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# FFR in Left Main Disease

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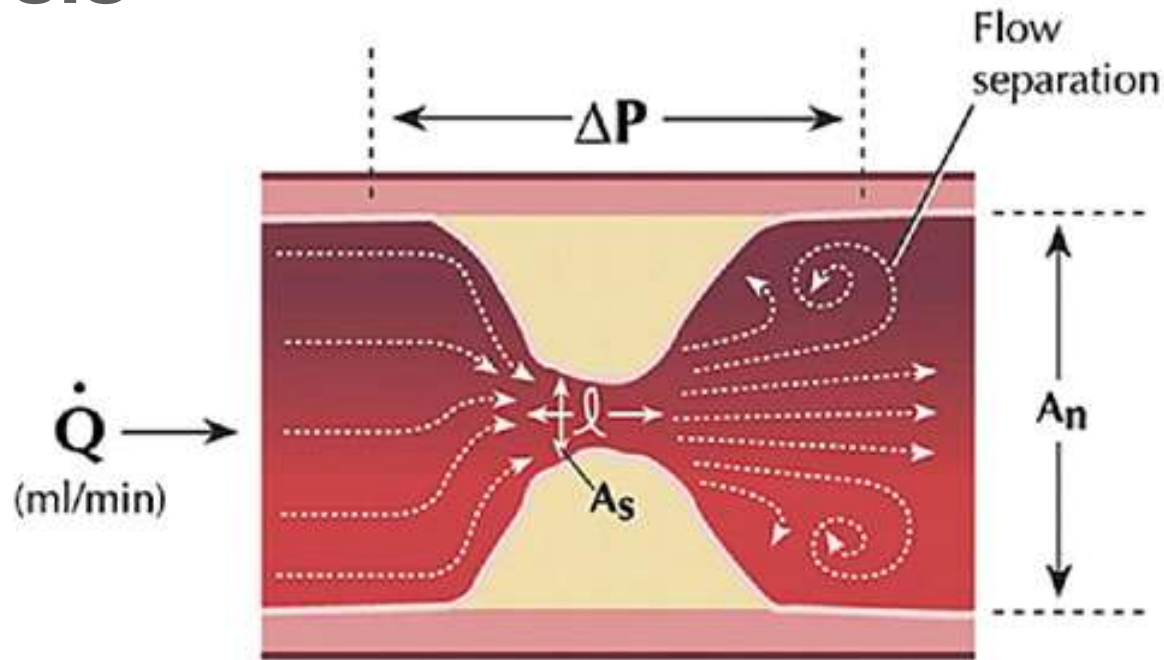
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# FFR of Left Main Disease

- Physiologic versus anatomic information
- Data supporting FFR assessment of LM
- Limitations/Practical Aspects of FFR of LM



# Factors impacting ischemic potential of a stenosis



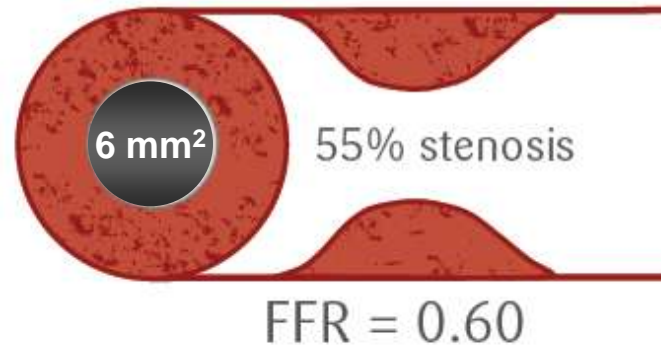
$$\Delta P = \underbrace{f_1(1/A_s^2, \ell, \dot{Q})}_{\text{Viscous}} + \underbrace{f_2(1/A_s^2, 1/A_n^2, \dot{Q}^2)}_{\text{Separation}}$$



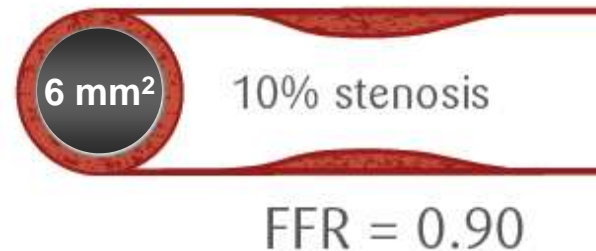
# Variability of IVUS Cutoff Values



**6 MM<sup>2</sup> TOO SMALL?**



**6 MM<sup>2</sup> SUFFICIENT?**



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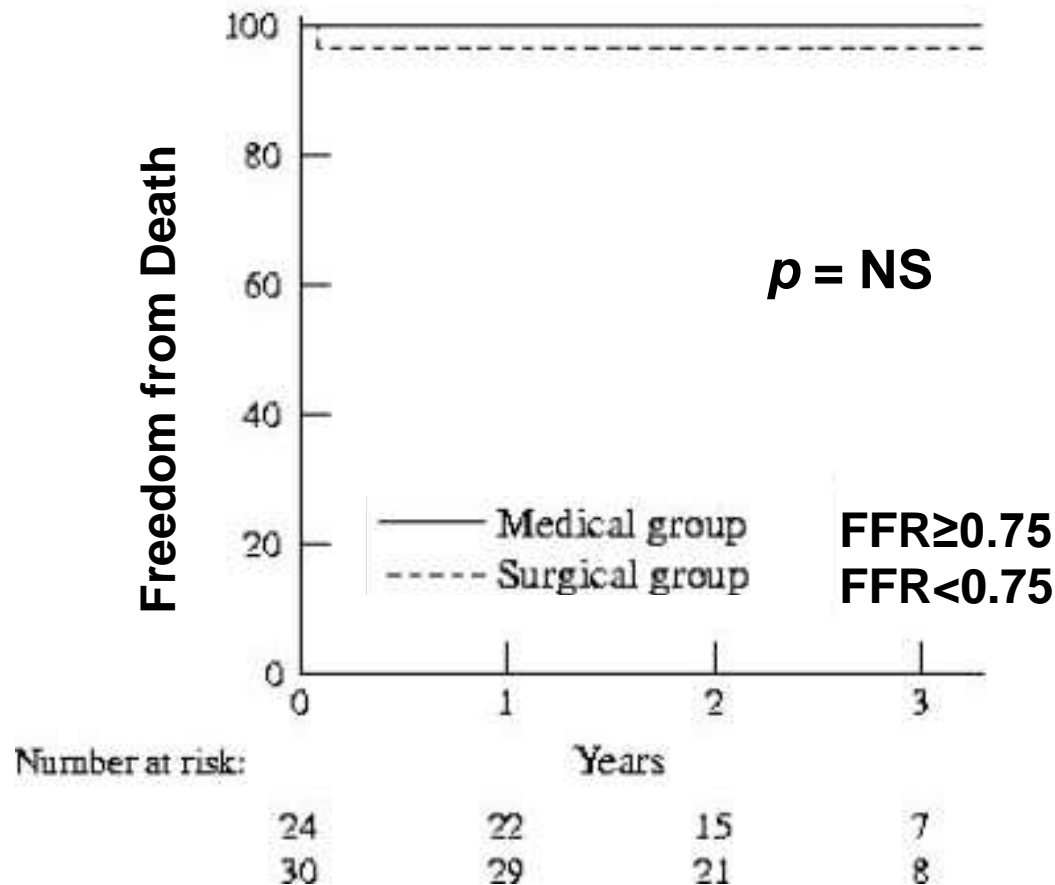
# FFR of Left Main Disease

- Physiologic versus anatomic information
- Data supporting FFR assessment of LM
- Limitations/Practical Aspects of FFR of LM



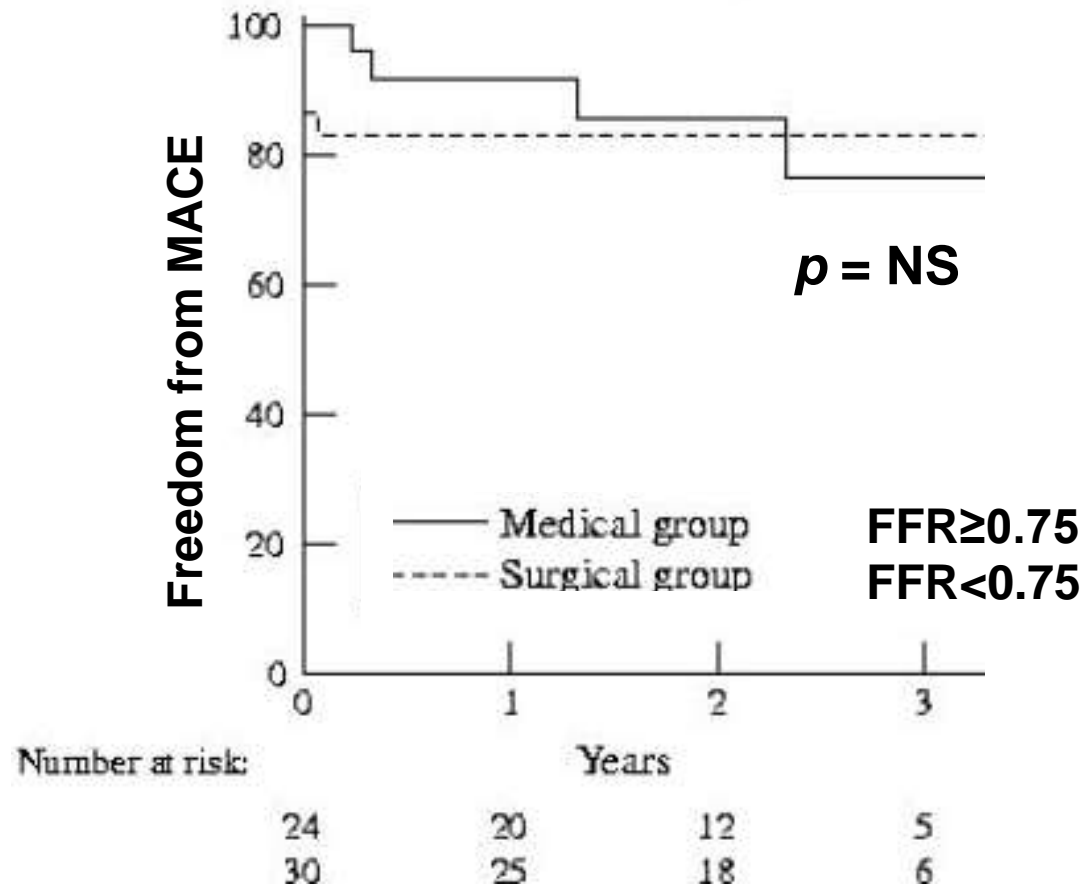
# Is it safe to defer LM Rx based on FFR?

*FFR measured in 54 patients with equivocal left main*



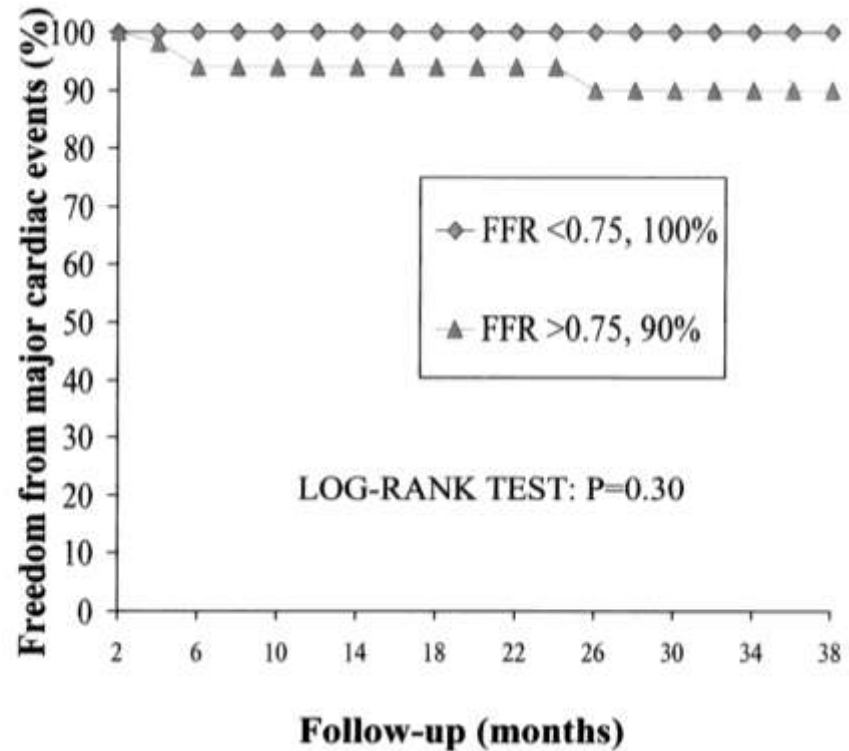
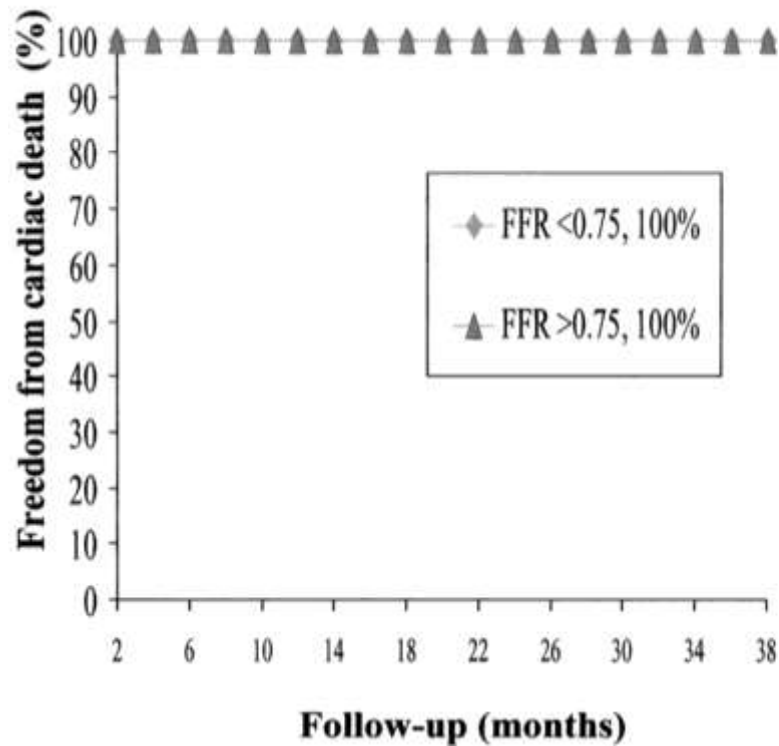
# Is it safe to defer LM Rx based on FFR?

*FFR measured in 54 patients with equivocal left main*



# Is it safe to defer LM Rx based on FFR?

**55 patients with ambiguous left main disease**





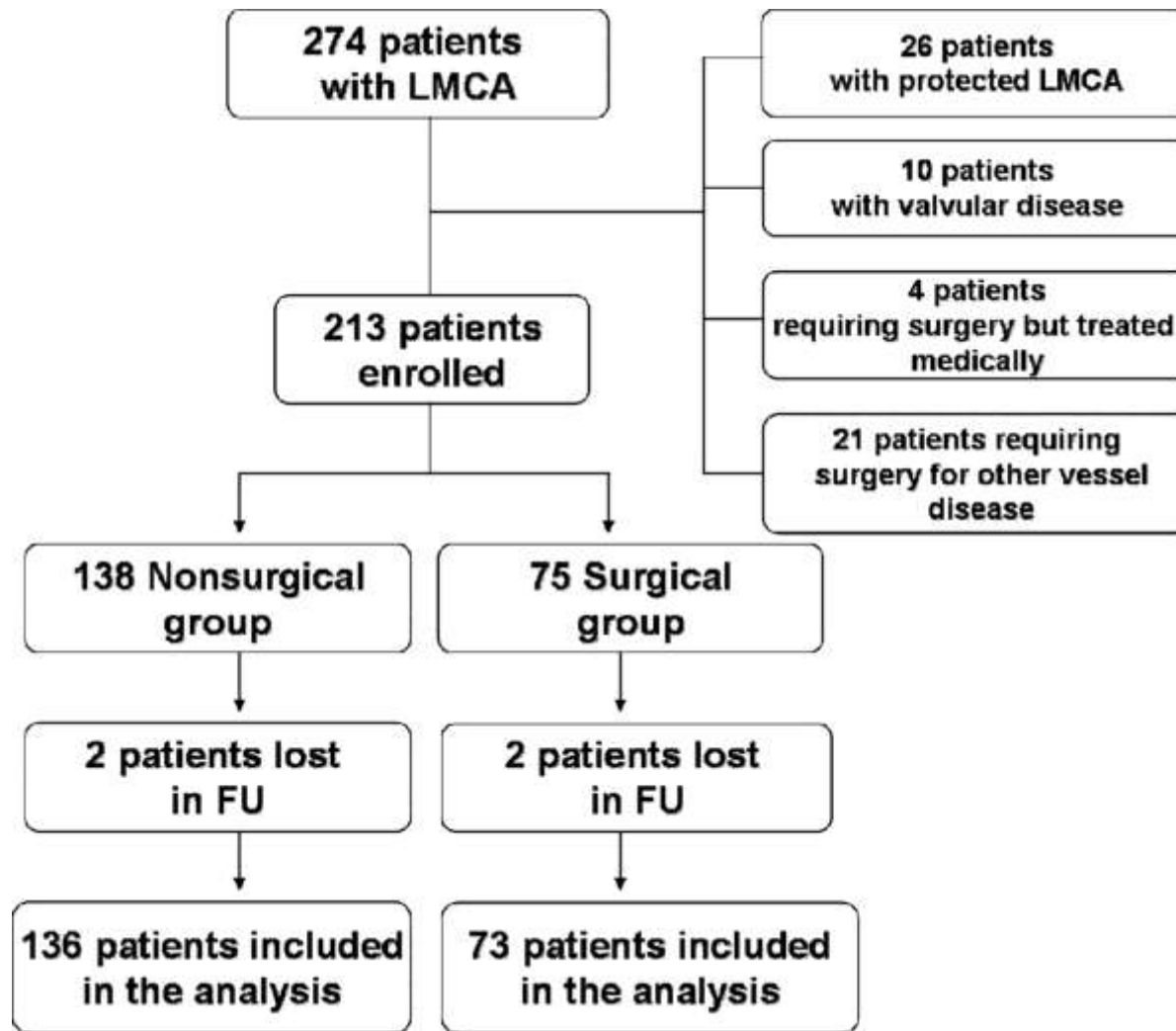
# FFR for Assessing LM Significance

## *Summary of Published Studies*

Patient #			FFR	FU	EFS		Survival	
Total population	Defer group*	Surgical group	Cut-off value	Mean (months)	Defer group* (%)	Surgical group (%)	Defer group* (%)	Surgical group (%)
54	24	30	0.75	29±15	76	83	100	97
51	37	14	0.75	25±11	90	100	100	100
27	20	7	0.75	26±12	90	86	100	86
38	20	18	0.75	24±12	90	89	100	89
15	8	7	0.75	33±10	100	71	100	100
51	24	27	0.75	29±16	69	66	100	81
(236)	(133)	(103)						

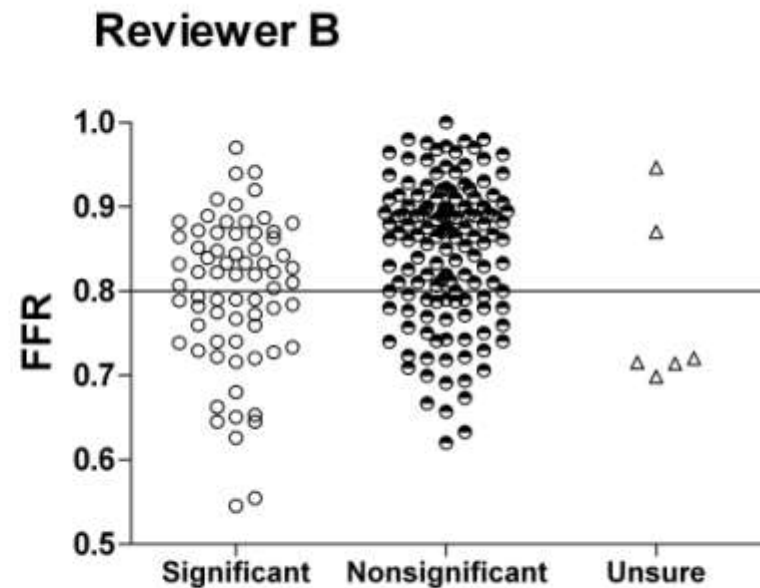
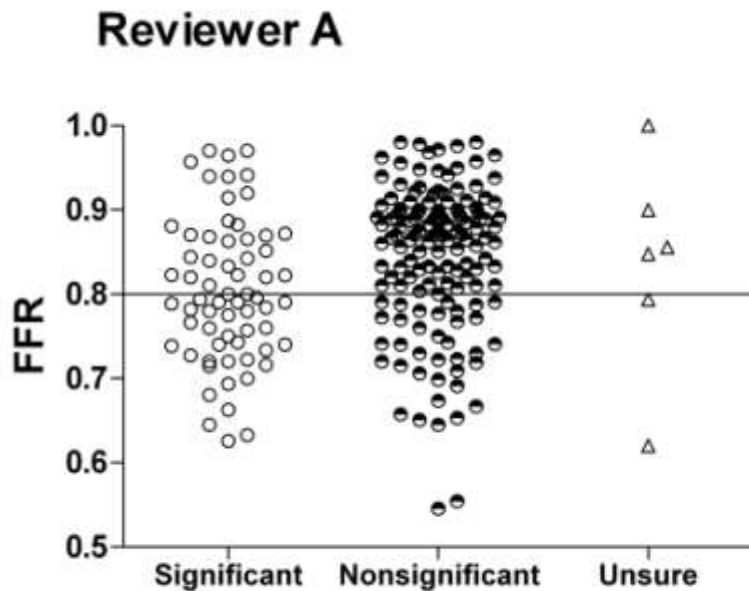


# FFR and Intermediate Left Main



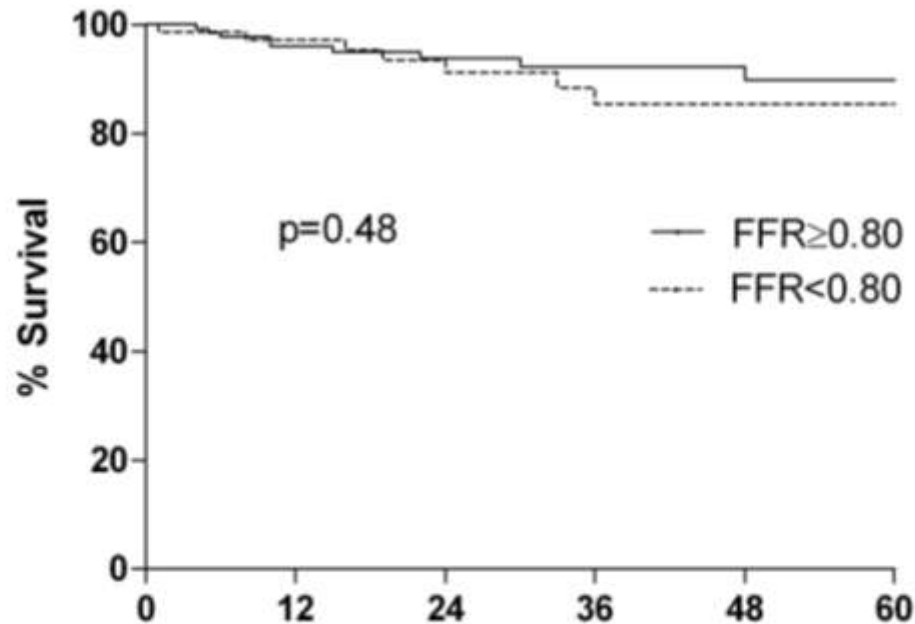
# FFR for Assessing LM Significance

*Poor correlation between “eyeball” and FFR*



# FFR for Assessing LM Significance

## *Survival Rate*

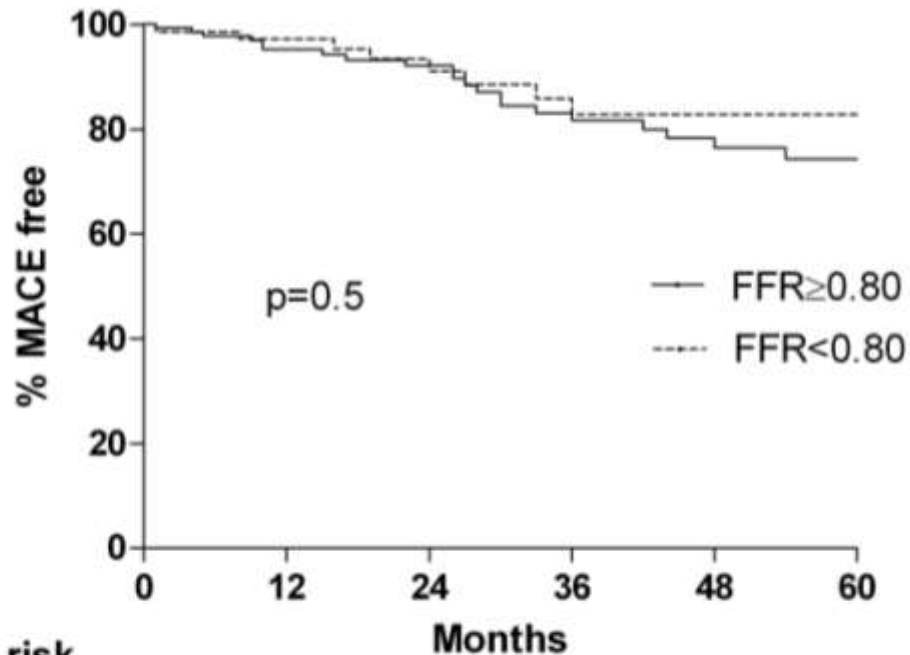


No at risk	Months					
FFR ≥ 0.80	136	103	72	52	38	26
FFR < 0.80	73	56	41	30	14	10



# FFR for Assessing LM Significance

## *MACE Rate*



No at risk

FFR $\geq$ 0.80	136	106	77	57	42	30
FFR<0.80	73	56	40	29	15	10



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# FFR of Left Main Disease

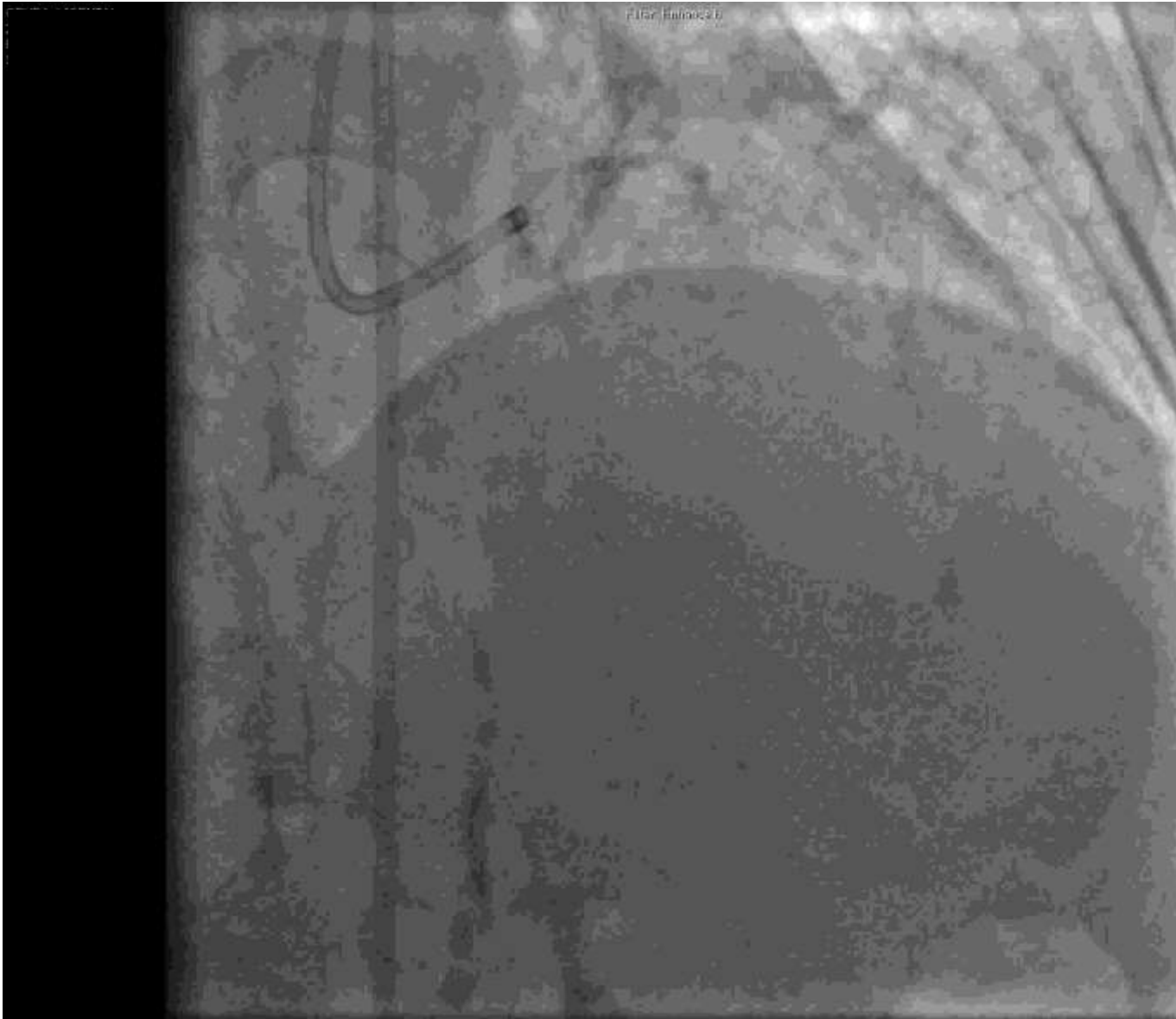
- Physiologic versus anatomic information
- Data supporting FFR assessment of LM
- **Limitations/Practical Aspects of FFR of LM**



F157\_Radioc2.b

5/1/2009 3:35:32 PM

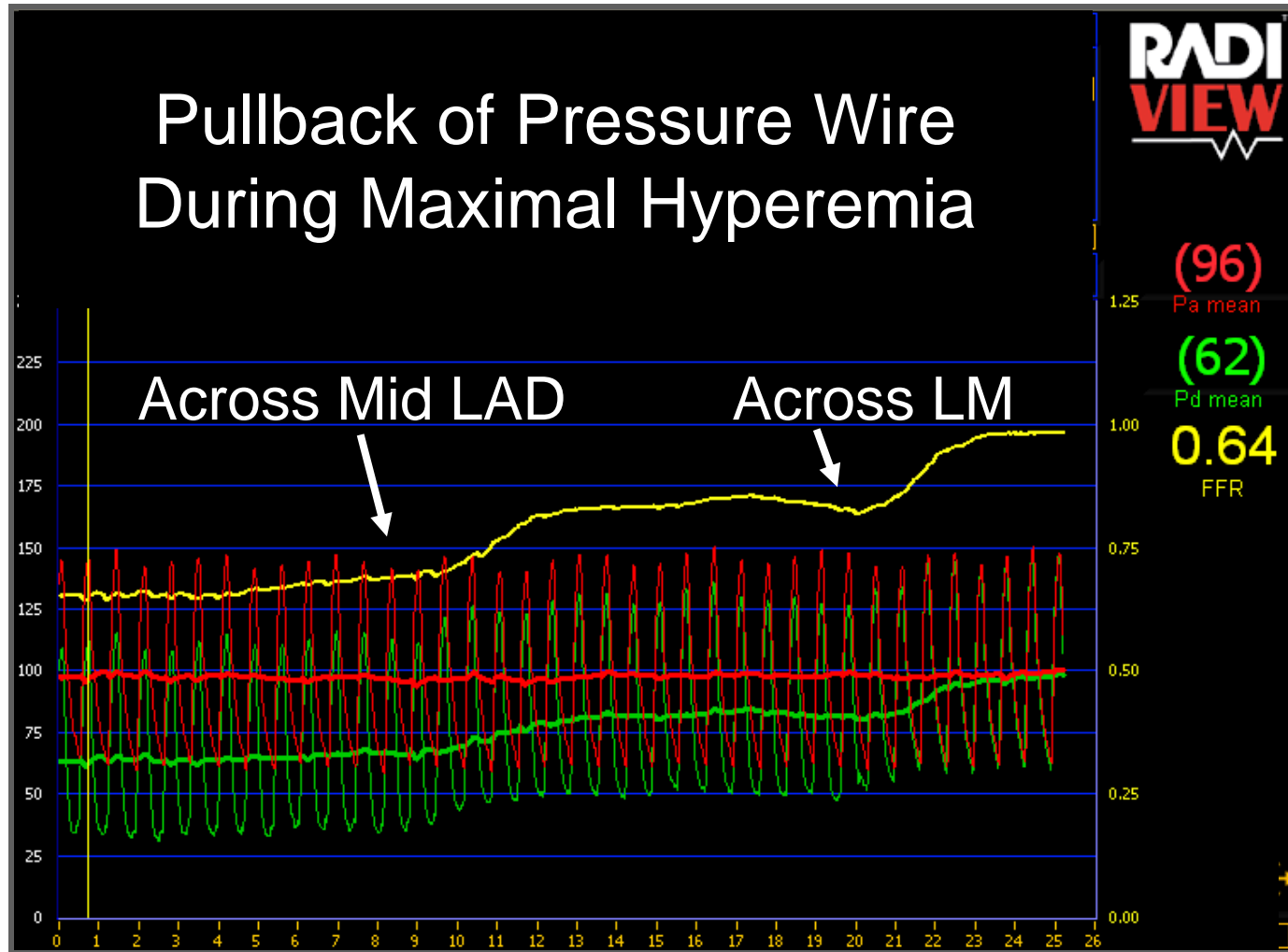
1  
P  
1264



13.60 RAD  
30.90 CRA

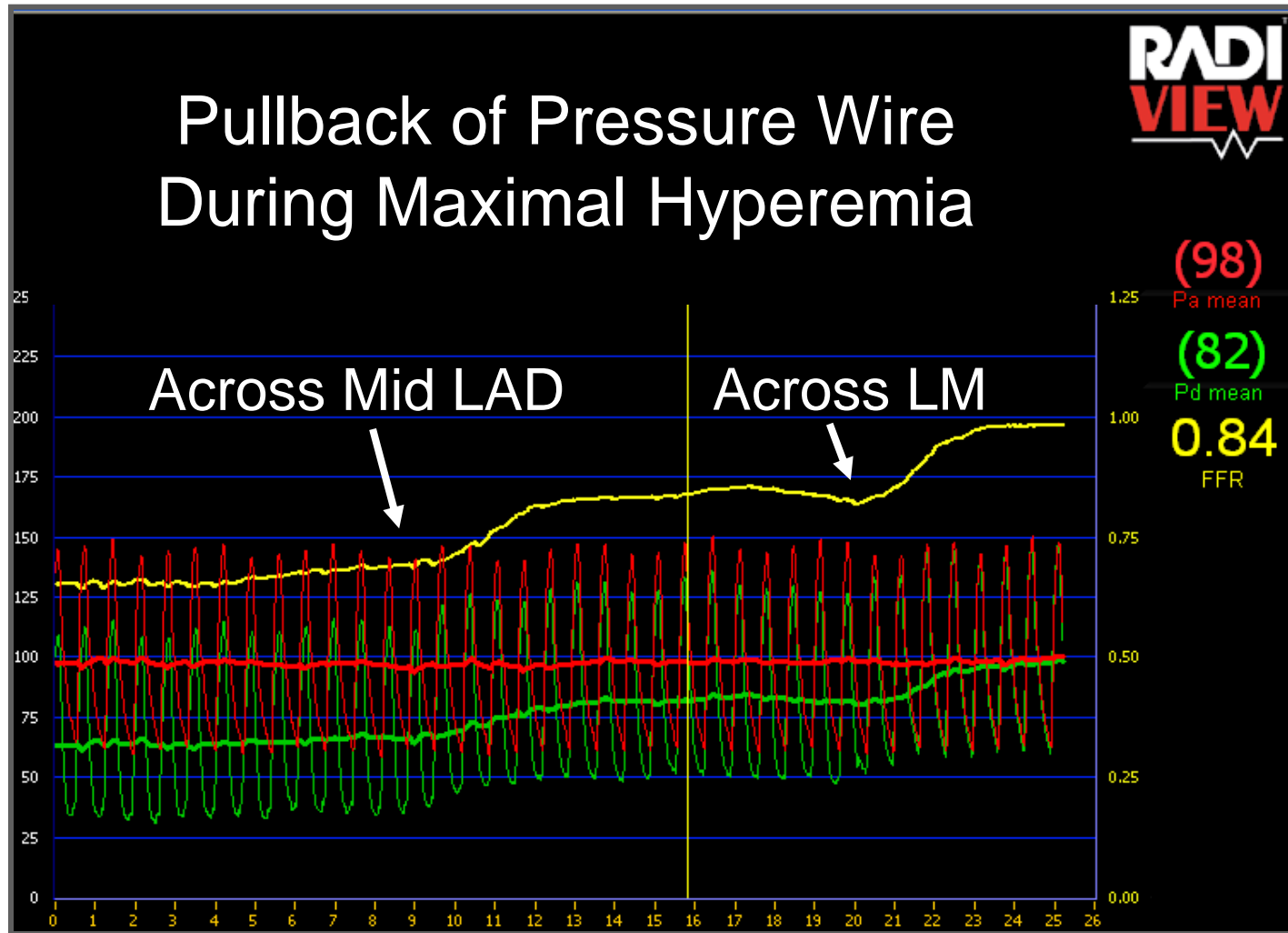


# FFR of Left Main

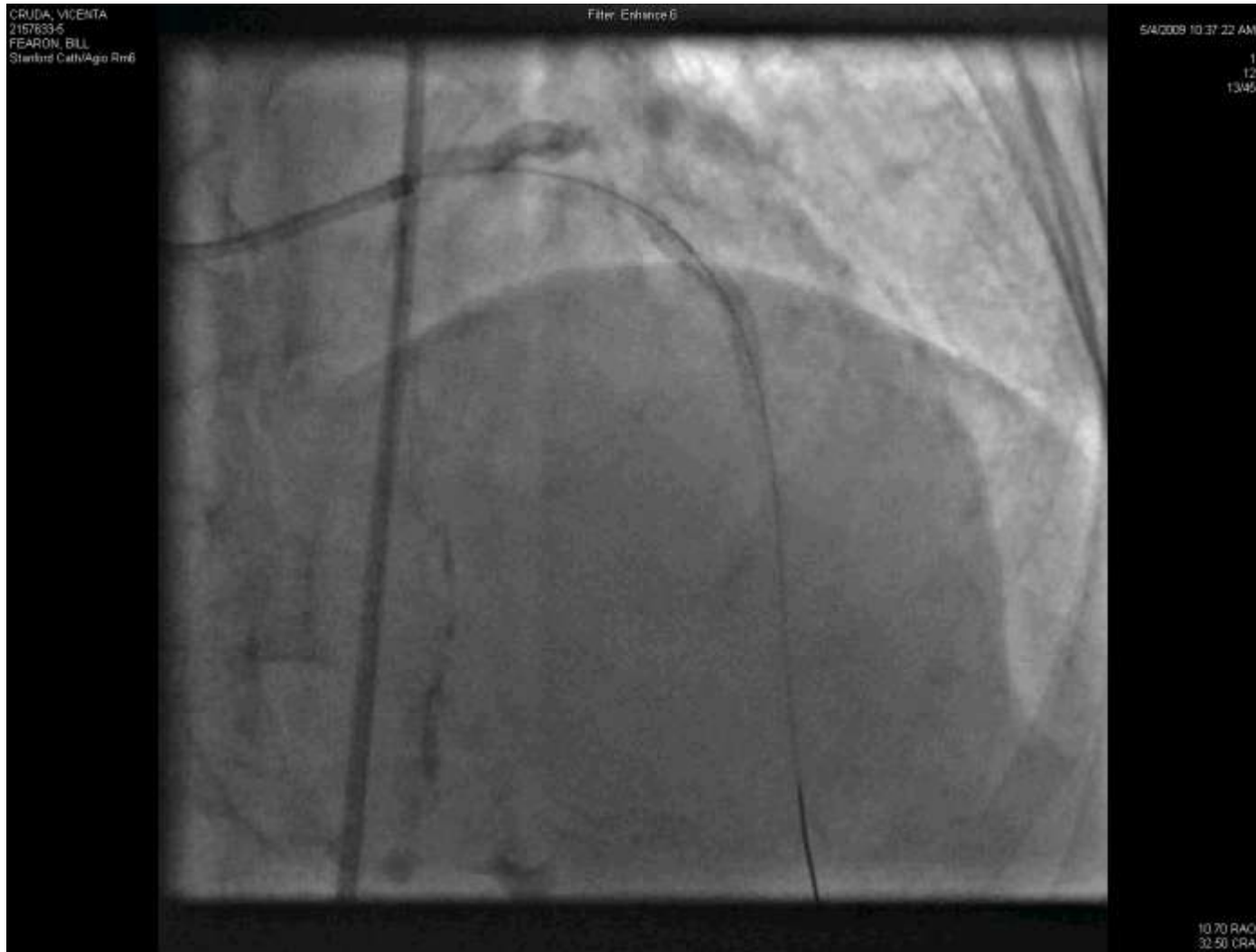




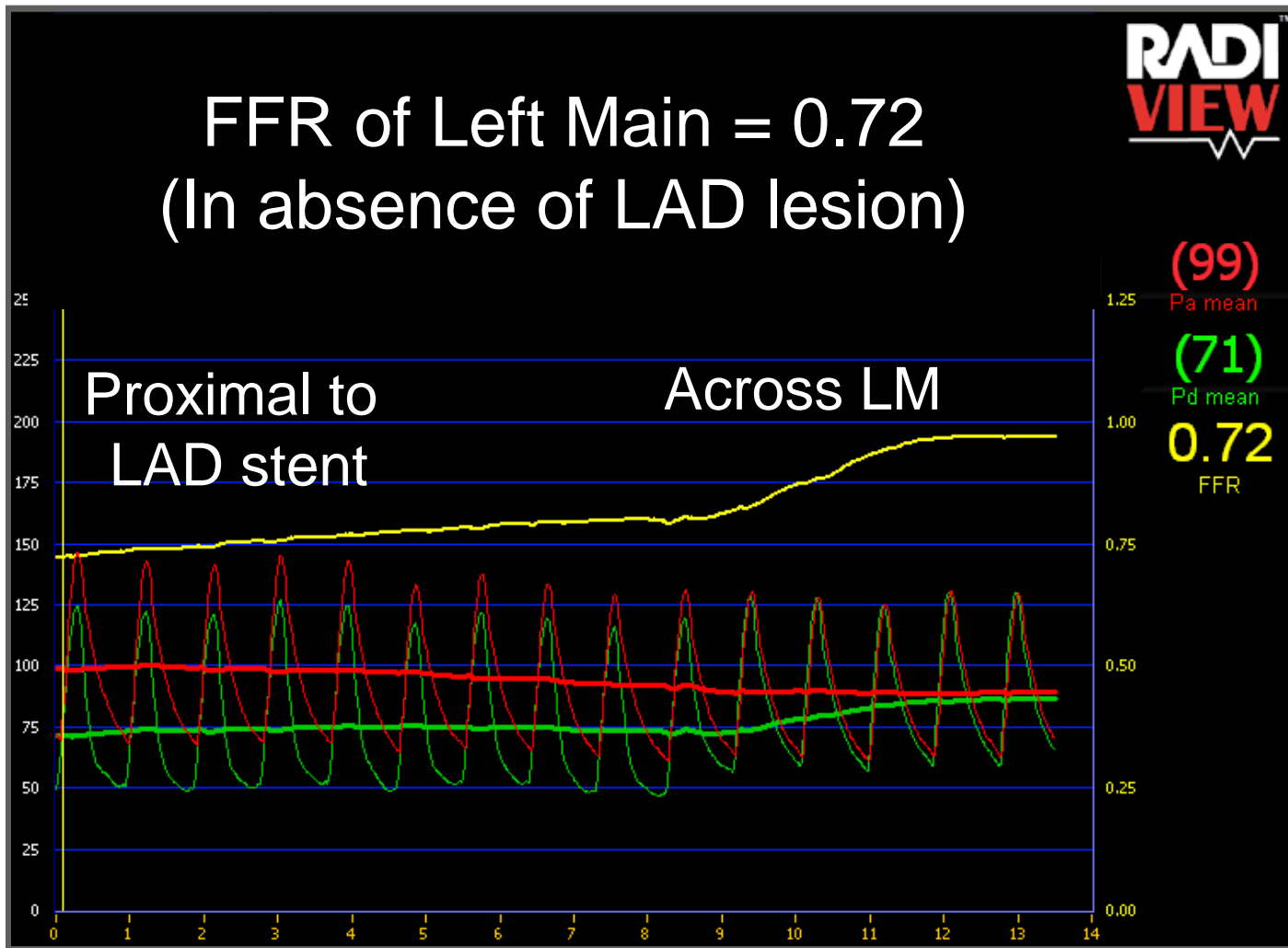
# FFR of Left Main



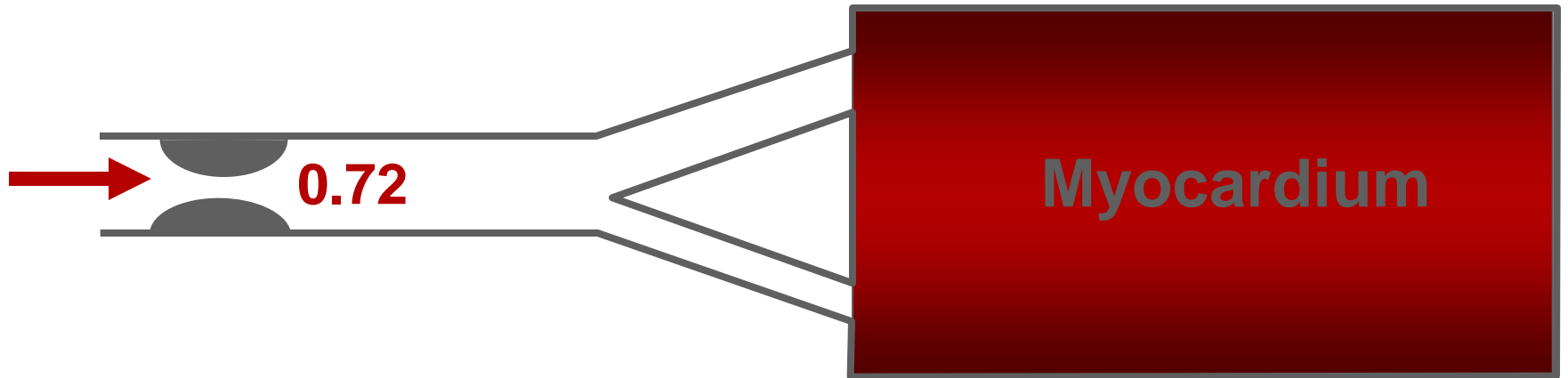
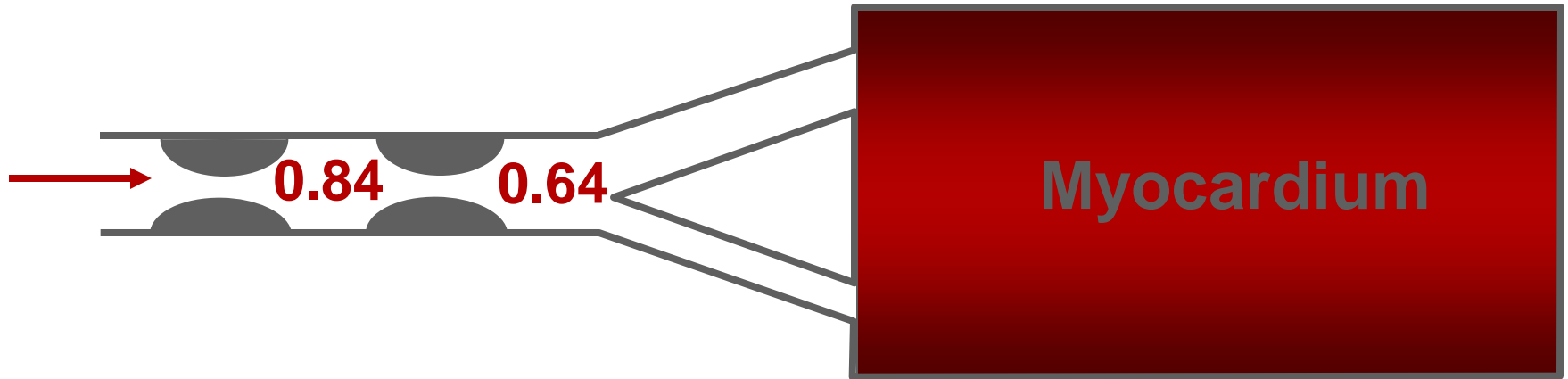
# After rotational atherectomy and 2.5x28 mm DES, post-dilated to 3.0 mm



# FFR of Left Main



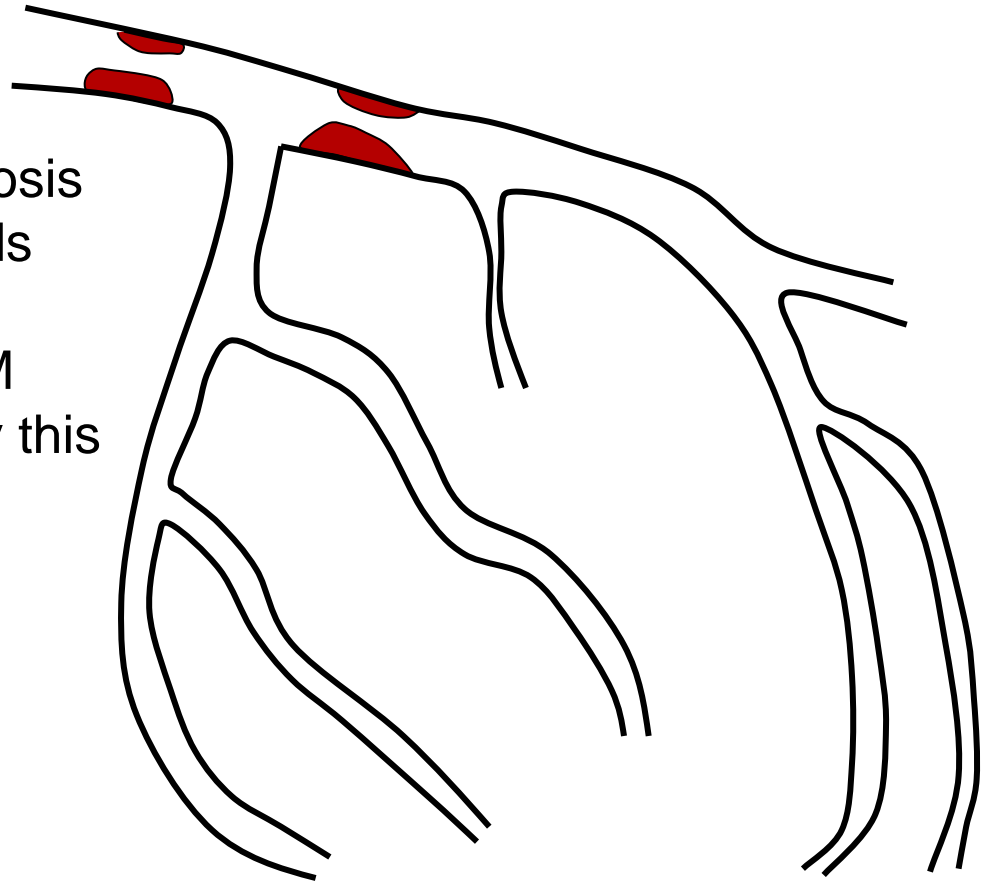
# Effect of Tandem Lesions



# Left Main Stem Stenoses are Rarely Isolated

The influence of a distal stenosis on the FFR of the LM depends on the extent to which hyperemic flow across the LM stenosis will be decreased by this distal lesion

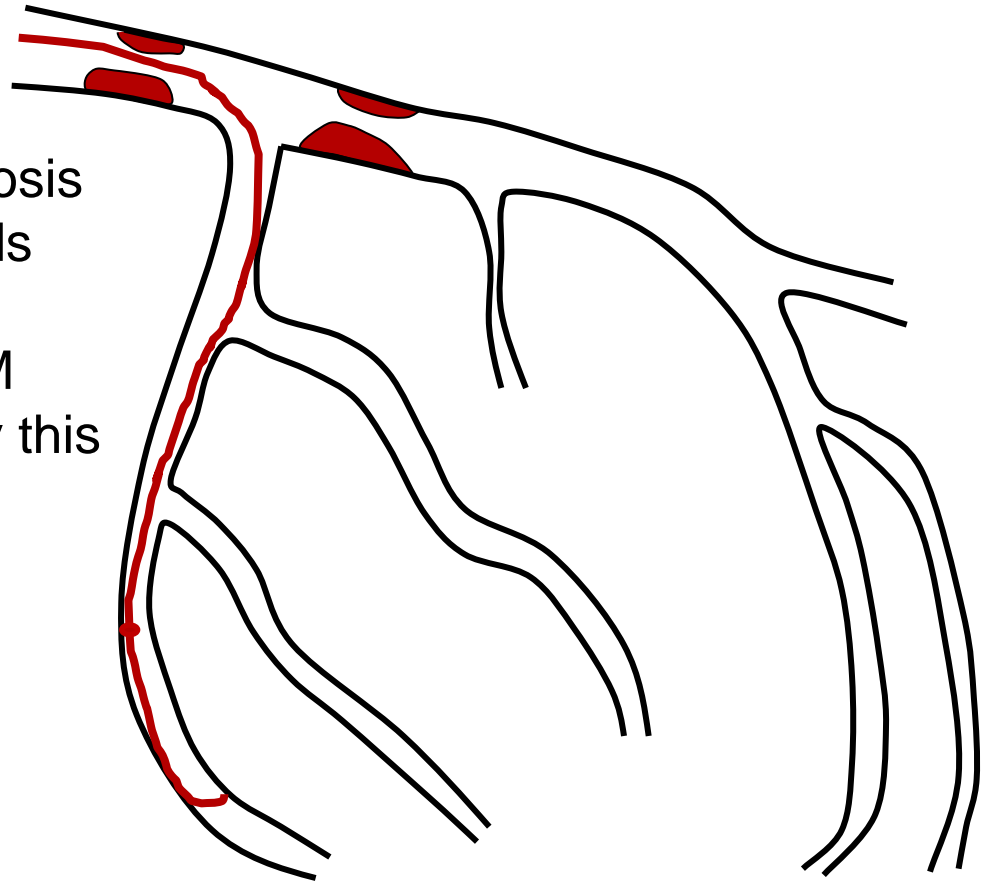
- Severity
- Myocardial mass



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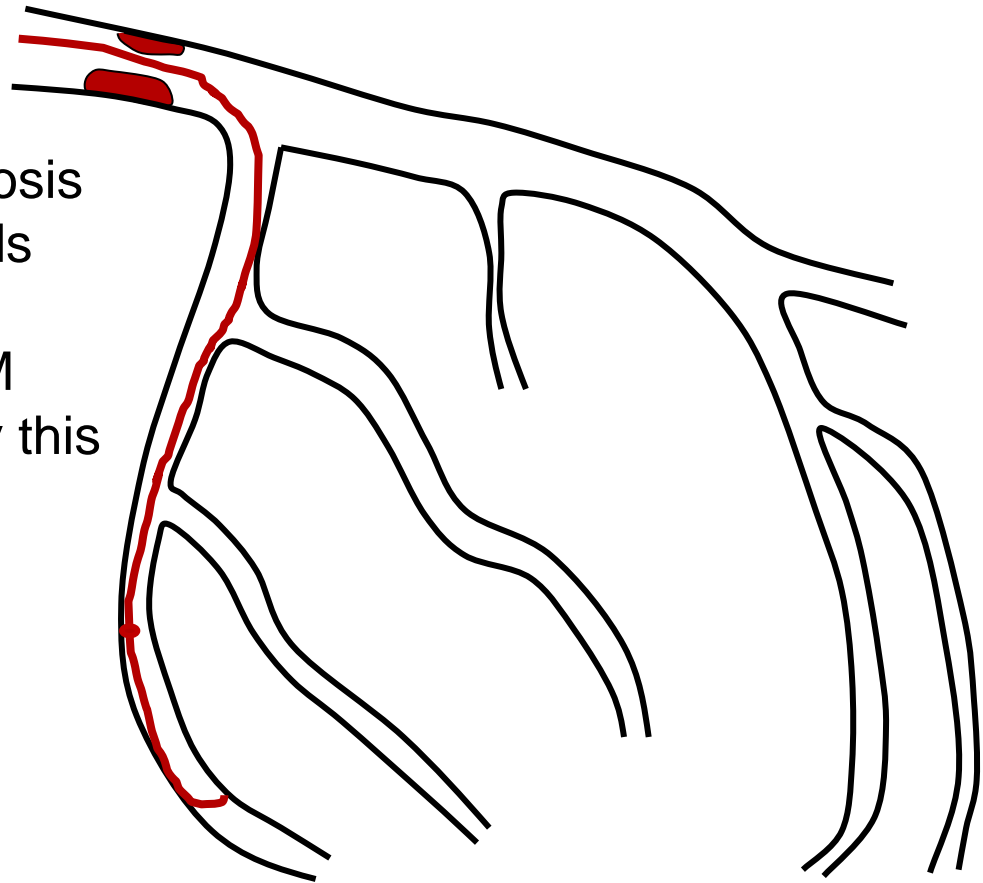
- Severity
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# Left Main Stem Stenoses are Rarely Isolated

The influence of a distal stenosis on the FFR of the LM depends on the extent to which hyperemic flow across the LM stenosis will be decreased by this distal lesion

- Severity
- Myocardial mass



# Effect of Epicardial Lesions on FFR Assessment of Intermediate LM Disease



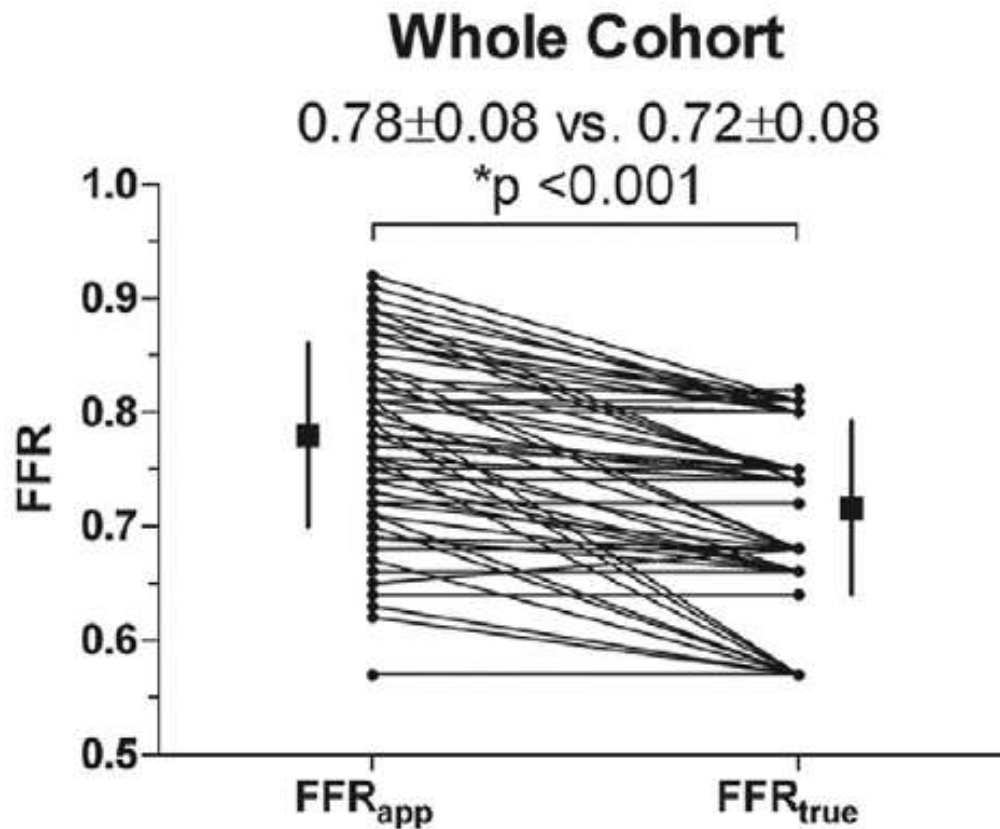
*In Vitro Model*





# Effect of Epicardial Lesions on FFR Assessment of Intermediate LM Disease

## *In Vitro Model*



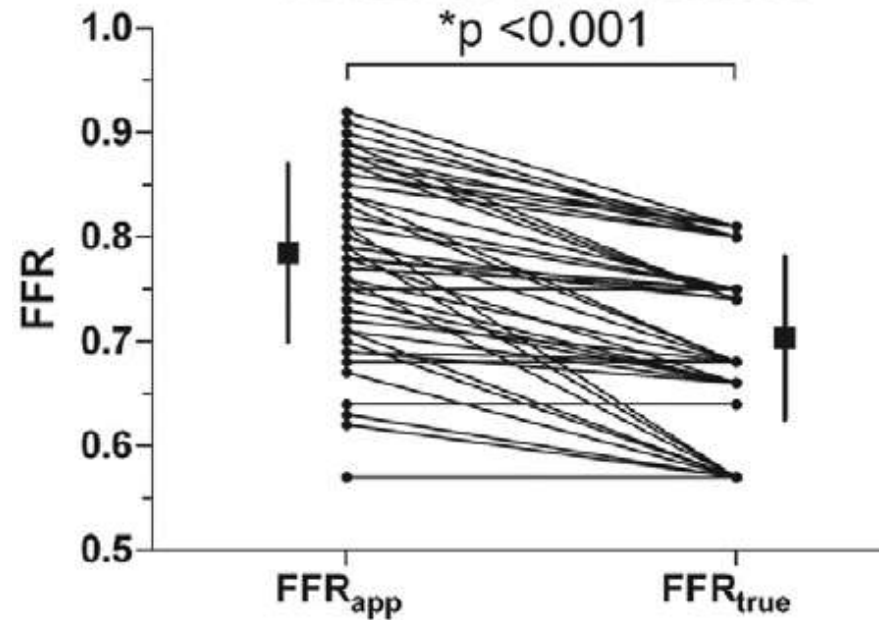
# Effect of Epicardial Lesions on FFR Assessment of Intermediate LM Disease

## *In Vitro Model*

### Composite FFR <0.65

$0.79 \pm 0.09$  vs.  $0.70 \pm 0.08$

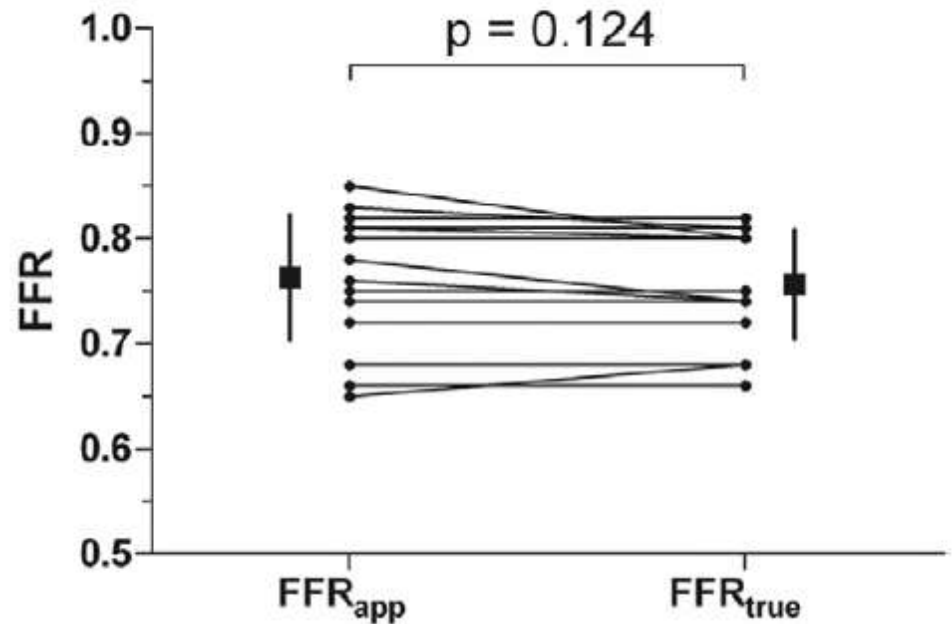
\* $p < 0.001$



### Composite FFR $\geq 0.65$

$0.76 \pm 0.06$  vs.  $0.76 \pm 0.05$

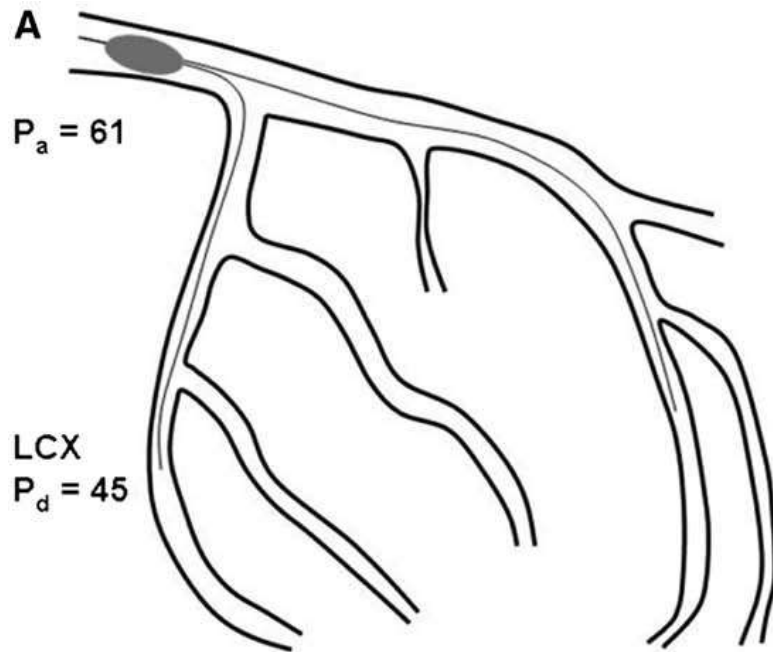
$p = 0.124$



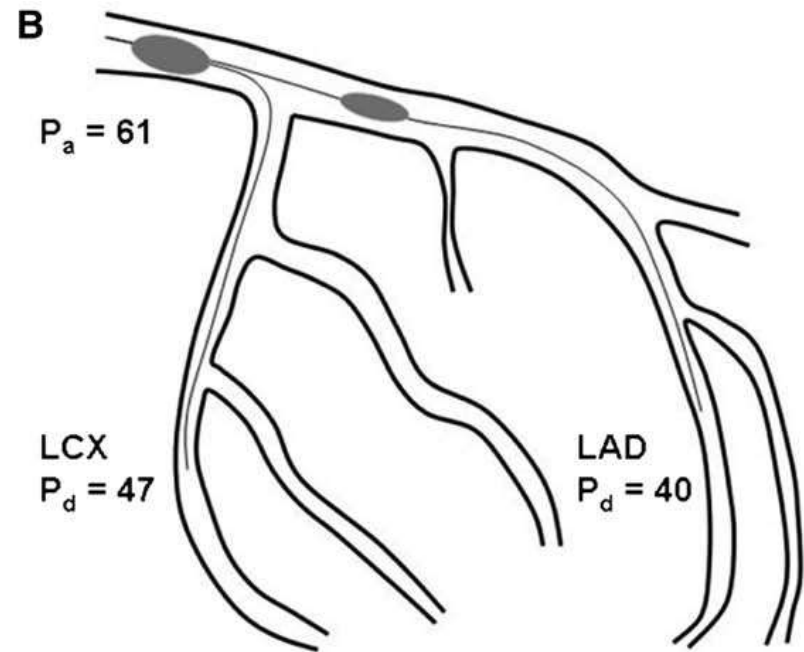
# Effect of Epicardial Lesions on FFR

## Assessment of Intermediate LM Disease

### *Animal Model*



$$FFR_{\text{true}} = 45/61 = 0.74$$



$$FFR_{\text{app}} = 47/61 = 0.77$$

$$FFR_{\text{epicardial}} = 40/61 = 0.66$$

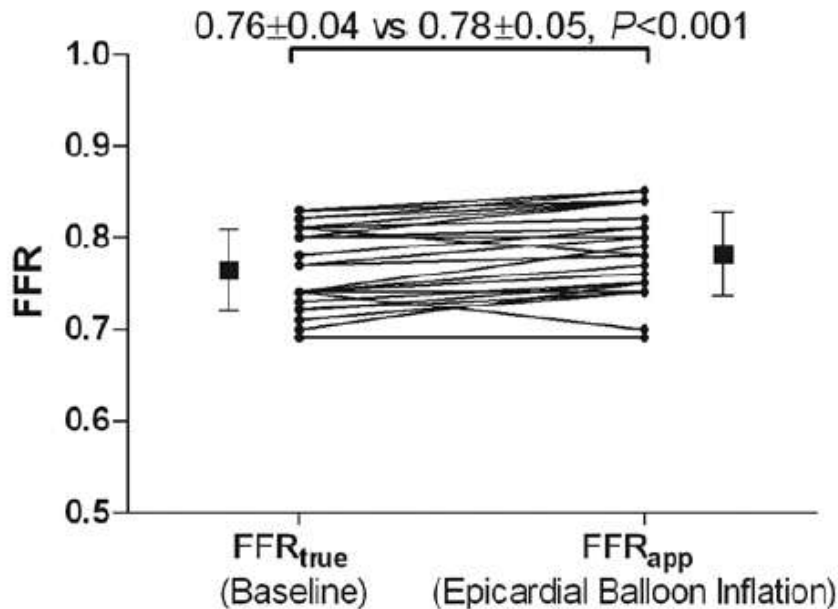


# Effect of Epicardial Lesions on FFR

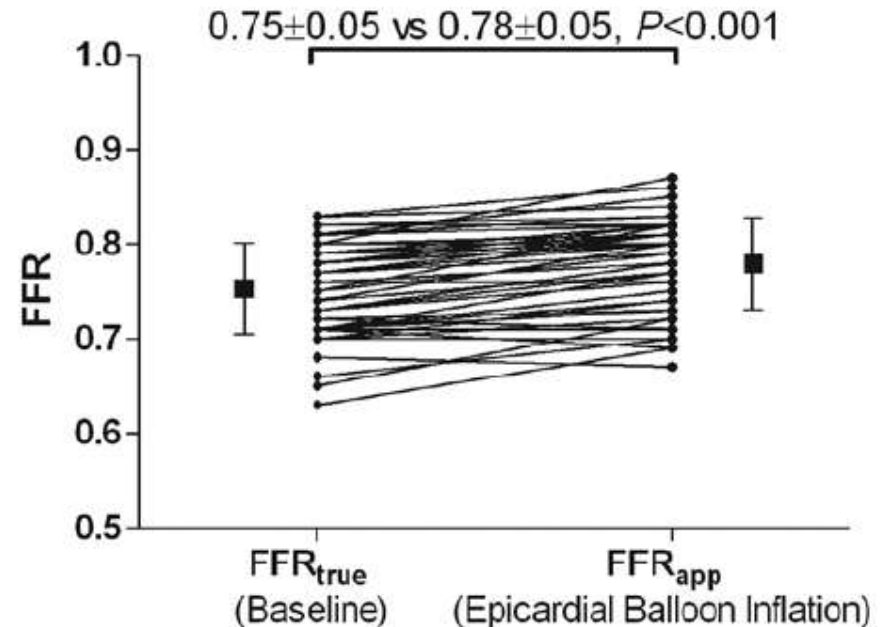
## Assessment of Intermediate LM Disease

### *Animal Model*

**Mild Epicardial Disease**  
( $FFR_{epicardial}$  0.70-0.80)



**Moderate Epicardial Disease**  
( $FFR_{epicardial}$  0.60-0.69)

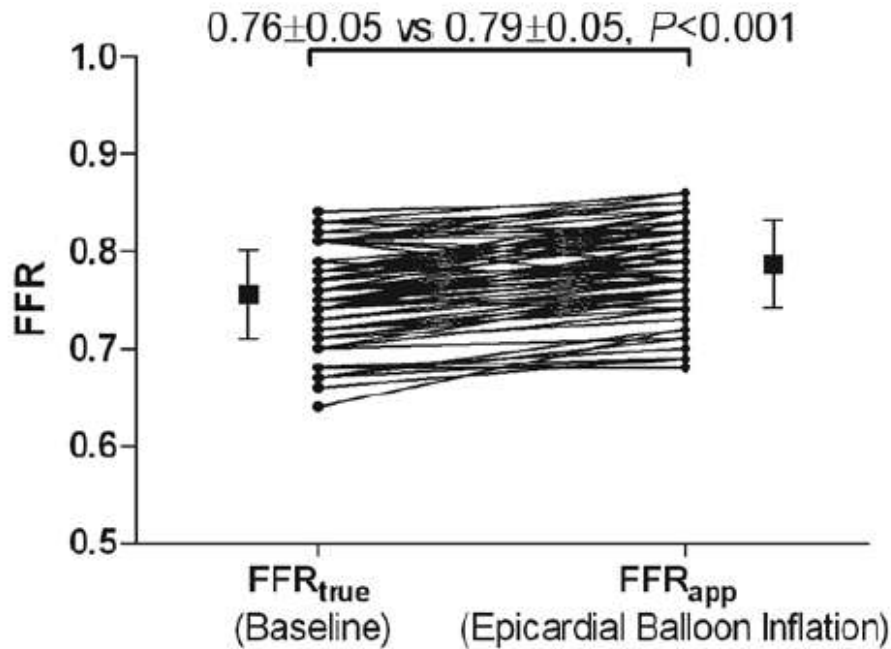


# Effect of Epicardial Lesions on FFR

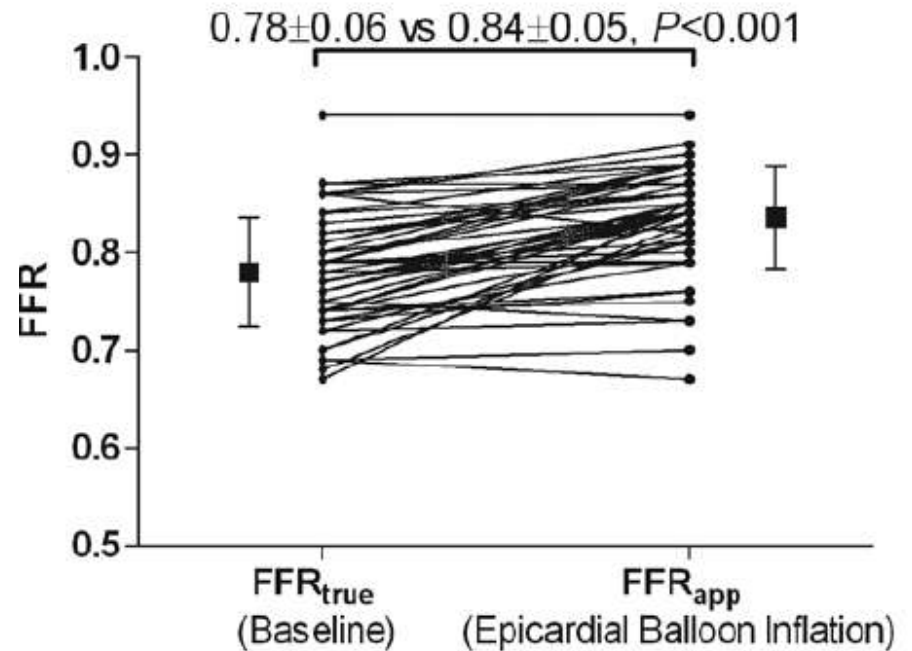
## Assessment of Intermediate LM Disease

### *Animal Model*

**Severe Epicardial Disease**  
( $FFR_{\text{epicardial}}$  0.40-0.59)

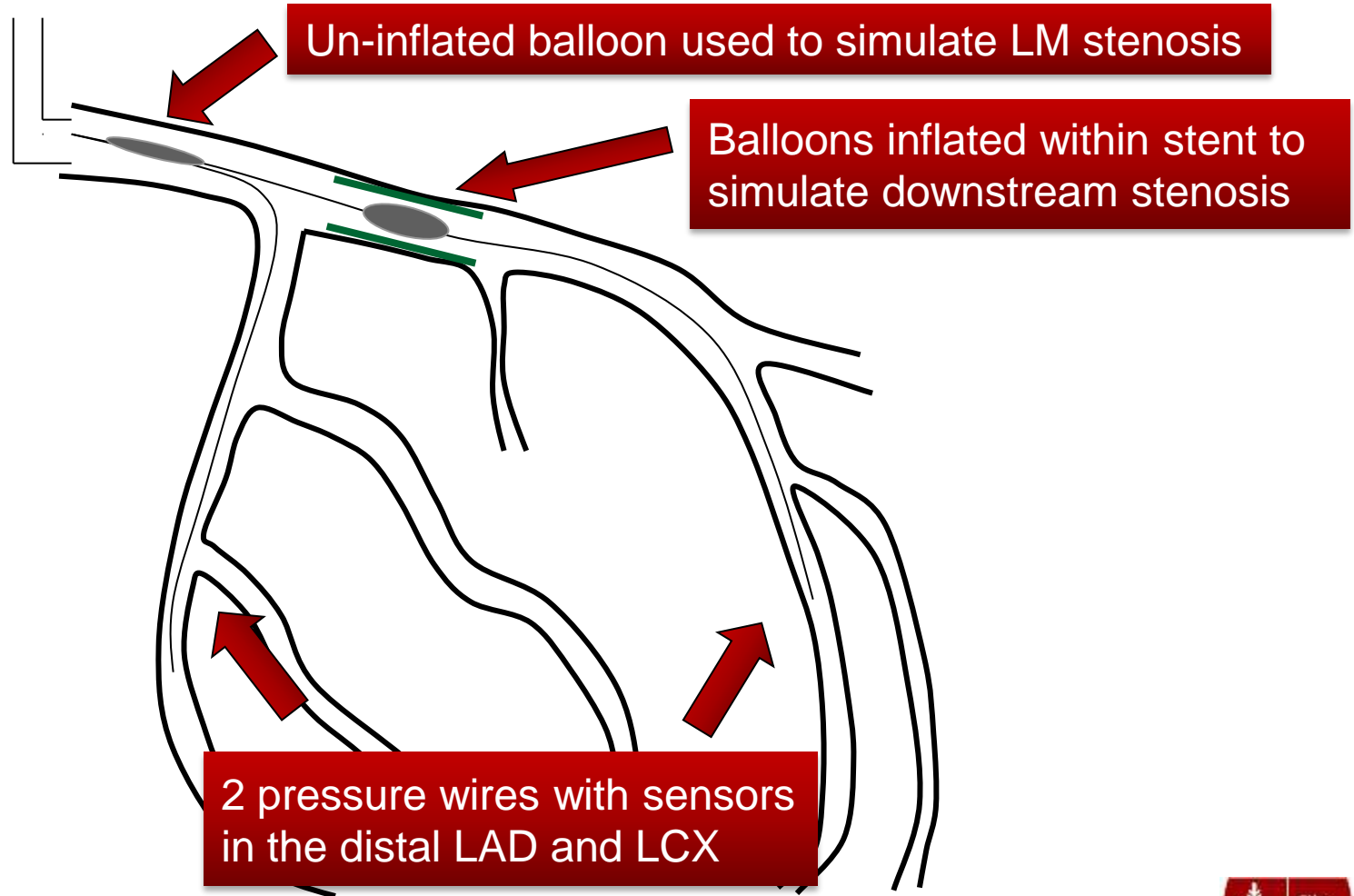


**Complete Epicardial Occlusion**  
( $FFR_{\text{epicardial}} < 0.40$ )



# Effect of Downstream Stenosis on LM FFR:

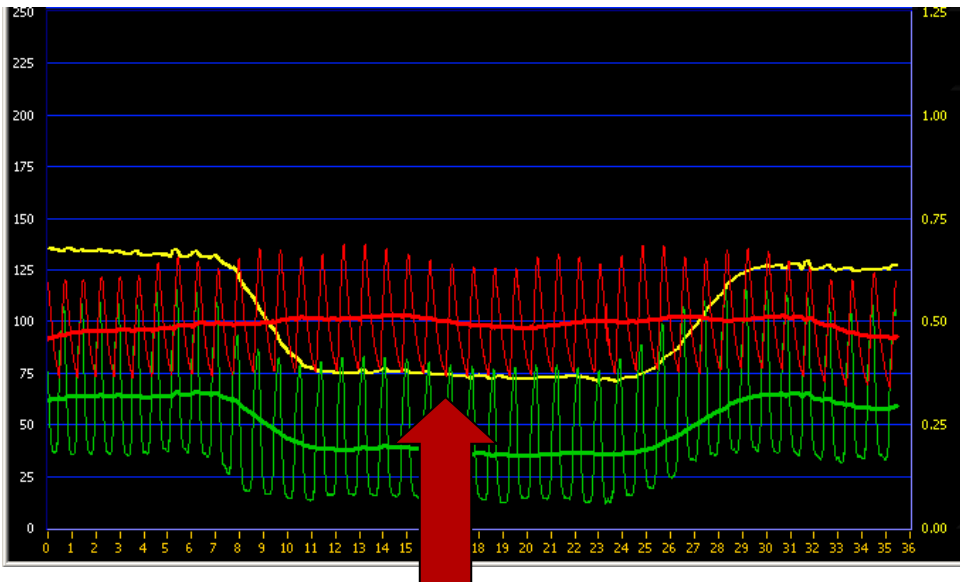
## *Human Validation*



# Effect of Downstream Stenosis on LM FFR:

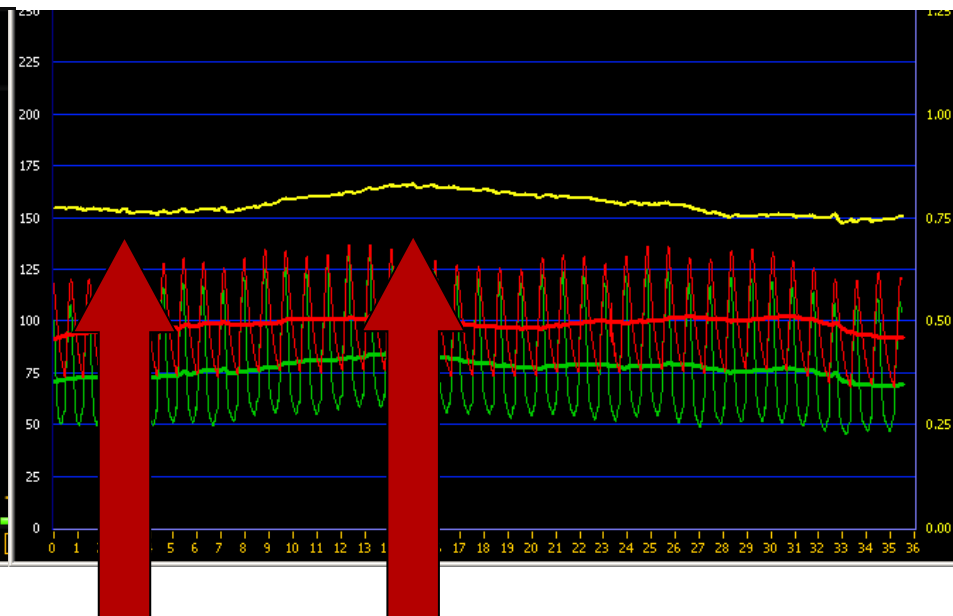
## *Human Validation*

Pressure wire in LAD:



Balloon inflated in LAD  
Epicardial FFR 0.35

Pressure wire in LCX (LMain FFR):



FFR without balloon inflation 0.76  
FFR with balloon inflation 0.84

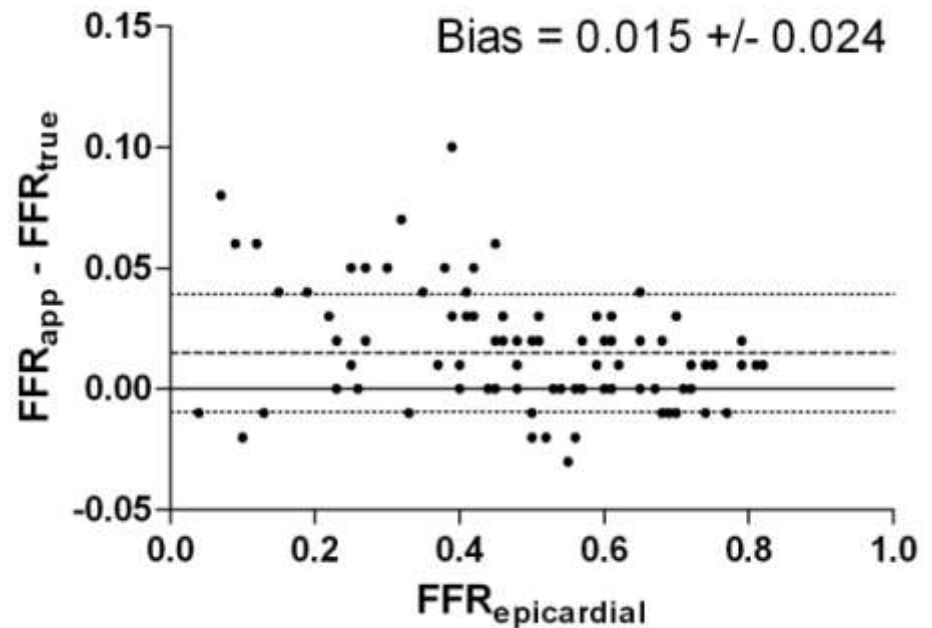
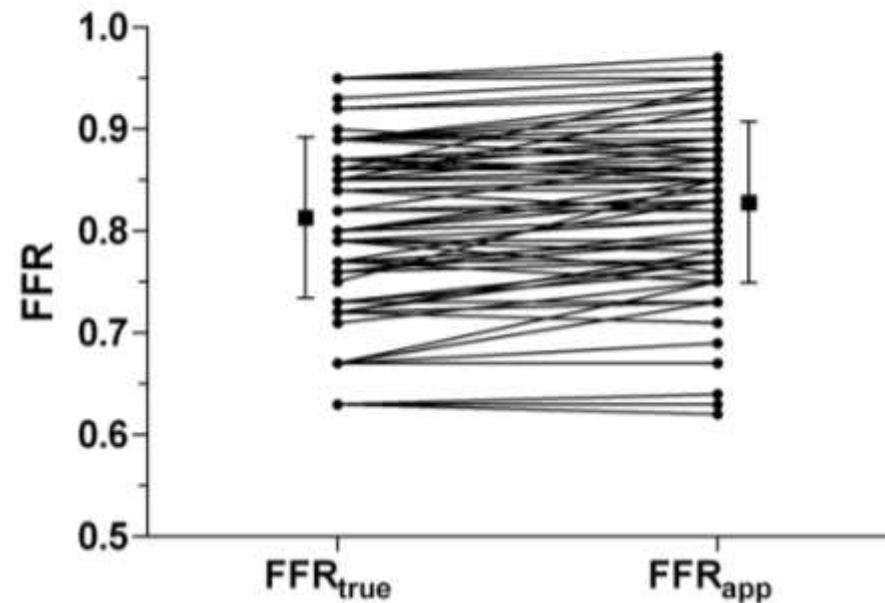


# Effect of Downstream Stenosis on LM FFR:

## *Human Validation*

91 paired measurements obtained in 24 patients

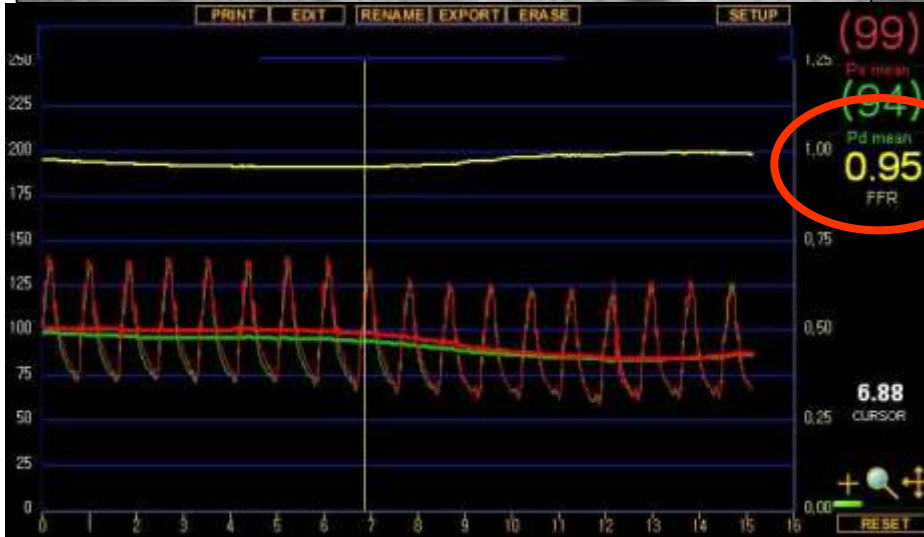
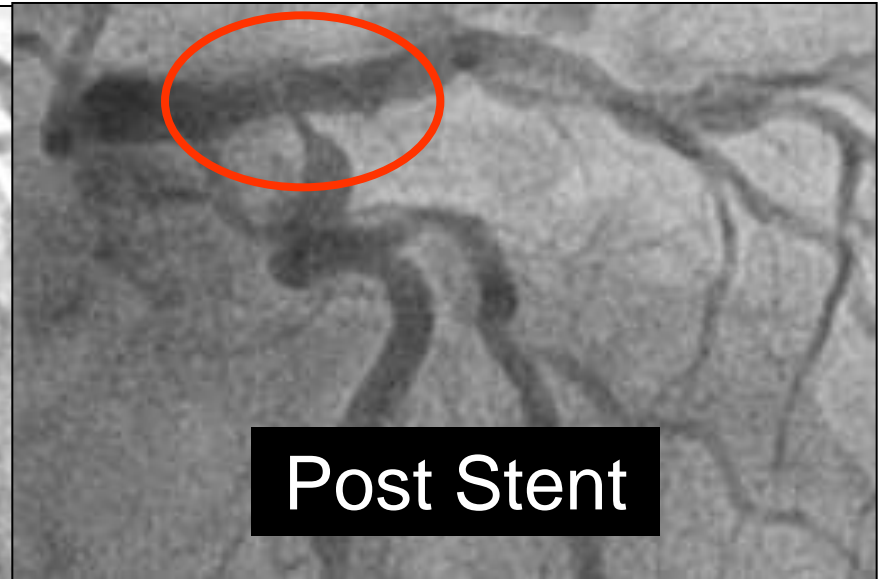
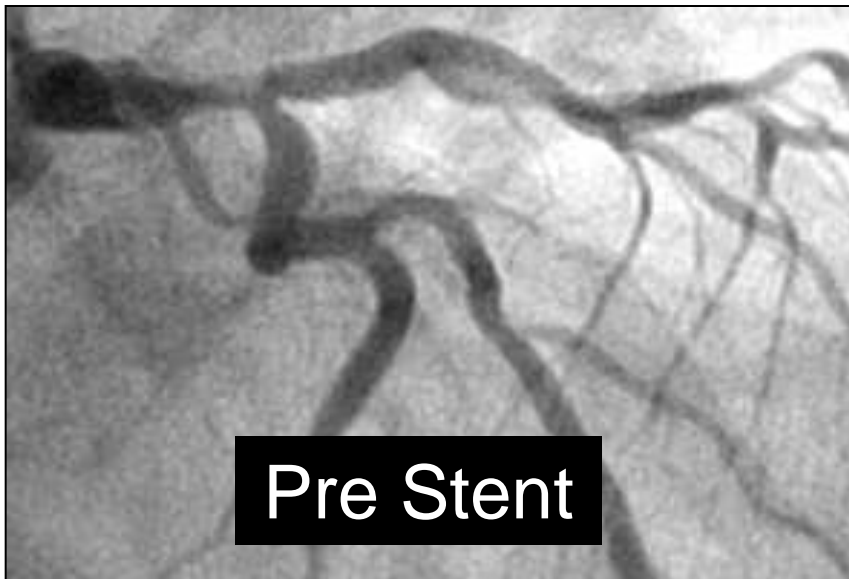
$0.81 \pm 0.08$  vs.  $0.83 \pm 0.08$ ,  $P < 0.001$



***When FFR<sub>app</sub> > 0.85, FFR<sub>true</sub> > 0.80 100% of the time.***

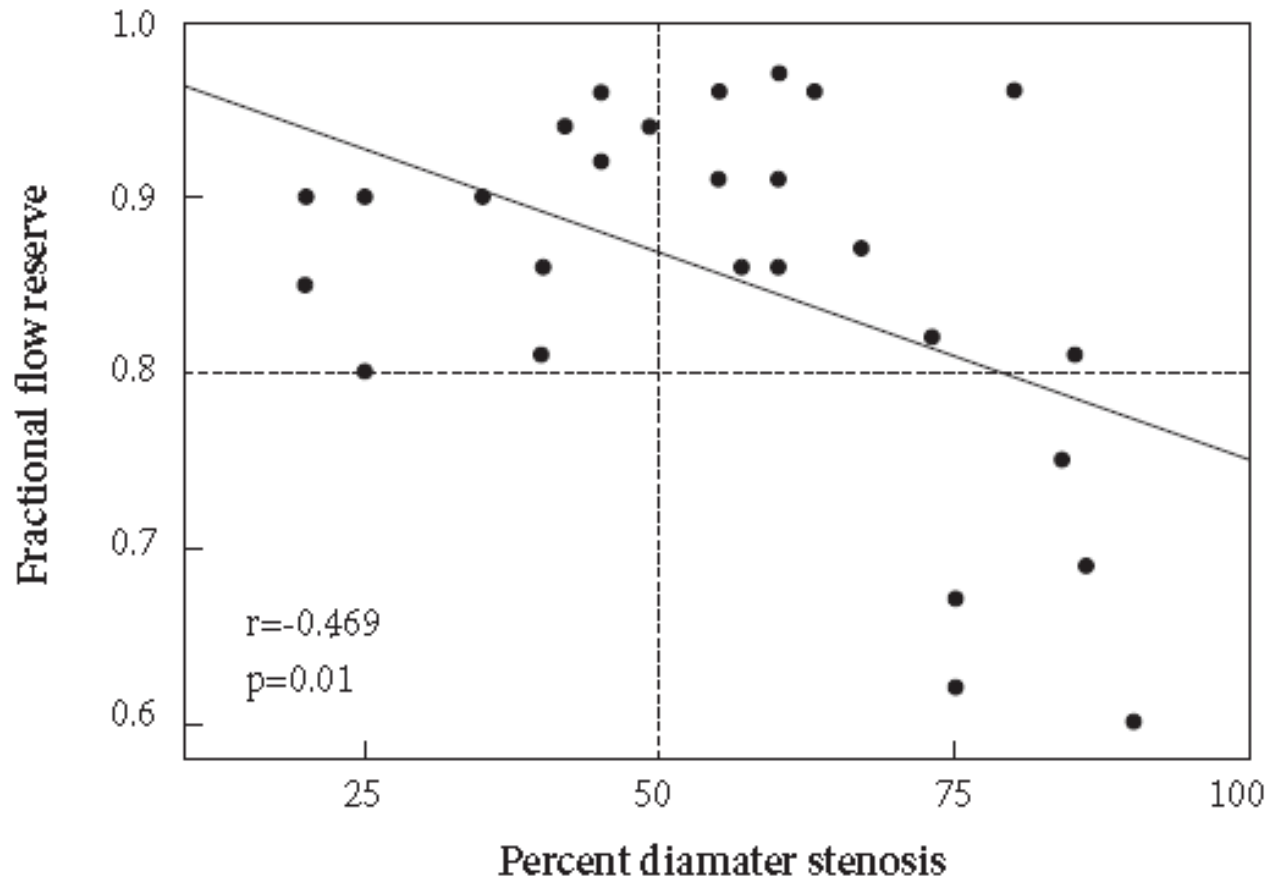






# FFR of “Jailed” Left Circumflex

*29 patients with LM/LAD crossover stenting with FFR of “jailed” Cx*



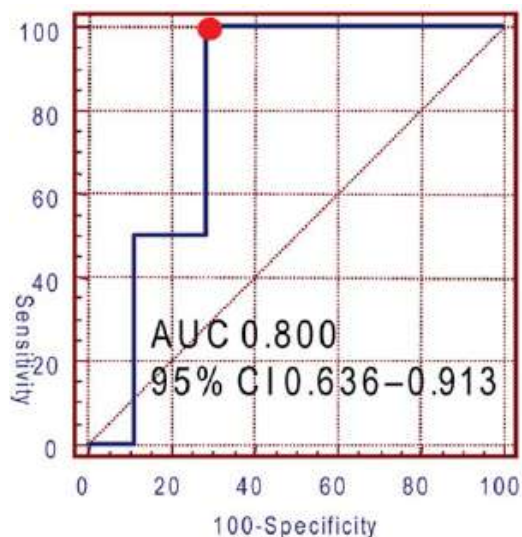
# FFR of “jailed” Circumflex

Mean 20 month follow-up	Defer group n = 24	PCI group n = 5
Death, n	0	1
Myocardial Infarction, n	0	0
TLR, n	3	1
Stent Thrombosis, n	0	0
<b>Total Events, n</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>



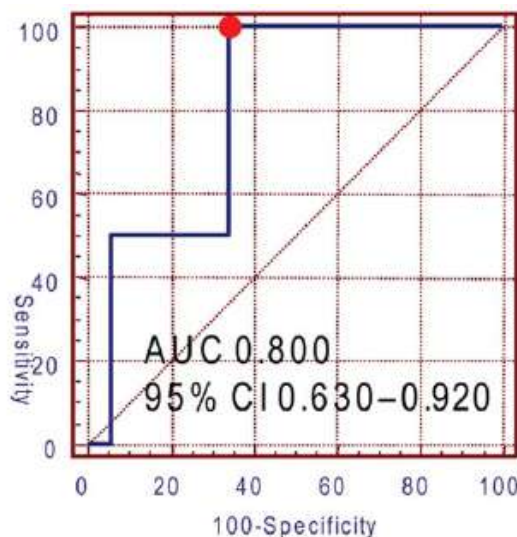
# FFR of “Jailed” Circumflex

*Pre-PCI IVUS predictors of functionally significant “jailed” circumflex*



**MLA 3.7mm<sup>2</sup>**

Sensitivity 100%  
Specificity 71%  
PPV 16%  
NPV 100%



**Plaque burden 56%**

Sensitivity 100%  
Specificity 65%  
PPV 14%  
NPV 100%

**Only 3 out of 43 (7%) patients had an FFR of L Cx < 0.80 post PCI**



# An Approach to the Equivocal LM

- First measure FFR in the least diseased vessel, preferably the LAD, with a pullback
  - If FFR  $< 0.80$ , then revascularize
  - If FFR  $> 0.85$ , then treat medically
  - If FFR between 0.80 and 0.85 and there is significant downstream epicardial disease in the other epicardial vessel, then consider IVUS
- Never forget the patient and the clinical scenario



# Practical Aspects

- **Intravenous adenosine is the ideal hyperemic agent because it allows time to pull the guide catheter out of the ostium.**
- **If possible, confirm pressure gradient across left main by checking FFR in both the LAD and Circumflex and by performing a pullback of the pressure wire.**
- **A physiologic evaluation of left main disease, compared to an anatomic evaluation alone, is safe and appropriate, just as it is in non-left main CAD.**

