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Axxess Plus: The First DES for the Treatment of bifurcation Lesions

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*Cardiovascular Research Foundation
Columbia University Medical Center*



**Jeffrey W. Moses has no
relationships to disclose**



Randomized Study of Bifurcation Lesions with Sirolimus-eluting Stent

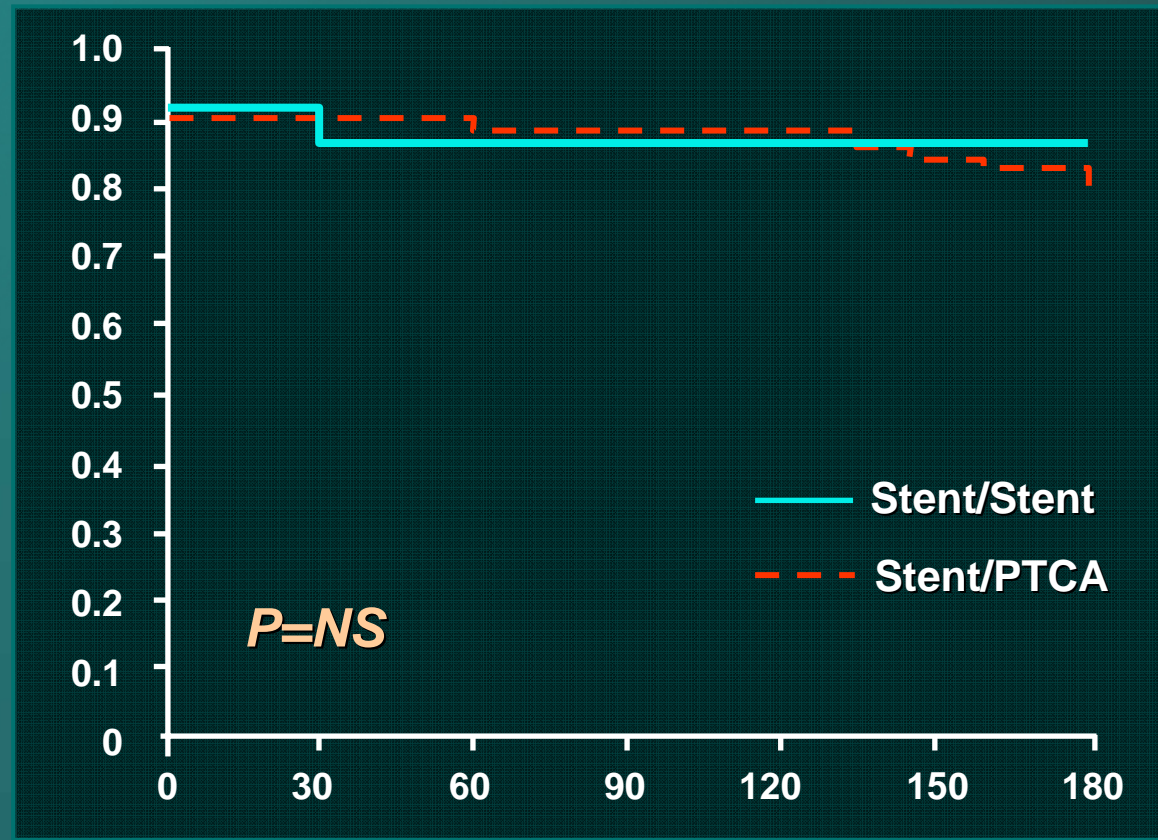
Restenosis and Major Adverse Cardiac Events at 6-month

P=NS for all comparisons	Stent/Stent n=63	Stent/PTCA n=22
Death	1 (1.6)	0
MI	7 (11.1)	2 (9.1)
TLR	6 (9.5)	1 (4.5)
TVR	7 (11.1)	2 (9.0)
MACE	12 (19.0)	3 (13.6)
MB restenosis	3/53 (5.7)	1/21 (4.8)
SB restenosis	12/55 (21.8)	3/21 (14.2)

Colombo A, et al. *Circulation*. 2004; 109: 1244-1249.

Randomized Study of Bifurcation Lesions with Sirolimus-eluting Stent

Treatment of Bifurcational Lesions

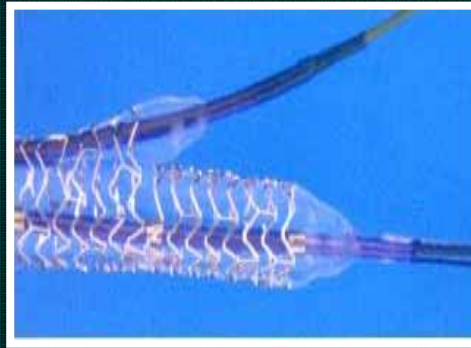


Kaplan-Meier survival estimates free of MACE at 6-month

Dedicated Bifurcation Stents



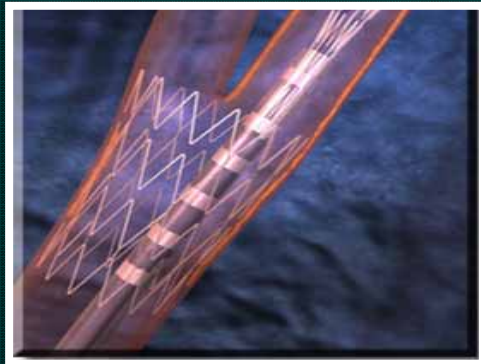
BSC/AST petal



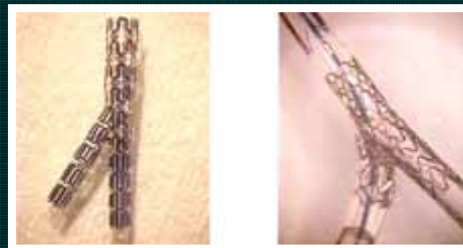
Guidant frontier



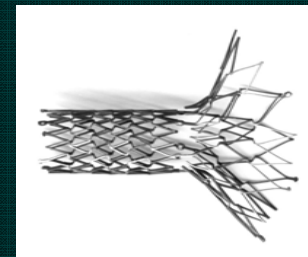
YMed sidekick



Devax (+ BA9)



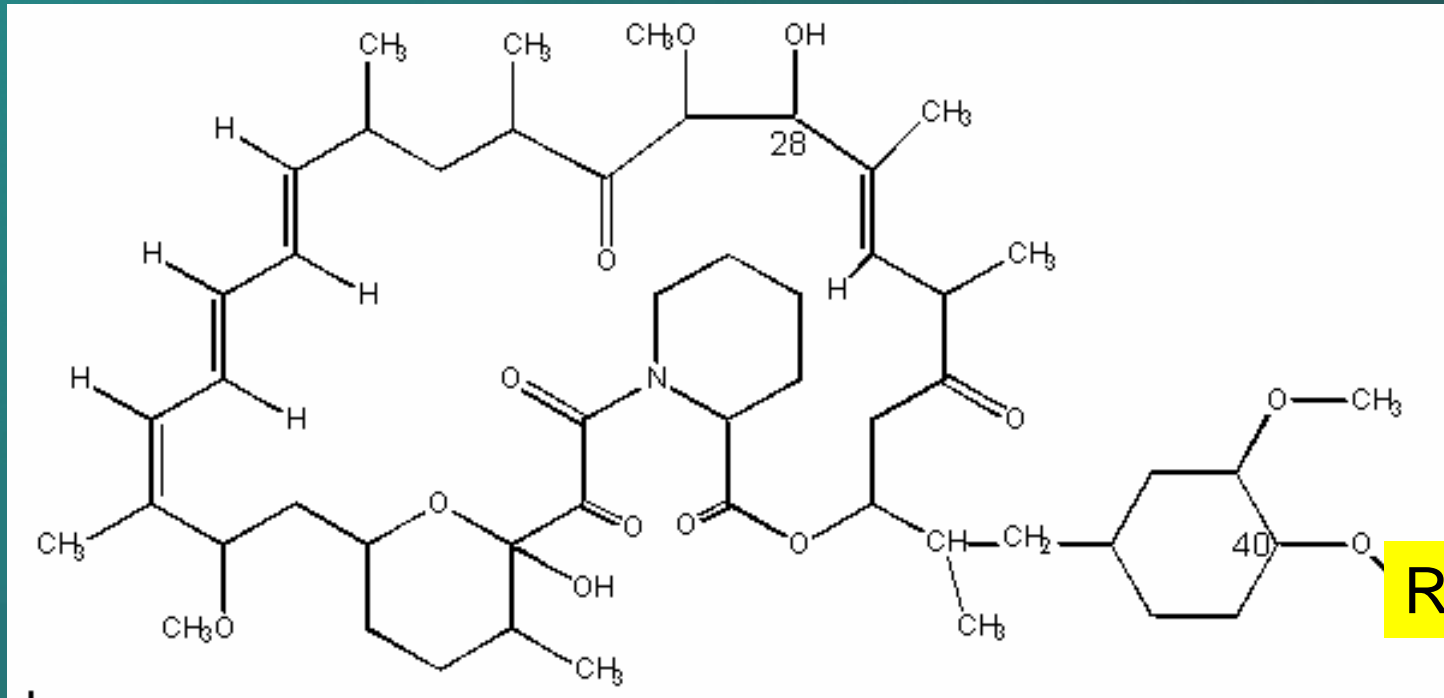
"True" Bifurcation Designs



Sidebranch Designs



Sirolimus, Everolimus, and Biolimus



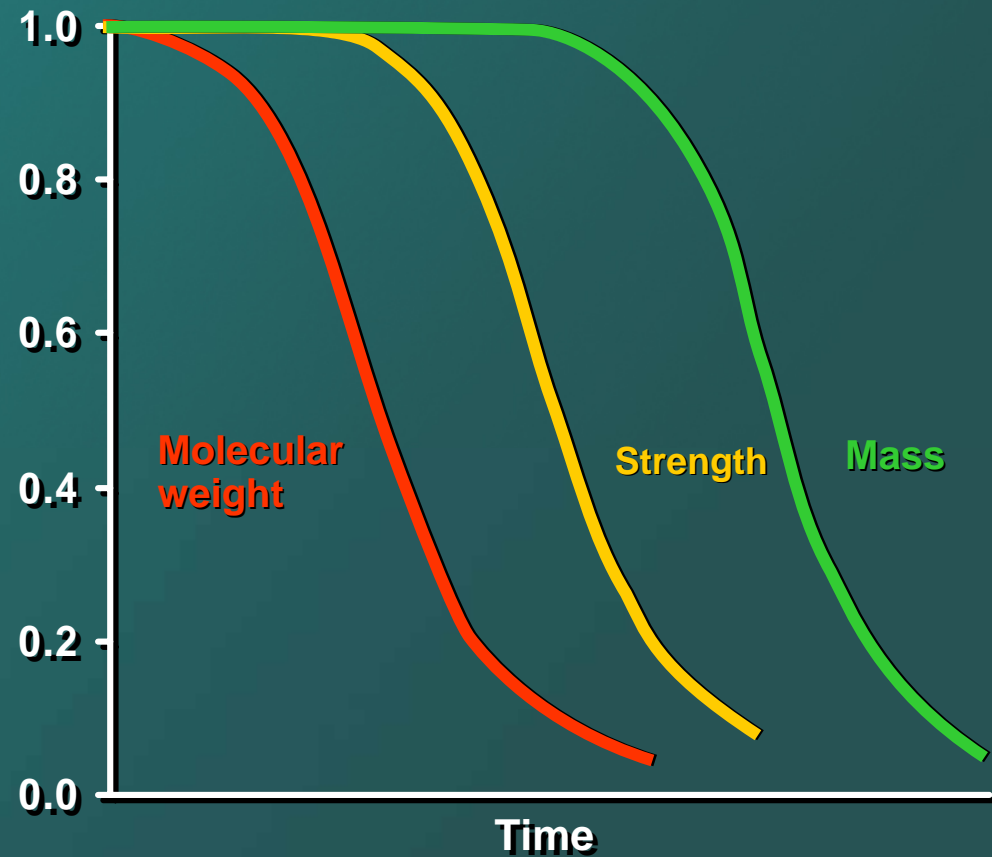
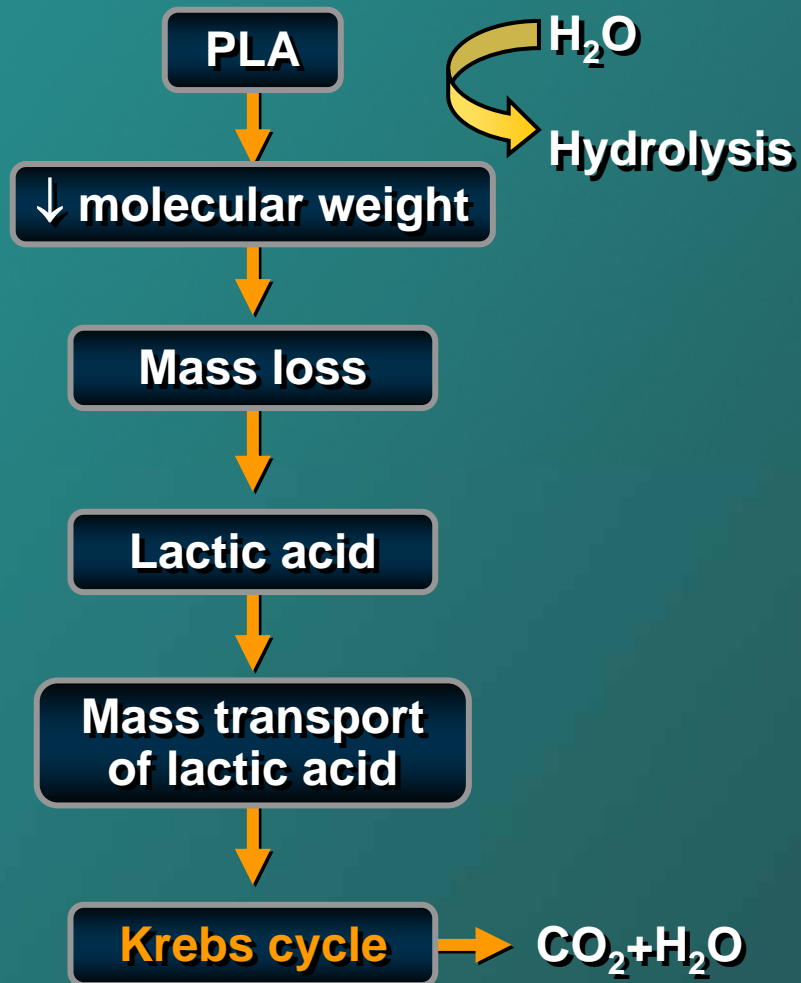
Sirolimus: R = H

Everolimus: R = CH₂CH₂OH

Biolimus: R = CH₂CH₂R'

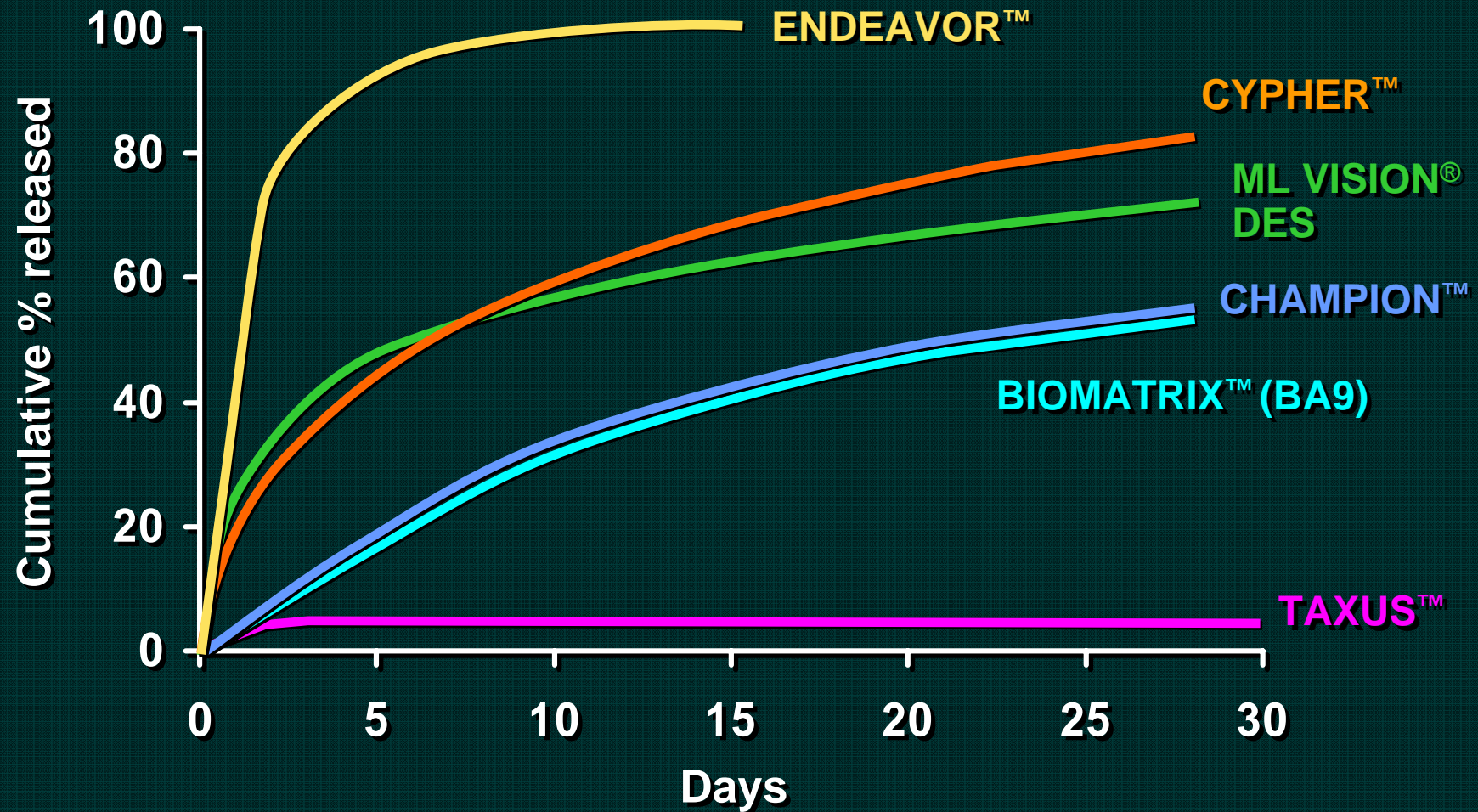


PLA Metabolic Pathway



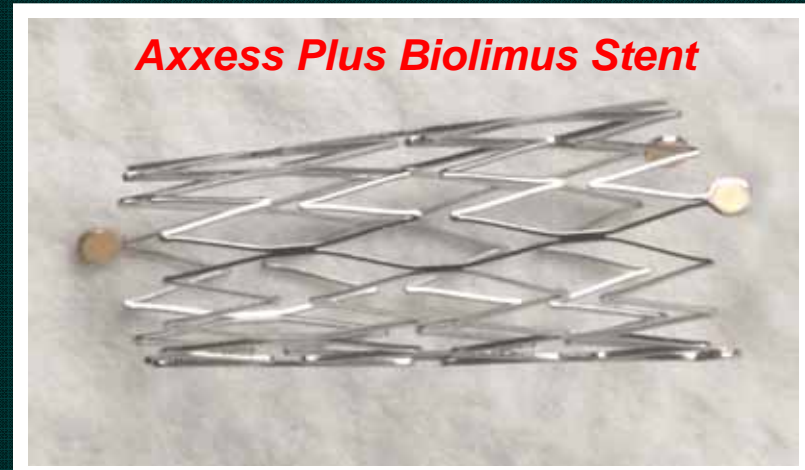
Generic curves showing the sequence of polymer-molecular weight, strength, and mass-reduction over time

Comparative Elution Profile of BioMatrix



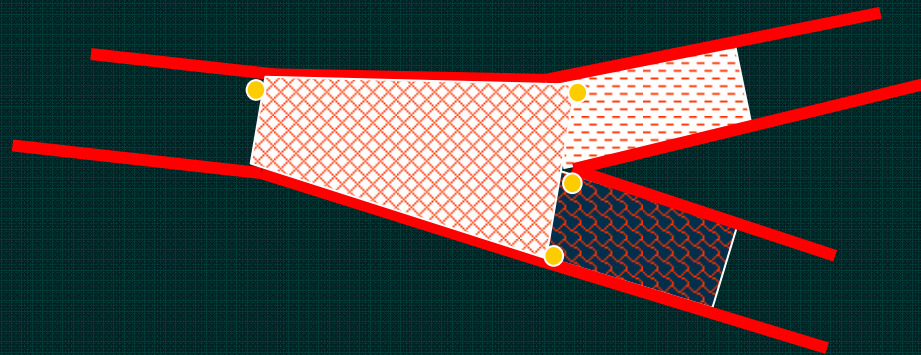
Axxess Plus Bifurcation Stent

- **Stent:** Self expanding nickel-titanium (Nitinol) alloy
 - 2.5, 3.0, or 3.5 diameter
 - 10, 14, or 20 mm length
- **Drug:** Biolimus A9, a sirolimus analog
- **Dose:** 22 ug/mm stent length
- **Drug carrier:** Bioabsorbable PLA polymer
- **Delivery:** covered sheath RX delivery catheter



AXXESS PLUS Concept

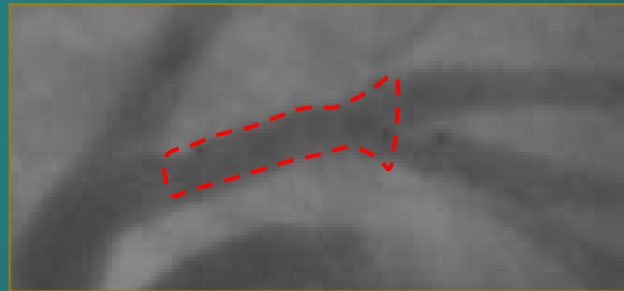
- The Axxess Plus stent is implanted at the level of the carina
- A successful implant will span the ostia of both branching vessels, indicated by the presence of one marker in each branch vessel



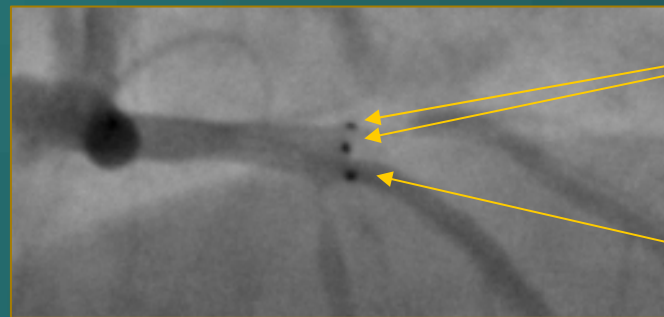
- Stents for the branch vessels are selected to match the length and diameter of the LAD and LCX

Why Self Expanding Stent?

The flared shape of the AXXESS PLUS stent matches the flared geometry of a bifurcation:



The Axxess Plus stent can expand into both the MB and SB, providing complete vessel coverage at the level of the carina:



2 distal stent markers in D1

1 distal stent marker in LAD



Why Self Expanding Stent?

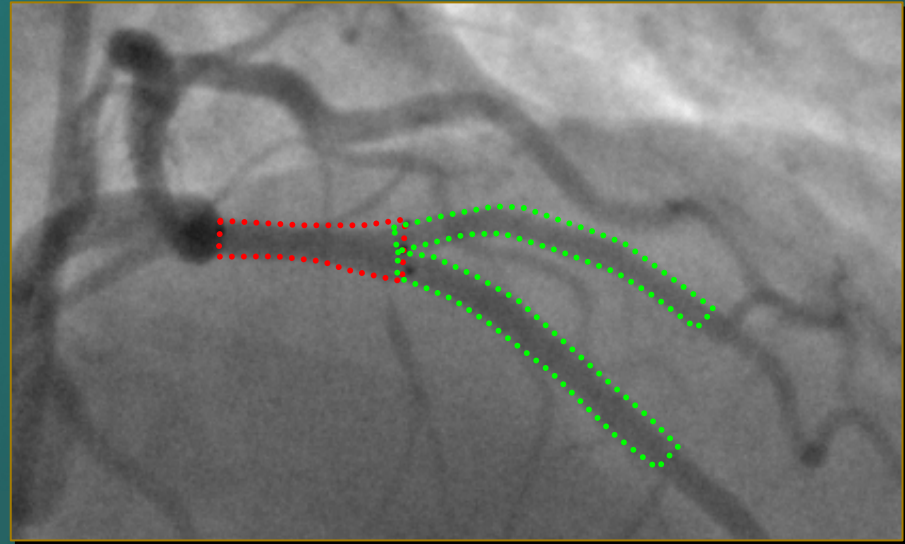
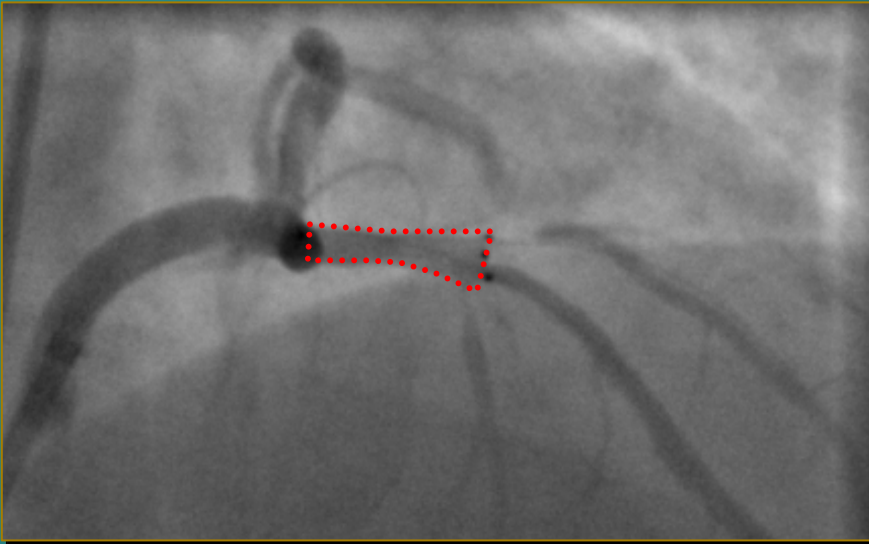
- With the Axxess Stent covering the ostia, branch vessel stents are placed just distal to the bifurcation



Distal stents are implanted in their natural shape, and do not need to be “remodeled” by PTCA to fit the anatomy of the bifurcation



Therapeutic Concept



The concept of the Axxess Plus system:

- **Implant a stent with the appropriate shape to treat the troublesome anatomy of the bifurcation, then**
- **Provisionally add subsequent stents to cover the lesion as needed stent “end to end”, rather than “through the side”**



The Axxess Plus Trial

- **Study Objectives**
 - Evaluate the safety and efficacy of the Axxess Plus stent in de-novo coronary bifurcation lesions of all types
 - Determine optimal treatment strategy using DES in branch vessels
- **Study Design**
 - Non-randomized multi-center registry with 125 patients
 - Control: Axxess bare metal stent (from prior study)
 - Plavix and aspirin prescribed for 6 months post procedure

The Axxess Plus Trial

- **Primary Endpoint**
 - In-stent late loss at 6 months in Axxess Plus stent
- **Secondary Endpoints**
 - MACE at 1, 6, and 12 months
 - Late Loss and Restenosis in parent vessel and side branch at 6 months
 - Tissue volume by IVUS in subgroup

Study Hypothesis & Sample Size

- **Control:** A bare metal Axxess stent was evaluated in 41 patients at 3 European centers from January to December 2003. In this study, 6 month angiographic late loss was 0.46 mm
- **Study Hypothesis:** Axxess Plus Biolimus will reduce late loss compared to the bare metal version
- **Sample Size:** 100 patients with 6 month follow up will detect a 50% reduction in LL with >90% power. To allow for loss to follow up, 125 patients should be enrolled



Principal Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Exclusion

- Known allergy to Plavix, aspirin, the stent/drug or polymer materials, or other required medications
- Major co-morbidity
- MI within 72 hours of the procedure
- LVEF < 30%
- Presence of thrombus in the TL or severe calcification.
- More than 1 lesion in the target vessel

Inclusion

- 18-80 years symptomatic patient with CCS ≥ 1 or positive functional study
- De novo bifurcation lesion in a native coronary artery
- 2.5-4.0 mm RVD in the parent vessel (PV)
- >2.25mm RVD in the side branch (SB)
- Lesion length up to 30 mm in PV, 15 mm in SB
- Concurrent treatment of second vessel allowed.



13 Participating Centers

Herzzentrum Siegburg	34 pts	King's College Hospital	7
▪ Eberhard Grube, MD (PI)		▪ Martyn Thomas, MD	
Herzzentrum Bad Krozingen	24	Southampton General Hospital	7
▪ Prof FJ Neumann		▪ Keith Dawkins, MD	
AZ Middelheim Hospital	18	UZ Leuven	5
▪ Stefan Verheye, MD, PhD		▪ Prof. Joseph Dens	
Dante Pazzenese	15	Munich Neuperlach	4
▪ Alexandre Abizaid, MD		▪ Prof. Harald Mudra	
Christchurch Hospital	11	OLV Aalst	2
▪ Dougal McClean, MD		▪ Bernard De Bruyne, MD	
Herzzentrum Trier	9	Amphia Hospital Breda	2
▪ Karl Hauptmann, MD		▪ Peter den Heijer, MD, PhD	
		University Hospital Utrecht	1
		▪ Prof. Pieter Stella	

Trial Management

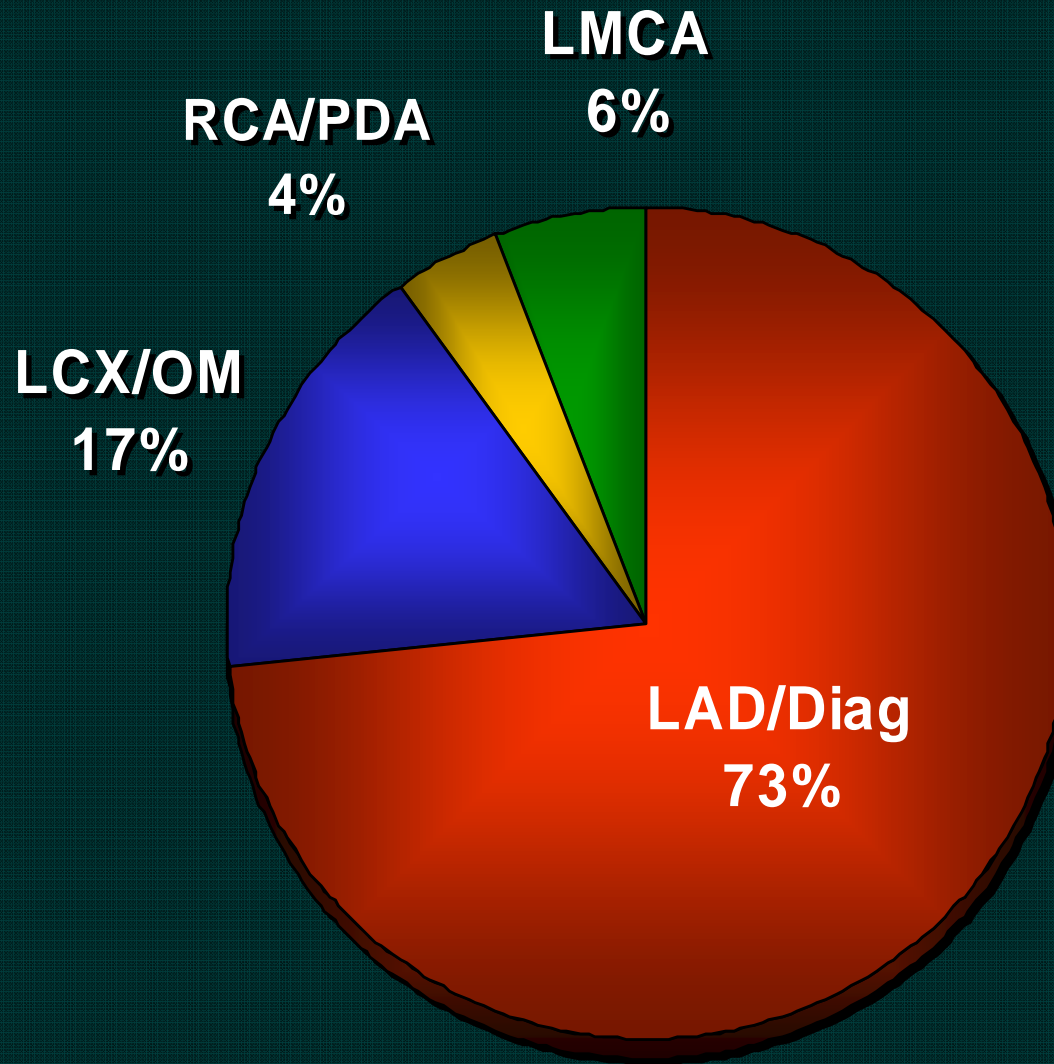
- **Data Collection Center**
 - Cardiovascular Research Foundation, New York, NY
 - Roxana Mehran, MD, Director
- **Angiographic Core Laboratory**
 - Cardiovascular Research Foundation, New York, NY
 - Alexander Lansky, MD, Director
- **IVUS Laboratory**
 - Cardiovascular Core Analysis Laboratory, Stanford, CA
 - Peter Fitzgerald, MD, PhD, Director
- **Clinical Events Committee**
 - George Dangas, MD, PhD, Chairman
- **Data Safety & Monitoring Committee**
 - John Ambrose, MD, Chairman

Patient Demographics

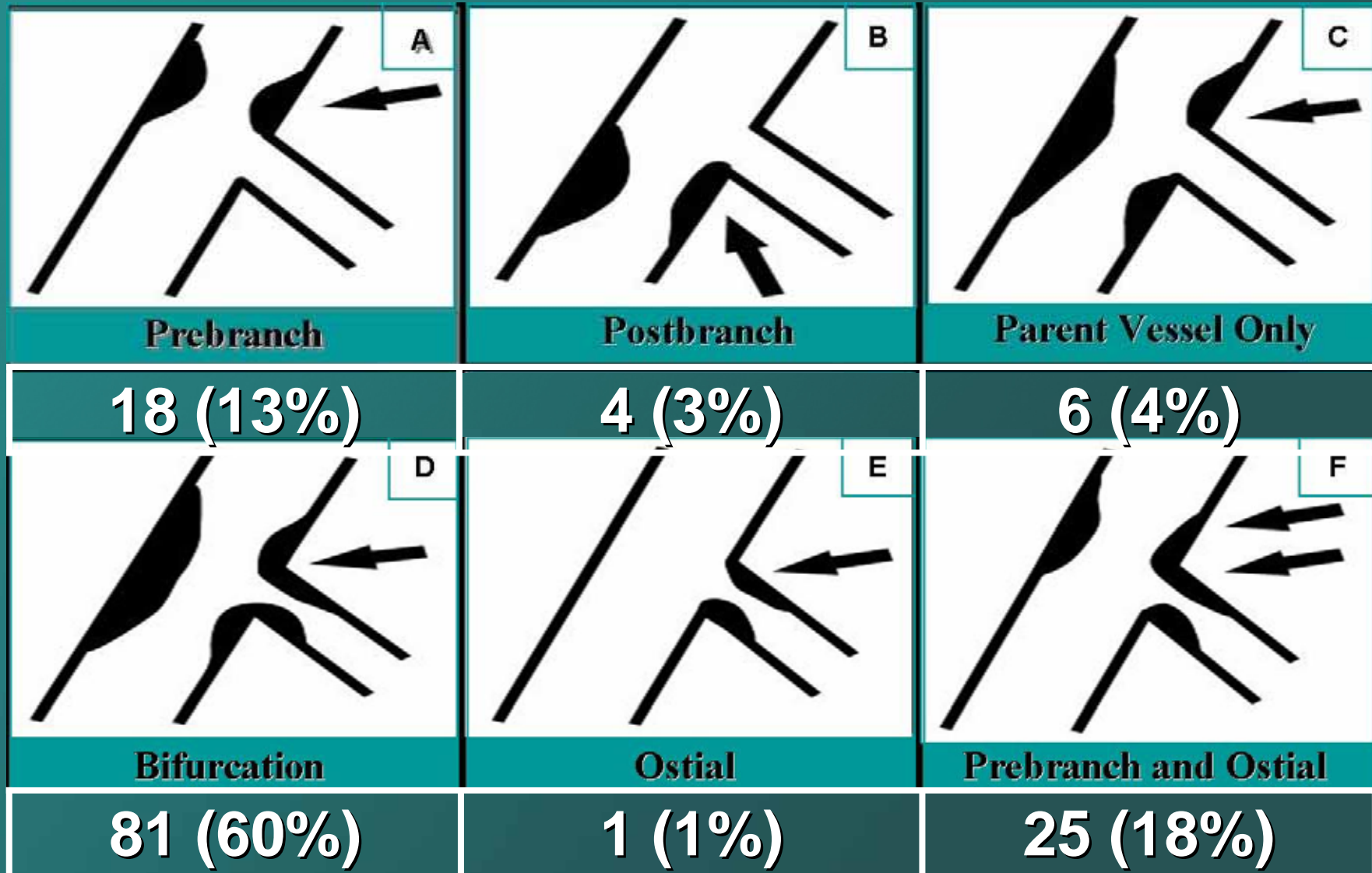
Number Enrolled	139
Age	64.4 ± 10.2
Male	73.4%
Diabetic	16.5%
Insulin Dependent	5.8%
Current Smoker	12.9%
w/ history	38.8%
Hypercholesterolemia	78.8%
Hypertension	73.4%
Previous MI	30.9%
Previous PCI	30.2%
CCS III or IV	36.7%



Bifurcation Lesion Location

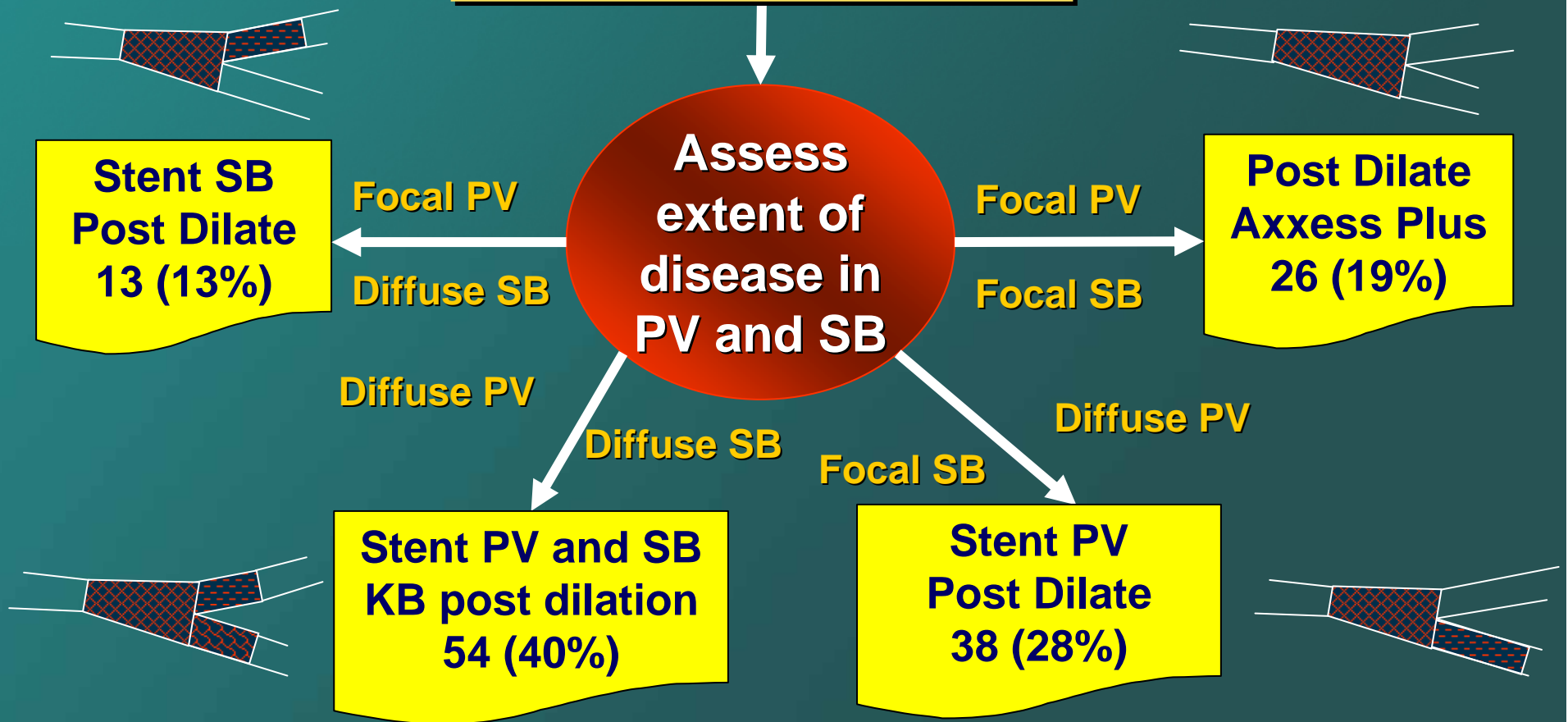


Bifurcation Type Treated



Stent Procedure

**Implant Axxess Plus
Bifurcation Stent**



Breakdown of 326 Stents Implanted

	Axxess Plus	Cypher	Taxus	Metal
Proximal PV	136	-	-	-
Distal PV	17	82	12	1
Side Branch	4	63	9	2
Total	157 (48%)	145 (44.5%)	21 (6.4%)	3* (0.9%)

** Placed in a single patient & omitted from QCA*

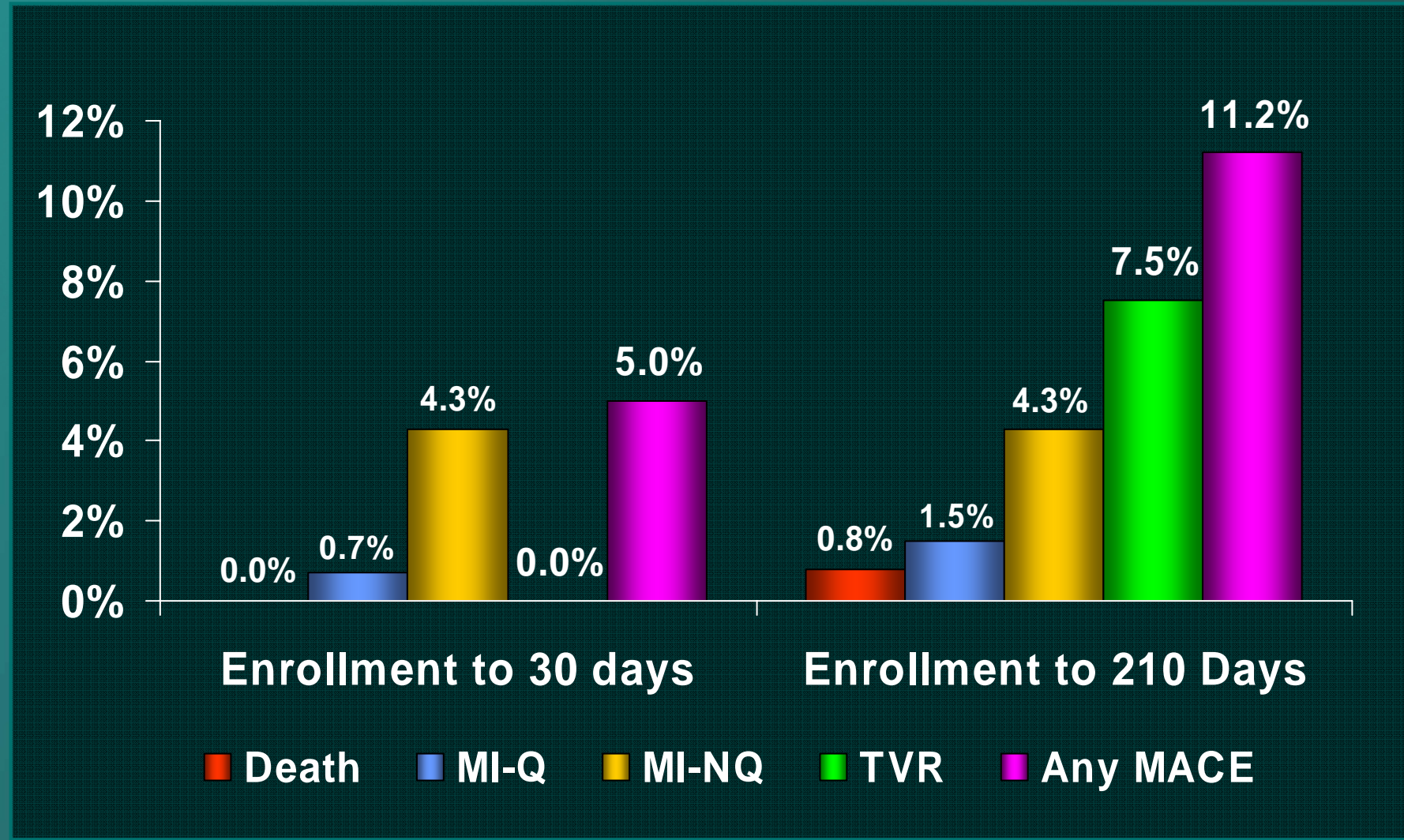


Procedure Results

	Parent Vessel	Side Branch
Baseline QCA		
Lesion Length mm	16.28 ± 7.44	7.43 ± 3.90
Reference Vessel	2.86 ± 0.35	2.34 ± 0.32
MLD, mm	0.78 ± 30	0.88 ± .39
Diameter Stenosis	73%	62%
Procedure Outcomes		
Avg. stents implanted	1.8 ± 0.7	0.58 ± 0.2
Angiographic success	100%	91.2%
Procedure success	94.9%	86.0%



Cumulative Clinical Events



Angiographic Outcomes by QCA: DES in the Parent Vessel

Angiographic FU **124/136 (91.2%)**

Acute Gain

Axxess Plus stent only **2.05 ± 0.48**

All stents in PV **1.85 ± 0.49**

Late Loss

Axxess Plus **0.09 ± 0.56**

All stents in PV **0.21 ± 0.44**

In segment **0.26 ± 0.53**

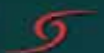
Binary Restenosis

Axxess Plus only **4.0%**

All stents **5.6%**

(Axxess + distal DES)

In segment **10.5%**



Angiographic Outcomes by QCA: Side Branch Analysis

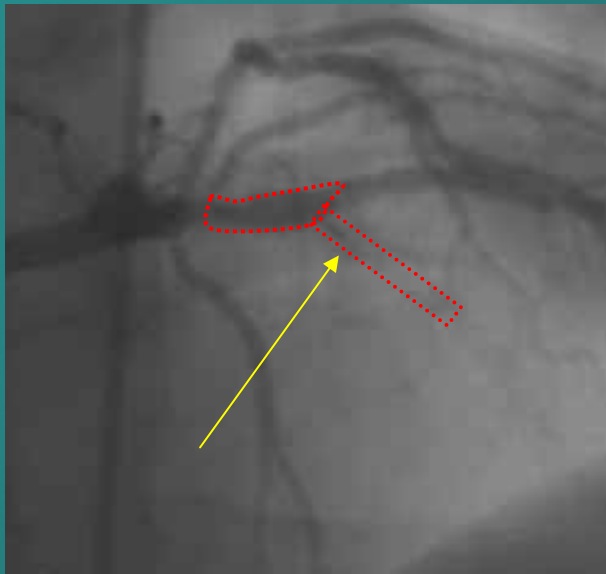
	No Treatment	PTCA	Stent
Angiographic FU	25/26 (96%)	36/40 (90%)	65/70 (93%)
Lesion Success (<50%)	96.2%	77.5%	97.1%
Late Loss - stent	-	-	0.29 ± 0.46 mm
Late Loss - segment	0.24 ± 0.31 mm	0.19 ± 0.31 mm	0.21 ± 0.49 mm
Restenosis			
- stent	-	-	7.9%
- segment	12.0%	25.0%	7.9%
<i>Outcomes for patients with lesion success in the SB at time of procedure:</i>			
Restenosis –segment	8.3%	13.8%	8.2%



Stent Thrombosis (3 cases)

..... Cypher

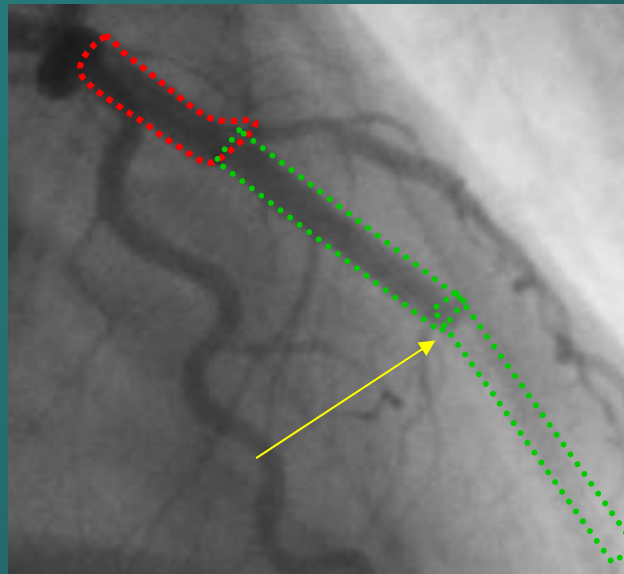
..... Axxess Plus



Pt 1-04: 61 days

Patient taken off Plavix
post prostate surgery
due to bleeding

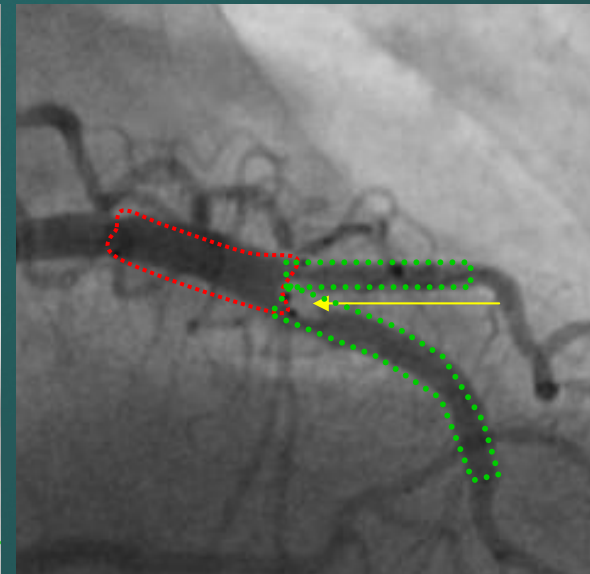
MI/TVR



Pt 15-11: 182 days

Total occlusion due to
thrombosis in 2nd distal
Cypher placed to cover
spiral dissection.

Asymptomatic at FU.



Pt 15-18: 98 days

Patient not maintaining
Plavix after 1 month.
Partial occlusion due to
thrombosis distal to
Axxess Plus stent.

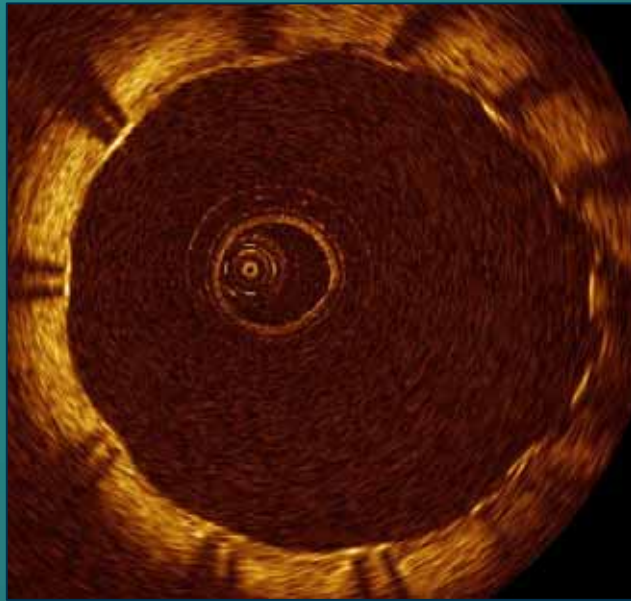
TVR. Returned for angio
at 182 days with
excellent outcome.

Primary Endpoint

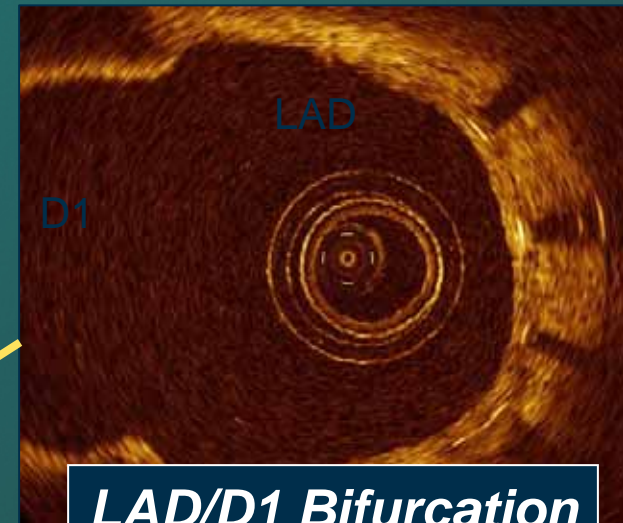
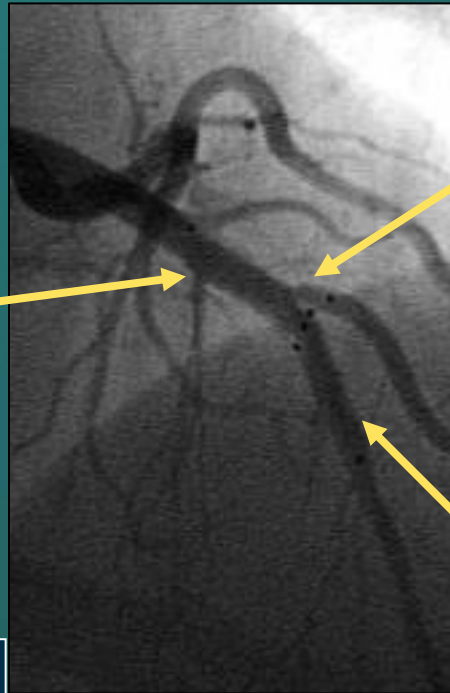
Primary endpoint: LL in Axxess Plus stent compared to bare metal

	Axxess Plus Biolimus Stent	Axxess Metal Stent	<i>p</i>
N with AFU (%)	126 (93%)	37 (90%)	
Angiographic Late Loss* - Devax Stent	0.11 ± 0.62 mm	0.46 ± 0.51 mm	0.002

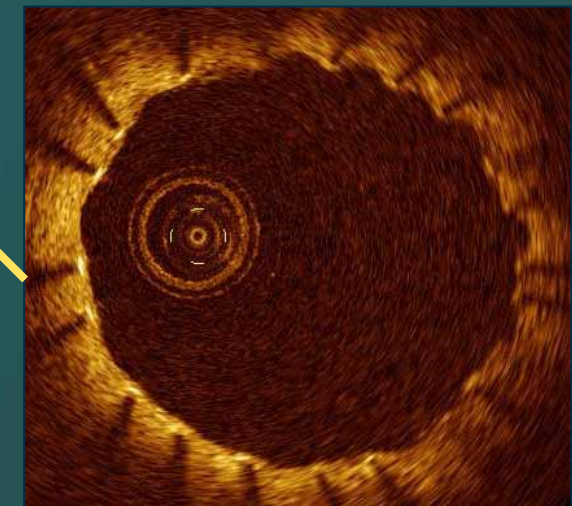
ACCESS Plus Follow-up with Optical Coherence Tomography



Bifurc Devax in prox LAD



LAD/D1 Bifurcation



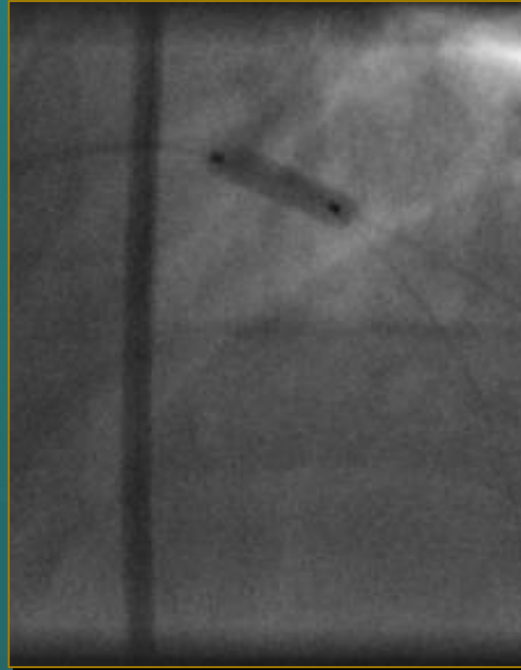
'Straight' Devax in mid LAD

6 mths follow-up

Case Study



**7-8F Guide
Double Wire**



**Pre dilate PV
& SB as req'd**

**Single or KB
dilation**



**Axxess Plus
Stent @ carina**

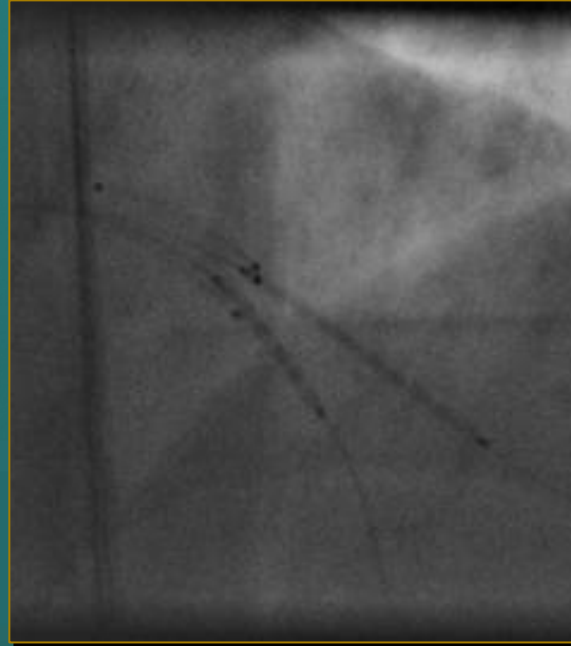
**Markers in
both branches**



Case Study



**Dilation of
Distal Vessels**



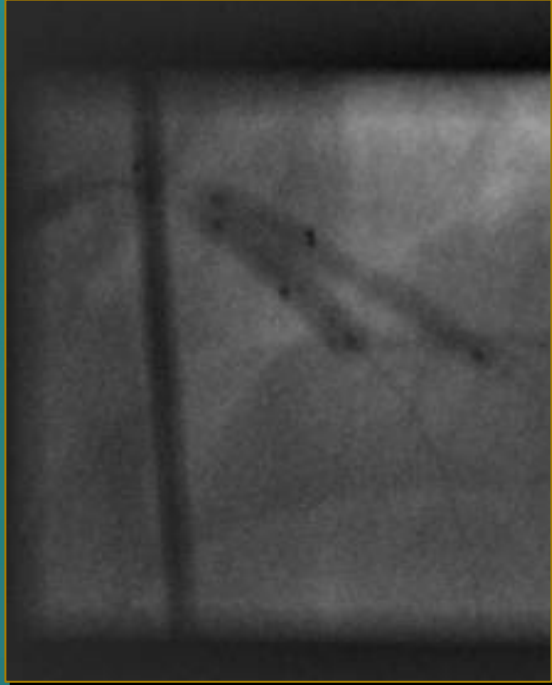
**Cypher
Placement**



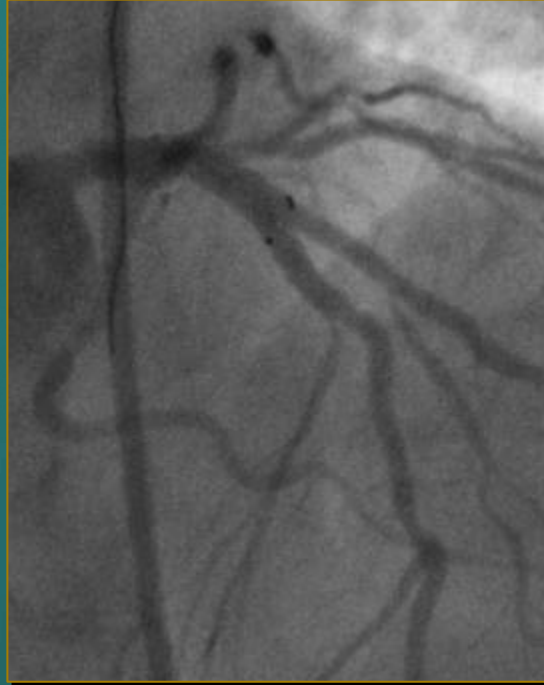
**Simultaneous
deployment**



Case Study



**Final
Kiss**



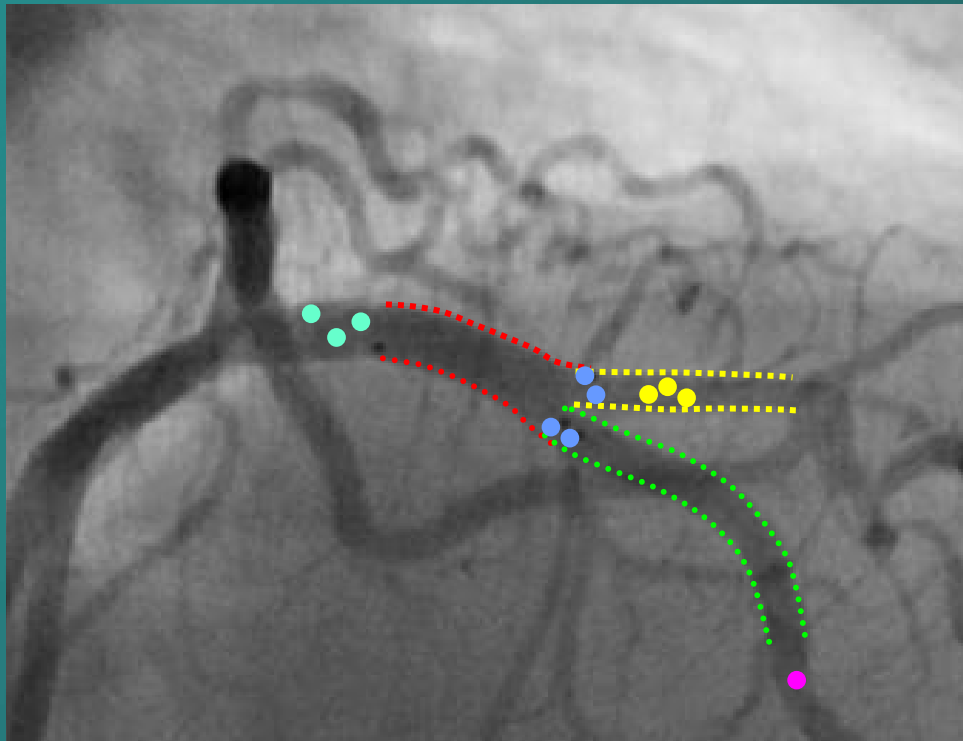
**Final
Result**



**6 Month
Follow Up**



Locations of Restenosis

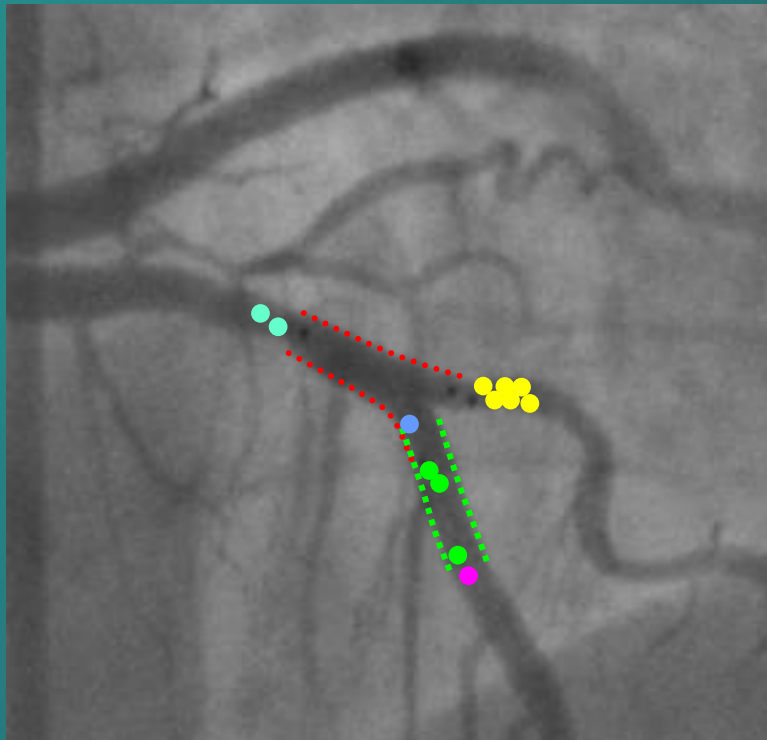


63 Patients with a SB stent:

- Proximal Edge: 3 (4.9%)
- Axxess Plus stent: 0
- Ostium/overlap: 4 (6.6%)
- PV DES: 0
- Distal PV edge: 1 (1.6%)
- In SB DES: 3 (4.9%)

*In stent lesions were focal
Out of stent lesions were more diffuse.*

Locations of Restenosis



53 Patients with PTCA or no Tx in SB
(excludes SB index failures):

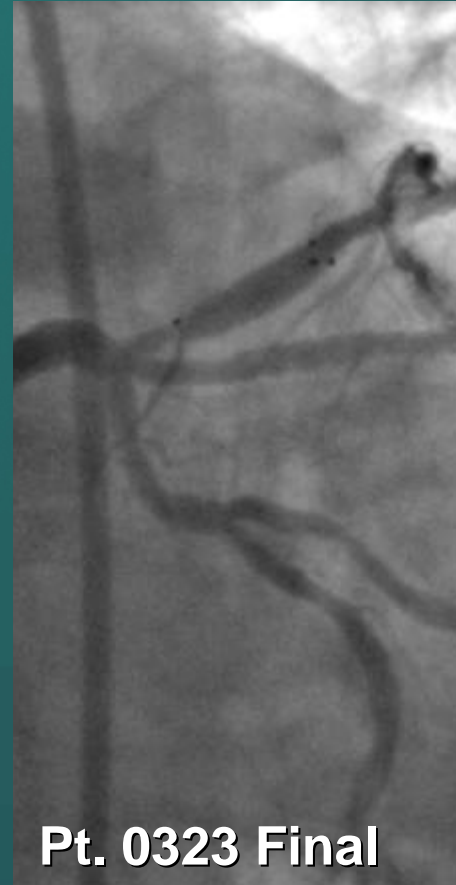
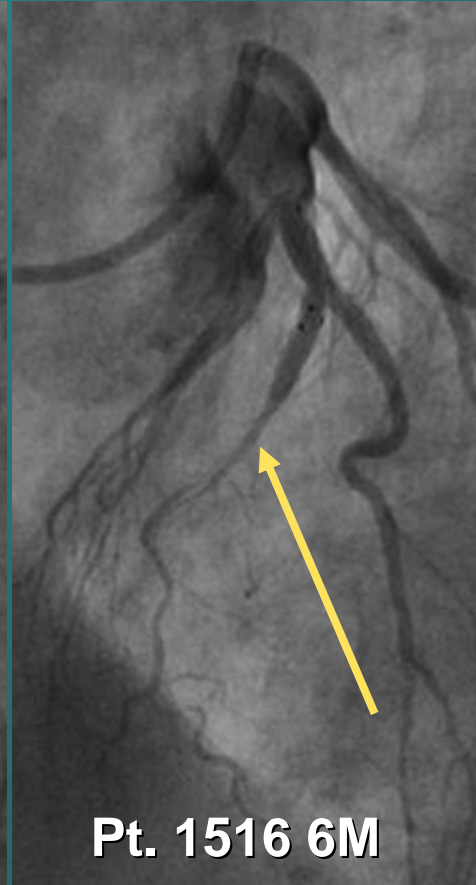
- Proximal Edge: 2 (2.6%)
- In Axxess Plus stent: 0
- Ostium/overlap: 1 (1.3%)
- PV DES: 3 (5.6%)
- Distal PV edge: 1 (1.3%)
- SB ostium - 5mm : 6 (11.3%)

*In stent lesions were focal
Out of stent lesions were more diffuse.*

Examples of Edge Restenosis



Examples of Edge Restenosis



DIVERGE: a Prospective, Single-arm,
Multi-center Registry
**Drug Stent Intervention for Treating Side
Branches Effectively**

*Patients with de novo bifurcated lesions in
native coronary arteries N=600*

PCI using Axxess™ stent System

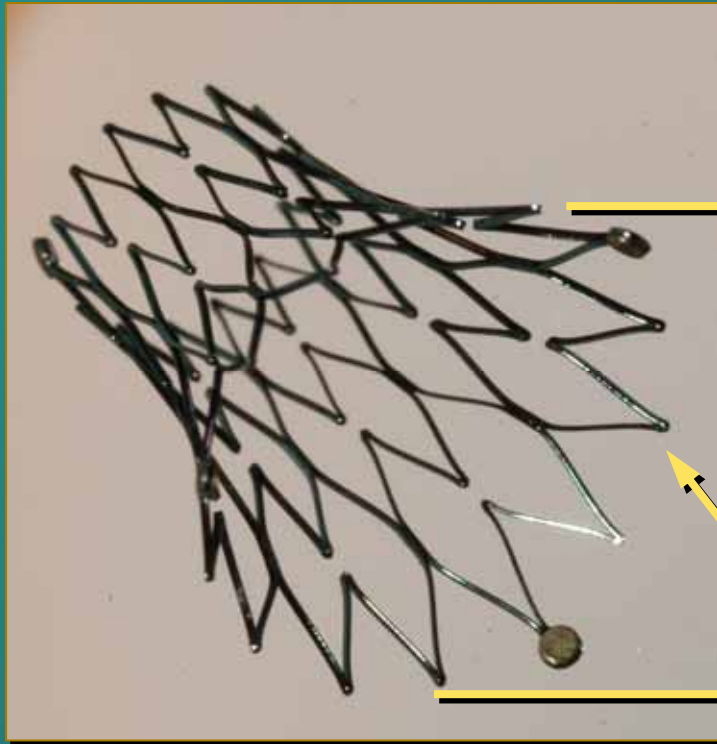
Angio F/U at 9 mo in 300 pts
Annual clinical F/U for 5 years

PRIMARY Endpoint: 9-mo MACE: death, MI, TLR

SECONDARY Endpoints: device success, binary restenosis, late loss

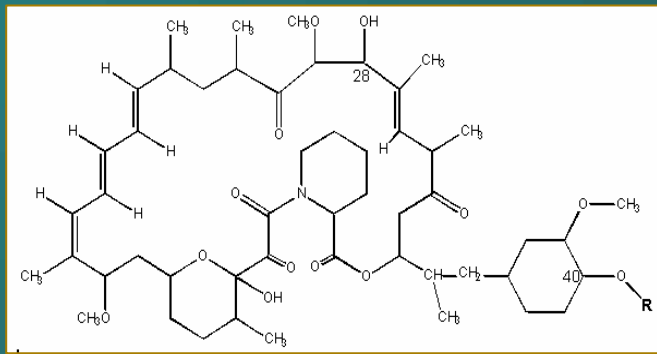
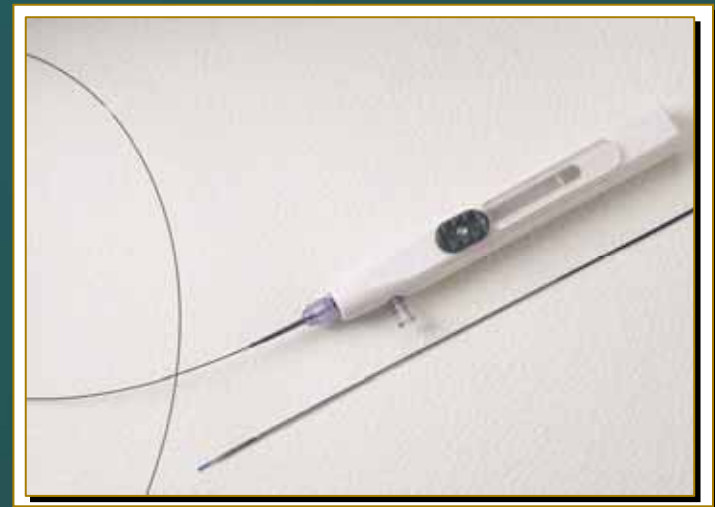
AXXESS PLUS LM System

Flared Distal-End Stent Design
Self Expanding Nitinol Material



8, 10, or 12 mm
flare diameter

4.8F Rx Delivery System



Biolimus A9
antiproliferative
strut coating

The AXXENT Trial

- **AXXENT**
 - **Axxess Plus Biolimus Stent in LMCA Bifurcations Trial**
- **Study Objective**
 - Evaluate the safety and efficacy potential of the Axxess Plus stent in LMCA bifurcation lesions (protected or not)
- **Study Design and Status**
 - Multi-center registry, 40 patients enrolled in follow up.



Summary

- **First experience with a dedicated Bifurcation DES**
- **The Biolimus drug effectively reduces late loss by 75% in the Axxess Plus stent**
- **In Stent Restenosis PV 5.6%, Late Loss 0.21mm**
- **This is the first multicenter study to report <10% restenosis rate in stented side branches**
- **Despite frequent stenting, stent thrombosis was rare when antiplatelet therapy was maintained**



Summary

- This study did not prospectively assign a treatment method for all patients.
- Half of the restenosis in this study was either located outside the stent borders, or due to a residual stenosis in the SB at the end of the procedure
- These factors suggest the procedure may be further improved by:
 - Completely covering all disease in the PV
 - Stenting the SB if the residual stenosis after PTCA is $>30\%$

