

# **CLINICAL UPDATE HEART FAILURE AND COPD**

## **A cardiopulmonary discussion**

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# Case 1

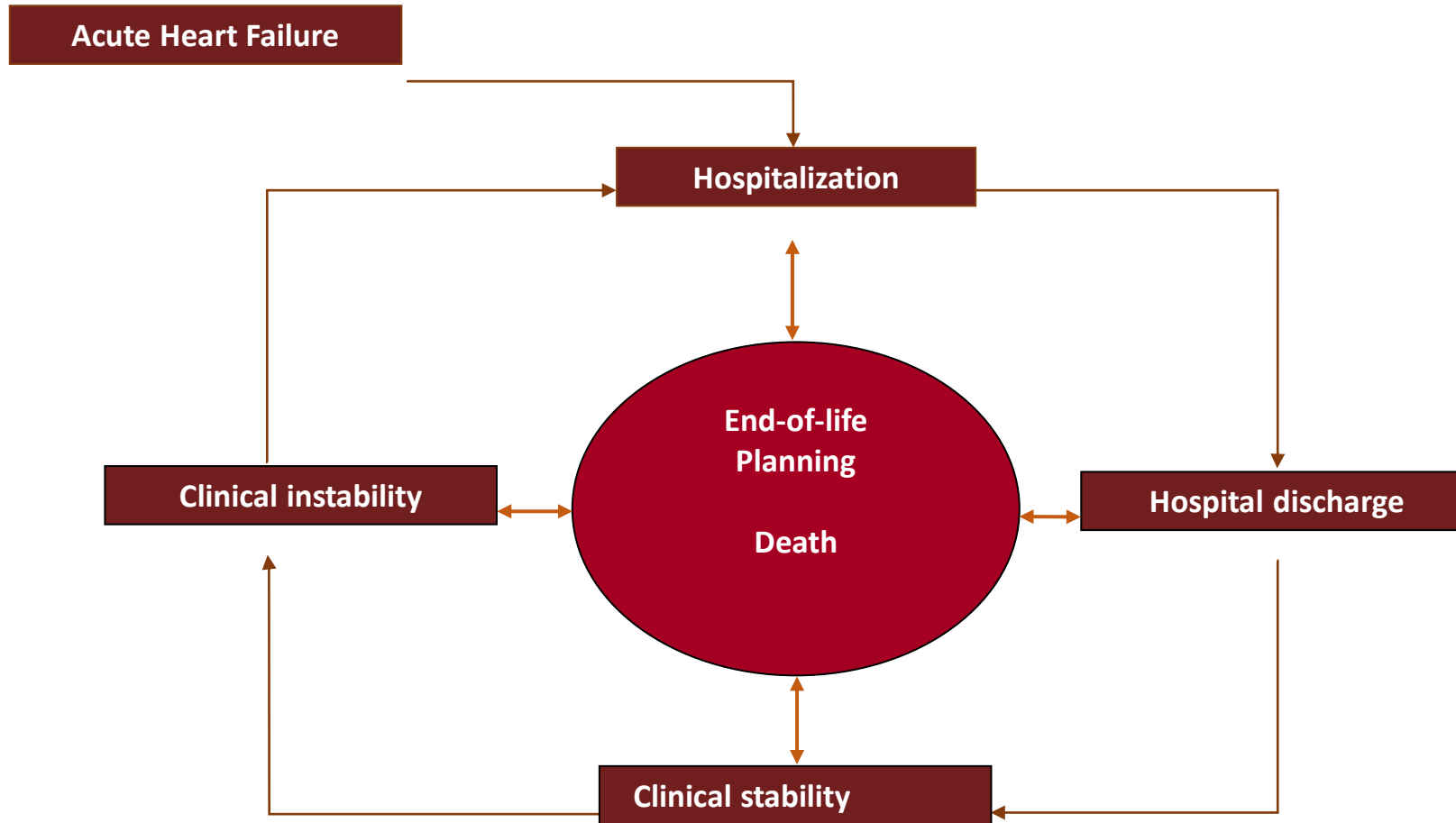
- 64 yr old male,
  - Had **two exacerbations** within the last 12 months; was treated as an outpatient. Received antibiotics and steroids
  - No ED visit or hospitalization required
- Referred to your office for follow-up as patient also has a history of ischemic cardiomyopathy and diabetes
- 40 pack year history of smoking
- Previous PFTs demonstrated FEV1/FVC= .58
- Post bronchodilation FEV1= 41% of predicted, change in FEV1 =145ml
- COPD assessment score =20
- Eosinophil count =160
- Current treatment :Symbicort 400ug BID + Ventolin PRN, Entresto 97/103 BID, Bisoprolol 10 OD, Aldactone 25, Forxiga 10 OD, Lasix 40 OD, Metformin 500 BID.



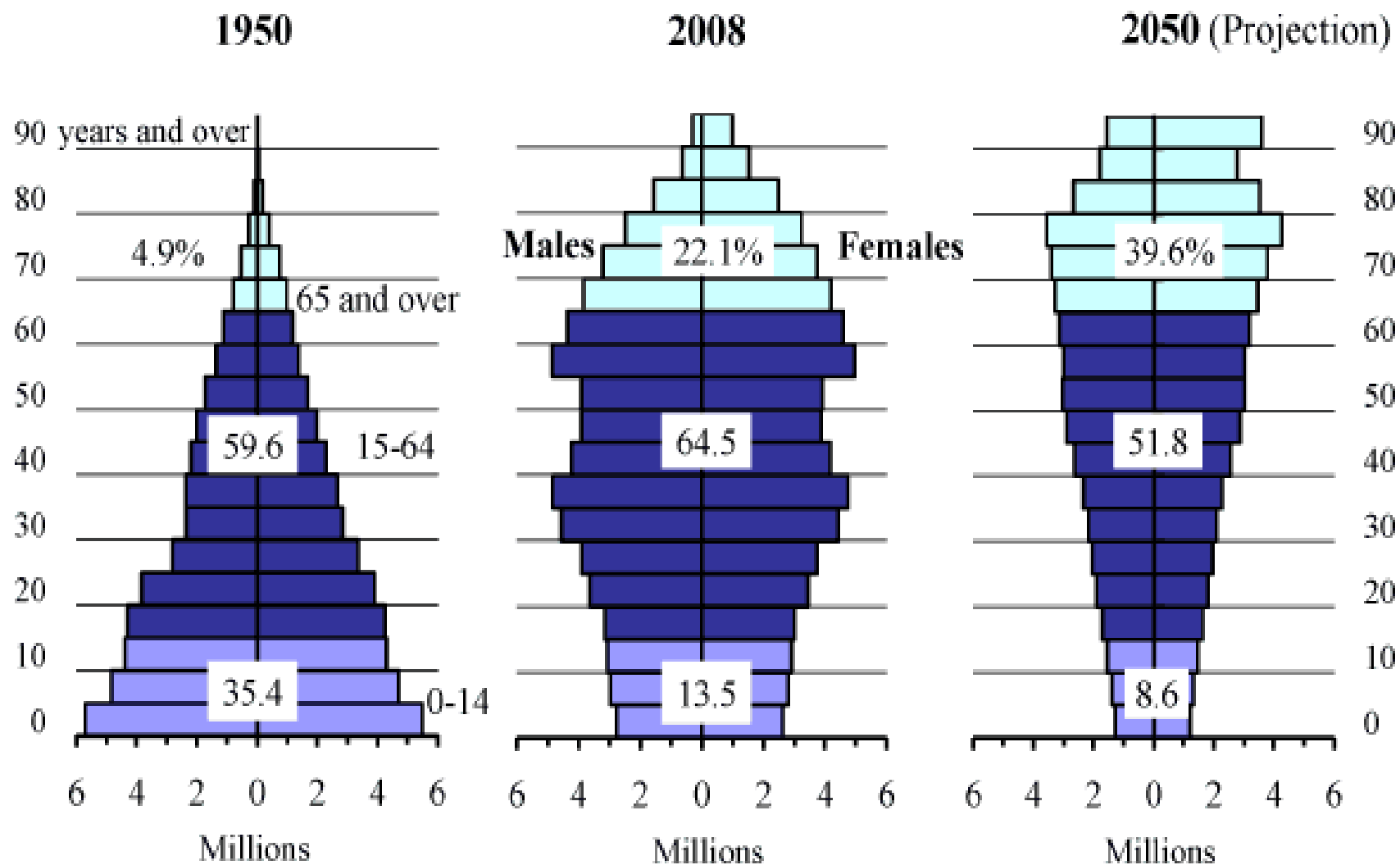
# Heart Failure Management:

**Do my patients need to take  
so many medications?**

# The Heart Failure Cycle



# Changes in the Population Pyramid



# Burden of heart failure in Ontario

Population Ontario age 40+ years **7,206,368**

Approximately **280,000** people living with HF.

Incidence: 5 per 1000 in age 40+ years (about **38,000** new cases a year)

Prevalence: 39 per 1000 in age 40+ years

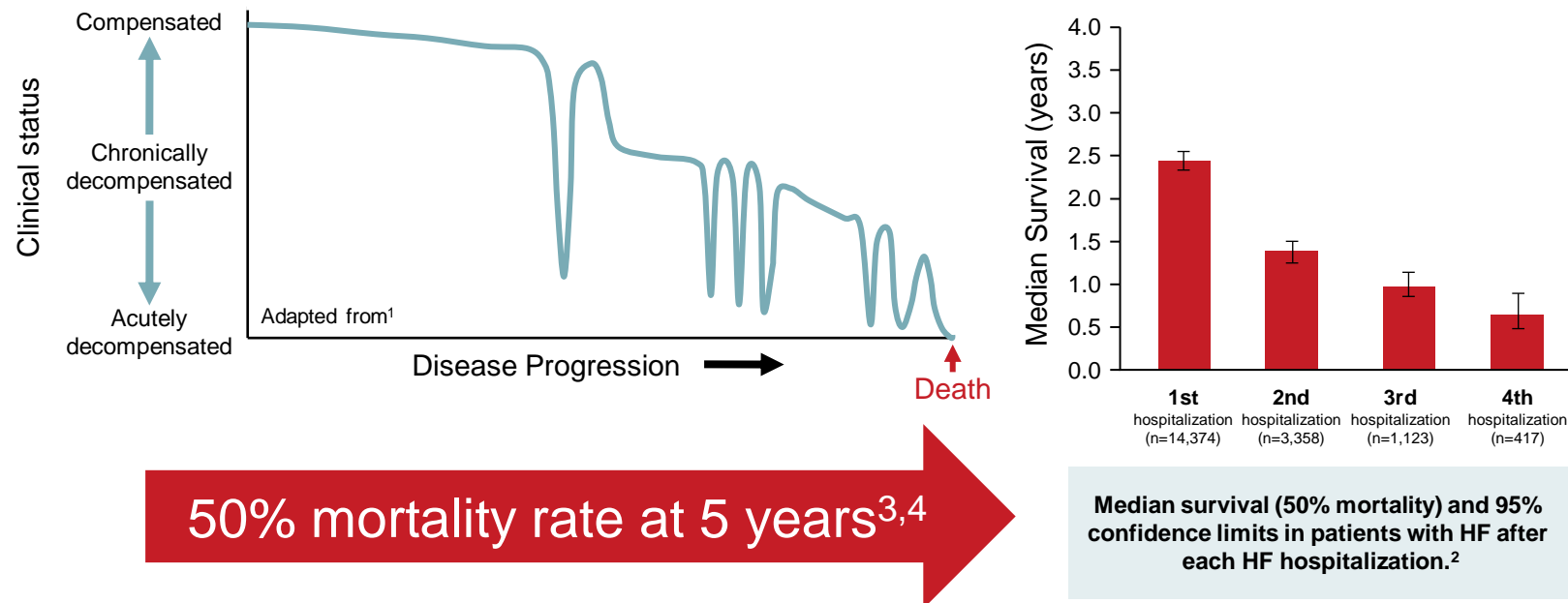
1 month mortality from diagnosis: 8%; 1 year mortality from diagnosis: 22.7%

30-day readmission following hospitalization: 21% (all cause)

In 2019/20: 11,112 people in London Middlesex had HF and there were 956 admissions to LHSC for HF

Data source: Discharge Abstract Database (DAD), Heart Failure Cohort (Schultz et al. 2013); National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS), Ontario Drug Benefit Claims (ODB), Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) Claims Database, Registered Persons Database (RPDB)

# RISK INCREASES AFTER EVERY ADHF EPISODE

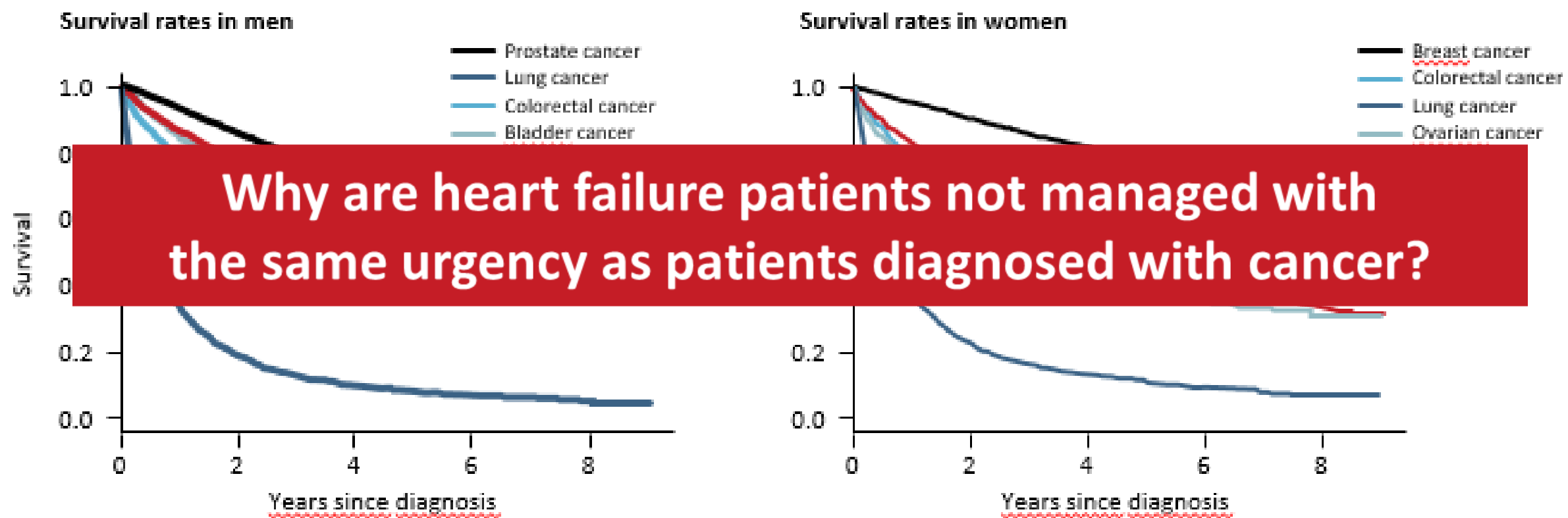


1. Gheorghiade et al. Am J Cardiol 2005;96:11G–17G; 2. Setoguchi et al Am Heart J 2007;154:26026; 3. Benjamin et al. Circulation 2017;135(10):e146–e603; 4. Roger et al. JAMA 2004;292:344–50

ADHF: Acute decompensated heart failure

# Mortality Rate is Higher for Heart Failure Than Many Cancers

The mortality rate for patients with chronic HF is as high as 50% at 5 years post-diagnosis<sup>1,2,3</sup>



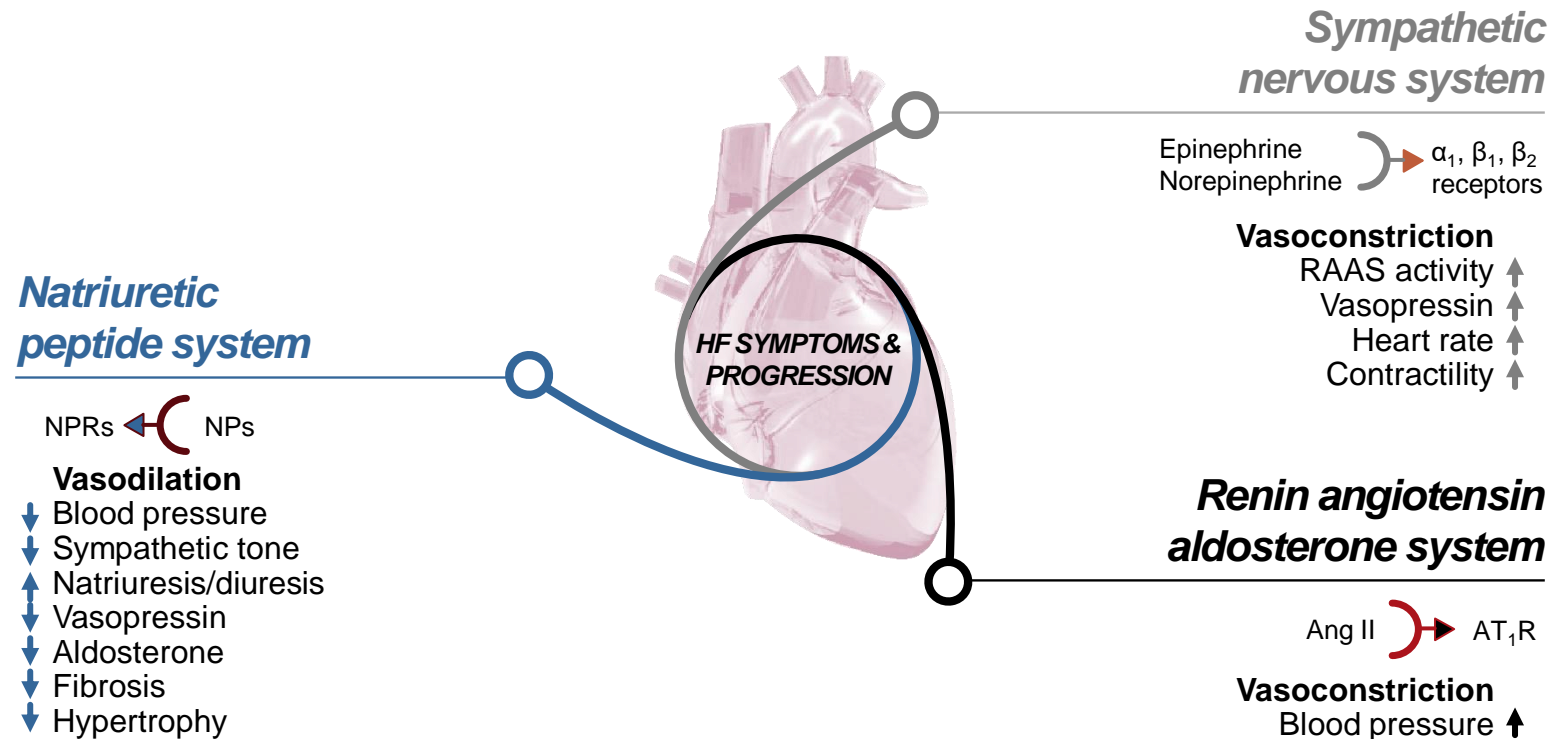
1. Mamas et al. Eur J Heart Fail. 2017;19(9):1095-1104; 2. Benjamin et al. Circulation 2017;135(10):e146-e603; 3. Roger et al. JAMA 2004;292:344-50

# Goals of Therapy for Patients with Heart Failure

1. Improve symptoms ✓
2. Reduce hospitalizations ✓
3. Reduce mortality ✓
4. Prompt up titration to target ✓

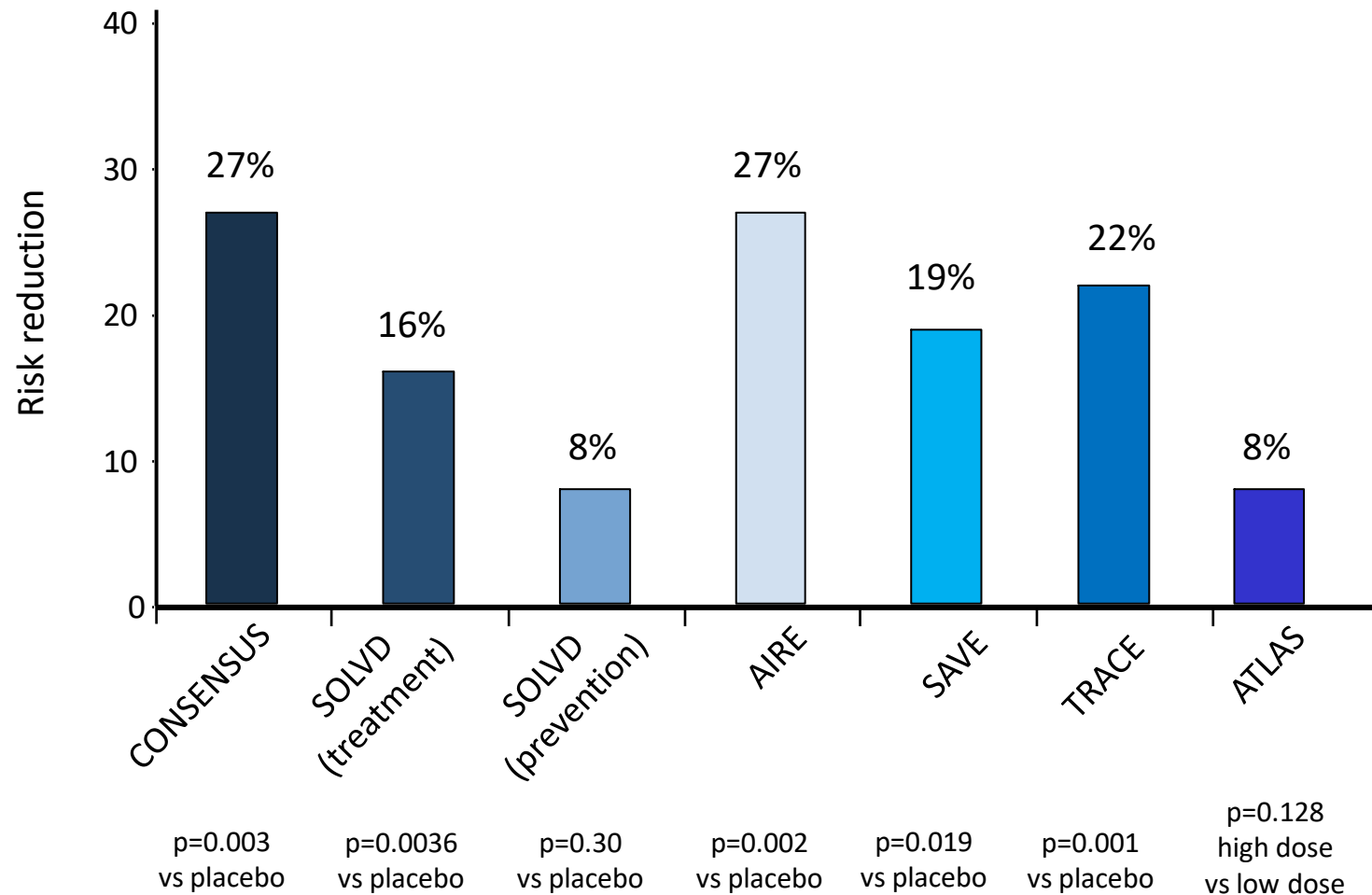
Heart Failure reduced EF  
Pathway to quadruple  
therapy

# Decline In Systolic Function Leads To Activation Of Three Major Neurohormonal Systems



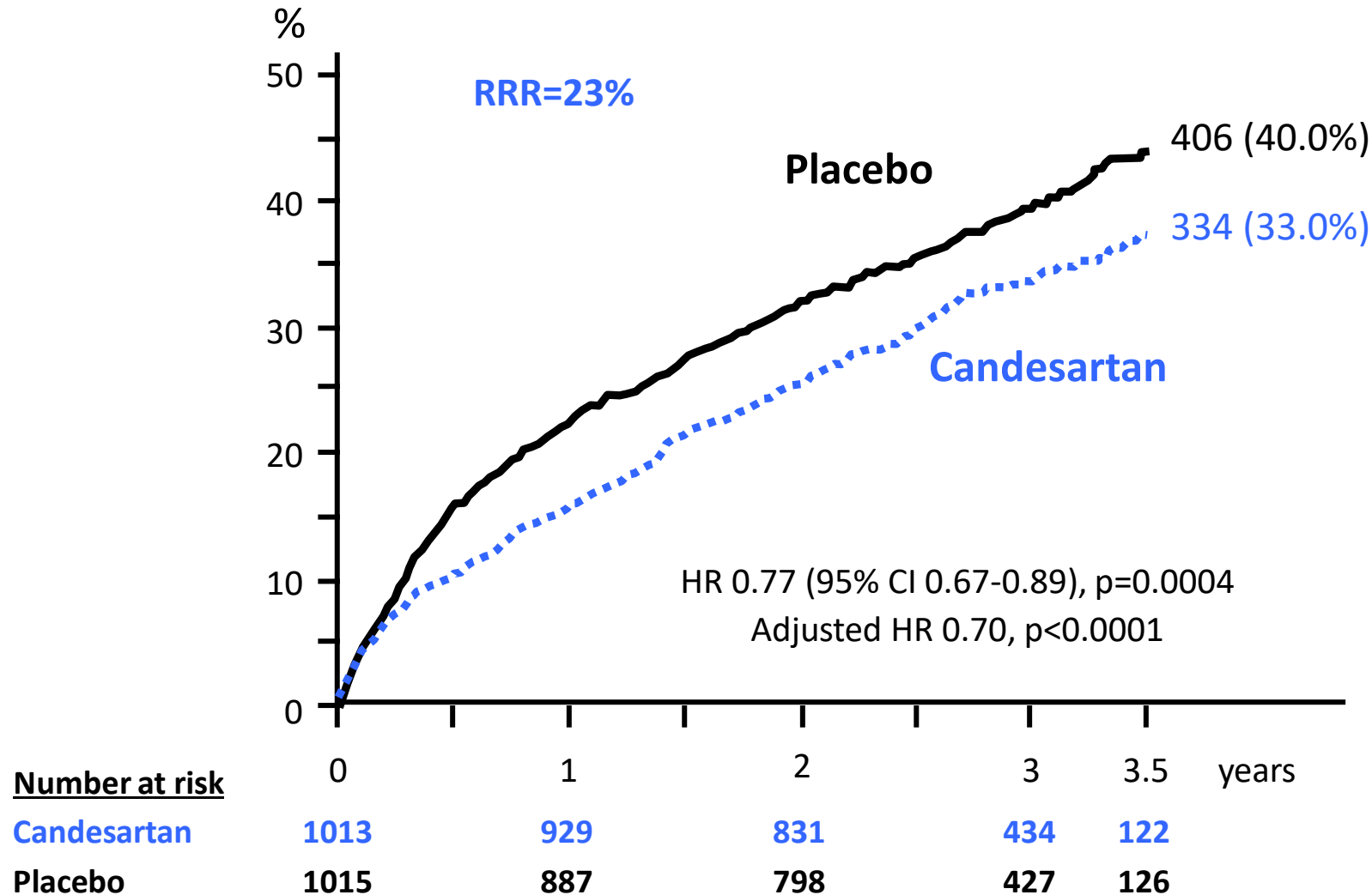
Ang=angiotensin;  $AT_1R$ =angiotensin II type 1 receptor; HF=heart failure; NPs=natriuretic peptides; NPRs=natriuretic peptide receptors; RAAS=renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system  
 Levin *et al. N Engl J Med* 1998;339:321–8;  
 Nathisuwan & Talbert. *Pharmacotherapy* 2002;22:27–42;  
 Kemp & Conte. *Cardiovascular Pathology* 2012;365–371;  
 Schrier & Abraham. *N Engl J Med* 2009;341:577–85

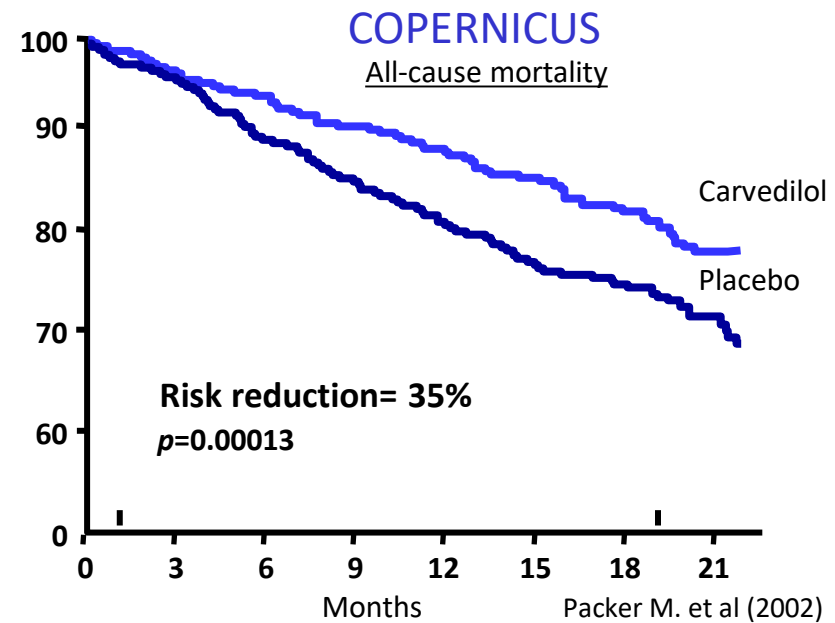
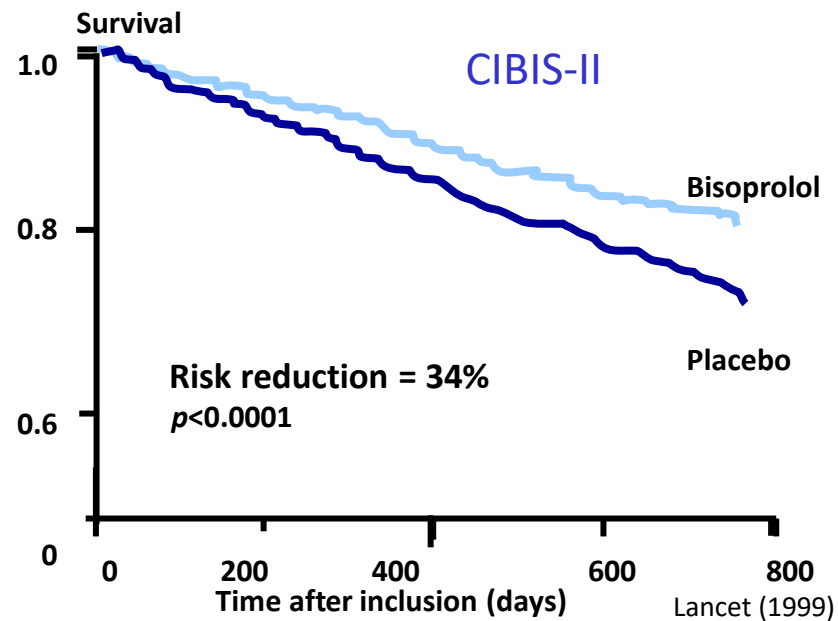
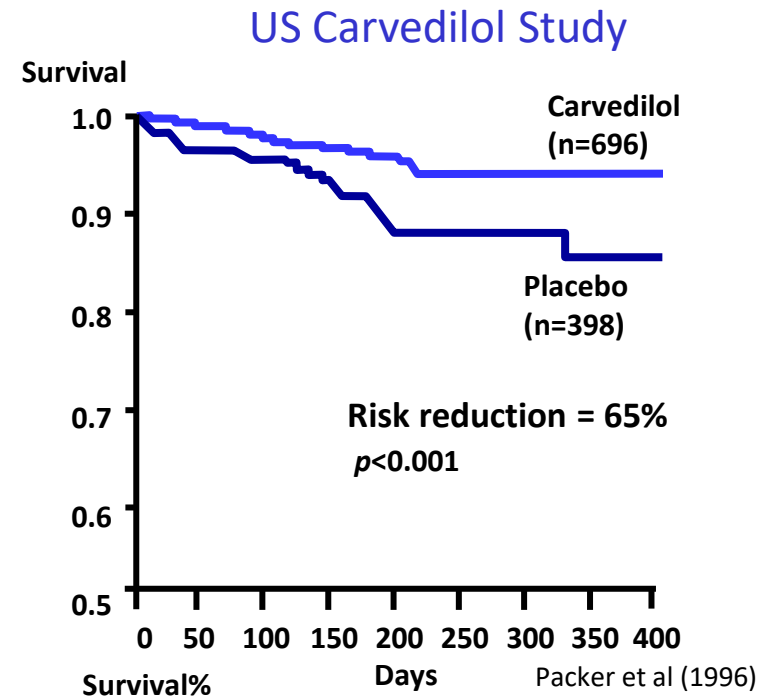
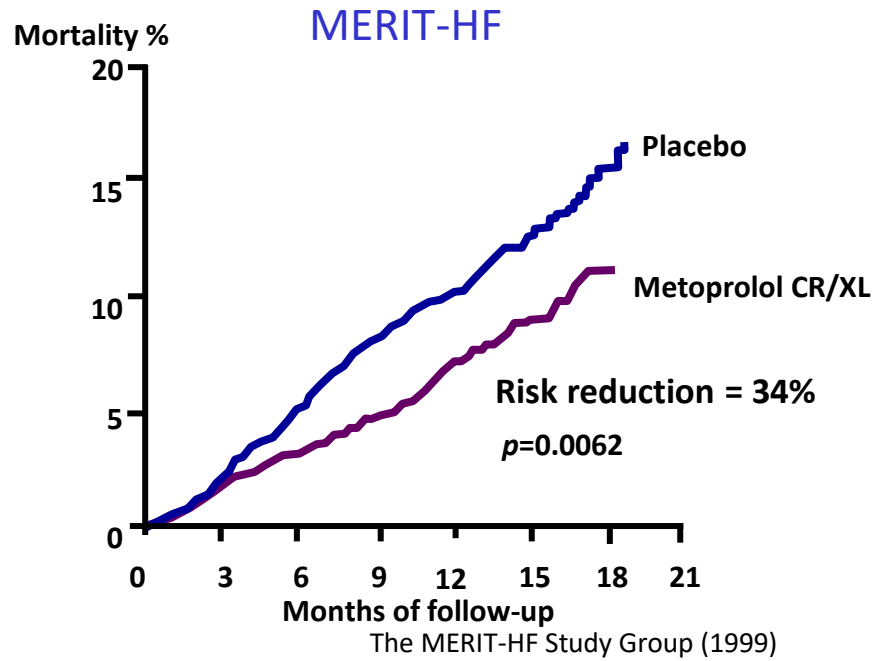
# Primary Outcomes of ACE Inhibitors in Heart Failure and/or LV Dysfunction: Mortality



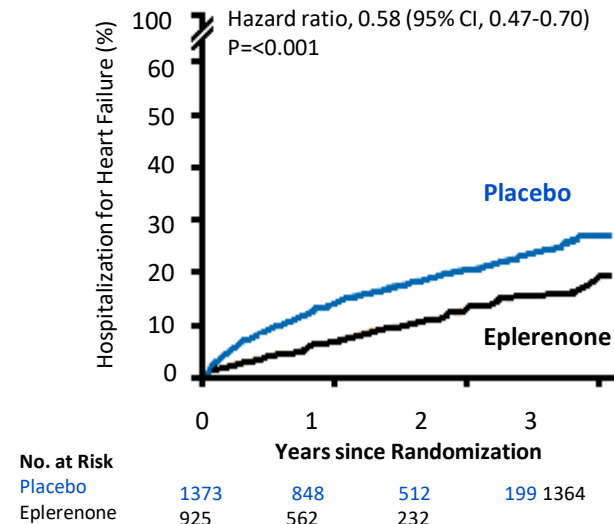
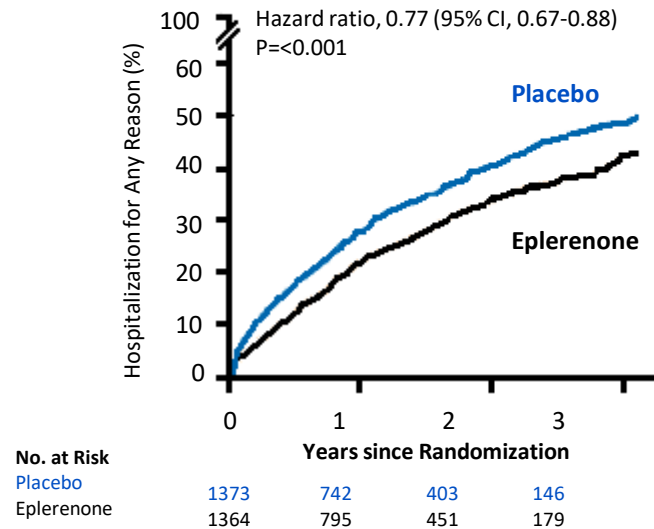
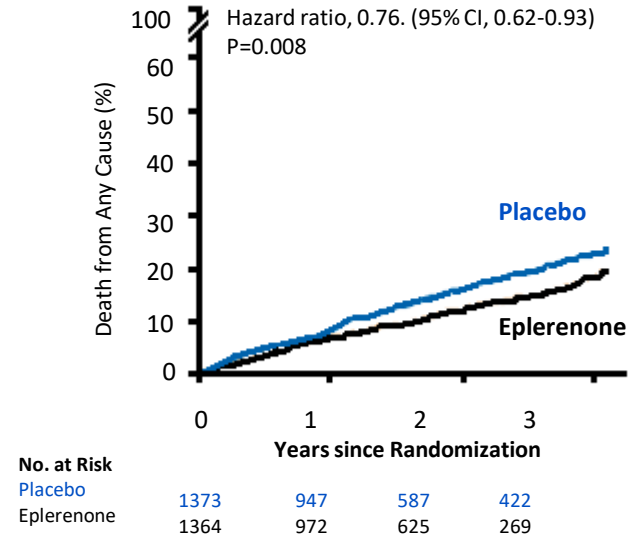
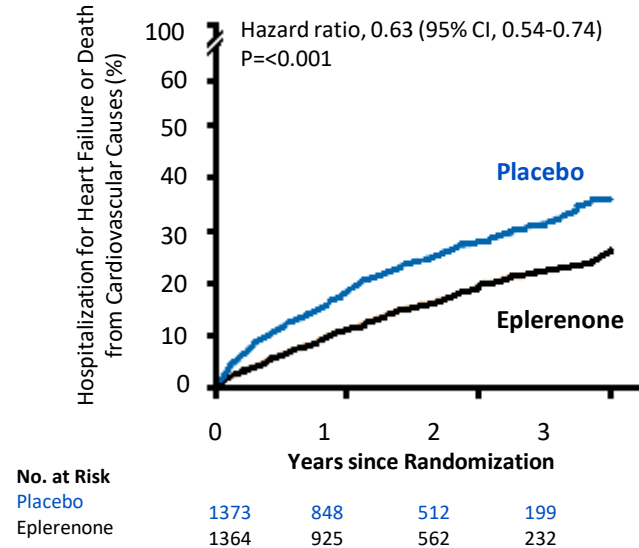
# CHARM-Alternative: Primary outcome

## CV death or CHF hospitalization



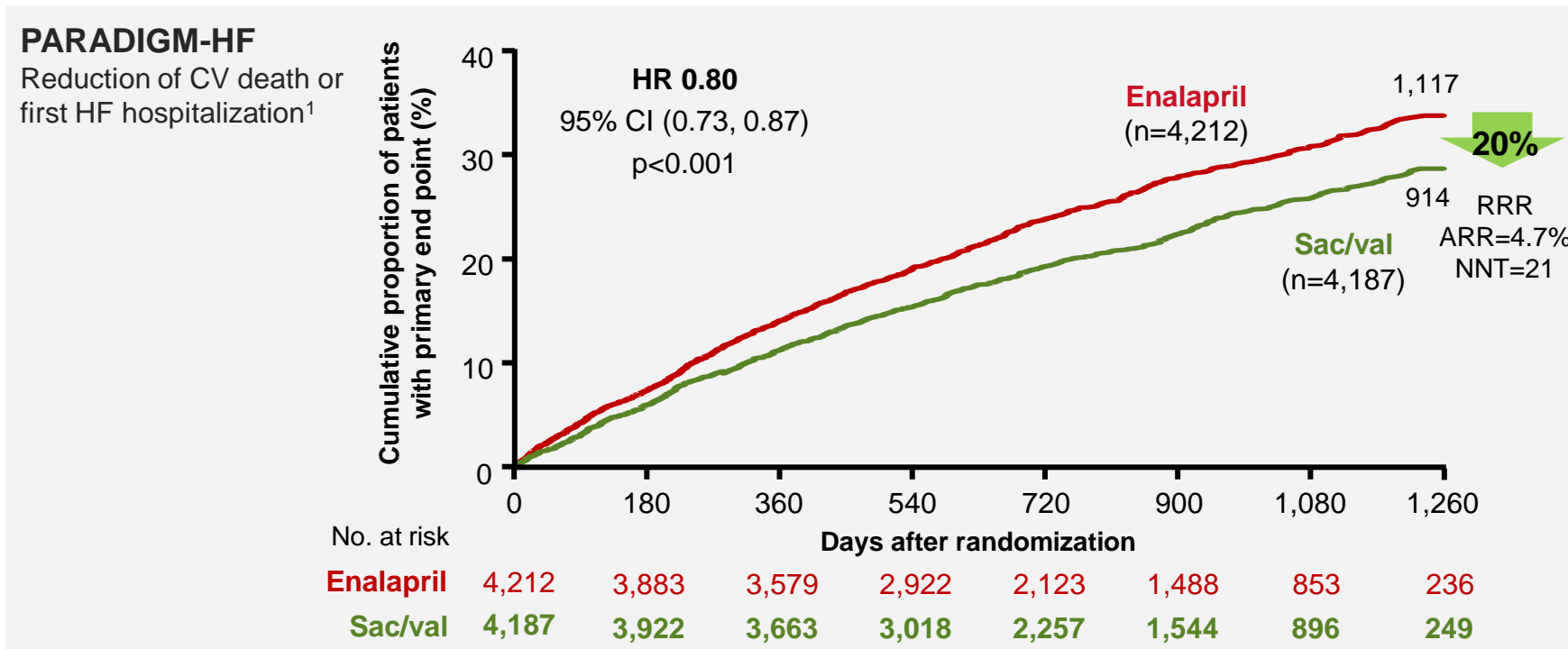
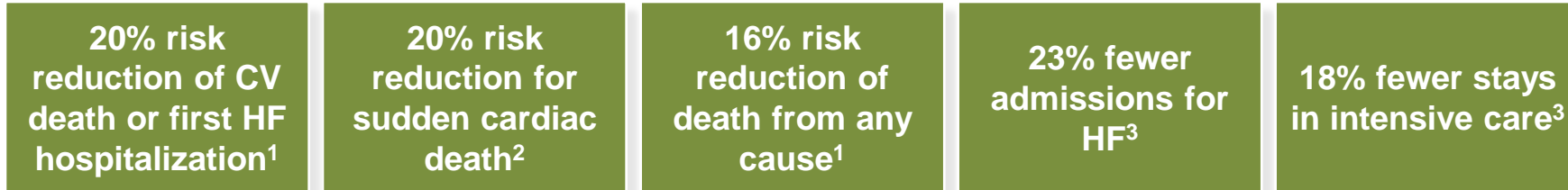


# Rates of the Primary Outcome and Other Outcomes in EMPHASIS



# The Evidence for Newer HF Medications - HFrEF

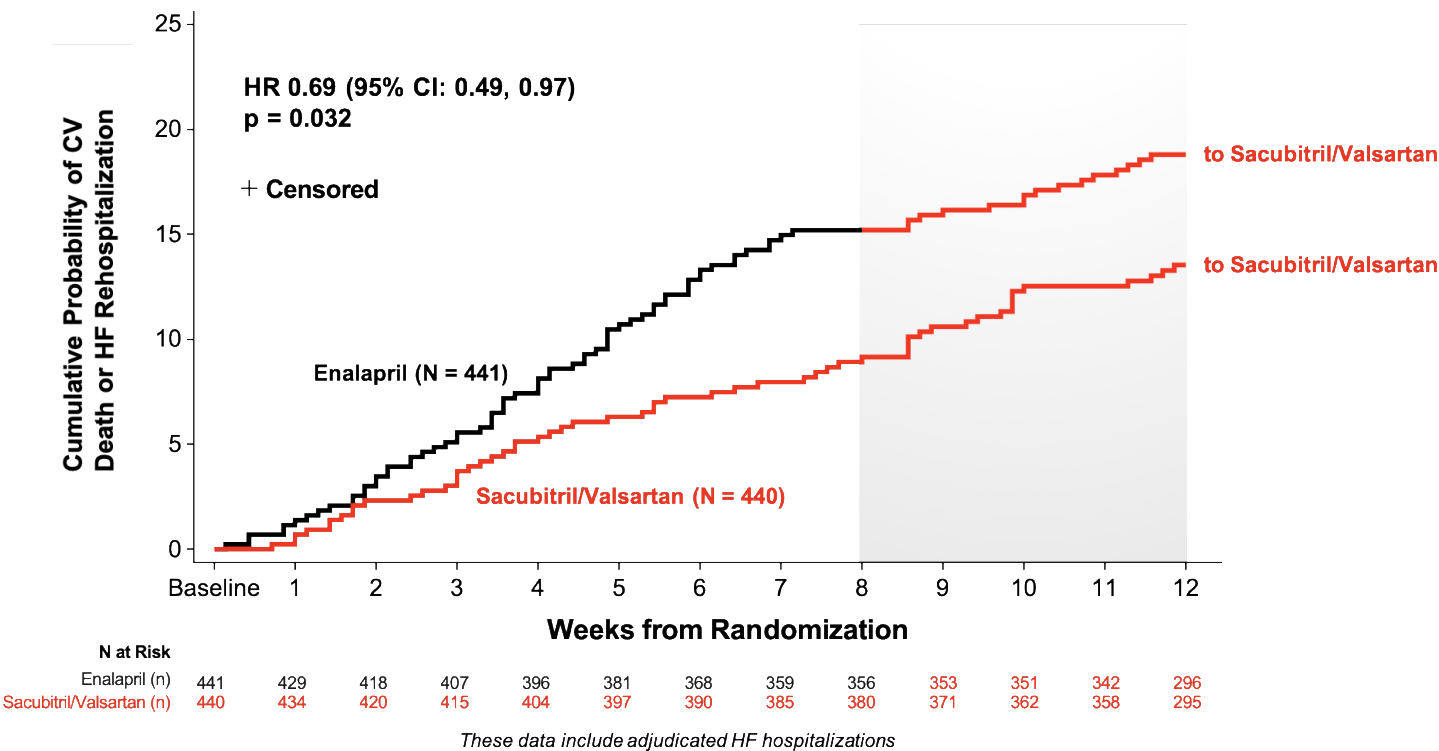
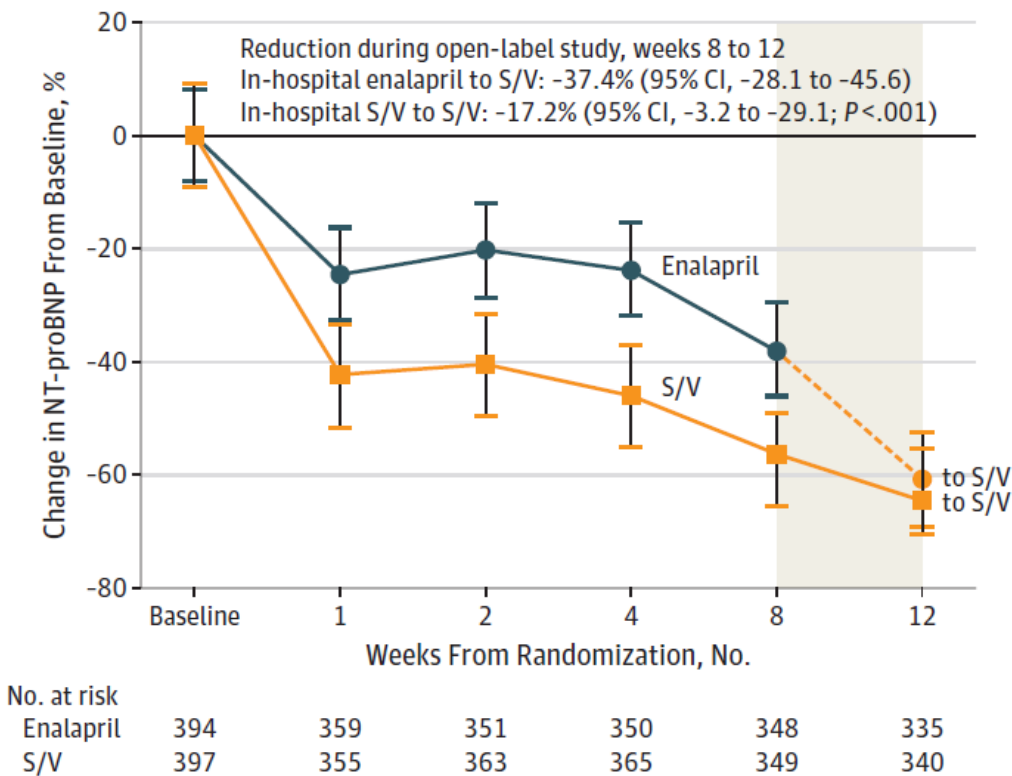
# Sacubitril/valsartan as the standard of care with clear therapeutic benefits



ACEi, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor; ARR, absolute risk reduction; CI, confidence interval; CV, cardiovascular; HF, heart failure; HFrEF, HF with reduced ejection fraction; HR, hazard ratio; NNT, number needed to treat; RRR, relative risk reduction; QoL, quality of life

1. McMurray et al. N Engl J Med 2014;371(11):993-1004; 2. Desai et al. Eur Heart J 2015;36(30):1990-7; 3. Packer et al. Circulation 2015;131(1):54-61

# PIONEER-HF Study and Analysis of Open Label Extension



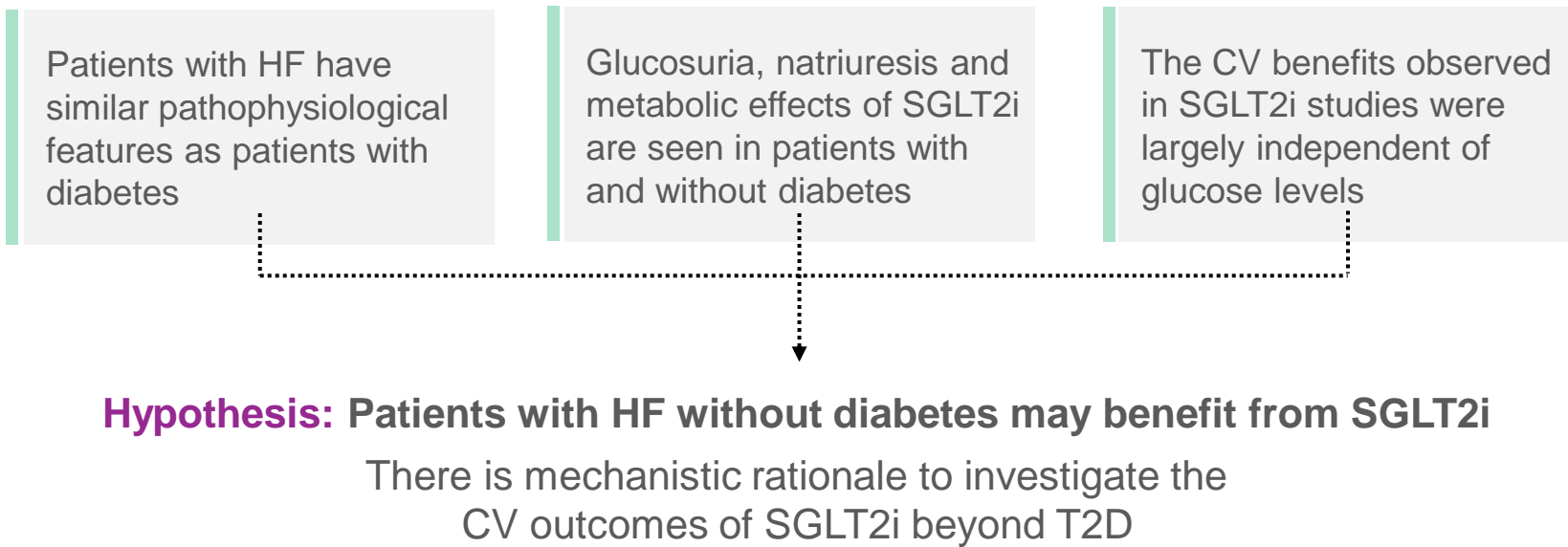
880 patients, hospitalized for worsening HF randomized to enalapril vs sac-val once stabilized, 1/3 de novo HF

- Primary study: Sac-val initiation associated with greater reduction in NTproBNP
- Open label extension:
  - Further reduction in NTproBNP (both groups);
  - In-hospital sac-val group experienced lower incidence of death or re-hospitalization

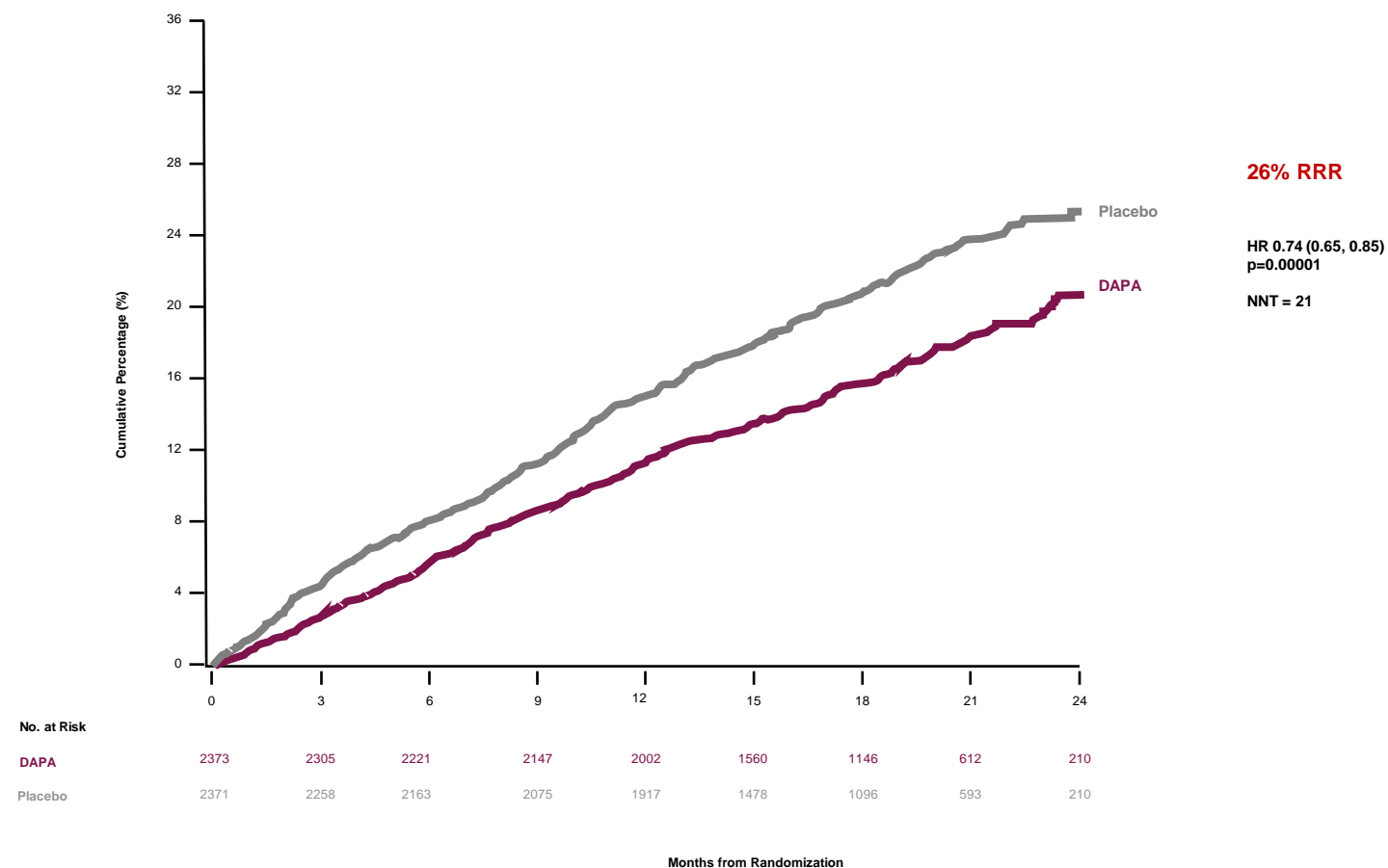
# CCS HF Guidelines 2021 Recommendations

- We recommend that an ARNI be used in place of an ACEI or ARB, in patients with HFrEF, who remain symptomatic despite treatment with appropriate doses of GDMT to decrease CV death, HF hospitalizations, and symptoms  
(Strong Recommendation; High- Quality Evidence)
- We recommend that patients admitted to hospital for acute decompensated HF with HFrEF should be switched to an ARNI, from an ACEI or ARB, when stabilized and before hospital discharge  
(Strong Recommendation; Moderate-Quality Evidence)
- We suggest that patients admitted to hospital with a new diagnosis of HFrEF should be treated with ARNI as first-line therapy, as an alternative to either an ACEI or ARB  
(Weak Recommendation; Moderate-Quality Evidence)

# Rationale for exploring SGLT2i for the treatment of heart failure in patients without diabetes



# DAPA-HF Study: Primary Endpoint: CV Death or hHF or an Urgent HF Visit<sup>1</sup>

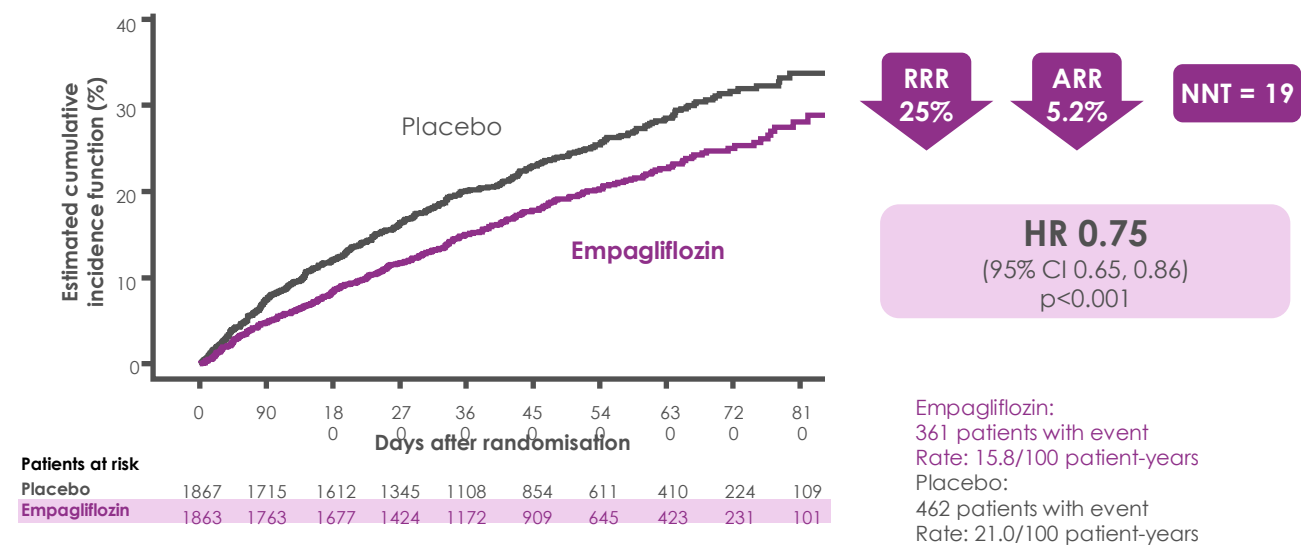


DAPA = dapagliflozin; HF = heart failure; hHF = hospitalization for heart failure; HR = hazard ratio; NNT = number needed to treat.

1. McMurray J. Presentation at: European Society of Cardiology Congress. September 1, 2019; Paris, France.

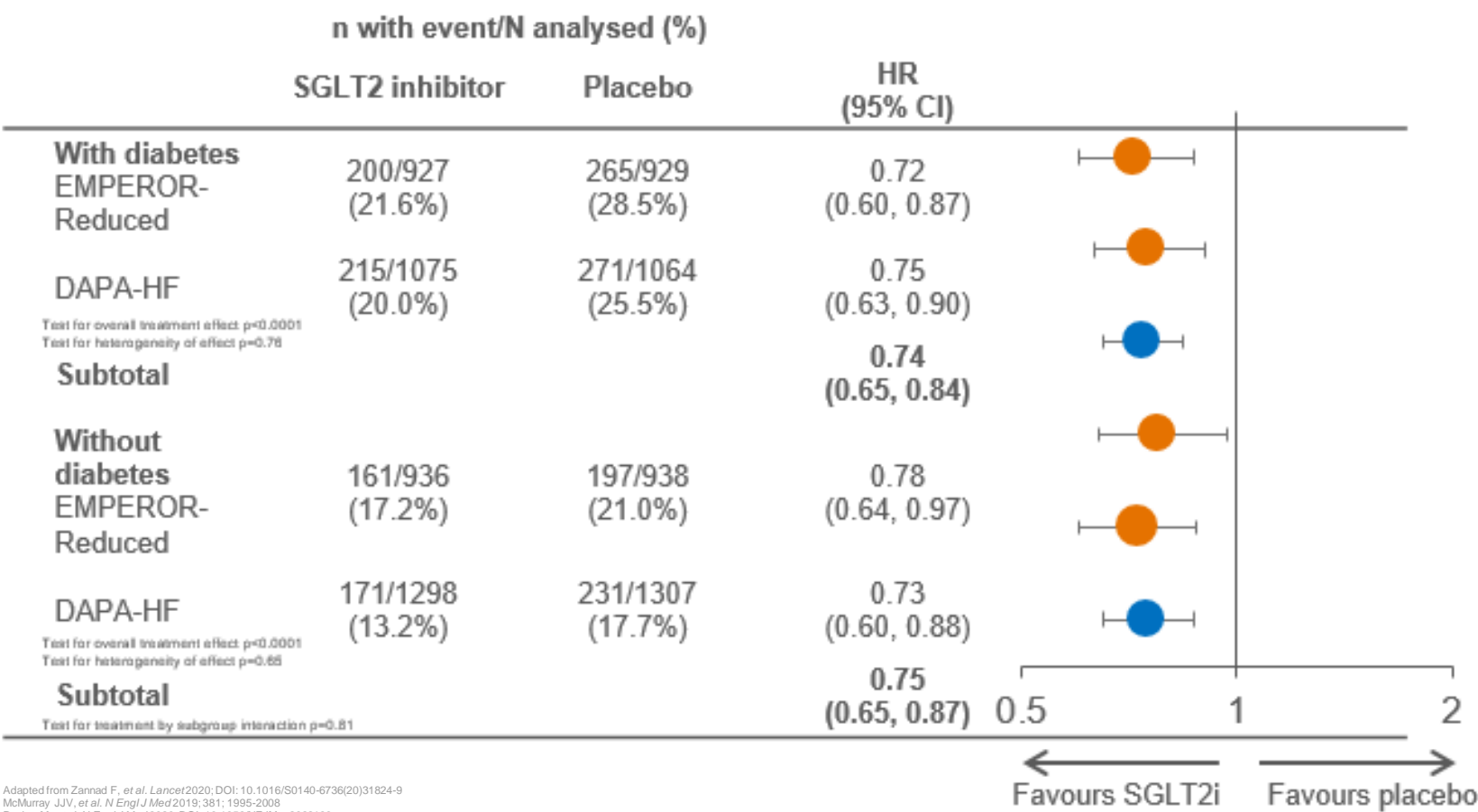
# EMPEROR – Reduced Study:

## Primary Endpoint: First adjudicated CV death or hospitalisation for heart failure



Cox regression model including covariates age, baseline eGFR, geographic region, baseline diabetes status, sex, LVEF and treatment  
CV, cardiovascular; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; LVEF, left ventricular ejection fraction; ARR, absolute risk reduction; RRR, relative risk reduction. NNT: Number needed to treat  
Data on file

# Pooled treatment effects of empagliflozin and dapagliflozin on the composite of first hospitalization for heart failure or cardiovascular death by diabetes status



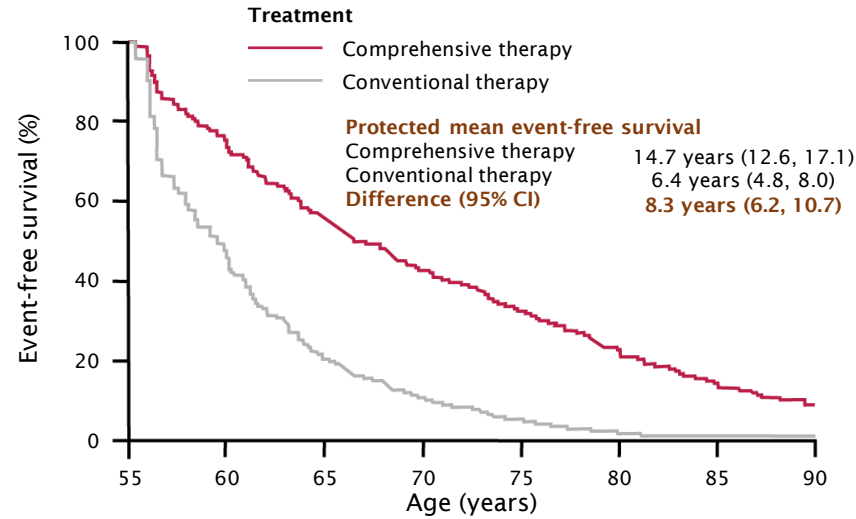
## CCS HF Guidelines 2021 Recommendation SGLT2i

- We recommend an SGLT2 inhibitor, such as dapagliflozin or empagliflozin, be used in patients with HFrEF, with or without concomitant type 2 diabetes, to improve symptoms and quality of life and to reduce the risk of HF hospitalization and/or CV mortality

(Strong Recommendation; High-Quality Evidence).

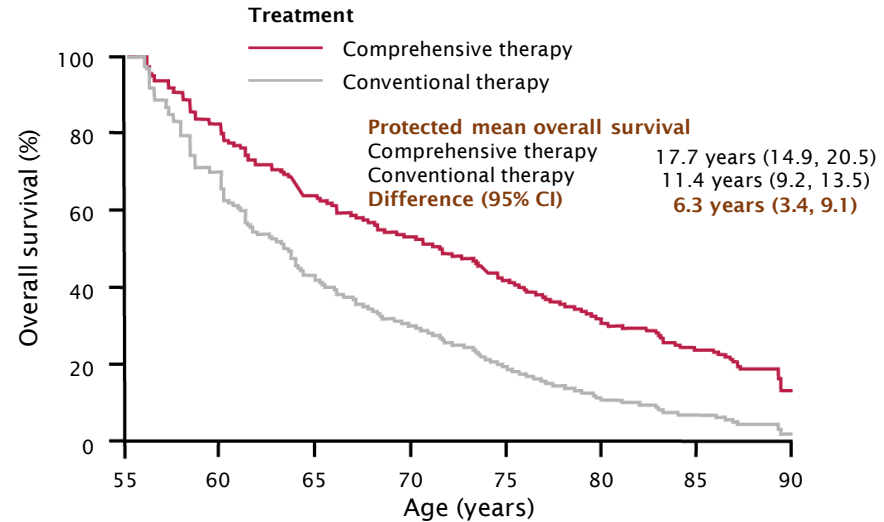
# (ARNi + BB + MRA + SGLT2 inhibitor) vs limited conventional therapy (ACEi/ARB + BB)

Primary endpoint: Composite of CV death or first hHF



additional years free from  
CV death or HF hospitalization

Starting at age 55



**6** additional years  
of overall survival

Starting at age 65

ACEi, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker; ARNi, angiotensin receptor neprilysin inhibitor; BB,  $\beta$  blocker; CI, confidence interval; CV, cardiovascular; HF, heart failure; HFREF, heart failure with reduced ejection fraction; MRA, mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; SGLT2, sodium-glucose co-transporter 2

Adapted from Vaduganathan M, et al. *Lancet* 2020;396:121-128

## HFrEF: LVEF $\leq$ 40% AND SYMPTOMS

### Initiate Standard Therapies

ARNI or ACEi/ARB  
then substitute ARNI

BETA BLOCKER

MRA

SGLT2 INHIBITOR

### New recommendation

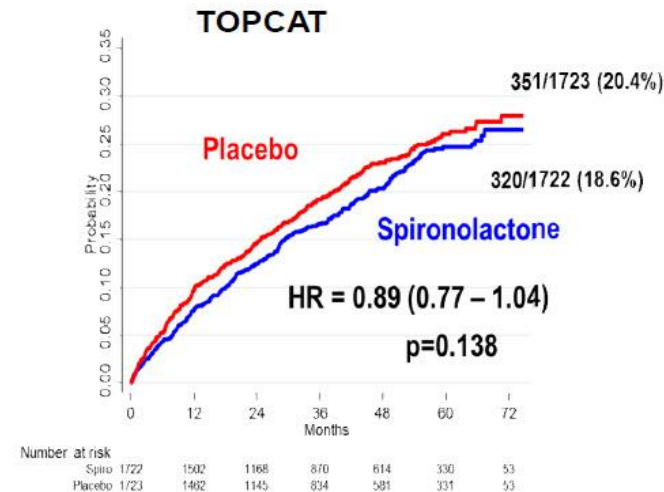
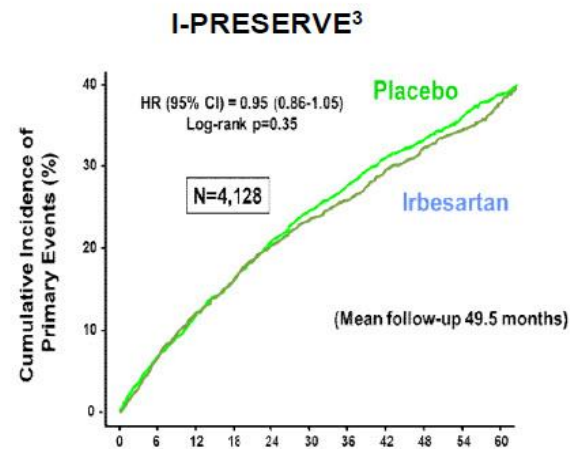
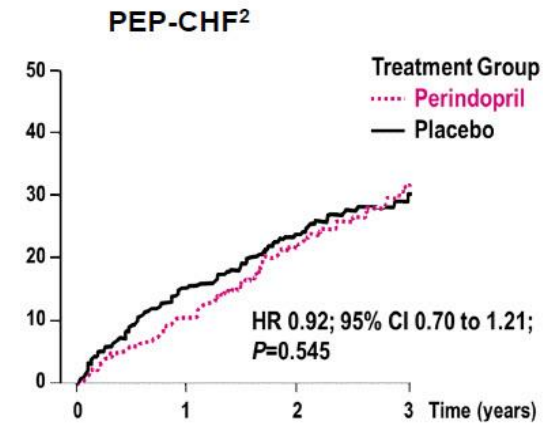
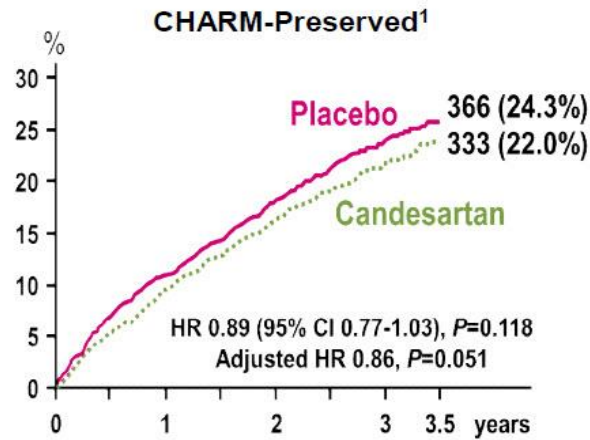
- We recommend that in the absence of contraindications, patients with HFrEF be treated with combination therapy including 1 evidence-based medication from each of the following categories:
  - a. ARNI (or ACEi/ARB);
  - b. Beta-blocker;
  - c. MRA;
  - d. SGLT2 inhibitor.

*Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence*

***Over ~3-6 months: Initiate standard therapies as soon as possible and titrate to target or maximally tolerated doses***

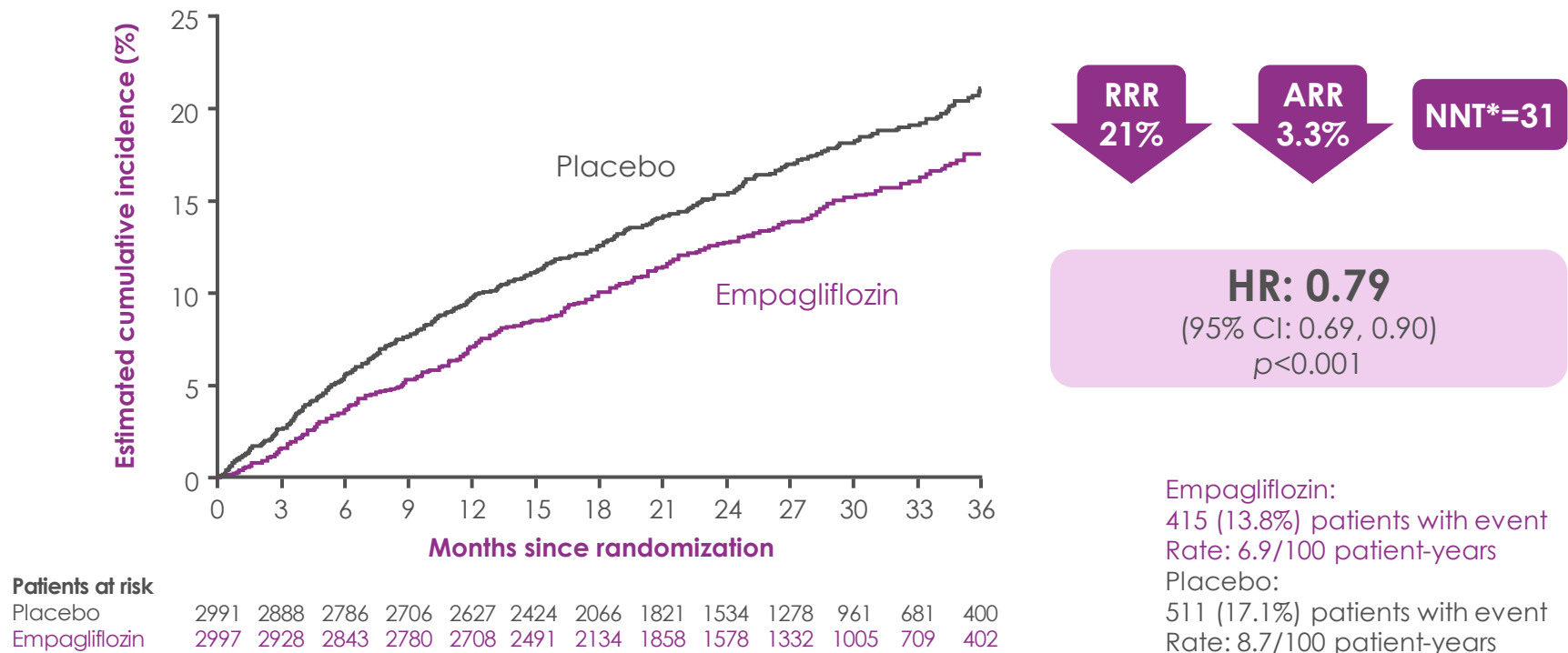
# The Evidence for Newer HF Medications – HFpEF

# What have we learned from previous HFpEF trials?



Yusuf et al., Lancet 2003; 362:777–81. Massie et al., N Engl J Med 2008; 359:2456–67. Cleland et al., Eur Heart J 2006; 27:2338–45. Pitt et al, N Engl J Med 2014;370:1383-92.

# Empagliflozin demonstrated a significant 21% RRR in the composite primary endpoint of CV death or HHF

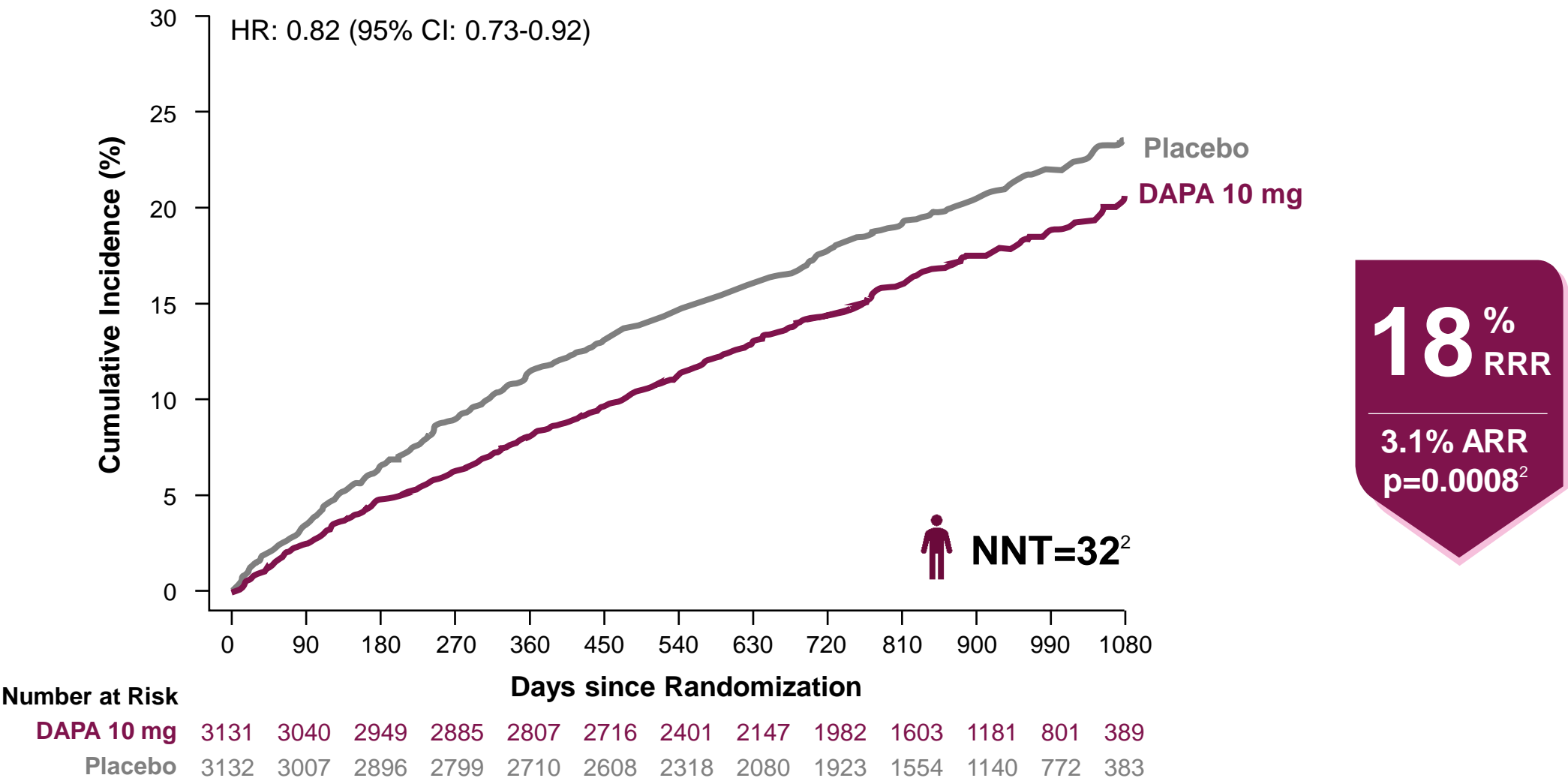


\*During a median trial period of 26 months.

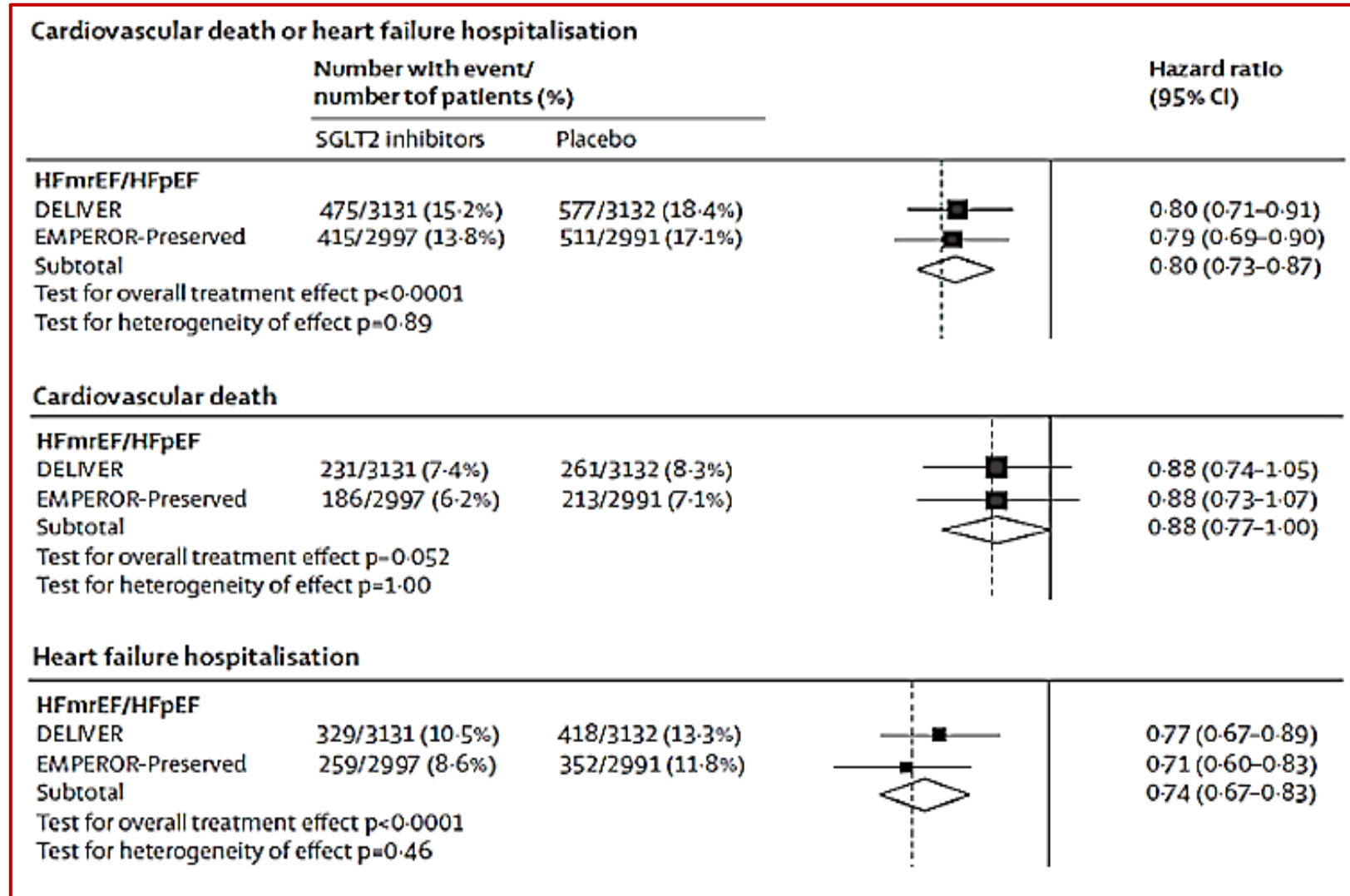
ARR, absolute risk reduction; CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; NNT, number needed to treat; RRR, relative risk reduction.

Anker S et al. N Engl J Med. 2021. DOI:10.1056/NEJMoa2107038

# Primary Composite of CV Death, hHF or Urgent HF Visit<sup>1</sup>



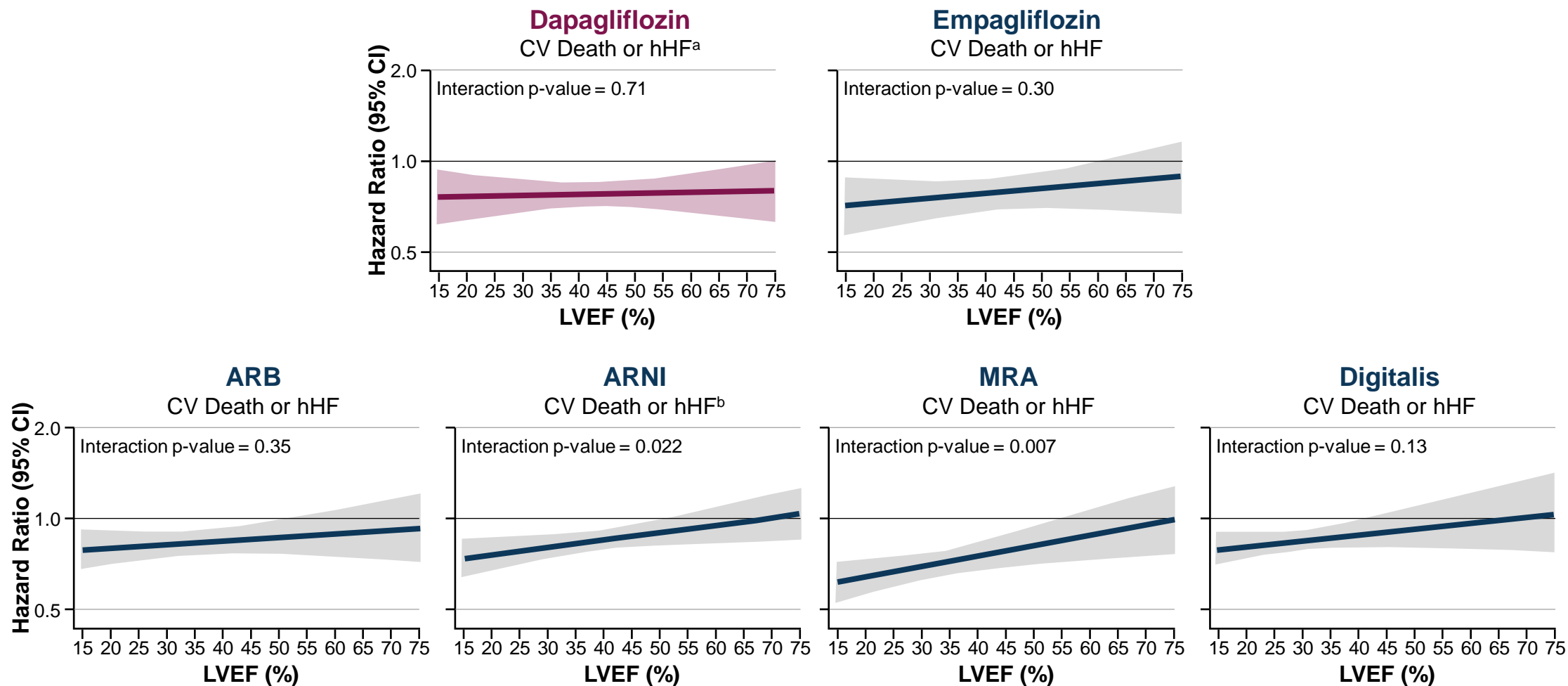
# Pooled Treatment Effect Estimates of SGLT2i compared to Placebo In Patients With HFmrEF/HFpEF



Vaduganathan et al HFpEF, Lancet 2022



# Benefit of Various Molecules Across LVEF<sup>1,2</sup>



Differences among trial design, patient population, and treatment groups impact ability to directly compare results across different trials.

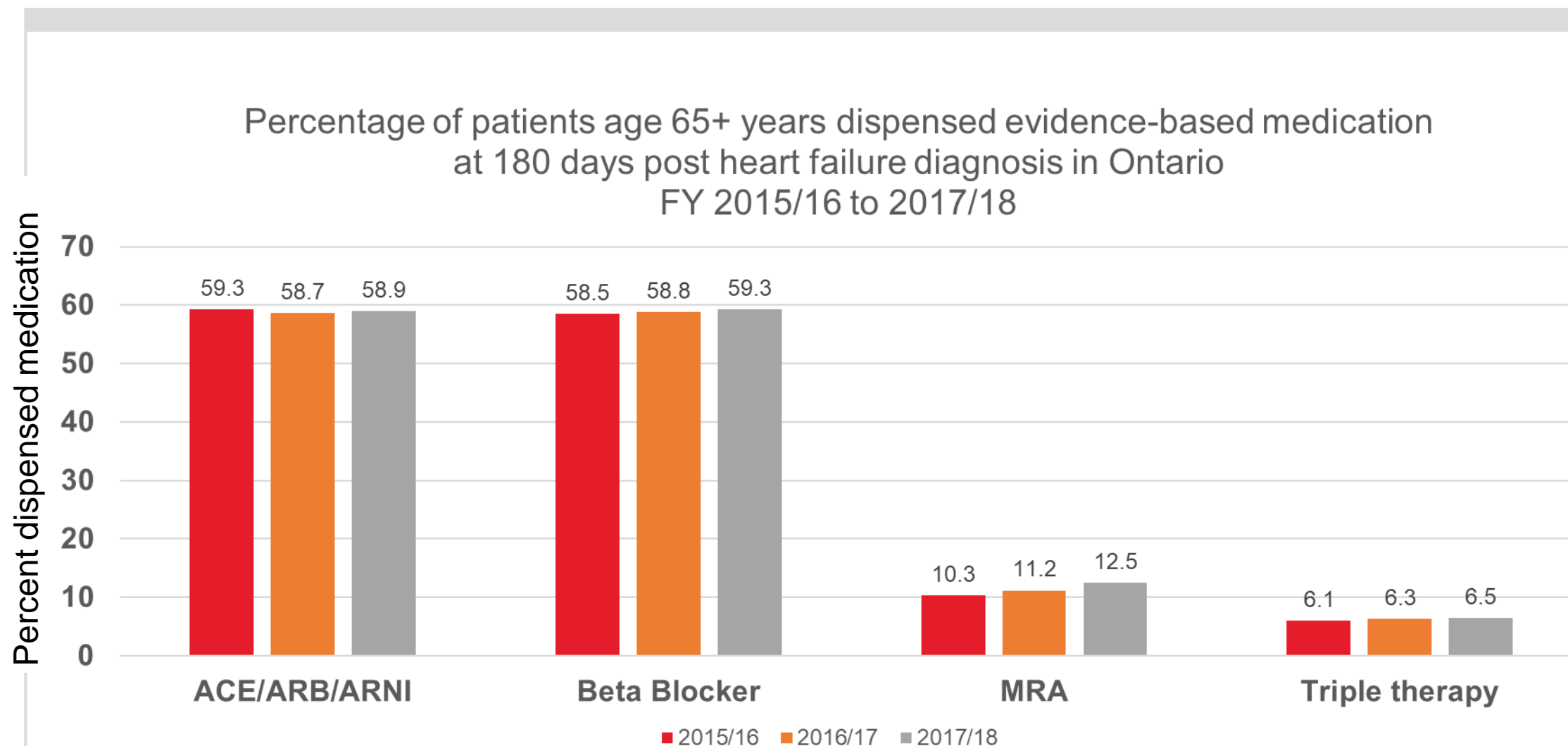
<sup>a</sup>Data utilizing linear modelling to ensure consistency across trials; <sup>b</sup>All data is in comparison to placebo, except for ARNI which is in comparison to enalapril or valsartan.

# Case 1

- 64 yr old male,
  - Had **two exacerbations** within the last 12 months; was treated as an outpatient. Received antibiotics and steroids
  - No ED visit or hospitalization required
- Referred to your office for follow-up as patient also has a history of ischemic cardiomyopathy and diabetes
- 40 pack year history of smoking
- Previous PFTs demonstrated FEV1/FVC= .58
- Post bronchodilation FEV1= 41% of predicted, change in FEV1 =145ml
- COPD assessment score =20
- Eosinophil count =160
- Current treatment: Symbicort 400ug BID + Ventolin PRN, Entresto 97/103 BID, Bisoprolol 10 OD, Aldactone 25, Forxiga 10 OD, Lasix 40 OD, Metformin 500 BID.

**Permission to  
proceed to  
titrate**

# Ontario Landscape- Medications



Data source: Discharge Abstract Database (DAD), Heart Failure Cohort (Schultz et al. 2013); National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS), Ontario Drug Benefit Claims (ODB), Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) Claims Database, Registered Persons Database (RPDB)



## **BEST CARE PROGRAM IN PRIMARY CARE**

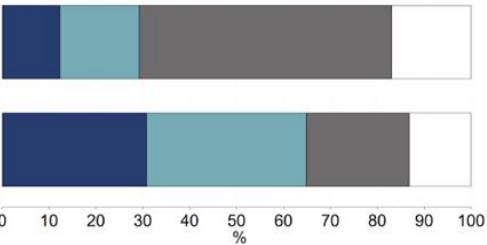
A PROVEN & MEASURABLE VALUE-BASED CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT  
MODEL

# Best Care HF Program – HFrEF Medication Management



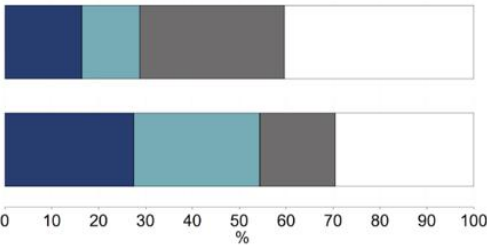
## ARNI

Baseline  
Most Recent Follow-up



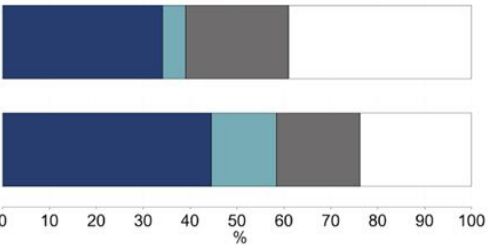
	Number of patients on drug	Proportion optimized (95% CI)
Baseline	19/65	29.2% (18.6% to 41.8%)
Most Recent Follow-up	59/91	64.8% (54.1% to 74.6%)

## Beta-blocker



	Number of patients on drug	Proportion optimized (95% CI)
Baseline	42/146	28.8% (21.5% to 36.8%)
Most Recent Follow-up	81/149	54.4% (46.0% to 62.5%)

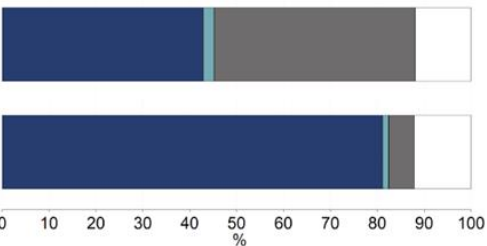
## MRA



	Number of patients on drug	Proportion optimized (95% CI)
Baseline	32/82	39.0% (28.4% to 50.4%)
Most Recent Follow-up	59/101	58.4% (48.2% to 68.1%)

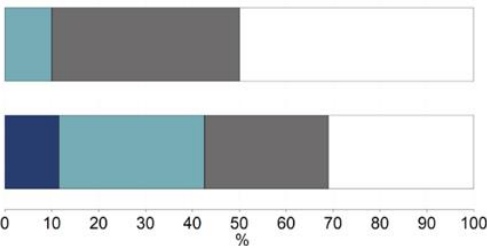
## SGLT2i

Baseline  
Most Recent Follow-up



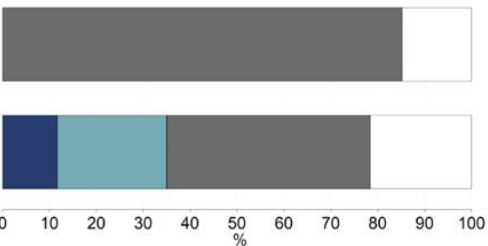
	Number of patients on drug	Proportion optimized (95% CI)
Baseline	19/42	45.2% (29.8% to 61.3%)
Most Recent Follow-up	61/74	81.1% (70.3% to 89.3%)

## Triple Therapy<sup>1</sup>



	Number of patients on drug	Proportion optimized (95% CI)
Baseline	7/70	10.0% (4.1% to 19.5%)
Most Recent Follow-up	37/87	42.5% (32.0% to 53.6%)

## Quadruple Therapy<sup>2</sup>



	Number of patients on drug	Proportion optimized (95% CI)
Baseline	0/27	0
Most Recent Follow-up	21/60	35.0% (23.1% to 48.4%)

Optimized to guidelines

Optimized to tolerance

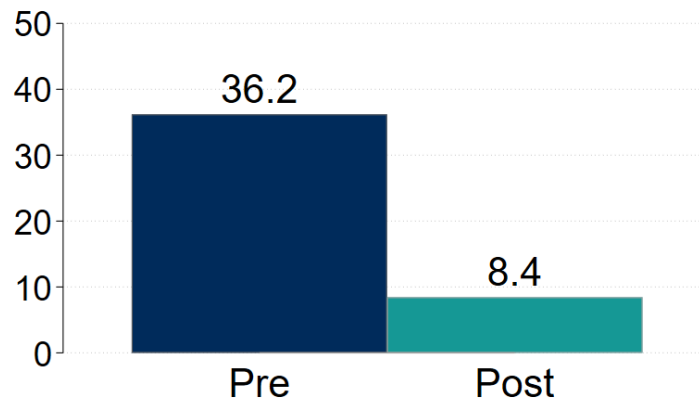
Actively titrating

Currently 53%  
Optimized

# HF-Related Health Service Use and Quality of Life

Number of events / 100 patients with heart failure / year

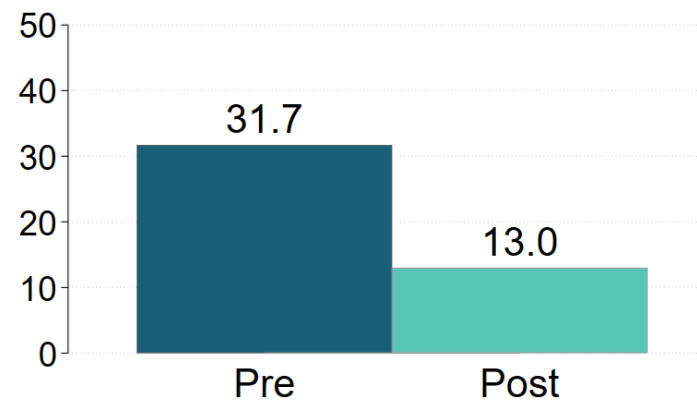
Hospital Admissions



$P < 0.0001$

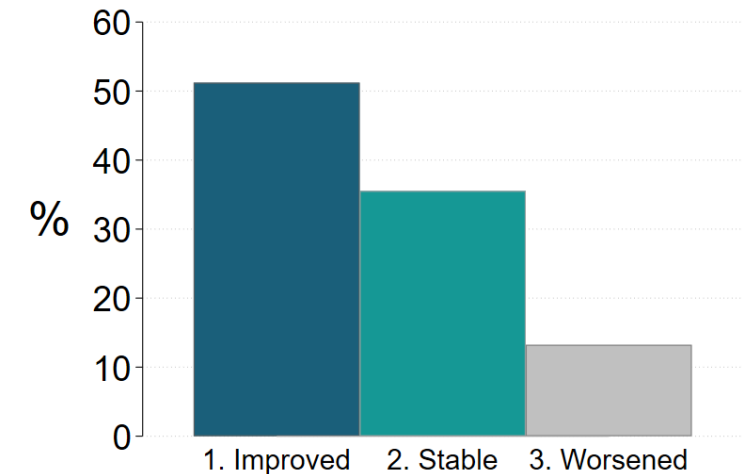
ED Visits

(not leading to a hospital admission)



$P < 0.0001$

Quality of Life



Tested for significance between the pre vs post rate using the Wilcoxon Signed Rank test

**1) There is no such thing as a stable HF patient**

**2) Is there a stable COPD patient?**

# **COPD Management:**

**Do my patients need to take so many medications?**

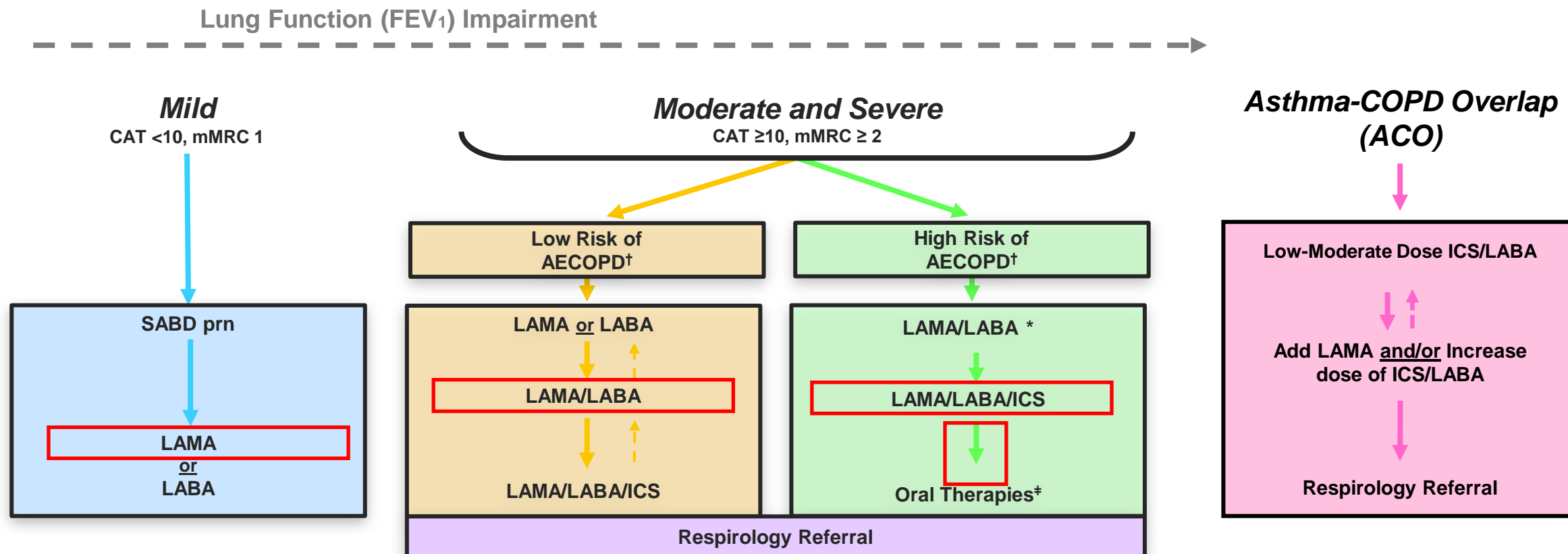
# Goals of Therapy for Patients with COPD

1. Improve symptoms ✓
2. Reduce hospitalizations (exacerbations) ✓
3. Reduce mortality **YES** ✓
4. Prompt up titration to target **YES** ✓

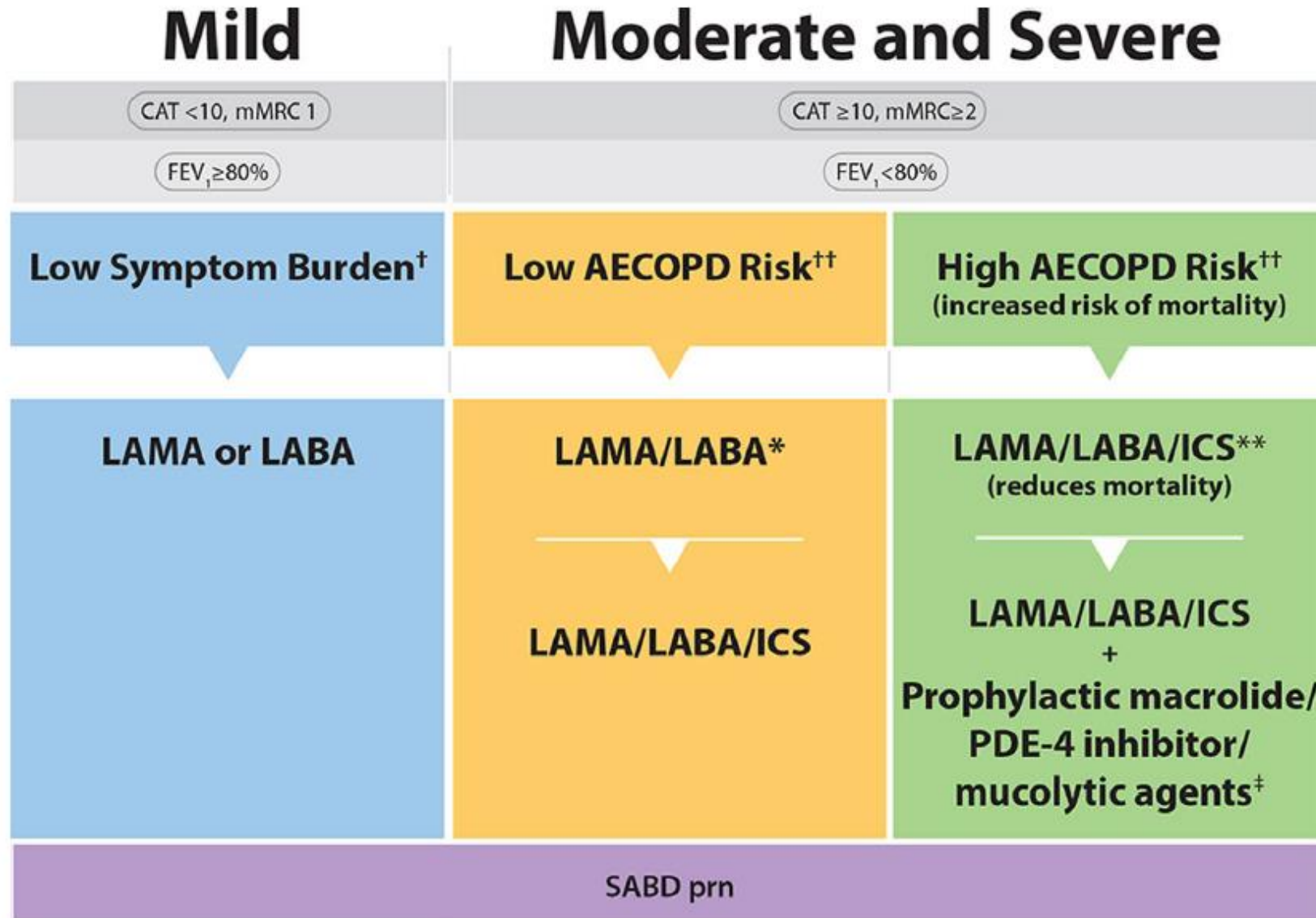
Moderate to Severe  
COPD

Pathway to triple  
therapy

# Canadian Guidelines 2017 & 2019 & 2023



# COPD Pharmacotherapy: Initial and Step-up

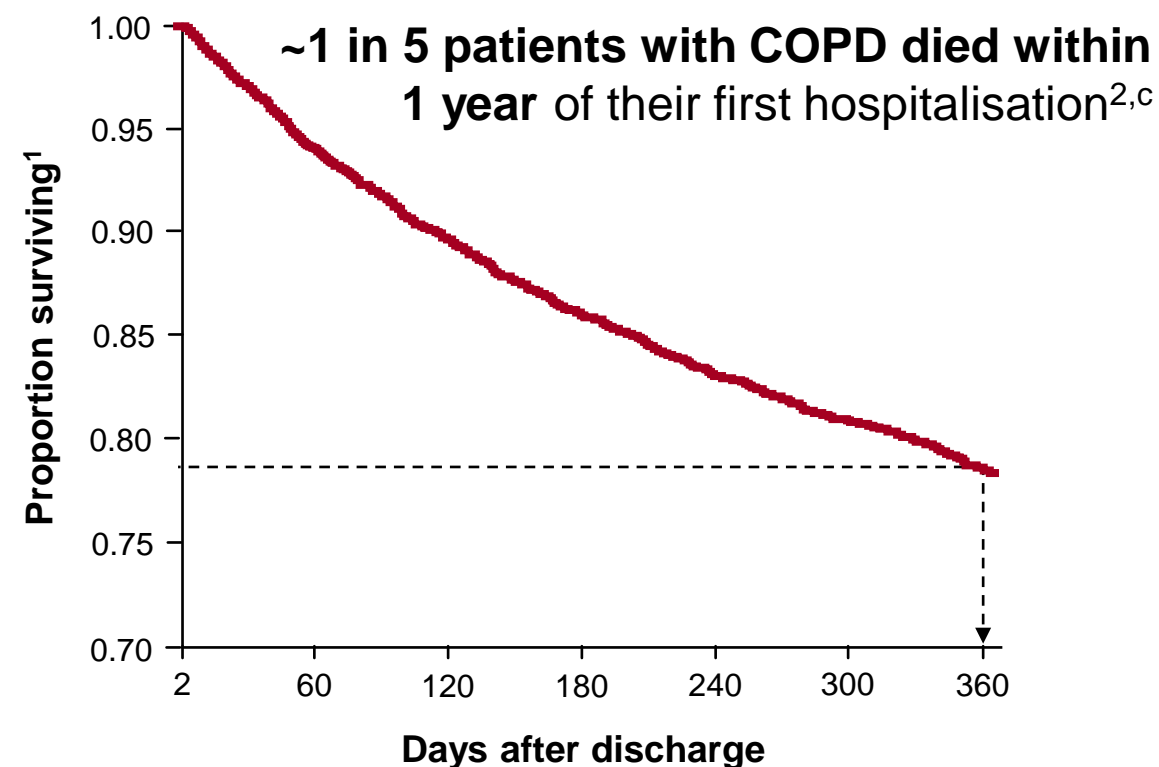


1 Hosp or ED  
2 Abx or Prednisone

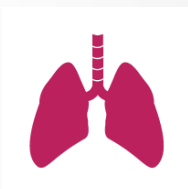


# Exacerbations are associated with increased all-cause mortality

**2 Moderate Exacerbations<sup>ab</sup> Within 1 Year Increased Risk of Death by 80%** [Adjusted OR 1.80 (95% CI 1.19, 2.70)]<sup>1</sup>



Another study found that **respiratory** and **CV disorders** were the **most frequent causes of death** within 1 year of an exacerbation<sup>3,d</sup>



52%






~20%

Note: Figure adapted from Ho TW et al. *PLoS ONE*. 2014;9:e114866; <sup>a</sup>Moderate exacerbations defined as those managed outside hospital, and severe exacerbations as those requiring hospitalization; <sup>b</sup>based on adjusted ORs for comparison of exacerbation frequency in the prior 12 months versus those with no exacerbations in the prior 12 months during a cohort study; <sup>c</sup>A population-based cohort study in 4204 patients with COPD who had their first-ever exacerbation requiring hospitalization was conducted to describe the in-hospital and 1-year outcomes from the LHID in Taiwan; <sup>d</sup>Exacerbation requiring hospitalization. 1. Rothnie KJ et al. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med*. 2018;198:464–471.; 2. Ho TW et al. *PLoS ONE*. 2014;9:e114866; 3. Garcia-Sanz MT et al. *J Thorac Dis* 2017;9:636-645.



# Reducing Exacerbations and Mortality in COPD

# ETHOS Study Population - Moderate to very severe COPD

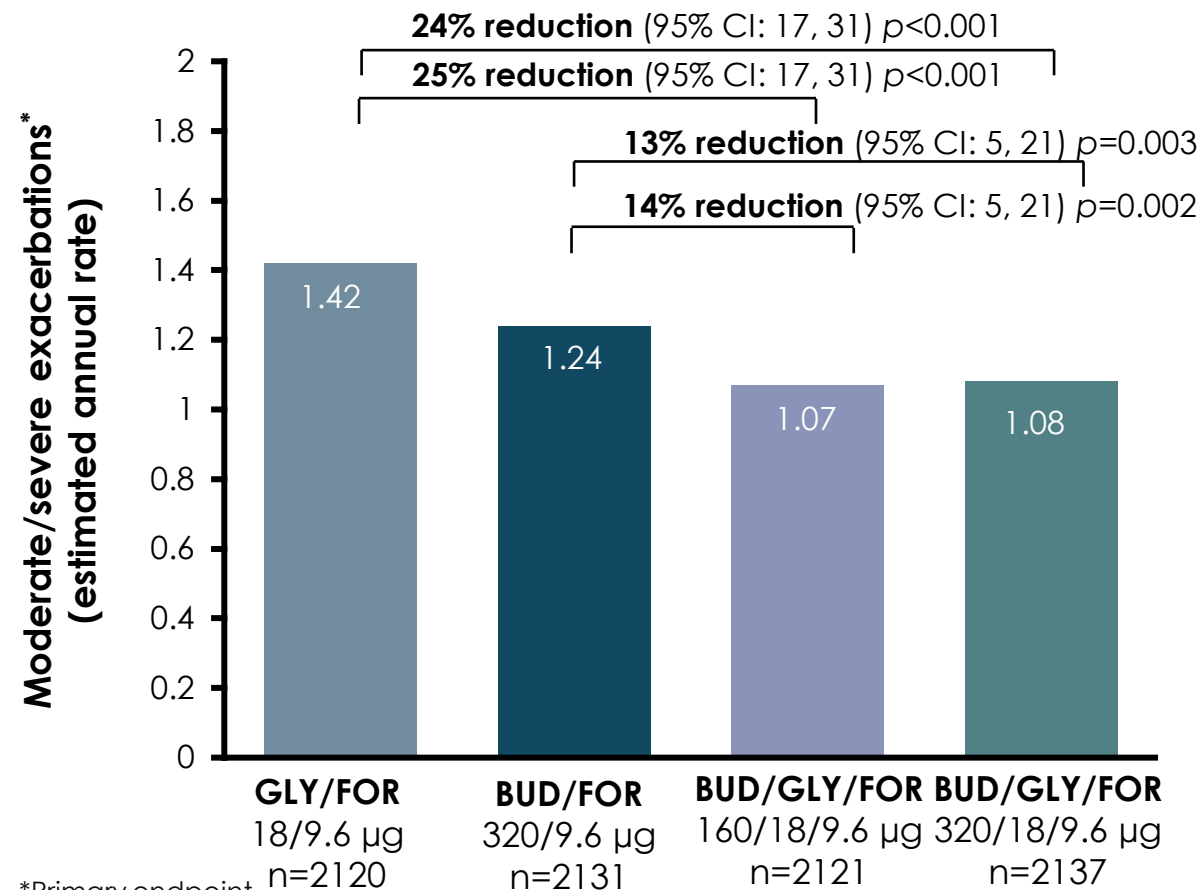
 <b>Patient Population</b>	Moderate to very severe COPD with a <b>history of moderate or severe exacerbation(s)</b>
 <b>Key Inclusion Criteria</b>	<div>40-80 years of age</div> <div>Current or former smoker (≥10 pack-year history)</div> <div>Symptomatic (CAT ≥10)</div> <div>On ≥2 inhaled maintenance therapies<sup>a</sup> for COPD for ≥6 weeks prior to screening</div> <div>Postbronchodilator FEV<sub>1</sub> 25-65% of predicted normal</div> <div>History of moderate or severe COPD exacerbations in the 12 months prior to screening:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ≥1 moderate/severe if FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt;50% of predicted normal or</li><li>• ≥2 moderate or ≥1 severe if FEV<sub>1</sub> ≥50% of predicted normal</li></ul></div>
 <b>Key Exclusion Criteria</b>	<div>Current diagnosis of asthma</div> <div>COPD due to α<sub>1</sub>-antitrypsin deficiency</div> <div>Significant diseases or conditions other than COPD</div> <div>Acute worsening of COPD ≤6 weeks prior to screening, resulting in treatment with OCS or antibiotics</div>

<sup>a</sup>Included scheduled SABAs and/or SAMAs.  
1. Rabe KF et al. *Respir Med.* 2019;158:59-66. 2. Rabe KF et al. Article and supplementary appendix. *N Engl J Med.* 2020;383:35-48.

# ETHOS: Exacerbation Rates with Triple Therapy vs. ICS/LABA and LAMA/LABA

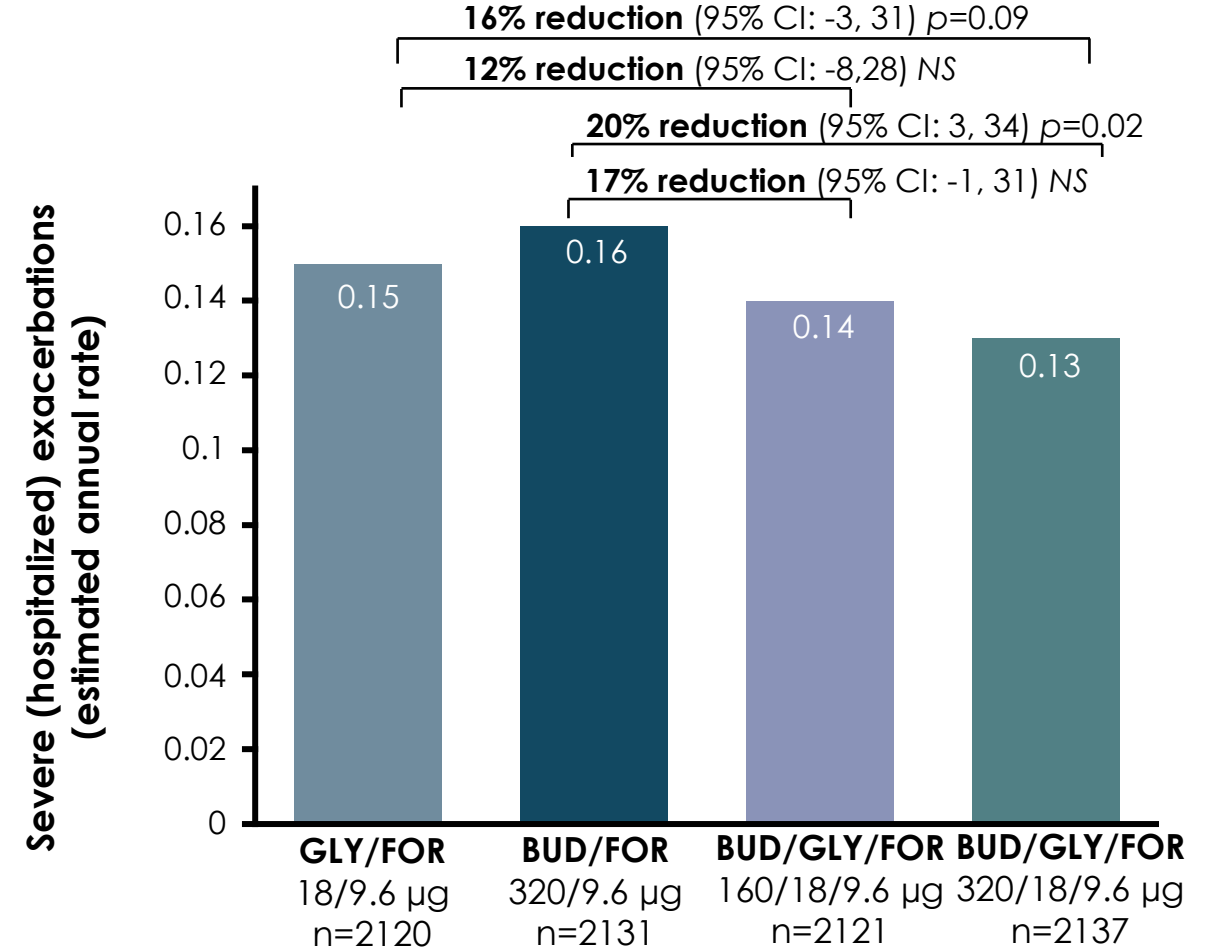
## ETHOS: Estimated annual rate of moderate/severe exacerbations

BUD/GLY/FOR vs. GLY/FOR vs. BUD/FOR



## ETHOS: Estimated annual rate of severe exacerbations

BUD/GLY/FOR vs. GLY/FOR vs. BUD/FOR



\*Primary endpoint.

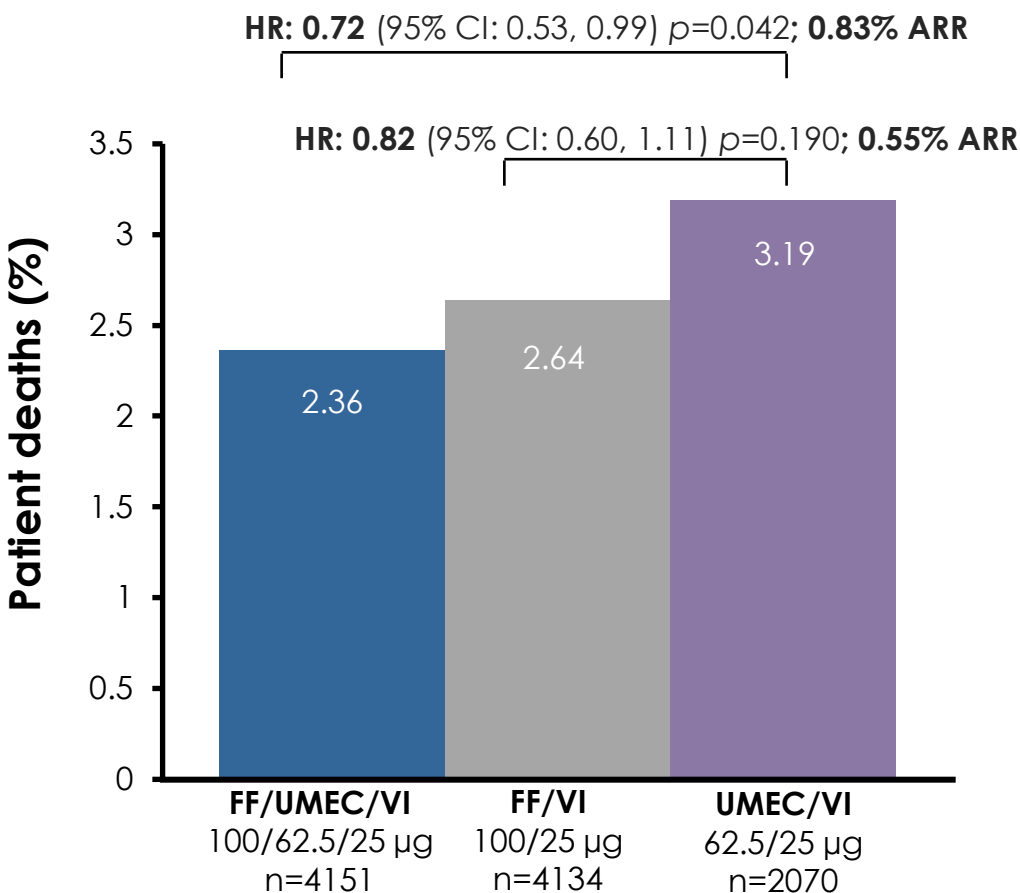
BUD: budesonide; CI: confidence interval; FOR: formoterol; GLY: glycopyrrolate; ICS: inhaled corticosteroid; LABA: long-acting  $\beta$  agonist; LAMA: long-acting muscarinic antagonist; NS: not significant.

1. Rabe et al. N Engl J Med. 2020;383:35-48.

# Reduction in the Risk of All Cause Mortality is a Class-effect of Triple Therapy in COPD\*

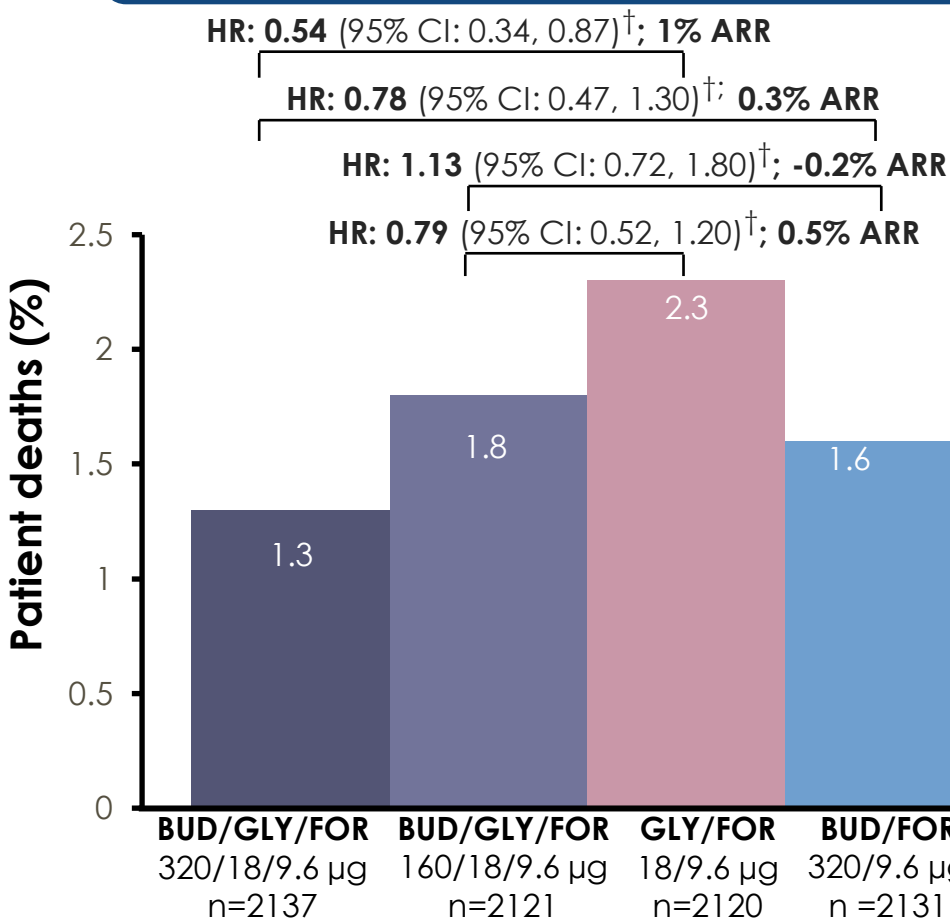
IMPACT:<sup>1</sup> Relative reduction in the risk of death

38%



ETHOS:<sup>2</sup> Relative reduction in the risk of death

46%

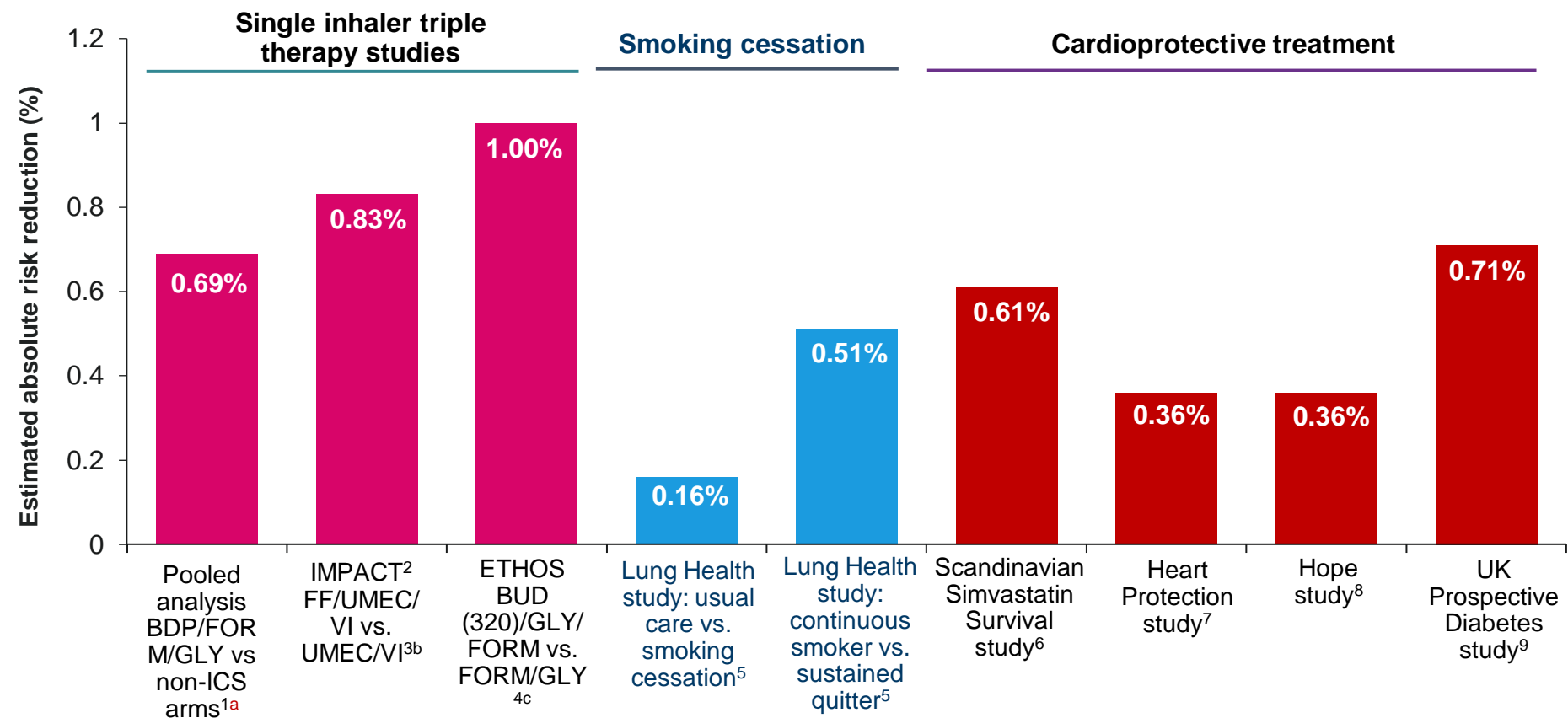


\*Across-study comparisons should be treated with caution due to differences in study design and patient population; †The analysis of time to death from any cause over 52 weeks was performed in the intention-to-treat population with the use of a treatment policy estimand, which included all observed data from the patients regardless of whether they continued to receive their assigned treatment.

ACM: all-cause mortality; ARR: absolute risk reduction; BUD: budesonide; CI: confidence interval; ETHOS: the efficacy and safety of triple therapy in obstructive lung disease; FF: fluticasone furoate; FOR: formoterol; GLY: glycopyrrolate; HR: hazard ratio; ICS: inhaled corticosteroid; IMPACT: informing the pathway of COPD treatment; LABA: long-acting beta2-agonist; LAMA: long-acting muscarinic; NS: not significant UMEC: umeclidinium; VI: vilanterol.

1. Lipson et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2020;201(12):1508-16; 2. Rabe et al. N Engl J Med. 2020;383:35-48.

# All-cause mortality benefits with single inhaler triple therapy are similar, or better than, smoking cessation and cardioprotective treatments



Adapted from Bourbeau J, Bafadhel M, Barnes NC, Compton C, Di Boscio V, Lipson DA, Jones PW, Martin N, Weiss G, Halpin DMG. Benefit/Risk Profile of Single-Inhaler Triple Therapy in COPD. Int J Chron Obstruct Pulmon Dis. 2021 Mar 1;16:499-517. doi: 10.2147/COPD.S291967. PMID: 33688176; PMCID: PMC7935340.

<sup>a</sup>Pooled analysis of AEs leading to a fatal outcome (safety population); <sup>b</sup>on- and off-treatment deaths in post hoc analysis with additional vital status follow-up (vital status available for 99.6% of patients at nominal Week 52); <sup>c</sup>analysis included all observed data regardless of whether patients continued to receive their assigned treatment.

1. Vestbo J, Fabbri L, Papi A, et al. Inhaled corticosteroid containing combinations and mortality in COPD. Eur Respir J. 2018;52(6):6. doi:10.1183/13993003.01230-2018. 2. Lipson DA, Barnhart F, Brealey N, et al. Once-daily single-inhaler triple versus dual therapy in patients with COPD. N Engl J Med. 2018;378(18):1671-1680. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa1713901. 3. Lipson DA, Crim C, Criner GJ, et al. Reduction in all-cause mortality with fluticasone furoate/umeclidinium/vilanterol in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2020;201(12):1508-1516. 4. Rabe KF, Martinez FJ, Ferguson GT, et al. Triple Inhaled Therapy at Two Glucocorticoid Doses in Moderate-to-Very-Severe COPD. N Engl J Med. 2020;383(1):35-48. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa1916046. 5. Anthonisen NR, Skeans MA, Wise RA, et al. The effects of a smoking cessation intervention on 14.5-year mortality: a randomized clinical trial. Ann Intern Med. 2005;142(4):233-239. 6. Randomised trial of cholesterol lowering in 4444 patients with coronary heart disease: the Scandinavian Simvastatin Survival Study (4S). Lancet. 1994;344(8934):1383-1389. 7. Heart Protection Study Collaborative G. MRC/BHF Heart Protection Study of cholesterol lowering with simvastatin in 20,536 high-risk individuals: a randomised placebo-controlled trial. Lancet. 2002;360(9326):7-22. 8. Yusuf S, Sleight P, et al.; Heart Outcomes Prevention Evaluation Study I. Effects of an angiotensin-converting-enzyme inhibitor, ramipril, on cardiovascular events in high-risk patients. N Engl J Med. 2000;342(3):145-153. 9. UK Prospective Diabetes Study (UKPDS) Group. Effect of intensive blood-glucose control with metformin on complications in overweight patients with type 2 diabetes (UKPDS 34). UK Prospective Diabetes Study (UKPDS) Group. Lancet. 1998;352(9131):854-865.

# Case 1

- 64 yr old male,
  - Had **two exacerbations** within the last 12 months; was treated as an outpatient. Received antibiotics and steroids
  - No ED visit or hospitalization required
- Referred to your office for follow-up as patient also has a history of ischemic cardiomyopathy and diabetes
- 40 pack year history of smoking
- Previous PFTs demonstrated FEV1/FVC= .58
- Post bronchodilation FEV1= 41% of predicted, change in FEV1 =145ml
- COPD assessment score =20
- Eosinophil count =160
- Current treatment: Symbicort 400ug BID + Ventolin PRN, Entresto 97/103 BID, Bisoprolol 10 OD, Aldactone 25, Forxiga 10 OD, Lasix 40 OD, Metformin 500 BID.

**Permission to  
proceed to  
titrate**

## BEST CARE IN PRIMARY CARE - ENHANCED PHARMACOLOGICAL THERAPY

Patients classified as GOLD E at initial visit, with a confirmed or suspected COPD diagnosis with their most recent visit in the last fiscal year.

COPD - Pharmacological Therapy			Patients with a confirmed or suspected diagnosis	
Controller Medications	Initial Visit		Most Recent Follow-up	
	N=912		N=912	
<a href="#">Closed Triple (ICS/LABA/LAMA)</a>	138	15%	462	51%
Open Triple (ICS/LABA/LAMA)	369	40%	264	29%
<b>Total Triple (Open &amp; Closed)</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>80%</b>
<a href="#">Dual (LABA/LAMA)</a>	90	10%	63	7%
Dual (ICS/LABA)	116	13%	63	7%
Single (ICS)	0	0%	0	0%
<a href="#">Single (LAMA)</a>	11	1%	0	0%
<a href="#">Single (SABA/SAMA)</a>	159	17%	54	6%
No Therapy	29	3%	6	1%

# CHALLENGE QUESTION

- 1) There is evidence of mortality reduction for closed triple (SIT)
- 2) Can we assume that open triple provides the same result
- 3) Should we be switching to closed triple (SIT)

## Results: Exacerbations and Mortality

**TABLE 3 ] Exacerbation Rates and All-Cause Mortality During 12-Month Follow-up**

Study Cohort	Single-Inhaler Triple Therapy (SITT) (n = 1,011)	Multiple-Inhaler Triple Therapy (MITT) (n = 3,614)	Total (N = 4,625)	<i>p</i> <sup>a</sup>
No. of exacerbations, mean (SD)	0.56 (0.87)	0.71 (1.00)	0.67 (0.97)	< .001
Patients with exacerbations, No. (%)	385 (38.1)	1,605 (44.4)	1,990 (43.0)	< .001
0 exacerbations	626 (61.9)	2,009 (55.6)	2,635 (57.0)	< .001
1 exacerbation	270 (26.7)	1,043 (28.9)	1,313 (28.4)	
≥ 2 exacerbations	115 (11.4)	562 (15.6)	677 (14.6)	
Patients with moderate exacerbations, No. (%)	302 (29.9)	1,210 (33.5)	1,512 (32.7)	.031
Moderate exacerbations, mean (SD)	0.34 (0.55)	0.39 (0.62)	0.38 (0.6)	.013
Patients with severe exacerbations, No. (%)	117 (11.6)	557 (15.4)	674 (14.5)	.002
Severe exacerbations, mean (SD)	0.22 (0.83)	0.32 (0.81)	0.29 (0.79)	.003
Time until first exacerbation, d, mean (SD)	203.3 (98.5)	179.3 (99.1)	183.9 (99.4)	< .001
Deaths, No. (%)	29 (2.9%; 95% CI: 1.8-3.9)	159 (4.4%; 95% CI: 3.8-5.1)	190 (4.1%; 95% CI: 3.5-4.7)	.027
Time until death, d, mean (SD)	238.8 (88.1)	196.2 (93)	202.8 (93.3)	.023
HR (95% CI) for exacerbations	0.683 (0.607-0.769)	...		.001
HR, (95% CI) for mortality	0.668 (0.625-0.712)	...		.027

<sup>a</sup>Statistical tests comparing independent groups for qualitative ( $\chi^2$ ) or quantitative (analysis of variance) data. Analyses are adjusted for covariates: age, sex, BMI, smoking status, time from diagnosis, FEV<sub>1</sub>, eosinophil count, heart failure, renal failure, Charlson Comorbidity Index, and previous exacerbations.

**Should we be increasing the  
pace of up titration in COPD on  
the pathway to triple?**

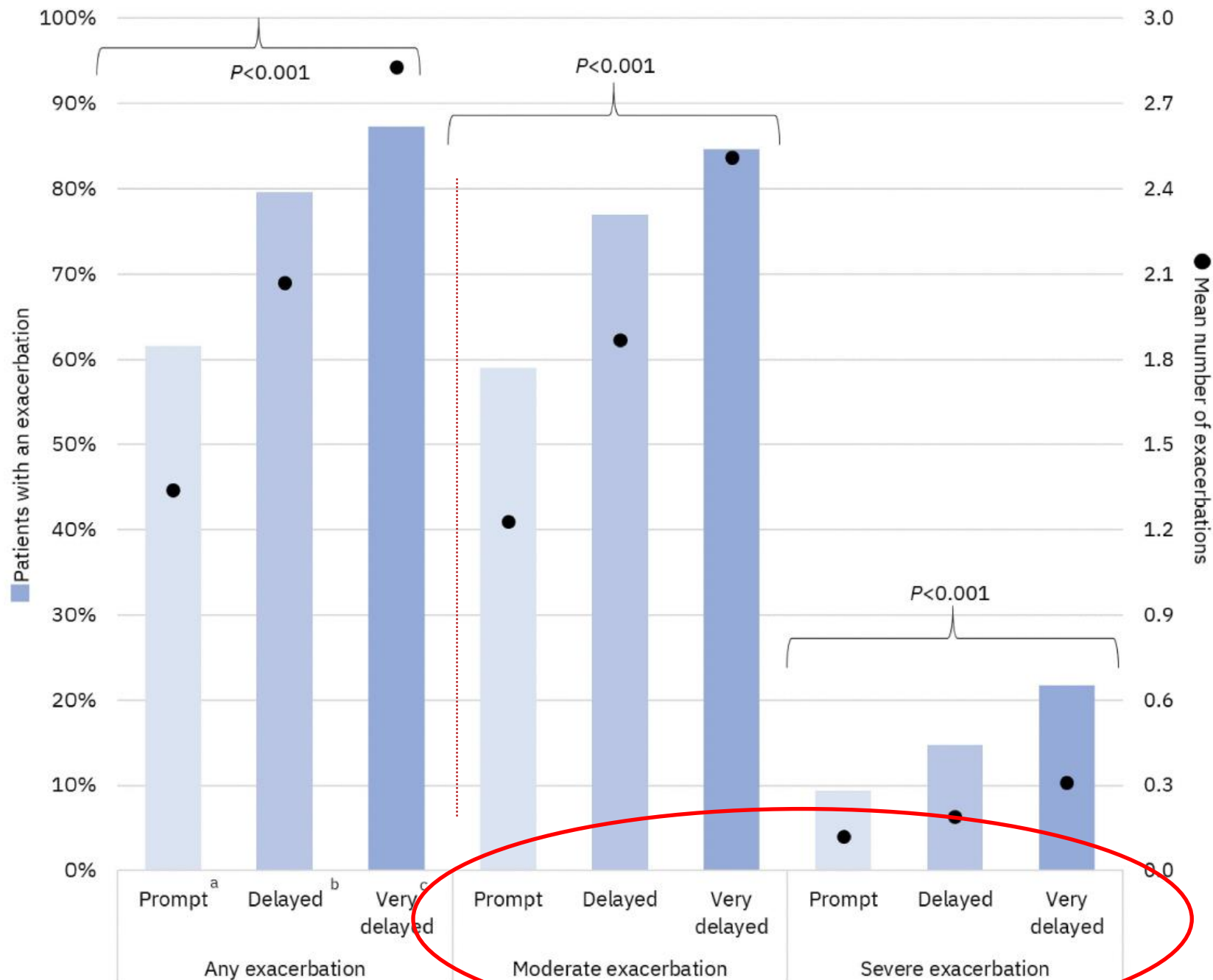
# Triple Therapy Escalation

Escalation to triple therapy in COPD - E.

Prompt:  $\leq 30$  days  
Delayed: 31-180 days  
Very delayed: 181-365

Prompt escalation leads to better patient outcomes.

Tkacz et al. *IJ COPD*  
2022;17:329-342.



# HOW CAN I IMPLEMENT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS IN MY PRACTICE?

BEST CARE IN  
PRIMARY CARE

## **Best Care in Primary Care**

**is a front-line clinical program**

**operated by a  
not-for-profit corporation**

**lead by a  
community board of governors  
since 2003**

**funded by the  
Ontario Ministry of Health**

**at  
270 sites across Ontario**



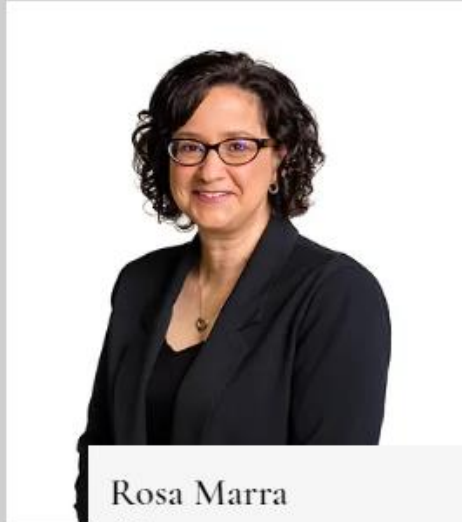
Dr. Cathy Faulds  
Chair Director



Ian McIntosh  
Director



Paul Huras  
Director



Rosa Marra  
Director



Dr. Timothy  
O'Callahan  
Director



Glenn Lanteigne  
Director

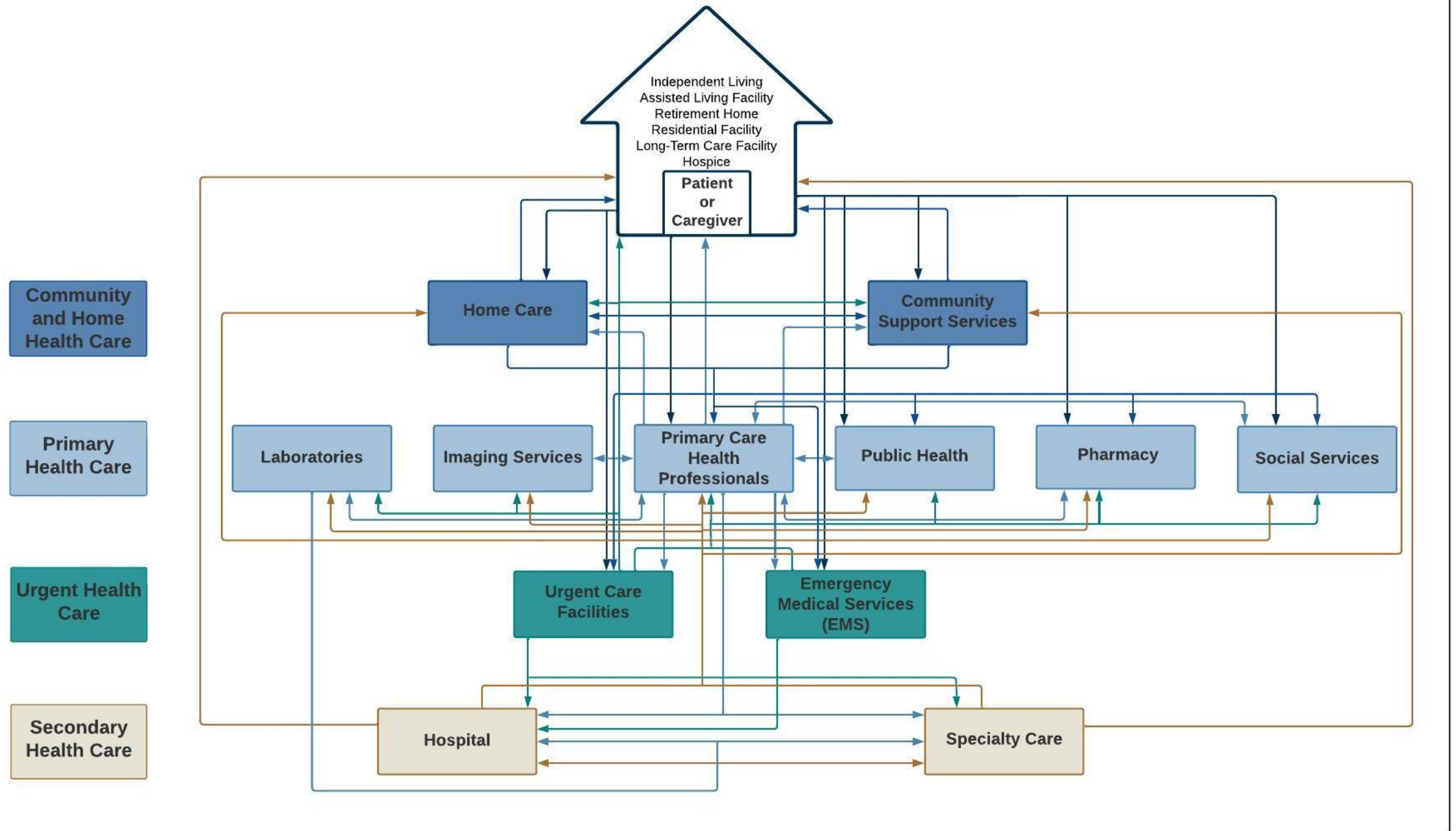
# WHY DOES THE HEALTH SYSTEM NEED BEST CARE IN PRIMARY CARE

- The vast majority of patients are managed by primary care
- There are significant capacity limitations in primary care
- The health system is more reactive, than proactive, preventive
- Chronic disease management is complex - requires a team
- Structured, standardized chronic disease management strategy is required to improve patient outcomes and health system performance

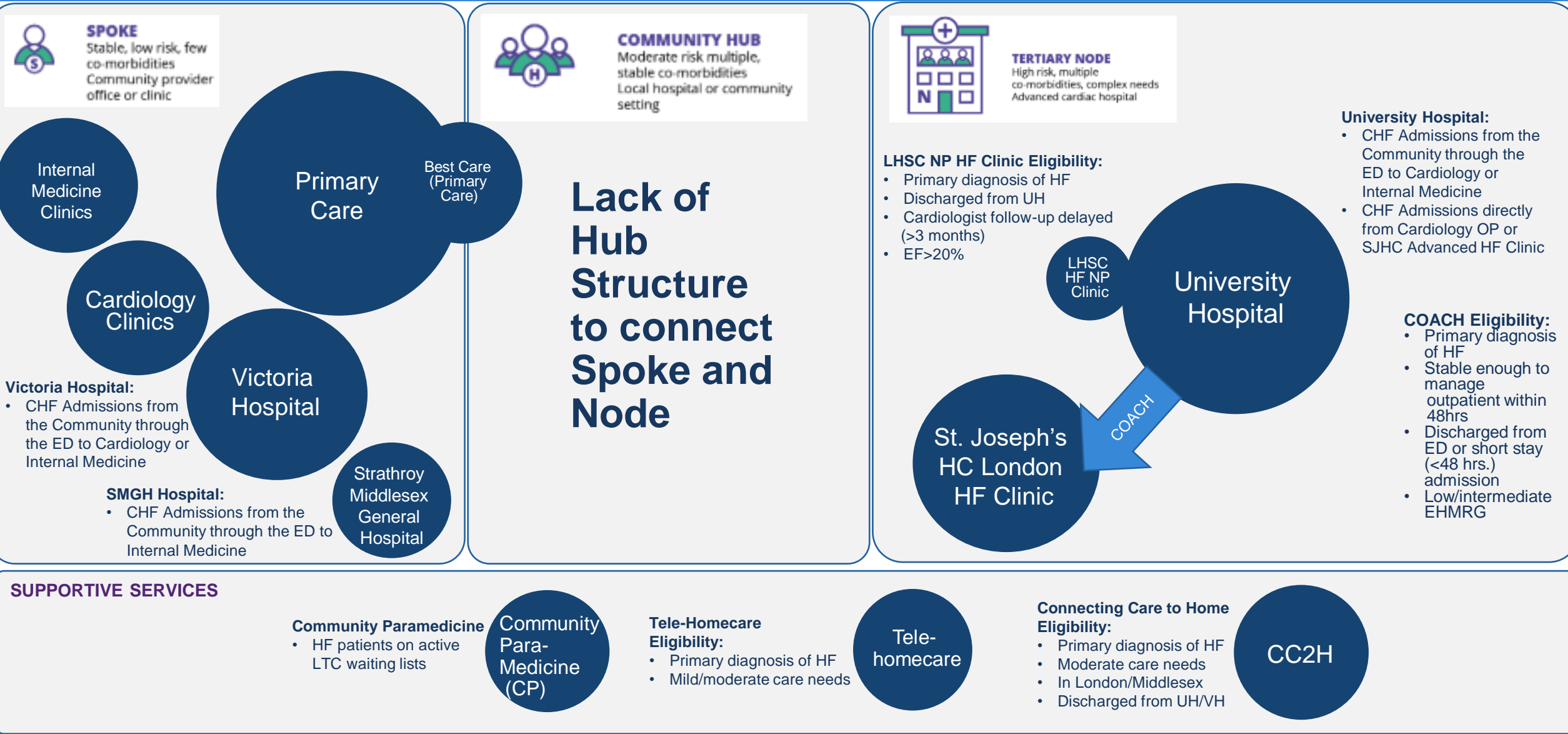


**“This is the program that I have been looking for, for the last 30-years”**  
**Dr. Robert McKelvie Cardiology**

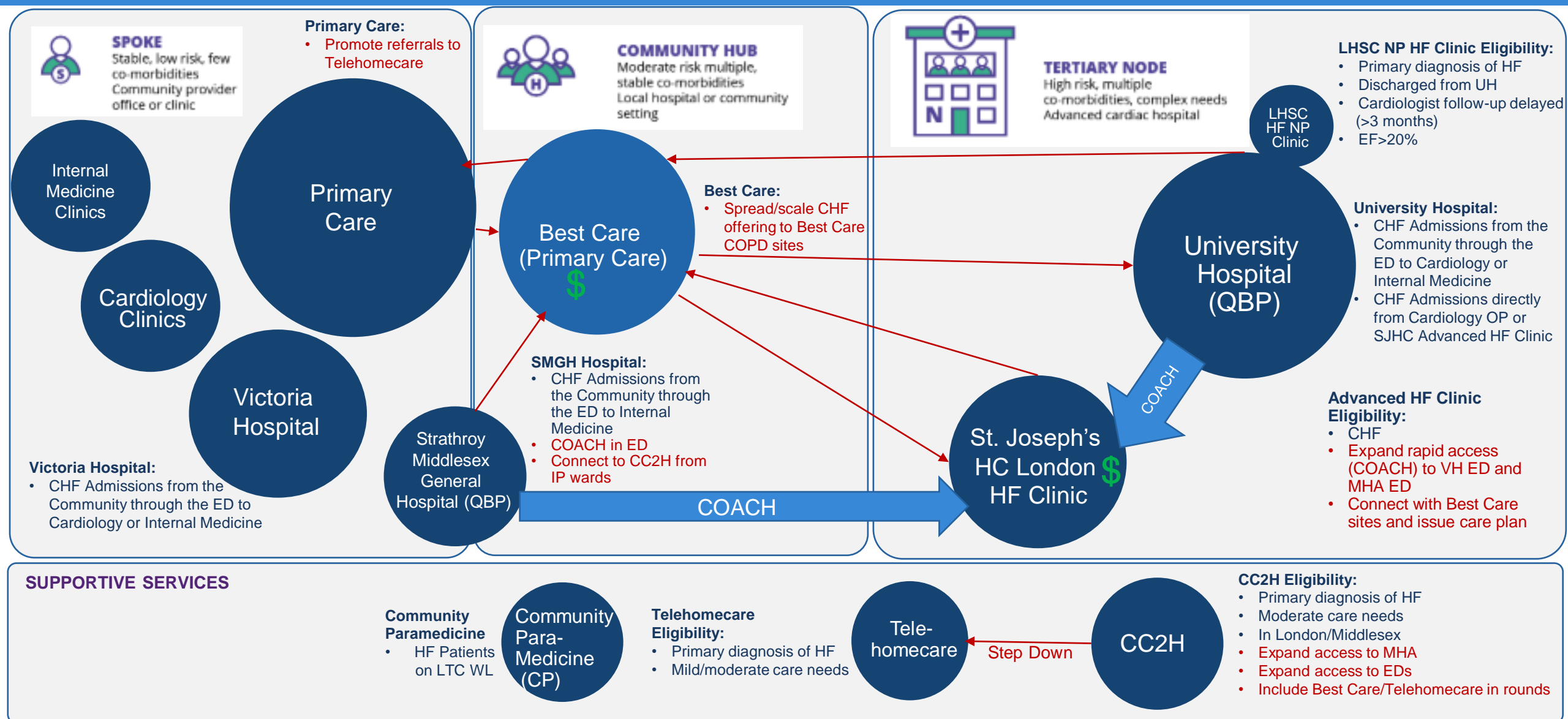
A



# Middlesex/London Heart Failure Current State



# Middlesex/London Heart Failure Future State



# WHAT IS BEST CARE IN PRIMARY CARE

- **An effective model of care for chronic disease management**
  - **A repeatable platform for multiple chronic diseases**
  - **An instrument of health system transformation that empowers primary care**
- 
- A complete knowledge translation, interdisciplinary program – team care - measurable
  - In person, whole of person, evidenced-based care
  - Embeds educator / case managers / guideline experts in the patients' medical home
  - Proactive, upstream, preventative care, reducing hospitalization and ED visits.
  - Supports system integration building from primary care

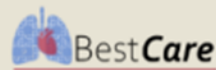
# A COMPLETE KT PROGRAM DELIVERING ALL ELEMENTS OF CARE

## PHARMACOLOGIC AND NON - PHARMACOLOGIC

## STANDARDIZED PROGRAMMING

## ROBUST QUALITY ASSURANCE

## ONTARIO HEALTH QUALITY STANDARDS REPORTING



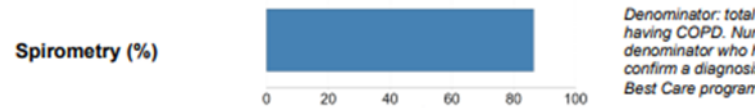
## COPD Quality Standards

### WEST REGION

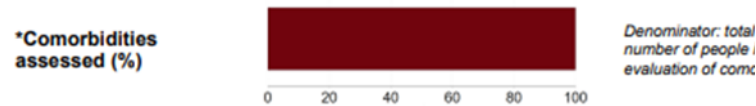
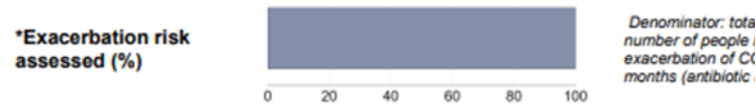
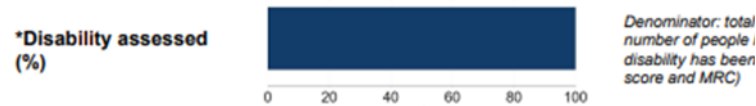
Unique Patients	Total Visits	Initial Visits
6,418	10,722	3,254

### Quality Standards met by the Best Care Program

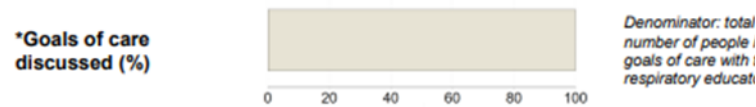
#### Quality Statement 1: Diagnosis confirmed with spirometry



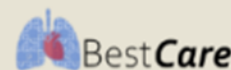
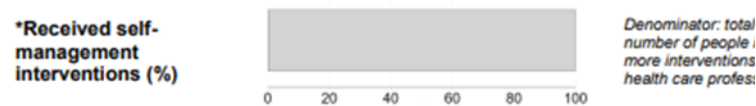
#### Quality Statement 2: Comprehensive Assessment



#### Quality Statement 3: Goals of Care and Individualized Care Planning



#### Quality Statement 4: Education and Self-Management



## Heart Failure Quality Standards Report

### WEST REGION

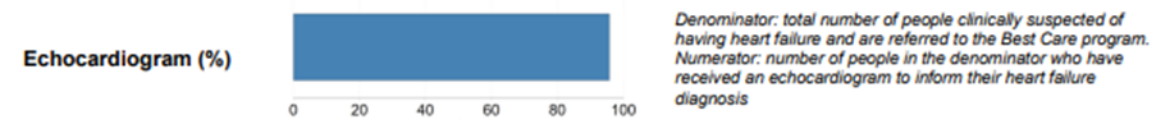
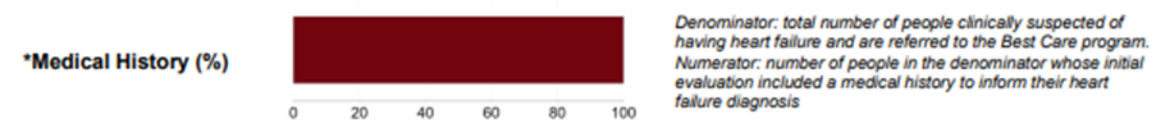
01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024

Unique Patients	Total Visits	Initial Visits	Follow-up Visits
643	1,333	339	994

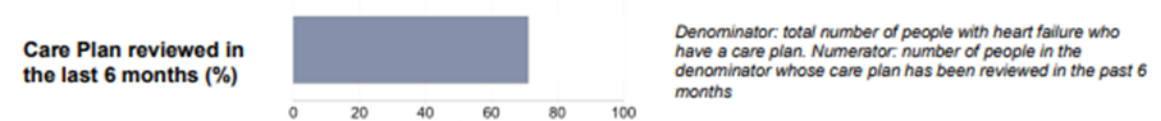
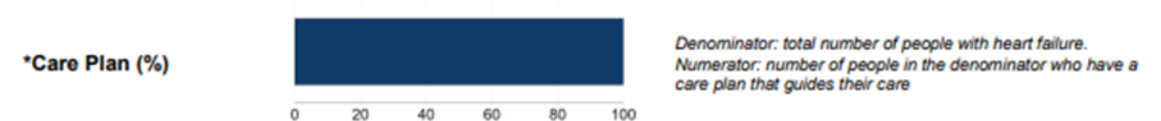
### Quality Standards met by the Best Care Program



#### Quality Statement 1: Diagnosing Heart Failure

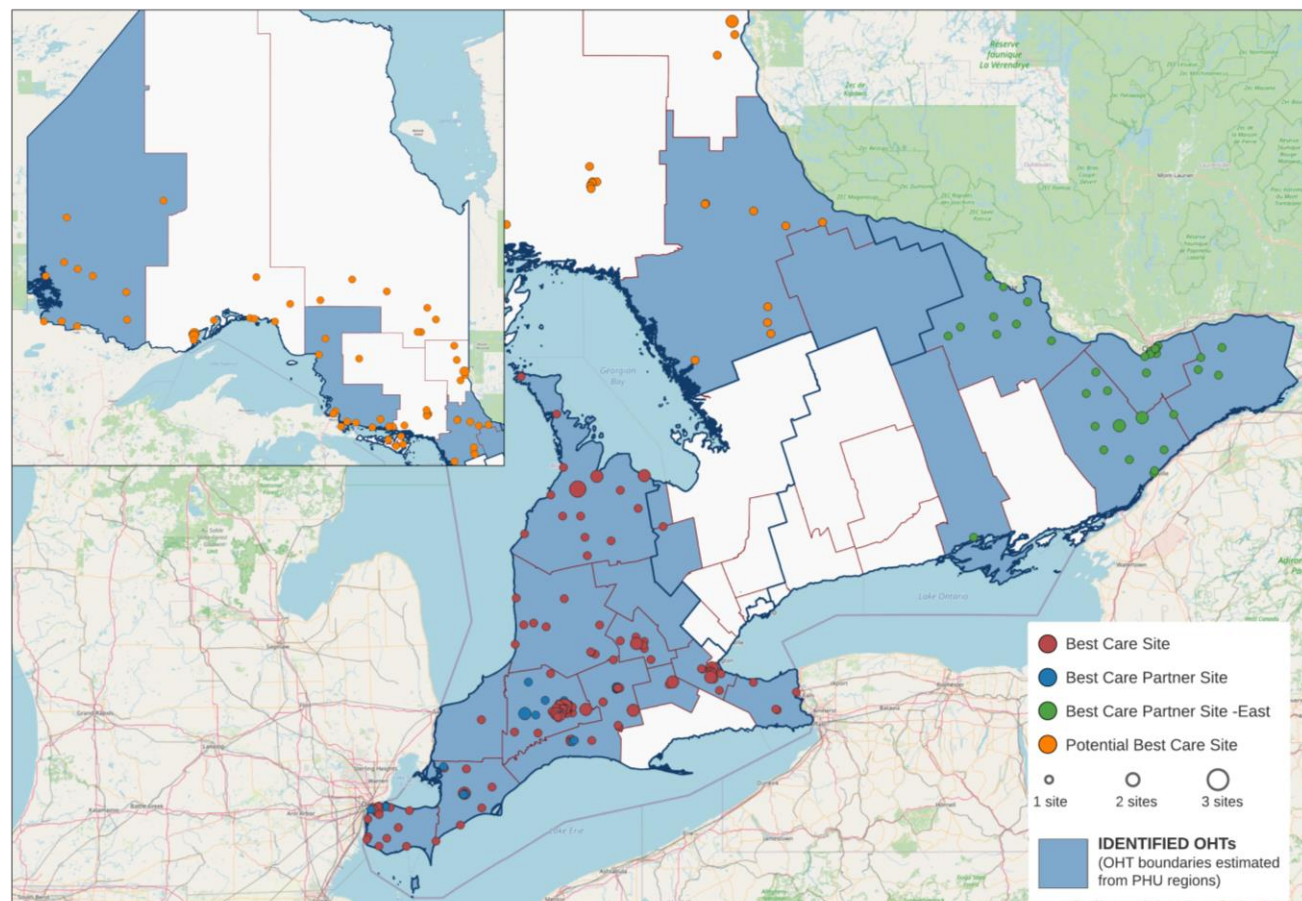
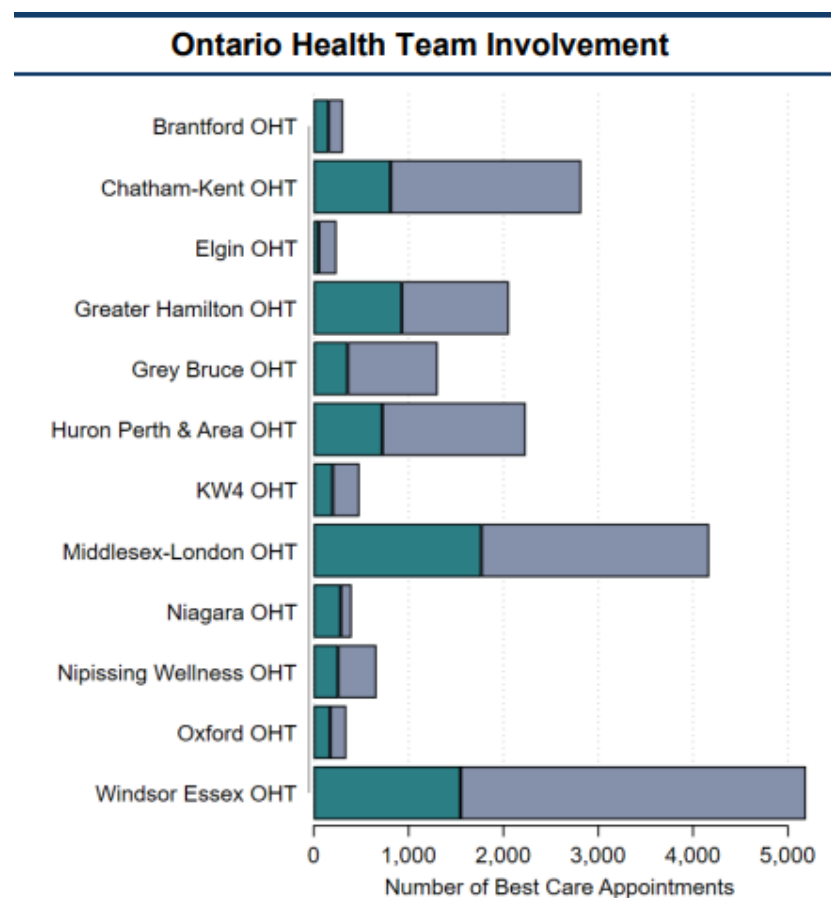


#### Quality Statement 2: Individualized, Person-Centered, Comprehensive Care Plan



#### Quality Statement 3: Empowering and Supporting People with Heart Failure to Develop Self-Management Skills

# A PROGRAM TRUSTED BY 1,300 PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS



Best care is a trusted partner for >1,300 primary care providers at >270 sites, served 16,000 patients in 26,000 visits last fiscal and is collaborating on the primary care integration plans of 12 OHTs - NOW

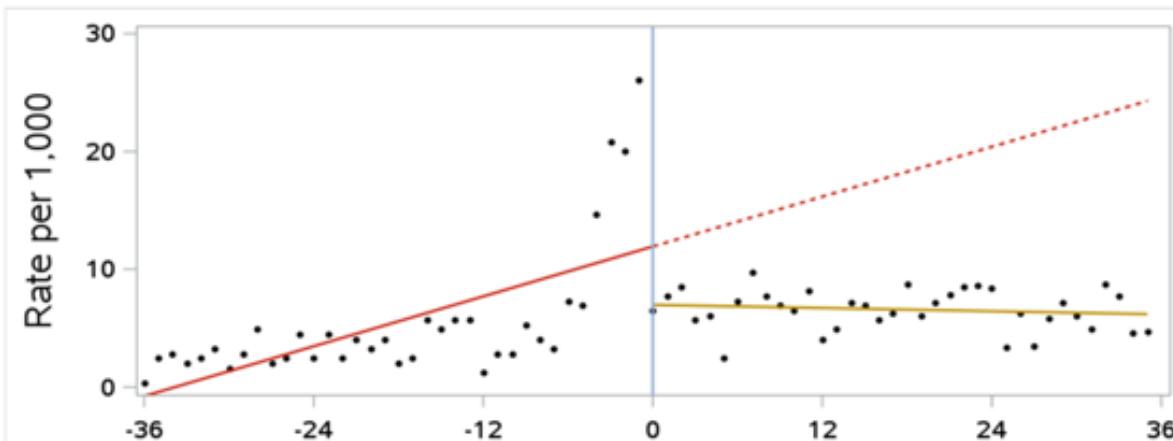
# A WORLD LEADING PRIMARY CARE PROGRAM

- Delivering the Quadruple Aim (Proven effective, highest levels of scientific evaluation)
  - Provider Experience (Two peer-reviewed publications and 1,300 physicians fiscal 2023-2024)
  - Patient Experience (Two direct peer-reviewed publications and four QoL studies)
  - Improves Health Outcomes (Five peer-reviewed publications, highest levels of scientific evaluation)
  - Lowers Costs (Two peer-reviewed cost-effectiveness studies examining 4 countries)
- Impact of Best Care on the Ontario Health System

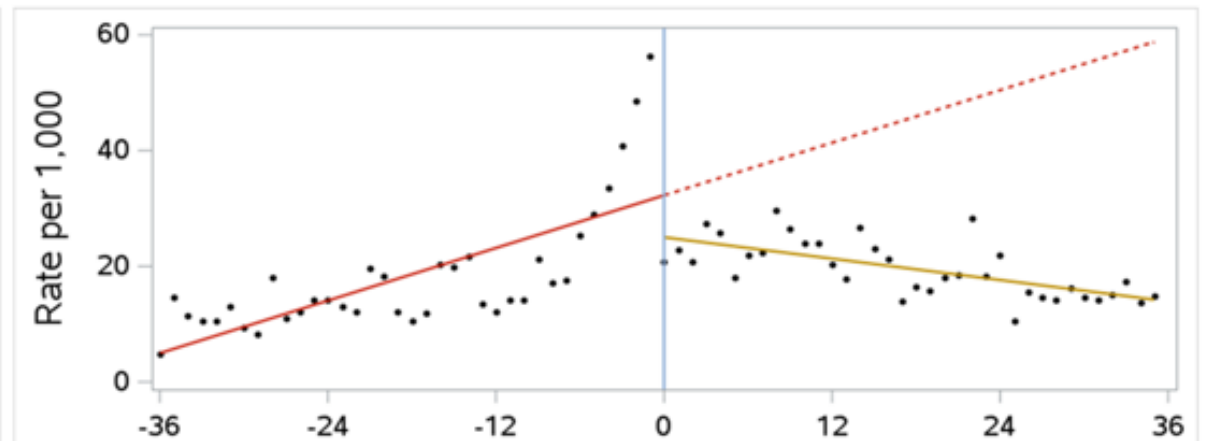
BMJ Journals

Thorax

**A. COPD-related hospital admissions**

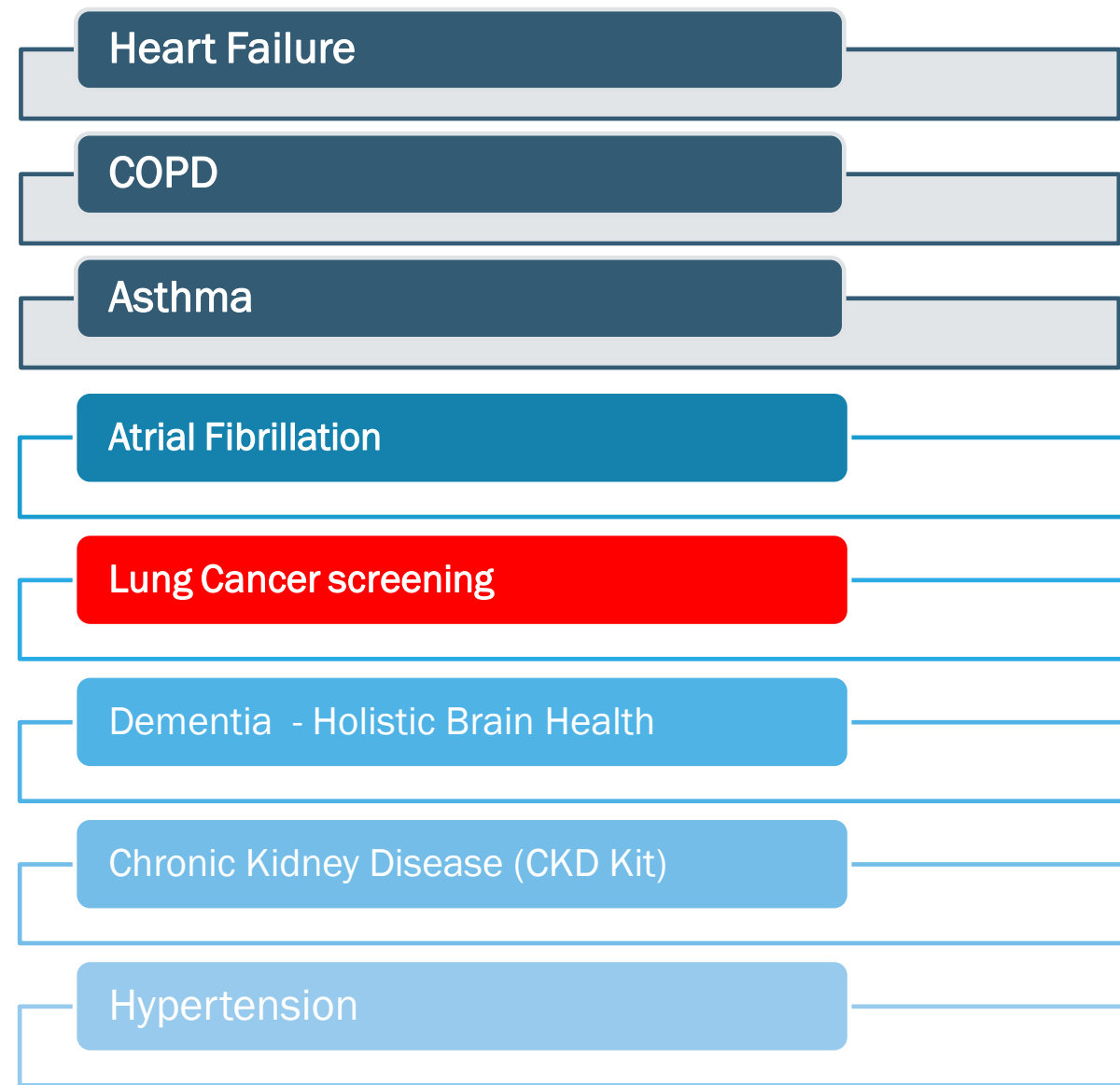


**B. COPD-related ED visits**



## THE BEST CARE MODEL CAN BE EXPANDED TO ADDITIONAL DISEASE STATES

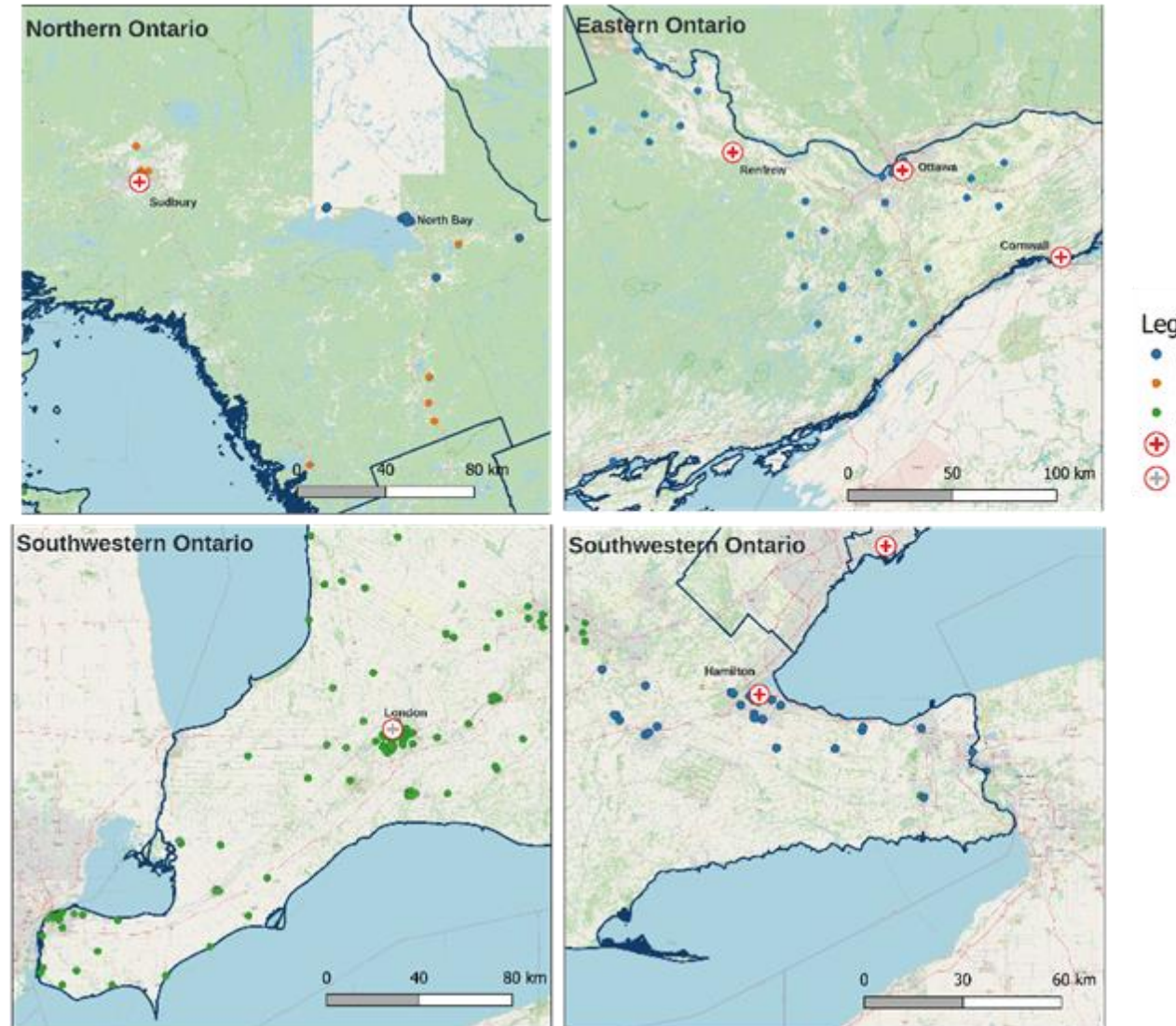
By building on a model of care that provides easier access to specialists, enhanced team-based care coordination, and reduced hospital use, Ontario could enhance its position as a leader in all aspects of chronic disease care.



# NORTHERN EXEMPLAR - HEALTH SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

## EXISTING REMOTE OLSP + BEST CARE + ONE-LUNG EARLY DIAGNOSIS

- Existing OLSP – Sudbury (126km) - expect low penetration – The only OLSP in the north
- Started Best Care HF - in 18-months - 800 visits, 300 patients
- Created a network of primary care clinics in North Bay, Mattawa, Sturgeon Falls, Indigenous Hub, Powassan.
- Shared Care –specialist Dr. Jari Tuomi
- Unattached patient clinic at the hospital .
- 2024 + COPD Case Manager / Educator
- 2024 + Early Diagnosis COPD / Lung Cancer Screening



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## **BEST CARE PROVINCIAL PROGRAM ASSETS**

- Active, early case identification, diagnosis and treatment for asthma, COPD, HF, lung cancer and other chronic conditions
- In the patients' medical home – primary care
- Implementing care standards – optimizing pre and post cancer care
- Creating effective care networks – communities of care
- Creating primary care capacity – reinforcing primary care
- Improving system capacity, specialty care, hospital and ED beds
- Cost effective
- A repeatable platform

**THANK YOU FOR THIS  
OPPORTUNITY!**

**DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS**

