

***Women In Innovations @ TCT AP 2011***

**Update of Left Main/Multi-vessel PCI:  
Lessons from Syntax, A View to EXCEL**

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MEDICINE

CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH  
FOUNDATION  
*A Passion for Innovation*



# Disclosure Statement of Financial Interest

Within the past 12 months, I or my spouse/partner have had a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with the organization(s) listed below.

## Affiliation/Financial Relationship

- Grant/Research Support
- Consultant

## Company

- Sanofi/BMS- Significant
- Astra Zeneca, Abbott Vascular, Orho McNeal, Regado Biosciences

# Outline of this Lecture:

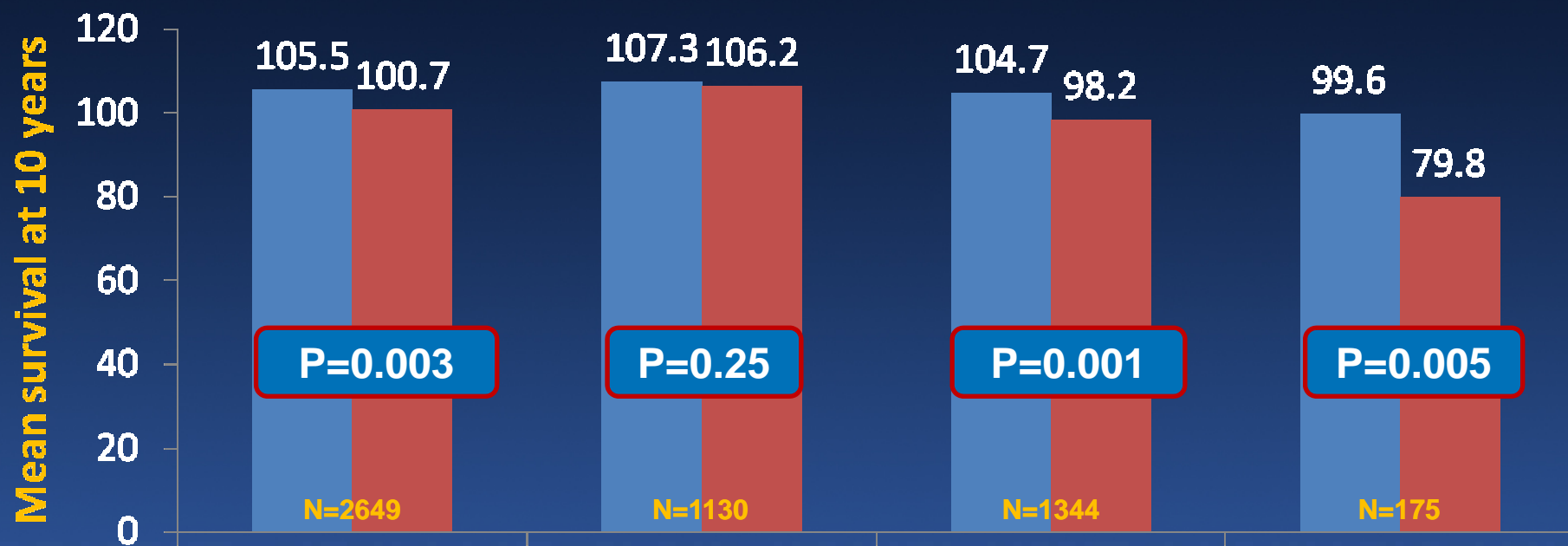
- **Current Guidelines for LM Revascularization**
- **Data from Randomized Trials: Syntax and more**
- **The EXCEL Study**

# CABG vs. Medical Therapy in LM Disease

175 pts with left main disease were randomized to CABG vs. medical therapy in 2 studies (VA and EU)

Note: 42% and 65% of med pts crossed over to CABG by 5 and 10 yrs

**Mortality at 5 years:** Med Rx 36.5% vs. CABG 16.0%  
(OR 0.32 [0.15, 0.70], P=0.004)



From 7 RCTs

Overall

1/2 VD

3 VD

LMD

Yusuf S et al. Lancet 1994;344:563-70

# ACC/AHA Guidelines

Ila



LMCA PCI is reasonable in pts with class III angina and >50% LM stenosis who are **not eligible for CABG**

Ilb



Stenting of the LMCA as an alternative to CABG may be considered in pts with anatomic conditions that are associated with a **low risk of PCI procedural complications** and clinical conditions that predict an **increased risk of adverse surgical outcomes**

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Percutaneous Coronary Intervention versus Coronary-Artery  
Bypass Grafting for Severe Coronary Artery Disease

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Antonio Colombo, M.D., David R. Holmes, M.D., Michael J. Mack, M.D., Elisabeth Stähle, M.D.,  
Ted E. Feldman, M.D., Marcel van den Brand, M.D., Eric J. Bass, B.A., Nic Van Dyck, R.N., Katrin Leadley, M.D.,  
Keith D. Dawkins, M.D., and Friedrich W. Mohr, M.D., Ph.D., for the SYNTAX Investigators\*

ABSTRACT

**CONCLUSIONS**

CABG remains the standard of care for patients with three-vessel or left main coronary artery disease, since the use of CABG, as compared with PCI, resulted in lower rates of the combined end point of major adverse cardiac or cerebrovascular events at 1 year. (ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT00114972.)

# SYNTAX Trial Design



 62 EU Sites +  23 US Sites

Heart Team (surgeon & interventional cardiologist)

Amenable for both treatment options

Amenable for only one treatment approach

Stratification:  
LM and Diabetes

*Randomized Arms*  
N=1800

*Two Registry Arms*  
N=1275

CABG  
n=897

vs

TAXUS\*  
n=903

CABG  
n=1077

PCI  
n=198

3VD  
n=549  
(66.3%)

LM  
n=348  
(33.7%)

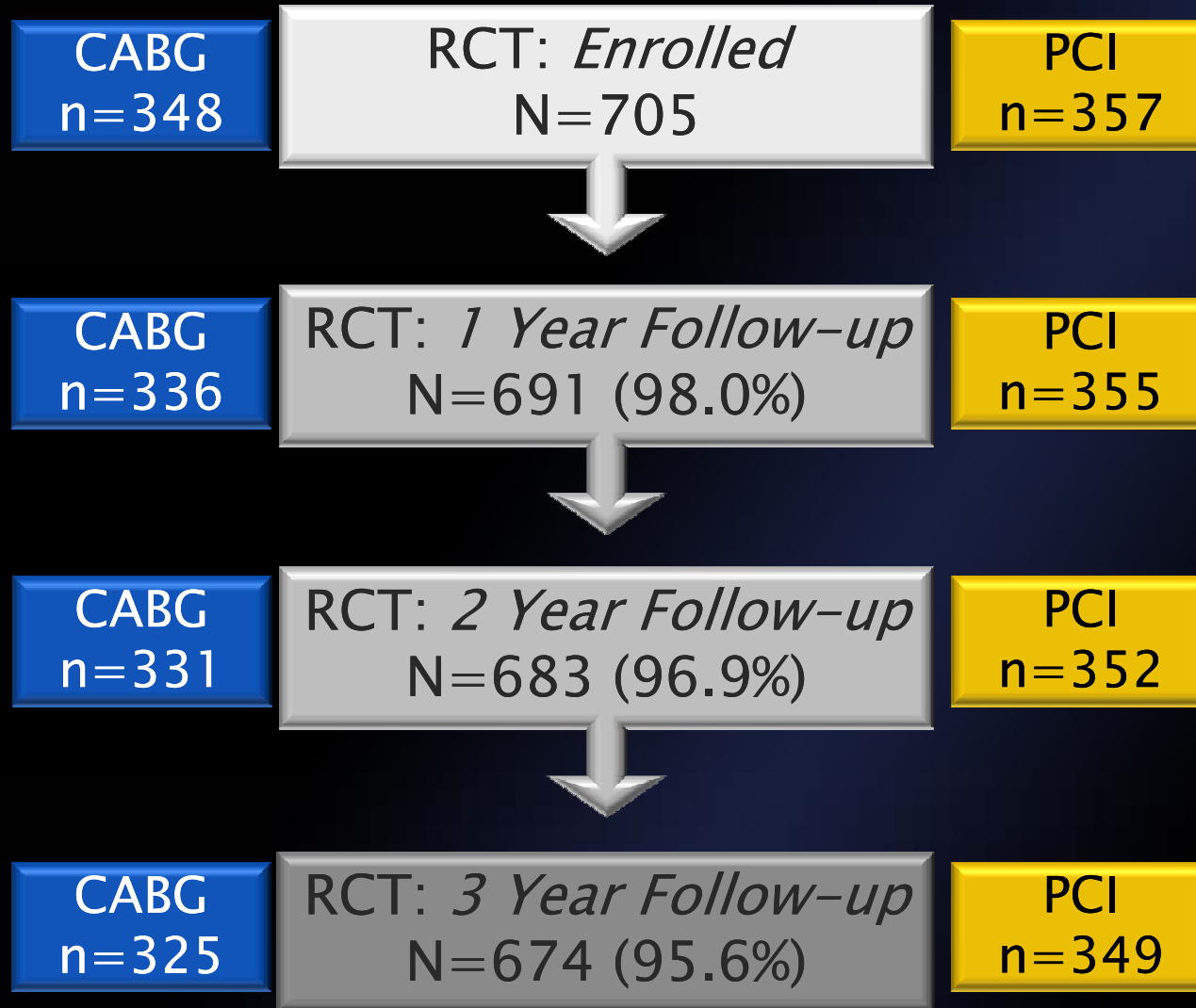
3VD  
n=546  
(65.4%)

LM  
n=357  
(34.6%)

\*TAXUS Express

# Patients in SYNTAX

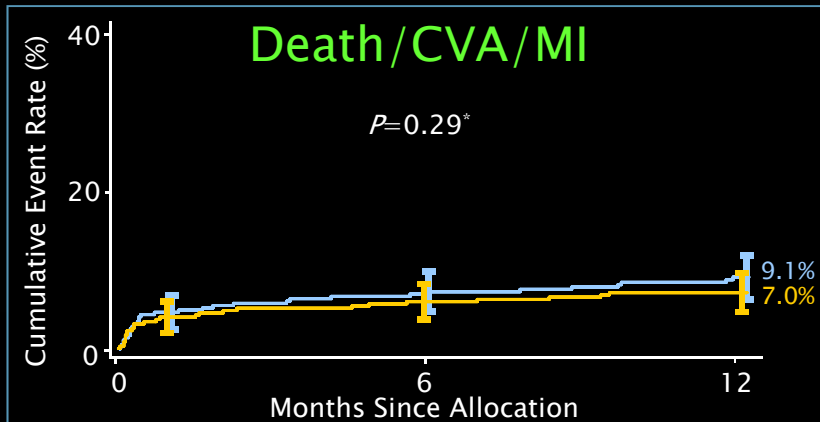
## *Left Main (LM) Subset*





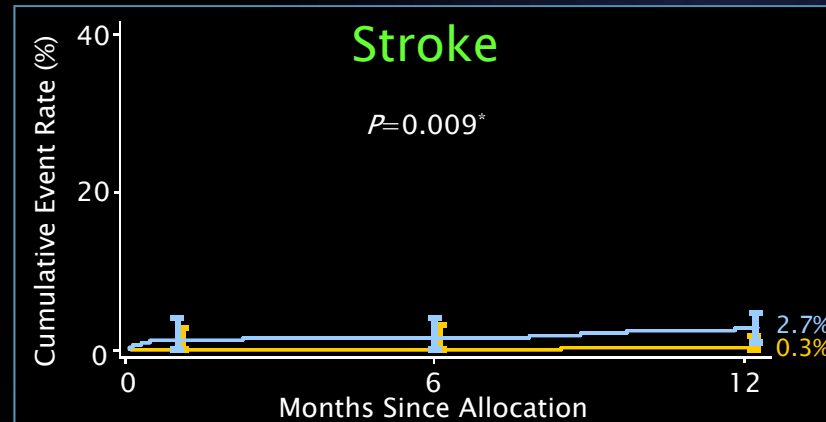
# Summary of 1-Year Results

## LM Subset



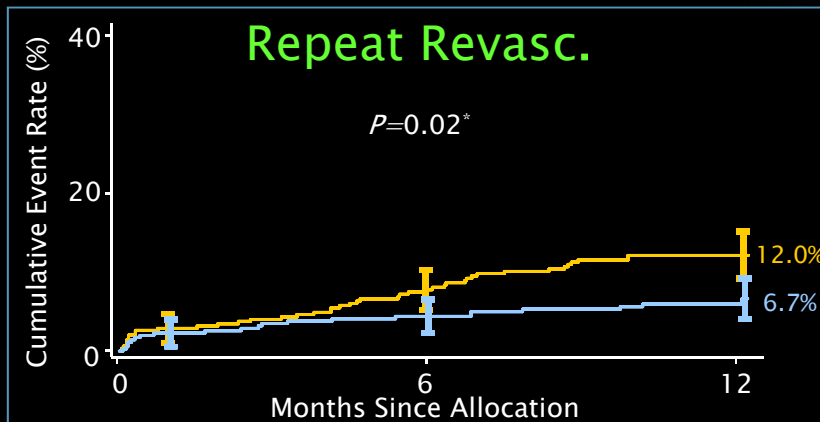
Event rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE, \*Fisher exact test

ITT population



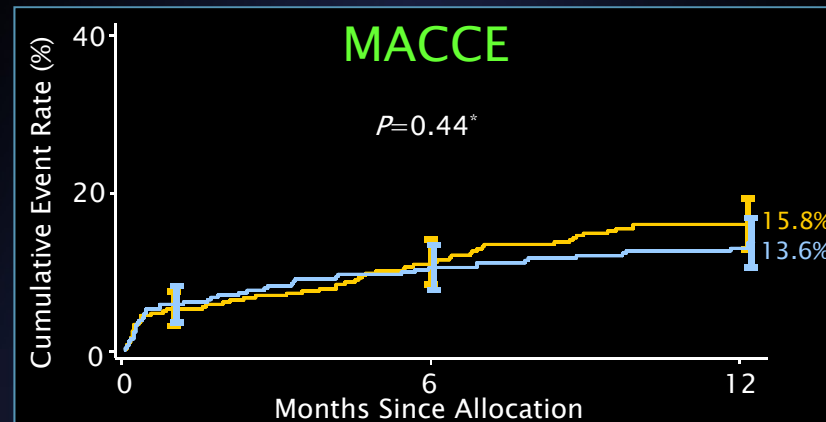
Event rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE, \*Fisher exact test

ITT population



Event rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE, \*Fisher exact test

\*Any revascularization (PCI or CABG); ITT population



Event rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE, \*Fisher exact test

ITT population

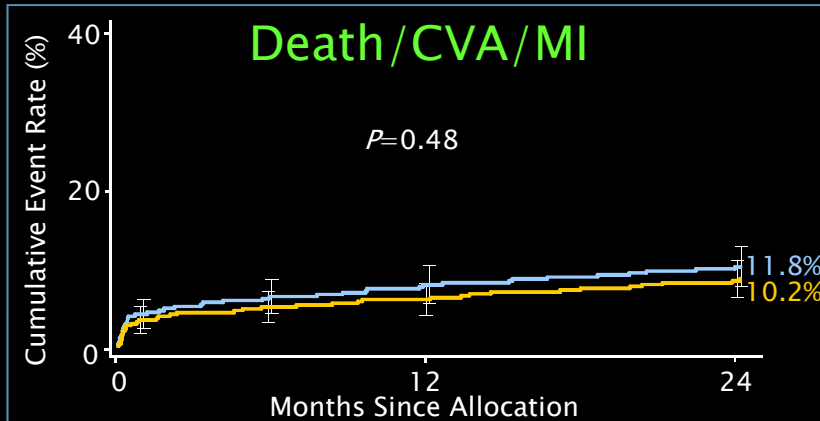
- Death/Stroke/MI and MACCE rates were similar between groups
- Stroke was significantly increased in CABG and revacularization in PCI



■ CABG (N=897) ■ PCI (N=903)

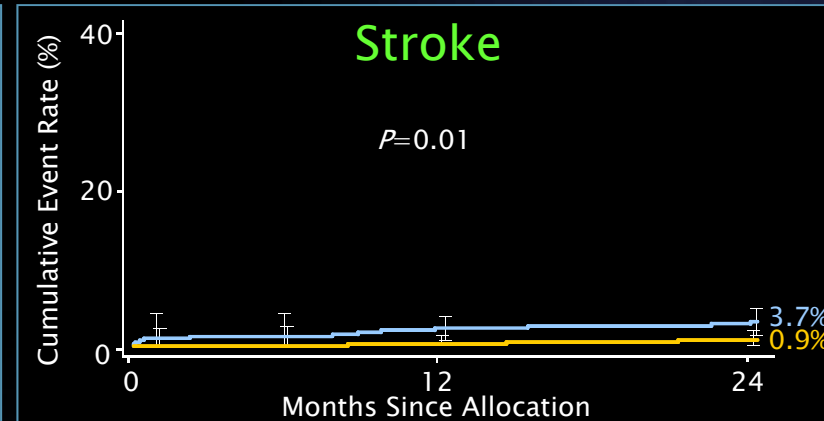
# Summary of 2-Year Results

## LM Subset



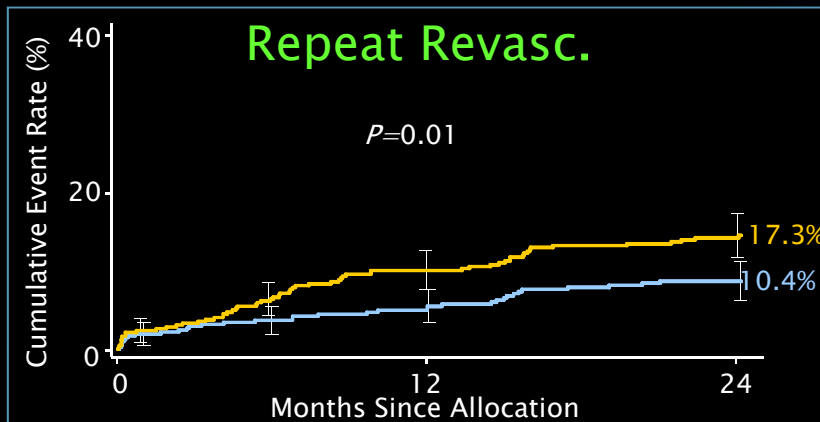
Event rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE, \*Fisher exact test

ITT population



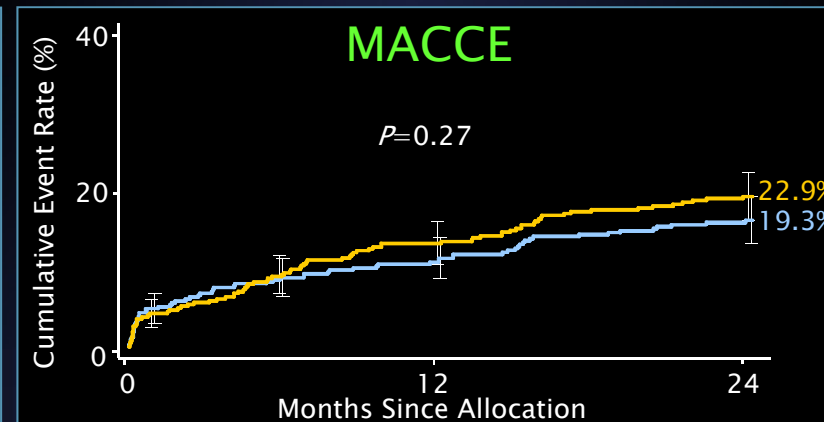
Event rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE, \*Fisher exact test

ITT population



Event rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE, \*Fisher exact test

\*Any revascularization (PCI or CABG); ITT population



Event rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE, \*Fisher exact test

ITT population

- Death/Stroke/MI and MACCE rates were similar between groups
- Stroke was significantly increased in CABG and revacularization in PCI



■ CABG (N=897) ■ PCI (N=903)

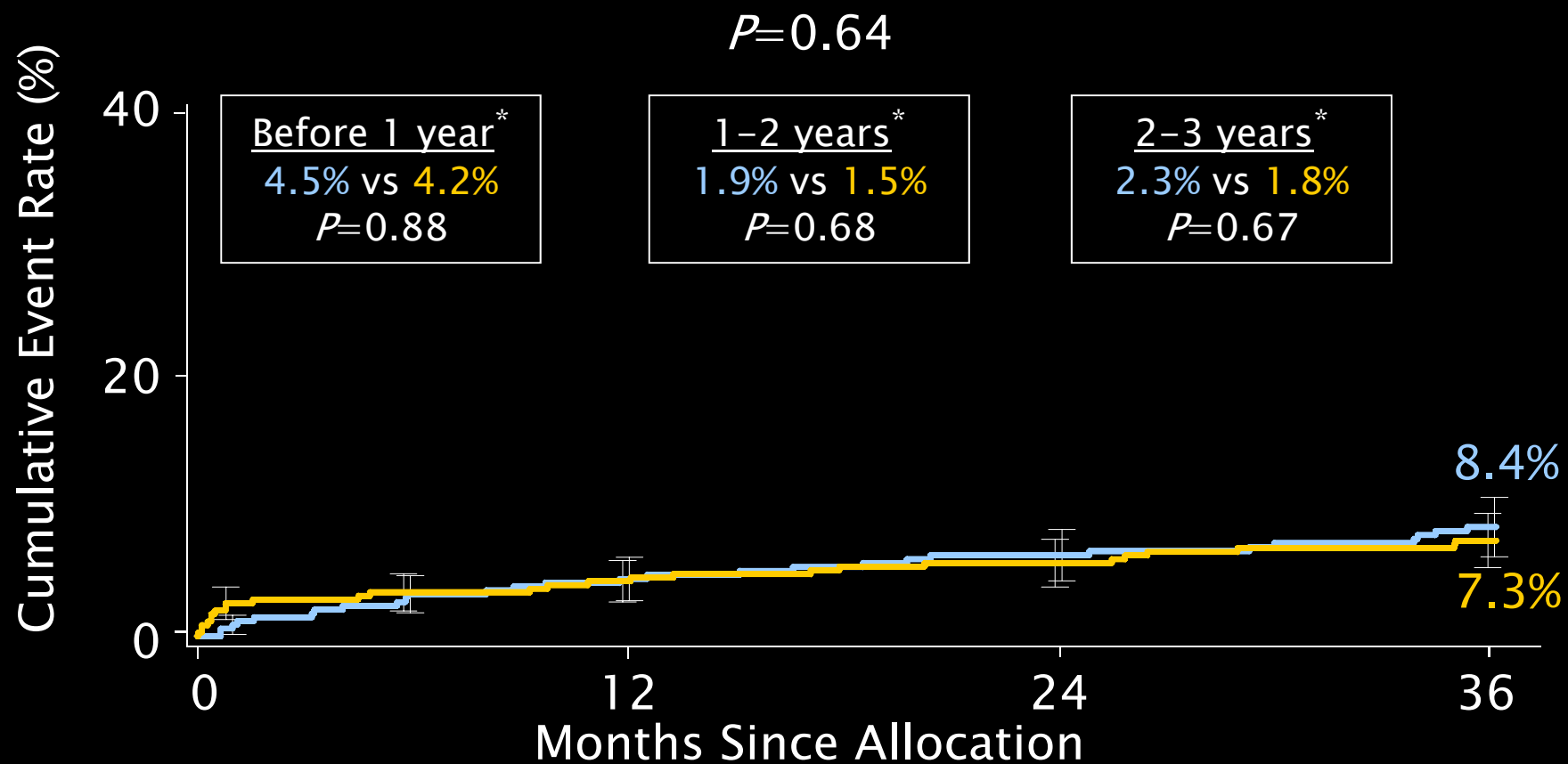
# All-Cause Death to 3 Years

## LM Subset



■ CABG (N=348)

■ TAXUS (N=357)



Cumulative KM Event Rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE; log-rank  $P$ value; \*Binary rates

ITT population

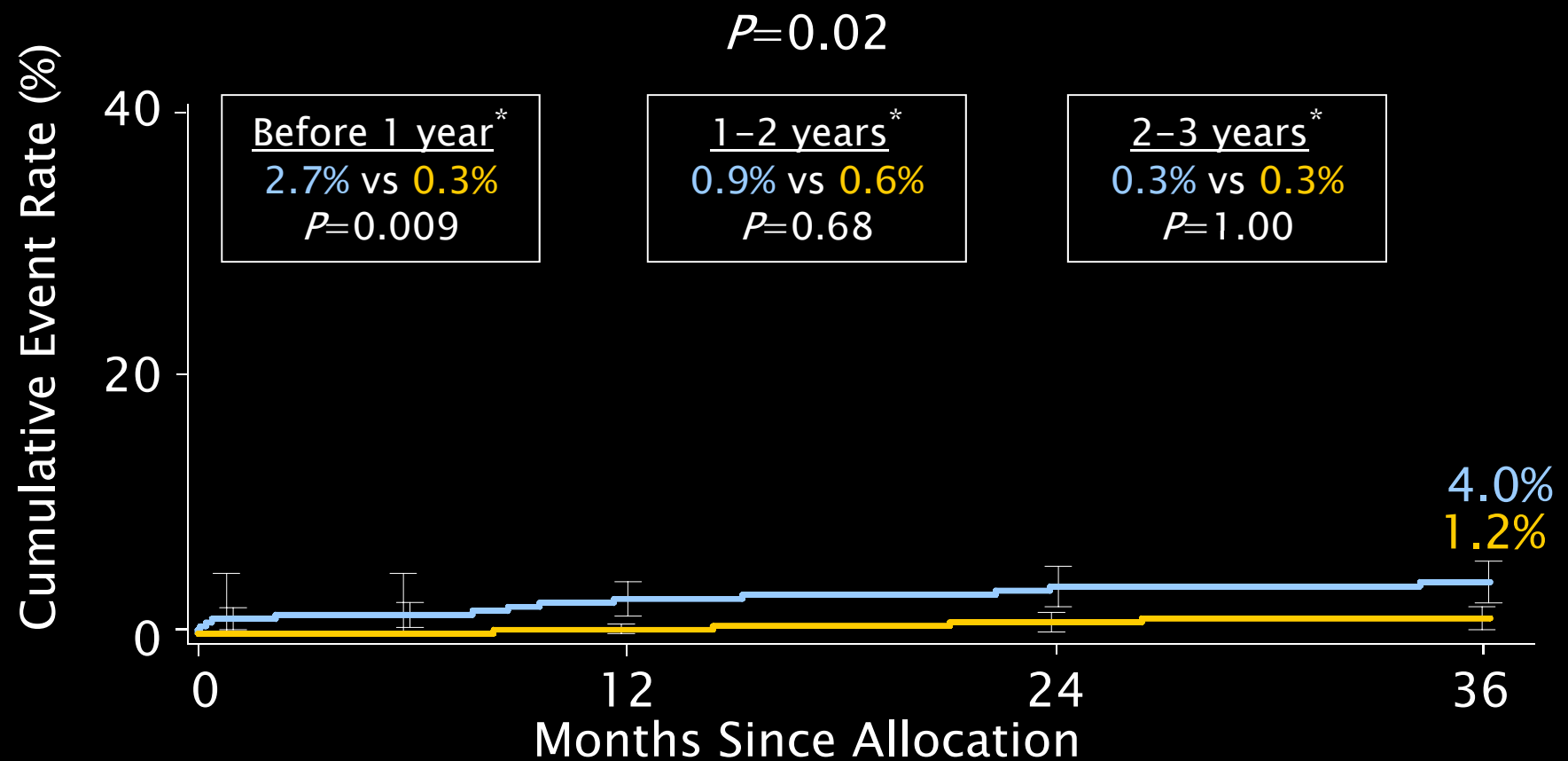
# CVA to 3 Years

## LM Subset



■ CABG (N=348)

■ TAXUS (N=357)



Cumulative KM Event Rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE; log-rank  $P$ value; \*Binary rates

ITT population

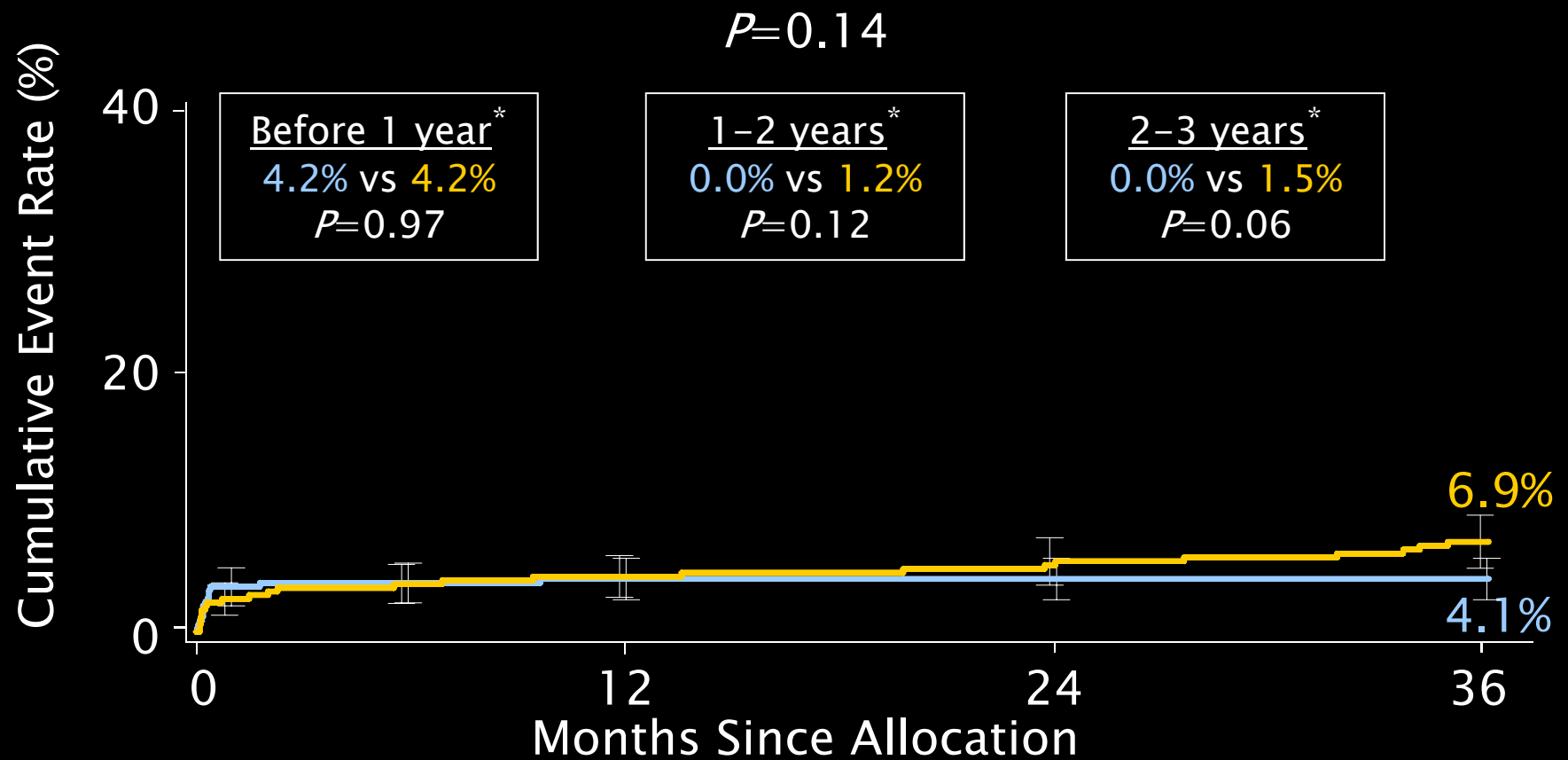
# Myocardial Infarction to 3 Years

## LM Subset



■ CABG (N=348)

■ TAXUS (N=357)



Cumulative KM Event Rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE; log-rank  $P$  value; \*Binary rates

ITT population

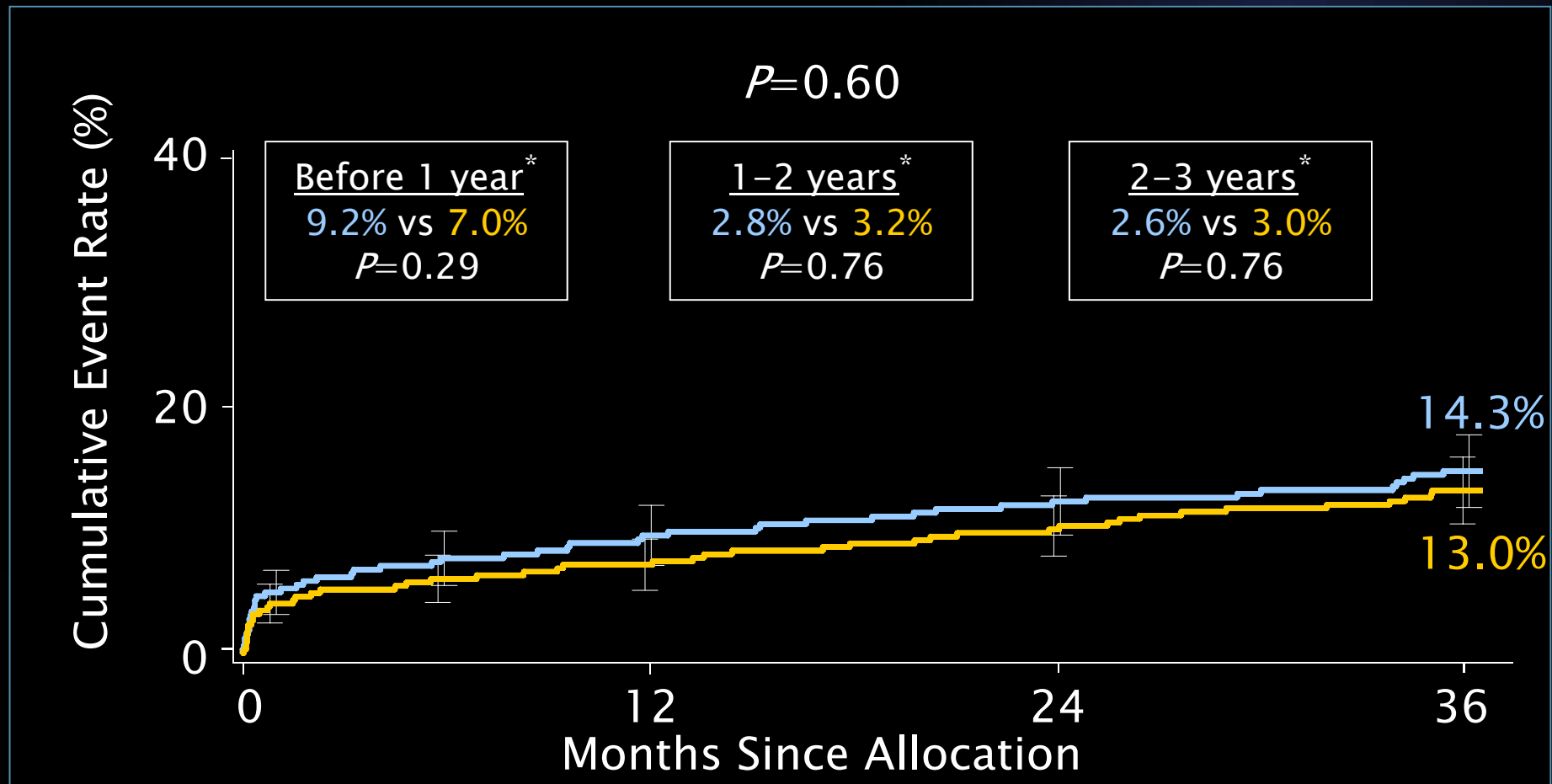
# All-Cause Death/CVA/MI to 3 Years

## LM Subset



■ CABG (N=348)

■ TAXUS (N=357)



Cumulative KM Event Rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE; log-rank Pvalue; \*Binary rates  
 TCT 2010 · Three-year Outcomes of the SYNTAX Trial: Left Main Subgroup · Serruys · Slide 14

ITT population

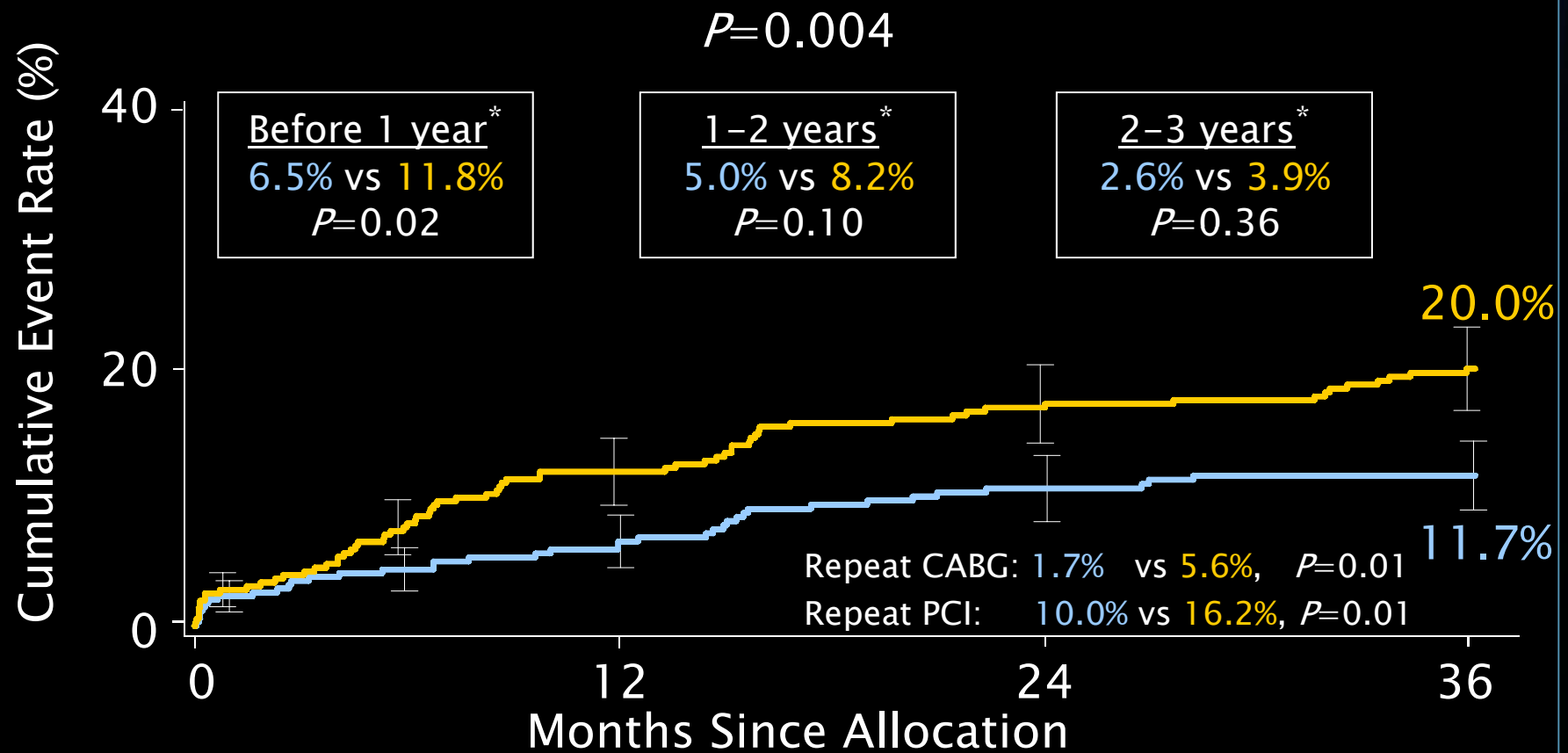
# Repeat Revascularization to 3 Years

## LM Subset



■ CABG (N=348)

■ TAXUS (N=357)



Cumulative KM Event Rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE; log-rank Pvalue; \*Binary rates  
 TCT 2010 · Three-year Outcomes of the SYNTAX Trial: Left Main Subgroup · Serruys · Slide 15

ITT population

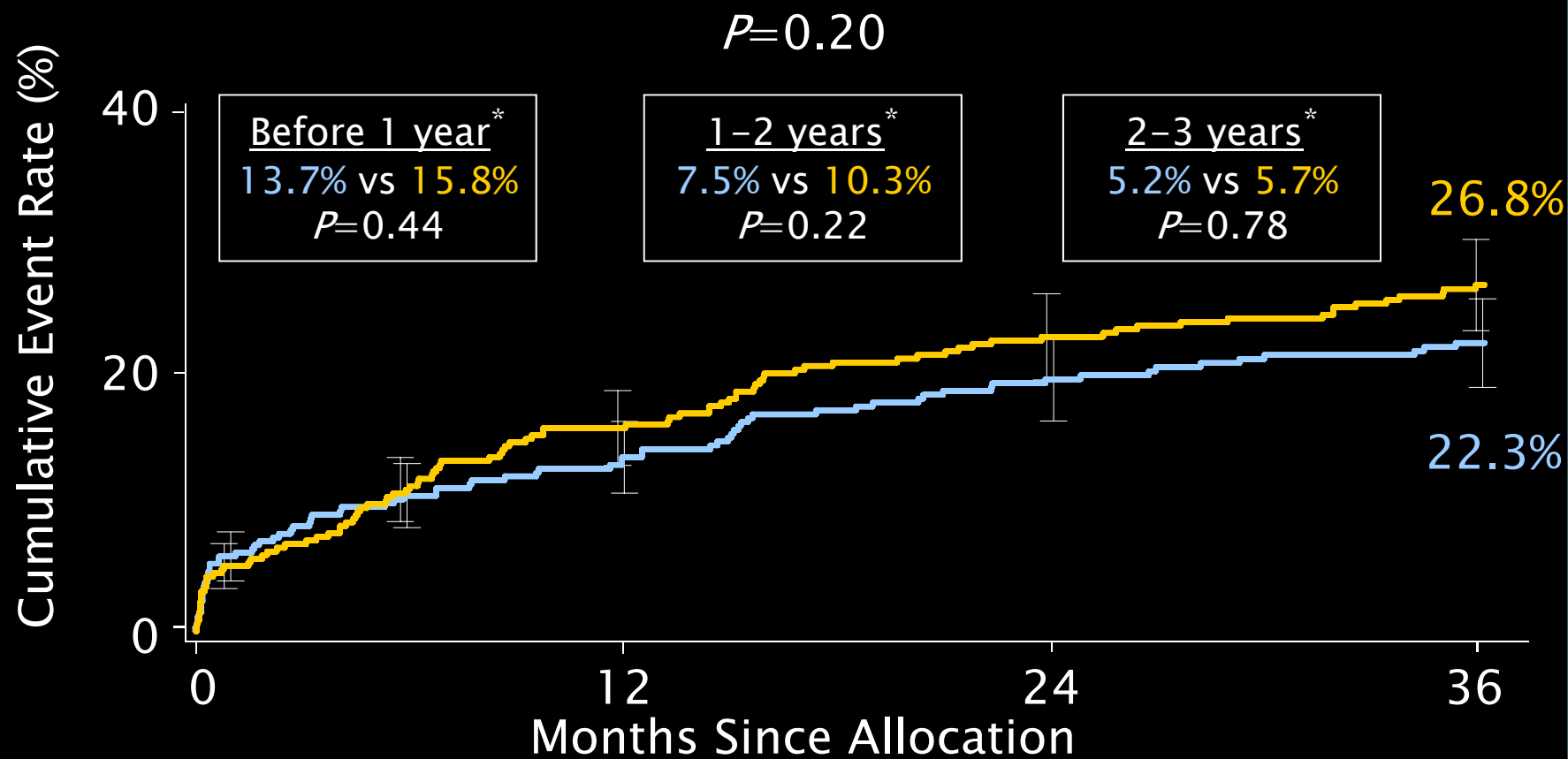
# MACCE to 3 Years

## LM Subset



■ CABG (N=348)

■ TAXUS (N=357)



Cumulative KM Event Rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE; log-rank  $P$ value; \*Binary rates

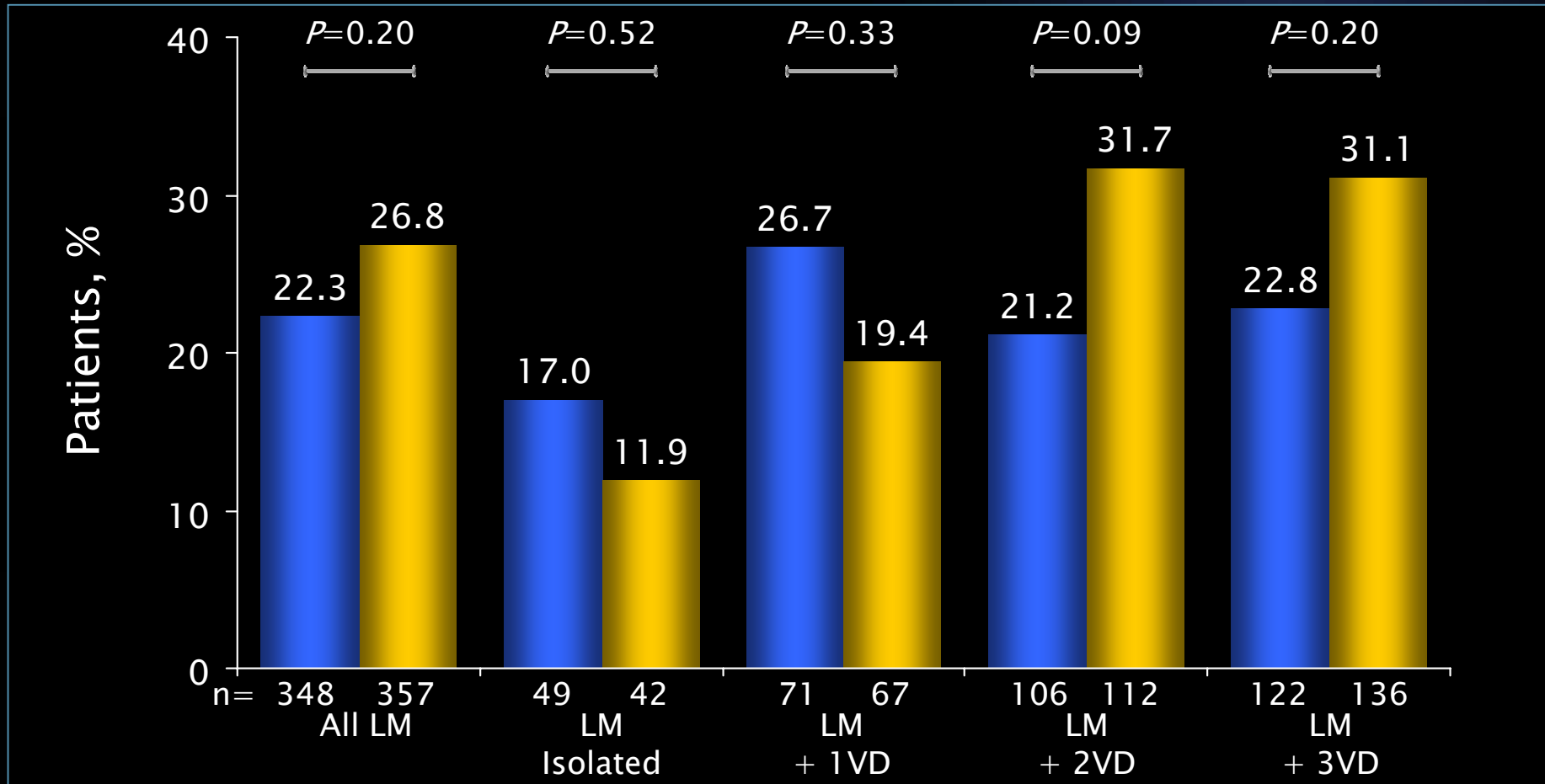
ITT population



# MACCE to 3 Years in LM Subgroups



■ CABG      ■ TAXUS

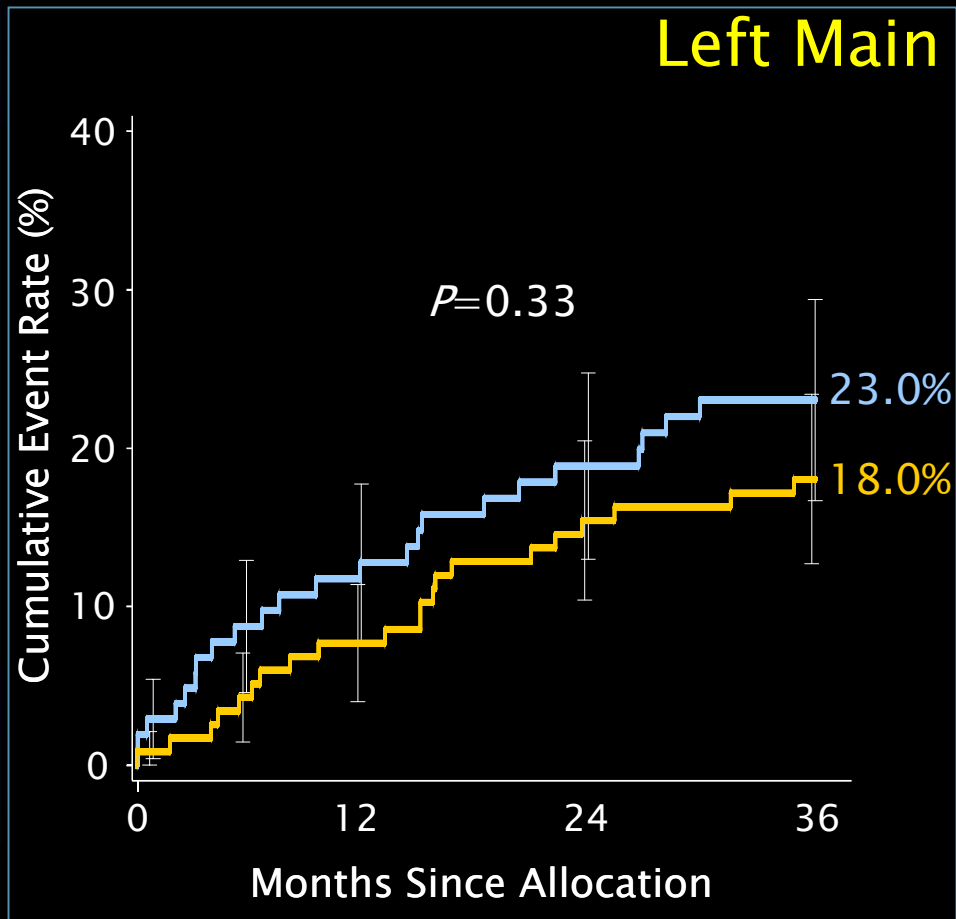


Cumulative KM Event Rate; log-rank *P*value; \*Binary rates

# MACCE to 3 Years by SYNTAX Score Tercile *Low Scores (0-22)*



■ CABG (N=104)  
■ TAXUS (N=118)

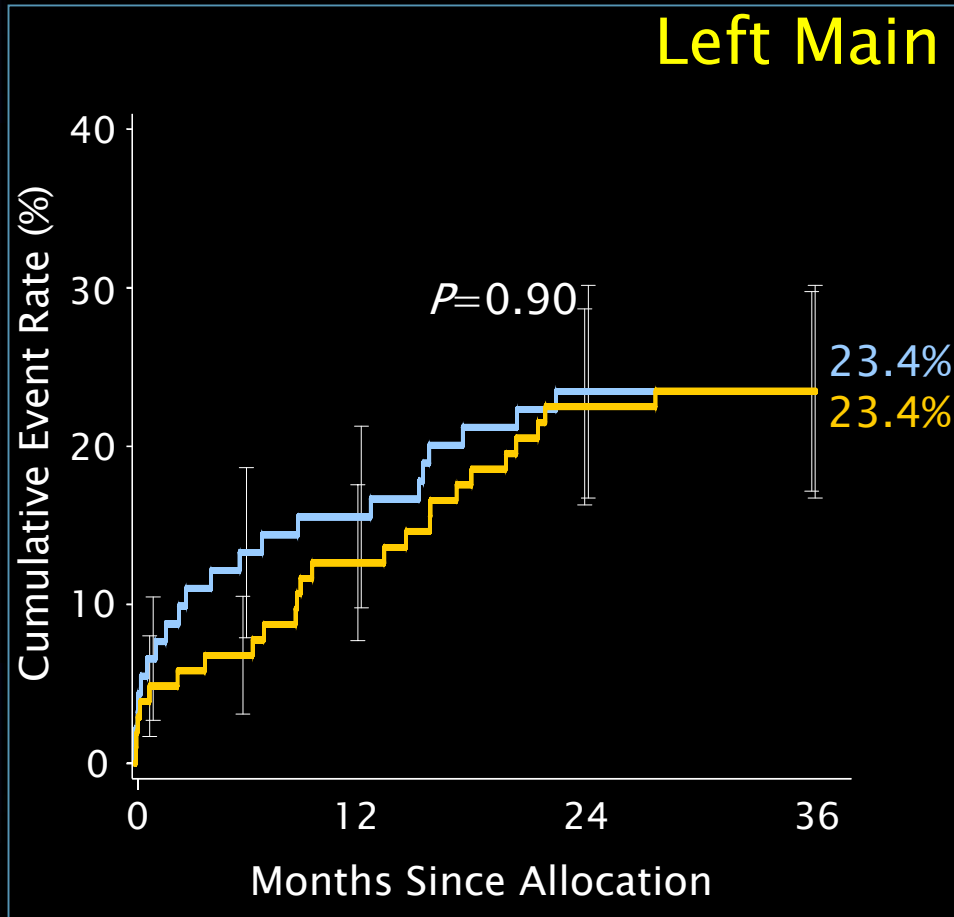


	CABG	PCI	P value
Death	6.0%	2.6%	0.21
CVA	4.1%	0.9%	0.12
MI	2.0%	4.3%	0.36
Death, CVA or MI	11.0%	6.9%	0.26
Revasc.	13.4%	15.4%	0.69

# MACCE to 3 Years by SYNTAX Score Tercile *Intermediate Scores (23–32)*



■ CABG (N=92)  
■ TAXUS (N=103)



	CABG	PCI	P value
Death	12.4%	4.9%	0.06
CVA	2.3%	1.0%	0.46
MI	3.3%	5.0%	0.63
Death, CVA or MI	15.6%	10.8%	0.29
Revasc.	14.0%	15.9%	0.75

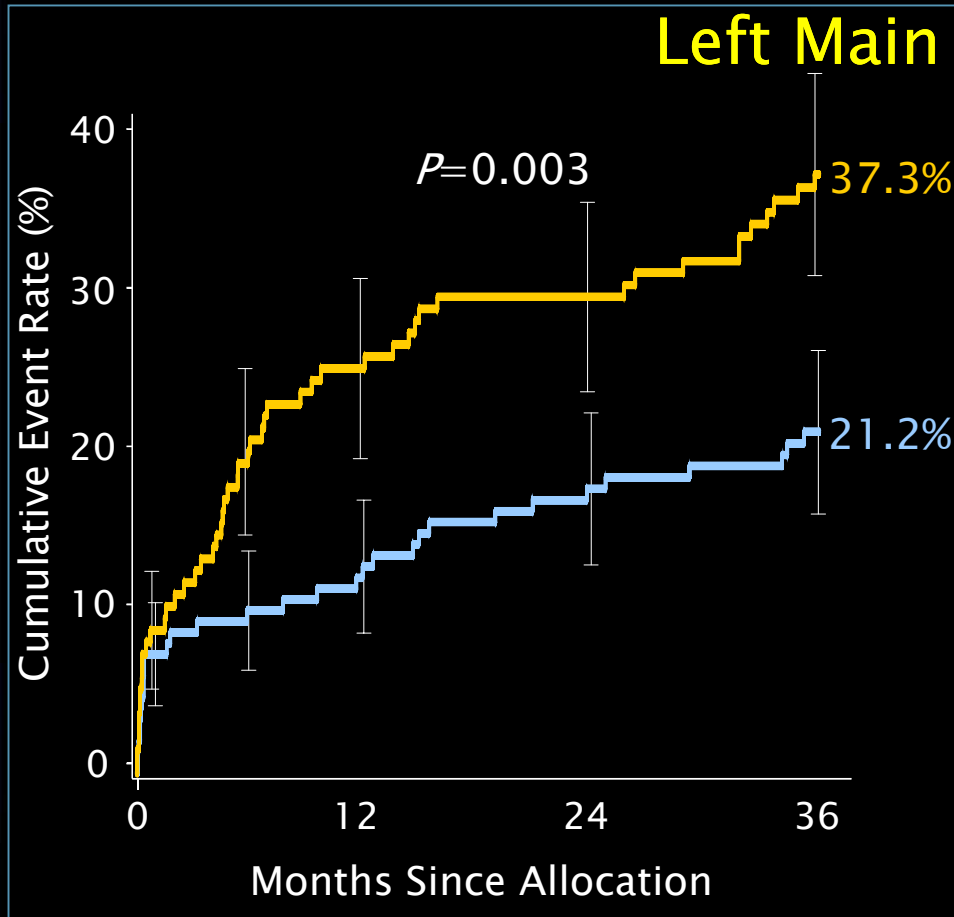
Cumulative KM Event Rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE; log-rank P value

Site-reported Data; ITT population

# MACCE to 3 Years by SYNTAX Score Tercile *Left Main SYNTAX Score $\geq 33$*



■ CABG (N=149)  
■ TAXUS (N=135)



	CABG	PCI	P value
Death	7.6%	13.4%	0.10
CVA	4.9%	1.6%	0.13
MI	6.1%	10.9%	0.18
Death, CVA or MI	15.7%	20.1%	0.34
Revasc.	9.2%	27.7%	<0.001

Cumulative KM Event Rate  $\pm$  1.5 SE; log-rank P value

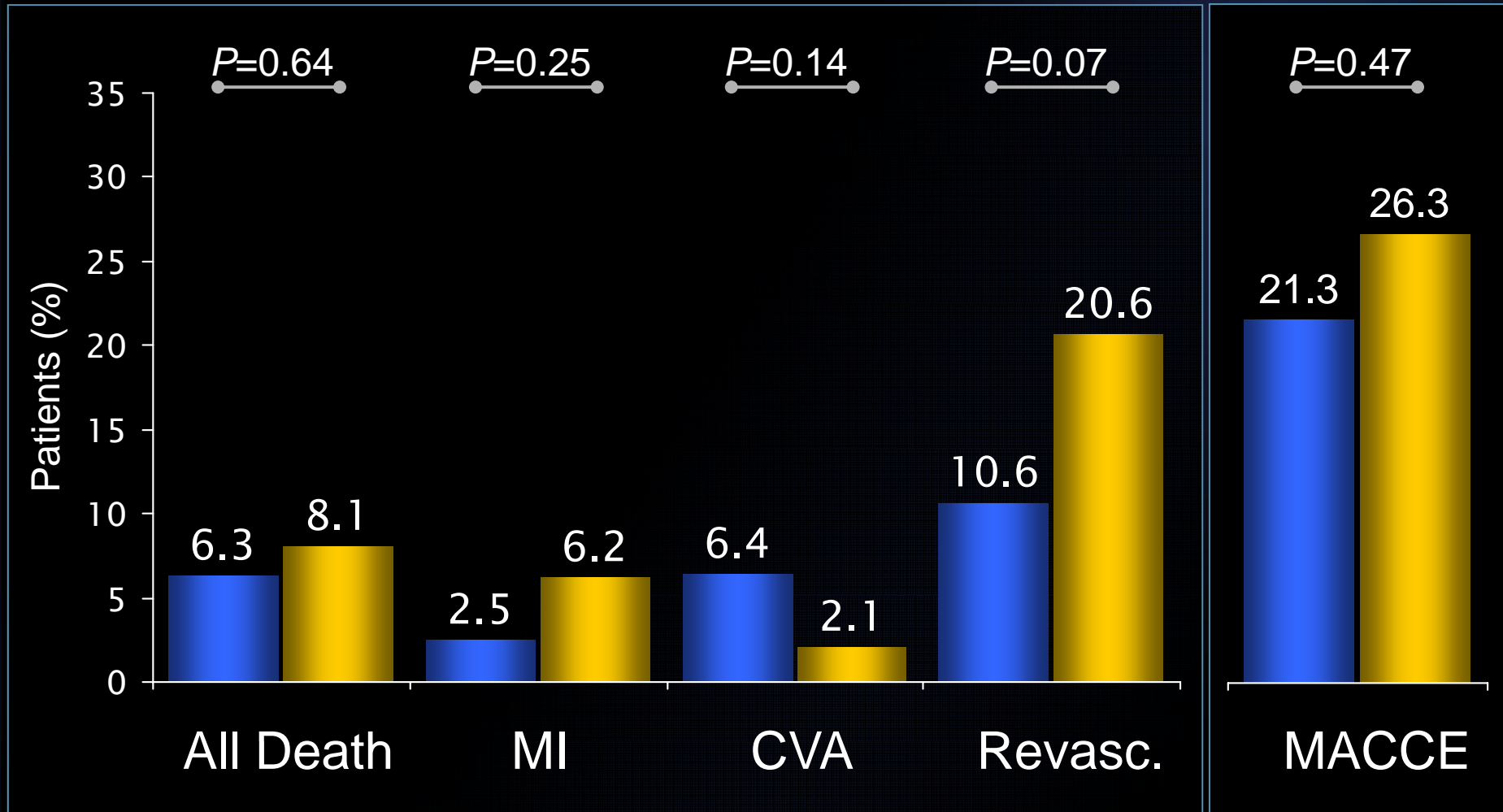
Site-reported Data; ITT population

# MACCE and Components to 3 Years *In Women (LM lesions)*



■ CABG (n=85)

■ TAXUS (n=100)



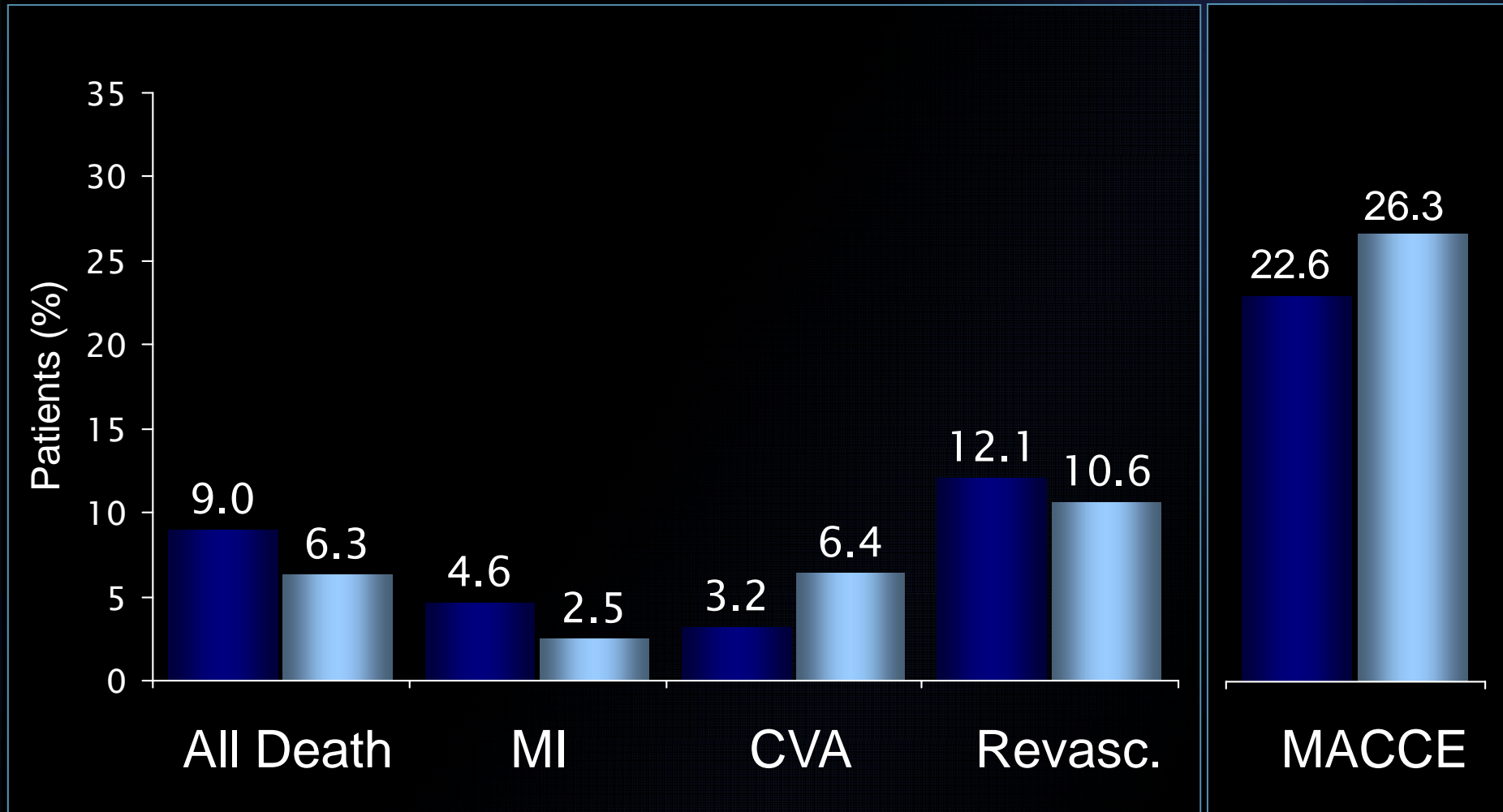
# MACCE and Components to 3 Years

*CABG arm: Men vs Women (LM lesions)*



■ Men (n=263)

■ Women (n=85)



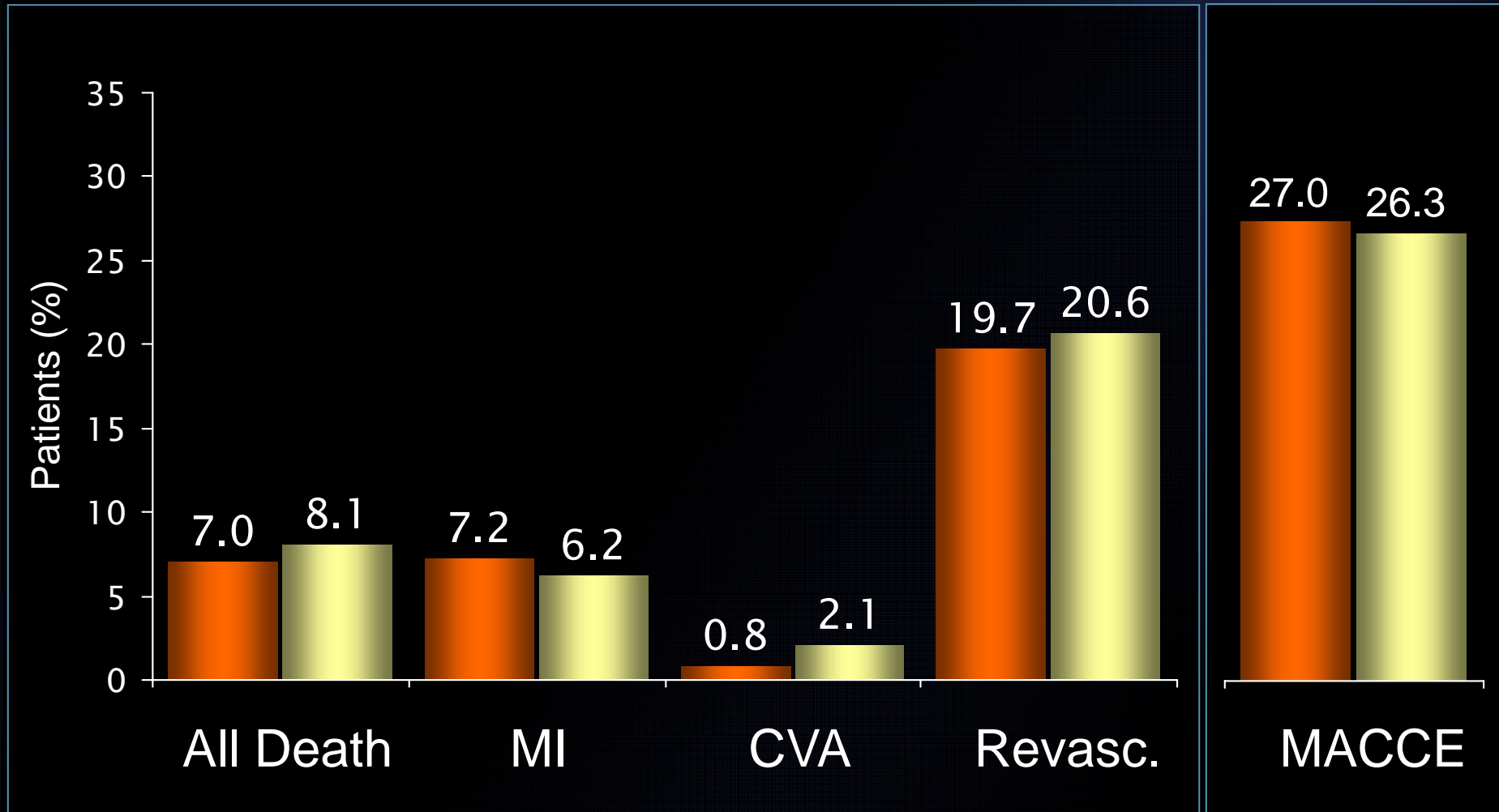
# MACCE and Components to 3 Years

*PCI Arm: Men vs Women (LM lesions)*



■ Men (n=257)

■ Women (n=100)



# Contemporary Trials of LM PCI vs CABG

Trial*	N	Death	MI	Stroke	Revasc
Sanmartin 2007	341				
MAIN-COMPARE 2008	1102		ND	n/a	CABG better
LEMANS 2008	105				
Palmerini 2006	311				
Chieffo 2006	249	ND	PCI better	PCI better	
Lee 2006	173		ND		ND
Makikallio 2008	287			ND	
Brener 2008	287		n/a	n/a	n/a
White 2008	343				
SYNTAX 2008	705		ND	PCI better	CABG better

\* Studies with >100 patients per arm reported 2000-2008  
 ND=no difference; n/a=not available/not reported



# *EXCEL*

Evaluation of **X**ience Prime  
versus **C**oronary Artery Bypass  
Surgery for **E**ffectiveness of **L**eft  
Main Revascularization

# *What Would an Informative Trial of Left Main DES vs. CABG Look Like?*

- **It wouldn't be an all-comers trial!**
  - Exclude pts who clearly should go to CABG, e.g. high SYNTAX scores
- **Optimize PCI technique**
  - Pre-specify when/how to use IVUS, staged procedures, RX of distal bifurcation, no routine angio FU, etc.
  - Use the best stent and adjunctive pharmacology
- **Optimize CABG technique**
  - Minimize waiting time to CABG, maximize pan-arterial revascularization, adjunctive pharmacology, etc.
- **Use a meaningful 1<sup>o</sup> endpoint: Death, CVA or MI**
- **~2500 randomized pts**

# EXCEL: Study Design

**4000 pts with left main disease**



SYNTAX score  $\leq 32$

Consensus agreement by heart team



**Yes**  
**(N=2500)**

No

(N=1500)



PCI and CABG  
registries  
(limited in-hosp data)

R



**PCI (Xience Prime)**  
**(N=1250)**

**CABG**  
**(N=1250)**

**Clinical follow-up: 30 days, 6 months, yearly through 5 years**

# EXCEL: Inclusion Criteria

- Significant LM ds. by heart team consensus
  - Angiographic DS  $\geq 70\%$ , or
  - Angiographic DS  $\geq 50\%$  to  $< 70\%$  with
    - a markedly positive noninvasive study, and/or
    - IVUS MLA  $< 6.0 \text{ mm}^2$ , and/or
    - FFR  $< 0.80$
- Clinical and anatomic eligibility for both PCI and CABG by heart team consensus
- Silent ischemia, stable angina, unstable angina or recent MI

# EXCEL: Endpoints

- Primary endpoint: Death, MI, or stroke at median follow-up of 3 years
- Major secondary endpoint: Death, MI, stroke or unplanned revascularization at median follow-up of 3 years
  - ❖ Power analysis: Both endpoints are powered for sequential noninferiority and superiority testing
- Quality of life and cost-effectiveness assessments: At regular intervals

# ***EXCEL: Organization (i)***

- **Principal Investigators:**

- Interventional: Patrick W. Serruys, Gregg W. Stone
- Surgical: A. Pieter Kappetein, Joseph F. Sabik

- **Executive Operations Committee:**

- 4 principal investigators, Peter-Paul Kint, Martin B. Leon, Alexandra Lansky, Roxana Mehran, Marie-Angèle Morel, Chuck Simonton, David Taggart, Lynn Vandertie, Gerrit-Anne van Es, Jessie Coe, Poornima Sood, Ali Akavand, Krishnankutty Sudhir, Thomas Engels

- **Optimal Therapy Committee Chairs**

- PCI: Martin B. Leon
- Surgery: David Taggart
- Medical: Bernard Gersh

# ***EXCEL: Organization (ii)***

- **Countries and Country Leaders (PCI and CABG)**
  - United States: David Kandzari and John Puskas
  - Europe (10): Marie-Claude Morice and David Taggart
  - Brazil: Alex Abizaid and Luis Carlos Bento Sousa
  - Argentina: Jorge Belardi and Daniel Navia
  - Canada: Erick Schampaert and Marc Ruel
  - S. Korea: Seung-Jung Park and Jay-Won Lee
- **Statistical Committee**
  - Stuart Pocock, Chair
- **Data Safety and Monitoring Board**
  - Lars Wallentin, Chair
- **Academic Research Organizations**
  - Cardiovascular Research Foundation and Cardialysis
- **Sponsor: Abbott Vascular**

## ***EXCEL: Status***

- The protocol is finalized
- The site selection process is complete
- FDA meetings and global regulatory submissions are being prepared
- **First patient enrolled: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2010**



# Summary

- **Coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG) remains the clinical standard of care for patients with unprotected left main coronary artery disease**
- **Society based guidelines do not endorse (Class I recommendation) percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) of left main disease except for those patients considered ineligible for CABG**
- **Recently, however, several clinical trials comparing contemporary revascularization of unprotected left main coronary artery disease with drug-eluting stents (DES) versus CABG have challenged this standard .**
- **Specifically, these studies have demonstrated clinical equipoise between the two revascularization strategies, consistently reporting similar rates of combined safety outcomes including death, myocardial infarction and stroke.**

# Unresolved Issues:

- **Not all L Mains are created equally**
- **Technique for LM stenting is not standardized**
- **Use of IVUS imaging to guide stenting not uniform**
- **No single left main trial has been adequately powered to demonstrate the safety and efficacy of unprotected left main stenting with DES compared to CABG**
- **Endpoints of interest in pts with LM disease comparing CABG v. PCI is not well delineated**
- **Duration of follow-up unclear**
- **Await Results of EXCEL for LM revascularization strategy in the less complex lesion subsets (Syntax score <32)**