

Ticagrelor: From PLATO to PEGASUS

Focus on Facts, not Interpretations!



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Disclosures

- **Ownership:** HeartDrug™ Research, LLC;
- **Grants:** Pfizer, Sanofi-BMS, Novartis, Lundbeck, Boehringer Ingelheim, Eli Lilly, AtheroGenics, Guilford, J&J, Bayer, Merck, Fibrex, Cardax, Eisai, Abbott, Pronova-GSK, KMST
- **Consulting:** FDA, Pfizer, Sanofi-BMS, McNeil, NPS Pharma, Bayer, Eisai, Daiichi-Sankyo, mutual funds, hedge funds
- **Speaking Bureau:** Pfizer, Sanofi-BMS, Boehringer-Ingelheim; Daiichi-Sankyo
- **Patents:** Novartis (valsartan), Boehringer Ingelheim (Aggrenox), Eli Lilly (prasugrel), AtheroGenics (AGI-1067), Eisai (E-5555), HeartDrug™ (ticagrelor, statins, PAR-1, sertraline, BleedScore)

Money Talk 2015



FDA Approval	October, 1998	July, 2009	July, 2011
Total Sales (billion USD)	≈64.27	≈ 2.17	≈ 1.14
WW Sales (Q1-Q2 2015)	1.19	0.26	0.275
Patent Expiration	2012	April, 2017	July, 2018
Sponsor Major Trials	5	2	2+3

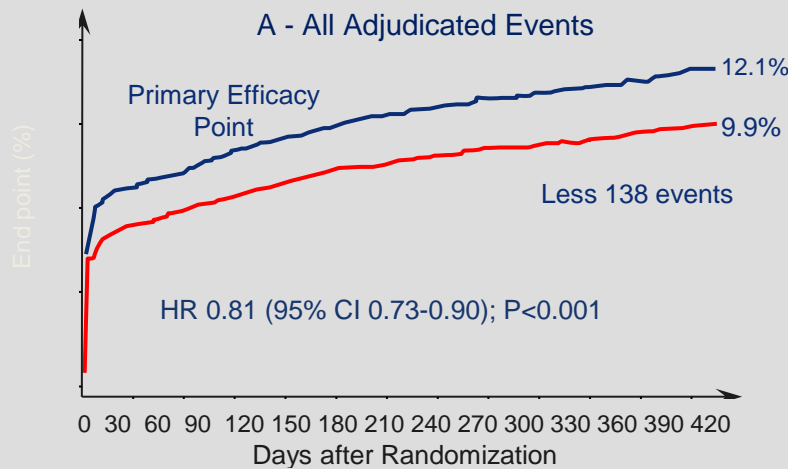
Annual Financial Reports, Sanofi (1999-2015); Lilly (2009-2015), Astra Zeneca (2011-2015); Serebruany, Fortmann. Thromb Faemost, 2014



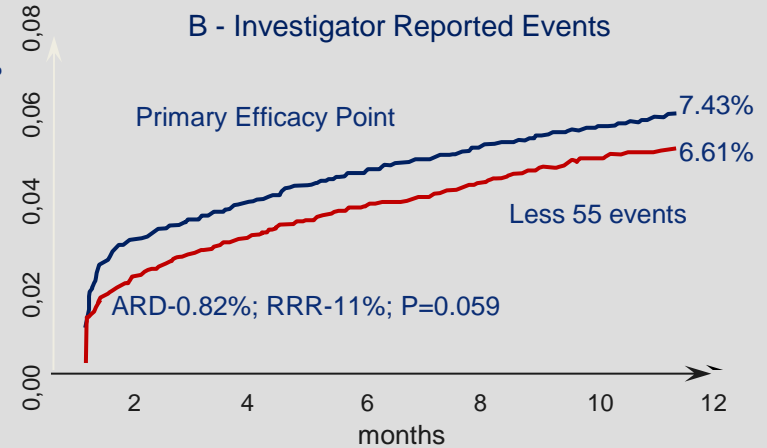
Strategic failures cannot be fixed by tactical victories

“On War” [Vom Krieg]; 1834

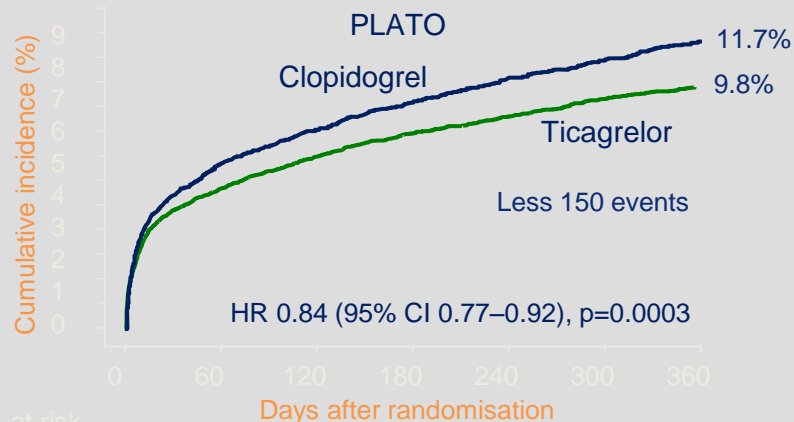
Main Outcomes: TRITON versus PLATO



No. at Risk		rx=Clopidogrel		rx=Prasugrel	
6795	6169	6036	5835	5043	4369
6813	6305	6177	5951	5119	4445
					3085



Number at risk		rx=Clopidogrel		rx=Prasugrel	
6795	6369	6270	6145	5582	4955
6813	6453	6343	6215	5606	4989
					4646



No. at risk		Ticagrelor		Clopidogrel		PLATO	
9,333	8,628	8,460	8,219	6,743	5,161	4,147	

Wiviott, et al, NEJM 2007; Walentin, et al, NEJM 2009; FDA Prasugrel review, 2008

Was PLATO justified after Phase II DISPERSE и DISPERSE-2?

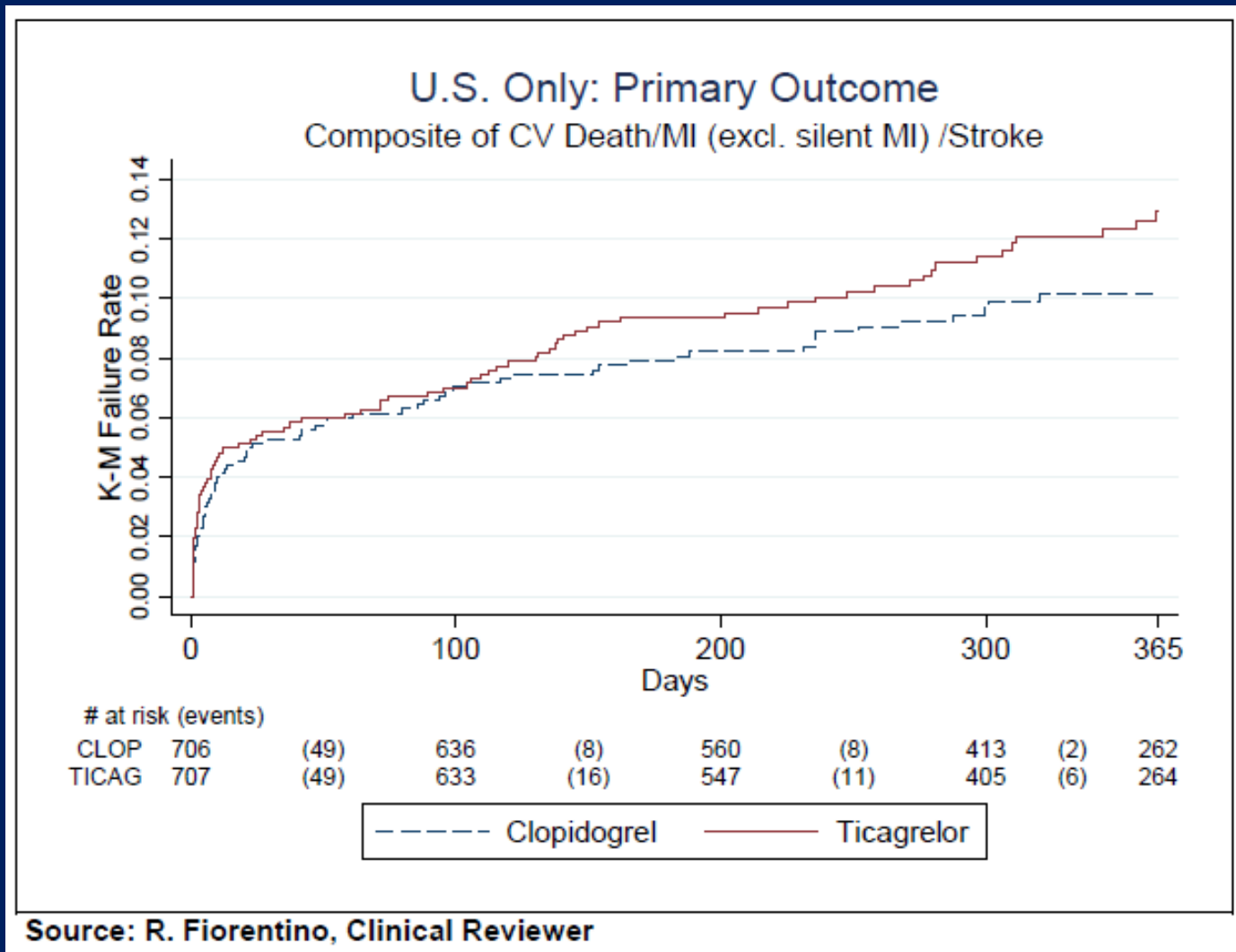
Outcome (%)	Ticagrelor (n=663)	Clopidogrel (n=327)
CV Death/MI/Stroke	3.9	4.9
CV Death	1.8	1.2
MI	2.4	4.3
Stroke	0.3	0.3
SRI	2.1	0.9
RI	3.3	2.8
Death (13 vs. 4)	1.96	1.2

All-cause mortality and length of follow up in latest trials

-
- | TRIAL | Follow-up | Overall ACM | ACM Prorated over Follow-up Duration |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| CAPRIE | 23 months | 5.8% | 0.252%/month |
| CURE | 9 months | 5.7% | 0.633%/month |
| CREDO | 12 months | 1.7% | 0.141%/month |
| PROVE-IT | 24 months | 2.7% | 0.113%/month |
| CHARISMA | 28 months | 4.8% | 0.171%/month |
| ACUITY | 12 months | 3.75% | 0.313%/month |
| TRITON | 14.5 months | 3.2% | 0.221%/month |
| • PLATO | 9 months | 5.9% | 0.655%/month |
| TRACER | 16.7 months | 4.9% | 0.293%/month |
| ATLAS | 13 months | 4.5% | 0.346%/month |
-

* - data from control arm

PLATO: Outcomes in the USA

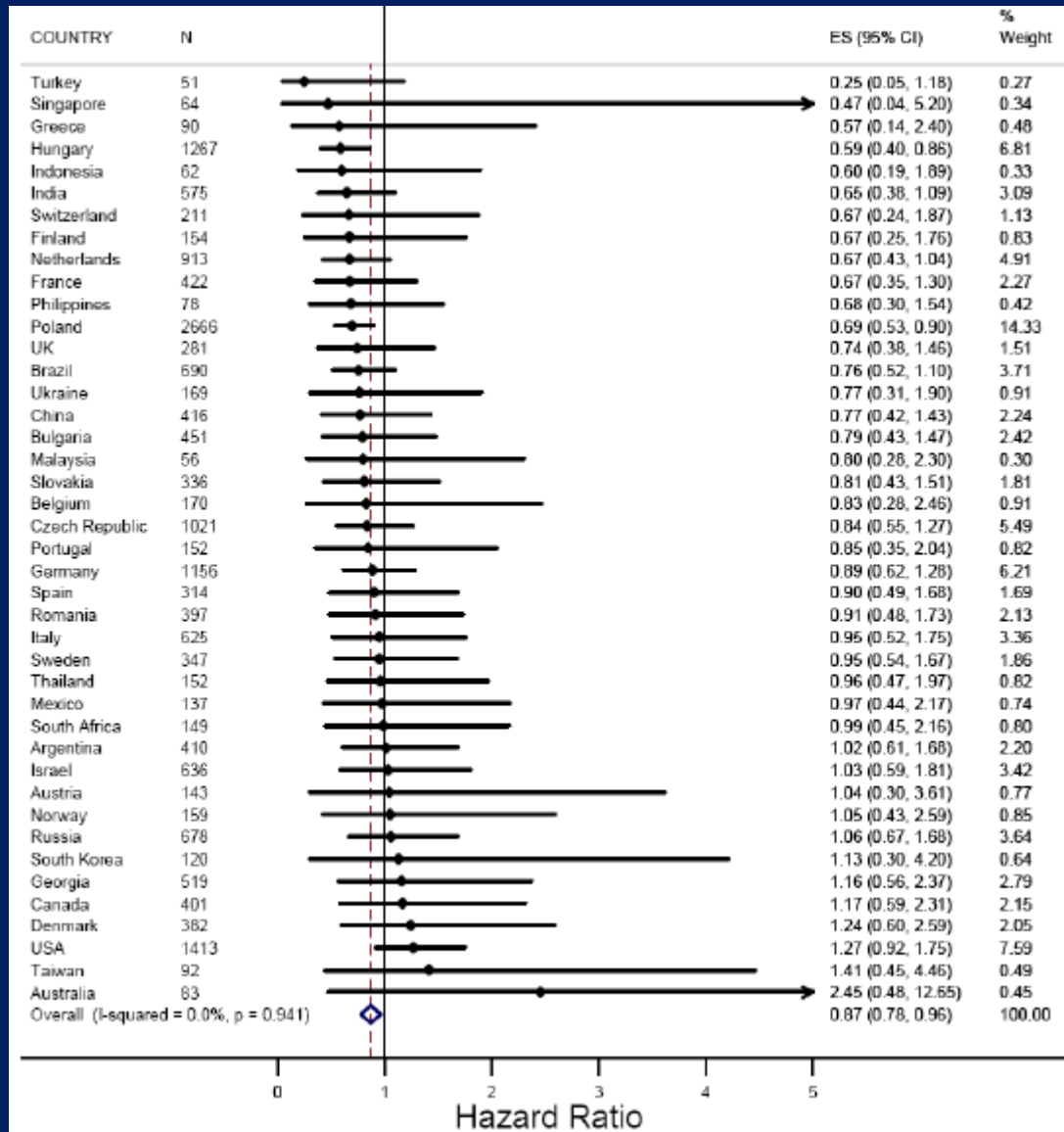


Deaths and PCI in PLATO

	All PLATO		US only	
	no early PCI	early PCI	no early PCI	early PCI
	ALL CAUSE MORTALITY			
• Clopidogrel	7.8%	3.7%	6.1%	2.3%
• Ticagrelor	5.7%	3.6%	5.2%	4.1%
	CARDIOVASCULAR MORTALITY			
• Clopidogrel	5.8%	2.8%	3.1%	1.4%
• Ticagrelor	4.6%	2.9%	4.1%	3.2%

The FDA Review of Complete Response; Thomas A. Marciniak, MD – Medical Team Leader, p.18

PLATO Outcomes by Country



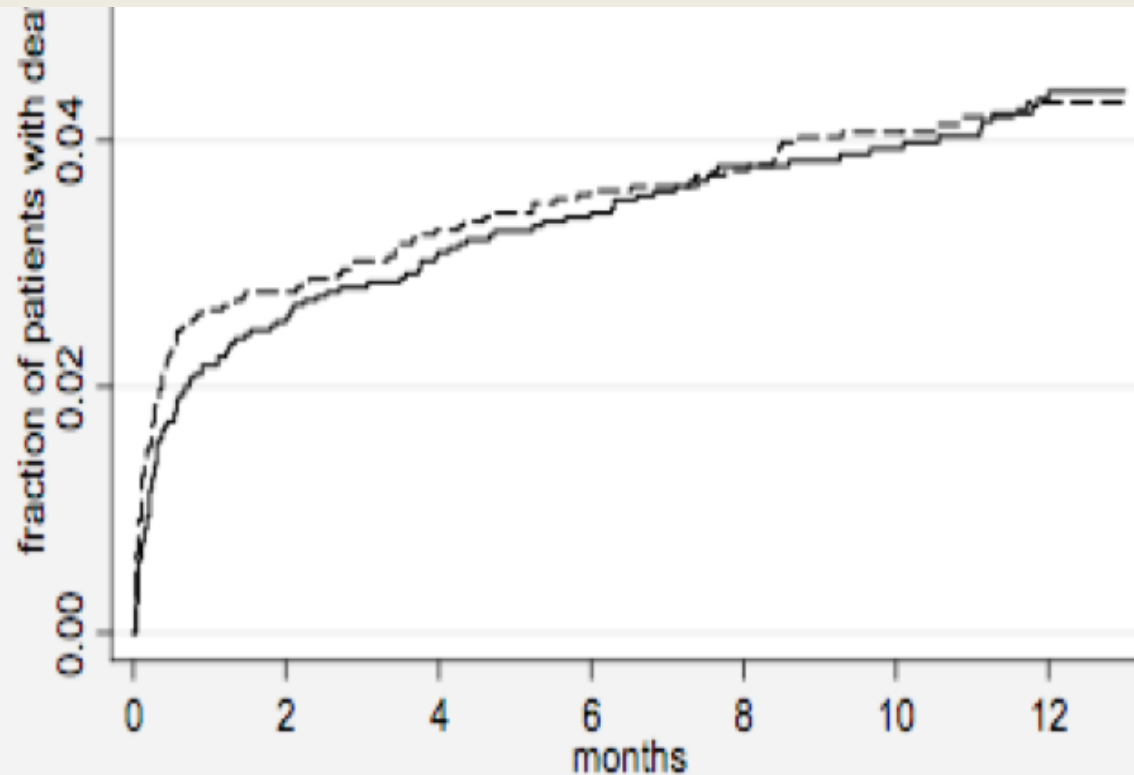
Magic of Poland and Hungary in PLATO

Country/Parameter	Poland	Hungary
Patients enrolled (n)	2,666	1,267
Reported events (n)	96/137	42/70
Events favoring ticagrelor (n)	41	28
Weight in PLATO (%)	14.33	6.81

Combined Enrollment in PLATO - 3,933 patients (21.14%)

Combined Benefit in PLATO - 69/150 events (46%)

Early “deaths paradox” for PLATO PCI cohort



Number at risk	
clopidogrel	2860
ticagrelor	2829

2768	2749	2733	2223	1961	1570
2721	2698	2681	2184	1935	1539

— clopidogrel - - - - ticagrelor

Major Outcomes in PLATO clopidogrel arm: Something is VERY wrong

Variable	C+A	Paradox
Vascular Death	5.1%	Extreme
All-cause mortality	5.9%	Unseen
MI/Death rate	6.9/5.1	74% - Absurd
Site Reported Events	0.095	Not significant

Efficacy “Magic” in PLATO

Variable	Sites	Adjudicated	FDA
Non-fatal MI's	-44	-89	-89
Non-fatal Strokes	+19	+19	+23/+27
Vascular Deaths	-89?	-89	-89
Baseline DM	25% e a	25% e a	25% e a
Baseline PAD	6.2% e a	6.2% e a	6.2 % e a

“-” Favors ticagrelor; “+” favors clopidogrel; “e a” – each arm

Who was counting events in PLATO?

Who count	Tica/Clopi	Δ MI	HR	p-value
Sites	504/548	44	0.92	(0.095) NS
DCRI	504/593	89	0.84	>0.001

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FDA recommendations on ticagrelor

Date(s)	FDA Officer(s)	Title	Review	Recommendation
August 12, 2010	Dr. T.Wong	Chemist	Drug/Product	Approval
	Dr. C.Tele	Chemist	Drug/Substance	Approval
August 10, 2010	Dr. E.Hausner	Pharmacologist	Toxicology	Approval
August 29, 2010	Dr. I. Younis	Pharmacologist	Clinical Pharm	Approval
August 31, 2010	Dr. J. Zhang	Statistician	Statistical	No Approval
August 25, 2010	Dr. R.Fiorentino	Medical Officer	Clinical Efficacy	No Approval
August 25, 2010	Dr. M. Blank	Medical Officer	Clinical Safety	No Approval
September 17, 2010	Dr. T. Marciniak	Team Leader	Overall Reviews	Approval*
May 14, 2011	Dr. T. Marciniak	Team Leader	Overall Reviews	No Approval
July 8, 2011	Dr.N.Stockbridge	CRD Director	Submission	Approval
July 20, 2011	Dr. R. Temple	Office Director	Final Decision	Approval

* - excluding STEMI patients undergoing early PCI;



ATLANTIC

Administration of Ticagrelor in the cath Lab or in the Ambulance for New ST elevation myocardial Infarction to open the Coronary artery

G. Montalescot, A.W. van't Hof, F. Lapostolle, J Silvain, J.F. Lassen, L. Bolognese, W.J. Cantor, A. Cequier, M. Chettibi, S.G. Goodman, C.J. Hammett, K. Huber, M. Janzon, B. Merkely, R.F. Storey, U. Zeymer, O. Stibbe, P. Ecollan, W.M.J.M. Heutz, E. Swahn, J.P. Collet, F.F. Willems, C. Baradat, M. Licour, A. Tsatsaris, E. Vicaut, C.W. Hamm, for the ATLANTIC investigators

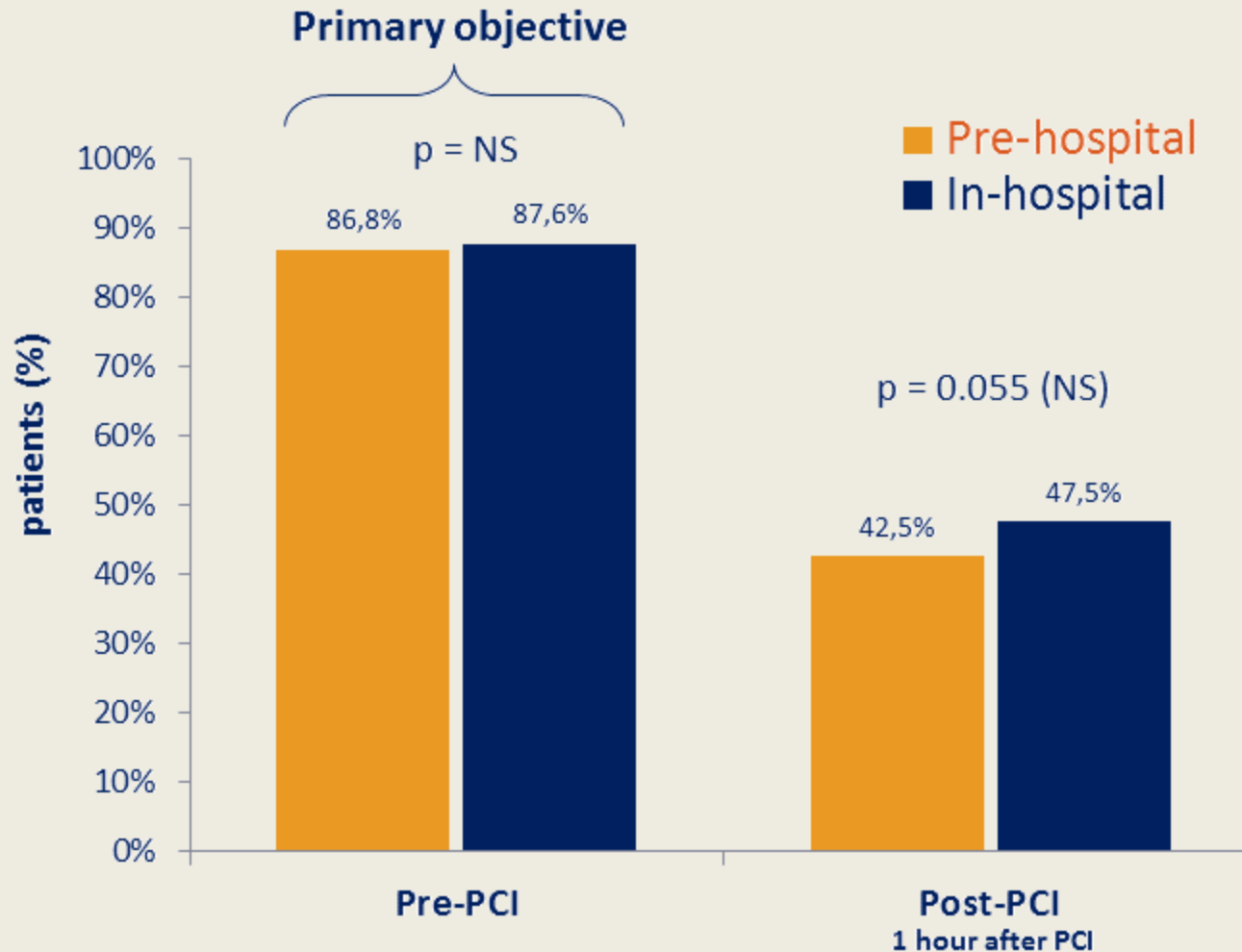


G. Montalescot, COI are available at www.action-coeur.org



1st Co-primary endpoint

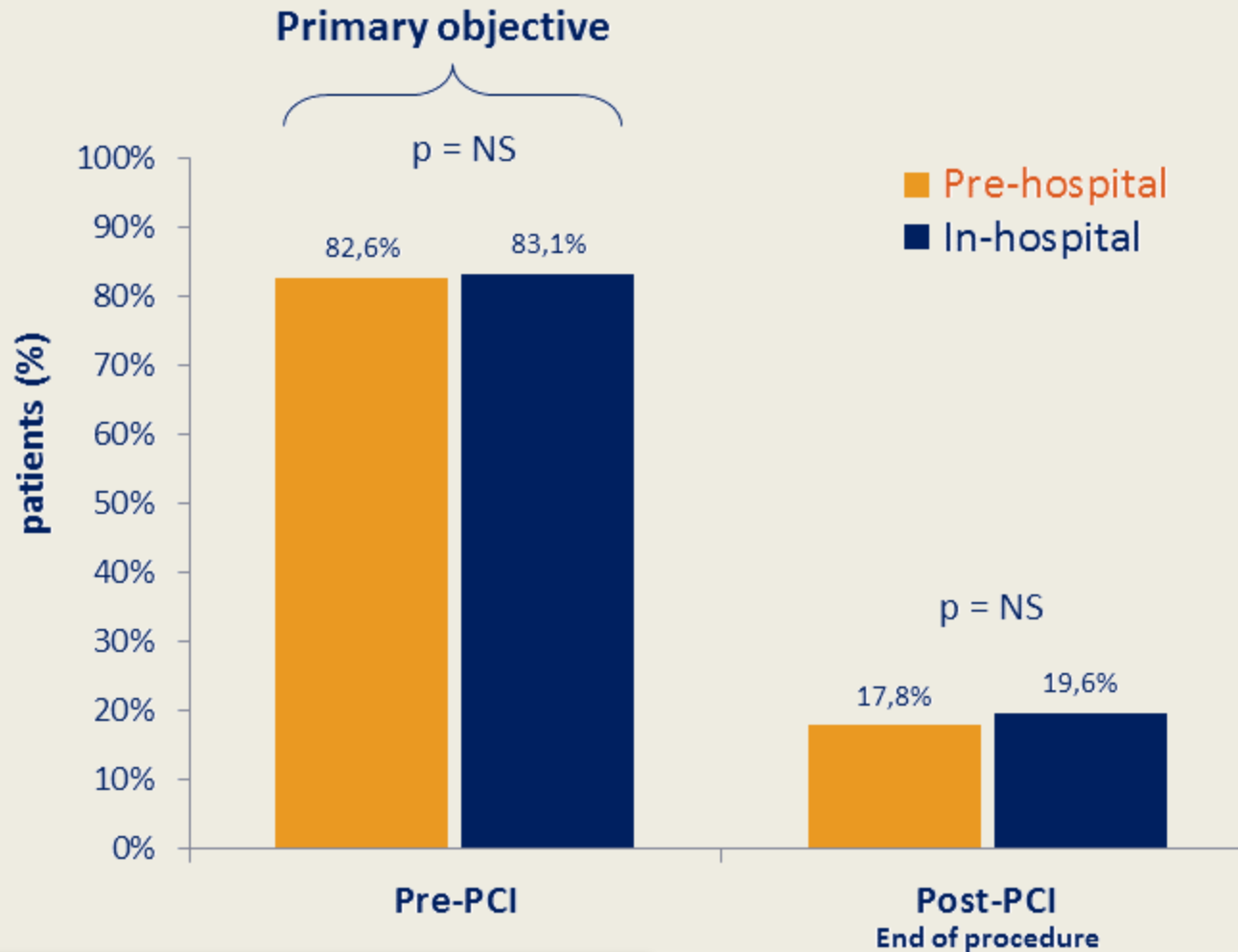
No ST-segment resolution ($\geq 70\%$)



Montalescot, et al NEJM, 2014

2nd Co-primary endpoint

No TIMI 3 flow in infarct-related artery



Montalescot, et al NEJM, 2014

PLATO Angiographic Study Primary Endpoint: Post PCI TIMI Myocardial Perfusion Grade(TMPG)

	Overall n (%)	Ticagrelor n (%)	Clopidogrel n (%)	P value
All Patients				
Normal (TMPG 3)	779/1657 (47.0)	396/841 (47.1)	383/816 (46.9)	0.9608
STEMI				
Normal (TMPG 3)	412/989 (41.7)	213/502 (42.4)	199/487 (40.9)	0.6517
NSTE-ACS				
Normal (TMPG 3)	367/668 (54.9)	183/339 (54.0)	184/329 (55.9)	0.6411

PLATO Angiographic Study: Post PCI TMPG by Aspirin Dose

	Overall	Ticagrelor	Clopidogrel	p-value
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	
	N = 1657	N = 841	N = 816	
Aspirin Dose on Randomization Day				
Less than 100 mg				
Normal	168 (54.9)	82 (54.3)	86 (55.5)	0.8358
Abnormal	138 (45.1)	69 (45.7)	69 (44.5)	
100 – 299 mg				
Normal	180 (48.8)	93 (48.9)	87 (48.6)	0.9473
Abnormal	189 (51.2)	97 (51.1)	92 (51.4)	
300 mg or more				
Normal	431 (43.9)	221 (44.2)	210 (43.6)	0.8420
Abnormal	551 (56.1)	279 (55.8)	272 (56.4)	
Aspirin Dose on Day 1 After Randomization				
Less than 100 mg				
Normal	364 (46.8)	191 (47.4)	173 (46.3)	0.7508
Abnormal	413 (53.2)	212 (52.6)	201 (53.7)	
100 – 299 mg				
Normal	345 (46.0)	171 (45.7)	174 (46.3)	0.8789
Abnormal	405 (54.0)	203 (54.3)	202 (53.7)	
300 mg or more				
Normal	69 (53.5)	33 (52.4)	36 (54.6)	0.8054
Abnormal	60 (46.5)	30 (47.6)	30 (45.4)	



ATLANTIC

Deaths in ATLANTIC trial dependent on timing of ticagrelor administration

Mortality	Early/Late	HR (95% CI)	p-value*
Overall(30 days)	30/19	1.68 (0.94-3.01)	0.08
First 24 hours	12/4	3.18 (1.02-9.90)	0.043

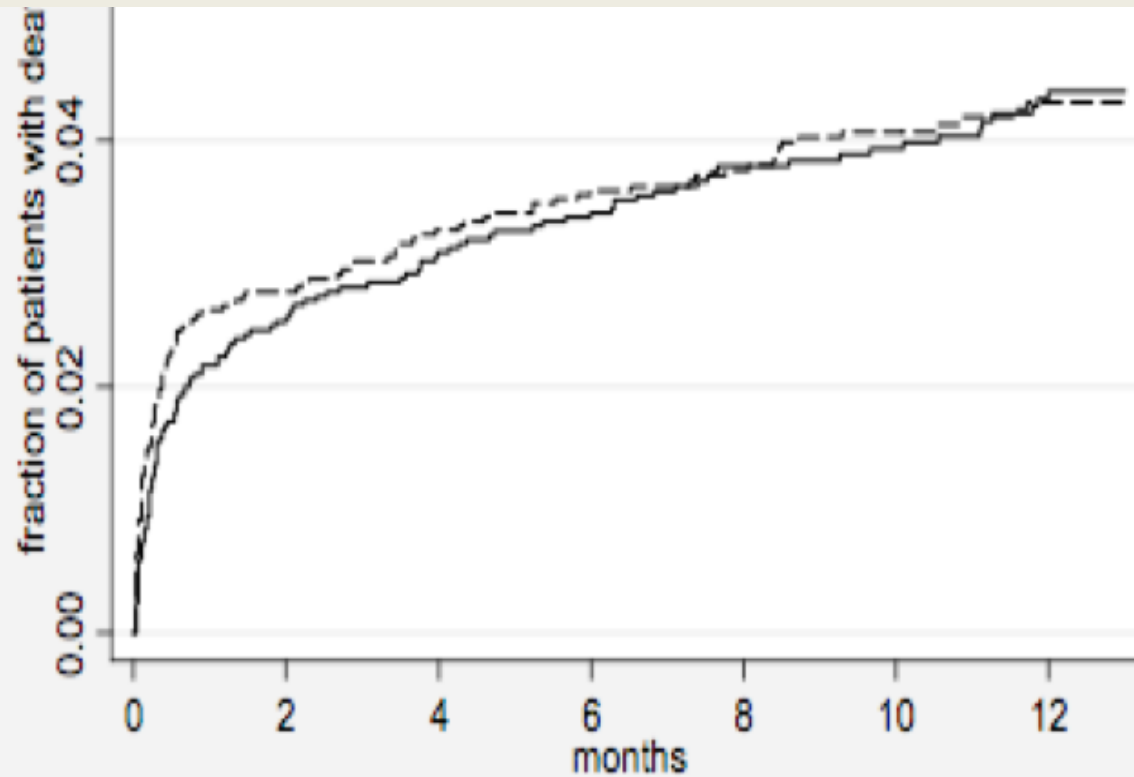
* - by Fisher's exact test



Serebruany, et al. Thromb Haemost, 2015



PLATO: Early “death paradox”?



Number at risk

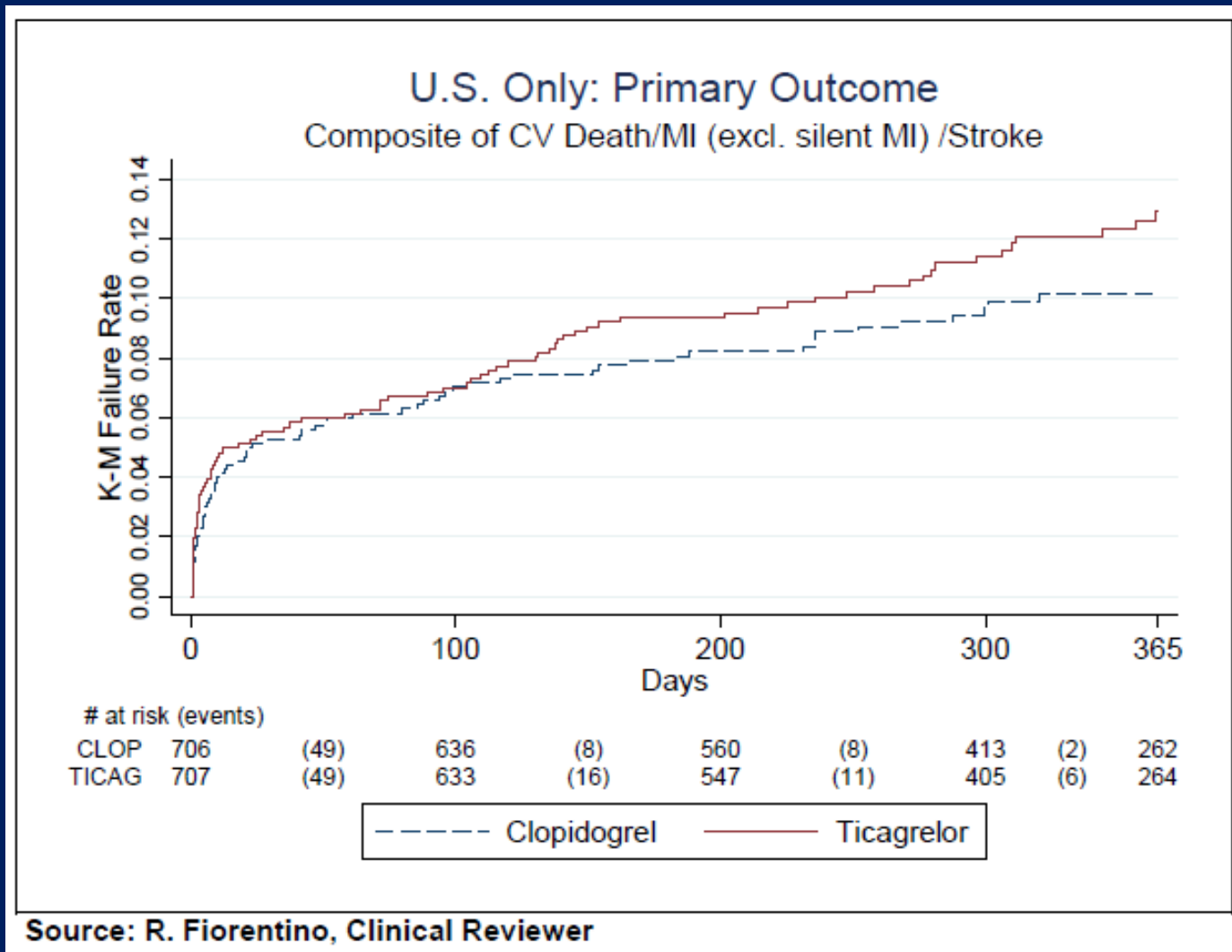
clopidogrel	2860	2768	2749	2733	2223	1961	1570
ticagrelor	2829	2721	2698	2681	2184	1935	1539

— clopidogrel - - - - ticagrelor

Magic Numbers in PHILO

Clinical Outcome	Ticagrelor (n=401)	Clopidogrel (n=400)
Deaths (n)	10	7
Stroke (n)	9	6
Myocardial Infarction (n)	24	15
Major + Minor Bleeding (n)	92	56

PLATO Outcomes in the USA



PEGASUS Trial Schema

N ~ 21,000

Stable pts with history of MI 1-3 yrs prior
+ ≥ 1 additional atherothrombosis risk factor*

* Age ≥ 65 yrs, diabetes, 2nd prior MI, multivessel CAD,
or chronic non-end stage renal dysfunction

RANDOMIZE
DOUBLE BLIND

Planned treatment with ASA 75 – 150 mg &
Standard background care

Ticagrelor
90 mg bid

Ticagrelor
60 mg bid

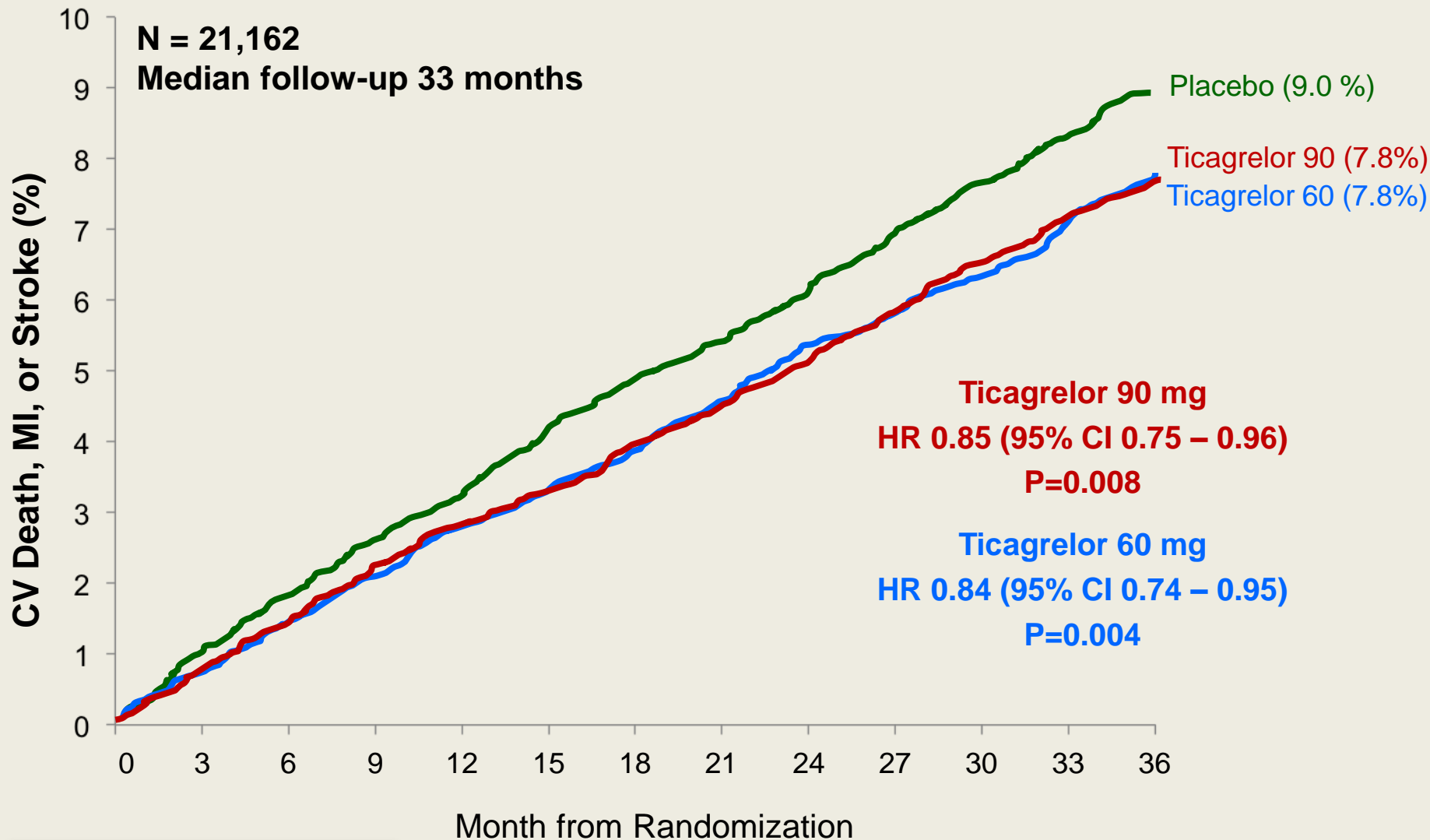
Placebo

Follow-up Visits
Q4 mos for 1st yr, then Q6 mos

Min 12 mos and median 26 mos follow-up
Event-driven trial

Primary Efficacy Endpoint: CV Death, MI, or Stroke
Primary Safety Endpoint: TIMI Major Bleeding

REGASUS: Primary Endpoint



Primary efficacy measures and discontinuations in PEGASUS

PEGASUS Arm	Efficacy Events		Benefit	Discontinuations	ΔD
	Planned*	Reported**			
• Ticagrelor 90 •(N=7,050)	417	493	85	1,326	705
• Ticagrelor 60 •(N=7,045)	425	487	91	1,139	518
• Placebo •(N=7,067)	518	578	R	621	R

• All data – patient numbers, * - from Statistical Analyses Plan;
 • ** - PEGASUS-NEJM publication; R-reference; ΔD – differences in discontinuations compared to placebo

Vanished death benefit in PEGASUS

Trial/ Study/Arm	N	Clopidogrel	Mean follow-up	ACM	Δ-ACM
•					
•PLATO					
•Ticagrelor 180mg	9,333	46%	9.2 months	399	107
•Clopidogrel 75 mg	9,291	100%		506	
•(HR-0.78; 95%CI 0.69-0.79, p<0.001)					
•					
•PEGASUS					
•Ticagrelor 180mg	7,050	None	33 months	326	Zero
Placebo	7,067	None		326	
•(HR-1.00; 95%CI 0.86-1.16, p=0.99)					
•					
<hr/>					
•ACM – all-cause mortality					

Oncology in PLATO vs. PEGASUS

Trial/Arm	Outcomes (n,%)	RR	95% CI	p-value
PLATO	New Onset	0.95	0.73 – 1.22	0.69
• Ticagrelor	115 (1.2%)			
• Clopidogrel	121 (1.3%)			
•				
PEGASUS	Death	1.46	1.02 – 2.06	0.034
• Ticagrelor	77 (1.1%)			
• Placebo	53 (0.76%)			

Impressions:

- Despite some tactical achievements, there are no strategic wins for novel antiplatelet agents beyond clopidogrel glory
- Broad FDA approvals even with the best possible broad indications are still not sufficient for success
- Beyond controlled PLATO mortality evidence, all other studies suggest inferiority of Ticagrelor over Clopidogrel with regard to death benefit.

Unless we want a complete vacuum (see stroke arena), the radical change of how we do cardiovascular clinical trials is mandatory needed

- The guilty party? Name one which is not
- Top priority – restore trust
- Top problem – lack of shareholders control

