

The banner features a blue-tinted background with a close-up of a man's face on the left and a building tower on the right. The text is overlaid on this background.

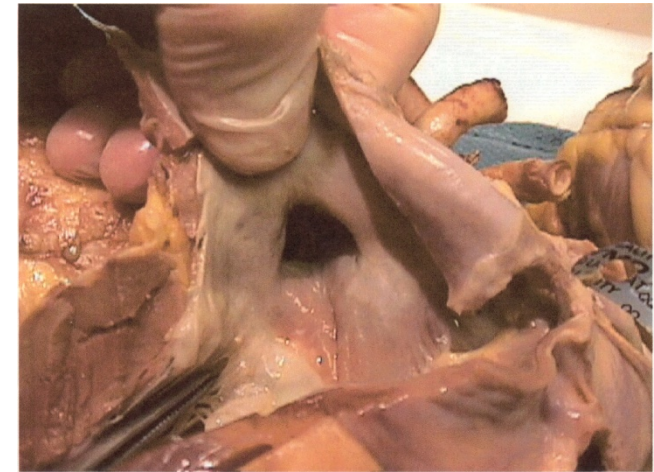
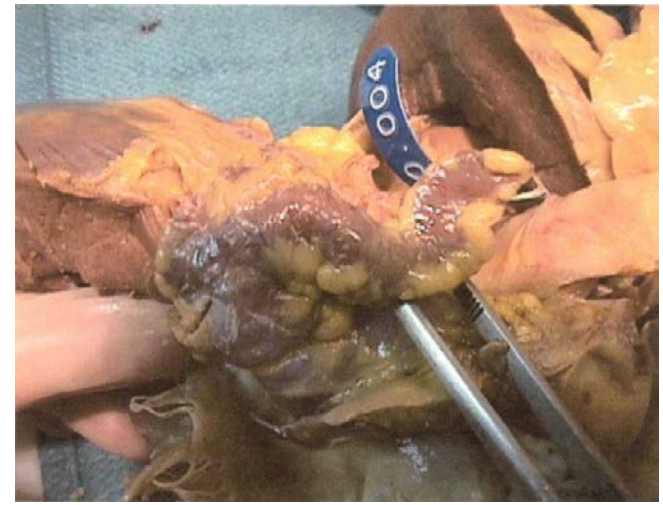
XXVI Giornate Cardiologiche Torinesi

**ADVANCES IN CARDIAC ARRHYTHMIAS
AND GREAT INNOVATIONS IN CARDIOLOGY**

Turin, October 23-25, 2014
Centro Congressi Unione Industriale

Prevention of Thromboembolic Events by Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion

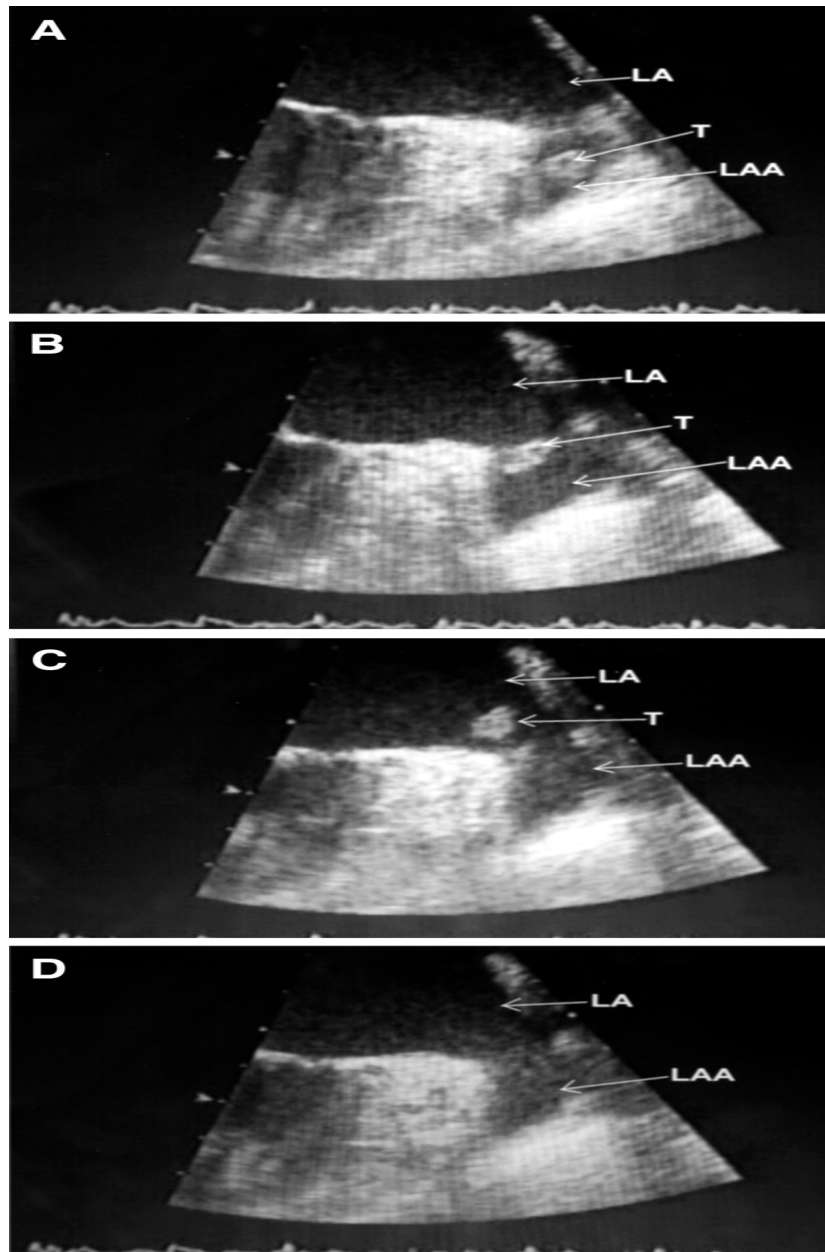
**Raphael Rosso MD
Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center
Torino 2014**



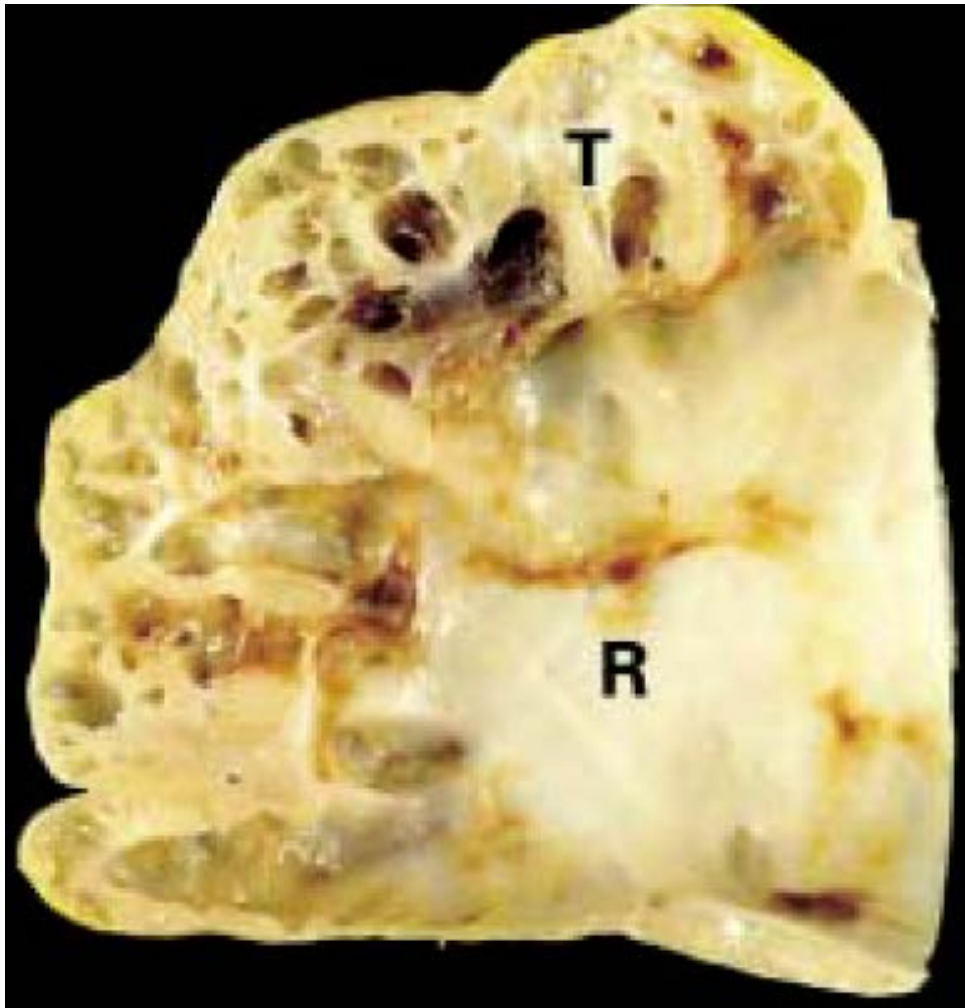
≈15-20% of all strokes due to AF

≈90% of AF strokes cardioembolic

≈90% of emboli forms In the LAA

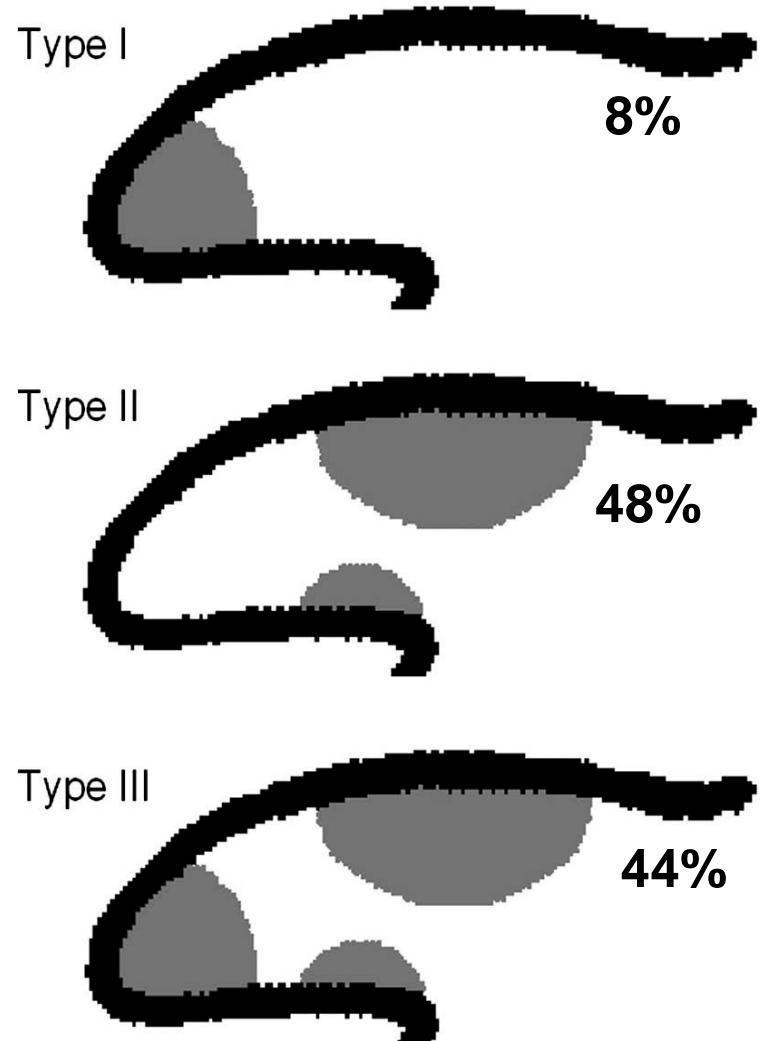


NVAF

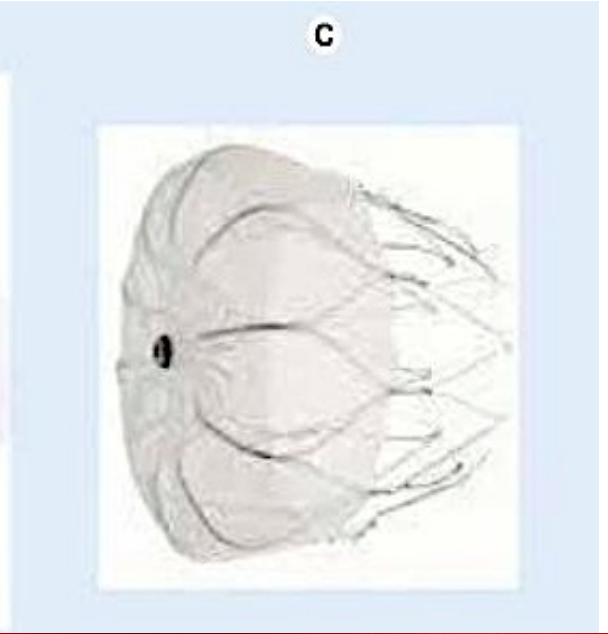
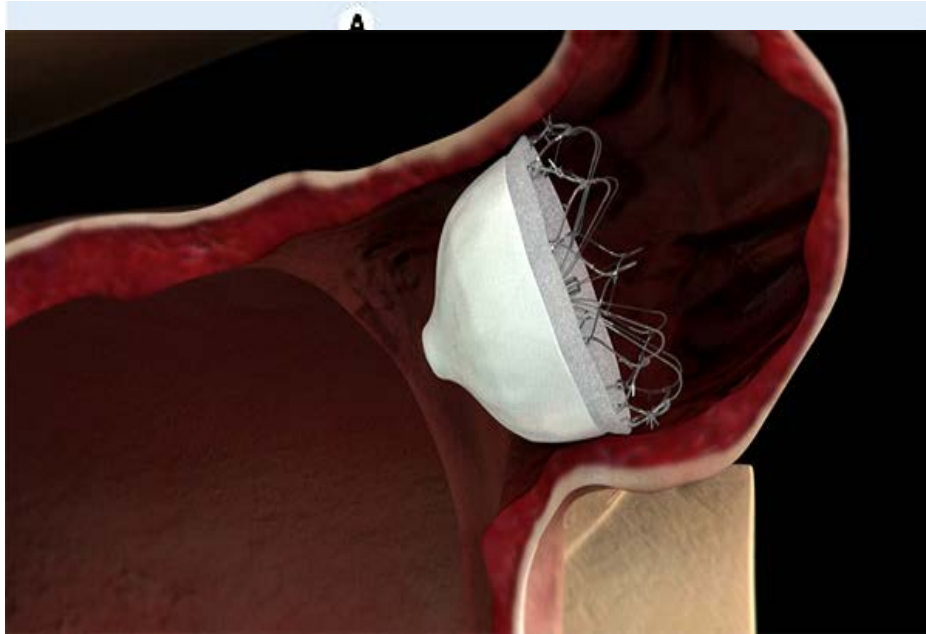


Yamaji, et al. *Cardiology* 2002;97:104

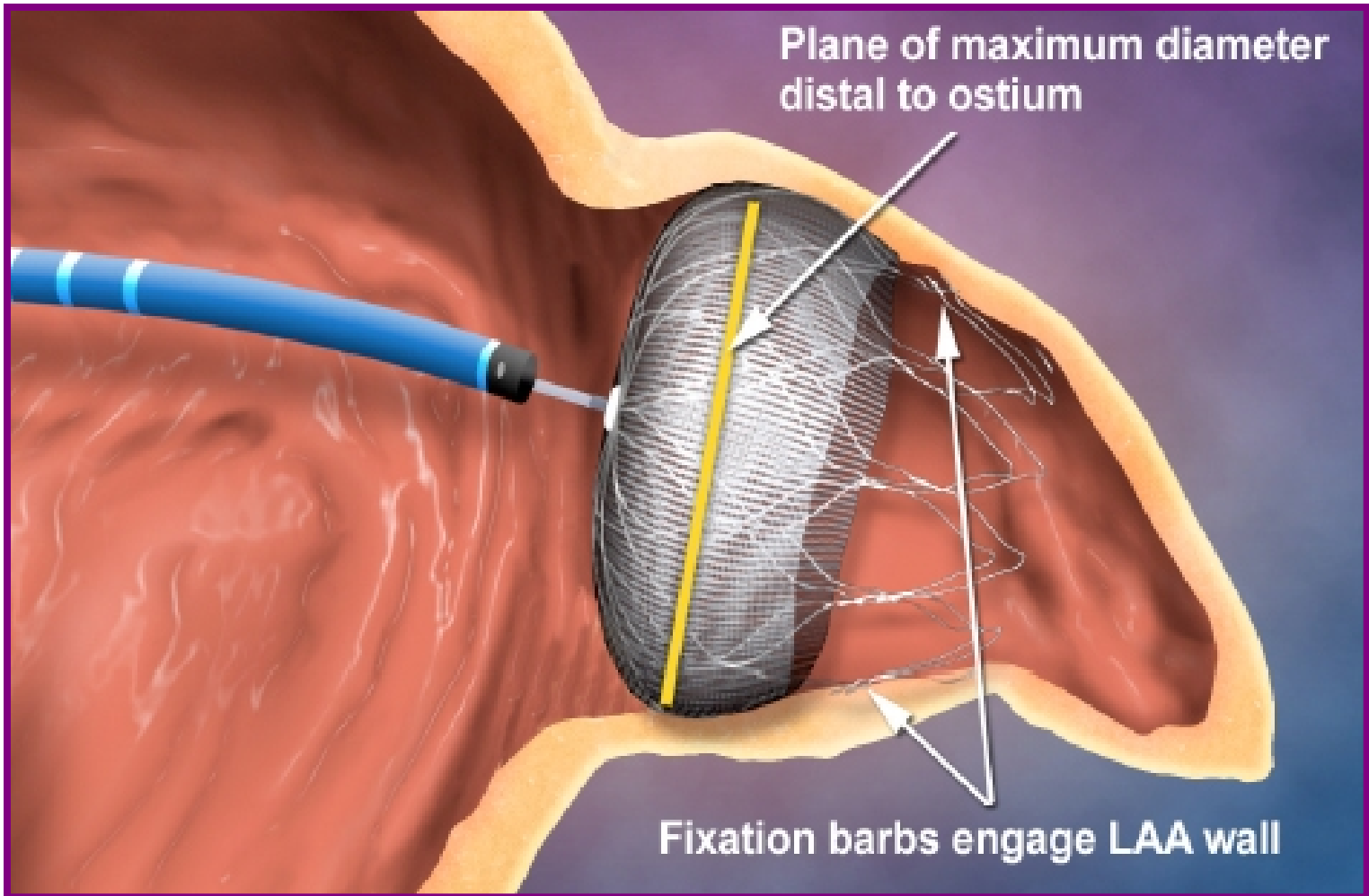
Valvular AF



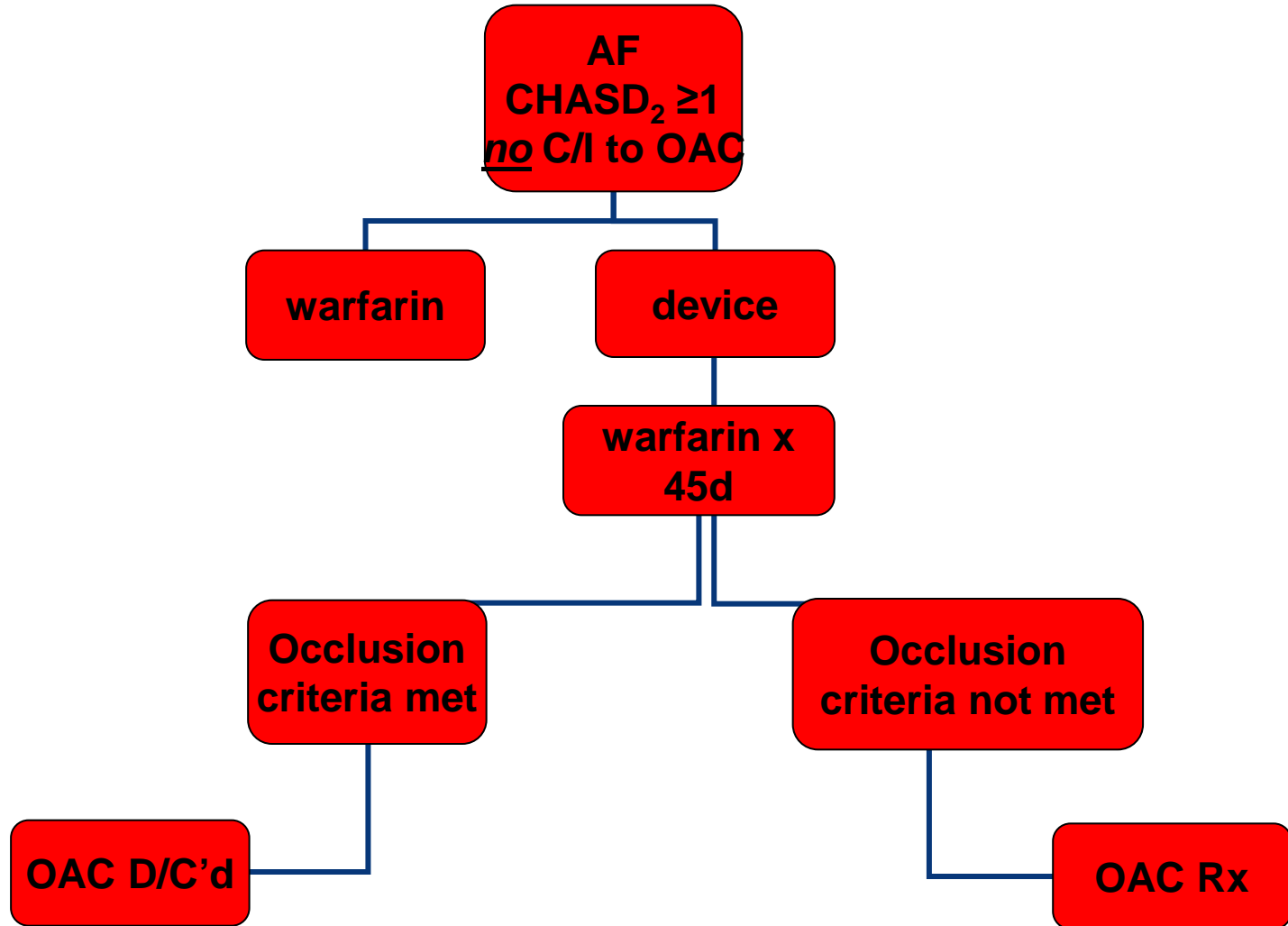
Saito, et al. *AHJ* 2007;153:704



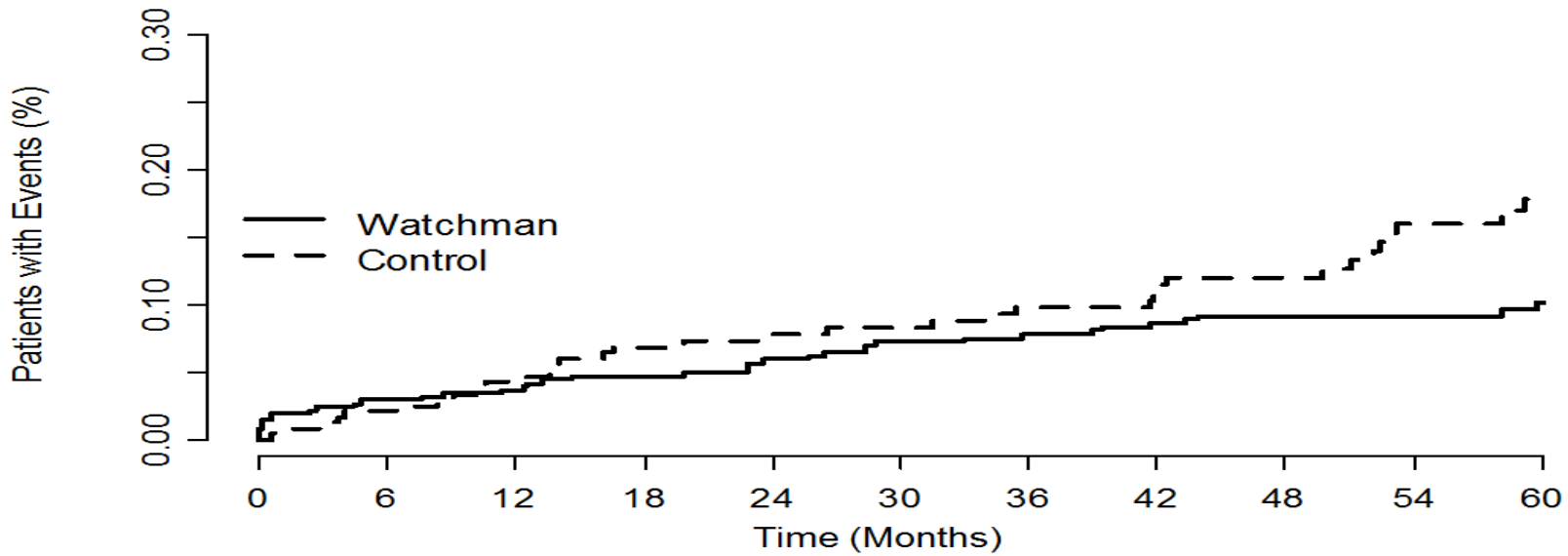




Is the LAAO better than warfarin?

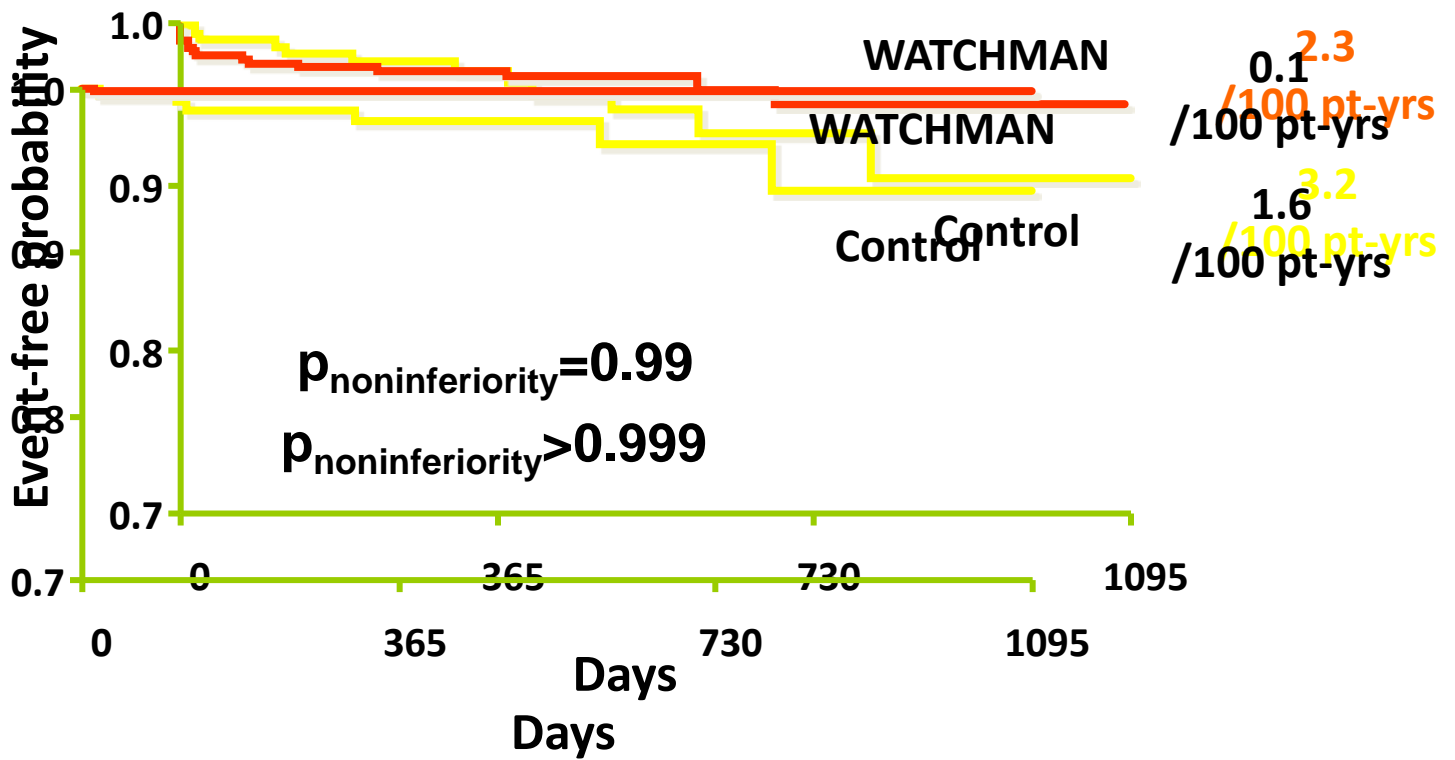


Event	Watchman Group (n = 463)		Warfarin Group (n = 244)		Rate Ratio (Watchman/Warfarin) (95% CrI)	Posterior Probabilities	
	Events/ Patient-Years	Observed Rate (Events per 100 Patient-Years) (95% CrI)	Events/ Patient-Years	Observed Rate (Events per 100 Patient-Years) (95% CrI)		Non- inferiority	Superiority
Primary Efficacy Endpoint	39/1720.2	2.3 (1.7, 3.2)	34/900.8	3.8 (2.5, 4.9)	0.60 (0.41, 1.05)	>0.999	0.960

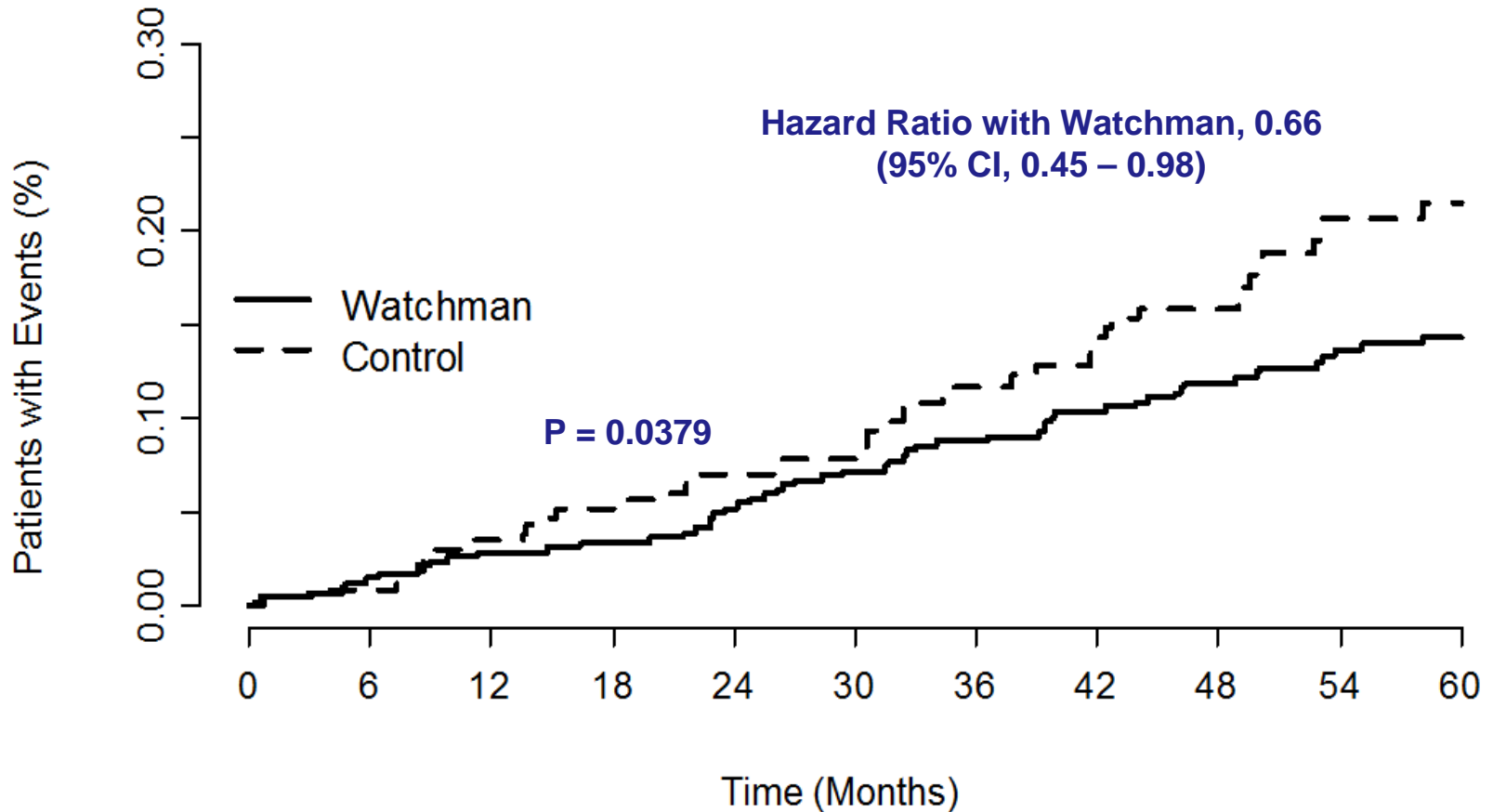


No. at Risk	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
Watchman	463	398	382	370	360	345	337	327	317	285	196
Control	244	230	218	210	200	188	173	159	147	121	87

Intent-to-Treat: Hemorrhagic stroke



Intention-to-Treat: All-Cause Mortality



No. at Risk

Watchman	463	404	389	381	373	360	352	341	330	294	202
Control	244	233	222	216	204	193	177	163	150	125	92

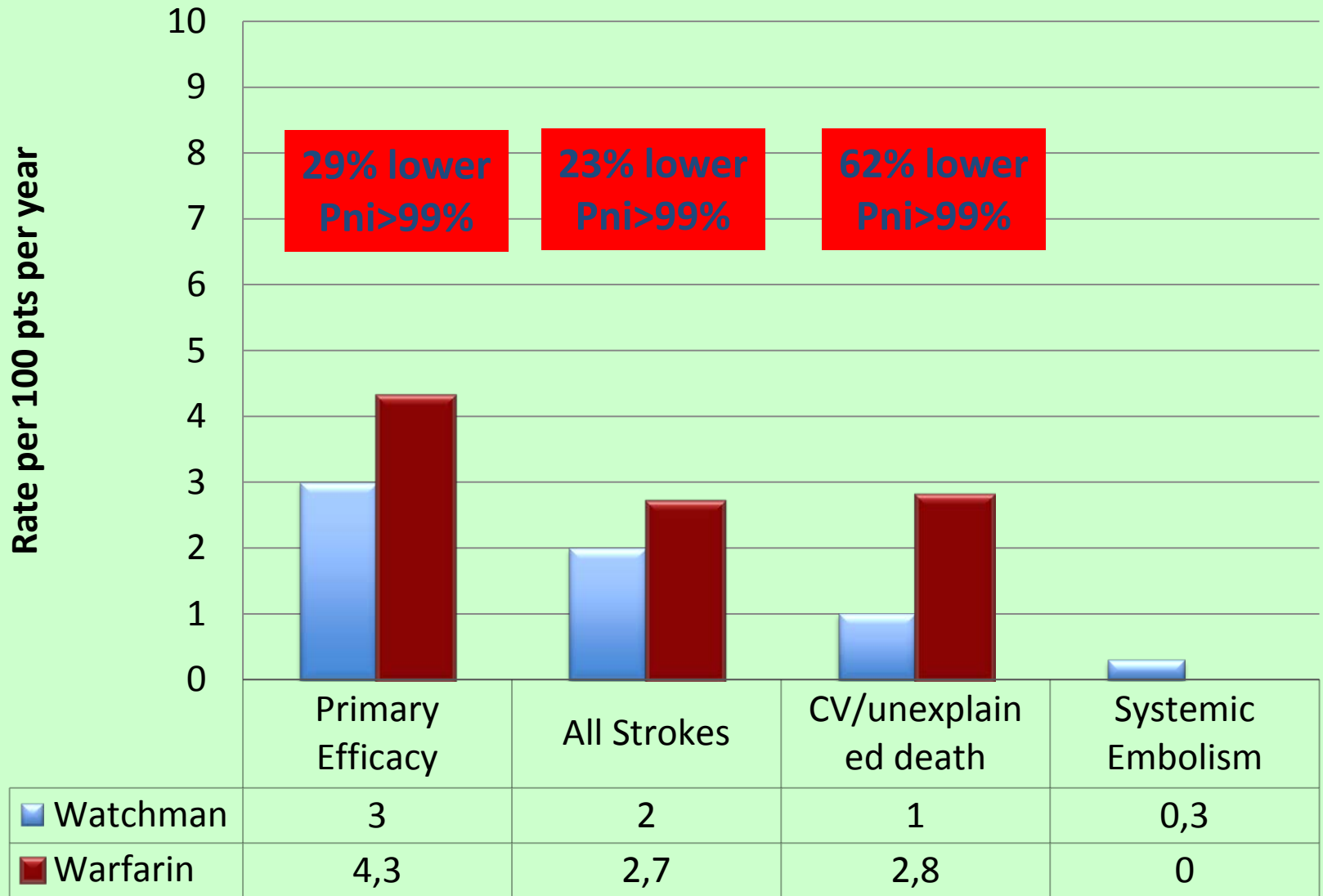
PROTECT AF Patient Risk Factors

	WATCHMAN N= 463	Control N= 244	p-value
CHADS₂ Score:			
1	34.1%	27.0%	0.37
2	33.9%	36.1%	
3	19.0%	20.9%	
4	8.0%	9.8%	
5	4.1%	4.1%	
6	0.9%	2.0%	
AF Pattern:			
Paroxysmal	43.2%	40.6%	0.76
Persistent	21.0%	20.5%	
Permanent	34.6%	38.1%	
Unknown	1.3%	0.8%	
LVEF (%)	57.3 ± 9.7	56.7 ± 10.1	0.42

PROTECT-AF: Long-Term Follow-Up Analysis

- Mean follow-up 45 months (range 0–77.5) = 2,621 patient-years
- RELY (2.0 yrs), ROCKET-AF (1.9 yrs), ARISTOTLE (1.8 yrs)
- All analyses by intention-to-treat
- Primary Efficacy and Safety endpoints
 - Bayesian model stratified for CHADS2 score
- All Secondary Analyses (including All-Cause Mortality)
 - Used Cox proportional hazards model

Event at 1500 pts per year



PROTECT AF: WATCHMAN Final Primary Efficacy (2717 Pt Yrs)

	Event Rate (per 100 Pt-Yrs)		Rate Ratio (95% CrI)	Posterior Probability	
	WATCHMAN	Warfarin		Non-inferiority	Superiority
Primary efficacy	2.2	3.7	0.61 (0.42, 1.07)	>99%	95.4%
Stroke (all)	1.5	2.2	0.68 (0.42, 1.37)	>99%	83%
Ischemic	1.3	1.1	1.25 (0.72, 3.27)	78%	15%
Hemorrhagic	0.2	1.1	0.15 (0.03, 0.49)	>99%	>99%
Systemic embolism	0.2	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Death (CV/unexpl)	1.0	2.3	0.44 (0.26, 0.90)	>99%	99%

Randomized Trial of LAA Closure vs Warfarin for Stroke/ Thromboembolic Prevention in Patients with Non-valvular Atrial Fibrillation (PREVAIL)

	PROTECT AF	PREVAIL
Randomization	2:1	2:1
Time from randomization to implant	7-14 ¹ days	2 days
Roll-in	New implanter: 1st 3 patients ²	New implanter: 1 st 2 patients Experienced: 1 st patient
Exclusion of clopidogrel	No exclusion	Indication for clopidogrel therapy or has taken clopidogrel within 7 days prior to enrollment
Inclusion differences	CHADS ₂ ≥ 1	CHADS ₂ > 2 or CHADS ₂ = 1 if any of the following apply*: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female age >75 • Baseline LVEF > 30 and < 35% • Age 65-74 and has diabetes or coronary artery disease • Age 65 or greater and has documented congestive heart failure

Demographics

Device Patients

Characteristic	PROTECT AF N=463	CAP N=566	PREVAIL N=269	P value
Age, years	71.7 ± 8.8 (463) (46.0, 95.0)	74.0 ± 8.3 (566) (44.0, 94.0)	74.0 ± 7.4 (269) (50.0, 94.0)	<0.001
Gender (Male)	326/463 (70.4%)	371/566 (65.5%)	182/269 (67.7%)	0.252
CHADS ₂ Score (Continuous)	2.2 ± 1.2 (1.0, 6.0)	2.5 ± 1.2 (1.0, 6.0)	2.6 ± 1.0 (1.0, 6.0)	<0.001
CHADS ₂ Risk Factors				
CHF	124/463 (26.8%)	108/566 (19.1%)	63/269 (23.4%)	
Hypertension	415/463 (89.6%)	503/566 (88.9%)	238/269 (88.5%)	
Age ≥ 75	190/463 (41.0%)	293/566 (51.8%)	140/269 (52.0%)	
Diabetes	113/463 (24.4%)	141/566 (24.9%)	91/269 (33.8%)	
Stroke/TIA	82/463 (17.7%)	172/566 (30.4%)	74/269 (27.5%)	

**Most notable differences:
Age, Diabetes, and Prior Stroke/TIA**

Prevail Primary Endpoints

- Acute (7-day) occurrence of death, ischemic stroke, systemic embolism and procedure or device related complications requiring major cardiovascular or endovascular intervention
 - Timepoint = 7 days post randomization
- Comparison of composite of stroke, systemic embolism, and cardiovascular/unexplained death
 - Timepoint = 18 months
- Comparison of ischemic stroke or systemic embolism occurring >7 days post randomization
 - Timepoint = 18 months

TABLE 4 Late-Ischemic Coprimary Endpoint: PREVAIL Subjects Only (Intention-to-Treat)

Device 18-Month Rate	Control 18-Month Rate	18-Month Rate Ratio (95% CrI)	Rate Ratio Noninferiority Criterion	18-Month Rate Difference (95% CrI)	Rate Difference Noninferiority Criterion
0.0253	0.0200	1.6 (0.5 to 4.2)	95% CrI upper bound <2.0	0.0053 (-0.0190 to 0.0273)	95% CrI upper bound <0.0275

Abbreviations as in Tables 2 and 3.

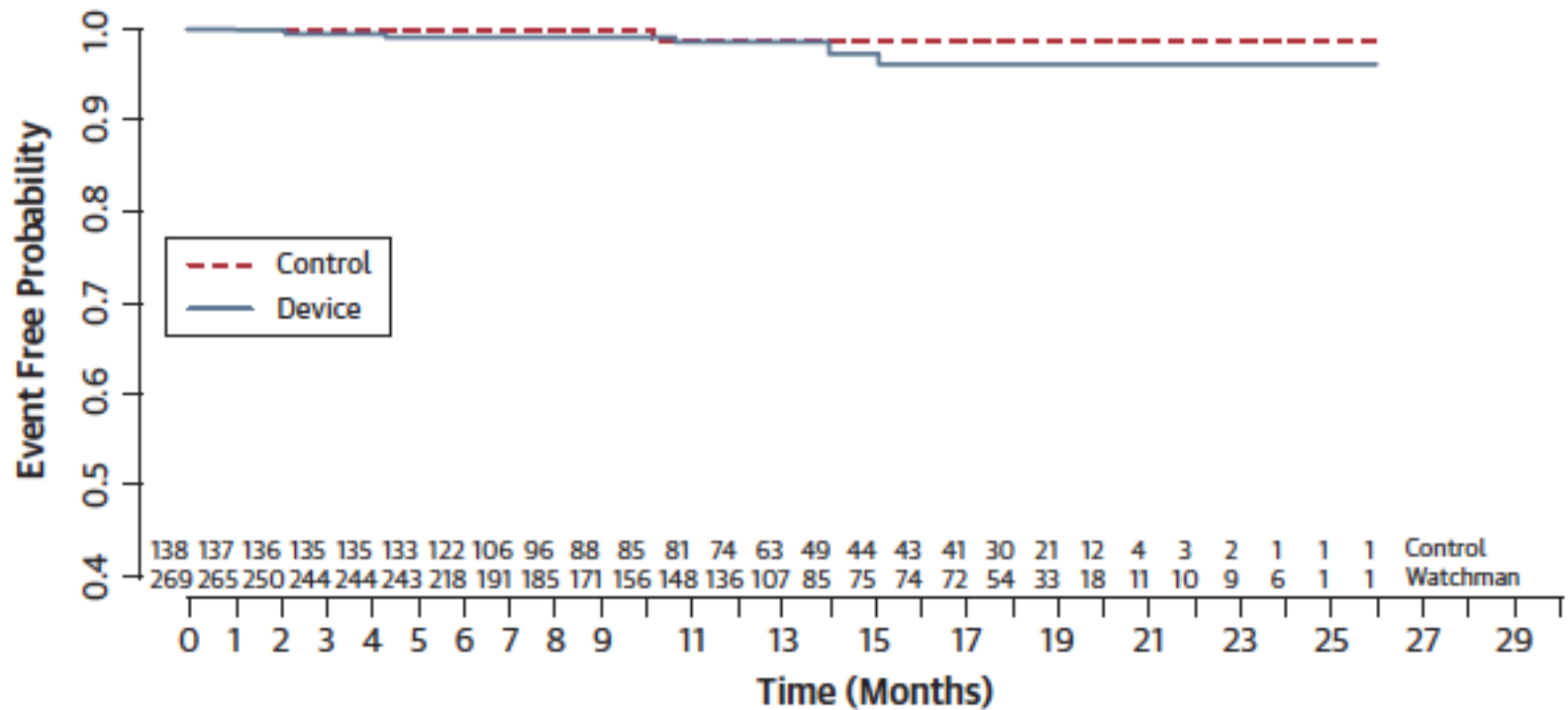
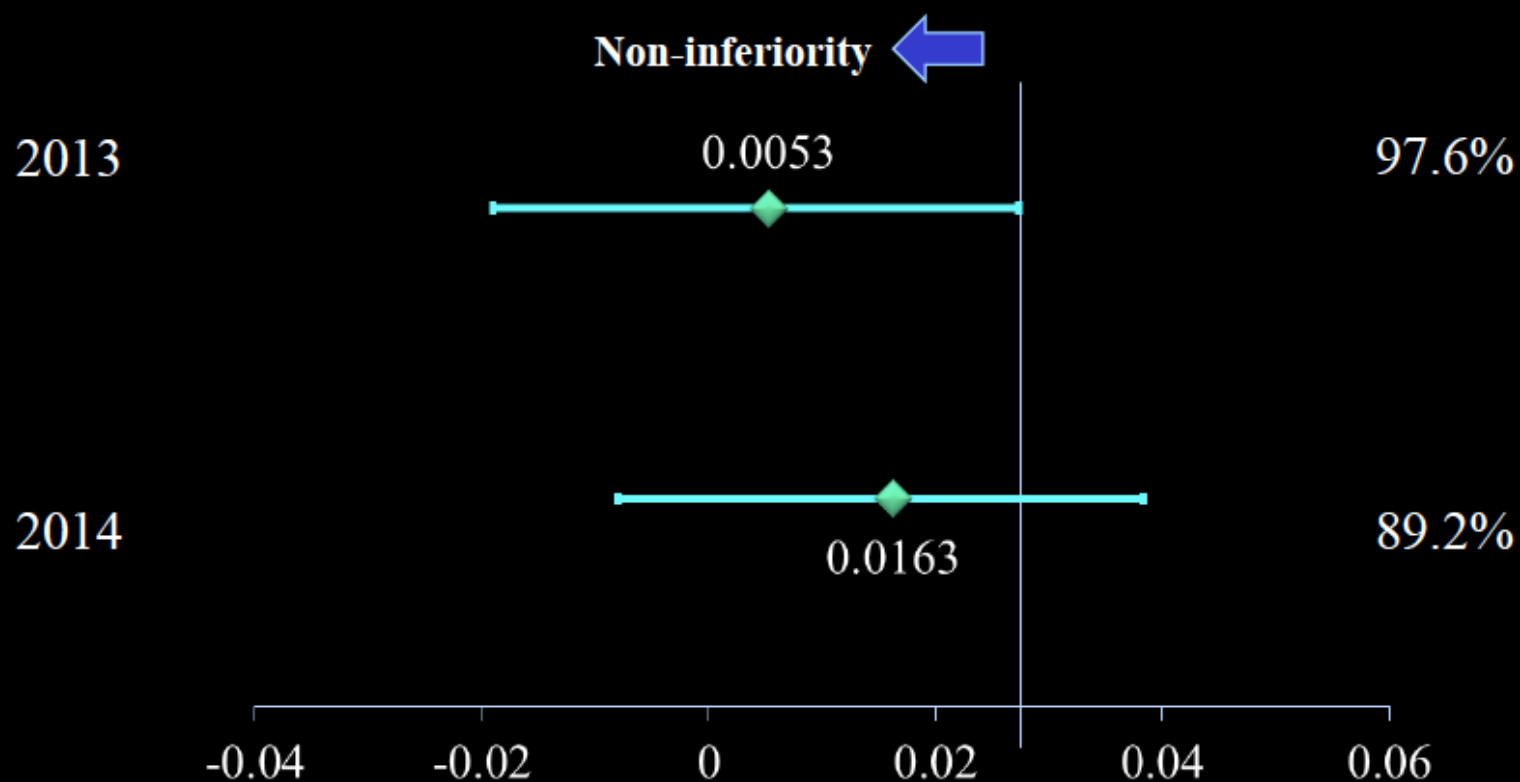


FIGURE 3 Kaplan-Meier Curve: Freedom From Second Primary Endpoint Event (Intention-to-Treat)

PREVAIL Ad hoc Analysis: Second Primary Endpoint (2013 vs 2014)

Posterior Probability



PREVAIL-only: New First Events Since 2013 Panel

Endpoint Event	New First Events Since 2013 Panel			
	WATCHMAN N=269		Warfarin N=138	
	n	%	n	%
Primary Efficacy	10	3.7	5*	3.6
All Stroke	9	3.3	2	1.4
Ischemic	8	3.0	0	0
Hemorrhagic	1	0.4	2*	1.4
Systemic Embolism	0	0	0	0
Death (CV or Unexplained)	1	0.4	4*	2.9

* One patient had a hemorrhagic stroke followed by death. This was only counted as a single event for the combined primary endpoint per the statistical analysis plan

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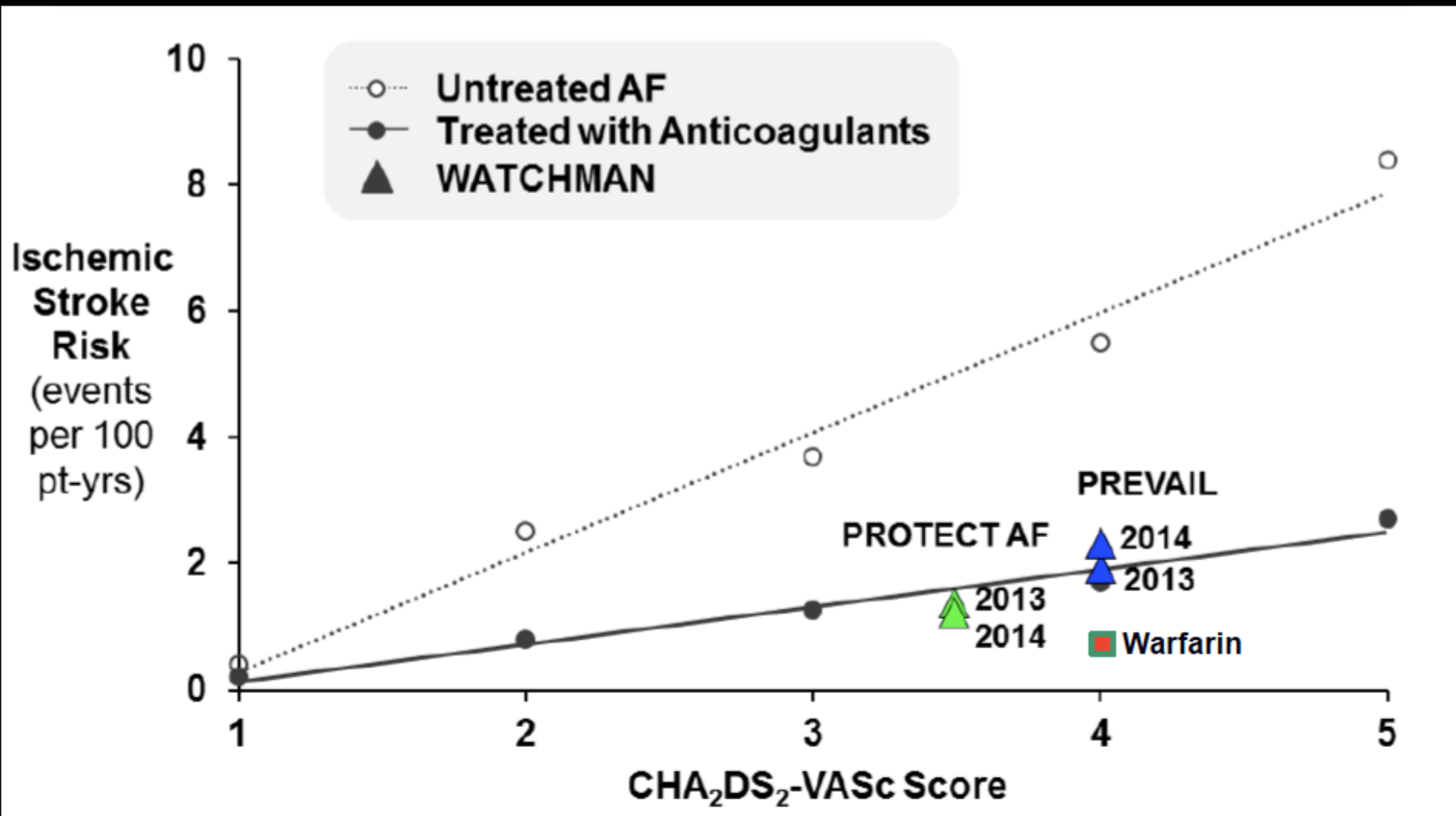
PREVAIL-only: Primary Efficacy Rates

Endpoint Event	Total Endpoint Events Event Rate (per 100 pt-yrs)	
	WATCHMAN N=269	Warfarin N=138
Composite Primary Efficacy	4.3	3.0
Individual Components		
All Stroke	2.7	1.0
Ischemic	2.3	0.3
Hemorrhagic	0.4	0.7
Systemic Embolism	0.2	0
Death (CV or Unexplained)	1.4	2.3

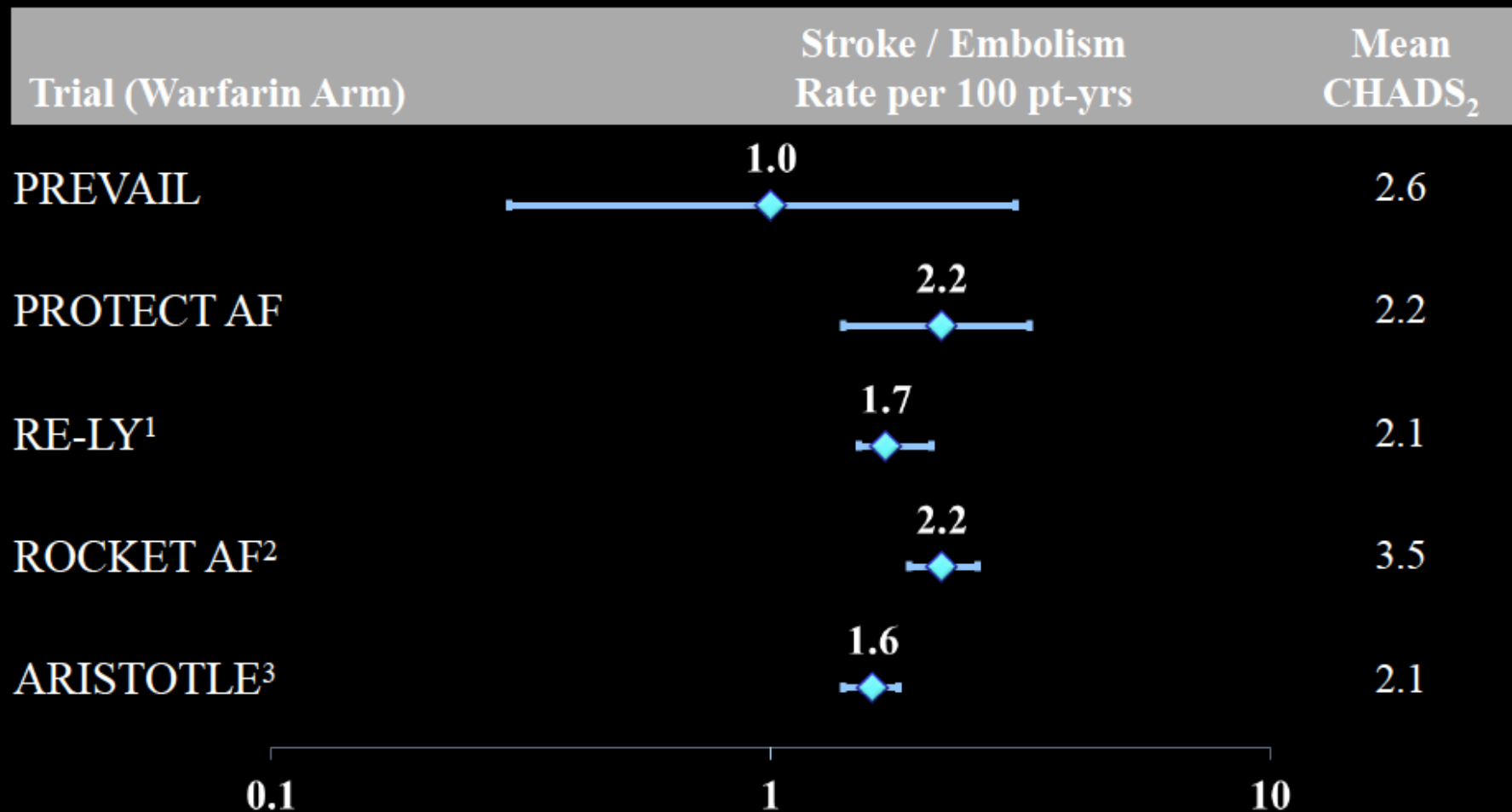
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PREVAIL Ischemic Stroke Rate Aligns with Expected Rate



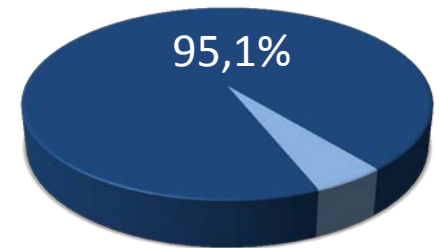
PREVAIL: Warfarin Stroke Rate Differs from Other Trials



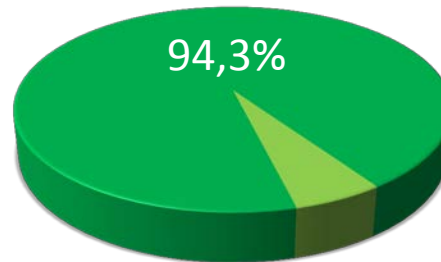
1. Connolly SJ. N Engl J Med (2009); 2. Patel MR. N Engl J Med (2011); 3. Granger CB. N Engl J Med (2011)

Is LAAO with the Watchman safe and feasible?

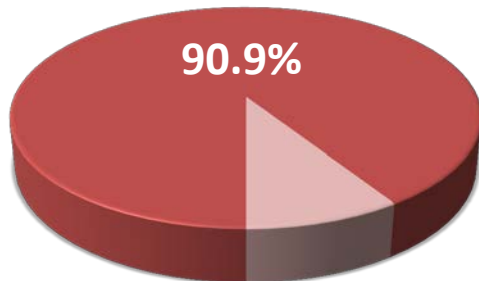
PREVAIL
Implant success



CAP
Implant success



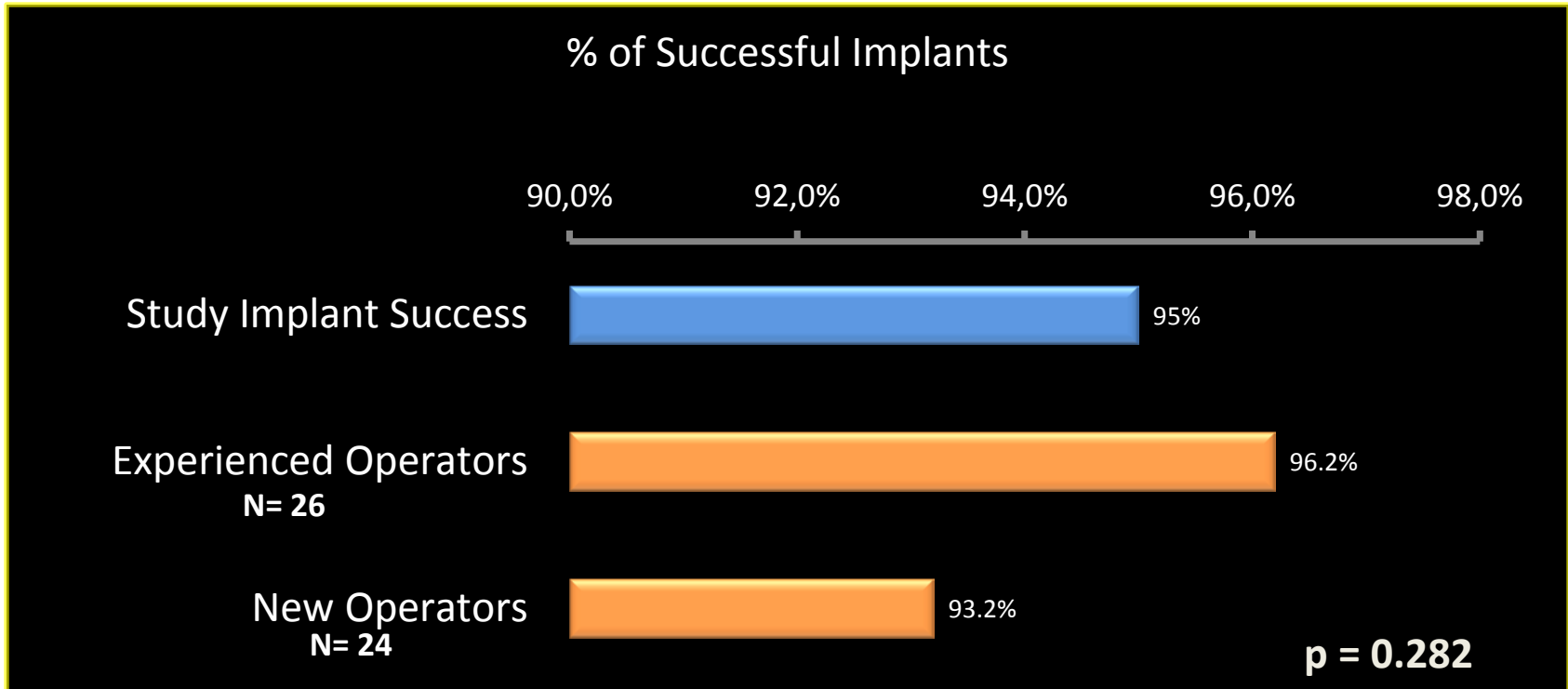
PROTECT AF
Implant success



P=0.04

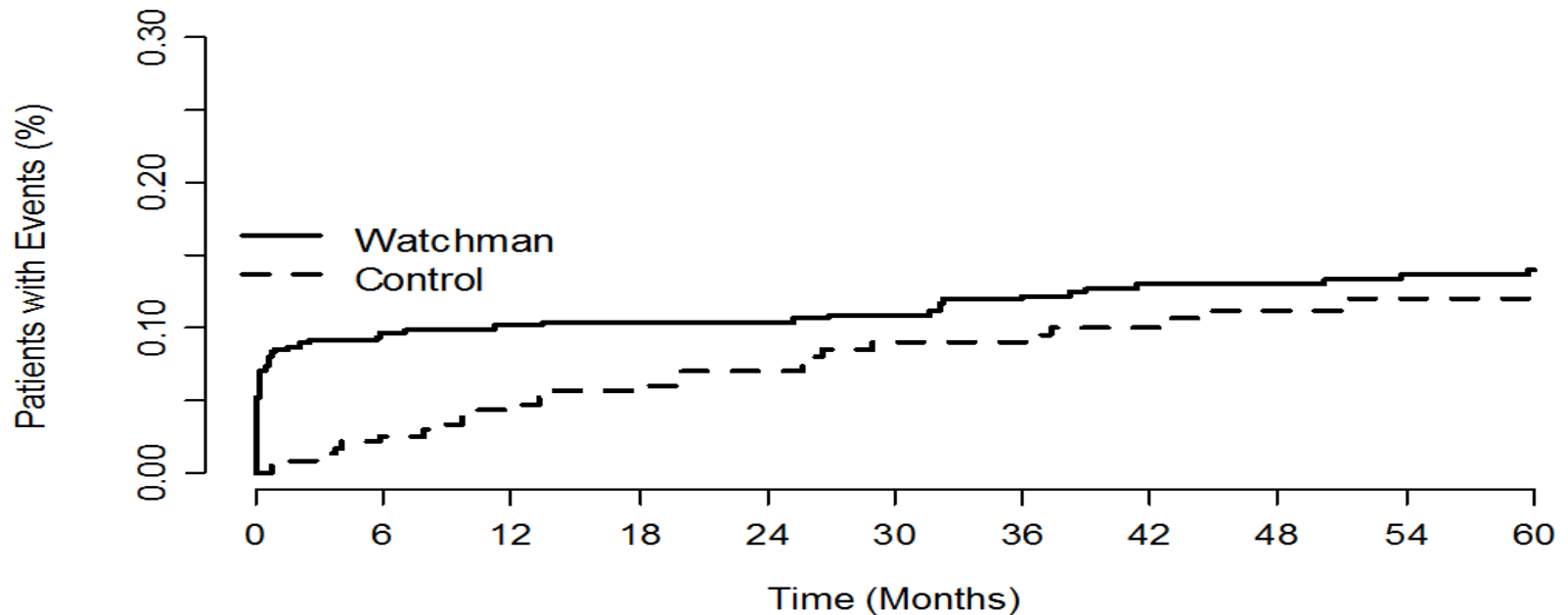
New vs Experienced Operators

- Protocol required a minimum of 20% of subjects enrolled at new centers and 25% of subjects enrolled by new operators
- 18 out of 41 centers did not have prior WATCHMAN experience
- 40% of patients enrolled at new sites by new operators



PROTECT AF: Primary Safety Endpoint

Event	Watchman Group (n = 463)		Warfarin Group (n = 244)		Rate Ratio (Watchman/Warfarin) (95% CrI)	Posterior Probabilities	
	Events/ Patient-Years	Observed Rate (Events per 100 Patient-Years) (95% CrI)	Events/ Patient-Years	Observed Rate (Events per 100 Patient-Years) (95% CrI)		Non- inferiority	Superiority
Primary Safety Endpoint	60/1666.2	3.6 (2.8, 4.6)	27/878.2	3.1 (2.0, 4.3)	1.17 (0.78, 1.95)	0.980	0.196



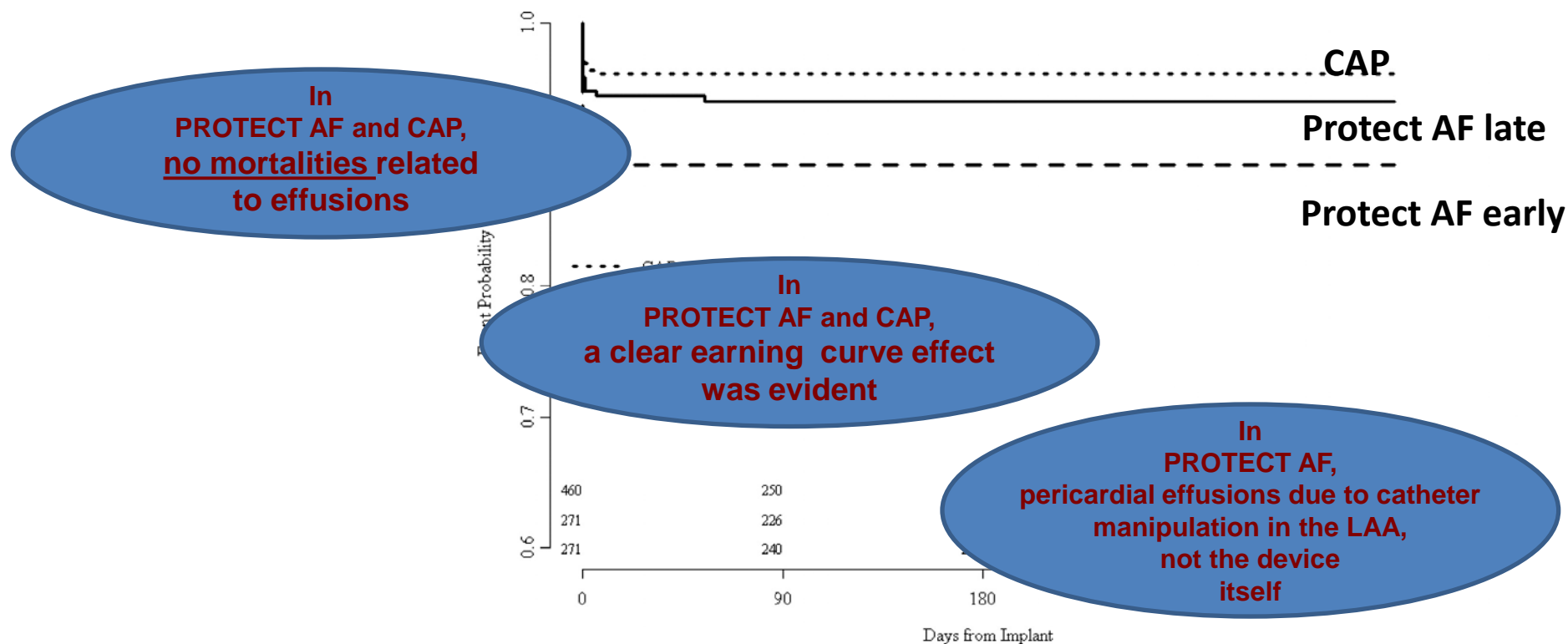
No. at Risk

Watchman	463	376	364	357	353	341	332	320	310	277	190
Control	244	228	214	207	195	183	169	153	139	117	86

LAA closure - Adverse Events

PROTECT AF randomized arm vs. CAP Registry

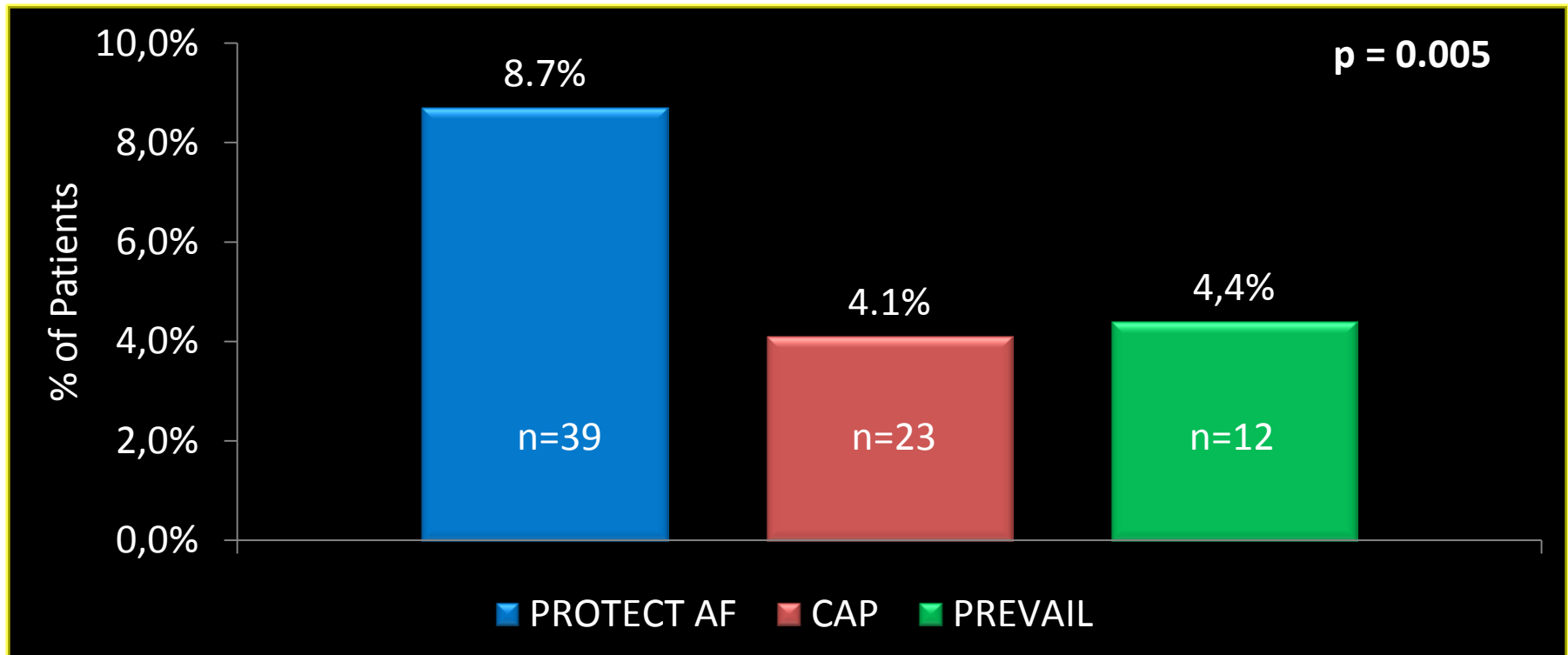
Event	Protect AF (n=463)	CAP (n=460)	p
Serious pericardial effusion	4.8%	2.2%	0.007
Any serious adverse event	7.7%	3.7%	0.02



Vascular Complications

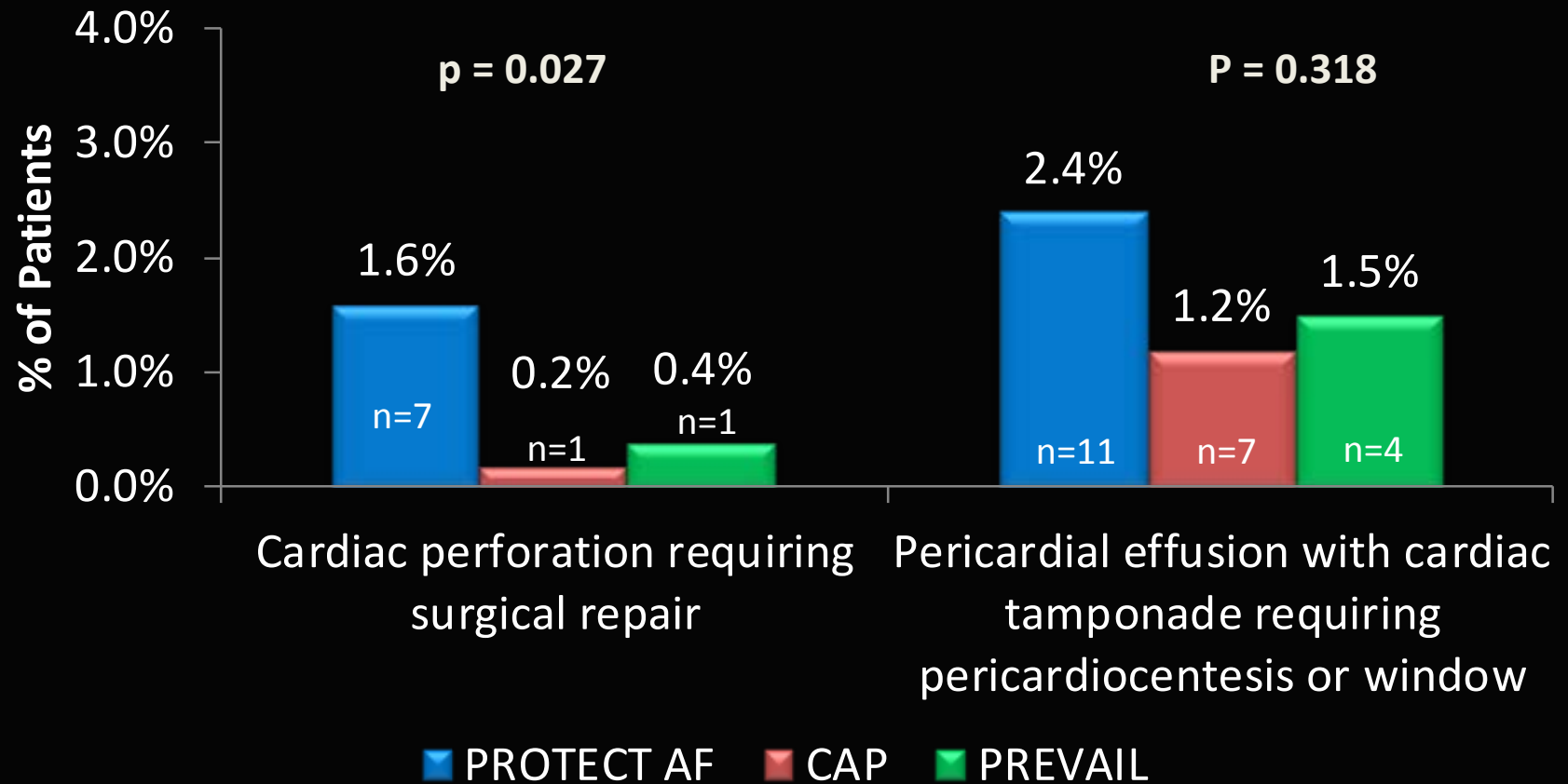
7 Day Serious Procedure/Device Related

Composite of vascular complications includes cardiac perforation, pericardial effusion with tamponade, ischemic stroke, device embolization, and other vascular complications¹

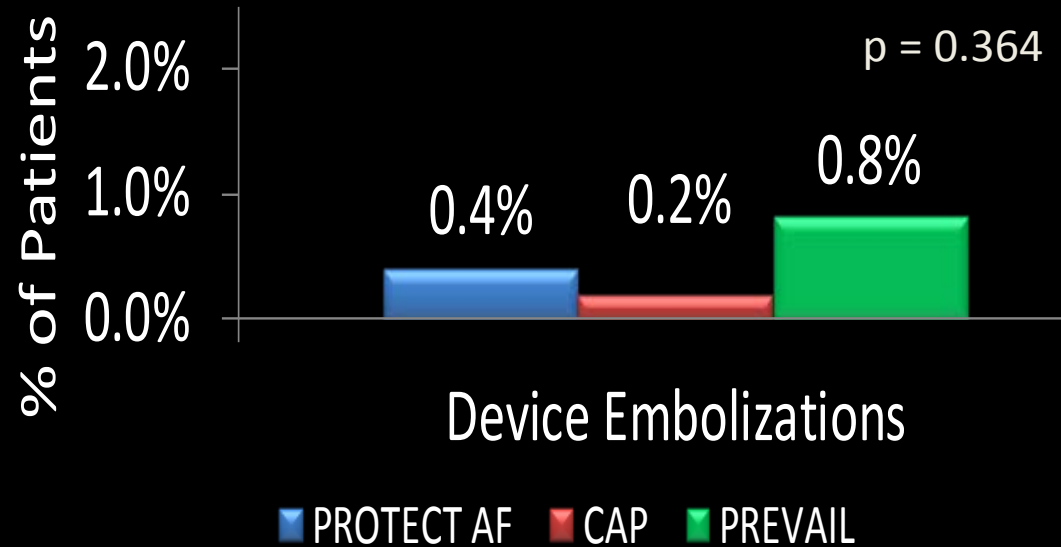
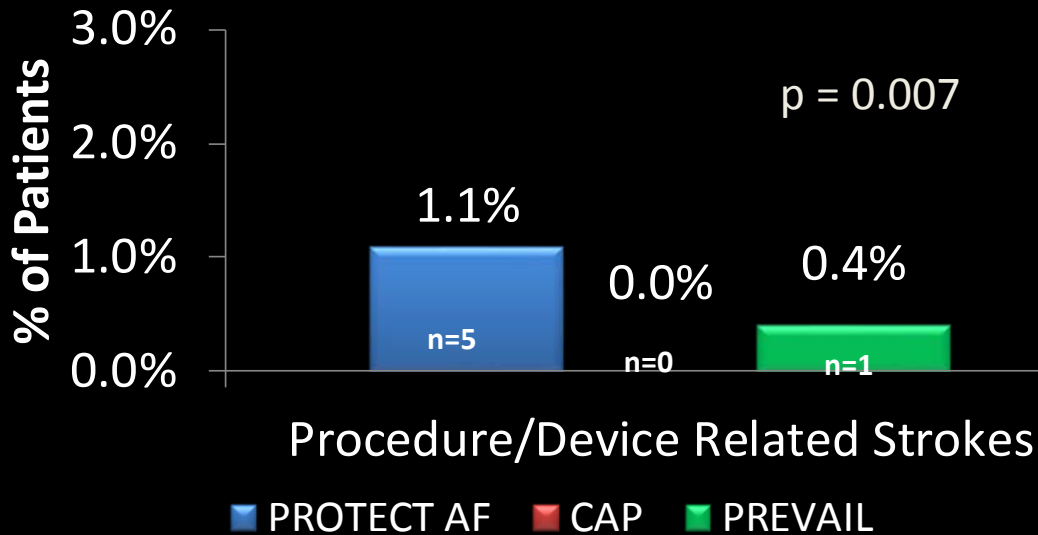


No procedure-related deaths reported in any of the trials

Pericardial Effusions Requiring Intervention

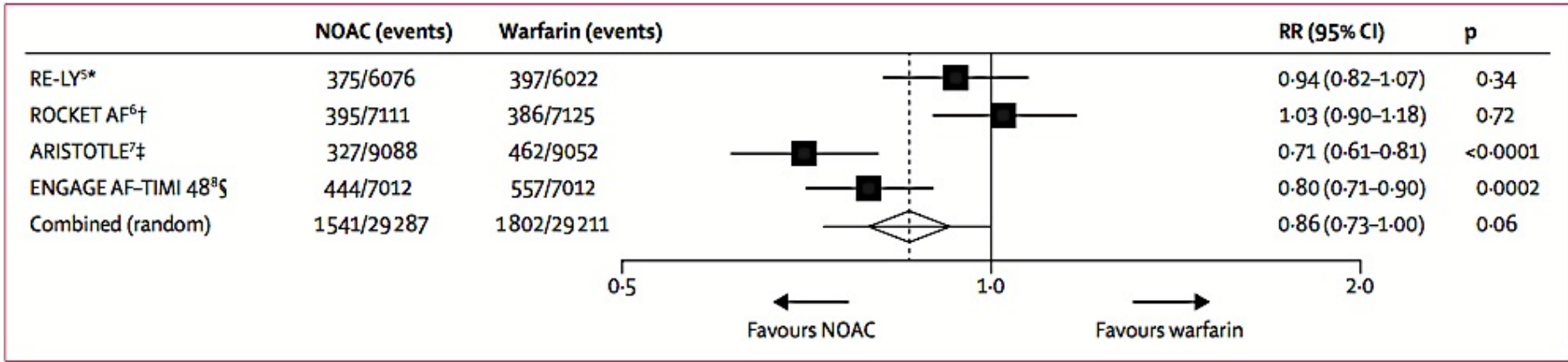
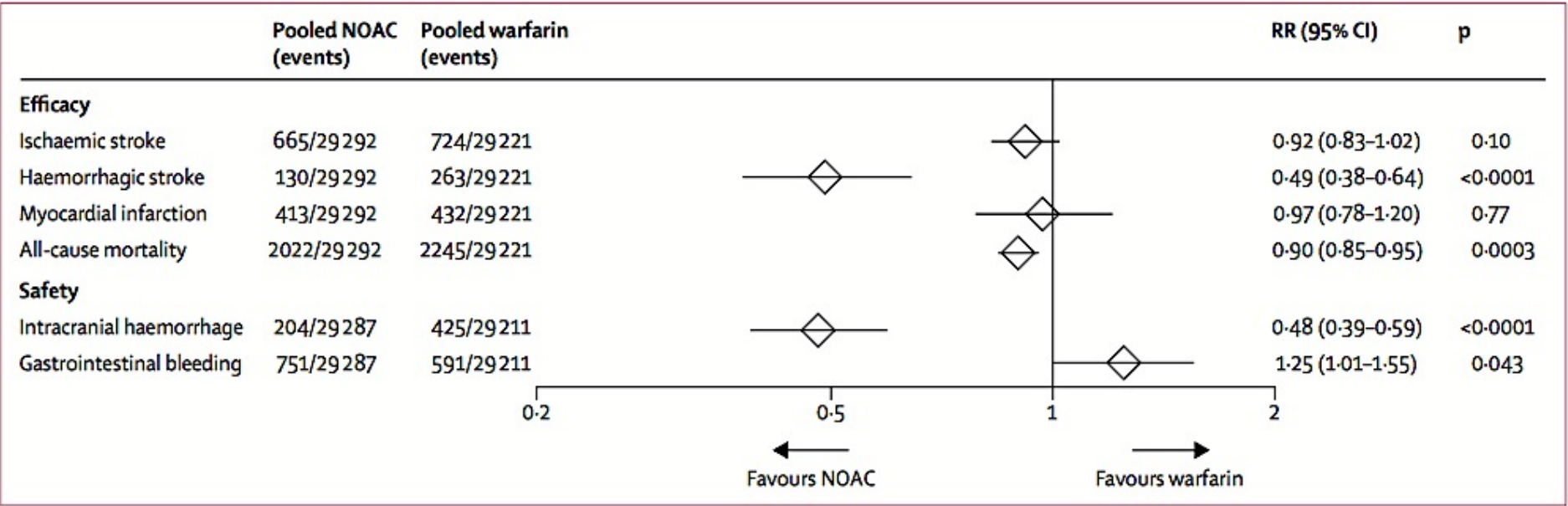


Stroke and Device Embolization



LAAOs vs NOACS





Major bleeding

Rate of drug discontinuation

- Rely trial:

- warfarin at 1 year 10%

- warfarin 2 years 17%

- Dabi 110mg bid at 1 year 15%

- Dabi 110mg bid at 2 years 16%

- Dabi 150mg bid at 2 years 21%

- Aristotle:

- warfarin discontinued in 28%

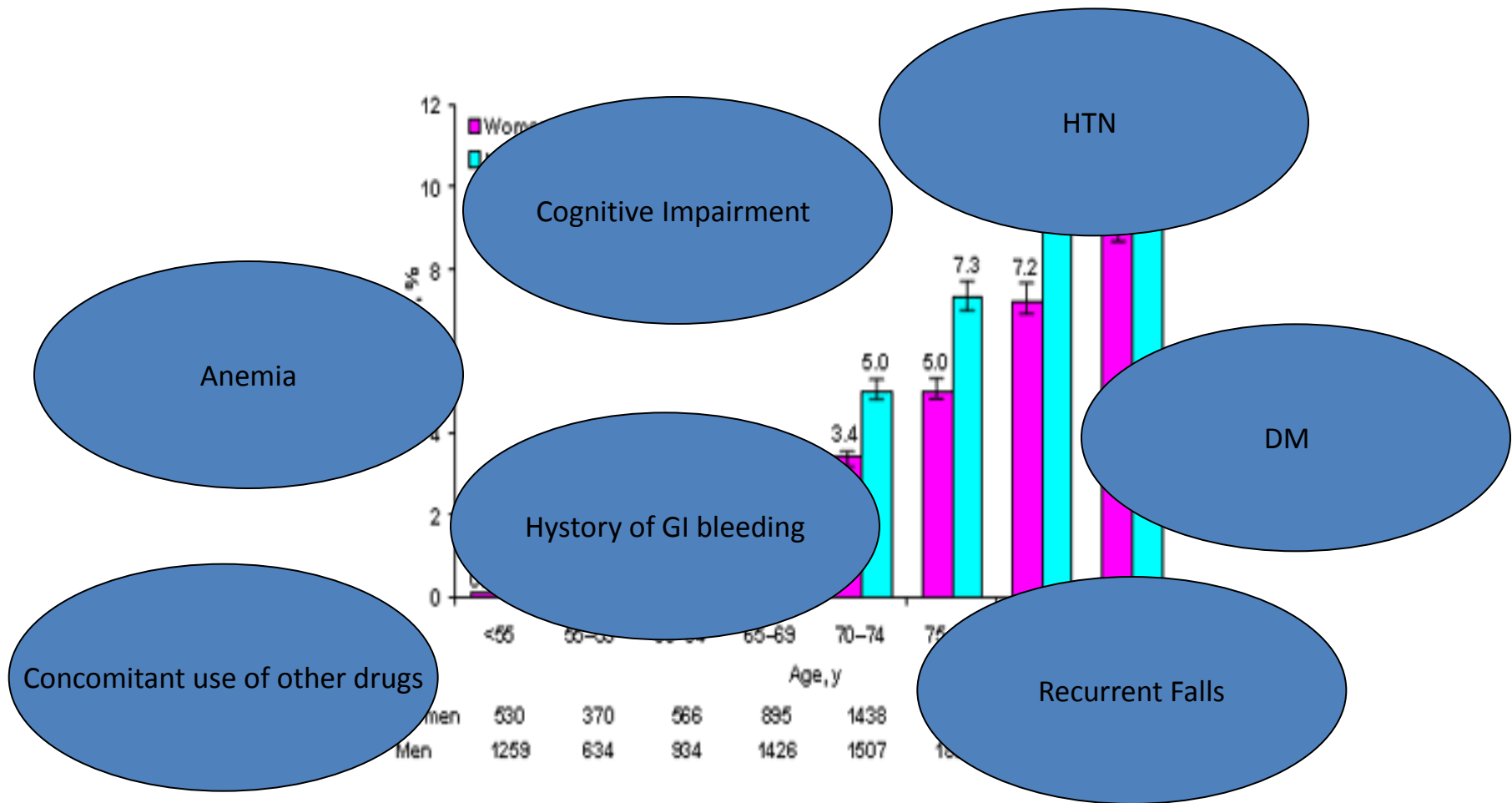
- apixaban discontinues in 25%

- Rocket AF:

- warfarin discontinued in 22%

- riva discontinued in 24%

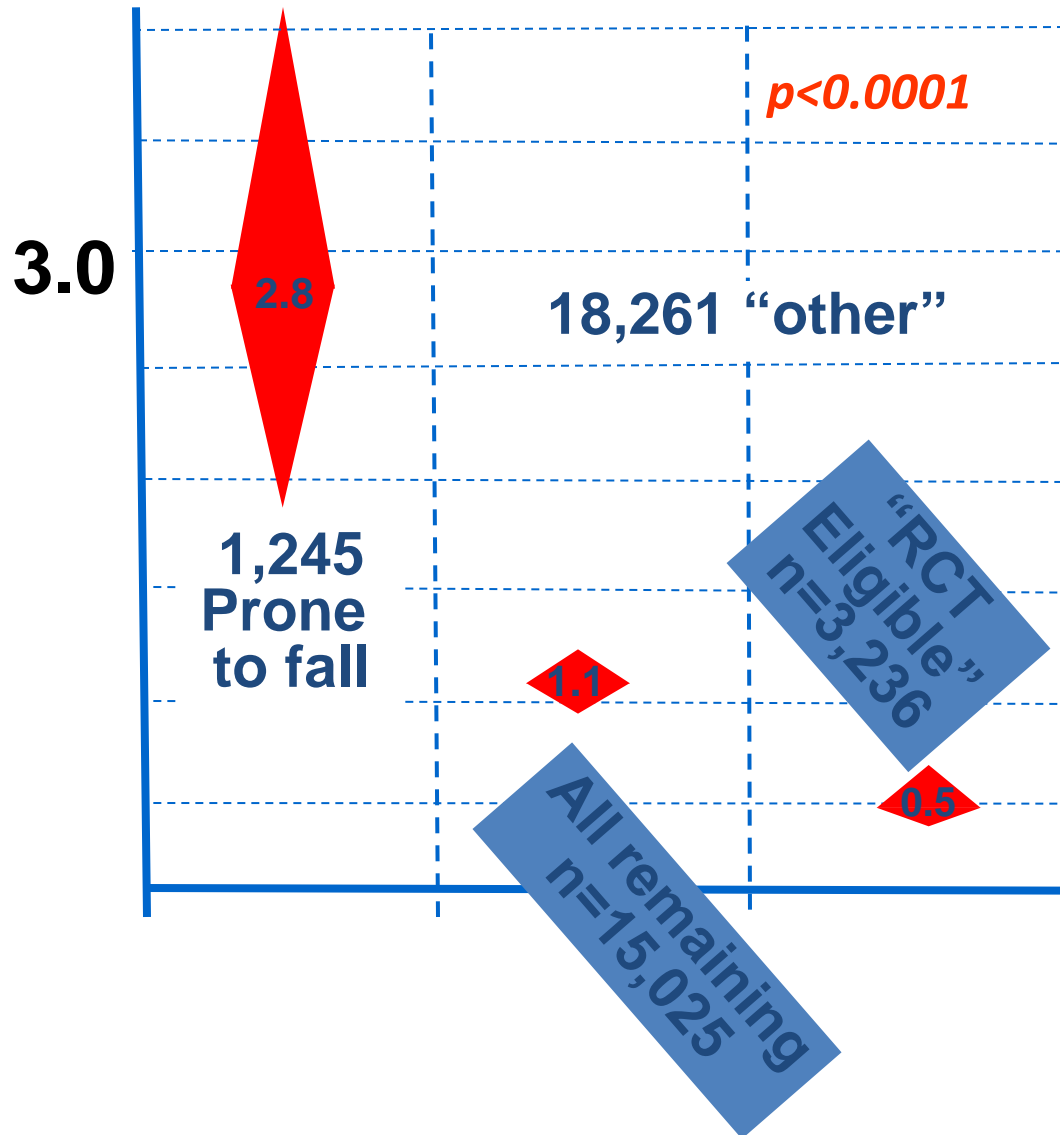
- No head to head study NOACs vs LAAO
- History of bleeding and high risk for bleeding represent an exclusion criteria for any NOACs study



Proneness to Falls and the

Risk for Intracranial Bleeds (per 100 pt-yrs)

n=1,245 prone vs. 18,261 other (National registry of Atrial Fibrillation II)

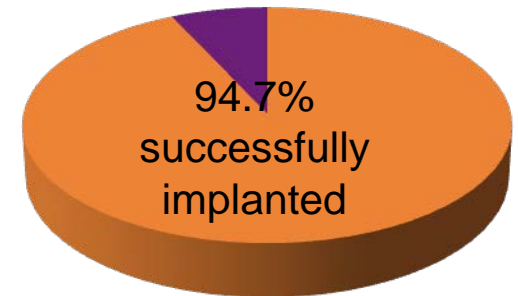


Gage, AJM 2005

ASAP (Aspirin Plavix) Study

- Patients history of hemorrhagic & bleeding tendencies or a warfarin hypersensitivity
- 150 patients, 4 European centers
- Average CHADS₂ = 2.8
- Post procedure anti-platelet regimen
 - Clopidogrel through 6 months
 - Aspirin indefinitely
- Patients followed to 2 years
 - Follow up @ 3, 6, 12, 18 & 24 months
 - TEE at 3 and 12 months
 - Average follow-up was 14.4 months

Rate of success with implantation in warfarin contraindicated patients¹



Ave Procedure Time = 51.5 mins

¹ Braut A et al, LAA closure with the WATCHMAN Device in patients with contraindications to warfarin: preliminary results from the ASA Plavix registry (ASAP), ESC Congress 2011, Paris 27-31 August 2011

Characteristic	All patients
	(n=150)
Clinical	
Age (year)	72.5 ± 7.4
Male	96 (64.0%)
Stroke risk factors*	
Heart failure or reduced LV EF	43 (28.7%)
Hypertension	142 (94.7%)
Age ≥ 75 yrs	64 (42.7%)
Diabetes	48 (32.0%)
Prior stroke or TIA	61 (40.7%)
Vascular disease	27 (18.0%)
Age 65-74 yrs	64 (42.7%)
Female gender	54 (36.0%)

CHA₂DS₂-VASc score

1	7 (4.7%)
2	12 (8.0%)
3	25 (16.7%)
4	42 (28.0%)
5	28 (18.7%)
6	18 (12.0%)
7	13 (8.7%)
8	5 (3.3%)
9	0 (0.0%)

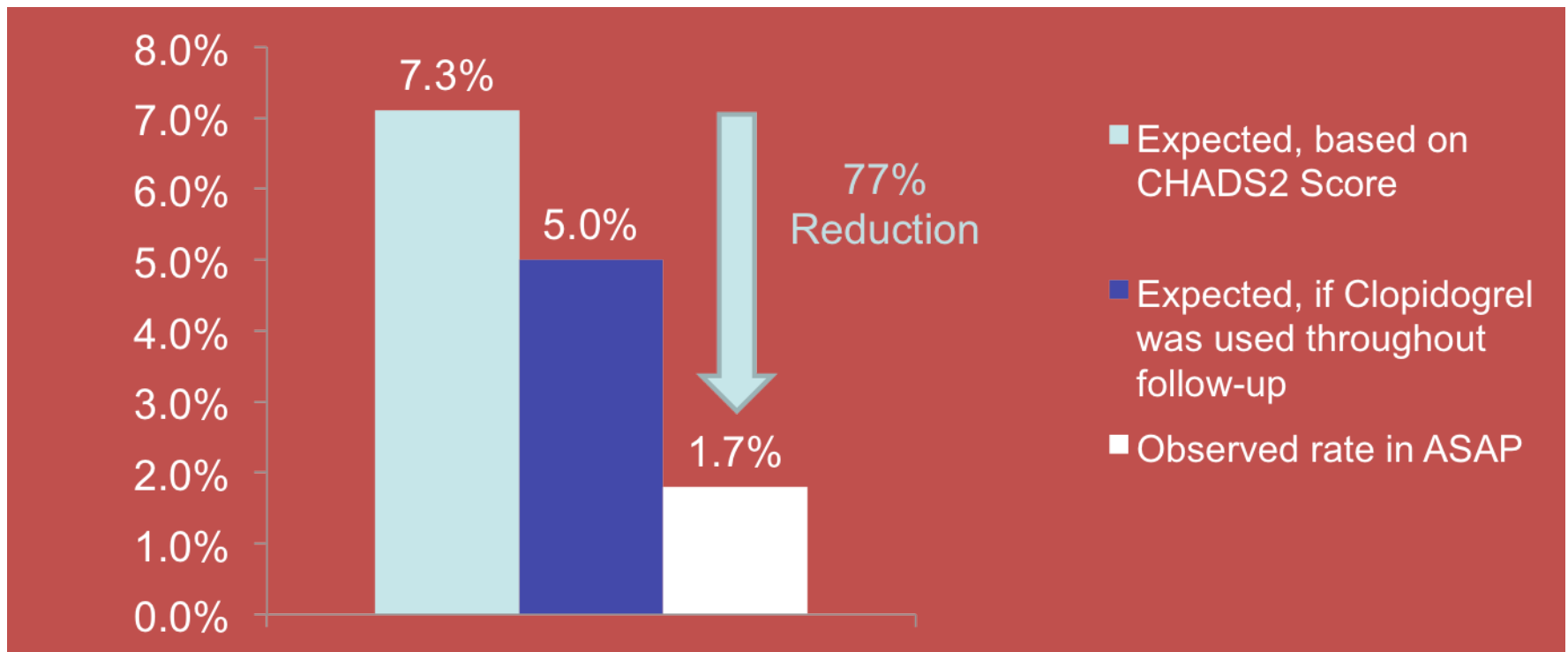
Mean CHA₂DS₂-VASc score (entire cohort, = 150) =

4.4 ± 1.7

Reasons for Warfarin ineligibility*

History of hemorrhagic/bleeding tendencies	140 (93.0%)
Blood dyscrasia	11 (7.3%)
Unsupervised Senility/high fall risk	6 (4.0%)
Other	8 (5.3%)

Expected and Observed Stroke Rates (per 100 patient-years)



Observed rate of ischemic stroke represents a 77% reduction from the expected event rate

Percutaneous Left Atrial Appendage Closure With the AMPLATZER Cardiac Plug Device in Patients With Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation and Contraindications to Anticoagulation Therapy

Marina Urena, MD,* Josep Rodés-Cabau, MD,* Xavier Freixa, MD,† Jacqueline Saw, MD,‡ John G. Webb, MD,§ Mélanie Freeman, MD,§ Eric Horlick, MD,|| Mark Osten, MD,|| Albert Chan, MD,¶ Jean-Francois Marquis, MD,# Jean Champagne, MD,* Réda Ibrahim, MD†
Quebec City, Quebec; Montreal, Quebec; Vancouver, British Columbia; Toronto, Ontario; and Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Age 74±8, 58% male

CHADS2 score 3 (2-4)

CHA2DS2VASc score 5 (4-6)

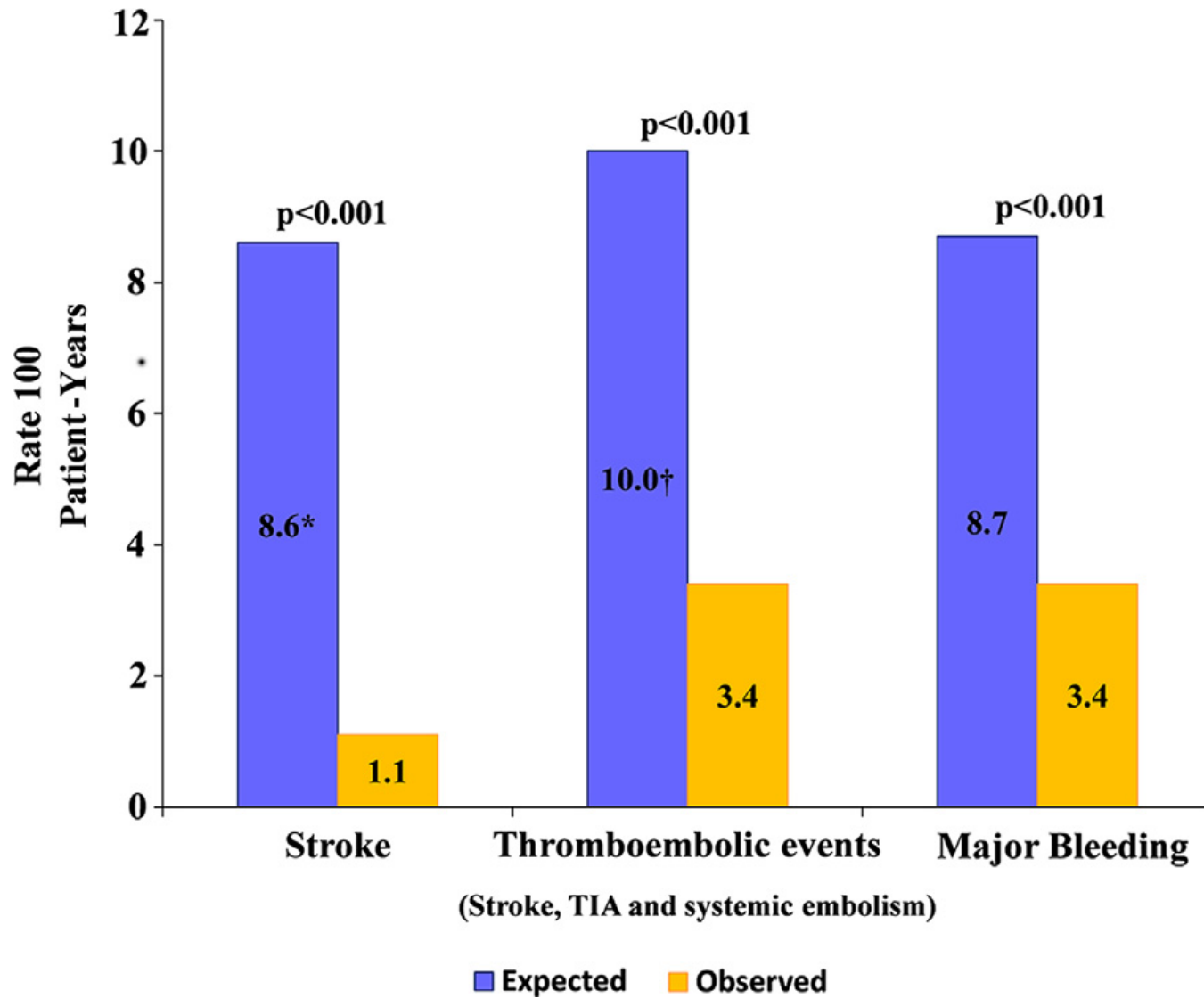
HAS-BLED score 4 (3-4)

Bleeding

Intracranial hemorrhage	18 (34.6)
Gastrointestinal bleeding	12 (23.1)
Spontaneous hematoma of abdominal muscles	7 (13.5)
Otorhinolaryngological	4 (7.7)
Respiratory	3 (5.8)
Recurrent severe hematuria	1 (1.9)
Ophthalmological	1 (1.9)
Recurrent hemarthrosis	1 (1.9)
International normalized ratio lability	2 (3.8)
High risk of fall	1 (1.9)
Warfarin allergy	1 (1.9)
Severe anemia	1 (1.9)

Procedural success	51 (98.1)
In-hospital outcomes	
Pericardial effusion	0 (0)
Major bleeding [†]	2 (3.8)
Device embolization	1 (1.9)
Myocardial infarction	0 (0)
Systemic embolism	0 (0)
Transient ischemic attack	1 (1.9)
Stroke	0 (0)
Death	0 (0)
MAEs [‡]	3 (5.8)
Hospitalization length, days	1 (1-1)
Device embolization	0 (0)
Cardiac tamponade	1 (1.9)
Major bleeding	1 (1.9)
Transient ischemic attack	1 (1.9)
Stroke	1 (1.9)
Systemic embolism	0 (0)
Death	
Overall	3 (5.8)
Cardiovascular or neurologic death*	1 (1.9)

F.U 20±5 months



Mean f.u 20±months

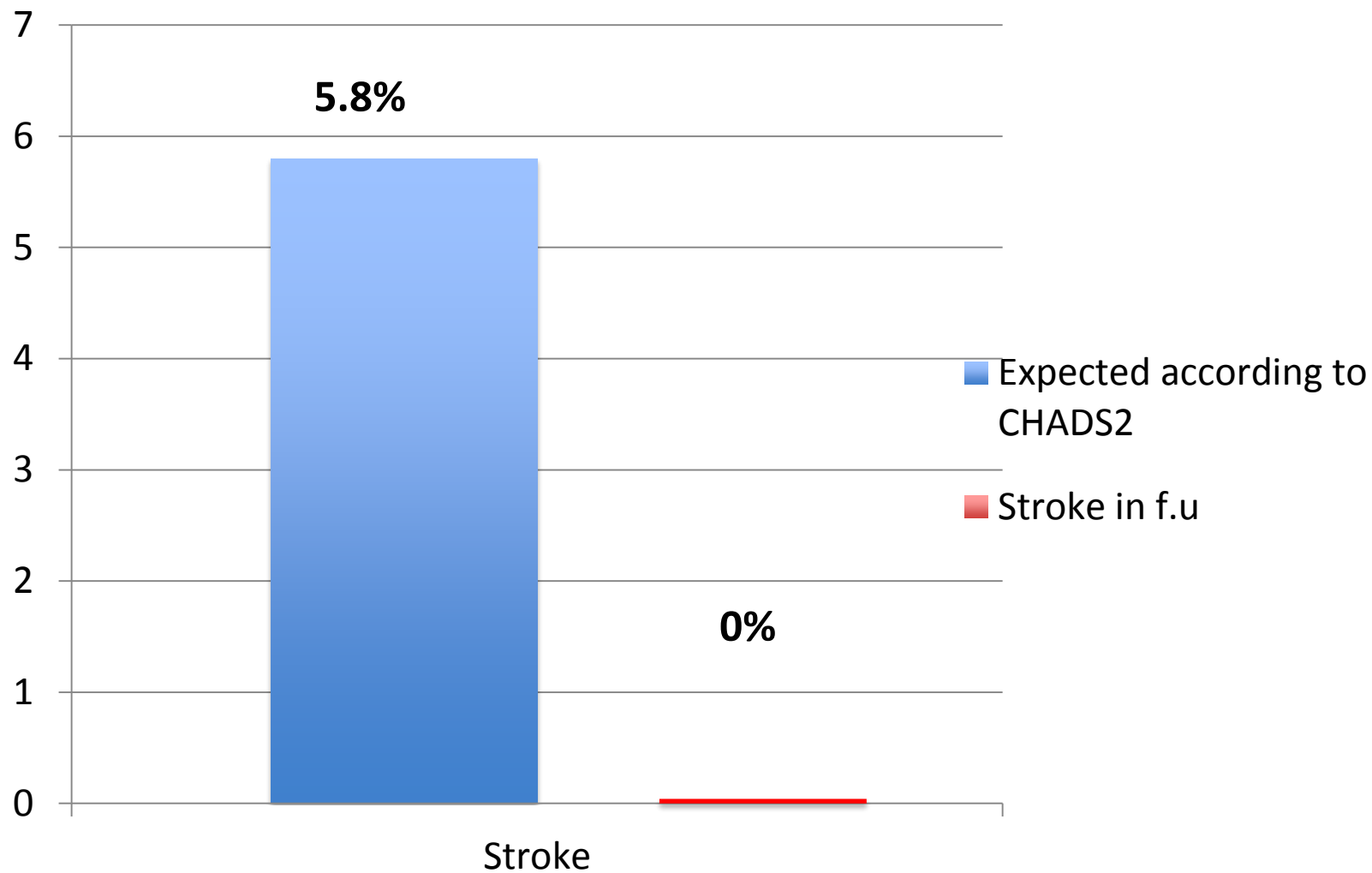
Safety of Percutaneous Left Atrial Appendage Closure with the Amplatzer Cardiac Plug in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation and Contraindications to Anticoagulation

Jens Wiebe, MD, Stefan Bertog, MD, Jennifer Franke, MD, Olga Wettstein, MD, Katharina Lehn, MD, Ilona Hofmann, MD, Laura Vaskelyte, MD, and Horst Sievert,* MD

	%	(n/N)
Number of Contraindications		
1	85.0	(51/60)
2	13.3	(8/60)
3	1.7	(1/60)
TABLE I. Baseline Characteristics		
<i>N</i> History of bleeding without oral anticoagulation	25.0	(15/60)
Age (mean years \pm SD)	6.7	72.9 ± 8.1
CHA ₂ DS ₂ -VASc (mean score \pm SD)	60.0	2.6 ± 1.4
CHA ₂ DS ₂ -VASc (mean score \pm SD)	33.3	4.3 ± 1.7
History of bleeding under oral anticoagulation		
Epistaxis	5.1	(2/38)
HAS-BLED (mean score \pm SD)	5.1	3.3 ± 1.0
Gastrointestinal	33.3	(13/38)
Hematoma	17.9	(7/38)
Hematuria	5.1	(2/38)
Intracranial	23.1	(9/38)
Other locations	7.7	(3/38)
Non-hermorrhagical	36.7	(22/60)
Contraindications		
Elevated liver enzymes	13.6	(3/22)
Falling tendencies	4.5	(1/22)
Labile INR ^a , % (n/N)	13.6	(3/22)
Other contraindications	40.9	(9/22)

TABLE IV. Follow-up

Follow-up time (median years, range) ^a	1.8 (1.0–2.8)
Patient years	103.2
Patient contacts (mean $n \pm$ SD)	3.7 ± 1.3
Device-associated thrombus (%; n/N)	3.5 (2/57)
Cerebral Ischemia (% per year)	0.0
Stroke (% per year)	0.0
TIA ^b (% per year)	0.0
Other thromboembolic event (% per year)	0.0
Bleeding complications (% per year)	8.7
Major bleeding complications (% per year)	1.9
Minor bleeding complications (% per year)	6.8
Major cardiovascular AE (% per year)	15.5
Major noncardiovascular AE (% per year)	18.4
Deaths (% per year)	4.8

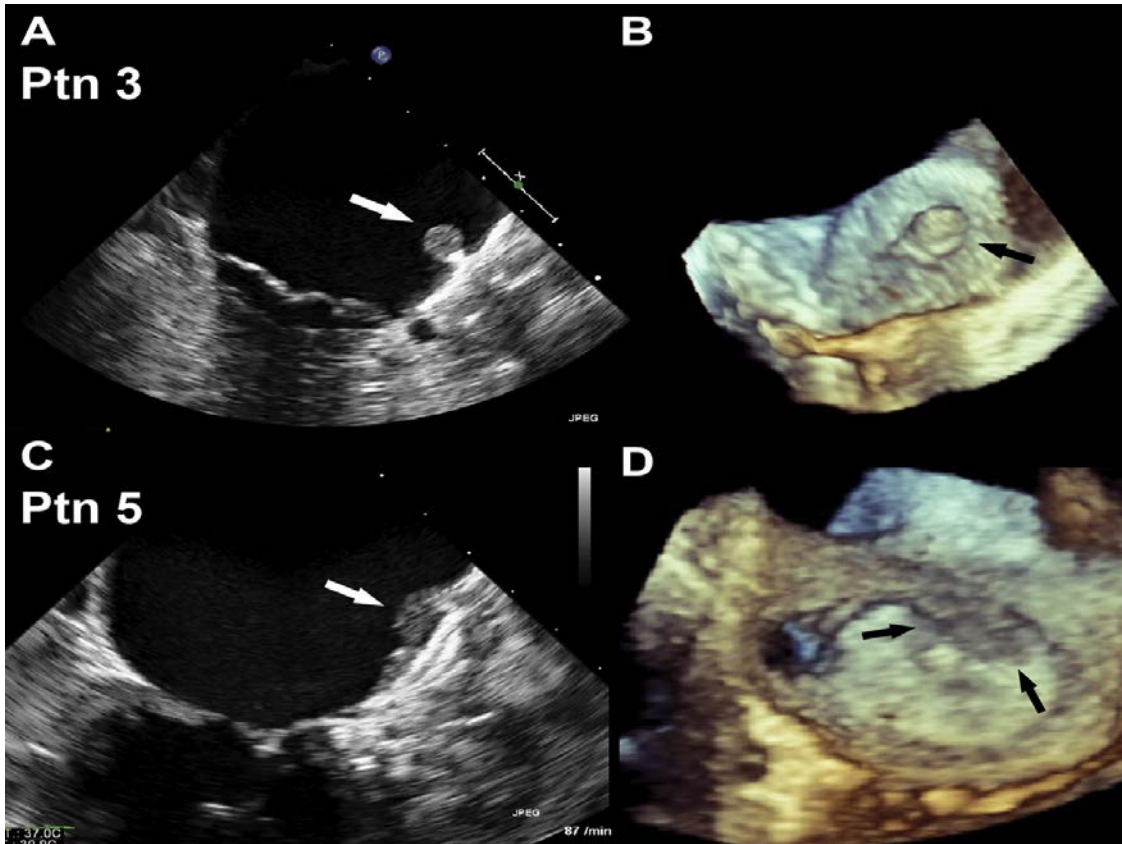


Mean Follow Up 1.8 years (1-2.8)

Risk Factors for Thrombus Formation on the Amplatzer Cardiac Plug After Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion

Bjoern Plicht, MD,* Thomas F. M. Konorza, MD,* Philipp Kahlert, MD,* Fadi Al-Rashid, MD,* Hagen Kaelsch, MD,* Rolf Alexander János, MD,* Thomas Buck, MD,* Hagen S. Bachmann, MD,† Winfried Siffert, MD,† Gerd Heusch, MD,‡ Raimund Erbel, MD*

Essen, Germany



Watchman long-term efficacy from the Israeli Registry

66 patients
(2010-2012)

63% male

Age 75.8±8 yrs

Persistent AF
58.7%

Indication for
implant

```
graph LR; A[Indication for implant] --> B((Bleed  
55  
83%)); A --> C((Rec. Fall  
9  
13%)); A --> D((Liable INR  
2  
4%));
```

Bleed
55
83%

Rec. Fall
9
13%

Liable INR
2
4%

CHADS 2 score/
CHA2DS2VASC
score



3.0 ± 1.2
 5 ± 1

HAS-BLED score



3 ± 1

PHILIPS

30/08/2011

09:42:53

TIS0.2 MI 0.4

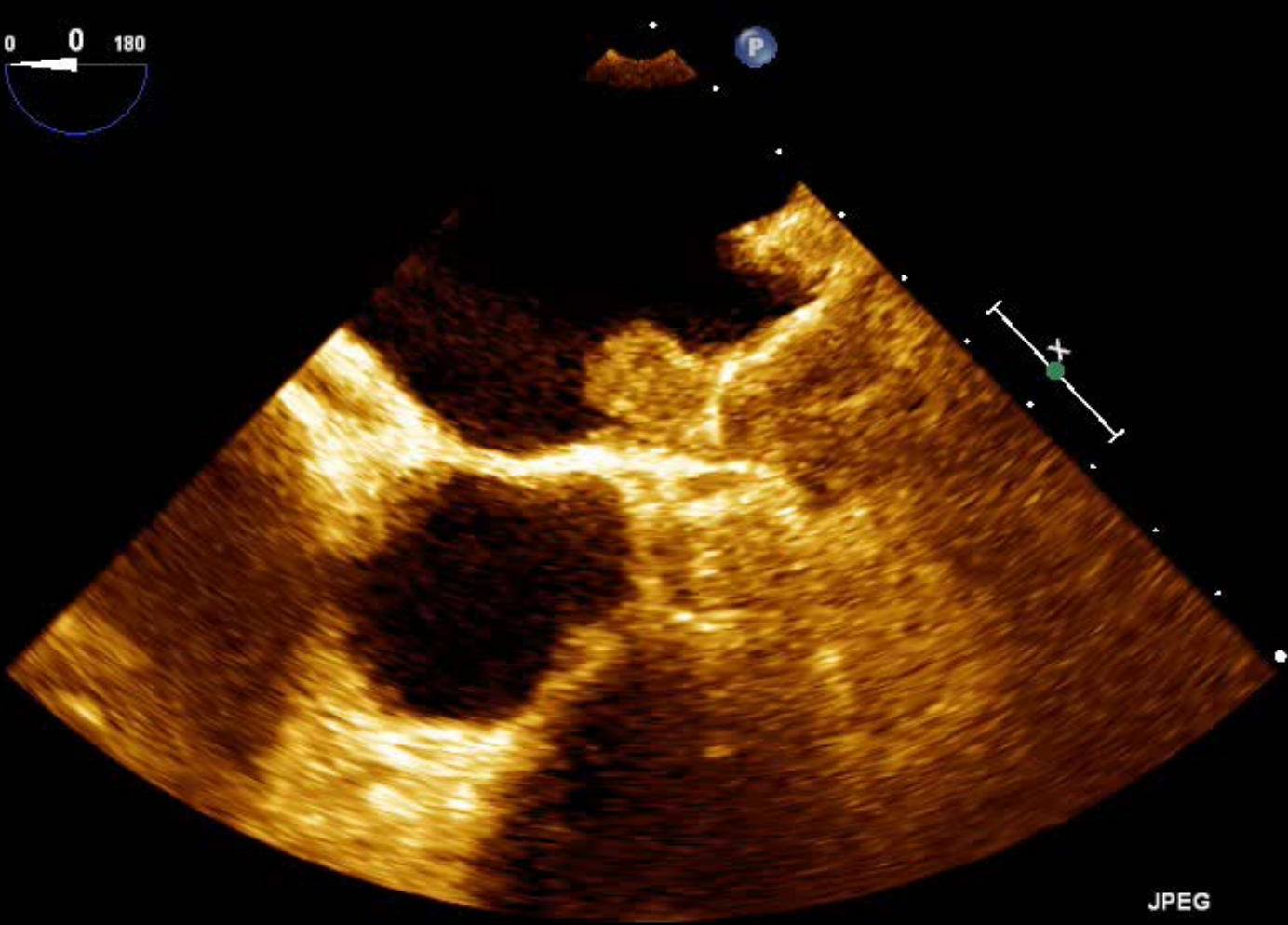
15/10/1942 6816746-9

X7-2t/TEE

FR 40Hz
10cm

M4

2D
74%
C 50
P Off
HGen

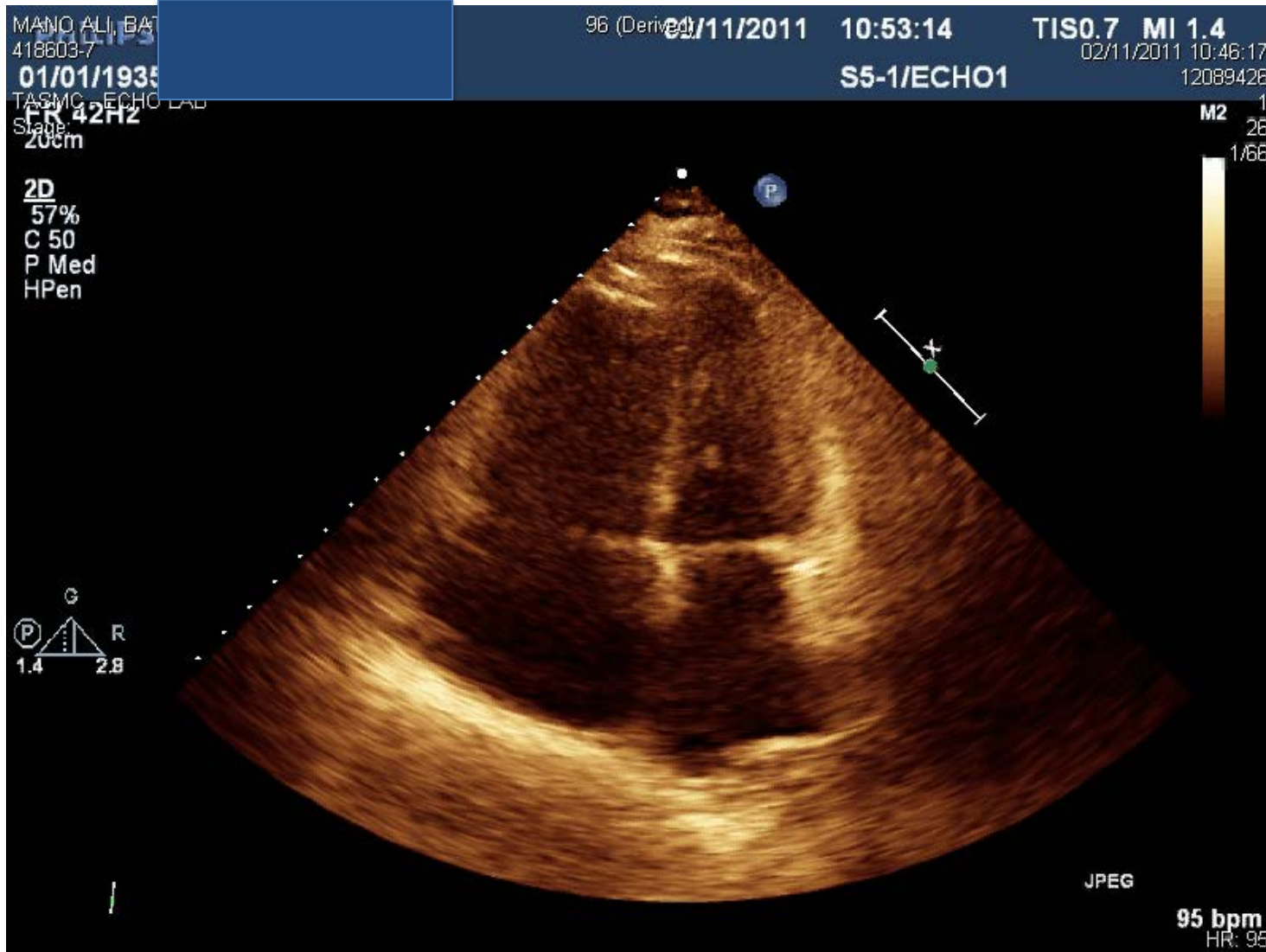


JPEG

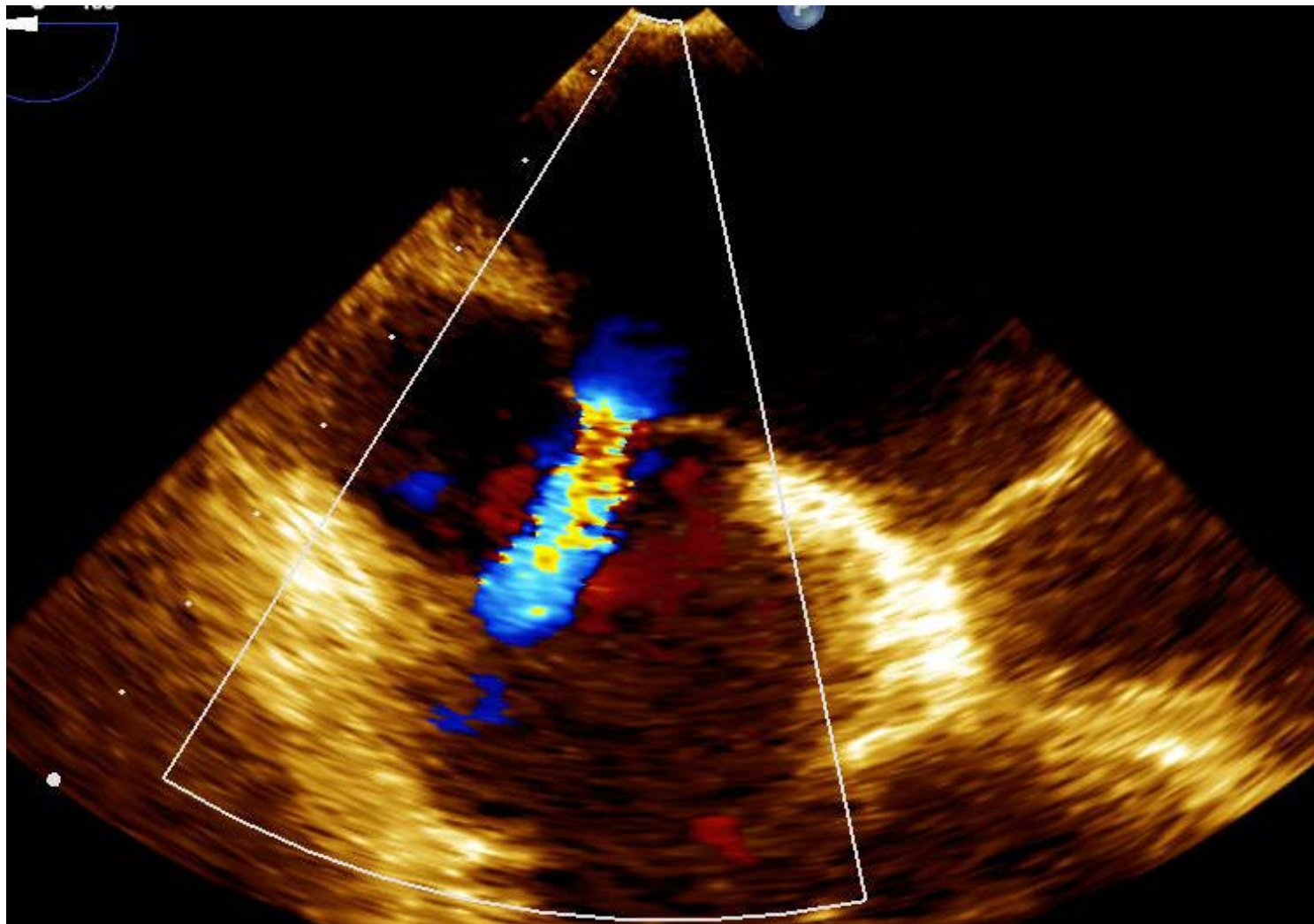
PAT T: 37.0C
TEE T: 37.6C

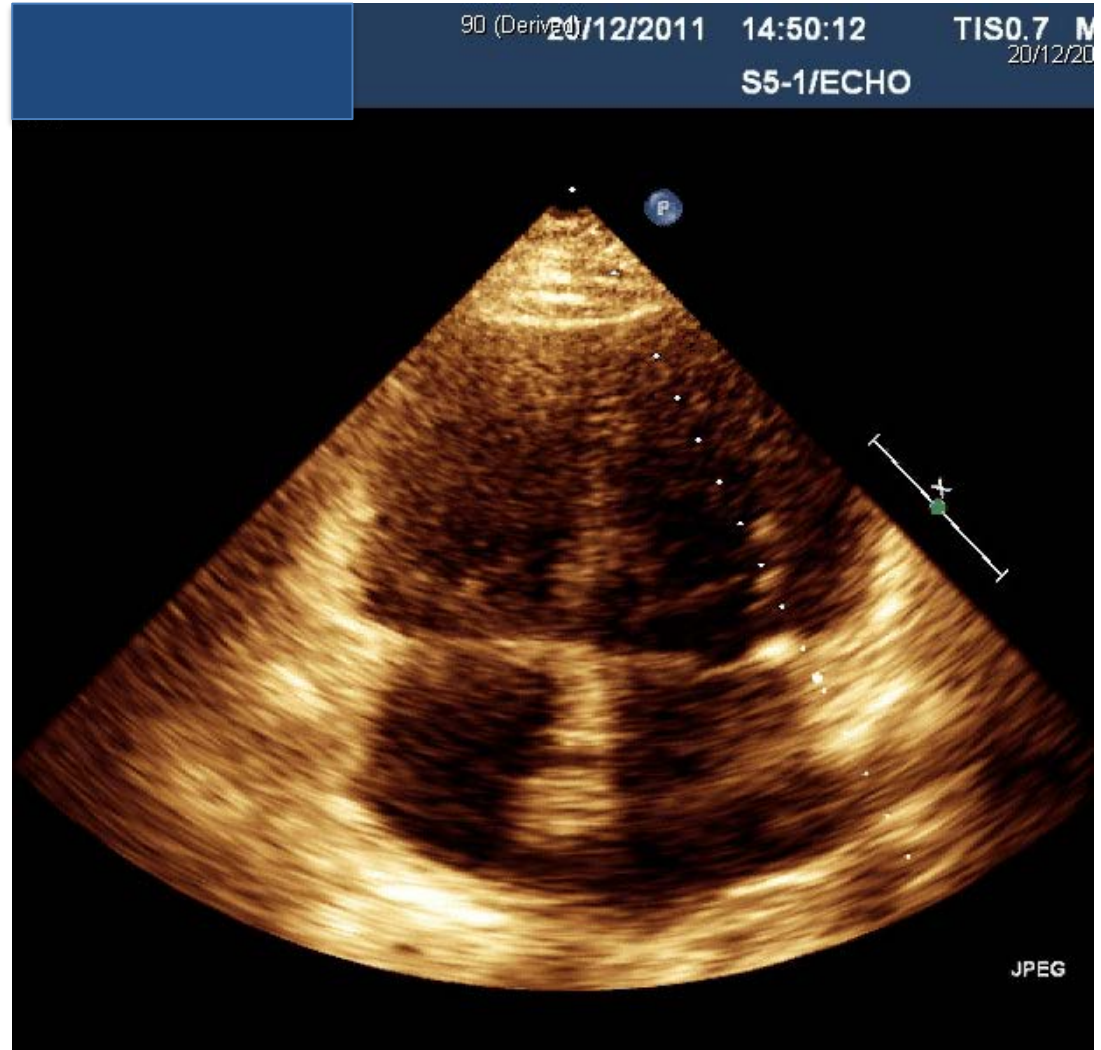
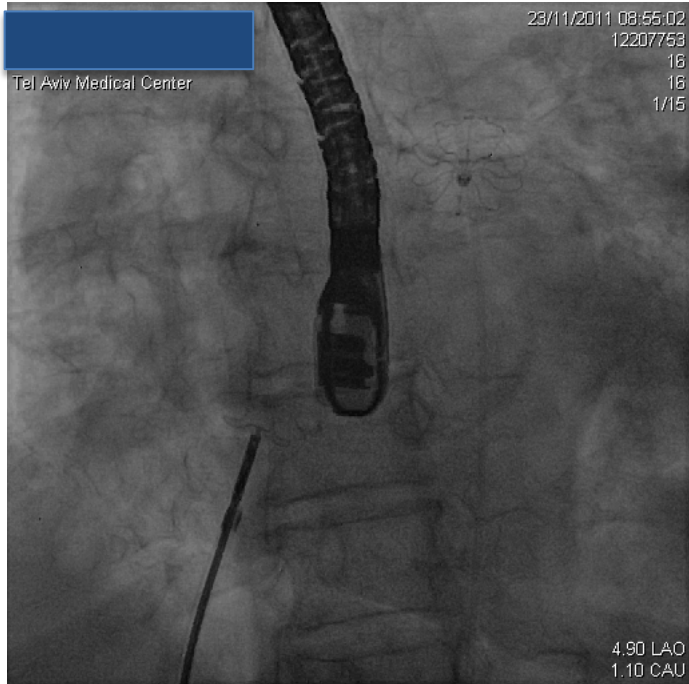
55 bpm

4-mo post implant presents with severe right-sided CHF



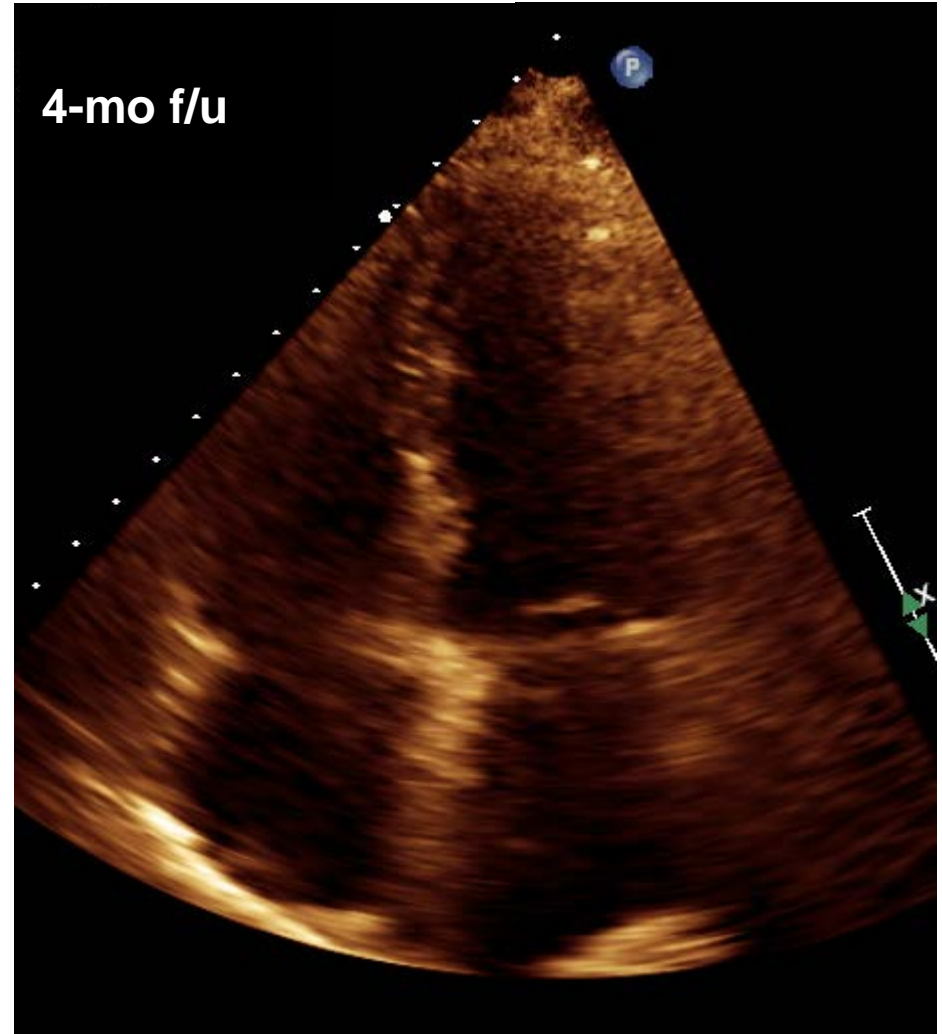
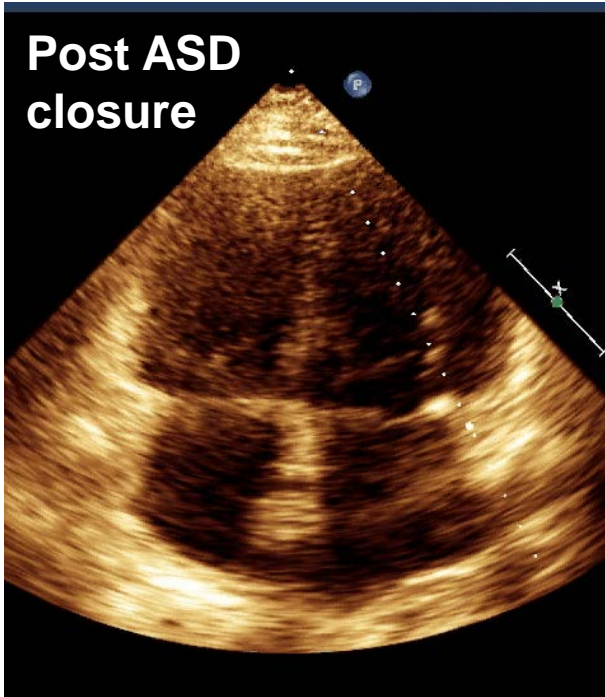
PE, RVMI excluded





Post-procedural Echo Guidance after LAA Closure

underwent ASD closure with gradual clinical improvement



Post LAAC symptomatic ASD

- incidence??
- 1st case report

2012 focused update of the ESC Guidelines for the management of atrial fibrillation

An update of the 2010 ESC Guidelines for the management of atrial fibrillation

Developed with the special contribution of the European Heart Rhythm Association

EHJ Aug 2012

Recommendations for LAA closure/occlusion/excision

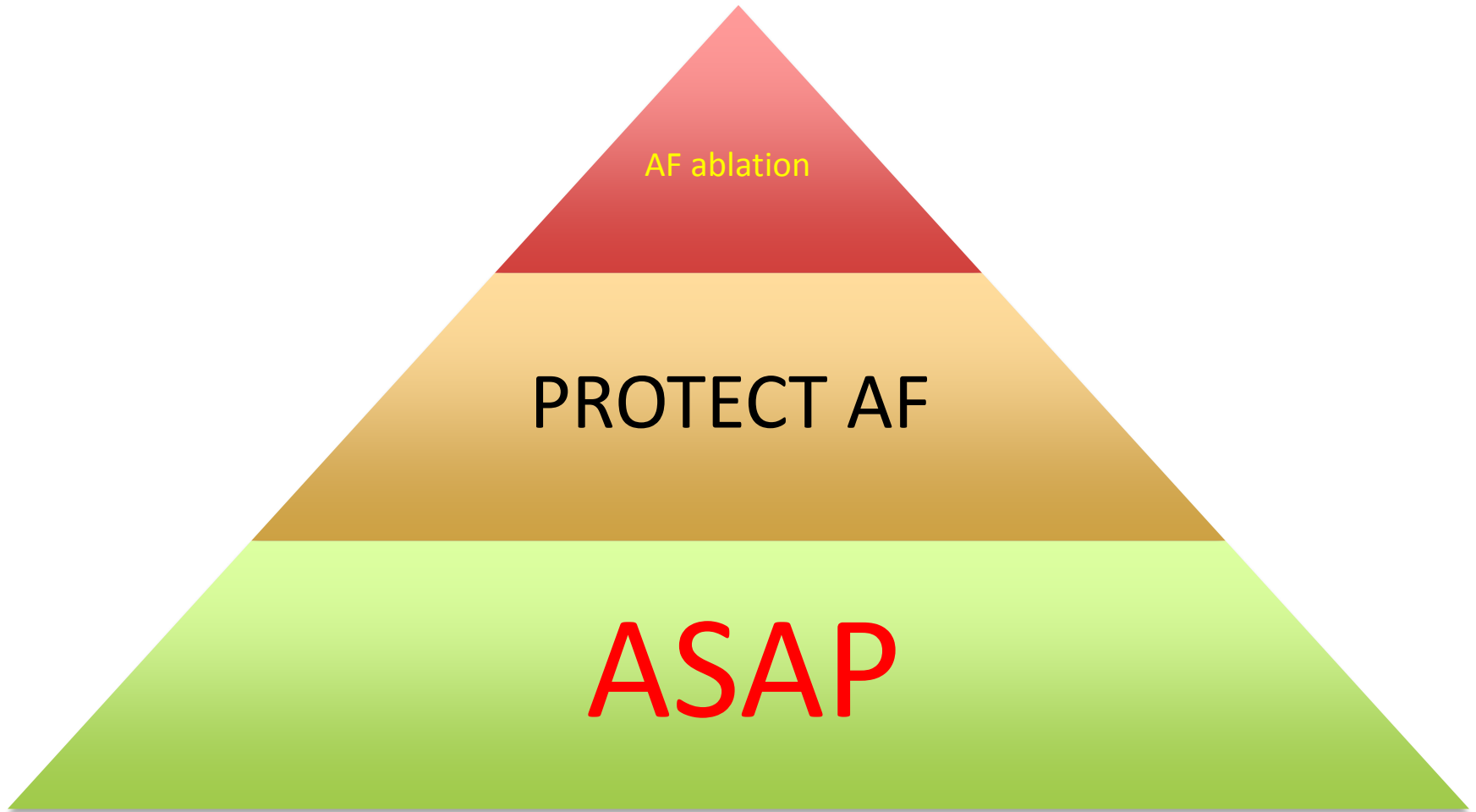
Recommendations	Class ^a	Level ^b	Ref ^c
Interventional, percutaneous LAA closure may be considered in patients with a high stroke risk and contraindications for long-term oral anticoagulation.	IIb	B	115, 118
Surgical excision of the LAA may be considered in patients undergoing open heart surgery.	IIb	C	

Who are the patients we are going to implant?

AF ablation

PROTECT AF

ASAP



**Can the PROTECT AF data be extrapolated to OACs
other than warfarin?**

**Can the PROTECT AF data be extrapolated to devices
other than Watchman?**

**How do we manage high bleeding-risk patients early
post device implantation?**

Annual Risk for **Stroke** and **Bleeding** on Aspirin/Plavix vs. Coumadin

Aspirin+ Plavix

Coumadin

Annual risk

5%

3%

1%

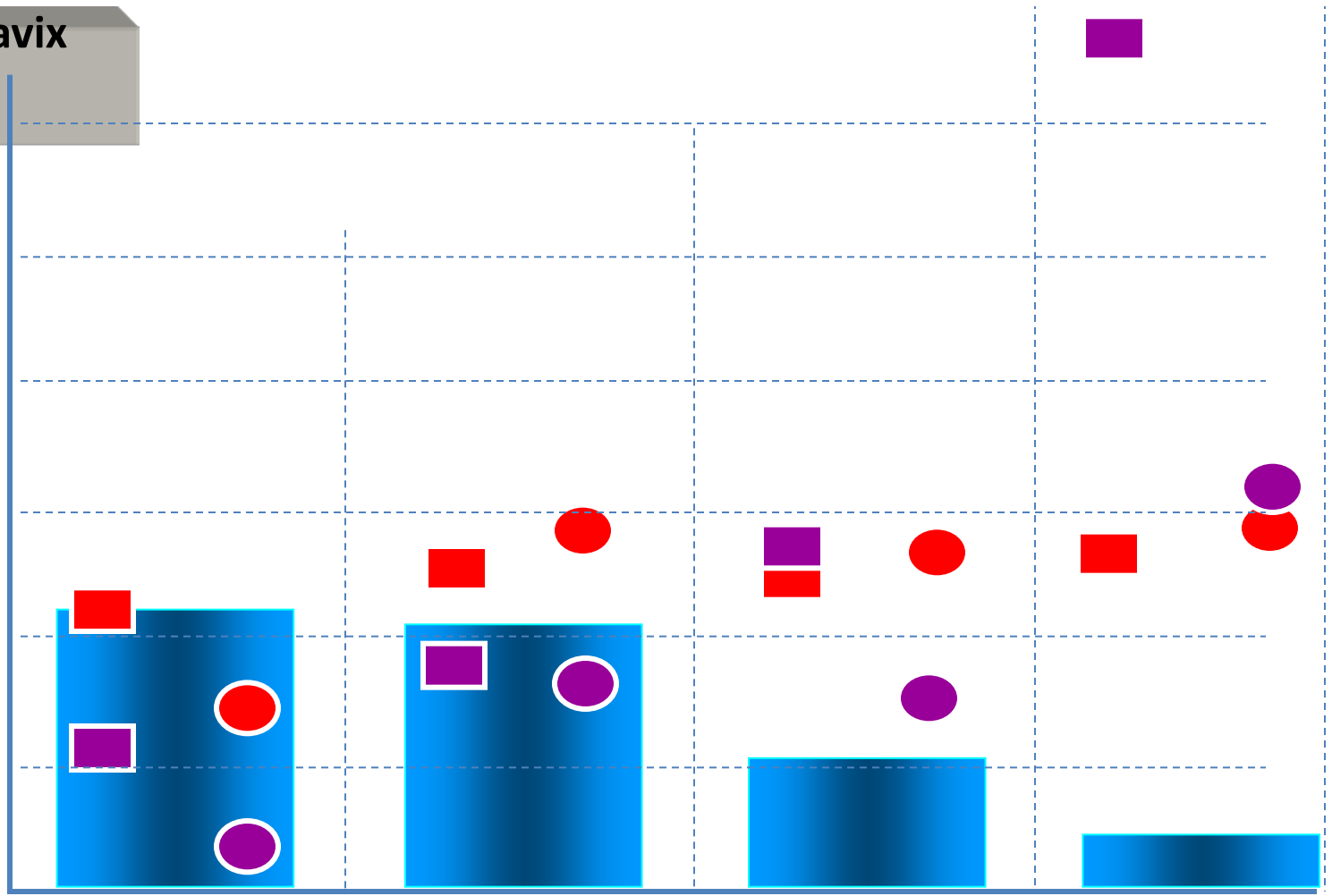
CHADS₂
Score

1

2

3

4

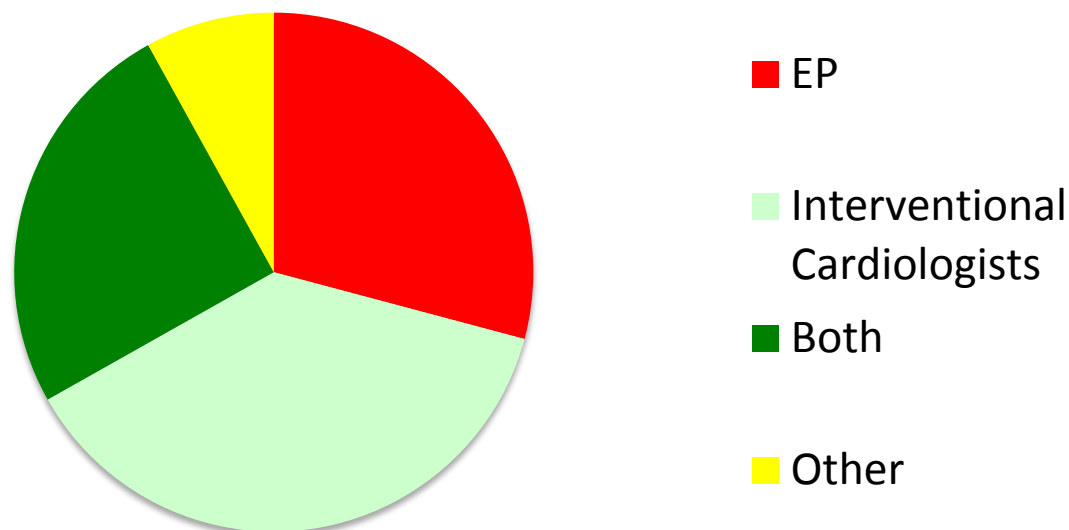


Left atrial appendage occlusion for stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation in Europe: results of the European Heart Rhythm Association

- 36 centers, 24 (67%) performing LAAO, 73% ≤ 10 procedures/year

Gregory Y.H. Lip^{1*†}, Nikolaos Dagres^{2†}, Alessandro Proclemer³, Jesper Hastrup Svendsen⁴, Laurent Pison⁵, and Carina Blomstrom-Lundqvist⁶, conducted by the Scientific Initiative Committee, European Heart Rhythm Association

Who implants Watchman?



Indications for implant

- 86% absolute contra indication for anticoagulation
- 8% along with CPVI
- 6% patient request

50% GA and 50% conscious sedation

Periprocedural Complication Rate

- Periprocedural Stroke: 0% to 10%
- Tamponade : 0% to 10%
- Major Bleeding : 0% to 8%
- Dislodgment: 0% to 20%

