

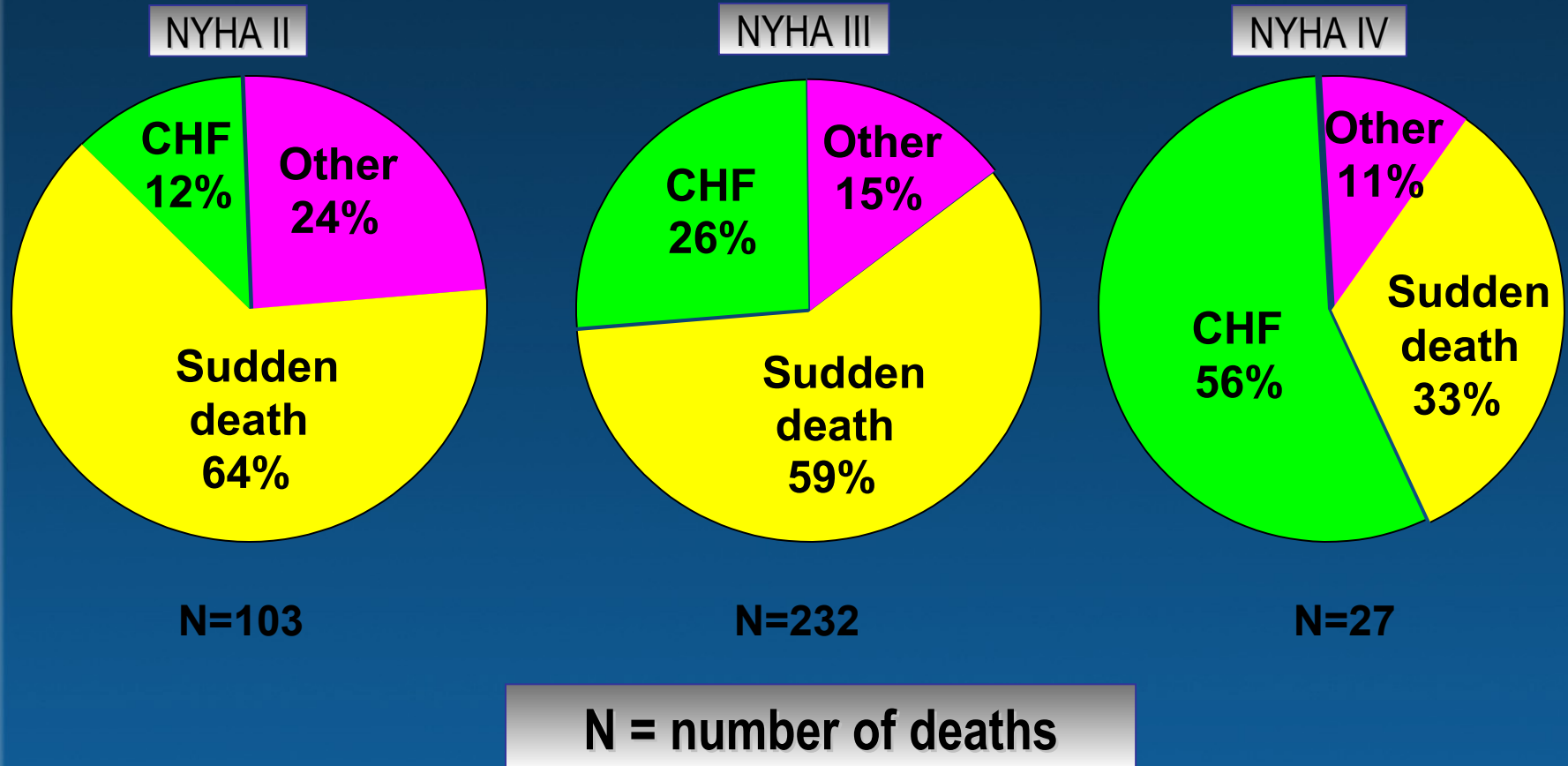
Non-Pharmacologic Treatment in Heart Failure

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Severity of Heart Failure and Mode of Death



MERIT-HF Study Group. Effect of Metoprolol CR/XL in chronic heart failure:

Metoprolol CR/XL randomized intervention trial in congestive heart failure (MERIT-HF). LANCET. 1999;353:2001-07.

Device-based treatment of heart failure

Function of device

Examples

Monitor heart failure condition

Implantable hemodynamic monitors, home scales, home monitoring systems

Prevent or treat rhythm disturbances

Pacemakers for bradycardia, ICD, LifeWest Wearable AED (LIFECOR, Inc, PA)

Improve mechanical efficiency of the heart

Left ventricular or multisite pacing, Biventricular pacing, CorCap (Accorn, MN) Myosplint (Myocor, MN)

Cardiac replacement therapy

LVAD, BiVAD, TAH

Adapted from Boehmer, Am J Cardiol, 2003

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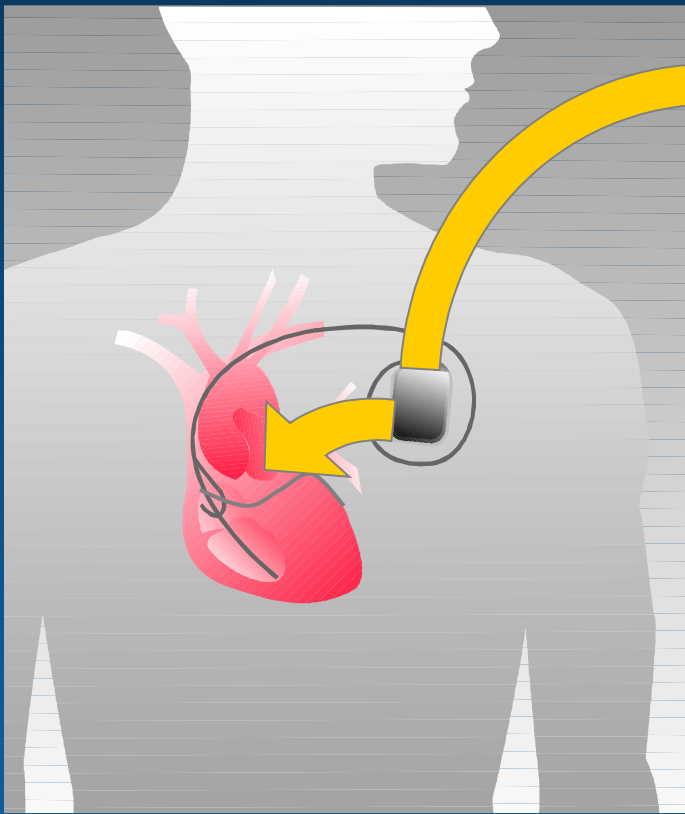
Improve mechanical efficiency of the heart

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Devices in heart failure

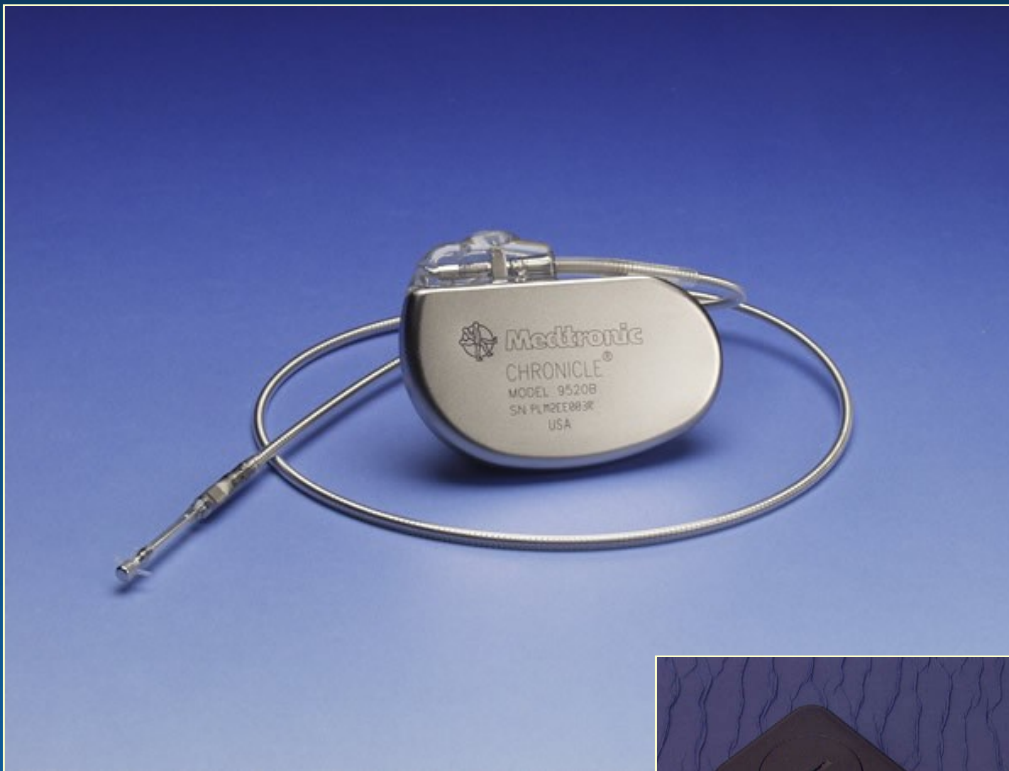


Diagnostic capabilities

- Arrhythmia monitoring
- Heart rate
- Percent pacing
- Physical activity
- Heart rate variability
- Intrathoracic impedance
- RV pressures

The Chronicle[®]

Implantable continuous hemodynamic monitor (ICHM)



External
Pressure
Reference



Heart rate

Syst RV pressure

Diast RV pressure

RV pulse pressure

ePAD

pos dP/dt_{max}

neg dP/dt_{max}

PEI

STI

Activity

Randomized Controlled Trial of an Implantable Continuous Hemodynamic Monitor in Patients With Advanced Heart Failure

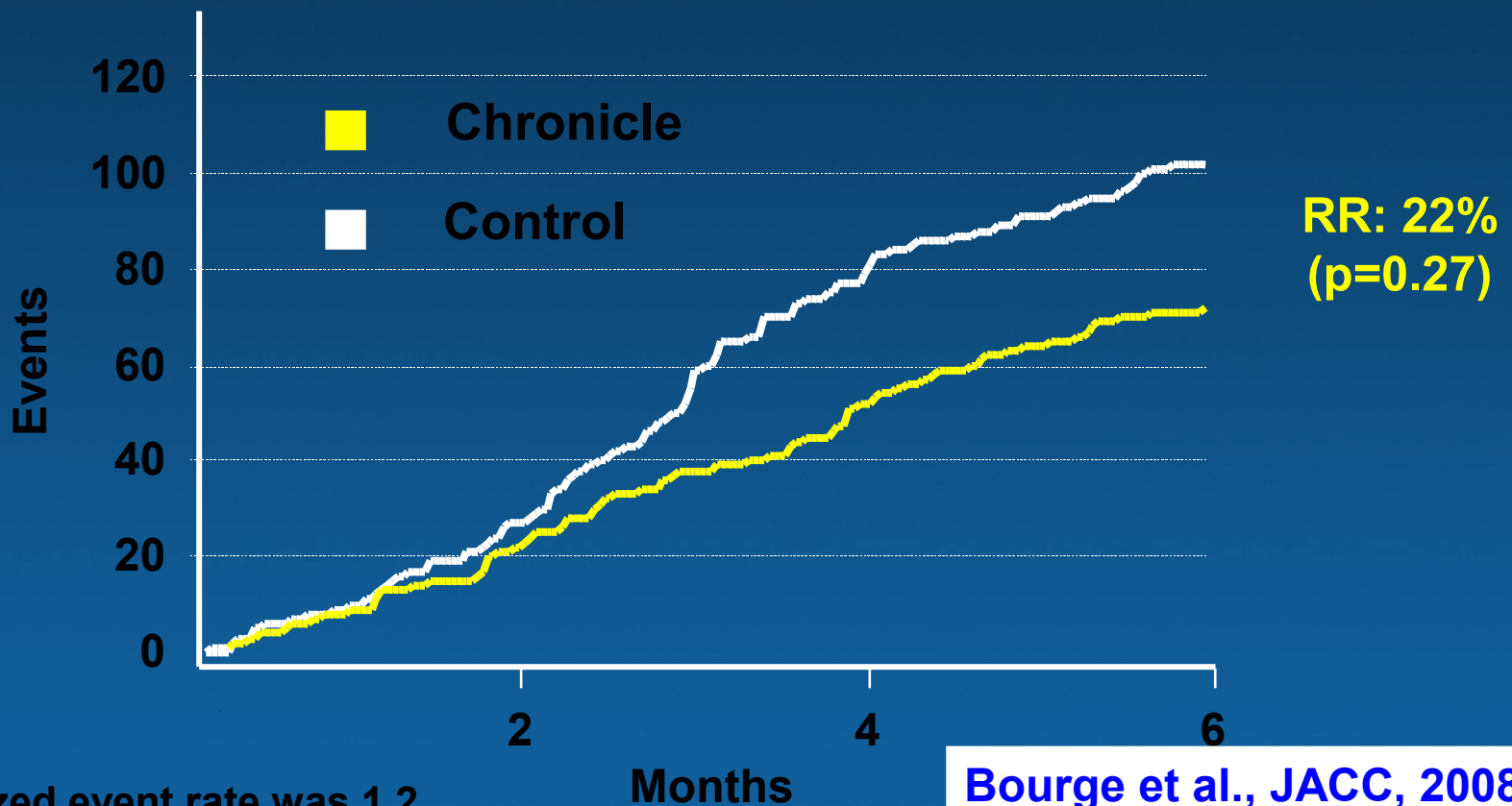
The COMPASS-HF Study

- Primary Effectiveness end-point - the Chronicle group would have a 30% lower rate of combined HF-related events (hospitalizations, emergency department and urgent clinic visits requiring intravenous therapy) compared with the control group.

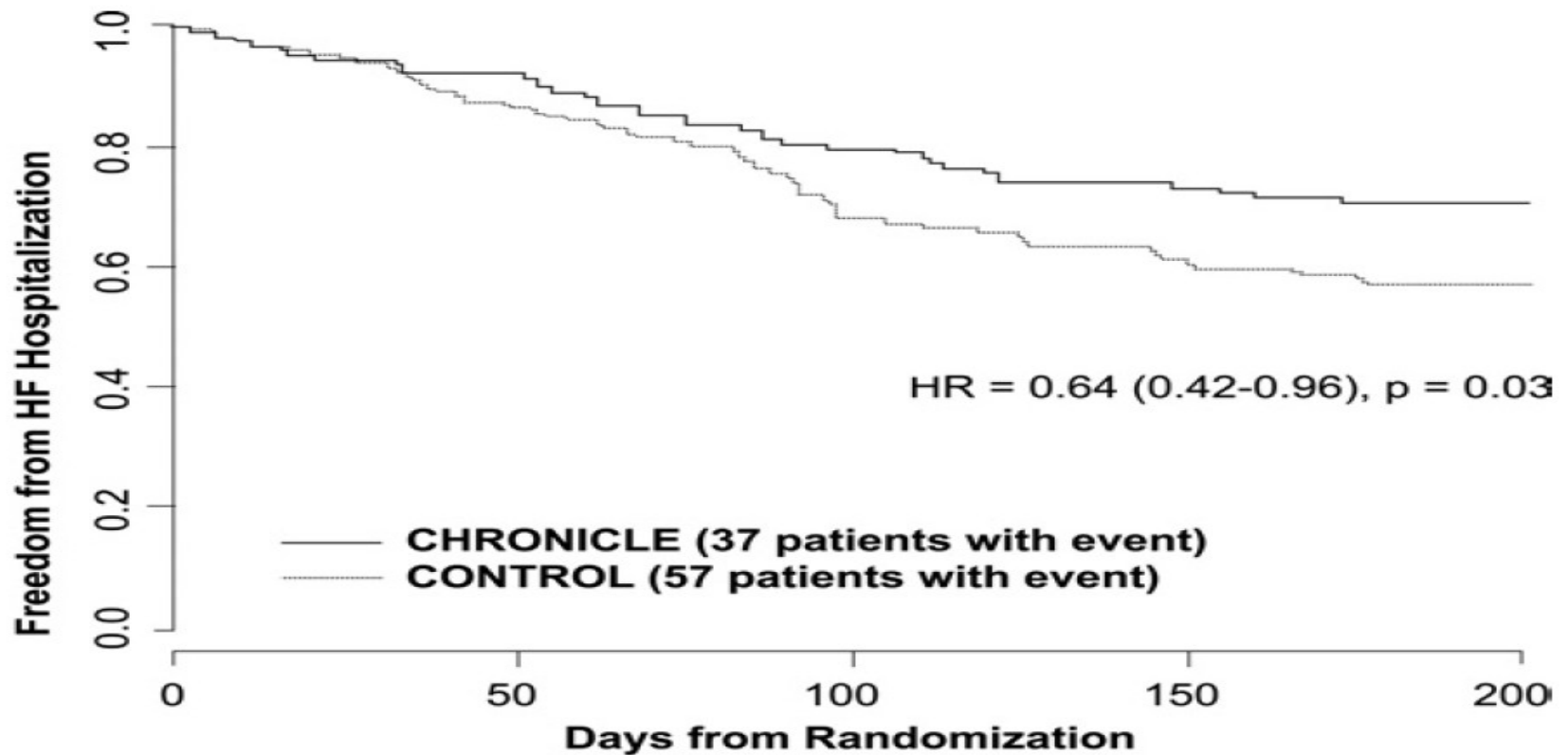
Bourge et al., JACC, 2008

COMPASS-HF

HF-related Hospitalization Cumulative Events



Reduction in relative risk of a first heart failure related hospitalization



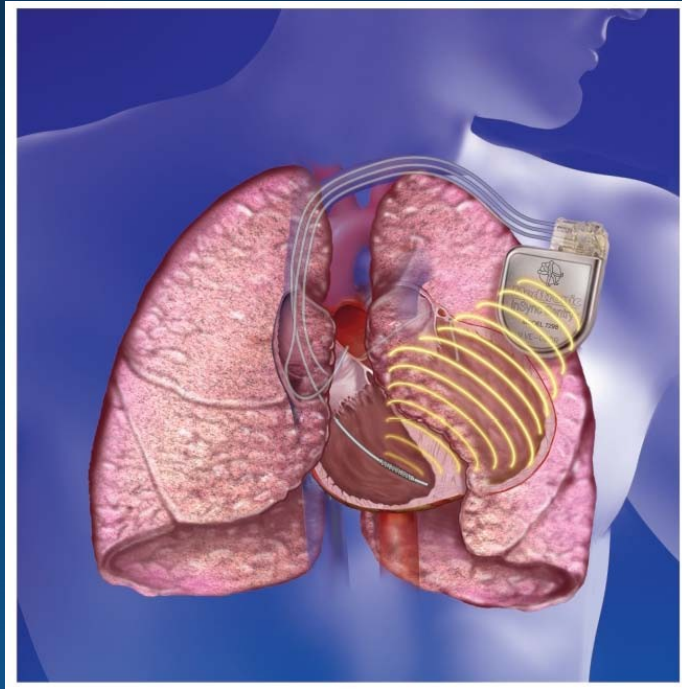
Number at Risk

CHRONICLE	124	120	108	101	93	89	84	4
CONTROL	132	119	110	91	87	80	77	3

Conclusions

- In patients with moderate to severe HF, the addition of an ICHM to optimal medical management did not significantly reduce the rate of all HF-related events.
- Additional trials will be necessary to establish clinical benefit of ICHM-guided care in this patient population.

Intrathoracic impedance



Dryer lungs

Impedance



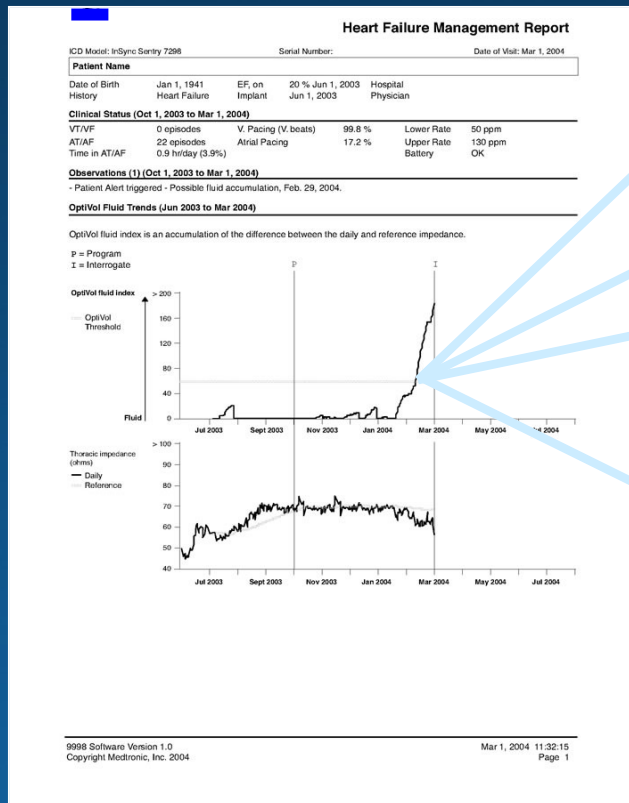
Wetter lungs

Impedance



Intrathoracic impedance

Fluid Accumulation Notification Options



- Observations with Trends
- Device audible alert
- SentryCheck™



- Patient look ind





EUROPEAN
SOCIETY OF
CARDIOLOGY®

European Heart Journal (2007) 28, 1835–1840
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehl506

European
Heart Journal

Clinical research
Heart failure/cardiomyopathy

Clinical utility of intrathoracic impedance monitoring to alert patients with an implanted device of deteriorating chronic heart failure

- 640 pts with heart failure eligible for CRT-D (InSync Sentry®, Medtronic Inc, USA) implantation were enrolled in 42 countries.
- Lack of FU reports in 267 pts.
- Finally 373 pt files were analyzed.

Main Findings

- The device alert detected HF deterioration with an adjusted sensitivity and an adjusted PPV of 60% each.
- Failure of the alert algorithm to detect clinical HF deterioration was in 55% of the cases associated with an increase of the fluid index that was yet below the programmable alert threshold.
- Half of the false-positive alerts were related to other clinical findings or therapeutic interventions.

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Adapted from Boehmer, Am J Cardiol, 2003

HF Patients: A Need for a New Therapy

40% of patients are
not suitable for ACE Inhibitors Therapy

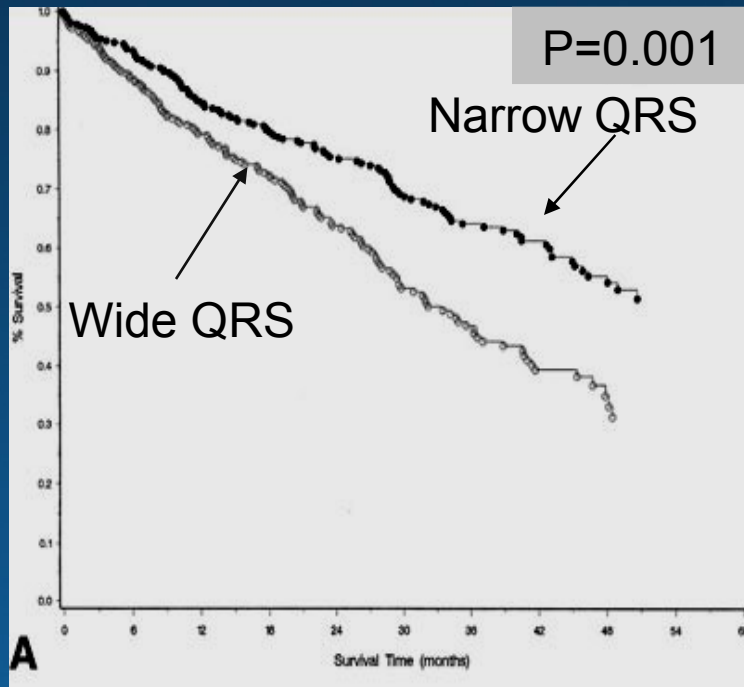
60% of Rehospitalizations
Noncompliance with medications and diet

Over 65 yrs of age HF is the leading cause of
Hospitalization

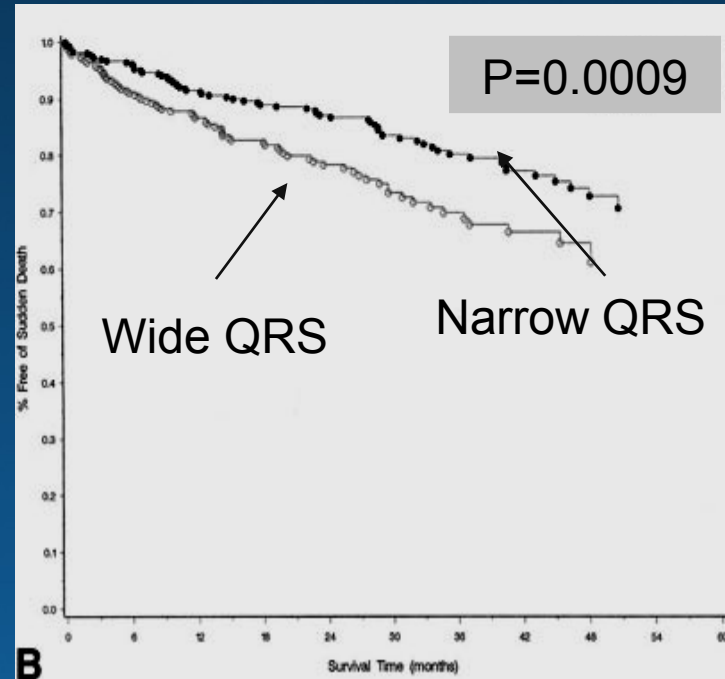
50% of Mortality within five years
for 50% of patients in NYHA Functional Class I through IV

CHF STAT Trial

QRS Duration and Mortality



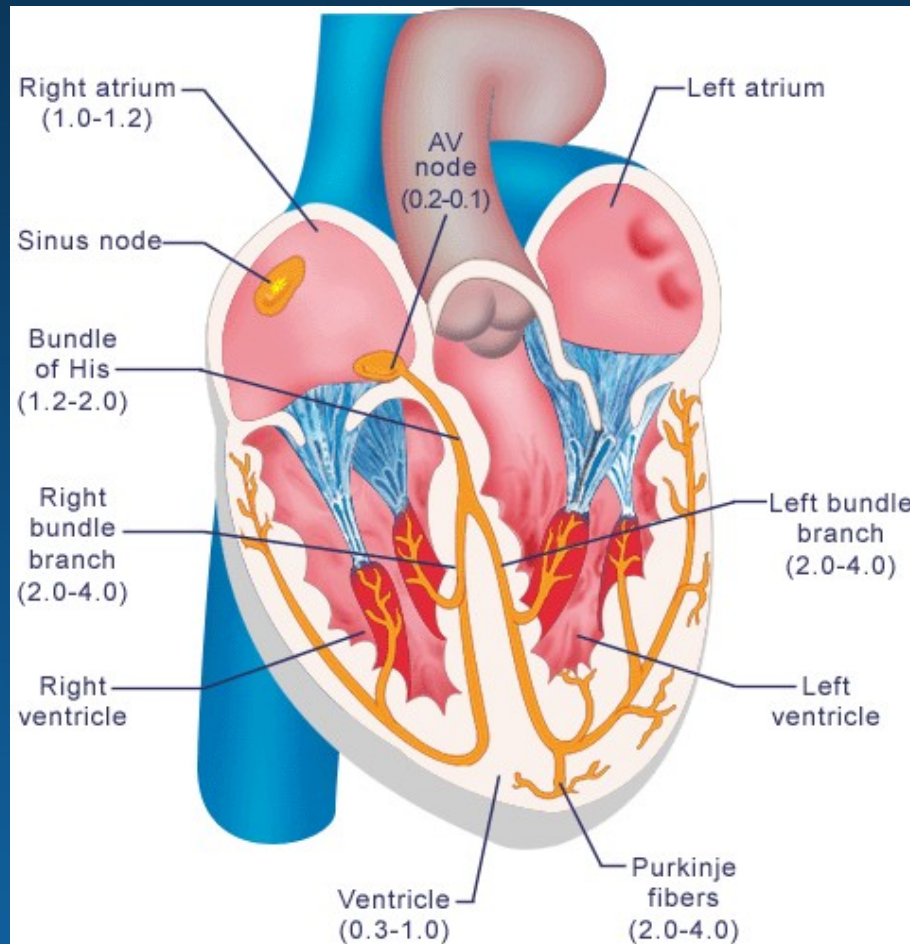
Total Death



Sudden Death

LBBB not RBBB associated with adverse outcomes

Contraction Depends on Activation





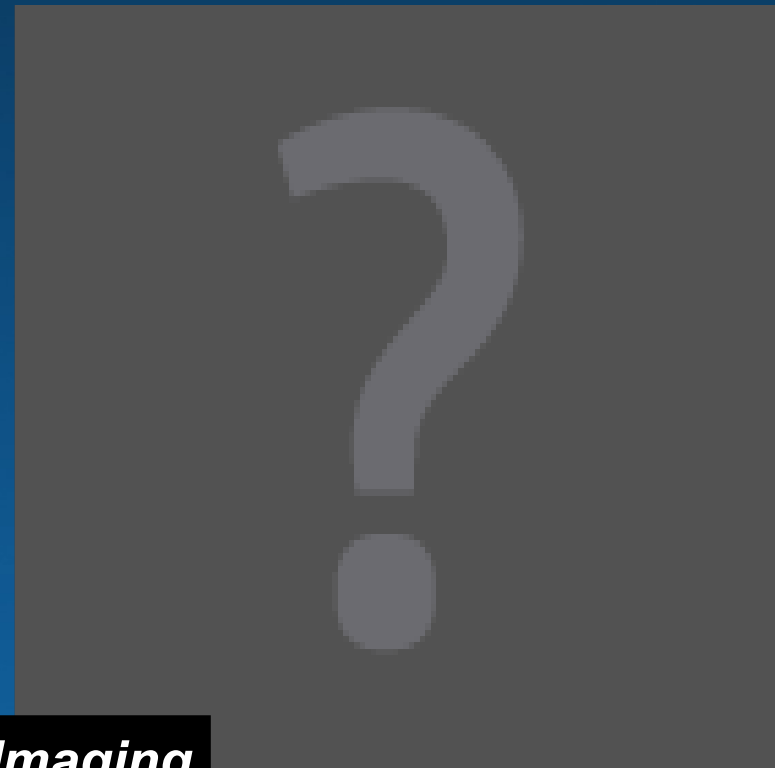
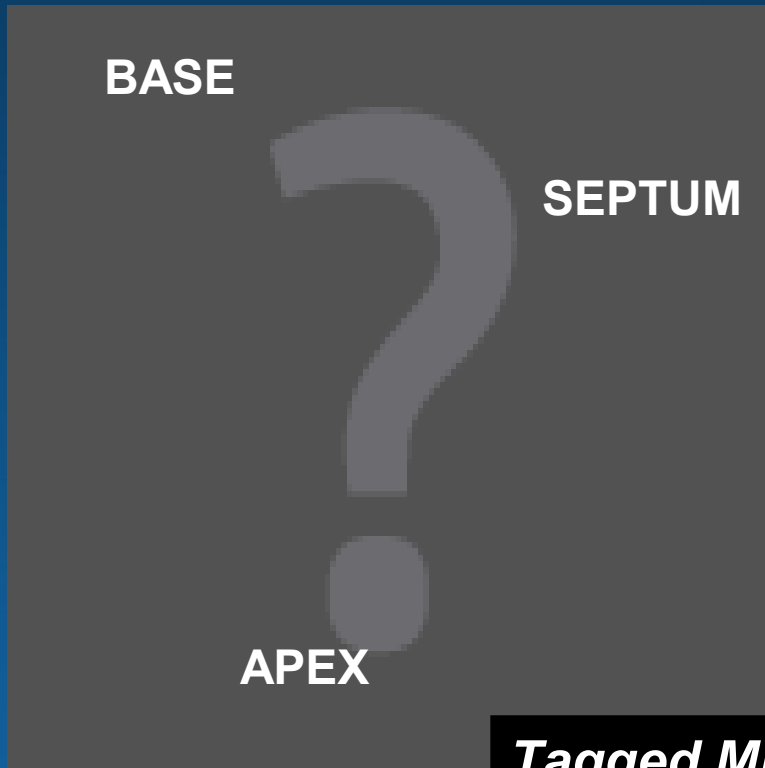
Normal vs Abnormal

Contraction

Mechanical Dyssynchrony with IVCD

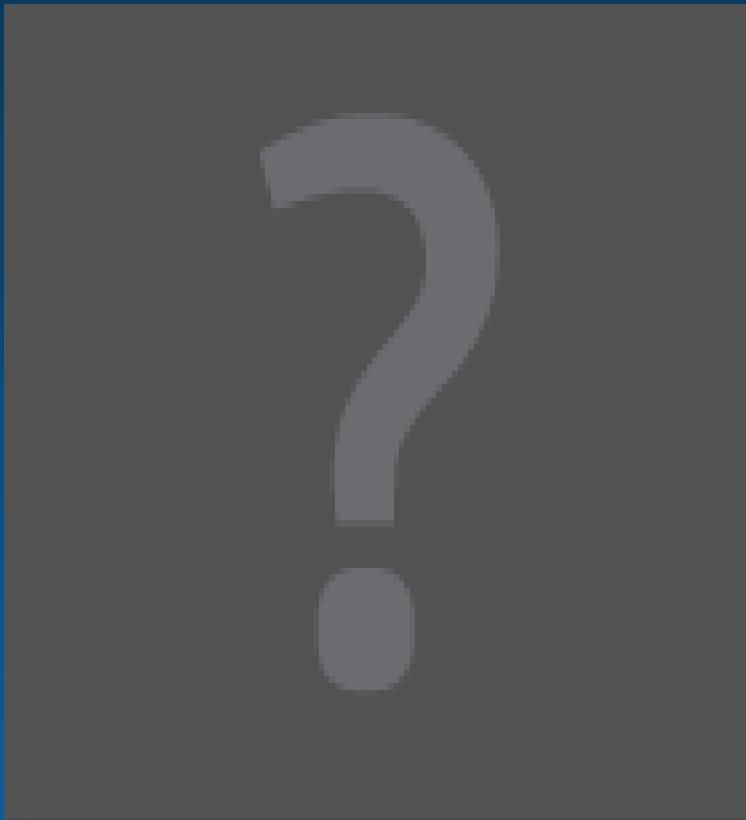
Normal

Dilated Cardiomyopathy



Tagged MRI Imaging

Dysynchrony - Consequences



- Abnormal septal motion¹
- Reduced dP/dt^{3,4}
- Reduced pulse pressure⁴
- Lower ejection fraction⁴
- Reduced diastolic filling^{1,2,4}
- Mitral regurgitation^{1,2,4}

1 Grines CL, Bashore TM, Boudoulas H, et al. *Circulation* 1989;79:845-853.

2 Xiao, HB, Lee CH, Gibson DG. *Br Heart J* 1991;66:443-447.

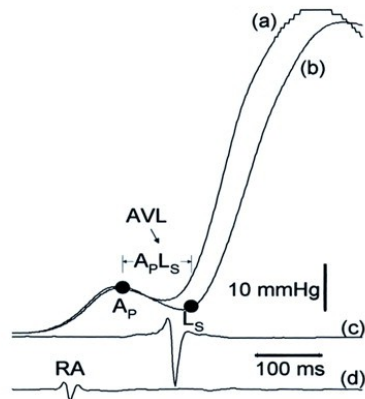
3 Xiao HB, Brecker SJD, Gibson DG. *Br Heart J* 1992;68:403-407.

Dysynchrony Has Many Levels

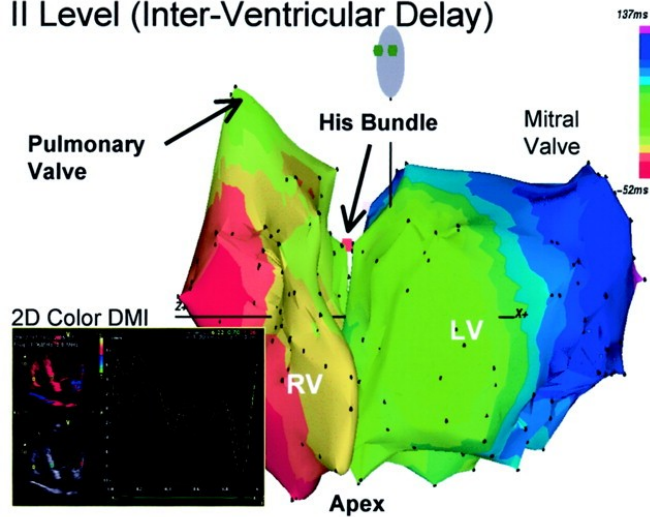
ECG
(LBBB)



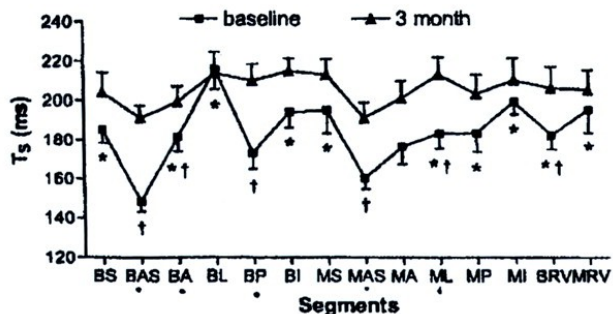
I Level (AV Delay)



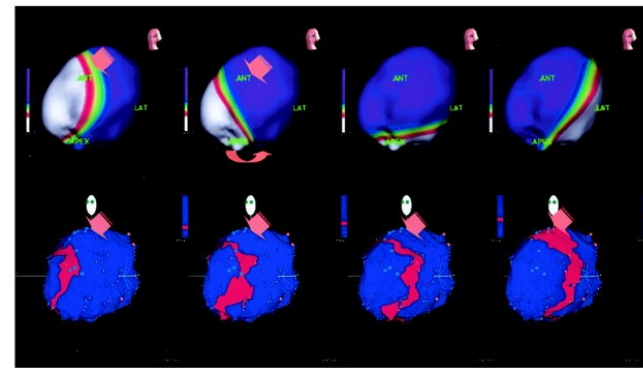
II Level (Inter-Ventricular Delay)



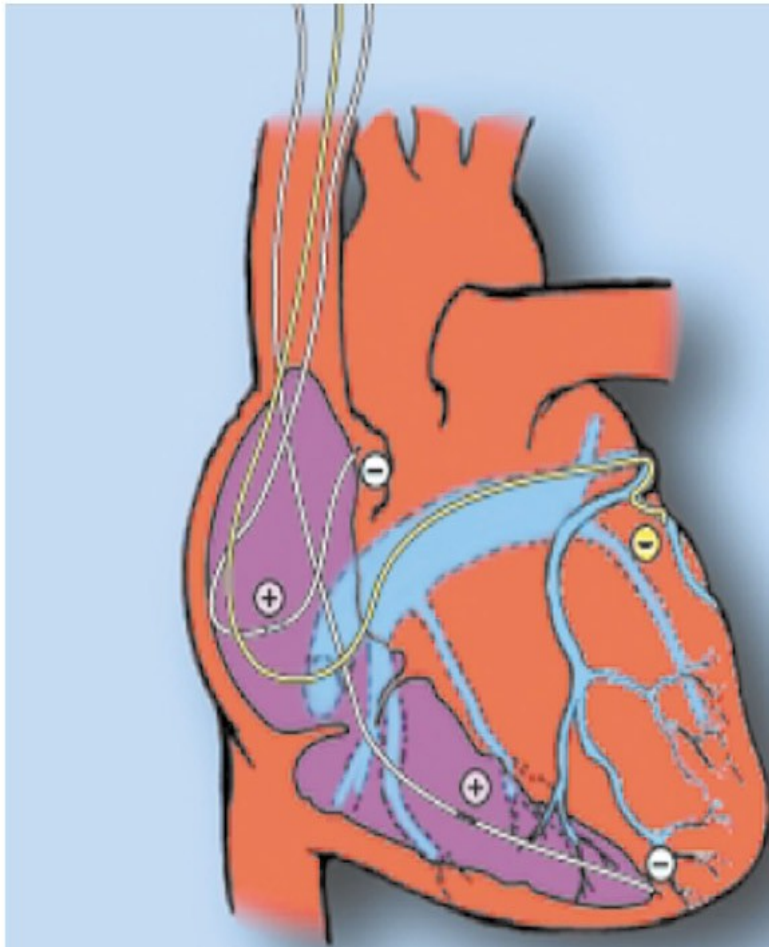
III Level (Intra-Ventricular Delay)



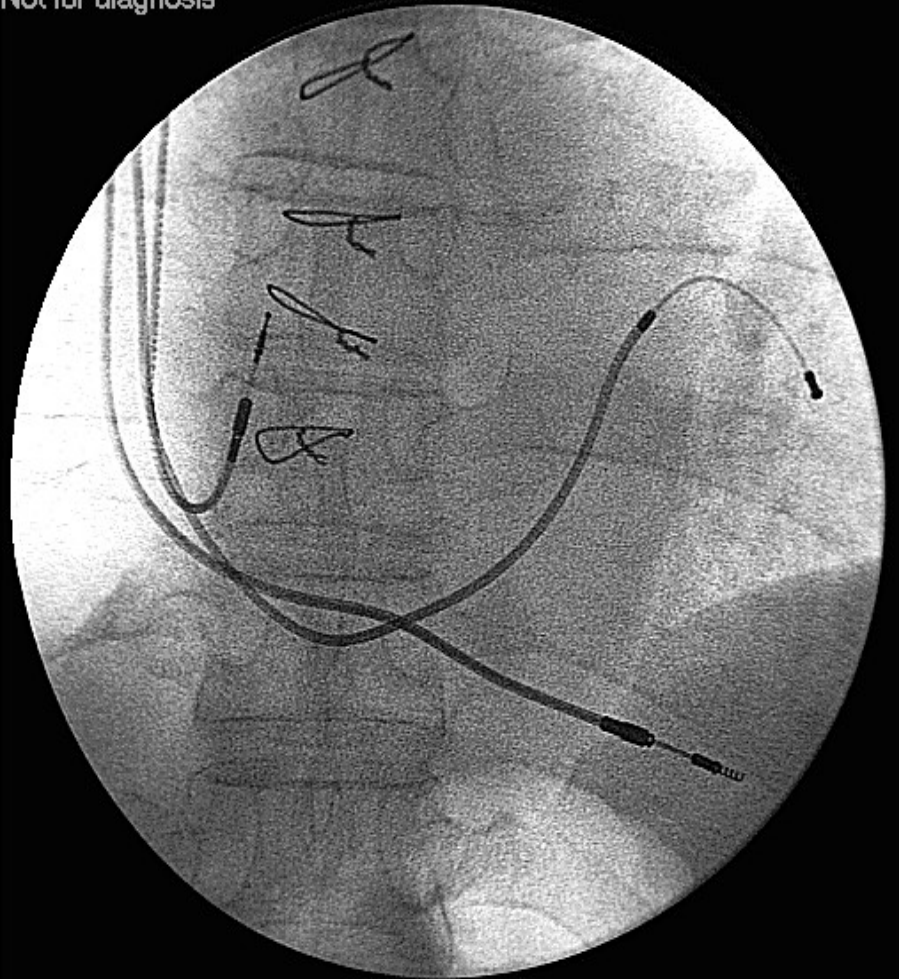
IV Level (Intra-mural Delay)



Biventricular pacemaker leads

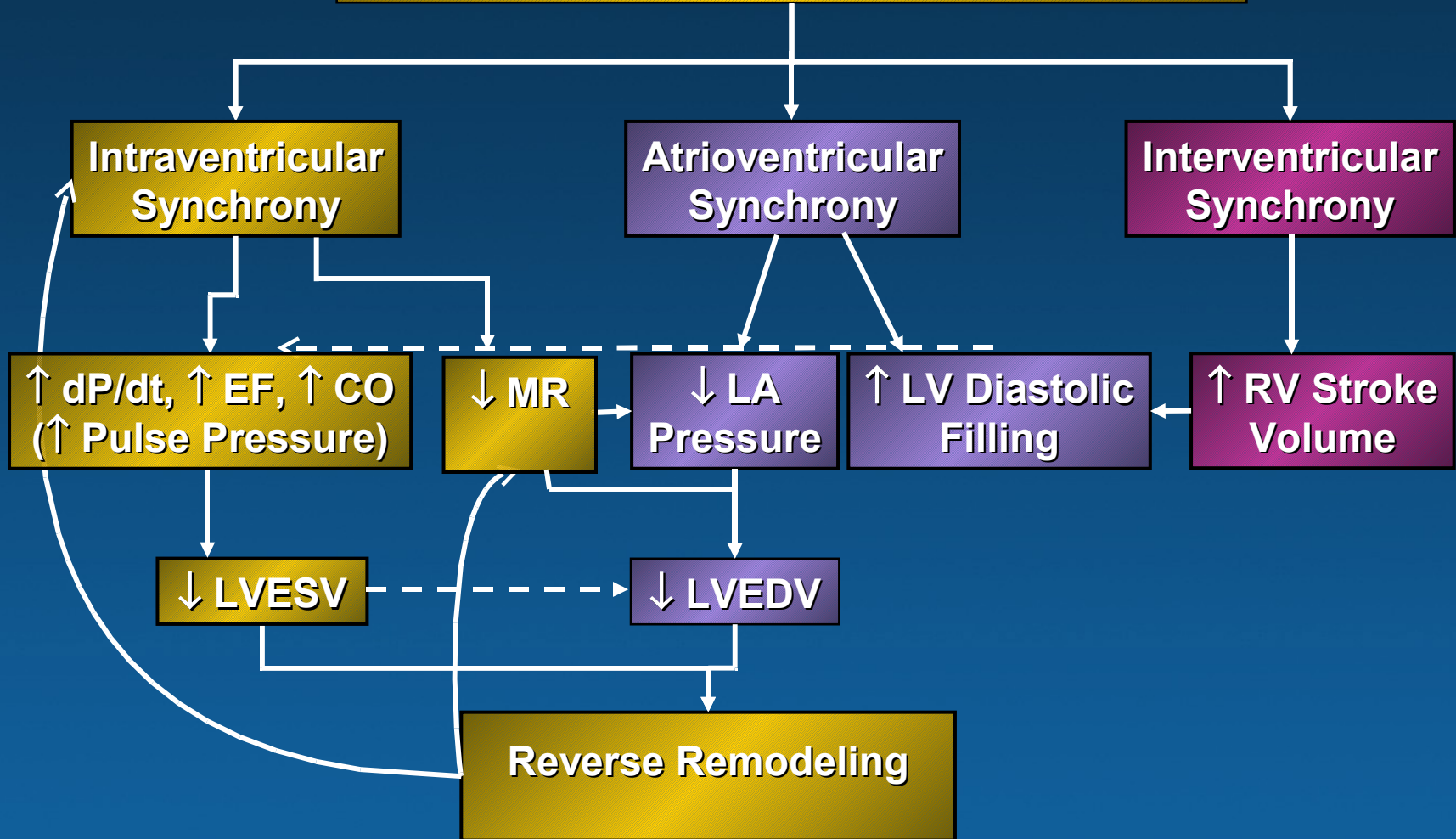


Not for diagnosis



Cardiac Resynchronization: Proposed Mechanisms

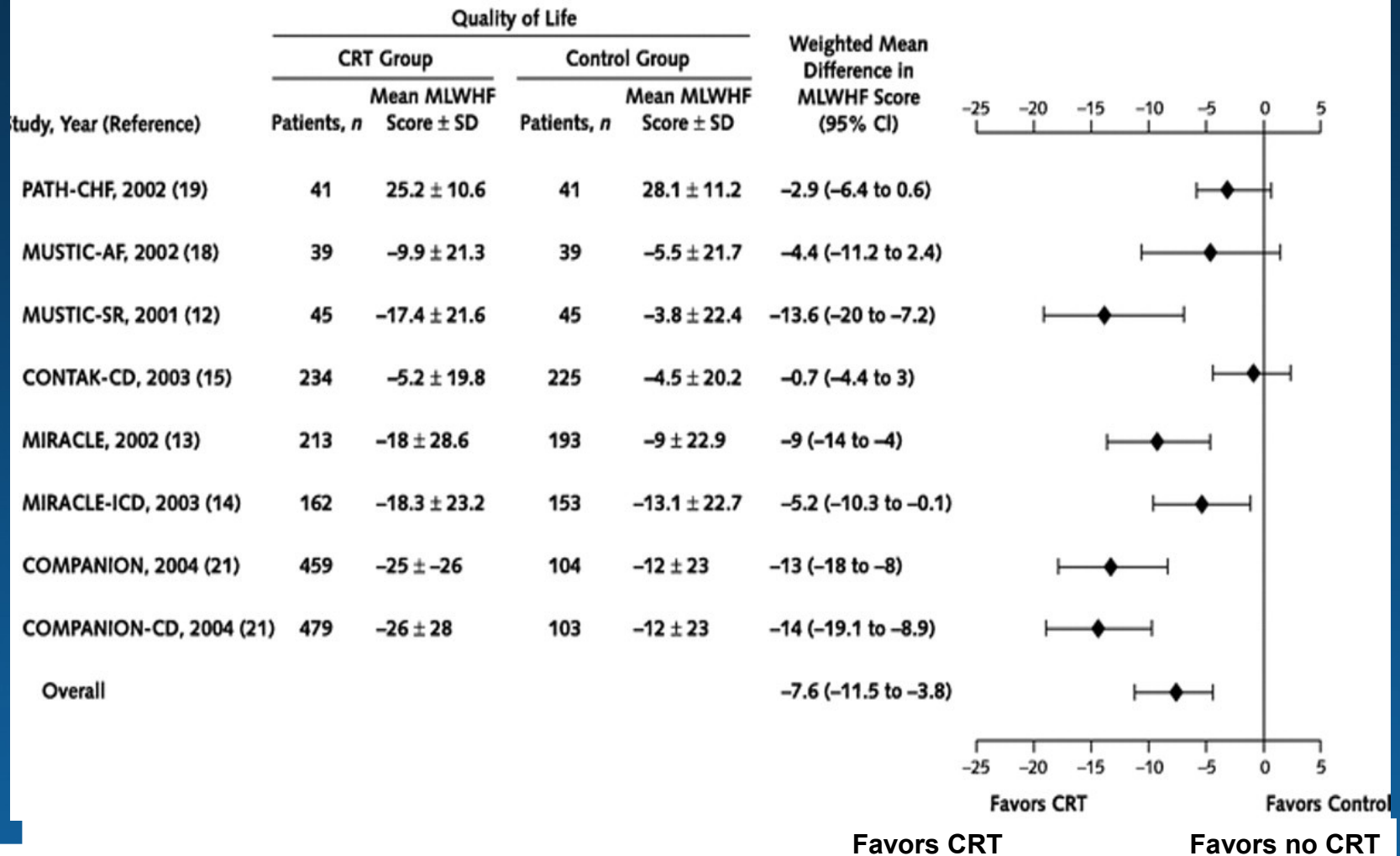
Cardiac Resynchronization



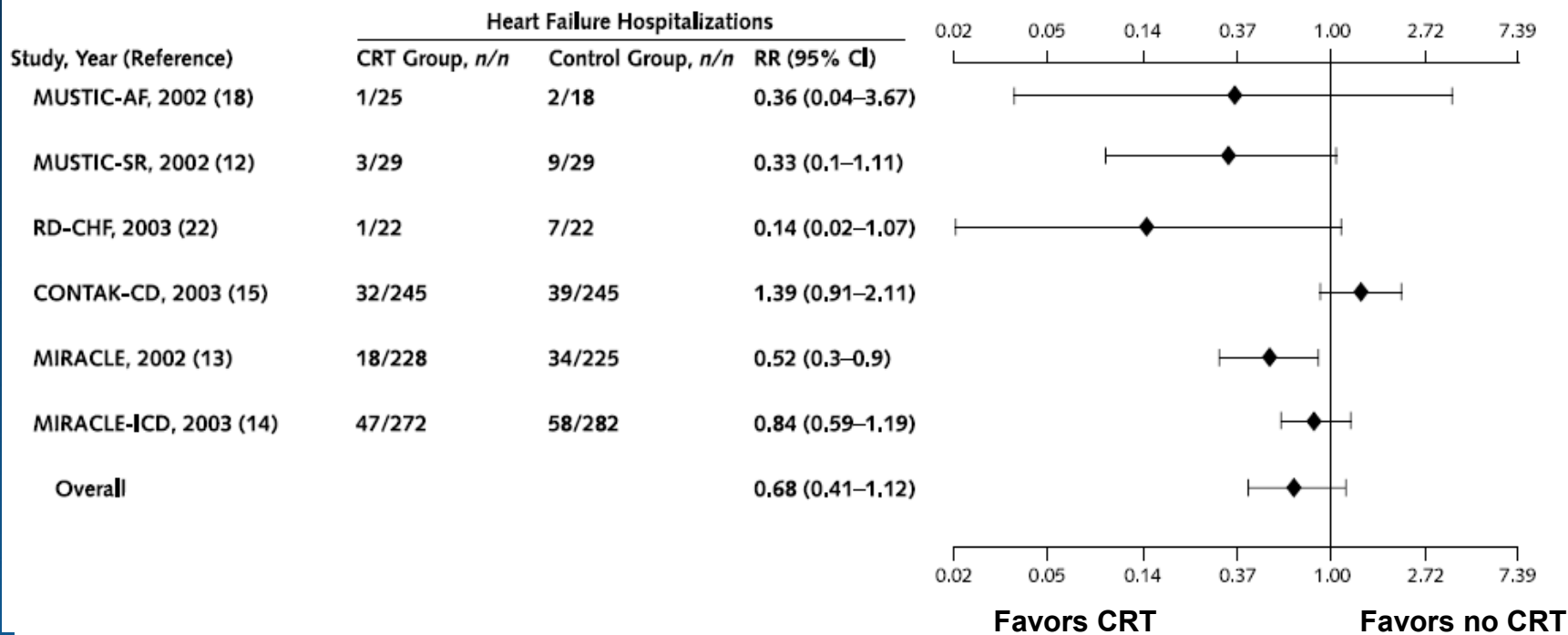
CRT Background

- CRT has been shown to be consistently associated with:
 - Reductions in LV size and volume
 - Increased Stroke Volume
 - Increased Ejection Fraction
 - Reduced Mitral Regurgitation
 - Improved exercise capacity
 - Improved QOL and functional capacity
- Effects of CRT on hospitalisation and mortality remain uncertain

Quality of Life and CRT

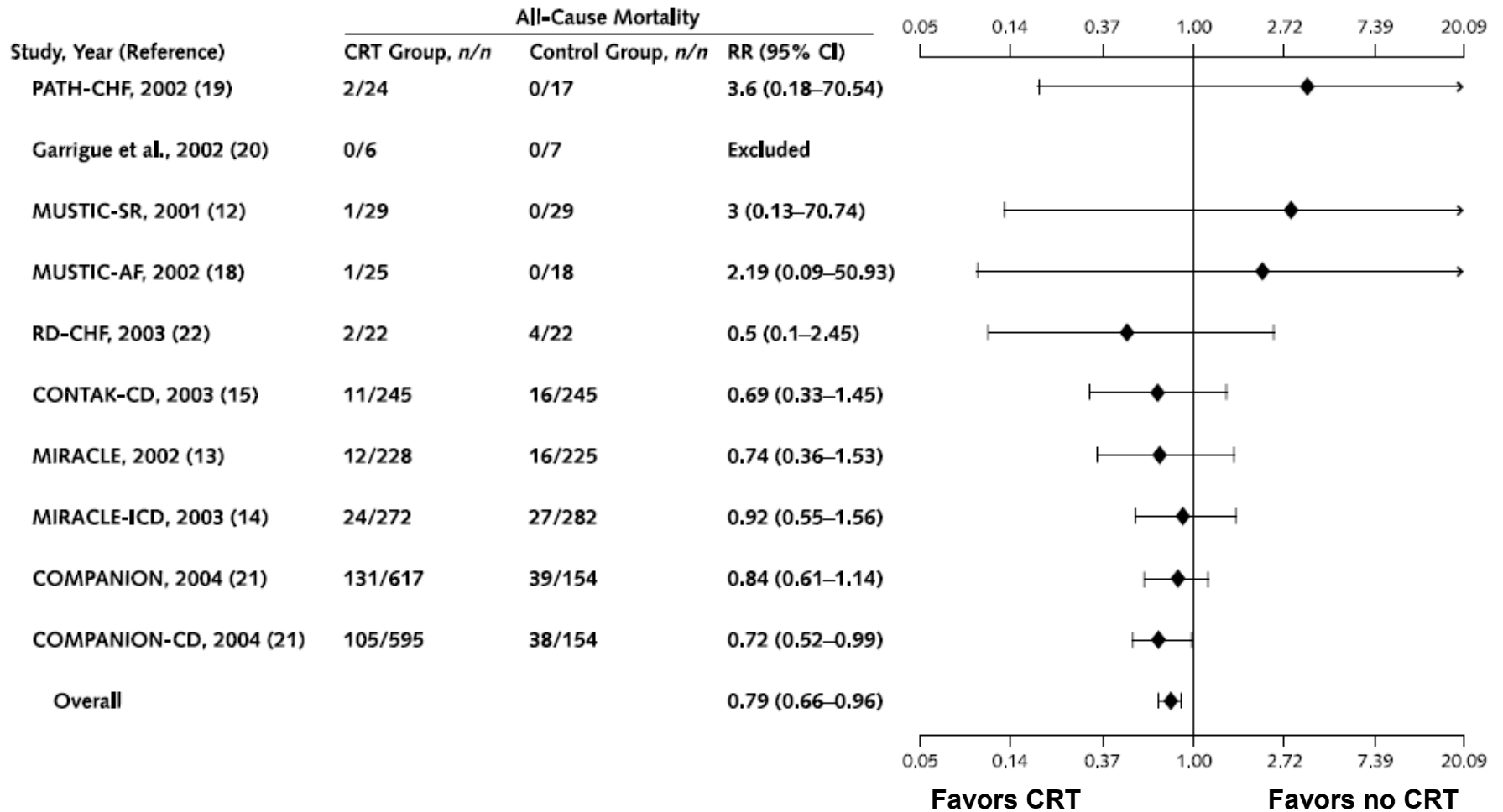


CHF Hospitalizations with CRT



Does CRT Prevent Death?

All Cause Mortality and CRT



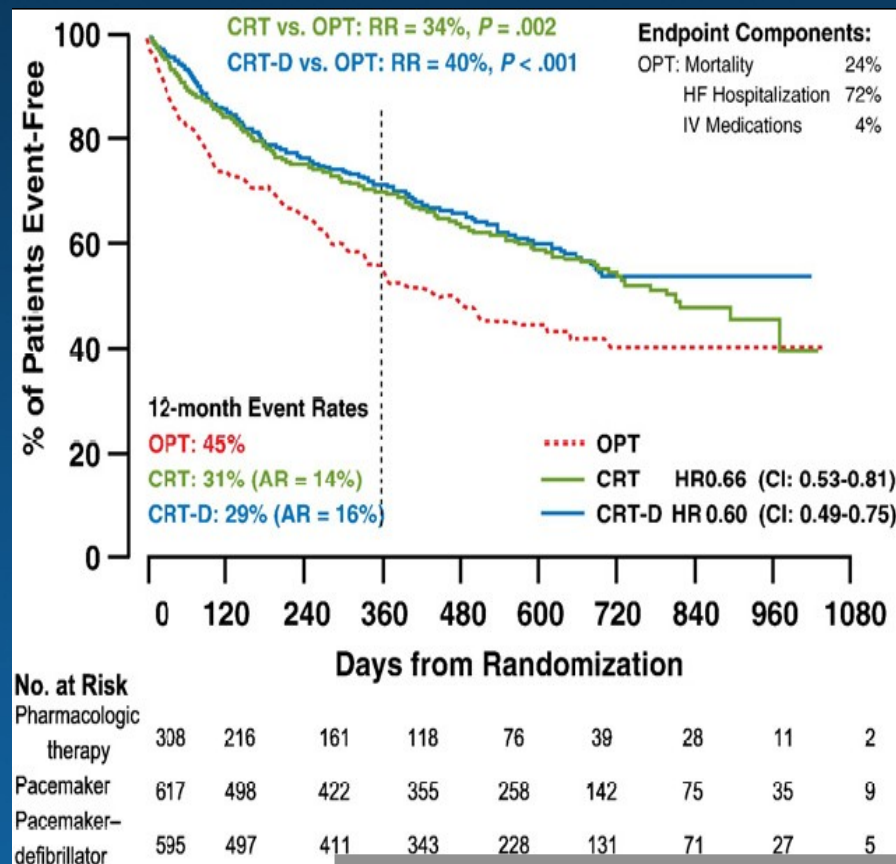
The COMPANION Trial

- 1520 patients* enrolled at 30 centers
- NYHA FC III/IV, LVEF ≤ 0.35 , QRS ≥ 120 ms
- Optimal medical therapy vs. CRTp vs. CRTd with optimal medical therapy

**stopped early by DSMB; 2200 planned*

COMPANION: 1^o Endpoint

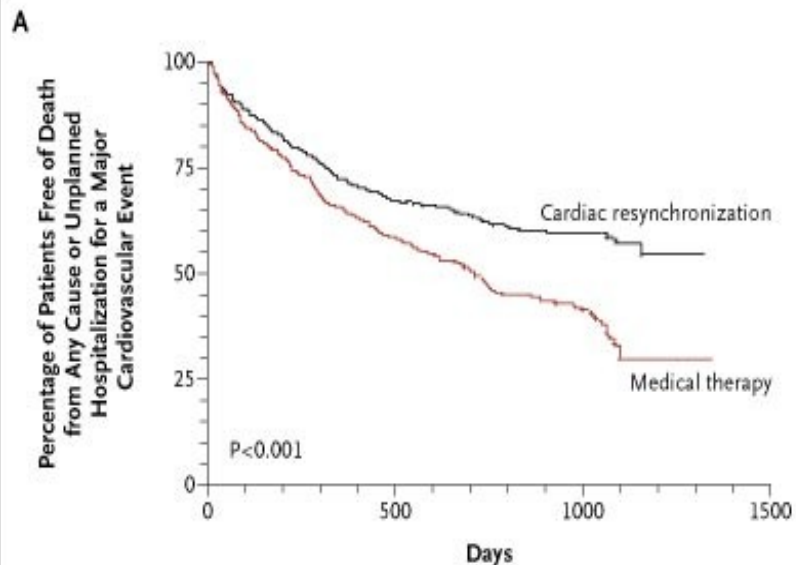
Death, Hospitalization or Outpatient Medication



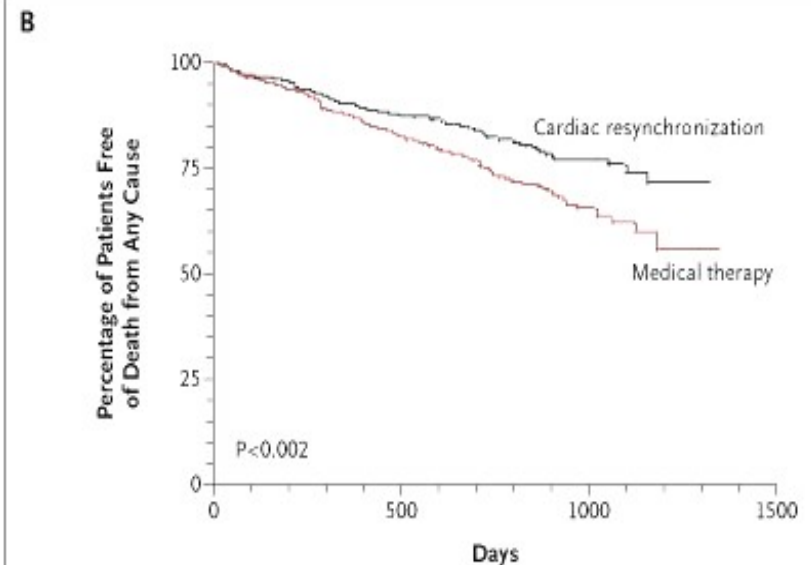
CARE – HF Study

Maybe CRTp is all that is needed

36% reduction in all-cause mortality,
10% absolute risk reduction



No. at Risk	0	500	1000	1500		
Cardiac resynchronization	409	323	273	166	68	7
Medical therapy	404	292	232	118	48	3



No. at Risk	0	500	1000	1500		
Cardiac resynchronization	409	376	351	213	89	8
Medical therapy	404	365	321	192	71	5

Current Status of ICD and CRT Therapy in Heart Failure

- 2 major CRT trials showed mortality reduction and reduction in hospitalizations:
 - CARE- HF: CRT without defibrillator (CRT-P)
 - COMPANION: CRT alone and CRT-D

→ **Class I recommendation for CRT**

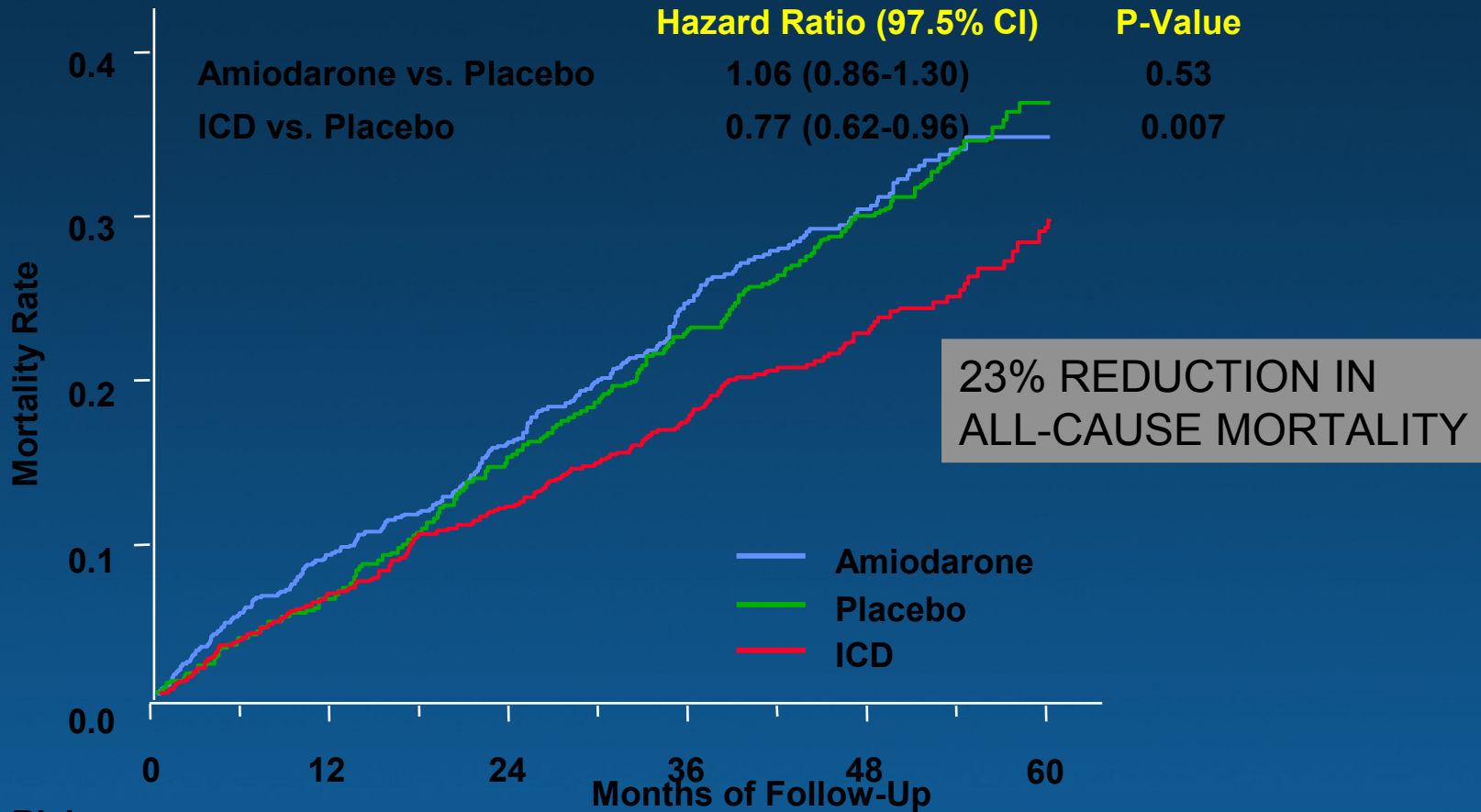
- The main challenge is to identify appropriate pts and implement appropriate therapy

Current Status of ICD and CRT Therapy in Heart Failure

- ICD and CRT for selected pts now is standard of care added to optimal medical therapy (OMT).
- ICD trials:
 - MADIT-II: post MI/LV dx (EF <30%) – reduction in all-cause mortality.
 - SCD-HEFT: Ischemic and non-ischemic class II/III HF, EF \leq 35% despite OMT – reduction in all-cause mortality.
- CLASS I RECOMMENDATION FOR THESE PTS IN

SCD-HeFT

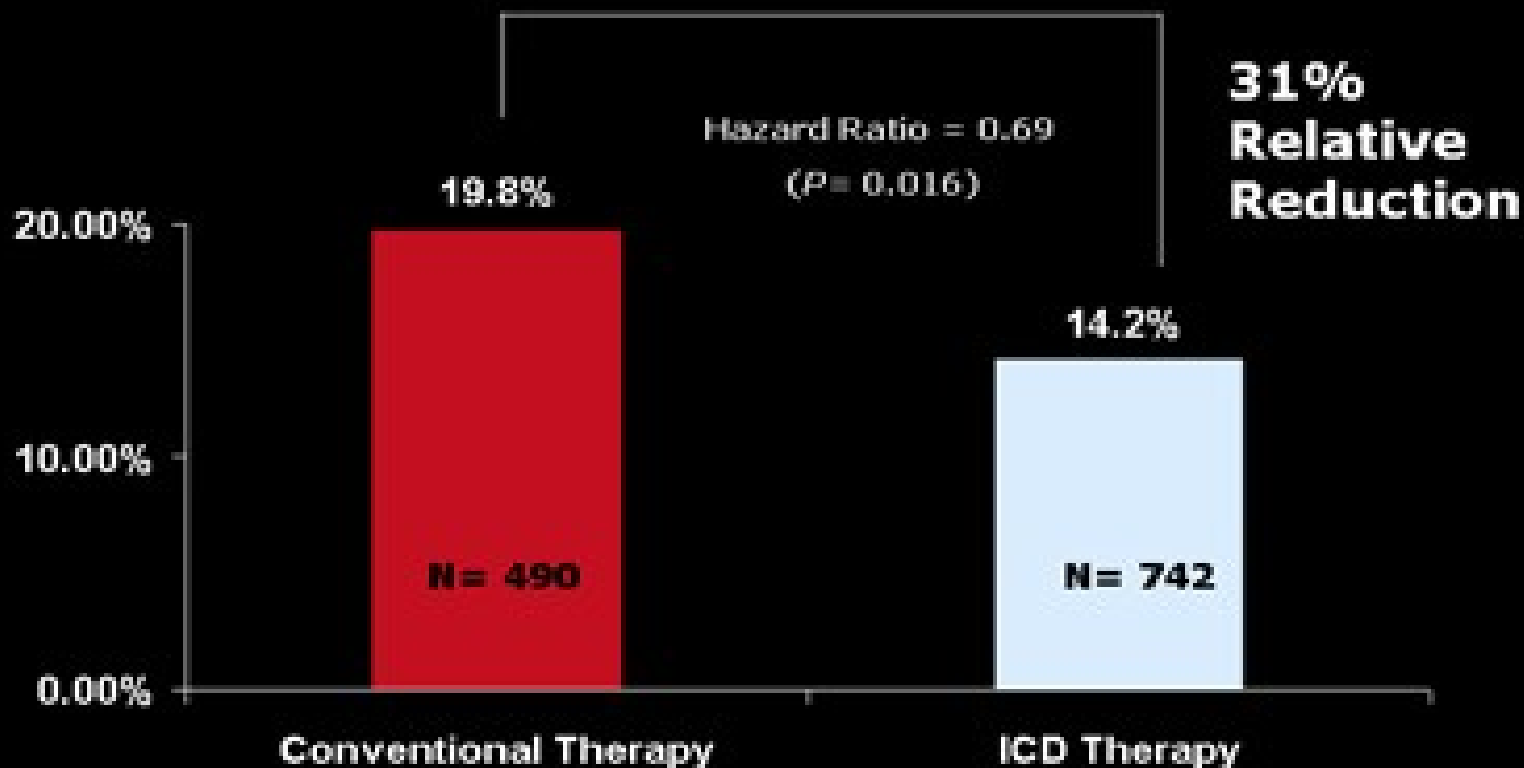
Mortality Rate Overall Results



No. at Risk

	0	12	24	36	48	60
Amiodarone	845	772	715	484	280	97
Placebo	847	797	724	505	304	89
ICD	829	778	733	501	304	103

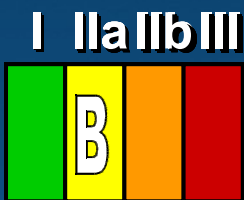
MADIT II: Multicenter Automatic Defibrillator Implantation Trial II



Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy* in Patients With Severe Systolic Heart Failure



For patients who have left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) less than or equal to 35%, a QRS duration greater than or equal to 0.12 seconds, and sinus rhythm, cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT) with or without an ICD is indicated for the treatment of New York Heart Association (NYHA) functional Class III or ambulatory Class IV heart failure symptoms on optimal recommended medical therapy.



For patients who have LVEF less than or equal to 35%, a QRS duration greater than or equal to 0.12 seconds, and AF, CRT with or without an ICD is reasonable for the treatment of NYHA functional Class III or ambulatory Class IV heart failure symptoms on optimal recommended medical therapy.



For patients with LVEF less than or equal to 35% with NYHA functional Class III or ambulatory Class IV symptoms who are receiving optimal recommended medical therapy and who have frequent dependence on ventricular pacing, CRT

*All primary SCD prevention ICD recommendations apply only to patients who are receiving optimal medical therapy and have reasonable expectation of survival with good functional capacity for more than 1 year.
is reasonable.

Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy* in Patients With Severe Systolic Heart Failure



For patients with LVEF less than or equal to 35% with NYHA functional Class I or II symptoms who are receiving optimal recommended medical therapy and who are undergoing implantation of a permanent pacemaker and/or ICD with anticipated frequent ventricular pacing, CRT may be considered.



CRT is not indicated for asymptomatic patients with reduced LVEF in the absence of other indications for pacing.



CRT is not indicated for patients whose functional status and life expectancy are limited predominantly by chronic

noncardiac conditions.

*All primary SCD prevention ICD recommendations apply only to patients who are receiving optimal medical therapy and have reasonable expectation of survival with good functional capacity for more than 1 year.

3. Cardiac Resynchronisation Therapy (CRT) in Patients with Heart Failure

Recommendations for the use of cardiac resynchronization therapy by biventricular pacemaker (CRT-P) or biventricular pacemaker combined with an ICD (CRT-D) in HF patients.

Heart failure patients who remain symptomatic in NYHA Class II-IV despite optimal pharmacological treatment, with low ejection fraction (LVEF \leq 35%), left ventricular dilatation*, normal sinus rhythm and wide QRS complex (\geq 120 ms)

- Class I - Level of evidence A for CRT-P to reduce morbidity and mortality.
- CRT-D is an acceptable option for patients who have expectancy of survival with a good functional status for more than 1 year, Class I - Level of evidence B.

* Left ventricular dilatation/Different criteria have been used to define LV dilatation in controlled studies on CRT: LV end diastolic diameter $>$ 55 mm; LV end diastolic diameter $>$ 30 mm/m², LV end diastolic diameter $>$ 30 mm/m (height).

3. Cardiac Resynchronisation Therapy (CRT) in Patients with Heart Failure

Recommendations for the use of biventricular pacing in HF patients with a concomitant indication for permanent pacing.

Heart failure patients with NYHA Class III-IV symptoms, low ejection fraction (LVEF $\leq 35\%$), left ventricular dilatation* and a concomitant indication for permanent pacing (first implant or upgrading of conventional pacemaker).

- Class IIa - Level of evidence C

Recommendations for the use of an ICD combined with biventricular pacemaker (CRT-D) in HF patients with an indication for an ICD.

Heart failure patients with a Class I indication for an ICD (first implant or upgrading at device change) who are symptomatic in NYHA Class III-IV despite optimal pharmacological treatment, with low ejection fraction (LVEF $\leq 35\%$), left ventricular dilatation*, wide QRS complex ($\geq 120\text{ms}$).

- Class I - Level of evidence B.

* Left ventricular dilatation/Different criteria have been used to define LV dilatation in controlled studies on CRT: LV end diastolic diameter $> 55\text{ mm}$; LV end diastolic diameter $> 30\text{ mm/m}^2$, LV end diastolic diameter $> 30\text{ mm/m}$ (height).

3. Cardiac Resynchronisation Therapy (CRT) in Patients with Heart Failure

Recommendations for the use of biventricular pacing in HF patients with permanent atrial fibrillation.

Heart failure patients who remain symptomatic in NYHA Class III-IV despite optimal pharmacological treatment, with low ejection fraction (LVEF \leq 35%), LV dilatation*, permanent atrial fibrillation and indication for AV junction ablation.

- Class IIa - Level of evidence C.

* Left ventricular dilatation/Different criteria have been used to define LV dilatation in controlled studies on CRT: LV end diastolic diameter > 55 mm; LV end diastolic diameter > 30 mm/m², LV end diastolic diameter > 30 mm/m (height).

Possible Risks for Implantable Devices

- Vascular complications
- Long-term risk of infections
- Leads may break/fracture
- Recalls

BUT:

Significant benefits –evaluate patients carefully

Devices are very reliable and improving constantly

The Importance of Patient Selection

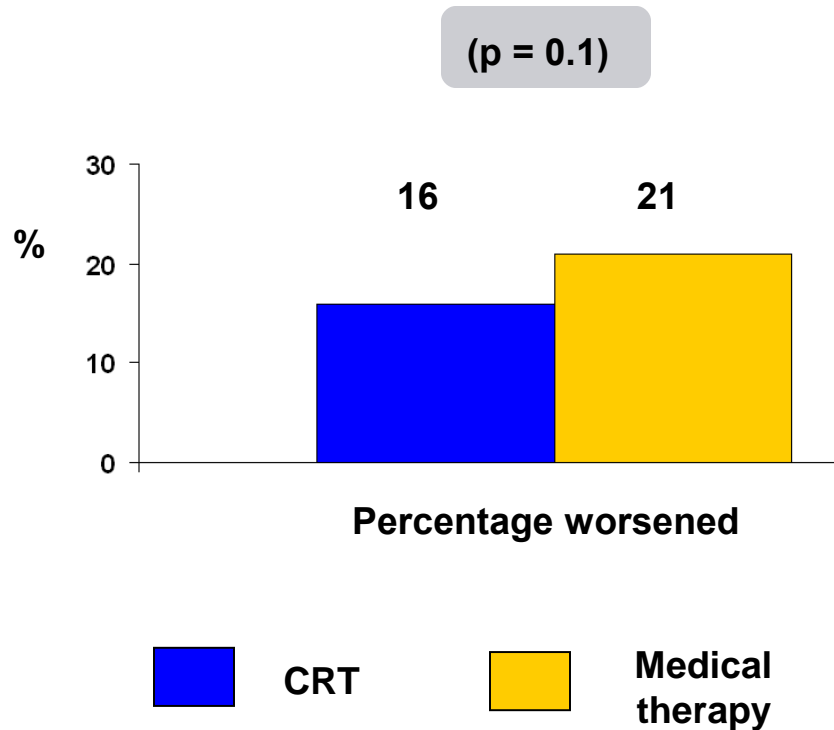
- Maintain relationship with EP/patient and family
- Need to understand:
 - Why treatment is indicated
 - What are the downsides
 - Will continue with medical therapy
 - Possibility of inappropriate shocks

IMPROVE HF: Registry to Improve the Use of Evidence-Based Heart Failure Therapies in the Outpatient Setting

- 167 outpatient cardiology practices surveyed in the USA
- 15 381 pts with HF, previous MI/LV Dx
- Results for utilization of device therapy in eligible patients:
 - ICD/CRT-D 51%
 - CRT – 39%
- Median 27% of pts received all HF therapies for which they were potentially eligible on the basis of chart documentation.
- Use of guideline-recommended therapies by practices varied widely
- Need to translate outcomes of RCTs into clinical practice

REVERSE (SPONSORED BY MEDTRONIC)

Trial design: Patients with LV dysfunction (NYHA class I-II) and wide QRS were randomized to cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT) (n = 419) or optimal medical therapy (n = 191).



Results

- Patients worsened: 16% with CRT vs. 21% with optimal medical therapy (p = 0.1)
- LV end-systolic volume index: decreased 18.4 ml/m² vs. 1.3 ml/m² (p < 0.0001), respectively
- Risk of heart failure hospitalization reduced with CRT (p = 0.03)

Conclusions

- CRT for mild heart failure does not reduce the percentage of patients that clinically worsen
- CRT improves LV end-systolic volume index and reduces the risk of hospitalization compared with optimal medical therapy

MADIT-CRT: Automatic Defibrillator Implantation with Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy

- N=1820
- EF < 30%. Class I or II HF
- Randomized to CRT_D (60%) or ICD-only (40%)
- OMT
- Combined end-point of all-cause mortality/HF events when compared with ICD-only therapy
- Ongoing study

Inclusion Criteria

- **NYHA class III HF**
- **LVEF \leq 35%**
- **Evidence of mechanical dyssynchrony**
- **QRS duration $<$ 130ms**

Exclusion Criteria

- **NYHA class I, II, or IV**
- **Permanent Atrial Fibrillation**
- **Recent MI, unstable angina or cardiac revascularization**
- **Prior cardiac resynchronization therapy**

- CRT did not improve Peak VO_2 during exercise in patients with NYHA Class III heart failure, QRS duration $<130\text{ms}$, $EF \leq 35\%$ and mechanical dyssynchrony as specified in this trial.
- While there was a statistically significant improvement of NYHA class, a secondary endpoint, there was no improvement in quality-of-life, 6-minute walking test, or echocardiographic measures of reverse LV remodeling
- A subgroup of patients with QRS duration between **120 ms and 130 ms demonstrated an improvement from CRT**, however patients with QRS duration **$< 120\text{ ms}$** did not demonstrate improvement
- The subgroup of patients stratified on the basis of cardiomyopathy etiology did not demonstrate an improvement in peak VO_2 .

Post-Implant Follow-Up

- Management outside EP office:
 - Cardiologists with HF training
 - Need for more practitioners as number of patients with devices grows

Optimisation of Device

- Important clinical data is recorded by device to evaluate patient progress
- Optimisation of AV, VV delays in CRT devices

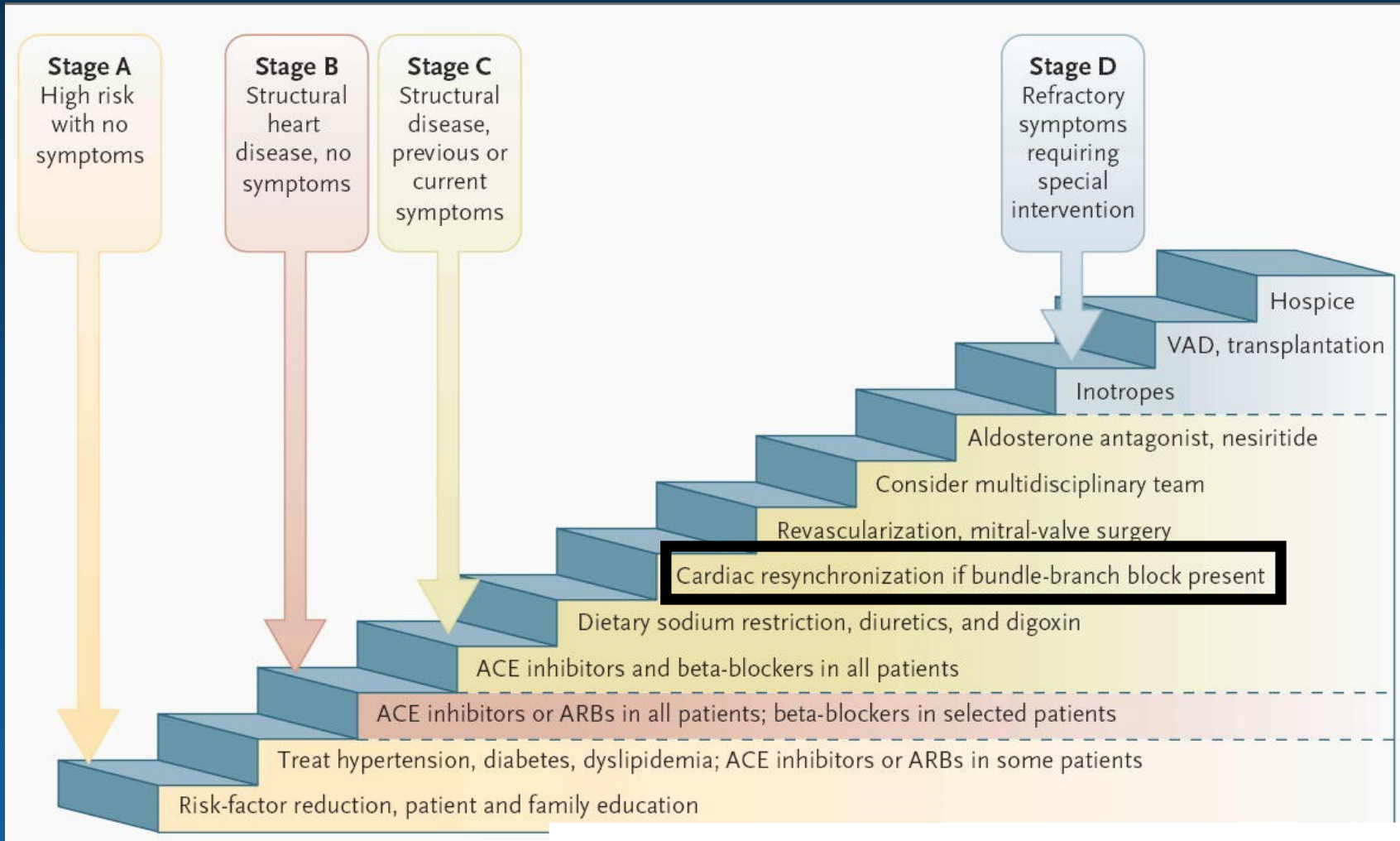
CRT Therapy – The Future

- Possible new indications
- Better optimization techniques (echo, etc.)
- Better programming (VV, AV algorithms)
- Better therapy (multiple activation sites)
- Auto-optimization
- More sophisticated monitoring

Conclusion

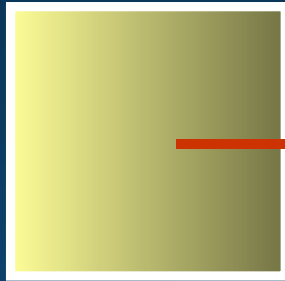
- CRT benefits many but not all patients with severe heart failure, low left ventricular ejection fractions and wide QRS complexes

Stages of Therapy

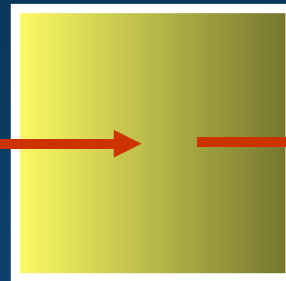


Pharmacologic and Device Therapy Across the Continuum

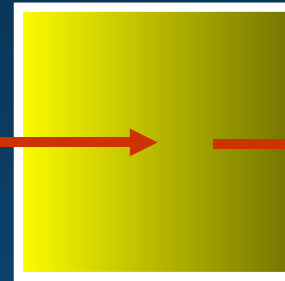
Post-MI
LV dysfunction



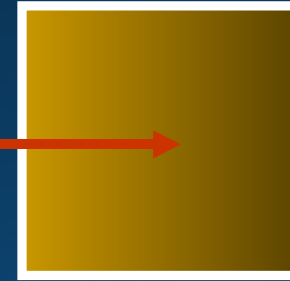
Mild
CHF



Moderate
CHF



Severe
CHF



AIRE/SAVE
(ramipril/captopril)

SOLVD Treatment
(enalapril)

CONSENSUS
(enalapril)

CAPRICORN
(carvedilol)

US Carvedilol/MERIT
(carvedilol/metoprolol)

COPERNICUS
(carvedilol)

EPHESUS
(epplerenone)

CHARM/Val-HeFT
(candesartan/valsartan)

RALES
(spironolactone)

MADIT, MUSTT
(ICD)

SCD-HeFT, MADIT-II
(ICD)

**MIRACLE, COMPANION,
MUSTIC (CRT +/- ICD)
CARE-HF**