

# Il punto di vista del cardiologo:

Dal colesterolo allo  
screening del NT-proBNP



*Dario Celentani – S.C. Cardiologia RIVOLI*

DIABETE  
TUTTO  
**INTORNO**  
ATE

TORINO  
28/29  
Novembre  
2025

CONGRESSO REGIONALE  
SID AMD PIEMONTE - VALLE D'AOSTA



# Conflitto d'interessi

Il sottoscritto dichiara di aver avuto rapporti di carattere economico negli ultimi 5 anni con i seguenti portatori d'interessi in campo sanitario:

- Amgen
- Astra-Zeneca
- Aurora Biofarma
- Bayer
- Boehringer Ingelheim
- Bracco
- Daiichi Sankyo
- Firma
- Guidotti
- Lilly italia
- Lusofarmaco
- Menarini
- Neopharmed Gentili
- Novartis
- Novo Nordisk
- Pfizer
- Sandoz
- Sanofi
- Servier
- Viatris



- [Efficacy of Inclisiran in Patients Having Familial Heterozygous Compared to Homozygous Trait analysis.](#)

20

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Rai R, Devi P, Kumar K, Naeem K, Kumar H, Kumari K, Kum G, Ali S, Maheshwari M, Jawwad M.

- [Cardiovascular events in patients treated with bempedoic acid vs. placebo: systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)

101

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Mutschlechner D, Tscharre M, Huber K, Gremmel T.  
Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Pharmacother. 2023 Sep 20;9(6):583-591. doi: 10.1093/ehjcvp/pvad052.

- [43 After Acute Coronary Syndrome: A Meta-analysis of Risk Reduction With Statins](#)

- [Efficacy of Pemafibrate Versus Fenofibrate Administration on Serum Lipid Levels in Patients with \*\*Dyslipidemia\*\*: Network Meta-Analysis and Systematic Review.](#)

96

Cite

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Khan MS, Ghuman GM, Baqi A, Shah J, Aziz M, Mir T, Tahir A, Katragadda S, Singh H, Taleb M, Ali SS.  
Am J Cardiovasc Drugs. 2023 Sep;23(5):547-558. doi: 10.1007/s40256-023-00593-6. Epub 2023 Jul 31.

PMID: 37524955

We performed the first ever network meta-analysis containing the largest ever group of patients to test

roving lipid levels compared with fenofibrate and placebo in patients  
potentially relevant clinical trials ...

han I, Trifan G.

():107633. doi: 10.1016/j.jstrokecerebrovasdis.2024.107633. Epub

- [Safety and efficacy of bempedoic acid among patients with statin intolerance and those without: A meta-analysis and a systematic randomized controlled trial](#)

38

- [Association Between Omega-3 Fatty Acid Intake and \*\*Dyslipidemia\*\*: A Continuous Dose-Response Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials.](#)

117

Cite

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Wang T, Zhang X, Zhou N, Shen Y, Li B, Chen BE, Li X.  
J Am Heart Assoc. 2023 Jun 6;12(11):e029512. doi: 10.1161/JAHA.123.029512. Epub 2023 Jun 2.

PMID: 37264945 [Free PMC article.](#)

1371/journal.pone.0297854. eCollection 2024.

ating Adipokine Levels: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Clinical Trials.

[Simental-Mendía LE, Simental-Mendía M, Sahebkar A, Atkin SL, Jamialahmadi T.](#)

Cite [Arch Med Res. 2024 Feb;55\(2\):102957. doi: 10.1016/j.arcmed.2024.102957. Epub 2024 Jan 24.](#)

Share PMID: 38266418

BACKGROUND: Fibrates are widely used in the treatment of **dyslipidemia** and associated metabolic abnormalities; however, their effects on adipokines are unclear. ...



statin

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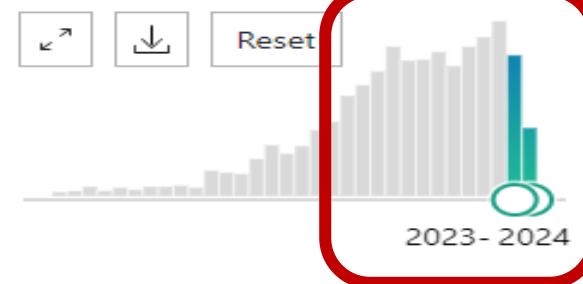
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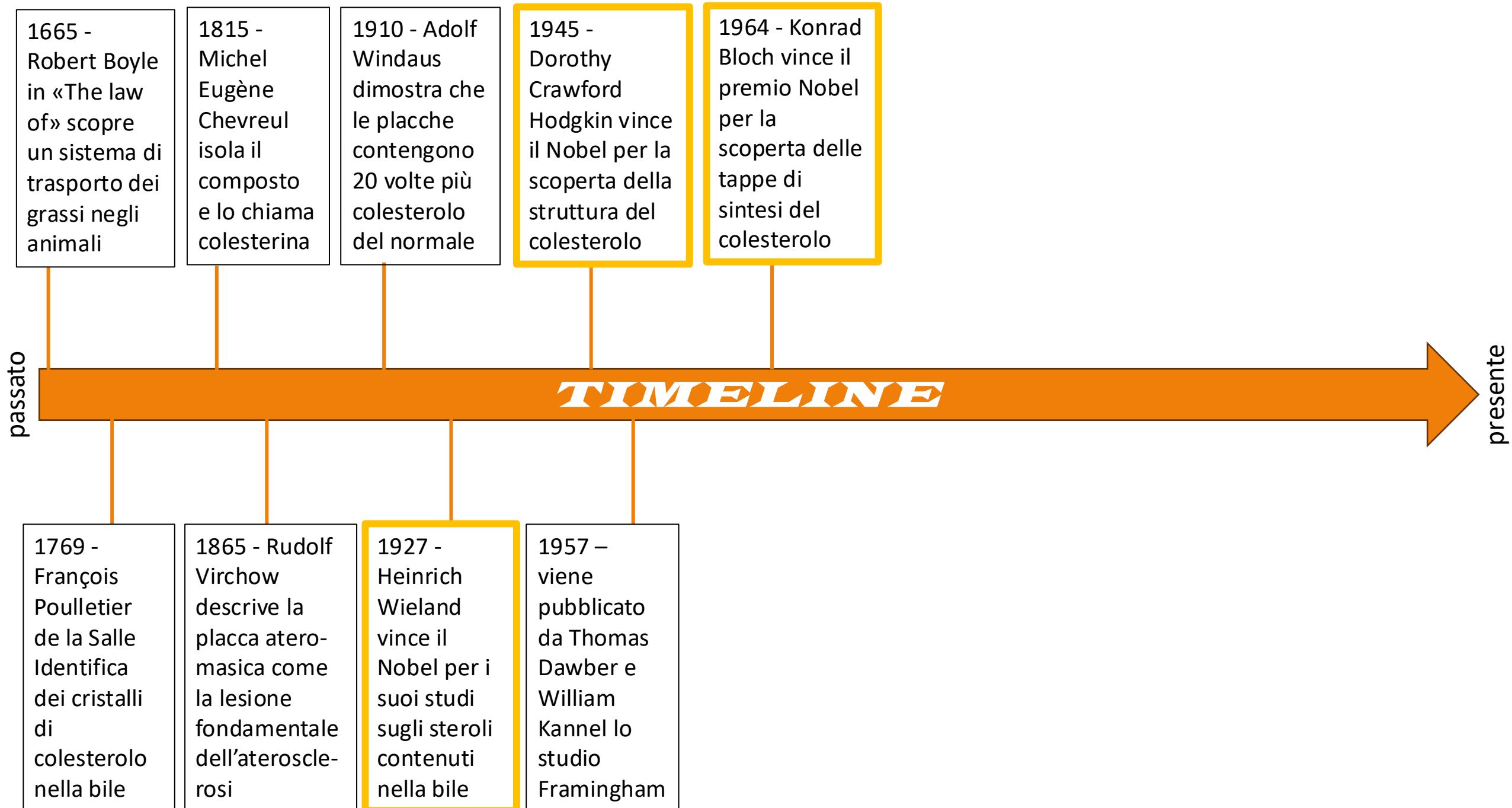
127 results

Page 1 of 1



Filters applied: Meta-Analysis, in the last 1 year. [Clear all](#)

- 1 Cite Share [A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of the Relationship between Statin Intake and Esophageal Cancer.](#)  
Khaghani A, Kasiri K, Heidari-Soureshjani S, Sherwin CM, Mardani-Nafchi H. *Anticancer Agents Med Chem.* 2024 May 29. doi: 10.2174/0118715206292712240522043350. Online ahead of print.  
PMID: 38812422  
CONCLUSION: The results revealed that the odds of esophageal cancer in patients treated with statins decreased by 35% compared to patients not treated with statins. However, further well-designed prospective studies are needed to validate these findings and understa ...
- 2 Cite Share [HMG-CoA reductase is a potential therapeutic target for migraine: a mendelian randomization study.](#)  
Qu K, Li MX, Yu P; International Headache Genetics Consortium; Wu BH, Shi M, Dong M. *Sci Rep.* 2024 May 27;14(1):12094. doi: 10.1038/s41598-024-61628-9.  
PMID: 38802400 [Free PMC article.](#)  
Statins are thought to have positive effects on migraine but existing data are inconclusive. ...We used four types of genetic instruments as proxies for HMG-CoA reductase inhibition. We included the expression quantitative trait loci of the HMG-CoA reductase ...



A more highly developed enzymology of the cholesterol pathway is also needed for a rational approach to the problem of metabolic regulation. This is clearly a matter of broad concern transcending purely academic curiosity. A great variety of environmental, dietary and hormonal factors have been studied and shown to influence the rate of cholesterol synthesis, but the evidence is still too scanty for specifying the point or points at which physiological control is most effectively exerted. If the principle of negative feedback operates in sterol biosynthesis as it does in so many pathways, then the first specific step of the sequence should be rate limiting and it should be sensitive to cholesterol, the end product of the biosynthetic sequence. With these considerations in mind, attention has been focused on the reduction of hydroxymethylglutaryl-CoA to mevalonic acid as a likely control site. There is experimental support for this view, particularly from the work of Bucher who has shown that the profound effects of cholesterol feeding, of X-radiation and of starvation on the rates of cholesterol synthesis appear indeed to be exerted at a stage close to or immediately before the formation of mevalonic acid<sup>7</sup>. This concept of a homeostatic control continues to receive attention, and it is to be hoped that the rapid progress that is being made in the elucidation of regulatory processes will lead also to a better understanding of the mechanisms that control cholesterol biosynthesis.

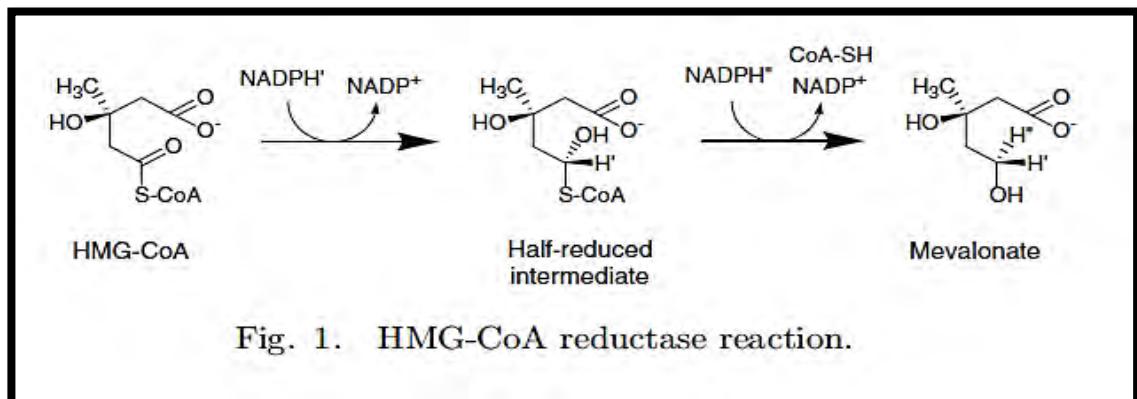
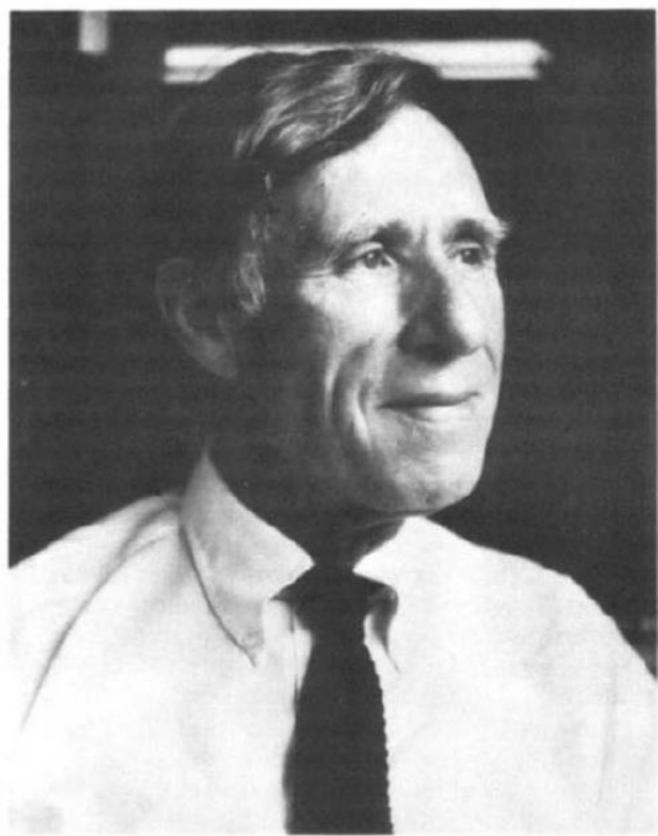


Fig. 1. HMG-CoA reductase reaction.

Along with the interest in chemical and enzymatic aspects of cholesterol biosynthesis there has been a growing appreciation of the role which sterols might play as fundamental cell constituents. The known metabolic transformations of cholesterol, the conversions to steroid hormones and bile acids, surely serve a specialized function since they take place only in vertebrate species. However, in many tissues and cells the function of cholesterol is clearly not metabolic. In organisms which do not metabolize sterol but nevertheless produce or require it-and this is true for all but the most primitive forms of life-sterols must play some role as structural elements of the cell. Comparative biochemistry suggests what this function might be. Sterols have not been found in any bacteria or in the blue-green algae, *i.e.* in primitively organized cells which lack the various membrane-bound intracellular organelles. The elaboration of membrane-enclosed structures devoted to specialized functions is now viewed as a landmark in evolutionary diversification<sup>8</sup> and it would appear that the parallel development of the biosynthetic pathway to sterols is one of the biochemical expressions of these morphological events. The sterol molecule is not distributed at random inside the differentiated cell but appears to be mainly associated with the cytoplasmic membrane and its endoplasmic extensions. We do not yet know why and for what specific purpose the sterol molecule was selected during the evolution of organisms. One may speculate, however, that the rigidity, the planarity and the hydrophobic nature of the molecule provide a combination of features that is uniquely suitable for strengthening the otherwise fragile membrane of the more highly developed cell.

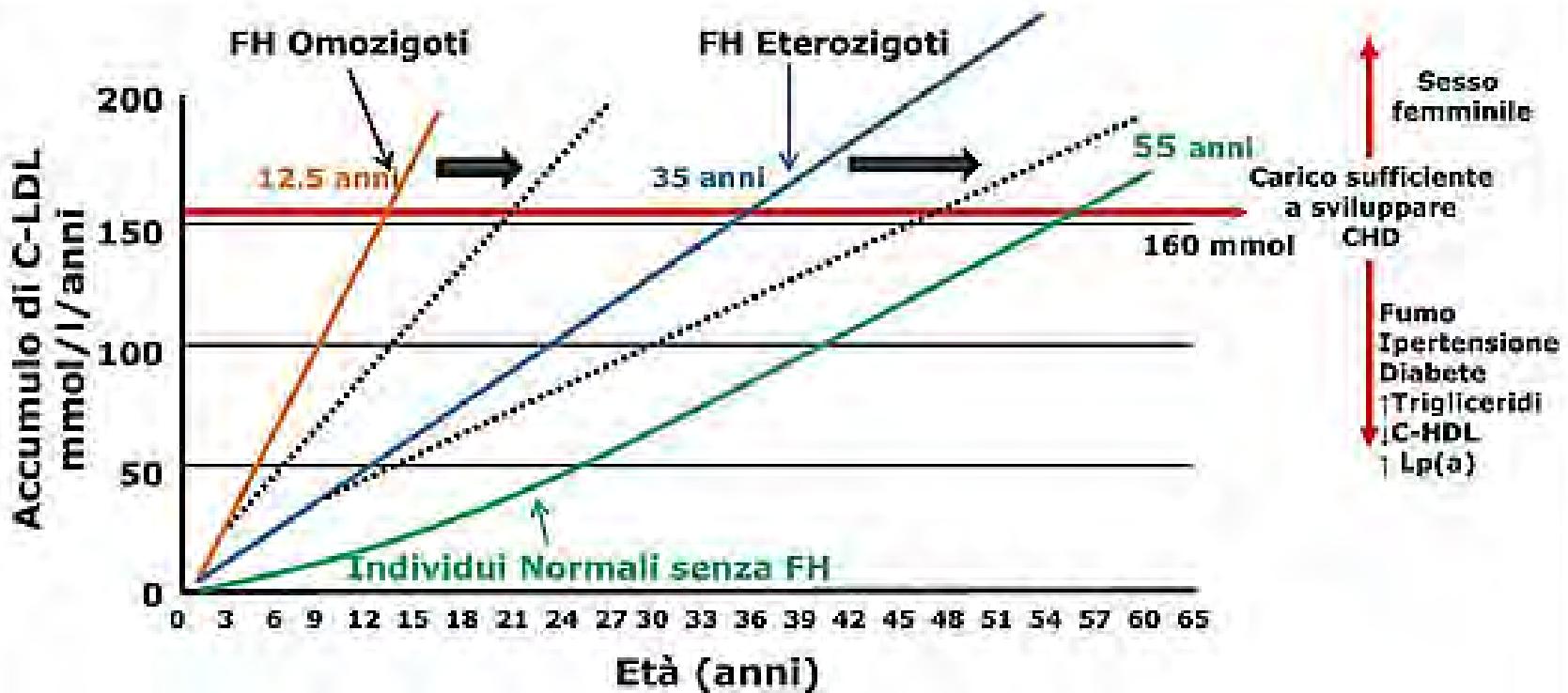


Konrad Bloch

1912 – 2000; Premio Nobel per la medicina 1964

The third reaction in the first stages is the committed and rate-limiting step: reduction of HMG-CoA to mevalonate is the major point of regulation on the pathway to cholesterol (Fig. 1). The major outlines of this pathway were completed by 1960, and Bloch and Lynen were awarded the Nobel Prize in 1964.

At the Nobel Banquet in Stockholm, December 10, 1964 when Konrad Bloch and Feodor Lynen, were awarded the Nobel Prize, S. Friberg, Rector of the Caroline Institute, made the following remarks: "Your discoveries may provide us with weapons against some of mankind's gravest maladies, above all in relation to cardiovascular diseases. Achievements like yours make it not unrealistic to look forward to a time, when mankind will not only live under vastly improved conditions, but will itself be better".<sup>20)</sup>



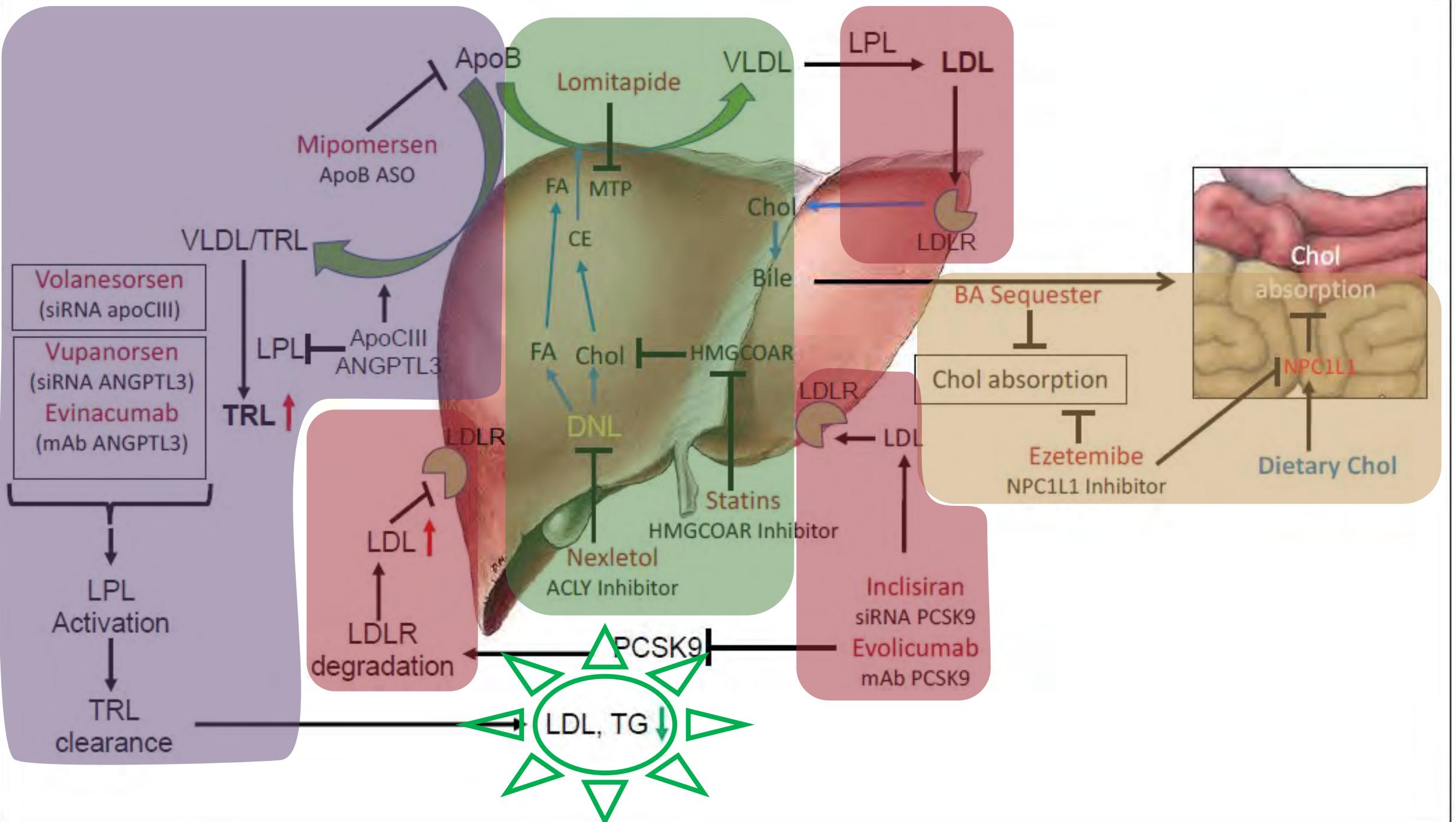
Per calcolare il carico cumulativo del C-LDL, sono stati presi in considerazione i seguenti valori medi di colesterolo:

- 1) soggetti senza FH: 80 mg/dl età 0-15 anni, 100 mg/dl 15-24 anni, 115 mg/dl 25-34, 135 mg/dl 35-54 anni
- 2) soggetti eterozigoti FH: 195 mg/dl pazienti non in terapia; 115 mg/dl se trattati, età 10-18 anni
- 3) Soggetti omozigoti FH: 500 mg/dl indipendentemente dall'età

Figura 3. Carico cumulativo del colesterolo LDL.

CHD, malattia coronarica; C-HDL, colesterolo HDL; FH, ipercolesterolemia familiare; Lp(a), lipoproteina(a).  
Modificata da Nordestgaard et al.<sup>1</sup>.

Drug Name	Drug Class	Primary Endpoint	Mechanism	Refs.
Statins	LDL lowering	LDL	HMG-CoA Inhibitor	[27,28]
Cholestyramine	Bile acid sequestrants	LDL	Bile acid binding	[32,33]
Apheresis		LDL	Apheresis	[78]
Niacin	LDL lowering	TG, LDL HDL	DGAT2 Inhibitor	[34,35]
Ezetimibe	LDL Lowering	LDL	NPC1L1 inhibitor	[29,30]
Lomitapide	LDL lowering	VLDL, LDL	MTP Inhibitor	[46]
Nexletol	LDL lowering	LDL	ACLY Inhibitor	[42,44]
Mipomersen	ASO	LDL	ApoB silencing	[46,47]
Volanesorsen	siRNA	TG	ApoCIII silencing	[58,59]
ARO-ApoCIII	siRNA	TG	ApoCIII silencing	[59]
Vupanorsen	siRNA	LDL, TG	ANGPTL3 silencing	[21]
IONIS-ANGPTL3	ASO	LDL, TG	ANGPTL3 silencing	[59]
ARO-ANG3	siRNA	LDL, TG	ANGPTL3 silencing	[59]
Evinacumab	mAb	LDL, TG	ANGPTL3 silencing	[51]
Inclisiran	siRNA	LDL	PCSK9 silencing	[72,73]
Evolocumab	mAb	LDL	PCSK9 silencing	[74,75]
Alirocumab	mAb	LDL	PCSK9 silencing	[76,77]





**Nutraceutici**



**Sequestratori degli  
acidi biliari**



**Ezetimibe**



**Icosapent-ethyl**



**Volanosersen**



**Alti valori  
di LDL**



**Acido  
Bempedoico**



**iPCSK-9**

If in AFib  
If LBBB & wide QRS  
If SR > 70 bpm



**Inclisiran  
Fibrati**



**Inibitori della  
Lp(a):  
Pelacarsen  
Olpasiran**



**LDL aferesi**



If congestion  
If recent decompensation/  
advanced heart failure

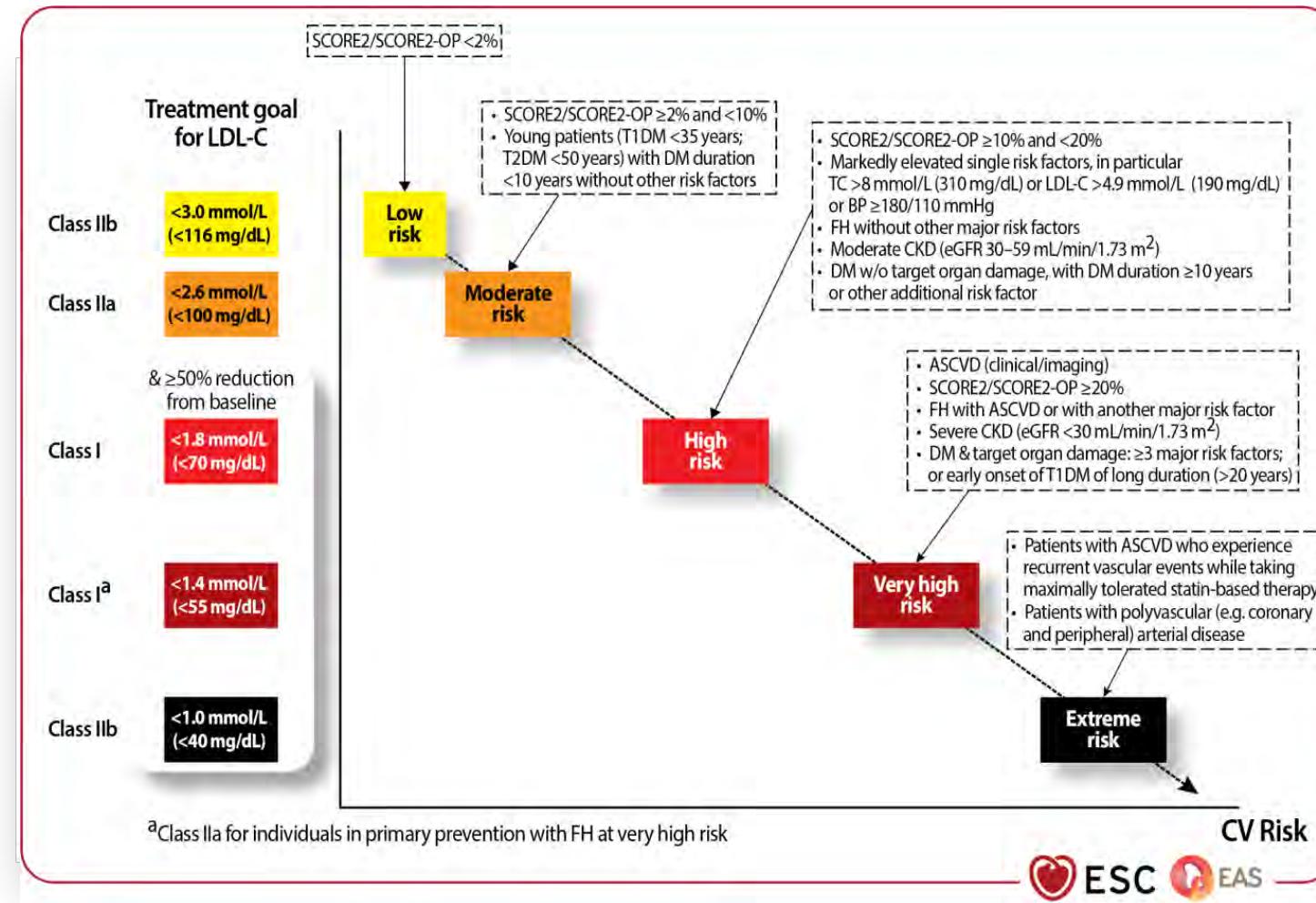


**Lomitapide  
Mipomersen**



**Evinacumab**

# I Target definiti dalle Linee Guida

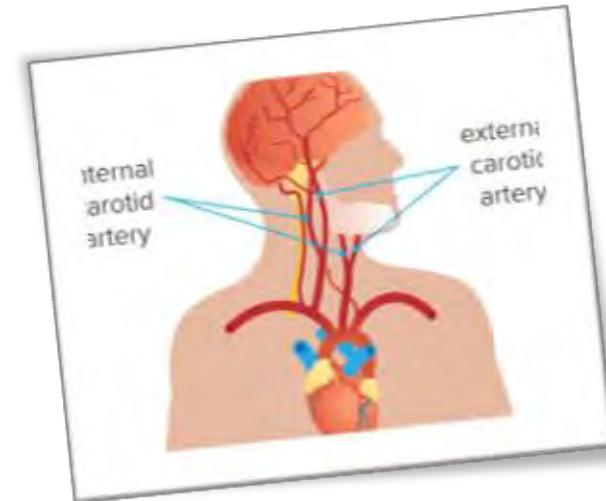


**Table 4** Cardiovascular risk categories

<b>Very-high-risk</b>	People with any of the following: Documented ASCVD, either clinical or unequivocal on imaging. Documented ASCVD includes previous ACS (MI or unstable angina), stable angina, coronary revascularization (PCI, CABG, and other arterial revascularization procedures), stroke and TIA, and peripheral arterial disease. Unequivocally documented ASCVD on imaging includes those findings that are known to be predictive of clinical events, such as significant plaque on coronary angiography or CT scan (multivessel coronary disease with two major epicardial arteries having >50% stenosis), or on carotid ultrasound. DM with target organ damage, <sup>a</sup> or at least three major risk factors, or early onset of T1DM of long duration (>20 years). Severe CKD (eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> ). A calculated SCORE ≥10% for 10-year risk of fatal CVD. FH with ASCVD or with another major risk factor. People with: Markedly elevated single risk factors, in particular TC >8 mmol/L (>310 mg/dL), LDL-C >4.9 mmol/L (>190 mg/dL), or BP ≥180/110 mmHg. Patients with FH without other major risk factors. Patients with DM without target organ damage, <sup>a</sup> with DM duration ≥10 years or another additional risk factor. Moderate CKD (eGFR 30–59 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> ). A calculated SCORE ≥5% and <10% for 10-year risk of fatal CVD.
<b>High-risk</b>	Young patients (T1DM <35 years; T2DM <50 years) with DM duration <10 years, without other risk factors. Calculated SCORE ≥1% and <5% for 10-year risk of fatal CVD.
<b>Moderate-risk</b>	Calculated SCORE <1% for 10-year risk of fatal CVD.
<b>Low-risk</b>	



**ATTENZIONE:**  
LDL < 40 se paziente con anamnesi di plurimi eventi acuti anche a carico di due distretti arteriosi differenti !!!



# Quanti pazienti a target?



European Society  
of Cardiology

European Journal of Preventive Cardiology (2021) 28, 1279–1289

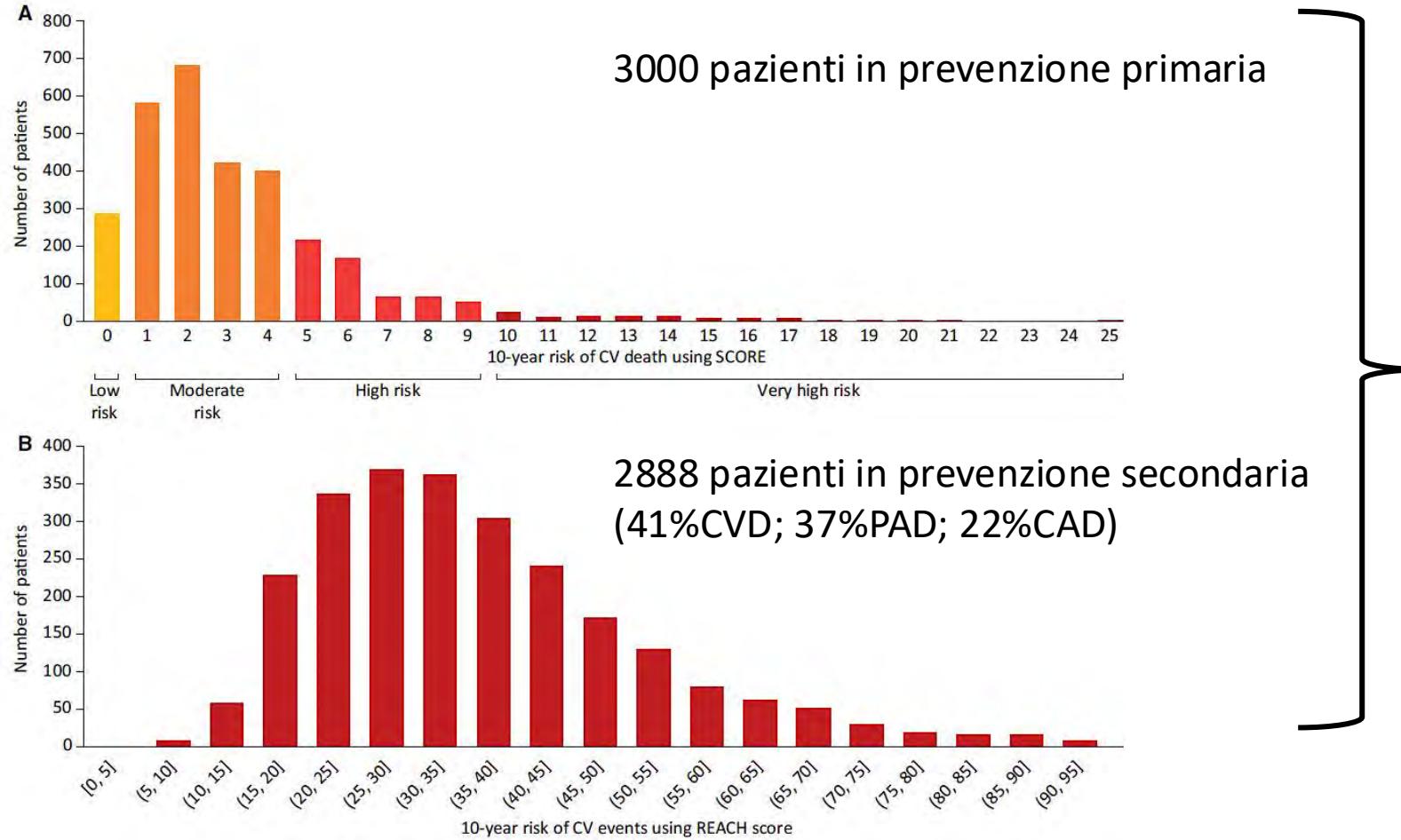
doi:10.1093/eurjpc/zwaa047

FULL RESEARCH PAPER

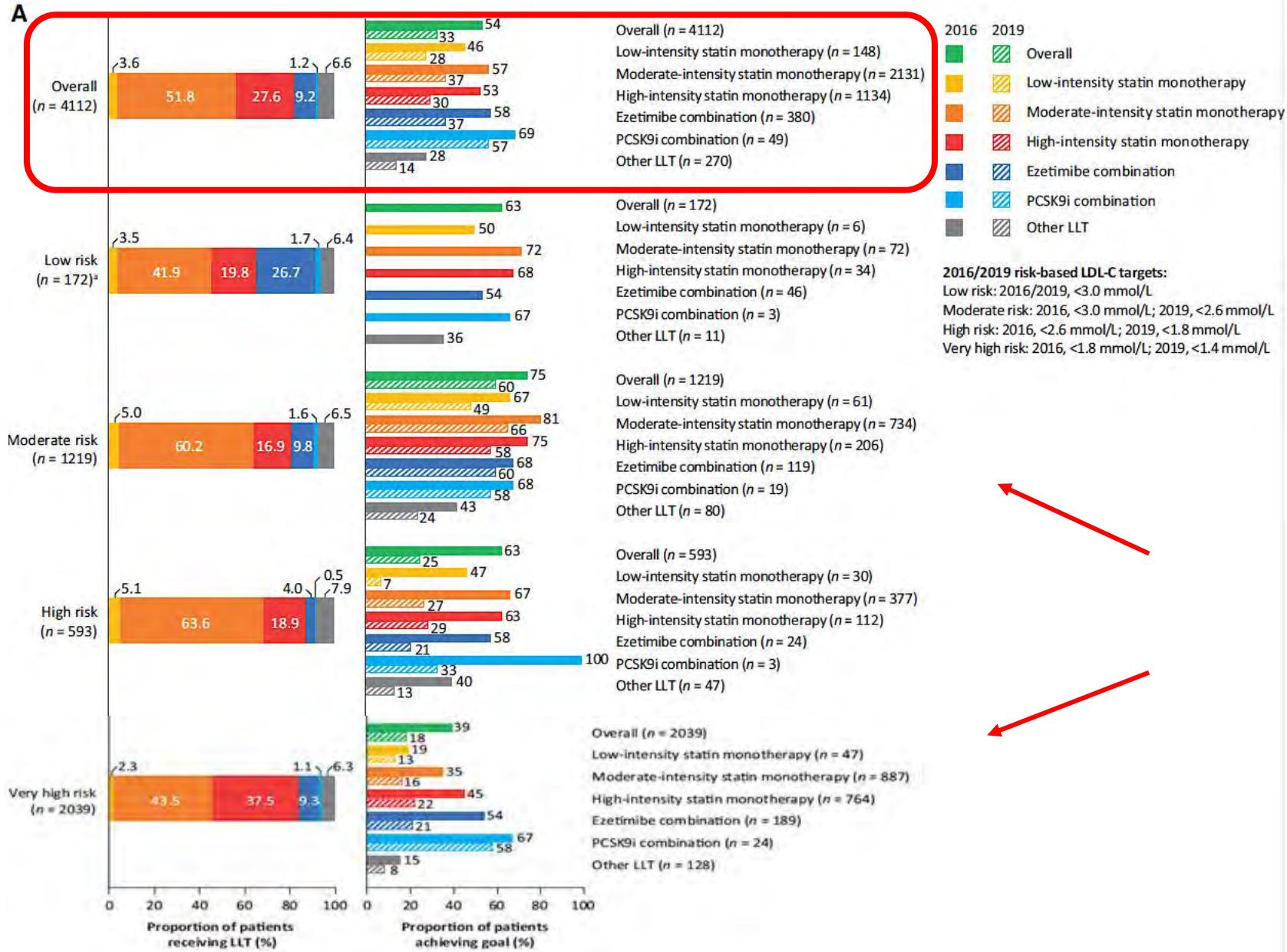
## EU-Wide Cross-Sectional Observational Study of Lipid-Modifying Therapy Use in Secondary and Primary Care: the DA VINCI study

Kausik K. Ray<sup>1\*</sup>, Bart Molemans<sup>2</sup>, W. Marieke Schoonen<sup>3</sup>, Periklis Giovas<sup>4</sup>,  
Sarah Bray<sup>5</sup>, Gaia Kiru<sup>6</sup>, Jennifer Murphy<sup>6</sup>, Maciej Banach<sup>7,8,9</sup>, Stefano De Servi<sup>10</sup>,  
Dan Gaita<sup>11</sup>, Ioanna Gouni-Berthold<sup>12</sup>, G. Kees Hovingh<sup>13</sup>, Jacek J. Jozwiak<sup>14</sup>,  
J. Wouter Jukema<sup>15</sup>, Robert Gabor Kiss<sup>16</sup>, Serge Kownator<sup>17</sup>, Helle K. Iversen<sup>18,19</sup>,  
Vincent Maher<sup>20,21</sup>, Luis Masana<sup>22</sup>, Alexander Parkhomenko<sup>23</sup>, André Peeters<sup>24</sup>,  
Piers Clifford<sup>25</sup>, Katarina Raslova<sup>26</sup>, Peter Siostrzonek  <sup>27</sup>, Stefano Romeo<sup>28,29,30</sup>,  
Dimitrios Tousoulis<sup>31</sup>, Charalambos Vlachopoulos<sup>31</sup>, Michal Vrablik<sup>32</sup>,  
Alberico L. Catapano<sup>33</sup>, and Neil R. Poulter<sup>6</sup>; on behalf of the DA VINCI study<sup>†</sup>

# Quanti pazienti a target?



5888 pazienti arruolati in 128 centri di 18 Stati da giugno '17 a novembre '18



# Quanti pazienti a target?

Treatment gaps in the implementation of LDL cholesterol control among high- and very high-risk patients in Europe between 2020 and 2021: the multinational observational SANTORINI study



Kausik K. Ray,<sup>1,2</sup> Inaam Haq,<sup>3</sup> Aikaterini Biliouzi,<sup>1</sup> Marios C. Manou,<sup>4</sup> Annie Burden,<sup>5</sup> Carlos Aguiar,<sup>6</sup> Marcello Arzo,<sup>7</sup> Derek L. Connolly,<sup>8</sup> Mats Eriksson,<sup>9</sup> Jean Ferrieres,<sup>10</sup> Ulrich Lauf,<sup>11</sup> Jose M. Mostaza,<sup>12</sup> David Nanchen,<sup>13</sup> Ernst Rietzschel,<sup>14</sup> Timo Strandberg,<sup>15,16</sup> Hermann Toplak,<sup>17</sup> Frank L. J. Visseren,<sup>18</sup> and Alberto L. Catapano,<sup>19</sup> on behalf of the SANTORINI Study Investigators<sup>20</sup>



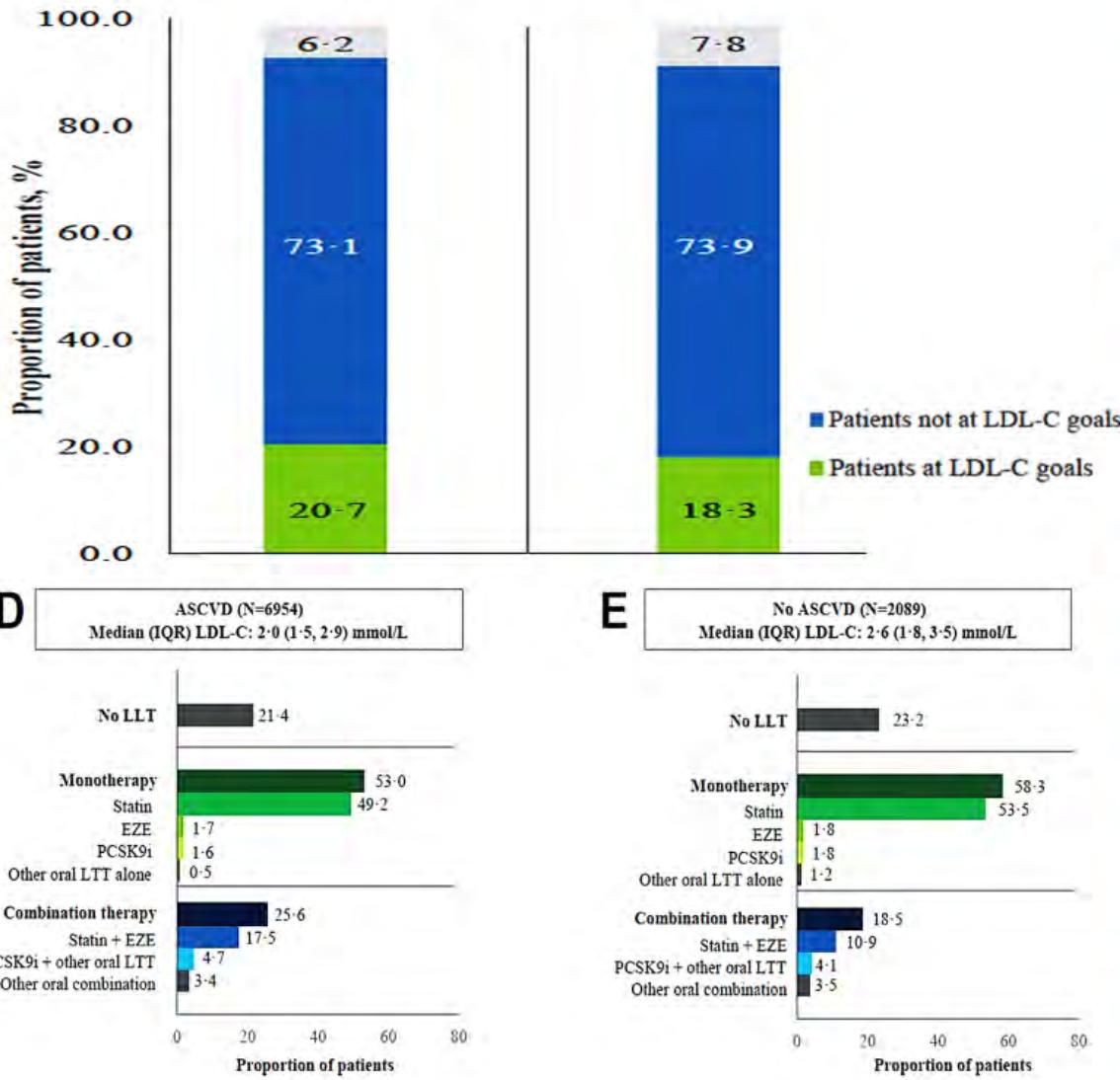
## The SANTORINI Study

- To **describe** demographics and cardiovascular (CV) risk factors of patients with and without prior ASCVD enrolled in the SANTORINI study, as well as their CV risk as assigned
- Multinational, prospective, observational study conducted in 14 European countries
- Patients aged  $\geq 18$  years with high and very high CV risk, as assessed by the investigator, and requiring LLT were enrolled between **March 2020 and February 2021**, followed by a 12-month follow-up period per patient
- **9044** patients included in this analysis; **6954** (76.9%) had a documented **history of ASCVD**



Ray KK, Haq I, Bilitou A et al. *The Lancet Regional Health* 2023

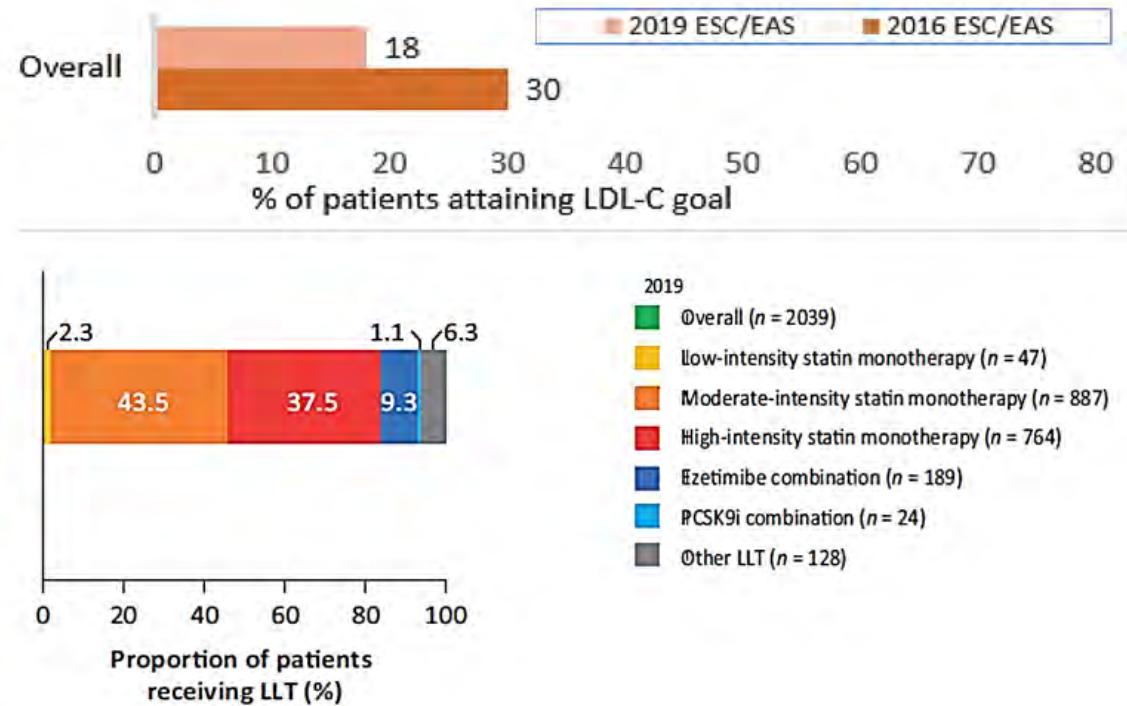
# SANTORINI



# DA VINCI

5888 pazienti con prescrizione LLT in 18 paesi europei

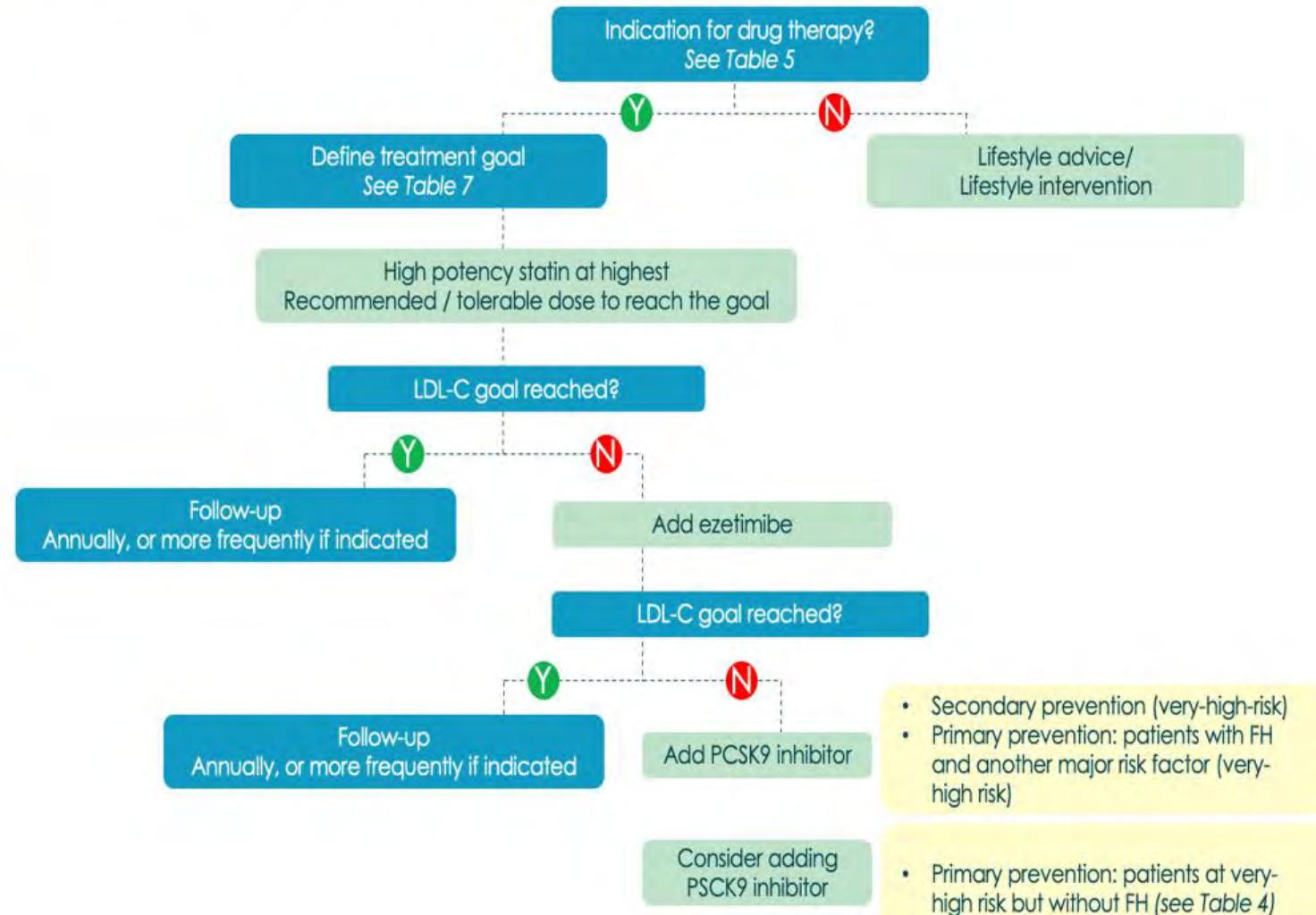
- 3000 prevenzione primaria
- 2888 secondaria (41% CVD; 37% PAD; 22% CAD)

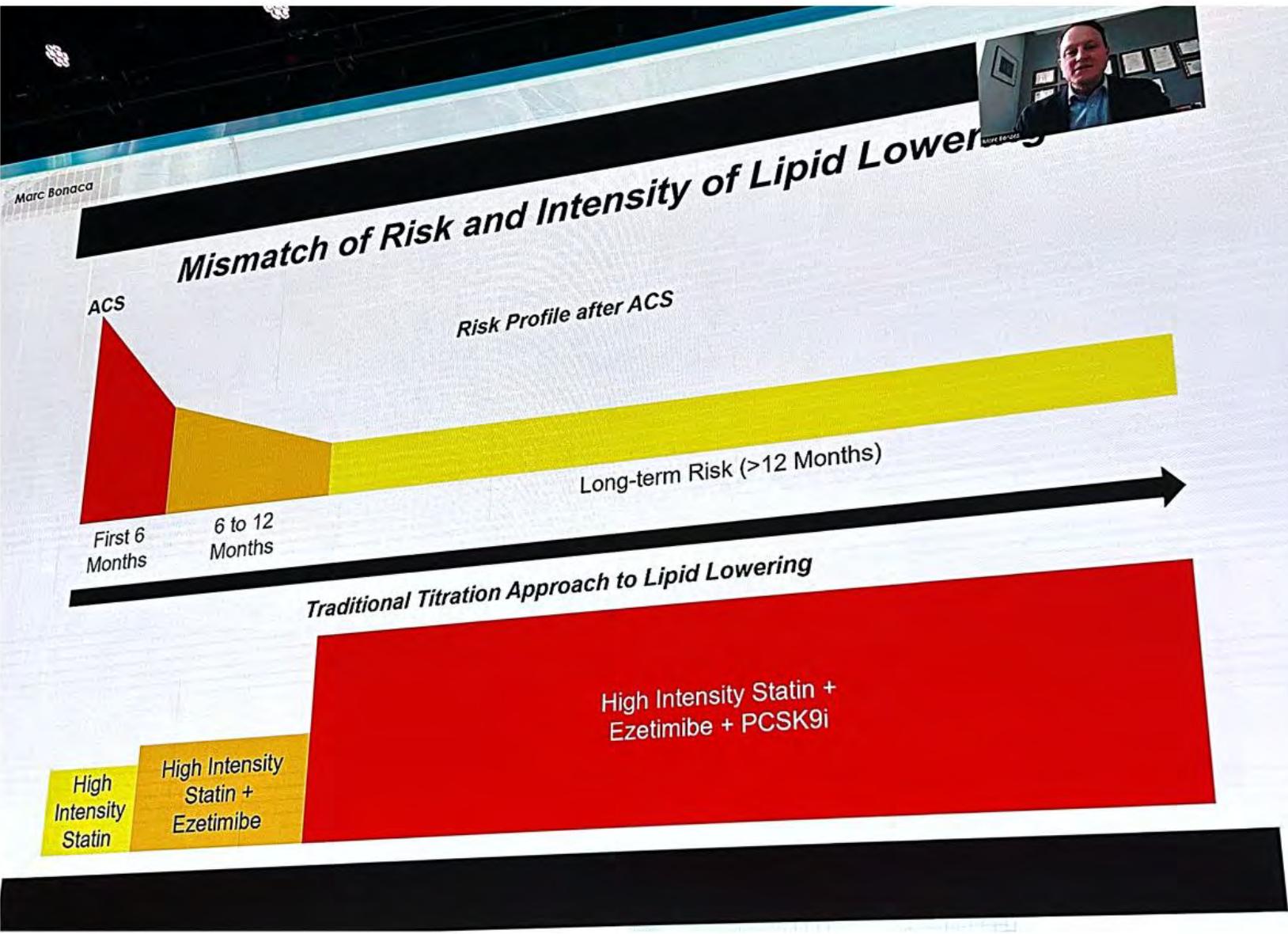


Ray KK, Molemans B, Schoonen WM et al. Eur J Prev Cardiol 2020

Jane K Stock . Atherosclerosis 2020

# STEPWISE APPROACH



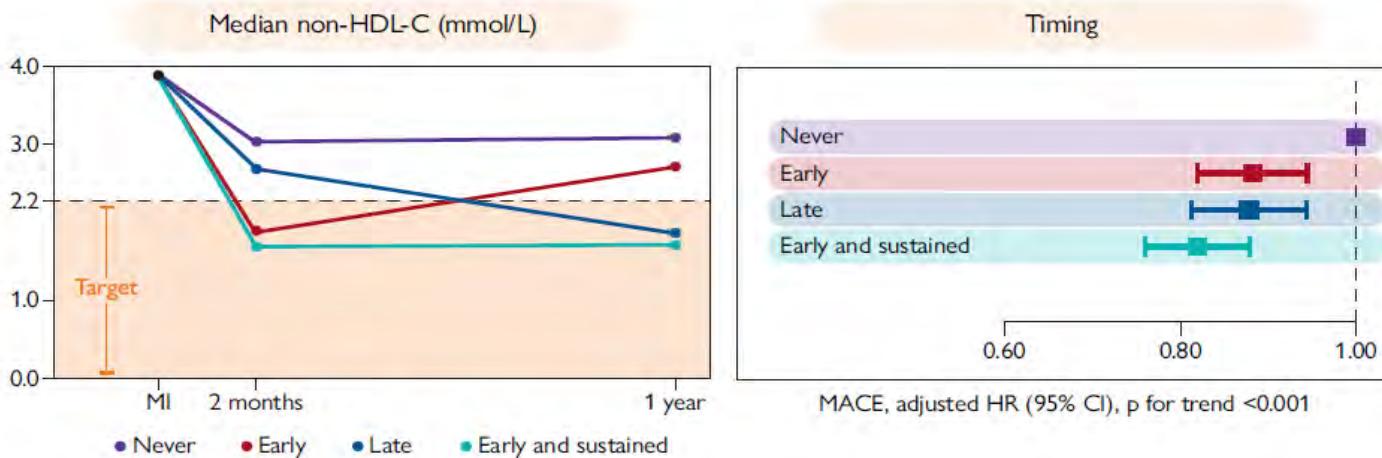


# Intensive early and sustained lowering of non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol after myocardial infarction and prognosis: the SWEDEHEART registry

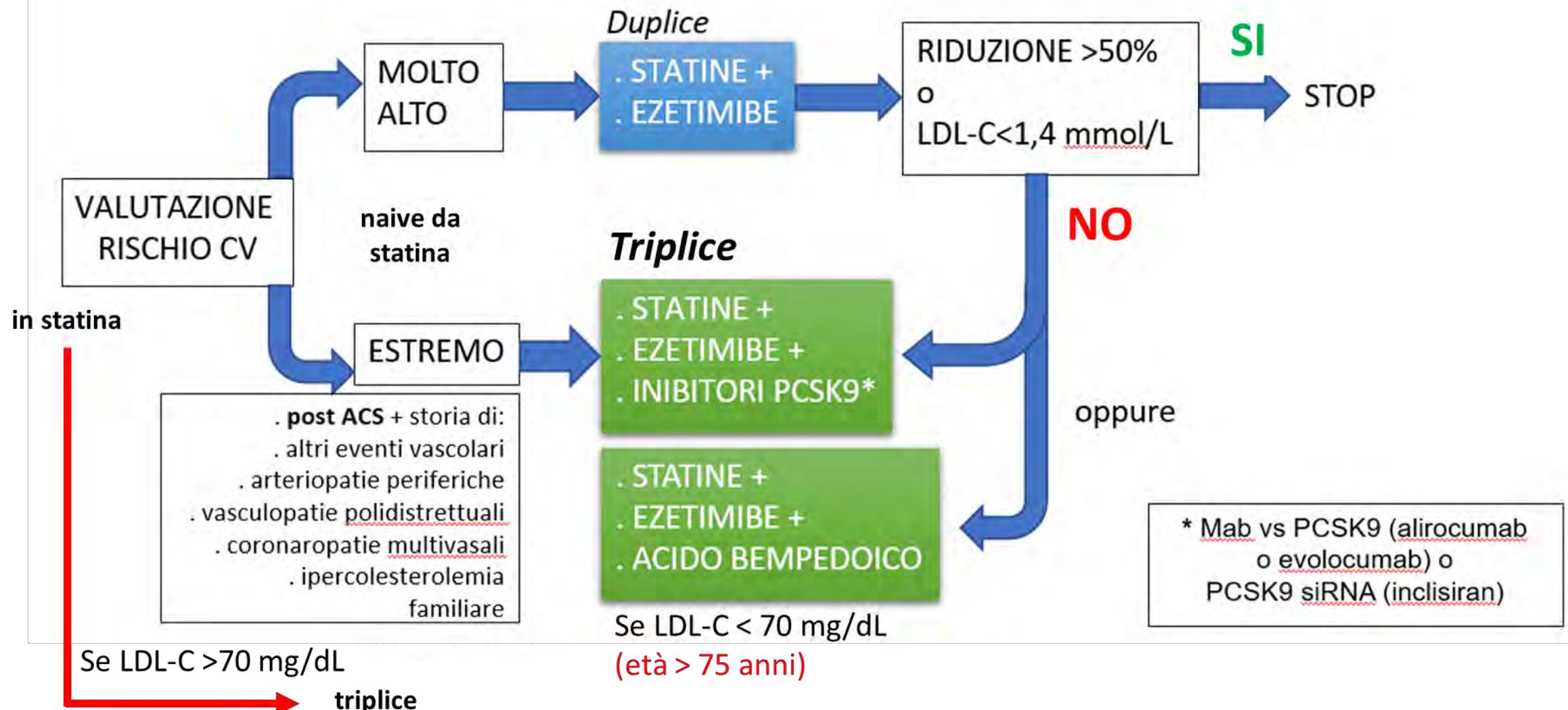
Jessica Schubert <sup>1</sup>\*, Margrét Leosdóttir <sup>2,3</sup>, Bertil Lindahl <sup>1,4</sup>,  
Johan Westerbergh <sup>4</sup>, Håkan Melhus <sup>5</sup>, Angelo Modica<sup>6</sup>, Nilo Cater <sup>1,4</sup>,  
Jonas Brinck <sup>8</sup>, Kausik K. Ray <sup>9</sup>, and Emil Hagström <sup>1,4</sup>

## Timing of reaching and duration of staying at non-HDL-C target

46 518 patients with MI and 7407 MACE (all-cause mortality, MI, or stroke)

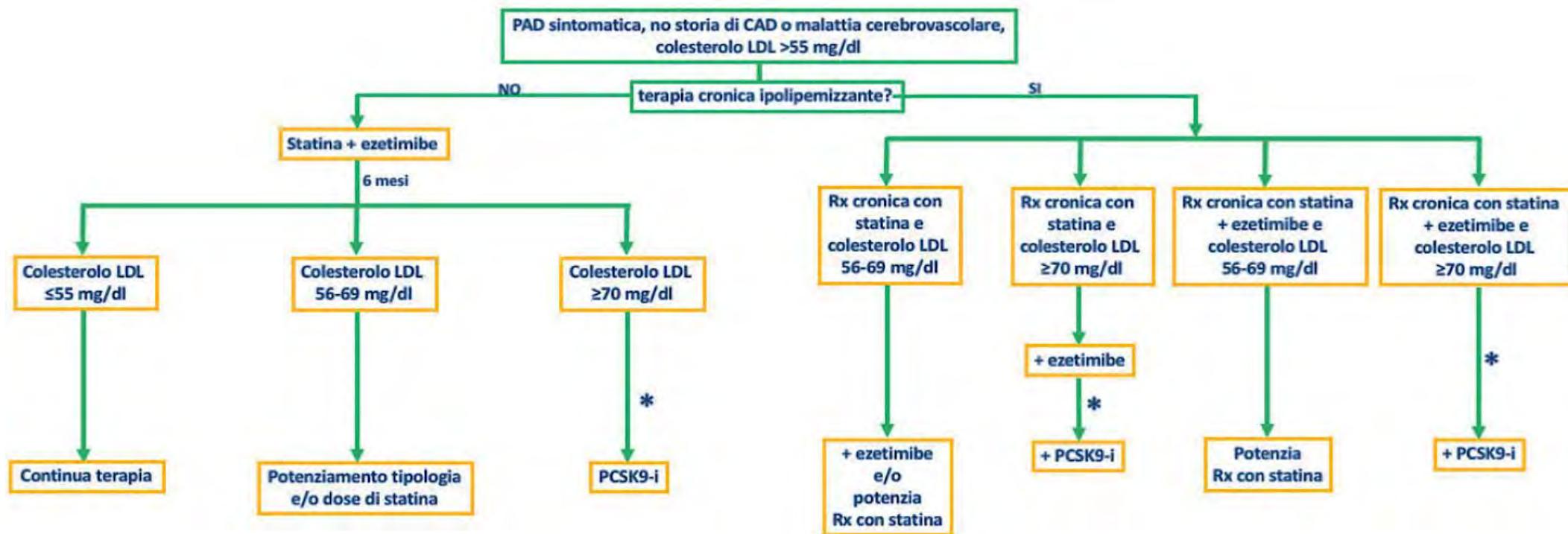


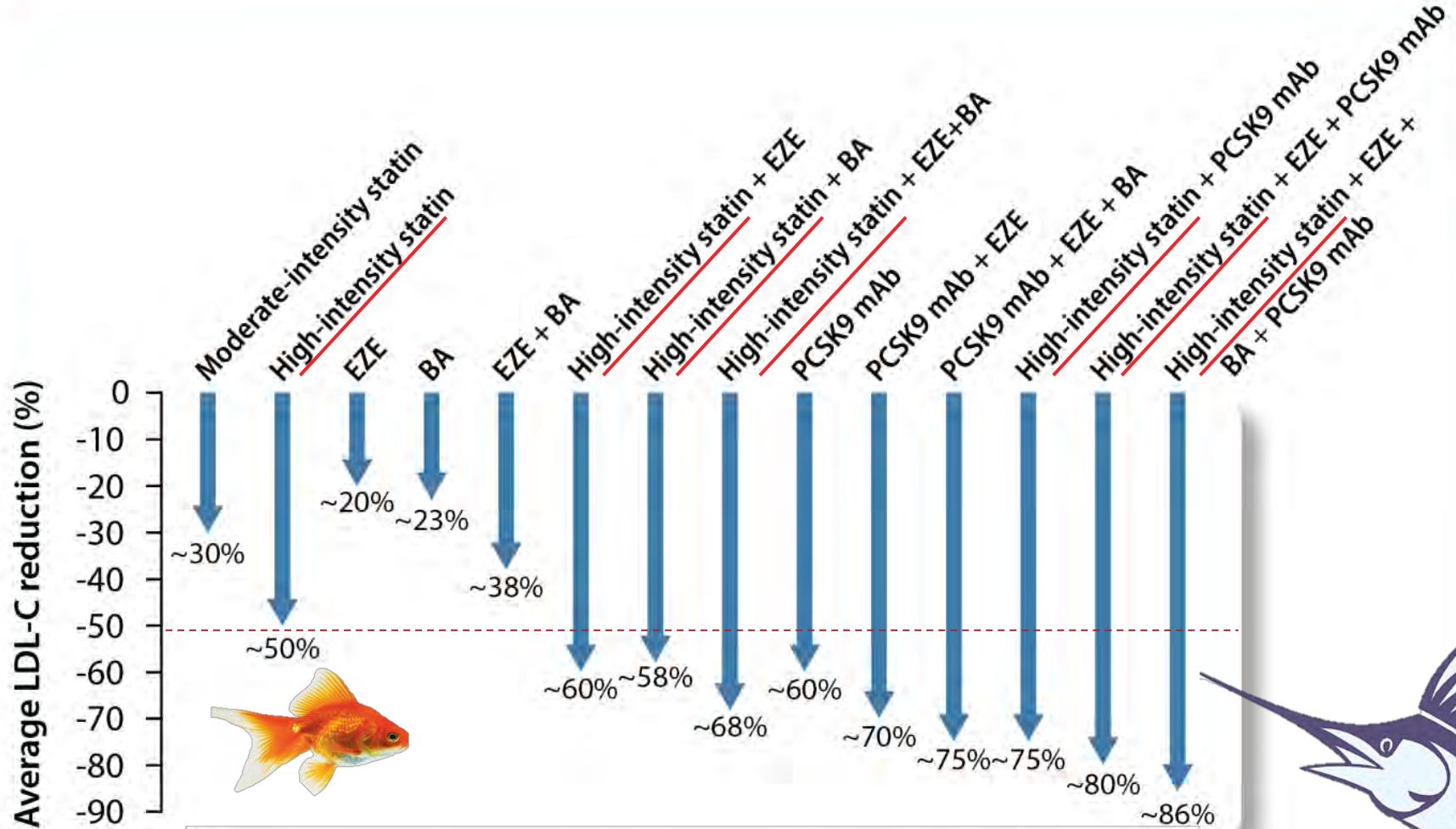
# Come superare le barriere all'implementazione delle strategie di prevenzione e cura della malattia cardiovascolare aterosclerotica mediante terapia



# Proposta di percorso diagnostico-terapeutico assistenziale della Regione Piemonte sulla terapia ipolipemizzante ed antitrombotica in pazienti con malattia delle arterie periferiche

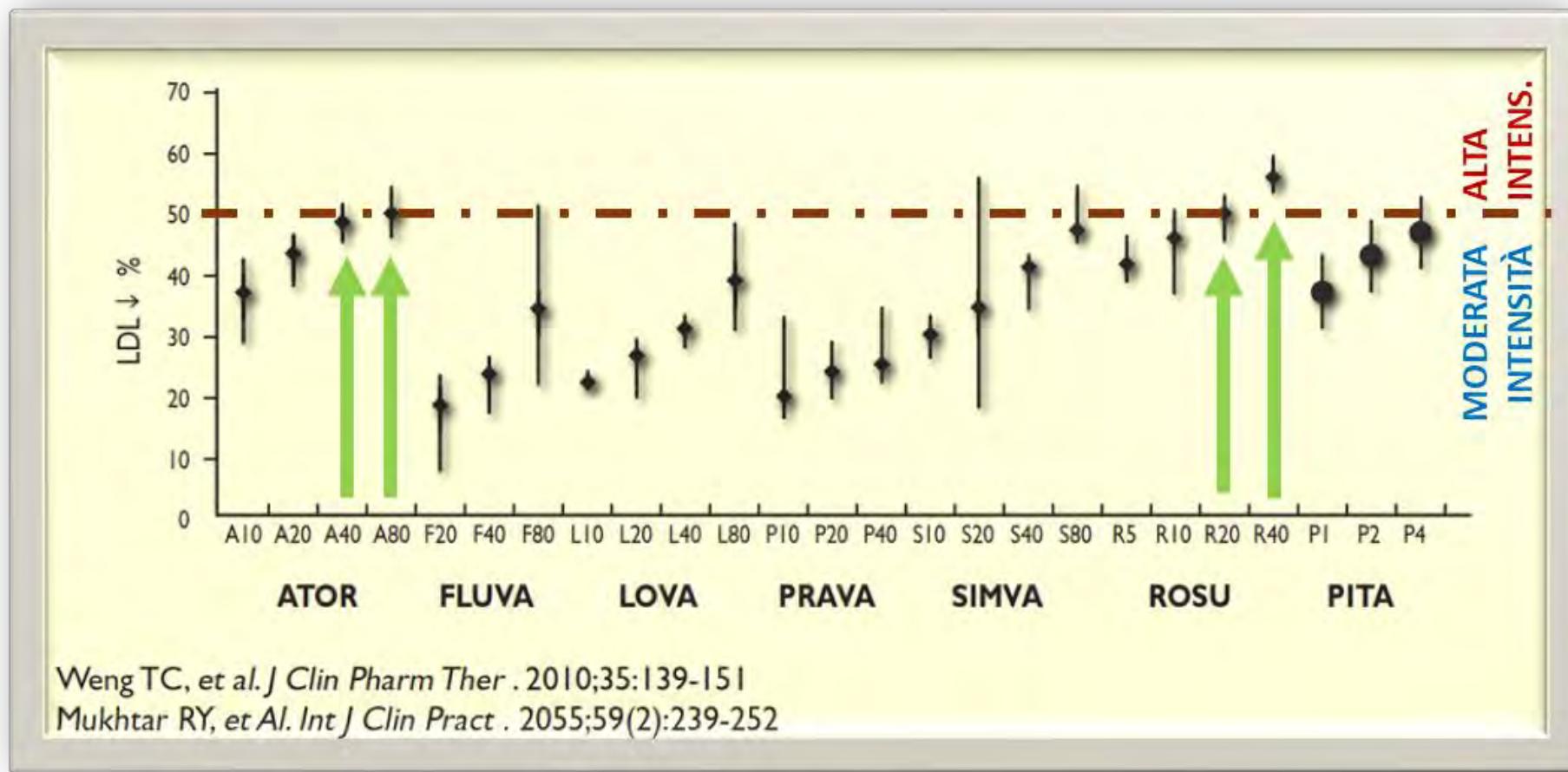
Giuseppe Patti<sup>1</sup>, Ferdinando Varbella<sup>2</sup>, Andrea Gaggiano<sup>3</sup>, Marco Mennuni<sup>1</sup>, Gianmarco Annibali<sup>4</sup>, Dario Celentani<sup>2</sup>, Fabrizio Del Nevo<sup>4</sup>, Salvatore Piazza<sup>3</sup>, Giuseppe Musumeci<sup>4</sup>, a nome della Società Italiana di Cardiologia (SIC) Piemonte, dell'Associazione Nazionale Medici Cardiologi Ospedalieri (ANMCO) Piemonte e della Rete delle Chirurgie Vascolari del Piemonte



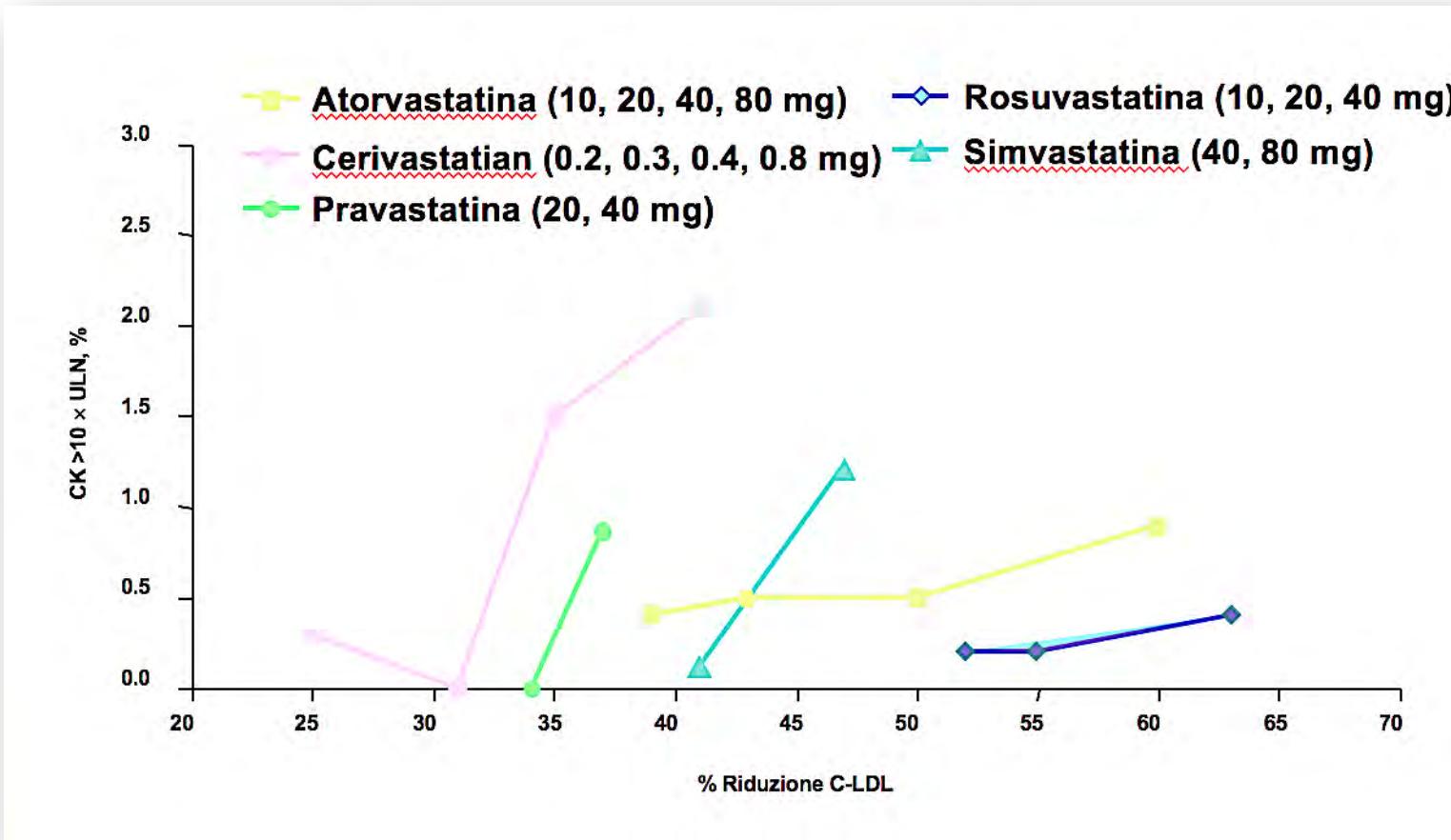


ESC EAS

# C'è statina e statina...

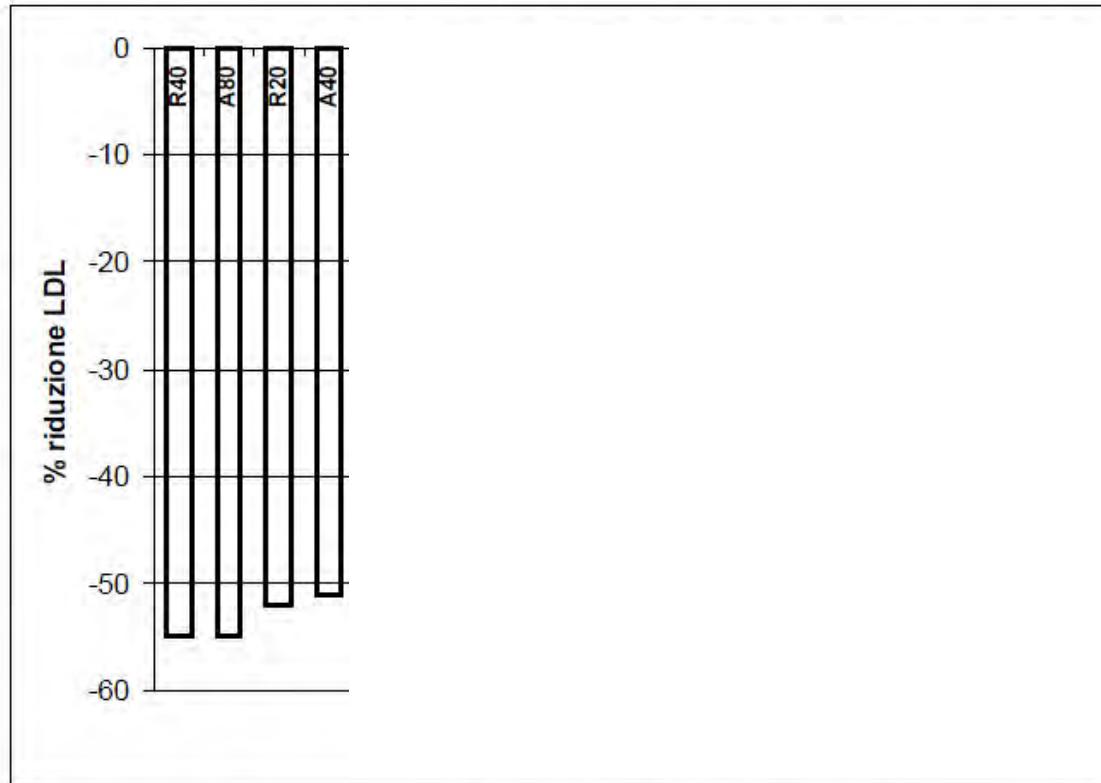


# C'è statina e statina...



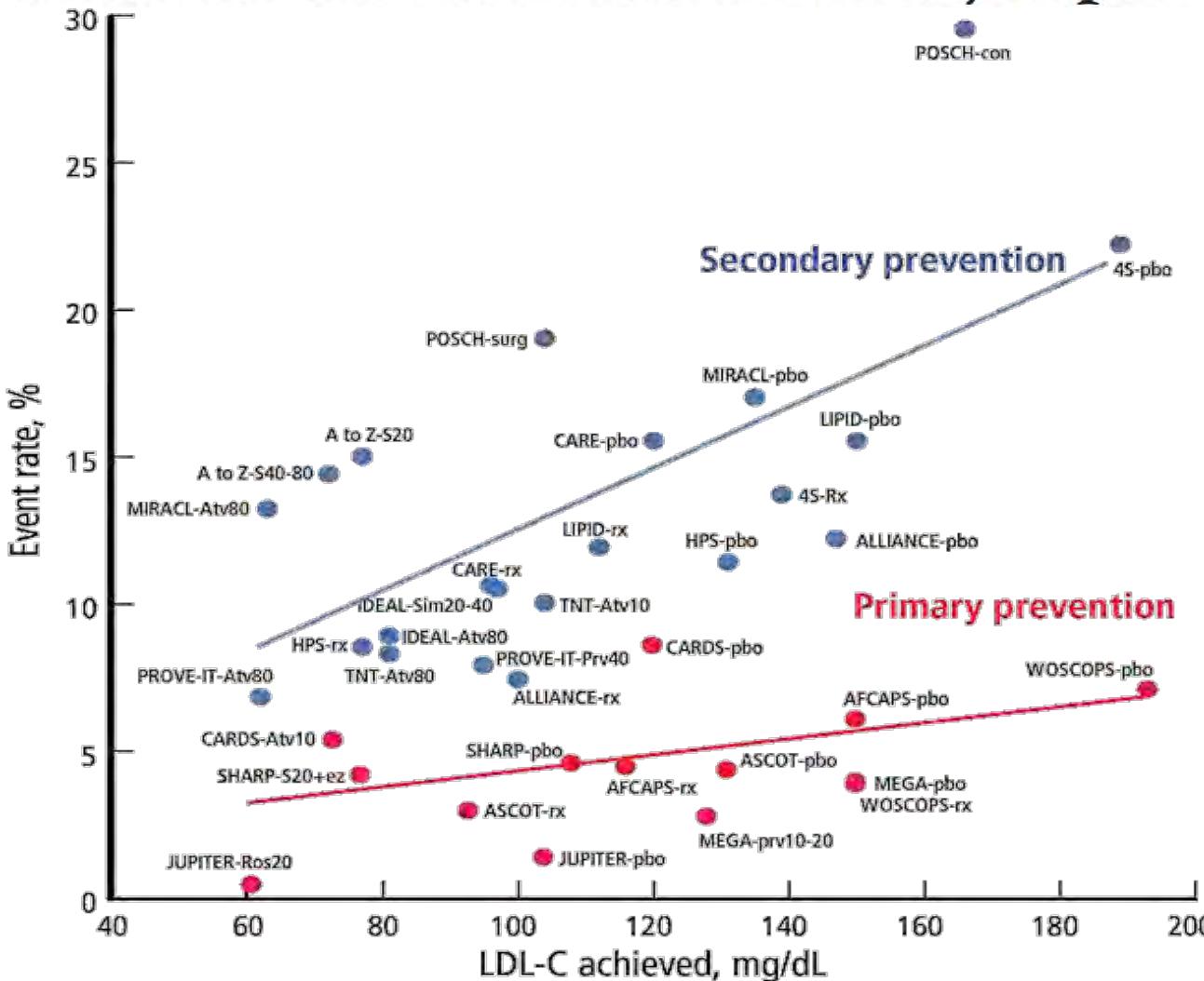
La seguente figura presenta l'entità della riduzione del colesterolo LDL ottenibile con le diverse statine ai diversi dosaggi disponibili in commercio.

**Grafico della riduzione percentuale del colesterolo LDL adattato dal documento del NHS Foundation Trust “*Guidelines on statin prescribing in the prevention of cardiovascular disease*” (2006).**



*I principi attivi più efficaci sono sulla sinistra del grafico (A=atorvastatina F=fluvastatina P=pravastatina R=rosuvastatina S=simvastatina L=lovastatina. La dose è indicata dopo la lettera che indica il farmaco)*

## Advances in the treatment of dyslipidemia



# The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

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VOL. 372 NO. 25

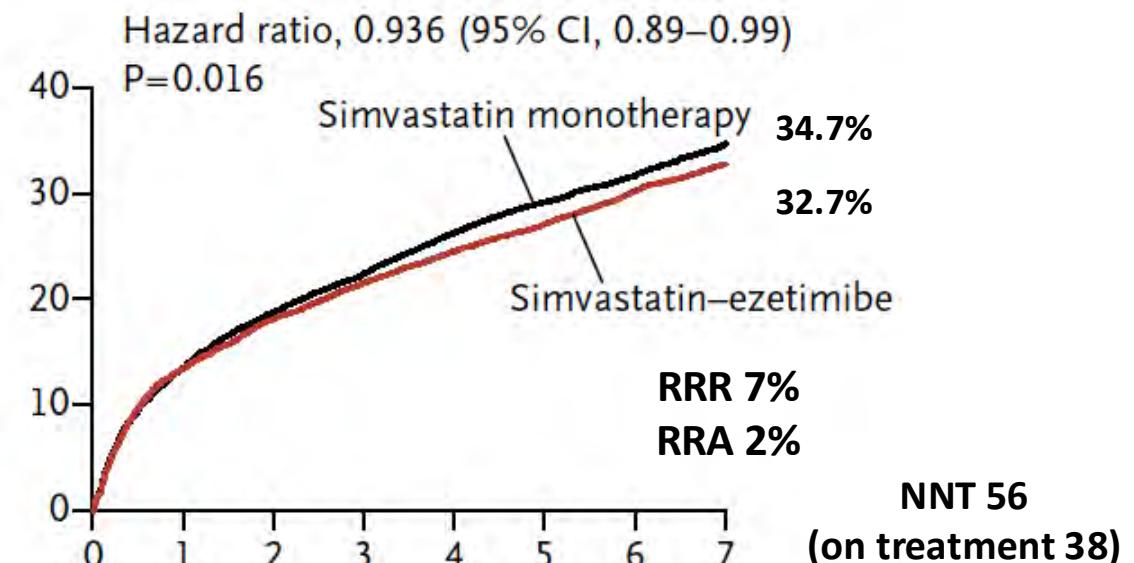
## Ezetimibe Added to Statin Therapy after Acute Coronary Syndromes

Christopher P. Cannon, M.D., Michael A. Blazing, M.D., Robert P. Giugliano, M.D., Amy McCagg, B.S., Jennifer A. White, M.S., Pierre Theroux, M.D., Harald Darius, M.D., Basil S. Lewis, M.D.,

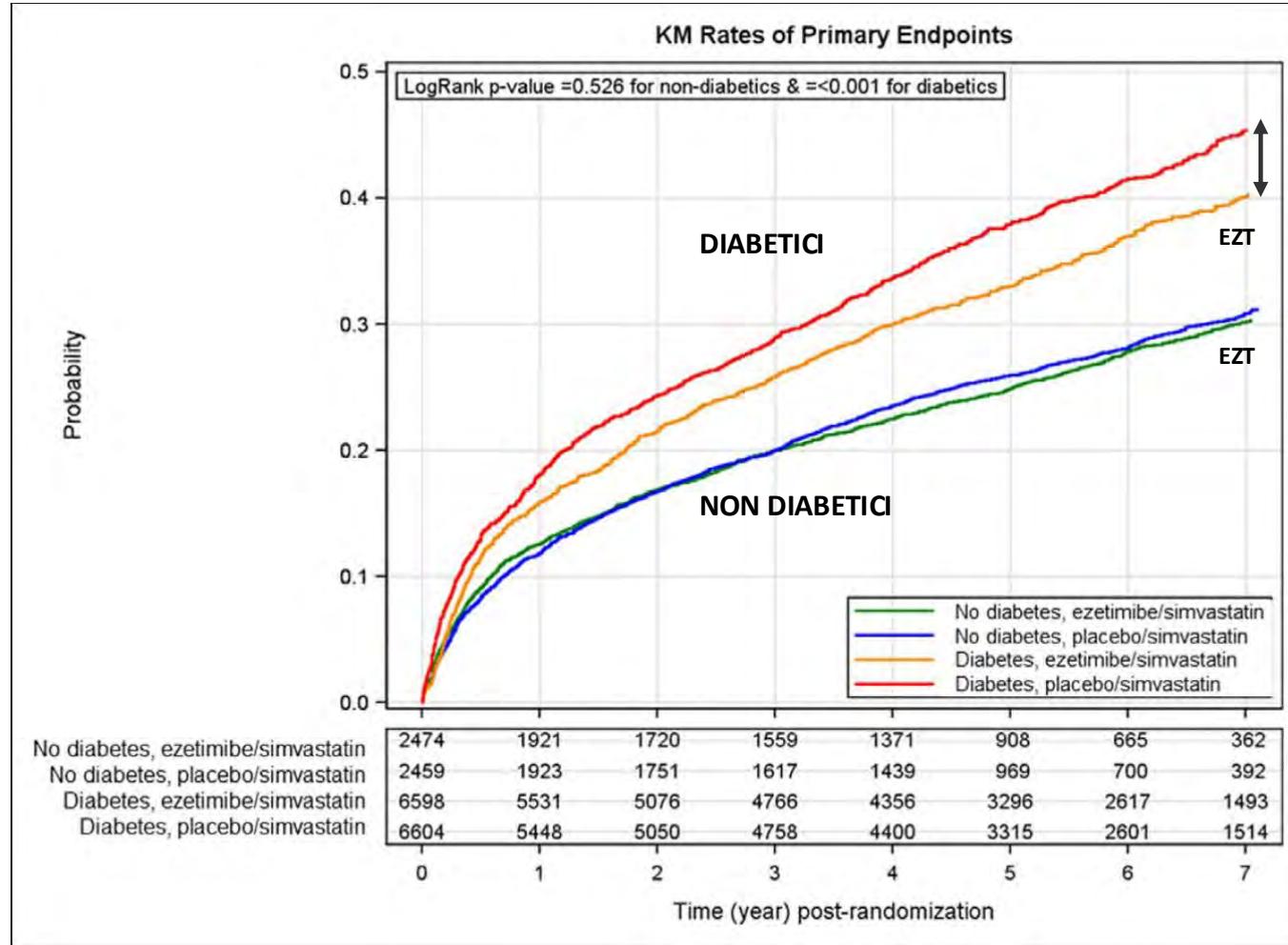
Ton Oude Ophuis, M.D., Ph.D., J. Wouter Jukema, M.D., Ph.D., Gaetano M. De Ferrari, M.D., Witold Ruzyllo, M.D., Paul De Lucca, Ph.D., KyungAh Im, Ph.D., Erin A. Bohula, M.D., D.Phil., Craig Reist, Ph.D., Stephen D. Wiviott, M.D., Andrew M. Tershakovec, M.D., M.P.H., Thomas A. Musliner, M.D., Eugene Braunwald, M.D., and Robert M. Califf, M.D., for the IMPROVE-IT Investigators\*

>18.000 pz a meno di 10 gg da SCA  
**FOLLOW UP 7 ANNI**  
**Sim/Eze 40 + 10 mg**  
VS  
**Simvastatin 40 mg**  
**(42% discontinuation)**

- End point composito:**
- morte cardiovasc.
  - infarto non fatale
  - ospedalizz. per SCA
  - rivascolarizzazione
  - stroke non fatale

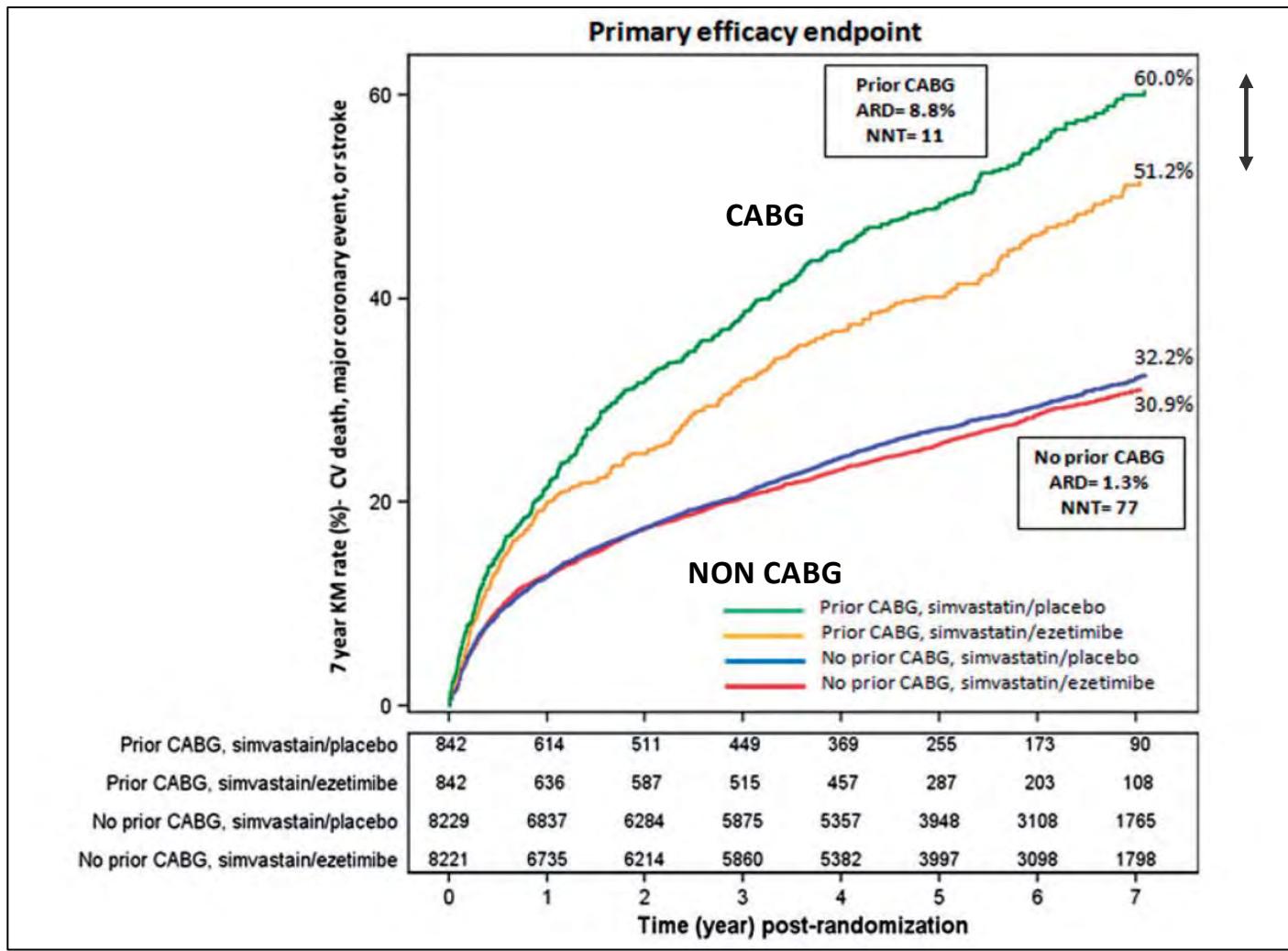


# IMPROVE-IT – sottoanalisi pz. diabetici



Cannon CP, Blazing MA, Giugliano RP et al. *N Engl J Med*  
2015

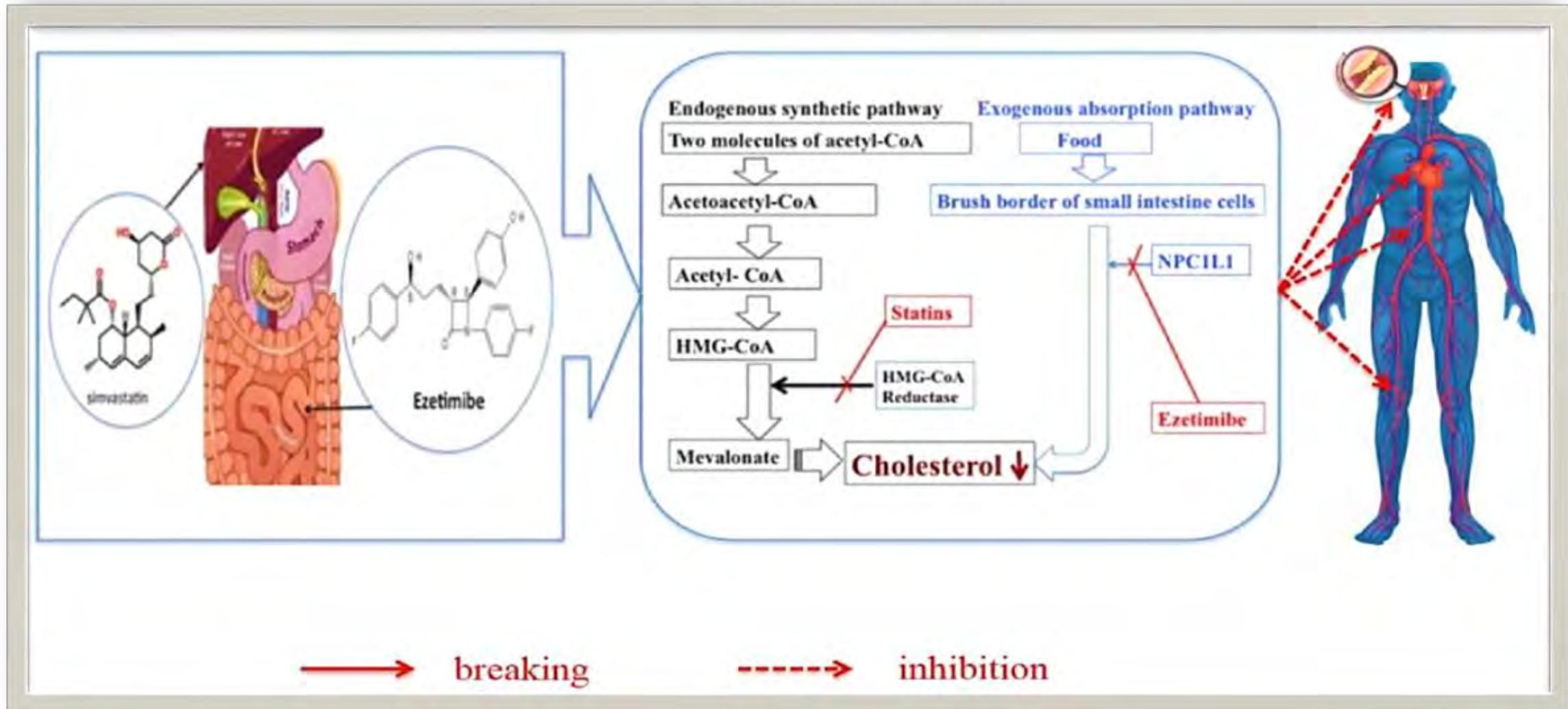
# IMPROVE-IT – sottoanalisi pz. BPAC



8.8% RRA  
20% RRR  
NNT 11 vs 56

Cannon CP, Blazing MA, Giugliano RP et al. *N Engl J Med*  
2015

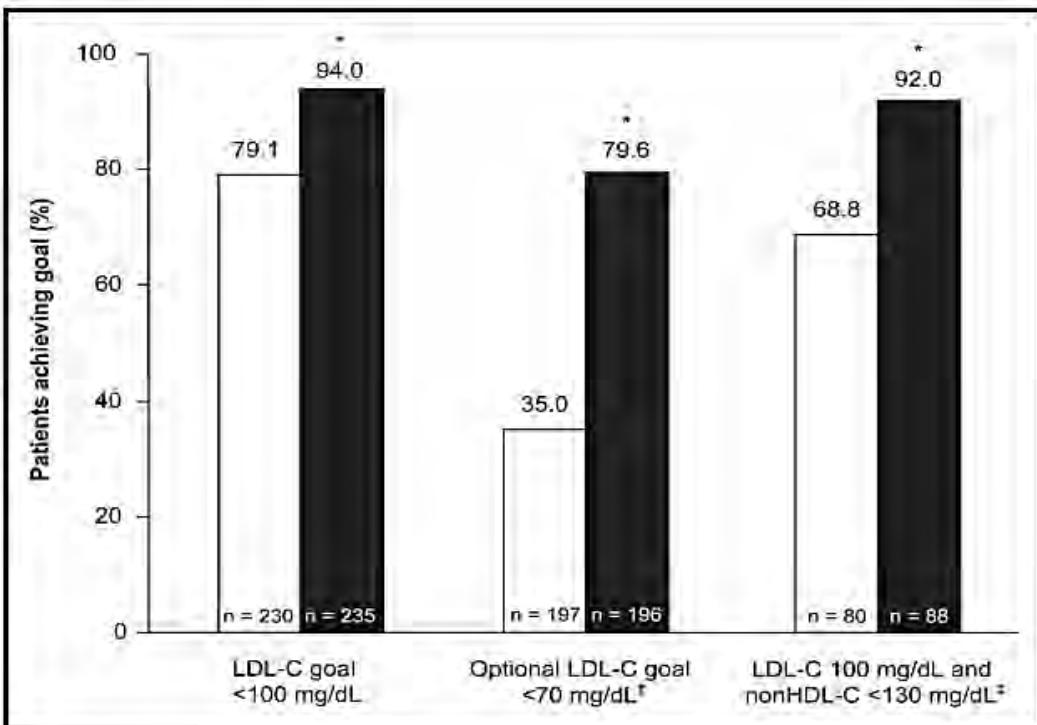
# STELLAR



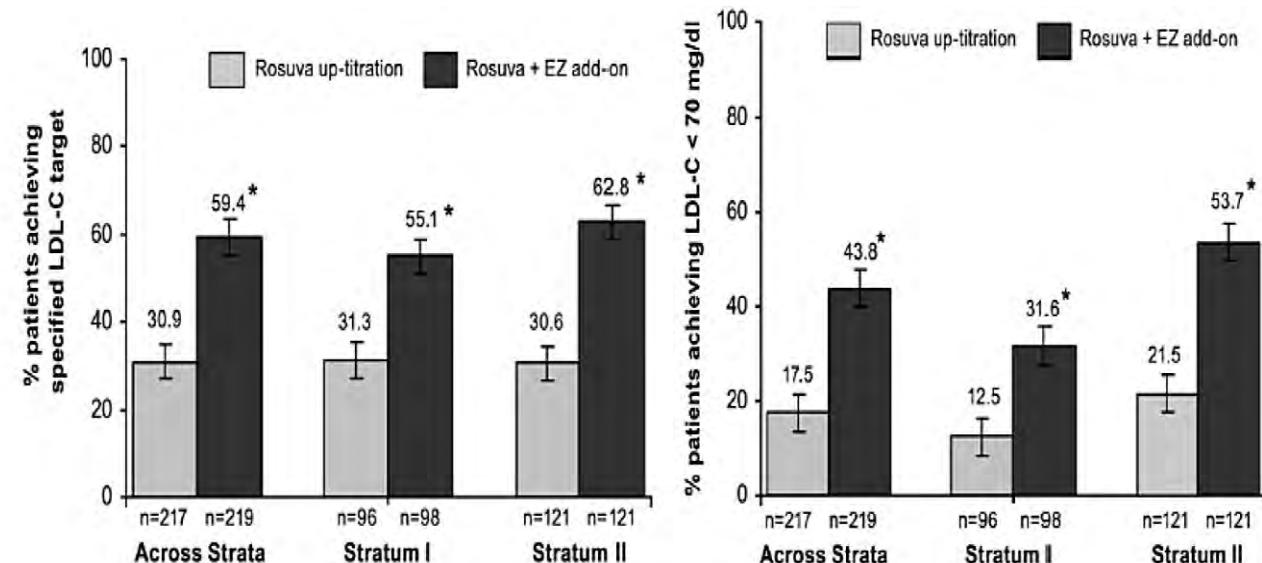
# MONOTERAPIA CON ROSUVASTATINA O AGGIUNTA DI EZETIMIBE?

## Efficacy and Safety of Rosuvastatin 40 mg Alone or in Combination With Ezetimibe in Patients at High Risk of Cardiovascular Disease (Results from the EXPLORER Study)

Christie M. Ballantyne, MD<sup>a,\*</sup>, Robert Weiss, MD<sup>b</sup>, Tiziano Moccetti, MD<sup>c</sup>, Anja Vogt, MD<sup>d</sup>, Bernd Eber, MD<sup>e</sup>, Froukje Sosef, MD<sup>f</sup>, and Emma Duffield, MSc<sup>f</sup>,  
for the EXPLORER Study Investigators



## Safety and Efficacy of Ezetimibe Added on to Rosuvastatin 5 or 10 mg Versus Up-Titration of Rosuvastatin in Patients With Hypercholesterolemia (the ACTE Study)

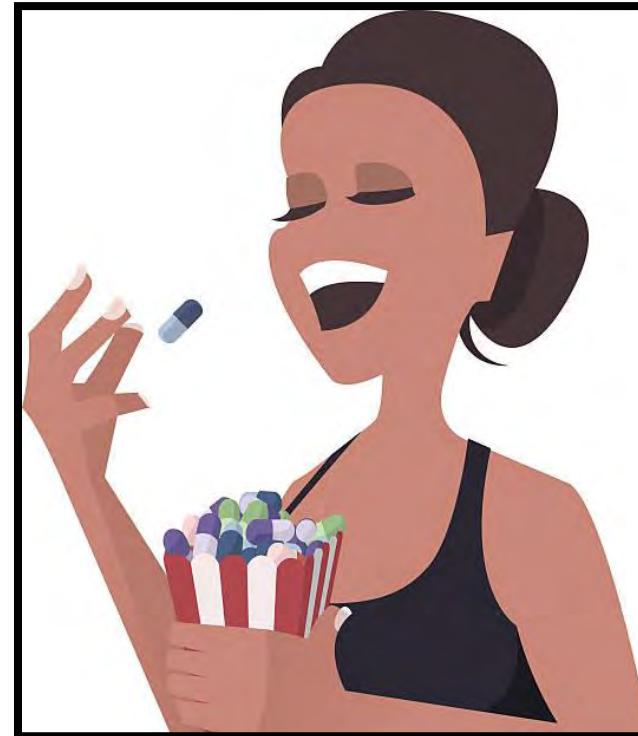


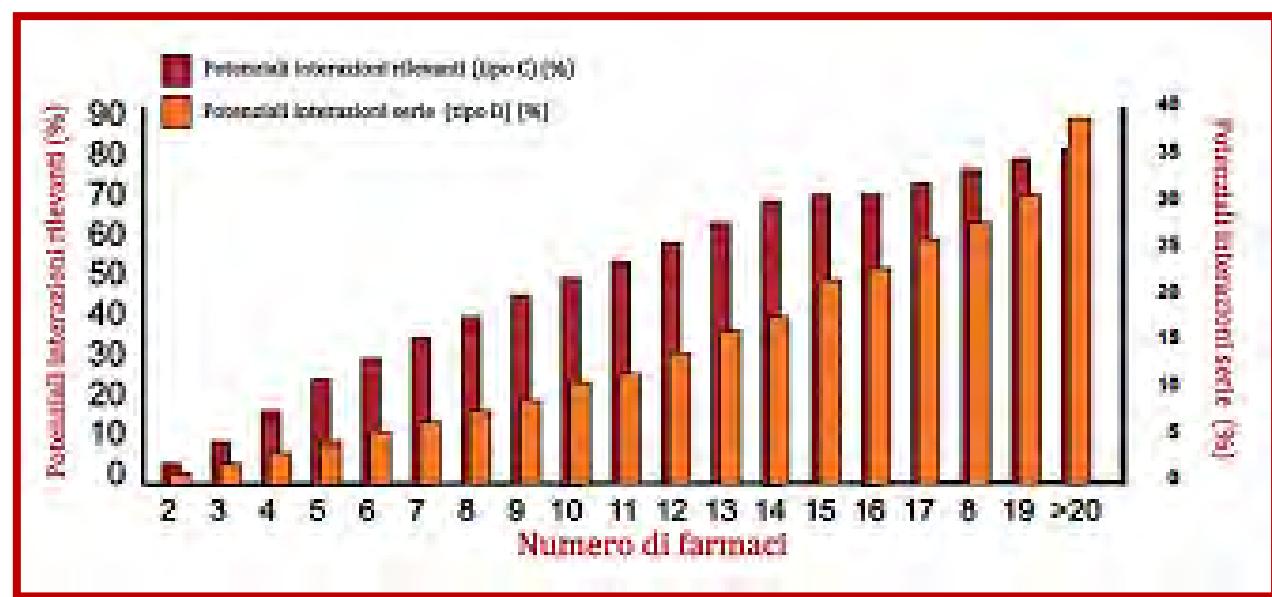
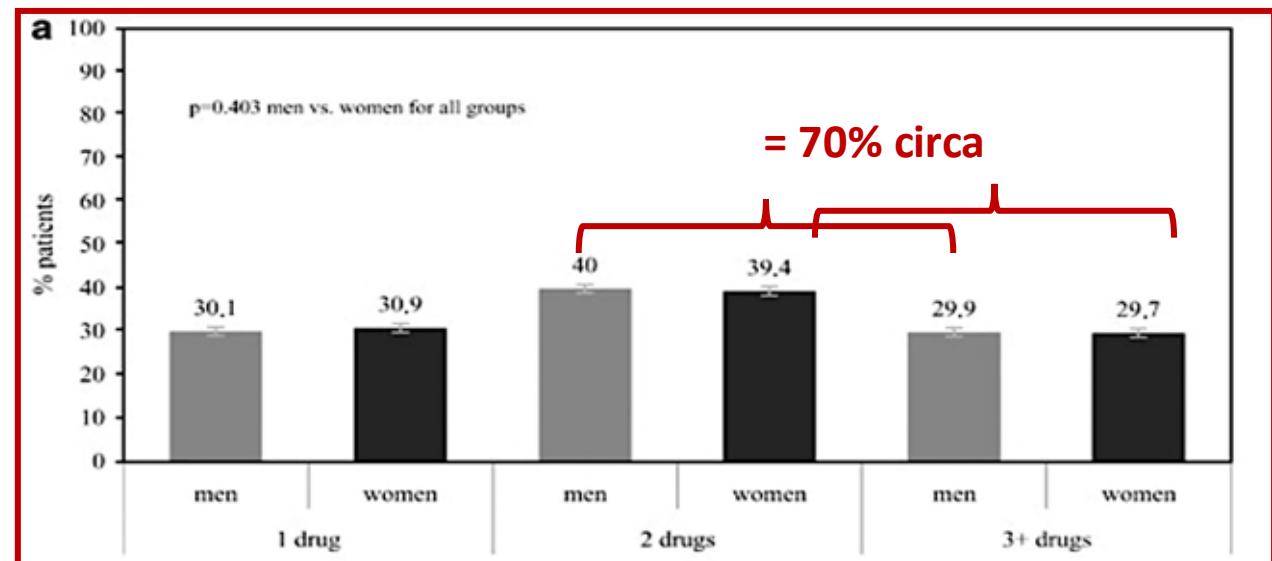
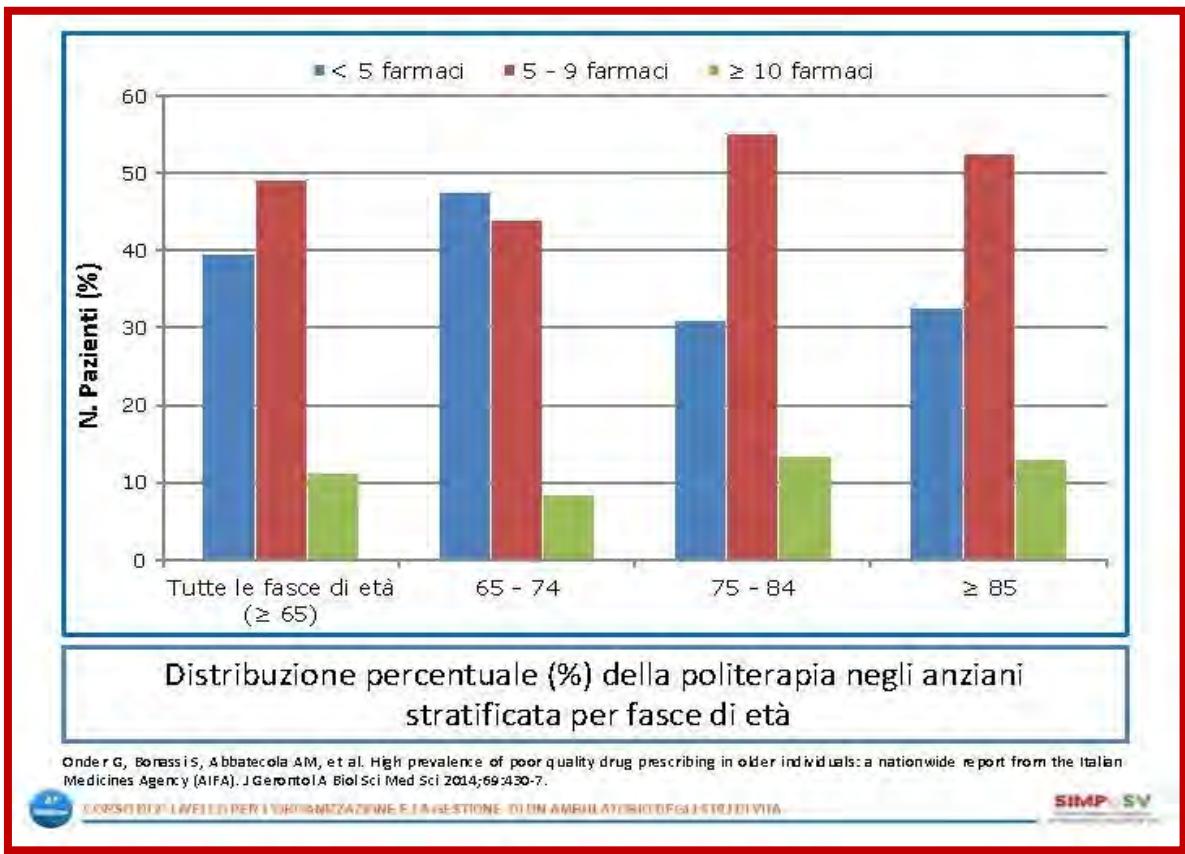
- ♦ Across Strata all ezetimibe 10 mg add-on to rosuvastatin (5 mg, 10 mg) versus all rosuvastatin up-titration (10 mg, 20 mg);
- ♦ Stratum I ezetimibe 10 mg add-on to rosuvastatin 5 mg versus rosuvastatin 10 mg;
- ♦ Stratum II ezetimibe 10 mg add-on to rosuvastatin 10 mg versus rosuvastatin 20 mg. \*p 0.001.

Bays HE et al. Am J Cardiol 2011



# Il problema dei tre corpi





Categories of Nonadherence	Examples
Health system	Poor quality of provider-patient relationship; poor communication; lack of access to healthcare; lack of continuity of care
Condition	Asymptomatic chronic disease (lack of physical cues); mental health disorders (eg, depression)
Patient	Physical impairments (eg, vision problems or impaired dexterity); cognitive impairment; psychological/behavioral; younger age; nonwhite race
<u>Therapy</u>	<u>Complexity of regimen; side effects</u>
Socioeconomic	Low literacy; higher medication costs; poor social support

# Associazione precostituita o polipilla?

Fixed Dose Combinations refer to products containing one or more active ingredients used for a particular indication(s).



**Central Drugs Standard Control Organization**  
Directorate General of Health Services  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
Government of India

A **polypill** is a type of [drug combination](#) consisting of a single drug product in pill form (i.e., [tablet](#) or [capsule](#)) and thus [combines](#) multiple [medications](#) (that is, more than one [active pharmaceutical ingredient](#)). The prefix "poly" means "multiple", referring to the multiplicity of distinct drugs in a given "pill". In precise [usage](#), a pill is a polypill if it contains at least 4 drugs (meaning that [fixed-dose combinations](#) of 2 or 3 drugs are not polypills). An occasional synonym is [combopill](#). A polypill is commonly targets treatment or prevention of [chronic conditions](#).<sup>[1]</sup>



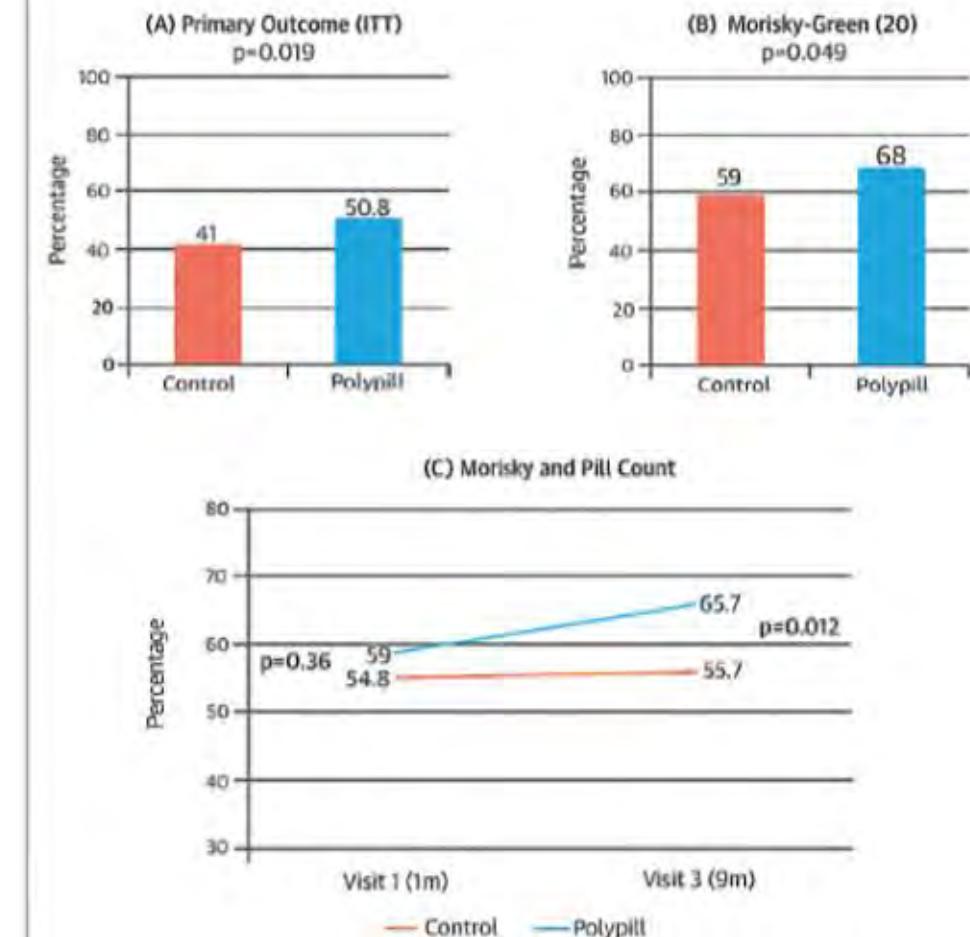
ORIGINAL INVESTIGATIONS

## A Polypill Strategy to Improve Adherence

### Results From the FOCUS Project

José M. Castellano, MD, PhD,<sup>\*†</sup> Ginés Sanz, MD, PhD,<sup>\*</sup> José L. Peñalvo, PhD,<sup>\*</sup> Sameer Bansilal, MD, MS,<sup>†</sup> Antonio Fernández-Ortiz, MD, PhD,<sup>\*‡</sup> Luz Alvarez, BSc,<sup>\*</sup> Luis Guzmán, MD,<sup>§</sup> Juan Carlos Linares, MD,<sup>§</sup> Fernando García, MD, PhD,<sup>||</sup> Fabiana D'Aniello, PhD,<sup>||</sup> Joan Albert Arnáiz, MD, PhD,<sup>¶</sup> Sara Varea, BSc,<sup>¶</sup> Felipe Martínez, MD,<sup>#</sup> Alberto Lorenzatti, MD,<sup>#</sup> Iñaki Imaz, MD, PhD,<sup>\*\*</sup> Luis M. Sánchez-Gómez, MD, MSc,<sup>\*\*</sup> María Carla Roncaglioni, BIOL SCI DR,<sup>††</sup> Marta Baviera, PHARM'D,<sup>††</sup> Sidney C. Smith, Jr, MD,<sup>††</sup> Kathryn Taubert, PhD,<sup>††</sup> Stuart Pocock, PhD,<sup>\*§§</sup> Carlos Brotons, MD, PhD,<sup>|||</sup> Michael E. Farkouh, MD, MSc,<sup>¶¶</sup> Valentin Fuster, MD, PhD<sup>\*†</sup>

- L'associazione di più farmaci in una sola somministrazione migliora l'aderenza alla terapia.
- Studio FOCUS (associazione di aspirina + statina + antipertensivo)
- 695 pazienti randomizzati a polipillola VS singole somministrazioni
- Nessuna differenza significativa di effetti collaterali



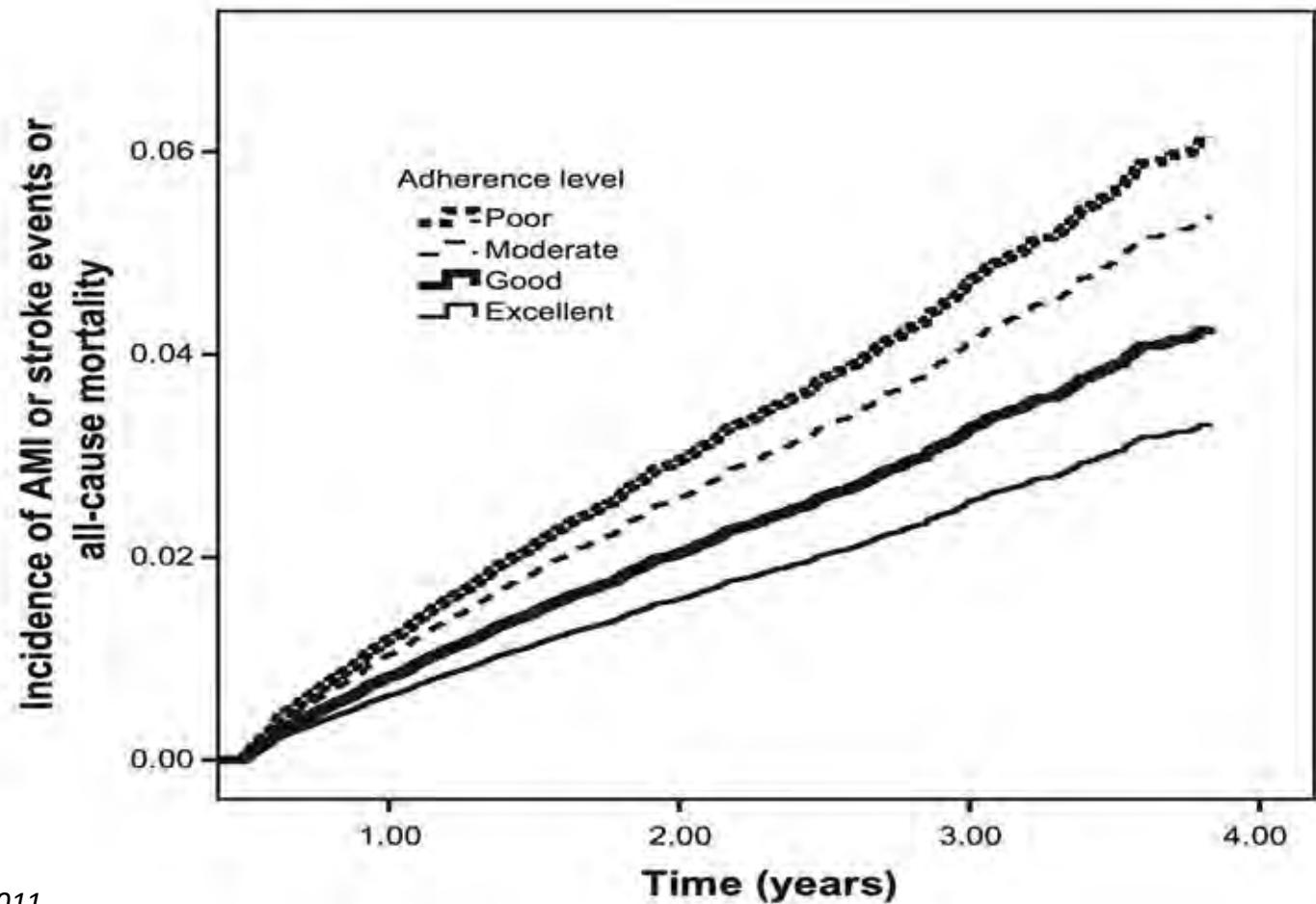
Castellano, J.M. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2014; 64(20):2071-82.

**CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION** Effect of a Polypill Strategy on Adherence in Secondary Cardiovascular Prevention

# MIGLIORE ADERENZA = MENO EVENTI

Studio retrospettivo su  
31.000 pz

Follow up medio 1.9 aa



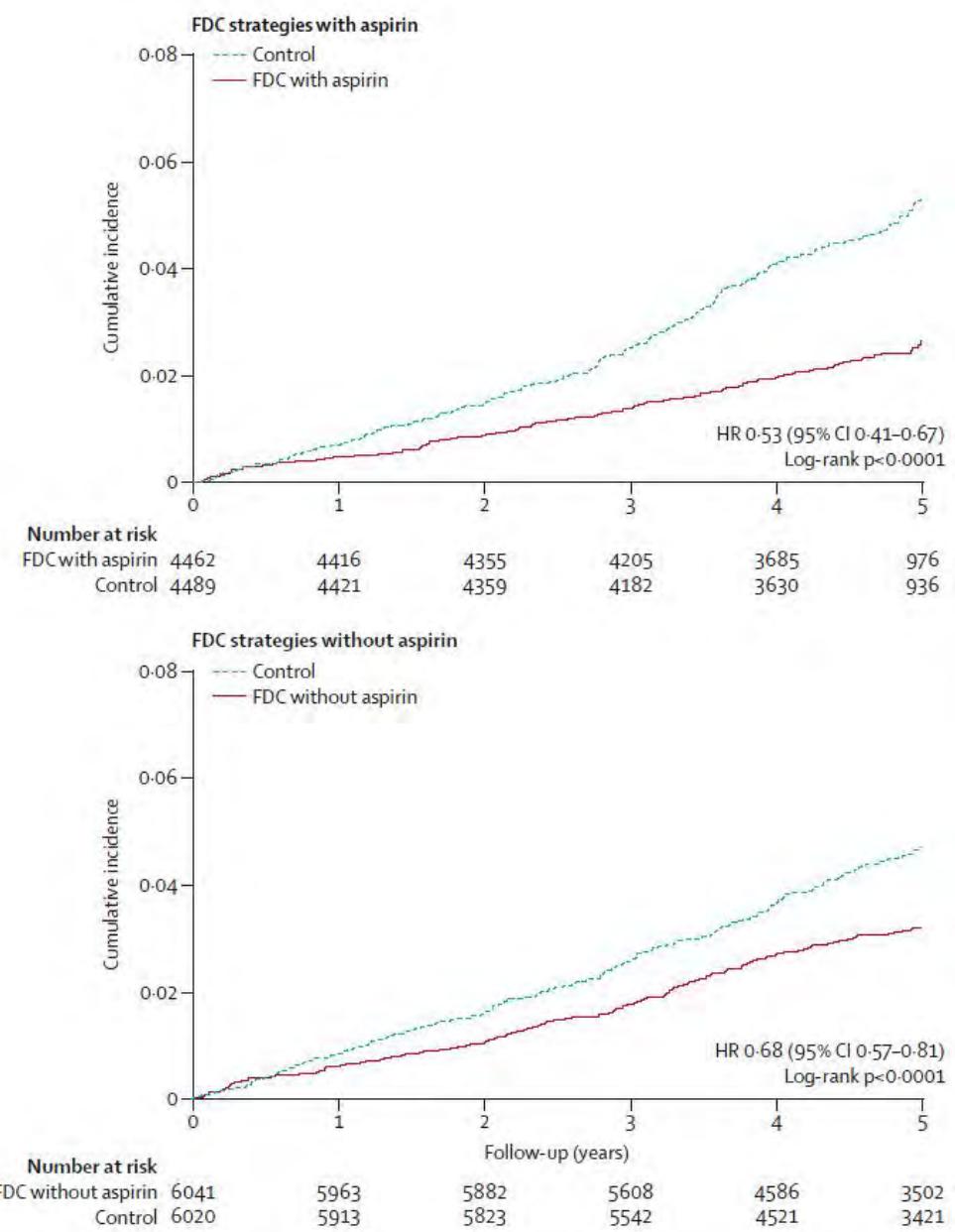
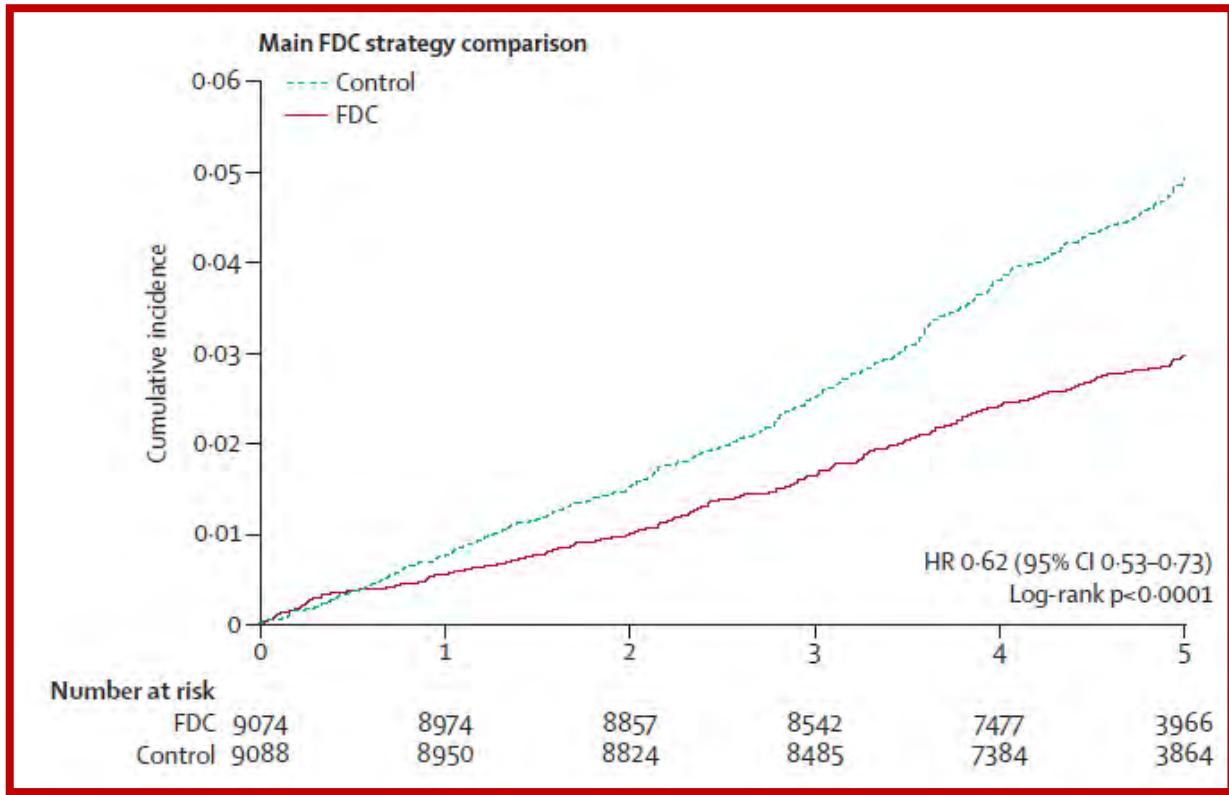
Degli Esposti et al. Clin. Outcomes Res 2011

# Fixed-dose combination therapies with and without aspirin for primary prevention of cardiovascular disease: an individual participant data meta-analysis



Philip Joseph, Gholamreza Roshandel, Peggy Gao, Prem Pais, Eva Lonn, Denis Xavier, Alvaro Avezum, Jun Zhu, Lisheng Liu, Karen Sliwa, Habib Gamra, Shrikant I Bangdiwala, Koon Teo, Rafael Diaz, Antonio Dans, Patricio Lopez-Jaramillo, Dorairaj Prabhakaran, Jose Maria Castellano, Valentin Fuster, Anthony Rodgers, Mark D Huffman, Jackie Bosch, Gilles R Dagenais, Reza Malekzadeh, Salim Yusuf, on behalf of the Polypill Trialists' Collaboration

	TIPS-3	HOPE-3	PolyIran
Locations	Bangladesh, Canada, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Tanzania, Tunisia	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Hungary, India, Israel, South Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, Philippines, Russia, Slovakia, South Africa, Sweden, UK, Ukraine	Iran
Overall trial population	5713 participants without known vascular disease but at intermediate cardiovascular disease risk*	12 705 participants without known vascular disease but at intermediate cardiovascular disease risk*	6838 participants with or without vascular disease
Population included in meta-analysis	All participants (n=5713)	Participants randomly assigned to double active group or double placebo group (polypill concept; n=6348)	Participants without a history of vascular disease (n=6101)
Study design	Double-blind, placebo-controlled	Double-blind, placebo-controlled	Pragmatic, cluster-randomised
Intervention†	2 × 2 × 2 factorial design: daily oral polypill consisting of simvastatin 40 mg, ramipril 10 mg, atenolol 100 mg, and hydrochlorothiazide 25 mg; daily aspirin 75 mg; monthly oral vitamin D 60 000 IU	2 × 2 factorial design: daily oral rosuvastatin 10 mg; daily oral candesartan 16 mg and hydrochlorothiazide 12.5 mg	Daily oral polypill consisting of atorvastatin 20 mg, hydrochlorothiazide 12.5 mg, enalapril 5 mg (or valsartan 40 mg), and aspirin 81 mg
Comparator (or control)†	Matching placebos	Matching placebos	Minimal care (blood pressure measurement and risk factor counselling)



### PERSPECTIVE

## The Polypill Revisited

### Why We Still Need Population-Based Approaches in the Precision Medicine Era

**N**early 2 decades ago, Wald and Law proposed "a strategy to reduce cardiovascular disease by more than 80%" by administering a polypill to everyone 55 years of age and older.<sup>1</sup> Their bold proposal had its roots in the debate surrounding risk-based versus population-based approaches to prevention, as described by Rose.<sup>2</sup> In risk-based approaches, preventive measures are targeted specifically at higher risk individuals, with medication therapy tailored to each patient's risk factor profile. The identification of higher risk patients typically relies on clinical and laboratory-based prediction algorithms, the traditional approach endorsed in most practice guidelines. In contrast, population-based approaches aim to shift the entire risk distribution, even modestly, with measures implemented at the population level. The latter necessitates interventions that are low in cost and have a low incidence of side effects. These are among the proposed advantages of the polypill, a fixed-dose combination of cardiovascular medications, usually including a statin and several antihypertensive drugs.

One of the objections to the Wald and Law proposal was that large numbers of low-risk individuals would end up receiving unneeded and/or unindicated drug therapy. Thus, despite randomized trials supporting the tolerability of various polypill formulations and regulatory approval in multiple countries outside the United States, momentum in the field shifted toward viewing the polypill primarily as a strategy for high-risk individuals with established cardiovascular disease. The problem is that a one-size-fits-all approach to pharmacotherapy may not be optimal for patients with established disease, for whom aggressive cholesterol and

**Daniel Muñoz, MD, MPA**  
**Thomas J. Wang, MD**

## POPOLAZIONE GENERALE

Medicina di Popolazione:



BASSO RISCHIO

ALTO RISCHIO

Medicina di Precisione:



MEDIO RISCHIO

