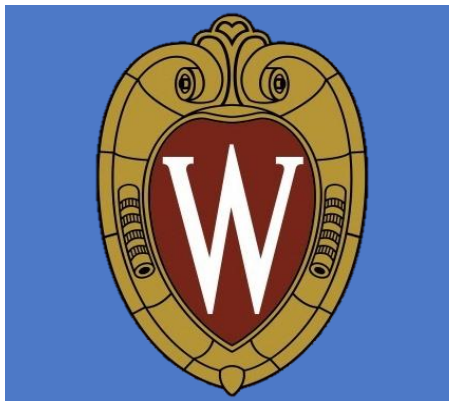


Love Your Heart: Advances and Strategies for Caring for Your Most Precious Valentine



Adam D. Gepner, MD
adgepner@wisc.edu
Twitter: @AdamGepner





Disclosures: President/Owner



Beam Healthcare

TELEMEDICINE MOVING FORWARD

This Presentation is Interactive!

Zoom Poll

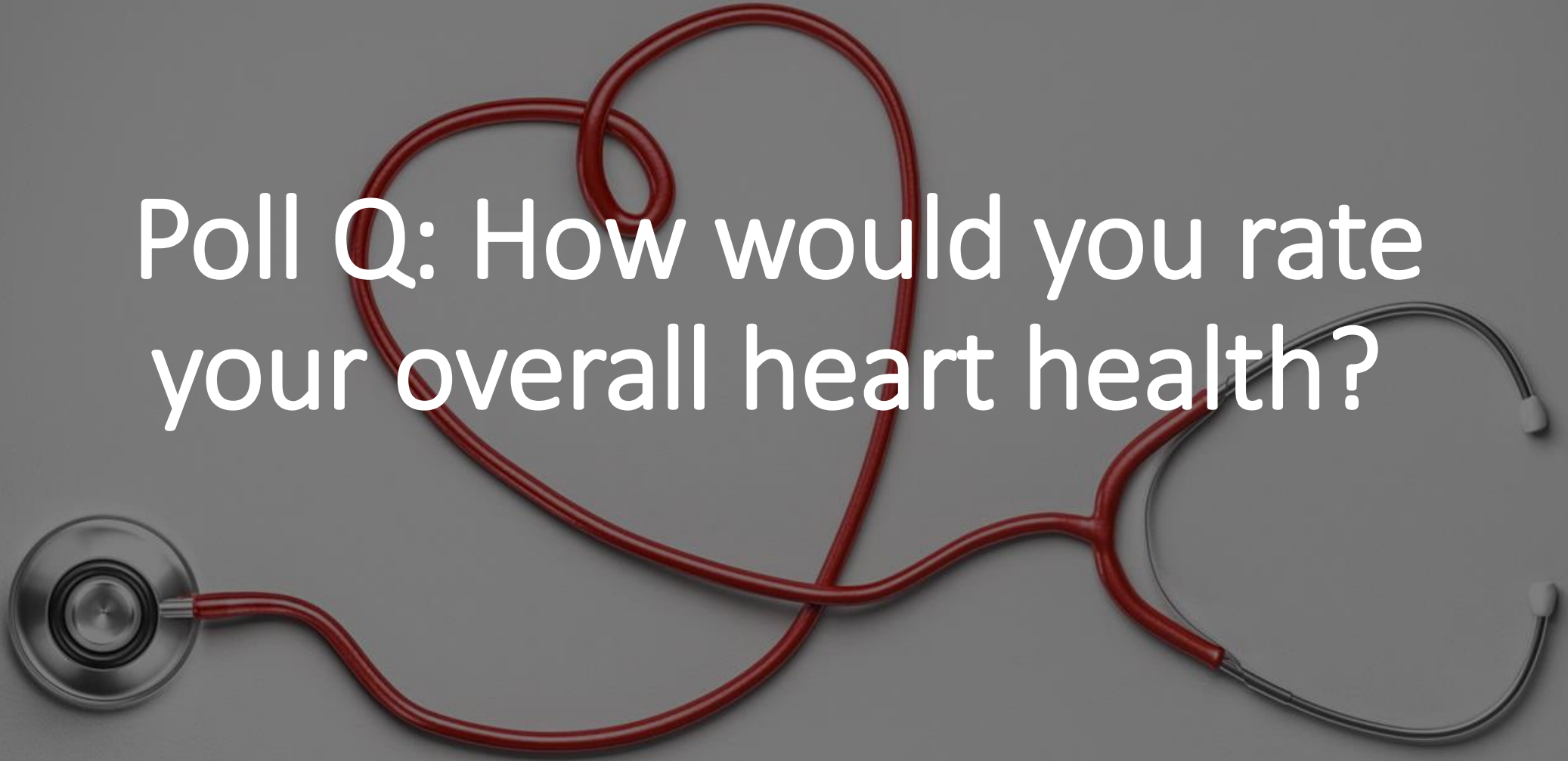
**You
Matter!**

A close-up photograph of a bleeding heart plant (Lamproloma sp.) branch. The branch is thin and reddish-brown, arching across the frame. Several heart-shaped flowers hang from the branch, each with a small, white, pointed structure at the bottom. The flowers are a vibrant pink color. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting foliage.

Poll Q:
Do you love your heart?

Poll Q:
How young are you?

Poll Q: How would you rate
your overall heart health?



Aging Matters

We are Living Longer



More comorbidities



New medications

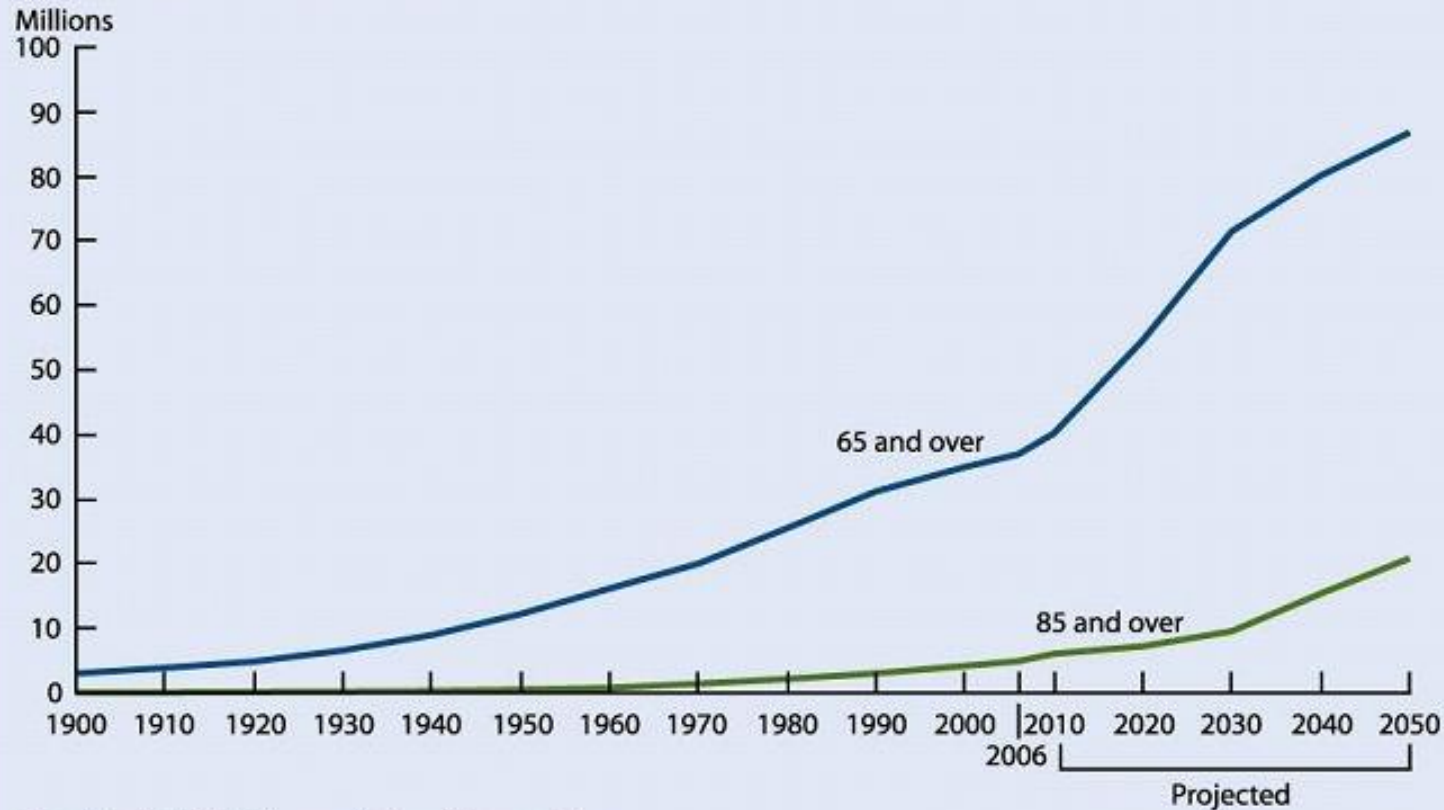


”Too old” for invasive procedures



Societal attitudes – aggressive care

Number of people age 65 and over, by age group, selected years 1900–2006 and projected 2010–2050



Note: Data for 2010–2050 are projections of the population.
Reference population: These data refer to the resident population.

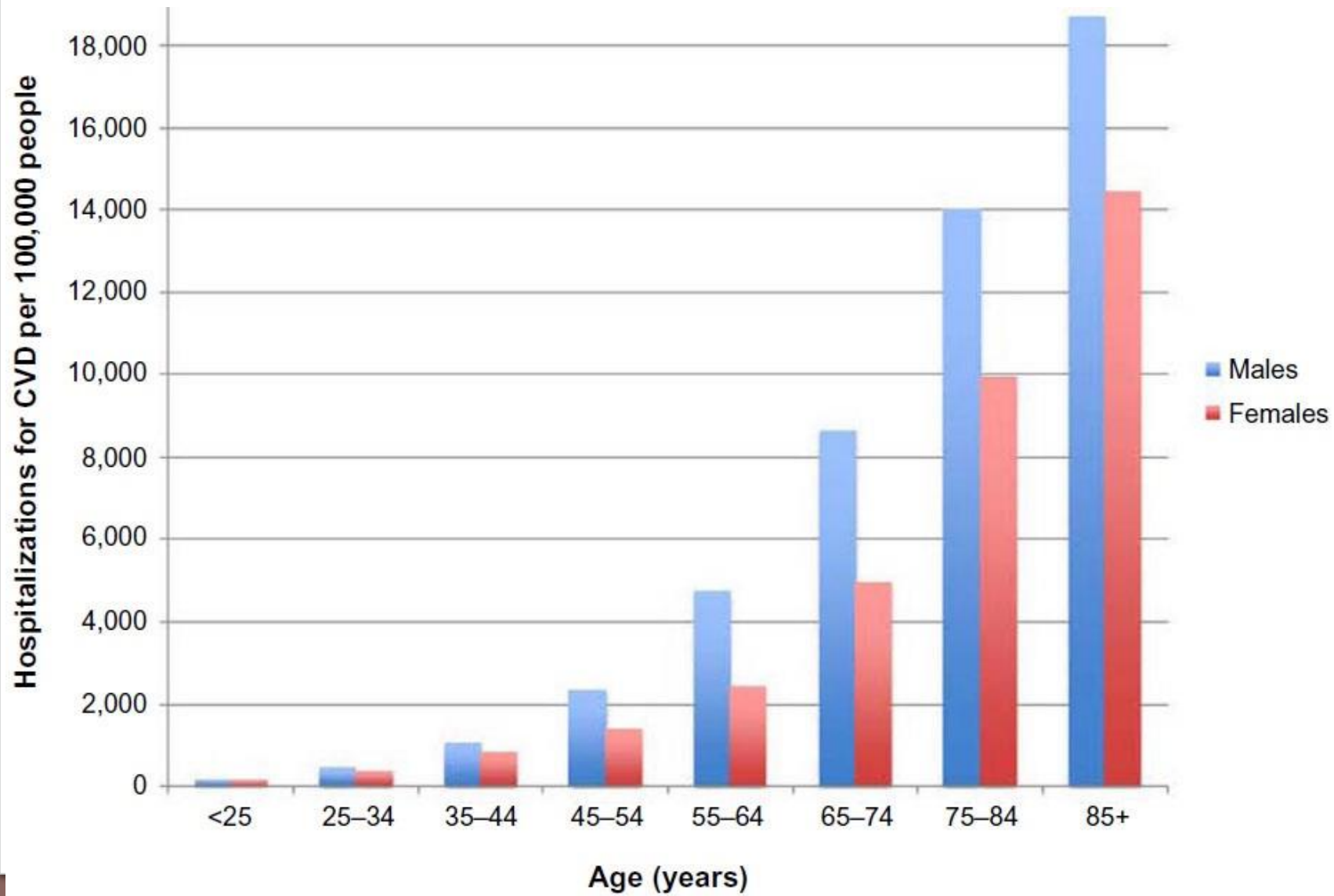
Everyone Ages



Healthy Aging



Functional Aging



No Surprise!



ESC

European Society
of Cardiology

European Heart Journal (2022) **43**, 249–250

<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehab532>



Braunwald's Corner

Spoiler Alert: He's only 92!

How to live to 100 before developing clinical coronary artery disease: a suggestion



Eugene Braunwald  ^{1,2*}

¹TIMI Study Group, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Hale Building for Transformative Medicine, Suite 7022, 60 Fenwood Road, Boston, MA, 02115, USA; and ²Department of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA

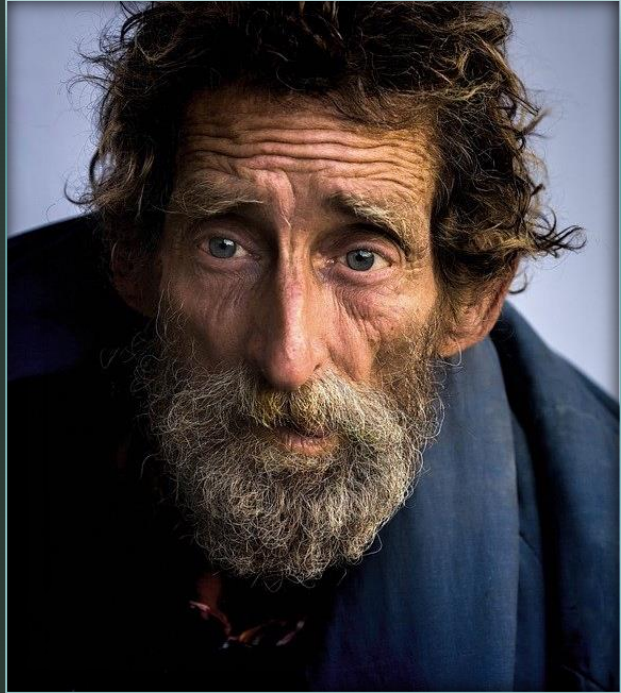


Poll Q:
What are you doing NOW to
stay healthy?

Trail Map

- Aging
- Frailty
- CVD Risk Factors
 - Hypertension
 - Dyslipidemia
- Talking to your provider





Age is not just a Number

Age: More than a Number



Outcomes?

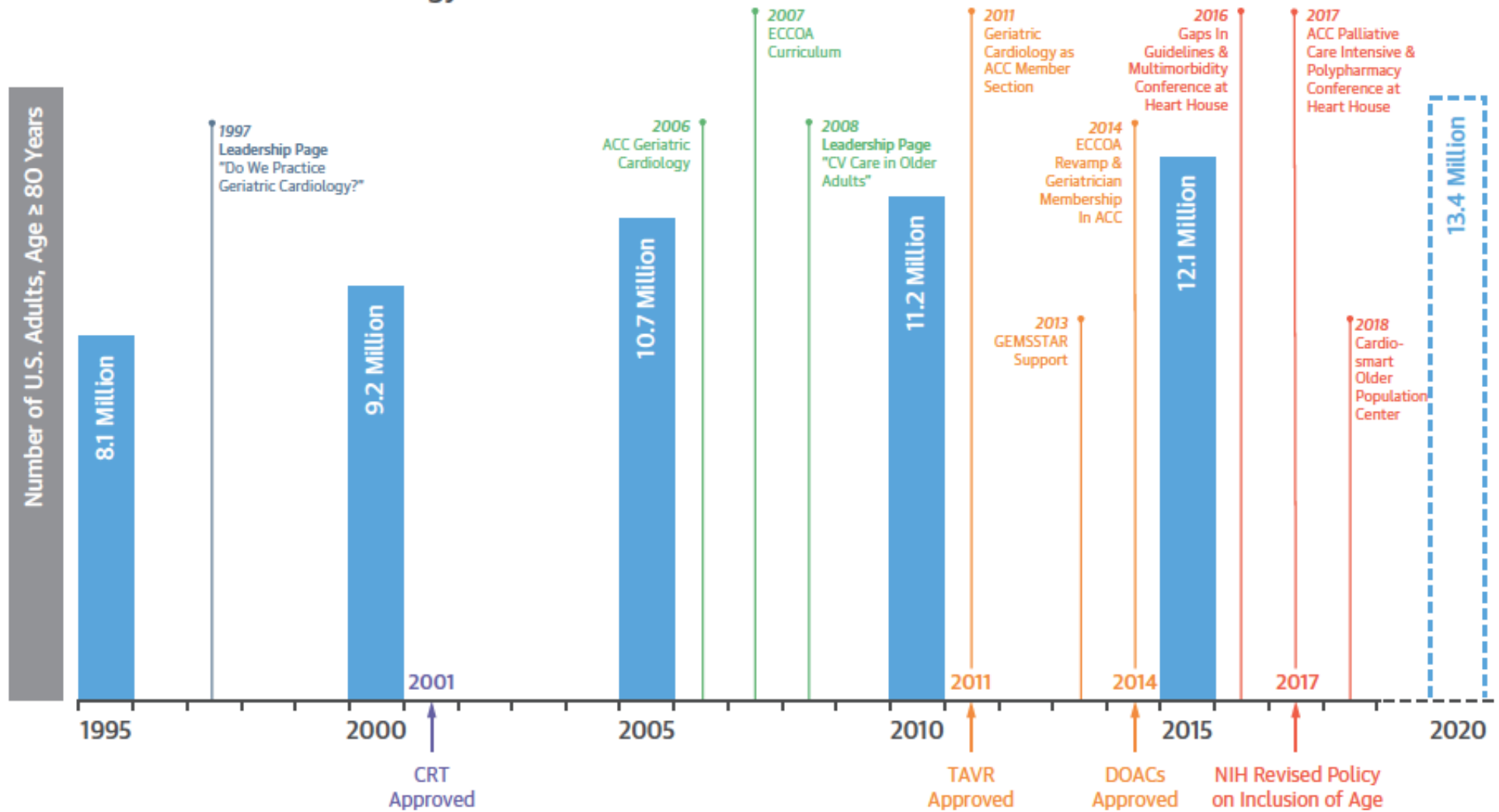


Most benefit?



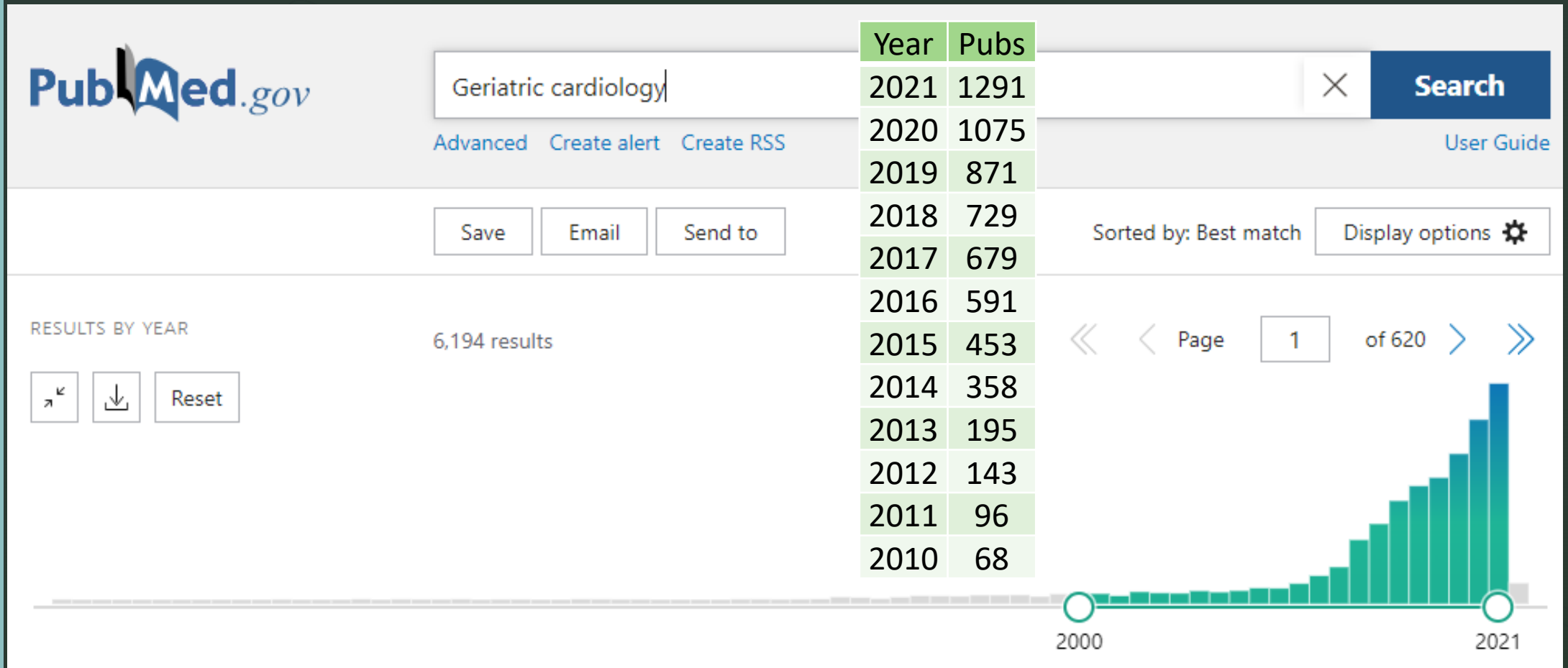
Systematic approach

Landmarks in Geriatric Cardiology

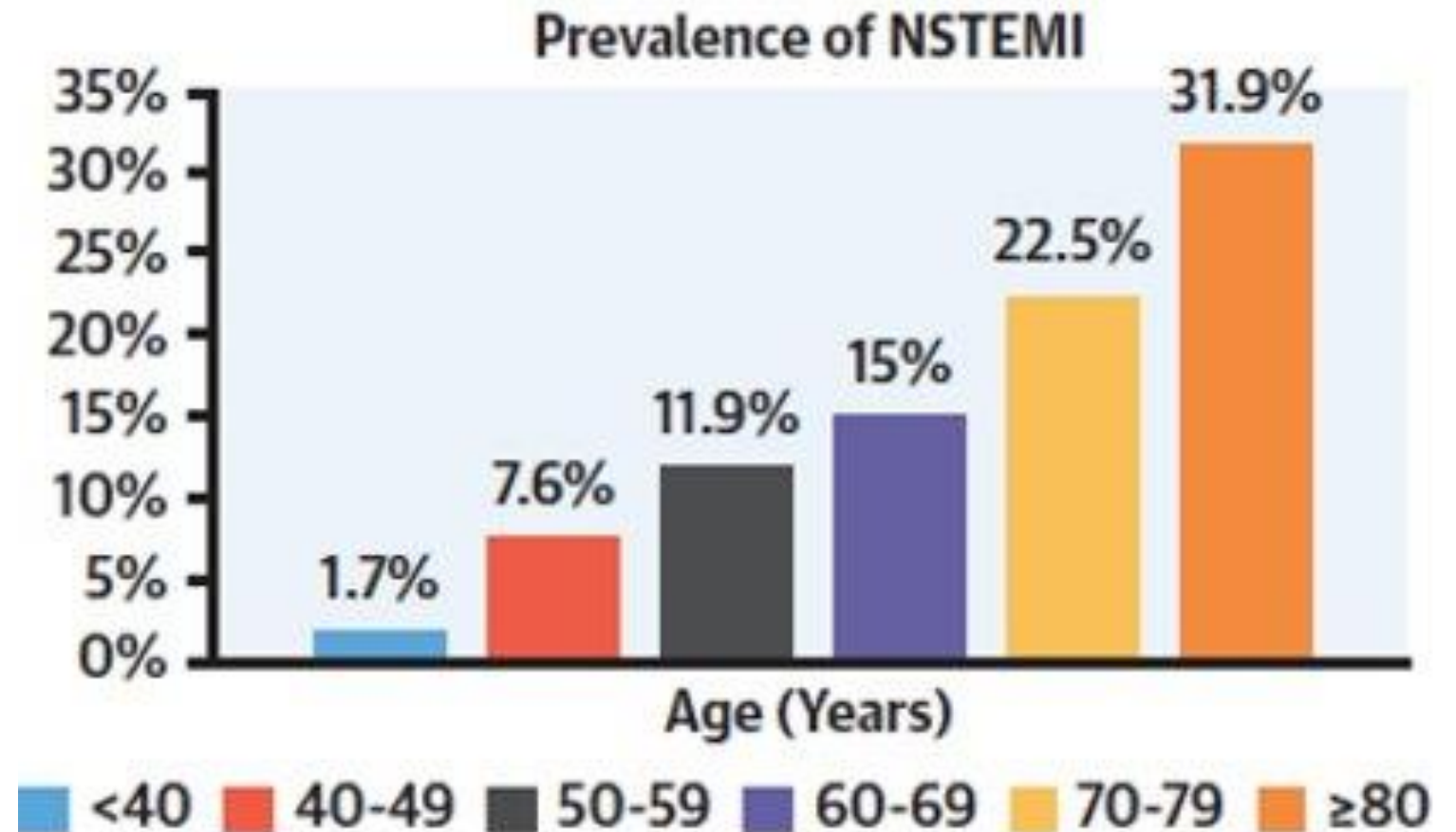


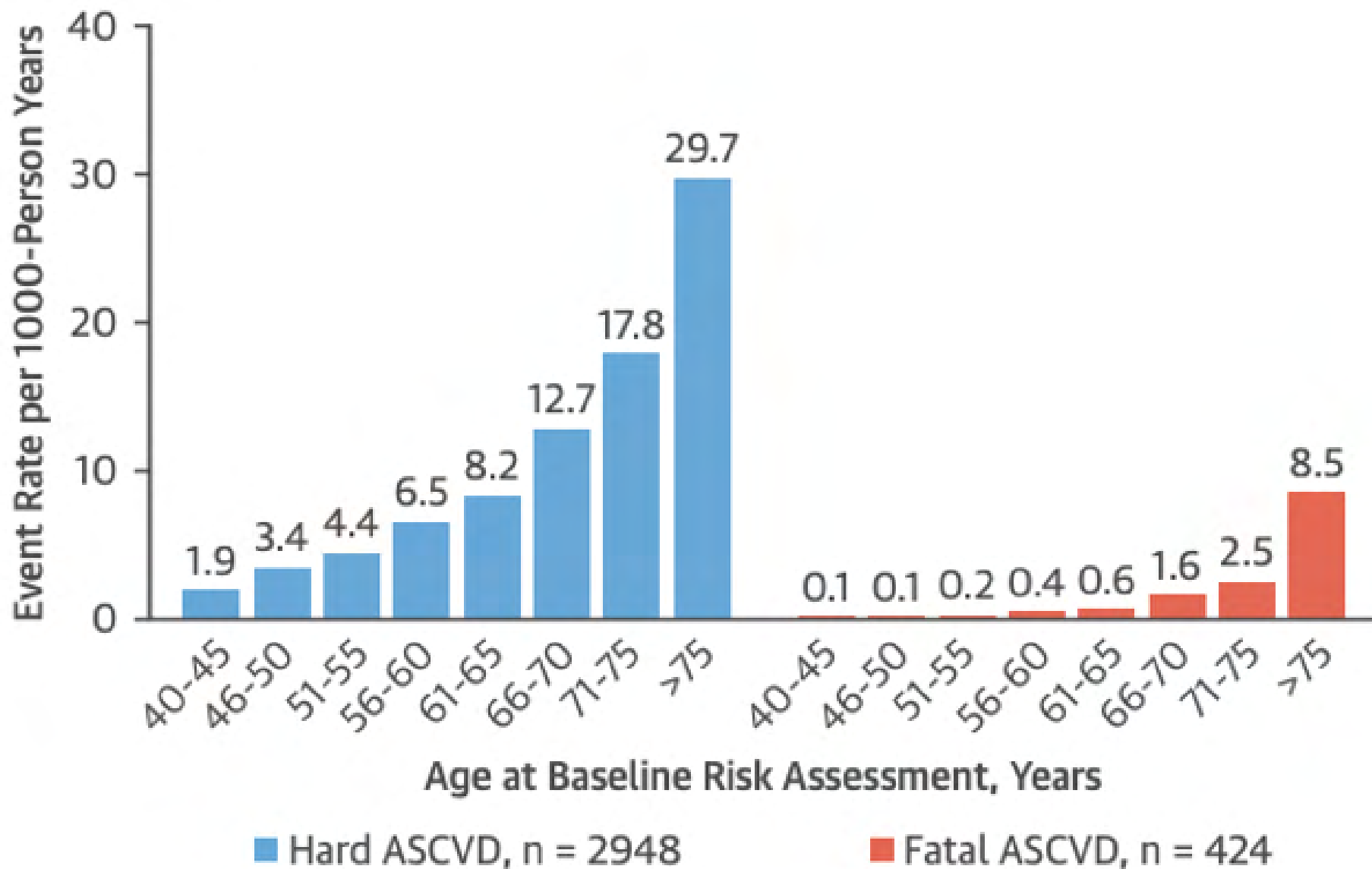
ACC = American College of Cardiology; CRT = cardiac resynchronization therapy; DOACs = direct oral anticoagulants; ECCOA = essential of cardiovascular care for older adults; GEMSSTAR = grants for early medical/surgical specialists' transition to aging research; NIH = National Institutes of Health; TAVR = transcatheter aortic valve replacement.

Where is the data?



Risk of Heart Attack Increases with Age!







Poll Q: What is Frailty?



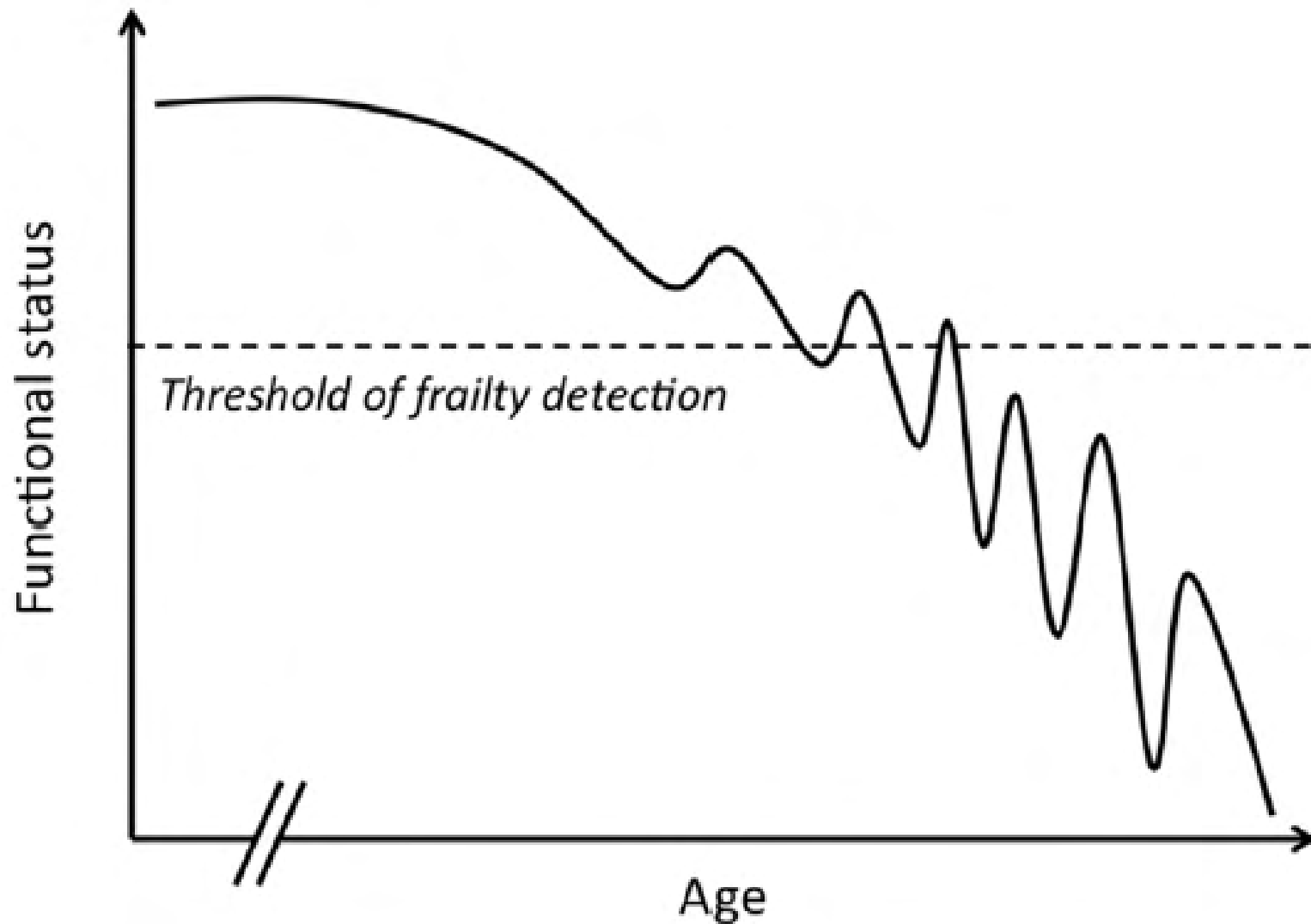
Frailty

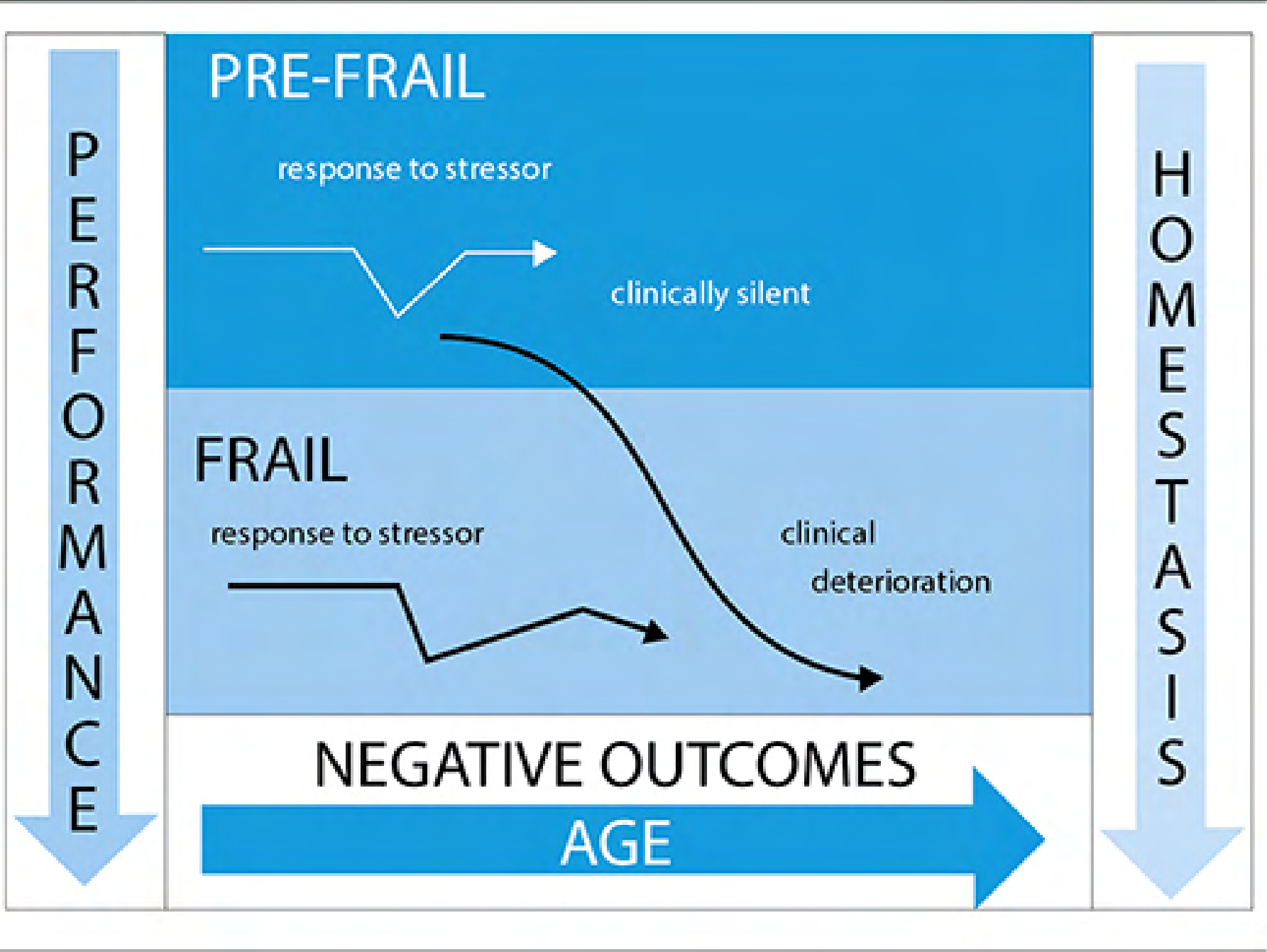


No gold standard definition



Increased vulnerability to stressors





Poll Q: What is the opposite of Frailty?



Q4: Robust Older Adult: What word comes to mind?



Poll Q:
What is a robust older adult?



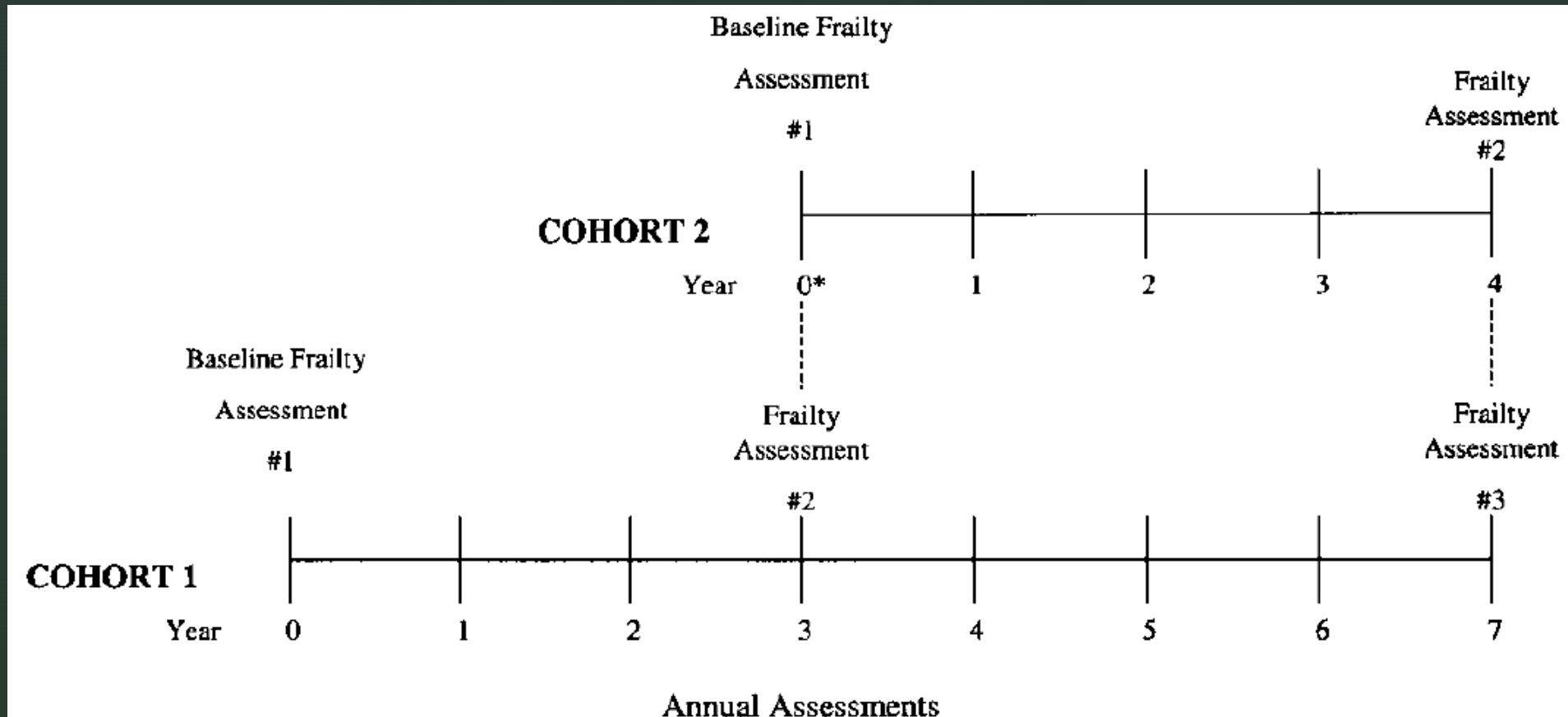
Poll Q:
Am I Frail?

The FRAIL Instrument

Sign/Symptoms	Assessment
Fatigue	Are you fatigued?
Resistance	Cannot walk up one flight of stairs?
Ambulation	Cannot walk one block?
Illnesses	Do you have more than 5 illnesses/conditions?
Loss of weight	Have you lost >5% of your weight in the past 6 months?

≥ 3 = Frailty; 1 or 2 = Prefrailty; 0 = Robustness

Does Frailty Matter?



- 2 Cohorts of the Cardiovascular Health Study
- 5317 US men and women >65 yo

Does Frailty Matter?

Table 6. Incidence of Adverse Outcomes Associated With Frailty: Kaplan-Meier Estimates at 3 Years and 7 Years* After Study Entry for Both of the Cohorts† (N = 5317)

Frailty Status at Baseline	(n)	Died		First Hospitalization		First Fall		Worsening ADL Disability		Worsening Mobility Disability	
		3 yr %	7 yr %	3 yr %	7 yr %	3 yr %	7 yr %	3 yr %	7 yr %	3 yr %	7 yr %
Not Frail	(2469)	3	12	33	79	15	27	8	23	23	41
Intermediate	(2480)	7	23	43	83	19	33	20	41	40	58
Frail	(368)	18	43	59	96	28	41	39	63	51	71
<i>p</i> ‡		<.0001		<.0001		<.0001		<.0001		<.0001	

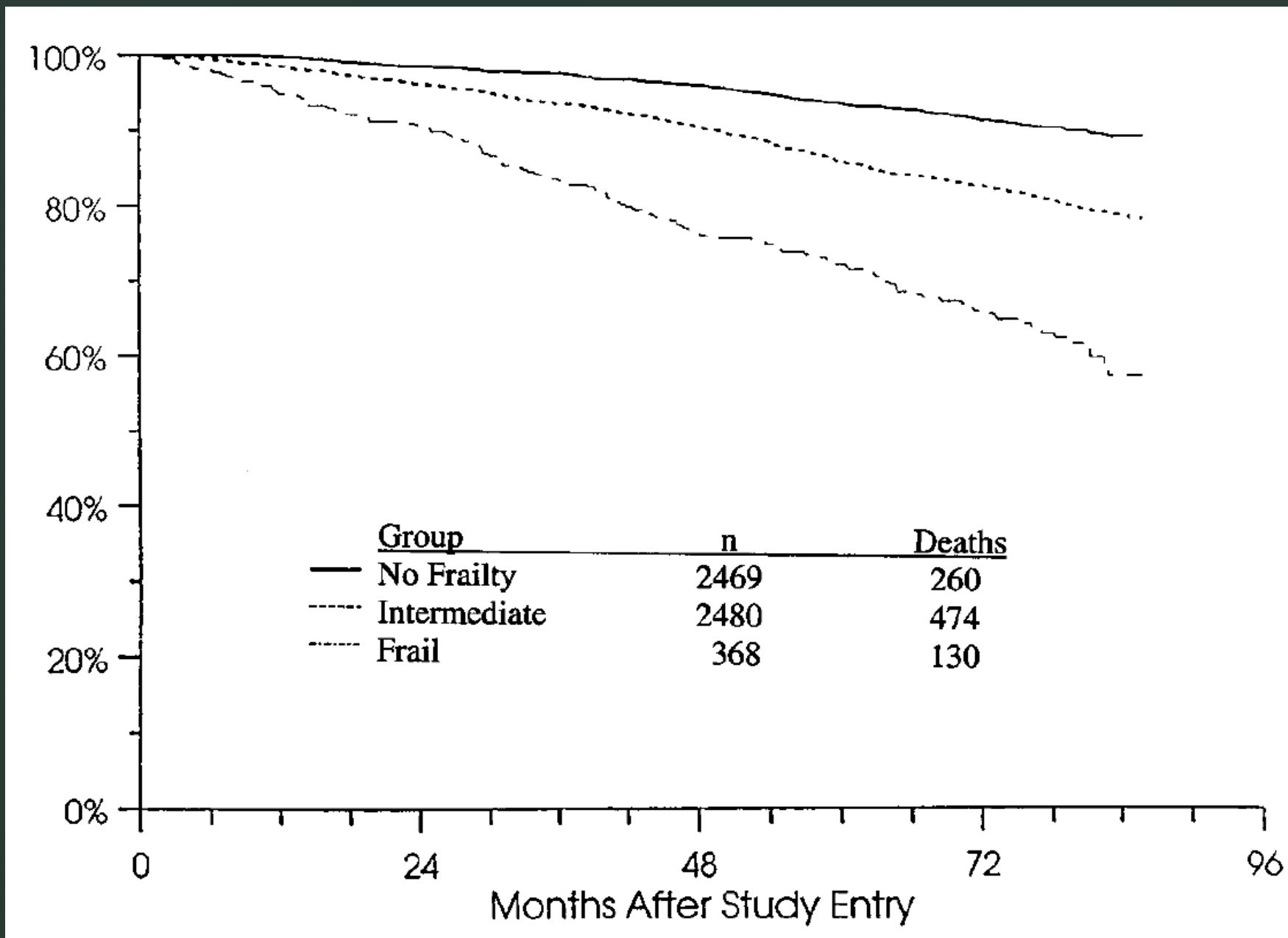
*7-year estimates are only available for the first cohort.

†Only those evaluable for frailty are included.

‡*p* value is based on the 2 degree of freedom log rank test using all available follow-up.

- 5317 US men and women >65 yo
- Data analyzed at 3 and 7 years
 - ↑ Death
 - ↑ Hospitalization
 - ↑ Falls
 - ↓ Mobility

% of enrolled participants who are alive

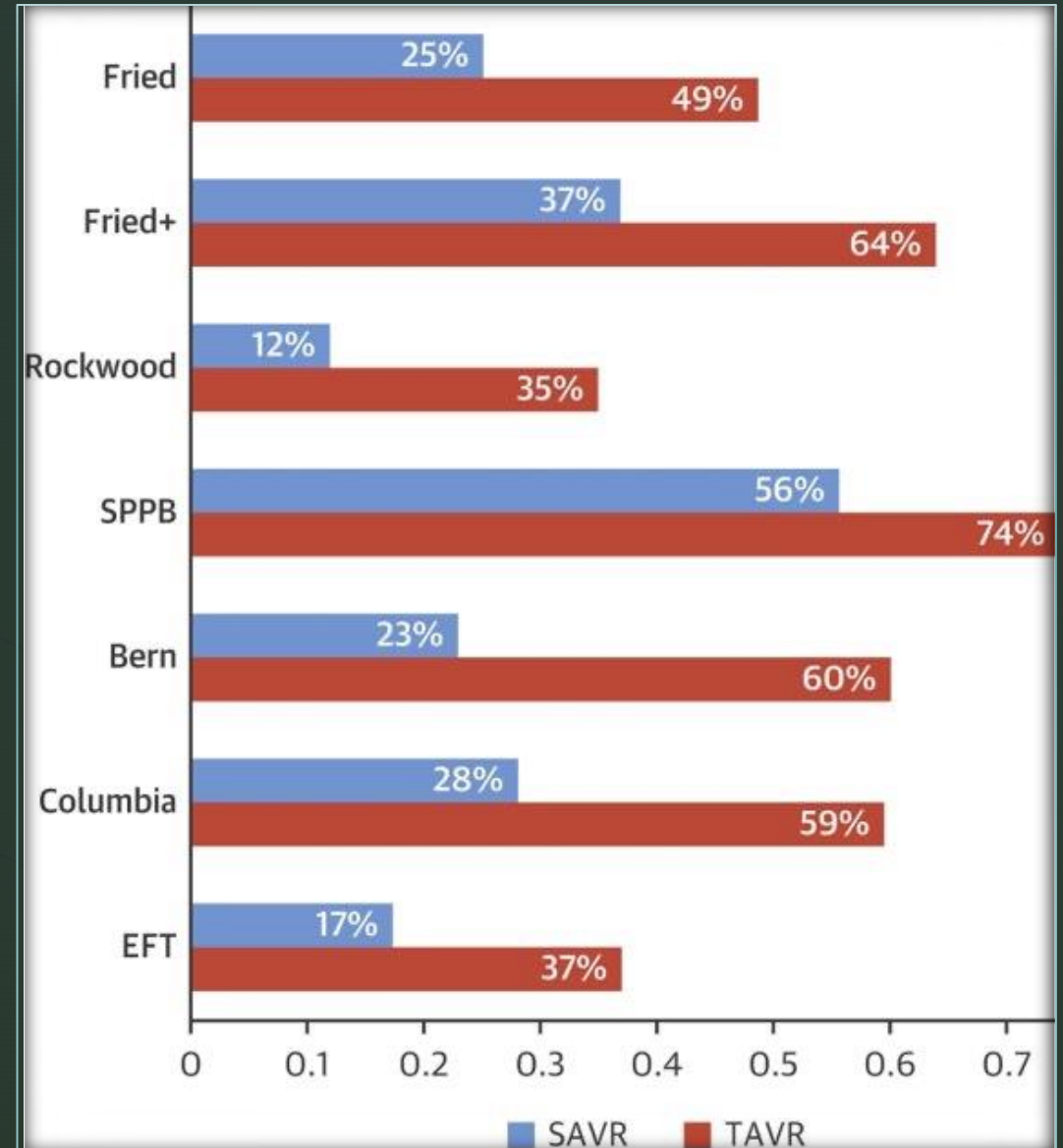


Problems with Frailty

- 40 operational definitions in the literature
 - Historical Data
 - Lab data
 - Functional/Objective data
 - Gait speed
 - Grip strength
 - Chair stands
- No current gold standard

Frailty by the Numbers

- Depends on the instrument
- Prevalence among older adults:
 - 4.0% to 59.1%
- Prevalence of prefrailty
 - 18.7% to 53.1%



Environment

Physical Frailty Syndrome

Cardiovascular Disease



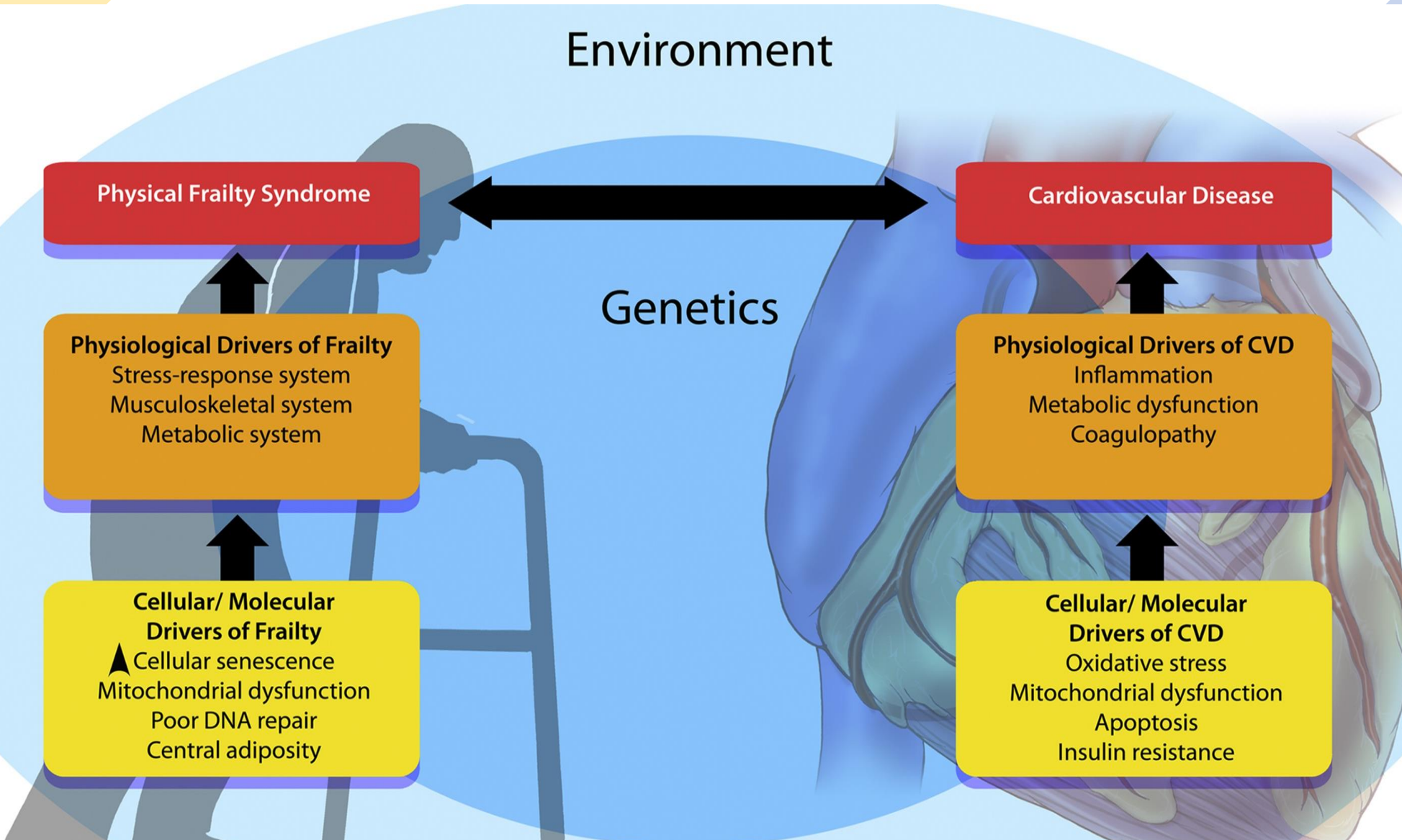
Genetics

Physiological Drivers of Frailty
Stress-response system
Musculoskeletal system
Metabolic system

Physiological Drivers of CVD
Inflammation
Metabolic dysfunction
Coagulopathy

Cellular/ Molecular Drivers of Frailty
▲ Cellular senescence
Mitochondrial dysfunction
Poor DNA repair
Central adiposity

Cellular/ Molecular Drivers of CVD
Oxidative stress
Mitochondrial dysfunction
Apoptosis
Insulin resistance

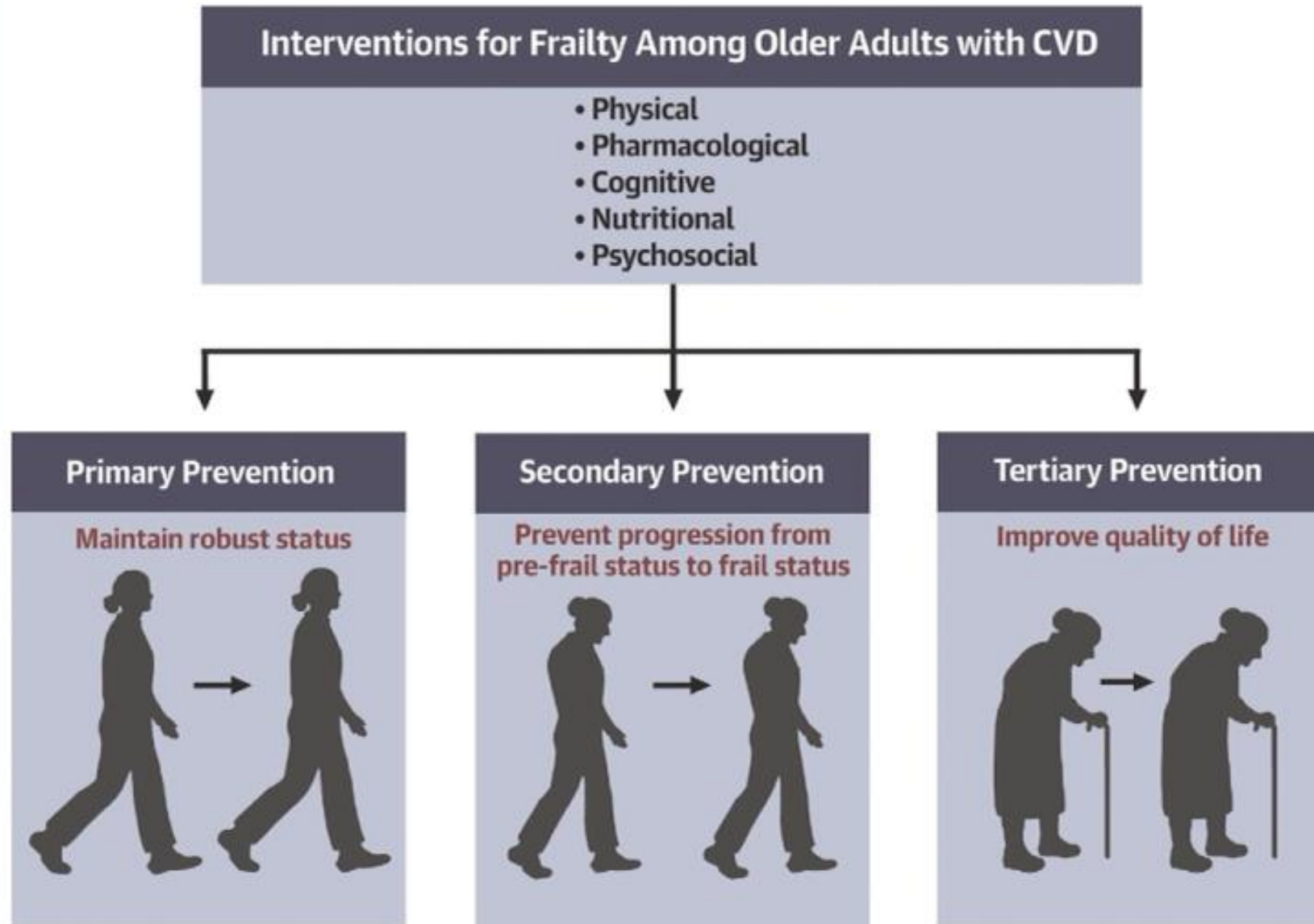




Can We Prevent Frailty?



CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Interventions Aimed at Preventing or Reversing Frailty in Patients With Cardiovascular Disease



Frailty: What can we do about it?

Comprehensive
geriatric assessment

Personalized
intervention plan

Goals of care!

Harness Technology?

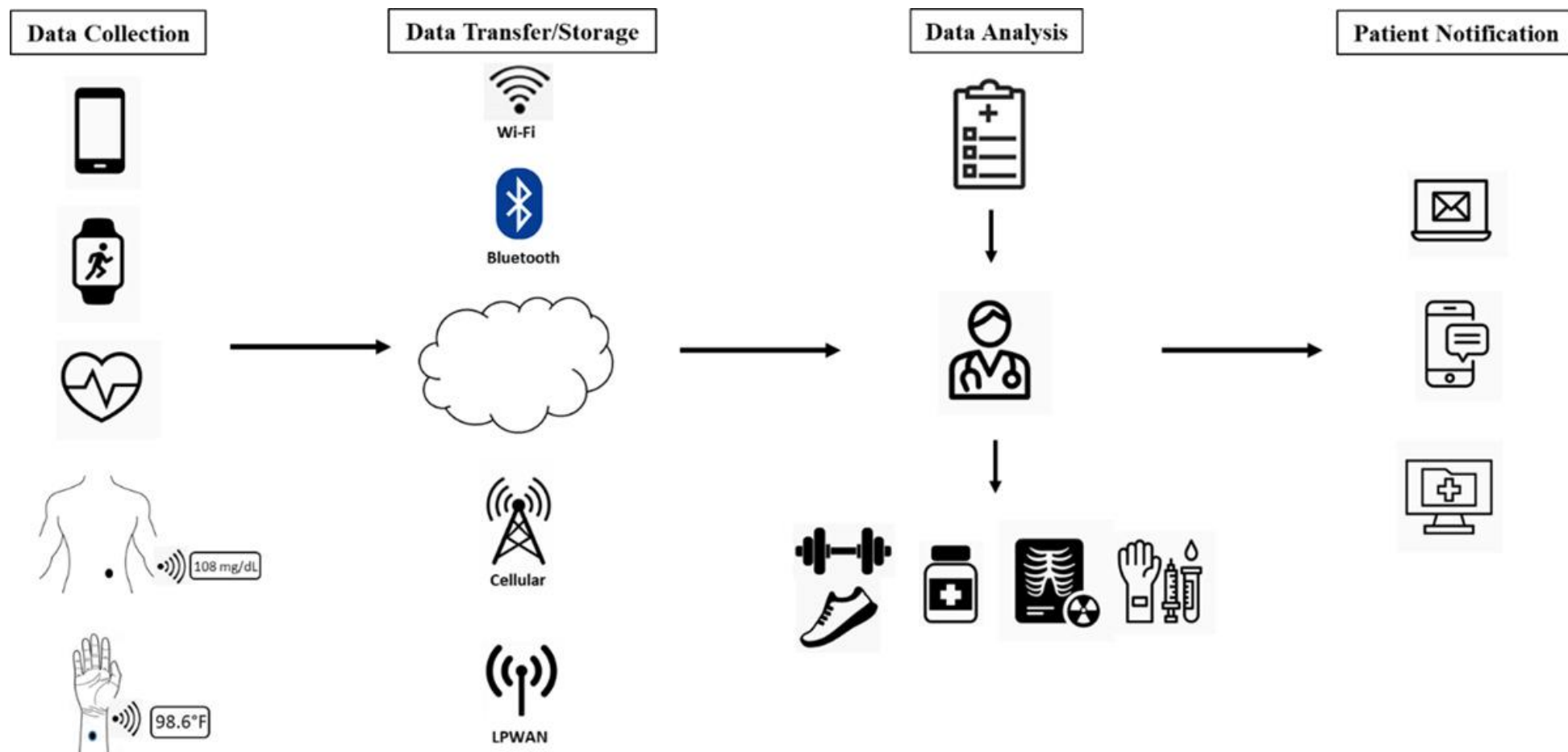
Poll Q:

Have you had a goals of care discussion
with your provider?

Harnessing Technology

- 80% of adults >65 own a cell phone
- 67% use the internet
- Americans ≥ 60 years
 - Spend more time in front of screens
 - Average 4 hours 16 minutes on devices
 - 2-7% own/use fitness trackers

Harnessing Technology



Prevention is !

- Robust older adults treated similarly to younger adults
 - Screen for CVD
 - Aggressive risk factors modification
 - Attention to the increased risk for adverse effects
- Shared decision making
 - Screening and prevention should align with goals and preferences
 - Limited life expectancy?

Exercise!

Moderate intensity 150 minutes/week

Start slow

Active Living Every Day (ALED)

Silver Sneakers

Gerofit for Veterans





Age-Appropriate Training:



STRENGTH



BALANCE



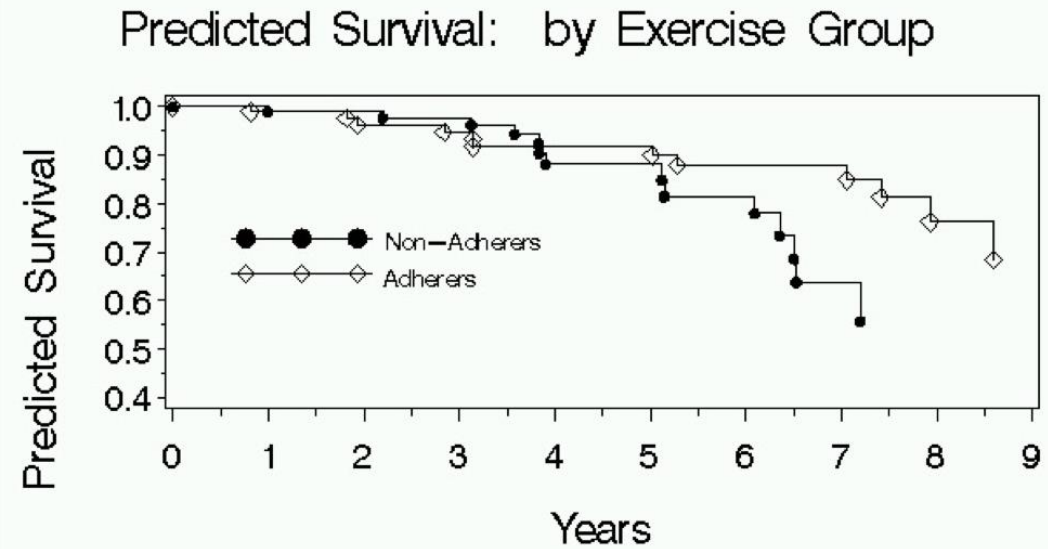
FLEXIBILITY



CARDIOVASCULAR
FITNESS

Gerofit Outcomes: Increased Survival

- 70 Veterans enrolled in Gerofit
- **25% lower 10 year mortality**
- Compared to Gerofit dropouts; <6 months (n=65).



Adjusted for sex, race, age, and CVD risk factors

JAGS, 2002

Morey, et.al

Cardiovascular History
(eg, hypertension, valvular heart disease, arrhythmia, heart failure, coronary artery disease, peripheral arterial disease)

Medication Assessment

- Comprehensive assessment of cardiac and noncardiac medications
- Identification of potentially harmful drug interactions
- Collaboration with clinical pharmacist

Psychosocial Assessment

- Family and social support (living situation, primary caretaker)
- Use of assistive devices
- Coping strategies

Geriatric Assessment

- Frailty
- Disability
- Incontinence
- Cognitive impairment
- Vision/hearing impairment
- Fall history
- Depression
- Multimorbidity

Care Preferences
Explicit elicitation of patient preferences, and setting specific attainable goals



Selecting optimal therapeutic options

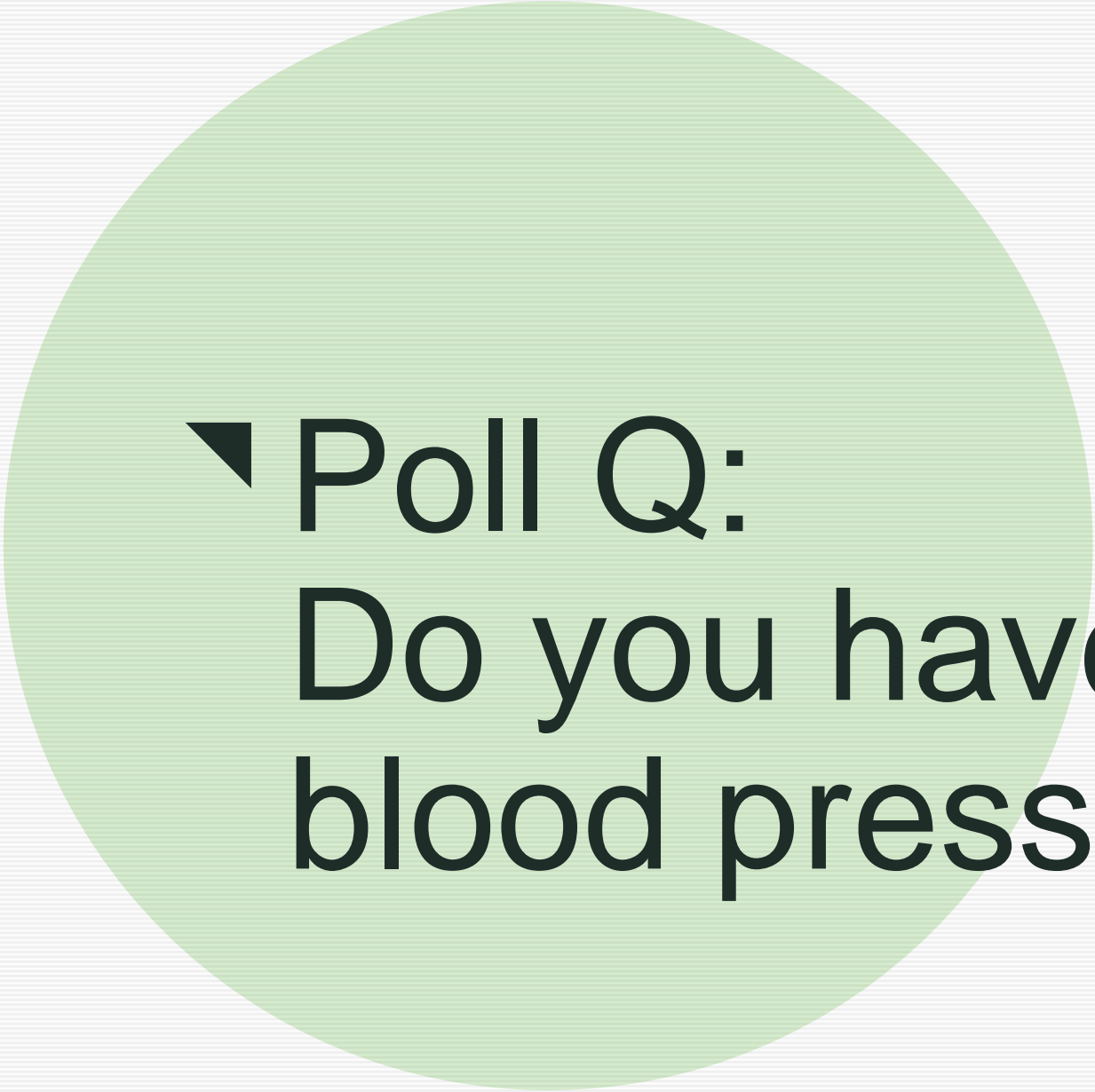
- Collaborative (with patient, family, and other expert clinicians)
 - Goal-directed
- Personalized but evidence-based



Let's Talk About Risk Factors



Hypertension



▼ Poll Q:
Do you have high
blood pressure?

▸ The Dirty Truth

- Heart Disease is the No. 1 cause of death in the US
 - Public enemy #1: **Hypertension**
 - 11% → 38% in 10 years



Heart disease and stroke statistics 2020 update:
a report from the American Heart Association

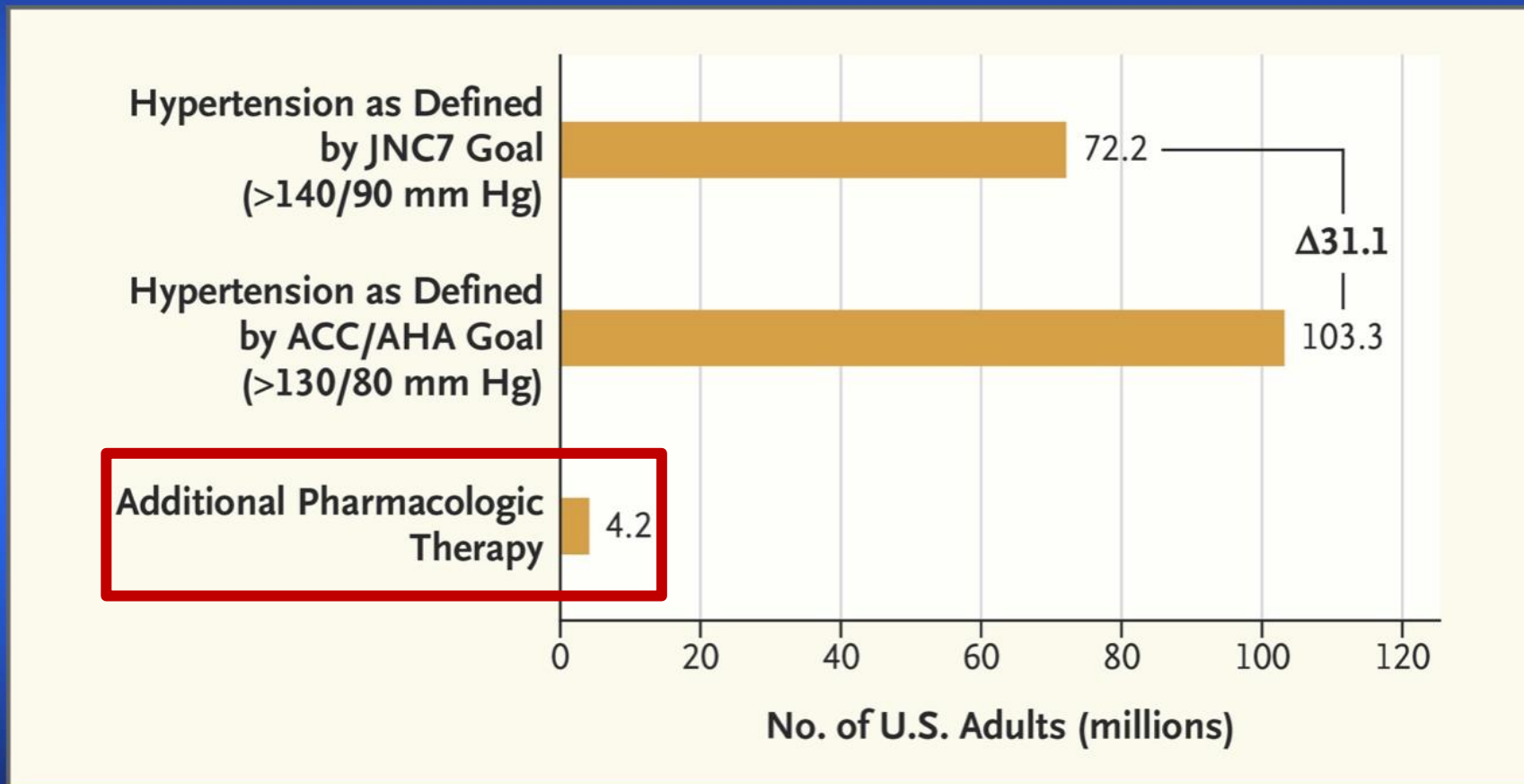


Welcome to
Hypertension
Population:
~~72.2~~ **Million**

703.3



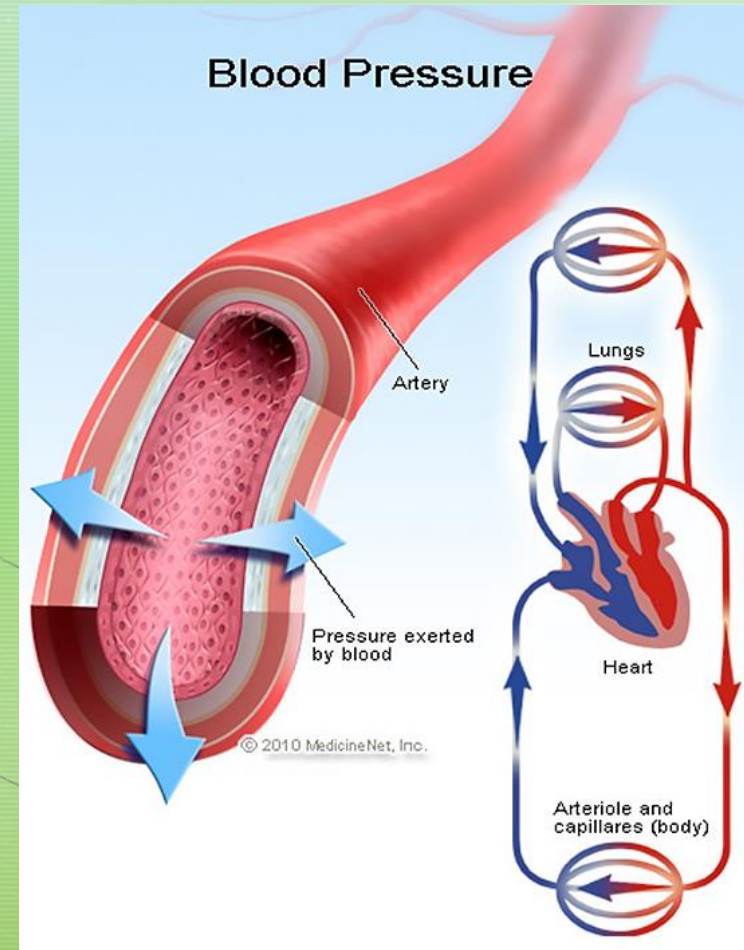
More meds?



Ritchey MD, Gillespie C, Wozniak G, Shay CM, Thompson-Paul AM, Loustalot F, Hong Y. Potential need for expanded pharmacologic treatment and lifestyle modification services under the 2017 ACC/AHA Hypertension Guideline. *J Clin Hypertens (Greenwich)*. 2018 Oct;20(10):1377-1391. Muntner P et al. *Circulation*. 2018 Jan 9;137(2):109-118.

Blood Pressure 101

- **Fluid pushed into vessels**
- **Force against artery walls**





What is *High* Blood Pressure?

High blood pressure can be normal

- Blood pressure normally rises and falls
- Arteries stretch when blood circulates
- More pressure = more stretch

Hypertension:

- loss of regulatory control
- Increase arterial resistance

**WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE BEING
CHASED BY A BEAR
WHILE ON FIRE**






What is *High* Blood Pressure?

- Blood pressure normally rises and falls
- Arteries stretch when blood circulates
- High blood pressure (hypertension)

Who Cares?

u·biq·ui·tous

/yoō'biqwətes/ 

Adjective

Present, appearing, or found everywhere: "his ubiquitous influence".

Synonyms

omnipresent

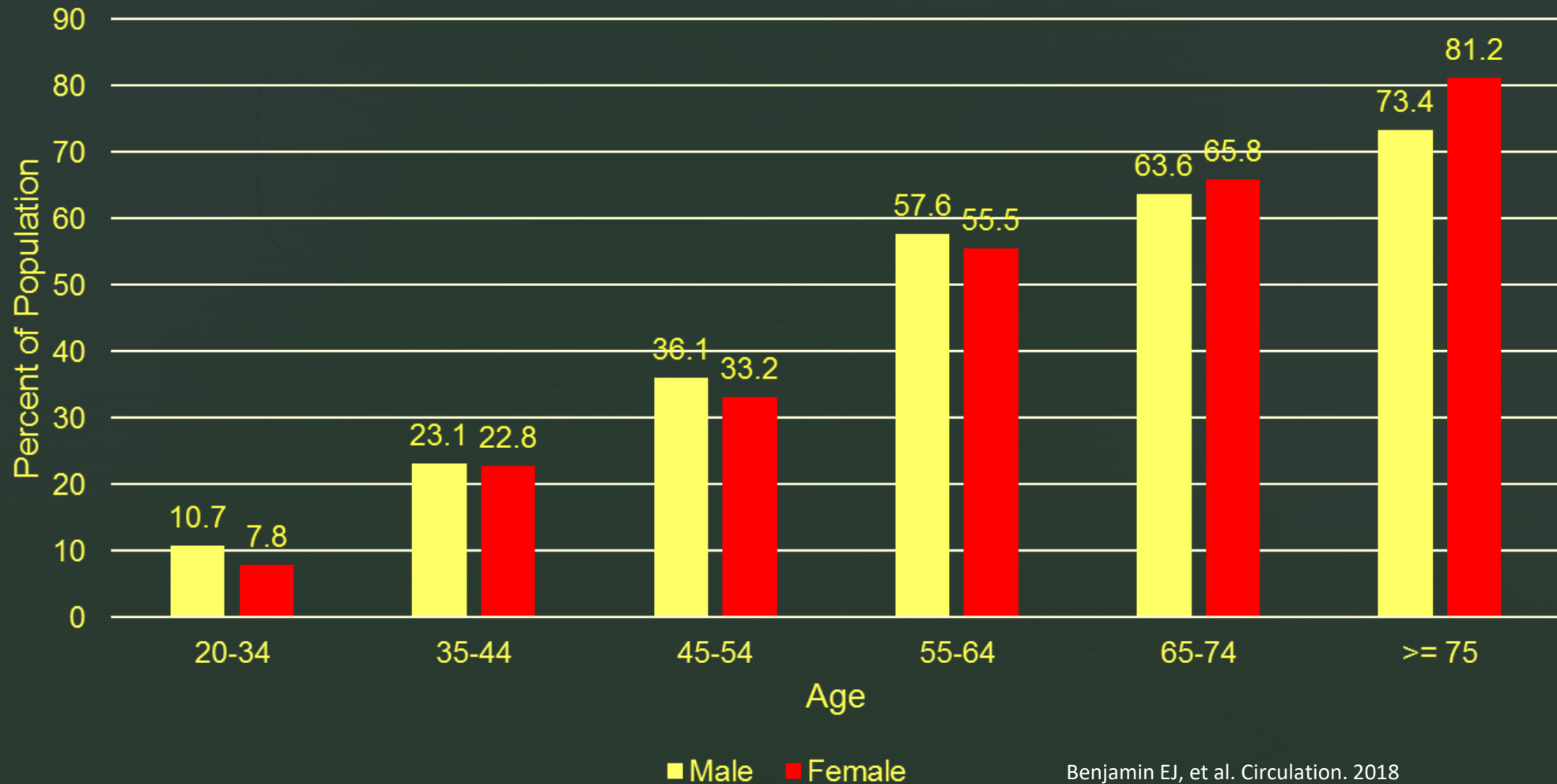
45% of US adults

>1/3 of Veterans

65% over age 60!

▶ Hypertension = Ubiquitous

Prevalence of High Blood Pressure in the U.S.





RIP

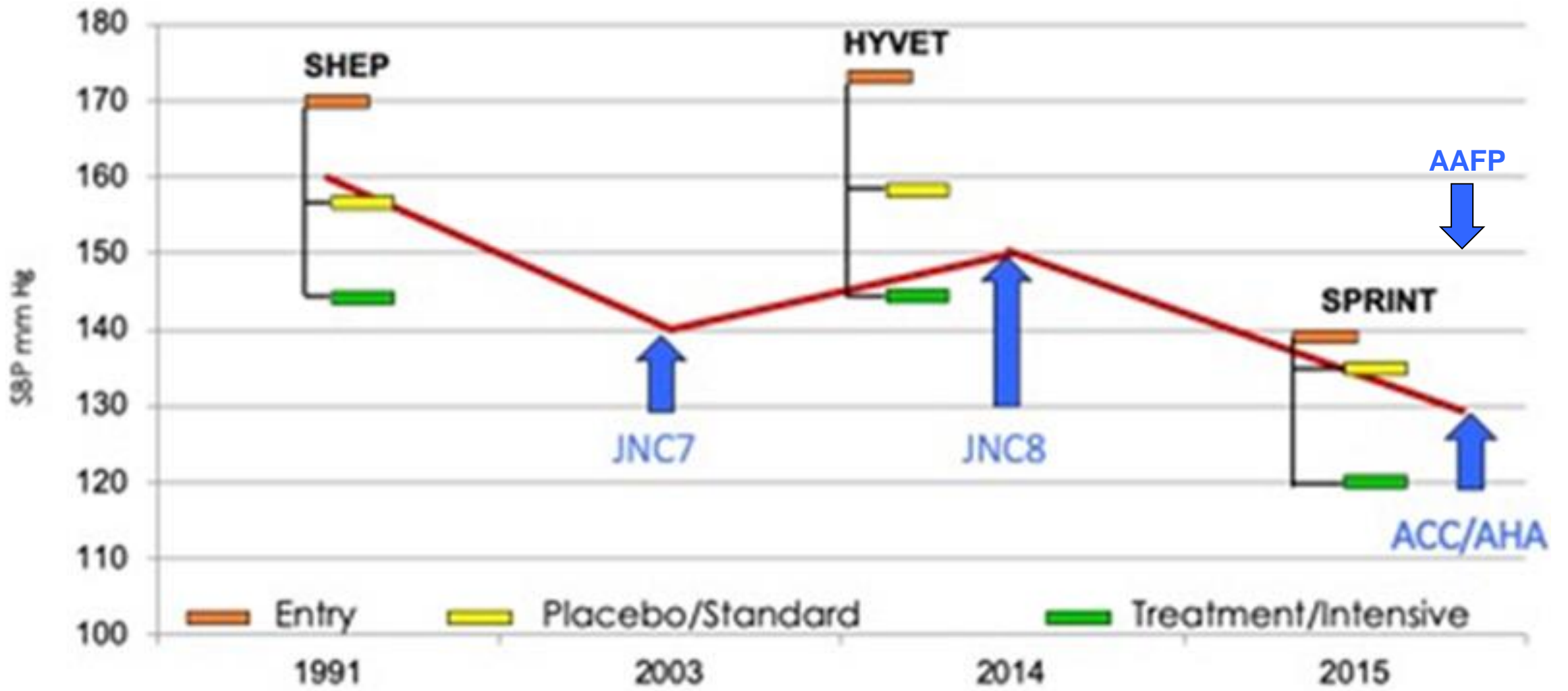
My provider forgot to mention,
You can die from

HYPERTENSION

What do the numbers mean?

- **Systolic pressure (top number)**
 - Pressure in the arteries when the heart contracts (systole)
- **Diastolic pressure (bottom number)**
 - Pressure when the heart relaxes
 - The ventricular cavity is refilling with blood (diastole)







HTN Guideline Controversy



Subgroup	AHA/ACC 2017	ACP/AAFP	ESC/ESH	HTN Canada	ADA
Low Risk	< 130	< 150		< 140	< 140
High Risk	< 130	< 140		< 120	< 130
Age < 60	< 130		< 130-120	< 140	
Age ≥ 60	< 130	< 150	< 140-130	< 140	

2017 AHA/ACC Guidelines not endorsed by AAFP and ACP

Concerns for older adults and BP targets



2017 Hypertension Guidelines:

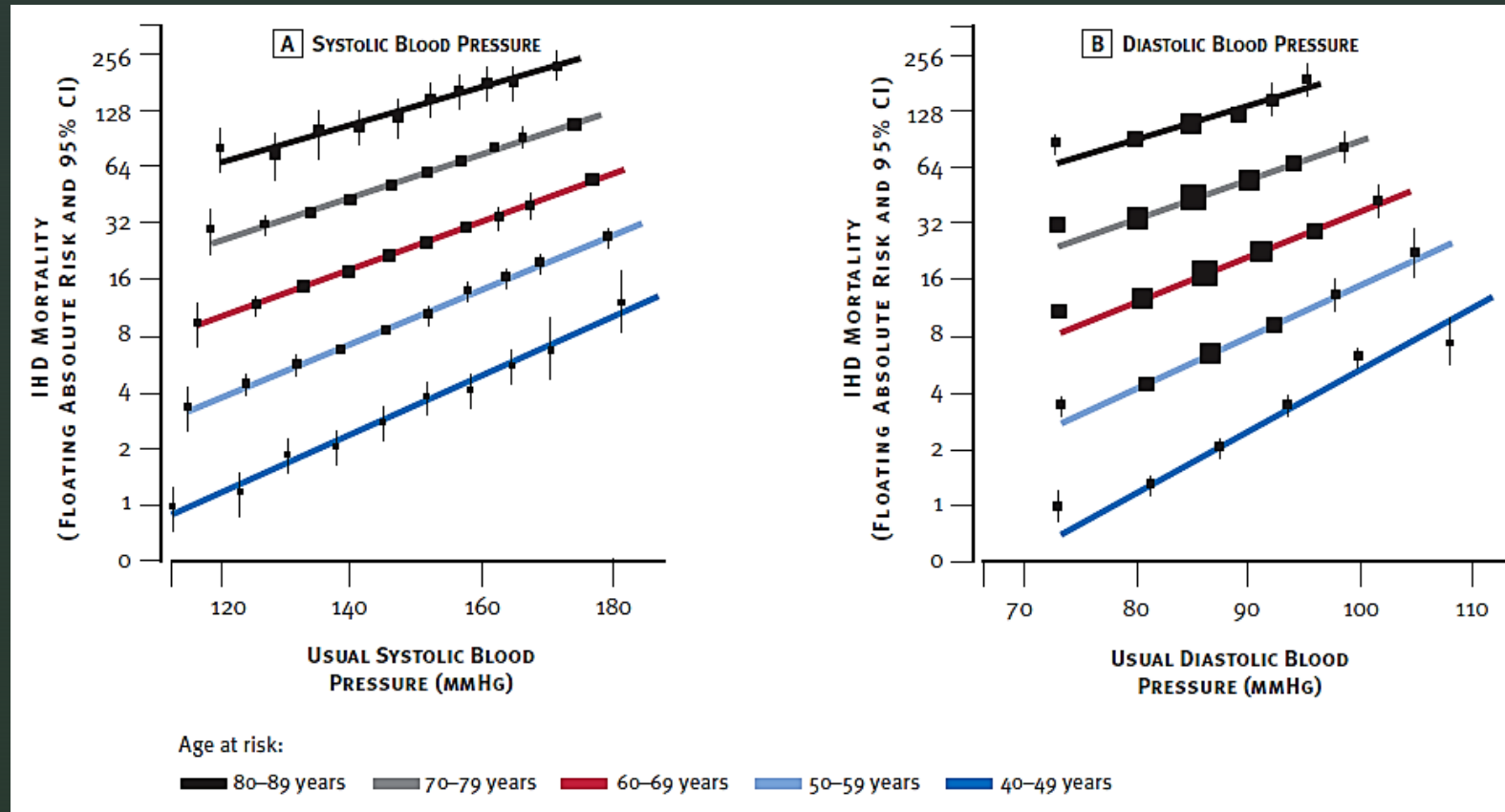


Blood Pressure Classification	Systolic Blood Pressure (mmHg)	Diastolic Blood Pressure (mmHg)
Normal	<120	and <80
Elevated*	120-129	and <80
Stage 1 Hypertension	130-139	or 80-89
Stage 2 Hypertension	≥140	or ≥90

*Prior guidelines: “pre-hypertension”

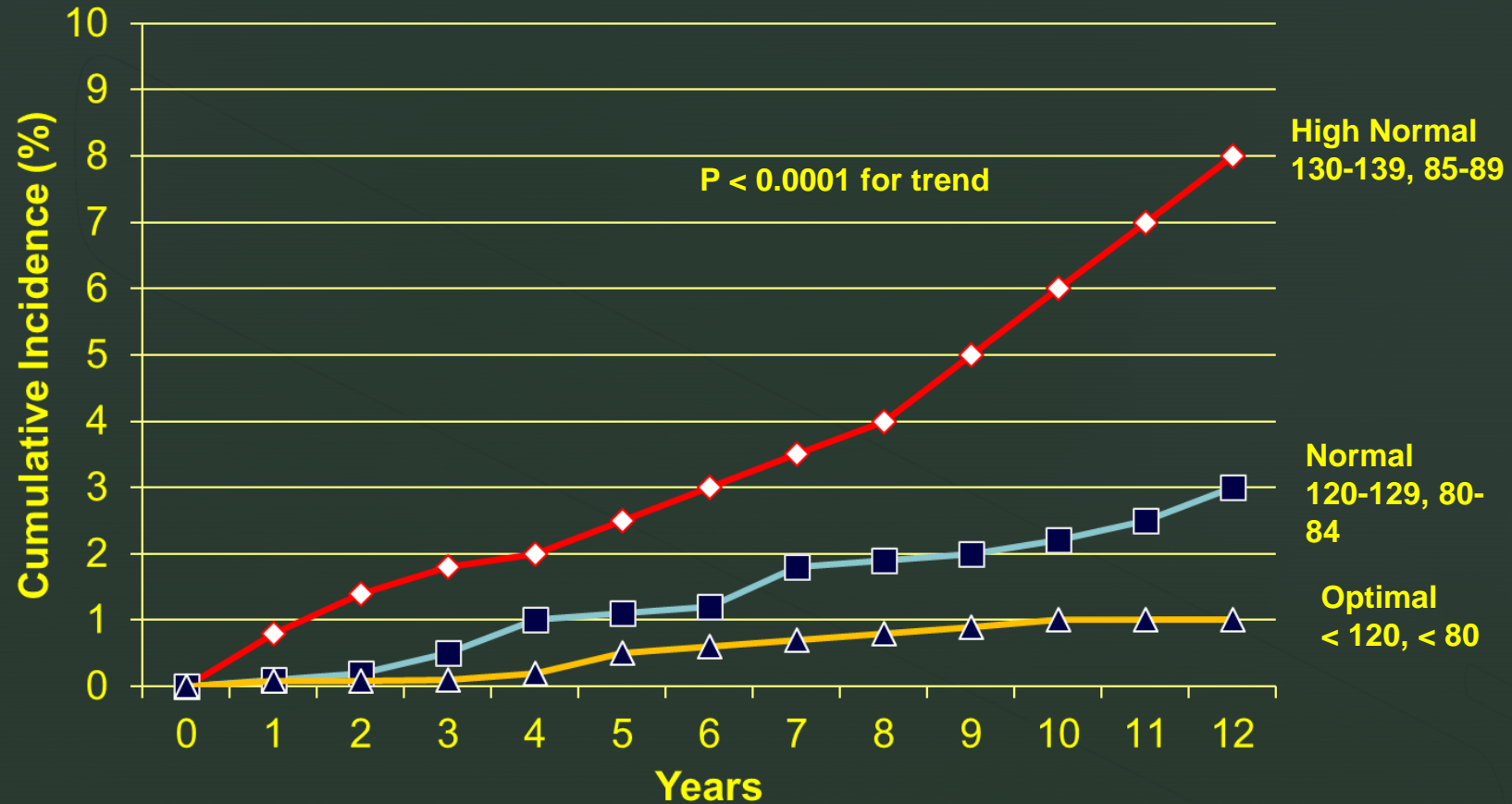
Hypertension Diagnosis:
average $\geq 130/80$ mmHg on at least 2 visits

Rationale for HTN Guidelines



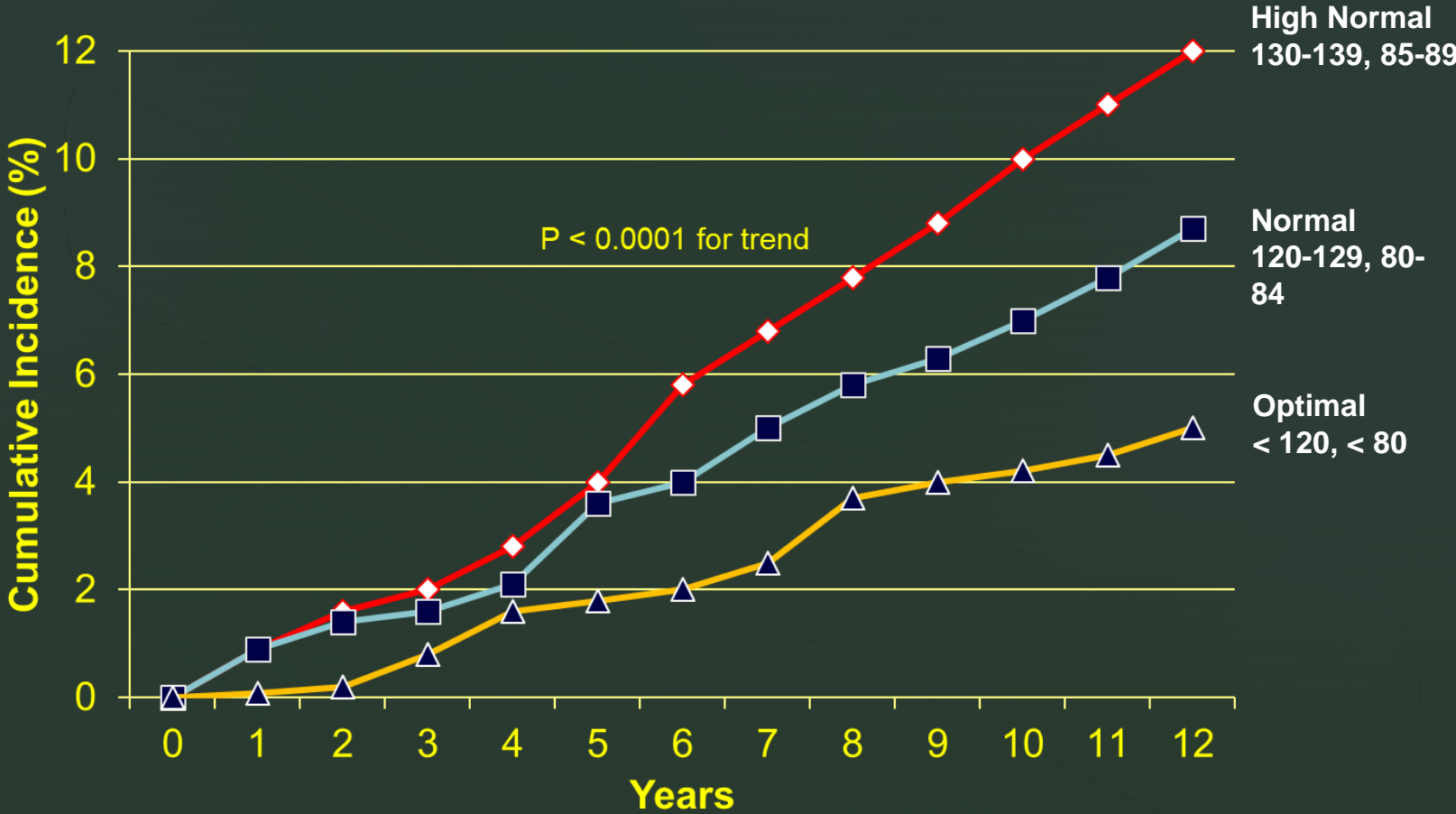
- This 115/75 mmHg “threshold” is seen across age categories

Women without HTN



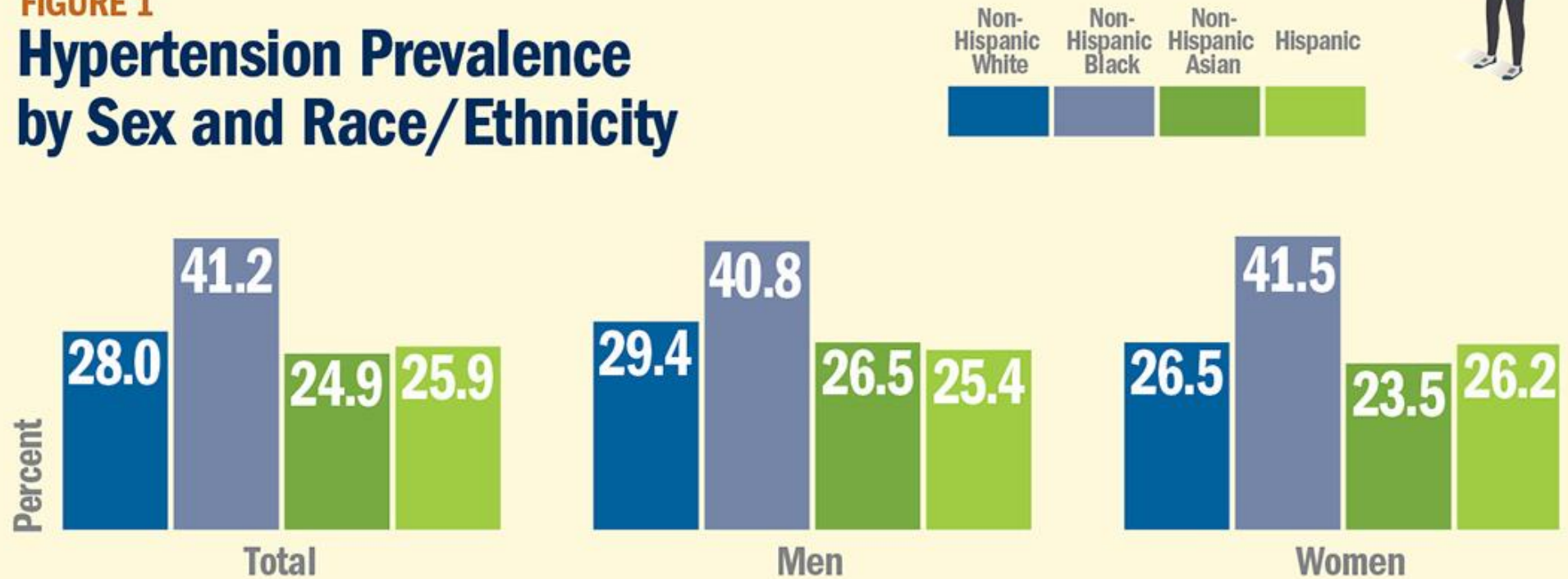
Data from the Framingham Heart Study
Recreated from Vasan RS et al. N Engl J Med 2001;345:1291-1297

Men without HTN



Data from the Framingham Heart Study
Recreated from Vasan RS et al. N Engl J Med 2001;345:1291-1297

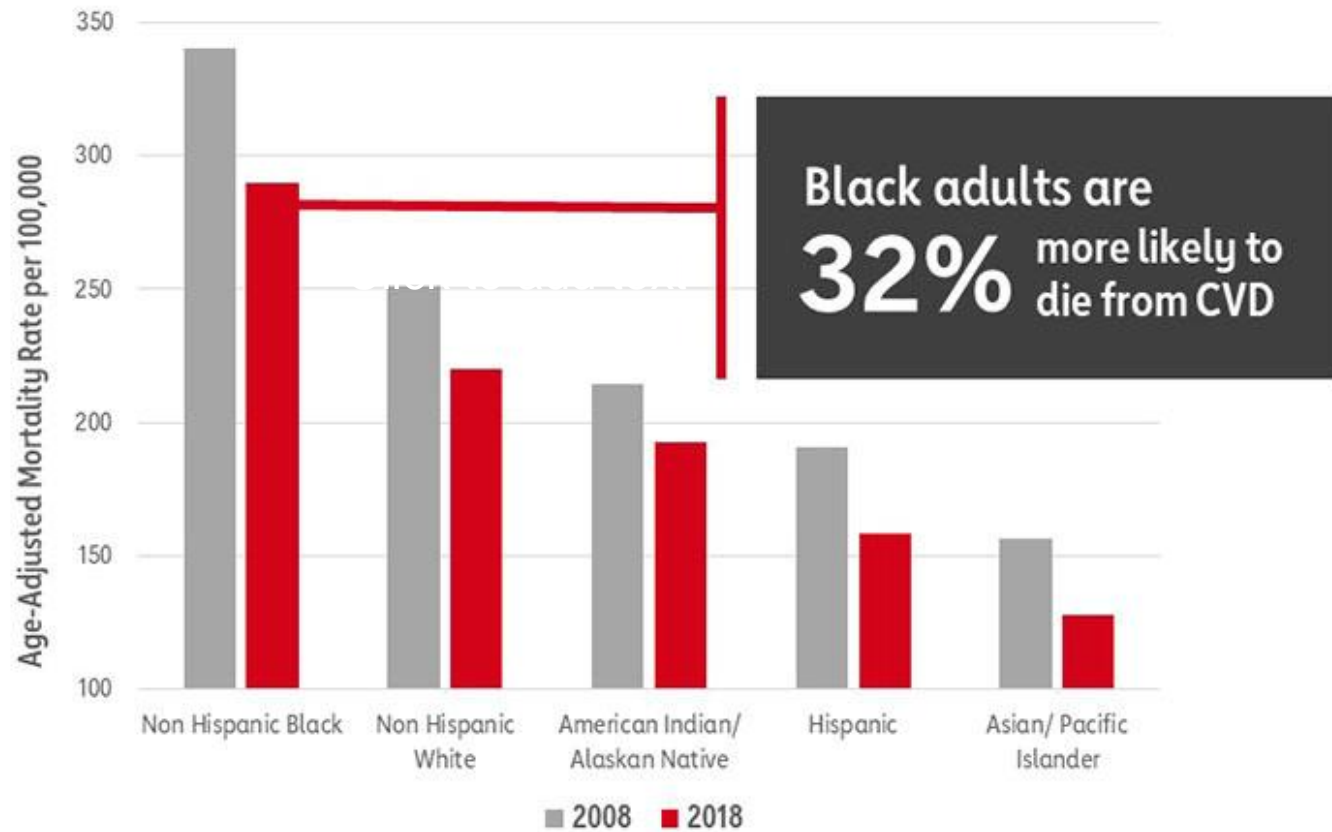
FIGURE 1
Hypertension Prevalence
by Sex and Race/Ethnicity



Source: Yoon SS, Fryar CD, Carroll MD. Hypertension prevalence and control among adults: United States, 2011–2014. NCHS data brief, no 220. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2015.

What about race and ethnicity?

AGE-ADJUSTED TOTAL CVD MORTALITY RATES by Race/Ethnicity





Case: Mr. C



66 yo M

- ◆ No other PMH
- ◆ Clinic BP:
 - 154/92 mmHg
- ◆ Clinic Wt:
 - 237 lbs
 - BMI: 37

◆ Loves:

- Cleaning
- French fries
- Brady old fashioned

◆ Hates:

- Dirt
- Pills

Key Steps	Specific Instructions
Step 1: Properly prepare the patient	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Have the patient relax, sitting in a chair (feet on floor, back supported) for >5 min.2. The patient should avoid caffeine, exercise, and smoking for at least 30 min before measurement.3. Ensure patient has emptied his/her bladder.4. Neither the patient nor the observer should talk during the rest period or during the measurement.5. Remove all clothing covering the location of cuff placement.6. Measurements made while the patient is sitting or lying on an examining table do not fulfill these criteria.
Step 2: Use proper technique for BP measurements	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Use a BP measurement device that has been validated, and ensure that the device is calibrated periodically.2. Support the patient's arm (e.g., resting on a desk).3. Position the middle of the cuff on the patient's upper arm at the level of the right atrium (the midpoint of the sternum).4. Use the correct cuff size, such that the bladder encircles 80% of the arm, and note if a larger- or smaller-than-normal cuff size is used.5. Either the stethoscope diaphragm or bell may be used for auscultatory readings

Key Steps	Specific Instructions
<p>Step 3: Take the proper measurements needed for diagnosis and treatment of elevated BP/hypertension</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the first visit, record BP in both arms. Use the arm that gives the higher reading for subsequent readings. 2. Separate repeated measurements by 1–2 min. 3. For auscultatory determinations, use a palpated estimate of radial pulse obliteration pressure to estimate SBP. Inflate the cuff 20–30 mm Hg above this level for an auscultatory determination of the BP level. 4. For auscultatory readings, deflate the cuff pressure 2 mm Hg per second, and listen for Korotkoff sounds.
<p>Step 4: Properly document accurate BP readings</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record SBP and DBP. If using the auscultatory technique, record SBP and DBP as onset of the first Korotkoff sound and disappearance of all Korotkoff sounds, respectively, using the nearest even number. 2. Note the time of most recent BP medication taken before measurements.
<p>Step 5: Average the readings</p>	<p>Use an average of ≥ 2 readings obtained on ≥ 2 occasions to estimate the individual's level of BP.</p>
<p>Step 6: Provide BP readings to patient</p>	<p>Provide patients the SBP/DBP readings both verbally and in writing.</p>



Garbage in Garbage out!



We don't know!

Key Steps	Specific Instructions
Step 1: Properly prepare the patient X	2. The patient should avoid caffeine , exercise, and smoking for at least 30 min before measurement. 3. Ensure patient has emptied his/her bladder . 4. Neither the patient nor the observer should talk during the rest period or during the measurement.
Step 5: Average the readings X	Use an average of ≥ 2 readings obtained on ≥ 2 occasions to estimate the individual's level of BP.

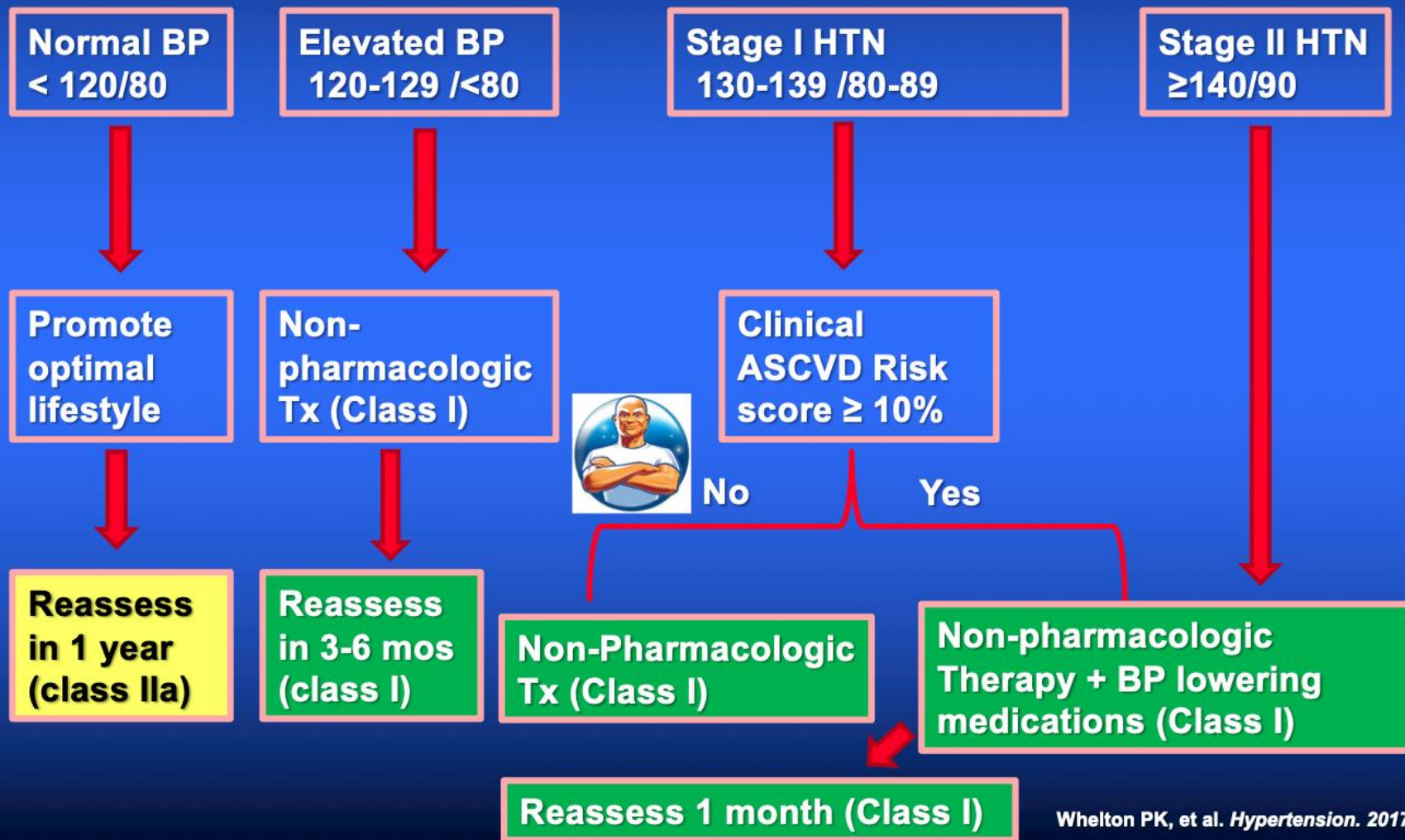
What next?

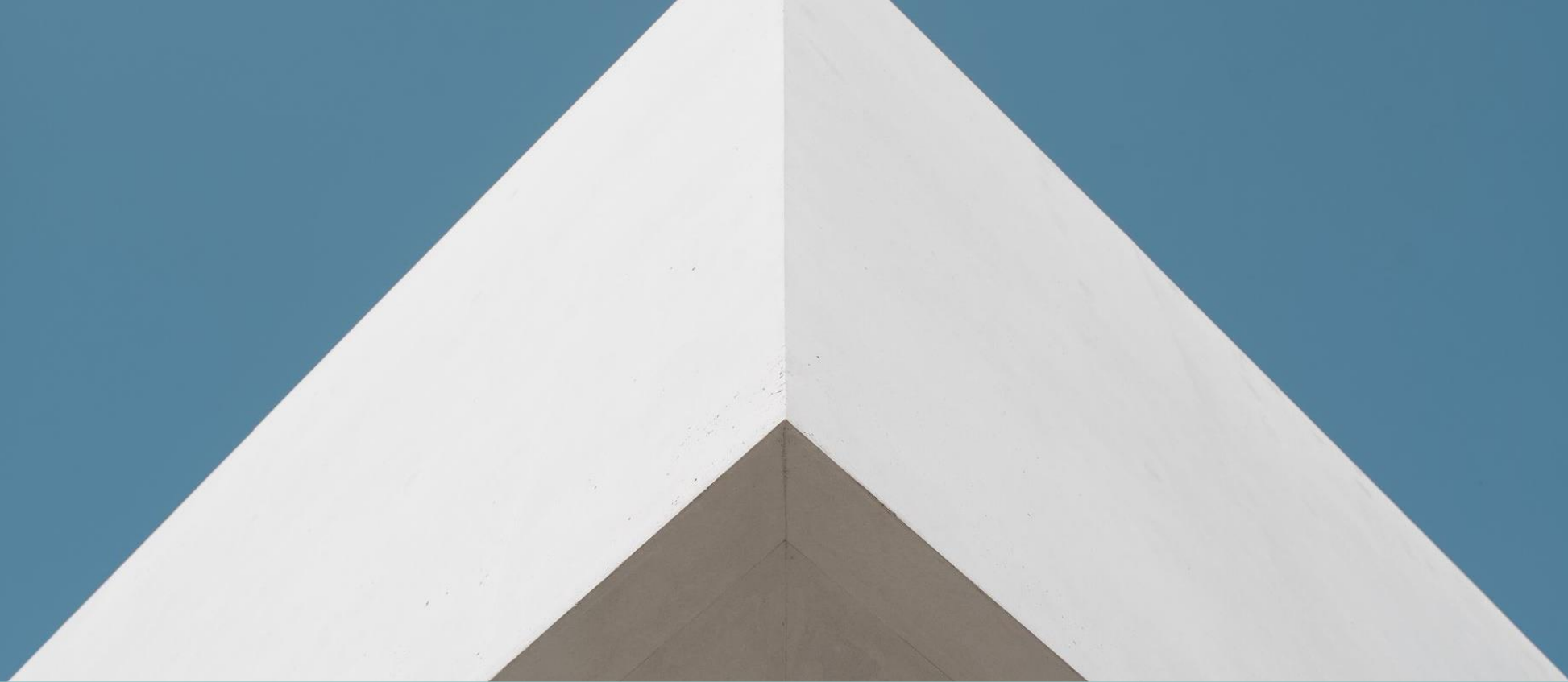
- Ensure accurate BP measurements
- 135/86 mmHg!
- Counseling?
- Risk? Meds?
- Follow up and reassess?





Mr. C...





The Cornerstone

Impact: The Big 4

1. Obesity

2. Diet

3. Substance use

4. Exercise



Small Changes = Big Results #1

1. Obesity

2. Diet

3. Substance use

4. Exercise

Intervention	Goal	Impact
Weight Loss	Ideal body weight	-1 mmHg per kg



Small Changes = Big Results #2

1. Obesity

2. Diet

3. Substance use

4. Exercise

Intervention	Goal	Impact
Weight Loss	Ideal body weight	-1 mmHg per kg
Healthy diet	DASH	-11 mmHg
↓ sodium	<1500 mg/day	-5/6 mmHg
↑ potassium	3500-5000 mg/day	-4/5 mmHg



Small Changes = Big Results #3

1. Obesity

2. Diet

3. Substance use

4. Exercise

Intervention	Goal	Impact
Weight Loss	Ideal body weight	-1 mmHg per kg
Healthy diet	DASH	-11 mmHg
↓ sodium	<1500 mg/day	-5/6 mmHg
↑ potassium	3500-5000 mg/day	-4/5 mmHg
Alcohol reduction	Men <2 drinks/day Women <1 drink/day	-4 mmHg



Small Changes = Big Results #4

1. Obesity

2. Diet

3. Substance use

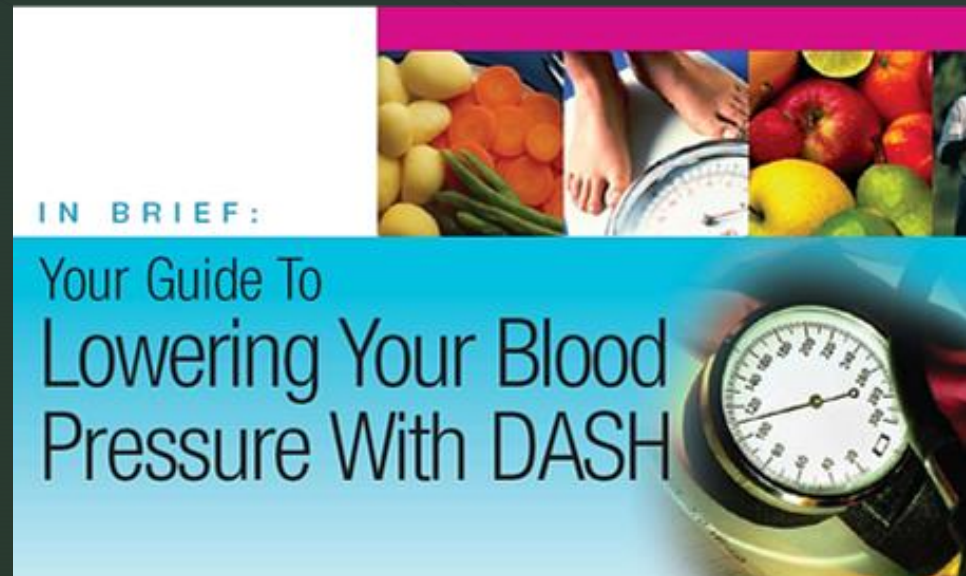
4. Exercise

Intervention	Goal	Impact
Weight Loss	Ideal body weight	-1 mmHg per kg
Healthy diet	DASH	-11 mmHg
↓ sodium	<1500 mg/day	-5/6 mmHg
↑ potassium	3500-5000 mg/day	-4/5 mmHg
Alcohol reduction	Men <2 drinks/day Women <1 drink/day	-4 mmHg
Aerobic exercise	90-150 min/wk	-5/8 mmHg
Dynamic resistance	90-150 min/wk (3 sets, 10 reps)	-4 mmHg
Isometric resistance	Hand grip exercises	-5 mmHg



DASH Diet

Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension



DASH Diet

- Low in saturated fat, cholesterol
- Fruits, vegetables, and low-fat dairy products
- Reduce red meat, sweets, and sugar- containing beverages
- Decrease blood pressure in 2 weeks



Follow up and Reassess!

- Returns to clinic 1 months later!
- Cut down on brandy
- Following the DASH (low sodium)
- Cleaning more aggressively!
- Home blood pressure 120-125/80-85 mmHg
- No PILLS!





But...Lots of us need
Medication for HTN

The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

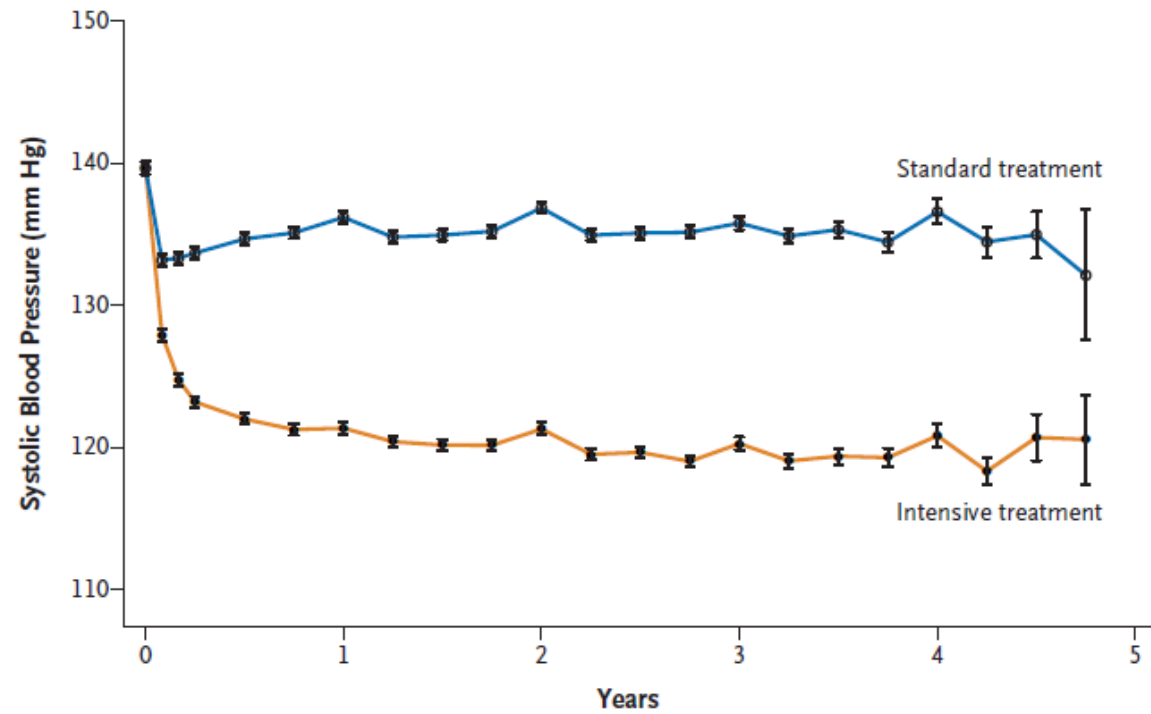
ESTABLISHED IN 1812

NOVEMBER 26, 2015

VOL. 373 NO. 22

A Randomized Trial of Intensive versus
Standard Blood-Pressure Control

The SPRINT Research Group*



No. with Data

Standard treatment	4683	4345	4222	4092	3997	3904	3115	1974	1000	274
Intensive treatment	4678	4375	4231	4091	4029	3920	3204	2035	1048	286

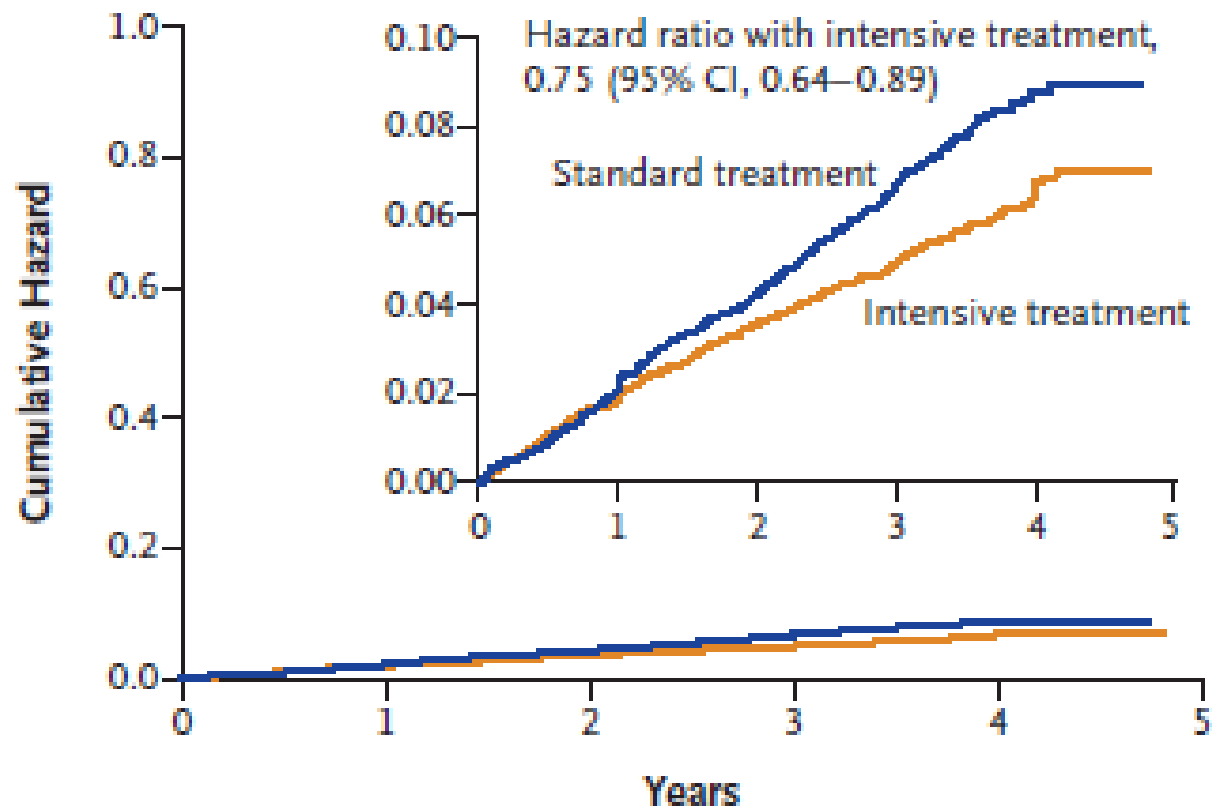
Mean No. of Medications

Standard treatment	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9
Intensive treatment	2.3	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.0

Figure 2. Systolic Blood Pressure in the Two Treatment Groups over the Course of the Trial.

The systolic blood-pressure target in the intensive-treatment group was less than 120 mm Hg, and the target in the standard-treatment group was less than 140 mm Hg. The mean number of medications is the number of blood-pressure medications administered at the exit of each visit. I bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

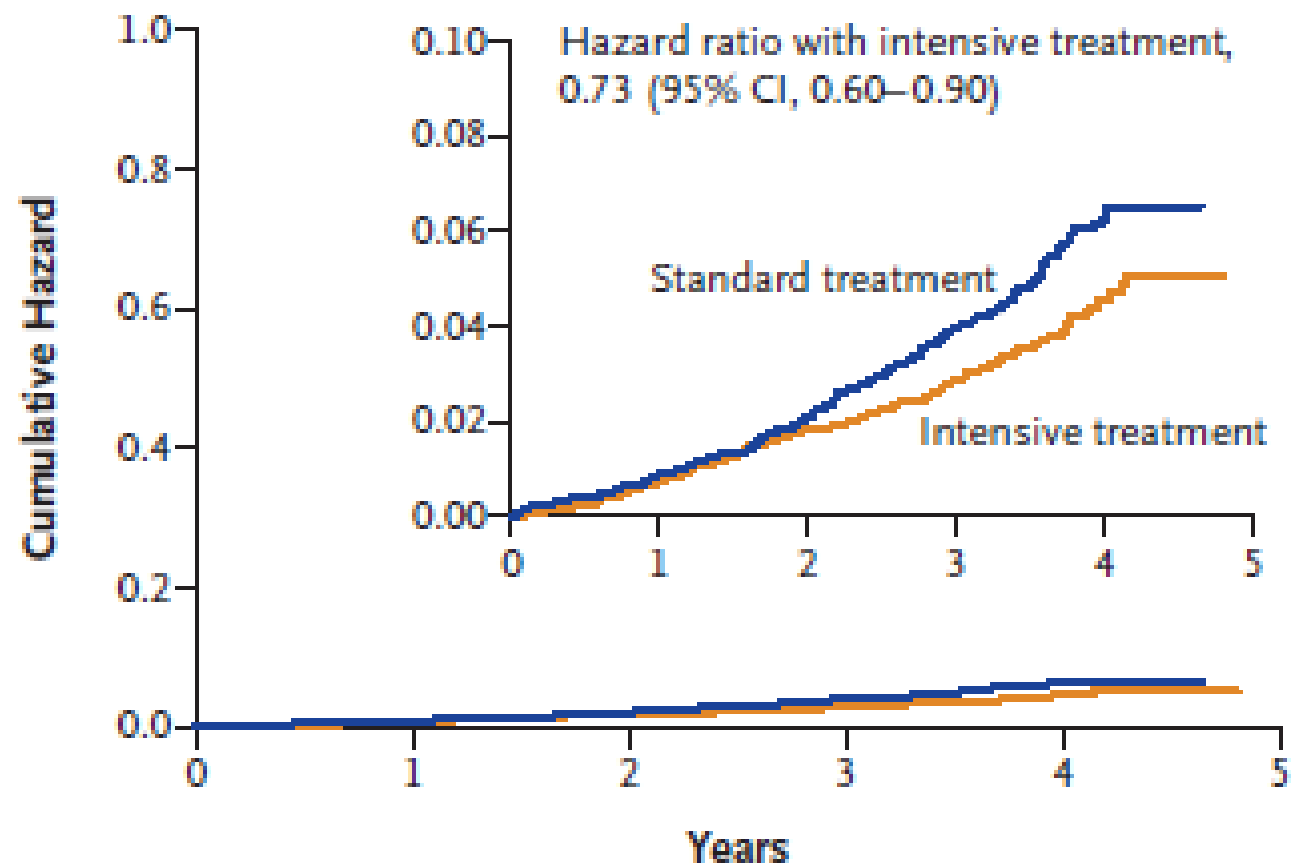
A Primary Outcome



No. at Risk

Standard treatment	4683	4437	4228	2829	721
Intensive treatment	4678	4436	4256	2900	779

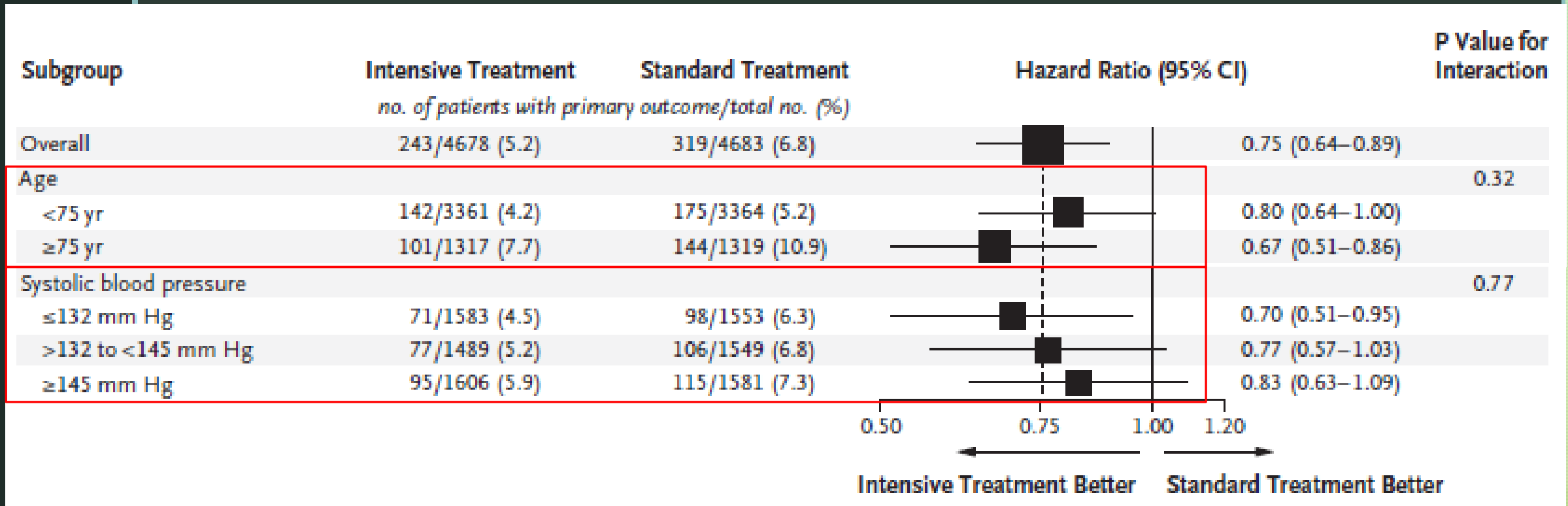
B Death from Any Cause



No. at Risk

Standard treatment	4683	4528	4383	2998	789
Intensive treatment	4678	4516	4390	3016	807

Lower BP = Fewer Deaths





Hypertension in Sprint

- Adults 75 years or older
- Treating to a systolic BP target <120 mm Hg vs <140 mmHg
- No effect on:
 - Gait speed
 - Changes in mobility limitation.

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

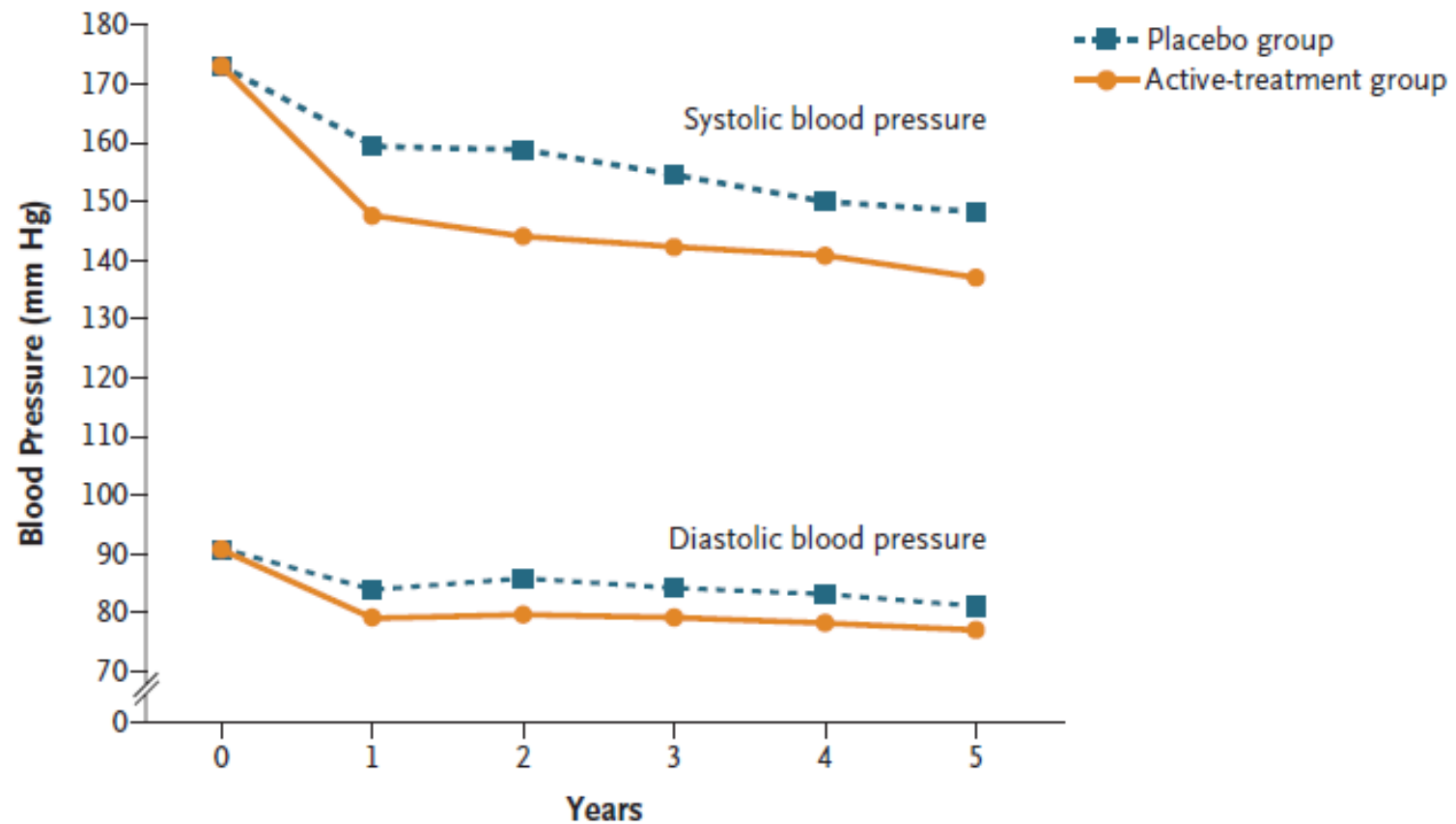
MAY 1, 2008

VOL. 358 NO. 18

Treatment of Hypertension in Patients 80 Years of Age or Older

Nigel S. Beckett, M.B., Ch.B., Ruth Peters, Ph.D., Astrid E. Fletcher, Ph.D., Jan A. Staessen, M.D., Ph.D.,
Lisheng Liu, M.D., Dan Dumitrascu, M.D., Vassil Stoyanovsky, M.D., Riitta L. Antikainen, M.D., Ph.D.,
Yuri Nikitin, M.D., Craig Anderson, M.D., Ph.D., Alli Belhani, M.D., Françoise Forette, M.D.,
Chakravarthi Rajkumar, M.D., Ph.D., Lutgarde Thijs, M.Sc., Winston Banya, M.Sc.,
and Christopher J. Bulpitt, M.D., for the HYVET Study Group*

- >80 yo with BP of >160 mmHg
- SBP goal <150 mmHg

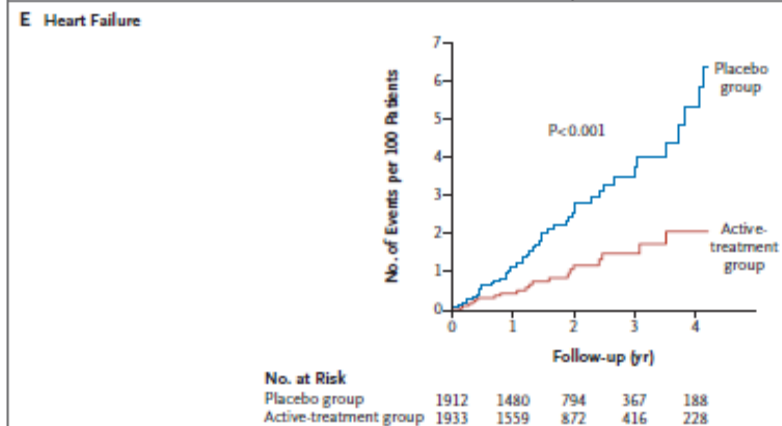
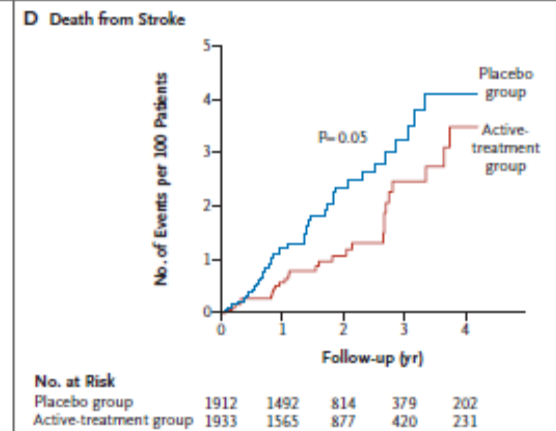
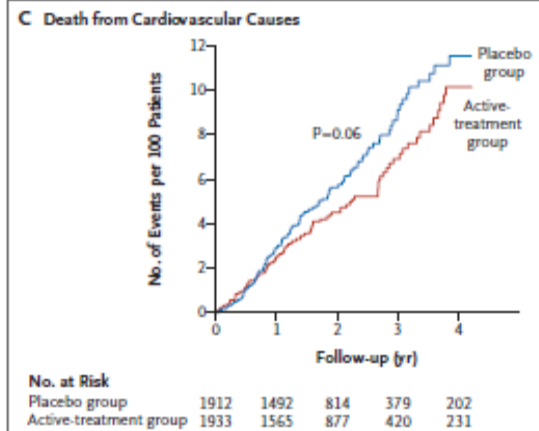
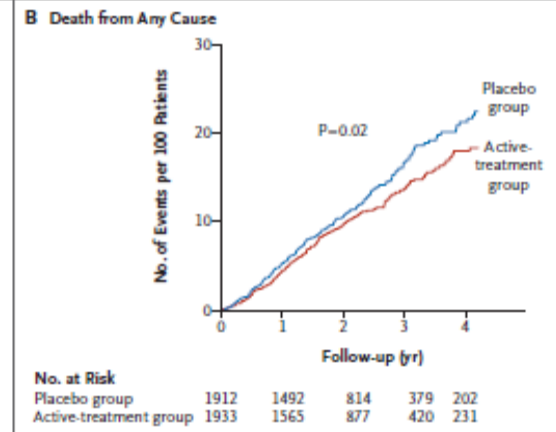
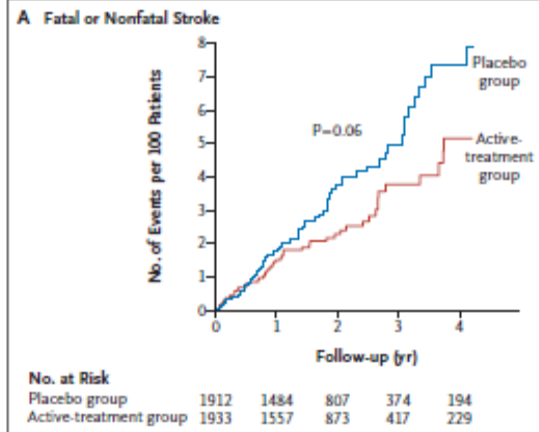


No. at Risk

Placebo group	1912	1468	701	330	191	116
Active-treatment group	1933	1540	754	373	207	118

Figure 2. Mean Blood Pressure, Measured while Patients Were Seated, in the Intention-to-Treat Population, According to Study Group.

- After ~4 years of follow up
- Better BP control meant:
 - Fewer strokes
 - Less heart failure
 - Fewer Deaths!



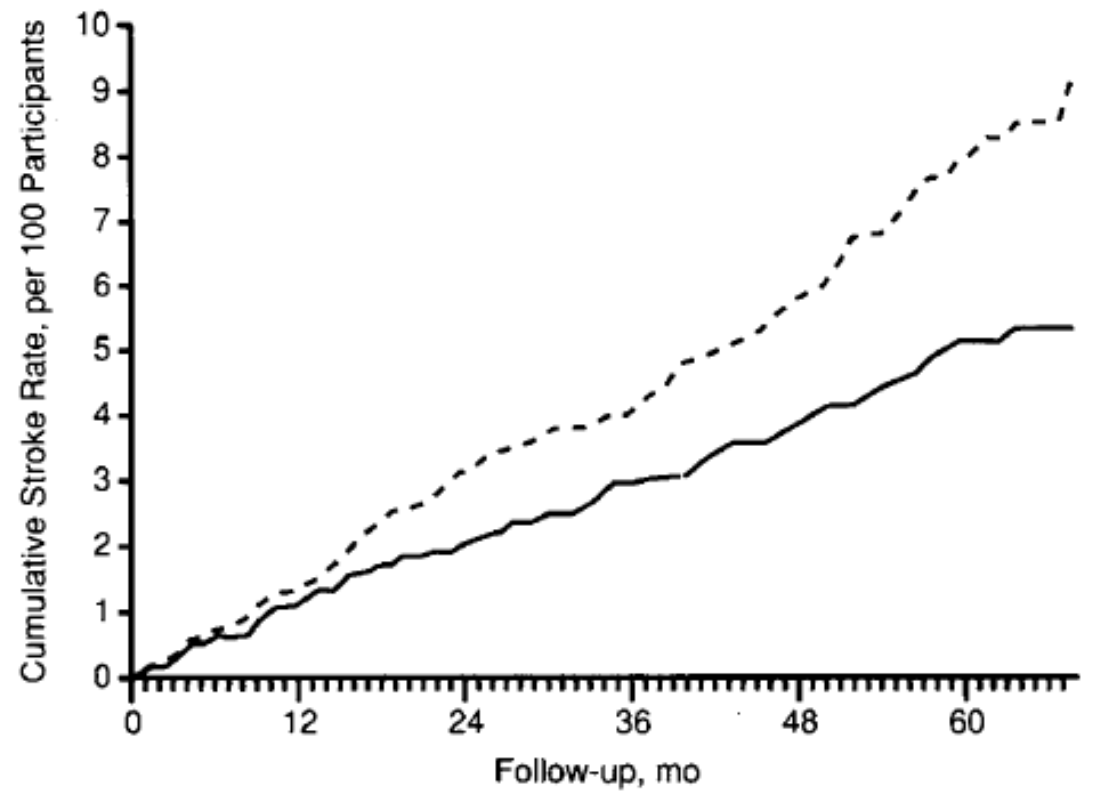
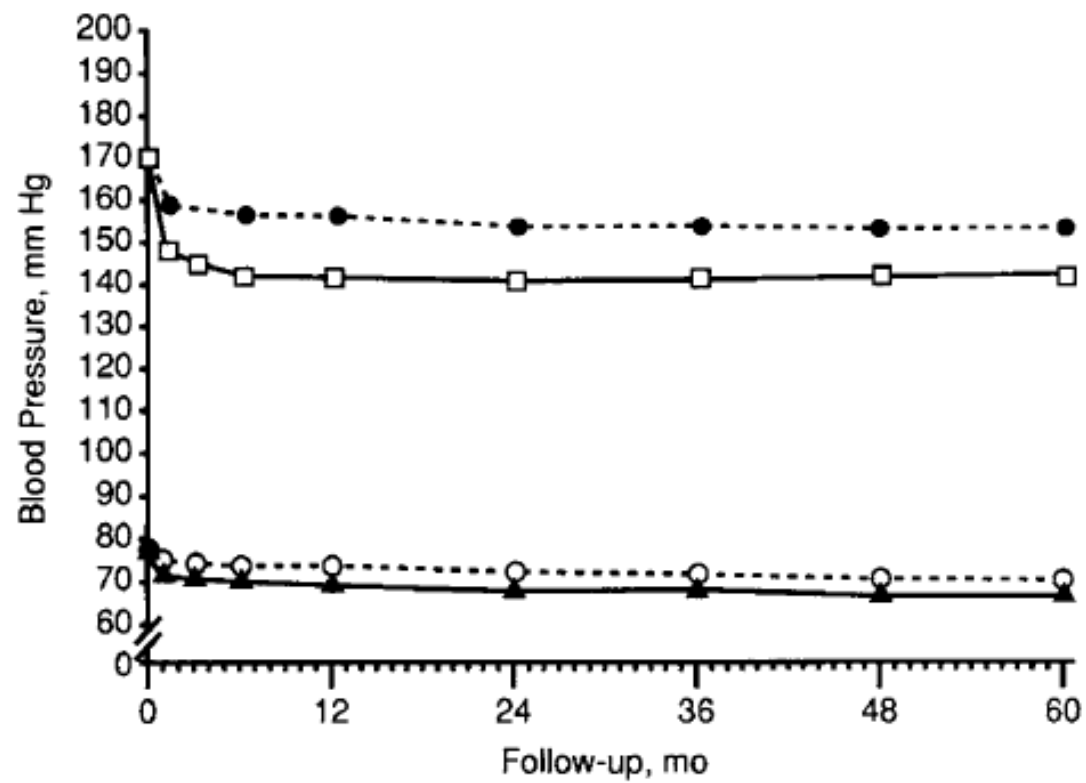
Original Contributions

Prevention of Stroke by Antihypertensive Drug Treatment in Older Persons With Isolated Systolic Hypertension

Final Results of the Systolic Hypertension in the Elderly Program (SHEP)

SHEP Cooperative Research Group

- >60 yo SBP >160



Summary: One Size...

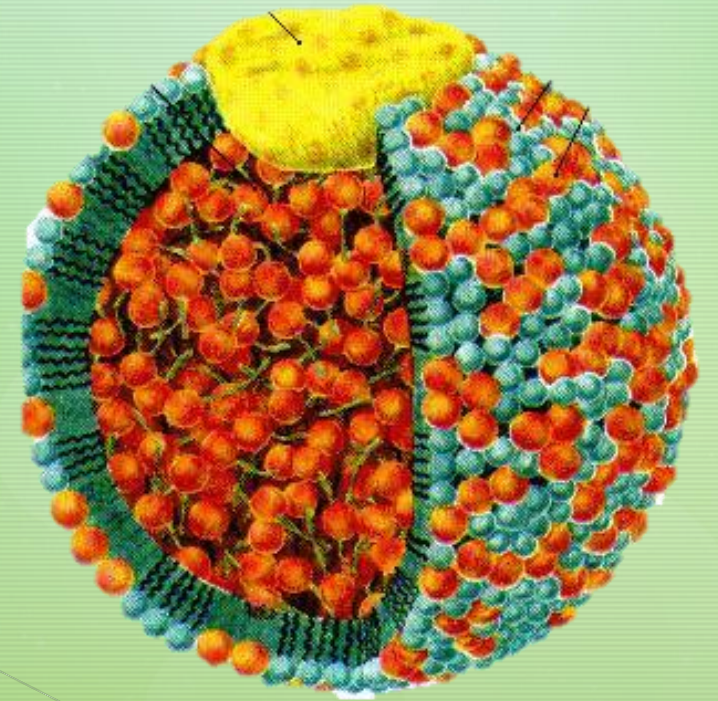


Fits None.

- Hypertension kills – Major CVD risk factor!
- Garbage in Garbage out!
- Get good data!
- Confirm with home BP!
- Diet/Lifestyle are important for everyone!
- Talk to your provider about Hypertension!



Dyslipidemia (Cholesterol)



A microscopic view of numerous red blood cells, appearing as biconcave discs, scattered across the frame. The cells are rendered in shades of dark red and brown, with some showing a distinct lighter center. The background is a dark, almost black, space with a subtle reddish tint, suggesting a blood smear or a similar biological sample.

Poll Q: Do you have high cholesterol?

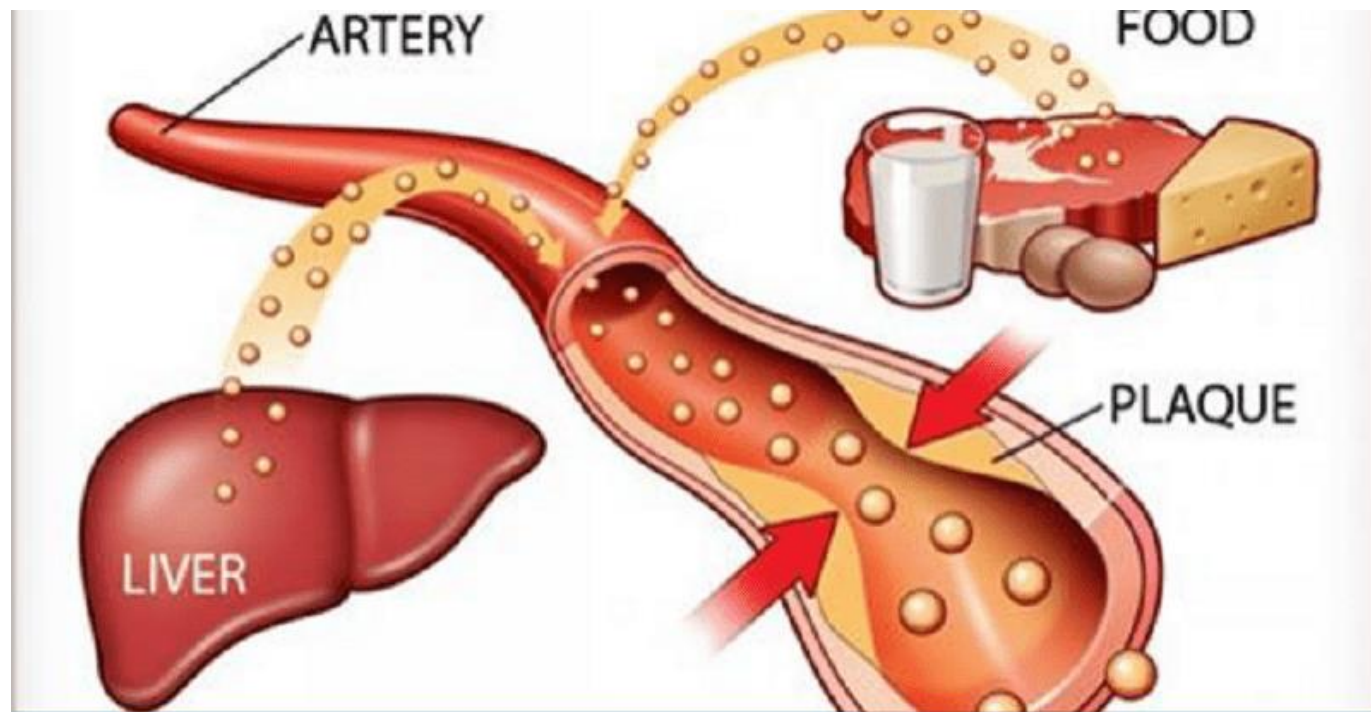
A close-up photograph of a silver spoon held over a white bowl. The spoon is filled with a variety of pills and capsules, including white round tablets, yellow capsules, and brown capsules. The bowl below is also filled with similar medication, but it is out of focus. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

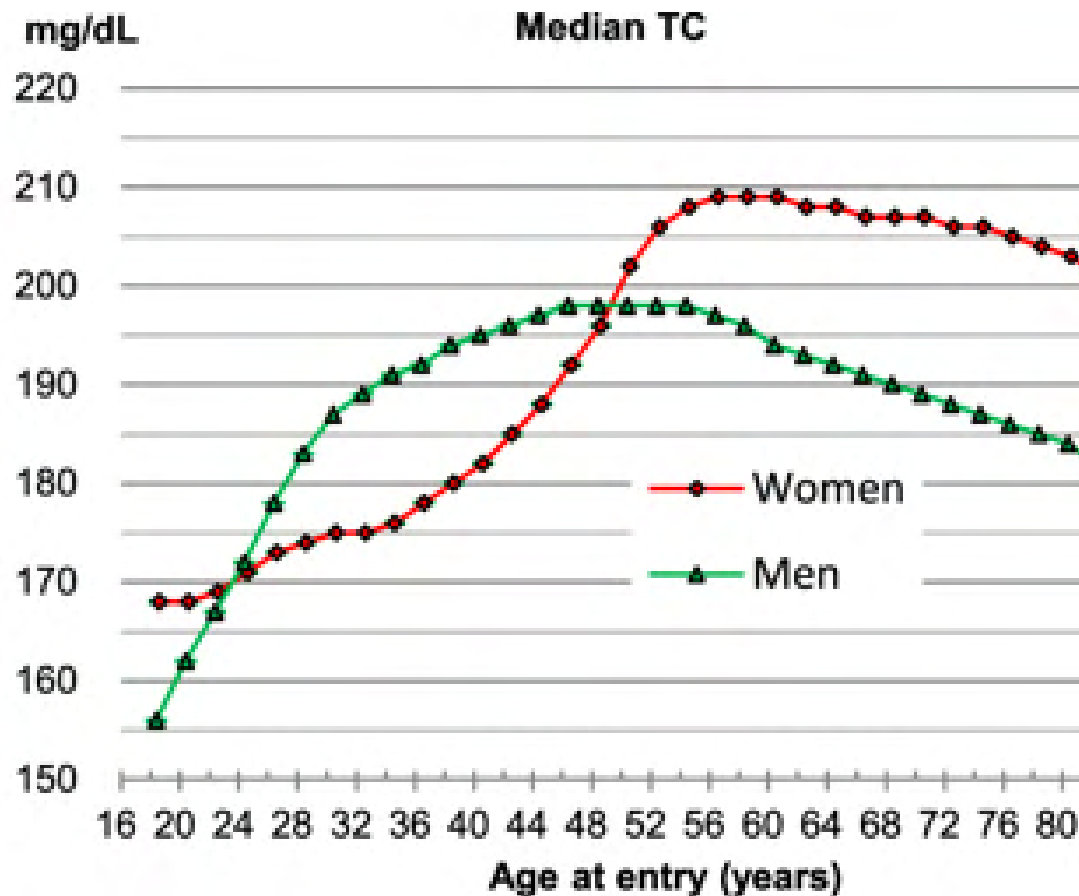
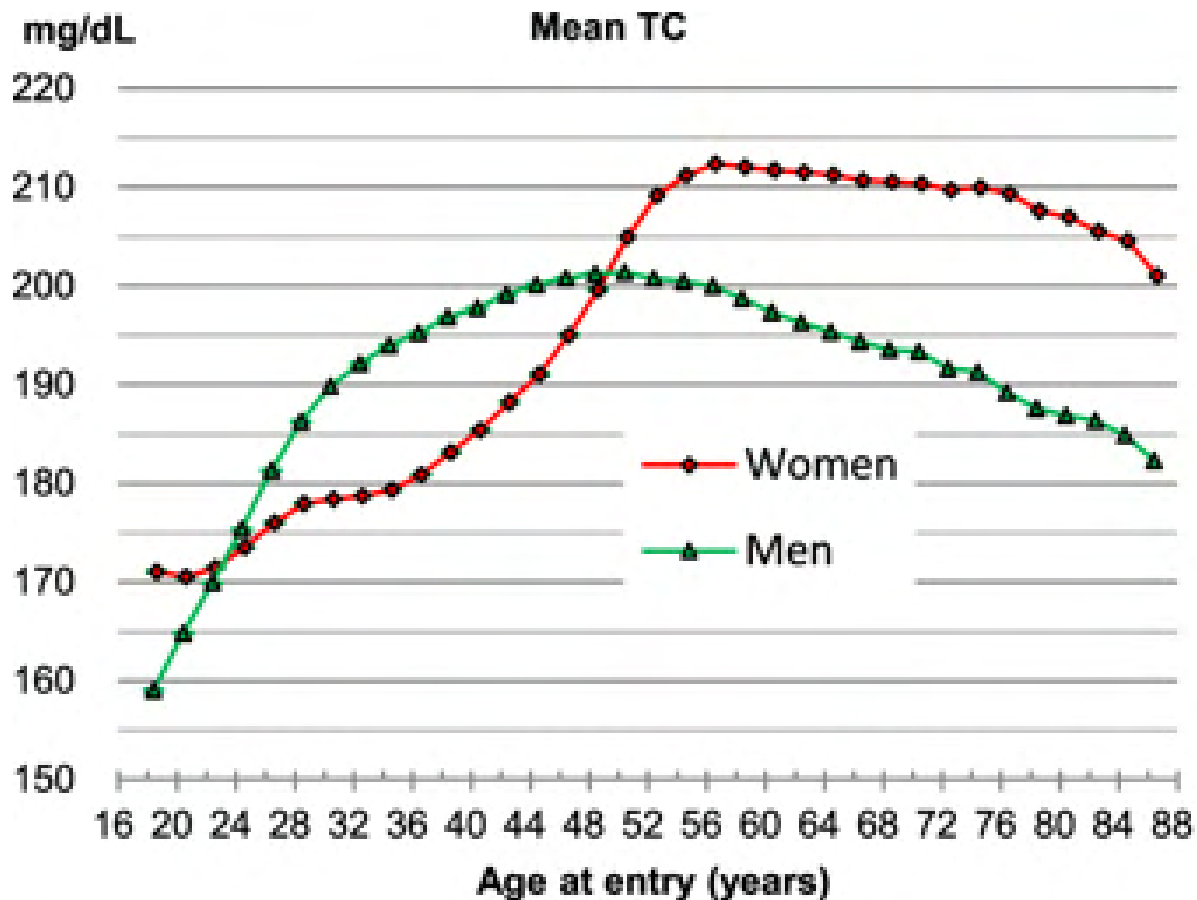
Poll Q: Do you take medication for cholesterol?

Cholesterol 101

- Needed to build cells and produce hormones
- 2 sources:
 - LIVER
 - DIET
- Total (TC)
- Good (HDL-C)
- Bad (LDL-C)
- Triglycerides (circulating fats)

Cholesterol 101





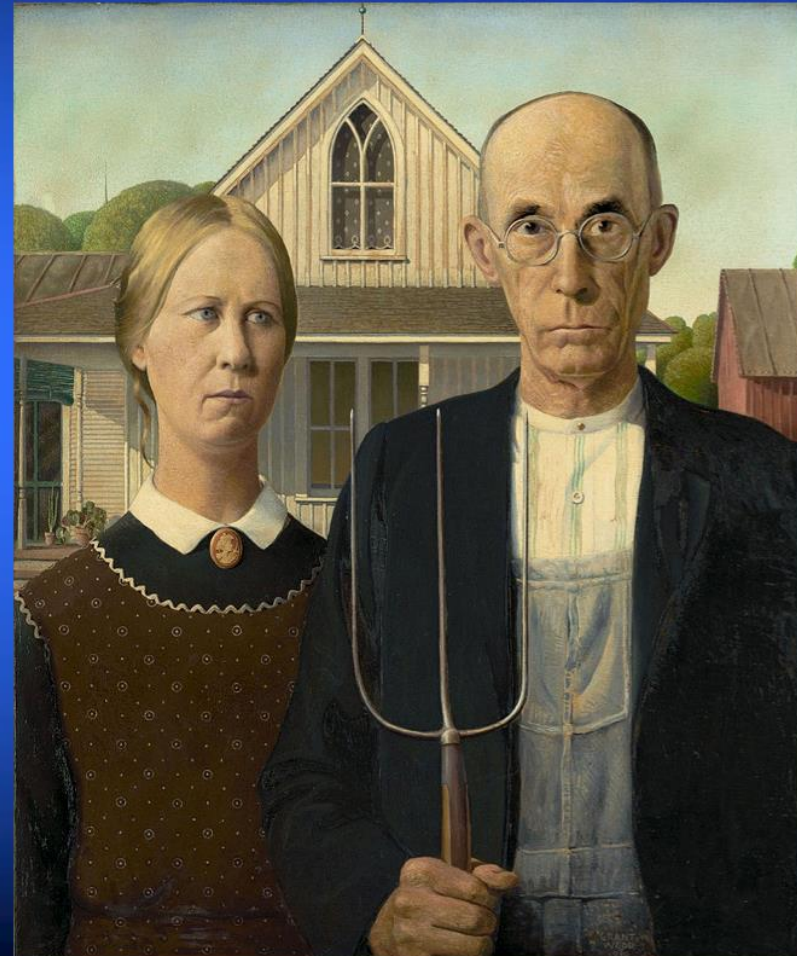
Cholesterol Through the Years



My Patient: GW



- ◆ 65 yo Farmer
 - HTN (110/70 mmHg)
- ◆ Fasting Lipid Panel
 - TC: 130 mg/dL
 - HDL-C: 50 mg/dL
- ◆ Loves:
 - Farming
 - Begonias
- ◆ Hates:
 - Statins
 - Smiling



The Facts!

ASCVD #1 cause of death in older adults

- 60% over 85
- Statin use increased 4x in past 10 years

28 statin trials

- N=186,854
- <8% were over 75

By 2030 -> \$70 billion more

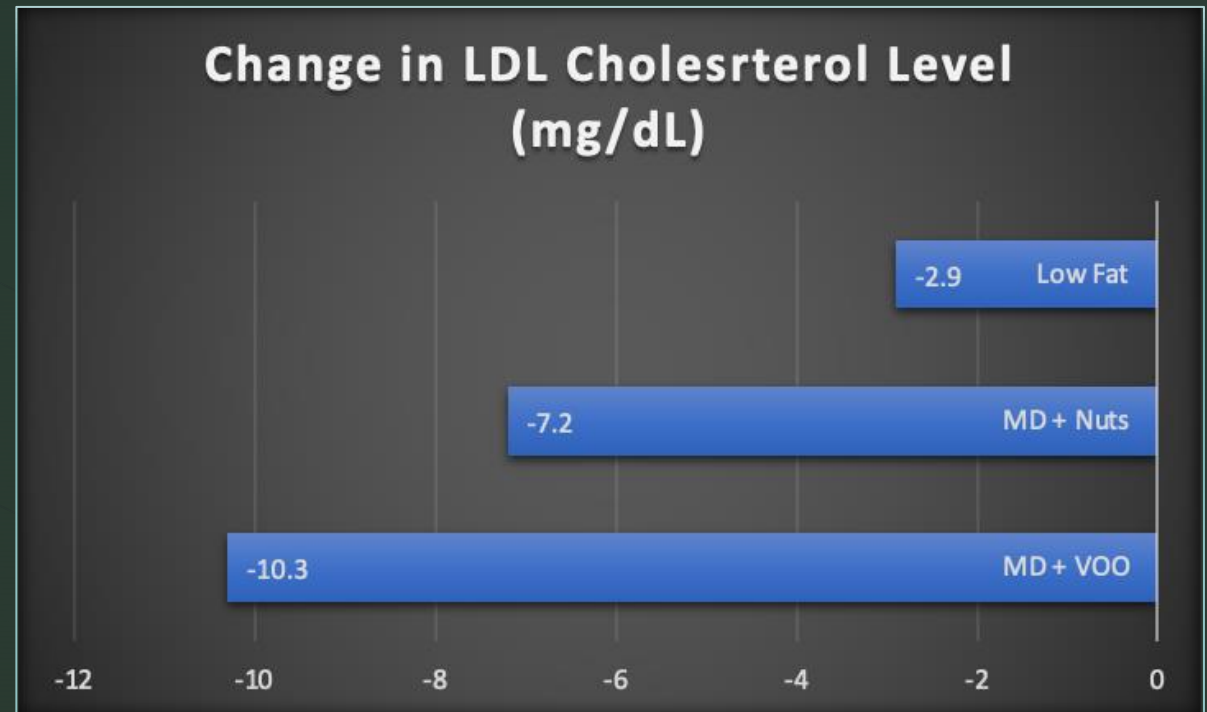
The Low Down on LDL

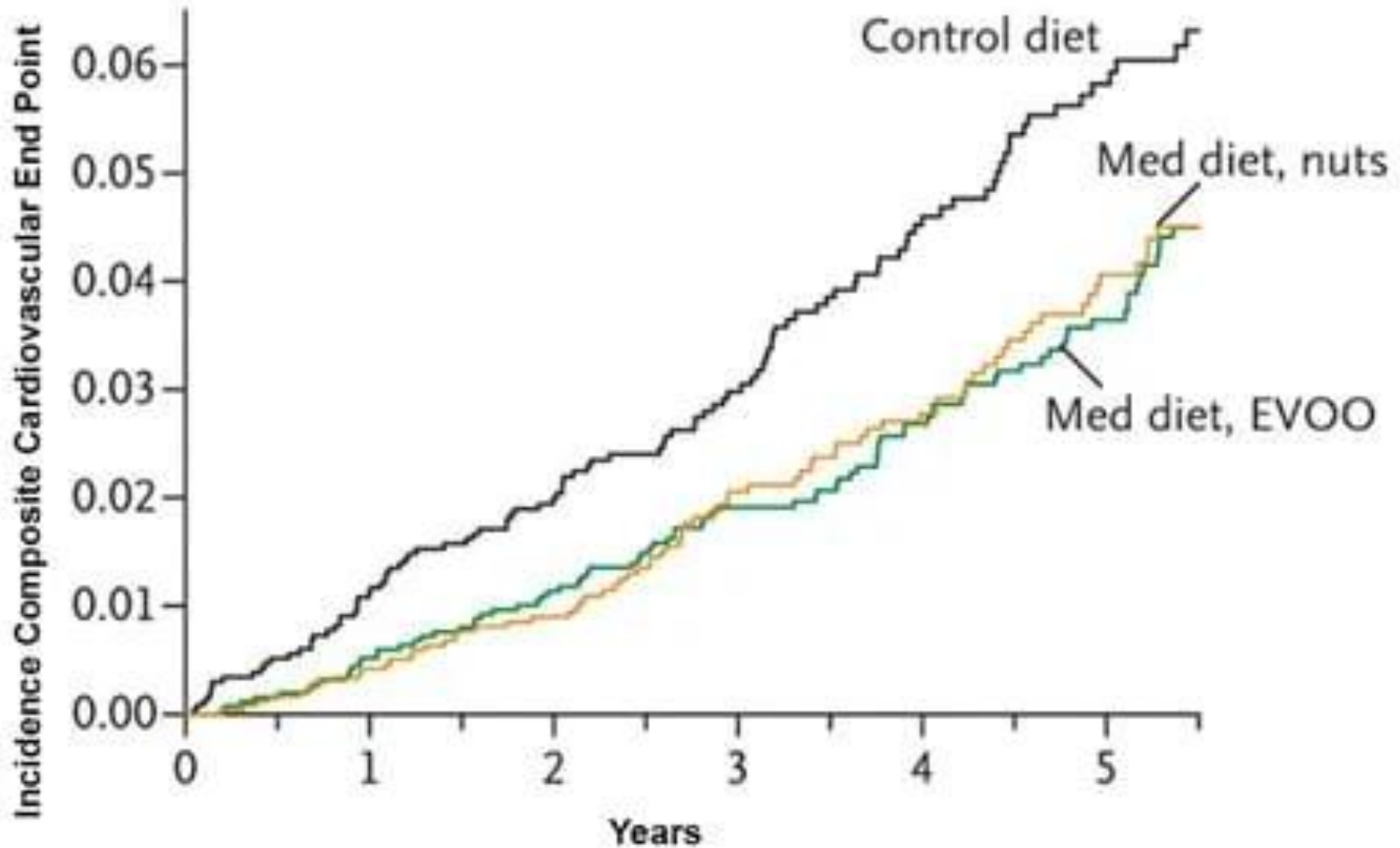
- CVD risk increases as LDL increases
 - CAD, Stroke/TIA
- Lifestyle is KEY



DIET and LDL (BAD) CHOLESTEROL

- RCT n=372 x 3 months
- Mediterranean Diet + virgin olive oil
 - -10.3 U/L [-13.9 to -6.6]
 - Mediterranean Diet + nuts
 - -7.2 U/L [-11.4 to -3.1]
- Low-fat diet group
 - -2.9 U/L [-6.7 to 1.0]



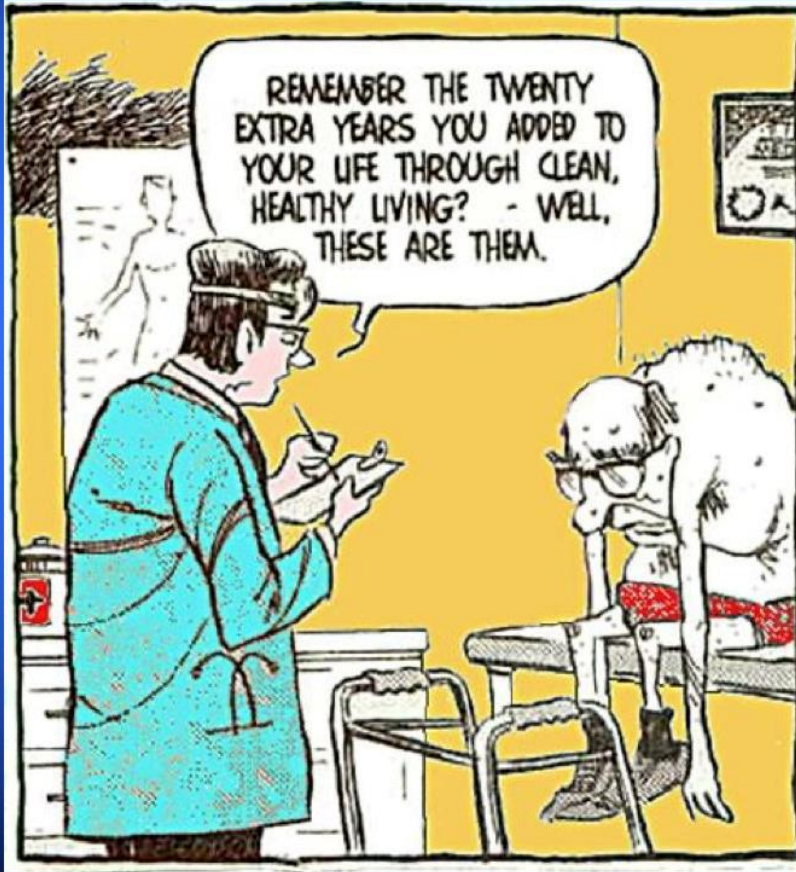




What about statin therapy?



Challenge #1: Defining Risk...



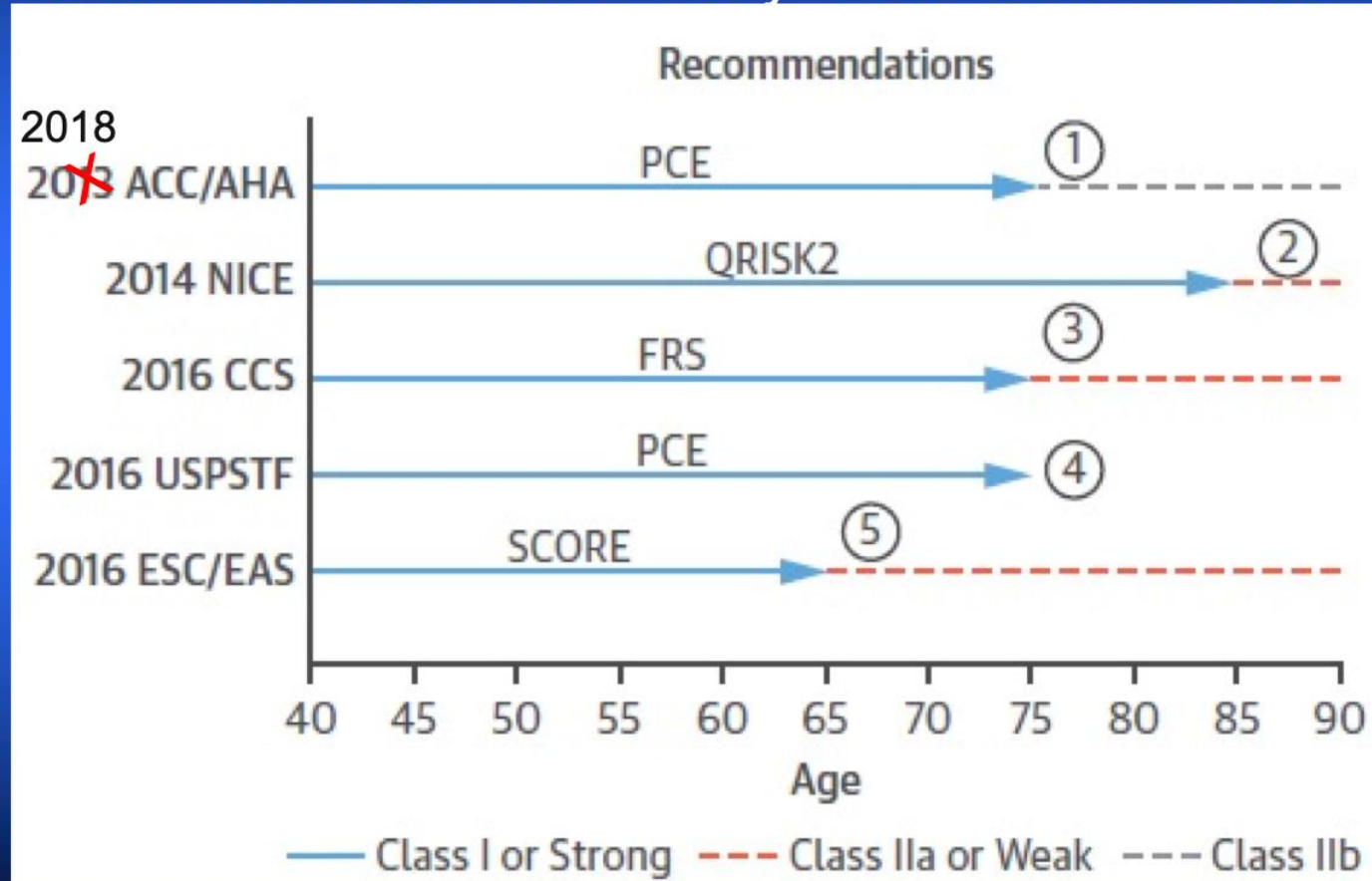
- ◆ Moderate Risk of ASCVD (>7.5% over 10 years)
 - Men > 65
 - woman > 71
- ◆ Statin for Everyone?



Challenge #2: Guideline Discord



Recommendations for Primary Prevention with Statin



Mortensen MB, Falk E. Primary Prevention With Statins in the Elderly. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2018 Jan 2;71(1):85-94.

Grundy et al. Guideline on the Management of Blood Cholesterol: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines. *Circulation*. 2019 Jun 18;139(25):e1082-e1143.



Time to Benefit

Both patients A and B:

- ⊕ Male
- ⊕ 65 years old
- ⊕ White
- ⊕ TC: 130mg/dl
- ⊕ HDL: 50mg/dl
- ⊕ SBP: 110mmHg on HTN treatment
- ⊗ History of DM
- ⊗ History of smoking

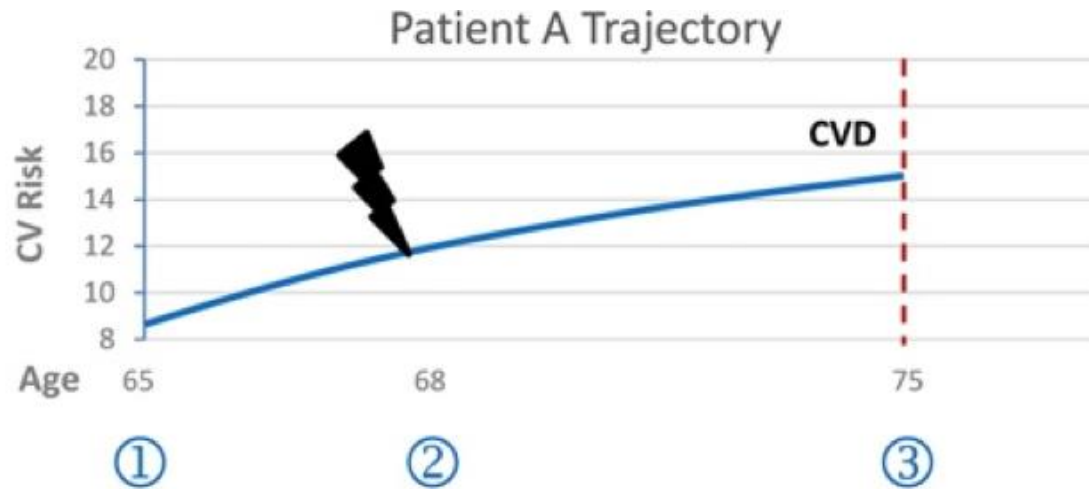
→ 10-year ASCVD risk of 8.5%^a



Patient A^b

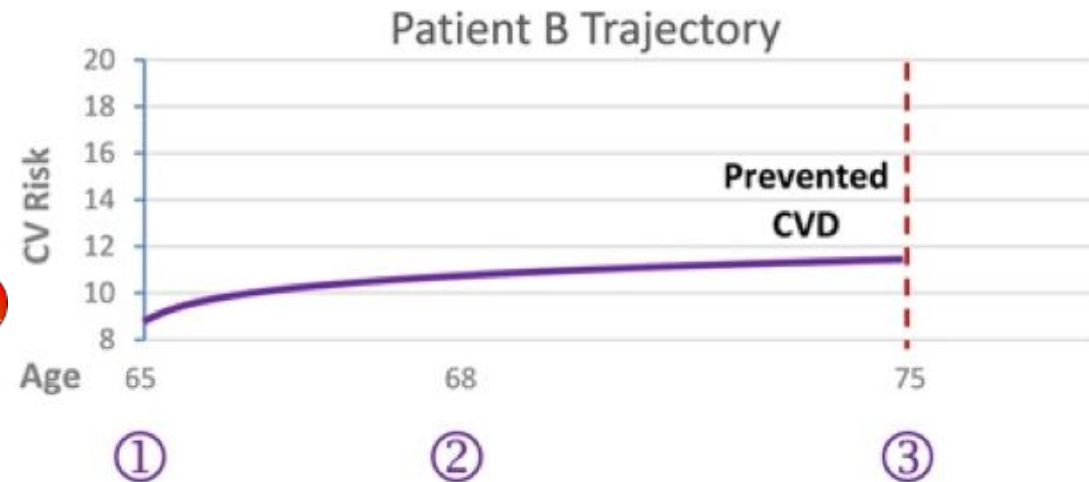


Patient B^b



Patient A:

- ① No statin given for 1° prevention^c
- ② Cardiac event occurs start statin for 2° prevention
- ③ Continue statin for 2° prevention



Patient B:

- ① Statin given for 1° prevention^d
- ② Theoretical successful prevention of cardiac event
- ③ Consider stopping statin for 1° prevention^e



All Guidelines Agree



Healthy Active Lifestyle!



Fast Forward 10 years



- ◆ 75 yo Ex-Farmer
 - HTN (133/74 mmHg)
- ◆ Fasting Lipid Panel
 - TC: 125 mg/dL
 - HDL-C: 40 mg/dL
 - LDL-C: 85 mg/dL
- ◆ Loves:
 - Statins
 - Not farming
 - Begonias
- ◆ Hates:
 - Smiling



Primary Prevention in Adults >75?

- No RCT data of statin intensity
- What about high-risk older adults?
 - DM
 - ASCVD risk >20% by PCE
 - Severe hypercholesterolemia

Intensity	LDL-C Decrease (%)
High	50
Moderate	30-49
Low	<30

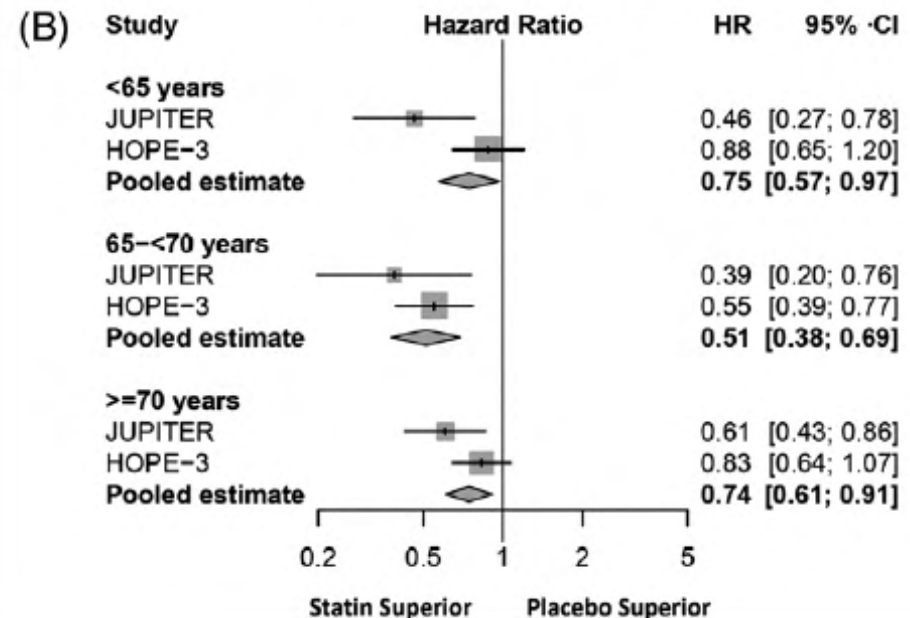
Primary Prevention

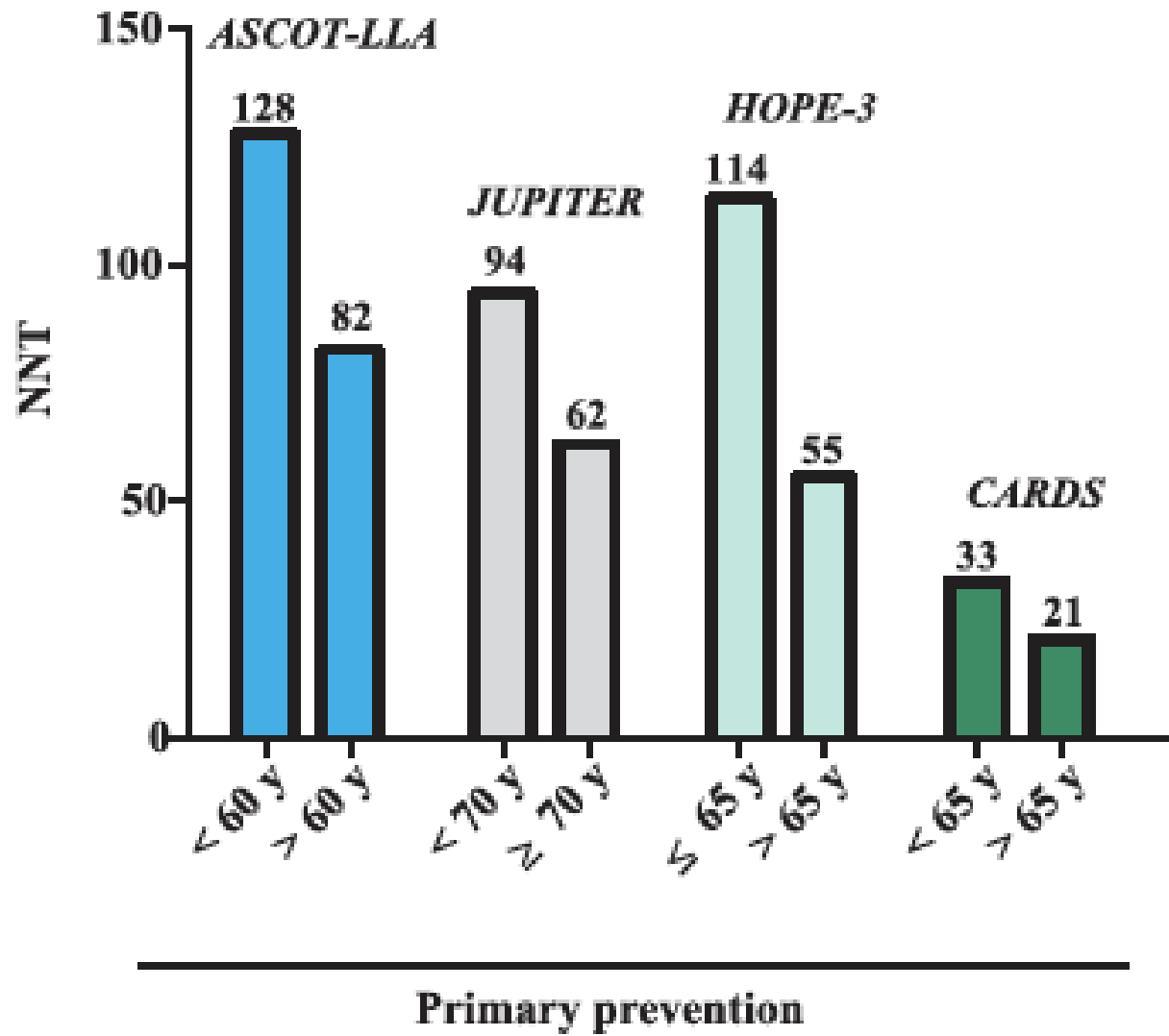
- Age >75 unclear
- Benefits and harms?
 - Comorbidities?
 - Frailty?
 - Cognitive impairment?

(A) Effects of rosuvastatin on the composite endpoint of nonfatal myocardial infarction, nonfatal stroke, or cardiovascular death in the JUPITER and HOPE-3 primary prevention trials, stratified by age.

Age Group	Trial	N	Rosuvastatin N (IR*)	Placebo N (IR*)
< 65 years	JUPITER	7,458	20 (0.27)	45 (0.59)
	HOPE-3	6,059	78 (0.46)	88 (0.53)
65-< 70 years	JUPITER	4,649	12 (0.24)	30 (0.61)
	HOPE-3	3,559	50 (0.50)	91 (0.91)
≥ 70 years	JUPITER	5,695	51 (0.82)	82 (1.36)
	HOPE-3	3,086	107 (1.25)	125 (1.50)

*rates are per 100 person-years. The test for heterogeneity by age for the effects of statin therapy on clinical outcomes was non-significant (P=0.10).





Aging with Statins

- Statins benefits vary by trial for older individuals
- 2018 AHA/ACC Guidelines
 - Class II recommendation for statin therapy in adults >75
- United Kingdom National Institute for Health Care Excellence
 - Moderate-intensity Statin up to 85 yo- Strong recommendation
 - No RCT data comparing statin intensity

**ESC**European Society
of CardiologyEuropean Heart Journal (2019) **40**, 3516–3525

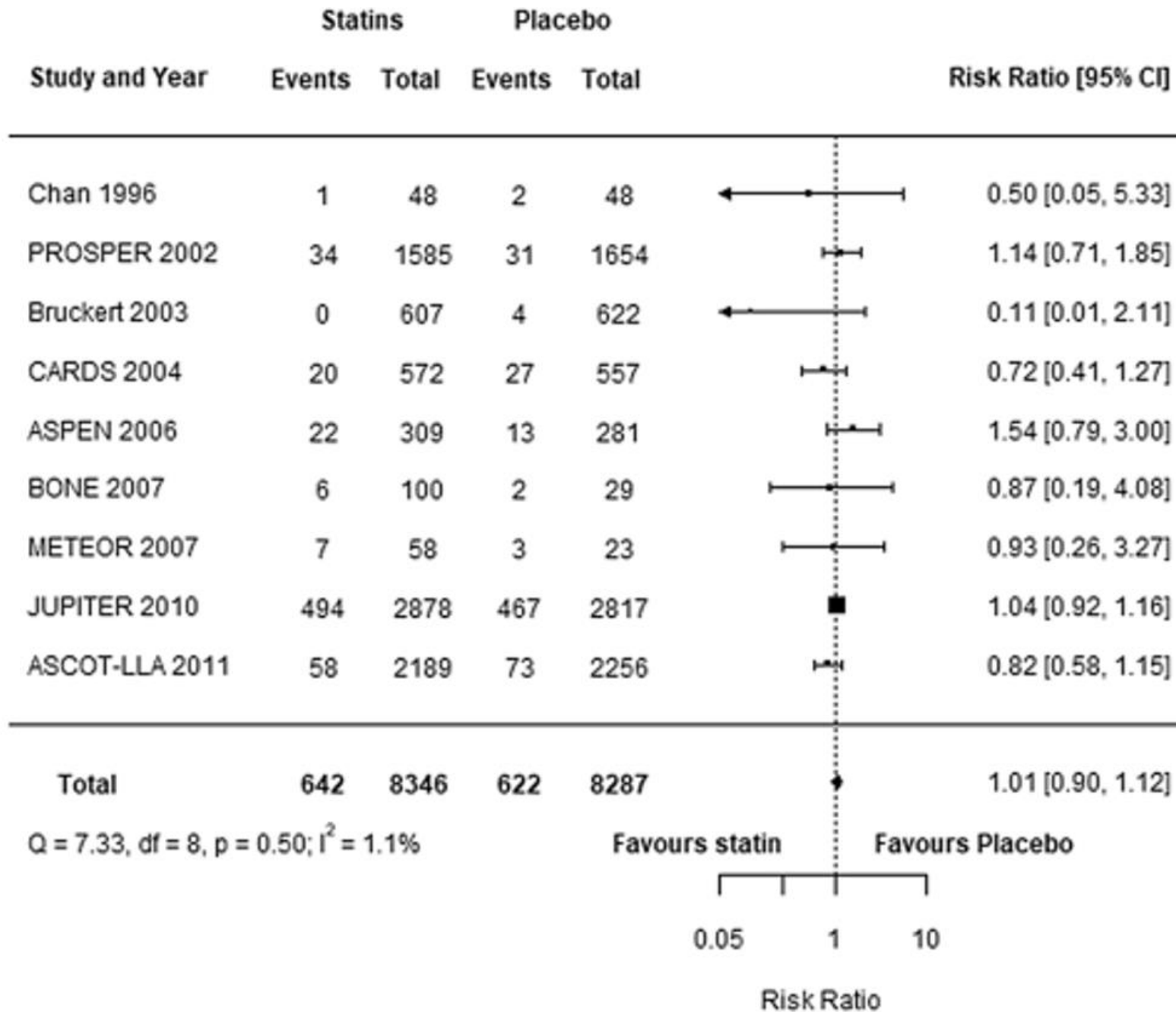
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehz458

CLINICAL RESEARCH*Prevention and epidemiology*

Cardiovascular effect of discontinuing statins for primary prevention at the age of 75 years: a nationwide population-based cohort study in France

Philippe Giral ^{1†}, **Anke Neumann** ^{2†}, **Alain Weill**², and **Joël Coste**^{2,3*}

Safety Tolerability



effects?

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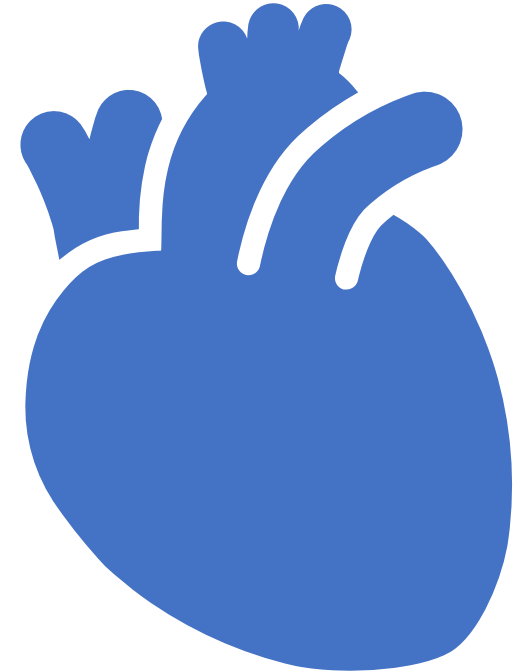
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AEs)

ntinuations

Cholesterol Summary

- Cholesterol levels change over time
- LIFESTYLE
- Statins work – but not right away!
- Time matters
- Statins are safe!
- Less data with the oldest old patients



Challenge #3: Discontinuing Therapy?



5M framework

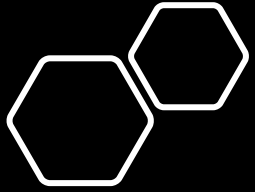
1. Mind
2. Mobility
3. Medications
4. Multi-complexity
5. Matters most



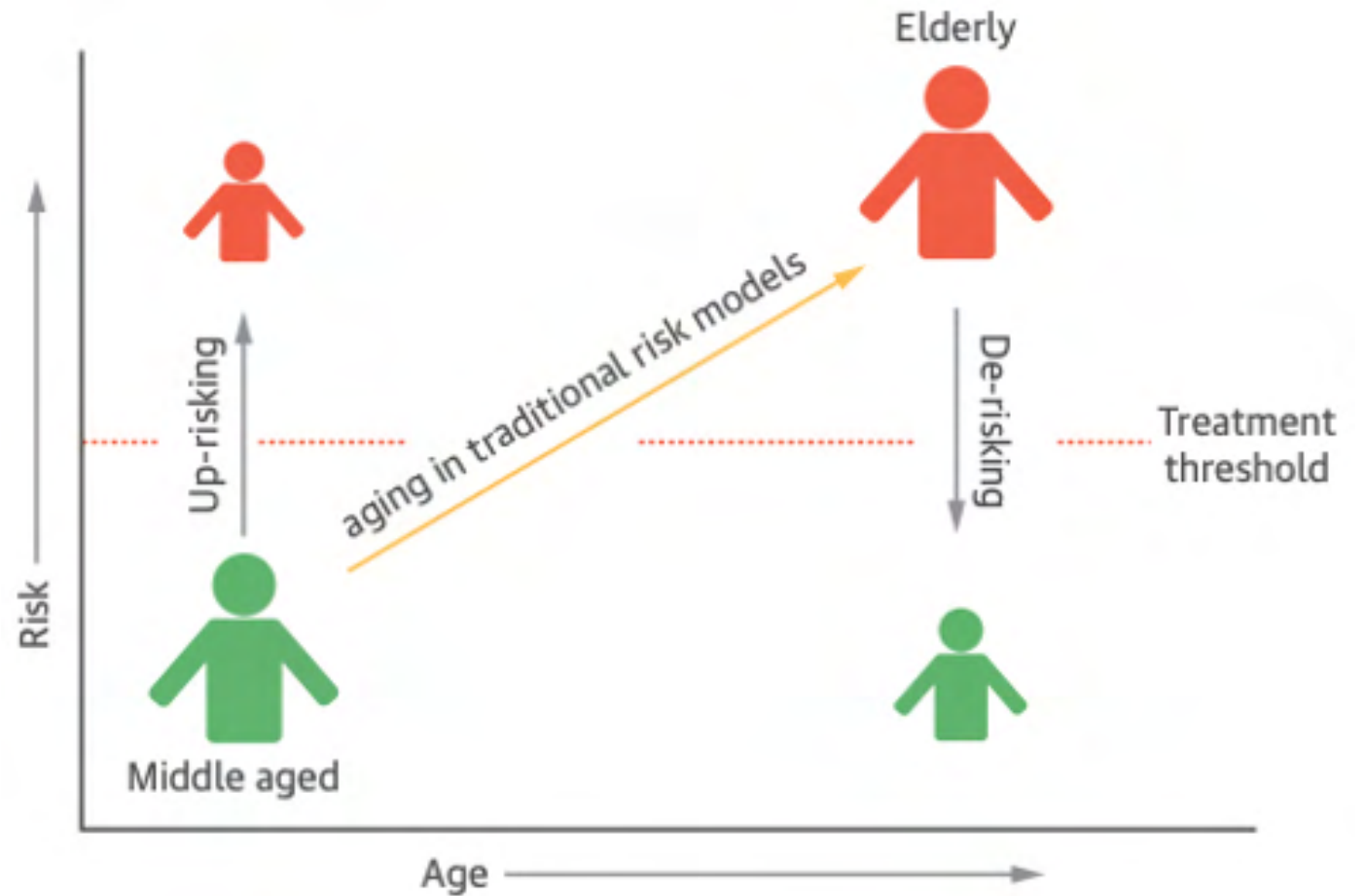
Risk in Older Patients

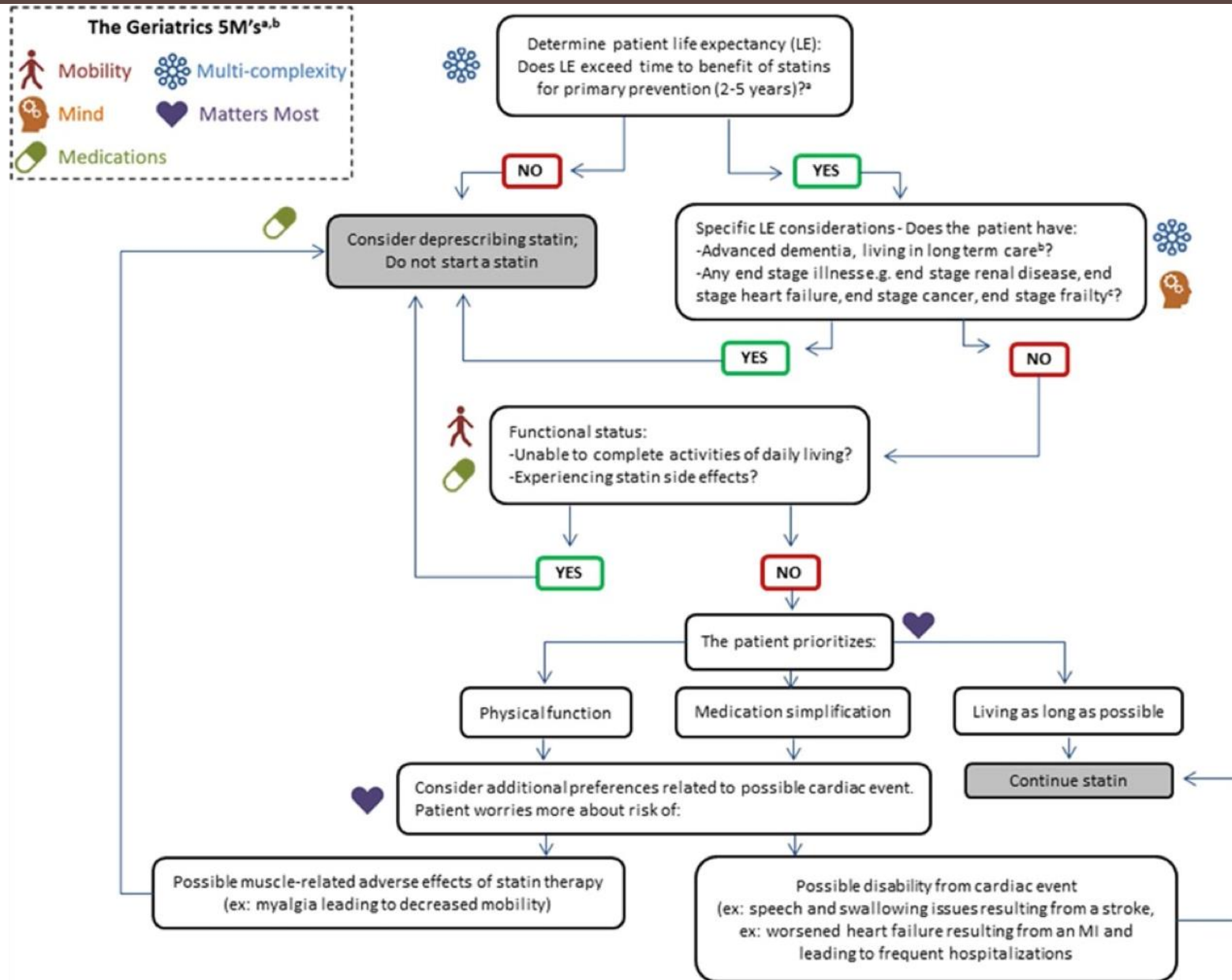
- Short term risk vs benefit?
- Long term risk vs benefit?



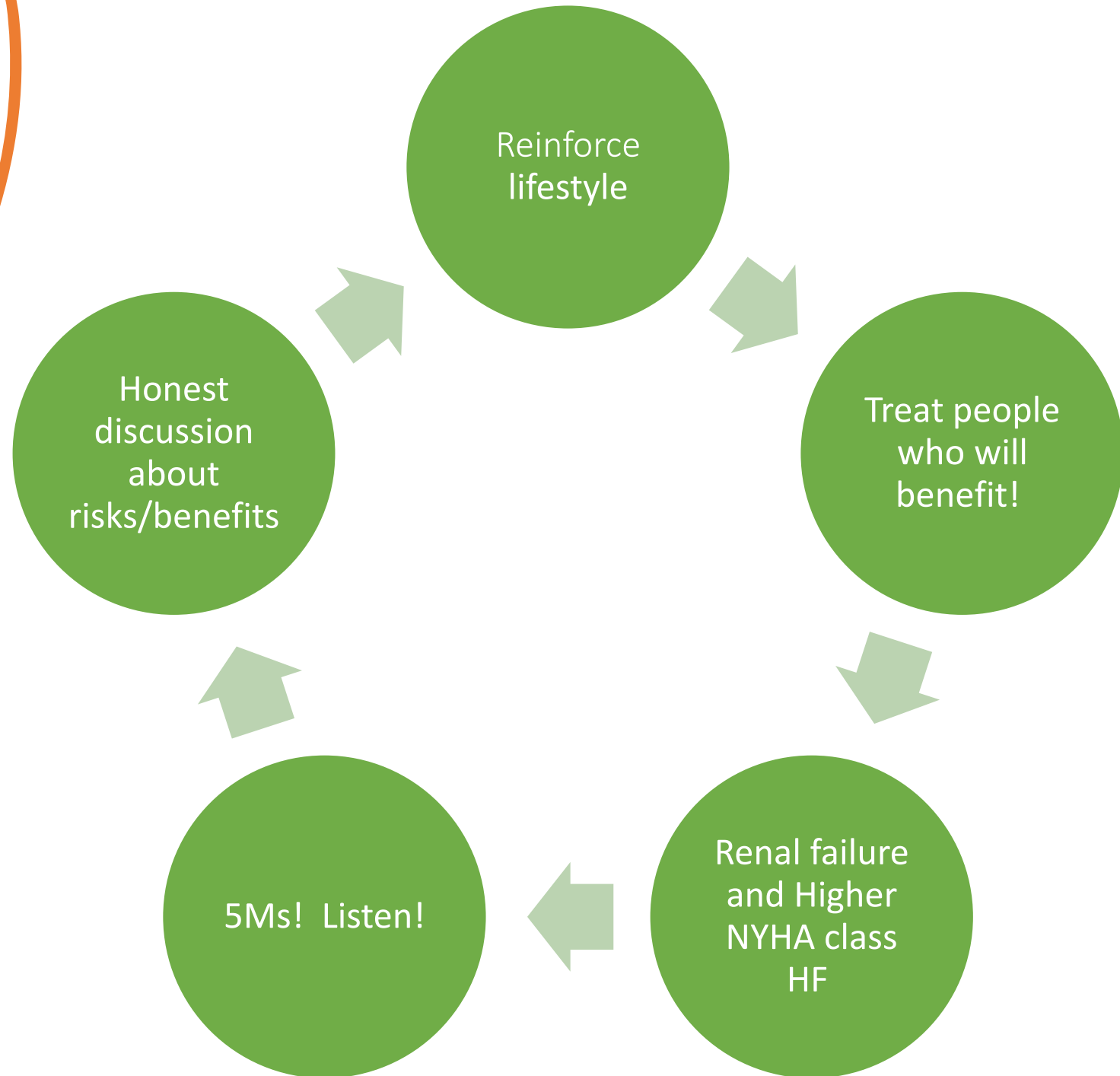


True vs Predicted Risk





My Approach:





Reason for initiating a discussion

- GP initiated
 - Patient health status
 - Medication review
- Patient-initiated



What GPs talk about when they talk about discontinuing statins with patients

- Lack of evidence
- Life expectancy
- Uncertainty in an individual context
- Values and preferences




Depth of discussion

- Patient health status
- Patient engagement



How to talk to your provider about deprescribing

- Ask!
 - Go through your medication list
 - What does each medication do?
 - What is the evidence that it will help?
 - Could it cause harm?
 - Is there evidence for me?
- 



Last words!

- You matter! Your health matters!
- Stay active!
- Lifestyle changes work
 - BP
 - Cholesterol
- Medications (when needed) are SAFE and EFFECTIVE
- Talk to your provider:
- Deprescribe: Stop taking medicines you don't need!
- Goals of Care!

Questions?



Let's talk about:



ASPRIN 

Do you take daily aspirin?

Guideline Says...

ACC/AHA 2019 Recommendations ¹		USPSTF 2016 Recommendations ²	
<40 yo	Insufficient evidence	<50 yo	Insufficient evidence
40-70 yo	Consider low-dose aspirin for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher ASCVD risk - No increased bleeding risk 	50-59 yo	Initiate low-dose aspirin in those who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10-year ASCVD risk \geq 10% - No increased bleeding risk - Life expectancy of \geq 10 years - Willing to take aspirin \geq 10 years
>70 yo	Should not routinely administer low-dose aspirin	60-69 yo	Individualize decision, considering same initiation criteria as for 50-59 yo
All	Should not routinely administer low-dose aspirin for those at increased bleeding risk	>70 yo	Insufficient evidence

Risk Benefit Considerations

Bleeding Risk Factors	Thrombotic Risk Factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Previous GI bleeding, peptic ulcer disease or other bleeding- Age >70 yo- Thrombocytopenia- Coagulopathy- Chronic kidney disease- Other Meds - NSAID, steroid, etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Family history of premature MI- Poor blood pressure control- Poor glucose control- Elevated coronary artery calcium score- Smoking

Evidence Summary Across the Years

Population	Number needed to treat (NNT)	Number needed to harm (NNH)	NNH/NNT
All patients ³	MACE: 241	Major bleeding: 210	0.87
Patient with low ASCVD risk <10% ³	MACE: 297	Major bleeding: 249	0.84
Patient with high ASCVD risk >10% ³	MACE: 160	Major bleeding: 152	0.95
Patient with diabetes ³	MACE: 153	Major bleeding: 121	1.26
Elderly patients ⁴ (≥70yo or ≥65yo in Hispanic or African American)	CV disease: 418	Major hemorrhage: 98	0.23

Deprescribing ASA in Older Adults

- How?
- You need to be your advocate!
- Talk to your provider!

McNeil JJ, Wolfe R, Woods RL, et al. Effect of Aspirin on Cardiovascular Events and Bleeding in the Healthy Elderly. *N Engl J Med*. 2018;379(16):1509-1518. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa1805819