

# Statins and Stroke

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# Disclosure related to this topic

- Lecture honoraria
  - Pfizer Korea
  - Chong Kun Dang Pharm
- Research grant
  - Pfizer Korea

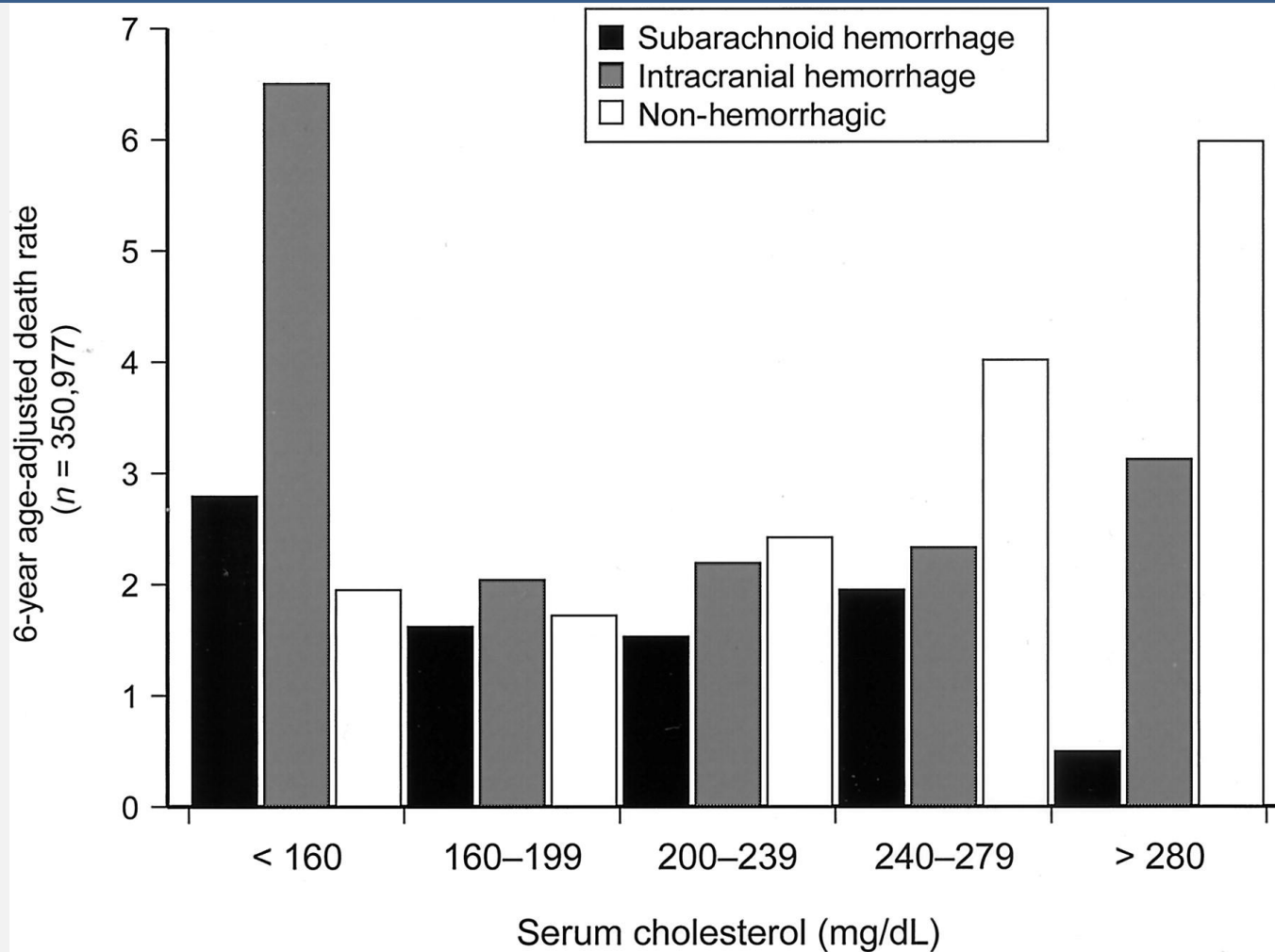
# Topics

- Statins for primary and secondary stroke prevention
- Statins and acute ischemic stroke

# Dyslipidemia

- Well-established and modifiable risk factor for stroke
- Statin benefit
  - Secondary as well as Primary Stroke Prevention

# MRFIT: stroke death and cholesterol

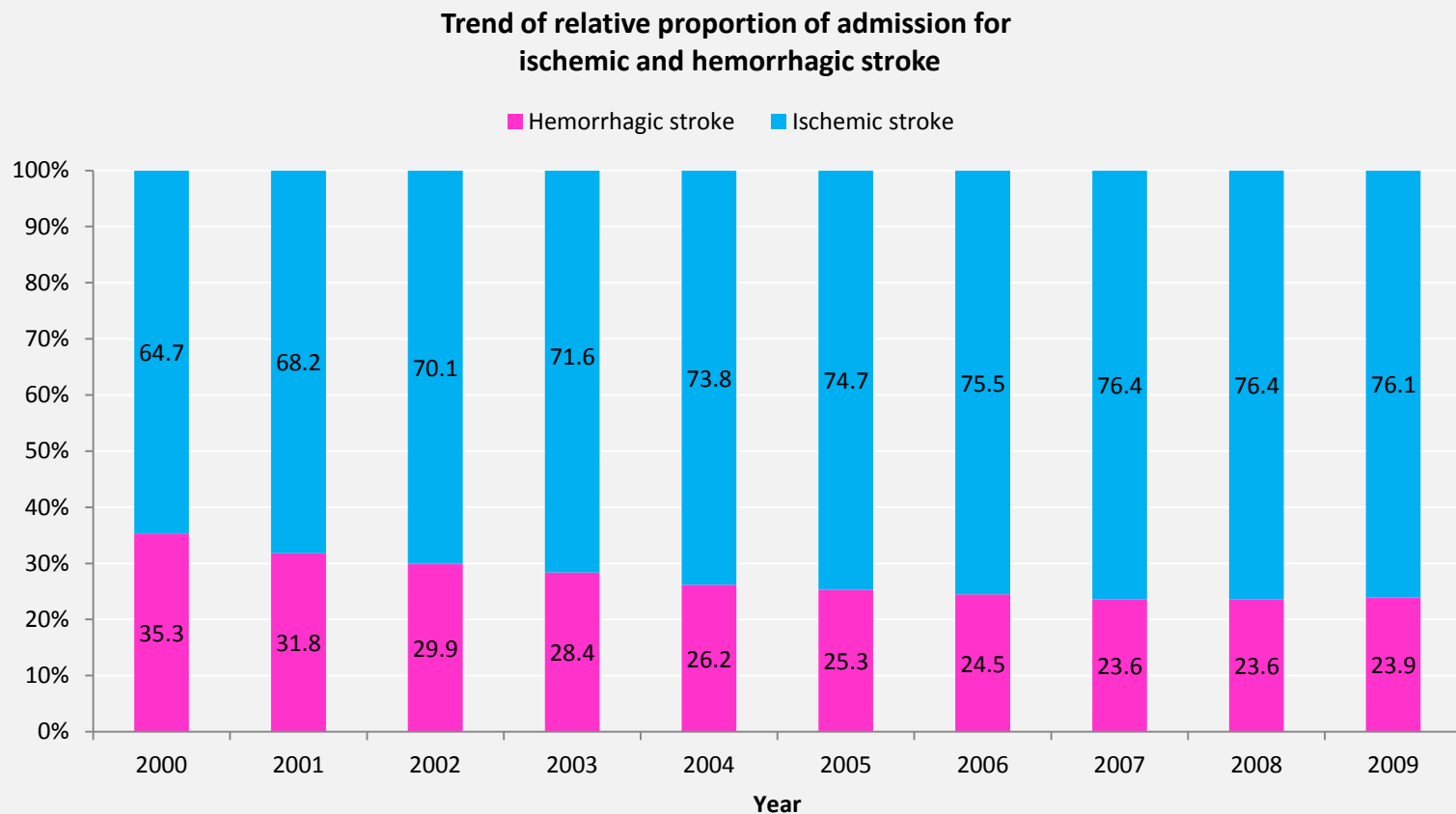


MRFIT: multiple risk factor intervention trial

6 years of follow-up in 350,977 men, 35 to 57 years of age

# Ischemic stroke as a major stroke type in Korea

- Ischemic stroke has increased during the first decade of the 21st century
- Ischemic stroke accounts for >75% of all strokes



# INTERSTROKE

- Case-control study: 3000 acute stroke vs. 3000 control
- 22 countries worldwide

Risk factor	All stroke		Ischemic stroke	
	OR (99% CI)	PAR, % (99% CI)	OR (99% CI)	PAR, % (99% CI)
Hypertension (self-reported, self-reported or >160/90)	2.64 (2.26–3.08) 3.89 (3.33–4.54)	34.6 (30.4–39.1) 51.8 (47.7–55.8)	2.37 (2.00–2.79) 3.14 (2.67–3.71)	31.5 (26.7–36.7) 45.2 (40.3–50.0)
Regular physical activity	0.69 (0.53–0.90)	28.5 (14.5–48.5)	0.68 (0.51–0.91)	29.4 (14.5–50.5)
Waist-to-hip ratio (T2 vs T1, T3 vs T1))	1.42 (1.18–1.71) 1.65 (1.36–1.99)	26.5 (18.8–36.0)	1.34 (1.10–1.64) 1.69 (1.38–2.07)	26.0 (17.7–36.5)
<b>Ratio of apolipoprotein B to A1 (T2 vs T1, T3 vs T1)</b>	<b>1.13 (0.90–1.42)</b> <b>1.89 (1.49–2.40)</b>	<b>24.9 (15.7–37.1)</b>	<b>1.30 (1.01–1.67)</b> <b>2.40 (1.86–3.11)</b>	<b>35.2 (25.5–46.3)</b>
Smoking	2.09 (1.75–2.51)	18.9 (15.3–23.1)	2.32 (1.91–2.81)	21.4 (17.5–25.8)
Dietary risk score (T2 vs T1, T3 vs T1)	1.35 (1.11–1.61) 1.35 (1.11–1.64)	18.8 (11.2–29.7)	1.29 (1.06–1.57) 1.34 (1.09–1.65)	17.3 (9.4–29.6)
Cardiac causes	2.38 (1.77–3.20)	6.7 (4.8–9.1)	2.74 (2.03–3.72)	8.5 (6.4–11.2)
Depression	1.35 (1.10–1.66)	5.2 (2.7–9.8)	1.47 (1.19–1.83)	6.8 (3.9–11.4)
Diabetes	1.36 (1.10–1.68)	5.0 (2.6–9.5)	1.60 (1.29–1.99)	7.9 (5.1–12.3)
Psychosocial stress	1.30 (1.06–1.60)	4.6 (2.1–9.6)	1.30 (1.04–1.62)	4.7 (2.0–10.2)
Alcohol intake (1-30 drinks/month, >30 drinks)	0.90 (0.72–1.11) 1.51 (1.18–1.92)	3.8 (0.9–14.4)	0.79 (0.63–1.00) 1.41 (1.09–1.82)	1.0 (0.0–83.8)

## Statin trials

Non-stroke population in majority

SPARCL: secondary stroke prevention

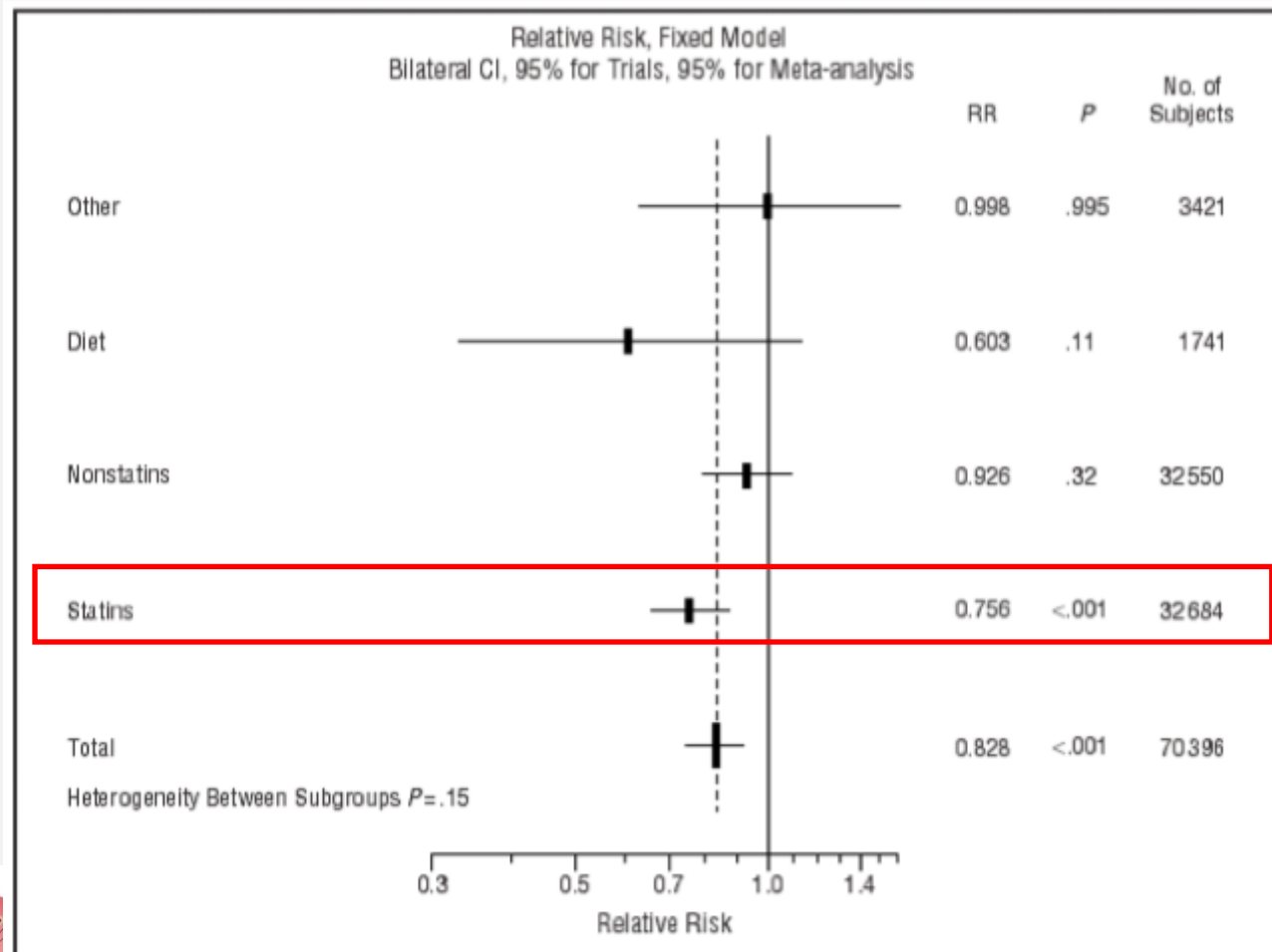


# ***Statins Save Stroke***

# Lipid-lowering therapies

## Differential effects on stroke prevention

Meta-analysis by the type of treatment on stroke incidence in patients with CHD



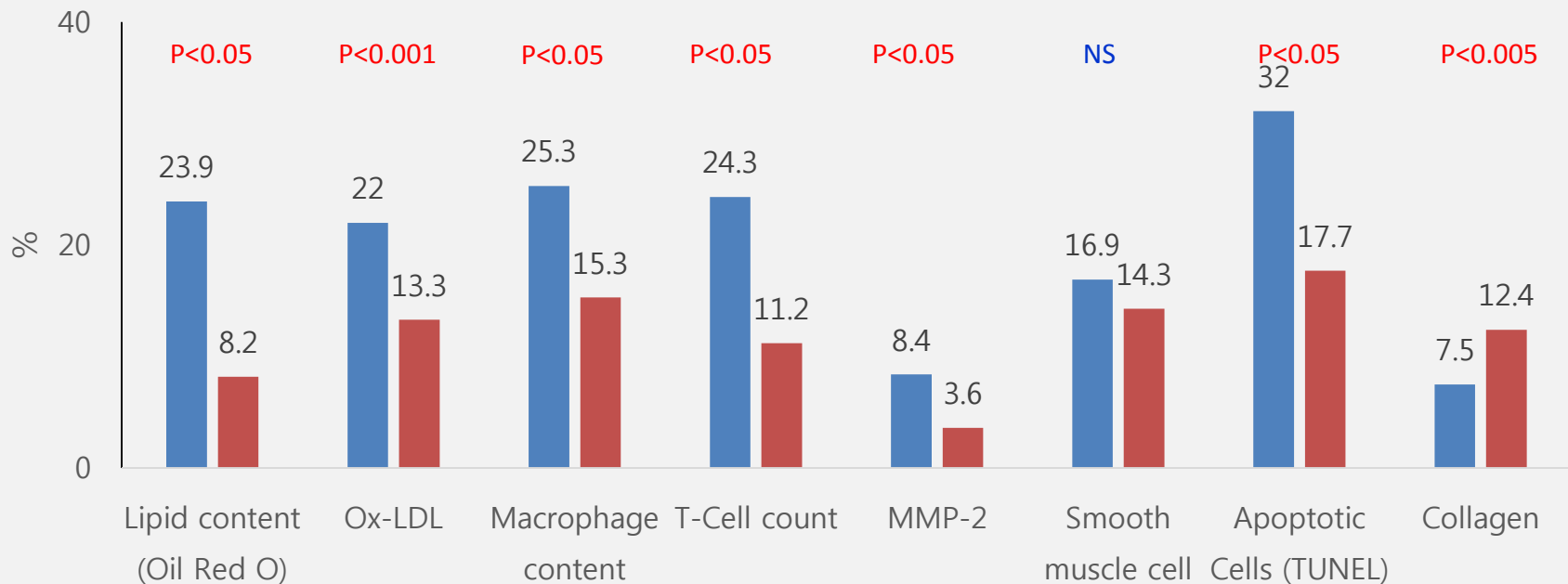
# Carotid plaque stabilization

## Carotid plaque specimen removed by CEA



### Parameter Within the Plaque

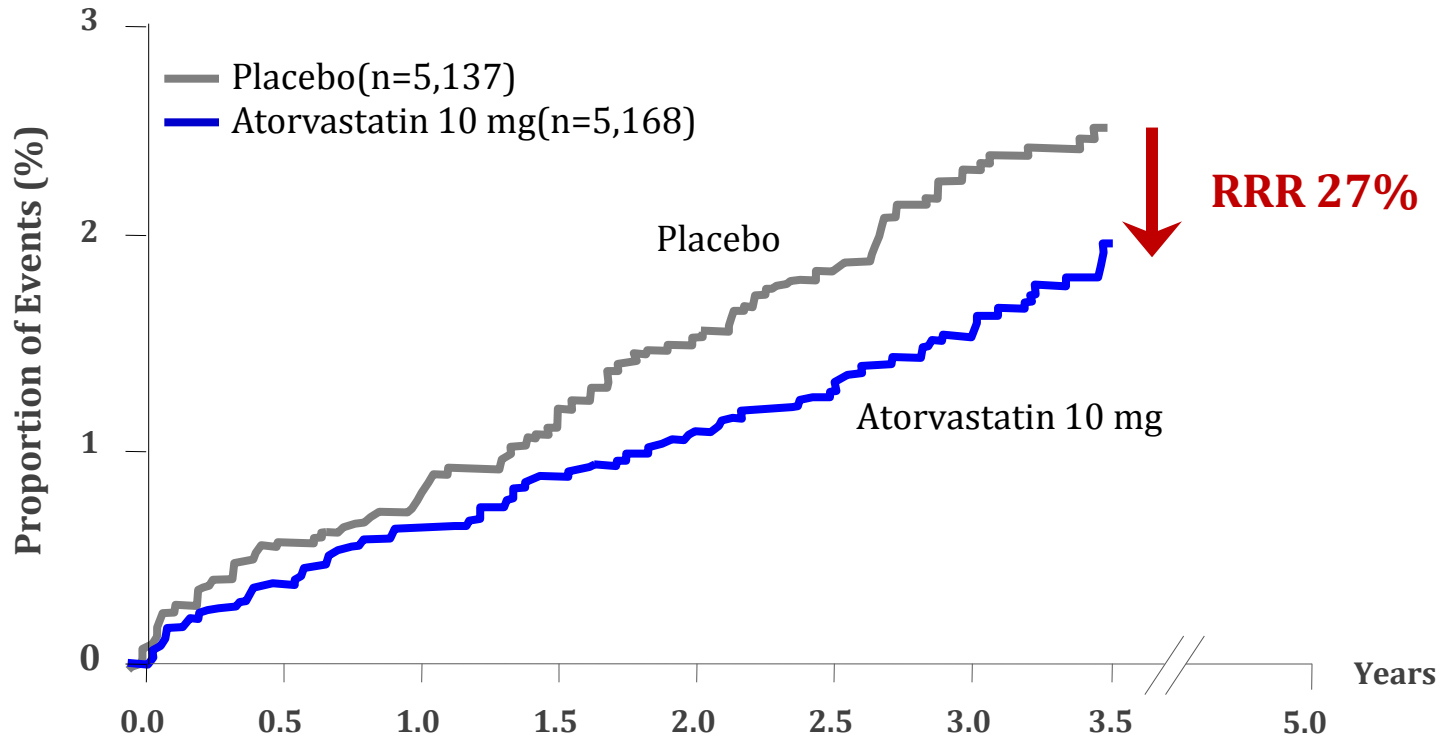
■ Control (n=13) ■ Pravastatin 40 mg (n=11)



# ASCOT-LLA study, HT and 3 or more RFs

- 10,305 hypertensive patients with no Prior CHD
- Atorvastatin 10 mg versus Placebo

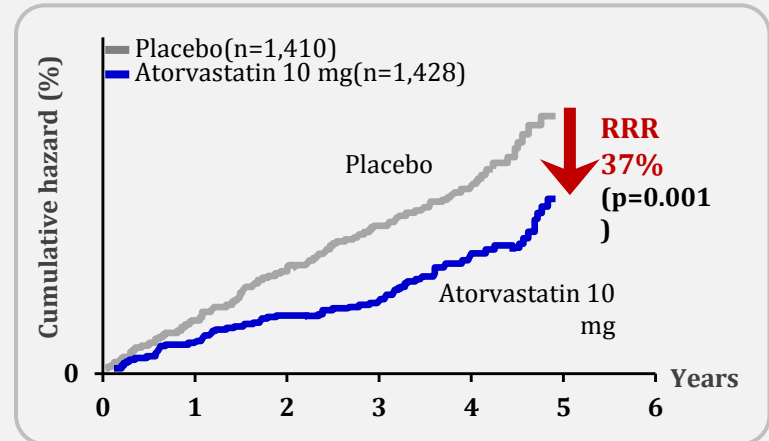
Stroke: 0.73 [0.56–0.96],  $p=0.024$



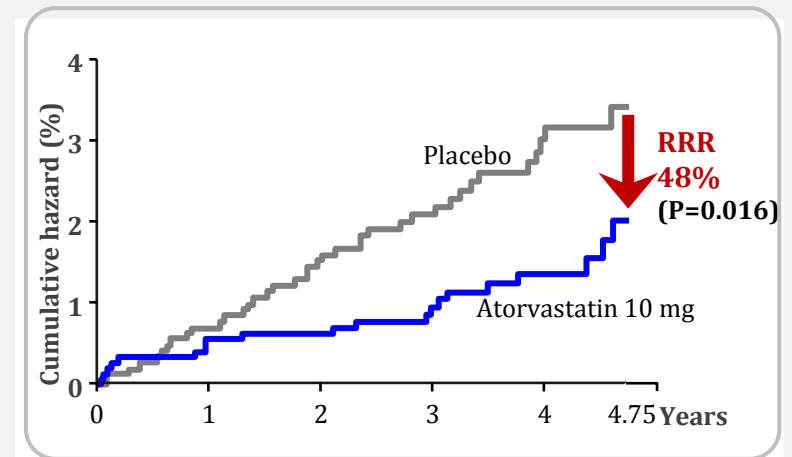
# CARDS: atorvastatin 10 mg/day in T2DM

## 48% relative risk reduction in stroke

Primary endpoint: major cardiovascular event



Secondary endpoint: Stroke  
RRR of ischemic stroke = 55% (P=0.017)



	Number of patients with an event (%)		Hazard ratio (95% CI)	p
	Placebo	Atorvastatin 10 mg		
<b>Primary endpoint</b>	127 (9.0%)	83 (5.8%)	0.63 (0.48-0.83)	0.001
Acute coronary events	77 (5.5%)	51 (3.6%)	0.64 (0.45-0.91)	
Coronary revascularisation	34 (2.4%)	24 (1.7%)	0.69 (0.41-1.16)	
Stroke	39 (2.8%)	21 (1.5%)	0.52 (0.31-0.89)	
<b>Secondary endpoint</b>				
Death from any cause	82 (5.8%)	61 (4.3%)	0.73 (0.52-1.01)	0.059
Any acute cardiovascular disease event	189 (13.4%)	134 (9.4%)	0.68 (0.55-0.85)	0.001

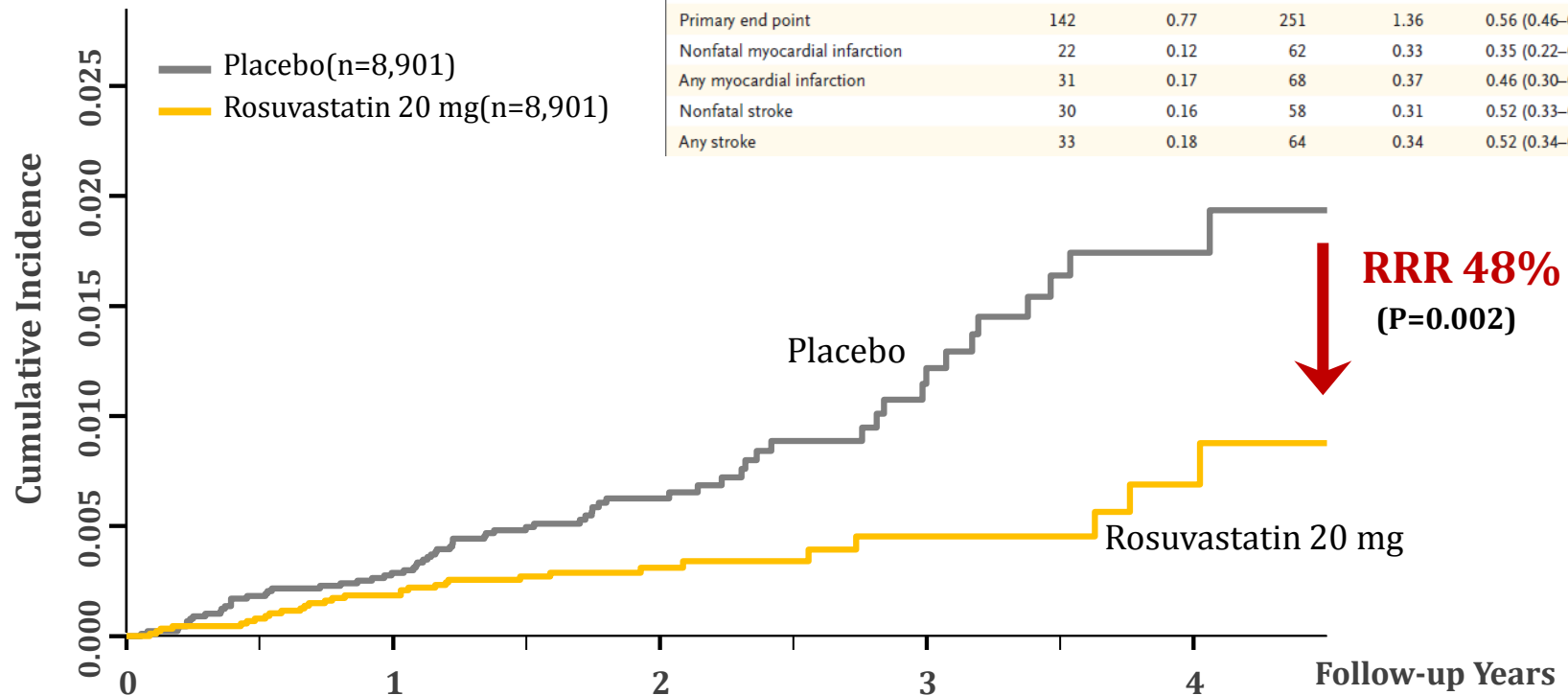
# JUPITER: rosuvastatin 20 mg/day

## 48% reduction in risk of stroke

17,802 healthy adults with no Prior CVD, no DM, LDL <130 mg/dL, hsCRP >2 mg/L  
Rosuvastatin 20 mg versus Placebo

Table 3. Outcomes According to Study Group.

End Point	Rosuvastatin (N= 8901)		Placebo (N= 8901)		Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P Value
	No. of Patients	Rate per 100 person-yr	No. of Patients	Rate per 100 person-yr		
Primary end point	142	0.77	251	1.36	0.56 (0.46–0.69)	<0.00001
Nonfatal myocardial infarction	22	0.12	62	0.33	0.35 (0.22–0.58)	<0.00001
Any myocardial infarction	31	0.17	68	0.37	0.46 (0.30–0.70)	0.0002
Nonfatal stroke	30	0.16	58	0.31	0.52 (0.33–0.80)	0.003
Any stroke	33	0.18	64	0.34	0.52 (0.34–0.79)	0.002

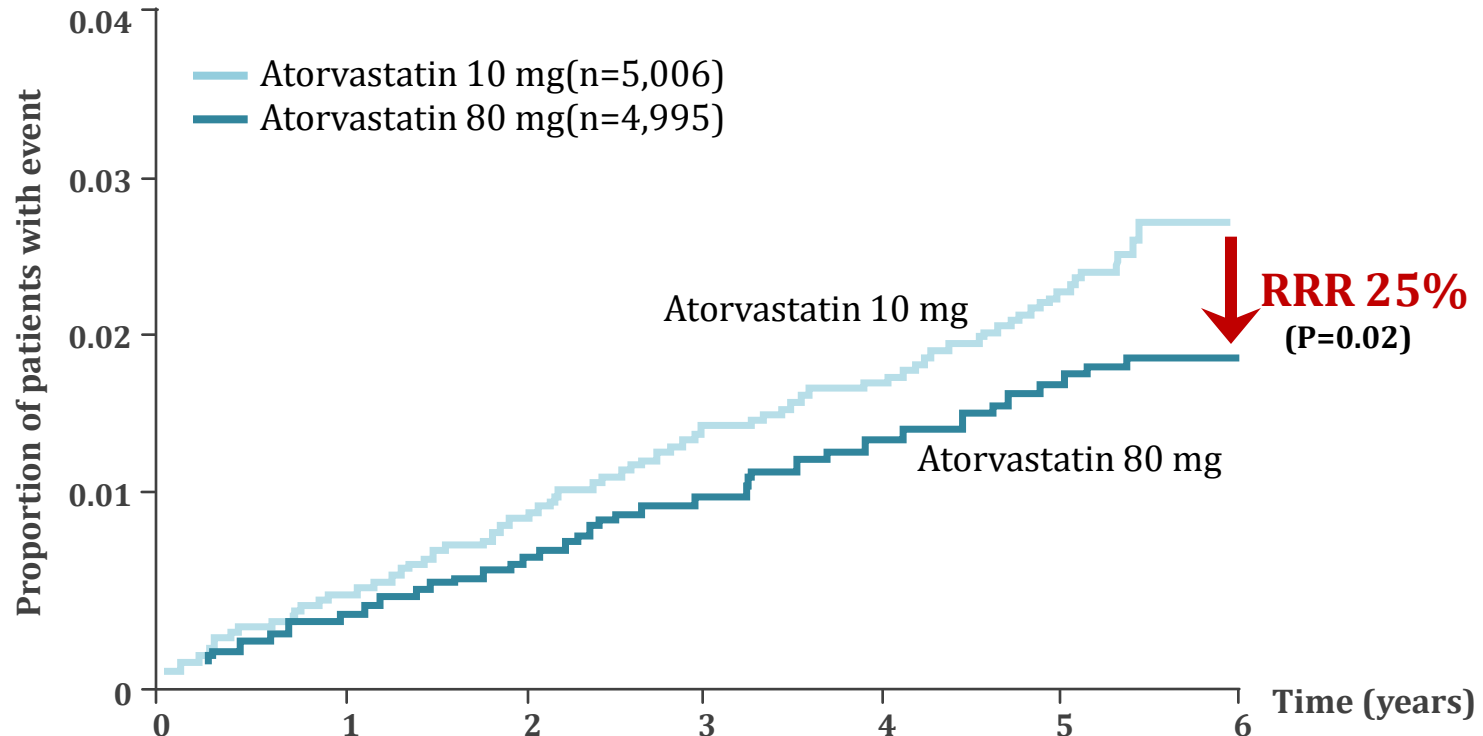


# TNT study, Stable CHD

## atorvastatin 80 mg/day vs 10 mg/day

- 10,001 patients with CHD randomized Atorvastatin 10 mg or 80 mg
- 25% reduction in risk of stroke with atorvastatin 80 mg/day vs 10 mg/day

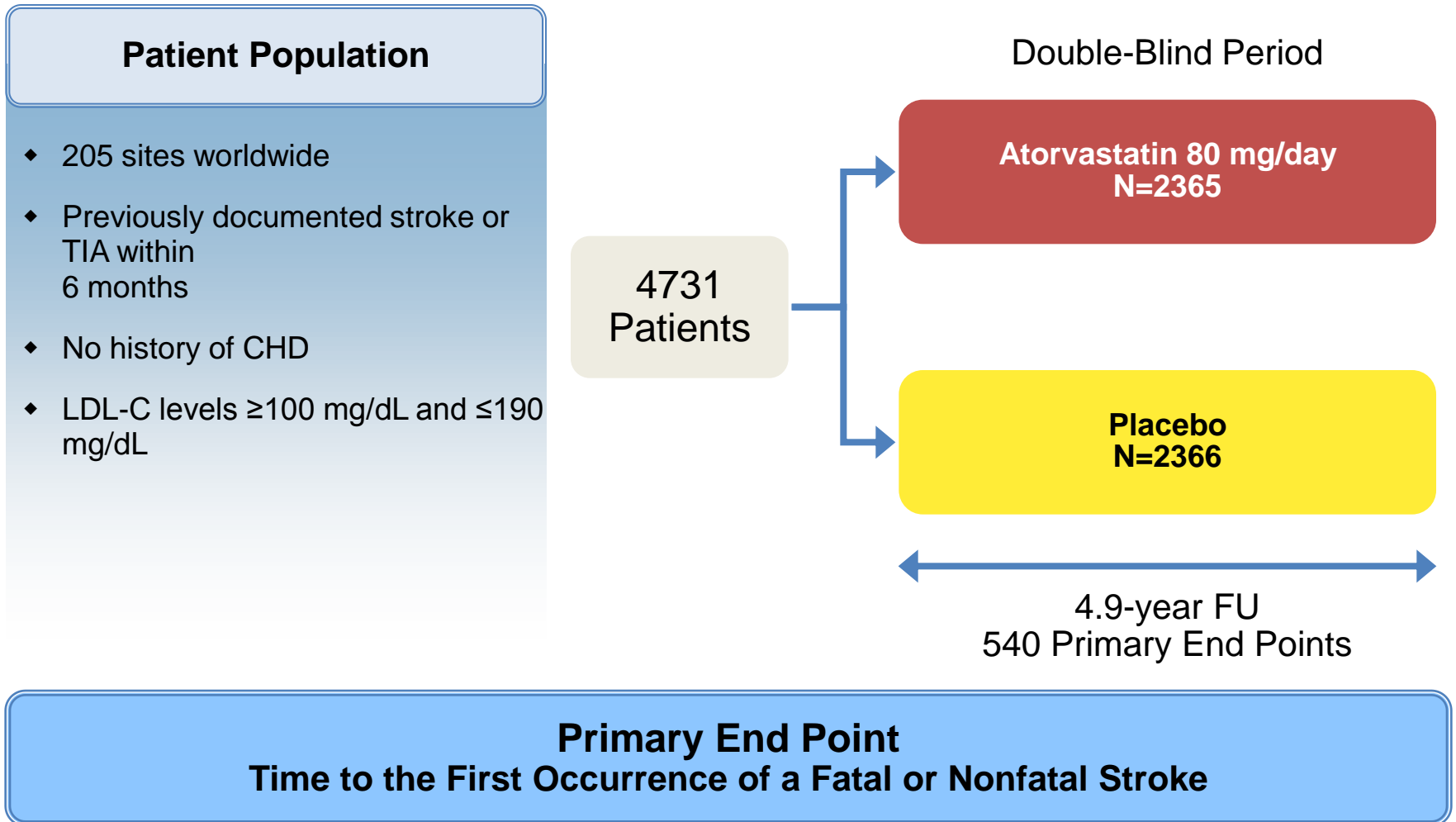
### stroke



\*TNT = Treating to New Targets; RRR = relative risk reduction.

# SPARCL: Study Design

## Statin for Secondary Stroke Prevention

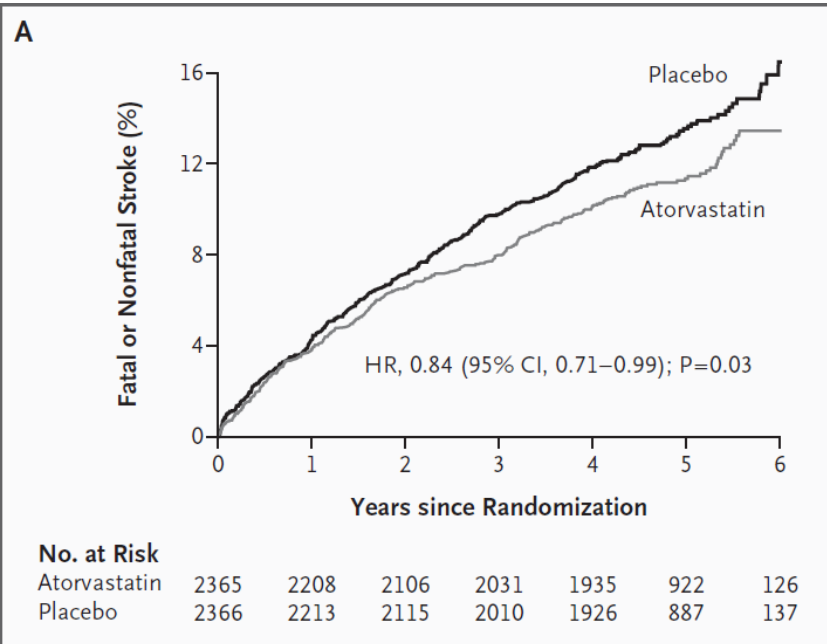




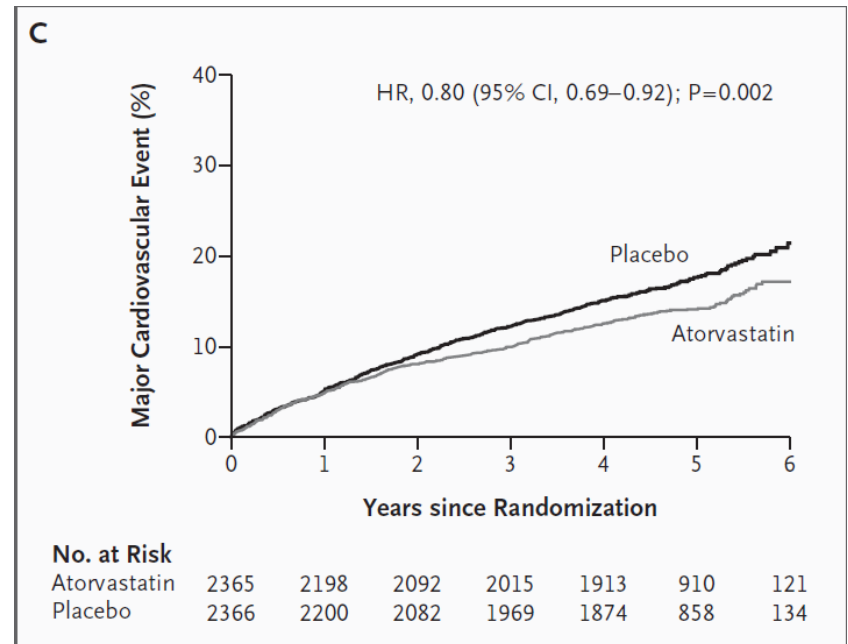
# SPARCL Trial

## Statin Preventing Recurrent Stroke as well as Major CVD

### Stroke

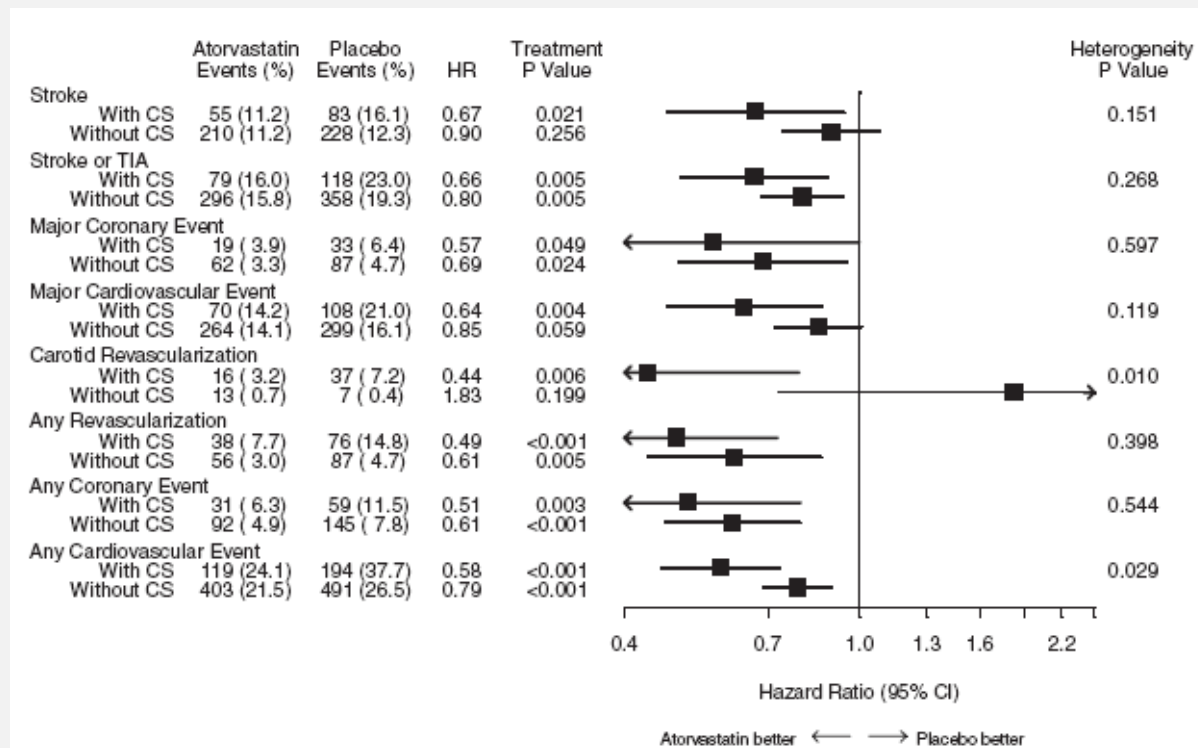


### Stroke and MI

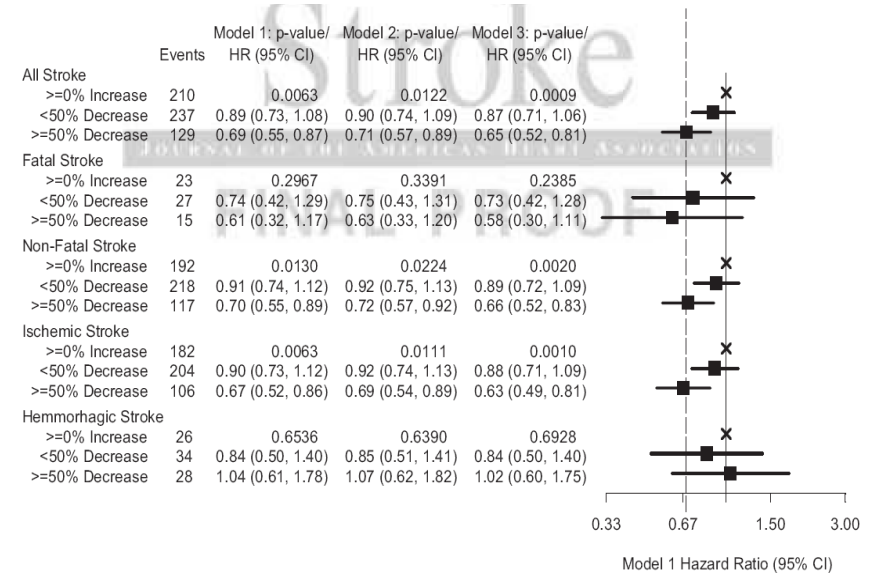
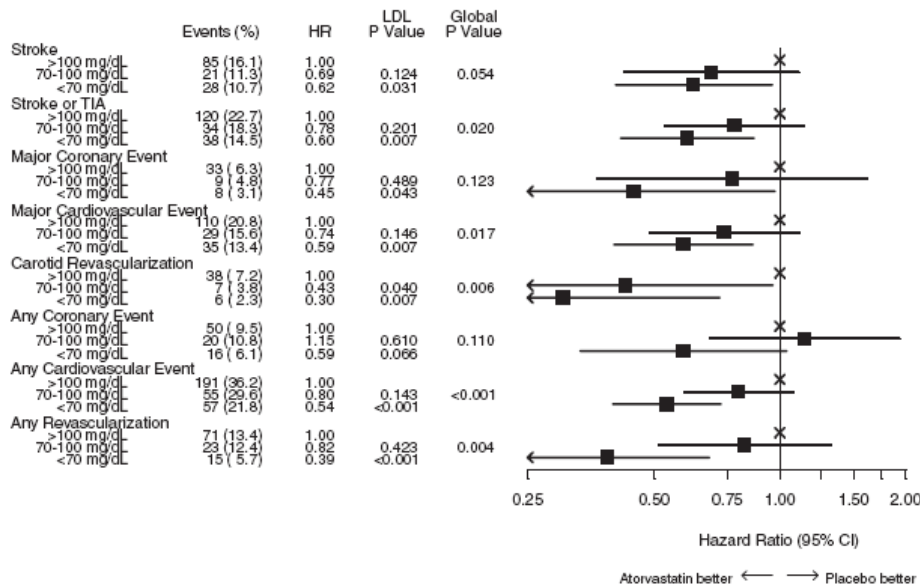




# Greater benefit in SPARCL Trial : Carotid stenosis



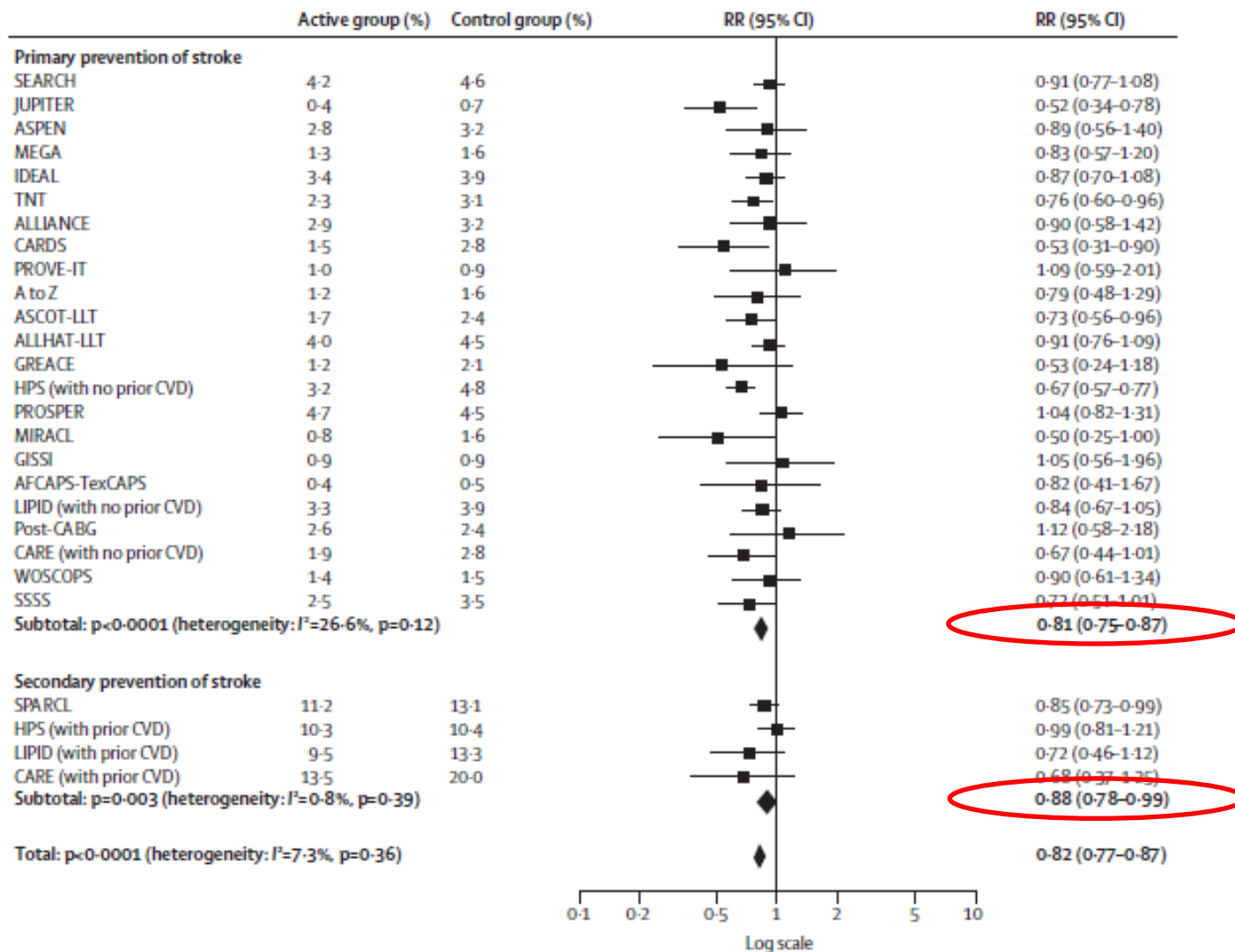
# Intensive lowering, further risk reduction SPARCL



# Statin Benefits

## : Secondary as well as Primary Stroke Prevention

N total=165,732: Statins reduce the stroke by 18%



# Further LDL-C reduction, further stroke reduction

Estimates of relative risk reduction from 24 trials (n=165,792)

10% LDL reduction

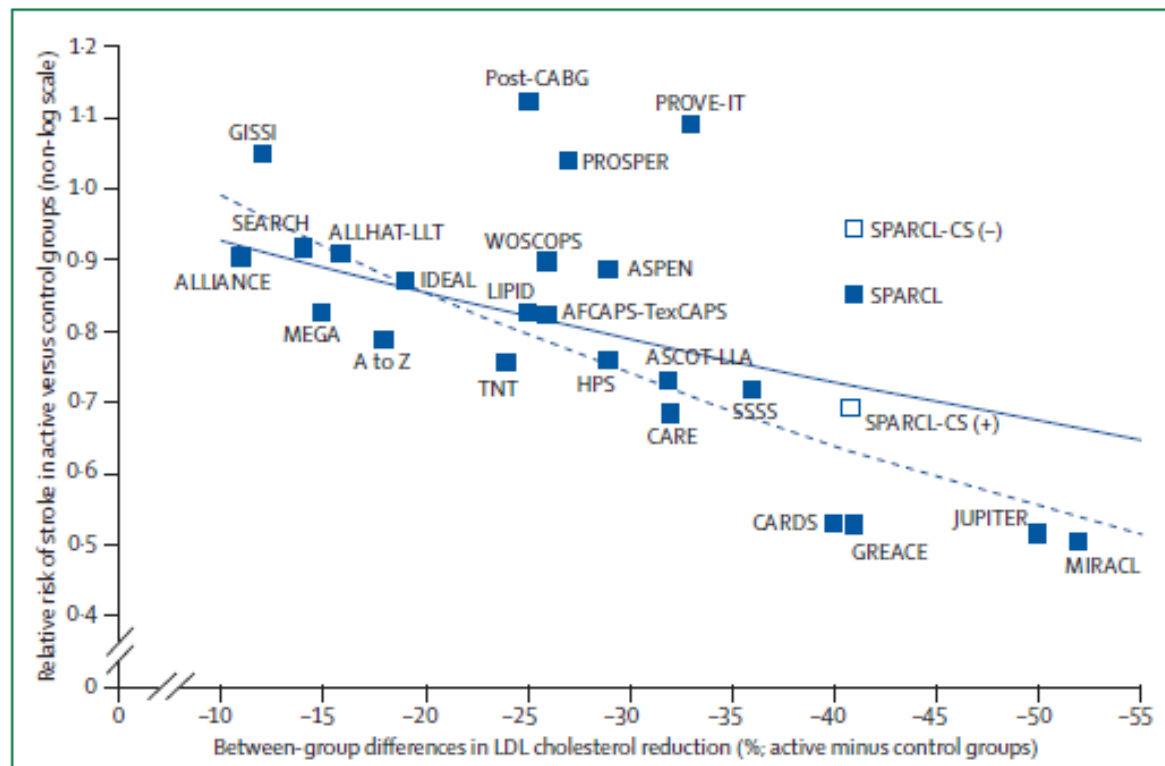
relative risk reduction 7.5% (2.3–12.5) overall

relative risk reduction 13.5% (7.7–18.8) for primary prevention of stroke

**1 mmol/L (39 mg/dL) LDL reduction**

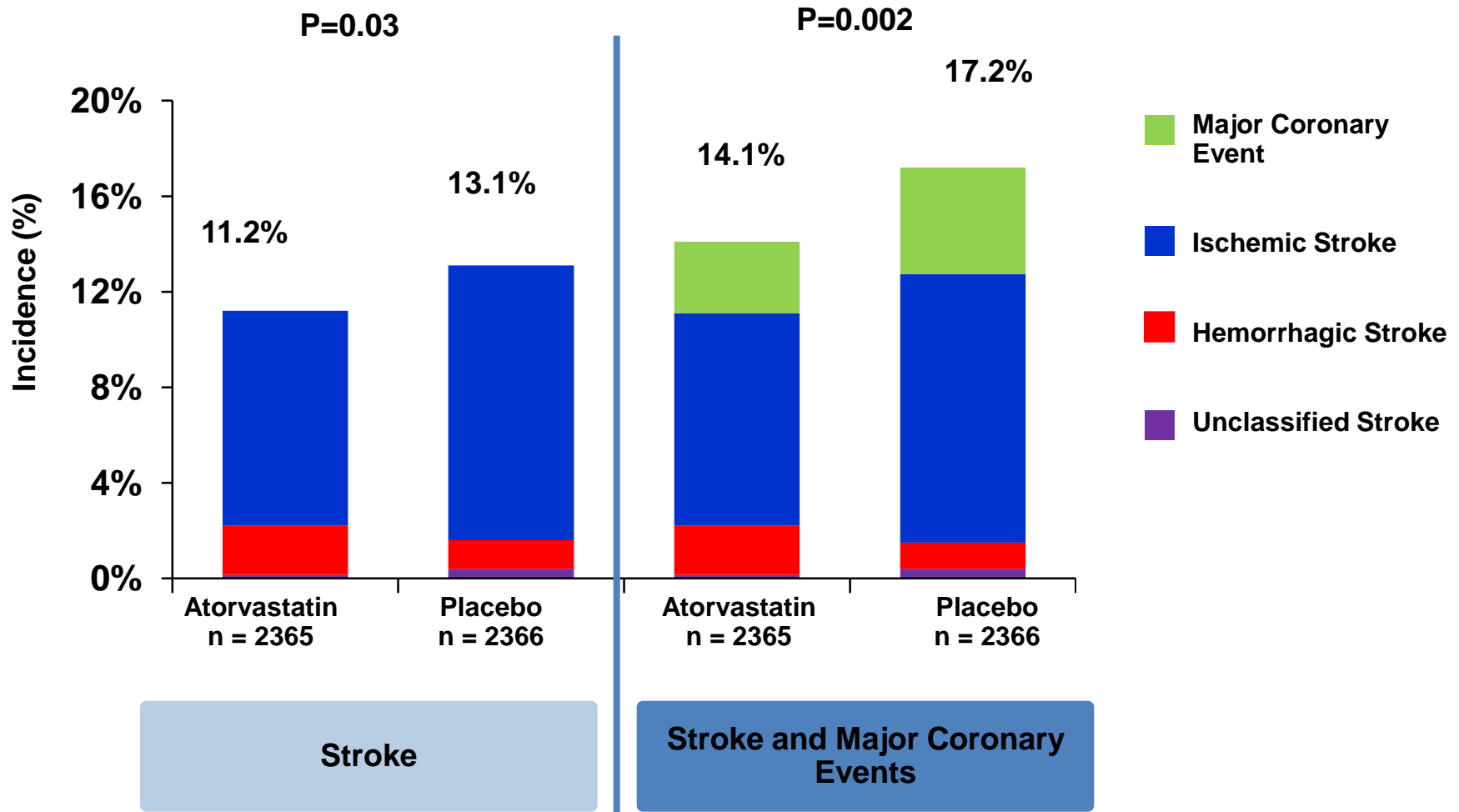
**relative risk reduction 21.1% (6.3–33.5) overall**

relative risk reduction 35.9% (21.7–47.6) for primary prevention of stroke



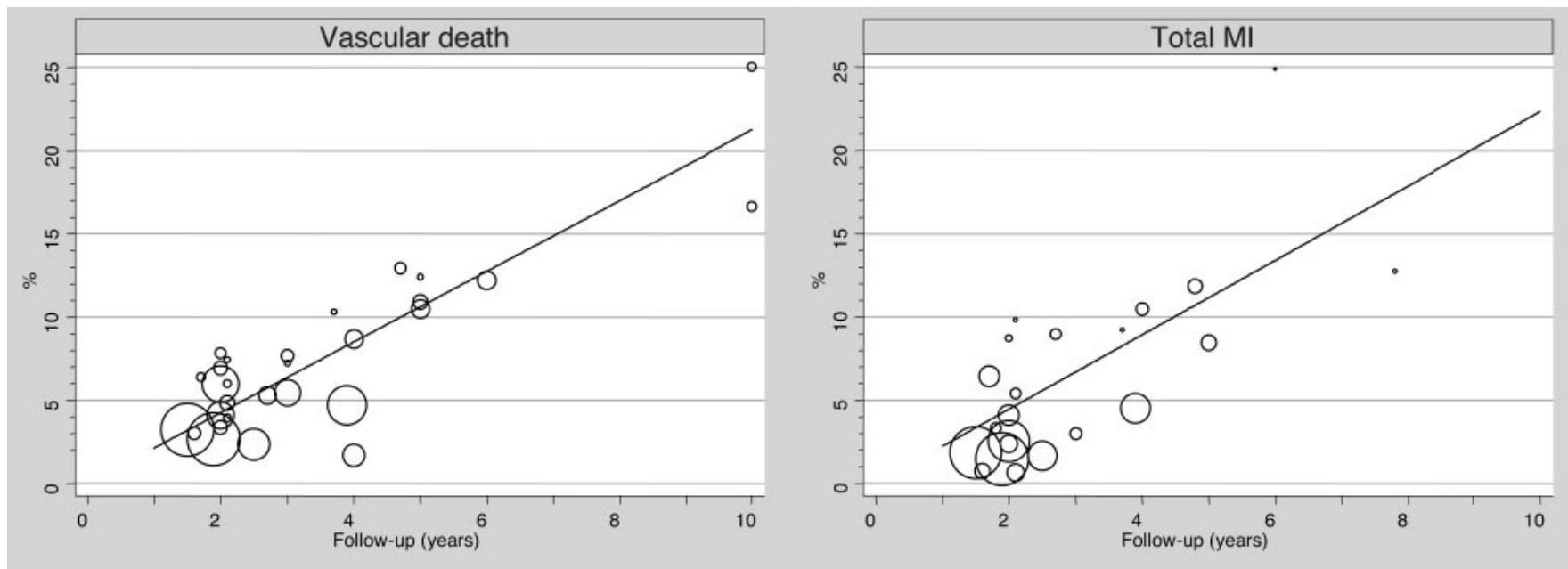
# Weighting the Benefit and Risk

## High dose atorvastatin in Stroke Population



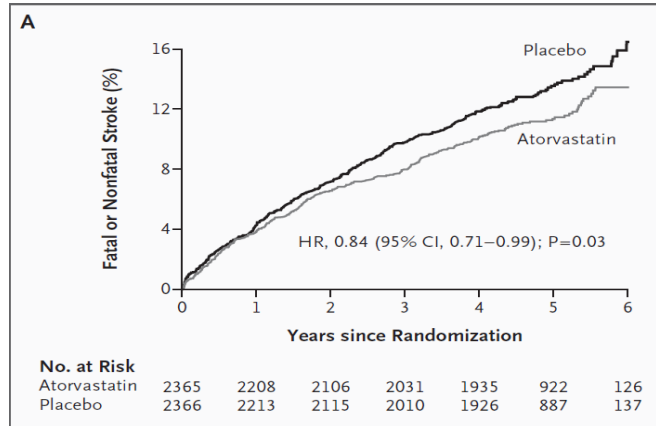
# Accumulating Risk of MI and CV death after stroke/TIA

- Meta-analysis of 39 studies (n=65,996, mean FU=3.5 y)
  - Annual risk: linear time course over 10 years
    - 2.2% (CI 95%, 1.7-2.7) for total MI
    - 2.1% (CI 95%, 1.9-2.4) for nonstroke vascular death
  - 10-year risk > 20% for both of MI and CV death



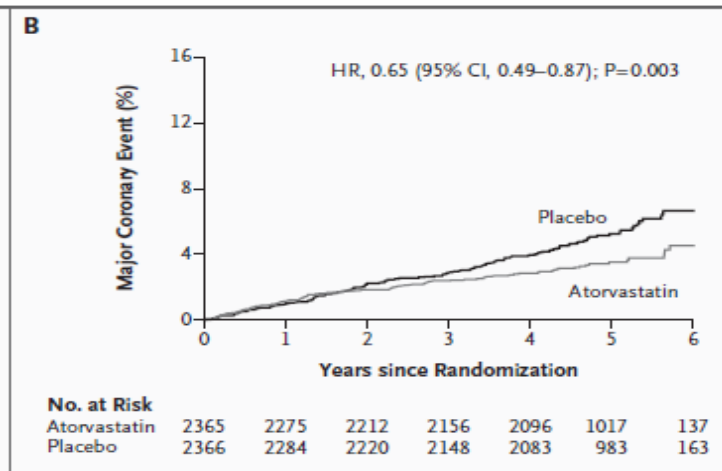
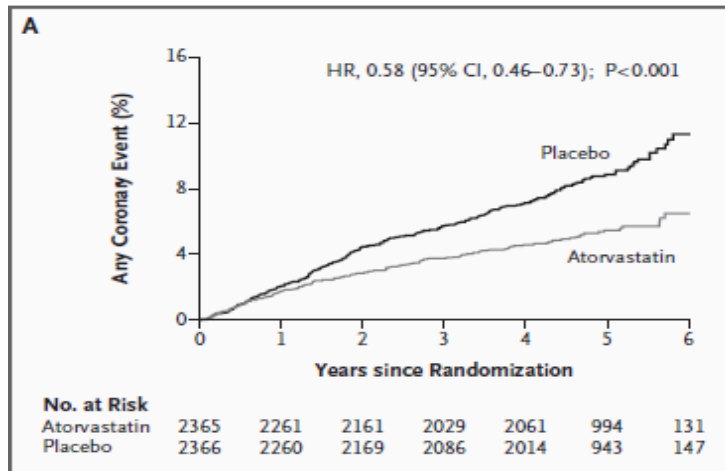
# Magnitude of Benefit with Atorvastatin Greater for Coronary Event than Stroke Event in Stroke Population

## Stroke



## Any Coronary Event

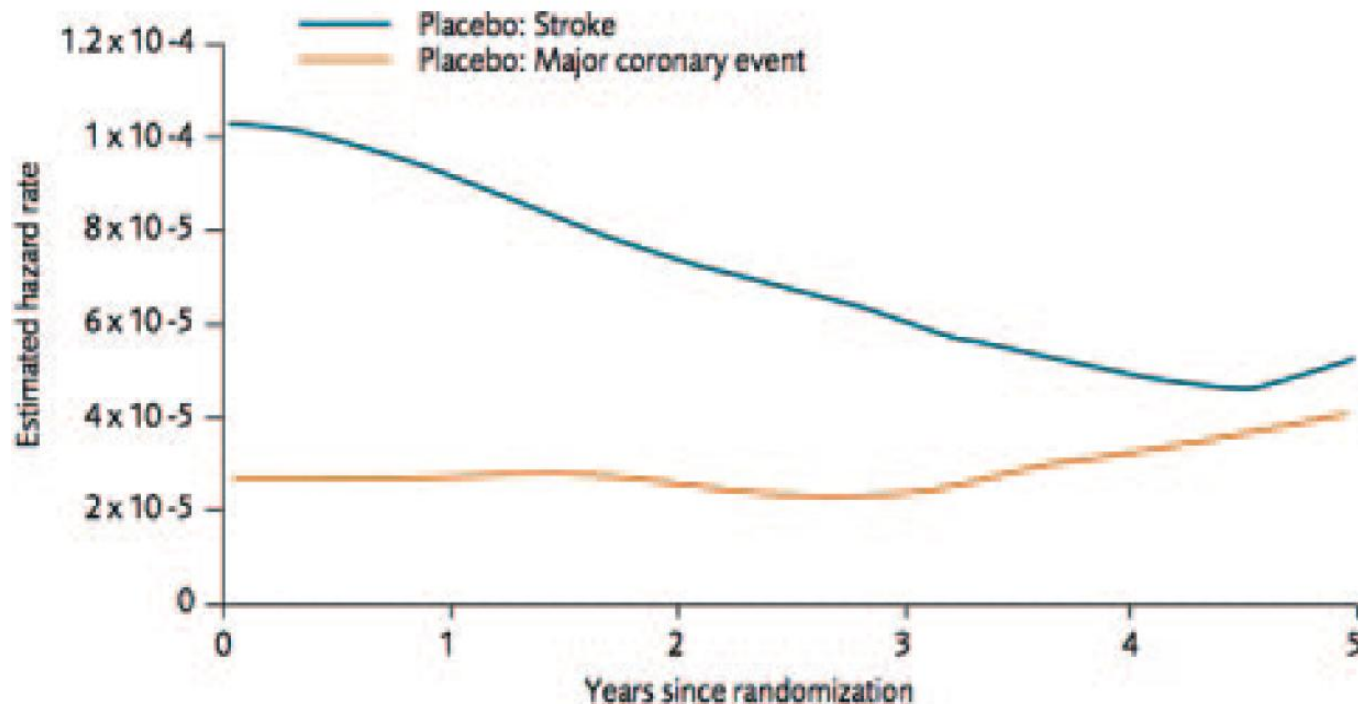
## Major Coronary Event





# The more time that goes by, the more often events accumulate in a wide range of vascular beds

## SPARCL trial post-hoc analysis



# Pleiotropic effects in acute ischemia

- Potential Benefits in Acute Ischemia of Brain and Heart
  - Anti-inflammatory action
  - Antithrombotic action and facilitation of clot lysis
  - Endothelial NO synthetase upregulation
  - Plaque stabilization: LDL oxidation reduction
  - Angiogenesis: smooth muscle cell migration and proliferation
- In acute cerebral ischemia
  - Angiogenesis, neurogenesis, and synaptogenesis
  - Potentially neuroprotective and neurorestorative in brain ischemia
- Concerns on statins in acute cerebral ischemia
  - Intracerebral hemorrhage related to antiplatelet and profibrinolytic effects

# Guidelines: statins in ACS/PCI

- ACS
  - High-intensity statin therapy should be initiated or continued in all patients with STEMI and no contraindications (2013 ACCF/AHA: Class I, LOE B)
  - Statins, regardless of baseline LDL-C, to UA/NSTEMI patients before discharge (2011 ACCF/AHA: Class I, LOE A)
  - High dose statin therapy be initiated during the first 1–4 days of hospitalization for the index ACS (LDL-C target <70 mg/dL) (2011 ESC/EAS).
- Before PCI
  - Administration of a high-dose statin is reasonable before PCI to reduce the risk of periprocedural MI. (2011 ACCF/AHA, Class IIa/LOE A/B)

# Statins trial for Acute ischemic stroke

- SPARCL
  - Randomization at 1 to 6 months after stroke
- No large trials testing statins for acute ischemic stroke
  - Statin withdrawal during acute ischemic stroke
  - FASTER: simvastatin, clinical endpoint

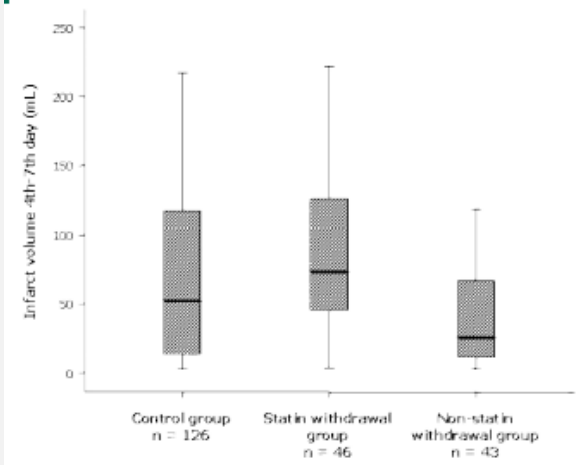
# Statin withdrawal in AIS

- Patients with hemispheric ischemic stroke within 24 hours
- 89 patients on chronic pre-stroke statin treatment randomized
  - 46 withdrawal for the first 3 days vs 43 atorvastatin 20 mg/day
  - 126 control: no prestroke statin

**Table 2** Unadjusted and adjusted ORs of death or dependency and END in patients with and without statin withdrawal

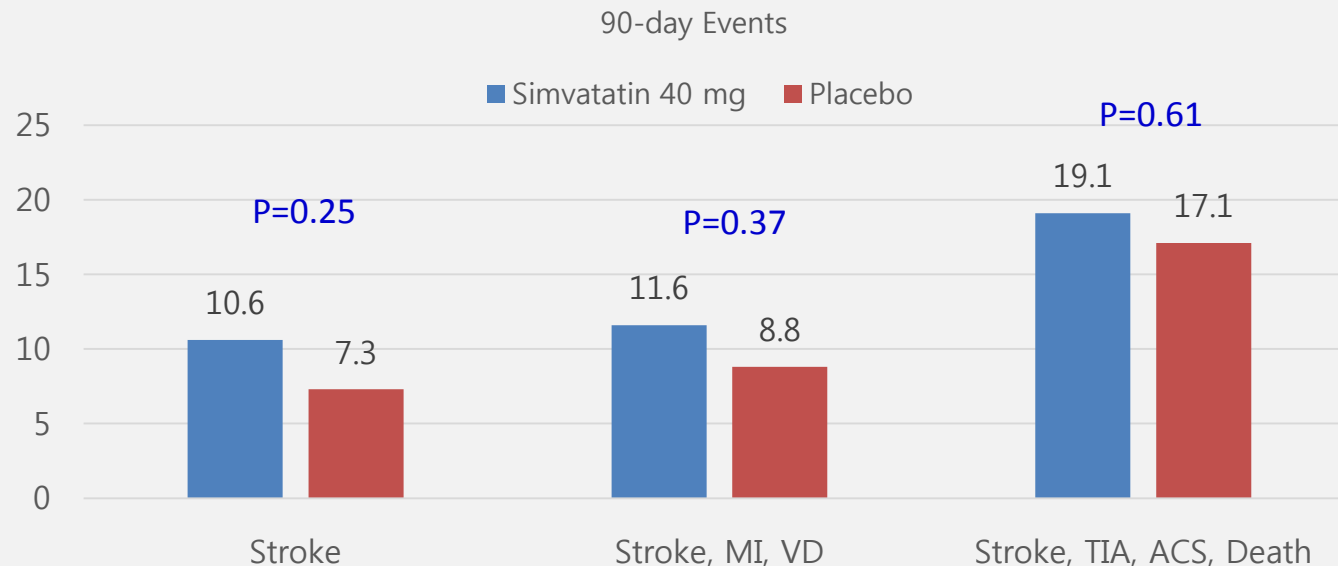
(mRS >2)	Statin-withdrawal group, n (%)	Non-statin-withdrawal group, n (%)	OR (95% CI)	Adjusted OR (95% CI)*
Primary outcome event*	27 (60.0)	16 (39.0)	2.39 (1.02, 5.62)	4.66 (1.46, 14.91)
Early neurologic deterioration	30 (65.2)	9 (20.9)	7.08 (2.73, 18.37)	8.67 (3.05, 24.63)

**Figure 2** Infarct volume by groups



# FASTER

- Simvastatin 40 mg vs. placebo within 24 hours of minor AIS or TIA
  - Vascular event prevention rather than neuroprotection
- Original enrollment plan
  - 500 patients to test trial feasibility for the main trial with a target enrollment of 7500 patients
- Early terminated after enrolling only 392 patients
  - Substantially underpowered study



# 2013 ASA Guidelines

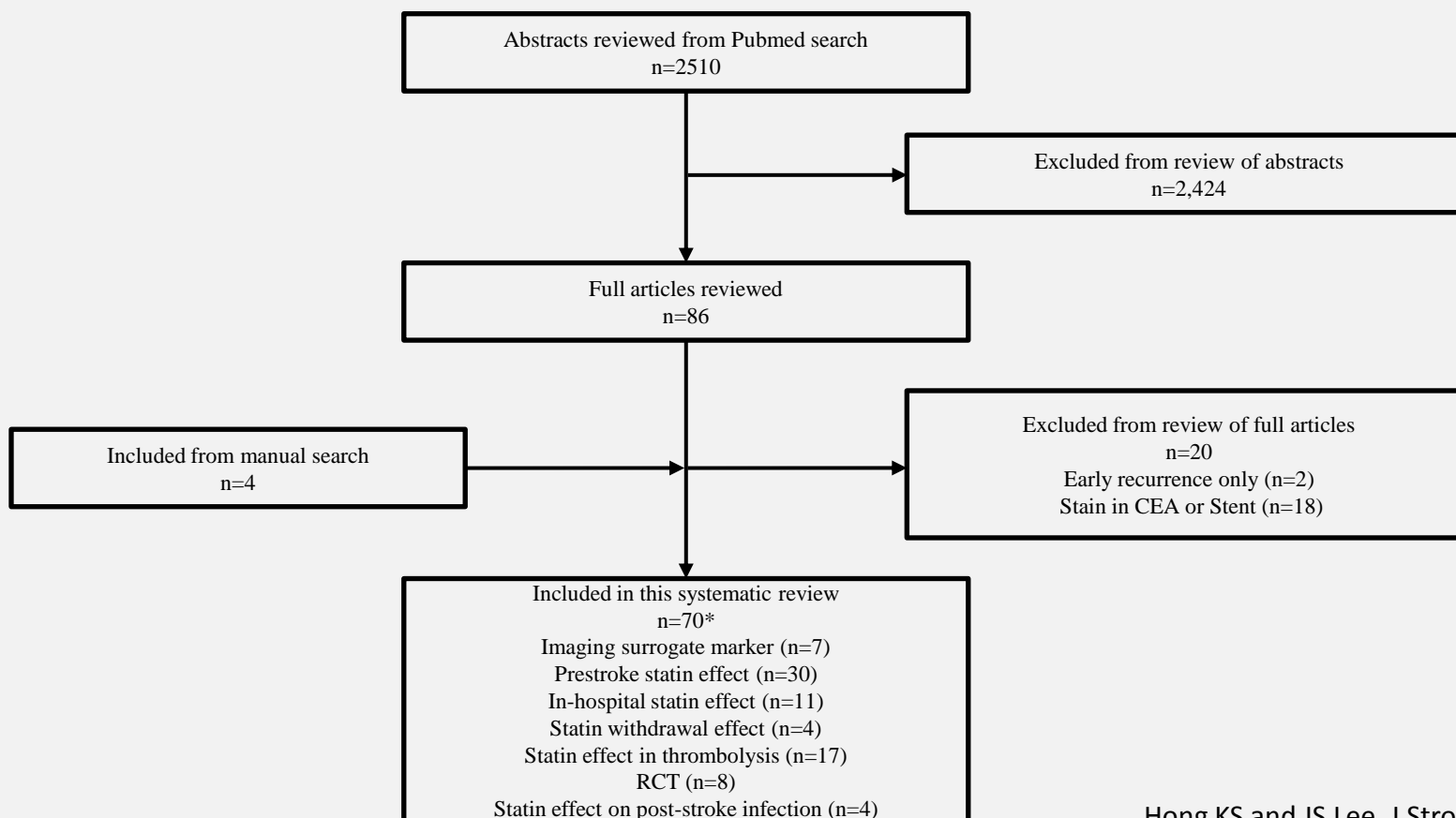
- Among patients already taking statins at the time of onset of ischemic stroke, continuation of statin therapy during the acute period is reasonable (Class IIa; Level of Evidence B). (New recommendation)
- No specific recommendations
  - Neither ‘When to start?’ nor ‘How intensive?’

# Statins in Acute Ischemic Stroke: A Systematic Review

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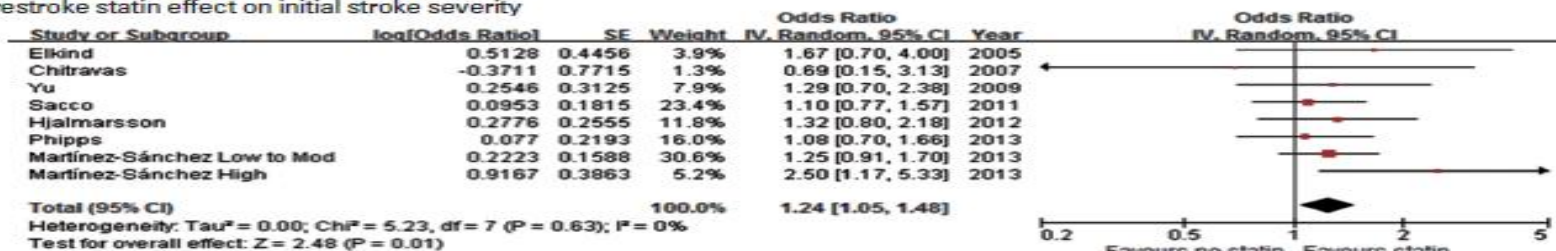
# Prestroke statin effect in acute ischemic stroke

## Neuroimaging studies in humans

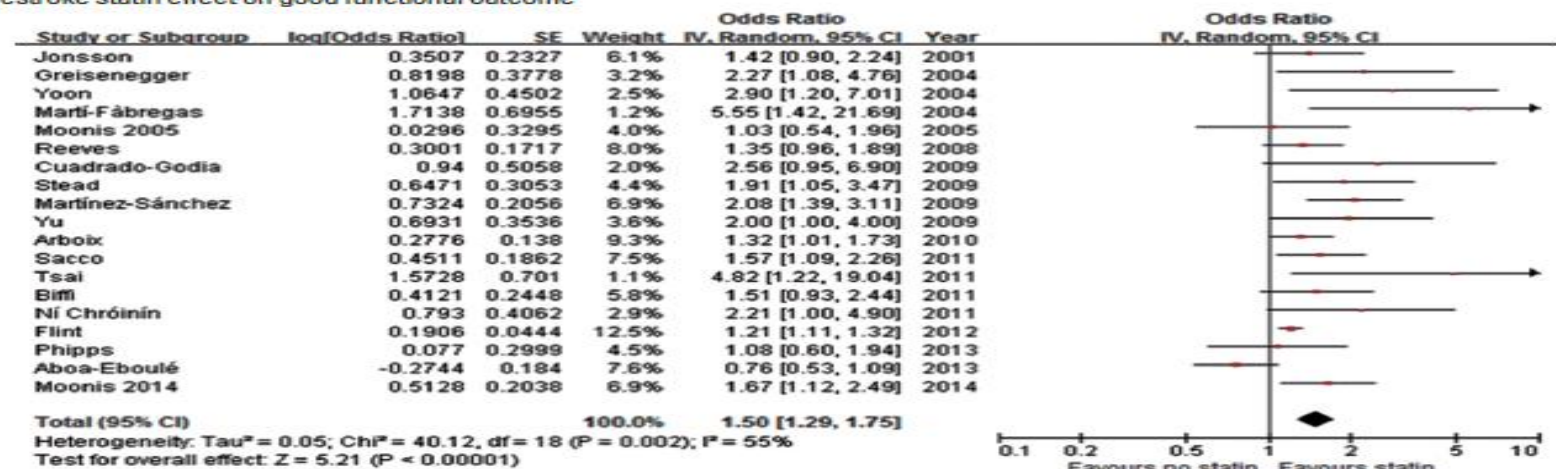
- Smaller infarct volume in patients with MCA
- More extensive arterial collaterals
- Greater reperfusion in hyperacute ischemic stroke
- Greater recanalization in a cohort of ischemic stroke patients undergoing acute intervention

# Prestroke statin effect

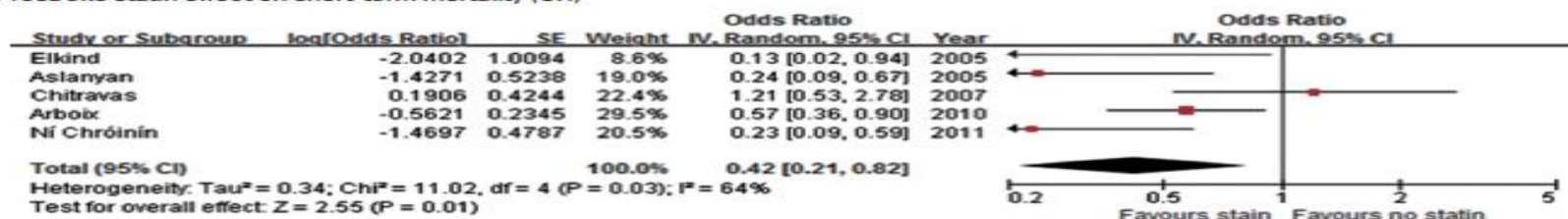
## A Prestroke statin effect on initial stroke severity



## B Prestroke statin effect on good functional outcome



## C Prestroke statin effect on short-term mortality (OR)

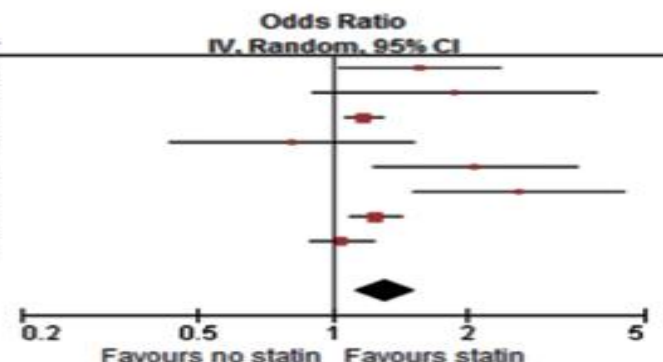


# In-hospital statin effect

## A In-hospital statin effect on good functional outcome

Study or Subgroup	log[Odds Ratio]	SE	Weight	Odds Ratio		Year
				IV, Random, 95% CI	95% CI	
Moonis 2005	0.4511	0.2123	9.3%	1.57	[1.04, 2.38]	2005
Ní Chróinín	0.6313	0.3736	3.9%	1.88	[0.90, 3.91]	2011
Flint	0.1655	0.0494	24.7%	1.18	[1.07, 1.30]	2012
Yeh	-0.2107	0.3231	5.0%	0.81	[0.43, 1.53]	2012
Hjalmarsson	0.7372	0.266	6.8%	2.09	[1.24, 3.52]	2012
Moonis 2014	0.967	0.2774	6.3%	2.63	[1.53, 4.53]	2014
Al-Khaled	0.2231	0.0686	22.7%	1.25	[1.09, 1.43]	2014
Song	0.0488	0.0807	21.3%	1.05	[0.90, 1.23]	2014
<b>Total (95% CI)</b>			<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.31</b>	<b>[1.12, 1.53]</b>	

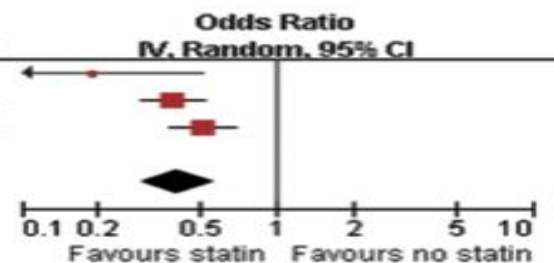
Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.02$ ;  $\chi^2 = 20.06$ ,  $df = 7$  ( $P = 0.005$ );  $I^2 = 65\%$   
 Test for overall effect:  $Z = 3.37$  ( $P = 0.0007$ )



## B In-hospital statin effect on short-term mortality (OR)

Study or Subgroup	log[Odds Ratio]	SE	Weight	Odds Ratio		Year
				IV, Random, 95% CI	95% CI	
Ní Chróinín	-1.6607	0.5095	10.1%	0.19	[0.07, 0.52]	2011
Al-Khaled	-0.9416	0.1512	44.8%	0.39	[0.29, 0.52]	2014
Song	-0.6733	0.1501	45.1%	0.51	[0.38, 0.68]	2014
<b>Total (95% CI)</b>			<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>[0.29, 0.58]</b>	

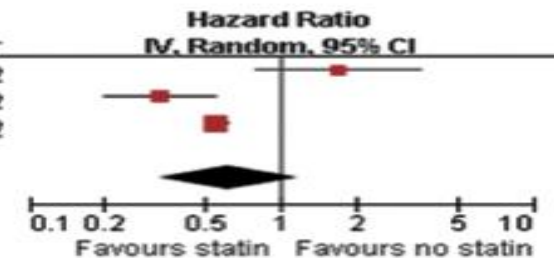
Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.05$ ;  $\chi^2 = 4.28$ ,  $df = 2$  ( $P = 0.12$ );  $I^2 = 53\%$   
 Test for overall effect:  $Z = 5.09$  ( $P < 0.00001$ )



## C In-hospital statin effect on short-term mortality (HR)

Study or Subgroup	log[Hazard Ratio]	SE	Weight	Hazard Ratio		Year
				IV, Random, 95% CI	95% CI	
Yeh	0.5188	0.385	26.0%	1.68	[0.79, 3.57]	2012
Hjalmarsson	-1.1087	0.2555	32.9%	0.33	[0.20, 0.54]	2012
Flint	-0.5978	0.0528	41.1%	0.55	[0.50, 0.61]	2012
<b>Total (95% CI)</b>			<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0.62</b>	<b>[0.33, 1.16]</b>	

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.25$ ;  $\chi^2 = 12.41$ ,  $df = 2$  ( $P = 0.002$ );  $I^2 = 84\%$   
 Test for overall effect:  $Z = 1.48$  ( $P = 0.14$ )



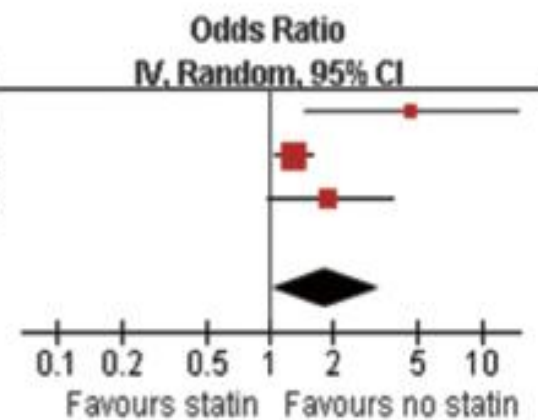
# Statin withdrawal effect

Statin withdrawal effect on poor functional outcome

Study or Subgroup	log[Odds Ratio]	SE	Weight	Odds Ratio		Year
				IV, Random, 95% CI	95% CI	
Blanco	1.539	0.5934	17.5%	4.66	[1.46, 14.91]	2007
Flint	0.2624	0.1041	51.1%	1.30	[1.06, 1.59]	2012
Phipps	0.6419	0.3483	31.5%	1.90	[0.96, 3.76]	2013
<b>Total (95% CI)</b>			<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.83</b>	<b>[1.01, 3.30]</b>	

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.17$ ;  $\chi^2 = 5.37$ ,  $df = 2$  ( $P = 0.07$ );  $I^2 = 63\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z = 2.01$  ( $P = 0.04$ )





# Statin effect in patients with thrombolysis

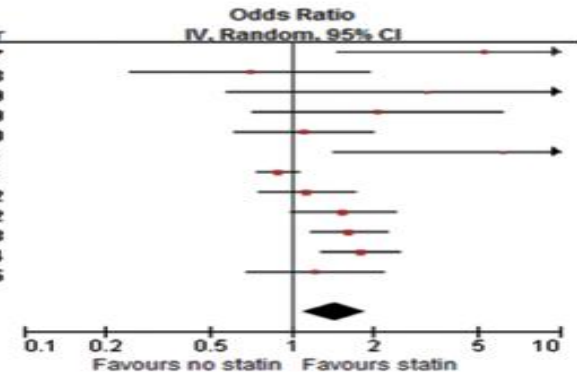
## A Statin effect on good functional outcome in thrombolysis

Study or Subgroup	log[Odds Ratio]	SE	Weight	Odds Ratio		Year
				IV, Random, 95% CI		
Alvarez-Sabin	1.6601	0.6477	3.5%	5.26	[1.48, 18.72]	2007
Uyttenboogaart	-0.3567	0.5253	4.8%	0.70	[0.25, 1.96]	2008
Restrepo before and after	1.1694	0.8834	2.1%	3.22	[0.57, 18.19]	2009
Restrepo after	0.7376	0.5511	4.5%	2.09	[0.71, 6.16]	2009
Miedema	0.1044	0.3054	9.0%	1.11	[0.61, 2.02]	2010
Cappellari 2011	1.8213	0.7468	2.8%	6.18	[1.43, 26.71]	2011
Engelter	-0.1165	0.0942	15.1%	0.89	[0.74, 1.07]	2011
Rocco	0.131	0.2128	11.7%	1.14	[0.75, 1.73]	2012
Meseguer	0.4383	0.2315	11.1%	1.55	[0.98, 2.44]	2012
Cappellari 2013	0.4886	0.1667	13.1%	1.63	[1.18, 2.26]	2013
Scheitz 2014	0.5878	0.17	13.0%	1.80	[1.29, 2.51]	2014
Scheitz 2015	0.1989	0.3008	9.1%	1.22	[0.68, 2.20]	2015

Total (95% CI) 100.0% 1.44 [1.10, 1.89]

Heterogeneity: Tau<sup>2</sup> = 0.12; Chi<sup>2</sup> = 33.80, df = 11 (P = 0.0004); I<sup>2</sup> = 67%

Test for overall effect: Z = 2.65 (P = 0.008)



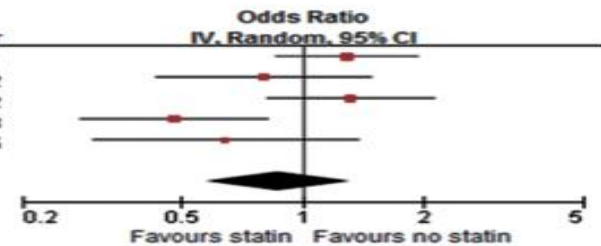
## B Statin effect on 90-day mortality in patients with thrombolysis

Study or Subgroup	log[Odds Ratio]	SE	Weight	Odds Ratio		Year
				IV, Random, 95% CI		
Engelter	0.2546	0.2082	24.0%	1.29	[0.86, 1.94]	2011
Meseguer	-0.2231	0.3167	18.3%	0.80	[0.43, 1.49]	2012
Rocco	0.2776	0.2429	22.1%	1.32	[0.82, 2.12]	2012
Cappellari 2013	-0.734	0.275	20.4%	0.48	[0.28, 0.82]	2013
Scheitz 2015	-0.4463	0.3883	15.1%	0.64	[0.30, 1.37]	2015

Total (95% CI) 100.0% 0.87 [0.58, 1.32]

Heterogeneity: Tau<sup>2</sup> = 0.14; Chi<sup>2</sup> = 11.48, df = 4 (P = 0.02); I<sup>2</sup> = 65%

Test for overall effect: Z = 0.65 (P = 0.52)



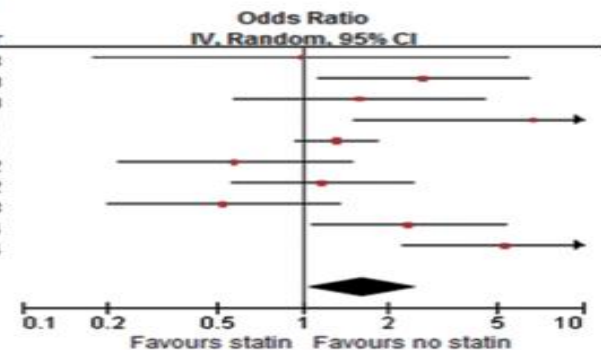
## C Statin effect on symptomatic hemorrhagic transformation in patients with thrombolysis

Study or Subgroup	log[Odds Ratio]	SE	Weight	Odds Ratio		Year
				IV, Random, 95% CI		
Uyttenboogaart	-0.0101	0.8698	5.0%	0.99	[0.18, 5.44]	2008
Meier	0.9933	0.4435	10.6%	2.70	[1.13, 6.44]	2009
Miedema	0.47	0.5266	9.1%	1.60	[0.57, 4.49]	2010
Cappellari 2011	1.8946	0.7535	6.1%	6.65	[1.52, 29.12]	2011
Engelter	0.2776	0.1732	15.8%	1.32	[0.94, 1.85]	2011
Meseguer	-0.5621	0.4903	9.7%	0.57	[0.22, 1.49]	2012
Rocco	0.1655	0.3803	11.8%	1.18	[0.56, 2.49]	2012
Cappellari 2013	-0.6539	0.4875	9.8%	0.52	[0.20, 1.35]	2013
Scheitz Med	0.8755	0.4042	11.3%	2.40	[1.09, 5.30]	2014
Scheitz High	1.6677	0.4295	10.8%	5.30	[2.28, 12.30]	2014

Total (95% CI) 100.0% 1.63 [1.04, 2.56]

Heterogeneity: Tau<sup>2</sup> = 0.31; Chi<sup>2</sup> = 25.45, df = 9 (P = 0.003); I<sup>2</sup> = 65%

Test for overall effect: Z = 2.11 (P = 0.03)



# Prestroke statin on initial stroke severity and discharge outcomes: Analysis of Korean registry data (CRCS-5)

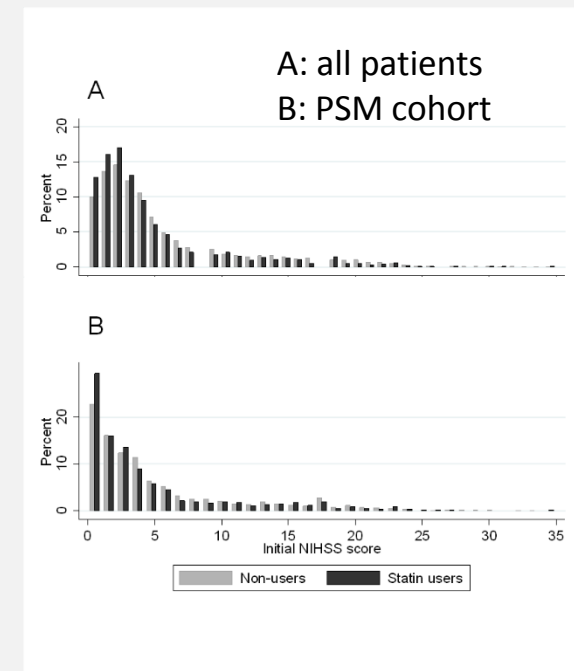
- 8,340 patients with acute ischemic stroke
  - 964 (11.6%) prestroke statin users vs 7376 (88.4%) non-users
- Prestroke statins effect in Korean stroke patients
  - Primary endpoint: neuroprotective?
    - Initial stroke severity, NIHSS
  - Secondary endpoints: neurorestorative?
    - Discharge functional outcome adjusted for initial stroke severity
      - Proportion of mRS 0-2
      - mRS shift analysis

# Pre-stroke statin on admission NIHSS

- Pre-stroke statin, lesser stroke severity at presentation
  - Neuroprotective effect during ischemia?

Comparisons of initial NIHSS scores between statin users and non-users for unmatched and PS-matched cohorts

	Statin users	Non-users	Difference	P-value
Unmatched cohort				
Unadjusted	4.6 (4.3–4.9)	5.4 (5.3–5.6)	0.8 (0.5–1.2)	<0.001
Adjusted*	5.7 (5.2–6.3)	6.4 (5.9–6.9)	0.7 (0.2–1.1)	0.002
PS-matched cohort				
PS-matched ††	5.2 (4.7–5.7)	5.7 (5.4–6.0)	0.5 (0.02–1.0)	0.043

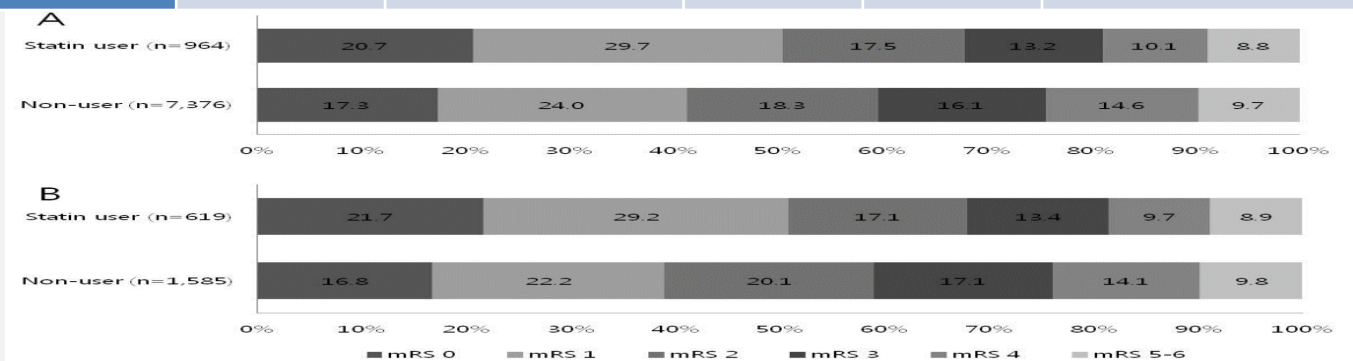


# Pre-stroke statin on discharge functional outcome

- Pre-stroke statin, better early functional outcome after adjusting all covariates including initial stroke severity
  - Neurorestorative effect after ischemia?

	Binary mRS 0-2 outcome (good outcome)			Ordinal outcome†		
	OR	95% CI	p-value	OR	95% CI	p-value
Crude analysis, unmatched cohort	1.44	(1.25–1.66)	<0.001	1.37	(1.21–1.54)	<0.001
Multivariable analysis, unmatched cohort	1.54	(1.25–1.91)	<0.001	1.29	(1.10–1.50)	0.001
PS- matched analysis§	1.44	(1.15–1.82)	0.002	1.32	(1.12–1.56)	0.001
PS-stratification, deciles¶	1.57	(1.25–1.97)	<0.001	1.29	(1.10–1.52)	0.002

A: all patients





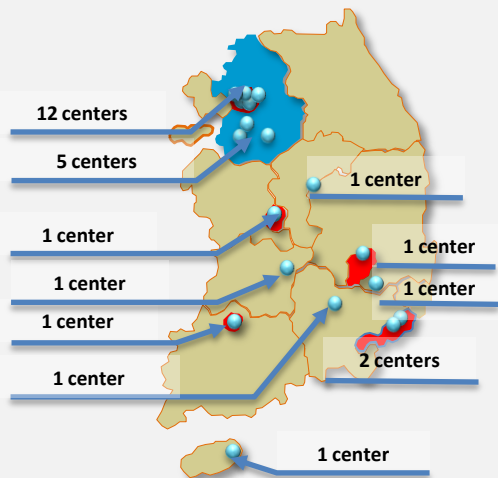
# Statin prescription at discharge after hospitalization for AIS/TIA

- Stroke hospitalization as a window of opportunity
  - To assure statin initiation
  - To promote statin adherence
- USA Get With The Guidelines Stroke database (n=173,284)
  - Overall statin prescription rate at discharge, 83.5% in 2005-2007

# Guideline-Based Statin Prescription (GBSP) in Korea

## ROLLERKOST Study

- 27 centers
  - 4407 patients with AIS from
  - 174 neurologists surveyed



Statin prescription at discharge: 76.6%

	Overall	Higher-level knowledge group	Lower-level knowledge group
Patients treated	4407	2528 (57.4%)	1879 (42.6%)
<b>GBSP rate</b>	<b>78.6%</b>	<b>81.6%</b>	<b>74.7%</b>

- Absolute difference in GBSP rate
  - 6.9%, unadjusted  $p < 0.0001$
- Multivariable analysis
  - Higher-level knowledge group for GBSP: OR=1.40 (1.01-1.96),  $p = 0.045$

# In summary

- Statins for primary and secondary stroke prevention
  - Confirmed from RCTs and meta-analyses
- Statin benefit in acute ischemic stroke
  - No confirmatory data from well-designed RCTs
  - No signal of harm, but strong signal of benefit
  - Hospitalization for acute cerebral ischemia
    - Good opportunity to assure statin initiation and to increase statin adherence

Thank you for your attention