

# New and Emerging Approaches to Antiplatelet Therapy for PCI

David J. Cohen, M.D., M.Sc.

Director, Cardiovascular Research  
Saint-Luke's Mid America Heart Institute

Professor of Medicine  
University of Missouri-Kansas City

# Disclosures

---

## Grant Support/Drugs

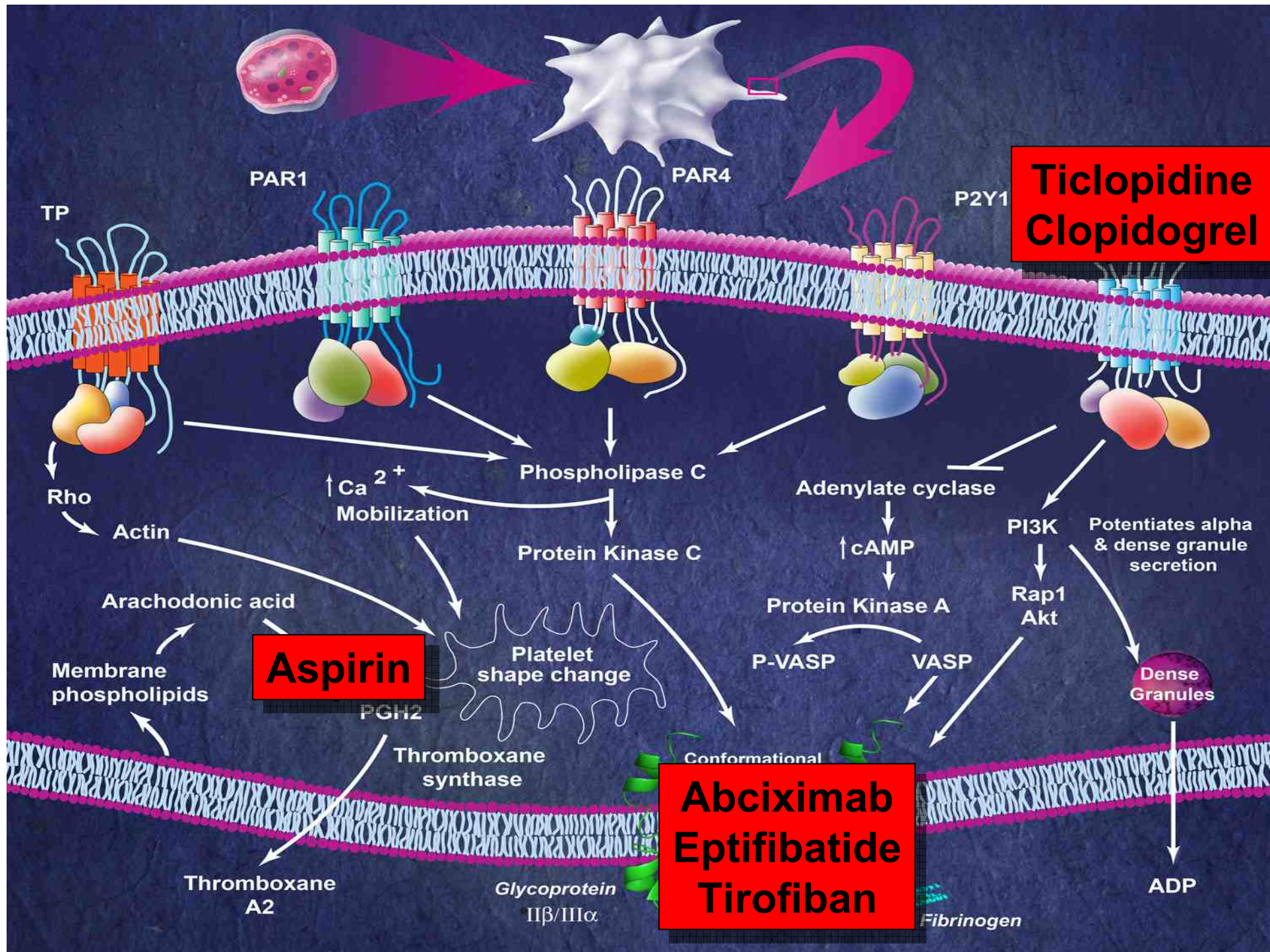
- Eli Lilly/Daiichi-Sankyo
- Eisai Pharmaceuticals
- Schering Plough

## Grant Support/Devices

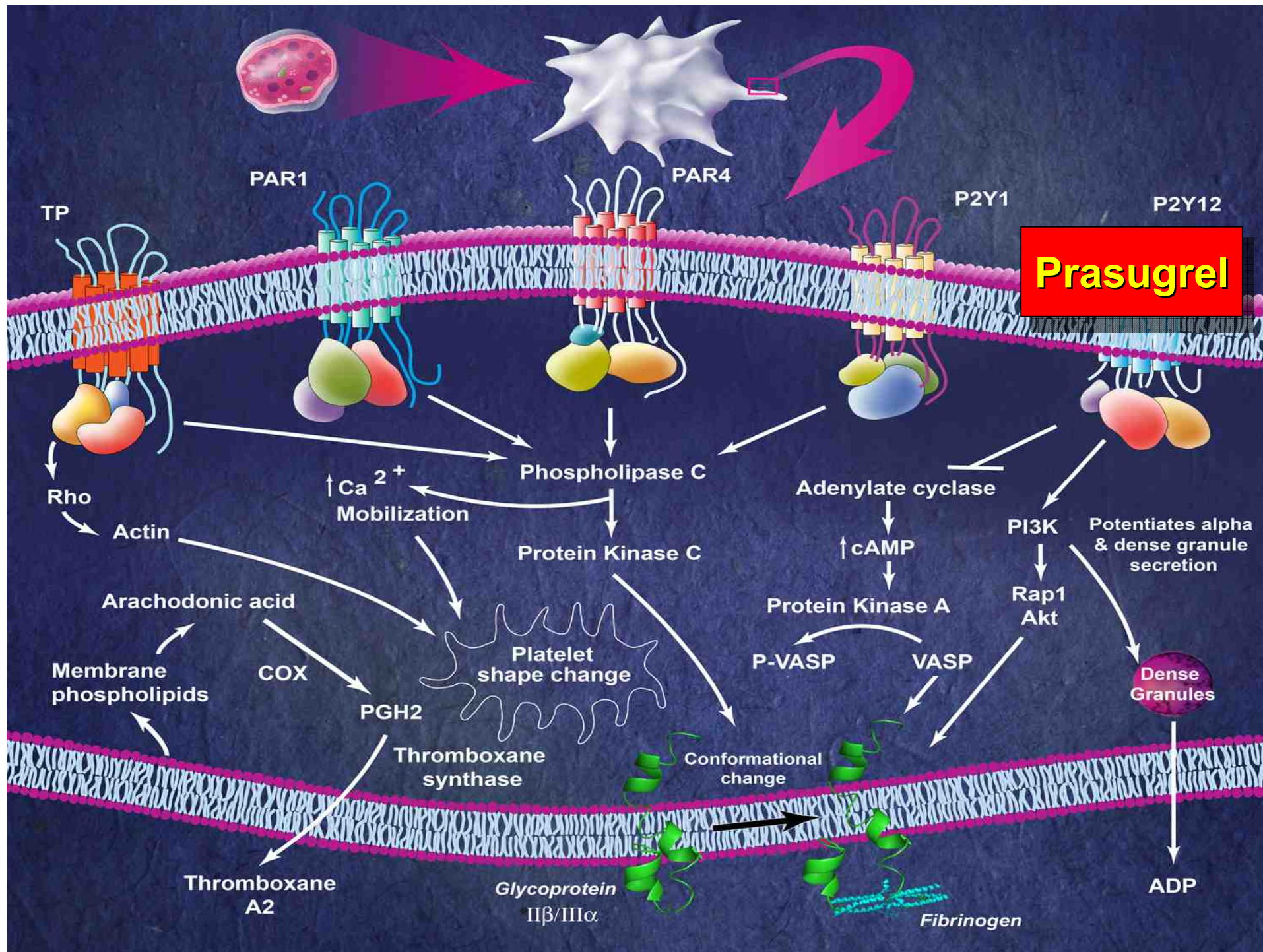
- MedRAD
- Edwards Lifesciences
- Medtronic
- Boston Scientific
- Abbott Vascular

## Consulting/Advisory Boards

- Medtronic
- Cordis



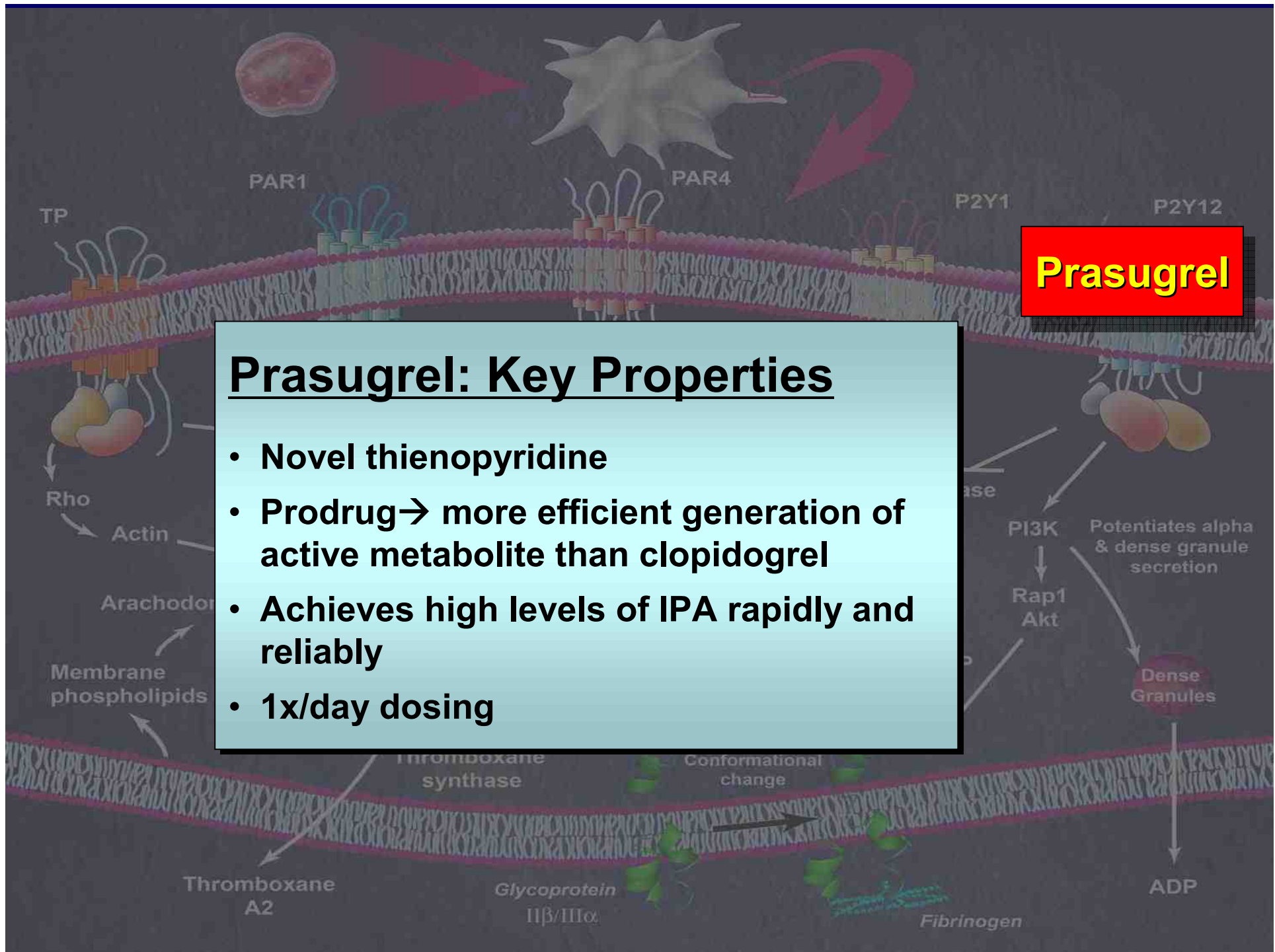




**Prasugrel**

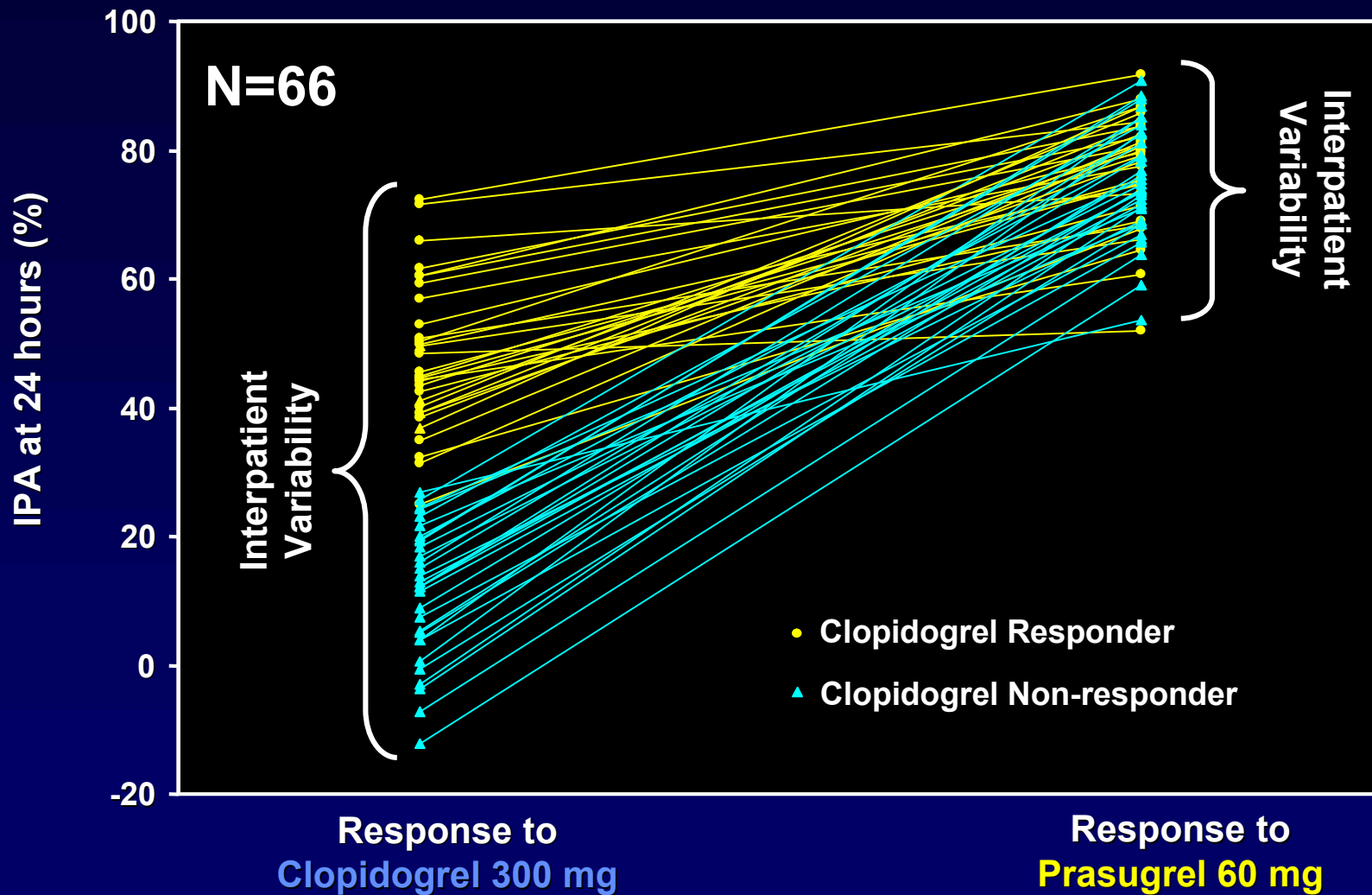
## Prasugrel: Key Properties

- Novel thienopyridine
- Prodrug → more efficient generation of active metabolite than clopidogrel
- Achieves high levels of IPA rapidly and reliably
- 1x/day dosing





# Prasugrel vs. Clopidogrel: Healthy Volunteer Crossover Study



# Study Design

**ACS (STEMI or UA/NSTEMI) & Planned PCI**

**ASA**      ↓      **N= 13,600**

**Double-blind**

**CLOPIDOGREL**  
**300 mg LD/ 75 mg MD**

**PRASUGREL**  
**60 mg LD/ 10 mg MD**

**Median duration of therapy ~ 15 months**

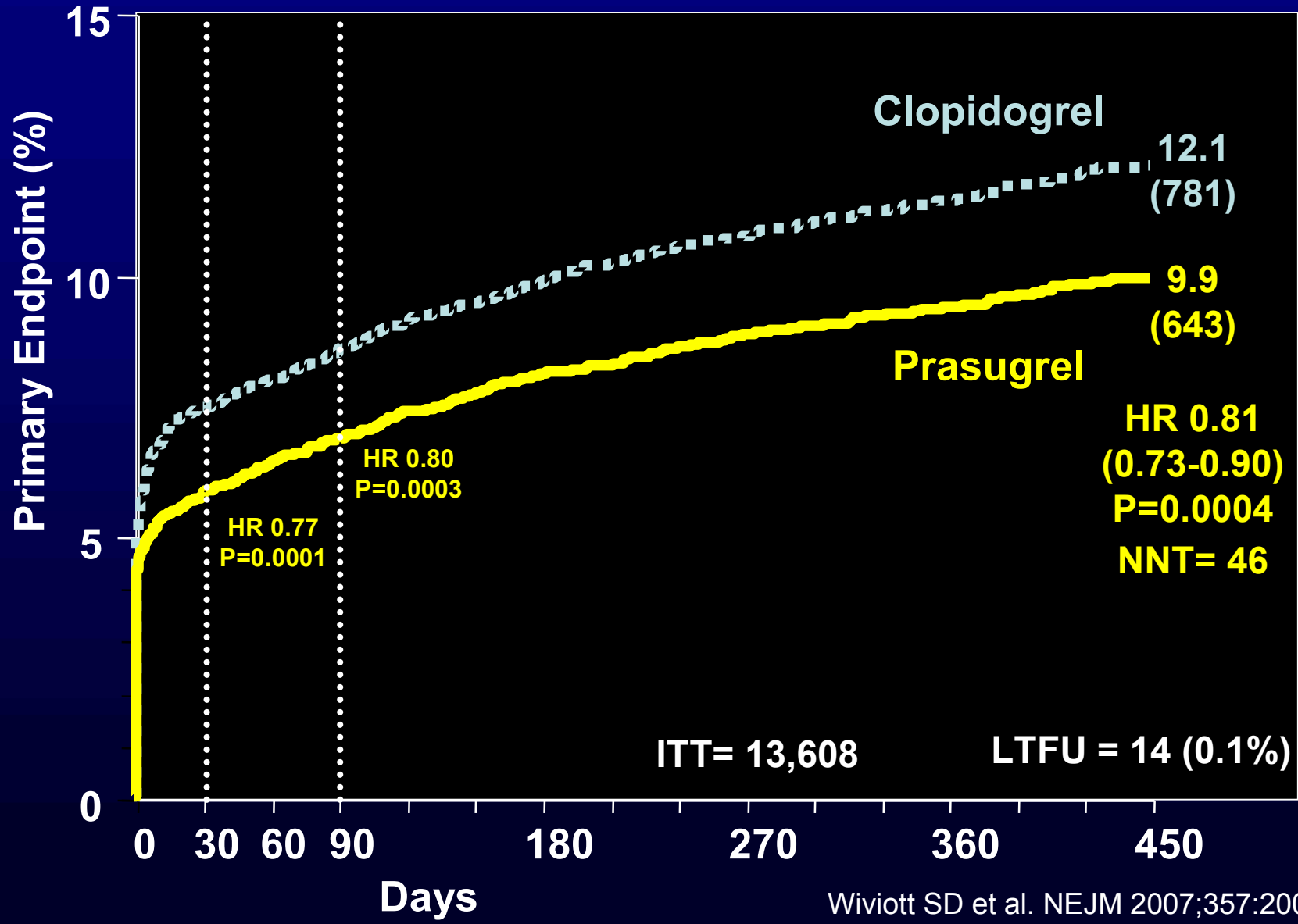
**1° endpoint: CV death, MI, Stroke**

**Safety endpoints: TIMI major bleeds, Life-threatening bleeds**

**Key Substudies: Pharmacokinetic, Genomic**



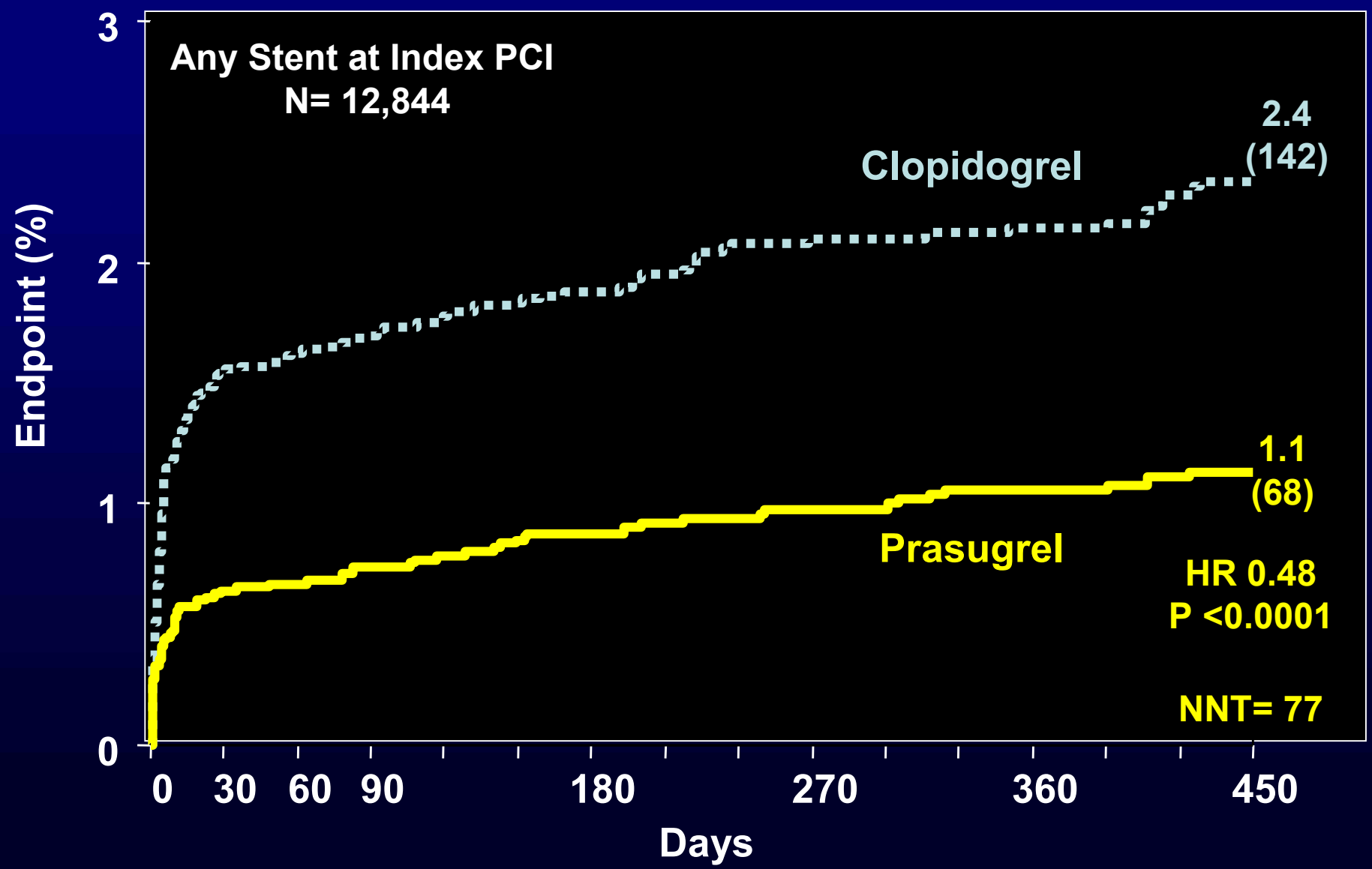
# Primary Endpoint CV Death,MI,Stroke



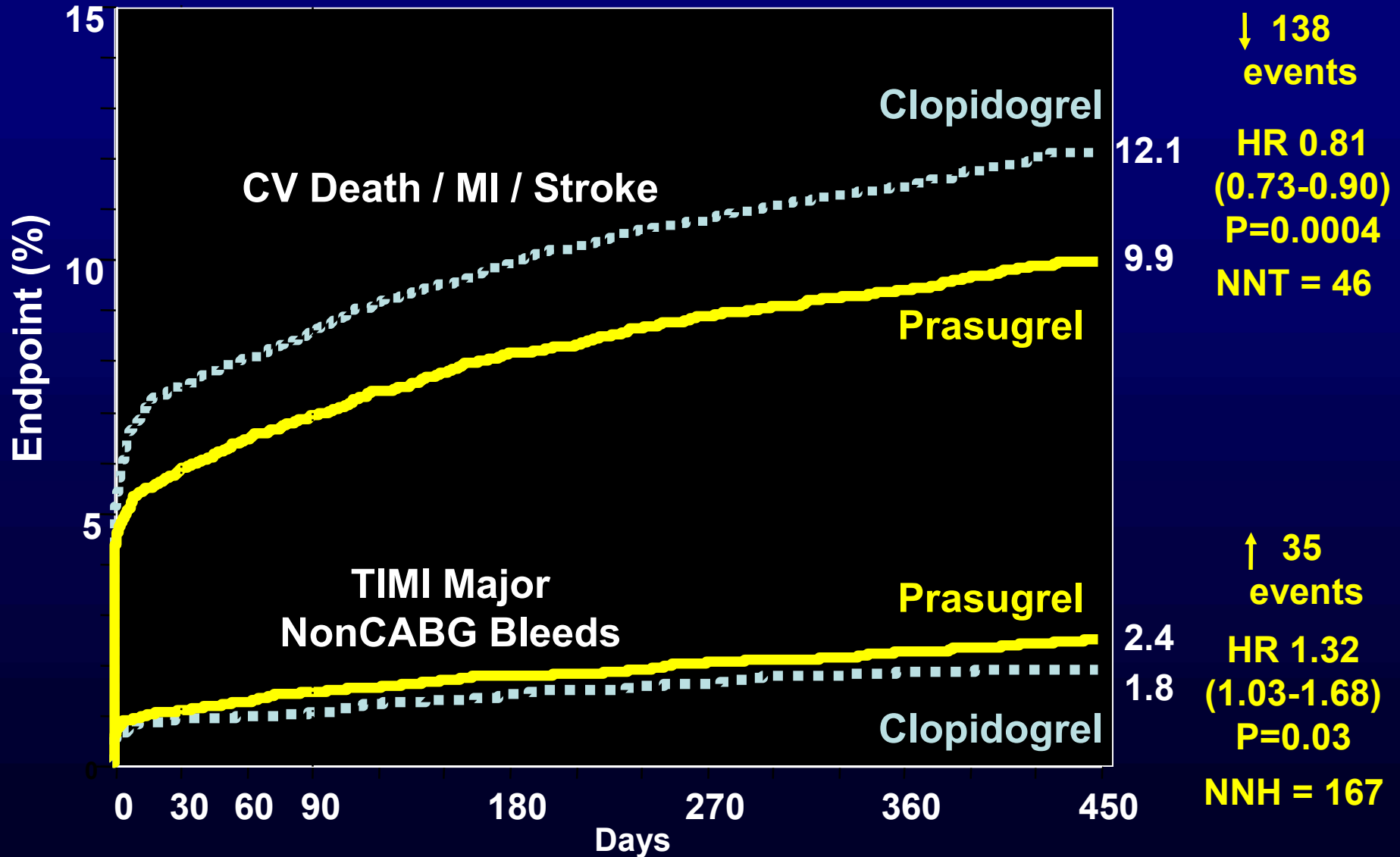




# Stent Thrombosis (ARC Definite + Probable)

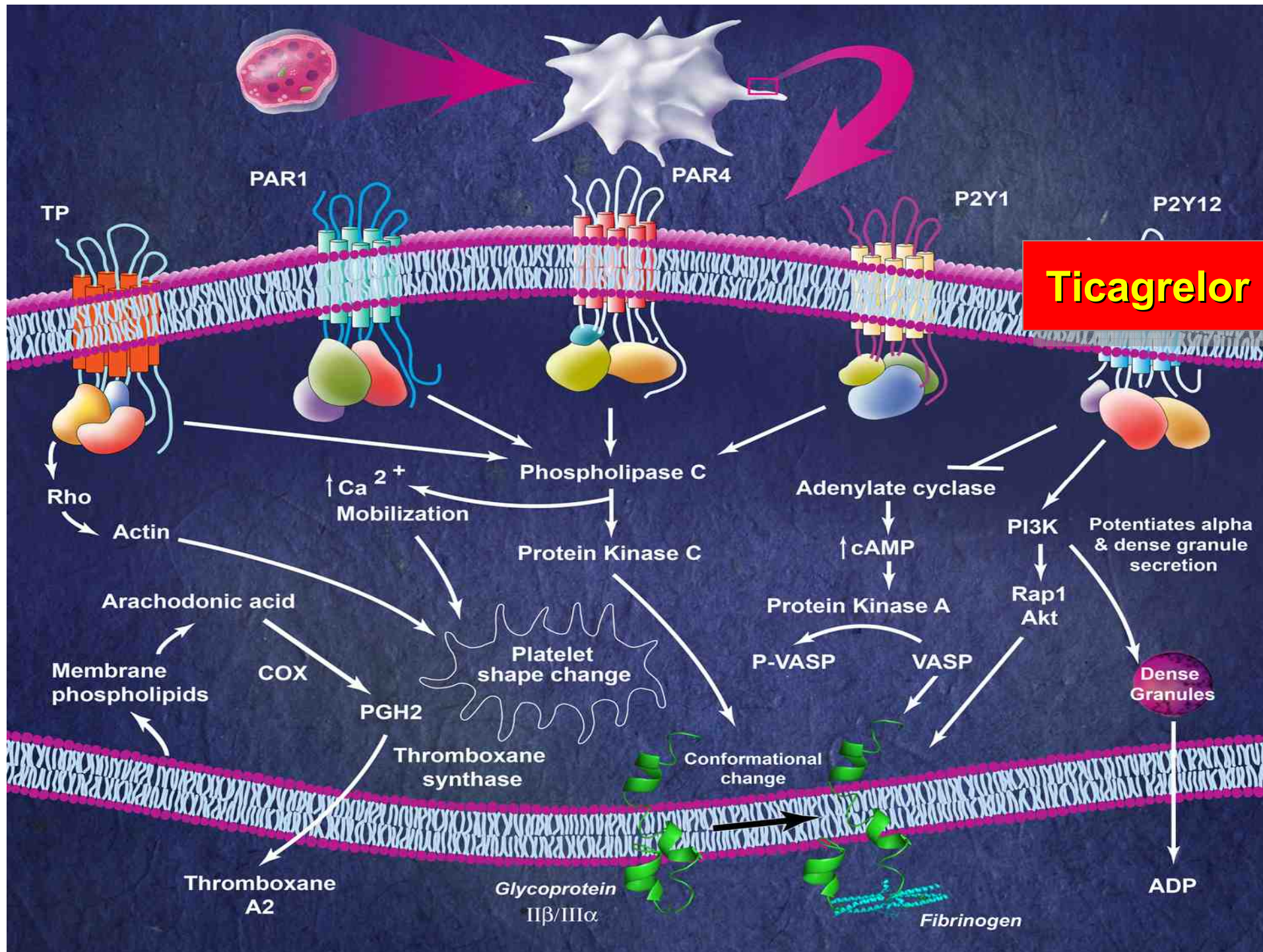


# Balance of Efficacy and Safety



↓ 138 events  
 HR 0.81 (0.73-0.90)  
 P=0.0004  
 NNT = 46

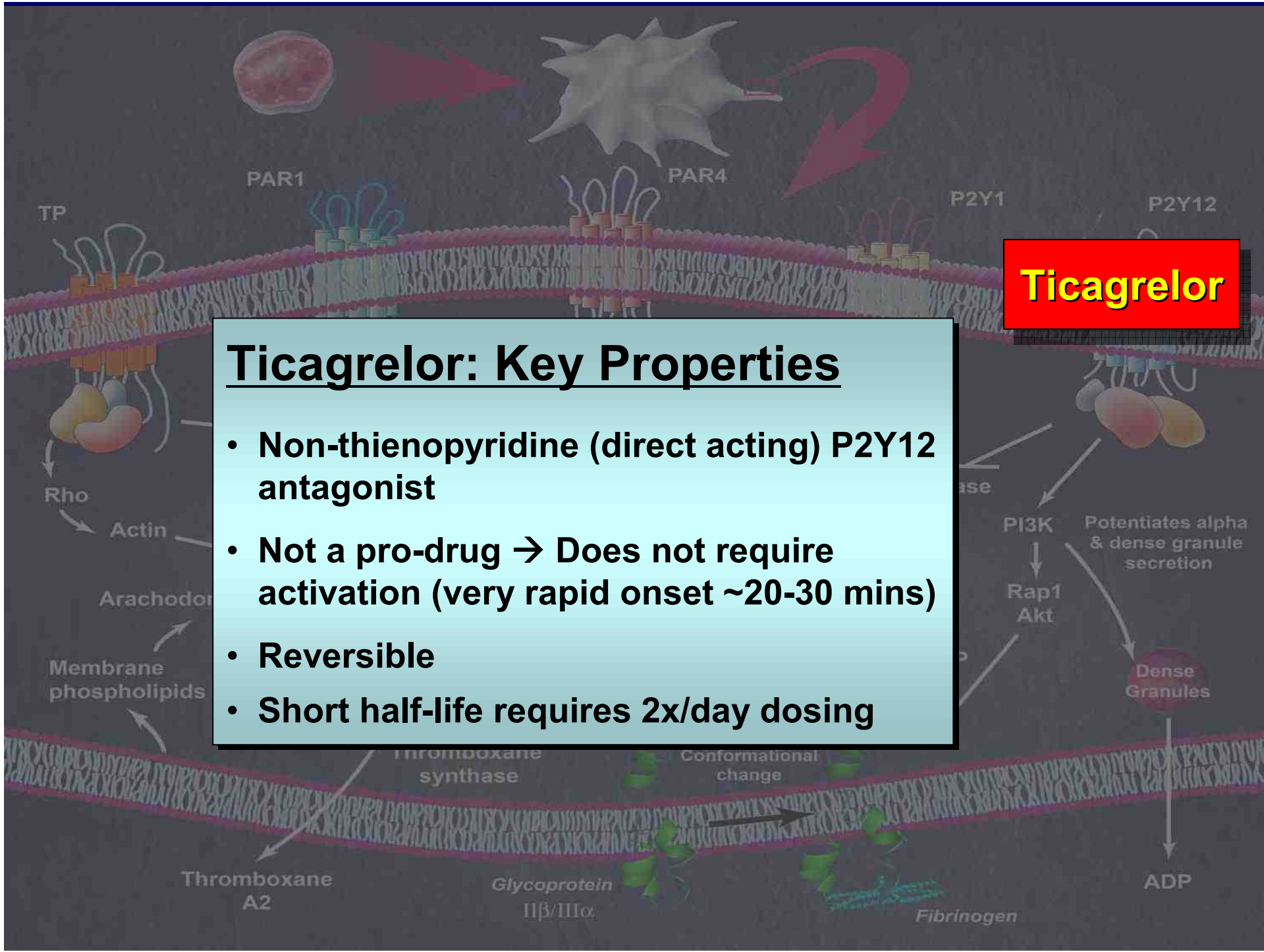
↑ 35 events  
 HR 1.32 (1.03-1.68)  
 P=0.03  
 NNH = 167





**Ticagrelor**

- ### Ticagrelor: Key Properties
- Non-thienopyridine (direct acting) P2Y12 antagonist
  - Not a pro-drug → Does not require activation (very rapid onset ~20-30 mins)
  - Reversible
  - Short half-life requires 2x/day dosing





# PLATO study design

NSTE-ACS (moderate-to-high risk) STEMI (if primary PCI)  
Clopidogrel-treated or -naive;  
randomised within 24 hours of index event  
(N=18,624)

## Clopidogrel

If pre-treated, no additional loading dose;  
if naive, standard 300 mg loading dose,  
then 75 mg qd maintenance;  
(additional 300 mg allowed pre PCI)

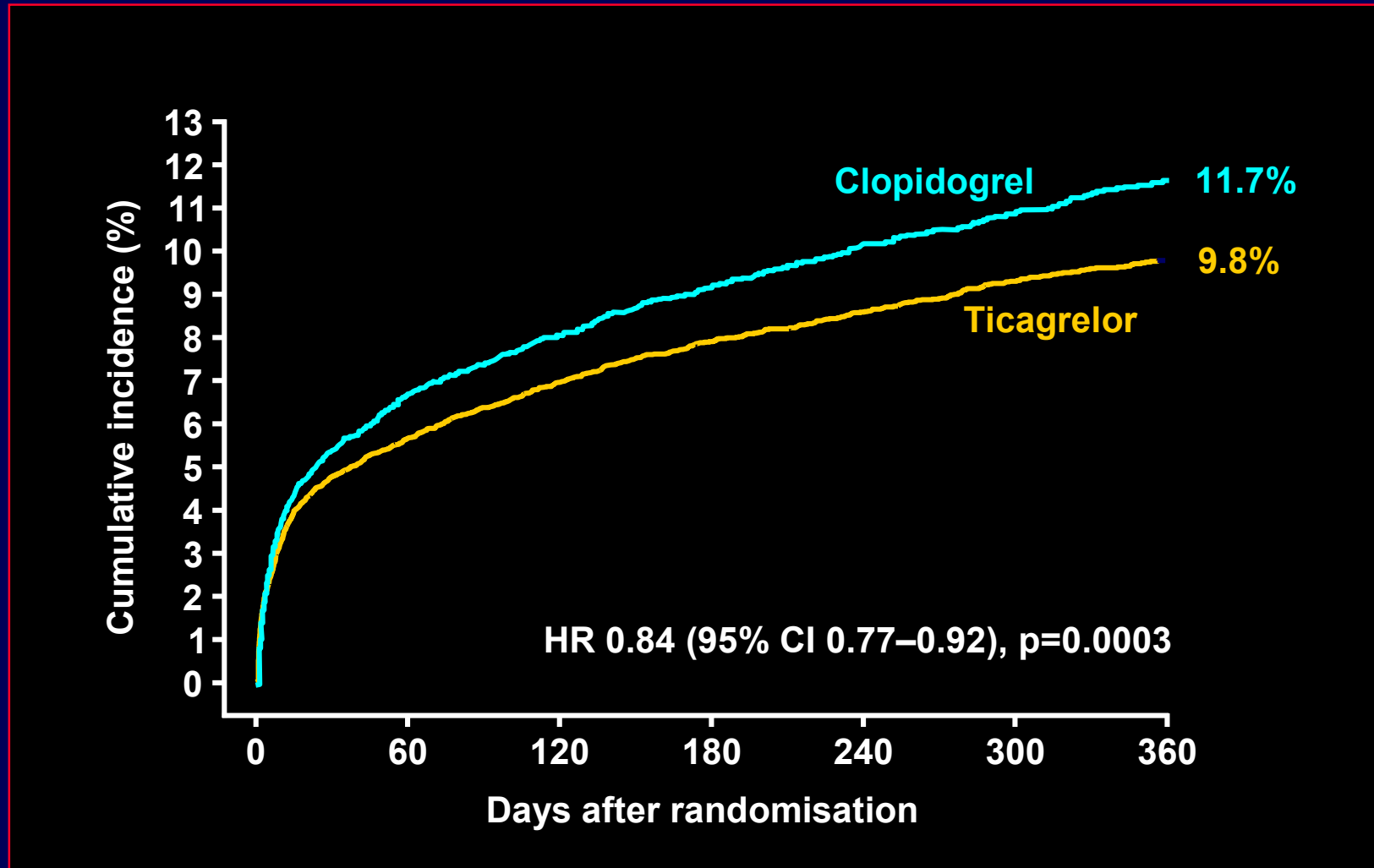
## Ticagrelor

180 mg loading dose, then  
90 mg bid maintenance;  
(additional 90 mg pre-PCI)

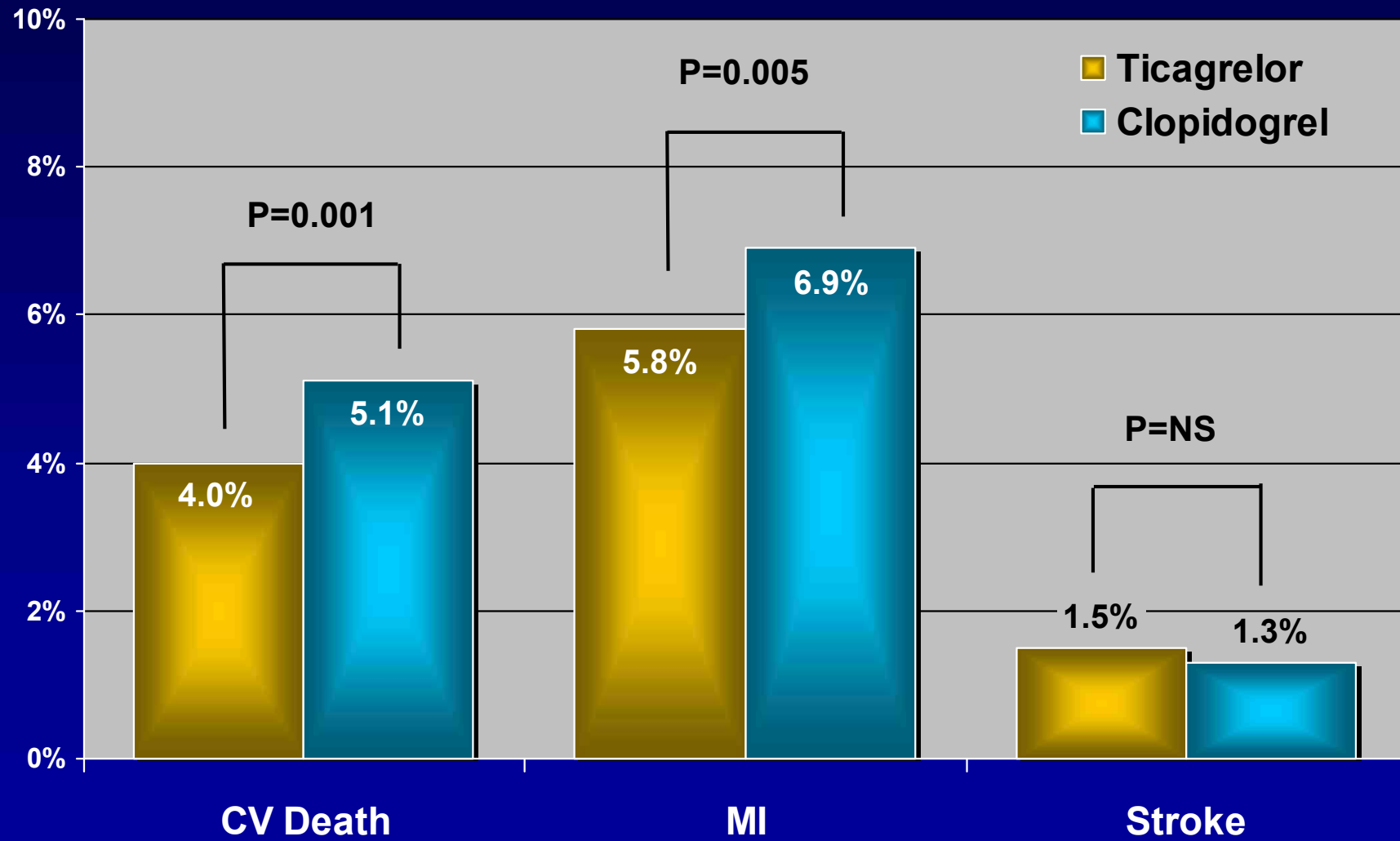
6–12-month exposure

Primary endpoint: CV death + MI + Stroke  
Primary safety endpoint: Total major bleeding

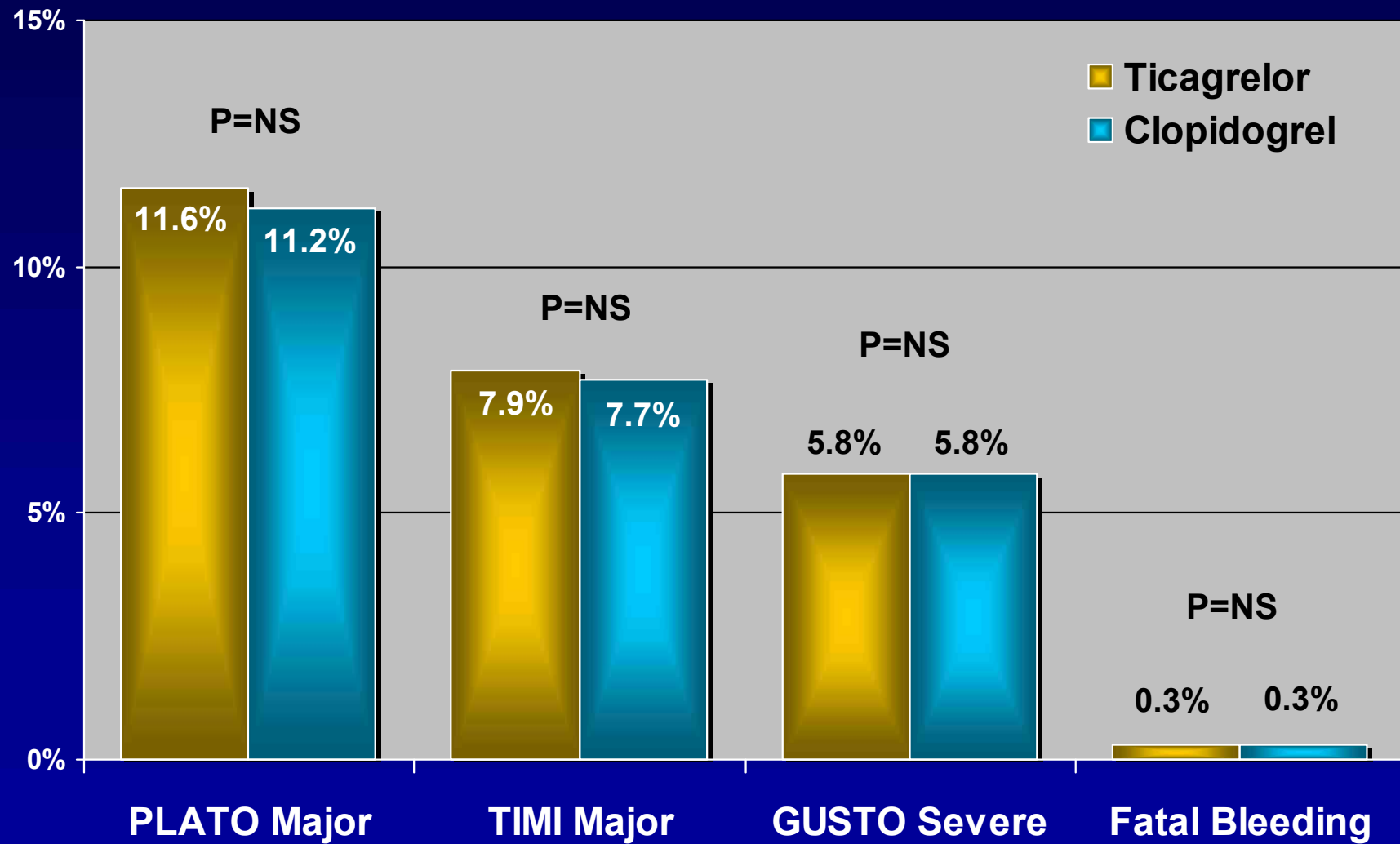
# Primary Endpoint: CV death/MI/Stroke



# Endpoint Components

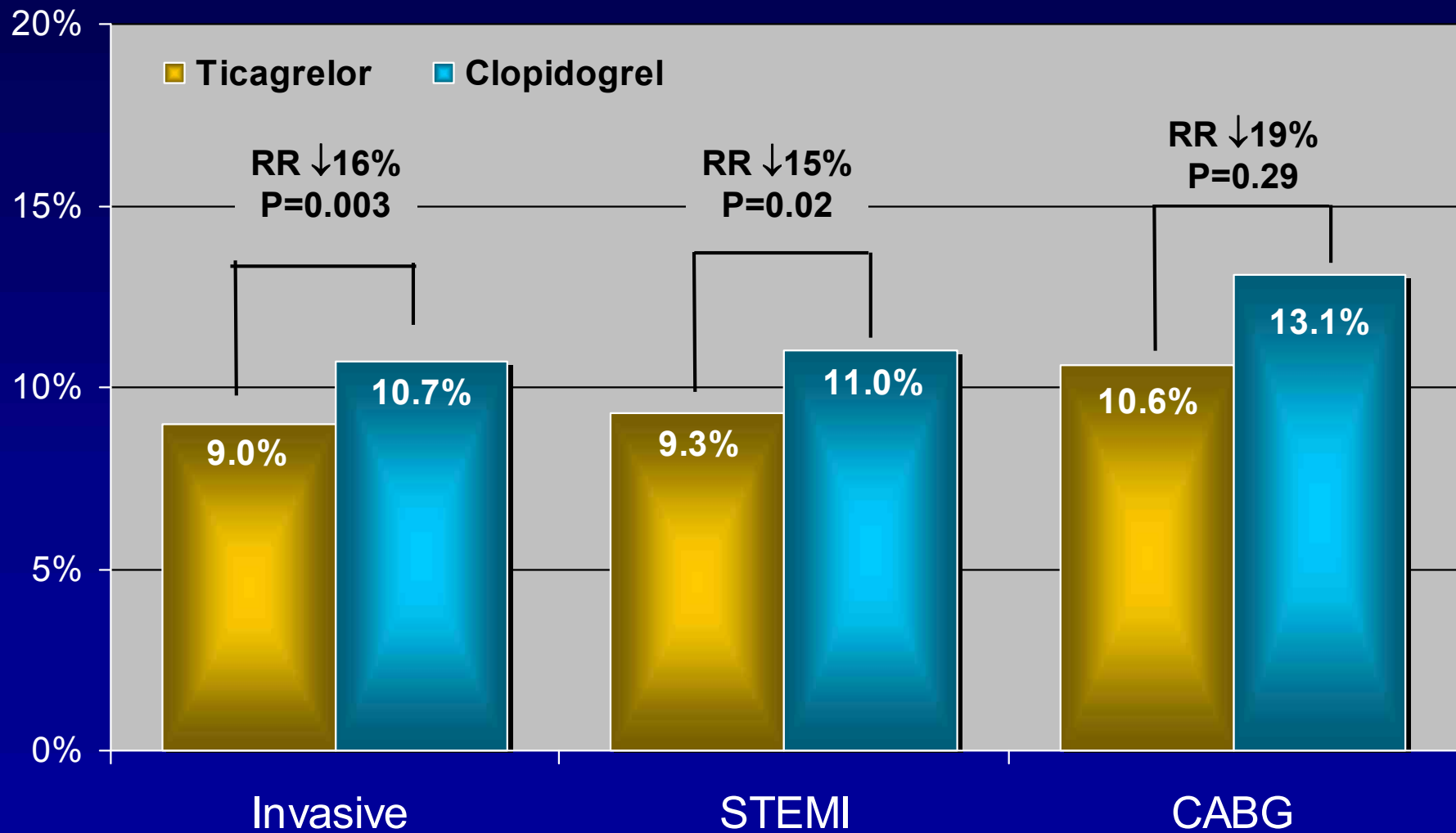


# Bleeding Events

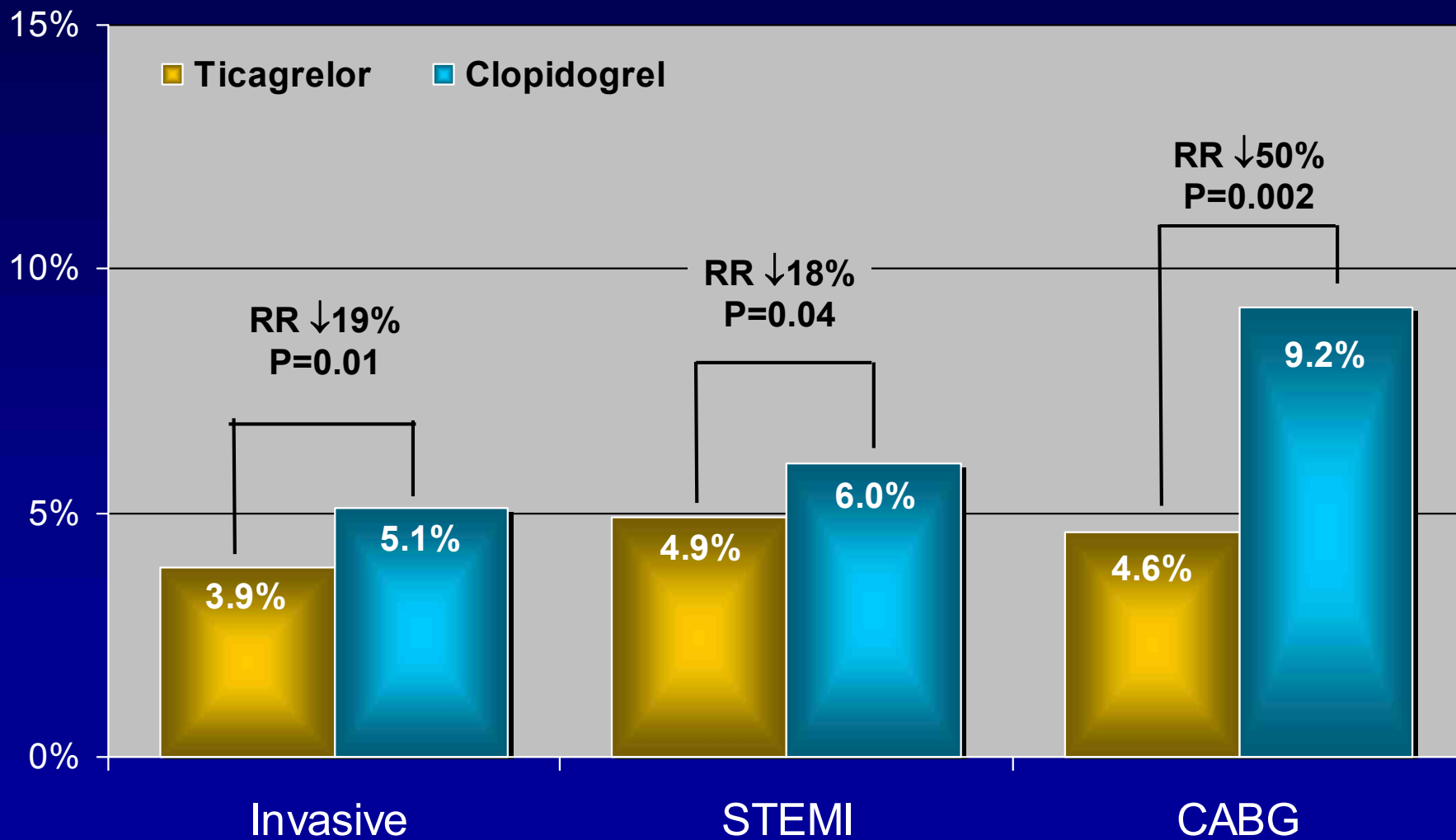




# Key Subgroups: Primary Endpoint



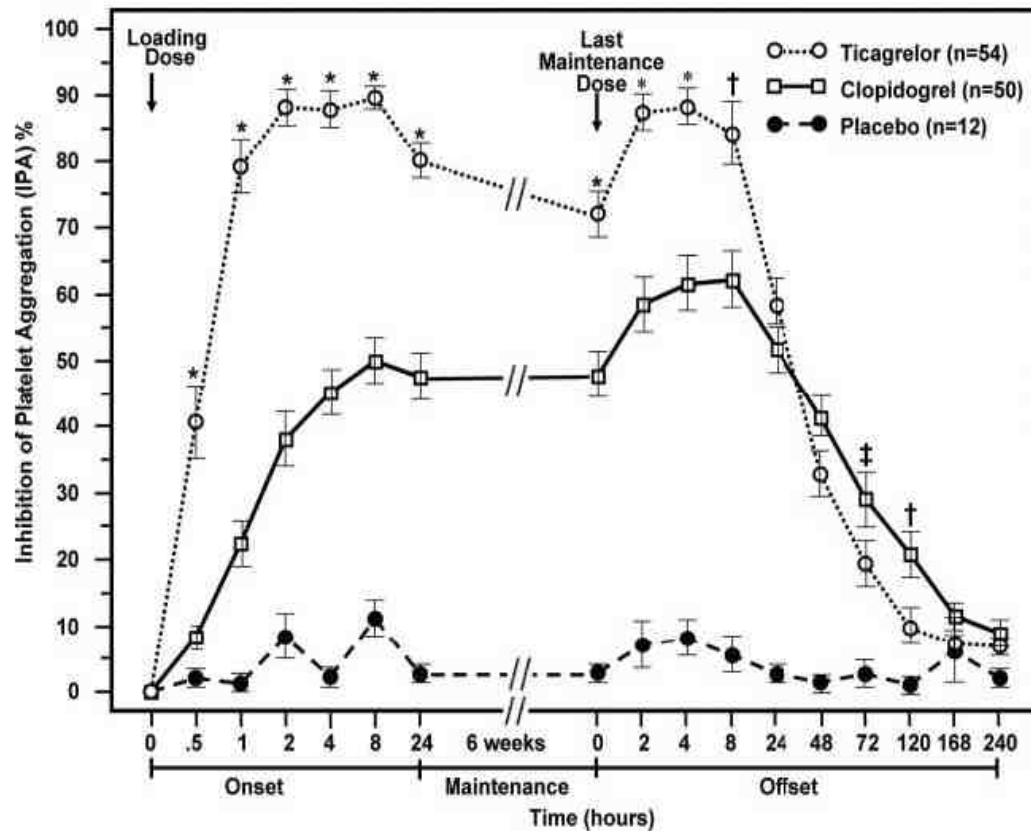
# Key Subgroups: All-Cause Mortality



Why was ticagrelor so  
beneficial?

# Ticagrelor: Onset/Offset vs. Clopidogrel

IPA (20  $\mu$ M ADP)



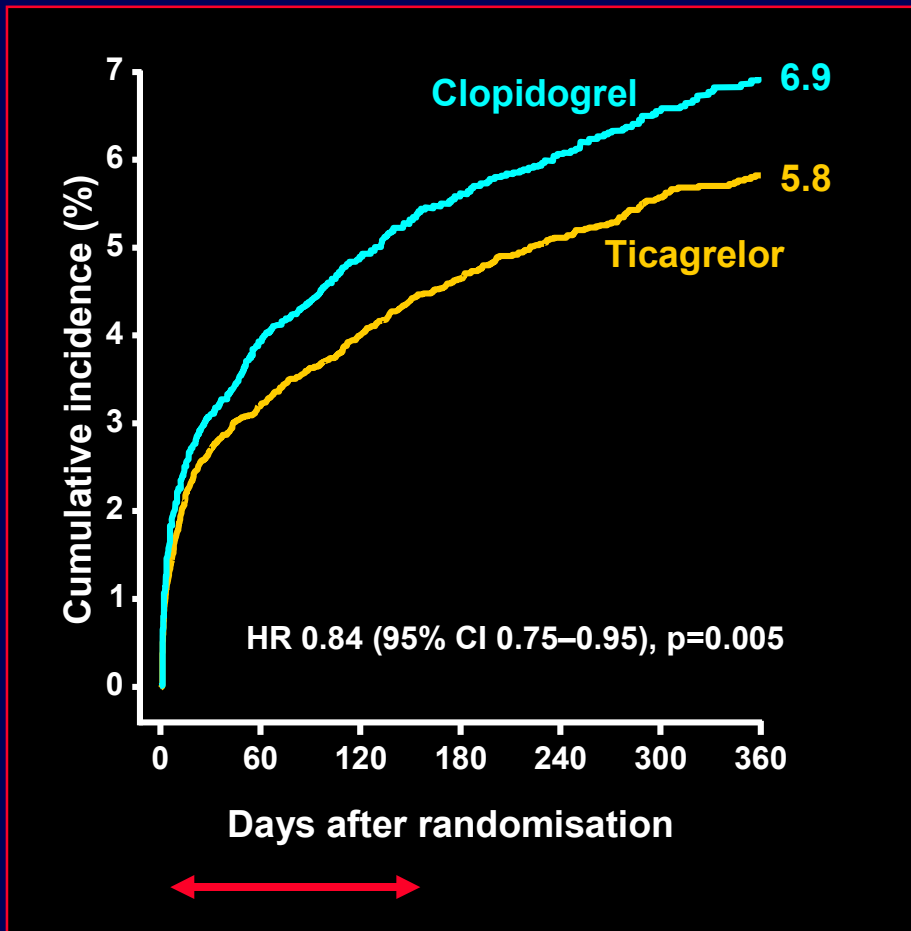
## Onset/Offset Trial

- 123 pts with CAD randomized to ticagrelor (180/90), clopidogrel (600/75), or placebo
- By 2 hrs, >50% IPA achieved in 98% of ticagrelor vs. 31% clopidogrel
- Offset of ticagrelor ~ 2 days quicker than clopidogrel for any level of platelet inhibition

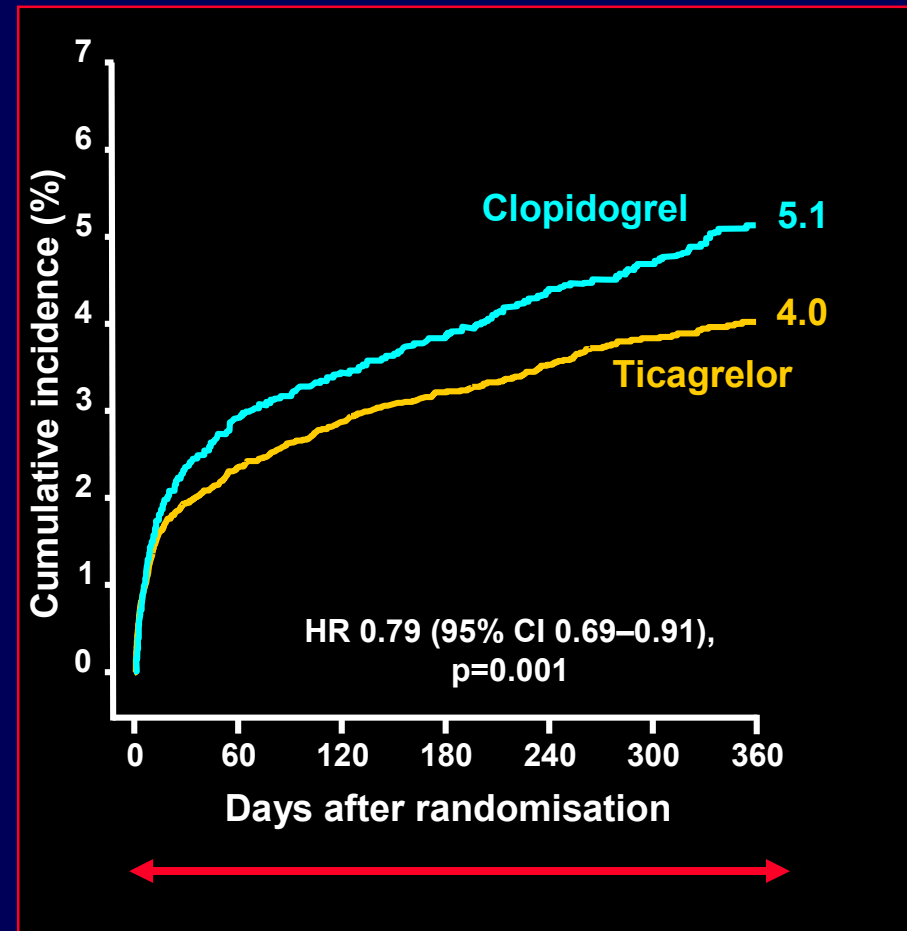


# Timing of Benefit: MI vs. CV Death

## Myocardial Infarction



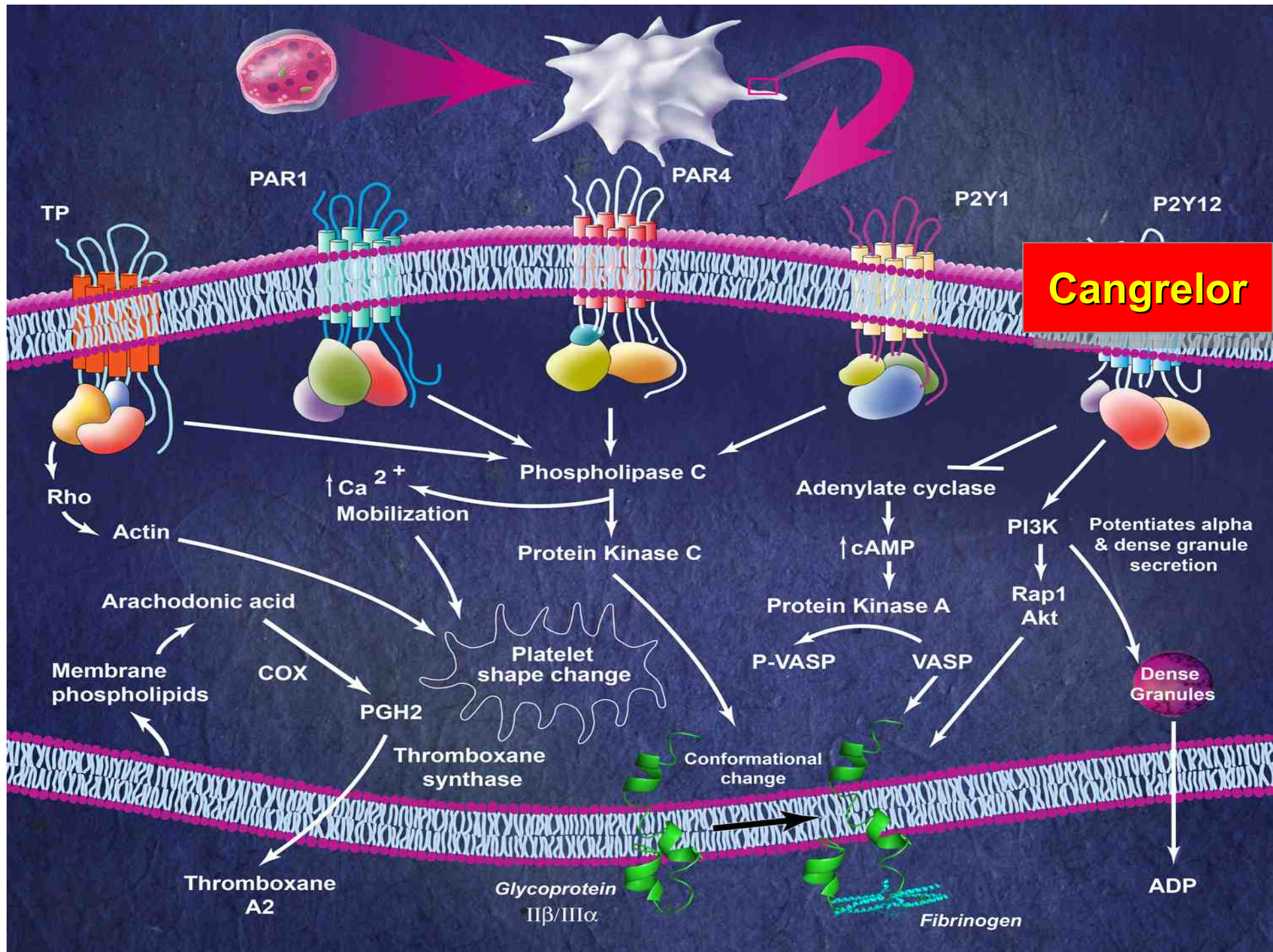
## CV Death



## Alternative Mechanisms

---

- “Decoupling” of ischemic protection from bleeding
  - *Do “non life-threatening bleeds” actually lead to increased long-term mortality?*
  - *But non-CABG TIMI major bleeding actually increased to a similar degree with ticagrelor as with prasugrel*
- Higher-risk population than TRITON
  - *1-year mortality in clopidogrel group 5.0% vs. 2.2%*
  - *40% STEMI vs. 25% STEMI*
- Is there an “off-target” effect related to adenosine production?





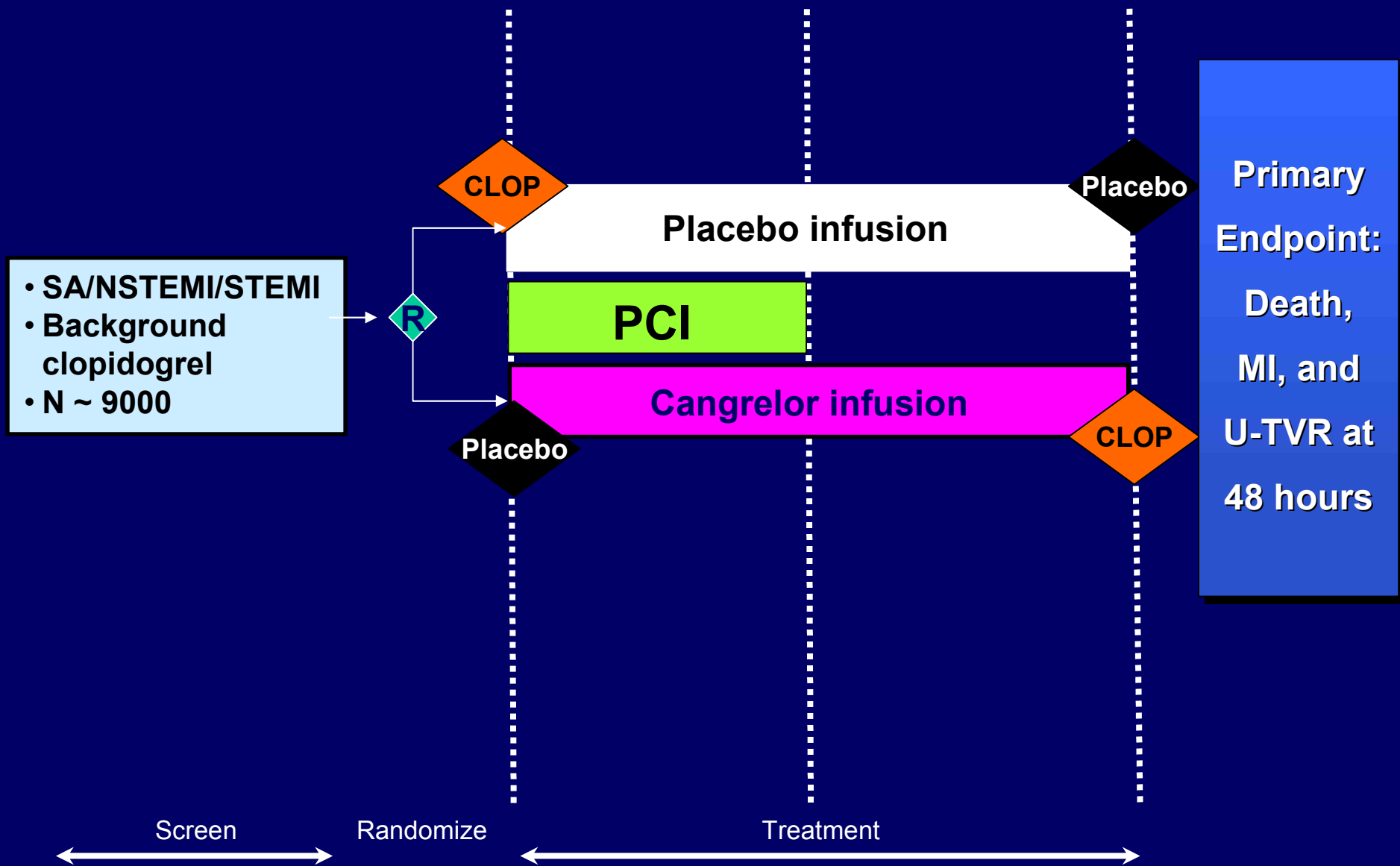
The diagram illustrates the activation of a platelet. At the top, a resting platelet is shown on the left, which then becomes activated and spiky on the right, indicated by red arrows. The cell membrane is shown with various receptors: TP (Thromboxane Prostanoid Receptor), PAR1 (Protease-Activated Receptor 1), PAR4 (Protease-Activated Receptor 4), P2Y1, and P2Y12. A red box labeled 'Cangrelor' is positioned over the P2Y12 receptor. Below the membrane, signaling pathways are depicted. On the left, TP activates Rho, which leads to Actin, resulting in Arachidonic acid release and Membrane phospholipids. On the right, P2Y12 activates a pathway involving β3K, Rap1, and Akt, leading to 'Potentiates alpha & dense granule secretion' and the release of Dense Granules, which then release ADP. At the bottom, Thromboxane A2, Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa, and Fibrinogen are shown.

**Cangrelor**

## Cangrelor: Key Properties

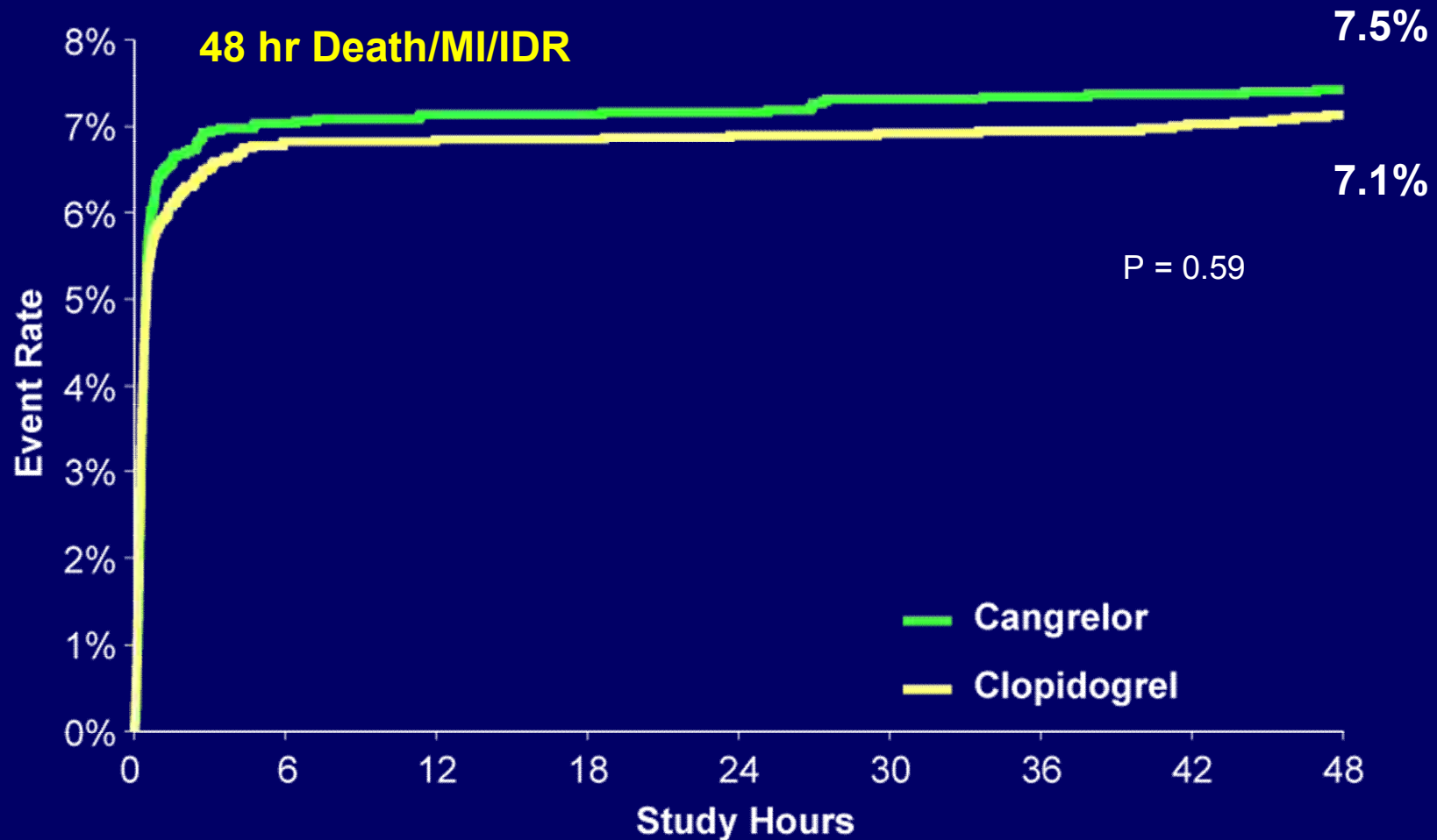
- Parenteral P2Y12 antagonist (direct-acting)
- Immediate onset → rapidly achieves steady state
- Plasma half-life of 3-6 minutes
- Full recovery of platelet function within 60 minutes

# CHAMPION-PCI



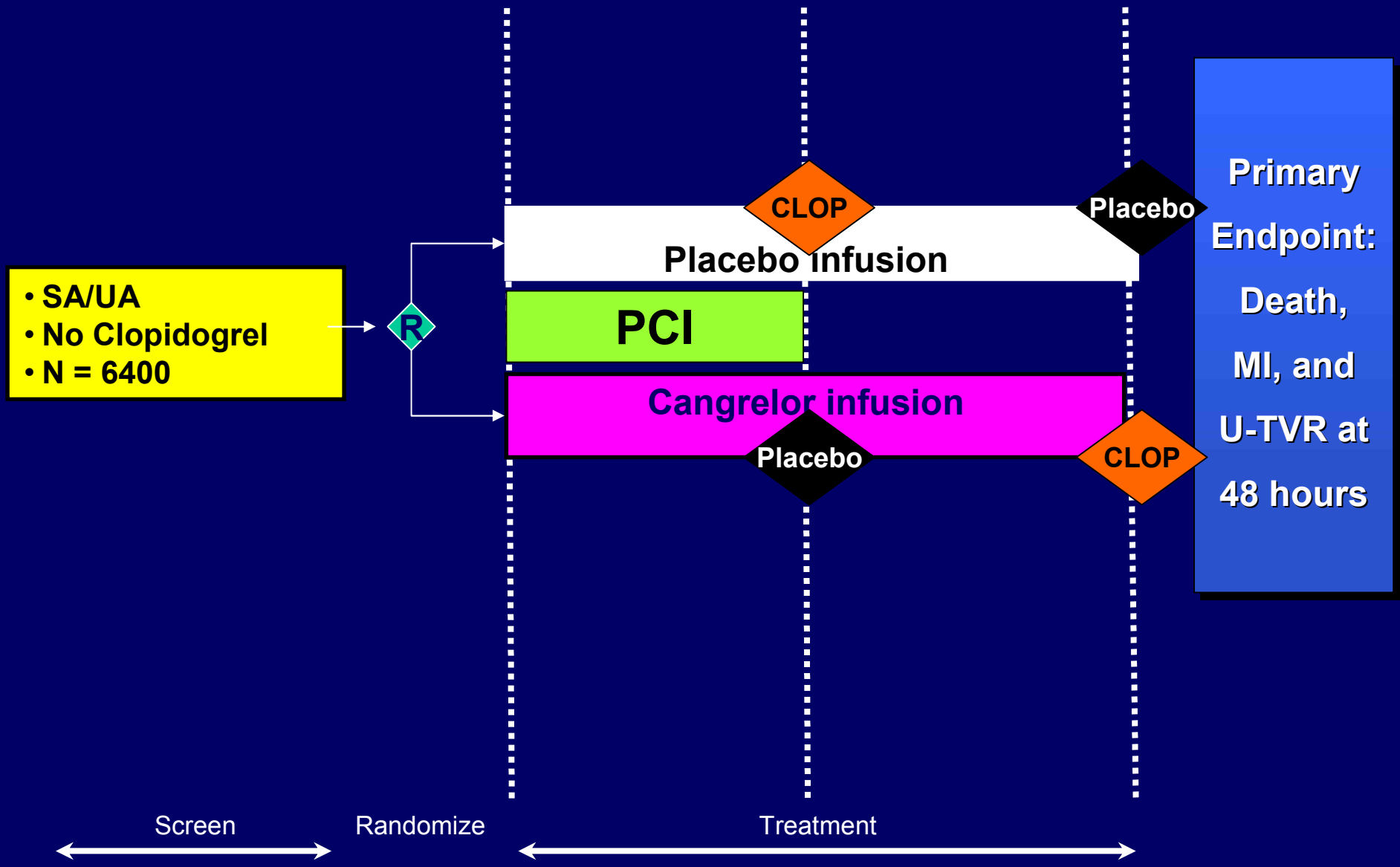


# CHAMPION PCI: Primary Endpoint

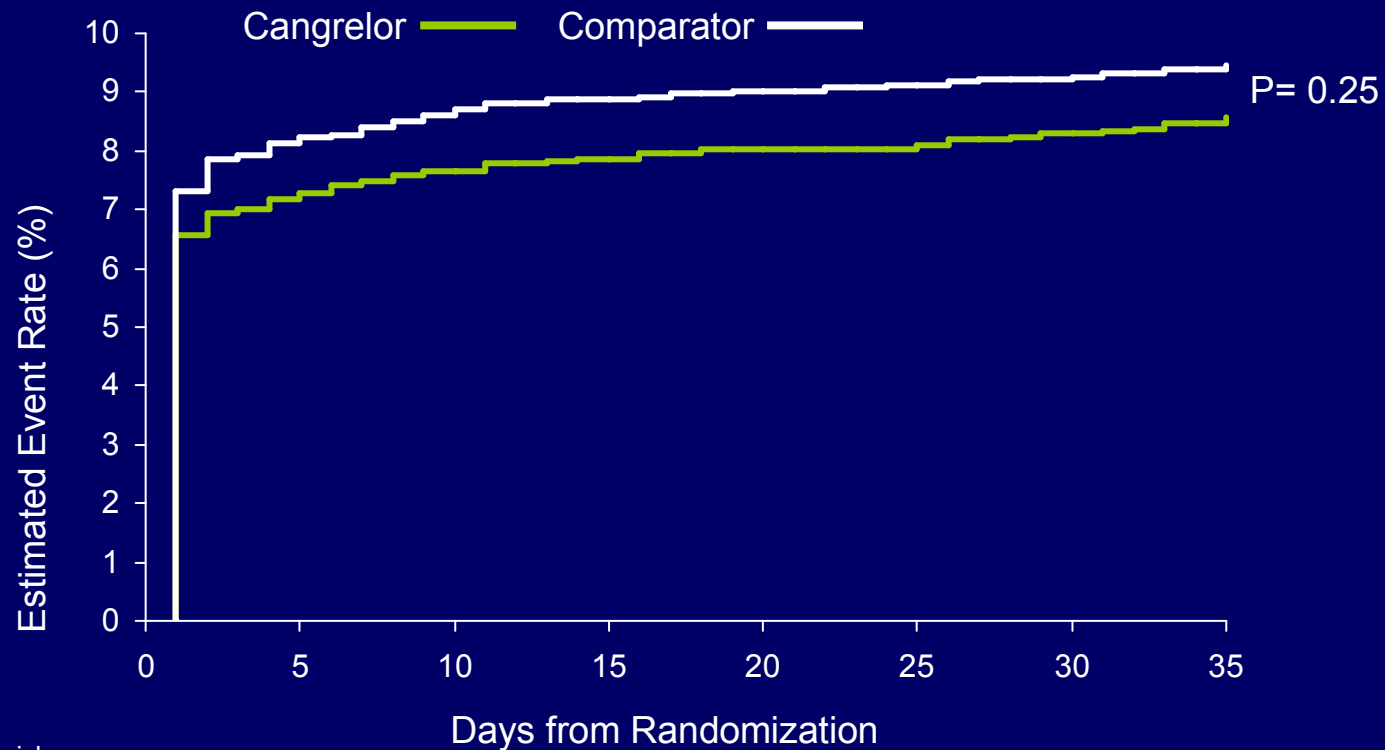


Cangrelor:	3897	3623	3619	3619	3614	3606	3604	3603	3599
Clopidogrel:	3871	3607	3606	3606	3602	3599	3598	3595	3588

# CHAMPION-PLATFORM



# CHAMPION PLATFORM: 30-day Death/MI/IDR



Patients at risk

Cangrelor	2656	2461	2448	2441	2437	2437	2425	1557
Comparator	2645	2427	2409	2402	2399	2396	2389	1552

## Why did it fail?

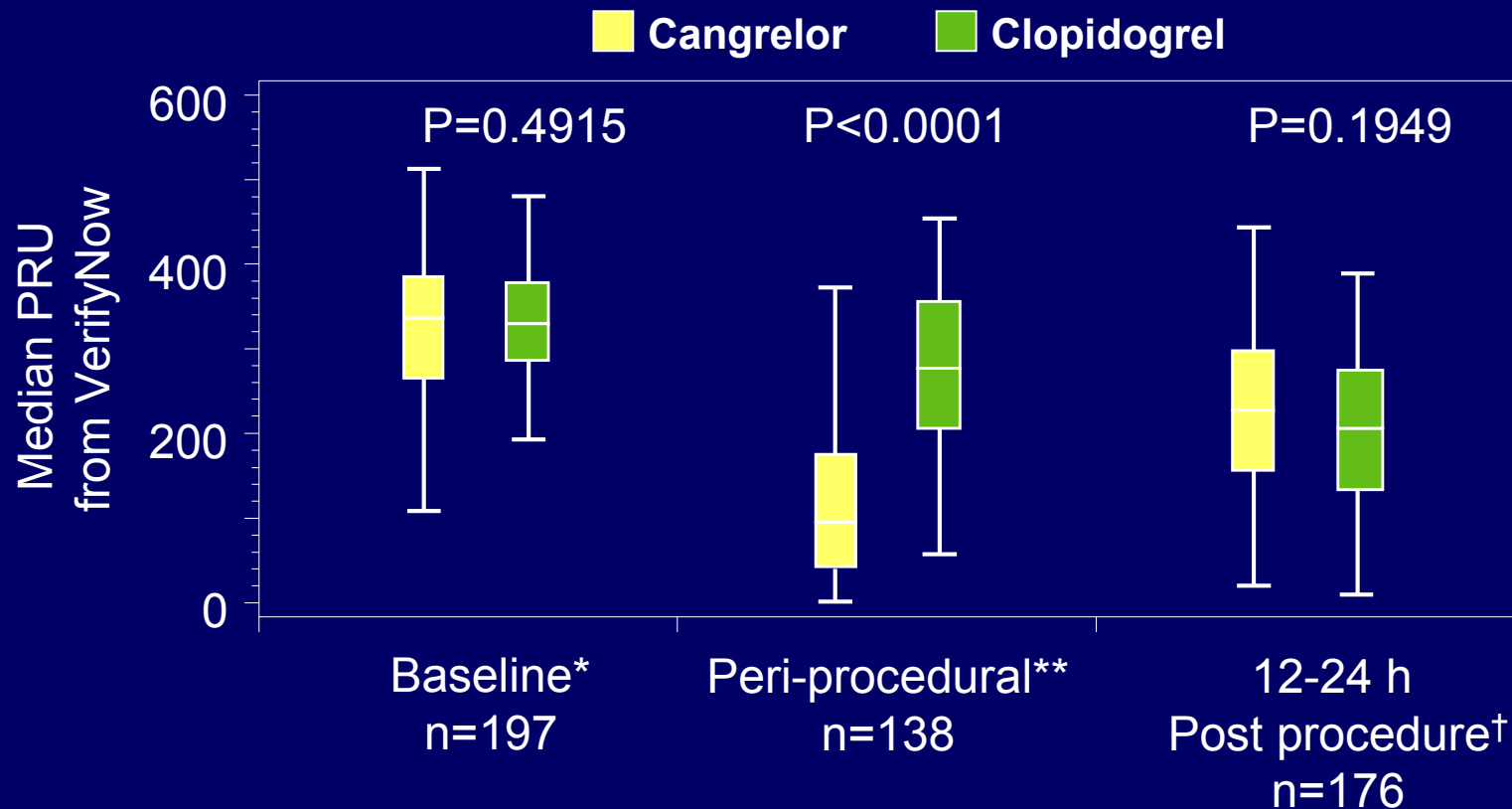
---

- Cangrelor-Clopidogrel interaction
  - *Circulating cangrelor may have prevented clopidogrel from achieving its full antiplatelet effect*

# Platelet Substudy Results



- More robust platelet inhibition with cangrelor during infusion
- No evidence of attenuation of clopidogrel effect at 12-24 hours



\*\*Baseline-Before the first infusion,

\*\*Peri-procedural- During study drug/placebo infusion

† Post procedure - 1st sample within 12 to 24 hours relative to 1st Infusion.



## Why did it fail?

---

- Competitive inhibition of P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor
  - *Circulating cangrelor may have prevented clopidogrel from achieving its full antiplatelet effect*
- Periprocedural MI may actually occur several hours post-PCI (after cangrelor is turned off)

## Why did it fail?

---

- Competitive inhibition of P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor
  - *Circulating cangrelor may have prevented clopidogrel from achieving its full antiplatelet effect*
- Periprocedural MI may actually occur several hours post-PCI (after cangrelor is turned off)
- Difficult to diagnose periprocedural MI in the ACS setting, particularly when time from presentation to PCI is very brief

# CHAMPION PLATFORM: Efficacy Endpoints at 48 Hours



Efficacy mITT\*  
(SA/UA/NSTEMI)

Cangrelor N=2654  
Comparator N=2641

OR [95% CI]

P value

Death/MI/IDR\*\*

7.0%

8.0%

0.87 (0.71,1.07)

0.17

MI

6.7%

7.2%

0.92 (0.74,1.13)

0.42

Non QMI\*\*

6.5%

6.9%

0.94 (0.76,1.16)

0.55

QMI

0.2%

0.3%

0.50 (0.15,1.65)

0.25

IDR

0.7%

0.9%

0.79 (0.43,1.44)

0.44

Stent Thrombosis

0.2%

0.6%

0.31 (0.11,0.85)

0.02

Death

0.2%

0.7%

0.33 (0.13,0.83)

0.02

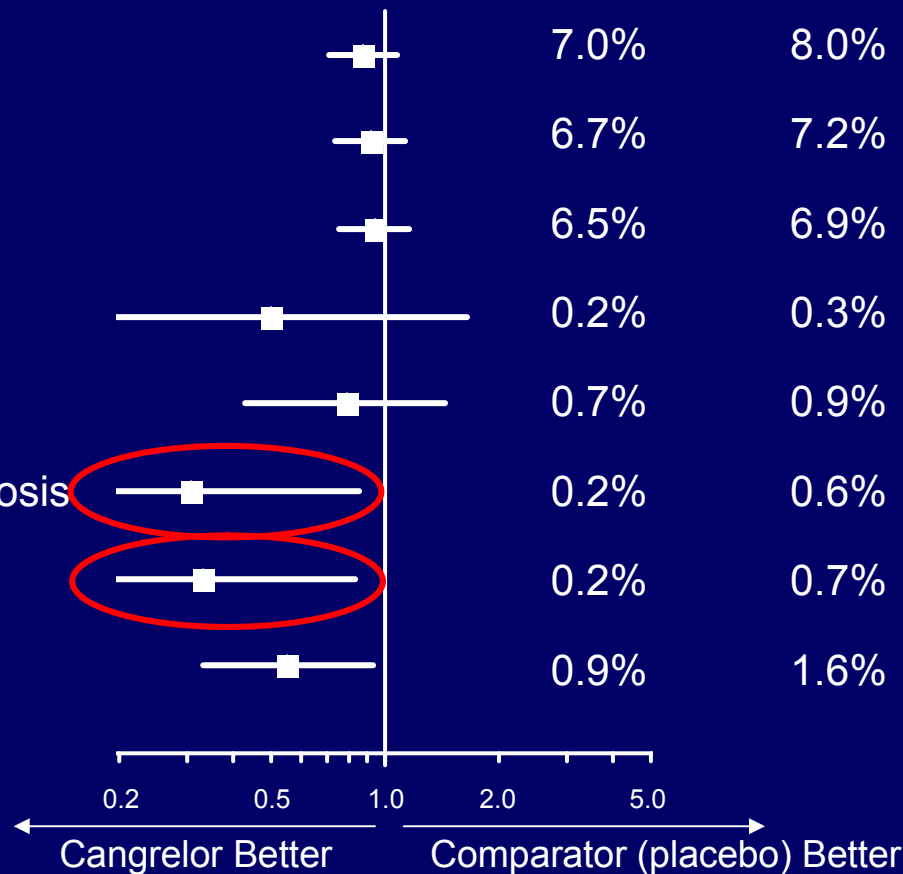
Death/QMI/IDR

0.9%

1.6%

0.55 (0.33,0.93)

0.02



\* Primary Analysis

\*\* mITT= modified intent to treat population (patients with PCI and study drug), QMI= Q-wave myocardial infarction

## Why did it fail?

---

- Competitive inhibition of P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor
  - *Circulating cangrelor may have prevented clopidogrel from achieving its full antiplatelet effect*
- Periprocedural MI may actually occur several hours post-PCI (after cangrelor is turned off)
- Difficult to diagnose periprocedural MI in the ACS setting, particularly when time from presentation to PCI is very brief
- Clopidogrel 600mg is a pretty tough competitor

# Conclusions: Emerging Platelet Inhibitors

---

- While current antiplatelet therapies are efficacious, there is substantial room for improvement— particularly in the ACS setting
- Prasugrel is the first agent to demonstrate that greater, more rapid, and more uniform platelet inhibition can further reduce ischemic events, but it does come at the price of greater major bleeding.
- Over the next several years, several other novel antiplatelet agents will likely be approved and are likely to have a profound impact on the practice and outcomes of PCI



# Emerging Platelet Inhibitors for PCI/ACS

---

- While current antiplatelet therapies are efficacious, there is substantial room for improvement— particularly in the ACS setting
- The TRITON trial is the first to demonstrate that greater, more rapid, and more uniform platelet inhibition improves antithrombotic efficacy, but it does come at the price of greater major bleeding.
- Over the next several years, several other novel antiplatelet agents will likely be approved and are likely to have a profound impact on the practice and outcomes of PCI