

VII CONGRESSO NAZIONALE

2014  
ECOCARDIOCHIRURGIA

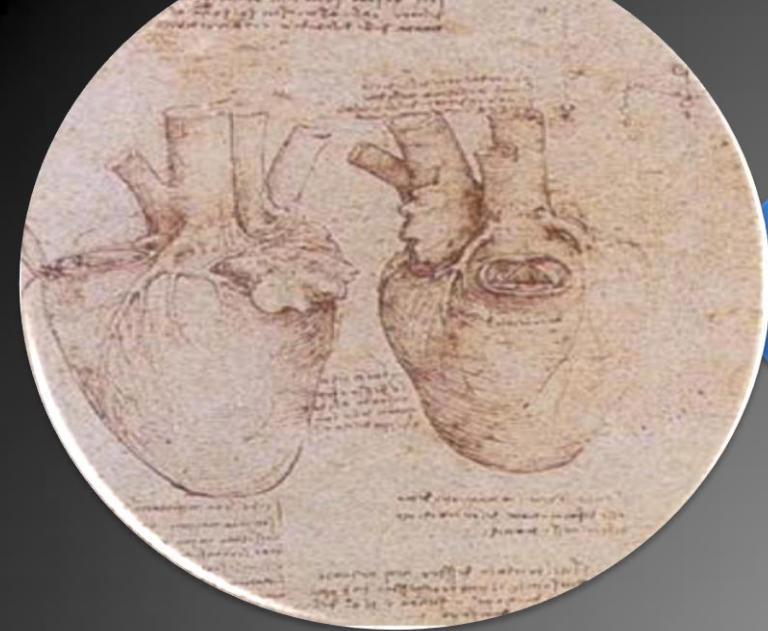
*Quando decidere di  
chiudere l'auricola sx  
Cenni di tecnica*

*Gaetano Fassini , MD*

*Cardiac Arrhythmia Research Centre*

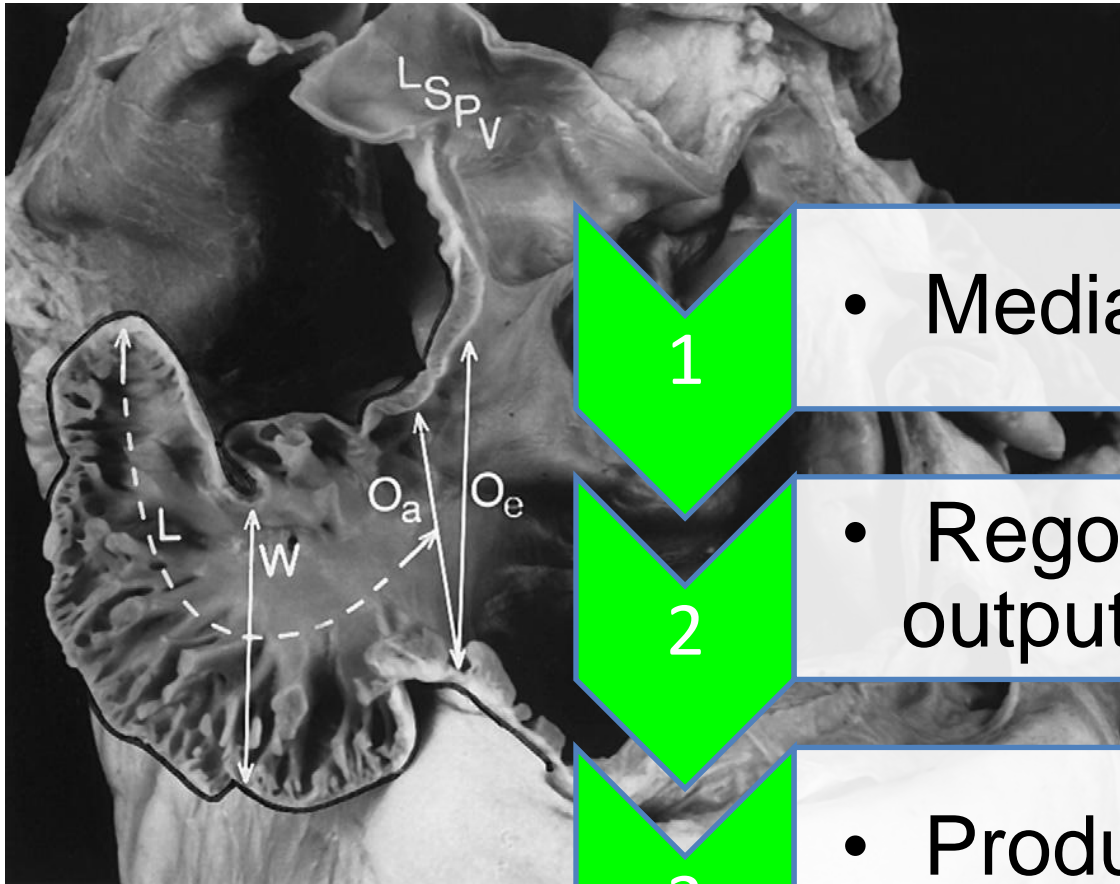
*Centro Cardiologico Monzino, IRCCS*

*University of Milan, Milan, Italy*



LAA: “appendice”  
così inutile?

# LAA ... Funzioni...??



1

- Mediatore della sete

2

- Regolatore cardiac output

3

- Produttore ANP e BNP



TABLE 1. Annual risk of stroke in patients with nonvalvular AF not treated with anticoagulation (with 95% CIs) according to the CHADS<sub>2</sub> score

CHADS <sub>2</sub> Score	Stroke Risk (%)	95% CI	Patients (n = 1733)
0	1.9	1.2-3.0	120
1	2.8	2.0-3.8	463
2	4.0	3.1-5.1	523
3	5.9	4.6-7.3	337
4	8.5	6.3-11.1	220
5	12.5	8.2-17.5	65
6	18.2	10.5-27.4	5

1

- NV-Afib: 17% LA thrombosis : 91% in LAA (*Blackshear and Odell; Ann Thorac Surg 1996*)

2

- LAA remodeling in Hypertension, Heart failure and Afib

*Table 1. Review of Published Reports Detailing the Frequency and Site of Thrombus Location in Patients With Nonrheumatic Atrial Fibrillation*

Setting	No. of Patients	Thrombus Location		Reference No.
		LA Appendage	LA Cavity	
TEE <sup>a</sup>	317	66	1	40
TEE	233	34	1	25
Autopsy	506	35	12	39
TEE	52	2	2	28
TEE	48	12	1	41
TEE and Operation	171	8	3	24
SPAF III TEE Study	359	19	1	42
TEE	272	19	0	26
TEE	60	6	0	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>21</b>	

<sup>a</sup> 5% of this cohort had mitral stenosis or a prosthetic mitral valve.

LA = left atrium; SPAF III = Stroke Prevention in Atrial Fibrillation Trial; TEE = transesophageal echocardiography.

# CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc Score<sup>2</sup>

Risk factors for stroke and thrombo-embolism in non-valvular AF

'Major' risk factors

'Clinically relevant non-major' risk factors

Risk factor-based approach as a point based scoring system with the acronym CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc (Note maximum score is 9 since age may contribute 0, 1 or 2 points)

Risk Factor

Score

1

1

2

Rischio stroke annuo  
**2.2%**

- Previous TIA, or embolism
- Age ≥ 75

a. Prior myocardial infarction

Letter	Clinical Characteristic	Points Awarded
<b>H</b>	Hypertension	1
<b>A</b>	Abnormal renal and liver function (1 point each)	1 or 2
<b>S</b>	Stroke	1
<b>B</b>	Bleeding	1
<b>L</b>	Labile INRs	1
<b>E</b>	Elderly	1
<b>D</b>	Drugs or alcohol (1 point each)	1 or 2
Maximum possible score is 9		

*Systolic > 160*

*CRD; Crea>200  
Cirrhosis;  
AST/ALTx3*

*Previous or high risk*

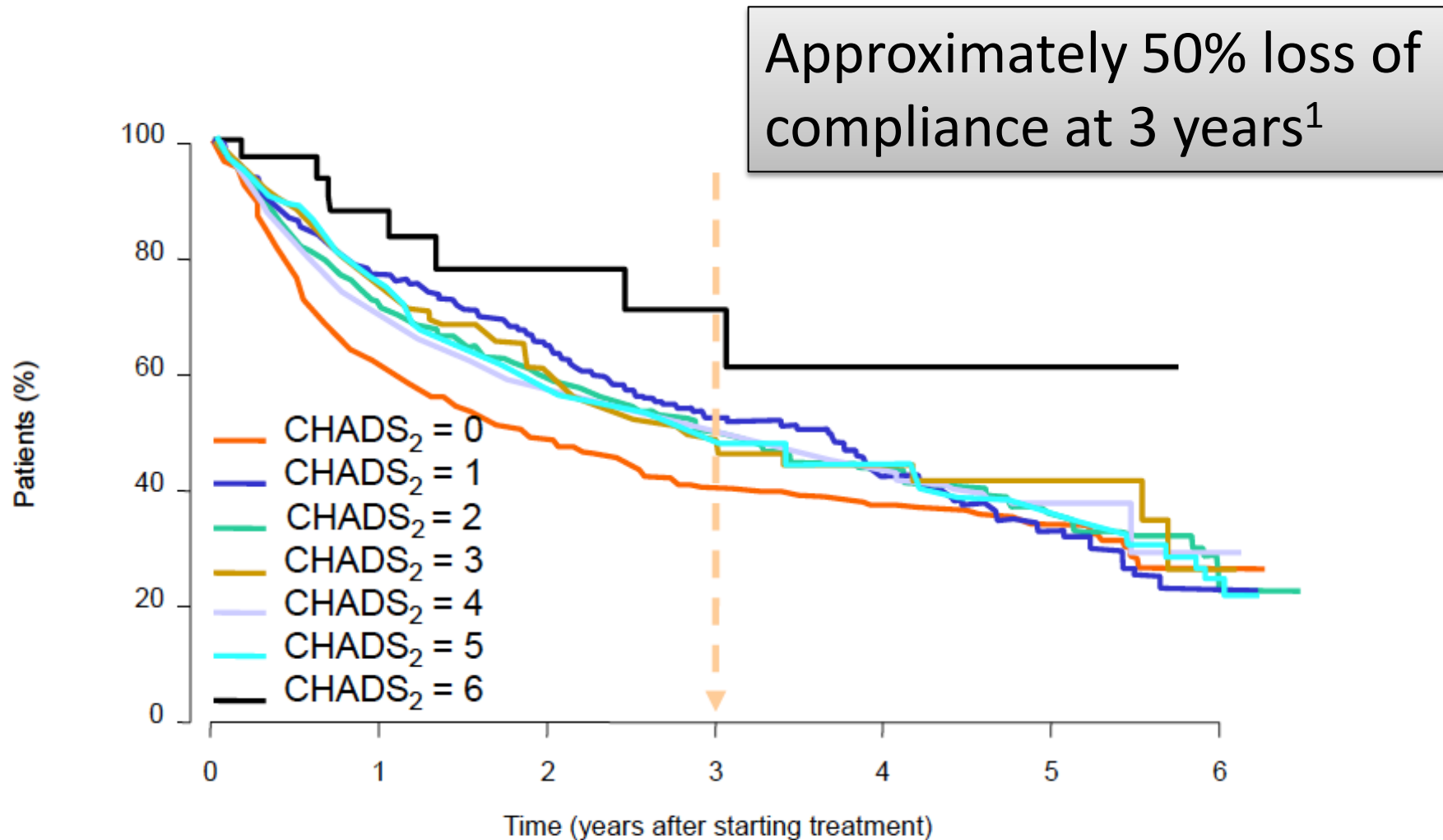
*TTR<60%*

*>65*

*NSAID/steroids*

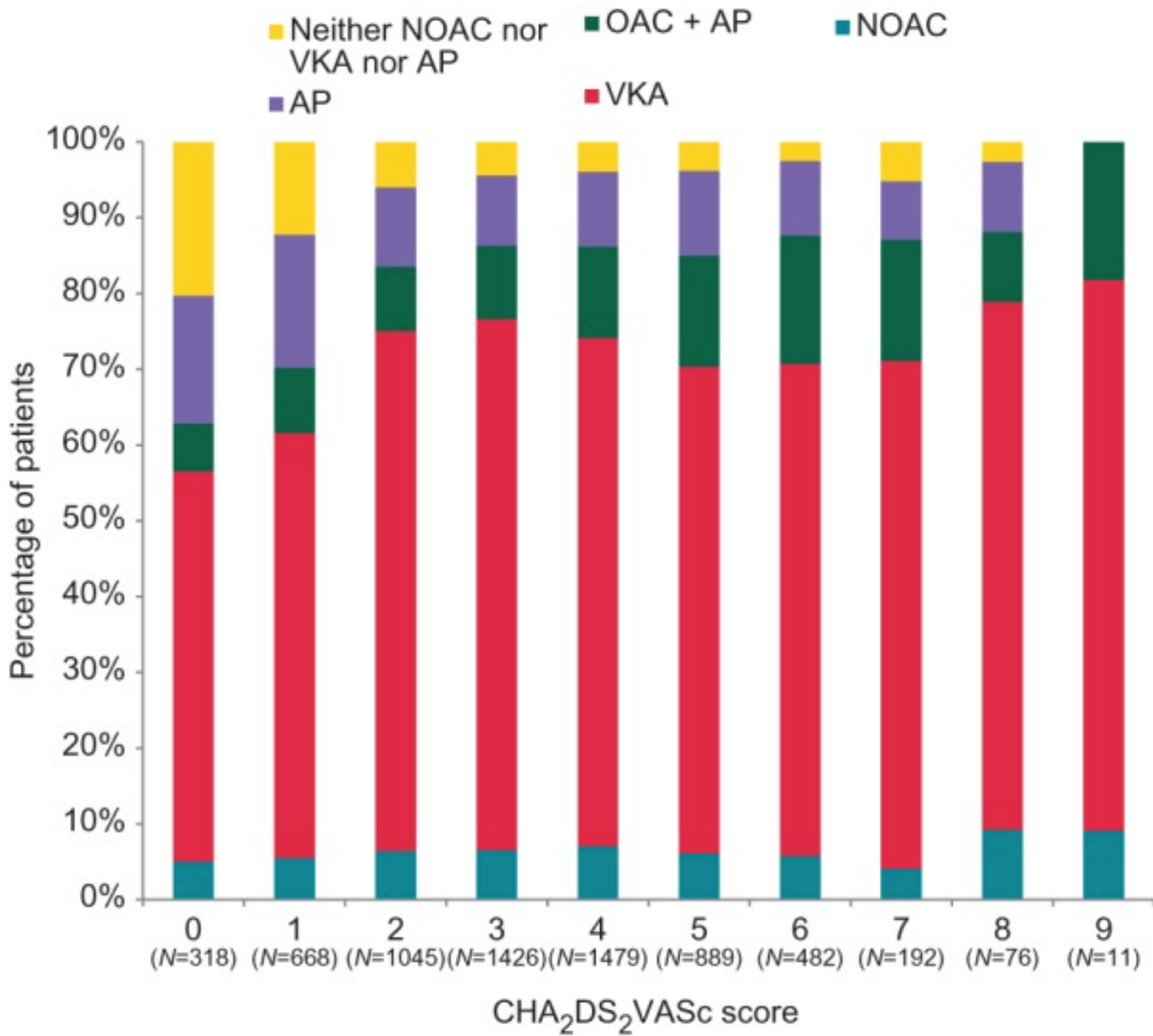
**ESC : if > 3 caution with OAC!**

# Do the appropriate patients receive stroke prophylaxis?



<sup>1</sup> Gallagher AM, et al., Initiation and persistence of Warfarin or aspirin in patients with chronic AF in general practice J Thromb Haemost 2008; 6: 1500-6.

<sup>2</sup> Khoo, Lip Initiation and persistence of Warfarin or aspirin as thromboprophylaxis in chronic AF - J Thromb Haemost 2008; 6: 1622

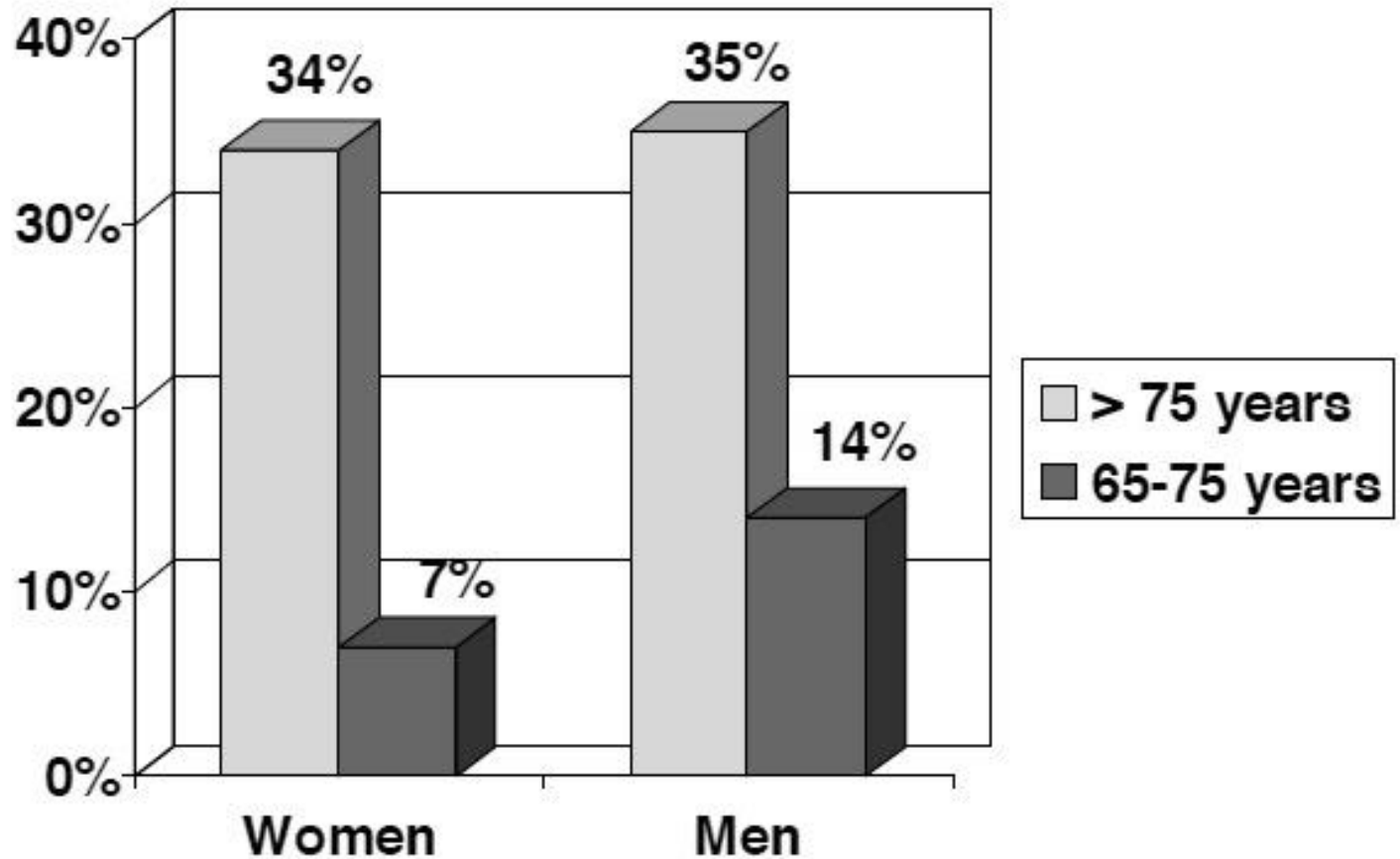


PREFER in AF Trial  
*Kirchhof et al*  
 Europace 2013



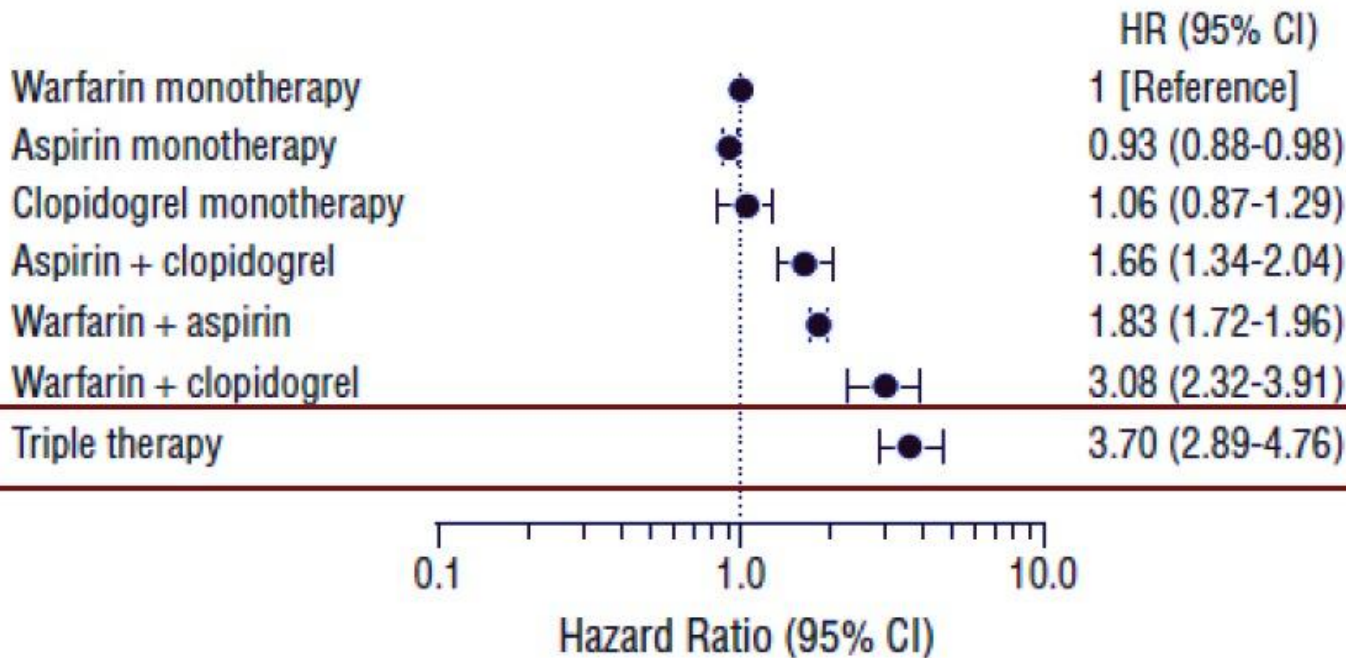
Irreversible contraindication (SPAF III) to OAC:

- Major bleeding during previous 6 months
- Frequent falls
- Inability to comply to treatment
- Alcohol consumption
- Uncontrolled Hypertension
- Frequent use of NSAIDs



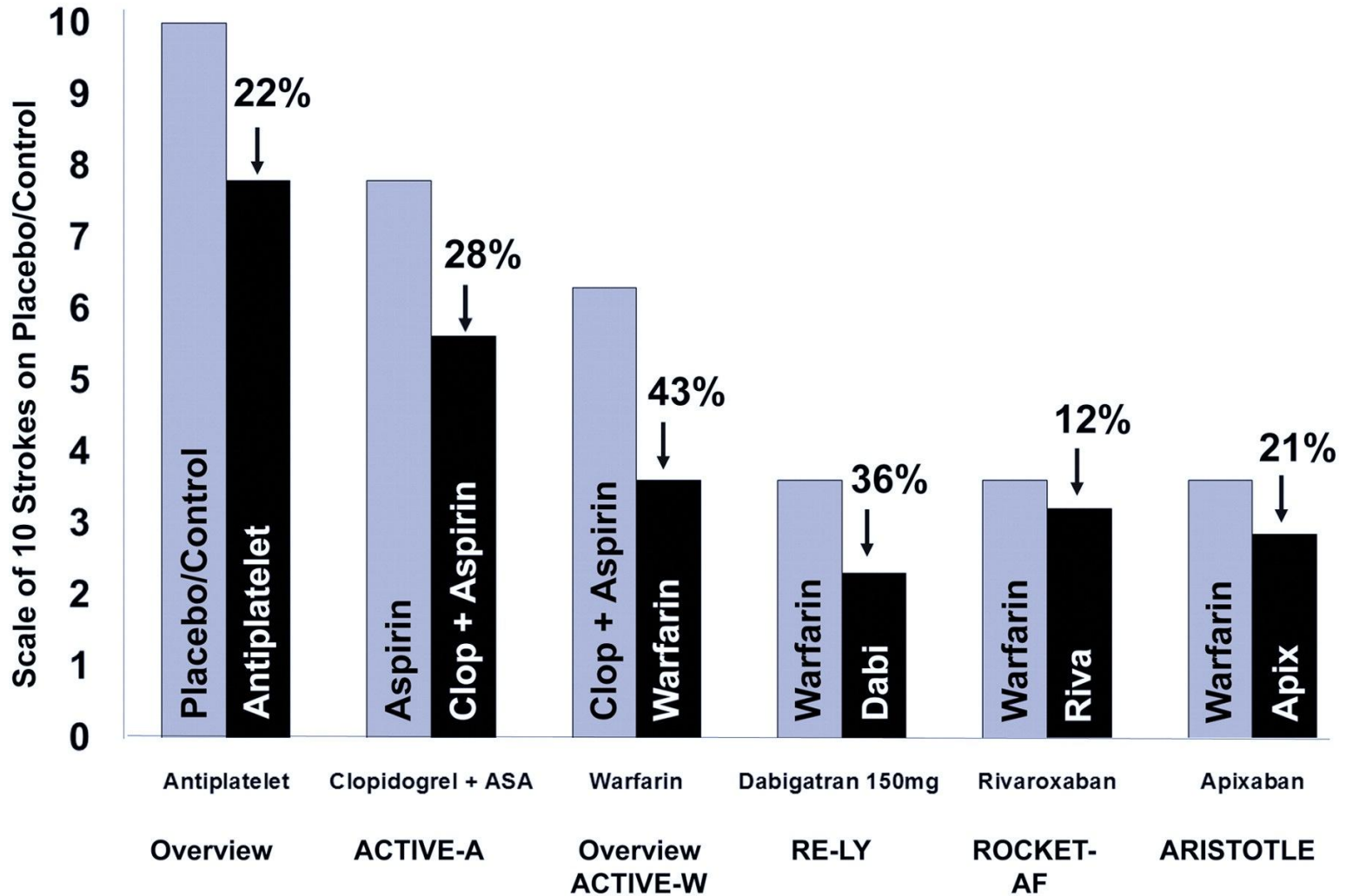
# Risk of bleeding or ischemic stroke with single, dual or triple therapy (Warfarin, Aspirin, Clopidogrel) in AF

Pts



# Stroke risk reductions

from randomized trials of antithrombotic agents in AF



Granger C B , and Armaganijan L V Circulation.  
2012;125:159-164



## Major Bleeding

Model	Study name	Statistics for each study				Events / Total		Odds ratio and 95% CI
		Odds ratio	Lower limit	Upper limit	p-Value	NOAC	Warfarin	
	RE-LY	0,867	0,763	0,984	0,028	697 / 12091	397 / 6022	
	ROCKET-AF	1,027	0,889	1,186	0,719	395 / 7111	386 / 7125	
	ARISTOTLE	0,694	0,600	0,802	0,000	327 / 9088	462 / 9052	
Fixed		0,853	0,788	0,924	0,000	1419 / 28290	1245 / 22199	
Random		0,852	0,688	1,054	0,141	1419 / 28290	1245 / 22199	

### Efficacy and Safety Outcomes in patients treated with NOACs or Warfarin.

Endpoint, % (n/N)	NOACs (n = 28342)	Warfarin (n = 22236)	Random Effects (OR, 95% CI)	Fixed Effects (OR, 95% CI)	P value	I <sup>2</sup> , %	Heterogeneity, p
<b>Efficacy</b>							
Stroke or systemic embolism	2.8 (797/28292)	3.5 (770/22193)	0.82 (0.74–0.91)	0.82 (0.74–0.91)	<0.001	0	0.62
Stroke	2.4 (688/28292)	3.0 (670/22193)	0.79 (0.71–0.88)	0.79 (0.71–0.88)	<0.001	0	0.80
Hemorrhagic	0.3 (95/28292)	0.8 (173/22193)	0.44 (0.30–0.66)	0.45 (0.35–0.58)	<0.001	59	0.09
Ischemic or unspecified	2.0 (588/28292)	2.2 (489/22193)	0.93 (0.82–1.05)	0.93 (0.82–1.05)	0.21	0	0.96
Death from any cause	6.0 (1695/28292)	6.3 (1406/22193)	0.88 (0.82–0.95)	0.88 (0.82–0.95)	0.001	0	0.76
Myocardial Infarction	1.3 (366/28292)	1.3 (291/22193)	0.99 (0.71–1.38)	0.98 (0.83–1.15)	0.94	76	0.02
<b>Safety</b>							
Major bleeding	5.0 (1419/28290)	5.6 (1245/22199)	0.85 (0.69–1.05)	0.85 (0.79–0.92)	0.14	86%	0.001
Intracranial bleeding	0.6 (170/28290)	1.3 (293/22199)	0.46 (0.38–0.55)	0.46 (0.33–0.65)	<0.001	70%	0.036
Gastrointestinal bleeding	2.3 (644/28290)	1.3 (291/22199)	1.68 (1.03–2.72)	1.70 (1.47–1.96)	0.036	91%	<0.001
ALT or AST >3× ULN with concurrent bilirubin >2× ULN	0.3 (89/27990)	0.4 (87/21903)	0.85 (0.63–1.14)	0.85 (0.63–1.14)	0.28	0	0.44

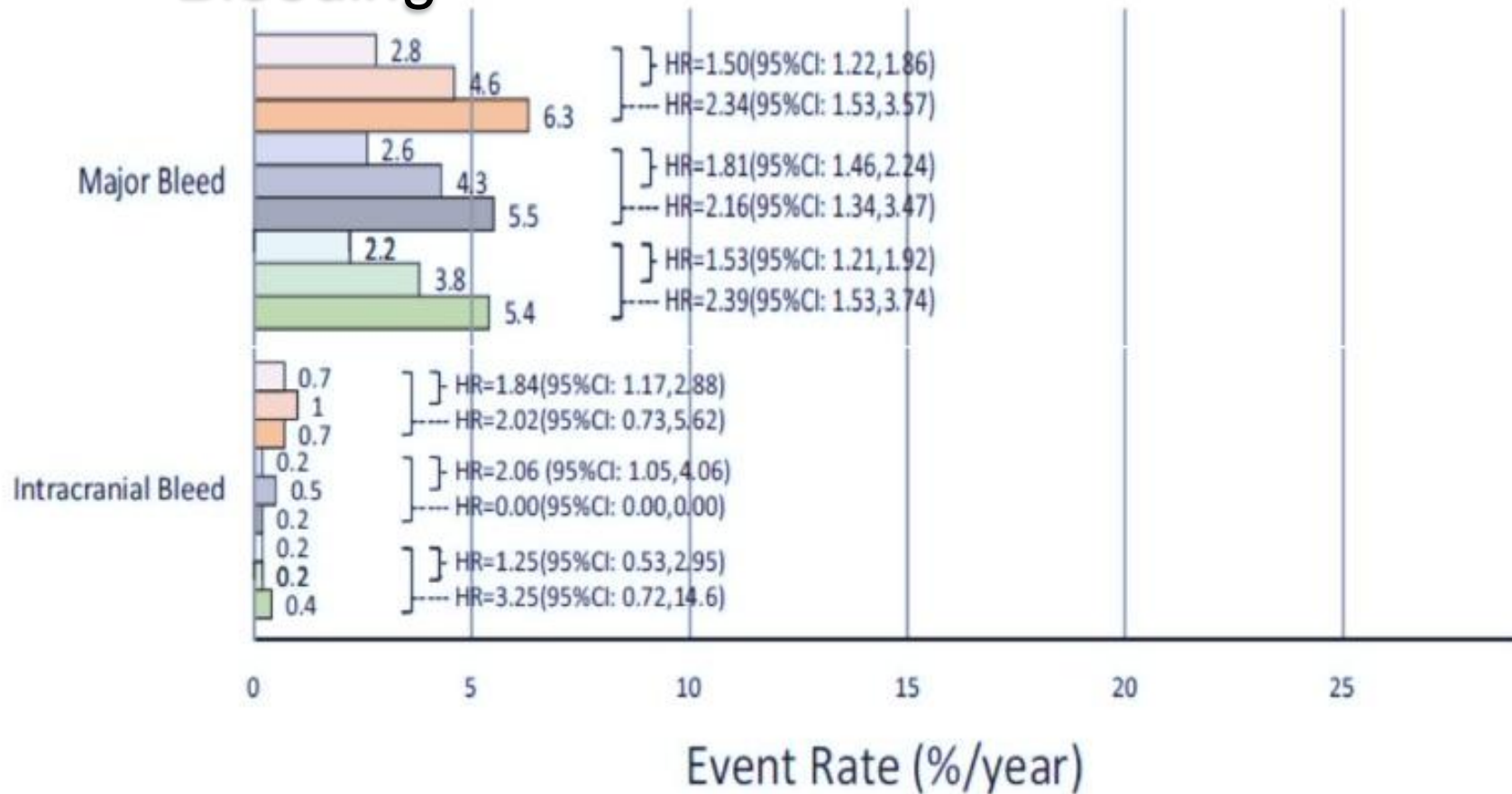
# Looking Beyond

## Pts at high risk of bleeding

- Elderly
- High Hasbled score ( $>3$ )
- GI disease (cirrhosis, Crohn disease, angiodysplasia)
- Chronic renal failure
- Cerebral vascular disorders
- Hematological disorders

# Antiplatelet + Dabigatran in RELY :

## Bleeding



### PATIENTS ON WARFARIN

- NO ANTIPLATELET (n=3696)
- SINGLE ANTIPLATELET (n=2046)
- DUAL ANTIPLATELET (n=280)

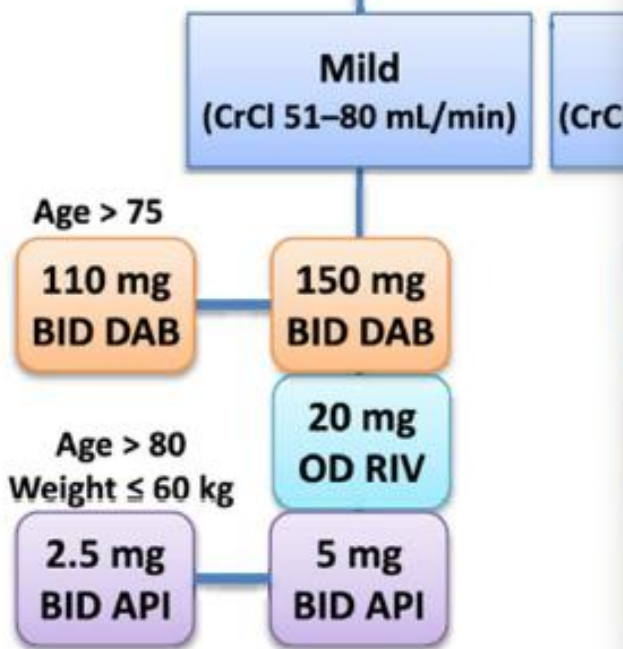
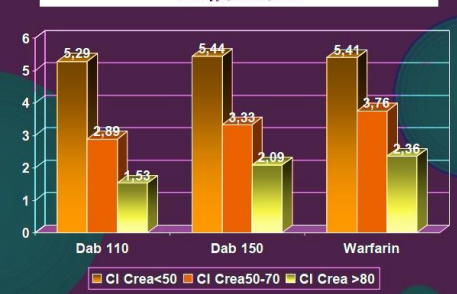
### PATIENTS ON DE 150

- NO ANTIPLATELET (n=3772)
- SINGLE ANTIPLATELET (n=2040)
- DUAL ANTIPLATELET (n=264)

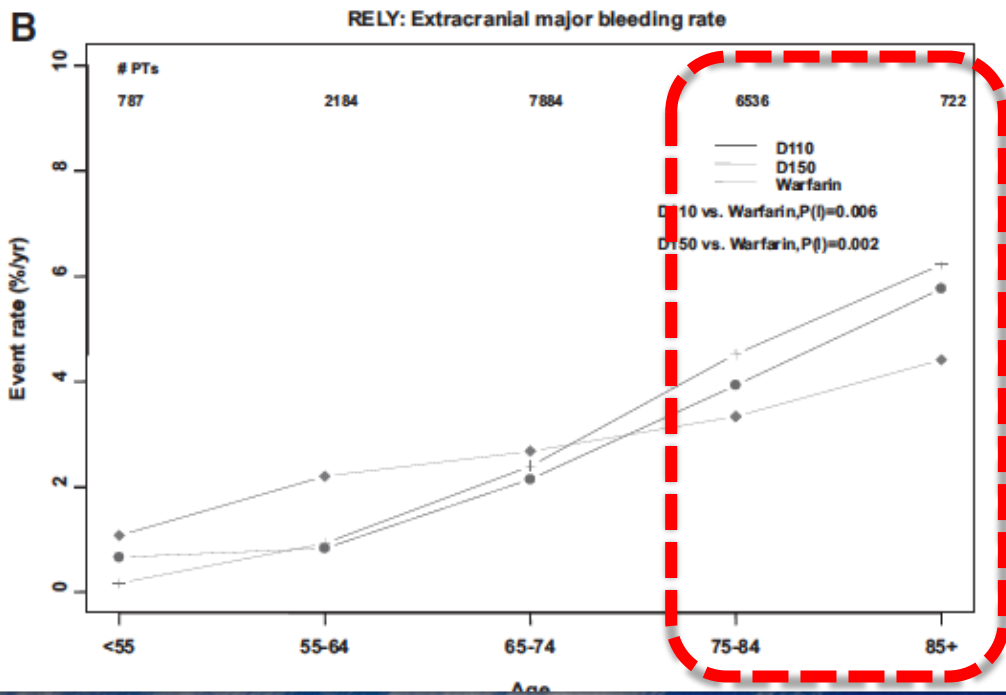
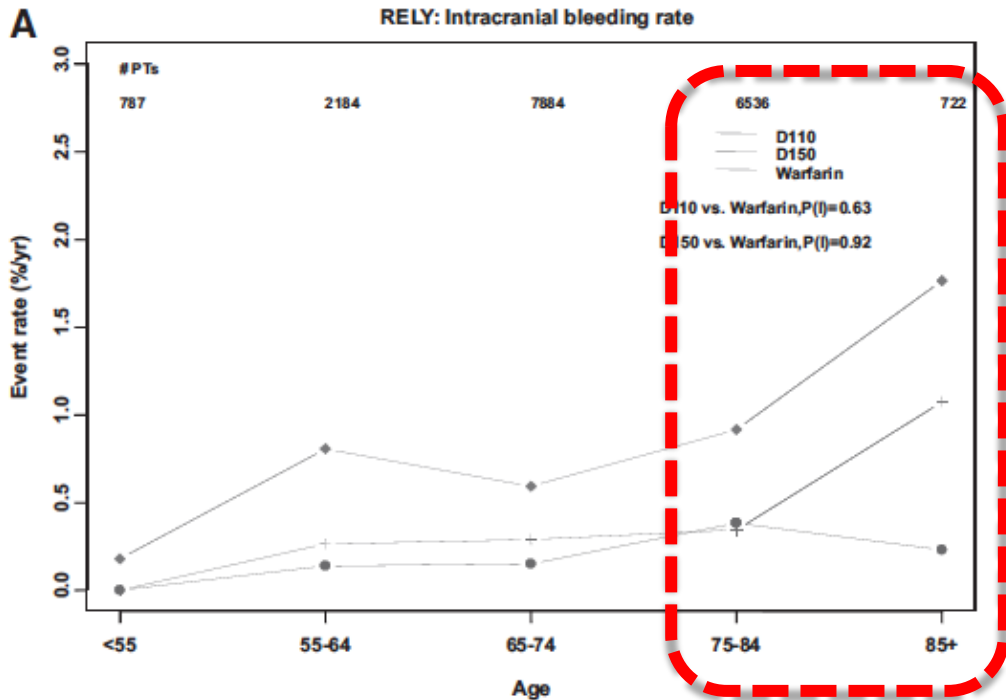
### PATIENTS ON DE 110

- NO ANTIPLATELET (n=3693)
- SINGLE ANTIPLATELET (n=2054)
- DUAL ANTIPLATELET (n=268)

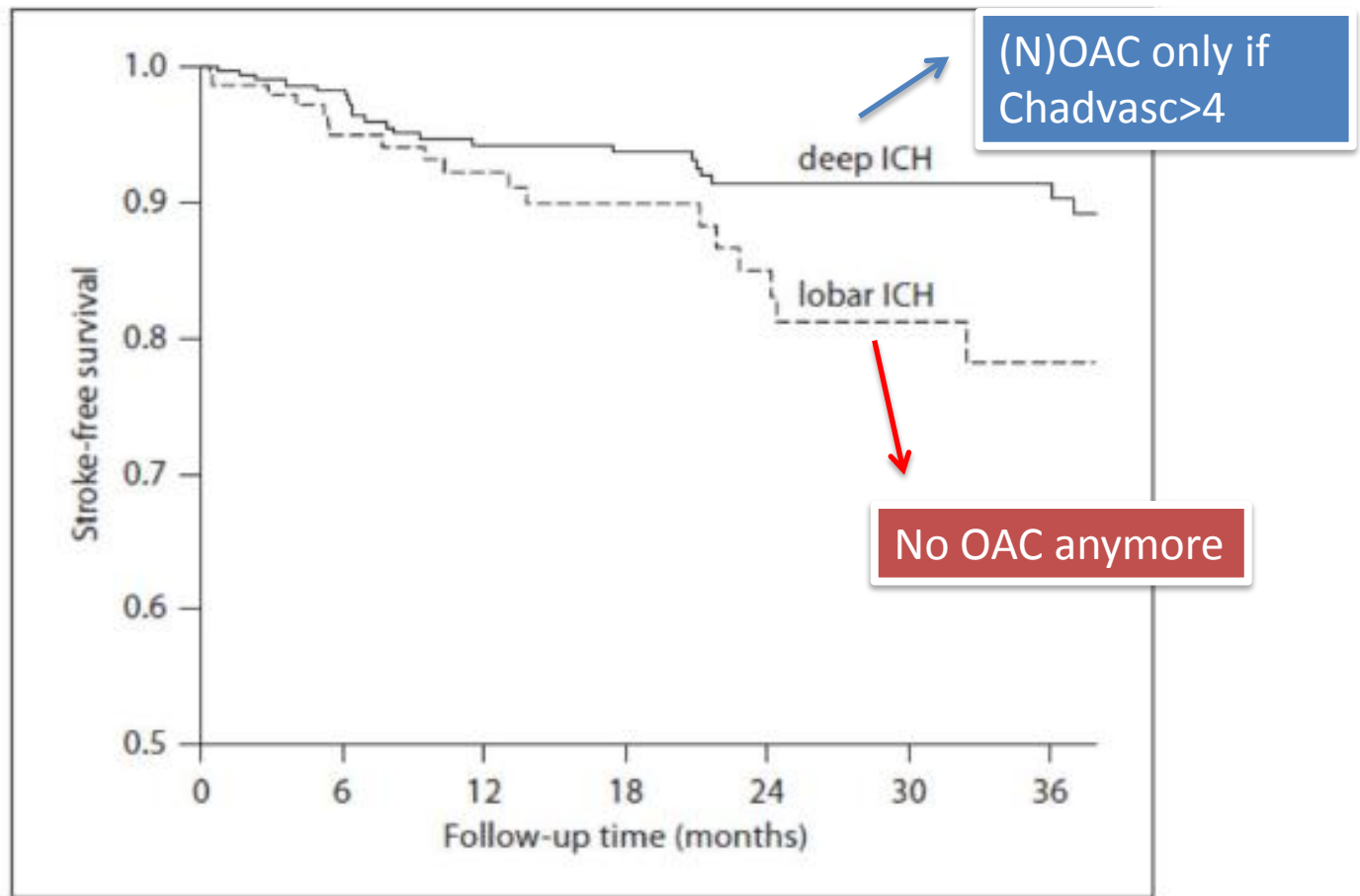
**Risk of Bleeding With 2 Doses of Dabigatran Compared With Warfarin in Older and Younger Patients With Atrial Fibrillation**  
 An Analysis of the Randomized Evaluation of Long-Term Anticoagulant Therapy (RE-LY) Trial



Age >  
Weight ≤



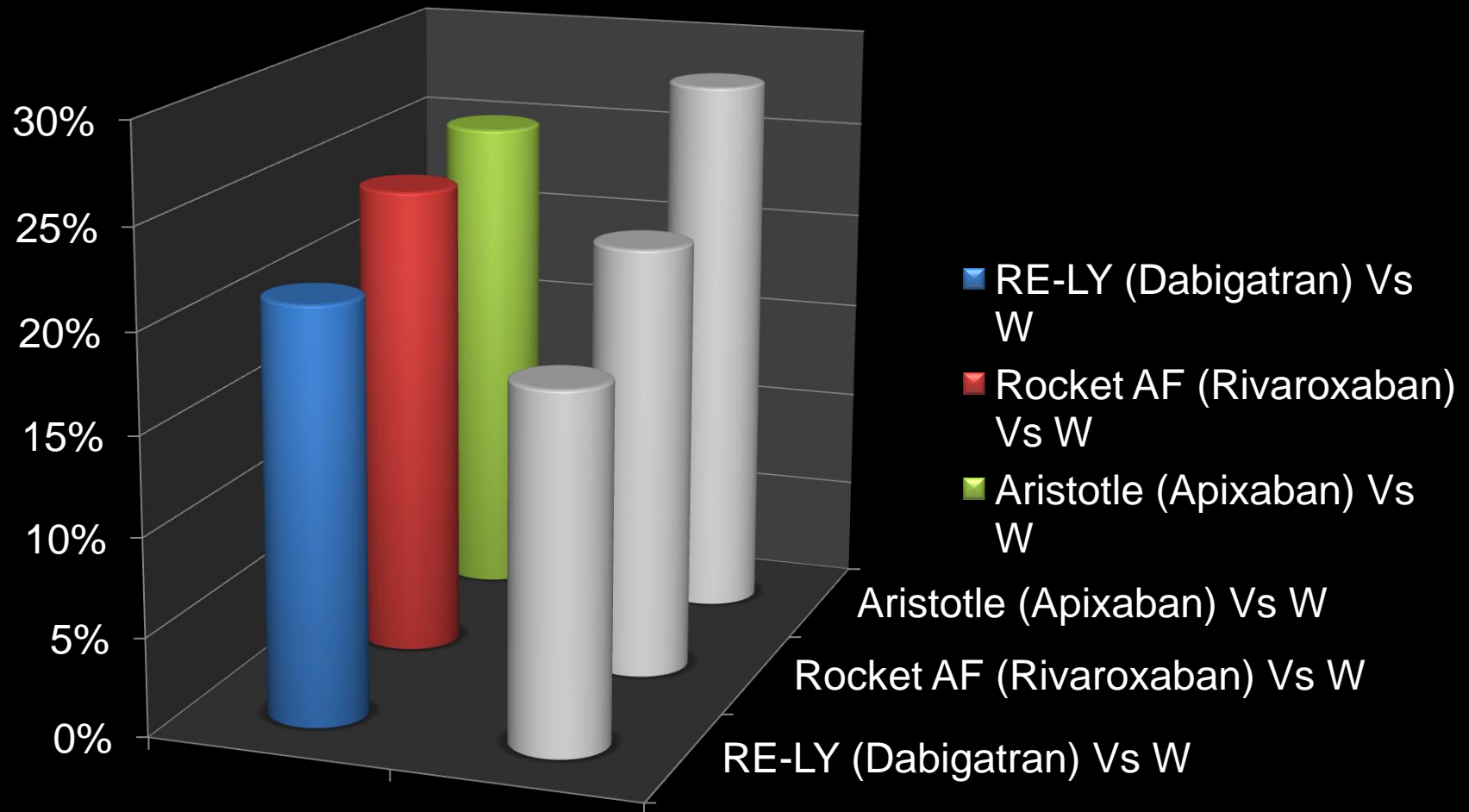
# Intracranial Hemorrhage recurrence rate

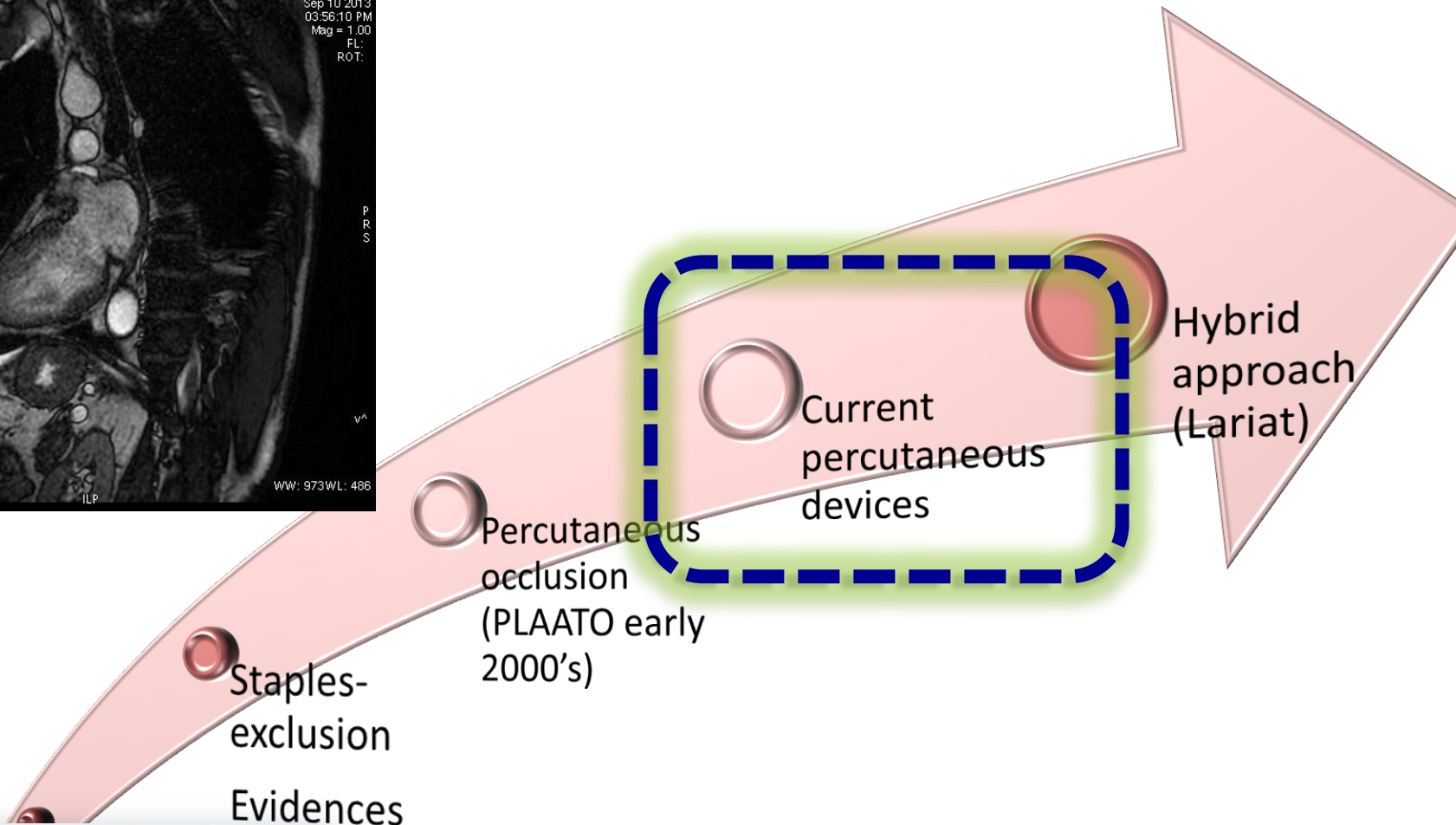


**Fig. 1.** Kaplan-Meier curves for stroke-free survival after deep (n = 308) and lobar (n = 157) ICH.



# NOACs : Drug discontinuation rate

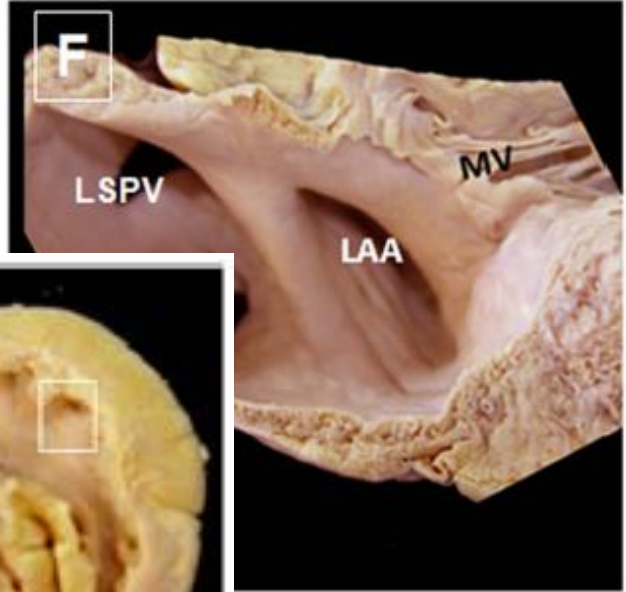
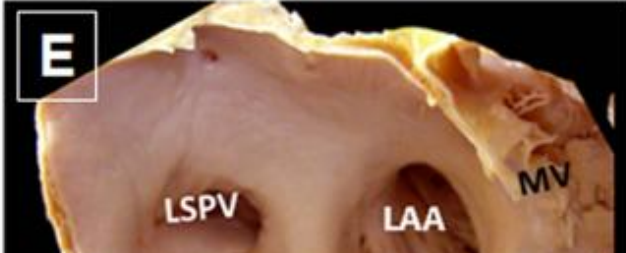
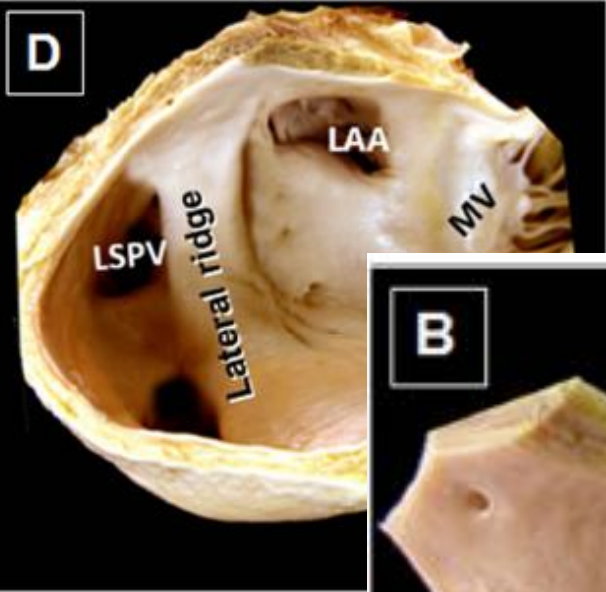




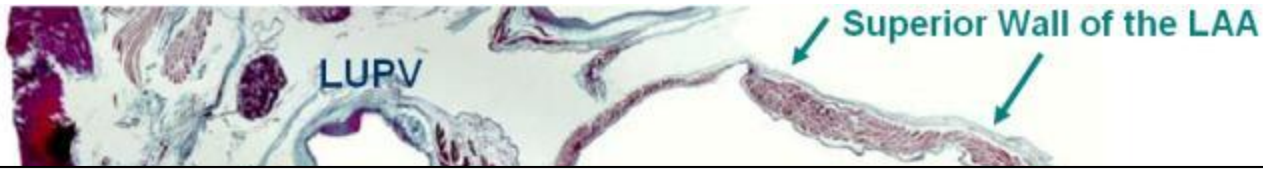
**RESECTION OF THE LEFT AURICULAR APPENDIX**  
 A Prophylaxis for Recurrent Arterial Emboli  
 JOHN L. MADDEN, M.D.  
 New York

**JAMA. 1949**

ability  
 stroke  
 prevention  
 (concomita  
 nt)

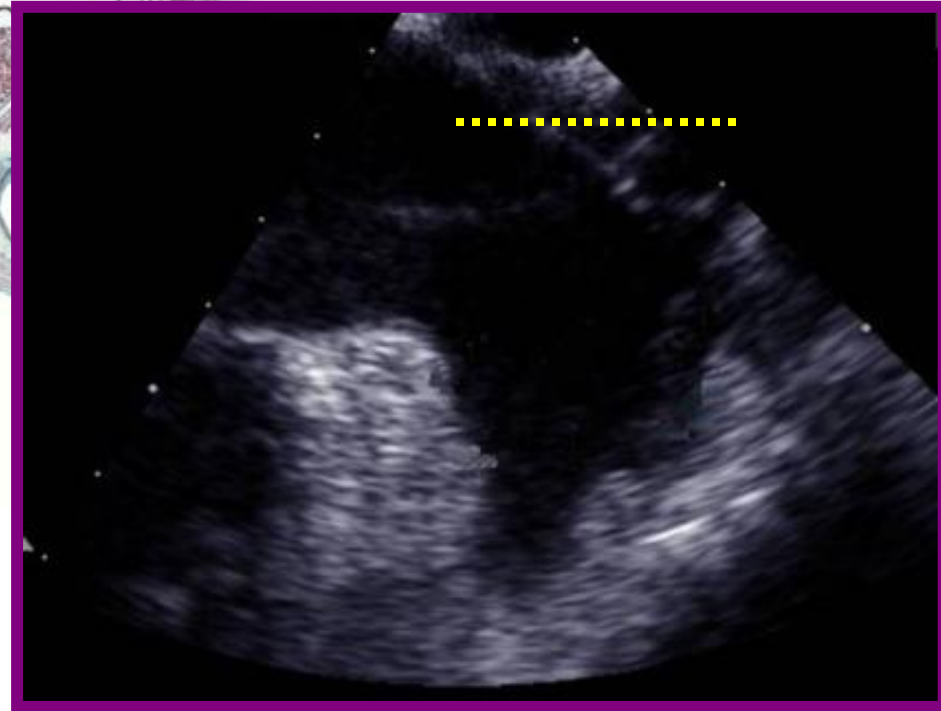
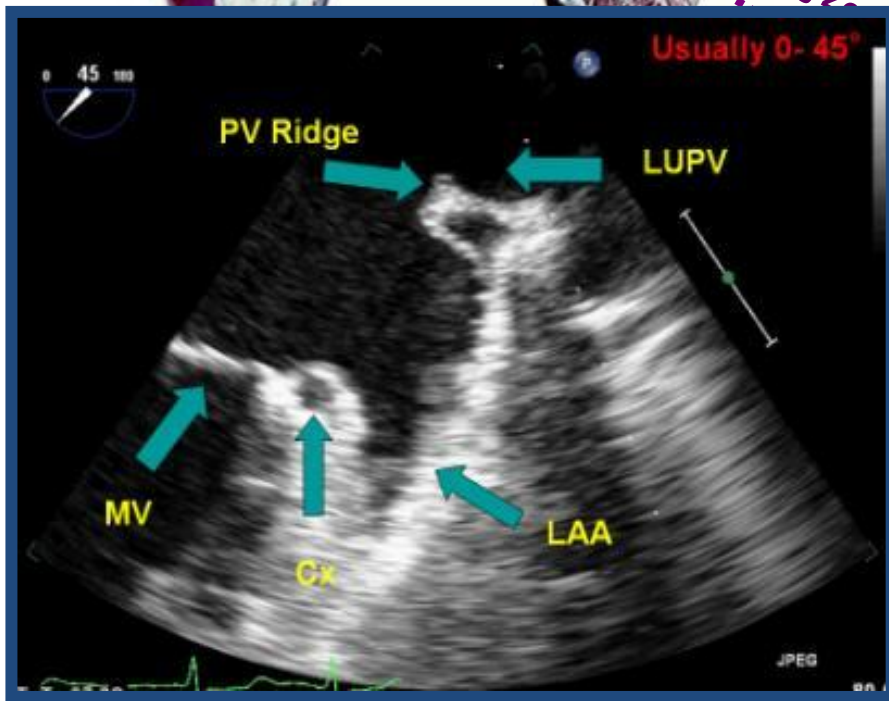


# LAA Anatomy and landmarks



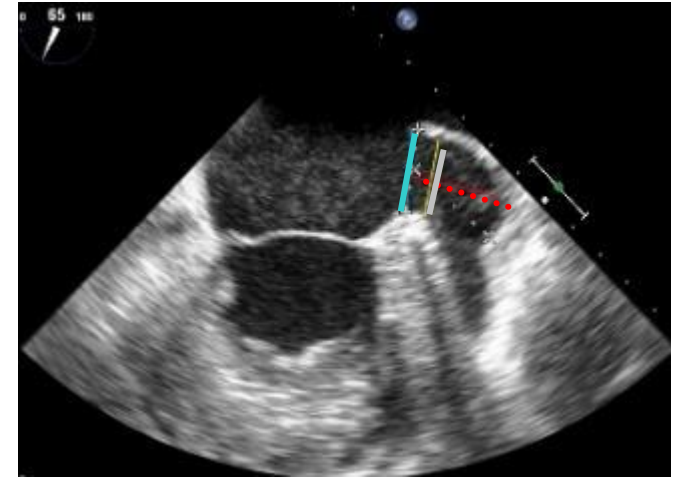
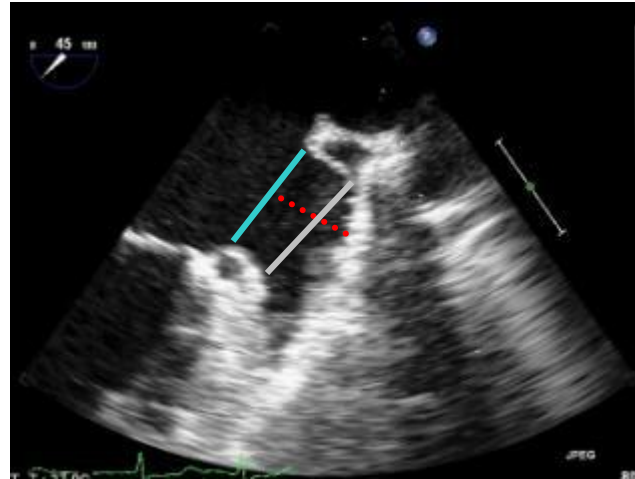
Short Axis View

Long Axis View

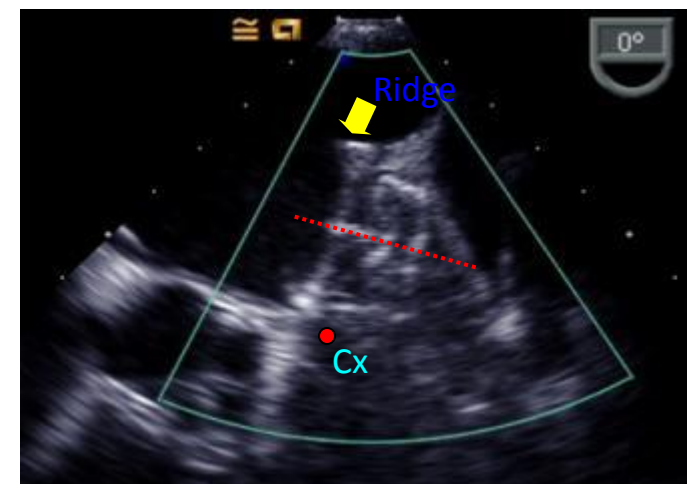
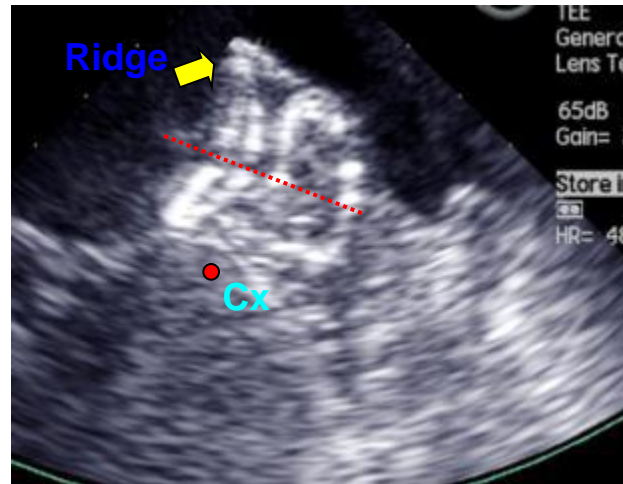


# LAA Measurements and ACP Location

- How to define the landing zone and orifice of the LAA
  - LAA orifice in **BLUE**
  - Landing zone in **GRAY**
  - LAA depth in **RED**



- Correct location and orientation of the ACP
  - The ACP must align with the axis of the LAA Neck (in red dotted line)



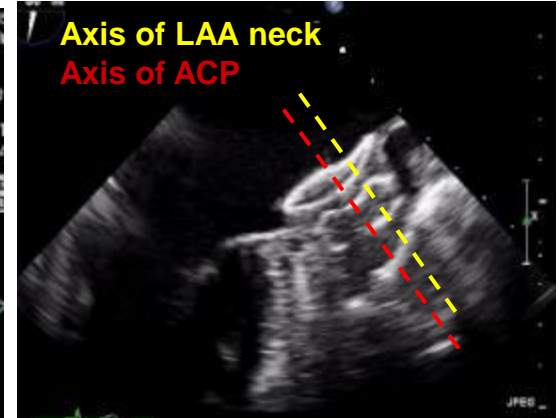
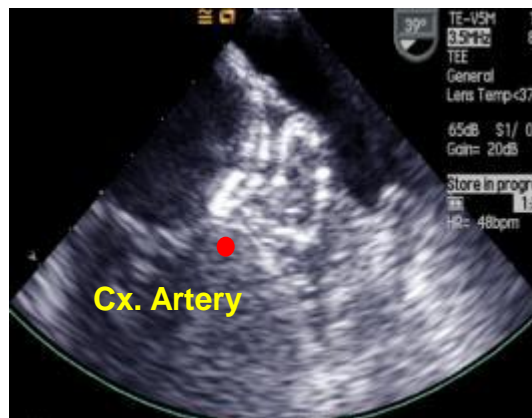
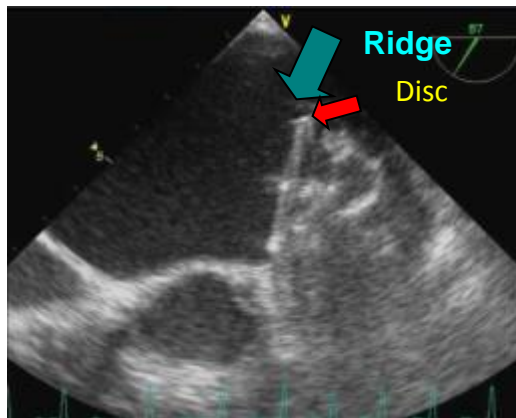
# Signs to Check before Releasing Device I

Seal the OS with disc

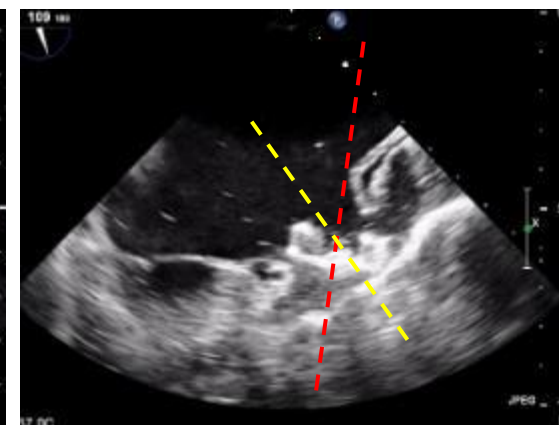
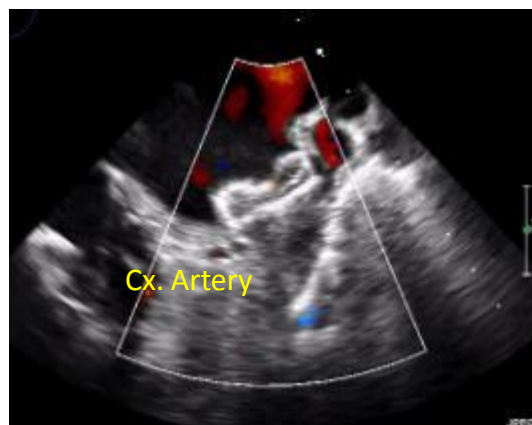
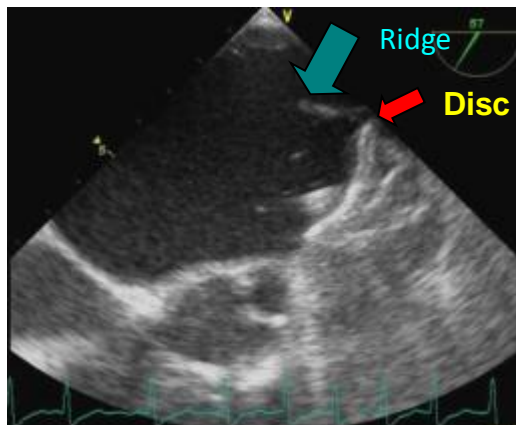
Lobe should be inside  
LAA neck below Cx. A

ACP parallel with  
the LAA neck

Correct



Incorrect

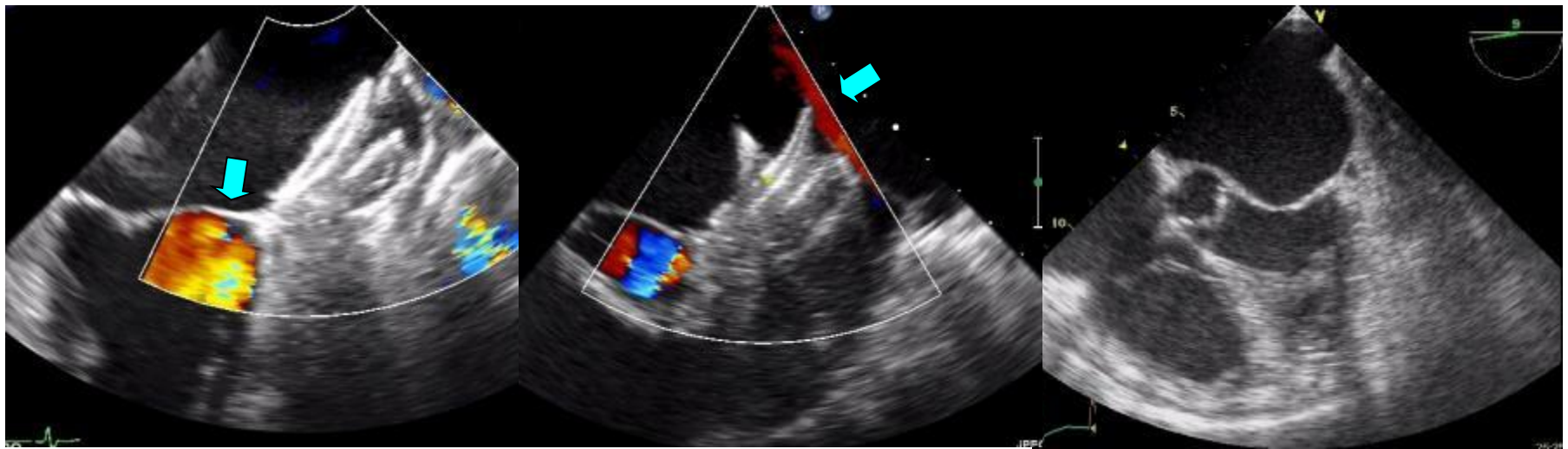


# Signs to Check before Releasing Device II

MV Impingement

LUPV Obstruction

Pericardial Effusion

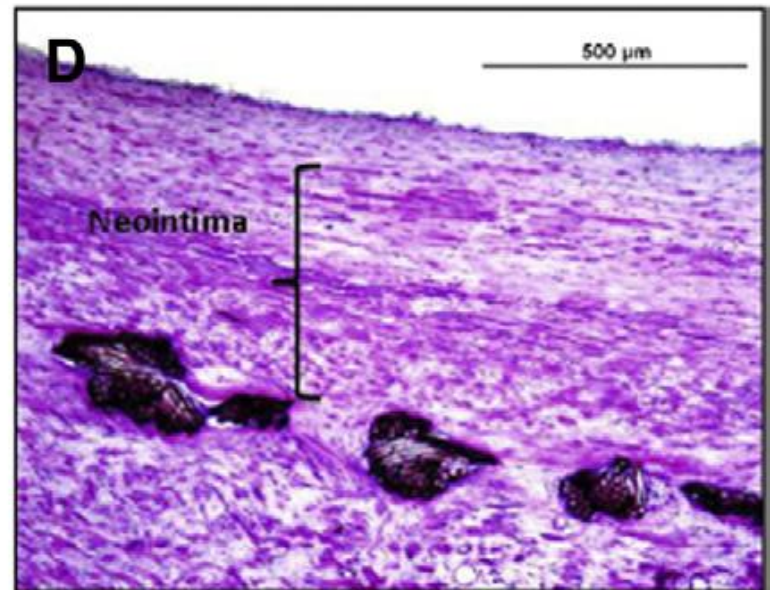
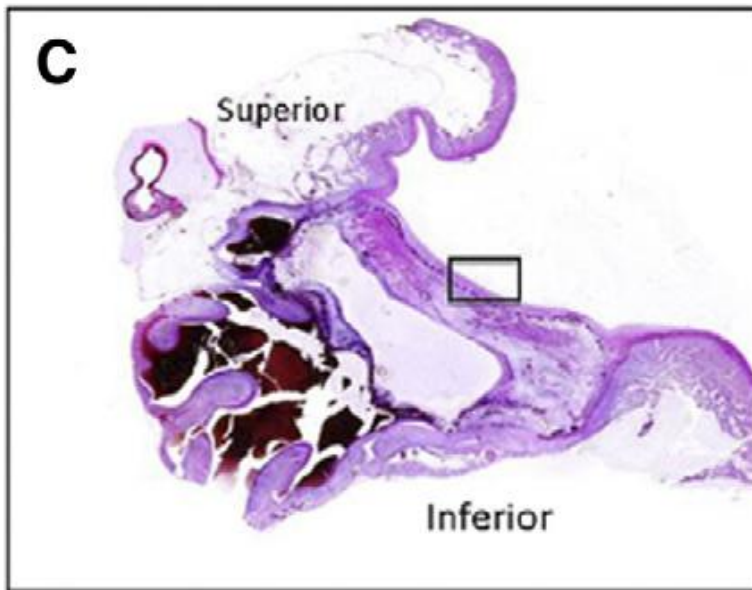
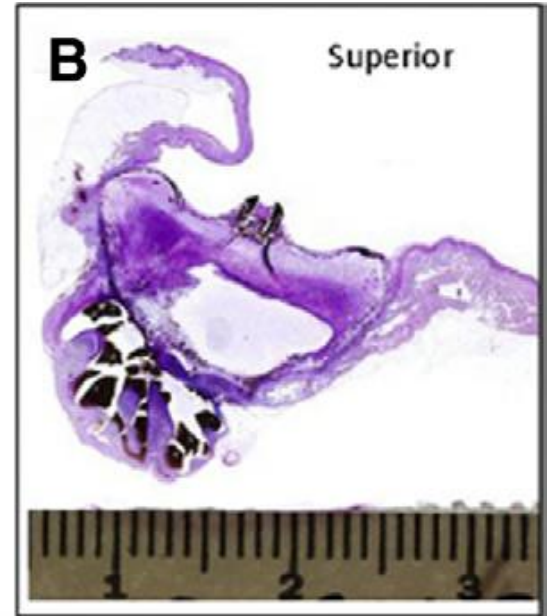
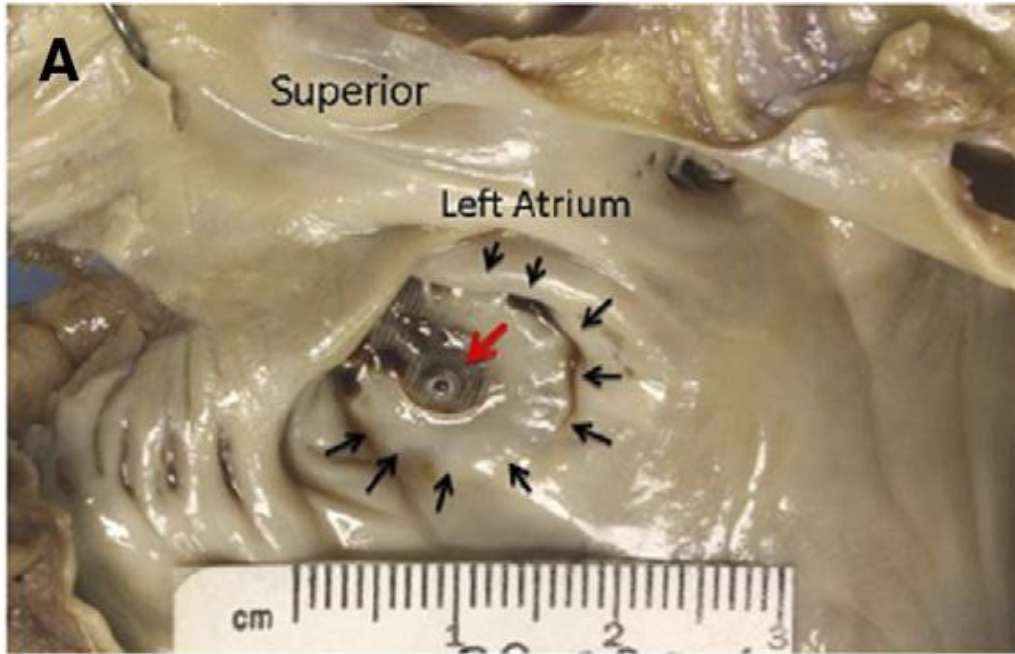


# Processo di integrazione device-LAA

*(evidenze sull'animale e/o post-mortem  
sull'uomo)*



*(dopo 852 giorni)*



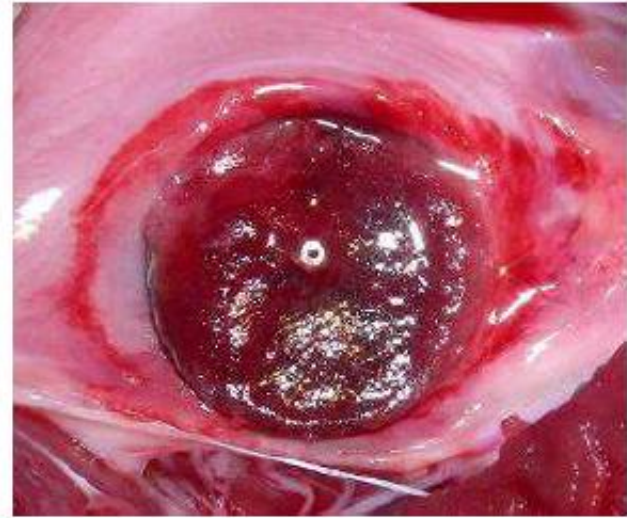
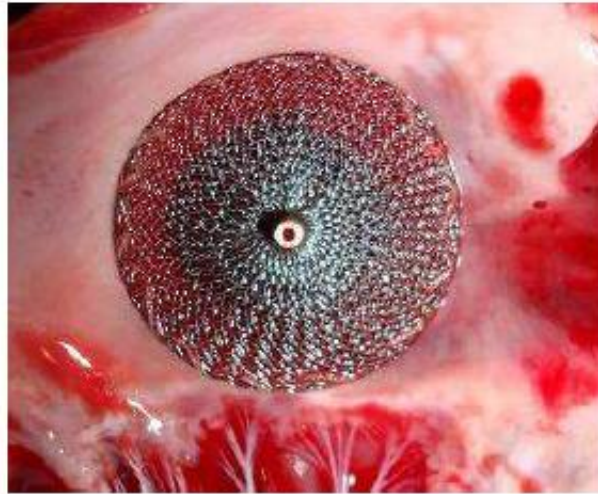


# AMPLATZER Cardiac Plug - endothelialization 2 days



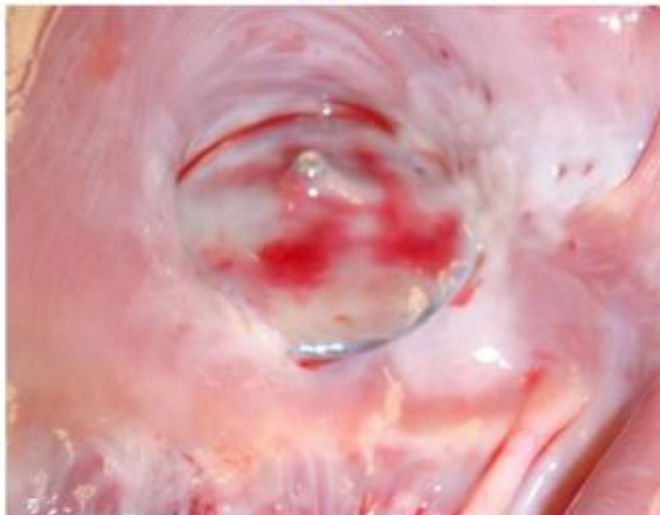
**Acute**

**2 days**



**1 month**

**3 months**



## An update and current expert opinions on percutaneous left atrial appendage occlusion for stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation

Thorsten Lewalter<sup>1</sup>, Réda Ibrahim<sup>2</sup>, Bert Albers<sup>3</sup>, and A. John Camm<sup>4\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Isar Heart Center Munich, Munich, Germany; <sup>2</sup>Montreal Heart Institute, Montreal, Canada; <sup>3</sup>Albers Clinical Evidence Consultancy, Wormveld, The Netherlands; <sup>4</sup>Division of Clinical Sciences, St. George's University of London, Cranmer Terrace, London SW17 0RE, UK

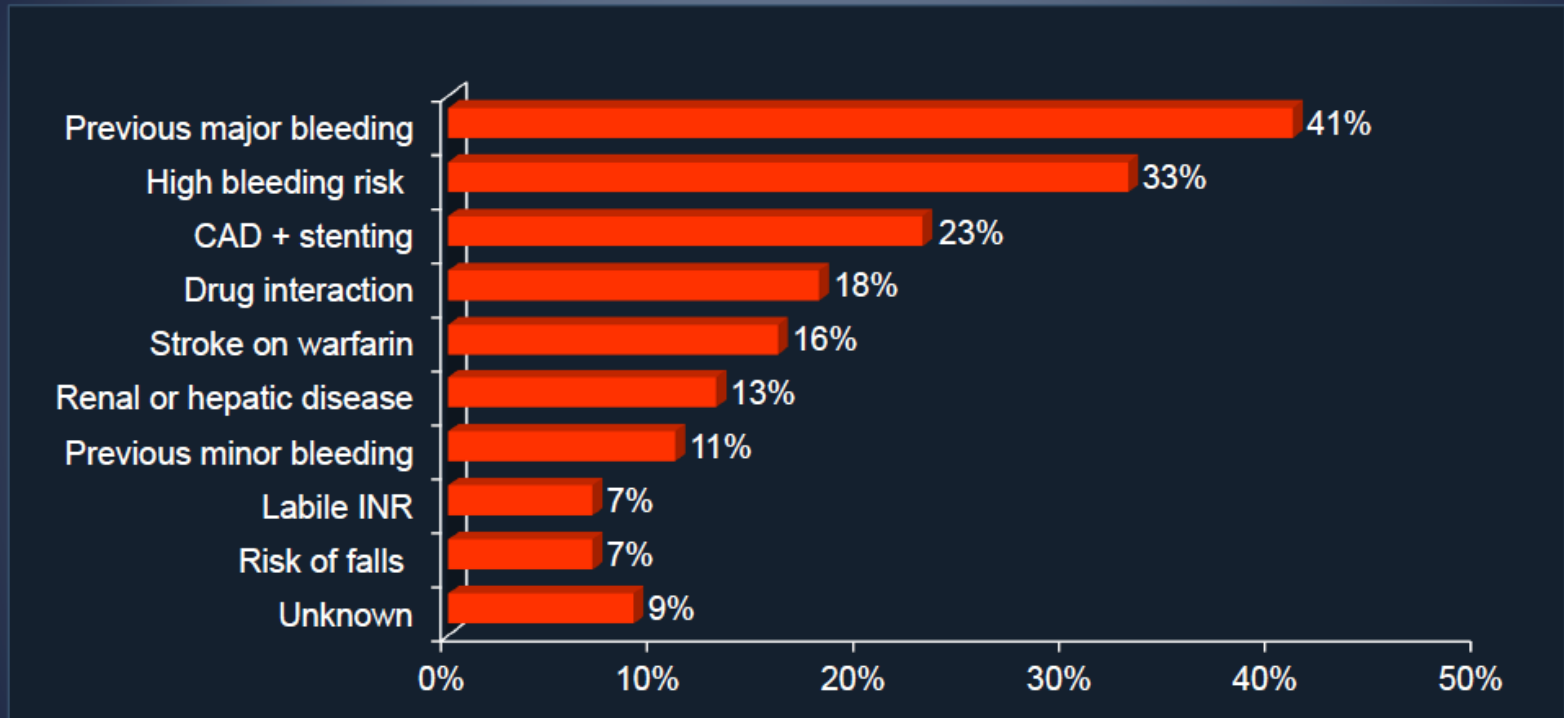
Received 21 January 2012; accepted after revision 5 February 2012

### Conditions in which percutaneous LAA occlusion may be considered

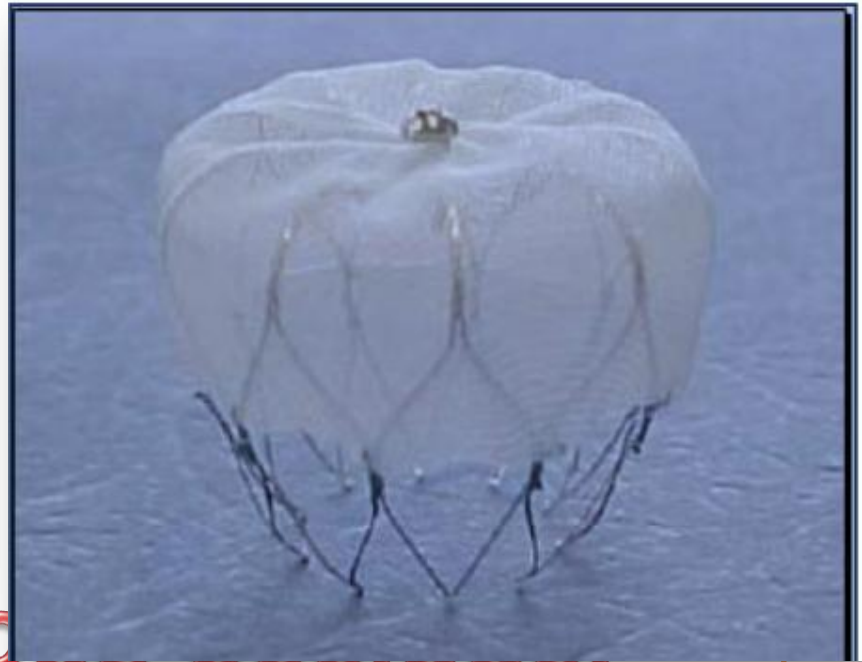
Condition	Details
Recurrent ischaemic stroke despite well-controlled therapeutic OAC	Percutaneous LAA occlusion may be considered after exclusion of other sources of embolism
Previous ICH	Percutaneous LAA occlusion may be considered as an alternative to the use of novel anticoagulants, acknowledging individual patient factors, and bleeding aetiology
Recurrent GI bleeding	Bleeding from unknown origin or intestinal angiodysplasia despite endoscopic therapy. Lesions that are not accessible for endoscopic therapy
Co-morbidities	Uncontrolled hypertension, cerebral microbleeds, cerebral amyloid angiopathy
Coagulopathies	Low platelet counts, myelodysplastic syndrome
Intolerance to new OAC drugs	GI intolerance, severe liver and kidney dysfunction. Vitamin K antagonists are the first option to consider, percutaneous LAA occlusion may be considered as a secondary alternative

# Multicenter Experience with the Amplatzer Cardiac Plug (ACP)

## Indications for LAAO



*Only 29.5% of the patients were on (N)OAC at the time of implantation*



# LAA percutaneous devices



# Technical features and sizes: ACP vs. Watchman


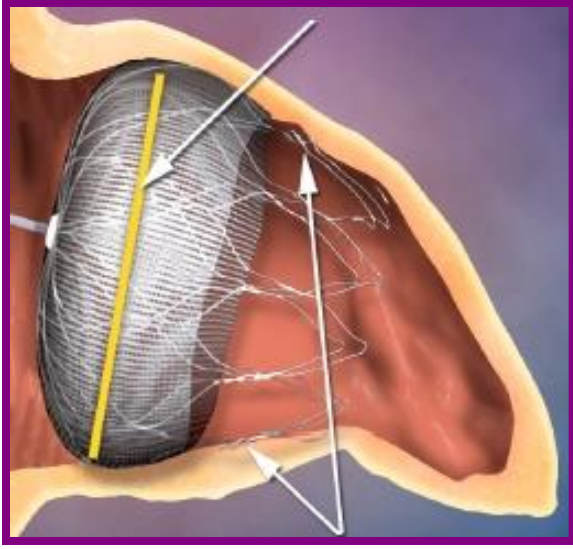
ACP	WATCHMAN
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ACP	Watchman
Aspirin for 6 months + clopidogrel for 1 month	Warfarin for minimum of 45 days +/- clopidogrel for 6 months + aspirin

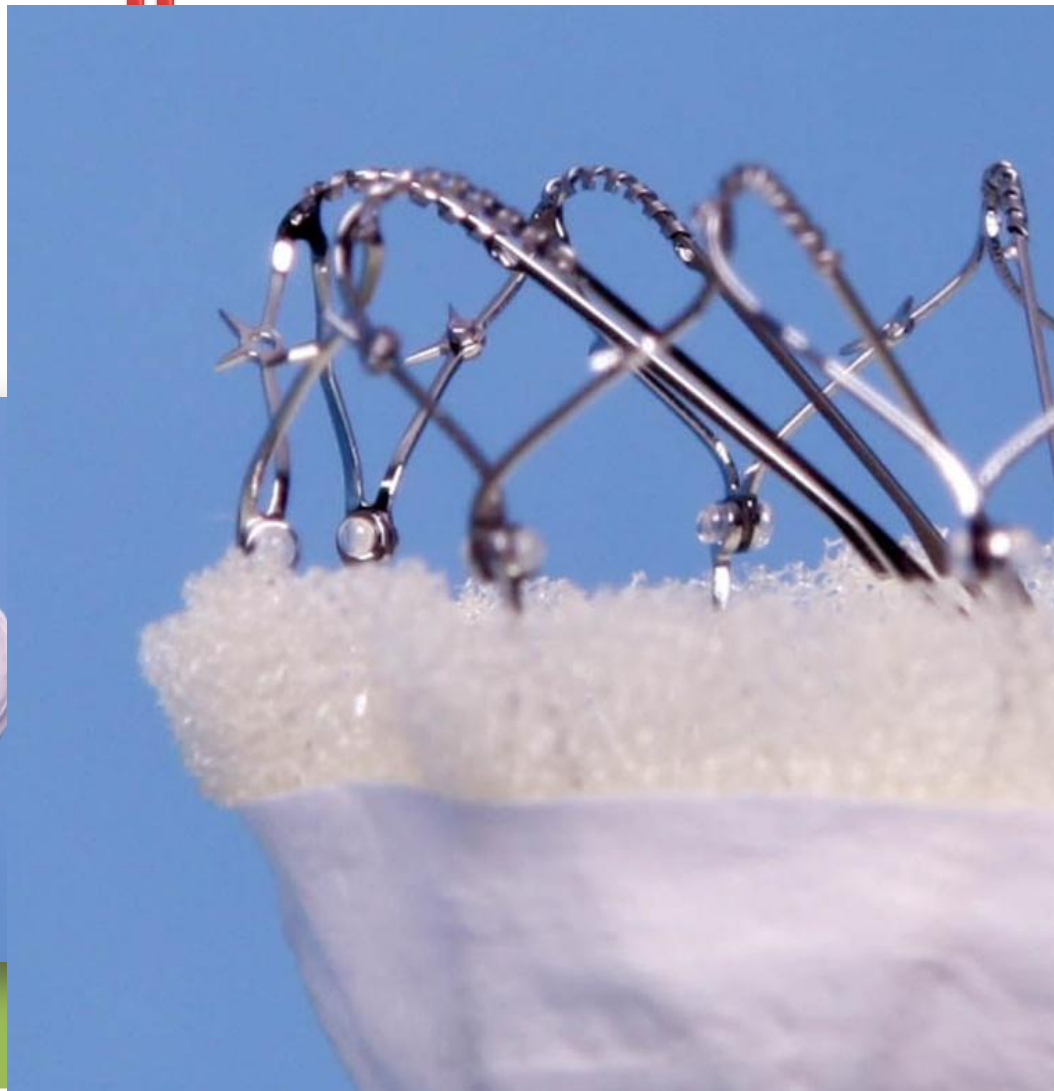
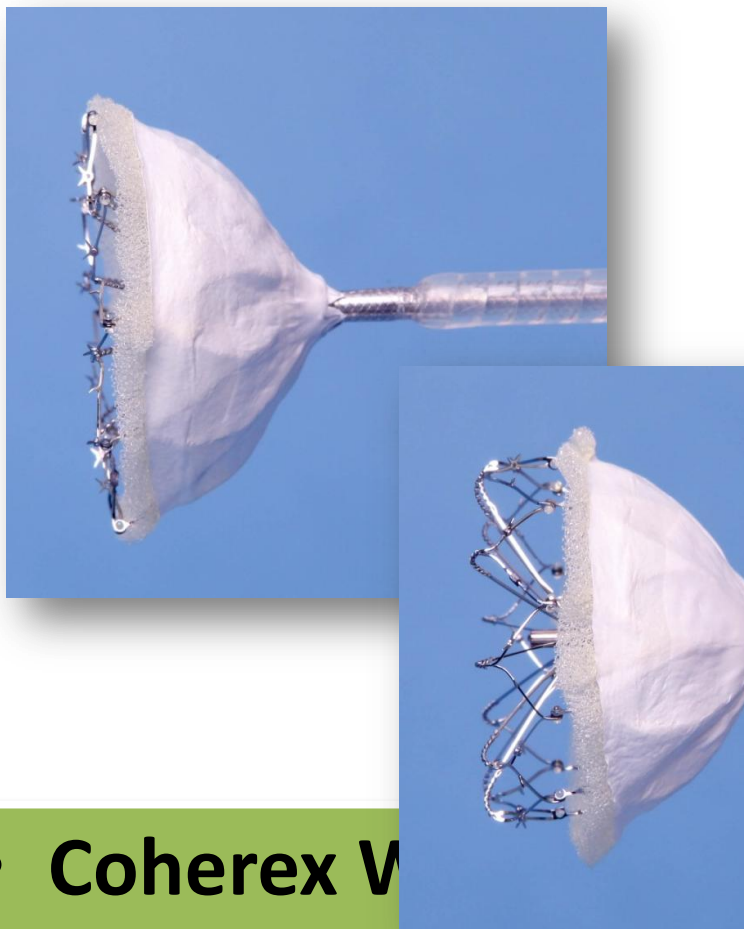
Device Materials	
Device Anchoring System	
Occlusion Technology	
Device Sizes	8 s
Delivery System Sizes	3

minimum LAA length	10mm	21mm
minimum LAA width	12,6mm	17mm
Maximum LAA width	28,5mm	31mm

# Comparison of Designs

	ACP	Watchman
<b>Device diameters</b>	16,18,20,22,24,26,28,30 mm (in 2 mm increments)	21,24,27,30,33 mm
<b>Sizing</b>	Measure LAA orifice/landing zone follow sizing chart instructions	20% compression to nominal diameter (range LAA utile: 17-31 mm)
<b>Device</b>		

# LAA percutaneous occluder devices



- Coherex V
- Occlusion System



# Watchman clinical evidences: Overview

Studi	PROTECT-AF <sup>1</sup>	CAP <sup>2</sup>	ASAP <sup>3</sup>	PREVAIL
<b>Disegno</b>	Multicentrico, Random WM vs warf	Multicentrico, non random, sicurezza/efficacia WM a lungo termine	Multicentrico, non random, studio fattibilità per impianto di WM in paz controindicati al warfarin	Multicentrico, Random WM vs warf, conferma endpoint di efficacia di P-AF
<b>Endpoint Primario</b>	Stroke, embolie sistemiche, morti cardiovascolari	Stroke, embolie sistemiche, morti cardiovascolari	Studio di fattibilità	Stroke, embolie sistemiche, morti cardiovascolari
<b>Età media /CHADS<sub>2</sub></b>	72 / 2.2	74 / 2.4	72.4 / 2.8	In corso
<b>Pazienti Arruolati</b>	800	460	150	461
<b>Pazienti Impiantati</b>	542 <sup>2</sup>	437	142	
<b>Successo d'impianto</b>	89.5%	95%	94.7%	
<b>Interruz warfarin 45gg</b>	86.6%	94.9%	No uso di warfarin	
<b>Stroke Periprocedurali</b>	0.9%	0%	0%	
<b>Stroke (100pz/anno)</b>	2.3 WM vs 3.2 warf → riduz 29%	Riduz vs P-AF (p=0.04)	2.3% , 1.7% stroke ischemici → riduz 77% vs eventi att	
<b>Versam pericardici</b>	4.8% <sup>1</sup> (6.3% early, 3.7% late <sup>2</sup> )	2.2% → riduzione 32% vs PROTECT-AF	2.0%	
<b>Embolizz Device</b>	0.6%	0%	ND	
<b>Riepilogo</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WM non inferiore a warf su efficacia primaria (&gt;99.9%)</li> <li>Riduz 90% stroke emorragici</li> <li>Interruzione warf a 6M 92% → no incremento rischio di stroke</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; successo d'impianto e miglior outcome efficacia/sicurezza con esperienza operatore</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Riduzione 77% stroke ischemici vs tasso atteso</li> <li>Sicurezza/efficacia WM in paz controindicati a warf</li> </ul>	

<sup>1</sup> Holmes, D.R.; Lancet 2009; 374: 534-542

<sup>2</sup> Reddy, V.Y.; Circulation 2011; 123; 417-424

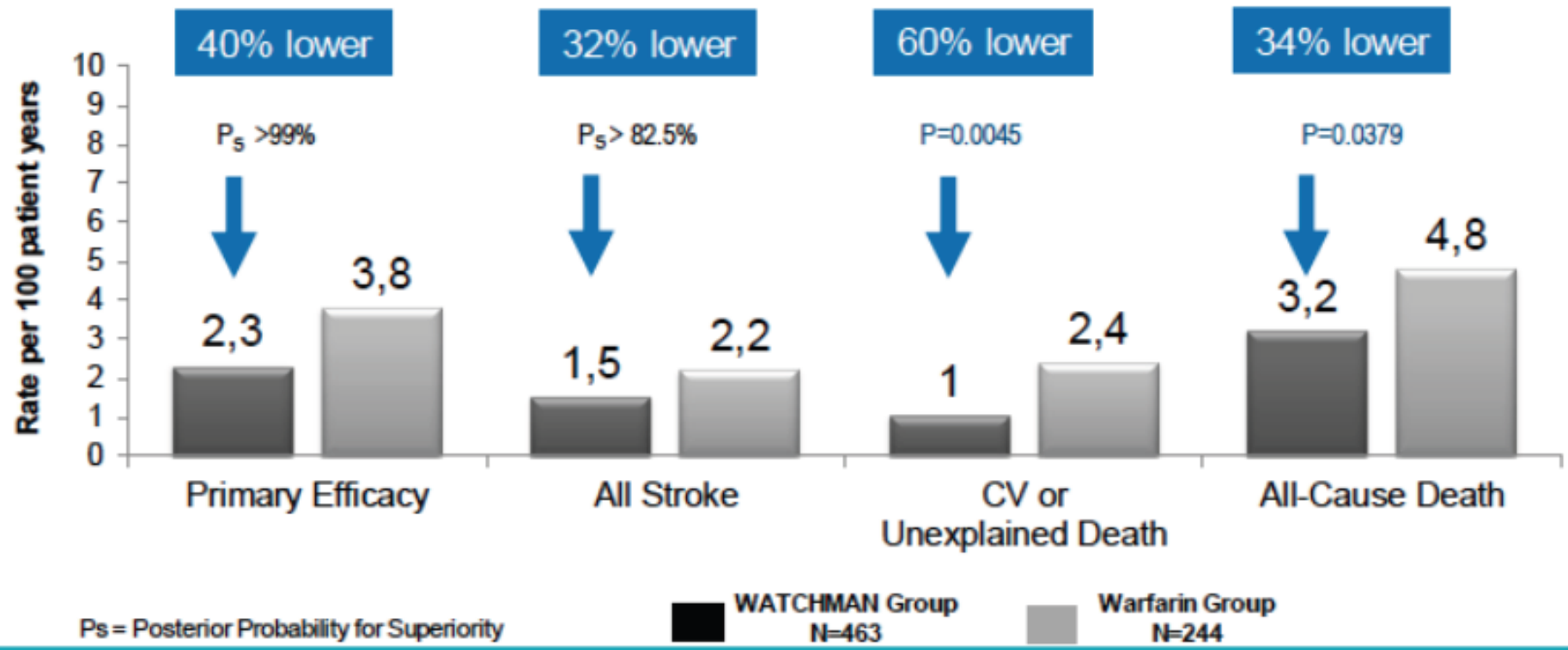
<sup>3</sup> Reddy, V.Y.; HRS 2012

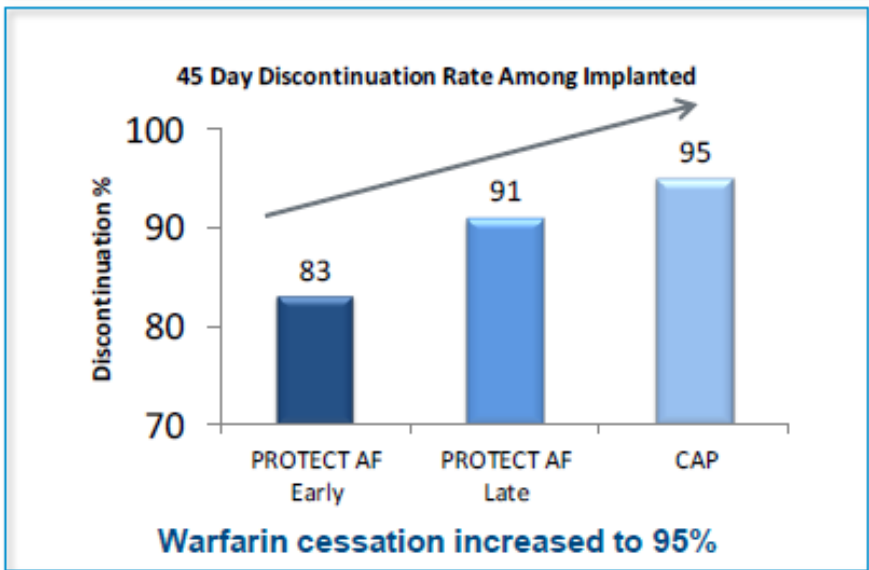
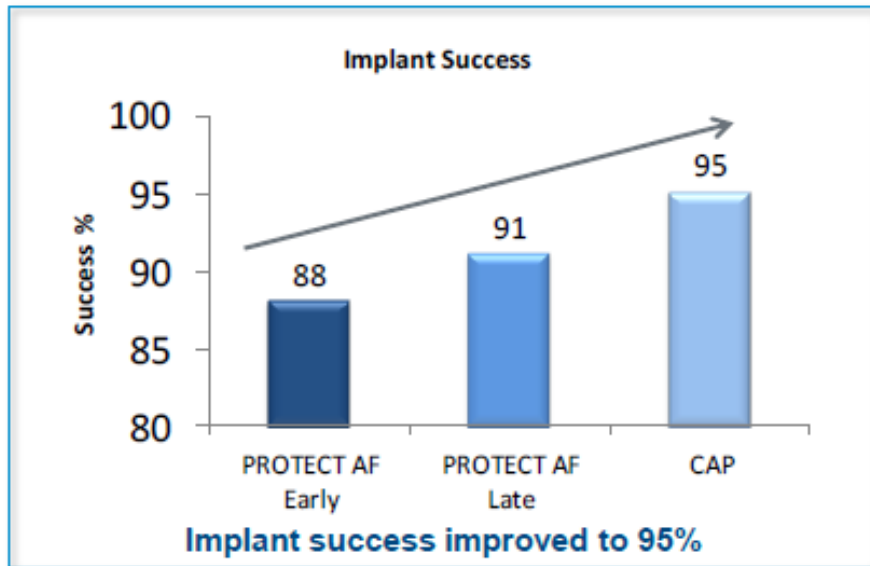
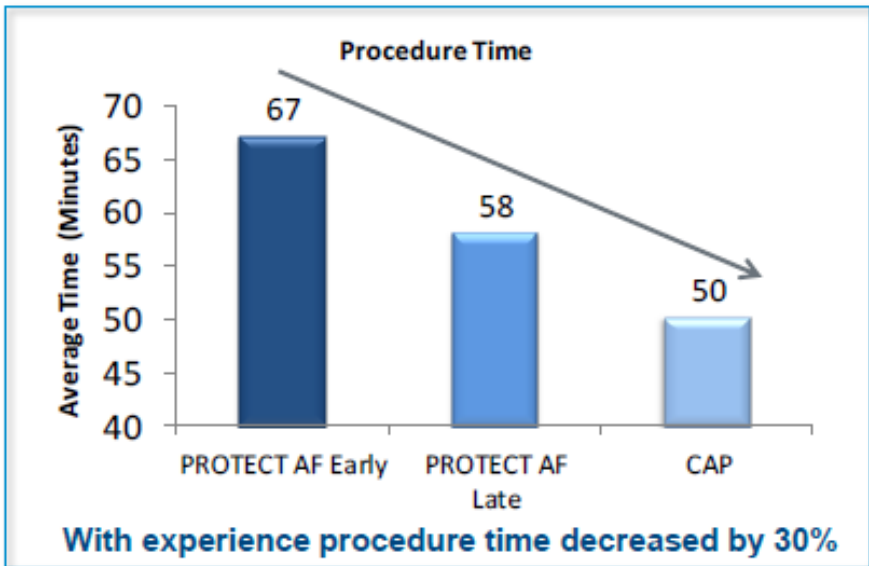
# PROTECT-AF

“Local” therapy with WATCHMAN was **superior** to Warfarin

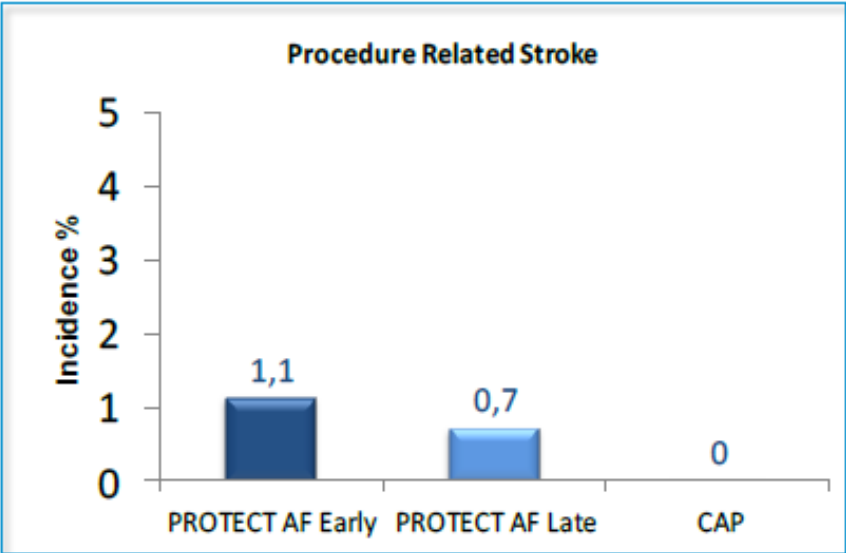
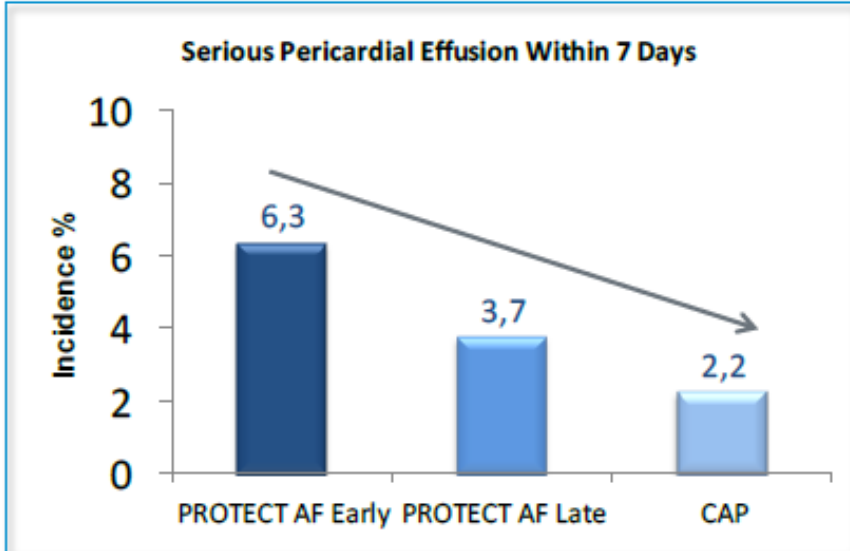
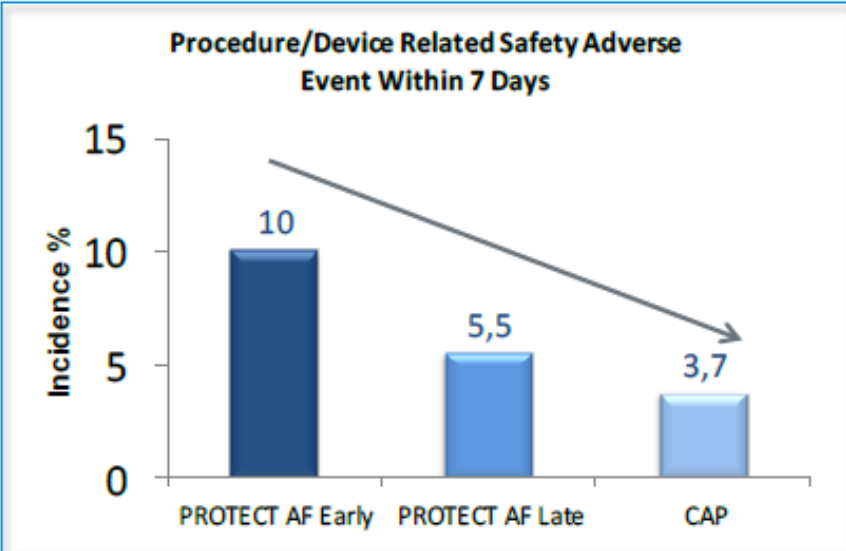
- ✓ 40% reduction of stroke / systemic embolism / CV death
- ✓ 60% reduction in Cardiovascular Mortality
- ✓ 34% reduction in All-Cause Mortality

Events in PROTECT AF trial at 2,621 patient years





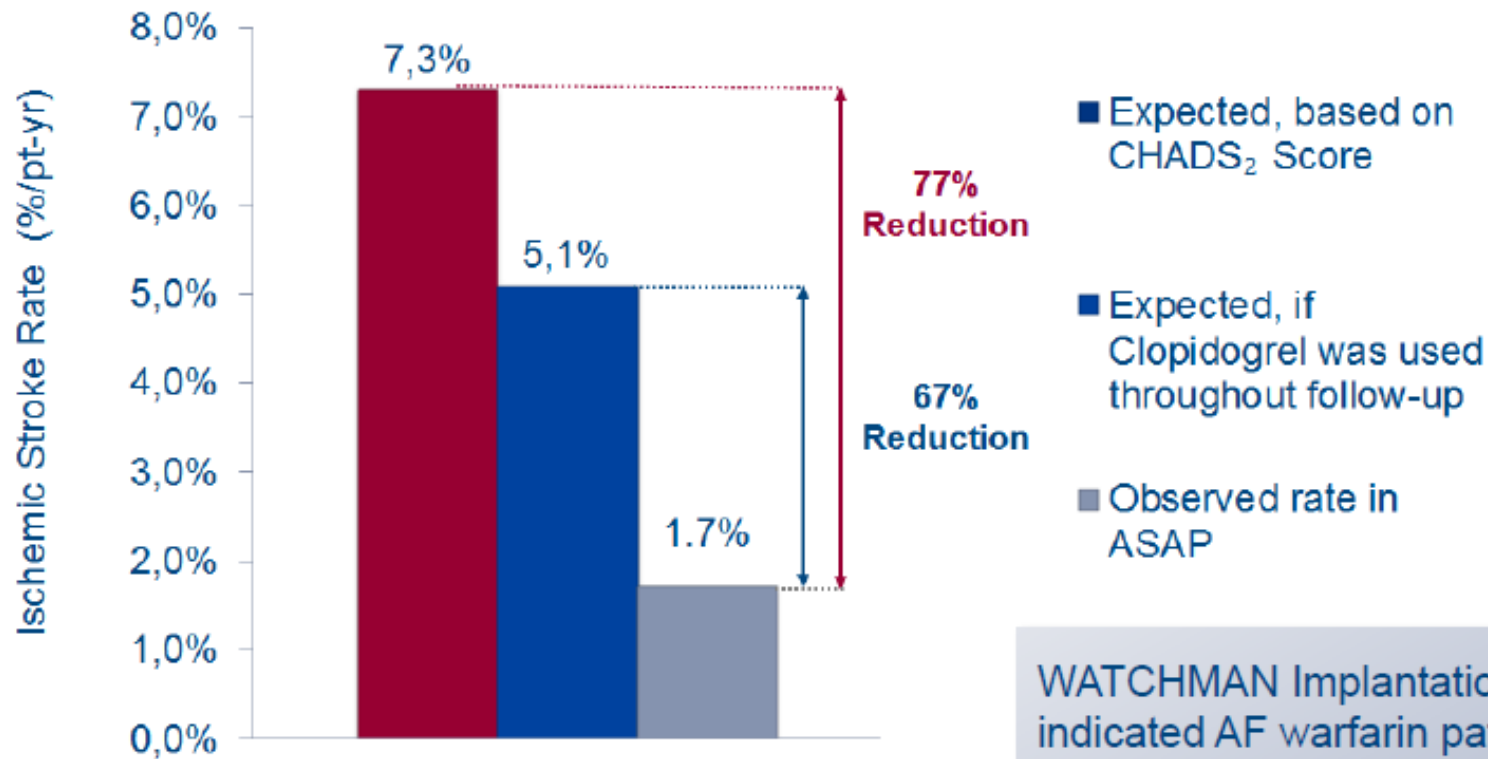
- ### With increased operator experience
- ✓ The average procedure time reduced from 67 minutes to 50 minutes
  - ✓ Implant success improved from 88% to 95%
  - ✓ Discontinuation of Warfarin improved from 83% to 95% of patients



### With increased operator experience

- ✓ Procedure related adverse events and serious pericardial effusions were reduced significantly
- ✓ Peri-procedural strokes were eliminated

## Ischemic Stroke



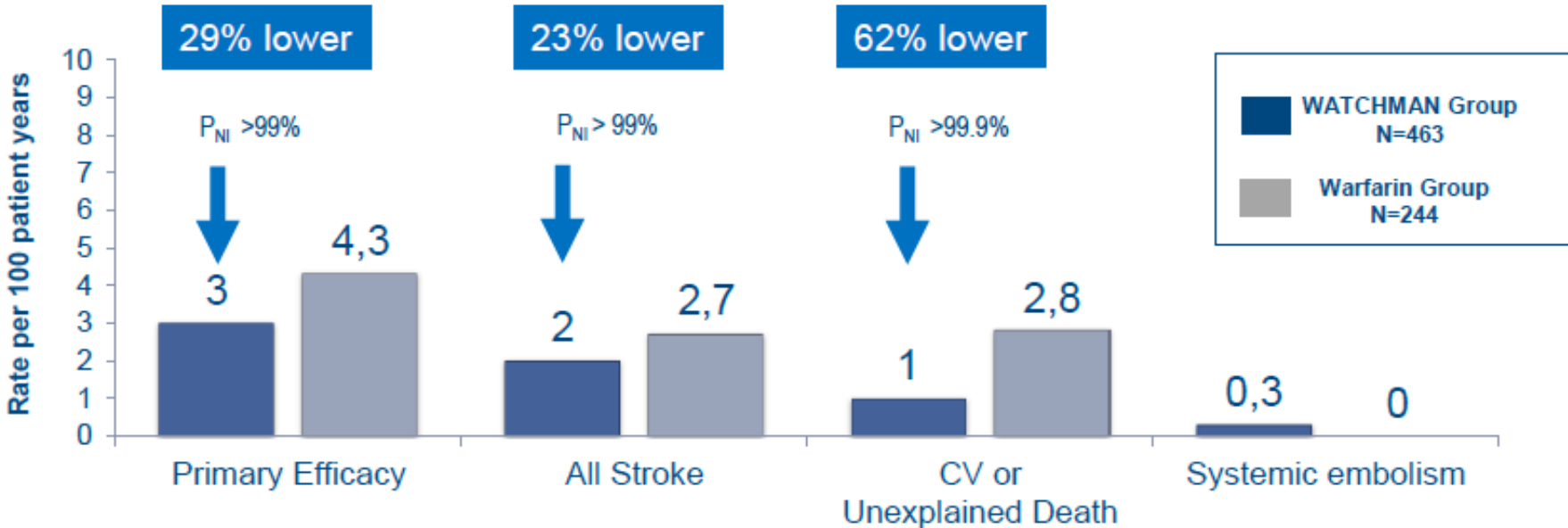
WATCHMAN Implantation for contra-indicated AF warfarin patients is:

- ✓ Feasible
- ✓ Low, but manageable, rate of device thrombus
- ✓ Decreases the rate of stroke by 77%

# PROTECT-AF >75yrs

- ✓ WATCHMAN therapy results in a 29% reduction in efficacy events (all strokes, CV death and systemic embolism) when compared to warfarin therapy
- ✓ In 1500 patient years of follow-up, WATCHMAN continues to provide significant reductions in events when compared to warfarin

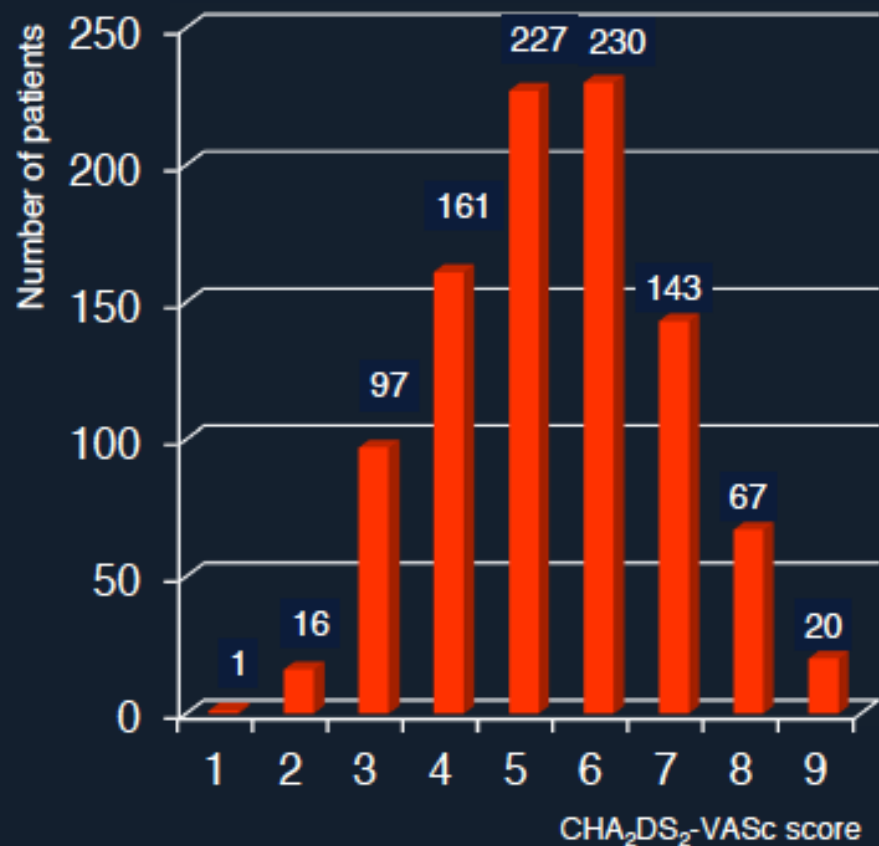
Events in PROTECT AF trial at 1500 patient years



$P_{NI}$  = Posterior non inferiority Probabilities

# Amplatzer Cardiac Plug - Multicenter experience

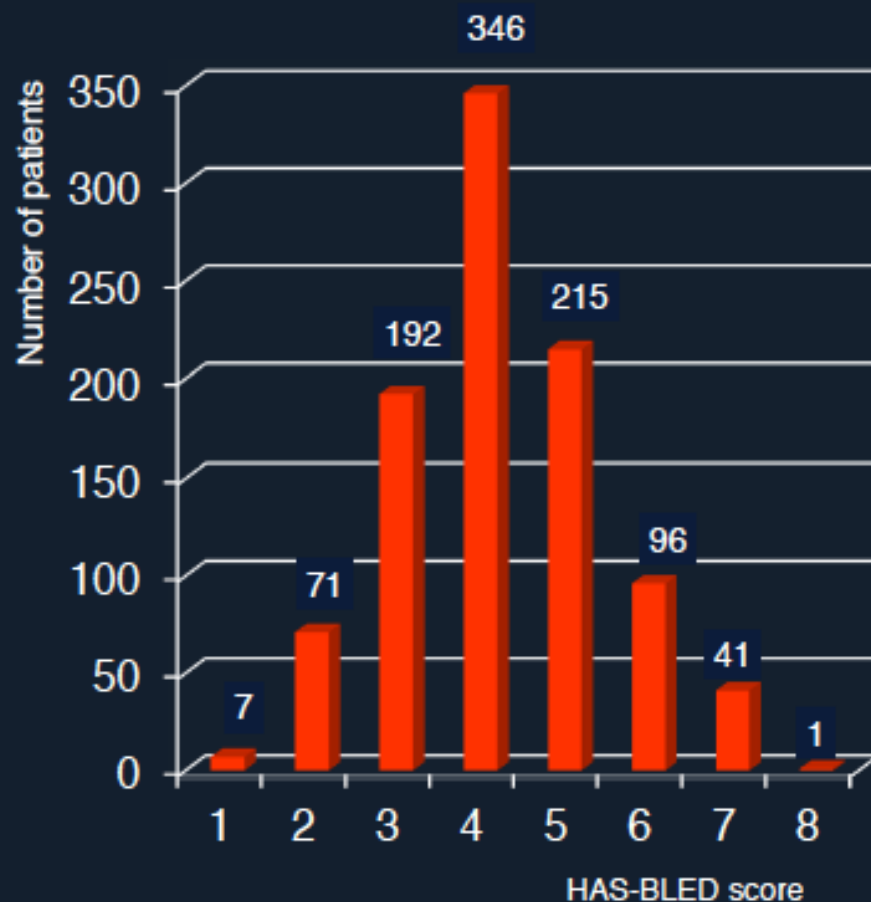
## Stroke Risk Assessment CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc Score



N=969

Mean  $4.4 \pm 1.6$

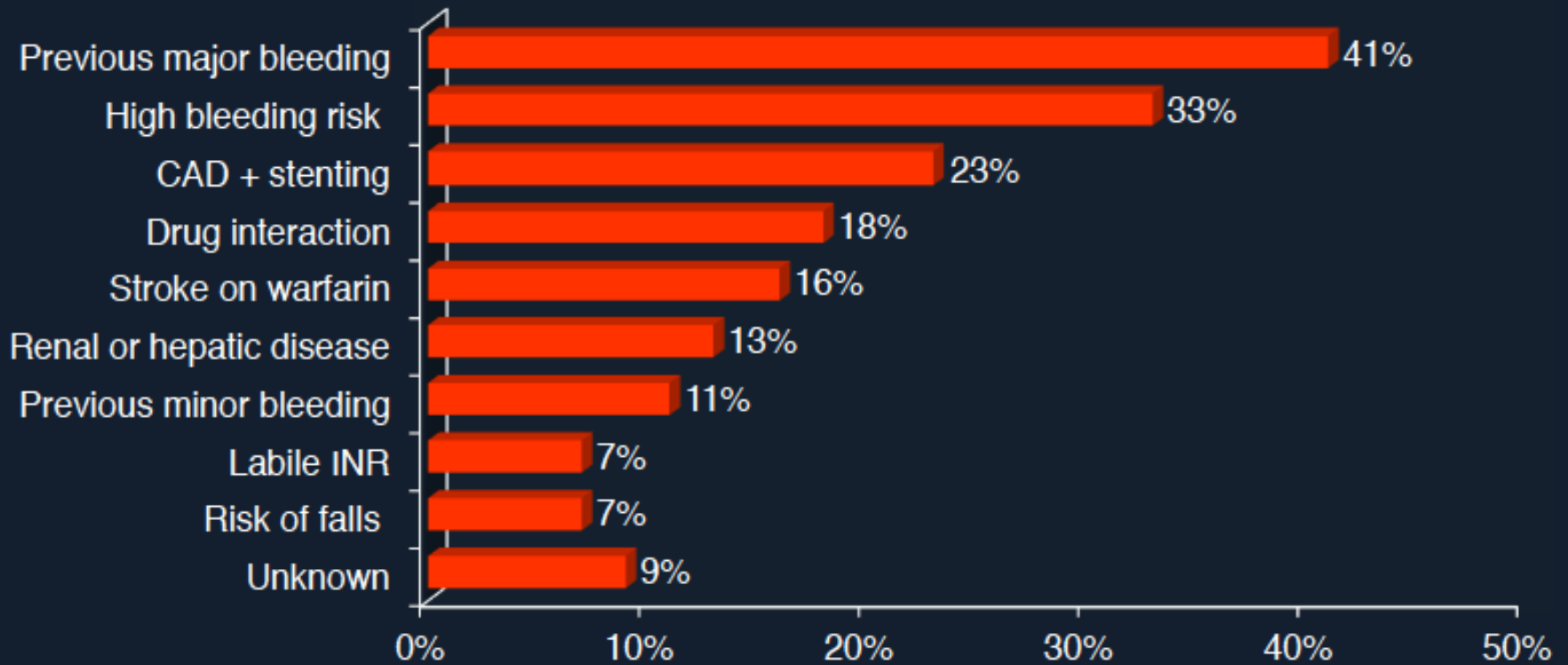
## Bleeding Risk Assessment HAS-BLED Score



N=969

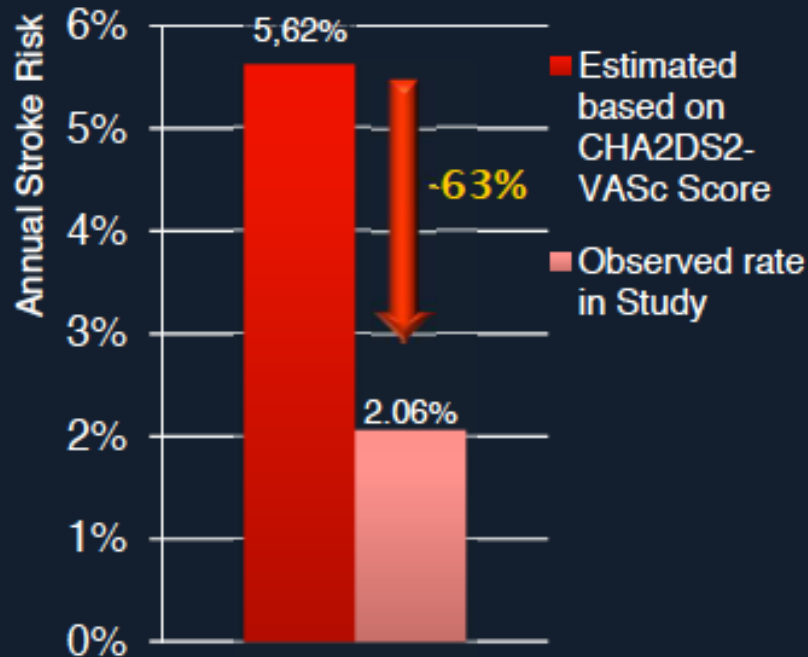
Mean  $3.2 \pm 1.2$

# Indicazioni





## Effectiveness in Stroke Reduction vs estimated



**Total Patients**

928

**Total Patient Years**

1216.2

**CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc score**

4.41

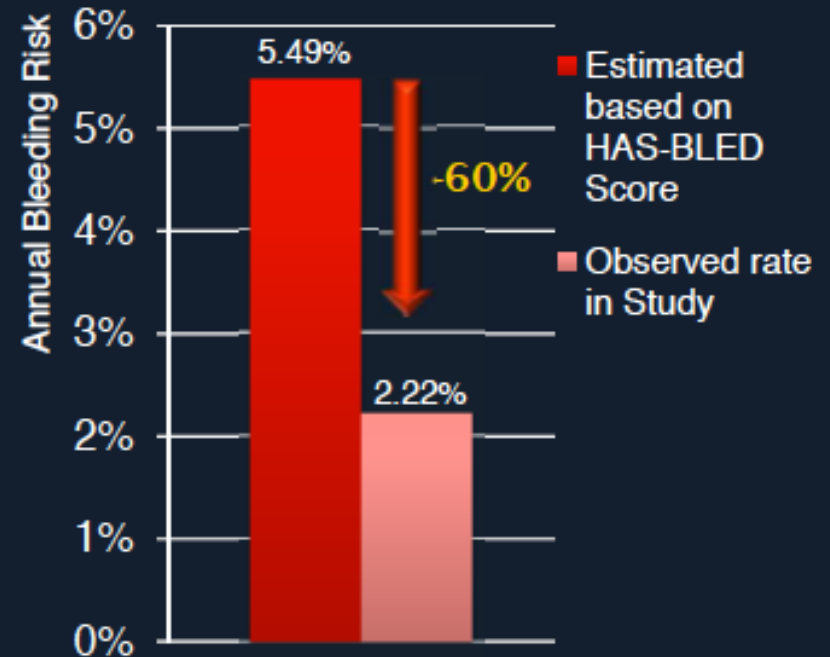
**Estimated Stroke Rate per CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc**

5.62%

**Actual Annual Stroke Rate (N strokes + TIA)**

2.06% (25)

## Effectiveness in Bleeding Reduction vs estimated



**Total Patients**

928

**Total Patient Years**

1216.2

**HAS-BLED score**

3.18

**Estimated Bleeding Rate per HAS-BLED**

5.49%

**Actual Annual Bleeding Rate (N major bleeds)**

2.22% (27)

# LAA closure complications (*Watchman+ACP*)

## Peri-procedural complications (MAEs)

- MAEs: Acute (7-day) occurrence of death, ischemic stroke, systemic embolism and procedure or device related complications requiring major cardiovascular or endovascular intervention\*

MEA	N	%
Death	6	0.62%
Pericardial tamponade	12	1.24%
Major bleeding	12	1.24%
Stroke	7	0.72%
Device embolization	2	0.21%
MI	1	0.10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>4.13%</b>

Complication	N	Remarks
Major (IC) bleeding	1	Procedure
Pericardial tamponade	2	Procedure, Day 4
Arrhythmia	1	Day 2
Device embolization	1	Procedure
Pneumonia	1	Day 4

\* Holmes et al. ACC 2013 (PREVAIL Study)

Tzikas 2014

Dimensioni del campione...

Braccio Warfarin: solo il 55% in  
terapia con corretto range

Efficacia e MAE....

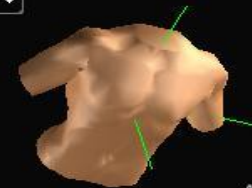
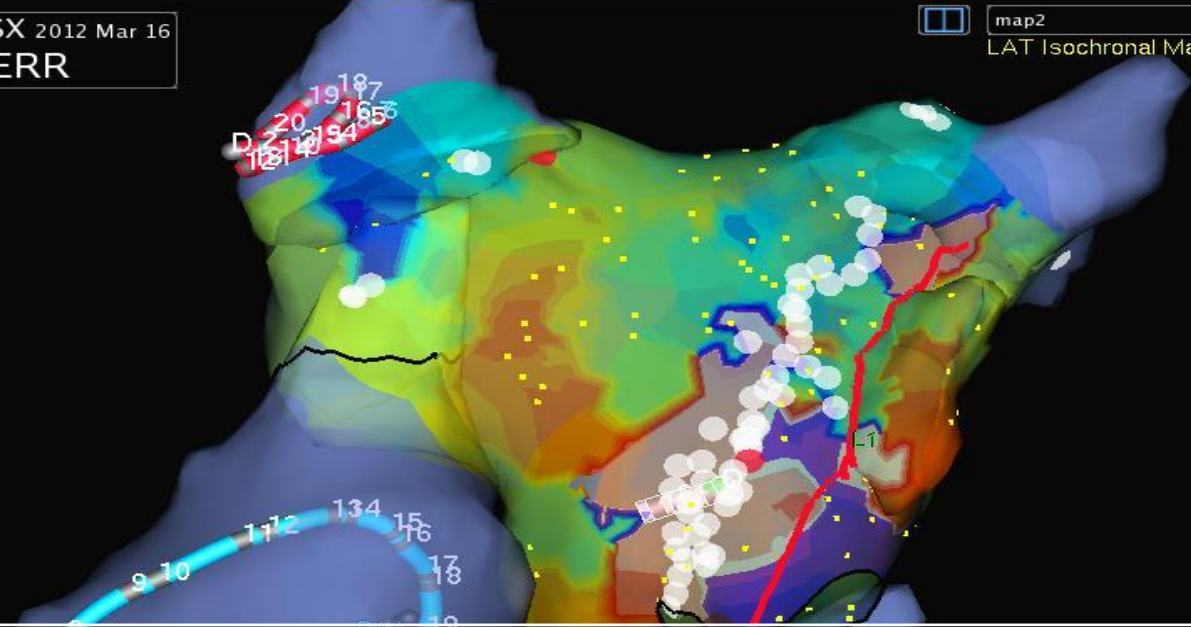
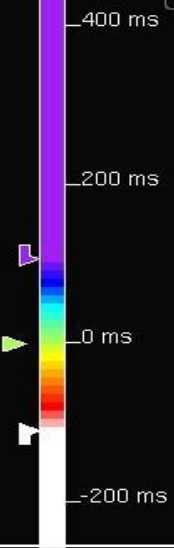
**Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion — Closure or Just  
the Beginning?**

William H. Maisel, M.D., M.P.H.



FLA SX 2012 Mar 16  
INTERR

map2  
LAT Isochronal Map



# From cathlab

Collection Signals Filter

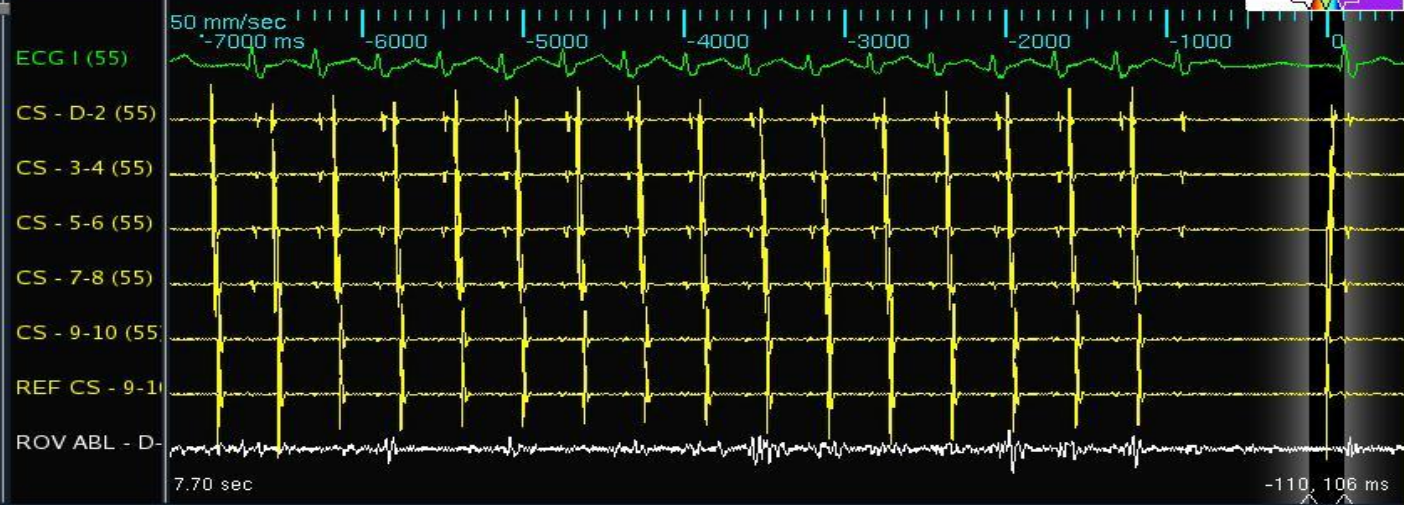
Available Signals

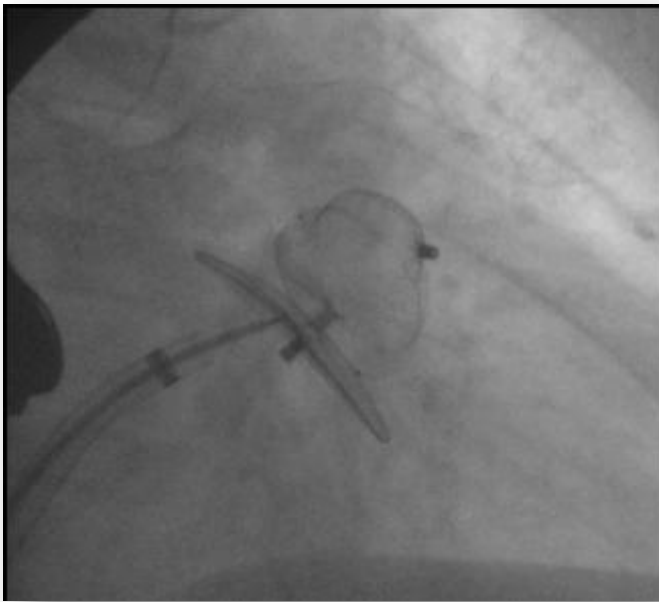
- AFO - D-2
- AFO - 3-4
- AFO - 5-6
- AFO - 7-8
- AFO - 9-10
- AFO - 11-12
- AFO - 13-14
- AFO - 15-16
- AFO - 17-18
- AFO - 19-20
- T20 - D-2
- T20 - 3-4
- T20 - 5-6
- T20 - 7-8
- T20 - 9-10
- T20 - 11-12
- T20 - 13-14

Displayed Signals

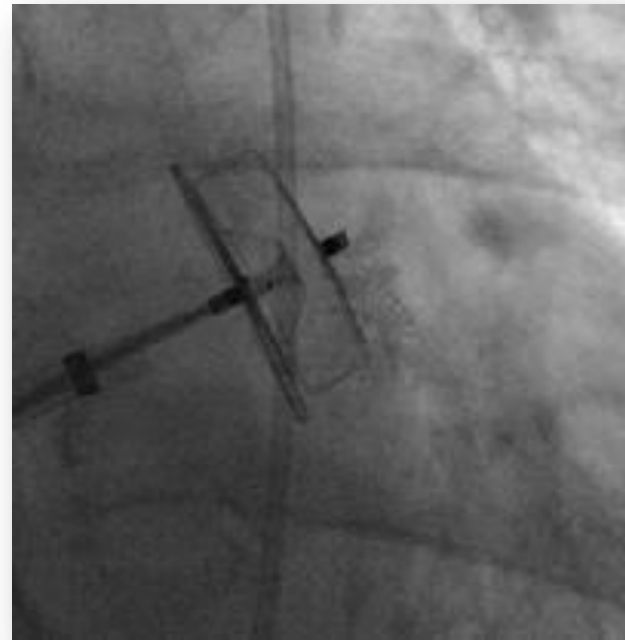
- ECG I
- CS - D-2
- CS - 3-4
- CS - 5-6
- CS - 7-8
- CS - 9-10

Waveform Shadows  Show All Roving Waves

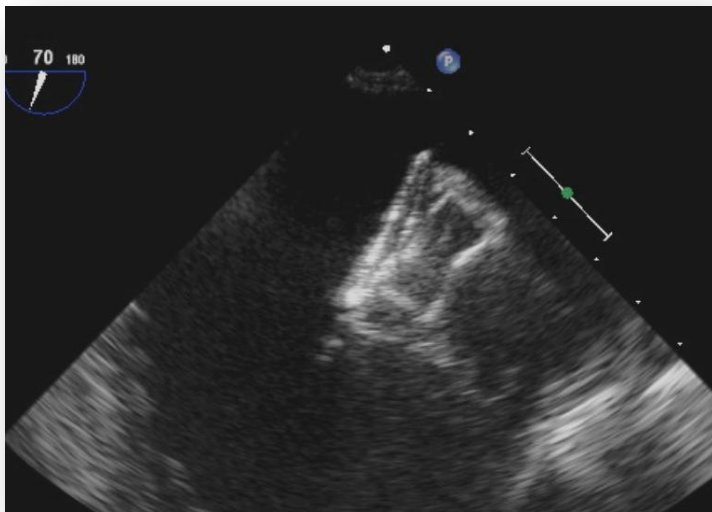




**Aspetto a fragola quando il device è sovradimensionato**



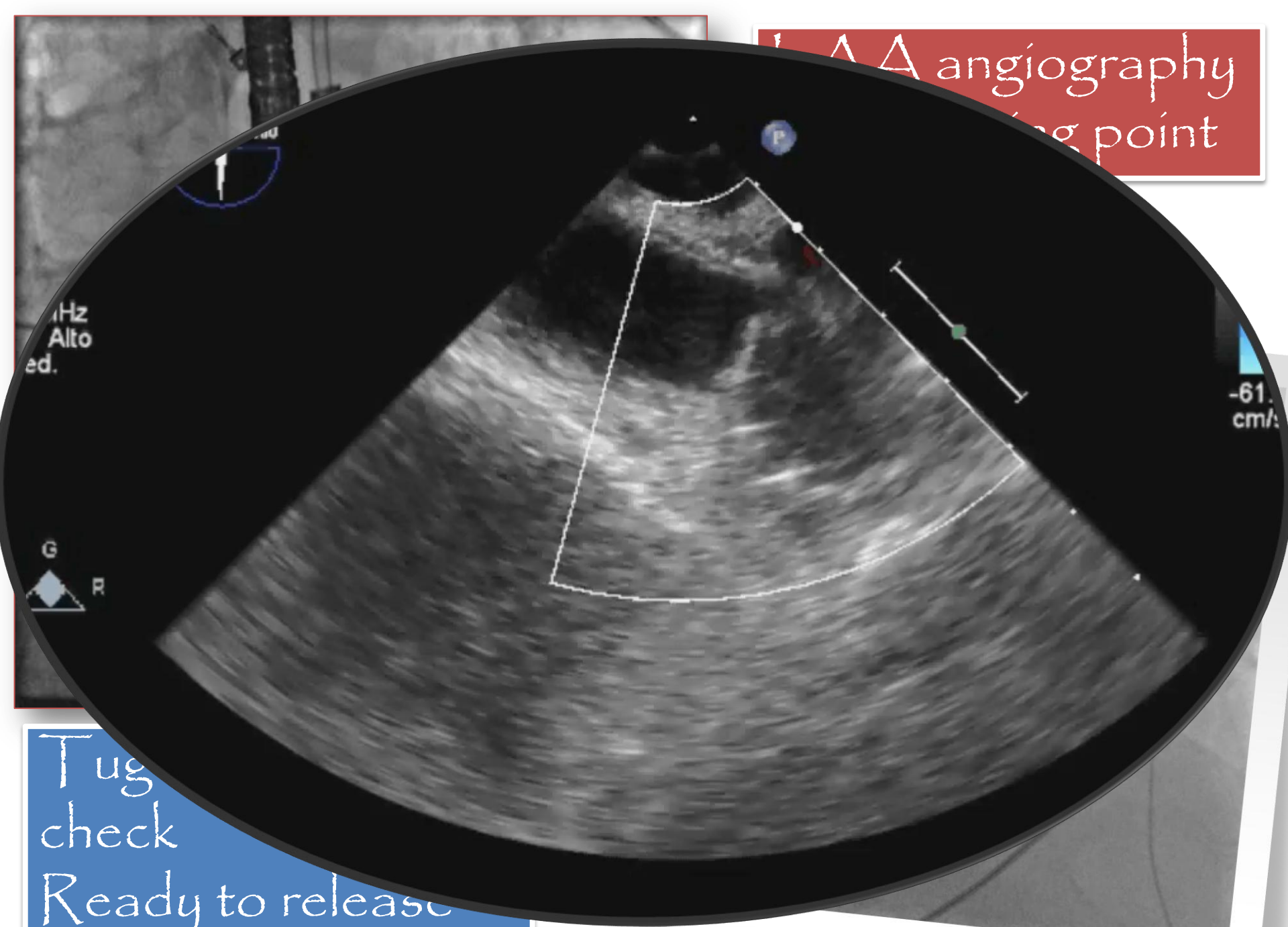
**Aspetto "quadrato" quando il device è sottodimensionato**



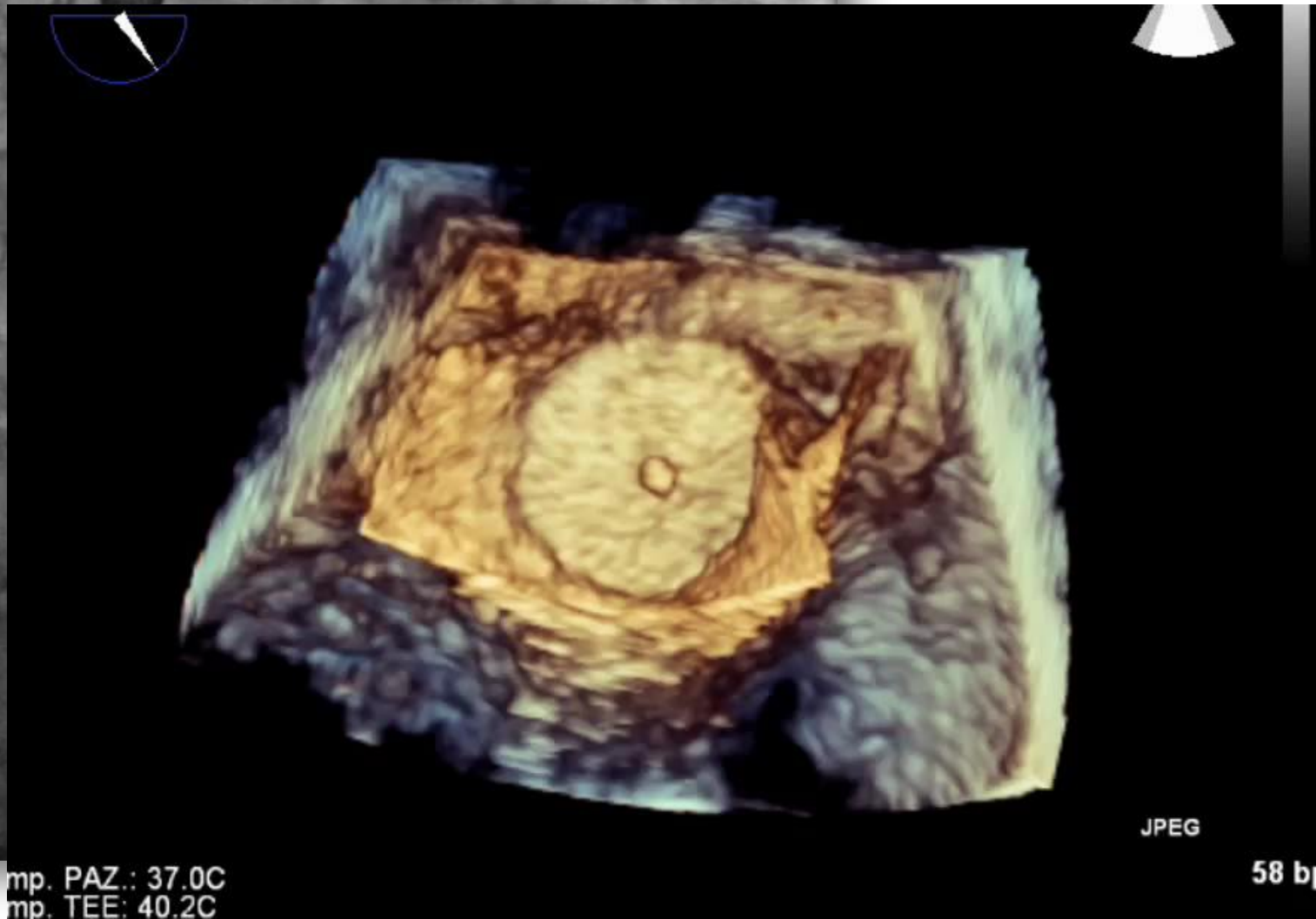
**Aspetto a "pneumatico" del device correttamente dimensionato**

**Spazio libero tra il lobo e il disco, che deve avere aspetto concavo  
Il lobo deve essere per almeno 2/3 sotto la circonflexa**

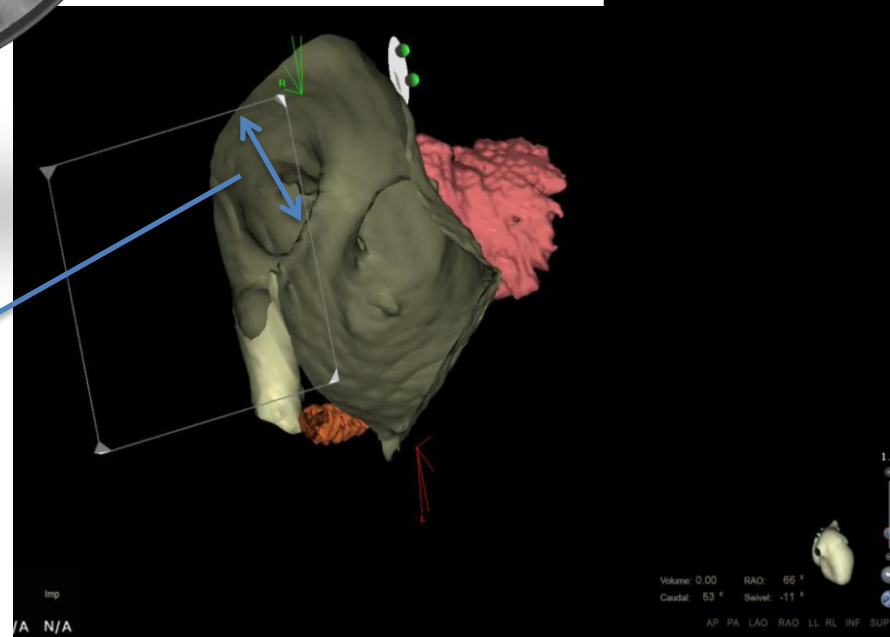
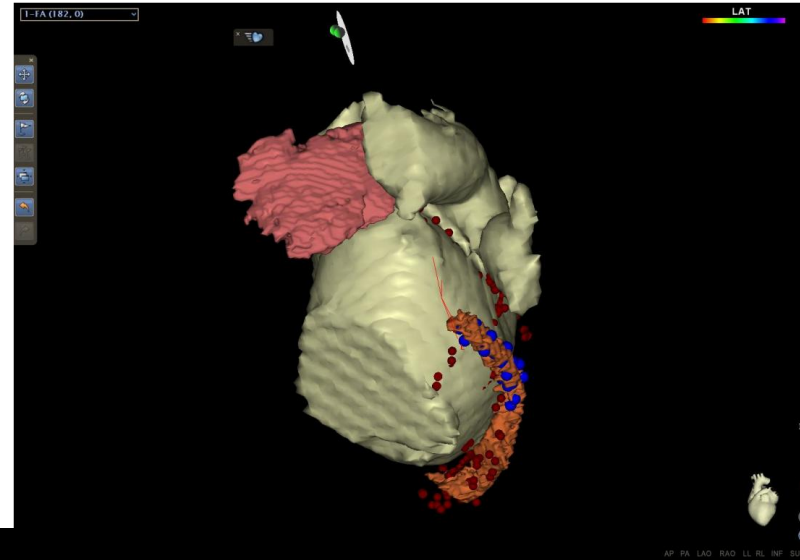
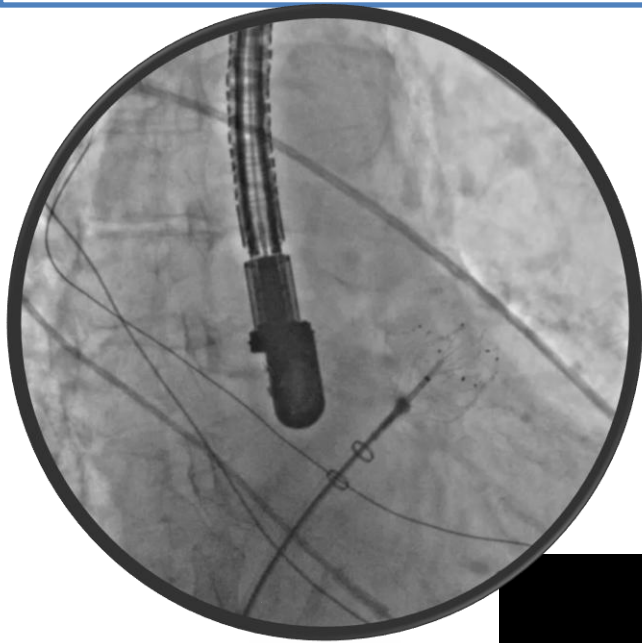
Angiography  
...ing point



Tug  
check  
Ready to release



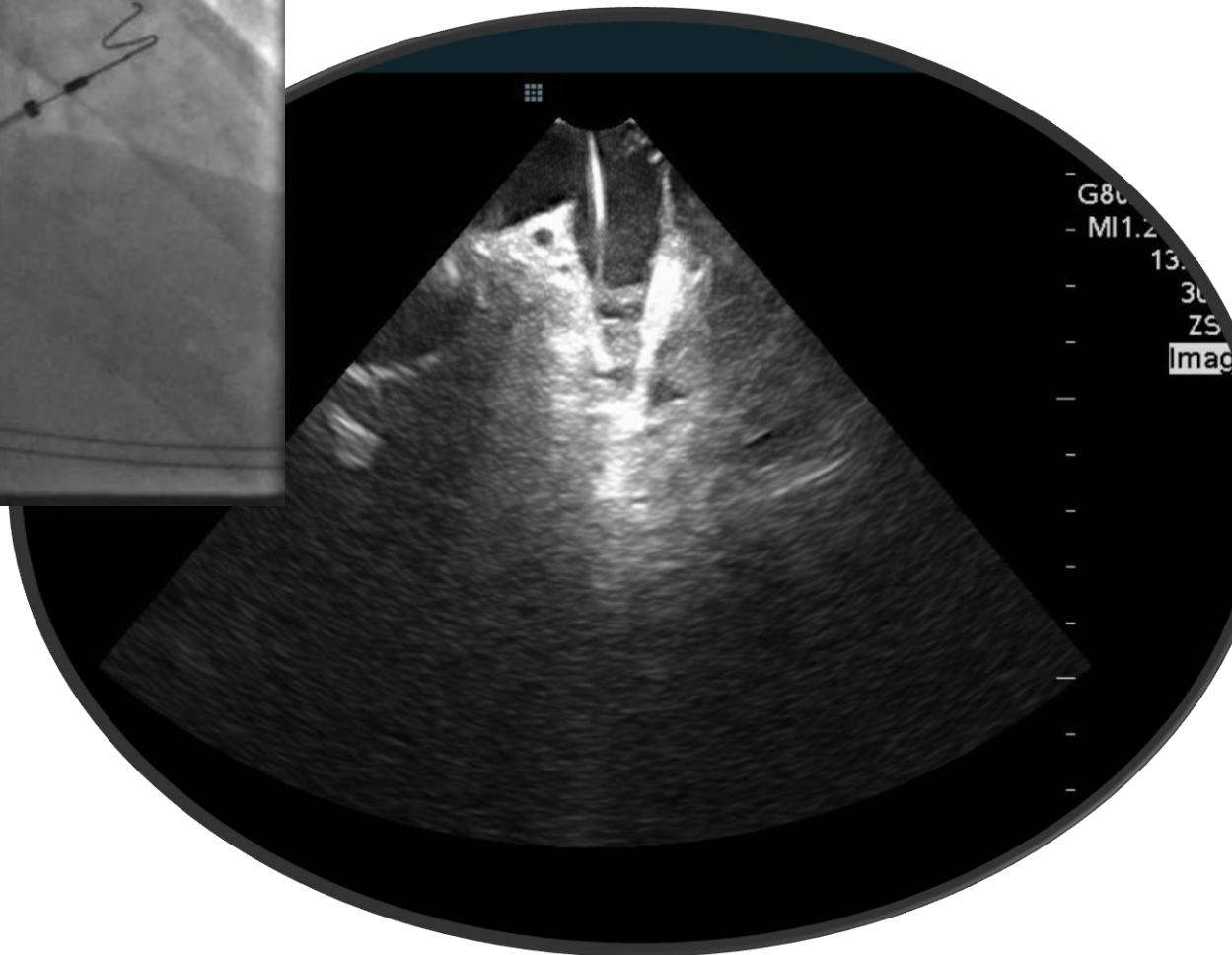
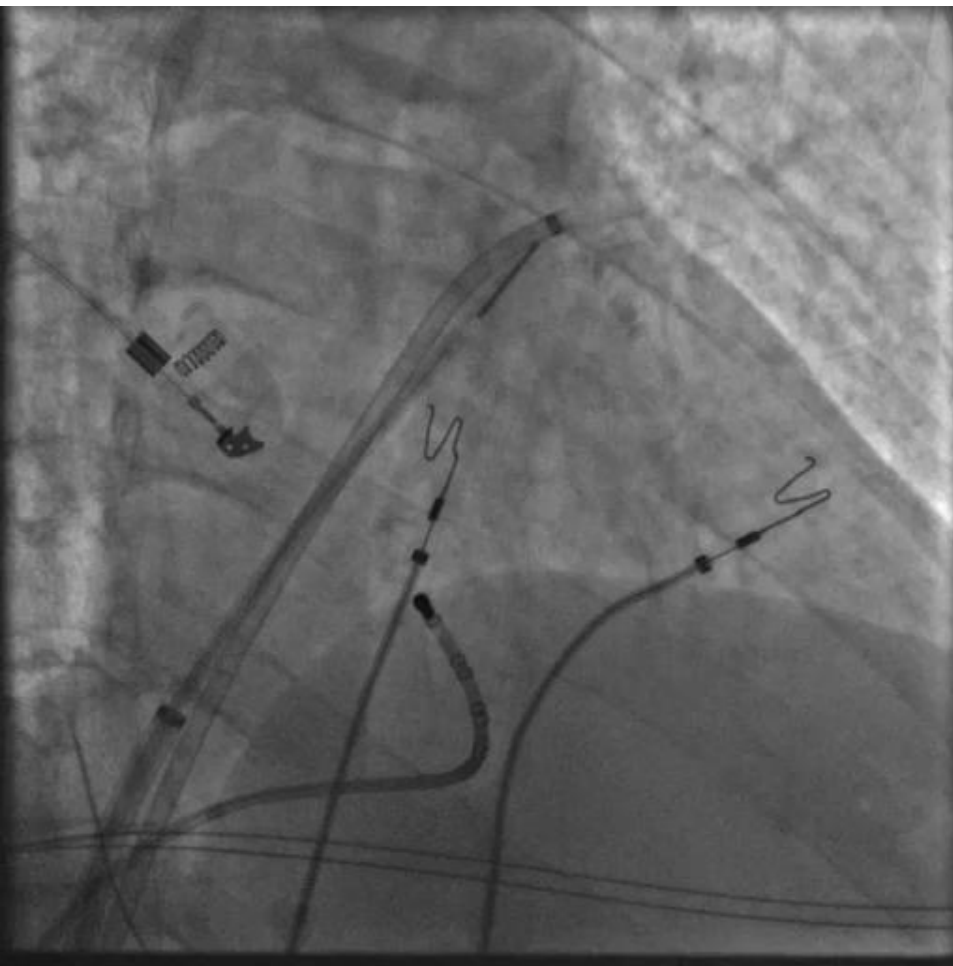
# CT scan (Carto-integrated) + Angiography+TEE



22 mm CT  
20±1 mm Angio  
TEE 18-23 mm

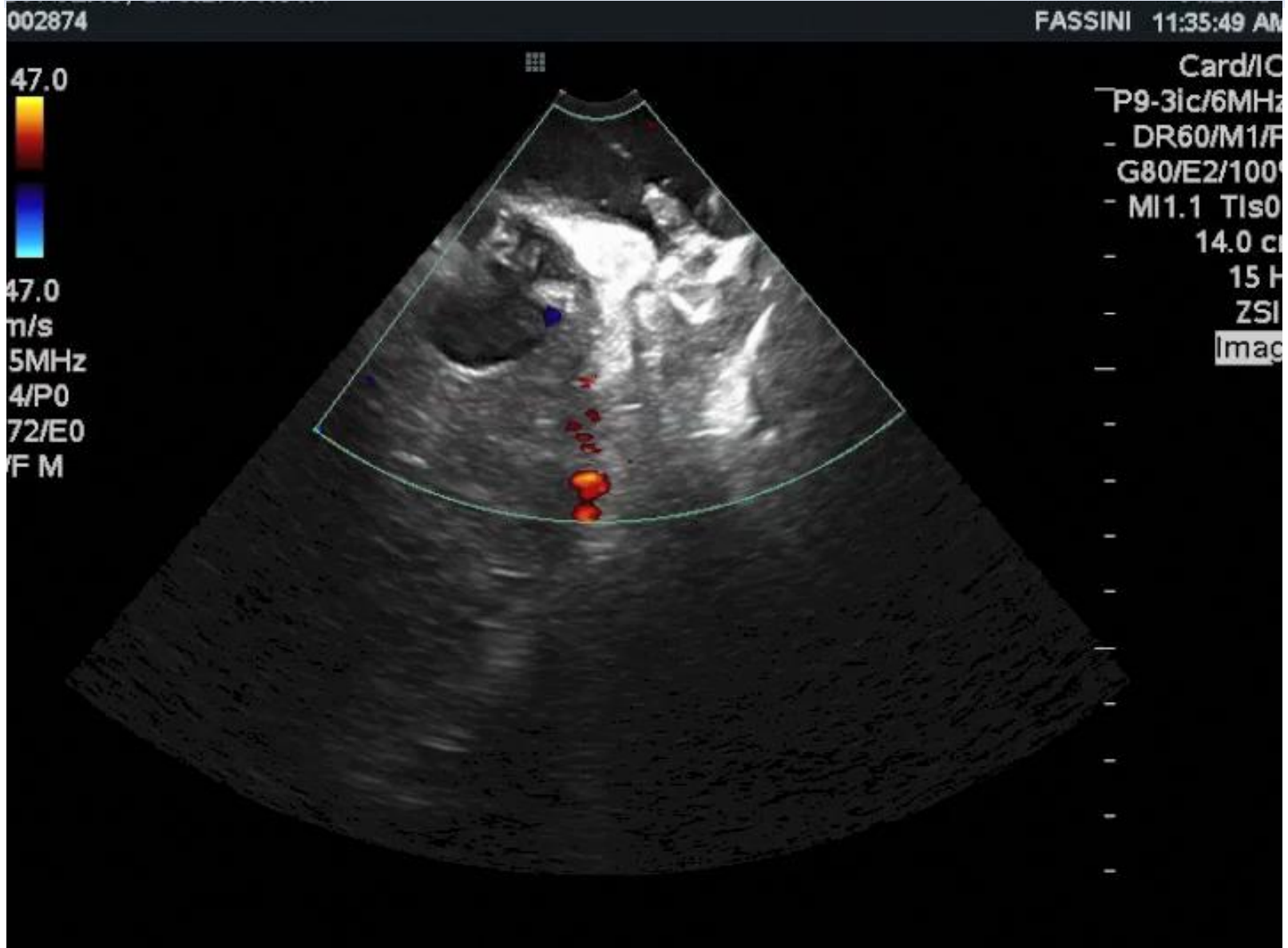


- Patient affected by atypical atrial flutter and Afib
- Major bleeding on OAT
- Oesophageal varices contraindicating TEE



# Case # 3

RF and LAA closure ICE guided (Amplatezer device)

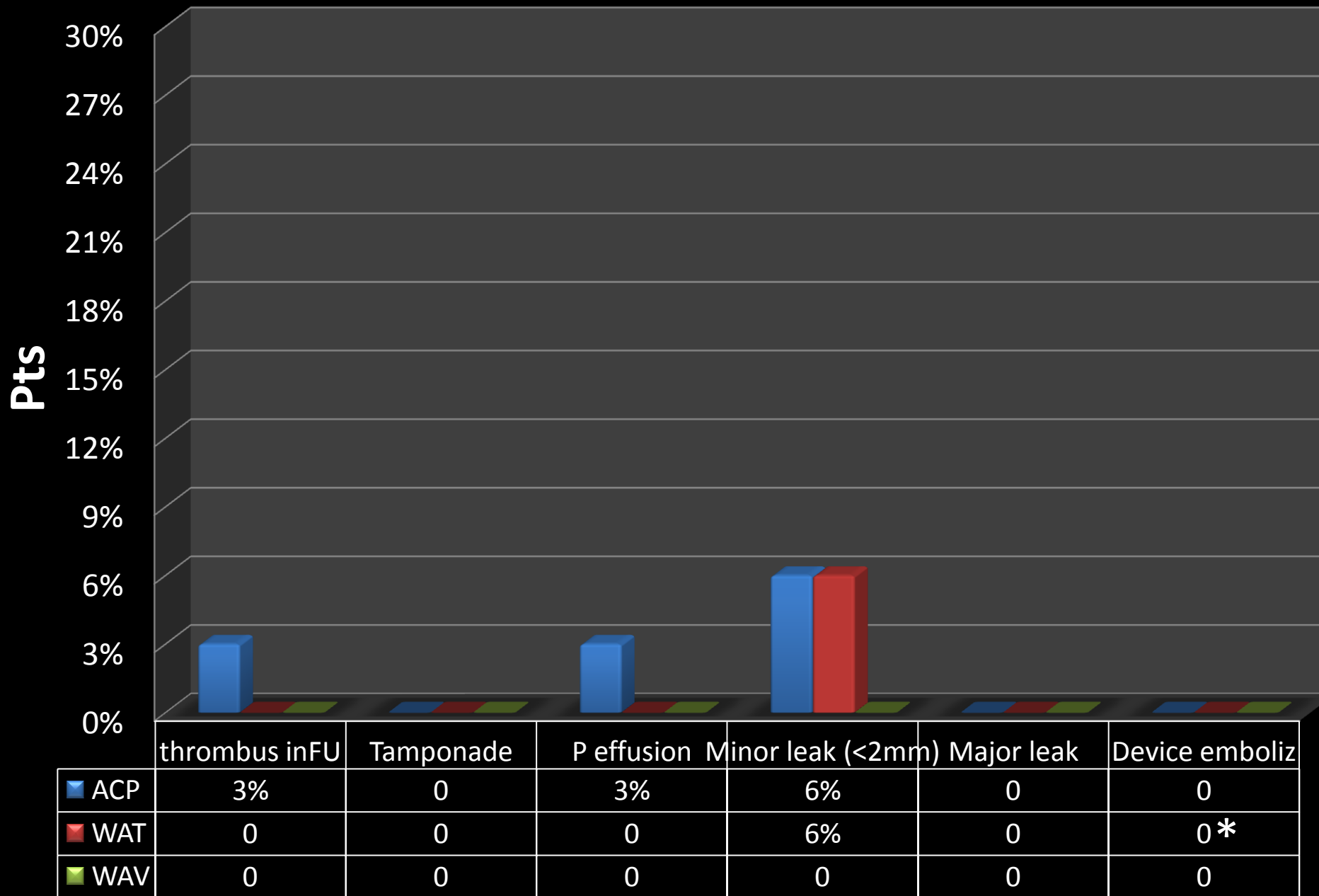


# Case # 3

RF and LAA closure ICE guided (Amplatezer device)



# LAAo in 57 Pts - Major findings



# Chiusura percutanea auricola

## Prevenzione stroke in pazienti con F.A.N.V.

### Quali Pazienti?

1. Elevato Chadvasc e controindicazione assoluta alla TAO
2. Pazienti anziani; insufficienza renale
3. Pazienti con indicazione a triplice terapia
4. *...Pazienti con elevato chadsvasc, pregresso TIA/stroke in TAO/NOACs e/o riscontro di trombosi auricolare.....*