

# Bale/Doneen Live Chat Session

3/13/2013

5:30-6:30 pm PST

Bradley Bale, MD

# Intention of the live chats

- New data and slides
- Discuss “hot” topics
- Case study
- Review upcoming meetings
- Open discussion for remaining

# New Studies??!!!: OMG!



Way too many to discuss. Will concentrate on four only.

# Root Causes of Disease

If we find disease, we need to know why it is there.



atherosclerosis

Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Low Vit D

Inflammatory Diseases

Hyperlipidemia

Pyychosocial issues

Lipo (a)

Insulin resistance

Infectious Diseases

Periodontal Disease

Dysfunctional HDL

New Root Causes yet to be discovered

Nicotine

Lifestyle

Genetics

Lifestyle

MPO

Genetics



MOSS FREEDMAN





# Periodontal Disease & Treatment Related to Risk of Stroke

- 510,762 PD & 208,674 non-PD pts; divided PD pts into prophylactic rx, intensive rx (subgingival curettage, root planning, periodontal flap or extraction), no rx
- Follow-up ~ 8 yrs.; 15,141 pts developed ischemic stroke
- Adjusted for age, sex and comorbidities (BP, DM, dyslipidemia, AF, CKD, subclinical ASVD) to assess incident risk (IR) of stroke

Lee, Y-L, DDS, et. al. Stroke 2/19/2013; 44: XXX-XXX  
DOI: [10.1161/STROKEAHA.111.000076](https://doi.org/10.1161/STROKEAHA.111.000076)

# Periodontal Wellness Reduces Risk of Stroke

- IR for PD prophylactic rx was 0.14%/year
- IR for non-PD pts. was 0.32%/year
- IR for intensive rx was 0.39%/year
- IR for no rx was 0.48%/year

Lee, Y-L, DDS, et. al. Stroke 2/19/2013; 44: XXX-XXX  
DOI: [10.1161/STROKEAHA.111.000076](https://doi.org/10.1161/STROKEAHA.111.000076)

# Periodontal Wellness Reduces Risk of Stroke

- After adjustment for confounders, the dental prophylaxis and intensive treatment groups had a significant lower hazard ratios for stroke than the non-PD group

HR-0.78 & 0.95 (95% CI 0.75–0.81 & 0.91–0.99)

- PD without rx compared to non-PD group

HR-1.15 (95% CI 1.07–1.24)

among the youngest (20–44) age group

HR-2.17 (95% CI 1.64–2.87)

Lee, Y-L, DDS, et. al. Stroke 2/19/2013; 44: XXX-XXX  
DOI: [10.1161/STROKEAHA.111.000076](https://doi.org/10.1161/STROKEAHA.111.000076)



# Periodontal Wellness Reduces Risk of Stroke: Conclusions

- PD is an important risk factor for ischemic stroke
- PD patients who received treatment have a lower risk of stroke, especially among young subjects

Lee, Y-L, DDS, et. al. Stroke 2/19/2013; 44: XXX-XXX  
DOI: [10.1161/STROKEAHA.111.000076](https://doi.org/10.1161/STROKEAHA.111.000076)

# What About Endodontic Disease?



# Oral Pathogens and Acute Heart Attack

- 101 acute heart attack pts; 76% male; ~63 yo
- Obstructing thrombi and arterial blood analyzed by PCR for oral pathogens
- Bacterial DNA load 16 times greater in the thrombi than the arterial blood sample
- ***Oral viridans streptococci*** found in 78% of thrombi; ***PD pathogens*** found in 35% of thrombi

Pessi, T., PhD, et. al. *Circulation*. published online February 15, 2013

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2013/02/14/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.001254>

# Oral Pathogens and Acute Heart Attack

- Most frequently found bacterial DNA was from *Streptococcus sp.* mainly *Str. mitis-group* (72.3%)
- Most frequently found PD pathogens were: *Aggregatibacter actinomycetemcomitans* (5.9 %) and *Porphyromonas gingivalis* (5.0 %)

Pessi, T., PhD, et. al. *Circulation*. published online February 15, 2013

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2013/02/14/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.001254>

# Oral Pathogens and Acute Heart Attack

- Viridans streptococci traditionally are assumed to be the most important organisms in periapical lesions.
- Oral viridans group streptococci are capable of invading human aortic endothelial cells and triggering the production of inflammatory cytokines and monocyte chemoattractant proteins
- Oral streptococci may initiate or contribute to platelet aggregation in coronaries – **clot formation !!**

Pessi, T., PhD, et. al. *Circulation*. published online February 15, 2013

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2013/02/14/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.001254>

# Oral Pathogens and Acute Heart Attack

- Bacteremia originating from the oral cavity is common
- Happens following tooth brushing, tooth extraction and root canal treatment
- They are phagocytosed and may be translocated into the atherosclerotic plaque, or may end up in the plaque directly through the endothelium or via vasa vasorum

Pessi, T., PhD, et. al. *Circulation*. published online February 15, 2013

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2013/02/14/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.001254>

# Oral Pathogens and Acute Heart Attack

- 30 pts had panoramic CT imaging
- ~50% showed periapical abscess
- If pt's thrombus was positive for strep viridans DNA, they were 13 times more likely to have a periapical abscess

OR 13.2 (95% CI 2.11 – 82.5)  $p=0.004$

Pessi, T., PhD, et. al. *Circulation*. published online February 15, 2013

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2013/02/14/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.001254>

# Oral Pathogens and Acute Heart Attack

- Electron microscopy performed on 9 thrombi
- Bacteria-like structures detected in all 9; whole bacteria in 3/9
- Immunohistochemistry for substances indicative of bacteria performed in 8 thrombi: CD 14 (bacteria recognition in monocyte/macrophage) and CD68 (inflammation from bacteria)
- CD14 and CD68 detected in all 8

Pessi, T., PhD, et. al. *Circulation*. published online February 15, 2013

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2013/02/14/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.001254>

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# Oral Pathogens and Acute Heart Attack: Conclusions

- Dental infection and oral bacteria are associated with the development of acute coronary thrombosis – heart attack!!!
- Dental health and dental care should be one major element in preventing heart attacks!!!

Pessi, T., PhD, et. al. *Circulation*. published online February 15, 2013  
<http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2013/02/14/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.001254>

# Oral Pathogens and Acute Heart Attack

- Bale/Doneen Method Thoughts

1) Endodontic infection appears very common in heart attack pts; may trigger up to half of the heart attacks!!

2) All patients suffering a heart attack need a thorough oral health exam which includes PD pathogen testing as well as panoramic tomography.

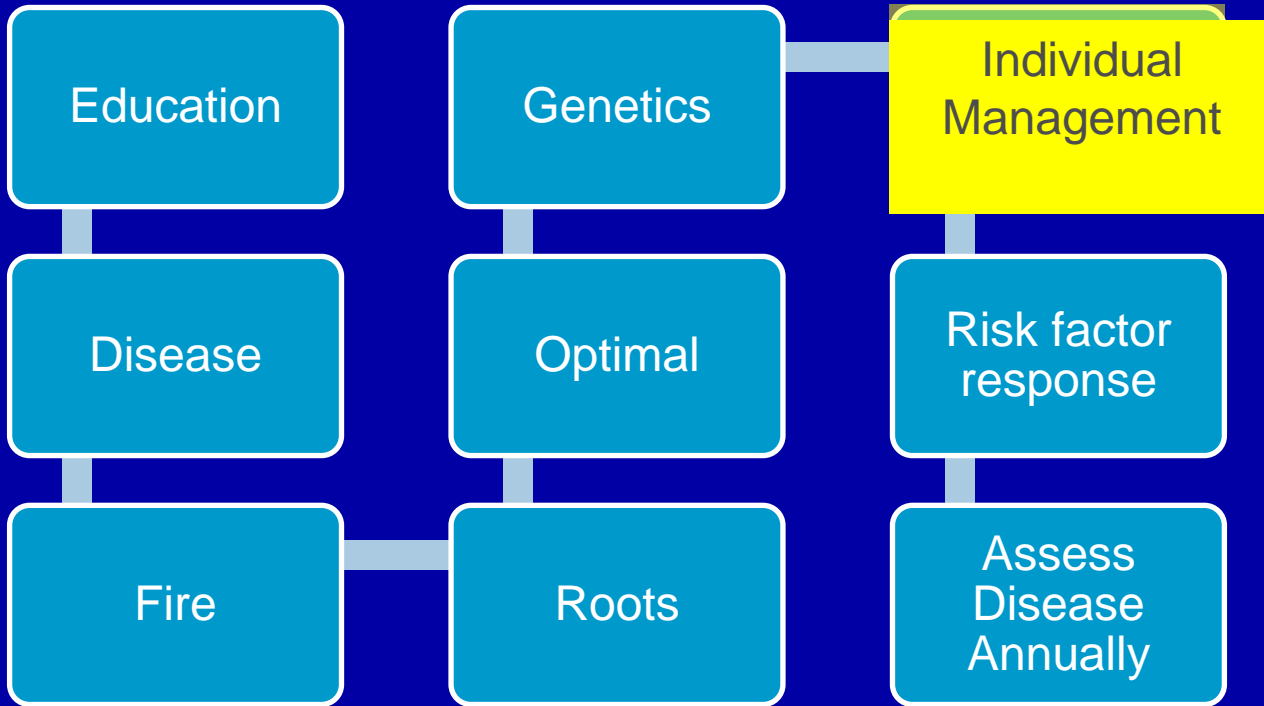
3) This evaluation should be performed by an oral medicine specialist

4) This needs to become the standard of care

Pessi, T., P4D, et. al. *Circulation*. published online February 15, 2013

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/early/2013/02/14/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.001254>

# EDFROG IRA



# Laziness: it is a natural occurrence

This happened in the Shamattawa Dump in Manitoba, Canada



Where is the remote?

# What to Consume??



# Mediterranean Diet Reduces CV Risk

- 7,747 high CV risk pts.; 57% female; 55 - 80 yo; end points CV events and death; Mediterranean diet –a) extra virgin olive oil b) extra nuts versus low fat diet; unrestricted caloric diets; halted at 4.8 yrs.

Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: [10.1056/NEJMoa1200303](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1200303)

# Mediterranean Diet Reduces CV Risk

- Inclusion criteria ensuring high CV risk
  - a) type 2 diabetes or
  - b) three or more of the following:
    - 1) smoking
    - 2) hypertension
    - 3) LDL  $\geq$  160 mg/dL
    - 4) HDL  $\leq$  40 mg/dL
    - 5) BMI  $\geq$  25
    - 6) +Famhx
    - 7) if HDL  $\geq$  60mg/dL, subtract one

# Mediterranean Diet Reduces CV Risk

- Exclusion criteria:
  - a) known CVD
  - b) major co-morbid conditions
  - c) inability to follow either diet plan
  - d) drug abusers

Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: [10.1056/NEJMoa1200303](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1200303)



# Baseline Medications

Characteristic	Mediterranean Diet with EVOO (N = 2543)	Mediterranean Diet with Nuts (N = 2454)	Control Diet (N = 2450)
Medication use — no. (%)			
ACE inhibitors	1236 (48.6)	1223 (49.8)	1216 (49.6)
Diuretics†	534 (21.0)	477 (19.4)	562 (22.9)
Other antihypertensive agents	725 (28.5)	710 (28.9)	758 (30.9)
Statins	1039 (40.9)	964 (39.3)	983 (40.1)
Other lipid-lowering agents	121 (4.8)	145 (5.9)	126 (5.1)
Insulin	124 (4.9)	126 (5.1)	134 (5.5)
Oral hypoglycemic agents†	768 (30.2)	680 (27.7)	757 (30.9)
Antiplatelet therapy	475 (18.7)	490 (20.0)	513 (20.9)
Hormone-replacement therapy‡‡	42 (2.8)	35 (2.6)	39 (2.7)
Score for adherence to Med diet§§	8.7±2.0	8.7±2.0	8.4±2.1

P<0.05

Women only

Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1200303

# Basic Dietary Advice

**Table 1. Summary of Dietary Recommendations to Participants in the Mediterranean-Diet Groups and the Control-Diet Group.**

Food	Goal
<b>Mediterranean diet</b>	
<b>Recommended</b>	
Olive oil*	≥4 tbsp/day
Tree nuts and peanuts†	≥3 servings/wk
Fresh fruits	≥3 servings/day
Vegetables	≥2 servings/day
Fish (especially fatty fish), seafood	≥3 servings/wk
Legumes	≥3 servings/wk
Sofrito‡	≥2 servings/wk
White meat	Instead of red meat
Wine with meals (optionally, only for habitual drinkers)	≥7 glasses/wk
<b>Discouraged</b>	
Soda drinks	<1 drink/day
Commercial bakery goods, sweets, and pastries§	<3 servings/wk
Spread fats	<1 serving/day
Red and processed meats	<1 serving/day
<b>Low-fat diet (control)</b>	
<b>Recommended</b>	
Low-fat dairy products	≥3 servings/day
Bread, potatoes, pasta, rice	≥3 servings/day
Fresh fruits	≥3 servings/day
Vegetables	≥2 servings/wk
Lean fish and seafood	≥3 servings/wk
<b>Discouraged</b>	
Vegetable oils (including olive oil)	≤2 tbsp/day
Commercial bakery goods, sweets, and pastries§	≤1 serving/wk
Nuts and fried snacks	≤1 serving /wk
Red and processed fatty meats	≤1 serving/wk
Visible fat in meats and soups¶	Always remove
Fatty fish, seafood canned in oil	≤1 serving/wk
Spread fats	≤1 servings/wk
Sofrito‡	≤2 servings/wk

Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1200303

# Mediterranean Diet Reduces CV Risk

- **Objective biomarkers** of adherence to the supplemental foods in random samples of:
  - a) urinary hydroxytyrosol, the main phenolic compound in **extra-virgin olive oil**, by gas chromatography–mass spectrometry
  - b) the plasma proportion of alpha-linolenic acid by gas-chromatography, as a measure of adherence to **walnut** consumption

**Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1200303**

# Mediterranean Diet Reduced Cholesterol Intake Less

**Table S8. Mean Baseline Values and Changes in Energy, Nutrient and Supplemental Food Intake by Study Arm.**

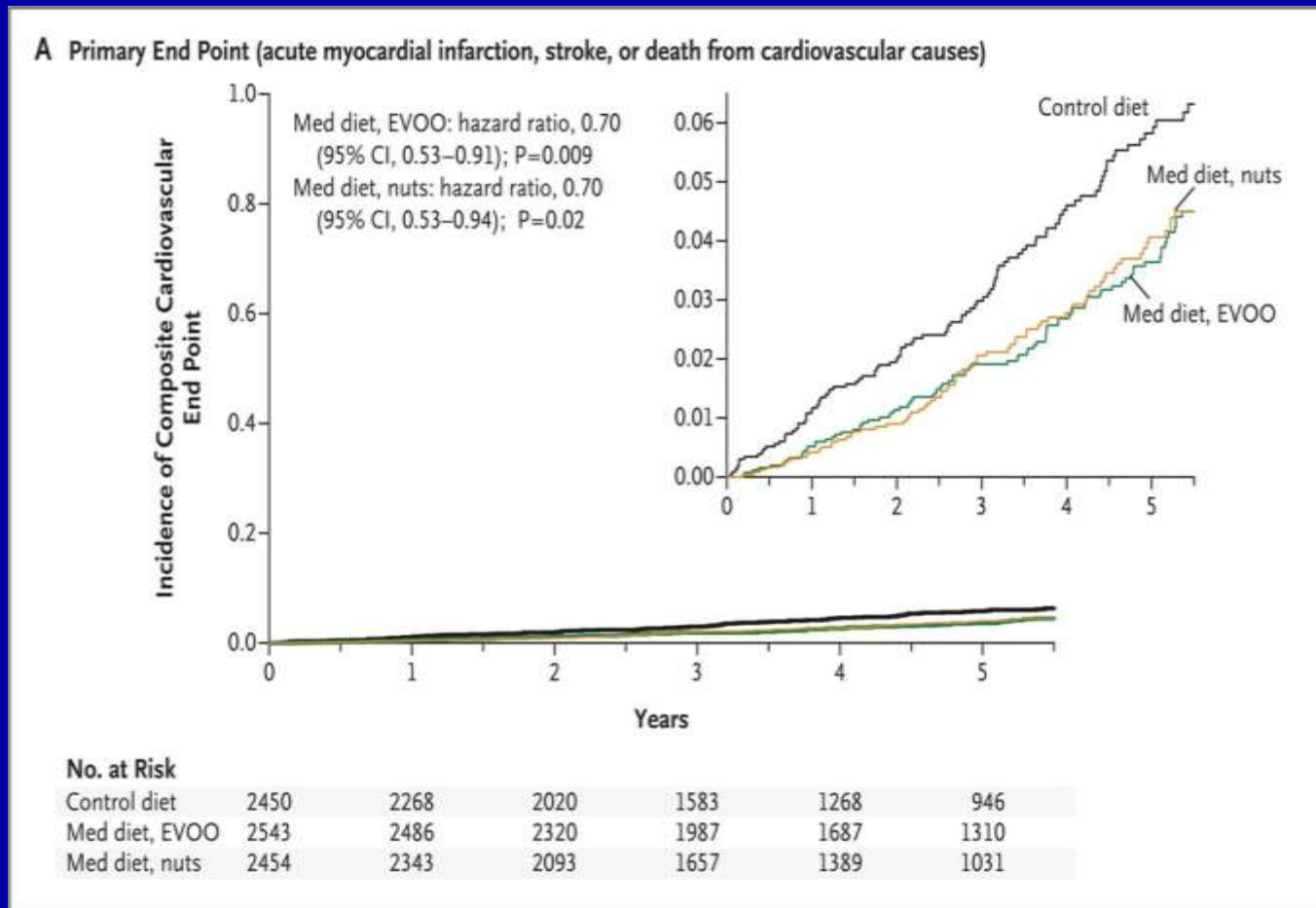
Within group (95 % CI) changes and between-group changes for the 2 groups receiving the Mediterranean diet intervention (versus the control diet) are shown. The change is follow-up minus baseline; hence a positive sign indicates increase over time (the last available follow-up food frequency questionnaire of each participant was used).

	Within-group mean changes			Between-group changes (differences vs. control)			
	MeDiet + Extra-virgin Olive Oil (n = 2364)	MeDiet + Nuts (n = 2108)	Control Diet (n = 1941)	MeDiet + Extra-Virgin Olive Oil vs. Control Diet		MeDiet + Nuts vs. Control Diet	
	<i>Mean (95% CI)</i>			<i>Mean (95% CI)</i>	P value*	<i>Mean (95% CI)</i>	P value*
<b>Cholesterol (mg/d)</b>	-24.89 (-30.5, -19.2)	-28.4 (-33.9, -22.9)	-32.3 (-38.1, -26.6)	7.48 (-2.34, 17.30)	0.19	3.97 (-5.69, 13.62)	0.70

**Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1200303**

# Mediterranean Diet Reduces CV Events

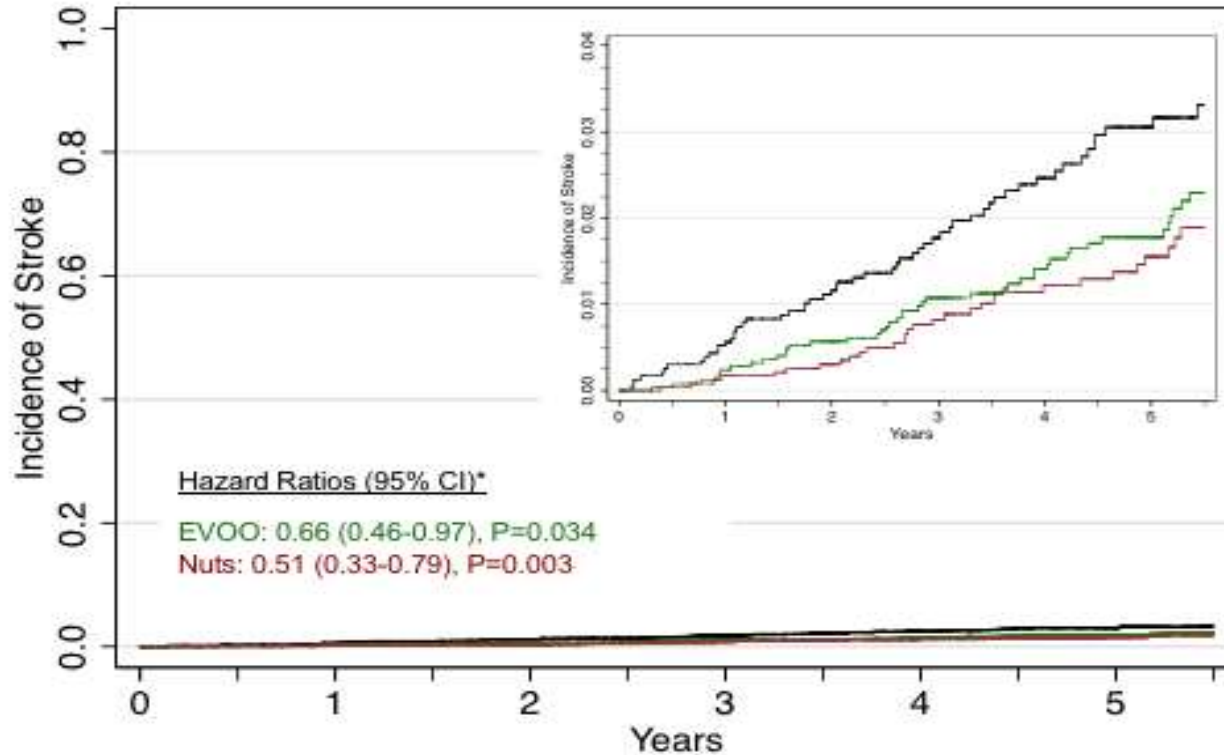
Kaplan–Meier Estimates of the Incidence of Outcome Events in the Total Study Population.



Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1200303

# Mediterranean Diet Clobbers Stroke Risk

Kaplan-Meier Estimates of Incidence of Stroke



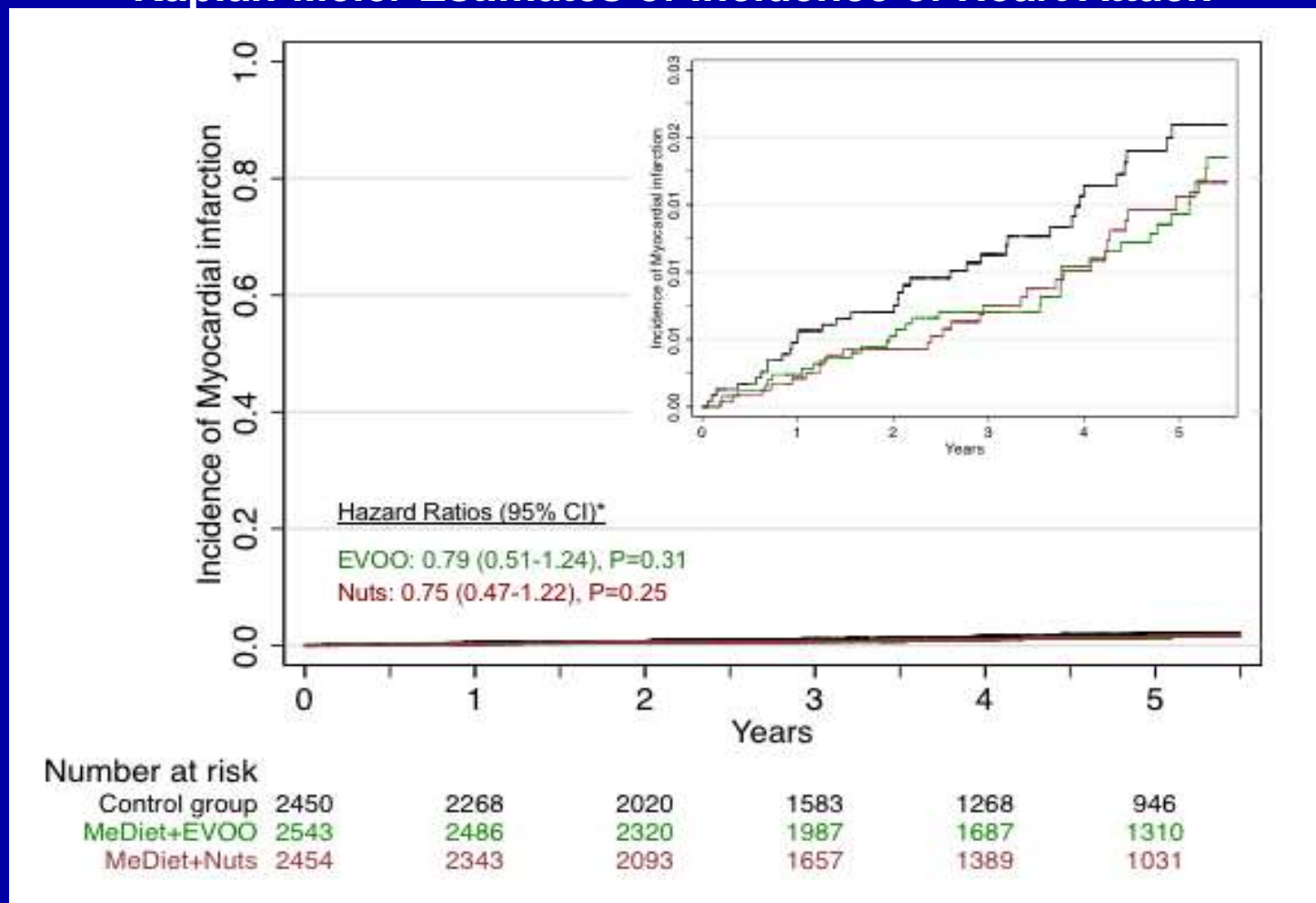
Number at risk

Control group	2450	2268	2020	1583	1268	946
MeDiet+EVOO	2543	2486	2320	1987	1687	1310
MeDiet+Nuts	2454	2343	2093	1657	1389	1031

Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1200303

# Mediterranean Diet did not Significantly Reduce Heart Attack Risk

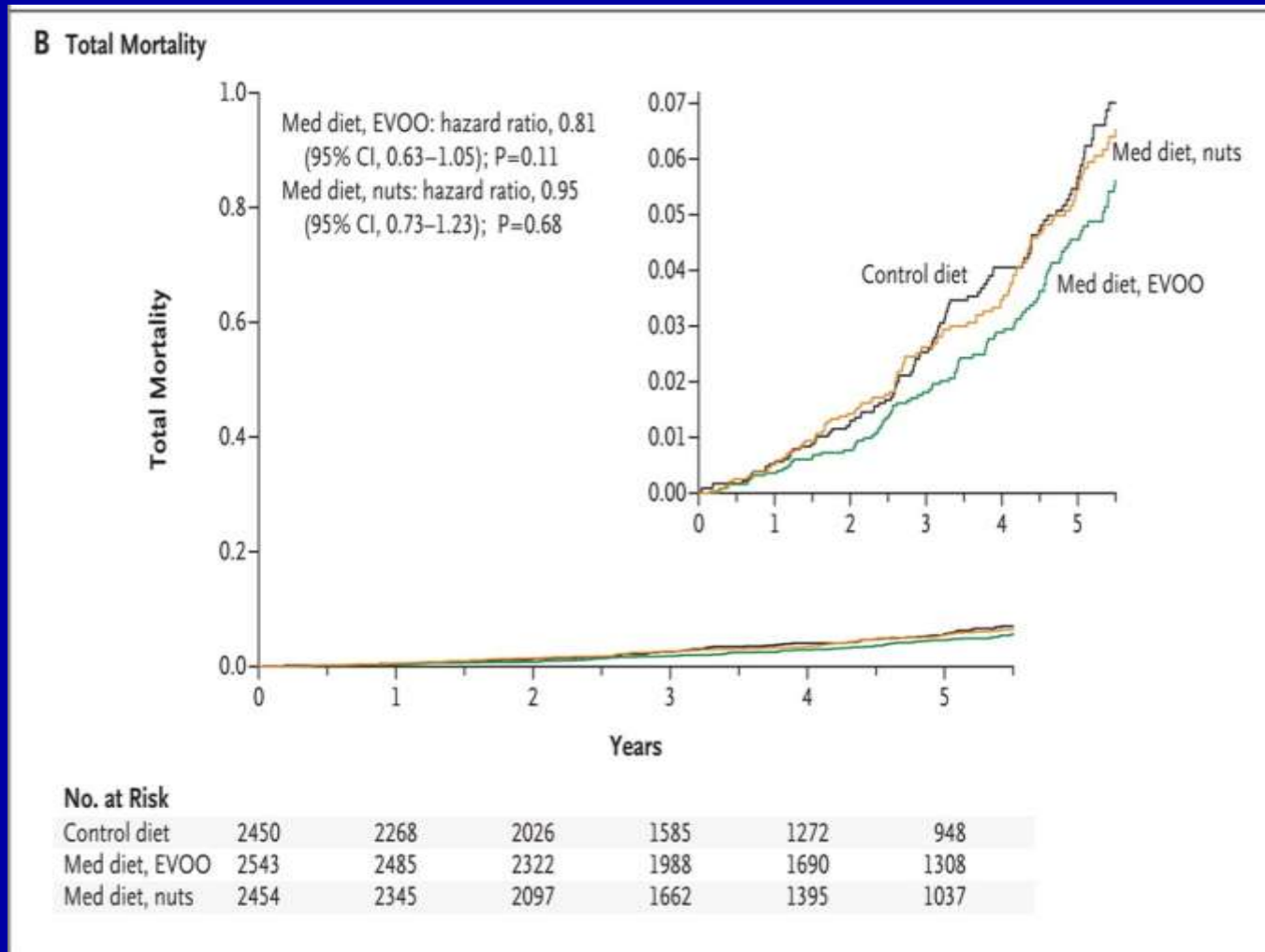
## Kaplan-Meier Estimates of Incidence of Heart Attack



Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1200303

# Mediterranean Diet did not Reduce Overall Mortality

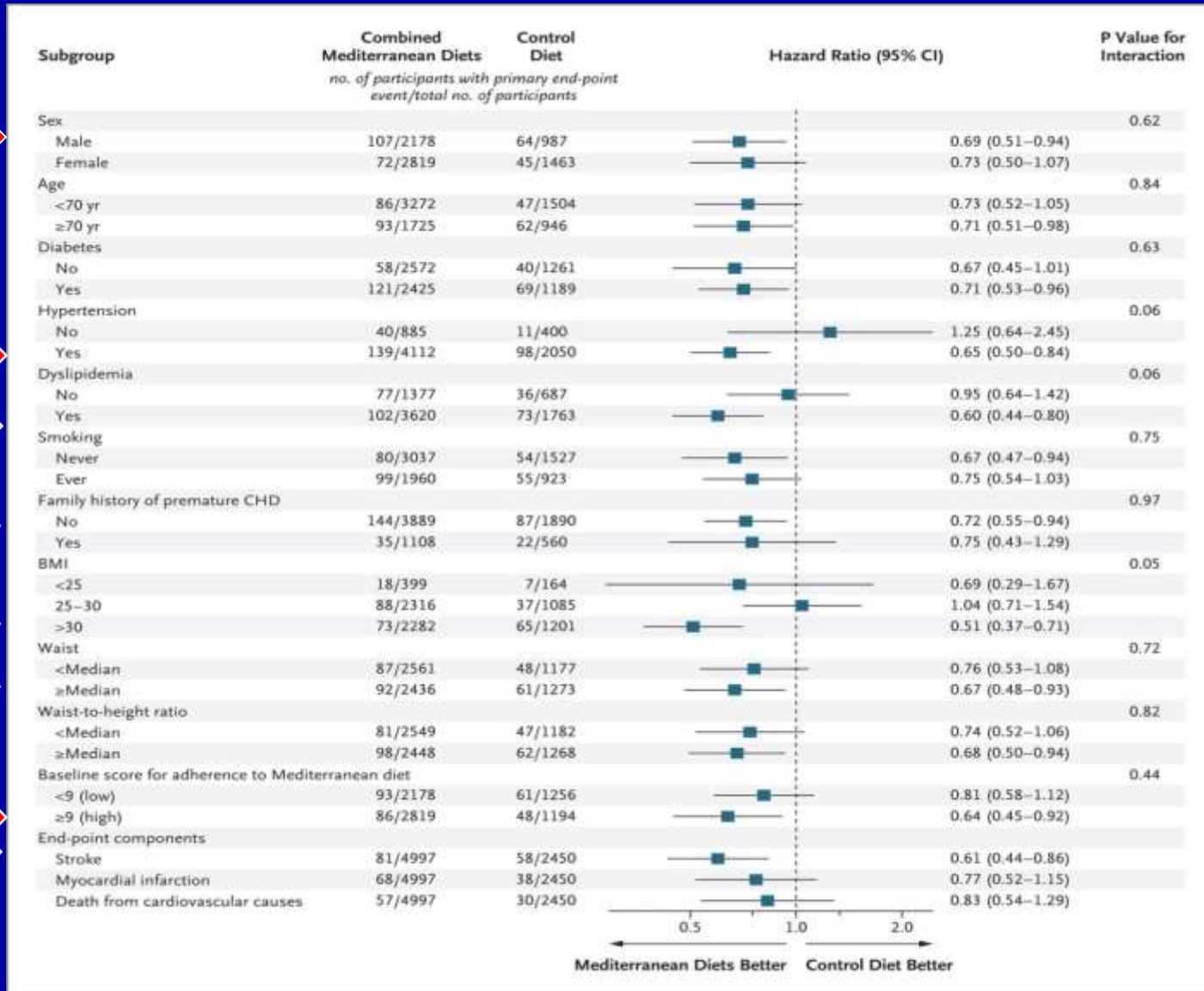
Kaplan–Meier Estimates of the Incidence of Outcome Events in the Total Study Population.





# Mediterranean Diet Reduces CV Risk

## Subgroup Analyses.



# Mediterranean Diet Reduces CV Risk

- Diet had significant benefit in older, overweight, hypertensive, dyslipidemic, metabolic syndrome type males without a positive famhcx of CVD, if they had higher adherence to the diet
- The decreased CV risk was driven by reduction in stroke; not heart attack

Estruch R et al. N Engl J Med 2013. DOI: [10.1056/NEJMoa1200303](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1200303)

# Mediterranean Diet Reduces CV Risk

- Findings are consistent with smaller trials assessing effects of Mediterranean diet, olive oil and nuts on risk factors, such as BP and markers of oxidation, inflammation and endothelial dysfunction.
- Why huge reduction in stroke in 'nut' arm??

# Walnuts improve endothelial function in hypercholesterolemic subjects

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Control diet</b>	<b>Walnut diet</b>	<b>p</b>
<b>Endothelium-dependent vasodilation (%)</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>0.043</b>
<b>Intracellular adhesion molecule-1 (µmol/L)</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>&gt;0.1</b>
<b>Vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 (µmol/L)</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>0.045</b>

18 subjects; cross-over study; four week periods

Mediterranean diet vs. mediterranean diet with walnuts substituted for olive oil, olives, avocados

Ros E et al. *Circulation* 2004 Mar 22; 109:1609-14.



# Pistachios reduce BP

28 adults with dyslipidemia completed a randomized, crossover, controlled-feeding study. All meals provided and calories controlled. On diet for 4 weeks.

Reductions in SBP after diet containing 1 serving/day:  $6.2 \pm 1.9$  mmHg  
2 servings/day:  $5.0 \pm 1.9$

in DBP after diet containing 1 serving/day:  $1.7 \pm 1.0$   
2 servings/day:  $2.3 \pm 1.0$

*West S.G, Gebaurer S.Kl, et al. Hypertension. May 3, 2012; 60:58-63.*

# BD Method Thoughts

- Supports inflammation as causal of ASVD
- Supports importance of BP in stroke reduction
- Supports a very palatable diet can be beneficial
- The Mediterranean diet alone is not a panacea and did not reduce mortality risk
- Would anticipate even better results with some caloric restriction and monitoring of oxidation and inflammation

# Hot Topics



It is  
niacin!!

**HPS2-THRIVE: Randomized placebo-controlled trial of ER niacin and laropiprant in 25,673 patients with pre-existing cardiovascular disease.**

Jane Armitage on behalf of the  
HPS2-THRIVE Collaborative Group



# HPS2-THRIVE: Eligibility

Men and women

Aged 50-80 years

Prior history of: myocardial infarction;  
ischaemic stroke or TIA;  
peripheral arterial disease; or  
diabetes with other CHD

No contra-indication to study treatments

No significant liver, kidney or muscle disease

# HPS2-THRIVE: Active pre-randomization run-in

Screened  
(51,698)

High cardiovascular risk patients screened in 245 sites within 6 countries



LDL lowering phase  
(36,059)

Standardise background LDL-lowering therapy with simvastatin 40 mg (+/- ezetimibe) daily (to total cholesterol target of 135 mg/dL)



Active ER niacin plus laropirant  
(38,369)

Test compliance with ER niacin 2 grams plus laropirant 40 mg (ERN/LRPT) daily for 1 month



Randomization  
(25,673)

ER niacin 2g plus laropirant 40 mg daily vs. matching placebo tablets



# Characteristics of randomized participants

% or mean (SD)	ERN/LRPT (12,838)	Placebo (12,835)	All
Men	83%	83%	21,229 (83%)
Age (years)	64.9	64.9	64.9 (7.5)
Prior disease			
Coronary	78%	78%	20,137 (78%)
Cerebrovascular	32%	32%	8170 (32%)
Peripheral arterial	13%	12%	3214 (13%)
Diabetes	32%	32%	8299 (32%)

Too bad not many females



# Baseline LIPIDS on statin-based therapy

	Mean (SD) baseline	
	mg/dL	mmol/L
Total cholesterol	128 (22)	3.32 (0.57)
Direct-LDL	63 (17)	1.64 (0.44)
HDL	44 (11)	1.14 (0.29)
Triglycerides*	125 (74)	1.43 (0.84)

\*64% fasted for >8 hours

TC/HDL=2.9=optimal ; going to be tough to show benefit from a lipid perspective !!!!

# Effects of ER niacin/laropiprant on lipids

Year of FU	LDL-C (mg/dL)	HDL-C (mg/dL)	Triglycerides (mg/dL)
1	-12	6	-35
4	-7	6	-31
STUDY AVERAGE	-10	6	-33

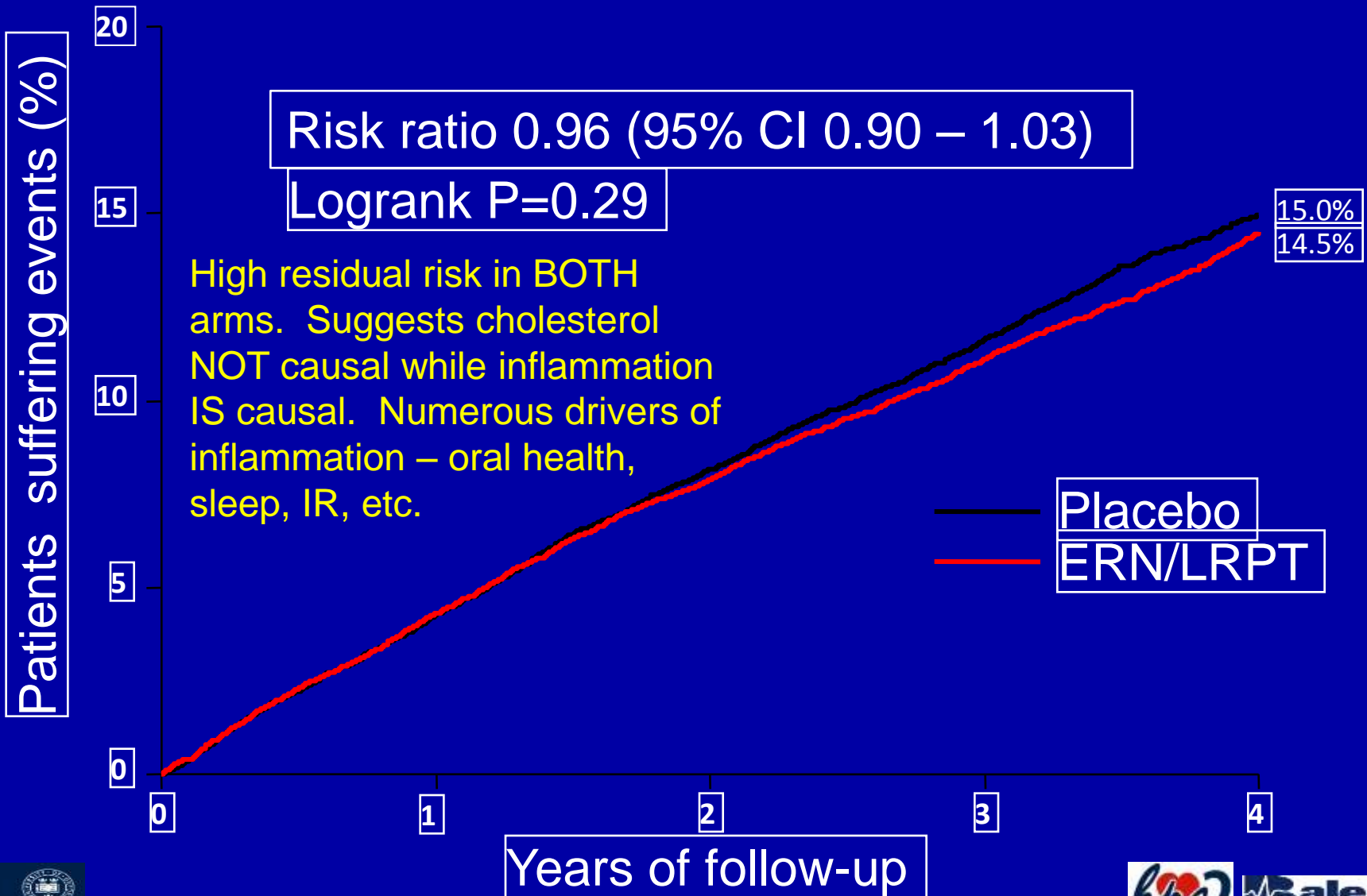
No 'niacin creep' observed

The change in the TC/HDL ratio would be minimal  
going from 2.9 to ~ 2.5

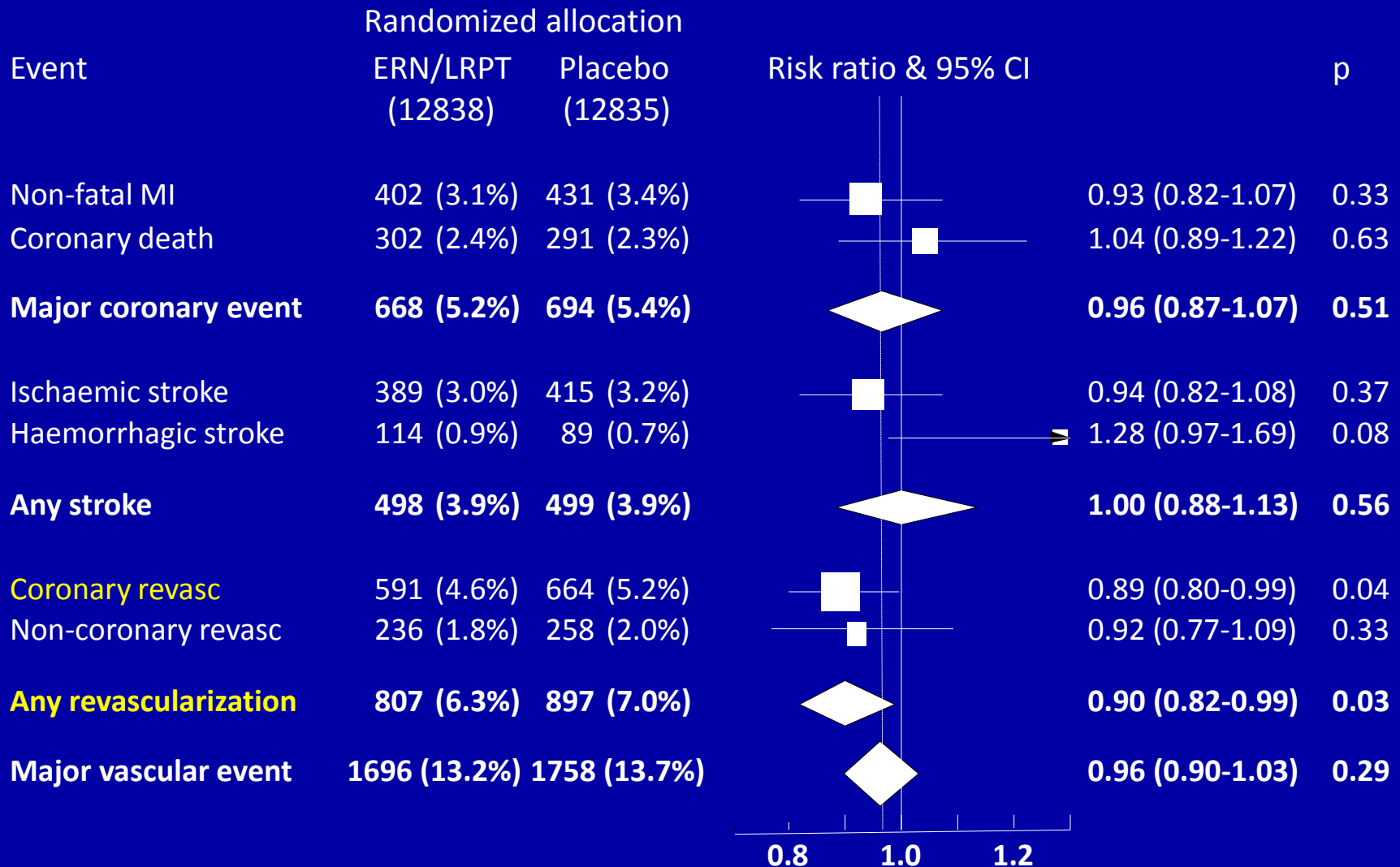
Going from optimal to optimal should not improve  
risk significantly



# Effect of ERN/LRPT on MAJOR VASCULAR EVENTS



# Effect of ERN/LRPT on MAJOR VASCULAR EVENTS



Certainly no signal of CV harm other than hemorrhagic stroke

ERN/LRPT better      Placebo better



This trial was not an ER niacin trial: there was an intruder!!





# BD Method Concern with new ER niacin (Cordaptive): 2008 !

- Uses an investigational PGD2 receptor antagonist (laropriprant) to reduce flushing (blocks DP1 receptor)
- PDG2 leads to 15-deoxyprostaglandin J2 which is potent ligand of PPAR-gamma\*
- Potential CV benefits of stimulating PPAR-gamma include: reduction in MMP-9; MCP; HsCRP; PAI-1; fibrinogen; tumor necrosis factor alpha; ADMA^

\* Journal of Clinical Lipidology 8/2007 Vol 1, No. 4:248-255

^ Bale/Doneen Method 3/7/2008

# Laropiprant: Numerous Potential Adverse Effects from Blocking PD1

- Evidence supports DP1 receptor mediated effects of PGD2 are anti-inflammatory
- In asthma, signaling through DP1 appears anti-inflammatory
- DP1 signaling in bronchial smooth muscle causes bronchodilation

Vosper, H. Clin Med Insights Cardiol. 2011; 5: 85–101

# Laropiprant: Numerous Potential Adverse Effects from Blocking PD1

- PGD2 enhances sleep and this appears to be at least partially a DP1 mediated effect
- DP1 receptor mediates the erectile response in humans
- DP1 mediated-effect enhancing insulin sensitivity has not been ruled out

Vosper, H. Clin Med Insights Cardiol. 2011; 5: 85–101

# Laropiprant: no reason to believe it will block niacin's adverse skin reactions

- Co-administration of niacin and DP1 antagonists assumed to be appropriate step to enhance tolerability.
- Evidence suggests the dermal effects of niacin are much more complex.
- A number of cell types are involved in the adverse effects of niacin on the skin: there is certainly evidence for a role for macrophages and platelets.

Vosper, H. Clin Med Insights Cardiol. 2011; 5: 85–101

# Laropiprant Might Cause more Bleeding

- Laropiprant has been shown to be an antagonist of the TP receptor.
- It is the TP receptor that mediates the powerful activation driven by thromboxane A<sub>2</sub>
- It may be that laropiprant acting in this capacity would inhibit platelet activation

Vosper, H. Clin Med Insights Cardiol. 2011; 5: 85–101

# Laropiprant Might Cause more Infection by Increasing Levels of PGD2

- **Increase in PGD2** in mice led to **diminished respiratory dendritic cell migration** resulting in defects in **virus-specific T-cell responses** in vivo.
- Administration of PGD2 antagonist reversed this defect resulting in migration of dendritic cells with enhancement of T-cell antiviral response with increased clearance and survival
- These data suggest that similar to allergic airway disease **PGD2 may have immunosuppressive effects in viral infections.**

Myungsoo Joo, M., et. al.

Mediators Inflamm. 2012; 2012: 503128.

Published online 2012 June 25. doi: 10.1155/2012/503128

# Stimulation of DP1 Receptor is Neuroprotective

- Ischemia injury was produced by a 90-min occlusion of the right middle cerebral artery followed by a 4-day reperfusion.
- Infarct size was  $49.0 \pm 11.0\%$  larger in DP1<sup>-/-</sup> mice (n = 11; P < 0.01) than in WT mice
- Corticostriatal neuronal cultures were exposed to DP1-selective agonist; provided dose-dependent protection against excitotoxicity induced by glutamate.
- DP1 receptor is neuroprotective in both in vivo and in vitro paradigms

Saleem, S., et. al. *Eur J Neurosci*. 2007 July ; 26(1): 73–78

# Laropiprant May Effect Levels of 15 deoxyprostaglandin J2 (15 d-PGJ2)

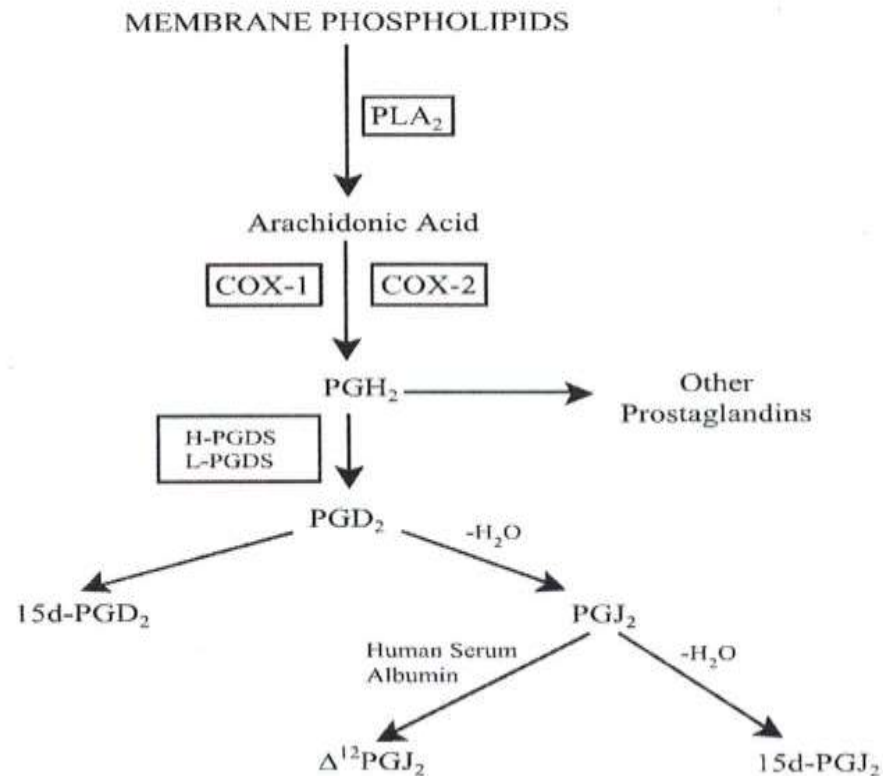
- 15 deoxy-PGJ2 is produced in sufficient quantities by PGD2 to activate PPAR $\gamma$
- Many of the anti-inflammatory effects of niacin may well be mediated by this receptor
- If PGD2 cannot bind to DP1, various metabolite levels could be affected

Vosper, H. Clin Med Insights Cardiol. 2011; 5: 85–101



# Could Blocking DP1 Result in Greater 15d-PGD<sub>2</sub> and Less 15d-PGJ<sub>2</sub> ???

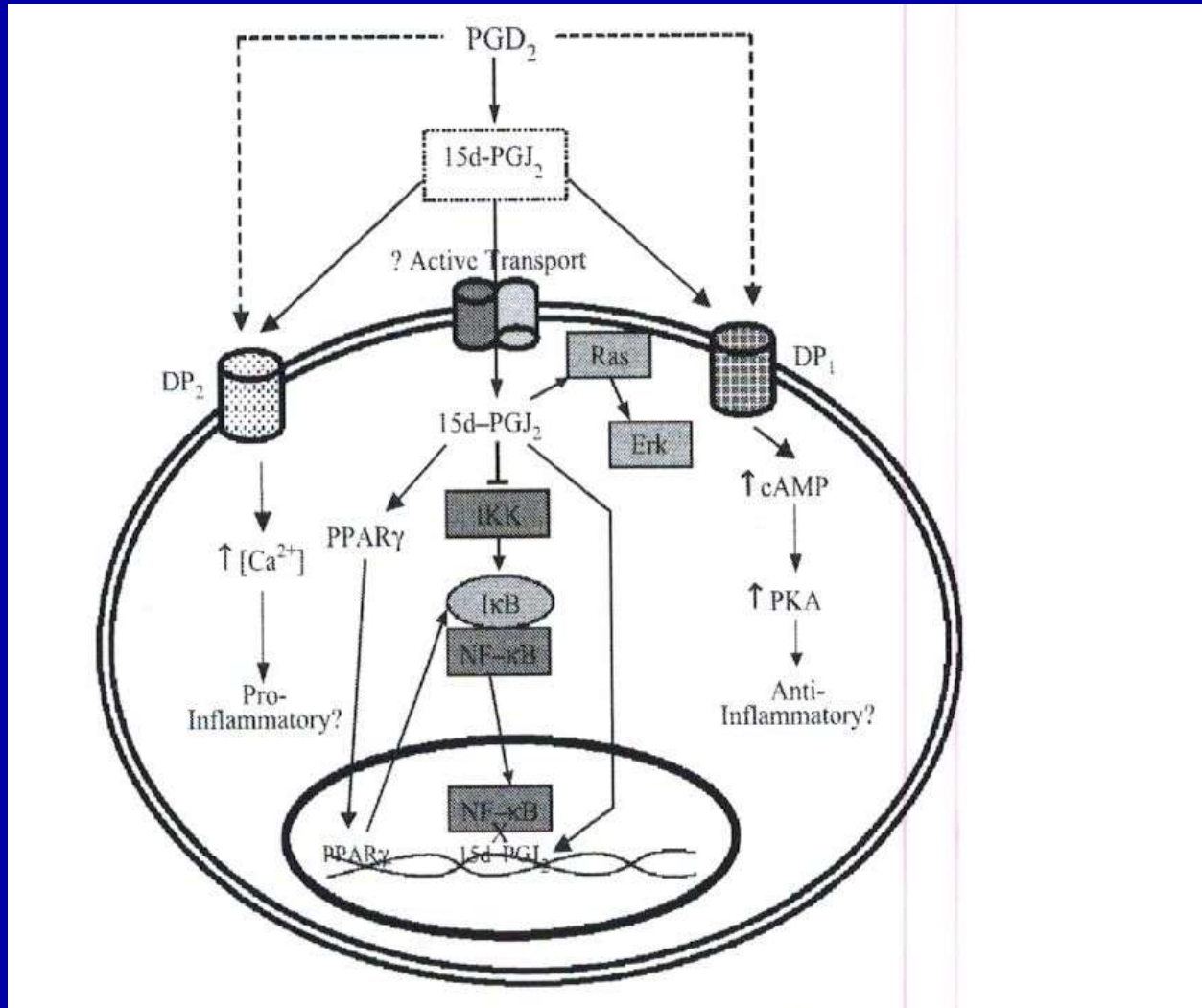
*J.U. Scher, M.H. Pillinger / Clinical Immunology*



J.U. Scher, M.H. Pillinger / *Clinical Immunology* 114 (2005) 100–109

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# Blocking DP1 May not be a Good Idea!



J.U. Scher, M.H. Pillinger / Clinical Immunology 114 (2005) 100–109

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# 15 d-PGJ2 Questions Remain

- 15d-PGJ2 is an endogenous PPAR $\gamma$  ligand as well as a direct inhibitor of several other signal transduction pathways.
- The consequences of these activities are complex & likely to play a role in the prevention and/or resolution of inflammation.
- Many questions remain, including the possible existence of a specific 15d-PGJ2 membrane receptor.
- Additional research will be needed to elucidate both the biology and importance of 15d-PGJ2

J.U. Scher, M.H. Pillinger / *Clinical Immunology* 114 (2005) 100–109

Other Potential Benefits from PPAR  
gamma which would be lost if laropiprant  
decreases this stimulation

# HDL Ability to Perform Reverse Cholesterol Transport Enhanced with Pioglitazone

- 39 met. synd. pts; 16 pio for 12 wks. & 23 placebo; pio 30mg 6wks. then increased to 45mg

Rx	N	% change efflux	95% CI	p vs baseline	P vs placebo
Pio	16	11.3	1.8-20.8	0.02	0.04
Placebo	23	0.0	-6.2-6.1	0.99	

Increased HDL-C 14% : no significant association with change in efflux capacity (r = 0.22; P = 0.18)

Khera, A. V., M.D., et. al. N Engl J Med 1/2011;364:127-35.

# Pioglitazone Decreases ADMA and Improves Endothelial Function

- 17 non-DM subjects with CAD; mean age 58; rx pio 30mg X 12 wks. followed 12 wks. without rx
- Urine ADMA levels decreased with rx (30%),  $1.27 \pm 0.5 \mu\text{mol/ml}$  to  $0.97 \pm 0.3$ ,  $p = 0.017$ ; returned to the initial values after the wash-out period
- Endothelium-dependent vasodilation improved significantly with the treatment from  $4.4 \pm 3.9$  to  $8.4 \pm 4.1\%$ , a relative increase of 91%;  $p < 0.001$

Staniloae, C., et. al. *Cardiology* 2007;108:164-169

# Pioglitazone Lowers MACR

- 63 DM with BP on RAAS rx & elevated MACR; 32- pio 15-30mg/d or 31-metformin 500-750mg/d; X one year
- Similar glycemetic and BP changes
- MACR decreased 8.3% in pio group and increased 4.2% in metformin group  $p=0.01$

Morikawa, A., et. al. Clin Exp Nephrol (2011) 15:848–853

# Pioglitazone Favors Anti-inflammatory Macrophages

- Inflammation initiates recruitment of neutrophils and monocytes to the damaged tissue.
- This process can rapidly terminated via anti-inflammatory cytokines.
- An imbalance of inflammation initiation and arrest results in chronic inflammatory diseases (atherosclerosis).
- Macrophages in atherosclerotic plaques are heterogeneous:
  - 1) proinflammatory “classical” M1
  - 2) anti-inflammatory “alternative” M2
- PPAR gamma (Pioglitazone) favors M2 polarization

Mandy Bloch, et. al., *Circulation Research*. 2/2012;110: 394-405



# Pioglitazone Slashes Risk of Diabetes Conversion 72%

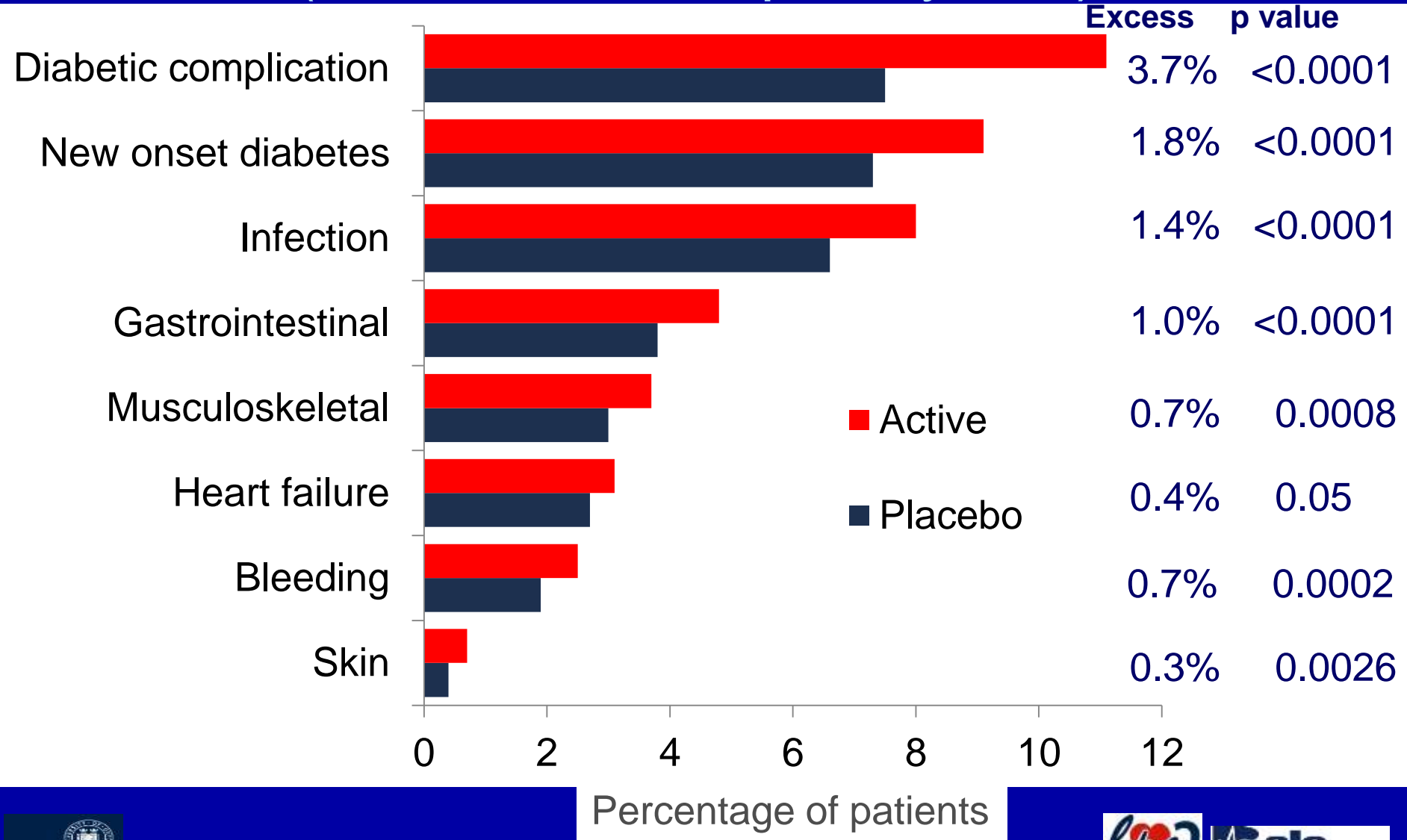
- 602 patients with IGT (FG 95-125mg/dL & or OGTT 140-199 mg/dL); Median follow-up 2.4 yrs.
- Randomized pioglitazone 30 -45 mg or placebo
- HR for DM -0.28;  $p < 0.00$

DeFronzo RA, et al. *N Engl J Med* 3/24/2011; 12:1104-1115

If laropiprant causes defects in virus-specific T-cell responses, decreases bronchial dilation, increases inflammation, inhibits platelet aggregation, causes more stimulation of DP2 receptor and reduces the stimulation of PPAR gamma, what side effects might you expect??

- Increased infection – especially respiratory
- Increases GI and cerebral bleeding
- Increased peptic ulcer
- More hyperglycemia in diabetics
- Increased risk of new onset diabetes
- Less CV benefit

# Effect of ERN/LRPT on SERIOUS adverse events (median follow-up 3.9 years)



# Effect of ERN/LRPT on glucose related SAEs

Serious adverse event	ERN/LRPT	Placebo	Risk ratio (95% CI)
<b>Participants with diabetes at randomization (n= 8299)</b>			
Minor hyperglycaemic problem	8.7%	5.8%	1.55 (1.32-1.82)
Major hyperglycaemic problem	1.0%	0.3%	3.09 (1.81-5.27)
Hypoglycaemia	1.1%	0.7%	1.50 (0.96-2.35)
Other diabetic complication	1.1%	1.2%	0.93 (0.62-1.40)
<b>Any diabetic complication</b>	<b>460 (11.1%)</b>	<b>311 (7.5%)</b>	<b>1.55 (1.34-1.78)</b>

## Participants without diabetes at randomization (n= 17,374)

New-onset diabetes mellitus	792 (9.1%)	632 (7.3%)	1.27 (1.14-1.41)
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This should have been expected due to laropiprant !!

# AIM-HIGH (ER niacin without laro) & Hyperglycemia

- 1,696 placebo; 1,718 ER niacin; 85% (83%\*) men; 34% (32%\*) DM; follow-up ~ 3 years (3.9 yrs\*)
- “Adverse effects were rare and included liver-function abnormalities (0.5% in the placebo group and 0.8% in the niacin group), muscle symptoms or myopathy (0.3% of the patients overall), and rhabdomyolysis (1 patient in the placebo group and 4 in the niacin group).”
- **New onset DM not even mentioned!!!!**

The AIM-HIGH Investigators. N Engl J Med 12/15/2011. 365;24:2255-2267

\* HPS-THRIVE

# Effect of ERN/LRPT on infection and bleeding

Serious Adverse Event	ERN/LRPT (12,838)	Placebo (12,835)	Risk ratio (95% CI)
<b>Infection</b>			
Lower respiratory	4.3%	3.7%	1.17 (1.03-1.32)
Urinary tract	0.9%	0.8%	1.07 (0.82-1.39)
Abdominal/gastrointestinal	0.6%	0.5%	1.26 (0.91-1.75)
Skin	0.5%	0.3%	1.66 (1.14-2.43)
Other	2.4%	1.7%	1.38 (1.16-1.63)
<b>Any infection SAE</b>	<b>1031 (8.0%)</b>	<b>853 (6.6%)</b>	<b>1.22 (1.12-1.34)</b>
<b>Bleeding</b>			
Gastrointestinal	0.8%	0.6%	1.53 (1.14-2.05)
Intracranial	1.1%	0.9%	1.17 (0.92-1.50)
Other	0.6%	0.4%	1.66 (1.18-2.34)
<b>Any bleeding SAE</b>	<b>326 (2.5%)</b>	<b>238 (1.9%)</b>	<b>1.38 (1.17-1.62)</b>



Study stopped early due to  
SAEs; it was not due to CV Risk!

# HPS2-THRIVE: SUMMARY





# HPS2-THRIVE: SUMMARY

- Significant excesses of serious adverse events (SAEs) due to known and unrecognised side-effects of niacin. Over 4 years, ER niacin/laropiprant caused SAEs in ~30 patients per 1000
- No significant benefit of ER niacin/laropiprant on the primary outcome of major vascular events when added to effective statin-based LDL-lowering therapy
- No clear evidence of differences in efficacy or safety in different types of patient (except for an excess of statin-related myopathy in Chinese patients)
- Findings are consistent with previous niacin trials. ??? The role of ER niacin for the treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease needs to be reconsidered

# BD Method HPS-THRIVE Conclusions

- Study supports optimal TC/HDL <3.0
- Study supports inflammation as causal and simply taking care of lipids as inadequate to halt the disease in many individuals (too bad no biomarkers available!)
- ER niacin plus laropiprant is not the same as ER niacin !!
- Conclusions about using ER niacin cannot be derived from this trial !!!
- It probably is not a good idea to block DP1: the 'flush' is probably good!

# BD AIM HIGH Conclusions

- Study does not affect our use of niacin

- Continue to prescribe niacin

- Good candidates:

patients who are statin intolerant

patients who are not at TC/HDL goal

patients with the lipo (a) issue

patients with IR dyslipidemia

patients with persistent arterial inflammation

# Case



Kindly submitted by Dr. Linda Groene

- “young” 75 yo female
- Meds: crestor 10mg; niacin 500mg bid; losartan (intolerant of ACEI); atenolol; fish oil; ASA low dose; vit. D; folic acid
- Exercise daily; low fat diet
- Quit smoking seven yrs ago
- Disease: ABI wnl; abd US '08- wnl; **+CAD** on angio 3/11 with 30-40% stenotic plaque mid-RCA; **+ CIMT** in 1/10 with mean CCA 1.37 mm; 1/13 with mean CCA 1.41 mm + – right CCA- 2.1H, bulb-2.3H, ICCA-2.0E; left CCA-3.6H, bulb-2.7mmH, ICCA-3.8H (worse now than in 2010 ??)
- TC-183, TG-67, HDL-68, LDL-73; TC/HDL=2.7 ; lipo (a)- 20
- F2 isoprostane-0.4; MACR-22.2; hsCRP-1.1; LpPLA2-314; MPO-282 in 8/12

**What to do next?? Guess saliva test is in order.**

- Disease: we do not know that she is worse. The margin of error in the best of hands for the mean CCA thickness is + or – 0.06mm. Therefore, going from 1.37 mm to 1.41 mm is not any significant change. Unfortunately, the first CIMT did not contain any plaque data. Her current CIMT shows significant plaque. Fortunately, there is some echogenicity in all of the plaques which indicates some stabilization of the disease. Next year's CIMT will be interesting in terms of the plaque and you would hope some of the H goes to E.

- Fire: assume she is currently high risk for a CV event with evidence of endothelial and intimal inflammation.
- Roots:
  - IR – any info on OGTT?
  - Sleep – any issues?
  - Psychosocial –pt claims no issue
  - Oral health – absolutely salivary testing and referral ASAP to an oral medicine specialist
- Optimal: BP ?
- Genetics: ?; will want salivary IL-1 beta

- Management:

consider increasing niacin or crestor

if IR, consider low dose pioglitazone

why atenolol ?

why folic acid ?



# Upcoming Presentations



# Upcoming Presentations

- 4/13/2013 – Brad (Amy running Boston Marathon on 15<sup>th</sup> ! 😊)-21<sup>st</sup> Annual World Congress on Anti-aging and Aesthetic Medicine; Orlando, FL
- 4/24/2013 – Keynote Speakers – Delta Dental Executive National Program; St. Louis, MO
- 4/27/2013 – BD Method Inflammation 5 hr. CME – sponsored by CHL; Denver, CO
- 5/17-18/2013 – BD Method Preceptorship; 17 hr. CME; Washington, DC
- 8/11/2013 – Brad (Amy enjoying her lake place with family!😊) – Florida Endocrine Society “2013 Post Graduate Update”; Orlando, FL
- 9/13-14/2013 – BD Method Preceptorship; 17 hr. CME; Lubbock, TX

# Open for Discussion