



*International Meeting on*  
**PULMONARY RARE DISEASES**  
AND ORPHAN DRUGS

# Sarcoidosis-associated pulmonary hypertension (SAPH)

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# WASOG statement on sarcoidosis associated PH (SAPH)



EUROPEAN RESPIRATORY REVIEW  
REVIEW  
L. SAVALE ET AL.

## WASOG statement on the diagnosis and management of sarcoidosis-associated pulmonary hypertension

Laurent Savale <sup>1</sup>, Marloes Huitema<sup>2</sup>, Oksana Shlobin<sup>3</sup>, Vasilis Kouranos<sup>4,5</sup>, Steven D. Nathan<sup>3</sup>, Hiliaro Nunes<sup>6</sup>, Rohit Gupta<sup>7</sup>, Jan C. Grutters<sup>8</sup>, Daniel A. Culver<sup>9</sup>, Marco C. Post<sup>2</sup>, Daniel Ouellette<sup>10</sup>, Elyse E. Lower<sup>11</sup>, Tamara Al-Hakim<sup>12</sup>, Athol U Wells<sup>4,5</sup>, Marc Humbert <sup>1</sup> and Robert P. Baughman<sup>11</sup>

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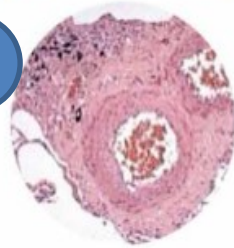
# CLASSIFICATION – ESC/ERS Guidelines 2022

ESC/ERS GUIDELINES  
2022



## Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)

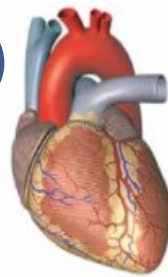
1



- Idiopathic/heritable
- Associated conditions

## PH associated with left heart disease

2



- lpcPH
- CpcPH

## PH associated with lung disease

3



- Non-severe PH
- Severe PH

## PH associated with pulmonary artery obstructions

4



- CTEPH
- Other pulmonary obstructions

## PH with unclear and/or multifactorial mechanisms

5



- Haematologic disorders
- Systemic disorders

## PREVALENCE

Rare



Very common



Common



Rare



Rare



# Classification – Group 5 PH

PH with unclear  
and/or multifactorial  
mechanisms

5



- Haematologic disorders
- Systemic disorders

PREVALENCE

Rare



## 2022 ESC/ERS GUIDELINES



### GROUP 5 PH with unclear and/or multifactorial mechanisms

5.1 Haematological disorders<sup>d</sup>

5.2 Systemic disorders<sup>e</sup>

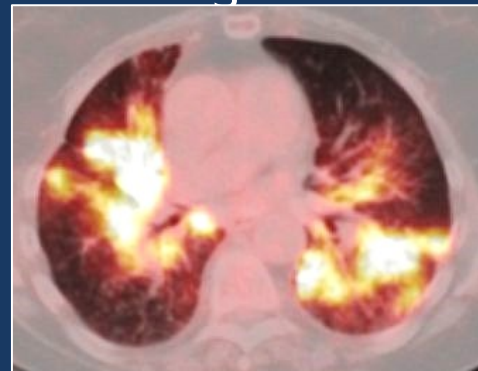
5.3 Metabolic disorders<sup>f</sup>

5.4 Chronic renal failure with or without haemodialysis

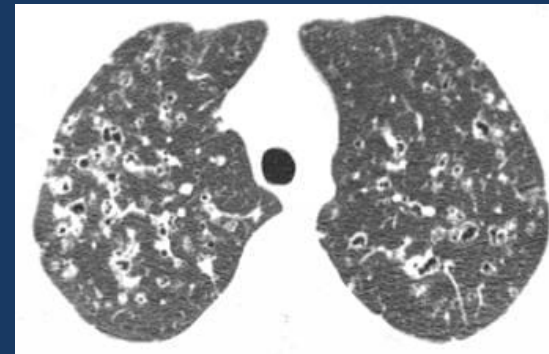
5.5 Pulmonary tumour thrombotic microangiopathy

5.6 Fibrosing mediastinitis

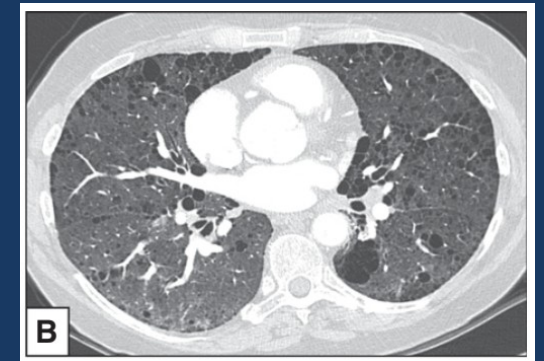
Sarcoidosis



Pulmonary Langerhans's  
cell histiocytosis



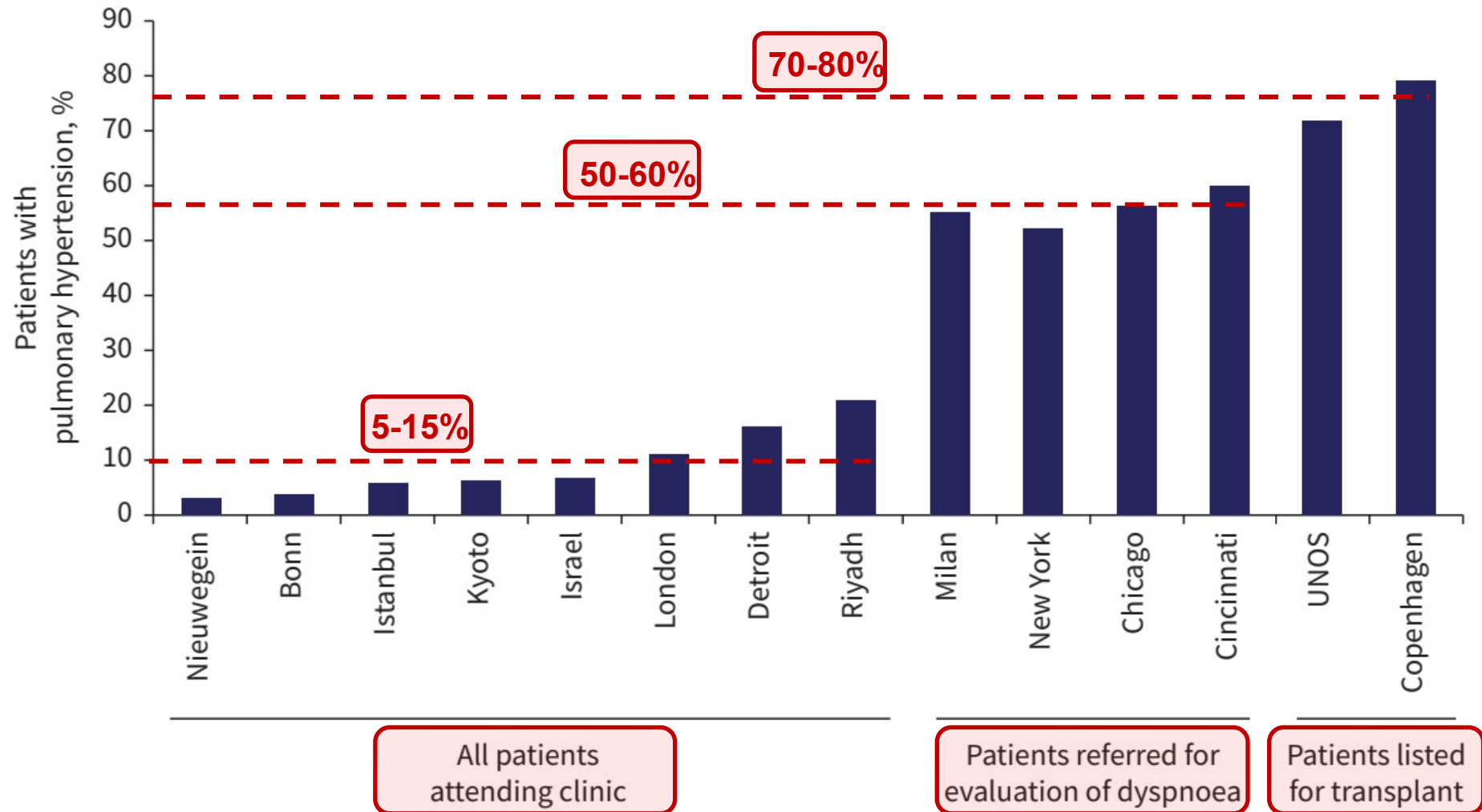
Neurofibromatosis  
type 1



# **Epidemiology of PH in sarcoidosis**



# Epidemiology of SAPH



# HEMODYNAMIC DEFINITION – ESC/ERS Guidelines 2022

**ESC/ERS GUIDELINES**  
**2022**



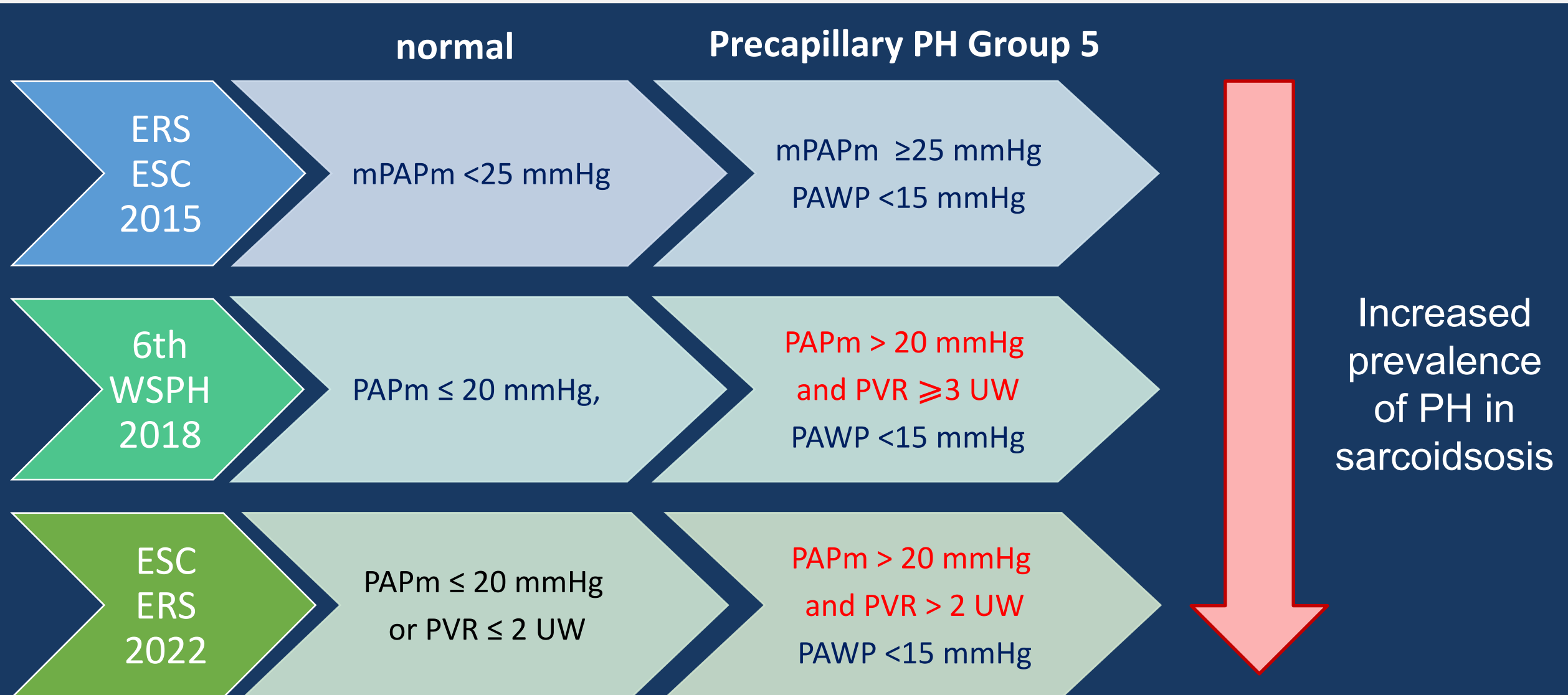
**TABLE 5** Haemodynamic definitions of pulmonary hypertension

Definition	Haemodynamic characteristics
PH	<b>PAPm &gt; 20 mmHg</b>
Pre-capillary PH	mPAP >20 mmHg PAWP ≤15 mmHg <b>PVR &gt; 2 WU</b>
lpcPH	mPAP >20 mmHg PAWP >15 mmHg PVR ≤2 WU
CpcPH	mPAP >20 mmHg PAWP >15 mmHg PVR >2 WU
Exercise PH	mPAP/CO slope between rest and exercise >3 mmHg/L/min

**Group 5 PH**  
*SAPH*



# Changes in hemodynamic definition of GROUP 5 PH



# **Mechanisms of sarcoidosis associated PH**

# Causes of sarcoidosis associated PH

## Vascular disease

Vasculitis

Granulomatous vascular involvement

Veno-occlusive disease

Pulmonary embolism (CTEPH)

## Interstitial lung disease

Parenchymal lung disease due to granulomas

Parenchymal lung disease due to fibrosis

Hilar and mediastinal distortion

Pulmonary artery/vein extrinsic compression

Fibrosing mediastinitis

## Extrapulmonary disease

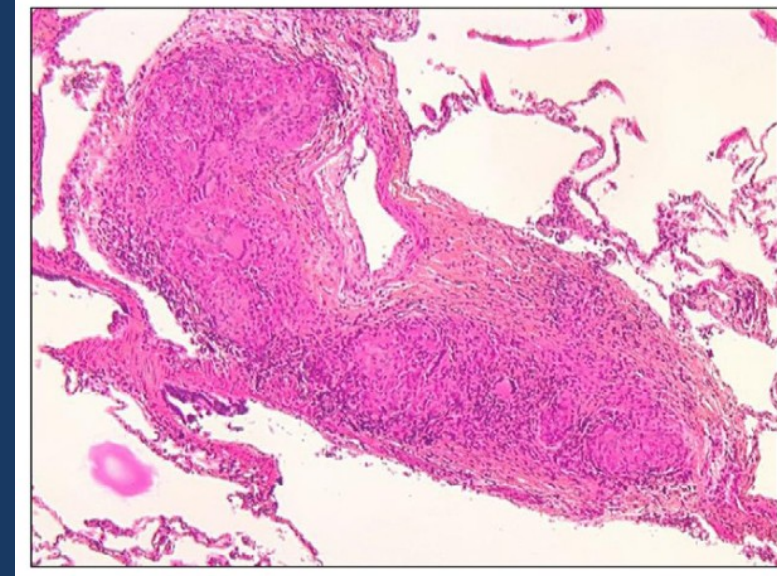
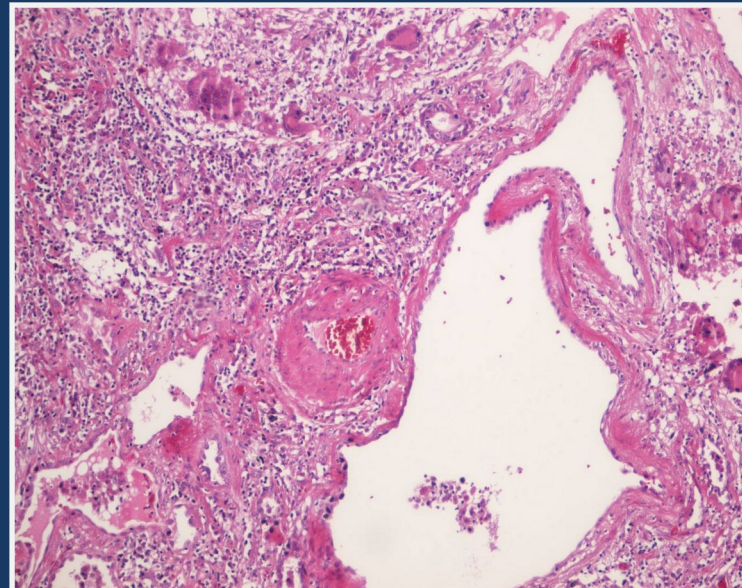
Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

Sleep apnoea

Liver disease

**Sarcoidotic pulmonary vasculopathy  
= granulomatous arterial involvement**



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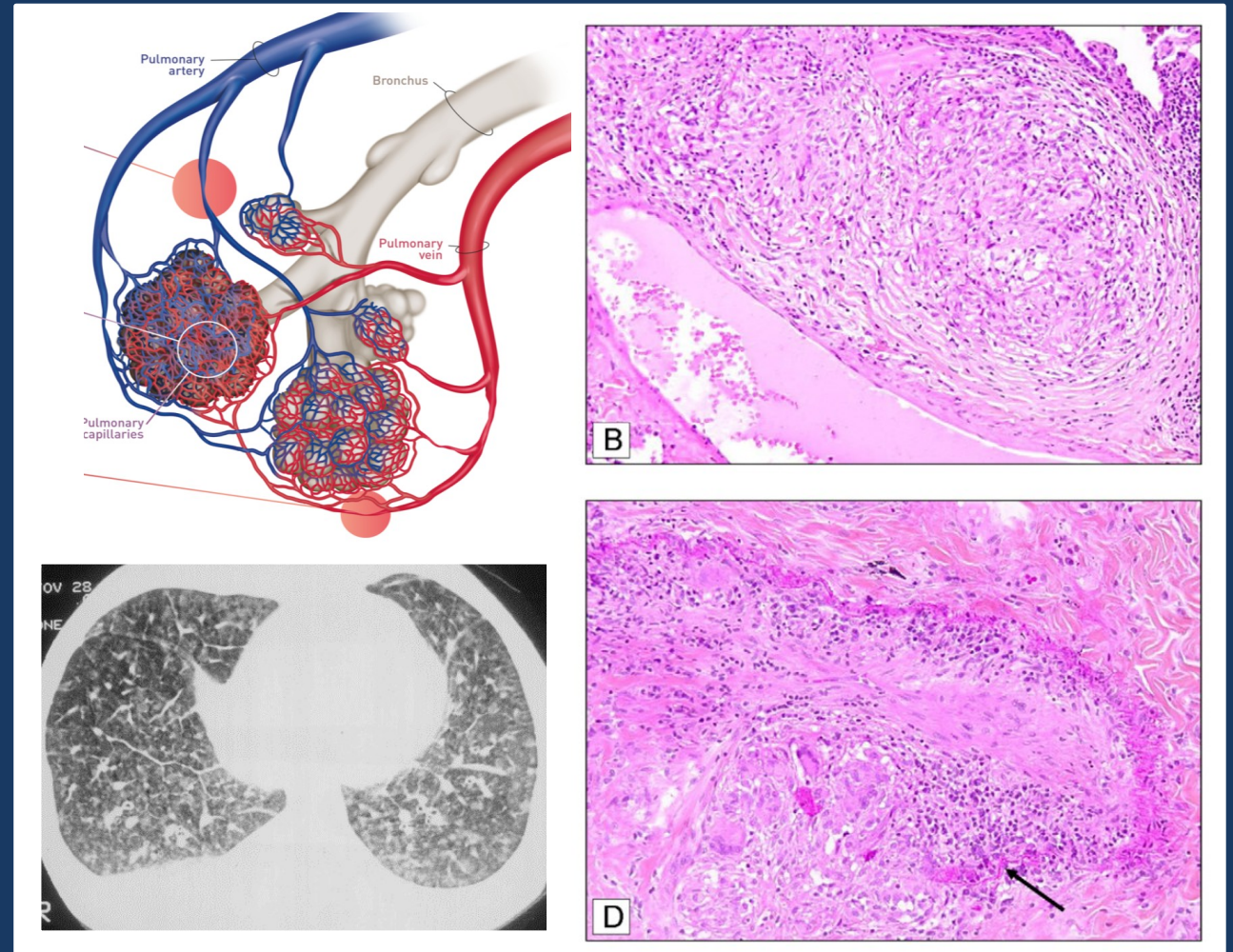
Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

Sleep apnoea

Liver disease

**Sarcoidotic pulmonary vasculopathy  
= venous involvement +++**





# Causes of sarcoidosis associated PH

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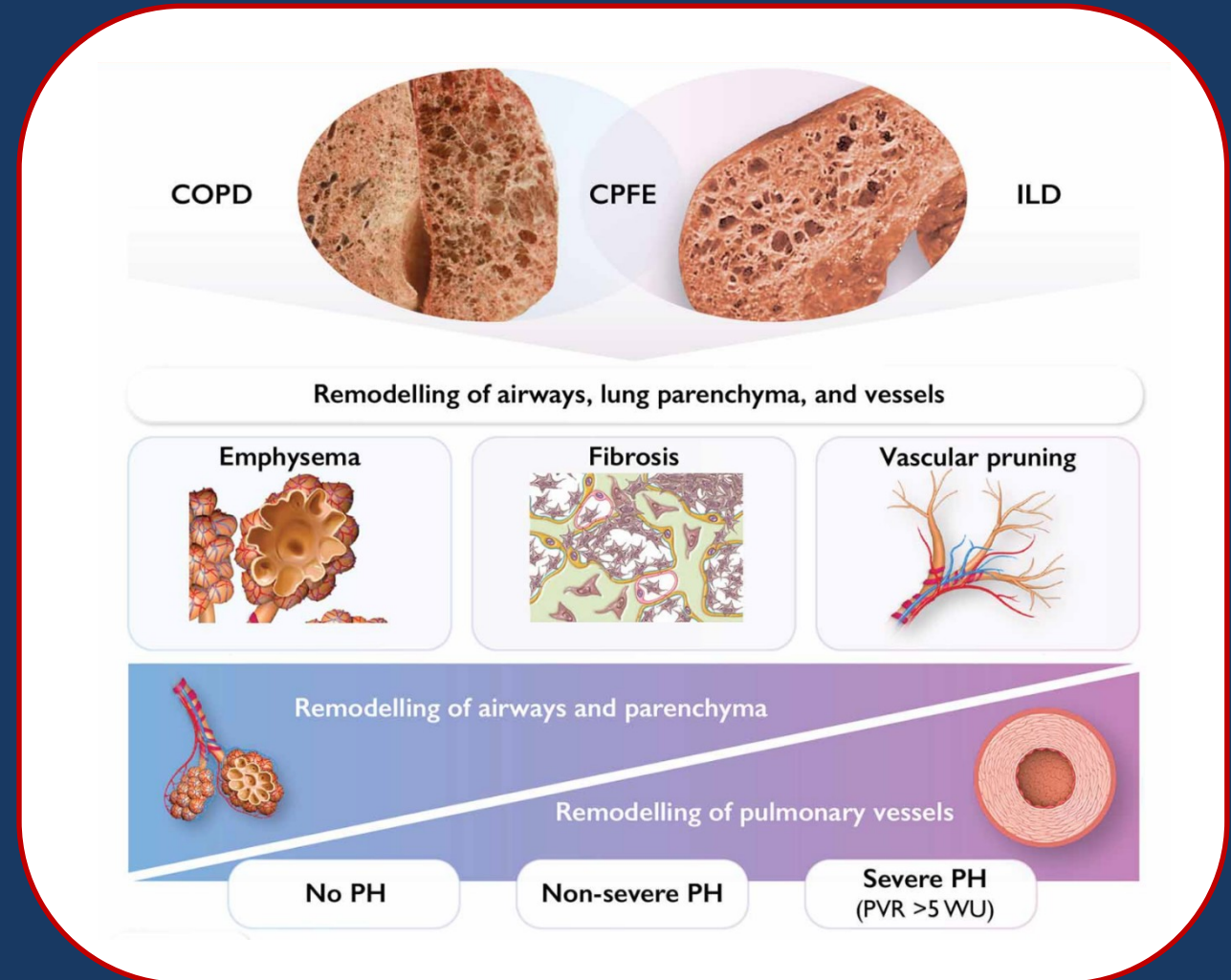
Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

Sleep apnoea

Liver disease

## PH group 3 « like »



## Causes of sarcoidosis associated PH

## Vascular disease

## Vasculitis

### Granulomatous vascular involvement

## Veno-occlusive disease

## Pulmonary embolism (CTEPH)

## Interstitial lung disease

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### Pulmonary artery/vein extrinsic compression

## Fibrosing mediastinitis

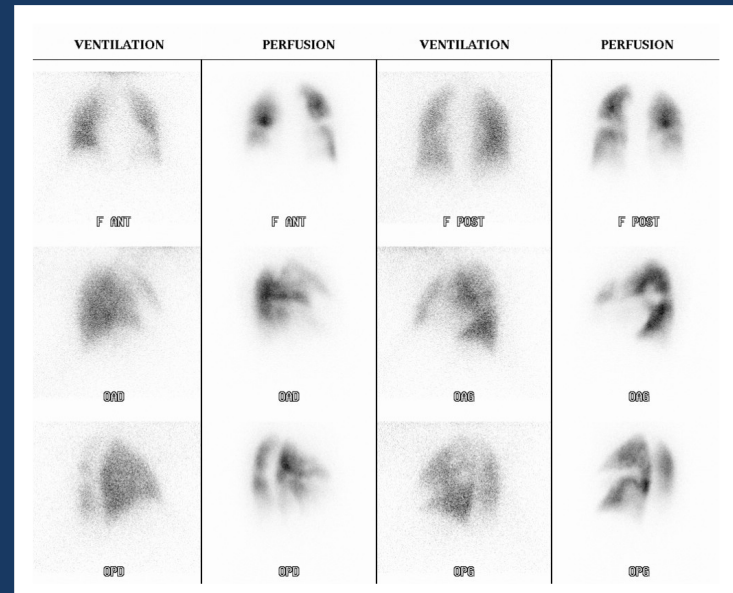
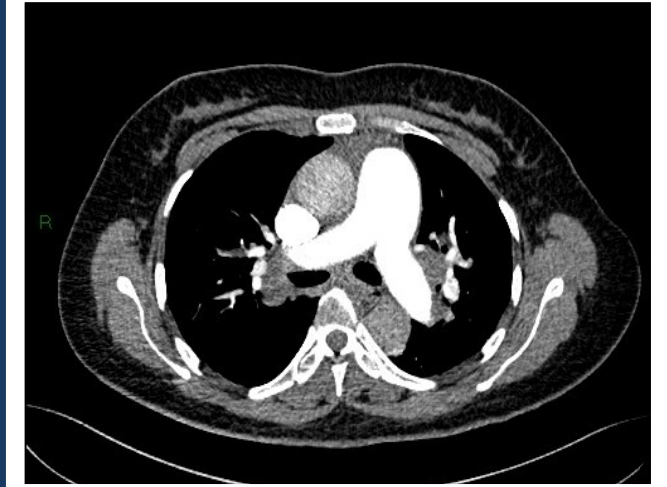
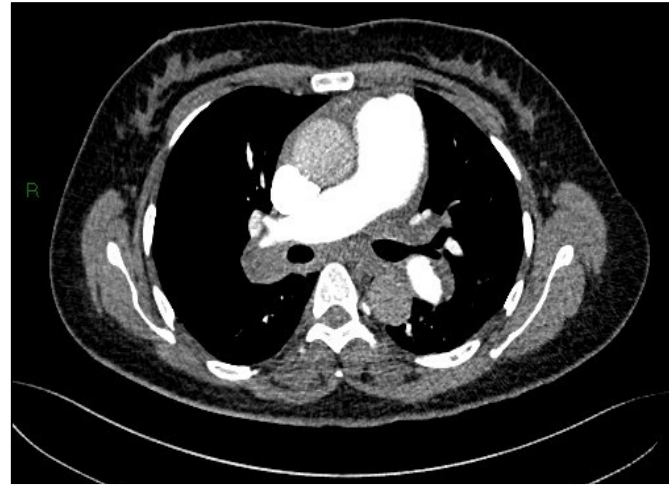
### Extrapulmonary disease

### Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

### Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

## Sleep apnoea

## Liver disease





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Liver disease

Proliferation of fibrous tissue in the mediastinum leading to extrinsic compression of mediastinal bronchovascular structures including pulmonary arteries and veins

**TABLE 1.** Etiologies of Fibrosing Mediastinitis

	PH Associated with Fibrosing Mediastinitis, n = 27	
Sarcoidosis (stage 4)	13 (7)	<b>50%</b>
Tuberculosis	9	
–confirmed	3	
–possible	6	
Mediastinal irradiation	2	
Idiopathic	3	

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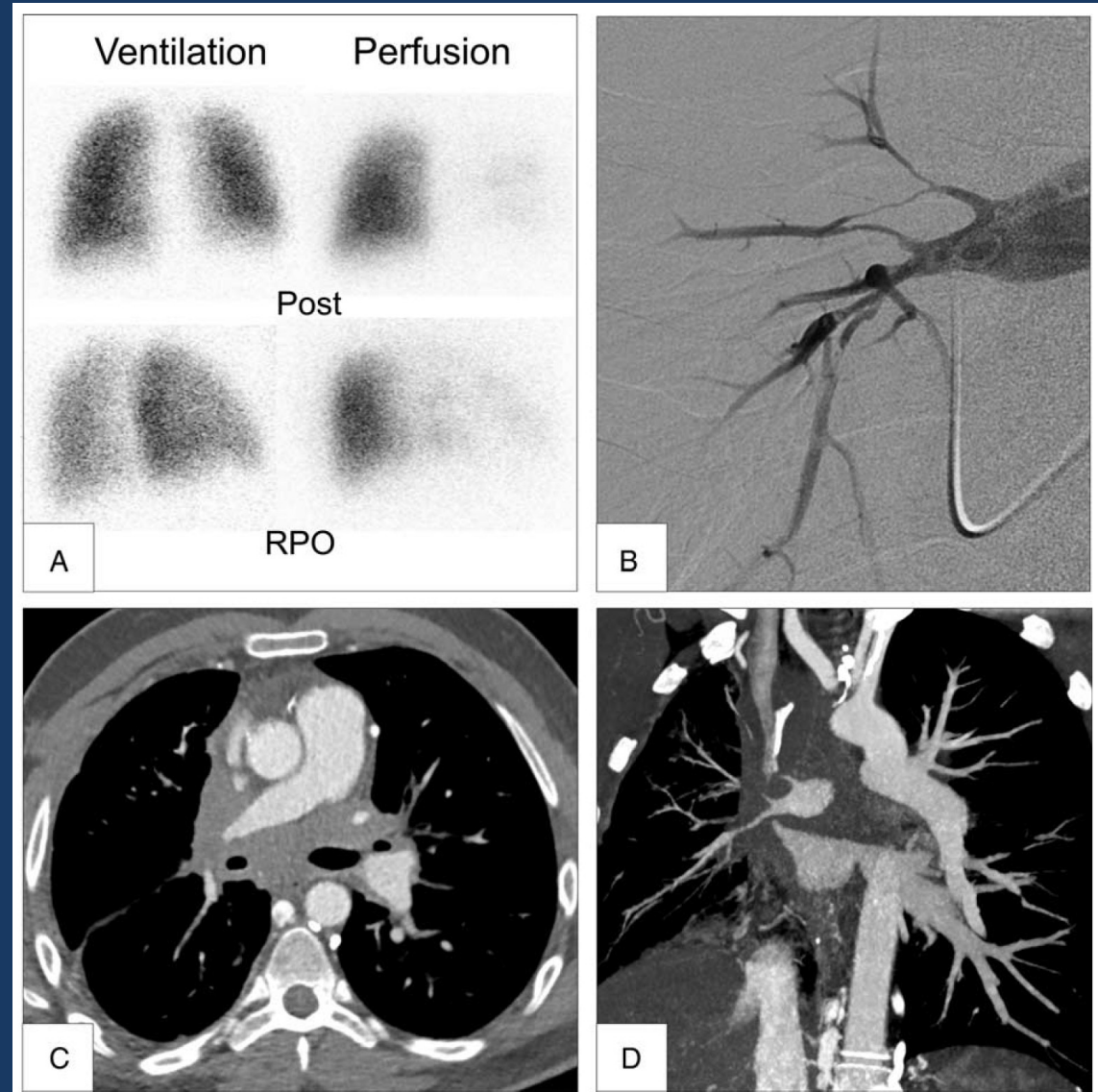
## Extrapulmonary disease

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Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

Sleep apnoea

Liver disease



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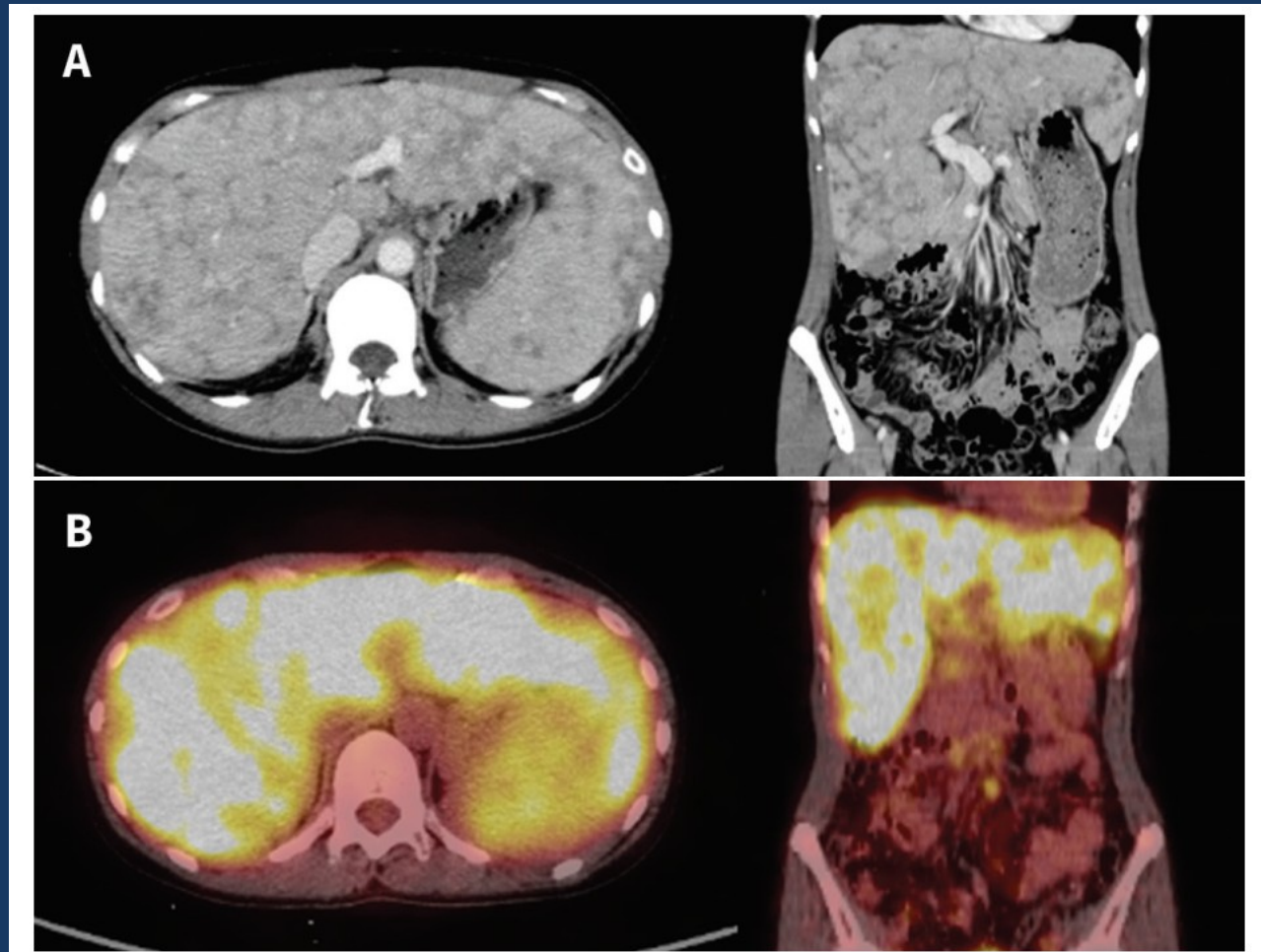
Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

Sleep apnoea

Liver disease

## Portopulmonary hypertension



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Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

Sleep apnoea

Liver disease

## Association of Sarcoidosis With Increased Risk of VTE

A Population-Based Study, 1976 to 2013

*Patompong Ungprasert, MD; Cynthia S. Crowson, MS; and Eric L. Matteson, MD, MPH*

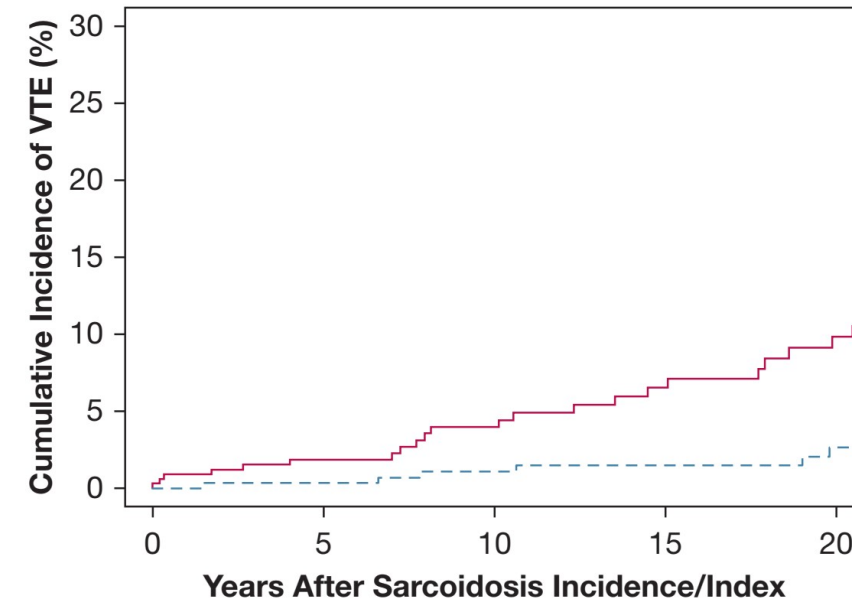


Figure 1 – Cumulative incidence of VTE among patients with sarcoidosis (solid line) and comparators without sarcoidosis (dashed line).

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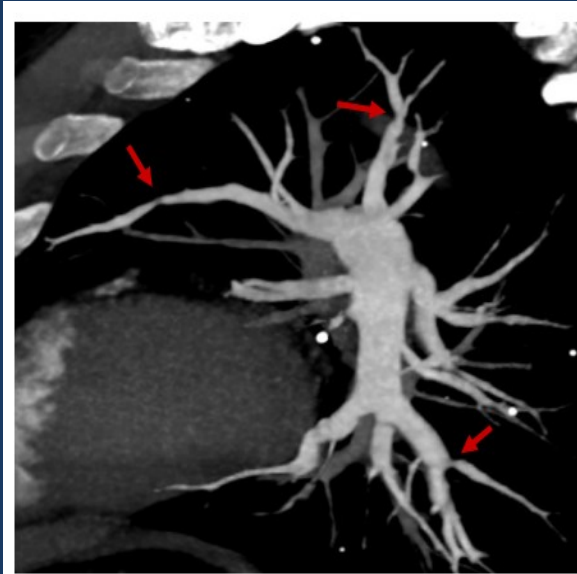
## Extrapulmonary disease

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Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

Sleep apnoea

Liver disease





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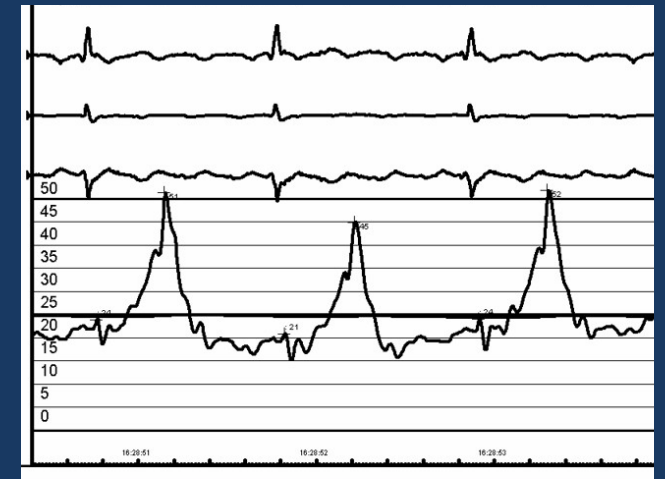
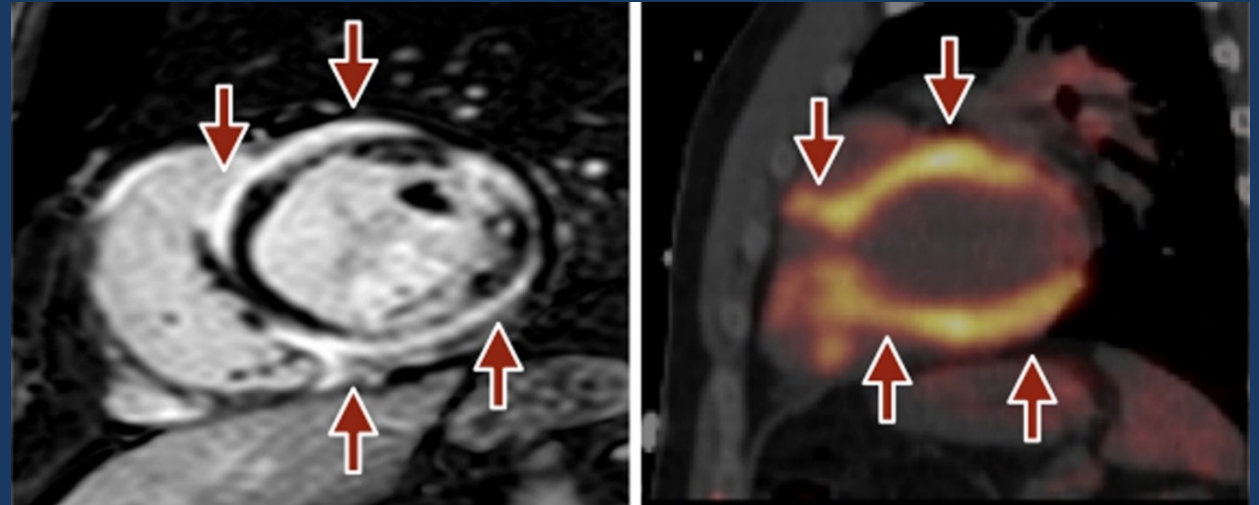
Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

Sleep apnoea

Liver disease

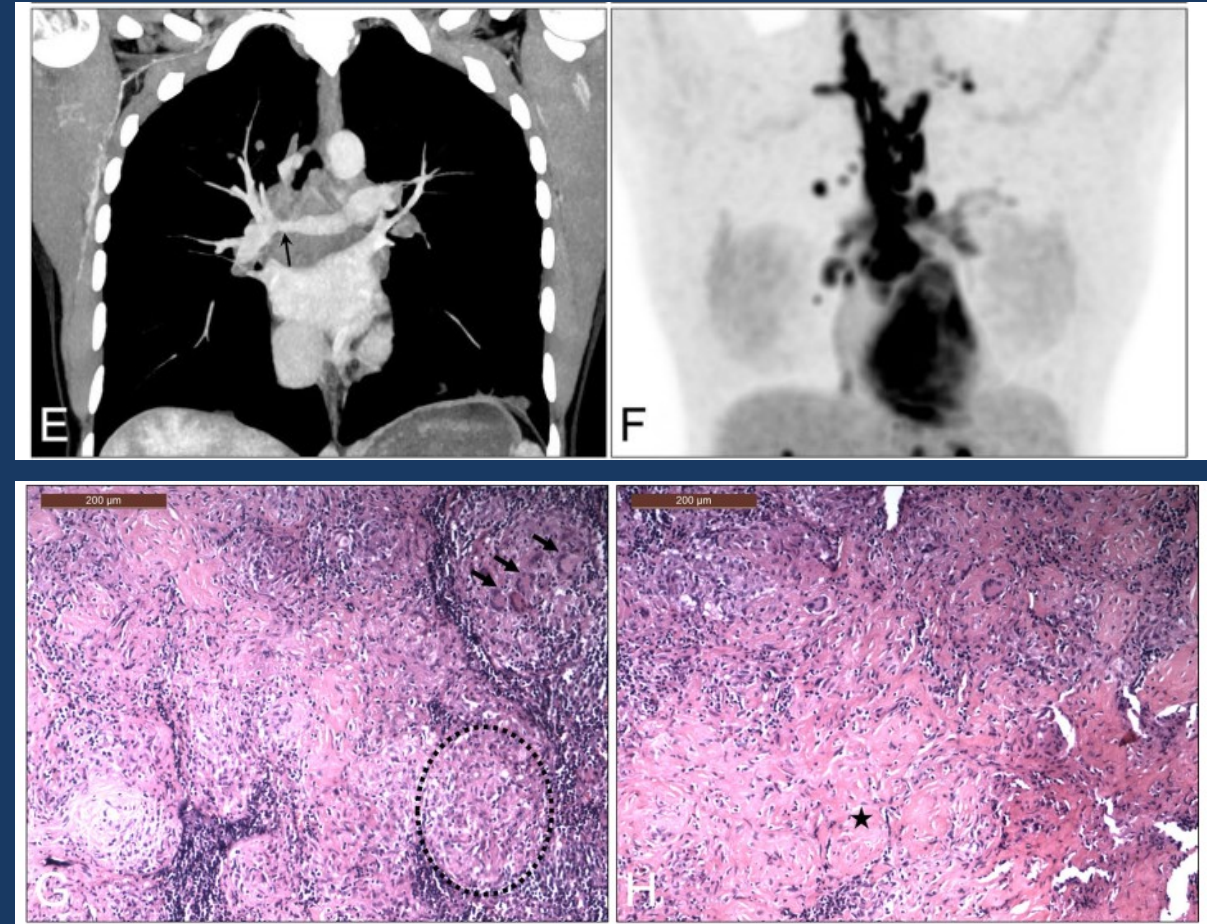
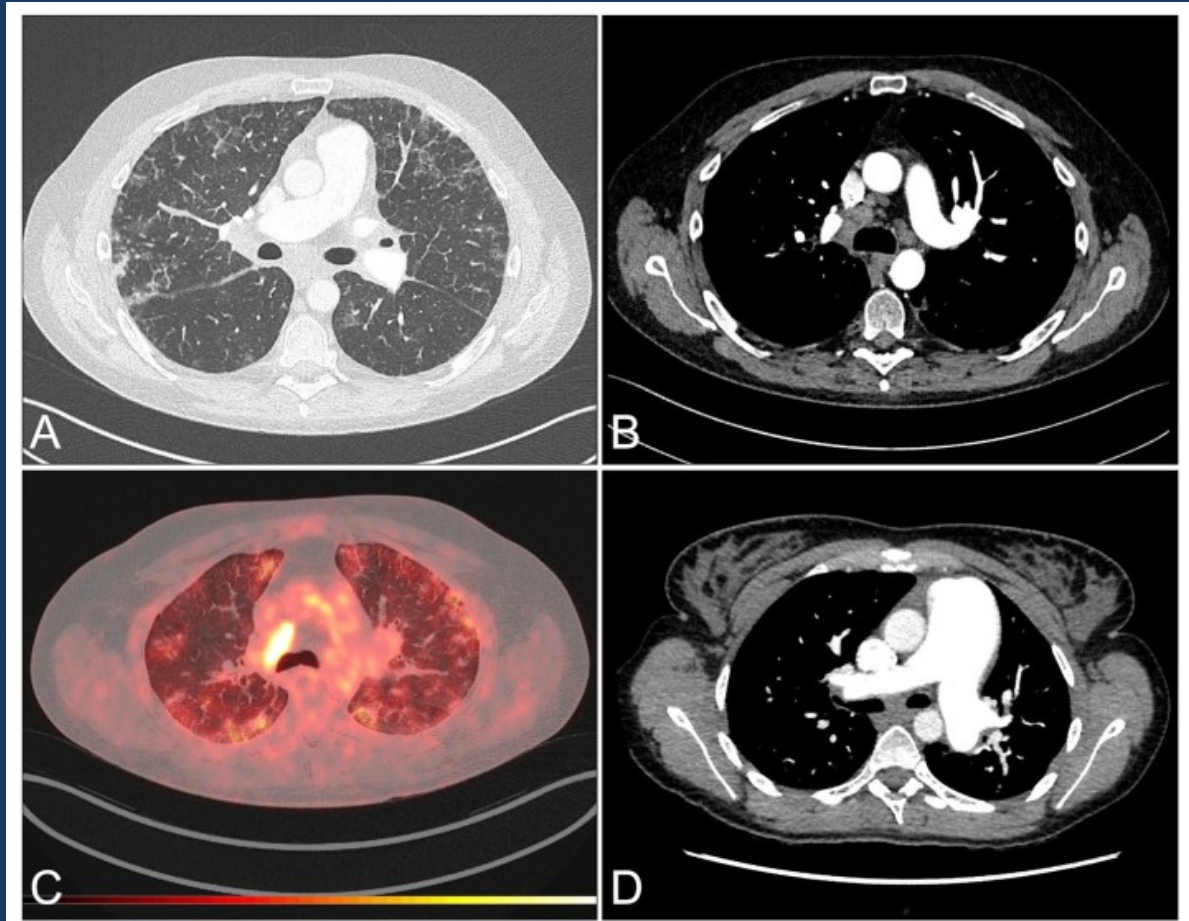
## Post-capillary PH





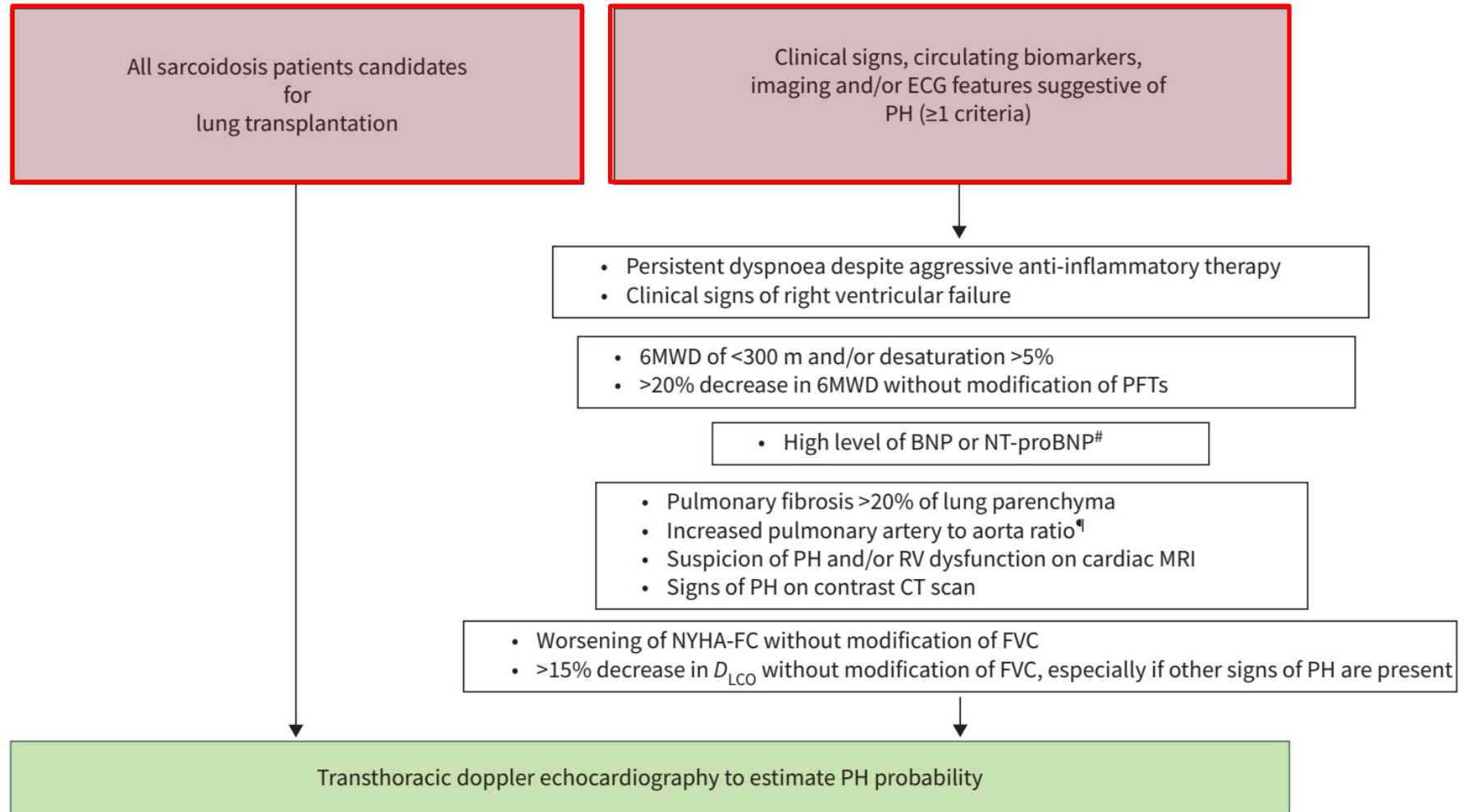
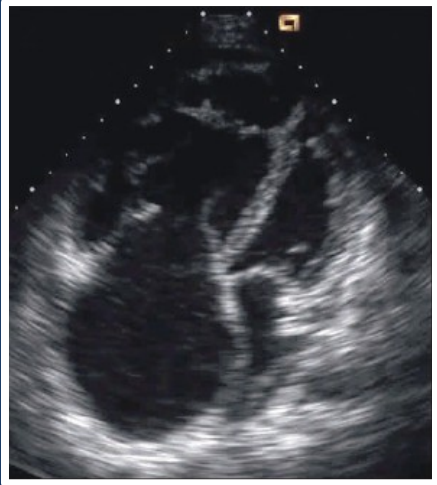
# A pitfall.....

PH associated with common variable immunodeficiency (CVID)

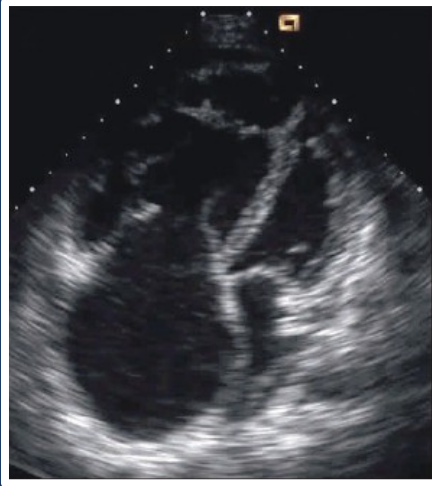


# Diagnosis of SAPH

# Screening for PH in sarcoidosis = Echocardiography



# Screening for PH in sarcoidosis = Echocardiography



All sarcoidosis patients candidates  
for  
lung transplantation

Clinical signs, circulating biomarkers,  
imaging and/or ECG features suggestive of  
PH ( $\geq 1$  criteria)

- Persistent dyspnoea despite aggressive anti-inflammatory therapy
- Clinical signs of right ventricular failure

- 6MWD of <300 m and/or desaturation >5%
- >20% decrease in 6MWD without modification of PFTs

- High level of BNP or NT-proBNP<sup>#</sup>

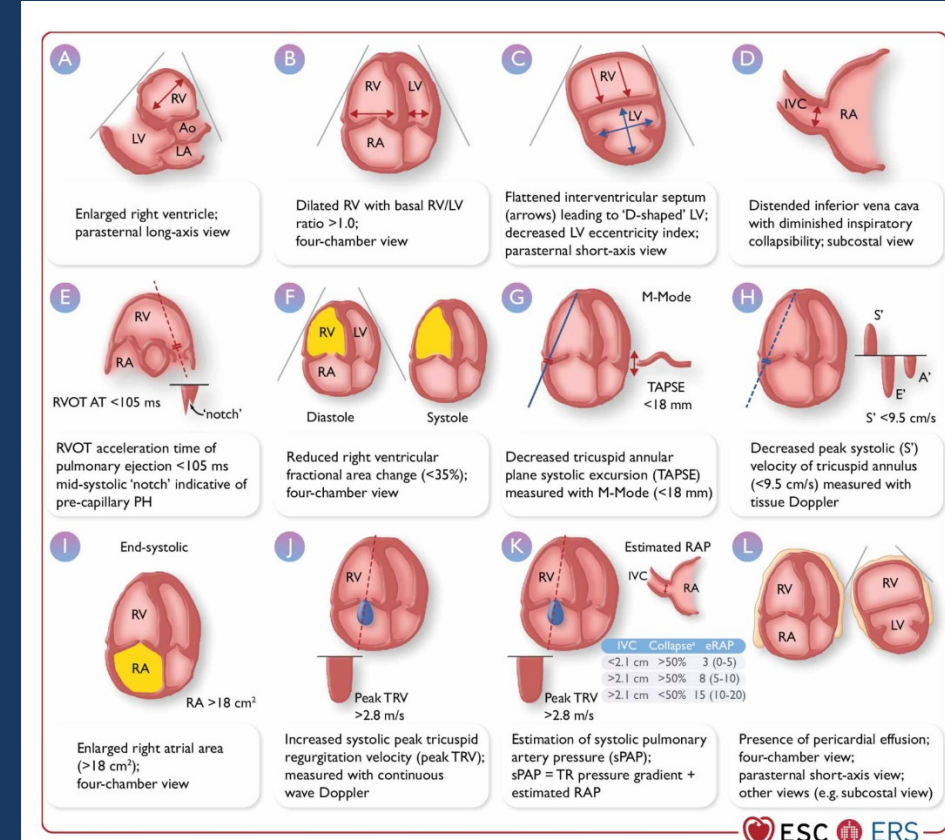
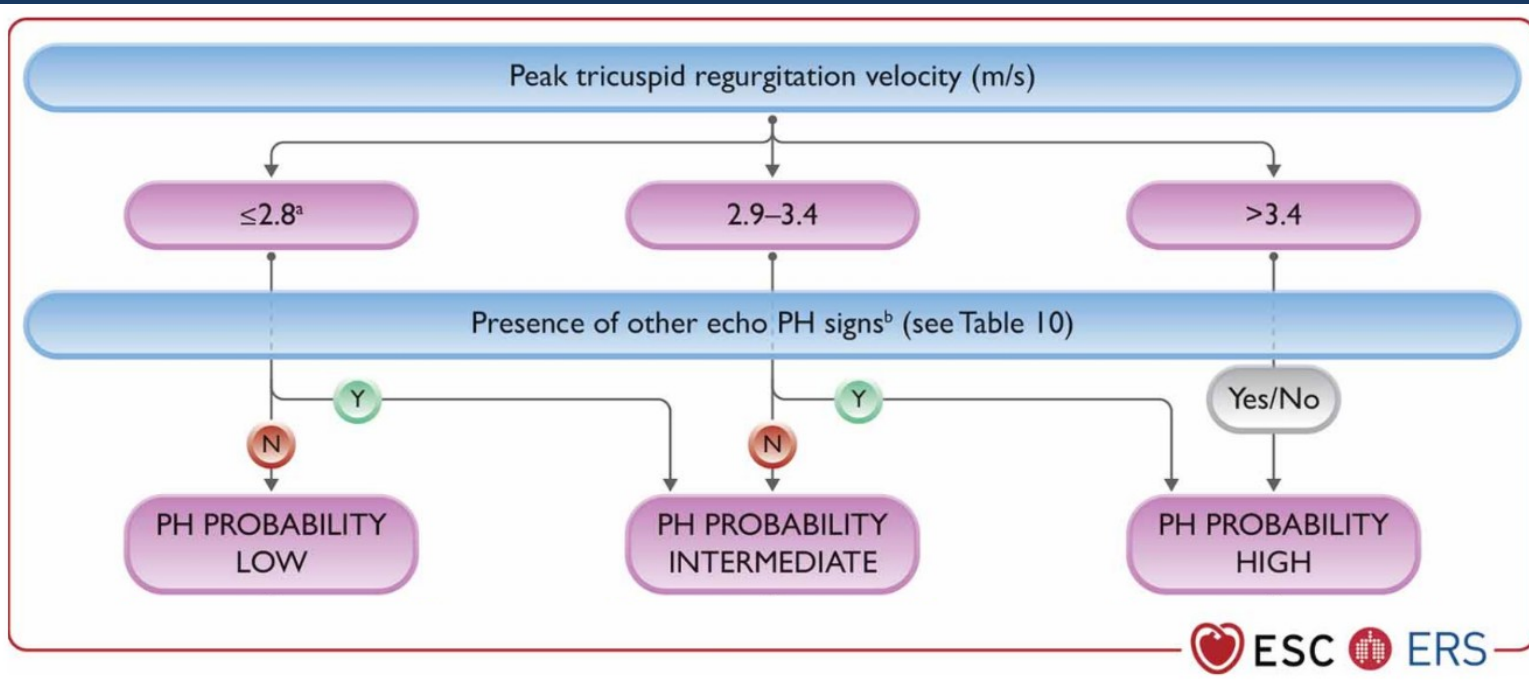
- Pulmonary fibrosis >20% of lung parenchyma
- Increased pulmonary artery to aorta ratio<sup>¶</sup>
- Suspicion of PH and/or RV dysfunction on cardiac MRI
- Signs of PH on contrast CT scan

- Worsening of NYHA-FC without modification of FVC
- >15% decrease in  $D_{LCO}$  without modification of FVC, especially if other signs of PH are present

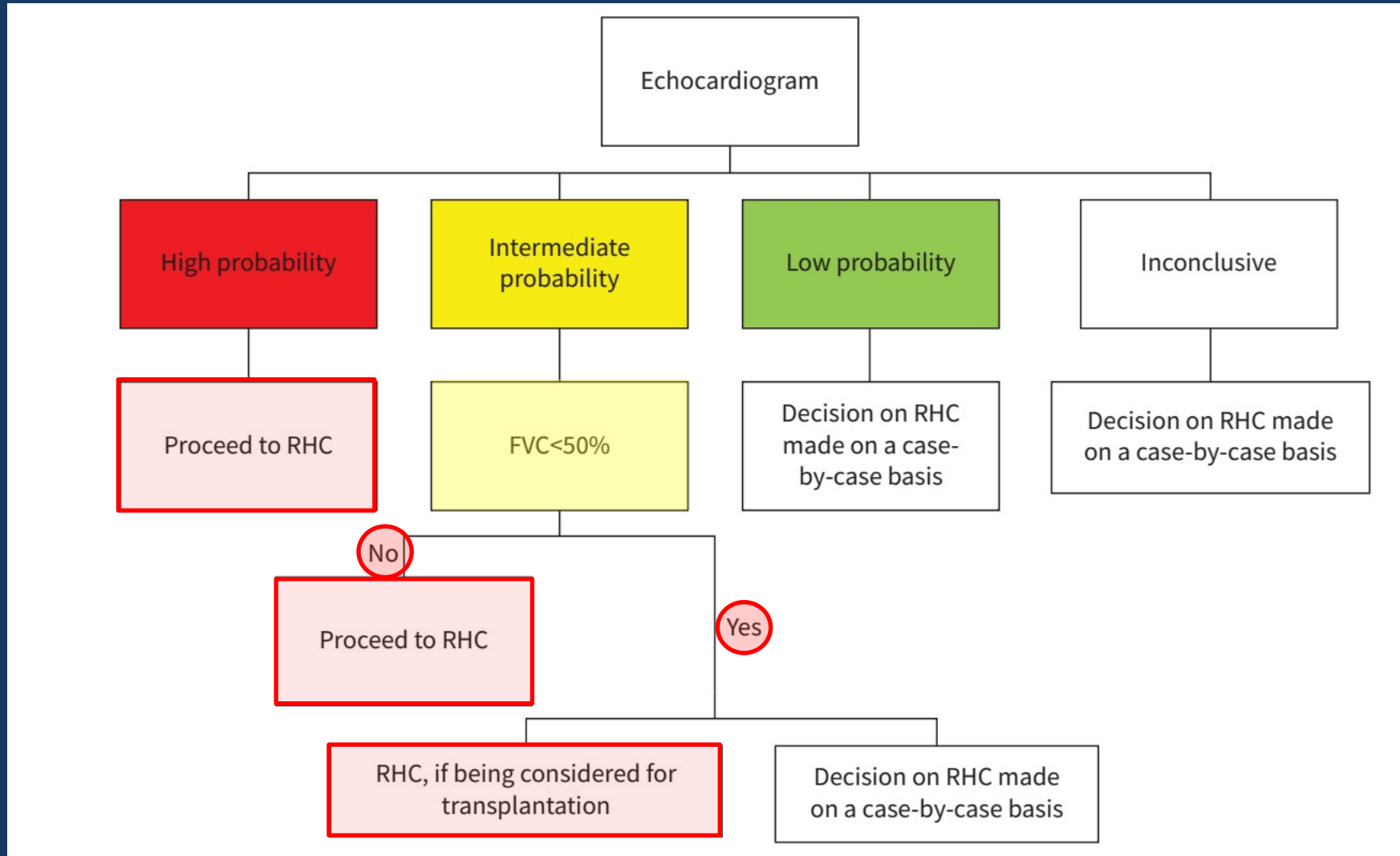


# Screening for PH in sarcoidosis = Echocardiography

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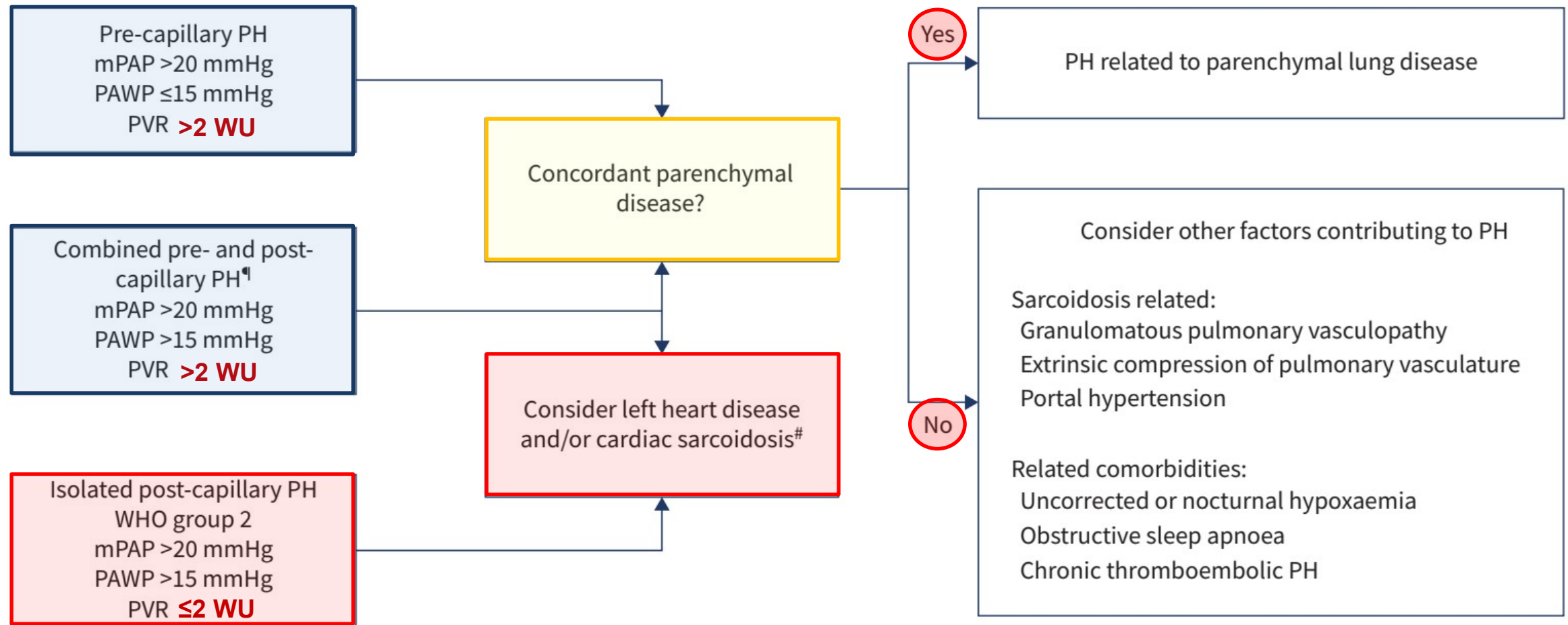


# When should we perform a RHC ?

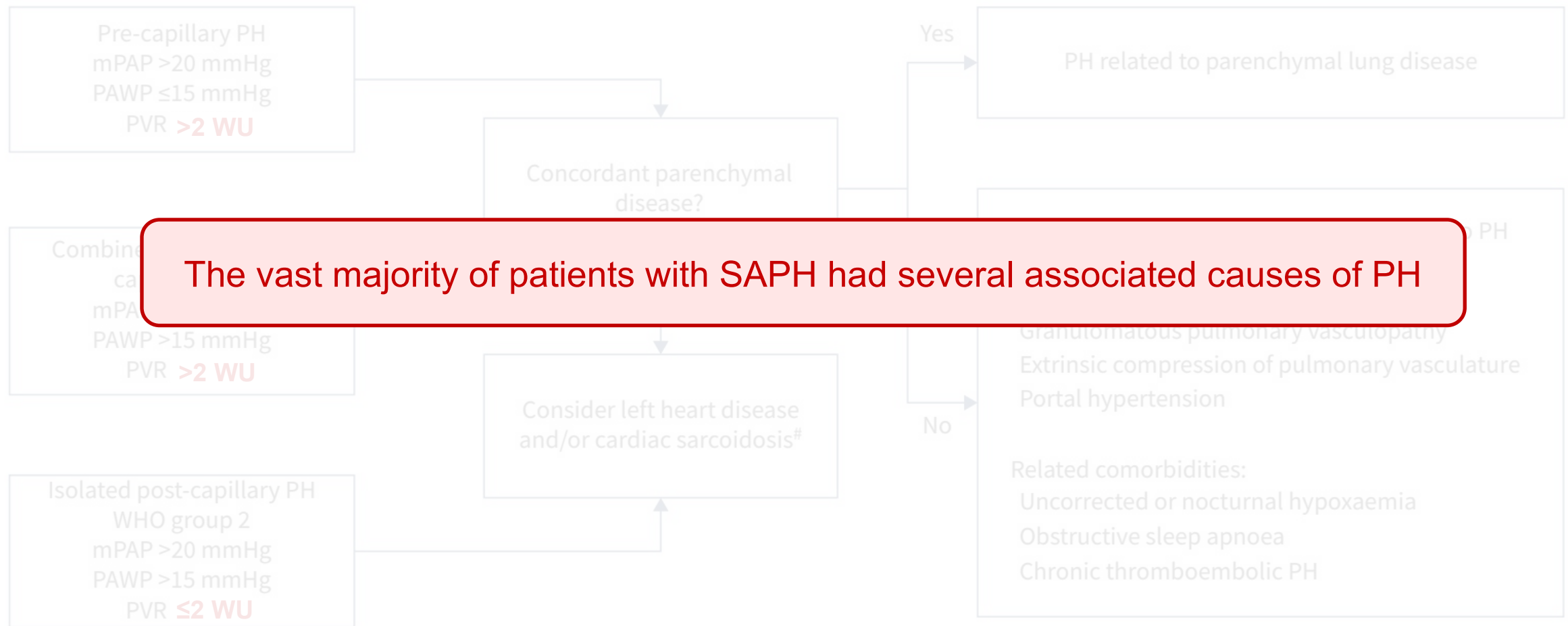




# Diagnostic algorithm based on RHC



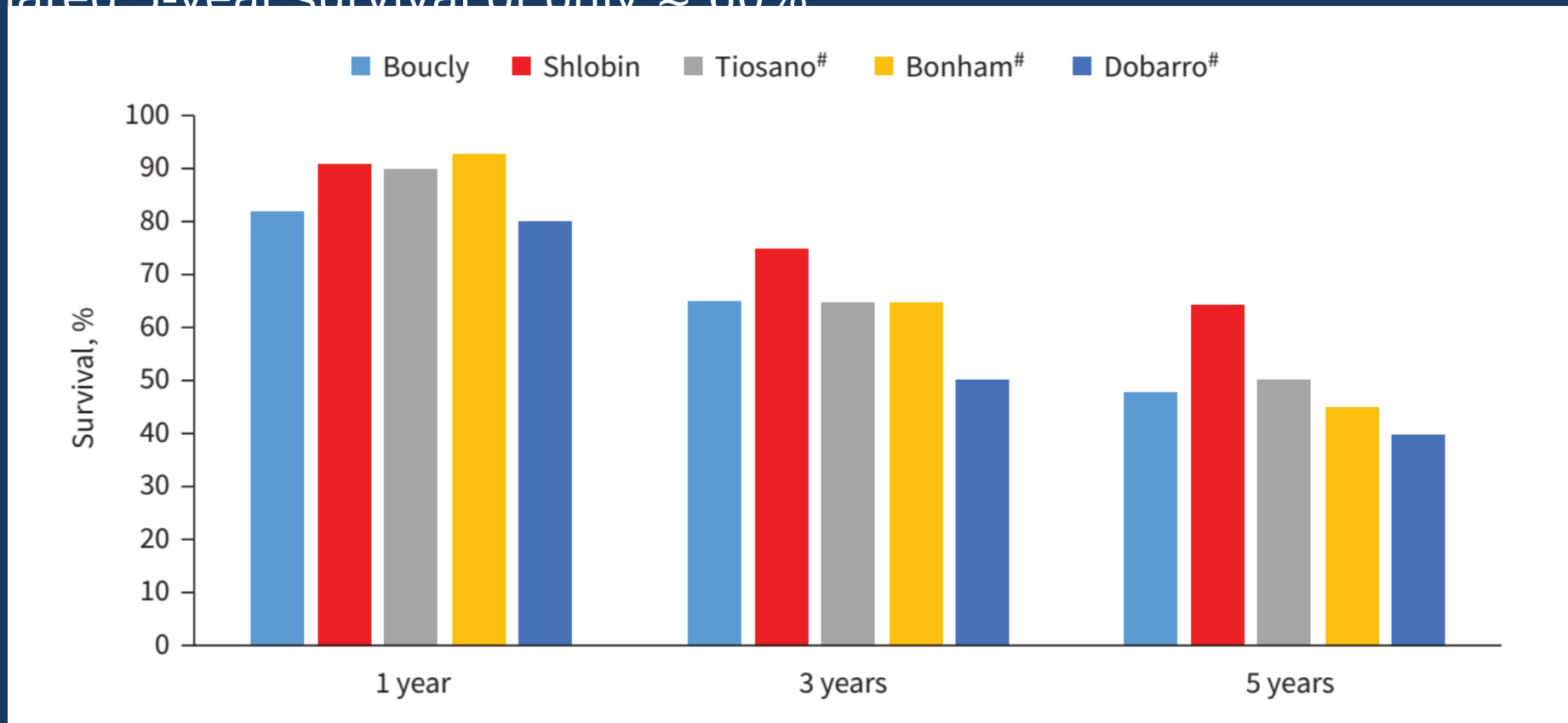
# Diagnostic algorithm based on RHC



# Prognosis of SAPH

# PH is an independent predictor of mortality

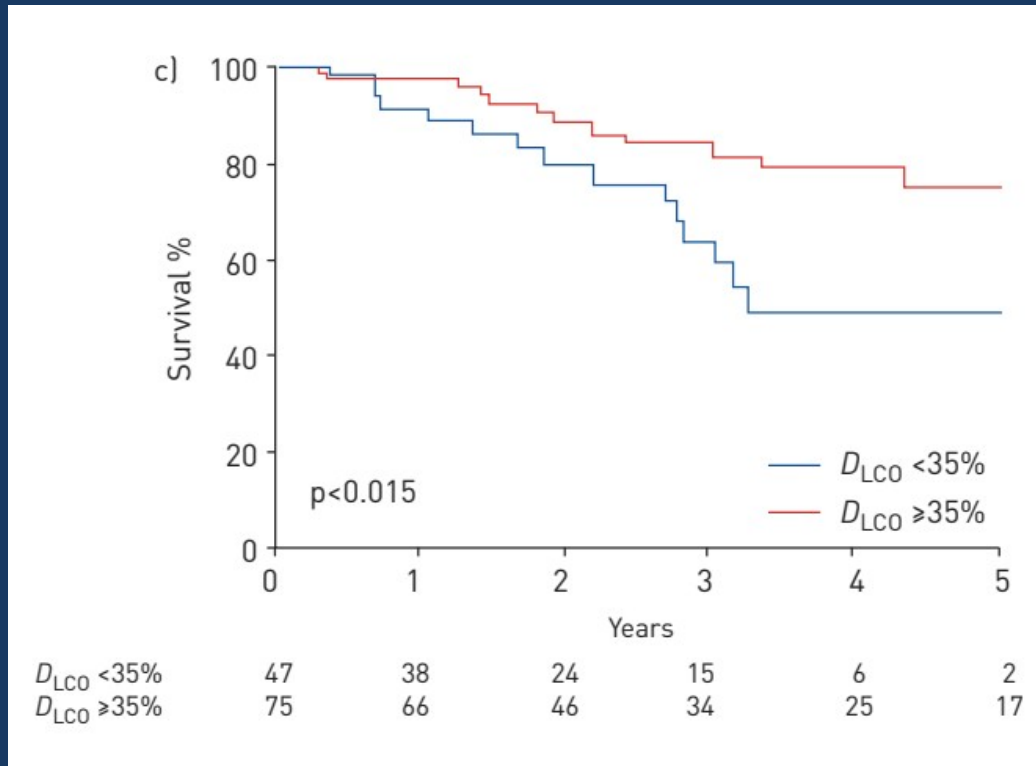
The mortality implications of any PH, both pre- and post-capillary, in the context of sarcoidosis are also profound, with a 10-fold increase in mortality and an estimated 5-year survival of only  $\approx 60\%$



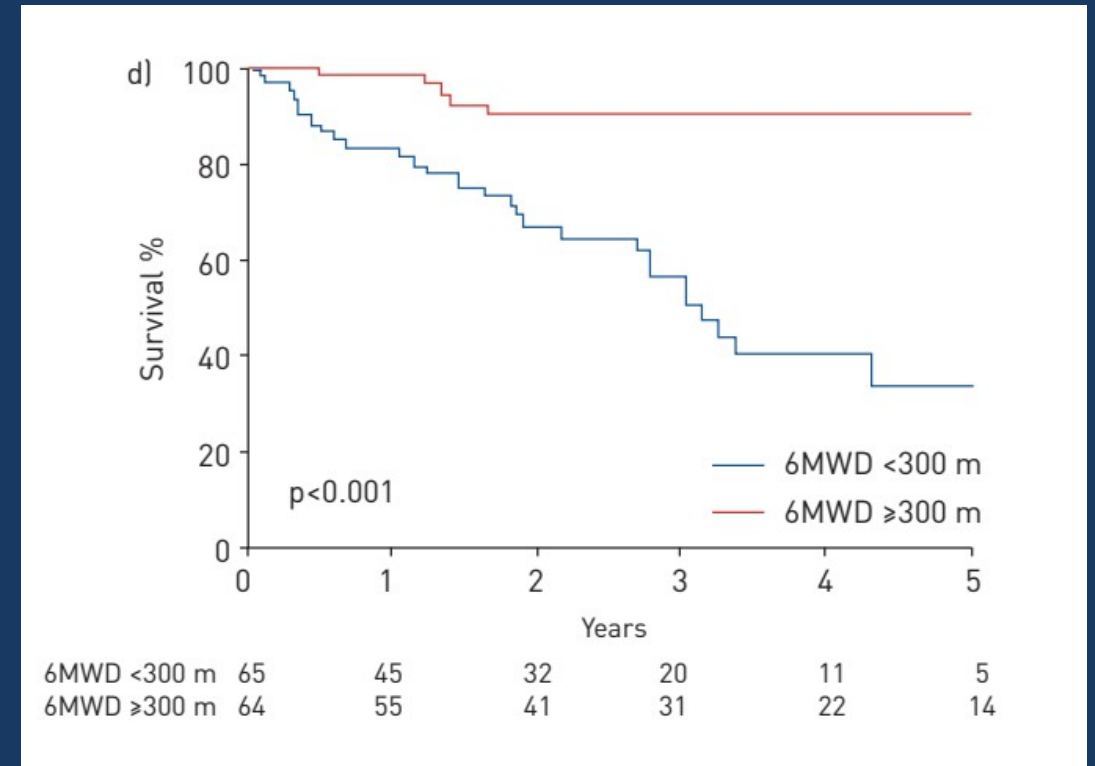
# Prognostic factors in precapillary SAPH

International Registry for SAPH (ReSAPH)  
159 precapillary PH

DLco < 35%



6-MWD < 300 m



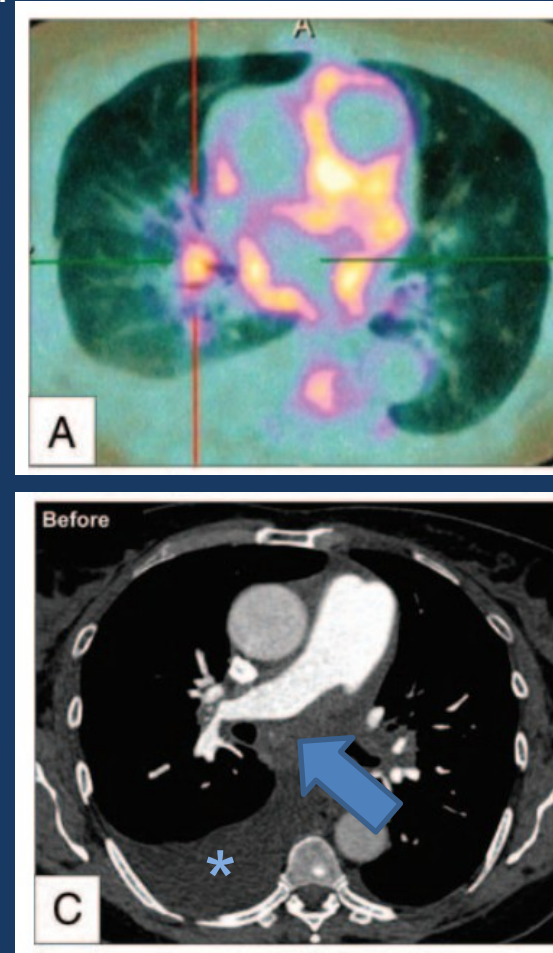
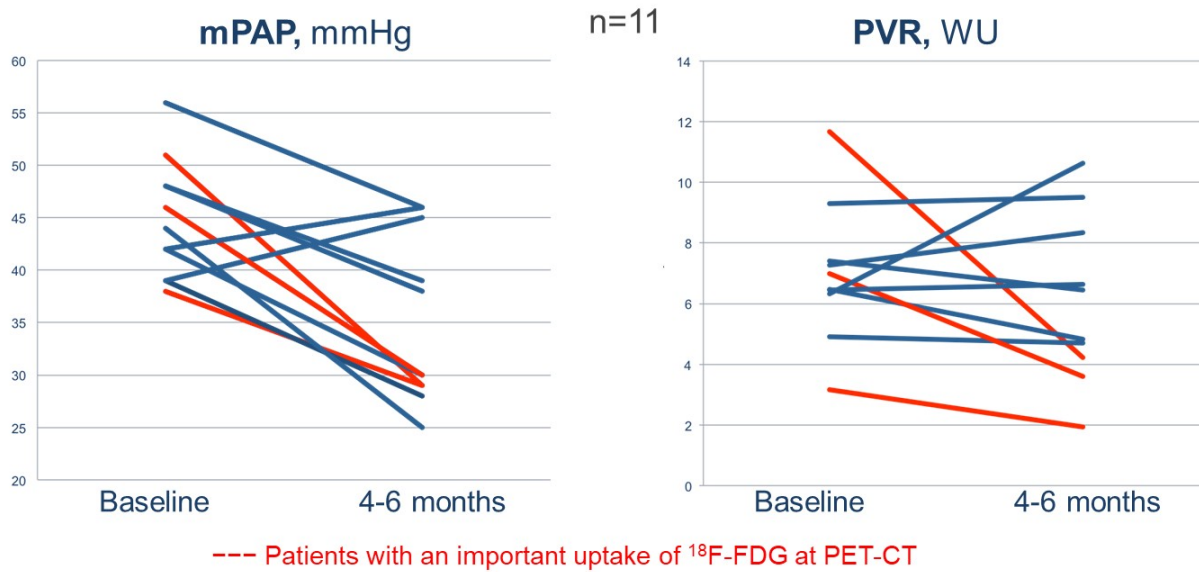
# **Management of SAPH**



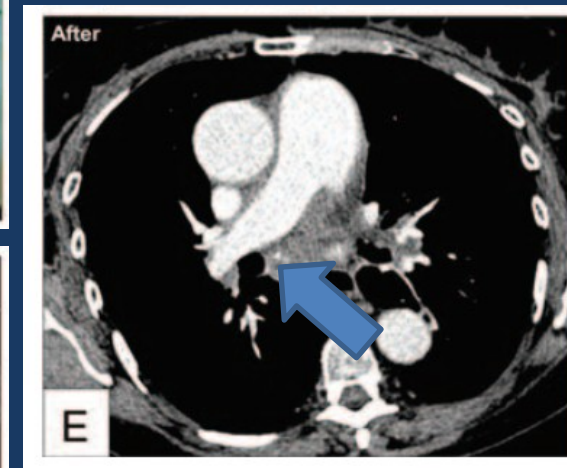
# 1<sup>st</sup> step : Optimize treatment of sarcoidosis

French PH registry: 126 patients with severe precapillary SAPH

## Immunosuppressive treatment only

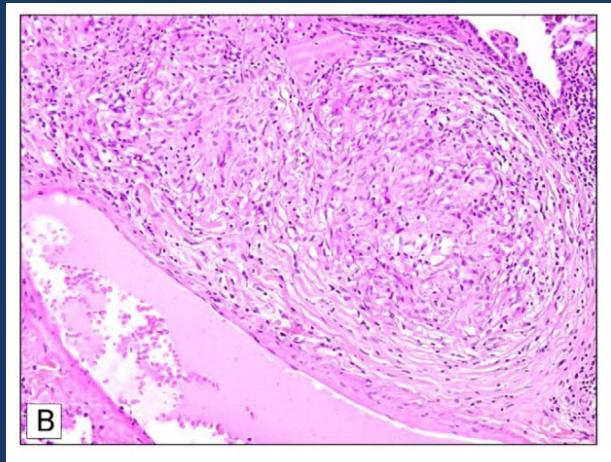
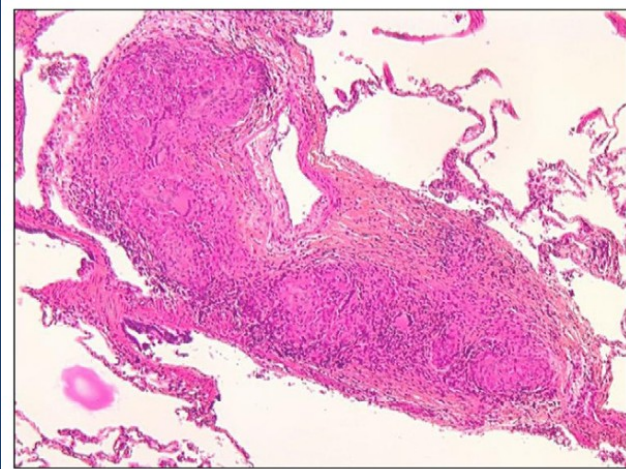
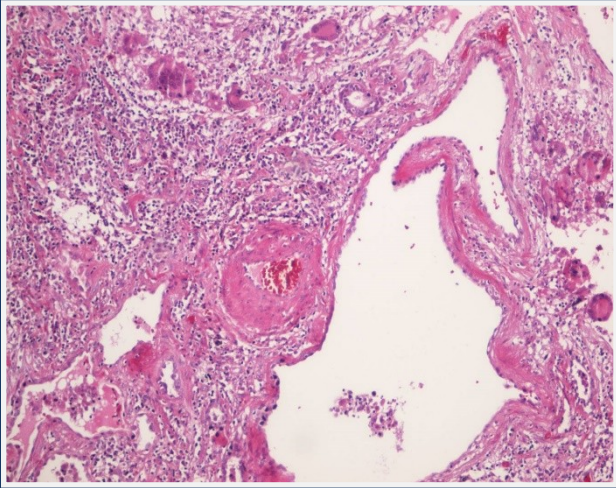


corticosteroids



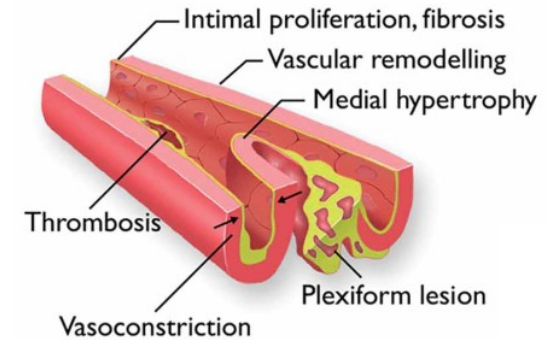
# PAH-approved drugs in precapillary SAPH

## Sarcoidotic pulmonary vasculopathy



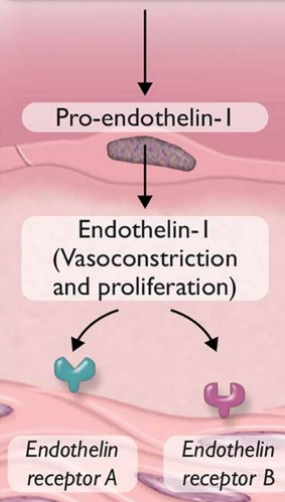
Arterial but also frequent venous involvement

### Pulmonary vasculopathy

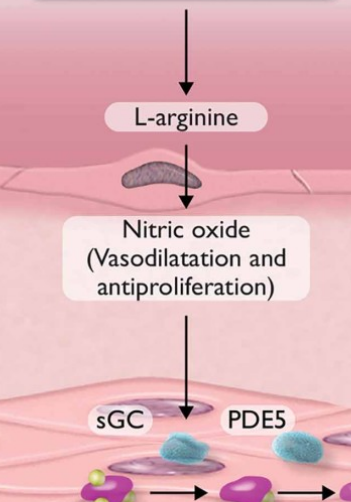


### Current therapeutic targets

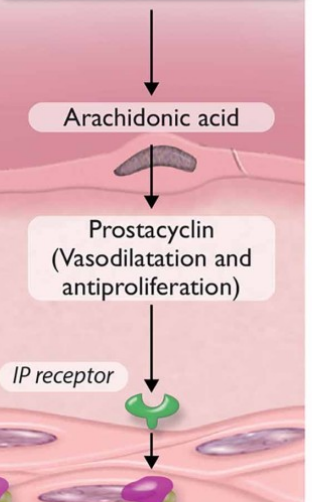
#### Endothelin pathway



#### NO-sGC-cGMP pathway



#### Prostacyclin pathway



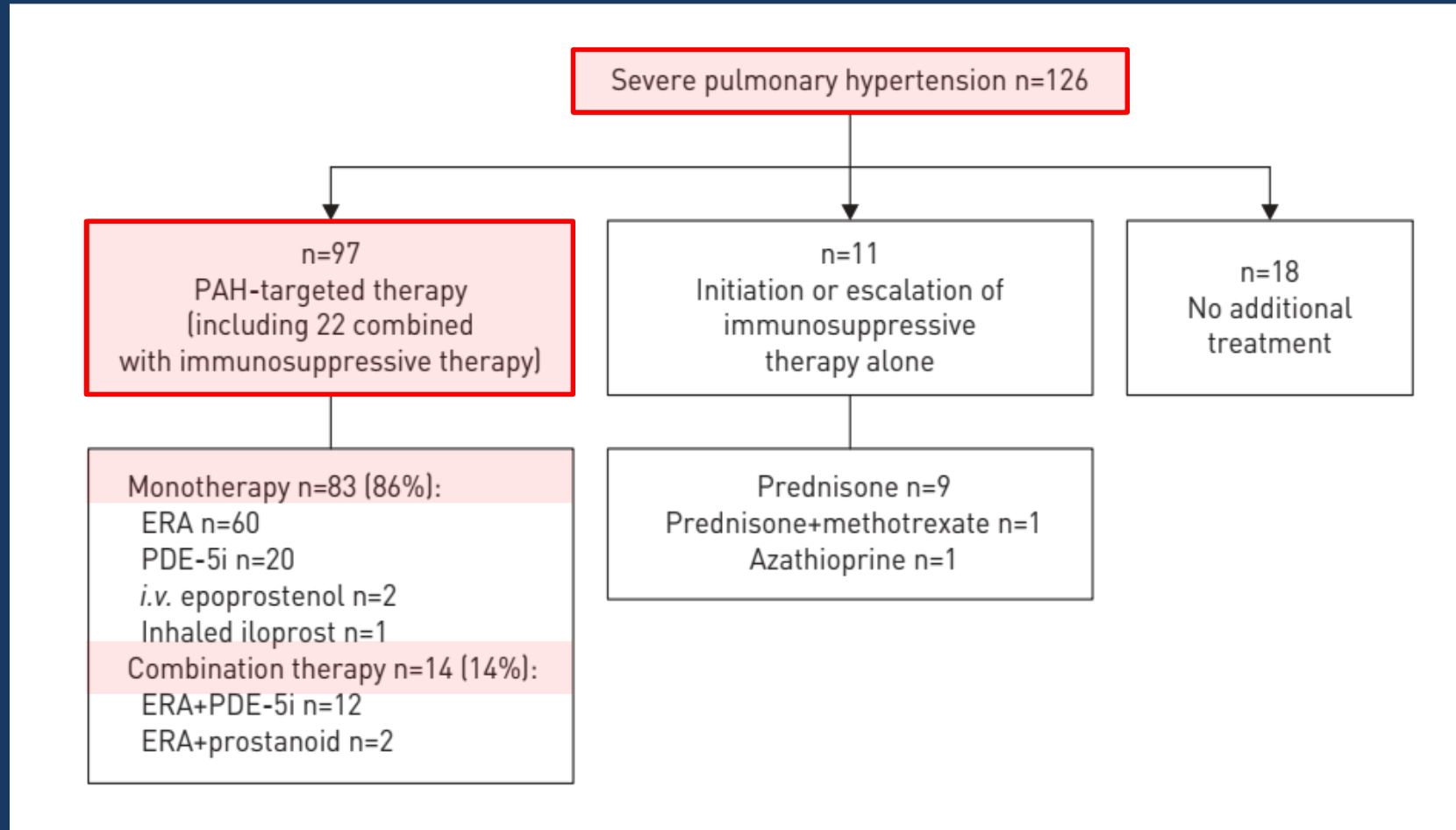


# PAH-approved drugs in precapillary SAPH

	Highest level of evidence study in patients with SAPH	Total number of patients with SAPH treated	Results in sarcoidosis
<b>Prostenoids</b>			
Epoprostenol	Retrospective OL positive [78, 79]	12	Haemodynamics improved [78, 79]
Iloprost	Prospective, OL [72]	15 of 22 enrolled completed 16 weeks' therapy	In sarcoidosis, haemodynamics and QoL improved [72]
<b>Endothelin receptor antagonists</b>			
Bosentan	DBPC [71]	23	Haemodynamics improved, no change in 6MWD [71]
Ambrisentan	Prospective OL [73]	21	Nonsignificant improved QoL, no change 6MWD [73]
Macitentan	Retrospective OL [82]	6	WHO FC improved in 4/6 treated patients [82]
<b>Phosphodiesterase 5 inhibitors</b>			
Sildenafil	Retrospective OL [16]	12	Haemodynamics improved, 6MWD no changes
Tadalafil	Prospective OL [74]	12	No significant changes in 6MWD and QoL
<b>Others</b>			
Riociguat	DBPC [70]	16	TCW and 6MWD significantly better compared with placebo
Combination therapy	Retrospective OL positive [8, 21, 77]	29	Haemodynamics and 6MWD improved in some

# PAH-approved drugs in severe precapillary SAPH

## French PH registry

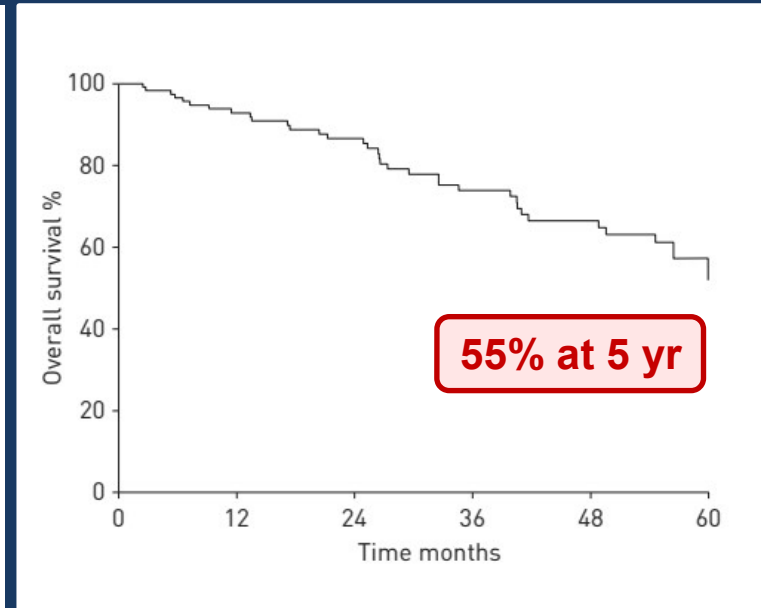


# PAH-approved drugs in severe precapillary SAPH

French PH registry  
126 severe SAPH - 97 receiving specific PAH therapy

	Baseline	First follow-up visit <sup>¶</sup>	Difference	p-value
WHO/NYHA functional class I–II/III/IV	11/52/18	26/45/10		0.01
6MWD m	311±127	324±138	+13 m	0.33
RAP mmHg	7±4	6±4	–14%	0.007
mPAP mmHg	48±9	42±11	–13%	<0.00001
Cardiac index L·min <sup>–1</sup> ·m <sup>–2</sup>	2.6±0.8	2.9±0.8	+12%	<0.00001
PVR Wood units	9.7±4.4	6.9±3.0	–29%	<0.00001

Data are expressed as n or mean±SD, unless otherwise stated. 6MWD: 6-min walk distance; RAP: right atrial pressure; mPAP: mean pulmonary artery pressure; PVR: pulmonary vascular resistance. #: n=81; ¶: median (interquartile range) 4.5 (4.0–6.7) months.

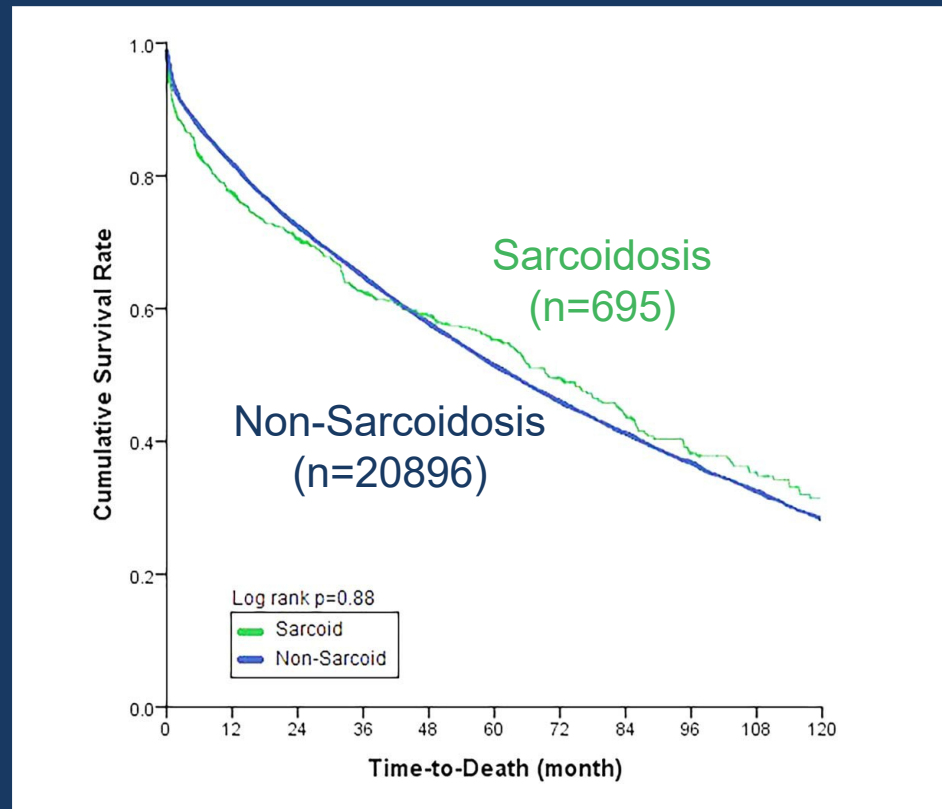




# Lung transplantation in sarcoidosis

## US Experience

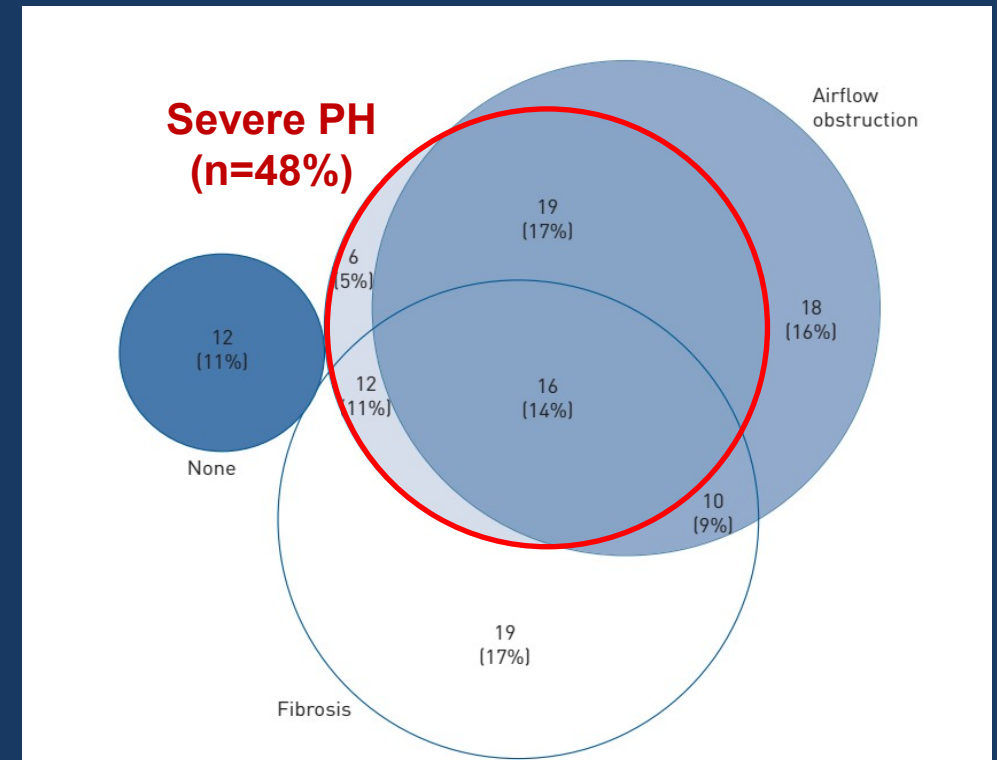
Similar long-term outcomes compared with nonsarcoid lung recipients



Taimieh et al, *Thorax* 2016

## European experience

Hemodynamic parameters were not associated with impaired post-transplant survival

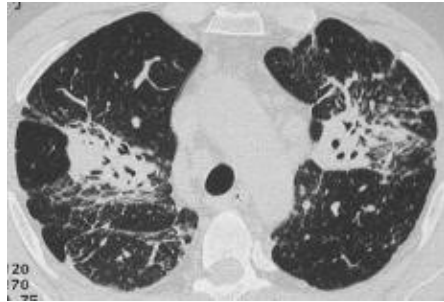


Le Pavec et al, *Eur Respir J* 2021

# Conclusions

# Sarcoidosis associated PH = MULTIFACTORIAL PH

Hypoxic vasoconstriction  
Destruction of pulmonary vascular bed



Left heart disease



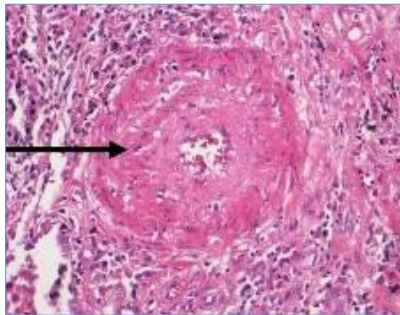
Portal Hypertension



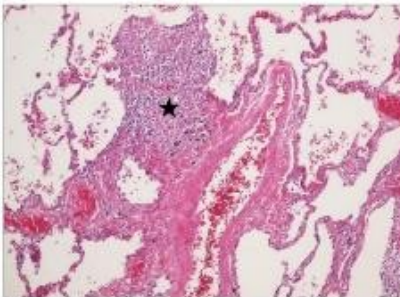
CTEPH



Pulmonary  
arterial  
remodeling



« Pulmonary  
veno-  
occlusive  
disease »

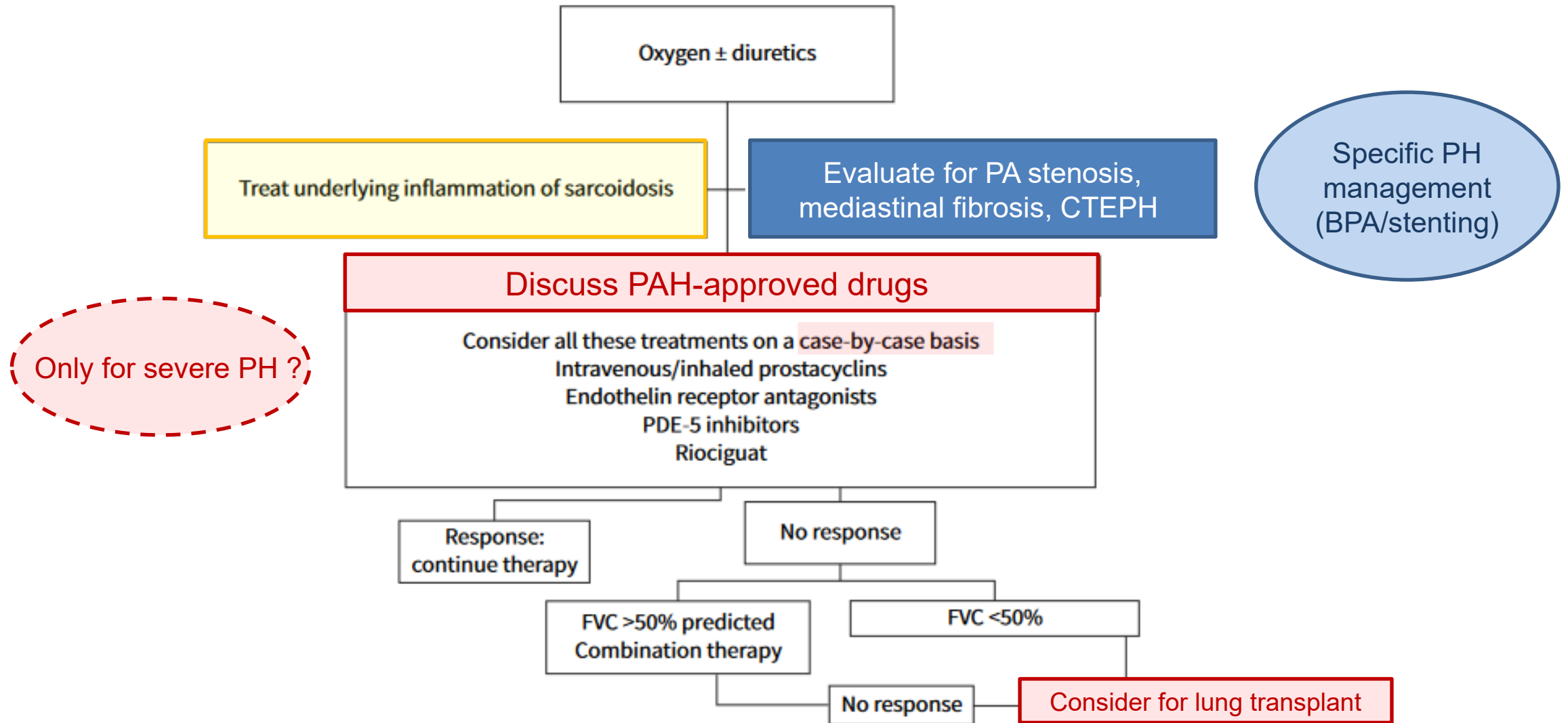


Pulmonary  
Hypertension



Mediastinal fibrosis  
Compression of  
pulmonary arteries or veins

# Management of Precapillary SAPH





*International Meeting on*  
**PULMONARY RARE DISEASES**  
AND ORPHAN DRUGS

# Sarcoidosis-associated pulmonary hypertension

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