

# Moving Novel Biomarkers (Genetic or Non-Genetic) From the Lab to the Clinic:

## A Translational Cardiologist's Perspective (And A Cautionary Tale)



Paul M Ridker, MD

Eugene Braunwald Professor of Medicine

Harvard Medical School

Director, Center for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention

Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston MA



*Dr. Ridker is listed as a co-inventor on patents held by the Brigham and Women's Hospital that relate to the use of inflammatory biomarkers in cardiovascular disease and diabetes that have been licensed to AstraZeneca and Seimens.*

---

## **Prediction in Not Prevention**

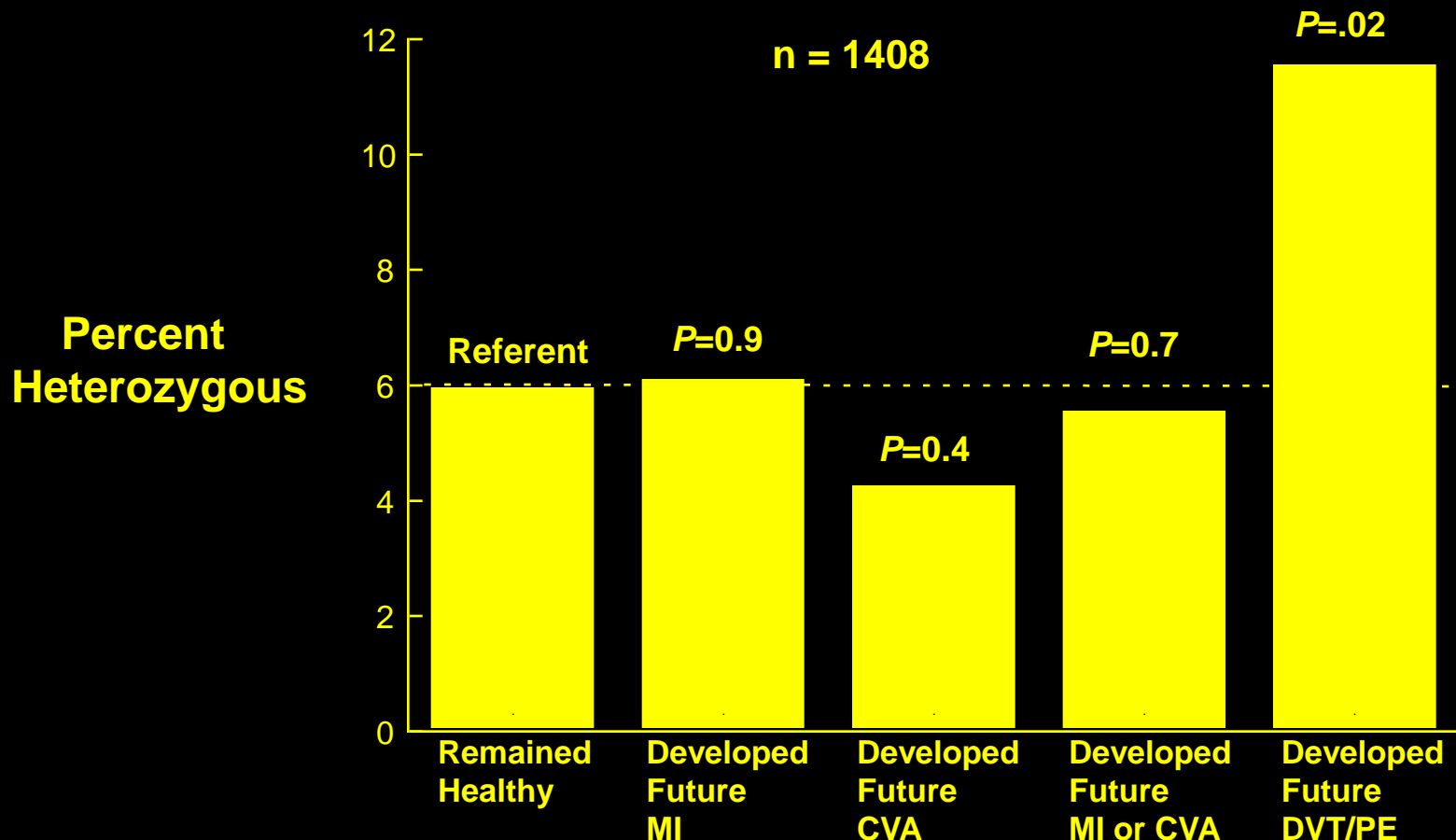
**Many Clinicians Will Not Act Even After There is Hard Evidence That Knowing Something New Improves Care**

**Guidelines Usually Lag Clinical Data By Many Years and Rarely Are Evidence Based  
(Particularly Those that Claim to Be)**

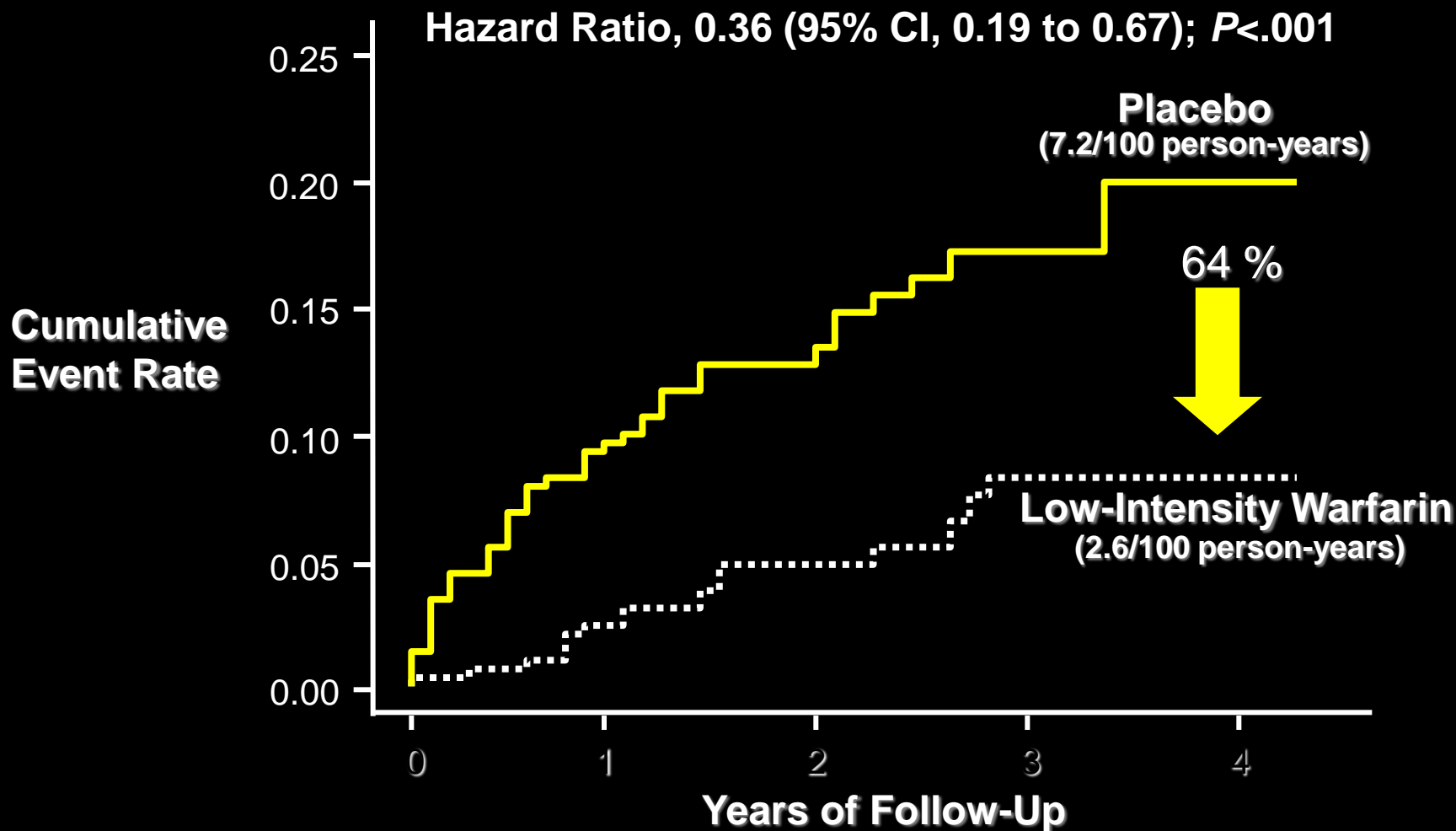
**Physician Obstacles to Translation Are Large and Very Difficult To Surmount**

**“All Change is For the Worse, Including Change For the Better”**

# G1691A Mutation in Coagulation Factor V and Risks of Future Arterial and Venous Thrombosis



# PREVENT: NHLBI's First Pharmacogenetic Clinical Trial



# PREVENT: Recurrent VTE by Clinically Important Subgroups

## Number of prior VTE \*

≥2  
1

\* Prespecified subgroup

**Hazard Ratio (95% CI)**

0.43 (0.20-0.90)

0.25 (0.08-0.74)

## Factor V Leiden or prothrombin mutation \*

Present  
Absent

0.25 (0.0-0.87)

0.42 (0.2-0.86)

## Gender

Male  
Female

0.47 (0.23-0.96)

0.20 (0.06-0.67)

## Age, y

30-44  
45-64  
65-89

0.45 (0.14-1.51)

0.24 (0.09-0.65)

0.57 (0.19-1.70)

## Time after randomization

≤1 year  
>1 year

0.27 (0.11-0.66)

0.49 (0.21-1.16)

Favors Low-Intensity Warfarin

Favors Placebo

# Association Between a Literature-Based Genetic Risk Score and Cardiovascular Events in Women

Nina P. Paynter, PhD

Daniel I. Chasman, PhD

Guillaume Paré, MD, MS

Julie E. Buring, ScD

Nancy R. Cook, ScD

Joseph P. Miletich, MD, PhD

Paul M. Ridker, MD, MPH

**Context** While multiple genetic markers associated with cardiovascular disease have been identified by genome-wide association studies, their aggregate effect on risk beyond traditional factors is uncertain, particularly among women.

**Objective** To test the predictive ability of a literature-based genetic risk score for cardiovascular disease.

**Design, Setting, and Participants** Prospective cohort of 19313 initially healthy white women in the Women's Genome Health Study followed up over a median of 12.3 years (interquartile range, 11.6-12.8 years). Genetic risk scores were constructed from the National Human Genome Research Institute's catalog of genome-wide association study results published between 2005 and June 2009.

**Main Outcome Measure** Incident myocardial infarction, stroke, arterial revascularization, and cardiovascular death.

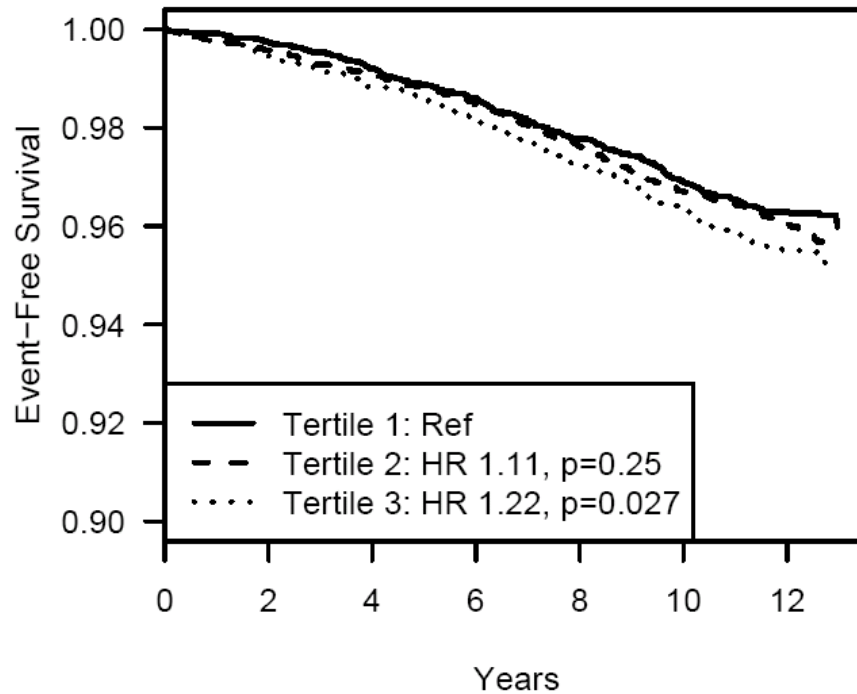
**Results** A total of 101 single nucleotide polymorphisms reported to be associated with cardiovascular disease or at least 1 intermediate cardiovascular disease phenotype at a published  $P$  value of less than  $10^{-7}$  were identified and risk alleles were added to create a genetic risk score. During follow-up, 777 cardiovascular disease events occurred (199 myo-

**R**ISK PREDICTION IS A CENTRAL part of cardiovascular disease prevention and refining prediction strategies remains important for targeting treatment recommendations. One area of potential improvement has been the discovery of

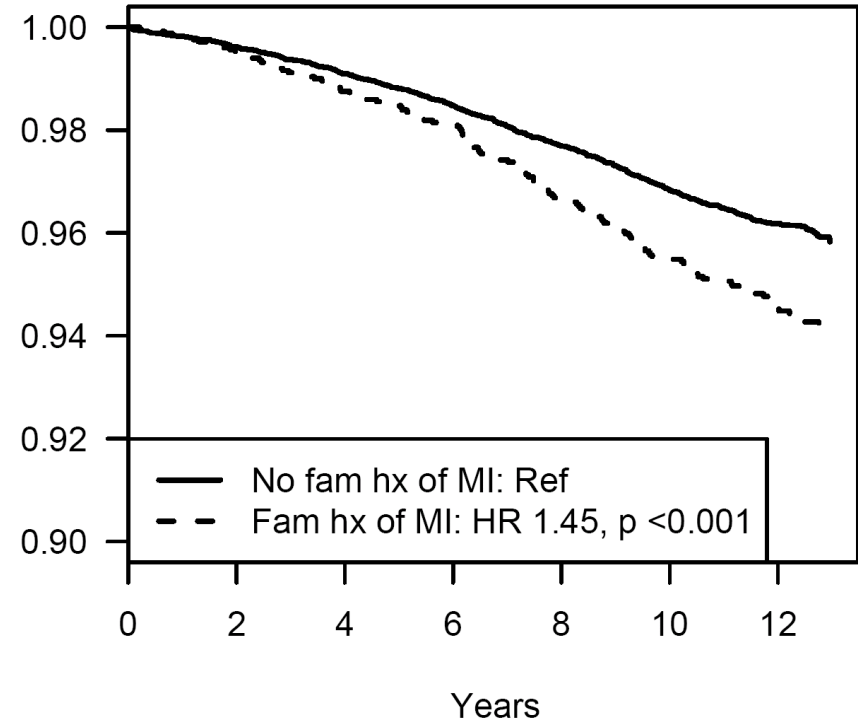
# Will Panels of Previously Validated SNPs Improve CVD Risk Prediction ?

## WGHS: Women's Genome Health Study

### 101 SNP GRS



### Family History



# Moving A Biomarker From The Bench to the Clinic

## Four Crucial Questions

---

Is there evidence that individuals identified by the biomarker of interest are at high risk even when other risk factors are acceptable?

Is there evidence that individuals identified at increased risk due to the biomarker of interest benefit by receiving a therapy they otherwise would not have received?

Is there evidence that individuals identified at increased risk due to the biomarker of interest benefit by avoiding a therapy they otherwise would have received?

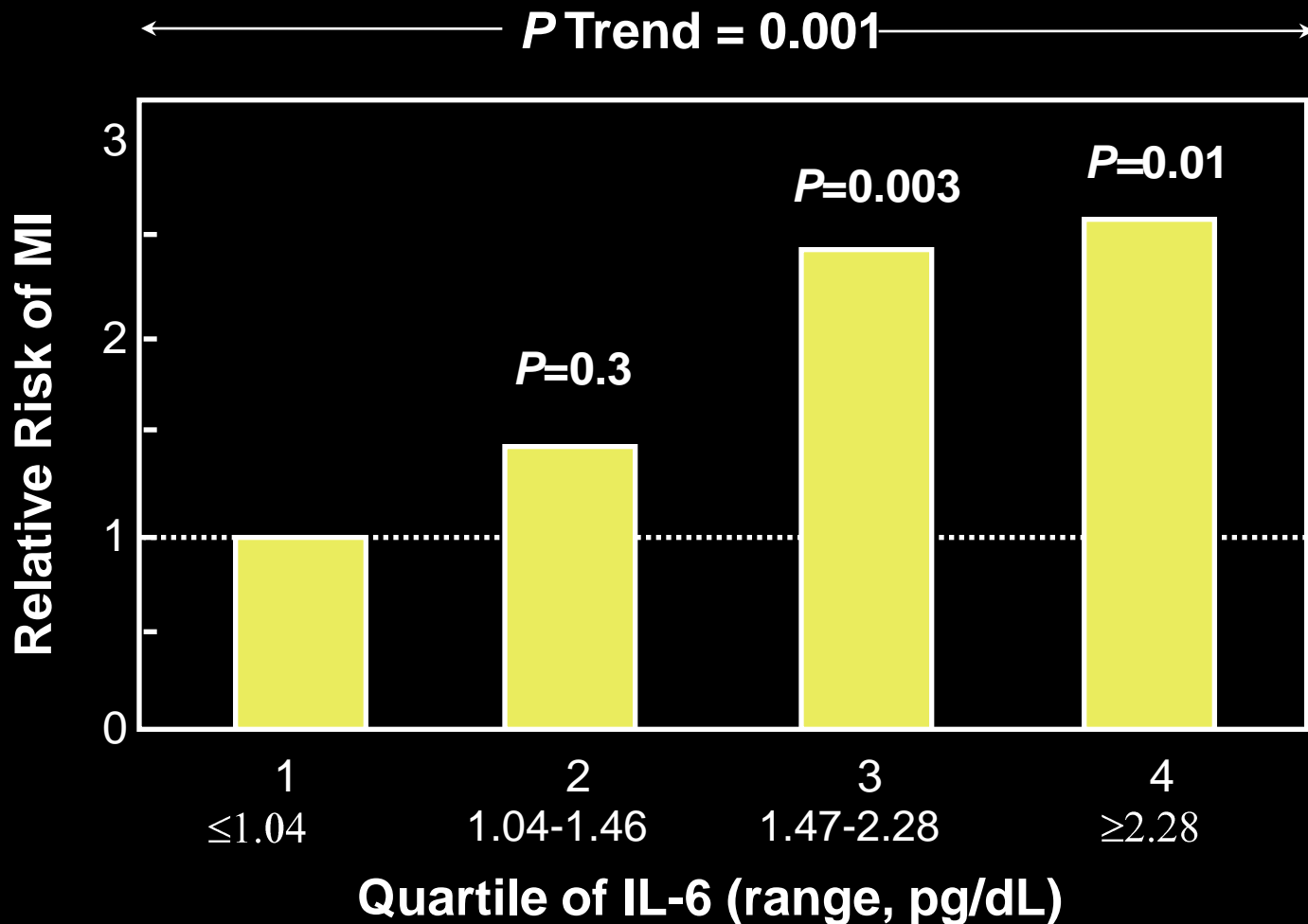
Is there evidence that altering the biologic pathway reflected by the biomarker of interest reduces clinical event rates?

---





# IL-6 and Risk of Future MI in Apparently Healthy Men



NATURE INSIGHT IN THIS ISSUE: THE EARLY UNIVERSE

27 April 2006 | www.nature.com/nature | \$10

THE INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

# nature

## RECORD RAINFALL FIGURES

Human fingerprints on  
the hydrological cycle

## VIRTUAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Good science or good game?

## BIRDSONG GRAMMAR

It's almost human

# AIMING FOR THE HEART

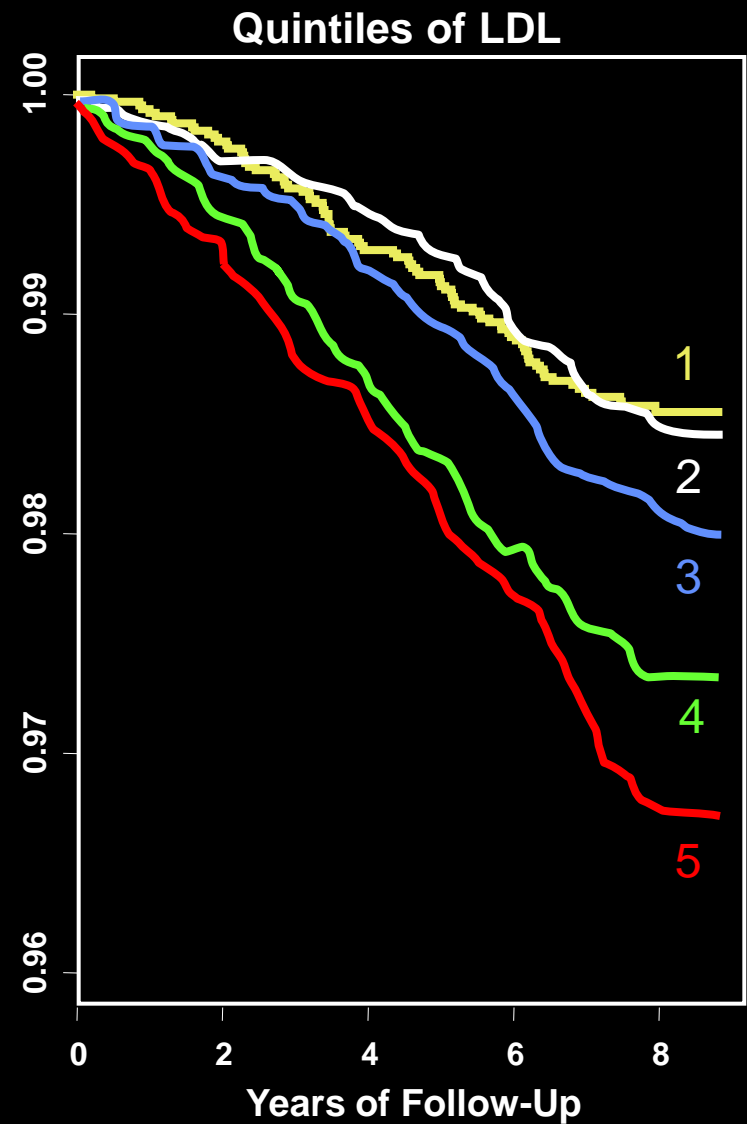
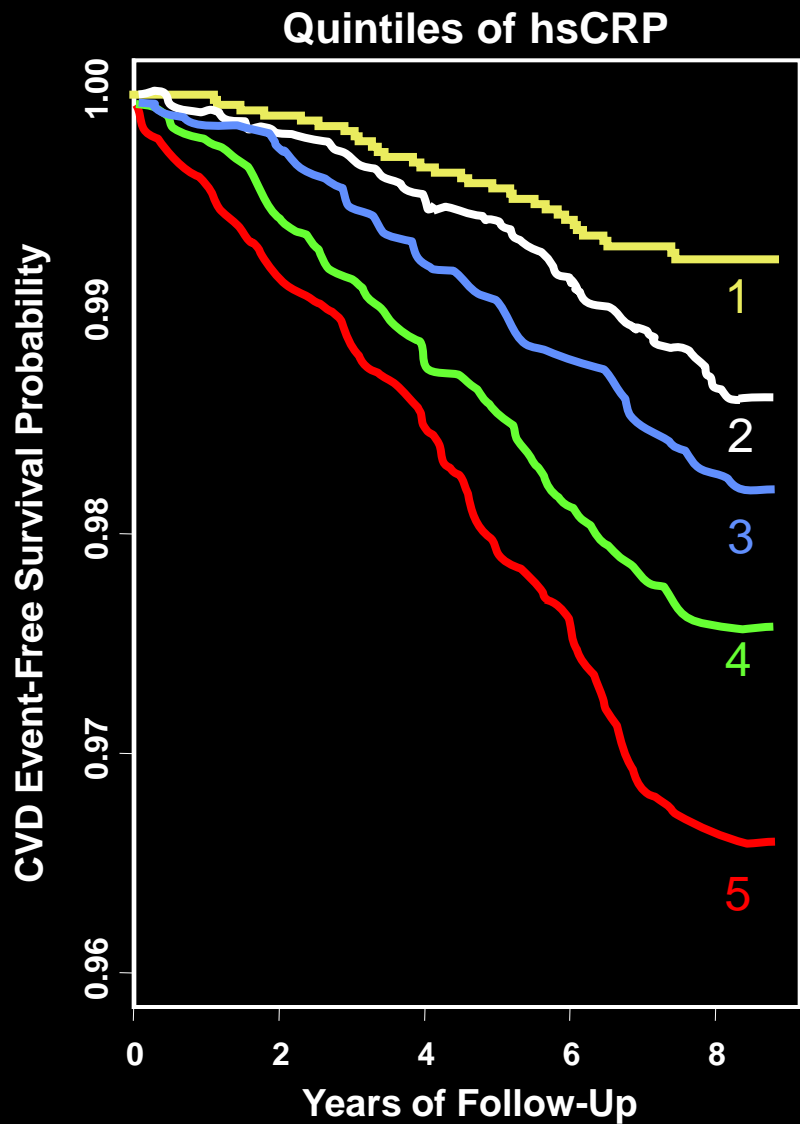
C-reactive protein as a target  
for cardioprotective drugs

**TECHNOLOGY FEATURE**  
Gene expression





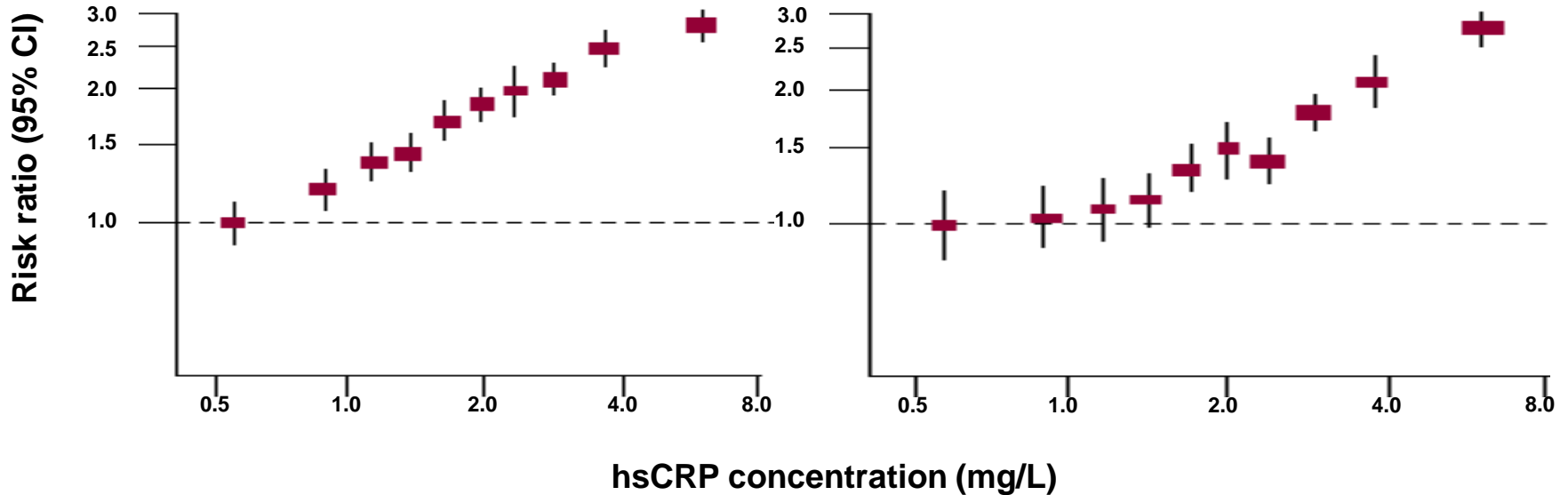
# Event-Free Survival According to Baseline Quintiles of hs-CRP and LDL Cholesterol



# Meta-analysis of 54 Prospective Cohort Studies hsCRP concentration and risk of cardiovascular events : 2010

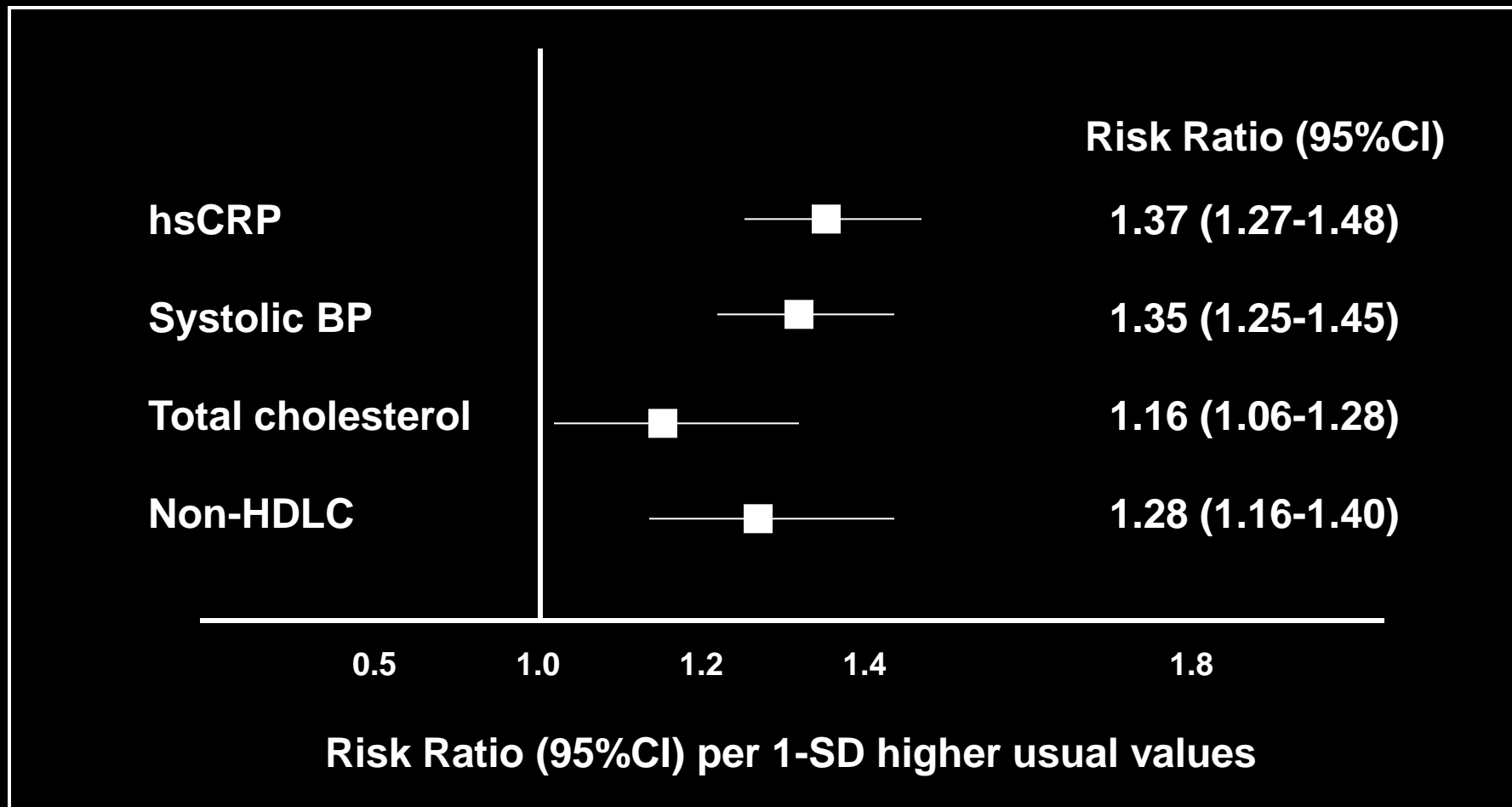
### Coronary Heart Disease

### All Vascular Deaths



Emerging Risk Factor Collaborators, Lancet January 2010

# Meta-analysis of 54 Prospective Cohort Studies: The magnitude of independent risk associated with hsCRP is at least as large, if not larger, than that of BP and cholesterol



Adjusted for age, gender, smoking, diabetes, BMI, triglycerides, alcohol, lipid levels, and hsCRP

## Reynolds Risk Score

Calculating Heart and Stroke Risk for Women and Men

Home

Calculator

FAQ

**If you are healthy and without diabetes, the Reynolds Risk Score is designed to predict your risk of having a future heart attack, stroke, or other major heart disease in the next 10 years.**

In addition to your age, blood pressure, cholesterol levels and whether you currently smoke, the Reynolds Risk Score uses information from two other risk factors, a blood test called hsCRP (a measure of inflammation) and whether or not either of your parents had a heart attack before they reached age 60 (a measure of genetic risk). To calculate your risk, fill in the information below with your most recent values. [Click here](#) for help filling the information.

Gender  Male  Female

Age  Years (Maximum age must be 80)

Do you currently smoke?  Yes  No

Systolic Blood Pressure (SBP) mm/Hg

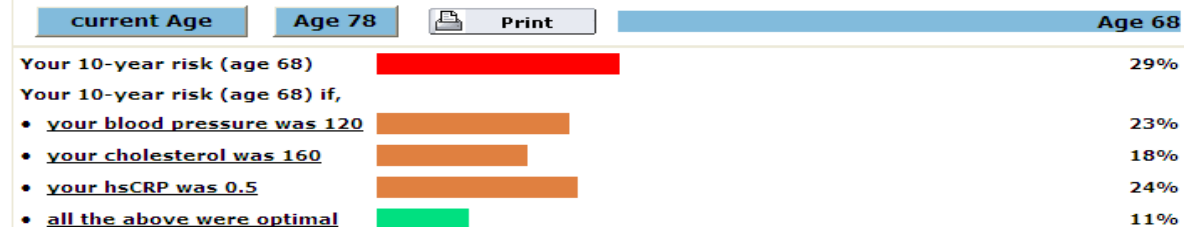
Total Cholesterol mg/DL

HDL or "Good" Cholesterol mg/DL

High Sensitivity C-Reactive Protein (hsCRP) mg/L

Did your Mother or Father have a heart attack before age 60 ?  Yes  No

**As shown in the graph below, at Age 68, your chance of having a heart attack, stroke, or other heart disease event at some point in the next 10-years is 29 percent. This risk is approximately 3 times higher than that of a Man the same age who has optimal levels of all modifiable risk factors.**



The graph above also compares your risk to that of a Man of age 68 who has optimal levels for all modifiable risk factors, and shows what your risk would be if you improved your individual risk factors. For young Man , risk may appear to be low over the next 10-years, yet can be very high over a lifetime. Thus, to see what your risk would be as you get older if your risk factors remain the same, click on the buttons above.

Reynolds  
Risk  
Score

Age  
Smoking  
SBP  
TC  
HDL  
hsCRP  
Family  
History

hsCRP (mg/L)  
is not  
CRP (mg/dL)



# Moving A Biomarker From The Bench to the Clinic

## Four Crucial Questions

---

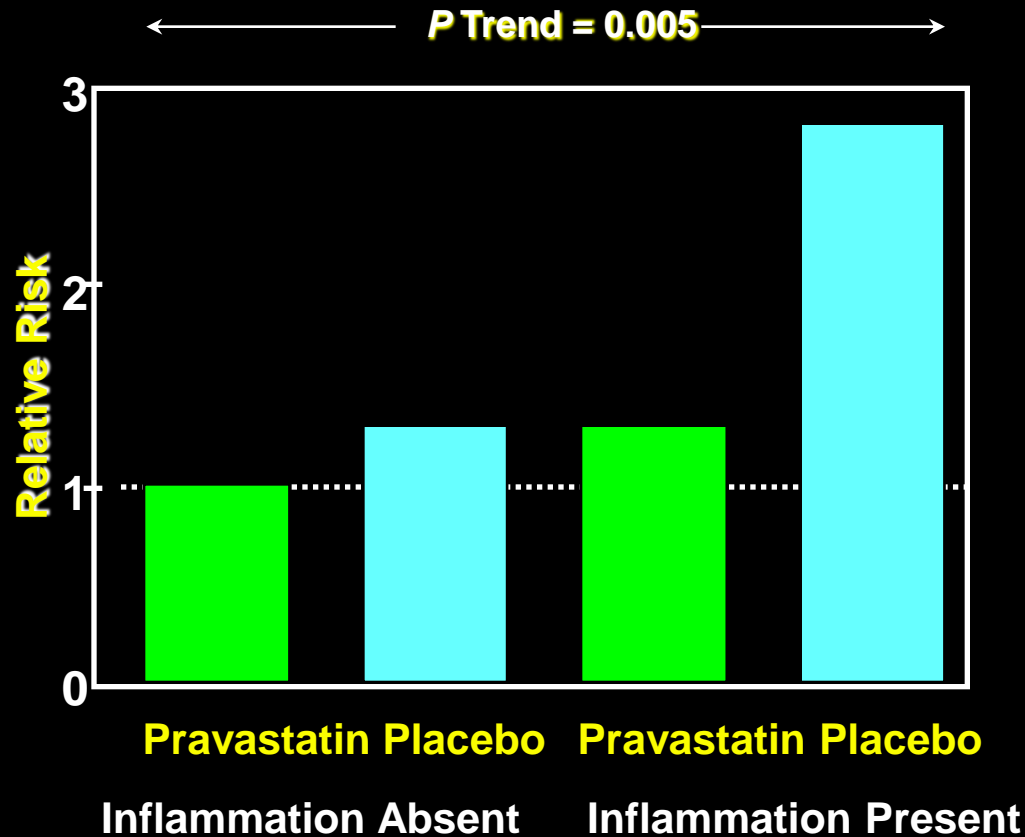
Is there evidence that individuals identified by the biomarker of interest are at high risk even when other risk factors are acceptable?

Is there evidence that individuals identified at increased risk due to the biomarker of interest benefit from a therapy they otherwise would not have received?

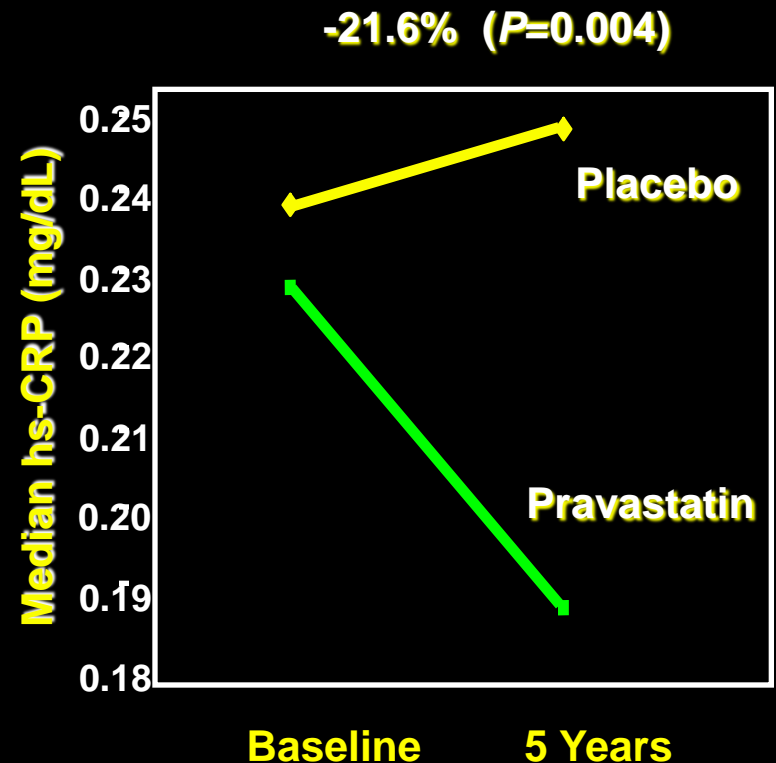
Is there evidence that individuals identified at increased risk due to the biomarker of interest benefit by avoiding a therapy they otherwise would have received?

Is there evidence that altering the biologic pathway reflected by the biomarker of interest reduces clinical event rates?

# Inflammation, Statin Therapy, and hsCRP: Initial Observations



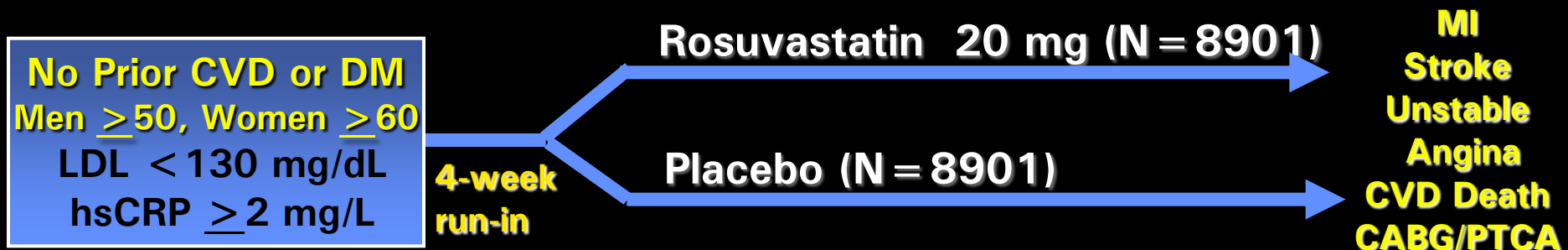
*Circulation.* 1998;98:839–844.



*Circulation.* 1999;100:230-235.

## JUPITER

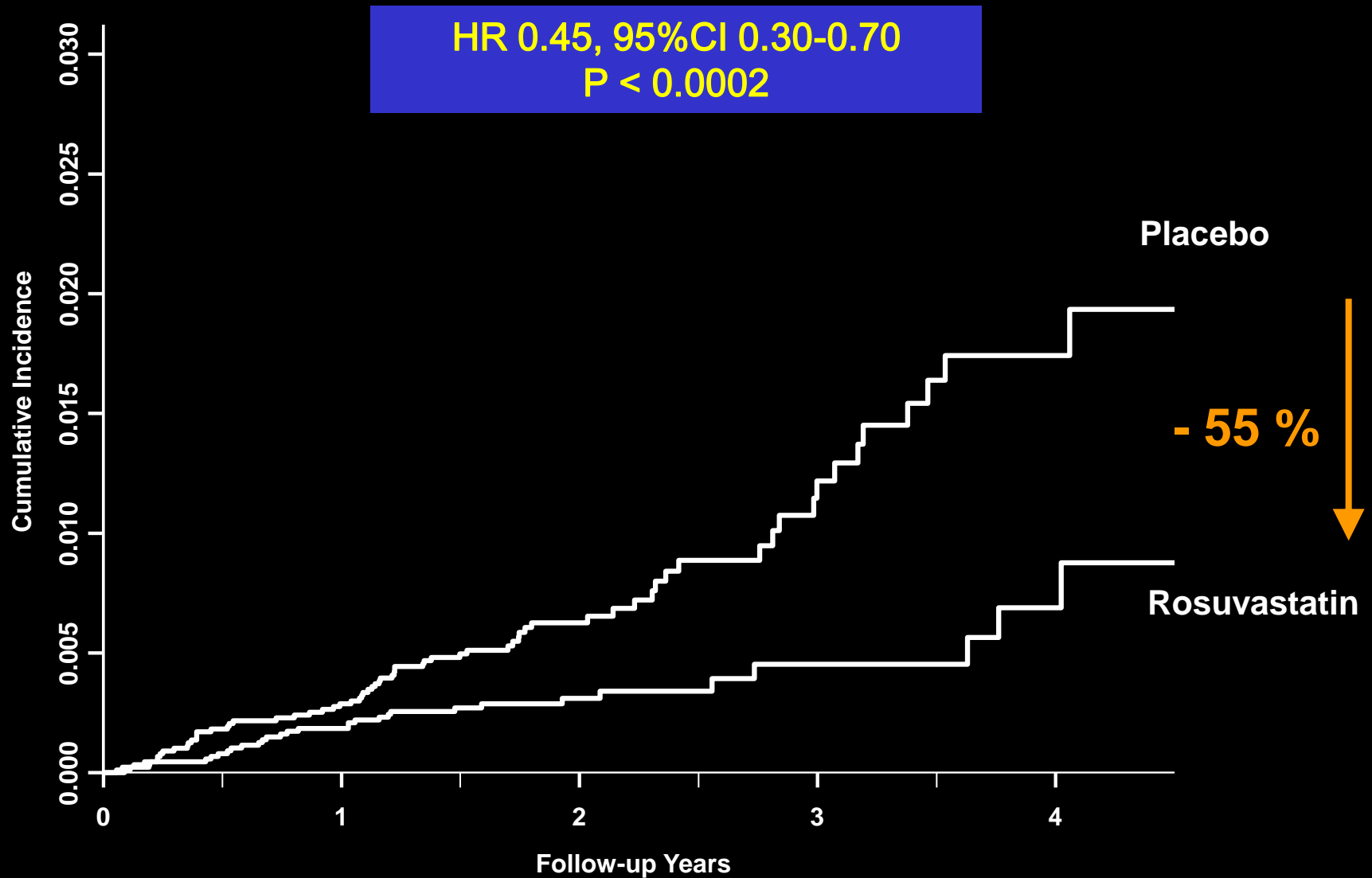
Multi-National Randomized Double Blind Placebo Controlled Trial of Rosuvastatin in the Prevention of Cardiovascular Events Among Individuals With Low LDL and Elevated hsCRP



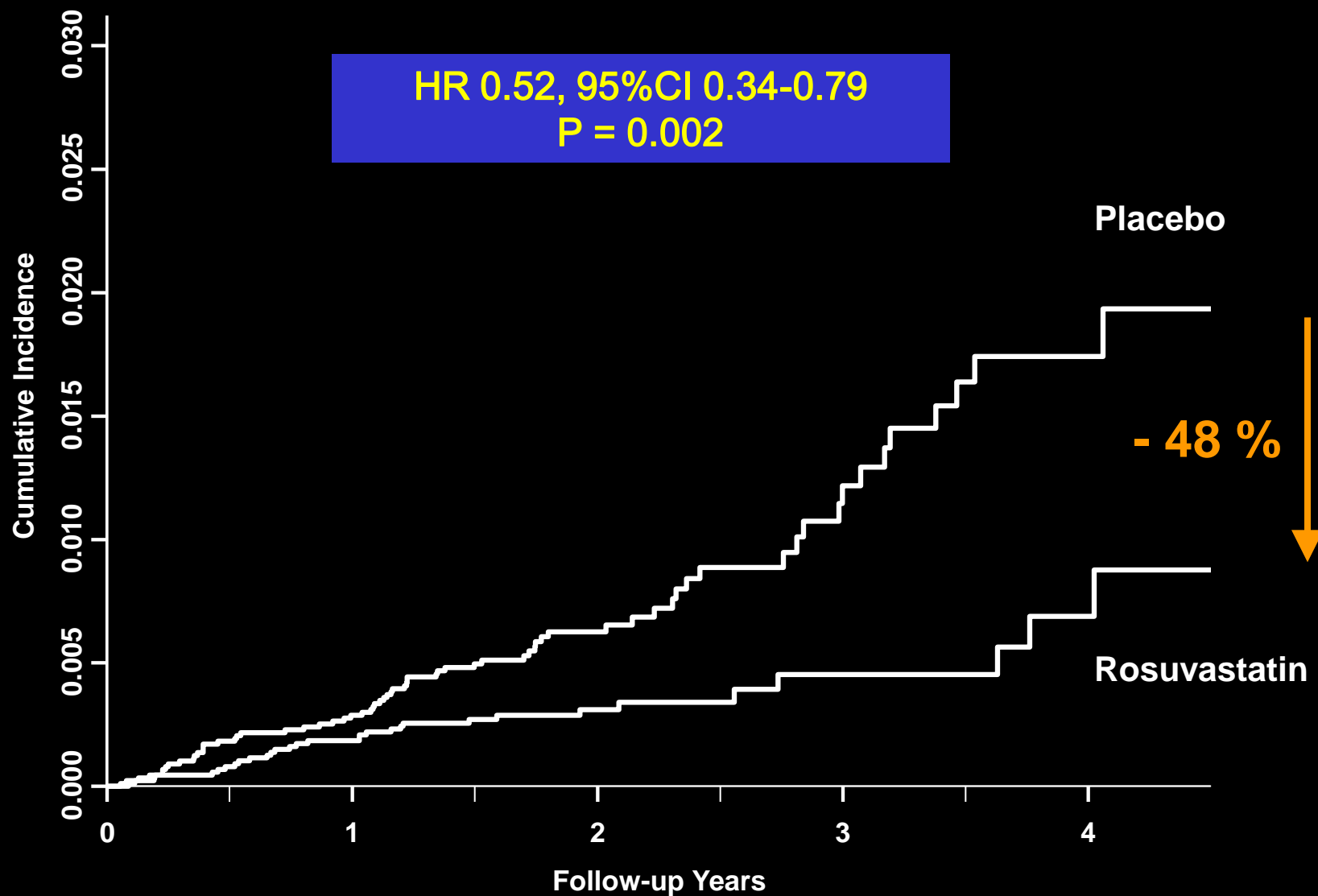
Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Germany, Israel, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Uruguay, United States, Venezuela

**Mean LDLC 104 mg/dL, Mean HDLC 50 mg/dL, hsCRP 4 mg/L**

## Fatal or Nonfatal Myocardial Infarction

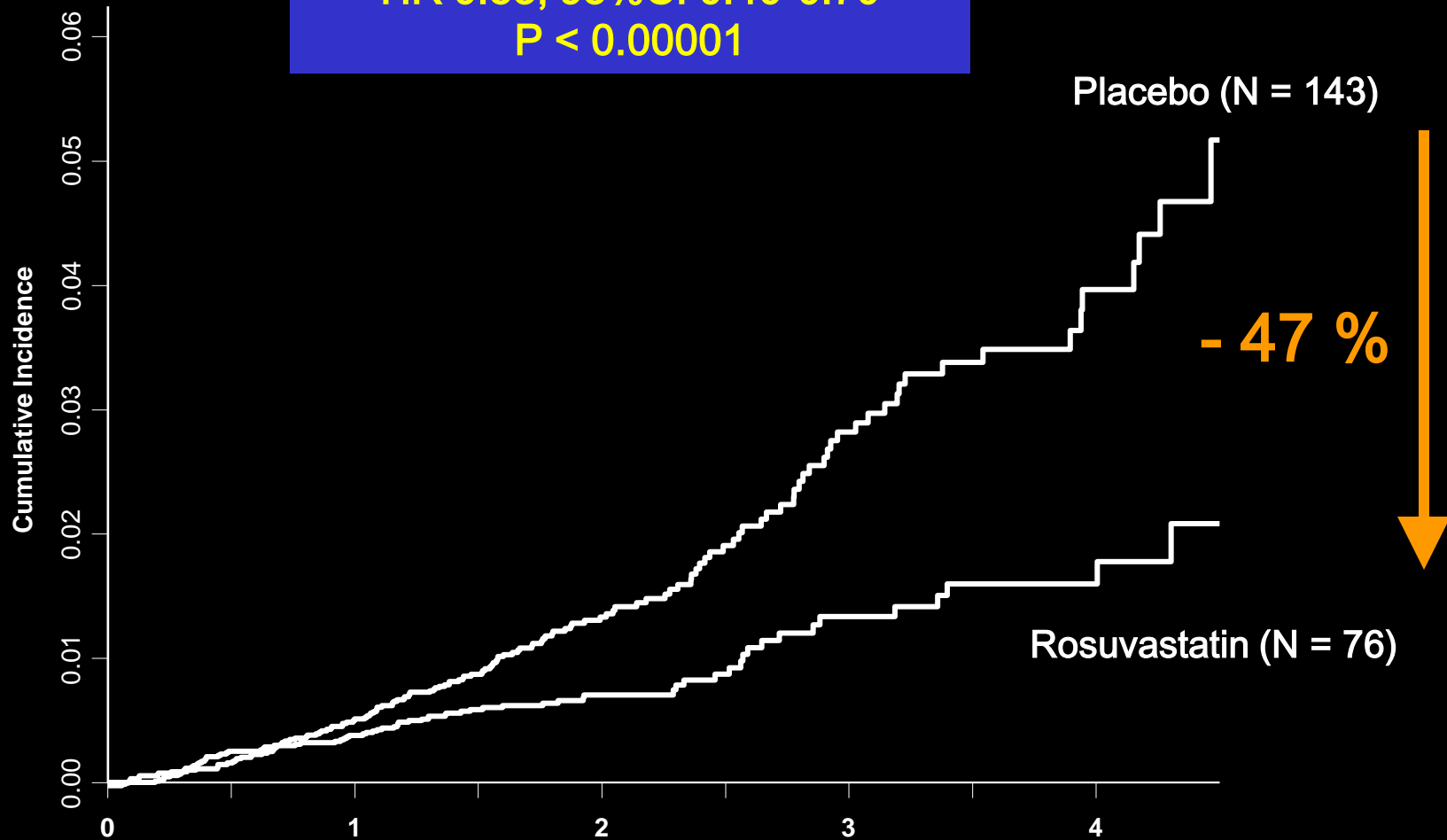


## Fatal or Nonfatal Stroke



## Arterial Revascularization / Unstable Angina

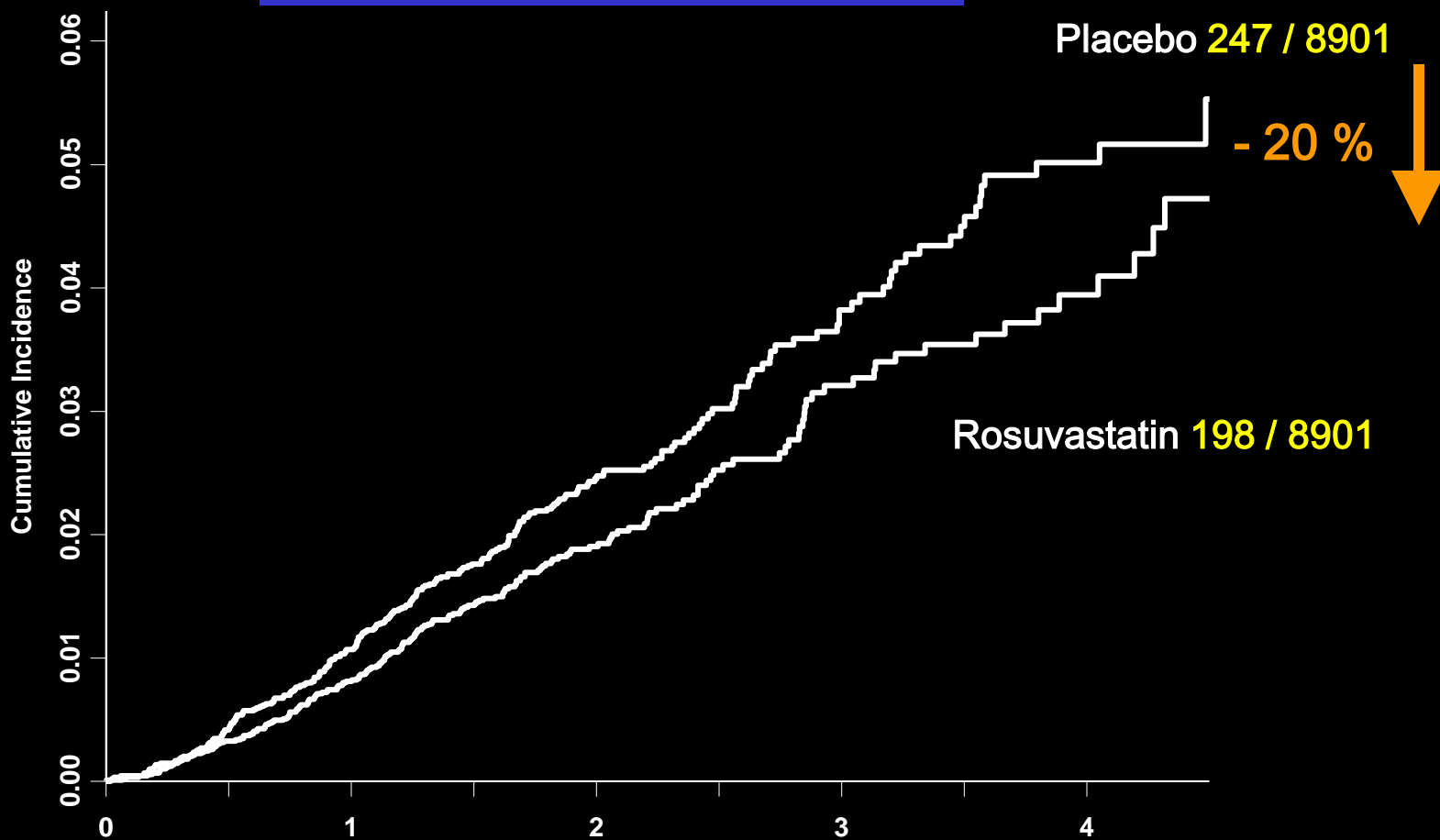
**HR 0.53, 95%CI 0.40-0.70  
P < 0.00001**



Number at Risk	Follow-up (years)										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rosuvastatin	8,901	8,640	8,426	6,550	3,905	1,966	1,359	989	547	158	
Placebo	8,901	8,641	8,390	6,542	3,895	1,977	1,346	963	538	176	

## Secondary Endpoint – All Cause Mortality

**HR 0.80, 95%CI 0.67-0.97  
P= 0.02**



Number at Risk	Follow-up (years)										
	0	0.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	
Rosuvastatin	8,901	8,847	8,787	6,999	4,312	2,268	1,602	1,192	683	227	
Placebo	8,901	8,852	8,775	6,987	4,319	2,295	1,614	1,196	684	246	

# 2009 Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS) Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Dyslipidemia and Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in the Adult

---

## Primary Goal : LDLC

High	CAD, CVA, PVD Most pts with Diabetes FRS > 20 % <b>RRS &gt; 20 %</b>	<2mmol/L or 50% reduction	Class I Level A
Moderate	FRS 10- 19 % RRS 10-19 % LDL > 3.5 mmol/L TC/HDLC > 5.0 <b>hsCRP &gt; 2 in</b> <b>men &gt;50 yr</b> <b>women &gt; 60 yr</b>	<2mmol/L or 50 % reduction	Class IIA Level A
Low	FRS < 10 %	<5mmol/L	Class IIA Level A

---

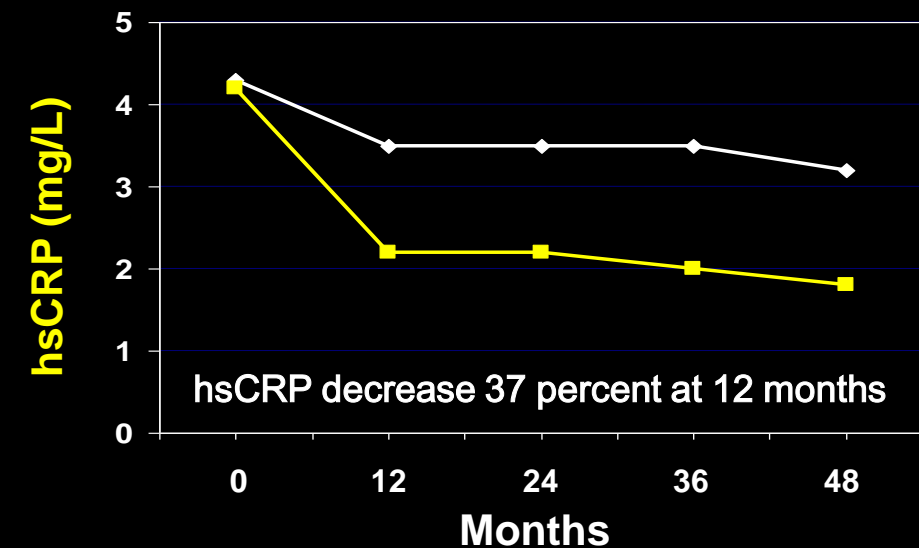
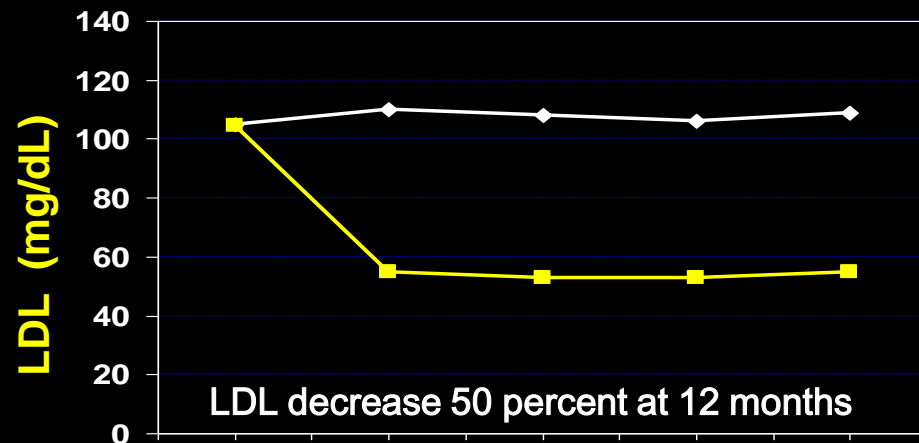
Secondary Targets : TC/HDLC < 4, non HDLC < 3.5 mol/L,  
**hsCRP < 2 mg/L**, TG < 1.7 mol/L, ApoB/A<0.8

---



# JUPITER

Achieved LDLC, Achieved hsCRP, or Both?



The Real Controversy:

Is the large benefit observed in the JUPITER trial due to lipid lowering, to inflammation inhibition, or to a combination of these two processes?

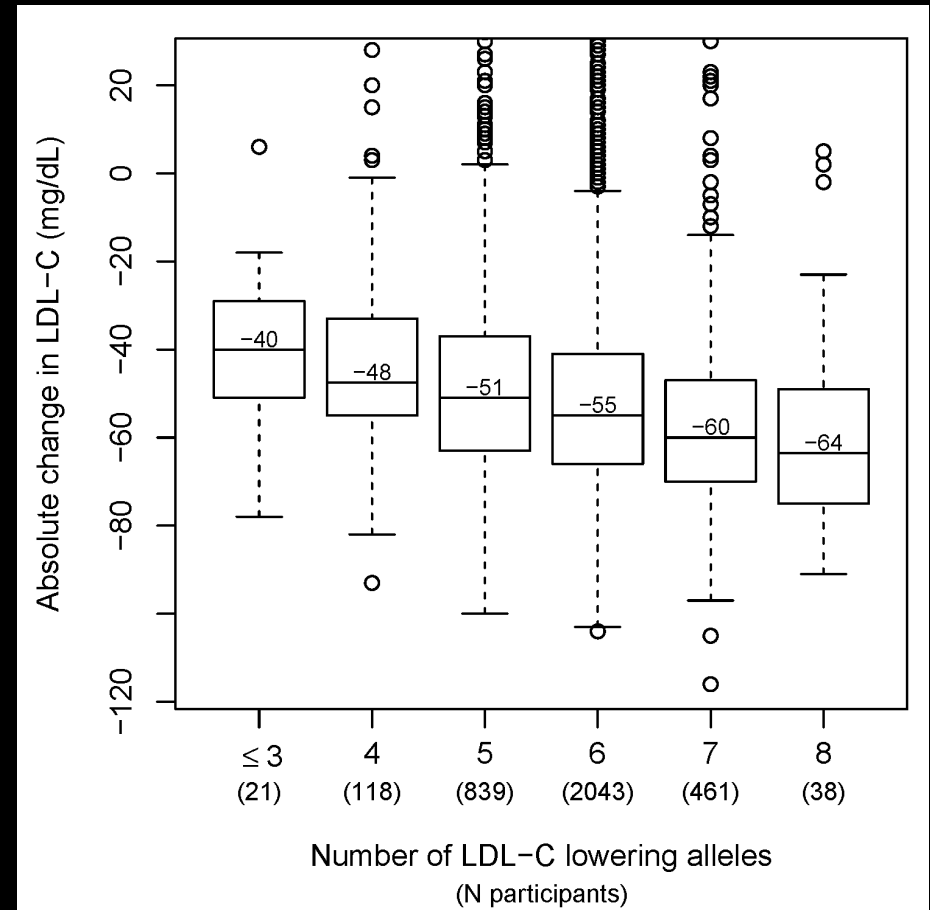
# JUPITER

LDL reduction, hsCRP reduction, or both?

## JUPITER GWAS:

The genetic determinants of rosuvastatin-induced LDL-C reduction do not predict rosuvastatin-induced CRP reduction

The genetic determinants of rosuvastatin-induced CRP reduction do not predict rosuvastatin-induced LDL-C reduction



Chasman et al, 2012 Circulation Cardiovascular Genetics

Chu et al, 2012 Circulation Cardiovascular Genetics

---

# Can Targeted Anti-Inflammatory Therapy Reduce Cardiovascular Event Rates and Prolong Life?

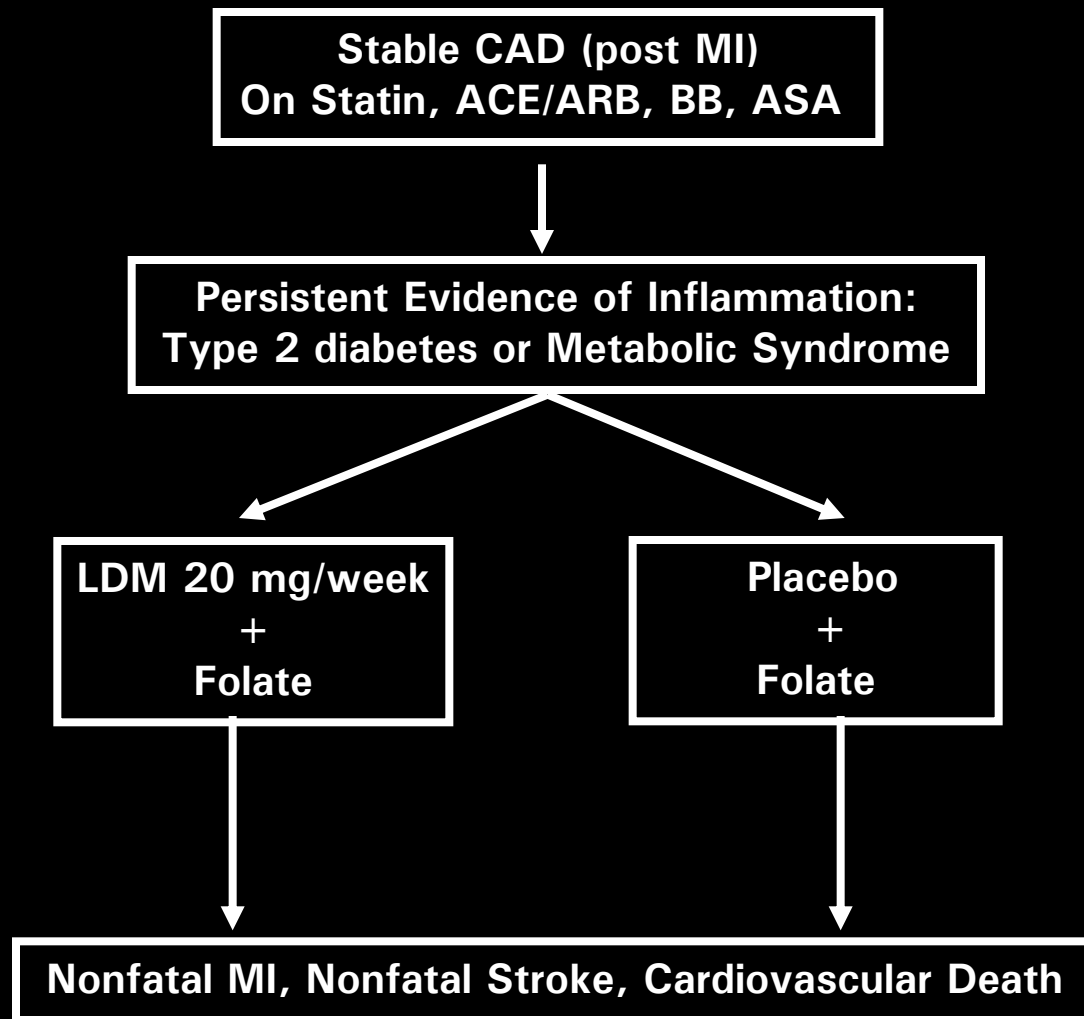
---

# Issues in the Selection of Anti-inflammatory Agents for Trials of Cardiovascular Inflammation Inhibition

	Statins	TNF inhibition	IL-6 Inhibition	LDM	IL-1 $\beta$ inhibition
TC	↓↓	↑	↑	↔	↔
LDL	↓↓	↑	↑	↔	↔
HDL	↑	↑	↑	↔	↔
TG	↔	↑	↑	↔	↔
Chylo	↔	↑	↑	↔	↔
CRP / IL-6	↓	↓↓	↓↓	↓	↓

# Cardiovascular Inflammation Reduction Trial (CIRT)

---



# LDM and CVD: Observational Evidence

<u>Cohort</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>HR*</u>	<u>(95 % CI)</u>	<u>Endpoint</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	
Wichita Choi 2002	RA	<b>0.4</b>	(0.2 - 0.8)	Total Mortality	LDM	
		<b>0.3</b>	(0.2 - 0.7)	CV Mortality	LDM	
		<b>0.4</b>	(0.3 - 0.8)	CV Mortality	LDM < 15 mg/wk	
Netherlands van Helm 2006	RA	<b>0.3</b>	(0.1 - 0.7)	CVD	LDM only	
		<b>0.2</b>	(0.1 - 0.5)	CVD	LDM + SSZ	
		<b>0.2</b>	(0.1 - 1.2)	CVD	LDM + HCO	
		<b>0.2</b>	(0.1 - 0.5)	CVD	LDM + SSZ + HCO	
Miami VA Pradanovich 2005	RA	PsA	<b>0.7</b>	(0.6 - 0.9)	CVD	LDM
		<b>0.5</b>	(0.3 - 0.8)	CVD	LDM < 15 mg/wk	
		<b>0.8</b>	(0.7 - 1.0)	CVD	LDM	
		<b>0.6</b>	(0.5 - 0.8)	CVD	LDM < 15 mg/wk	
CORRONA Solomon 2008	RA	<b>0.6</b>	(0.3 - 1.2)	CVD	LDM	
		<b>0.4</b>	(0.2 - 0.8)	CVD	TNF-inhibitor	
QUEST-RA Narango 2008	RA	<b>0.85</b>	(0.8 - 0.9)	CVD	LDM	
		<b>0.82</b>	(0.7 - 0.9)	MI	LDM	
		<b>0.89</b>	(0.8 - 1.0)	Stroke	LDM	
UK Norfolk 2008	RA, PsA	<b>0.6</b>	(0.4 - 1.0)	Total Mortality	LDM	
		<b>0.5</b>	(0.3 - 1.1)	CV Mortality	LDM	

# Cardiovascular Inflammation Reduction Trial (CIRT)

## Primary Aim

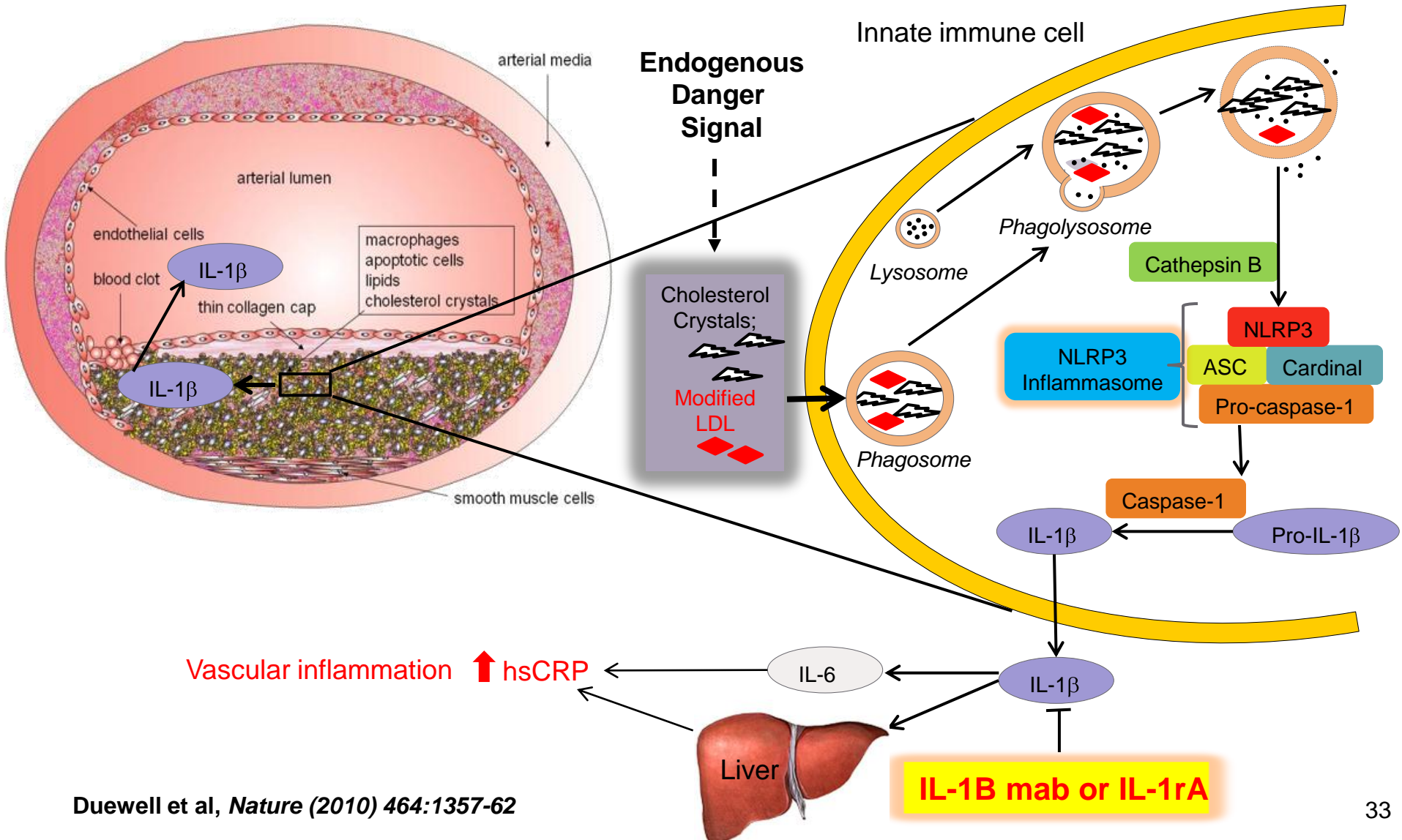
- To directly test the inflammatory hypothesis of atherothrombosis by evaluating in a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial whether LDM given at a target dose of 20 mg po weekly over a three to four year period will reduce rates of recurrent myocardial infarction, stroke, or cardiovascular death among patients with a prior history of myocardial infarction and either type 2 diabetes or metabolic syndrome.

# Issues in the Selection of Anti-inflammatory Agents for Trials of Cardiovascular Inflammation Inhibition

	Statins	TNF inhibition	IL-6 Inhibition	LDM	IL-1 $\beta$ inhibition
TC	↓↓	↑	↑	↔	↔
LDL	↓↓	↑	↑	↔	↔
HDL	↑	↑	↑	↔	↔
TG	↔	↑	↑	↔	↔
Chylo	↔	↑	↑	↔	↔
CRP / IL-6	↓	↓↓	↓↓	↓	↓



# Cholesterol crystals activate the caspase-1-activating NLRP3 inflammasome to generate IL-1 $\beta$ and initiate atherosclerosis

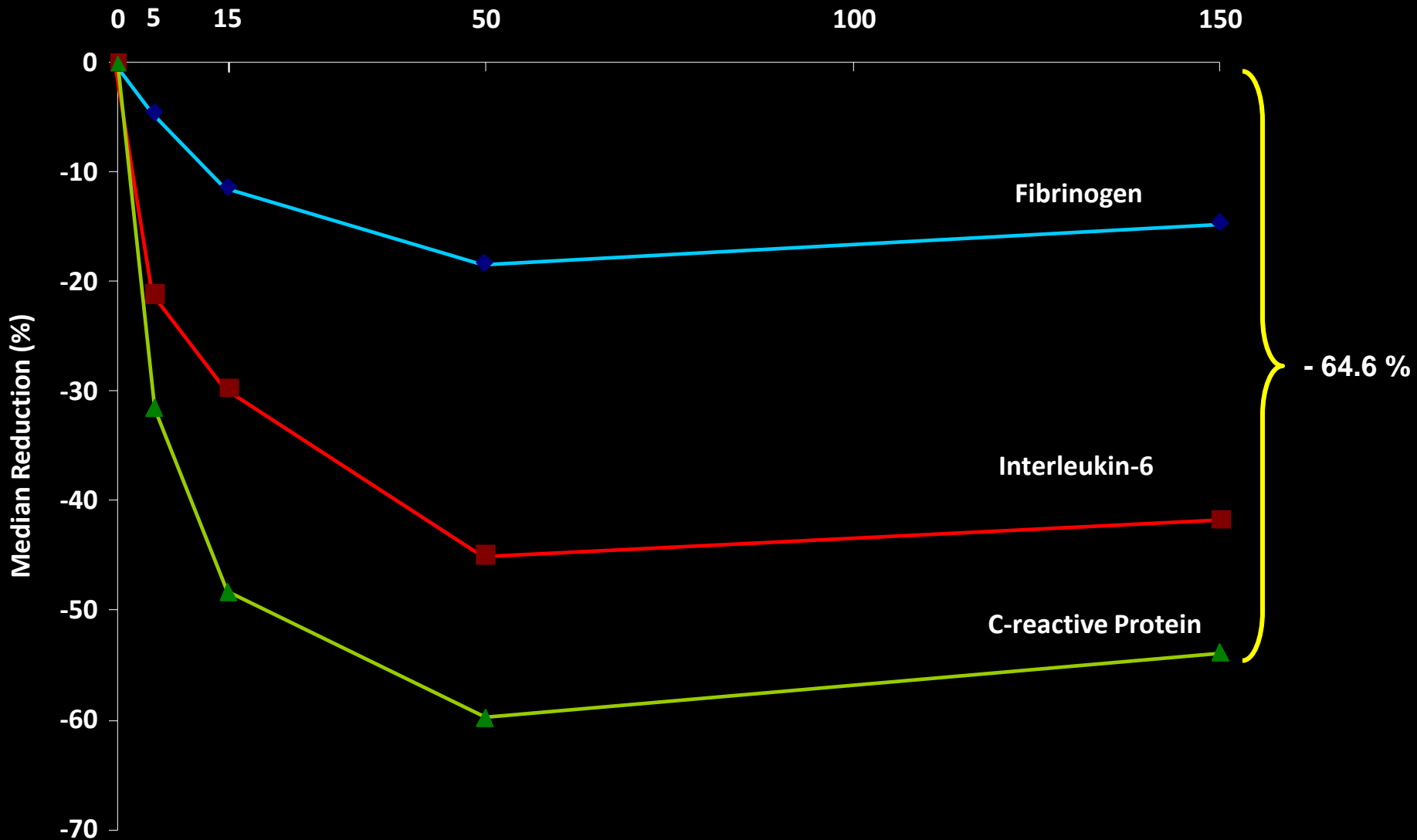


# Canakinumab (Ilaris, Novartis)

---

- **high-affinity human monoclonal anti-human interleukin-1 $\beta$  (IL-1 $\beta$ ) antibody currently indicated for the treatment of IL-1 $\beta$  driven inflammatory diseases (Cryopyrin-Associated Period Syndrome [CAPS], Muckle-Wells Syndrome)**
- **designed to bind to human IL-1 $\beta$  and functionally neutralize the bioactivity of this pro-inflammatory cytokine**
- **long half-life (4-8 weeks) with CRP and IL-6 reduction for up to 3 months**

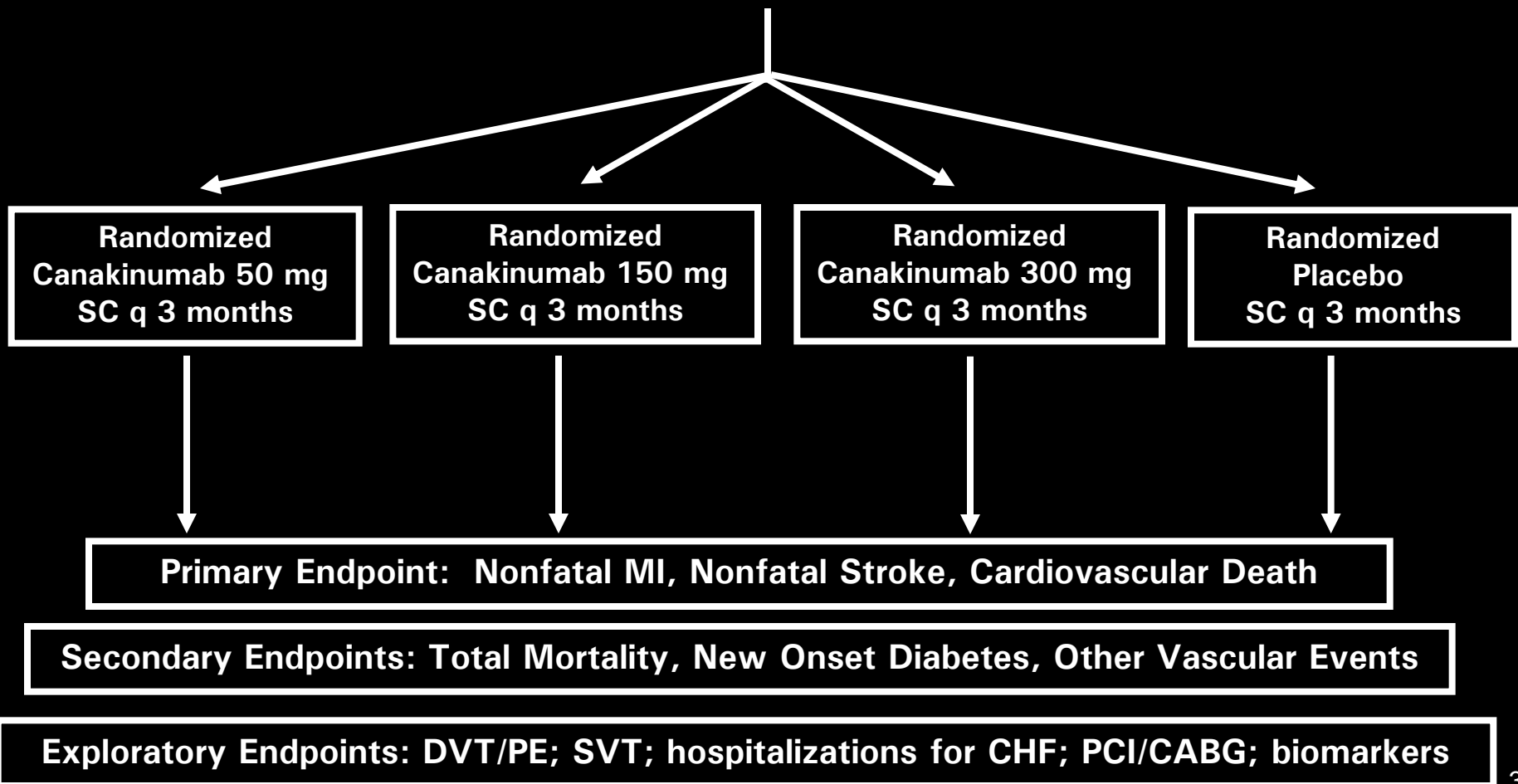
# Canakinumab Dose (mg/month)



# Canakinumab Anti-inflammatory Thrombosis Outcomes Study (CANTOS)

Stable CAD (post MI)  
On Statin, ACE/ARB, BB, ASA  
Persistent Elevation  
of hsCRP ( $\geq 2$  mg/L)

**N = 17,200**  
**FPFV April 2012**

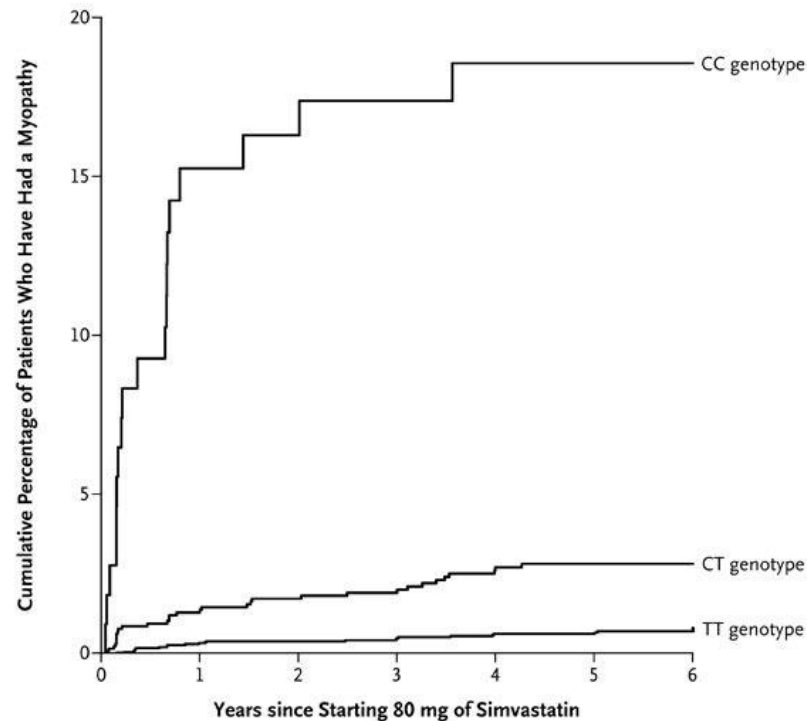




**Will genetic screening play a role  
in patient focused thrombosis care?**

**Will pharmacogenetics matter  
for cardiovascular disease?**

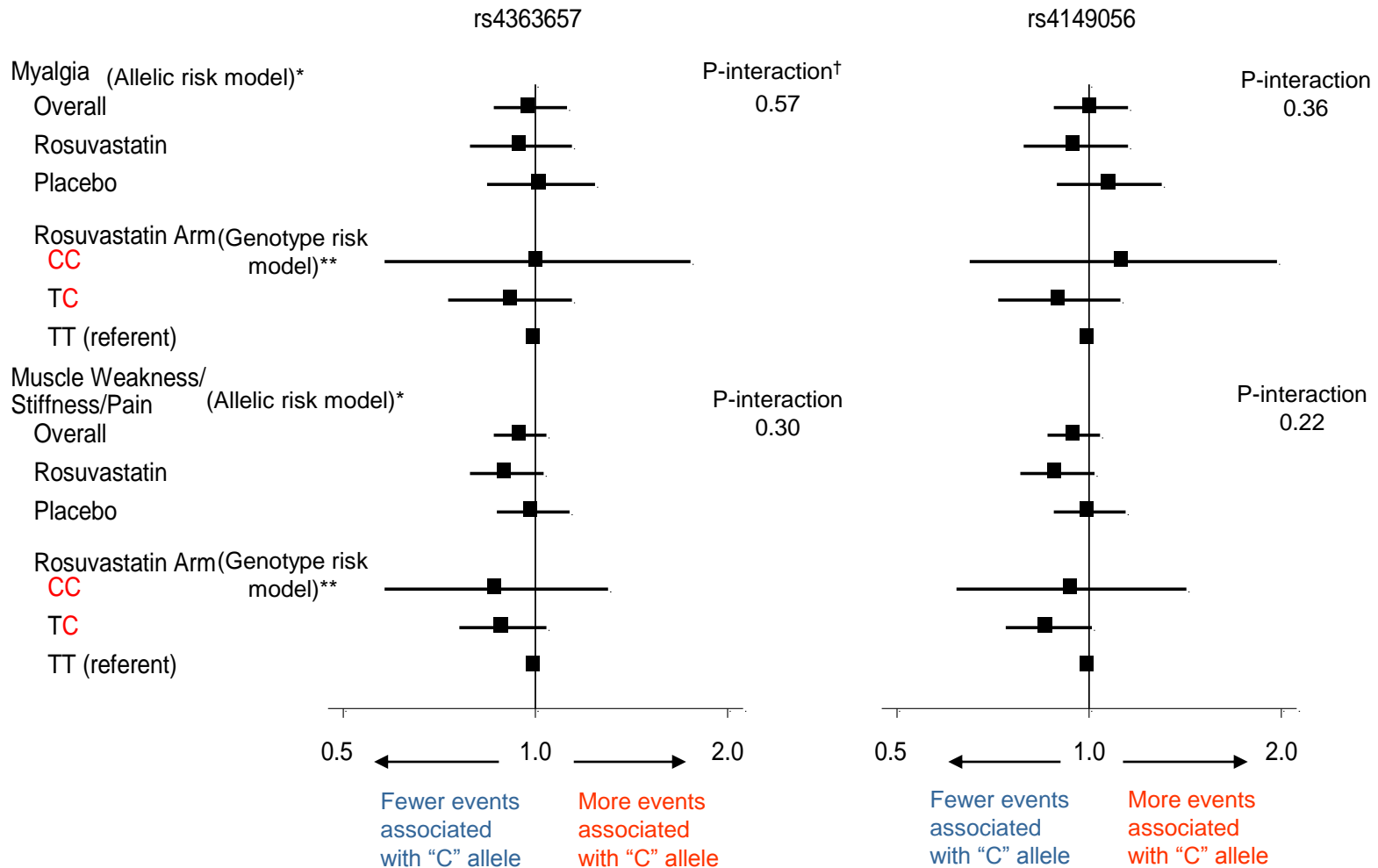
# Estimated Cumulative Risk of Myopathy Associated with Taking 80 mg of Simvastatin Daily, According to SLC01B1 rs4149056 Genotype



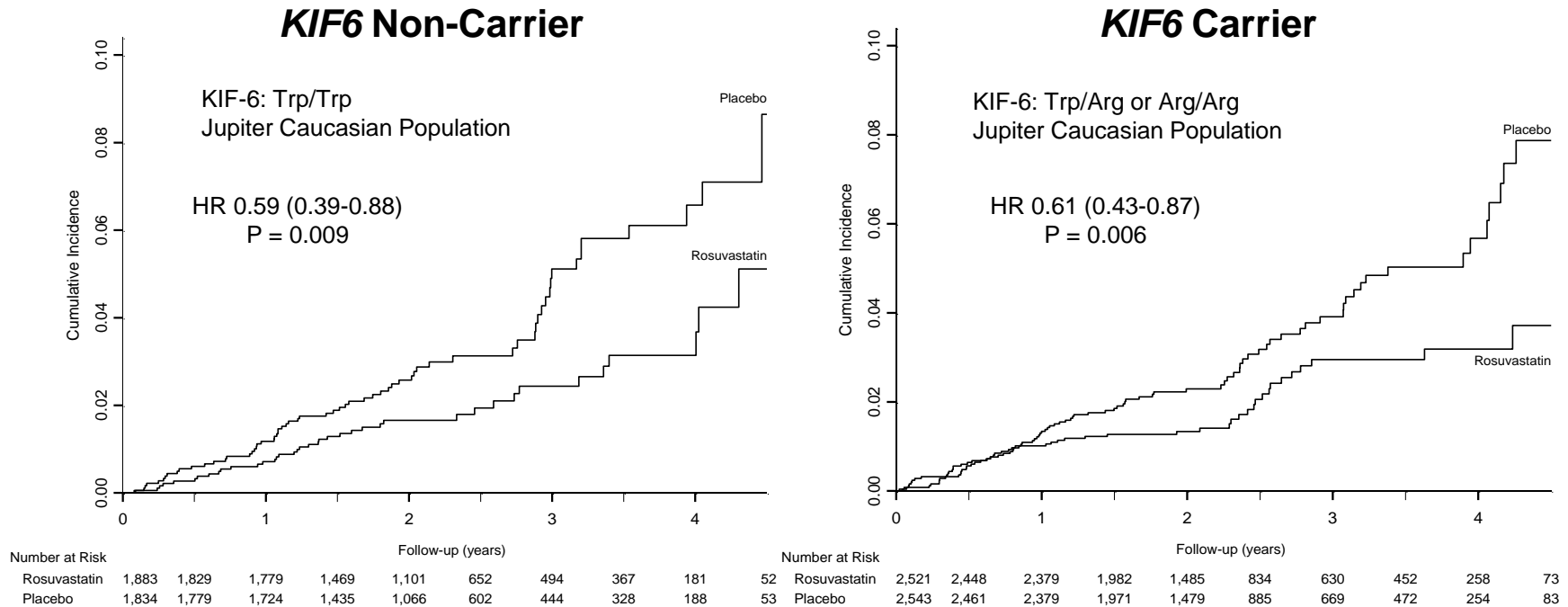
Cumulative No. and Percentages with Myopathy

Genotype	Population Frequency	Year 1				Year 5			
		Attributable to genotype		Attributable to genotype		Attributable to genotype		Attributable to genotype	
		no.	%	no.	% of total	no.	%	no.	% of total
TT	0.730	12	0.34	0	0	21	0.63	0	0
CT	0.249	17	1.38	12.8	75	32	2.83	24.9	78
CC	0.021	16	15.25	15.6	98	19	18.55	18.4	97
All genotypes	1.000	45	0.91	28.4	63	72	1.56	43.3	60

# Risk of muscular complaints by treatment groups and *SLCO1B1* genotypes



# JUPITER: Rosuvastatin is Equally Effective at Lowering Vascular Risk Among those With and Without the *KIF6* Polymorphism



**Similar LDL and hsCRP reduction by genotype**  
**Similar absolute event rates by genotype**  
**Similar relative risk reduction by genotype**



# **Some Thoughts About Eric Green's Density Maps On the Speed of Translation to Practice**

---

- 1. Don't be discouraged. It takes a long time to change practice even when randomized trials exist.**
- 2. Sure, there are bumps, potholes, and u-turns on the Translational Highway, but where else are you going to drive?**
- 3. A true killer app would be nice, but we may not need that since the "average" patient may not be what this is all about. If the cost of screening falls far enough, we don't need a homerun for all patients, just a clear benefit for some, even if they are rare individuals.**
- 4. It really matters for parents and kids**

---

It must be considered that there is nothing more difficult to carry out, nor more doubtful of success, nor more dangerous to handle, than to initiate a new order of things. For the reformer has enemies in all those who profit by the old order, and only lukewarm defenders in all those who would profit by the new order, this lukewarmness arriving partly from fear and partly from the incredulity of mankind, who do not believe in anything new until they have had an actual experience of it.

---

Niccolo Machiavelli 1513



**Chasman et al,  
Atherosclerosis 2008**

**Differential effects of  
aspirin on vascular  
outcomes according to  
polymorphism  
in the Lp(a) gene**

