



TURIN, 20<sup>TH</sup>–21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2008

# GREAT INNOVATIONS IN CARDIOLOGY

4<sup>TH</sup> JOINT MEETING WITH MAYO CLINIC

4<sup>TH</sup> TURIN CARDIOVASCULAR NURSING CONVENTION



## SESSION III: HOT SESSION NEW THERAPIES AND NEW TREATMENTS

P. Cavallo Perin (Torino)

- 
- Part I      Selective rear block in the cardio metabolic protection:  
new evidence from DIRECT study



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**Dipartimento di Medicina Interna  
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# **Selective rear block in the cardiometabolic protection: new evidence from DIRECT study.**

**Torino, 20 novembre 2008**

# Diabetes: A Systemic Disease

Leading cause  
of blindness  
in working age  
adults

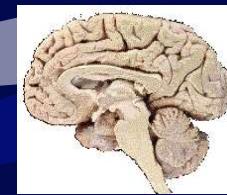
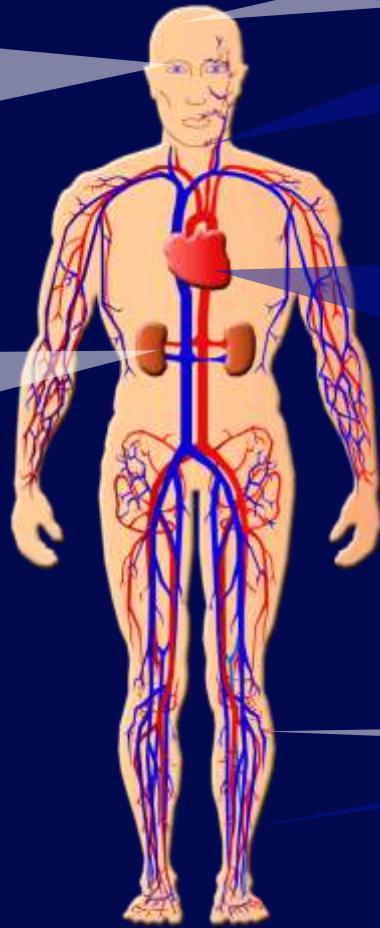


Diabetic  
Retinopathy



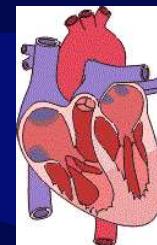
Diabetic  
Nephropathy

Leading cause of  
end-stage renal disease



Stroke

2- to 4- fold  
increase in  
cardiovascular  
mortality  
and stroke



Cardiovascular  
Disease



Diabetic  
Neuropathy

Leading cause of non-traumatic  
lower extremity amputations

# DIRECT: background and rationale

Microvascular complications of diabetes mellitus remain important causes of morbidity in all patients:

- Visual loss is the most feared complication
- Improved glycaemic control can reduce but not abolish the risk of retinopathy and nephropathy (DCCT, UKPDS)
- BP lowering can also reduce the risk (UKPDS)

# DIRECT Studies

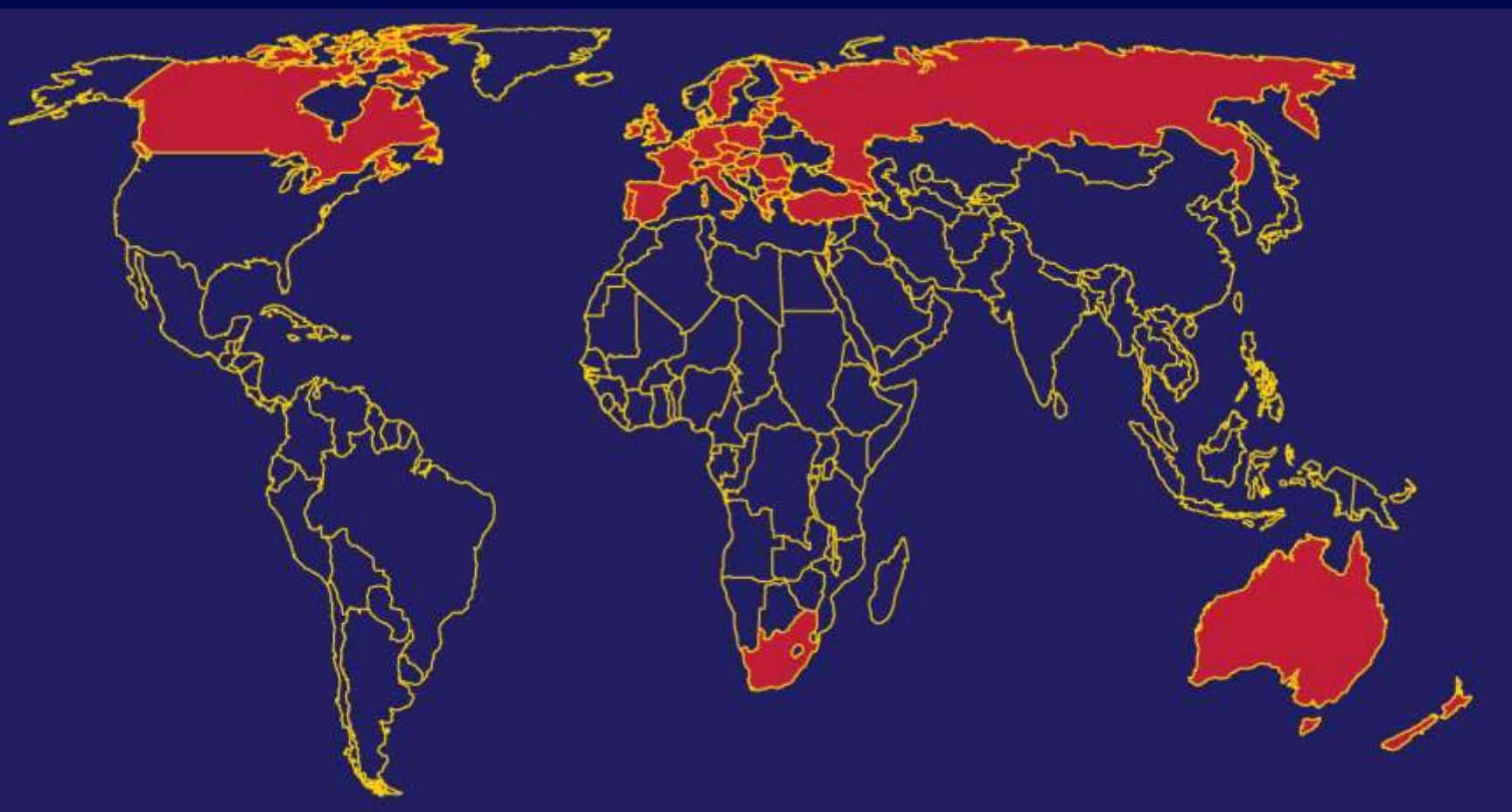
Three RPCT on the effects of the ARB candesartan on incidence and progression of diabetic retinopathy:

- **DIRECT-Prevent 1** *Lancet* 2008;372:1394-1402
- **DIRECT-Protect 1** *Lancet* 2008;372:1394-1402
- **DIRECT-Protect 2** *Lancet* 2008;372:1385-1393

# DIRECT Programme: Inclusion criteria

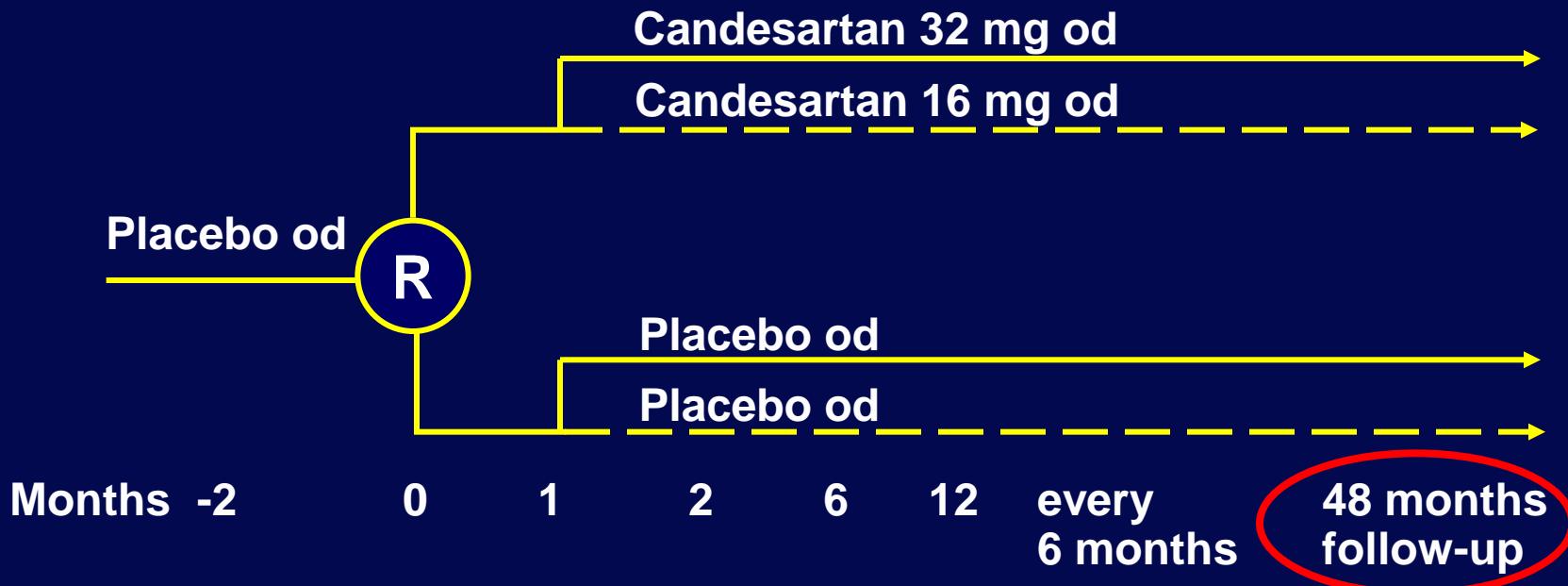
	DIRECT- Prevent 1	DIRECT- Protect 1	DIRECT- Protect 2
<b>Number of patients</b>	1421	1905	1905
<b>Age (years)</b>	18-50	18-55	37-75
<b>Diabetes duration (years)</b>	1-15	1-20	1-20
<b>Microalbuminuria</b>	No	No	No
<b>Blood pressure (mmHg)</b>	<b>SBP <math>\leq</math>130</b> <b>DBP <math>\leq</math>85</b>	<b>SBP <math>\leq</math>130</b> <b>DBP <math>\leq</math>85</b>	<b>No HTN treatment</b> <b>SBP <math>\leq</math>130</b> <b>DBP <math>\leq</math>85</b>  <b>HTN treatment</b> <b>SBP <math>\leq</math>160</b> <b>DBP <math>\leq</math>90</b>
<b>Retinal grading level (ETDRS scale)</b>	<b>10/10</b>	<b><math>\geq</math>20/10 up to <math>\leq</math>47/47</b>	<b><math>\geq</math>20/10 up to <math>\leq</math>47/47</b>

# DIRECT Programme



**309 centres in 30 countries**

# DIRECT: Individual study designs



## Investigations:

Retinal photographs	annually
Urinary albumin excretion rate	annually
Blood pressure	six monthly
Adverse events	six monthly

# ETDRS retinopathy scale (based on 7-field stereo photographs)

Early Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy Study

Level	Severity
10	DR absent
20	MA only
35	Mild NPDR
43	Moderate NPDR
47	Moderately severe NPDR
53	Severe NPDR
61, 65, 71, 75, 81	Proliferative DR

DR      Diabetic retinopathy

MA      Microaneurysms

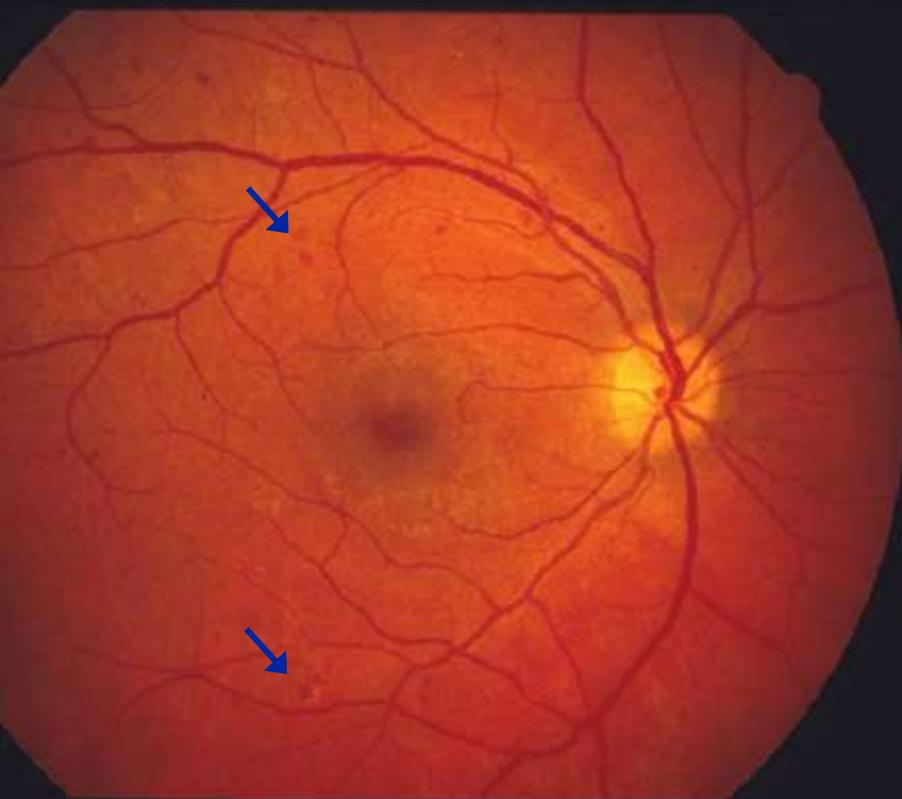
NPDR    Non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy

# DIRECT Programme: Outcome measures

- The **primary** endpoint is
  - 2-step change in ETDRS level for **incidence**
  - 3-step change in ETDRS level for **progression**
- **Secondary** endpoints include
  - regression of retinopathy  
(3-step or 2-step sustained)
- Change in overall retinopathy severity

# Diabetic retinopathy: Microaneurysms only

Level 20



Right eye

Level 20



Left eye

# DIRECT-Prevent 1

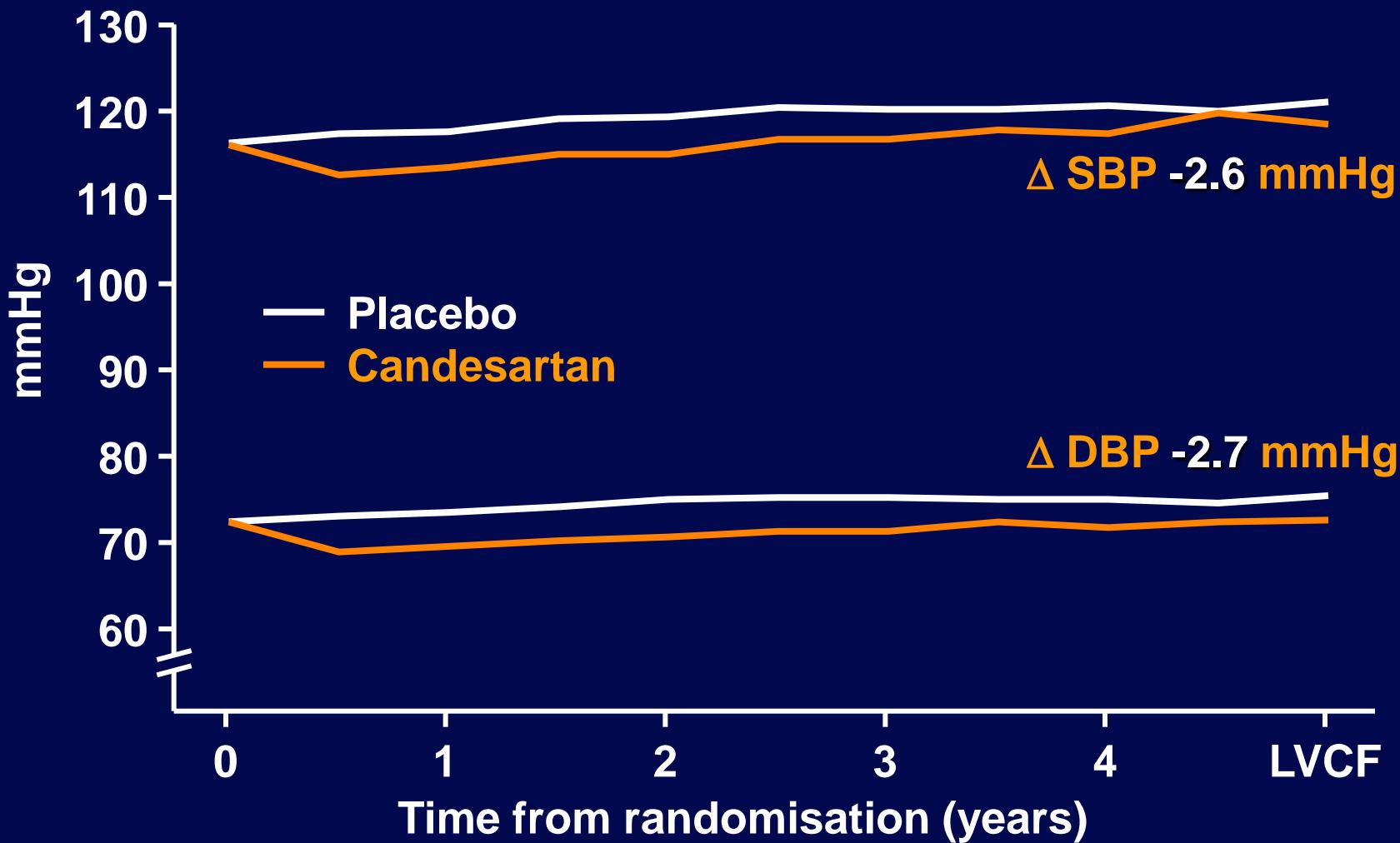
Effect of candesartan on incidence of  
retinopathy in type 1 diabetic patients

# DIRECT Prevent-1: Baseline characteristics

	Candesartan n=711	Placebo n=710
<b>Male</b>	<b>413 (58%)</b>	<b>392 (55%)</b>
<b>Age (years)</b>	<b><math>29.6 \pm 8.0</math></b>	<b><math>29.9 \pm 8.1</math></b>
<b>Diabetes duration (years)</b>	<b><math>6.6 \pm 3.9</math></b>	<b><math>6.8 \pm 3.9</math></b>
<b>HbA<sub>1c</sub> (%)</b>	<b><math>8.0 \pm 1.7</math></b>	<b><math>8.2 \pm 1.7</math></b>
<b>SBP (mmHg)</b>	<b><math>116 \pm 9.5</math></b>	<b><math>116 \pm 9.6</math></b>
<b>DBP (mmHg)</b>	<b><math>72 \pm 6.9</math></b>	<b><math>72 \pm 7.3</math></b>

**mean  $\pm$  SD**

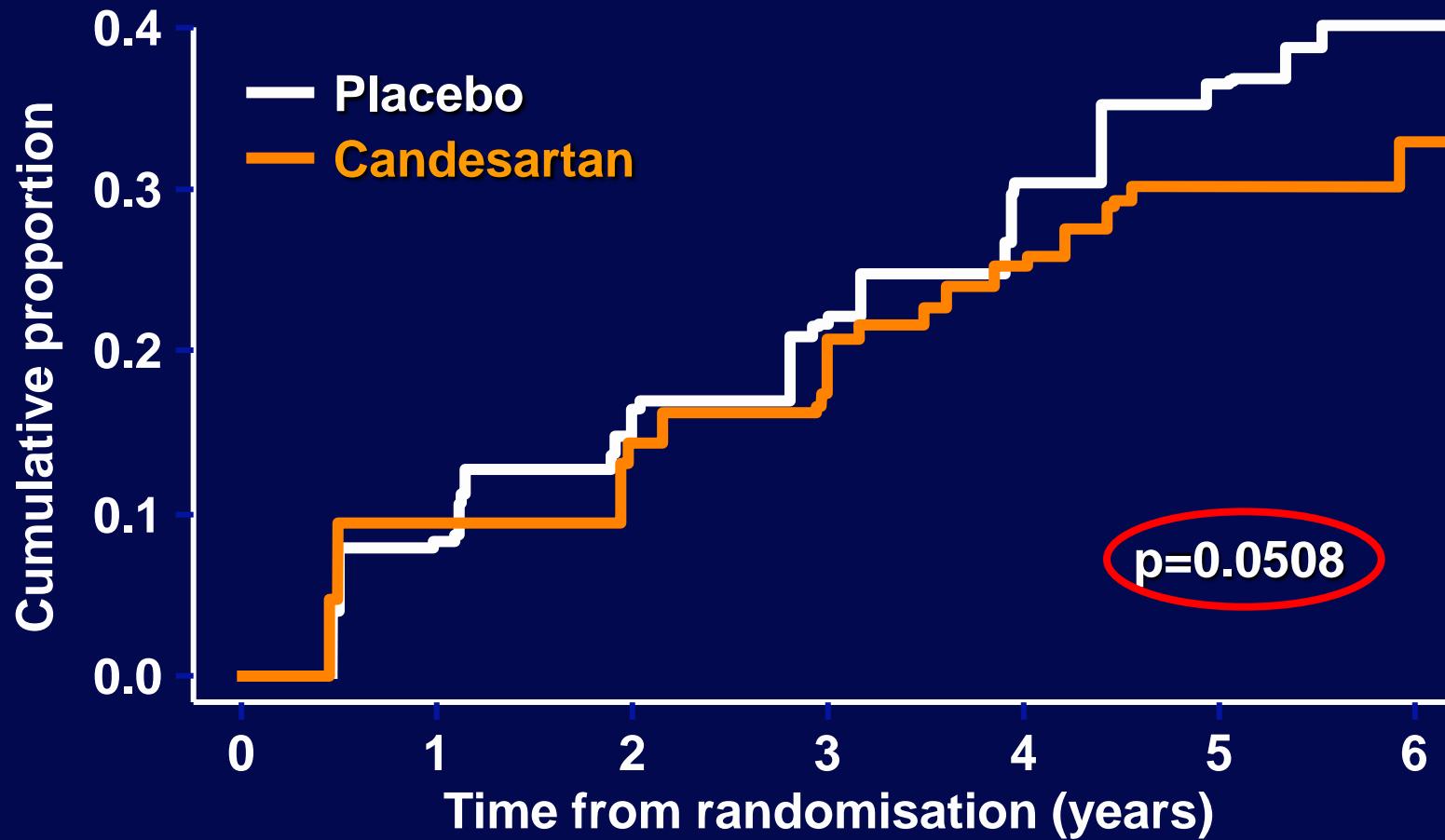
# DIRECT-Prevent 1: Systolic and diastolic BP



LVCF = Last Value Carried Forward

# DIRECT-Prevent 1: Retinopathy

## incidence 2-step change

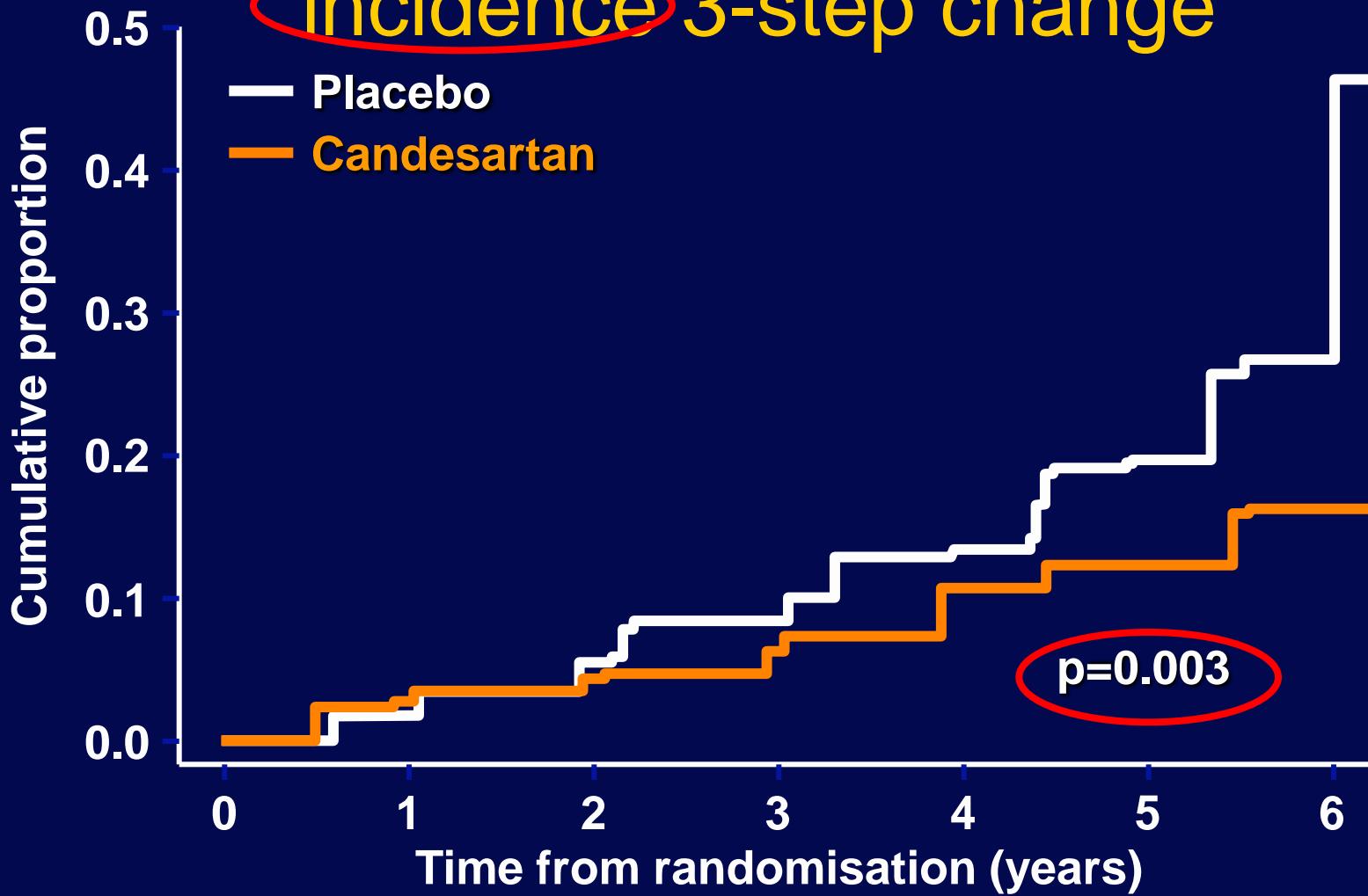


No at risk

	Placebo	Candesartan
No at risk	710	711
Placebo	644	633
Candesartan	585	573
	518	524
	347	356
	87	92
	0	1

# DIRECT-Prevent 1: Retinopathy

## incidence 3-step change



No at risk

	Placebo	Candesartan
No at risk	710	711
Placebo	663	651
Candesartan	630	615
	587	587
	419	422
	109	108
	1	1

# DIRECT-Protect 1

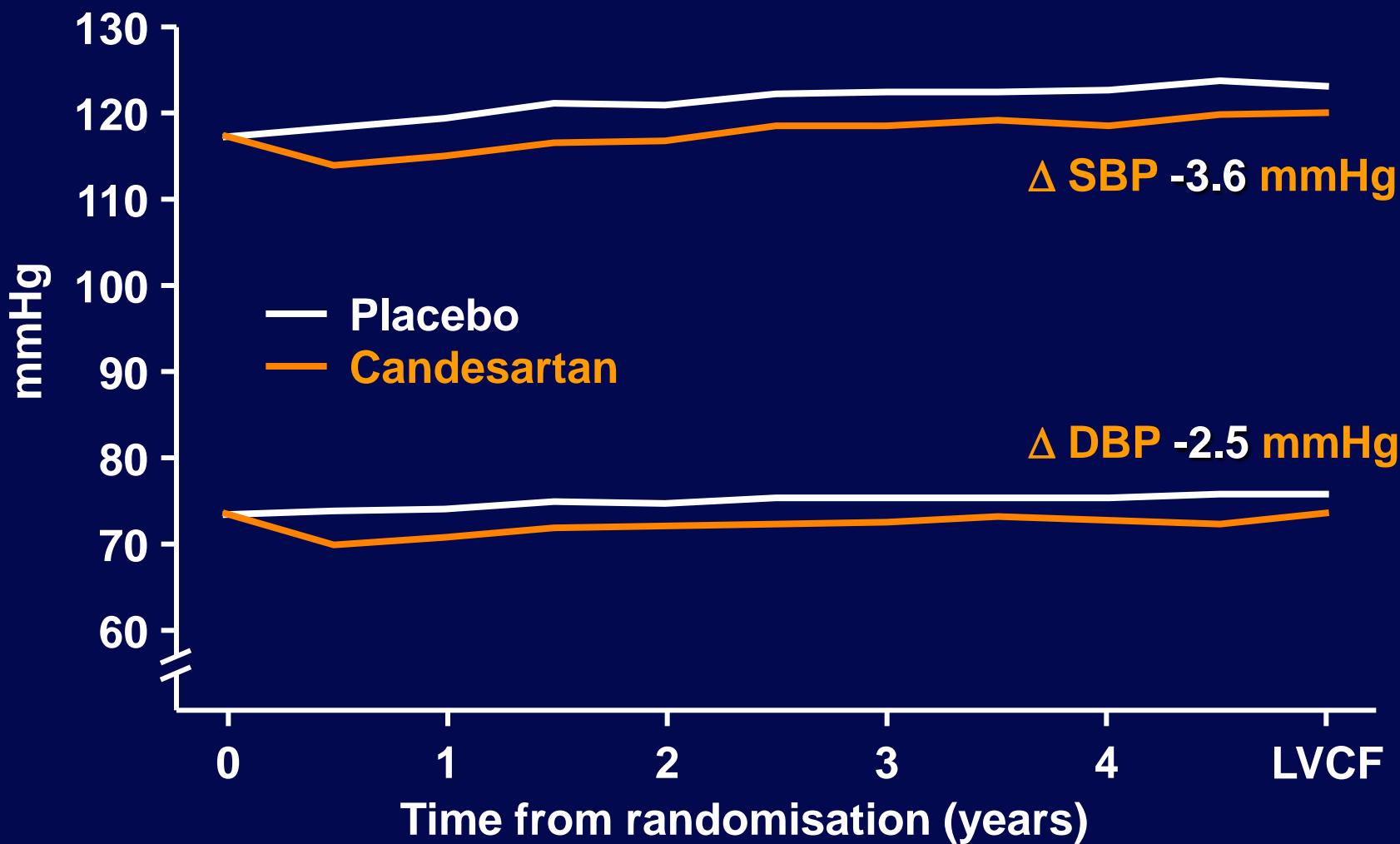
Effect of candesartan on progression of  
retinopathy in type 1 diabetic patients

# DIRECT-Protect 1: Baseline characteristics

	Candesartan n=951	Placebo n=954
Male	538 (57%)	553 (58%)
Age (years)	$31.5 \pm 8.5$	$31.9 \pm 8.5$
Diabetes duration (years)	$10.9 \pm 4.3$	$11.0 \pm 4.3$
HbA <sub>1c</sub> (%)	$8.5 \pm 1.6$	$8.5 \pm 1.6$
SBP (mmHg)	$117 \pm 9.6$	$117 \pm 9.8$
DBP (mmHg)	$74 \pm 6.5$	$73 \pm 6.9$

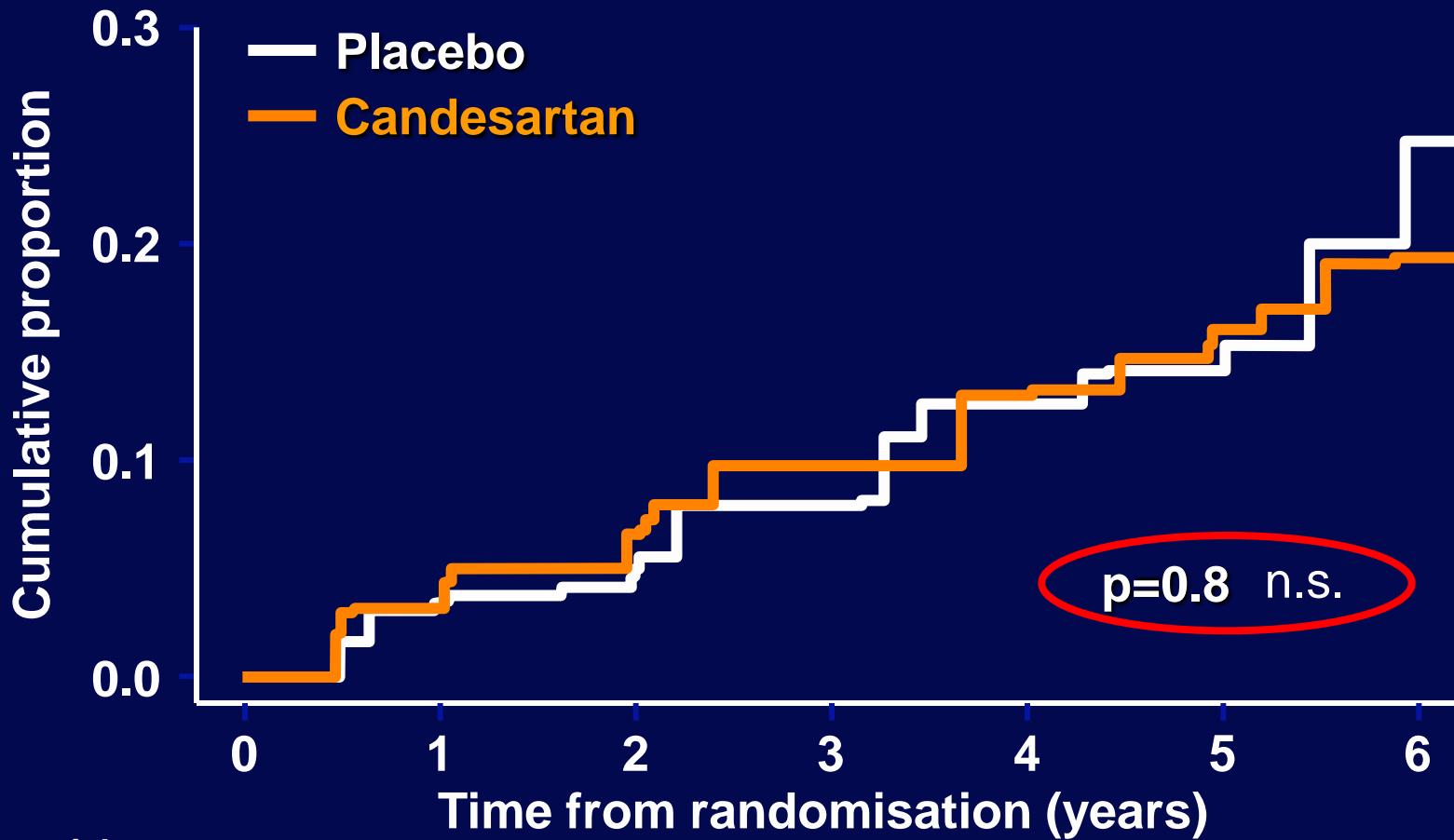
mean  $\pm$  SD

# DIRECT-Protect 1: Systolic and diastolic BP



LVCF = Last Value Carried Forward

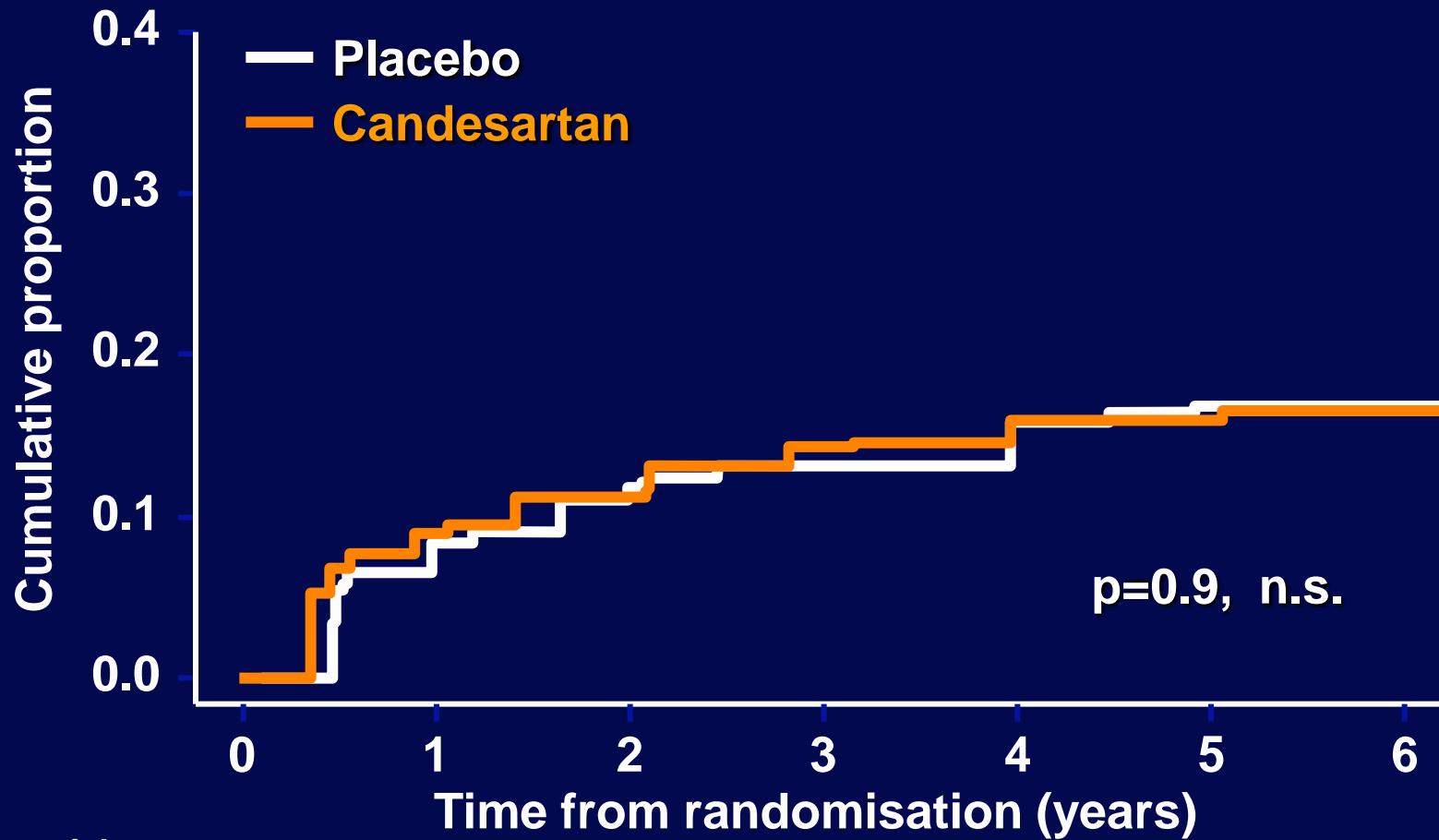
# DIRECT-Protect 1: Retinopathy progression 3-step change



No at risk

Placebo	954	875	820	770	612	188	4
Candesartan	951	863	814	767	626	195	5

# DIRECT-Protect 1: Retinopathy regression



No at risk

Placebo	954	840	772	713	559	167	5
Candesartan	951	820	773	728	591	187	5

# DIRECT-Prevent 1 and DIRECT-Protect 1: Adverse events for the safety population, n (%)

	DIRECT-Prevent 1		DIRECT-Protect 1	
	Candesartan	Placebo	Candesartan	Placebo
Safety population	710	710	951	951
All adverse events during treatment *	505 (71.1)	517 (72.8)	738 (77.6)	721 (75.8)
Discontinued study medication due to adverse event	22 (3.1)	18 (2.5)	17 (1.8)	16 (1.7)
Deaths	7 (1.0)	5 (0.7)	7 (0.7)	8 (0.8)

\* Most common were nasopharyngitis, hypoglycaemia, hypotension, headache

# DIRECT-Protect 2

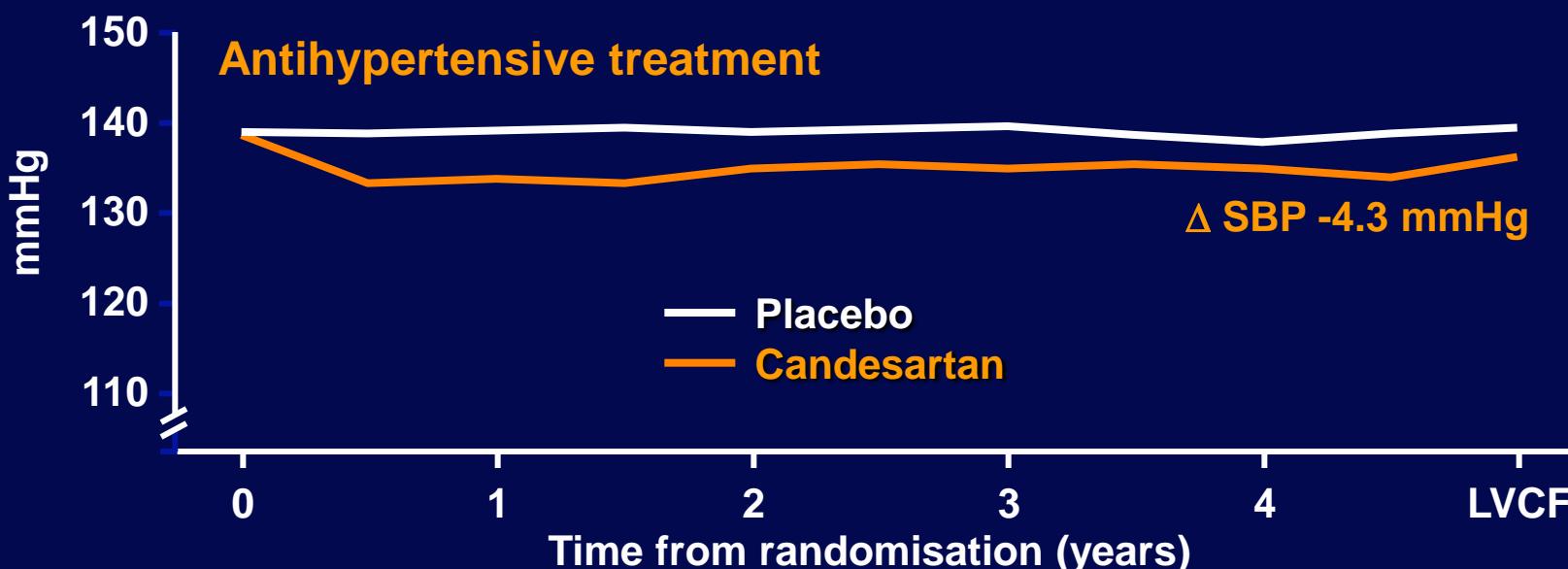
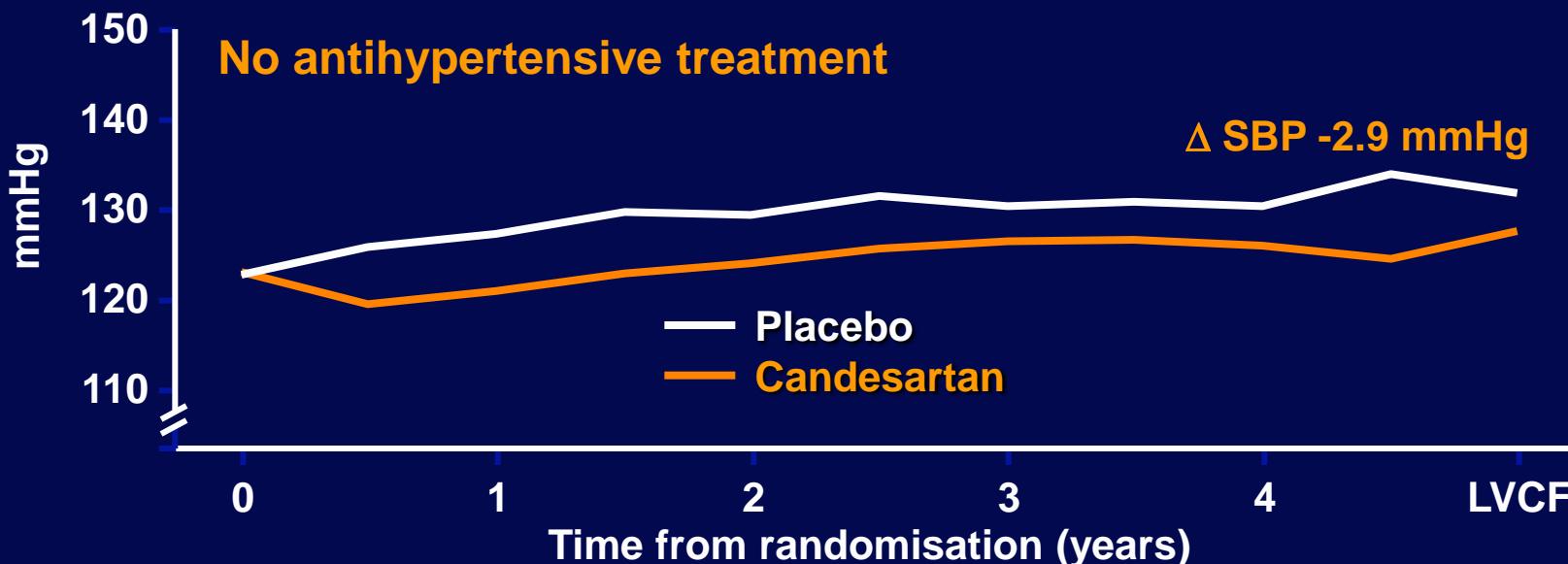
Effect of candesartan on progression of  
retinopathy in type 2 diabetic patients

# DIRECT-Protect 2: Baseline characteristics

	Candesartan n=951	Placebo n=954
Male	466 (49%)	482 (51%)
Age (years)	$56.9 \pm 7.6$	$56.8 \pm 7.9$
Diabetes duration (years)	$8.8 \pm 4.9$	$8.7 \pm 4.8$
HbA <sub>1c</sub> (%)	$8.2 \pm 1.6$	$8.2 \pm 1.6$
No antihypertensive treatment		
SBP/DBP (mmHg)	123/75	123/76
Antihypertensive treatment (62%)		
SBP/DBP (mmHg)	139/79	139/80

mean  $\pm$  SD

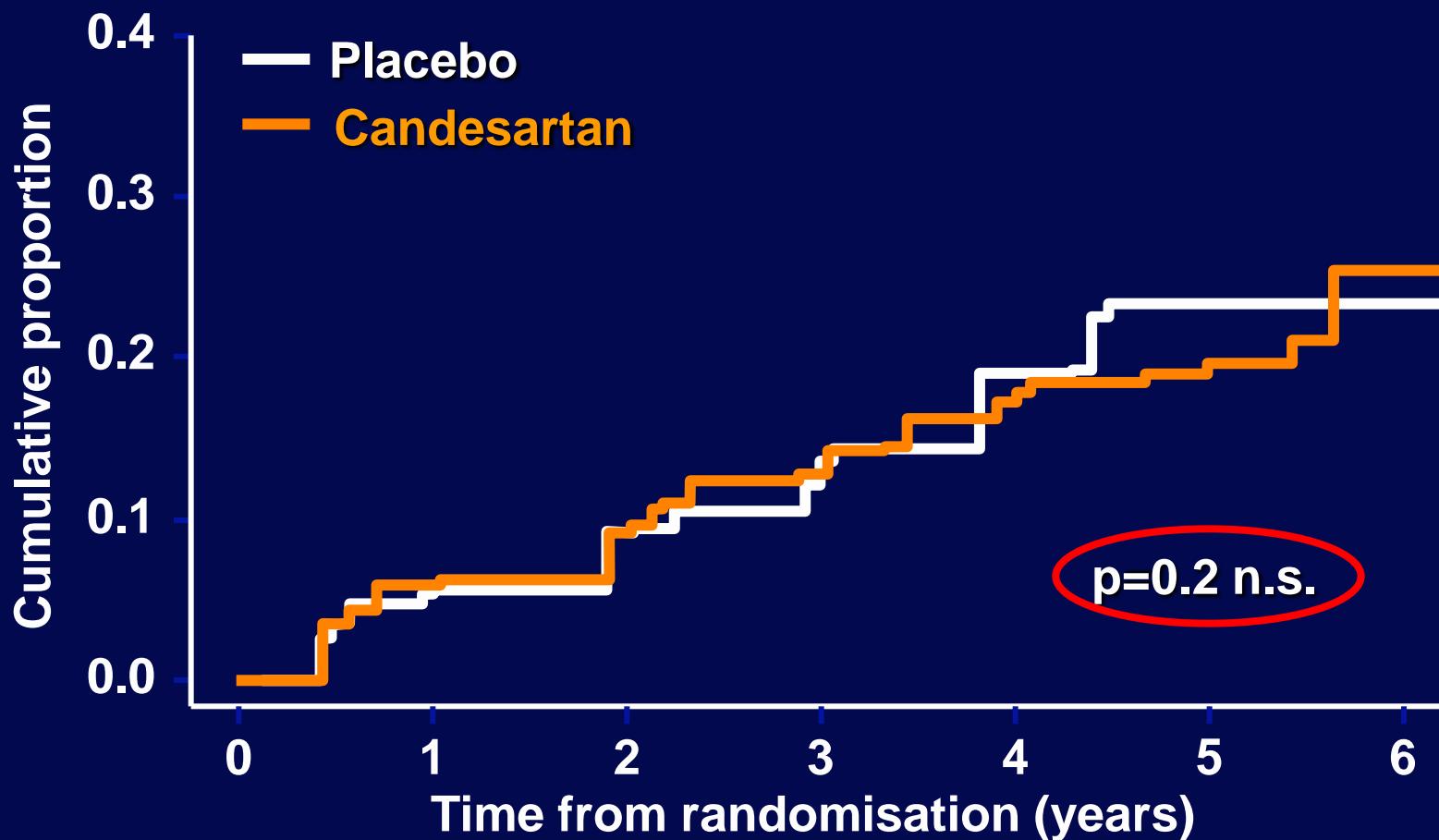
# DIRECT-Protect 2: Systolic BP



LVCF = Last Value Carried Forward

# DIRECT-Protect 2

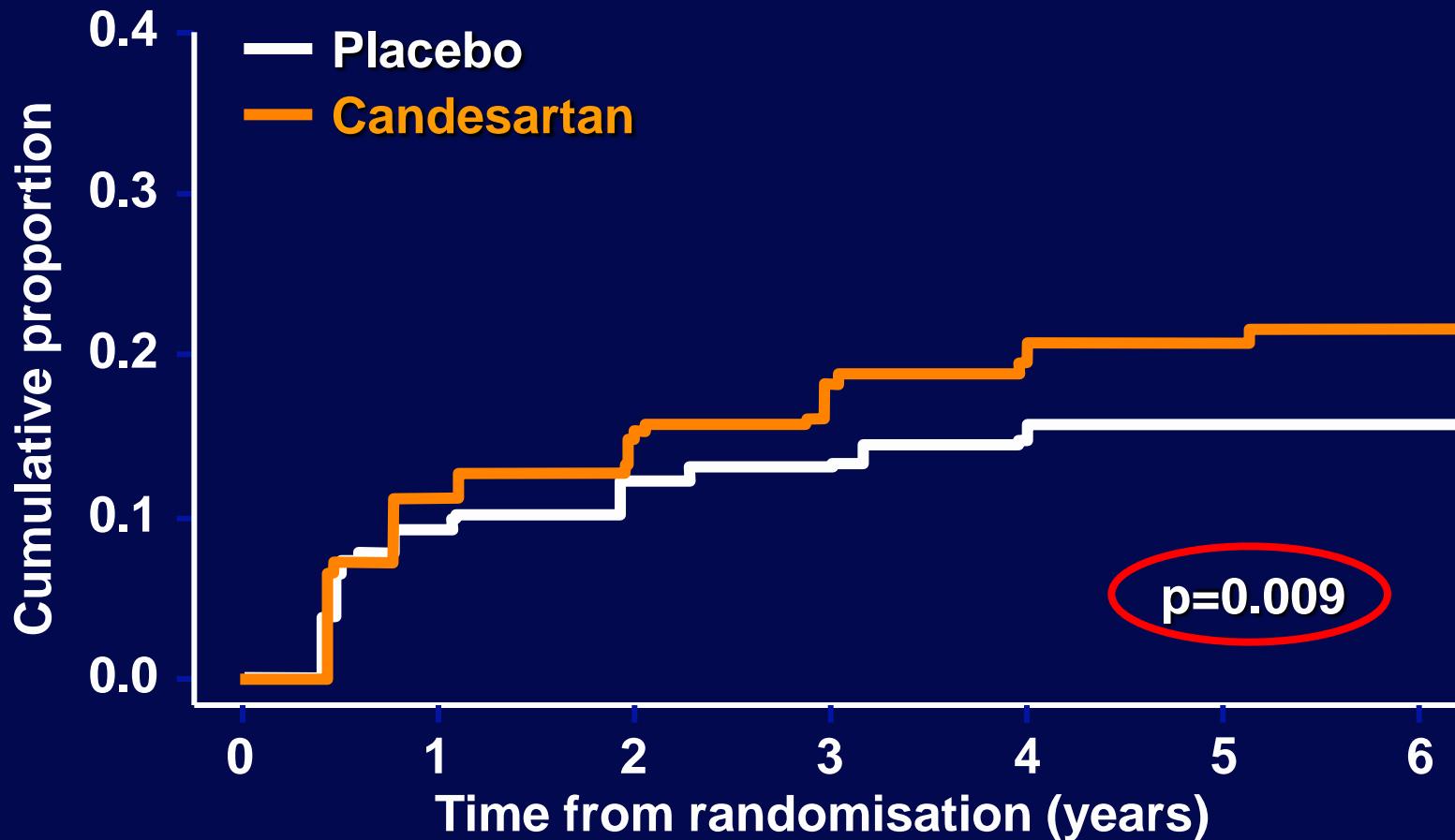
## Retinopathy progression 3-step change



No at risk

Placebo	954	845	794	737	513	112	3
Candesartan	951	848	807	737	540	123	0

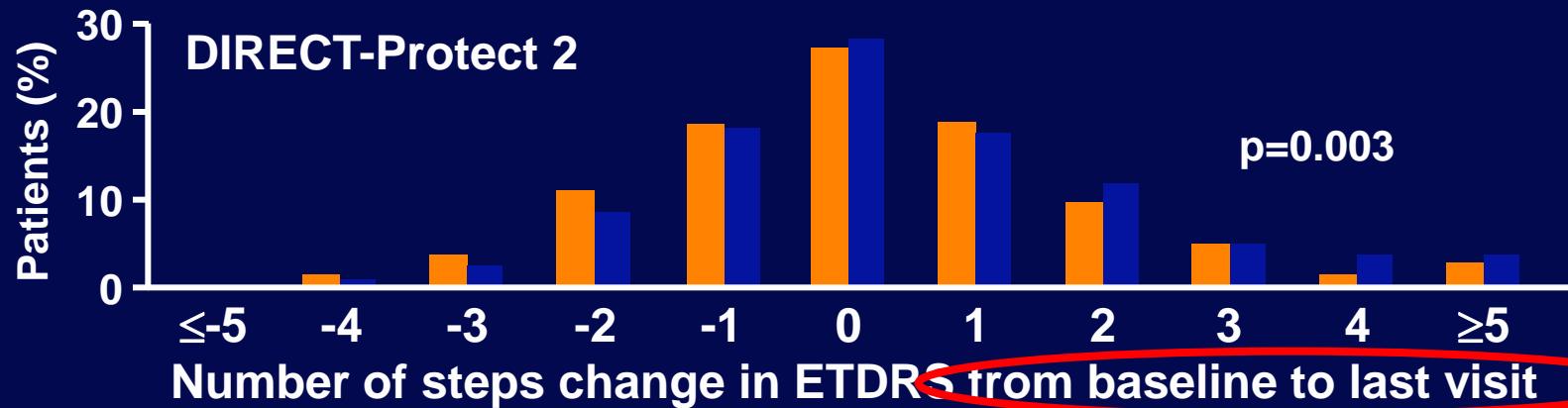
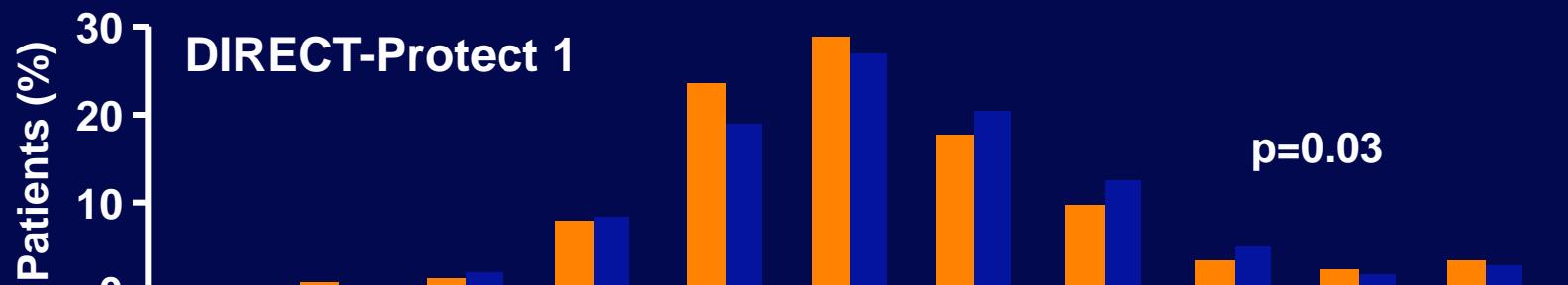
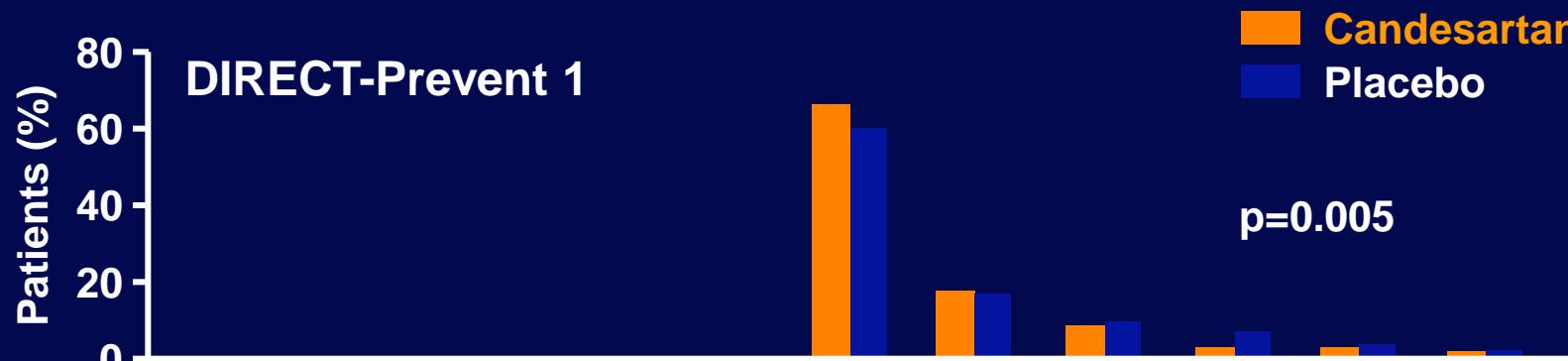
# DIRECT-Protect 2: Retinopathy regression



No at risk

Placebo	954	812	760	713	510	93	1
Candesartan	951	811	755	692	492	100	0

# DIRECT Programme: Change in ETDRS level



# Summary

- Candesartan reduced incidence of retinopathy in normoalb-normotens **type 1** diabetes by 18% (p=0.0508) 2-step change, primary endpoint 35% (p=0.003) 3-step change, post hoc analysis
- No effect on progression of retinopathy in type 1 diabetes, but there was a non-significant 13% reduction in type **2 patients** (p=0.2)
- Candesartan enhanced regression of retinopathy by 34% (p=0.009) in **type 2** diabetes
- Level of retinopathy was **more favourably affected** on Candesartan at the end of all three studies compared to placebo

# The DIRECT Programme Steering Committee

Anne Katrin Sjølie	Denmark	Anders Svensson	Sweden
Rudy Bilous	UK	James Hainer	USA
Nish Chaturvedi	UK	Ronald Klein	USA
Ywonne Fox	Sweden	Trevor Orchard	USA
John Fuller	UK	Hans-Henrik Parving	Denmark
Michael George	UK	Massimo Porta	Italy
		Ingrid Warnold	Sweden

**Would like to extend their thanks to:**  
**All the study investigators, photographers and site staff**  
**All the patients**  
**The sponsors, AstraZeneca and Takeda**

**Please visit [www.direct-results.org](http://www.direct-results.org) for more information**

# Studio Steno-2

## The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

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JANUARY 30, 2003

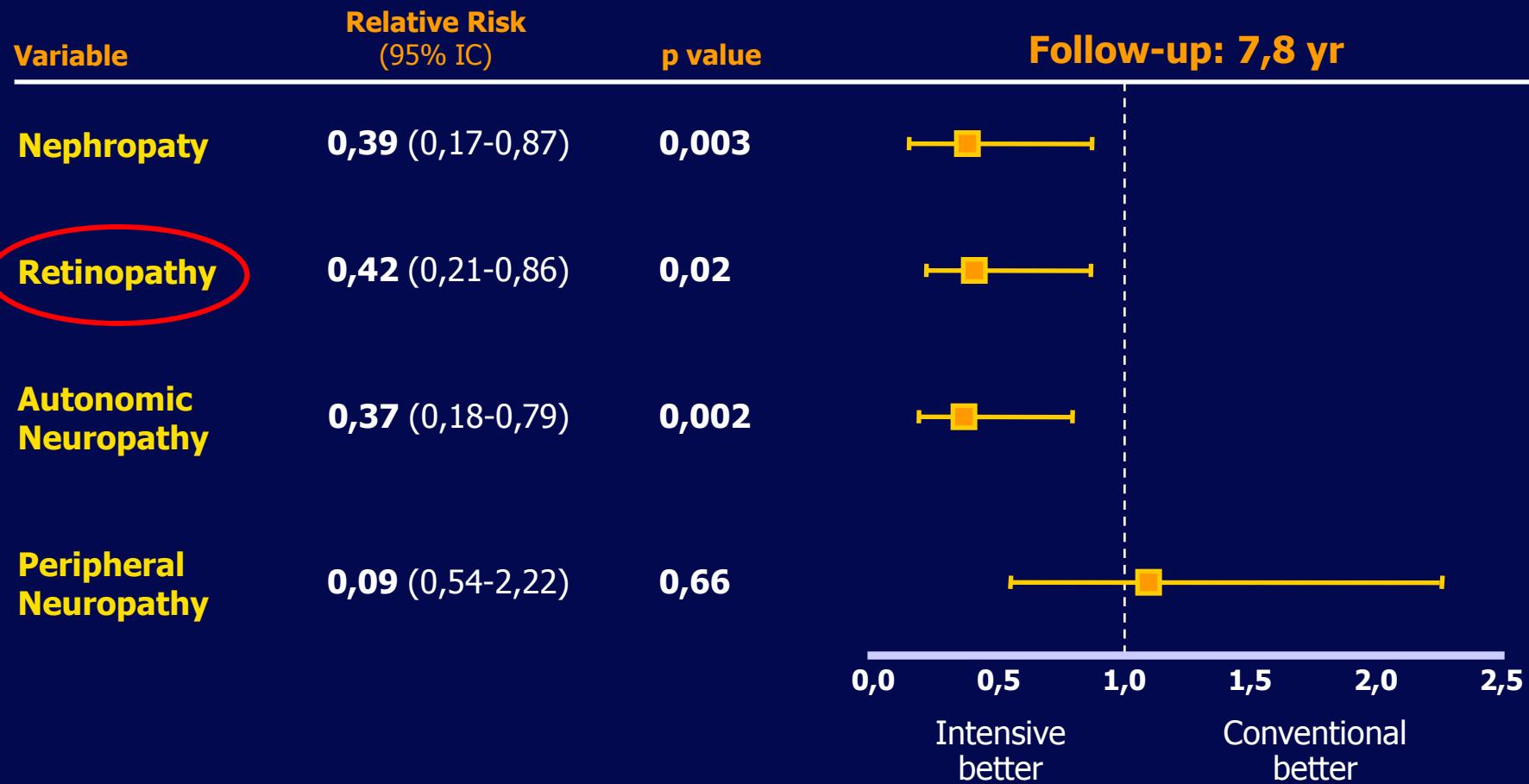
VOL. 348 NO. 5

### Multifactorial Intervention and Cardiovascular Disease in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes

Peter Gæde, M.D., Pernille Vedel, M.D., Ph.D., Nicolai Larsen, M.D., Ph.D., Gunnar V.H. Jensen, M.D., Ph.D.,  
Hans-Henrik Parving, M.D., D.M.Sc., and Oluf Pedersen, M.D., D.M.Sc.

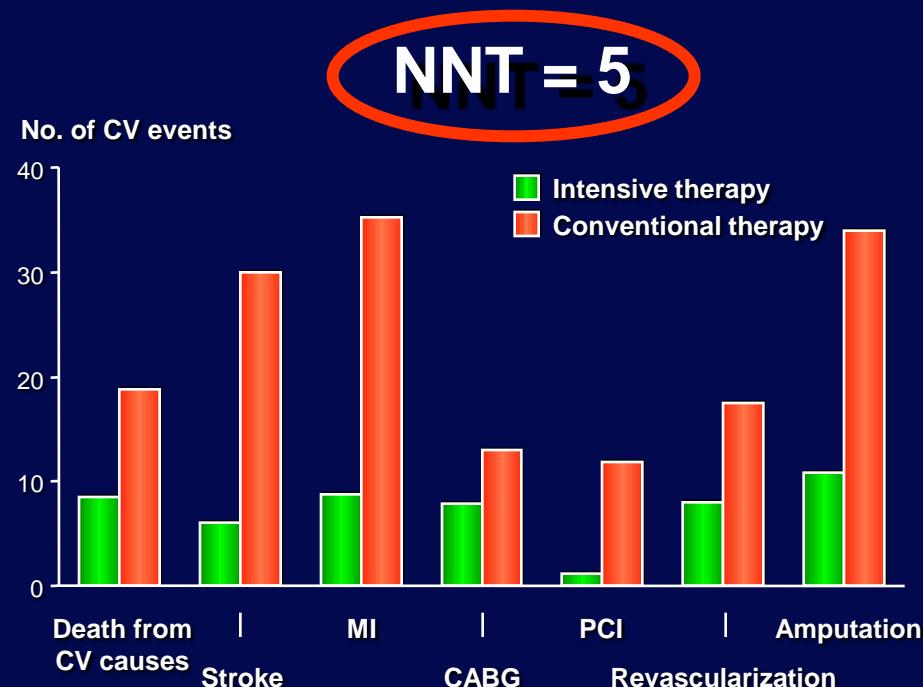
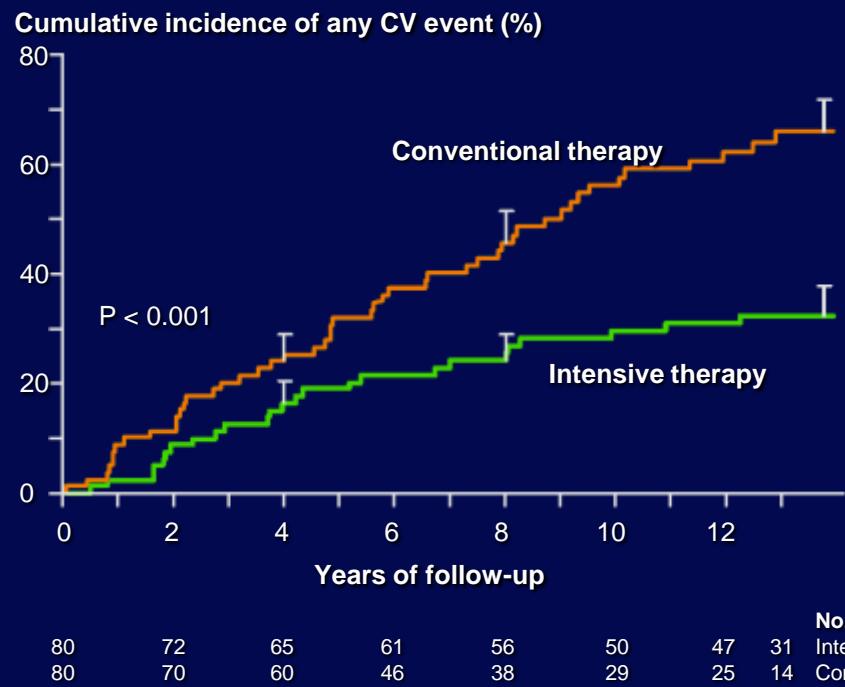
# Steno-2 Study

## Onset/progression of microangiopathy in DM-2 intensive vs conventional



# Steno-2 Study

## Reduction of macroangiopathy in DM-2 intensive vs conventional



CABG: coronary artery bypass grafting; PCI: percutaneous coronary intervention

