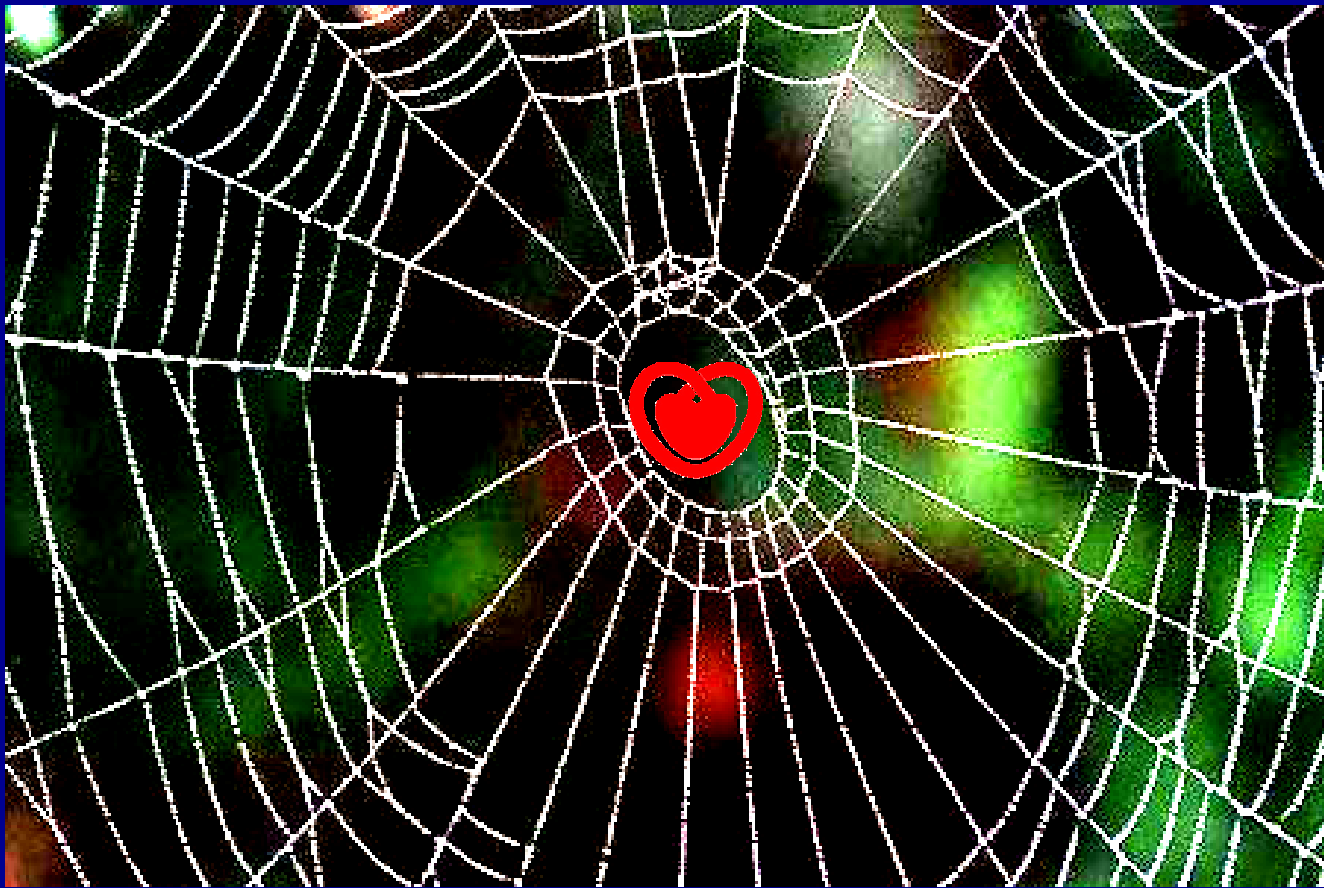
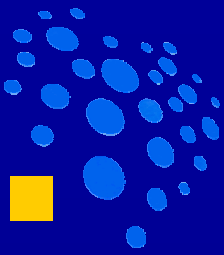


# Establishing infarct networks



A. Elsässer, Kerckhoff Heart Center, Bad Nauheim, Germany



# Establishing infarct networks

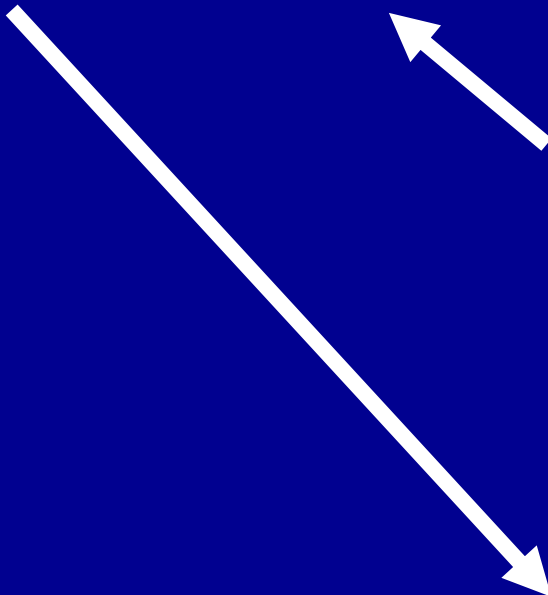
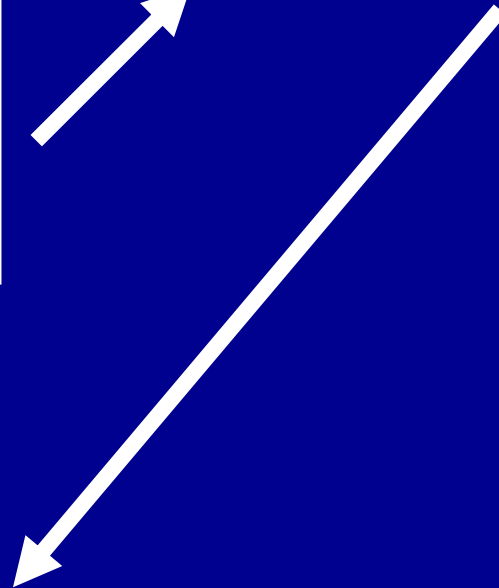
## Aim

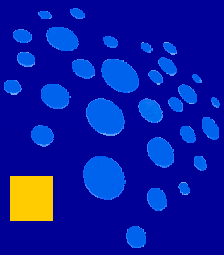


- to reduce time-to-treatment interval
- to optimize the patient's outcome

# Establishing infarct networks

## Components

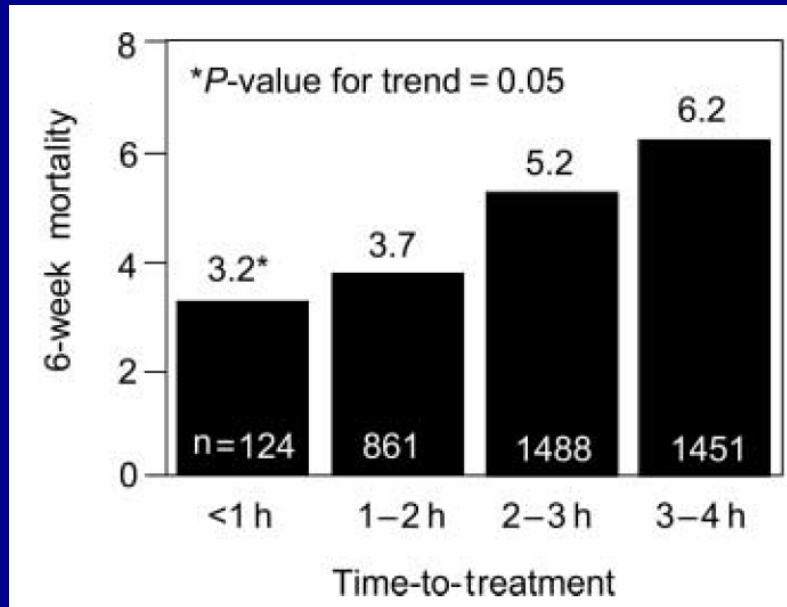




# Establishing infarct networks

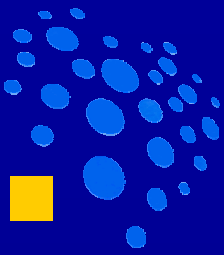
## Rationale

### Thrombolysis



Huber et al. Eur H J 2005, 26:2063-2074

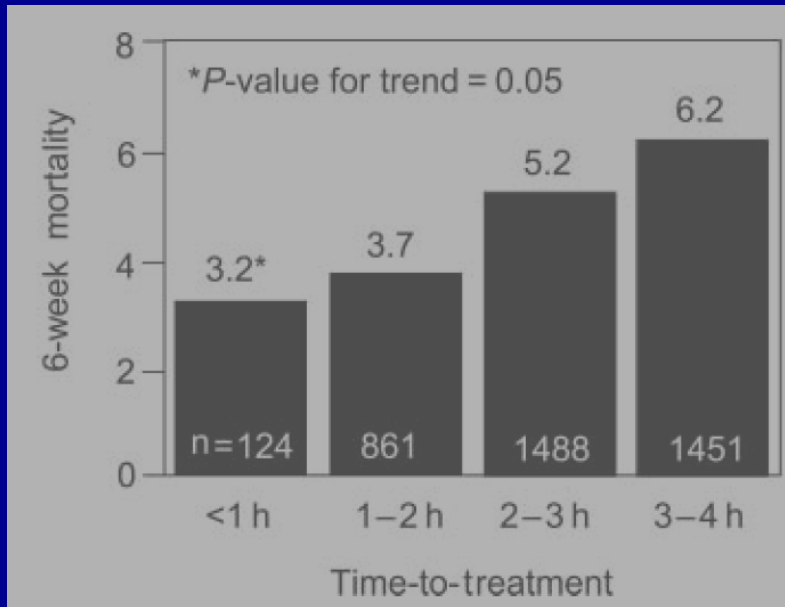
**1 hour earlier treatment:  
10 lives saved per 1000  
patients treated**



# Establishing infarct networks

## Rationale

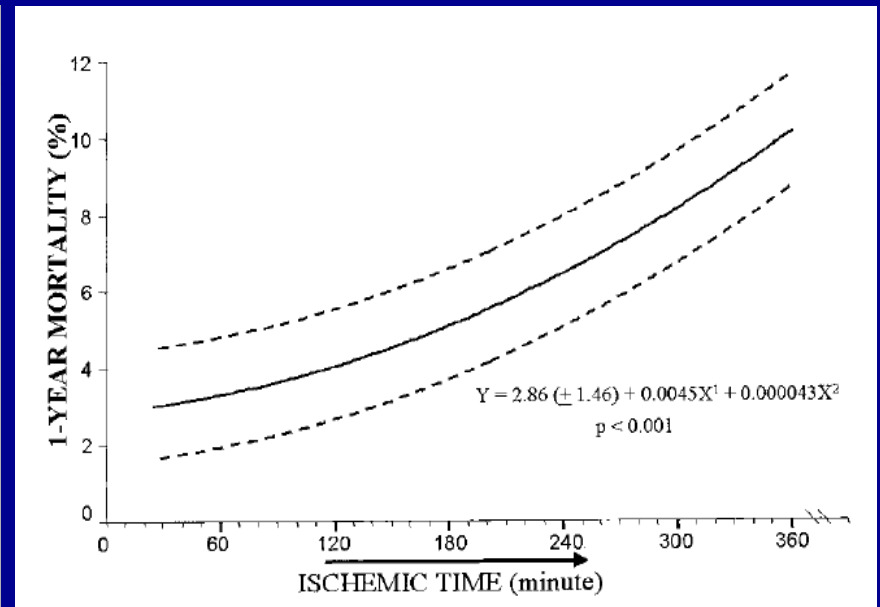
### Thrombolysis



Huber et al. Eur H J 2005, 26:2063-2074

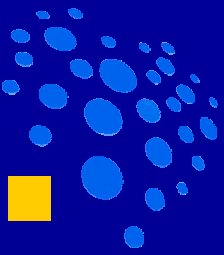
**1 hour faster treatment:  
10 lives saved per 1000  
patients treated**

### Primary angioplasty



De Luca et al. Circulation 2004, 109:1223-1225

**Increase of 1-year mortality  
by 7.5%  
for each 30 minutes**

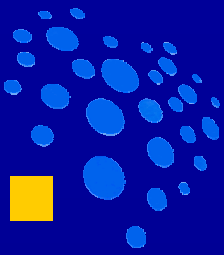


# Establishing infarct networks

## Time of ischemia

**Total time of ischaemia consists of:**

- (1) Patient delay**
- (2) Medical response delay**
- (3) Delay in initiation of therapy**
- (4) Delay before therapy becomes effective**



# Establishing infarct networks

## Time of ischemia

### Which factors can be influenced?

**(1) Patient delay**

yes  no

**(2) Medical response delay**

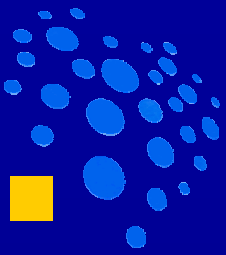
yes  no

**(3) Delay in initiation of therapy**

yes  no

**(4) Delay before therapy becomes effective**

yes  no



# Establishing infarct networks

## Patient delay



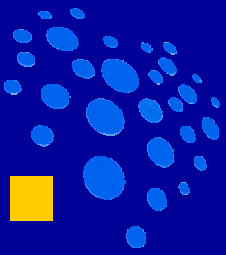
**Problem:**

Majority of time loss is the period between onset of symptoms and alert of the medical care system



**Aim:**

Increase in public awareness



# Establishing infarct networks

## Patient delay



Problem:

Majority of time loss is the period between onset of symptoms and alert of the medical care system



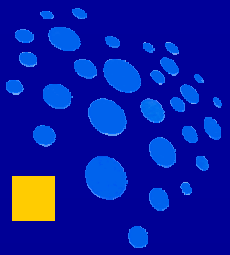
Aim:

Increase

### Possible solution:

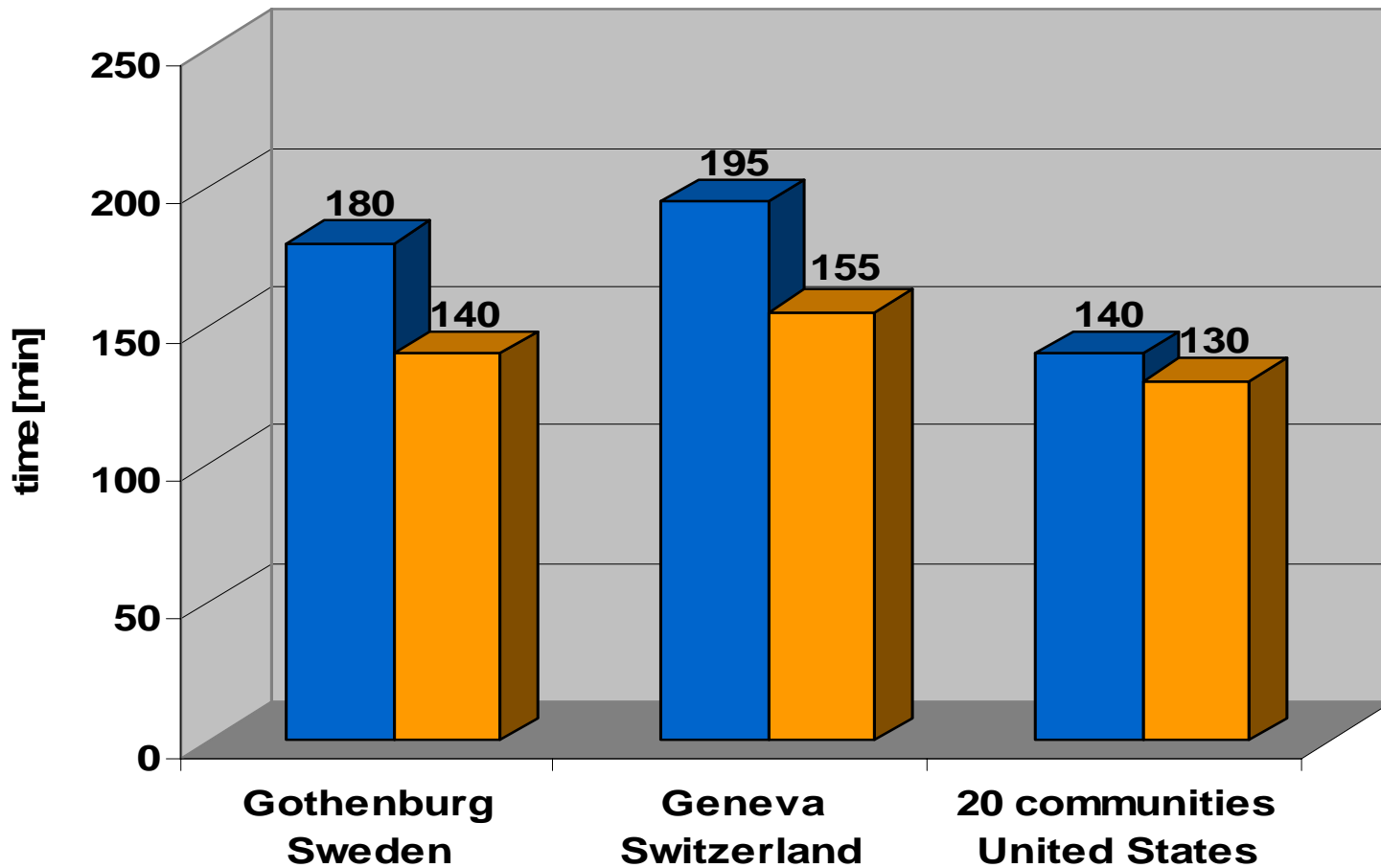
**education programmes**  
with 2 major topics:

- symptom recognition
- awareness to react fast



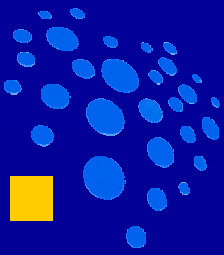
# Establishing infarct networks

## Patient delay



pre public campaign

post public campaign

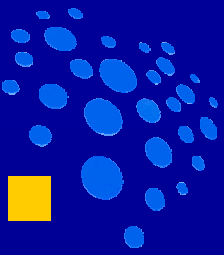


# Establishing infarct networks

## Patient delay

### Conditions for successful public campaign:

- easy, clear, and short message
- high recognition
- published by TV, radio, and newspapers
- propagated by health organizations
- appearance at least once a week
- campaign duration 12-18 months



# Establishing infarct networks

## Time of ischemia

### Which factors can be influenced?

**(1) Patient delay**

yes  no

**(2) Medical response delay**

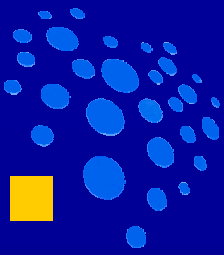
yes  no

**(3) Delay in initiation of therapy**

yes  no

**(4) Delay before therapy becomes effective**

yes  no



# Establishing infarct networks

Time of ischemia

## Which factors can be influenced?

(1) Patient delay

yes  no

(2) Medical response delay

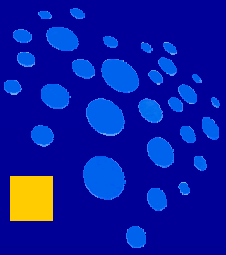
yes  no

(3) Delay in initiation of therapy

yes  no

(4) Delay before therapy becomes effective

yes  no



# Establishing infarct networks

## Medical response delay



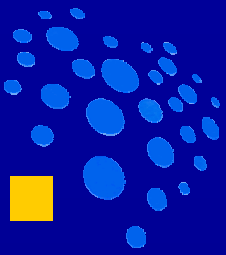
**Problem:**

Time needed for the ambulances to reach the patient, for initial diagnosis, and for transportation to the hospital



**Aim:**

Optimizing the prehospital management



# Establishing infarct networks

## Medical response delay



Problem:



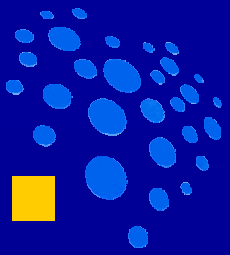
Aim:

Time needed for the ambulances to reach  
the  
tran

Opt

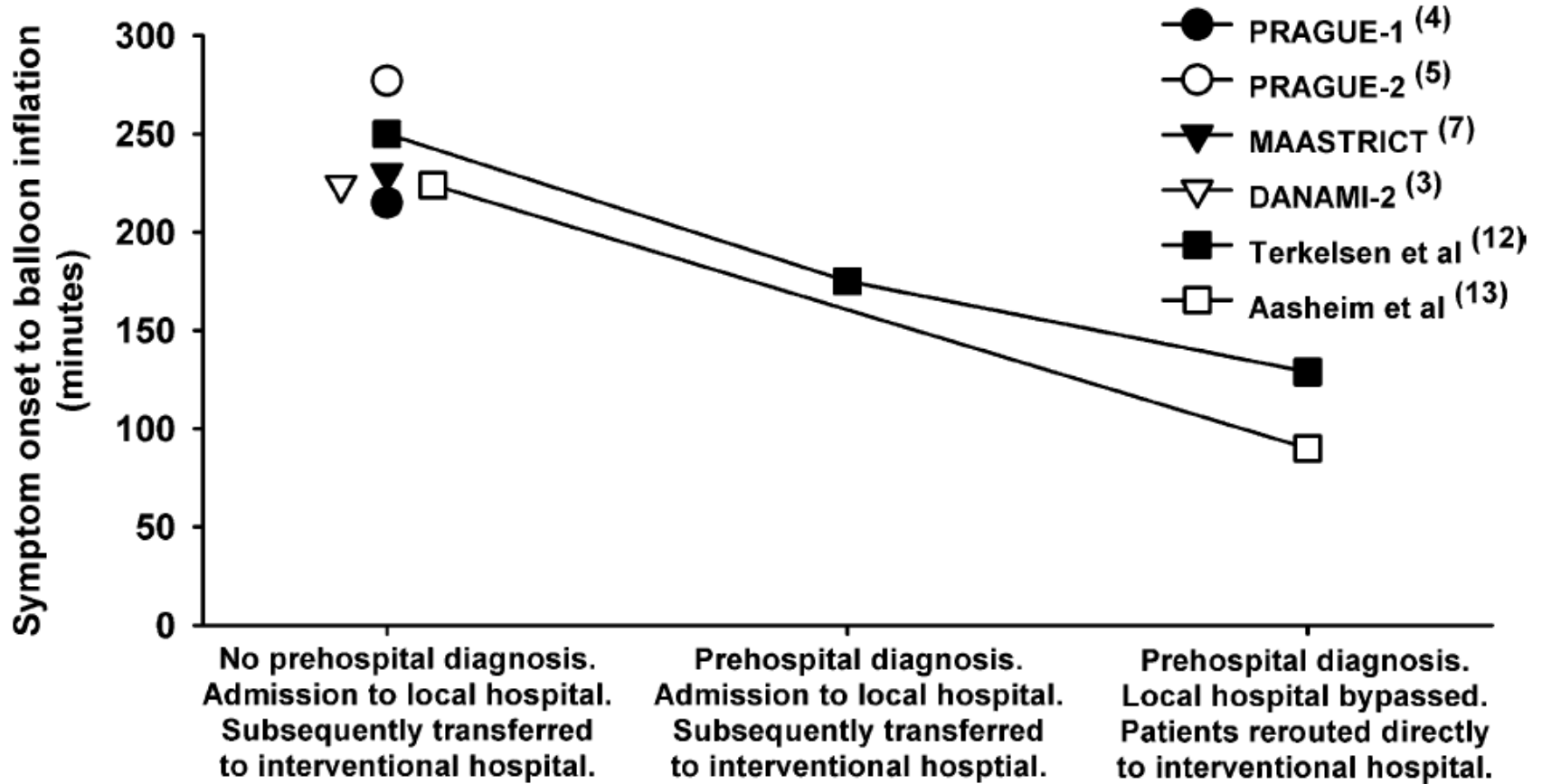
### Possible solution:

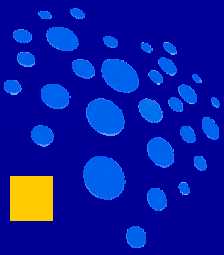
- transport by ambulance/helicopter
- education of ambulance staff in
  - basic and advanced cardiac life support
  - recording and reading an ECG
  - prehospital triage
  - initiating relevant adjunctive medication
- transmission of ECG to cardiologist
- physician in the ambulance crew



# Establishing infarct networks

## Medical response delay





# Establishing infarct networks

Time of ischemia

## Which factors can be influenced?

(1) Patient delay

yes  no

(2) Medical response delay

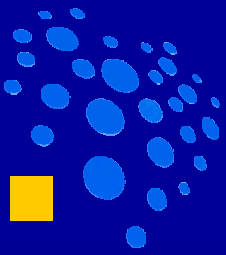
yes  no

(3) Delay in initiation of therapy

yes  no

(4) Delay before therapy becomes effective

yes  no



# Establishing infarct networks

## Time of ischemia

### Which factors can be influenced?

(1) Patient delay

yes  no

(2) Medical response delay

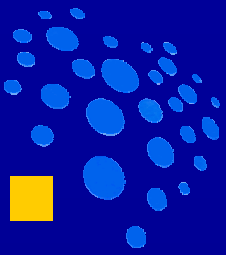
yes  no

**(3) Delay in initiation of therapy**

yes  no

(4) Delay before therapy becomes effective

yes  no



# Establishing infarct networks

## Delay in initiation of therapy



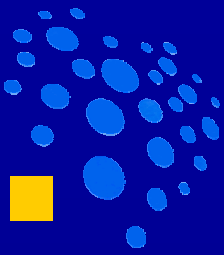
**Problem:**

Time loss by admission procedures in the hospital



**Aim:**

Improvement of in-hospital procedures  
Reducing door-to-intervention time



# Establishing infarct networks

## Delay in initiation of therapy



Problem:



Aim:

Time loss by admission procedures in the hos

## Possible solution:

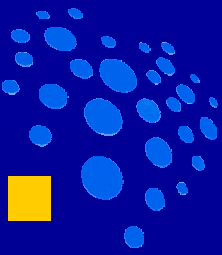
→ clear treatment pathways

→ patients with STEMI: direct admission to the cath-lab for primary PCI or the emergency room for thrombolysis

→ patients with suspected myocardial infarction: direct admission to the CCU

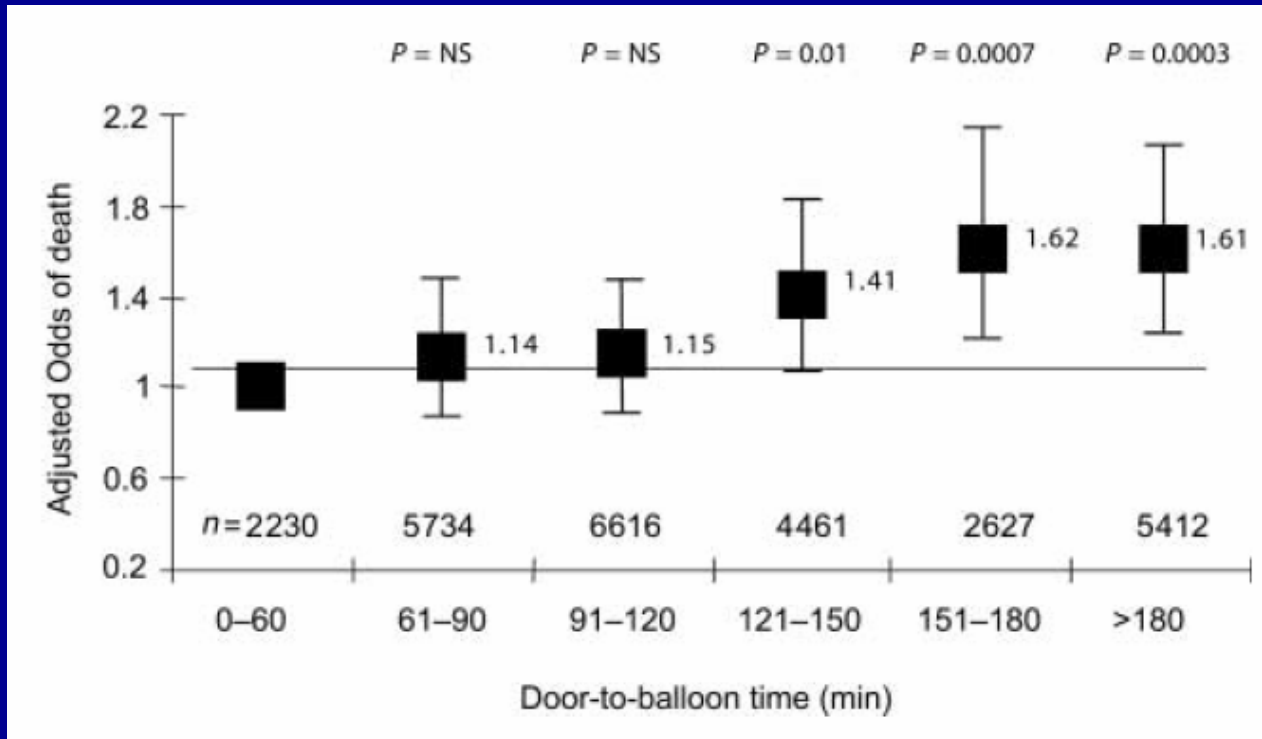
→ Education and training of nursing staff and doctors

Imp  
Rec



# Establishing infarct networks

## Delay in initiation of therapy



Huber et al. Eur Heart J 2005, 26:2063-2074

European Heart Journal (2003) 24, 28-66



ELSEVIER

Task Force Report

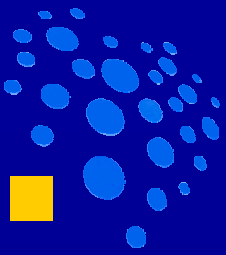
Management of acute myocardial infarction in patients presenting with ST-segment elevation



EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY

Primary PCI: 90min

Thrombolysis: 30min



# Establishing infarct network

## Time of ischemia

### Which factors can be influenced?

(1) Patient delay

yes  no

(2) Medical response delay

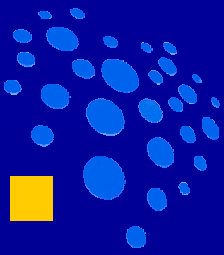
yes  no

**(3) Delay in initiation of therapy**

yes  no

(4) Delay before therapy becomes effective

yes  no



# Establishing infarct network

## Time of ischemia

### Which factors can be influenced?

(1) Patient delay

yes  no

(2) Medical response delay

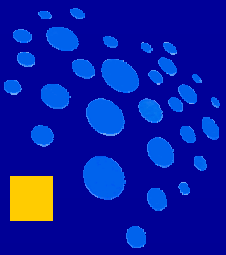
yes  no

(3) Delay in initiation of therapy

yes  no

**(4) Delay before therapy becomes effective**

yes  no



# Establishing infarct networks

## Therapy effectiveness



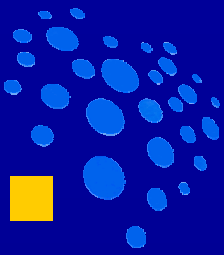
**Problem:**

Different vessel patency rate after thrombolysis or primary PCI



**Aim:**

High degree of TIMI-3 flow after reperfusion therapy



# Establishing infarct networks

## Therapy effectiveness



Problem:

Different vessel patency rate after thrombolysis or primary PCI

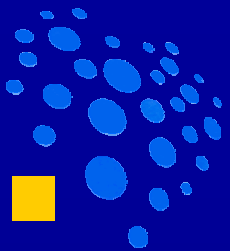


Aim:

High degree of reperfusion

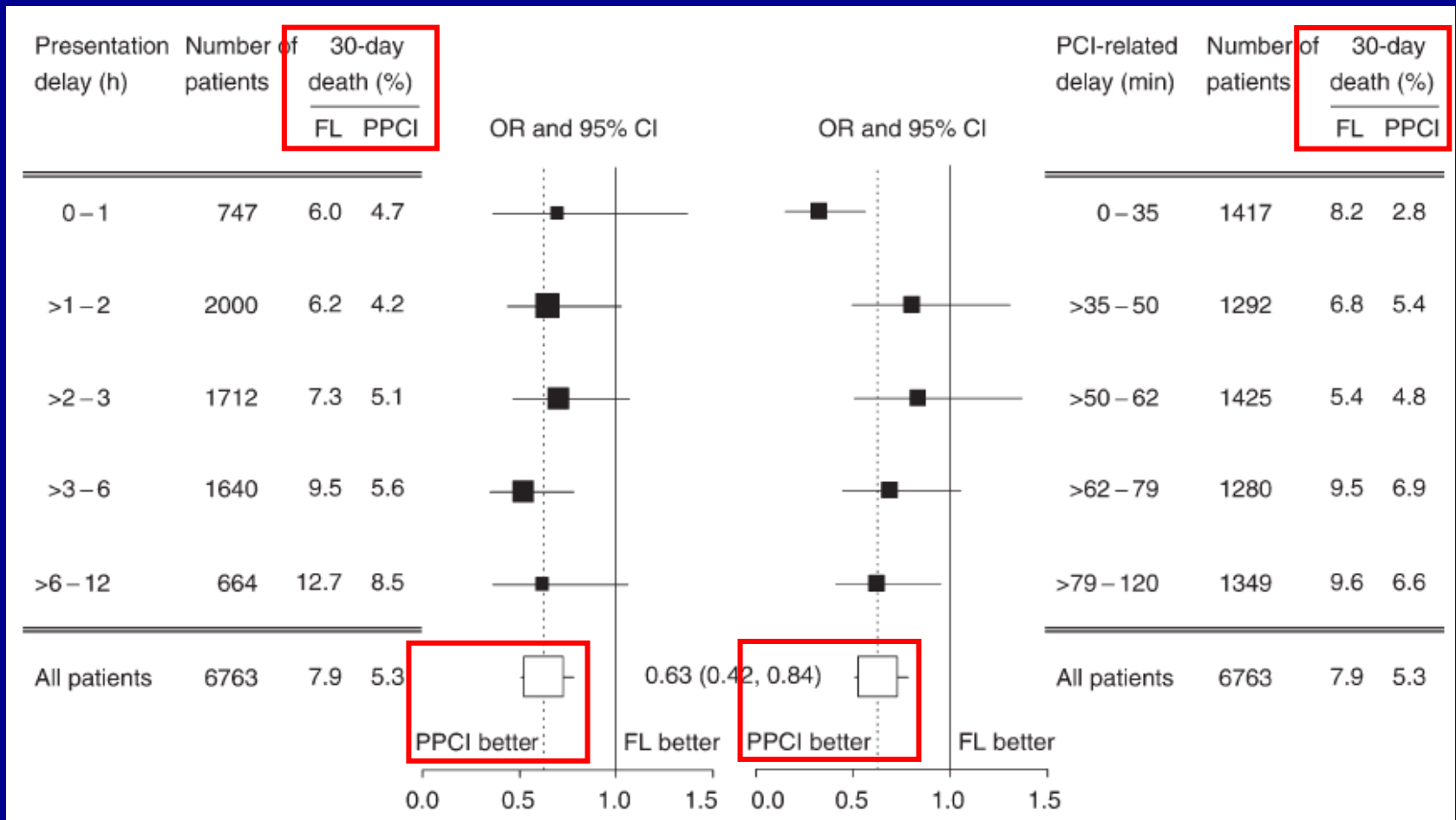
### Possible solution:

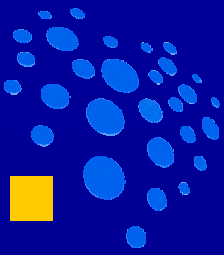
- Preference of primary PCI
- Facilitated PCI after thrombolysis



# Establishing infarct networks

## Therapy effectiveness

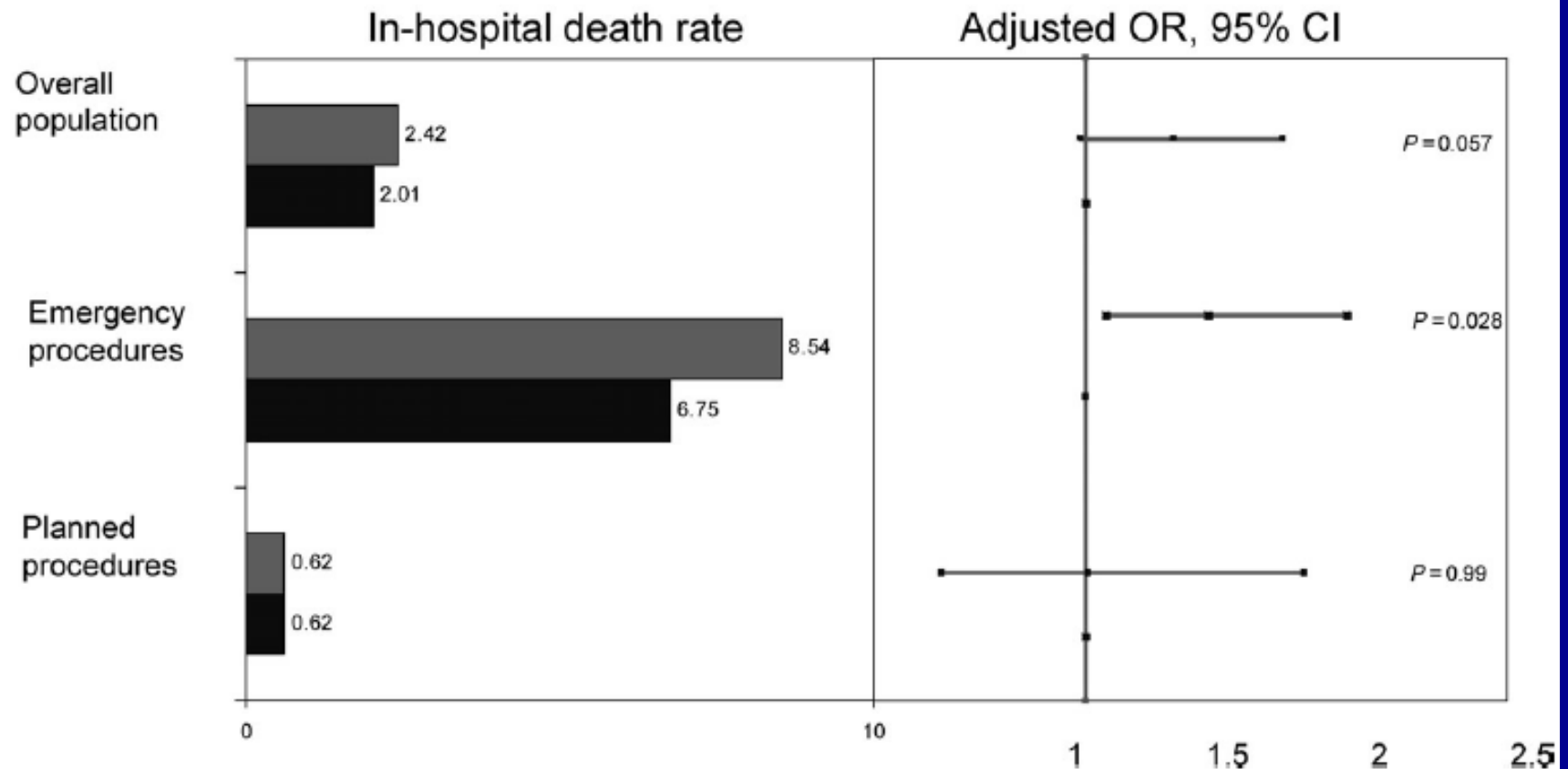


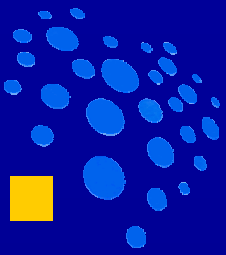


# Establishing infarct networks

## Therapy effectiveness

- <400 procedures/year
- ≥400 procedures/year





# Establishing infarct network

## Time of ischemia

### Which factors can be influenced?

(1) Patient delay

yes  no

(2) Medical response delay

yes  no

(3) Delay in initiation of therapy

yes  no

**(4) Delay before therapy becomes effective**

yes  no

# Establishing infarct network

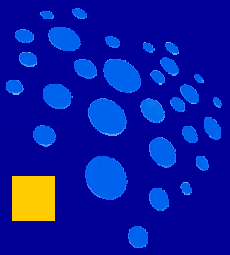
Acute onset of symptoms  
duration more than 20 minutes

<10min

Information of an emergency service

- ambulance crew reaches patient
- recording and reading 12-leads ECG within 10min
- announcement at cath lab by phone
- transport of patient to hospital with PCI facility





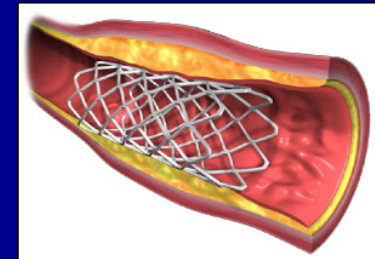
# Establishing infarct network

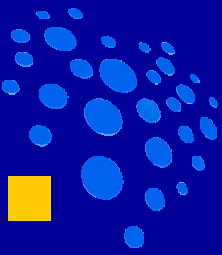
<120min

admission to cath lab

<30min

PCI with successful reperfusion  
(TIMI-3 flow)





# Establishing infarct network

## Summary

**Four major factors are important for the implementation of infarct networks:**

- The patient delay can effectively be reduced by taking measures to increase public awareness of heart attacks.
- The medical response delay can be minimized by an adequate pre-hospital diagnosis avoiding unnecessary admissions to non-interventional hospitals.
- The delay in initiation of therapy can be reduced by having clear intra-hospital treatment pathways resulting in a short door-to-balloon time.
- The therapy effectiveness depends on the therapy strategy with better results for primary PCI than for thrombolysis and on the access to high-volume PCI centers.