

# HFpEF

## Prognostic stratification



**The Korean Society of Cardiology**

Thierry C. Gillebert, MD, PhD, FESC  
European Society of Cardiology  
Ghent University, Belgium



# HFrEF and HFpEF

- **HFrEF**
  - Primary disease of the heart
  - Multi-organ adaptations: neuro-humoral, inflammatory and epi-genetic
  - Secondary changes due to deficient organ perfusion and/or due to maladaptive mechanisms
- **HFpEF**
  - Simultaneous dysfunction of heart, arteries, kidneys, pulmonary circulation and skeletal muscle
  - Maladaptive aging

# Prognostic stratification

## Recent publications

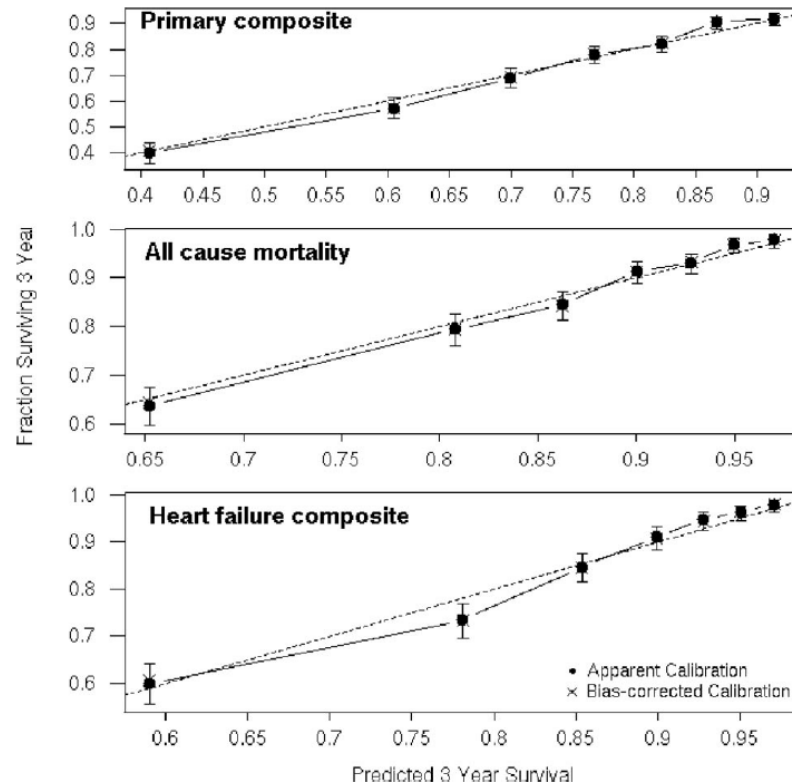
- **General approach starting from a population**
  - I-PRESERVE, Randomized Controlled Trial
  - Karolinska–Rennes (KaRen) Population Study
- **Echo substudies of RCT's & Registries**
  - I-PRESERVE study
  - TOPCAT study
  - Olmsted County Registry
- **Search for specific prognostic parameters**
  - Worsening renal function and microalbuminuria
  - Arterial function (reflected waves, Pb, late–systolic hypertension)

# Factors associated with outcome I-PRESERVE

- 4128 patients in the I-PRESERVE trial (Irbesartan in HFpEF)
- 58 baseline demographic, clinical, and biological variables to model outcome primary outcome of all-cause mortality or cardiovascular hospitalization (1505 events), all-cause mortality (881 events), and HF death or hospitalization (716 events)
- **Age**  
**previous hospitalisation for HF**  
**diabetes**  
**NT-pro-BNP**  
**EF (mortality)**
- Other factors: QOL, COPD, inflammation (neutrophile count), heart rate and estimated GFR

# I-PRESERVE

## Models to predict outcome



**Figure 2.** Calibration of model selection by using Efron bootstrap, with  $B=200$  resamples and 7 equally divided groups of patients by 3-year survival probability. Fraction surviving ( $y$ -axis) is from Kaplan–Meier estimates. Predicted survival ( $x$ -axis) is from Cox proportional hazard model.

# KaRen Study

- **What?** prospective observational study designed to characterize HFpEF
- **Selection:** Framingham criteria, LVEF  $\geq 45\%$ , and NT-pro-BNP  $\geq 300$  ng/L or BNP  $\geq 100$  ng/L.
- **Population:** 539 patients age 79 (72–84) years
- **Endpoints:**
  - HF hospitalization or all-cause mortality
  - All-cause mortality

# KaRen study

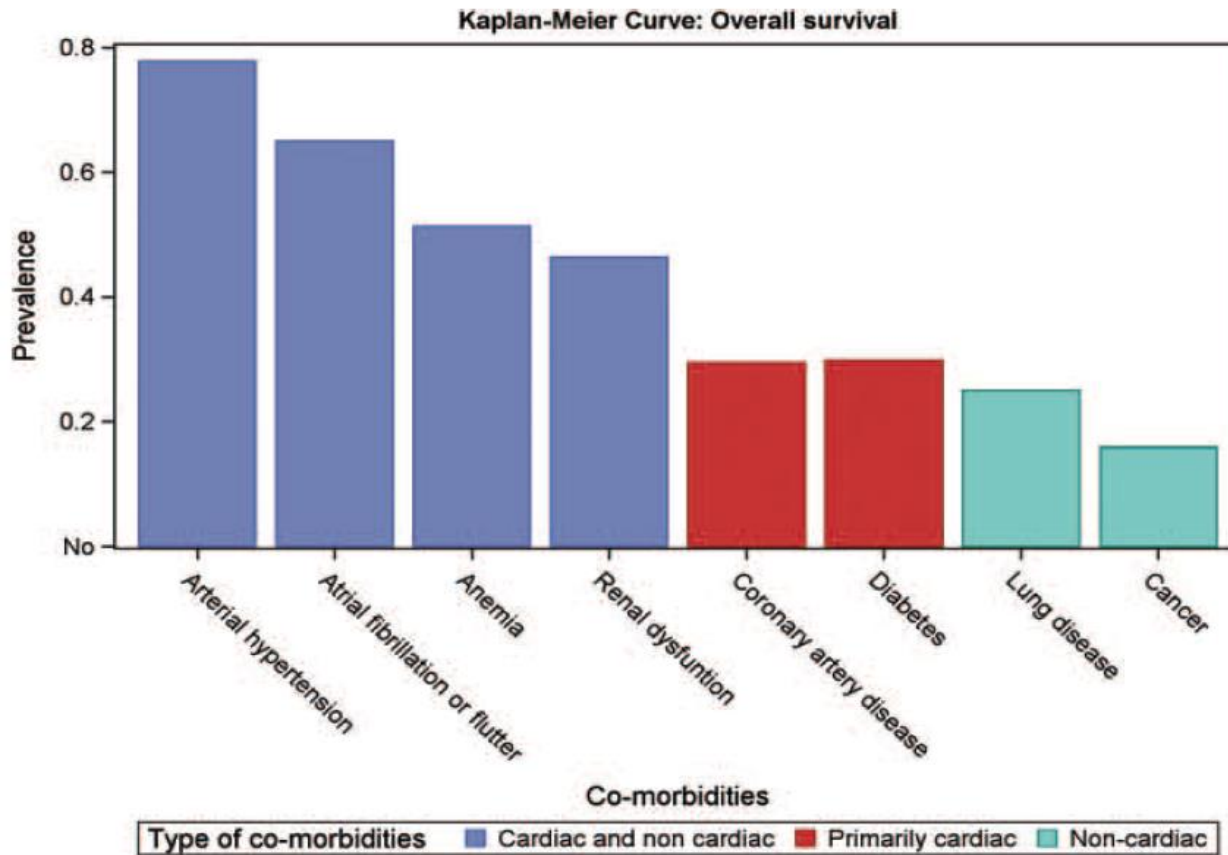


Figure 1 Barchart showing the prevalence of co-morbidities.

# KaRen Conclusions

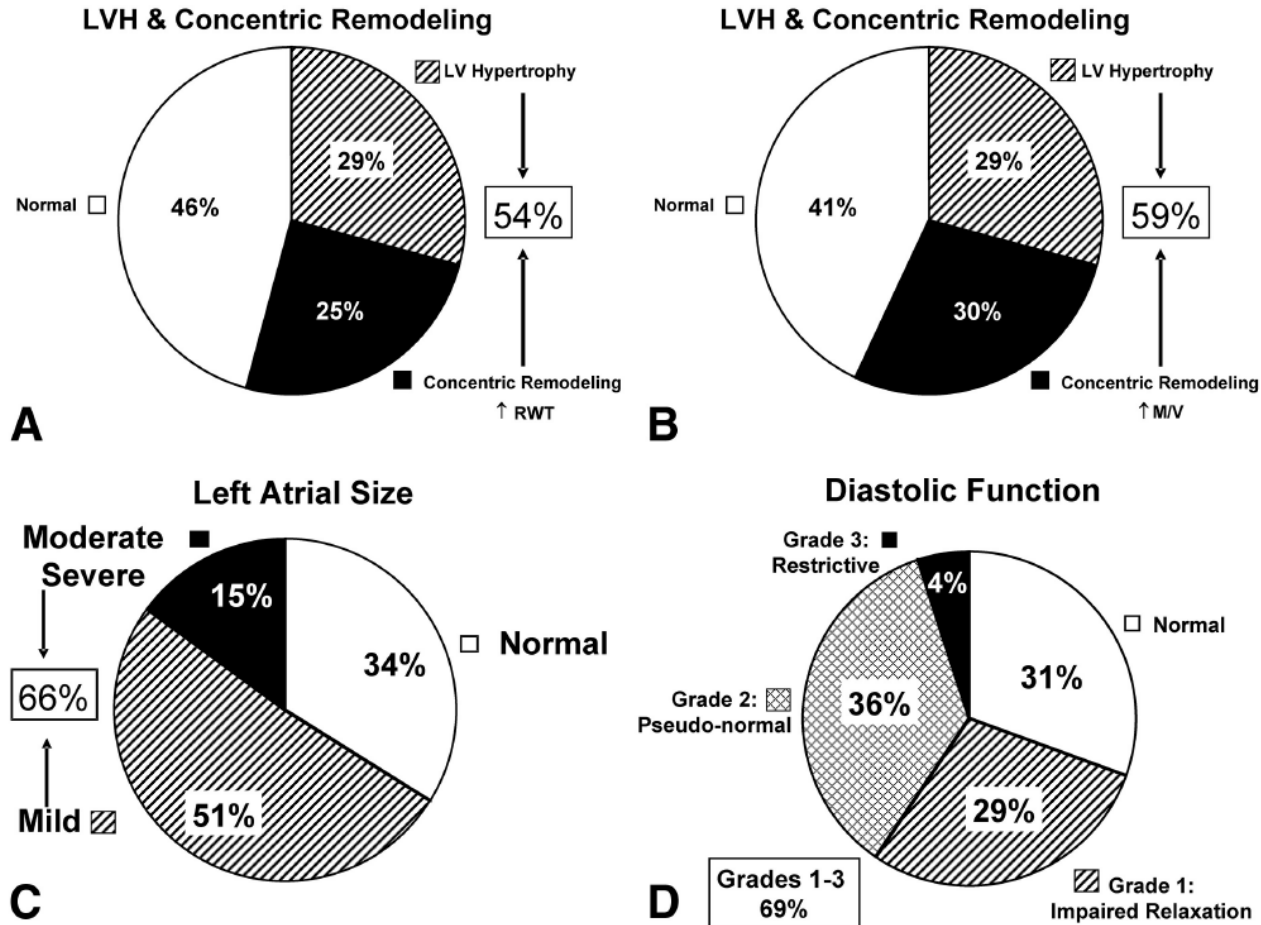
- **Older population** with less severe heart failure but more comorbidities than in RCT's
- **No independent predictors:**  
male gender, diabetes, CAD, cerebrovascular disease, or peripheral vascular disease were not associated with increased risk
- **Independent predictors:**  
**age, history of non-cardiovascular syncope, valve disease, anaemia, lower sodium, and higher potassium**
- Use of **RAS blocker and MCR antagonist** associated with better prognosis. This was not observed in RCT's.



# I-PRESERVE Echo

- The **Irbesartan** in HFpEF trial enrolled 4128 patients (mean 72)
- The **echo-substudy** enrolled 745 patients
- **Endpoints:**
  - Primary: death or cardiovascular hospitalization
  - Secondary: HF death or HF hospitalisation

# Prevalence of echo phenotypes



# I-PRESERVE Echo

- Multivariable analysis controlled for 7 clinical variables (including log NT-pro-BNP)
- **LV mass (concentric remodelling) and LA size** remained independently associated with an increased risk of morbidity and mortality
- Classification of **diastolic dysfunction and lateral E/e'** didn't survive multivariate analysis

# TOPCAT study

- **Spironolactone** to reduce cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in 3445 adults with signs and symptoms of HF and an LVEF  $\geq 45\%$
- **Echo substudy:**
  - 935 patients, mean age 70 years
- **Primary endpoint:**
  - cardiovascular death, heart failure hospitalization, or aborted cardiac arrest

# TOPCAT echo

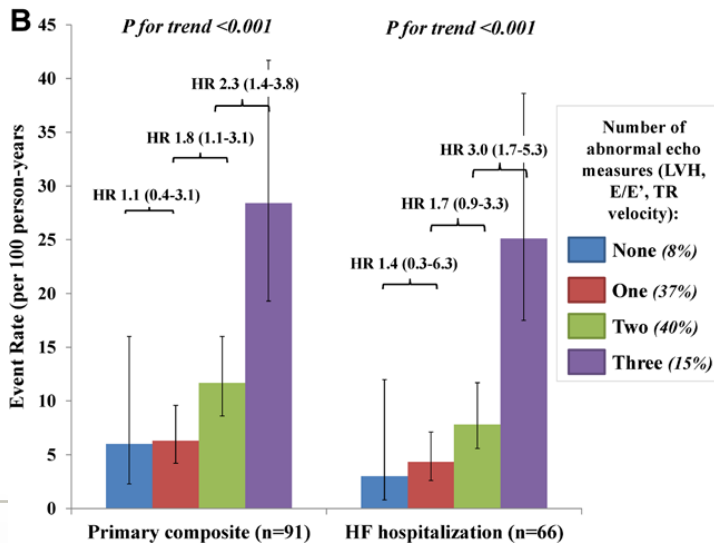
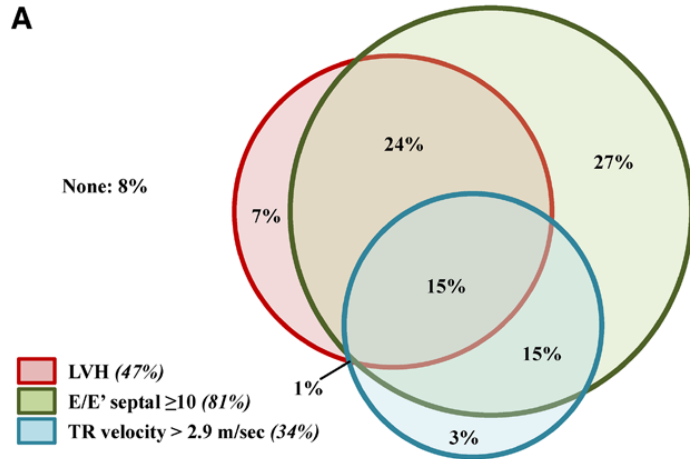


Figure 3. Interrelationship between left ventricular hypertrophy (LVH), E/E, and tricuspid regurgitation (TR) velocity among 303 patients with all 3 measures available.

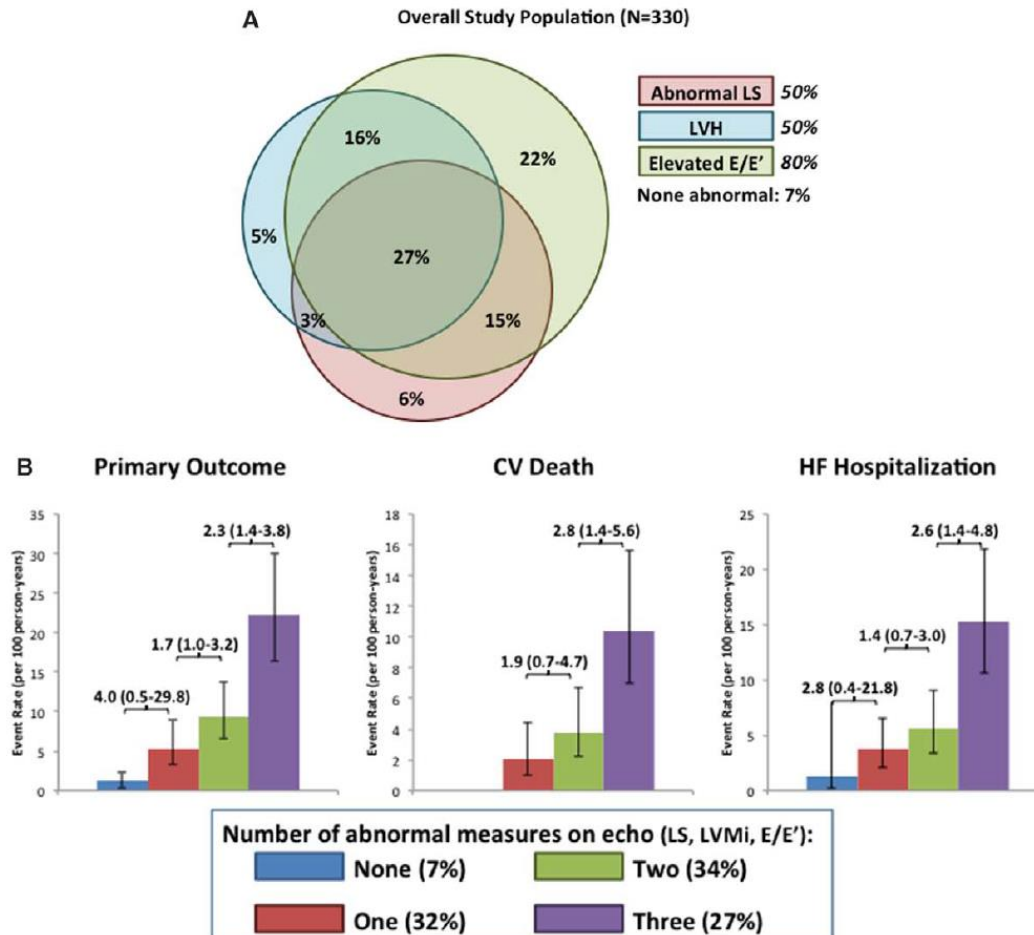
A, Venn diagram demonstrating the overlap of these abnormalities.

B, Event rates (per 100 person-years) of the primary composite end point

# TOPCAT echo

- **LVH, higher filling pressures (septal E/e') and higher PAP**  
were predictive of the primary composite end point and incident HF hospitalization
- These features coexist, and greater number of abnormalities is associated with higher risk
- These features alone or in combination identify patients with a particular high cardiovascular risk (improved C statistic, net reclassification)

# TOPCAT echo GLS



# TOPCAT echo GLS

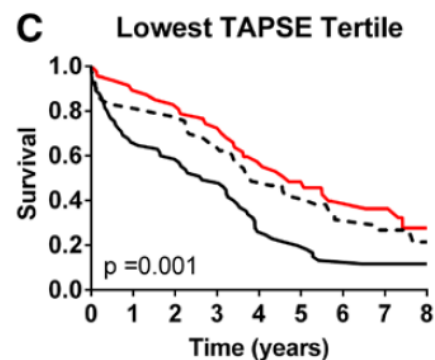
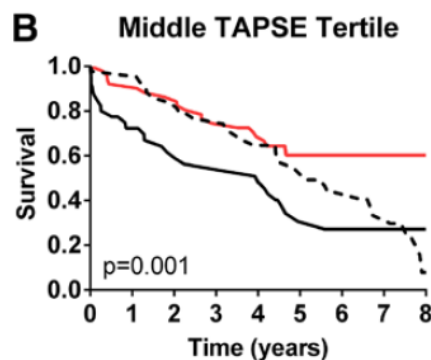
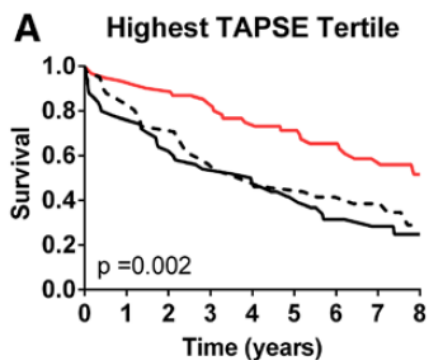
- LVH,  
higher filling pressures (septal E/e')  
and higher PAP  
were predictive of outcome
- LVH,  
higher filling pressures (septal E/e')  
and decreased GLS  
were predictive of the primary composite end point
- Of note, GLS was related to decreased RV function,  
not to RV pressures (TR velocity)



# Olmsted County HFpEF cohort

- Prospectively identified HFpEF (Framingham HF criteria, ejection fraction  $\geq 50\%$ ) patients (n=562)
- **RV dysfunction:**
  - TAPSE
  - semi-quantitative RV function
  - Severity of TR
- **Endpoints:**
  - Total and CV mortality.
  - HF hospitalisations
- **RV systolic dysfunction** may accompany HFpEF and portends a poorer prognosis, regardless of the severity of PH or comorbid conditions.

# Olmsted County Survival



— Lowest PASP  
 - - Middle PASP  
 — Highest PASP

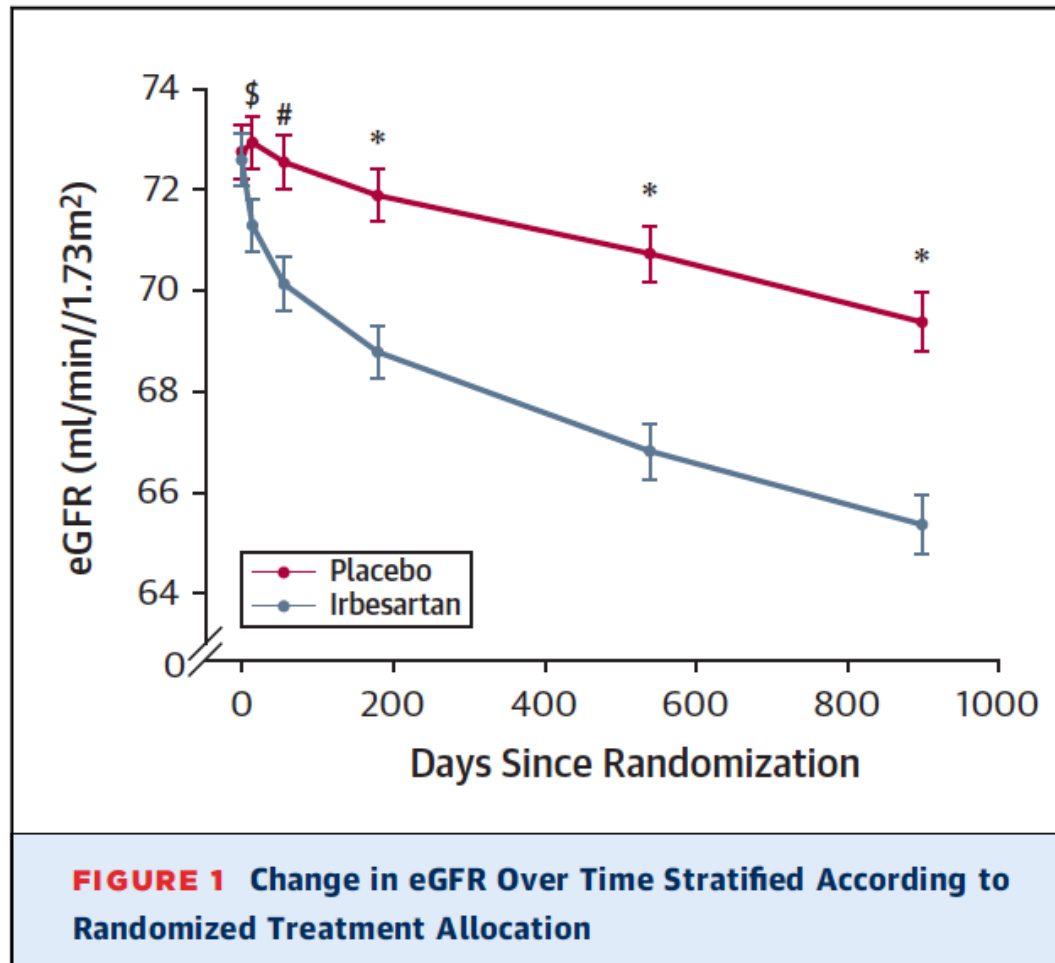
	N at risk				
	0	2	4	6	8
PASP	61	56	44	31	12
Middle PASP	41	31	21	15	5
Highest PASP	50	32	25	12	1

	N at risk				
	0	2	4	6	8
PASP	51	45	35	23	14
Middle PASP	43	37	28	16	1
Highest PASP	40	24	19	8	6

	N at risk				
	0	2	4	6	8
PASP	47	40	27	13	6
Middle PASP	53	42	26	15	4
Highest PASP	65	39	18	9	1

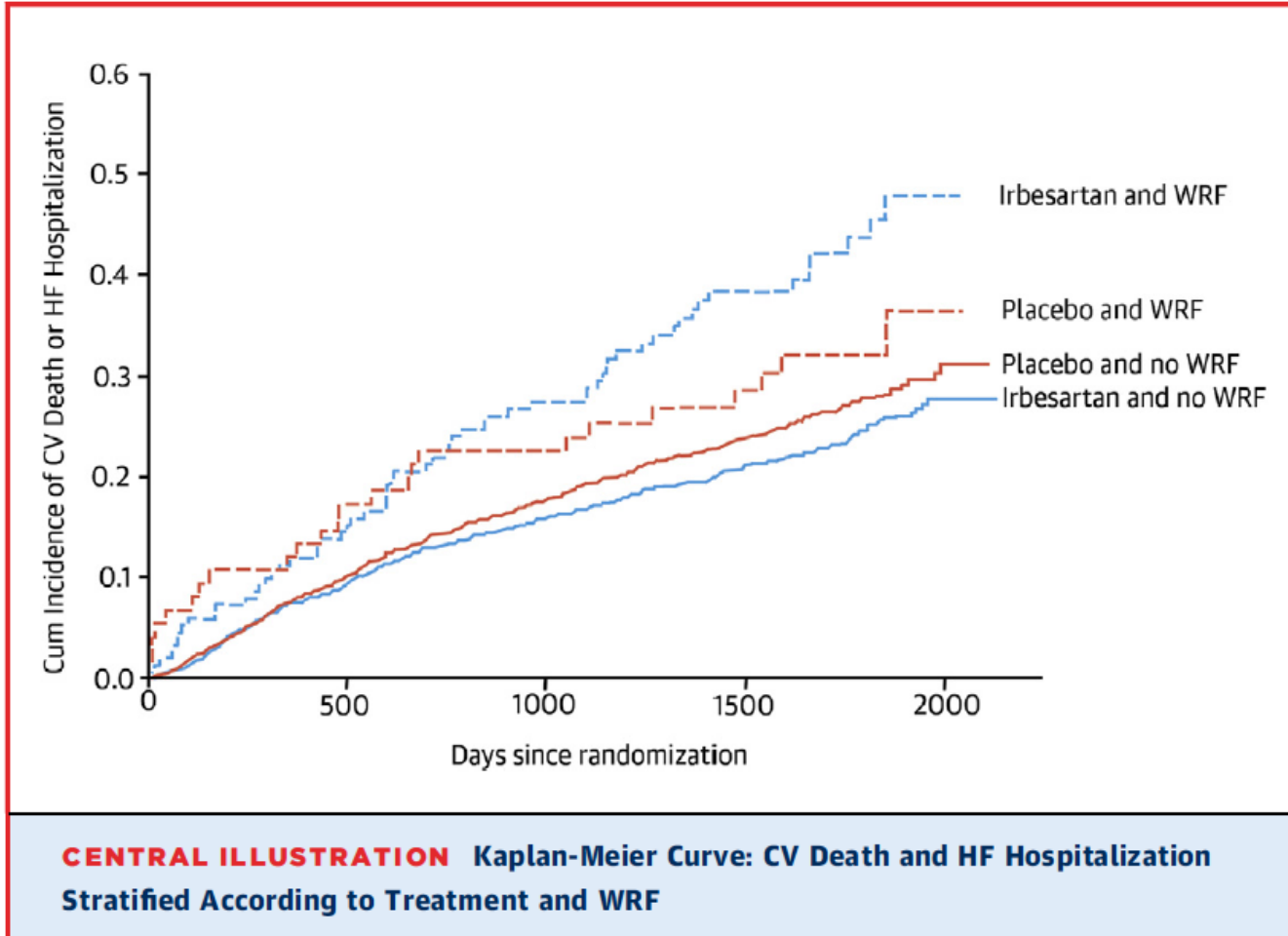
Kaplan-Meier survival curves for patients with heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF) according to tertiles of systolic pulmonary artery pressure (PASP) among patients in the highest (tricuspid annular plane systolic excursion [TAPSE]  $\geq 20$  mm; **A**), middle (TAPSE 16–19 mm; **B**), and lowest (TAPSE  $\leq 15$  mm; **C**) TAPSE tertile.

# Worsening renal function I-PRESERVE

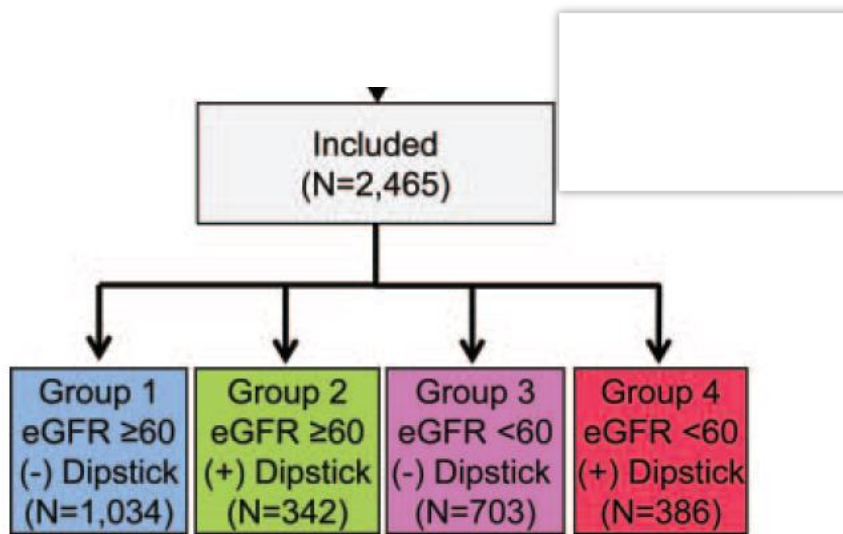


# WRF

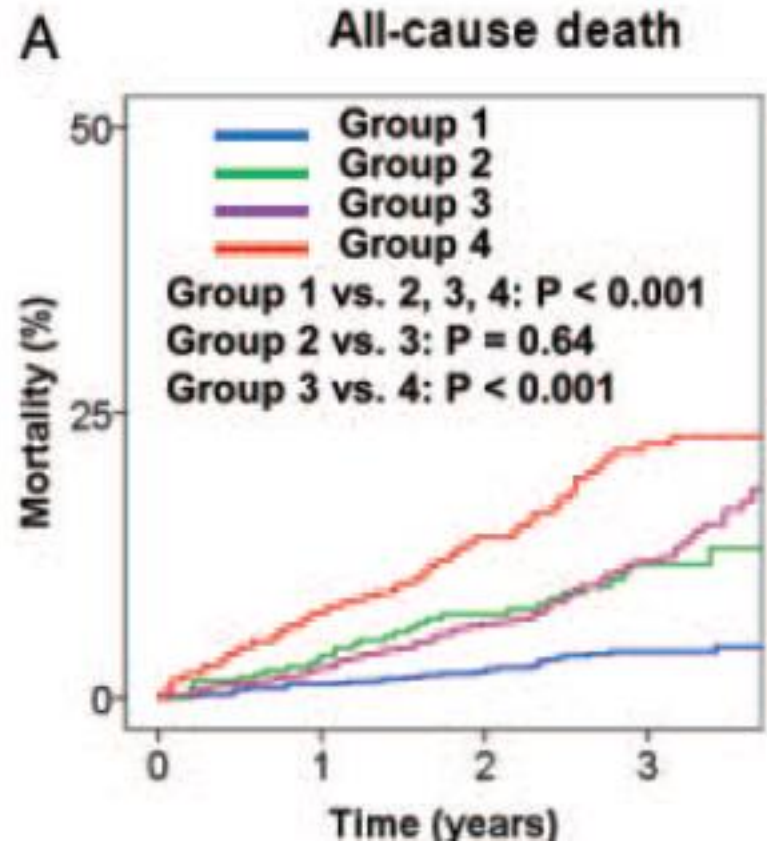
SCr + 0.3 mg/dl and +25%  
6,4% of the patients



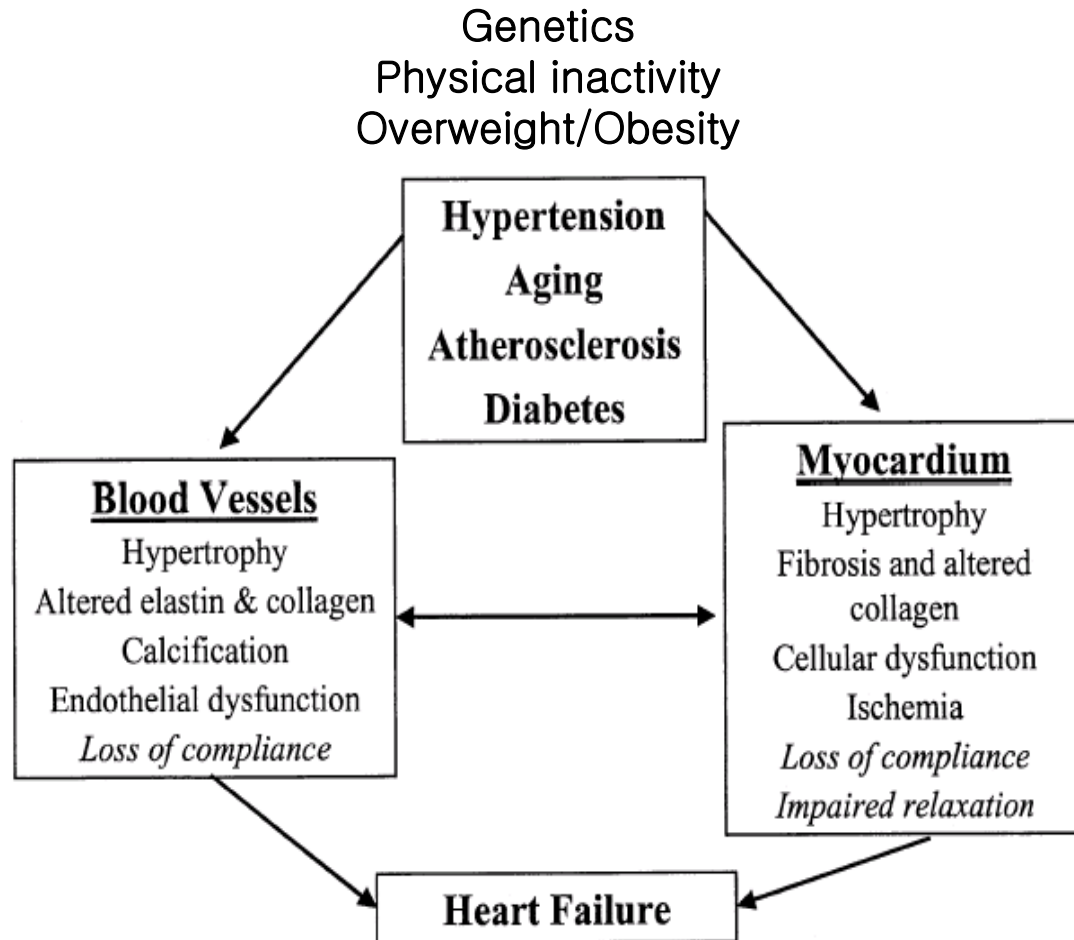
# Urinary Albumin CHART 2 study



+ dipstick 30%

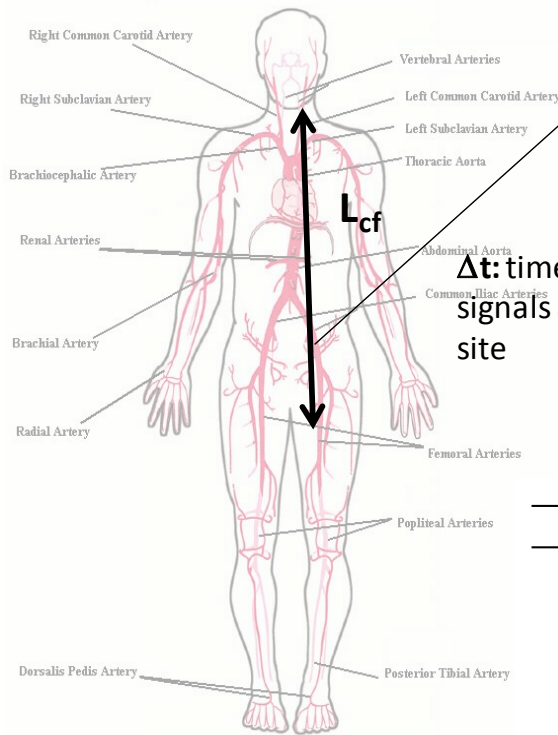


# HFpEF



# Measurement of carotid-femoral PWV, currently considered as gold standard measure of arterial stiffness

## Carotid-Femoral PWV

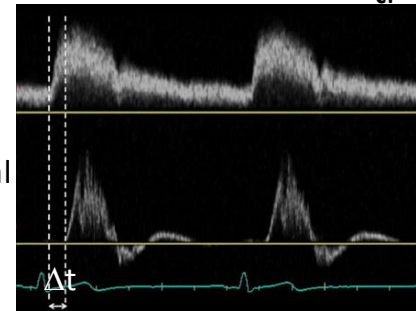


$$PWV = \Delta x / \Delta t$$

$L_{cf}$  = carotid-femoral distance from body surface measurement

$\Delta t$ : time delay between signals at carotid and femoral site

Distance  $\Delta x \sim 0.8 L_{cf}$

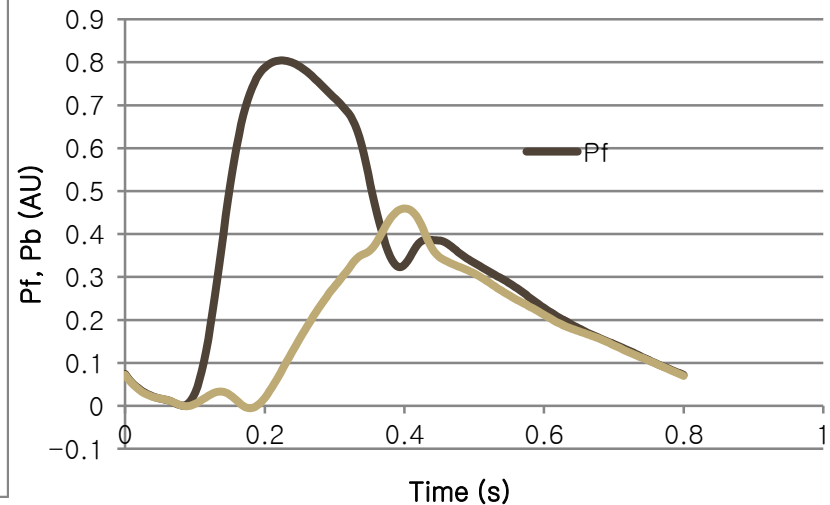
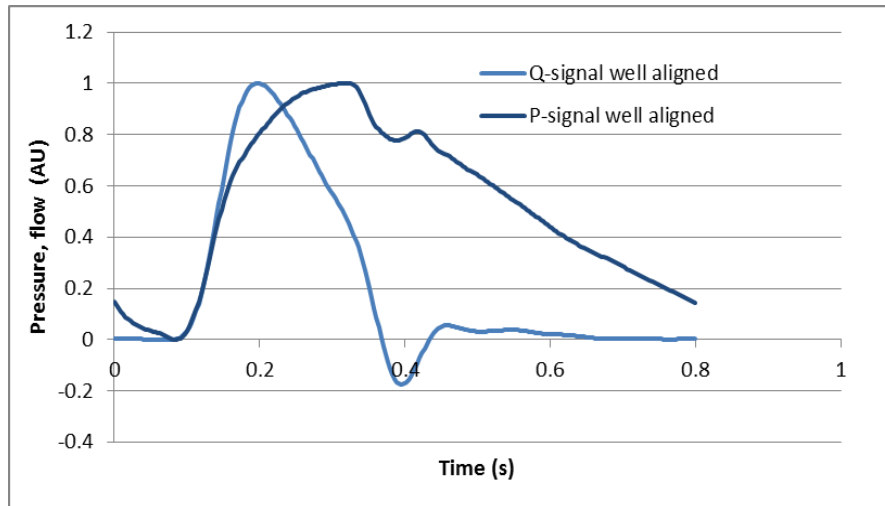


## Normal values for PWV

	Mean (SD)	Median (Q <sub>1</sub> -Q <sub>3</sub> )
<30 years	5.4 (0.7)	5.3 (4.9 - 5.8)
30-39 years	5.6 (1.3)	5.4 (4.7 - 6.2)
40-49 years	6.2 (1.2)	6.1 (5.5 - 6.8)
50-59 years	7.4 (1.9)	7.2 (6.3 - 8.0)
60-69 years	9.4 (2.3)	8.9 (7.7 - 10.8)
≥70 years	9.9 (2.5)	9.6 (8.0 - 10.7)

Source: European Heart Journal 2010

# Pulsatile load: $Z_c$ , $P_f$ and $P_b$



The assessment of forward ( $P_f$ ) and backward ( $P_b$ ) travelling waves requires the following steps:

- measurement of two waveforms representative of pressure and flow
- assessment of characteristic impedance  $Z_c$
- wave separation  $P_f = 0.5(P + Q \cdot Z_c)$ ;  $P_b = 0.5(P - Q \cdot Z_c)$
- computation of  $RM = P_b / P_f$



# Magnitude of the reflected wave

- Delays myocardial relaxation in animal models
  - Gillebert & Lew AJP Heart Circ Physiol. 1991; 261: 805–13.
  - Leite-Moreira & Gillebert Circulation. 1994;90:2481–91.
- Is associated with decreased systolic and diastolic function
  - Borlaug et al. JACC 2007; 50:1570–7. Community subjects
  - Chirinos et al. Hypertension 2013;61:296–303. Asklepios population
- Is primarily responsible for increased LV mass (maladaptive hypertrophy)
  - Kobayashi et al. Circulation. 1996;94:3362–3368. Animal model.
  - Zamani et al. Hypertension. 2015;65:85–92. MESA population
- Is associated with
  - All CVE and incident heart failure.
    - Chirinos et al. JACC. 2012;60:2170–7. MESA population
  - All-cause mortality.
    - Zamani et al. Hypertension 2014;60:2170–7. MESA population

# Take home messages

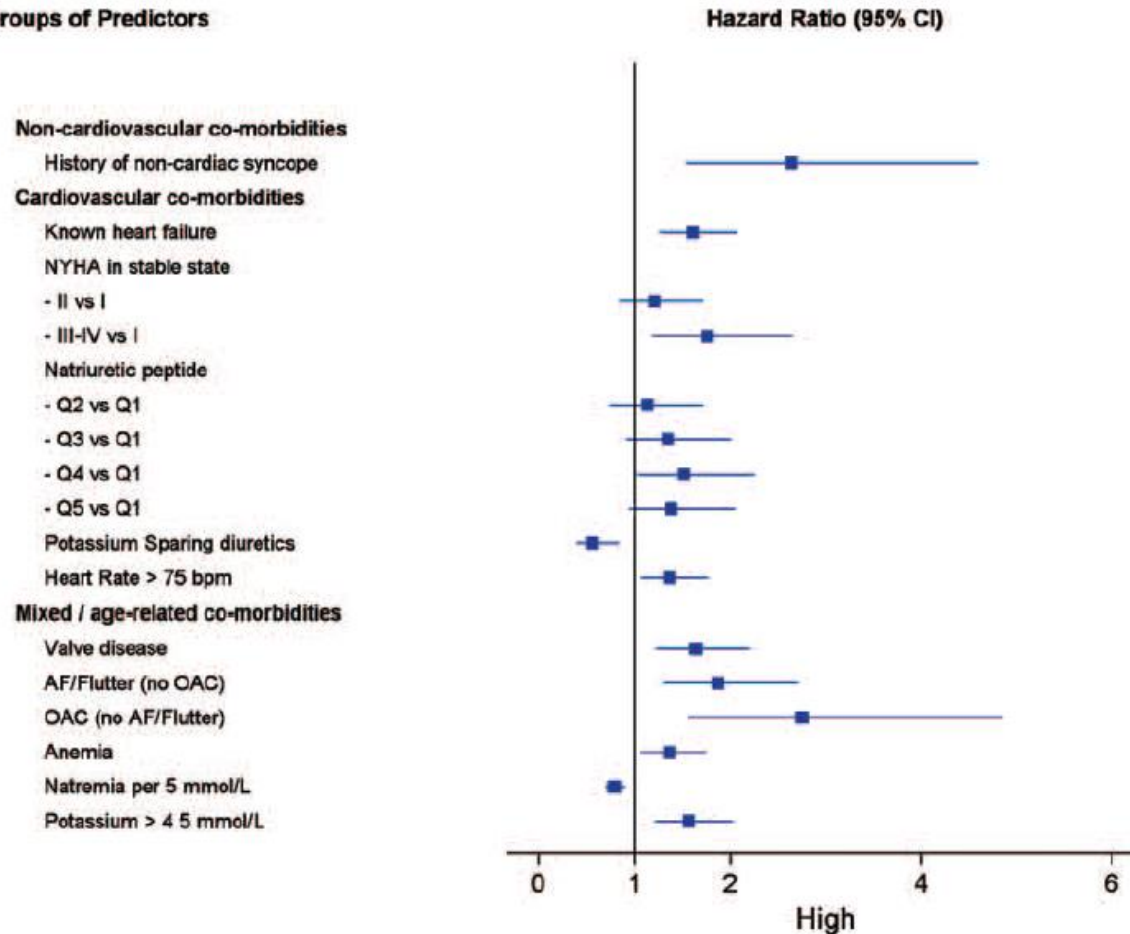
## Prognostic stratification of HFpEF

- **Clinical** data
  - Age, diabetes, frailty (non-cardiovascular syncope), hospitalisation for HF
- **Laboratory** data
  - BNP (NT-pro-BNP)
  - eGFR, worsening GFR, sodium and potassium
  - Microalbuminuria
- **Echocardiography and cardiac Doppler**
  - LV mass, LA volume
  - Filling pressures (septal E/e') and PA pressures (TR velocities)
  - LV function (longitudinal GLS) and RV function (TAPSE)
  - Valvular heart diseases
  - Arterial function (wave reflection and end-systolic haemodynamics)



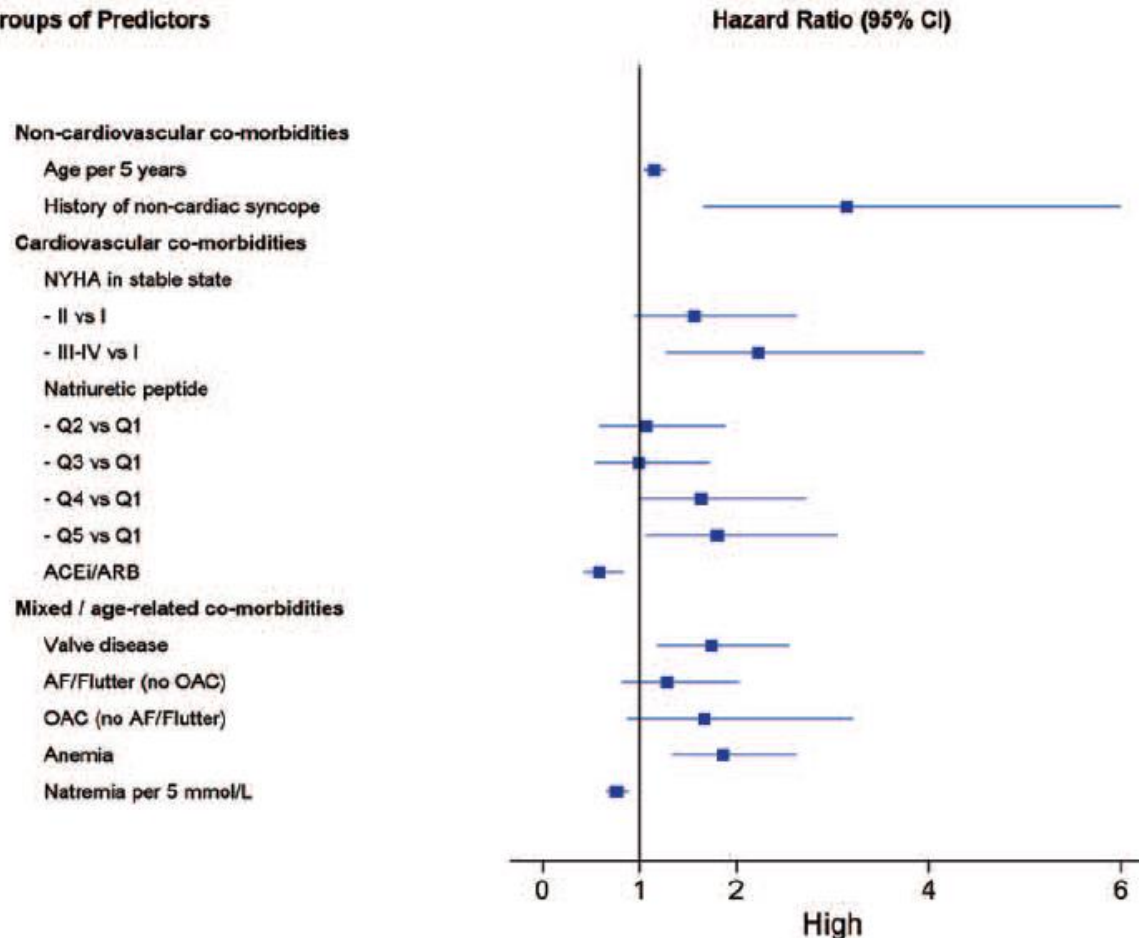
# Primary endpoint (50%) Predictors

## A Groups of Predictors



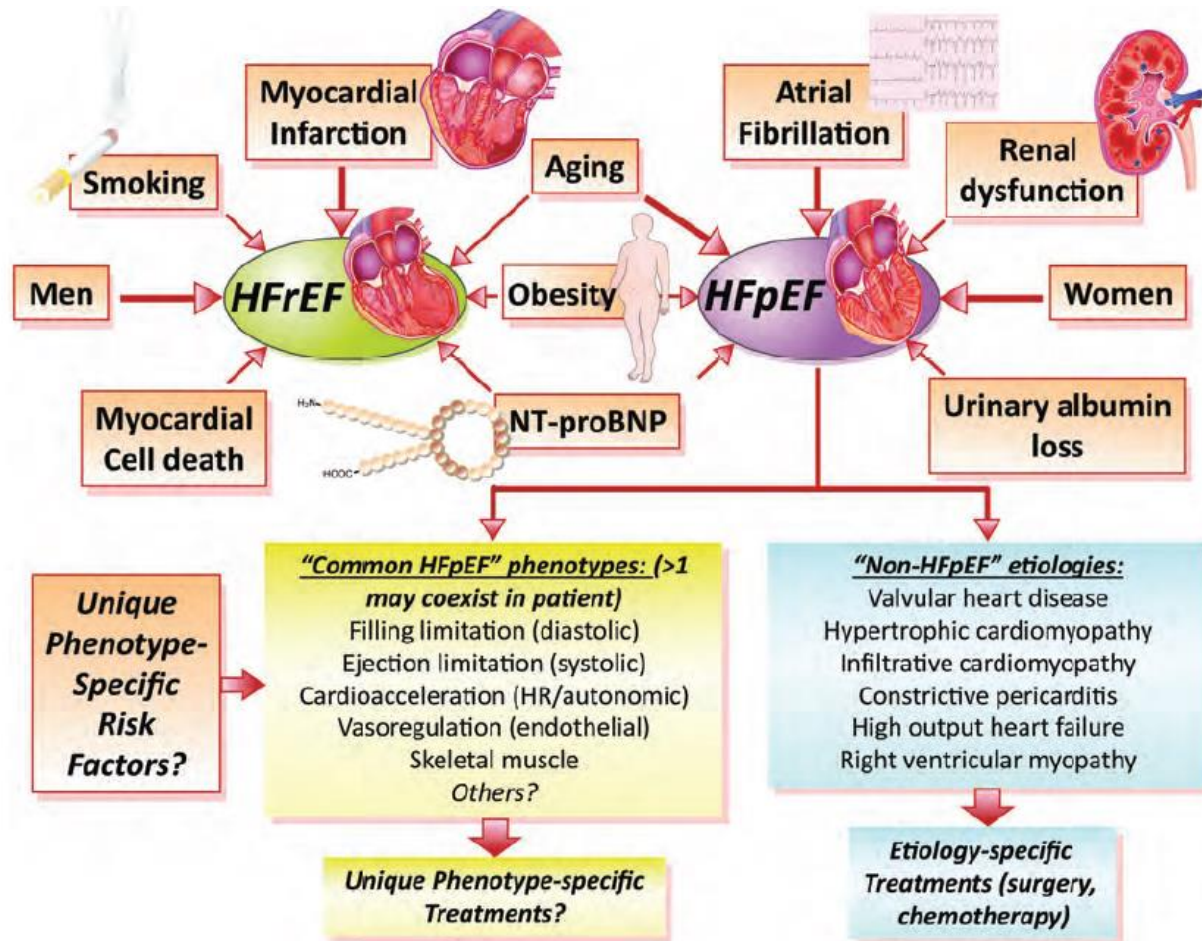
# Secondary endpoint (20%) Predictors

## B Groups of Predictors



# Different risk profiles for different diseases

## PREVEND study



# Other prognostic determinants

- **Coronary artery disease in HFpEF**
  - Rusinaru EJHF (2014) 16, 967–976
  - In contrast to the situation in HFrEF, there is in HFpEF no association of CAD with CV death
- **Anaemia in acute heart failure (ARIC cohort)**
  - Caughey Am J Cardiol 2014;114:1850–1854
  - In HFpEF, anaemia is related to long term death and longer hospital stay (HR 2.1)
  - This effect is more pronounced than in HFrEF

# NT-pro-CNP

- **NT-pro-CNP** levels in 567 hospitalized patients
- **Endpoints:**
  - The primary endpoint was a combined endpoint of all-cause mortality and HF hospitalization after 18 months
  - The secondary endpoint was all cause mortality after 3 years
- NT-proCNP is **strongly predictive** for the primary endpoint (HR=1.78) in patients with HFpEF, but not in patients with a reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF)



# Can we improve stratification with exercise echo?

**Table 3**

Univariate and multivariate analysis for prediction of the occurrence of adverse events.

Variables	Univariate			Multivariate		
	HR	95% CI	p value	HR	95% CI	p value
LAEF_rest	0.87	0.80–0.95	0.001	0.92	0.83–1.05	0.094
E/e' ratio_exercise	1.22	1.05–1.41	0.011	1.04	0.85–1.26	0.745
Heart rate_exercise	0.95	0.92–0.99	0.004	0.94	0.91–1.02	0.078
GLS_exercise	0.81	0.72–0.92	0.001	0.79	0.67–0.91	0.008

CI, confidence interval; E/e' ratio, ratio of early diastolic mitral inflow velocity to early diastolic mitral annular velocity; GLS, global longitudinal strain; HR hazard ratio; LAEF, left atrial ejection fraction.

# NT-pro-CNP

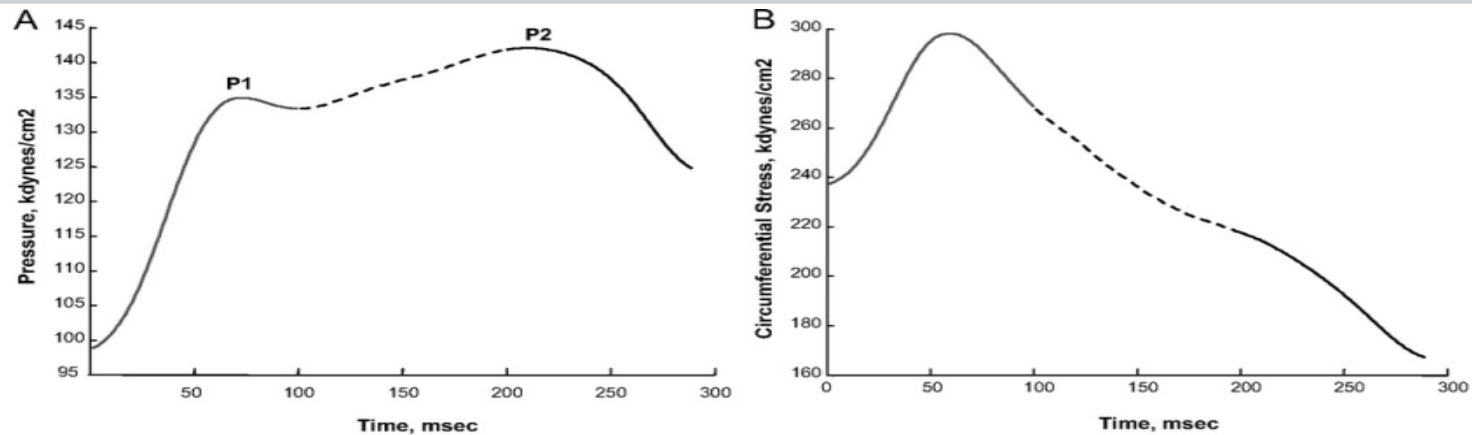
**Table 4 Risk stratification improvement of N-terminal pro C-type natriuretic peptide levels on top of the COACH risk model for both endpoints in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction and heart failure with preserved ejection fraction**

	<b>NRI</b>	<b>P-value</b>	<b>IDI</b>	<b>P-value</b>
.....				
HF <sub>r</sub> EF ( <i>n</i> = 353)				
Combined endpoint	0.084	0.453	0.002	0.458
3-year all-cause mortality	0.157	0.166	0.002	0.233
HF <sub>p</sub> EF ( <i>n</i> = 107)				
Combined endpoint	0.688	<0.001	0.064	0.003
3-year all-cause mortality	0.598	0.004	0.060	0.020

On top of the COACH risk engine including: age, sex, diastolic blood pressure, pulse pressure, previous heart failure hospitalization, history of myocardial infarction, stroke, diabetes, peripheral arterial disease, atrial fibrillation, renal function, and levels of NT-proBNP and sodium

HF<sub>p</sub>EF, heart failure with preserved ejection fraction; HF<sub>r</sub>EF, with reduced ejection fraction; IDI, integrated discrimination improvement; NRI, net reclassification improvement.

# Arterial properties and load



- **Early-systolic wall stress**
  - Systemic vascular resistance (resistive load), HR and SV
  - Pf forward travelling wave (pulsatile load)
  - Proximal aortic Zc (pulsatile load)
  - Total aortic compliance (pulsatile load) (non-significant)
- **Late-systolic wall stress**
  - Systemic vascular resistance (resistive load), HR and SV
  - Pb backward travelling wave and Pb/Pf or reflection magnitude (pulsatile load)

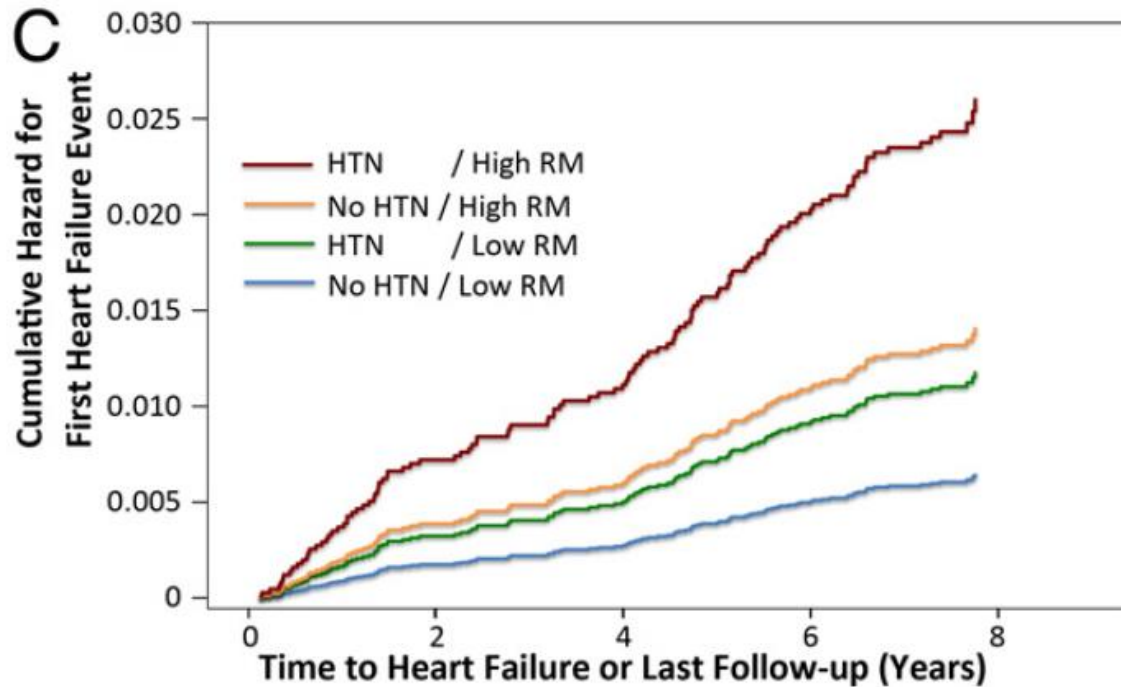
# Predictors of incident heart failure

Chirinos et al. MESA study, n:5934.

**Table 3 Predictors of Incident Heart Failure in Multivariate Analysis**

Full Model With Adjusted HRs (c-Index: 0.802; AIC: 1893; BIC: 1943)			
Predictor	Standardized HR (95% CI)	Wald Statistic	p Value
Age (10 yrs)	1.62 (1.26–2.08)	14.44	<0.0001
Male	1.74 (1.38–2.21)	21.37	<0.0001
BMI (10 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	1.26 (1.03–1.55)	4.83	0.028
Diabetes mellitus	1.24 (1.07–1.44)	8.37	0.004
SBP (10 mm Hg)	1.69 (1.33–2.13)	18.97	<0.0001
DBP (10 mm Hg)	0.67 (0.52–0.86)	9.71	0.002
Reflection magnitude (10%)	1.61 (1.32–1.96)	22.03	<0.0001
SBP and DBP together	—	—	—

# HR for incident heart failure according to hypertension and RM



HTN	High RM	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P value
No	No	-----	-----
Yes	No	1.81 (0.85-3.86)	0.12
No	Yes	2.16 (1.06-4.43)	0.03
Yes	Yes	3.98 (1.96-8.05)	<0.0001

*P* for HTN by RM interaction = 0.97