



*5<sup>th</sup> JMC - Joint Meeting  
with Mayo Clinic*

**Turin**

**15-16 October 2009**

*Rationale for combination and **high dose therapy***

***New opportunities for sartans***



Claudio Ferri



Università di L'Aquila

Facoltà di Medicina e Chirurgia

Dipartimento di Medicina Interna e Sanità Pubblica

**AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?**

*Cardio-cerebro-vasculo-renal continuum*

Damage: reversible → Damage: irreversible  
No Symptoms → Symptoms

*Target organ damage*

*Heart failure  
CHD  
Stroke  
Renal failure  
Peripheral artery disease  
.....*

**Atherogenesis**

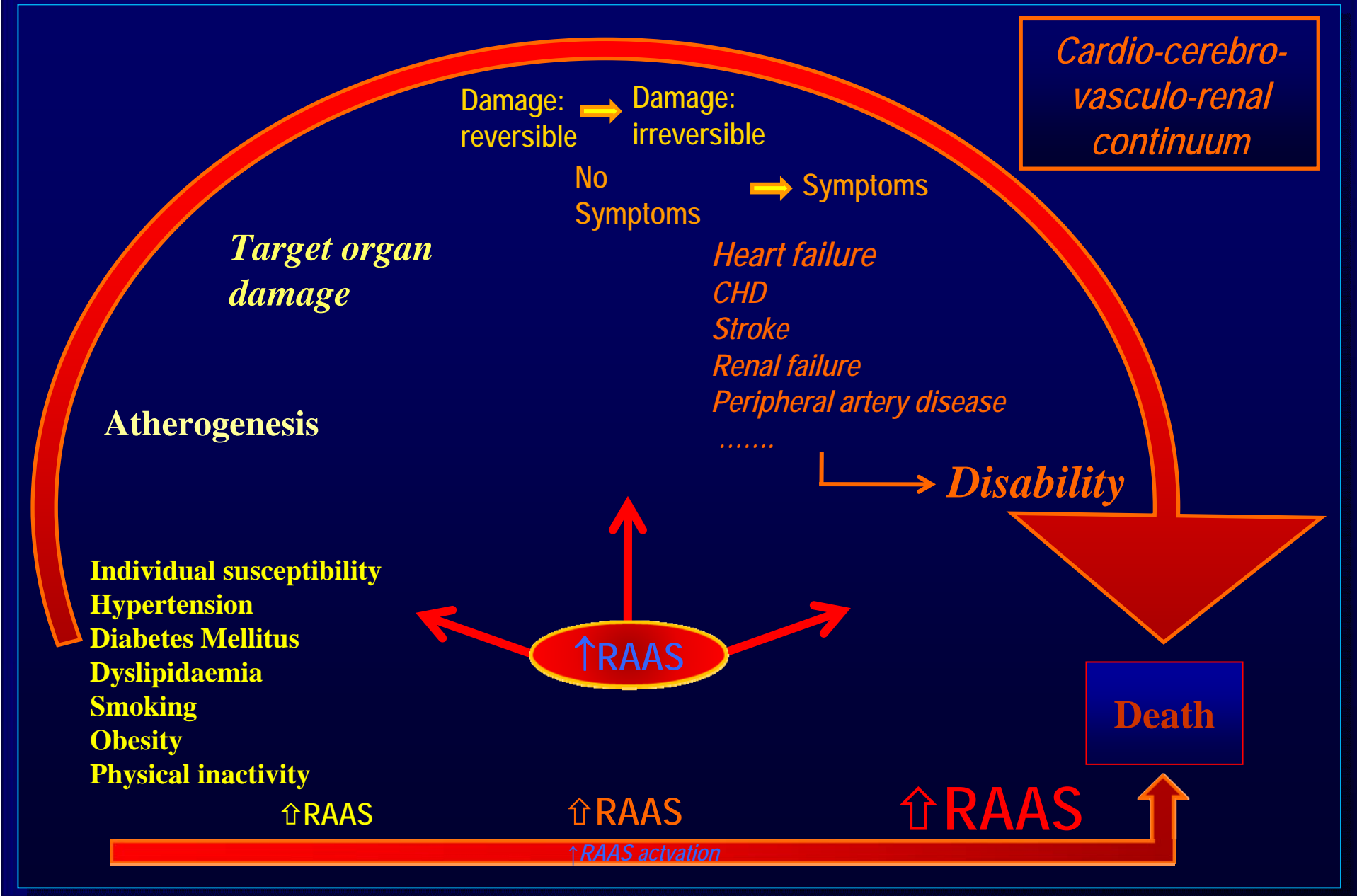
→ *Disability*

- Individual susceptibility**
- Hypertension**
- Diabetes Mellitus**
- Dyslipidaemia**
- Smoking**
- Obesity**
- Physical inactivity**

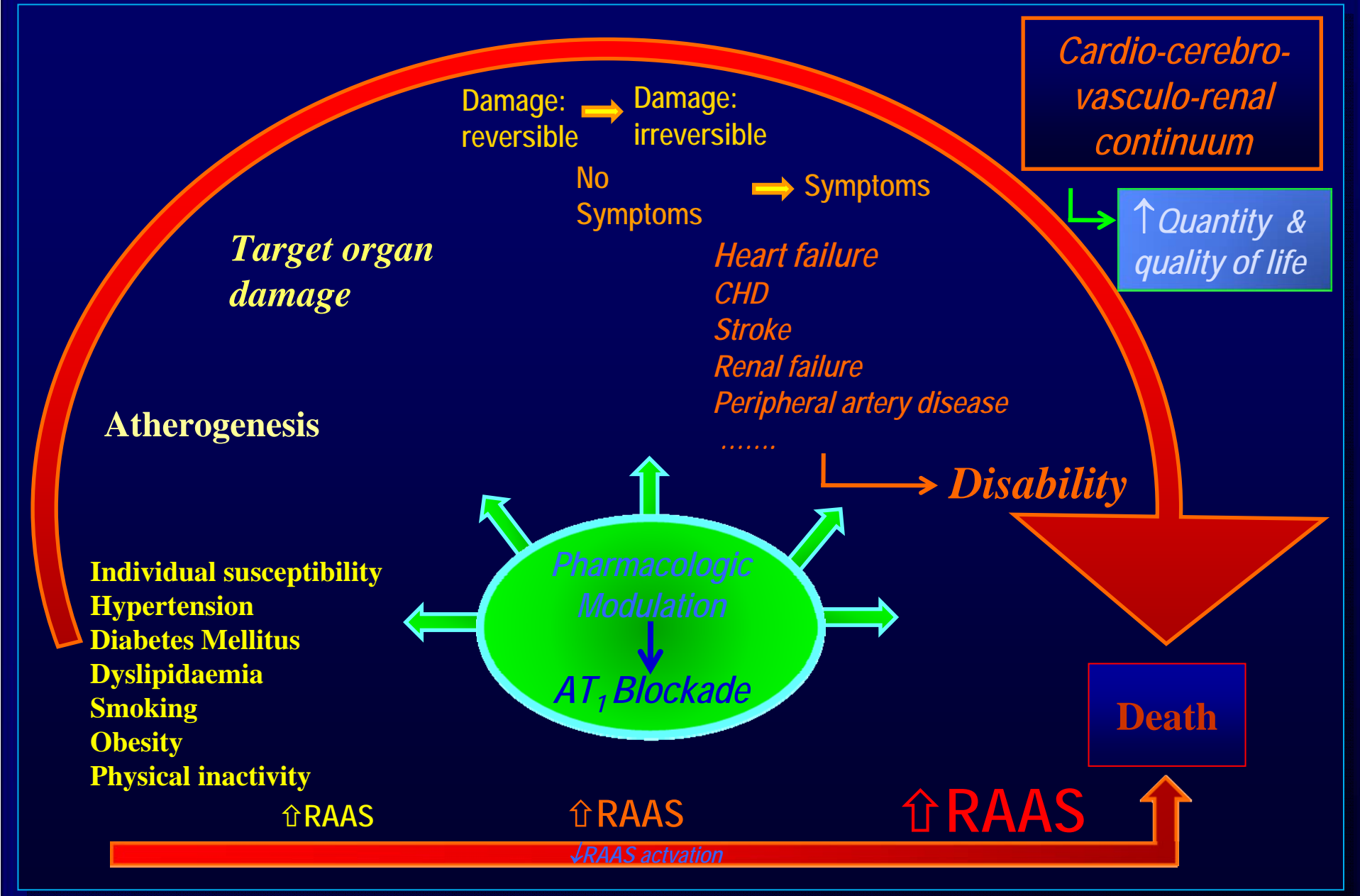


**Death**

# AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?

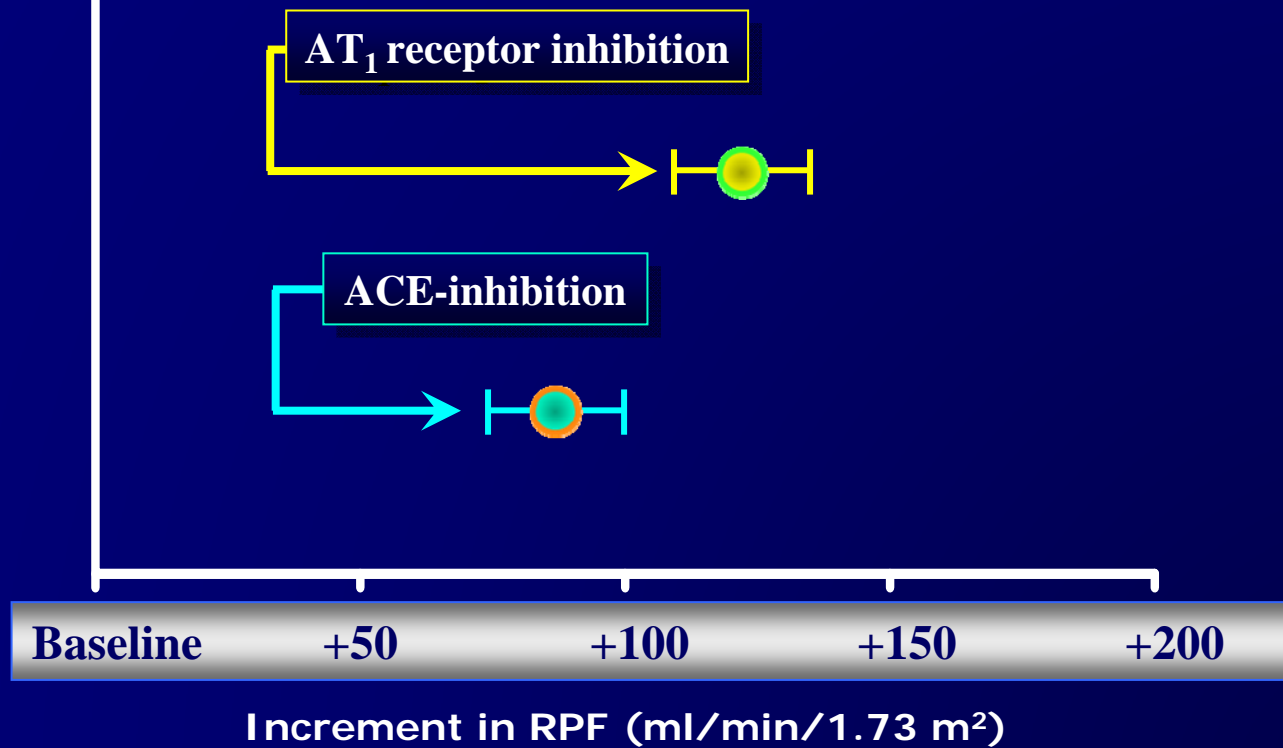


# AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?



## Changes in renal plasma flow (RPF) after RAAS inhibition

Studies conducted in either normal subjects or hypertensive patients after a sodium-free diet



## AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?

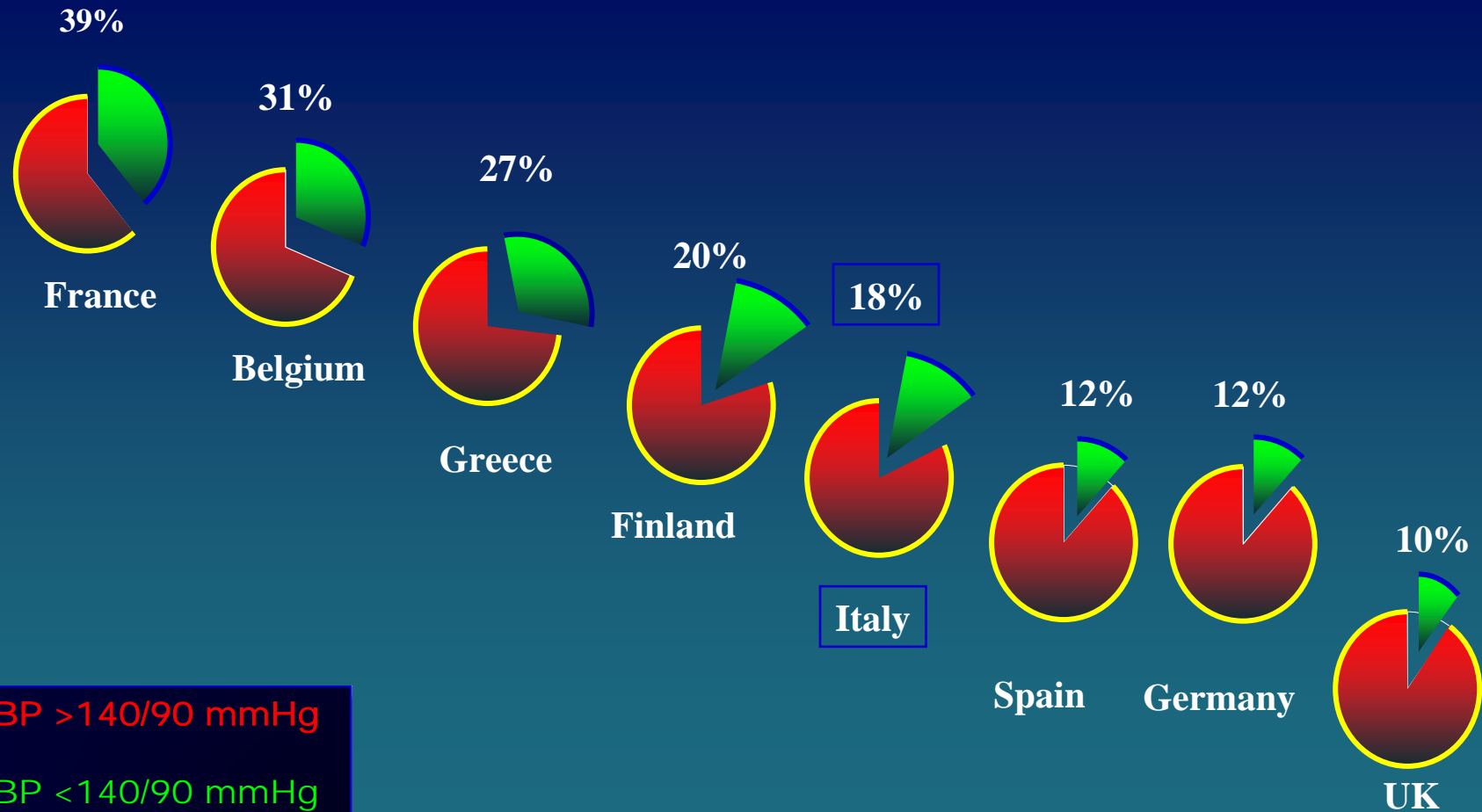
**When:** an higher antihypertensive efficacy is requested

**AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?**

**When:** an higher antihypertensive efficacy is requested

*Why should we need an higher antihypertensive efficacy ?*

# Blood pressure control in Europe

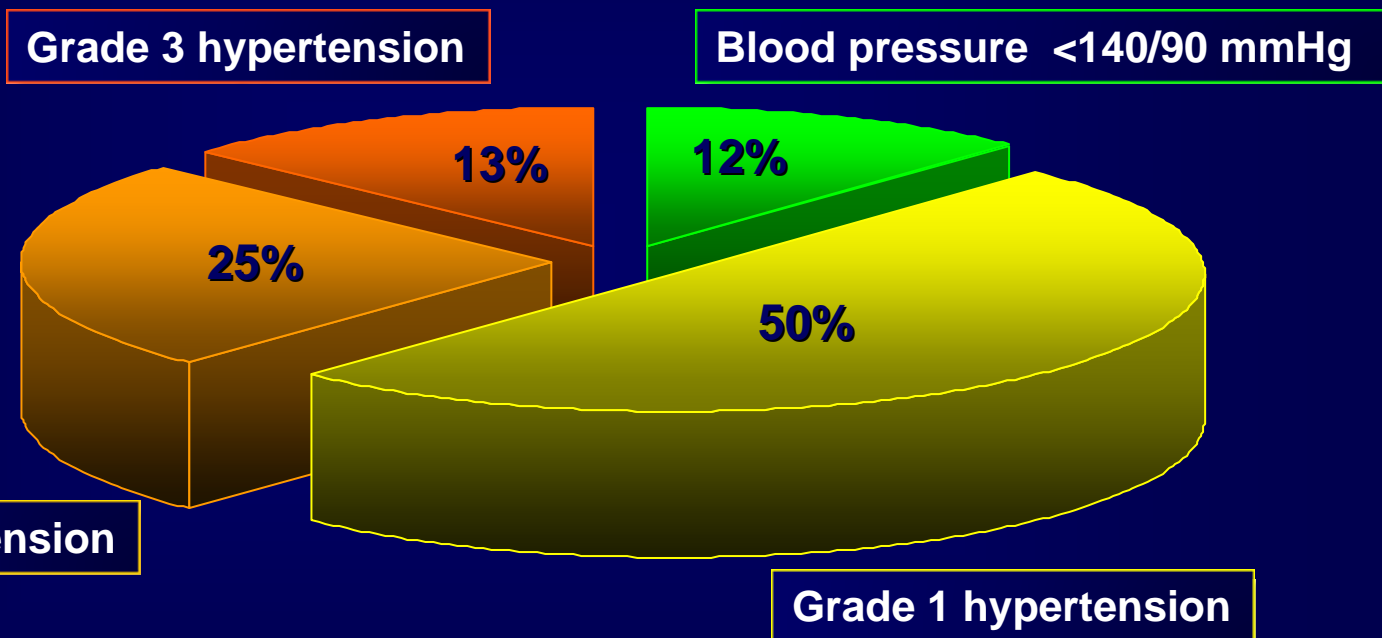


BP >140/90 mmHg

BP <140/90 mmHg

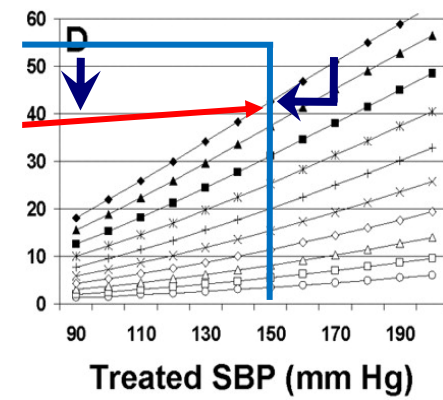
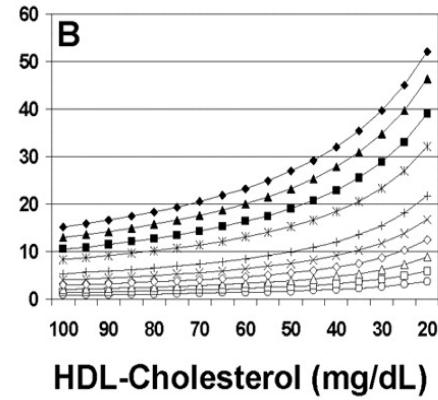
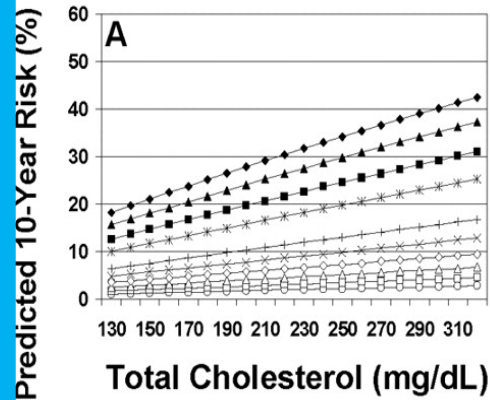


# Blood pressure control (treated + untreated) in *Italy*

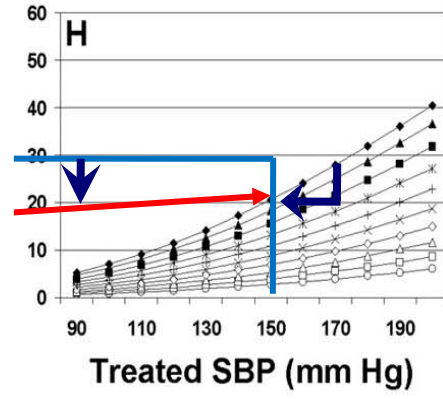
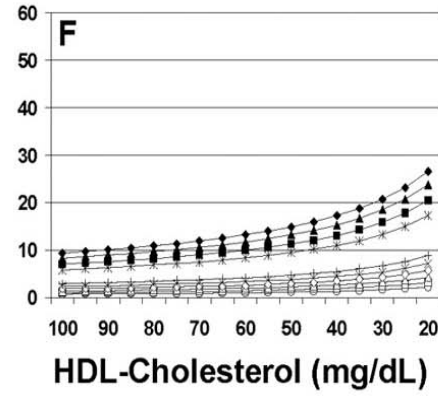
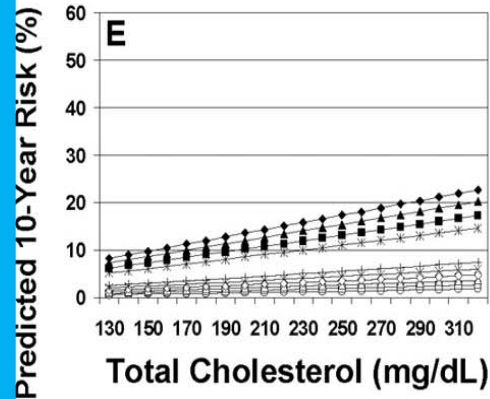


**The Framingham Study:** Ten-year predicted risks for CVD by varying levels of single risk factors in a hypothetical man and woman at selected ages, with other risk factors held constant at approximate age-adjusted national means (including nondiabetic, nonsmoking, and no antihypertensive use)

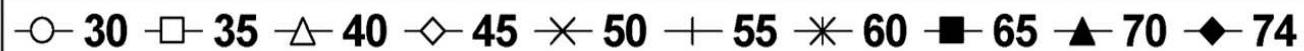
**Man**



**Woman**



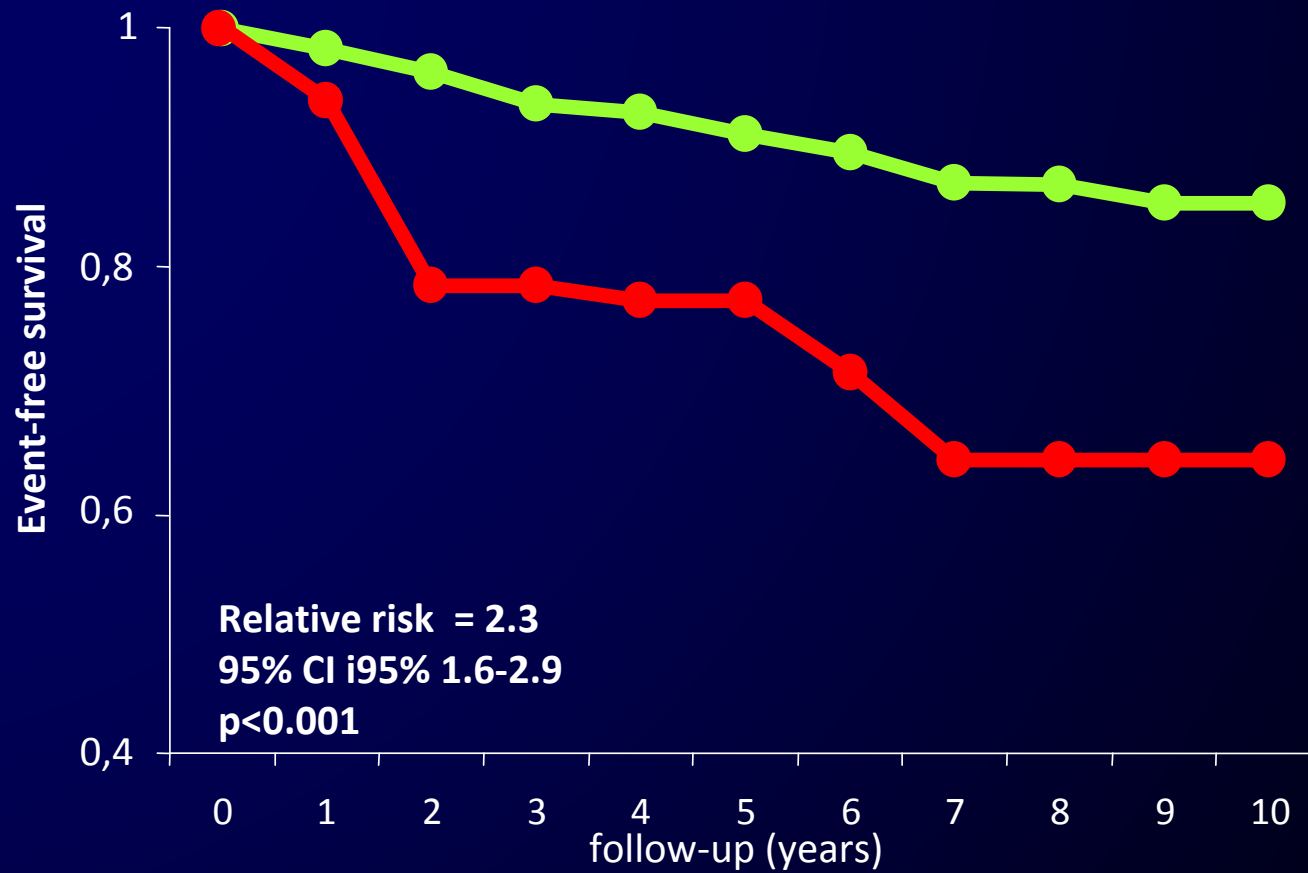
**Age**



## AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?



**When:** an higher antihypertensive efficacy is requested



● BP < 140/90 mmHg

● BP > 140/90 mmHg

**AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine and when to use high doses?**

**When:** an higher antihypertensive efficacy is requested

*What about the role of  
higher doses of sartans ?*

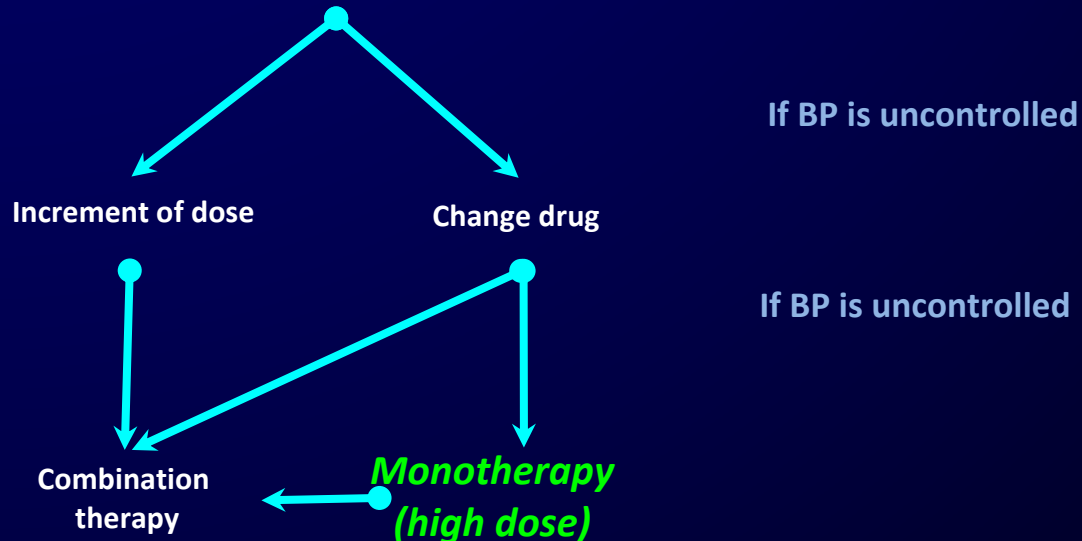
# How to decide between Monotherapy and Combination

Consider:  
BP level  
Other cardiovascular risk factors  
Subclinical organ damage  
Overt concomitant diseases  
Rapidly to achieve BP goal

- Mild BP increment
- Low or moderate CV risk
- Conventional BP goal

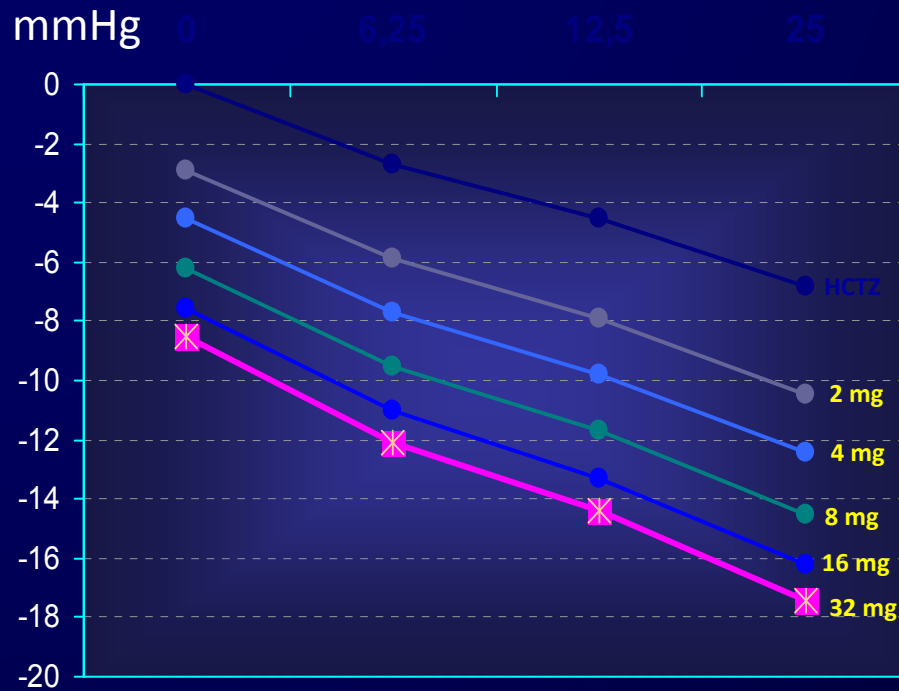
Choose

Monotherapy (low dose)



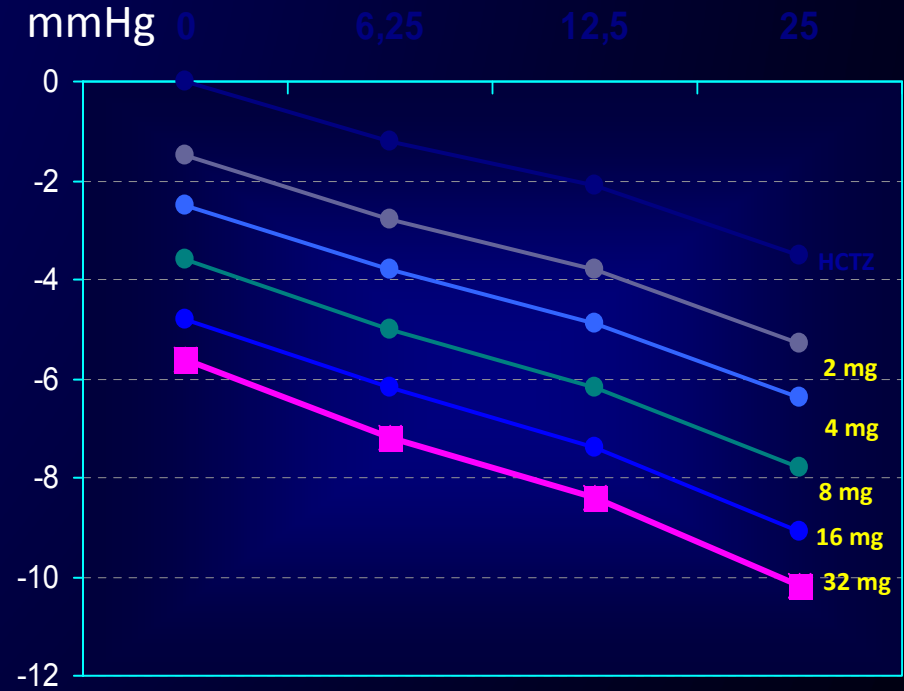
## AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?

Reduction of **SBP** with candesartan  
(from 2 to 32 mg + HCTZ a dosaggi  
(meta-analysis 7 studies, n =  
4632)



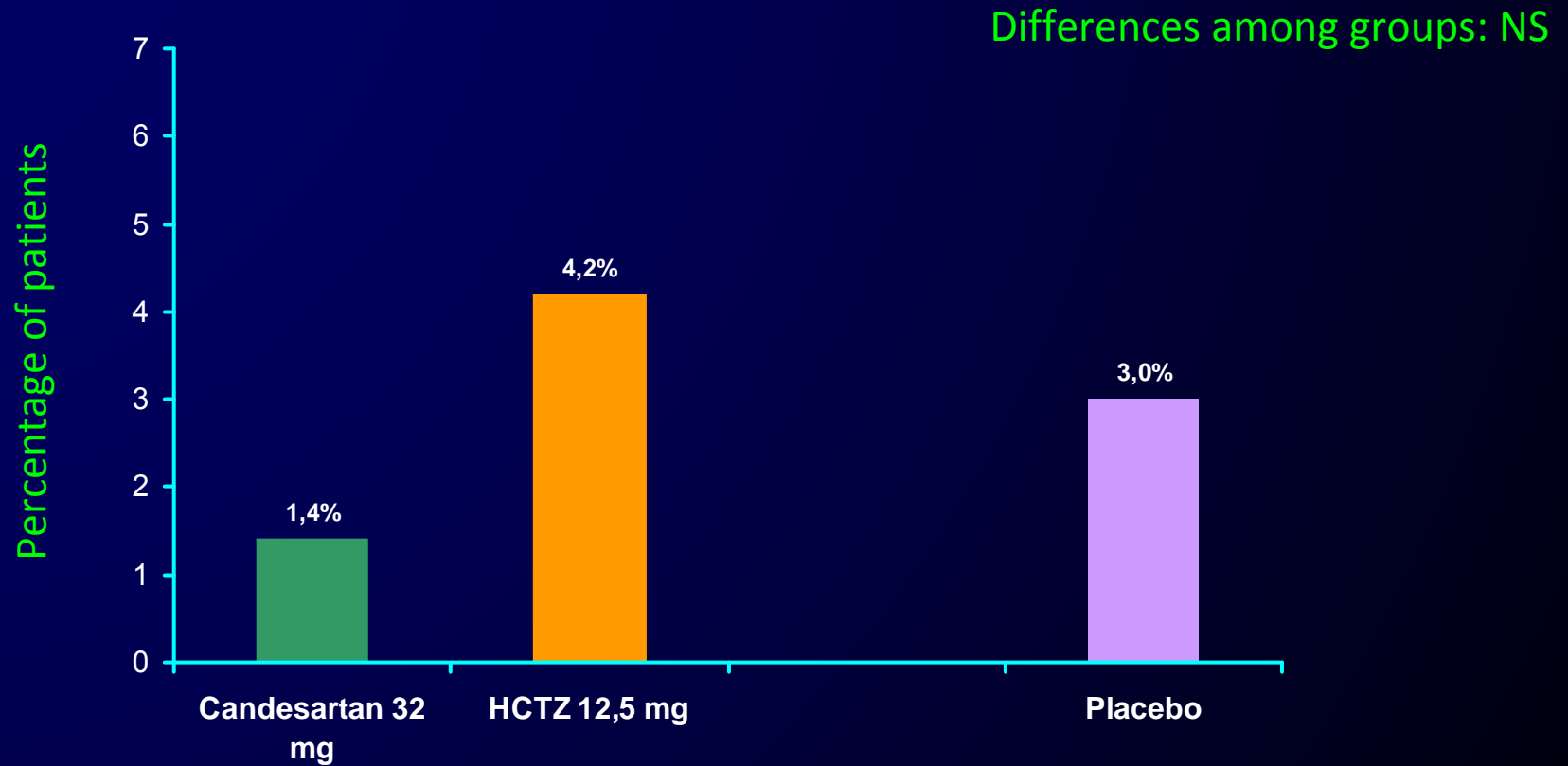
HCTZ: Hydrochlorothiazide

Reduction of **DBP** with candesartan  
(from 2 to 32 mg + HCTZ a dosaggi  
(meta-analysis 7 studies, n =  
4632)



## AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?

### Adverse events leading to interruption of therapy



# How to decide between Monotherapy and Combination

Consider:  
BP level  
Other cardiovascular risk factors  
Subclinical organ damage  
Overt concomitant diseases  
Rapidity to achieve BP goal

- Mild BP increment  
- Low or moderate CV risk  
- Conventional BP goal

- Marked BP increments  
- High or very high CV risk  
- Aggressive BP goal

Choose

Monotherapy (low dose)

Combination of two drugs at low doses  
(even fixed combinations anche)

Increment of dose

Change drug

If BP is uncontrolled

Combination (high doses)

Addition of a third drug  
(low dose)

If BP is uncontrolled

Combination  
therapy

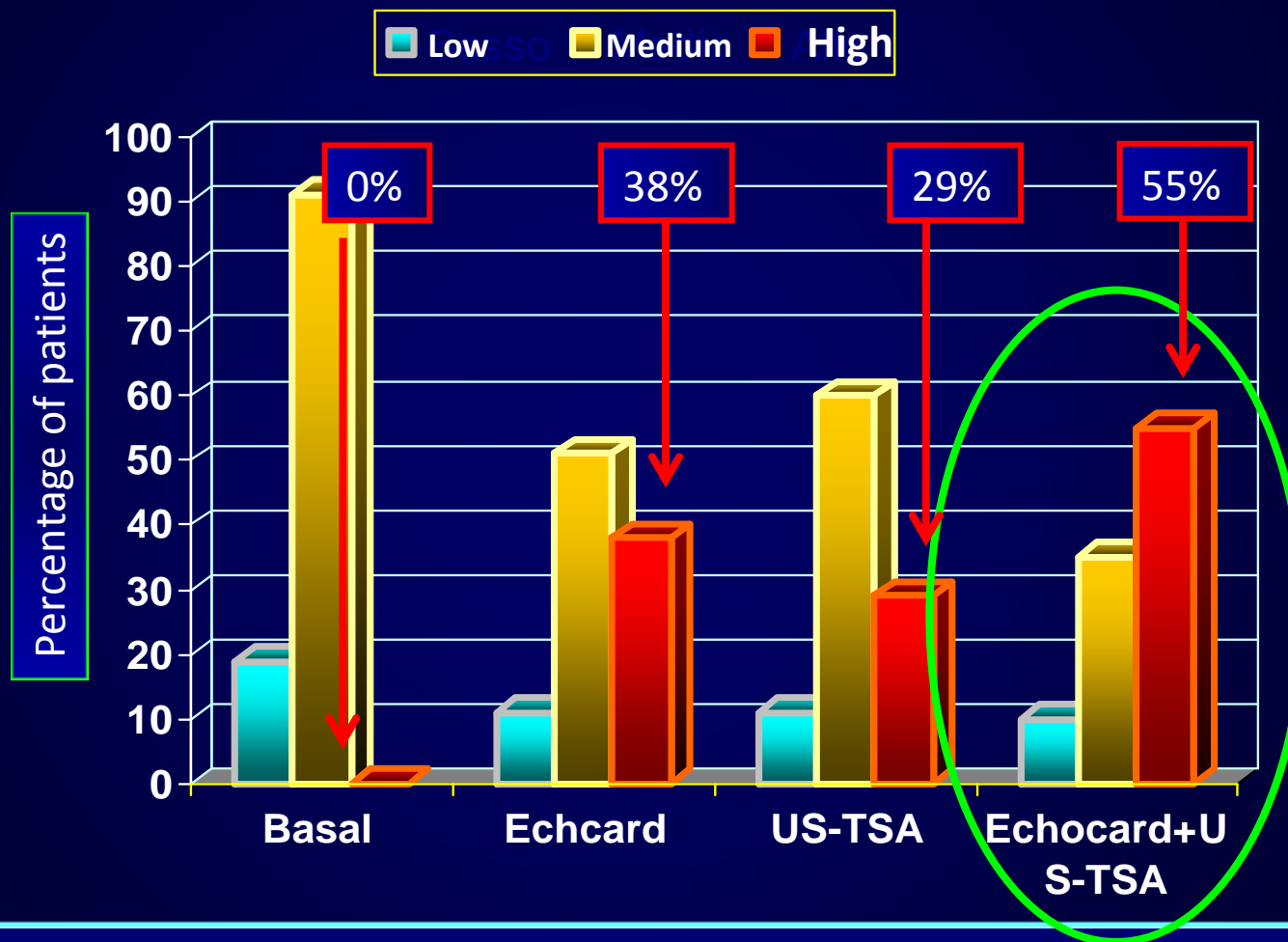
Monotherapy  
(high dose)

Three drugs  
(high doses)



*Role of echocardiography and carotid ultrasonography in stratifying risk in patients with essential hypertension: the Assessment of Prognostic Risk Observational Survey (APROS).*

*Data from 1.074 consecutive untreated hypertensive outpatients*

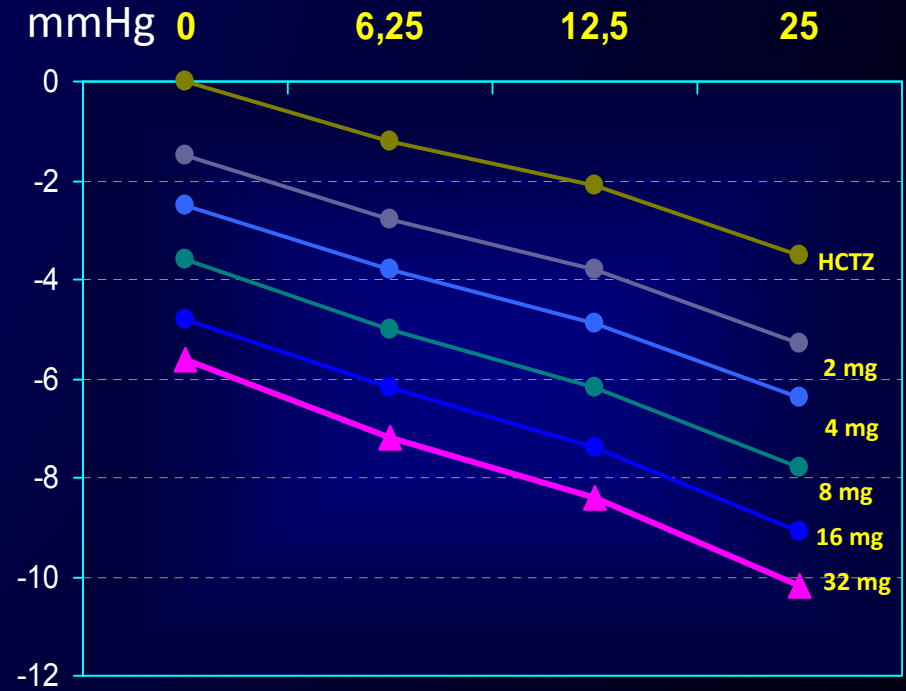


## AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine and when to use high doses?

Reduction of **SBP** with candesartan (2 - 32 mg) ± HCTZ a dosaggi variabili (meta-analysis 7 studies, n = 4632)



Reduction of **DBP** with candesartan (2 - 32 mg) ± HCTZ a dosaggi variabili (meta-analysis 7 studies, n = 4632)

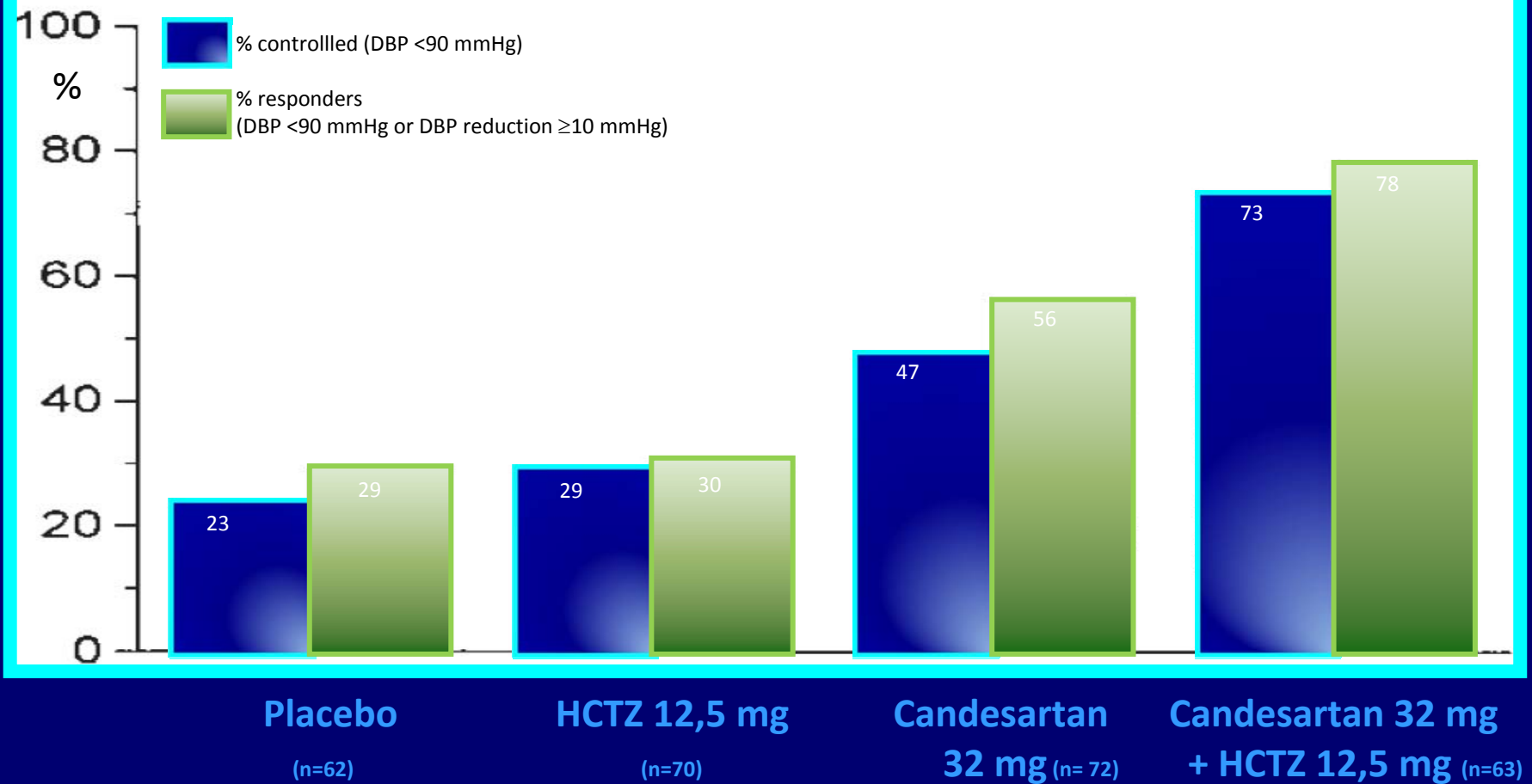


HCTZ: hydrochlorothiazide

Karlon BW, et al. A dose-response analysis of candesartan-hydrochlorothiazide combination therapy in patients with hypertension. Blood Press. 2009 May 22;1-8 [epub]

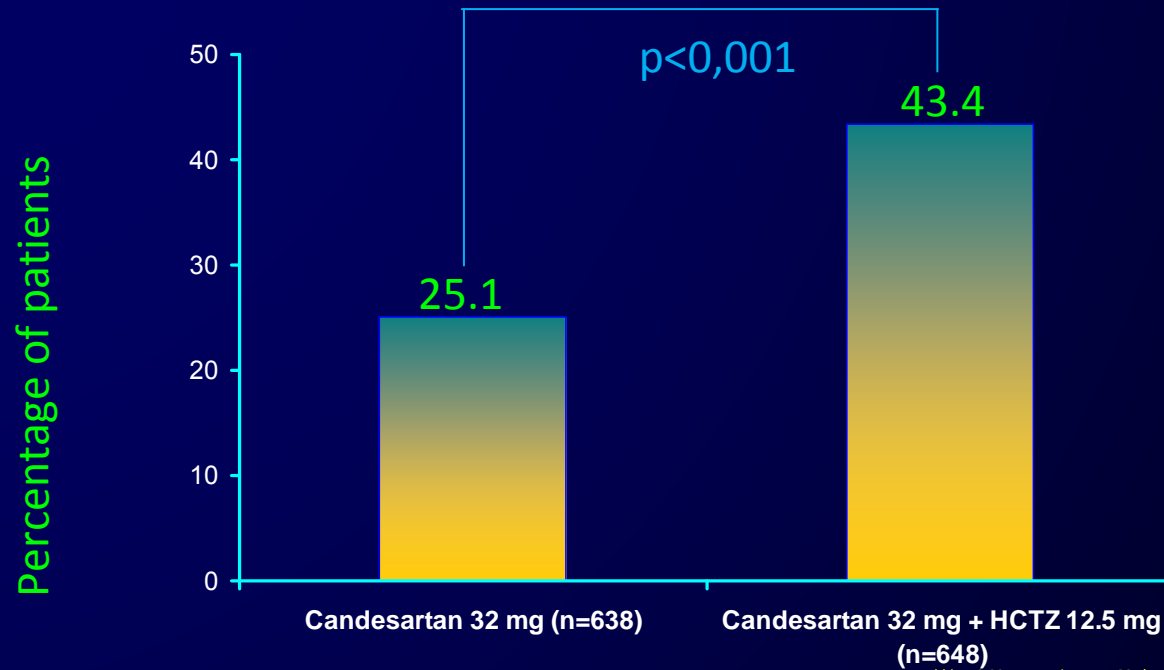
## AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?

### Percentage of patients *responders* e in good BP control



## AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?

Antihypertensive Efficacy: patients in *good BP control*  
(SBP <140 mmHg; DBP <90 mmHg)



\*\*\* p < 0,001 vs candesartan 32; † p < 0,05 vs candesartan/HCT 32/12,5 mg

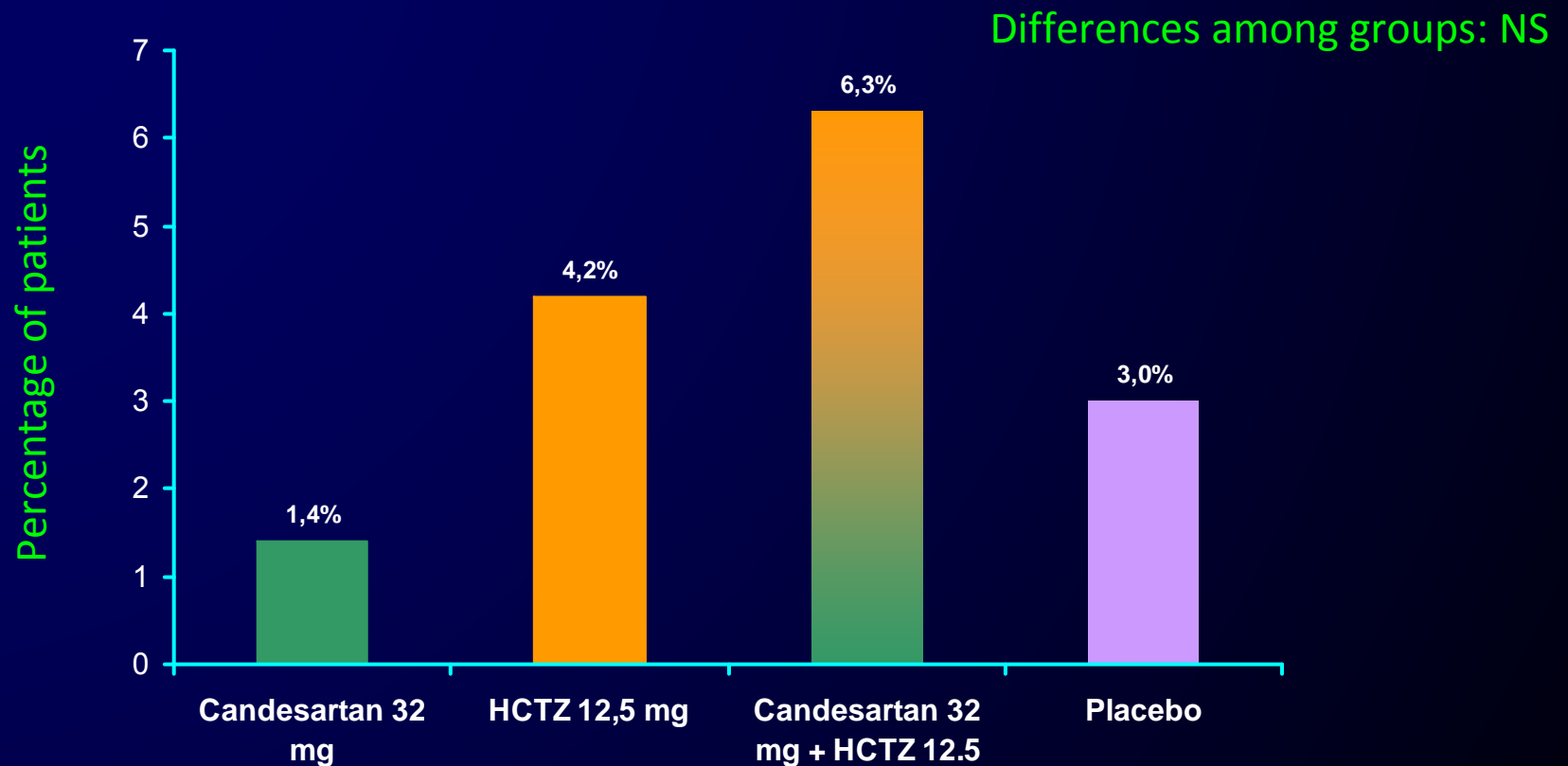
Patients% (95% IC)	Candesartan 32 mg (n=638)	Candesartan/HCTZ 32/12,5 mg (n=648)	Candesartan/HCTZ 32/25 mg (n=659)
Control SBP and DBP (<140/<90 mmHg)	25,1 (21,7–28,4)	43,4*** (39,5–47,2)	48,9*** (45,0–52,7)
Control DBP (<90 mmHg)	42,3 (38,5–46,2)	59,4*** (55,6–63,2)	63,4*** (59,8–67,1)
Responders (DBP < 90 mmHg or red DBP ≥ 10 mmHg)	46,6 (42,7–50,4)	65,4*** (61,8–69,1)	71,2***† (67,7–74,6)

HCTZ: hydrochlorothiazide

Böner G, for the Multicentre Study Group. Antihypertensive efficacy and tolerability of candesartan-hydrochlorothiazide 32/12.5 mg and 32/25 mg in patients not optimally controlled with candesartan monotherapy. Blood Press. 2008;17(Suppl.2):22-30.

## AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?

### Adverse events leading to interruption of therapy



**AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?**

**When:** *an higher organ protection is required*

*What about the role of higher doses ?*

# Global cardiovascular risk *RISK STRATIFICATION*

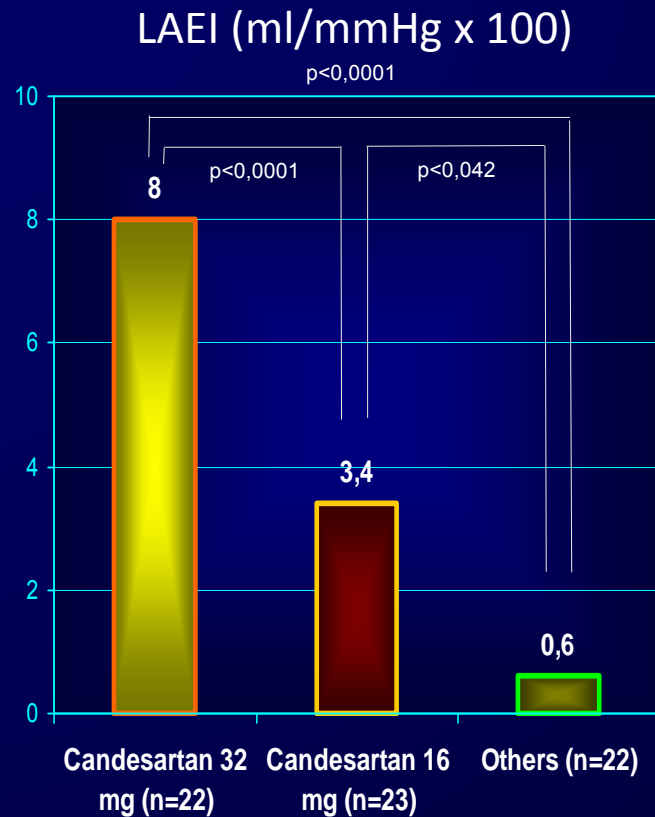
**BP level (mmHg)**

	Normal	Normal high	HT Grade 1	HT Grade 2	HT Grade 3
	SBP 120-139 or DBP 80-84	SBP 130-139 or DBP 85-89	SBP 140-159 or DBP 90-99	SBP 160-179 or DBP 100-109	SBP ≥180 or DBP ≥110
No other RFs	Average Risk	Average Risk	Low added risk	Moderate added risk	High added risk
1-2 RFs	Low added risk	Low added risk	Moderate added risk	Moderate added risk	Very high added risk
≥3 RFs, MS, <i>Organ damage</i> or DM	Moderate added risk	High added risk	High added risk	High added risk	Very high added risk
<i>Cardiovascular or renal disease</i> *	Very high added risk	Very high added risk	Very high added risk	Very high added risk	Very high added risk

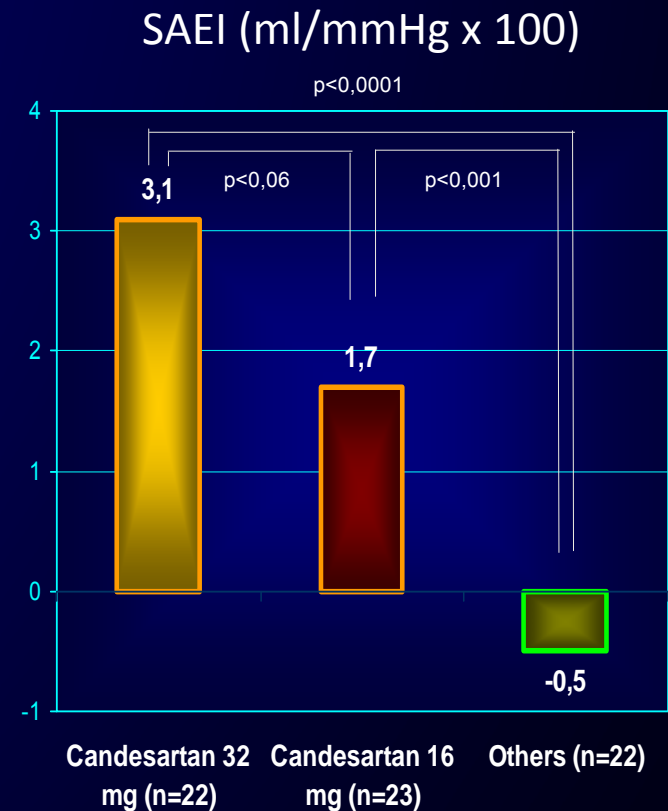
\* Or any other condition known to increase the individual cardiovascular risk

# AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?

## Changes in large artery distensibility (baseline vs end of therapy [6 months])



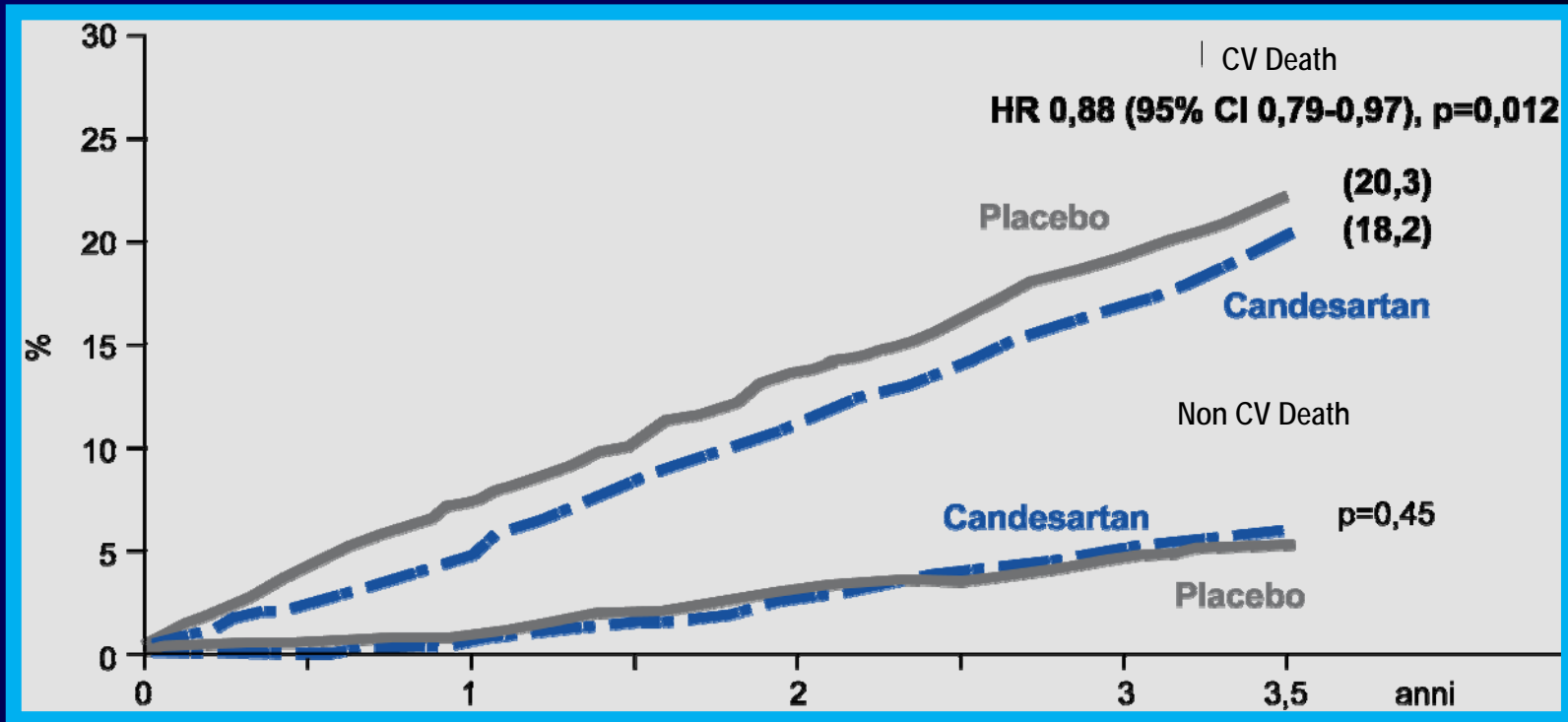
## Changes in small artery distensibility (baseline vs end of therapy [6 months])





## AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?

**CHARM Overall: cardiovascular and non cardiovascular mortality**



Pfeffer MA, et al. Effects of candesartan on mortality and morbidity in patients with chronic heart failure: the CHARM-Overall programme. Lancet. 2003;362:759-66.

**AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with high doses of sartan?**

**When you need:**

***An higher antihypertensive efficacy***

***An higher organ protection***

***Excellent tolerability***

**AT<sub>1</sub>-antagonists – When to combine with the right, individualized dose of sartan**



**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009 (09:00—18:30PM)**

**SESSION VII (16:40— 18:00)**

**Organizational and treatment advances in cardiology**

Chairmen: S. Marra, M. Bell

Adherence to treatment guidelines for nstemi:

the role of a network between hospitals (A. Manari)

Anti-aggregation therapy: when it is not effective

(M. Valgimigli)

Smoking cessation treatment: an issue for cardiologist?

(P. Clavario)

Thrombus aspiration in acute myocardial infarction

(F. Varbella)

Program GREAT INNOVATIONS IN CARDIOLOGY

**> Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009 (09:00—18:30PM)**

Pharmacological treatment of atrial fibrillation: current status and future prospects (D. Caponi)

Non Invasive Cardiac Angiogenesis Therapy with shock-wave) (G. Alunni)

Rationale for combination and high-dose therapies: new opportunities with sartans (C. Ferri)

18:00 Discussion and questions

CME verifying