



Evidence-Based Medicine: Good Medicine...? Good Value...?

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The Net Clinical Benefit of PCI in Patients with Stable CAD



- Are patients, physicians and payers getting optimal “bang for buck” for their health care dollar expenditure in stable CAD patients undergoing elective PCI?
- Is it important to define the “net clinical benefit” for any drug, device, intervention or surgery as the ultimate litmus test in defining a value-based system of health care delivery that is predicated on an evidence-based model of risks, benefits, outcomes, and costs?



The Role of PCI in Stable CAD



The Past, the Present and the Future:

- How did we get to where we are today?
- COURAGE—a Pivot Point for Change...
- Can/Should We Change the Future?



The Role of PCI in Stable CAD

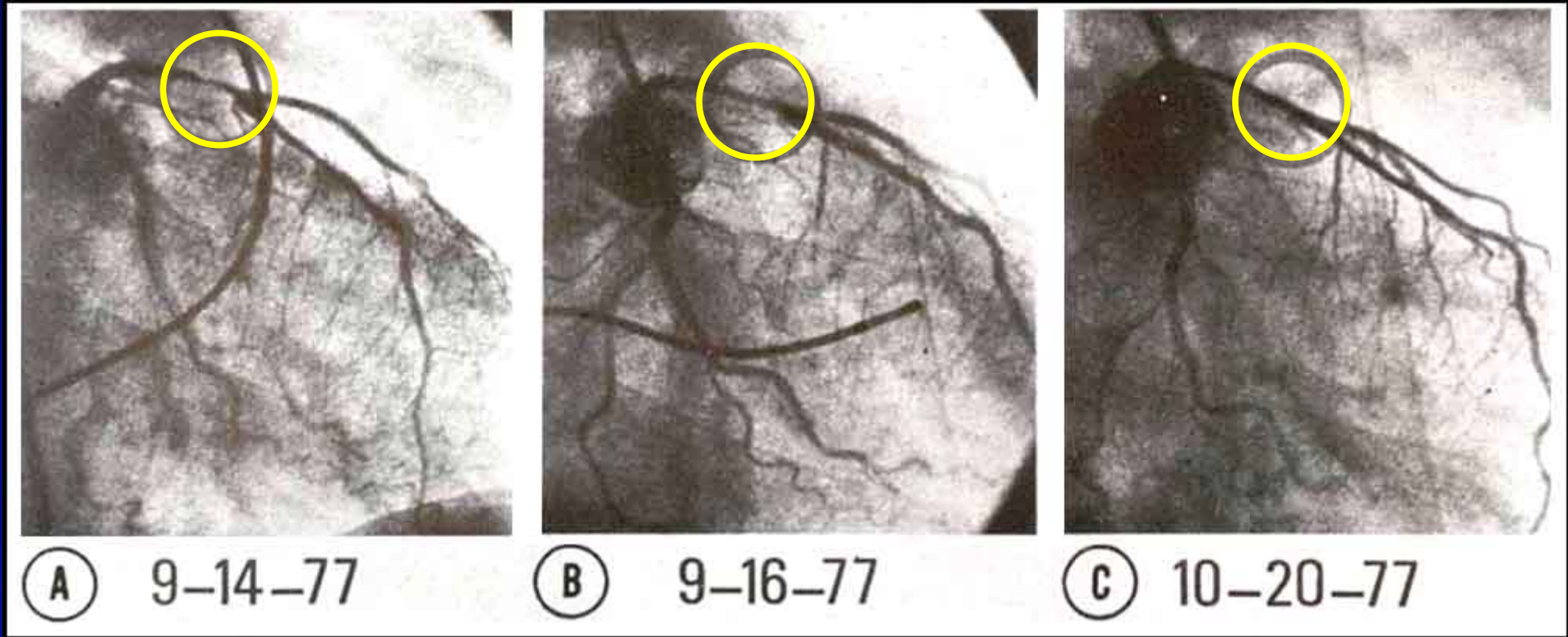


The Past, the Present and the Future:

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The 1st Coronary Angioplasty 30 Years Ago...



First coronary angioplasty lesion (circles) two days before (A), immediately after (B), and one month after (C) balloon dilation



Where The Clinical Role of PCI is Clearly Established...



In Patients with ACS:

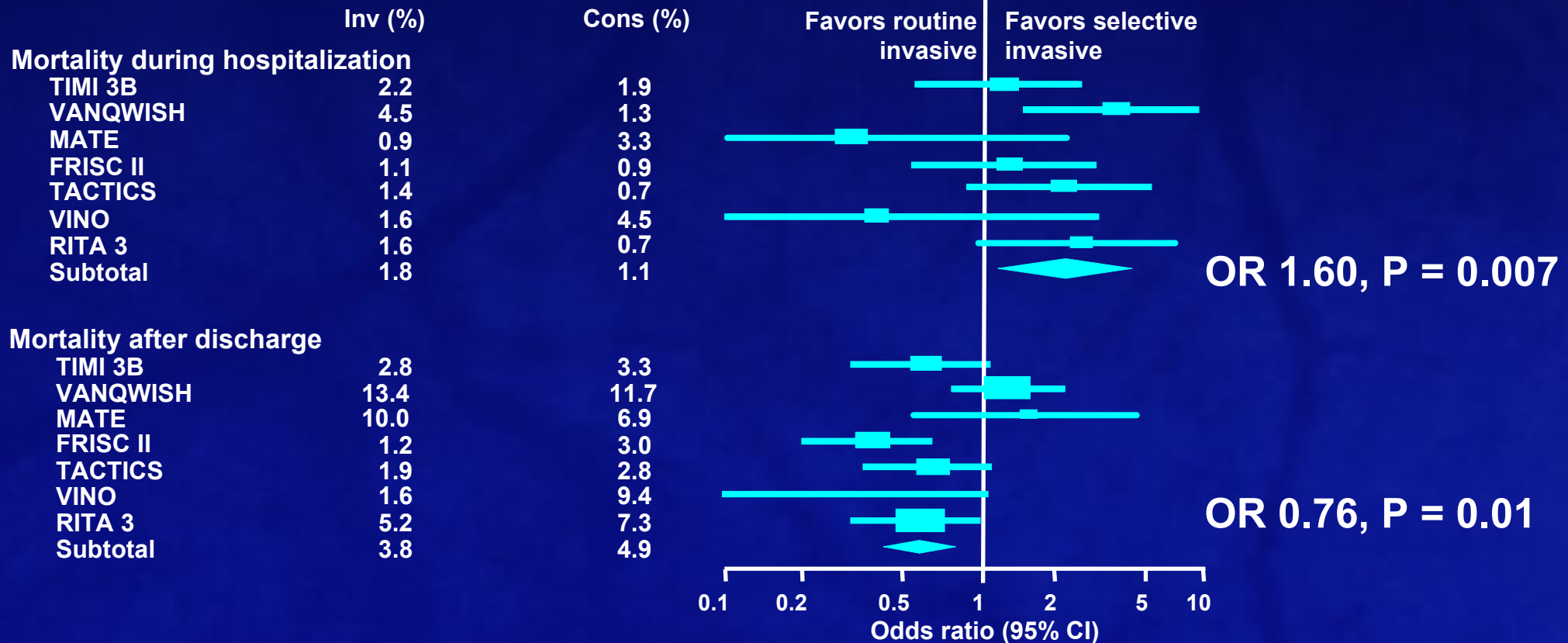
- For STEMI, primary PCI reduces mortality, MI and improves LV function compared to fibrinolytic therapy, although the optimal benefits associated with PCI are achieved in only ~ 35% of patients
- For NSTEMI ACS, PCI reduces late events in high-risk patients compared to a “conservative strategy”, but at the expense of an early excess of death and MI with no difference in overall late mortality



Routine Early Invasive Rx in ACS: Early vs. Late Mortality



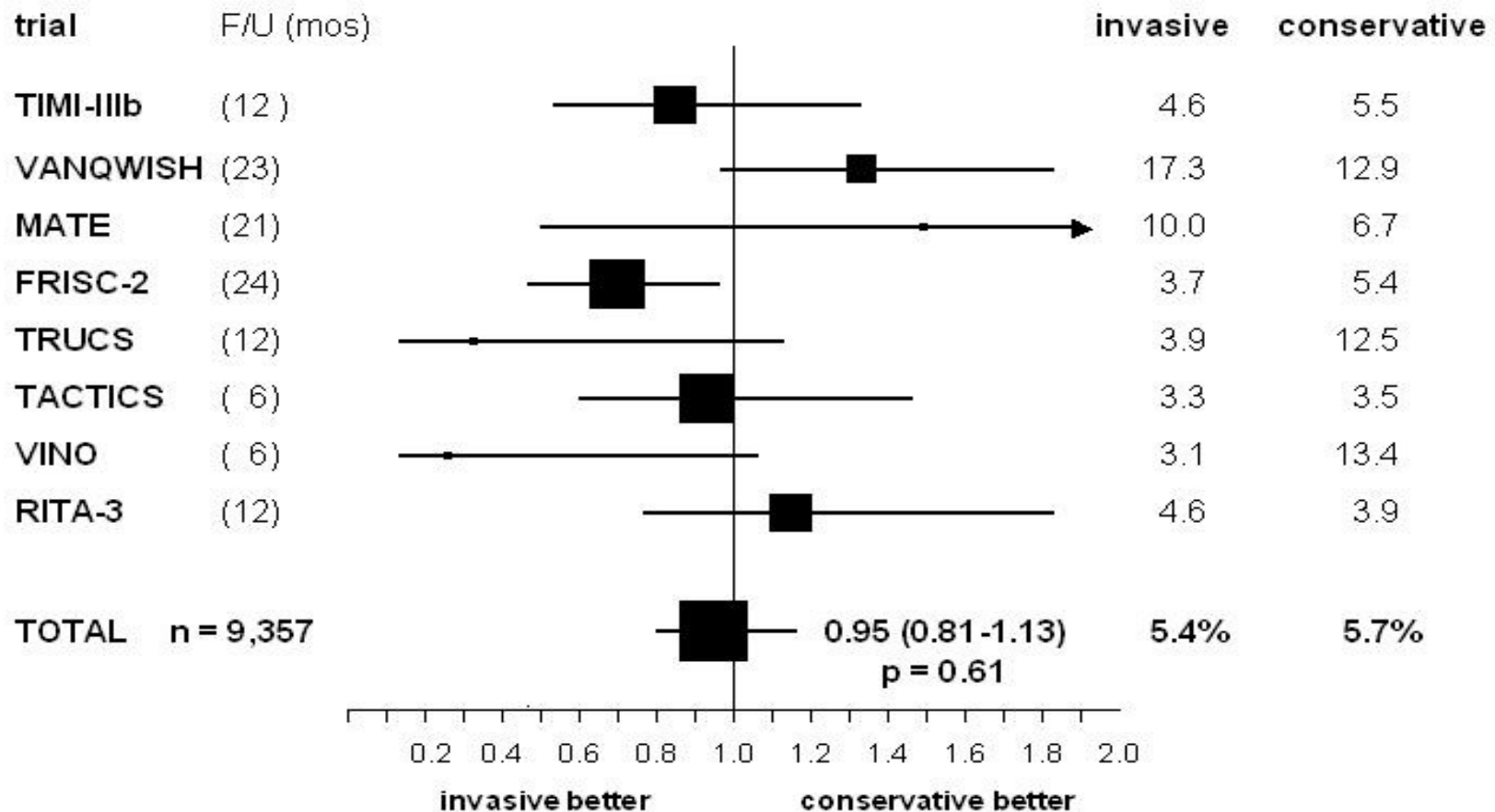
7 trials, N = 9212





Mortality in NSTE ACS

Strategy Trials





Where The Clinical Role of PCI Remains Uncertain...



In Patients with Chronic Angina and Stable CAD:

- While PCI improves angina and short-term exercise capacity, does it—when compared to optimal medical therapy:
 1. Prolong survival?
 2. Reduce the risk of subsequent MI?
 3. Reduce hospitalization for unstable angina?
 4. Decrease the need for subsequent CABG surgery?
 5. Improve quality of life?



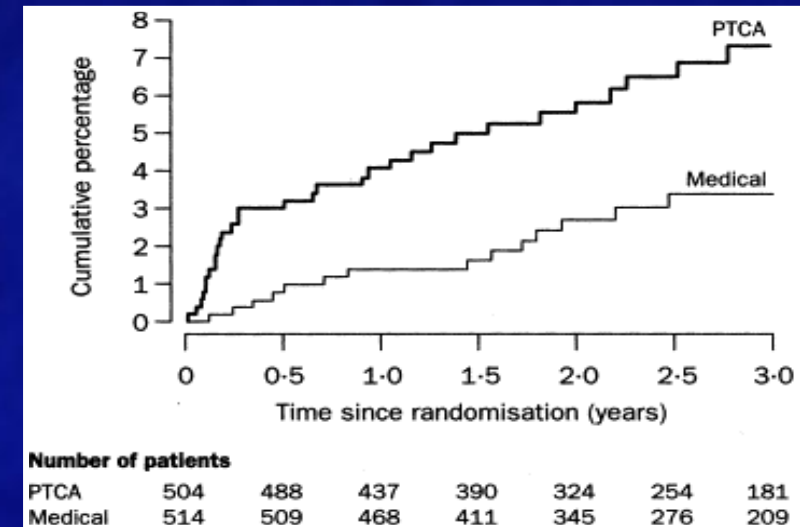
Randomized Intervention Treatment of Angina (RITA-2)



1018 stable CAD patients from UK and Ireland
-504 randomized to PTCA
-514 randomized to medical treatment
47% Asymptomatic, Followup: 2.7 years

	<u>PTCA</u>	<u>Medical Rx</u>
Death	11	7
Definite MI	<u>21</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	32 (6.3%)	17 (3.3%)

Relative Risk 1.92 ($p=0.02$)



(RITA-2. Lancet 1997; 350: 461)

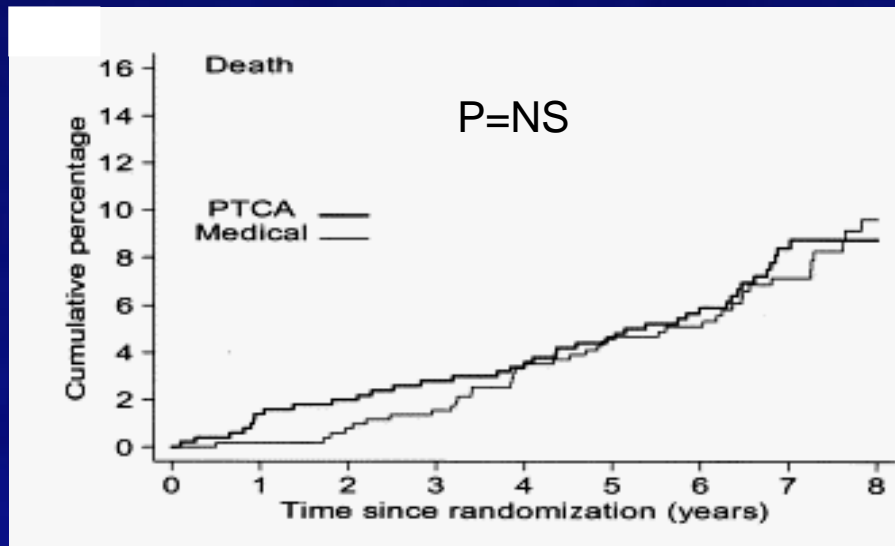


Long-Term Outcome: PCI vs Medical Management in RITA-2

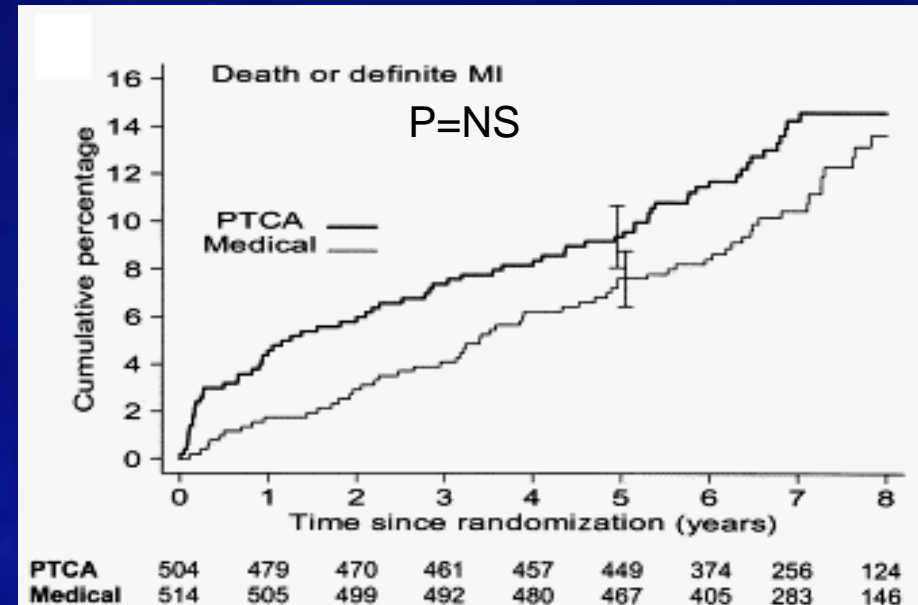


RITA-2, 1018 patients (504 PTCA, 514 medical management)

Death



Death or MI



No difference in outcome over median of 7 years of follow-up

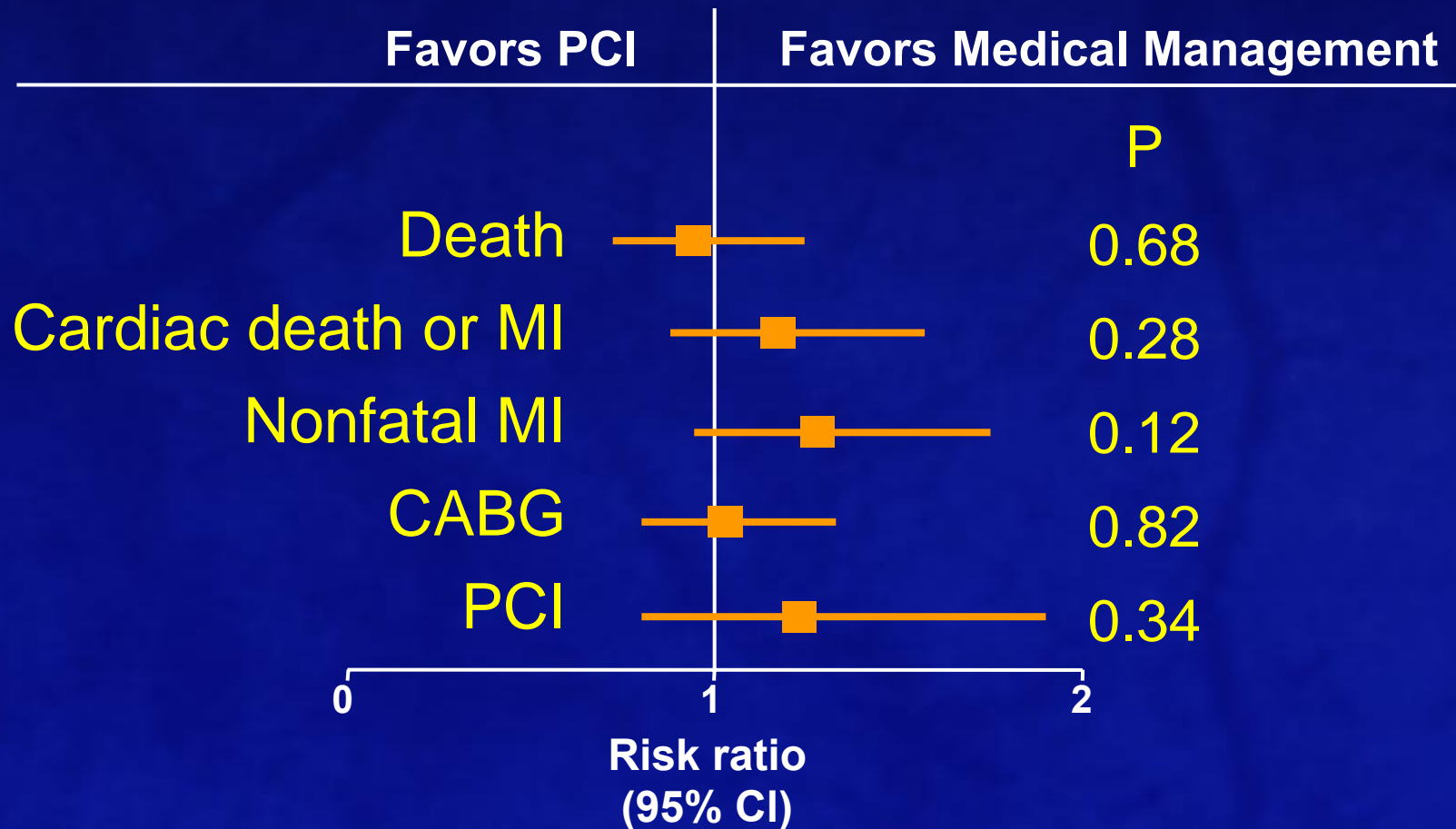
(Henderson, et al. JACC 2003;42:1161)



Stable CAD: PCI vs Conservative Medical Management



Meta-analysis of 11 randomized trials; N = 2950





Objectives for Angina Treatment



- Prevent myocardial infarction (MI) and death
- Reduce ischemia and relieve angina symptoms
- Improve quality of life



Pharmacotherapy for Stable Angina

- Proven therapies to prevent MI and death
 - Aspirin
 - Lipid-lowering therapy
 - ACE inhibitor
- To reduce ischemia and relieve symptoms
 - Beta-blockers
 - Calcium channel blockers
 - Nitrates
 - ? Ranolazine



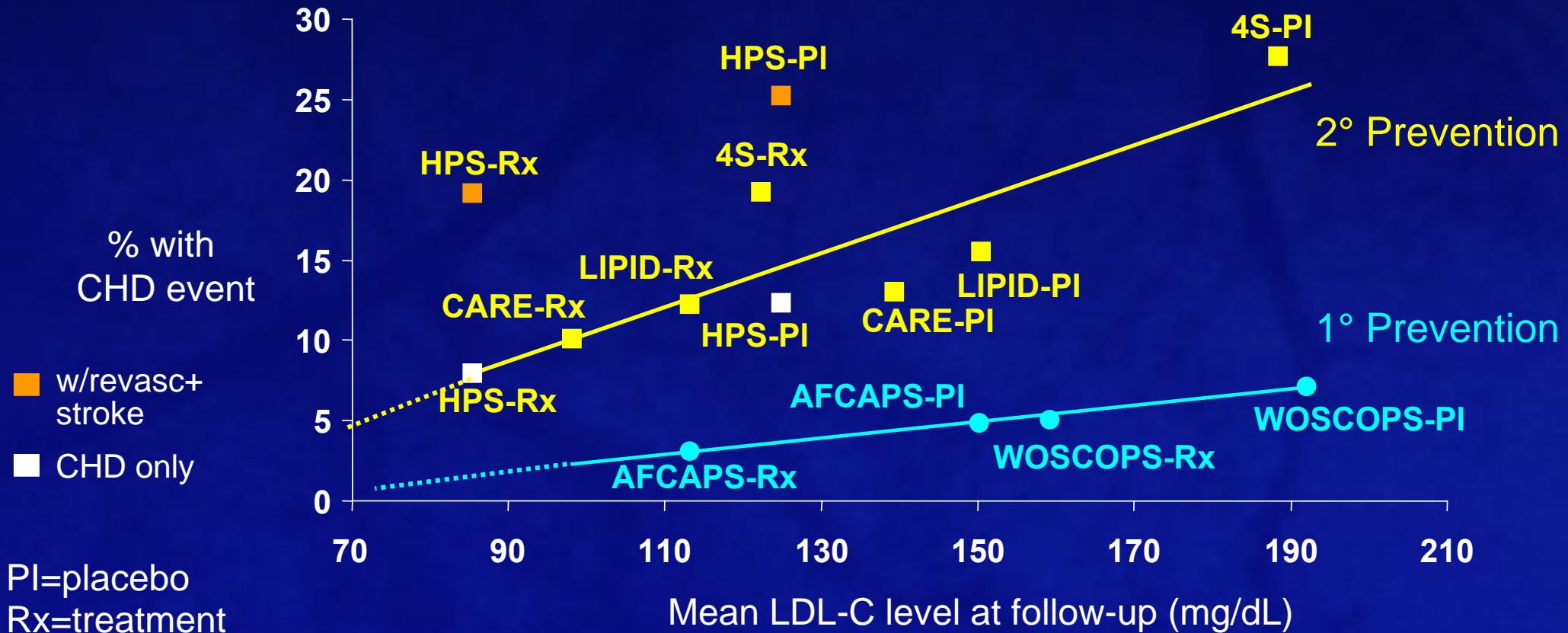
ABC's of Angina Management



- A = Aspirin and Antianginals
- B = Beta-blocker and BP control
- C = Cholesterol and Cigarettes (not!)
- D = Diet and Diabetes
- E = Exercise and Education



Systemic Stabilization of Plaque: Relation Between CHD Events and LDL Outcomes in Statin Trials

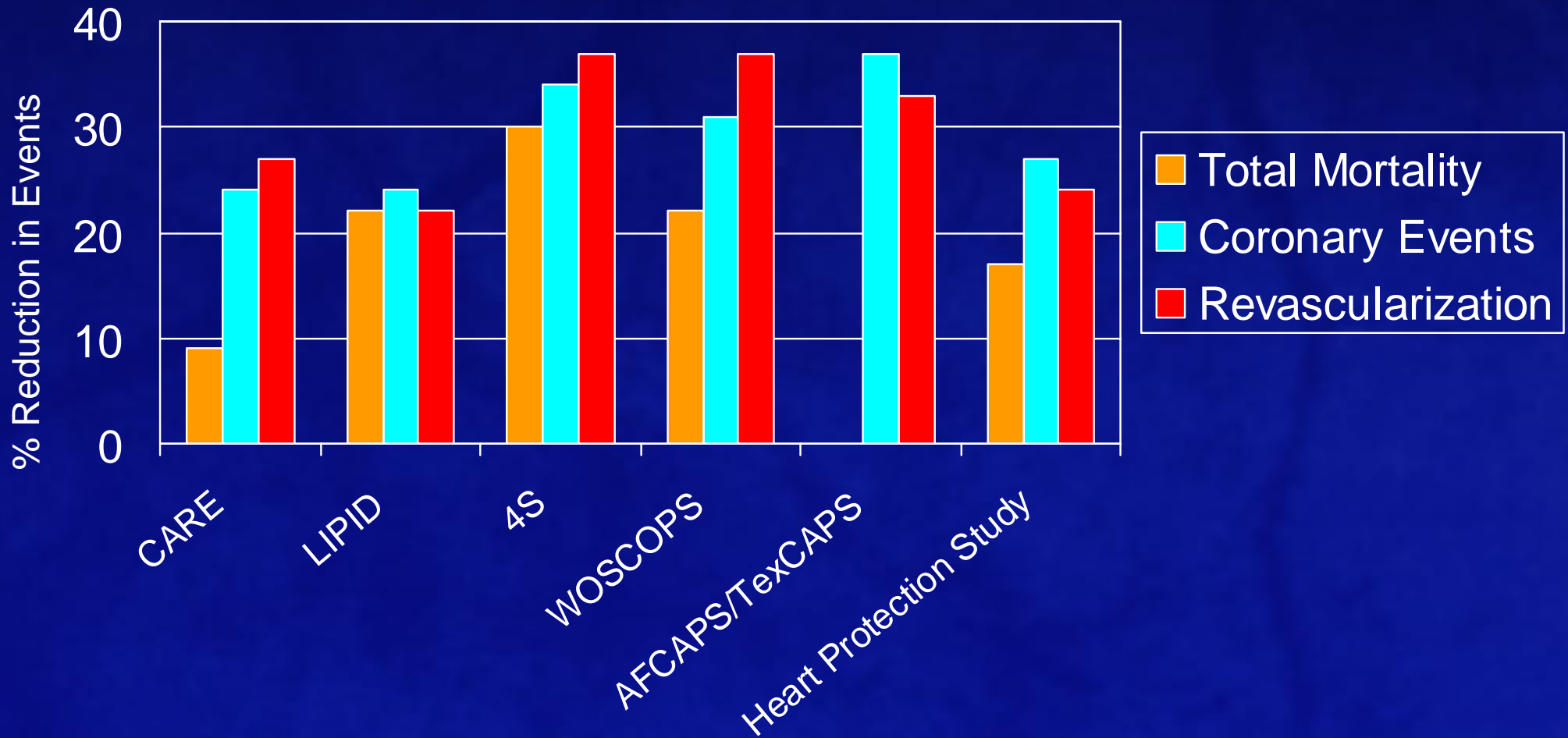


(HPS. *Lancet*. 2002;360:7. Downs. *JAMA*. 1998;279:1615; LIPID. *NEJM* 1998;339:1349. Sacks. *NEJM* 1996;335:1001. 4S. *Lancet*. 1995;345:1274. Shepherd. *NEJM* 1995;333:1301)



Clinical Outcome Studies Using Statins

Primary and Secondary Prevention

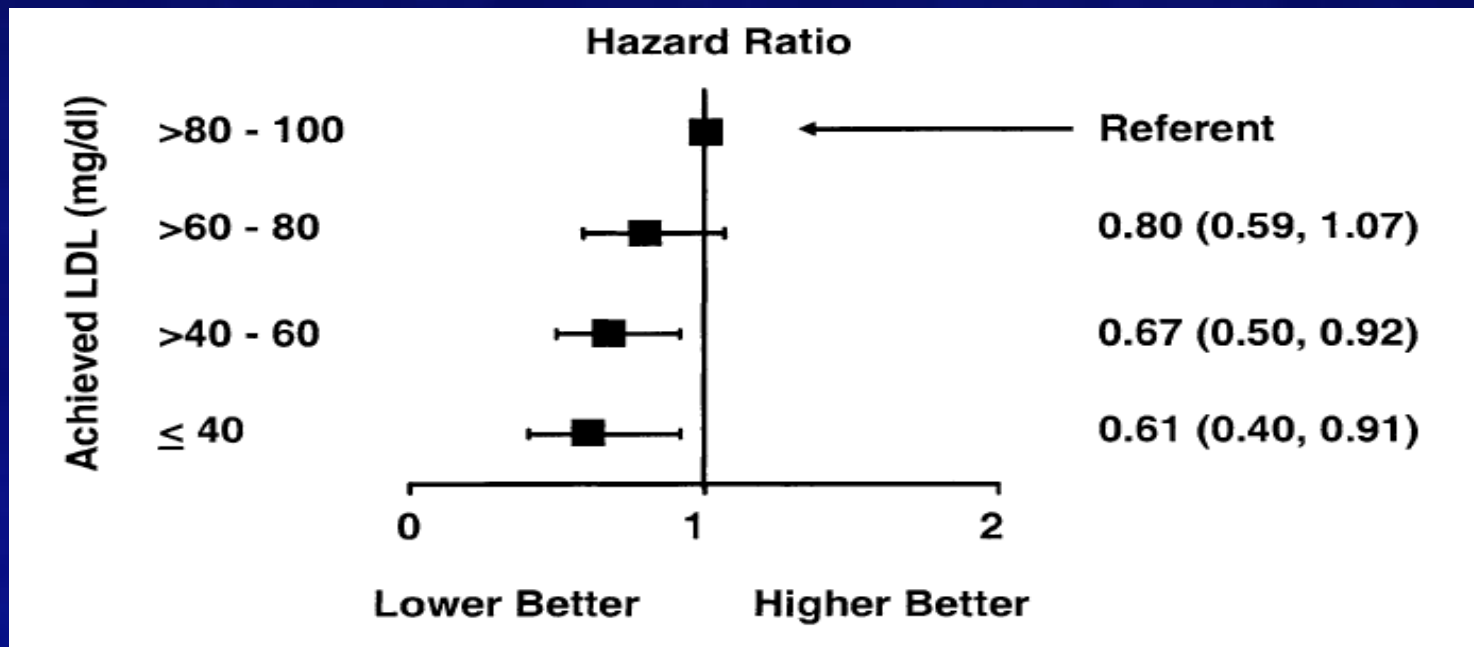




Systemic Stabilization of Plaque: Optimal Magnitude of LDL Lowering



Death, MI, Stroke, Revascularization, UA requiring hospital admission

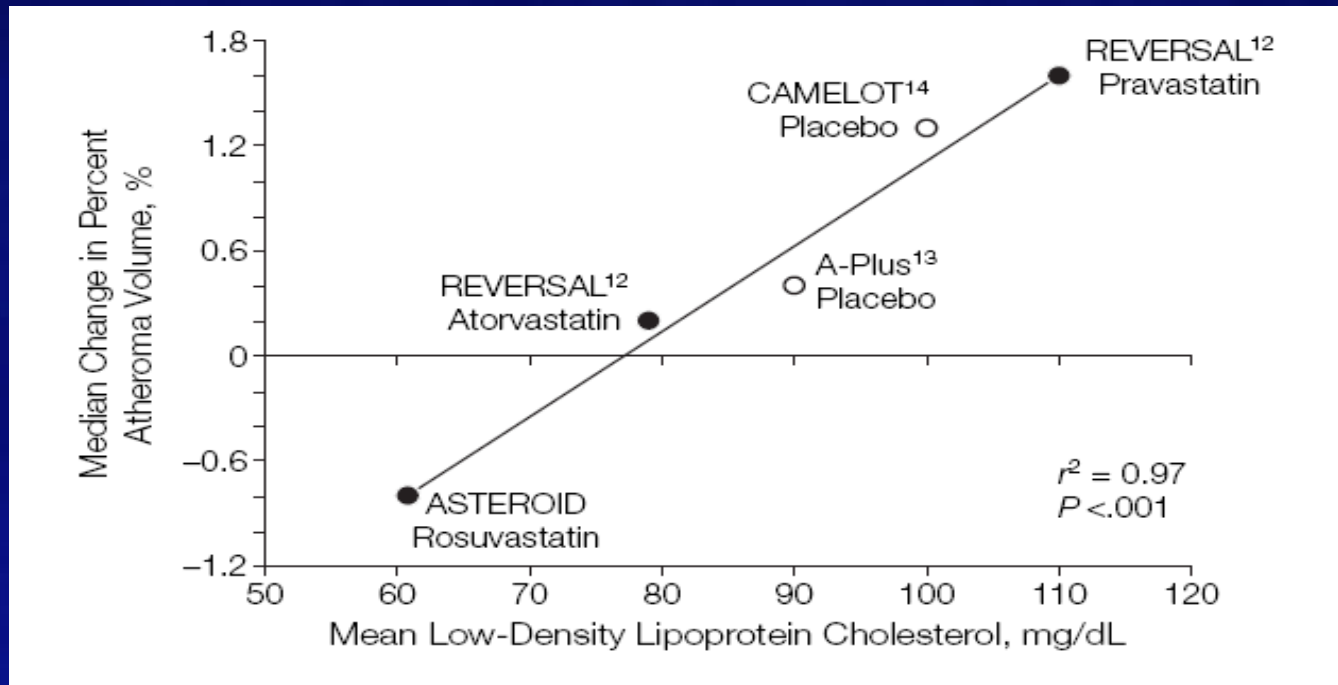


No increased incidence of side effects or complications with low LDL

(Wiviott, et al. JACC 2005;46:1411)



Reduction in Coronary Atherosclerotic Plaque (by IVUS) by Marked LDL Lowering



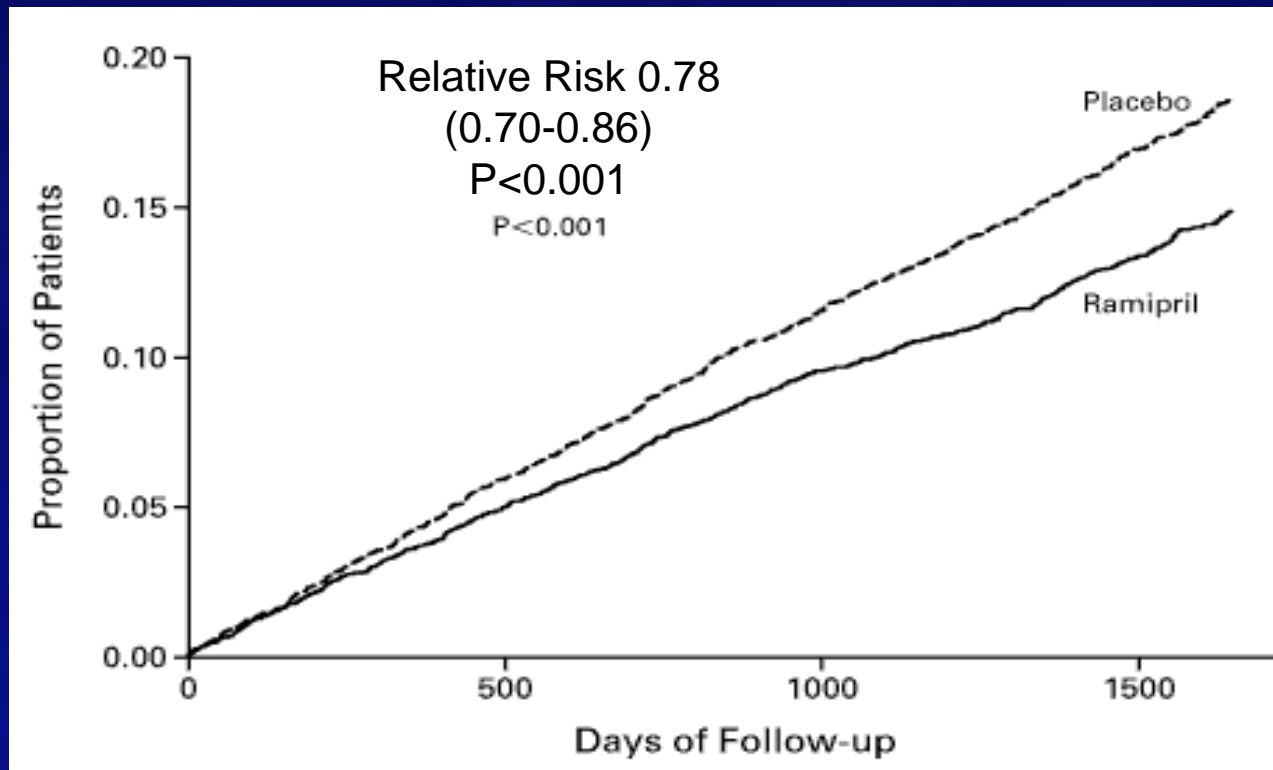
(Nissen, et al. JAMA 2006;295: E1)



Systemic Stabilization of Plaque: Effect of ACE Inhibitor to Prevent MI, Stroke, or Cardiovascular Death



The HOPE Trial



(NEJM 2000; 342:145)



Evidence-Based Outcomes in Revascularization



For PCI:

- Since the advent of PCI in 1977, tens of millions of PCI procedures have been performed worldwide, yet only 10 small studies (plus RITA-2; n =1,018) comparing PCI vs. medical therapy, comprising fewer than 3,000 patients, have been performed
- Why has it taken 20-30 years for a properly sized, designed, and conducted RCT comparing PCI + OMT vs. OMT on “hard” outcomes to be performed?



Conventional Wisdom

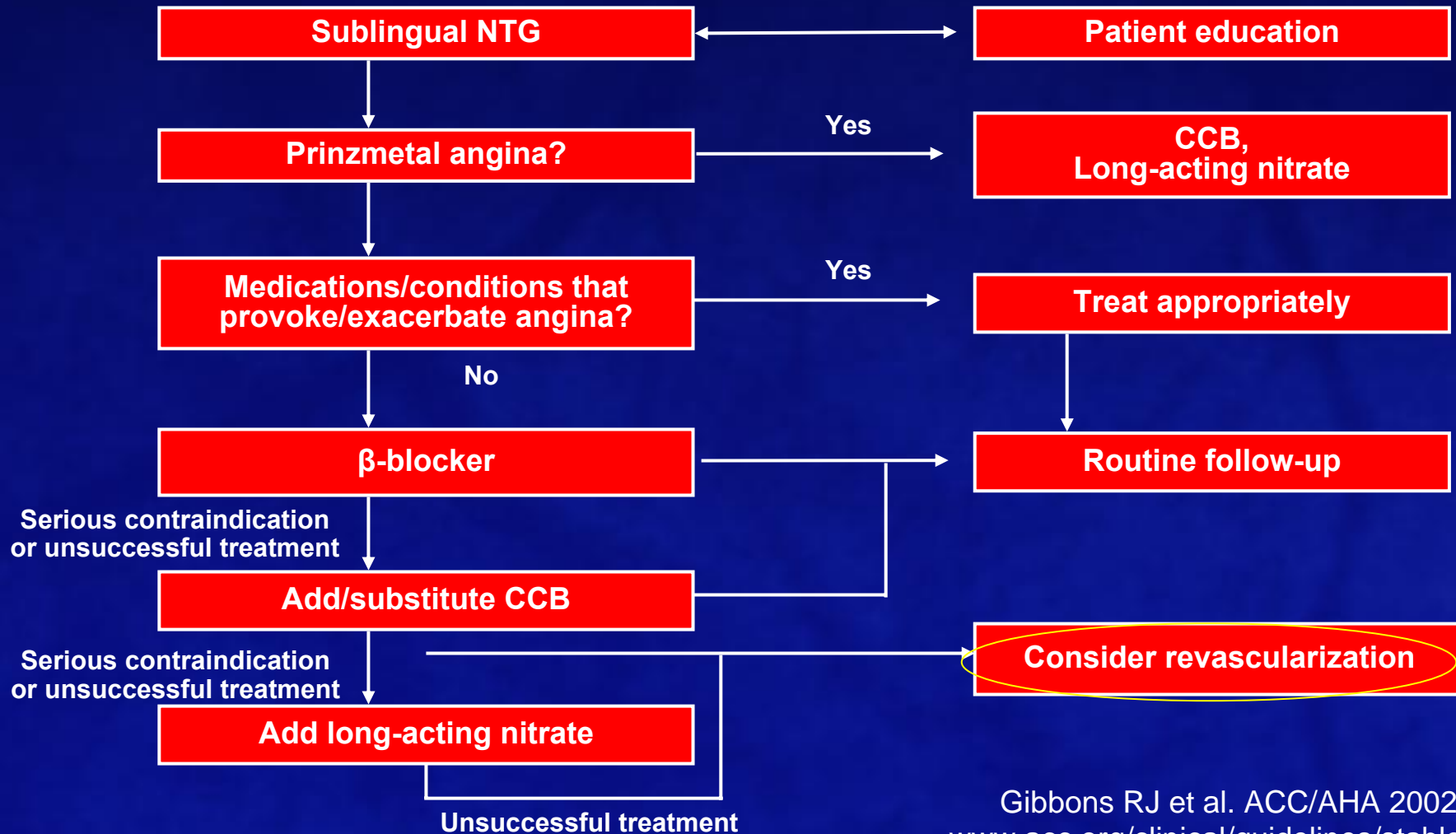


Treatment Assumptions in CAD Management:

- Symptomatic CAD patients with the triad of chronic angina, objective evidence of ischemia, and significant coronary stenoses at angiography “need” revascularization; the only question is: which procedure—PCI or CABG?
- Revascularization is required to improve prognosis
- PCI is less invasive than CABG surgery (i.e., it is safer) and, hence, should be the preferred approach



ACC/AHA Guidelines: Chronic Stable Angina Treatment



Gibbons RJ et al. ACC/AHA 2002 guidelines.
www.acc.org/clinical/guidelines/stable/stable.pdf.



Perspectives to Ponder...

1. Since we justify performing PCI in ACS patients to reduce death/MI, it seems fundamentally illogical that we attempt to justify performing PCI in stable CAD patients only to reduce angina.
2. Since PCI performed in stable CAD patients is procedurally identical to that performed in ACS patients, it is intuitive to most physicians and patients that the durable clinical benefit associated with successful PCI in ACS patients would likewise accrue in patients with stable CAD, whose flow-limiting stenoses are successfully treated with PCI.



Patient Expectations About Elective PCI for Stable CAD



- 52 consecutive patients scheduled for first elective PCI completed semi-structured questionnaire prospectively

Do you think the angioplasty will prevent a heart attack?	
Yes	75%
Do you think the angioplasty will help you live longer?	
Yes	71%



Cardiac Procedures in the U.S. Between 1987 and 2006



Procedure

Rate of Rise

- Coronary Angiography 163%
- CABG Surgery 102%
- PCI *5,946%

*** In 2005, over 1 million procedures...**

- Gillum et al: National Center for Health Statistics; Trends in hospital utilization: U.S. 1987-2006. Government Printing Office, 2006.



“Do you want that with or without angioplasty ?”



In Search of Truth...



“The great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie—deliberate, contrived, and dishonest—but the myth—persistent, persuasive and unrealistic”

-John F. Kennedy, 1962



The Role of PCI in Stable CAD



The Past, the Present and the Future:

- How did we get to where we are today
- COURAGE—a Pivot Point for Change...
- Can/Should We Change the Future?



COURAGE





COURAGE



Clinical Outcomes Utilizing
Percutaneous Revascularization and
Aggressive Guideline-Driven
Drug Evaluation

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Optimal Medical Therapy with or without PCI for Stable Coronary Disease

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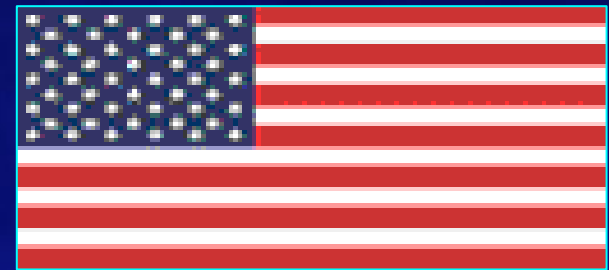
A North American Trial



16 Canadian Hospitals



15 VA Hospitals



19 US Non-VA Hospitals

50 Hospitals

**2,287 CHD patients enrolled between 6/99-1/04;
follow-up concluded on 6/30/06**



Aim of the COURAGE Trial



To determine whether PCI plus optimal medical therapy, *when used as an initial management strategy*, reduces the risk of death or nonfatal MI in *moderate to high-risk patients with stable CAD*, as compared with optimal medical therapy alone.



Design



- Randomization to PCI + Optimal Medical Therapy vs Optimal Medical Therapy alone
- Intensive, guideline-driven medical therapy and lifestyle intervention in both groups
- 2.5 to 7 year (median 4.6 year) follow-up



Hypothesis



**PCI + Optimal Medical Therapy
will be Superior to
Optimal Medical Therapy Alone**



Optimal Medical Therapy



Pharmacologic

- Anti-platelet: aspirin; clopidogrel in accordance with established practice standards
- Statin: simvastatin \pm ezetimibe or ER niacin
- ACE Inhibitor or ARB: lisinopril or losartan
- Beta-blocker: long-acting metoprolol
- Calcium channel blocker: amlodipine
- Nitrate: isosorbide mononitrate

Applied to Both Arms by Protocol and Case-Managed



Optimal Medical Therapy



Lifestyle Counseling:

- Smoking cessation
- Exercise
- Nutrition
- Weight control

Applied to Both Arms by Protocol and Case-Managed



Risk Factor Goals

Variable	Goal	
Smoking	Cessation	
Total Dietary Fat / Saturated Fat	<30% calories / <7% calories	
Dietary Cholesterol	<200 mg/day	
LDL cholesterol (primary goal)	1.55-2.20 mmol/L	
HDL cholesterol (secondary goal)	>1.00 mmol/L	
Triglyceride (secondary goal)	<1.70 mmol/L	
Physical Activity	30-45 min. moderate intensity 5X/week	
Body Weight by Body Mass index	<u>Initial BMI</u> 25-27.5	<u>Weight Loss Goal</u> BMI <25
	>27.5	10% relative weight loss
Blood Pressure	<130/85 mmHg	
Diabetes	HbA1c <7.0%	



Are COURAGE Patients Generalizable to Contemporary Clinical Practice?



- Significant clinical co-morbidity: 67% HTN; 34% DM; 71% dyslipidemic; 29% smokers; 39% prior MI
- Significant angina at baseline in 88% (12% had “silent ischemia”); 58% were CCS Class II or III
- Significant ischemia at baseline in 95% of pts: 5% had UA and no ischemia testing (but with 80% cor. angio. stenosis); 10% had ischemic rest ECG changes; 85% had inducible ischemia (57% ETT and 43% stress MPI, of whom 67% had multiple reversible ischemic defects)
- 69% of patients had multivessel CAD with at least a 70% proximal visual stenosis (68% with proximal LAD disease) in one or more epicardial coronary arteries



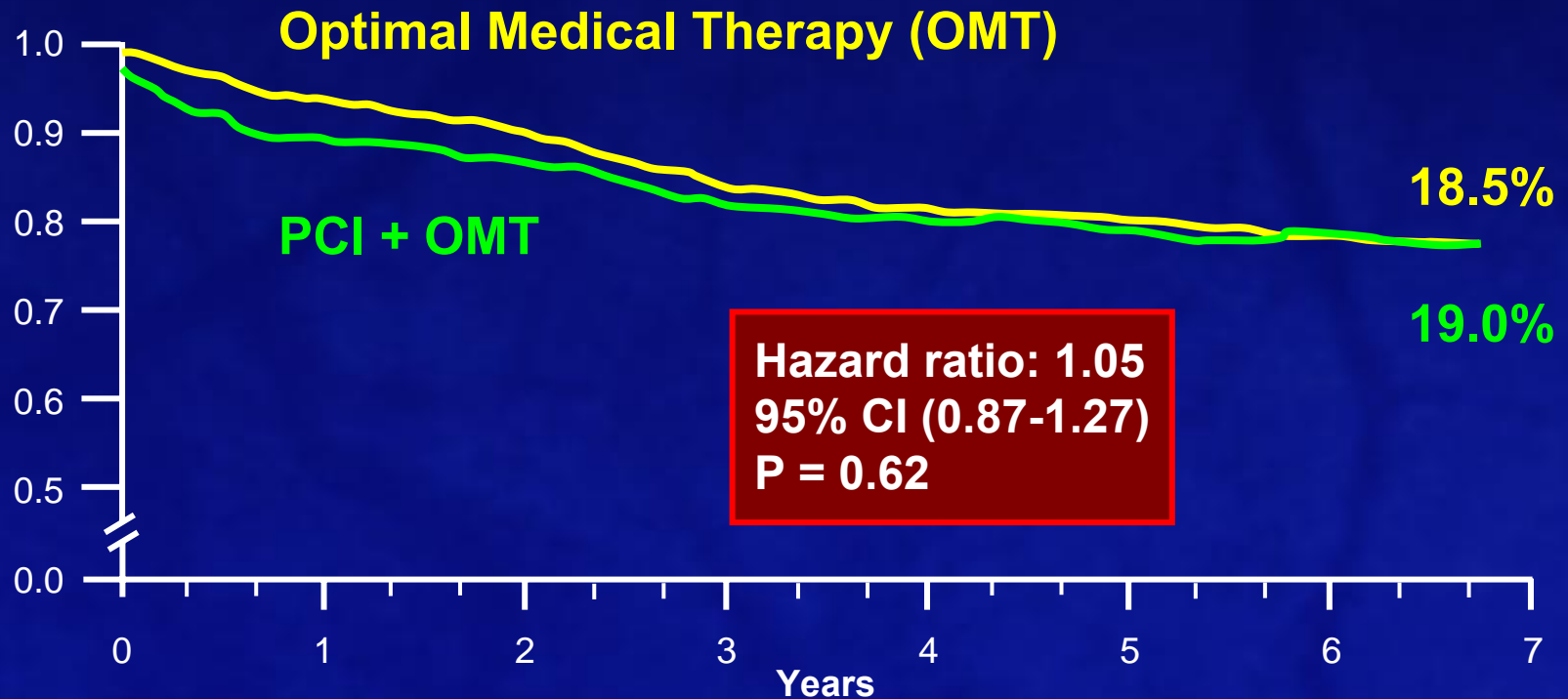
Long-Term Improvement in Treatment Targets (Group Median \pm SE Data)



Treatment Targets	Baseline		60 Months	
	PCI +OMT	OMT	PCI +OMT	OMT
SBP	131	130	124	122
DBP	74	74	70	70
Total Cholesterol mmol/L	4.30	4.43	3.58	3.50
LDL mmol/L	2.50	2.55	1.78	1.80
HDL mmol/L	0.98	0.98	1.03	1.00
TG mmol/L	1.59	1.66	1.37	1.46
BMI Kg/M ²	28.7	28.9	29.2	29.5
Smoking	23%	23%	17%	20%
Moderate Activity (5x/week)	25%	25%	42%	36%



Survival Free of Death from Any Cause and Myocardial Infarction

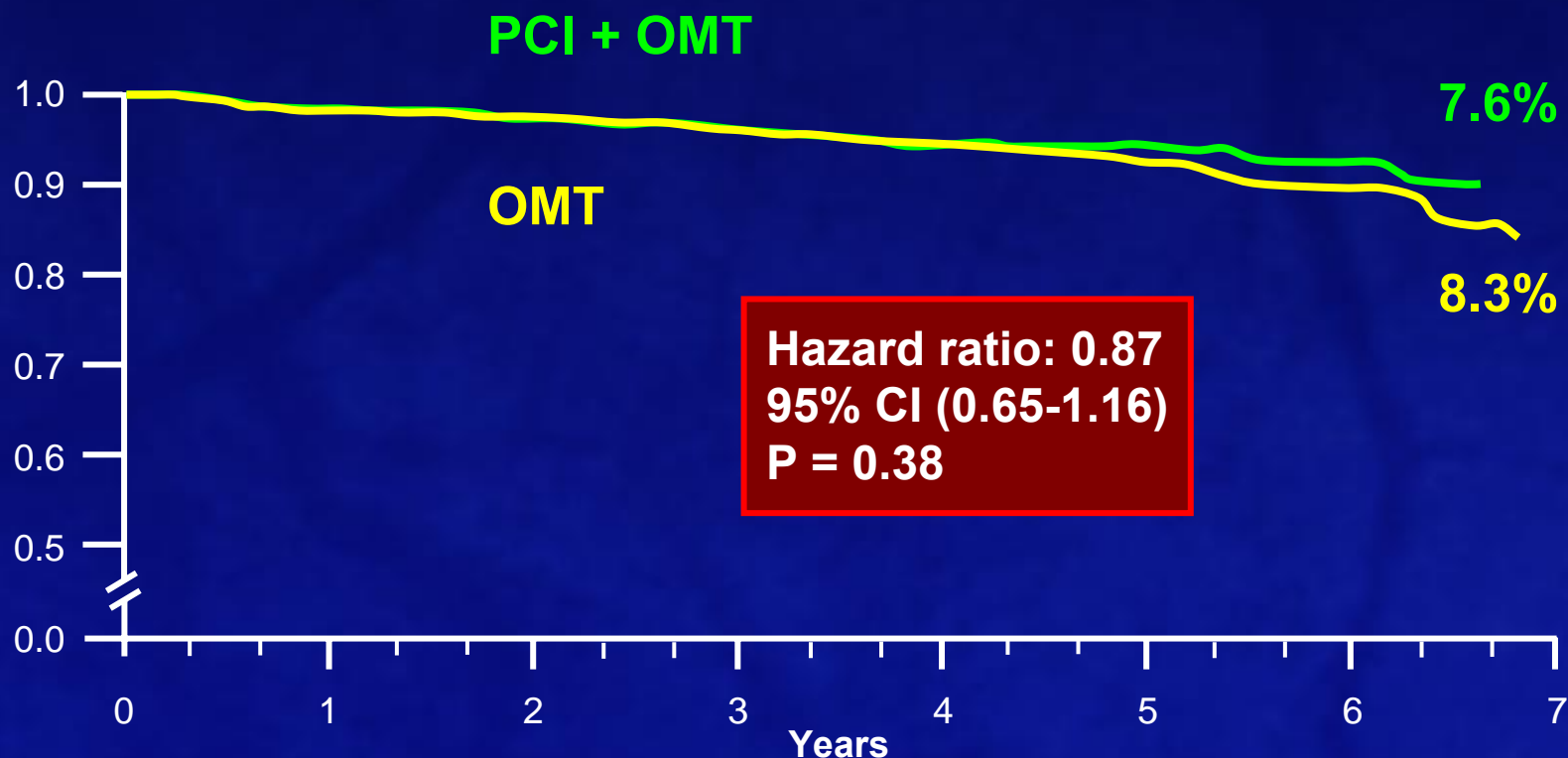


Number at Risk

Medical Therapy	1138	1017	959	834	638	408	192	30
PCI	1149	1013	952	833	637	417	200	35



Event-Free Survival

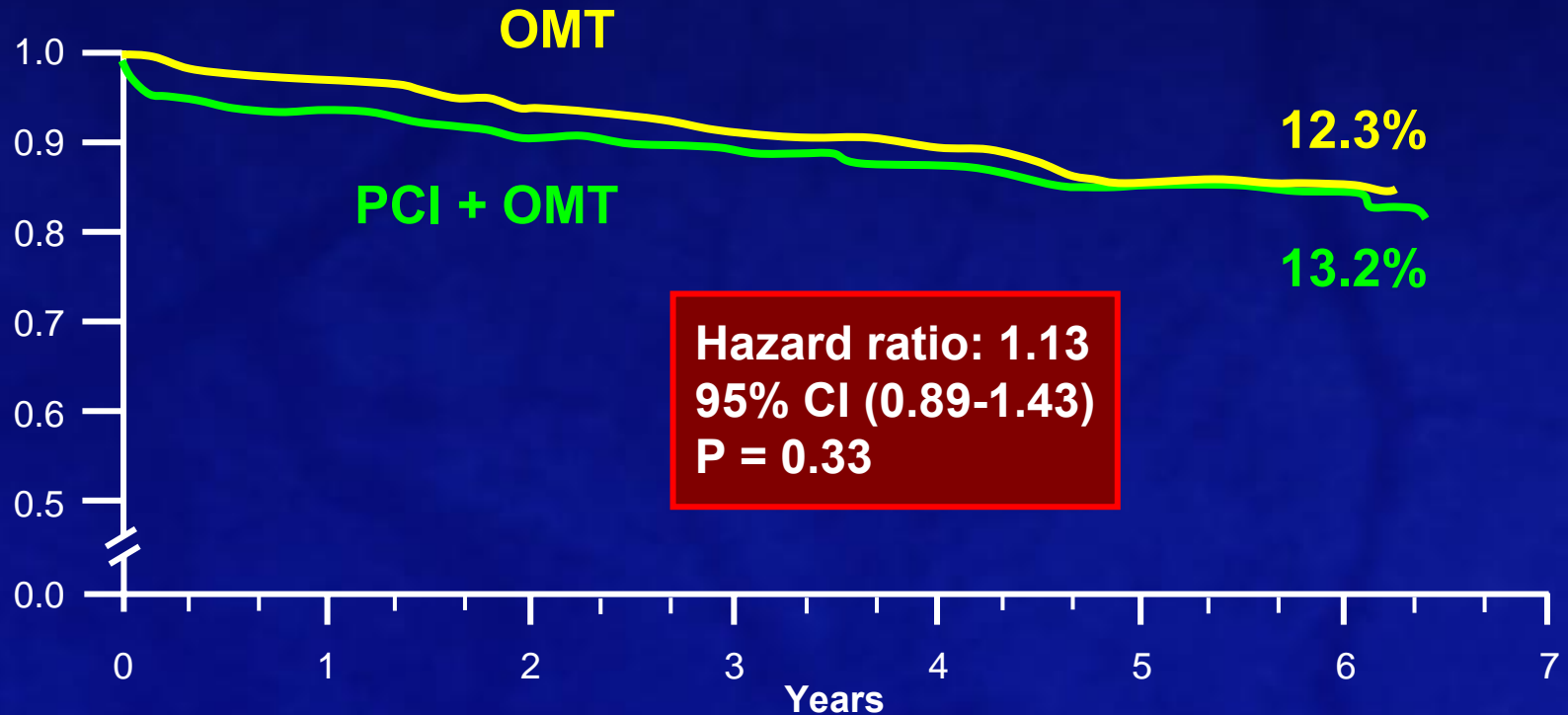


Number at Risk

Medical Therapy	1138	1073	1029	917	717	468	302	38
PCI	1149	1094	1051	929	733	488	312	44



Survival Free of Myocardial Infarction



Number at Risk

Medical Therapy	1138	1019	962	834	638	409	192	120
PCI	1149	1015	954	833	637	418	200	134



Need for Subsequent Revascularization*



	PCI + OMT	OMT
Revascularization	21%	33%
CABG	77	81
Time to Revasc. [†]	10 months	10.8 months

*During median 4.6 years of follow-up

[†]Median



Freedom from Angina During Long-Term Follow-up

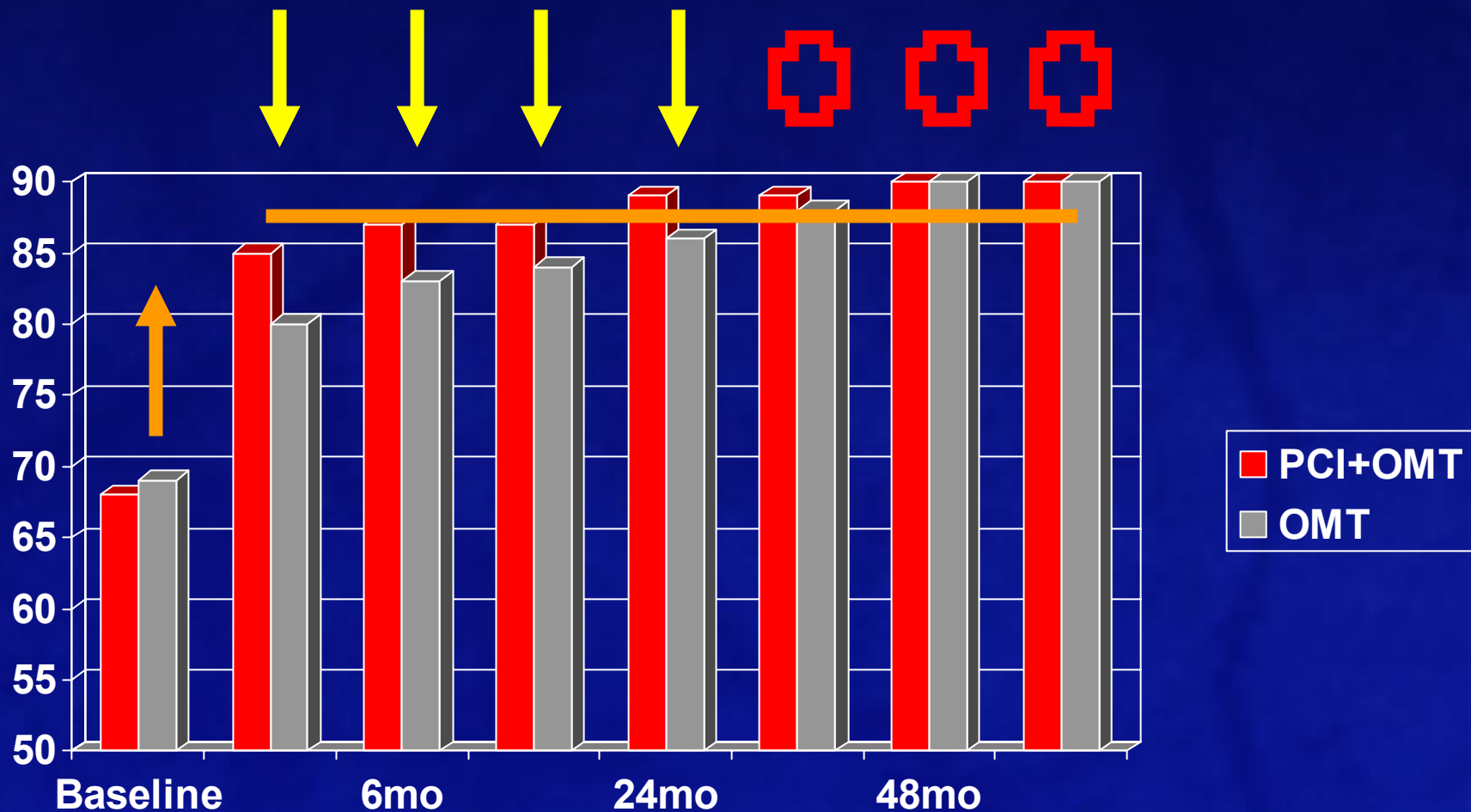


Characteristic	PCI + OMT	OMT
CLINICAL		
Angina free – no.		
Baseline	12%	13%
1 Yr	*66%	58%
3 Yr	*72%	67%
5 Yr	74%	72%

* The comparison between the PCI group and the medical-therapy group was significant at 1 year ($P < 0.001$) and 3 years ($P = 0.02$) but not at baseline or 5 years.

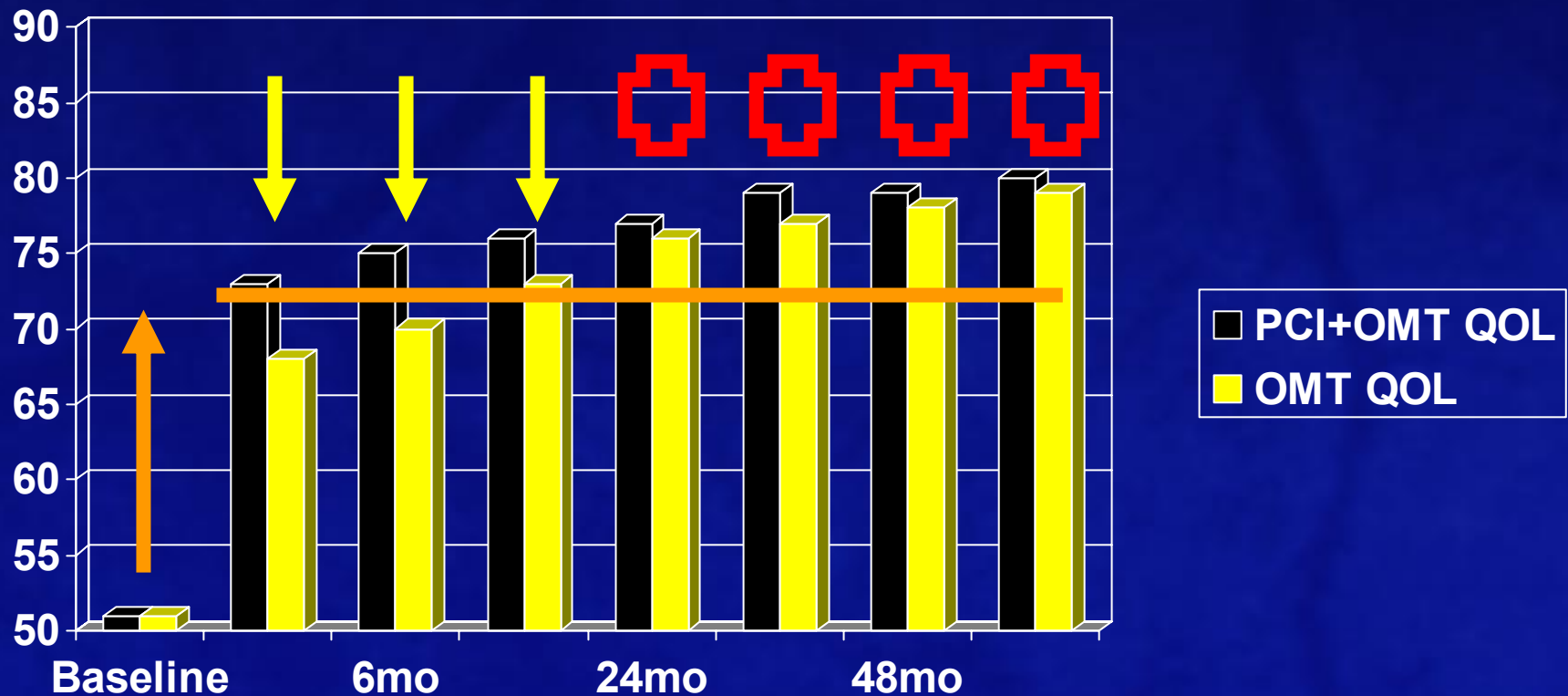


SAQ Angina Frequency Scores





SAQ Quality of Life Scores





COURAGE: Continuing Controversy & Discourse After 6 Months...

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EXPEDITED PUBLICATION

Commentary

COURAGE Under Fire

On the Management of Stable Coronary Disease

George A. Diamond, MD, FACC, Sanjay Kaul, MD, FACC

Los Angeles, California

The COURAGE (Clinical Outcomes Utilizing Revascularization and Aggressive Drug Evaluation) trial showed that coronary interventional procedures added little to optimal medical therapy with respect to the long-term outcome of patients with stable coronary disease when used as initial therapy. Detractors opine that: 1) the trial was unrealistic in design and the findings were not unexpected; 2) the use of coronary interventional procedures was suboptimal; and 3) the results of COURAGE are not applicable to current clinical practice. We herein reevaluate the evidence with regard to each of these points, and conclude that COURAGE indeed provides relevant new information to assist the practitioner in the appropriate management of patients with stable coronary disease. (J Am Coll Cardiol 2007;50:600-600) © 2007 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation

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EXPEDITED PUBLICATION

Viewpoint

The Truth and Consequences of the COURAGE Trial

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Cincinnati, Ohio; La Jolla, California; Rochester, Minnesota; Durham, North Carolina; Miami, Florida; Washington, DC; Providence, Rhode Island; Boston, Massachusetts; New York, New York; and Clayton, Australia

Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) has played an integral role in the therapeutic management strategies for patients who present with either acute coronary syndromes or stable angina pectoris. The COURAGE (Clinical Outcomes Utilizing Revascularization and Aggressive Drug Evaluation) trial enrolled patients with chronic stable angina and at least 1 significant (>70%) angiographic coronary stenosis who were randomly assigned to an initial treatment of either PCI in conjunction with optimal medical therapy or optimal medical therapy alone. Although the initial management strategy of PCI did not reduce the risk of death, myocardial infarction, or other major cardiovascular events, improvement in angina-free status and a reduction in the requirement for subsequent revascularization was observed. An in-depth analysis of the COURAGE trial design and execution is provided. (J Am Coll Cardiol 2007;50:600-600) © 2007 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation



The Three Stages of Truth...

-Schopenhauer: 1788-1860; Diamond & Kaul JACC 2007; 50; 1-5



As Applied to the Results of COURAGE:

- First, it is ridiculed
- Second, it is violently opposed
- Third, it is accepted as being self-evident



Observations from Clinical Trials & Observational Studies

- The value and benefits of OMT in reducing clinical events are absolutely unquestioned
- The clinical benefits of DES vs. BMS (and the clinical consequences of re-stenosis) are largely overstated, while the clinical consequences of late stent thrombosis are largely understated



No Clear Benefit of DES vs. BMS on Death or MI - ESC/WCC, Sept. 2006



Long-Term Follow-Up of “On-Label” Use of DES (RCTs)

Trial	End Point	Follow-Up	Incidence (%)		p Value	NNH (NNT)*	Probability	
			DES	BMS			Benefit	Harm
Camenzind et al. meta-analysis								
SES vs. BMS (n=1,748) (4 trials)	Death; Q-wave MI	Last F/U (>3 yrs)	6.3	3.9	0.03	42	1%	99%
PES vs. BMS (n=3,364) (5 trials)	Death or Q-wave MI	Last F/U (>3 yrs)	3.3	2.8	0.46	227	23%	77%
Nordmann et al. meta-analysis (4 trials)								
SES vs. BMS (n=1,748)	Death	3 yrs	4.7	3.1	0.09	66	4%	96%
SES vs. BMS (n=1,748)	Non-Cardiac Death	3 yrs	3.2	1.6	0.04	66	2%	98%
SIRIUS (SES vs. BMS)	Death	4 yrs	6.0	4.6	0.30	71	15%	85%
	Death or MI	4 yrs	8.4	6.7	0.27	58	13%	87%
RAVEL (SES vs. BMS)	Death	5 yrs	12.1	7.1	0.26	20	13%	87%
	Death or MI	5 yrs	18.9	10.5	0.09	12	4%	96%
BASKET (SES or PES vs. BMS)	Death or MI	18 mo	8.4	7.5	0.63	111	31%	69%

*Numbers needed to treat for benefit are shown in parentheses (NNT or NNH values ranging from 30 to 80 are deemed clinically important).

Kaul, Shah, Diamond. As Time Goes By – Current Status and Future
Directions in the Controversy Over Stenting. JACC 2007; 50; 1-10.



Extraordinarily High Rates of Death/MI 2° to Stent Thrombosis



Low Incidence But Severe Consequences

Study	Stent Type	Confirmation of Stent Thrombosis	Duration	Death	Death or MI
Cutlip et al., 2001 (14) (n = 6,186)	BMS	Angiogram or clinical	6 months	21%	70%
Heller et al., 2001 (15) (n = 1,855)	BMS	Angiogram plus acute MI	9 months	17%	100%
Iakovou et al., 2005 (7) (n = 2,229)	DES	Angiogram or clinical	9 months	45%	93%
Ong et al., 2005 (16) (n = 2,016)	DES	Angiogram plus clinical	1 month	25%	100%
Kuchulakanti et al., 2006 (8) (n = 2,974)	DES	Angiogram	6 months	31%	72%*
BASKET-LATE, 2006 (10) (n = 746)	DES	Angiogram plus clinical	18 Months	19%**	88% **
Mauri et al., 2007 (17) (n= 4,545)	DES	Angiogram plus clinical	4 years	31%	84%*

*Only MI rates reported; ** cardiac death.

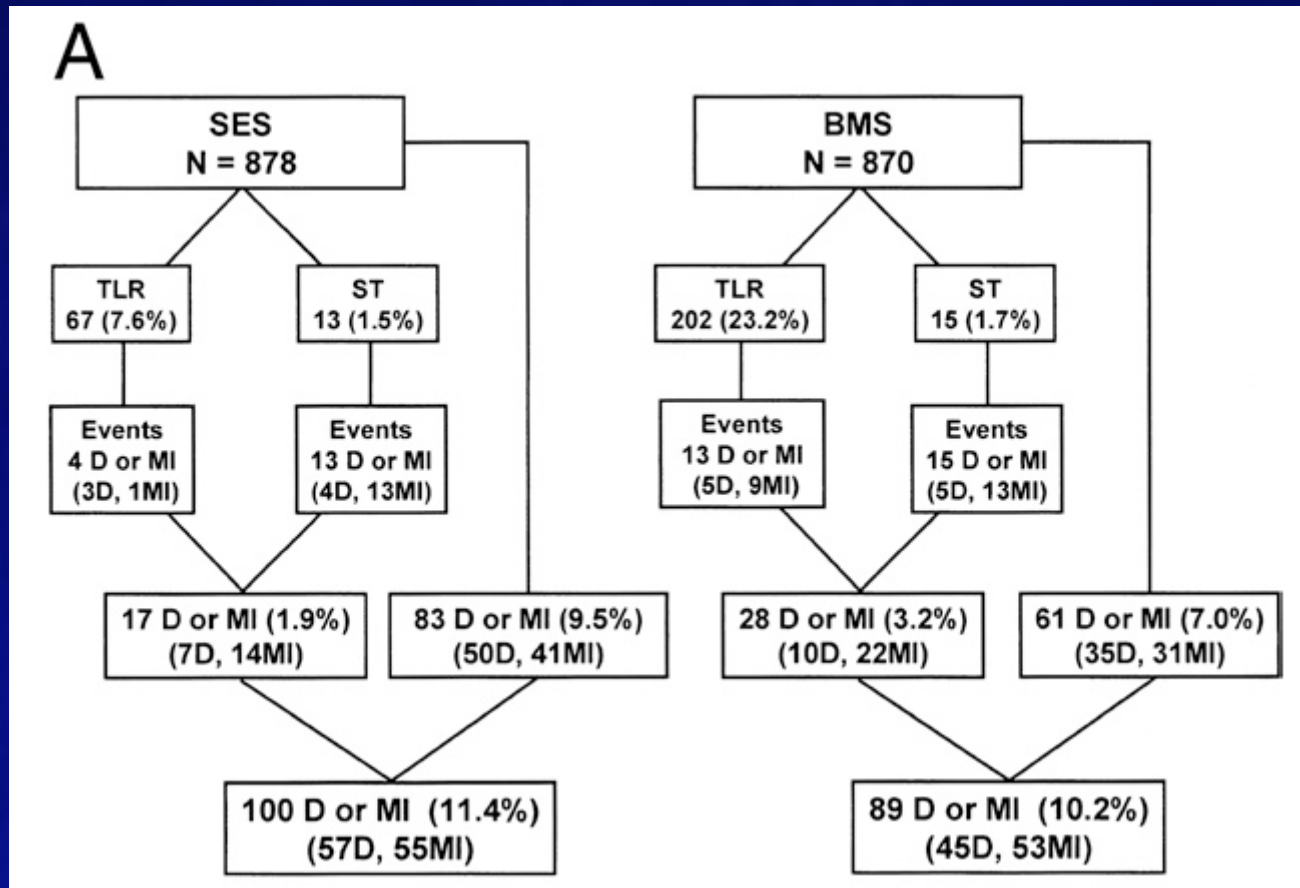
Kaul, Shah, Diamond. As Time Goes By – Current Status and Future Directions in the Controversy Over Stenting. JACC 2007; 50; 1-10.



Only ~ 6% of TLR Resulted in Death or MI for SES or BMS



Pooled Analysis of RAVEL, SIRIUS, E-SIRIUS, and C-SIRIUS Trials

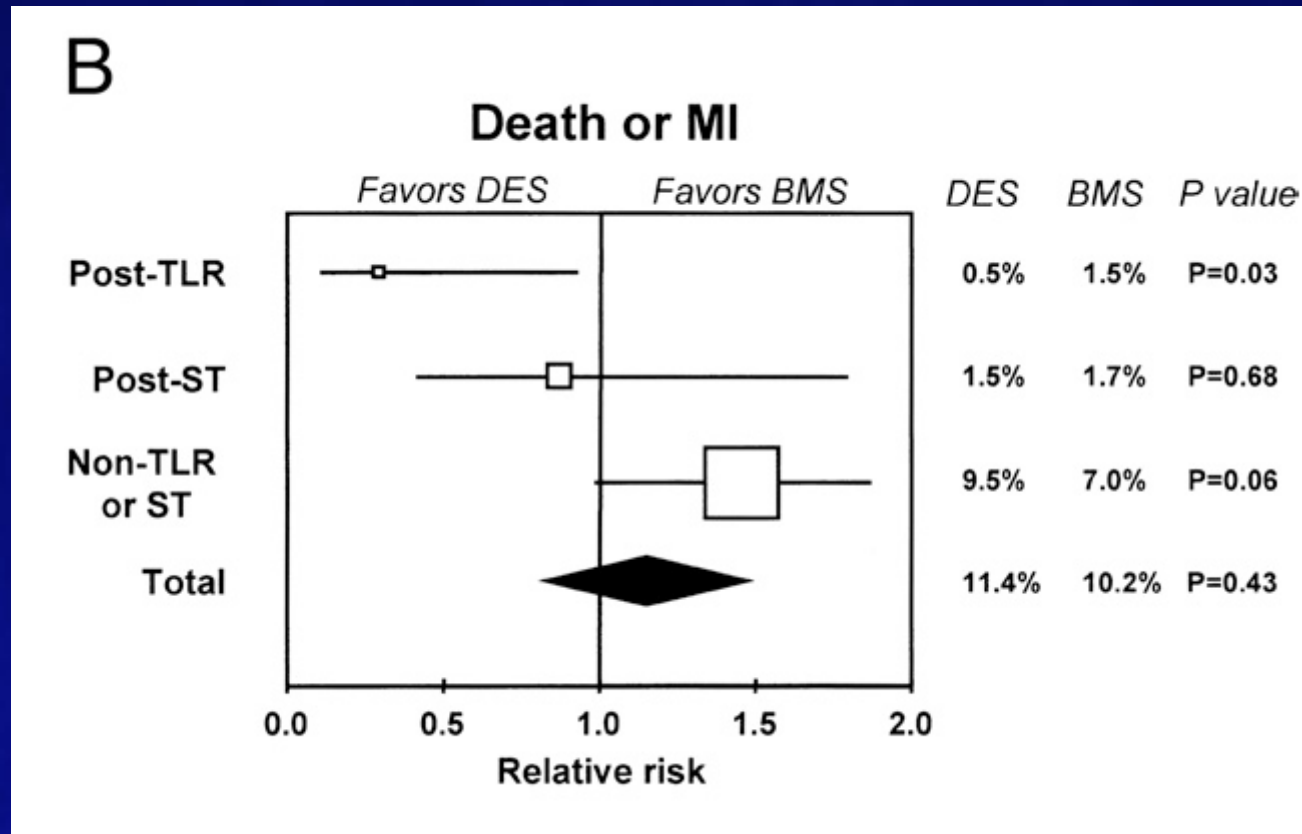




Most D/MI Events post-SES Unrelated to TLR or ST



Pooled Analysis of RAVEL, SIRIUS, E-SIRIUS, and C-SIRIUS Trials





There is a 100% Effective "Cure" for Re-stenosis, TLR & TVR...



- Whenever possible, avoid or defer the initial PCI...
- Initiate and maintain evidence-based, multifaceted optimal medical therapy and treat patients aggressively to their risk factor targets



5 Traits That Characterize MD Behavior

From Freidson E: Profession of Medicine: a study of the sociology of applied knowledge. New York, NY; Harper & Row, 1970; 168-69

1. **We believe in what we are doing.** When things go right, we take the credit.
2. **We prefer action to inaction.** Even action with little chance of success is preferred over no action at all.
3. **We are pragmatic.** We see apparent cause-effect relationships even in the absence of any theoretic foundation.
4. **We are highly subjective.** We depend more on “gut feelings” than on “book knowledge”.
5. **We emphasize uncertainty in our defense.** When things go wrong, it is not our fault. Because we deal with individuals and not groups, we cannot rely on epidemiologic concepts or probabilities derived from population statistics.



Why We Often Practice “Selective” Evidence-Based Medicine...



- When scientific evidence conflicts with our clinical judgment (or collides with our pre-existing belief systems), we tend to resist it
- But, when evidence is consistent with our judgment (or reinforces our pre-existing treatment biases), we tend to embrace it



How Some Interventionalists Are Choosing to Interpret COURAGE...



- Since PCI is better than OMT for angina relief and improving QOL...and
- Since PCI is no worse/better than OMT for reducing death/MI during long-term f/u...
- Then, we should perform PCI as the initial approach to management in most stable CAD patients...
- Except, what about cost and value?



Importance and Rationale for Cost-Effectiveness Analysis



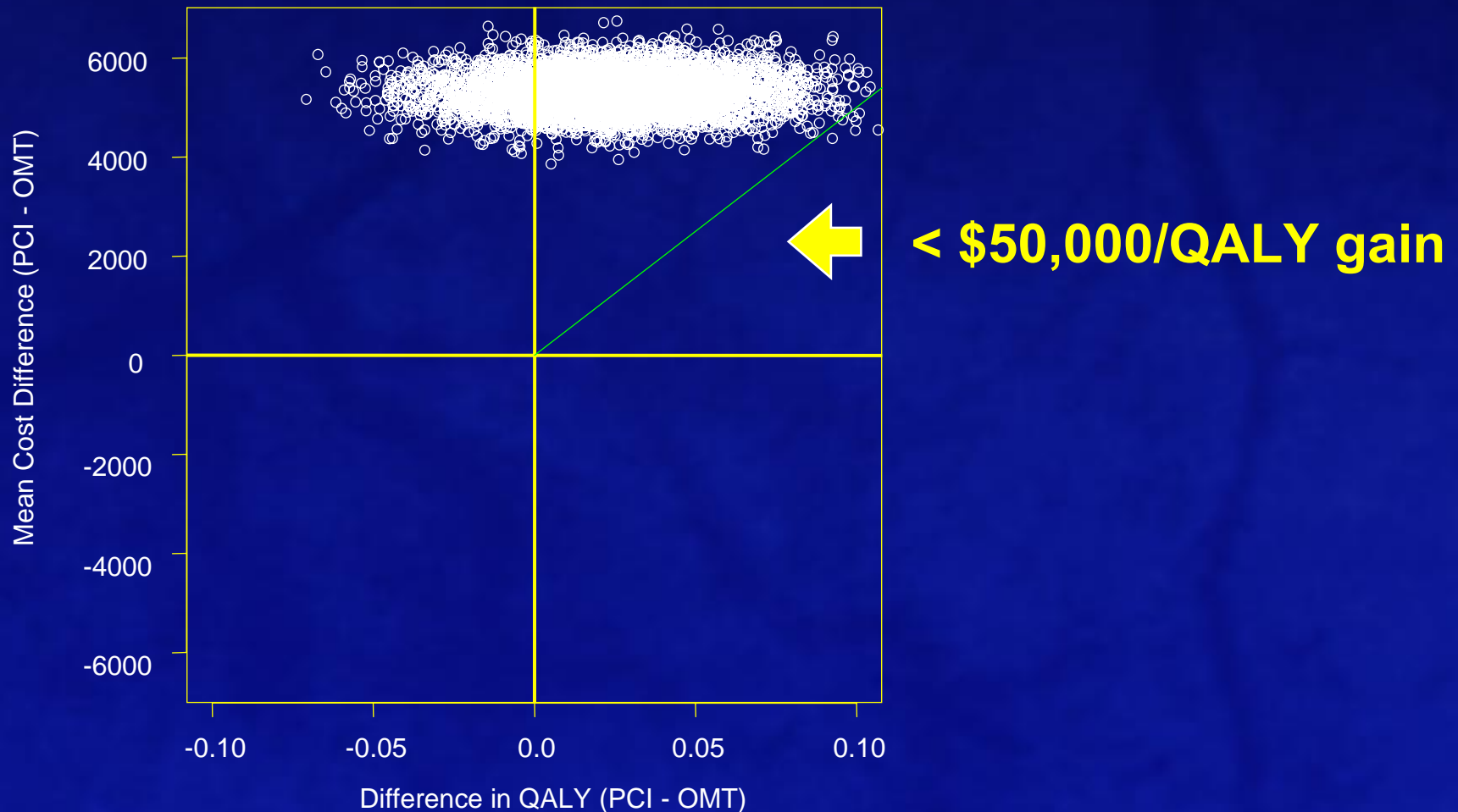
- Health Care currently costs \$1.5 trillion, 14% of GDP.
- Cost-effectiveness analysis can help allocate resources rationally.
- Cost-effectiveness is used when one form of therapy is both more effective and more expensive than a previous standard.
- Cost-effectiveness is generally measured in cost per life years gained or cost per quality adjusted life years gained



Joint Distribution of Cost and Effectiveness



ICER point estimate: \$216,993/QALY gain



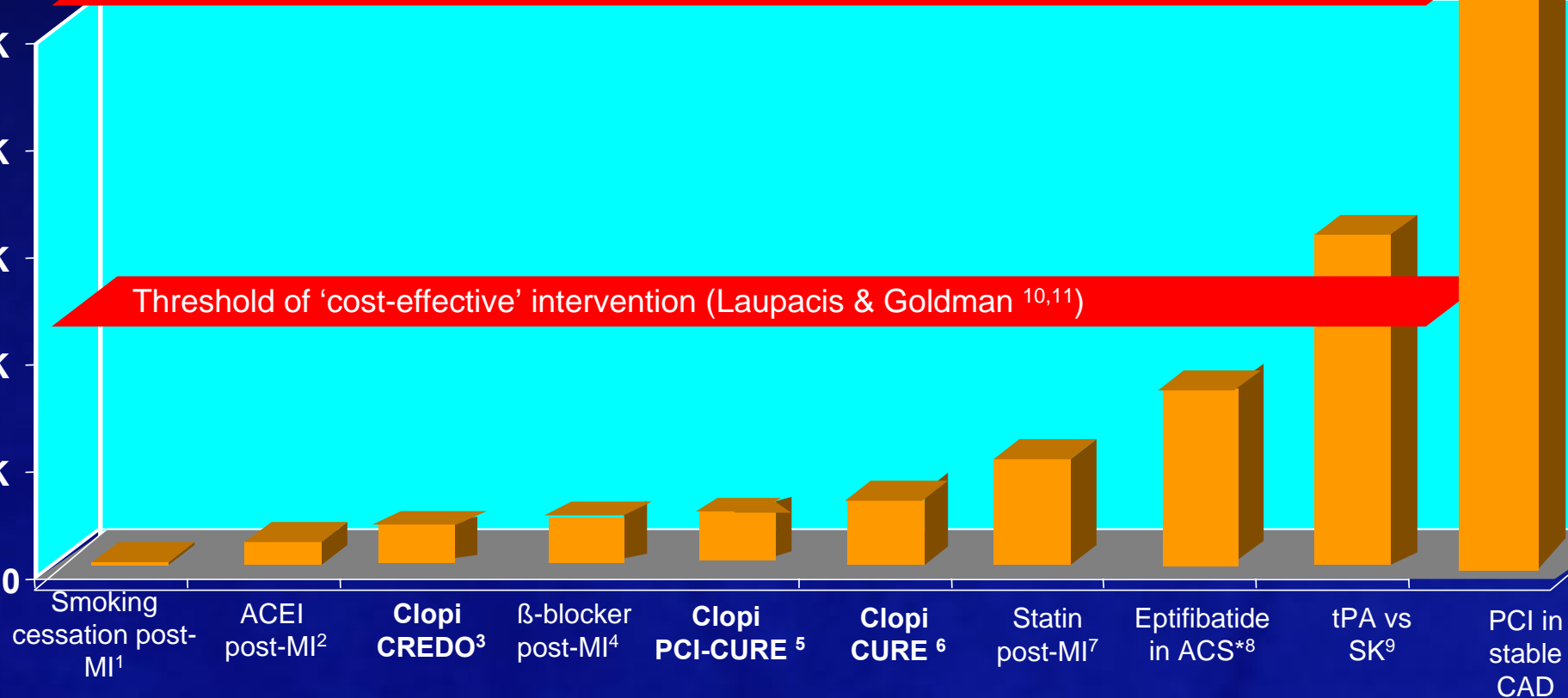


ICERS for CV Interventions

Cost
per
LYG

Threshold of 'cost-effective' intervention (Mark)¹²

Threshold of 'cost-effective' intervention (Laupacis & Goldman^{10,11})



* Unstable angina /
non-Q-wave MI
LYG = life-year gained

1. Krumholz et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 1993;22:1697-1702.
2. Franzosi et al. *Pharmacoeconomics*. 1995;13:337-346.
3. Beinart, CREDO, AHA Congress Nov. 2003
4. Goldman et al. *N Engl J Med* 1988;319:152-57.
5. Mahoney, PCI-CURE, AHA Congress Nov. 2003.
6. Weintraub, et al. *JACC* 2005;45(6):838-845.
7. Johannesson et al. *N Engl J Med* 1996;336(5):335;332-336.

8. Mark et al. *Circulation*. 2000; 101: 366-371.
9. Mark et al. *N Engl J Med*. 1995;332:1418-1424.
10. Laupacis et al. *Can Med Assoc J*. 1993;148:927-929.
11. Goldman et al. *Circulation*. 1992;85:1960-1968.
12. Mark. In: Topol (ed.). *Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine*. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott-Raven; 1998



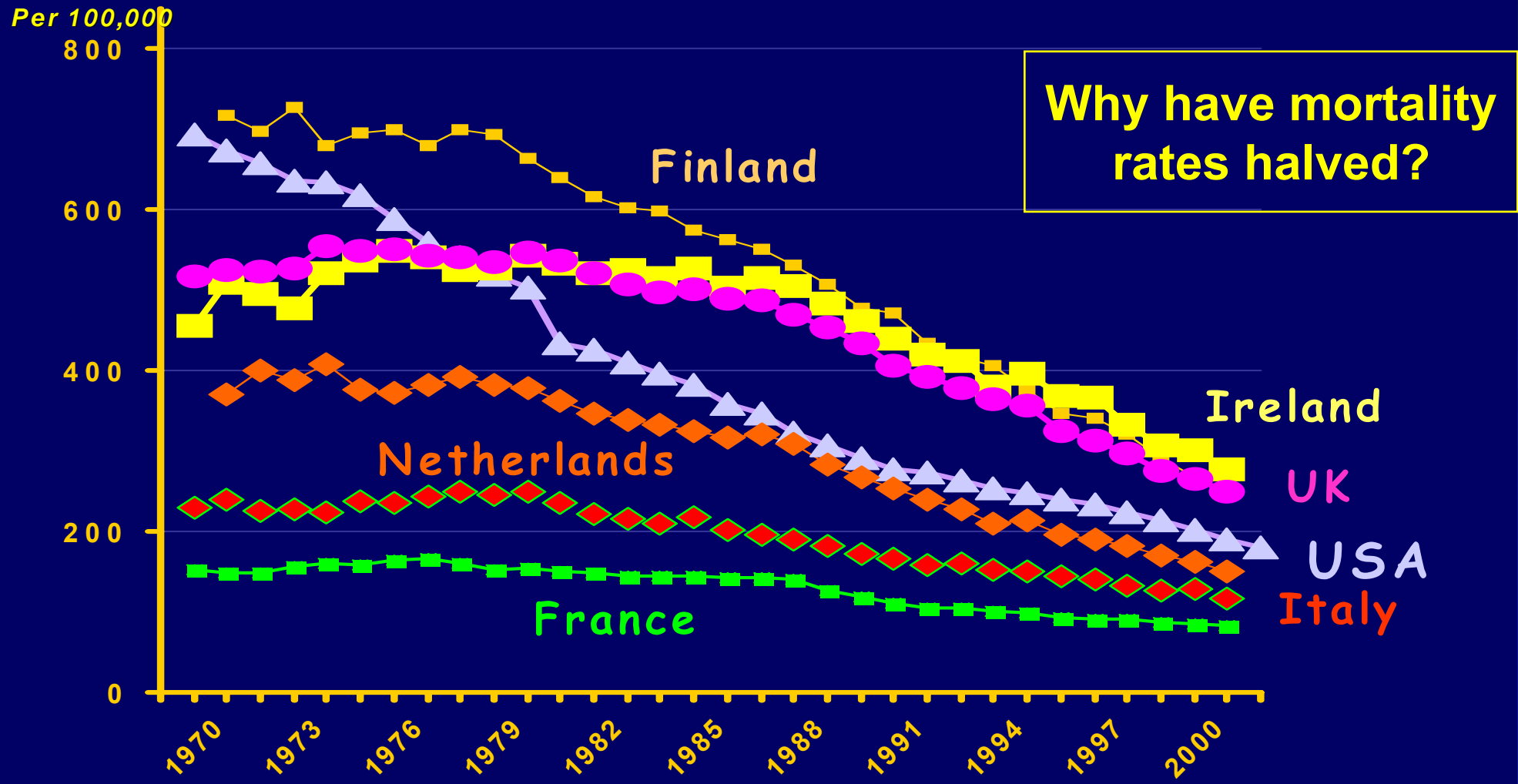
What Drives Event Reduction in Stable CAD: Anatomy or Biology?



**PCI fixes the lesion,
but *not* the artery or
the patient; OMT
reduces clinical events**



International CHD Mortality Trends in Men, 1968-2003



Source: BHF Heartstats (WHO statistics Men aged 35 - 74, Standardized)



Explaining the Decrease in U.S. Deaths from CHD, 1980-2000



Ford et al NEJM 2007; 356: 2388-98; CDC

- Age-adjusted death rate for CHD fell from **543 to 267** deaths/100,000 men and from **263 to 134** deaths/100,000 women, resulting in **341,745 fewer deaths in 2000** vs. 1980.
- **47% of this decrease was attributed to evidence-based medical therapies and secondary prevention** for MI and CHD (statins, ACEI, BB, etc.) and treatment for CHF
- **44% of this decrease was attributed to changes in risk factors** (decreased cholesterol, BP, smoking, physical inactivity, etc.).
- **Only 5% of this decrease was attributable to revascularization** (CABG or PCI) for chronic stable angina, and **only 1.3% was attributable to PCI**
- Of the 22,059,760 PCIs performed for stable CHD between 1980-2000, the **RRR for death was 13% and ARR was 0.2%**



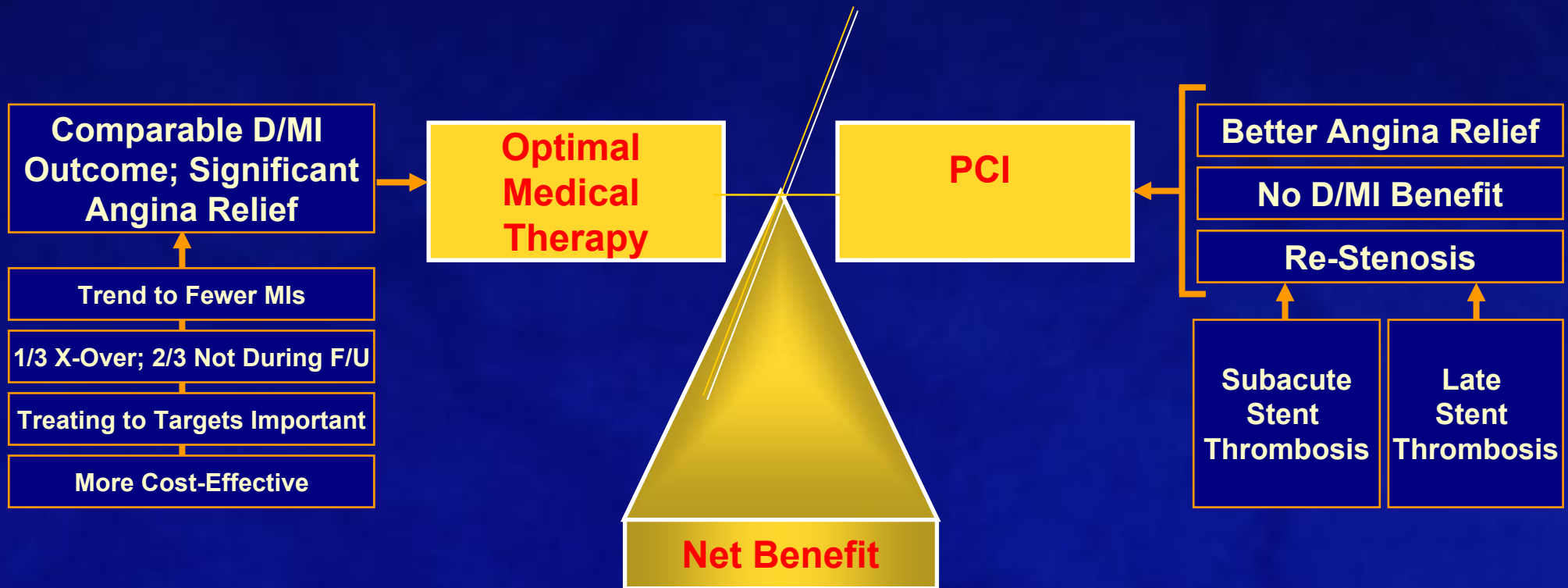
The Case for Medical Therapy as the Initial Choice in Chronic Stable Angina



1. Aggressive medical therapy without initial PCI can be implemented safely in the majority of patients with stable CAD—1/3 of whom may require a symptom-driven procedure, but 2/3's of whom may not require even a first revascularization during long-term follow-up. This initial management approach incurs no disadvantage with respect to death, MI, ACS, or CABG.
2. Although routine PCI + OMT provides some advantages in angina/physical limitation/QOL, these differences are numerically small, not durable, and achieved only at an unattractive cost for chronic stable disease management.



Net Clinical Benefits and Risks of PCI for Chronic Angina in Stable CAD





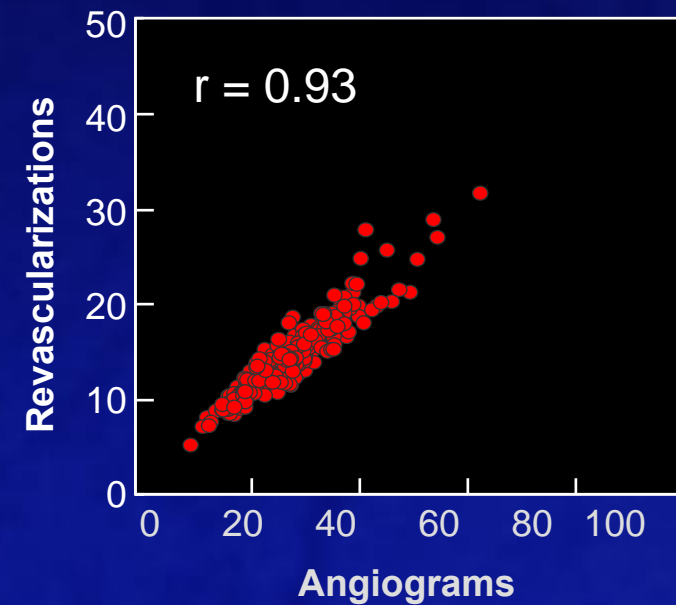
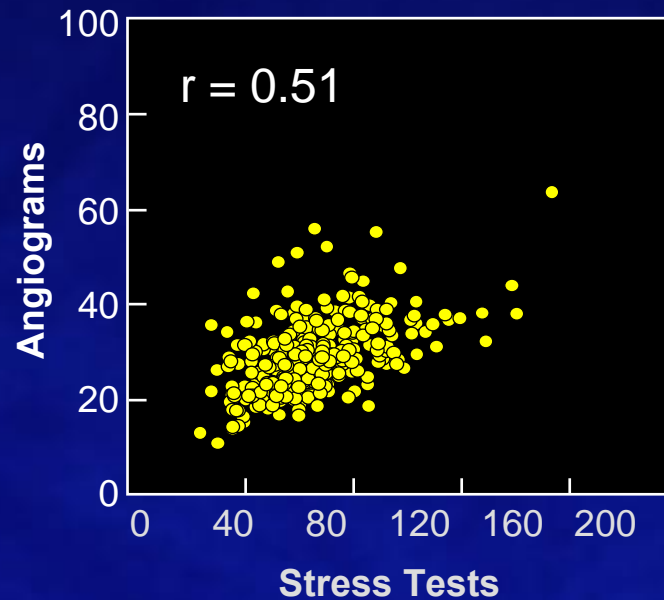
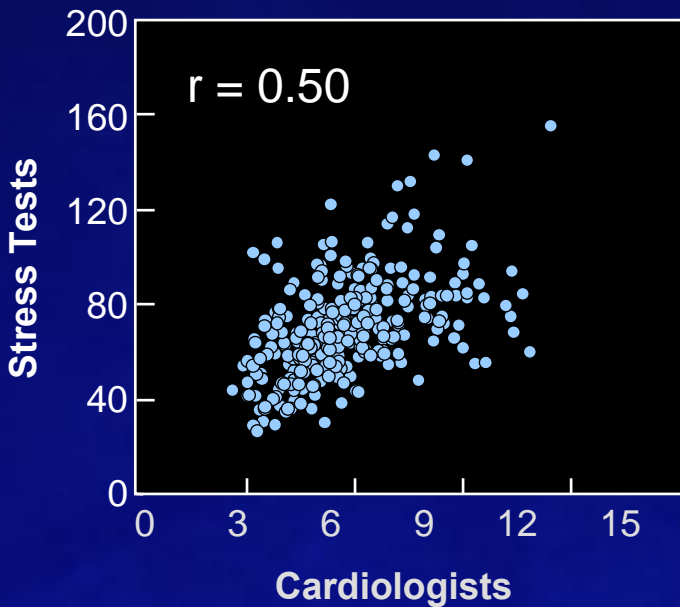
The Role of PCI in Stable CAD

The Past, the Present and the Future:

- How did we get to where we are today?
- COURAGE—a Pivot Point for Change...
- Can/Should We Change the Future?

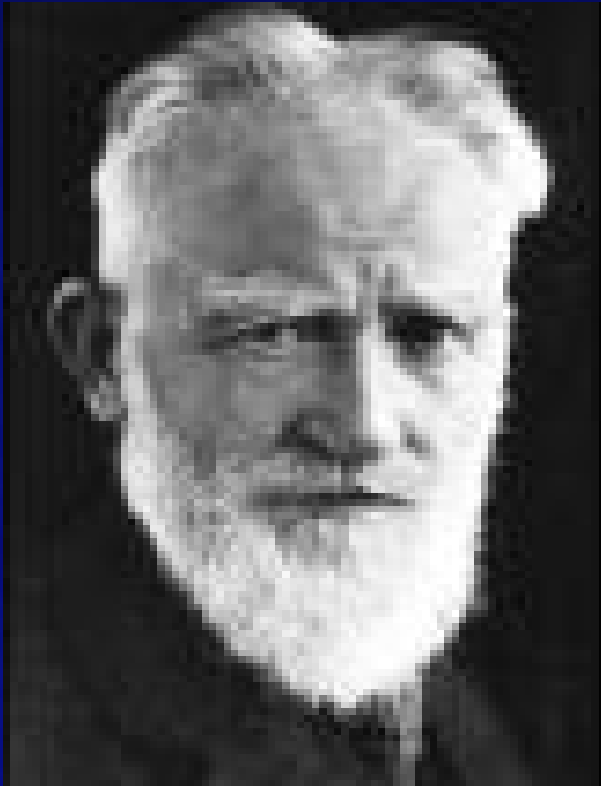


How Fee-for-Service Drives Utilization





Misalignment of Incentives Drives Over-Utilization

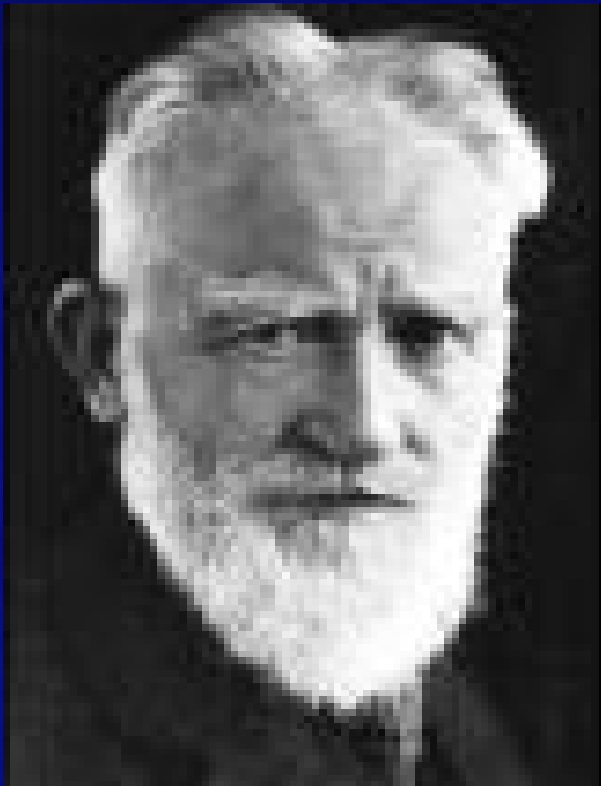


G. B. SHAW

Having observed that you could provide for the supply of bread by giving bakers a pecuniary interest in baking, we go on to give a surgeon a pecuniary interest in cutting off your leg.



Misalignment of Incentives



G. B. SHAW

Shaw's Laws

1. Payment drives up utilization
2. Utilization drives down quality



Realignment of Incentives



Pluck the goose so as to
obtain the most feathers with
the least hissing.

JEAN-BAPTISTE COLBERT



Realignment of Incentives



JEAN-BAPTISTE COLBERT

Colbert's Laws

1. Evidence drives payment
2. Payment drives quality



Fee-for-Benefit



Fee-for-Benefit: A Strategy to Improve the Quality of Health Care and Control Costs Through Reimbursement Incentives

GEORGE A. DIAMOND, MD, FACC, TIMOTHY A. DENTON, MD,
JACK M. MATLOFF, MD, PhD, FACC

Los Angeles, California

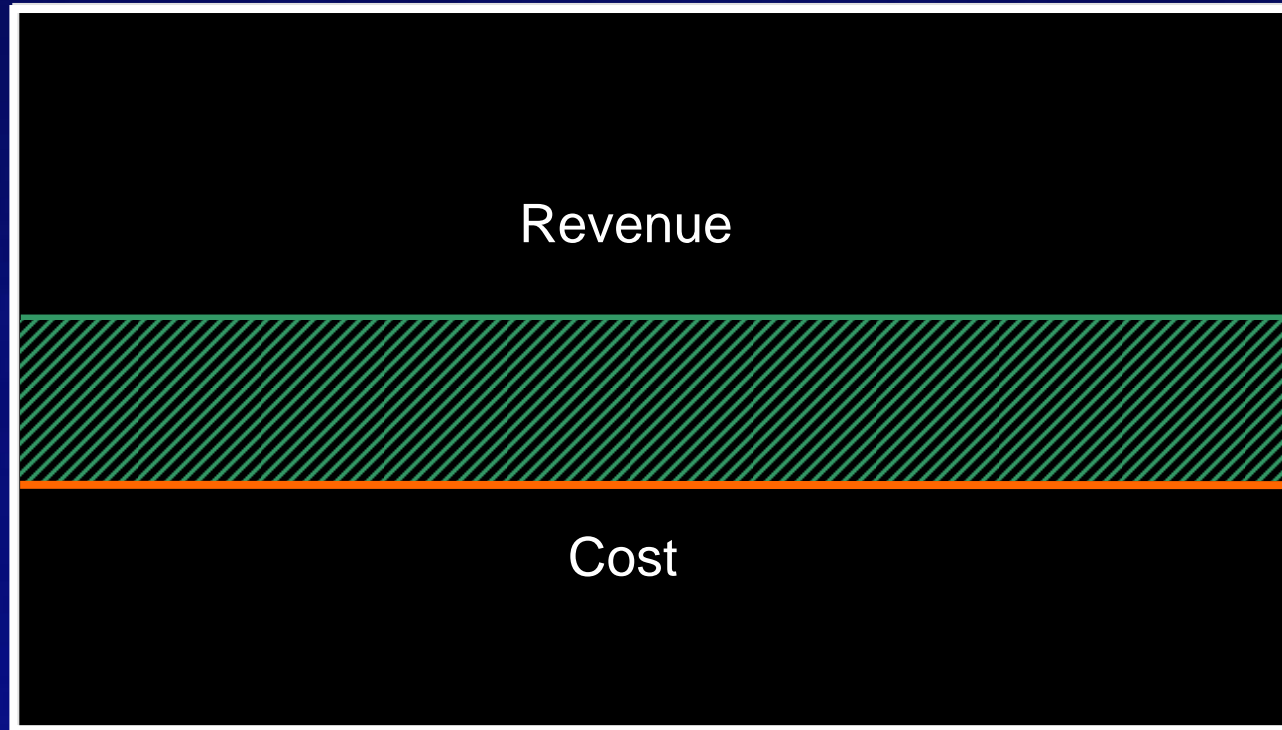
Persistent efforts at cost control will eventually induce health care providers to adopt performance improvement practices that allow them to compete on the basis of quality rather than price.



Fee-for-Service



Per-Capita Dollars



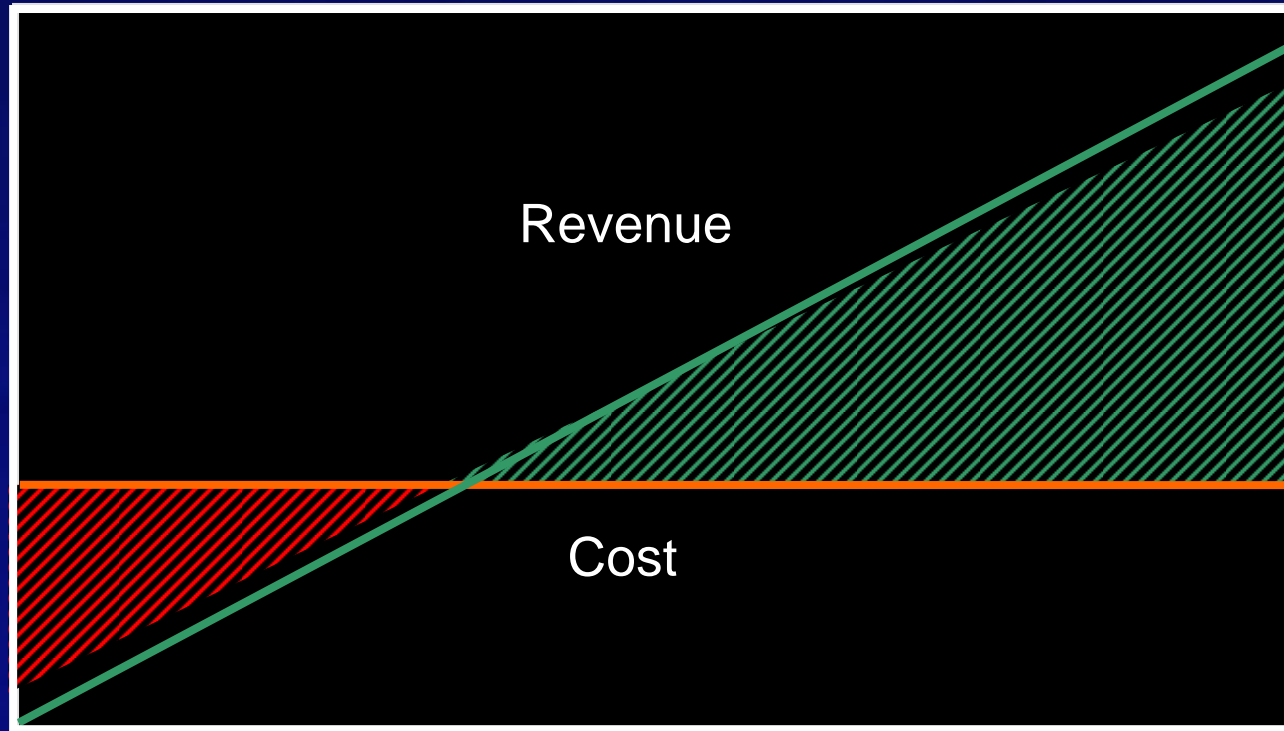
Expected Therapeutic Benefit



Fee-for-Benefit



Per-Capita Dollars



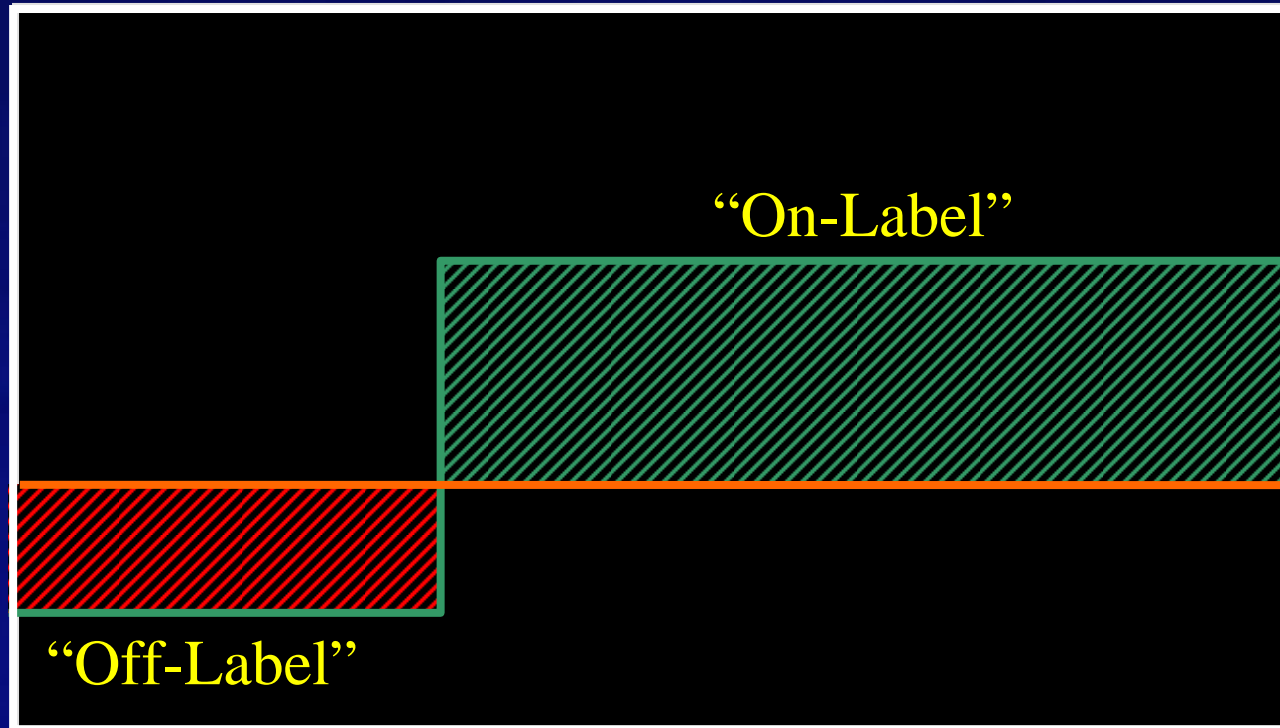
Expected Therapeutic Benefit



Fee-for-Benefit



Per-Capita Dollars



Expected Therapeutic Benefit



Prospective Evaluation of Pay-for-Performance



Early Experience With Pay-for-Performance

From Concept to Practice

Meredith B. Rosenthal, PhD

Richard G. Frank, PhD

Zhonghe Li, MA

Arnold M. Epstein, MD, MA

Paying clinicians to reach a common fixed performance target may produce little gain in quality for the money spent and largely rewards those with higher performance or volumes at baseline.



Comparison of Incentives



Foundation
Incentive Structure
Application
Feedback
Magnitude of Incentive
Reward Horizon

Pay-for-Performance

Fee-for-Benefit

Expert Opinion

Empirical Data

Imposed

Negotiated

Groups

Individuals

Remote

Point of Service

Relatively Small

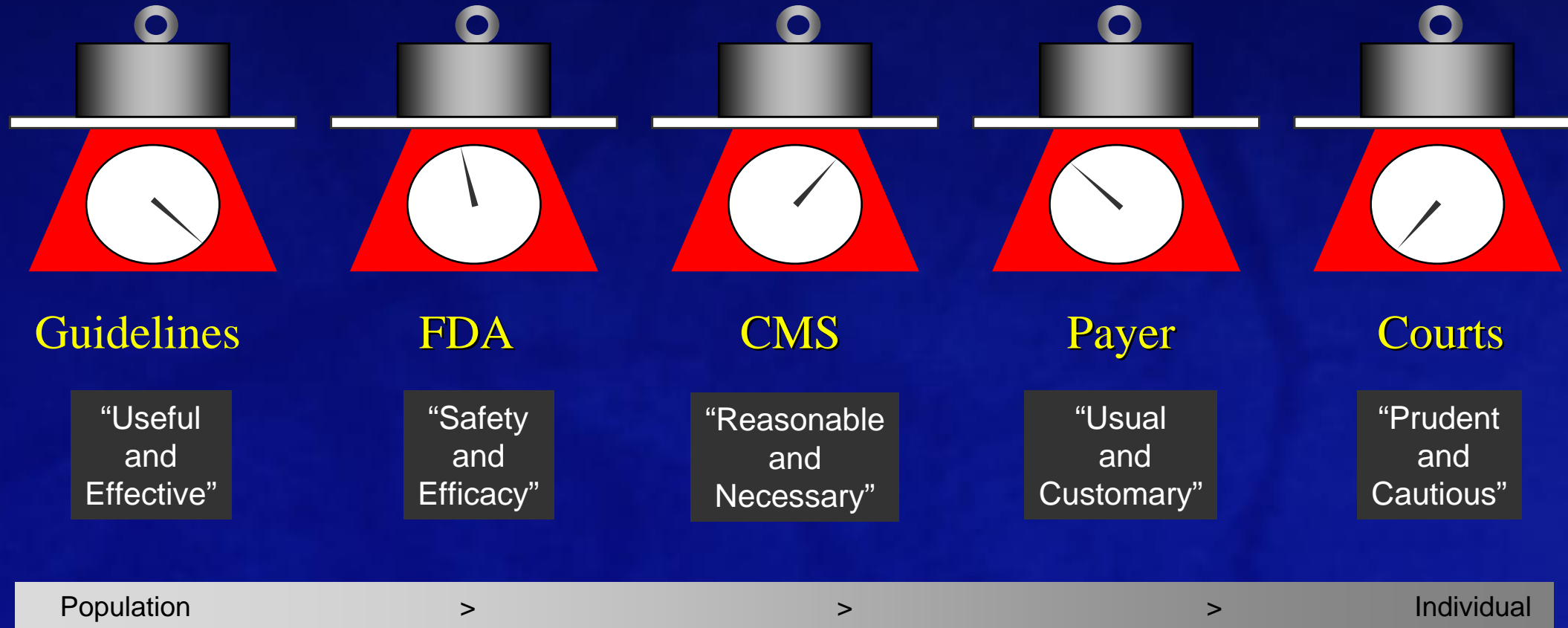
Relatively Large

Delayed

Immediate



Inconsistent Referent Standards of Quality





Inconsistent Meanings of “Benefit” Among Stakeholders



Industry	Surrogate Improvement
Clinician	Objective Improvement
Patient	Symptomatic Improvement



Inconsistency is OK in Politics and Art, but not in Science and Law



Politics



Art



Future Directions in Optimizing Quality, Outcomes, & Cost ...



Where We Go From Here:

- Government/foundation funding to support long-term clinical trials with hard clinical endpoints devoid of industry influence and bias
- Renewed emphasis on practicing evidence-based medical management
- Evidence-based reimbursement as the principal driver of quality



Evidence-Based Financial Incentives



- Evidence-based reimbursement
- Evidence-based discounting
- Evidence-based patient rewards



Evidence-Based Financial Incentives



- Evidence-based reimbursement
 - Diagnosis-related payment
 - On-label vs Off-label
- Evidence-based discounting
- Evidence-based patient rewards



Evidence-Based Financial Incentives



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Evidence-Based Financial Incentives



- Evidence-based reimbursement
 - Diagnosis-related payment
 - On-label vs Off-label
- Evidence-based discounting
 - YESCOR vs NOCOR
 - YESTRIL vs YESCOR
- Evidence-based patient rewards
 - Good patient discounts
 - Health insurance rebates



Future Agenda: A Partnership Among Physicians, Payers, Government and Industry to Advance Quality



1. Quantitative measures of evidence
↓
2. Consistent standards of quality
↓
3. Appropriate definitions of benefit
↓
4. Effective economic incentives
↓
5. Continuous feedback and improvement