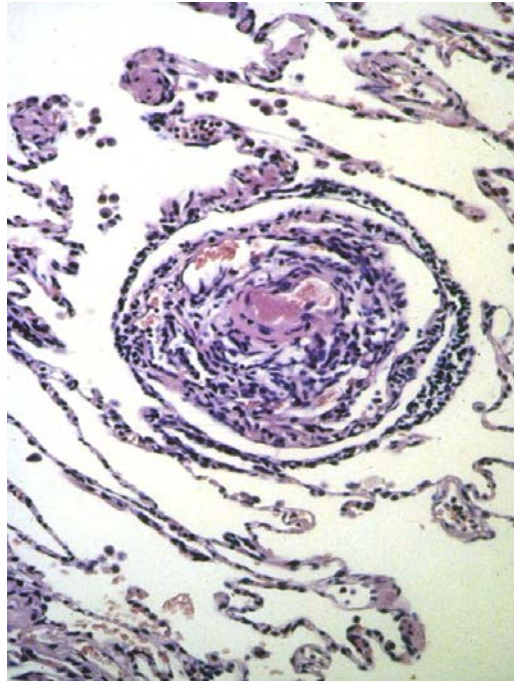


Ipertensione arteriosa polmonare: nuove terapie



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Fisiopatologia Respiratoria
Ospedale San Giuseppe - Milano*

Conflict of interests disclosures

Actelion

Boehringer Ingelheim

InterMune

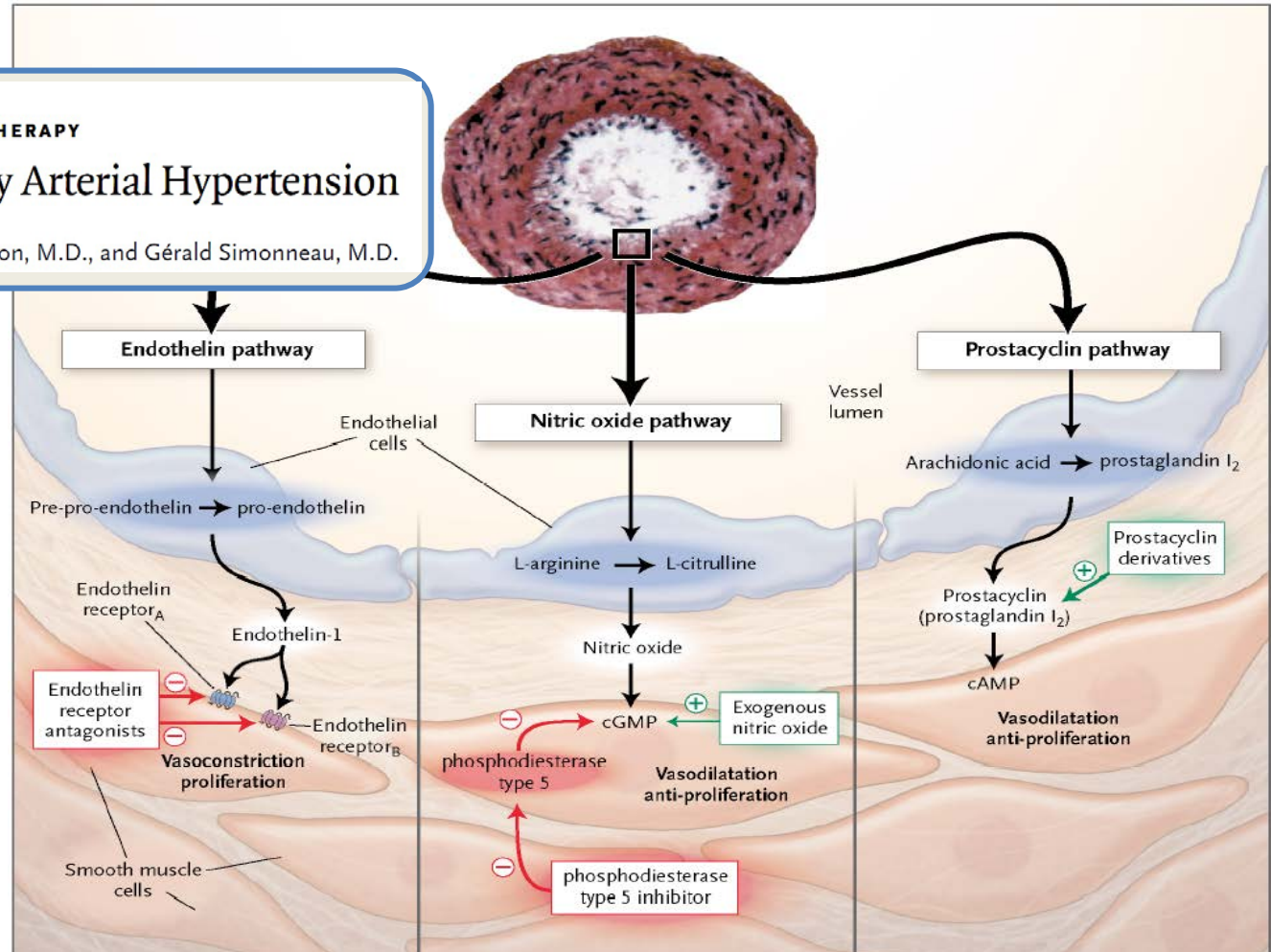
Roche

Targeting 3 major dysfunctional pathways in PAH (2004)

DRUG THERAPY

Treatment of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension

Marc Humbert, M.D., Ph.D., Olivier Sitbon, M.D., and G rard Simonneau, M.D.



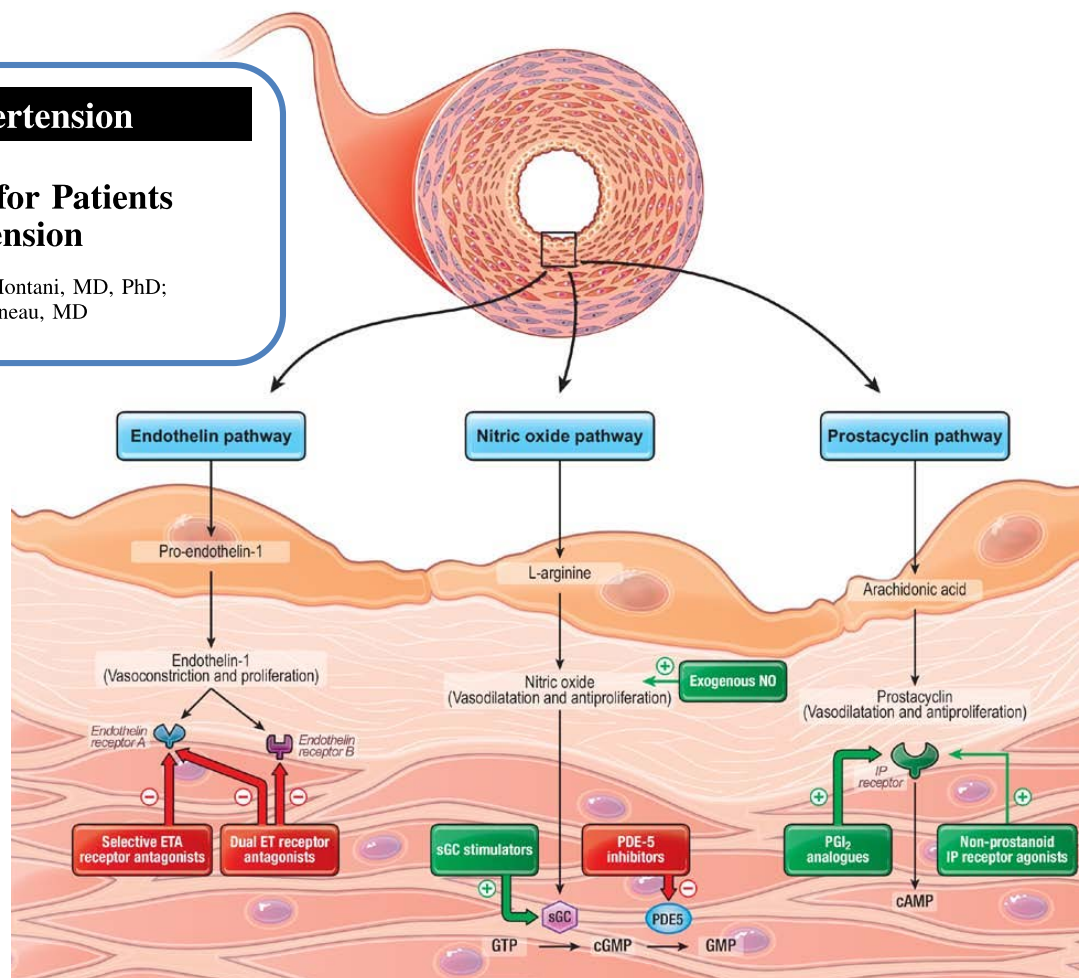
cAMP, cyclic adenosine monophosphate; cGMP, cyclic guanosine monophosphate.

Targeting 3 major dysfunctional pathways in PAH (2014)

Recent Advances in Pulmonary Hypertension

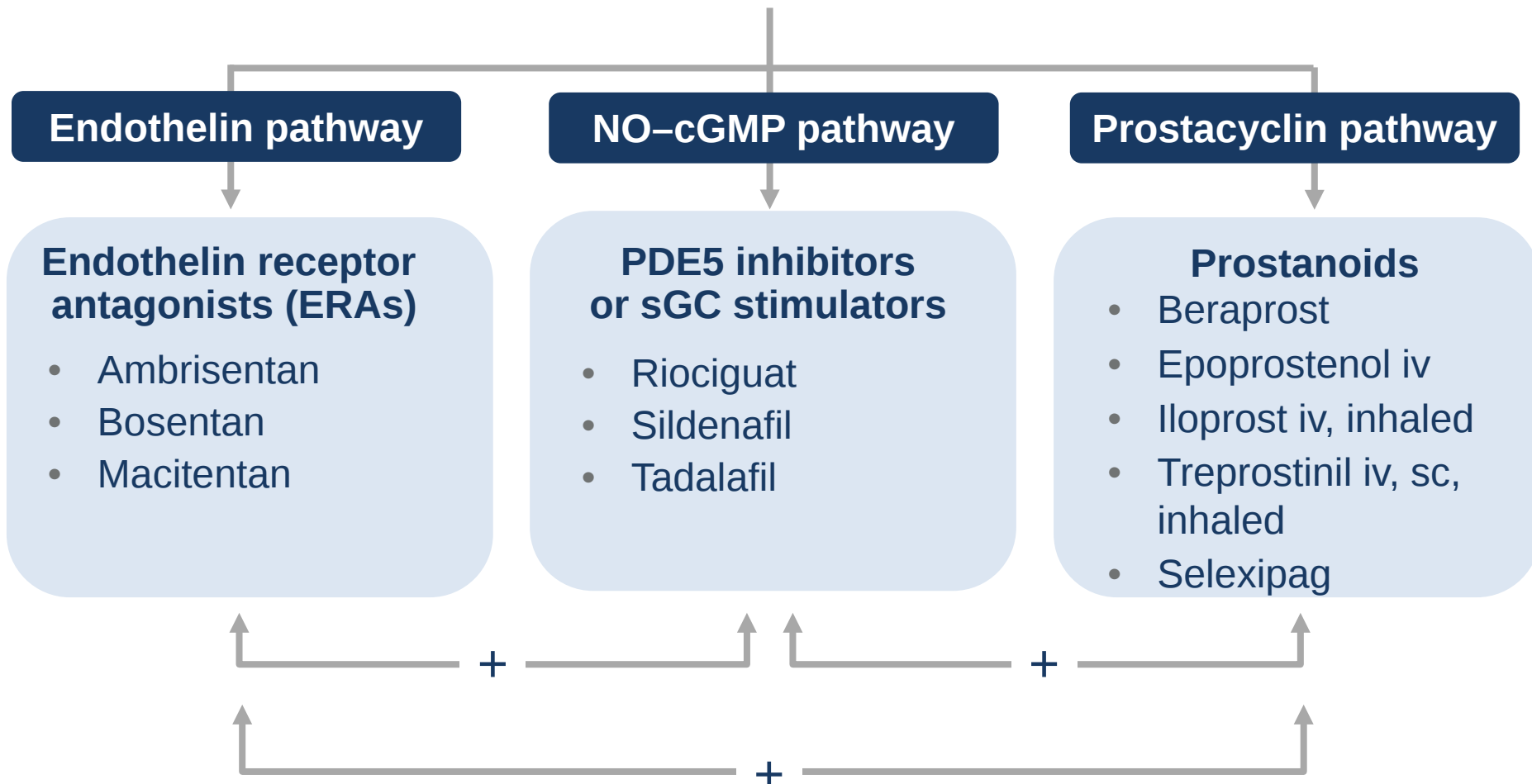
Advances in Therapeutic Interventions for Patients With Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension

Marc Humbert, MD, PhD; Edmund M.T. Lau, MD, PhD; David Montani, MD, PhD;
Xavier Jaïs, MD; Oliver Sitbon, MD, PhD; Gérald Simonneau, MD



cAMP, cyclic adenosine monophosphate; cGMP, cyclic guanosine monophosphate; ET, endothelin; ETA, endothelin receptor A; GTP, guanosine triphosphate; NO, nitric oxide; PGI₂, prostaglandin I₂; sGC, soluble guanylate cyclase.

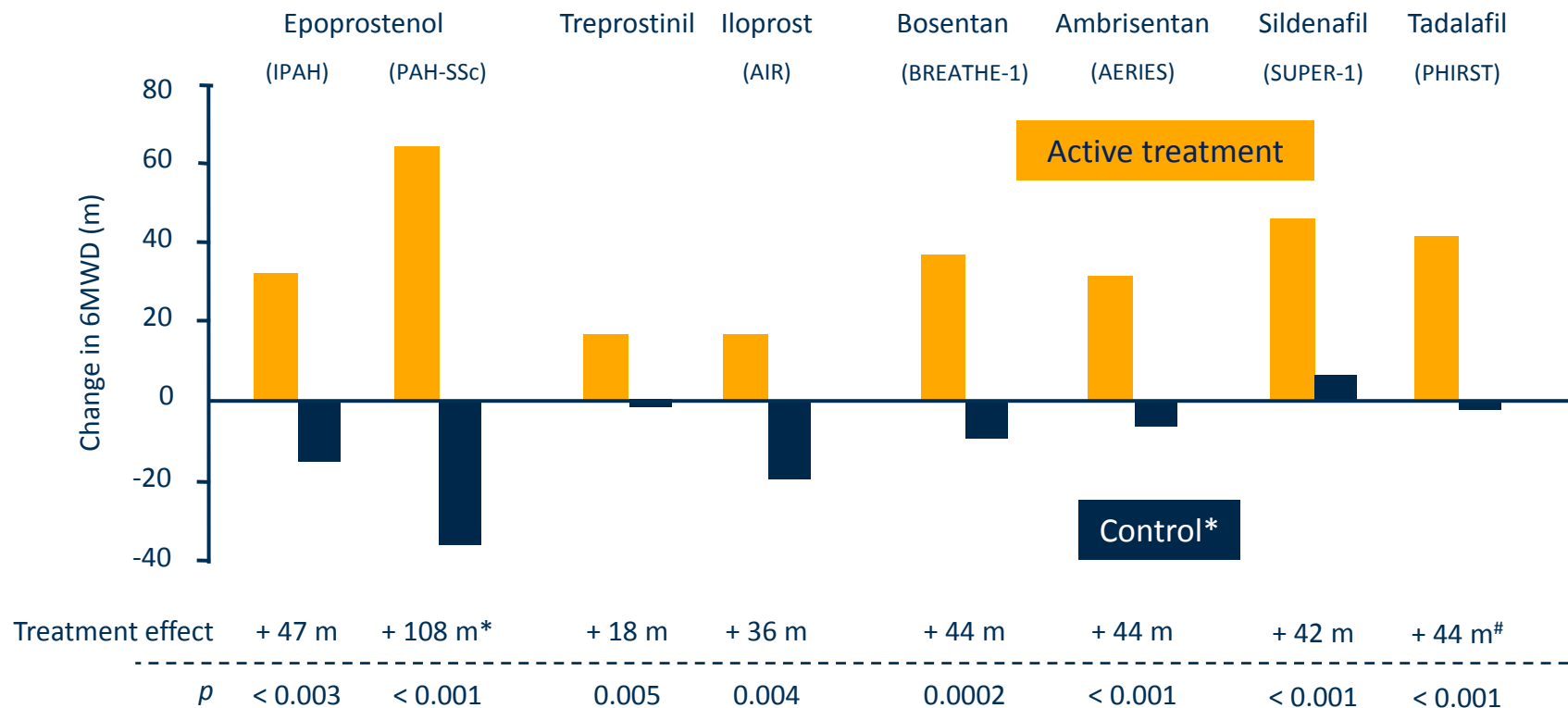
PAH-specific therapies target the 3 signaling pathways involved in PAH



cGMP, cyclic guanosine monophosphate; iv, intravenous; NO, nitric oxide; PDE5, phosphodiesterase type 5; sc, subcutaneous; sGC, soluble guanylate cyclase.

RCTs with monotherapy in PAH

Improvement in exercise capacity (3-4 months)



* Control = placebo except for epoprostenol trials ('Conventional therapy')

#: monotherapy only

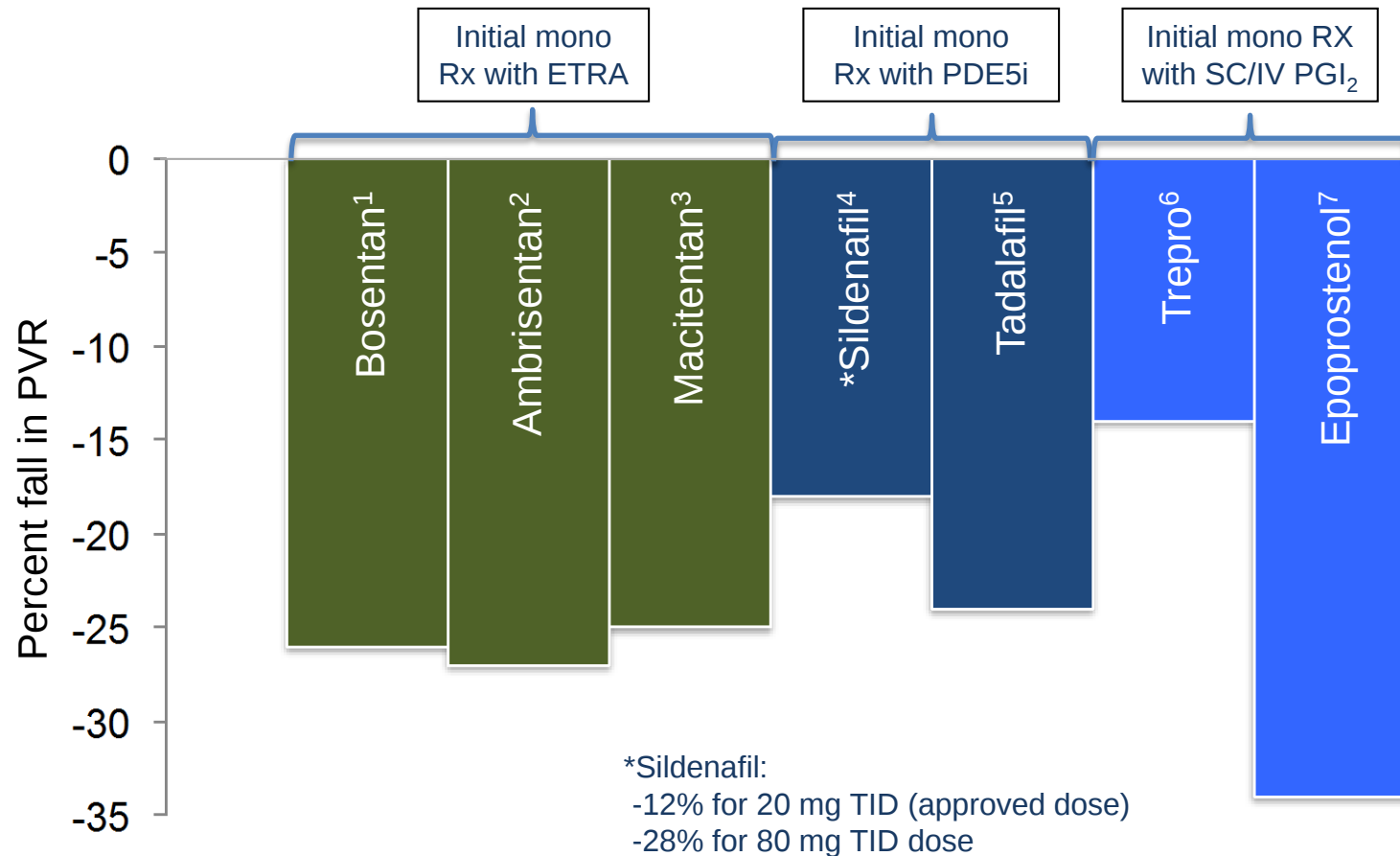
Barst, NEJM 1996.
Badesch, Ann Int Med 2000.

Simonneau, AJRCCM 2002.
Olschewski, NEJM 2002.

Rubin, NEJM 2002.
Galiè, Circulation 2008.

Galiè, NEJM 2005.
Galiè, Circulation 2009.

Effect of PAH-specific therapies on PVR after 3-6 months

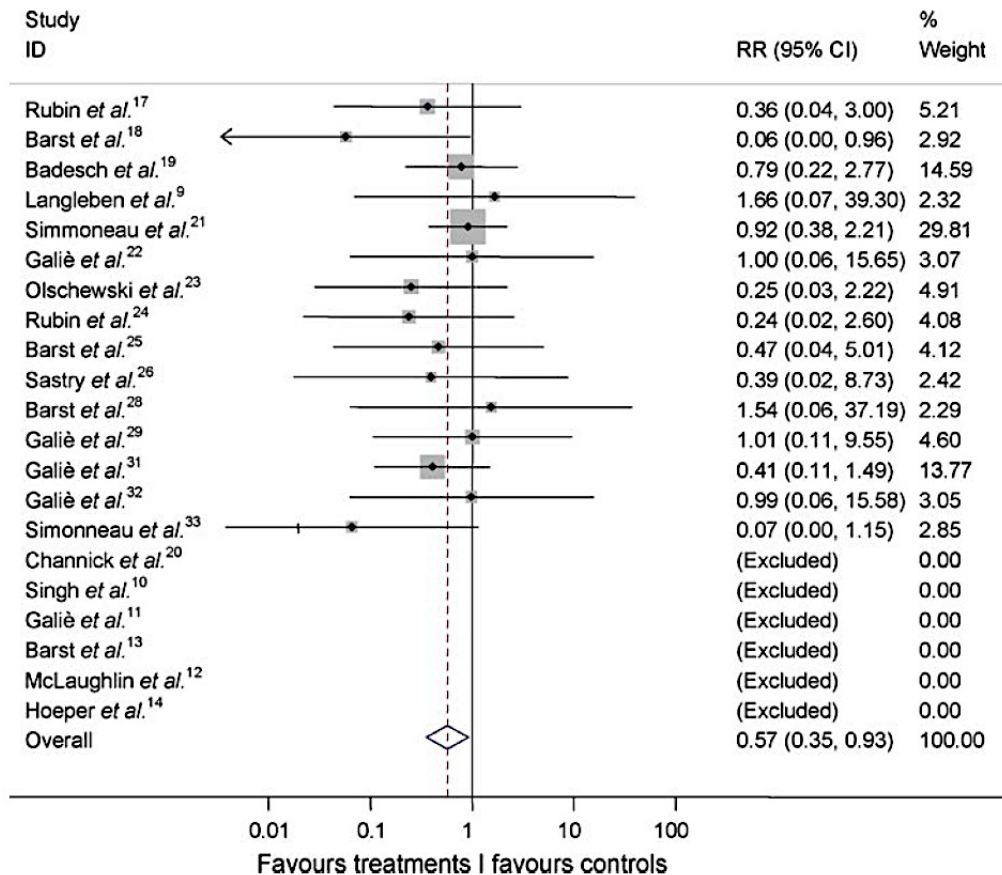


1. Channick RN. *Lancet* 2001; 2. Galie N. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2005; 3. Pulido T. *N Engl J Med* 2013; 4. Galie N. *N Engl J Med* 2005; 5. Galie N. *Circulation* 2009; 6. Simonneau G. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2002; 7. Barst RJ. *N Engl J Med* 1996.

A meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials in pulmonary arterial hypertension

Nazzareno Galiè*, Alessandra Manes, Luca Negro, Massimiliano Palazzini, Maria Letizia Bacchi-Reggiani, and Angelo Branzi

European Heart Journal (2009) 30, 394–403



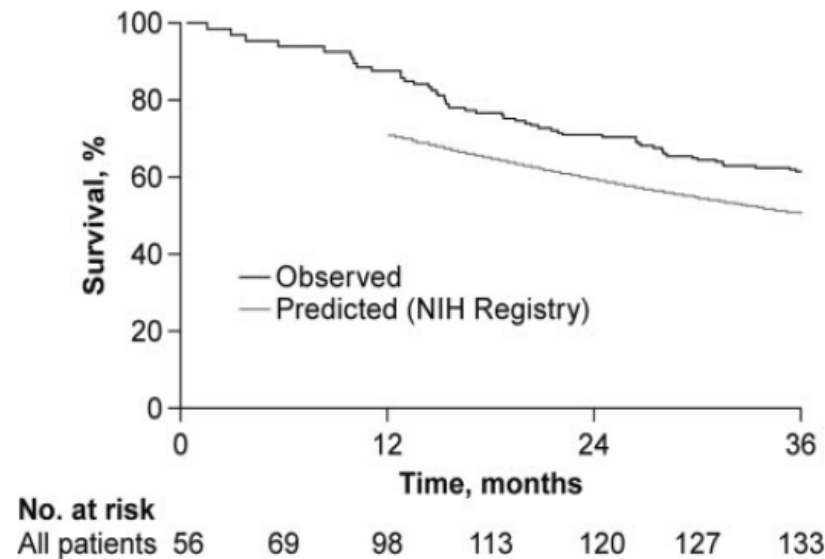
- 23 RCTs
- Average duration 14.3 wks
- 3140 patients
- All-cause mortality rate in the control group = 3.8%
- Active treatments:
 - 43% reduction in mortality
 - RR 0.57 (95%CI 0.35–0.92)
 - P = 0.023

Unmet need in the modern management era

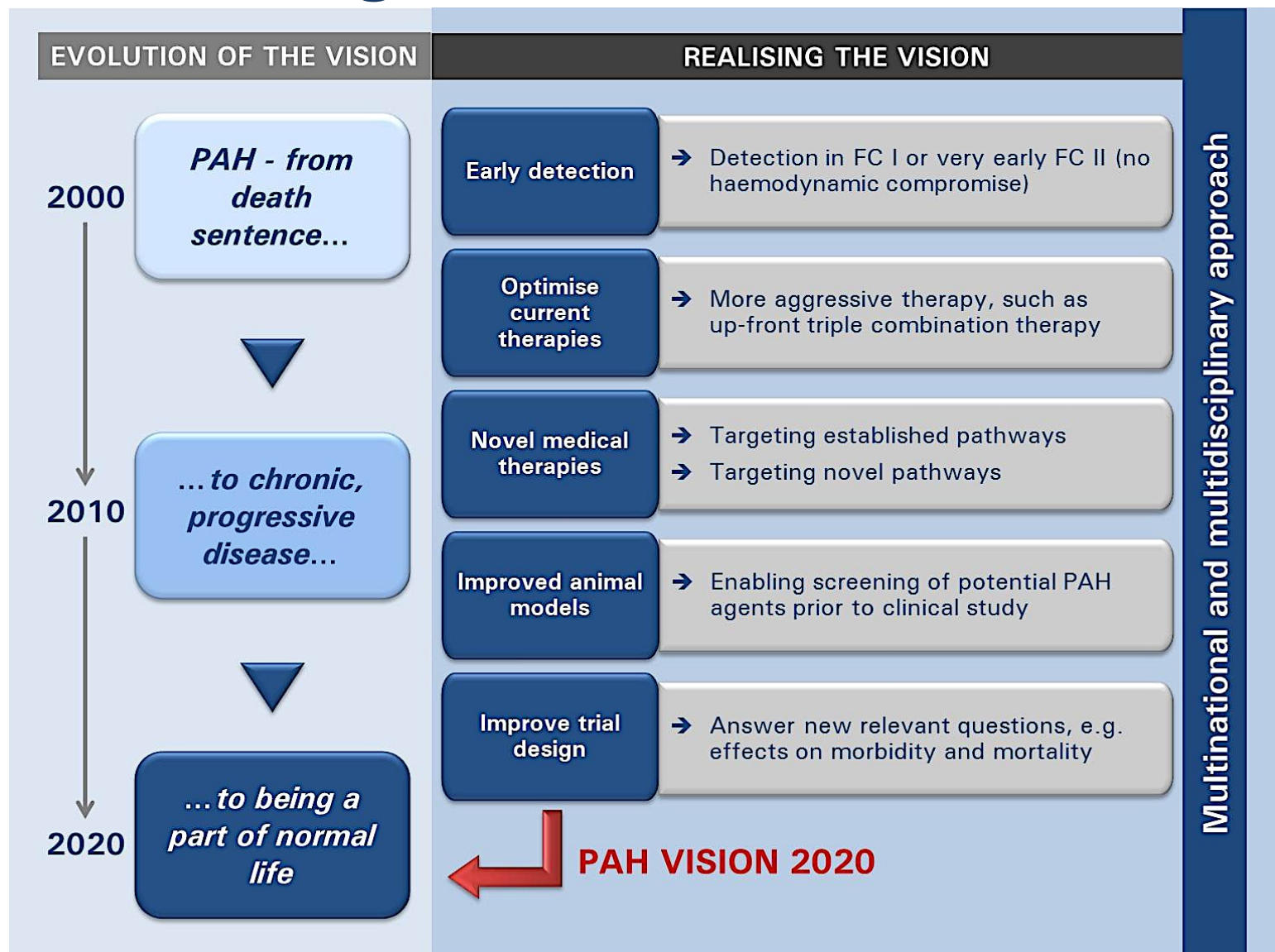
Despite drug discovery and development PAH remains a devastating condition

Survival in Patients With Idiopathic, Familial, and Anorexigen-Associated Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension in the Modern Management Era

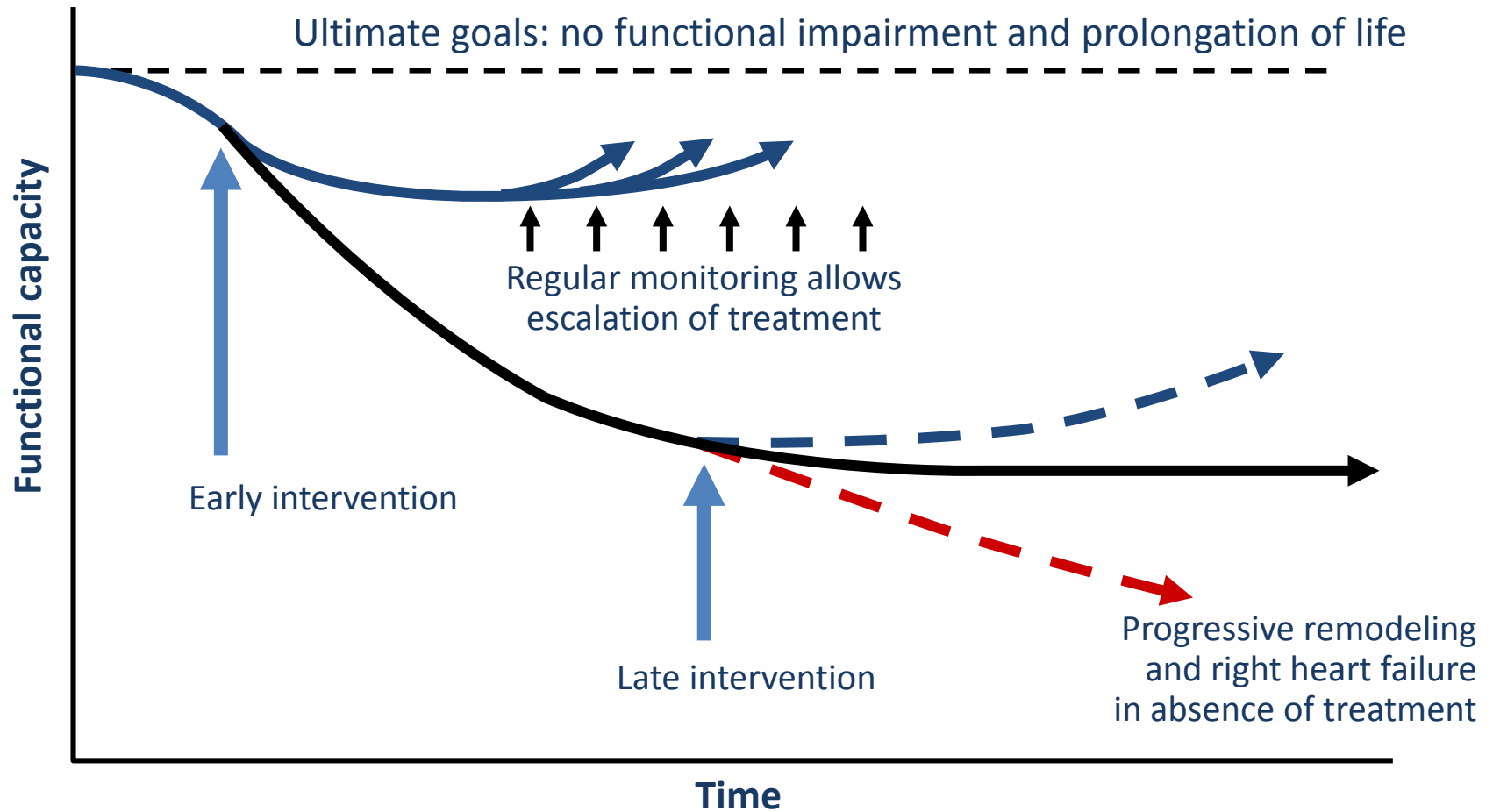
Marc Humbert, MD, PhD; Olivier Sitbon, MD, PhD; Ari Chaouat, MD, PhD; Michèle Bertocchi, MD; Gilbert Habib, MD; Virginie Gressin, MD; Azzedine Yaïci, MD; Emmanuel Weitzenblum, MD; Jean-François Cordier, MD; François Chabot, MD, PhD; Claire Dromer, MD; Christophe Pison, MD, PhD; Martine Reynaud-Gaubert, MD, PhD; Alain Haloun, MD; Marcel Laurent, MD; Eric Hachulla, MD, PhD; Vincent Cottin, MD, PhD; Bruno Degano, MD, PhD; Xavier Jaïs, MD; David Montani, MD, PhD; Rogério Souza, MD, PhD; Gérald Simonneau, MD



PAH management: How to do better?



Early treatment of PAH



Sequential combination therapy: results are not uniform...

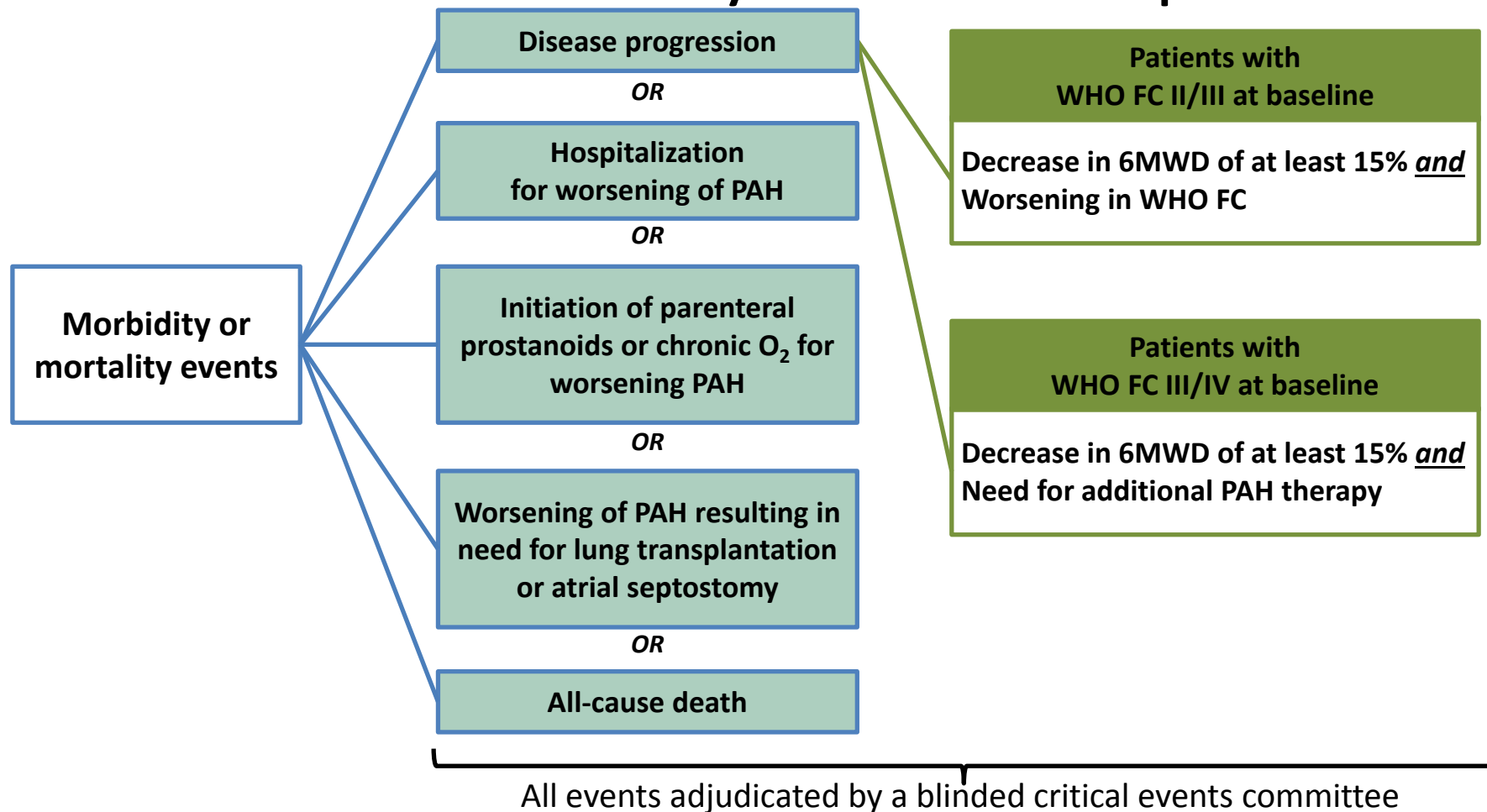
Drug tested	Study	Background	N	Duration (weeks)	Primary endpoint
Bosentan	EARLY	None or sildenafil (16%)	185	24	PVR +, Δ 6MWD (NS)
Bosentan	COMPASS-2	Sildenafil	334	92	Morbi-mortality (NS)
Iloprost	STEP	Bosentan	67	12	Δ 6MWD (NS)
Iloprost	COMBI	Bosentan	40	12	Δ 6MWD (NS)
Imatinib	Phase II	Bosentan &/or sildenafil &/or prostanoids	59	24	Δ 6MWD (NS)
Imatinib	IMPRES	Bosentan &/or sildenafil &/or prostanoids	202	24	Δ 6MWD +
Selexipag	Phase II	Bosentan &/or sildenafil	43	17	PVR +
Sildenafil	PACES	Epoprostenol	264	16	Δ 6MWD +
Sildenafil	NCT00323297	Bosentan	104	12	Δ 6MWD (NS)
Tadalafil	PHIRST	None or bosentan (54%)	405	16	Δ 6MWD (NS)
Trepostinil	Inhaled- TRIUMPH	Bosentan or sildenafil	235	12	Δ 6MWD +
Trepostinil	Oral- FREEDOM C1	Bosentan &/or sildenafil	354	16	Δ 6MWD (NS)
Trepostinil	Oral- FREEDOM C2	Bosentan &/or sildenafil	310	16	Δ 6MWD (NS)

Sequential combination therapy:

Recent studies

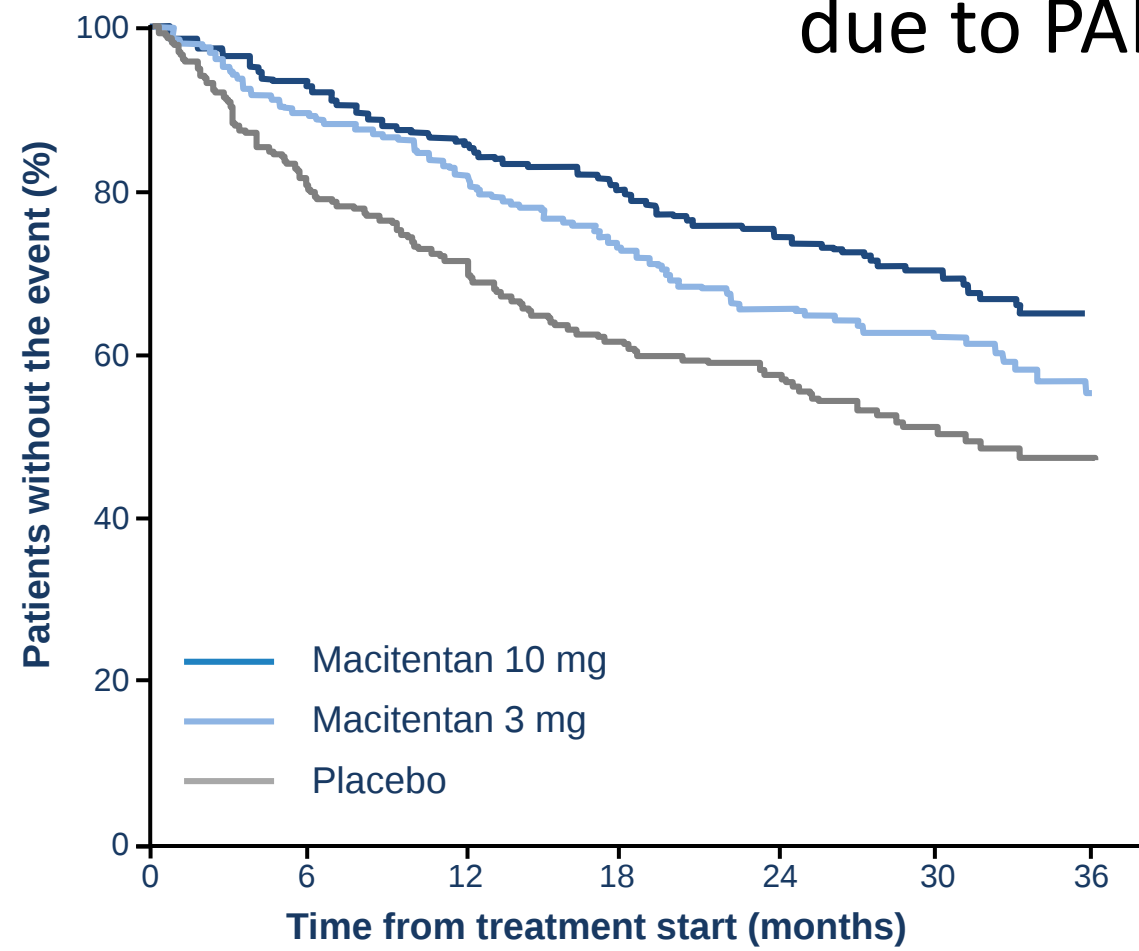
Drug tested	Study	Background	N	Duration (weeks)	Primary endpoint
Riociguat	PATENT	None (50%), bosentan or prostanoids	443	12	Δ 6MWD +
Macitentan	SERAPHIN	None (36%), PDE5i (61%) or oral/inhaled prostanoids	742	$\approx$ 100	Time to first event of death or morbidity +
Selexipag	GRIPHON	None (21%), ERA (13%), PDE5i (32%) or both (34%)	1156	$\approx$ 70	Time to first event of death or morbidity +

Primary endpoint: Time to first occurrence of death or morbidity due to PH up to EOT



EOT: End of double-blind treatment

SERAPHIN: Macitentan reduced the risk of the primary outcome composite of death or morbidity due to PAH



Treatment difference	3 mg	10 mg
Hazard ratio	0.70	0.55
Log-rank <i>p</i> -value	0.01	< 0.001

Risk reduction of primary endpoint event vs placebo
 Macitentan 10 mg: 45%
 Macitentan 3 mg: 30%

Patients at risk							
242	203	187	171	155	91	41	Macitentan 10 mg
250	213	188	166	147	80	32	Macitentan 3 mg
250	188	160	135	122	64	23	Placebo

The AMBITION trial

Initial Use of Ambrisentan plus Tadalafil in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension

N. Galiè, J.A. Barberà, A.E. Frost, H.-A. Ghofrani, M.M. Hoeper, V.V. McLaughlin, A.J. Peacock, G. Simonneau, J.-L. Vachiery, E. Grünig, R.J. Oudiz, A. Vonk-Noordegraaf, R.J. White, C. Blair, H. Gillies, K.L. Miller, J.H.N. Harris, J. Langley, and L.J. Rubin, for the AMBITION Investigators*

- Event-driven study
- Initial combo AMB+TADA vs monotherapy AMB or TADA
- N=500 treatment-naïve patients with PAH (31% FC II)

The AMBITION trial: Primary endpoint

Time to first clinical failure event

Galiè N, et al. N Engl J Med 2015;273:834:44.

Death (all cause)

All events were adjudicated

**Hospitalization
for worsening PAH**

Any hospitalization for worsening PAH
Lung transplantation
Atrial septostomy
Initiation of parenteral prostanoid therapy

Disease progression

Decrease in 6MWD > 15% vs baseline
with FC III-IV (2 visits > 14 days)

**Unsatisfactory
long-term response**

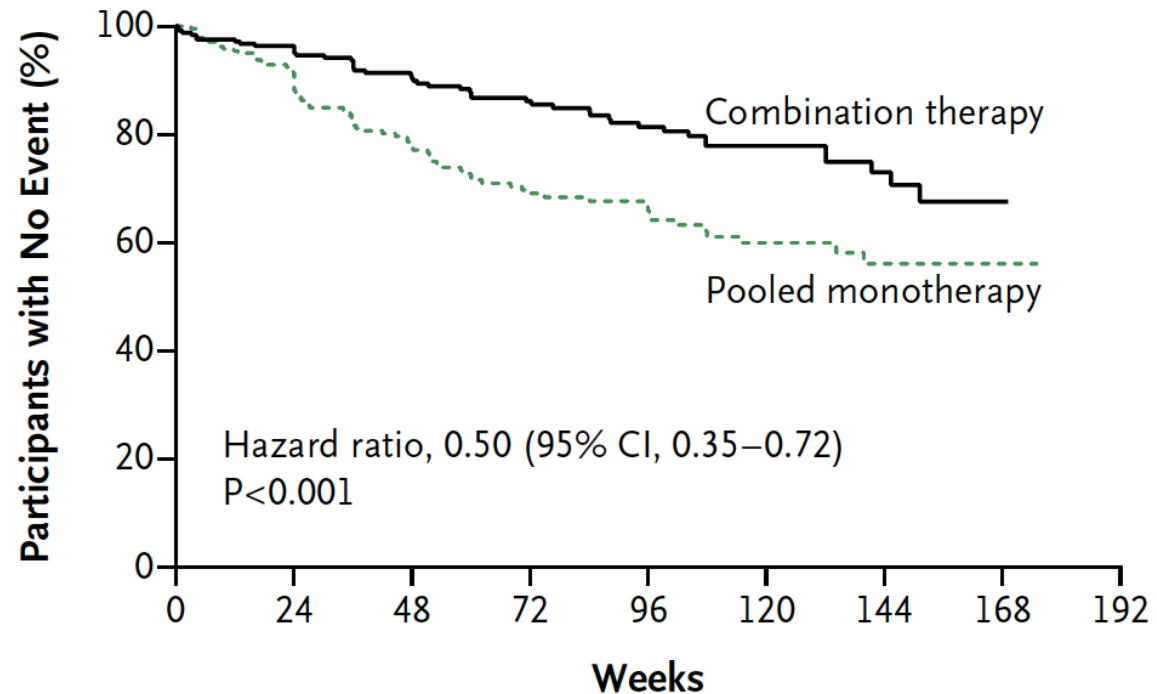
ALL

1 dose of IP and > 6 months in study
Decrease in 6MWD (any amount)
FC III at 2 visits separated by 6 months

The AMBITION trial: main result

Galiè N, et al. N Engl J Med 2015;273:834:44.

A Combination Therapy vs. Pooled Monotherapy



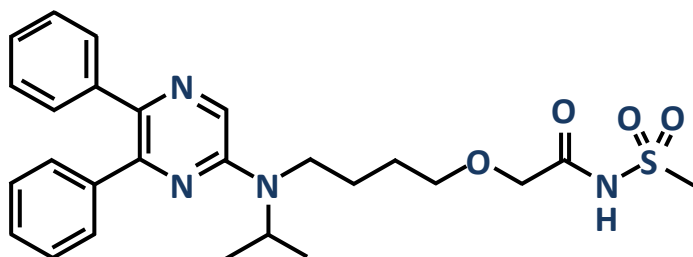
No. at Risk

Combination therapy	253	229	186	145	106	71	36	4
Pooled monotherapy	247	209	155	108	77	49	25	5

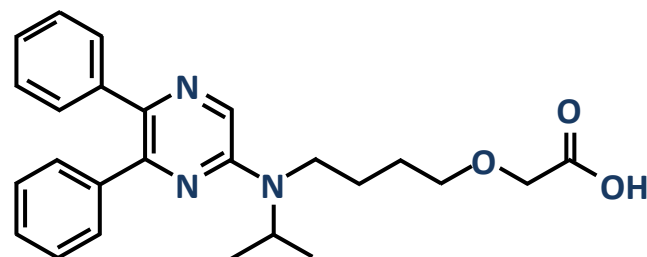
Hospitalisation for PAH worsening was the main component of the primary endpoint

Selexipag: First in class oral non-prostanoid IP receptor agonist

ACT987 (drug)



MRE-269 (major metabolite)



Hydrolysis



- **ACT987**
 - Orally available diphenylpyrazine derivative
- **MRE-269**
 - Potent and highly selective prostacyclin receptor agonist

Study Design

A multicenter, double blind, randomized, parallel-group, placebo-controlled, event-driven, phase 3 study.

The Prostacyclin (PGI₂) Receptor Agonist In Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (GRIPHON) study, to investigate the safety and efficacy of selexipag

Study Design

Inclusion criteria (eligible for enrollment)

- Male and female patients (18-75 years old)
- Patients with PAH characterized as:
 - Idiopathic PAH (IPAH)
 - Heritable PAH (HPAH)
 - Associated with
 - Connective tissue disease (PAH-CTD)
 - Repaired congenital simple systemic-to-pulmonary shunt (PAH-CHD)
 - HIV infection (PAH-HIV)
- A hemodynamic diagnosis of PAH by right heart catheterization (RHC) ($PVR \geq 400 \text{ dyn}\cdot\text{s}\cdot\text{cm}^{-5}$)
- 6MWD between 50 and 450 m at screening within two weeks prior to the baseline visit
- Patients “naïve”- treated with ERAs, PDE5i or both (a dose that had been stable for at least 3 months)

Exclusion criteria

Patients who were receiving prostacyclin analogues

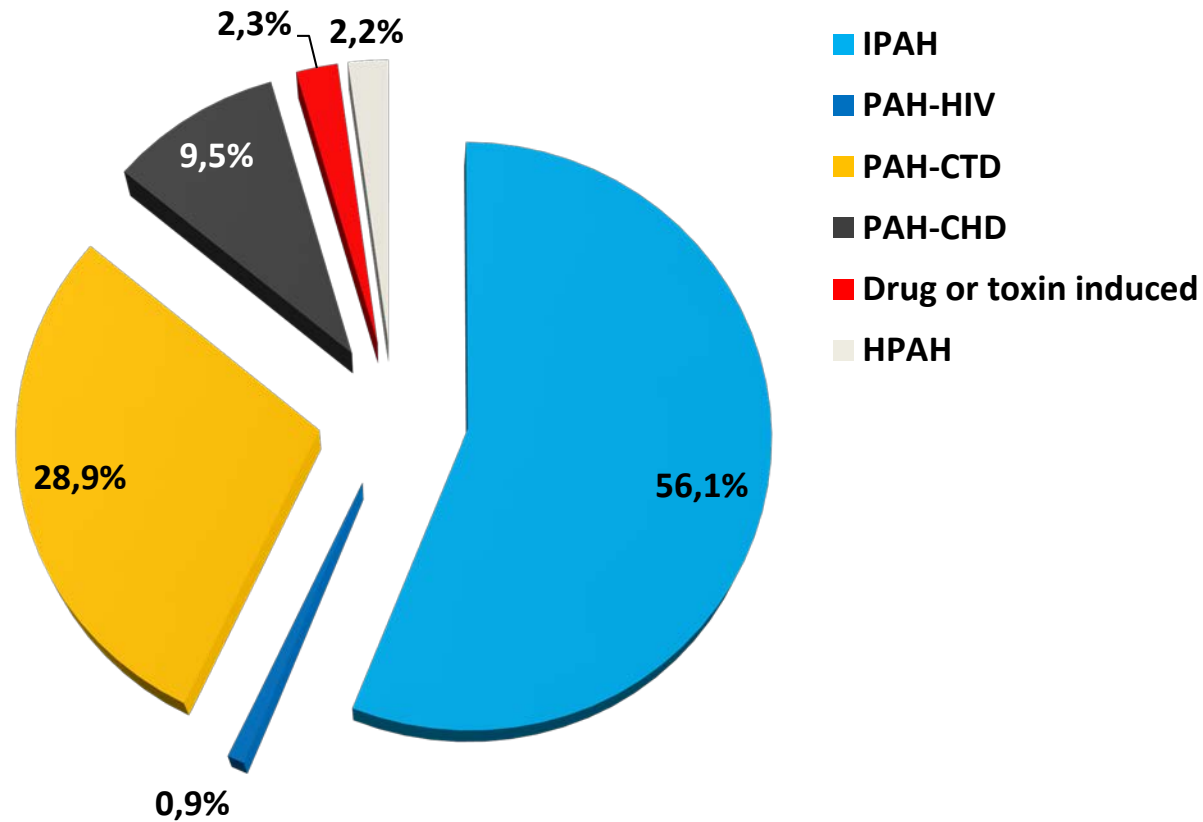
Study Design

Demographics and baseline characteristics

Characteristic	Placebo (N = 582)	Selexipag (N = 574)	All Patients (N = 1156)
WHO functional class — no. (%)‡			
I	5 (0.9)	4 (0.7)	9 (0.8)
II	255 (43.8)	274 (47.7)	529 (45.8)
III	314 (54.0)	293 (51.0)	607 (52.5)
IV	8 (1.4)	3 (0.5)	11 (1.0)
6-Minute walk distance — m	348.0±83.23	358.5±76.31	353.2±80.01
Use of medications for PAH — no. (%)			
None	124 (21.3)	112 (19.5)	236 (20.4)
Endothelin-receptor antagonists	76 (13.1)	94 (16.4)	170 (14.7)
Phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitors	185 (31.8)	189 (32.9)	374 (32.4)
Endothelin-receptor antagonists plus phosphodies- terase type 5 inhibitors	197 (33.8)	179 (31.2)	376 (32.5)

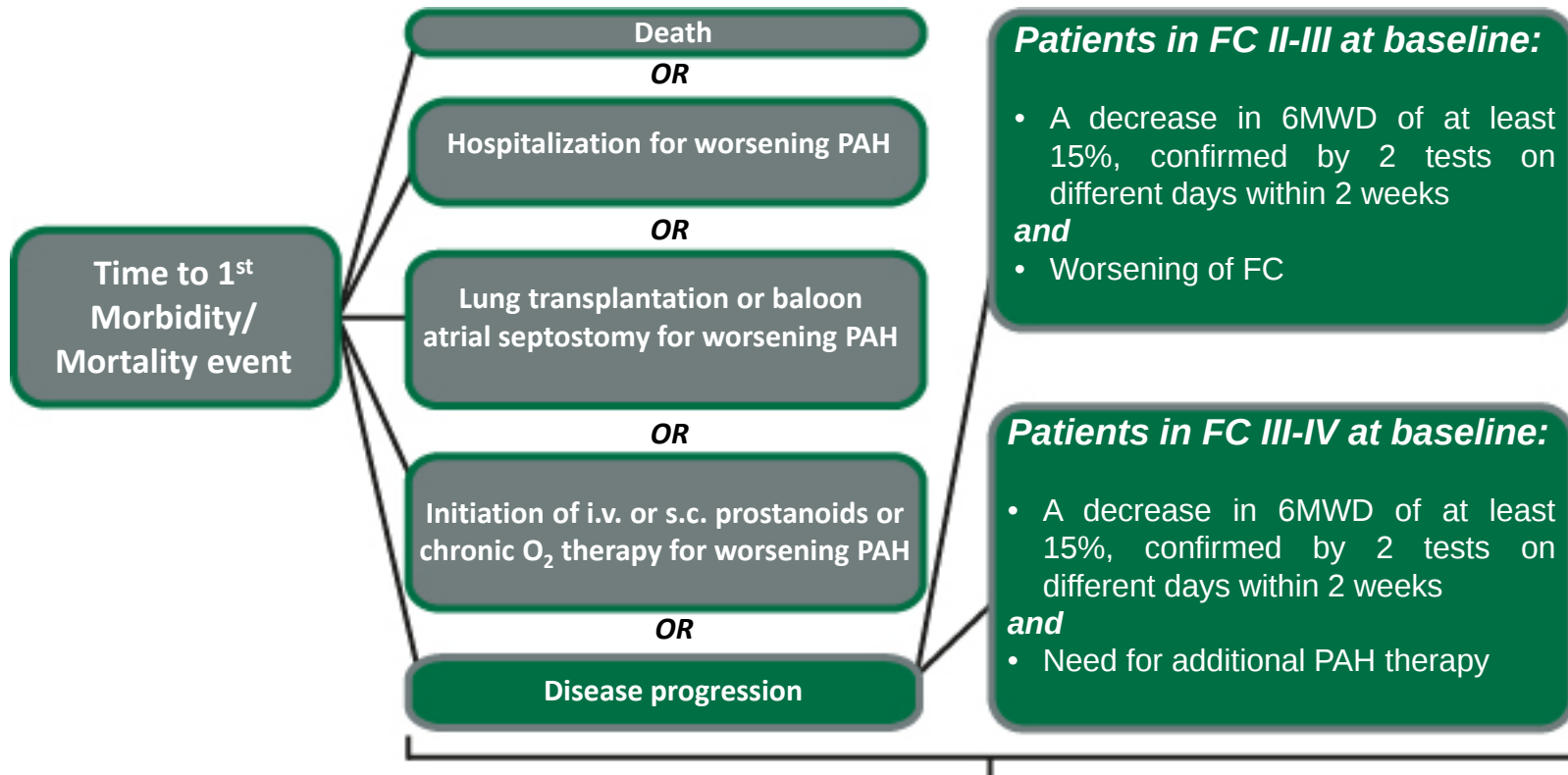
Study Design

PAH etiology



Study Design

Primary endpoint: Time to first morbidity or mortality event



All events adjudicated by a blinded
Critical Events Committee (CEC)

Study Design

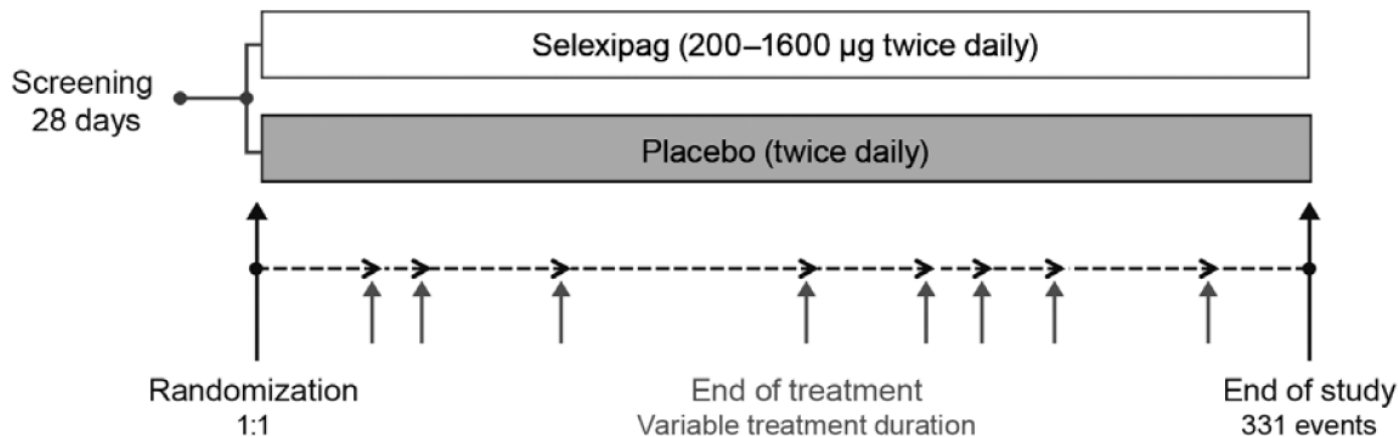
Secondary endpoints

6MWD	Absolute change from baseline to week 26 in 6MWD
FC	Absence of worsening from baseline to week 26 in FC
Time to death	Time to death from randomization up to study closure
Hospitalization for worsening of PAH or death due to PAH	Up to the end of treatment period
NT -proBNP	Change in N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide (NT -proBNP) level from baseline to week 26 was analyzed as an exploratory end point

Study Design

Patients were randomly assigned, in a 1:1 ratio to placebo or selexipag

- The end of the study was declared when the prespecified number of primary end-point events was reached
- The end of treatment differed for each patient and was defined as the last intake of double-blind treatment (placebo or selexipag) plus 7 days.



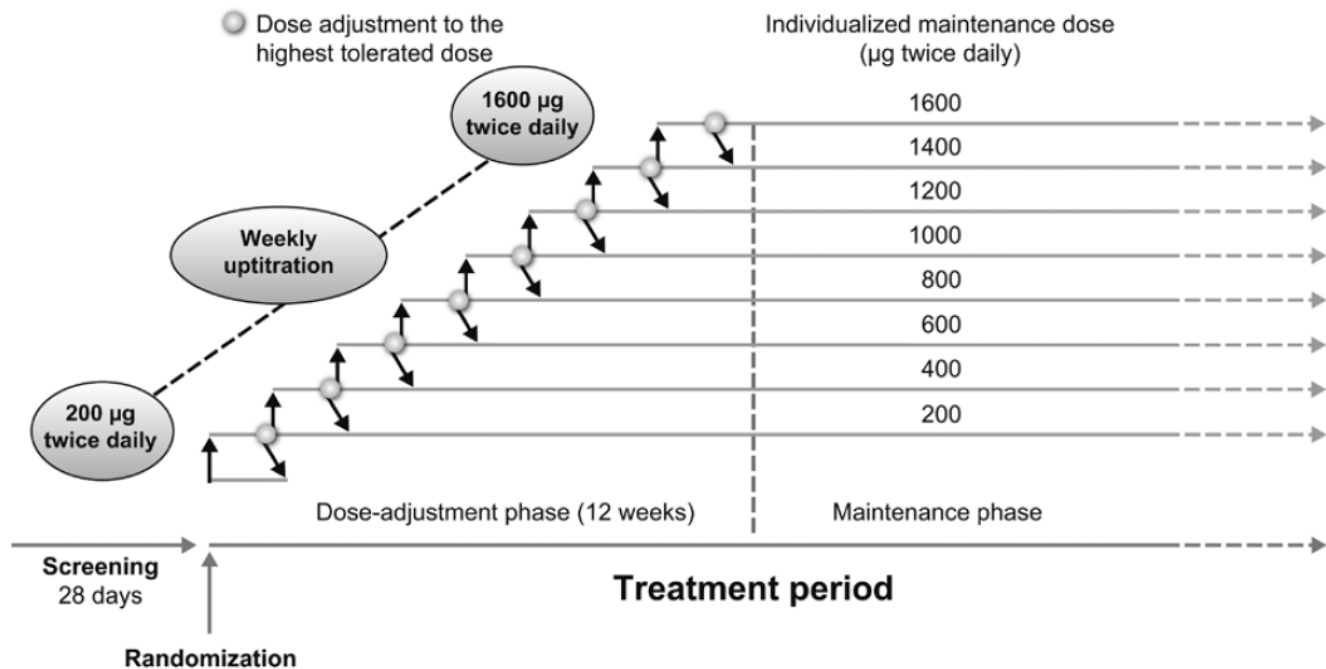
Dose adjustment

- During the 12-week dose-adjustment phase, study drug was initiated at 200 µg twice daily and titrated weekly in 200 µg twice-daily increments until prostacyclin-associated adverse were unmanageable.
- The dose was then decreased by 200 µg in both daily doses, giving the highest tolerated dose.
- The maximum dose allowed was 1600 µg twice daily.
- After 12 weeks, patients entered the maintenance phase of the study.

Dose reductions were allowed at any time

Dose adjustment

Tritation scheme



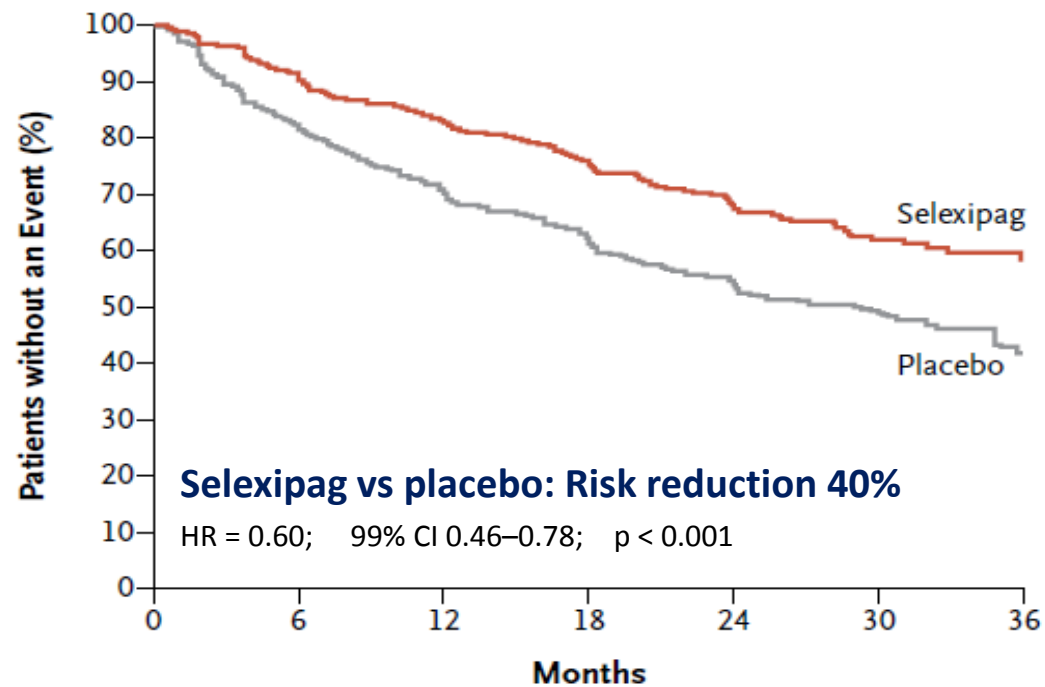
Results

- The GRIPHON study with selexipag met its primary objective in patients with PAH
- Selexipag reduced the risk of a morbidity/mortality event (primary endpoint) by 40% compared with placebo
- The efficacy of selexipag was consistent across subgroups: Age, gender, FC, PAH etiology, and background PAH therapy
- The overall tolerability profile of selexipag in GRIPHON was consistent with prostacyclin therapies
- The patients in the selexipag group received selexipag for a median duration of 70.7 weeks

Results

Primary composite end point

A significant treatment effect in favor of selexipag



No. at Risk

Placebo	582	433	347	220	149	88	28
Selexipag	574	455	361	246	171	101	40



Events contributing to the primary endpoint up to EOT

Primary endpoint events, n (%)	Placebo n = 582	Selexipag n = 574
All primary endpoint events	242 (41.6)	155 (27.0)
Hospitalization for PAH	109 (18.7)	78 (13.6)
Disease progression	100 (17.2)	38 (6.6)
Death (all causes)	18 (3.1)	28 (4.9)
Parenteral prostanoid or chronic O ₂ therapy	13 (2.2)	10 (1.7)
PAH worsening resulting in need for lung transplantation or balloon atrial septostomy	2 (0.3)	1 (0.2)

Study Design

Primary composite end point

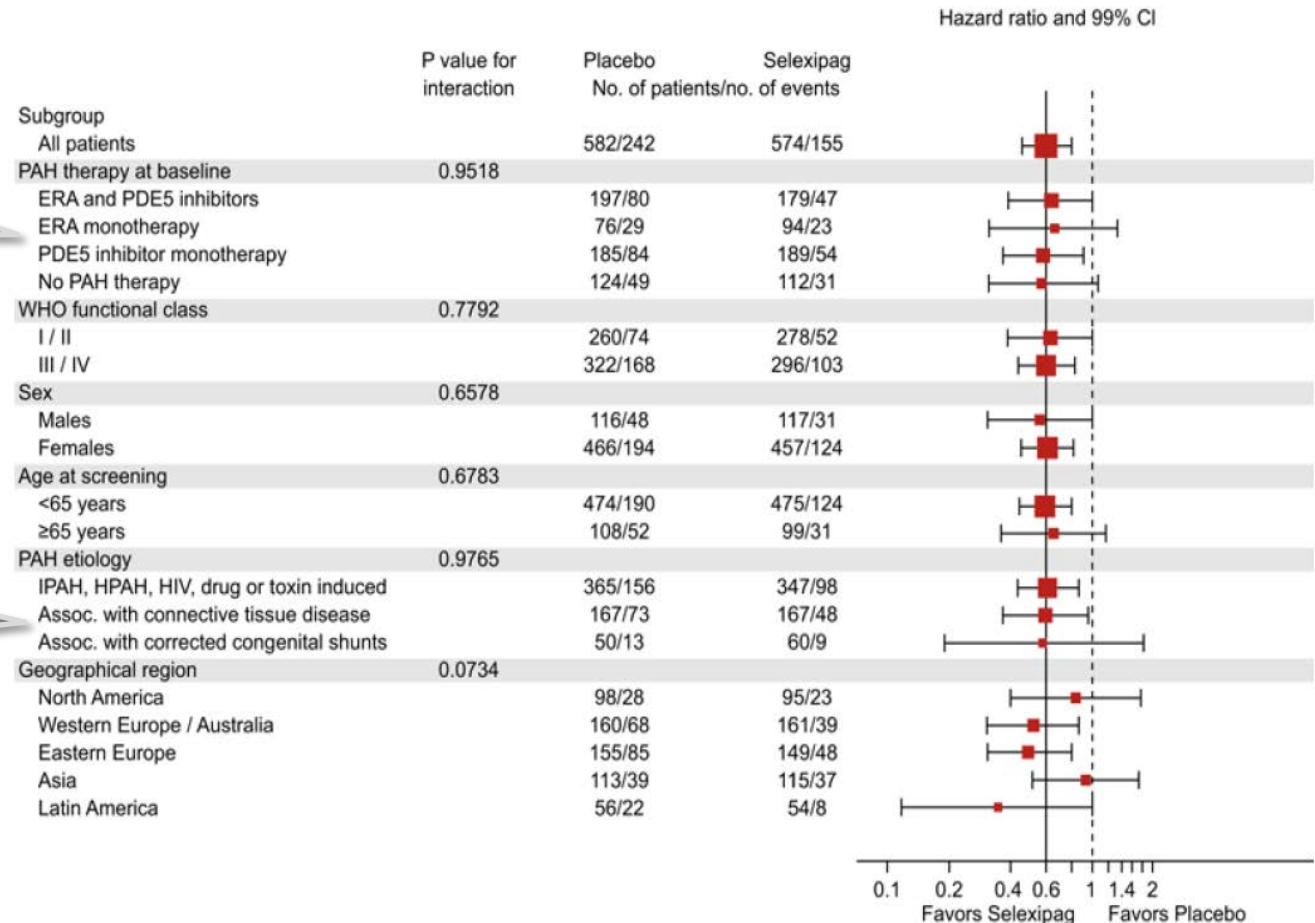
Effect of selexipag across subgroups

A consistent treatment effect

Efficacia confermata
in monoterapia ed
in combinazione con
1 o 2 farmaci

Efficacia nelle
diverse FC

Efficacia confermata
in tutte le eziologie
di PAH



Study Design

Primary composite end point

Patients Grouped by Prespecified Selexipag Individual Maintenance Dose

The effect of selexipag was consistent in the all dose strata:

- **low** (200, 400 µg twice daily) (HR 0.60)
- **medium** (600, 800, 1000 µg twice daily) (HR 0.53)
- **high** (1200, 1400, 1600 µg twice daily) (HR 0.64)

Most frequent AEs and abnormal laboratory results

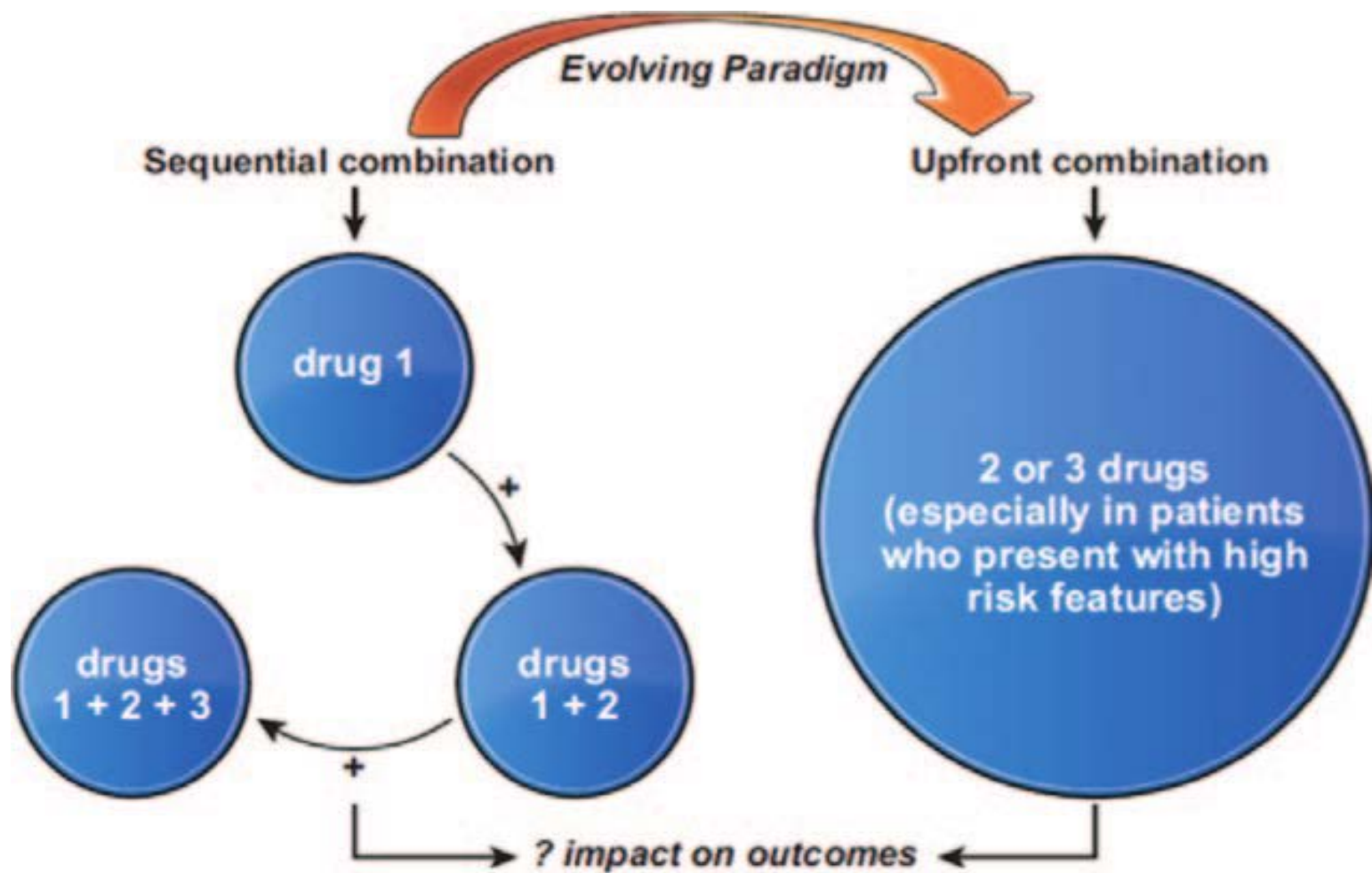
Variable	Placebo (N = 577)	Selexipag (N = 575)	P Value
Adverse events — no.	3937	4607	
Patients with ≥1 adverse event — no. (%)	559 (96.9)	565 (98.3)	0.18
Patients with ≥1 serious adverse event — no. (%)†	272 (47.1)	252 (43.8)	0.26
Patients with adverse events leading to discontinuation of study agent — no. (%)	41 (7.1)	82 (14.3)	<0.001
Adverse event — no. of patients (%)‡			
Headache	189 (32.8)	375 (65.2)	<0.001
Diarrhea	110 (19.1)	244 (42.4)	<0.001
Nausea	107 (18.5)	193 (33.6)	<0.001
Pain in jaw	36 (6.2)	148 (25.7)	<0.001
Worsening of PAH	206 (35.7)	126 (21.9)	<0.001
Vomiting	49 (8.5)	104 (18.1)	<0.001
Pain in extremity	46 (8.0)	97 (16.9)	<0.001
Dyspnea	121 (21.0)	92 (16.0)	0.03
Myalgia	34 (5.9)	92 (16.0)	<0.001
Dizziness	85 (14.7)	86 (15.0)	0.93
Peripheral edema	104 (18.0)	80 (13.9)	0.06
Upper respiratory tract infection	80 (13.9)	75 (13.0)	0.73
Nasopharyngitis	63 (10.9)	75 (13.0)	0.28
Flushing	29 (5.0)	70 (12.2)	<0.001
Arthralgia	44 (7.6)	62 (10.8)	0.07
Cough	67 (11.6)	56 (9.7)	0.34
Fatigue	59 (10.2)	46 (8.0)	0.22
Right ventricular failure	58 (10.1)	46 (8.0)	0.26
Other adverse events and laboratory findings of interest — no. of patients (%)§			
Hyperthyroidism	0	8 (1.4)	0.004
Hypotension	18 (3.1)	29 (5.0)	0.10
Anemia	31 (5.4)	48 (8.3)	0.05
Syncope	51 (8.8)	37 (6.4)	0.15
Major bleeding event¶	12 (2.1)	14 (2.4)	0.70
Hemoglobin <8 g/dl	4 (0.7)	7 (1.3)	0.38

Conclusion

Among patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension, the risk of the primary composite end point of death or a complication related to pulmonary arterial hypertension was significantly lower among patients who received selexipag than among those who received placebo.

A consistent treatment effect was observed across prespecified subgroups: pulmonary arterial hypertension therapy at baseline, WHO functional class at baseline, sex, age at screening, pulmonary arterial hypertension etiology and geographical region.

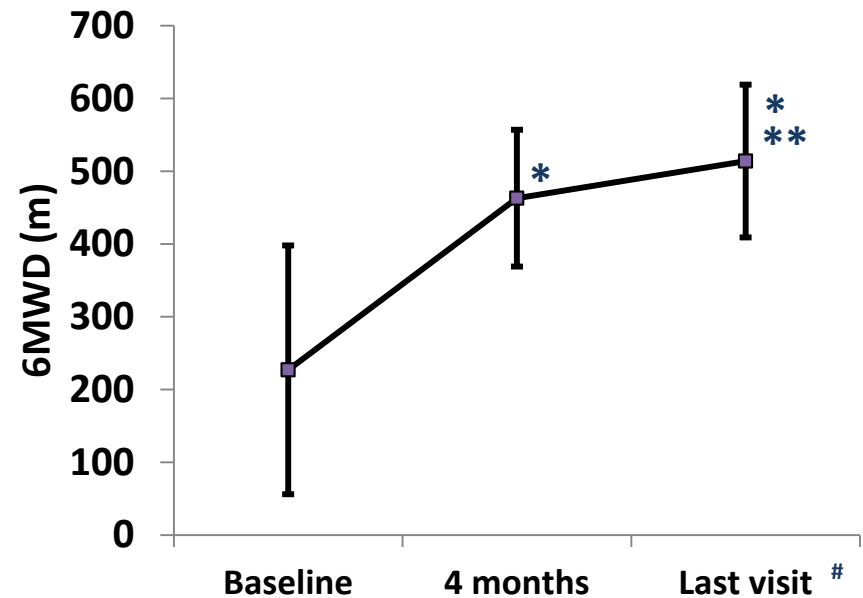
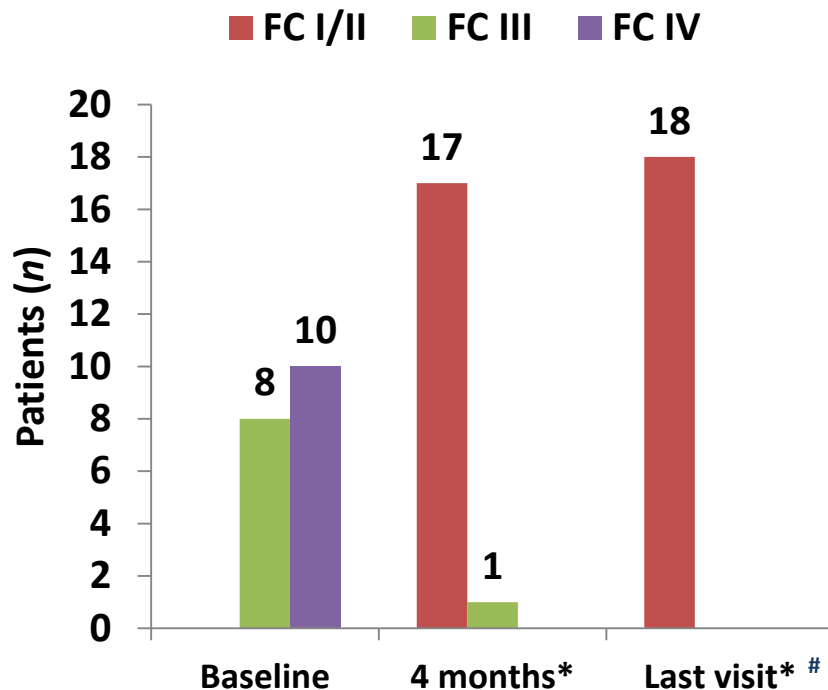
Evolving paradigm: From sequential to initial combination therapy



Humbert M, et al. *Circulation* 2014.

Upfront triple combination therapy: Effect on FC and 6MWD

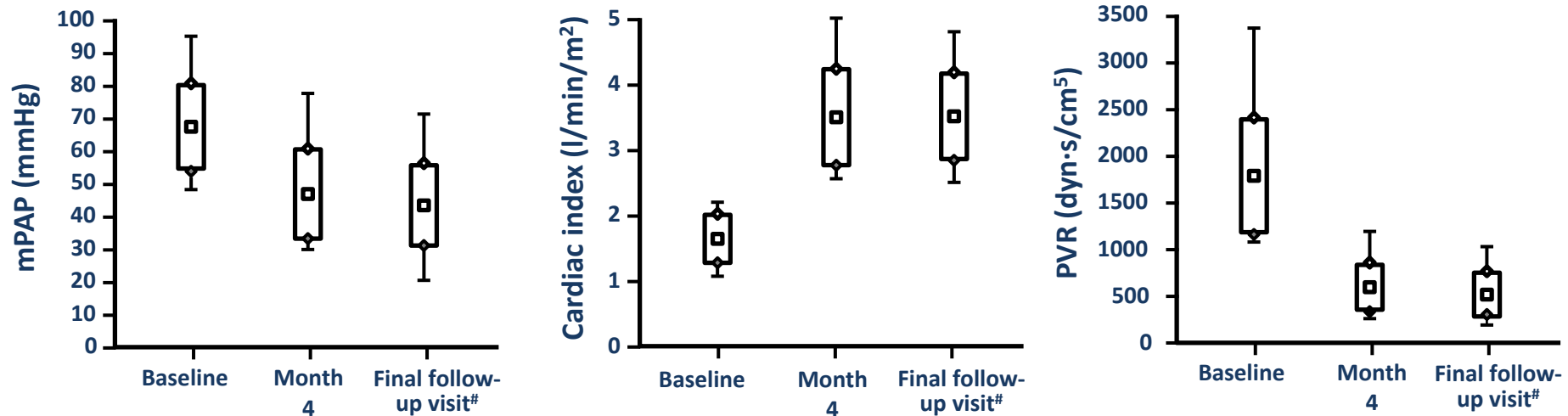
Prospective, observational analysis of idiopathic or heritable PAH patients ($n = 19$) treated with upfront combination therapy (epoprostenol, bosentan and sildenafil)



32 ± 19 months

* $p < 0.01$ versus baseline; ** $p < 0.01$ versus 4 months

Upfront triple combination therapy: Effect on haemodynamics



	Baseline	Month 4	Final follow-up [#]
RAP (mmHg)	11.9 ± 5.2	4.9 ± 4.9*	5.2 ± 3.5*
mPAP (mmHg)	65.8 ± 13.7	45.7 ± 14.0*	44.4 ± 13.4*
CI (l/min/m ²)	1.66 ± 0.35	3.49 ± 0.69*	3.64 ± 0.65*
PVR (d.s.cm ⁻⁵)	1718 ± 627	564 ± 260*	492 ± 209*

[#]32 ± 19 months **p* < 0.01 versus baseline

Sitbon O, *et al. Eur Respir J.* 2014;43:1691–7.

Upfront triple combination therapy: Long-term outcome / survival

- Long-term follow-up (*n*=19)

- Median follow-up: 58.7 months (IQR: 52.5 – 70.0 months)
- Two patients underwent LT (after 3.8 and 41.4 months)
- 17 patients well and alive in NYHA FC I-II
- 7 patients with mPAP < 35 mmHg (incl. one < 20 mmHg)

- Survival (*n*=19)

	1-year	2-year	3-year	5-year
Actual	100%	100%	100%	100%
Expected* [95% CI]	75% [68%-82%]	60% [50%-70%]	49% [38%-60%]	-
Transplant-free	94%	94%	94%	89%

Sitbon O, et al. Eur Respir J 2014;43:1691–7.

* according to the French equation (Humbert M, et al. Eur Respir J 2010)

Initial dual oral combination therapy for PAH: Experience of the French network

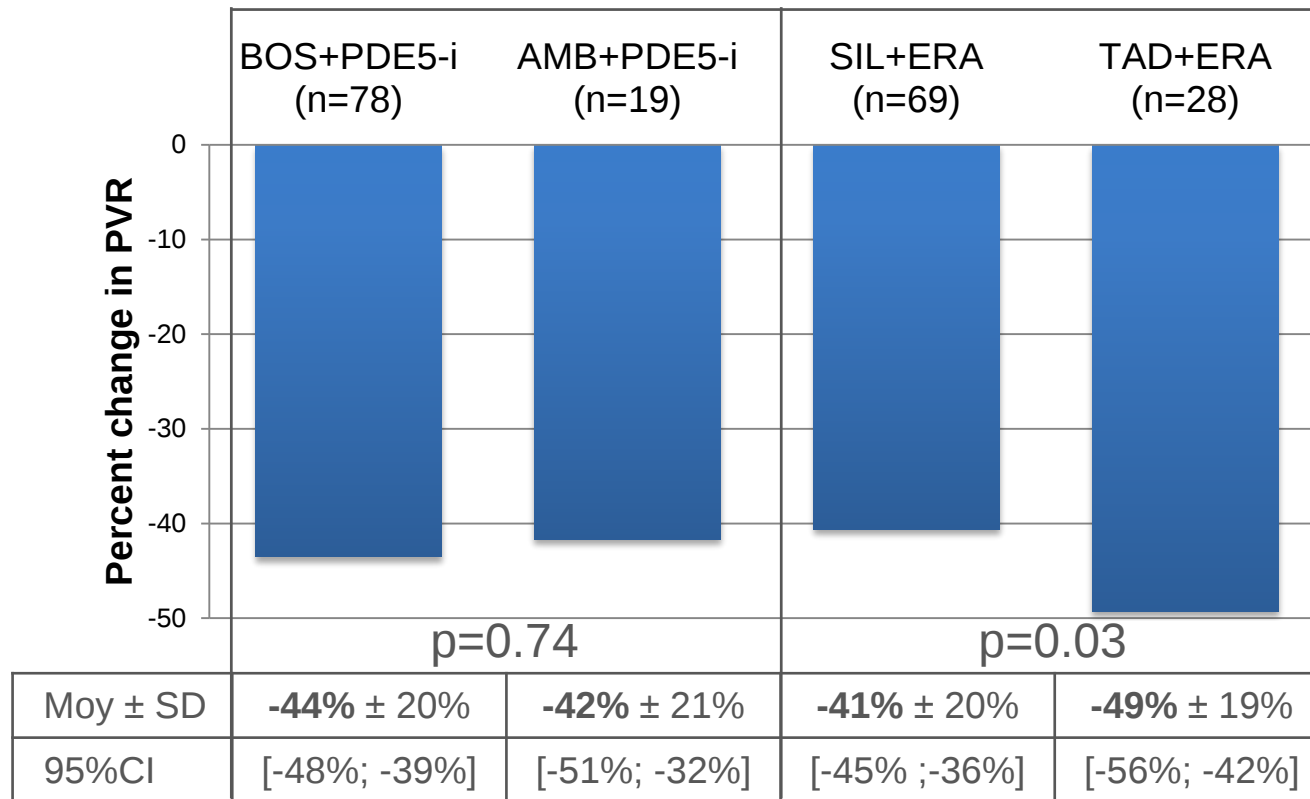
- From January 2007 to December 2013
- 97 incident patients with PAH (75% IHA), mean age 54
 - 88% NYHA FC II & III
 - 12% NYHA FC IV
- Initial dual combination therapy with
 - ERA: bosentan ($n = 78$) or ambrisentan ($n = 19$), and
 - PDE-5i: sildenafil ($n = 69$) or tadalafil ($n = 28$)
- Systematic haemodynamic evaluation at 4 months
- Median observational follow-up: 30 months [20 – 43]

Initial dual oral combination therapy for PAH: Experience of the French network

	Baseline	4 months	<i>p</i> -value
NYHA FC (I : II : III : IV), <i>n</i>	0 : 18 : 70 : 12	4 : 57 : 31 : 5	< 0.001
6MWD, m	324 ± 132	395 ± 114	< 0.00001
Haemodynamics			
RAP, mmHg	9.5 ± 5.7	6.7 ± 4.5	<.00001
mPAP, mmHg	53.9 ± 10.4	45.1 ± 10.9	< 0.00001
CI, L/min/m ²	2.14 ± 0.51	3.13 ± 0.79	< 0.00001
PVR, dyn.s.cm ⁻⁵	1021 ± 357	565 ± 252 (-43%)	< 0.00001
Mean BP, mmHg	97.5 ± 17.7	87.2 ± 12.6	<.00001

Initial dual oral combination therapy in PAH: *Change in PVR from baseline to first reassessment*

Sattler C, Sitbon O, *et al.* ERS Congress 2015.

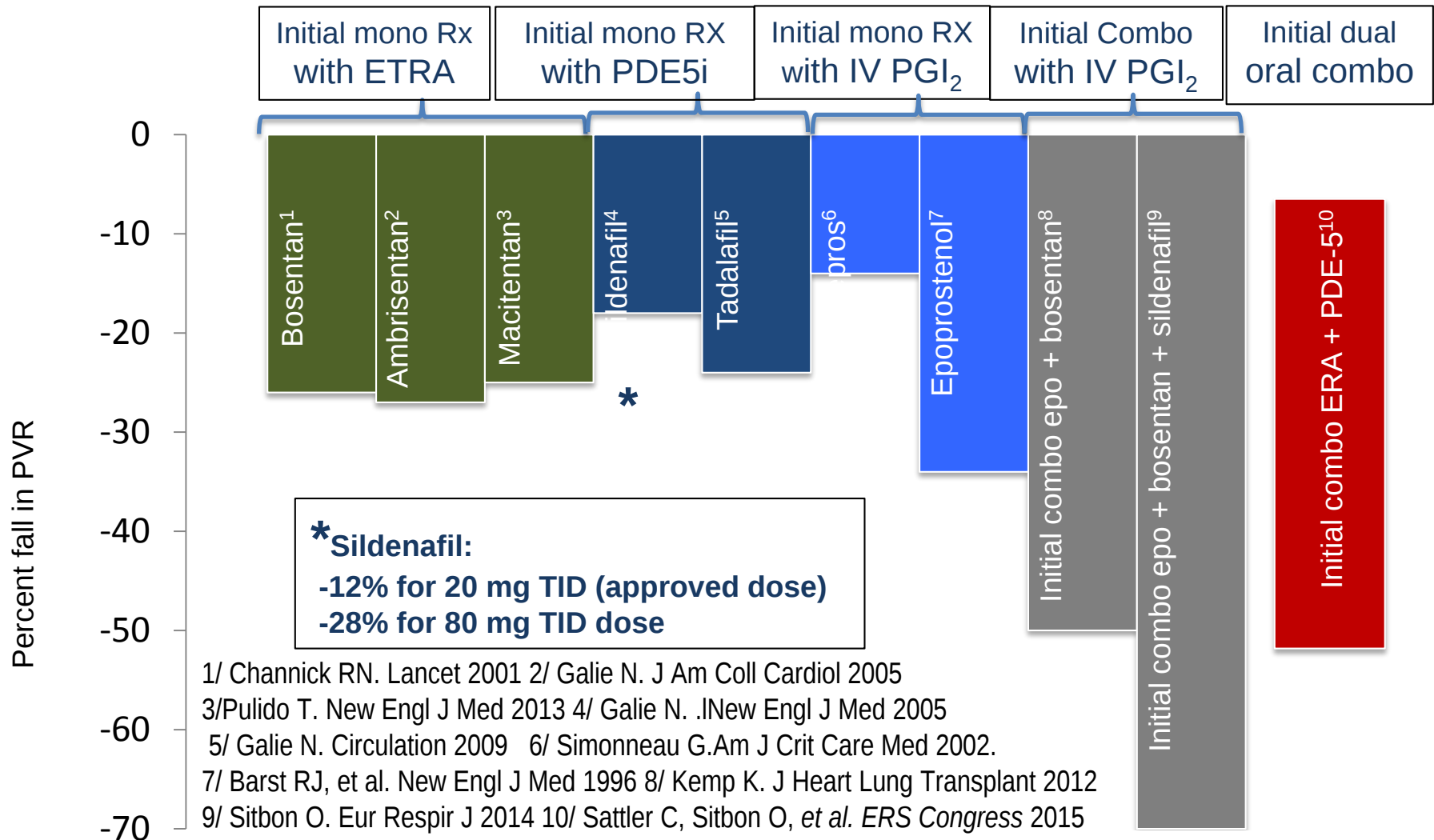


**median 4.1 months [IQR: 3.5 – 4.9]*

BOS-SIL (n=61), BOS-TAD (n=17), AMB-SIL(n=8), AMB-TAD (n=11)

Hemodynamic effect of different PAH therapies:

%Changes in PVR after 3-6 months



Quali novità nelle strategie terapeutiche dell'Iipertensione arteriosa polmonare nel 2016?

- Miglior utilizzo dei farmaci attualmente disponibili
- La terapia sequenziale rallenta l'evoluzione di malattia
- L'approccio sequenziale è verosimilmente più efficace se precoce (goal oriented) ma non abbiamo forti evidenze scientifiche.
- Abbiamo solidi argomenti per un terapia d'attacco combinata:
 - Con una PC parenterale (epoprostenol) o sc (Trepstinil) nei pazienti più gravi (IV NYHA e III avanzata) – Ruolo Selexipag ?
 - Superiorità della doppia terapia orale rispetto alla mono nei pazienti in classe NYHA 2 e 3
- Non disponiamo di studi comparativi fra le diverse terapie di associazione e tra associazione d'emble e sequenziale combinata.