

# **Aggressive Lipid Lowering Treatment**

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**Chair: Federation for EUROPE**

# Dyslipidemia Management

Part of the complex approach  
to decrease CV RISK

Influence all lipid parameters

LDL-C – The first target  
HDL-C, TGs, apoB...

To lower MACROvascular risk

+

To lower MICROvascular risk

+

To lower CV morbidity and mortality

What does it mean?

***„Aggressive Lipid Lowering“***

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**1. LDL-C**

**2. Residual Risk (DLP risk)**

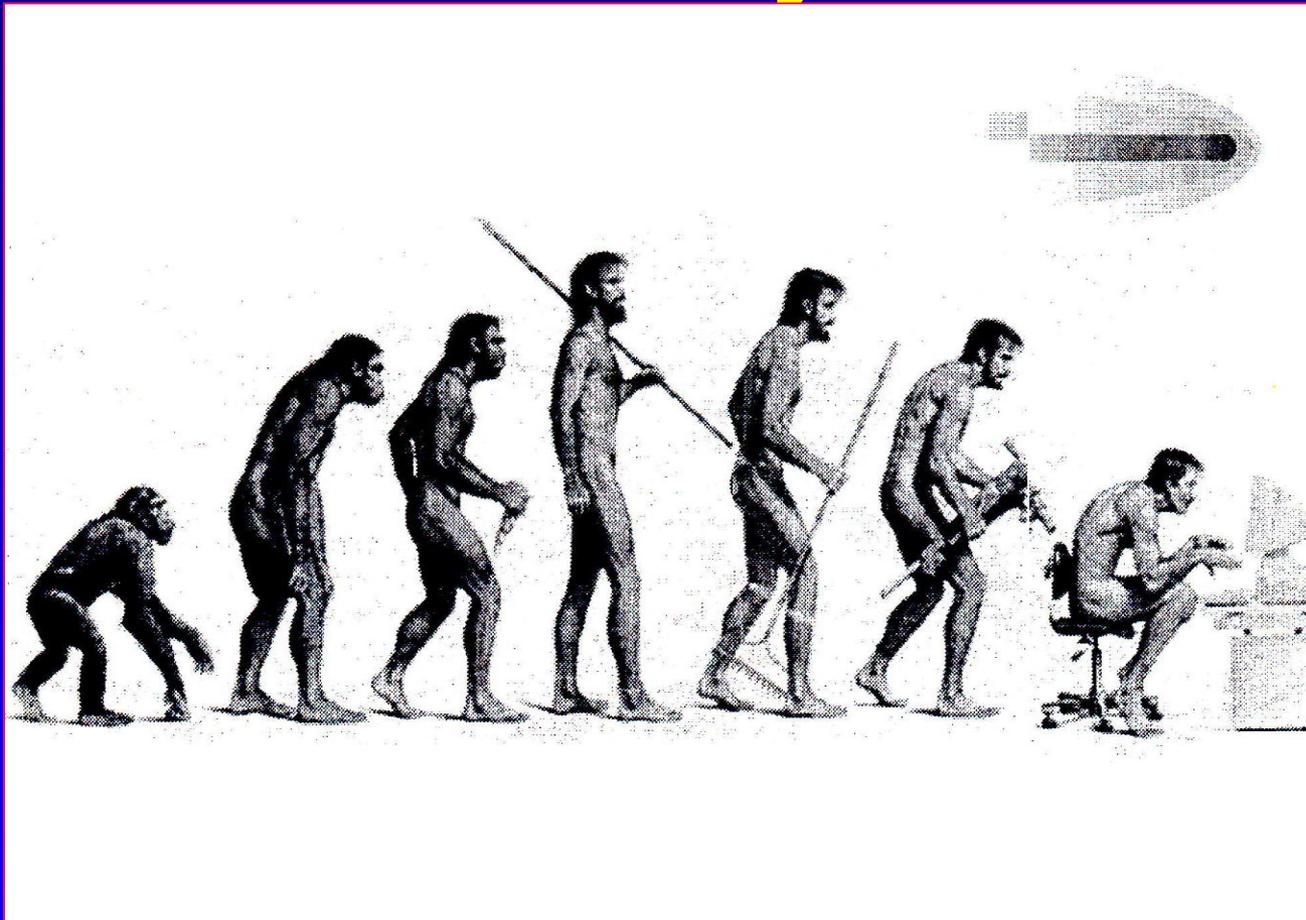
# LDL-C

- **Killer No 1**
- **The most important risk factor for CVD**
- **The first target for lipid lowering treatment**

**What is an appropriate  
therapeutic target for  
LDL-C?**

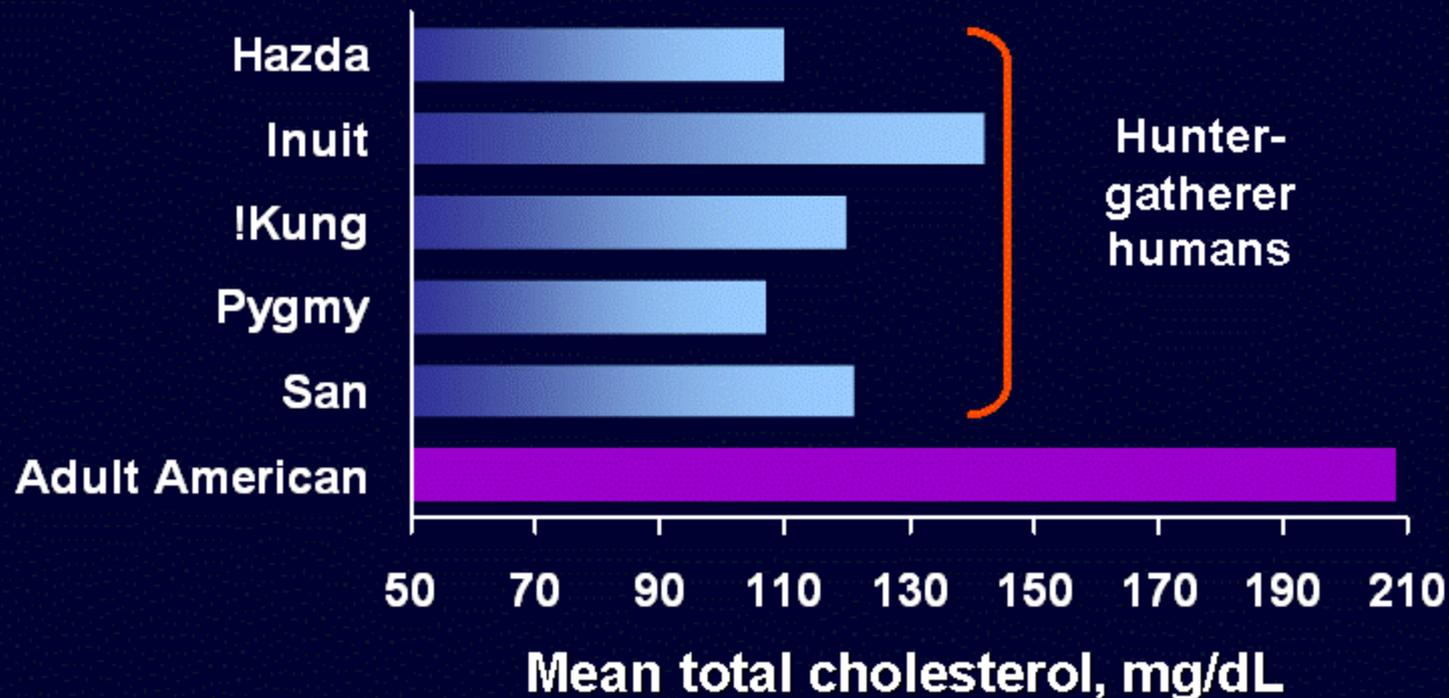
# The human evolution

## What was the LDL-C of our ancestry?



# What Is Desirable Cholesterol?

Cholesterol Levels Among Different Human Populations



# What is desirable LDL- C ?

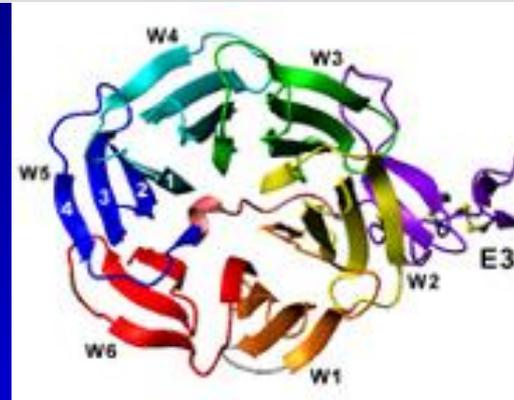
|                               |            |       |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------|
| •Hunter-Gatherer humans       | •1,3-1,9   | 50-75 |
| •Newborn                      | •0,8-1,8   | 30-70 |
| •Primates                     | •1,0-2,1   | 40-80 |
| •Domestic animals             | • > 2,1    | >80   |
| •Adult Euro/American          | •1,3-1,8   | 50-70 |
| •(probable physiologic level) | •Desirable |       |

# LDL-Receptor Pathway

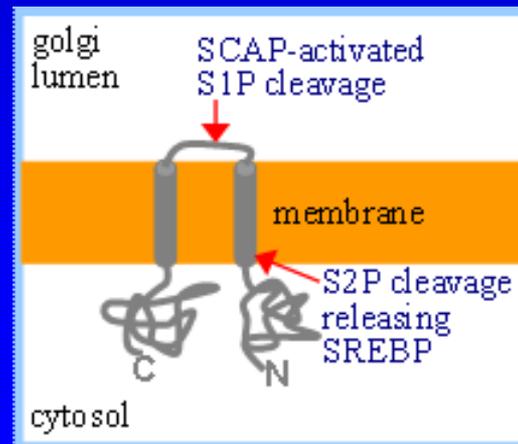
## SREBP Pathway



Michael BROWN



LDL-receptor



SREBP



Joseph GOLDSTEIN

Nobel Prize 1985

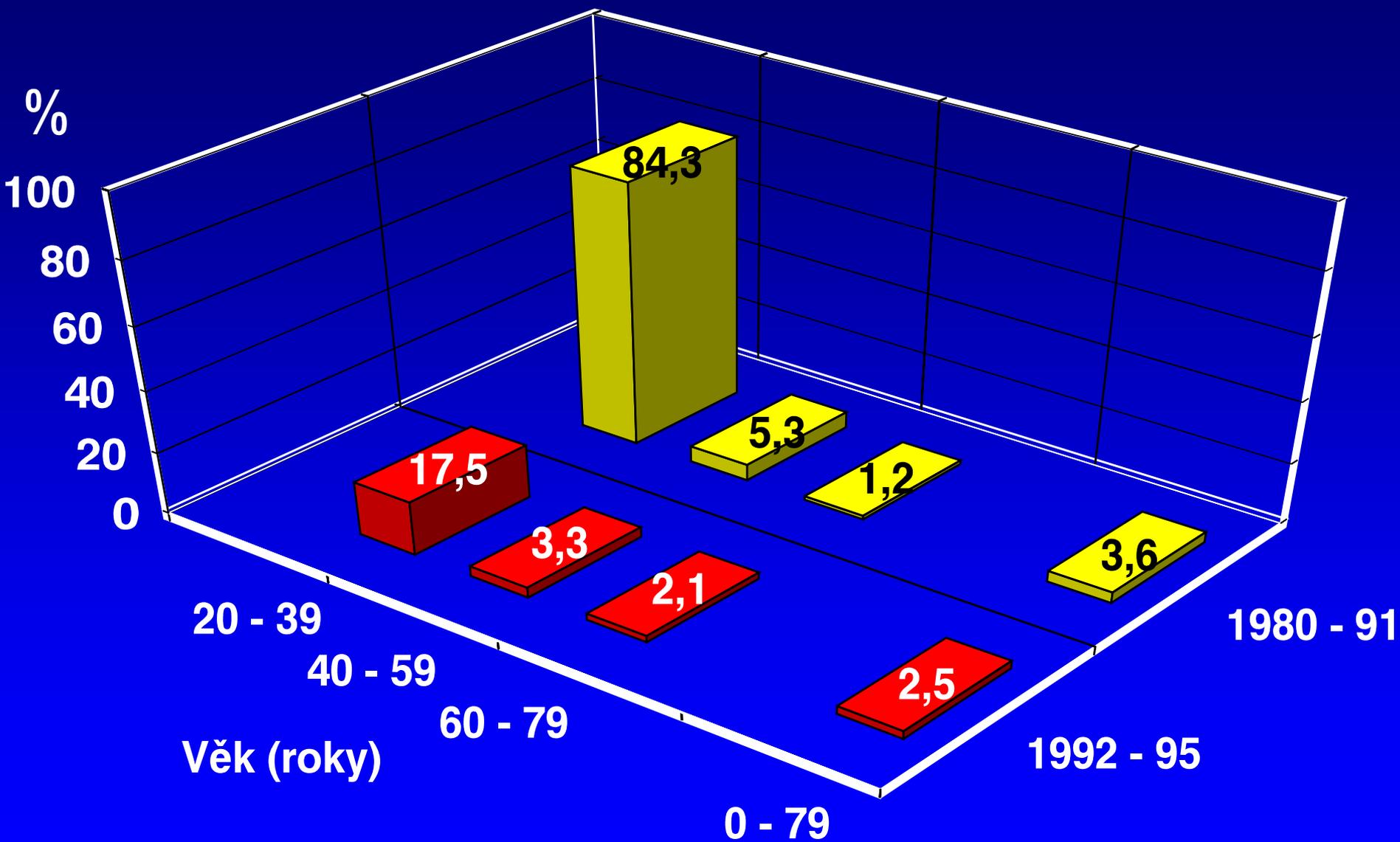
**Familial hypercholesterolemia, positive family history, LDL-C 8,2mmol/l (W 27years)**



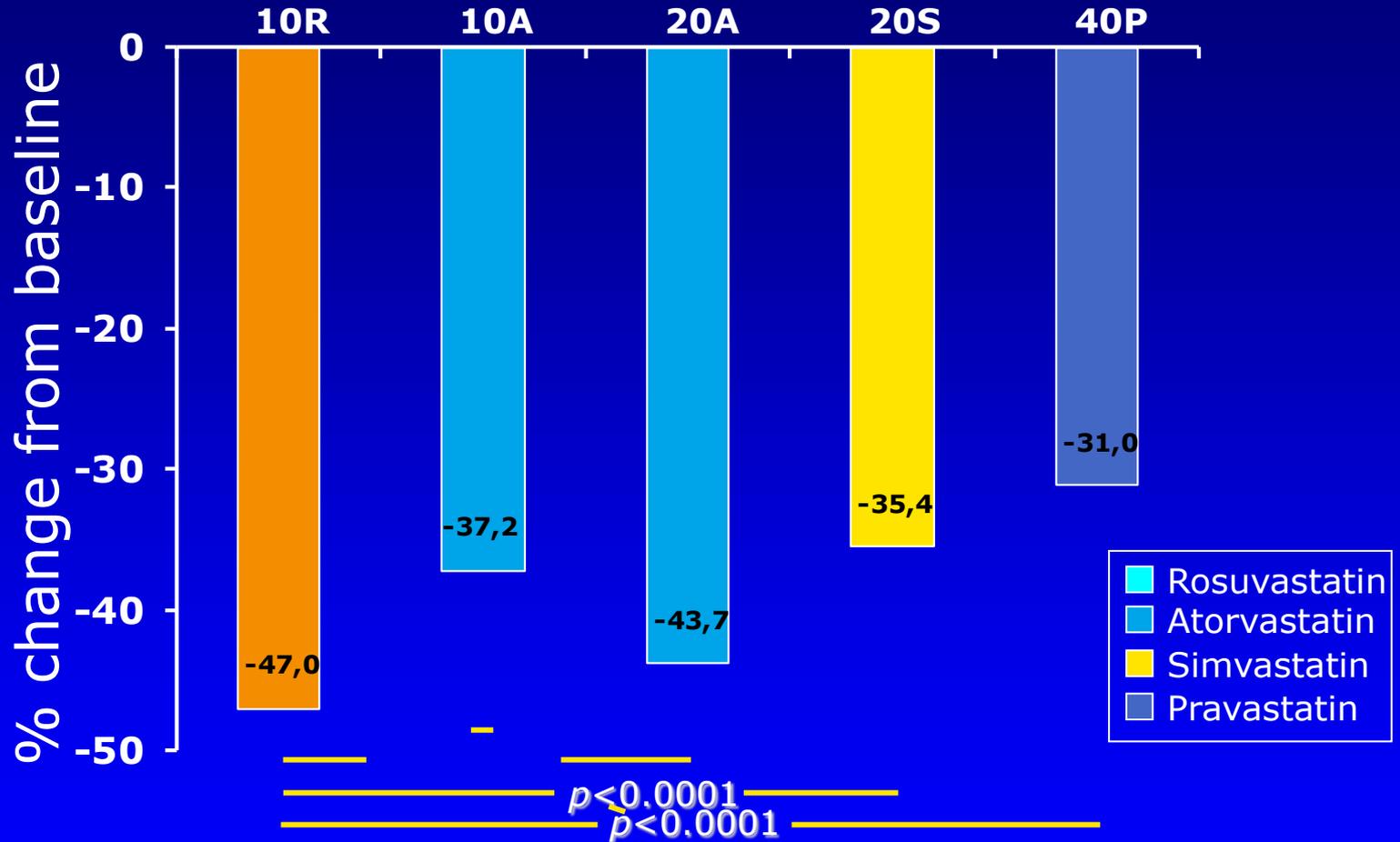




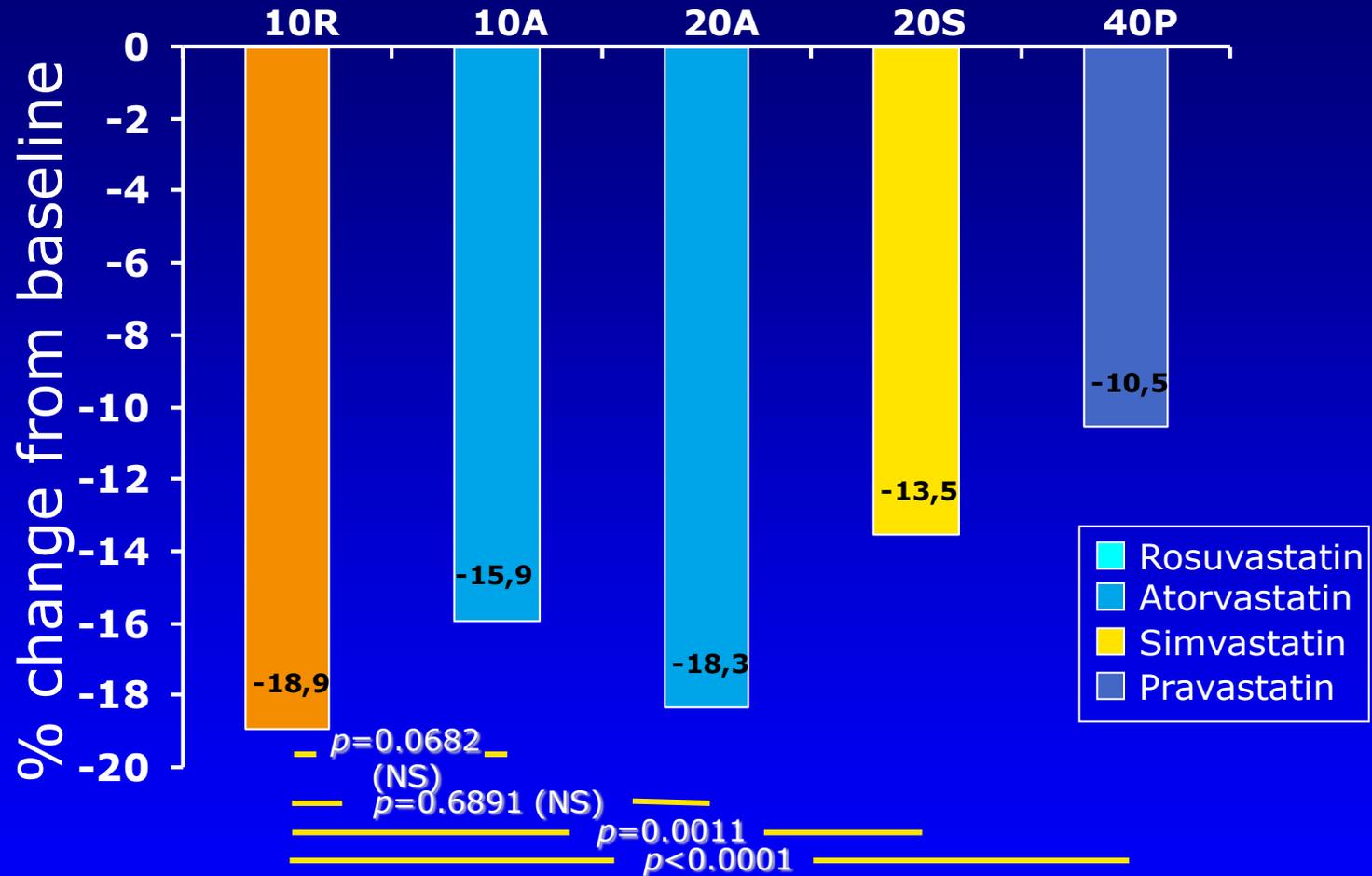
# FH - CHD MORTALITA



# MERCURY: LDL-C

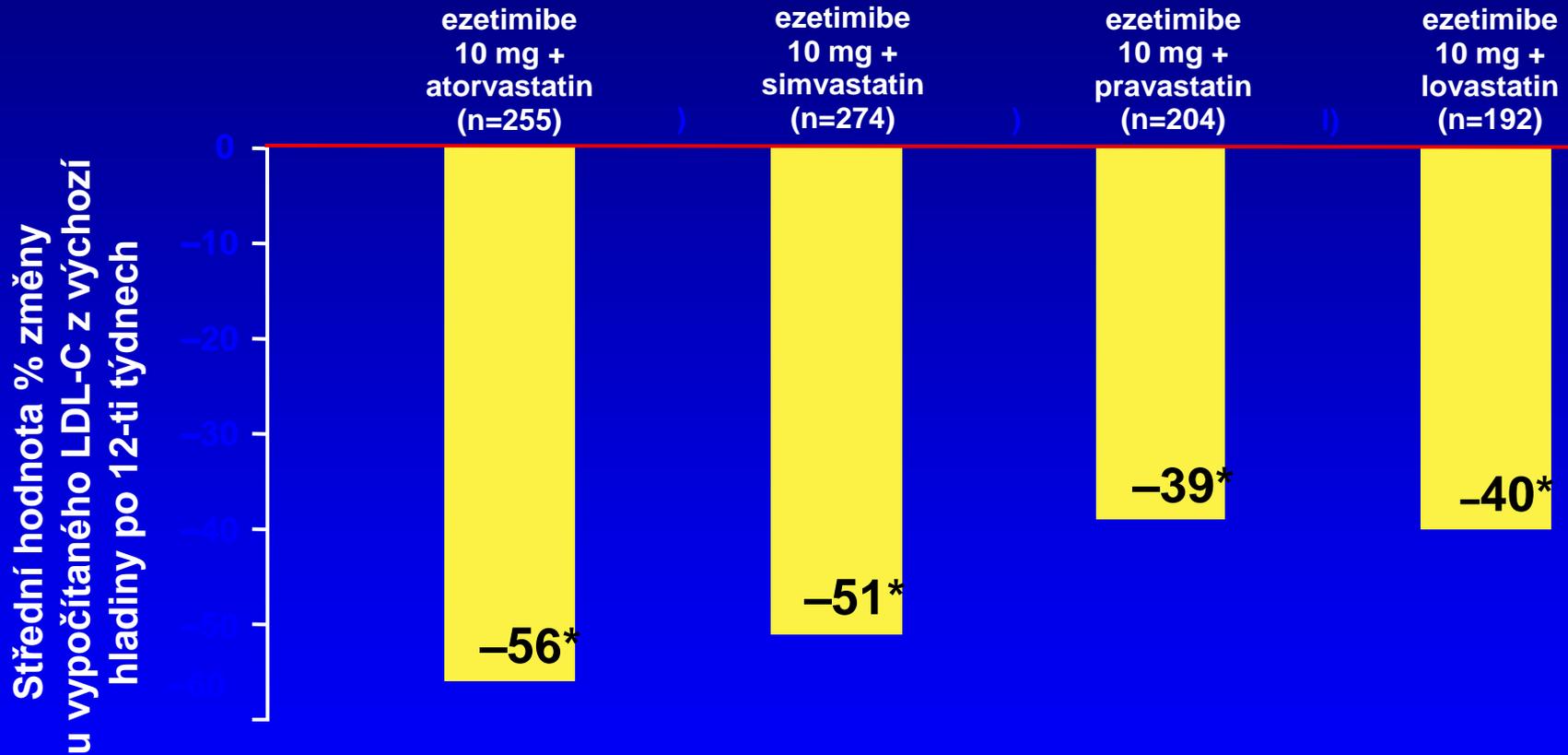


# MERCURY: TG



# Ezetimibe + statins

## LDL-C



\* $p < 0,01$  ezetimibe + sdružené dávky statinů vs. sdružené dávky statinů samotné

Ballantyne CM et al *Circulation* 2003;107:2409–2415; Davidson MH et al *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2002;40:2125–2134; Melani L et al *Eur Heart J* 2003;24:717–728,1381; Kerzner B et al *Am J Cardiol* 2003;91:418–424.

# Treatment of Hyperlipidemia

LDL-C

Therapeutic Lifestyle Change

Drug Therapy

Therapy of Choice: Statin

Alternative/combo: Ezetimibe, resin or niacin

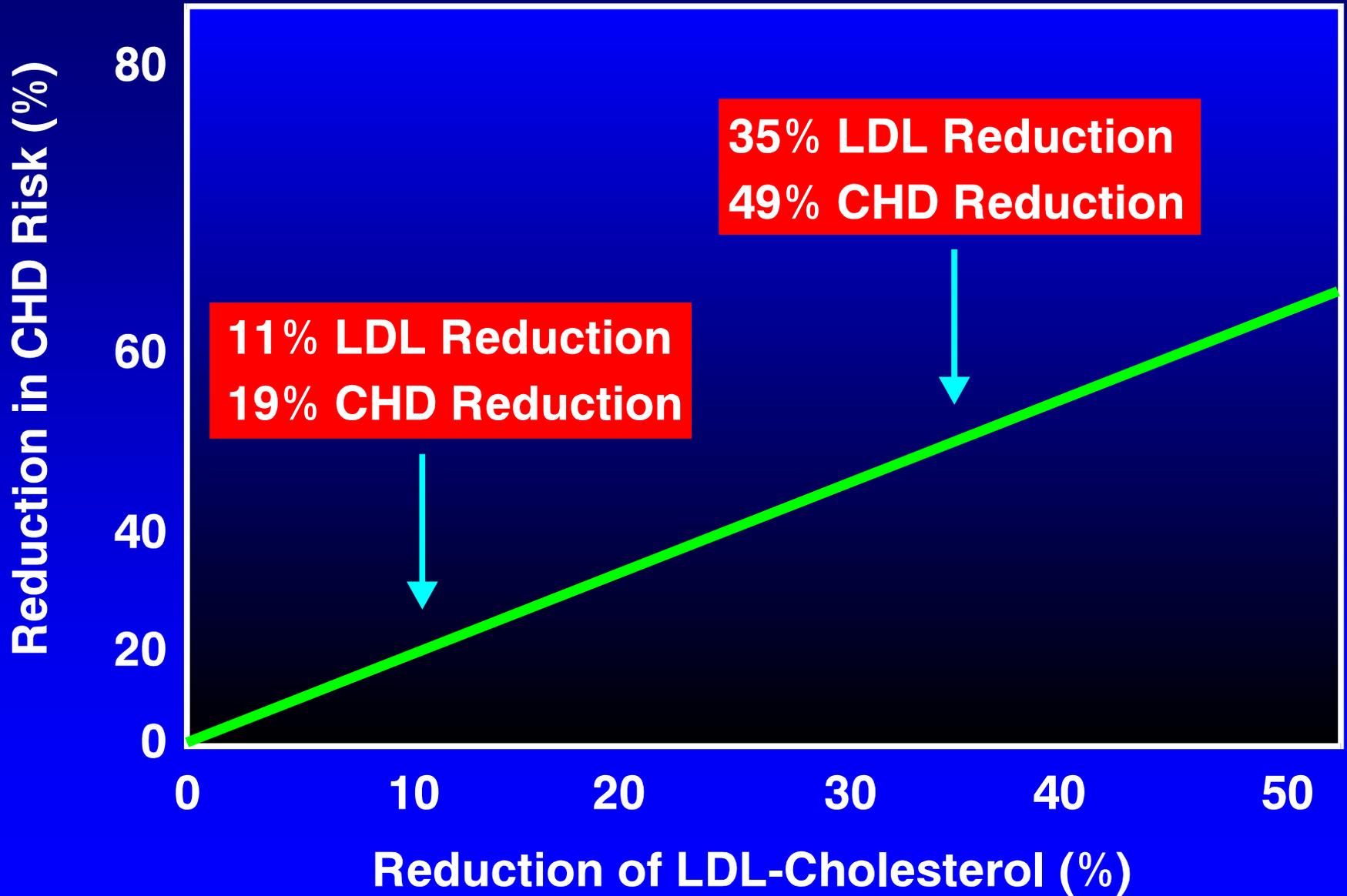
Expert Panel on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Cholesterol in Adults. *JAMA* 2001;285:2486-2497.

*The Lower = The Better*

➤ *for LDL-C lowering*

➤ *For clinical outcomes reduction*

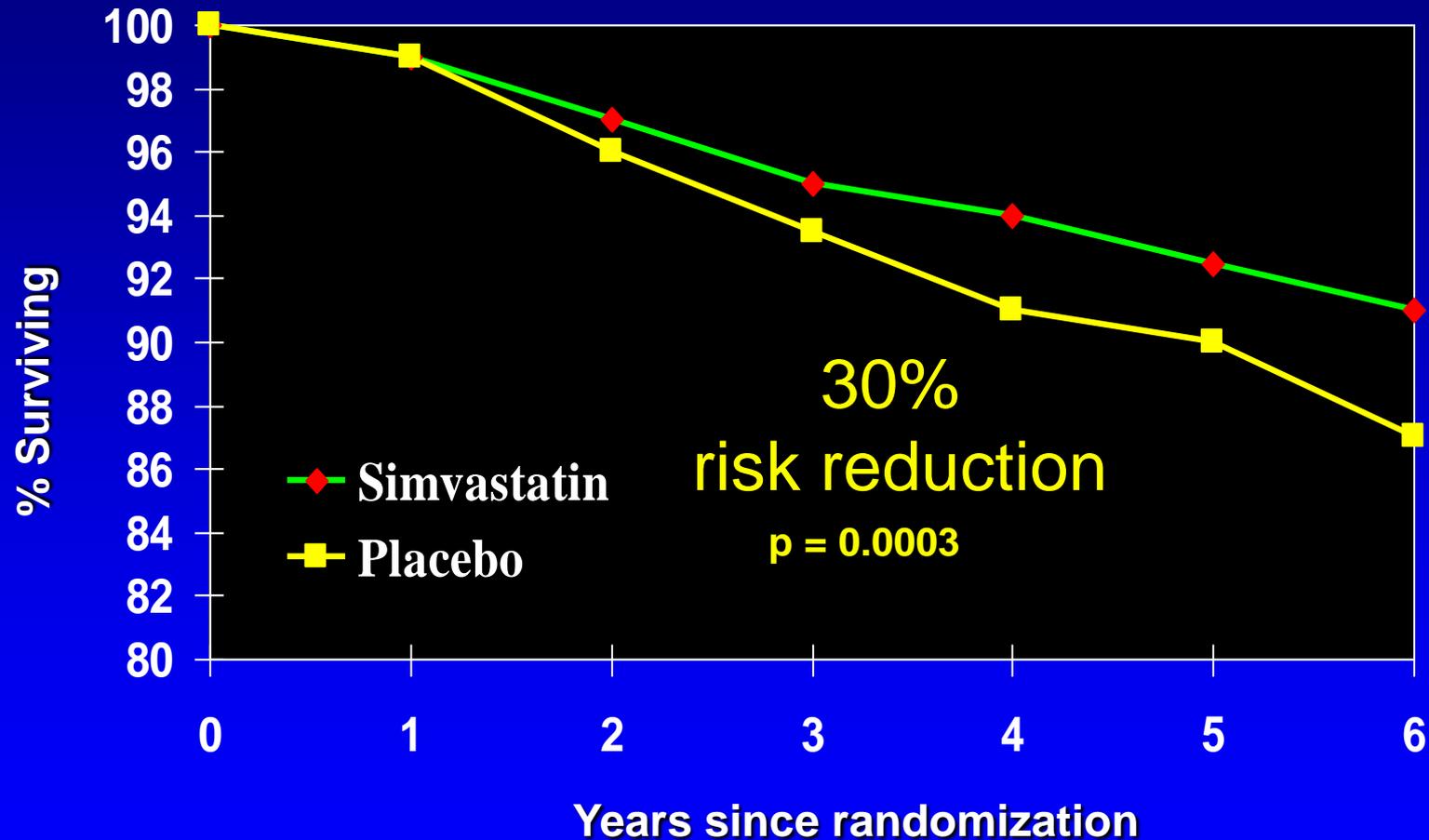
# LRC - CPPT



# Scandinavian Simvastatin Survival Study (4S)

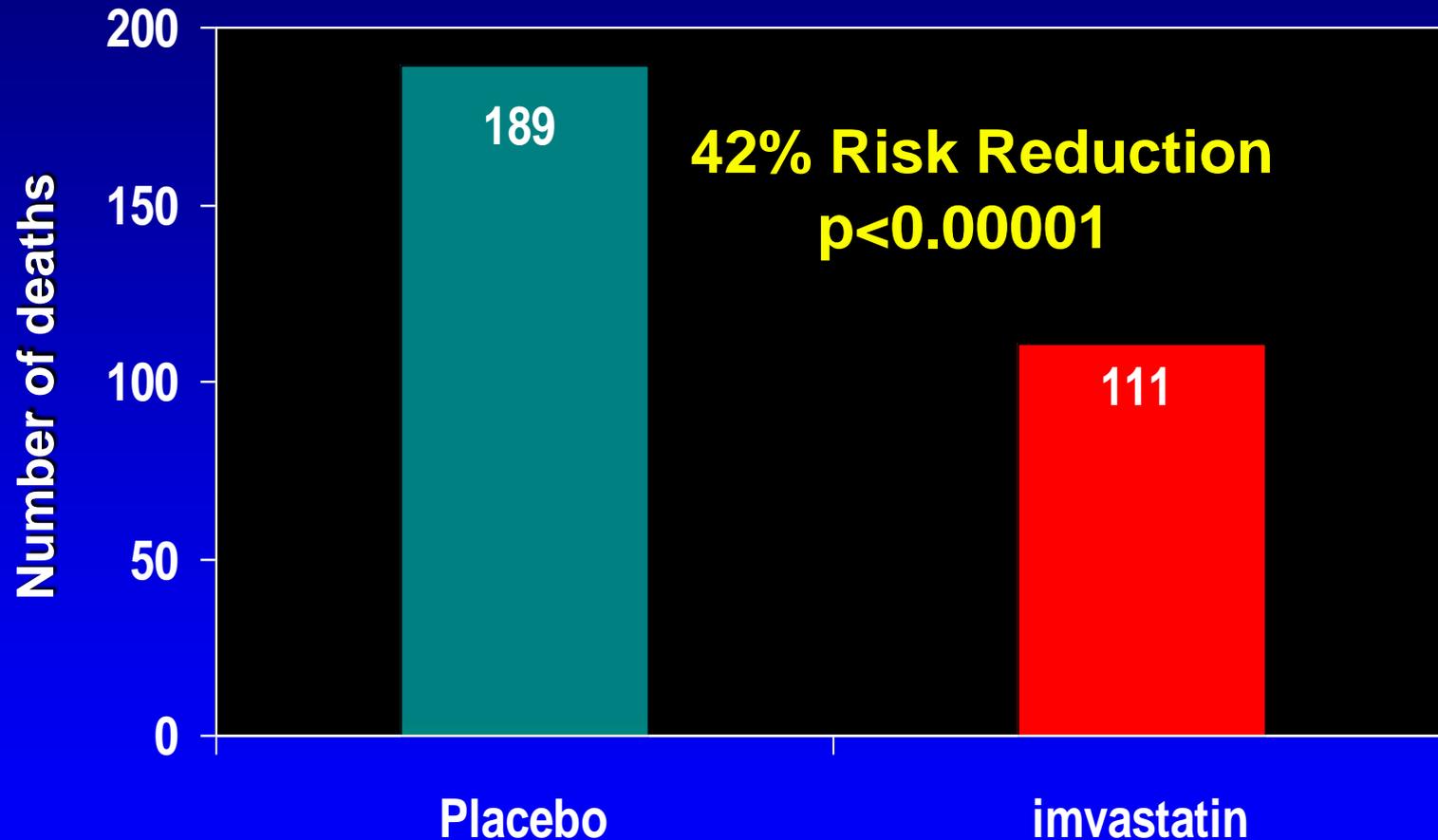
The Lancet, Vol 344, November 19, 1994

# Primary Endpoint: Overall Survival



# Coronary Mortality

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# TNT Trial

10,003 patients with stable coronary heart disease

Age 35-75 years, LDL between 130 and 250 mg/dL, triglyceride  $\leq$  600 mg/dL

19% female, mean age 60.3 years

All received atorvastatin 10 mg during 8 week open-label run-in period

Atorvastatin 80 mg

n=4,995

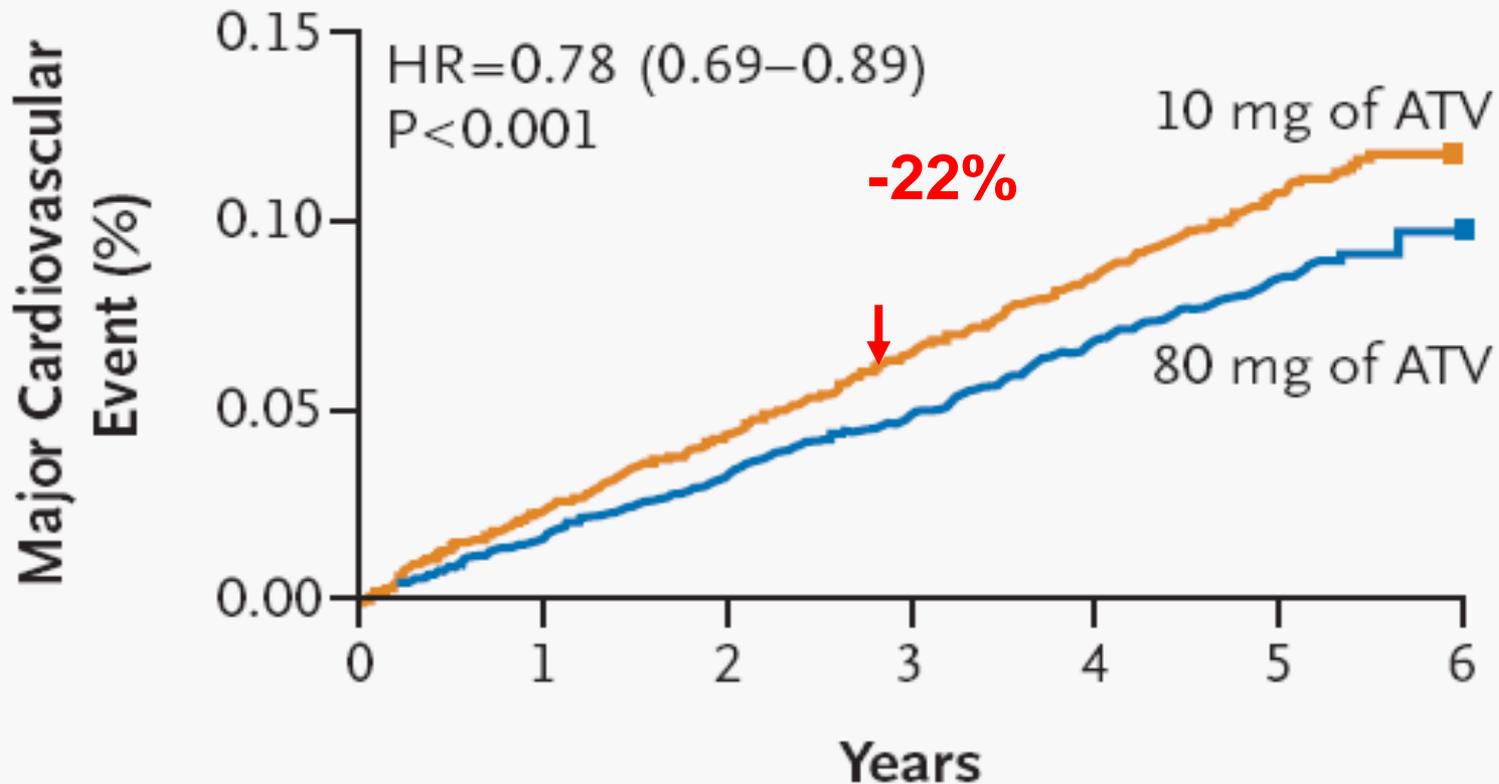
Atorvastatin 10 mg

n=5,006

Primary Endpoint: Major cardiovascular event defined as coronary heart death (CHD), nonfatal M, resuscitated cardiac arrest, and fatal or nonfatal stroke at a mean follow-up of 4.9 years.

Secondary Endpoint: Major coronary events, cerebrovascular events, hospitalization for congestive heart failure (CHF), all-cause mortality, peripheral artery disease, any cardiovascular event, any coronary event

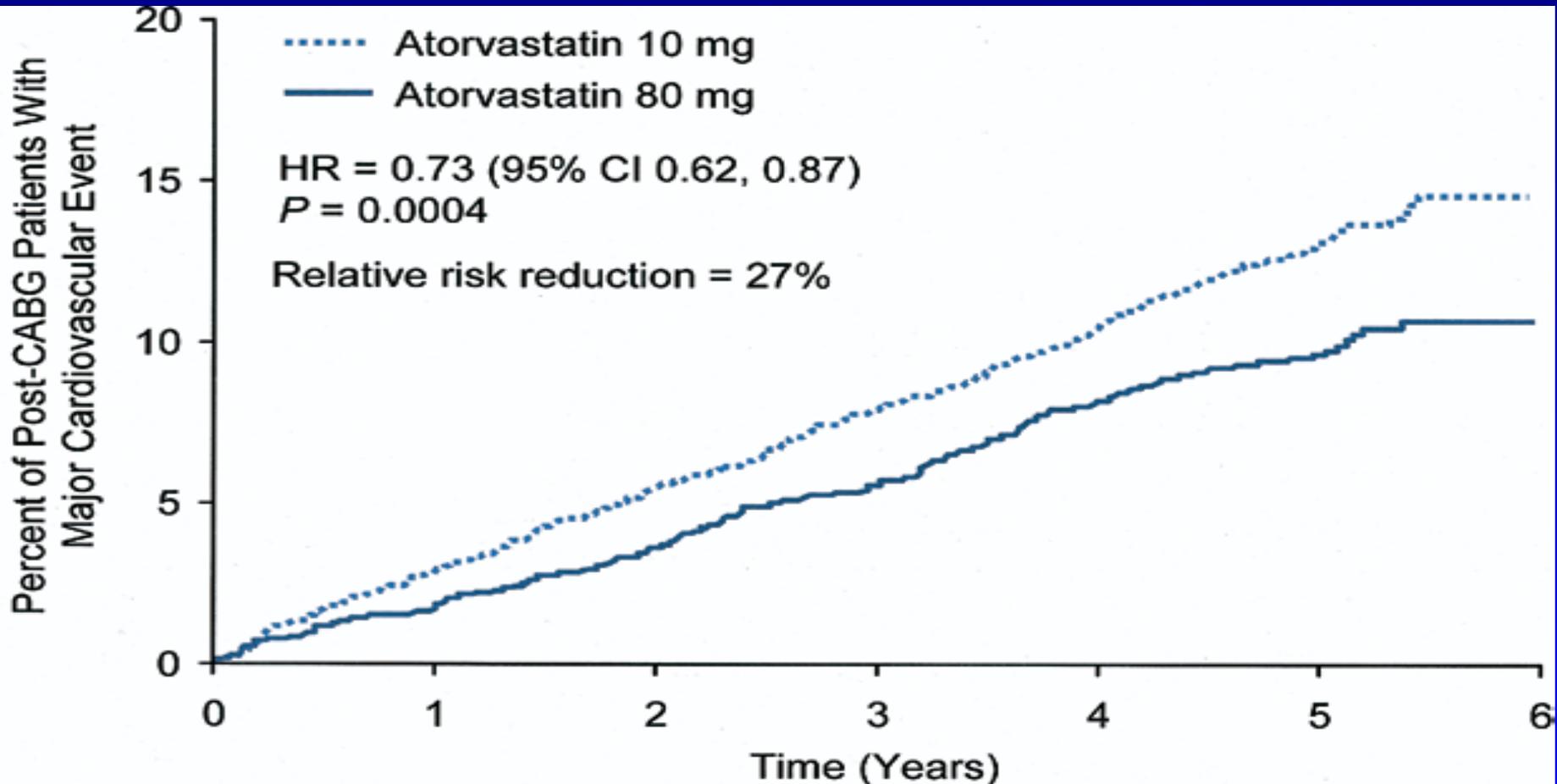
# TNT: The Lower the Better



*Intensive lipid-lowering therapy with atorvastatin 80 mg/day in patients with stable CHD provides significant clinical benefit beyond that provided by atorvastatin 10 mg/day*

# TNT pts after CABG n = 4,654

## MACE -27%



No. at risk:

|           |      |      |      |      |      |     |   |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|---|
| Atv 10 mg | 2338 | 2263 | 2192 | 2121 | 2038 | 993 | 0 |
| Atv 80 mg | 2316 | 2265 | 2204 | 2141 | 2069 | 980 | 0 |

# IDEAL Trial: Study Design

**8,888 patients  $\leq 80$  years with definite history of myocardial infarction and qualified for statin therapy at time of recruitment**

Randomized

**High-dose  
atorvastatin**

**80 mg/day**

If LDL was  $< 40$  mg/dL at 24 wks  
dose could be reduced to 40  
mg/day

**n=4,439**

**Standard-dose  
simvastatin**

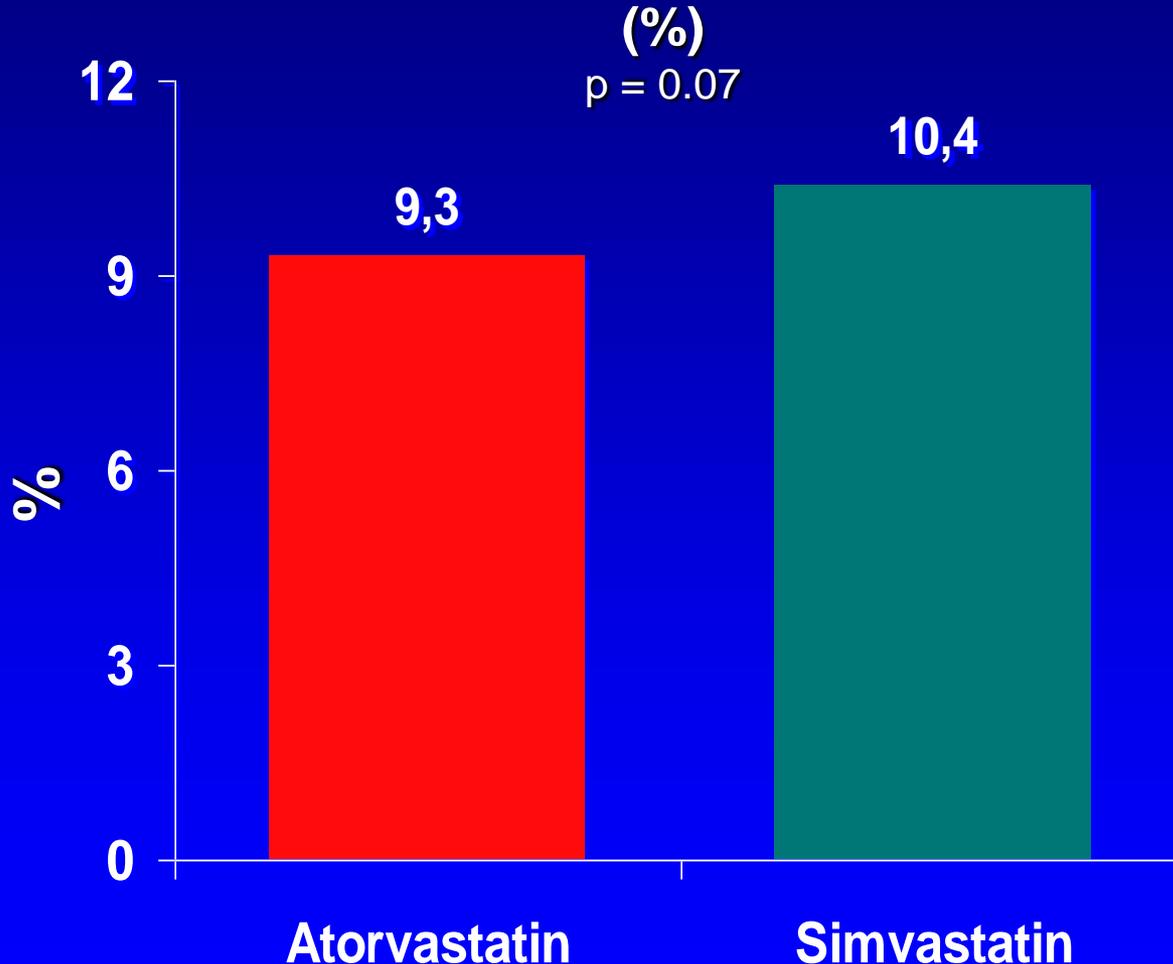
**20 mg/day**

If cholesterol  $> 190$  mg/dL at 24 wks  
dose could be increased to 40  
mg/day

**n=4,449**

# IDEAL Trial: Primary Endpoint

Primary Composite of major coronary event \*



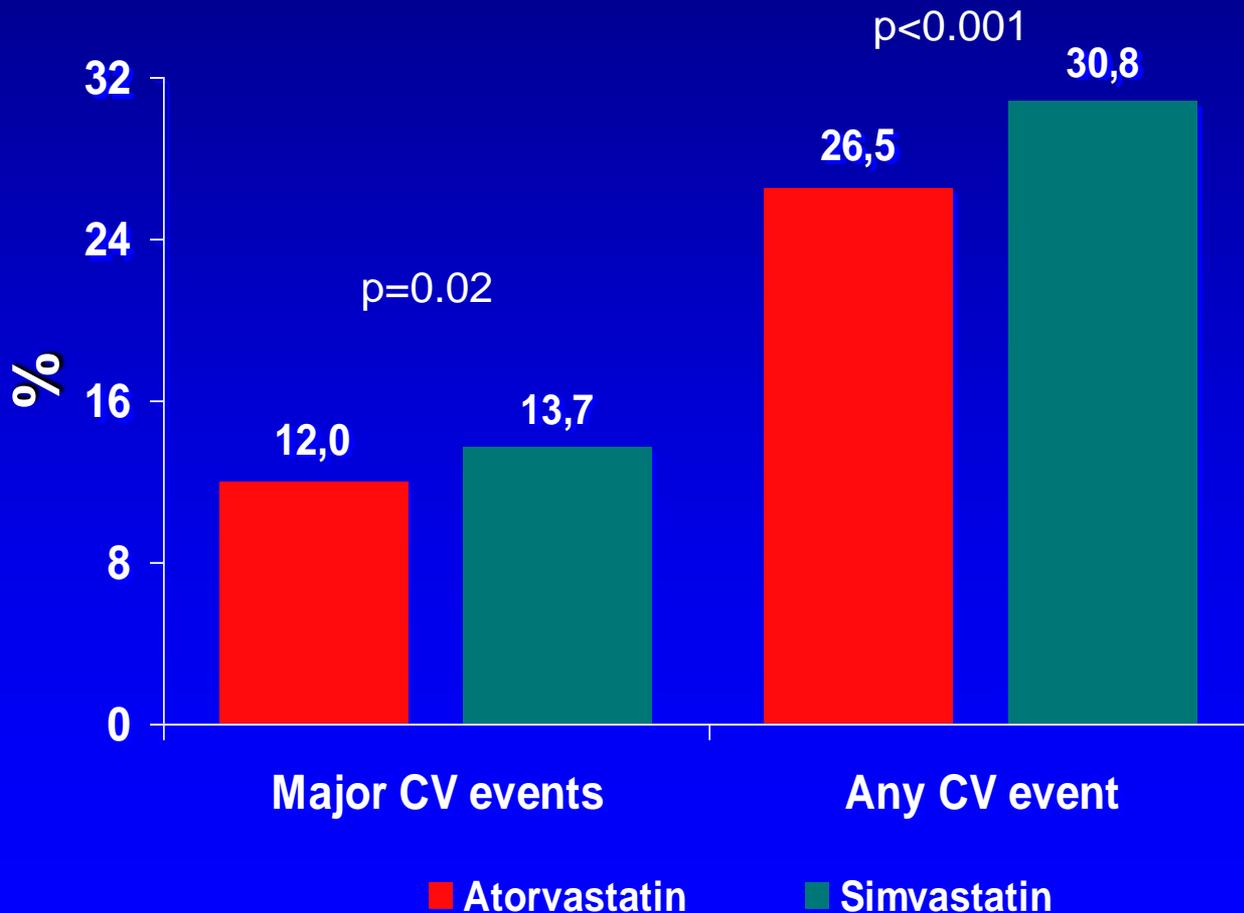
- The primary composite endpoint of major coronary event occurred in 9.3% of the atorvastatin group and 10.4% of the simvastatin group.

\* Major coronary event defined as coronary death, hospitalization for non-fatal acute MI or resuscitated cardiac arrest.

*Presented at AHA 2005*

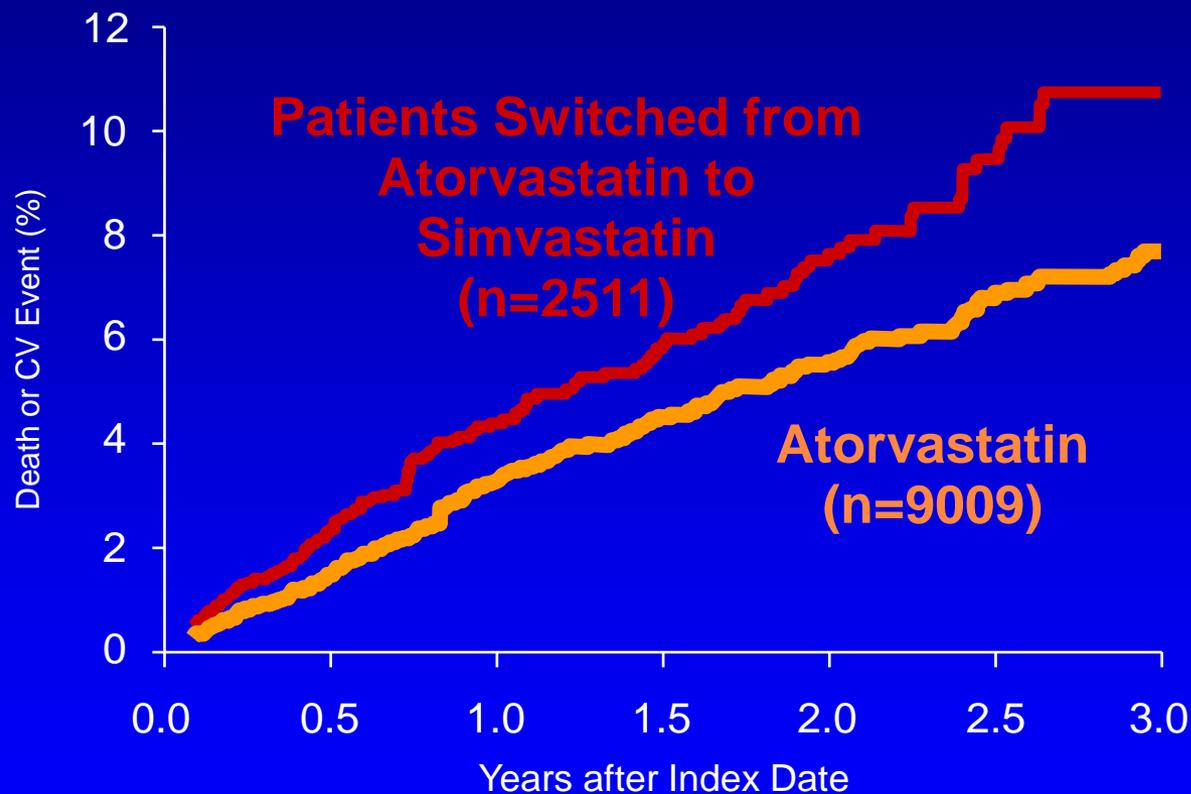
# IDEAL Trial: Secondary Endpoints

Major cardiovascular events and any cardiovascular event (%)



- Major cardiovascular events, defined as any primary event plus stroke, occurred less often in the atorvastatin group.
- Any cardiovascular event, defined as major CV event plus hospitalization for CHF and peripheral artery disease, also occurred less often in the atorvastatin group.

# UK Switching Study: Impact of Switching From Atorvastatin to Simvastatin

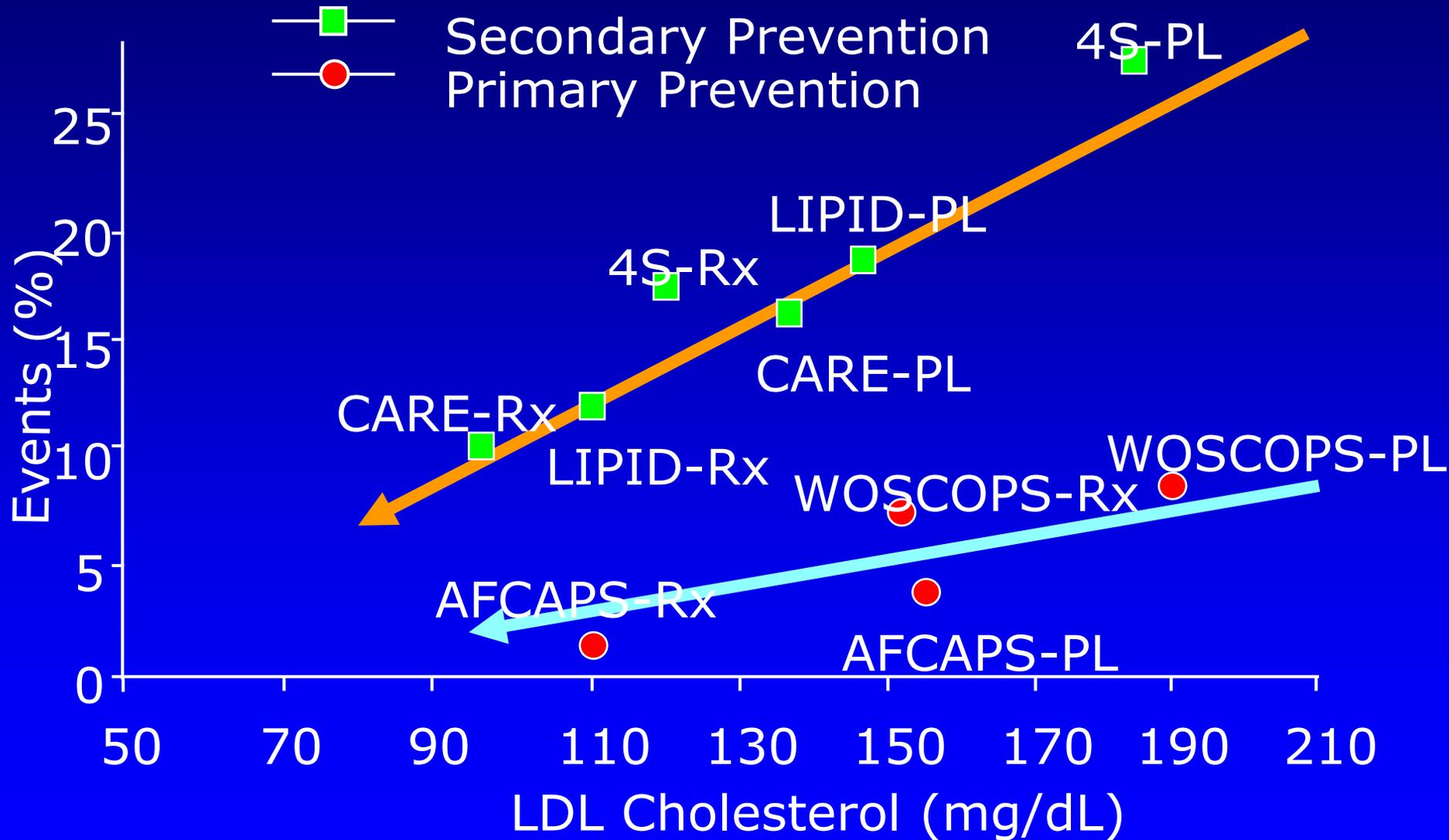


**33%**

Increase in death or CV events with switch to Simvastatin  
( $P=0.007$ )

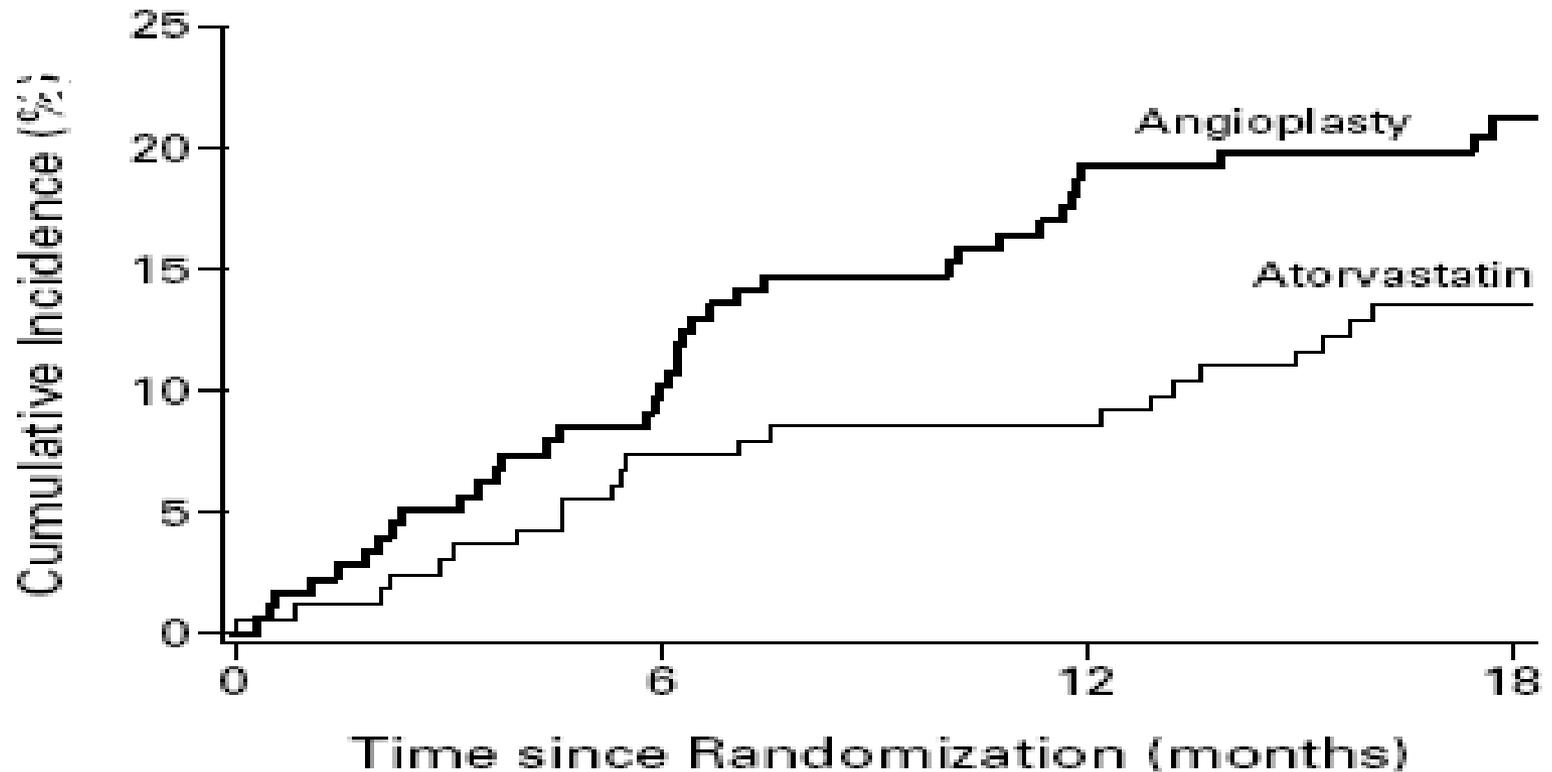
Primary end point: time to death or first major CV event (MI, stroke, and revascularization)

# LDL-C lowering with statins: reduced CHD events



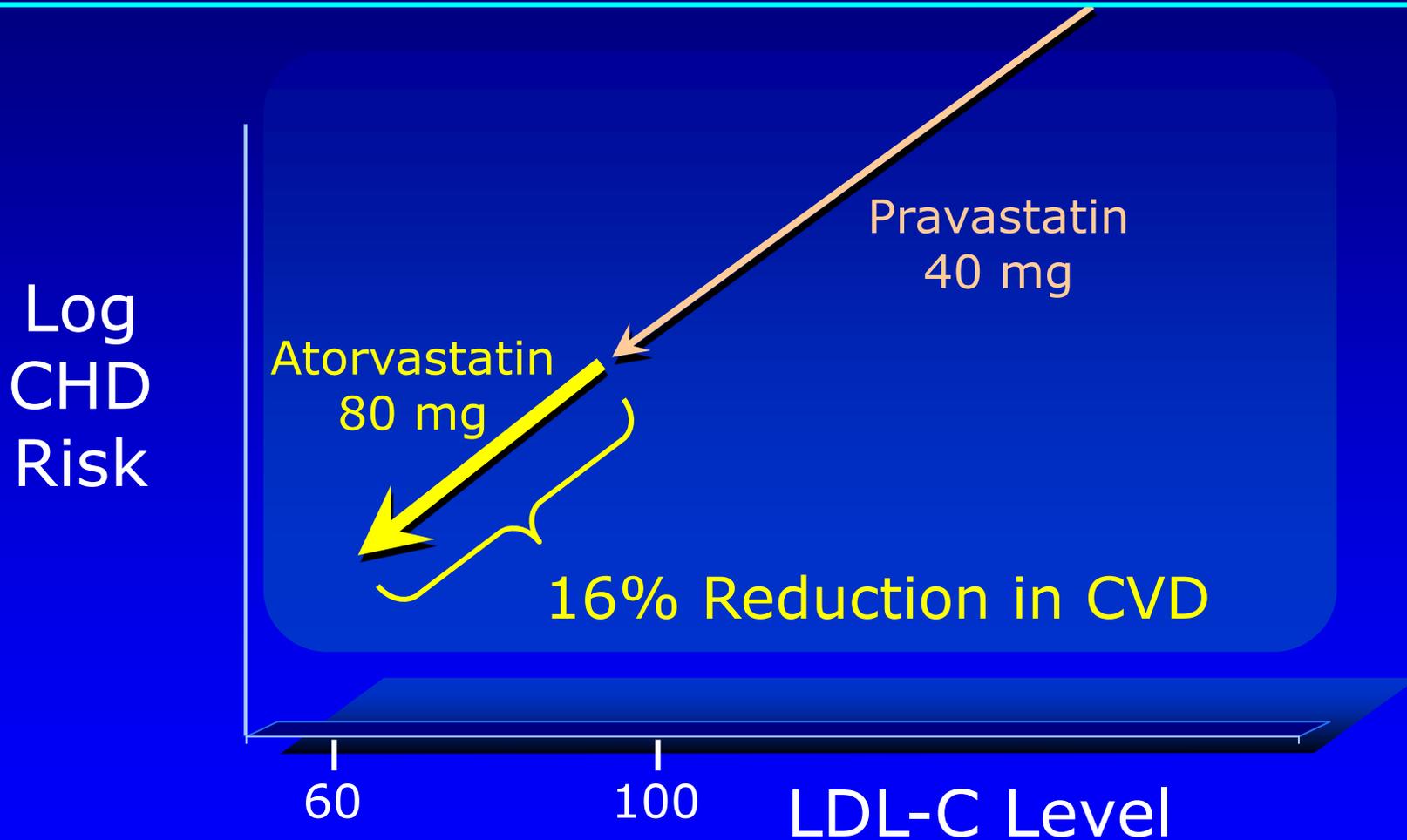
*The Lower The Better*

# Aggressive lipid-lowering therapy is as effective as angioplasty



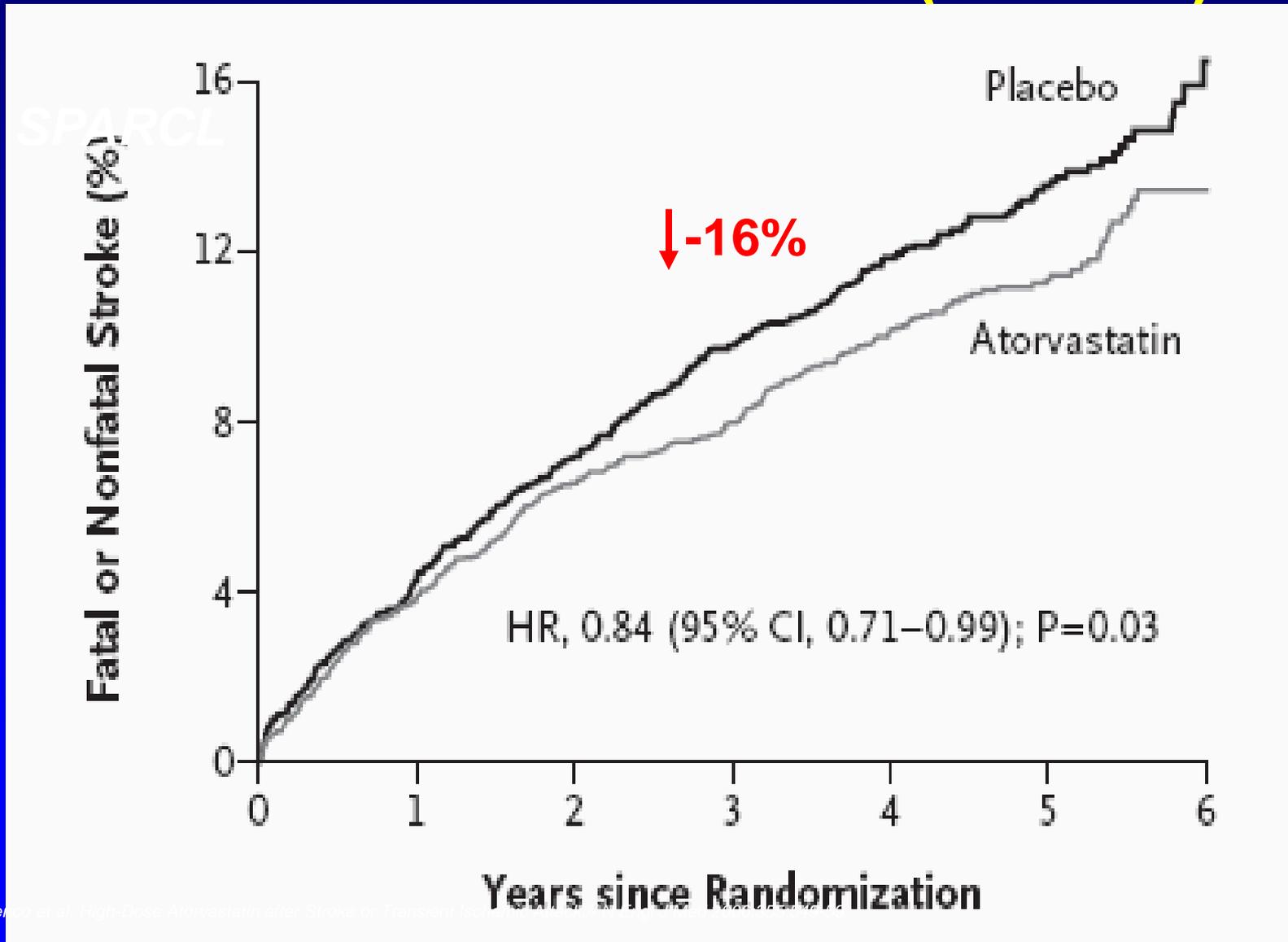
*Treatment with atorvastatin, as compared with angioplasty, was associated with a significantly longer time to a first ischemic event and with a reduction in risk of **36%***

# PROVE IT-TIMI 22 (2-Year Trial)

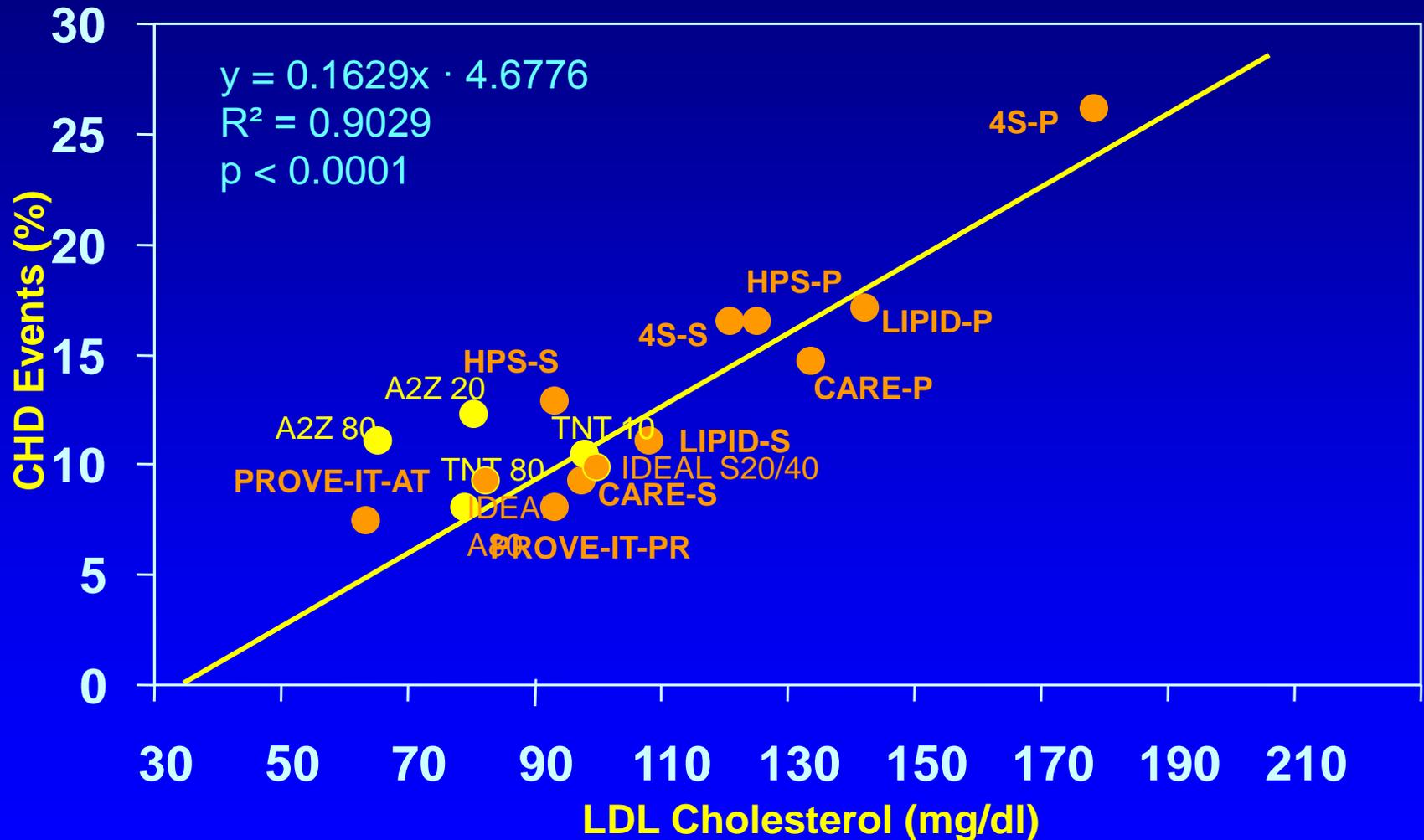


Cannon CP et al. *N Engl J Med* 2004;350:1495-1504.

# High dose atorvastatin after stroke or transient ischemic attack (SPARCL)



# CHD Event Rates in Secondary Prevention and ACS Trials

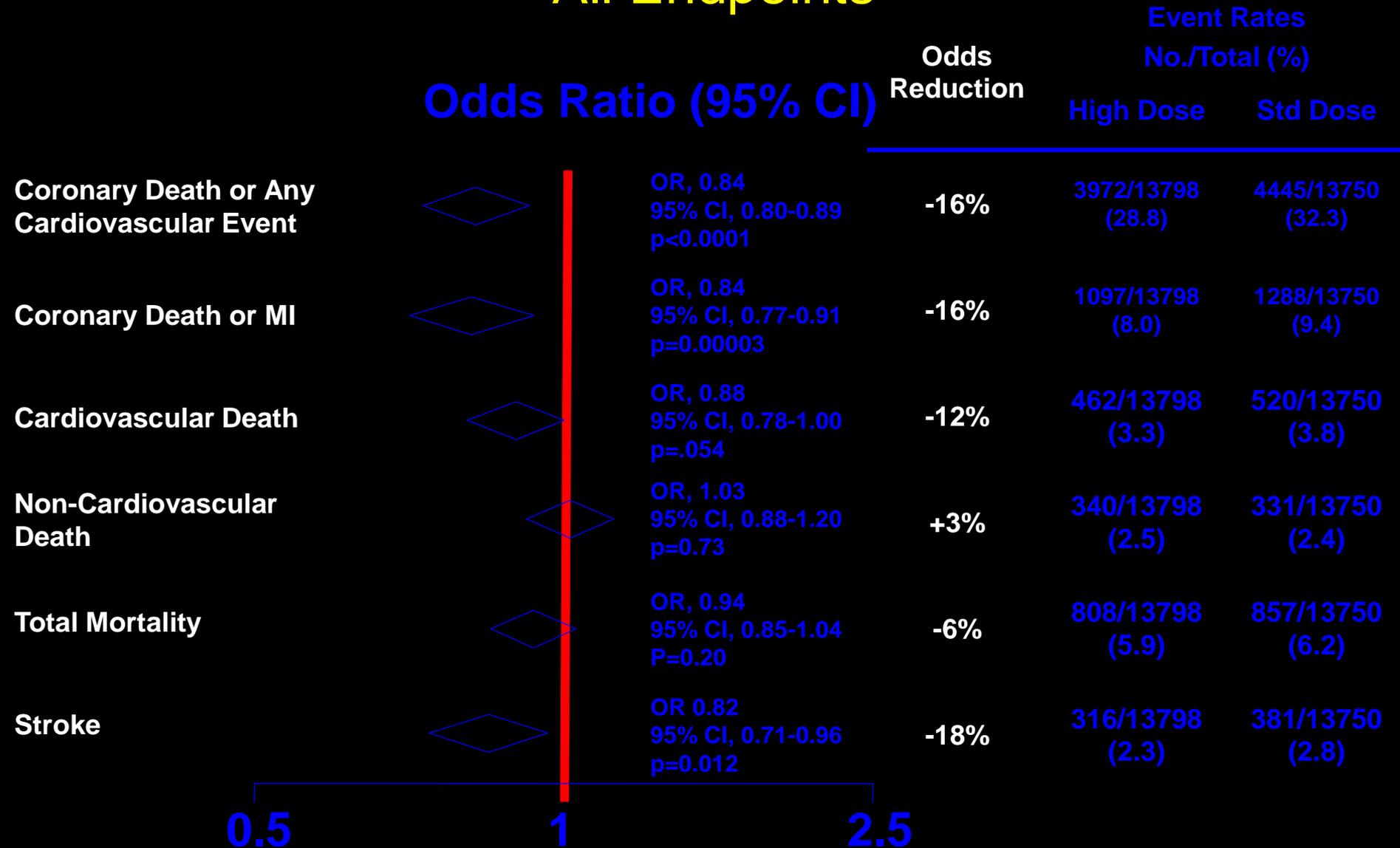


Updated from - O'Keefe, J. et al., *J Am Coll*

*Cardiol* 1999;14:2412-6

# Meta-Analysis of Intensive Statin Therapy

## All Endpoints

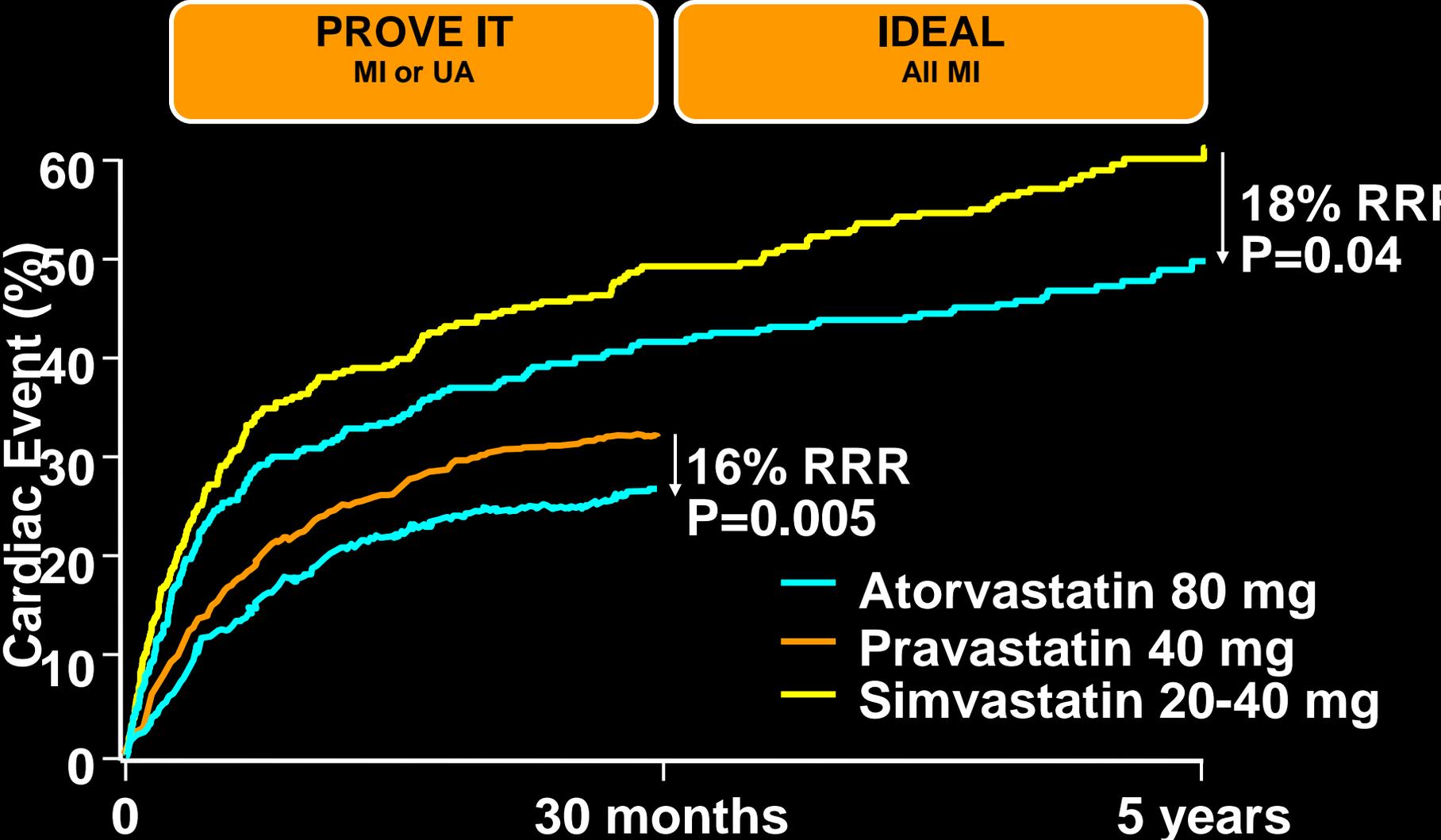


Cannon CP, et al.

Cannon CP, et al. JACC 2006; 48: 438 - 445.

High-dose statin better High-dose statin worse

# Summary: 5 Years Of Follow-Up In IDEAL Is The Longest Period Of Follow-Up Of ACS Patients On Statin Therapy



Pedersen, Olsson, Cater et al. Presented at World Congress of Cardiology 2006

**PCSK9** (proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9)

**Enzyme - associated with plasma levels of LDL -C**

(expressed in the liver, intestine and kidney)

**Overexpression of gene for PCSK9** → **more PCSK9 enzyme** → **LDL receptors reduction** (LDL-Receptor enable removal of LDL-C from the plasma) → **increase in circulating LDL-C**

**High levels of PCSK9 = high LDL-C levels**

Conversely, lacking *Pcsk9* leads to increased levels of hepatic LDL receptors, and they remove LDL from the plasma at an accelerated rate)

**Low levels of PCSK9 = low LDL-C levels**

1. Brown, M.S., Science, Vol 311, March 24, 2006

2. Cohen J.C. et al., New England Journal of Medicine, Volume 354, 2006 Number 12

# Cohens et al. study

*The Longer The Better*

- Studied patients with **lifelong low LDL-C levels**, due to loss of-function mutations in the gene encoding PCSK9 = they have **low level of PCSK9 = low level of LDL-C**
- **Severe mutation: LDL-C was reduced by 1 mmol/l (38 mg/dl)**  
 **prevalence of CHD declined by a remarkable 88%.**
- **Less severe mut.: LDL-C was reduced by only 0,52 mmol/l (21 mg/dl)**  
 **CHD incidence declined by 47%.**

*The Longer The Better*

# Cohen et al. study

Why does lowering of **LDL-C**  
concentration by **40 mg/dl**

by a **PCSK9** mutation reduce **CHD**  
incidence by **88%**,

whereas a **40-mg/dl** lowering with a statin  
reduces **CHD**

prevalence by **only 23%** on average ???

# Cohens et al. study

*The Longer The Better*

The most likely answer is

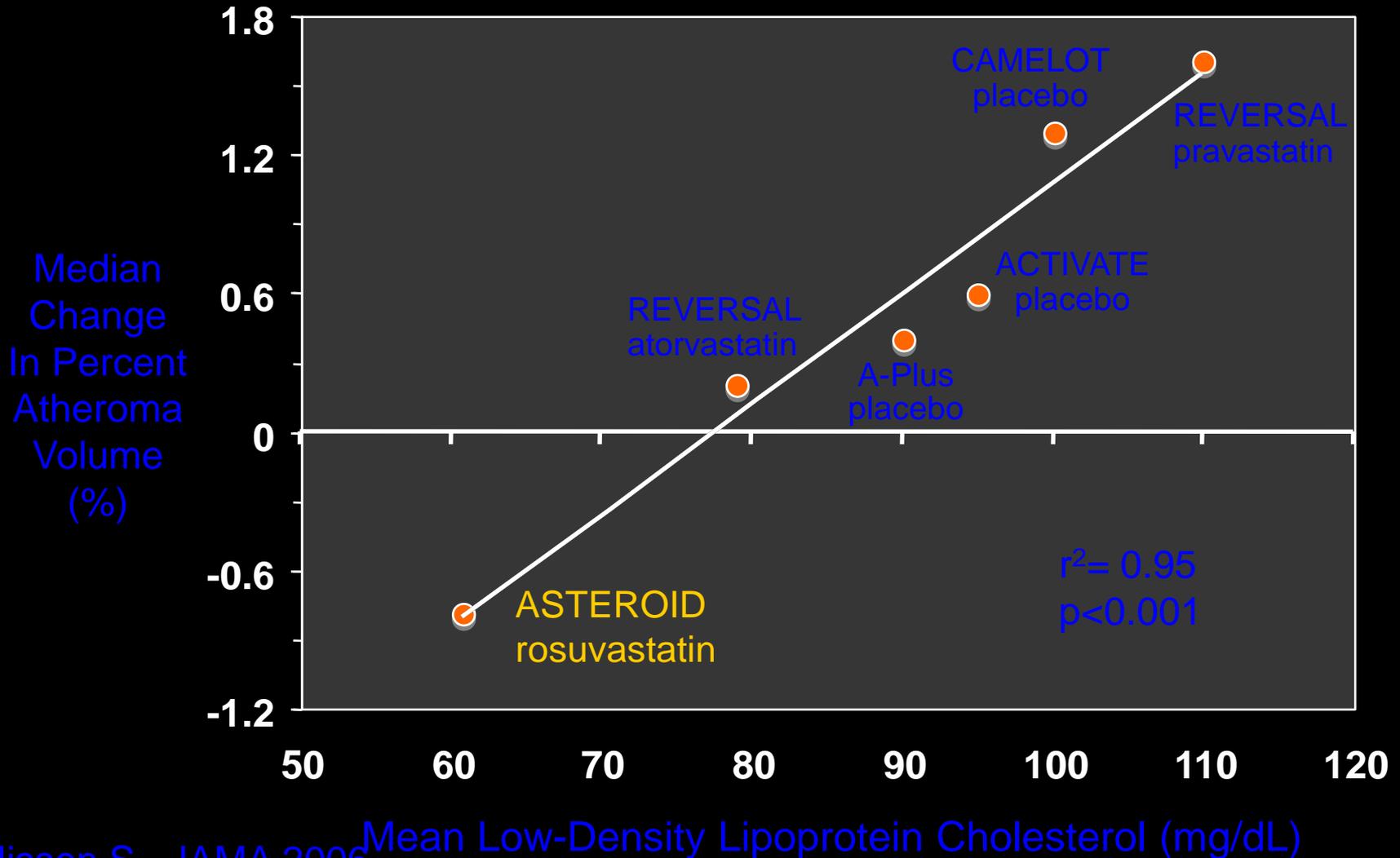
***DURATION***

# **Cohens et al. study**

- People with mutations in PCSK9 likely have maintained relatively **low LDL levels throughout their lives.**
- **People in statin trials** have had their LDL levels lowered for **only 5 years.**
- **Atherosclerosis is a chronic disease that begins in the teenage years**

# Relationship between LDL-C and Progression Rate

## Recent Coronary IVUS Progression Trials



# ASTEROID: study design

## Patients

CAD, undergoing coronary angiography

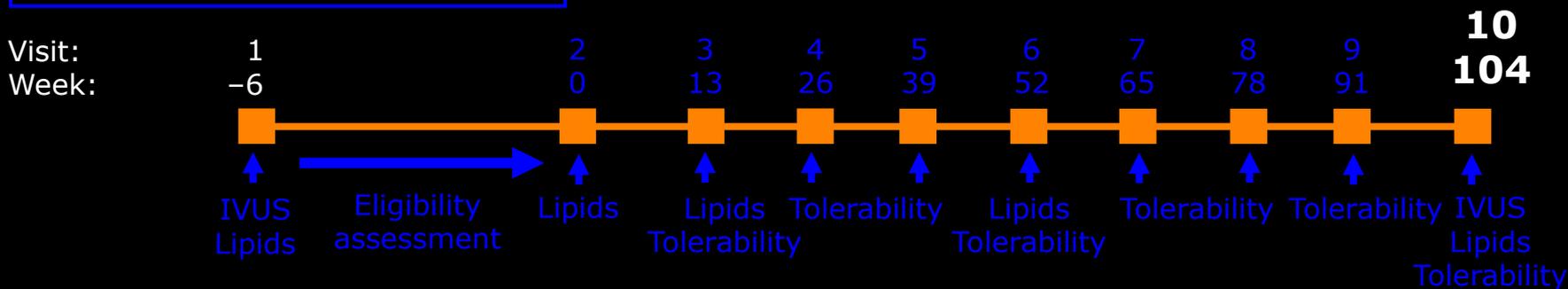
Target coronary artery:  $\leq 50\%$  reduction in lumen diameter of  $\geq 40$  mm segment

No cholesterol entry criteria

$\geq 18$  years

**Rosuvastatin 40 mg**

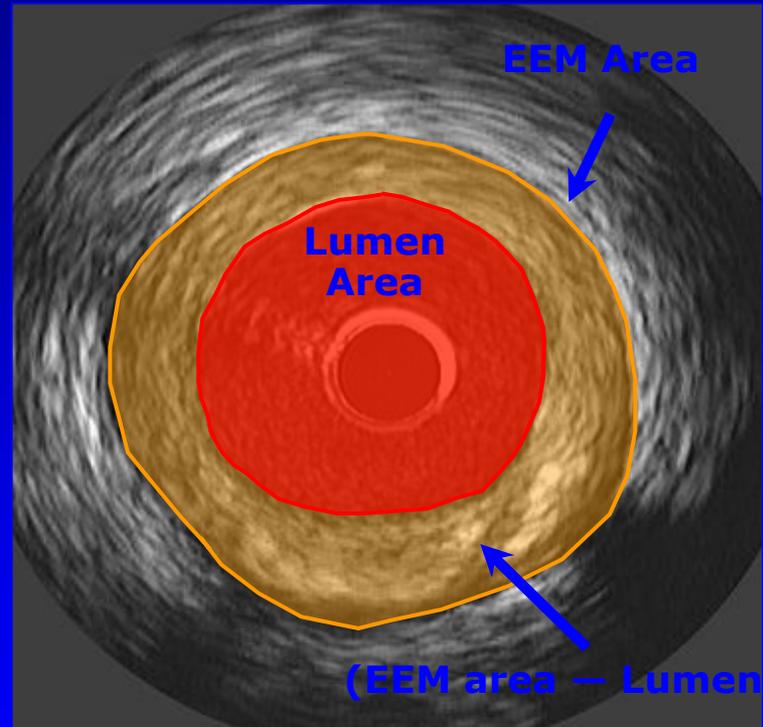
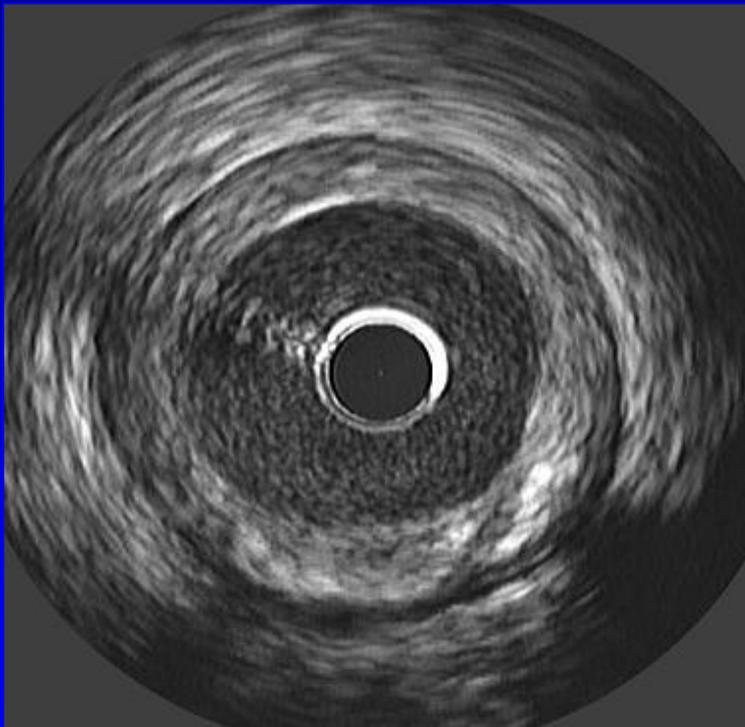
(n=349 evaluated serial IVUS examinations)



CAD=coronary artery disease; PCI=percutaneous coronary intervention; IVUS=intravascular ultrasound

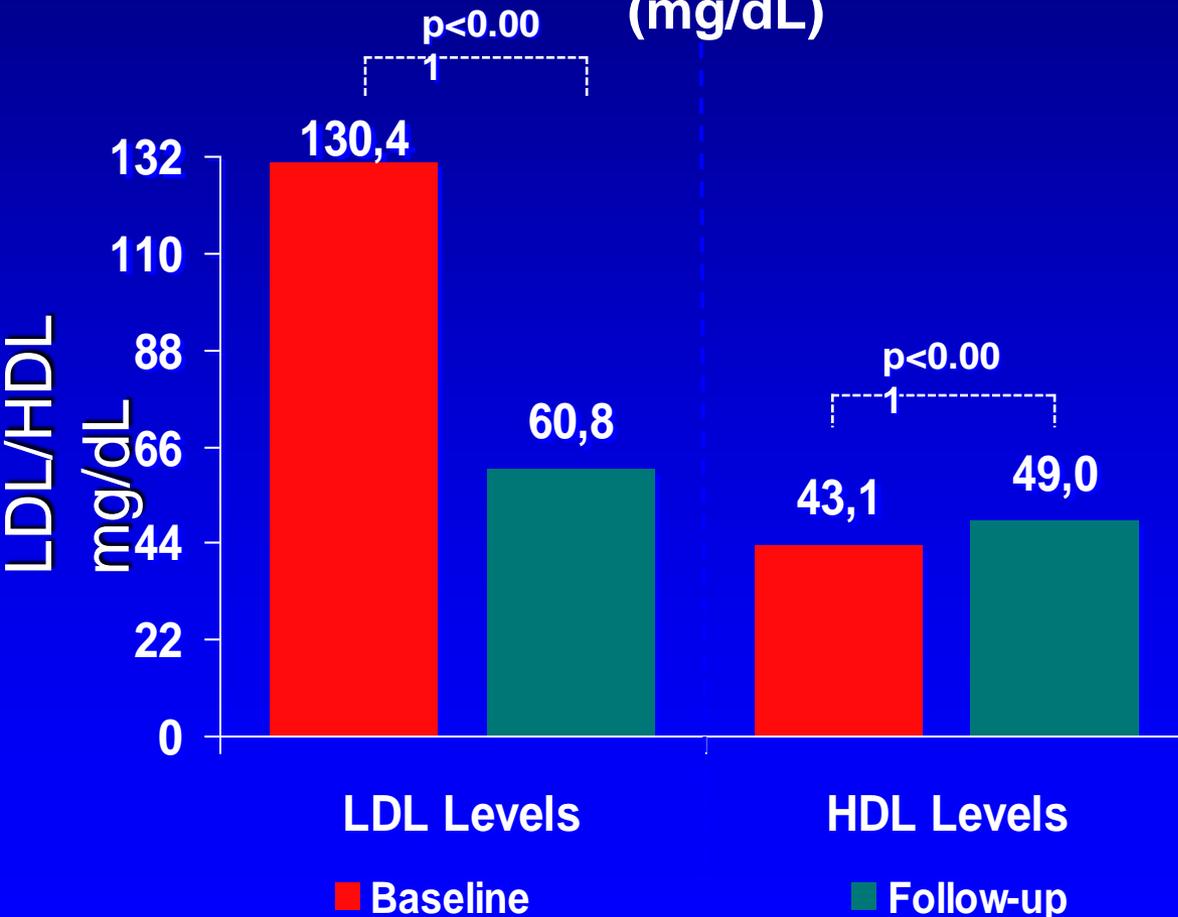
# IVUS Objem atero plátu

Precise Planimetry of EEM and Lumen Borders allows calculation of Atheroma Cross-sectional Area



# ASTEROID Trial: Principal Findings

Mean LDL level decrement and HDL level increment (mg/dL)

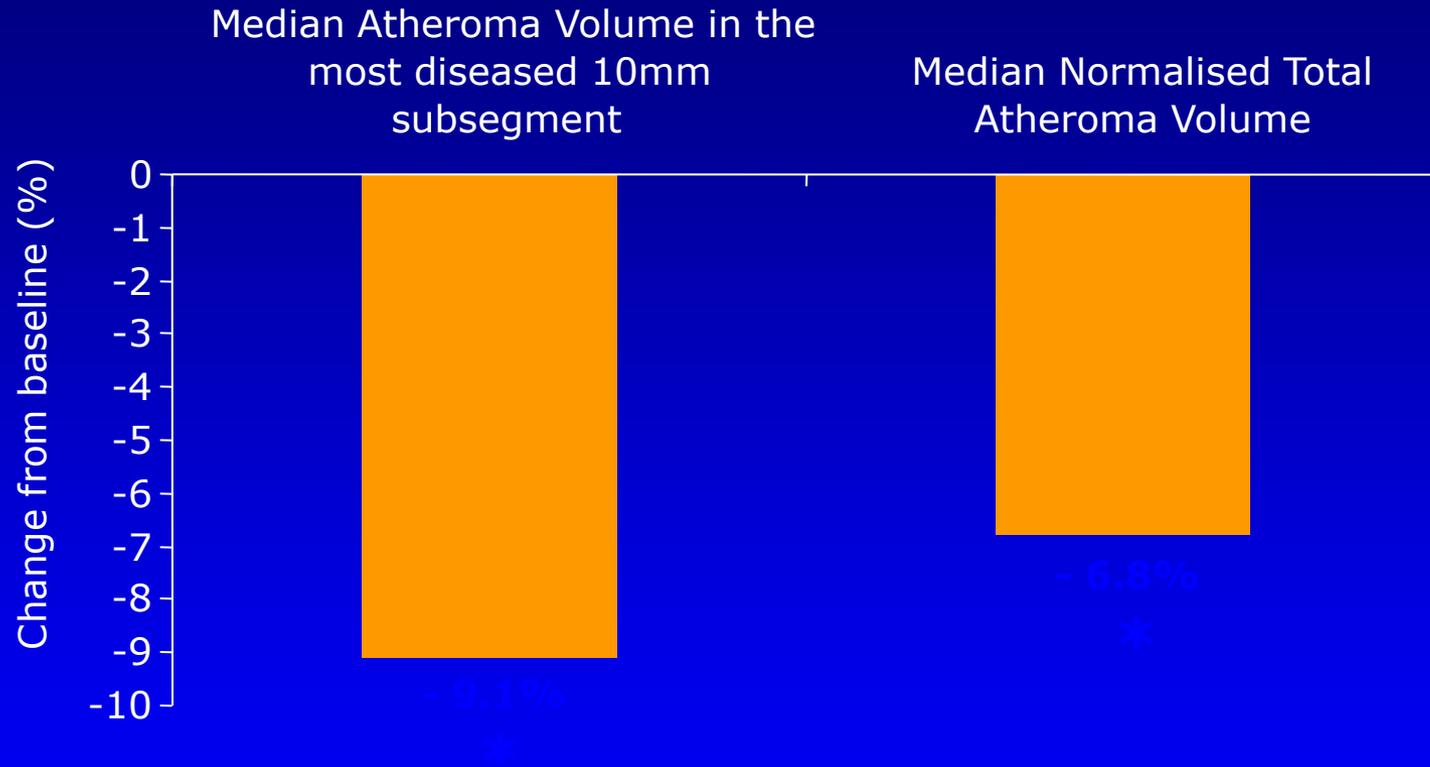


- LDL Levels were reduced from 130.4 mg/dL at baseline to a mean of 60.8 mg/dL at 2 year follow-up (p<0.001), with 75% of patients achieving an LDL <70 mg/dL.

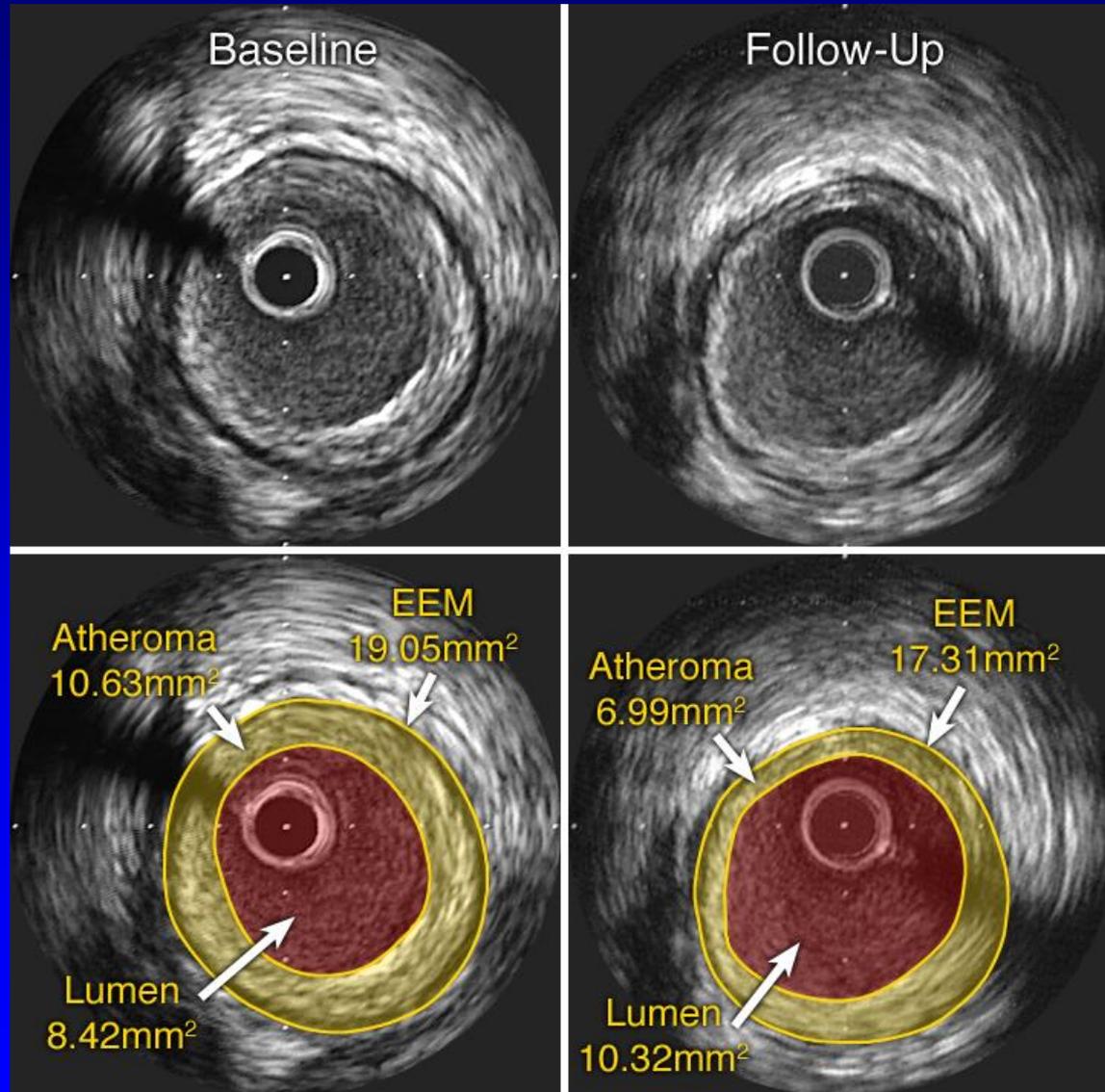
- HDL levels were increased from 43.1 mg/dL at baseline to a mean of 49.0 mg/dL at follow-up.

Presented at ACC 2006  
mg/dL at follow-

# Endpoint analysis: Change in key IVUS parameters

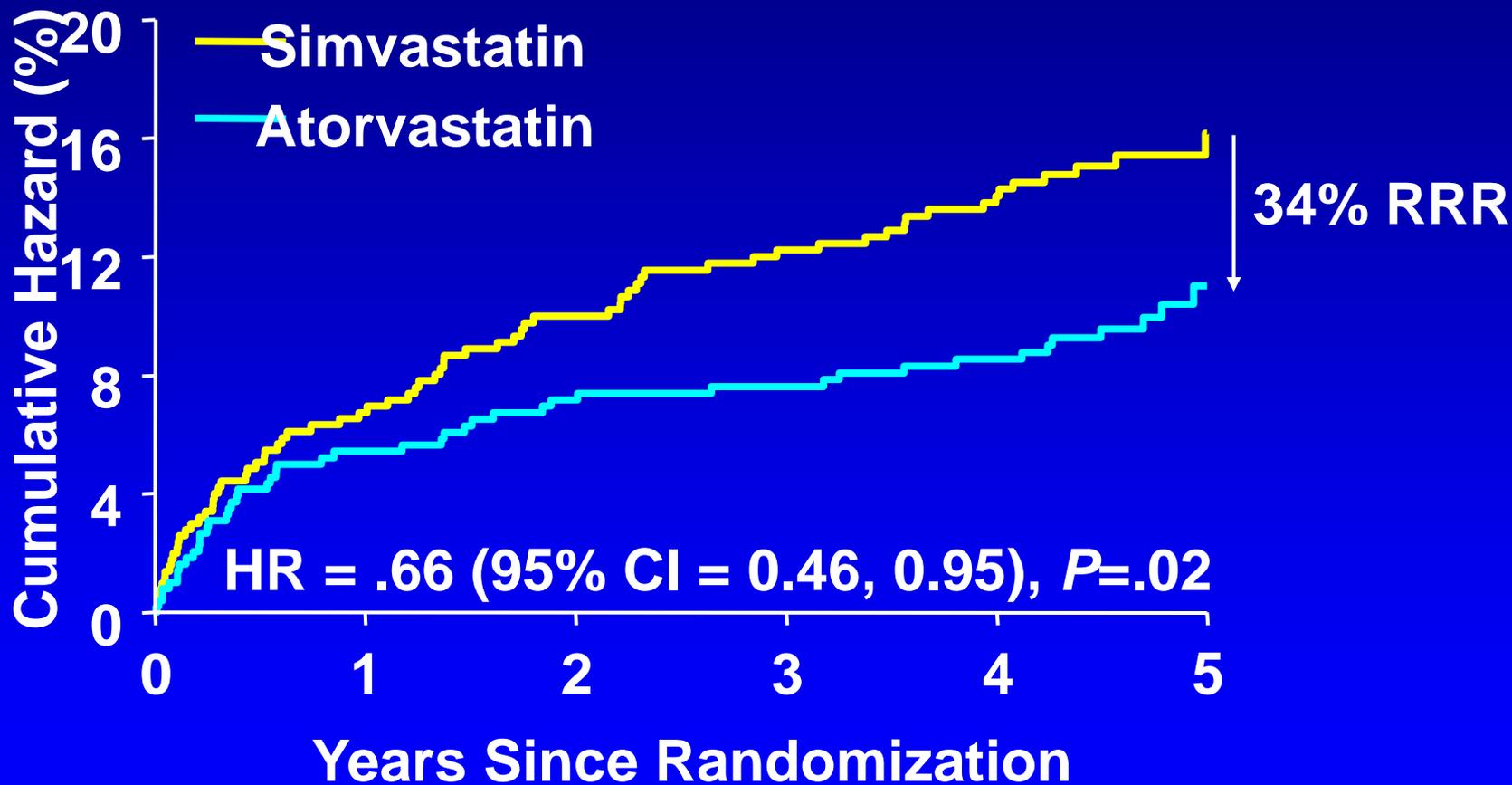


# Regression of atherosclerosis in ASTEROID



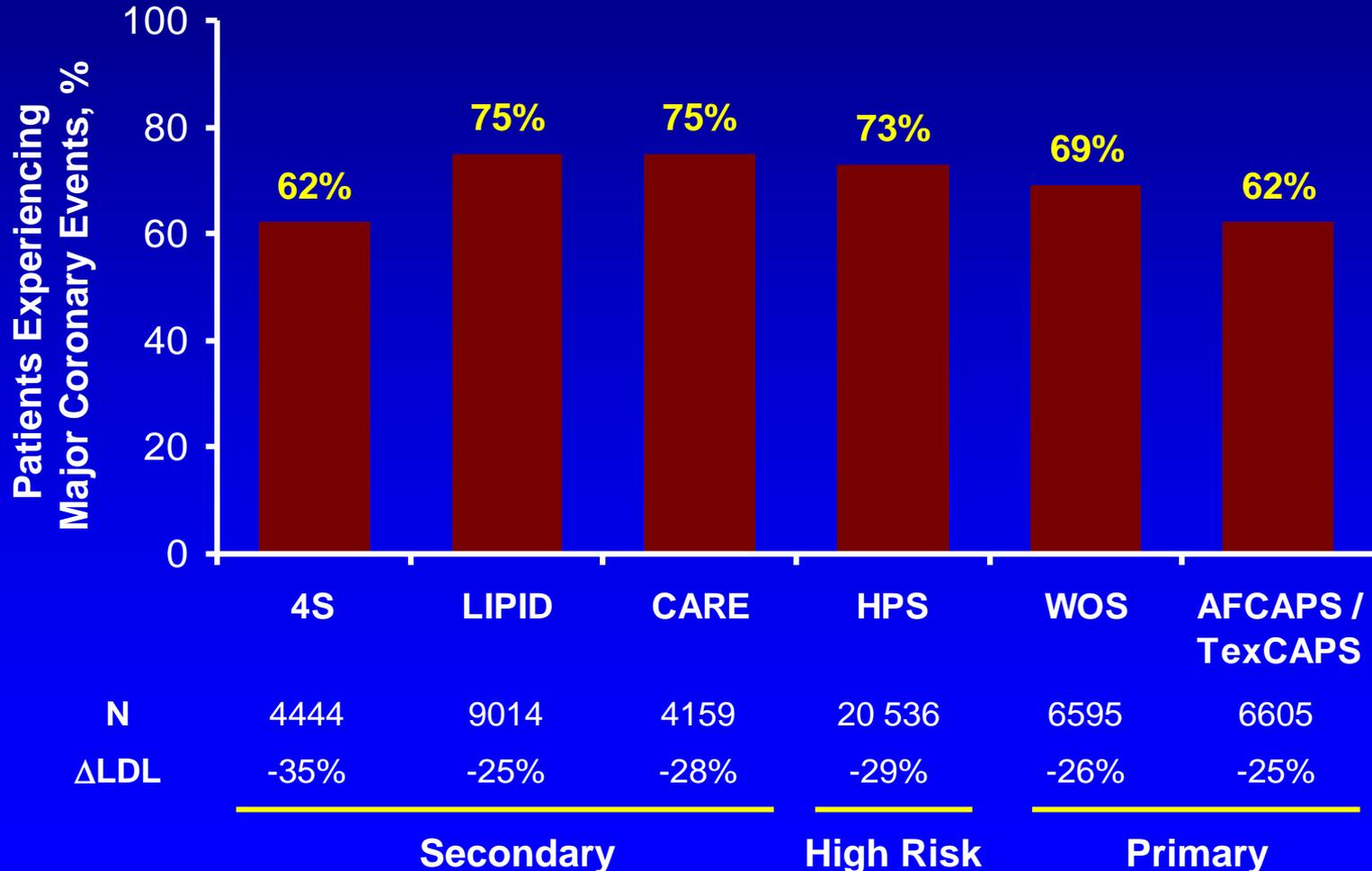
# ACS Patients: Major Coronary Events

MI + CHD Death + Resuscitated Cardiac Arrest





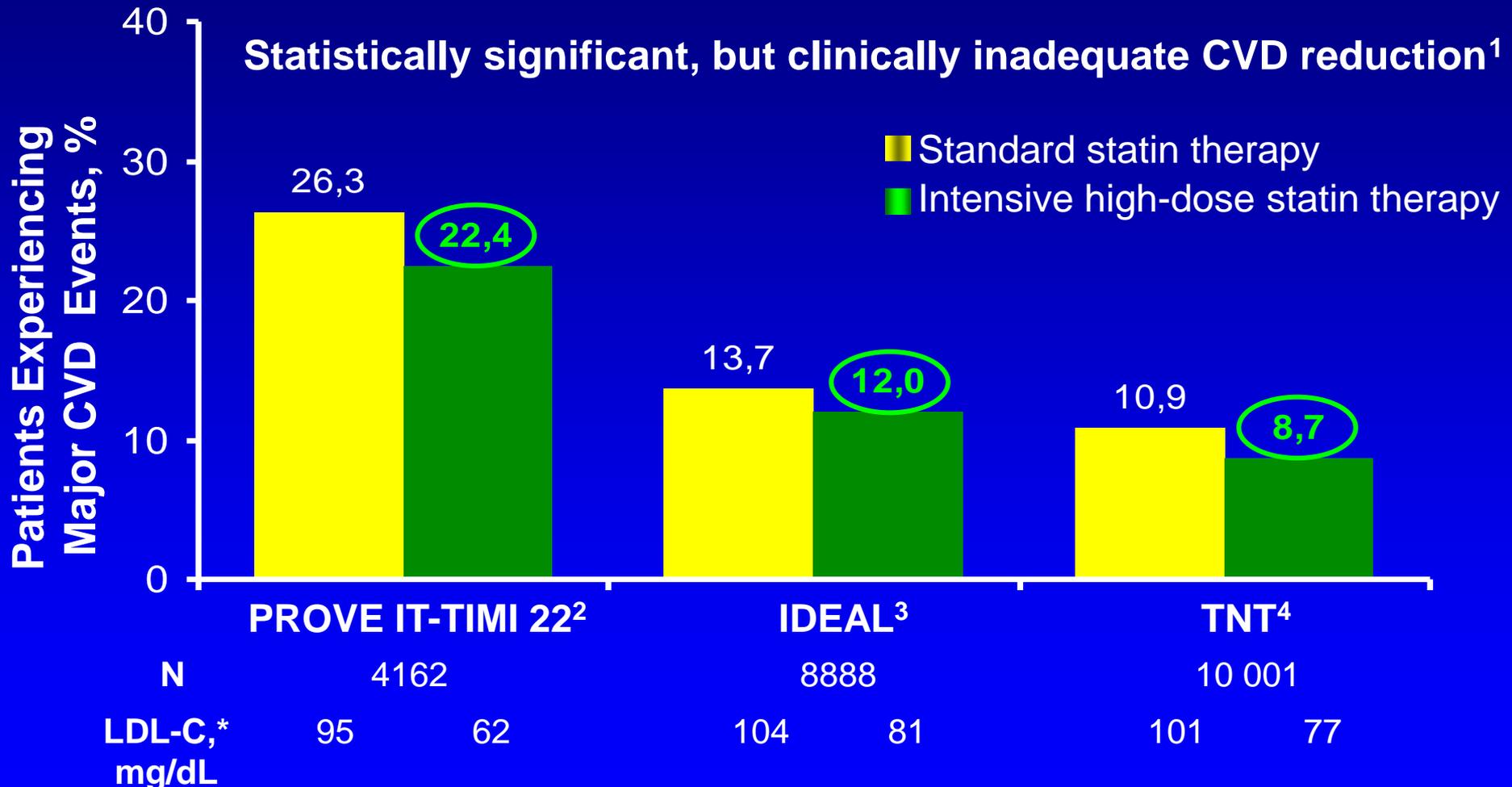
# Residual Cardiovascular Risk in Major Statin Trials: Standard Doses



Adapted from Libby PJ, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol*, 2005;46:1225-1228.

# Residual CVD Risk in Patients Treated With Intensive Statin Therapy

Statistically significant, but clinically inadequate CVD reduction<sup>1</sup>



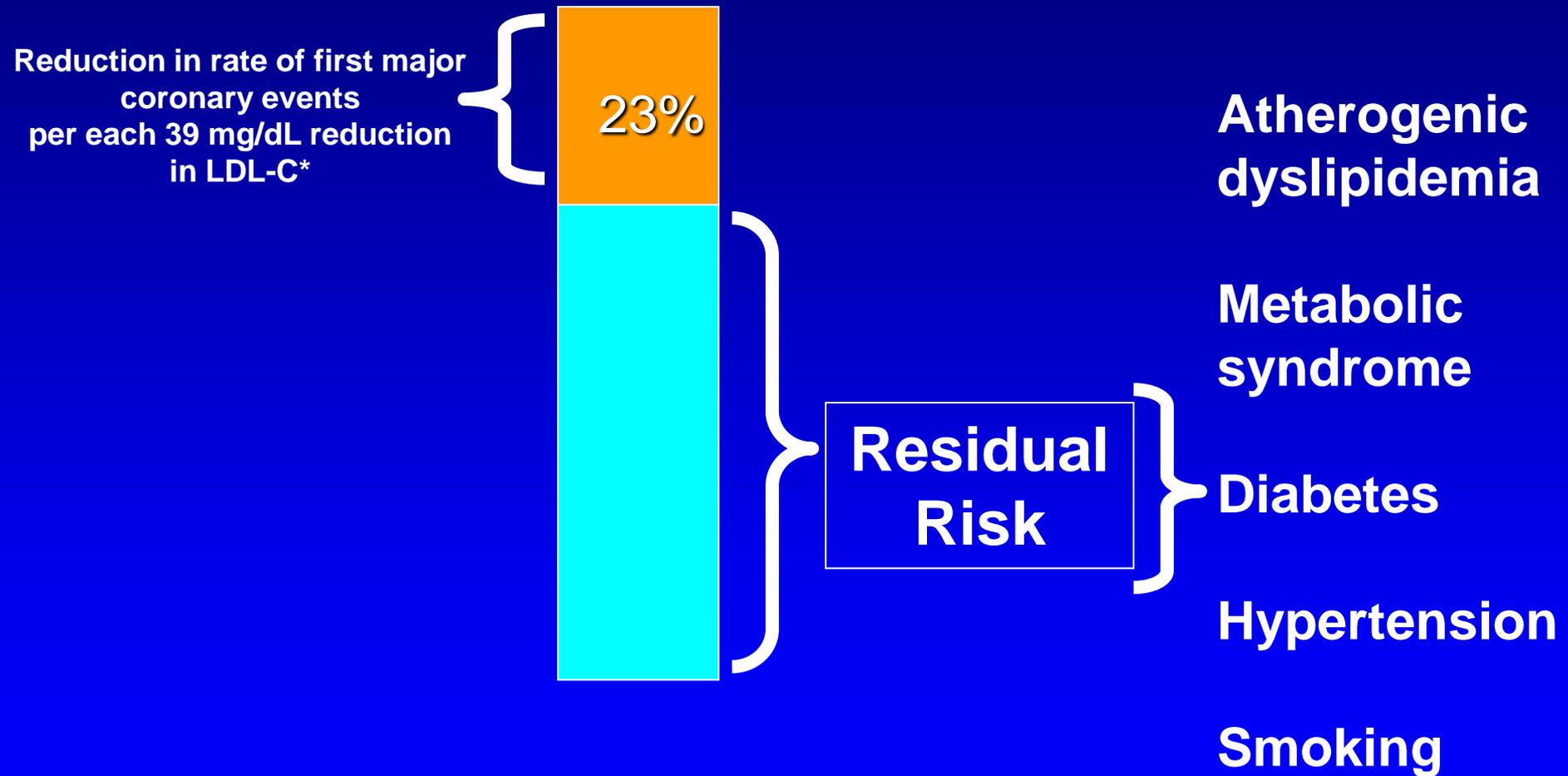
<sup>1</sup>Superko HR. *Br J Cardiol.* 2006;13:131-136. <sup>2</sup>Cannon CP, et al. *N Engl J Med.*

2004;350:1495-1504. <sup>3</sup>Pedersen TR, et al. *JAMA.* 2005;294:2437-2445. <sup>4</sup>LaRosa JC, et al.

*N Engl J Med.* 2005;352:1425-1435.

\*Mean or median LDL-C after treatment

# It is time to treat the Residual CVD Risk in Patients With Dyslipidemia

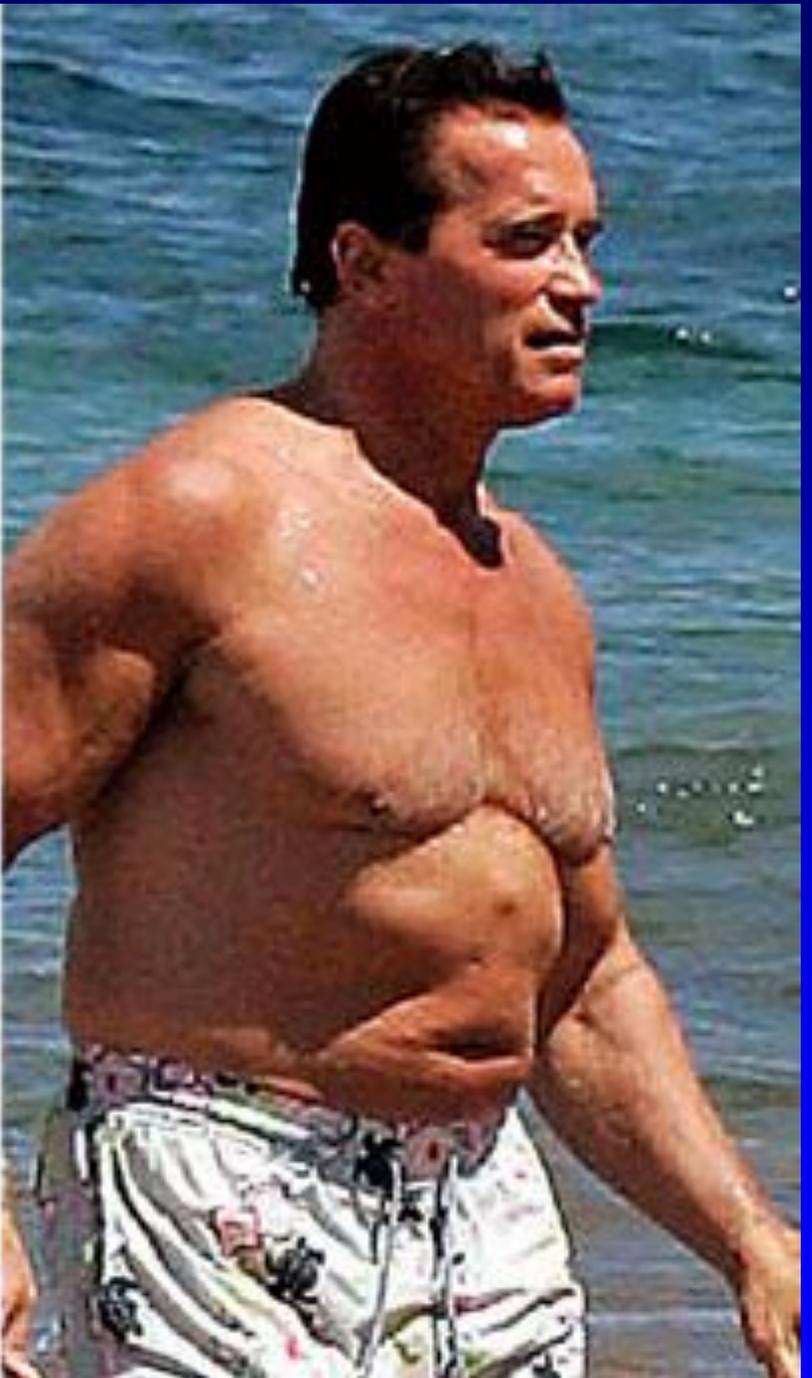


# Residual Risk: Definitions

1. CVD incidence in patients on statin treatment
  - Standard dose, e.g. simvastatin 20-40 mg
  - Intensive dose, e.g. atorva 80, rosuva 40
2. CVD incidence in patients treated to LDL goal
3. CVD incidence in patients on optimal treatments to prevent CVD, including anti-hypertensive, anti-platelet, LDL, smoking, nutrition, lifestyle

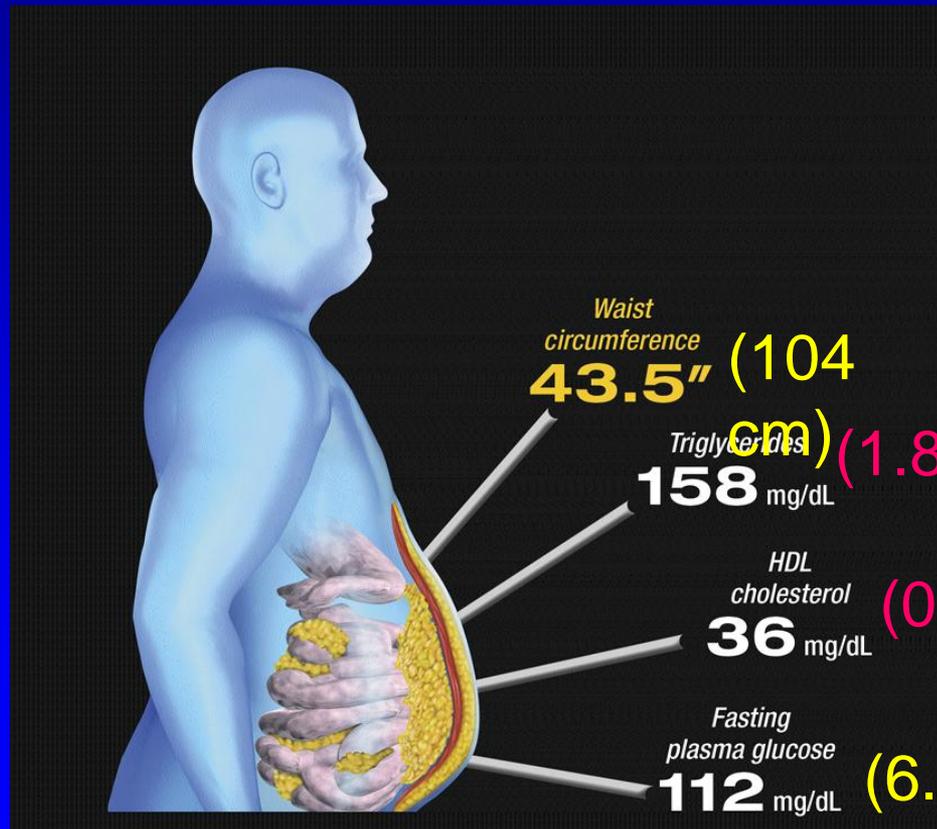
# 30% of adults in CZ: Metabolic Syndrome







# RFs in abdominal obesity



Patients with abdominal obesity (high waist circumference) often present with one or more additional CV risk factors

# Cardiometabolic risk in MS patient

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- Hypertriglyceridemia
- Low HDL-C
- Elevated apolipoprotein B
- Small, dense LDL particles
- Postprandial hyperlipidaemia

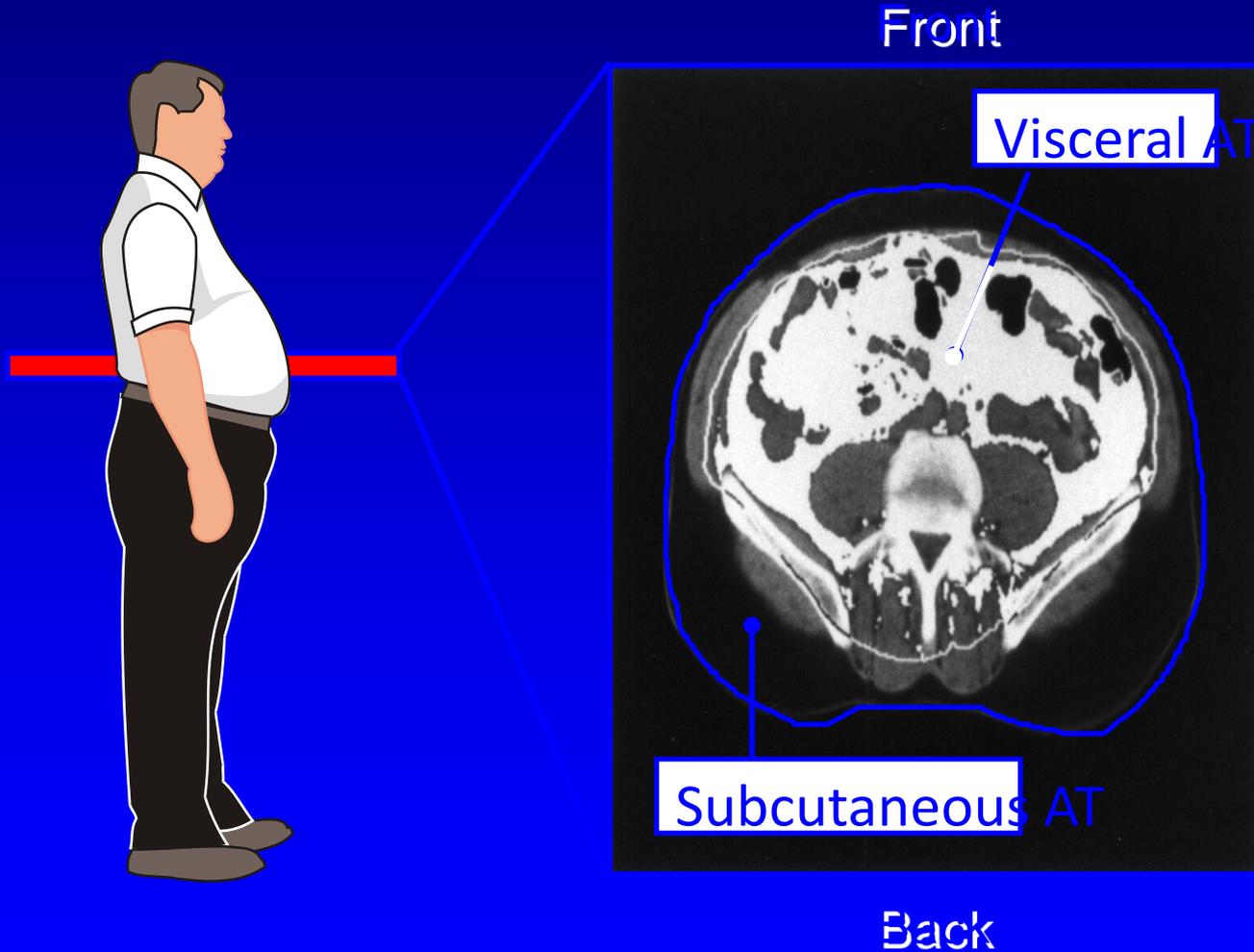


- Hyperinsulinemia
- Glucose intolerance
- Insulin resistance
- Impaired fibrinolysis
- Endothelial dysfunction

**Hypertension**  
**Central obesity**  
Smoking , Depression

# Intra-abdominal (visceral) fat examination

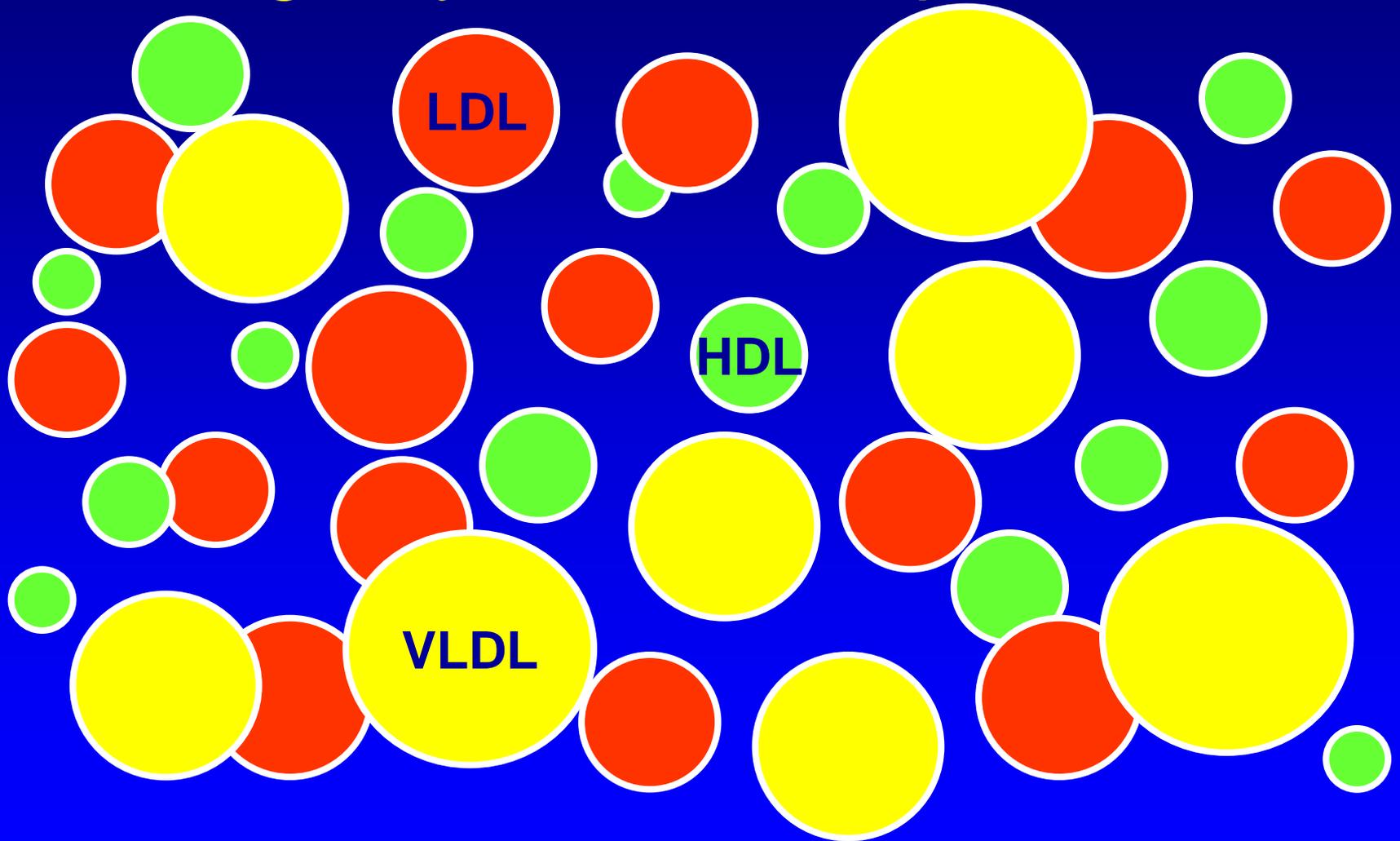
The dangerous inner fat!



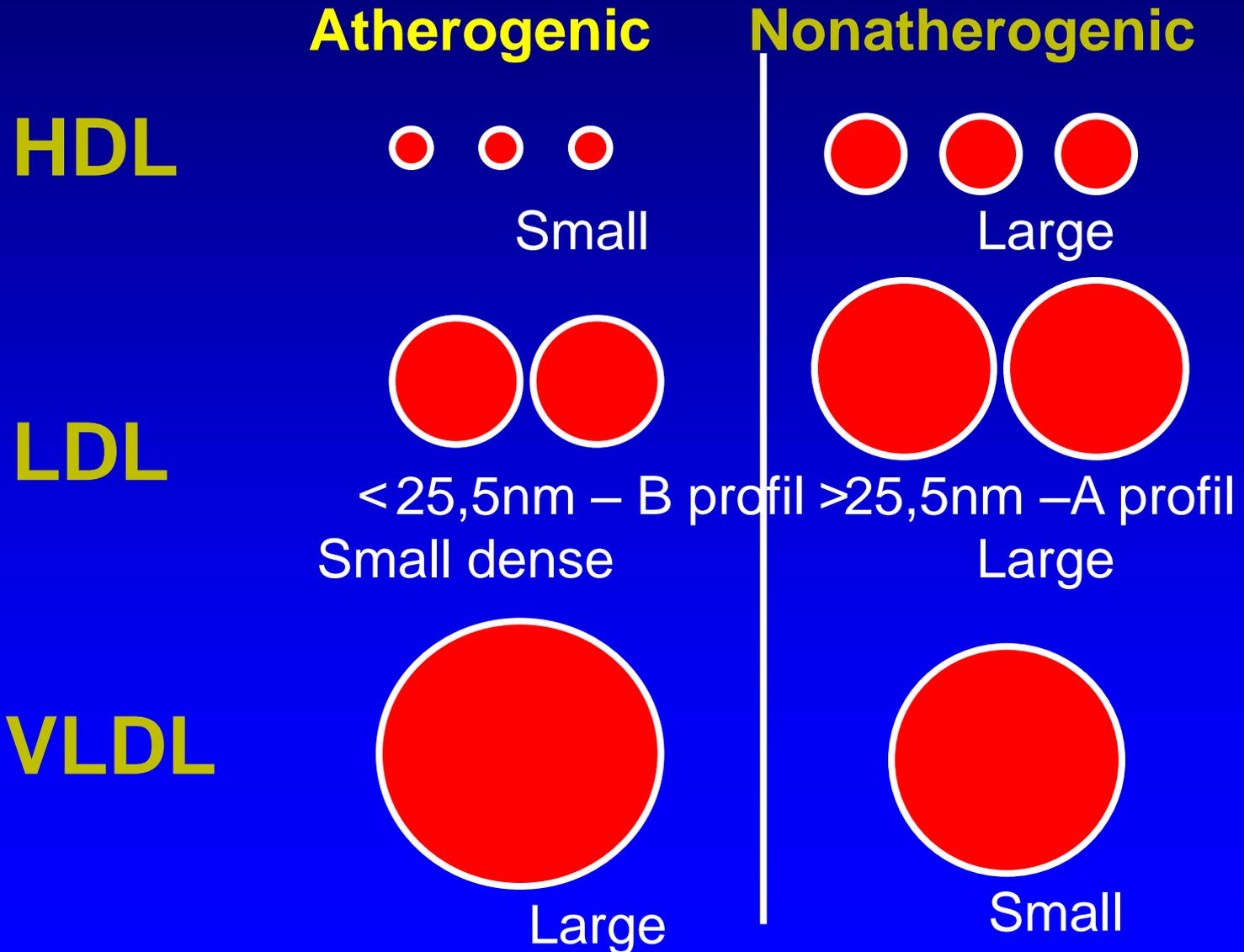
# Intra-abdominal fat examination



# Atherogenicity: The role of particle size



# Particle size and CV risk



# How to decrease residual risk?

- **Treatment of HLP/ DLP**
- *(part of the complex approach)*

**Focused on:**

**HDL-C**

**TGs**

•

TGs, (HDL-C)

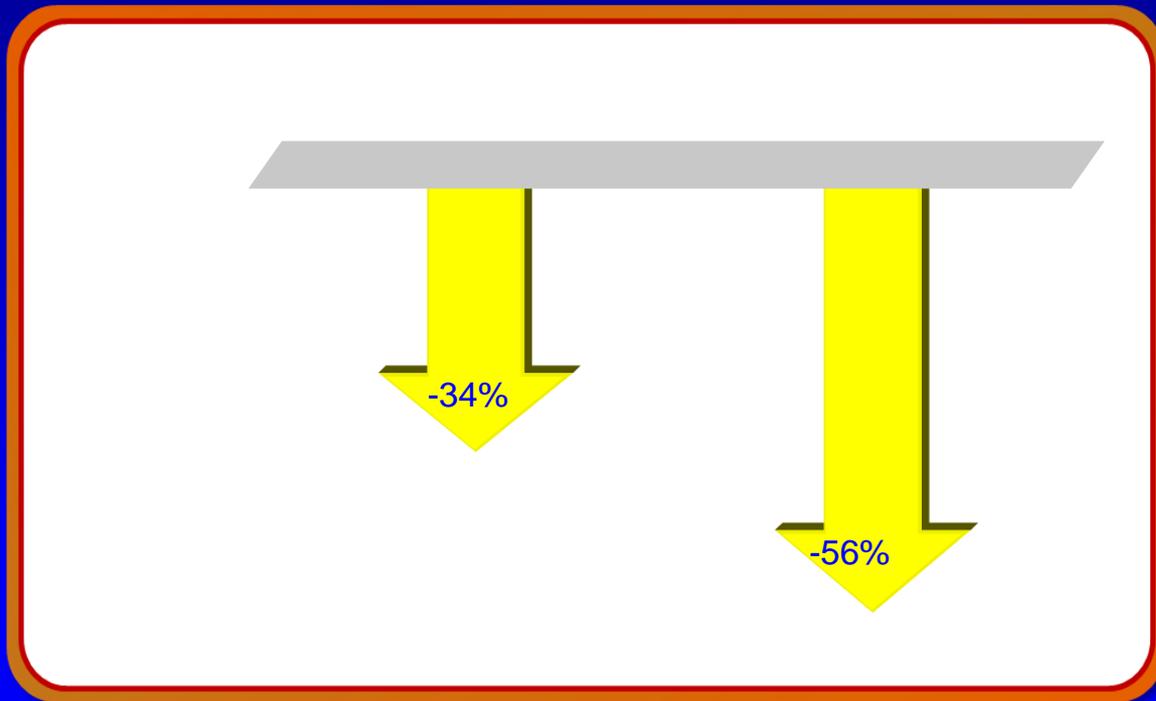
Fibrates

Statin + Fibrate

COMBO

# Elevated TGs identify patients in whom fibrate therapy reduces CV risk (1)

- **HHS**<sup>1,2</sup>: Fibrates reduced the incidence of CV events by **56%** in patients with TG levels >2.3 mmol/L (200 mg/dL) compared with a 34% reduction in the overall population

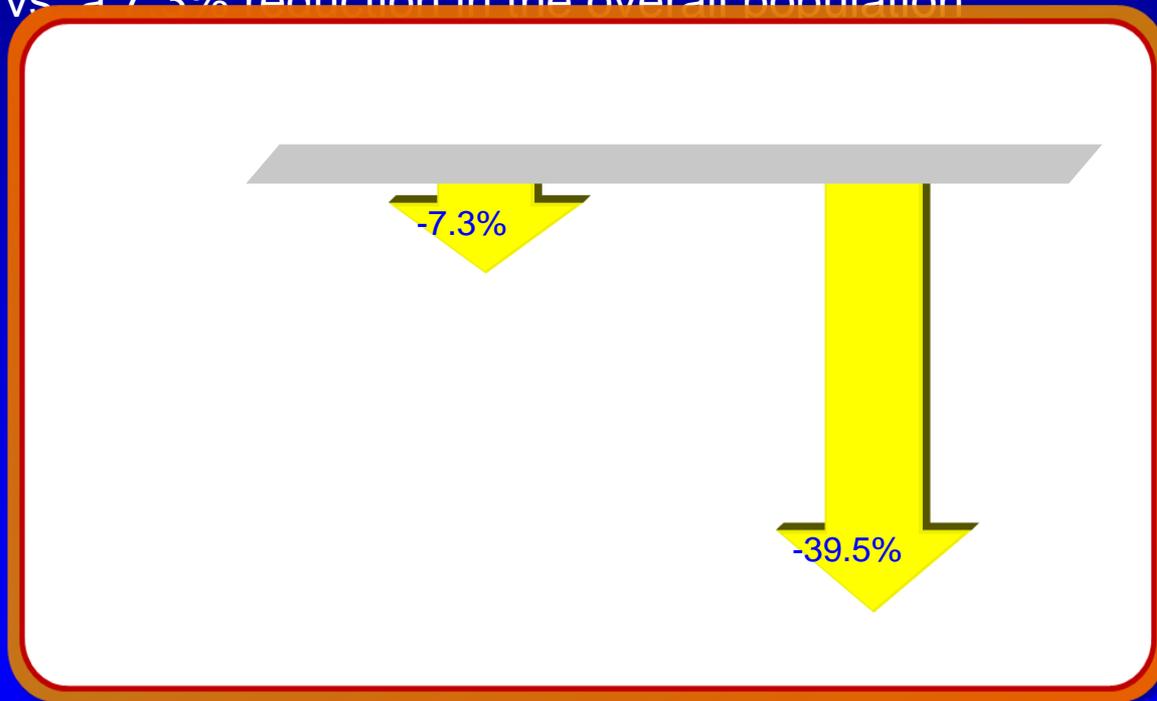


<sup>1</sup> Frick MH et al. *N Engl J Med* 1987;317:1237-45.

<sup>2</sup> Barter PH, Rye KA. *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol* 2008;28:39-46.

# Elevated TGs identify patients in whom fibrate therapy reduces CV risk

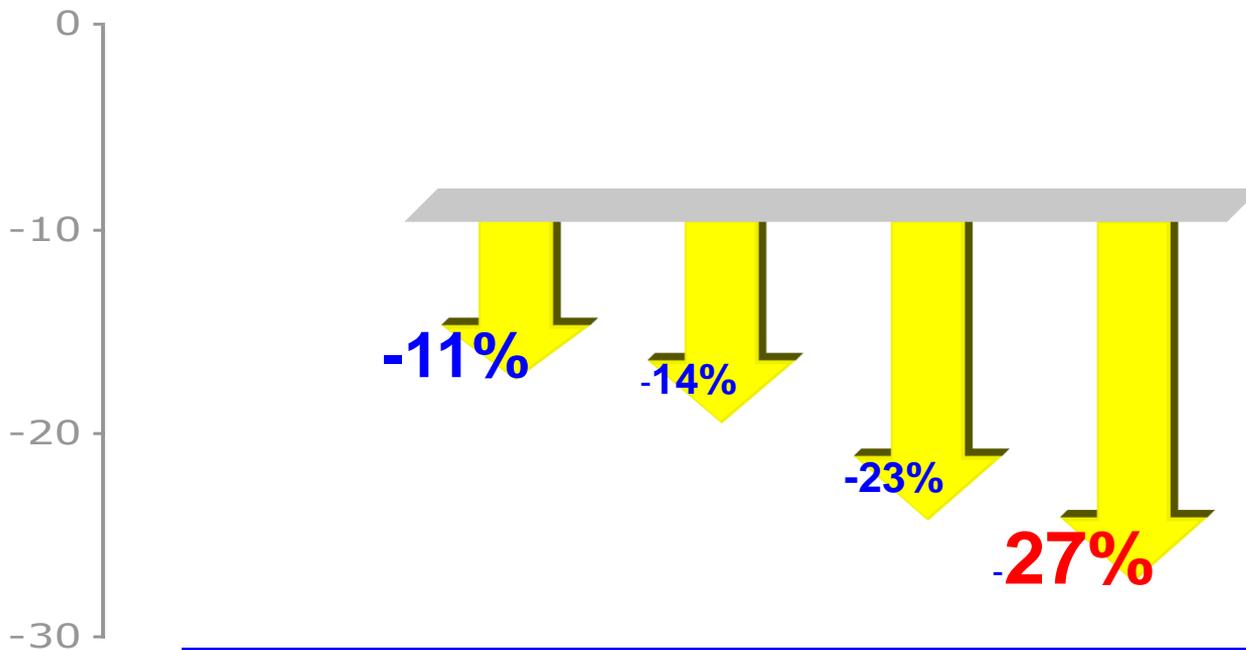
- **BIP<sup>1</sup>**: Fibrate treatment significantly reduced the risk of CV events **by 39.5%** in patients with TG  $\geq 2.3$  mmol/L (200 mg/dL) vs. a 7.3% reduction in the overall population



\*CV events: fatal or nonfatal MI or sudden death (primary endpoint)

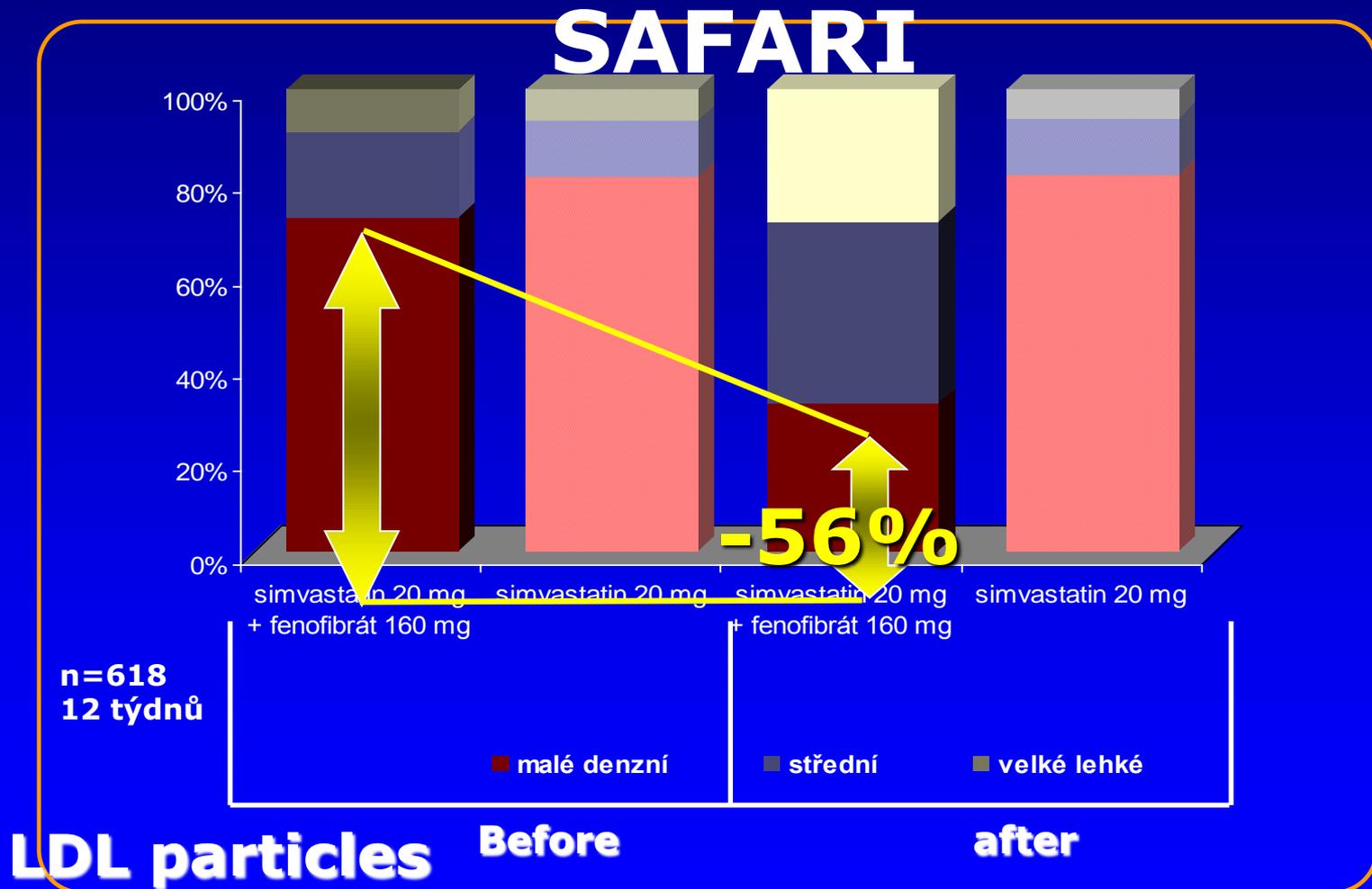
<sup>1</sup> The BIP Study Group. *Circulation* 2000;102:21-7.

# High TGs /low HDL-C identify patients in whom fibrate reduces



Low HDL-C (<1.03 mmol/L or 40 mg/dL for men and <1.29 mmol/L or 50 mg/dL for women) and elevated TG ( $\geq 2.3$  mmol/L or 200 mg/dL) defined according to ATP III criteria

# Small dense LDL reduction - 56% after statin + fenofibrate combo



# Studies with fibrates: Comparison of general population and subgroups with low HDL and high Tgs

| Trial (Drug)                | Primary Endpoint: Entire Cohort (P-value) | Lipid Subgroup Criterion            | Primary Endpoint: Subgroup |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>HHS</b> (Gemfibrozil)    | -34%                                      | TG > 200 mg/dl<br>LDL-C/HDL-C > 5.0 | <b>-71%</b>                |
| <b>BIP</b> (Bezafibrate)    | -7.3%                                     | TG ≥ 200 mg/dl                      | <b>-39.5%</b>              |
| <b>FIELD</b> (Fenofibrate)  | -11%                                      | TG ≥ 204 mg/dl<br>HDL-C < 42 mg/dl  | <b>-27%</b>                |
| <b>ACCORD</b> (Fenofibrate) | -8%                                       | TG ≥ 204 mg/dl<br>HDL-C ≤ 34 mg/dl  | <b>-31%</b>                |

# HDL-C

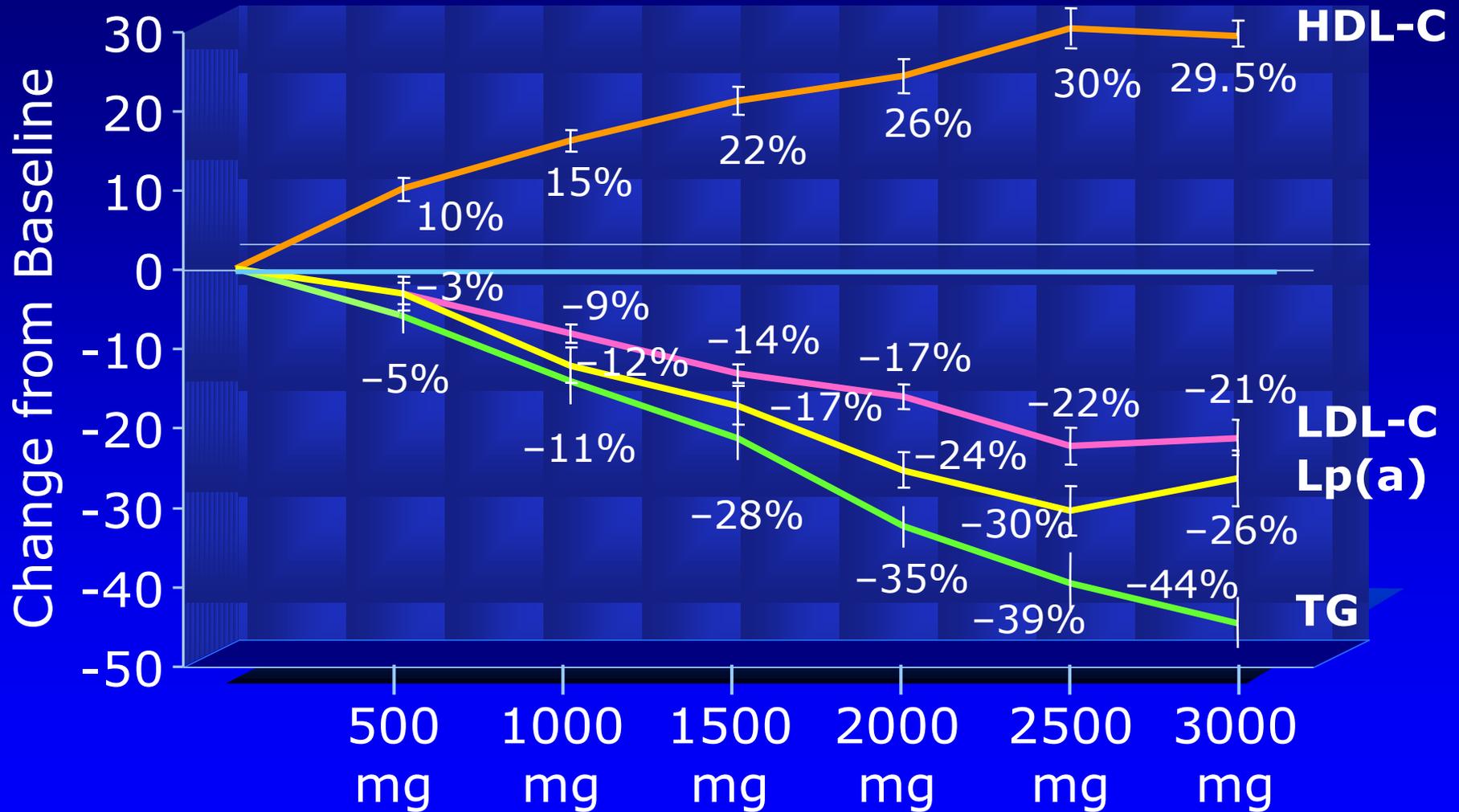
(LDL, TG)

Niacin

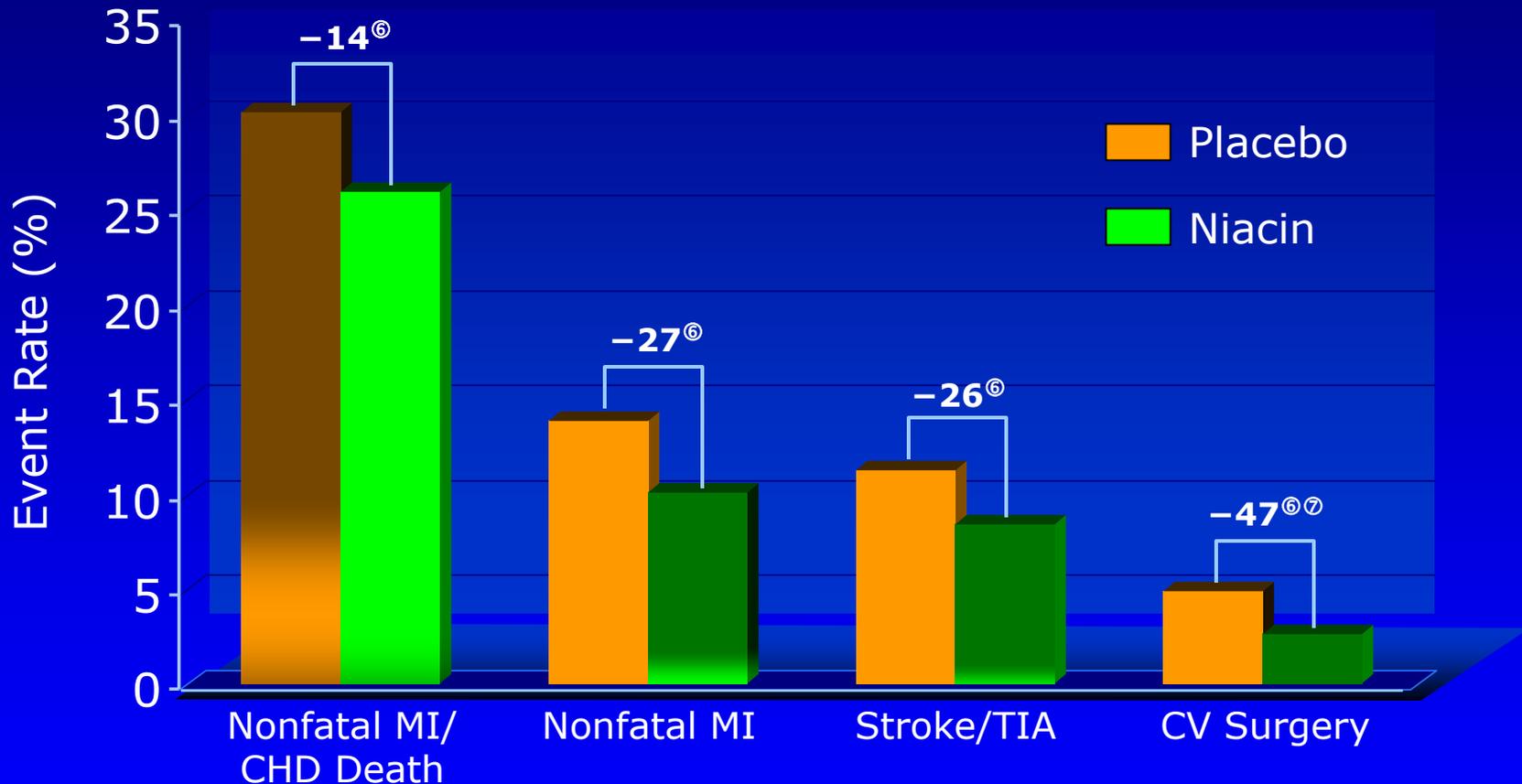
**Statin + Niacin**

**(laropiprant)**

# Efficacy of Extended-Release Niacin



# Coronary Drug Project: *Clinical Outcomes\**



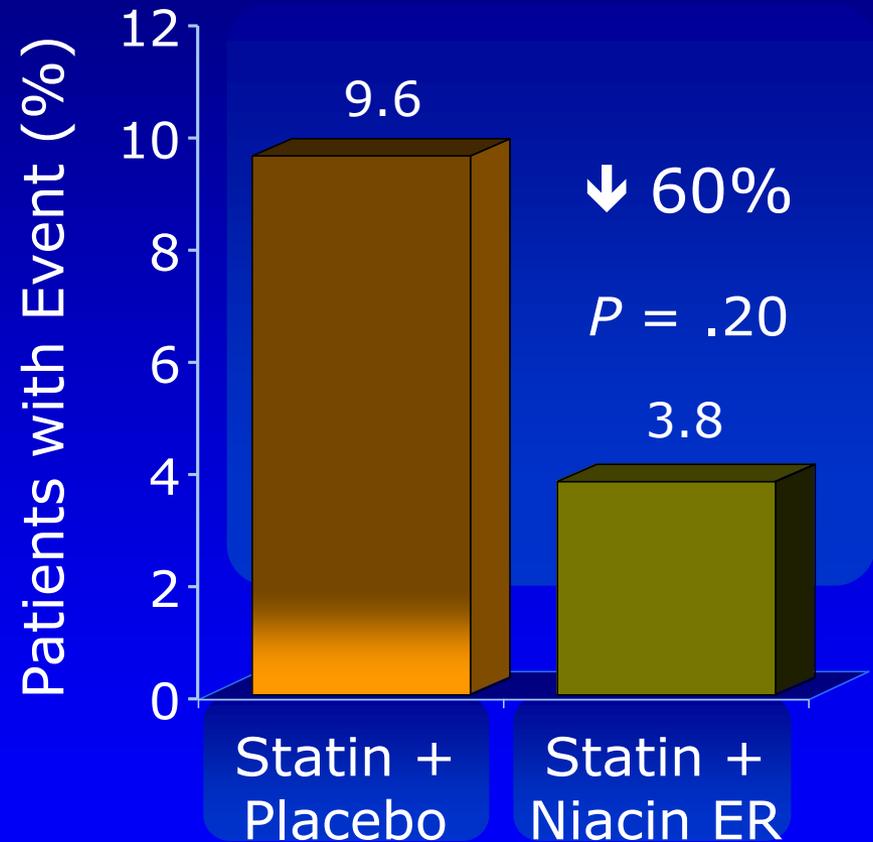
MI=myocardial infarction; CHD=coronary heart disease; TIA=transient ischemic attack;  
CV=cardiovascular

\*Total follow-up, adjusted for baseline characteristics, <sup>Ⓞ</sup>p<0.05, <sup>Ⓡ</sup>5-year rate

Coronary Drug Project Research Group. *JAMA* 1975;231:360-381.

# ARBITER 2: Secondary Efficacy Endpoint—Clinical Events

- Composite clinical event endpoint
  - Unstable angina/MI hospitalization
  - Stroke
  - Sudden cardiac death
  - Percutaneous coronary revascularization, CABG, or peripheral revascularization

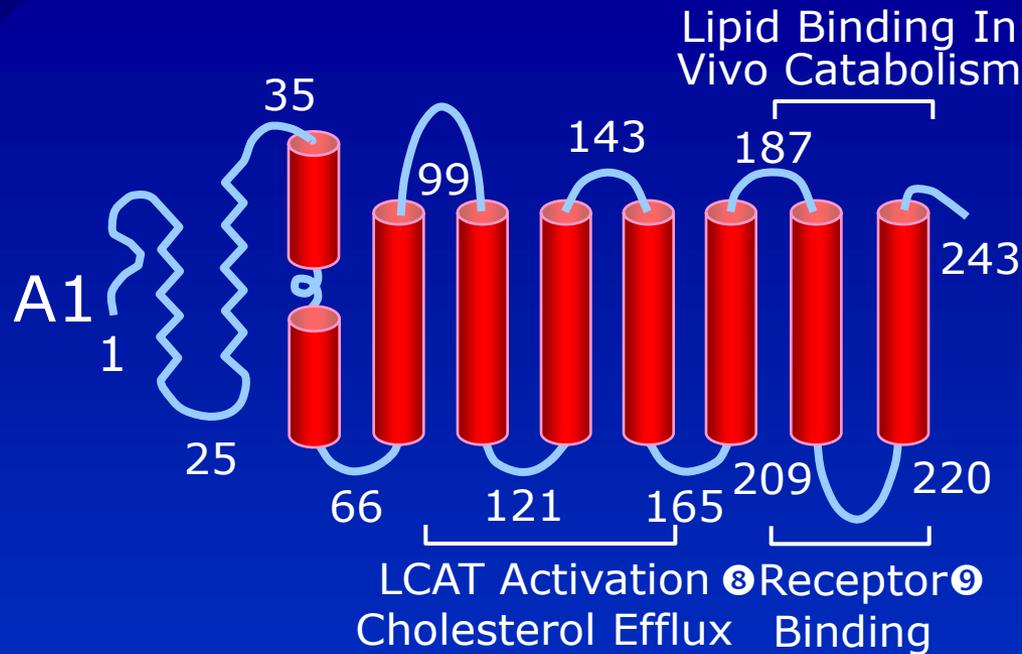


# HDL-C

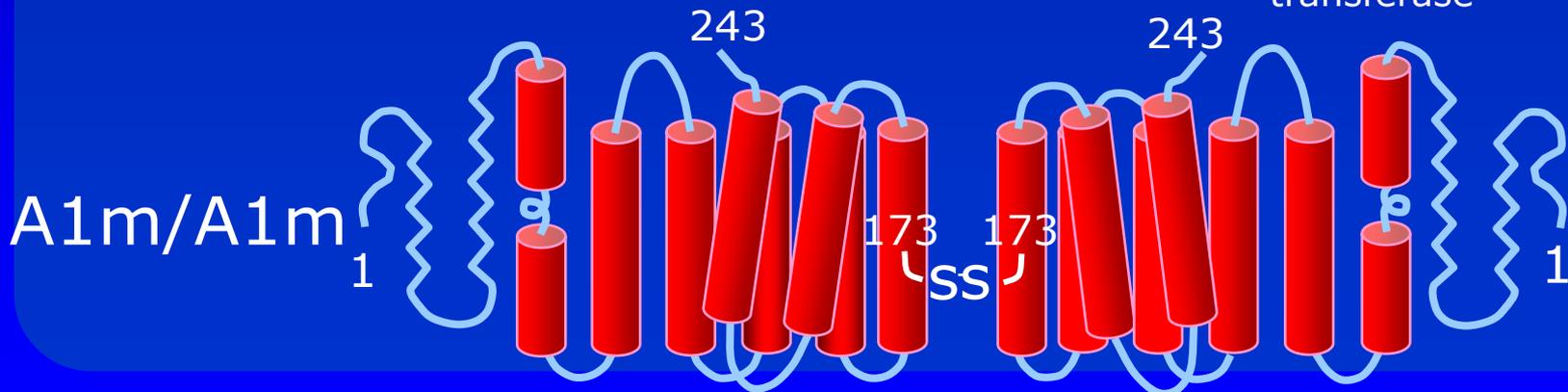
New experimental approach

ApoA-I Milano

# Normal Apo A1 and Apo A1 Milano Dimer

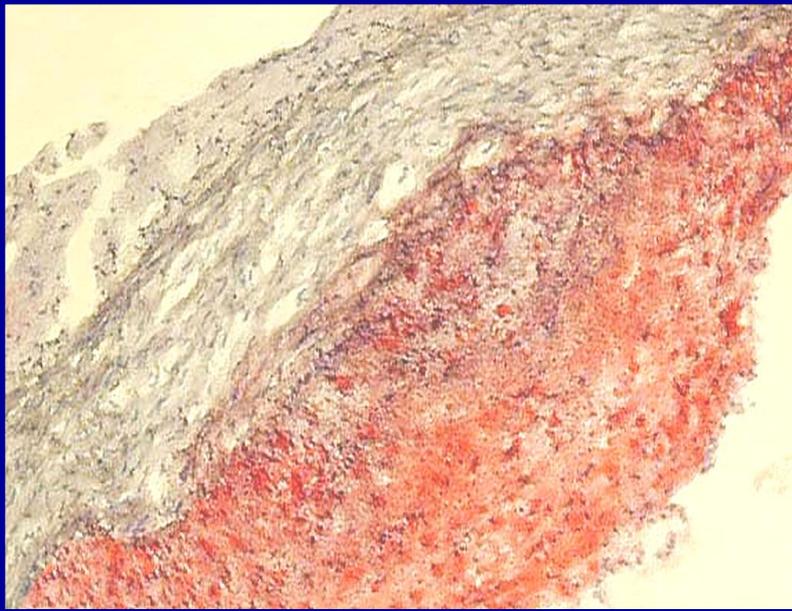


A1=apolipoprotein A1  
 A1m=apolipoprotein A1 Milano  
 LCAT=lecithin cholesterol acyl-transferase

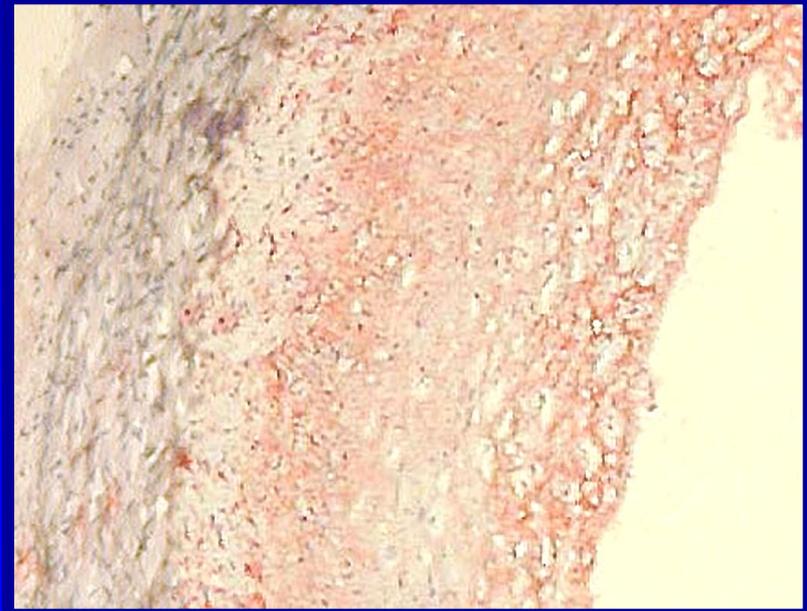


# Evaluation of Plaque Changes in Rabbits by Apo A1 Milano Infusion: *Plaque Lipid Content*

**Saline**



**Apo A1 Milano (1g)**



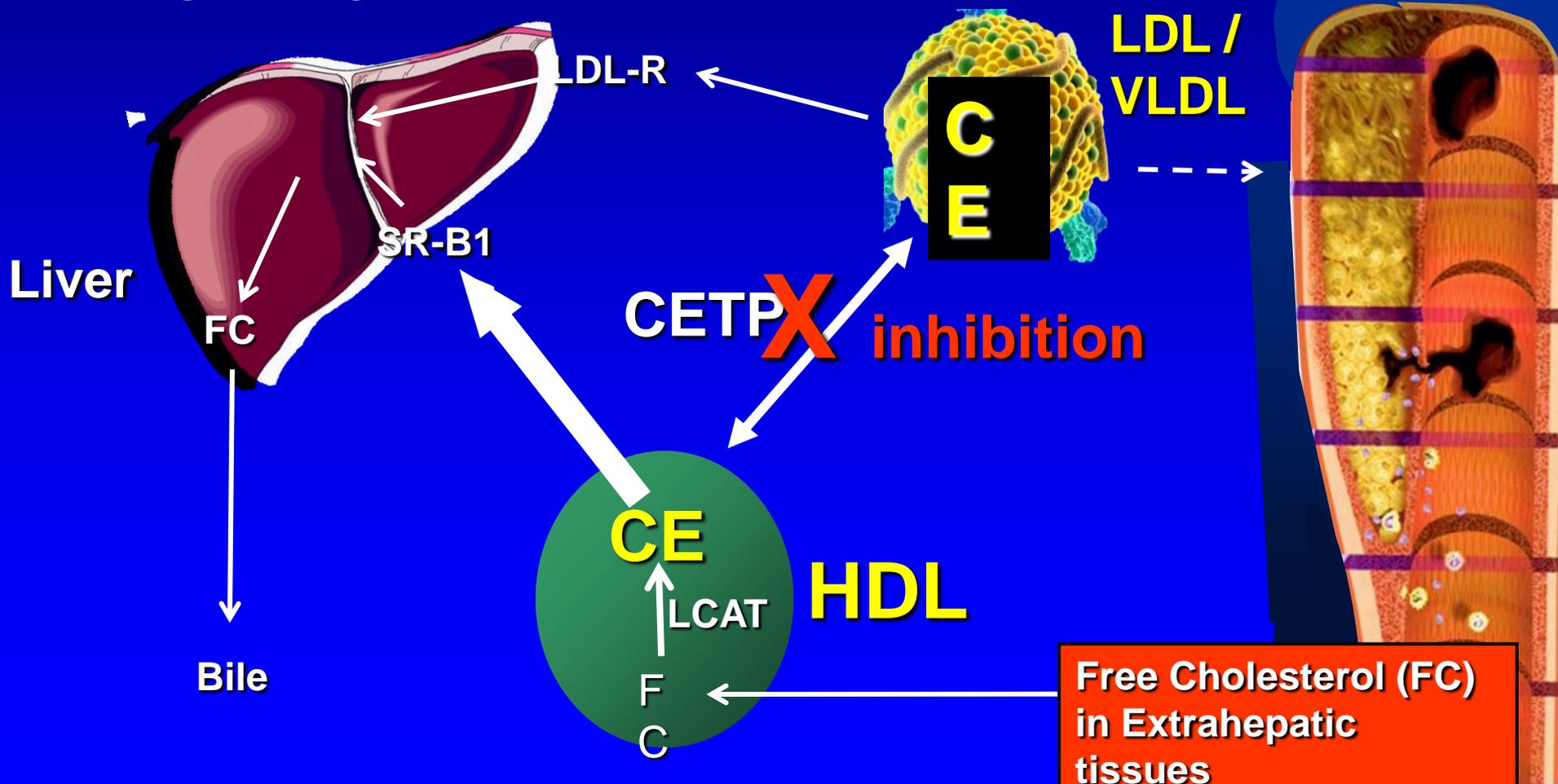
# HDL-C

New experimental approach

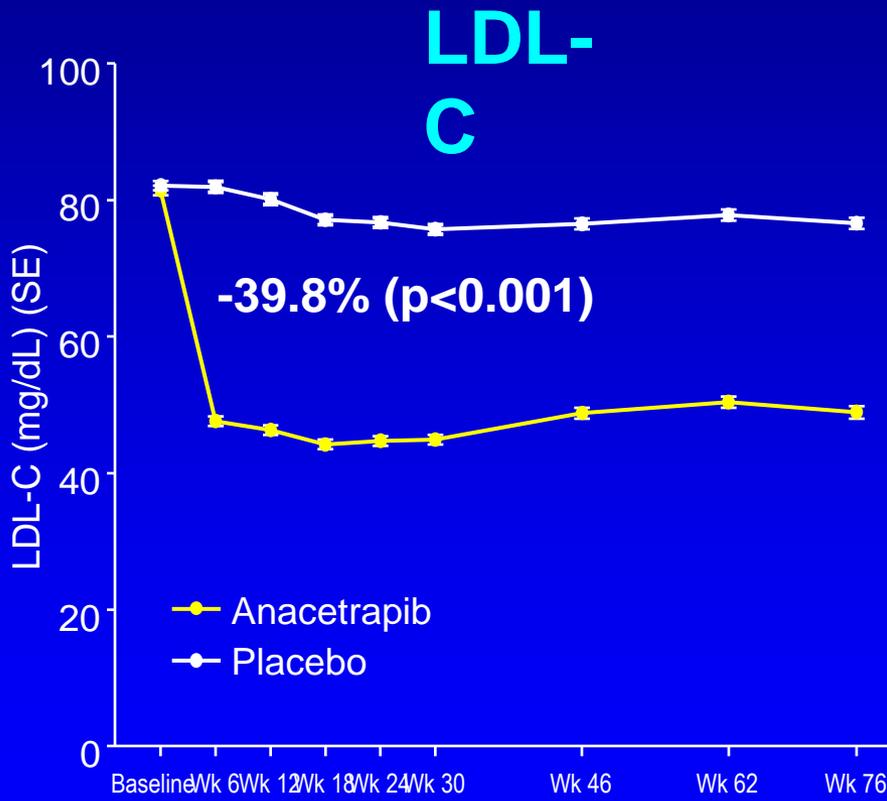
CETP inhibitors

# Background: CETP inhibition

Cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) is a plasma protein that catalyzes the transfer of CE from HDL to apoB-containing lipoproteins (VLDL and LDL-C) in exchange for Trig.

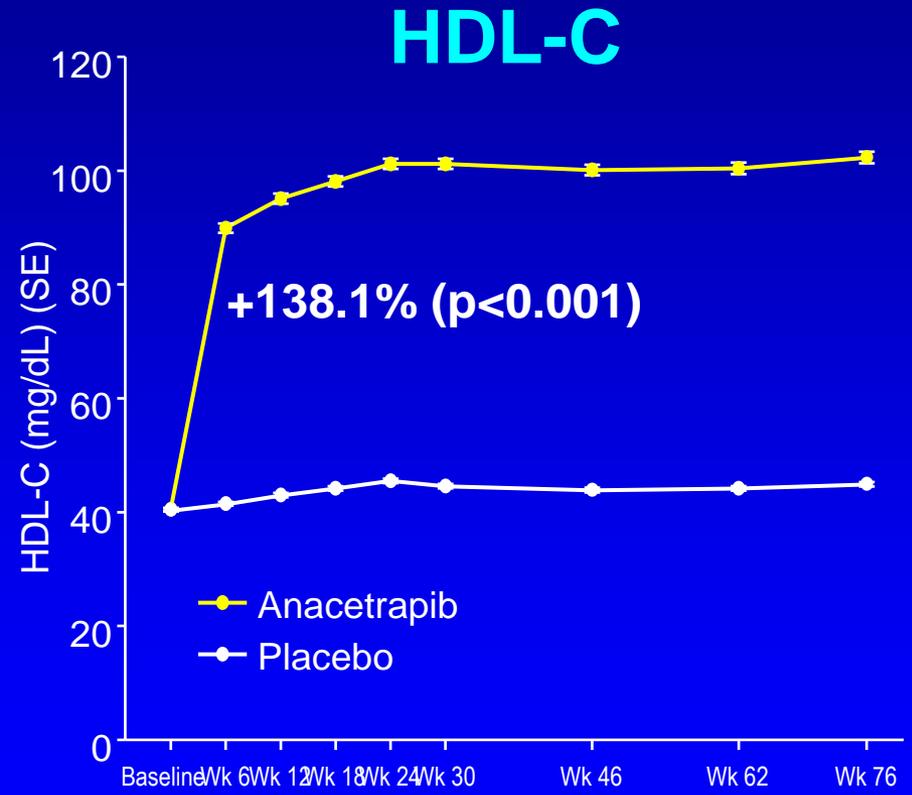


# Effects on LDL-C and HDL-C



|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Anacetrapib n = | 804 | 771 | 716 | 687 | 646 | 604 | 568 | 540 |
| Placebo n =     | 803 | 759 | 741 | 743 | 735 | 711 | 691 | 666 |

Study Week



|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Anacetrapib n = | 776 | 757 | 718 | 687 | 647 | 607 | 572 | 543 |
| Placebo n =     | 766 | 761 | 741 | 744 | 736 | 711 | 691 | 666 |

Study Week

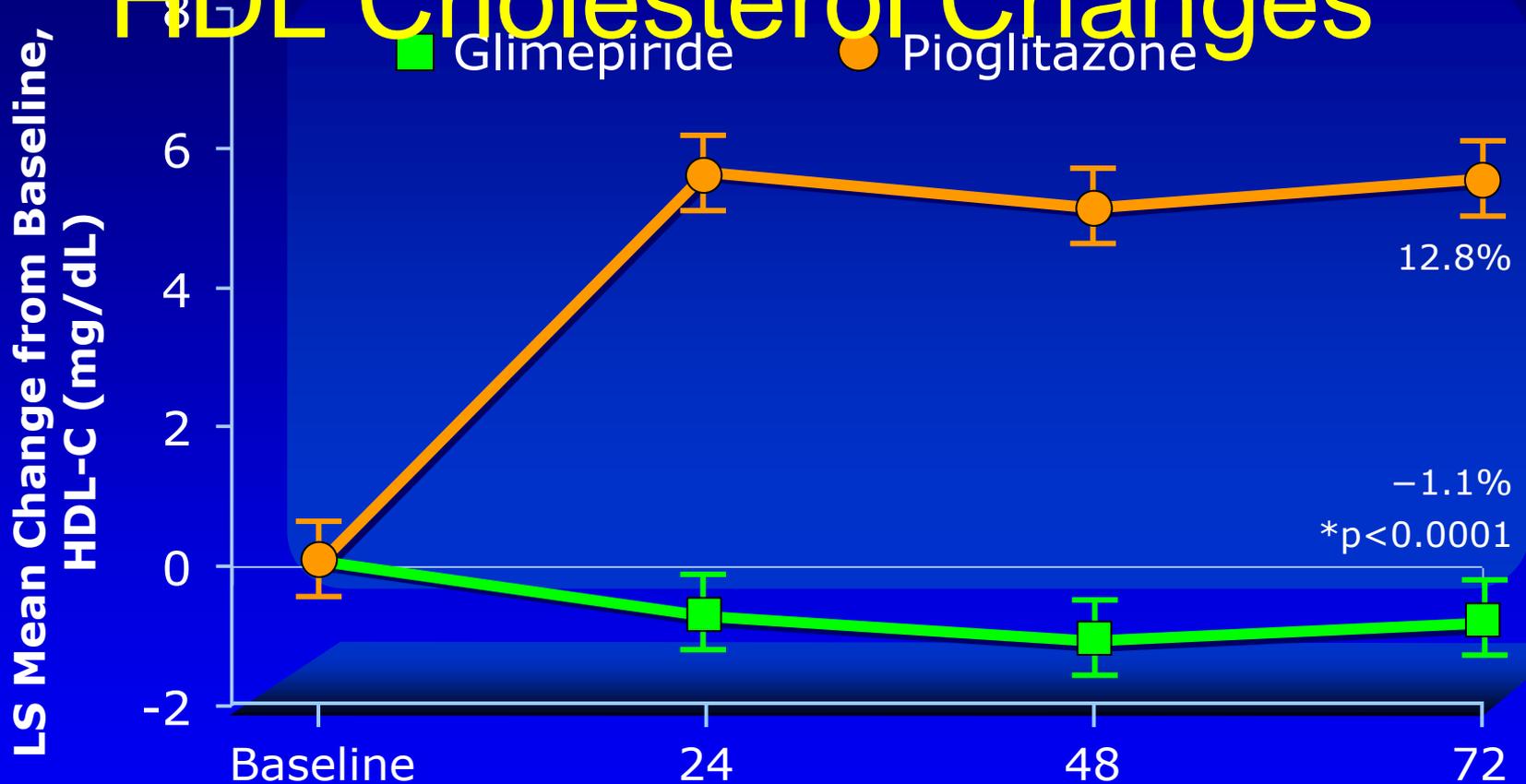
# Lipid Parameters

| Parameter | LS Mean Percent (95% CI) Placebo-Adjusted Change from Baseline |                       |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
|           | Week 24  | Week 76               |
| Non-HDL-C | -31.7* (-33.6, -29.8)  | -29.4* (-31.6, -27.3) |
| Apo B     | -21.0* (-22.7, -19.3)  | -18.3* (-20.2, -16.4) |
| Apo A-1   | 44.7* (42.8, 46.5)   | 42.3* (40.5, 44.1)    |
| TC        | 13.7* (12.0, 15.3)   | 15.6* (13.8, 17.3)    |
| TG        | -6.8 (-9.9, -3.9)  | -5.3 (-8.9, -1.7)     |
| Lp(a)     | -36.4 (-40.7, -32.3)   | -38.8 (-44.5, -33.9)  |
| ApoE      | 29.2* (24.7, 33.7)   | 35.3* (30.6, 40.1)    |

\*p<0.001; means for all variables except for triglycerides, lipoprotein(a), for which medians are shown

Pioglitazone

# HDL Cholesterol Changes



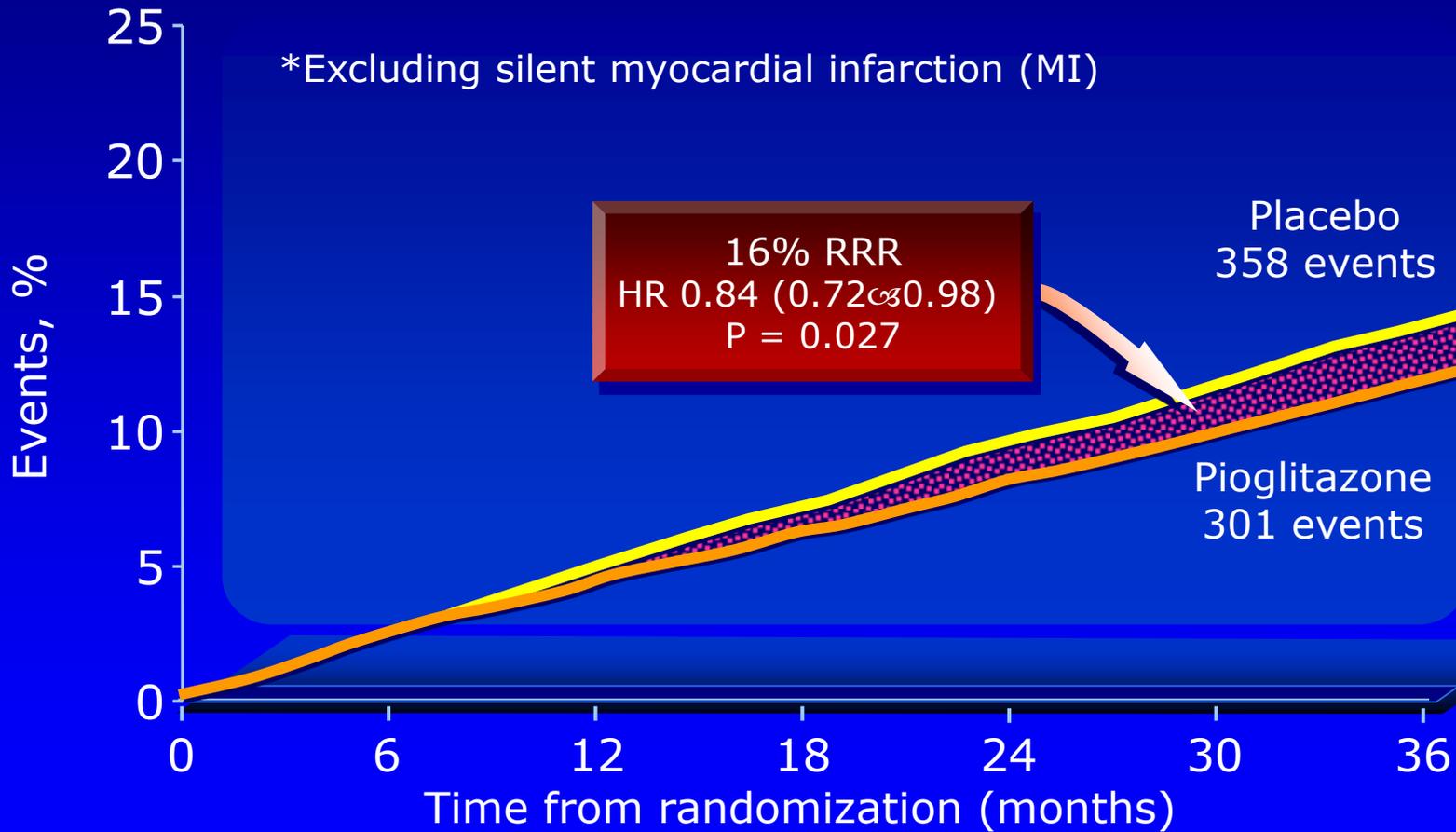
No. of Observations

|              | Baseline | 24  | 48  | 72  |
|--------------|----------|-----|-----|-----|
| Glimepiride  | 206      | 203 | 206 | 206 |
| Pioglitazone | 201      | 198 | 201 | 201 |

Mazzone T et al. *JAMA* 2006;296:2572–2581.

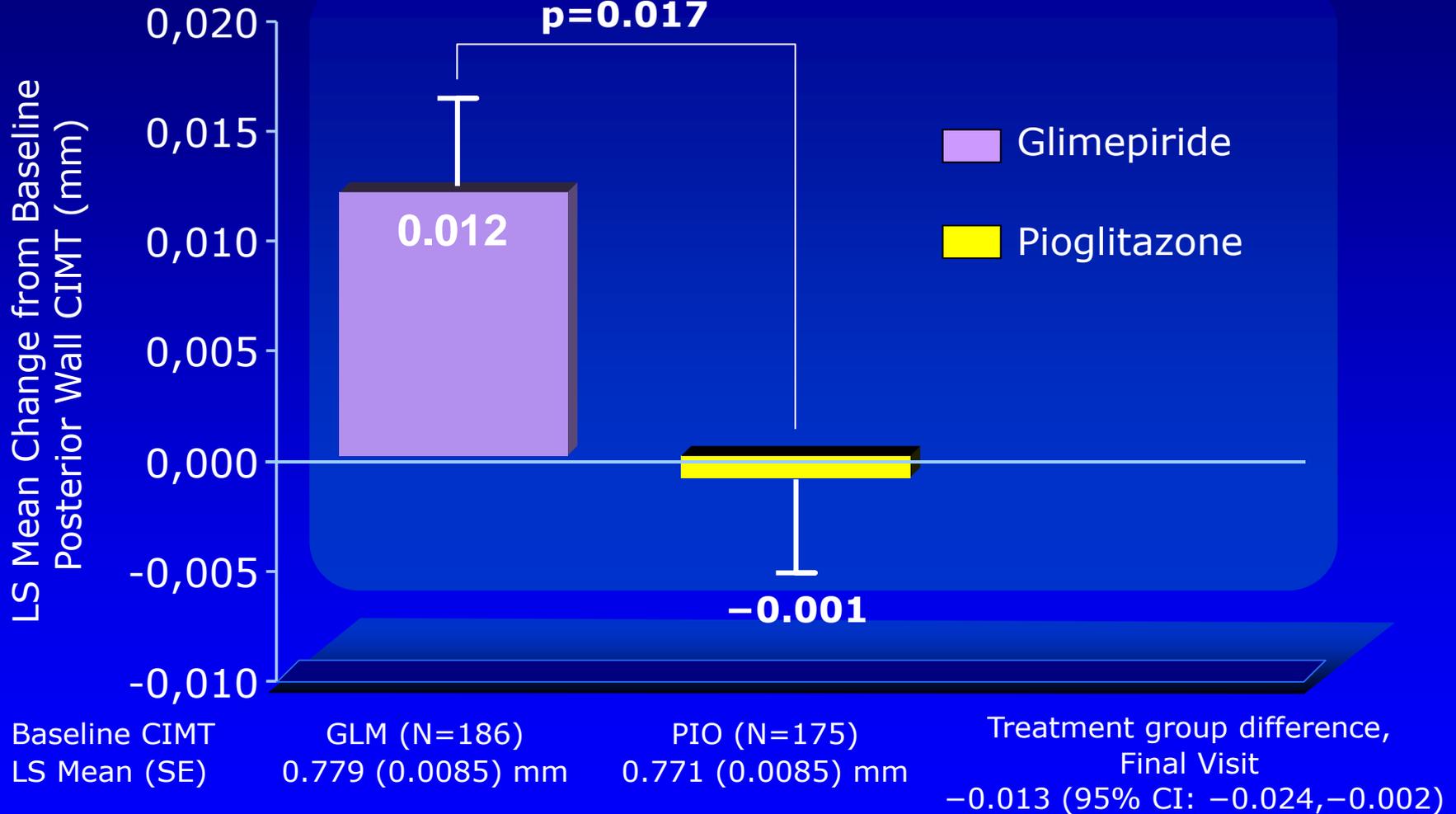
# PROactive Trial: Significant Reduction in Secondary Outcome

All-cause mortality, nonfatal MI\*, stroke



Dormandy JA et al. *Lancet* 2005;366:1279-1289.

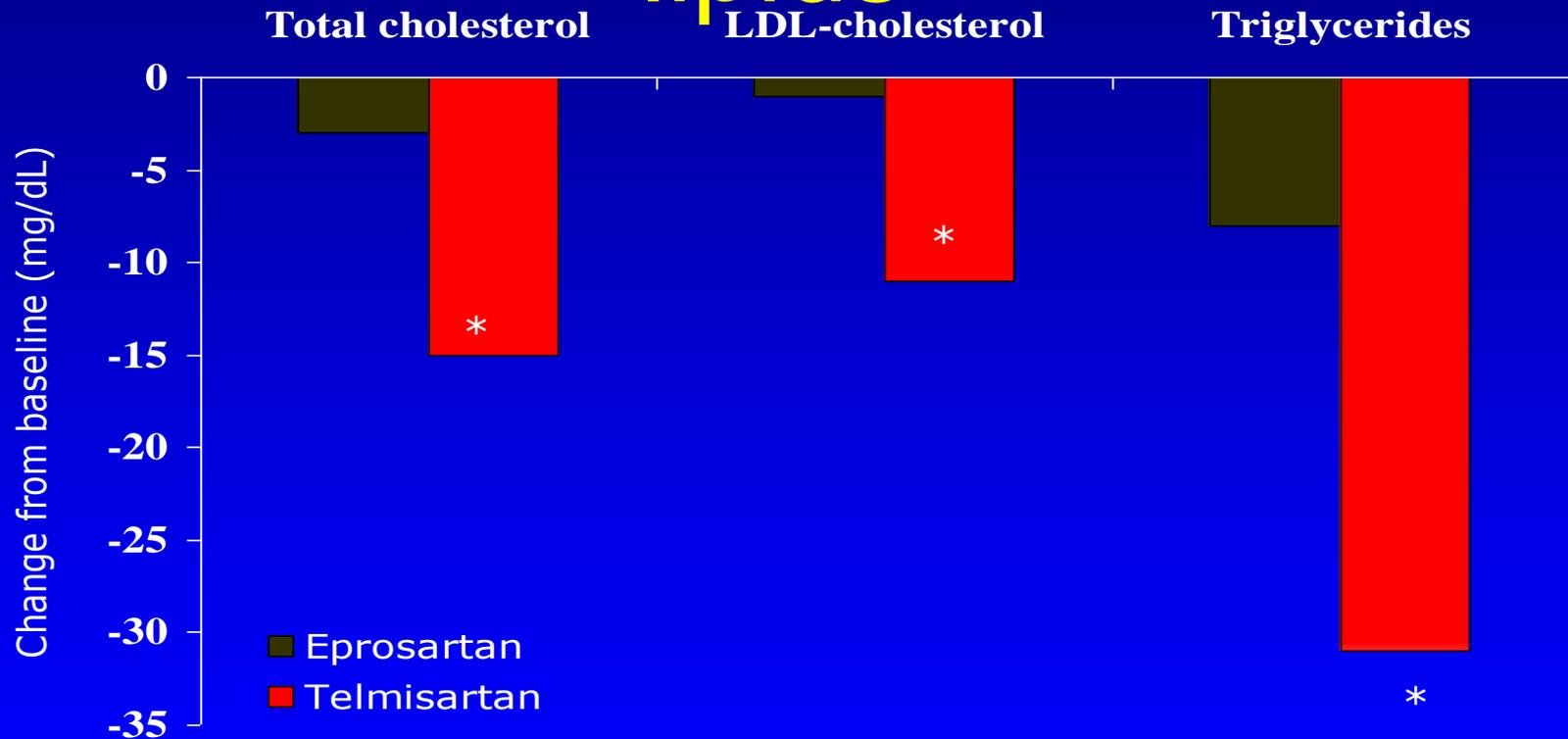
# CHICAGO: Mean Change in CIMT



CIMT=carotid intima-media thickness

Adapted from Mazzone T et al. *JAMA* 2006;296:2572-2581.

# Telmisartan Improves cholesterol and lipids



\* P<0.05 vs Eprosartan

**How to influence  
Residual Risk???**

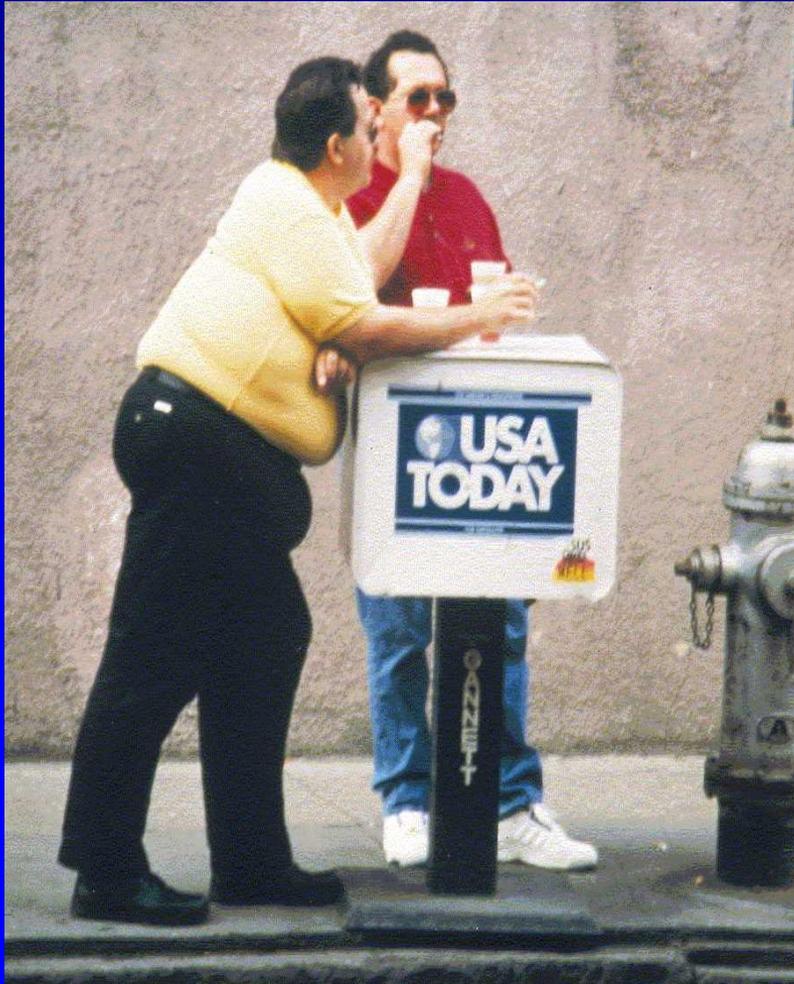
**What is the priority**

**???**



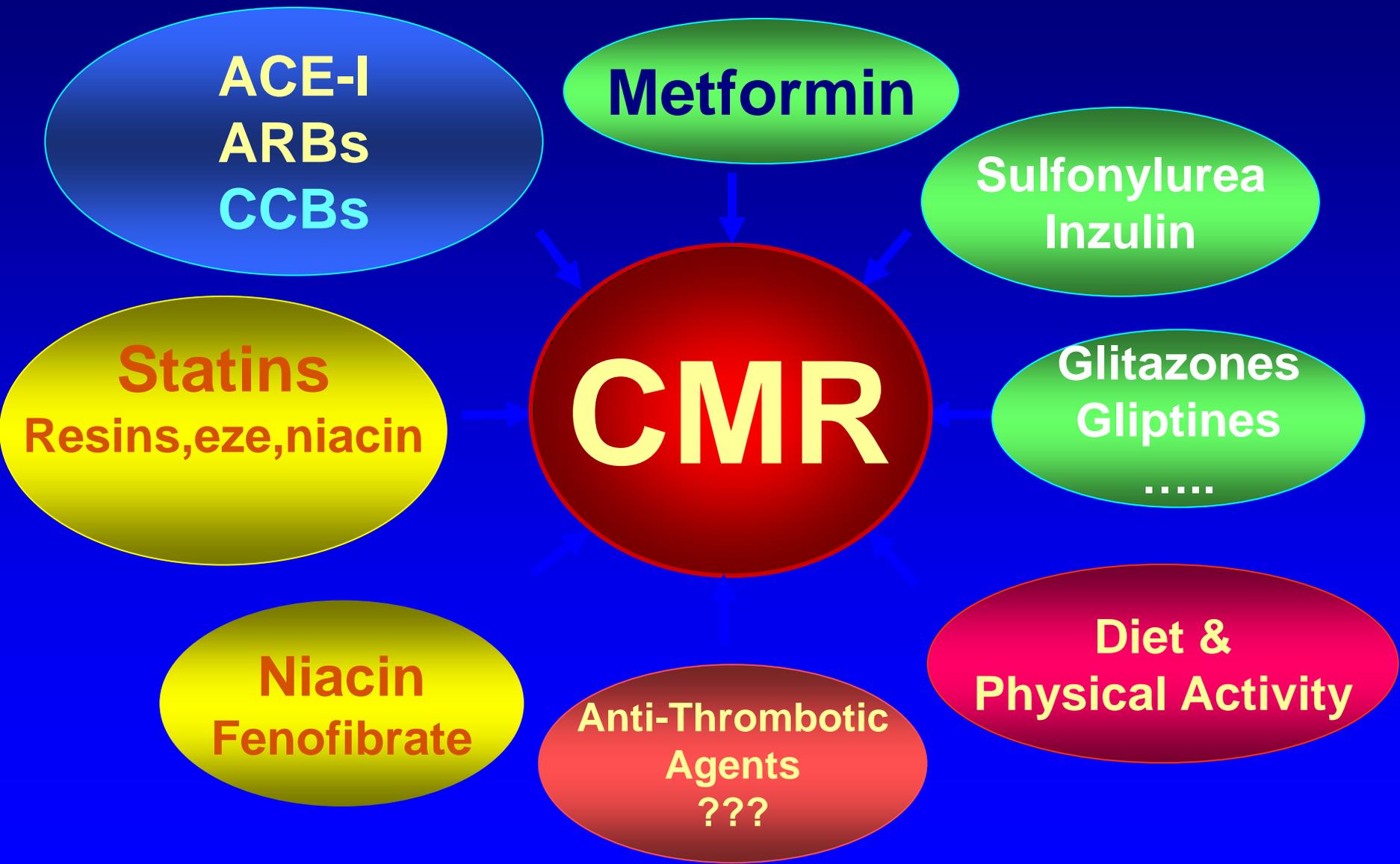
*Lifestyle  
changes,  
Lifestyle  
changes, Lifestyle  
changes, Lifestyle  
changes, Lifestyle  
changes, Lifestyle  
changes, Lifestyle changes,  
Lifestyle changes, lifestyle changes,*

# BUT!!!!???





# Complex treatment of the patient with „CARDIOMETABOLIC RISK“



# Dyslipidemia Management as a part of complex approach

Decrease of CV RISK

Hypolipidemic treatment

LDL-C - main target of treatment, than RR

„The Lower The Better“

Highers doses  
(higher prices)  
More patients  
(not at desired goal)

„The Earlier The Better“

Longer treatment

„The Longer The Better“

Longer treatment

Use therapy which is effective, safe, well tolerated, supported by EBM data in appropriate dose.

Thank you!!!

