

# Management of Patients with Atrial Fibrillation and Stents: Is Three Drugs Too Many?

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# Some Things Are Really Clear

## World's Most Accurate Pie Chart



## Therapeutic Controversies

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### Aspirin, Clopidogrel, and Warfarin: Is the Combination Appropriate and Effective or Inappropriate and Too Dangerous?

A Janelle Hermosillo and Sarah A Spinler

790 ■ *The Annals of Pharmacotherapy* ■ 2008 June, Volume 42

[www.theannals.com](http://www.theannals.com)

**2013 – 8 Drugs (4 OACs, 3 APs, ASA) =  
39 Combinations!**

**(Before you consider duration of treatment.)**

# Management of Antithrombotic Therapy in Atrial Fibrillation Patients Presenting with Acute Coronary Syndrome and/or Undergoing Percutaneous Coronary Intervention/ Stenting

A Consensus Document of the European Society of Cardiology Working Group on

© Schattauer 2011

Consensus Document

## Consensus Document: Antithrombotic therapy in patients with atrial fibrillation undergoing coronary stenting\*

Journal of the American College of Cardiology  
© 2009 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation  
Published by Elsevier Inc.

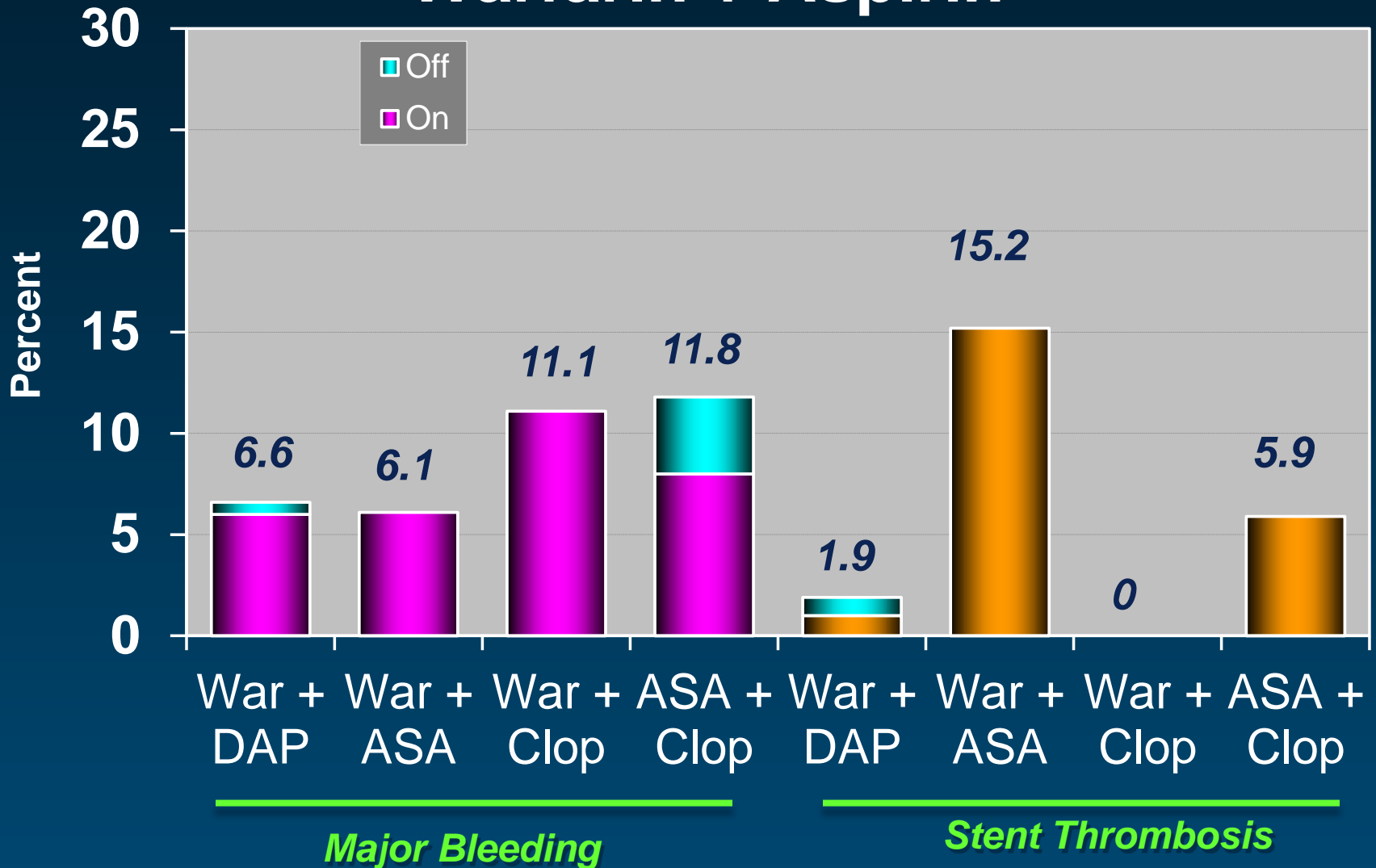
Vol. 54, No. 2, 2009  
ISSN 0735-1097/09/\$36.00  
doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2009.03.044

JACC White Paper

### Combining Antiplatelet and Anticoagulant Therapies

***“The combined use of antiplatelet and anticoagulant drugs...is associated with an increase in bleeding complications. For patients who require triple therapy, careful follow-up is indicated, with low dose (<100 mg) ASA, conventional dose (75 mg) clopidogrel, a lower target INR (approximately 2.0), and consideration of prophylactic proton pump inhibition.”***

# 12 –Month Outcomes in Patients on Warfarin + Aspirin



# So What is Clear?

- 1. Patients with atrial fibrillation need antithrombotic therapy.**
- 2. Patients with IC stents need dual antiplatelet therapy.**
- 3. The risk of bleeding appears to increase substantially as more antithrombotic drugs are combined.**
- 4. Patients who need OACs represent a higher risk group than those who don't.**
- 5. The clinical decision to use OACs doesn't appear related to the thrombotic risk.**

# A Tale of Two Trials

## Warfarin is Superior to Clopidogrel + ASA

- **ACTIVE W:** 6,706 pts with atrial fibrillation randomized to OAC (INR 2-3) or ASA + Clopidogrel
- Prematurely terminated because of 44% excess in composite EP and 72% excess in stroke for ASA + Clopidogrel

## Clopidogrel + ASA is Superior to ASA

- **ACTIVE A:** 7,554 pts with atrial fibrillation deemed “**unsuitable**” for warfarin
- Adding Clopidogrel to ASA → 19% reduction in composite EP, 28% reduction in stroke
- **BUT, 30% of pts who DC'd study medication ended up on warfarin**

# The Pendulum is Swinging Toward Aggressive Use of OACs for A Fib: Swedish Registry

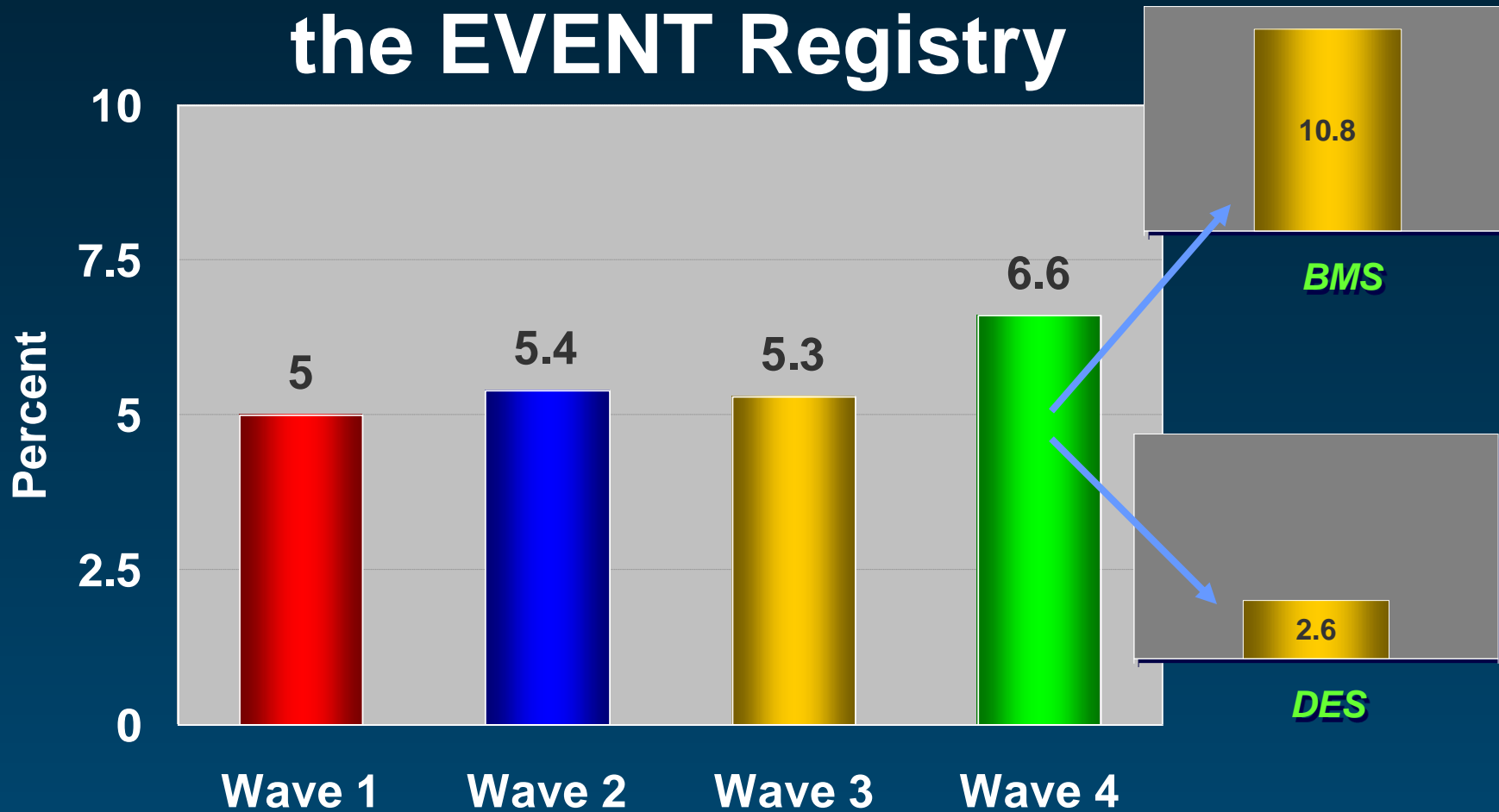
- 182,678 pts followed for 1.5 years
- Stratification by CHADS<sub>2</sub>, CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc, and HAS BLED risk scores
  - For *a) Death/Ischemic Stroke/Intracranial Hemorrhage* AND *b) Adjusted Net Clinical Benefit* hazard ratios favored warfarin treatment for all categories, regardless of HAS-BLED score, except those with CHADS<sub>2</sub>-VASc = 0
- Bleeding risk exceeded stroke risk in only 0.4% of the patient population



# Considerations for Stenting in Pts with Atrial Fibrillation

- Type of stent (DES vs BMS; 1<sup>st</sup> vs 2<sup>d</sup> gen.)
- Complexity of the stent procedure
- Need for OACs
  - Stroke risk (CHADS<sub>2</sub> and CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc scores)
  - Bleeding risk (HAS-BLED score)
- Duration of antiplatelet therapy
- Type of OAC and type of AP drug
- Worsening of AP drug compliance

# Proportion of Patients Discharged on Warfarin after Stent Implantation in the EVENT Registry



# Serious Events Between Index Procedure and One Year Among Patients Discharged on Warfarin: EVENT Registry

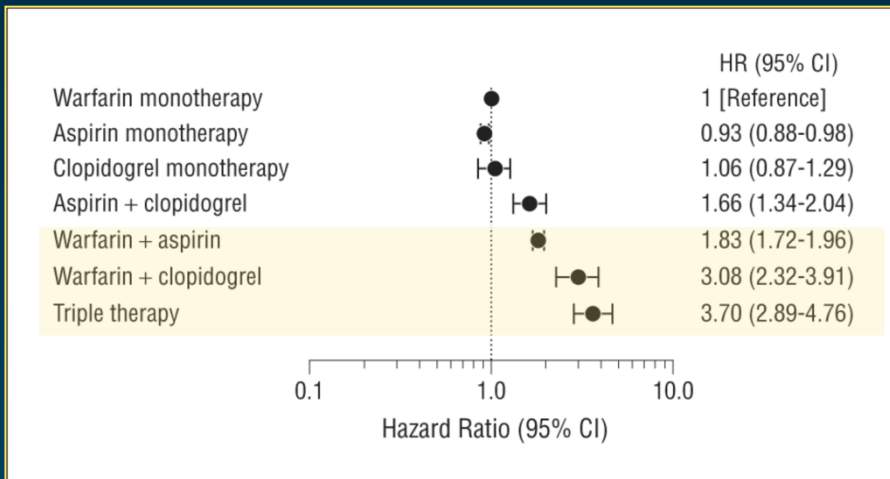
	*Not Discharged on Warfarin (N=9457)	Discharged on Warfarin (N=557)	Hazard Ratio	P
Death	2.7%	5.9%	2.25 (1.56, 3.25)	<0.0001
MI	7.9%	9.5%	1.2 (0.90, 1.59)	0.21
Stent Thrombosis	0.8%	1.5%	1.94 (0.93, 4.04)	0.08
Death/MI/Stent Thrombosis	10.2%	15.5%	1.54 (1.23, 1.92)	0.0001
Target Vessel Revascularization	6.0%	7.3%	1.2 (0.86, 1.67)	0.28

*\* Includes patients with an indication for OAC and also patients without indication for OAC*

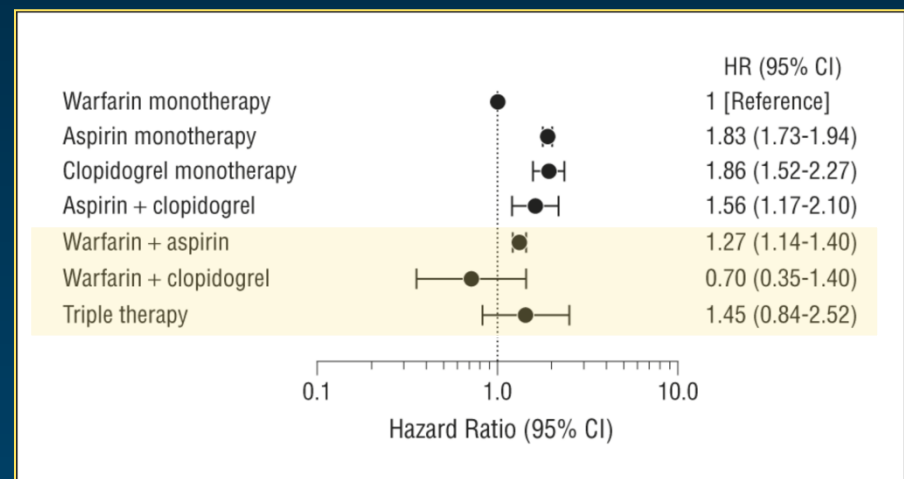
# Combination Antithrombotic Therapy in Pts with Atrial Fibrillation (Danish Registry)

**21,036 of 118,606 (17.8%) pts discharged with atrial fibrillation received at least one AP drug (25.3% of pts receiving antithrombotic drugs)**

## Risk of Bleeding



## Risk of Ischemic Stroke



**Modeled risk of mortality at 3 y was 2.45 (2.37-2.57) for pts with non-fatal bleeding**

# Predictive Value of OAC Use Among Stented Patients with Atrial Fibrillation

*8,962 Unselected Patients with Atrial Fibrillation  
Median 650 Day Follow-up*

*2,709 (30%) had Coronary Artery Disease*

*417 (15%) received stents  
AND*

*Had  $CHA_2DS_2-VASC \geq 2$*

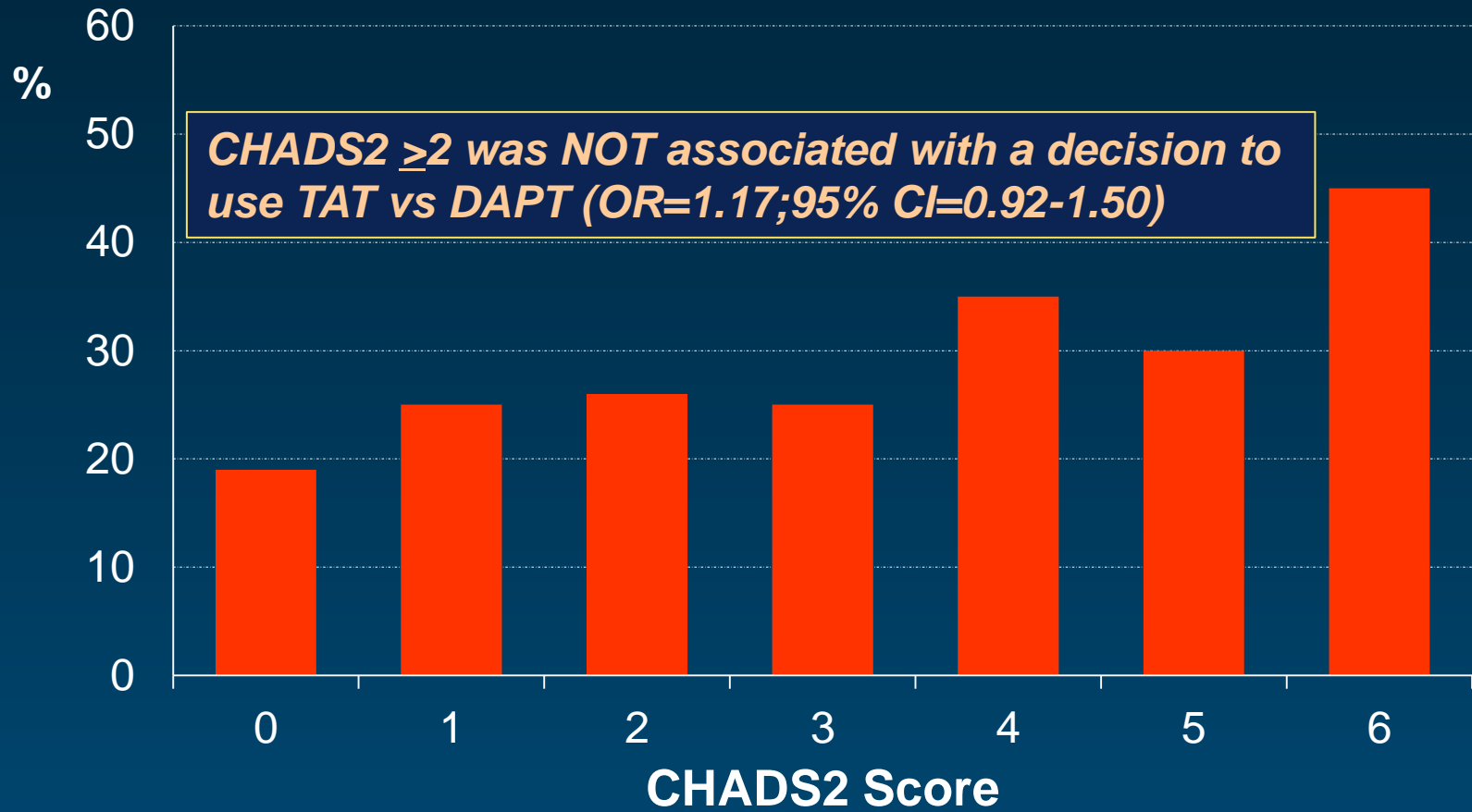
*97 (23%)  
Received OAC*

*OAC use was not associated w/ perceived bleeding risk*

***Lack of an Oral Anticoagulant Independently  
Predicted Death/Stroke/Systemic Embolism  
RR = 2.18 (1.02 – 4.67)***

*Bernard. Thrombosis and Hemostasis. 2013;110;560*

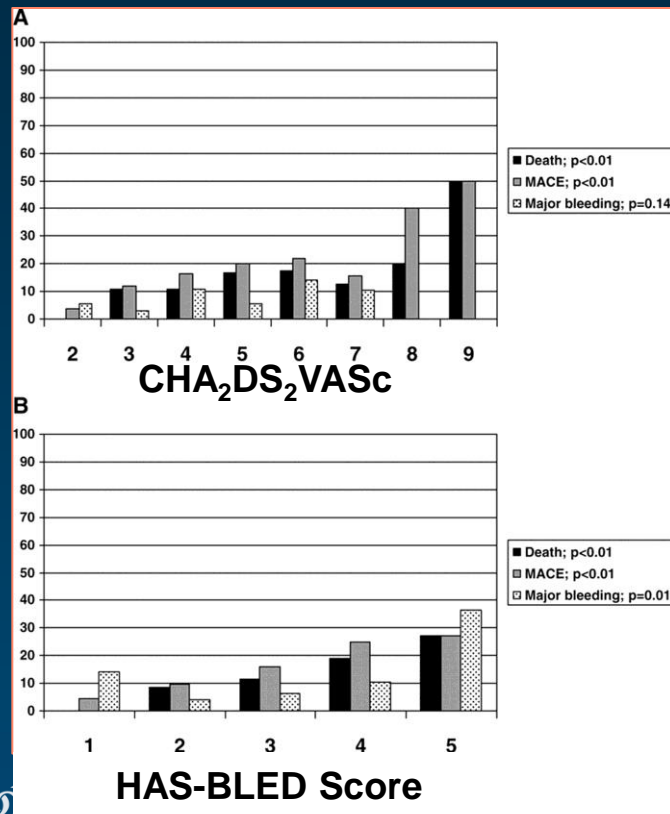
# Use of Triple Antithrombotic Therapy According to Bleeding Risk in Patients with NSTEMI + IC Stent and Atrial Fibrillation



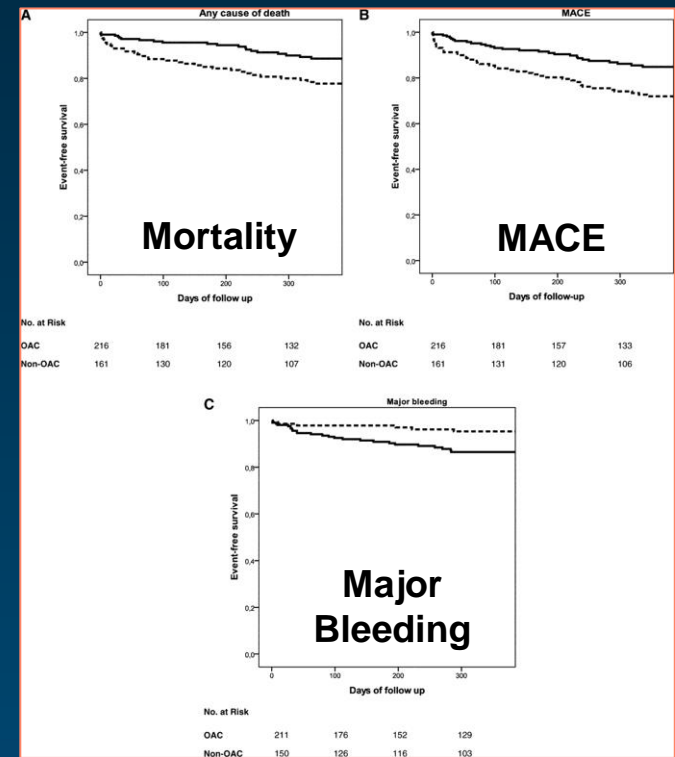
# Atrial Fibrillation and PCI Stratified by Bleeding Risk: More Bleeding AND More Benefit

- 590 Patients with AF undergoing PCI and CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc score >1
- 420 (71%) had HAS-BLED score ≥3
  - OACs were used in 54% of Low Bldg Risk and 57% of High Risk Pts

## Relationship of Risk Scores to Outcomes

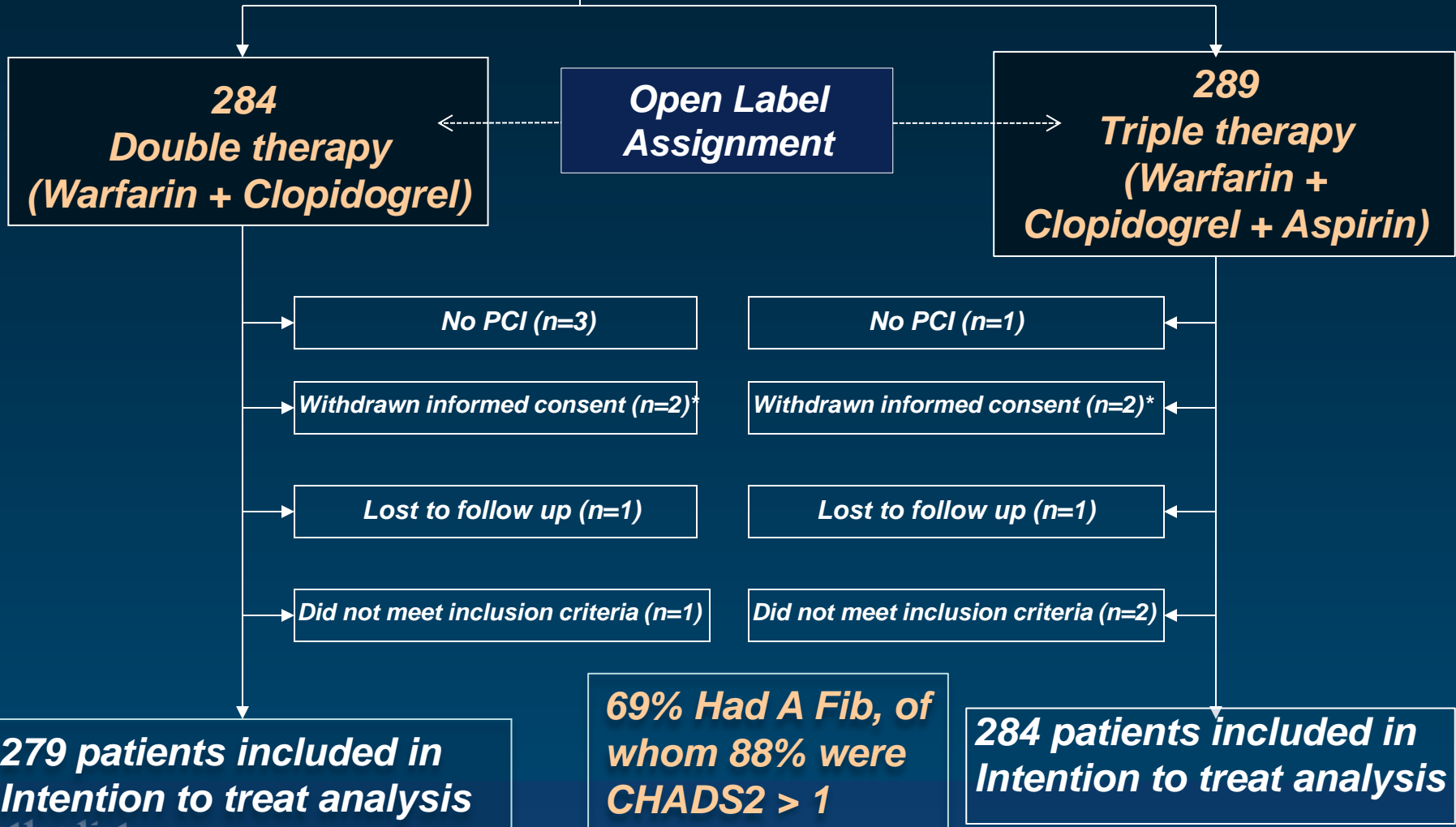


## Pts with HB Score ≥ 3



# WOEST

## PCI and Indication for OAC

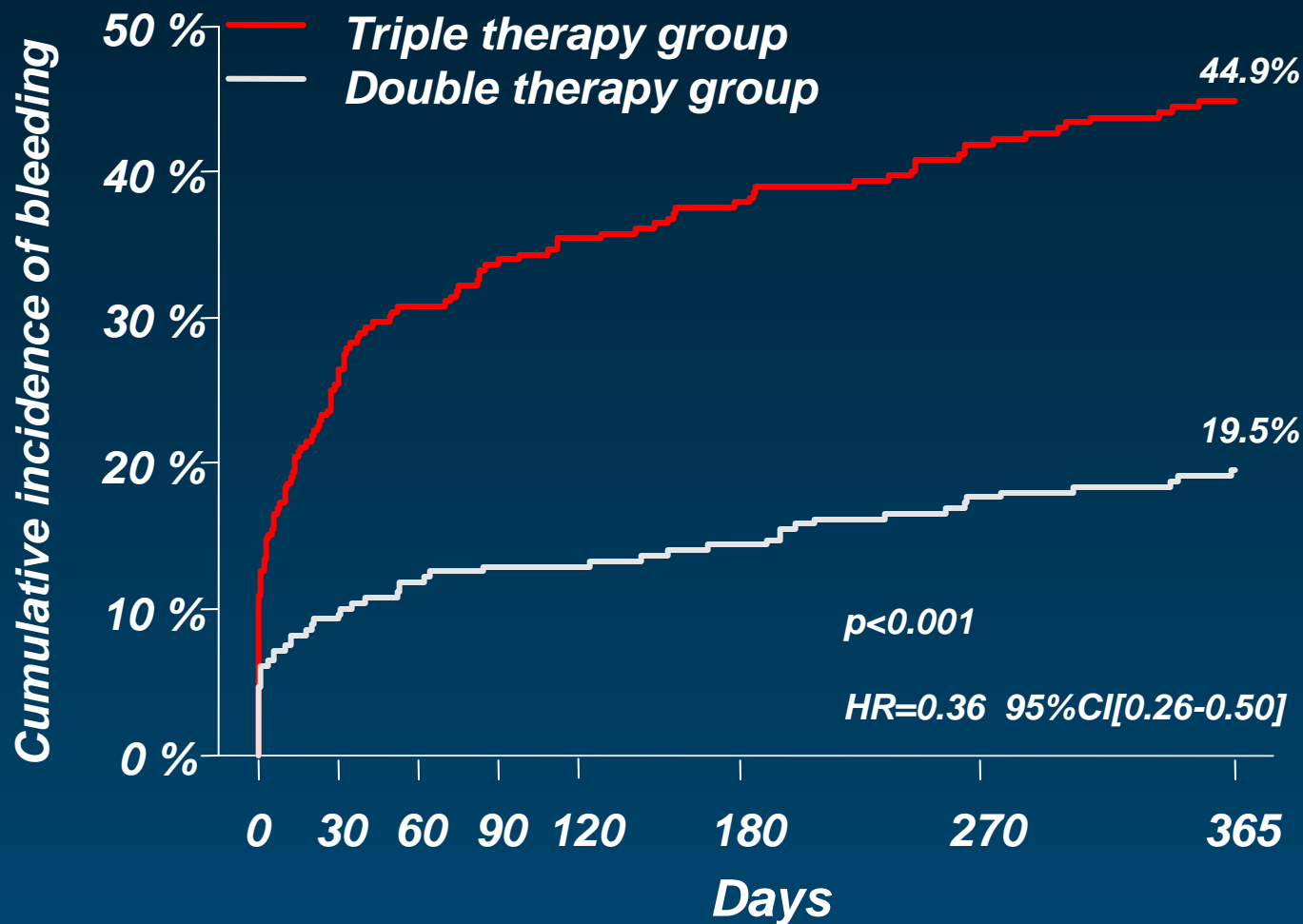


\* withdrawn informed consent; in double group 2 patients and triple group 1 patient were included in intention to treat analysis until the day of withdrawal



# WOEST

Primary Endpoint: Total number of Bleeding Events (TIMI)

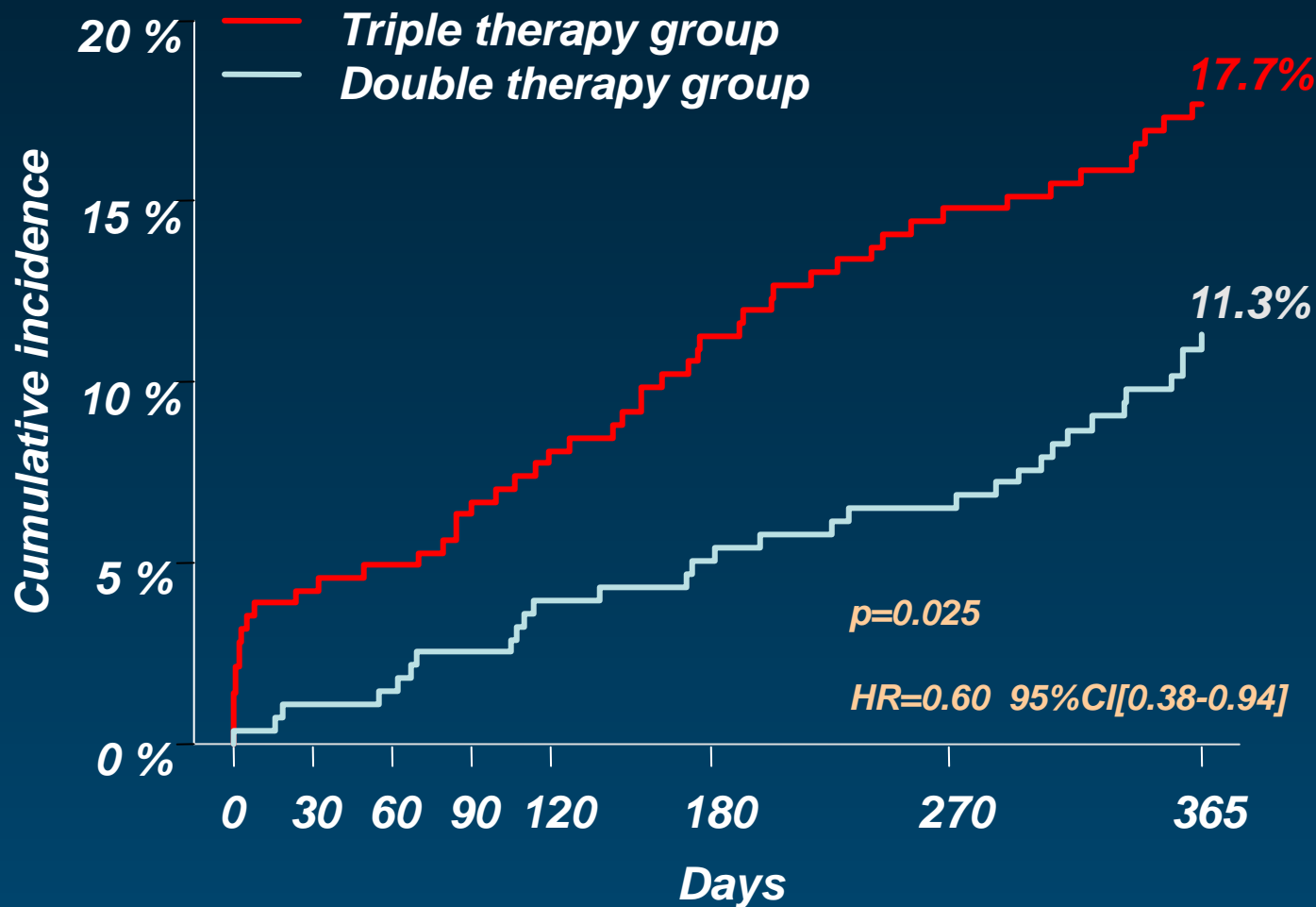


**N at risk:**

Days	0	30	60	90	120	180	270	365
Triple therapy group	284	210	194	186	181	173	159	140
Double therapy group	279	253	244	241	241	236	226	208

# WOEST

## Secondary Endpoint (Death, MI, TVR, Stroke, ST)



# WOEST- Secondary Endpoints

	Double	Triple	HR	P
Death				
All Cause	7 (2.5)	18 (6.3)	0.39 (.10-.93)	0.27
Cardiac	3 (1.1)	7 (2.5)	0.43 (.11-1.66)	0.21
Non-Cardiac	4 (1.4)	11 (3.9)	0.36 (.11-1.13)	.069
Stroke				
Any	3 (1.1)	8 (2.8)	0.37 (.10-.40)	1.28
Ischemic	2 (0.7)	8 (2.8)	0.25 (0.05-1.17)	.056
Hemorrhagic	1	0	--	--
St. Thrombosis				
Definite	1 (.4)	3 (1.1)	.44 (.14-1.44)	0.165
Probable	0	2 (0.7)	--	--
Possible	3 (1.1)	4 (1.4)	.75 (.17-3.3)	0.71

# New Trials of Antithrombotic Rx in AF after Stenting

- **ISAR TRIPLE**

- A Fib with indication for OAC after DES
- Short (6 wk) vs Long (6 months) course of triple antithrombotic therapy

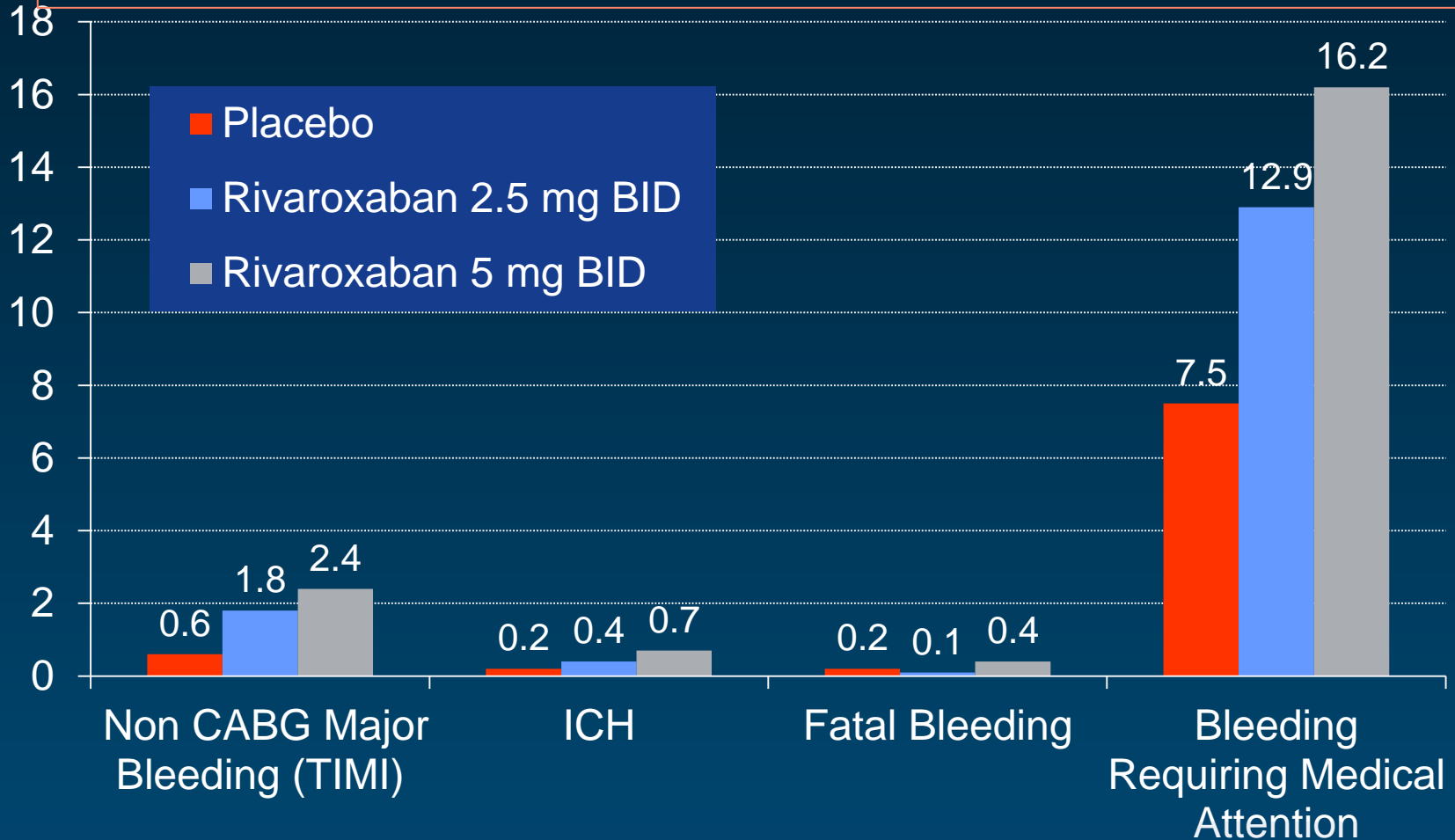
- **MUSICA – 2**

- A Fib with low stroke risk (CHADS<sub>2</sub> ≤ 2)
- Triple antithrombotic therapy vs dual antiplatelet therapy
- 6 weeks for BMS; 12 months for DES

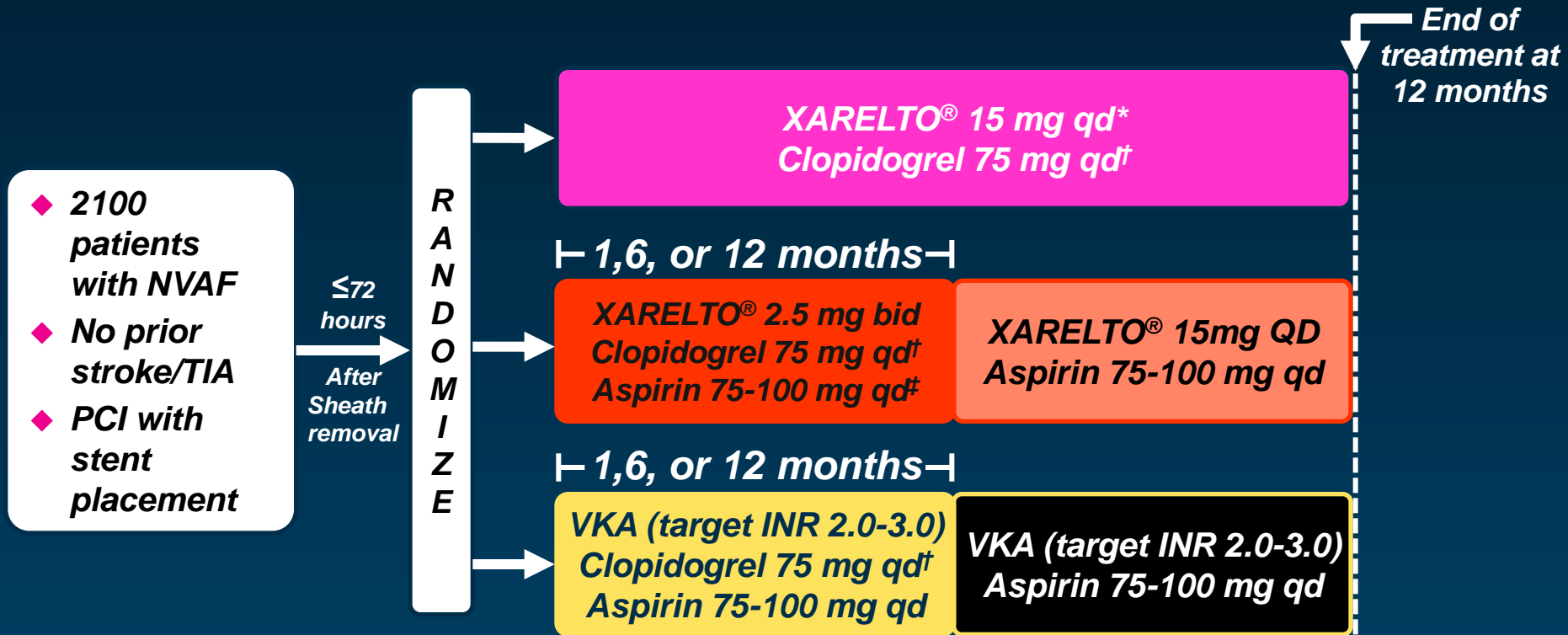


# ATLAS ACS 2 Trial of Rivaroxaban and DAPT

- 98% on ASA, 93% on Thienopyridine
- 16% Reduction in Primary EP; 35% Reduction in Stent Thrombosis



# XARELTO® (rivaroxaban) Use in Patients With AF Undergoing PCI: PIONEER AF-PCI



- Primary endpoint: TIMI major, minor, and bleeding requiring medical attention
- Secondary endpoint: CV death, MI, stroke, and stent thrombosis

\*XARELTO® dosed at 10 mg once daily in patients with CrCl of 30 to <50 mL/min.

†Alternative P2Y<sub>12</sub> inhibitors: 10 mg once-daily prasugrel or 90 mg twice-daily ticagrelor.

‡Low-dose aspirin (75-100 mg/d).

Data on File. Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

# Alternative Modifications to Pharmacologic Therapy that Might be (Re) Explored

**Circulation**

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION



**American  
Heart  
Association®**

## **Safety and Efficacy of Ticlopidine for Only 2 Weeks After Successful Intracoronary Stent Placement**

Peter B. Berger, Malcolm R. Bell, David Hasdai, Diane E. Grill, Steve Melby and David R. Holmes, Jr

*Circulation*. 1999;99:248-253

doi: 10.1161/01.CIR.99.2.248

*Circulation* is published by the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231

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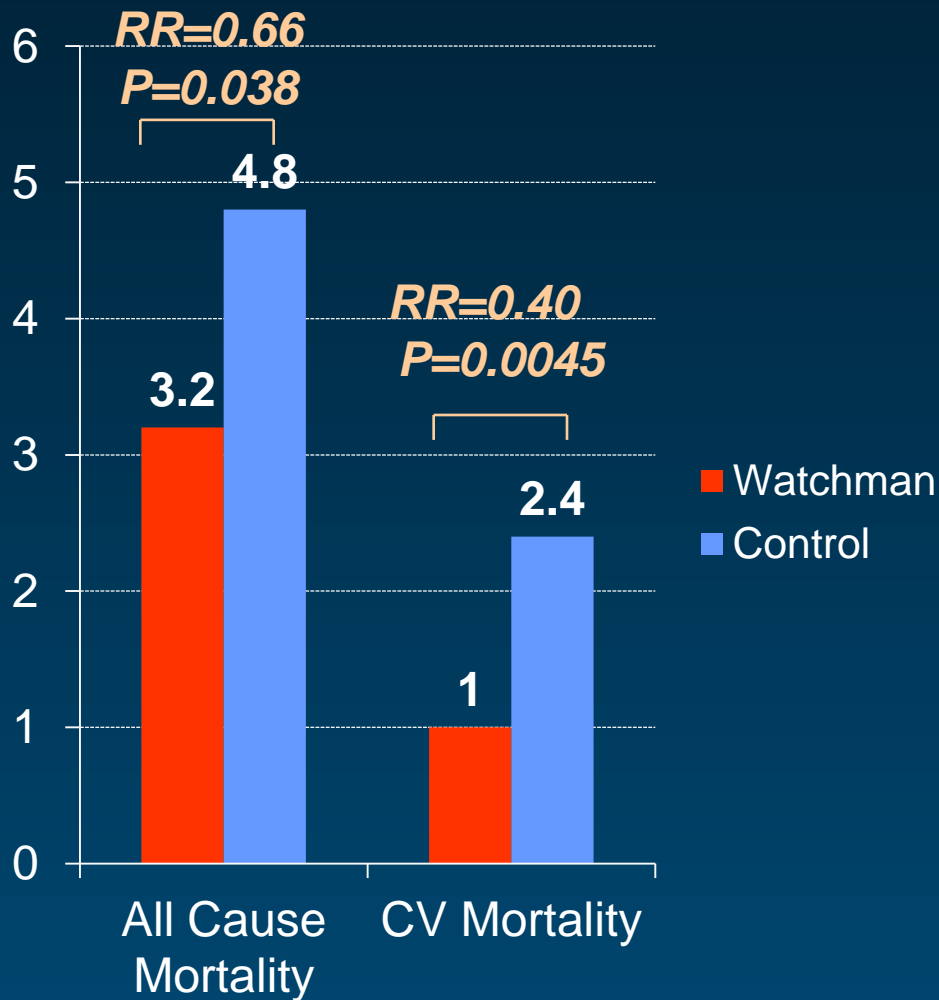
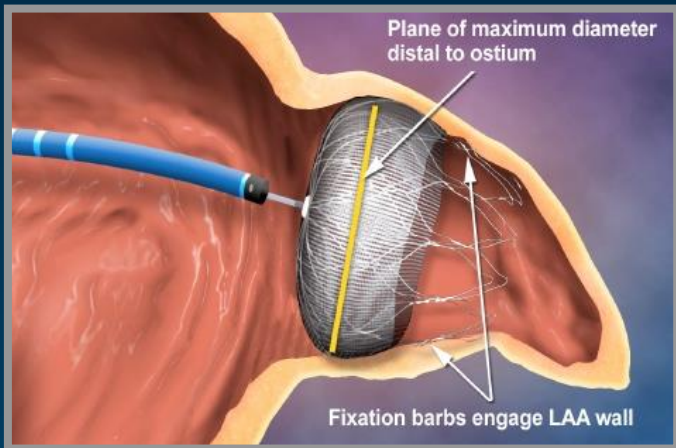
Print ISSN: 0009-7322. Online ISSN: 1524-4539

**Methodist**

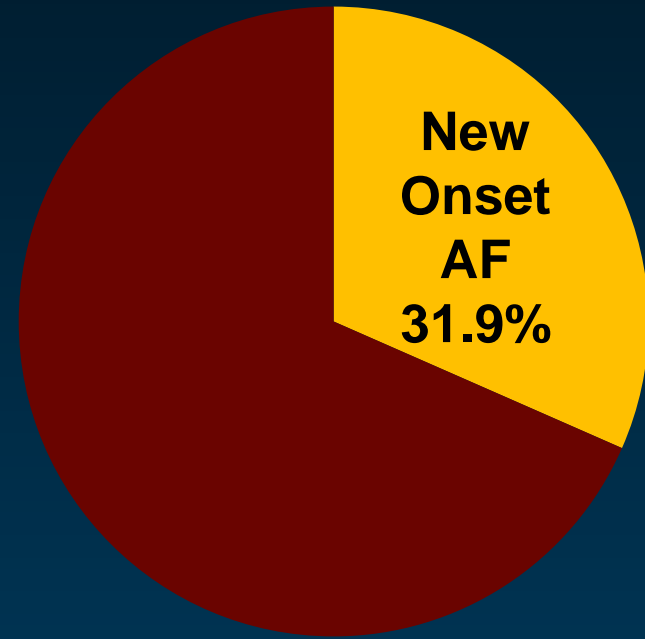
DeBakey Heart  
& Vascular Center



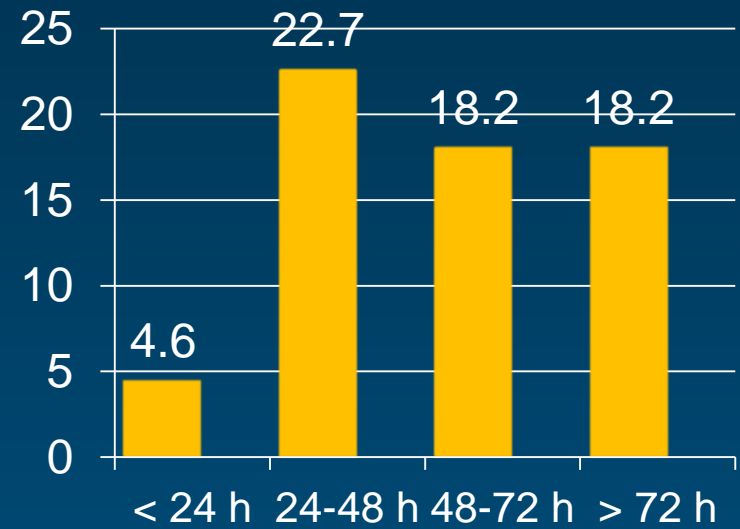
# Avoiding Triple Antithrombotic Therapy: Four Year Mortality in the PROTECT Trial



# Stent Patients with the Highest Risk of Stroke and of Bleeding



*Amat Santos. JACC. 2012;50:178*



**Timing of AF**



LESS IS MORE

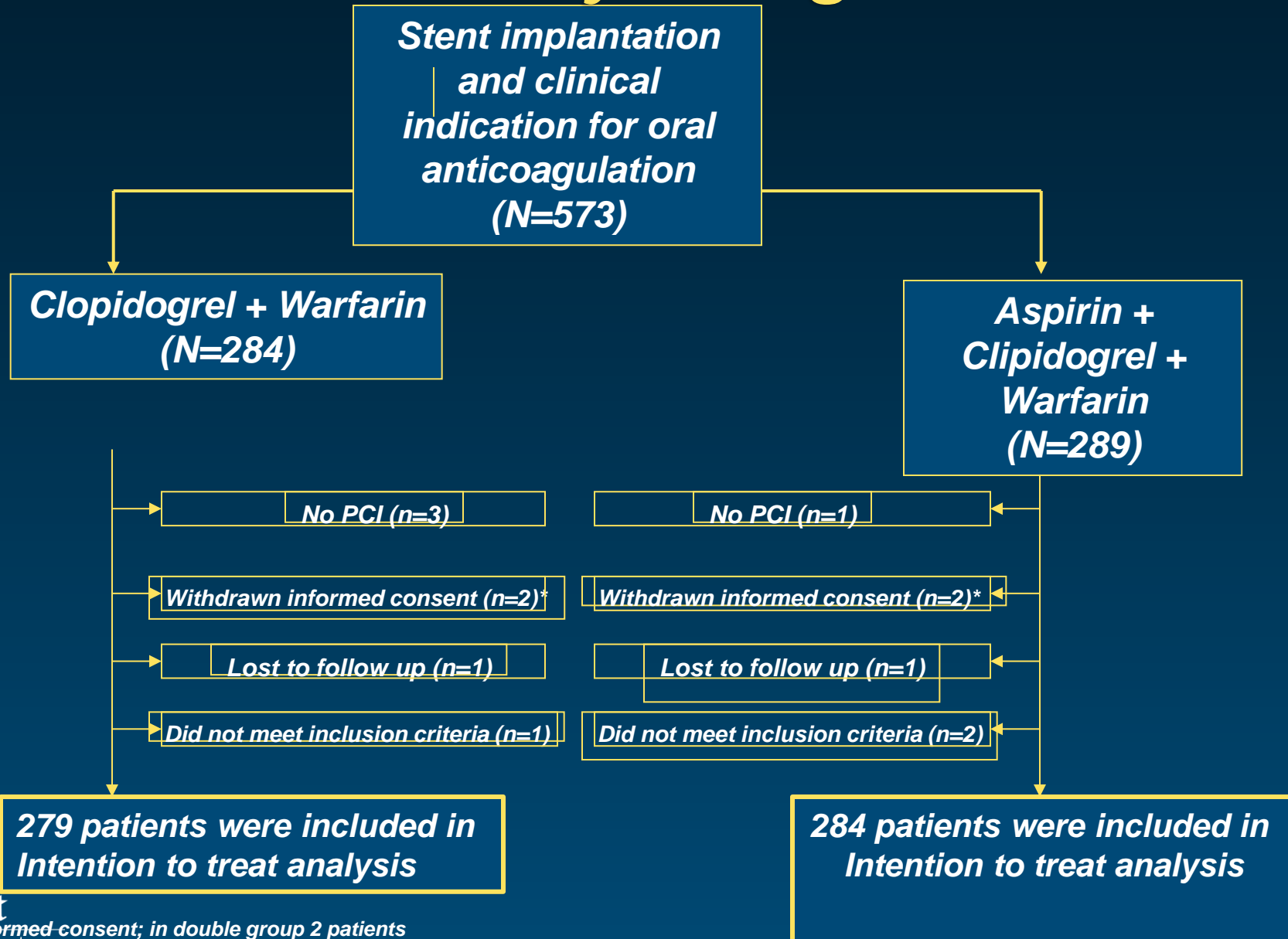
# Risk of Bleeding With Single, Dual, or Triple Therapy With Warfarin, Aspirin, and Clopidogrel in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation

Morten L. Hansen, MD, PhD; Rikke Sørensen, MD; Mette T. Clausen, MSc Pharm;  
Marie Louise Fog-Petersen, MSc Pharm; Jakob Raunsø, MD; Niels Gadsbøll, MD, DMSc; Gunnar H. Gislason, MD, PhD;  
Fredrik Folke, MD; Søren S. Andersen, MD; Tina K. Schramm, MD; Steen Z. Abildstrøm, MD, PhD;  
Henrik E. Poulsen, MD, DMSc; Lars Køber, MD, DMSc; Christian Torp-Pedersen, MD, DMSc

***118,606 pts discharged with atrial fibrillation; 21,036 (17.8%) received at least one prescription for warfarin and an AP drug (25.3% of pts receiving antithrombotic drugs)***

***Relative Risks for bleeding compared to warfarin alone ranged from 1.75 for warfarin + ASA to 4.03 for warfarin + DAPT ; while the incidence rate jumped from 3.9%/y to 15.7%/y***

# WOEST Trial: Study Design



# Pioneer Trial

- **Atrial Fibrillation with PCI**
  - **Rivaroxaban 2.5 mg + DAPT x 12 months**  
*Or*
  - **Rivaroxaban 2.5 mg + DAPT x 12 months followed by rivaroxaban + aspirin to 12 months**
- **Primary outcome is safety (bleeding on TIMI scale)**