



# **The Road to Renin System Optimization: Renin Inhibitor**

**A New Perspective on the  
Renin-Angiotensin System (RAS)**

***Yong-Jin Kim, MD***

***Seoul National University Hospital***

Choose the Ultimate BBQ Recipe and Win! See page 24

# BON APPÉTIT

JULY 2006

\$3.99

AMERICA'S FOOD AND ENTERTAINING MAGAZINE

THE  
**BBQ**  
ISSUE

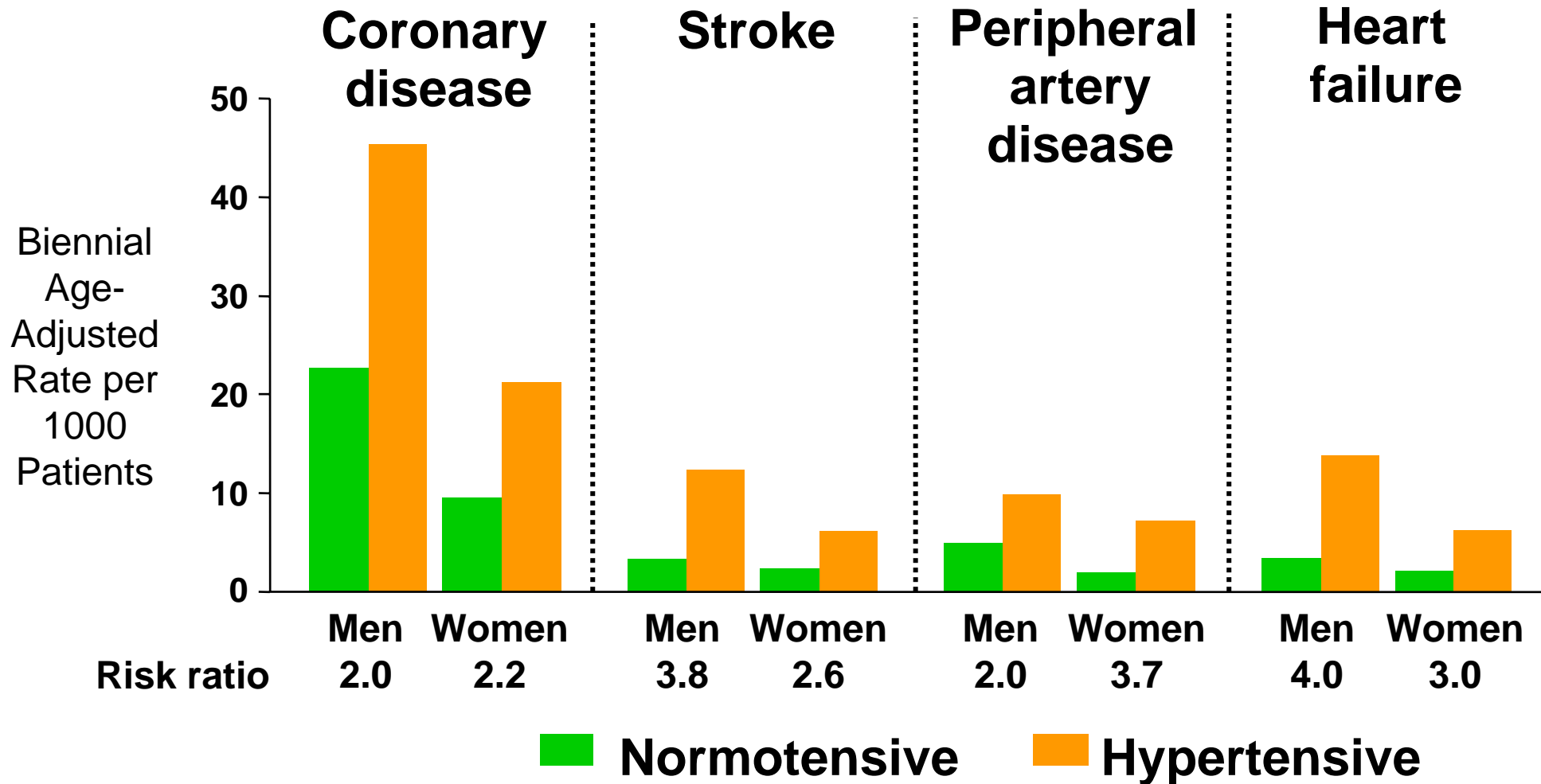


Andouille and Beef Burger  
with Blue Cheese

# Human and Economic Costs of Hypertension (HT)

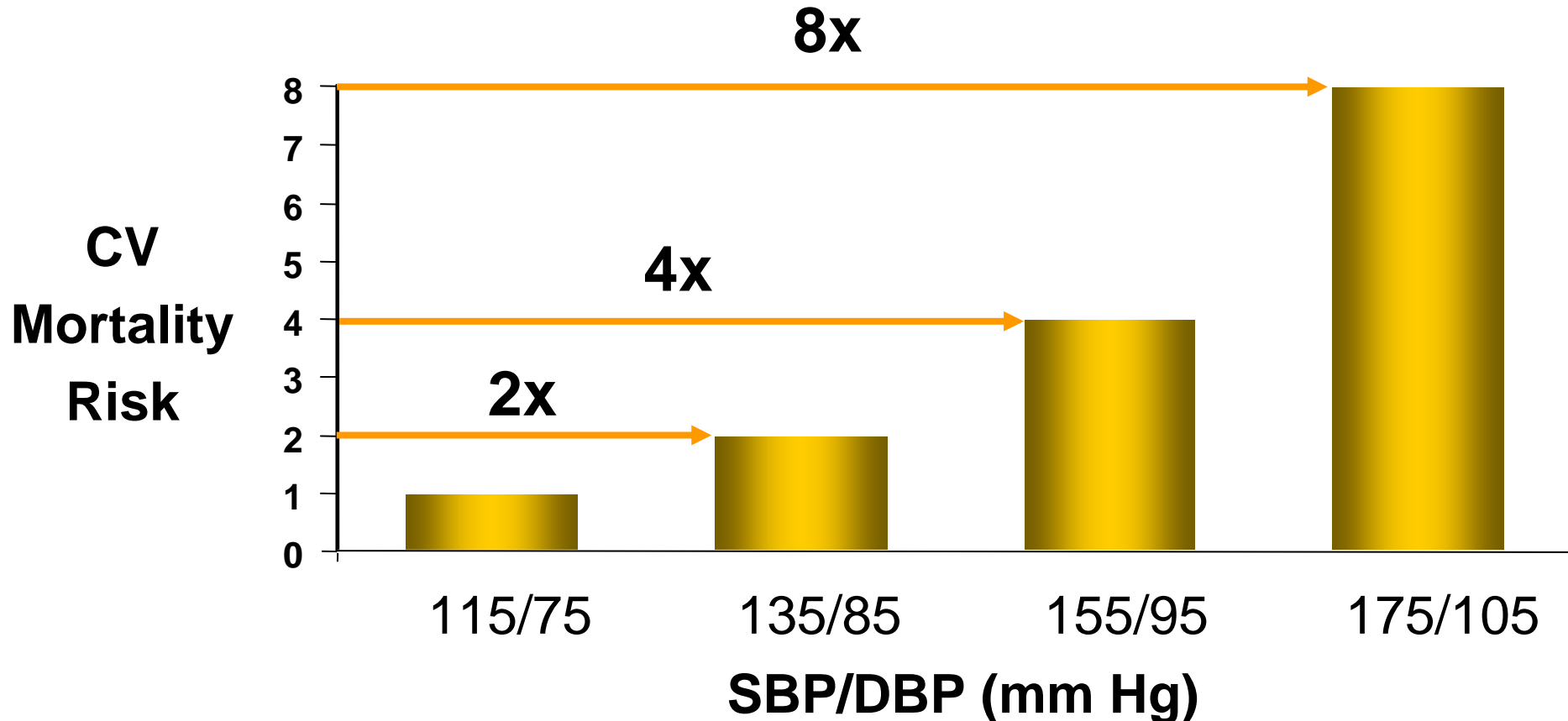
- **Single-most common cause of physician visits**
- **1/3 of American adults have HT**
- **Major multiplicative factor for cardiovascular disease**
- **Total costs of HT: \$64 billion annually**

# Hypertension: A Risk Factor for CV Disease



Kannel WB. *JAMA*. 1996;275:1571-1576.

# CV Mortality Risk Doubles With Each 20 and/or 10 mm Hg BP Increment\*



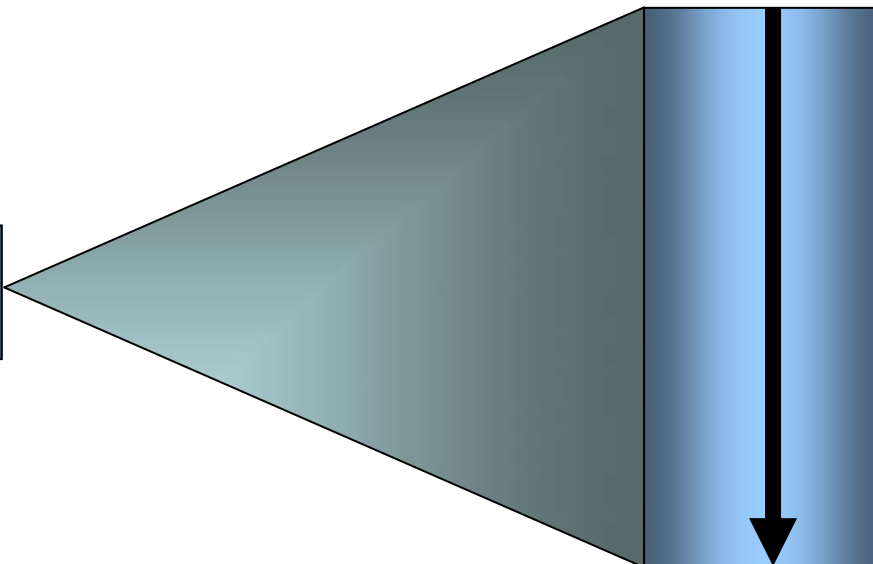
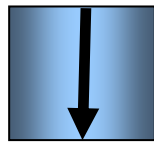
\*Individuals aged 40 to 69 years, starting at blood pressure 115/75 mm Hg

Chobanian AV et al. *JAMA*. 2003;289:2560-2572. Lewington S et al. *Lancet*. 2002;360:1903-1913.

# A Small Difference in BP Produces a Difference in Risk of CV Events

- Meta-analysis of 61 observational studies
- 1 million adults

For every  
2 mm Hg  
decrease in  
mean SBP

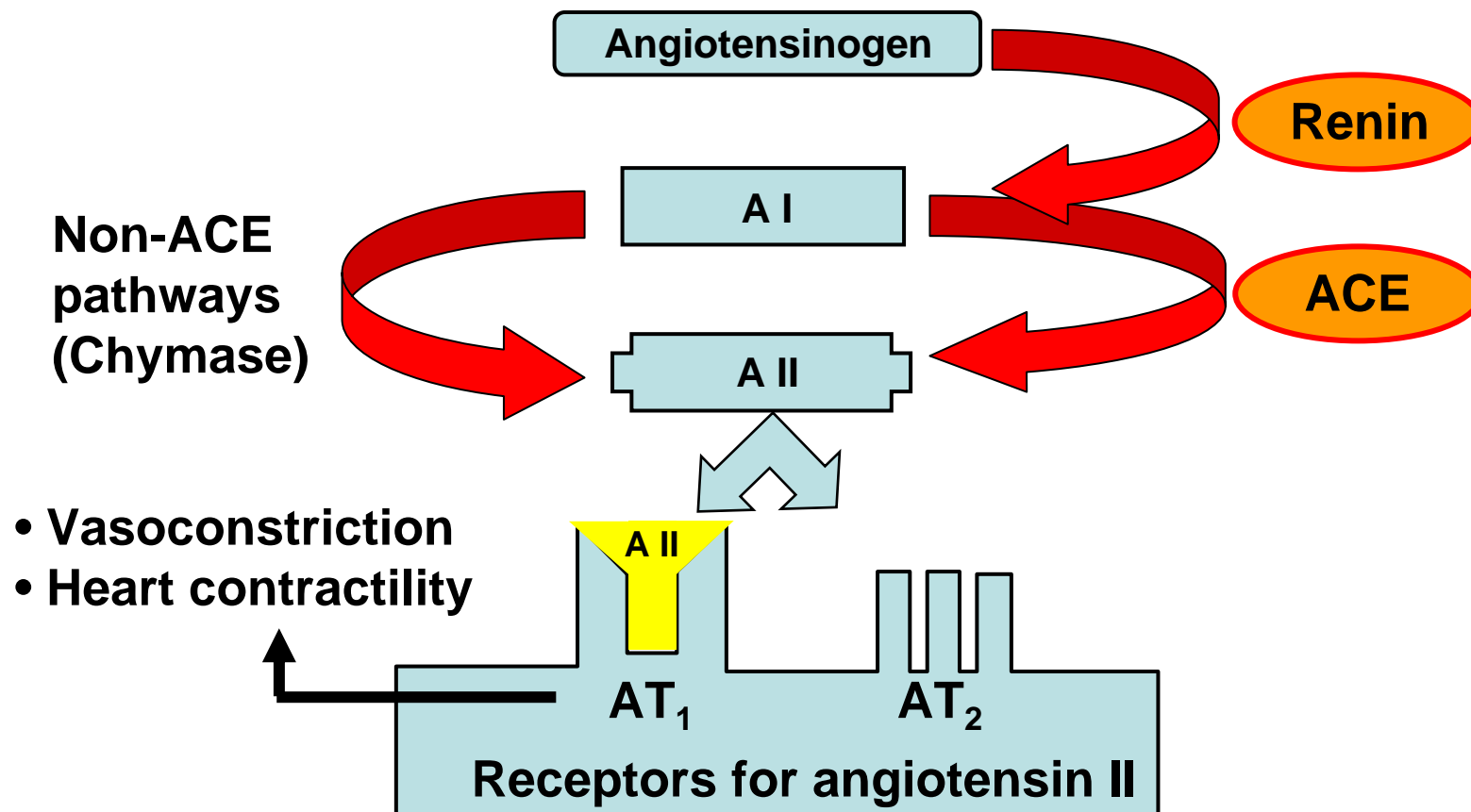


There is a:

- 7% reduction in risk of CHD mortality
- 10% reduction in risk of stroke mortality

# RAS Activation/A II Formation in Regulating BP

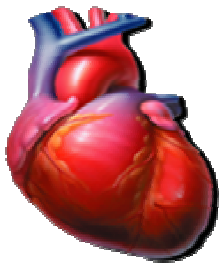
## Cascade Model of the RAS



A I = angiotensin I; A II = angiotensin II; ACE = angiotensin-converting enzyme.

# RAS Activation/A II Formation in Target Organ Damage

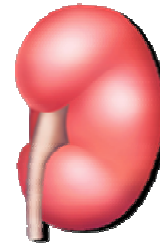
**Angiotensin II**



Heart



Brain



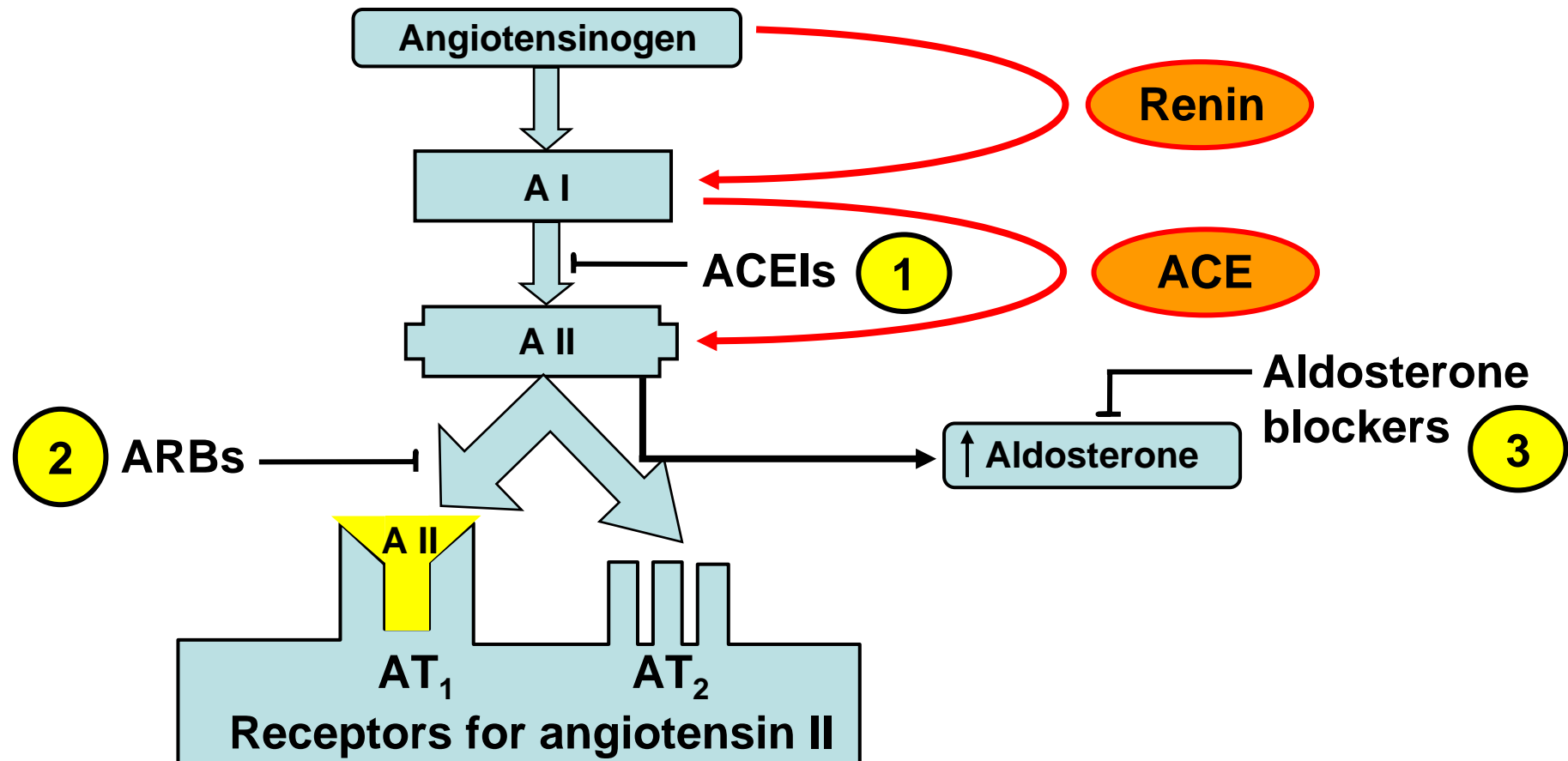
Kidney



Blood  
Vessel



# Current Pharmacologic Interventions of the RAS



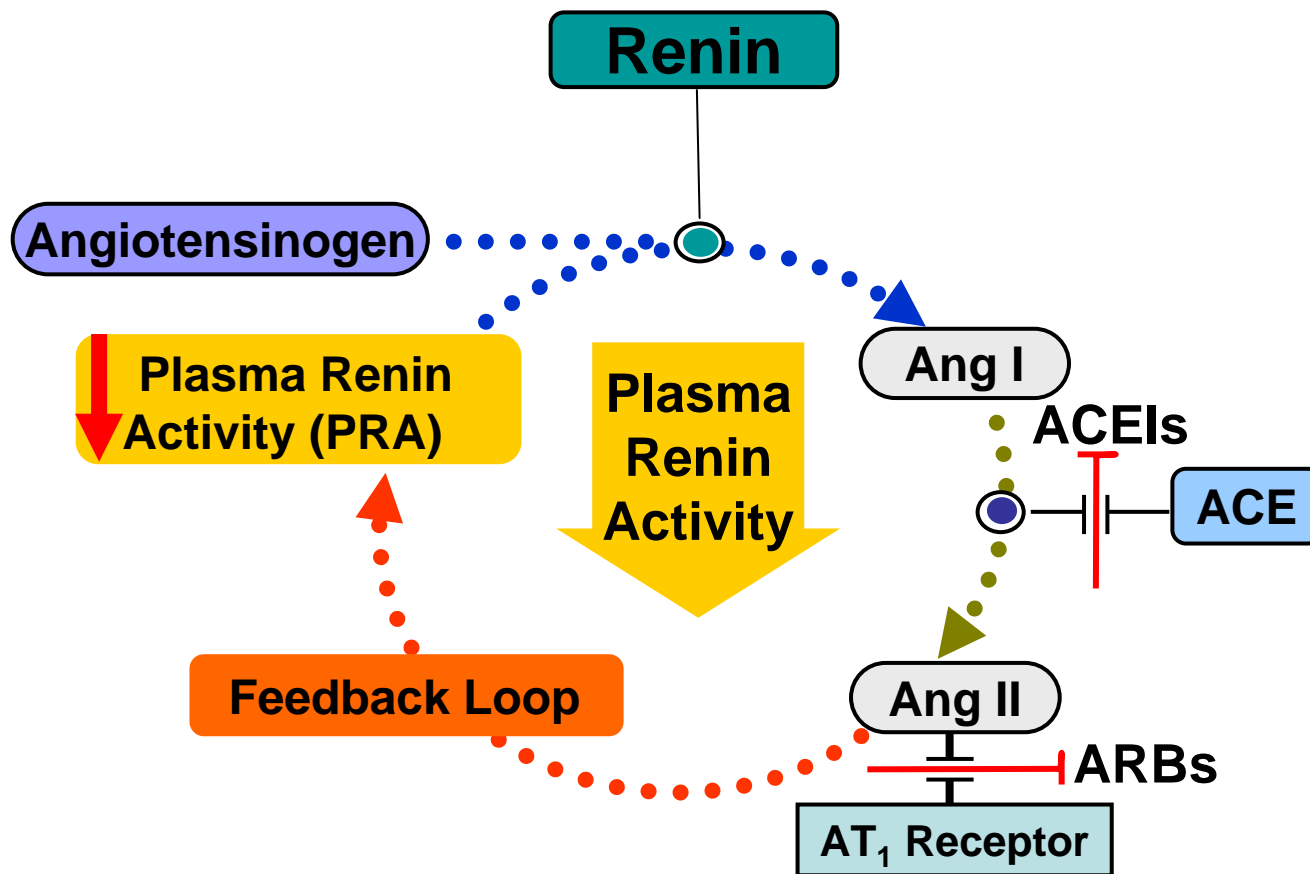
# PROs: RAS Blockade Via ACEIs or ARBs

## ACEI and ARBs

- Highly effective
- Well tolerated
- Benefits in addition to lowering BP
  - Chronic kidney disease
  - Diabetes
  - Heart failure
  - Recurrent stroke prevention\*
  - Post-MI

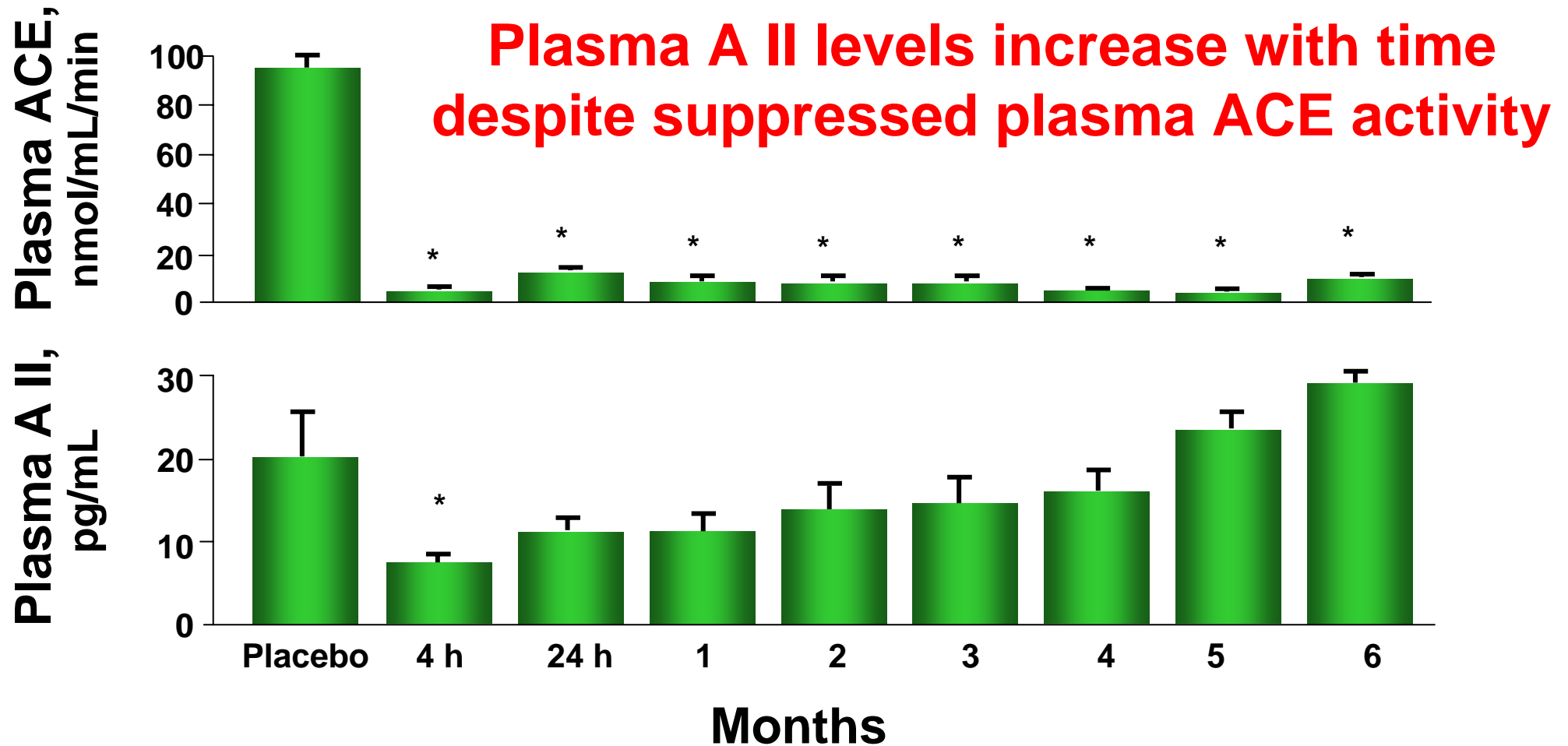
\*Only ACEIs have an indication for recurrent stroke prevention.  
Chobanian AV et al. *JAMA*. 2003;289:2560-2572.

# Current RAS-Blocking Agents Interrupt the RAS Negative-Feedback Loop



ACEIs & ARBs increase PRA through compensatory feedback mechanisms

# Angiotensin II Escape With Long-Term ACEI Therapy



\* $P < 0.001$  vs placebo.

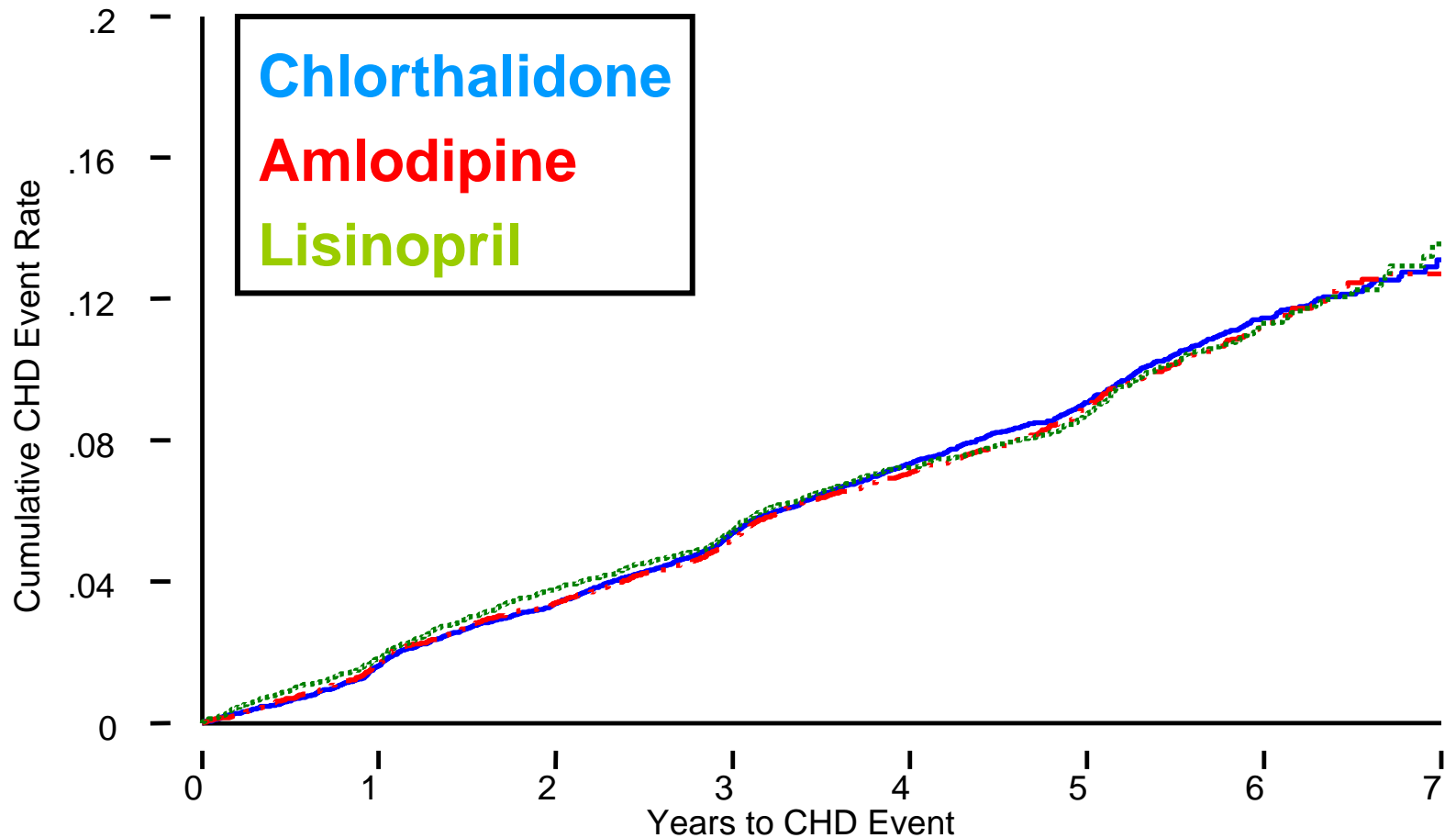
Adapted from Biollaz J et al. *J Cardiovasc Pharmacol.* 1982;4:966-972.

# CONs: RAS Blockade Via ACEIs or ARBs

## ACEI and ARBs

- ACEIs & ARBs:
  - Renin, Ang I and Ang II elevations
  - May prevent full BP-lowering potential
- ACEIs: incomplete RAS suppression d/t “A II escape phenomenon”
- ACEIs: cough, rash and angioedema

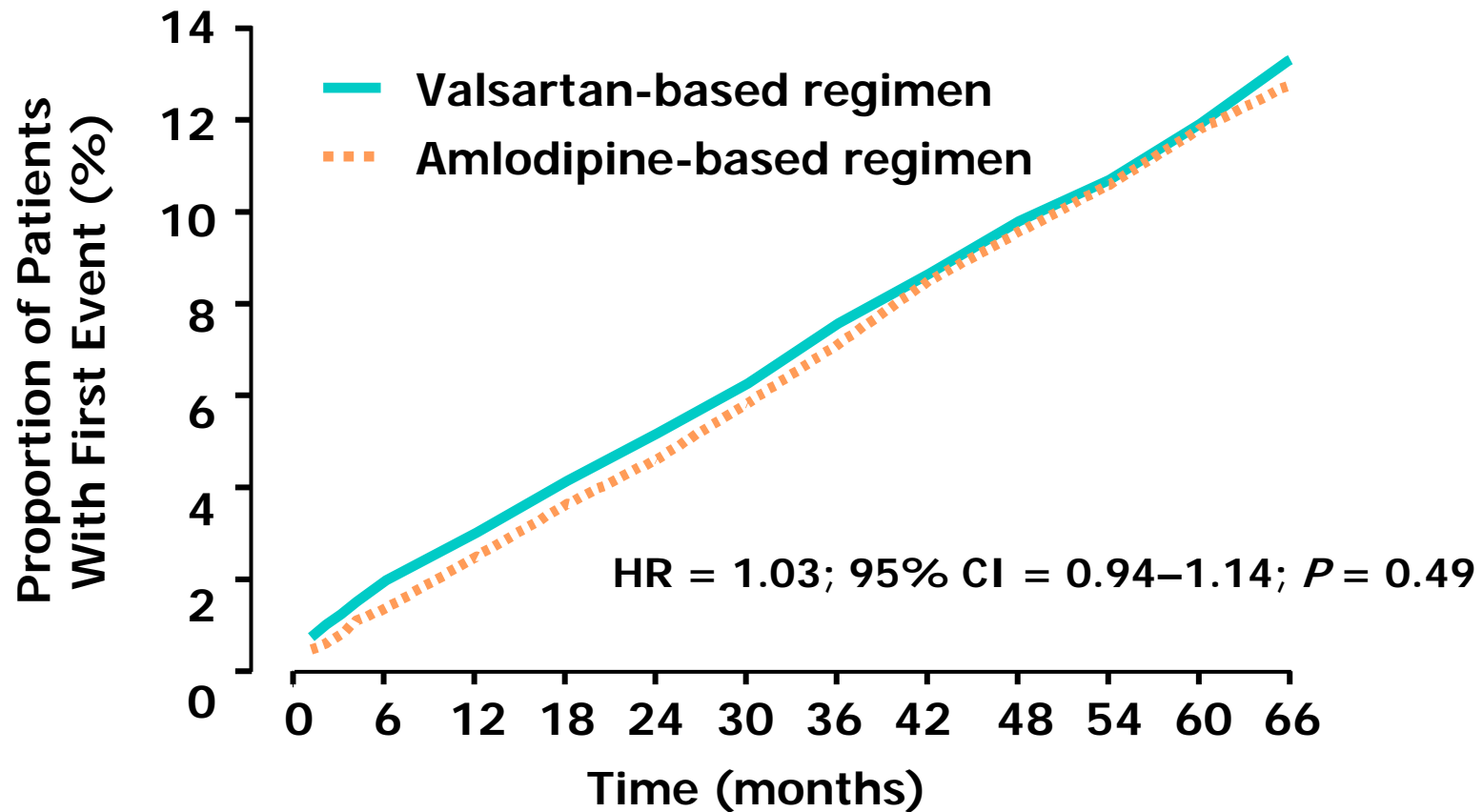
# ALLHAT: Primary Composite Endpoints



**Number at Risk:**

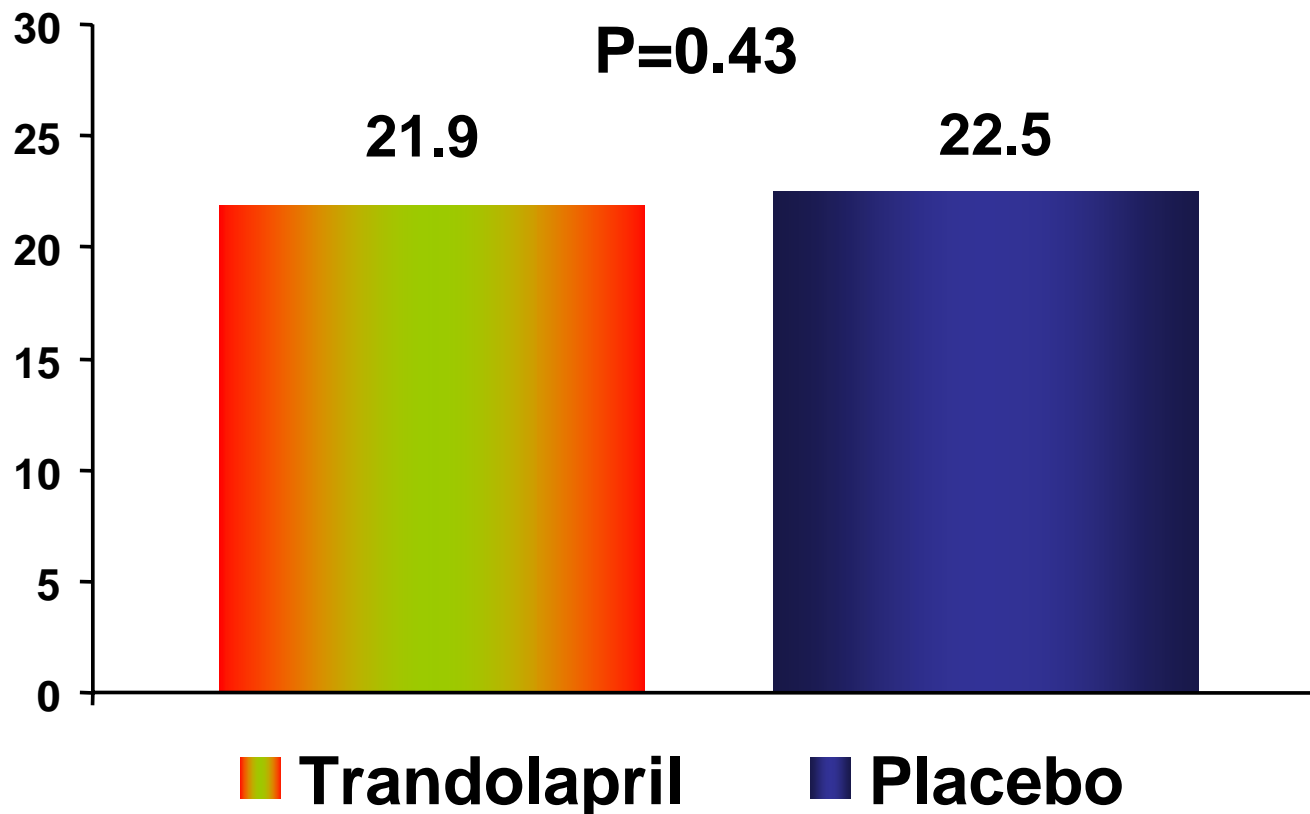
Chlorthalidone	15,255	14,477	13,820	13,102	11,362	6,340	2,956	209
Amlodipine	9,048	8,576	8,218	7,843	6,824	3,870	1,878	215
Lisinopril	9,054	8,535	8,123	7,711	6,662	3,832	1,770	195

# VALUE: Composite Cardiac Endpoints



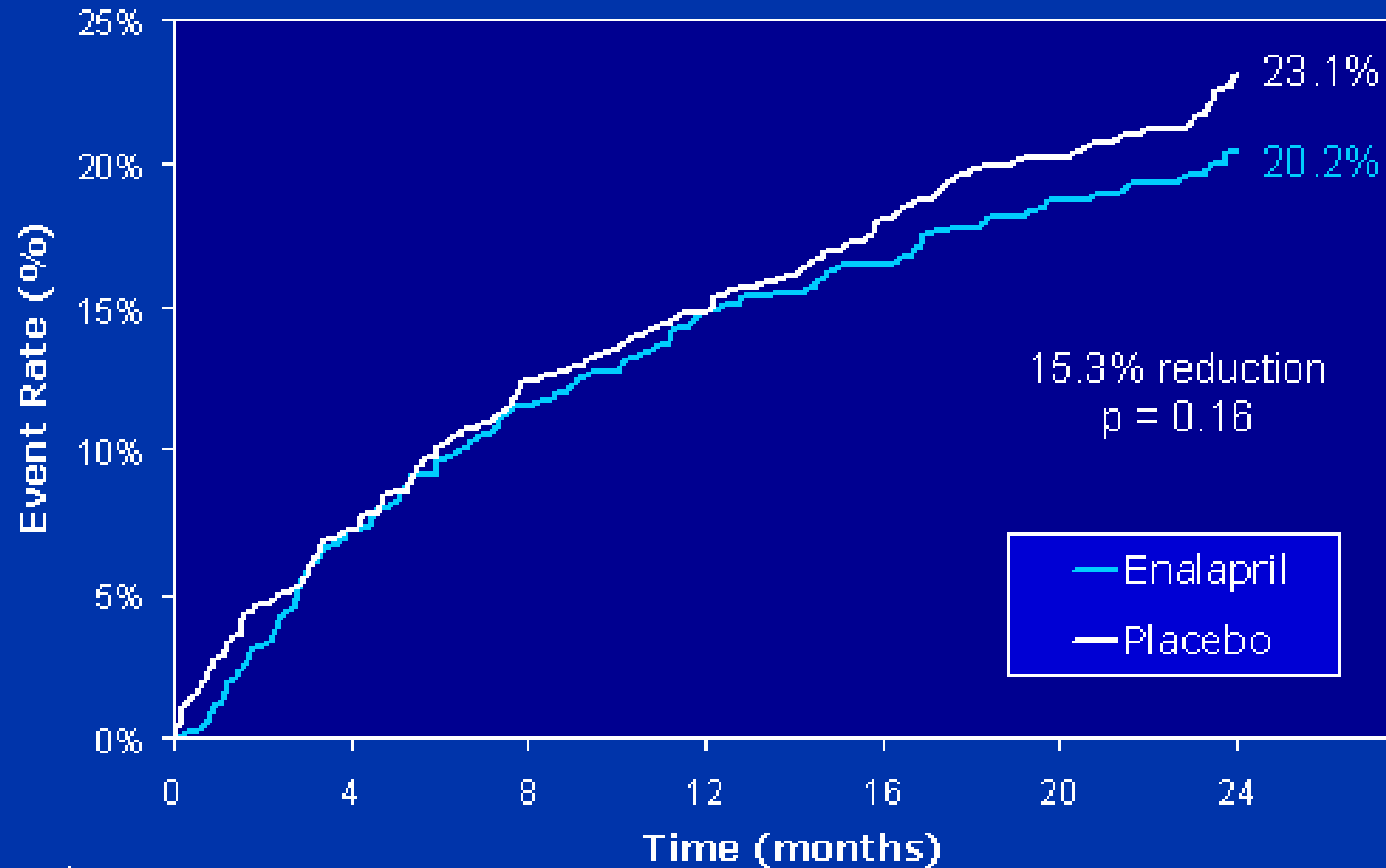
# PEACE trial

**CV death, nonfatal MI,  
coronary revascularization**





# CAMELOT: CV events Enalapril vs Placebo



# How Do We Improve RAS Inhibition?

- **Optimal Dosing of RAS blockers:**
  - Ongoing clinical trials with Valsartan 640mg, Candesartan 128mg, and Irbesartan 900mg
- **Combining RAS (ACEI + ARB) blockers:**
  - May reduce the Ang II escape seen with ACEIs
  - Benefits in heart failure (CHARM-Added)
  - May reduce proteinuria (COOPERATE)

# How Do We Improve RAS Inhibition?

- **Target renin:**
  - **Renin's high specificity for its only known substrate, angiotensinogen:**
    - specific RAS inhibition without other metabolic effects
  - **Potential to block the RAS at its initial point of activation**

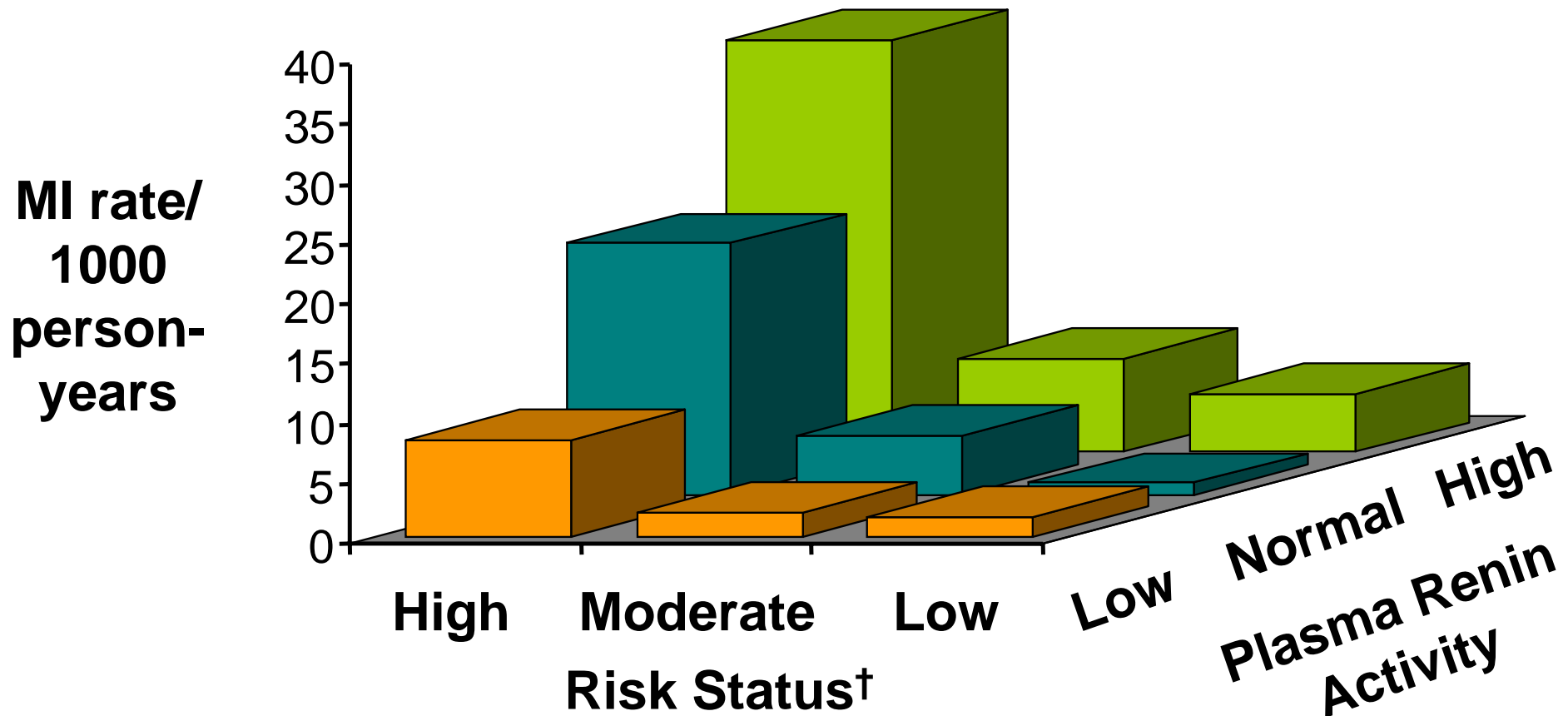
# How Do We Improve RAS Inhibition?

- **Target Renin:**
  - **Counteract feedback by ACEI/ARB**
  - **Proximal blockade prevents both A I and A II**
    - may be more efficacious than distal RAS inhibition via ACEIs and ARBs
    - a possible therapeutic profile distinct from those of both ACEIs and ARBs

# How Do We Improve RAS Inhibition?

	Ang I	Ang II	Renin	PRA
ACEI	↑	↓	↑	↑
ARB	↑	↑	↑	↑
Renin Inhibitor	↓	↓	↑	↓

# Plasma Renin Activity Predicts the Incidence of Myocardial Infarction



†Risk status: high,  $\geq 2$  risk factors (smoking, cholesterol, LVH); moderate, 1 risk factor; low, no risk factors.  
PRA, plasma renin activity.

Alderman MH et al. *Am J Hypertens*. 1997;10:1-8.

# PRA Is the Strongest Predictor of Mortality in Chronic Heart Failure

<i>Variables</i>	<i>P value</i>
<b>Renin activity</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>LV stroke work index</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>Serum Cr concentration</b>	<b>&lt;0.004</b>
<b>Other vasodilators</b>	<b>&lt;0.02</b>
<b>Functional class</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>Blood urea nitrogen</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>Other vasodilators</b>	<b>&lt;0.02</b>

Rockman HA et al. *Am J Cardiol.* 1989;64:1344-1348.

# History of Renin Inhibitor Development

- A wide variety have been developed over past 20 years, but none have been clinically useful as a result of:

Low potency

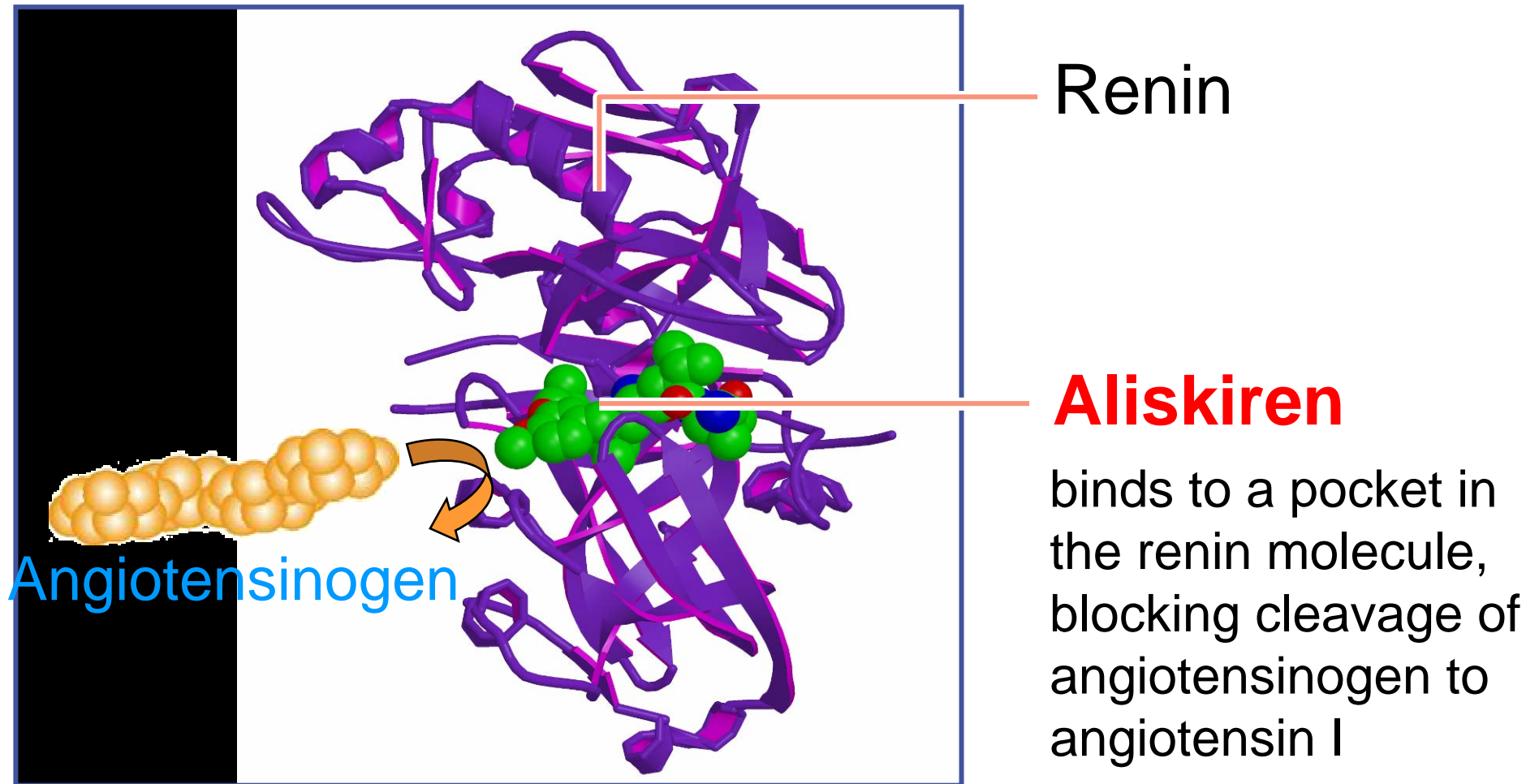
Lack of orally active synthetic compounds

Short duration of action/rapid elimination

Poor bioavailability

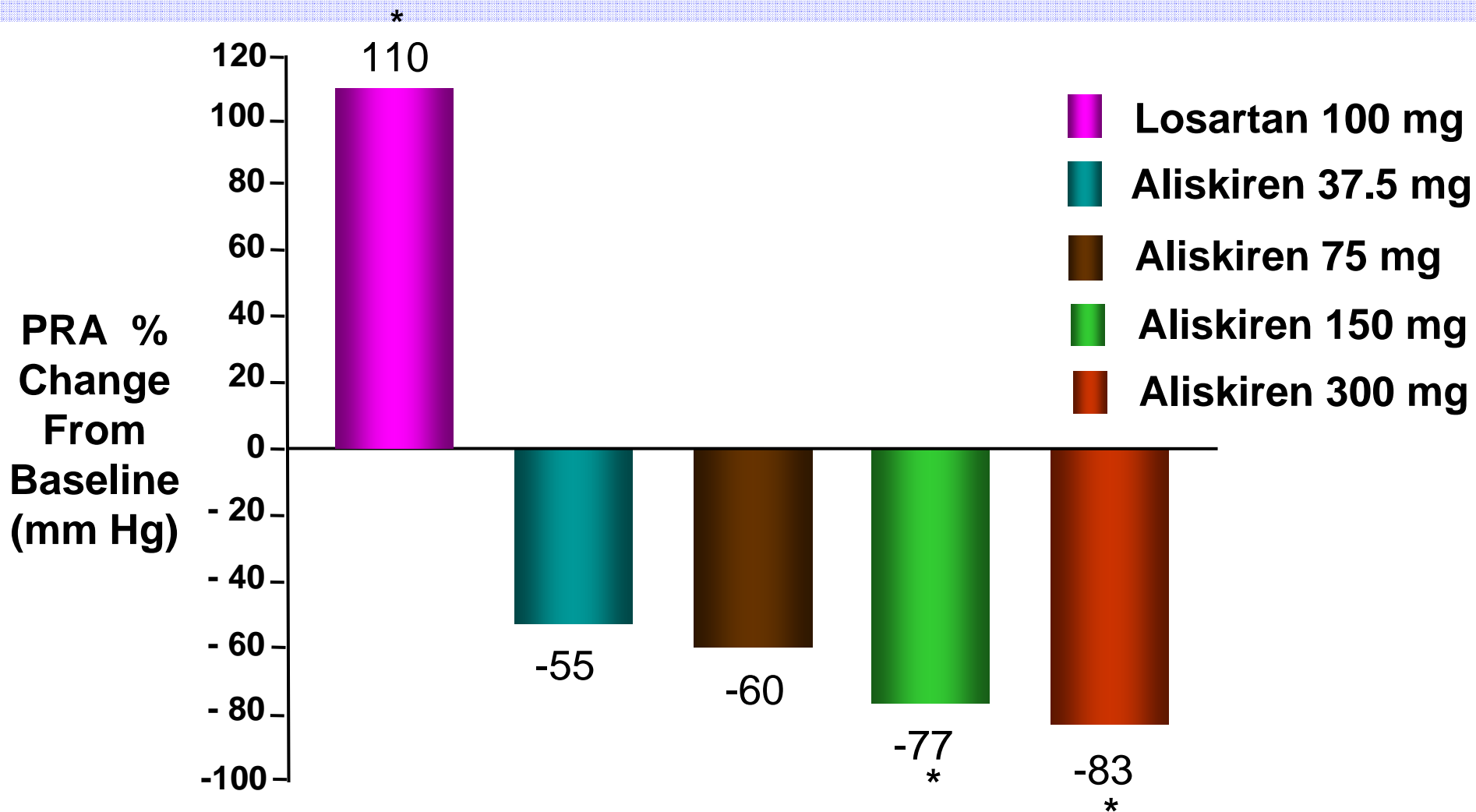


# Renin Inhibitor: Aliskiren

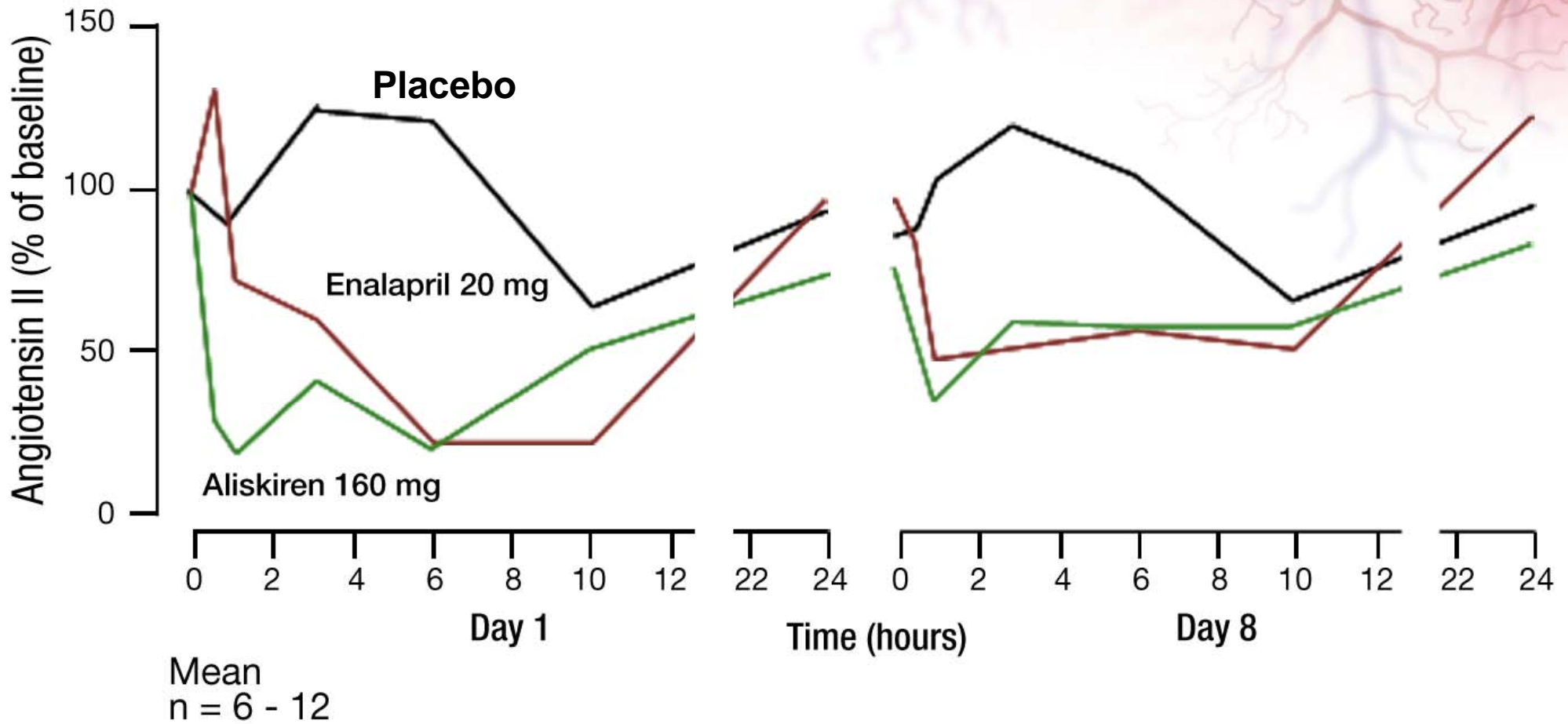


# Clinical Data of Aliskiren

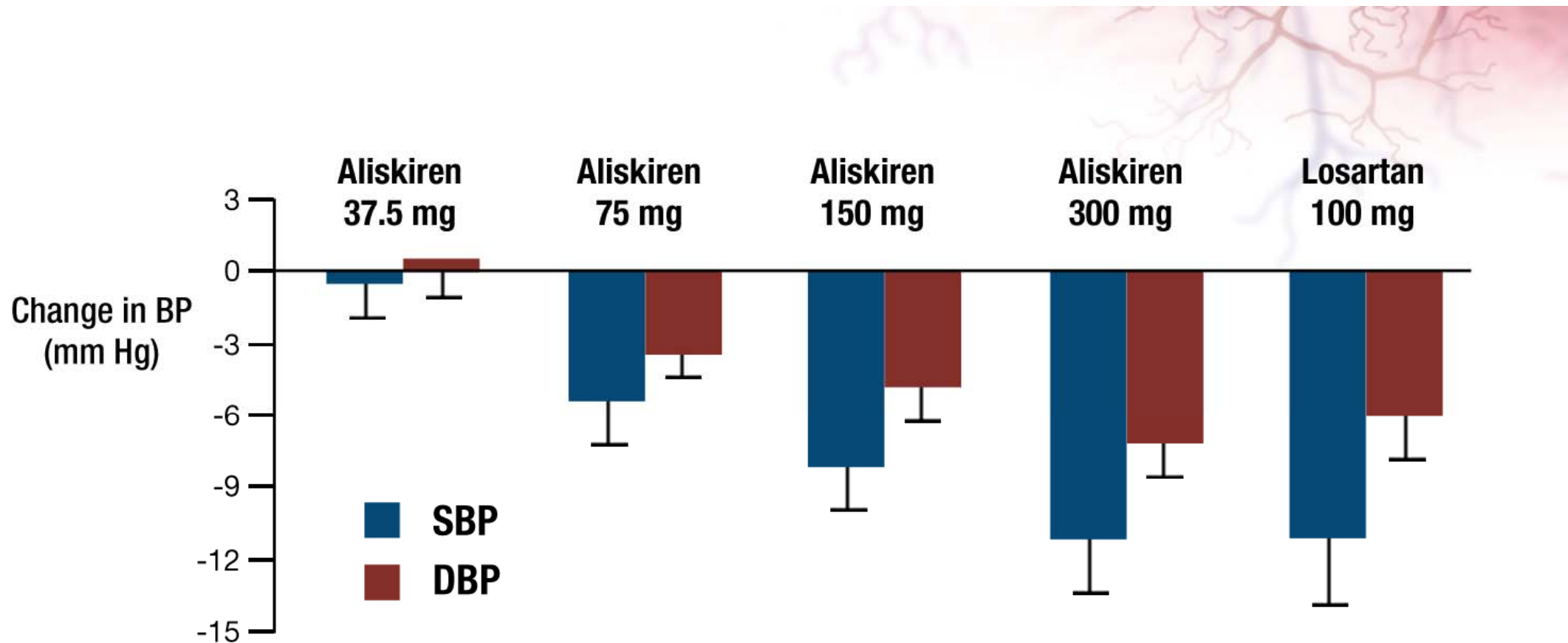
# Reductions in PRA: Aliskiren vs Losartan



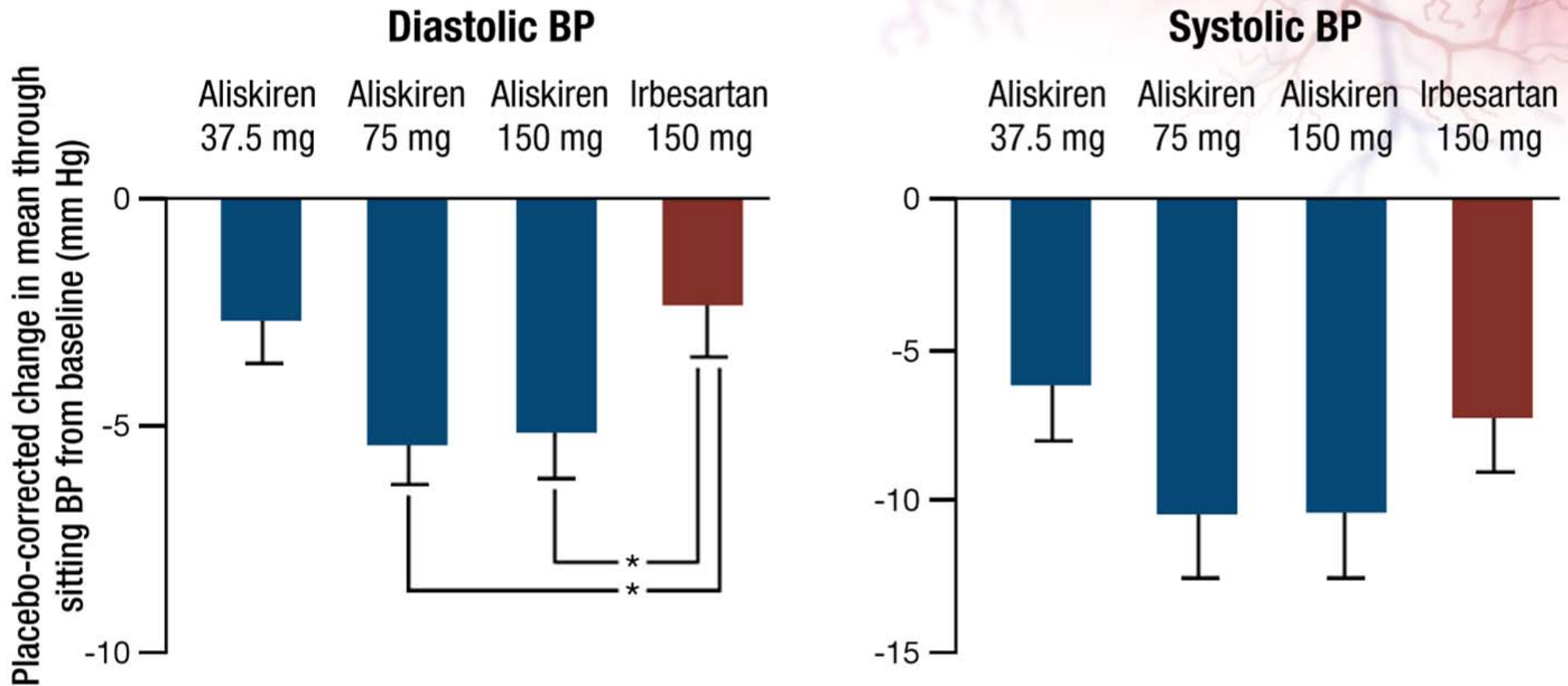
# Plasma A II Suppression in Humans: Aliskiren vs Enalapril



# Ambulatory BP Reductions: Aliskiren vs Losartan

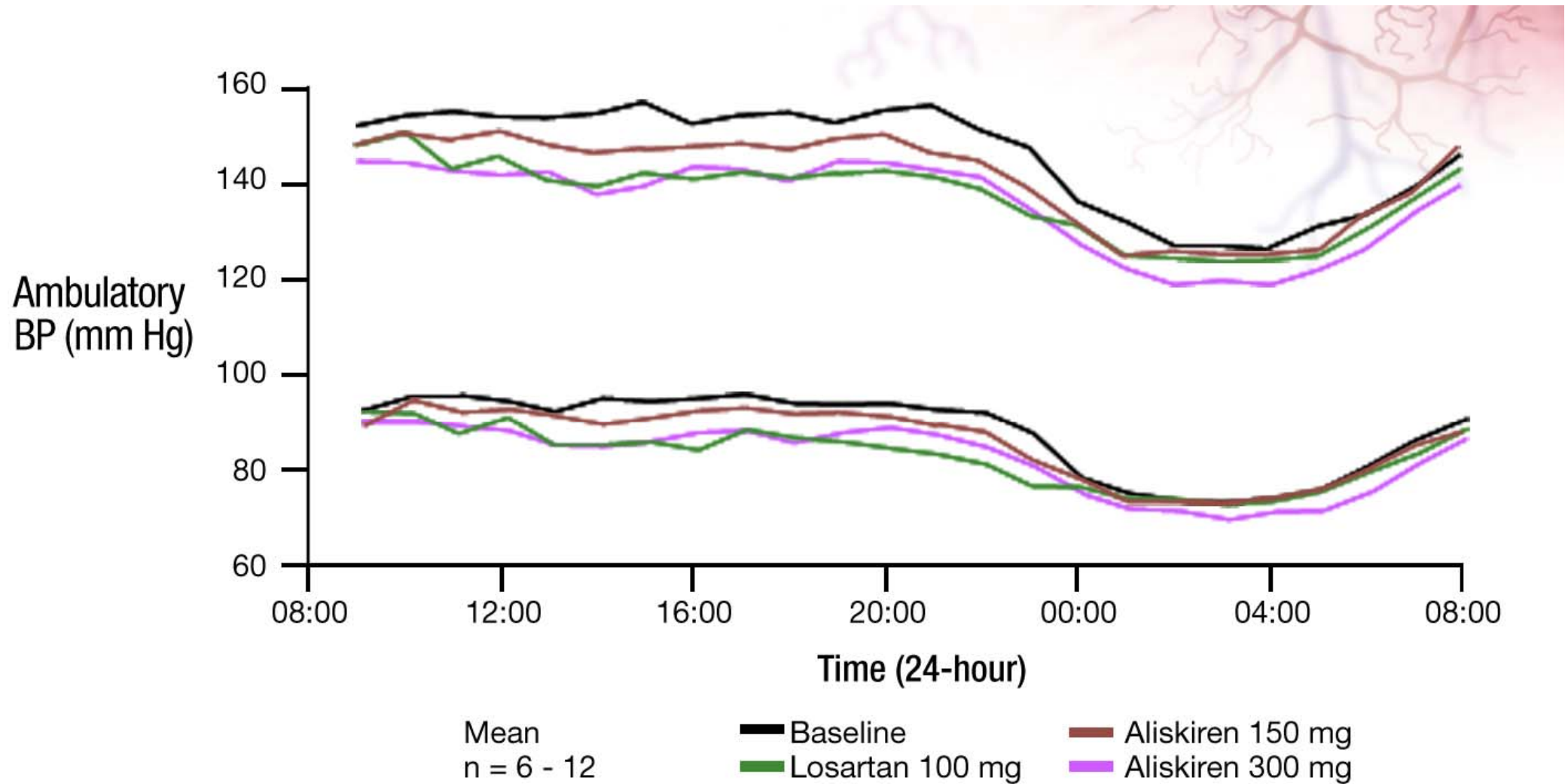


# Diastolic & Systolic BP Reductions: Aliskiren vs Irbesartan



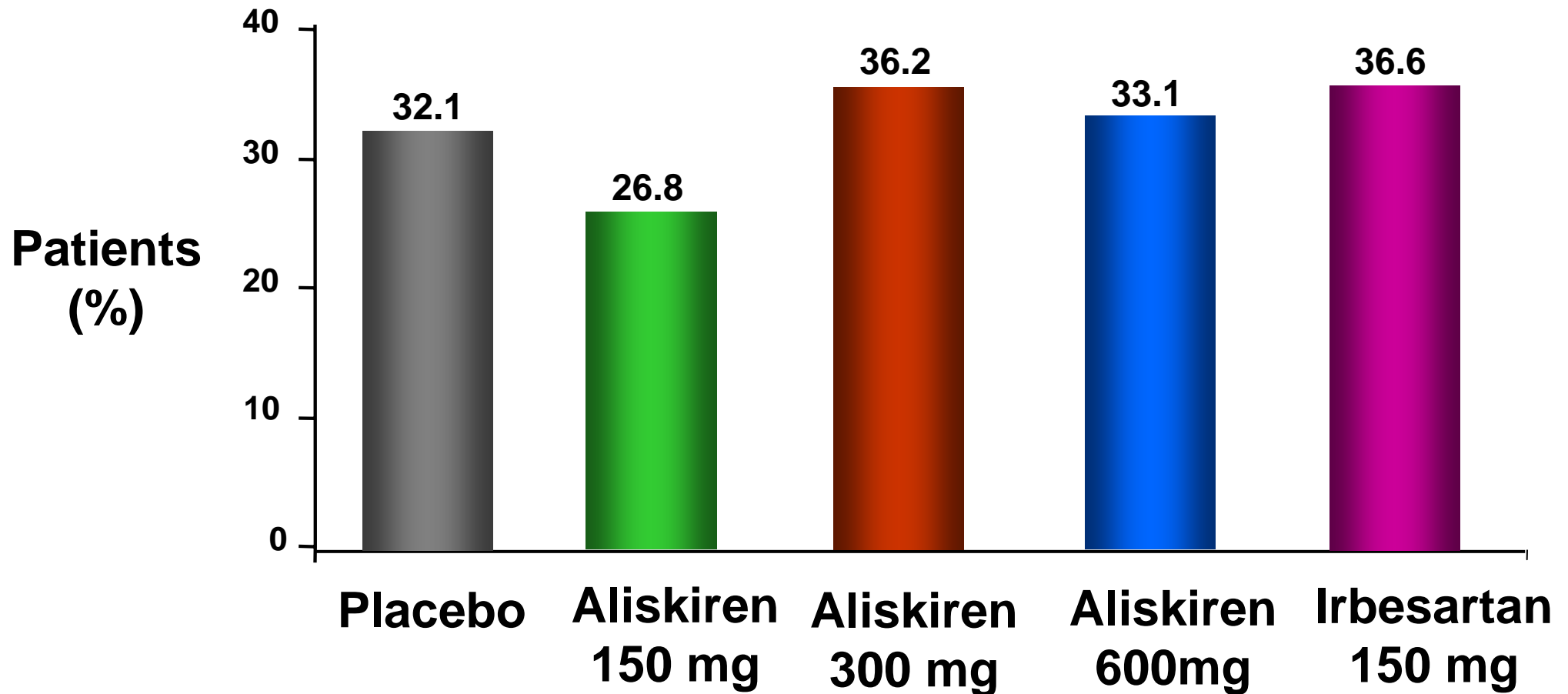
\* $P < 0.05$  vs irbesartan 150 mg.

# 24-hour BP Profiles: Aliskiren vs Losartan

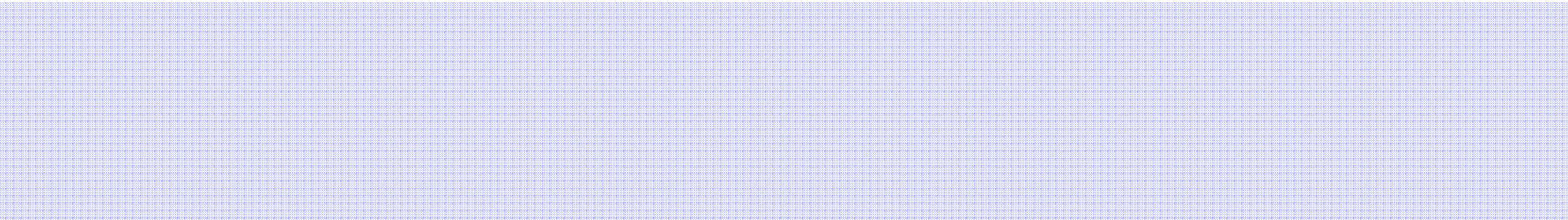


# Safety and Tolerability: Aliskiren vs Irbesartan

## All Adverse Events

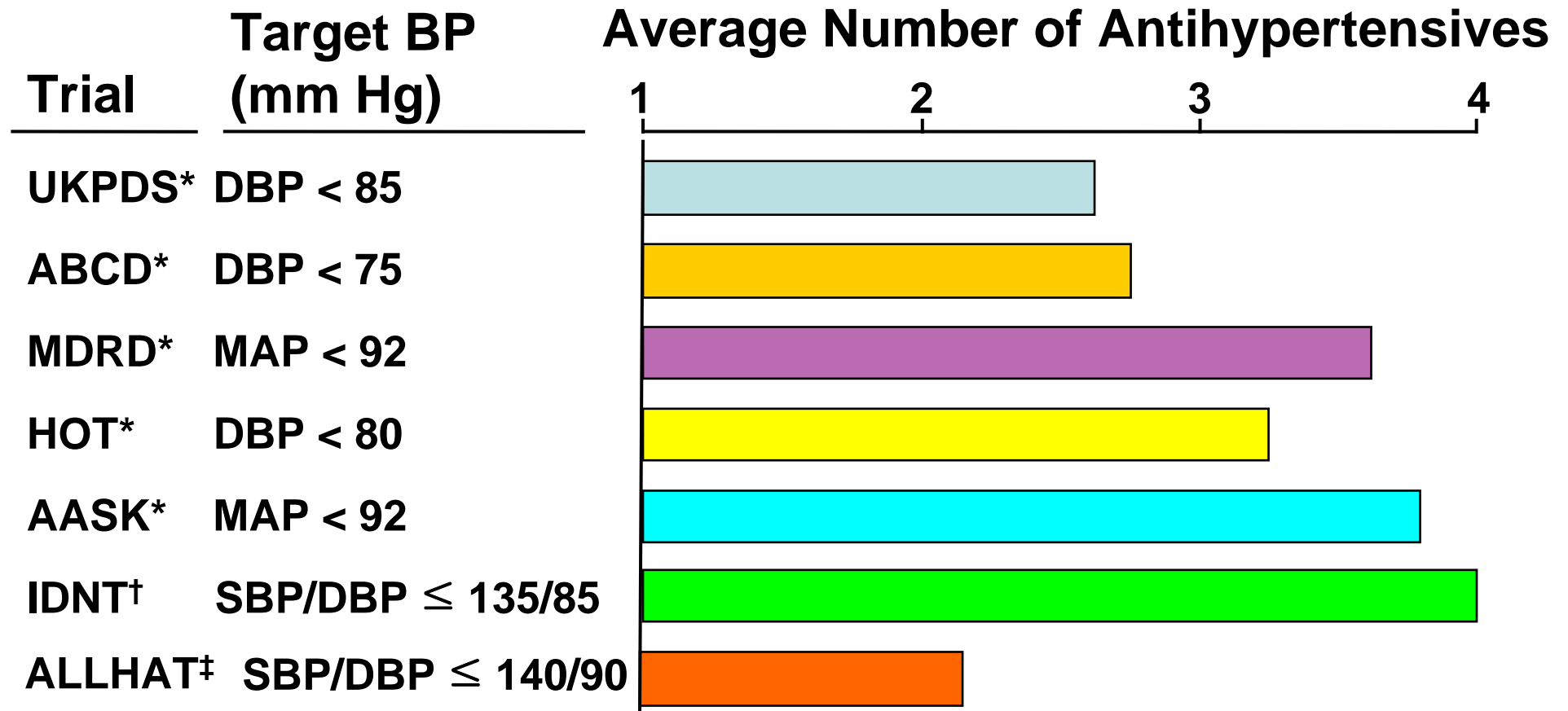






# **Aliskiren as a Combination Therapy in Hypertension**

# Clinical Trials Illustrate a Need for Multiple Antihypertensive Agents

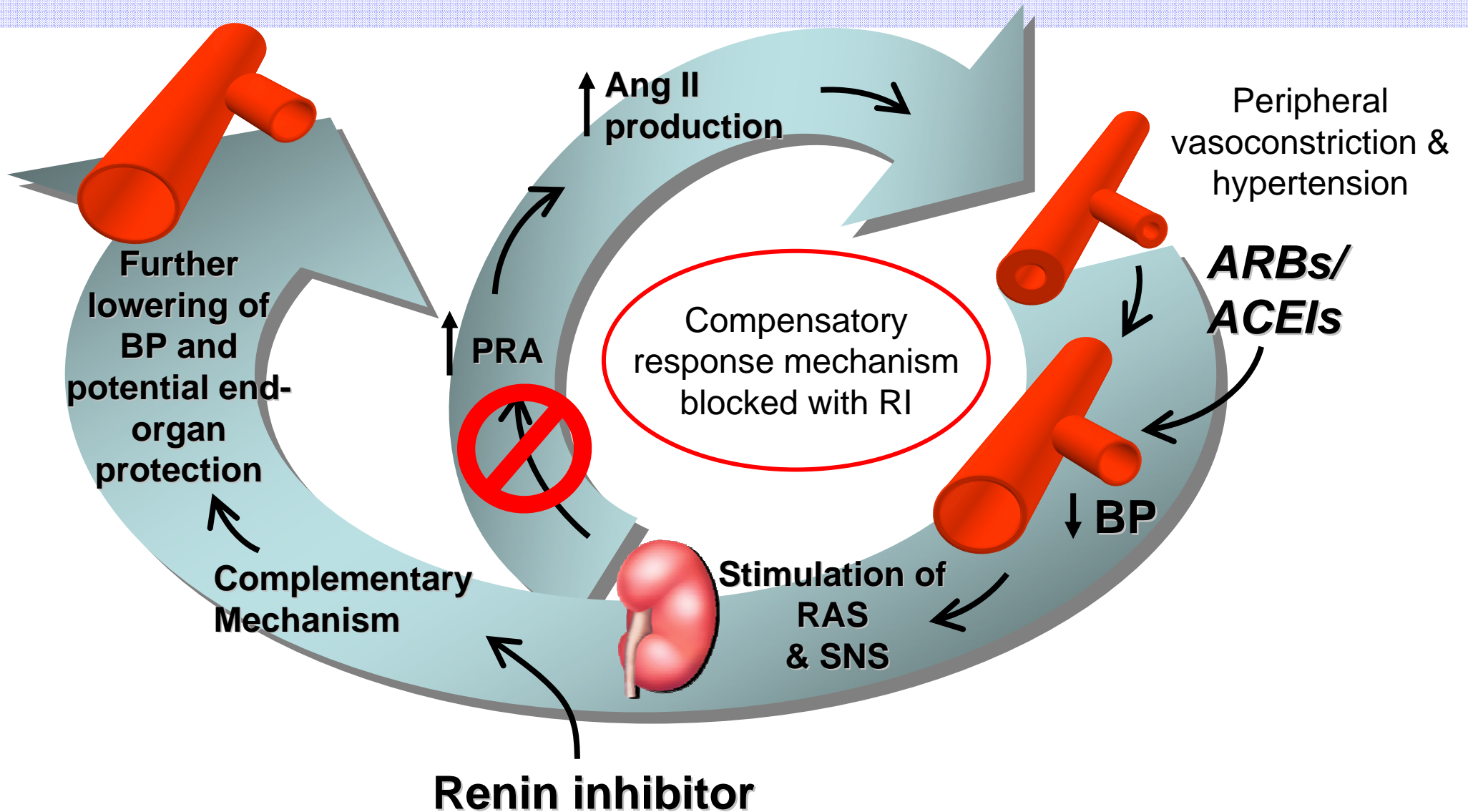


\*Bakris GL et al. *Am J Kidney Dis.* 2000;36:646-661; †Lewis EJ et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2001;345:851-860. ‡Cushman WC et al. *J Clin Hypertens.* 2002;4:393-404.

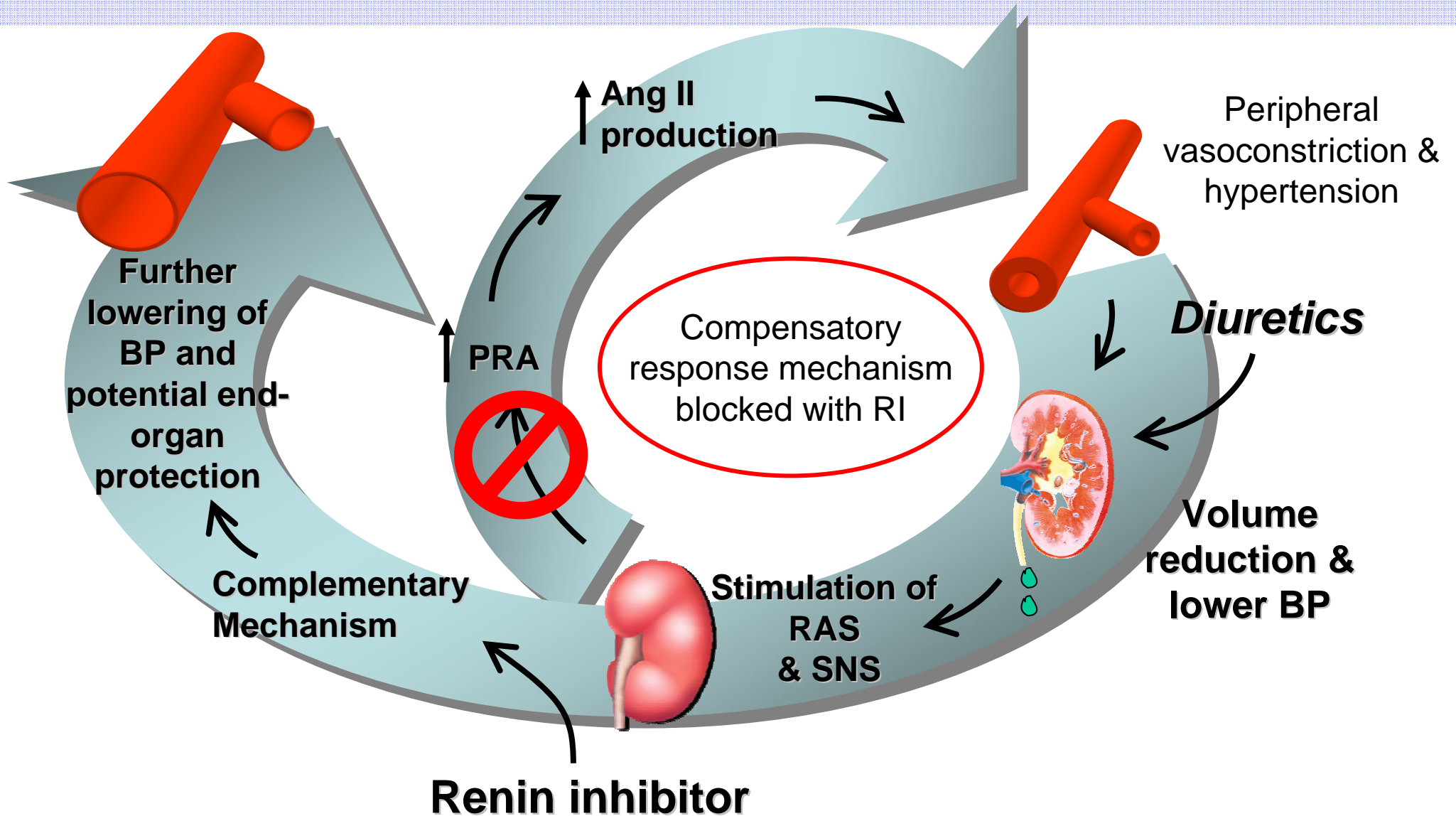
## Best Combinations Offer.....

- Long durations of action
- Complementary mechanisms of action
- Components with the potential to provide benefits beyond BP reduction
- Reductions in drug-related adverse events

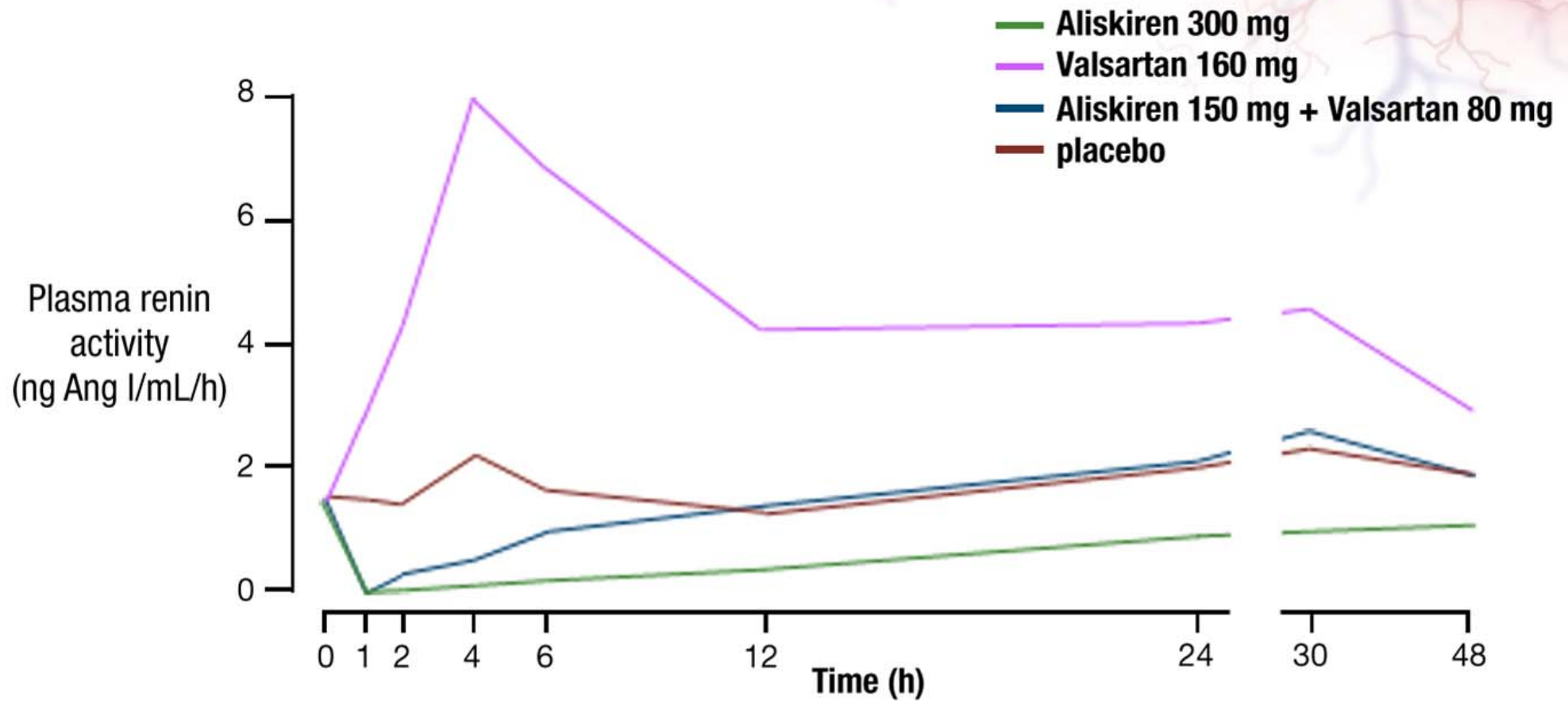
# Rationale for ARB/ACEI + Renin Inhibitor Combinations



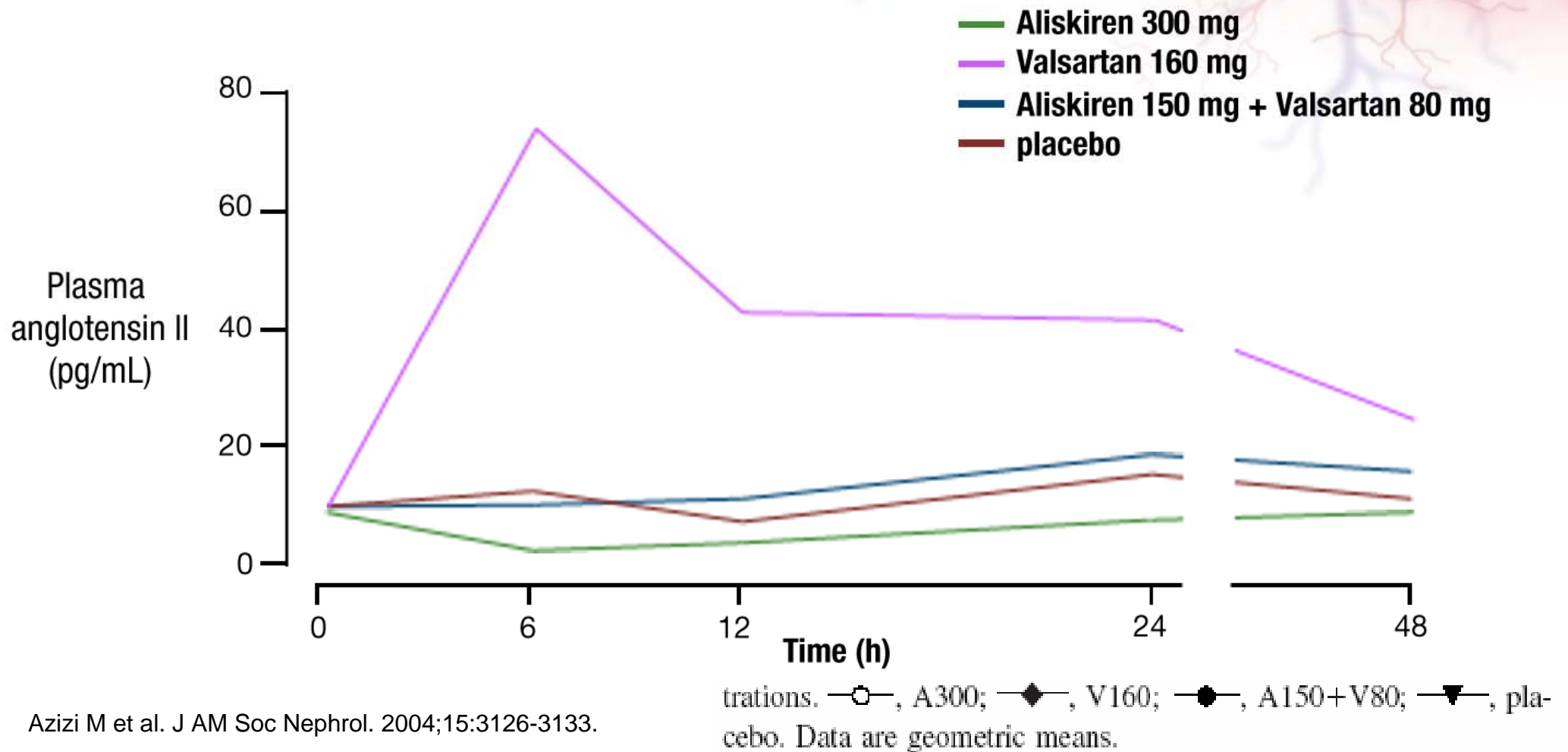
# Rationale for Diuretic + Renin Inhibitor Combinations



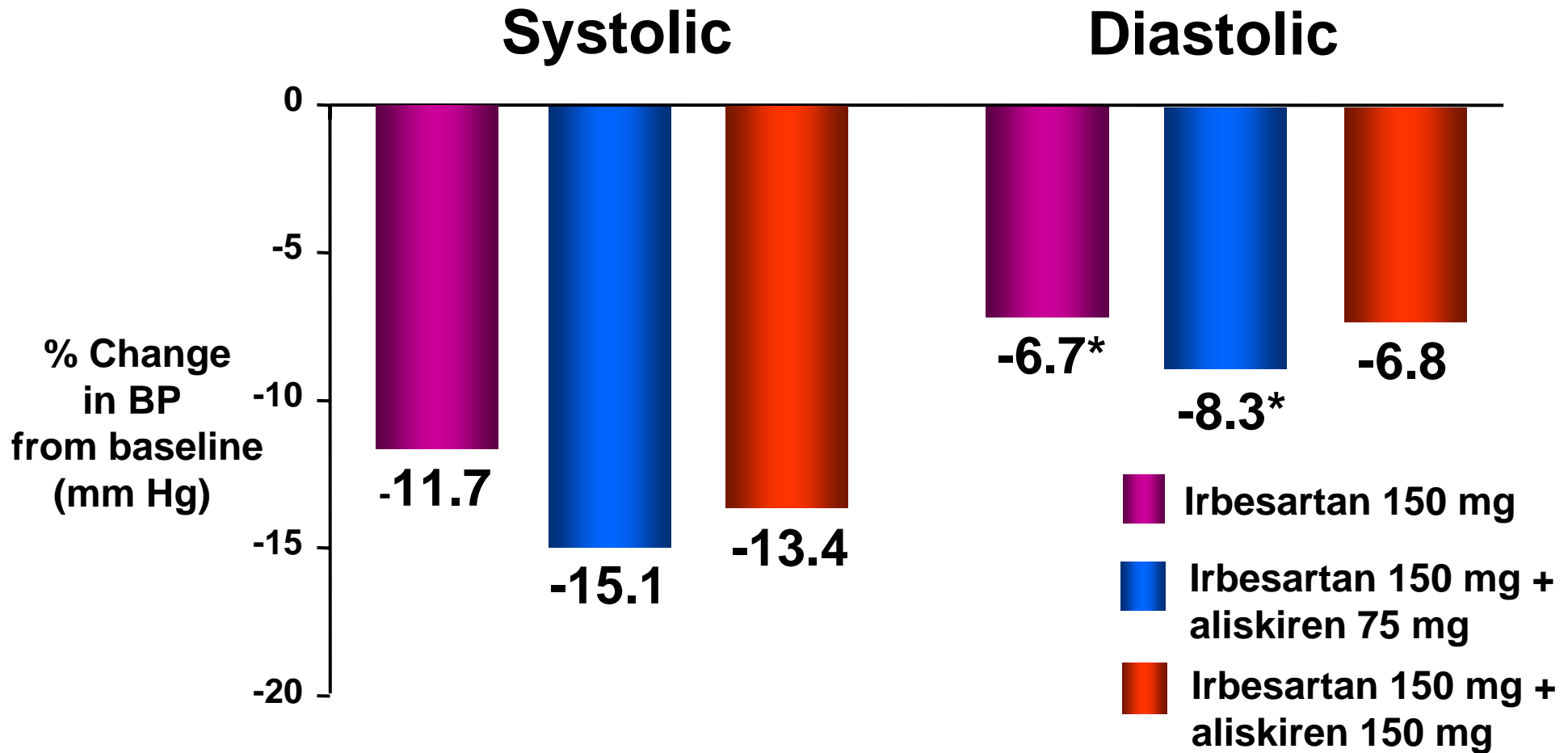
# Effects of Aliskiren + Valsartan on Plasma Renin Activity



# Effects of Aliskiren + Valsartan on Angiotensin II Levels



# Changes in Daytime ABP: With Aliskiren Plus Irbesartan

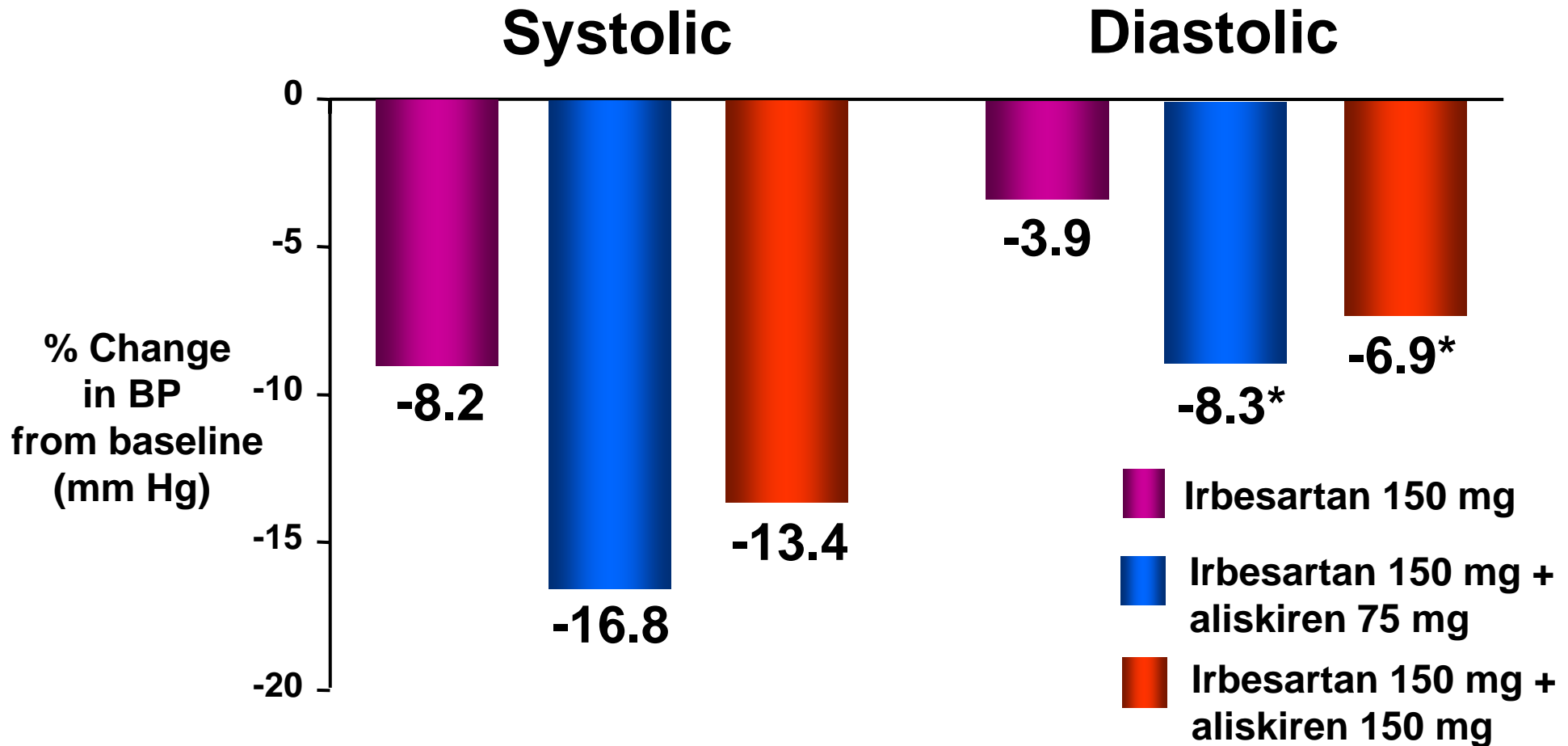


\*P<0.05 compared with irbesartan 150 mg

O'Brien et al. Presented at American Heart Association Scientific Sessions 2005. Poster # 2224.



# Changes in Nighttime ABP: With Aliskiren Plus Irbesartan



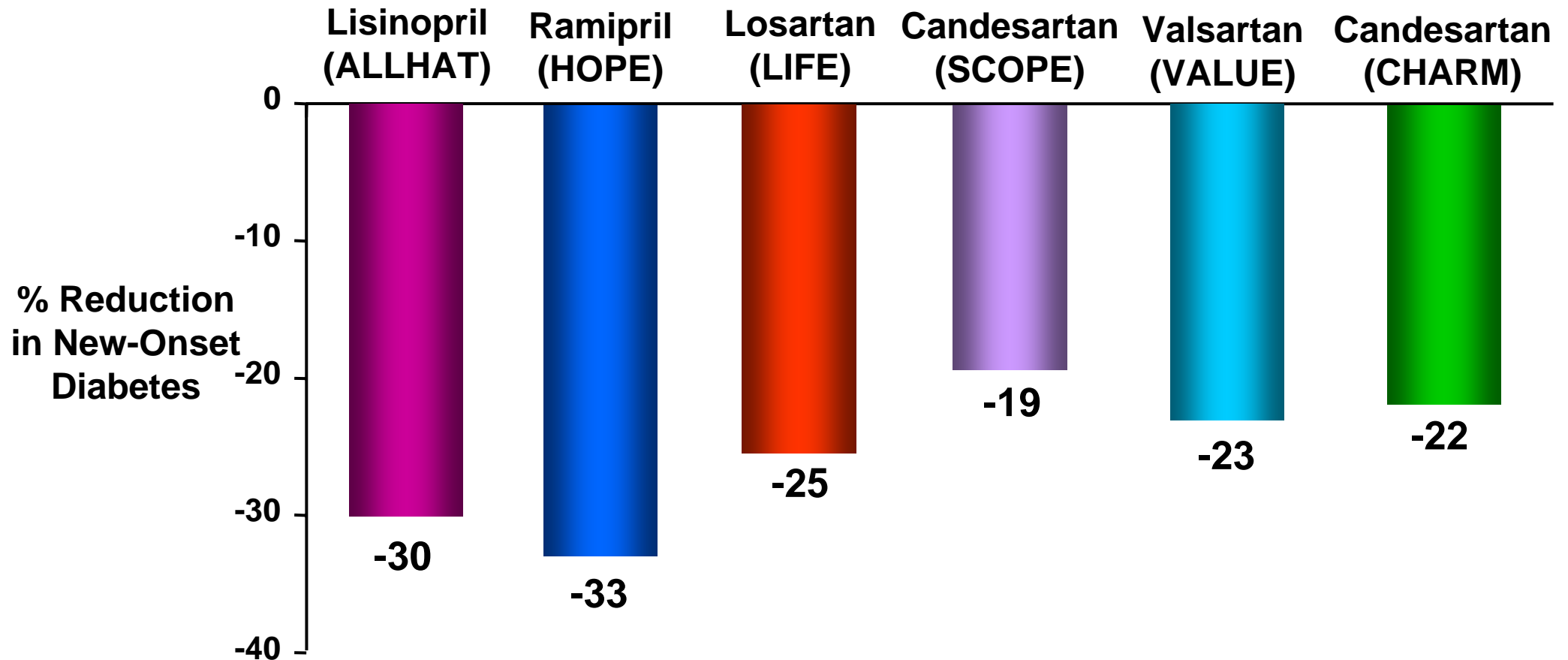
\*P<0.05 compared with irbesartan 150 mg

O'Brien et al. Presented at American Heart Association Scientific Sessions 2005. Poster # 2224.



**Benefits of Aliskiren**  
**Incremental to BP lowering**

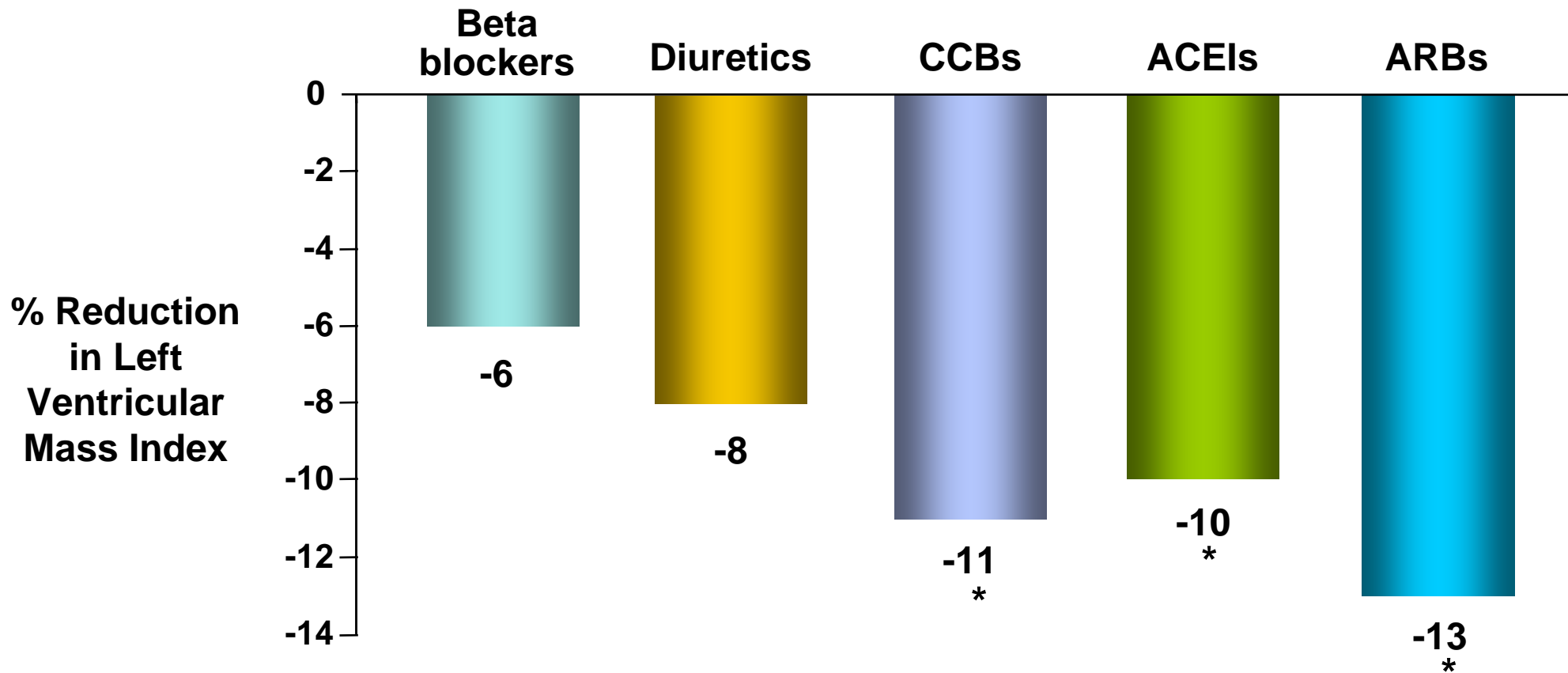
# Reduction of New-Onset Diabetes With RAS Blockade



ALLHAT Officers and Collaborators. *JAMA*. 2002;288:2981-2997. Yusuf S et al. *JAMA*. 2001;286:1882-1885. Dahlöf B et al. *Lancet*. 2002;359:995-1003. Lithell H et al. *J Hypertens*. 2003;21:875-886. Julius S et al. *Lancet*. 2004;363:2022-2031. Pfeffer MA et al. *Lancet*. 2003;362:759-766.

# Regression of Left Ventricular Hypertrophy

Meta-Analysis of 80 Studies Involving  
3767 Patients With Equivalent Blood Pressure Lowering



\* $P < 0.05$  vs beta-blockers.

Klingbeil AU et al. *Am J Med.* 2003;115:41-46.

# JNC 7: Compelling Indications for Specific Antihypertensive Agents

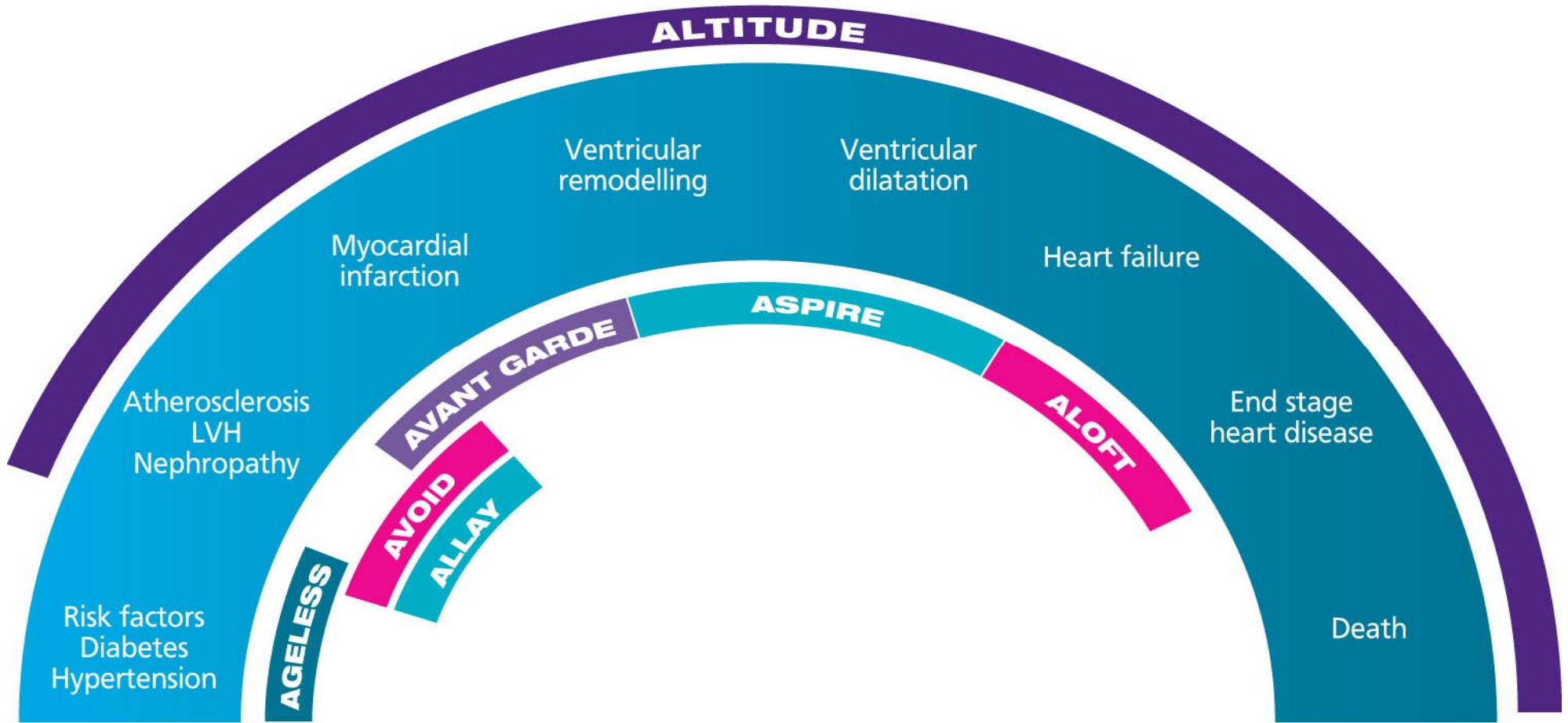
Based on Favorable Outcome Data From Clinical Trials

	Diuretic	BB	ACEI	ARB	CCB	AA
CHF	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Post-MI		✓	✓	✓		✓
CAD risk	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Diabetes mellitus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Renal disease			✓	✓		
Recurrent stroke prevention	✓		✓			

Adapted from Chobanian AV et al. *Hypertension*. 2003;42:1206-1252.

Valsartan prescribing information. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; 2005.

# ASPIRE HIGHER: a morbidity and mortality trial programme for aliskiren



m1

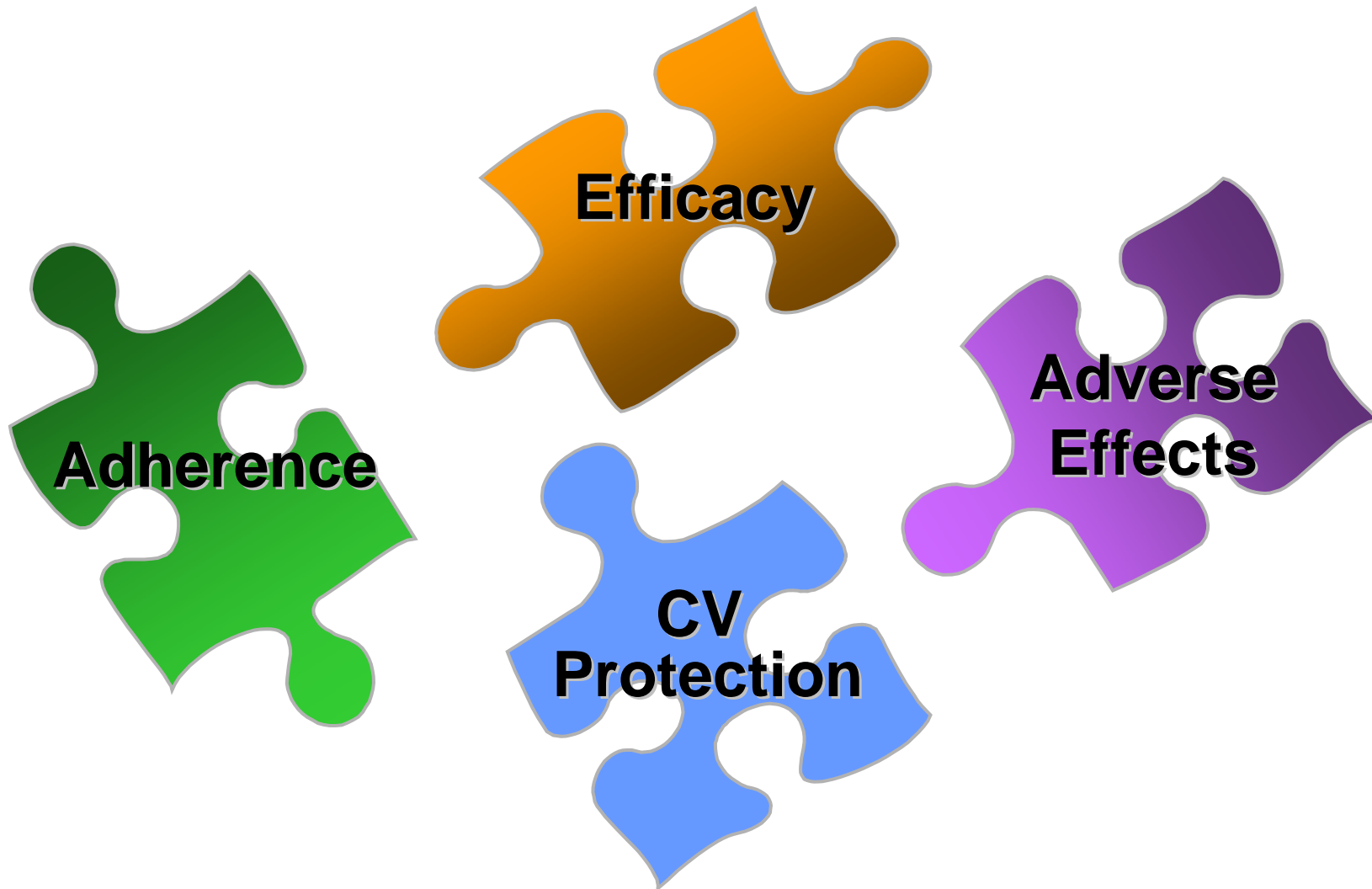
Phil: please can you provide updated version (AVIATOR should be deleted)  
marmont\_n, 2007-03-12

# Summary

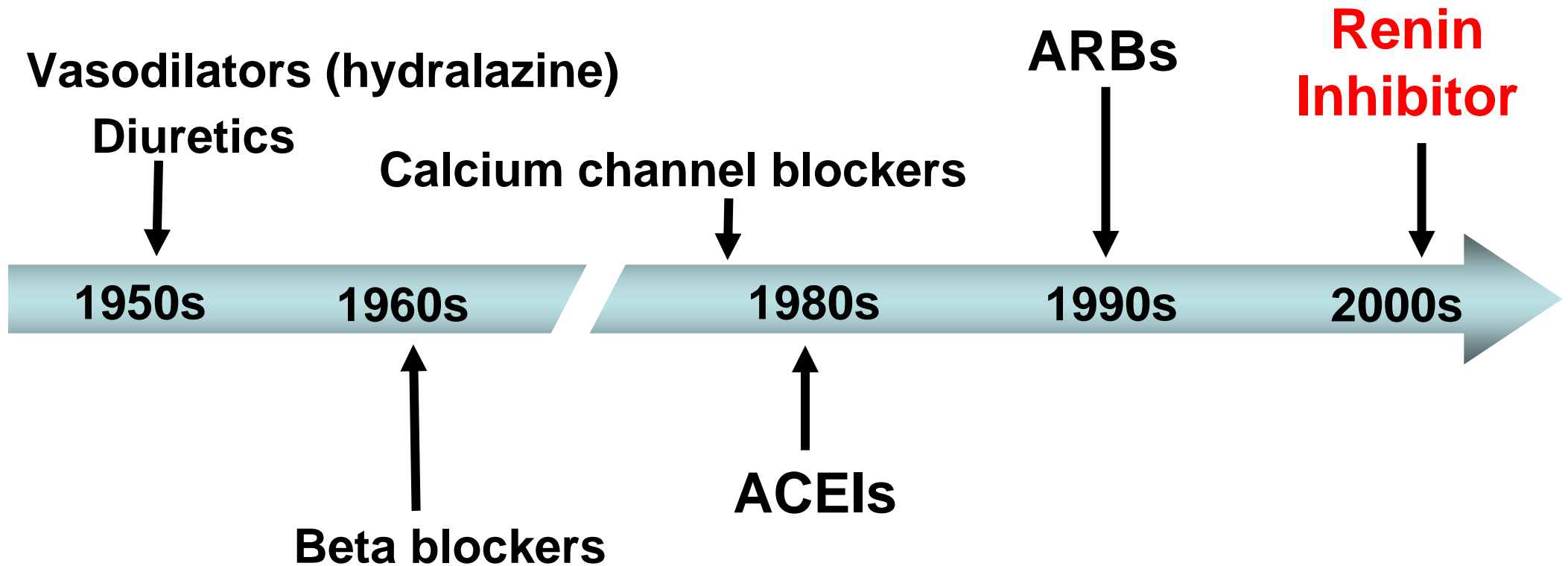
- **Direct renin inhibition with aliskiren suppresses the entire renin-angiotensin system, providing effective BP lowering and the potential for organ protection**



# Multiple Factors for the Choice of Pharmacotherapy



# Antihypertensive Therapies Have Evolved Over the Past 50 Years



# Aliskiren profiling programme

## Ongoing intermediate clinical endpoint studies



- Diabetic Nephropathy
- Aliskiren vs Placebo in addition to Losartan 100mg
- UACR Endpoint
- FIR May 2007
- Publication planned in ACC / AHA / EASD

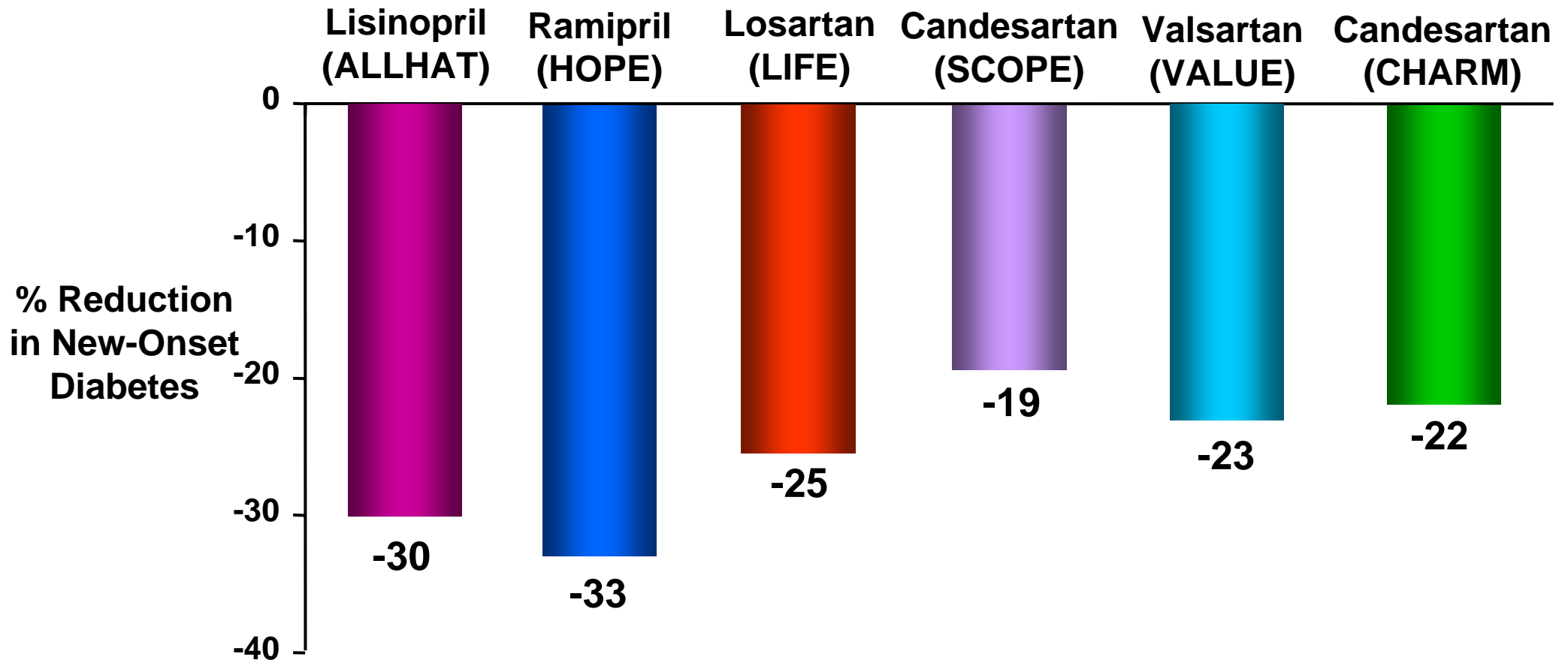


- Heart Failure
- Aliskiren vs Placebo on top of standard HF therapy
- Safety and Tolerability Endpoint
- FIR May 2007
- Publication planned in ACC / AHA



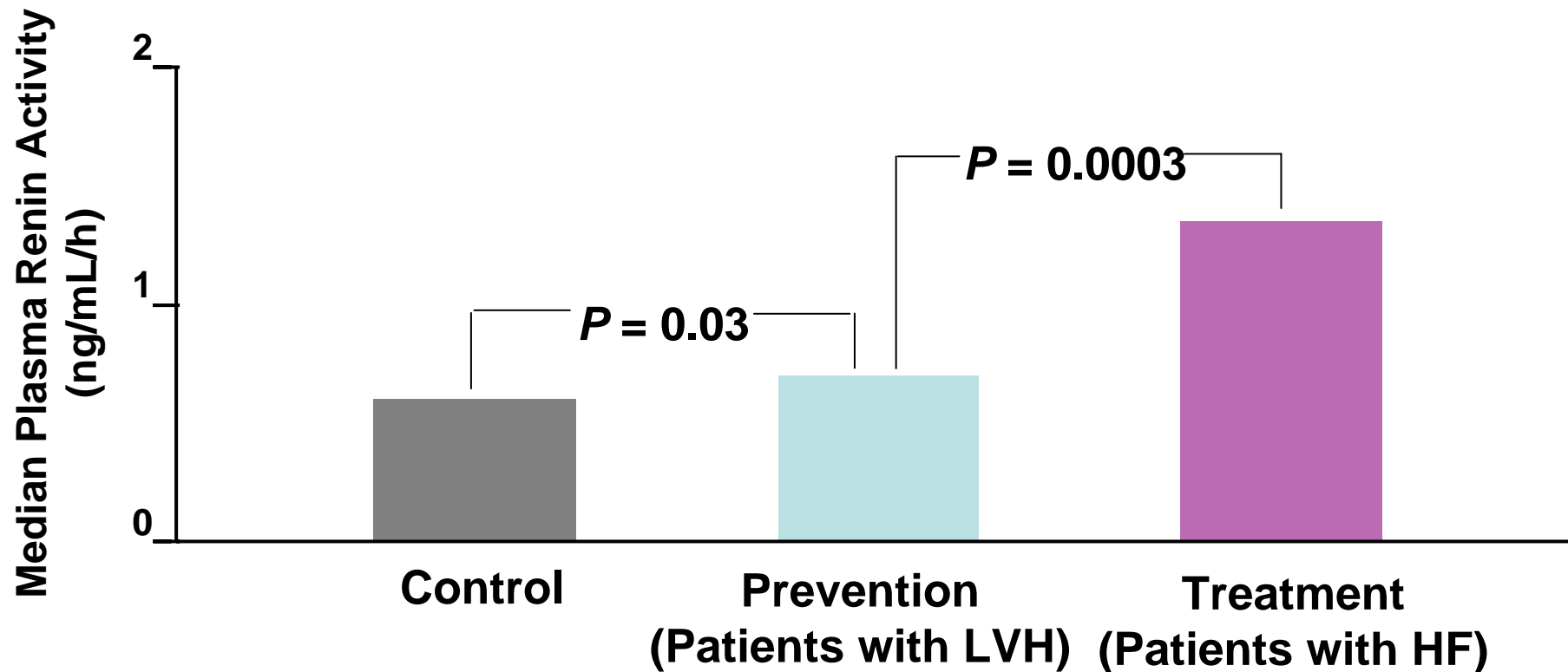
- LVH
- Aliskiren vs Losartan vs Combination
- LVH Regression Endpoint
- FIR December 2007
- Publication planned in ESC

# Reduction of New-Onset Diabetes With RAS Blockade



ALLHAT Officers and Collaborators. *JAMA*. 2002;288:2981-2997. Yusuf S et al. *JAMA*. 2001;286:1882-1885. Dahlöf B et al. *Lancet*. 2002;359:995-1003. Lithell H et al. *J Hypertens*. 2003;21:875-886. Julius S et al. *Lancet*. 2004;363:2022-2031. Pfeffer MA et al. *Lancet*. 2003;362:759-766.

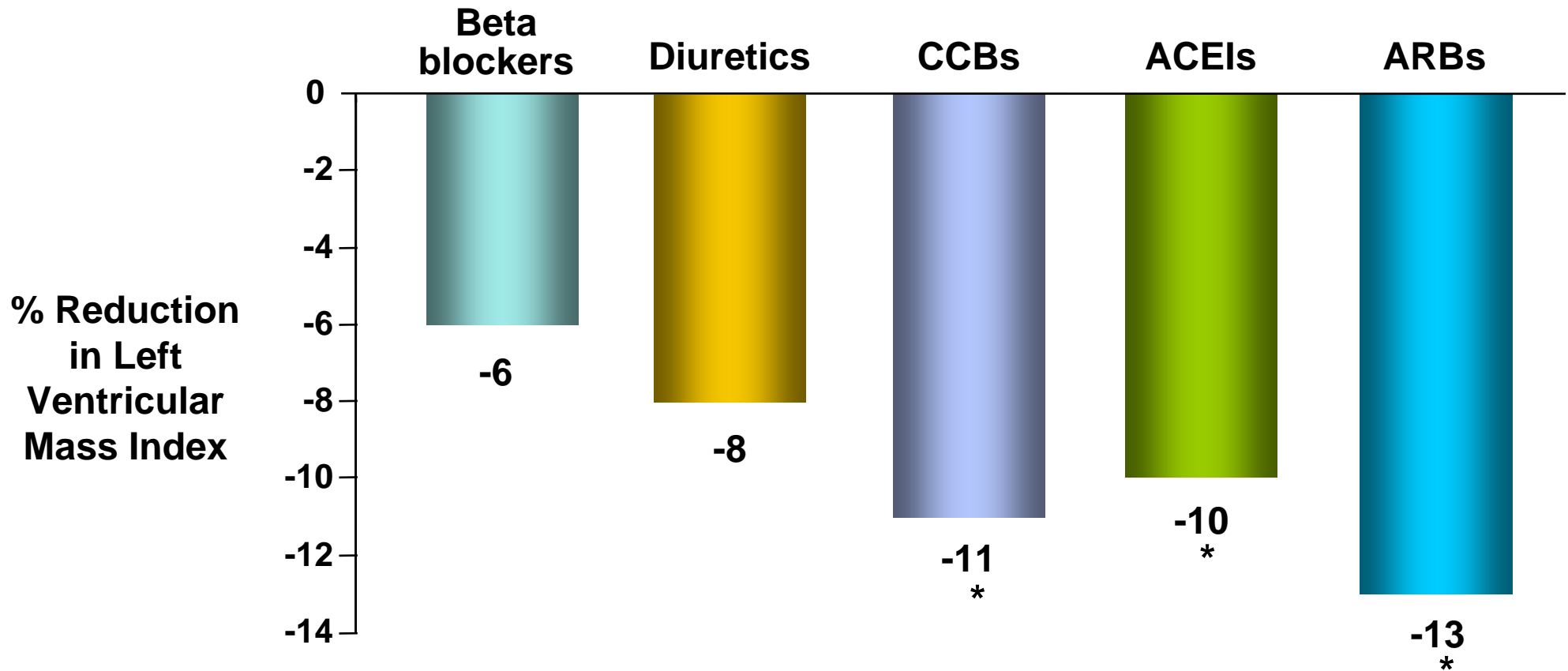
# Patients with LV Dysfunction ± CHF Have Increased PRA Levels



Adapted from Francis GS et al. *Circulation*. 1990;82:1724-1729.

# Regression of Left Ventricular Hypertrophy

Meta-Analysis of 80 Studies Involving 3767 Patients With Equivalent Blood Pressure Lowering



\* $P < 0.05$  vs beta-blockers.

Klingbeil AU et al. *Am J Med.* 2003;115:41-46.

# Recent Study Shows High PRA Predicts MI in Both Controlled and Uncontrolled Hypertensive Patients

- An increase of 2 ng/mL/h in plasma renin levels was associated with a 23% increase in MI and revascularization procedures after controlling for other variables
- Men with high plasma renin levels had twice the risk of MI or a revascularization procedure versus those with lower renin rates, even though BP was treated successfully

Hailpern SM et al. Presented at ASH 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting and Exposition; Oral Abstract 3. May 15, 2005.

# Can RIs Be More Effective Than Other RAS Inhibitors in Reducing End-organ Damage?

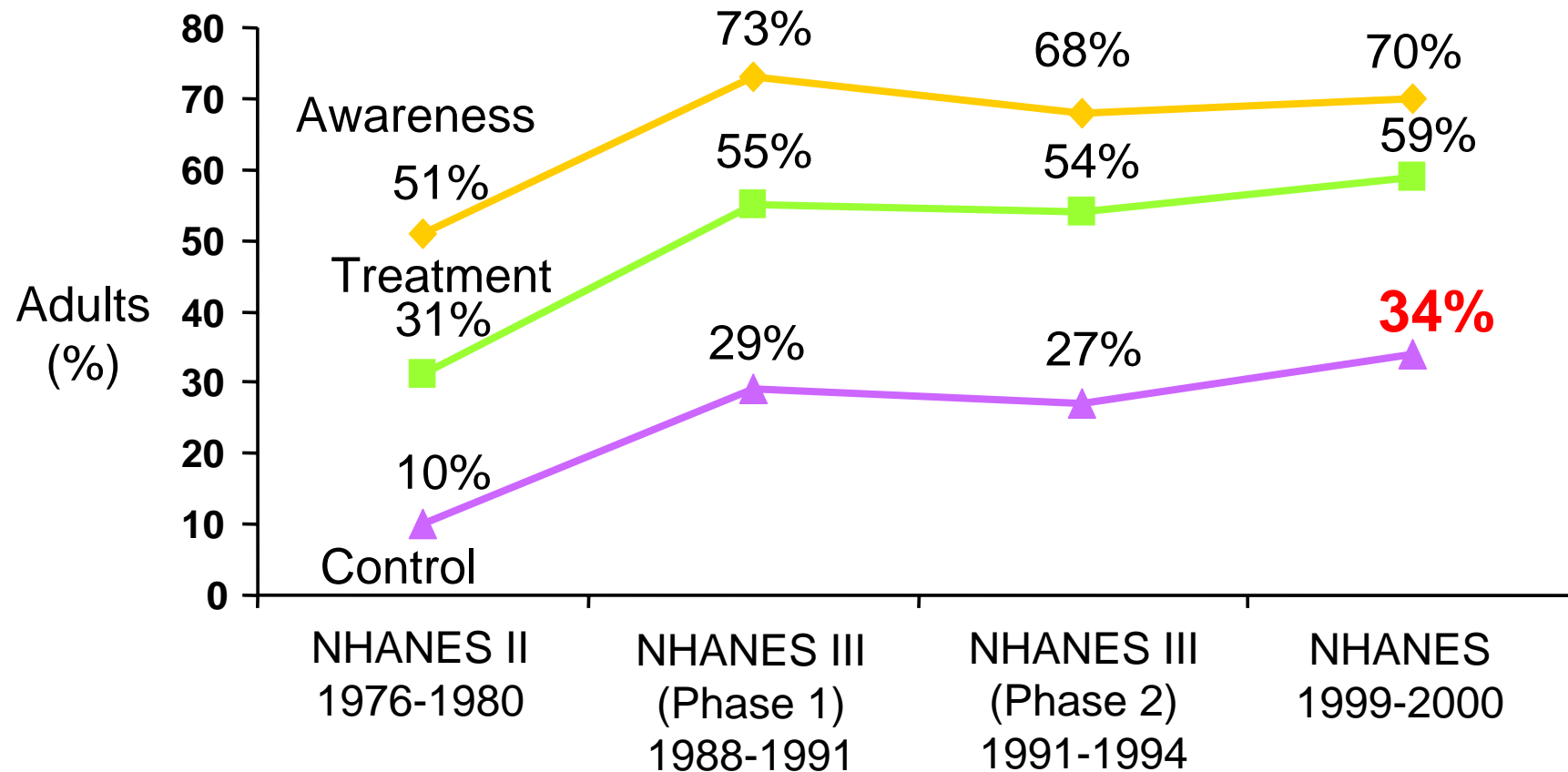
- Early studies indicate RIs are very effective for reducing blood pressure
- Reducing target end-organ damage
  - The organ-protective benefits of ACEIs and ARBs might be synergistically enhanced by addressing the incomplete RAS suppression/compensatory feedback loop associated with these agents
- More proximal blockade may prove to be important in limiting changes in structure and function of vascular beds and target organs and limit long-term injury



# Conclusions

- Getting BP to below 140/90 mm Hg as quickly as possible is a priority for maintaining excellent CV health
  - Using a RAS blocker may provide additional protective benefits
- Proximal RAS blockade with renin inhibitors may provide more opportunistic chances in controlling BP and reducing CV events
- Combining a renin inhibitor with other RAS modulators may provide incremental BP-lowering effects

# Despite Increasing Treatment, 2/3 of Patients are Still Uncontrolled



NHANES = National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Adapted from Chobanian AV et al. *JAMA*. 2003;289:2560-2572; Hajjar I, Kotchen TA. *JAMA*. 2003;290:199-206.

# Summary

- Optimal Renin System suppression
  - aliskiren inhibits all key Renin System components alone and in combination
- Highly effective as monotherapy
  - aliskiren monotherapy has demonstrated robust BP reductions
- Strength in combination therapy
  - adding aliskiren provides an additional 30–50% reduction in BP
- Smooth, sustained BP control **beyond** 24 hours
  - due to 40-hour half-life
  - BP reductions return gradually to baseline after stopping aliskiren treatment
- Safety and tolerability
  - placebo-like, low potential for DDIs, no dosage adjustments required
- Organ protection potential
  - proven in preclinical data; clinical studies underway