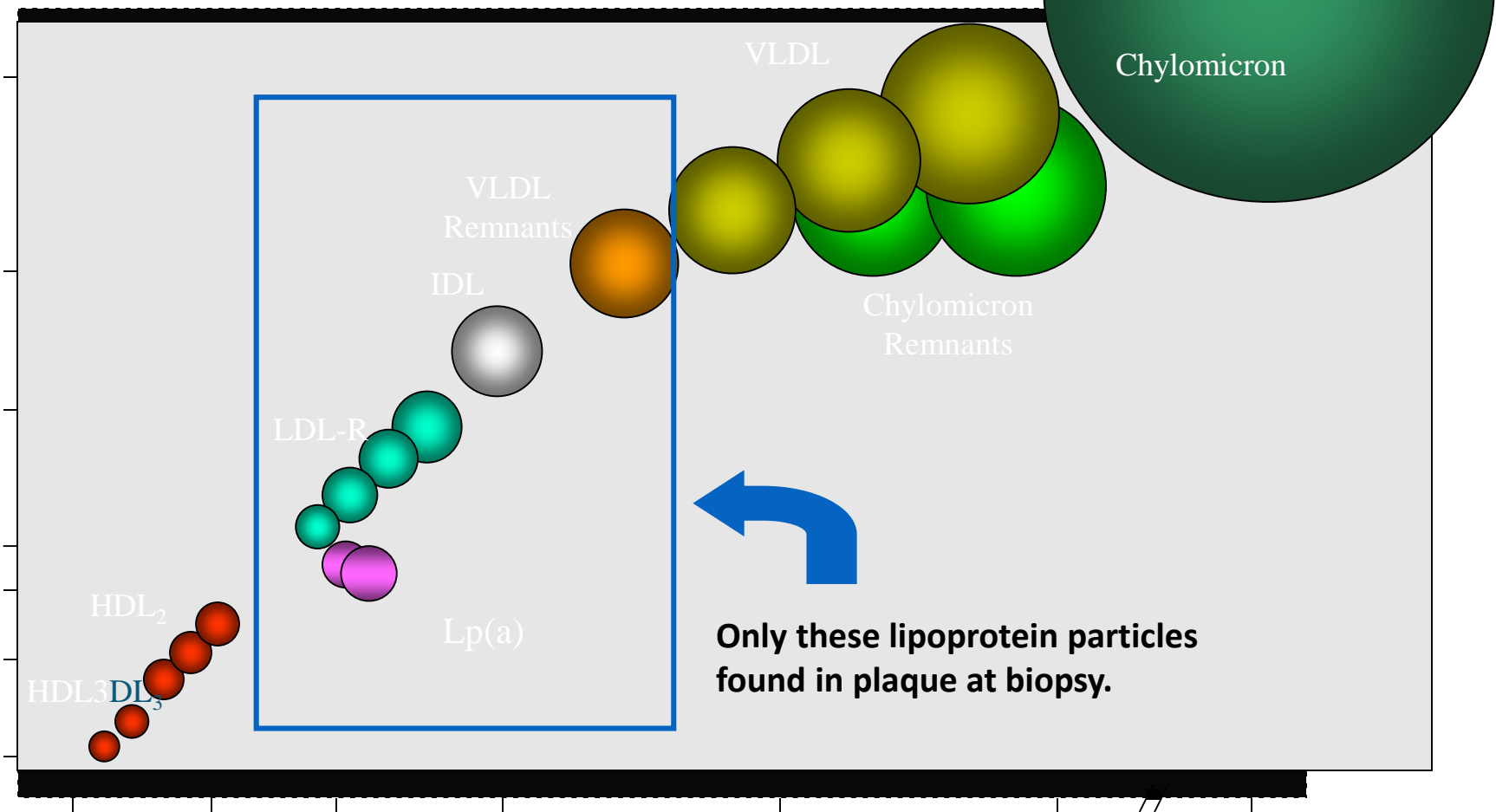


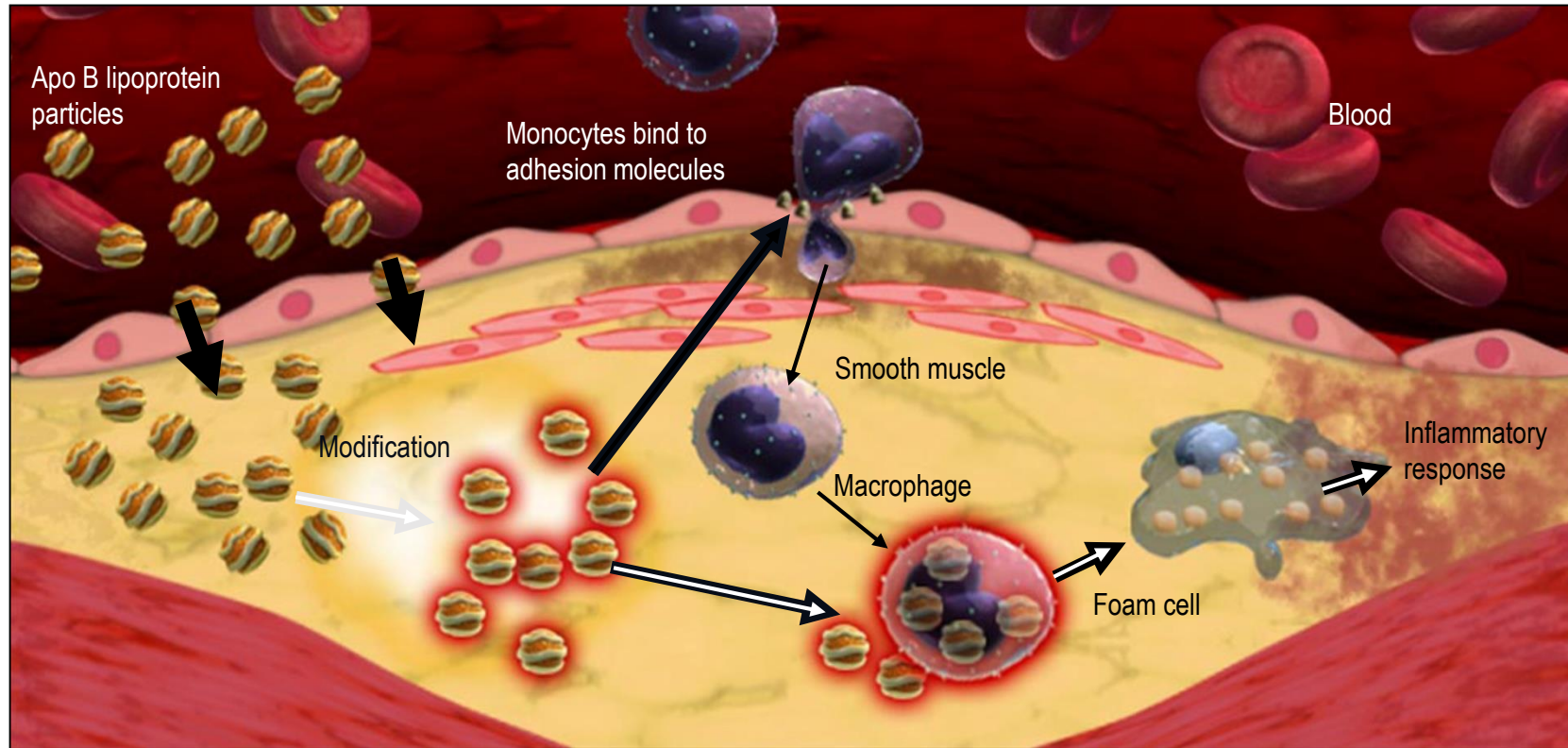
# CHOLESTEROL MANAGEMENT UPDATE - 2019

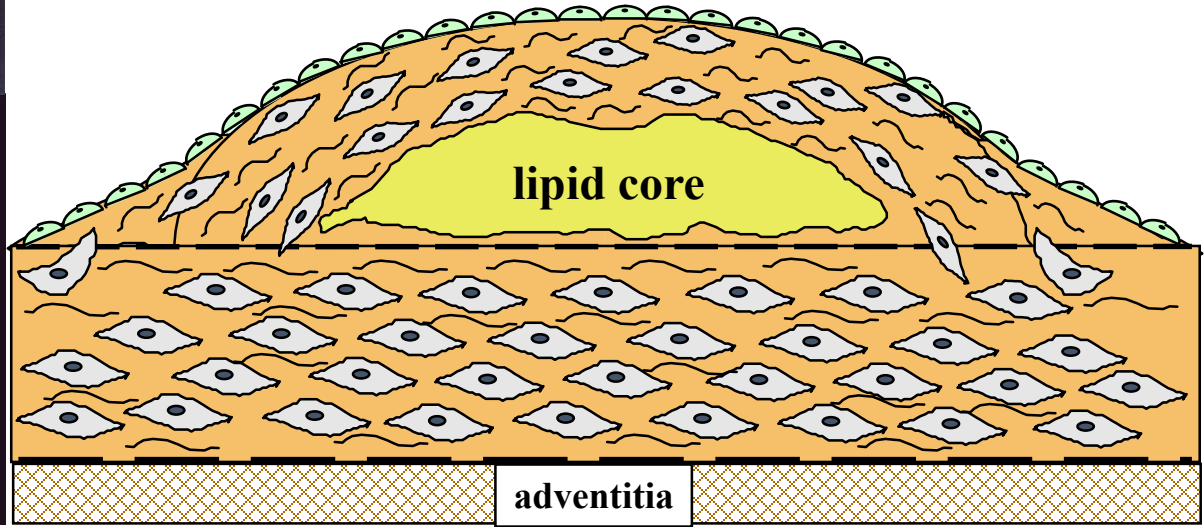
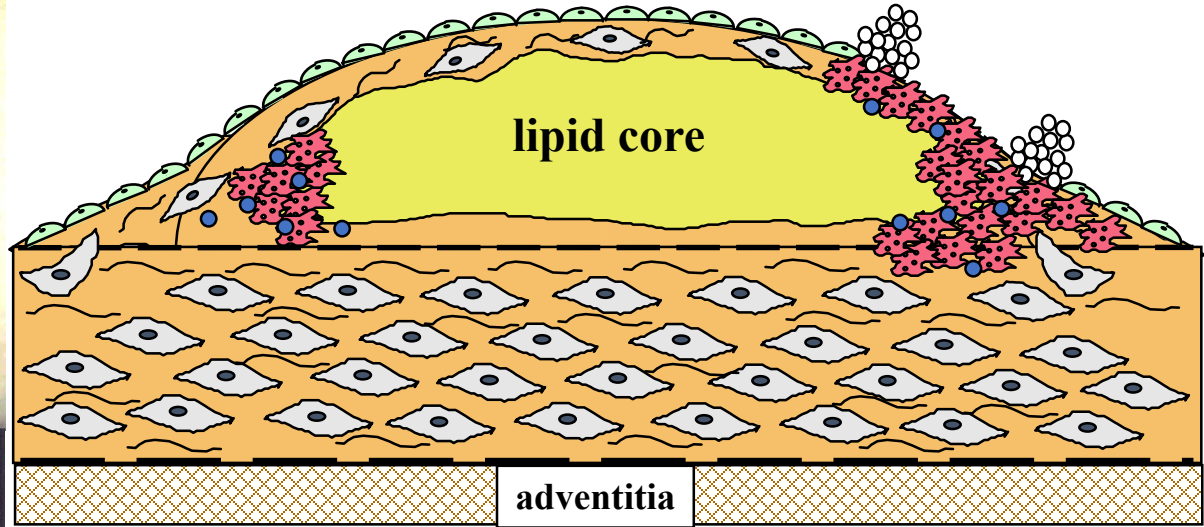
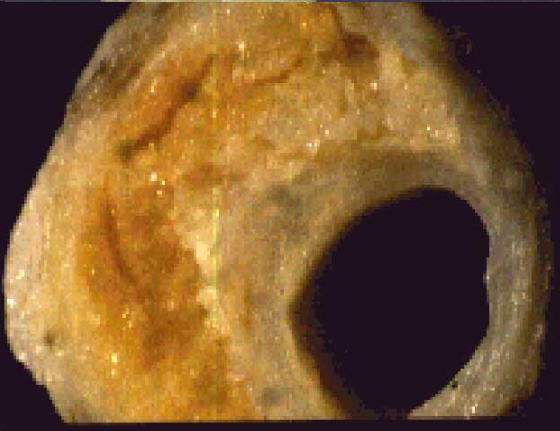
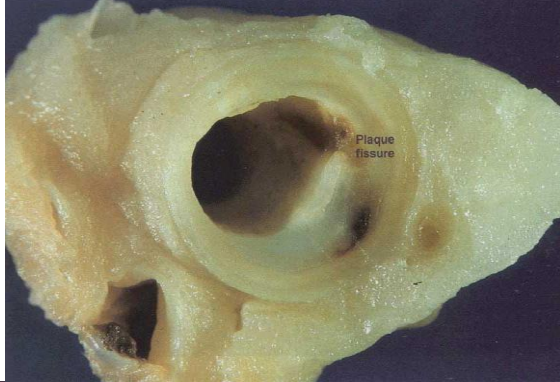
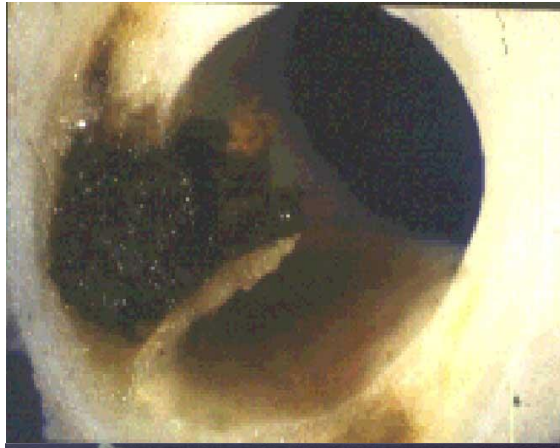
Franklin Handel, MD

# Lipoprotein Particles

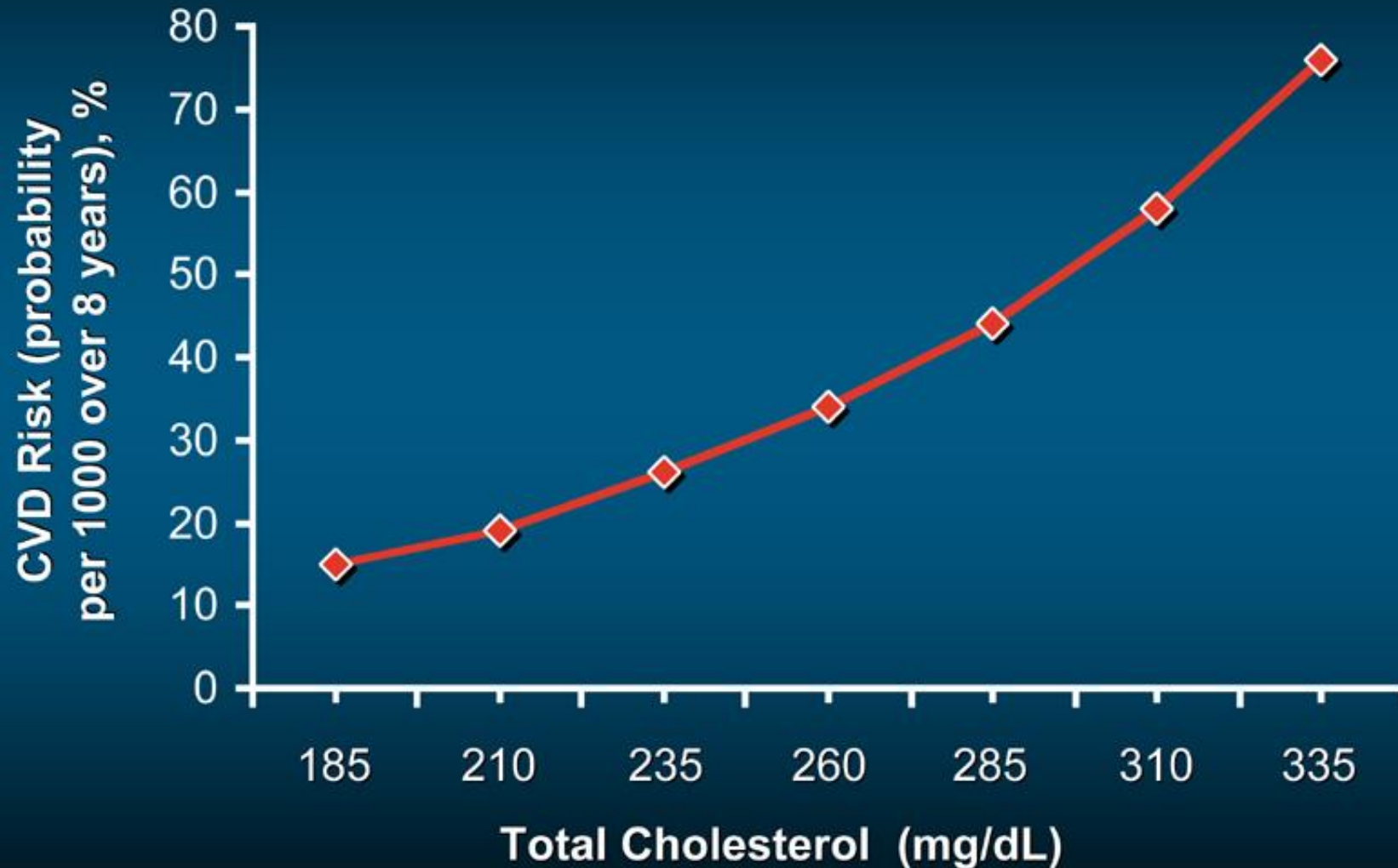


# High Plasma Apo B Lipoprotein Levels Promote Atherogenesis



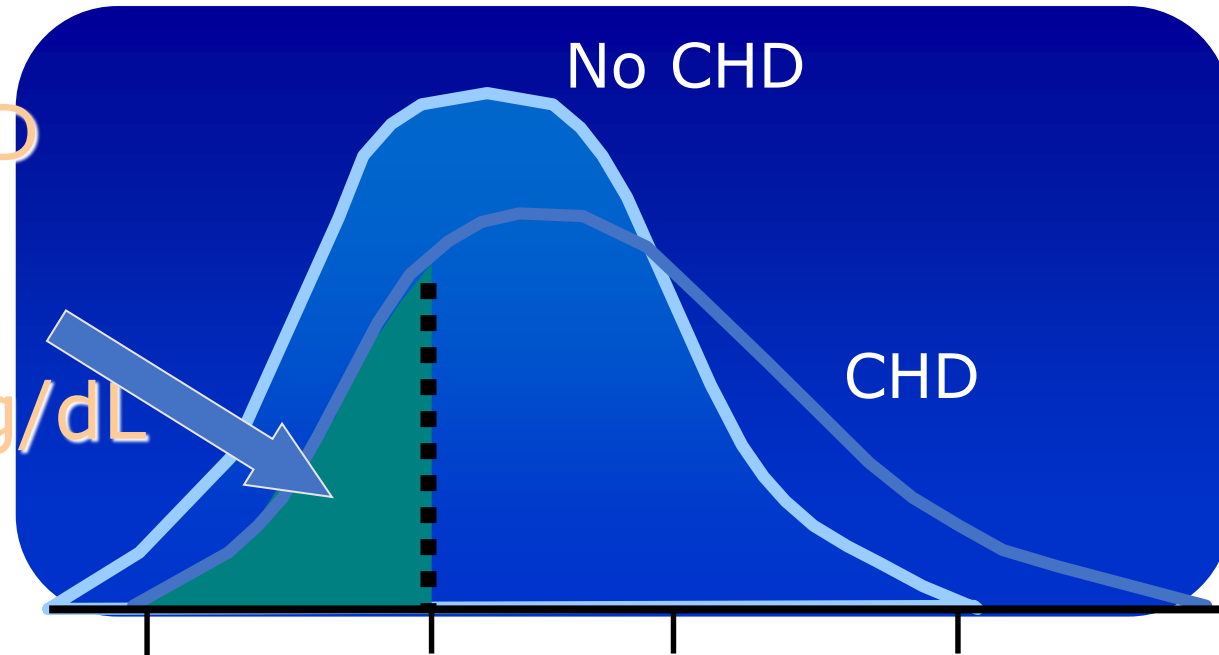


## There Is a Strong Relationship Between CVD Risk and the Presence of Dyslipidemia: Framingham

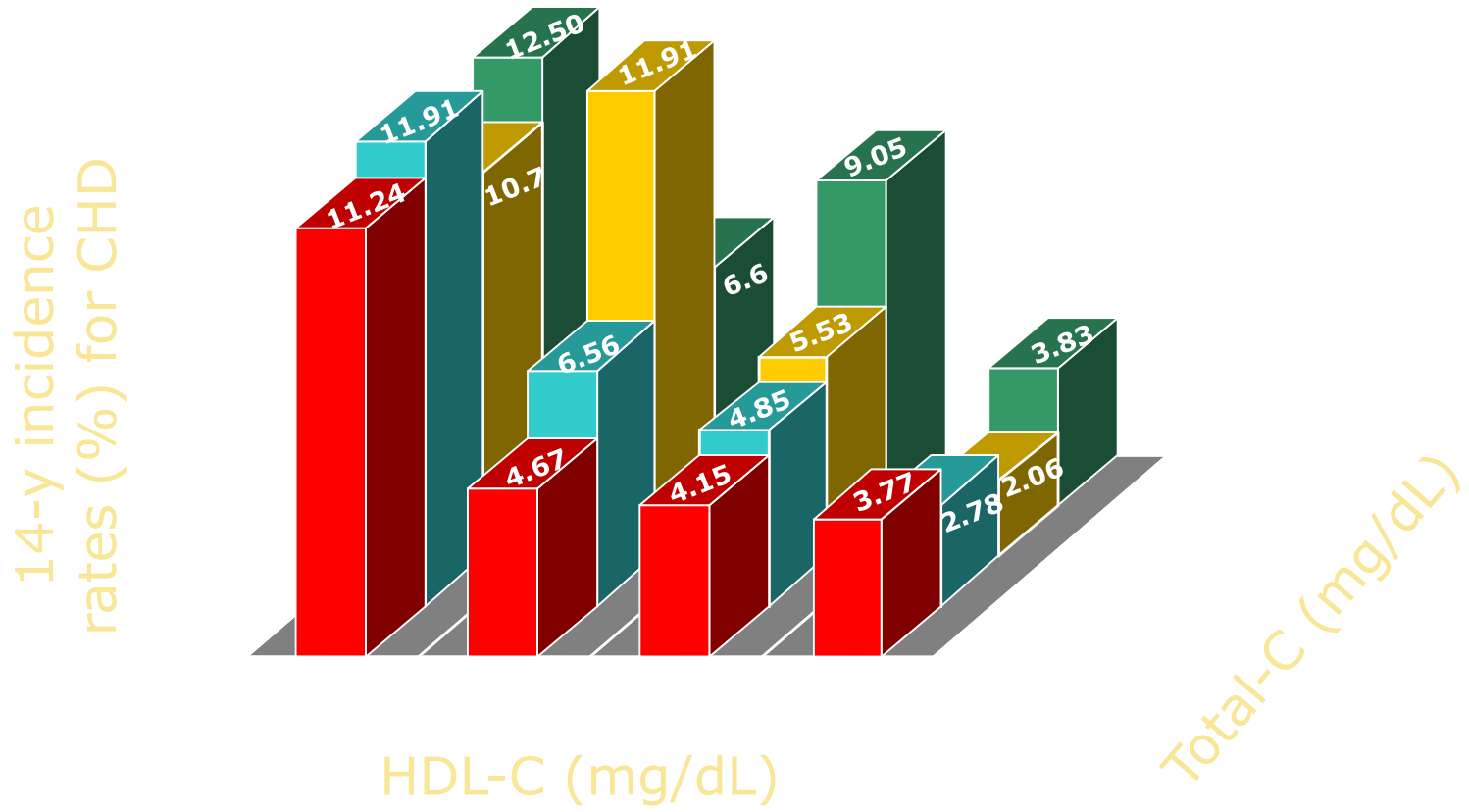


Total Cholesterol Distribution:  
*CHD vs Non-CHD Population*

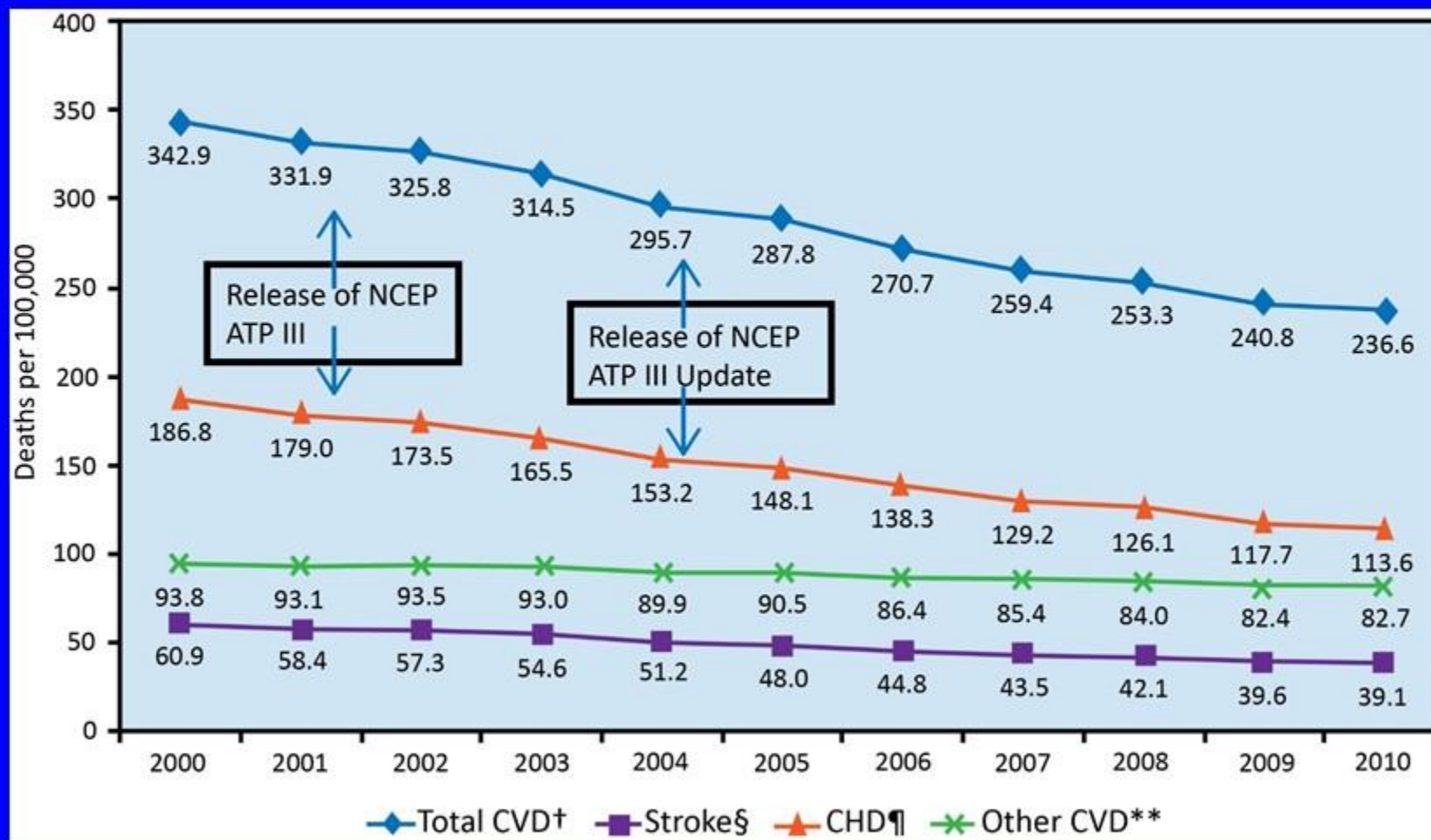
35% of CHD  
Occurs in  
People with  
TC < 200 mg/dL



# Low HDL-C Levels Increase CHD Risk Even When Total-C Is Normal



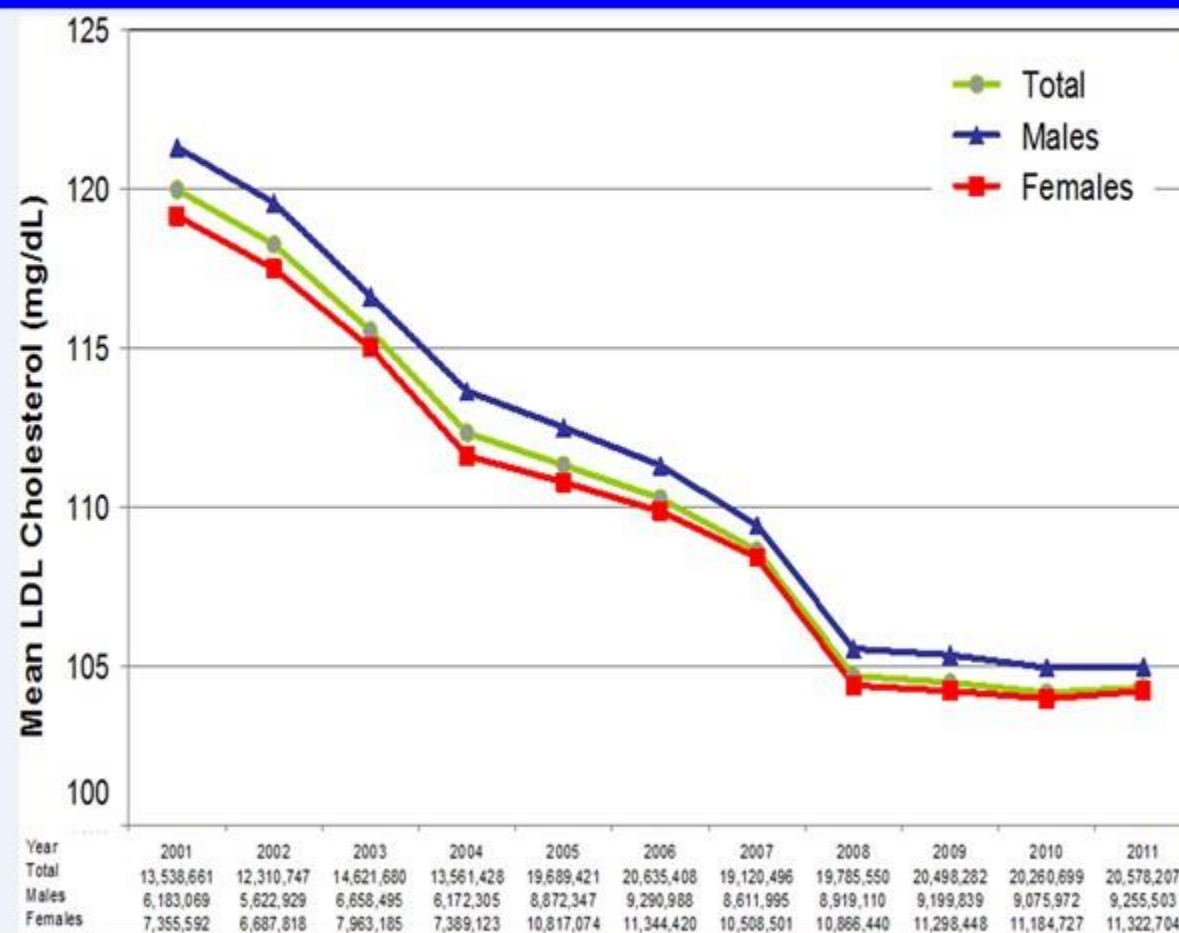
# US age-standardized death rates attributable to CVD, 2000 to 2010



Go AS, et al. *Circulation*. 2014;129:e28-e292.

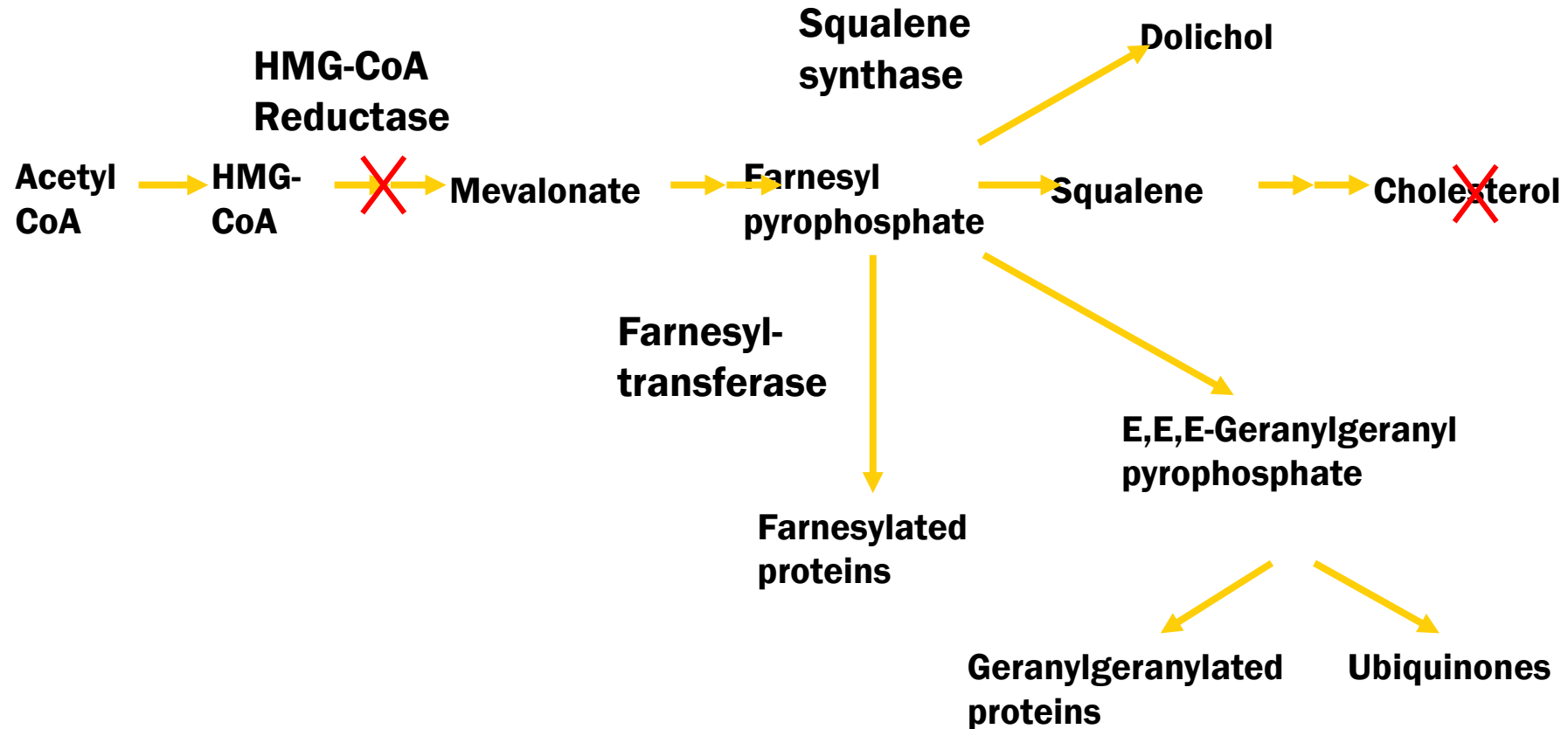


# Mean age-adjusted LDL-C trends 2001–2011 in the United States: Analysis of 105 million patient records from a single national diagnostic laboratory



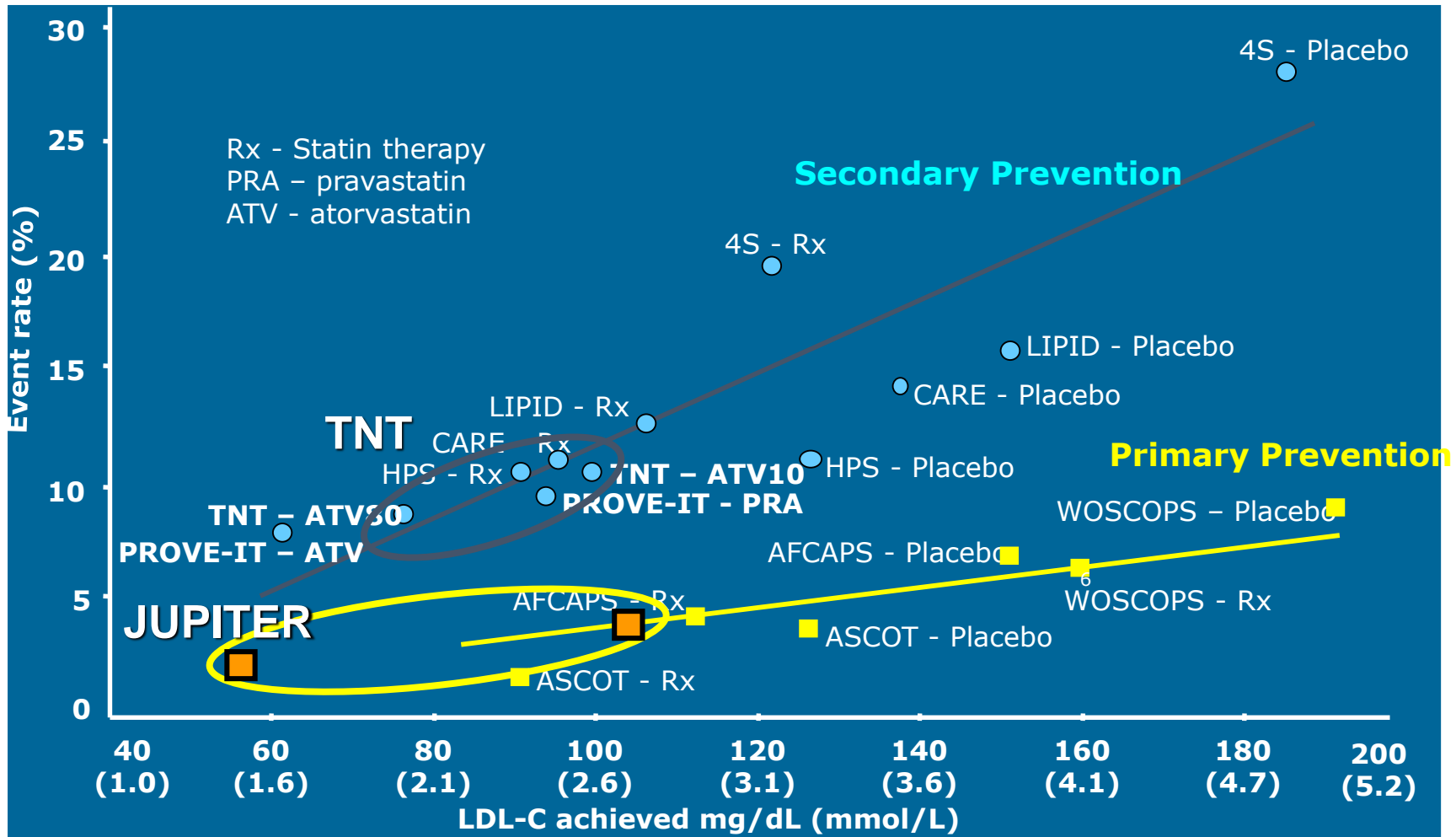
# HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitor: Mechanism of Action

## Inhibition of the cholesterol biosynthetic pathway

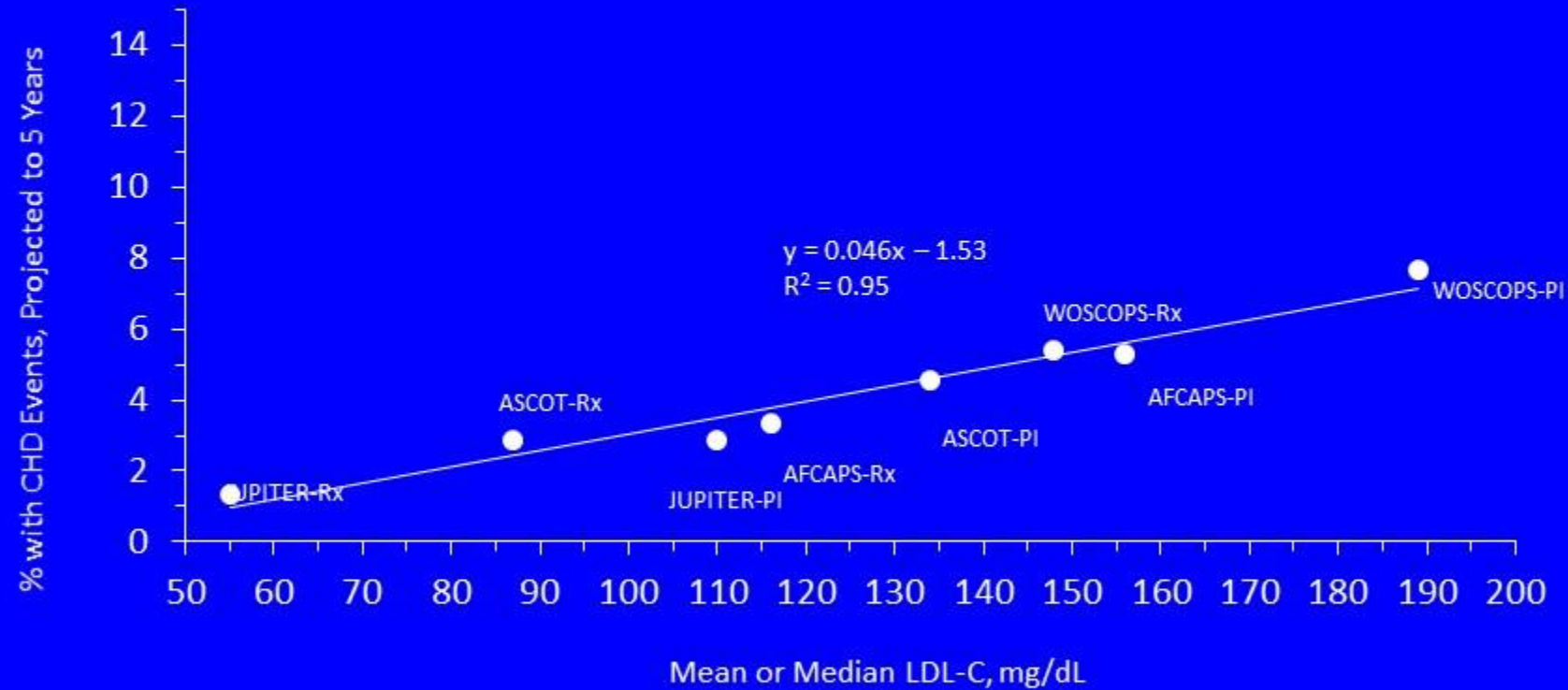


# LDL cholesterol and benefit in clinical trials

## Is lower better ?

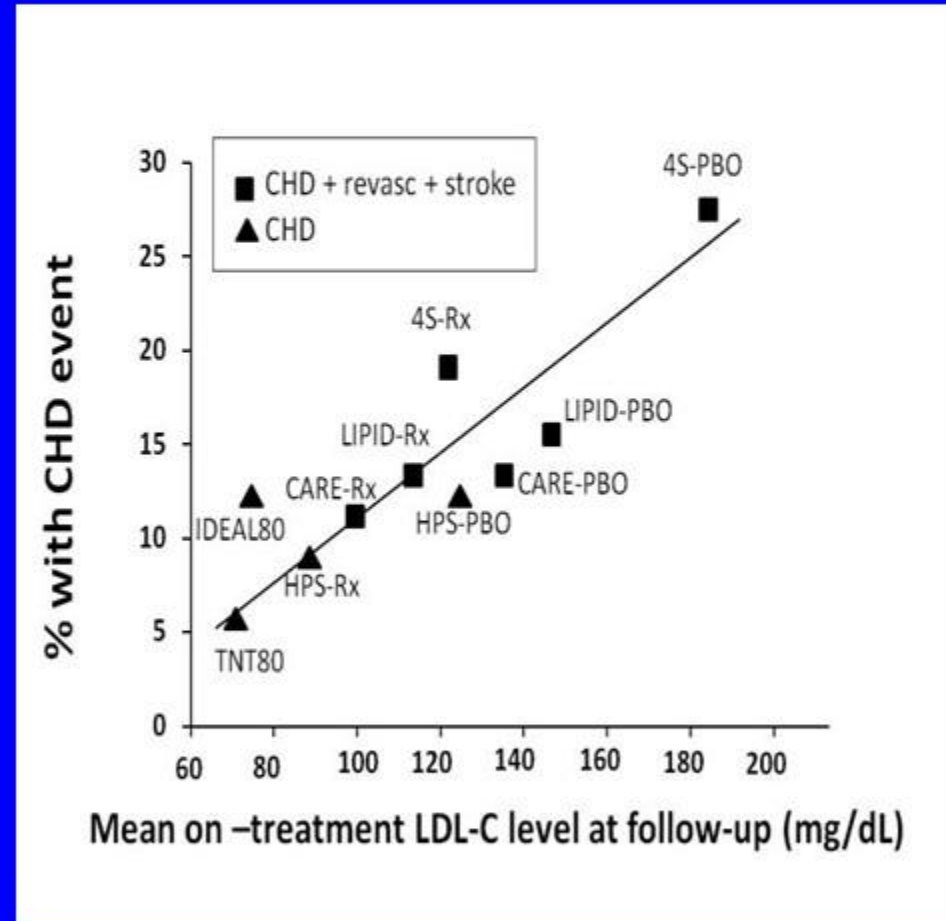


# On-Treatment LDL-C and CHD Events in Primary Prevention



Data abstracted from original publications

# On-Treatment LDL-C and CHD Events in Secondary Prevention



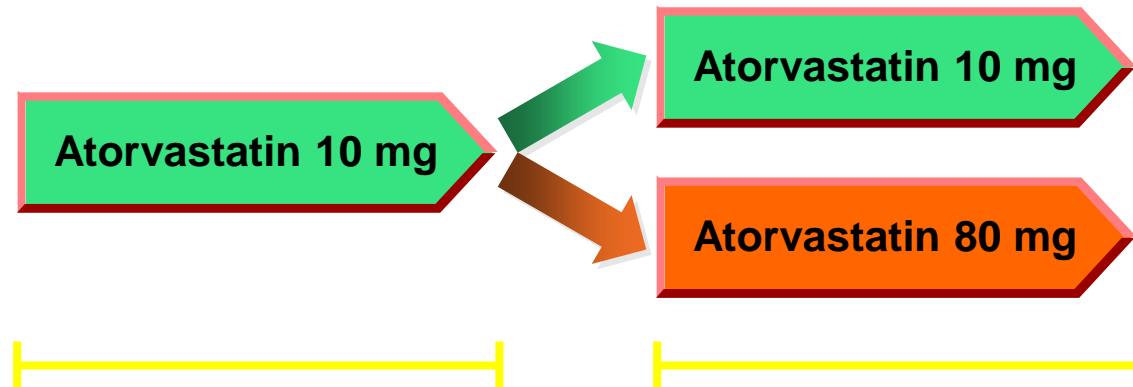
**TNT: New data on  
intensive lipid lowering  
in stable CHD patients**

# TNT: Design

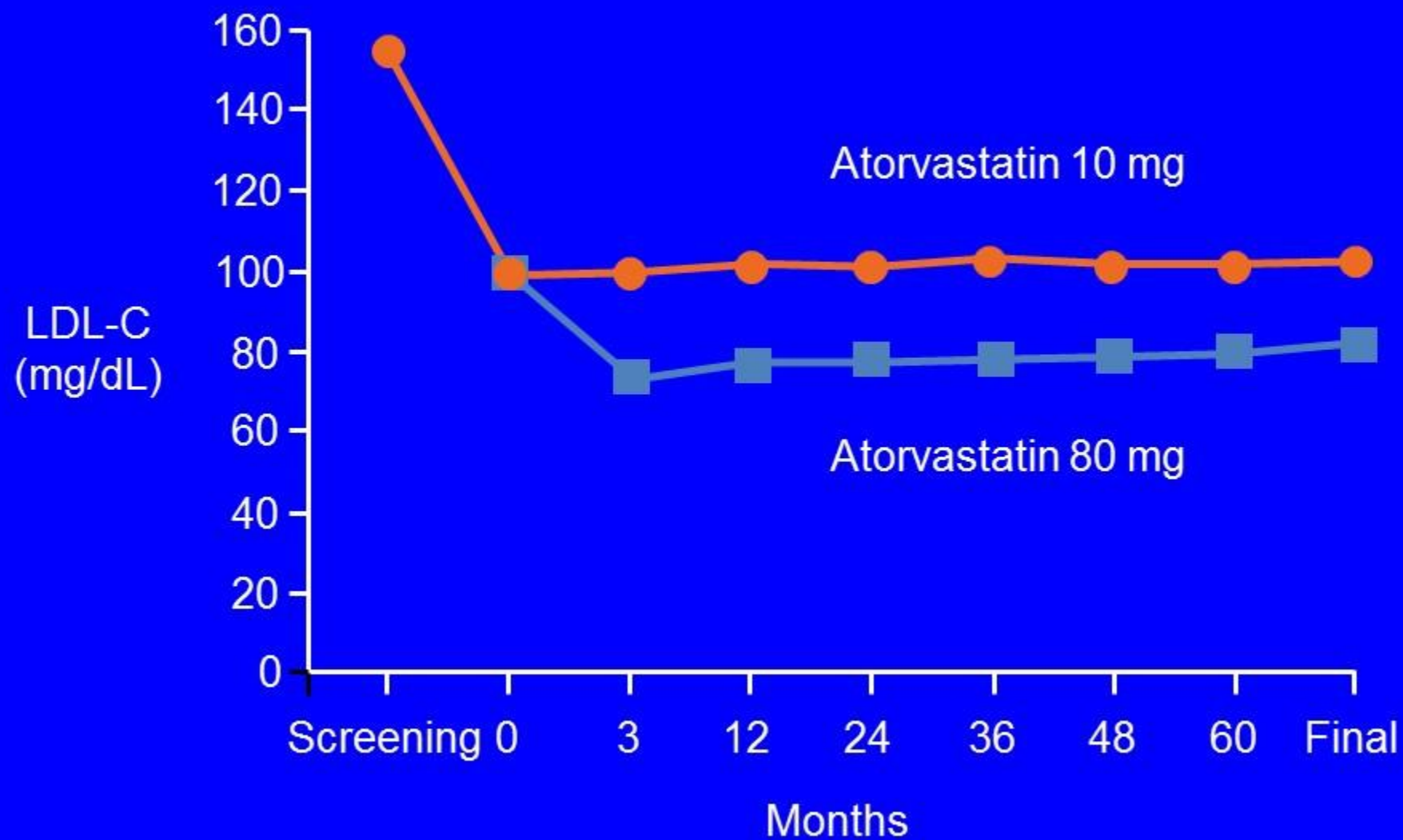
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## Patient population

- 250 centers in 14 countries (N = 10,001)
- LDL 130–250 mg/dL
- TG <600 mg/dL

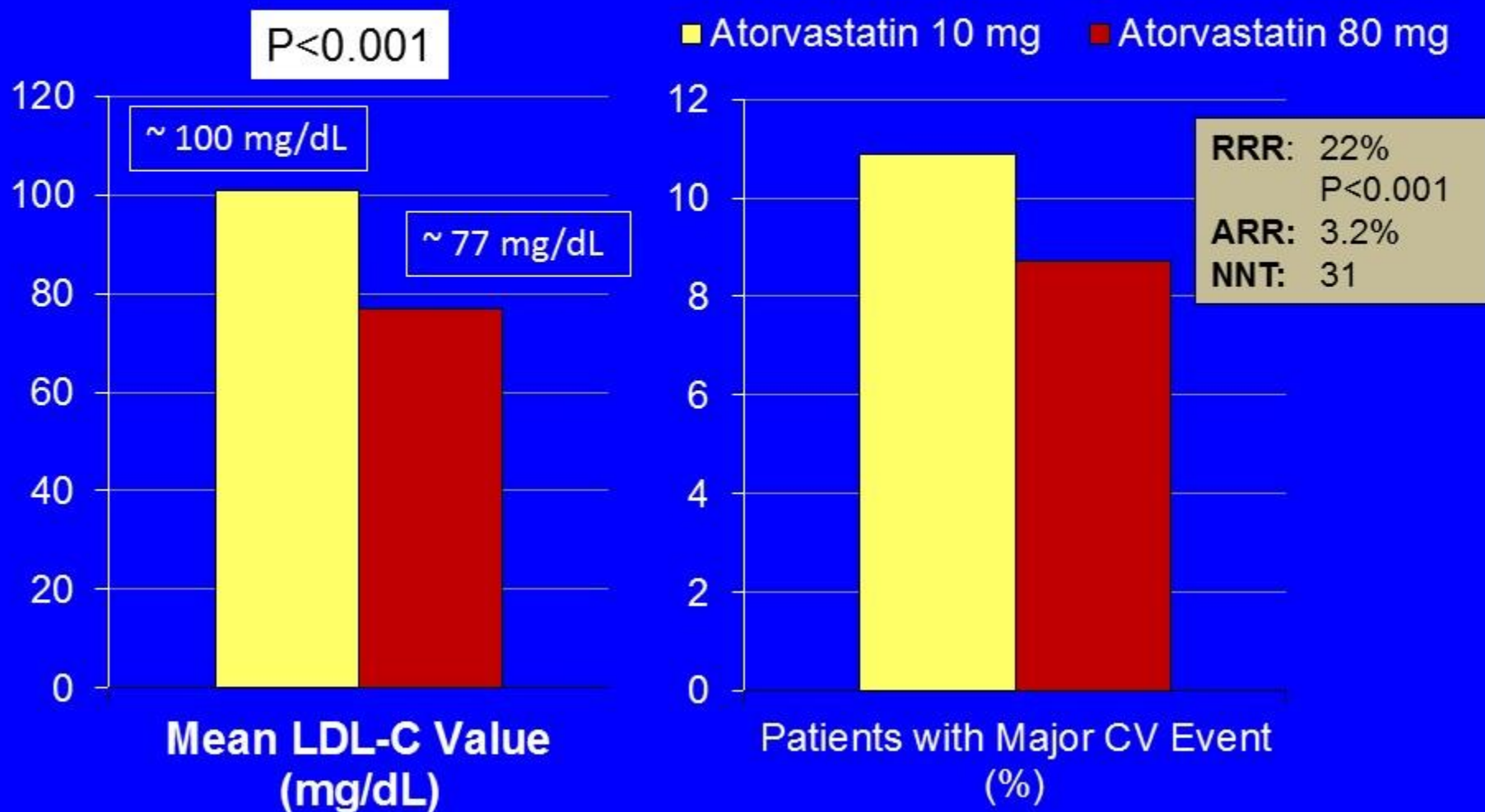


# TNT: Treatment Effects on LDL-C

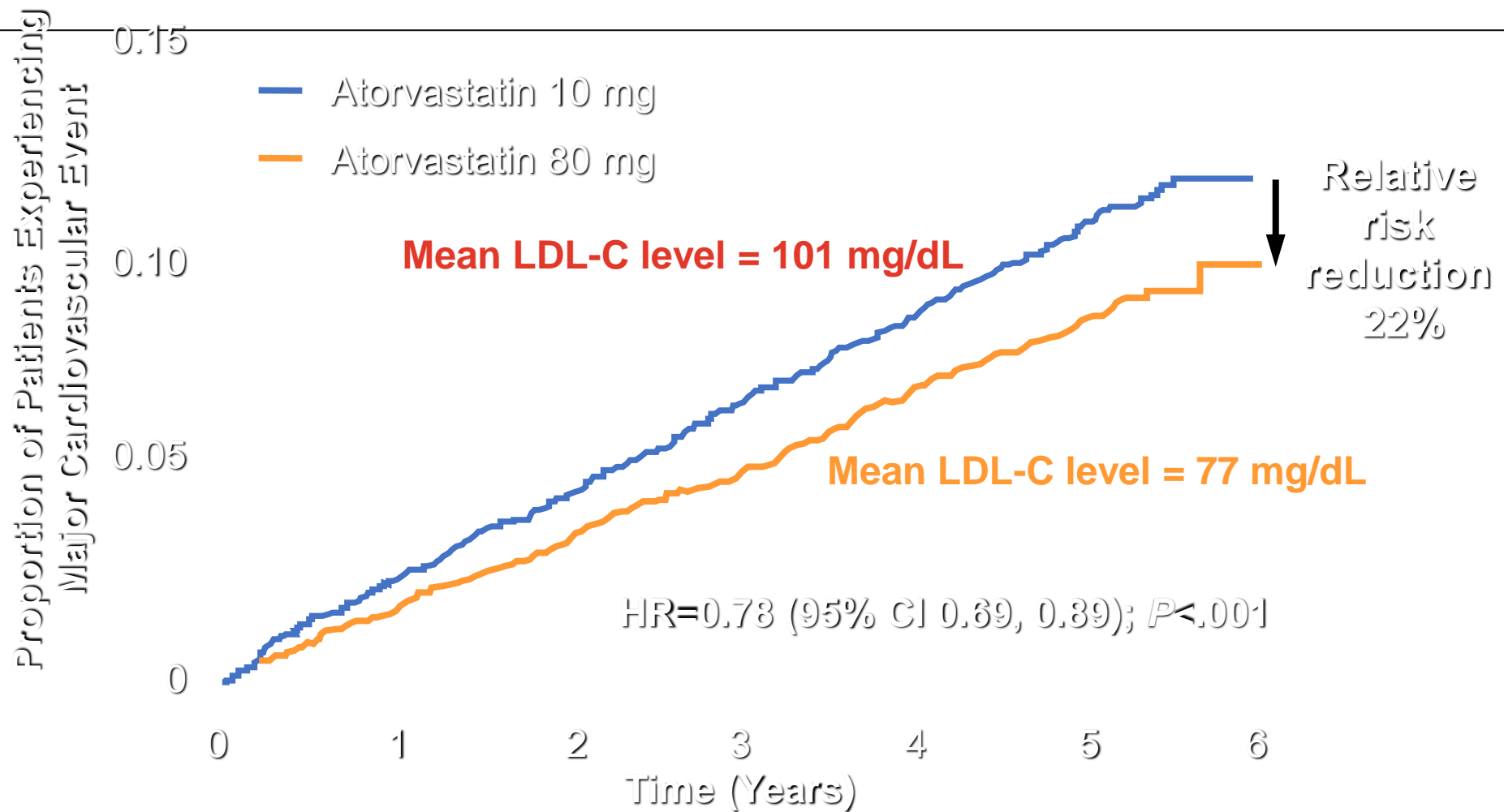




# Treating to New Targets (TNT) in Stable CHD Patients: LDL-C Results and Primary Endpoint

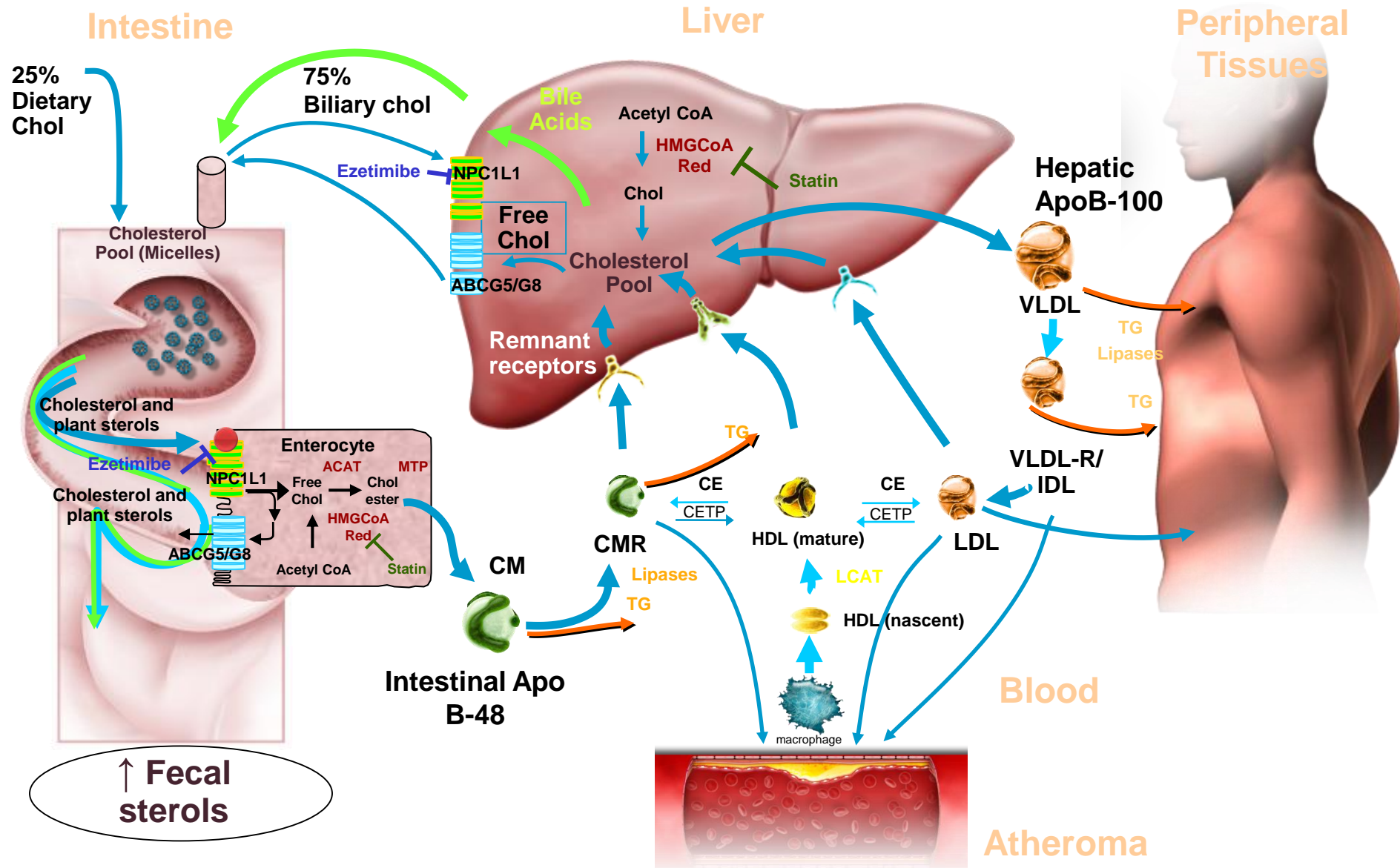


# TNT: Primary Efficacy Outcome Measure: Major Cardiovascular Events\*



\* CHD death, nonfatal non-procedure-related MI, resuscitated cardiac arrest, fatal or nonfatal stroke.

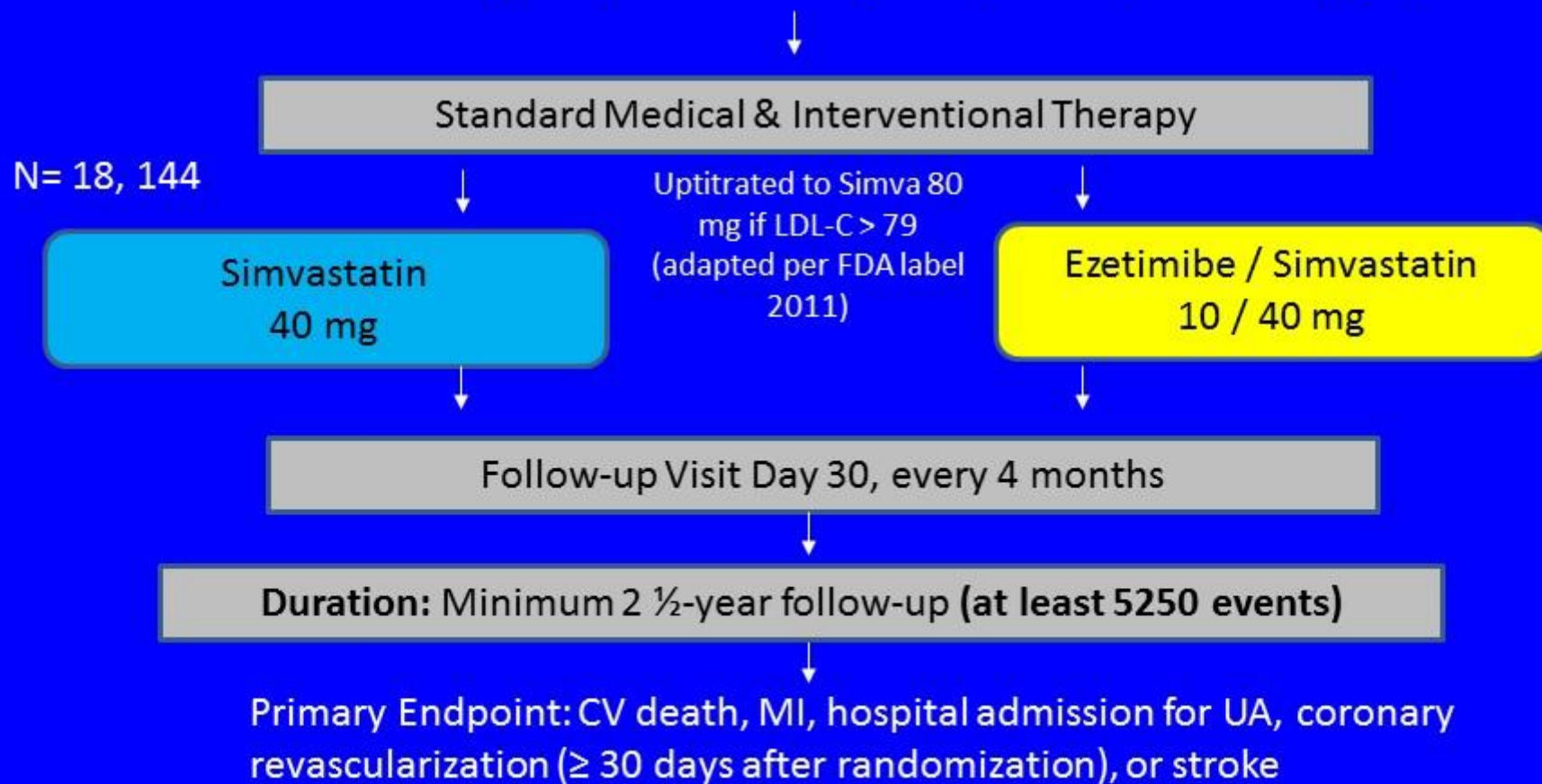
LaRosa et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2005;352:1425-1430.



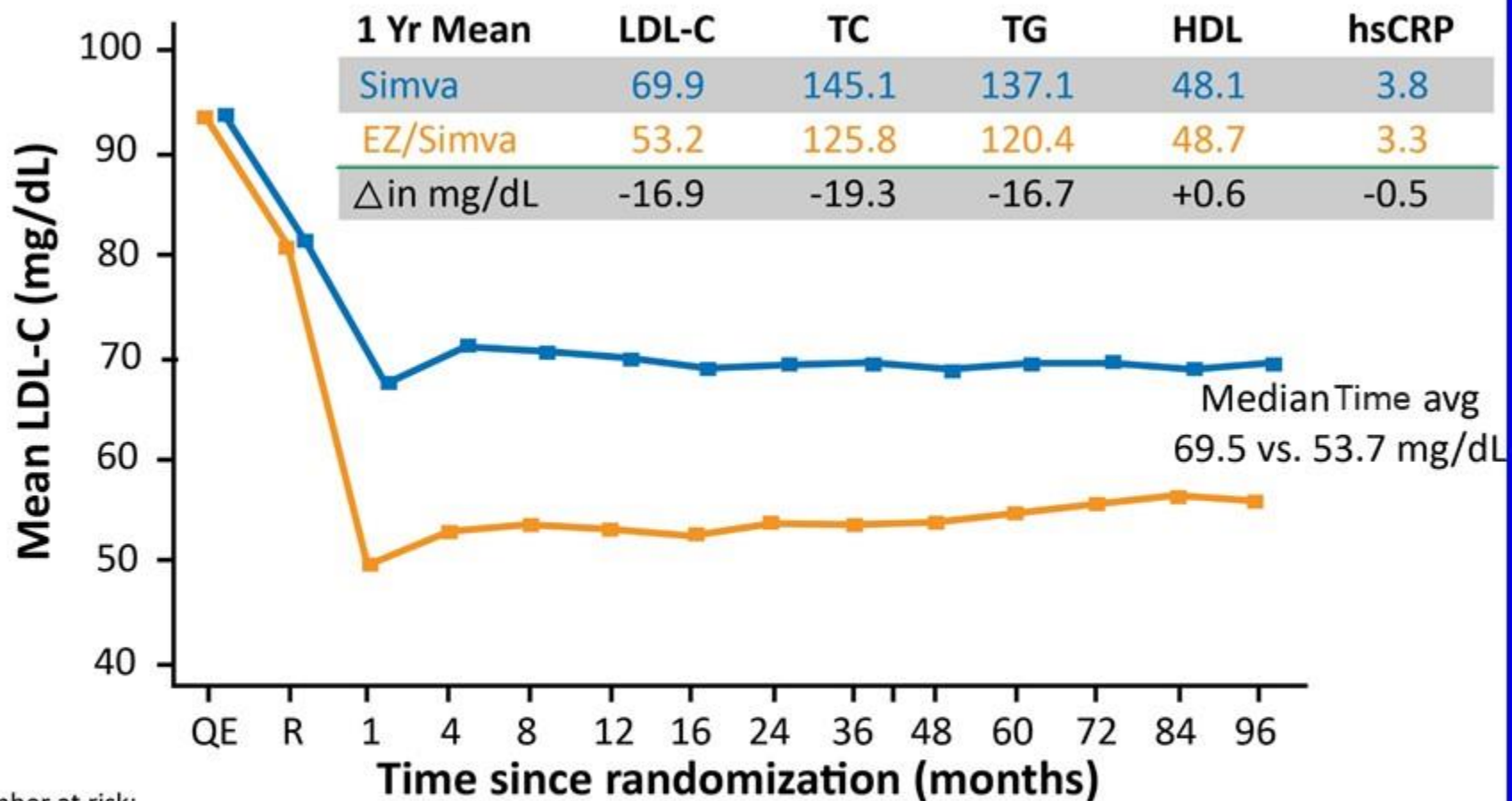
# IMPROVE-IT Study Design

Patients stabilized post ACS  $\leq 10$  days:

LDL-C 50 – 125 mg/dL (or 50-100 mg/dL if prior lipid-lowering Rx)



# LDL-C and Lipid Changes

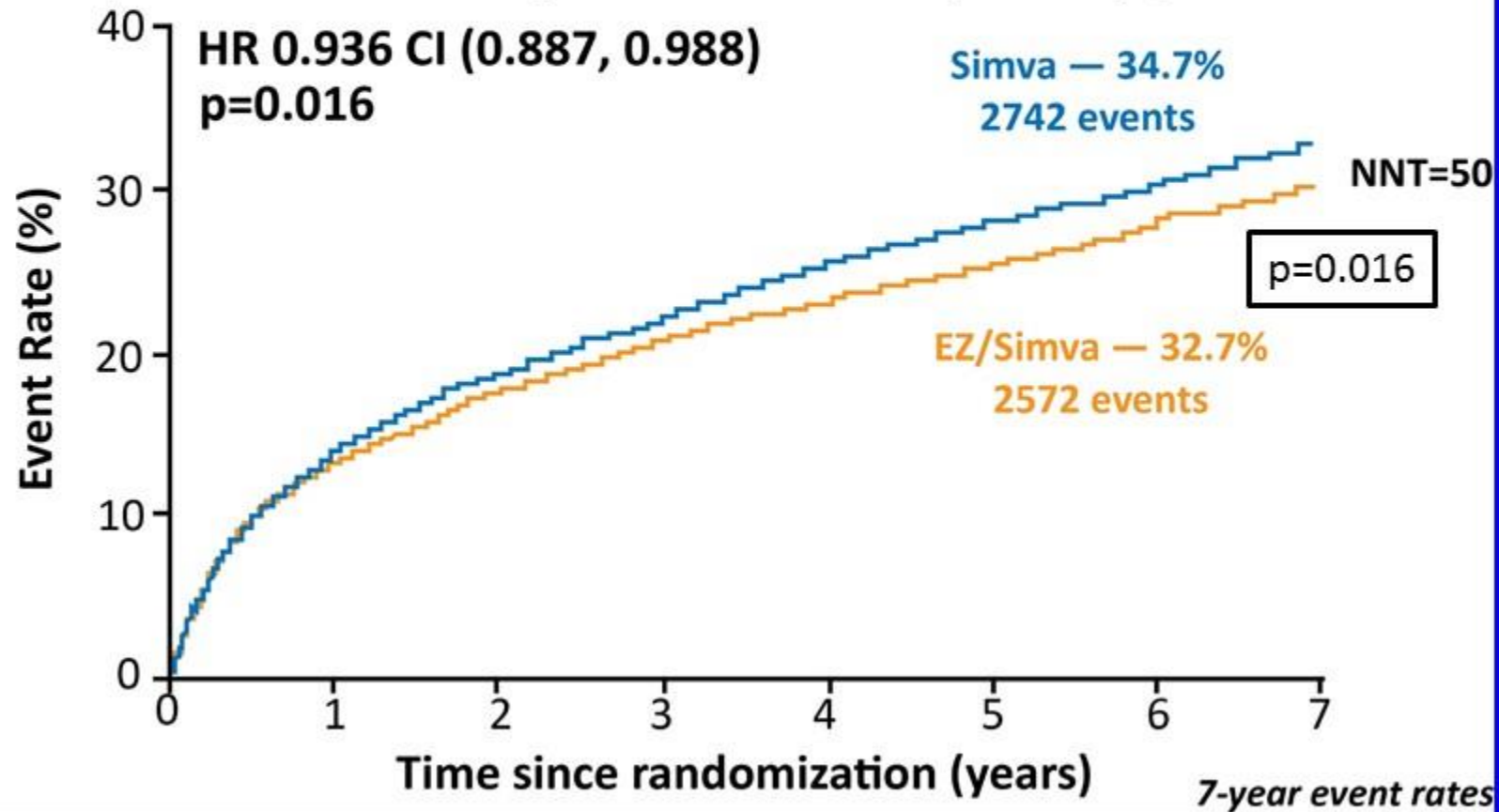


Number at risk:

EZ/Simva 8990 8889 8230 7701 7264 6864 6583 6256 5734 5354 4508 3484 2608 1078

# Primary Endpoint—ITT

*Cardiovascular death, MI, documented unstable angina requiring rehospitalization, coronary revascularization (≥30 days), or stroke*



# Conclusions

- **IMPROVE-IT:** First trial demonstrating incremental clinical benefit when adding a non-statin agent (ezetimibe) to statin therapy:

-  **YES:** Non-statin lowering LDL-C with ezetimibe reduces cardiovascular events

-  **YES:** Even Lower is Even Better (achieved mean LDL-C 53 vs. 70 mg/dL at 1 year)

-  **YES:** Confirms ezetimibe safety profile

-  **Reaffirms the LDL hypothesis,** that reducing LDL-C prevents cardiovascular events

-  Results could be considered for future guidelines

## Criteria for ASCVD Risk Assessment, Treatment Goals, Levels at which to Consider Drug Therapy

Risk Category	Criteria	Treatment Goal	Consider Drug Therapy
		Non-HDL-C mg/dL LDL-C mg/dL	
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0-1 major ASCVD risk factors</li> <li>Consider other risk indicators, if known</li> </ul>	<130	≥190
		<100	≥160
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 major ASCVD risk factors</li> <li>Consider quantitative risk scoring</li> <li>Consider other risk indicators</li> </ul>	<130	≥160
		<100	≥130
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≥3 major ASCVD risk factors</li> <li>Diabetes mellitus* (Type 1 or 2)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0-1 other major ASCVD risk factors, and</li> <li>No evidence of end organ damage</li> </ul> </li> <li>Chronic kidney disease stage 3B or 4</li> <li>LDL-C ≥190 mg/dL (severe hypercholesterolemia)</li> <li>Quantitative risk score reaching the high-risk threshold</li> </ul>	<130	≥130
		<100	≥100
Very High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASCVD*</li> <li>Diabetes mellitus* (Type 1 or 2)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≥2 other major ASCVD risk factors or</li> <li>Evidence of end organ damage</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<100	≥100
		<70	≥70

**\*For patients with ASCVD or diabetes mellitus, consideration should be given to use of moderate- or high-intensity statin therapy, irrespective of baseline atherogenic cholesterol levels.**



# 4 Statin Benefit Groups

---

- **Clinical ASCVD\***
  - **LDL-C  $\geq$ 190 mg/dL, Age  $\geq$ 21 years**
  - **Primary prevention – Diabetes: Age 40-75 years, LDL-C 70-189 mg/dL**
  - **Primary prevention - No Diabetes<sup>†</sup>:  $\geq$ 7.5%<sup>‡</sup> 10-year ASCVD risk, Age 40-75 years, LDL-C 70-189 mg/dL,**
-

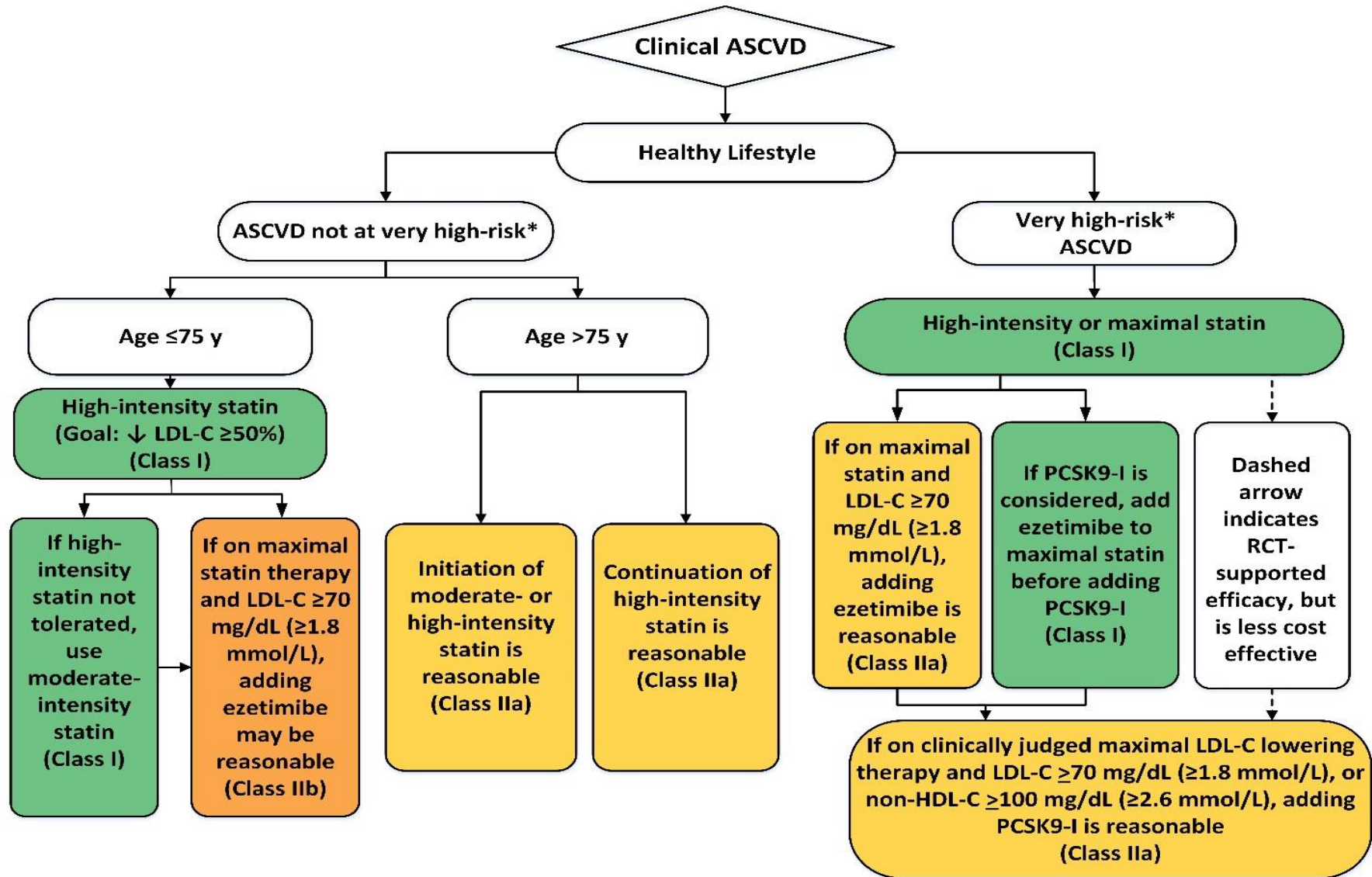
# Table 4. Very High-Risk\* of Future ASCVD Events

<b>Major ASCVD Events</b>
Recent ACS (within the past 12 mo)
History of MI (other than recent ACS event listed above)
History of ischemic stroke
Symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (history of claudication with ABI <0.85, or previous revascularization or amputation)

# Table 4 continued

High-Risk Conditions
Age $\geq 65$ y
Heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia
History of prior coronary artery bypass surgery or percutaneous coronary intervention outside of the major ASCVD event(s)
Diabetes mellitus
Hypertension
CKD (eGFR 15-59 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> )
Current smoking
Persistently elevated LDL-C (LDL-C $\geq 100$ mg/dL [ $\geq 2.6$ mmol/L]) despite maximally tolerated statin therapy and ezetimibe
History of congestive HF

# Secondary Prevention



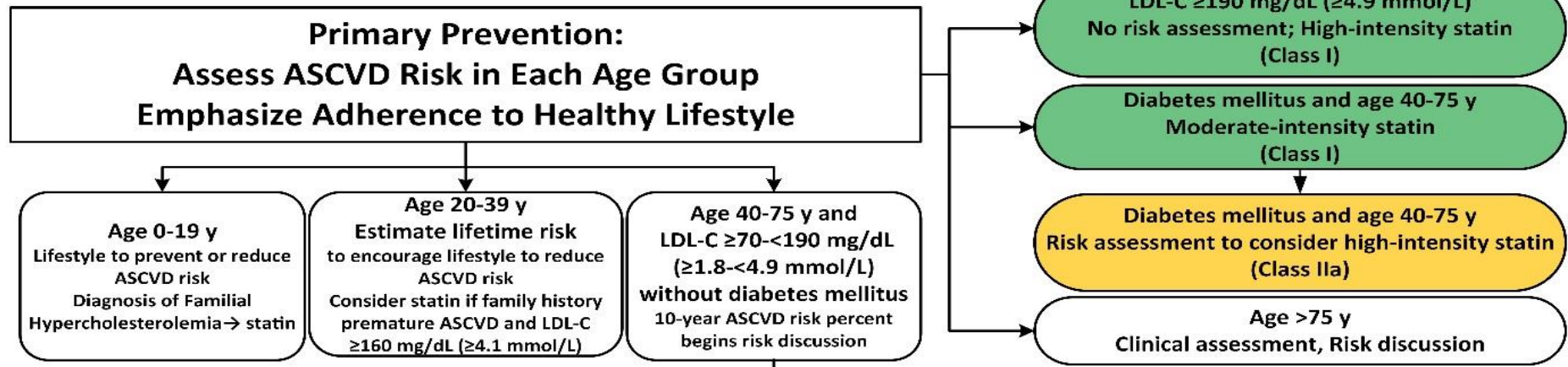
# Pooled Cohort Risk Assessment Equations

Predicts 10-year risk for a first atherosclerotic  
cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) event

**Risk Factors for ASCVD**

Gender	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	Systolic BP	<input type="text"/> mmHg
Age	<input type="text"/> years	Receiving treatment for high blood pressure (if SBP > 120 mmHg)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Race	White or other <input type="button" value="v"/>	Diabetes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Total Cholesterol	<input type="text"/> mg/dL <input type="button" value="v"/>	Smoker	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
HDL Cholesterol	<input type="text"/> mg/dL <input type="button" value="v"/>		

<http://clinical.com/Cardiology/ASCVD/PooledCohort.aspx>



**ASCVD Risk Enhancers:**

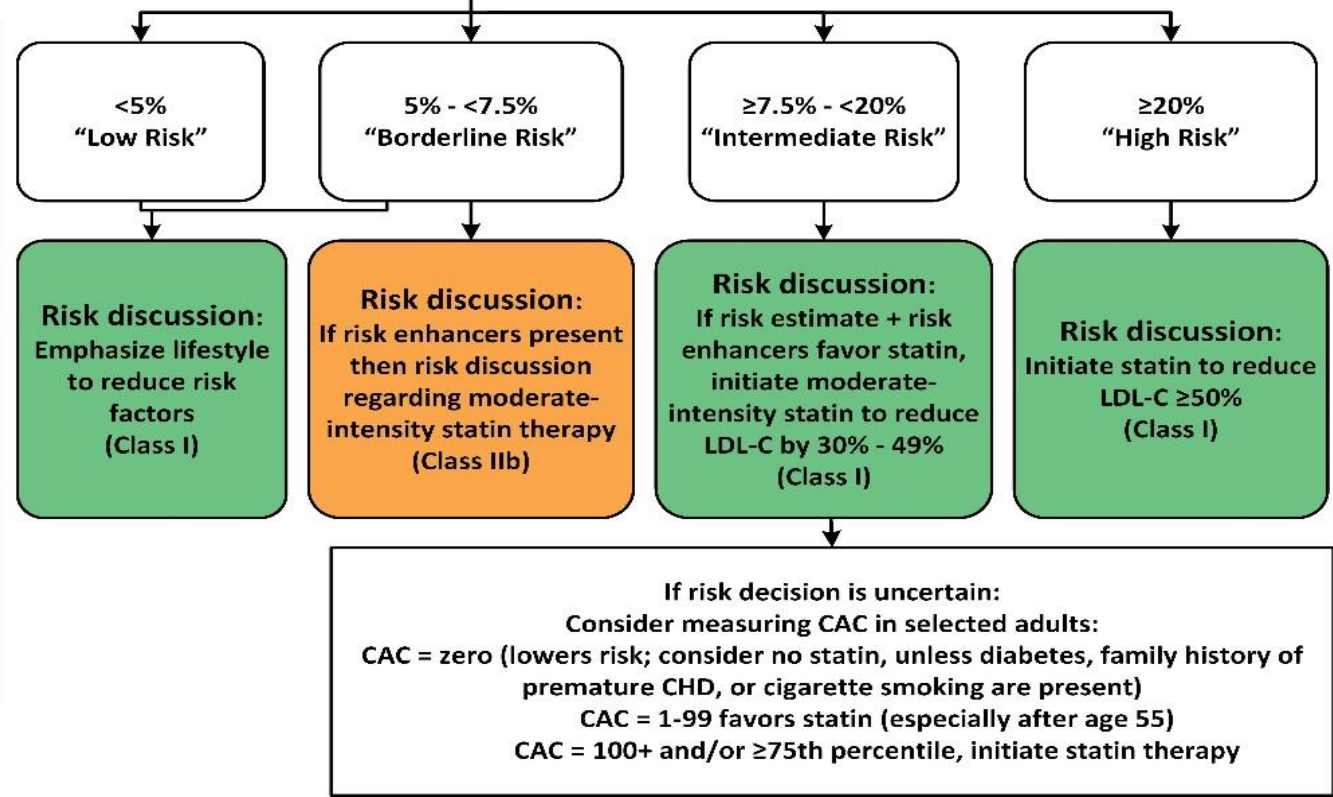
- Family history of premature ASCVD
- Persistently elevated LDL-C  $\geq 160$  mg/dL ( $\geq 4.1$  mmol/L)
- Chronic kidney disease
- Metabolic syndrome
- Conditions specific to women (e.g., preeclampsia, premature menopause)
- Inflammatory diseases (especially rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, HIV)
- Ethnicity (e.g., South Asian ancestry)

**Lipid/Biomarkers:**

- Persistently elevated triglycerides  $\geq 175$  mg/dL, ( $\geq 2.0$  mmol/L)

**In selected individuals if measured:**

- hs-CRP  $\geq 2.0$  mg/L
- Lp(a) levels  $>50$  mg/dL or  $>125$  nmol/L
- apoB  $\geq 130$  mg/dL
- Ankle-brachial index (ABI)  $<0.9$



# Intensity of Statin Therapy

**Table 5. High- Moderate- and Low-Intensity Statin Therapy (Used in the RCTs reviewed by the Expert Panel)\***

High-Intensity Statin Therapy	Moderate-Intensity Statin Therapy	Low-Intensity Statin Therapy
Daily dose lowers LDL-C on average, by approximately $\geq 50\%$	Daily dose lowers LDL-C on average, by approximately 30% to $< 50\%$	Daily dose lowers LDL-C on average, by $< 30\%$
<b>Atorvastatin (40<sup>†</sup>)–80 mg</b> <b>Rosuvastatin 20 (40) mg</b>	<b>Atorvastatin 10 (20) mg</b> <b>Rosuvastatin (5) 10 mg</b> <b>Simvastatin 20–40 mg<sup>‡</sup></b> <b>Pravastatin 40 (80) mg</b> <b>Lovastatin 40 mg</b> <i>Fluvastatin XL 80 mg</i> <b>Fluvastatin 40 mg bid</b> <i>Pitavastatin 2–4 mg</i>	<i>Simvastatin 10 mg</i> <b>Pravastatin 10–20 mg</b> <b>Lovastatin 20 mg</b> <i>Fluvastatin 20–40 mg</i> <i>Pitavastatin 1 mg</i>

## Table 6. Risk-Enhancing Factors for Clinician–Patient Risk Discussion

Risk-Enhancing Factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Family history of premature ASCVD</b> (males, age &lt;55 y; females, age &lt;65 y)</li><li>• <b>Primary hypercholesterolemia</b> (LDL-C, 160–189 mg/dL [4.1–4.8 mmol/L]; non-HDL-C 190–219 mg/dL [4.9–5.6 mmol/L])*</li><li>• <b>Metabolic syndrome</b> (increased waist circumference, elevated triglycerides [<math>&gt;175</math> mg/dL], elevated blood pressure, elevated glucose, and low HDL-C [<math>&lt;40</math> mg/dL in men; <math>&lt;50</math> in women mg/dL] are factors; tally of 3 makes the diagnosis)</li><li>• <b>Chronic kidney disease</b> (eGFR 15–59 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> with or without albuminuria; not treated with dialysis or kidney transplantation)</li><li>• <b>Chronic inflammatory conditions</b> such as psoriasis, RA, or HIV/AIDS</li><li>• <b>History of premature menopause (before age 40 y) and history of pregnancy-associated conditions that increase later ASCVD risk such as preeclampsia</b></li><li>• <b>High-risk race/ethnicities</b> (e.g., South Asian ancestry)</li></ul>



## Table 6 continued

<b>Risk-Enhancing Factors</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Lipid/biomarkers:</b> Associated with increased ASCVD risk<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Persistently* elevated, primary hypertriglyceridemia (<math>\geq 175</math> mg/dL);</li><li>○ If measured:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Elevated high-sensitivity C-reactive protein</b> (<math>\geq 2.0</math> mg/L)</li><li>▪ <b>Elevated Lp(a):</b> A relative indication for its measurement is family history of premature ASCVD. An Lp(a) <math>\geq 50</math> mg/dL or <math>\geq 125</math> nmol/L constitutes a risk-enhancing factor especially at higher levels of Lp(a).</li><li>▪ <b>Elevated apoB</b> <math>\geq 130</math> mg/dL: A relative indication for its measurement would be triglyceride <math>\geq 200</math> mg/dL. A level <math>\geq 130</math> mg/dL corresponds to an LDL-C <math>&gt; 160</math> mg/dL and constitutes a risk-enhancing factor</li><li>▪ <b>ABI</b> <math>&lt; 0.9</math></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>

# • STATIN Safety recommendations

- Select the appropriate dose
- Keep potential Side effects and drug-drug interaction In mind (grade A)
- If high or moderate intensity statin not tolerated, use the maximum tolerated dose instead

# Management of Muscle Symptoms on Statin Therapy

- It is reasonable to evaluate and treat muscle symptoms including pain, cramping, weakness, or fatigue in statin-treated patients according to the management algorithm
- To avoid unnecessary discontinuation of statins, obtain a history of prior or current muscle symptoms to establish a baseline before initiating statin therapy

# Management of Muscle Symptoms on Statin Therapy (cont.)

If unexplained severe muscle symptoms or fatigue develop during statin therapy:

- Promptly discontinue the statin
- Address possibility of rhabdomyolysis with:
  - CK
  - Creatinine
  - Urinalysis for myoglobinuria

# Management of Muscle Symptoms on Statin Therapy (cont.)

If mild-to-moderate muscle symptoms develop during statin therapy:

- Discontinue the statin until the symptoms are evaluated
- Evaluate the patient for other conditions\* that might increase the risk for muscle symptoms
- If after 2 months without statin Rx, muscle symptoms or elevated CK levels do not resolve completely, consider other causes of muscle symptoms

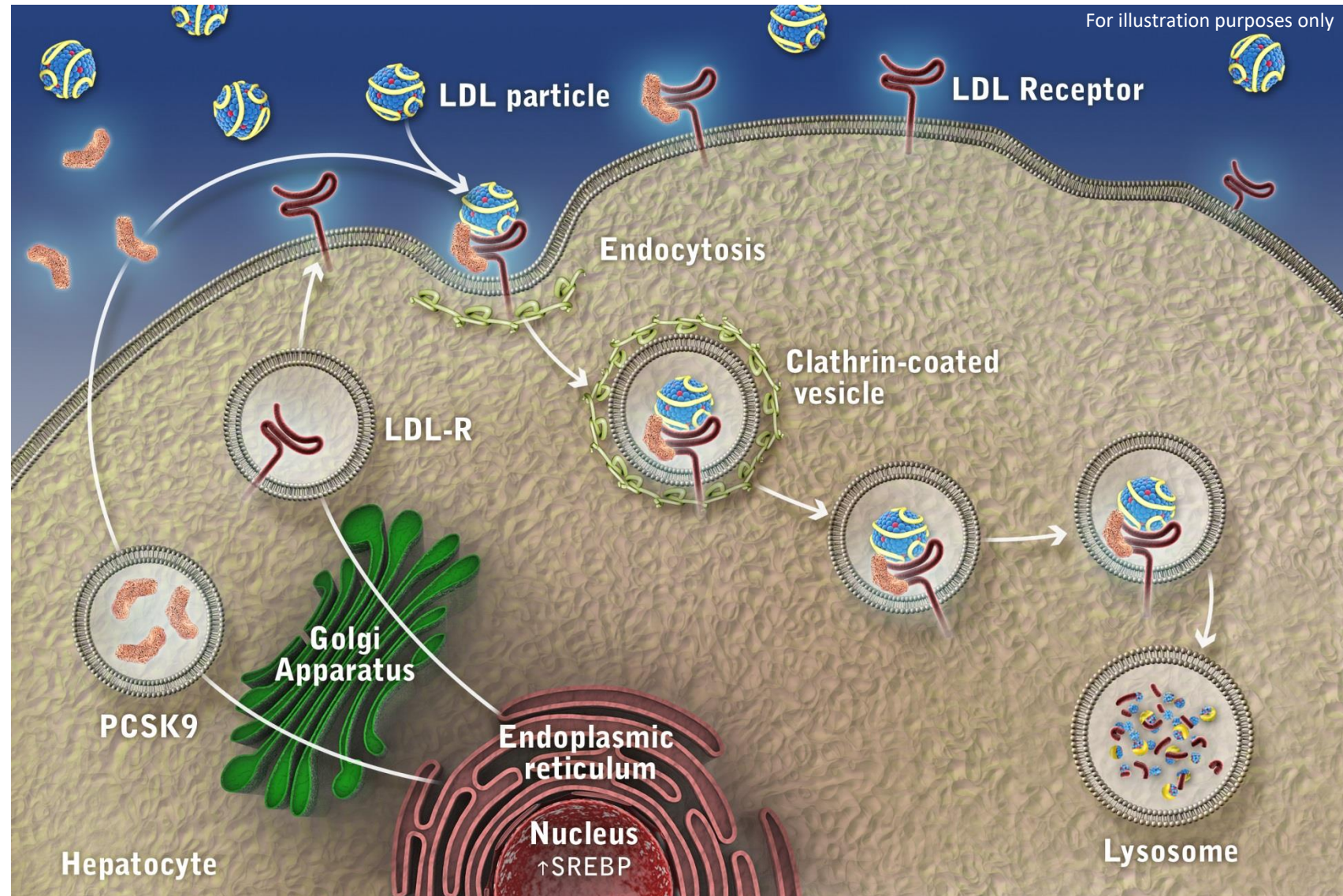
\*Hypothyroidism, reduced renal or hepatic function, rheumatologic disorders such as polymyalgia rheumatica, steroid myopathy, vitamin D deficiency or primary muscle diseases

# Statin-Treated Individuals

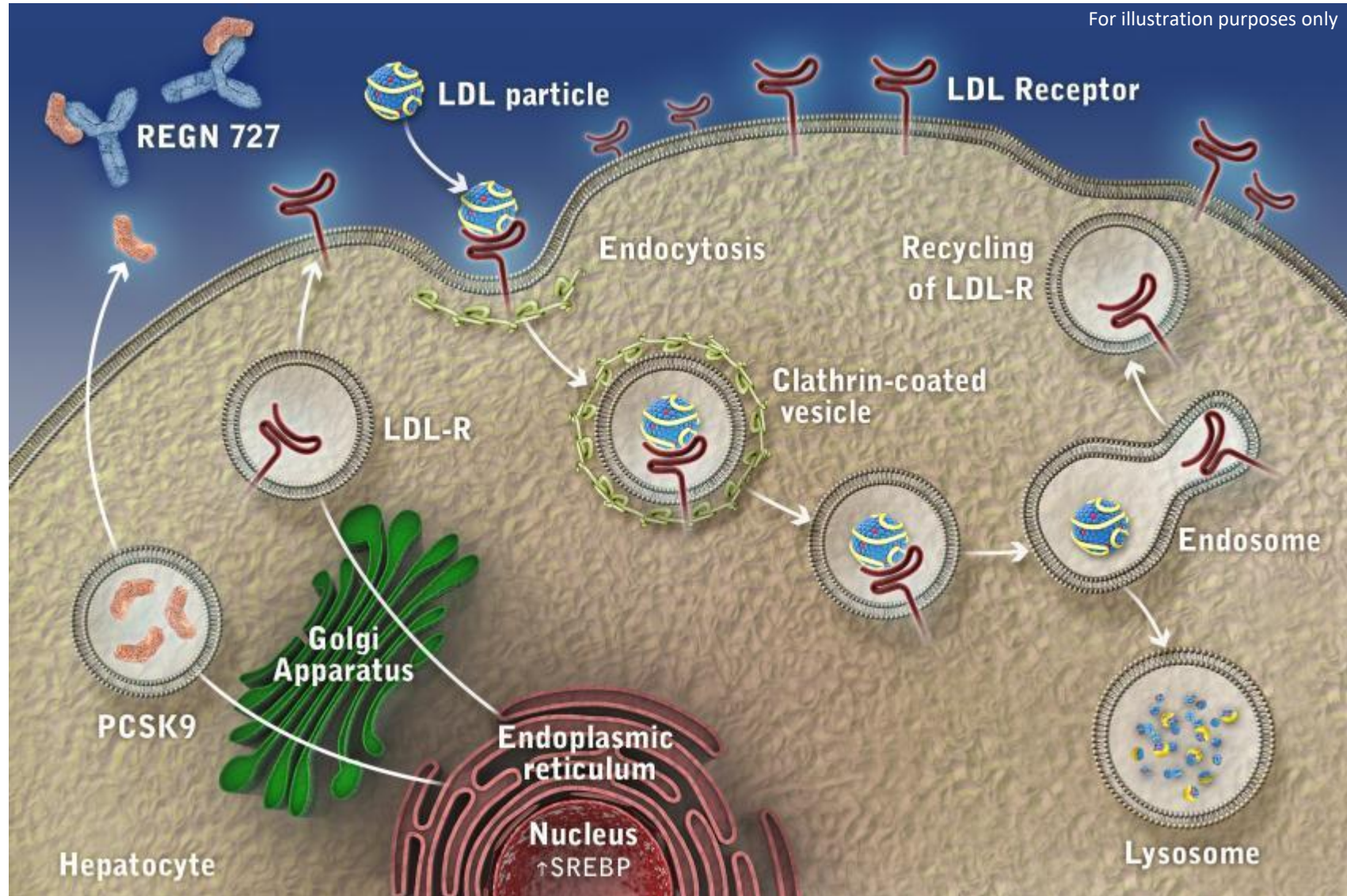
## Nonstatin Therapy Considerations

- Use the maximum tolerated intensity of statin
- Consider addition of a nonstatin cholesterol-lowering drug(s)
  - If a less-than-anticipated therapeutic response persists
  - Only if ASCVD risk-reduction benefits outweigh the potential for adverse effects in higher-risk persons:
    - *Clinical* ASCVD <75 years of age
    - Baseline LDL-C  $\geq$ 190 mg/dL
    - Diabetes mellitus 40 to 75 years of age
- Nonstatin cholesterol-lowering drugs shown to reduce ASCVD events in RCTs are preferred

# The Role of PCSK9 in the Regulation of LDL Receptor Expression



# Impact of an PCSK9 mAb on LDL Receptor Expression





# The ODYSSEY OUTCOMES Trial: Topline Results

## Alirocumab in Patients After Acute Coronary Syndrome

Gregory G. Schwartz, Michael Szarek, Deepak L. Bhatt, Vera Bittner, Rafael Diaz, Jay Edelberg,  
Shaun G. Goodman, Corinne Hanotin, Robert Harrington, J. Wouter Jukema,  
Guillaume Lecorps, Angèle Moryusef, Robert Pordy, Matthew Roe, Harvey D. White, Andreas Zeiher,  
**Ph. Gabriel Steg**

On behalf of the ODYSSEY OUTCOMES Investigators and Committees

American College of Cardiology – 67th Scientific Sessions  
March 10, 2018



# Residual Risk After Acute Coronary Syndrome

- Remains high despite evidence-based preventive therapies
- Is related, in part, to levels of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C)
- Is reduced when LDL-C is lowered by
  - Statin therapy, compared with placebo<sup>1</sup>
  - High-intensity, compared with moderate-intensity statin therapy<sup>2</sup>
  - Ezetimibe, compared with placebo, added to statin<sup>3</sup>

1. Schwartz GG, et al. JAMA 2001;285:1711-8. 2. Cannon CP, et al. NEJM 2004;350:1495-504.  
3. Cannon CP, et al. NEJM 2015;372:2387-97.

# Alirocumab

- PCSK9 is a validated target for risk reduction in stable atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease<sup>1-3</sup>
- A fully human monoclonal antibody against PCSK9
- Produces substantial and sustained reductions in LDL-C and other atherogenic lipoproteins<sup>2</sup>
- Has been safe and well-tolerated in studies to date<sup>4</sup>

PCSK9, proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9

1. Sabatine et al. NEJM 2017;376:713-22. 2. Robinson J et al. NEJM 2015;372:1489-99.

3. Ridker PM et al. NEJM 2017;376:1527-39. 4. Robinson J et al. JACC 2017;69:471-82.

# Study Hypothesis

Alirocumab, versus placebo, reduces cardiovascular (CV) morbidity and mortality after recent acute coronary syndrome (ACS) in patients with elevated levels of atherogenic lipoproteins despite intensive or maximum-tolerated statin therapy

# Main Inclusion Criteria

- **Age**  $\geq 40$  years
- **ACS**
  - 1 to 12 months prior to randomization
  - Acute myocardial infarction (MI) or unstable angina
- **High-intensity statin therapy\***
  - Atorvastatin 40 to 80 mg daily or
  - Rosuvastatin 20 to 40 mg daily or
  - Maximum tolerated dose of one of these agents for  $\geq 2$  weeks
- **Inadequate control of lipids**
  - LDL-C  $\geq 70$  mg/dL (1.8 mmol/L) or
  - Non-HDL-C  $\geq 100$  mg/dL (2.6 mmol/L) or
  - Apolipoprotein B  $\geq 80$  mg/dL

\*Patients not on statins were authorized to participate if tolerability issues were present and documented  
Schwartz GG, et al. Am Heart J 2014;168:682-689.e1.

# Primary Efficacy Outcome

## **Time of first occurrence of:**

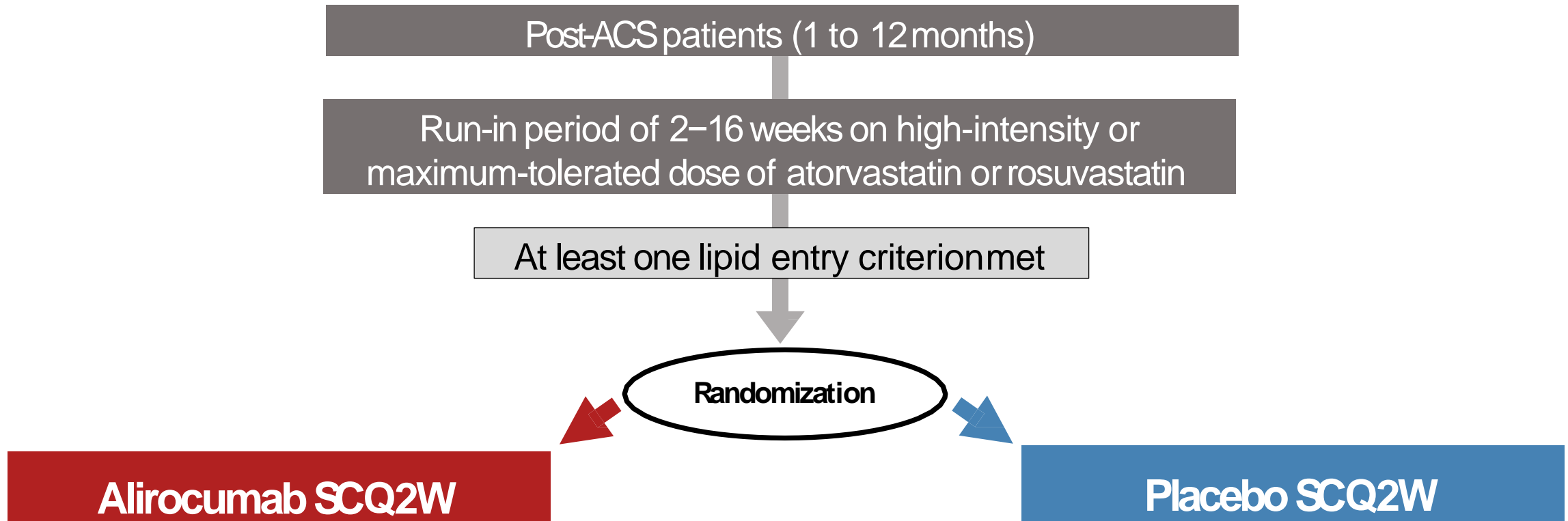
- **Coronary heart disease (CHD) death, or**
- **Non-fatal MI, or**
- **Fatal or non-fatal ischemic stroke, or**
- **Unstable angina requiring hospitalization\***

**All outcomes adjudicated by the Clinical Events Committee**, under the auspices of the Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI). Members were unaware of treatment assignment and lipid levels

\*Required all of the following:

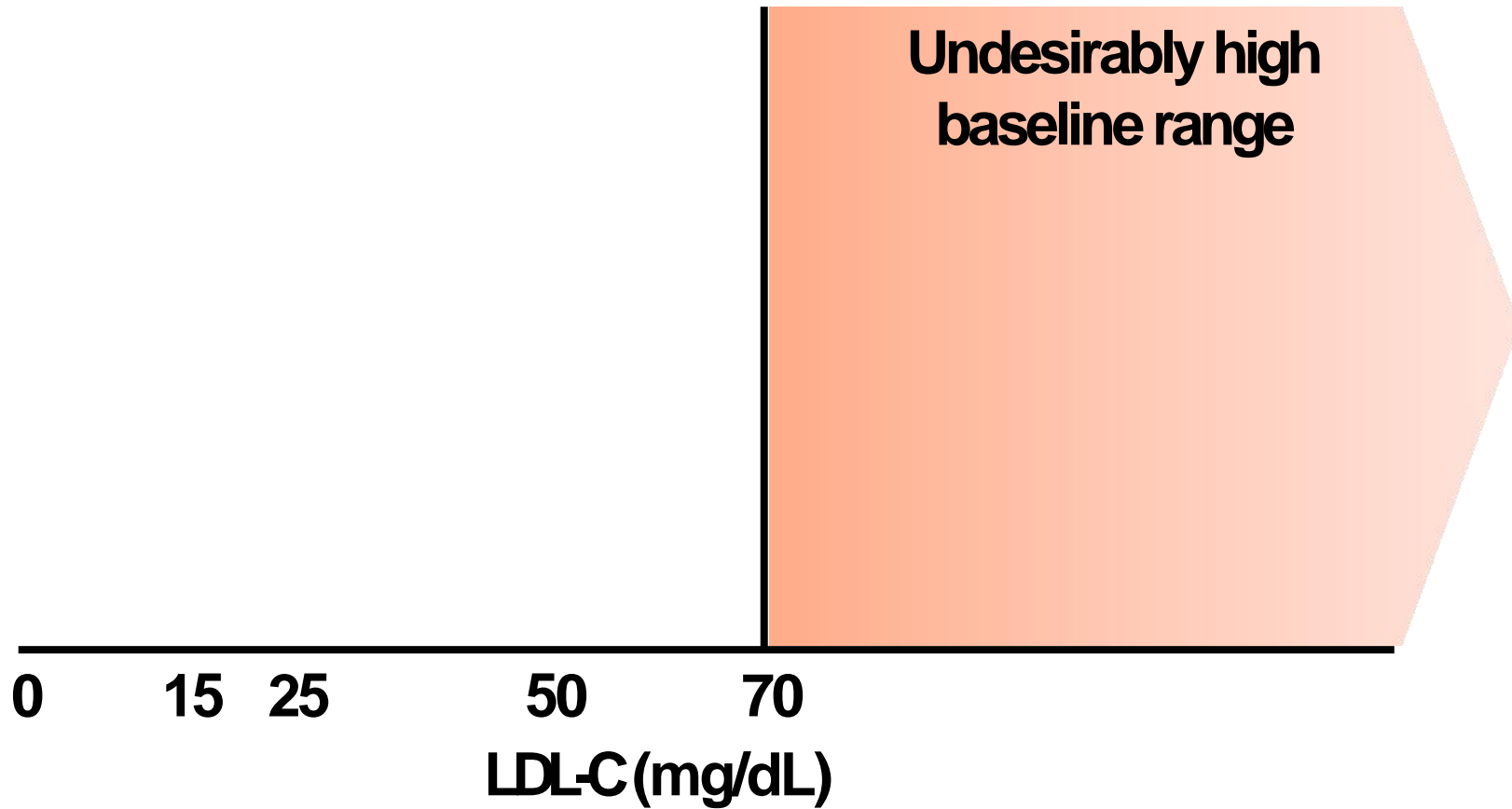
1. Hospital admission >23 h for MI symptoms, ↑ tempo in prior 48 hours and/or ≥20 min of chest discomfort at rest
2. New ECG findings consistent with ischemia or infarction
3. Angiographically significant obstructive coronary disease

# Treatment Assignment



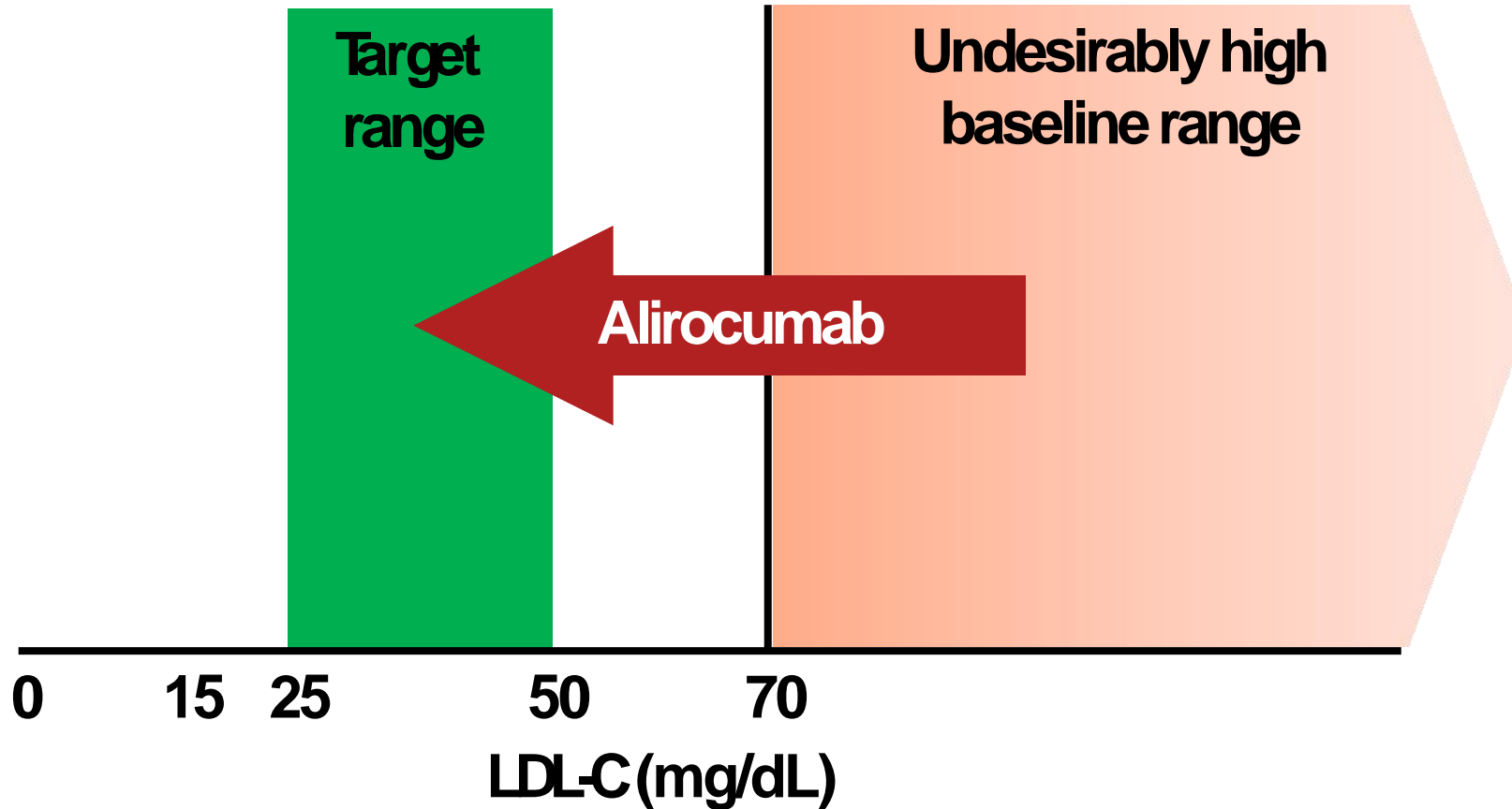
Patient and investigators remained blinded to treatment and lipid levels for the entire duration of the study

# A Target Range for LDL-C





# A Target Range for LDL-C



# ODYSSEY OUTCOMES: 18,924 patients randomized at 1315 sites in 57 countries, Nov 2, 2012 – Nov 11, 2017

## Canada/USA

Canada	361
US	2511

## Western Europe

Austria	58
Belgium	197
Denmark	352
Finland	116
France	185
Germany	509
Greece	70
Italy	275
Netherlands	686
Norway	97
Portugal	174
Spain	826
Sweden	250
Switzerland	88
UK	292

## Central/Eastern Europe

Bosnia-Herzegovina	156	Macedonia	132
Bulgaria	333	Poland	926
Croatia	70	Romania	145
Czech Republic	381	Russian Federation	1109
Estonia	216	Serbia	255
Georgia	131	Slovakia	340
Hungary	224	Slovenia	36
Latvia	80	Turkey	78
Lithuania	188	Ukraine	639

## Asia

China	614
Hong Kong	17
India	521
Japan	204
Korea	94
Malaysia	110
Philippines	116
Singapore	49
Sri Lanka	314
Taiwan	93
Thailand	161

## Latin America

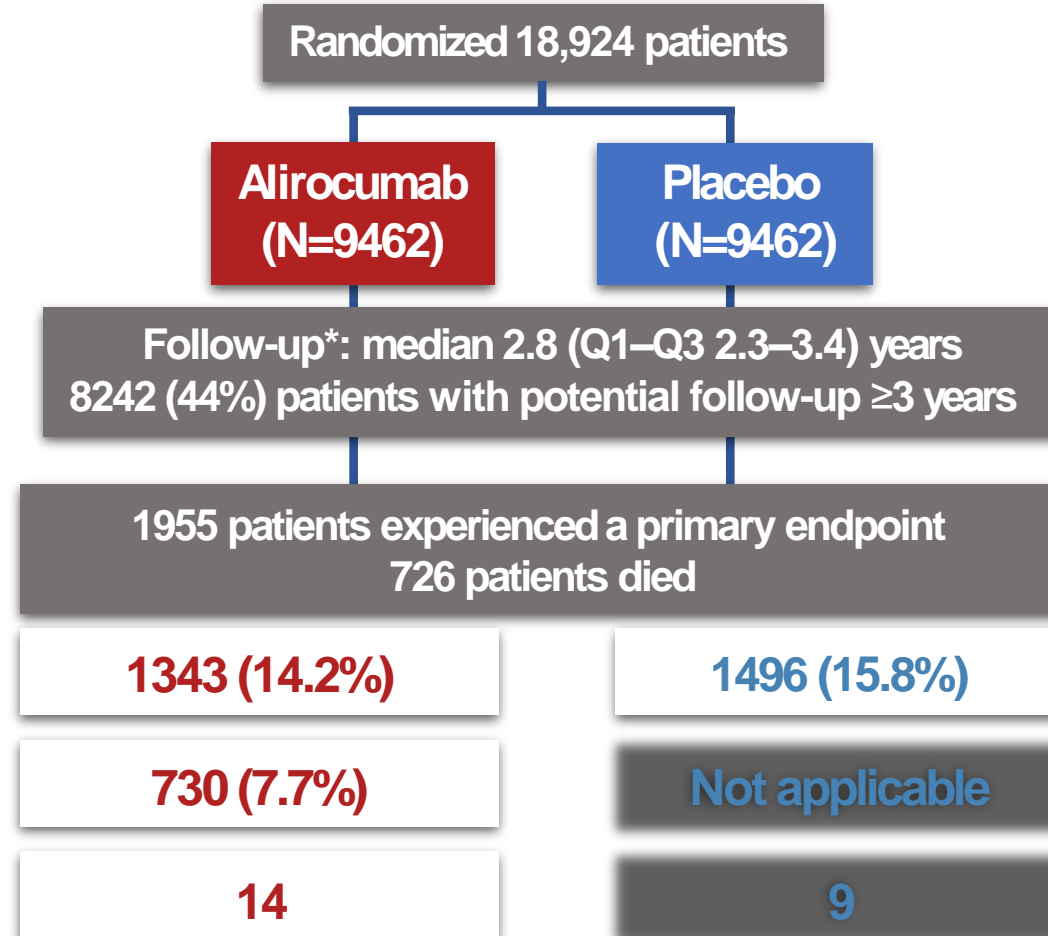
Argentina	592
Brazil	928
Chile	132
Colombia	354
Guatemala	25
Mexico	349
Peru	208

## Rest of World

Australia	216
Israel	582
New Zealand	257
South Africa	505

We thank the patients,  
their families, all  
investigators and  
coordinators involved in  
this study, and DCRI

# Patient Disposition



- Premature treatment discontinuation
- Blinded switch to placebo (2 consecutive LDL-C values <15 mg/dL)
- Patients lost to follow-up (vital status)

1343 (14.2%)

1496 (15.8%)

730 (7.7%)

Not applicable

14

9

\*Ascertainment was complete for 99.1% and 99.8% of potential patient-years of follow-up for the primary endpoint and all-cause death, respectively

# Baseline Demographics

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Alirocumab (N=9462)</b>	<b>Placebo (N=9462)</b>
Age, years, median (Q1–Q3)	<b>58 (52–65)</b>	<b>58 (52–65)</b>
Female, n (%)	<b>2390 (25.3)</b>	<b>2372 (25.1)</b>
Medical history, n (%)		
Hypertension	<b>6205 (65.6)</b>	<b>6044 (63.9)</b>
Diabetes mellitus	<b>2693 (28.5)</b>	<b>2751 (29.1)</b>
Current tobacco smoker	<b>2282 (24.1)</b>	<b>2278 (24.1)</b>
Prior MI	<b>1790 (18.9)</b>	<b>1843 (19.5)</b>

# Baseline Index Events

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Alirocuma b (N=9462)</b>	<b>Placebo (N=9462)</b>
Time from index ACS to randomization, months, median (Q1–Q3)	<b>2.6 (1.7–4.4)</b>	<b>2.6 (1.7–4.3)</b>
ACS type, n (%)		
NSTEMI	<b>4574 (48.4)</b>	<b>4601 (48.7)</b>
STEMI	<b>3301 (35.0)</b>	<b>3235 (34.2)</b>
Unstable angina	<b>1568 (16.6)</b>	<b>1614 (17.1)</b>
Revascularization for index ACS, n (%)	<b>6798 (71.8)</b>	<b>6878 (72.7)</b>

# Baseline Lipid Characteristics

Characteristic, mg/dL, median (Q1–Q3)	Alirocumab (N=9462)	Placebo (N=9462)
LDL-C	87 (73–104)	87 (73–104)
Non-HDL-C	115 (99–136)	115 (99–137)
Apolipoprotein B	79 (69–93)	80 (69–93)
HDL-C	43 (37–50)	42 (36–50)
Triglycerides	129 (94–181)	129 (95–183)
Lipoprotein(a)	21 (7–59)	22 (7–60)

**92.5% of patients qualified on the basis of LDL-C $\geq$ 70 mg/dL**

# Baseline Lipid-Lowering Therapy

Therapy, n (%)	Alirocuma b (N=9462)	Placebo (N=9462)
High-dose atorvastatin/rosuvastatin	8380 (88.6)	8431 (89.1)
Low-/moderate-dose atorvastatin/rosuvastatin	830 (8.8)	777 (8.2)
Other statin	19 (0.2)	27 (0.3)
Ezetimibe, with or without statin	269 (2.8)	285 (3.0)
No lipid-lowering therapy*	87 (0.9)	91 (1.0)

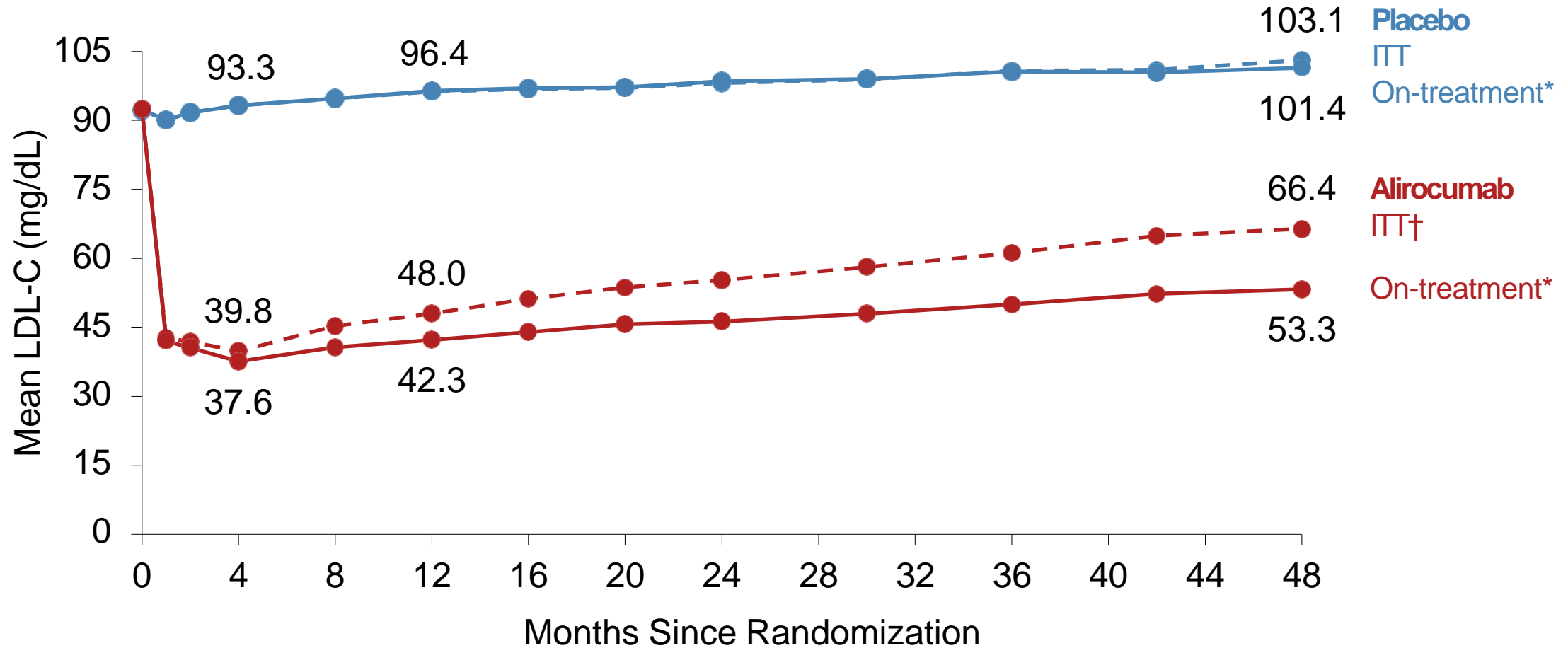
\*Patients not on statins were authorized to participate if tolerability issues were present and documented

# Guideline-Recommended Post-ACS Medications

<b>Medication, n (%)</b>	<b>Alirocumab (N=9462)</b>	<b>Placebo (N=9462)</b>
Aspirin	<b>9050 (95.6)</b>	<b>9036 (95.5)</b>
P2Y <sub>12</sub> antagonist	<b>8296 (87.7)</b>	<b>8245 (87.1)</b>
ACE-I/ARB	<b>7356 (77.7)</b>	<b>7360 (77.8)</b>
Beta-blocker	<b>7998 (84.5)</b>	<b>7992 (84.5)</b>



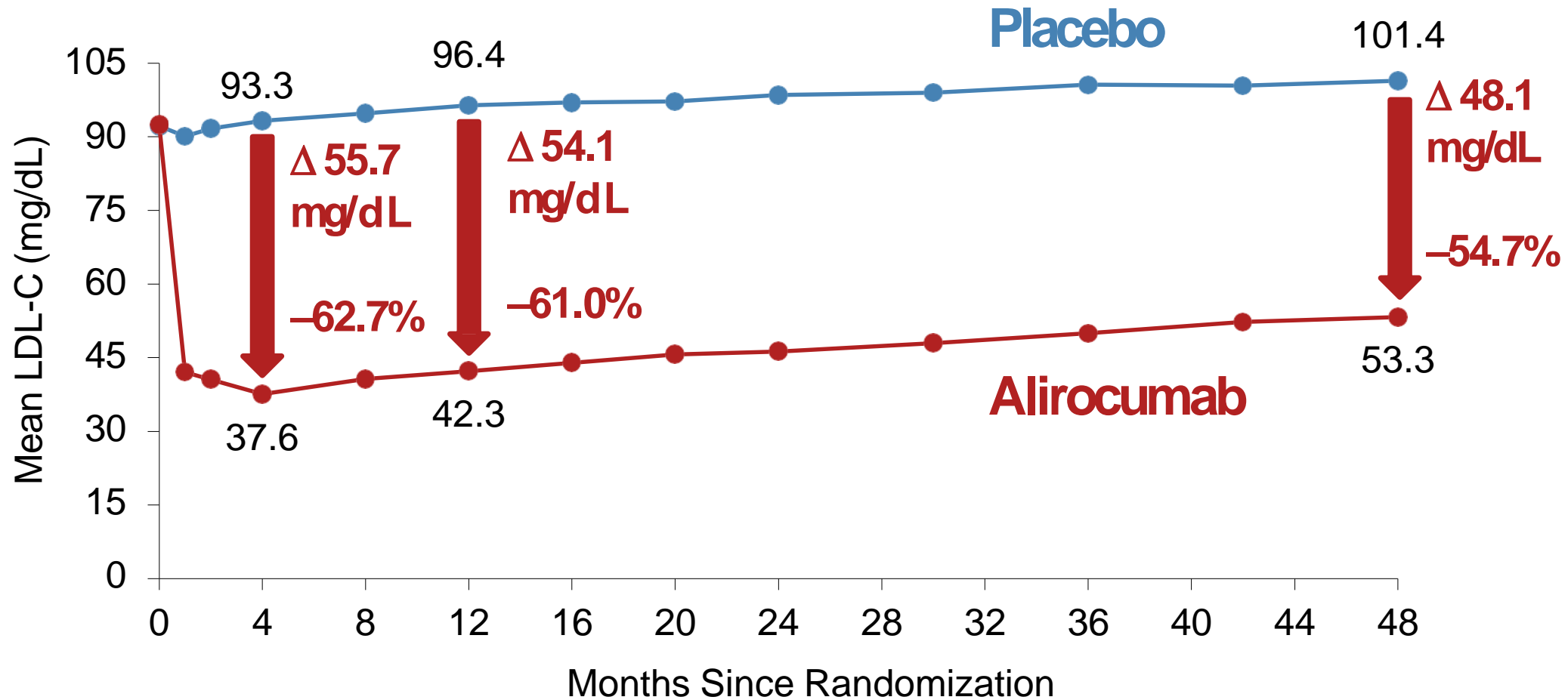
# LDL-C: ITT and On-Treatment Analyses



\*Excludes LDL-C values after premature treatment discontinuation or blinded switch to placebo

†All LDL-C values, including those after premature treatment discontinuation, blinded down titration, or blinded switch to placebo

# LDL-C: On-Treatment Analysis

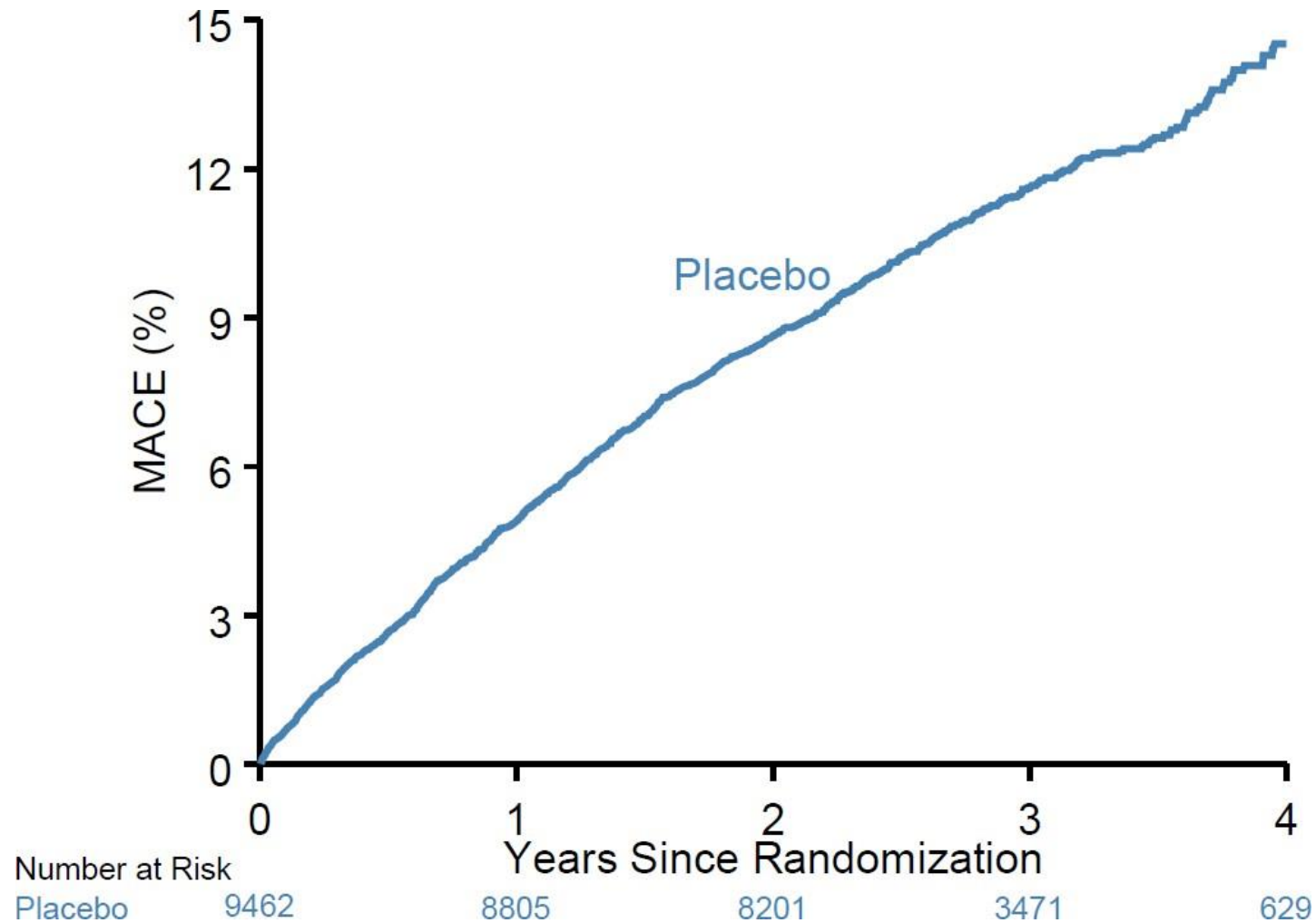


Excludes LDL-C values after premature treatment discontinuation or blinded switch to placebo

Approximately 75% of months of active treatment were at the 75 mg dose

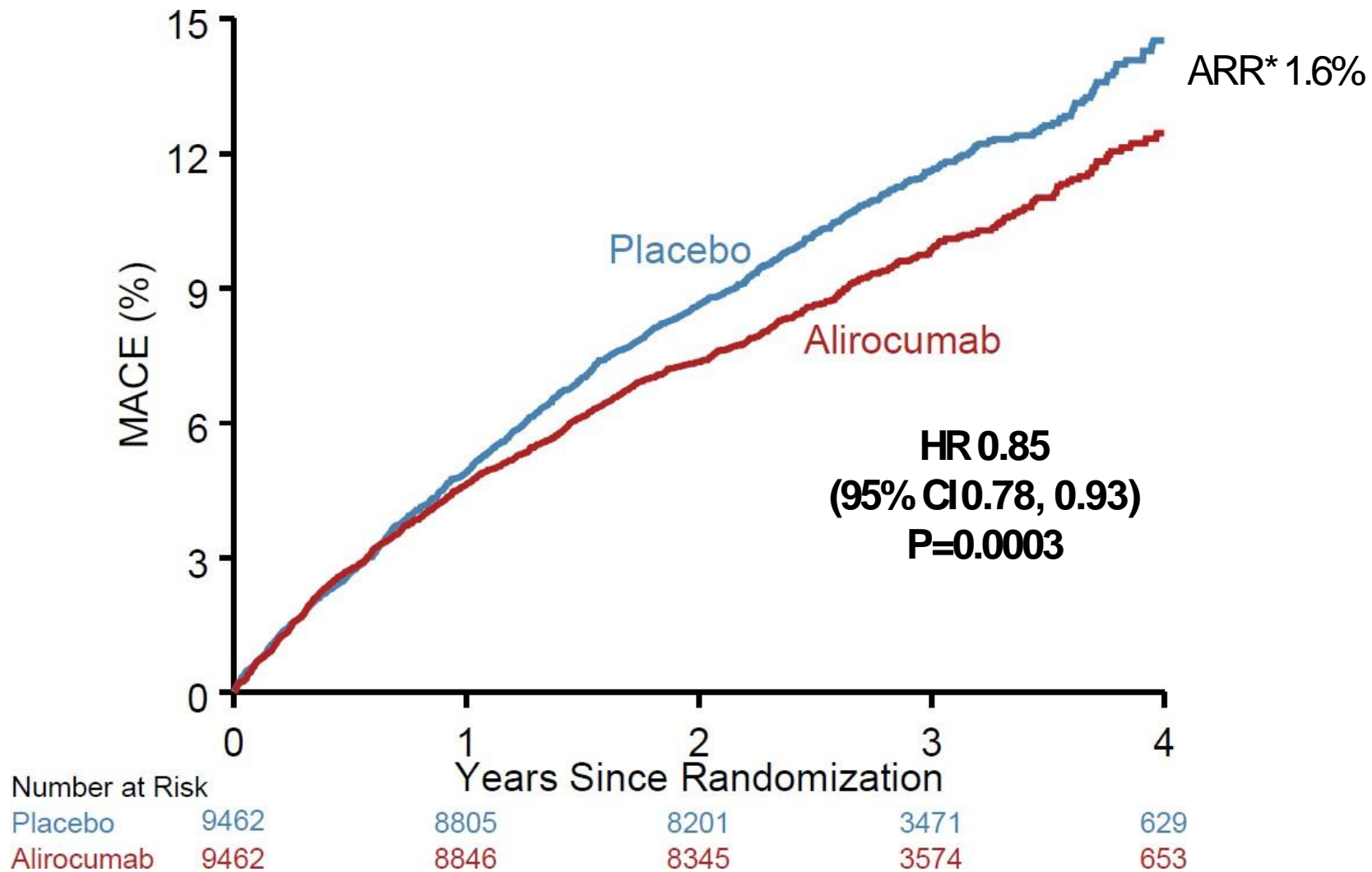
# Primary Efficacy Endpoint: MACE

MACE: CHD death, non-fatal MI, ischemic stroke, or unstable angina requiring hospitalization



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MACE: CHD death,  
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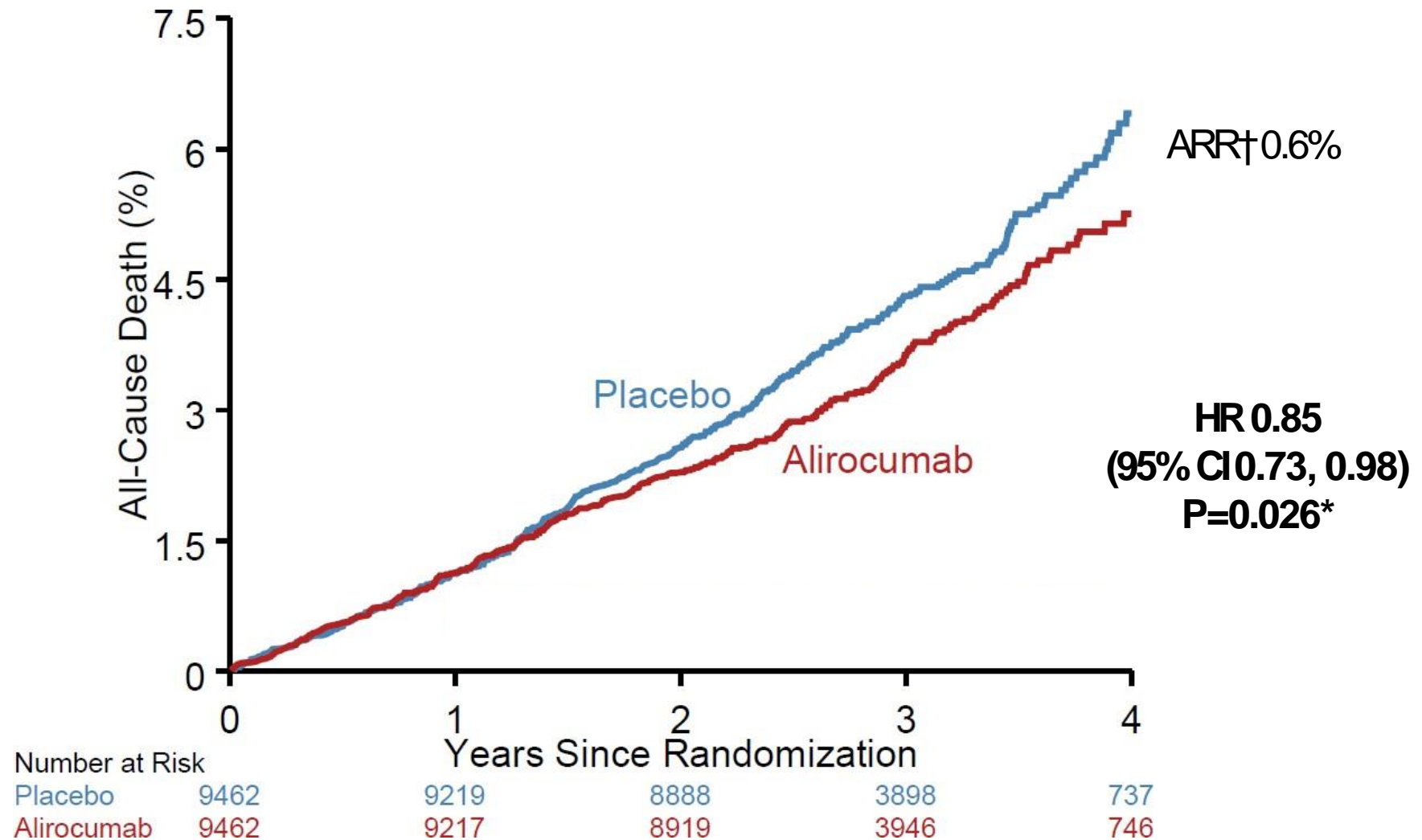


\*Based on cumulative incidence

# Primary Efficacy and Components

Endpoint, n (%)	Alirocumab (N=9462)	Placebo (N=9462)	HR (95% CI)	Log-rank P-value
<b>MACE</b>	<b>903 (9.5)</b>	<b>1052 (11.1)</b>	<b>0.85 (0.78, 0.93)</b>	<b>0.0003</b>
CHD death	<b>205 (2.2)</b>	<b>222 (2.3)</b>	0.92 (0.76, 1.11)	0.38
Non-fatal MI	<b>626 (6.6)</b>	<b>722 (7.6)</b>	0.86 (0.77, 0.96)	0.006
Ischemic stroke	<b>111 (1.2)</b>	<b>152 (1.6)</b>	0.73 (0.57, 0.93)	0.01
Unstable angina	<b>37 (0.4)</b>	<b>60 (0.6)</b>	0.61 (0.41, 0.92)	0.02

# All-Cause Death



\*Nominal P-value

†Based on cumulative incidence

# Conclusions

Compared with placebo in patients with recent ACS, alirocumab 75 or 150 mg subcutaneous Q2W targeting LDL-C levels 25–50 mg/dL, and allowing levels as low as 15 mg/dL:

1. Reduced MACE, MI, and ischemic stroke
2. Was associated with a lower rate of all-cause death
3. Was safe and well-tolerated over the duration of the trial

# Clinical Perspective

- In this nearly 19,000-patient placebo-controlled trial, including many patients treated for  $\geq 3$  years, there was no safety signal with alirocumab other than injection site reactions



# Clinical Perspective

- In this nearly 19,000-patient placebo-controlled trial, including many patients treated for  $\geq 3$  years, there was no safety signal with alirocumab other than injection site reactions
- Among patients with ACS and baseline LDL-C  $\geq 100$  mg/dL, alirocumab reduced MACE by 24% (ARR 3.4%) and all-cause death by 29% (ARR 1.7%) compared with placebo
  - These are the patients who may benefit most from treatment

# Results of the GLAGOV Trial

Steven E. Nissen MD  
Stephen J. Nicholls MBBS PhD

## Disclosure

*Sponsor:* Amgen

*Clinical Trials:* Abbvie, Amgen, AstraZeneca, Cerenis, Eli Lilly, Esperion, Takeda, Novo Nordisk, The Medicines Company, and Pfizer.

Companies are directed to pay any honoraria directly to charity. No personal reimbursement is accepted for directing or participating in clinical trials.

68 patients at 197 global centers with symptomatic CAD and other high risk features. Coronary angiography showing 20-50% stenosis in a target vessel

Stable, optimized statin dose for 4 weeks with LDL-C >80 mg/dL or 60-80 mg with additional high risk features

Intravascular ultrasound via motorized pullback at 0.5 mm/sec through >40 mm segment

Statin monotherapy

61 patients did not complete

423 statin completers

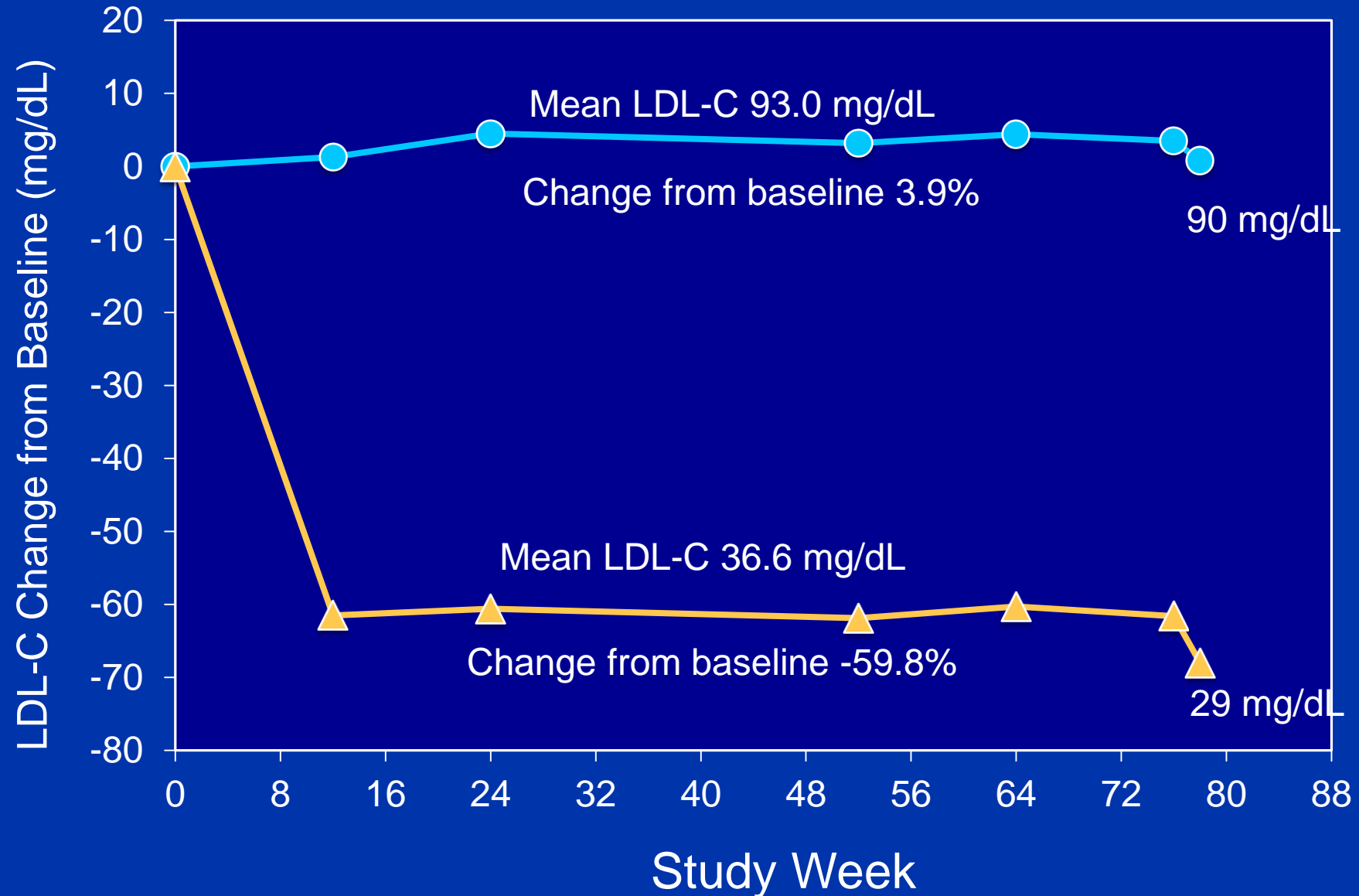
Statin plus monthly SC evolocumab 420 mg

61 patients did not complete

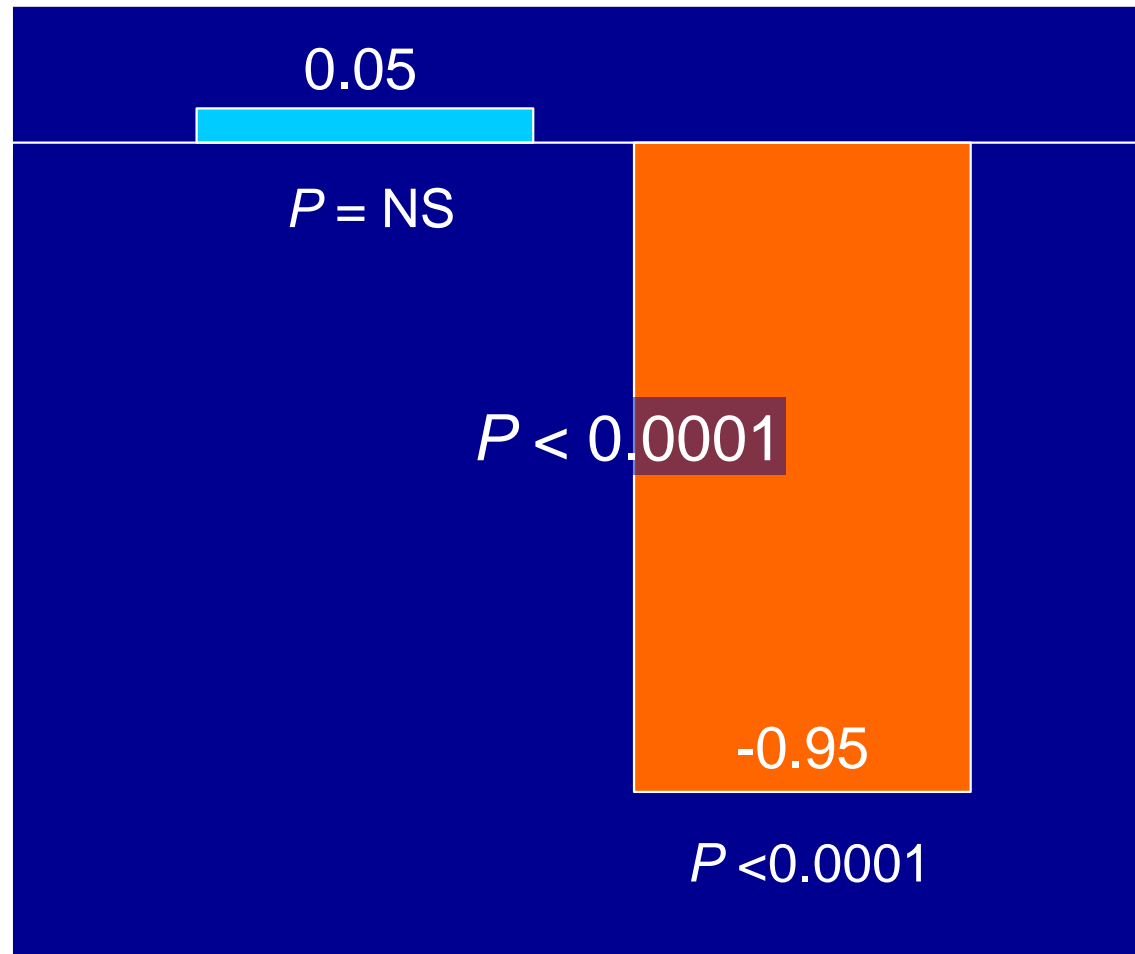
423 evolocumab completers

Follow-up IVUS of originally imaged "target" vessel (n=846)

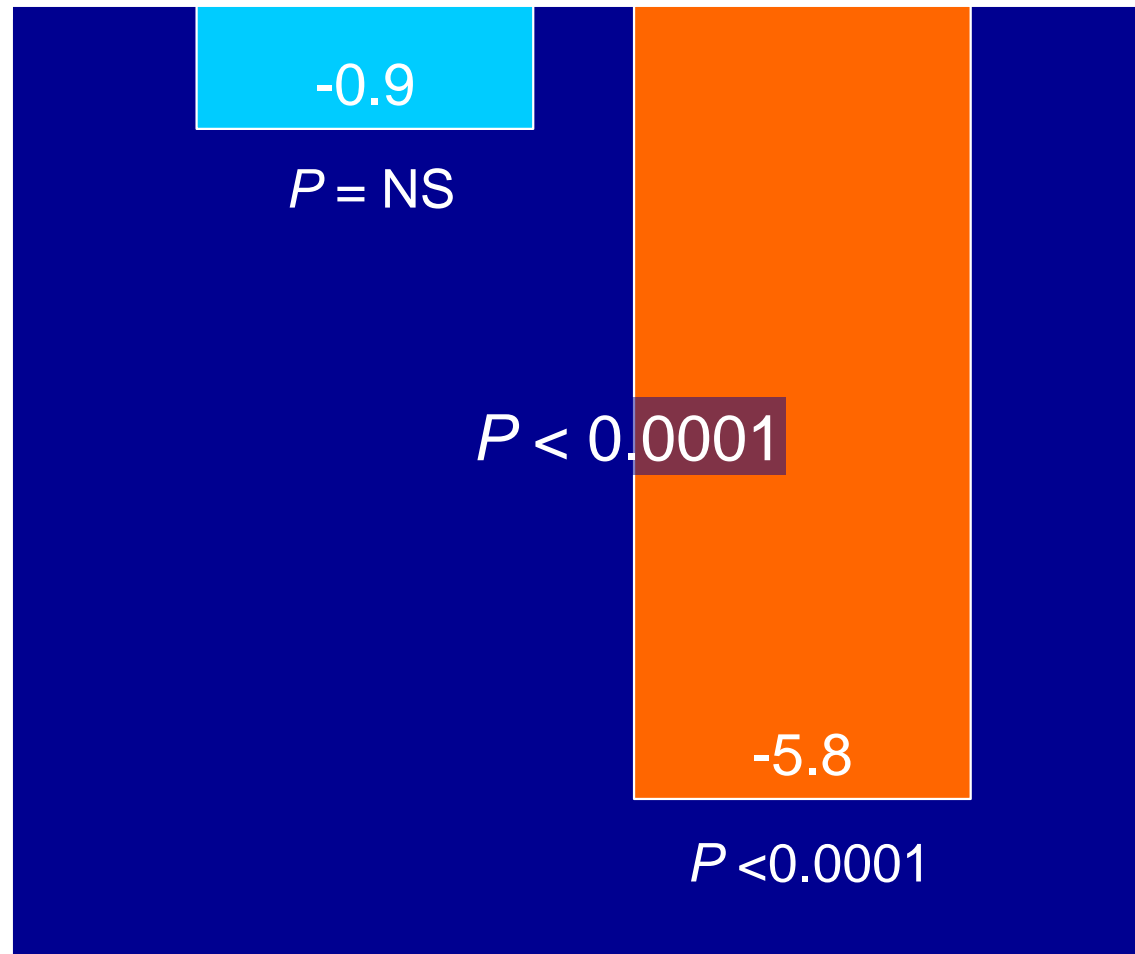
# Change in LDL-Cholesterol During Treatment



# Primary Endpoint: Percent Atheroma Volume



# Secondary Endpoint: Total Atheroma Volume



# FOURIER

Further cardiovascular Outcomes  
Research with PCSK9 Inhibition in  
subjects with Elevated Risk

MS Sabatine, RP Giugliano, AC Keech, N Honarpour,  
SM Wasserman, PS Sever, and TR Pedersen,  
for the FOURIER Steering Committee & Investigators

*American College of Cardiology – 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Session*

*Late-Breaking Clinical Trial*

*March 17, 2017*



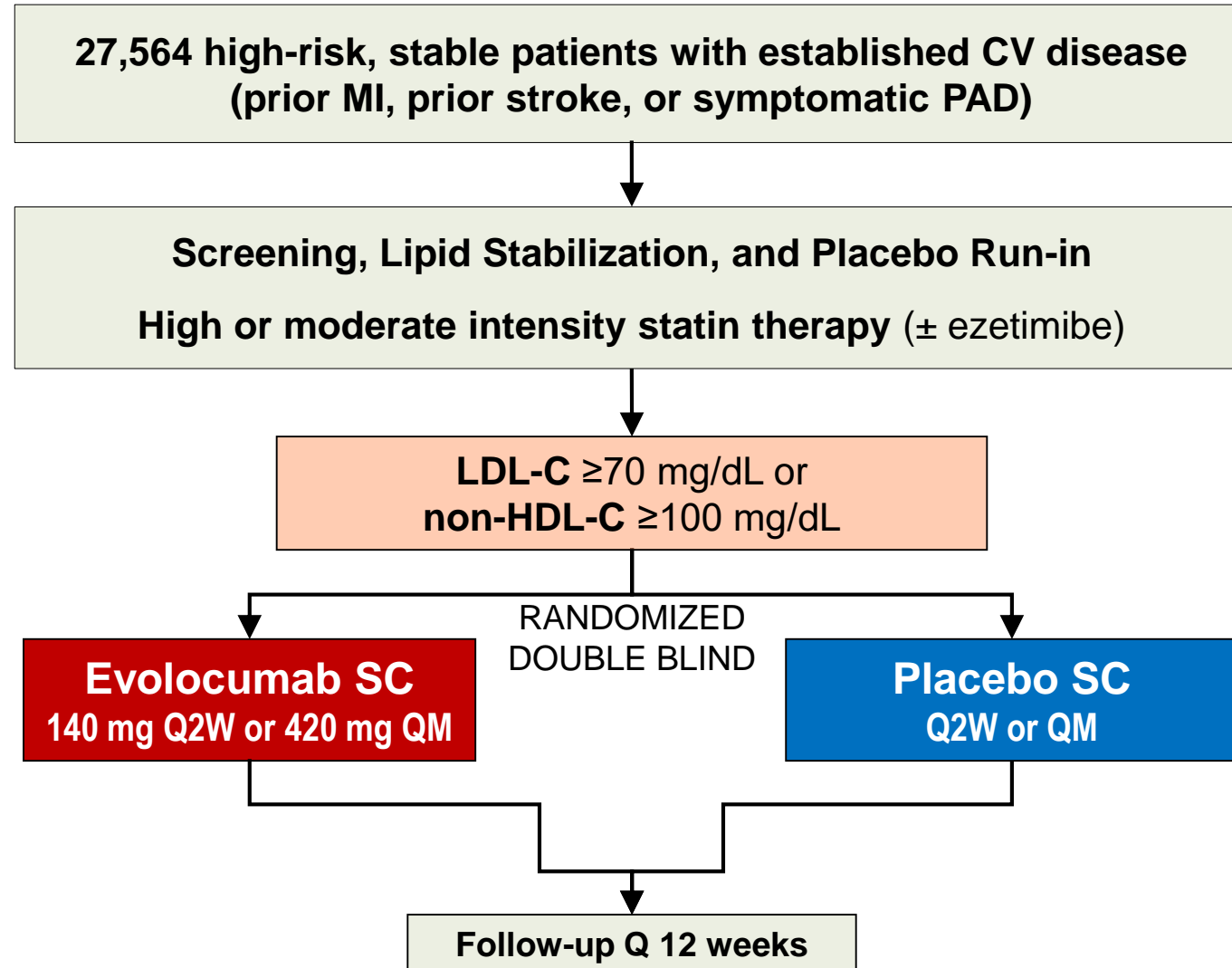
# Objectives

*In patients with established cardiovascular disease  
on statin therapy:*

- **Test whether the addition of evolocumab reduces the incidence of major cardiovascular events**
- Examine the long-term safety & tolerability of evolocumab
- Investigate the efficacy and safety of achieving unprecedented low levels of LDL-C



# Trial Design

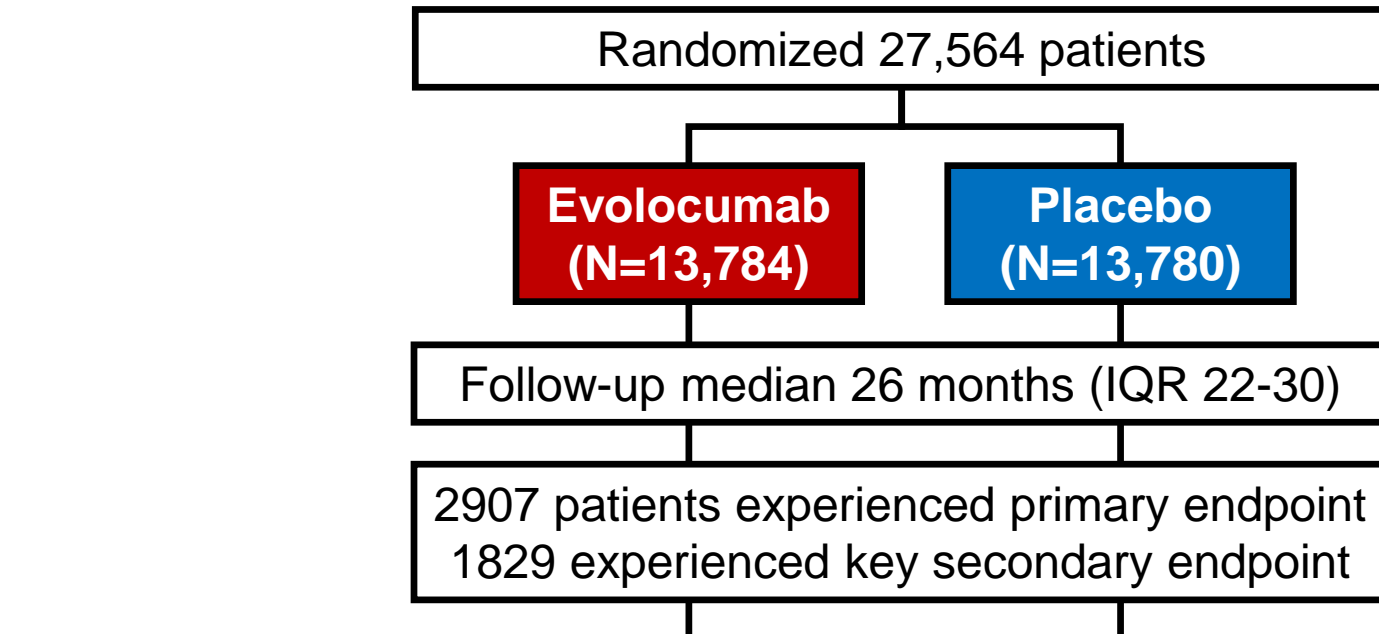




# Endpoints

- **Efficacy**
  - **Primary: CV death, MI, stroke, hosp. for UA, or coronary revasc**
  - **Key secondary: CV death, MI or stroke**
- **Safety**
  - **AEs/SAEs**
  - **Events of interest incl. muscle-related, new-onset diabetes, neurocognitive**
  - **Development of anti-evolocumab Ab (binding and neutralizing)**
- **TIMI Clinical Events Committee (CEC)**
  - **Adjudicated all efficacy endpoints & new-onset diabetes**
  - **Members unaware of treatment assignment & lipid levels**

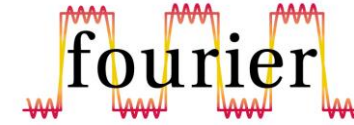
# Follow-up



Premature perm. drug discontinuation	5.6%/yr	5.8%/yr
Withdrew consent	0.29%/yr	0.35%/yr
Lost to follow-up	5 patients	13 patients

*Ascertainment for primary endpoint was complete for 99.5% of potential patient-years of follow up*

# Baseline Characteristics



Characteristic	Value
<b>Age, years, mean (SD)</b>	<b>63 (9)</b>
<b>Male sex (%)</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Type of cardiovascular disease (%)</b>	
Myocardial infarction	<b>81</b>
Stroke (non-hemorrhagic)	<b>19</b>
Symptomatic PAD	<b>13</b>
<b>Cardiovascular risk factor (%)</b>	
Hypertension	<b>80</b>
Diabetes mellitus	<b>37</b>
Current cigarette use	<b>28</b>

} Median time from most recent event ~3 yrs

Pooled data; no differences between treatment arms

# Lipid Lowering Therapy & Lipid Levels at Baseline



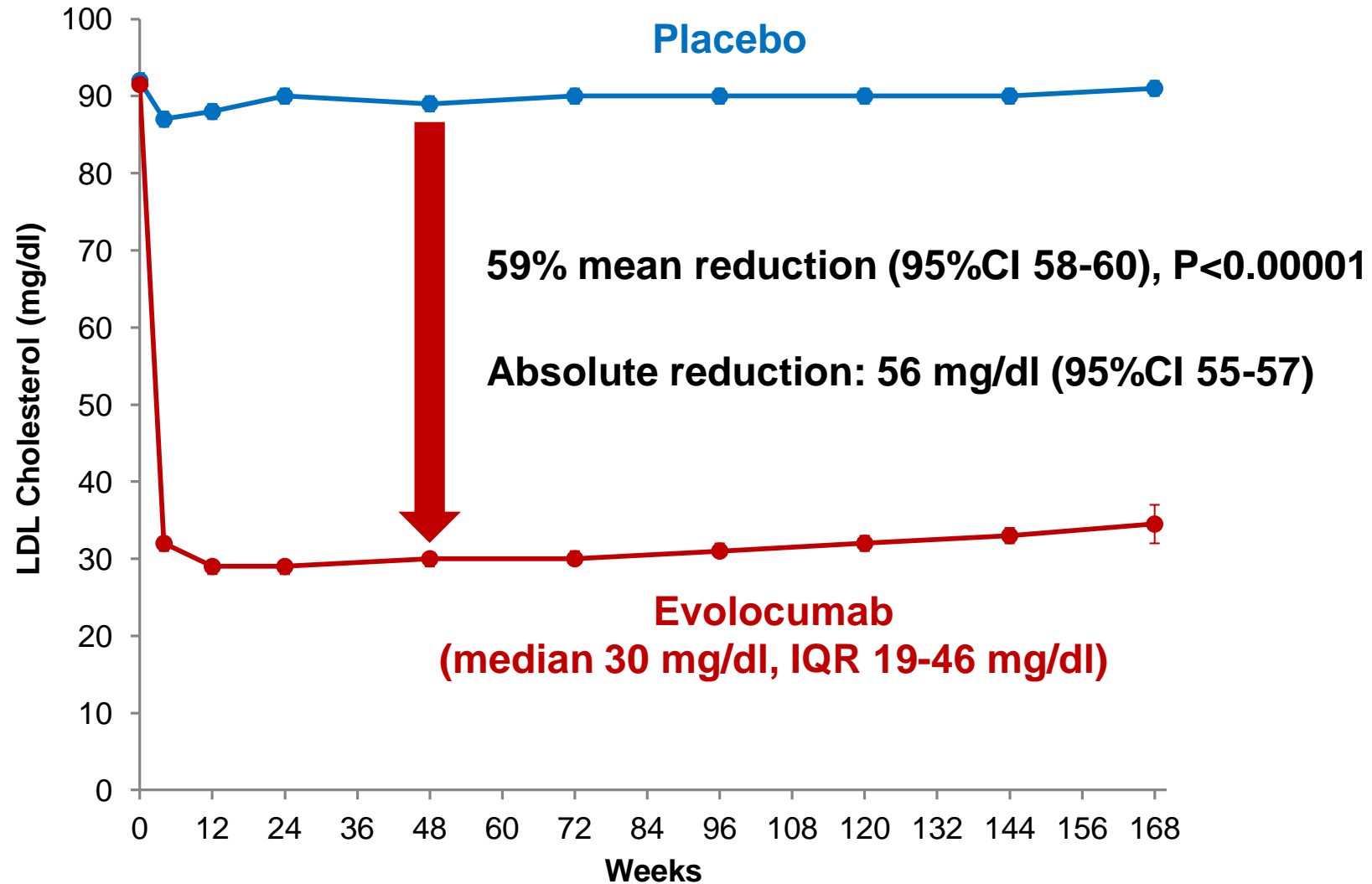
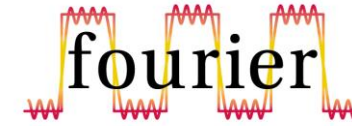
Characteristic	Value
<b>Statin use (%)*</b>	
High-intensity	<b>69</b>
Moderate-intensity	<b>30</b>
<b>Ezetimibe use (%)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Median lipid measures (IQR) – mg/dL</b>	
LDL-C	<b>92 (80-109)</b>
Total cholesterol	<b>168 (151-189)</b>
HDL-C	<b>44 (37-53)</b>
Triglycerides	<b>133 (100-182)</b>

\*Per protocol, patients were to be on atorva  $\geq 20$  mg/d or equivalent.  
1% were on low intensity or intensity data were missing.  
Statin intensity defined per ACC/AHA 2013 Cholesterol Guidelines.

Pooled data; no differences between treatment arms

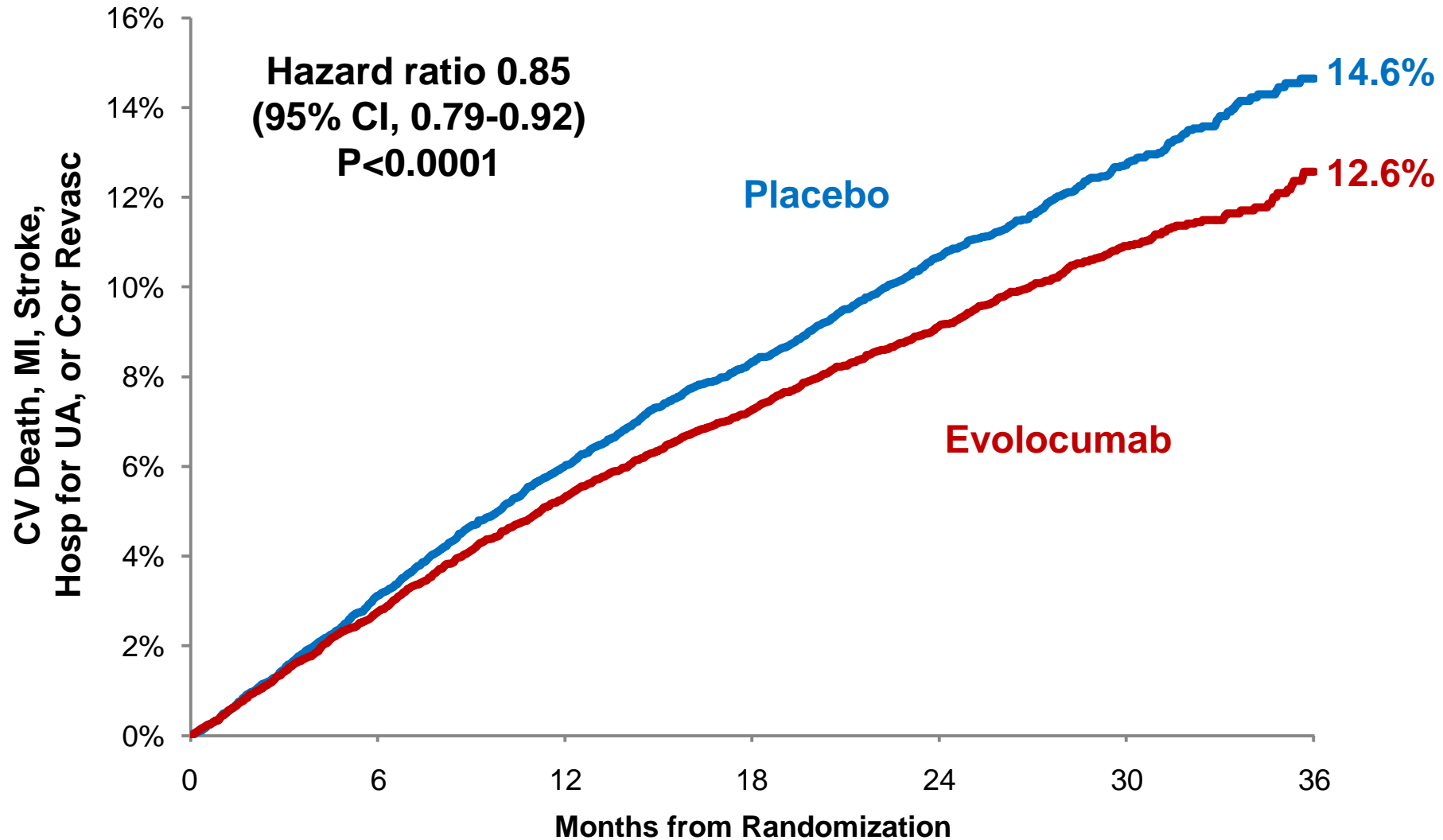
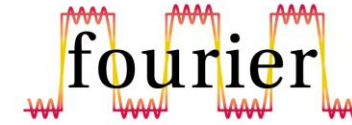


# LDL Cholesterol



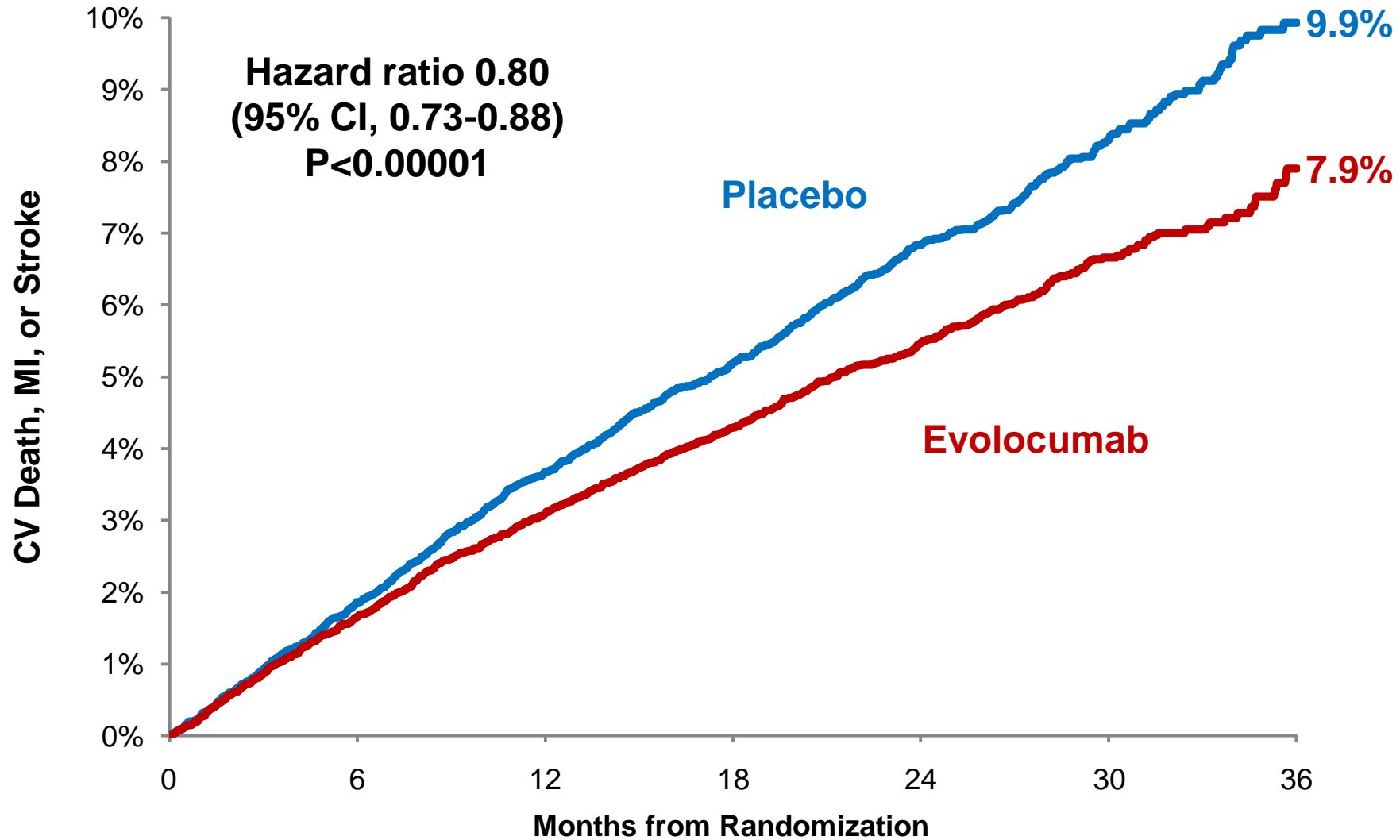
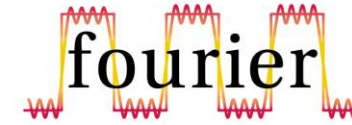


# Primary Endpoint





# Key Secondary Endpoint



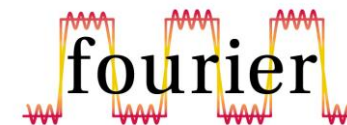


# Types of CV Outcomes



Endpoint	<b>Evolocumab</b>	<b>Placebo</b>	HR (95% CI)
	<b>(N=13,784)</b>	<b>(N=13,780)</b>	
	<i>3-yr Kaplan-Meier rate</i>		
<b>CV death, MI, or stroke</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>9.9</b>	0.80 (0.73-0.88)
<b>Cardiovascular death</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>	1.05 (0.88-1.25)
Death due to acute MI	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.32</b>	0.84 (0.49-1.42)
Death due to stroke	<b>0.29</b>	<b>0.30</b>	0.94 (0.58-1.54)
Other CV death	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	1.10 (0.90-1.35)
<b>MI</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	0.73 (0.65-0.82)
<b>Stroke</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.6</b>	0.79 (0.66-0.95)

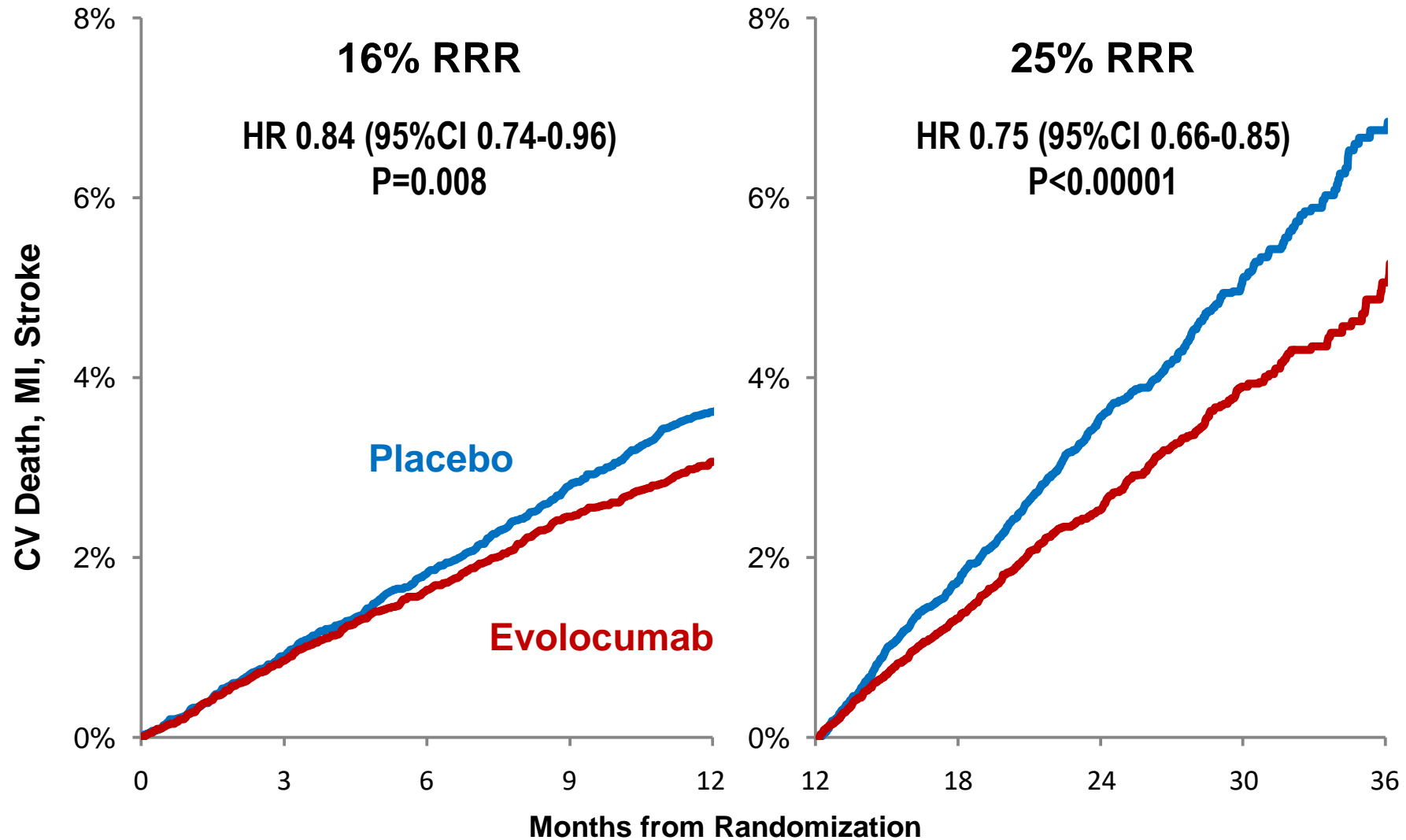
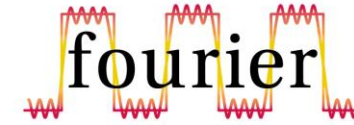
# Types of CV Outcomes



Endpoint	<b>Evolocumab</b>	<b>Placebo</b>	HR (95% CI)
	<b>(N=13,784)</b>	<b>(N=13,780)</b>	
	<i>3-yr Kaplan-Meier rate</i>		
<b>CVD, MI, stroke, UA, or revasc</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>0.85 (0.79-0.92)</b>
<b>CV death, MI, or stroke</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>9.9</b>	0.80 (0.73-0.88)
<b>Cardiovascular death</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>	1.05 (0.88-1.25)
<b>MI</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	0.73 (0.65-0.82)
<b>Stroke</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.6</b>	0.79 (0.66-0.95)
<b>Hosp for unstable angina</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	0.99 (0.82-1.18)
<b>Coronary revasc</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>9.2</b>	0.78 (0.71-0.86)
Urgent	<b>3.7</b>	<b>5.4</b>	0.73 (0.64-0.83)
Elective	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.6</b>	0.83 (0.73-0.95)
<b>Death from any cause</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.3</b>	1.04 (0.91-1.19)

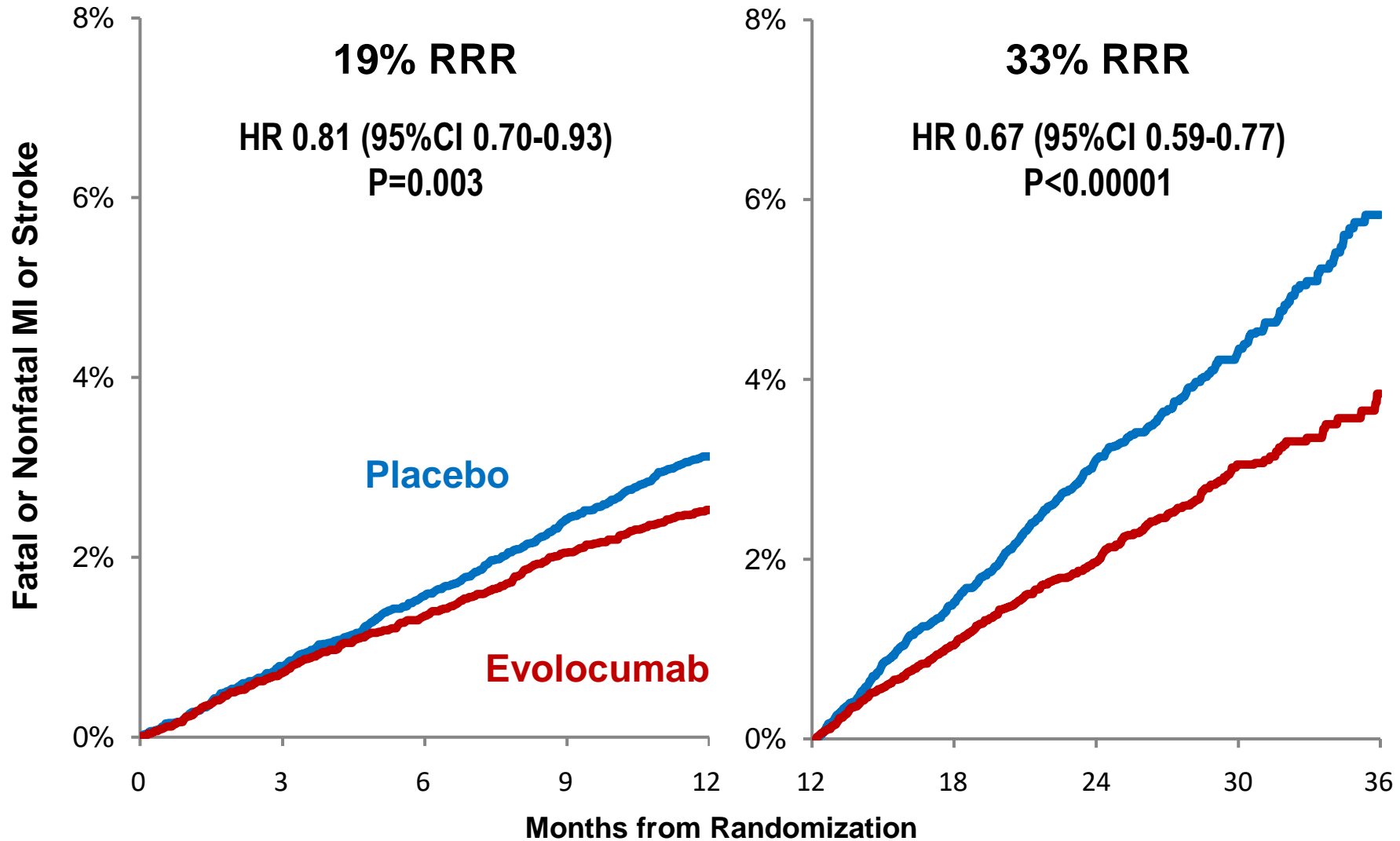


# Landmark Analysis





# Fatal or Nonfatal MI or Stroke



# Safety



	<b>Evolocumab (N=13,769)</b>	<b>Placebo (N=13,756)</b>
<b>Adverse events (%)</b>		
Any	<b>77.4</b>	<b>77.4</b>
Serious	<b>24.8</b>	<b>24.7</b>
Allergic reaction	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Injection-site reaction	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Treatment-related and led to d/c of study drug	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Muscle-related	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Cataract	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.8</b>
Diabetes (new-onset)	<b>8.1</b>	<b>7.7</b>
Neurocognitive	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Laboratory results (%)</b>		
Binding Ab	<b>0.3</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Neutralizing Ab	<b>none</b>	<b>n/a</b>

New-onset diabetes assessed in patients without diabetes at baseline; adjudicated by CEC

# Summary for Evolocumab



- **↓ LDL-C by 59%**
  - Consistent throughout duration of trial
  - Median achieved LDL-C of 30 mg/dl (IQR 19-46 mg/dl)
- **↓ CV outcomes in patients already on statin therapy**
  - 15% ↓ broad primary endpoint; 20% ↓ CV death, MI, or stroke
  - Consistent benefit, incl. in those on high-intensity statin, low LDL-C
  - 25% reduction in CV death, MI, or stroke after 1<sup>st</sup> year
  - Long-term benefits consistent w/ statins per mmol/L ↓ LDL-C
- **Safe and well-tolerated**
  - Similar rates of AEs, incl DM & neurocog events w/ EvoMab & pbo
  - Rates of EvoMab discontinuation low and no greater than pbo
  - No neutralizing antibodies developed

# Conclusions



In patients with known cardiovascular disease:

1. PCSK9 inhibition with evolocumab significantly & safely ↓ major cardiovascular events when added to statin therapy
2. Benefit was achieved with lowering LDL cholesterol well below current targets





# Top 10 Take-Home Messages

**2018 Cholesterol Guidelines**

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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## **1. In all individuals, emphasize a heart-healthy lifestyle across the life course.**

A healthy lifestyle reduces atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) risk at all ages. In younger individuals, healthy lifestyle can reduce development of risk factors and is the foundation of ASCVD risk reduction.

In young adults 20 to 39 years of age, an assessment of lifetime risk facilitates the clinician–patient risk discussion (see No. 6) and emphasizes intensive lifestyle efforts. In all age groups, lifestyle therapy is the primary intervention for metabolic syndrome.

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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- 2. In patients with clinical ASCVD, reduce low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) with high-intensity statin therapy or maximally tolerated statin therapy.**

The more LDL-C is reduced on statin therapy, the greater will be subsequent risk reduction.

Use a maximally tolerated statin to lower LDL-C levels by  $\geq 50\%$ .

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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- 3. In very high-risk ASCVD, use a LDL-C threshold of 70 mg/dL (1.8 mmol/L) to consider addition of nonstatins to statin therapy.**
  - Very high-risk includes a history of multiple major ASCVD events or 1 major ASCVD event and multiple high-risk conditions.
  - In very high-risk ASCVD patients, it is reasonable to add ezetimibe to maximally tolerated statin therapy when the LDL-C level remains  $\geq 70$  mg/dL ( $\geq 1.8$  mmol/L).
  - In patients at very high risk whose LDL-C level remains  $\geq 70$  mg/dL ( $\geq 1.8$  mmol/L) on maximally tolerated statin and ezetimibe therapy, adding a PCSK9 inhibitor is reasonable, although the long-term safety ( $>3$  years) is uncertain and cost-effectiveness is low at mid-2018 list prices.

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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**4. In patients with severe primary hypercholesterolemia (LDL-C level  $\geq 190$  mg/dL [ $\geq 4.9$  mmol/L]) without calculating 10-year ASCVD risk, begin high-intensity statin therapy without calculating 10-year ASCVD risk.**

- If the LDL-C level remains  $\geq 100$  mg/dL ( $\geq 2.6$  mmol/L), adding ezetimibe is reasonable

- If the LDL-C level on statin plus ezetimibe remains  $\geq 100$  mg/dL ( $\geq 2.6$  mmol/L) & the patient has multiple factors that increase subsequent risk of ASCVD events, a PCSK9 inhibitor may be considered, although the long-term safety (>3 years) is uncertain and economic value is low at mid-2018 list prices.

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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- 5. In patients 40 to 75 years of age with diabetes mellitus and LDL-C  $\geq 70$  mg/dL ( $\geq 1.8$  mmol/L), start moderate-intensity statin therapy without calculating 10-year ASCVD risk.**

In patients with diabetes mellitus at higher risk, especially those with multiple risk factors or those 50 to 75 years of age, it is reasonable to use a high-intensity statin to reduce the LDL-C level by  $\geq 50\%$ .

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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- 6. In adults 40 to 75 years of age evaluated for primary ASCVD prevention, have a clinician–patient risk discussion before starting statin therapy.**

Risk discussion should include a review of major risk factors (e.g., cigarette smoking, elevated blood pressure, (LDL-C), hemoglobin A1C [if indicated], and calculated 10-year risk of ASCVD);

- the presence of risk-enhancing factors (see No. 8);
- the potential benefits of lifestyle and statin therapies;
- the potential for adverse effects and drug–drug interactions;
- the consideration of costs of statin therapy; and
- the patient preferences & values in shared decision-making.

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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- 7. In adults 40 to 75 years of age without diabetes mellitus and with LDL-C levels  $\geq 70$  mg/dL ( $\geq 1.8$  mmol/L), at a 10-year ASCVD risk of  $\geq 7.5\%$ , start a moderate-intensity statin if a discussion of treatment options favors statin therapy.**

Risk-enhancing factors favor statin therapy (see No. 8).

If risk status is uncertain, consider using coronary artery calcium (CAC) to improve specificity (see No. 9). If statins are indicated, reduce LDL-C levels by  $\geq 30\%$ , and if 10-year risk is  $\geq 20\%$ , reduce LDL-C levels by  $\geq 50\%$ .



# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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- 8. In adults 40 to 75 years of age without diabetes mellitus and 10-year risk of 7.5% to 19.9% (intermediate risk), risk-enhancing factors favor initiation of statin therapy (see No. 7).**

## **Risk-enhancing factors include**

- family history of premature ASCVD;
- persistently elevated LDL-C levels  $\geq 160$  mg/dL ( $\geq 4.1$  mmol/L);
- metabolic syndrome;
- chronic kidney disease;
  
- history of preeclampsia or premature menopause (age  $< 40$  yrs)
- chronic inflammatory disorders (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, or chronic HIV);
- high-risk ethnic groups (e.g., South Asian);
- persistent elevations of triglycerides  $\geq 175$  mg/dL ( $\geq 1.97$  mmol/L);

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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- 8. In adults 40 to 75 years of age without diabetes mellitus and 10-year risk of 7.5% to 19.9% (intermediate risk), risk-enhancing factors favor initiation of statin therapy (see No. 7).**

## **Risk-enhancing factors include**

and, if measured in selected individuals

- apolipoprotein B  $\geq 130$  mg/dL
- high-sensitivity C-reactive protein  $\geq 2.0$  mg/L
- ankle-brachial index  $< 0.9$  and I
- lipoprotein (a)  $\geq 50$  mg/dL or 125 nmol/L, especially at higher values of lipoprotein (a).

Risk-enhancing factors may favor statin therapy in patients at 10-year risk of 5-7.5% (borderline risk)

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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**9. In adults 40 to 75 years of age without diabetes mellitus and with LDL-C levels  $\geq 70$  mg/dL- 189 mg/dL ( $\geq 1.8$ -4.9 mmol/L), at a 10-year ASCVD risk of  $\geq 7.5\%$  to 19.9%, if a decision about statin therapy is uncertain, consider measuring CAC.**

- If CAC is zero, treatment with statin therapy may be withheld or delayed, except in cigarette smokers, those with diabetes mellitus, and those with a strong family history of premature ASCVD.
- A CAC score of 1 to 99 favors statin therapy, especially in those  $\geq 55$  years of age.
- For any patient, if the CAC score is  $\geq 100$  Agatston units or  $\geq 75$ th percentile, statin therapy is indicated unless otherwise deferred by the outcome of clinician–patient risk discussion.

# Top 10 Take Home Messages

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**10. Assess adherence and percentage response to LDL-C–lowering medications and lifestyle changes with repeat lipid measurement 4 to 12 weeks after statin initiation or dose adjustment, repeated every 3 to 12 months as needed.**

- Define responses to lifestyle and statin therapy by percentage reductions in LDL-C levels compared with baseline.
- In ASCVD patients at very high-risk, triggers for adding nonstatin drug therapy are defined by threshold LDL-C levels  $\geq 70$  mg/dL ( $\geq 1.8$  mmol/L) on maximal statin therapy (see No. 3).

1. Statins remain the cornerstone of risk reduction in patients with atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and primary prevention.
2. Consider add-on therapy, i.e ezetimibe, for patients not at goal or not able to tolerate maximal statin therapy
3. PCSK9 inhibitors are now indicated for patients with familial heterozygous hyperlipidemia or clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease on maximally tolerated statin therapy not at goal
4. All therapies are only indicated when patient are on low cholesterol diets