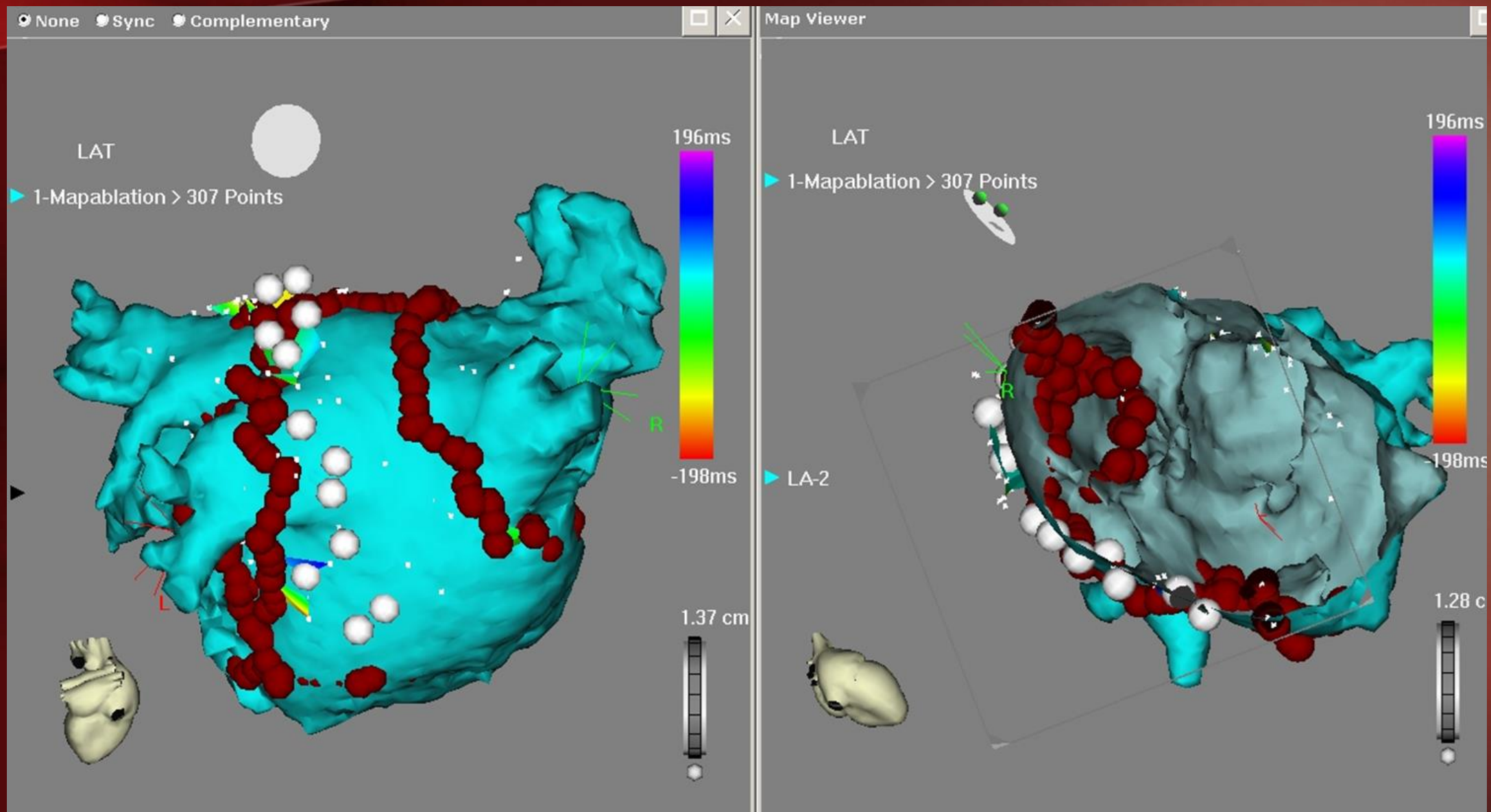
# DIGOXIN AND MORTALITY IN PATIENTS WITH AF



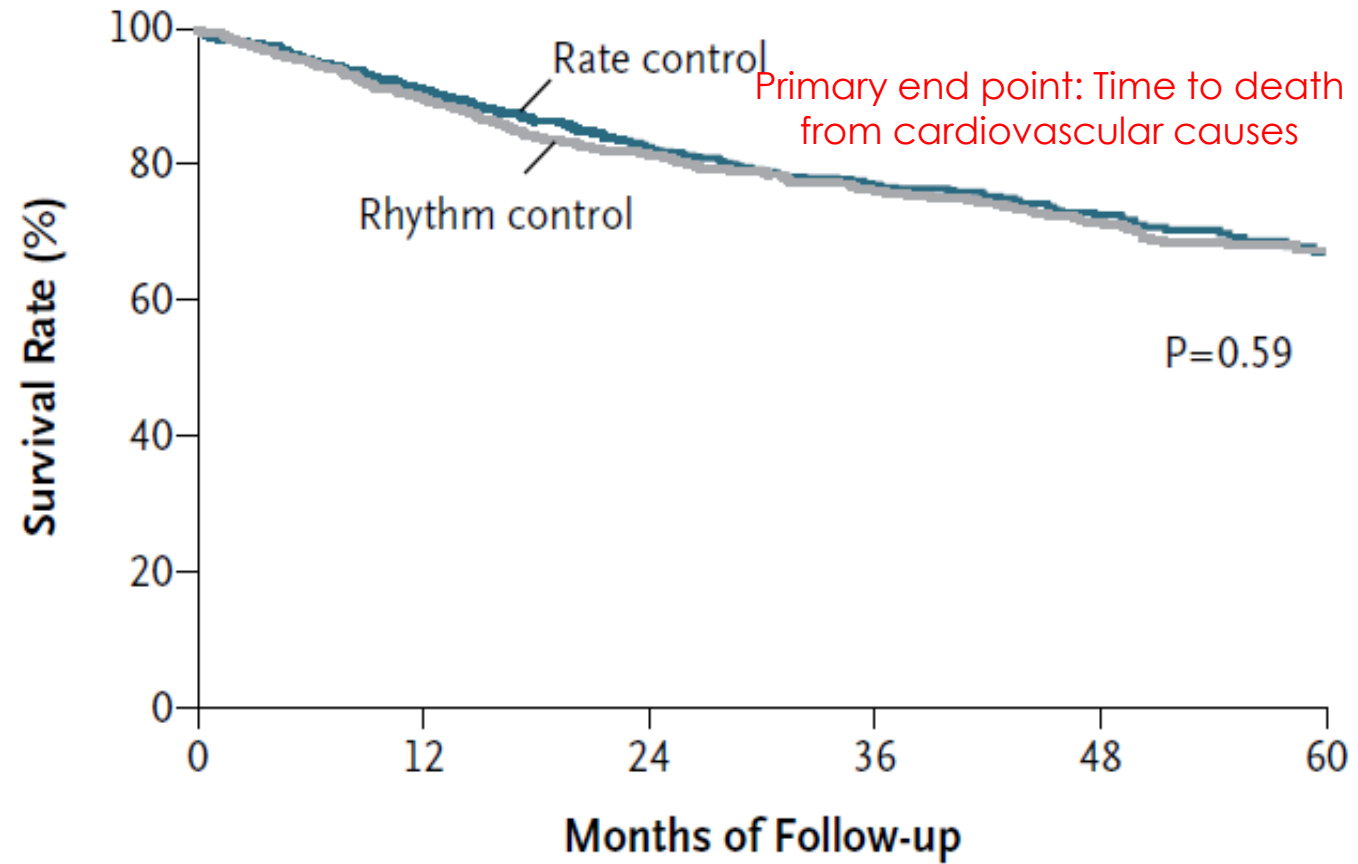
# ALL-CAUSE DEATH BY DIGOXIN CONCENTRATION



# CATHETER ABLATION



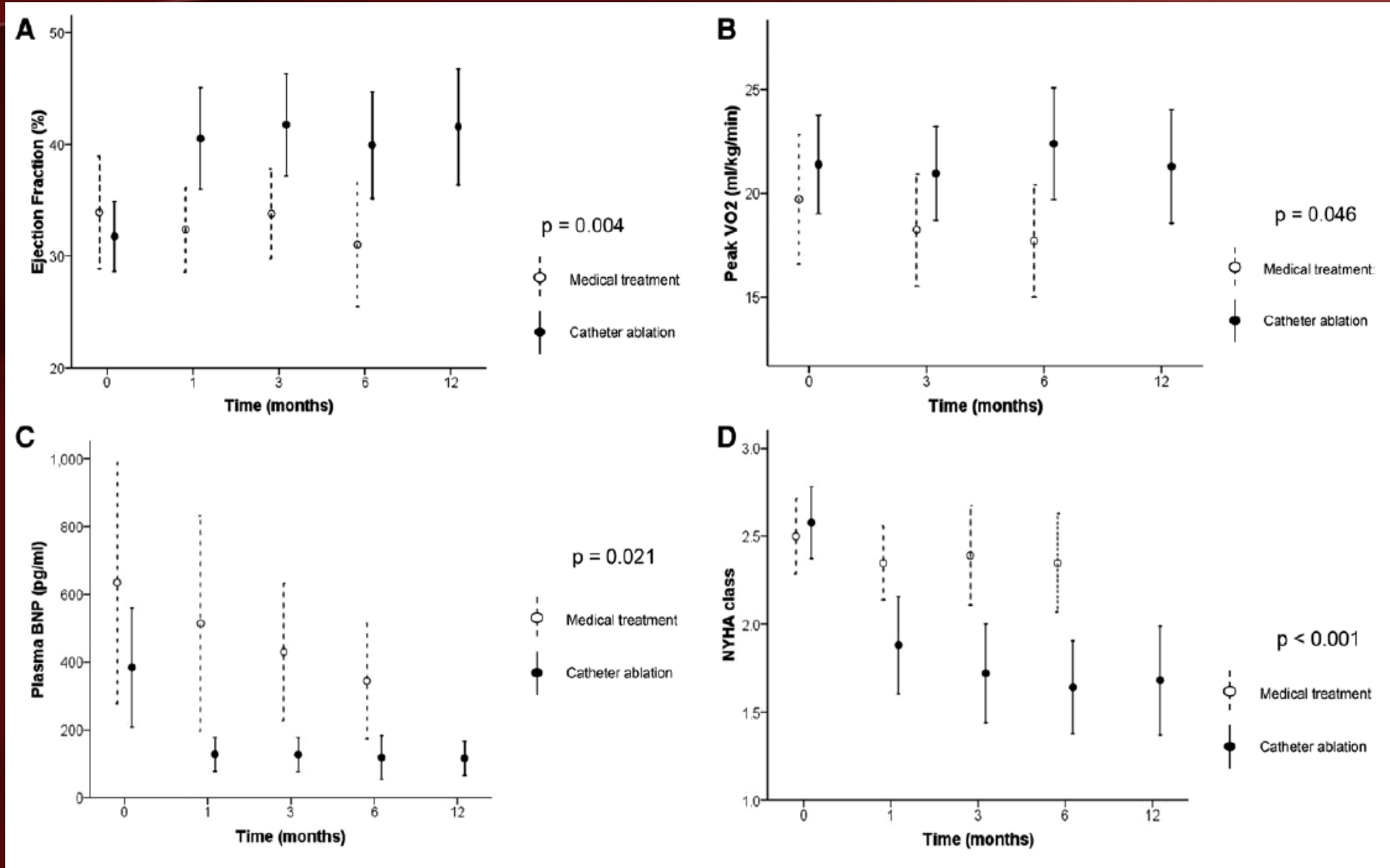
# AF-CHF STUDY



## No. at Risk

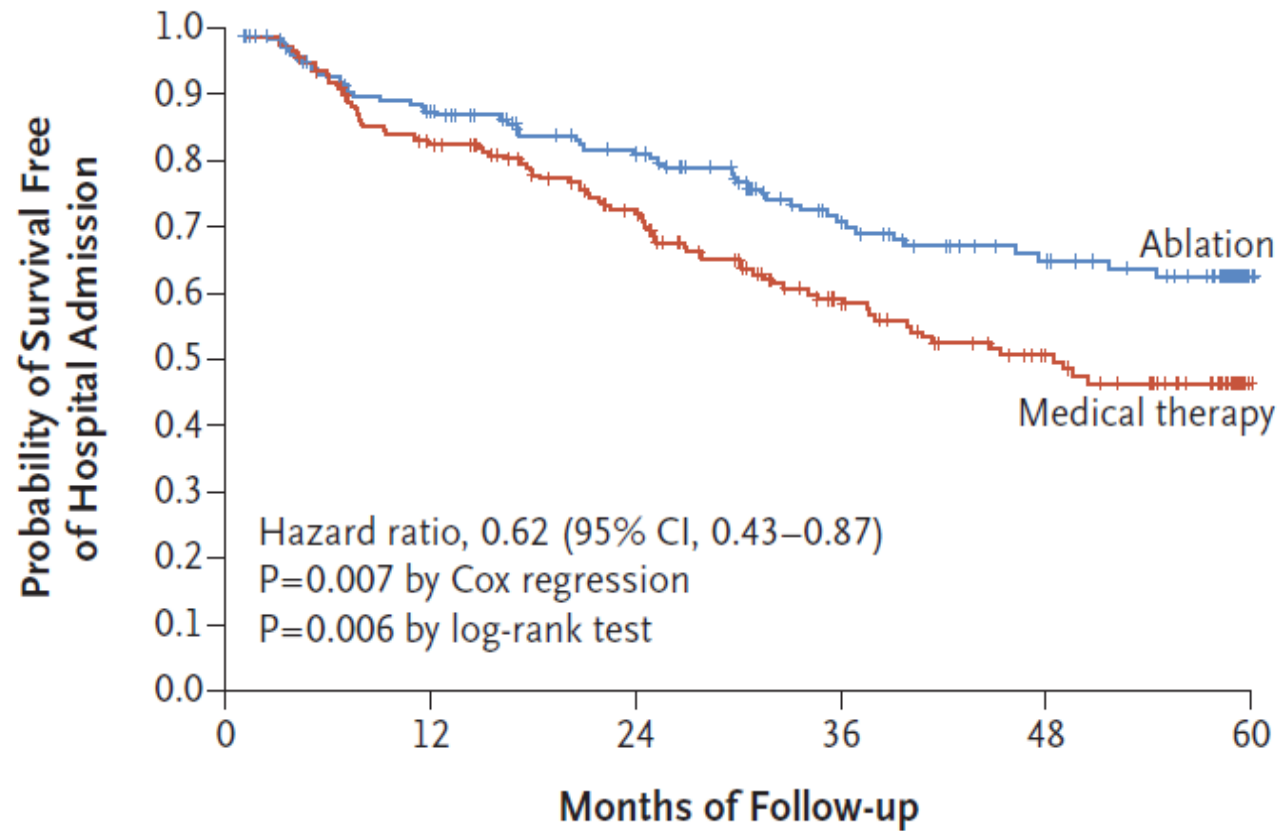
Rhythm control	593	514	378	228	82
Rate control	604	521	381	219	69

# CAMTAF TRIAL



# CASTLE-AF STUDY

**A** Death or Hospitalization for Worsening Heart Failure

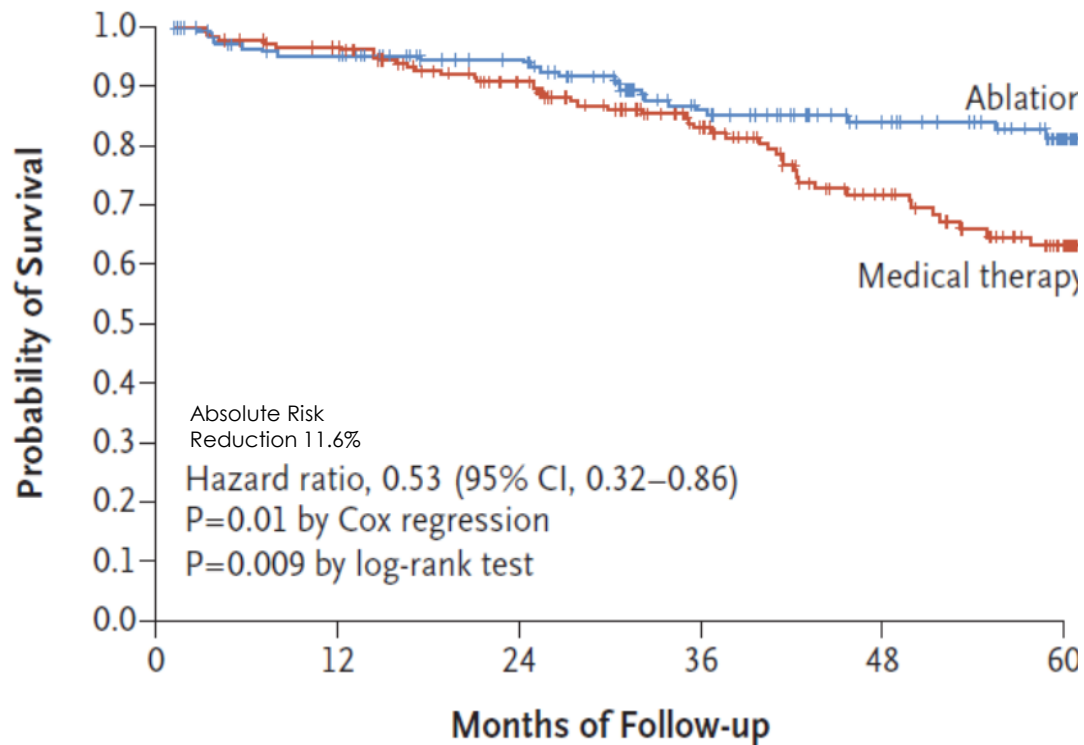


**No. at Risk**

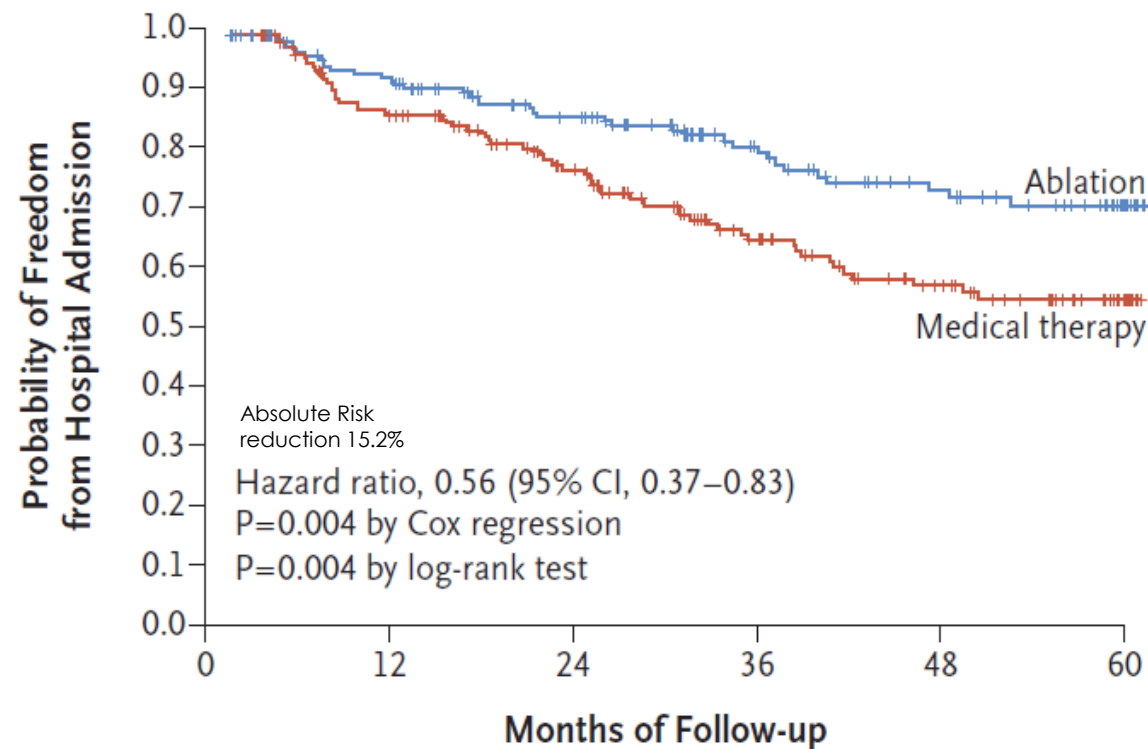
Ablation	179	141	114	76	58	22
Medical therapy	184	145	111	70	48	12

# CASTLE-AF STUDY

## Death from Any Cause



## Hospitalization for Worsening Heart Failure

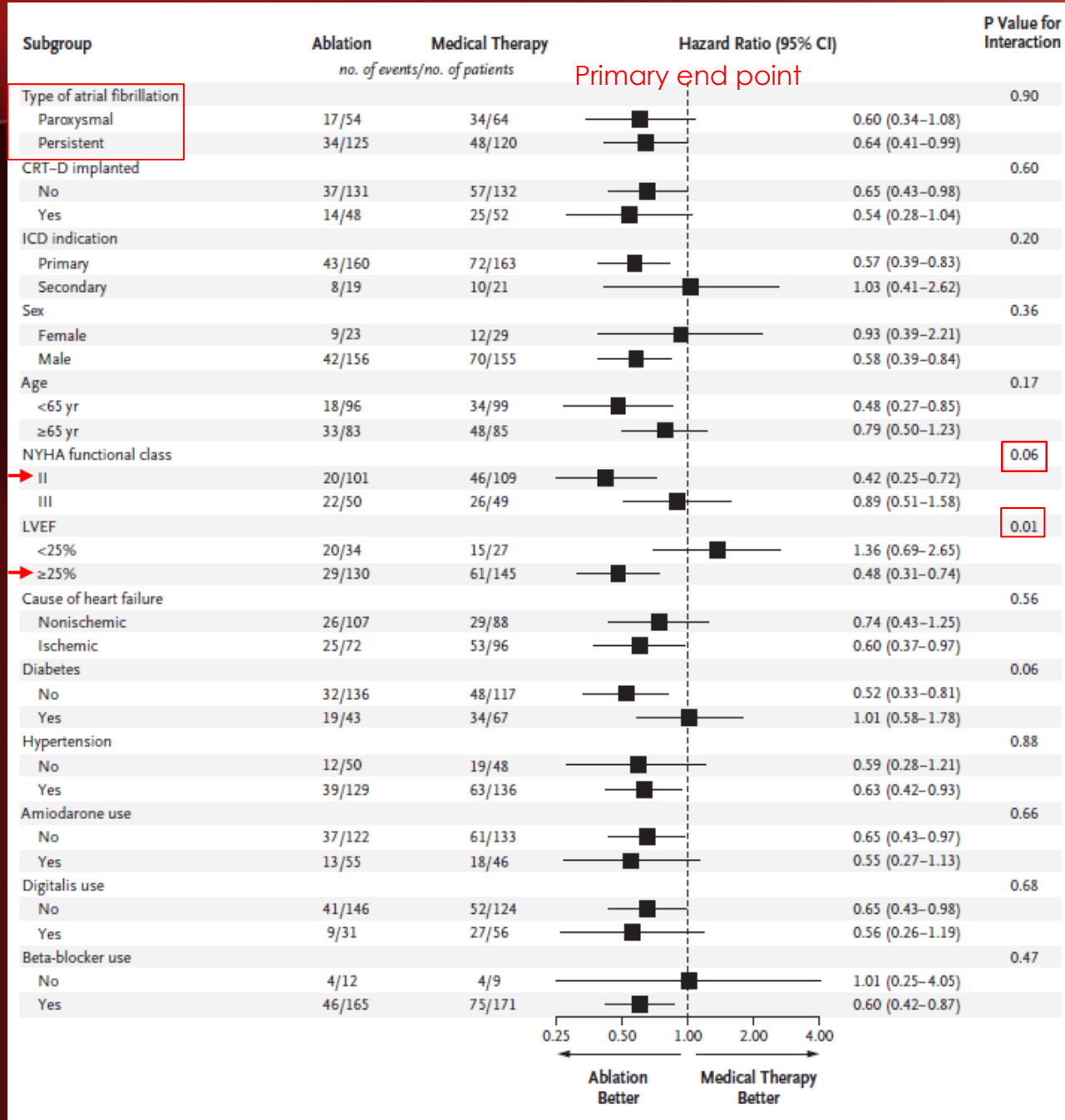


### No. at Risk

	0	12	24	36	48	60
Ablation	179	154	130	94	71	27
Medical therapy	184	168	138	97	63	19

### No. at Risk

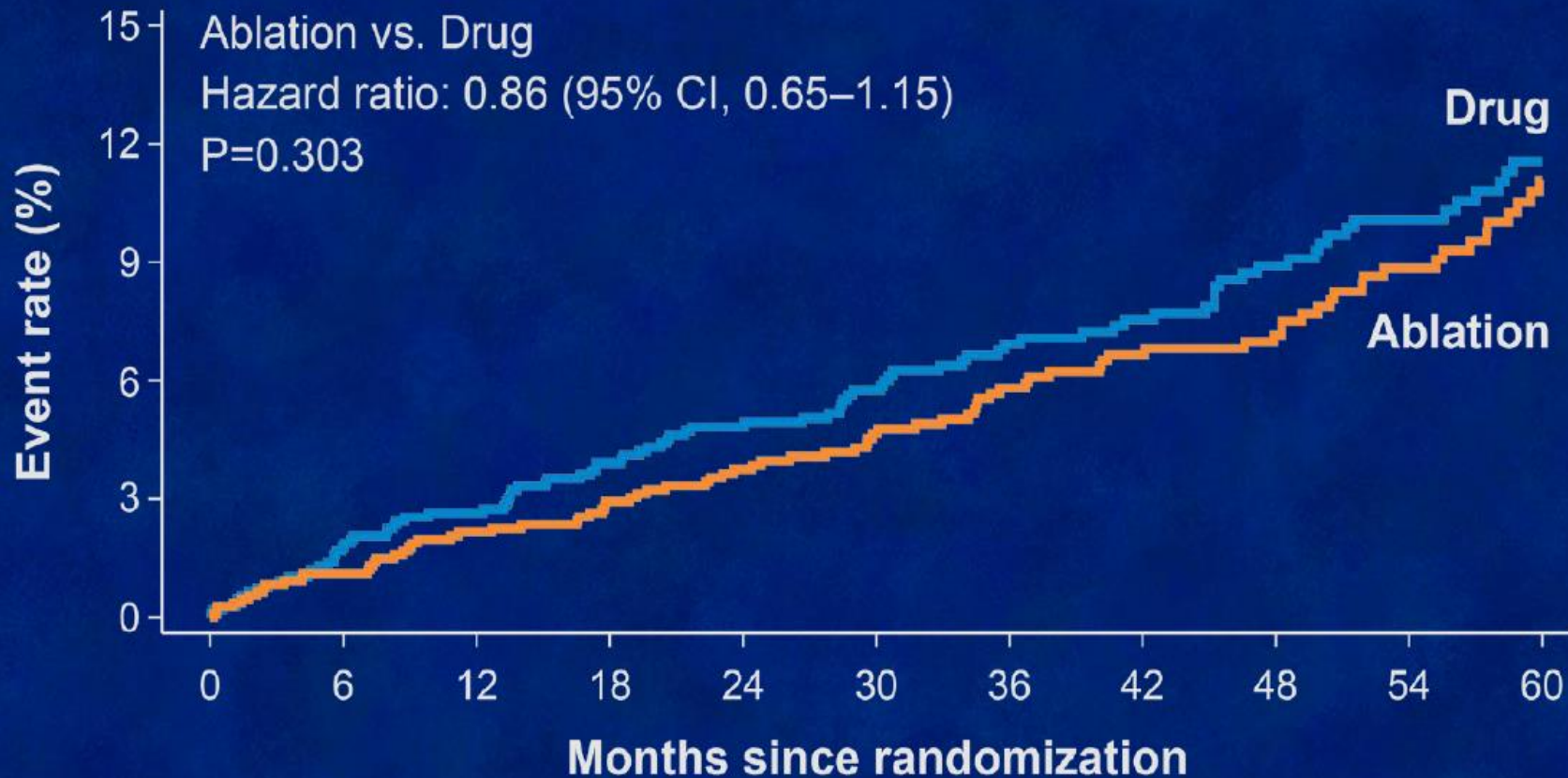
	0	12	24	36	48	60
Ablation	179	141	114	76	58	22
Medical therapy	184	145	111	70	48	12







# Primary Endpoint (Death, Disabling Stroke, Serious Bleeding, or Cardiac Arrest) (ITT)



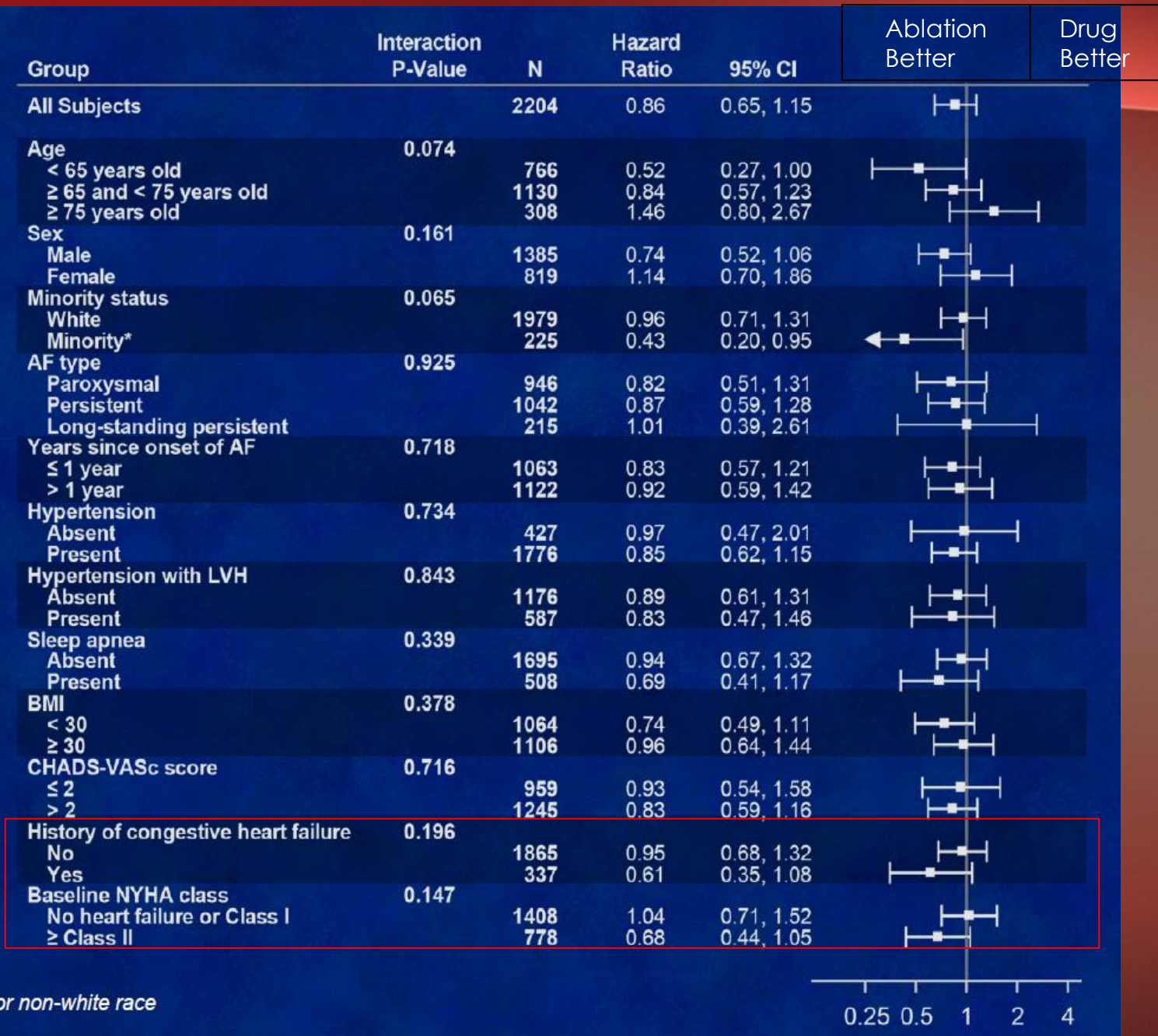
Number at risk

Drug	1096	1036	1006	970	880	763	652	578	499	418	312
Ablation	1108	1045	1021	996	915	793	700	614	535	432	309



# Primary Endpoint Sub-group Analysis

# All-Cause Mortality, Disabling Stroke, Serious Bleeding, Cardiac Arrest (ITT)



\* Minority=Hispanic or Latino or non-white race

# CONCLUSION

- Atrial fibrillation and Heart Failure share common predisposing risk factors.
- AF begets HF and HF begets AF
- All Heart Failure patients should consider use of oral anti-coagulant for stroke prevention
- Controversy role of Beta-block in heart failure patients with atrial fibrillation
- Digoxin should be avoided in heart failure patients with atrial fibrillation

## CONCLUSION

- Target heart rate control in heart failure are different for patients with or without AF
- Evidences suggest catheter ablation can improve left ventricular function, functional state, and mortality in selected AF patient with heart failure