

# Non-statin therapies to reduce LDL-cholesterol

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## Case: 61 year old female, prior PCI to RCA

- She reports a long history of hypercholesterolemia
- Family history of CAD: Brother had MI at age 54, Father with fatal MI at age 66
- Current treatment: atorvastatin 80mg, amlodipine 5mg, aspirin 81mg
- Labs: LDL 114 mg/dL, Triglycerides 140 mg/dL, Lp(a) 110 nmol/L

# What would you do next?

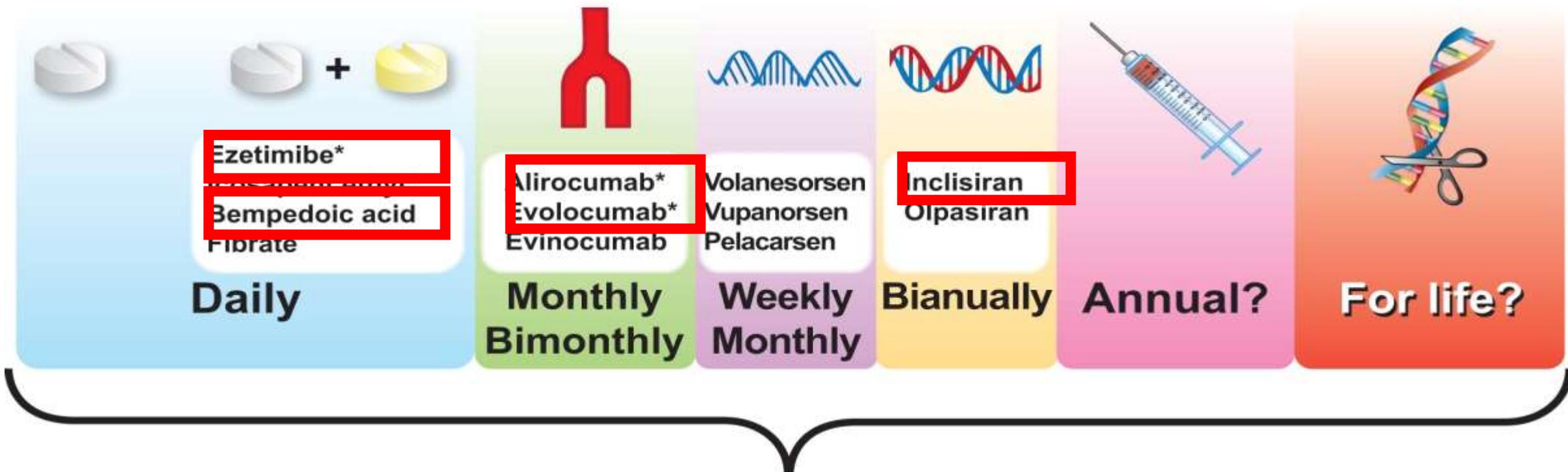
- A. Switch to rosuvastatin 40mg daily
- B. Add Ezitimibe 10mg daily
- C. Start PCSK9 inhibitor
- D. Add icosapent ethyl
- E. Add bempedoic acid
- F. Dietary changes

Your answer likely influenced by:

- Cost (\$)
- Efficacy (What works best)
- Patient risk profile
- Side effect profile
- Guidelines
- Personal experience

# Evolution of Lipid Lowering Therapies:

Statins\* → Oral combination → MoAb → ASO → siRNA → Vaccination → Gene editing



**LDL-C**  
Main target



**Non-HDL (including remnants)**  
Secondary target

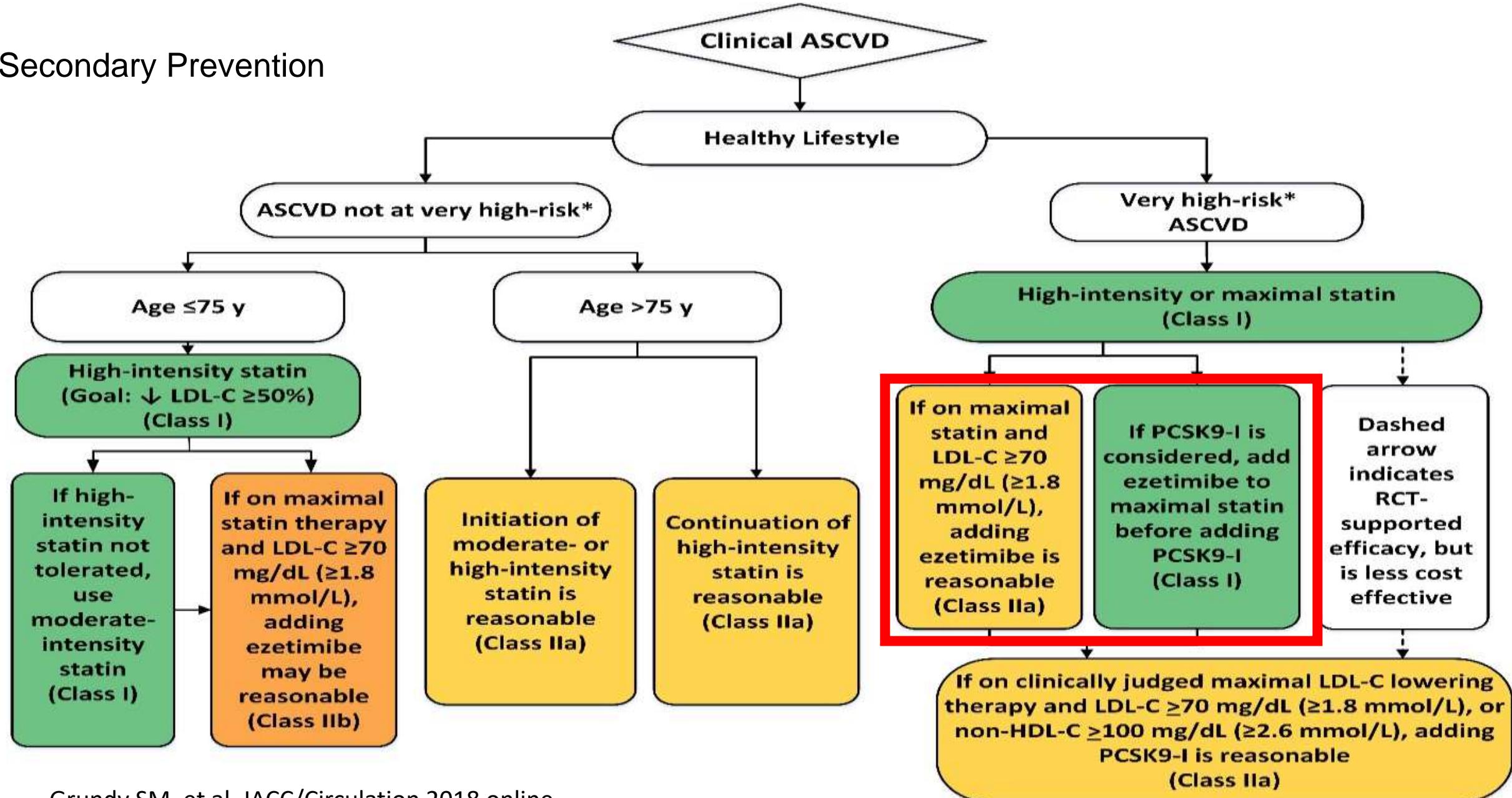


**Lp (a)**  
New target

\*Therapies shown to decrease CV events

# 2018 ACC/AHA Cholesterol Guidelines

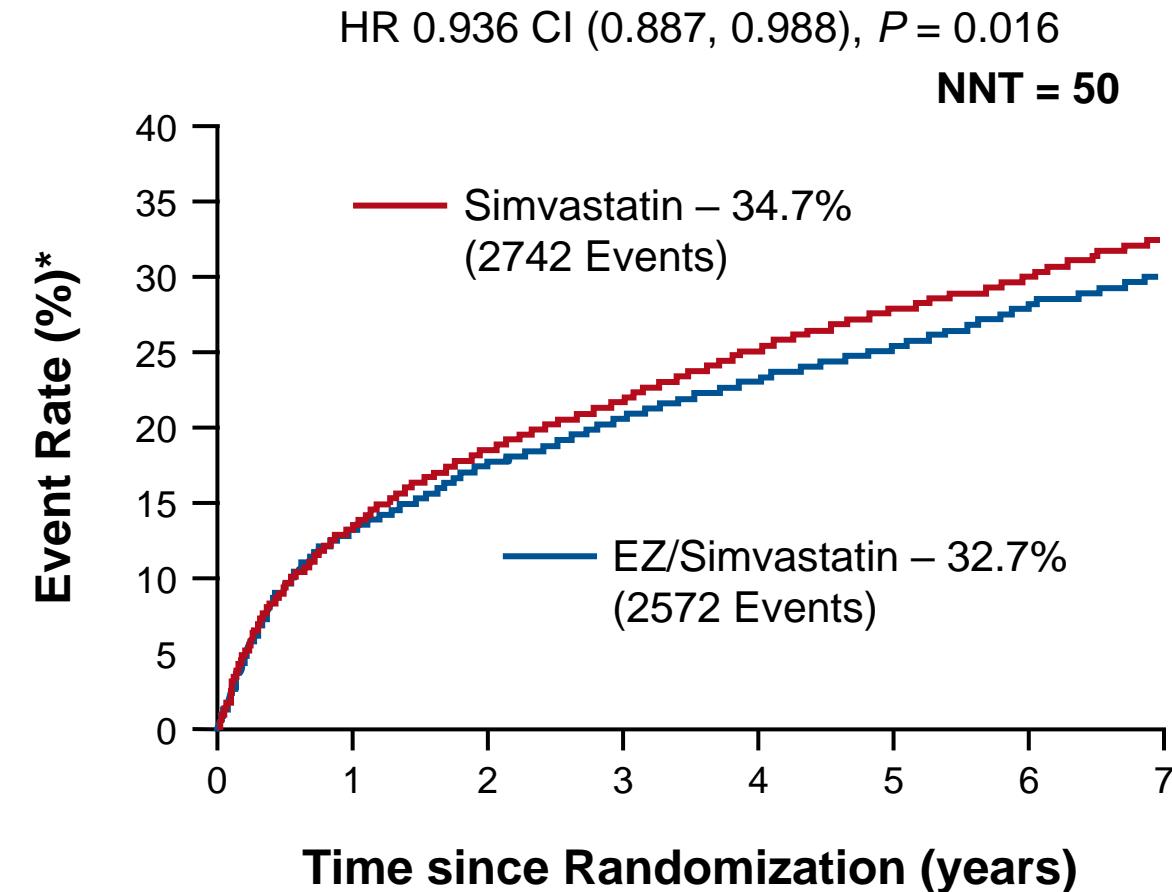
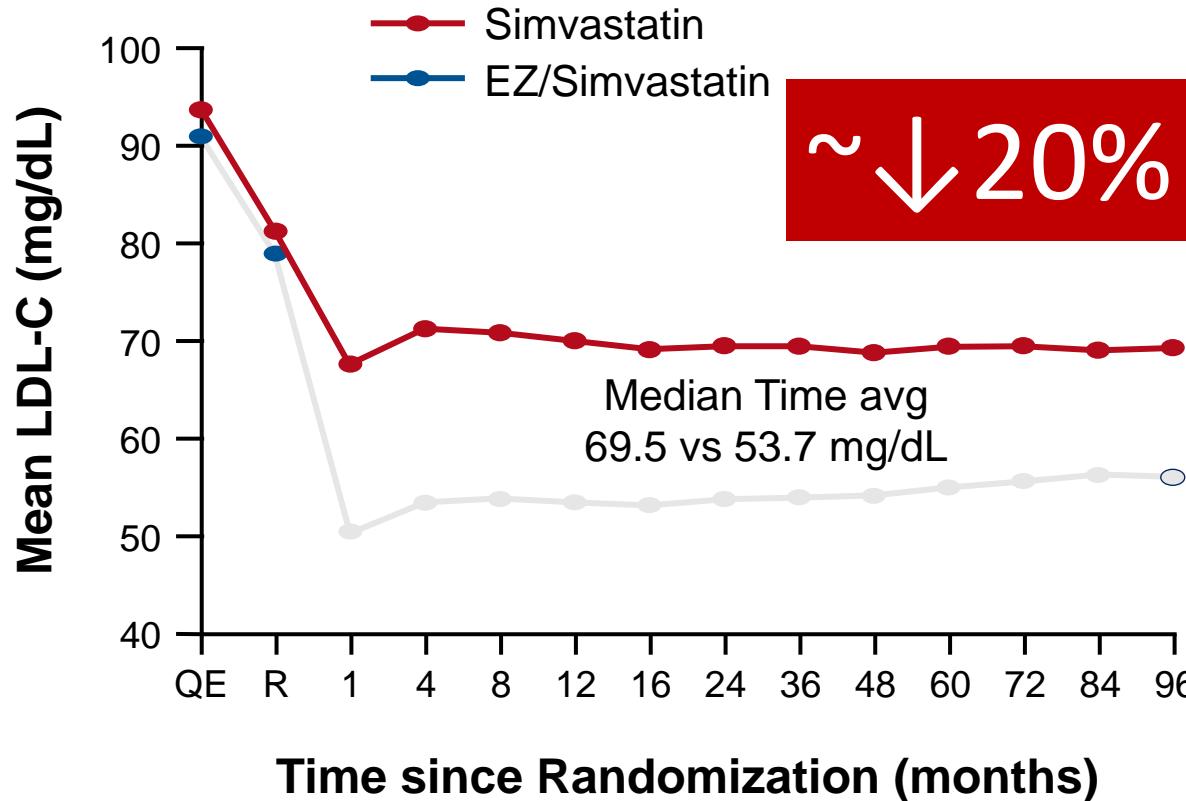
## Secondary Prevention



# IMPROVE-IT: Primary Results

18,144 ACS patients randomized to simvastatin alone or ezetimibe (EZ)/simvastatin, median follow-up 6 years

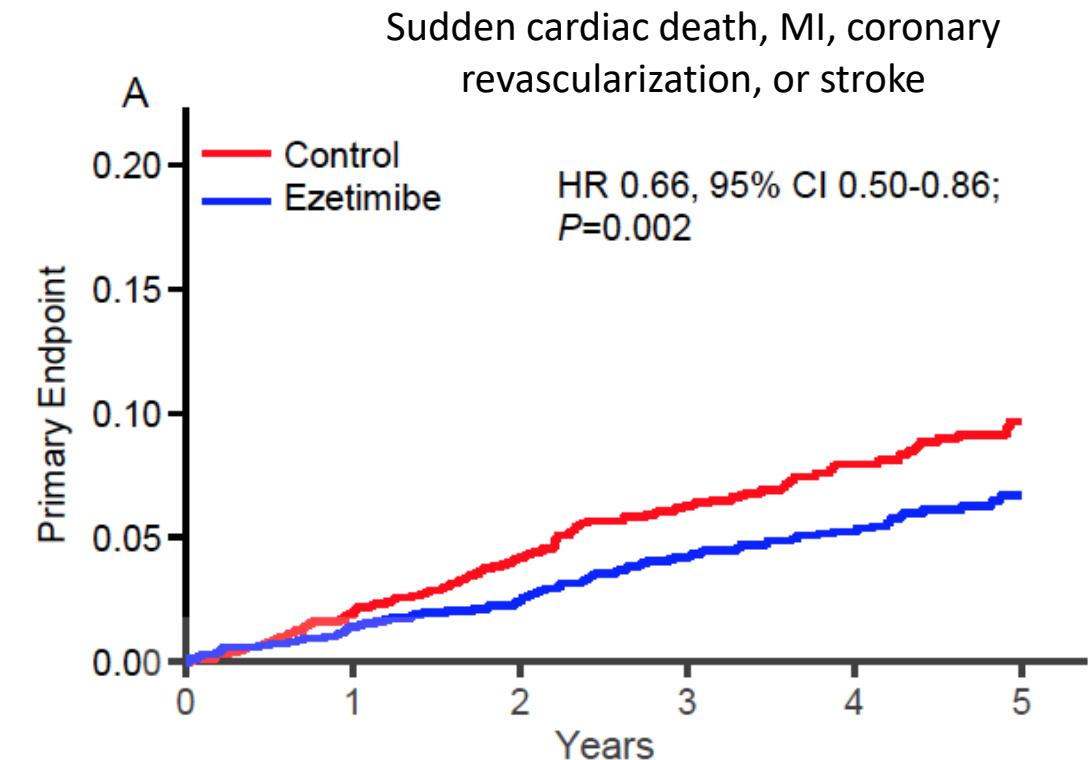
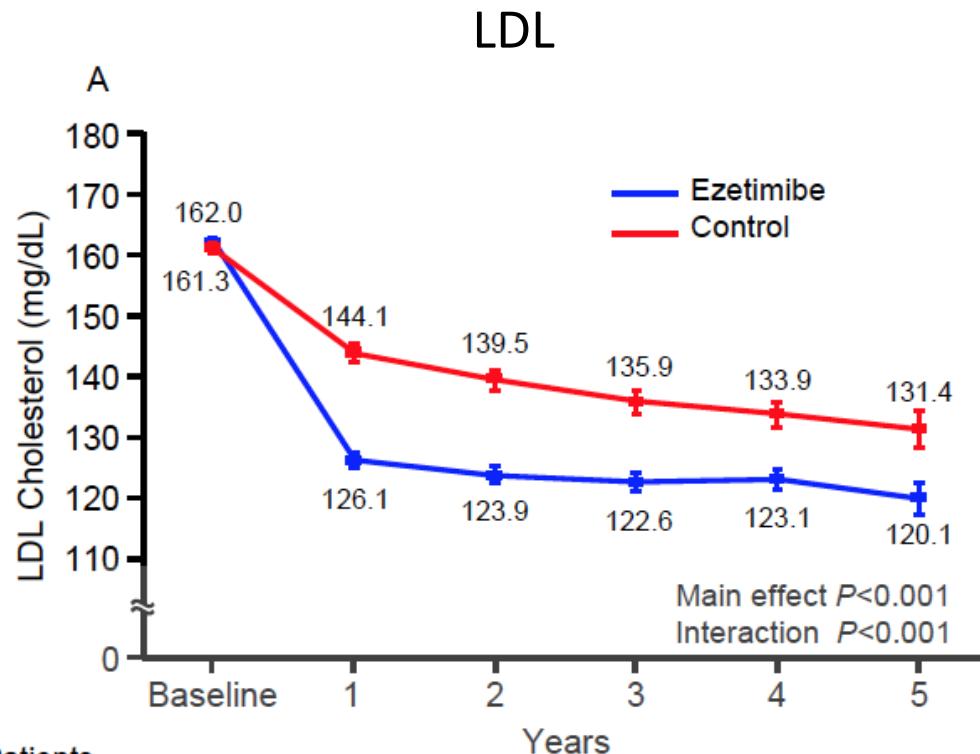
~ $\downarrow$ 6.5%  
(relative risk)



\*Primary end point (cardiovascular death, MI, unstable angina, coronary revascularization, or stroke).

Cannon CP, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2015;372(25):2387-97.

# EWTOPIA 75: Ezetimibe vs. Placebo in Primary Prevention in Pts > 75 years old

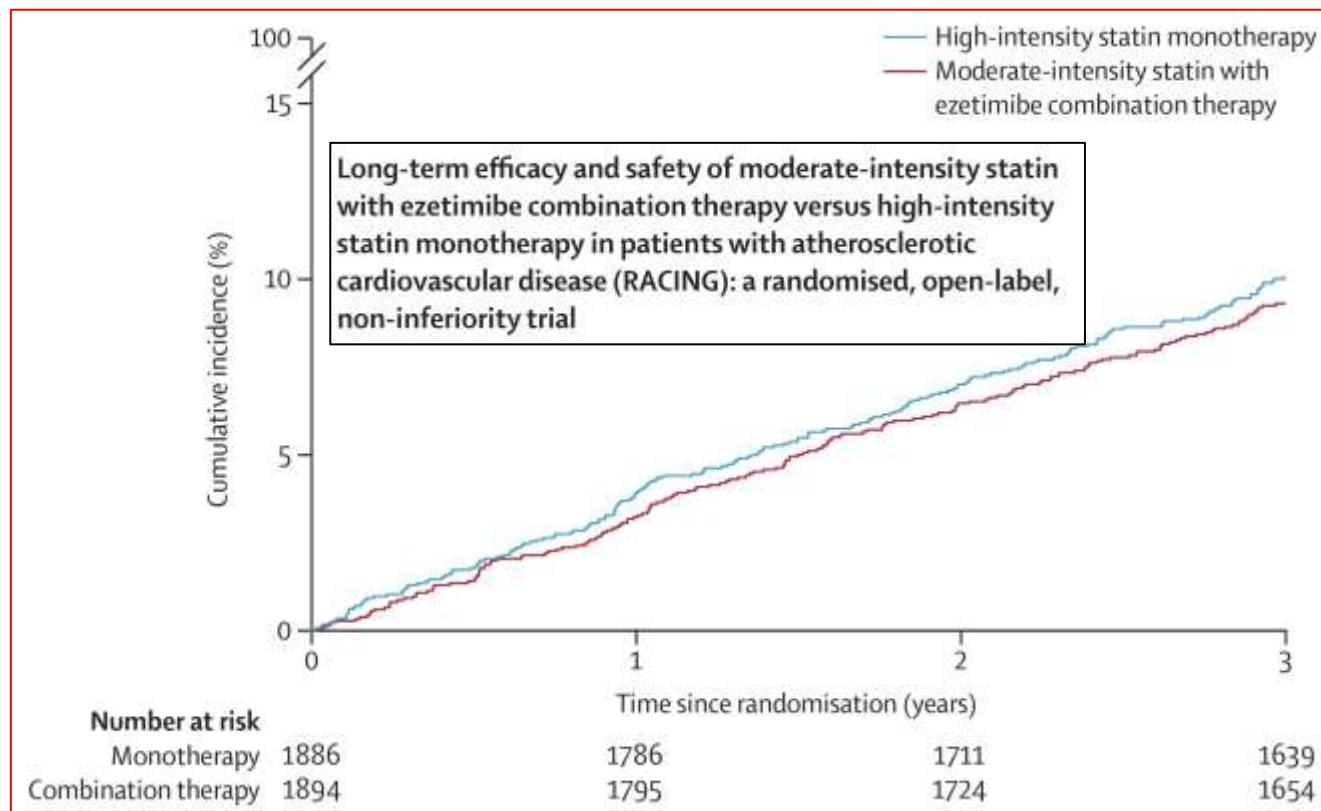


Number of Patients

	1	2	3	4	5
Ezetimibe	1700	1489	1245	1009	685
Control	1685	1464	1227	1023	706

□

# For a patient who is on moderate intensity statin therapy, should I switch to high intensity statin or add ezetimibe?



## RACING Trial, LANCET 2022

3780 patients w/ ASCVD

26 sites in Korea

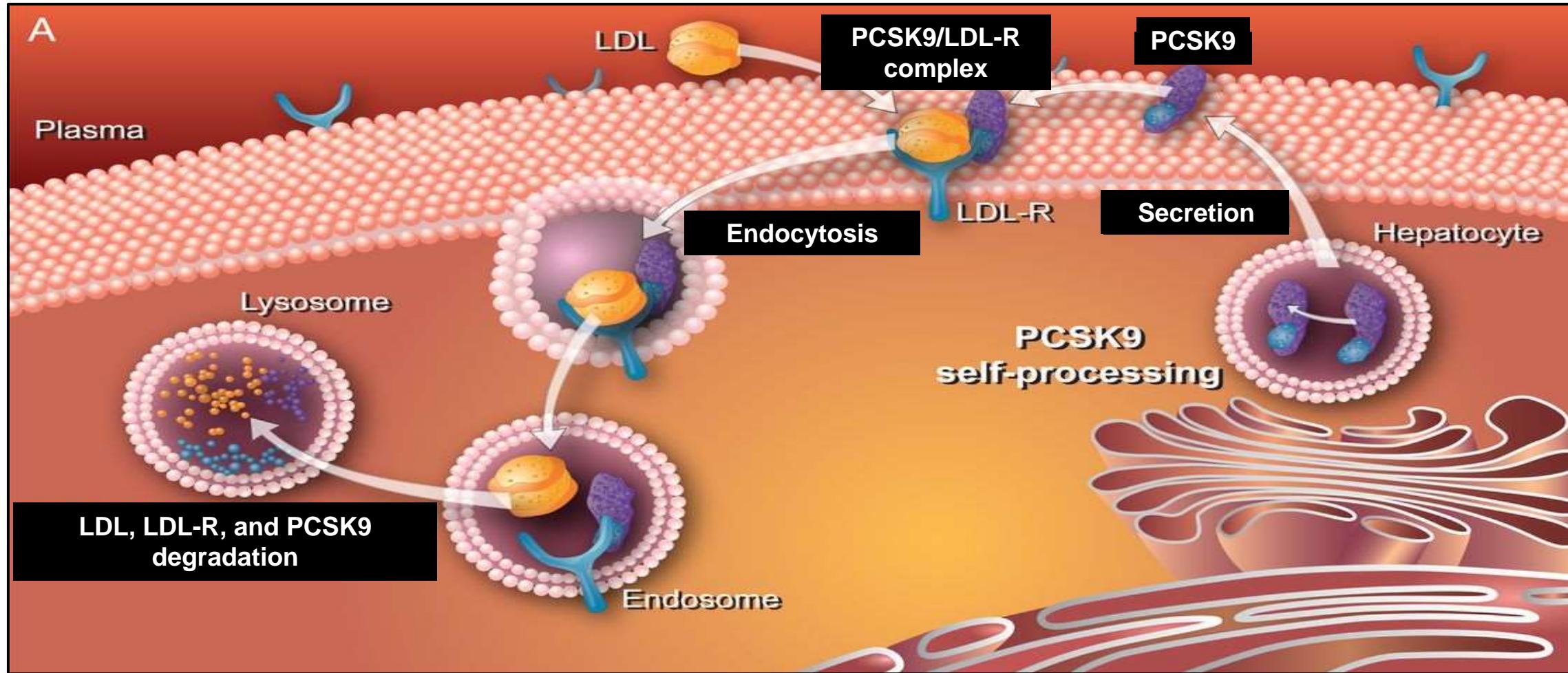
Rosuvastatin 20mg vs.

Rosuvastatin 10mg + ezetimibe 10

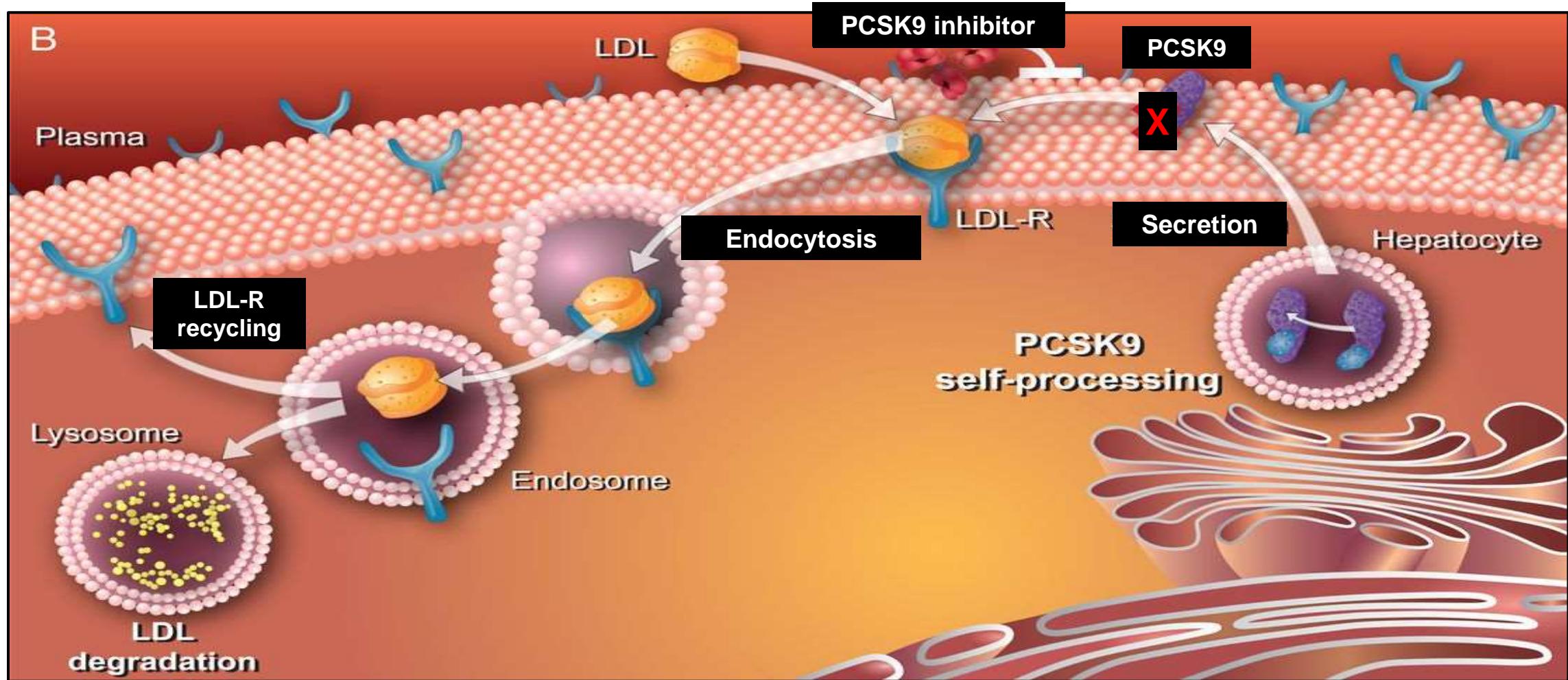
Combination therapy:

- Non-inferior outcomes
- More patients achieving LDL-C<70mg/dL
- Less intolerance

# PCSK9 Regulates LDL-R Expression

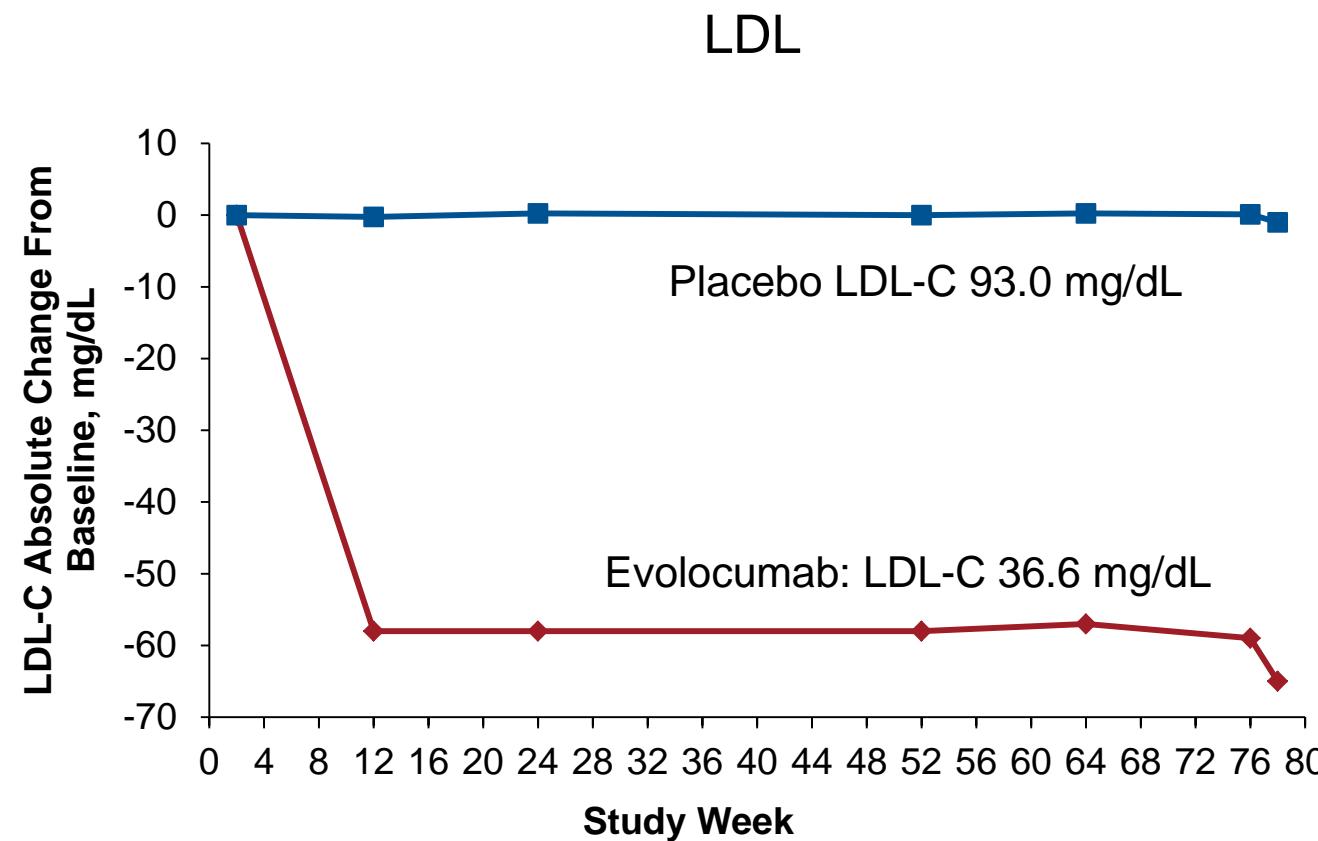


# LDL-C Reduction via PCSK9 Inhibition

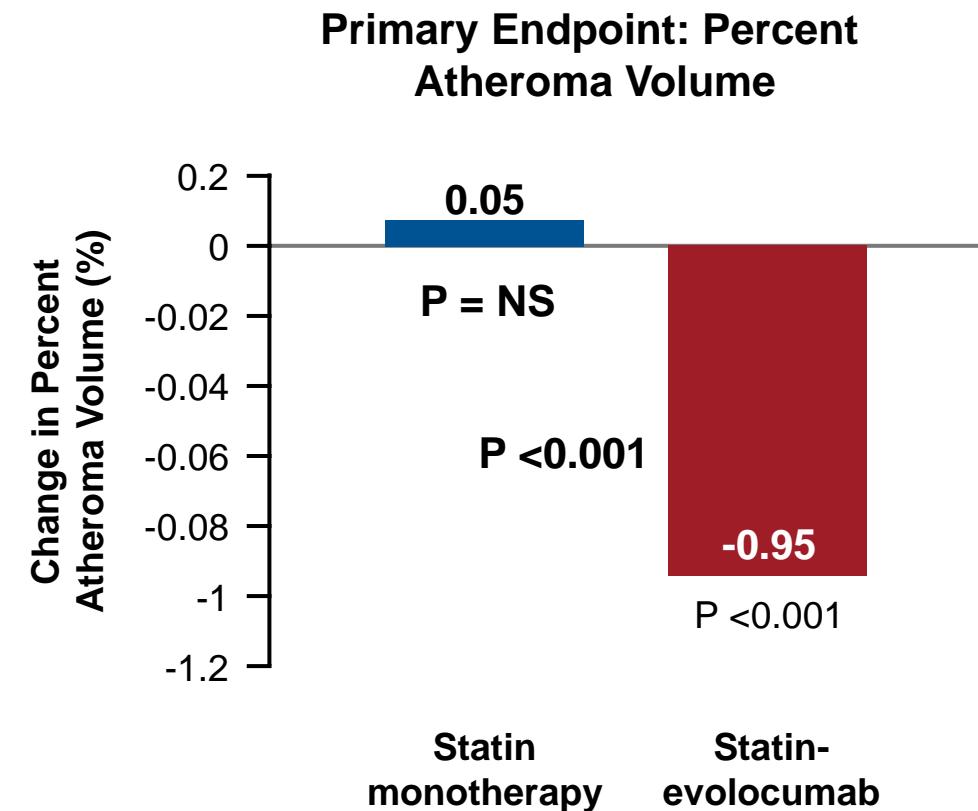


# “Can PCSK9i regress coronary plaque?”

## GLAGOV: IVUS Study of Evolocumab Added to Statins

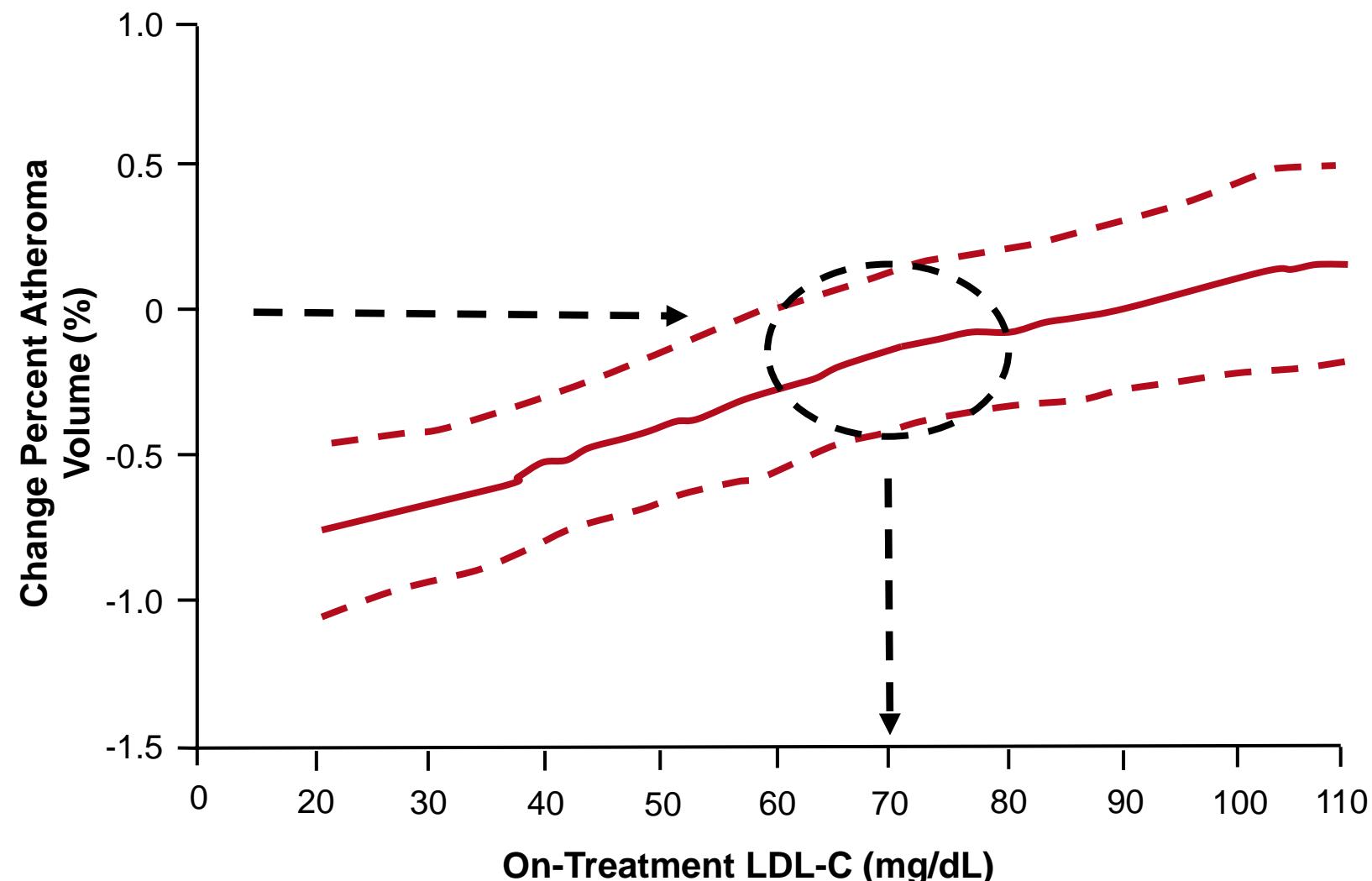


# of Patients						
Placebo	484	446	441	447	441	425
Allrocumab	484	456	452	444	449	434



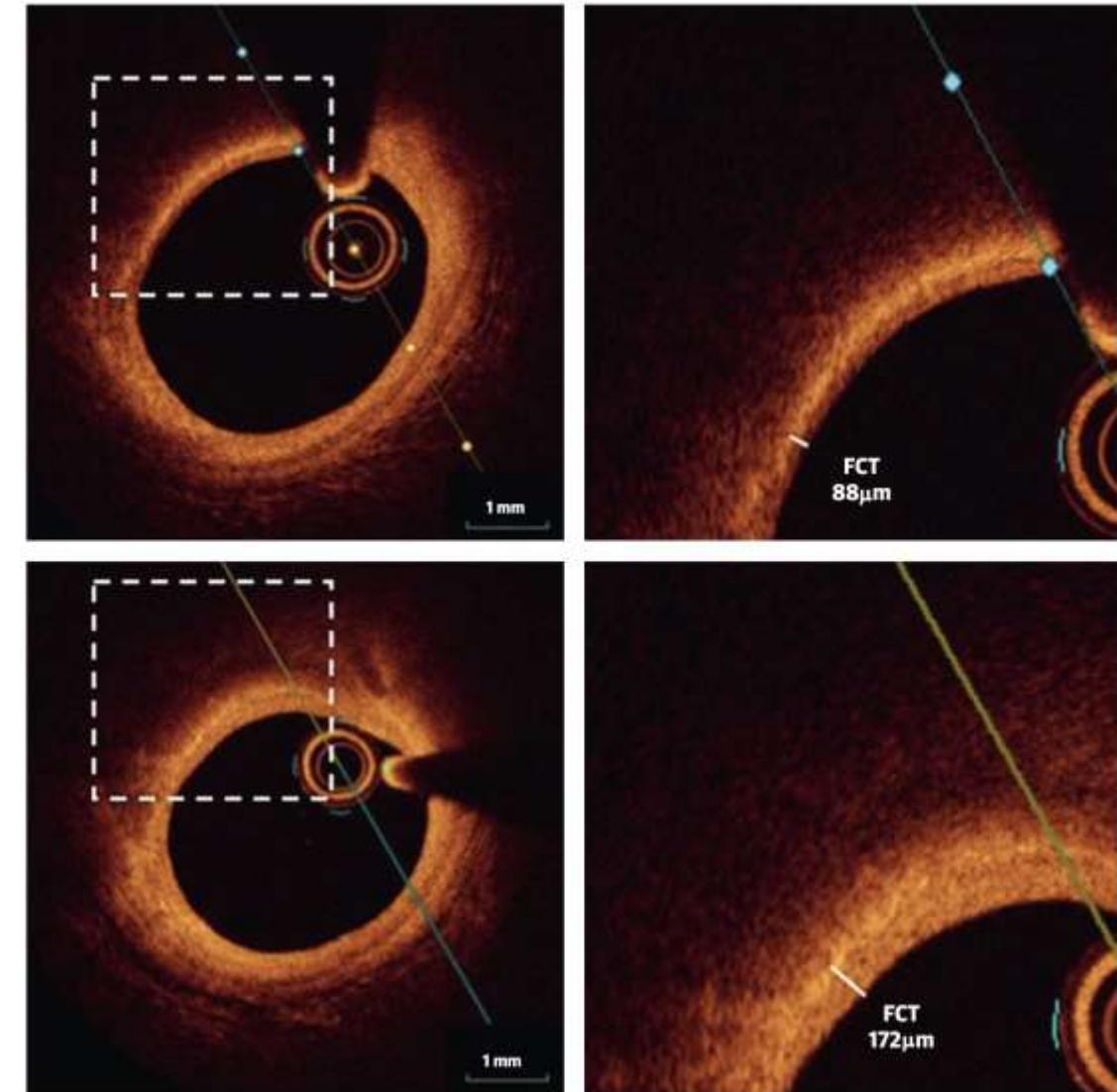
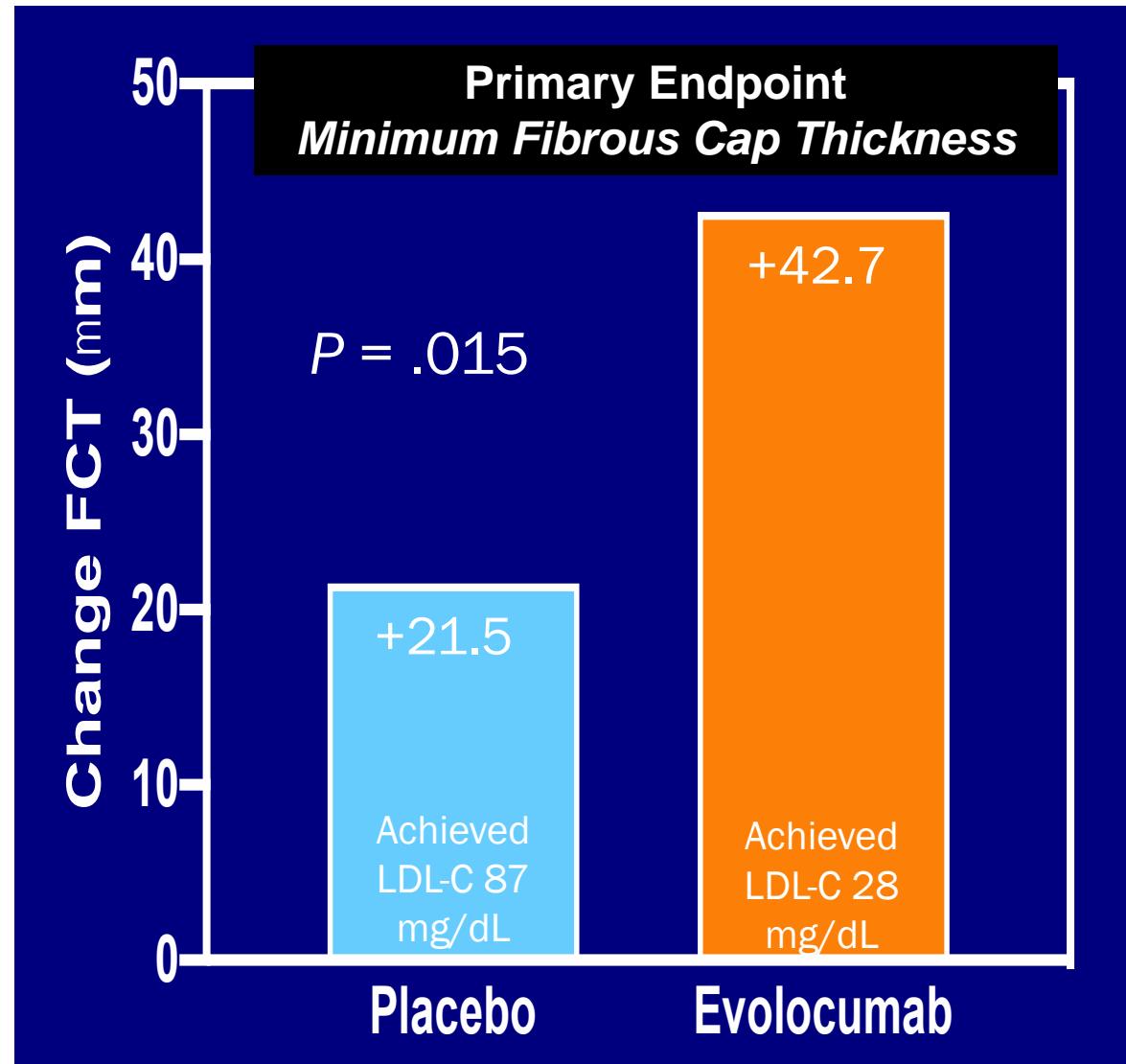
# “How low should we get LDL-C?”

## GLAGOV: IVUS Study of Evolocumab Added to Statins



# “Can we get plaques to be more stable?”

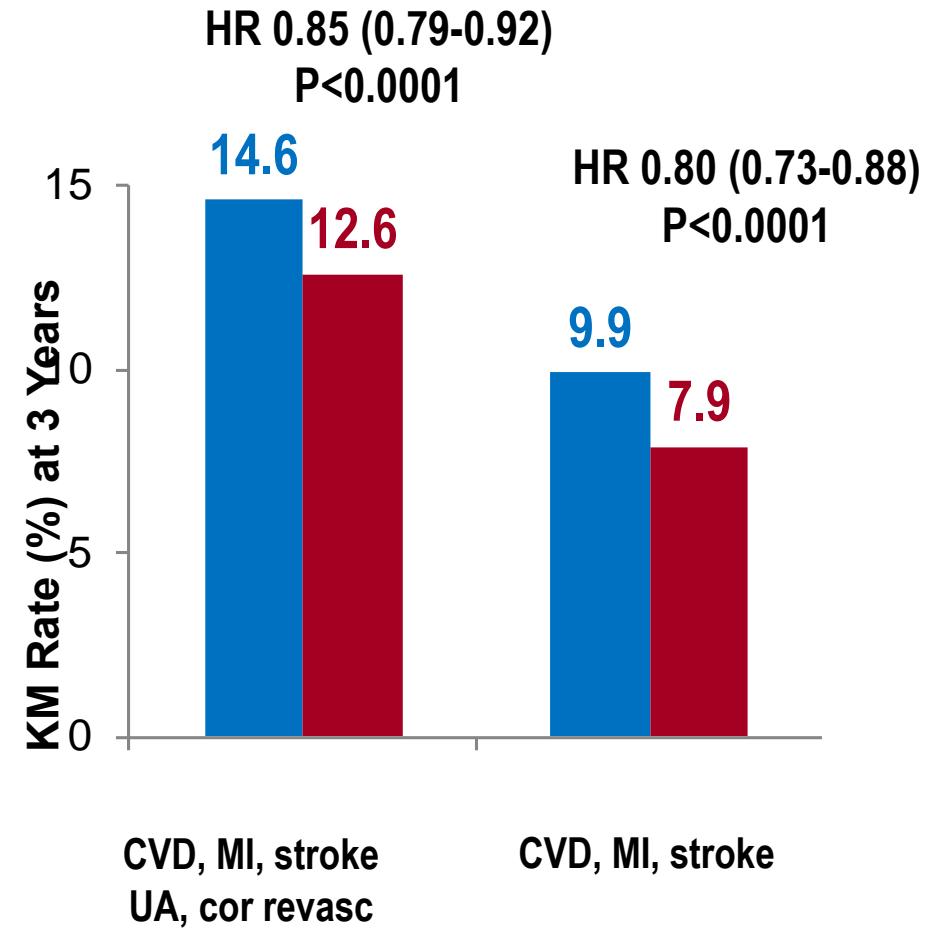
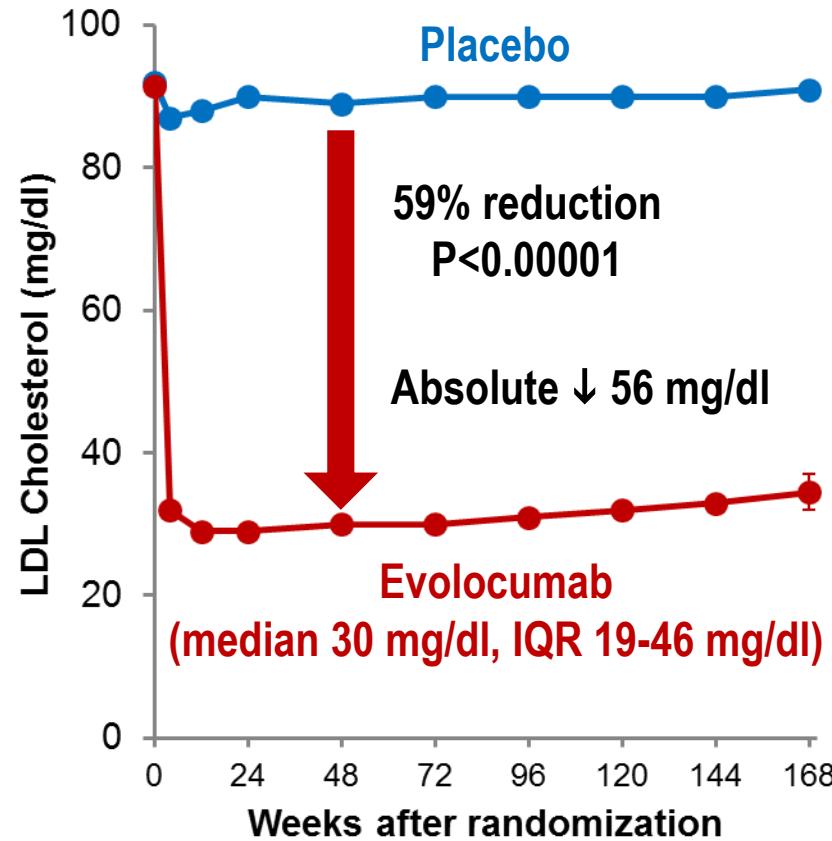
## HUYGENS OCT Study of Evolocumab Added to Statins



# FOURIER: Effects of Evolocumab on Outcomes

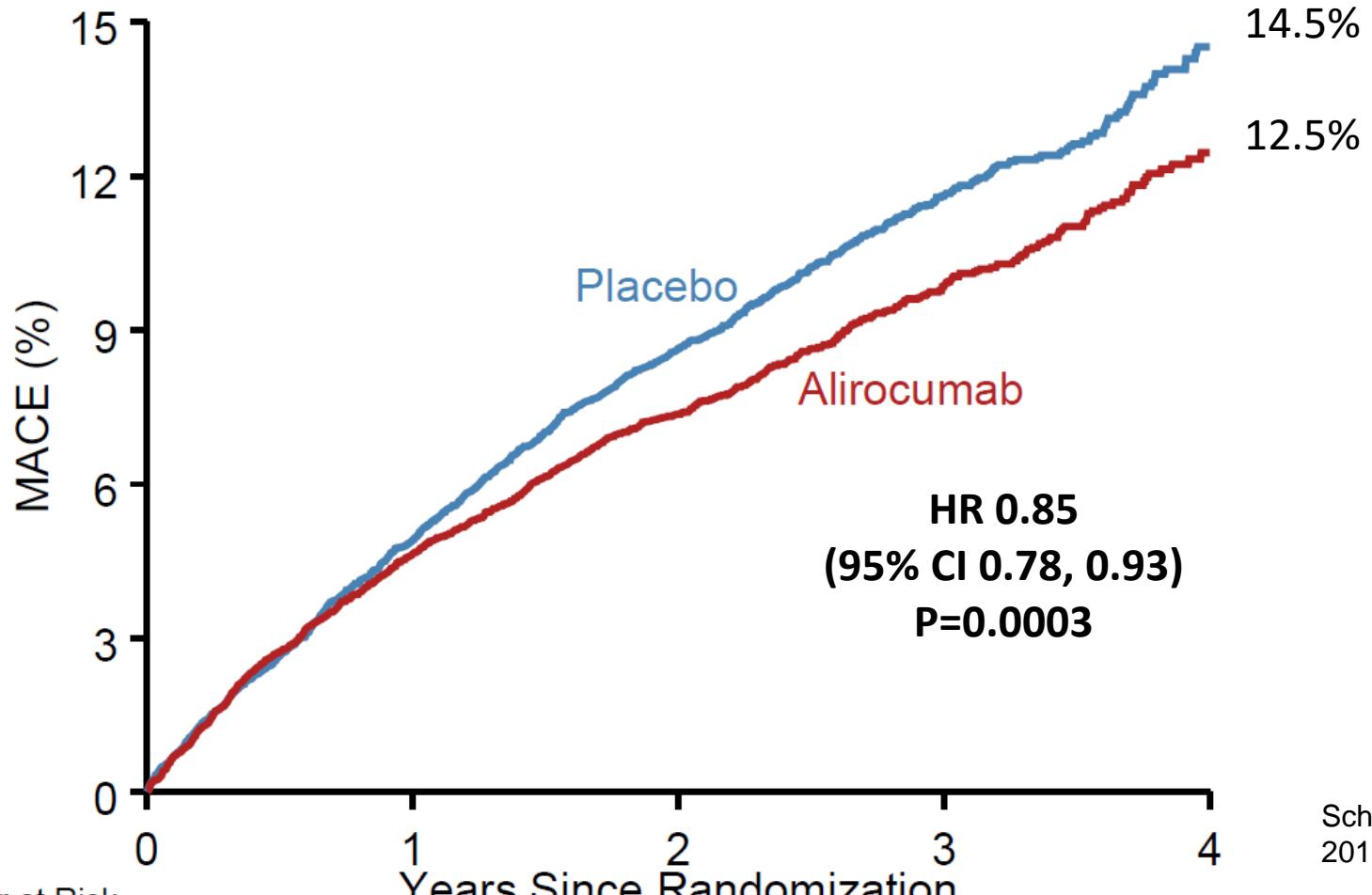


27,564 high-risk, stable patients with established CV disease  
Patients on baseline moderate to high intensity statin



# ODYSSEY OUTCOMES: MACE primary endpoint

MACE: CHD death,  
non-fatal MI,  
ischemic stroke, or  
unstable angina requiring  
hospitalization

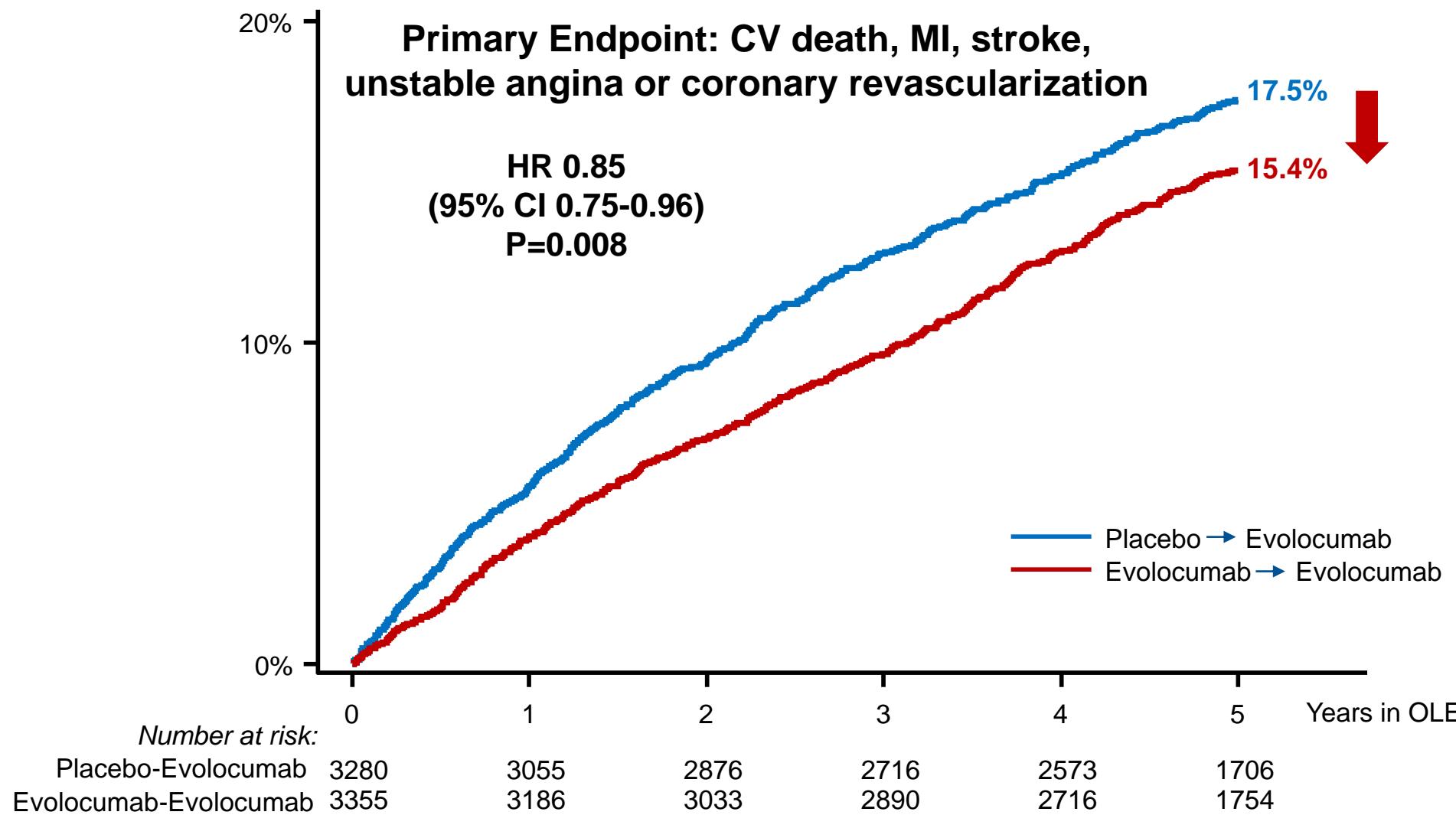
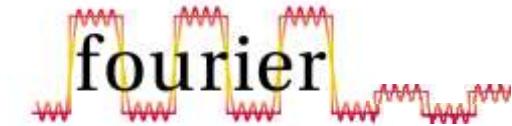


Schwartz GC et al. N Engl J Med  
2018;379:2097-107.

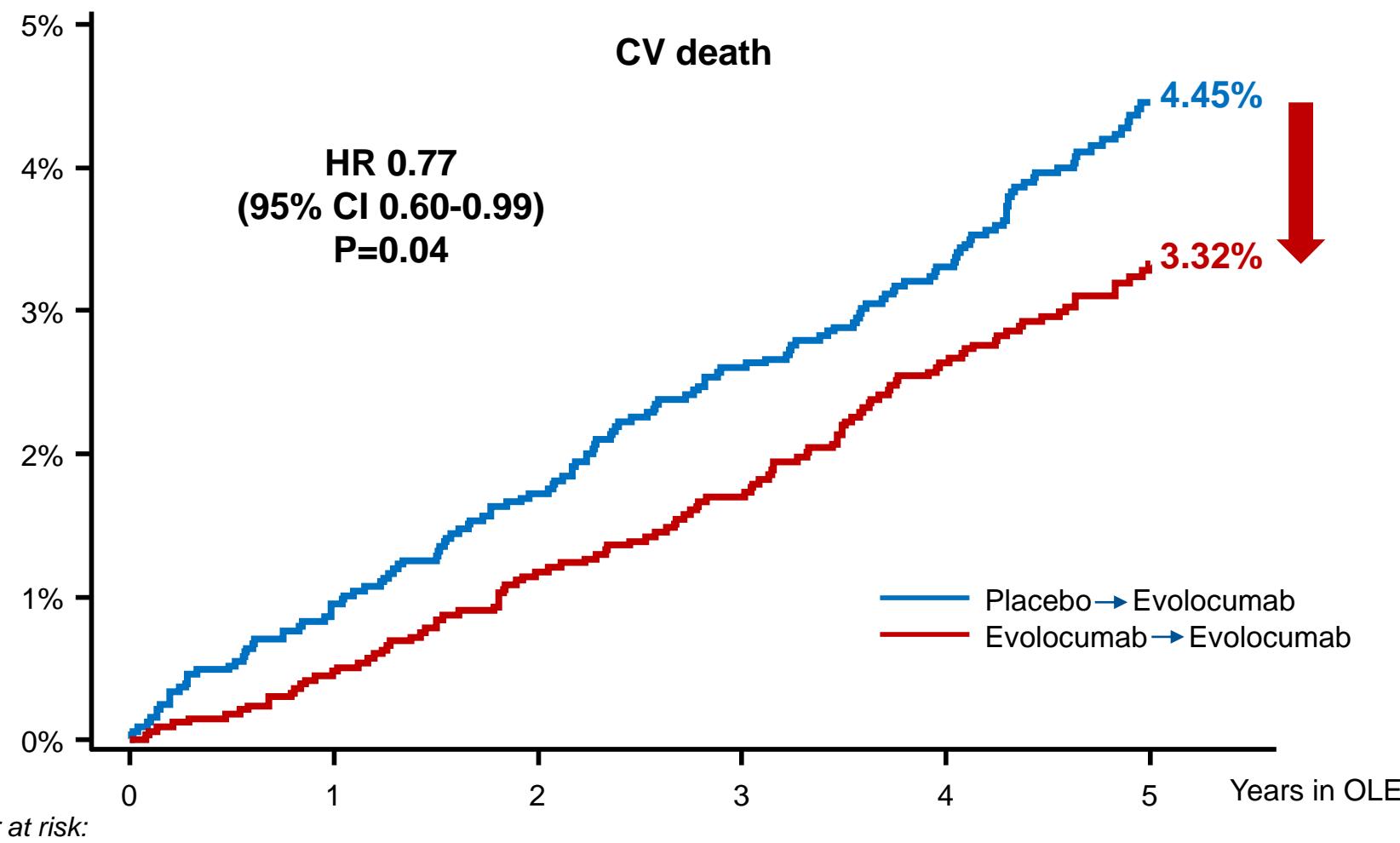
\*Based on cumulative  
incidence

Number at Risk						
Placebo	9462	8805	8201	3471	629	
Alirocumab	9462	8846	8345	3574	653	

# Efficacy during FOURIER-OLE



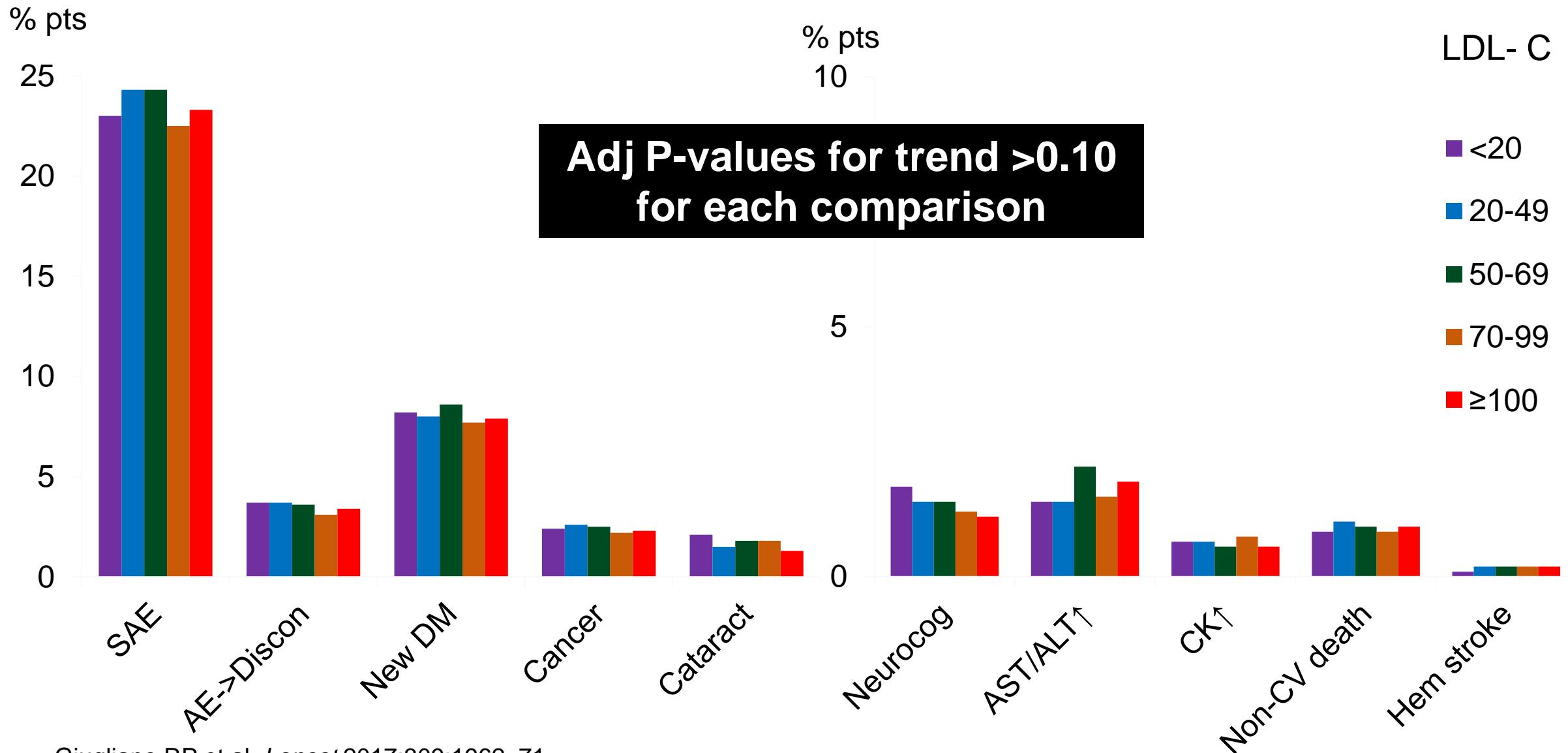
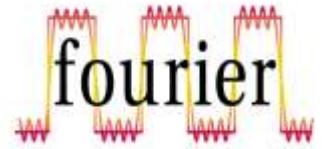
# Efficacy during FOURIER-OLE Time Period



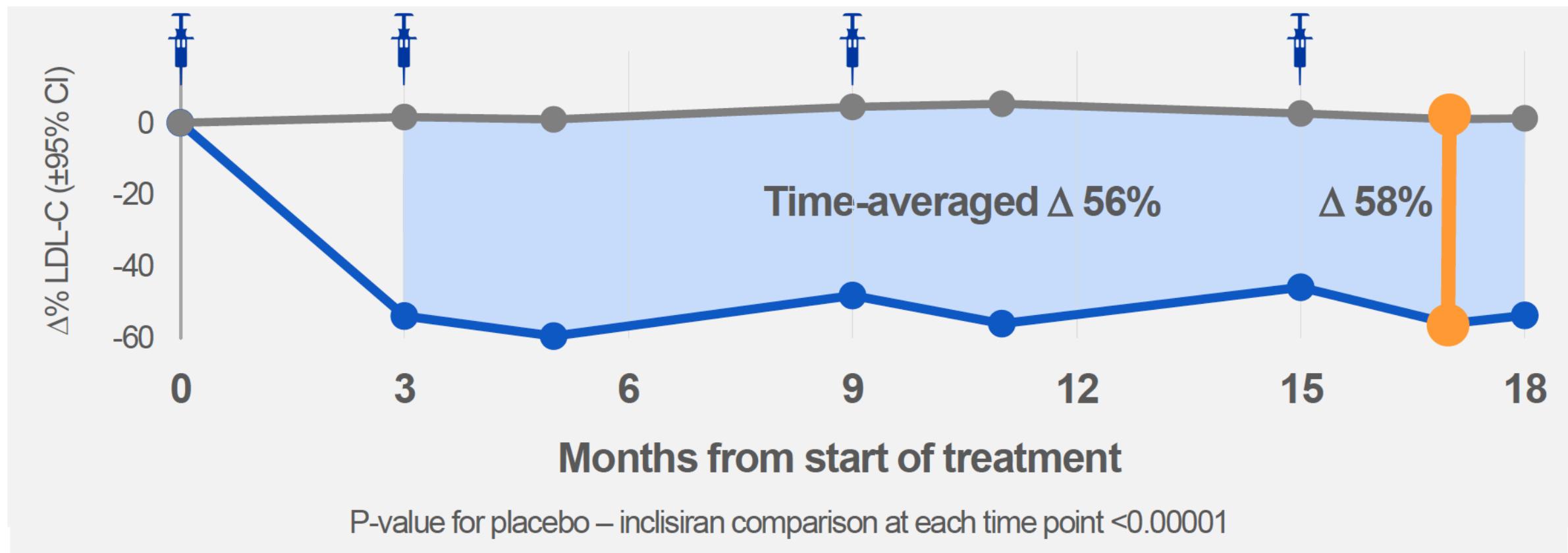
Placebo-Evolocumab 3280  
Evolocumab-Evolocumab 3355

3223 3155 3081 2991  
3314 3244 3173 3080

# Safety Events by Achieved LDL-C

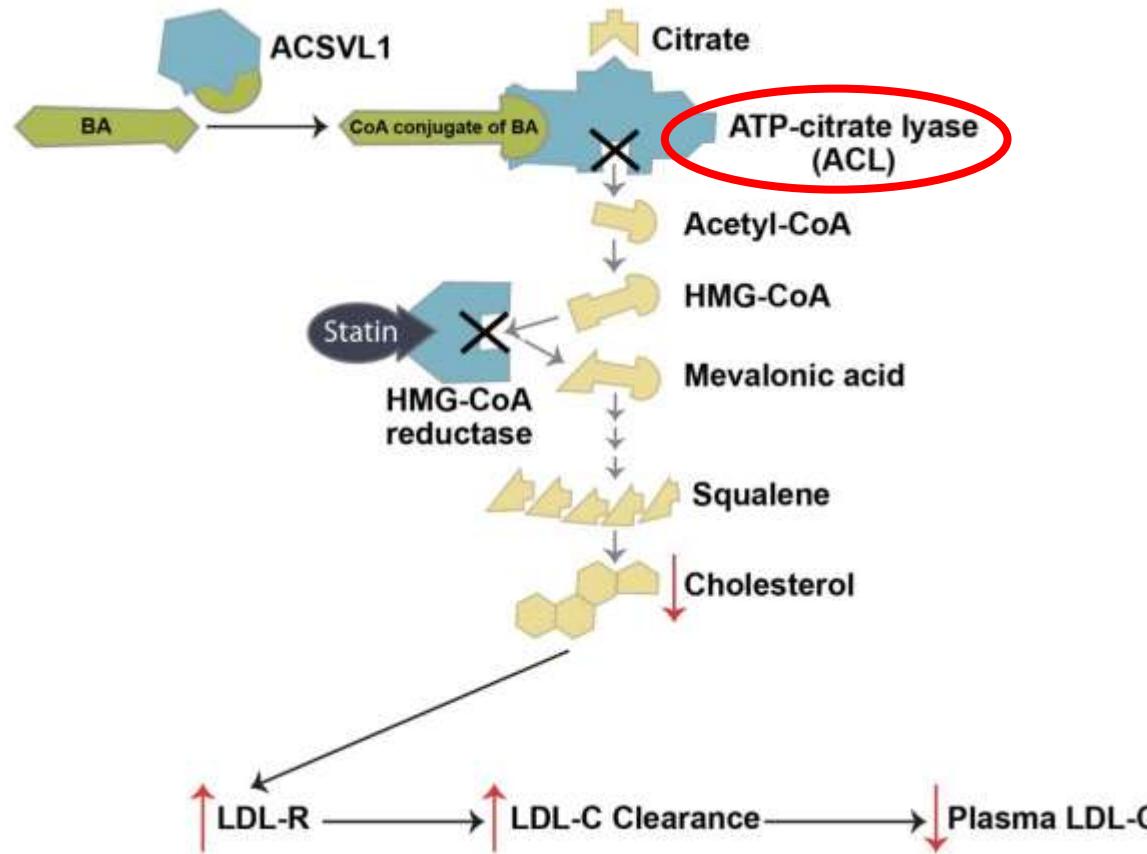
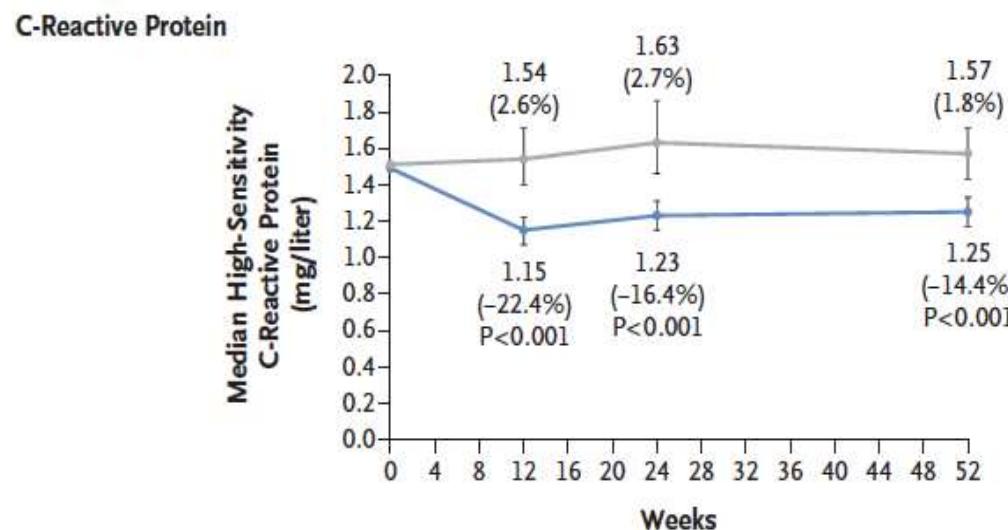
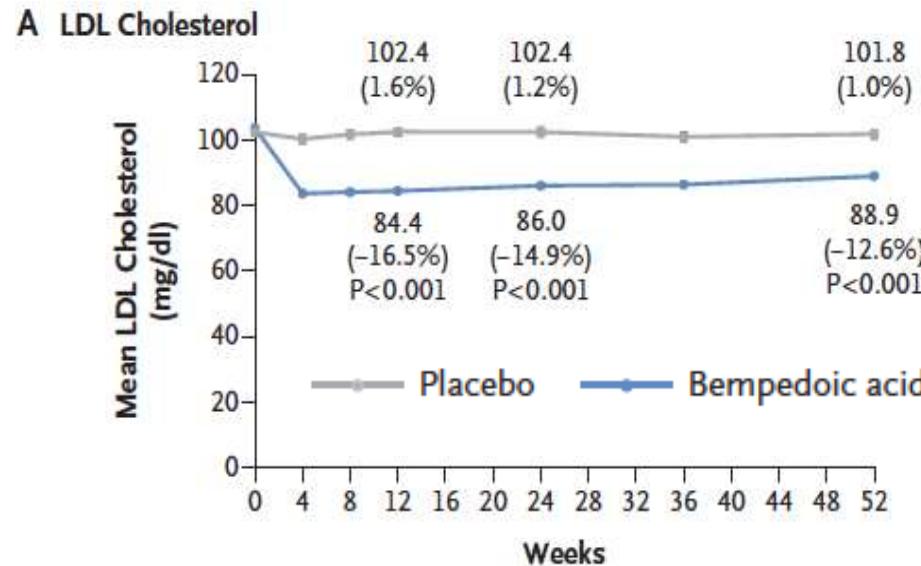


Percent change in LDL-C over time – observed values in ITT patients



1. All 95% confidence intervals are less than  $\pm 2\%$  and therefore are not visible outside data points

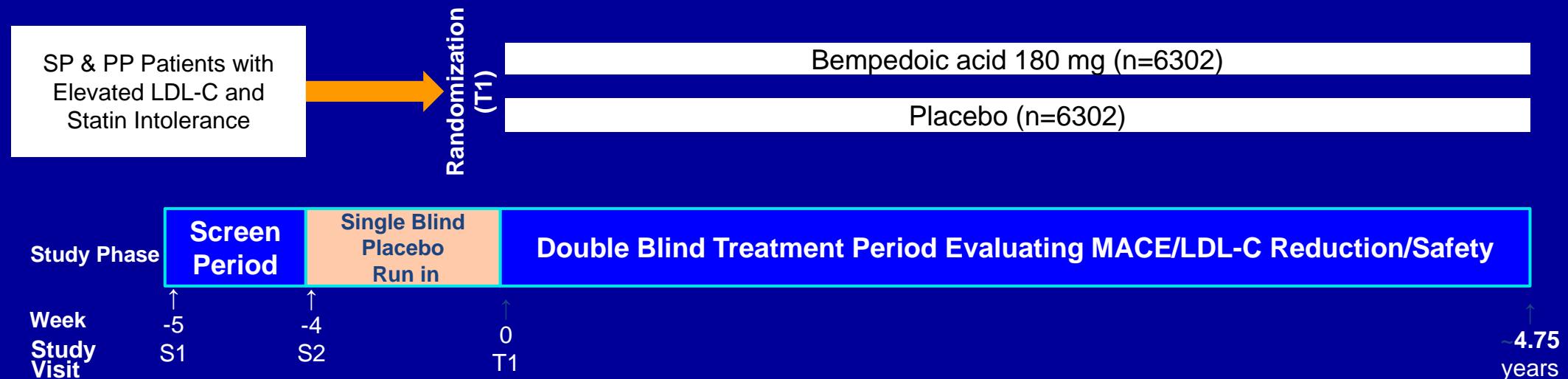
# Use of Bempedoic Acid to Lower LDL-C (Efficacy ~ 16%)



# CLEAR Outcomes: Study Design

## LBCT for ACC 2023

A RANDOMIZED, DOUBLE-BLIND, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED STUDY TO ASSESS THE EFFECTS OF BEMPEDOIC ACID (ETC-1002) ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MAJOR CARDIOVASCULAR EVENTS IN PATIENTS WITH, OR AT HIGH RISK FOR, CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE WHO ARE STATIN INTOLERANT

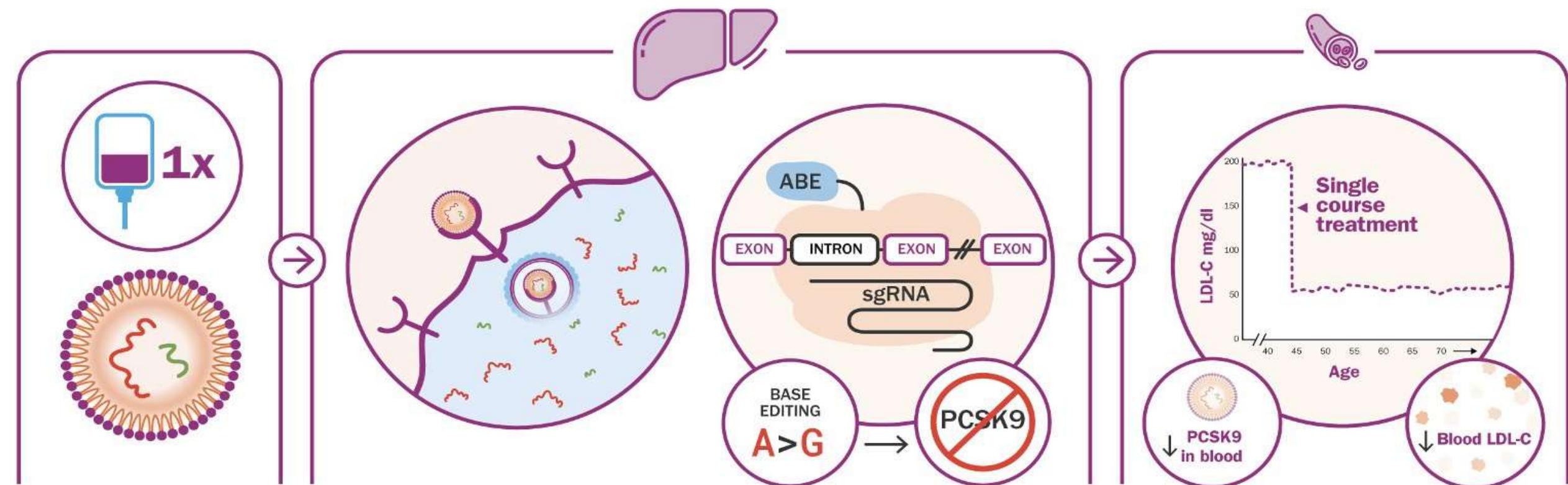


- After T1 Visits at months 1, 3 and 6 alternating phone visits and clinic visits every 3 months thereafter

# Can a “one and done” injection be the future?



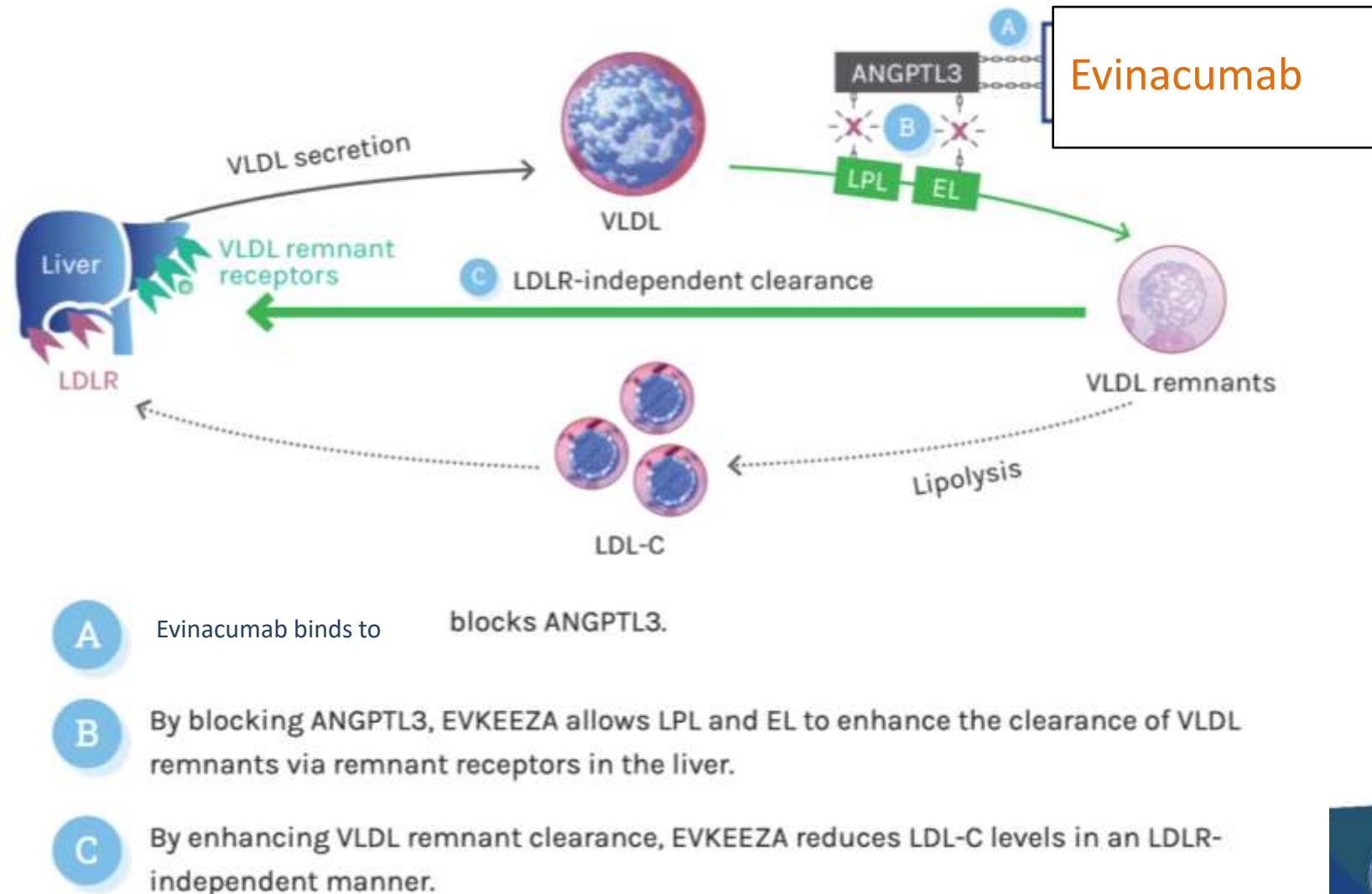
## Single course gene editing medicines to treat CVD



mRNA

gRNA

# Evanicumbab: ANGPTL3 inhibitor that lowers LDL-C and other lipoproteins independently of LDLR activity<sup>1,2</sup>



# **Summary: Beyond statins....several effective options for lowering LDL-C**

- Diet: impact can be sizeable (but also highly variable) – to lower LDL-C, decrease saturated fat / cholesterol ; plant based diet
- PCSK9i: ~ 60% LDL reduction, small reduction in plaque size, reduction in CV events
- Ezitimibe: ~20% LDL reduction, good option as add-on to statin when need additional LDL reduction (Tip: drug of choice is sitosterolemia)
- Bempedoic acid: ~16% LDL reduction (outcomes data ACC 2023)
- Good safety profile: PCSK9i → injection related ; rare allergic reactions / Ezitimibe → ? GI / Bempedoic acid → gout / tendon rupture (0.5%)

Thank You