

# Coronary physiology + AS

## *decision-making in TAVI patients*

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# Disclosure Statement of Financial Interest

Within the past 12+ months, Nils Johnson has had a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with the organization(s) listed below.

## Affiliation/Financial Relationship

- Grant/research support  
(to *institution*)
- Licensing and associated consulting  
(to *institution*)
- Support for educational meetings/training  
(honoraria/fees donated to *institution*)
- PET software 510(k) from FDA  
(application by Lance Gould, to *institution*)
- Patents filed  
(USPTO serial numbers 62/597,134 + 62/907,174)

## Organizations (chronologic)

- St Jude Medical (CONTRAST, NCT02184117)
- Volcano/Philips (DEFINE-FLOW, NCT02328820)
- CoreAalst (PPG registry, NCT04789317)
- Abiomed (local “DPTI” study)
- Boston Scientific  
(smart-minimum FFR, 510(k) K191008)
- Various, including academic and industry
- K113754 (cfrQuant, 2011)
- K143664 (HeartSee, 2014)
- K171303 (HeartSee update, 2017)
- K202679 (HeartSee update, 2020)
- SAVI and  $\Delta P/Q$  methods
- Correction of fluid-filled catheter signal

# Guidelines?

Not much guidance

# ESC focuses on anatomy

## Recommendations for management of CAD in patients with VHD.

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
<b>Indications for myocardial revascularization</b>		
PCI should be considered in patients with a primary indication to undergo TAVI and coronary artery diameter stenosis >70% in proximal segments.	<b>IIa</b>	<b>C</b>

<sup>e</sup>Stenosis ≥50% can be considered for left main stenosis.

<sup>f</sup>FFR ≤0.8 is a useful cut-off indicating the need for an intervention in patients with mitral or tricuspid diseases, but has not been validated in patients with aortic stenosis.

Assessing the clinical value of systematic PCI in TAVI patients with significant associated CAD is the objective of ongoing RCTs. Patients with severe symptomatic aortic stenosis and diffuse CAD unsuitable for revascularization should receive optimal medical therapy and undergo SAVR or TAVI according to individual characteristics.

Has >70%DS been  
“validated in patients  
with aortic stenosis”?

# ACC/AHA allows %DS, FFR, iFR

Invasive functional assessment of coronary lesions in TAVI candidates by using **fractional flow reserve or instantaneous wave-free ratio is safe and feasible (13-15)**. Instantaneous wave-free ratio may be particularly attractive because it does not require the administration of a vasodilator and is less influenced by the effect of the stenotic aortic valve, although randomized clinical trials validating the utility of both are ongoing.

2. **There are no RCTs to inform clinical practice on the benefits and timing of PCI in patients undergoing TAVI.**

COR	LOE	RECOMMENDATIONS
1	C-EO	1. In patients undergoing TAVI, 1) contrast-enhanced coronary CT angiography (in patients with a low pretest probability for CAD) or 2) an invasive coronary angiogram is recommended to assess coronary anatomy and guide revascularization.
2a	C-LD	2. In patients undergoing TAVI with <b>significant left main or proximal CAD with or without angina</b> , revascularization by PCI before TAVI is reasonable (1,2).
2a	C-LD	3. In patients with significant AS and <b>significant CAD (luminal reduction &gt;70% diameter, fractional flow reserve &lt;0.8, instantaneous wave-free ratio &lt;0.89)</b> consisting of complex bifurcation left main and/or multivessel CAD with a SYNTAX (Synergy Between Percutaneous Coronary Intervention With Taxus and Cardiac Surgery) score >33, SAVR and CABG are reasonable and preferred over TAVI and PCI (3,4).

RCT completed or in progress

# OMT

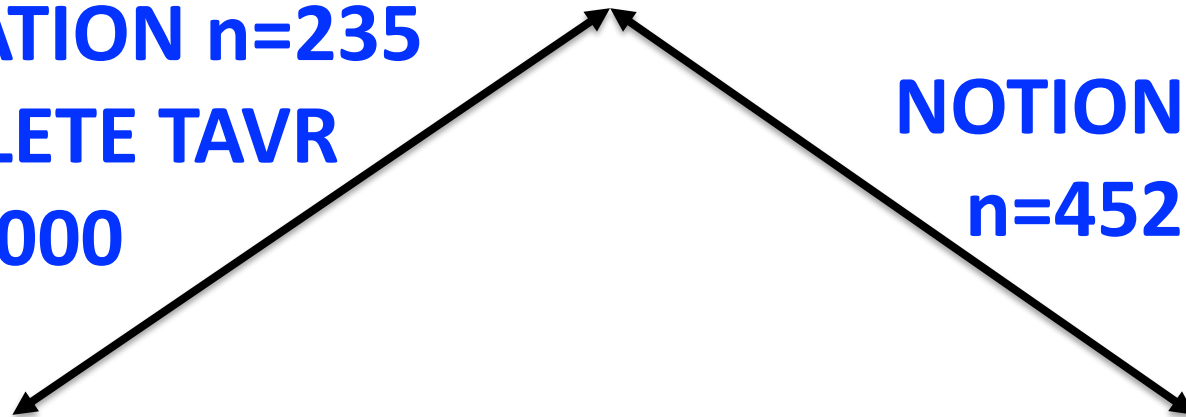
- 1. ACTIVATION n=235
- 2. COMPLETE TAVR n=4000

NOTION-3  
n=452

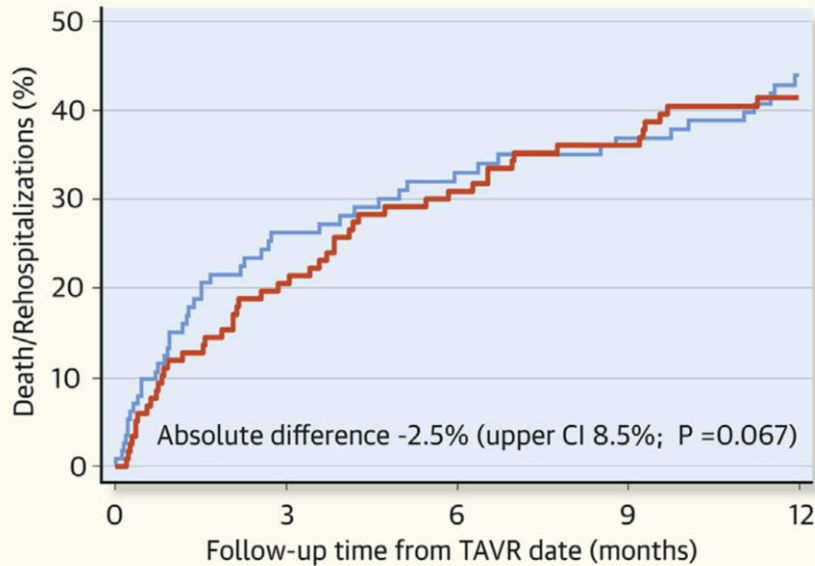
%DS

FFR

FAITAVI  
n=320



# RCT of %DS vs OMT: ACTIVATION

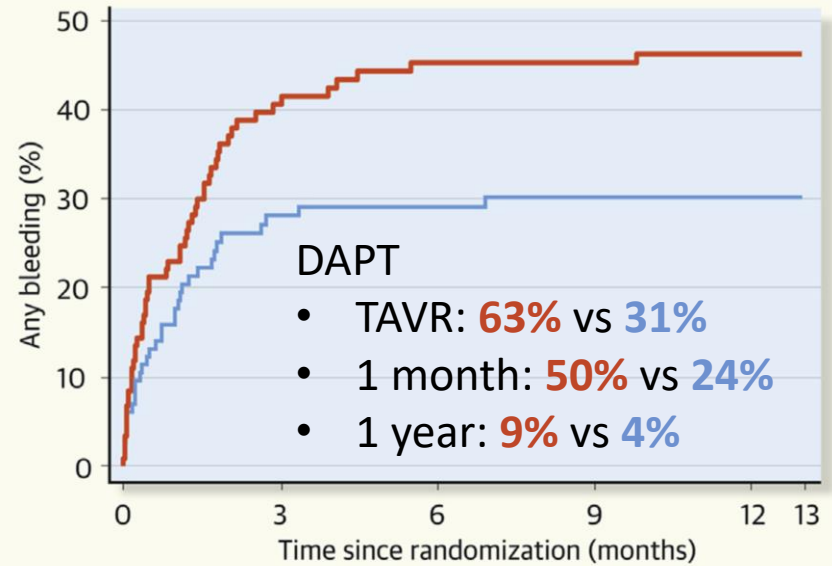


No. at risk:

— PCI	119	92	80	73	56
— No PCI	116	78	69	65	50

TABLE 1 Baseline Characteristics of the Patient Cohorts

	PCI (n = 119)	No PCI (n = 116)
Angina grade (CCS class)		
0	81 (68.1)	79 (69.3)
I	14 (11.8)	18 (15.8)
II	23 (19.3)	16 (14.0)
III	1 (0.8)	1 (0.9)
IV	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)



No. at risk:

— PCI	119	65	58	56	52	39
— No PCI	116	72	66	64	63	30

TABLE 2 Angiographic and Procedural Characteristics

	PCI (n = 119)	No PCI (n = 116)
Coronary artery disease		
Left anterior descending artery >70%	73 (61.3)	69 (60.5)
Circumflex artery >70%	42 (35.3)	38 (33.3)
Right coronary artery >70%	47 (39.5)	59 (51.8)
Left main stem coronary artery >70%	3 (2.5)	6 (5.3)
PCI undertaken	116 (97.5)	—
Number of patients	116 (97.5)	
Number of lesions	194	
Lesion length, mm	17.4 ± 6.6	
Number of treated lesions	1 (0-2)	
Number of stents	1 (0-4)	
Pre-PCI stenosis, %	80.3 ± 15.2	
Post-PCI stenosis, %	2.2 ± 7.2	

# RCT of *%DS vs OMT*: COMPLETE TAVR

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## Staged Complete Revascularization for Coronary Artery Disease vs Medical Management Alone in Patients With AS Undergoing Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (COMPLETE TAVR)

### Sponsor:

University of British Columbia

### Information provided by (Responsible Party):

David Wood, University of British Columbia

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT04634240

[Recruitment Status](#) ⓘ : Not yet recruiting

[First Posted](#) ⓘ : November 18, 2020

[Last Update Posted](#) ⓘ : November 18, 2020

- N = 4000 subjects
- starting soon
- endpoint: 3.5 year CV death, MI, PCI, UA/HF
- randomized 1:1 after TAVI
  - ✓ medical therapy
  - ✓ PCI for >70%DS in  $\geq 2.5$ mm vessel



# RCT of %DS vs OMT: COMPLETE TAVR

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## Exclusion Criteria:

- PCI already performed within 90 days or during elective transfemoral TAVR
- Planned revascularization of coronary artery lesion(s)

Information provided by (Responsible Party):

David Wood, University of British Columbia

First Posted ⓘ : November 18, 2020

Last Update Posted ⓘ : November 18, 2020

- N = 4000 subjects
- starting soon
- endpoint: 3.5 year CV death, MI, PCI, UA/HF
- randomized 1:1 after TAVI
  - ✓ medical therapy
  - ✓ PCI for >70%DS in ≥2.5mm vessel

# RCT of *FFR vs OMT*: NOTION-3

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## Revascularization in Patients Undergoing Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (NOTION-3)

### Sponsor:

Thomas Engstrom

### Collaborators:

Rigshospitalet, Denmark  
Aarhus University Hospital  
Aalborg University Hospital  
Odense University Hospital  
Lund University Hospital  
Karolinska University Hospital  
Haukeland University Hospital  
Helsinki University Central Hospital  
Tampere University Hospital  
Oulu University Hospital  
Turku University Hospital  
Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Sweden  
Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital

### Information provided by (Responsible Party):

Thomas Engstrom, Rigshospitalet, Denmark

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03058627

[Recruitment Status](#) ⓘ : Recruiting

[First Posted](#) ⓘ : February 23, 2017

[Last Update Posted](#) ⓘ : February 10, 2022

See [Contacts and Locations](#)

- N=452 subjects
- started Sept 2017
- endpoint: 1-year death, MI, urgent PCI
- randomized 1:1
  - ✓ TAVI as per current guidelines
  - ✓ standard TAVI + PCI if >90%DS or FFR<0.8

# RCT of *FFR vs %DS*: FAITAVI

## Functional Assessment In TAVI: FAITAVI (FAITAVI)

### Sponsor:

Universita di Verona

### Information provided by (Responsible Party):

Flavio Ribichini, Universita di Verona

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03360591

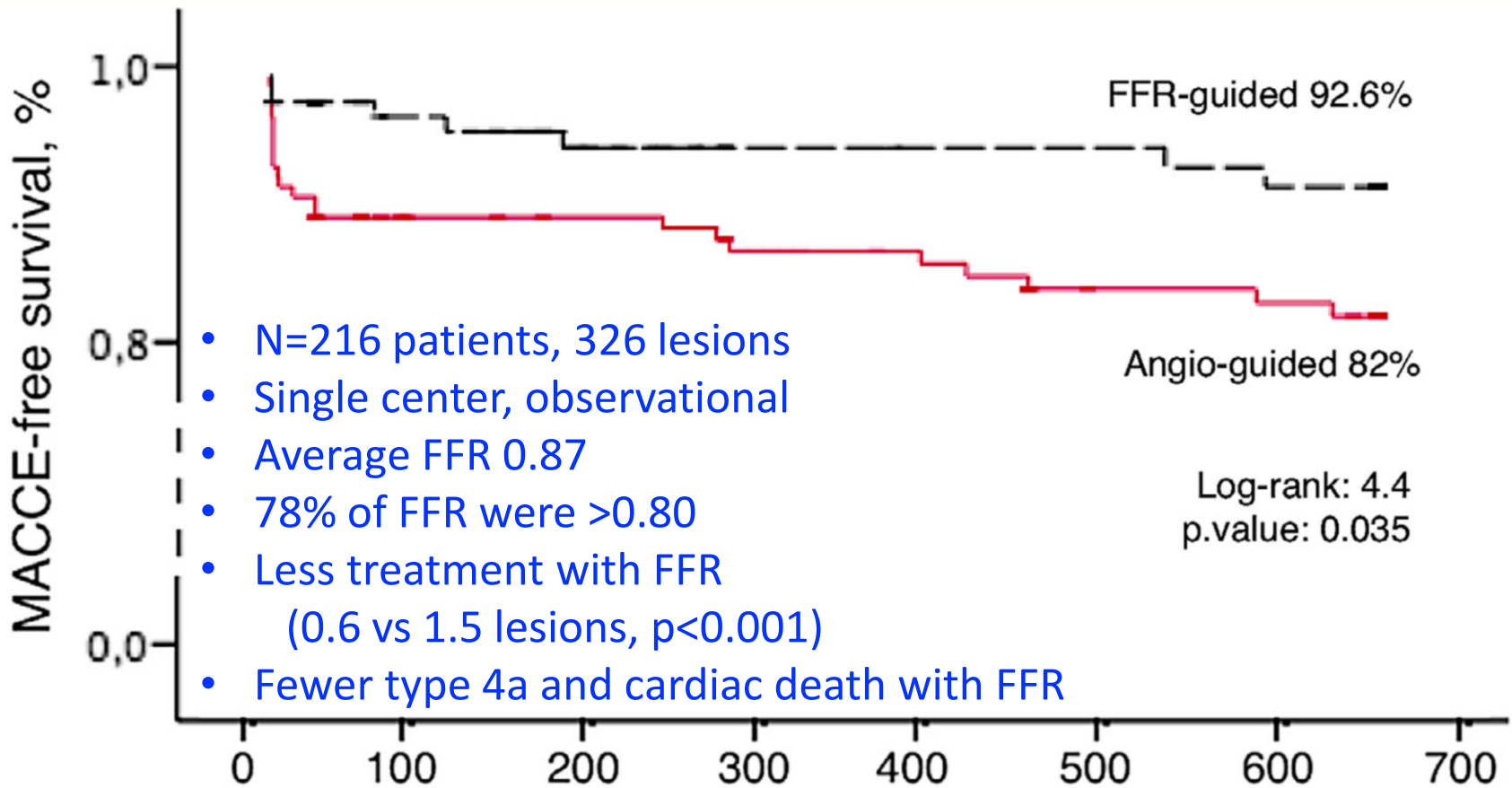
[Recruitment Status](#) ⓘ : Recruiting

[First Posted](#) ⓘ : December 4, 2017

[Last Update Posted](#) ⓘ : May 12, 2021

- N=320 subjects
- started Nov 2017
- endpoint: 1-year death, MI, CVA, TVR, bleed
- randomized 1:1 to TAVI plus
  - ✓ PCI if  $\geq 50\%DS$  in  $\geq 2.5mm$  vessel
  - ✓ PCI if  $FFR \leq 0.80$  before or after TAVI

# Observational: FFR better than %DS



- N=216 patients, 326 lesions
- Single center, observational
- Average FFR 0.87
- 78% of FFR were >0.80
- Less treatment with FFR  
(0.6 vs 1.5 lesions,  $p < 0.001$ )
- Fewer type 4a and cardiac death with FFR

Number at risk

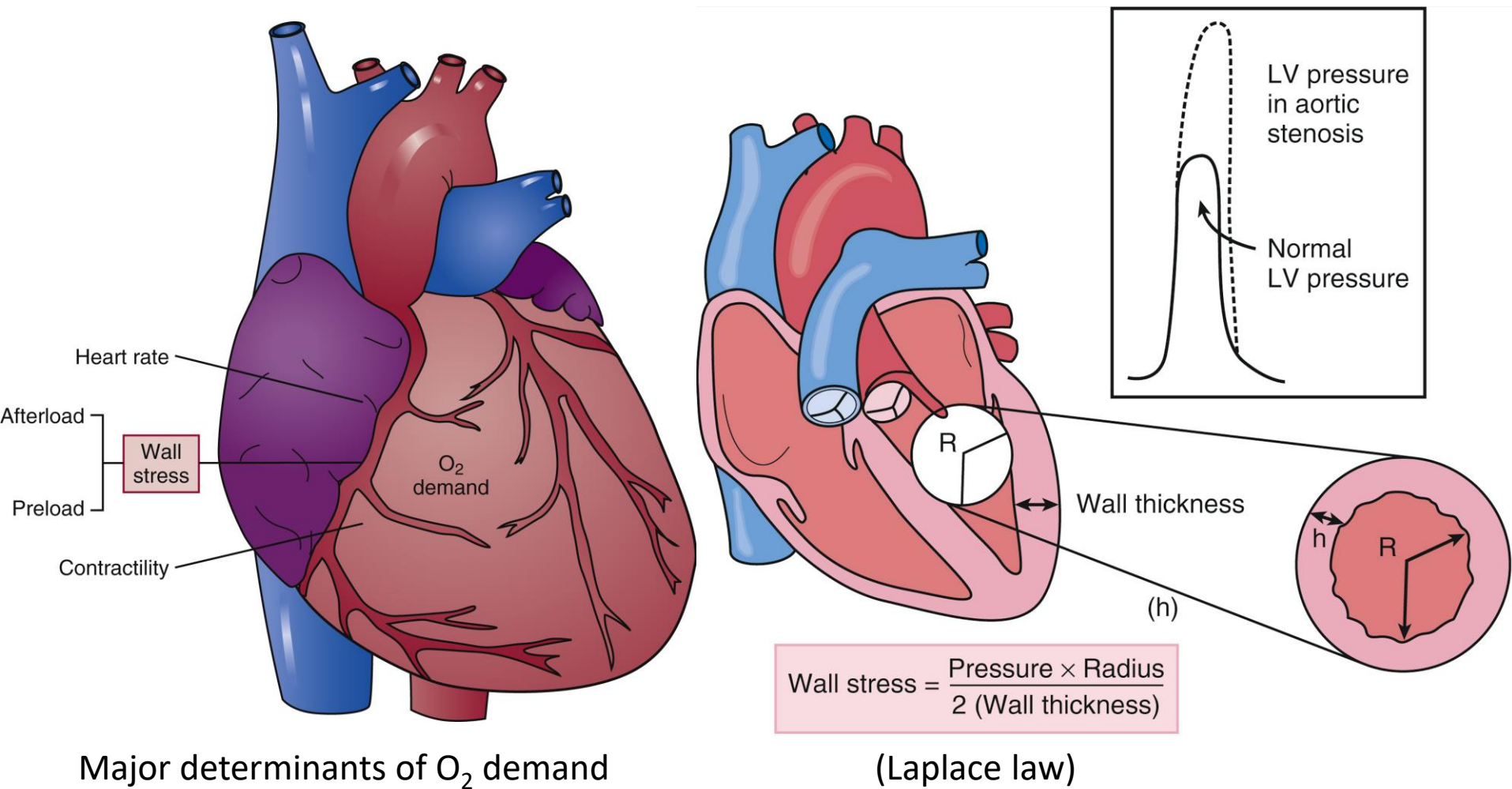
Time, days

FFR-guided	94	85	74	66	62	61	60	59
Angio-guided	122	99	97	93	83	80	73	70

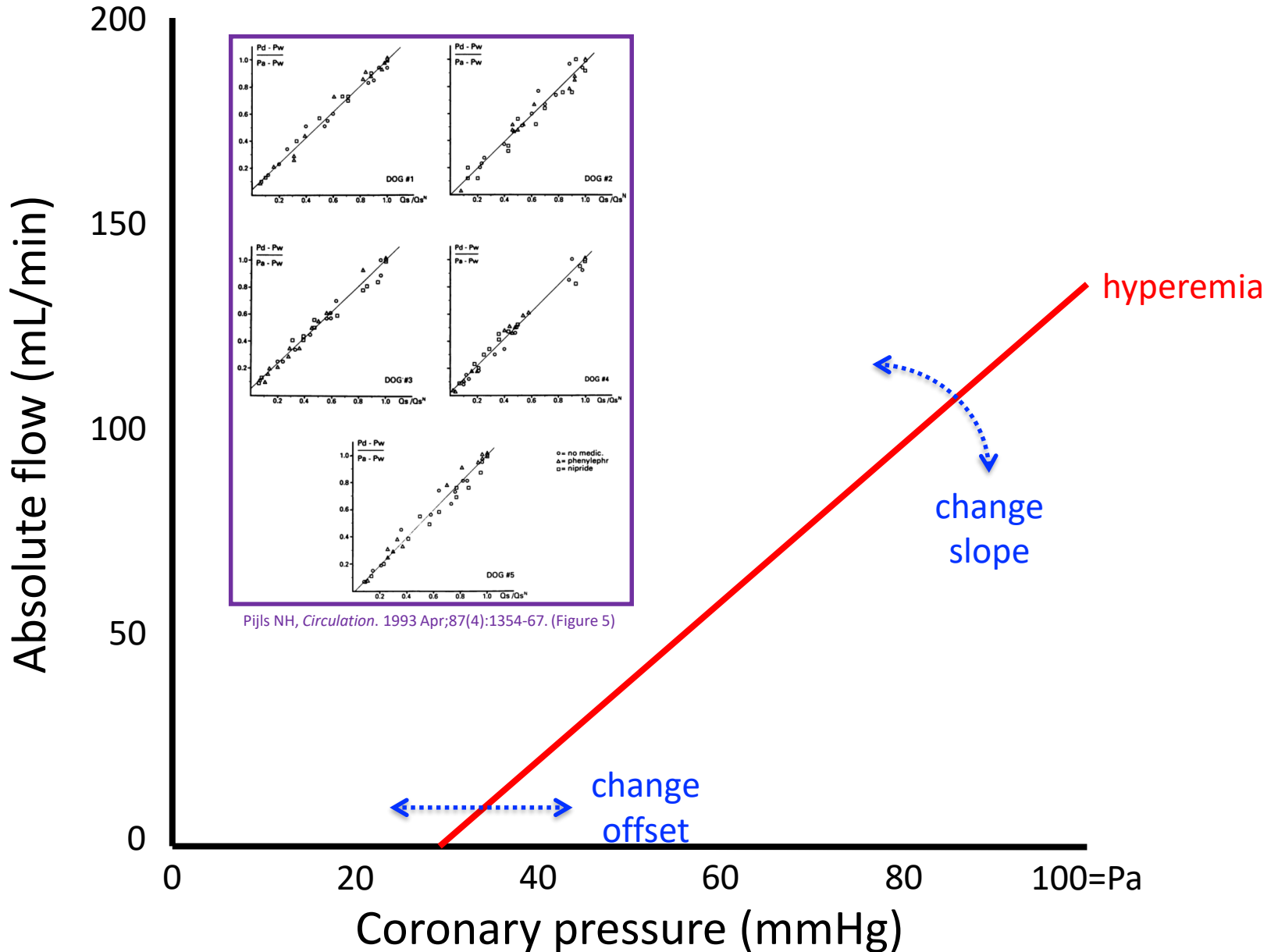
**Bigger is worse**

**LVH and AS**

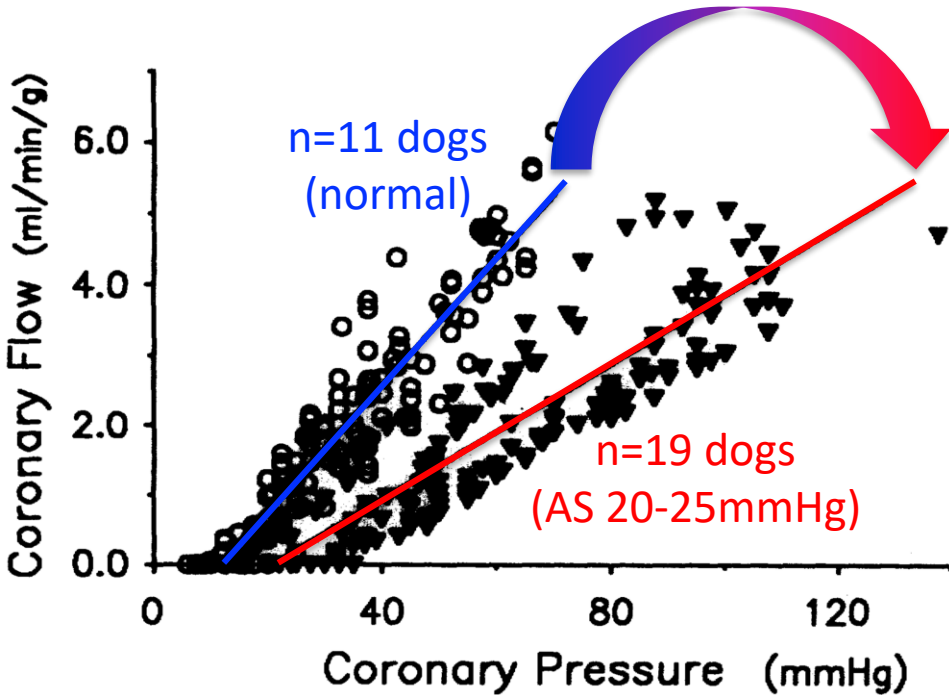
# Aortic stenosis -> LV hypertrophy



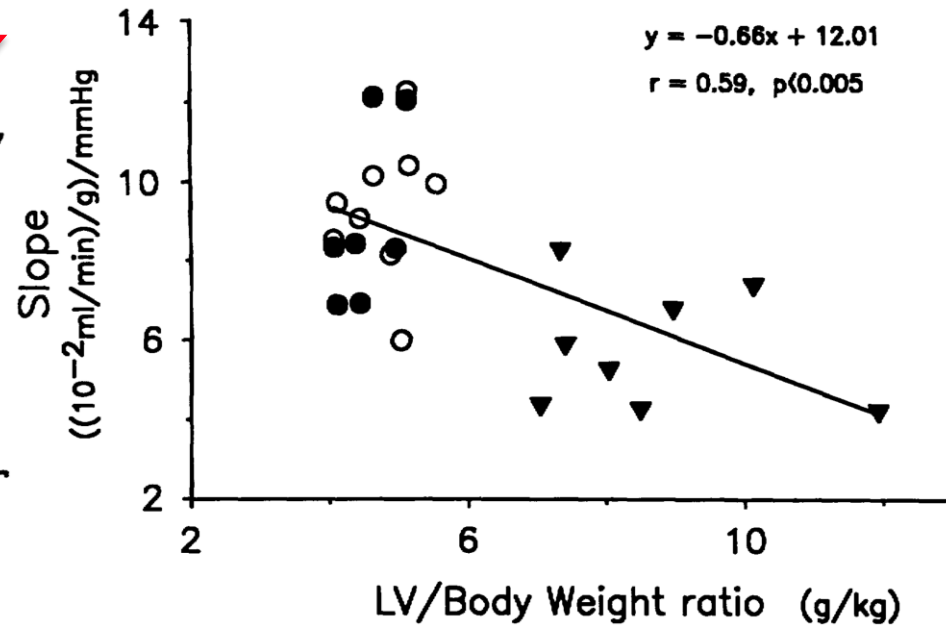
# How does LVH affect *bed*?



# LVH reduces peak flow



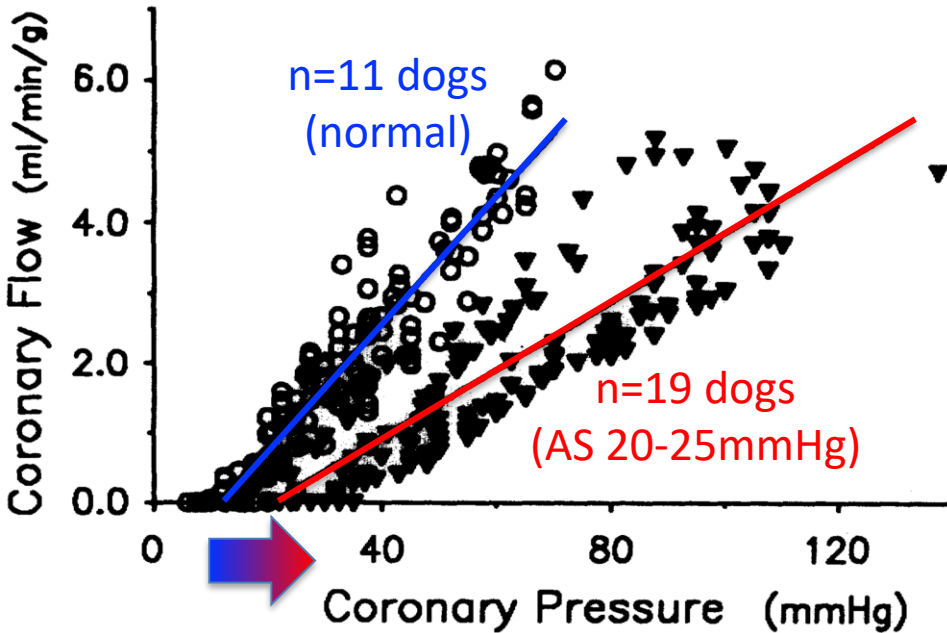
line rotates clockwise  
(less flow for same pressure)



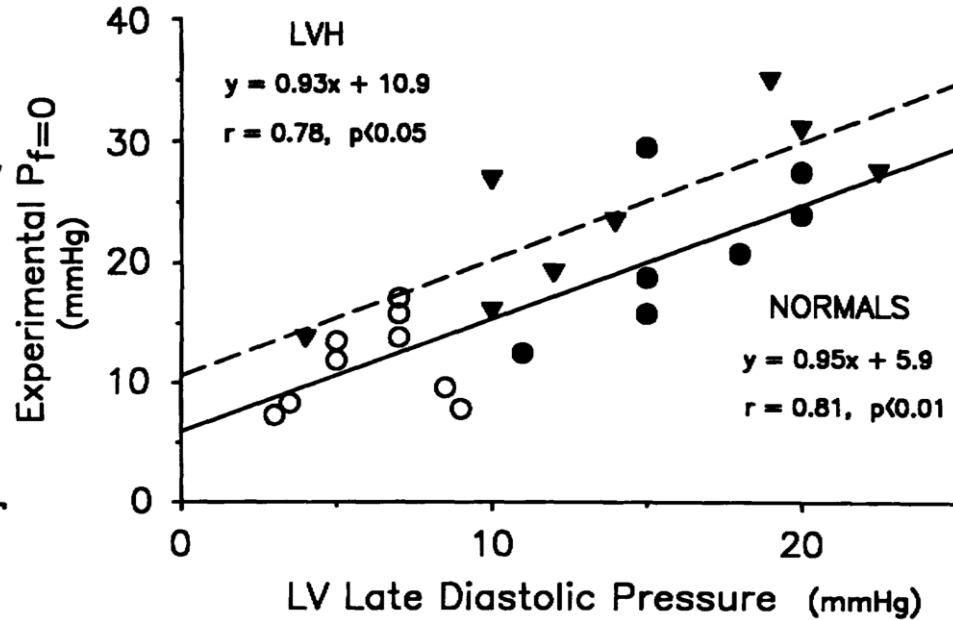
amount of rotation  
relates to degree of LVH



# Backpressure affected by LVedp

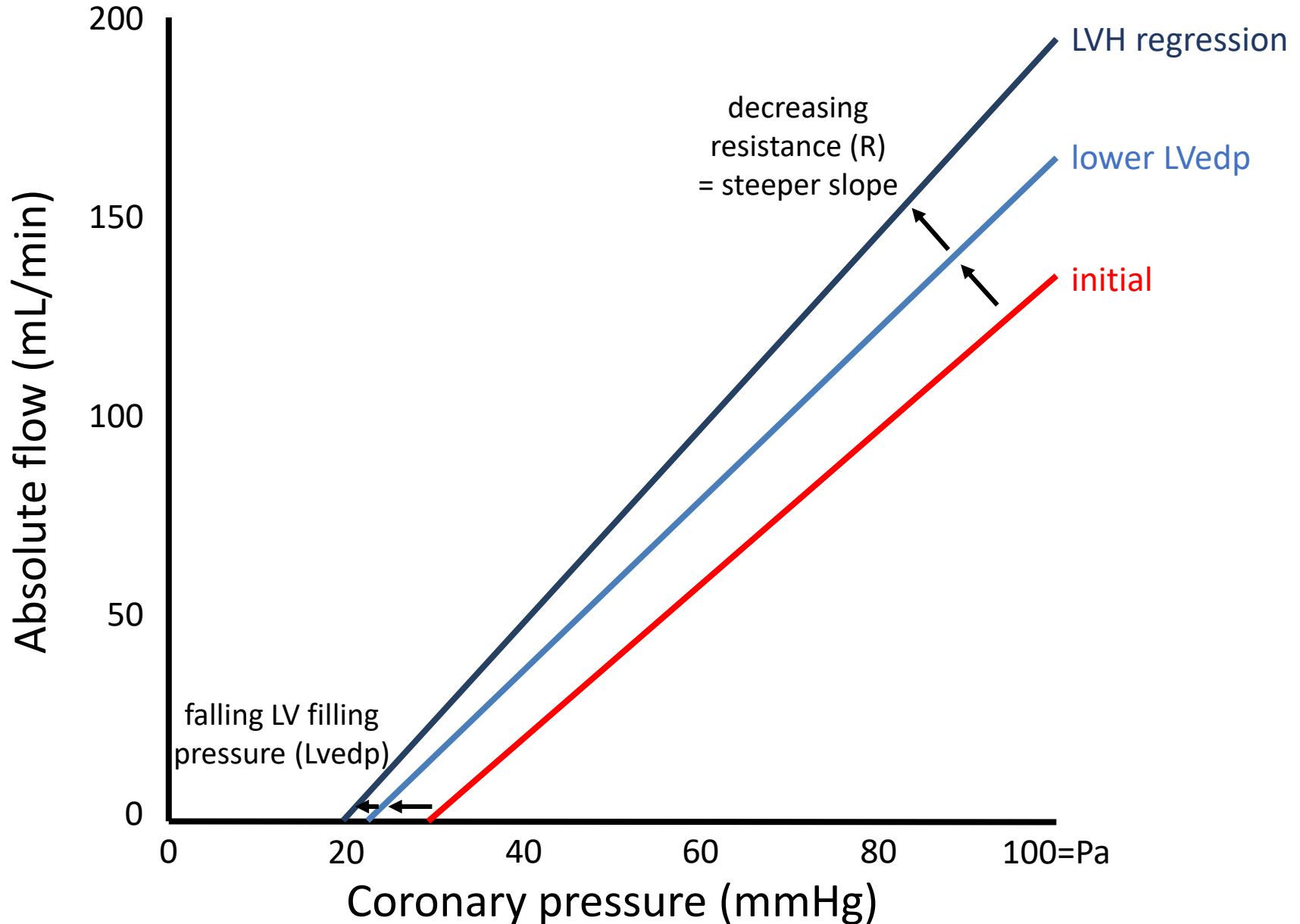


line shifts rightwards  
(higher backpressure)

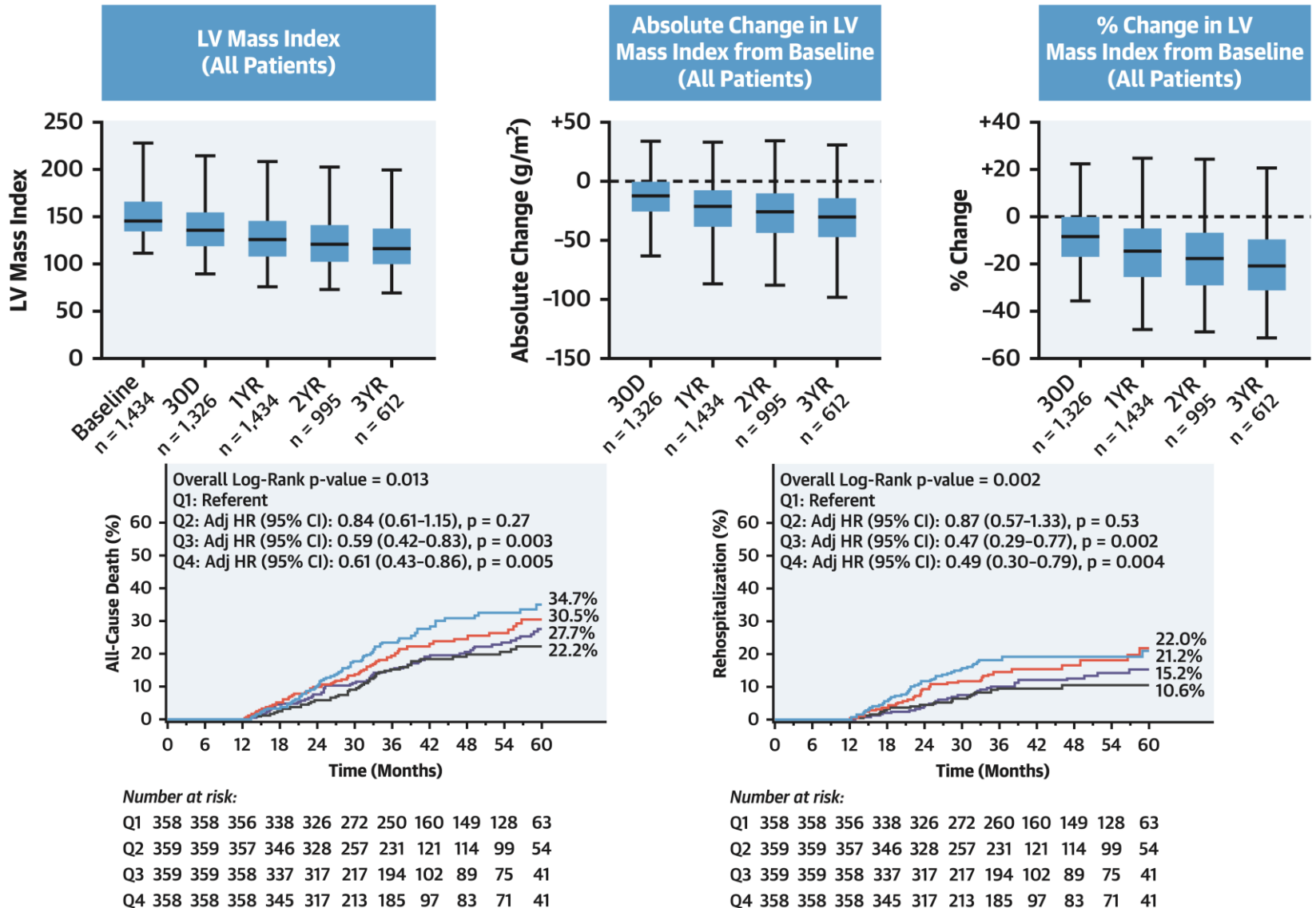


coronary backpressure  
relates to LV filling pressure

# Effect of LVH regression



# More LVH regression = better!

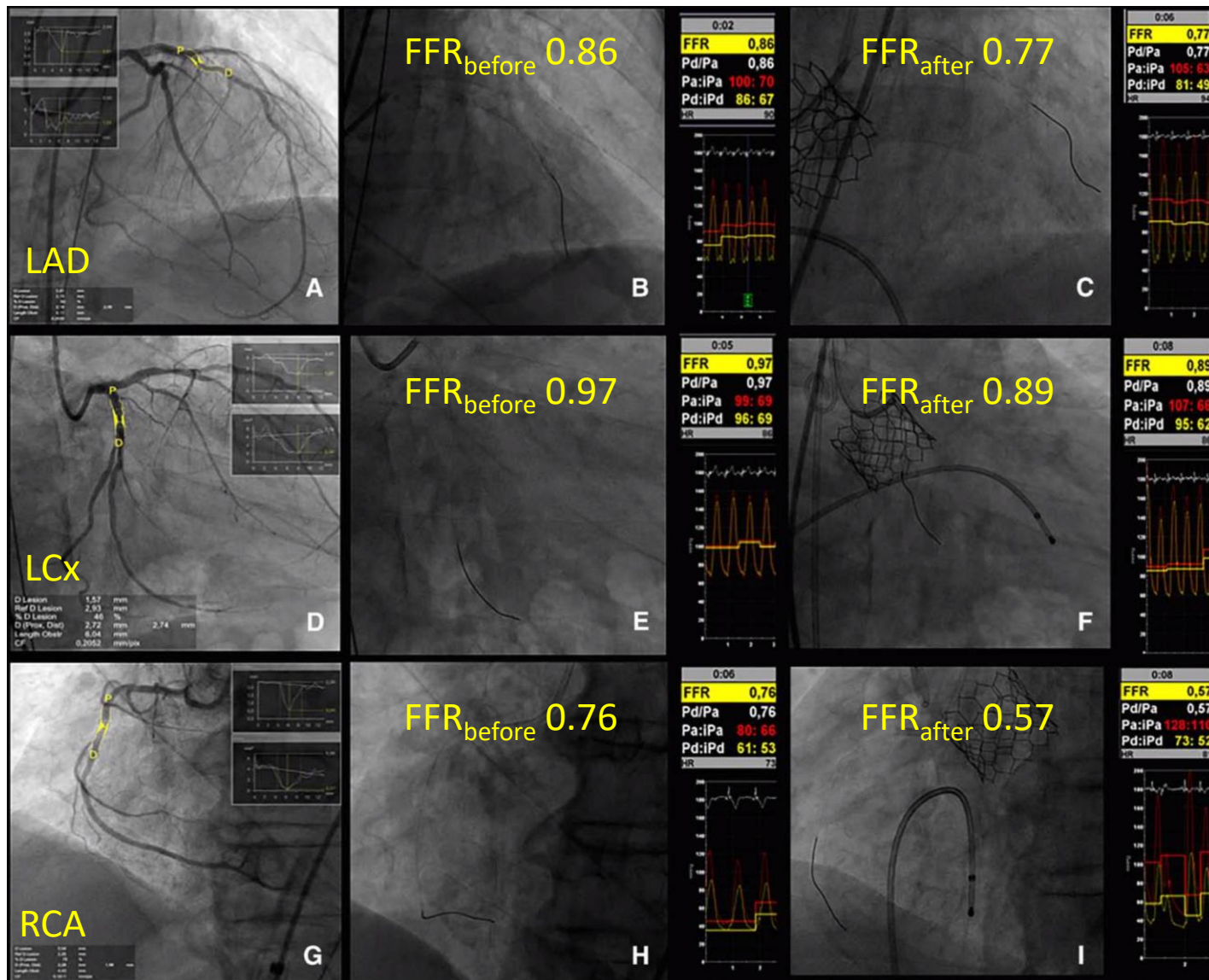


Chau KH, JACC. 2020 May 19;75(19):2446-2458. (Figure 1A-C and Figure 2A+C)

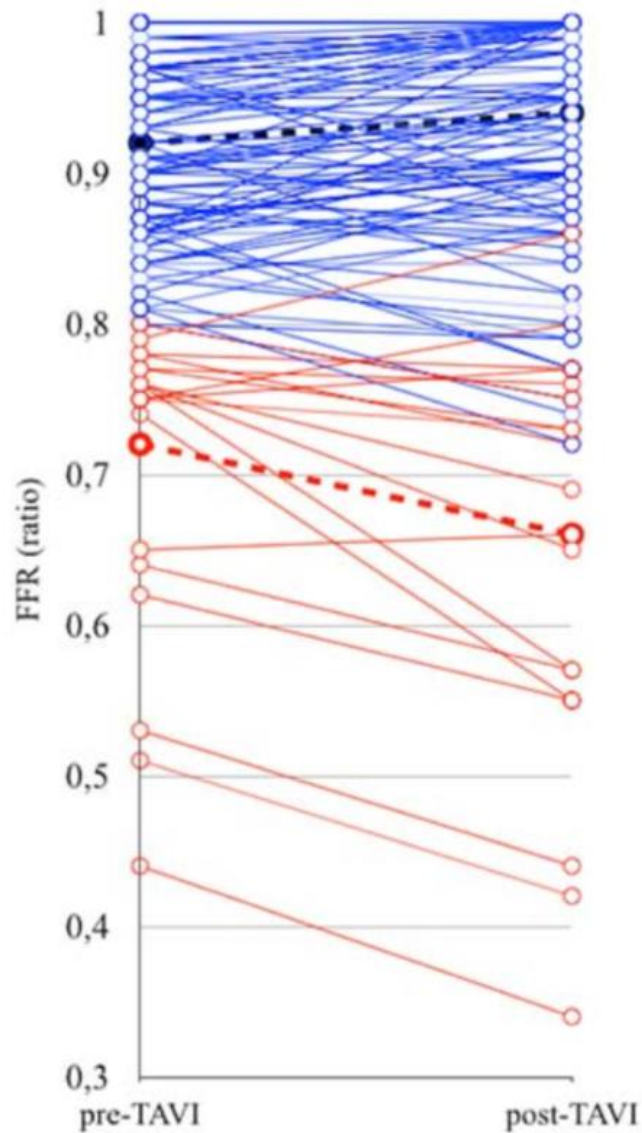
# Before vs after

Why does FFR change?

# Is FFR stable before/after TAVI?

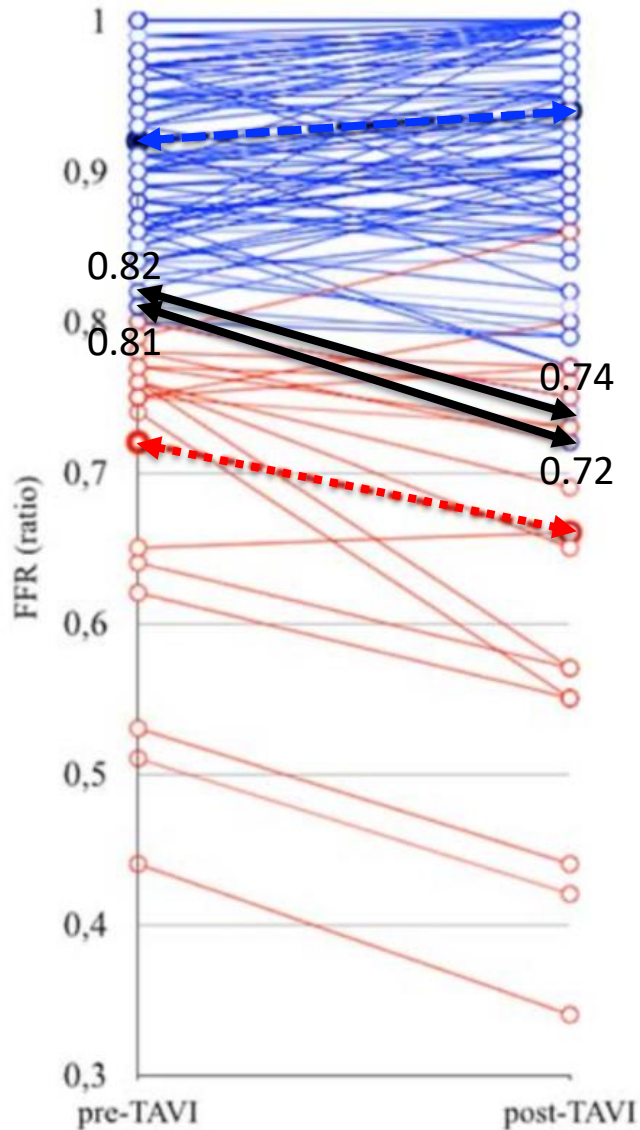


# Is FFR stable before/after TAVI?



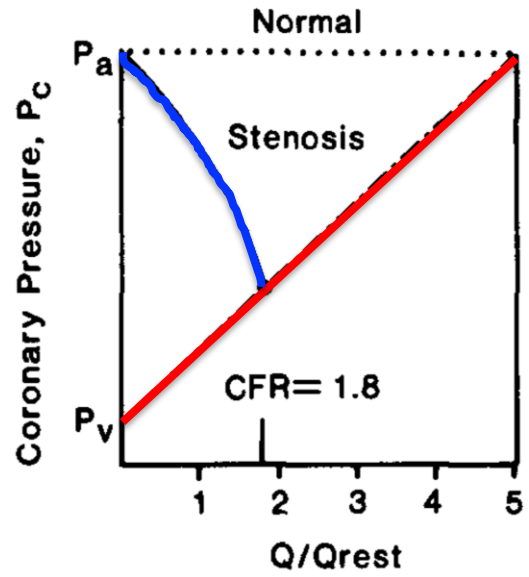
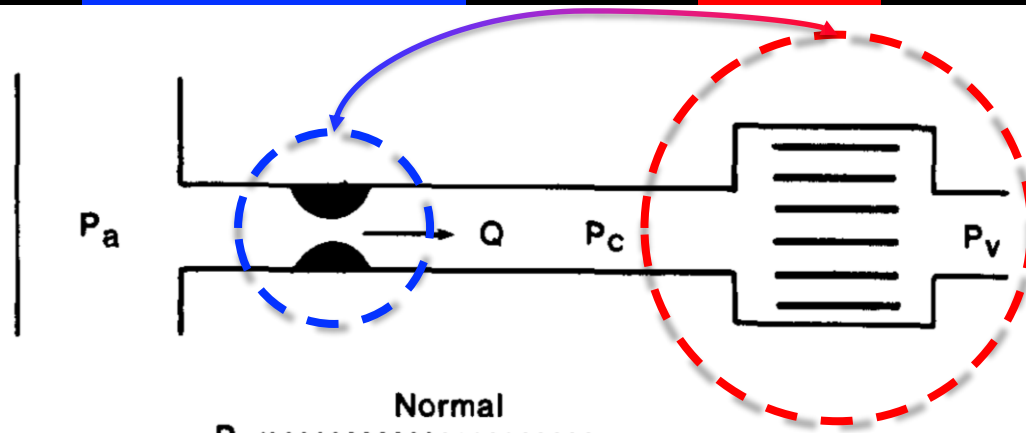
- 133 lesions from 54 patients
- FFR
  - ✓ before  $0.89 \pm 0.10$
  - ✓ after  $0.89 \pm 0.13$
  - ✓  $p=0.73$  for pairs

# Is FFR stable before/after TAVI?



- 133 lesions from 54 patients
- FFR
  - ✓ before  $0.89 \pm 0.10$
  - ✓ after  $0.89 \pm 0.13$
  - ✓  $p=0.73$  for pairs
- interaction between  $\Delta$  and  $FFR=0.8$ 
  - ✓  $FFR > 0.8$  the  $\Delta = +0.01$
  - ✓  $FFR < 0.8$  the  $\Delta = -0.05$
- 8 lesions crossed  $FFR=0.80$
- 3 lesions switched “grey zone”
  - ✓ 0.83 to 0.75 (LAD)
  - ✓ 0.82 to 0.74 (LAD)
  - ✓ 0.81 to 0.72 (RCA)

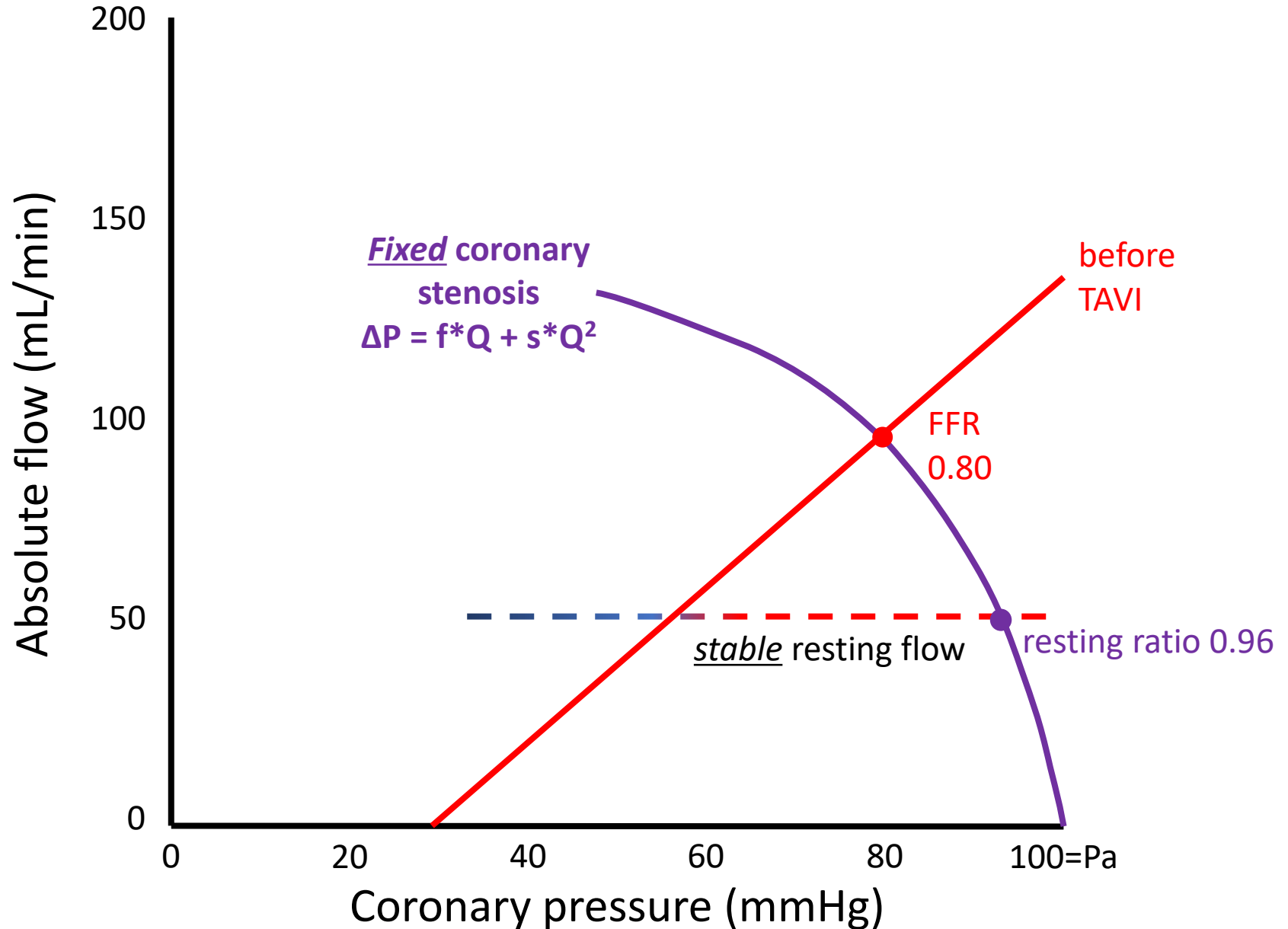
# How do **stenosis** and **bed** interact?



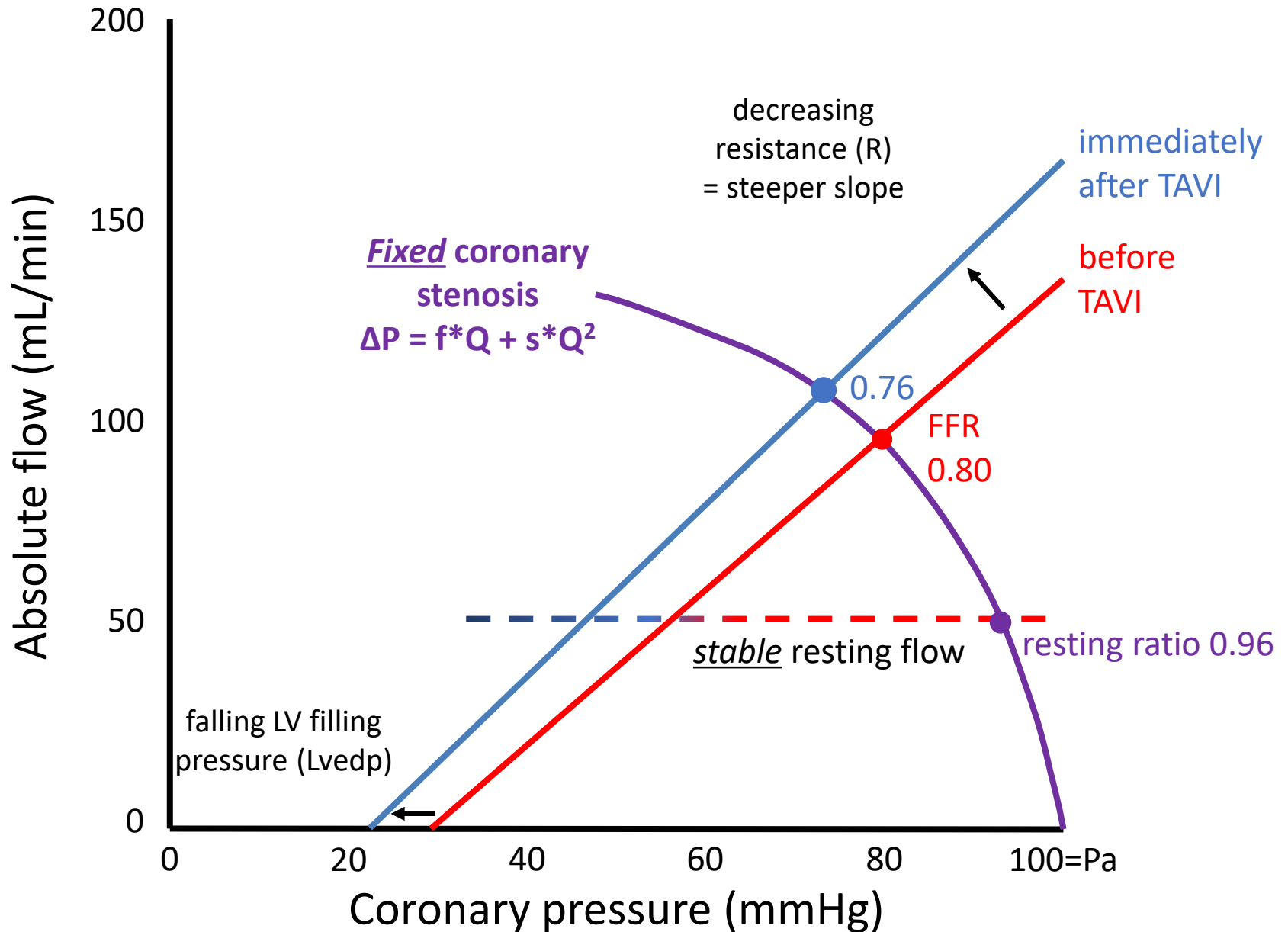
$$P_c = P_a - \underbrace{[A(Q/Q_{rest}) + B(Q/Q_{rest})^2]}_{\text{Stenosis Pressure Drop}}$$



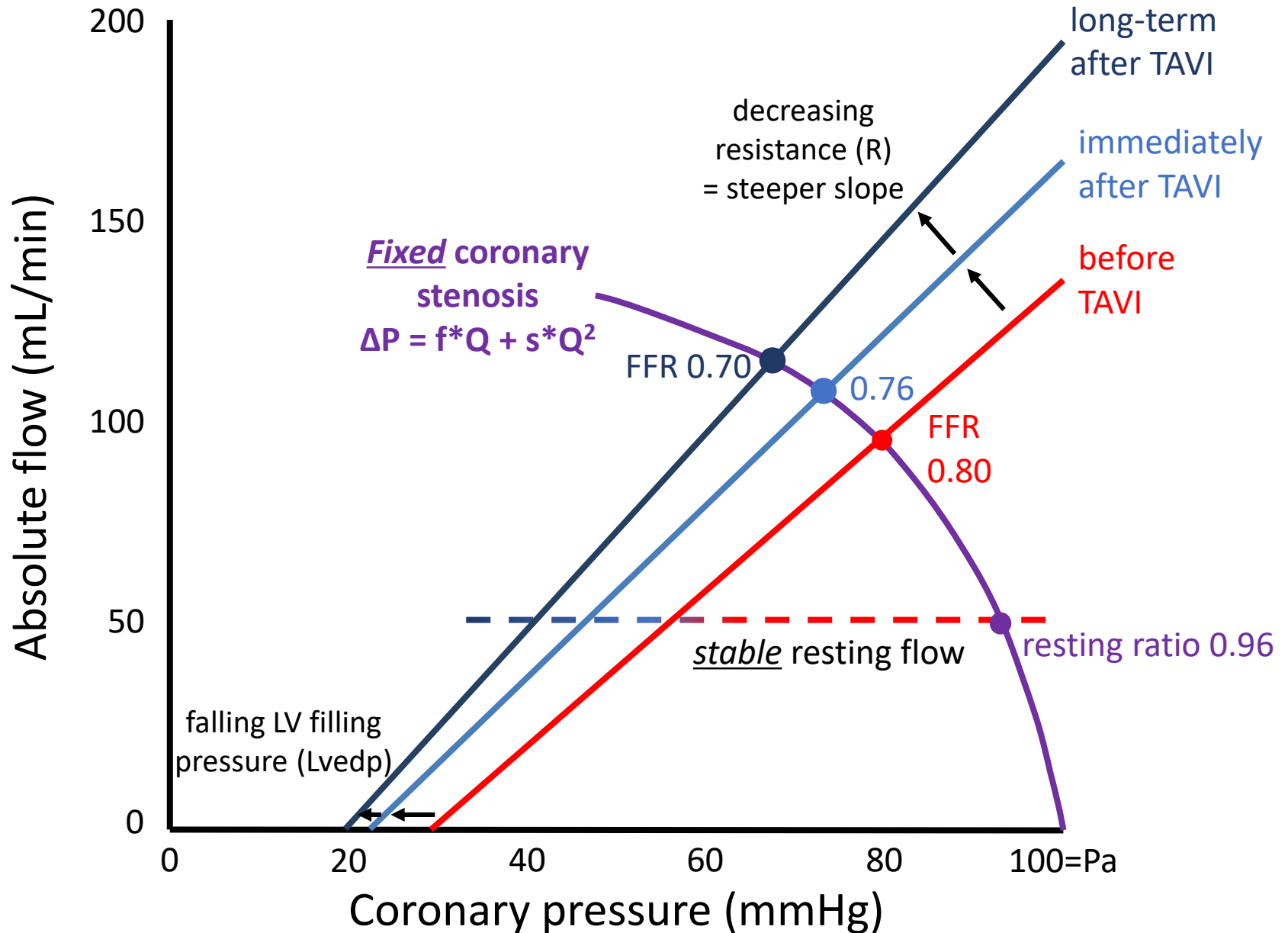
# Coronary/valvular coupling for FFR/AS



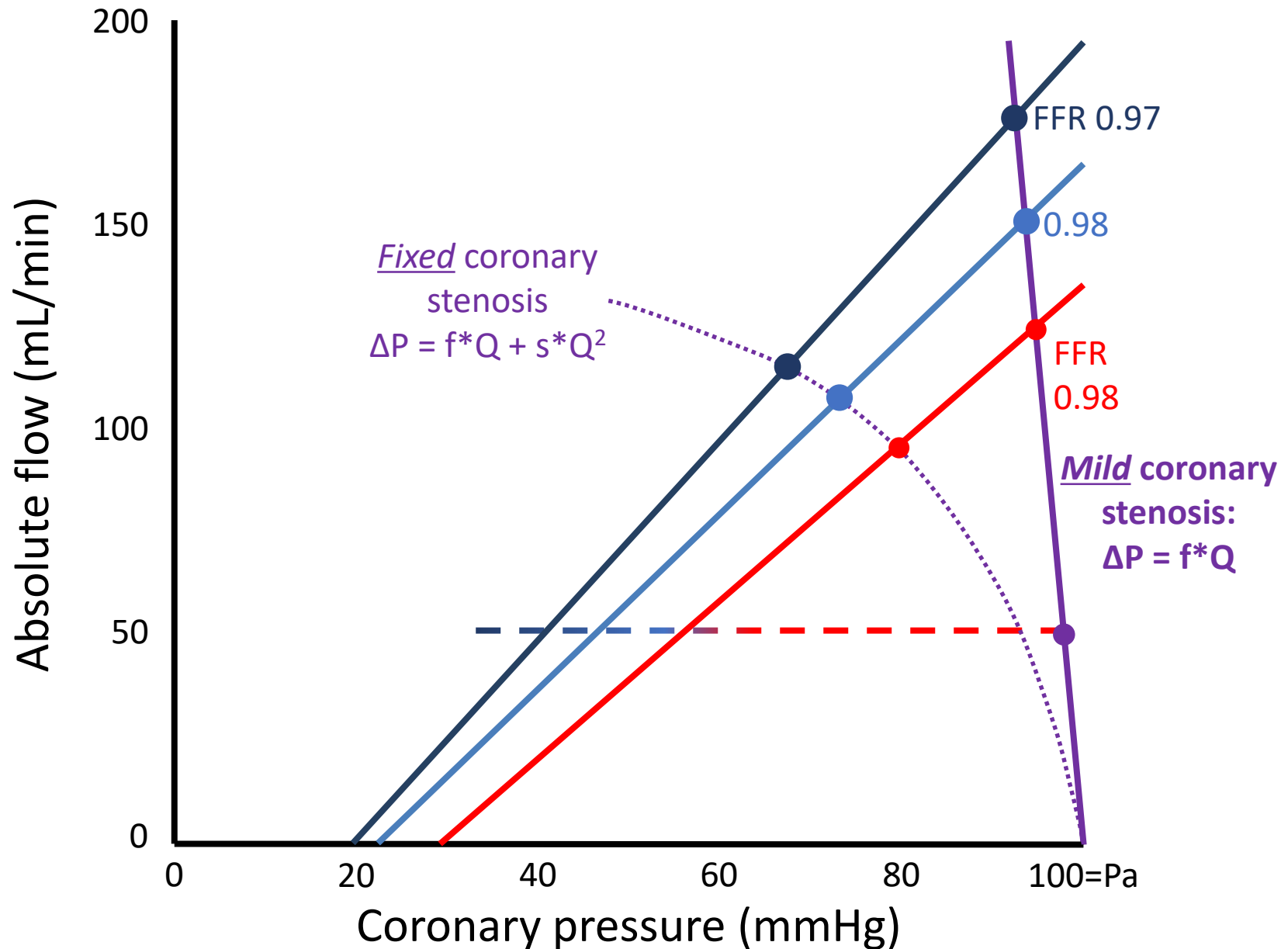
# Immediately after TAVI



# Longer-term after TAVI



# But a *mild lesion* does not change!



# Generally hyperemia *improves*

Author	Citation	N	Baseline	Immediate	p-value	Long-term	p-value	Time	Treatment	Method
<i>Hyperemic perfusion (cc/min/g) or Doppler velocity (cm/sec) or mean transit time (sec)</i>										
Nemes	<i>Herz 2002;27:780</i>	21	117			91.5	<0.05	15 months	SAVR	echo Doppler (diastolic)
Hildick-Smith	<i>JACC 2000;36:1889</i>	27	71			108	<0.01	6 months	SAVR	echo Doppler (diastolic)
Carpeggiani	<i>J CV Med 2008;9:893</i>	8	1.68			1.46	NS	12 months	SAVR	PET
Rajappan	<i>Circulation 2003;107:3170</i>	22	2.17			2.27	0.61	12 months	SAVR	PET
Camugila	<i>JACC 2014;63:1808</i>	8	34	29	NS	39	NS	12 months	TAVI	wire Doppler
Vendrik	<i>JAHA 2020;9:e015133</i>	13	26.36	30.78	<0.001	40.20	<0.001	6 months	TAVI	wire Doppler
Wiegerinck	<i>Circ CV Int 2015;8:e002443</i>	27	44.5	51.1	0.027				TAVI	wire Doppler
Ahmad	<i>JACC CV Int 2018;11:2019</i>	30	33.44	40.33	0.004				TAVI	wire Doppler
Stoller	<i>EuroIntervention 2018;14:166</i>	40	0.44	0.48	0.53				TAVI	wire thermo
<i>Coronary flow reserve (CFR)</i>										
Nemes	<i>Herz 2002;27:780</i>	21	1.96			2.37	<0.05	15 months	SAVR	echo Doppler (diastolic)
Hildick-Smith	<i>JACC 2000;36:1889</i>	27	1.76			2.61	<0.01	6 months	SAVR	echo Doppler (diastolic)
Carpeggiani	<i>J CV Med 2008;9:893</i>	8	1.68			1.58	NS	12 months	SAVR	PET
Rajappan	<i>Circulation 2003;107:3170</i>	22	2.02			2.28	0.17	12 months	SAVR	PET
Camugila	<i>JACC 2014;63:1808</i>	8	1.53	1.58	0.41	2.18	<0.01	12 months	TAVI	wire Doppler
Vendrik	<i>JAHA 2020;9:e015133</i>	13	1.28	1.65	<0.001	1.94	<0.001	6 months	TAVI	wire Doppler
Wiegerinck	<i>Circ CV Int 2015;8:e002443</i>	27	1.9	2.1	0.113				TAVI	wire Doppler
Stoller	<i>EuroIntervention 2018;14:166</i>	40	1.9	2.0	0.72				TAVI	wire thermo
<i>Fractional flow reserve (FFR)</i>										
Stundl	<i>Clin Res Cardiol 2019;Epub</i>	13	0.77			0.76	0.11	2 months	TAVI	
Vendrik	<i>JAHA 2020;9:e015133</i>	13	0.85	0.79	<0.001	0.71	<0.001	6 months	TAVI	
Ahmad	<i>JACC CV Int 2018;11:2019</i>	30	0.87	0.85	0.0008				TAVI	
Stoller	<i>EuroIntervention 2018;14:166</i>	40	0.90	0.93	0.0021				TAVI	
Sabbah	<i>Circ CV Interv 2022;15:e011331</i>	50	0.84			0.86	0.72	6 months	TAVI	
Pesarini	<i>Circ CV Int 2016;9:e004088</i>	133	0.89	0.89	0.73				TAVI	

N = 392 vessels

12 papers, 22 years

red = hyperemia *increases*

blue = hyperemia *decreases*

# Generally resting does not change

<u>Author</u>	<u>Citation</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>Immediate</u>	<u>p-value</u>	<u>Long-term</u>	<u>p-value</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Treatment</u>	<u>Method</u>
<i>Resting perfusion (cc/min/g) or Doppler velocity (cm/sec)</i>										
Nemes	<i>Herz 2002;27:780</i>	21	62.2			40.1	<b>&lt;0.01</b>	15 months	SAVR	echo Doppler (diastolic)
Hildick-Smith	<i>JACC 2000;36:1889</i>	27	43			41	NS	6 months	SAVR	echo Doppler (diastolic)
Carpeggiani	<i>J CV Med 2008;9:893</i>	8	1.01			0.92	>0.05	12 months	SAVR	PET
Rajappan	<i>Circulation 2003;107:3170</i>	22	1.08			1.01	0.27	12 months	SAVR	PET
Camugila	<i>JACC 2014;63:1808</i>	8	22	20	NS	18	NS	12 months	TAVI	wire Doppler
Vendrik	<i>JAHA 2020;9:e015133</i>	13	19.98	19.70	NS	21.44	0.397	6 months	TAVI	wire Doppler
Ahmad	<i>JACC CV Int 2018;11:2019</i>	30	22.13	24.84	0.1				TAVI	wire Doppler
Wiegerinck	<i>Circ CV Int 2015;8:e002443</i>	27	24.4	25.5	0.401				TAVI	wire Doppler
<i>Instantaneous wave-free ratio (iFR)</i>										
Vendrik	<i>JAHA 2020;9:e015133</i>	13	0.82	0.83	NS	0.83	0.735	6 months	TAVI	
Ahmad	<i>JACC CV Int 2018;11:2019</i>	30	0.88	0.88	0.94				TAVI	
Sabbah	<i>Circ CV Interv 2022;15:e011331</i>	50	0.88			0.92	<b>0.003</b>	6 months	TAVI	RFR
Scarsini	<i>EuroIntervention 2018;13:1512</i>	145	0.89	0.89	0.66				TAVI	

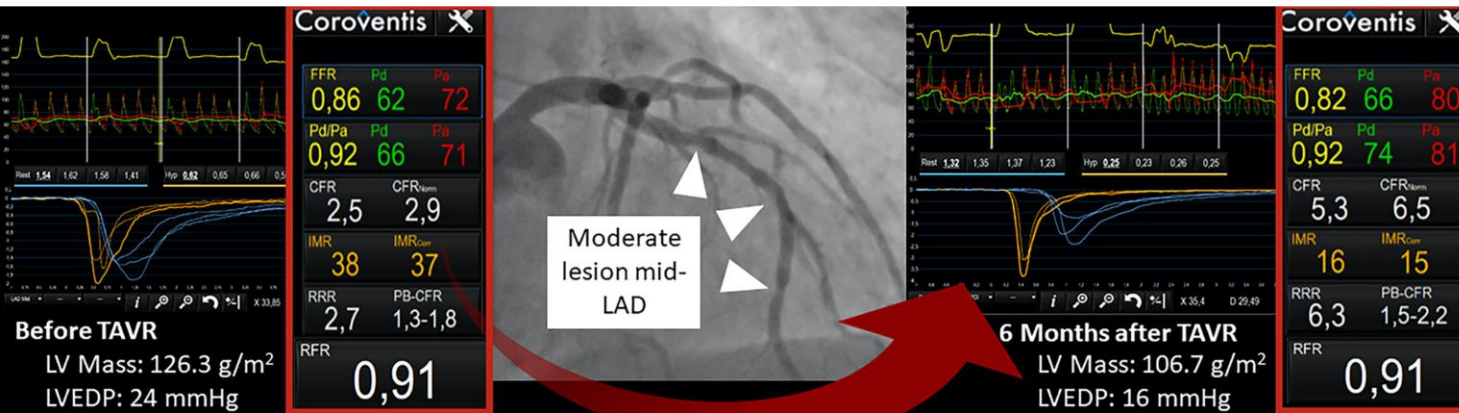
N = 351 vessels

10 papers, 22 years

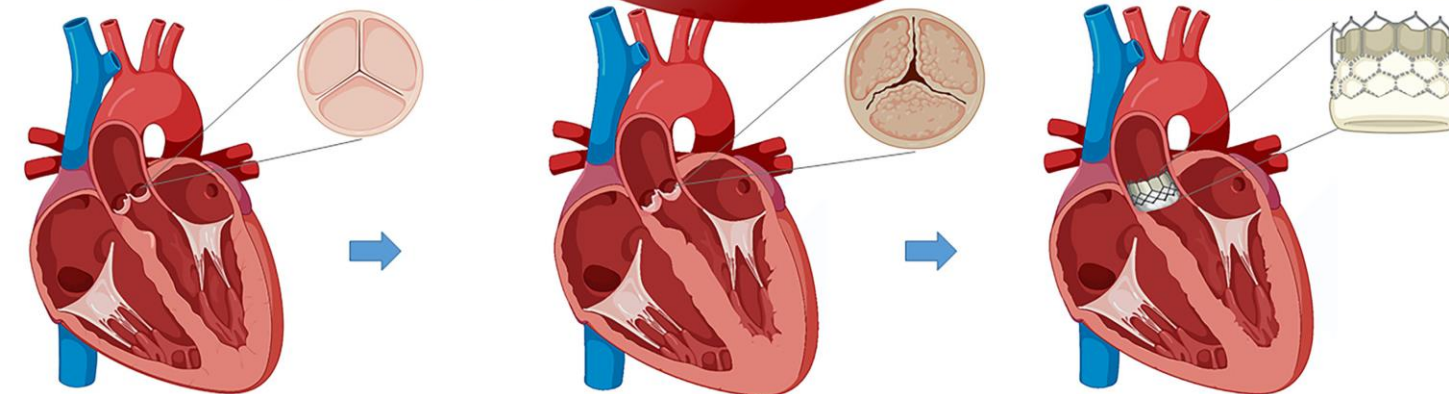
red = resting *increases*

blue = resting *decreases*

# Remodeling in COMIC-AS



- observational (NCT04420325)
- n=100 severe AS
- n=80 after TAVI
- n=60 at 6 months
- SPECT
- FFR, IMR, RFR



before TAVI

- FFR 0.86
- LV mass 126 g/m<sup>2</sup>
- LVEDp 24mmHg

6 months later

- FFR 0.82
- LV mass 107 g/m<sup>2</sup>
- LVEDp 16mmHg

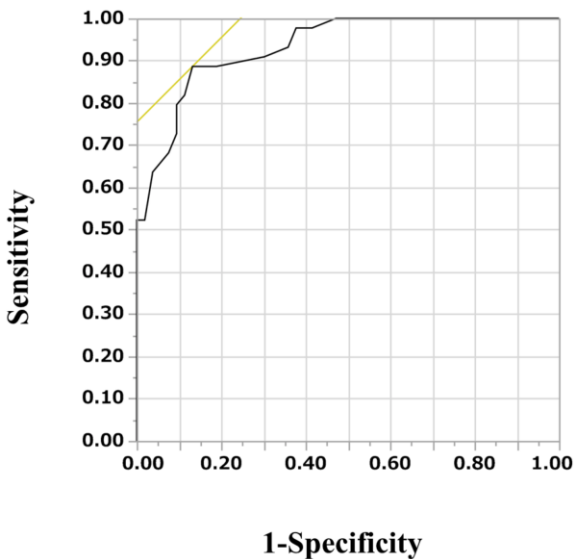
**Which tool?**

Choose your adventure



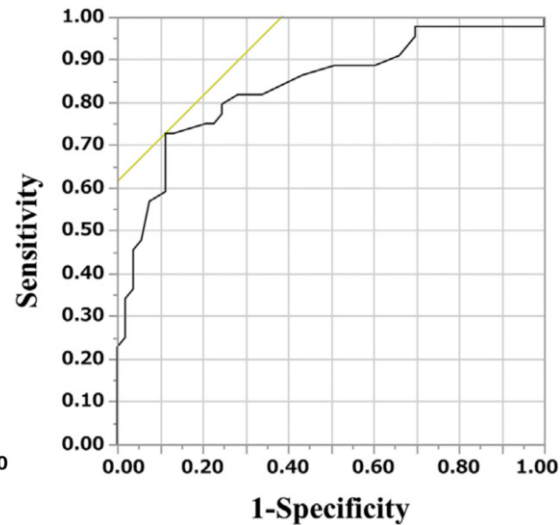
# Two lessons for FFR vs NHPR

## FFR vs SPECT



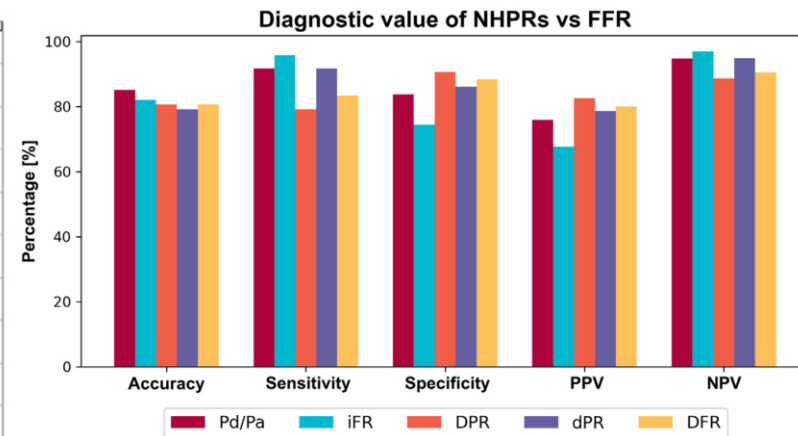
- cutoff FFR=0.83
- AUC 0.93

## iFR vs SPECT



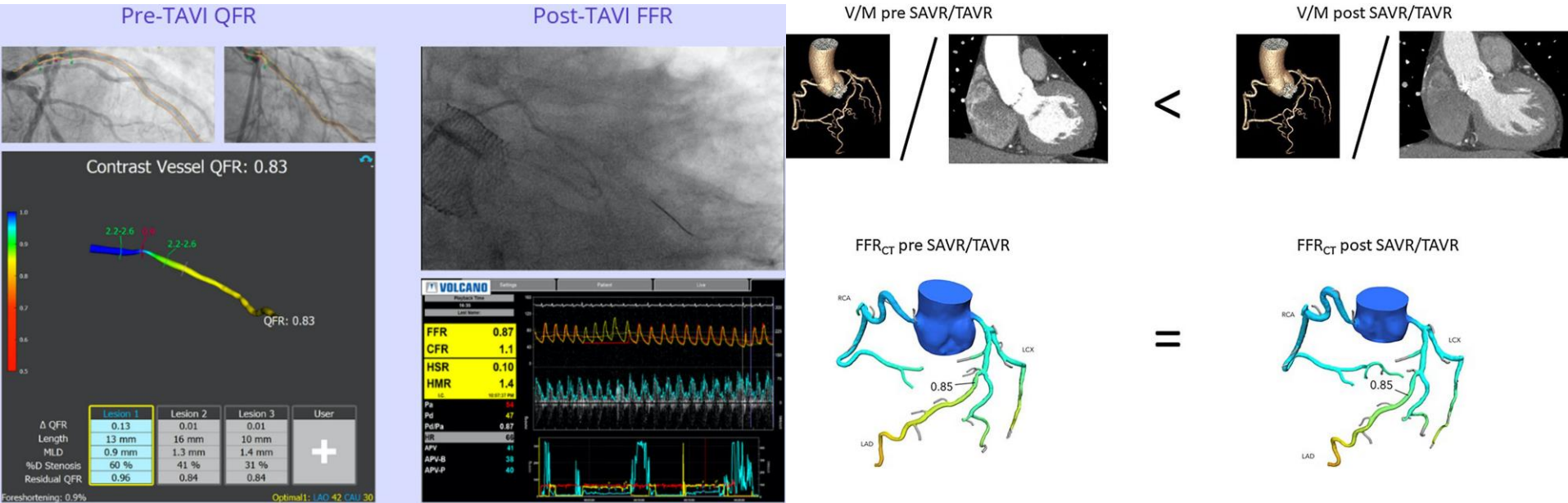
- cutoff iFR=0.82
- AUC 0.84

## NHPR vs FFR



- 67 lesions from CAST-FFR
- AUC>0.97 to predict iFR
- similar to predict FFR

# QFR and FFR<sub>CT</sub>?

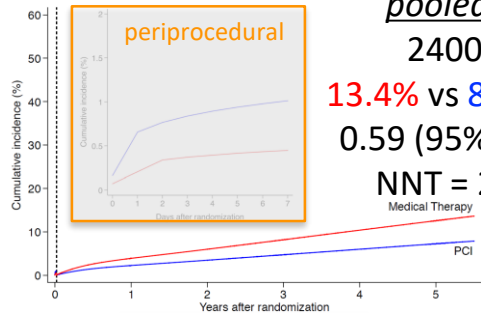


left = Sejr-Hansen M, *Catheter Cardiovasc Interv.* 2022 Jan 1;99(1):68-73. (Figure 1)

right = Michiels V, *Int J Cardiovasc Imaging.* 2021 Sep 8. doi: 10.1007/s10554-021-02401-1. Online ahead of print. (Figure 1)

# Does PCI have similar benefits in AS?

## Myocardial infarction



### pooled FFR trials

2400 subjects

13.4% vs 8.5% at 5 years

0.59 (95%CI 0.42-0.83)

NNT = 20 patients

Medical Therapy

PCI

### ISCHEMIA

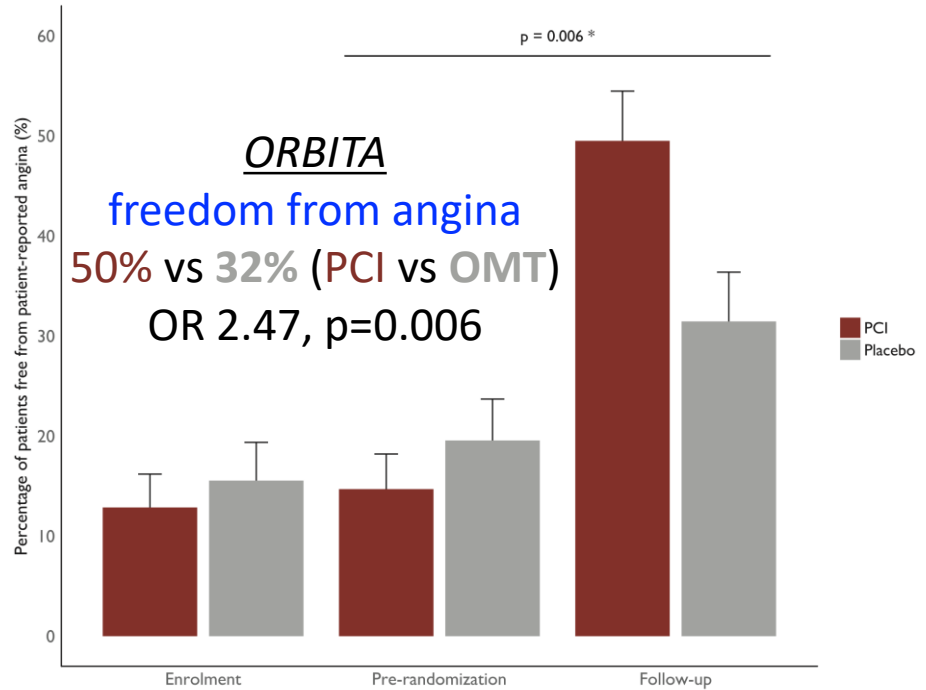
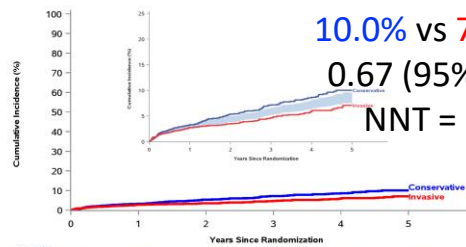
5179 subjects

10.0% vs 7.1% at 5 years

0.67 (95%CI 0.53-0.83)

NNT = 34 patients

## Non-procedural MI



\* Proportional odds model of improvement between arms in freedom from patient-reported angina

left (pooled FFR trials) = Zimmermann FM, *Eur Heart J*. 2019 Jan 7;40(2):180-186. (Figure S2, subpanel MI with *inset labeled and muted*)

left (ISCHEMIA) = Maron DJ, *NEJM*. 2020 Apr 9;382(15):1395-1407. (Figure S8, subpanel non-procedural MI)

right (ORBITA) = Al-Lamee R, *Circulation*. 2018 Oct 23;138(17):1780-1792. (Figure 4 with *annotations*)

RCT completed or in progress

# OMT

- 1. ACTIVATION n=235
- 2. COMPLETE TAVR  
n=4000

NOTION-3  
n=452

%DS

FFR

FAITAVI  
n=320

