

# Impact of Pullback Pressure Gradient (PPG) on Patient-Reported Outcomes in Patients With Coronary Artery Disease

**Carlos Collet MD, PhD**

*On behalf of the PPG Global investigators*

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# Disclosure of relevant financial relationships

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

## **Institutional support**

- Abbott Vascular
- HeartFlow Inc
- GE Healthcare
- ShockWave Medical
- Boston Scientific
- Insight Lifetech
- Pie Medical
- Medis Medical Imaging

## **Equity/stock options**

- Medyria
- Xenter

## **Consultancy fee**

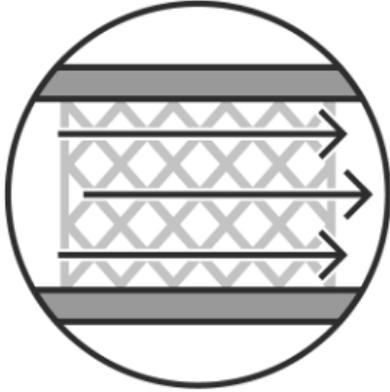
- Abbott Vascular
- HeartFlow Inc
- GE Healthcare
- Boston Scientific
- Insight Lifetech
- Early Bird
- Pfizer
- Siemens

## **Others**

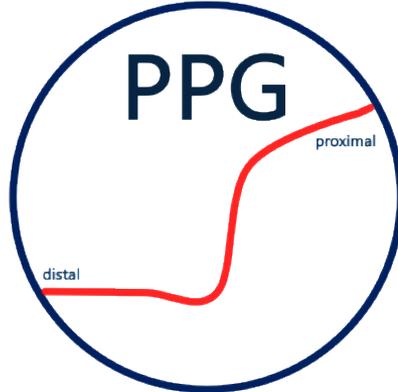
CoreAalst BV

Patents filed: US20220164950A1,  
US20220175260A1, WO2022136637A1 and  
WO2021224458A1

# Background



The effectiveness of PCI is influenced by CAD patterns (focal vs diffuse).



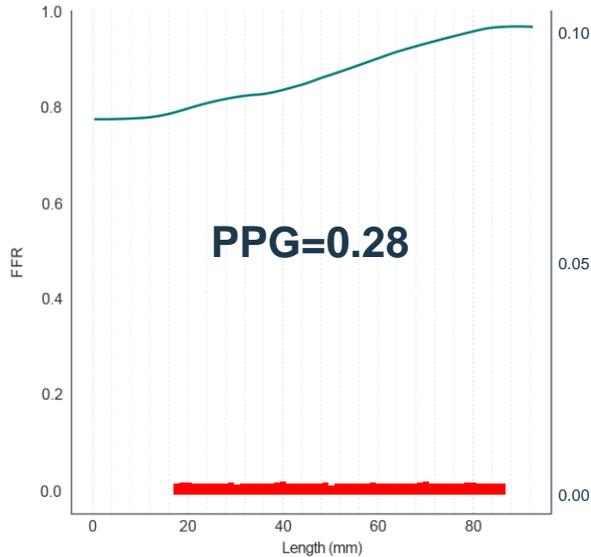
PPG quantifies focal and diffuse CAD and predicts blood flow improvements following PCI.



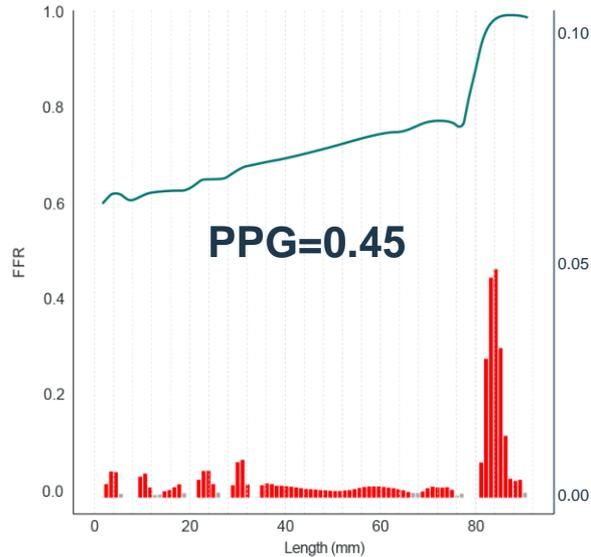
The magnitude of flow improvement ( $\Delta$ FFR) is directly correlated with the relief of symptoms.

# PPG: Focal and Diffuse Disease on a Scale from 0 to 1

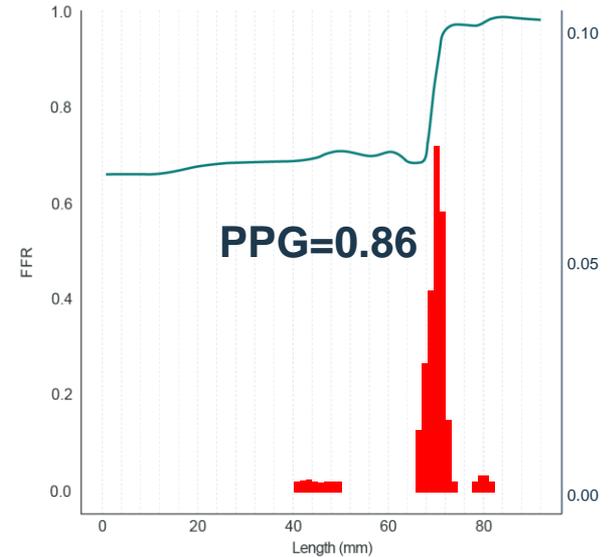
**Diffuse CAD**



**Combined CAD**



**Focal CAD**

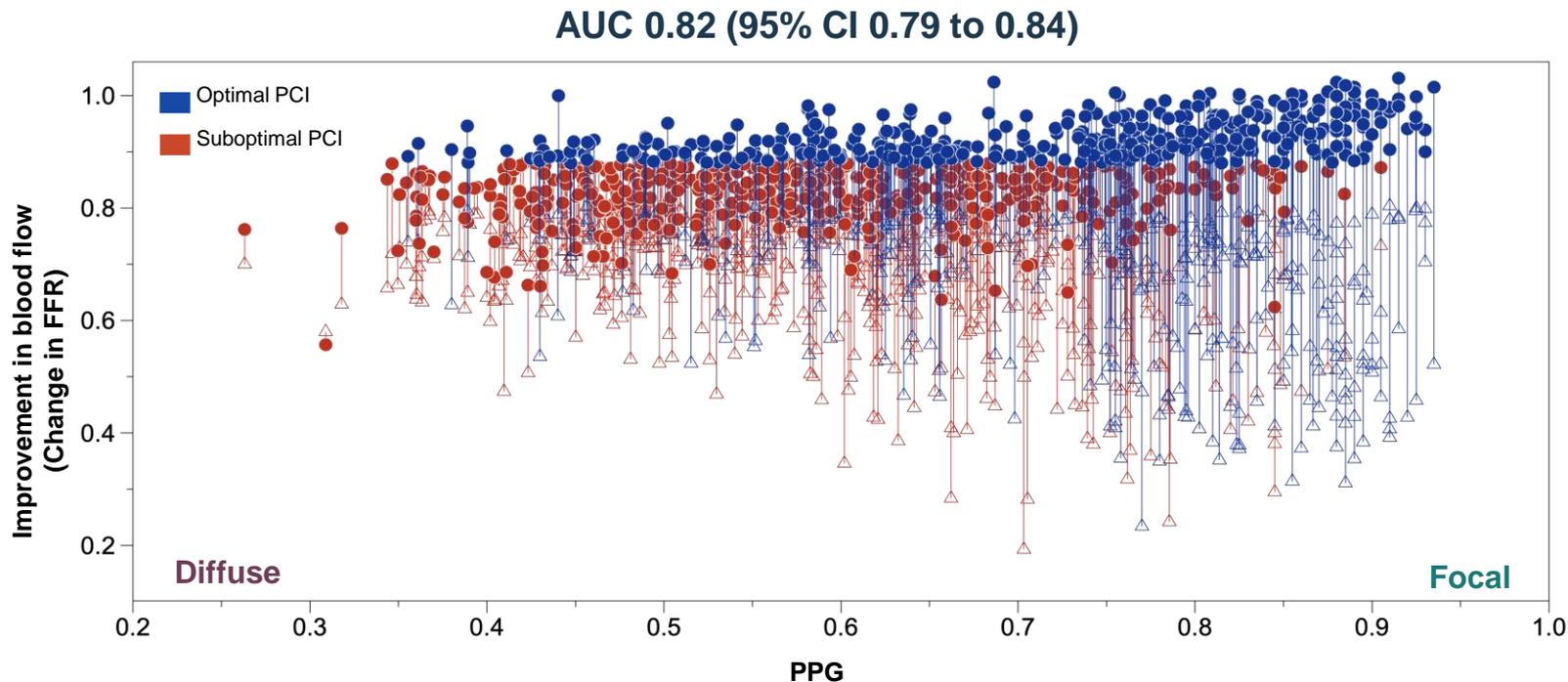


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**Pullback Pressure Gradient (PPG)**

1

# PPG and Blood Flow Improvement after PCI



# Study Objectives



To evaluate the impact of PPG on patient-reported outcomes in patients with hemodynamically significant CAD after one year.



To explore the impact of various treatment strategies on patient-reported outcomes, stratified by PPG.

# Methods

# Study design



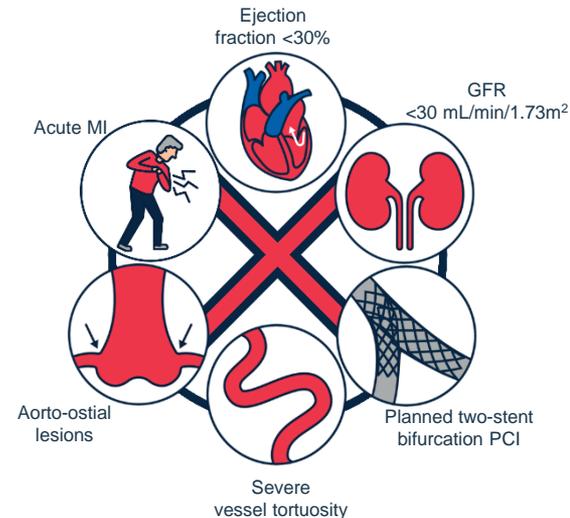
Investigator-initiated\*, multicenter, international, and single-arm study (NCT04789317)

\*Research grant from Abbott Vascular



Stable patients\* with at least one hemodynamically significant lesion ( $FFR \leq 0.80$ ) intended to be treated with PCI

\*Non-culprit lesion after an acute coronary syndrome (ACS)



Exclusion Criteria

# Invasive protocol

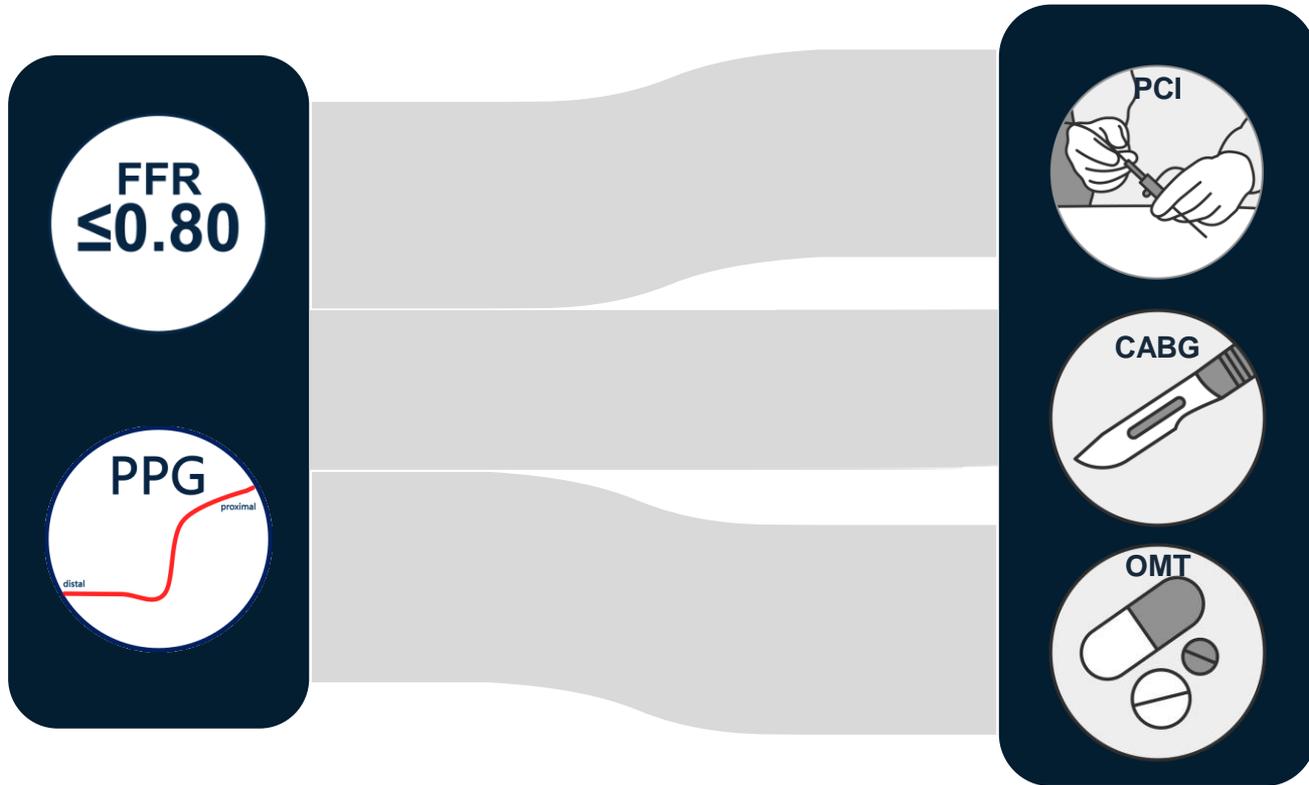


Lesion intended to be treated with PCI with FFR (single point)  $\leq 0.80$

Manual FFR pullbacks  
Online PPG calculation

Post-PCI FFR

# Invasive protocol and decision making



# Methods



## Patient-reported outcomes (PRO)

Seattle Angina Questionnaire (SAQ-7) at baseline and 1-year follow-up.



## CoreLab analysis

Angiographic and physiologic data underwent centralized analysis by CoreAalst BV core laboratory.

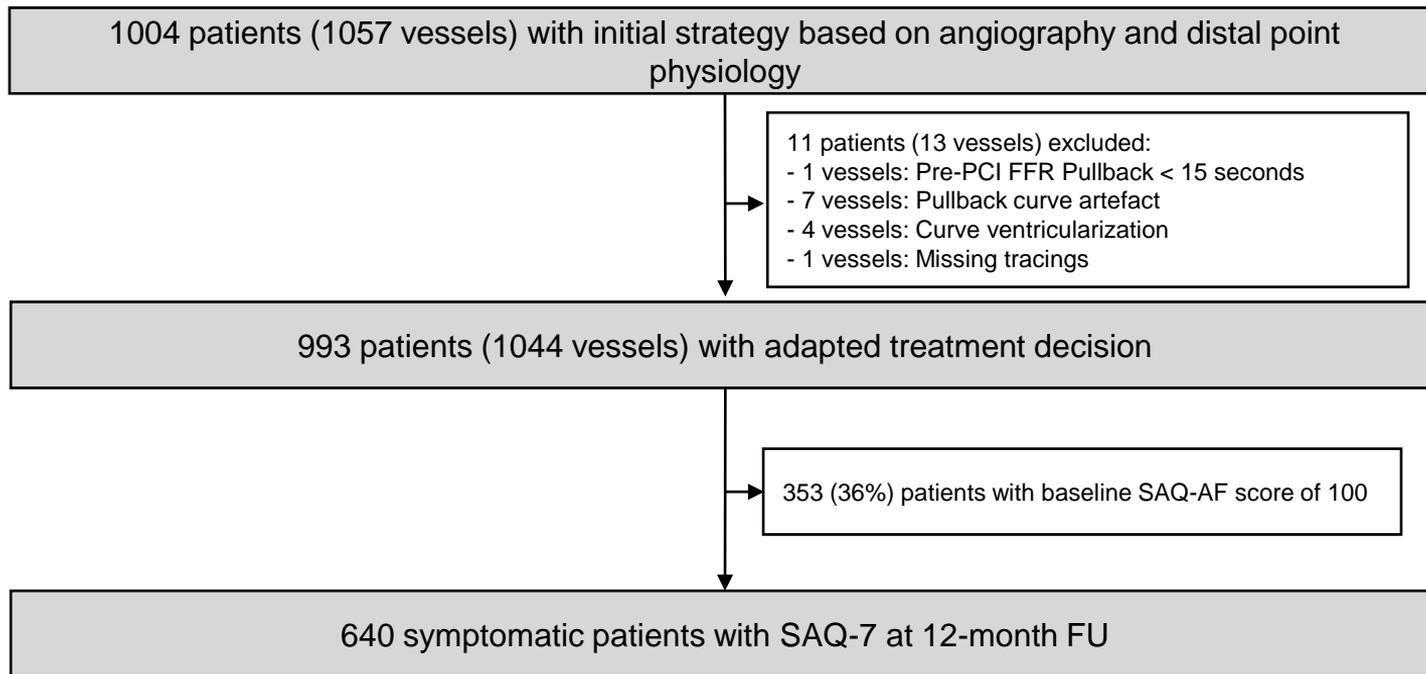


## Definitions and adjudication

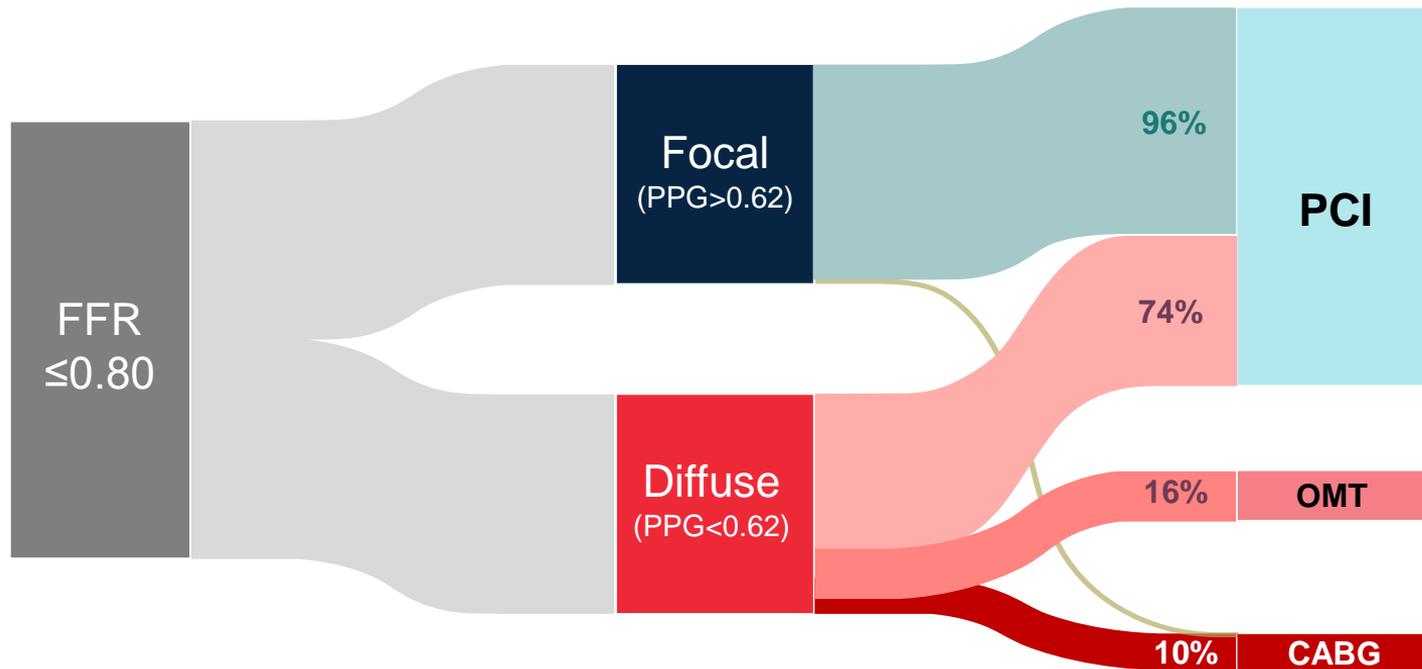
An independent clinical events committee (CEC) adjudicated adverse events.

# Results

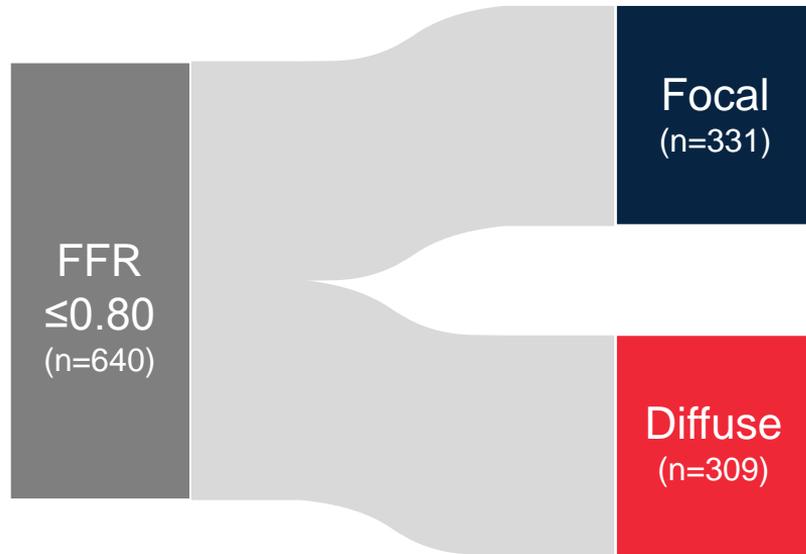
# Study Flowchart



# Treatment decision in focal vs diffuse disease



# Treatment decision in symptomatic patients



# Baseline and clinical characteristics stratified by PPG

Variable	Focal CAD	Diffuse CAD	p-value
Number of patients*	331	309	
Age (years), mean $\pm$ SD	68.3 $\pm$ 10.4	67.2 $\pm$ 10.2	0.211
Gender (male), n (%)	238 (71.9)	239 (77.3)	0.137
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup> (%), mean $\pm$ SD	26.7 $\pm$ 9.6	27.5 $\pm$ 9.7	0.272
Dyslipidemia, n (%)	234 (70.7)	224 (72.5)	0.677
Hypertension, n (%)	231 (69.8)	218 (70.6)	0.901
Diabetes mellitus, n (%)	92 (27.8)	88 (28.5)	0.917
Current smoking, n (%)	53 (16.0)	49 (15.9)	1.000
Prior MI, n (%)	55 (16.6)	60 (19.4)	0.413
Clinical presentation, n (%)			0.117
Acute Coronary syndrome**, n (%)	38 (11.5)	50 (16.2)	
Stable angina, n (%)	293 (88.5)	259 (83.8)	
Symptoms severity***			0.117
Silent ischemia	16 (4.8)	22 (7.2)	
CCS I	125 (37.8)	92 (30.0)	
CCS II	96 (29.0)	90 (29.3)	
CCS III	39 (11.8)	29 (9.4)	
CCS IV	9 (2.7)	7 (2.3)	

*\*For patients with multivessel interrogation, the lowest PPG was used for the patient-level analysis.*

*\*\* Non-culprit vessels after an acute coronary syndrome.*

*\*\*\*As assessed by the treating physician.*

# Physiological and procedural characteristics stratified by PPG

Variables	Focal CAD	Diffuse CAD	p-value
Number of vessels	359	312	
Vessel type			<0.001
LAD	194 (54.0)	276 (88.5)	
LCX	68 (18.9)	11 (3.5)	
RCA	97 (27.0)	25 (8.0)	
Serial lesions, n (%)	53 (14.8)	69 (22.2)	0.017
Reference vessel diameter (mm), mean ± SD	2.75 ± 0.60	2.58 ± 0.52	<0.001
Diameter stenosis (%) QCA, mean ± SD	57.2 ± 13.2	44.7 ± 12.4	<0.001
FFR, mean ± SD	0.62 ± 0.14	0.71 ± 0.08	<0.001
PPG, mean ± SD	0.76 ± 0.09	0.49 ± 0.08	<0.001
Number of stents*, mean ± SD	1.16 ± 0.41	1.35 ± 0.57	<0.001
Stent length (mm)*, mean ± SD	27.5 ± 12.8	37.7 ± 18.8	<0.001
Stent diameter (mm)*, mean ± SD	3.08 ± 0.48	2.96 ± 0.39	0.002
Intracoronary imaging PCI (%)*, n (%)	170 (49.4)	91 (40.1)	0.035
Pre dilatation*, n (%)	301 (87.5)	199 (87.7)	1.000
Post dilatation*, n (%)	239 (69.5)	178 (78.8)	0.019
Post-PCI FFR*, mean ± SD	0.89 ± 0.07	0.84 ± 0.06	<0.001
Delta FFR*, mean ± SD	0.27 ± 0.14	0.13 ± 0.08	<0.001

\*For patients undergoing PCI.

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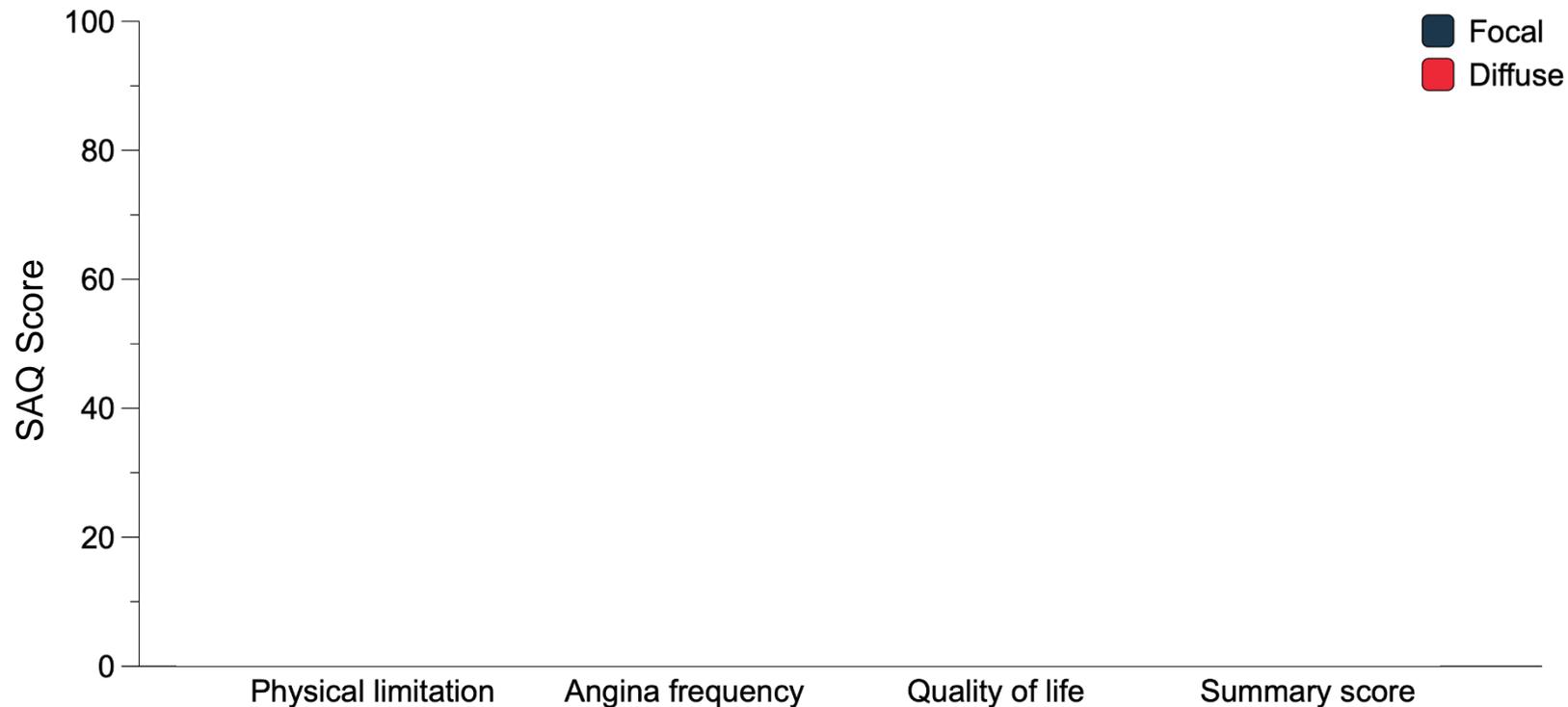
\*For patients undergoing PCI.

# Physiological and procedural characteristics stratified by PPG

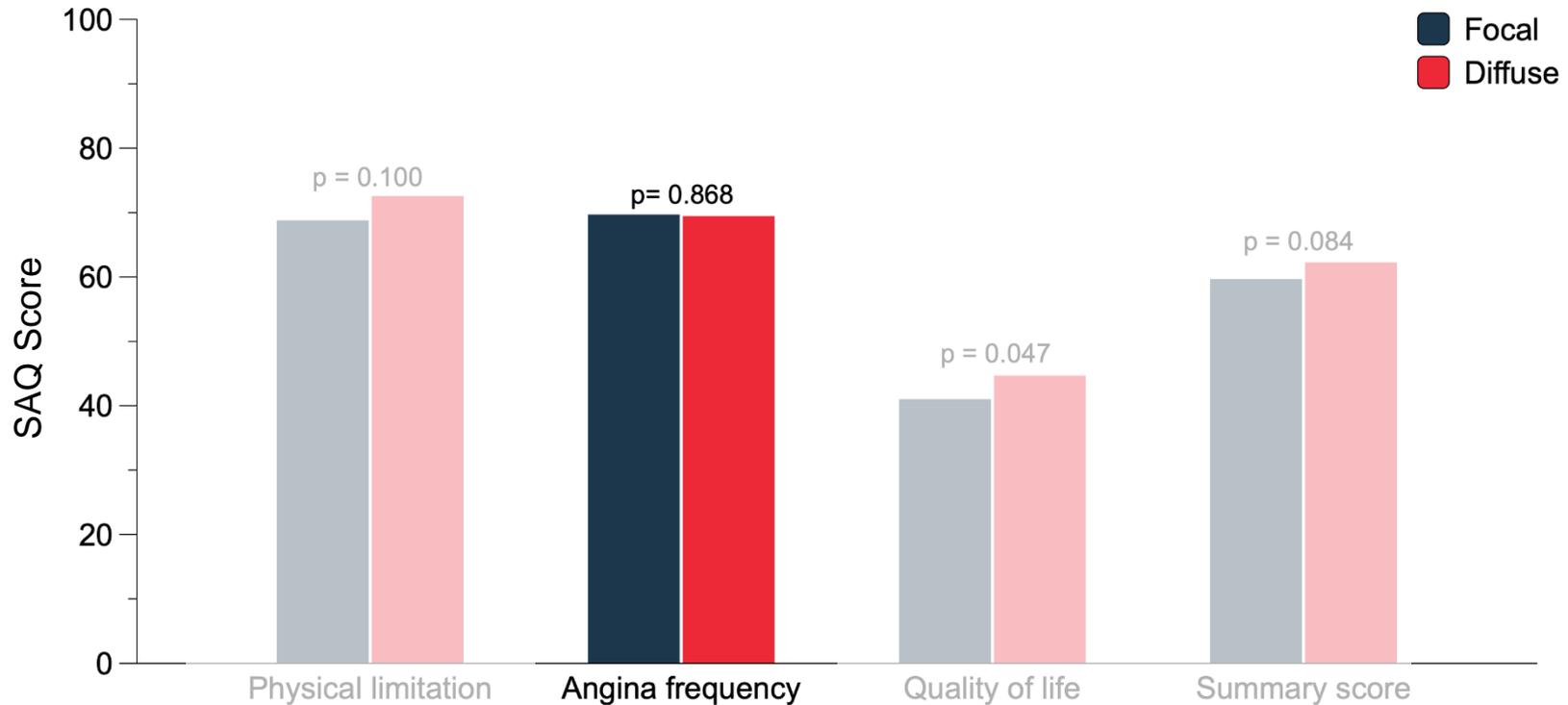
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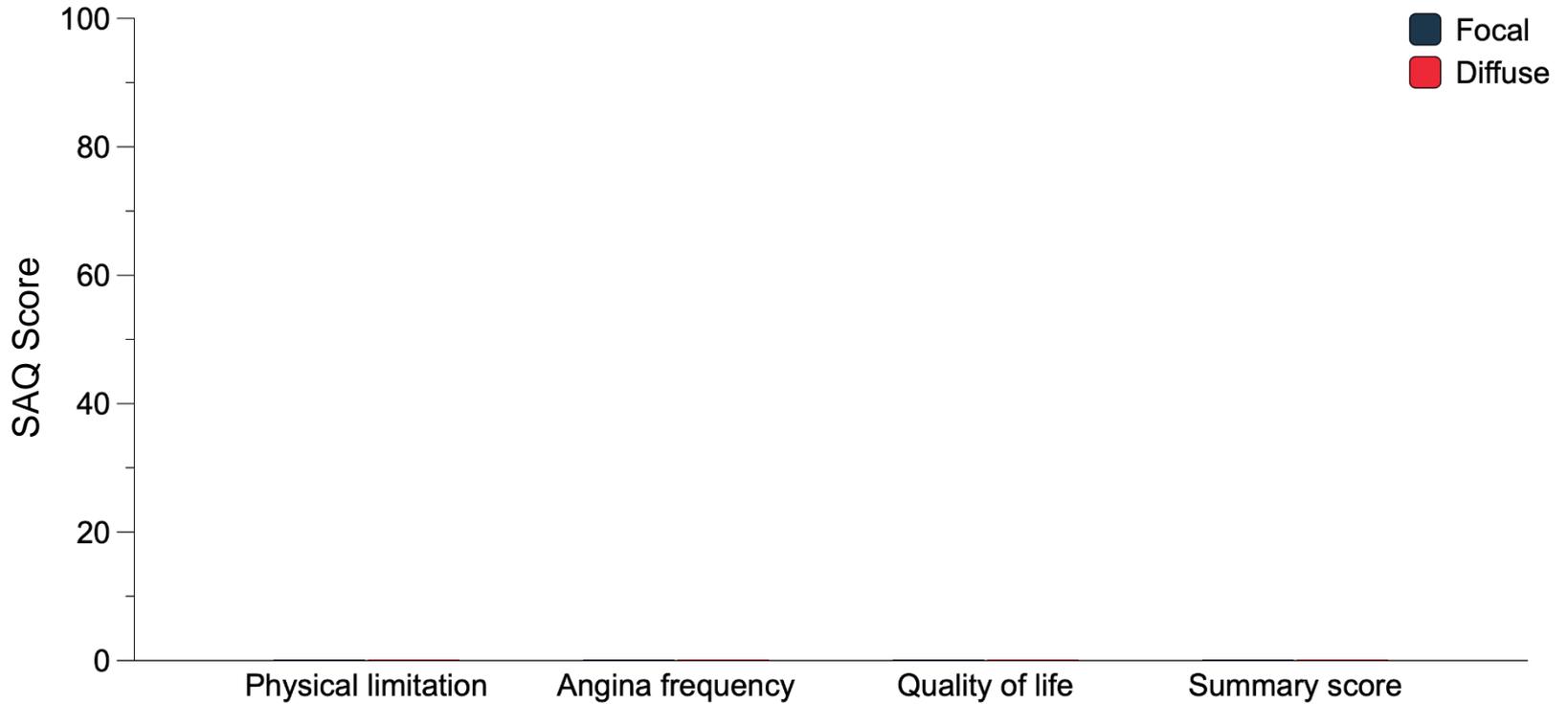
# Baseline Symptoms Stratified by PPG



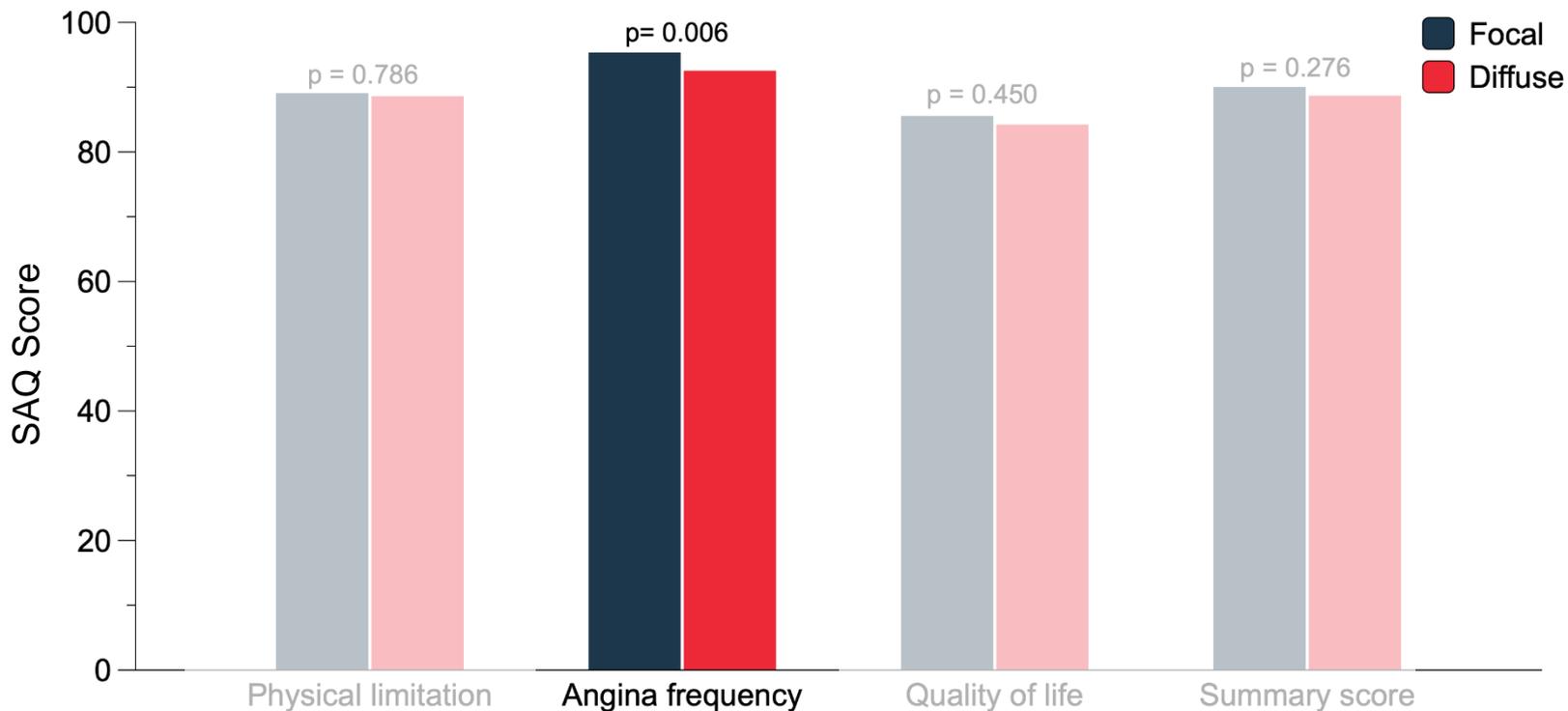
# Baseline Symptoms Stratified by PPG



# PPG and Patient Symptoms at 1-Year Follow-Up

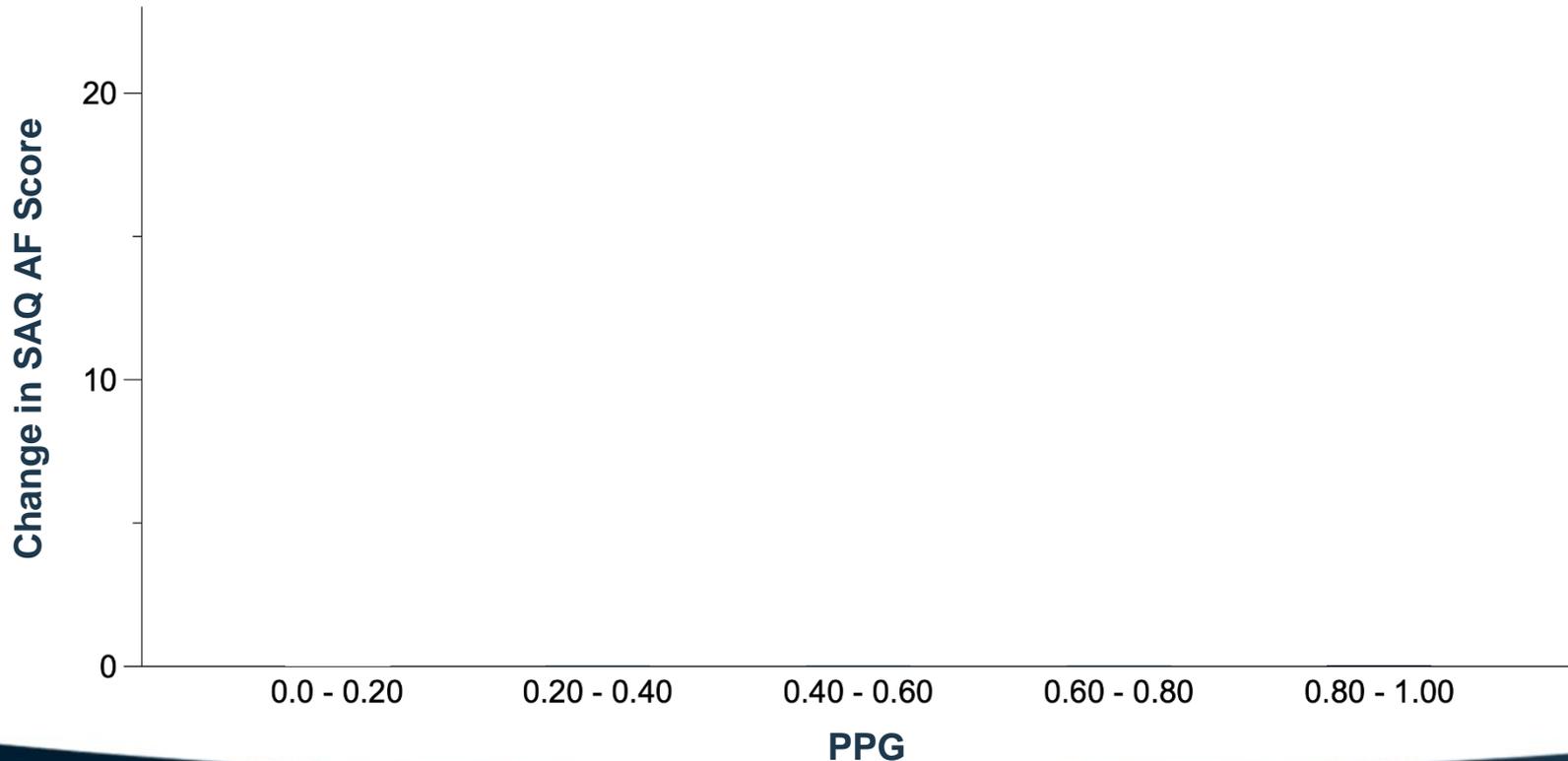


# PPG and Patient Symptoms at 1-Year Follow-Up



# Angina improvement and PPG

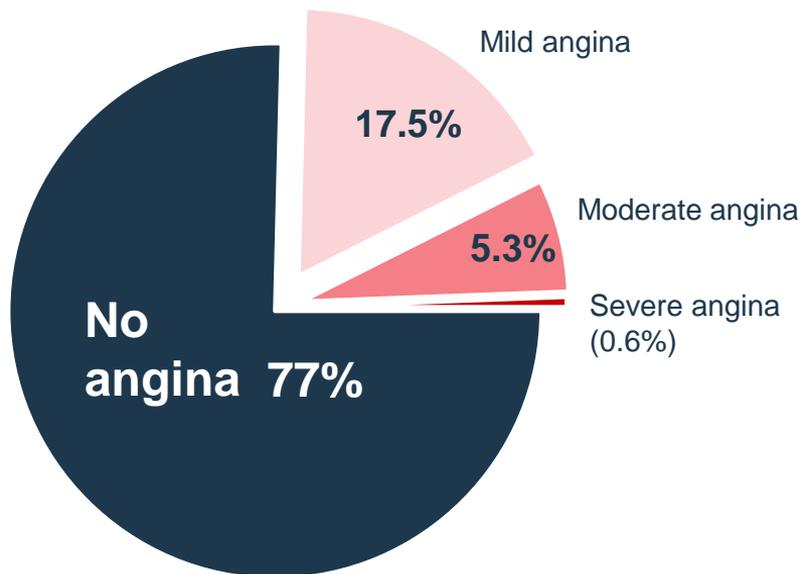
Change in Angina Frequency from Baseline to 1-year Follow-Up



# Residual Angina at 1-Year Stratified by PPG

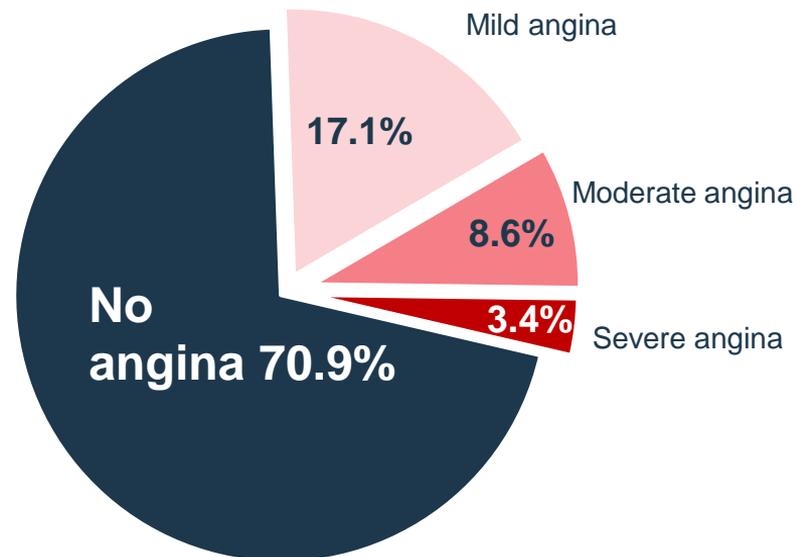
## Focal CAD

PPG > 0.62



## Diffuse CAD

PPG < 0.62



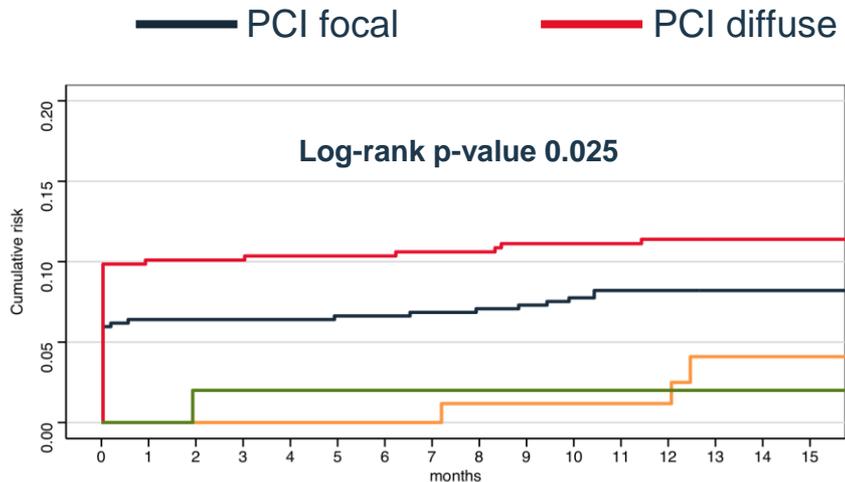
P value = 0.028

# Outcomes by treatment modality

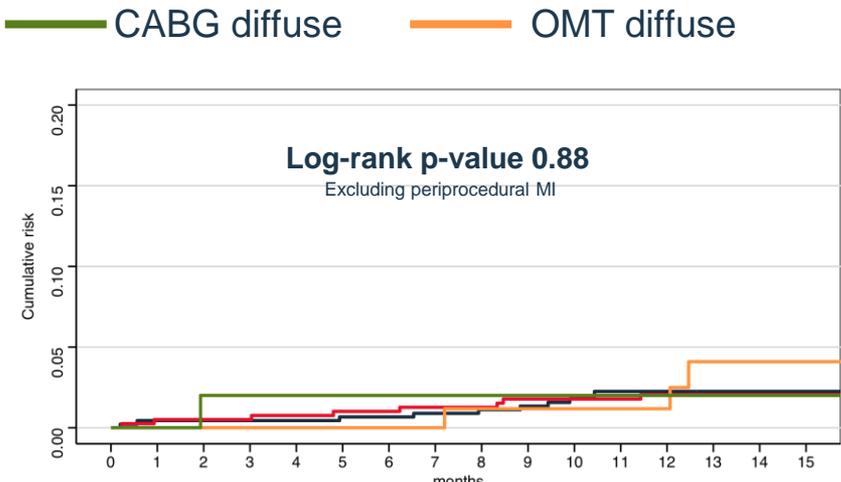
# SAQ Angina Frequency by Treatment at 1-Year



# Target Vessel Failure Stratified by PPG and Treatment at One year



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
PCI focal	453	422	422	422	421	420	418	417	412	411	407	402	357	258	232	226
PCI diffuse	396	356	355	355	354	353	353	352	350	347	346	340	299	211	191	185
OMT diffuse	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	84	84	82	82	75	54	51	48
CABG diffuse	50	50	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	48	48	48	40	24	22	20



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
PCI focal	452	448	448	448	447	446	444	443	438	437	433	428	380	270	240	234
PCI diffuse	396	394	393	393	392	390	390	389	386	383	382	375	330	229	208	202
OMT diffuse	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	84	84	82	82	75	54	51	48
CABG diffuse	50	50	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	48	48	48	40	24	22	20

TVF: cardiac death, target vessel MI, and target vessel revascularization

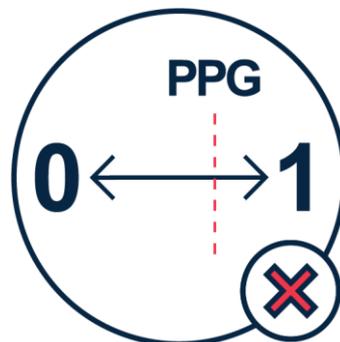
# Study limitations



## SAQ-7

Utilization of the 7-Item Seattle Angina Questionnaire at Two Time Points.

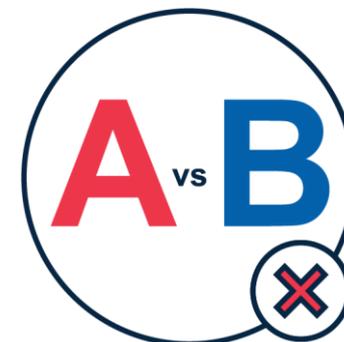
Demonstrates less sensitivity to change, particularly in populations with milder symptoms.



## PPG Cutoff

No pre-specified PPG threshold for clinical decision-making.

PPG was different for patients treated with PCI, optimal medical therapy, and CABG.



## Clinical Outcomes

The study was not powered to detect differences in clinical outcomes.

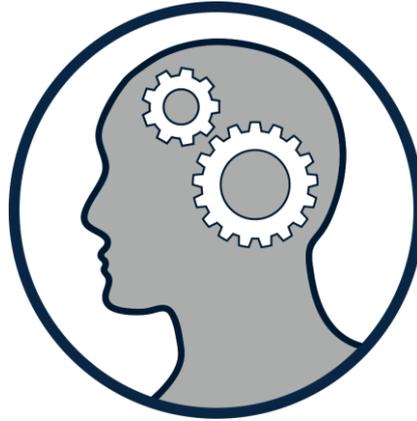
An RCT is required to assess the benefit of PPG for clinical decision-making

**In conclusion**

# Take-home Message



Patients with high PPG treated with PCI reported less angina at 1-year follow-up



PPG was independently associated with angina relief



No differences in hard clinical outcomes between diffuse and focal CAD regardless of the treatment strategy

PPG Global highlights the utility of PPG as a predictive tool for improving patient outcomes in stable CAD, representing a novel application of coronary physiology.

# With thanks to all investigators



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