

# DM and Triple Vessel Disease; Old Evidence and Next New Trials? **DEFINE-DM** Trial

**Duk-Woo Park, MD**

**Asan Medical Center, Ulsan University College of Medicine,  
Seoul, Korea**

# Disclosure

- Institutional grant/research funding to CardioVascular Research Foundation (CVRF, Korea) and/or Asan Medical Center from Abbott, Boston Scientific, Medtronic, Daiichi-Sankyo, Edwards Lifescience, HK InnoN, Daewoong Pharm, and ChongKunDang Pharm.

# Diabetes and CAD

- Diabetes is a common comorbidity among patients with coronary artery disease (CAD).  
*Circulation 2013;128:1675-1685*  
*Circulation 2015;132:923-931*
- Diabetic patients have a more aggressive form of atherosclerosis and more extensive coronary artery disease.  
*The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology 2013;1:317-328*  
*JACC 2019;73:1629-1632*
- Diabetes is a major determinant of adverse clinical events after myocardial revascularization of PCI or CABG.  
*Circulation 2021;144:1380-95*  
*Circulation 2019;139:2742-53*
- Patients with diabetes have higher risk of ischemic cardiovascular events and mortality than those without diabetes.

# Old Evidence

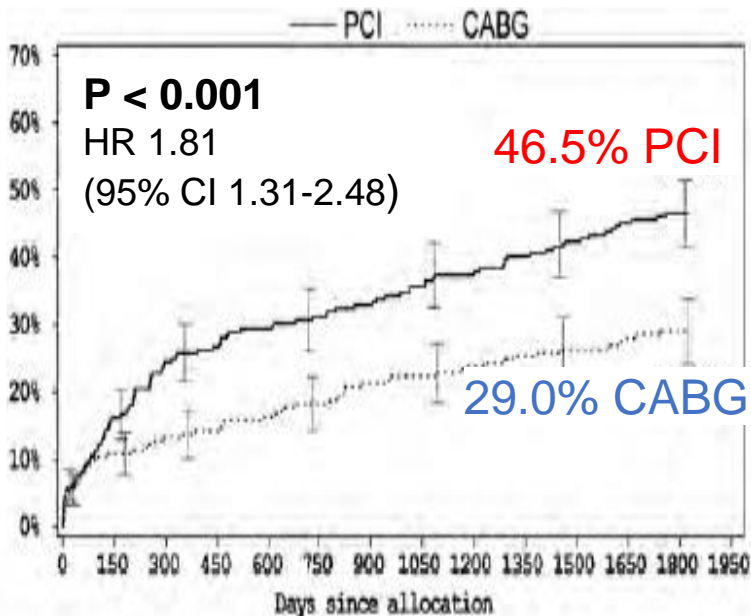
## PCI vs. CABG in DM with Multivessel CAD

# SYNTAX trial DM subgroup analysis

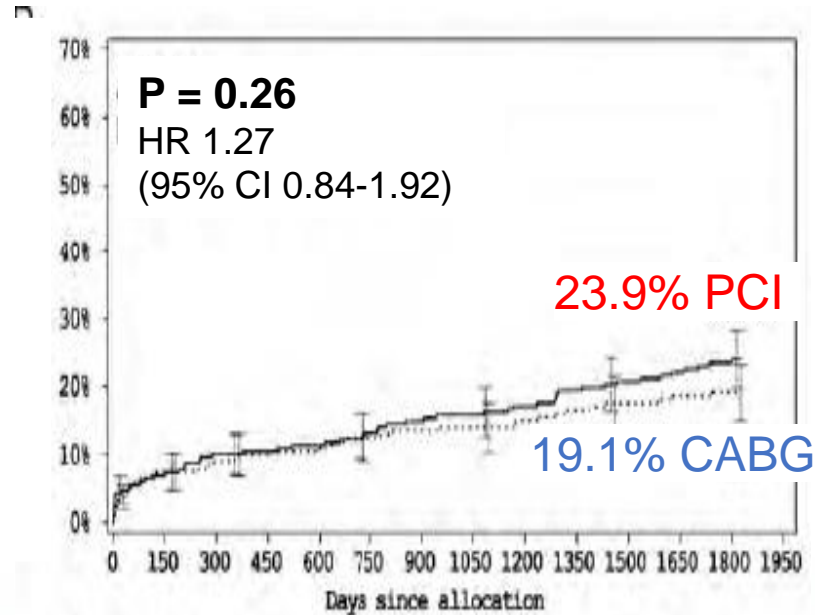
1,800 patients with LM and/or 3VD, 5-year follow-up

452 patients with DM

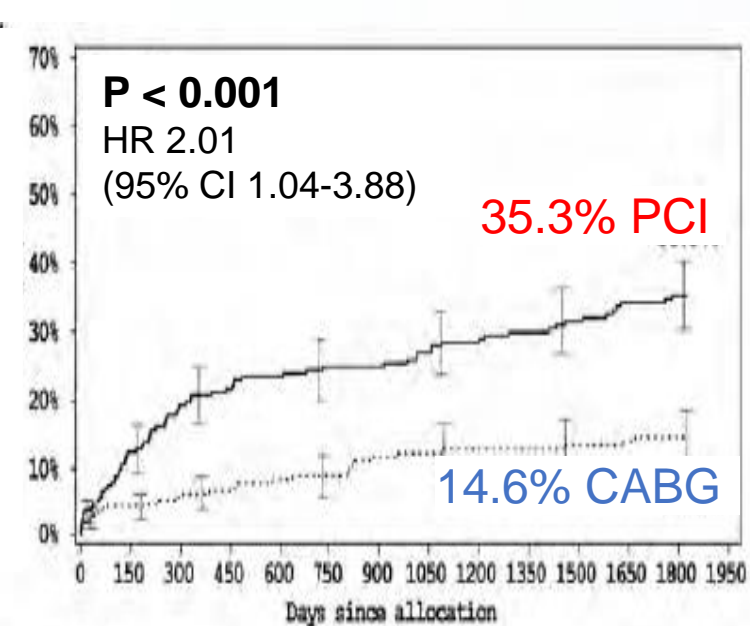
Composite of Death, MI, Stroke, or Repeat Revascularization



Composite of Death, MI, or Stroke



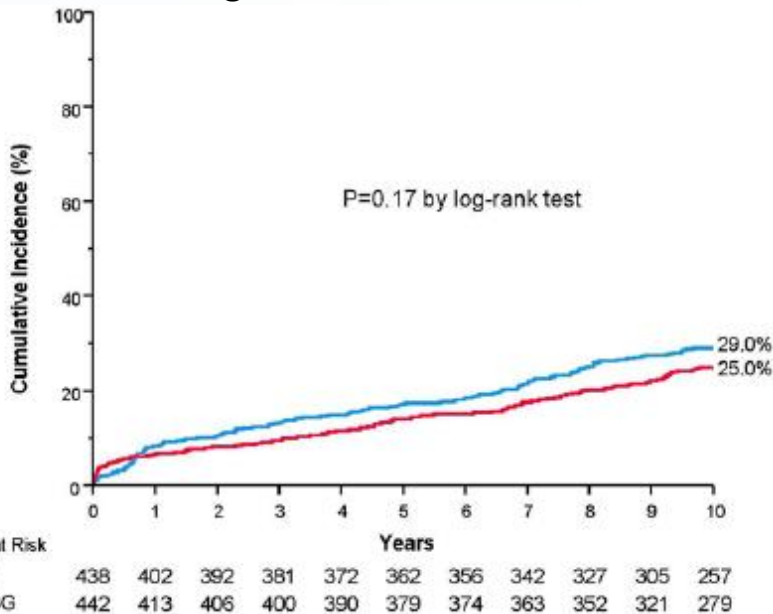
Repeat revascularization



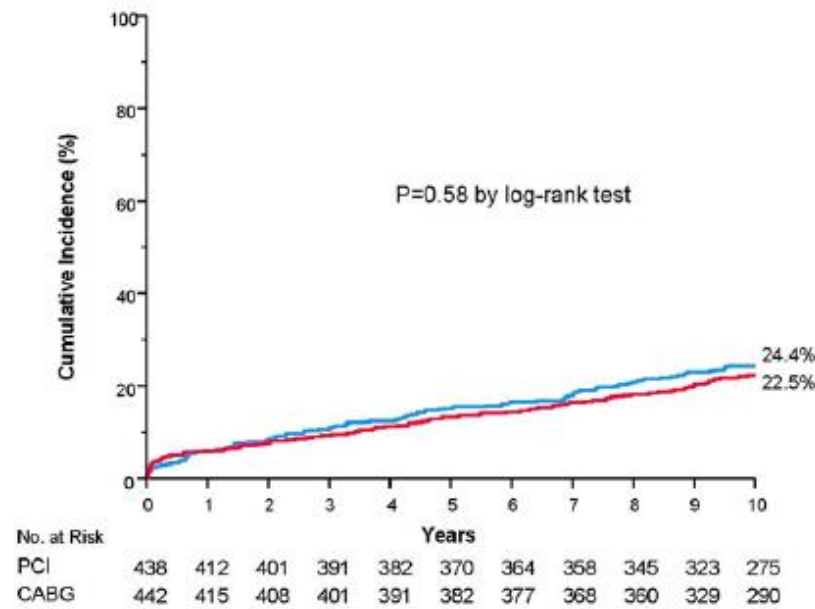
# 10-Yr Follow-up of the BEST Trial

**880 patients with Multivessel CAD, median follow-up of 11.8 years**  
**438 in PCI, 442 in CABG**

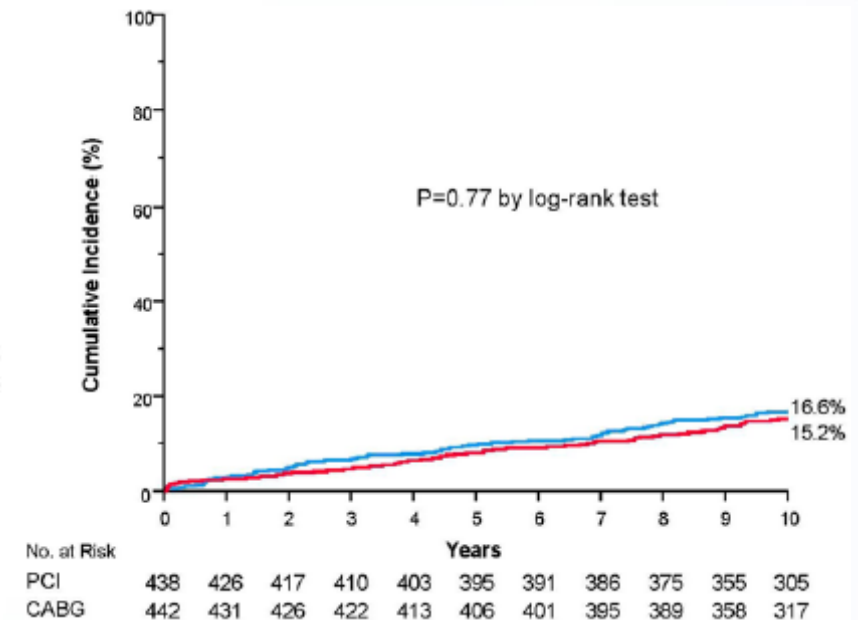
Primary Composite of Death, MI, or Target-vessel revascularization



Death, MI, or Stroke

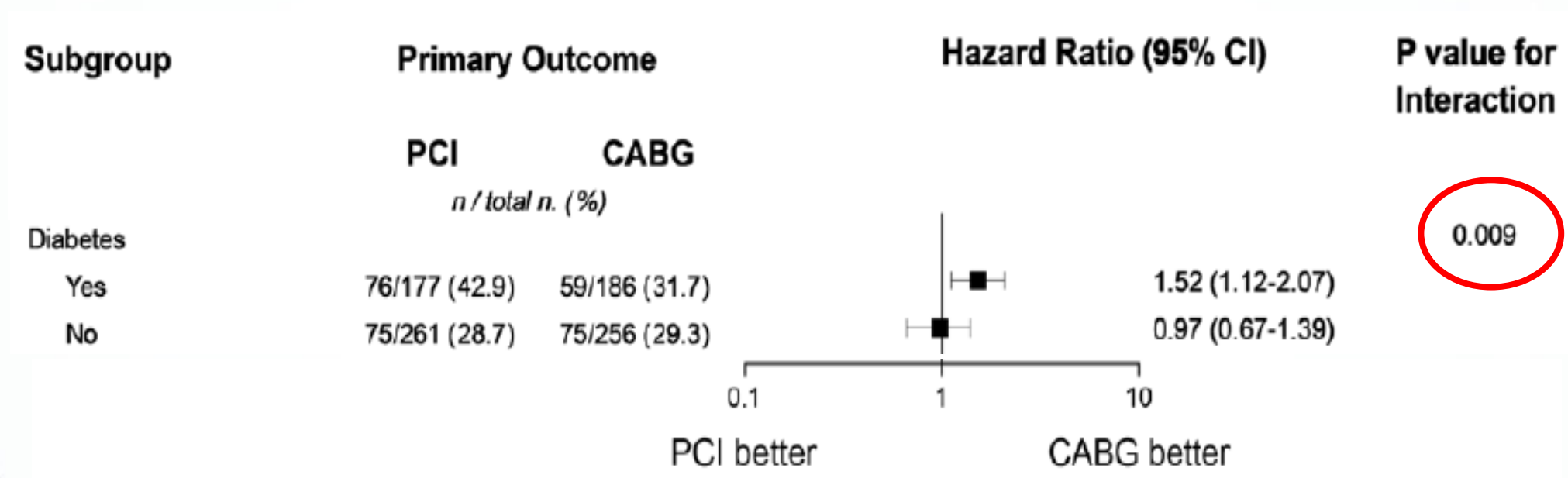


All-Cause Death



# 10-Yr Extended Follow-up of the BEST Trial

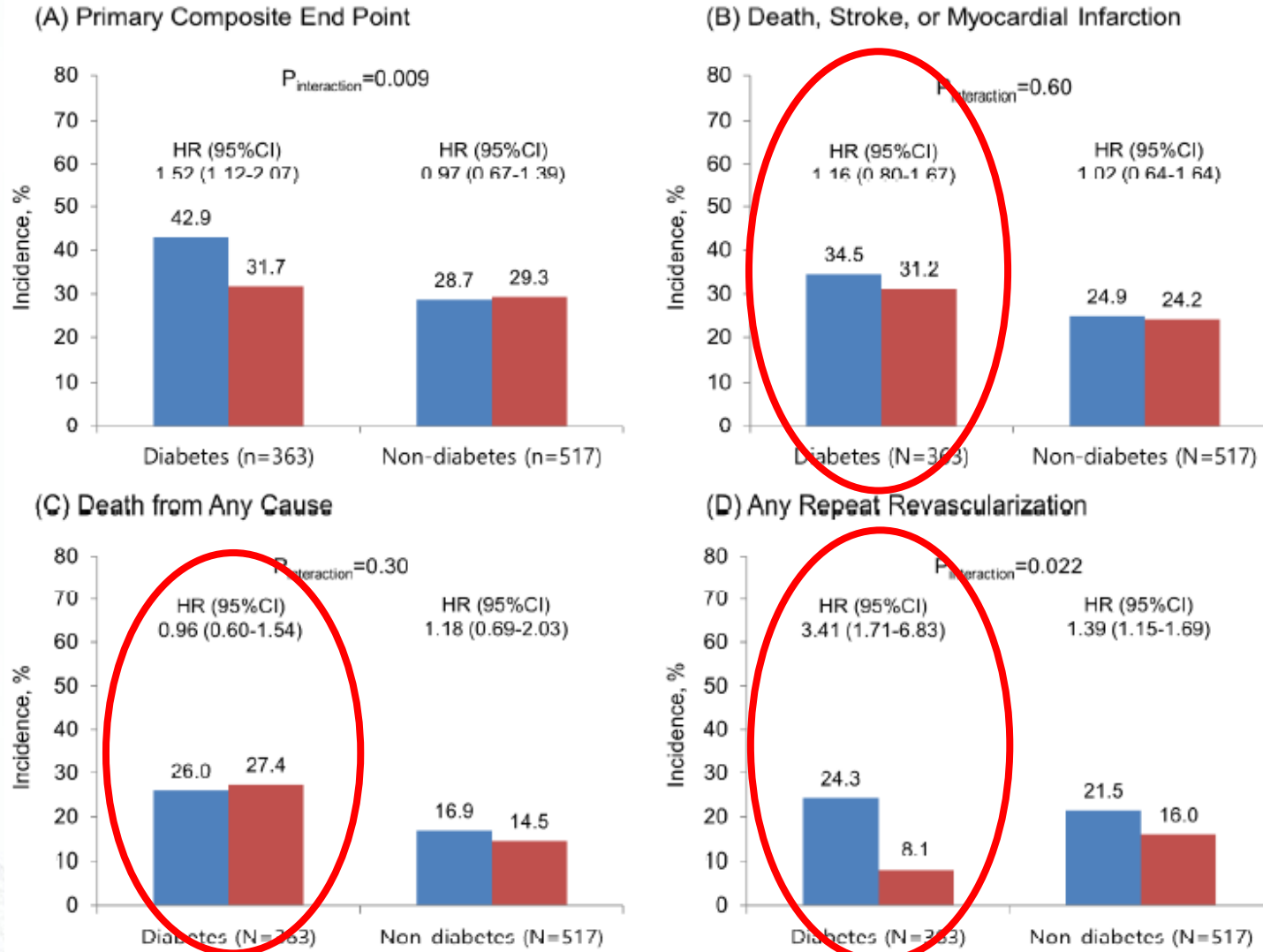
## *DM subgroup analysis*



# Extended follow-up of the BEST Trial

## DM subgroup analysis

■ PCI  
■ CABG



In Diabetic Patients after PCI and CABG,

No difference for composite of death, stroke, or MI

No difference for all-cause mortality

Only difference for repeat revascularization



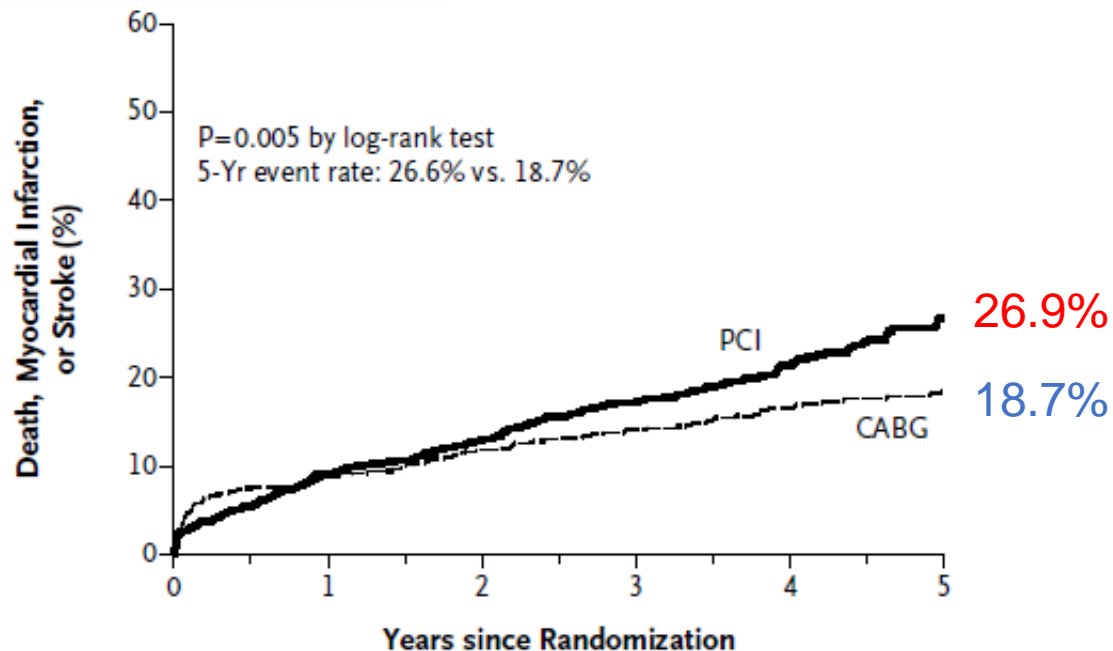
**Landmark RCTs  
Specifically Targeting  
Patients with DM and multivessel CAD:**

**FREEDOM Trial  
BARI-2D Trial**

# FREEDOM trial

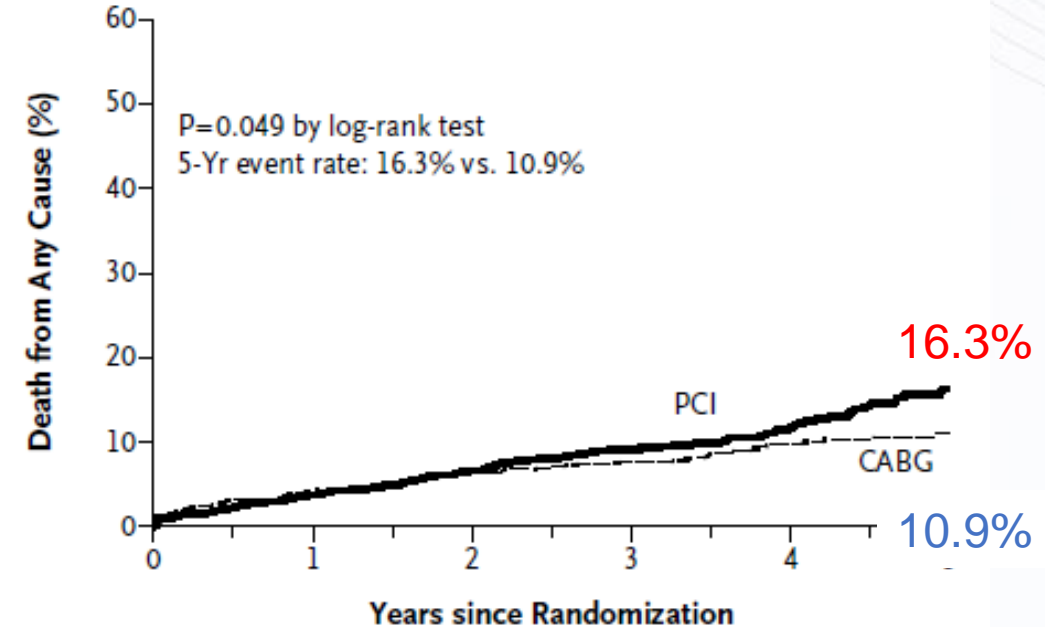
**1,900 patients with DM and Multivessel CAD, 5-year follow-up**  
**953 in PCI, 947 in CABG**

## Primary Composite of Death, MI, or Stroke



No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5
PCI	953	848	788	625	416	219
CABG	947	814	758	613	422	221

## Death from Any Cause

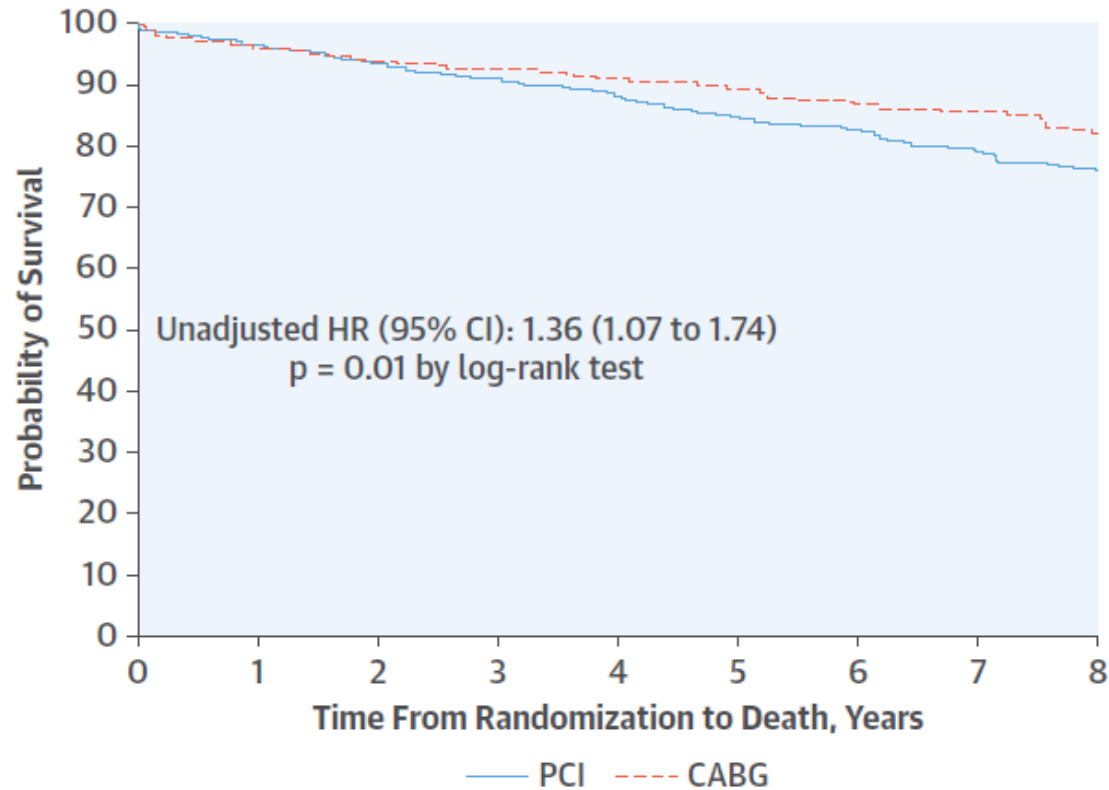


No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5
PCI	953	897	845	685	466	243
CABG	947	855	806	655	449	238

# FREEDOM Follow-On Study

**1,900 patients with DM and Multivessel CAD**  
**Median follow-up of 7.5 years (up to 13.2 years)**

## Free from All-Cause Death



## All-cause mortality

- PCI 24.3%
  - CABG 18.3%
- (HR 1.36; P = 0.01)

Number of patients at risk

PCI	953	897	845	745	611	460	333	260	206
CABG	947	854	807	721	589	445	313	252	191

# BARI 2D trial

**2,368 patients with type 2 DM and CAD, mean follow-up of 5.3 years**

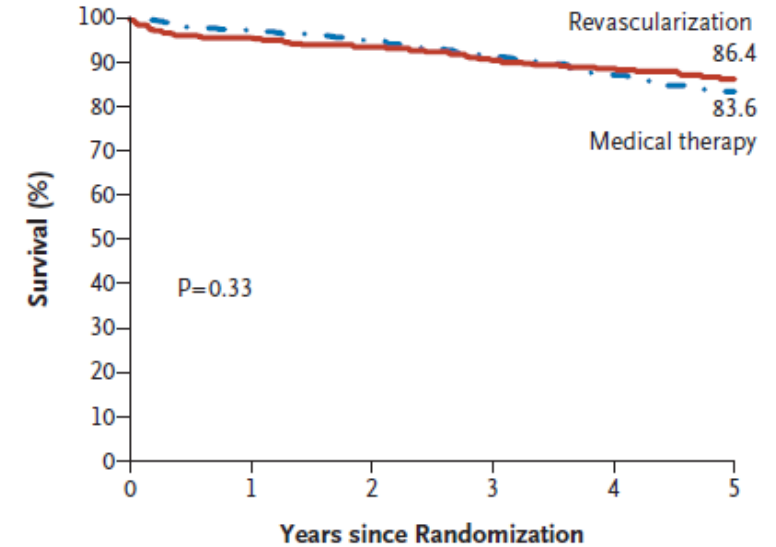
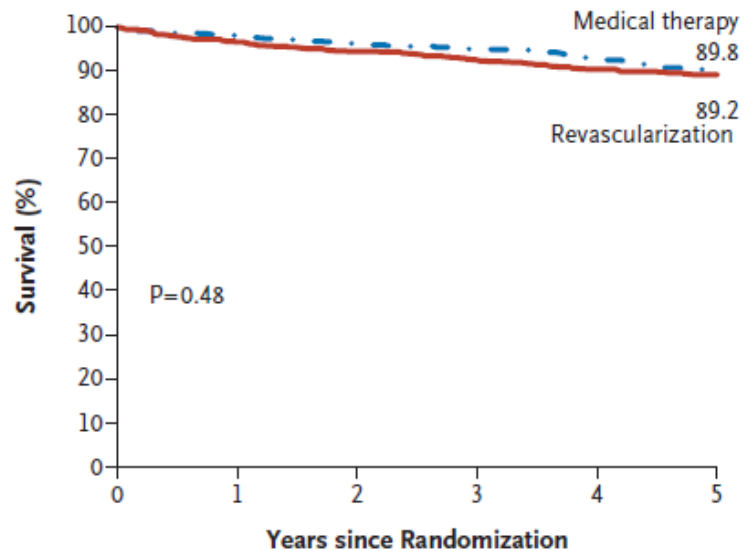
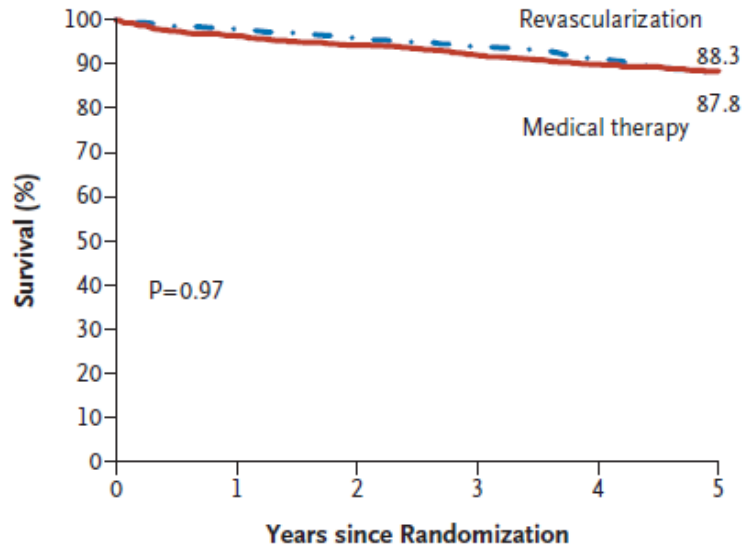
**763 in CABG stratum (385 OMT vs. 378 CABG), 1605 in PCI stratum (807 OMT vs. 798 PCI)**

Survival in **Overall stratum**:  
Revascularization vs. OMT

Survival in **PCI stratum**:  
Revascularization vs. OMT

Survival in **CABG stratum**:  
Revascularization vs. OMT

**A Survival, Revascularization vs. Medical Therapy**



No. at Risk 2368 2296 2247 2197 1892 1196

No. at Risk 1605 1562 1529 1505 1306 863

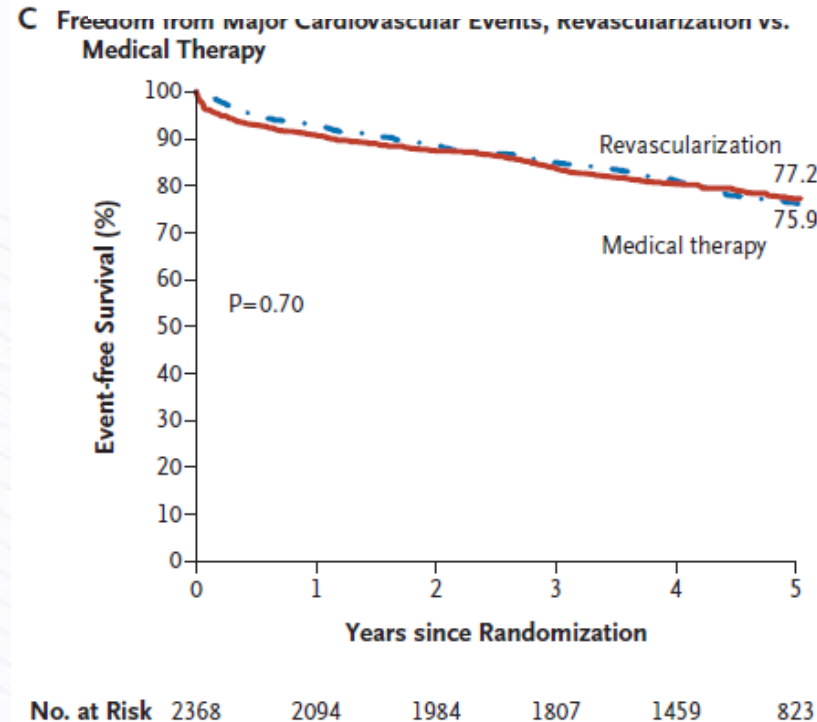
No. at Risk 763 734 718 692 586 333

# BARI 2D trial

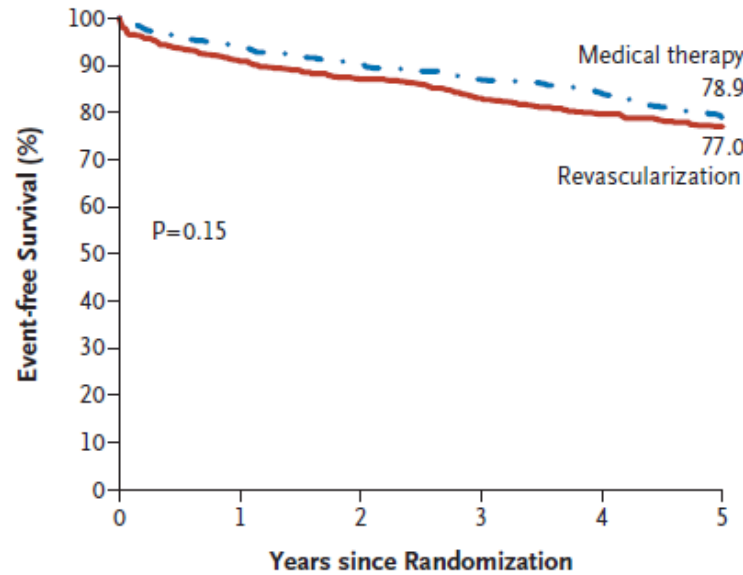
2,368 patients with type 2 DM and CAD, mean follow-up of 5.3 years

763 in CABG stratum (385 OMT vs. 378 CABG), 1605 in PCI stratum (807 OMT vs. 798 PCI)

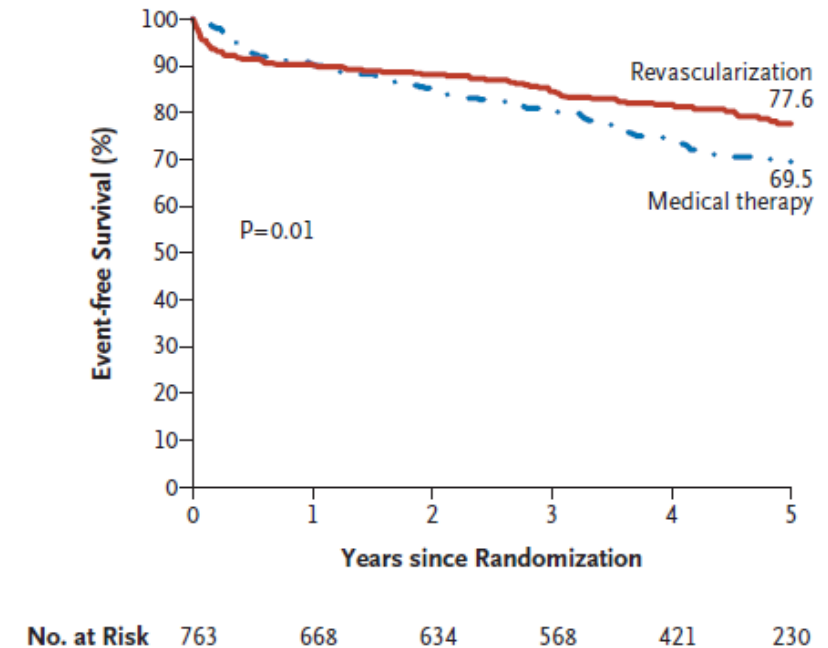
MACE-free in Overall stratum:  
Revascularization vs. OMT



MACE-free in PCI stratum:  
Revascularization vs. OMT



MACE-free in CABG stratum:  
Revascularization vs. OMT



\*MACE = a composite of death, MI, or stroke

# Contemporary Revascularization Guidelines

## 2018 ESC Guideline

	CABG	PCI
<b>Three-vessel CAD with diabetes mellitus</b>		
Three-vessel disease with low SYNTAX score 0–22. <sup>102,105,121,123,124,135,150–157</sup>	I	IIb
Three-vessel disease with intermediate or high SYNTAX score (>22). <sup>c 102,105,121,123,124,135,150–157</sup>	I	III

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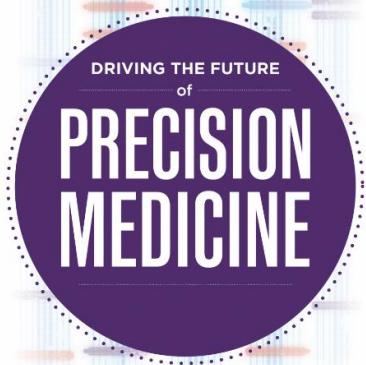
## 2021 ACC/AHA/SCAI Guideline

- In patients with diabetes and multivessel CAD with involvement of LAD, who are appropriate candidates for CABG, **CABG is recommended in preference to PCI** to reduce mortality and repeat revascularization
- In patients with diabetes and multivessel CAD **amenable to PCI** and an indication for revascularization and are **poor candidates for surgery**, **PCI can be useful** to reduce long-term ischemic outcomes

COR	LOE
1	A
2a	B-NR

# Limitations of Prior RCTs

- **Not focus on patients with diabetes**
  - SYNTAX, BEST
- **Just subgroup analyses with study underpower**
  - SYNTAX, BEST
- **Not use current generation DES**
  - FREEDOM, SYNTAX
- **Not frequently use intracoronary imaging and physiology**
  - SYNTAX, FREEDOM
- **Not use GDMT (e.g., SGLT-2 inhibitors or GLP-1 RA ) of current practice**
  - FREEDOM, BARI 2D



# ASSESSMENT

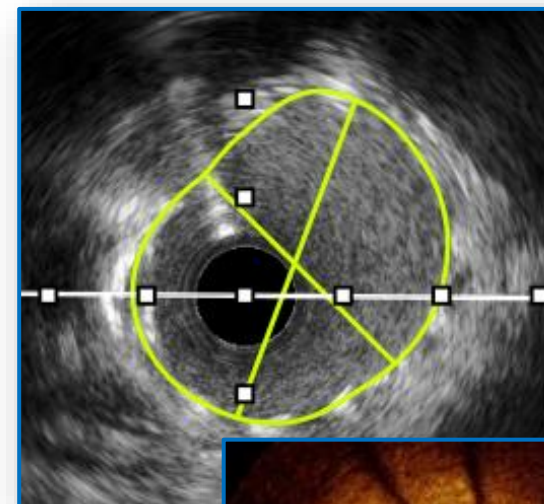
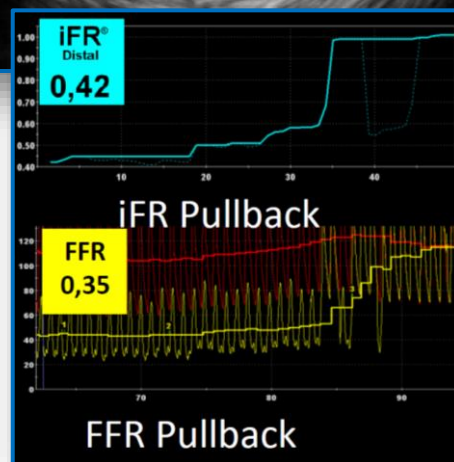
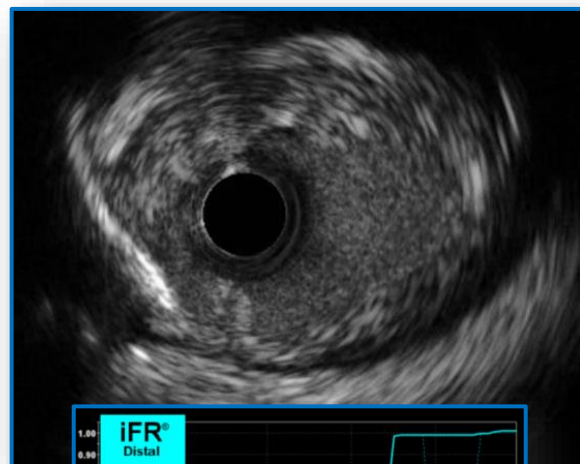
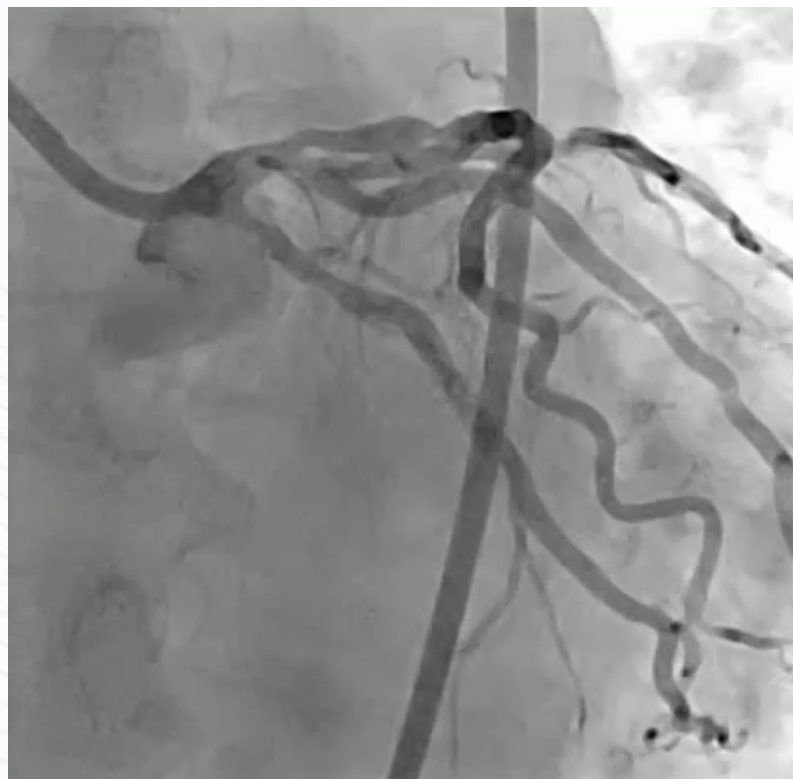
# INTERVENTION

Lesion Selection

Guidance

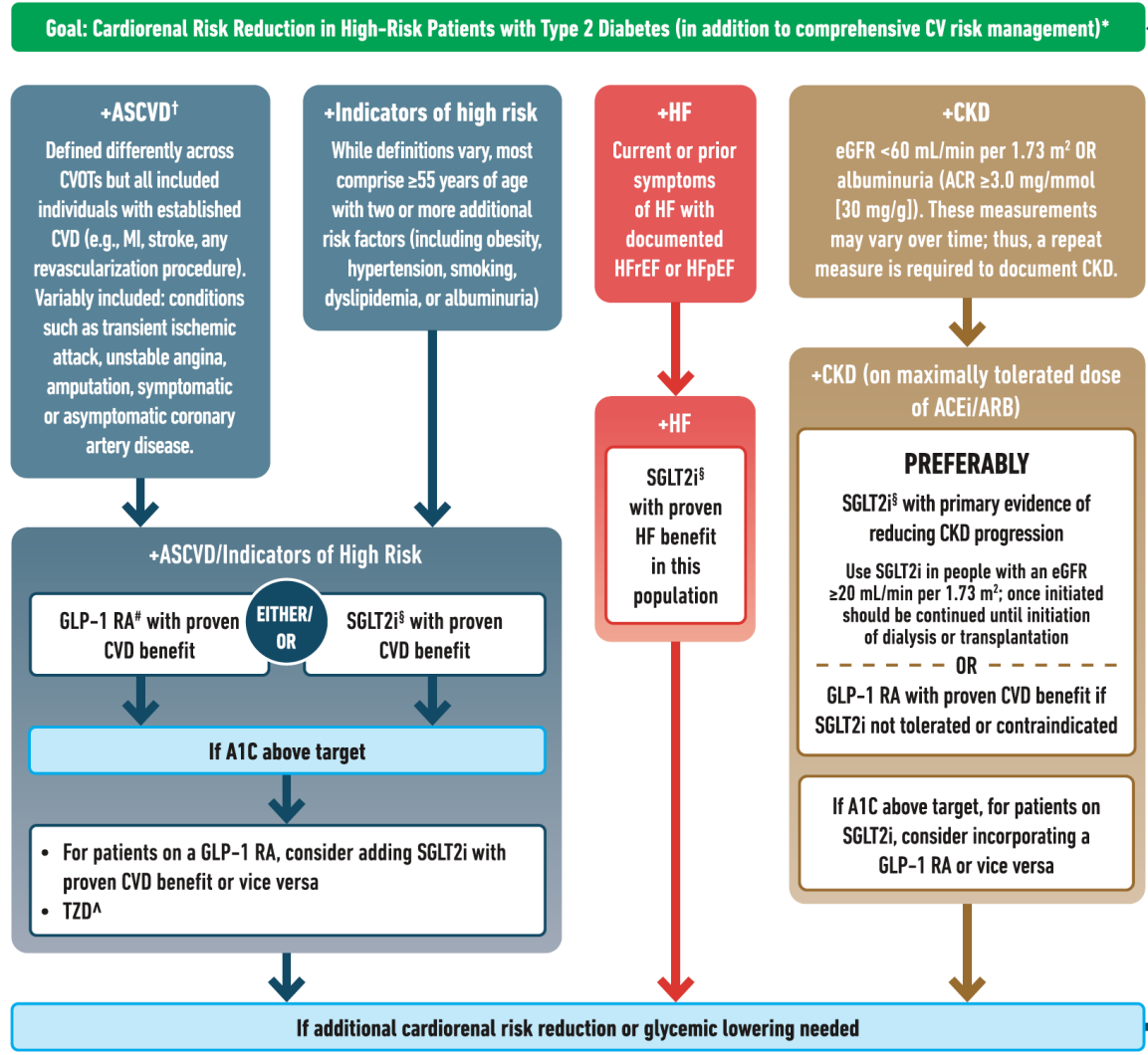
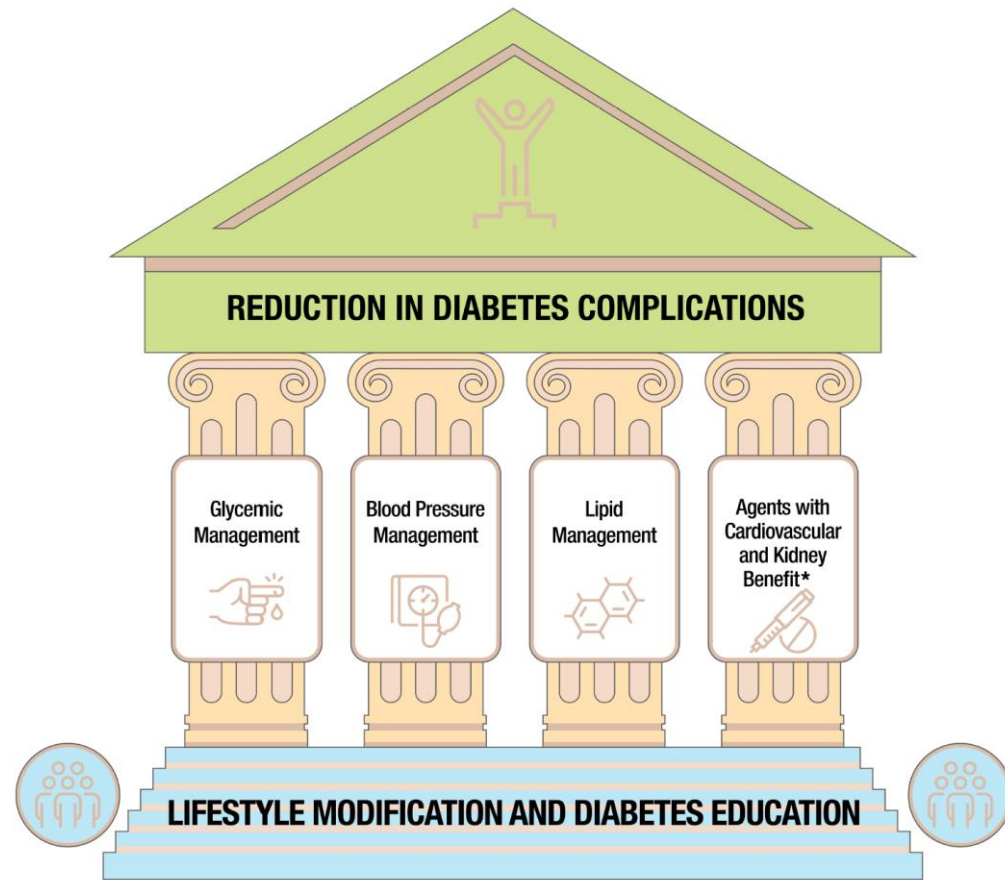
Optimization

For Contemporary PCI





# Remarkable Advances in Diabetic Management

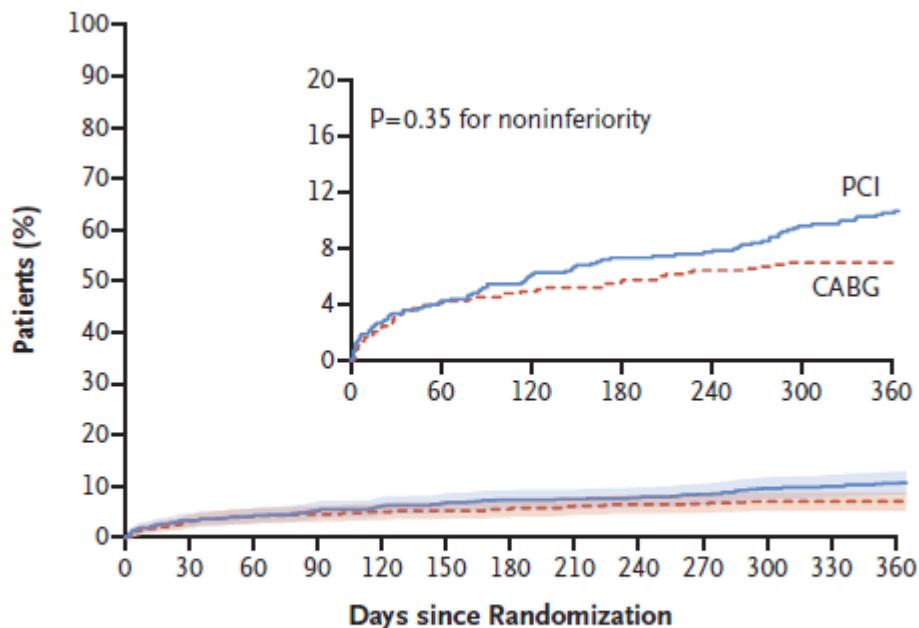


# FAME 3 Trial

1,500 patients with 3VD

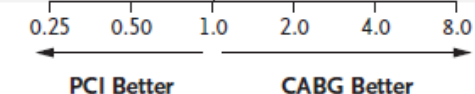
(757 in FFR-guided PCI using 2<sup>nd</sup> generation DES, 743 in CABG)

MACCE (death, MI, stroke, or repeat revascularization) at 1 year



No. at Risk	0	30	60	90	120	150	180	210	240	270	300	330	360
PCI	757	728	721	713	707	702	697	696	693	687	678	674	670
CABG	743	709	701	698	695	693	691	686	683	682	679	679	679

Subgroup	PCI total no.	CABG total no.	PCI 1-yr incidence (%)	CABG 1-yr incidence (%)	Adjusted Hazard Ratio (95% CI)
All patients	757	743	10.6	6.9	1.5 (1.1-2.0)
Age					
≥65 yr	434	409	9.4	8.1	1.1 (0.8-1.5)
<65 yr	323	334	12.1	5.4	2.2 (1.5-3.2)
Sex					
Female	141	124	11.3	13.7	0.8 (0.5-1.3)
Male	616	619	10.4	5.5	1.9 (1.4-2.5)
Diabetes					
No	543	529	9.4	7.0	1.3 (1.0-1.7)
Yes	214	214	13.6	6.5	2.1 (1.5-2.9)
NSTE-ACS					
No	456	454	10.1	5.9	1.7 (1.3-2.2)
Yes	300	287	11.3	8.4	1.3 (1.0-1.7)
LVEF					
>50%	616	610	10.4	6.6	1.6 (1.2-2.1)
30-50%	137	130	10.9	8.5	1.3 (1.0-1.7)
Previous PCI					
No	658	637	9.3	6.8	1.4 (1.1-1.8)
Yes	98	104	19.4	7.7	2.5 (1.8-3.4)
SYNTAX score					
0-22	237	245	5.5	8.6	0.6 (0.4-0.9)
23-32	365	343	13.7	6.1	2.3 (1.7-3.0)
≥33	132	122	12.1	6.6	1.8 (1.3-2.4)



# FAME 3 Trial

1,500 patients with 3VD

(757 in FFR-guided PCI using 2<sup>nd</sup> generation DES, 743 in CABG)

**Table 2. Angiographic and Procedural Characteristics.\***

Characteristic	PCI (N=757)	CABG (N=743)
PCI characteristics		
Staged procedure — no./total no. (%)	166/750 (22.1)	NA
No. of stents	3.7±1.9	NA
Median total length of stents placed (IQR) — mm	80 (52–116)	NA
Intravascular imaging used — no./total no. (%)	87/744 (11.7)	NA

However,

>> Intravascular imaging only used in 11.7%

>> Just subgroup analysis for patients with diabetes

# What Would be Next New Trials in Patients with DM and Multivessel CAD?

# DEFINE-DM Trial

**Diabetes-Centered Evaluation of Revascularization Strategy of Functional and Imaging-CombiNEd State-of-the-Art Percutaneous Coronary Intervention or Coronary-Artery Bypass Grafting in Patients with Diabetes Mellitus and Multivessel Coronary Artery Disease**

Seung-Jung Park (Trial Chair)

Duk-Woo Park (Trial PI)

Heart Institute, Asan Medical Center,

University of Ulsan College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

# Trial Hypothesis

- **Trial Hypothesis:** advanced state-of-the-art PCI using intracoronary imaging (e.g., IVUS or OCT), intracoronary physiology (e.g., FFR or iFR), contemporary DES and GDMT with advanced cardiovascular and anti-diabetic medications (e.g., SGLT-2 inhibitors or GLP-1 RA) in patients with type 2 diabetes and multivessel CAD with LAD involvement will result in similar outcomes to CABG in a contemporary trial.

# Trial Design

**D**ibetes-Centered **E**valuation of **F**unctional and **I**maging-Combi**NE**d  
State-of-the-Art Percutaneous Coronary Intervention or Coronary-Artery Bypass  
Grafting in Patients with **D**ibetes **M**ellitus and Three-Vessel Coronary Artery Disease

## DEFINE-DM Trial

**1,200 Patients with Diabetes and Multivessel CAD with LAD Involvement  
Who Were Equally Eligible for PCI or CABG**

1:1 randomization in random block sizes of 6 and 8, with stratification according to the participating center

**Imaging- and Physiology-Guided  
State-of-the Art PCI  
(N = 600)**

**Standard CABG  
(N = 600)**

The primary end point was the composite of  
death from any cause, myocardial infarction, or stroke at 2 year.

# Inclusion / Exclusion Criteria

*Consecutive patients with diabetes and multivessel CAD (angiographic DS  $\geq 50\%$ ) with LAD involvement who are equivalently eligible for PCI or CABG*

## Inclusion Criteria

- Patients at least 20 years of age
- Patients with type 2 diabetes
- Patients with significant multivessel CAD (defined as  $\geq 50\%$  diameter stenosis by visual estimation) of major epicardial vessel with LAD involvement equally suitable to both PCI and CABG

## Exclusion Criteria

- Unprotected left main disease requiring revascularization
- Complex CAD anatomy of lesion characteristics that PCI is not suitable
- STEMI
- Cardiogenic shock or severe LV dysfunction (LVEF  $< 30\%$ )
- Requirement of other cardiac or non-cardiac surgical procedure
- Life expectancy  $< 2$  years for concurrent medical condition



# Study Endpoints

## *Primary*

- The primary endpoint is a composite of of hard clinical endpoints of **death from any causes, MI, or stroke** at 2 years.

## *Secondary*

- Each individual component of primary composite outcome
- Composite of death, MI, stroke, or repeat revascularization
- Stent thrombosis or symptomatic graft occlusion or stenosis
- Bleeding complications (BARC criteria)
- Periprocedural major adverse events
- Rehospitalization
- Functional class (assessed by the CCS classification)
- Angina-related quality of life index (by the Seattle Angina Questionnaire [SAQ]) or health-related quality of life index (by the EQ-5D)

# Sample Size and Statistics

- The trial use a “**noninferiority design**”.
- Assuming 12% of 2-year primary outcome events (death, MI, or stroke) in the CABG arm (which was based on FEEDOM trial),
- Given a clinically irrelevant hazard ratio of 1.45, a one-sided 2.5% significance level and 85% power,
- The sample size necessary is 582 patients per group (1164 for the entire study).
- To account for patients lost to follow-up (we anticipate a <5% loss to follow-up), **1,200 patients will be enrolled from 50 sites over 4 years**. We assumed 4 years of enrollment time and 2 years follow-up for all patients (total time would be 6 years).

# Key Message

- Old evidence suggested CABG was always better than PCI in patients with DM and multivessel CAD. This was unanimously adopted in the contemporary revascularization guidelines (**CABG – class 1, PCI – class 2 or 3**).
- However, there are several limitations for interpreting prior RCTs and still unmet needs in the contemporary advanced PCI era.
- We need next new trials comparing imaging/physiology-guided **“state-of-the-art PCI”** combined with advanced GDMT of newer anti-diabetic and cardioactive drugs vs. contemporary CABG in patients with diabetes and multivessel disease.
- This will be validated from the **DEFINE-DM** trial.