

***REAL CAD study : What would be the clinical benefit from high dose PIV ?***

**Soo-Joong Kim M.D., PhD.**

**Department of Cardiology, Internal Medicine,**

**Kyung Hee University Hospital**

# Contents



**Benefits of Intensive Lipid-Lowering Therapy Using Statins**



**REAL-CAD study Design**

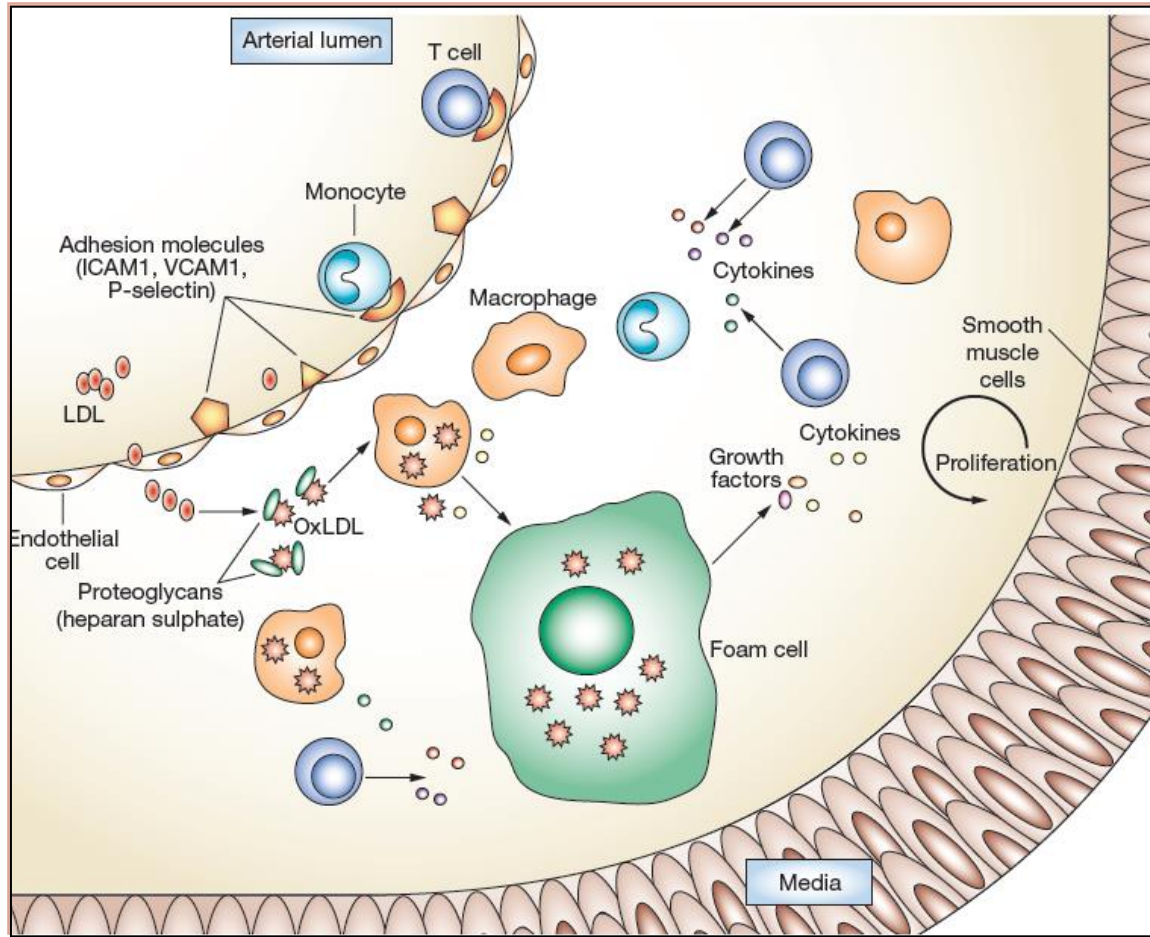


**REAL-CAD study Results**



**REAL-CAD study Conclusion**

# Atherosclerosis is the most common pathologic condition leading to cardiovascular disease

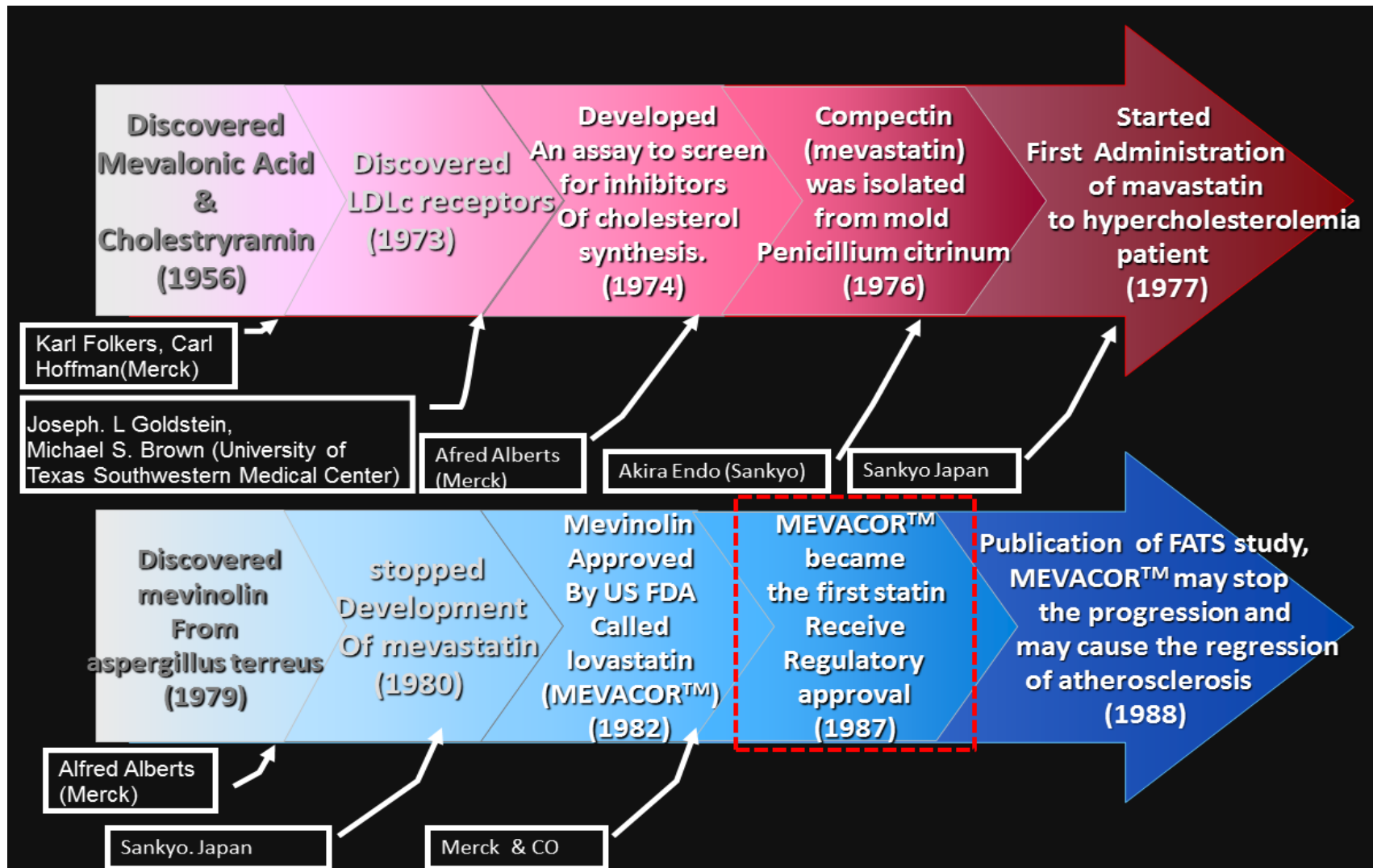


- A dynamic disease process clinically characterized by narrowing of the arterial lumen due to **accumulation of atherogenic lipoproteins and inflammatory cells**
- Complex interaction of **lipoproteins, inflammatory cells, and the arterial wall**

# Relationship of atherosclerosis & cardiovascular disease

- **Cardiovascular disease (CVD)** due to **atherosclerosis** of the arterial vessel wall and to thrombosis is the foremost cause of premature mortality and of disability-adjusted life years (dalys) .
- **The management of dyslipidemias** as an essential and integral part of **CVD prevention**.
- **Dyslipidemias** cover a broad spectrum of lipid abnormalities, some of which are of great importance in CVD prevention.

# Birth of Statin



# Statin established solid evidence based on landmark trials

## Landmark Statin Trials

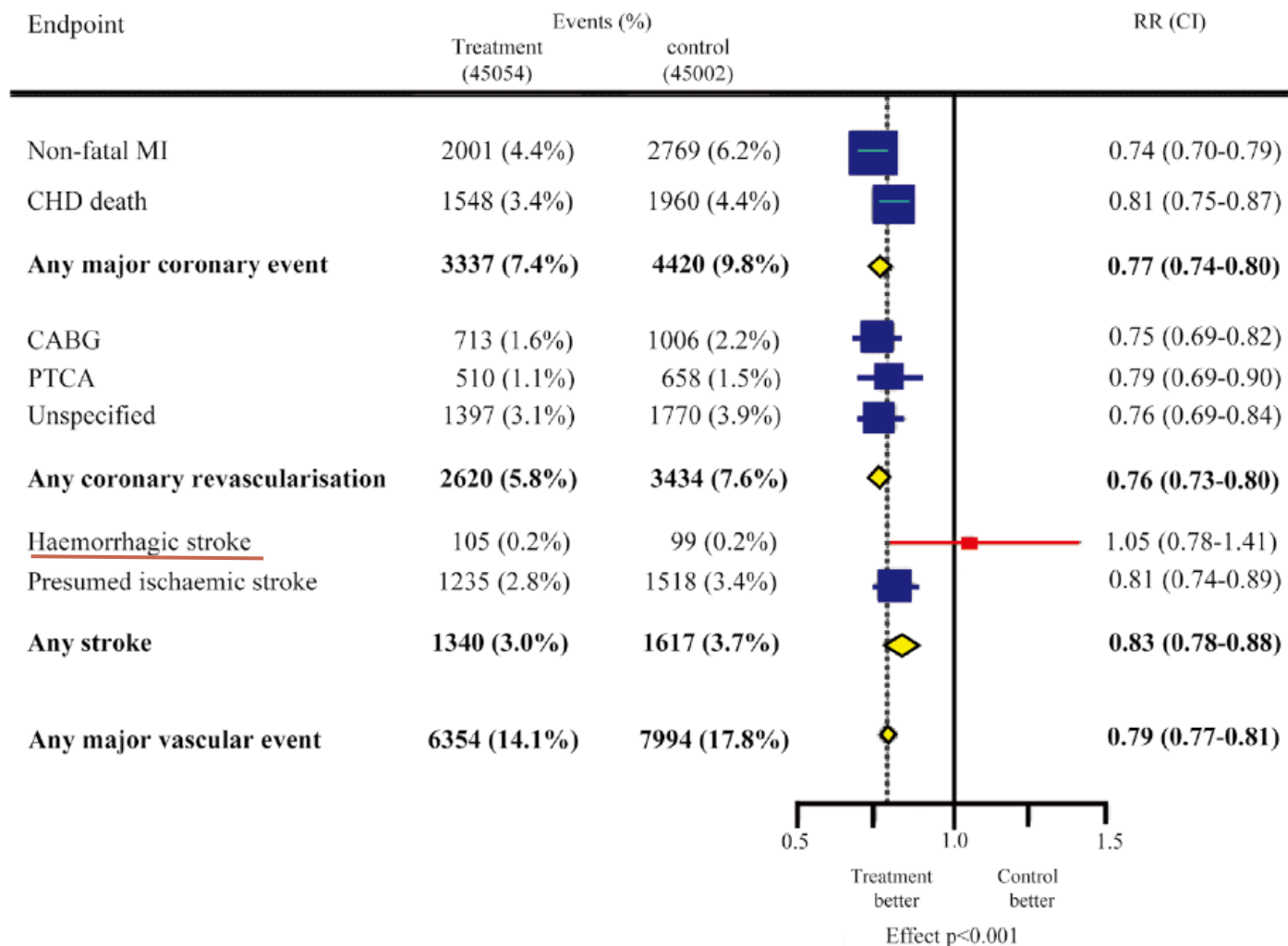
### *Lots of Evidence*

AFCAPS/TexCaps, WOSCOPS, ALLHAT, CARE, LIPID, PROSPER, 4S, HPS, A-to-Z  
MIRACL, CARDS, PROVE-IT, ALLIANCE, 4D, ASCOT-LLA, IDEAL, TNT, SPARCL,  
AURORA, CORONA, GISSI-HF, JUPITER, SEAS, SHARP, IMPROVE-IT

- **Statin**
  - The only proven medicine in 1° & 2° prevention and atherosclerosis

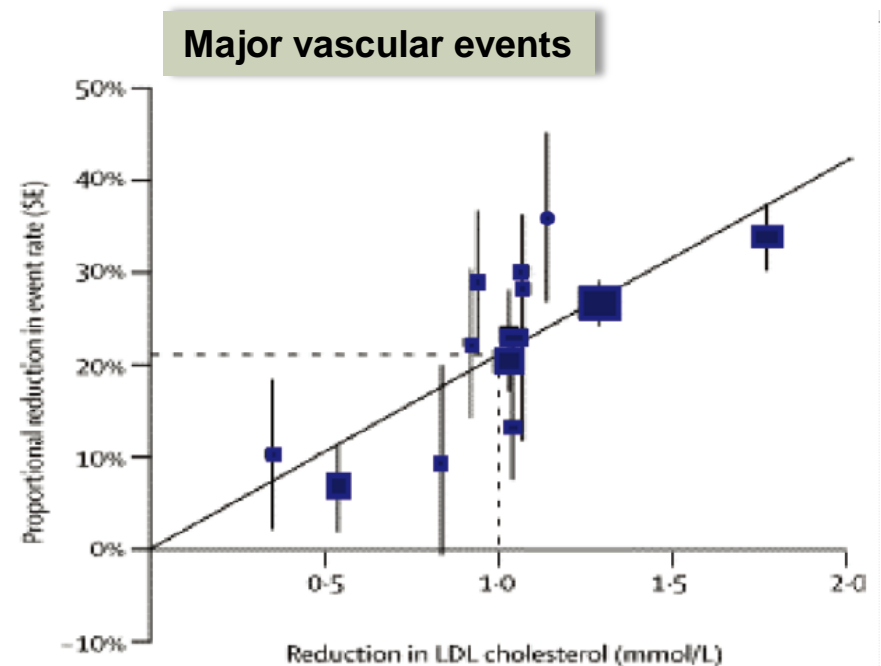
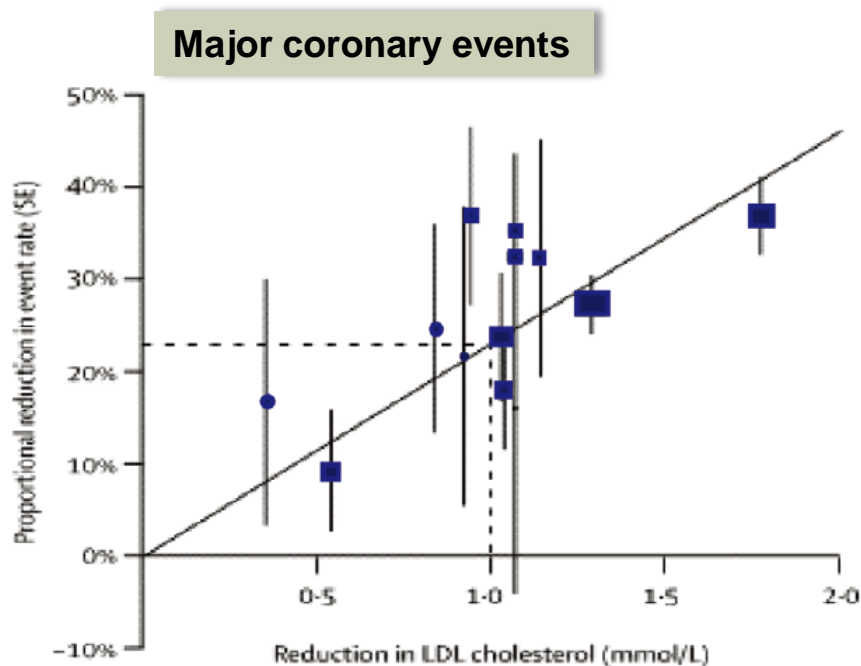
# Effect on vascular events reduction in LDL-C

- Proportional effect on major vascular events per mmol/L reduction in LDL-C.



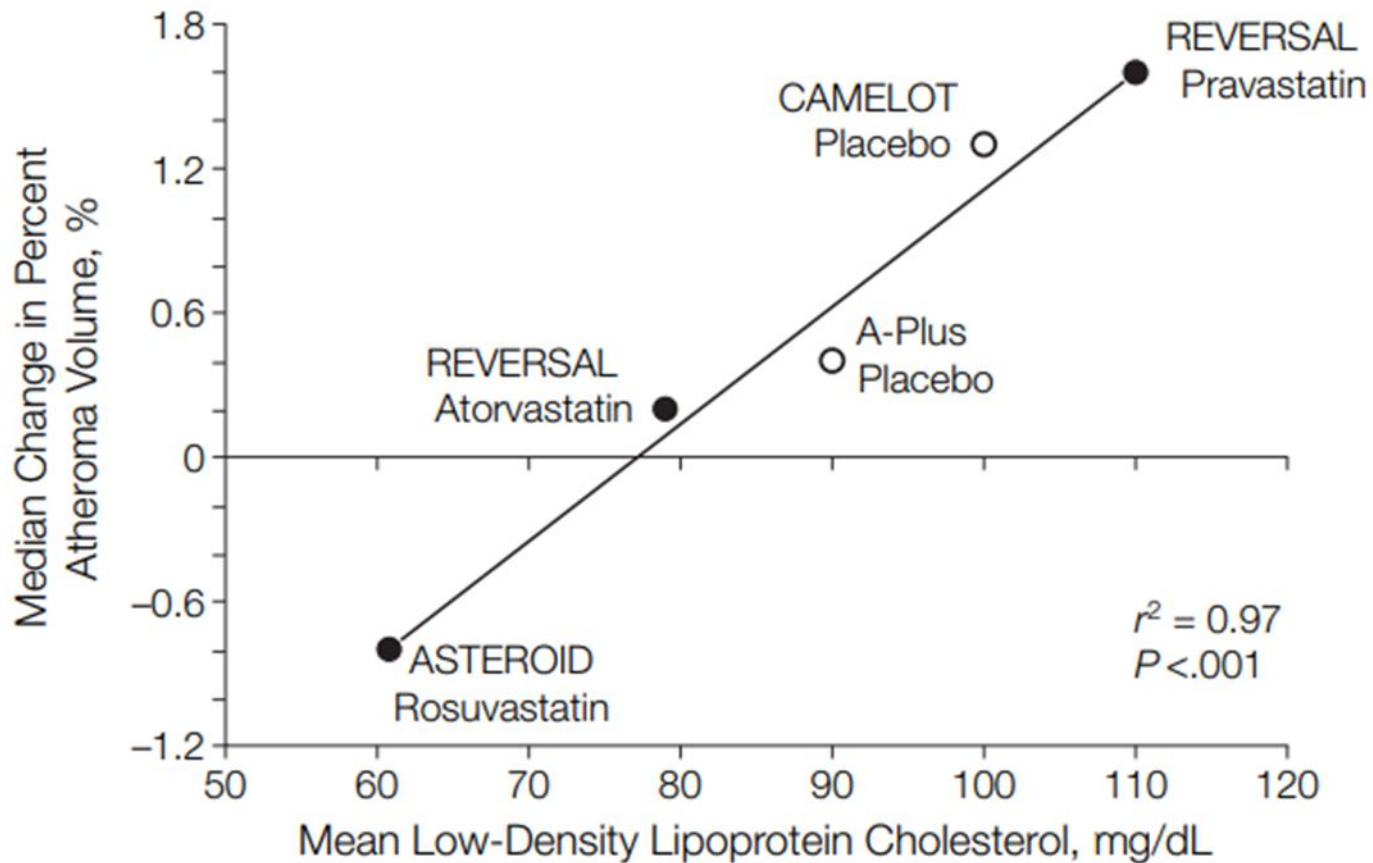
# Relationship between proportional reduction in the incidence of events

- Relationship between proportional reduction in the incidence of major coronary events (Left) and major vascular events (Right) and mean absolute LDL-C at 1 year.





# Relationship between mean LDL-C levels and mean % change in plaque volume



**Lower LDL-C is better.**

# Recommendation of statin therapy

- Recommendations for Lipid-lowering Therapy in Patients with Established CAD

**ACC/AHA guideline: High-intensity statin therapy**

atorvastatin 40/80 mg, rosuvastatin 20/40 mg, or simvastatin 80 mg

- Previous “More versus Less” Statins Trials

	LDL-C Reduction (mmol/L)	Events (% per annum)		Unweighted RR (CI)	
		Statin/more	Control/less		
<b>More vs less statin</b>					
PROVE-IT	0.65	406 (11.3%)	458 (13.1%)		Trend: $\chi^2_1=12.4$ ( $p=0.0004$ )
TNT	0.62	889 (4.0%)	1,164 (5.4%)		
IDEAL	0.55	938 (5.2%)	1,106 (6.3%)		
SEARCH	0.39	1,347 (3.6%)	1,406 (3.8%)		
A to Z	0.30	257 (7.2%)	282 (8.1%)		
<b>Subtotal (5 trials)</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>3,837/19,829 (4.5%)</b>	<b>4,416/19,783 (5.3%)</b>	<b>0.85 (0.82-0.89)</b>	<b><math>p&lt;0.0001</math></b>

# Primary Outcome in White and East Asian Populations

- HOPE-3 trial- supplementary appendix

**Table 1.** Primary Outcome in the White and East Asian Populations at a Median Follow-up of 5.6 Years.\*

Population	No. of Patients	Rosuvastatin	Placebo	Relative Risk Reduction	Absolute Risk Reduction
		<i>no./total no. (%)</i>		<i>%</i>	<i>percentage points</i>
White	2546	36/1286 (2.8)	58/1260 (4.6)	39.2	1.8
East Asian	3691	53/1854 (2.9)	69/1837 (3.8)	23.9	0.9

\* The primary outcome was the composite of death from cardiovascular causes, nonfatal myocardial infarction, or non-fatal stroke. Rosuvastatin was administered at a dose of 10 mg once daily. White indicates persons of European descent, and East Asian persons of Chinese descent.

HOPE-3 trial shows that **among persons of European descent (whites), the absolute risk reduction in cardiovascular events with rosuvastatin was almost twice as much as that among Chinese persons (East Asians)** (1.8% points vs. 0.9% points).

# **REAL-CAD study**

# REAL-CAD study

## Does High-Intensity **Pitavastatin Therapy** Further **Improve Clinical Outcomes?**

### The **REAL-CAD Study** in 13,054 Patients With Stable Coronary Artery Disease

Takeshi Kimura, Teruo Inoue, Isao Taguchi, Hiroshi Iwata, Satoshi Iimuro, Takafumi Hiro, Yoshihisa Nakagawa, Yukio Ozaki, Yasuo Ohashi, Hiroyuki Daida, Hiroaki Shimokawa, Ryozo Nagai,

on behalf of the **REAL-CAD Study Investigators**

# Backgrounds and Objectives

The high-intensity statins are not widely used in daily clinical practice, particularly in Asia. **No clear evidence** regarding “more versus less” statins has been established in **Asian population**. Furthermore, maximum approved doses of statins are prescribed only very infrequently in Korea.

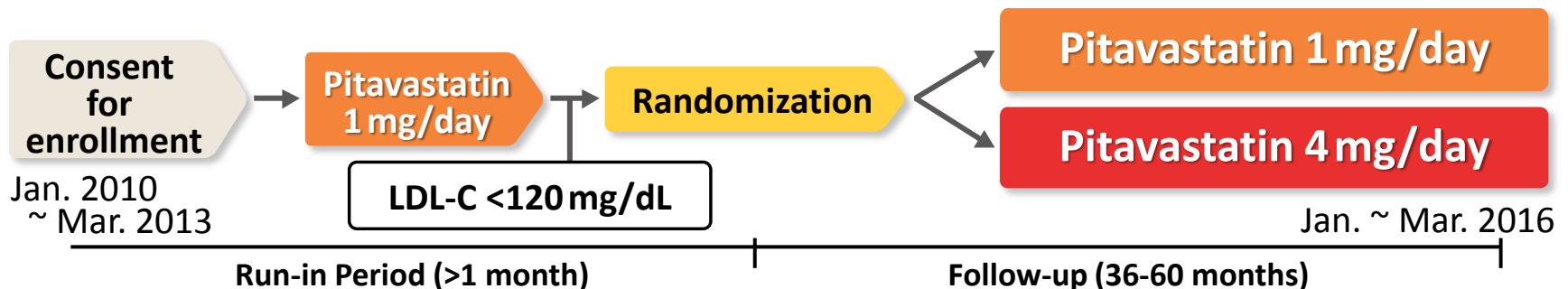
Therefore, we sought to determine whether **higher-dose statin therapy would be beneficial in Asian patients in the largest-ever trial** comparing the efficacy of high-dose versus low-dose statin therapy in patients with established stable CAD.

# REAL-CAD study

## ▪ Randomized Evaluation of Aggressive or Moderate Lipid Lowering Therapy with Pitavastatin in Coronary Artery Disease

A prospective, multi-center, randomized, open-label, blinded endpoint, physician-initiated trial to determine whether high-dose as compared with low-dose pitavastatin therapy within the approved dose range could reduce CV events in Japanese patients with stable CAD.

- Eligibility:**
- Men and women, 20-80 years of age
  - Stable CAD:
    - ACS or PCI/CABG >3 months
    - Clinical diagnosis of CAD with coronary stenosis  $\geq 50\%$  diameter stenosis
  - LDL-C <120 mg/dL on pitavastatin 1 mg/day during the run-in period



Pitavastatin 1 mg and 4 mg have LDL-C lowering effect comparable to atorvastatin 5 mg and 20 mg, respectively.

Circulation. 2018 May 8;137(19):1997-2009

# Study Design

**PEP : composite of CV death, non-fatal MI, non-fatal ischemic stroke, or unstable angina**  
requiring emergency hospitalization

## **Sample size calculation**

Hypothesis: 16% relative risk reduction with the high-dose pitavastatin Tx

Assumptions: Annual primary endpoint event rate of 2.5%, Drop-out rate of 10%

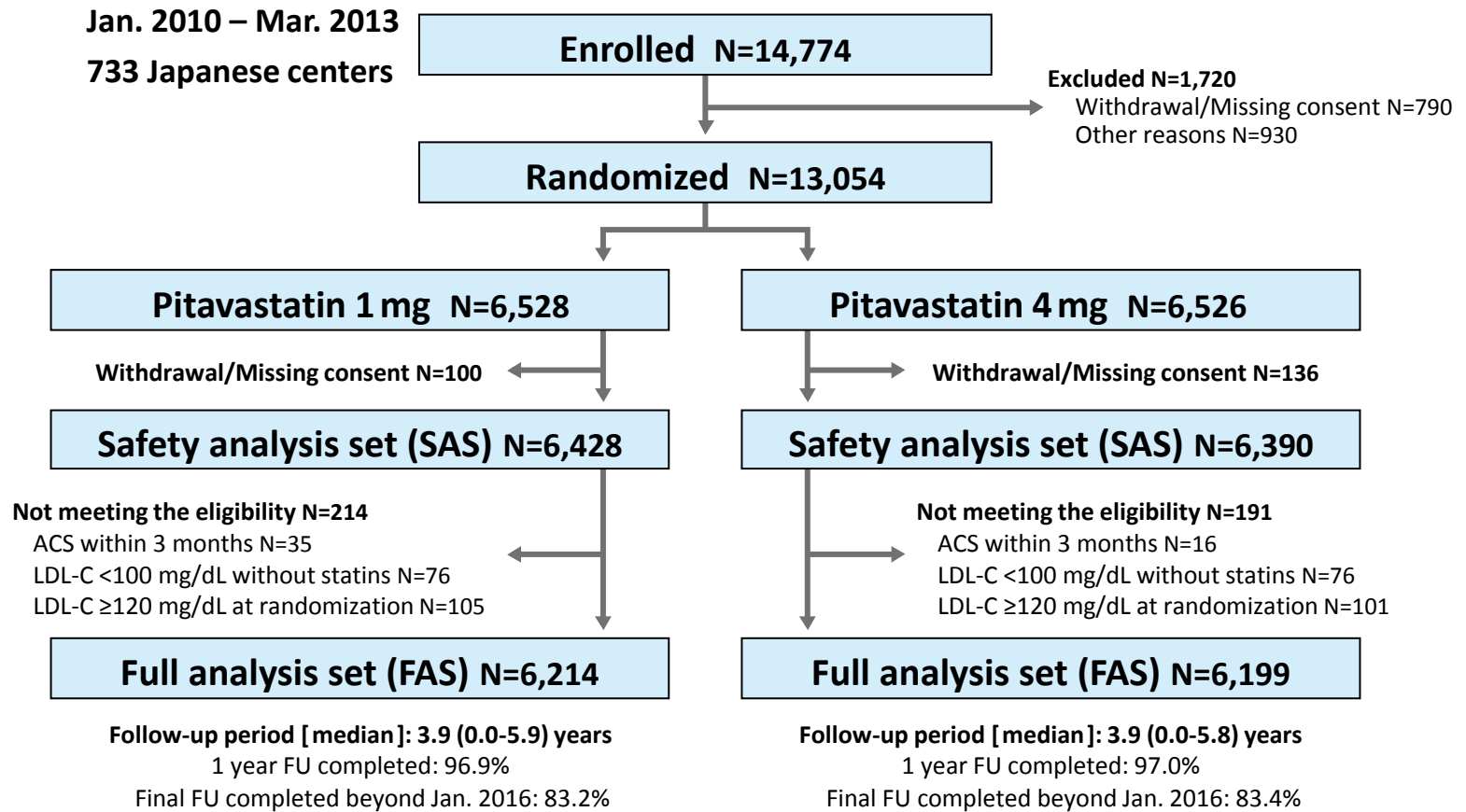
Sample size: 12,600 patients were to be enrolled with anticipated 1,033 events  
during the planned 3 years of enrollment and at least 3 years of follow-up.

Power: 80%, Alpha: 0.05

The actual event rate was lower than anticipated. On October 27, 2015, the steering committee decided not to extend the study further despite the original event-driven trial design, because substantial number of centers were reluctant to extend the study further.



# Study Patient Flow



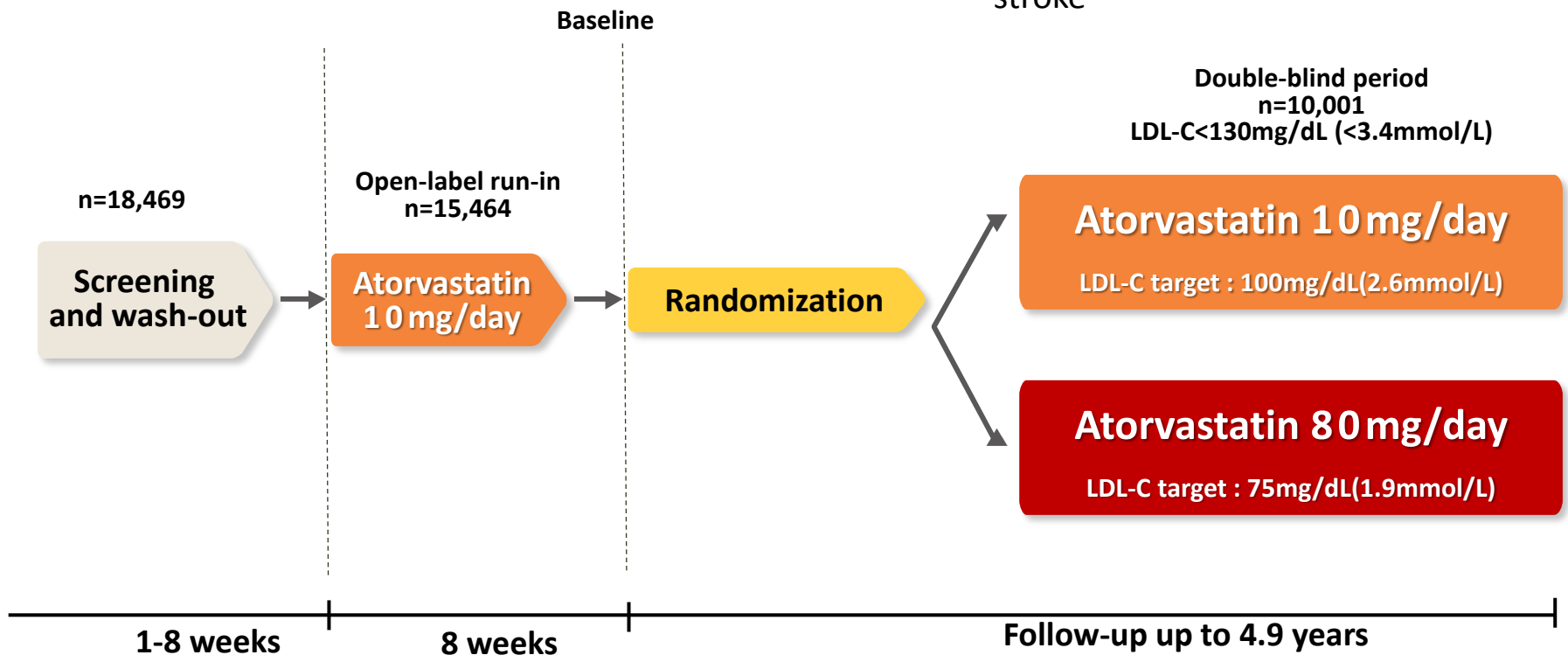
# Design : REAL-CAD vs. TNT

## Patient population :

- CHD
- LDL-C : 130-250mg/dL(3.4-6.5mmol/L)
- Triglycerides ≤600mg/dL(≤6.8mmol/L)

## Primary endpoint

- Time to occurrence of a major CV event
  - coronary heart disease death
  - nonfatal myocardial infarction
  - resuscitated cardiac arrest
  - stroke



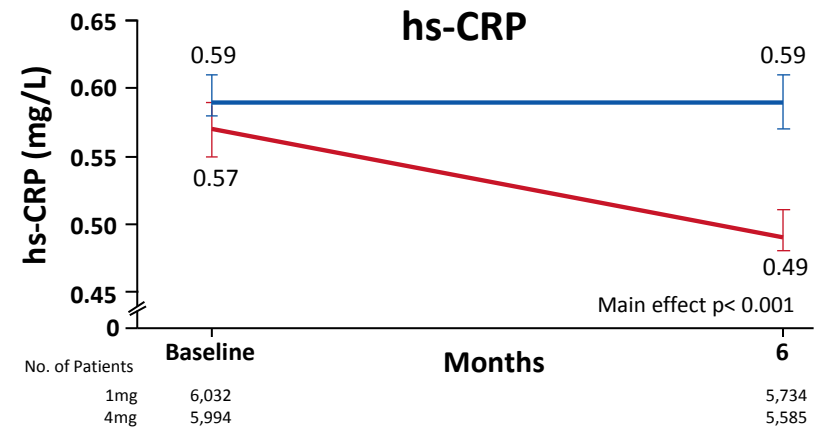
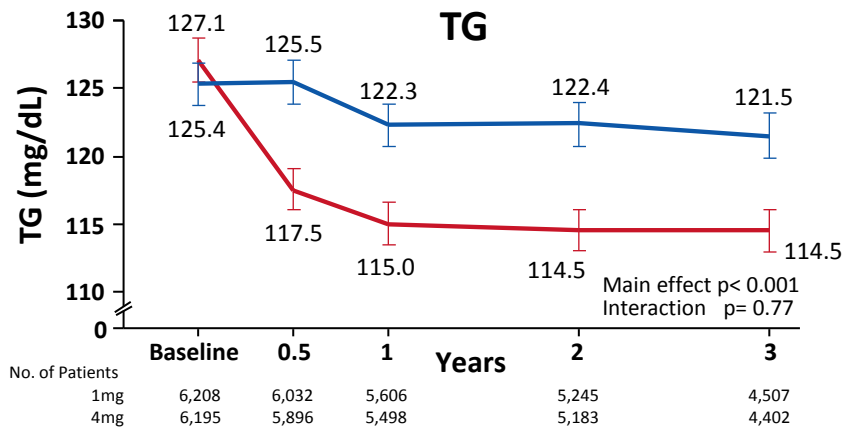
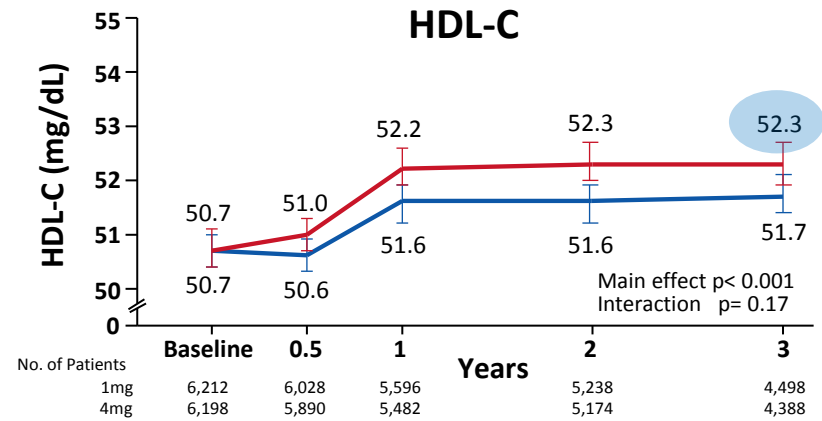
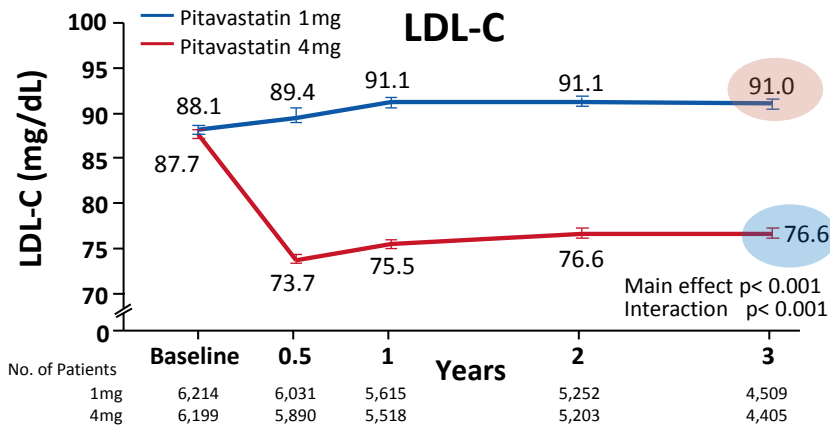
# Baseline Characteristics

Variables	Pitavastatin 1 mg (N=6,214)	Pitavastatin 4 mg (N=6,199)
<b>Age — years</b>	<b>68.1±8.3</b>	<b>68.0±8.3</b>
Male sex	83%	83%
BMI — kg/m <sup>2</sup>	24.6±3.4	24.6±3.3
<b>Hypertension</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>76%</b>
<b>Diabetes mellitus</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>40%</b>
Current smoking	16%	17%
History of ACS	72%	72%
ACS within 1 year before randomization	24%	24%
<b>Coronary revascularization</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>90%</b>
Revascularization within 1 year before randomization	28%	28%
Ischemic stroke	7%	7%
Peripheral vascular disease	7%	7%
<b>CKD (eGFR &lt;60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>Aspirin</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>92%</b>
DAPT	45%	44%
<b>Statins before enrollment</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>91%</b>

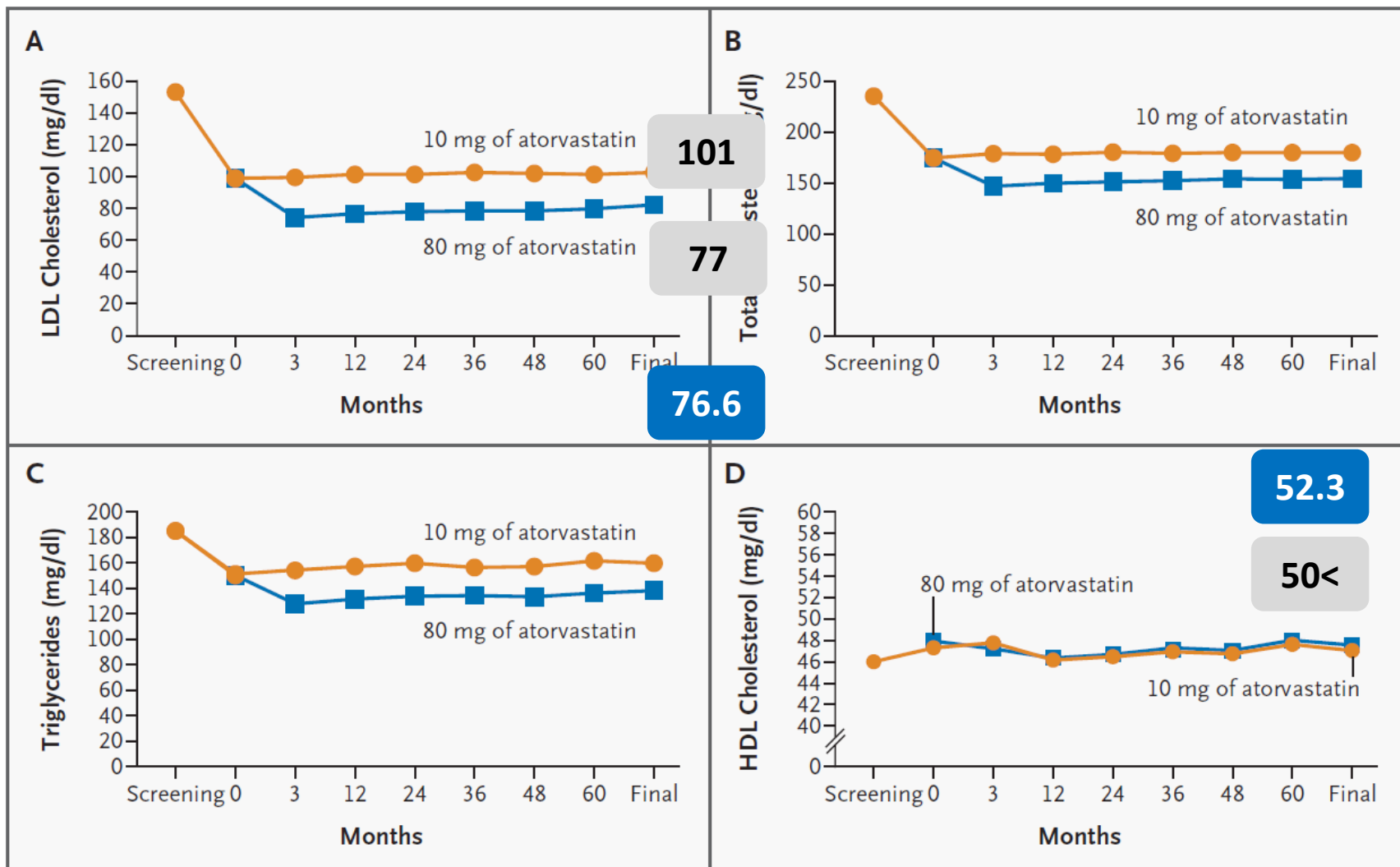
# Baseline Characteristics : REAL-CAD vs. TNT

Characteristic	REAL-CAD	Atorvastatin 10 mg (N=5,006)	Atorvastatin 80 mg (N=4,995)
		<b>10 yrs older</b>	
<b>Age — years</b>		<b>60.9±8.8</b>	<b>61.2±8.8</b>
Male sex – no. (%)		4045 (80.8)	4054 (81.2)
<b>White race – no. (%)</b>	<b>All ASIAN</b>	<b>4711 (94.1)</b>	<b>4669 (94.1)</b>
Systolic blood pressure - mmHg		131±17	131±17
Diastolic blood pressure - mmHg		78±10	78±10
Body mass index		28.6±4.7	28.4±4.5
Cardiovascular history – no. (%)			
Current smoker		672 (13.4)	669 (13.4)
Former smoker		3167 (63.3)	3155 (63.2)
<b>Systemic hypertension</b>	<b>More HT (75%)</b>	<b>2721 (54.4)</b>	<b>2692 (53.9)</b>
<b>History of diabetes mellitus</b>	<b>More DM (40%)</b>	<b>753 (15.0)</b>	<b>748 (15.0)</b>
Myocardial infarction		2888 (57.7)	2945 (59.0)
Angina		4067 (81.2)	4084 (81.8)
Cerebrovascular accident		263 (5.3)	255 (5.1)
Peripheral-artery disease		570 (11.4)	603 (12.1)
Congestive heart failure		404 (8.1)	377 (7.6)
Arrhythmia		927 (18.5)	907 (18.2)
Coronary revascularization			
Angioplasty		2719 (54.3)	266 (53.8)
Bypass		233 (46.7)	2317 (46.4)

# Serial Changes in Lipid Parameters & hs-CRP

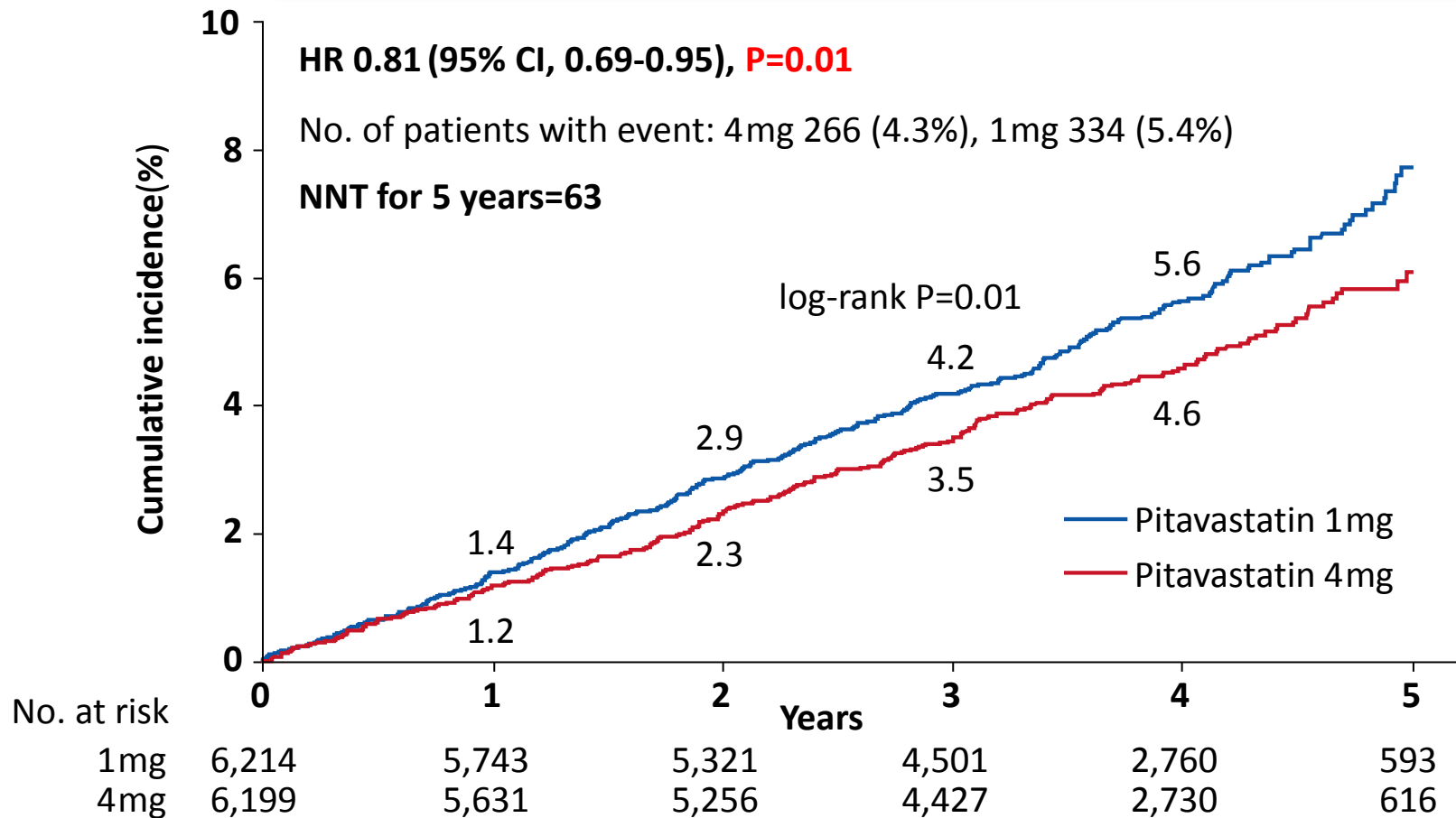


# Lipid profile : REAL-CAD vs. TNT



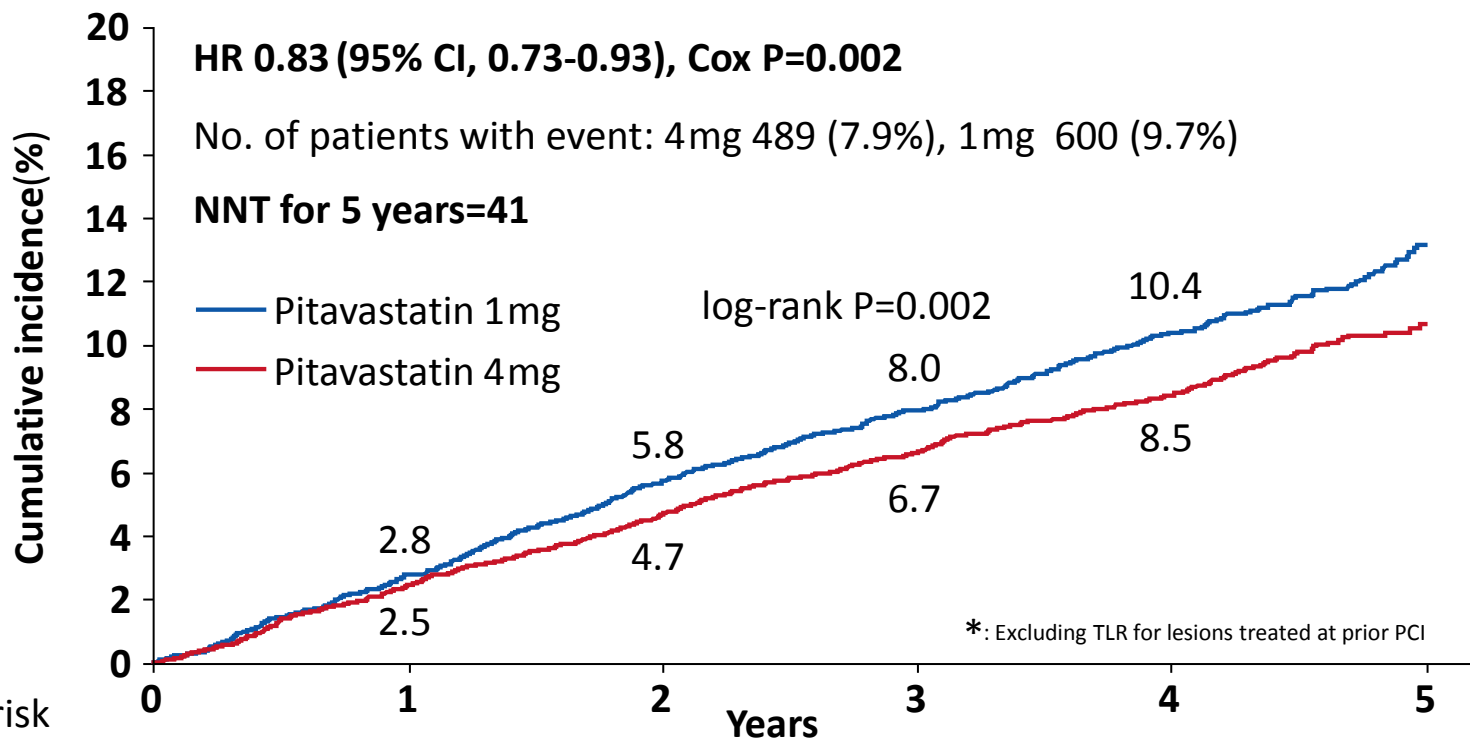
# Primary Endpoint

## CV death/ MI/ Ischemic stroke/ UA



# Secondary Endpoint

## Primary Endpoint plus Coronary Revascularization\*



No. at risk

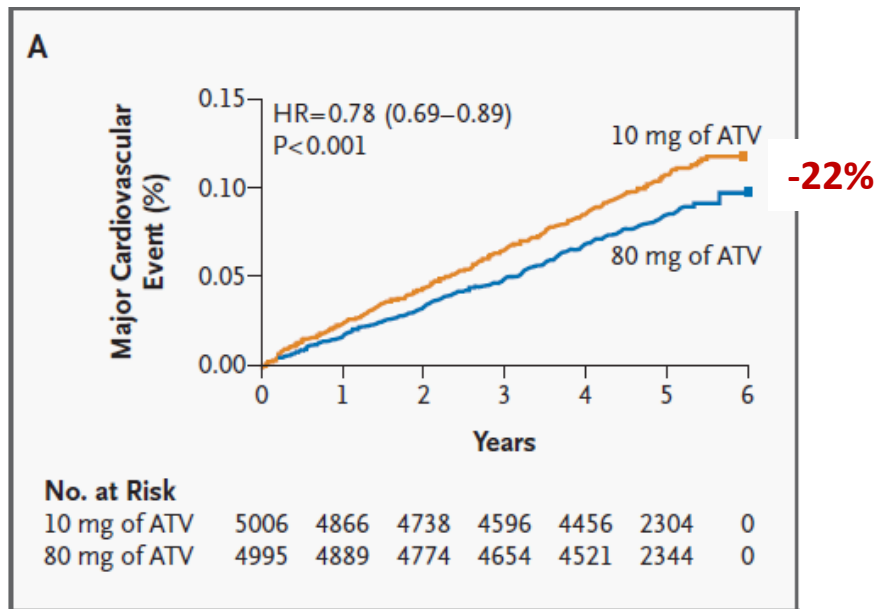
	0	1	2	3	4	5
1mg	6,214	5,660	5,166	4,327	2,627	561
4mg	6,199	5,556	5,131	4,277	2,617	588

\*: Excluding TLR for lesions treated at prior PCI

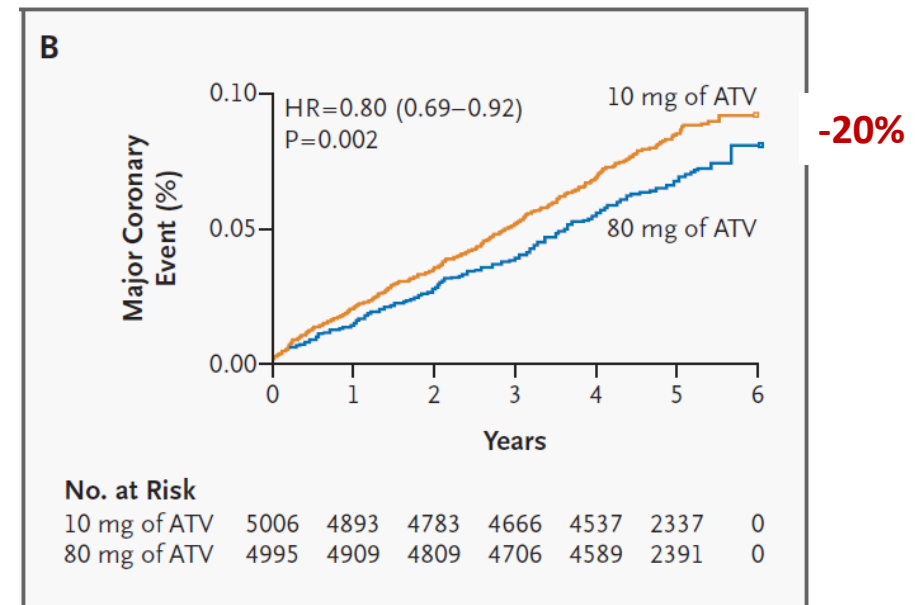


# Primary Endpoint : REAL-CAD vs. TNT

- The relative **reduction in the risk** of the **primary** composite end point of death from CHD, nonfatal non-procedure-related myocardial infarction, resuscitation after cardiac arrest, and fatal or nonfatal stroke was **22 percent** in the group given 80 mg of atorvastatin, as compared with the group given 10 mg of atorvastatin.



A : Cumulative Incidence of a First Major Cardiovascular Event



B : Cumulative Incidence of a First Major Coronary Event

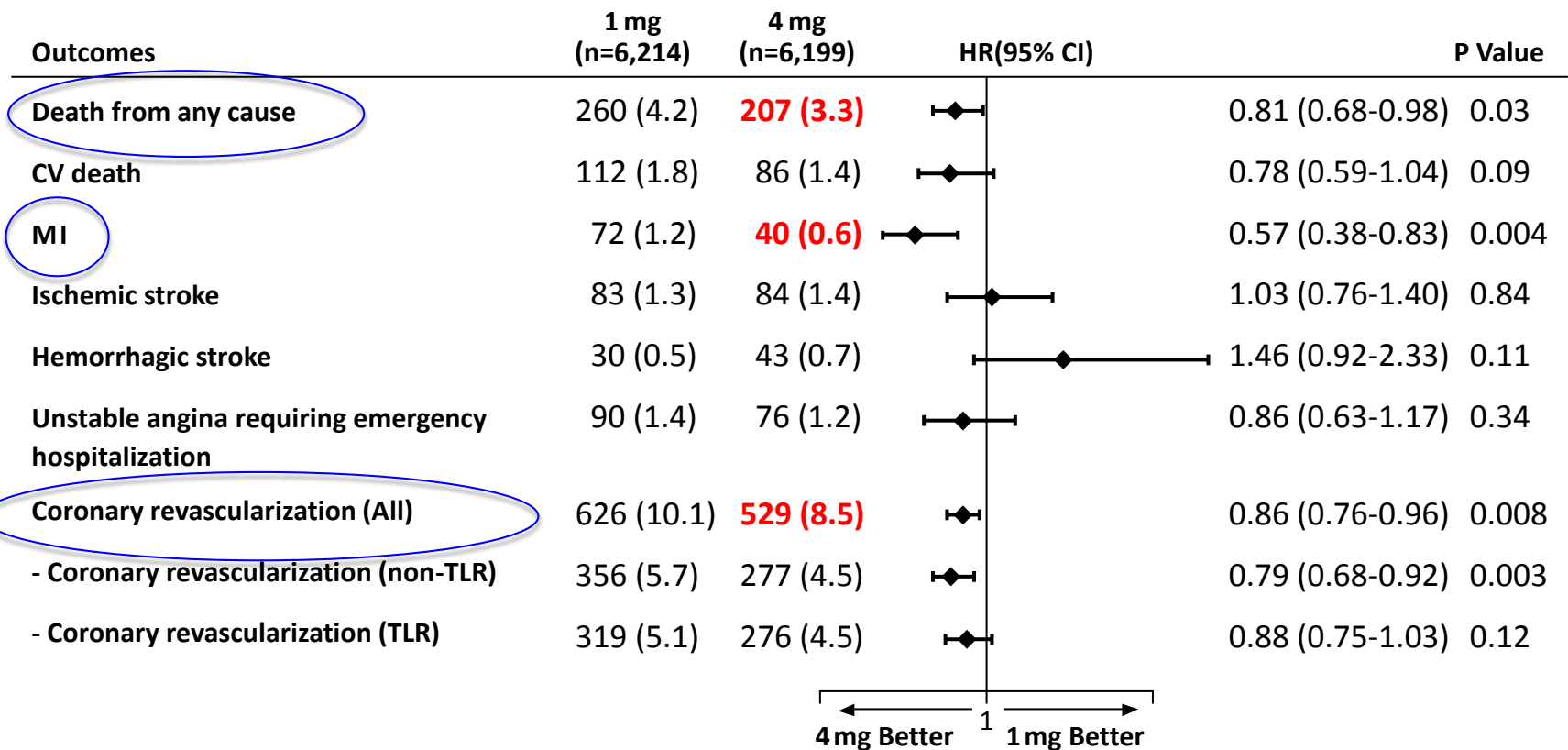
# Other Secondary Endpoint : REAL-CAD vs. TNT

- The study was **not** adequately powered to detect changes in the **risk of death from any cause**.

Outcomes	No. with first event (%)		HR(95% CI)	P Value
	10 mg ATV (n=5,006)	80 mg ATV (n=4,995)		
<b>Primary outcome</b>				
Total major cardiovascular events	548 (10.9)	434 (8.7)	0.78 (0.69 – 0.89)	<0.001
Death from CHD	127 (2.5)	101 (2.0)	0.80 (0.61 – 1.03)	0.09
Nonfatal, non-procedure-related MI	308 (6.2)	243 (4.9)	0.78 (0.66 – 0.93)	0.004
Resuscitation after cardiac arrest	26 (0.5)	25 (0.5)	0.96 (0.56 – 1.67)	0.89
Fatal or nonfatal stroke	155 (3.1)	117 (2.3)	0.75 (0.59 – 0.96)	0.02
<b>Secondary outcome</b>				
Major coronary event	418 (8.3)	334 (6.7)	0.80 (0.69 – 0.92)	0.002
Cerebrovascular event	250 (5.0)	196 (3.9)	0.77 (0.64 – 0.93)	0.007
Hospitalization for congestive heart failure	164 (3.3)	122 (2.4)	0.74 (0.59 – 0.94)	0.01
Peripheral-artery disease	282 (5.6)	275 (5.5)	0.97 (0.83 – 1.15)	0.76
Death from any cause	282 (5.6)	284 (5.7)	1.01 (0.85 – 1.19)	0.92
Any cardiovascular event	1677 (33.5)	1405 (28.1)	0.81 (0.75 – 0.87)	<0.001
Any coronary event	1326 (26.5)	1078 (21.6)	0.79 (0.73 – 0.86)	<0.001

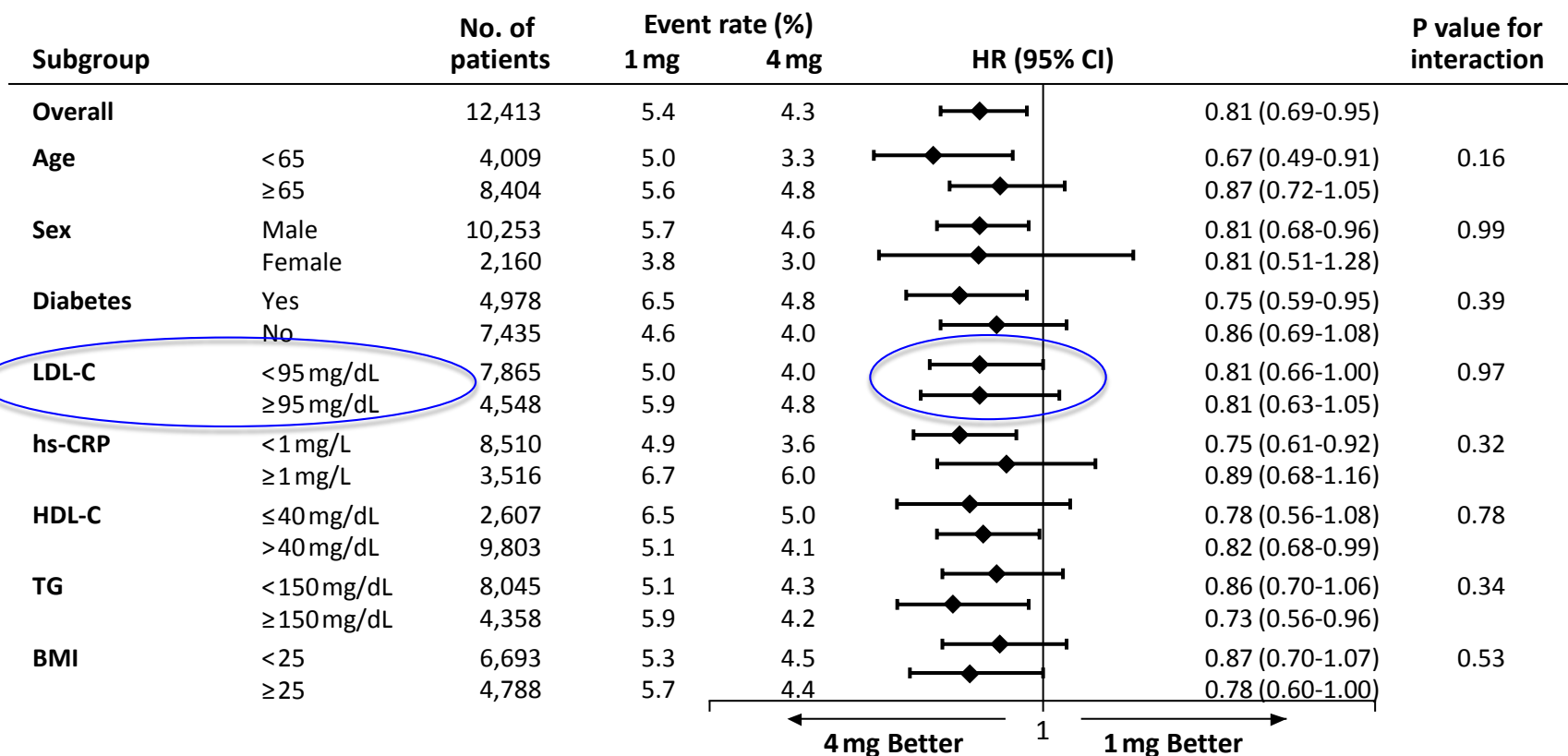
# Other Secondary Endpoints

No. of patients with event (%)



# Subgroup Analyses

- Primary Endpoint (CV death/MI/Ischemic stroke/UA)



# Safety Outcome

Event	Pitavastatin 1 mg (N=6,428)	Pitavastatin 4 mg (N=6,390)	P value
Adverse events — N (%)			
Rhabdomyolysis	1 (0.0)	2 (0.0)	0.62
Muscle complaints	45 (0.7)	121 (1.9)	<0.001
<b>New onset of diabetes mellitus</b>	279 (4.3)	285 (4.5)	0.76
Laboratory test abnormalities — N (%)			
Elevation of ALT, AST, or both $\geq 3$ ULN	174 (2.7)	187(2.9)	0.46
Elevation of CK $\geq 5$ ULN	40 (0.6)	42 (0.7)	0.83

# Conclusions and Implications

- REAL-CAD is currently **the largest randomized trial** to compare high-dose and low-dose statin therapy.
- It was also **the first** such trial performed in Asia.
- **High-dose (4 mg/day)** as compared with low-dose (1 mg/day) pitavastatin therapy **significantly reduced CV events in Asian** patients with stable CAD.
- **All-cause death**, myocardial infarction, and clinically indicated coronary revascularization were **also significantly reduced**.
- Rates of serious adverse events were similar in the 2 treatment groups.

Thank you

