

# **Aggressive Lipid Lowering Treatment**

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**International Atherosclerosis Society**

**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)**

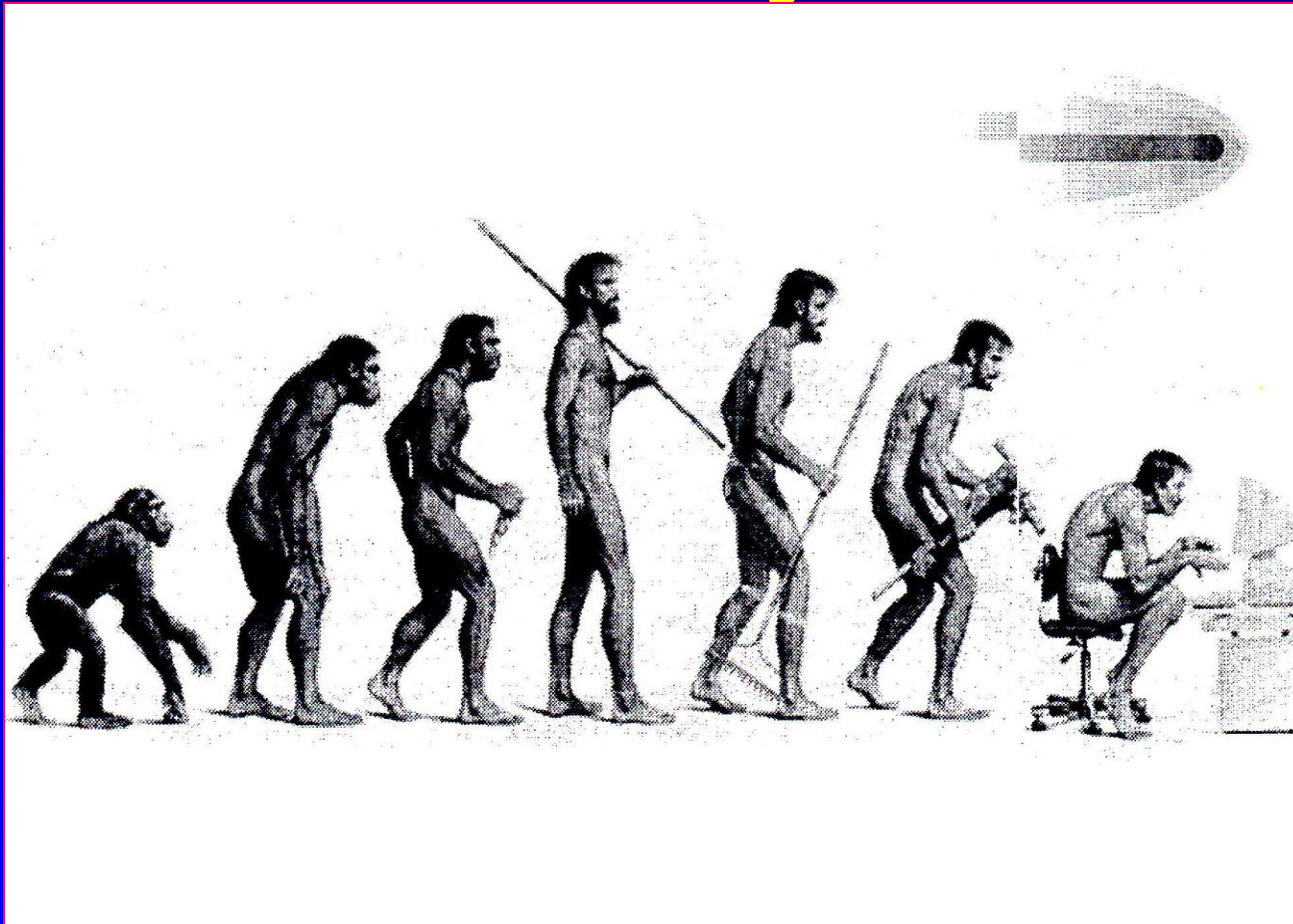
# LDL-C

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

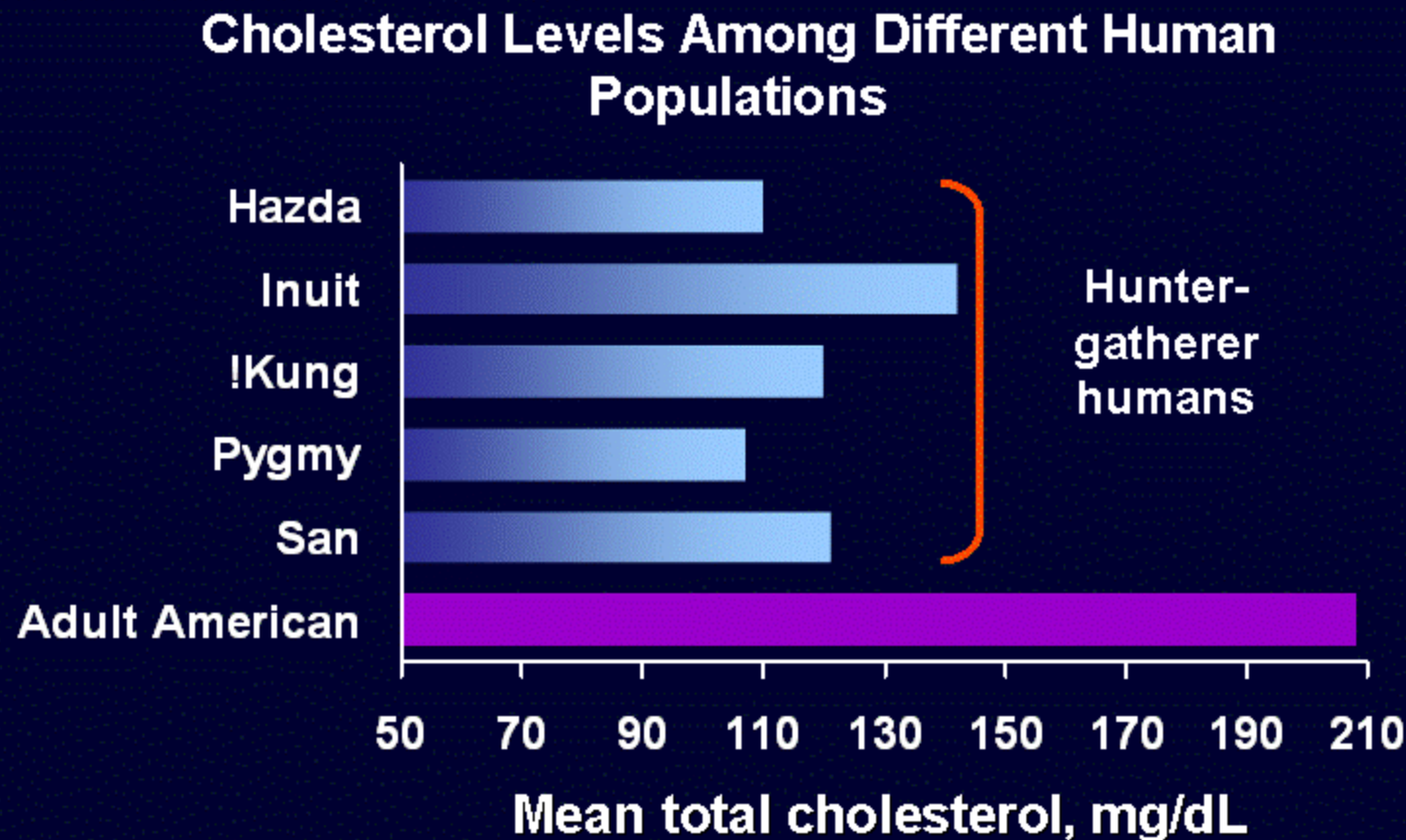
**What is an appropriate  
therapeutic target for  
LDL-C?**

# The human evolution

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



# What Is Desirable Cholesterol?



# 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	

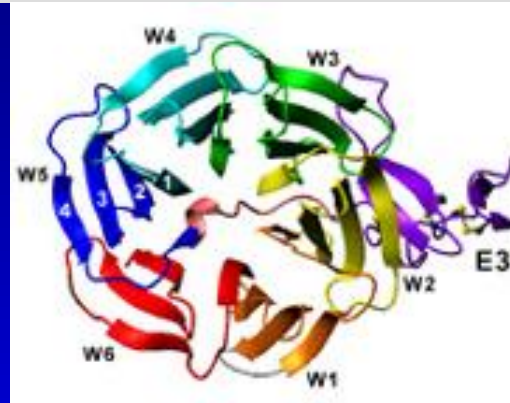


# LDL-Receptor Pathway

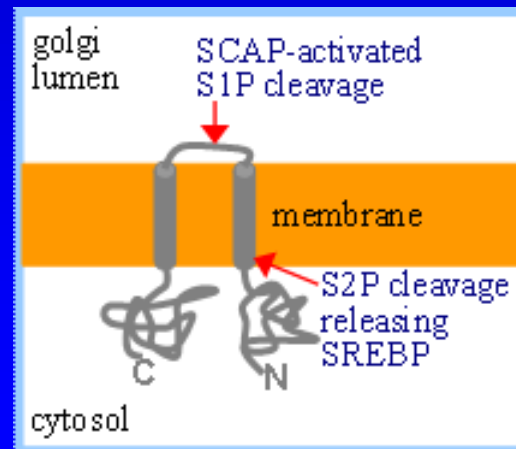
## SREBP Pathway



Michael BROWN



LDL-receptor



SREBP



Joseph GOLDSTEIN

Nobel Prize 1985

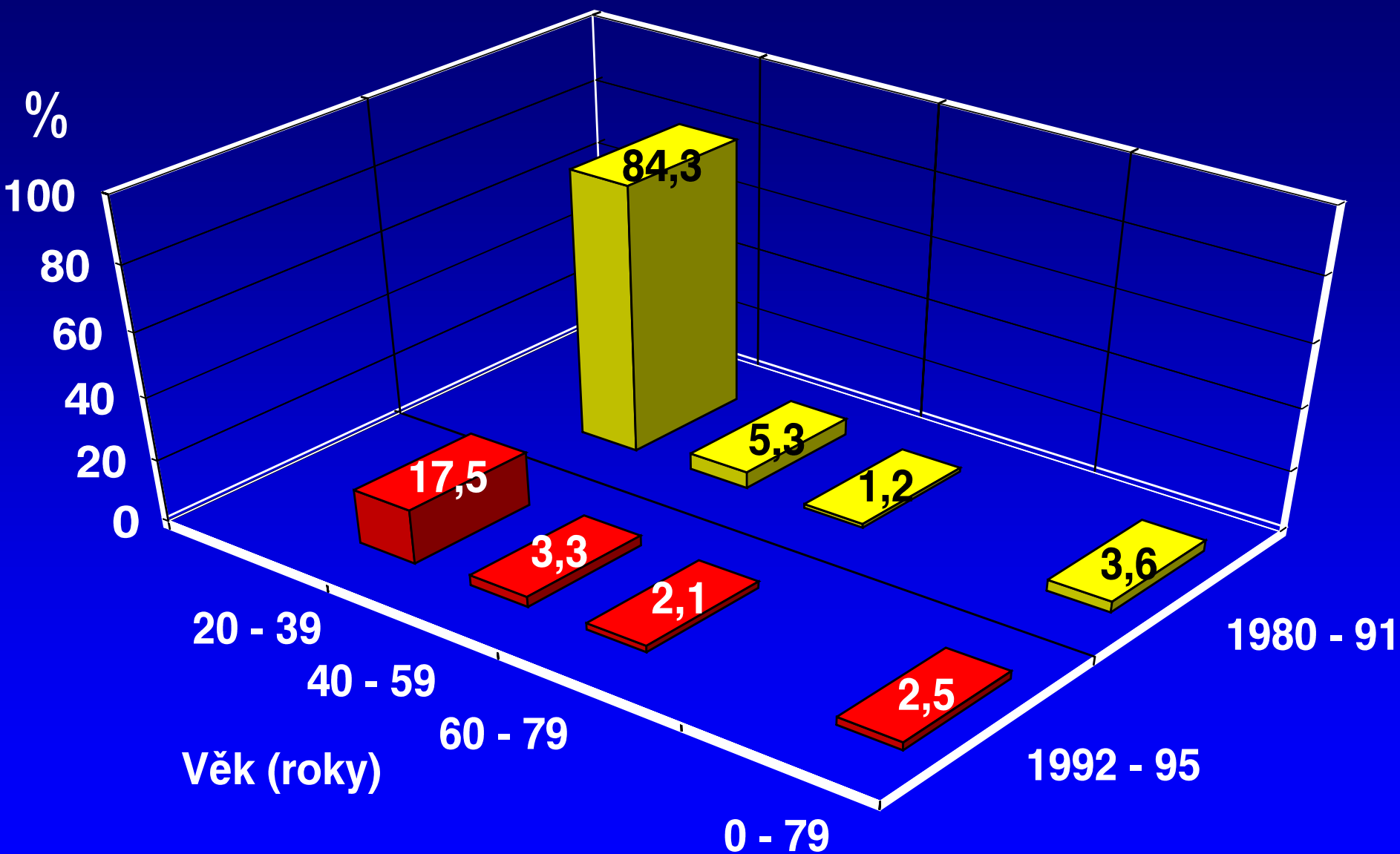
**Familial hypercholesterolemia, positive  
family history, **LDL-C 8,2mmol/l** (W  
27years)**





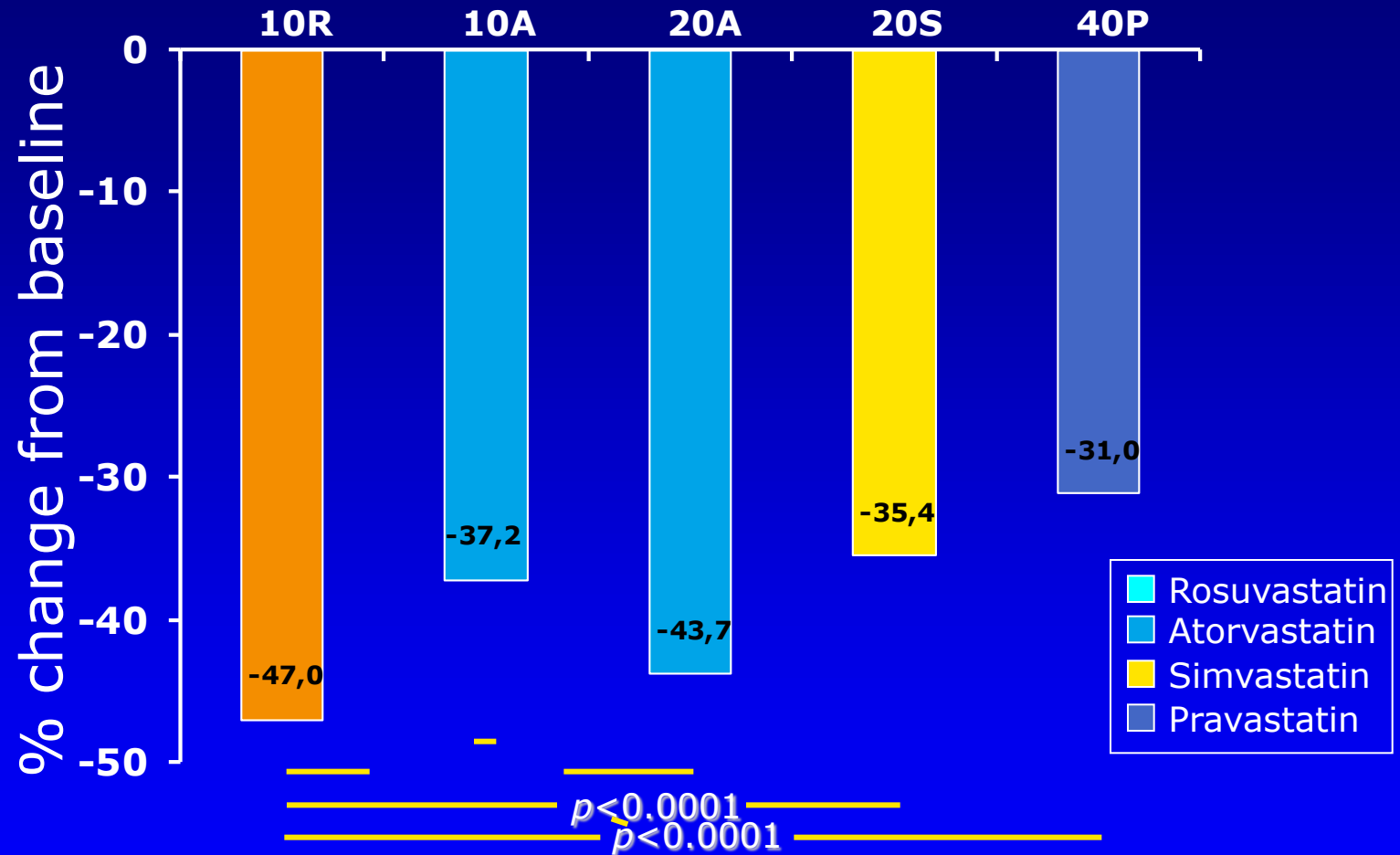


# FH - CHD MORTALITA

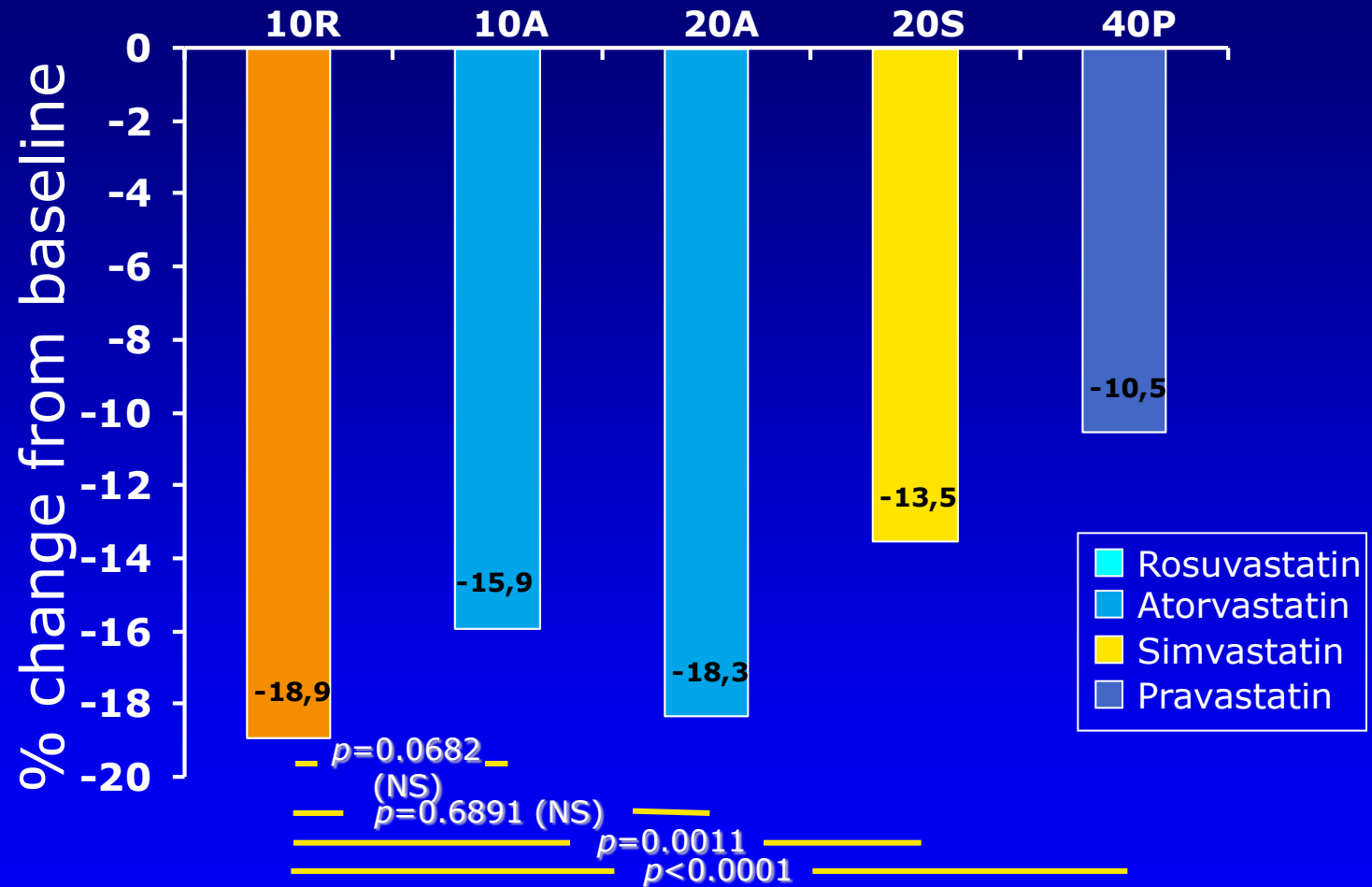




# MERCURY: LDL-C

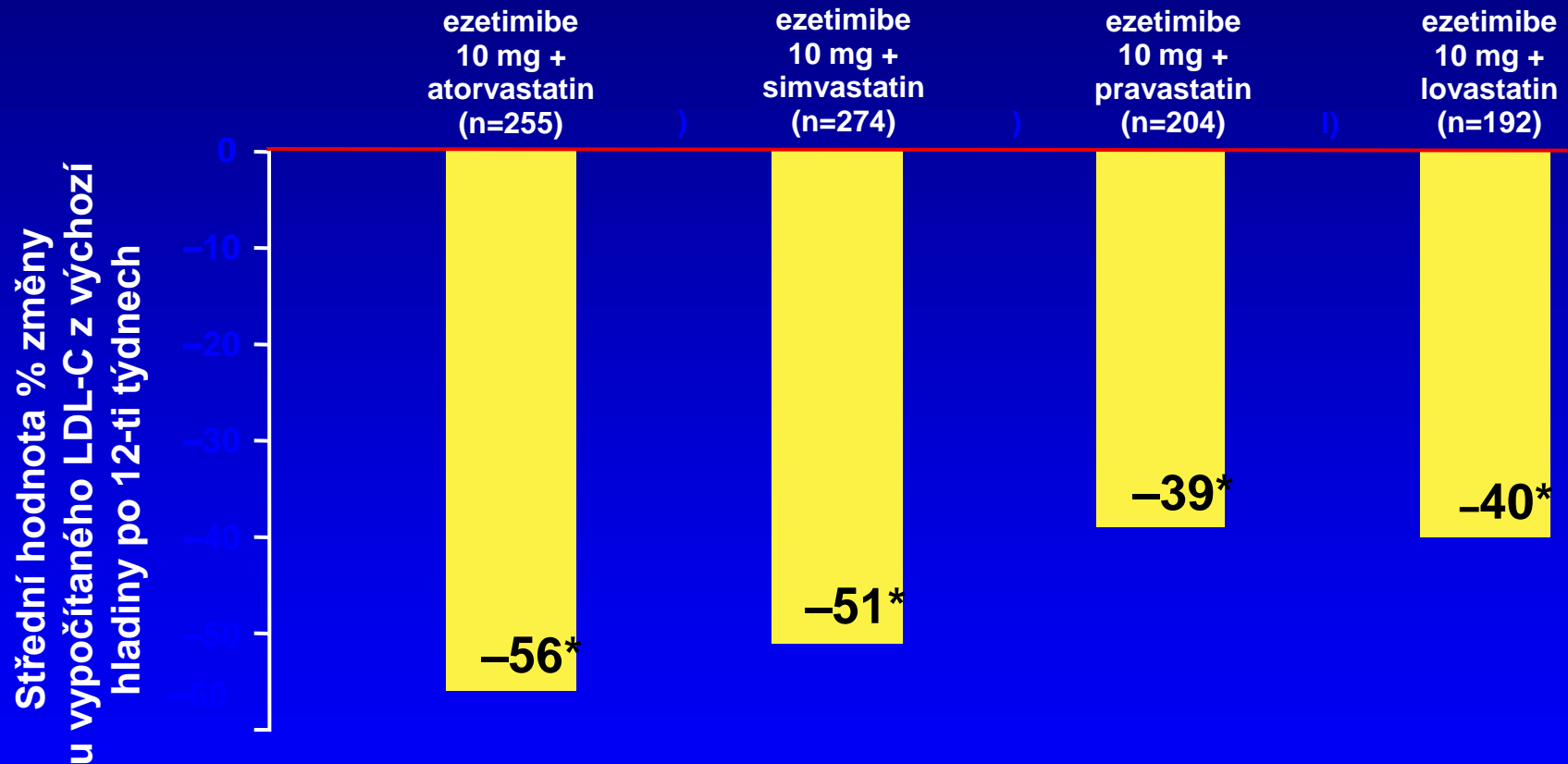


# MERCURY: TG



# 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**

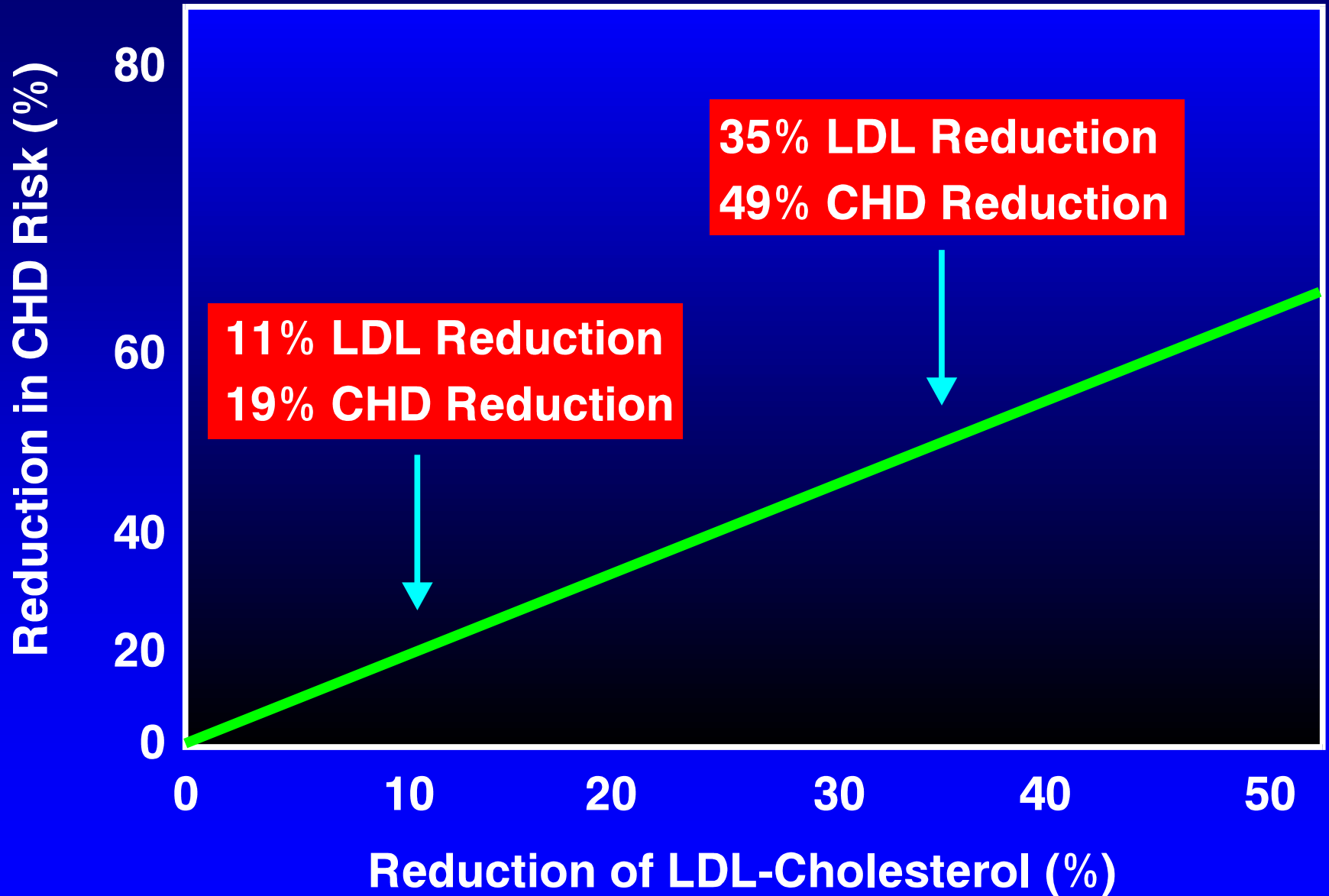
Expert Panel on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Cholesterol in Adults. *JAMA* 2001;285:2486-2497.

*The Lower = The Better*

➤ *for LDL-C lowering*

➤ *For clinical outcomes reduction*

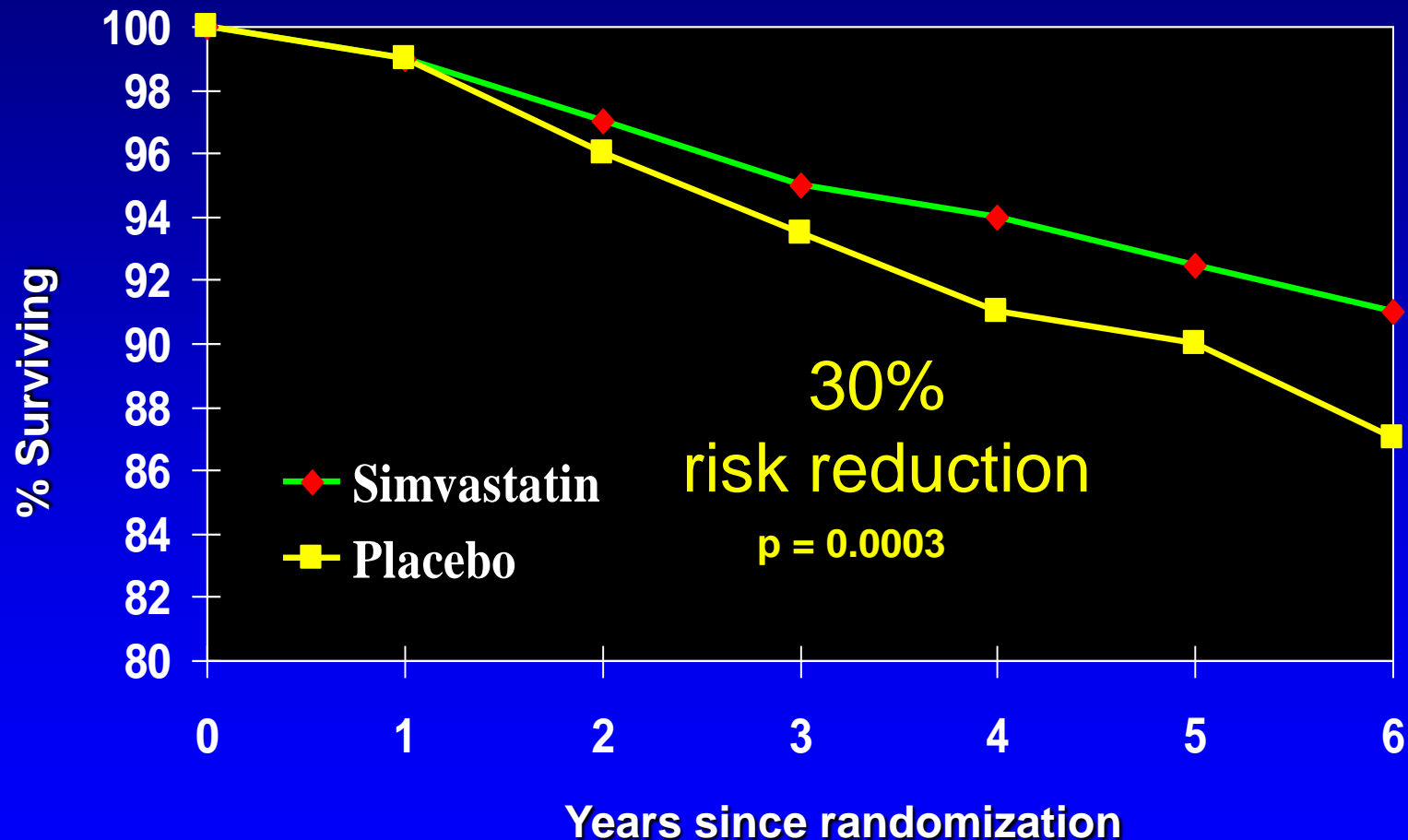
# LRC - CPPT



# Scandinavian Simvastatin Survival Study (4S)

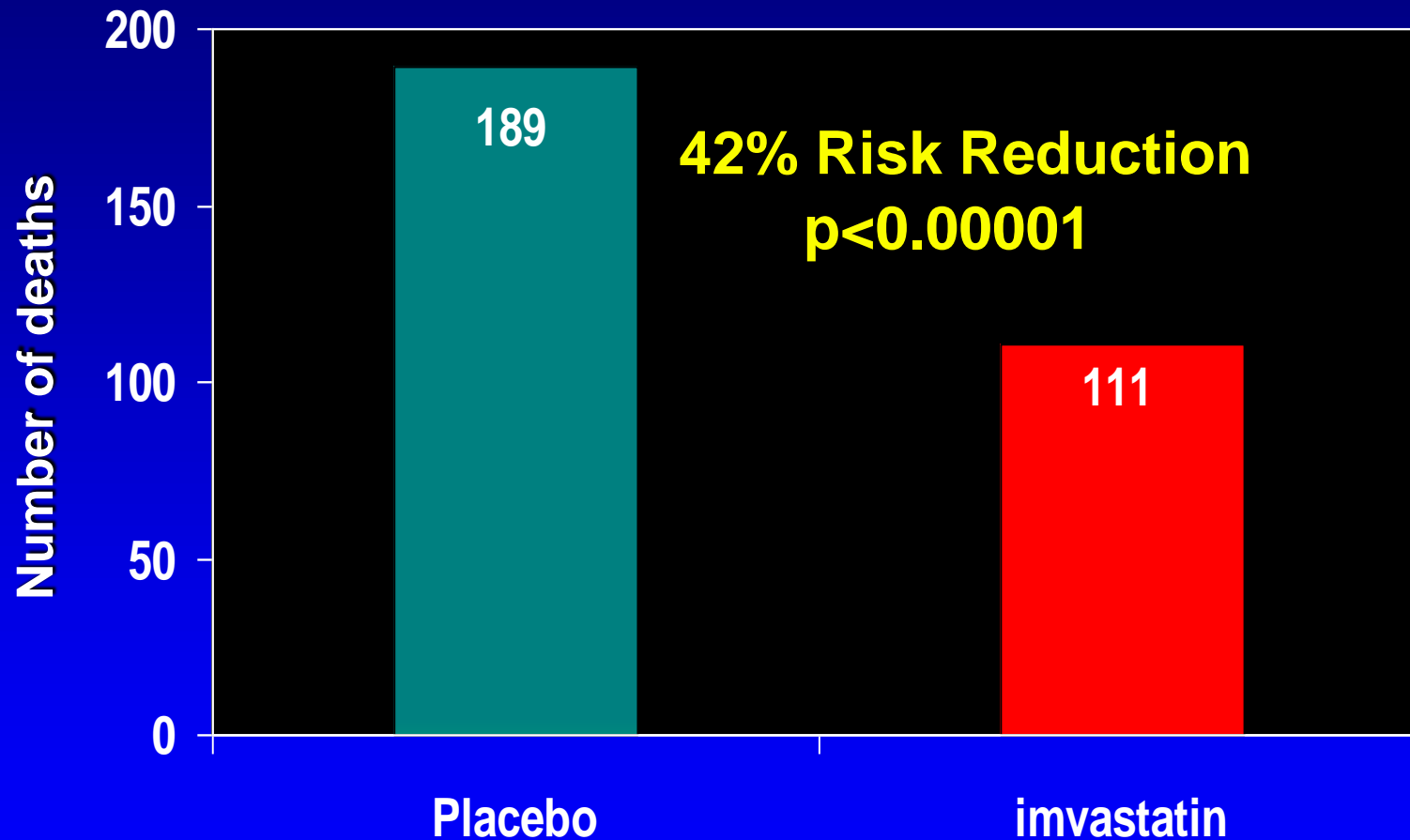
The Lancet, Vol 344, November 19, 1994

# 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

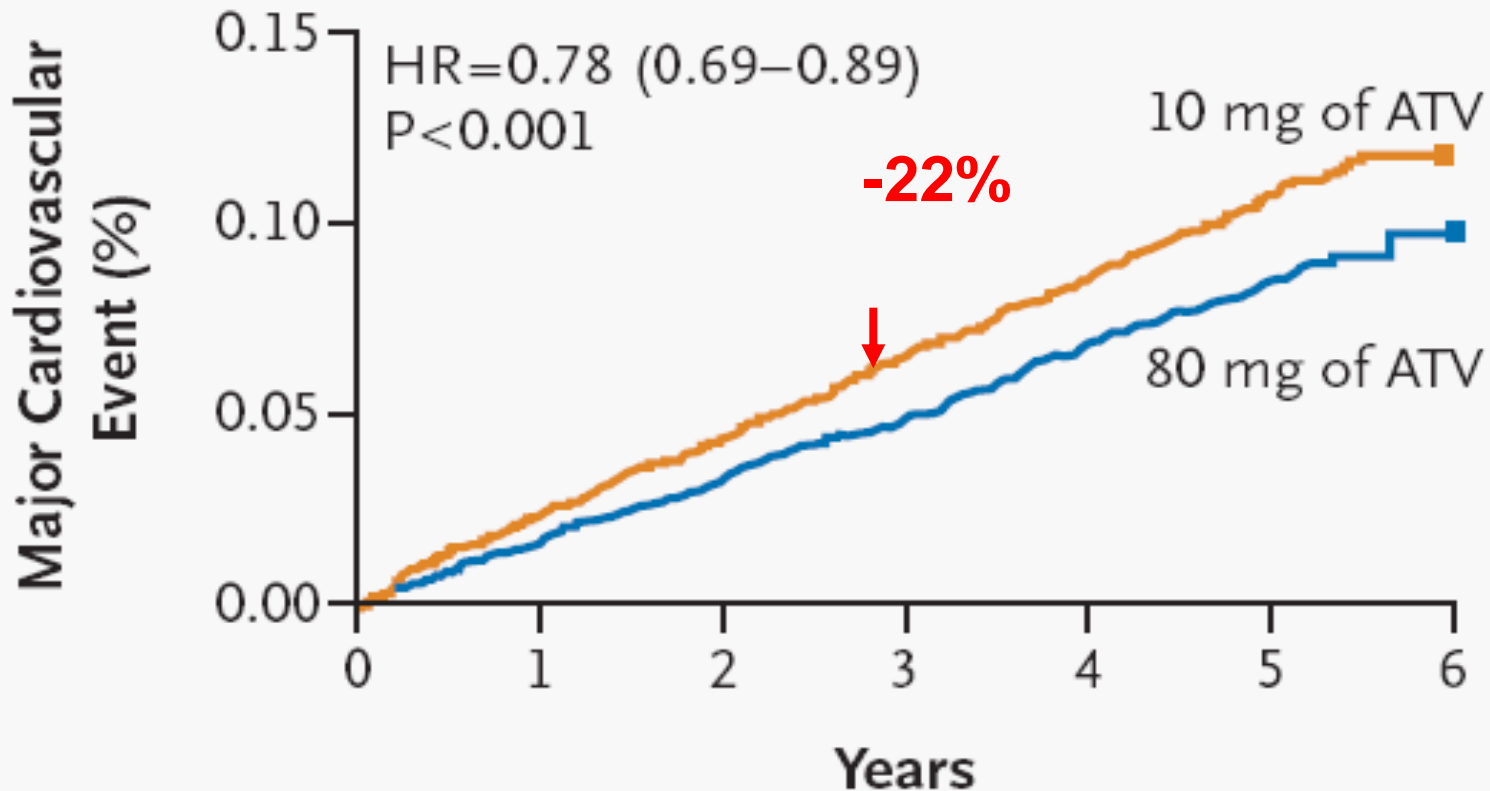
Atorvastatin 80 mg  
n=4,995

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

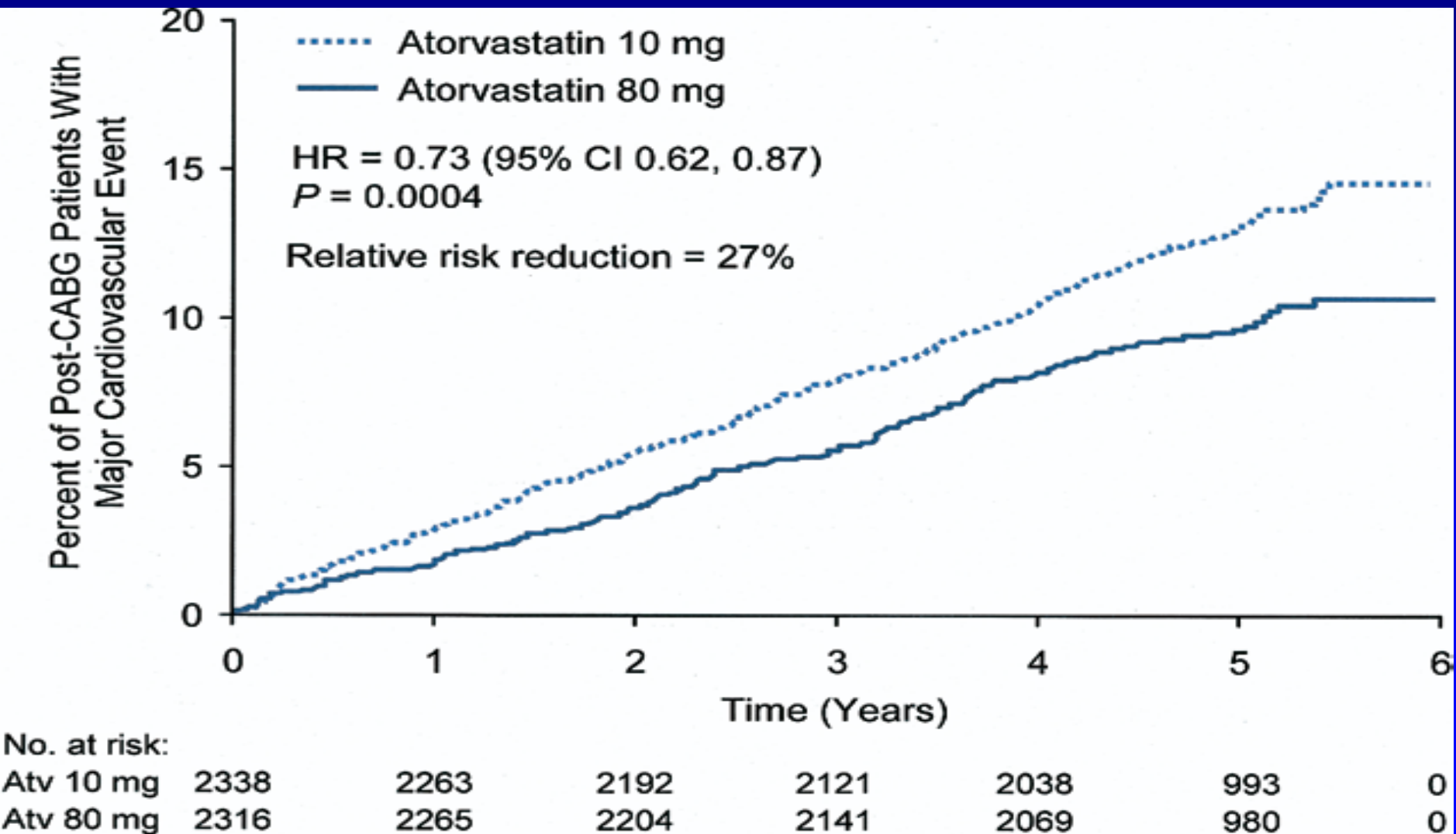


*Intensive lipid-lowering therapy with atorvastatin 80 mg/day in patients with stable CHD provides significant clinical benefit beyond that provided by atorvastatin 10 mg/day*



# TNT pts after CABG n = 4,654

## MACE -27%



# 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**

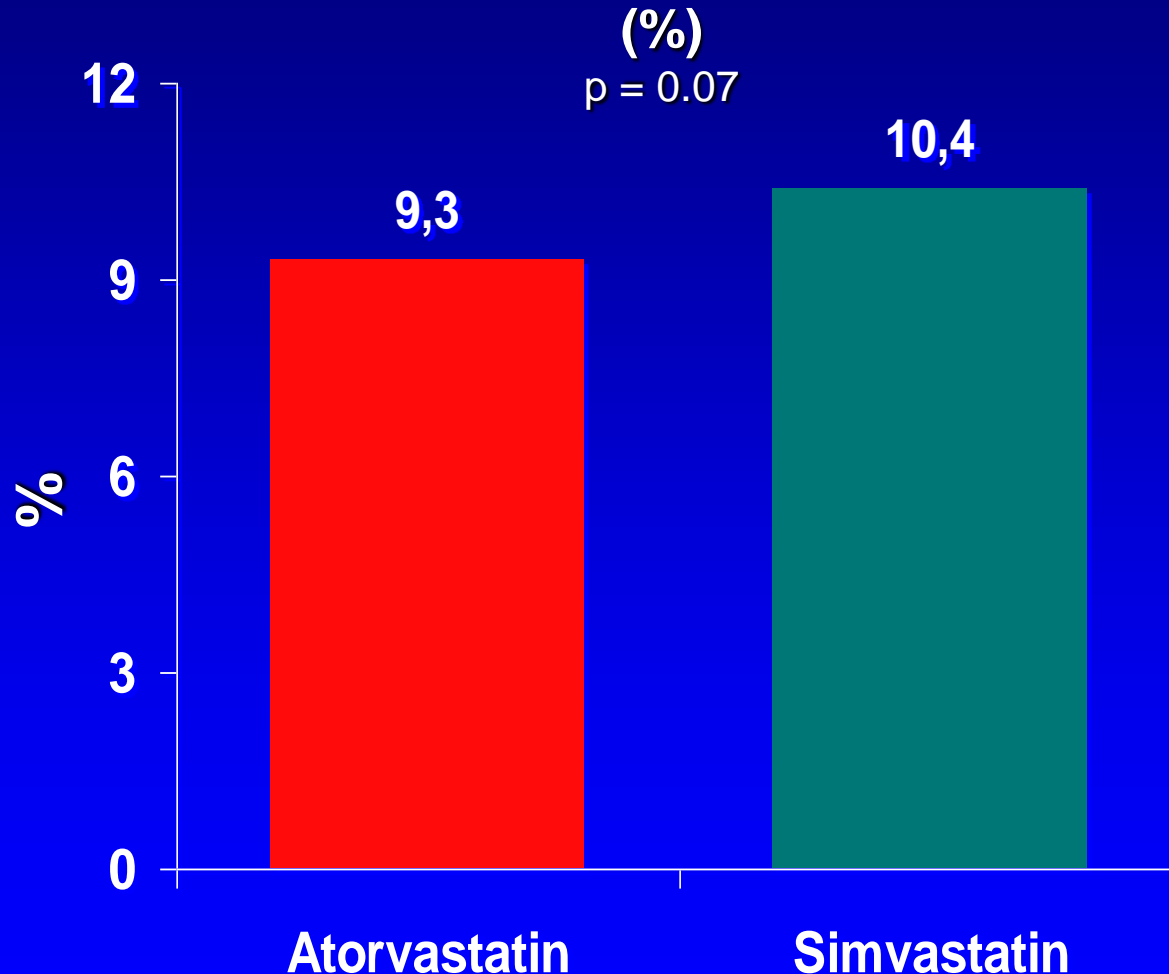
**20 mg/day**

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 \*



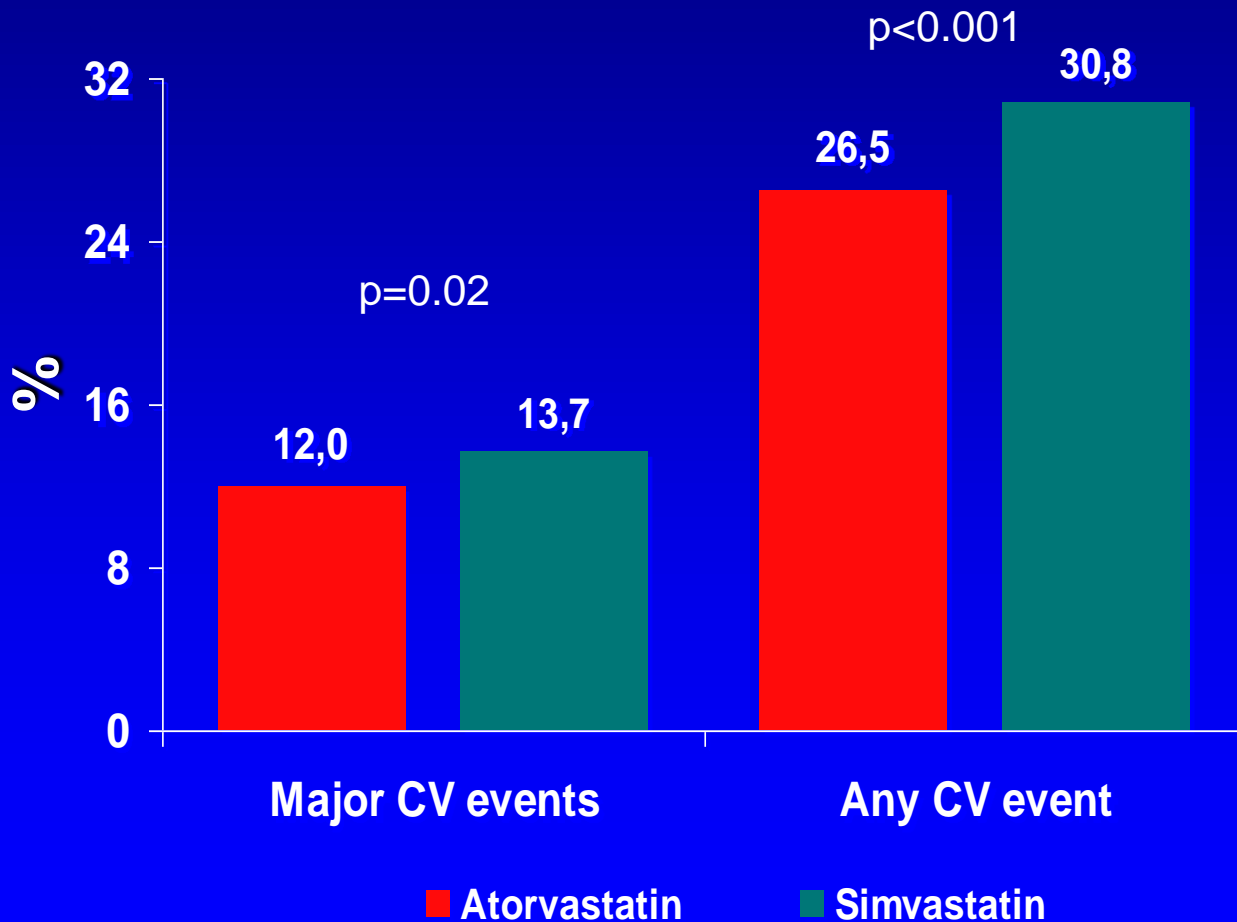
- The primary composite endpoint of major coronary event occurred in 9.3% of the atorvastatin group and 10.4% of the simvastatin group.

\* 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

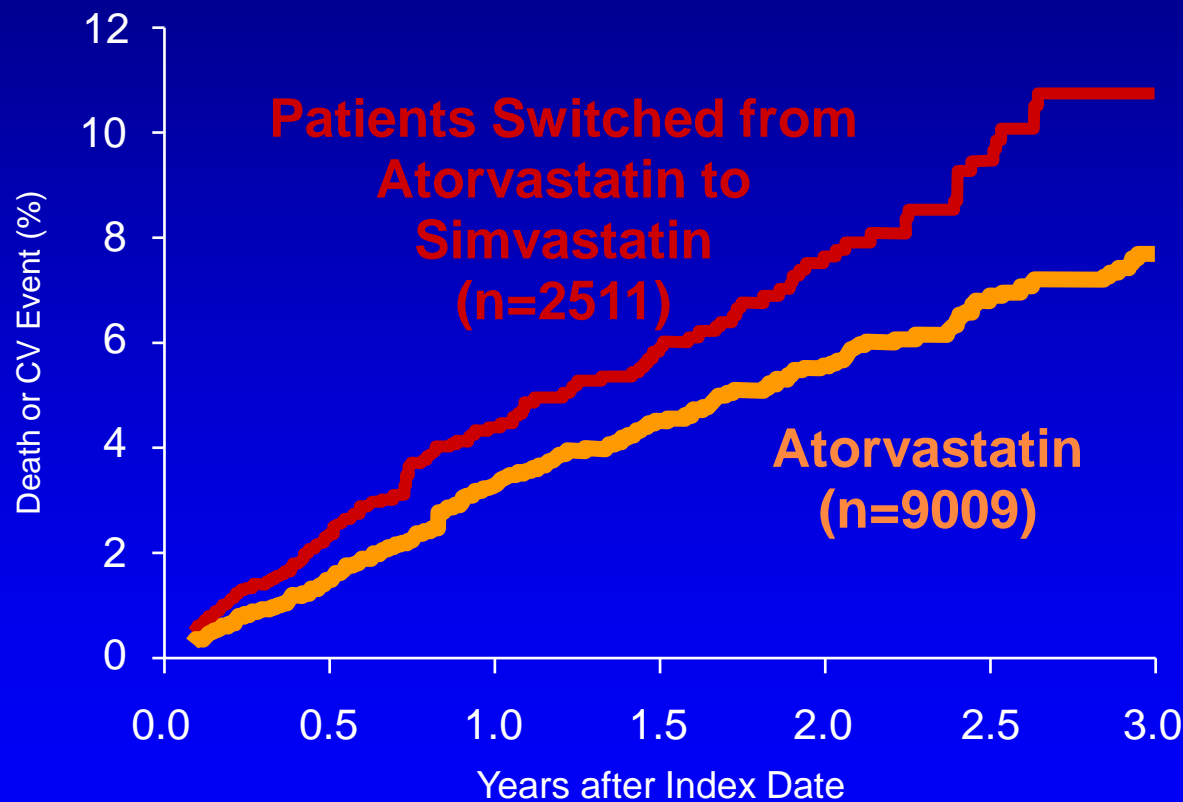
Major cardiovascular events and any cardiovascular event (%)



- 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.

*Presented at AHA 2005*

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

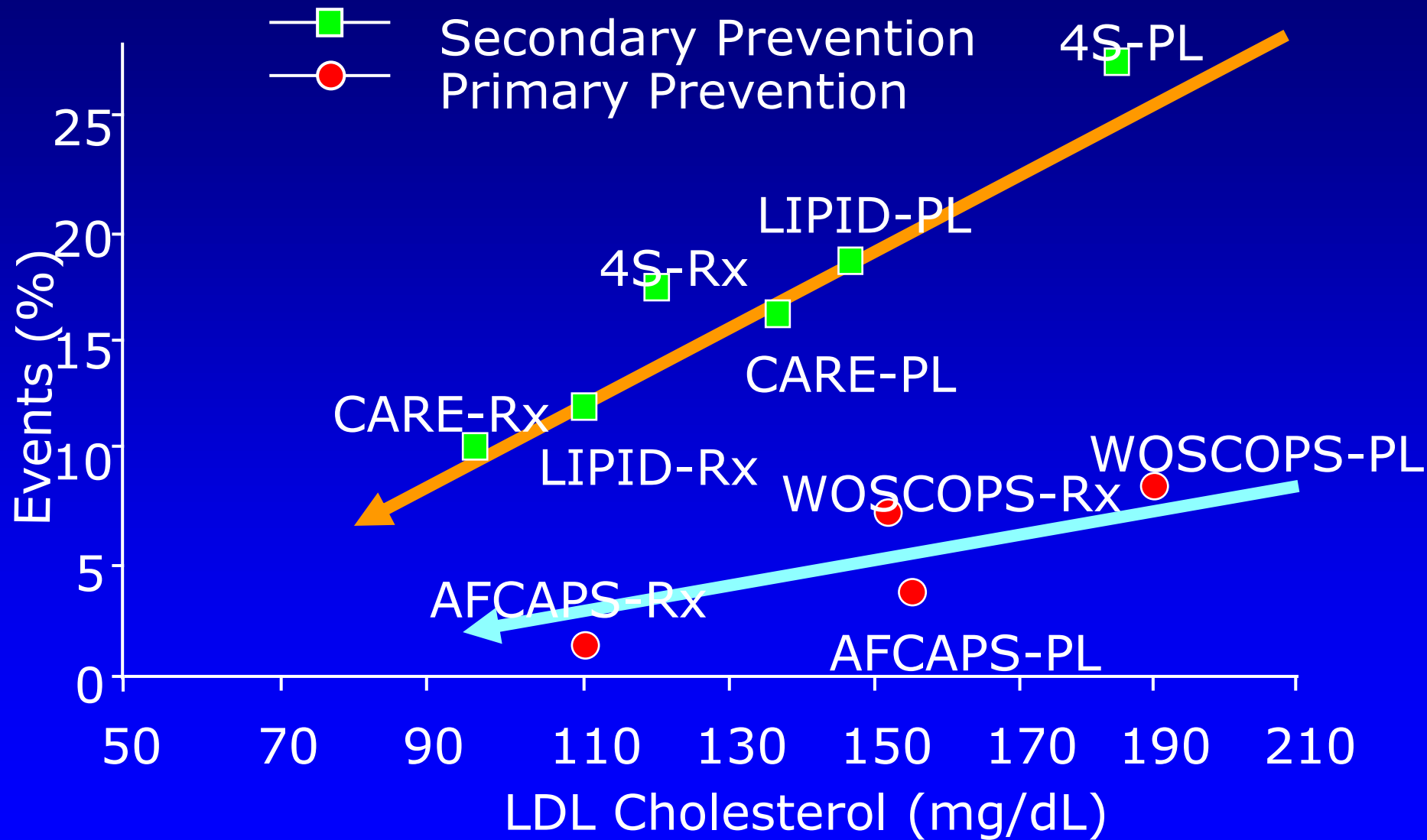


**33%**

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

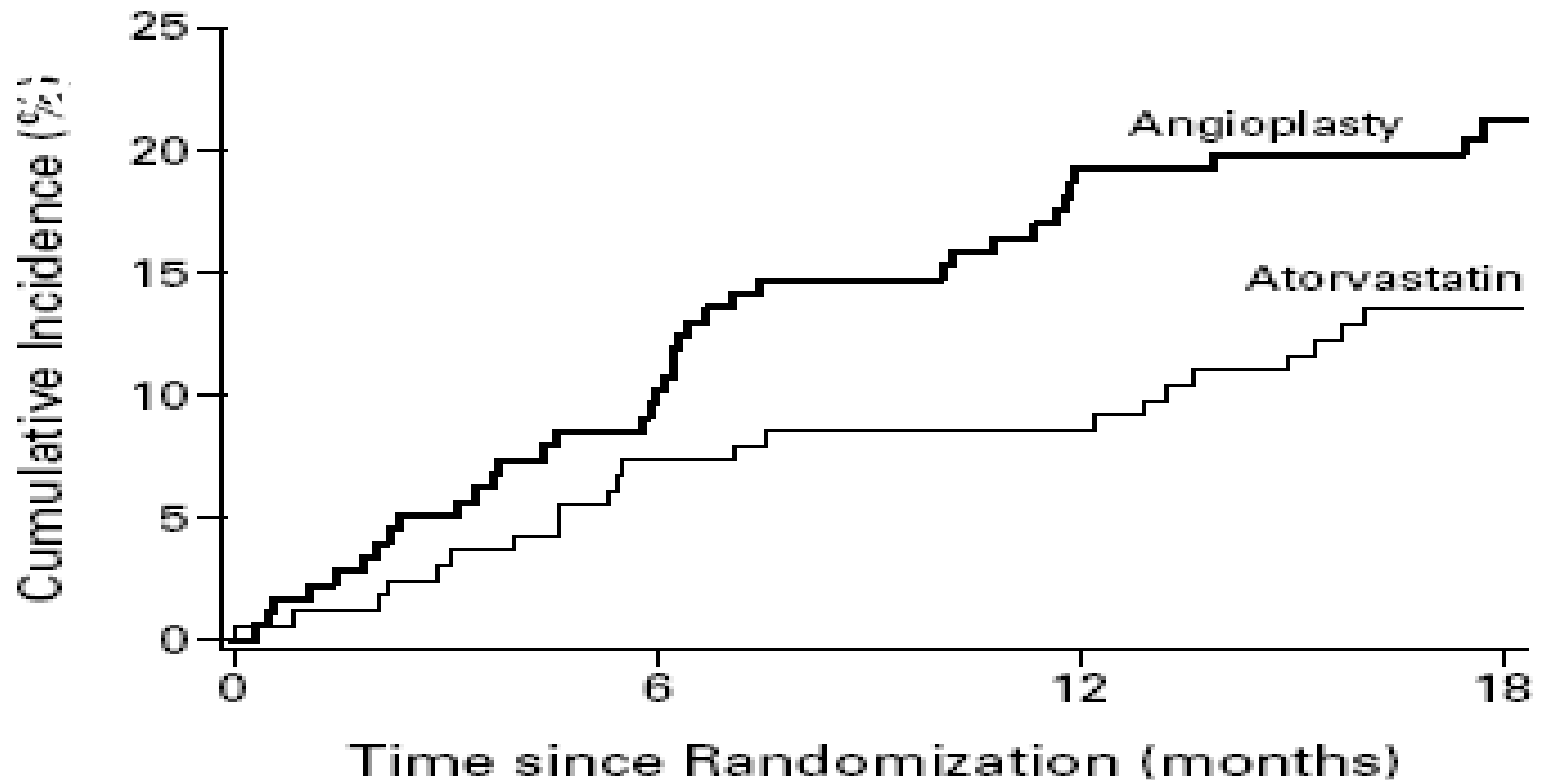
Primary end point:  
time to death or first  
major CV event (MI,  
stroke, and  
revascularization)

# LDL-C lowering with statins: reduced CHD events



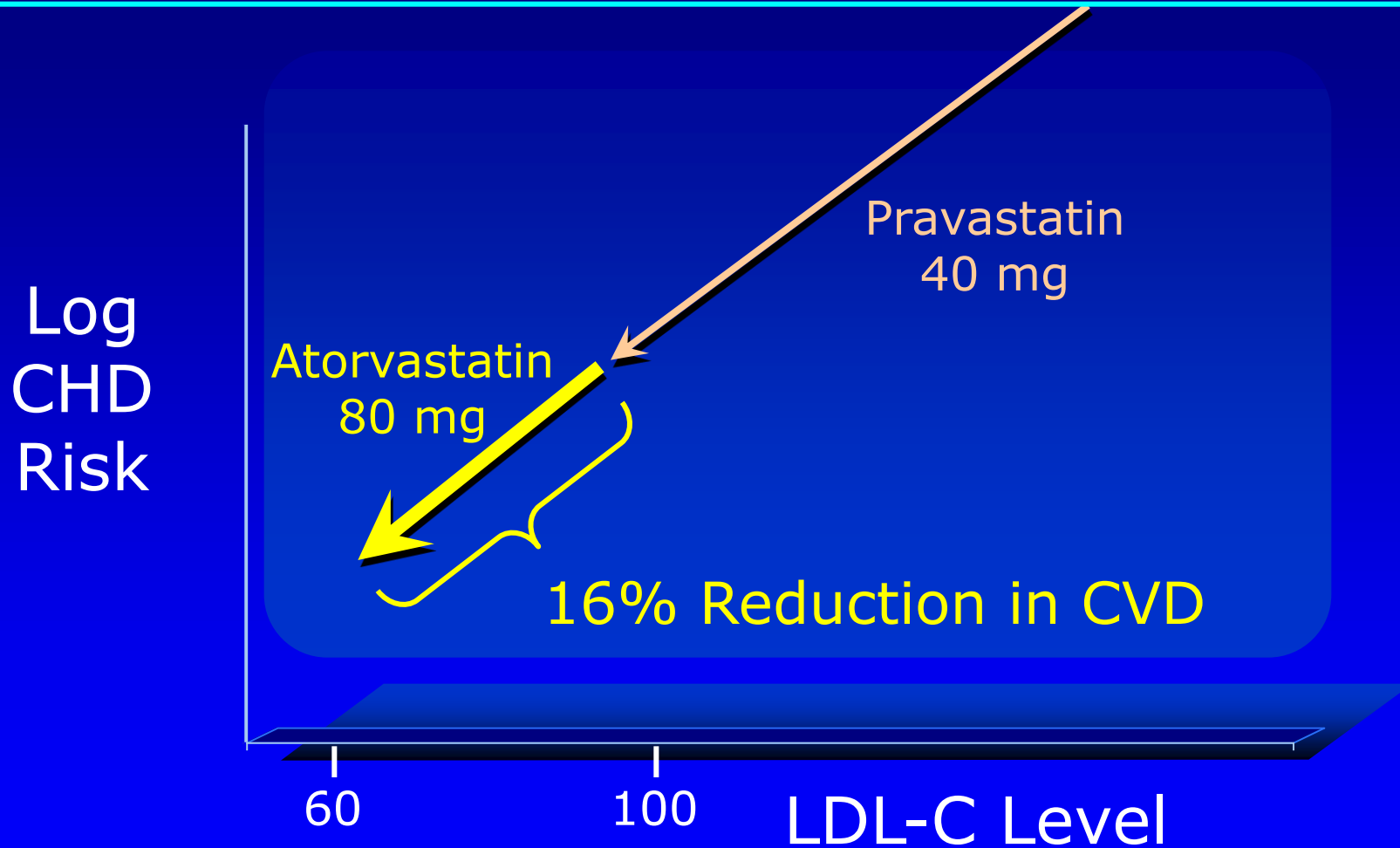
*The Lower The Better*

# 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%***

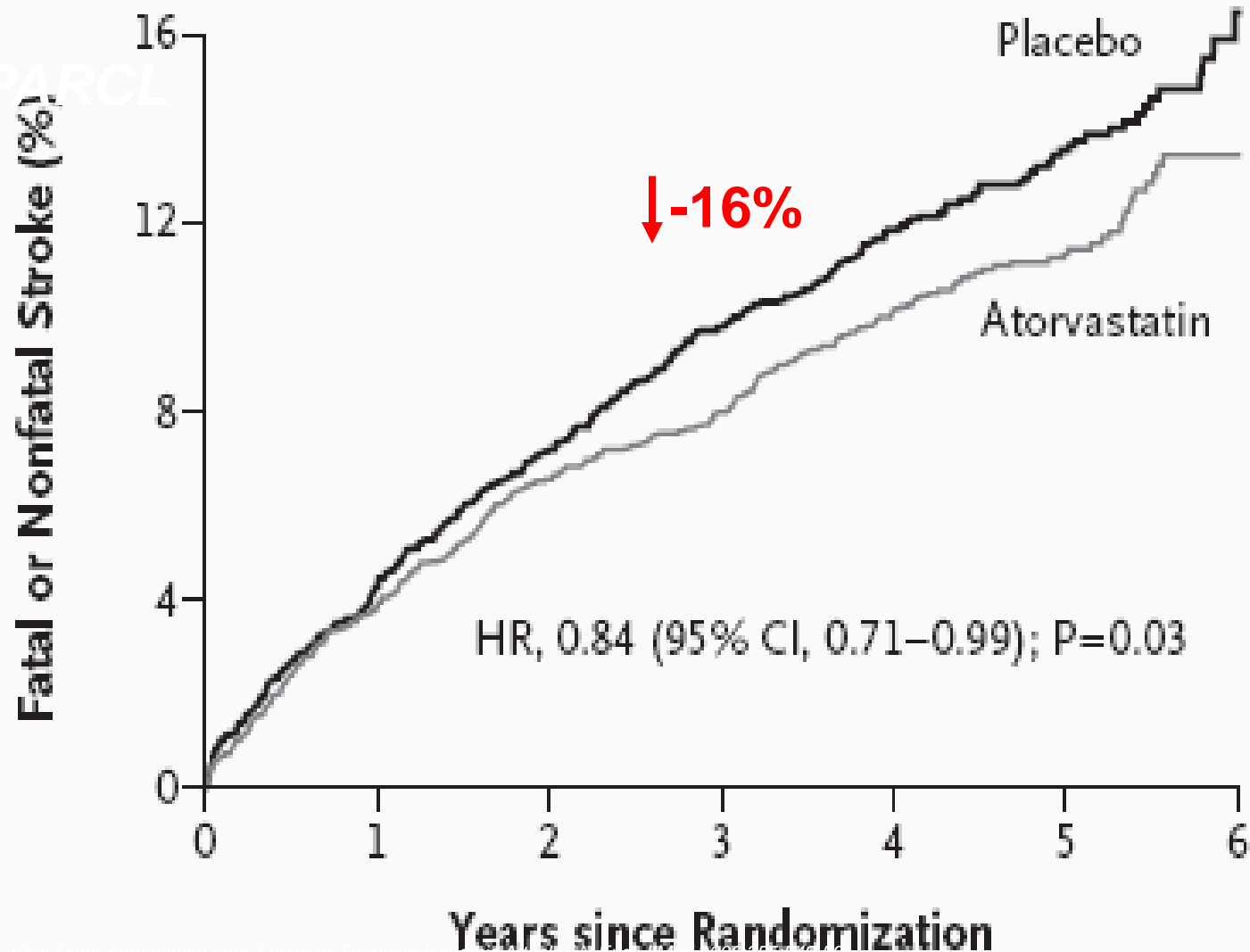
# PROVE IT-TIMI 22 (2-Year Trial)



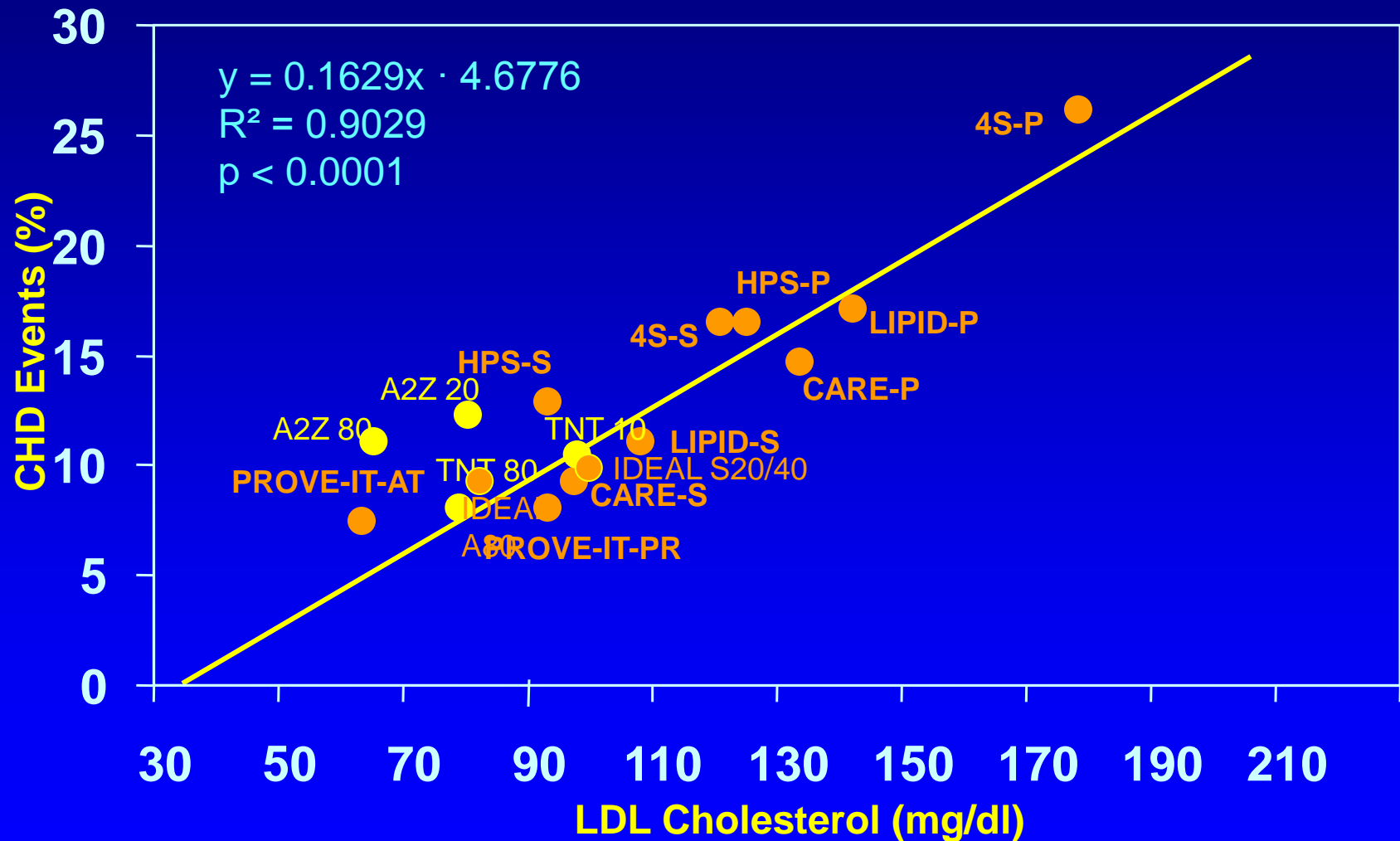
Cannon CP et al. *N Engl J Med* 2004;350:1495-1504.



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



# CHD Event Rates in Secondary Prevention and ACS Trials

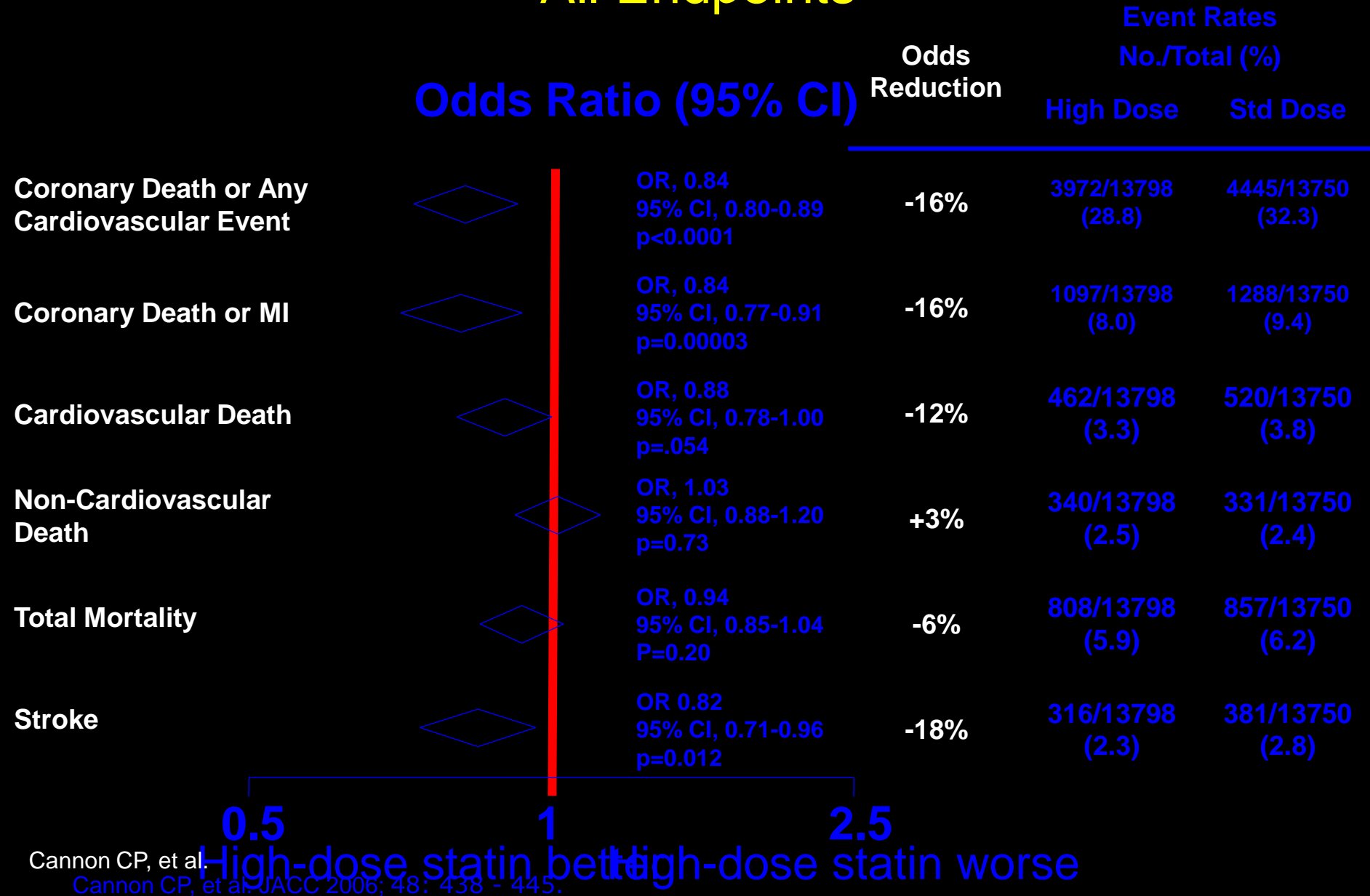


Updated from - O'Keefe, J. et al., *J Am Coll*

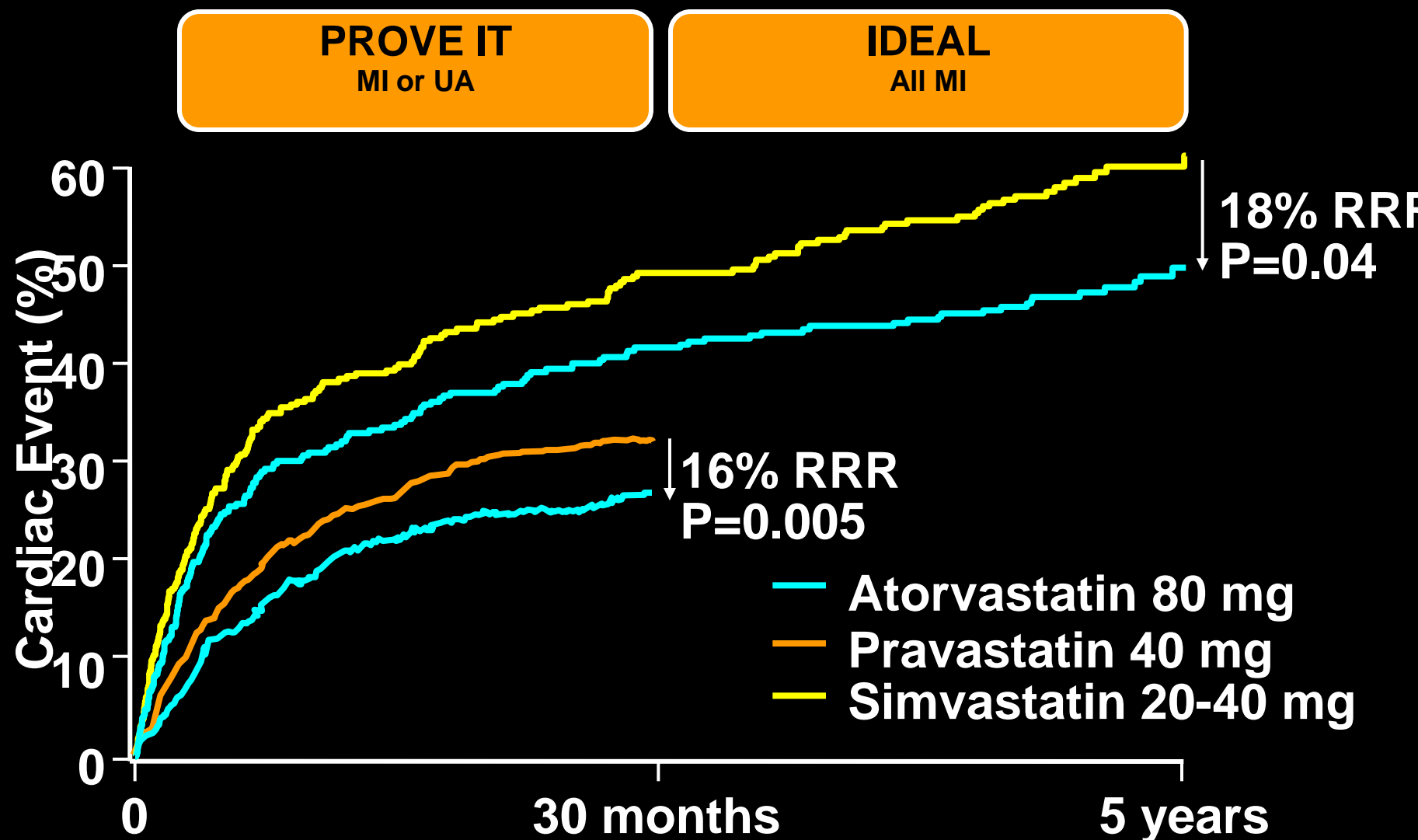
*Cardiol* 1999;142:2442-2

# Meta-Analysis of Intensive Statin Therapy

## All Endpoints



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



**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**

# 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***



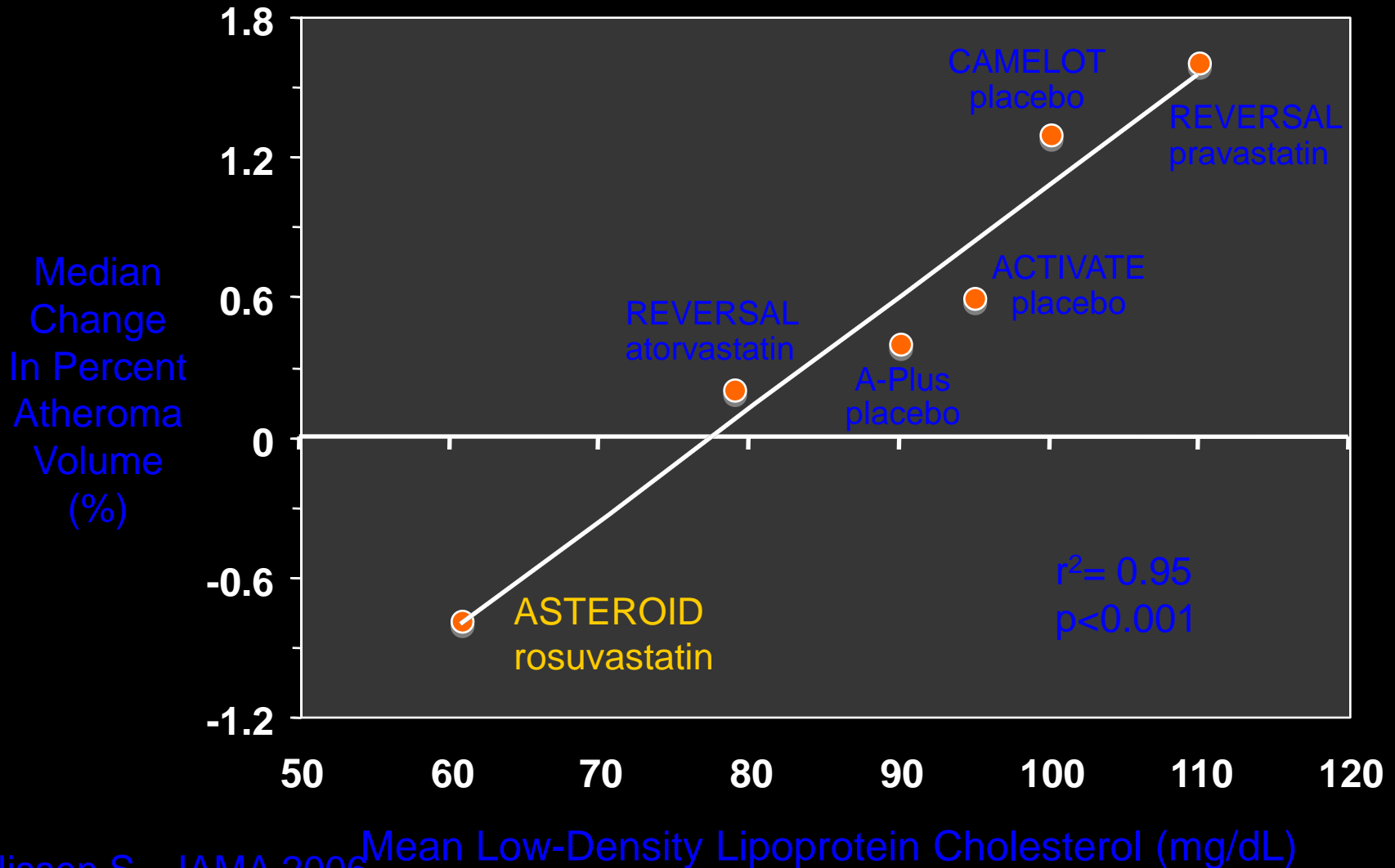
*The Longer The Better*

# 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

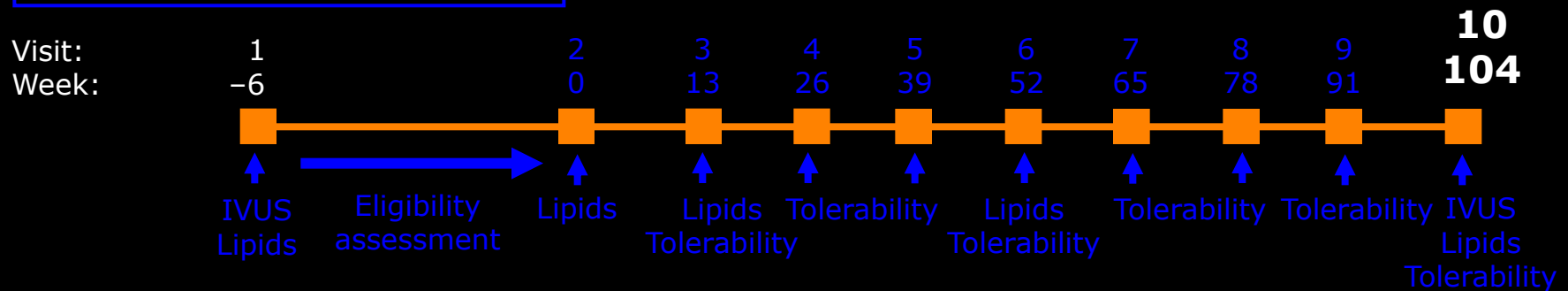
Target coronary artery:  $\leq 50\%$  reduction in lumen diameter of  $\geq 40$  mm segment

No cholesterol entry criteria

$\geq 18$  years

**Rosuvastatin 40 mg**

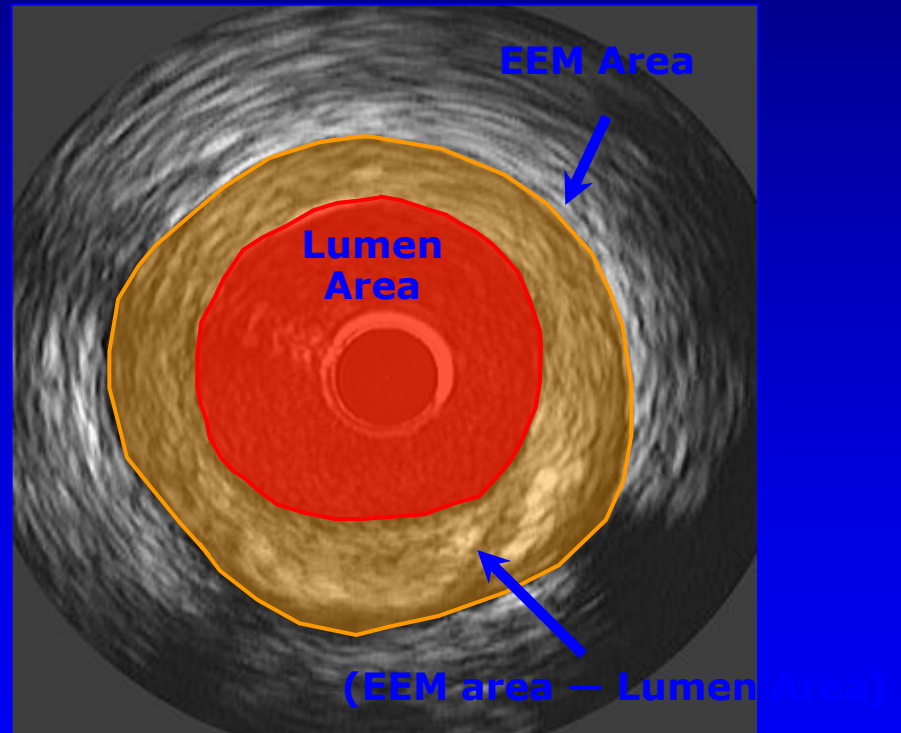
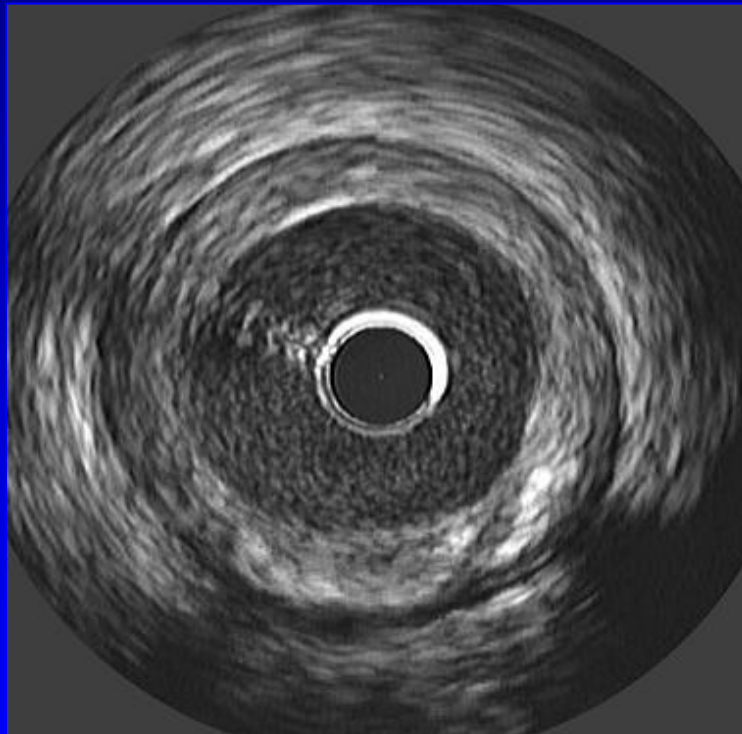
(n=349 evaluated serial IVUS examinations)



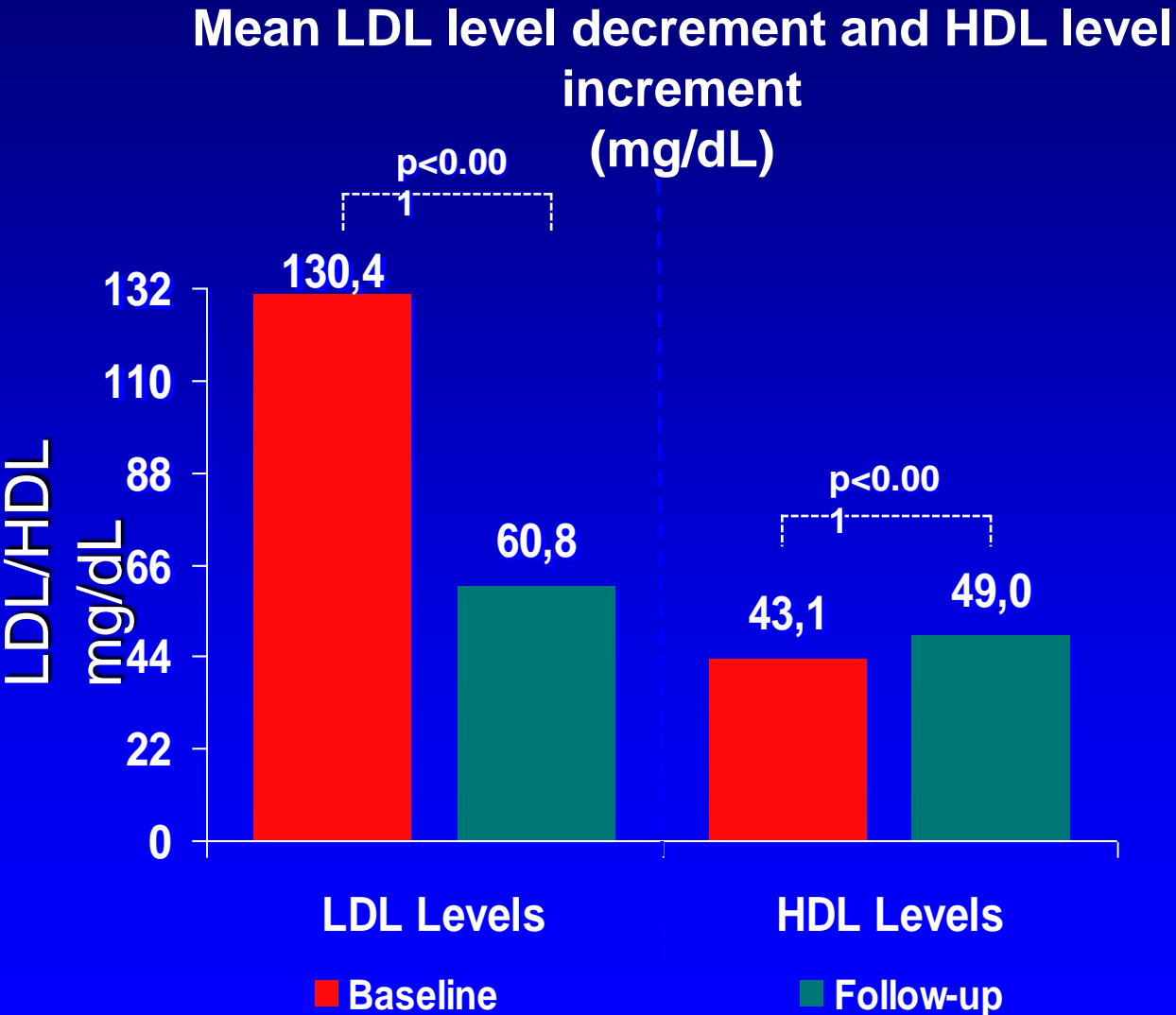
CAD=coronary artery disease; PCI=percutaneous coronary intervention; IVUS=intravascular ultrasound

# IVUS Objem atero plátu

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



# ASTEROID Trial: Principal Findings

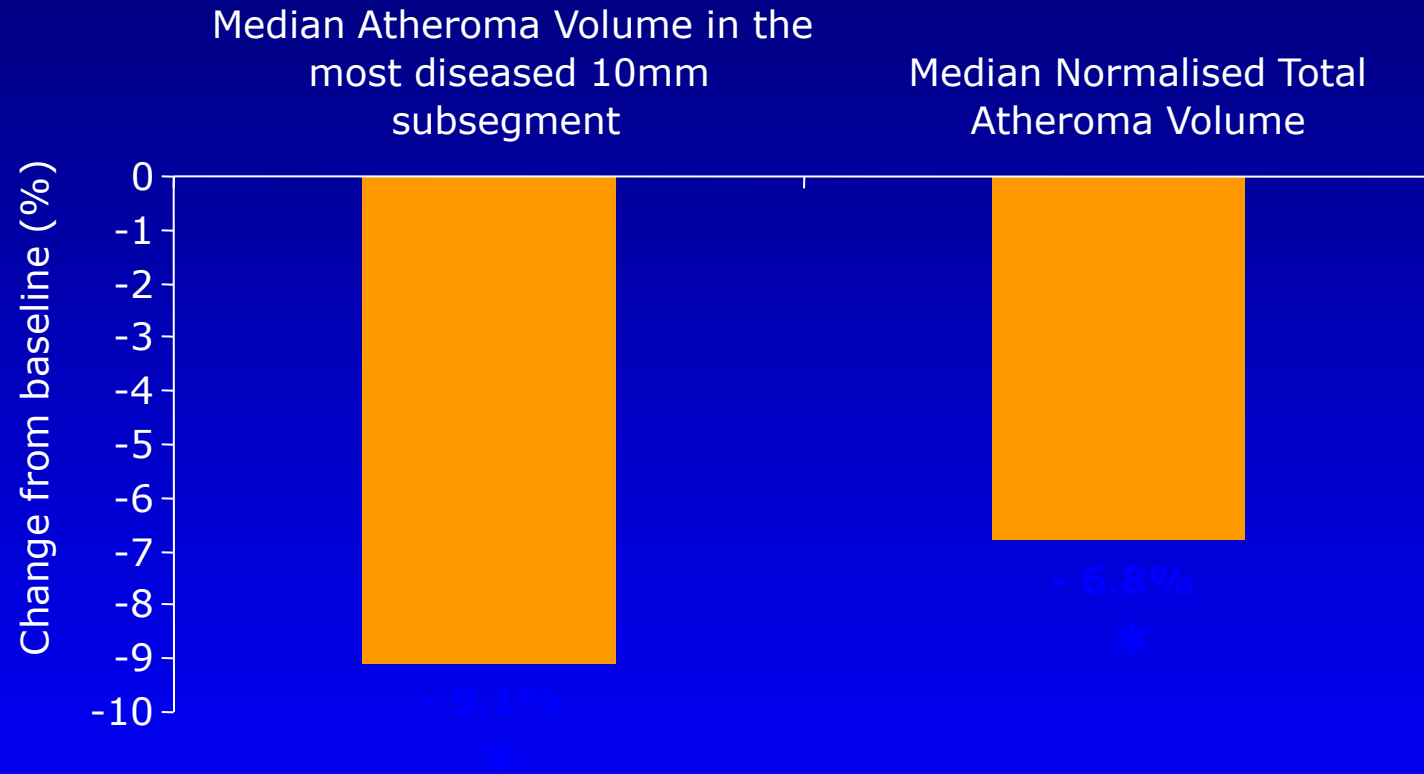


- LDL Levels were reduced from 130.4 mg/dL at baseline to a mean of 60.8 mg/dL at 2 year follow-up ( $p<0.001$ ), with 75% of patients achieving an LDL  $<70$  mg/dL.

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

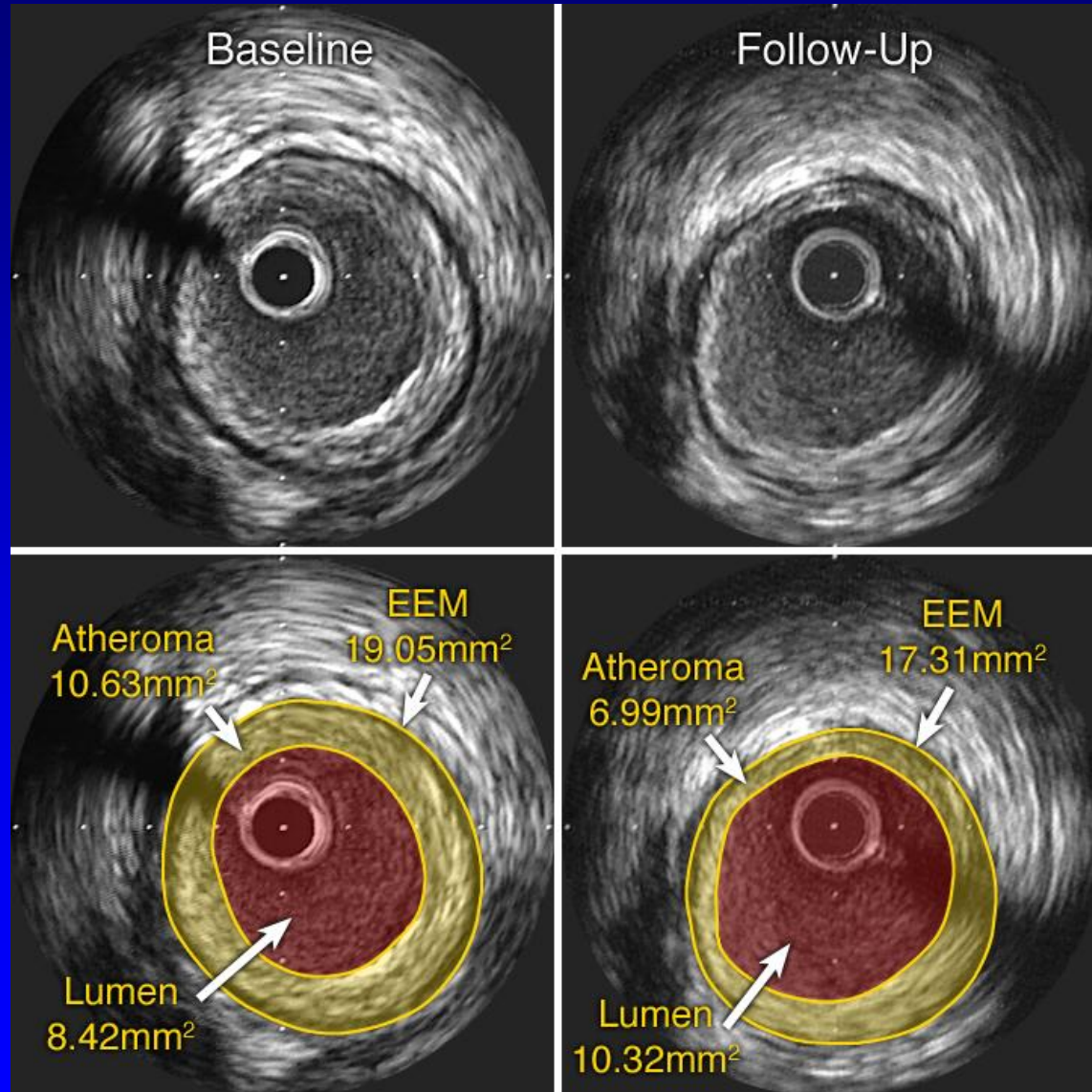
Presented at ACC 2006  
mg/dL at follow-up

# Endpoint analysis: Change in key IVUS parameters



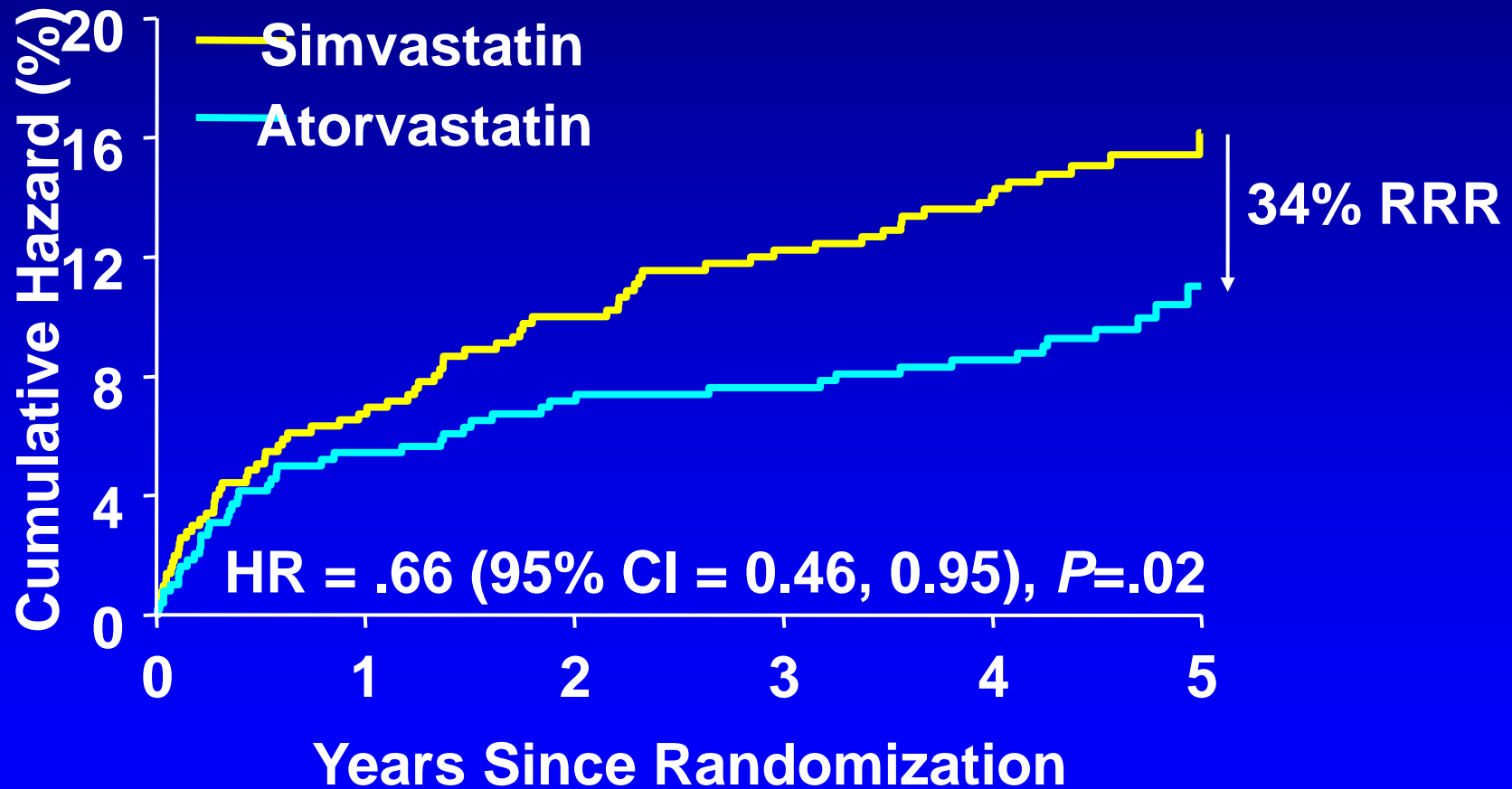
\* p < 0.05 compared to baseline with one-sided rank-sum test

# Regression of atherosclerosis in ASTEROID



# ACS Patients: Major Coronary Events

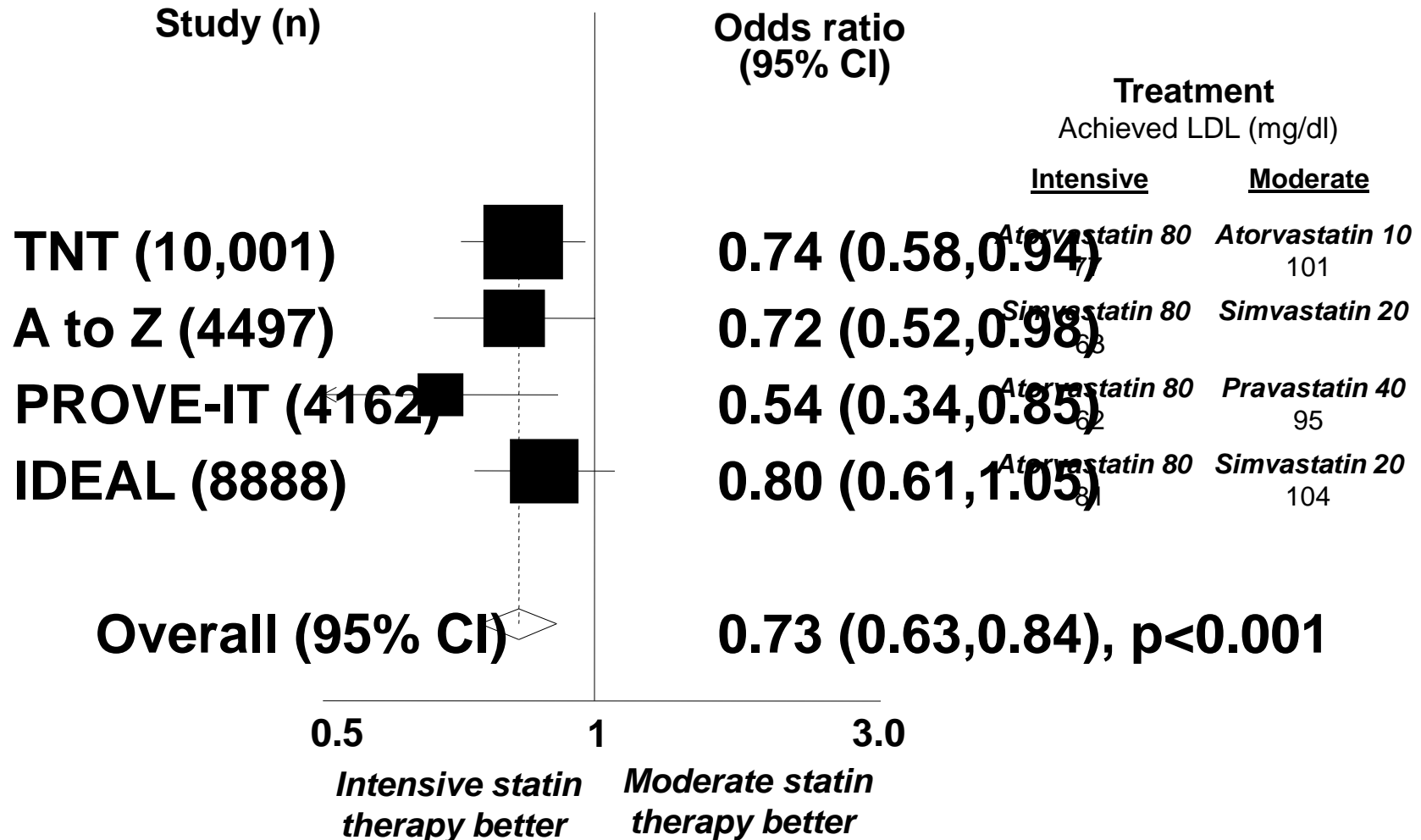
MI + CHD Death +  
Resuscitated Cardiac Arrest



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

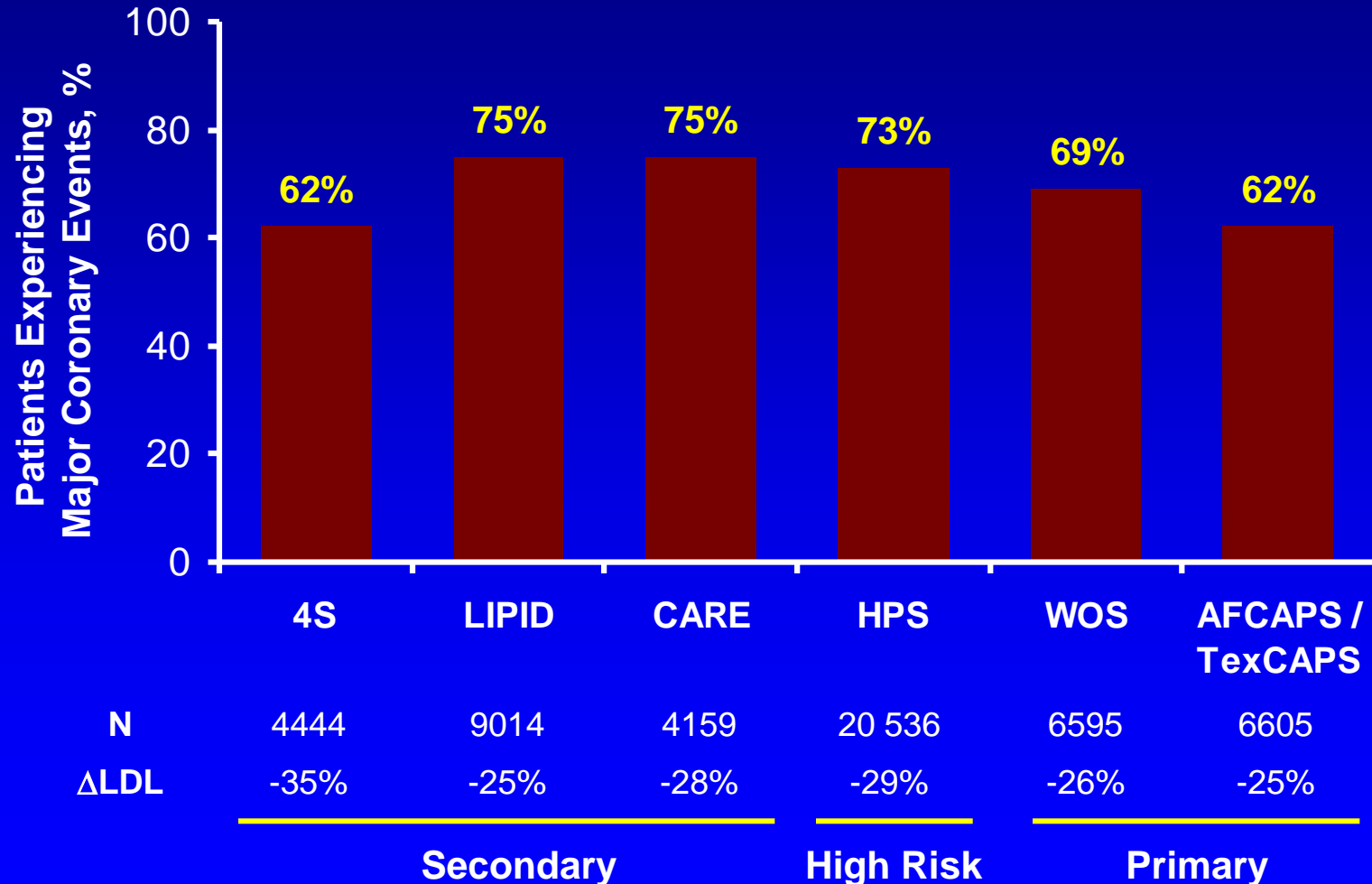


# Meta-Analysis of Intensive Statin Therapy CHF



Odds ratio

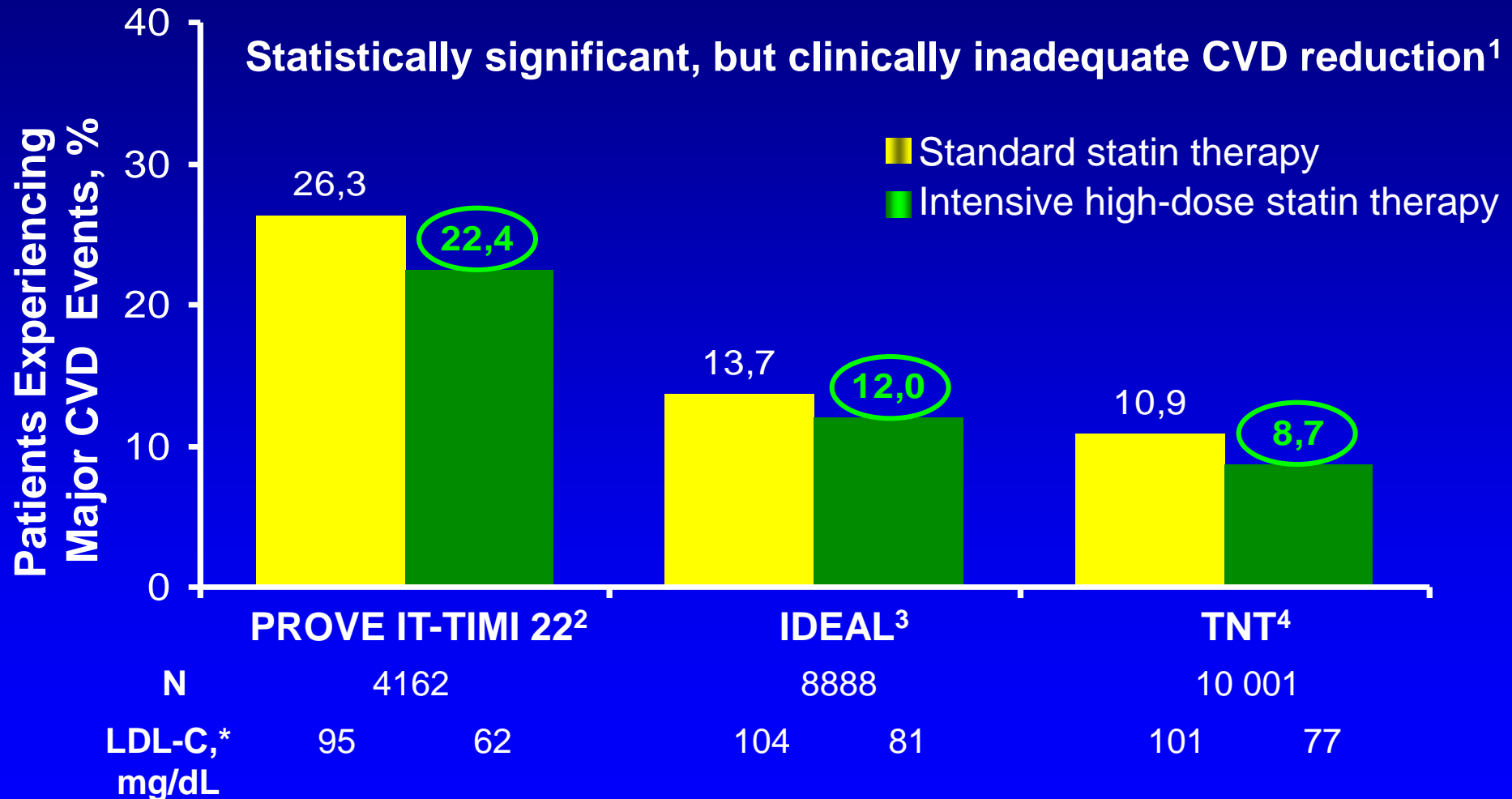
# Residual Cardiovascular Risk in Major Statin Trials: Standard Doses



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

# Residual CVD Risk in Patients Treated With Intensive Statin Therapy

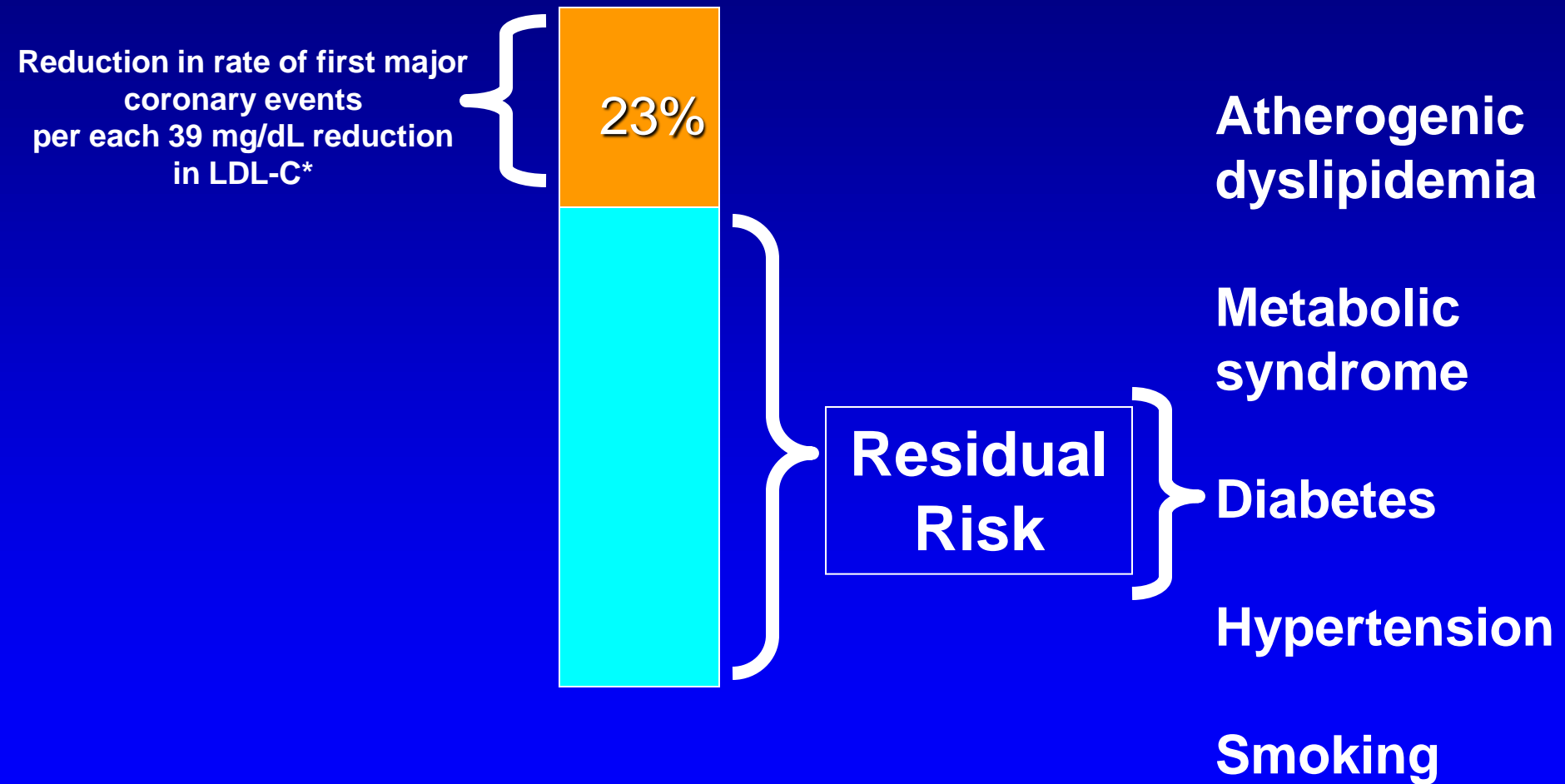
Statistically significant, but clinically inadequate CVD reduction<sup>1</sup>



<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



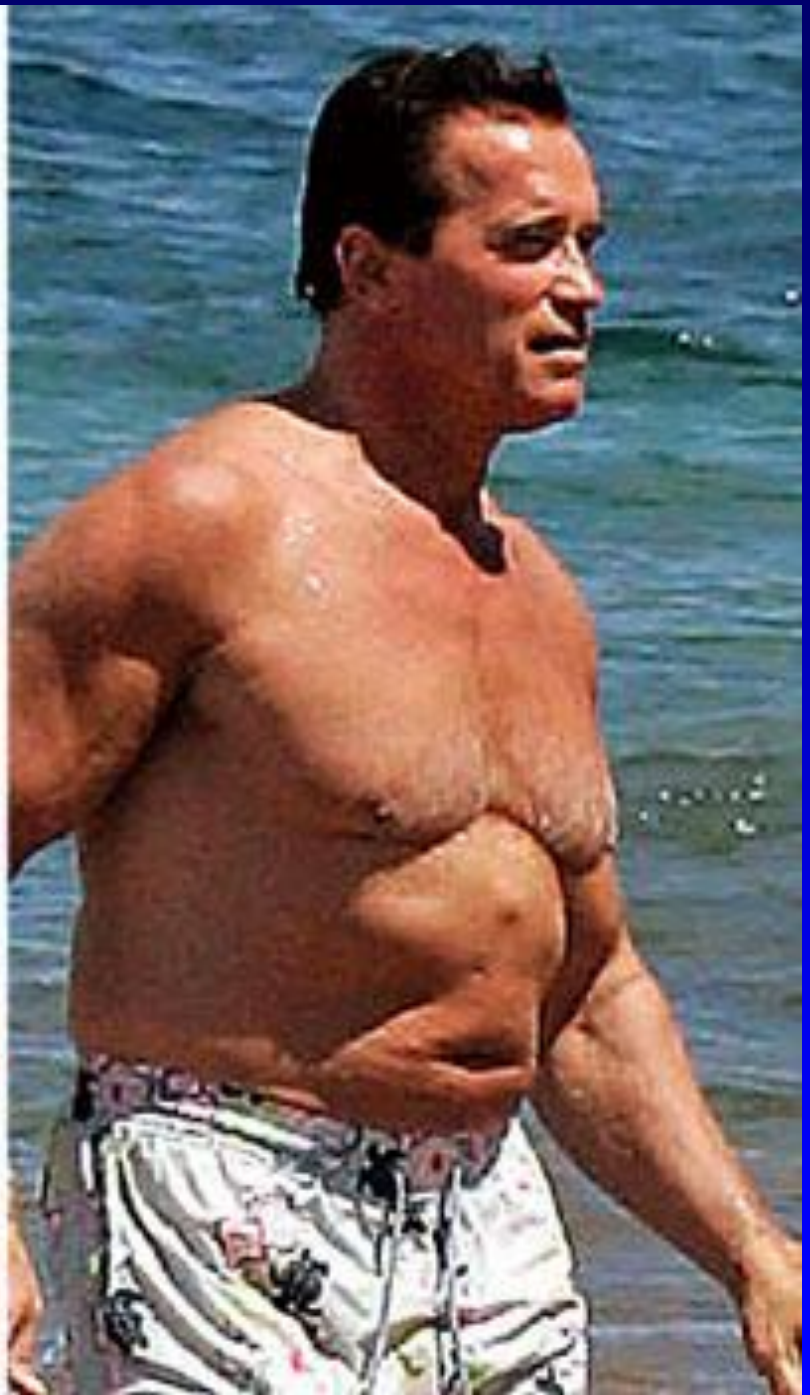
# Residual Risk: Definitions

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



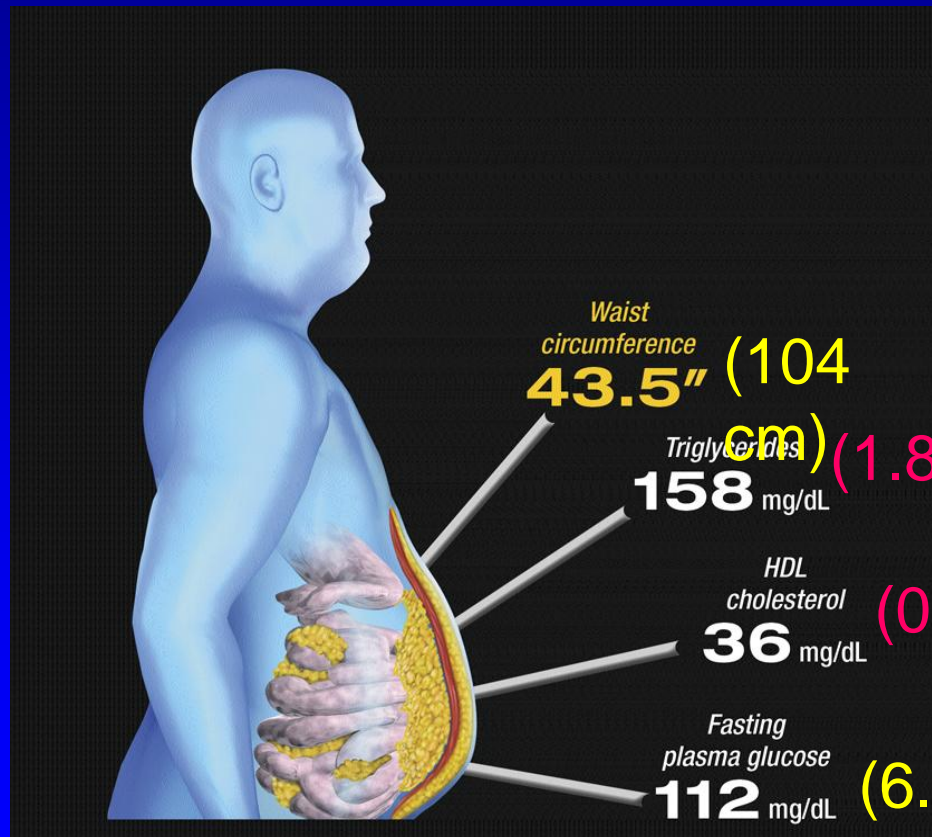








# RFs in abdominal obesity



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

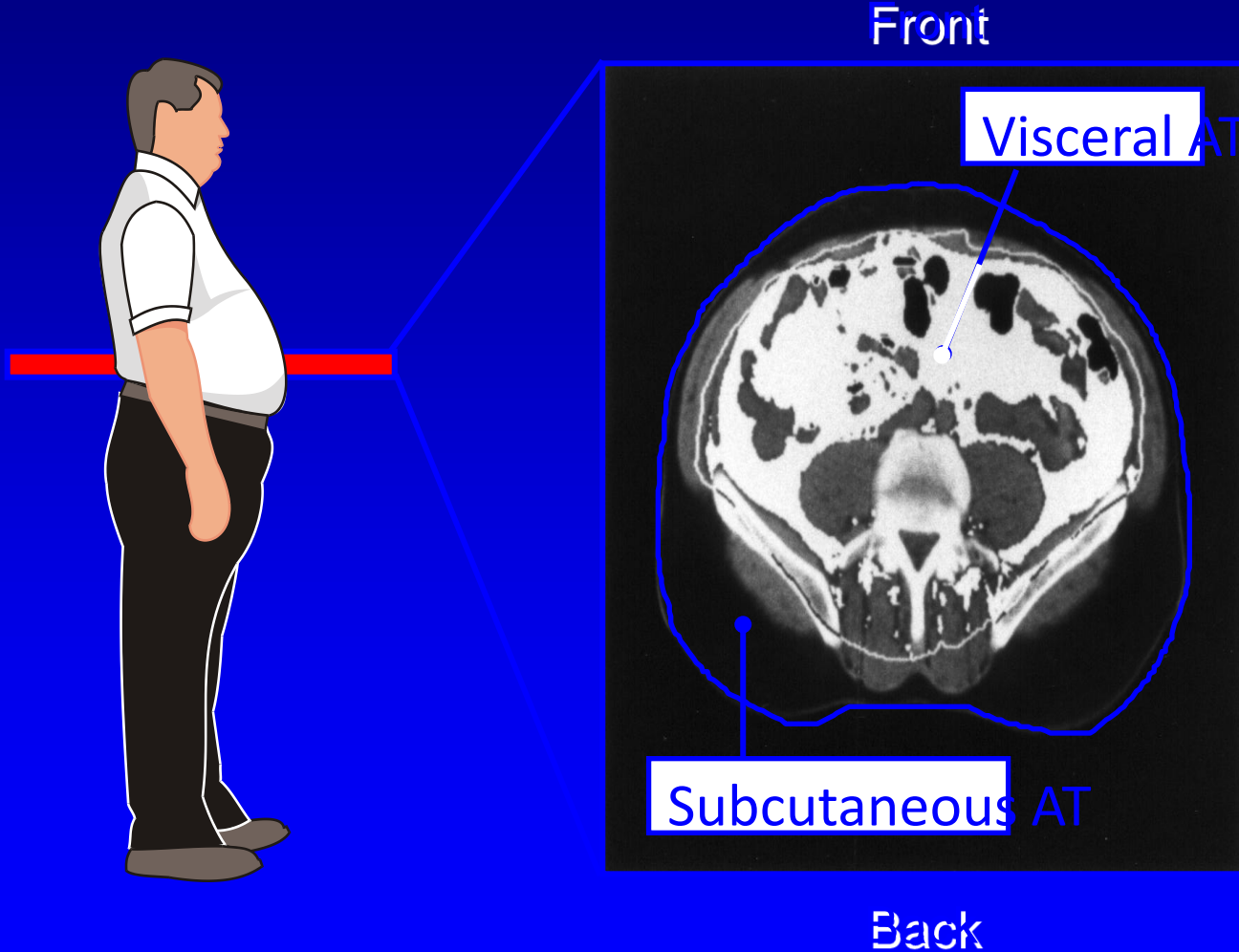


- Hyperinsulinemia
- Glucose intolerance
- Insulin resistance
- Impaired fibrinolysis
- Endothelial dysfunction

Hypertension  
Central obesity  
Smoking , Depression

# Intra-abdominal (visceral) fat examination

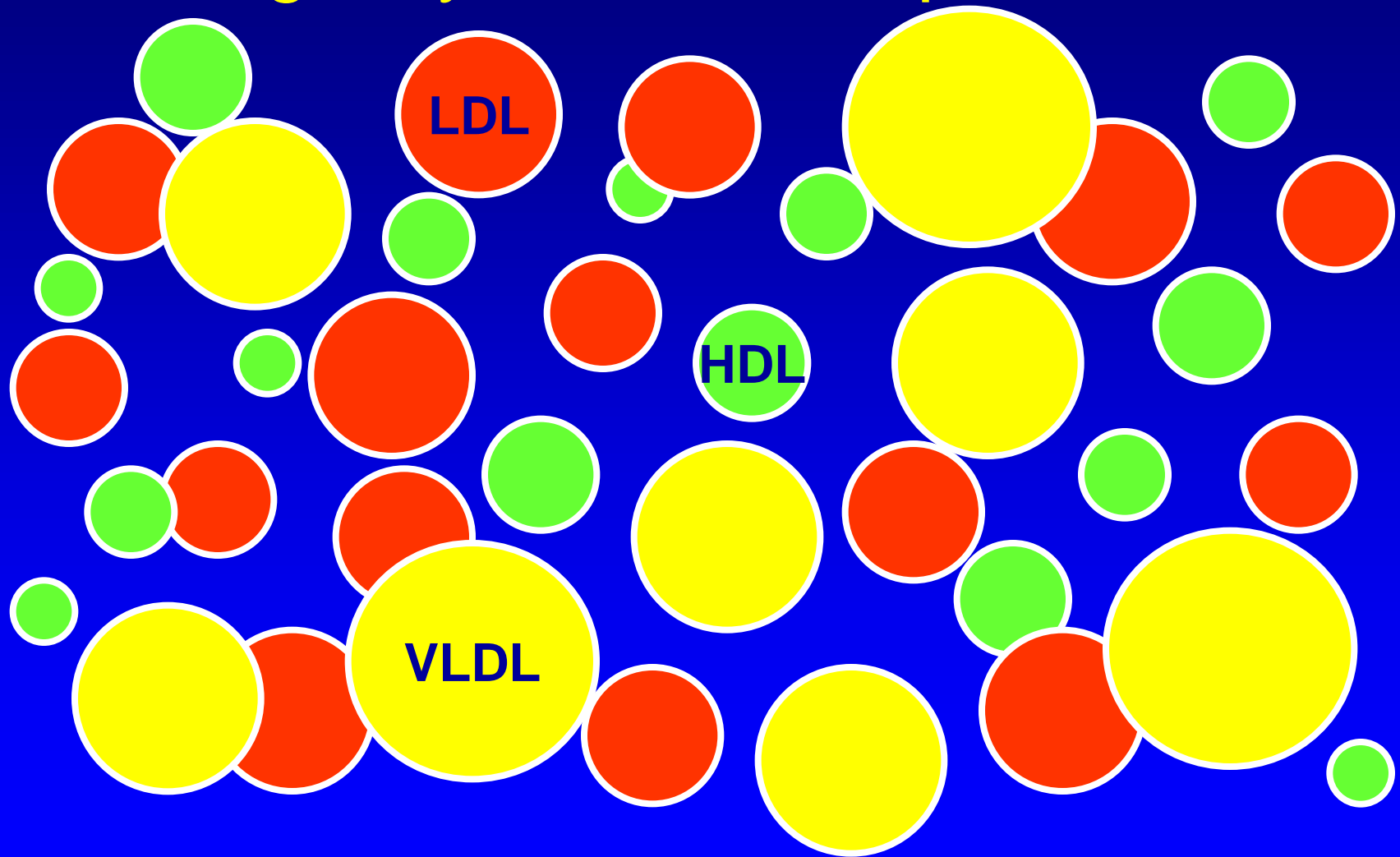
The dangerous inner fat!



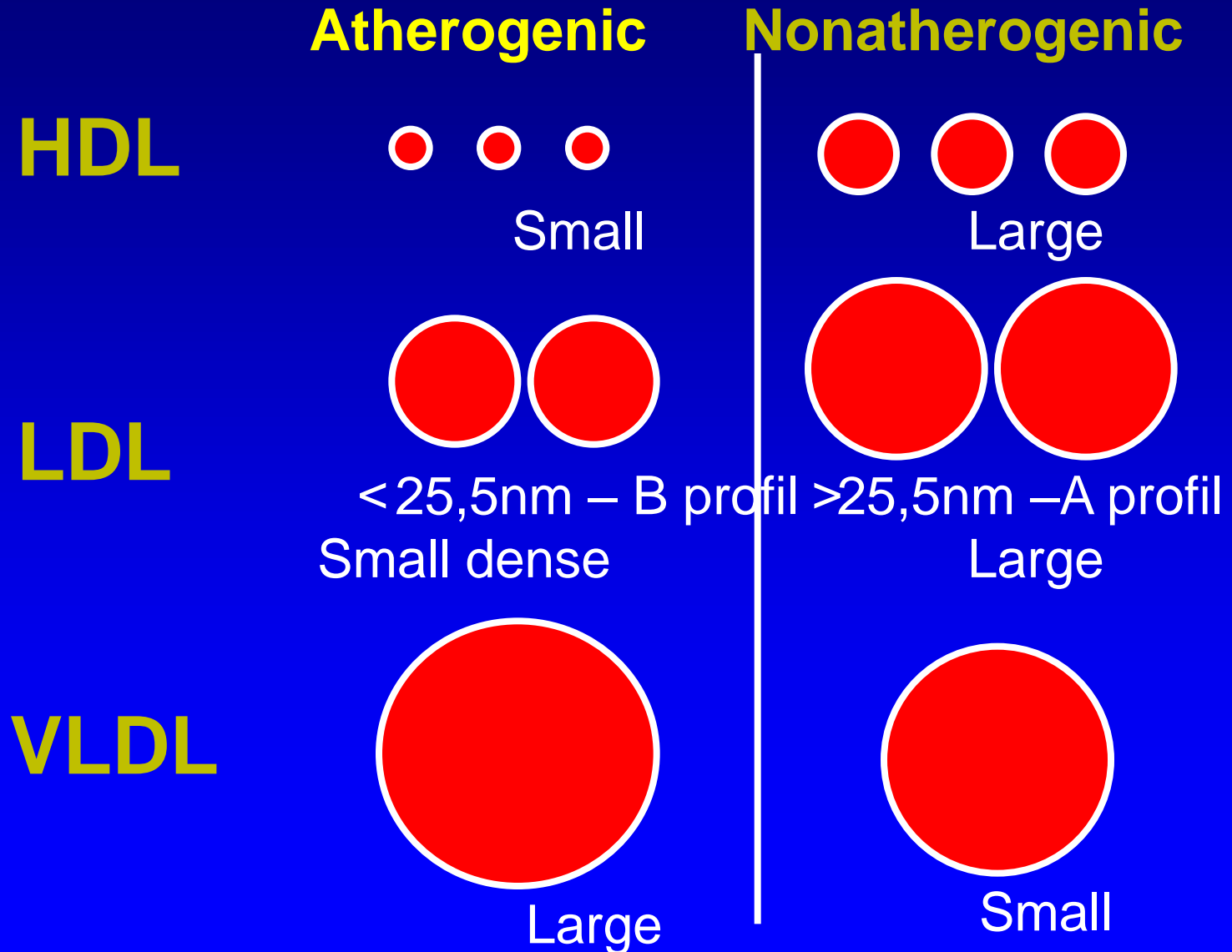
# Intra-abdominal fat examination



# 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

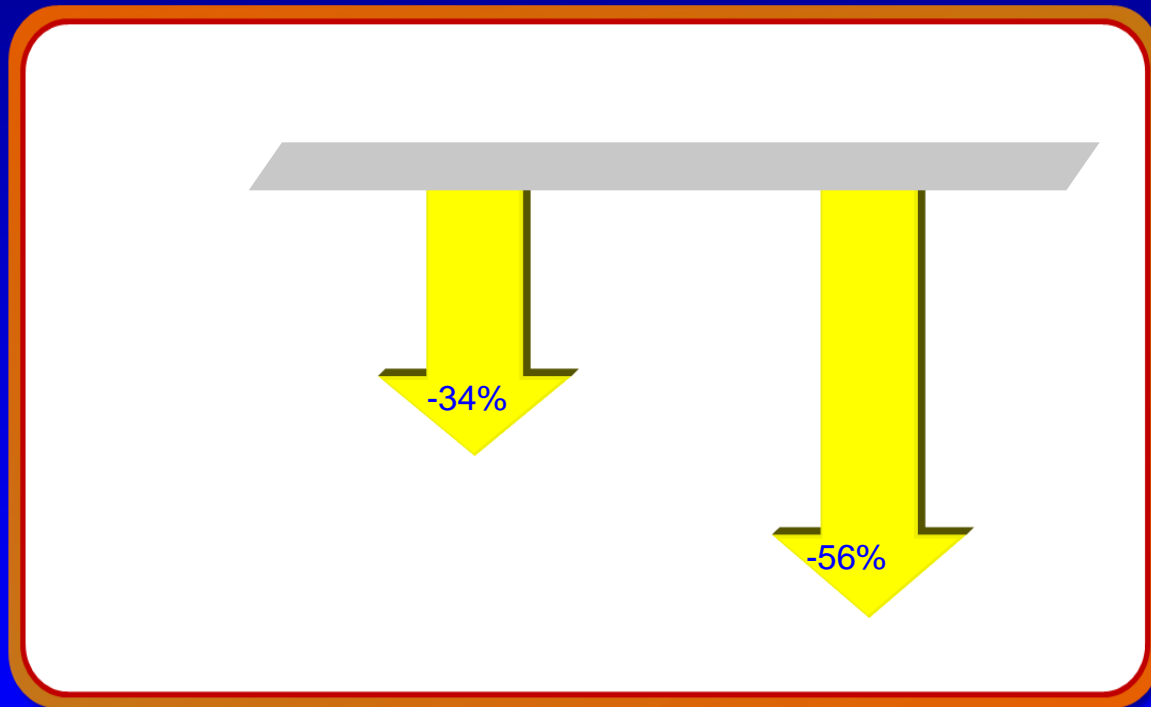
Statin + Fibrate

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

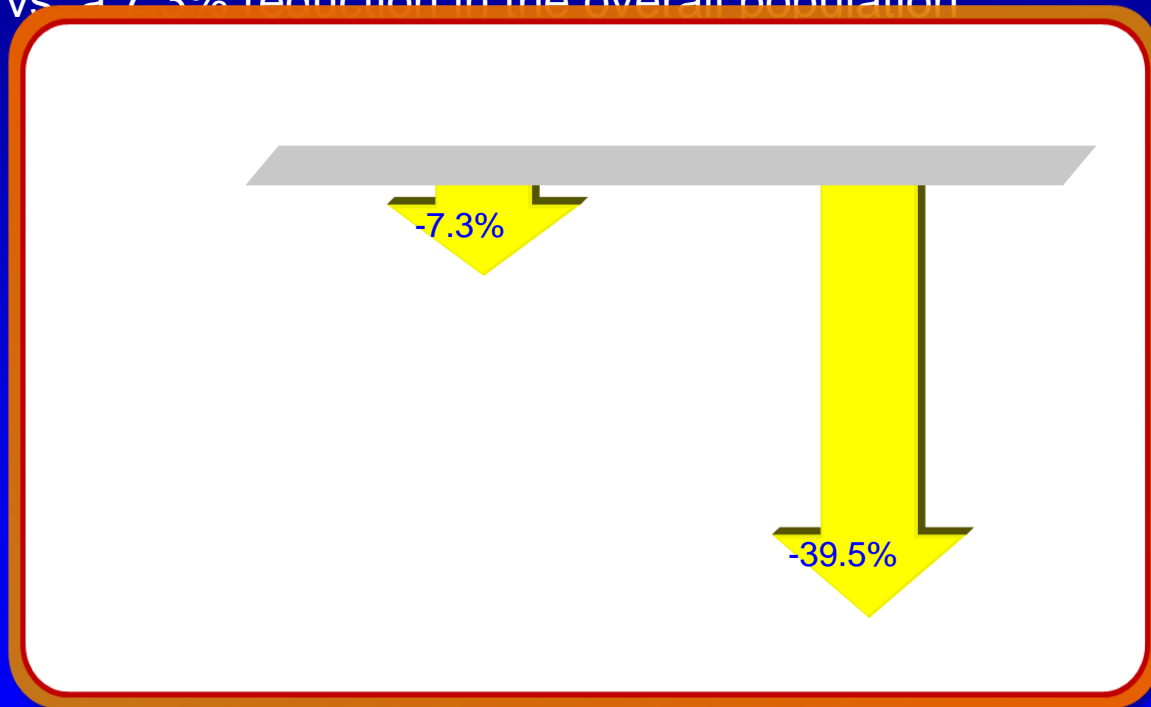


<sup>1</sup> Frick MH et al. *N Engl J Med* 1987;317:1237-45.

<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

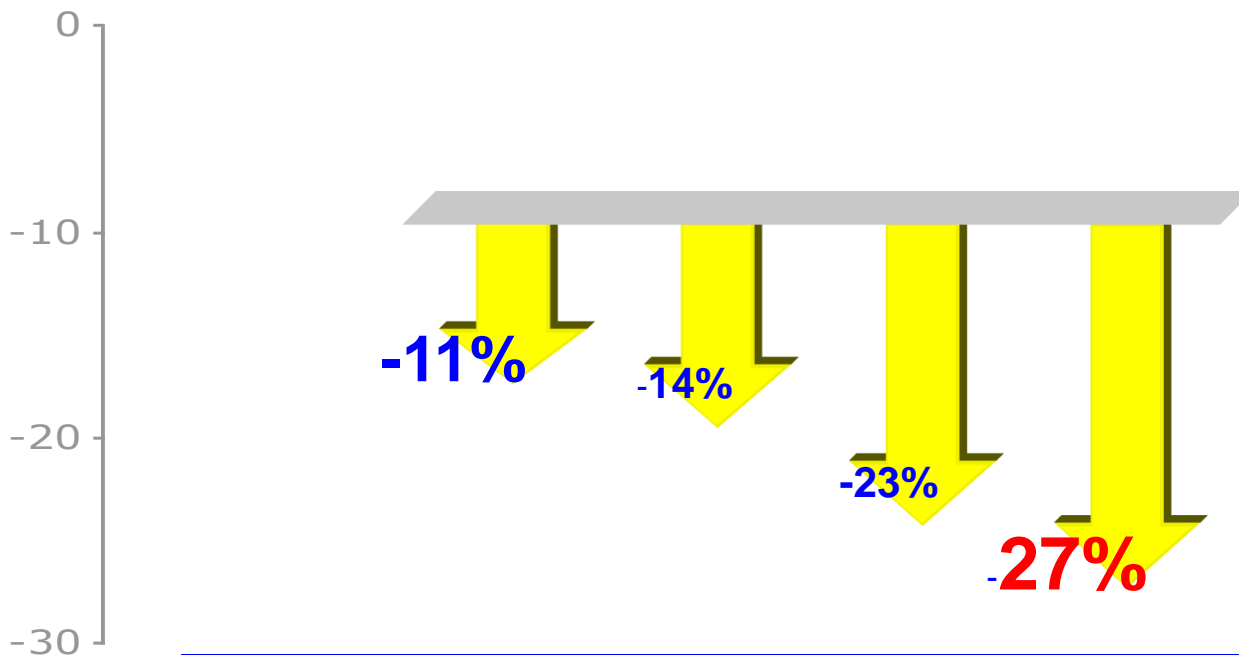
- **BIP<sup>1</sup>**: Fibrate treatment significantly reduced the risk of CV events **by 39.5%** in patients with TG  $\geq 2.3$  mmol/L (200 mg/dL) vs. a 7.3% reduction in the overall population



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

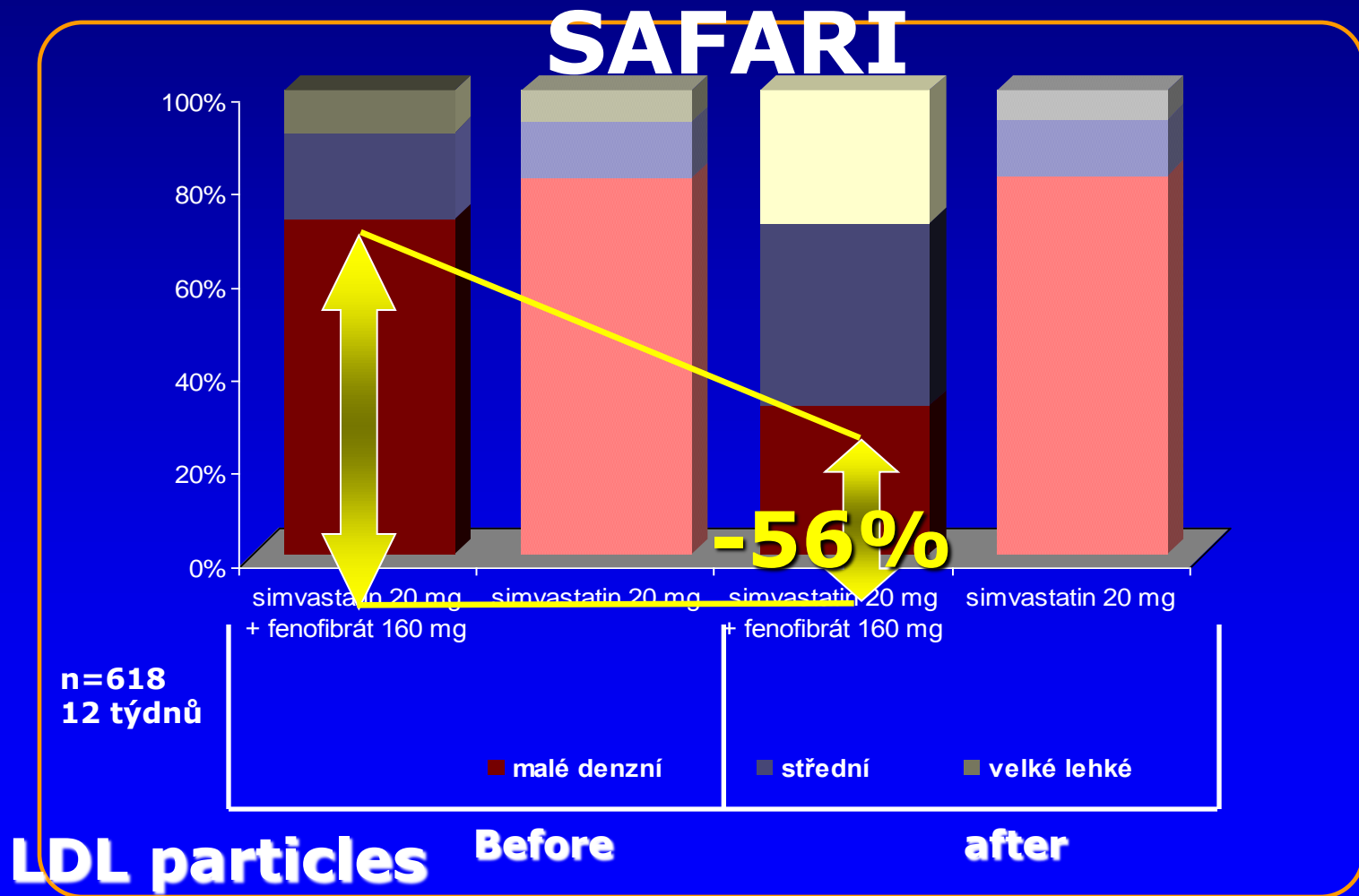
<sup>1</sup> The BIP Study Group. *Circulation* 2000;102:21-7.

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



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 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 HDL-C < 42 mg/dl	<b>-27%</b>
<b>ACCORD</b> (Fenofibrate)	-8%	TG ≥ 204 mg/dl HDL-C ≤ 34 mg/dl	<b>-31%</b>

# HDL-C

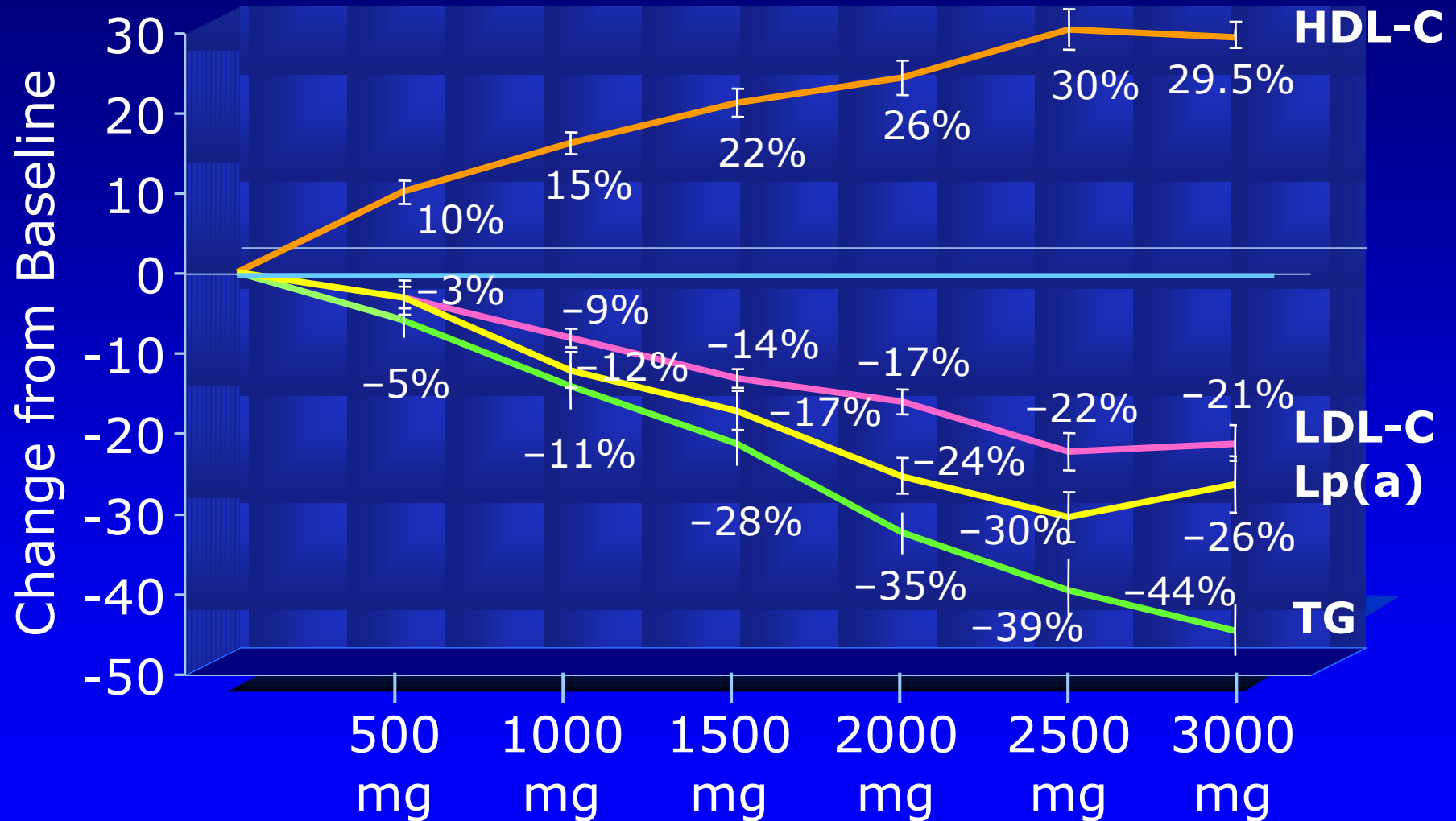
(LDL,TG)

Niacin

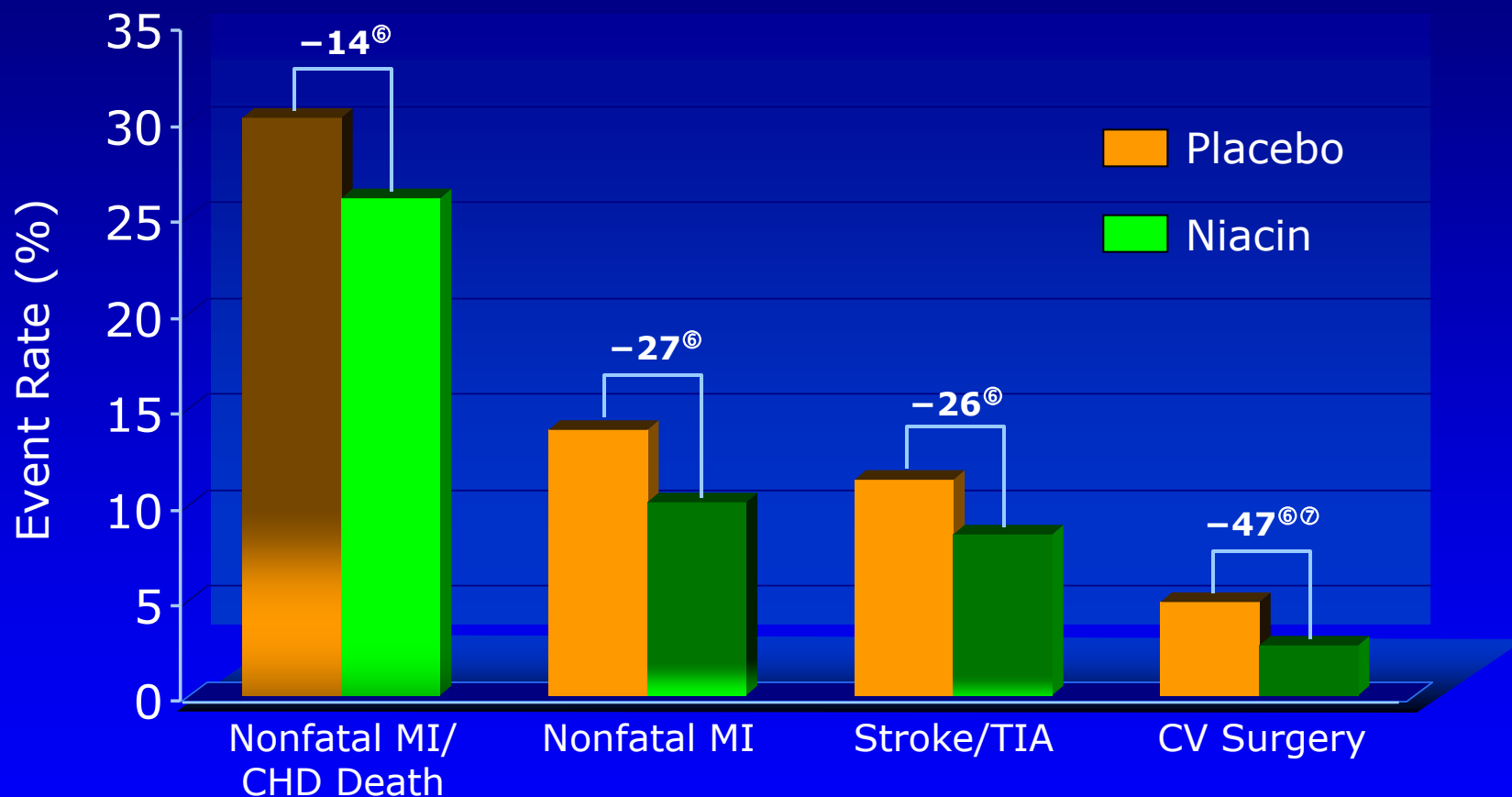
**Statin + Niacin**

**(laropiprant)**

# Efficacy of Extended-Release Niacin



# Coronary Drug Project: *Clinical Outcomes\**



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

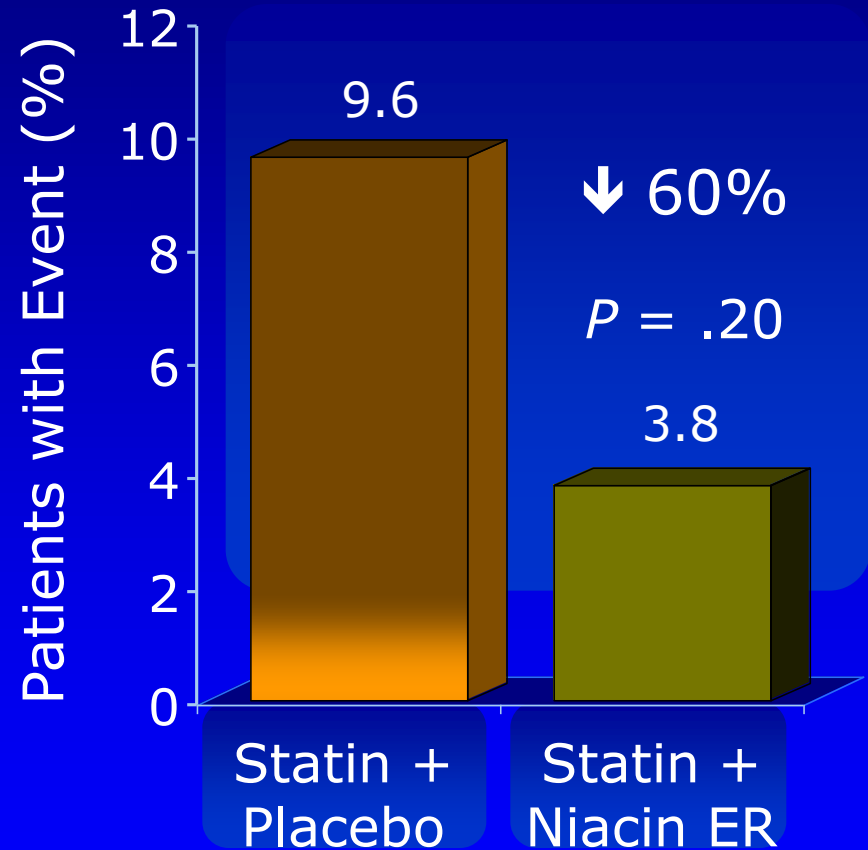
\*Total follow-up, adjusted for baseline characteristics, <sup>⑥</sup>p<0.05, <sup>⑦</sup>5-year rate

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

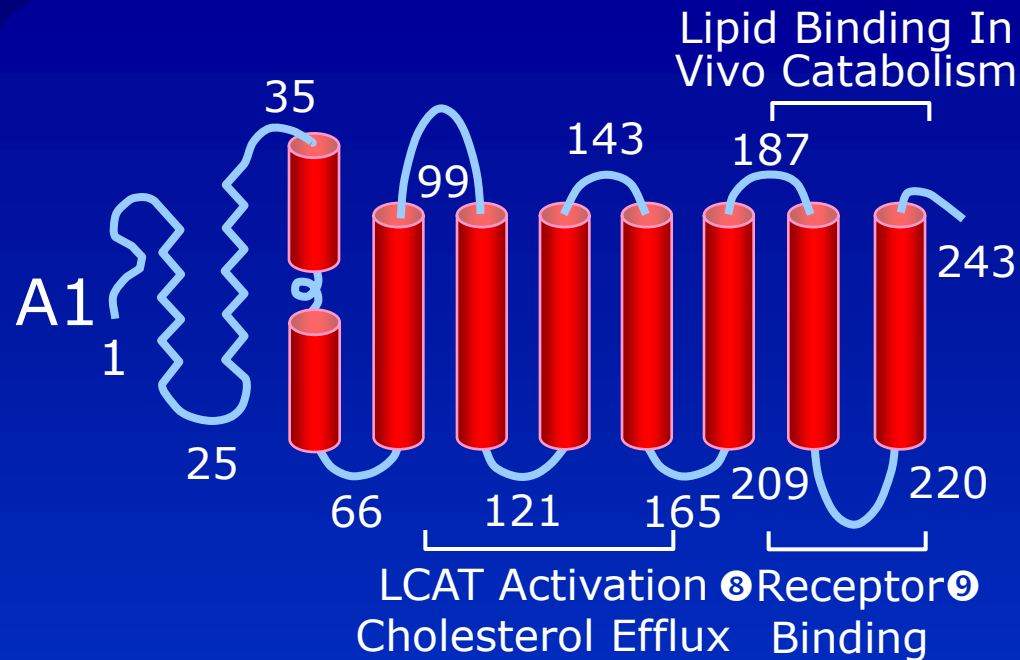


# HDL-C

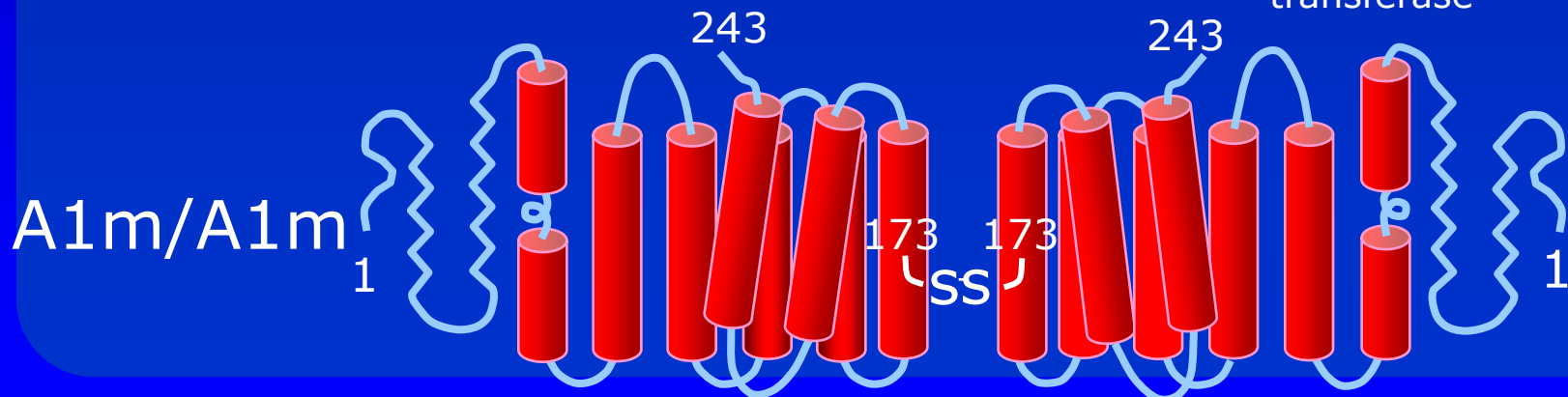
New experimental approach

# ApoA-I Milano

# Normal Apo A1 and Apo A1 Milano Dimer

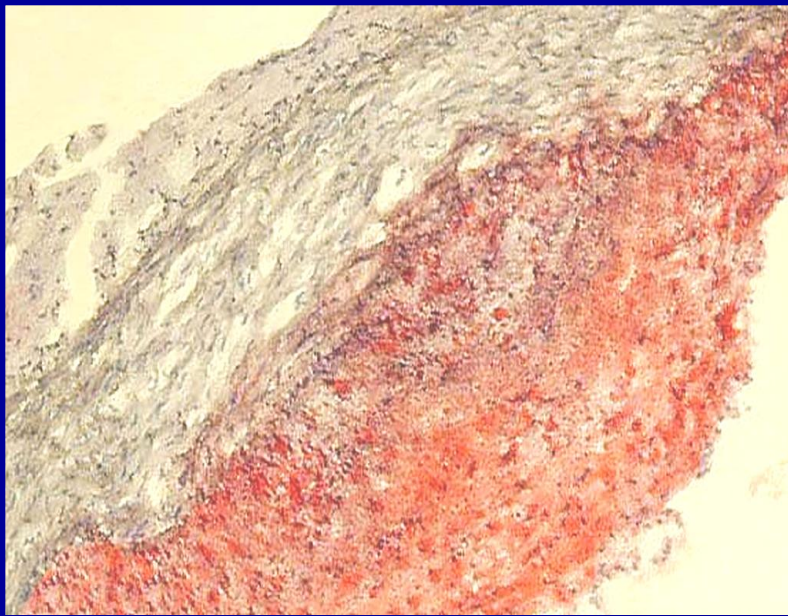


A1=apolipoprotein A1  
 A1m=apolipoprotein A1 Milano  
 LCAT=lecithin cholesterol acyl-transferase

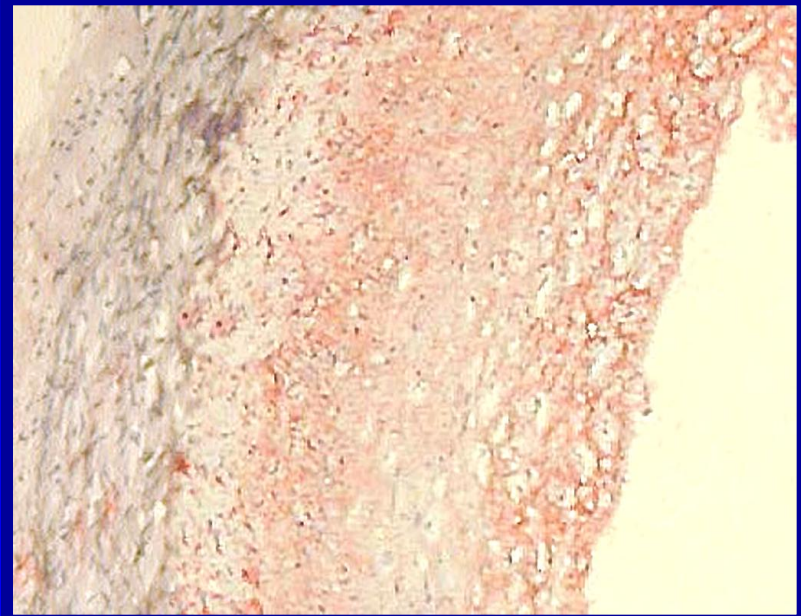


# Evaluation of Plaque Changes in Rabbits by Apo A1 Milano Infusion: *Plaque Lipid Content*

**Saline**



**Apo A1 Milano (1g)**



Unpublished data from Chiesa G et al. *Circ Res* 2002;90:974-980.

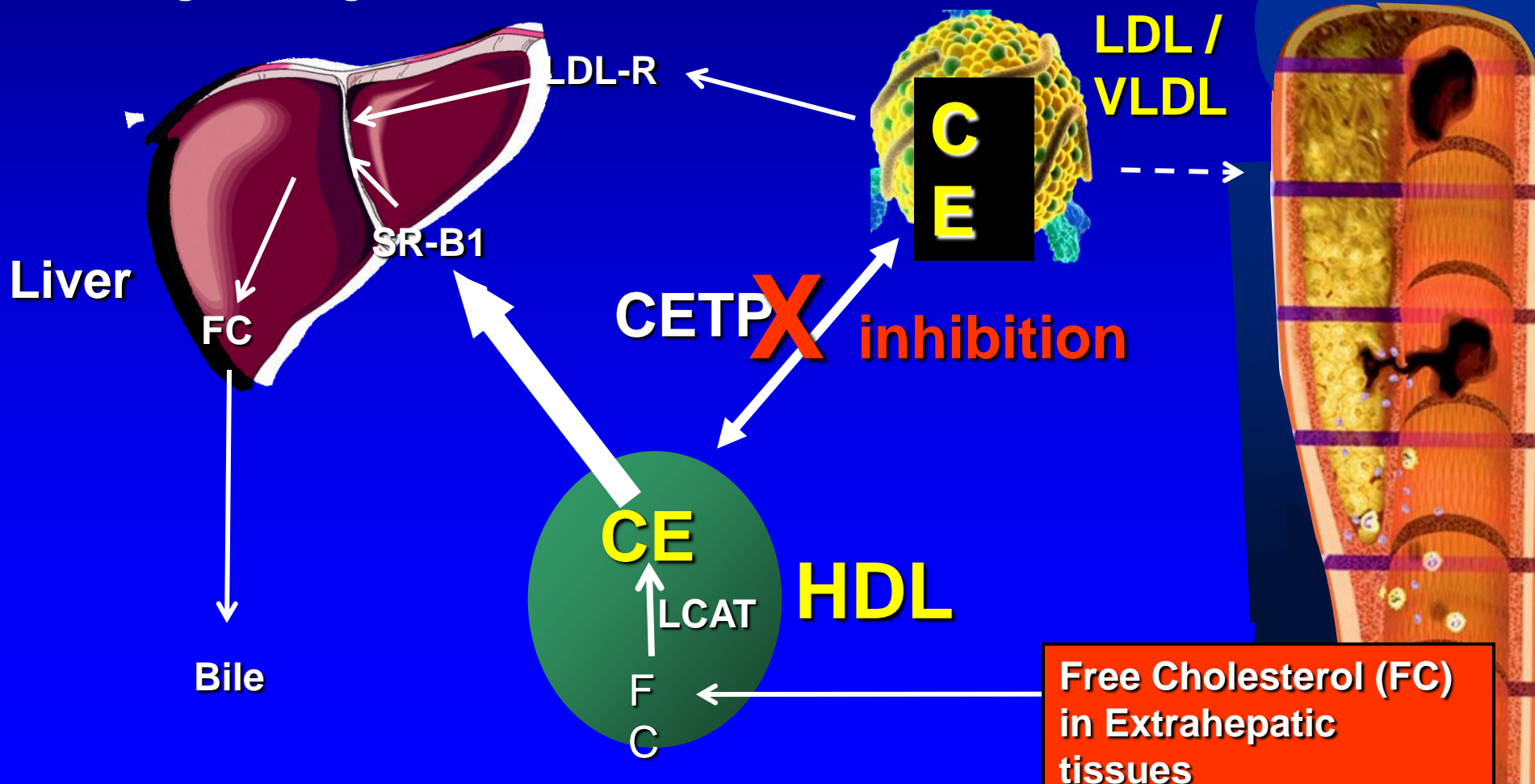
# HDL-C

New experimental approach

## CETP inhibitors

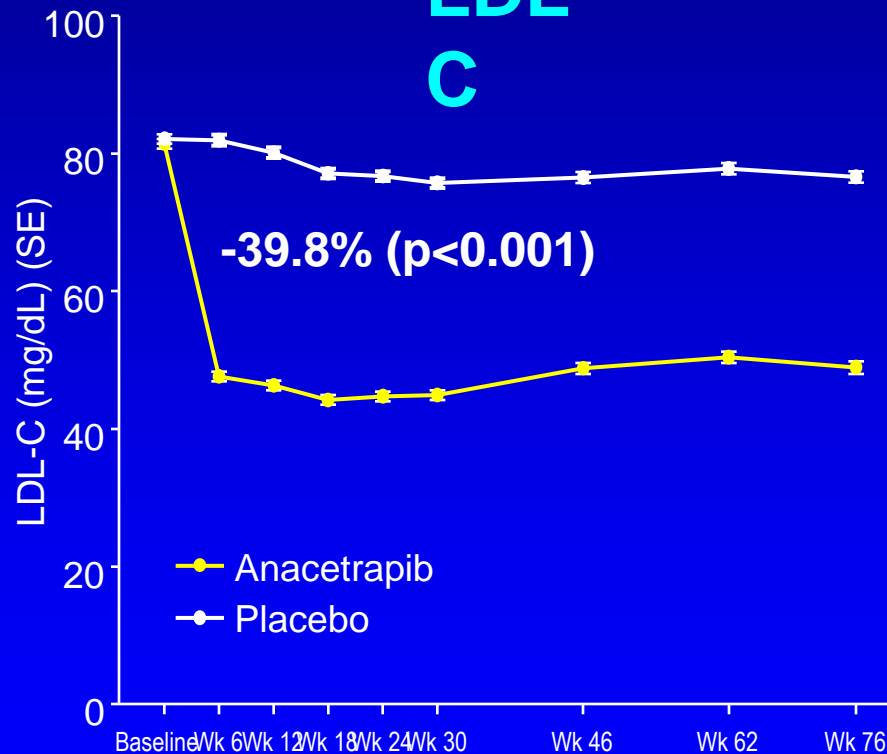
# Background: CETP inhibition

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

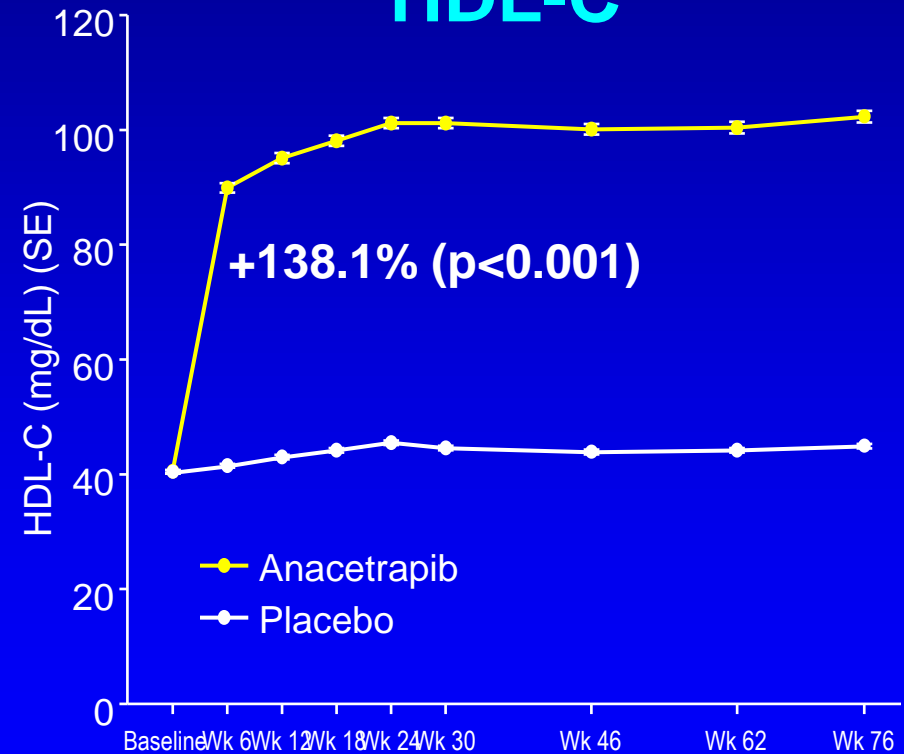
## LDL-C



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

Study Week

## HDL-C



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

Study Week

# Lipid Parameters

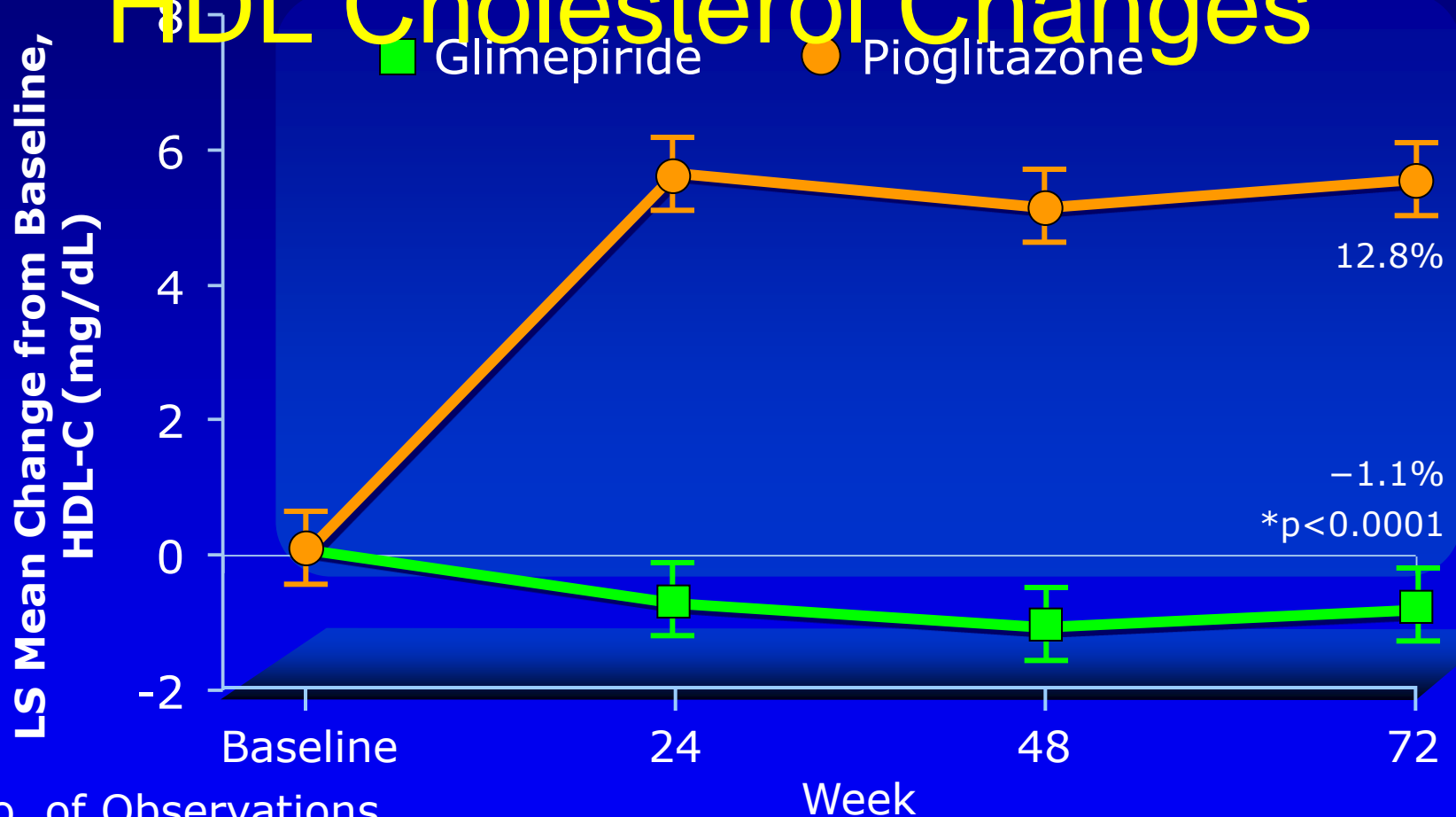
Parameter	LS Mean Percent (95% CI) Placebo-Adjusted Change from Baseline	
	Week 24	Week 76
Non-HDL-C	-31.7* (-33.6, -29.8)	-29.4* (-31.6, -27.3)
Apo B	-21.0* (-22.7, -19.3)	-18.3* (-20.2, -16.4)
Apo A-1	44.7* (42.8, 46.5)	42.3* (40.5, 44.1)
TC	13.7* (12.0, 15.3)	15.6* (13.8, 17.3)
TG	-6.8 (-9.9, -3.9)	-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



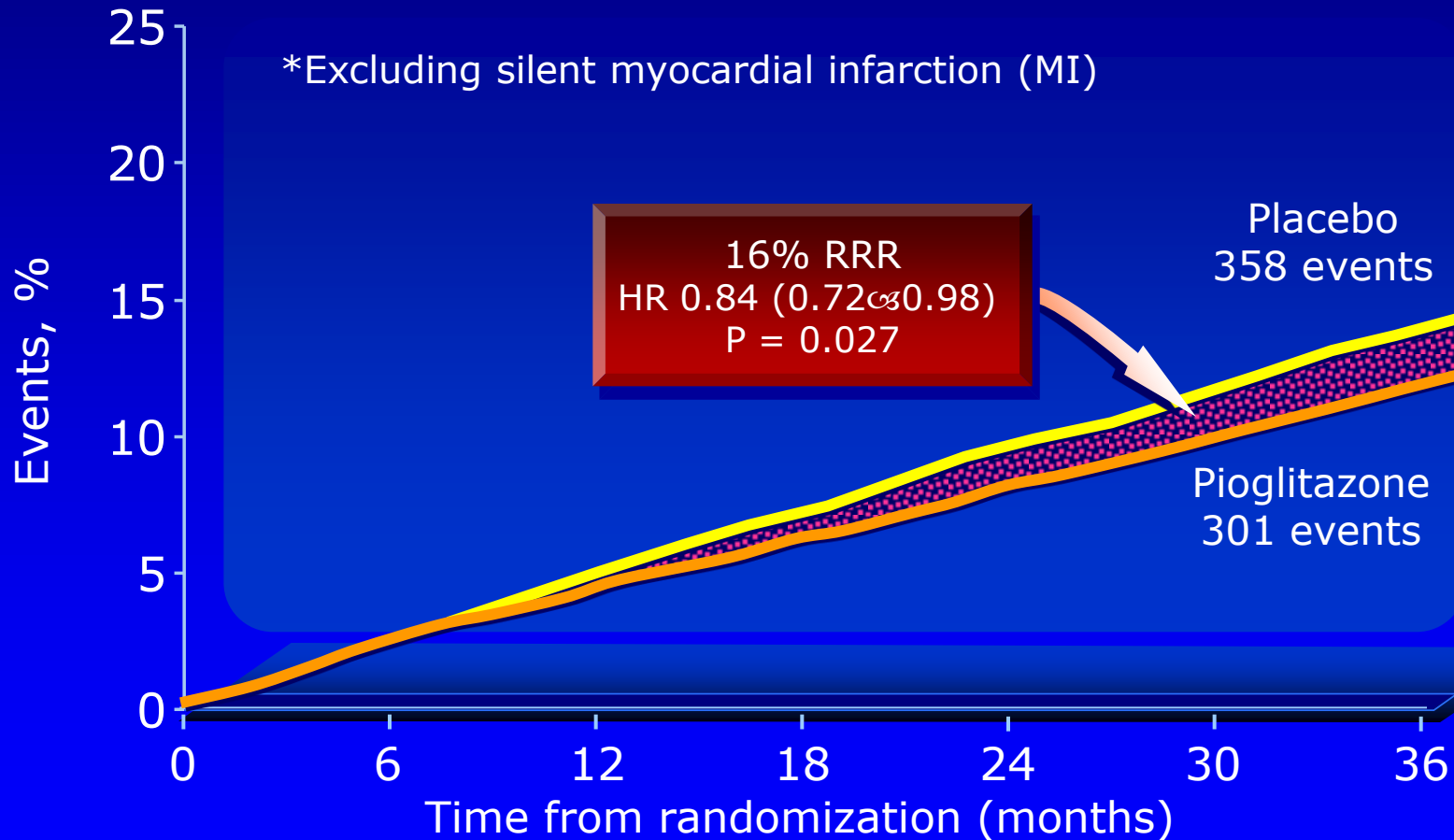
No. of Observations

Glimepiride	206	203	206	206
Pioglitazone	201	198	201	201

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

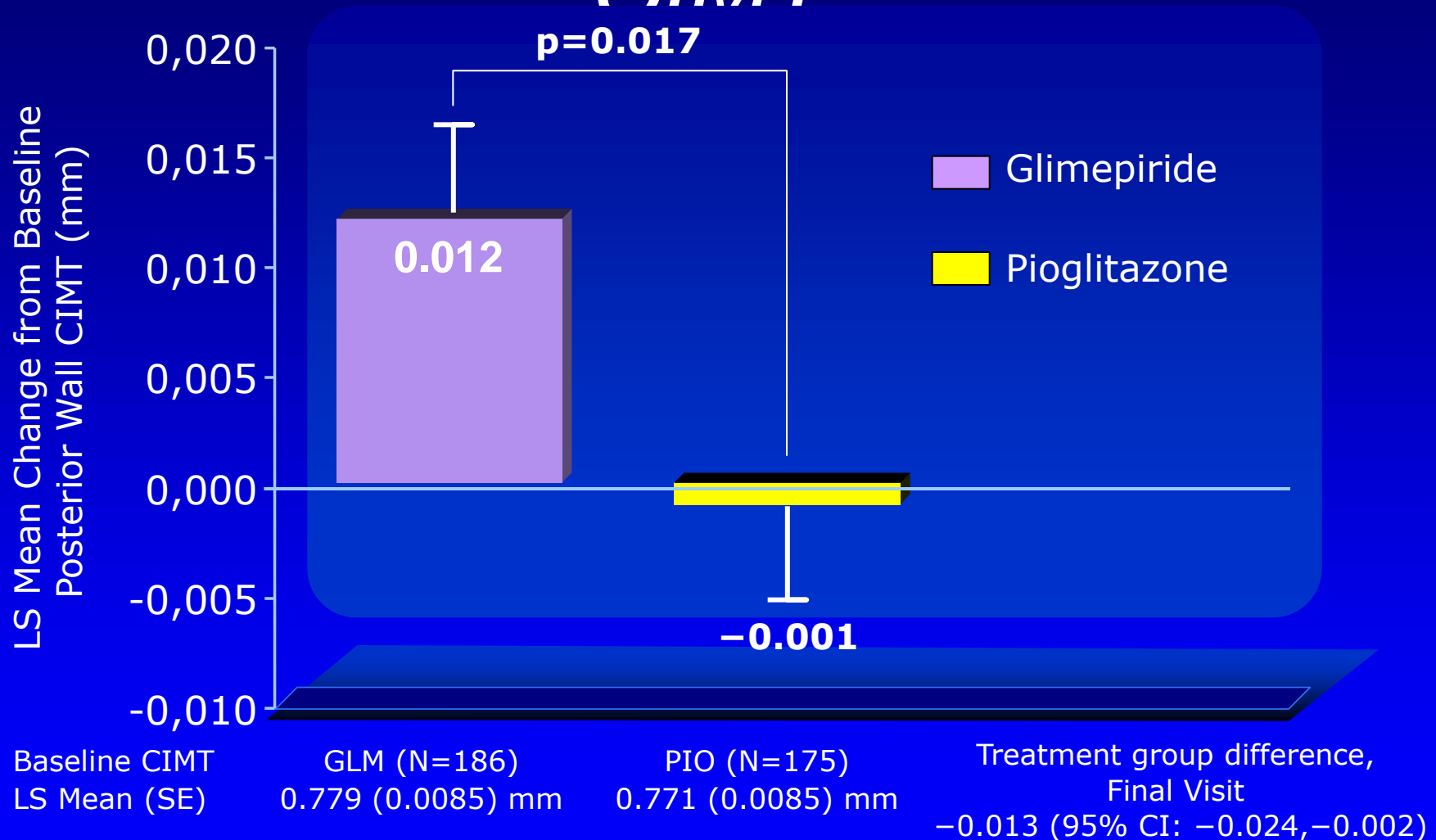
# PROactive Trial: Significant Reduction in Secondary Outcome

All-cause mortality, nonfatal MI\*, stroke



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

# CHICAGO: Mean Change in CIMT

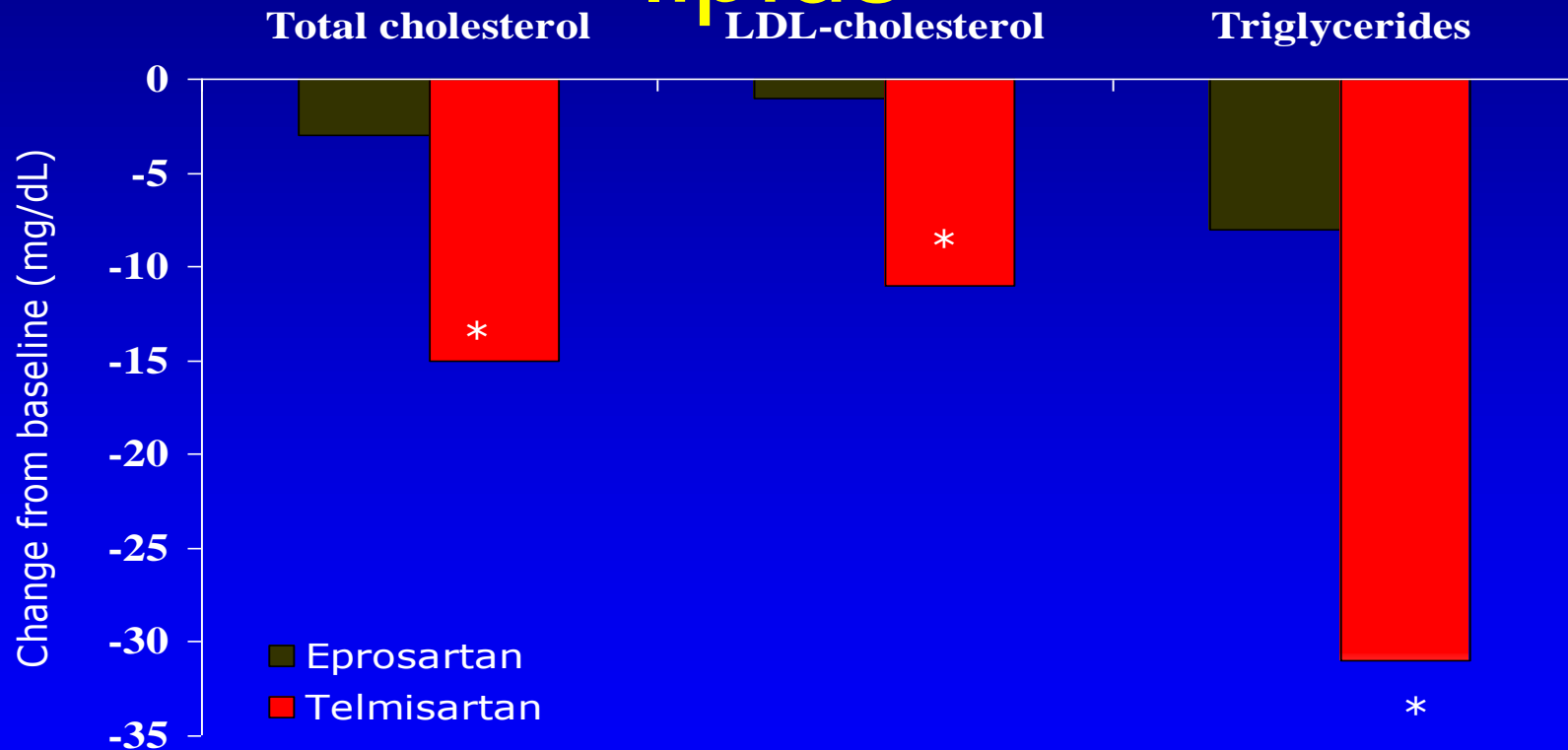


CIMT=carotid intima-media thickness

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,*

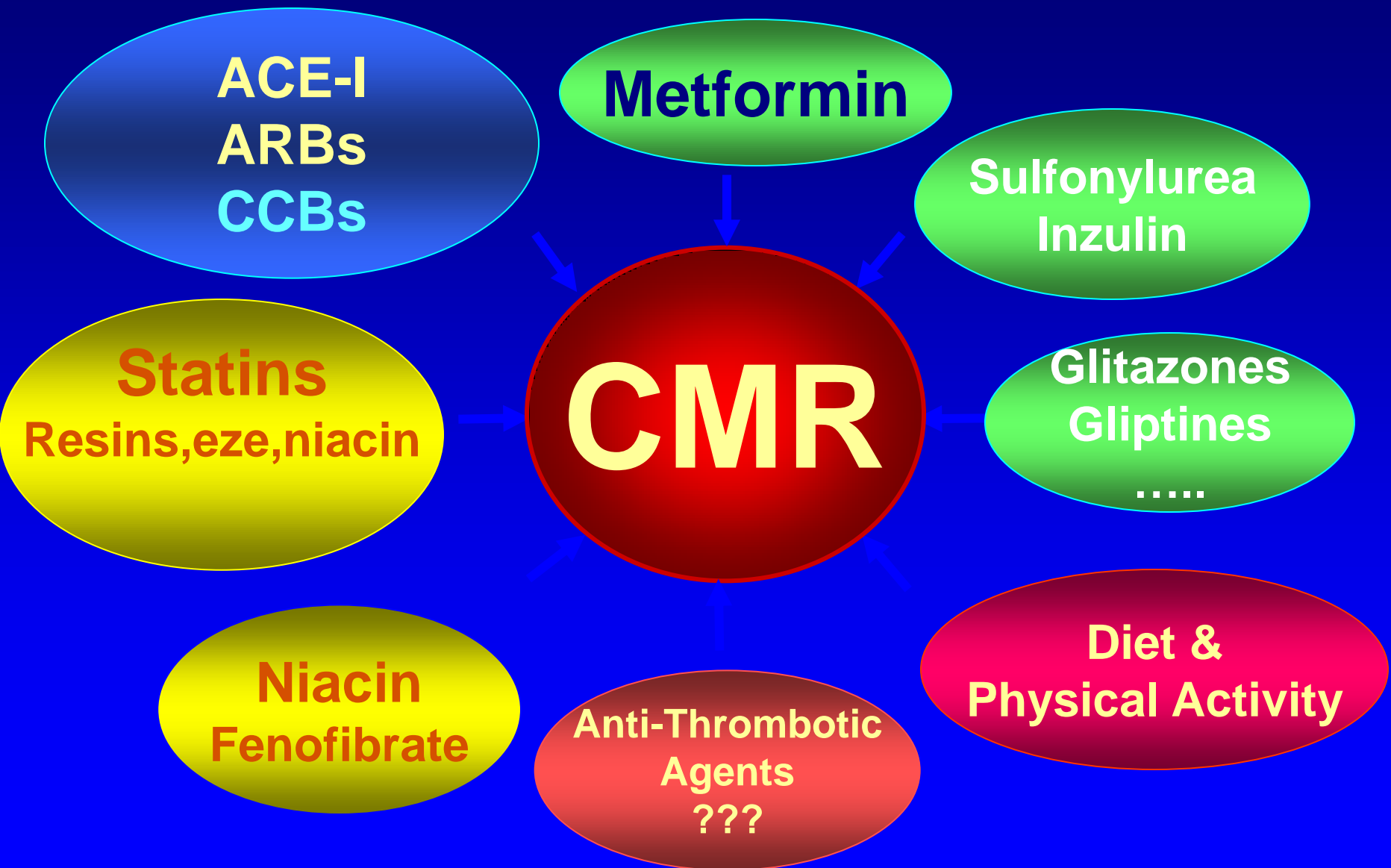
# BUT!!!!???







# 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“

→ Higher 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!!!

