

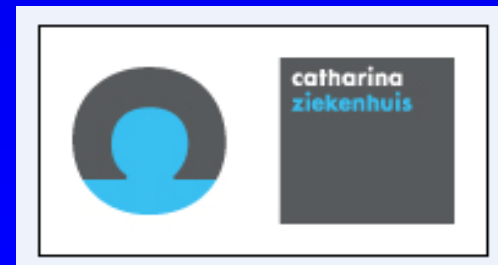
CORONARY PHYSIOLOGY IN THE CATHLAB:

**THEORY AND PRACTICAL SET-UP
OF FFR**

***Educational Training Program ESC
European Heart House
april 23rd -25th 2015***



Nico H. J. Pijls, MD, PhD
Catharina Hospital,
Eindhoven, The Netherlands

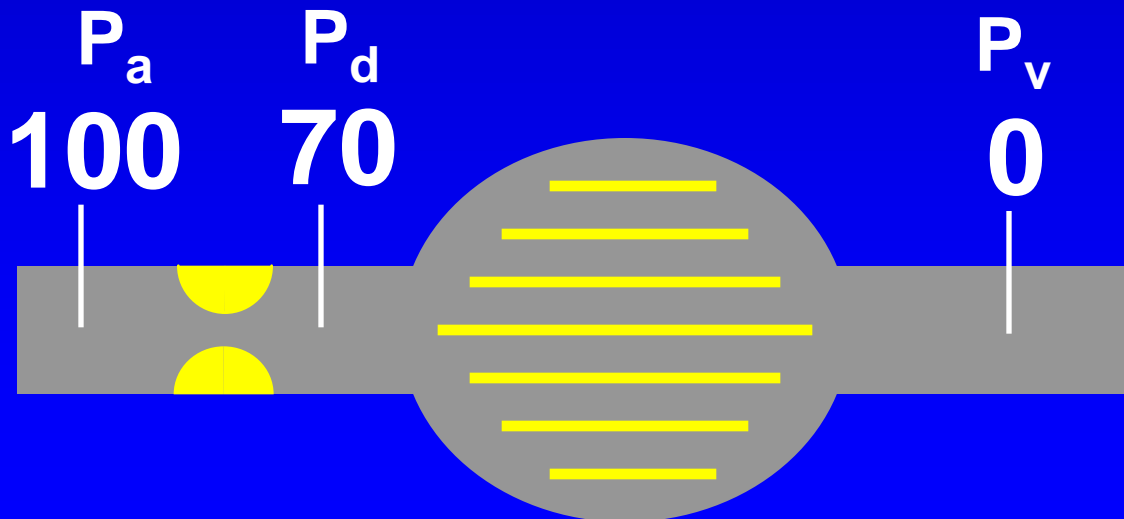
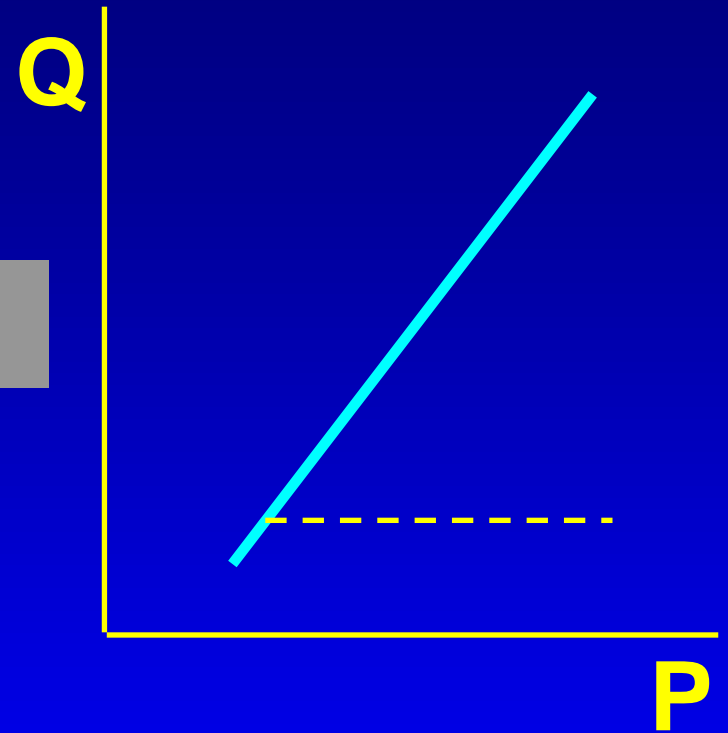
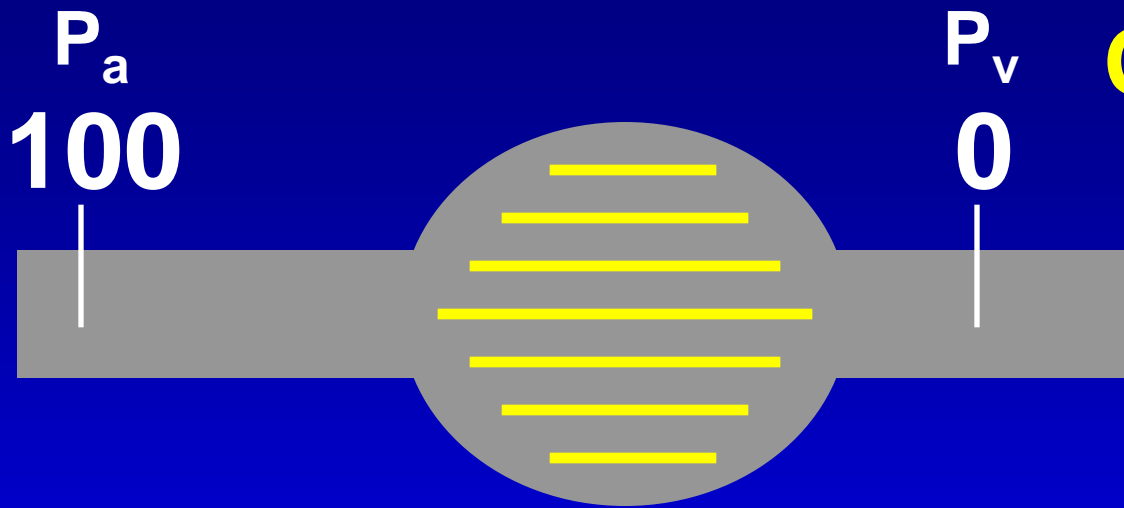


FRACTIONAL FLOW RESERVE:

The index FFR (***Fractional Flow Reserve***) is based upon the two following principles:

- *It is not resting flow, but **maximum achievable flow** which determines the functional capacity (exercise tolerance) of a patient*
- *At maximum vasodilation (corresponding with maximum hyperemia or with maximum exercise), blood flow to the myocardium is proportional to **myocardial perfusion pressure** (**~hyperemic distal coronary pressure**)*

During Maximal Vasodilatation



$$\text{FFR}_{\text{myo}} = \frac{P_d}{P_a} = 0.70$$

$$\text{FFR } \textit{myo} = \frac{P_d}{P_a}$$

P_a = mean aortic pressure at maximum hyperemia

P_d = mean distal coronary pressure at maximum hyperemia

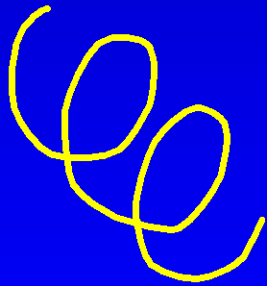
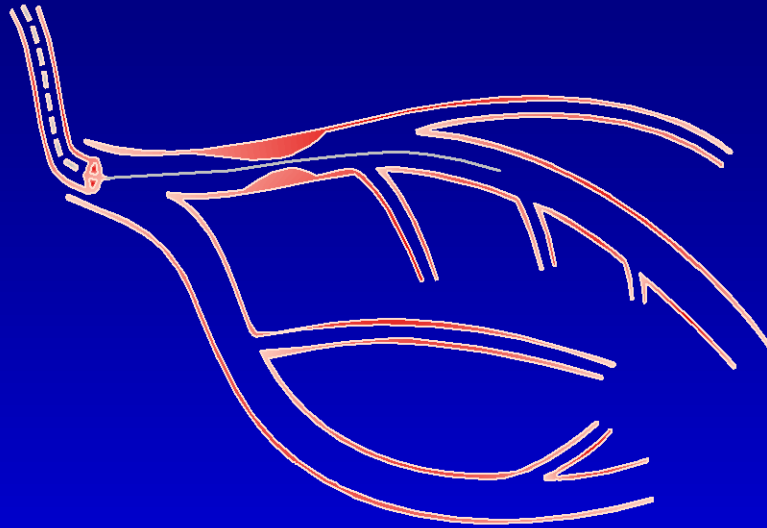
FFR = 0.6 means:

“Due to this particular stenosis, maximum achievable blood flow to the myocardium supplied by this artery, is only 60 % of what it would be if this coronary artery were completely normal”

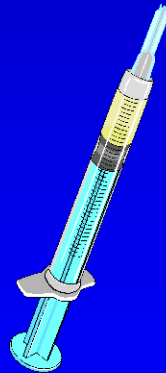
If, after PCI, FFR increases to 0.9, this means:

“Maximum achievable flow (and therefore maximum oxygen supply) has increased by 50% and is 90 % now of the value achievable if the artery were completely normal”

Application in catheterization laboratory



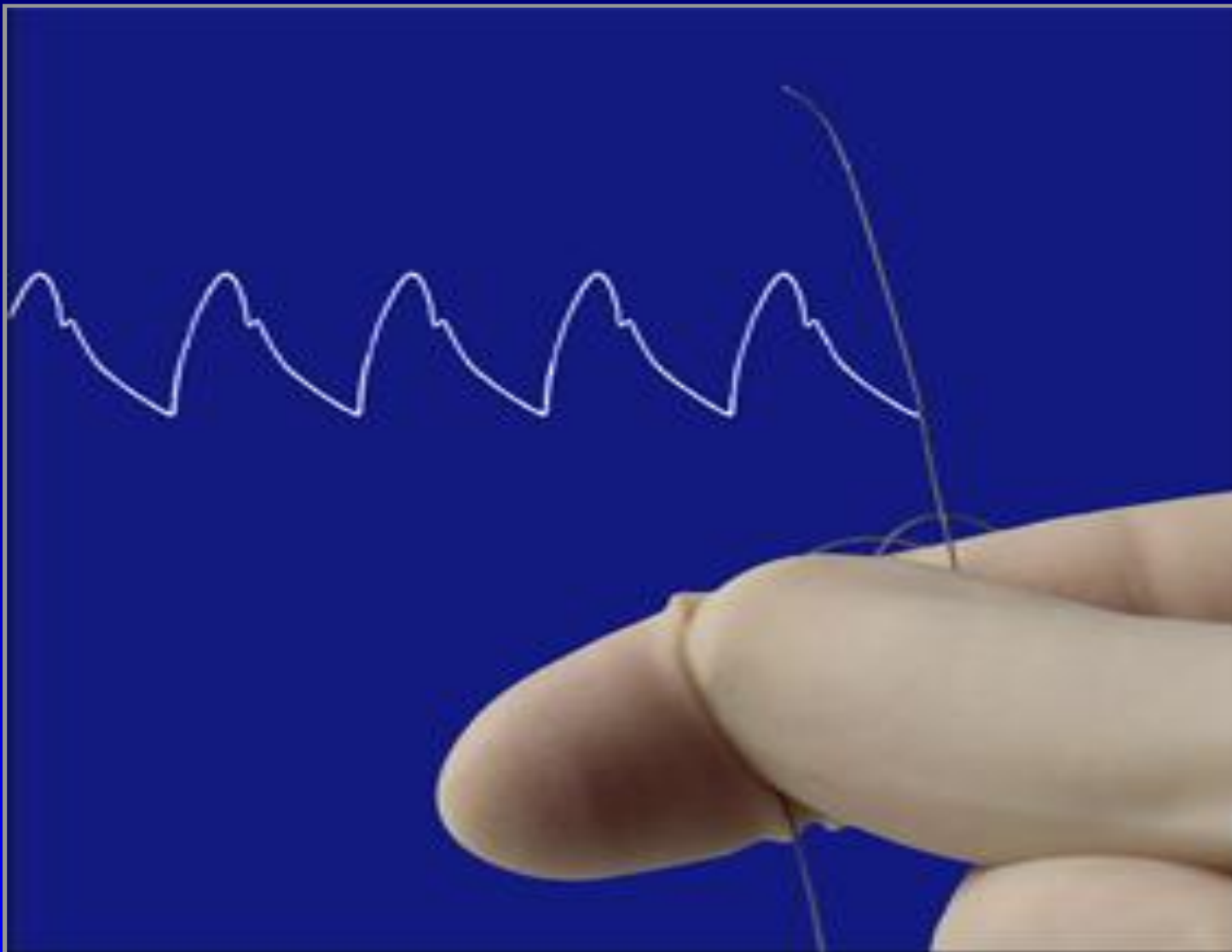
+



= **FFR_{myo}**

pressure
wire

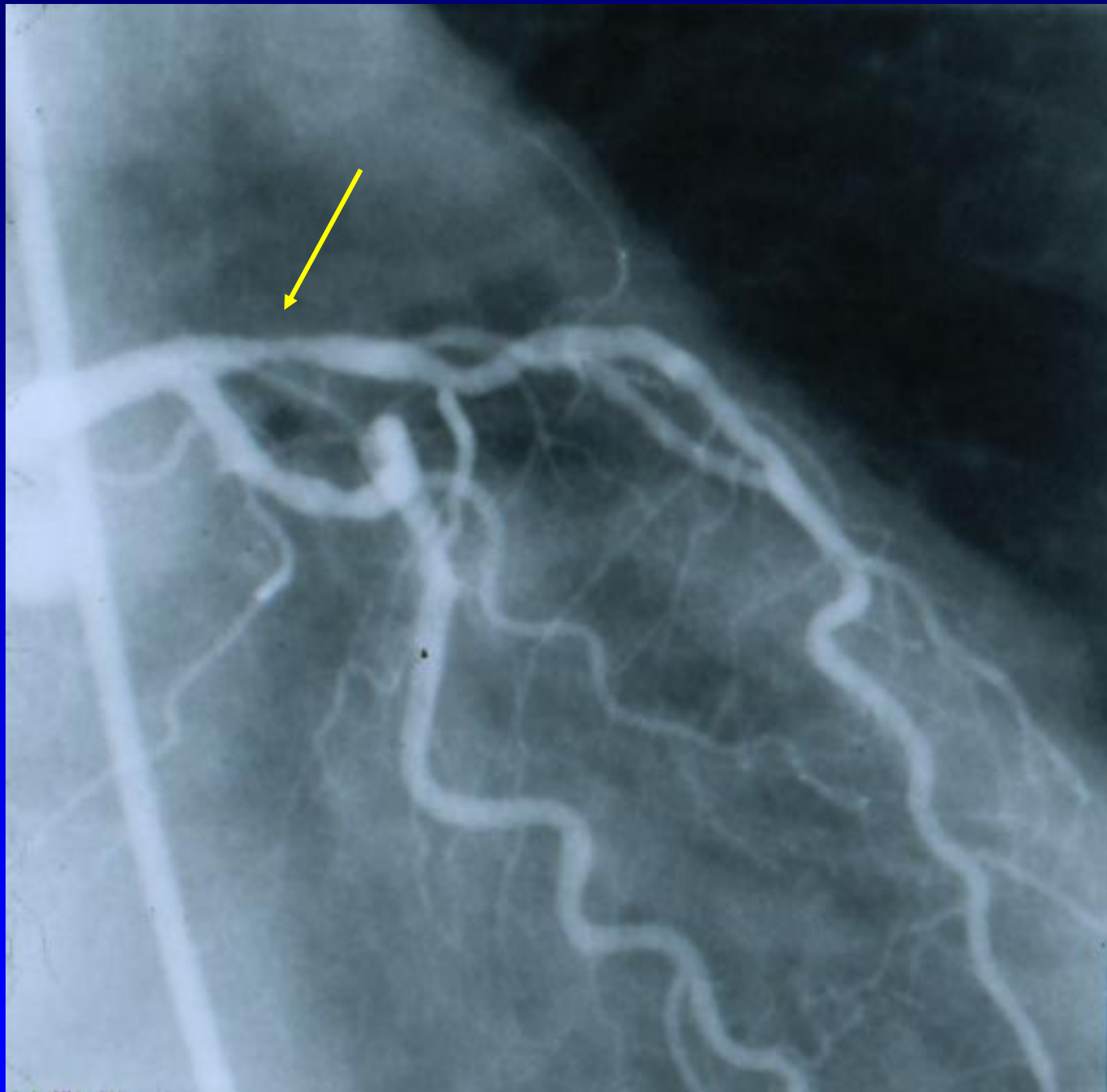
hyperemic stimulus



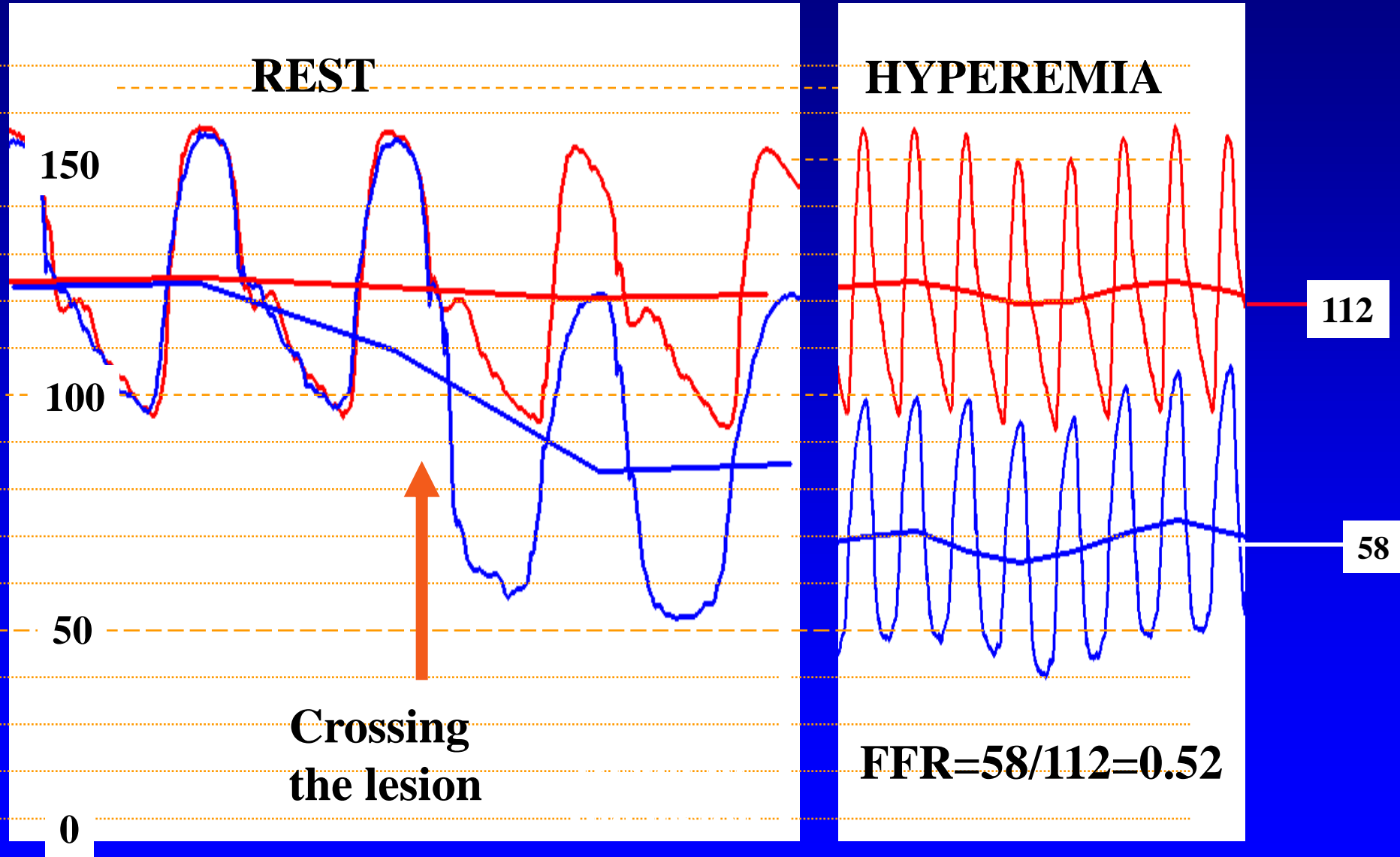
**0.014 sensor-tipped PTCA guidewire
(*electronic or fiberoptic*)**

CLINICAL
PRACTICE:

Mr van Z.
77 years,
stable ang 2-3
posit ET



Fractional Flow Reserve in Clinical Practice



A Few Words About Hyperemia:

(next speaker, Dr De Bruyne)

- intravenous infusion of adenosine or ATP
- intracoronary injection of adenosine
- single intravenous bolus of regadenoson

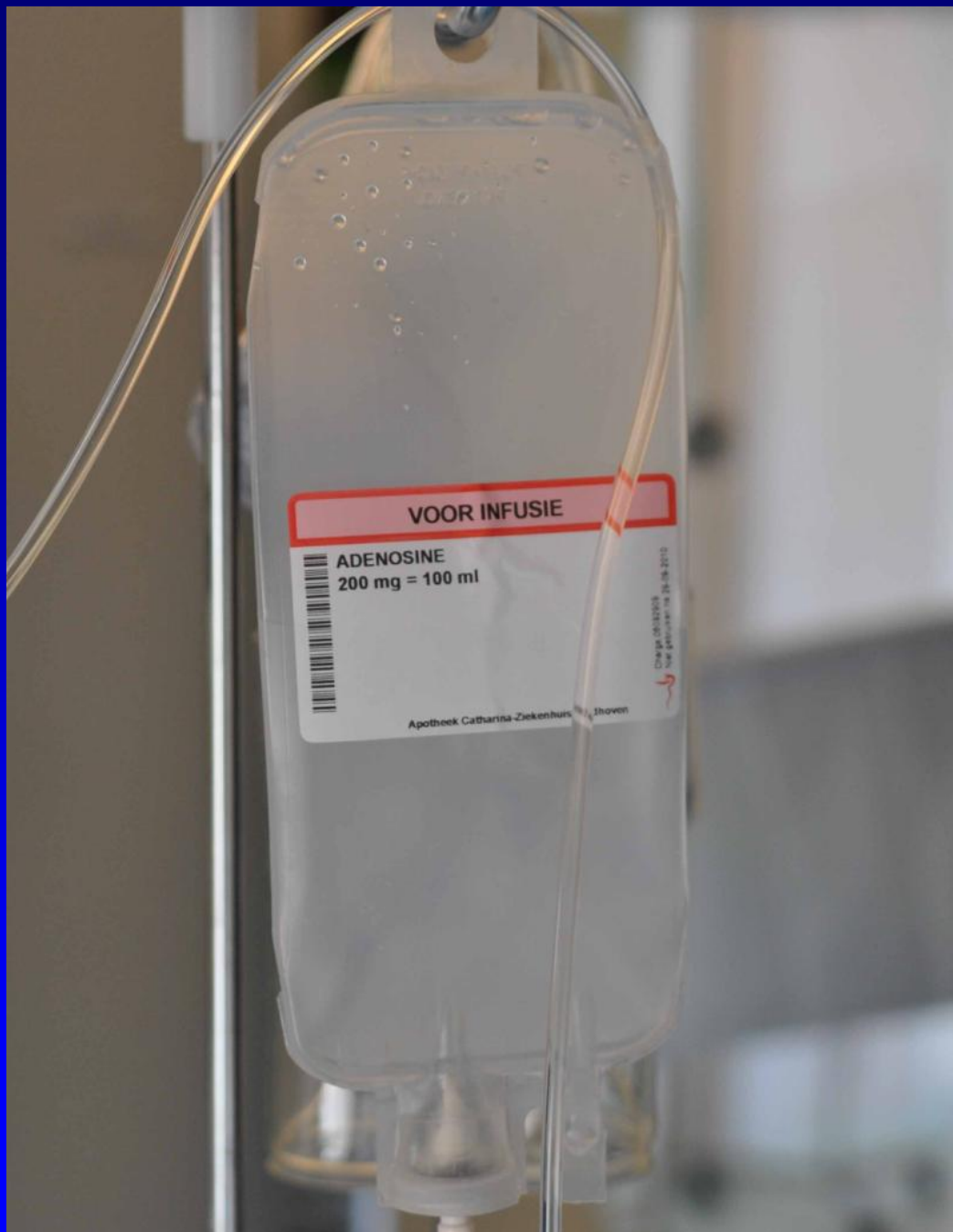
If used according to the guidelines, full and reliable hyperemia is obtained in close to 100% of patients.

(key papers: De Bruyne, Circulation 2003;107:1877-1883

McGeoch, CCI 2008;71:198-204

FAME studies, VERIFY study

Fearon & Johnson, LBT PCR 2015



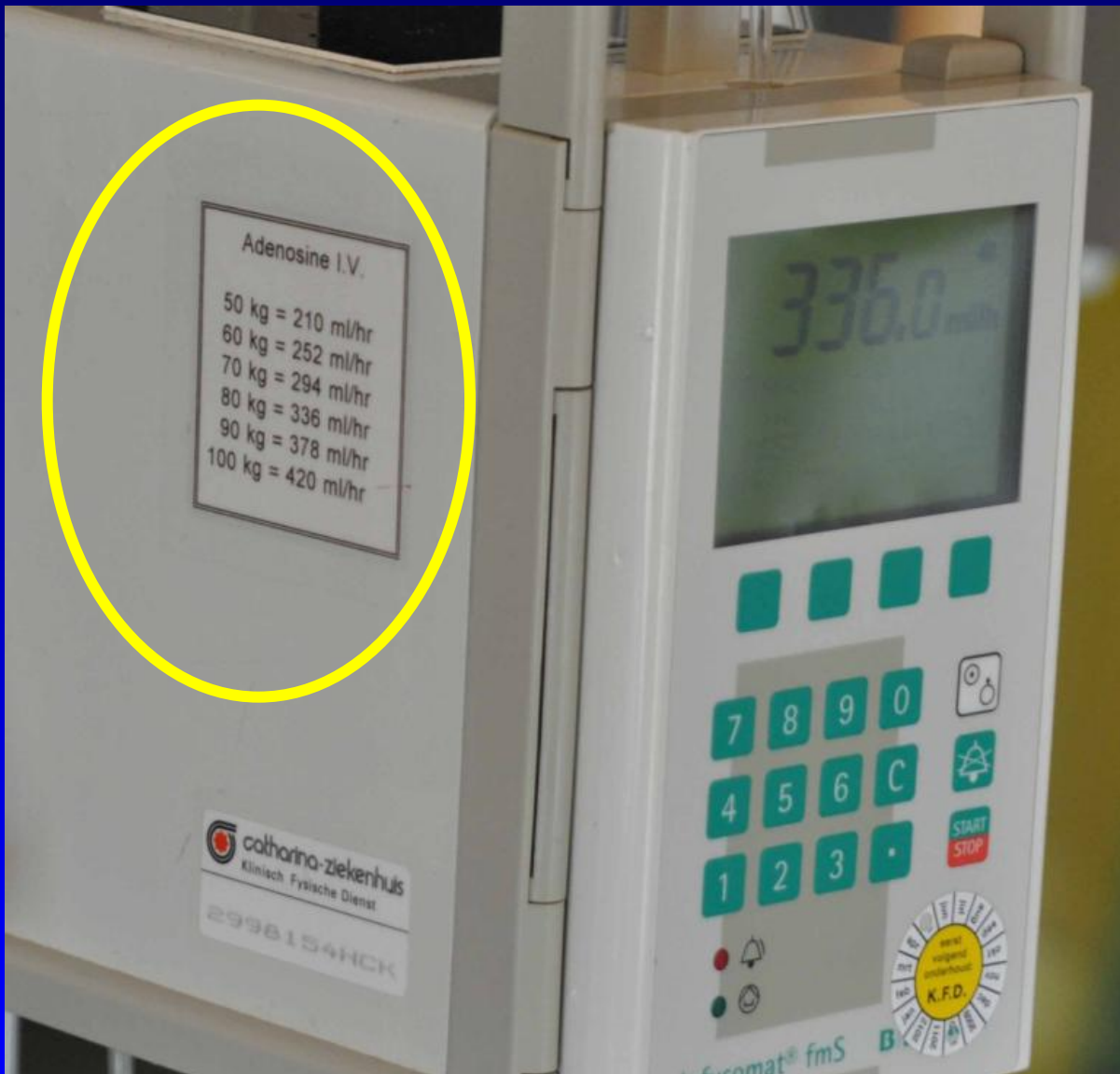
Adenosine for
i.v. infusion

(standard bag
200 mg = 100 ml)

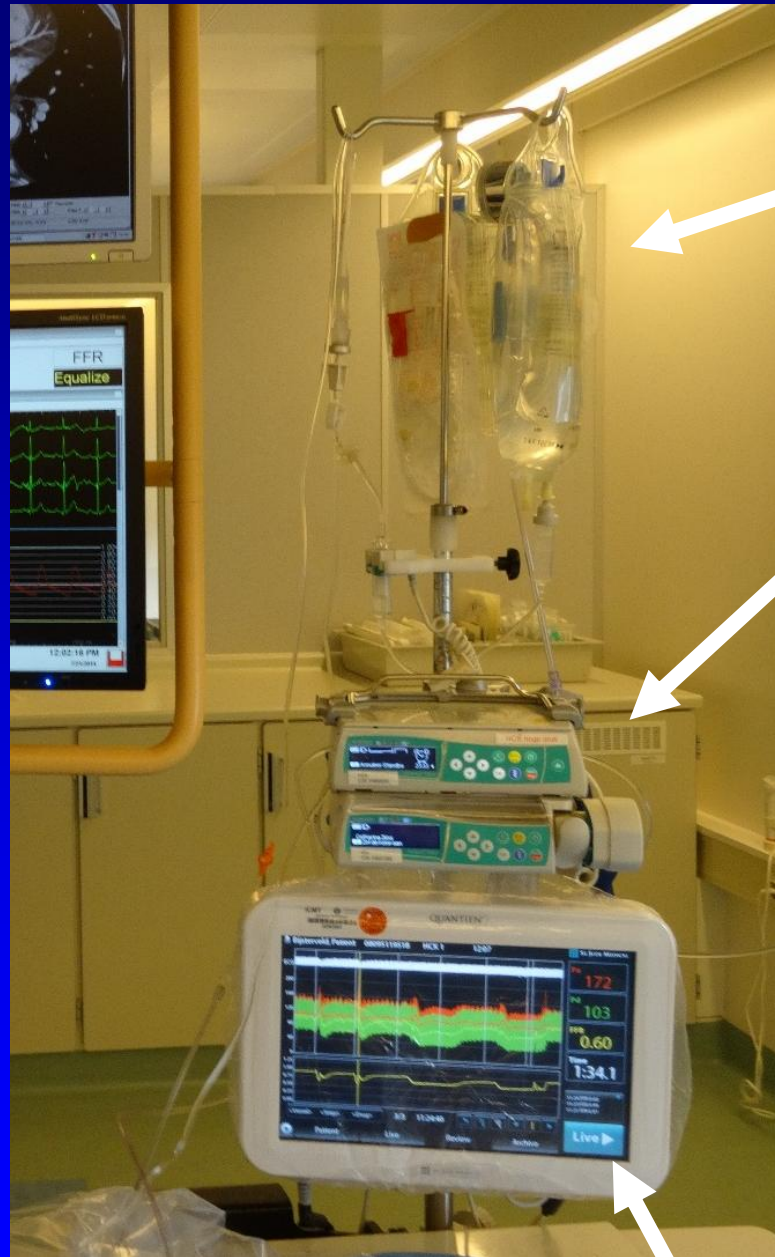
price: Euro 2,=
per bag

prepared by
hospital pharmacy

manufacturing
protocol available
at carias@cze.nl



Infusion rate simply adjusted according to body weight (....kg →ml/min)



adenosine

Infusion
pump

- *no preparation in the lab*
- *no difficult calculations*
- *always the same dilution*
- *no risk of dosage error*
- *no loss of time*

Quantien

MAXIMUM HYPEREMIA IS IMPORTANT !

NOTE:

- sometimes, periodic fluctuations are present during i.v. adenosine induced steady state hyperemia
- this is related to the speed of metabolization of adenosine (patient-dependent) and the breathing pattern
- *always take the lowest value of FFR*

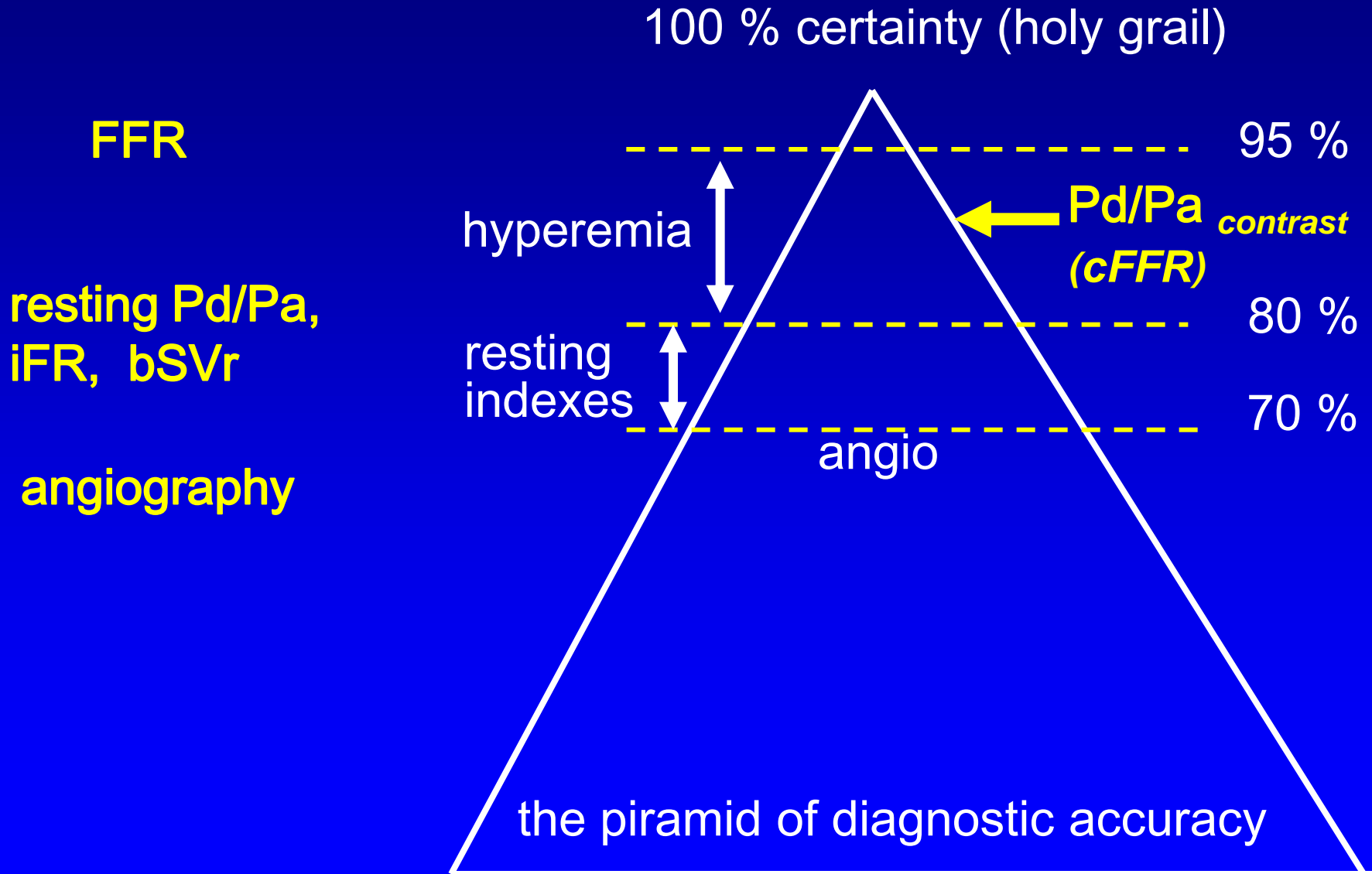
*(key papers: De Bruyne, Circulation 2003;107:1877-1883
McGeoch, CCI 2008;71:198-204
FAME studies, VERIFY study
Fearon & Johnson, LBT PCR 2015*

Is it necessary to use hyperemia ?

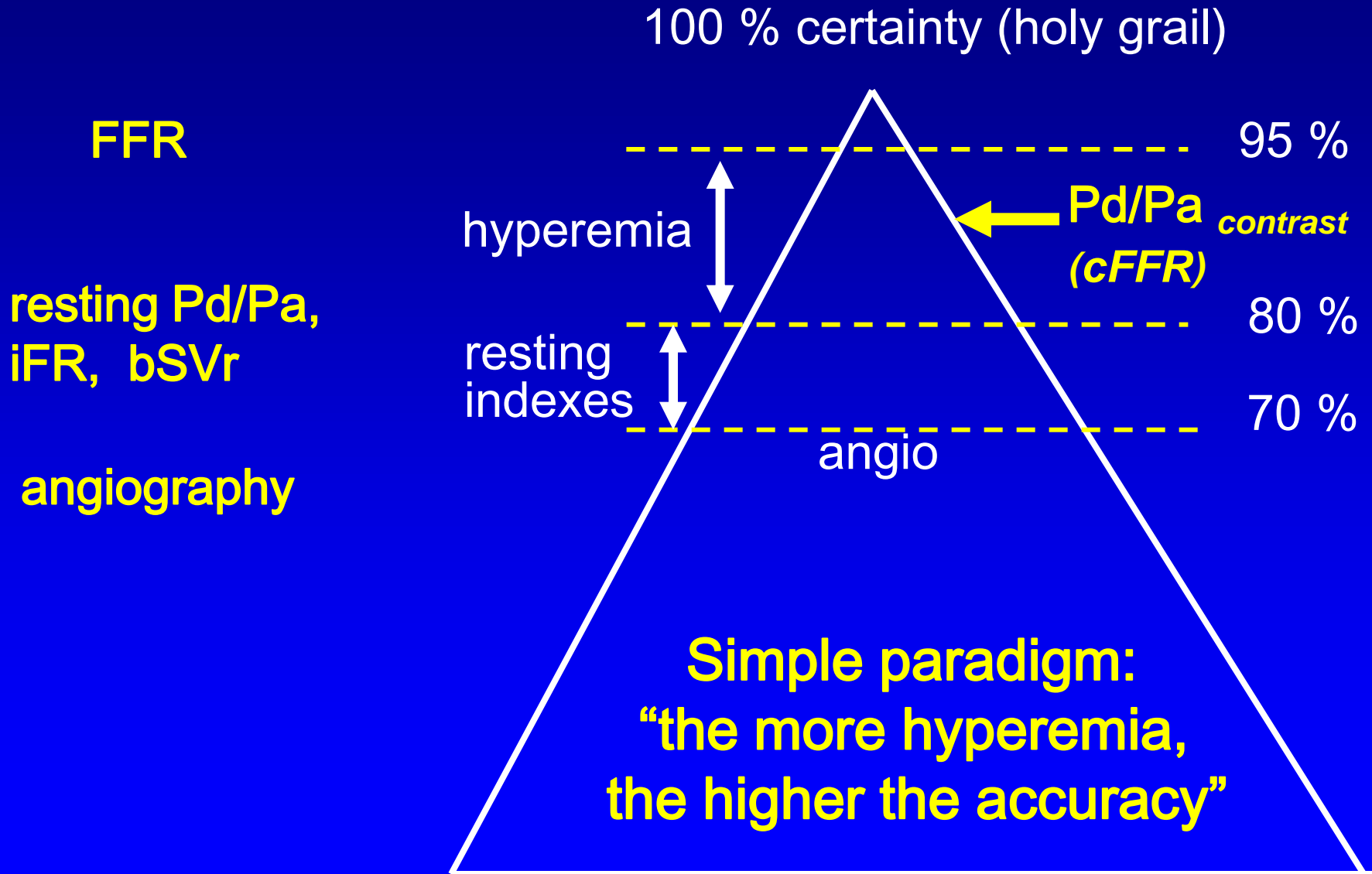
- For practical reasons, it is advocated presently by some investigators to skip hyperemia (*iFR, Pd/Pa_{resting}*) with cut-off of 0.90 or to use a hybrid approach, but in exchange diagnostic accuracy decreases to 80%
- semi-hyperemic stimulus: single shot of contrast Pd/Pa_{contrast} (called *cFFR*)
 - some pilot studies: cut-off point around 0.85 with accuracy of 90% compared to FFR cut-off point of 0.80

(Dr Ribichini, N. Johnson, Friday afternoon; LBT at PCR 2015)

Correct Classification of Ischemic Stenosis



Correct Classification of Ischemic Stenosis



Before going to clinical practice,
Let's have a closer look to FFR

Prerequisites for a reliable index for decision making

- sound scientific basis and experimental validation
- accurate
- reproducible
- easy to perform
- predict outcome

Prerequisites for a reliable index for decision making

- **sound scientific basis and experimental validation**

All basic features of FFR have been thoroughly validated experimentally over more than 10 years

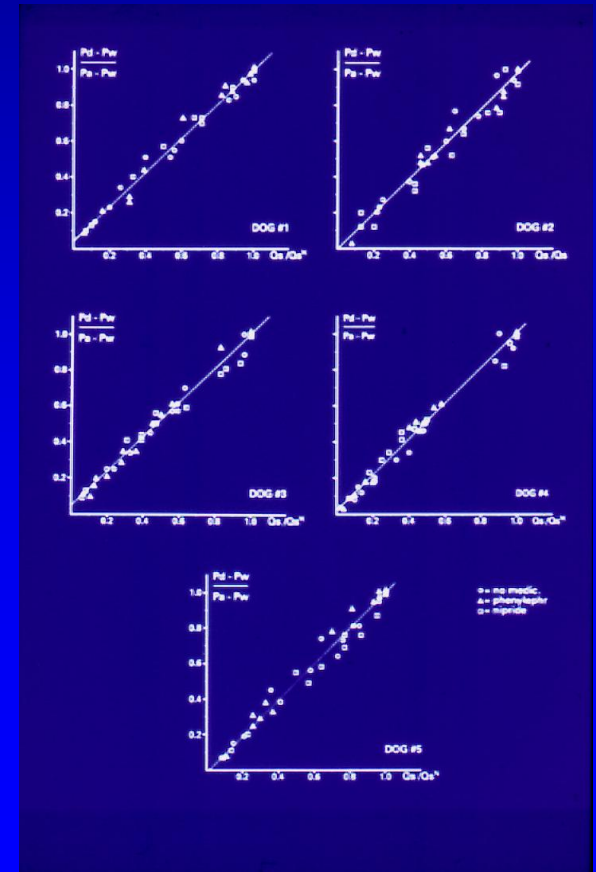
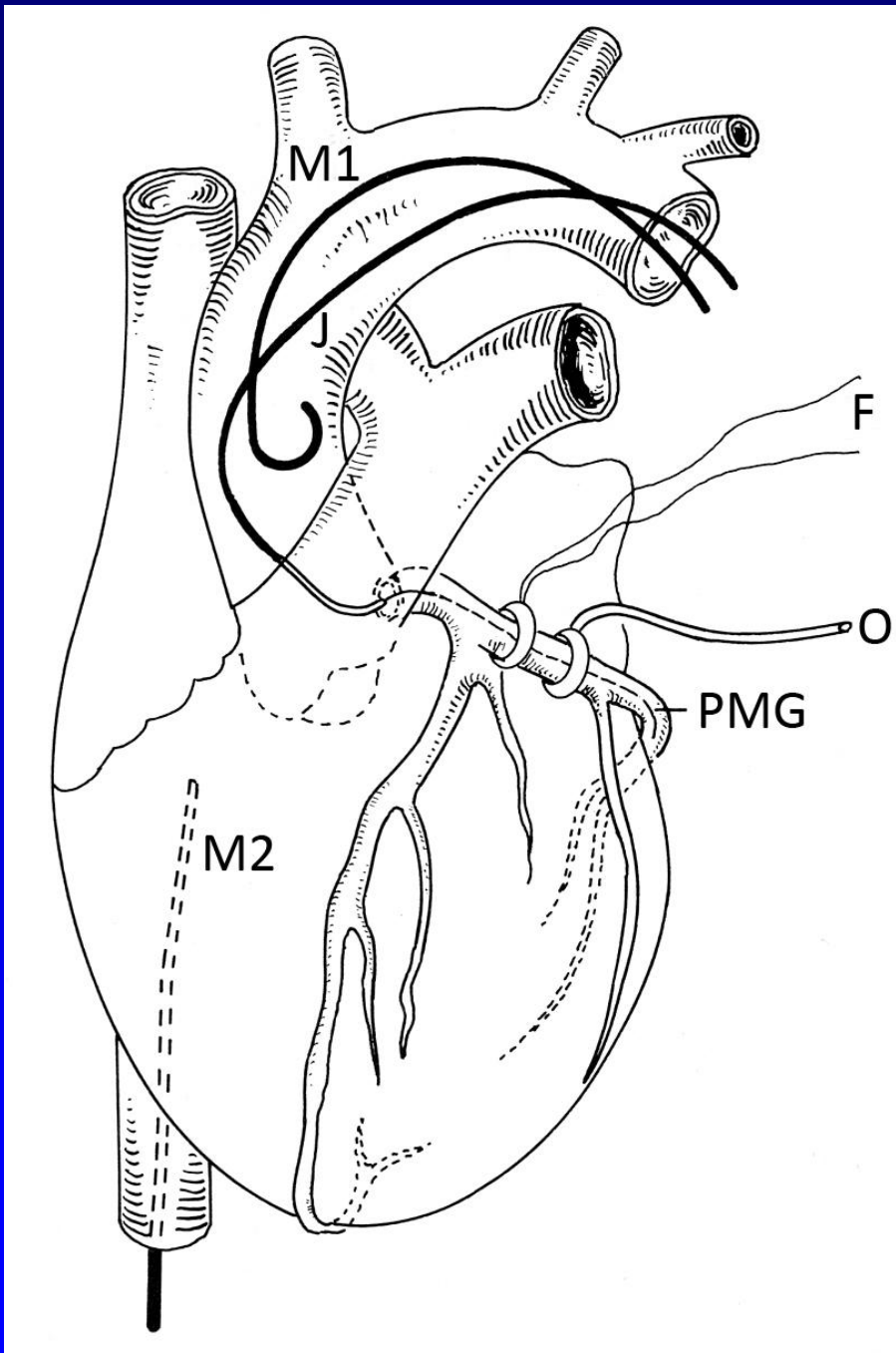
1993-2006: 5 original papers in Circulation on animal studies in dogs and swine

1994-2012: 64 original papers in NEJM, Circulation, JACC and EHJ in humans

> 2000 publications in PubMed

FFR:

experimental validation
in chronic dog studies



Prerequisites for a reliable index for decision making

- sound scientific basis and experimental validation
- ***accurate, i.e. uniform normal value and clear cut-off with narrow gray zone***
- reproducible
- easy to perform
- predict outcome } tomorrow

Fractional Flow Reserve in Normal Coronary Arteries

33 truly normal coronary arteries in patients without coronary artery disease:

FFR = 0.98 +/- 0.02 (range 0.93 – 1.00)

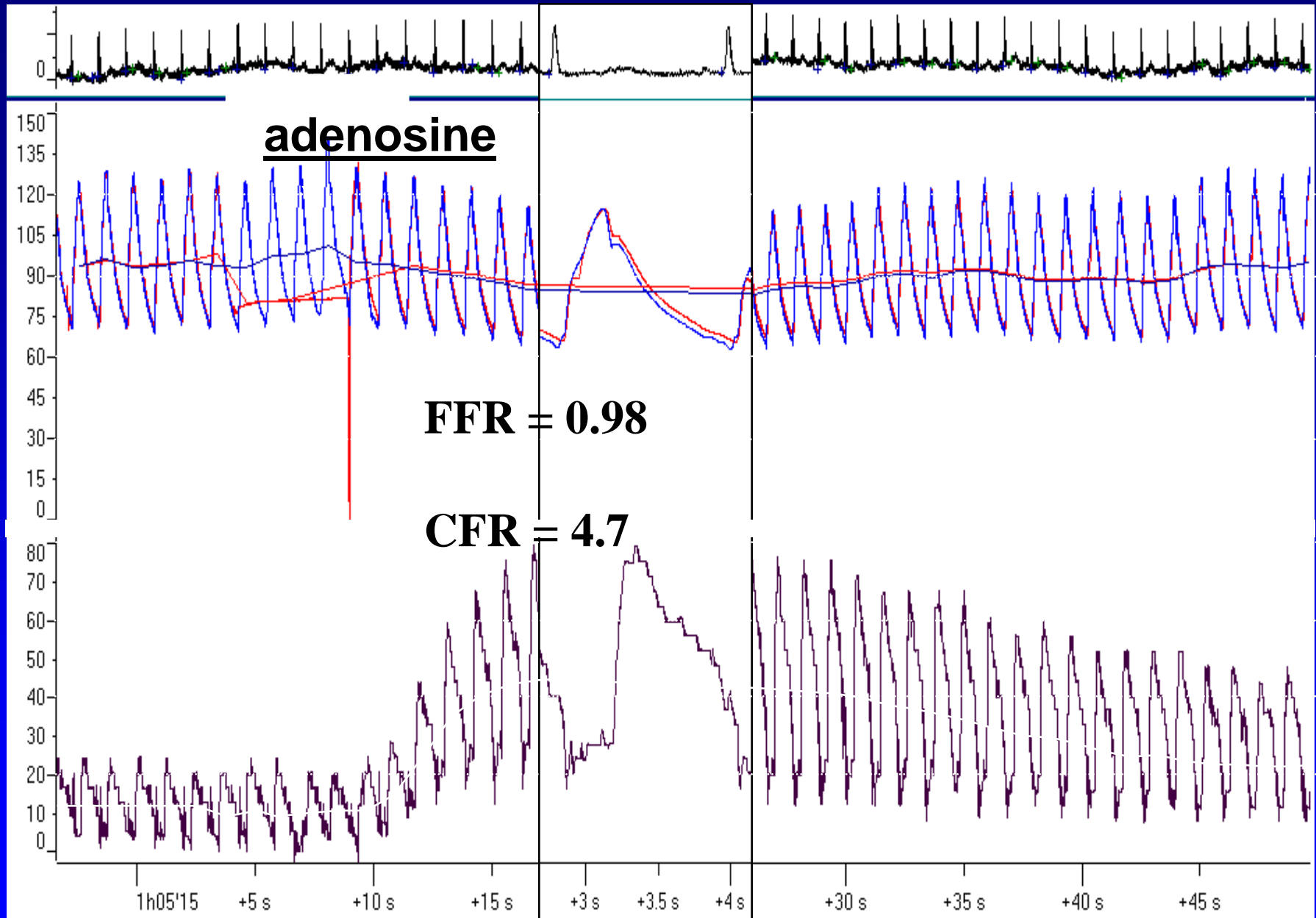
Pijls, Circulation 1995;92: 183-193

**86 apparently normal contralateral arteries
In patients with coronary disease:**

FFR = 0.87 +/- 0.09 (range 0.64 – 0.97)

De Bruyne, Circulation 2001; 104:2401-2406

Normal Coronary Artery



Threshold value of FFR to detect significant stenosis in humans



How can you validate a new index if no Standard exists ???

→ prospective multitestng Bayesian approach

How to search for the threshold of a new index ?

Mostly seen (as also for all other physiologic indices:

Analysis of ROC curve in a particular population and “cherry-picking” the best value

*Such studies are often called “**prospective**” but **in fact** are based upon a **retrospective** analysis of data (that is inherent to ROC analysis)*

In another population, another ROC and another “best cut-off point” and “accuracy” will be found !!!

<u>Author</u>	<u>Meeting or Citation</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>iFR cutoff*</u>
Davies	TCT	2011 November	157	none**
Sen	JACC 59:1392	2011 December		0.83
Park	EuroPCR	2012 May	238	0.89
Petraco	EuroIntervention	2012 August	339	0.89
Jeremias	TCT	2012 October	1548	0.90
Indolfi	TCT	2012 October	71	0.93
Johnson	JACC 61:1428	2013 February	1129	0.89
Sen	JACC 61:1409	2013 April	51	0.86

→ Value of iFR best corresponding to FFR of 0.80 varies from 0.83 -0.93

How to search for a threshold that can be truly used as gold standard ?

The right way to go is a 2-step approach:

1. Exploration of range where a true threshold is expected:

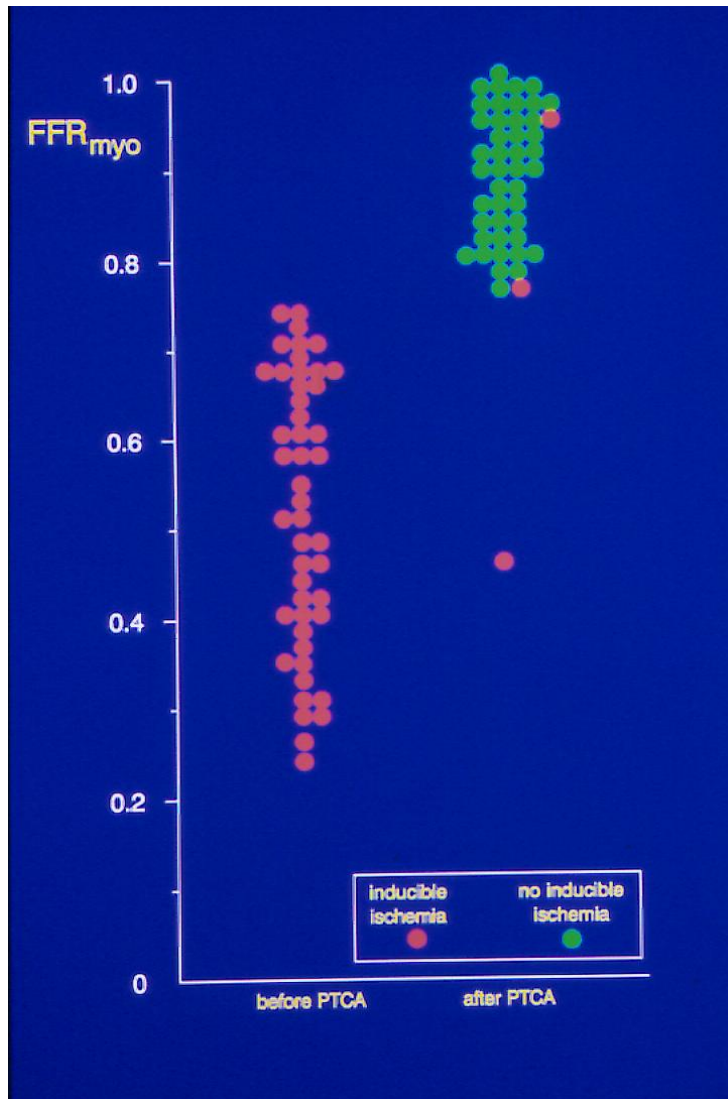
in a population in whom you can definitely conclude if there is disease or not

2. Truly prospective validation *of that particular threshold* in an arbitrary population, using a combined gold standard

(prospective multitest Bayesian approach; NEJM 1996; 334:1703-08)

→ **Fractional Flow reserve**

Validation of FFR in humans (step 1)



Proper validation of any index needs

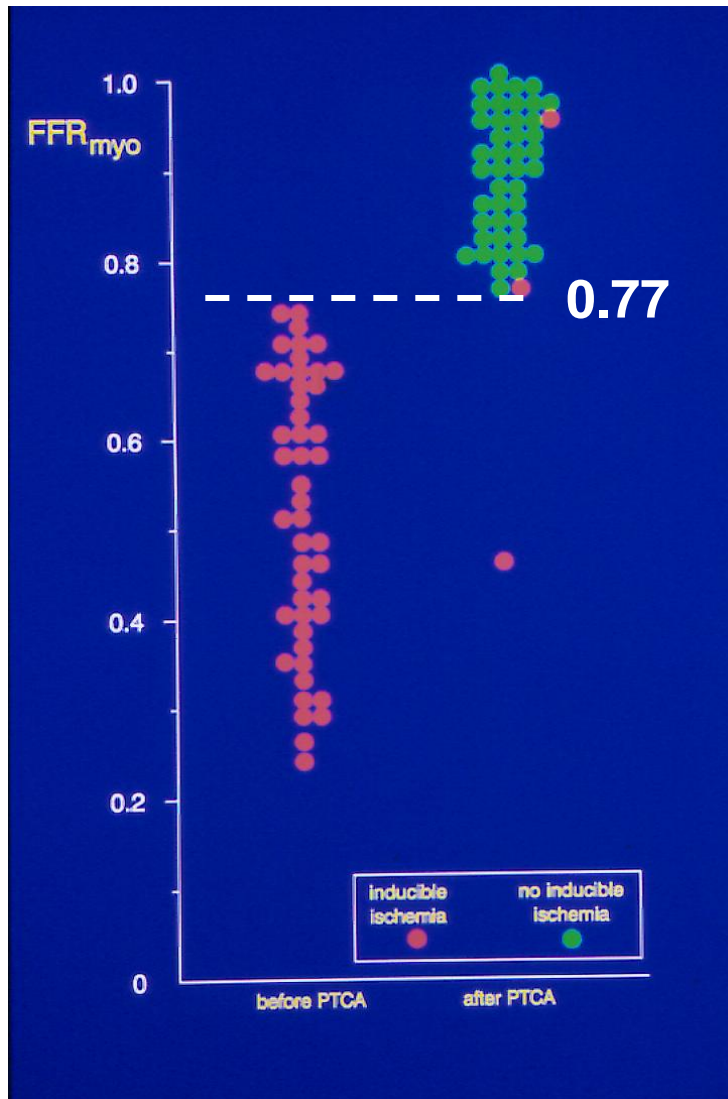
2 steps:

1. **Searching for the threshold value in a selected population**
(*sens, specif, NPV, PPV, ROC analysis*)
2. Prospective validation in a population with unknown characteristics

Pijls et al, Circulation 1995

De Bruyne, Circulation 1996

Validation of FFR in humans (step 1)



Proper validation of any index needs

2 steps:

1. Searching for the threshold value in a selected population (sens, specif, NPV, PPV, ROC analysis)
2. Prospective validation in a population with unknown characteristics

Pijls et al, Circulation 1995

De Bruyne, Circulation 1996

Testing of FFR versus True Gold Standard

Creating a gold standard by *Prospective Multitest Sequential Bayesian Approach*:

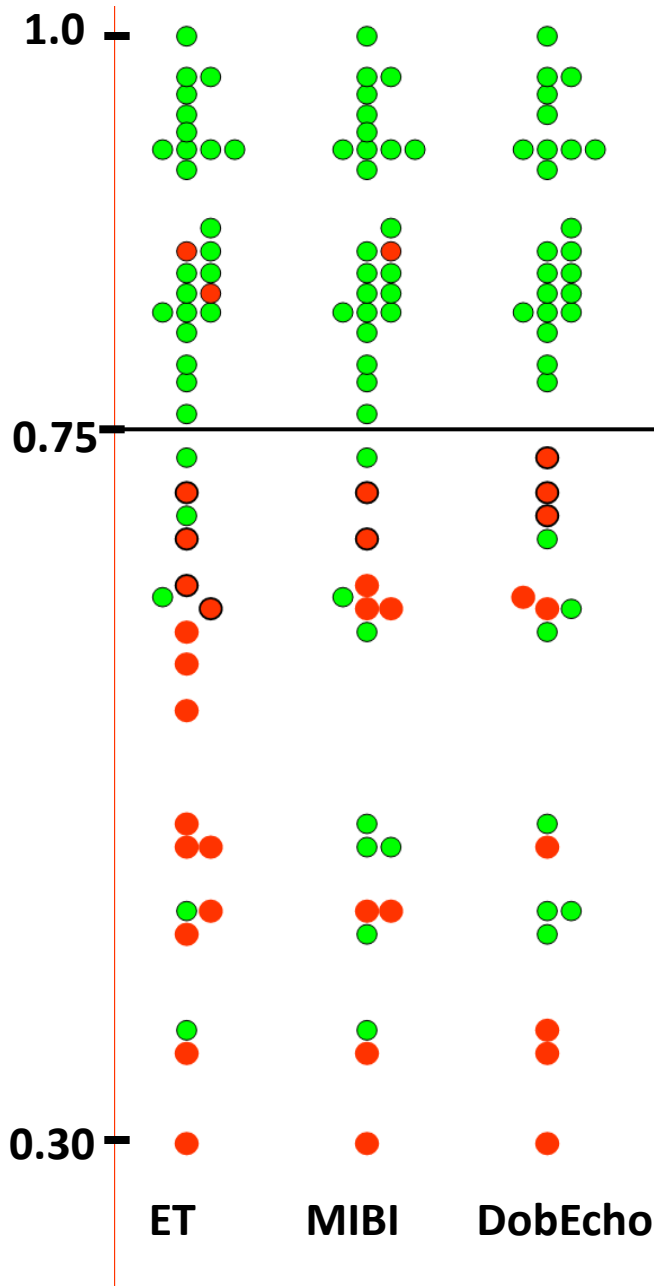
- Exerc testing = electrical index of ischemia
- MIBISpect = perfusion index of ischemia
- Dobutrex Echo = contractile index of ischemia
- *reversal from positive before to negative after intervention, proves true positivity before and true negativity after test*

Diagnostic accuracy of FFR =

$$\left[(1-0.75) \times (1-0.8) \times (1-0.8) \right]^{-1} = 99\%$$

3 unclassifiable patients (no intervention)

→ worst case scenario for FFR → **93%**



Threshold value of FFR to detect significant stenosis in humans



FFR is the **only** functional index which has ever been validated versus a **true gold standard**.
(Prospective multi-testing Bayesian methodology)

ALL studies ever performed in a wide variety of clinical & angiographic conditions, found threshold between 0.75 and 0.80

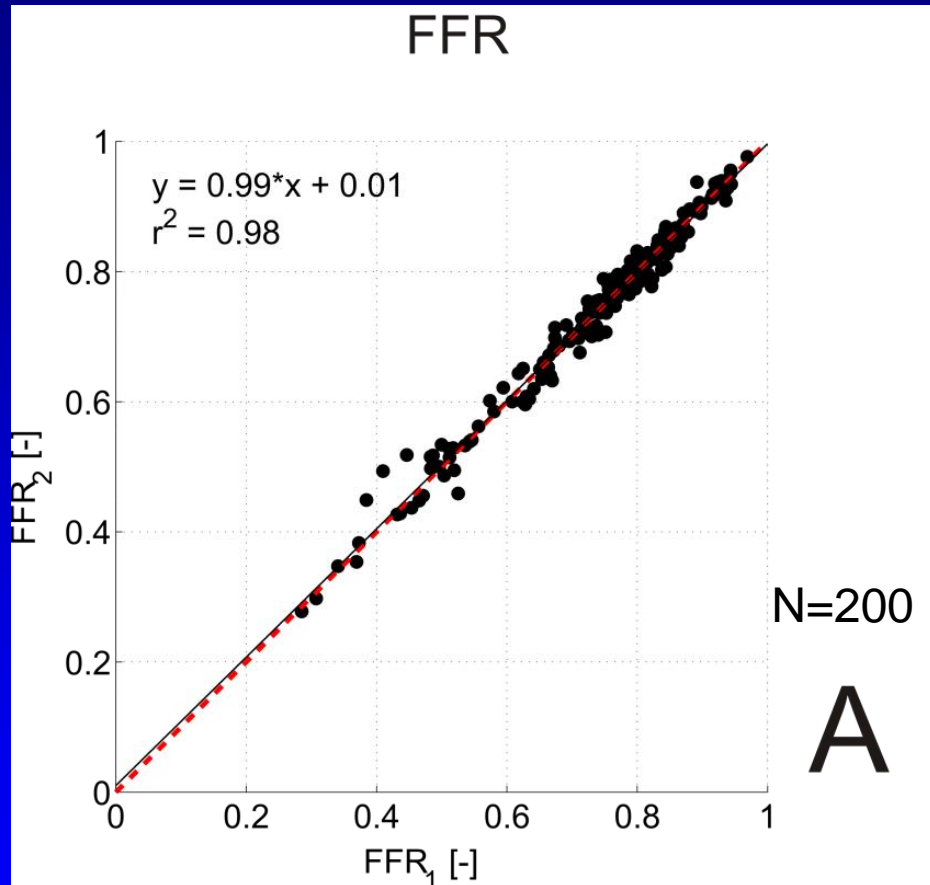
Diagnostic accuracy \geq 93%

Let's have a closer look to FFR

Prerequisites for a reliable index for decision making

- sound scientific basis and experimental validation
 - accurate
 - **reproducible**
 - easy to perform
 - predict outcome
- } tomorrow

Reproducibility of FFR

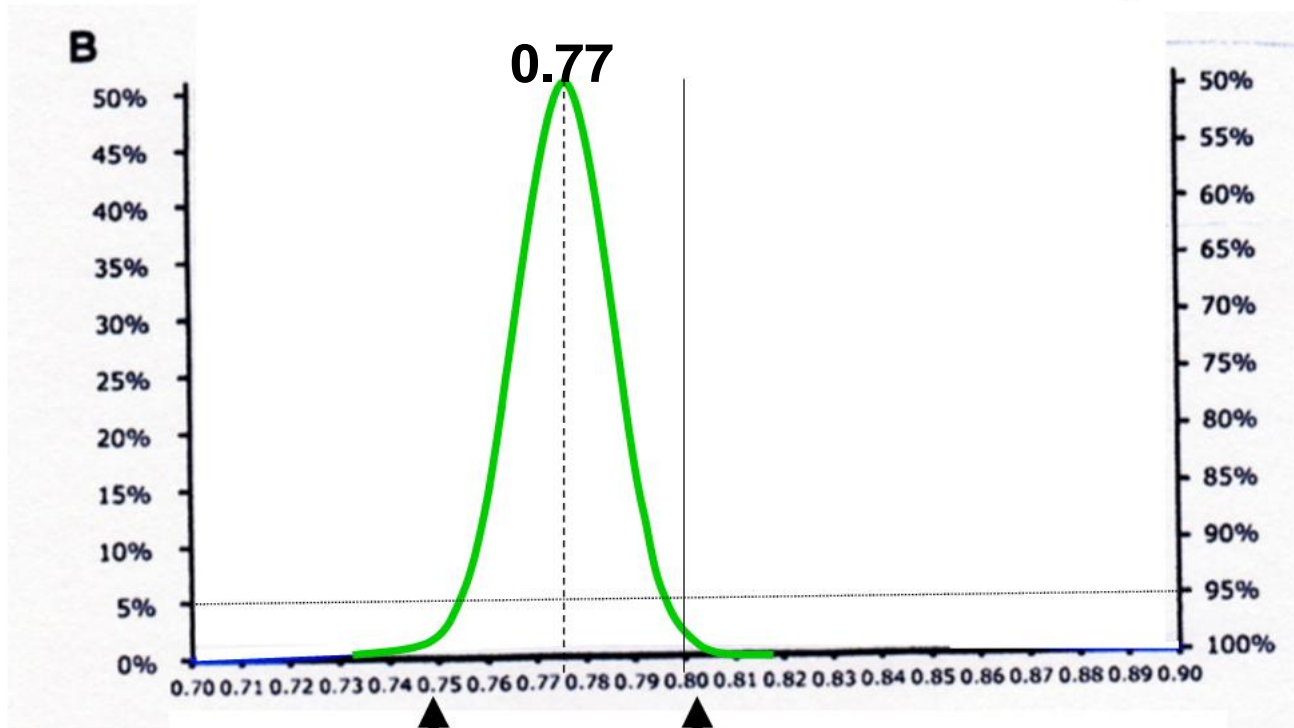


VERIFY study, Berry et al, JACC 2013 (published february 2013)
(all-comers during one month in 5 large centers)

There is not any other index in physiology so reproducible as FFR

Probability that treatment decision will change if the respective index measurement is repeated

Classification certainty of single measurement



FFR < 0.75

FFR > 0.80

0.75

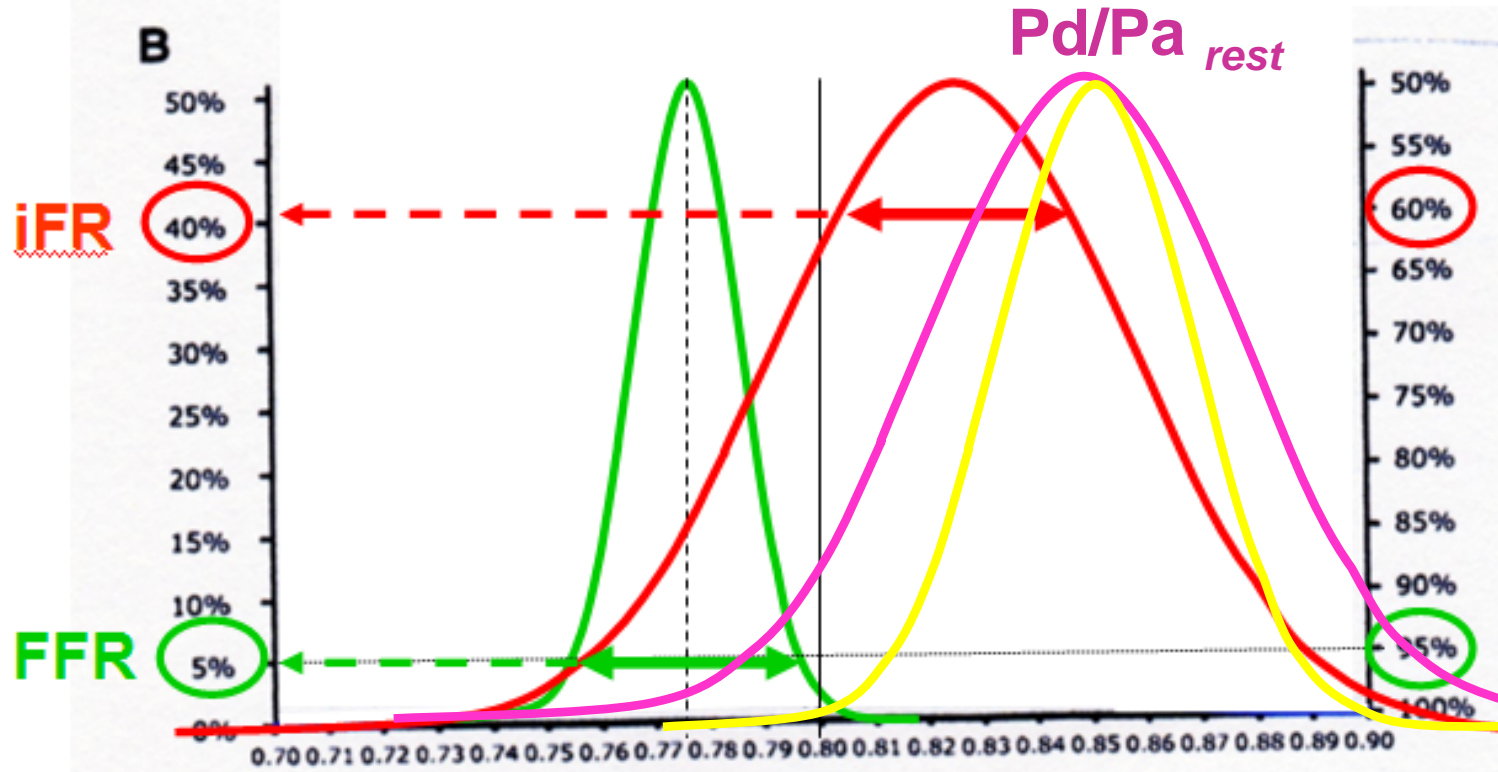
0.80

— FFR, VERIFY study

2.4 % of patients go from green to gray or v.v. and 2.4 % from red to gray
Almost nobody ever crosses from red to green or v.v.

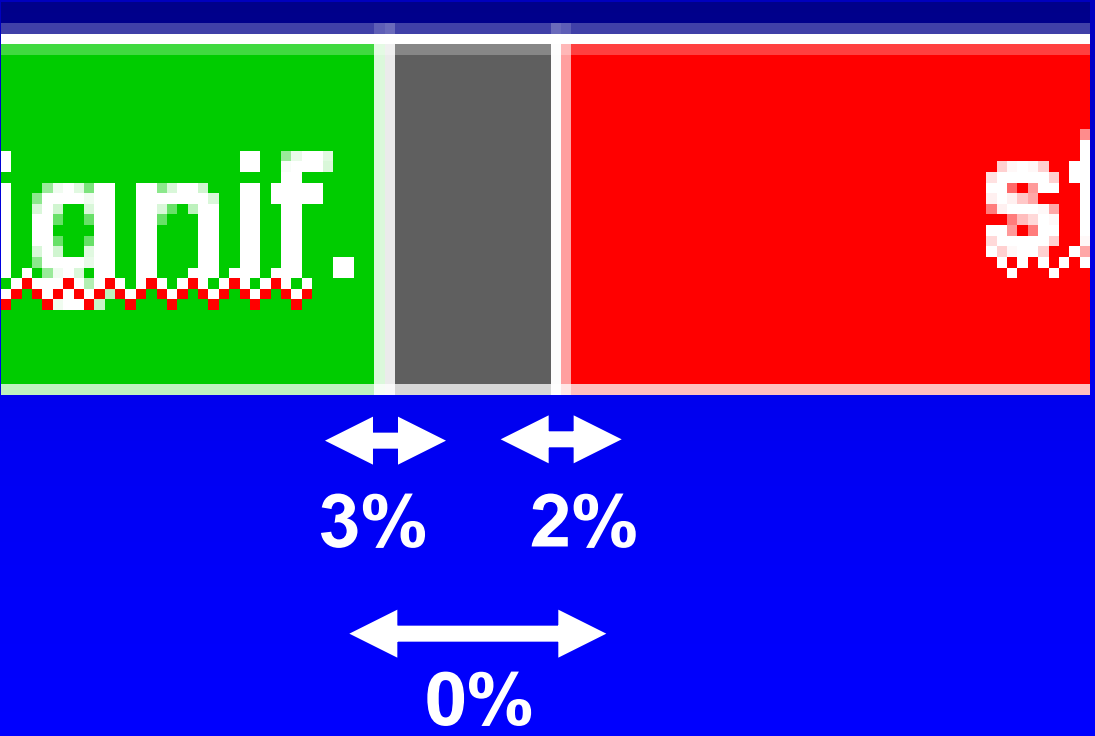
Probability that treatment decision will change if the respective index measurement is repeated

Classification certainty of single measurement



- FFR, VERIFY study
- iFR, ADVISE study
- Pd/Pa_{rest} VERIFY study
- contrast

At 1200 consecutive in-duplo measurements of FFR, there was NOT ANY cross-over across the gray zone



Let's have a closer look to FFR

Prerequisites for a reliable index for decision making

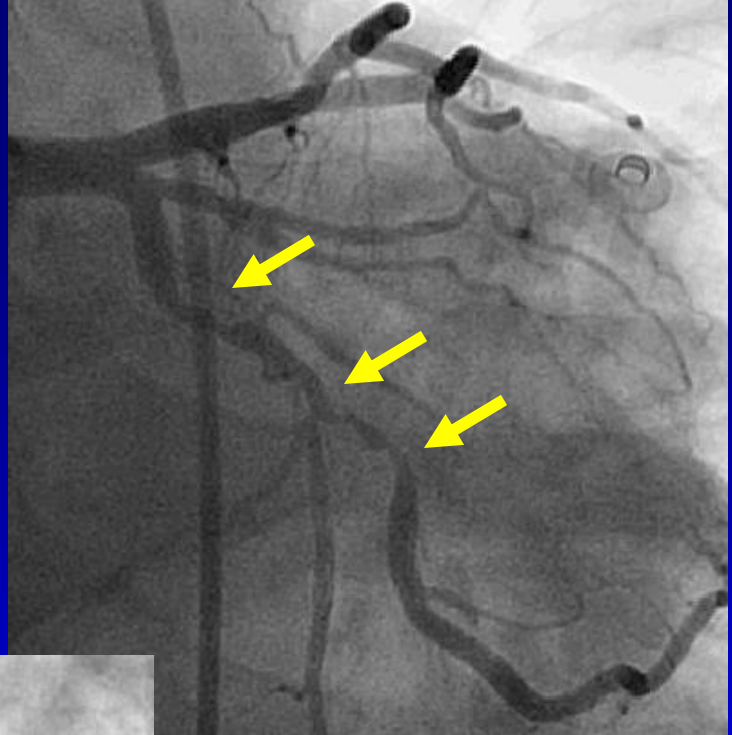
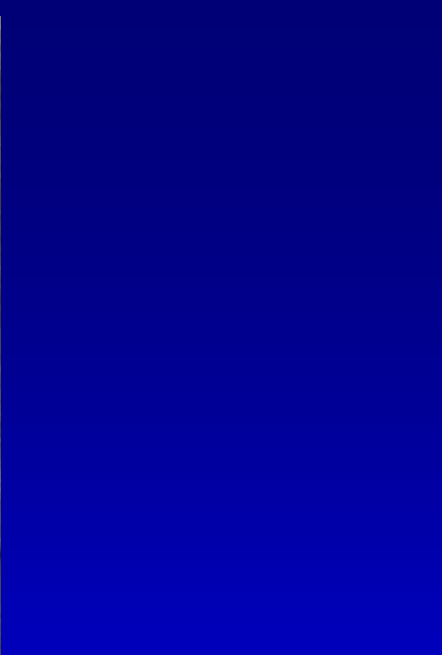
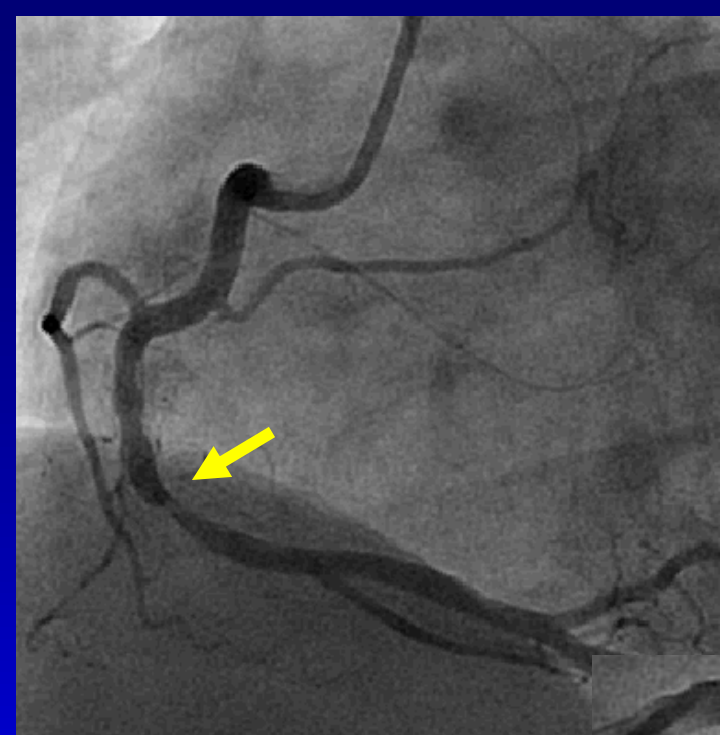
- sound scientific basis and experimental validation
- accurate
- reproducible
- ***easy to perform***
- predict outcome

PRACTICAL PERFORMANCE OF FFR - MEASUREMENT

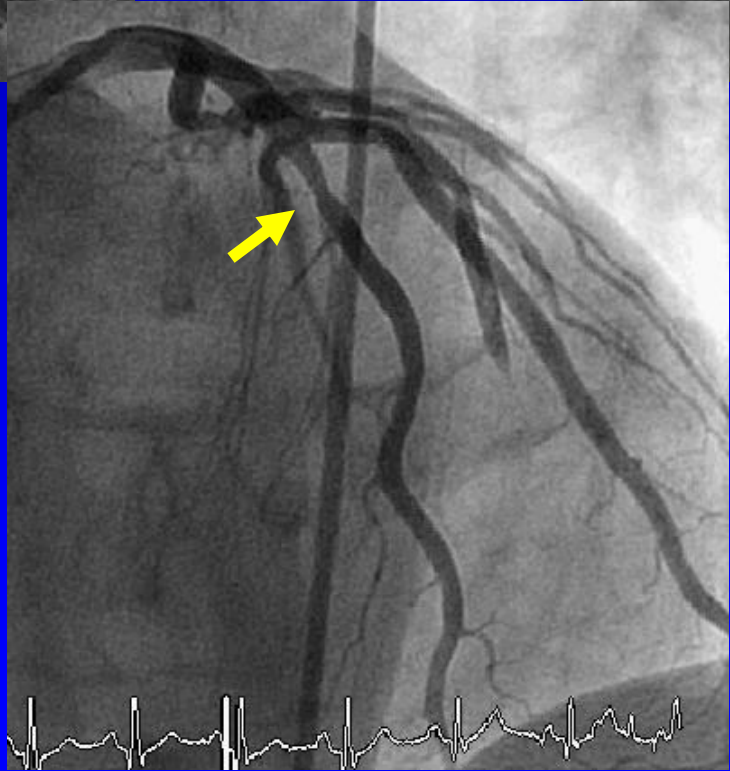
Mr R, born 22-01-1968 (46-year-old)

- admission on jan 25th, 2014 with acute lateral wall MI
- PPCI of occluded diagonal branch
- Concomittant 3-vessel disease:
 - LAD : 50%
 - LCX : long tandem lesion 50-70% + 70-90%
 - RCA : 50-70%
- Syntax score: 22
- Heartteam: CABG or FFR-guided MVD PCI

➔ ***choice for FFR guided PCI, as pilot for FAME-3***



70% RCA
50% LAD
90% long LCX



Nitroglycerine

Note !

As in any intracoronary manipulation,
before entering the coronary circulation,
administer ***200-300 µg NTG i.c.***



200 – 300 μ g NTG i.c.

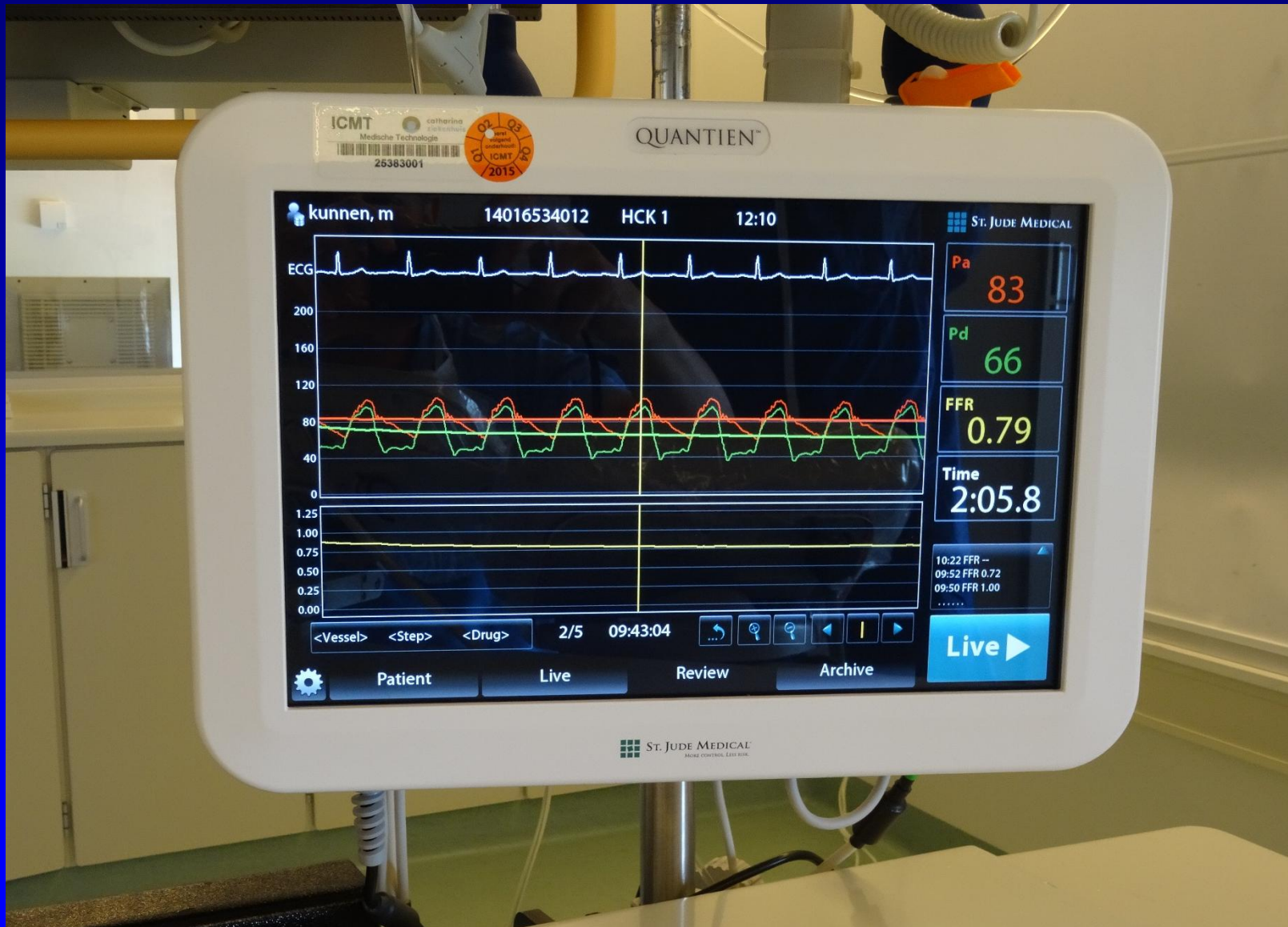
Ready to measure:

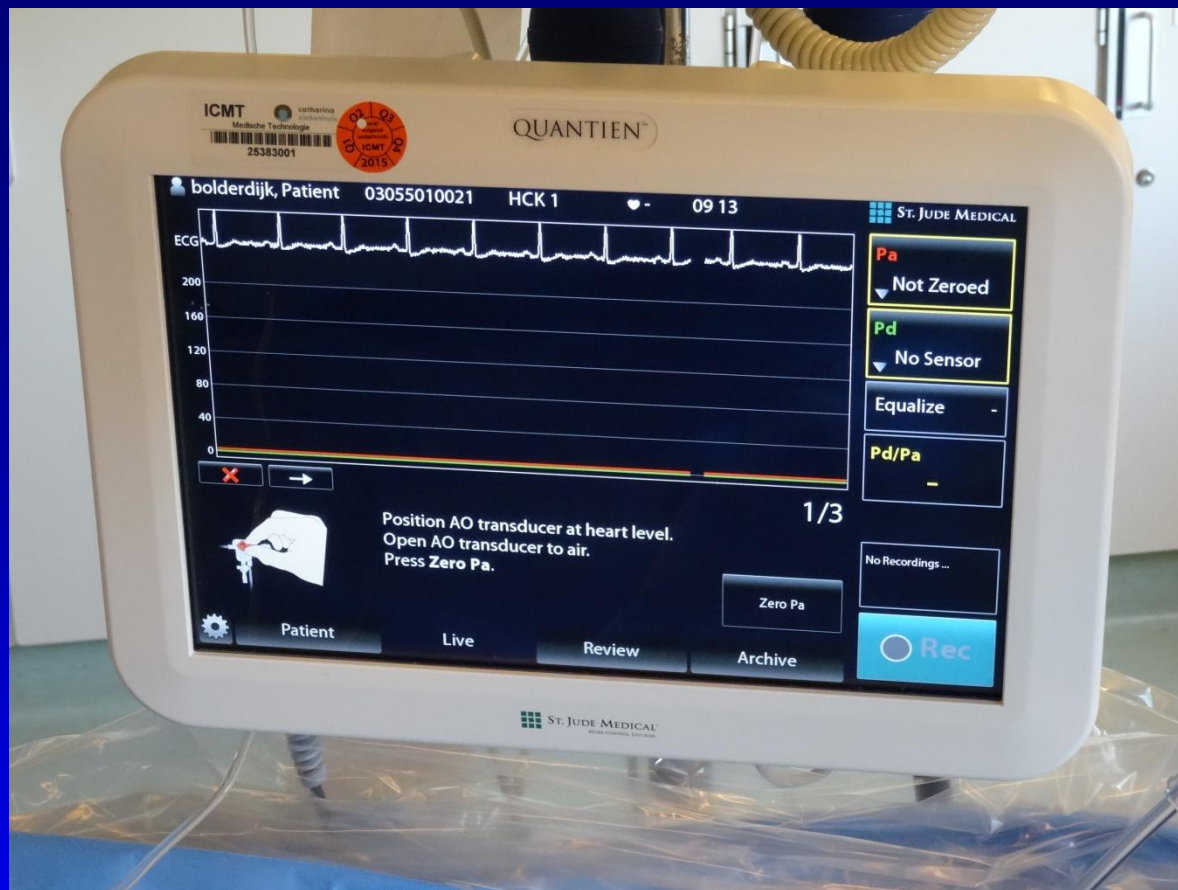
- Pressure Wire
- Interface

St Jude Medical, Philips/Volcano, Opsens, Acist

Saturday morning session

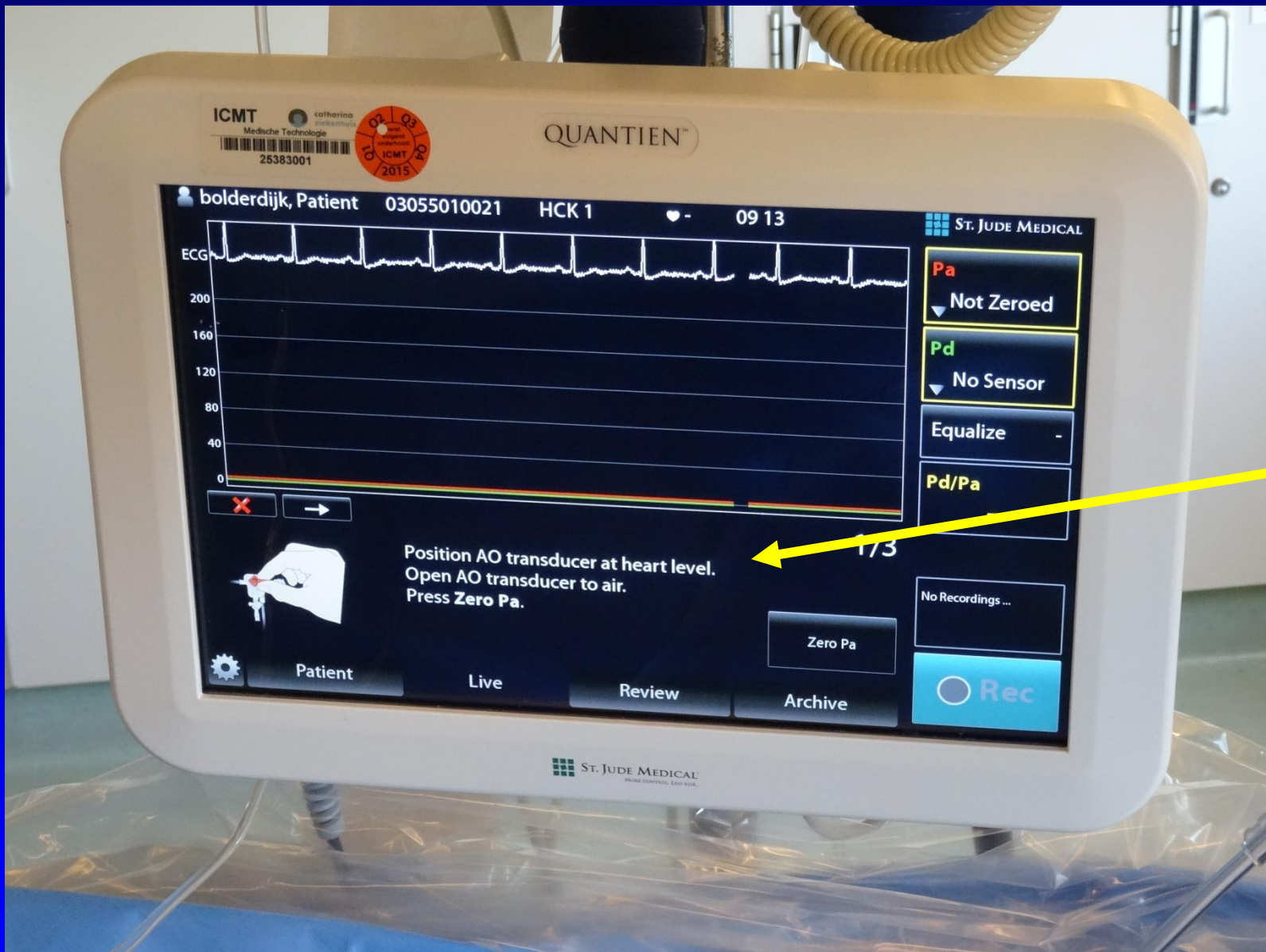
users friendly, "quiet" interface



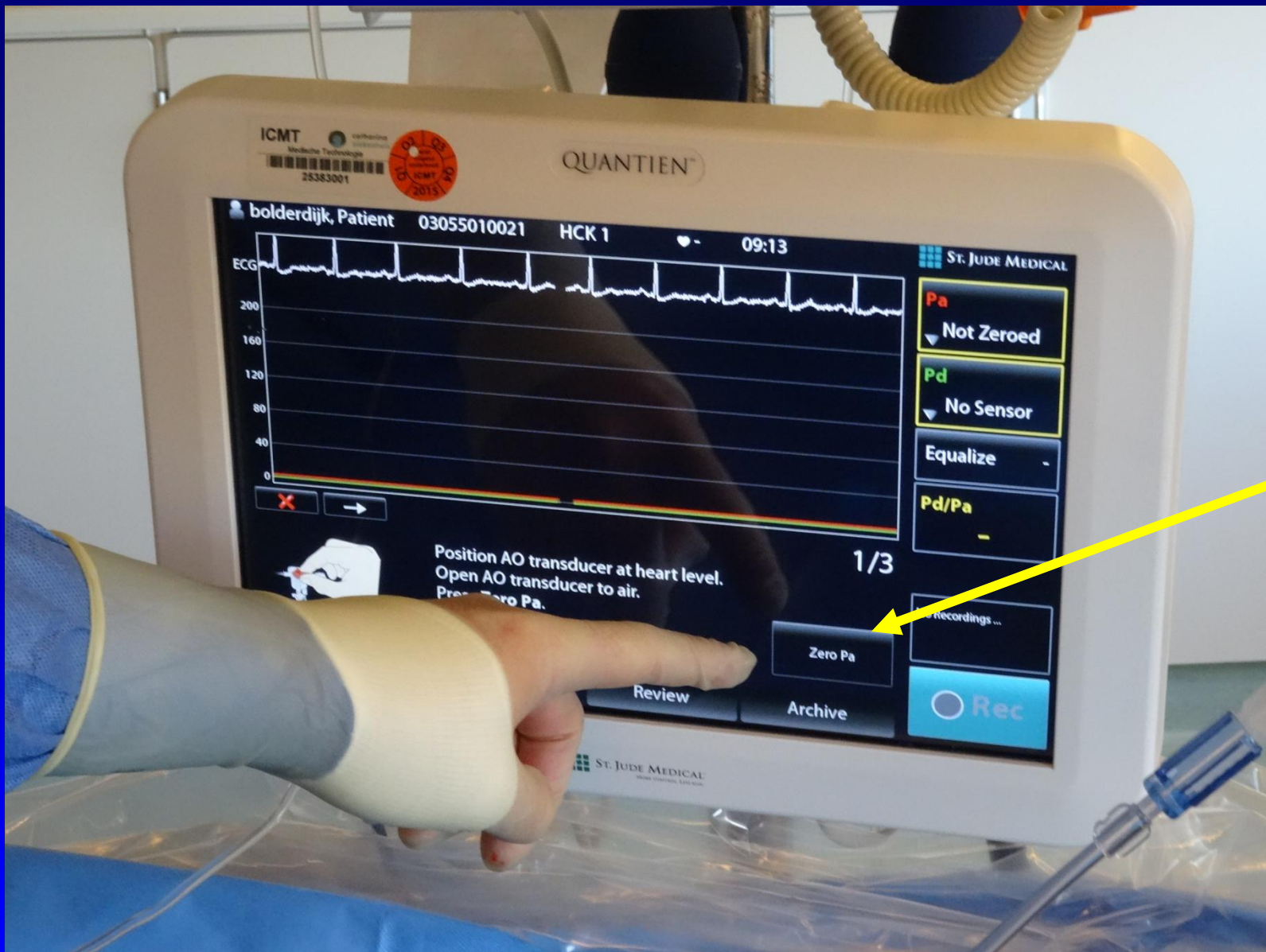


Ready to go!

→ Completely interactive preparation of signals and pressure wire, guided by interface takes < 30 seconds



zeroing and displaying Pa on interface



zeroing and displaying Pa on interface

ICMT

catharina ziekenhuis
Medische Technologie



25383001



QUANTIEN™

bolderdijk, Patient 03055010021 HCK 1 ♥ 72 09:30

ST. JUDE MEDICAL



Pa 124/59
87

Pd
No Sensor

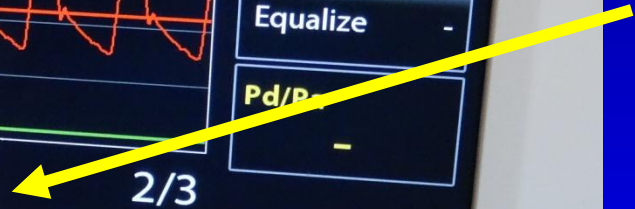
Equalize -

Pd/Pa
-

2/3



Place packaging coil flat and flush with saline.
Press **Connect Wireless**
or



Connect
Wireless

Review

Archive

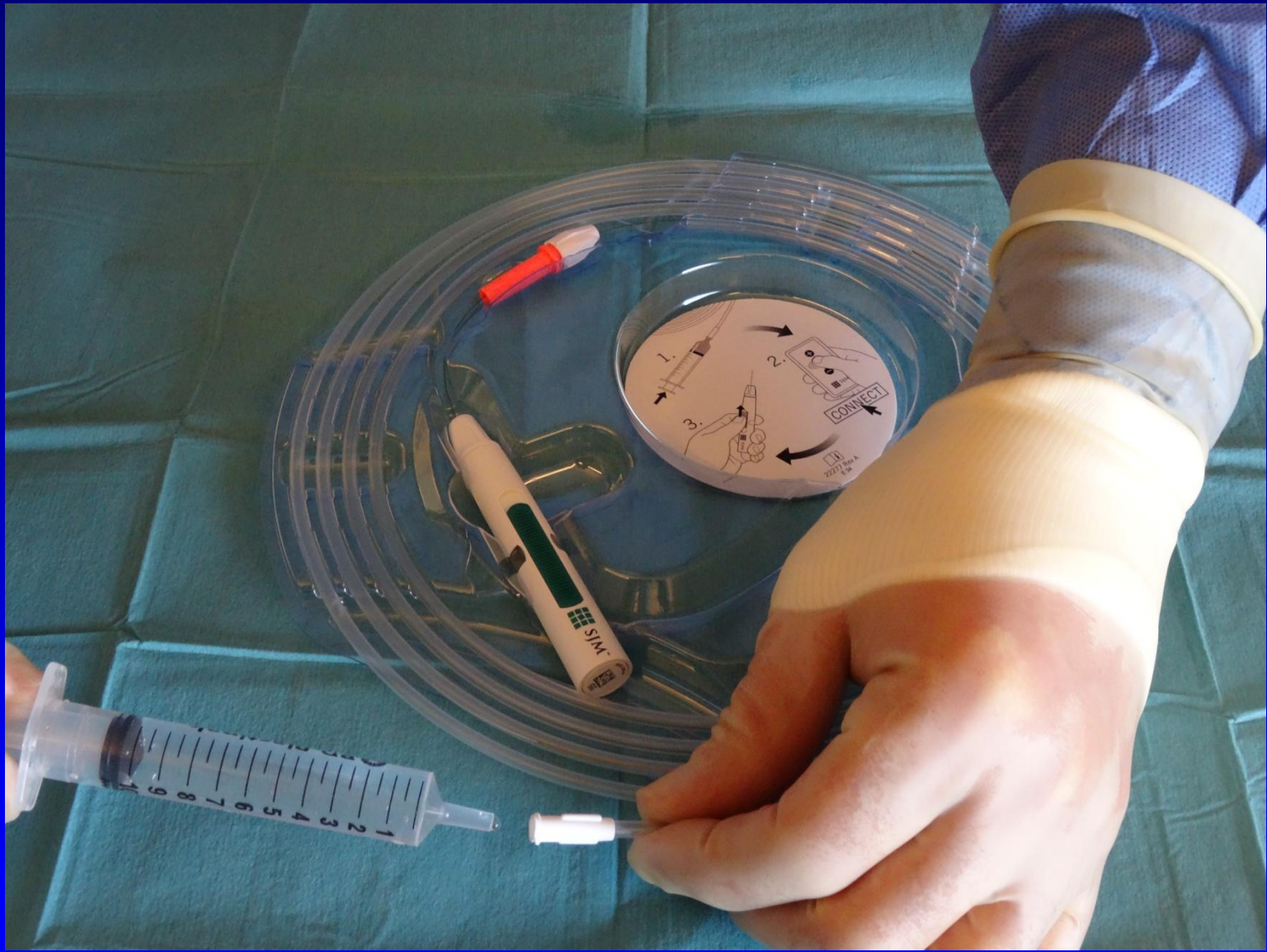
No Recordings ...

Rec

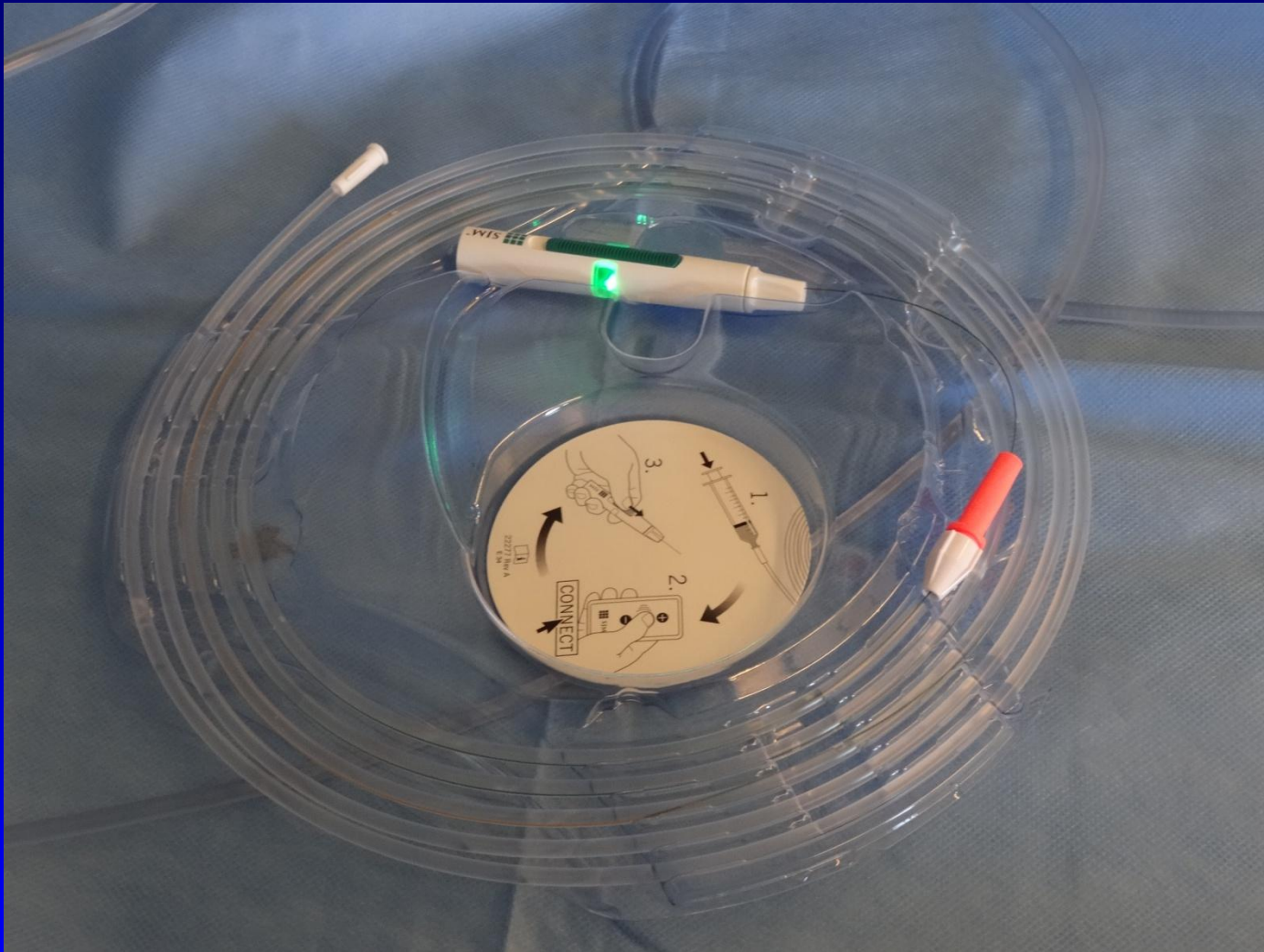
ST. JUDE MEDICAL
CONTROL. LESS RISK.



Unpacking of the Pressure Wire



Flushing the Pressure Wire



Green light indicates that pressure wire is ready



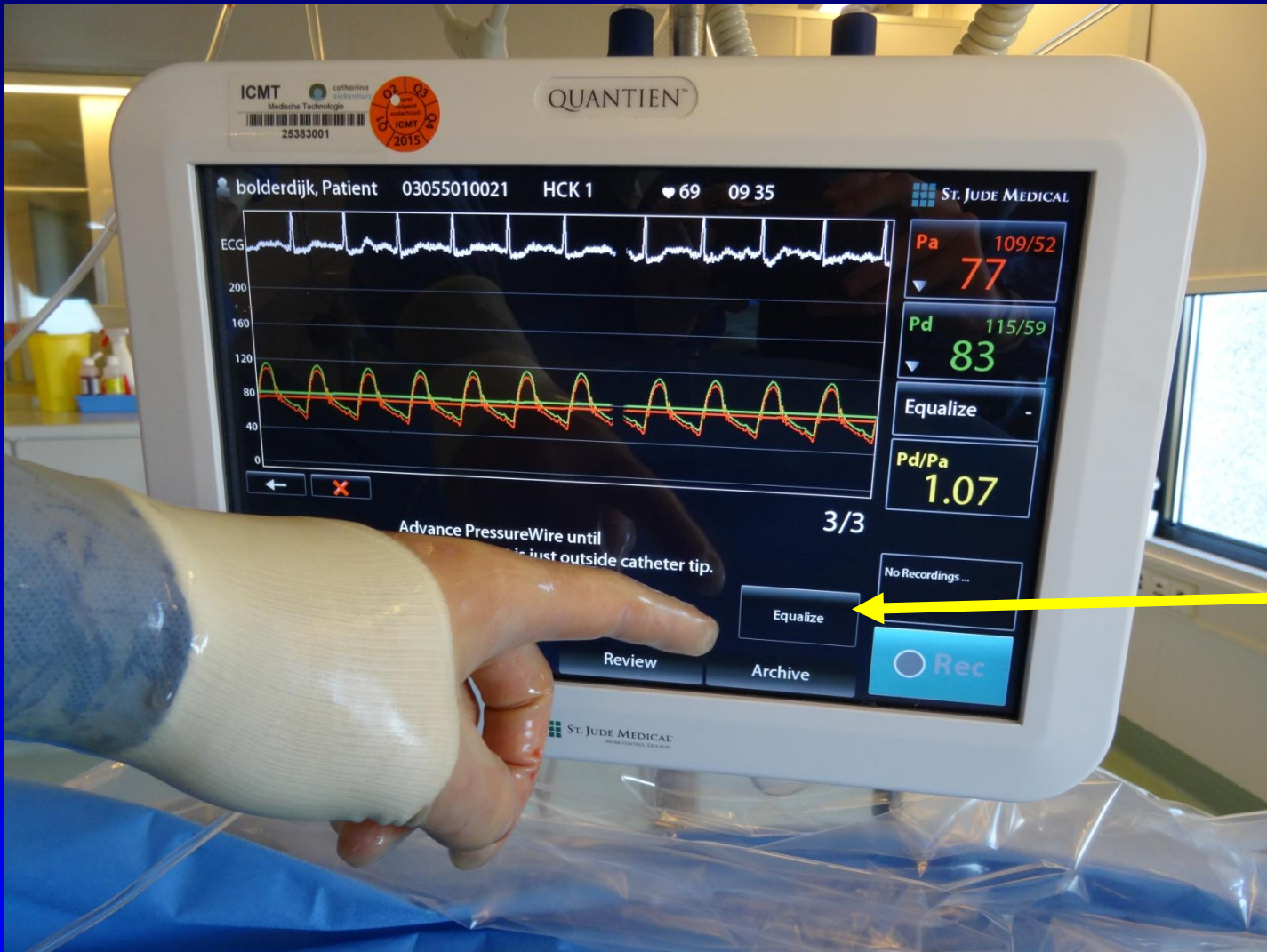
Pressure Wire introduced into Y-connector



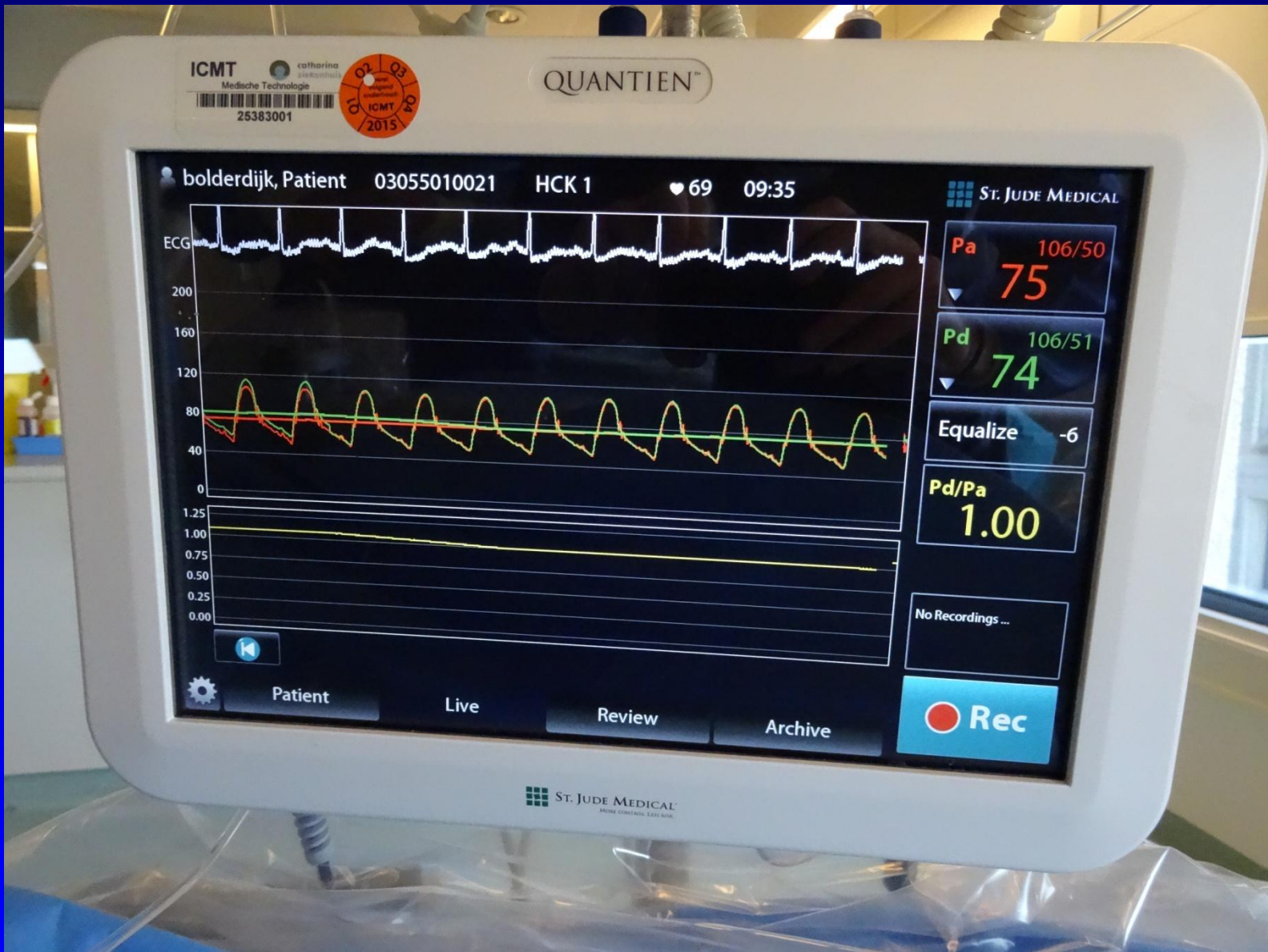
Shaping of the tip of the PW



Introducing the PW into the Guiding Catheter



*start with verification of **equal signals** when sensor is located at tip of the guiding catheter and **equalize***



Signals have been equalized



record

NOTE:

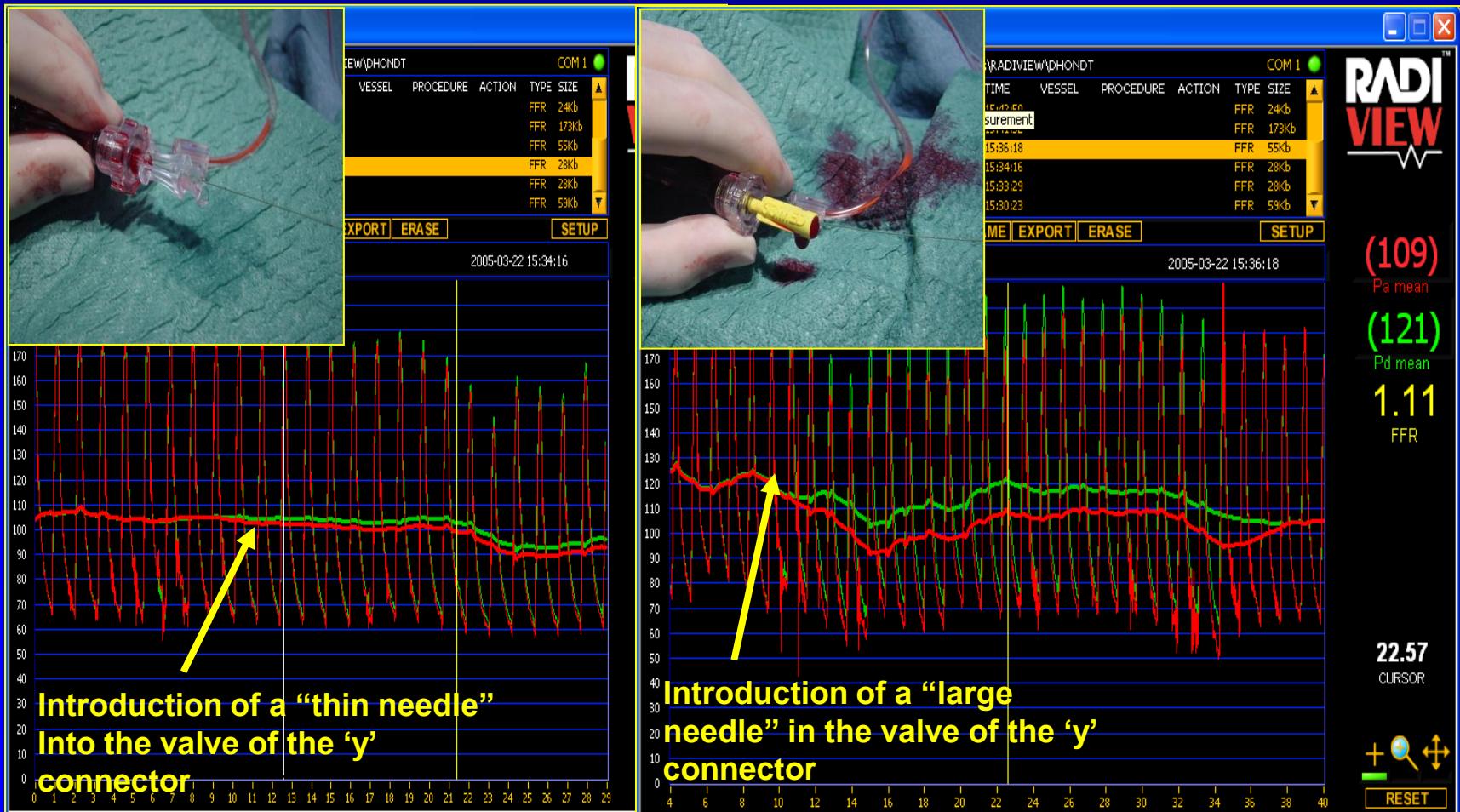
introducer needle in or out !?!

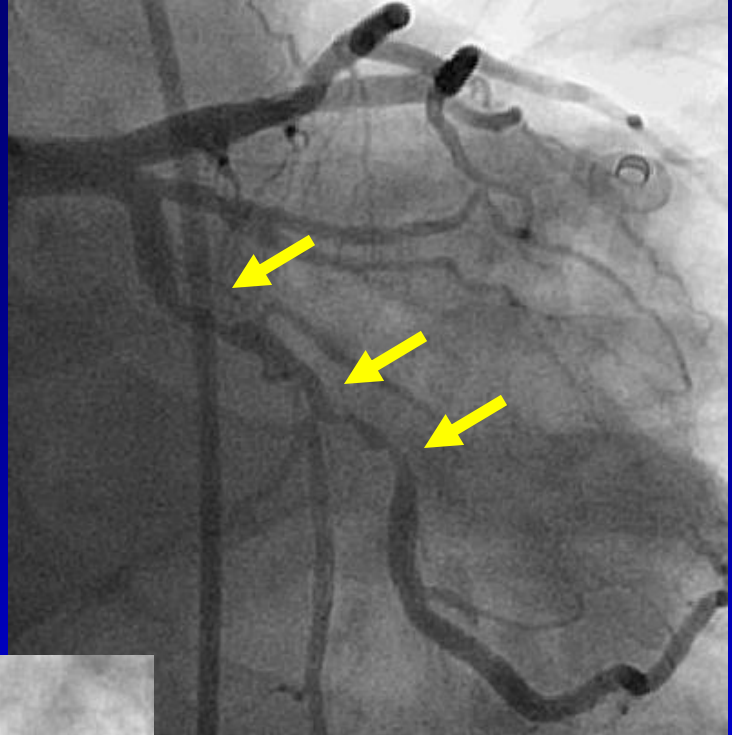
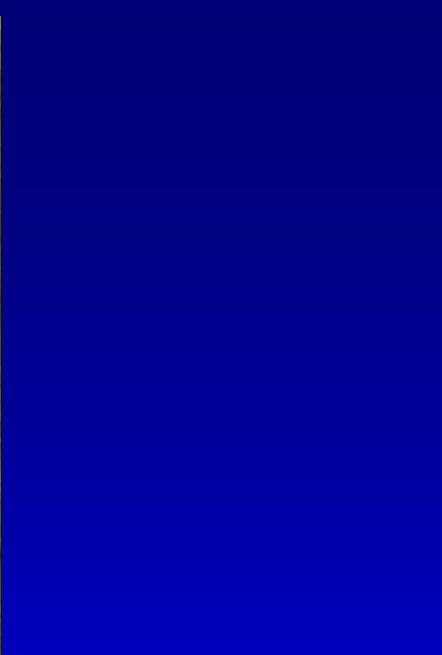
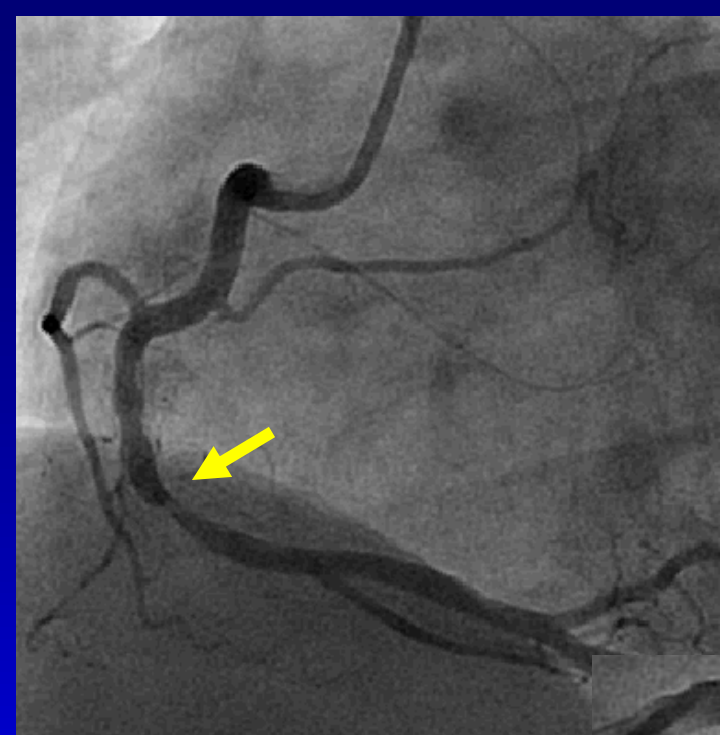
→ doesn't matter as long as you realize what you are doing

1. Know your needle

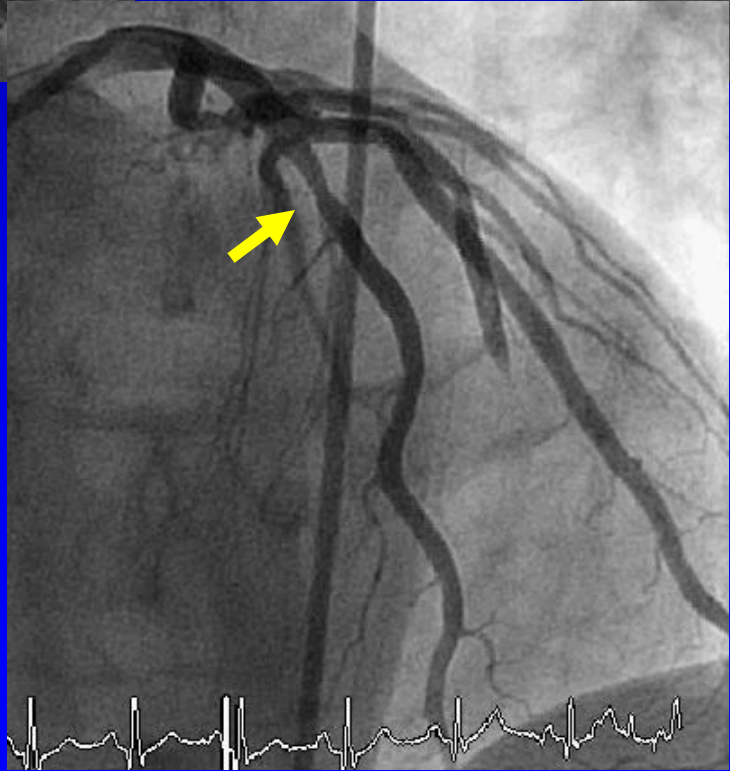
2. Realize that some apparent “drift” at the end is not drift per se but can be caused by the presence of the introducer when doing the initial measurement and absence of the (removed) introducer at the end

Introducer effect (mistake in live case in PCR 2010)





70% RCA
50% LAD
90% long LCX



COM

ARCHIVE CUSTOM

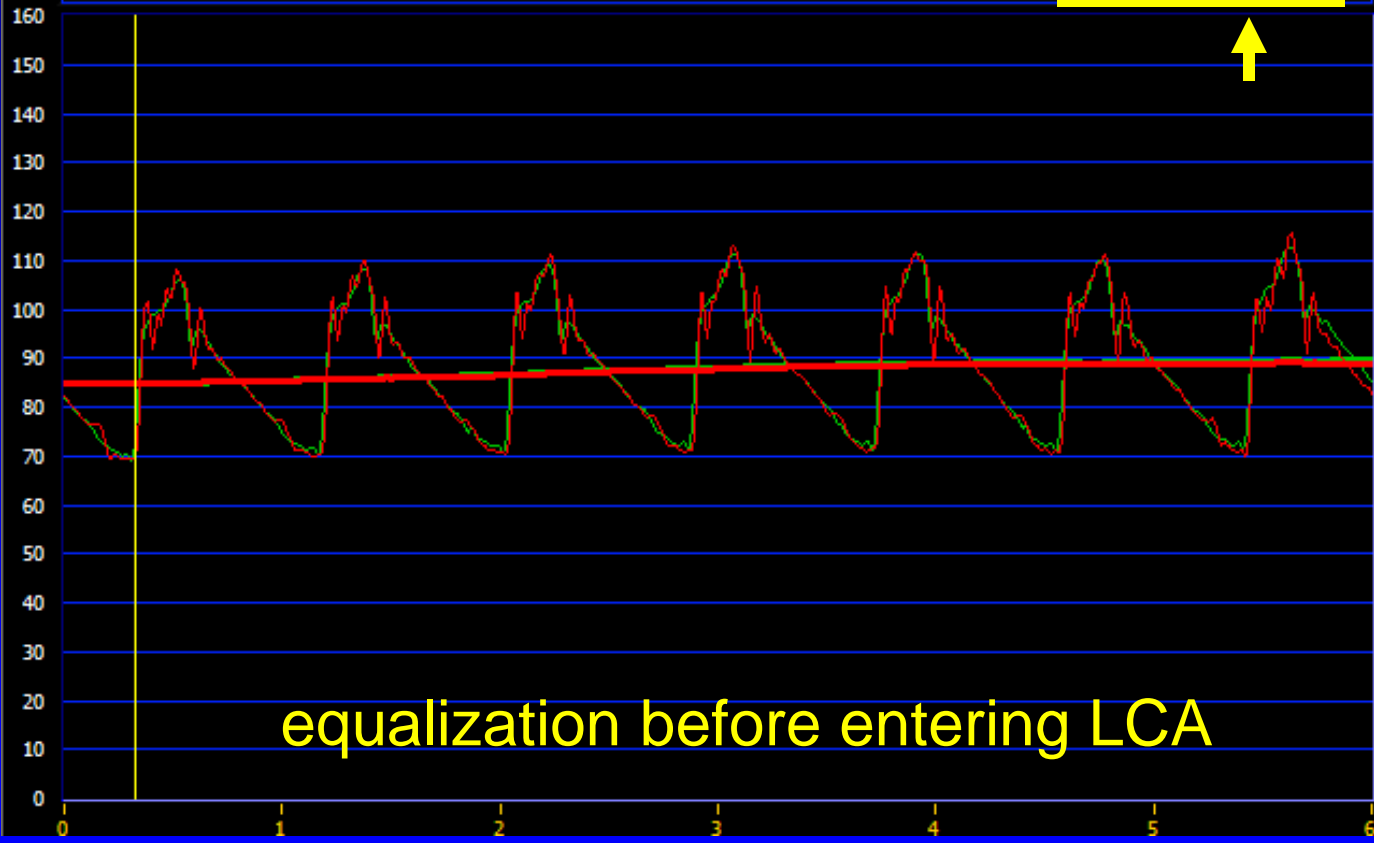
D:\Mijn documenten\radi_download\RokvenFAME3P220168 RADI

FOLDER	PATIENT ID	DATE	TIME	VESSEL	PROCEDURE	ACTION	TYPE	SIZE
SchreuderBifurclesie	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:54:57				FFR	5Kb
salmans	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:54:43				FFR	56Kb
RULO	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:46:17				FFR	58Kb
RokvenFAME3P220168	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:44:08				FFR	70Kb
REGADENOSON_081	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:40:14				FFR	9Kb

PRINT EDIT RENAME EXPORT ERASE SETUP



FAME3PhrR220168 2014-02-19 10:40:14



85
Pa mean

85
Pd mean

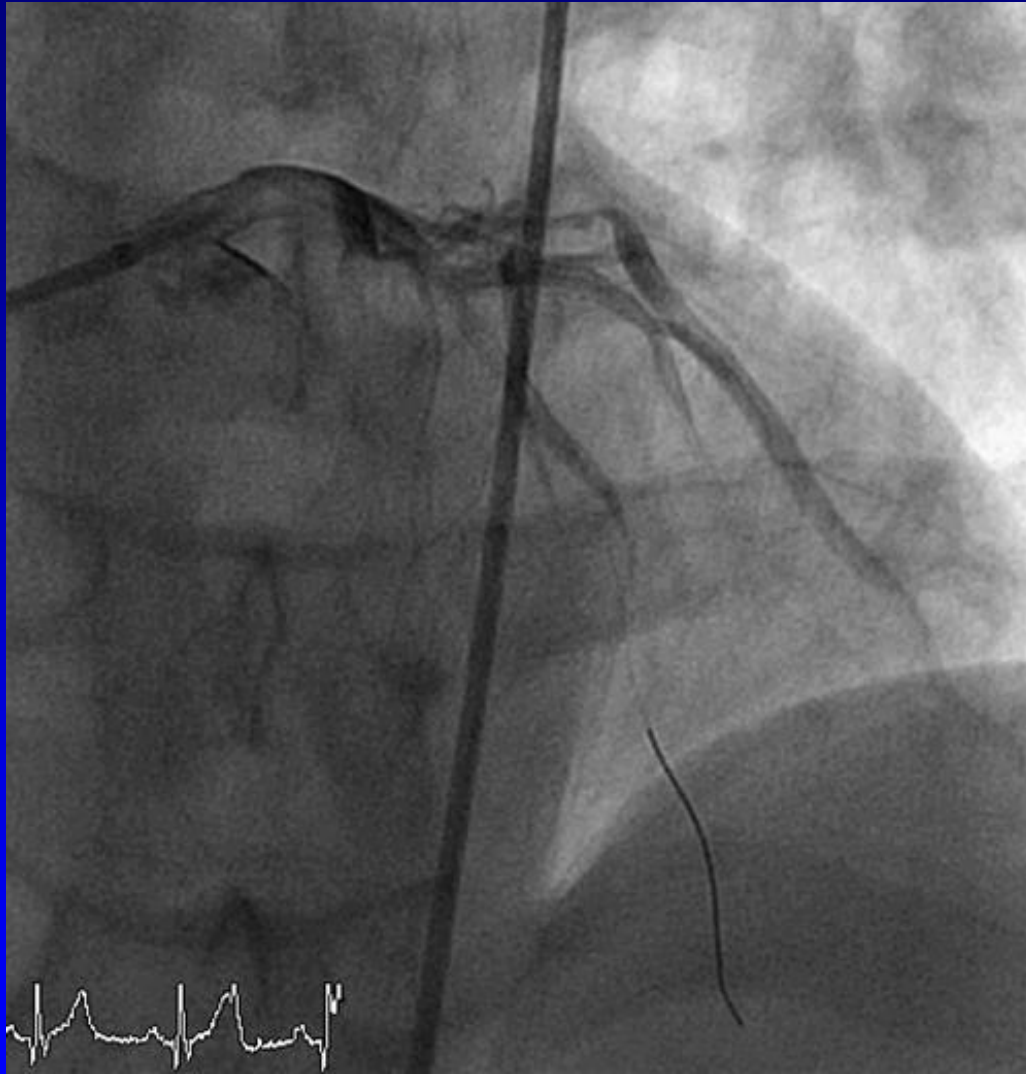
1,00
FFR

0,3
CURSOR

equalization before entering LCA

+ [magnifying glass] [crosshair]

RESET



PressureWire in LAD



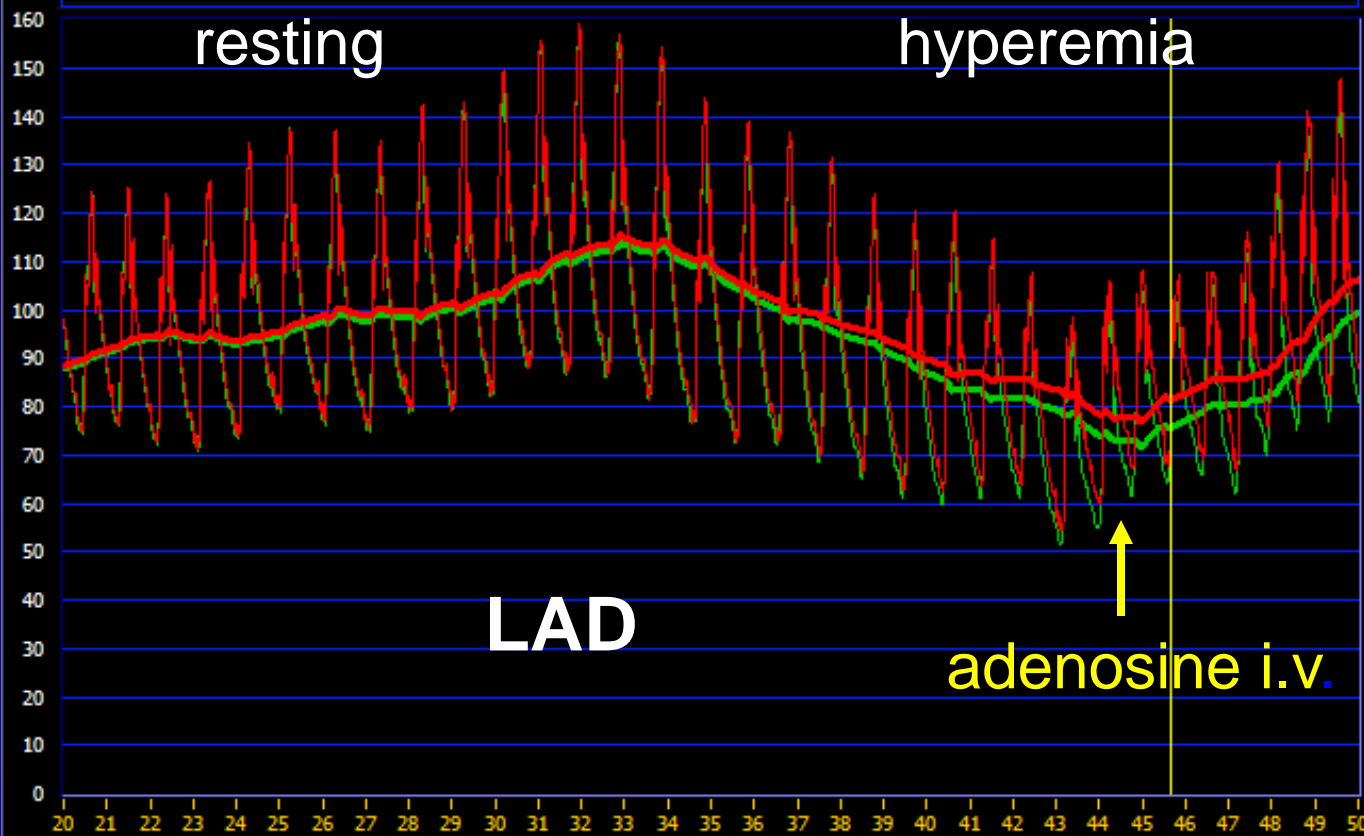
ARCHIVE	CUSTOM
FOLDER	
SchreuderBifurclesie	
salmans	
RULO	
RokvenFAME3P220168	
REGADENOSON_081	

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PATIENT ID	DATE	TIME	VESSEL	PROCEDURE	ACTION	TYPE	SIZE
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:54:57				FFR	5Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:54:43				FFR	56Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:46:17				FFR	58Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:44:08				FFR	70Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:40:14				FFR	9Kb

PRINT EDIT RENAME EXPORT ERASE SETUP

FAME3PhrR220168 2014-02-19 10:44:08



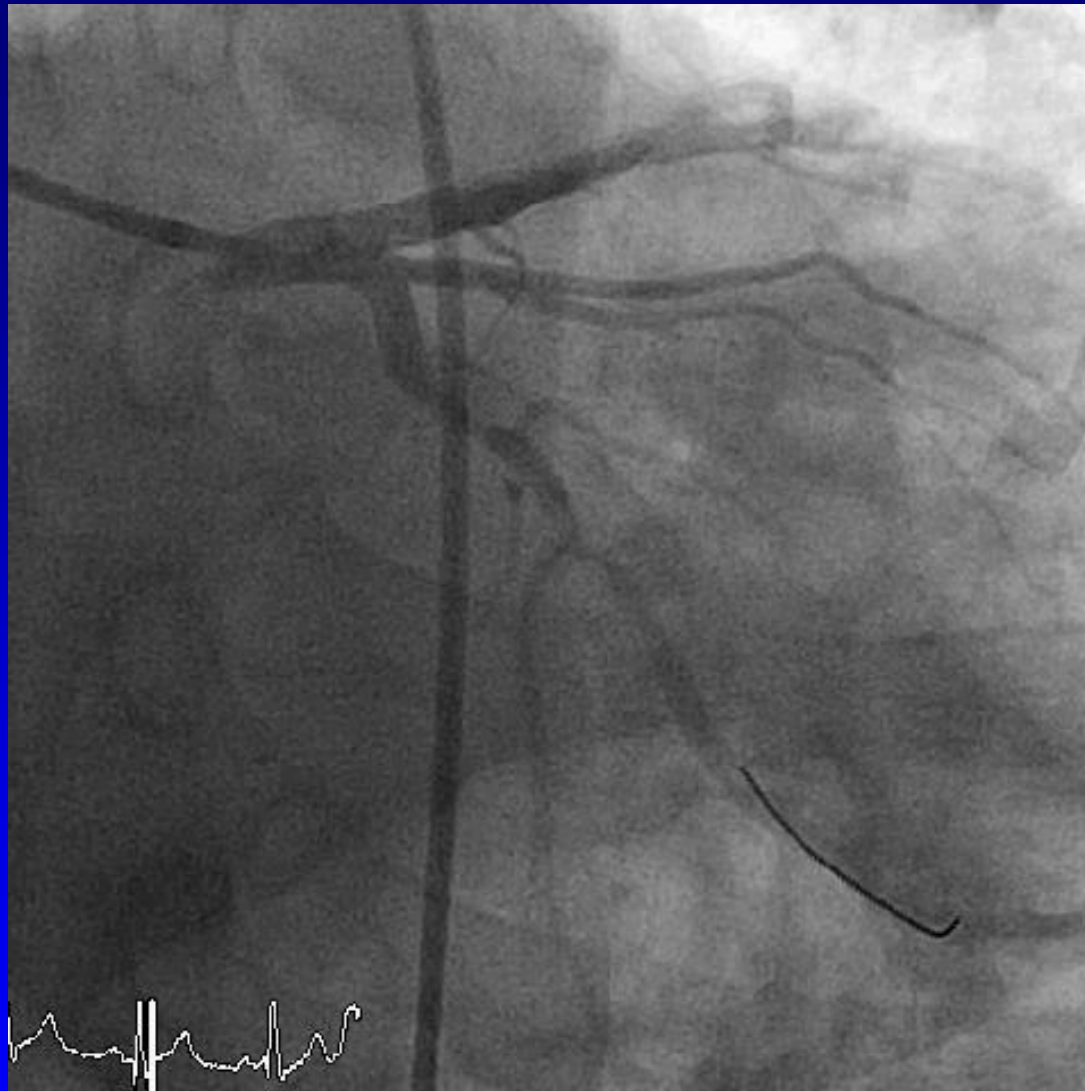
81
Pa mean

75
Pd mean

0,93
FFR

45,6
CURSOR

+ [magnifying glass] [crosshair]
RESET



PressureWire in LCX

COM

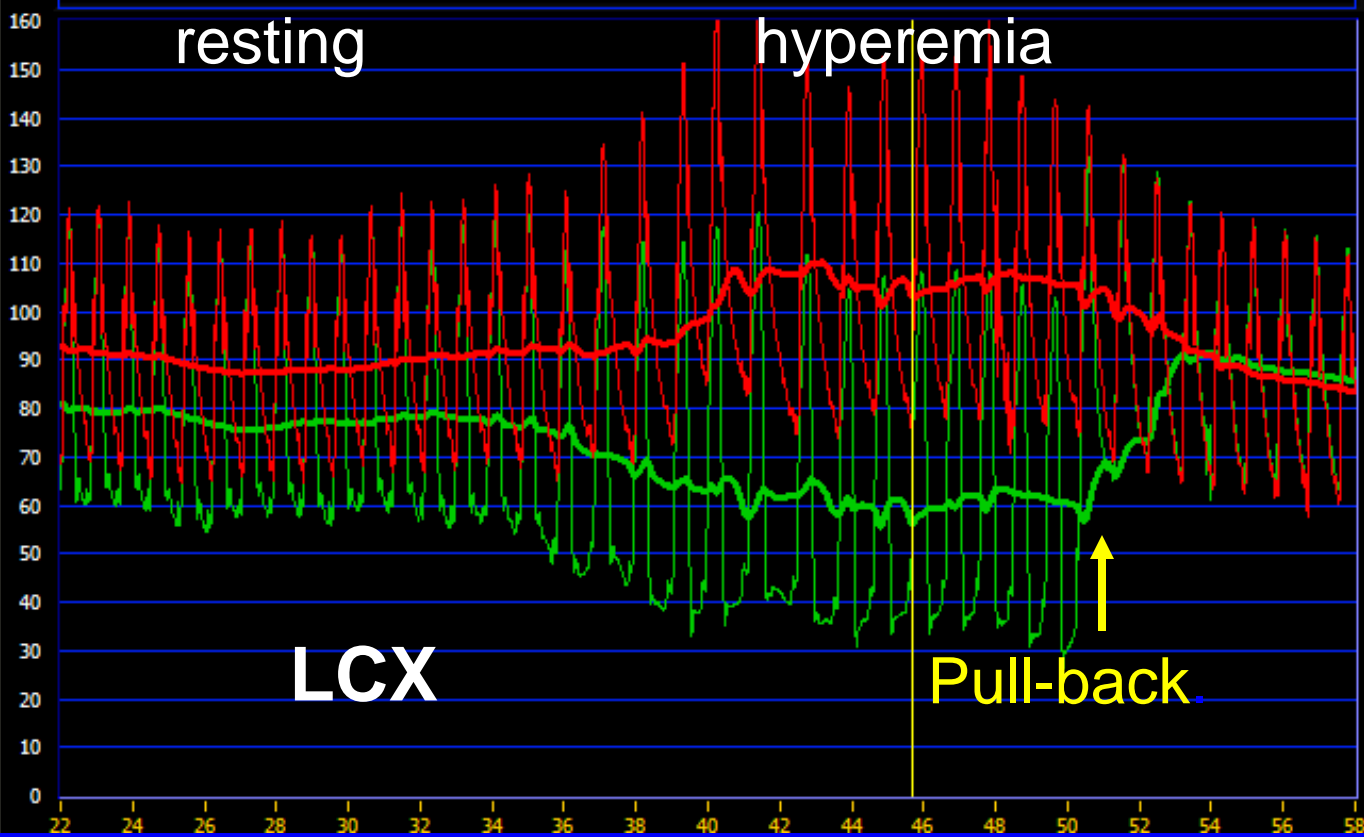
ARCHIVE CUSTOM

D:\Mijn documenten\radi_download\RokvenFAME3P220168.RADI

FOLDER	PATIENT ID	DATE	TIME	VESSEL	PROCEDURE	ACTION	TYPE	SIZE
SchreuderBifurclesie	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:04:06				FFR	48Kb
salmans	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:01:55				FFR	11Kb
RULO	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:54:57				FFR	5Kb
RokvenFAME3P220168	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:54:43				FFR	56Kb
REGADENOSON_081	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:46:17				FFR	58Kb

PRINT EDIT RENAME EXPORT ERASE SETUP

FAME3PhrR220168 2014-02-19 10:46:17



103 Pa mean

56 Pd mean

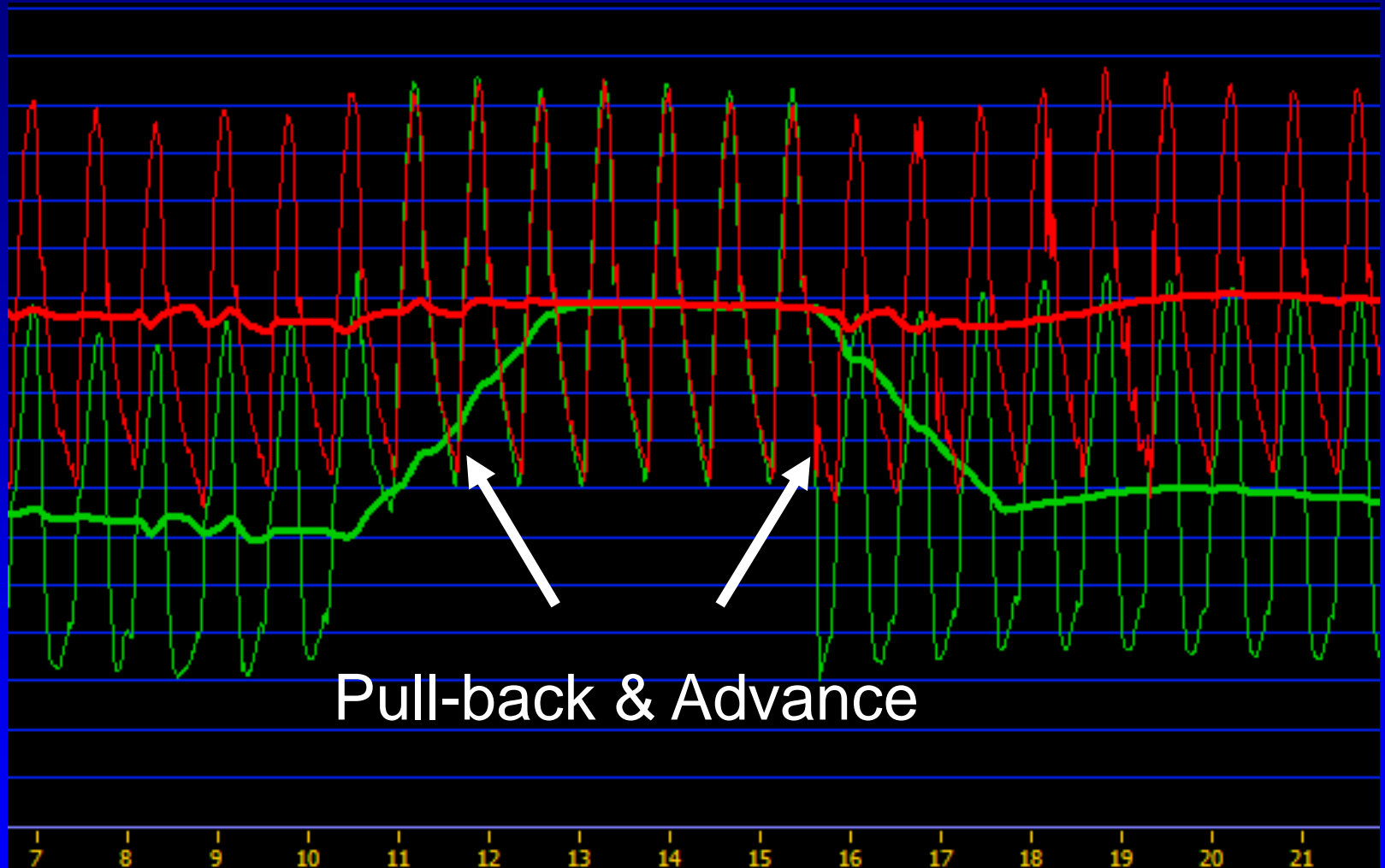
0,55 FFR

45,7 CURSOR

+ - ↕

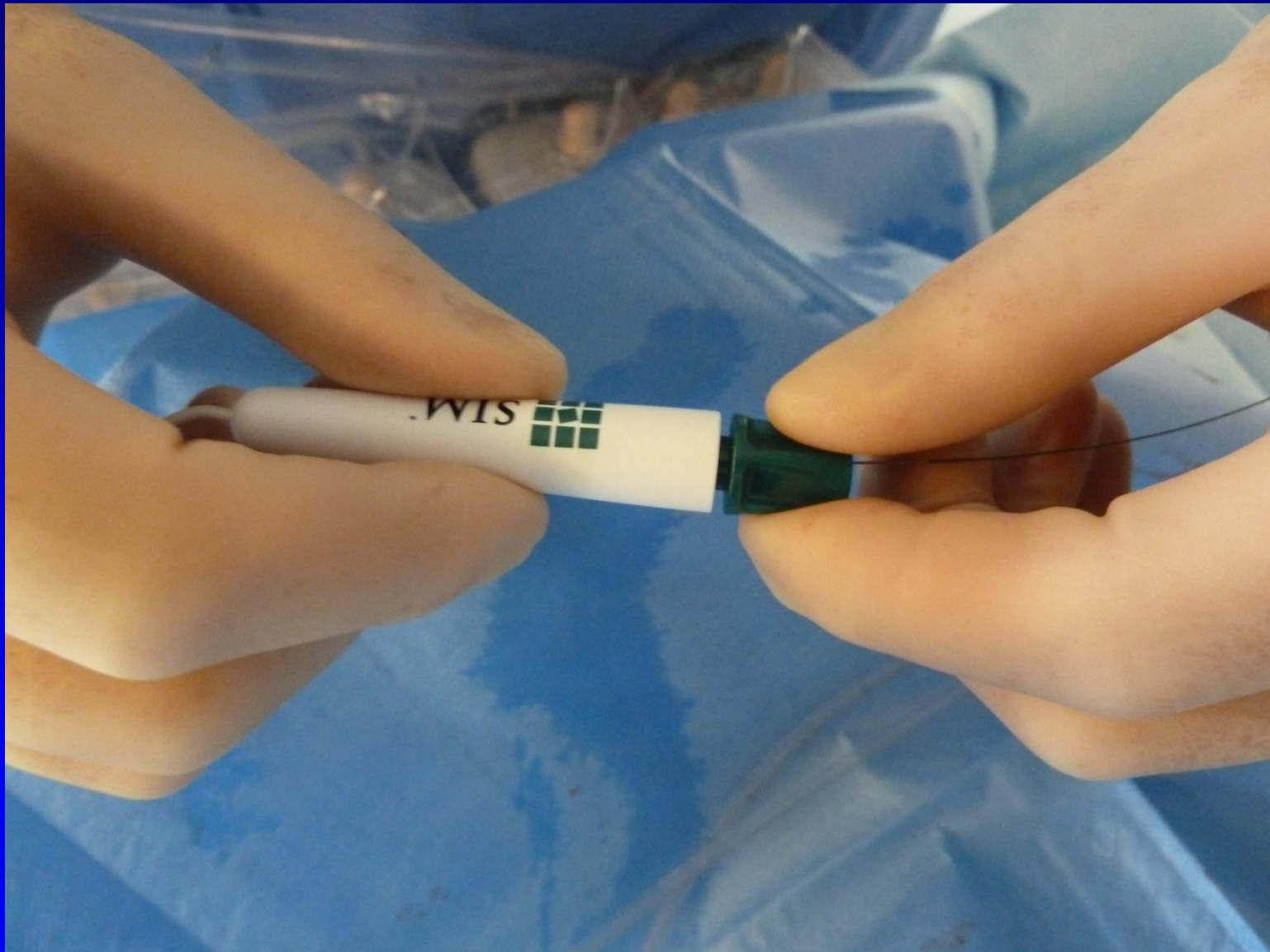
 RESET

*Because sensor is 3 cm from tip, easily **pull-back** and **push-up** for exact spatial information.*

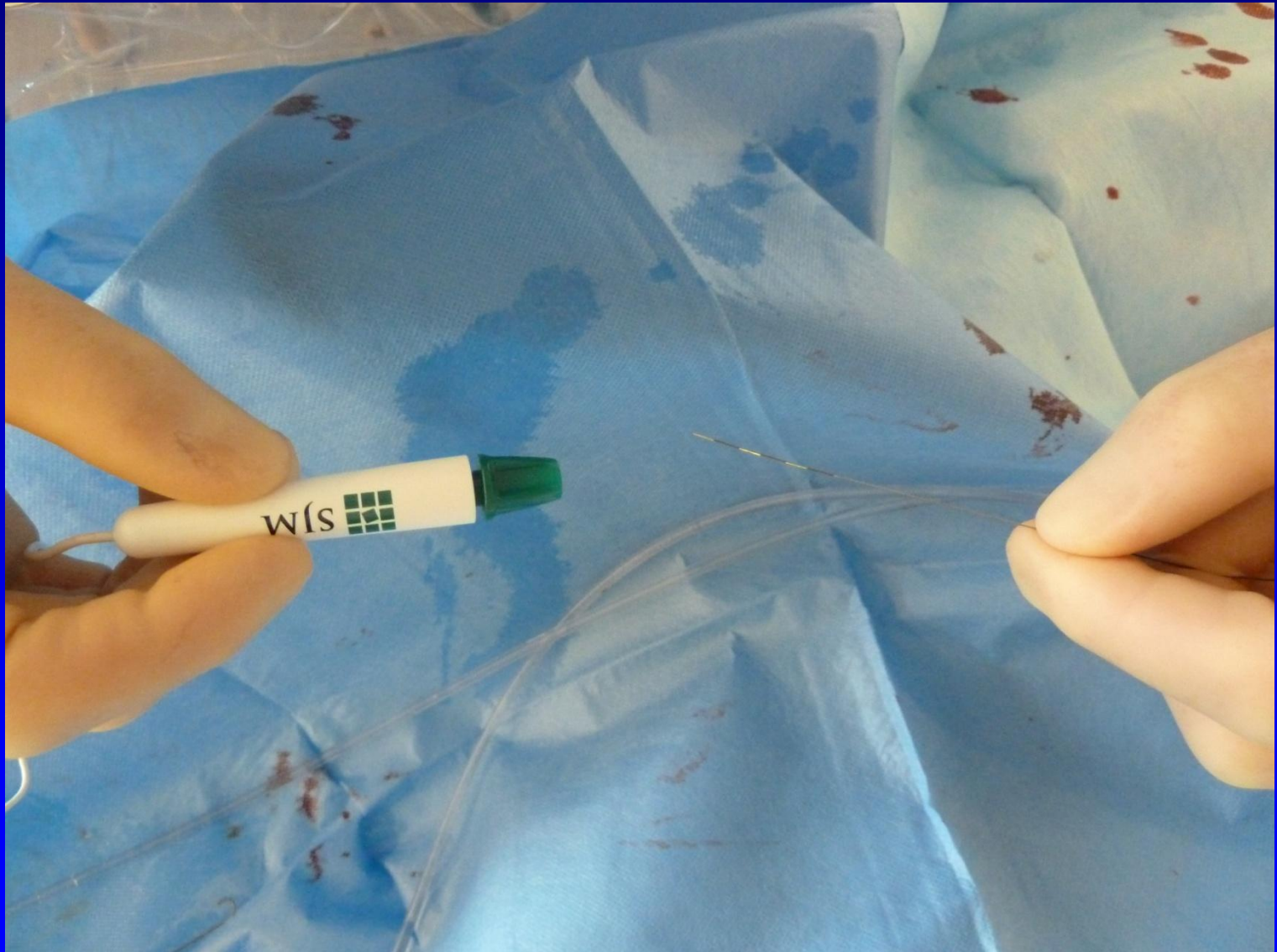


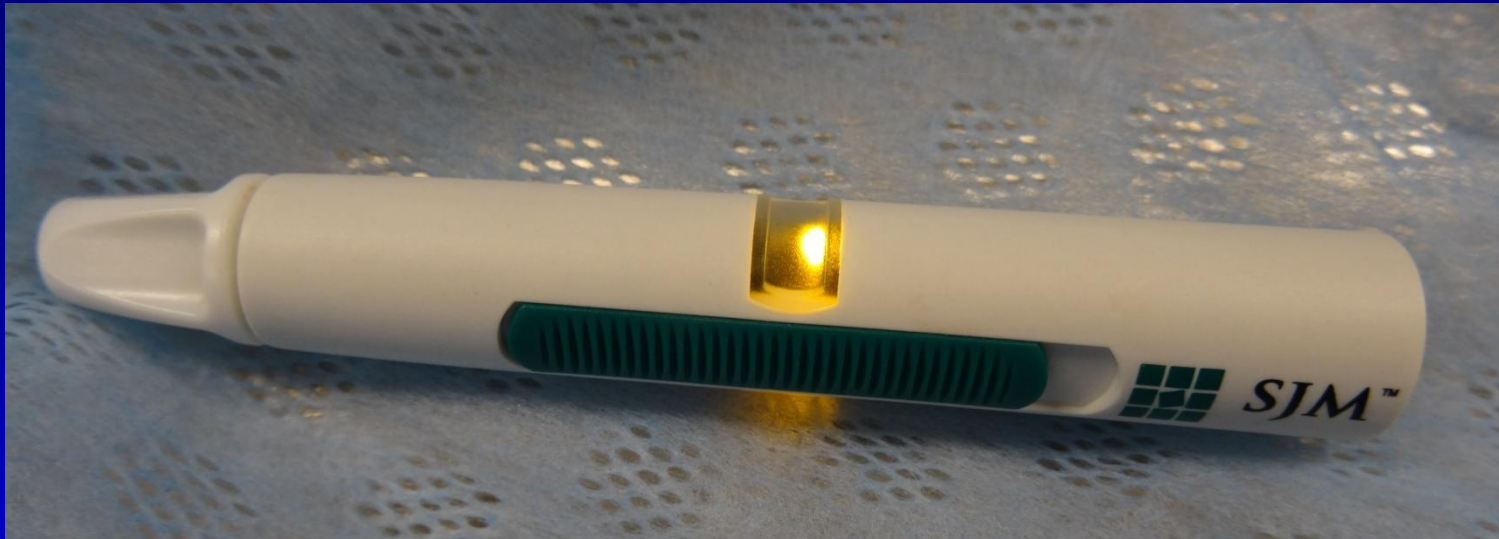
***Pull-back recording** for detailed spatial information about distribution of lesions along the complete artery*

If you need to treat, disconnect pressure wire

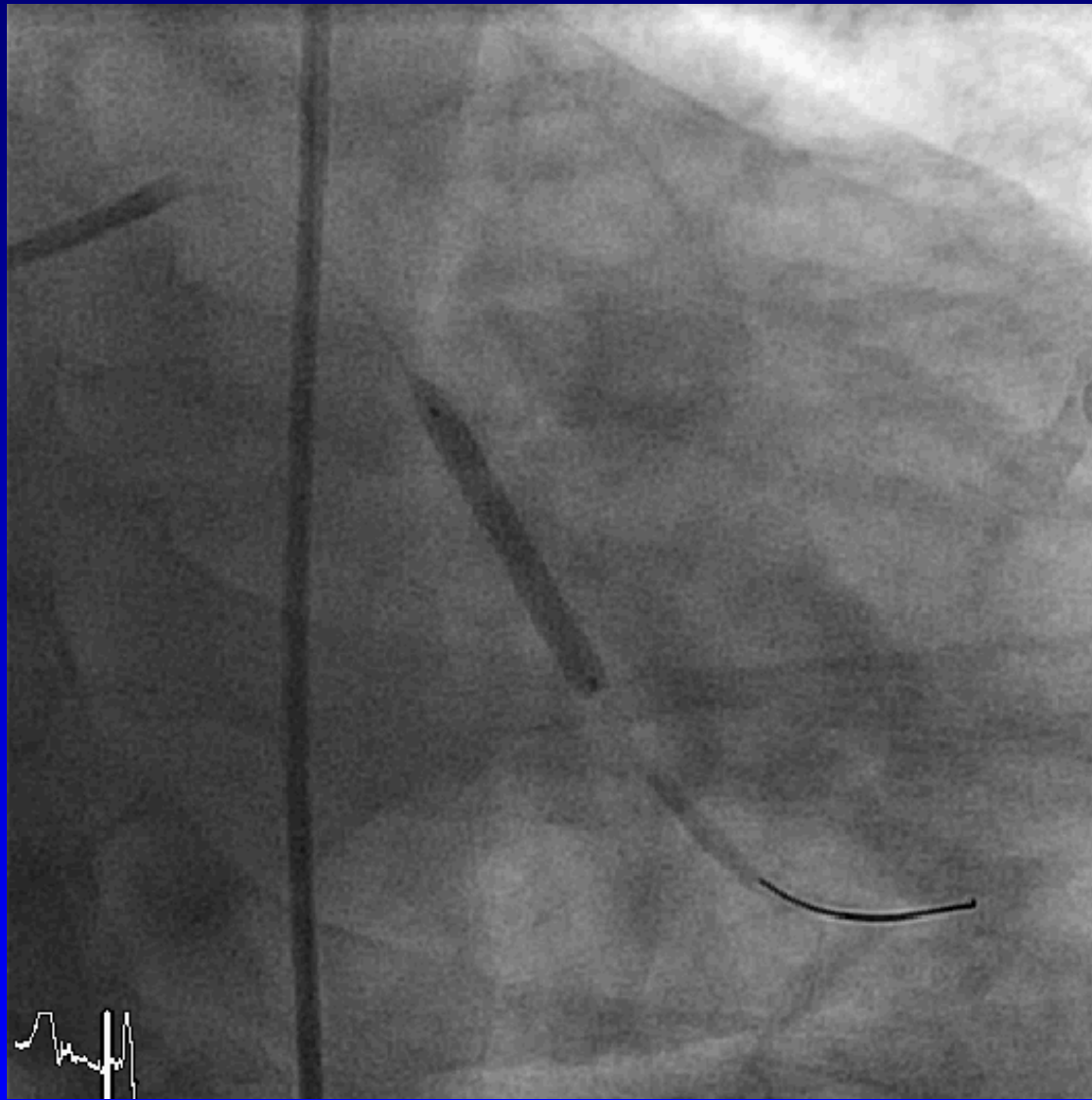


disconnecting the pressure wire.....

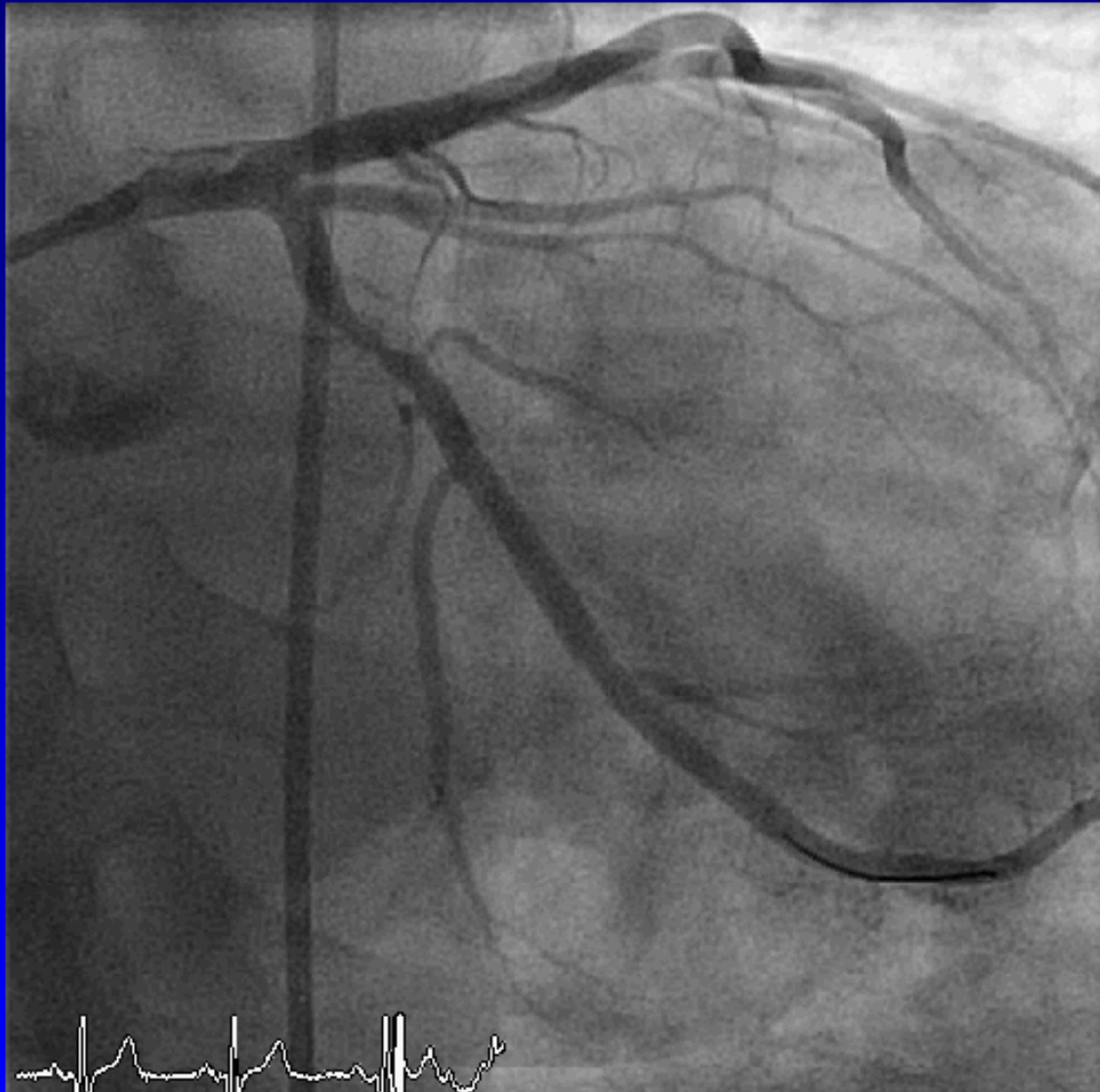




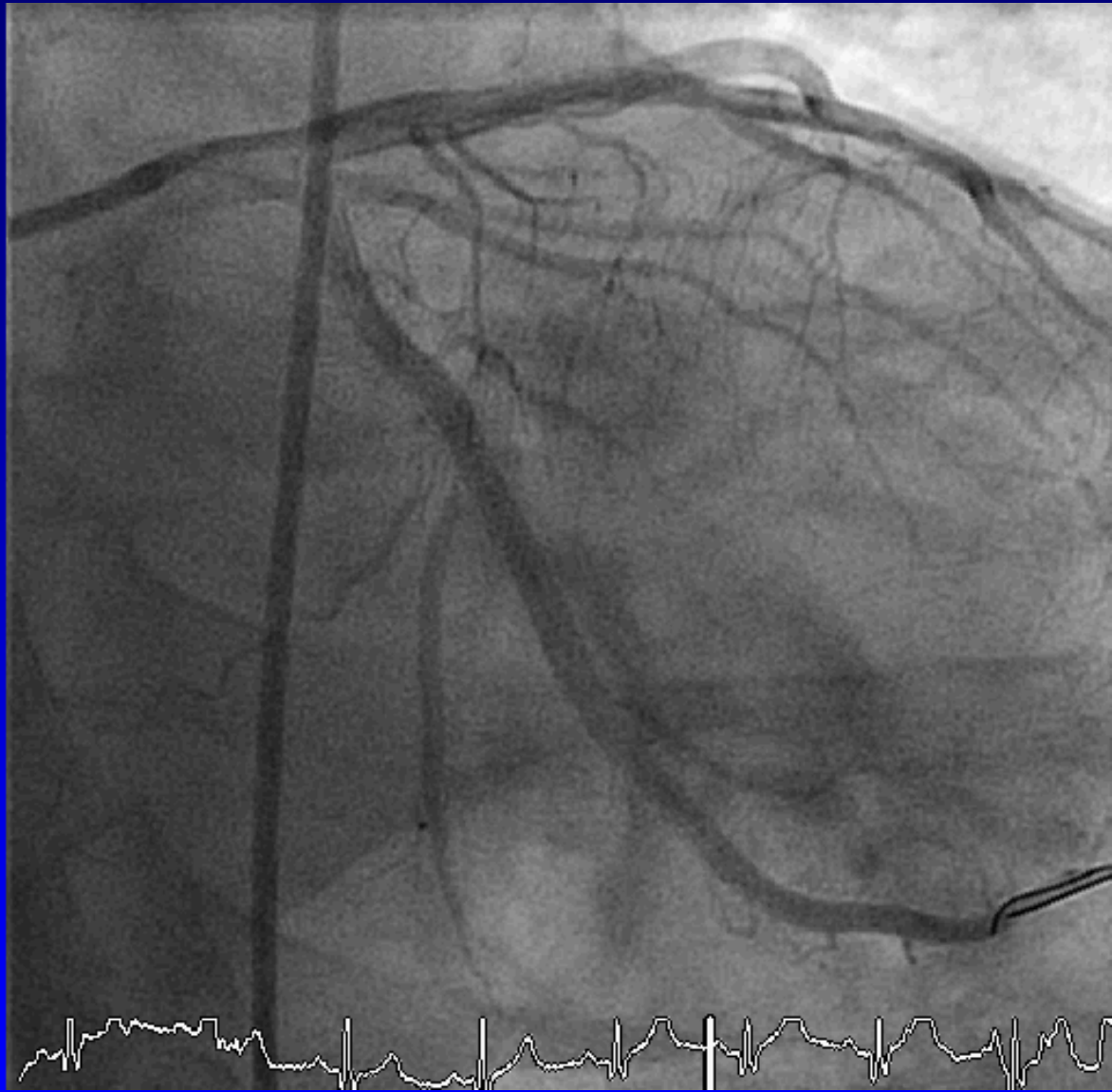
Wire disconnected → indicator orange



first stent in LCX (3.0x22)

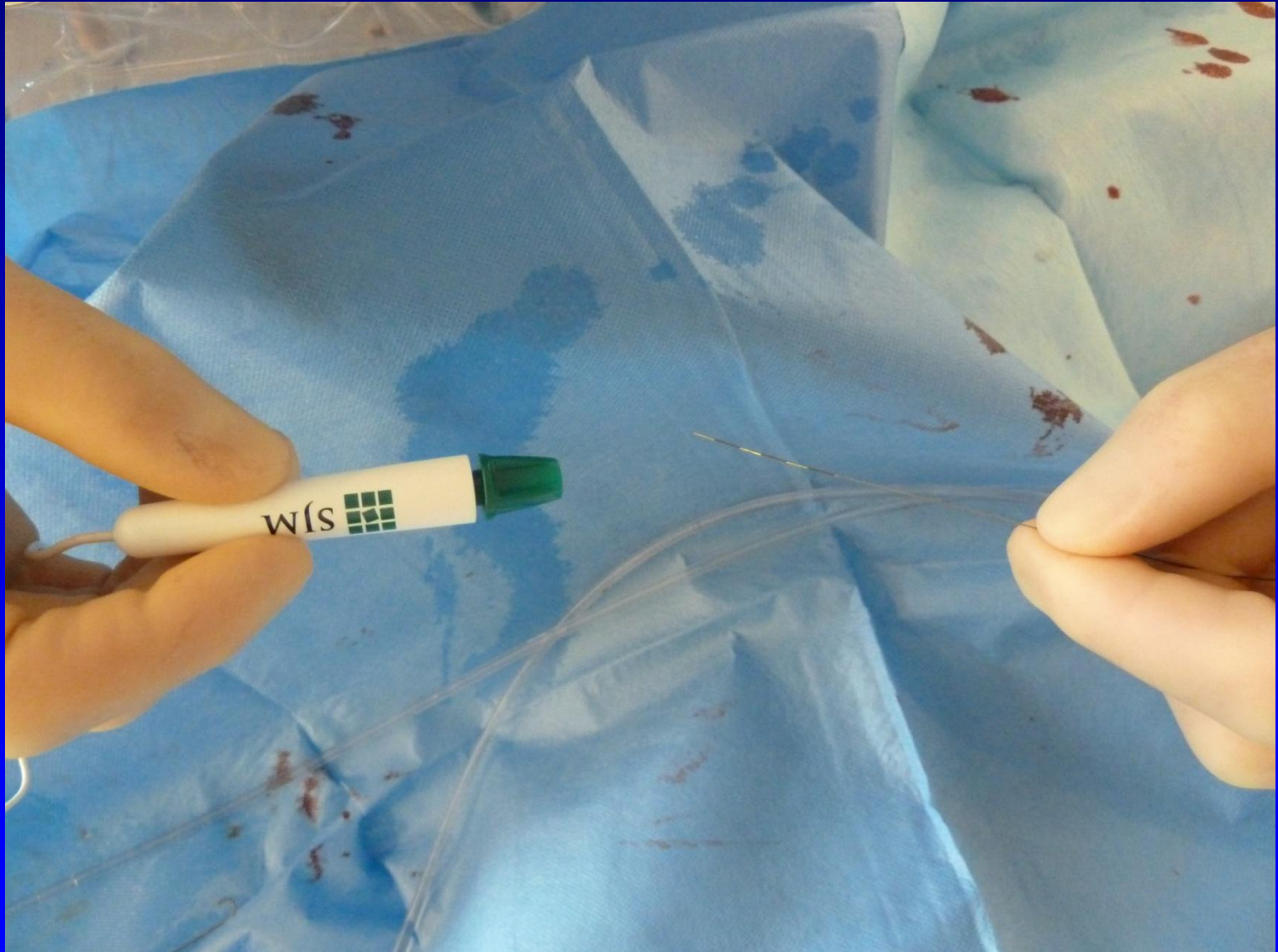


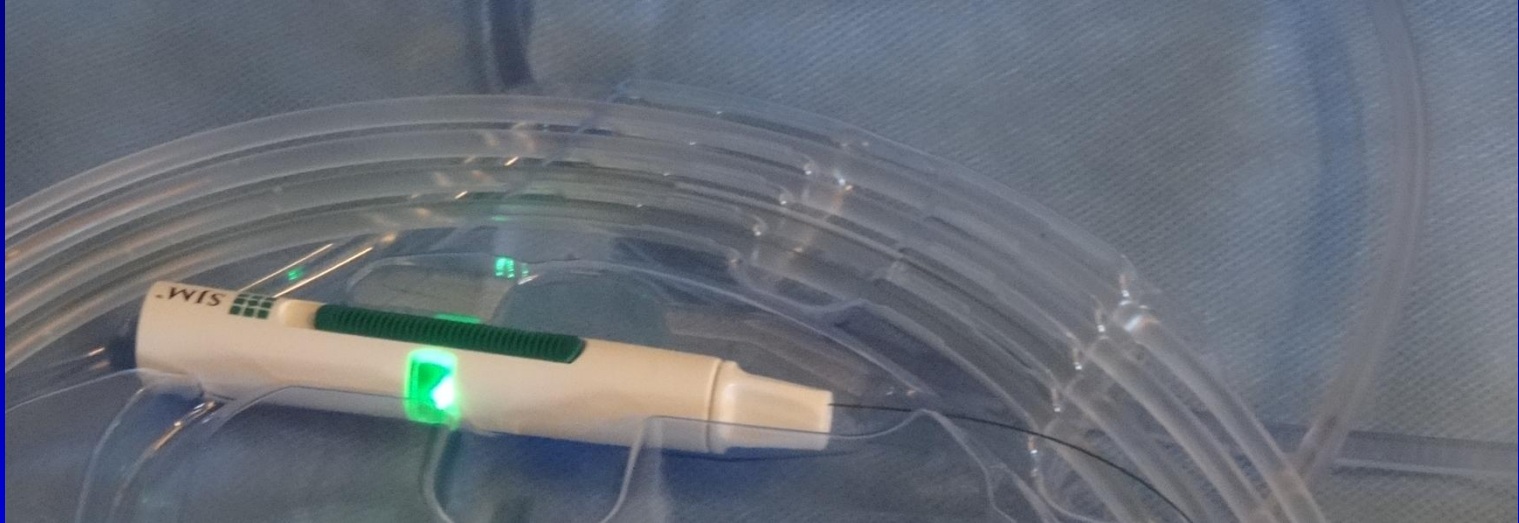
LCX after first stent



LCX after second stent

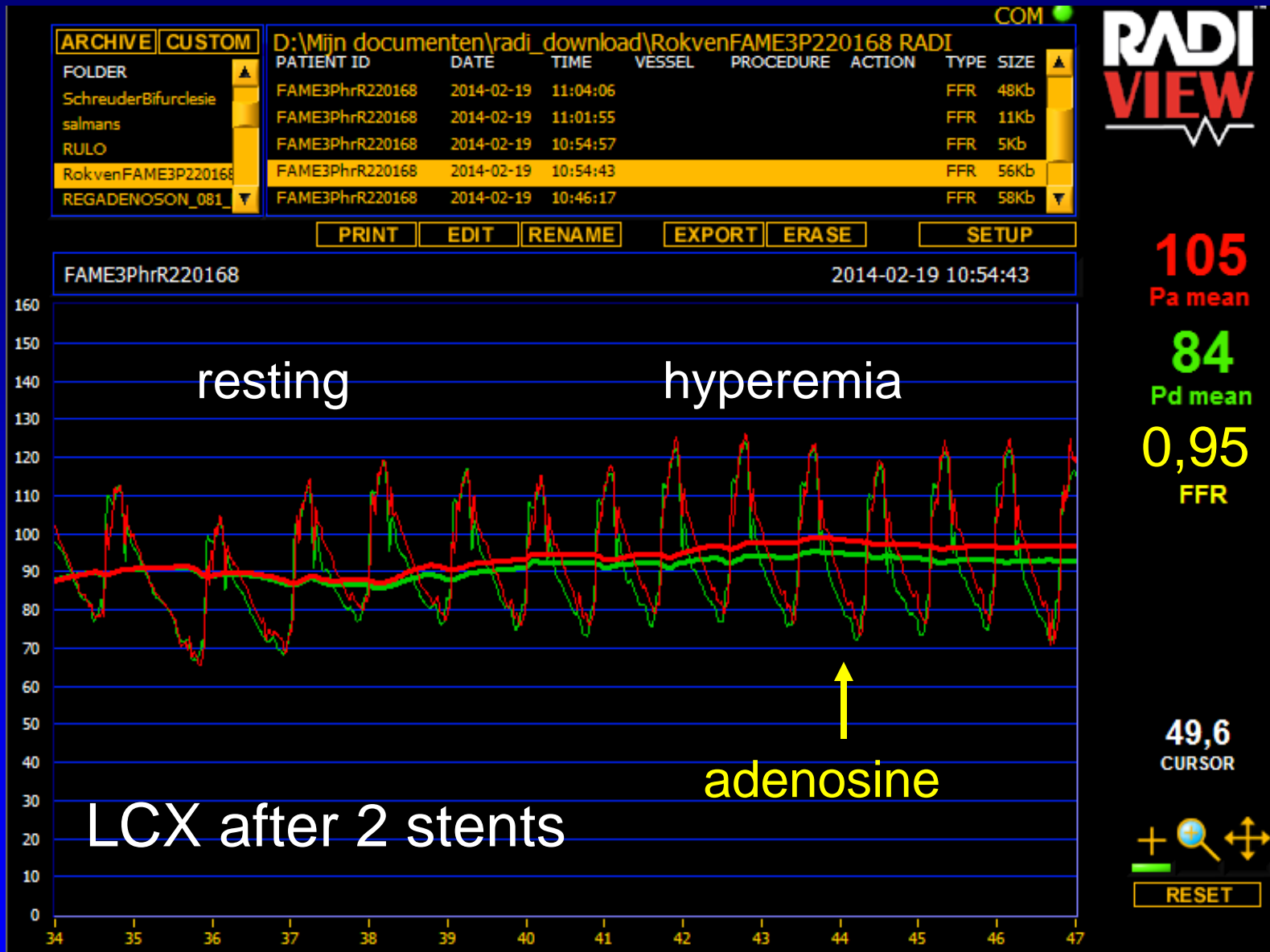
For post-stent FFR \rightarrow simply connect the pressure wire





Re-connected → indicator light green

*Note: after reconnecting it can take 15-20
Seconds for signal to stabilize*



Post-stent FFR measurement to evaluate result

COM



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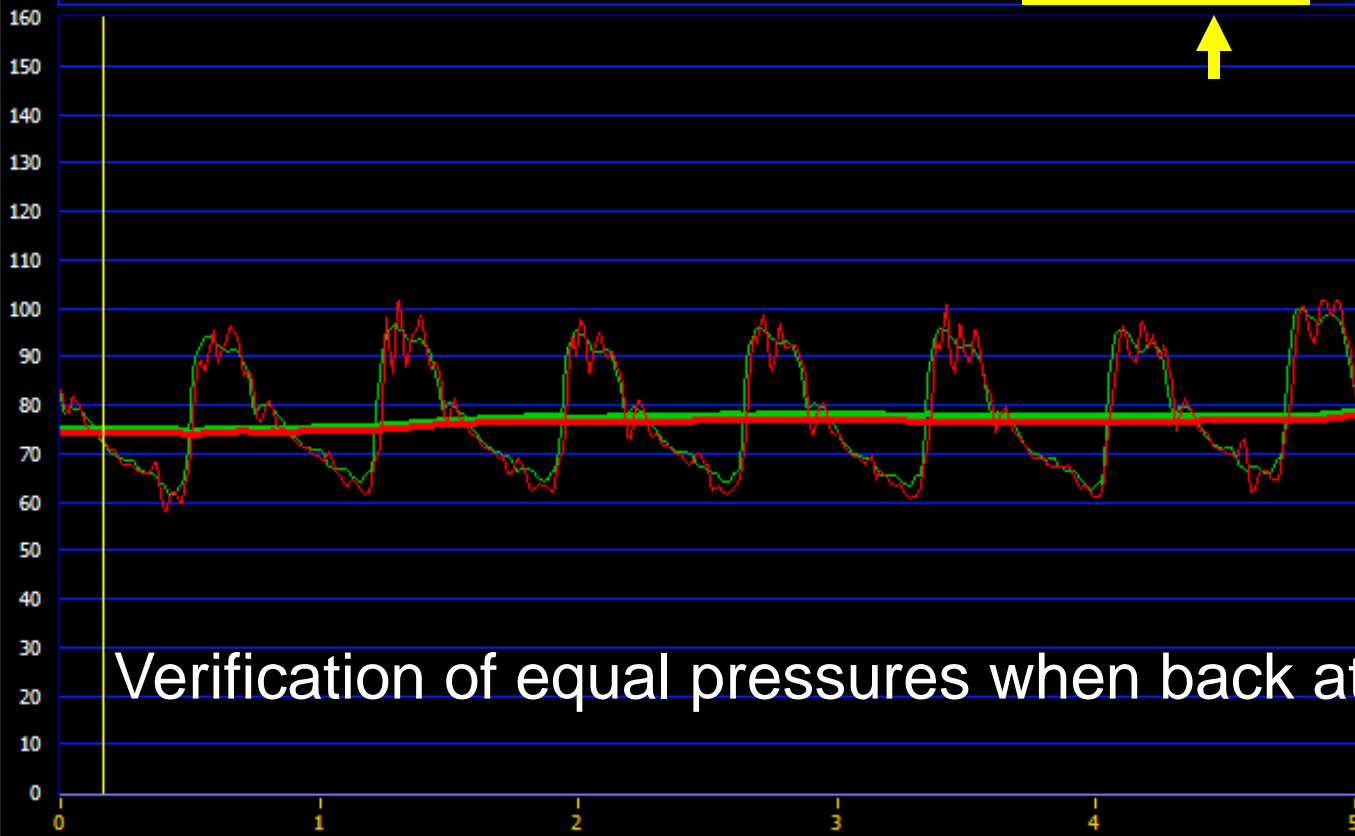
D:\Mijn documenten\radi_download\RokvenFAME3P220168 RADI

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REGADENOSON_081	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:46:17				FFR	58Kb

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FAME3PhrR220168

2014-02-19 10:54:57



74
Pa mean

75
Pd mean

1,01
FFR

Verification of equal pressures when back at guiding

COM

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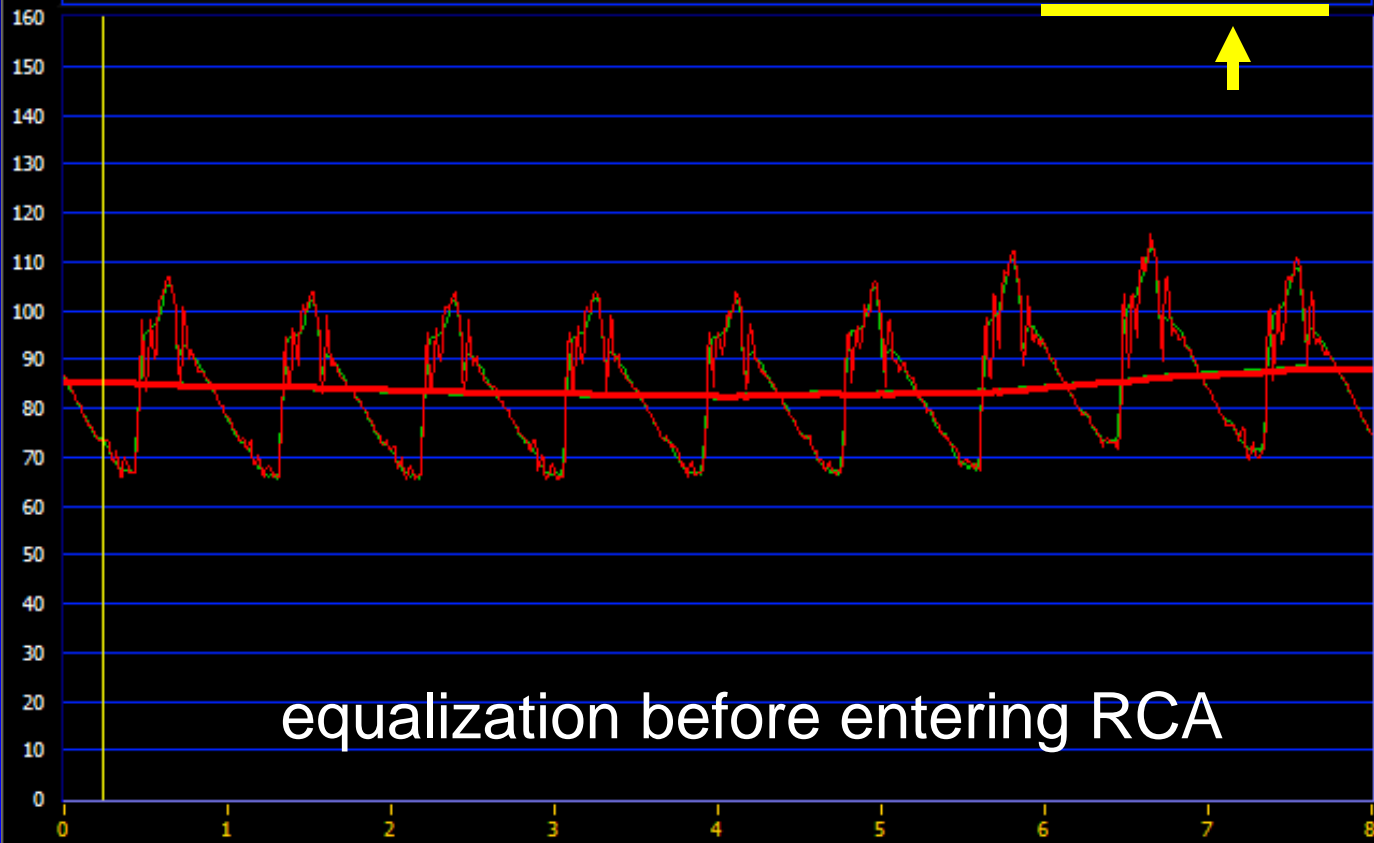
- FOLDER
- SchreuderBifurclesie
- salmans
- RULO
- RokvenFAME3P220168
- REGADENOSON_081

PATIENT ID	DATE	TIME	VESSEL	PROCEDURE	ACTION	TYPE	SIZE
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FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:54:57				FFR	5Kb
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FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:46:17				FFR	58Kb

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FAME3PhrR220168

2014-02-19 11:01:55



equalization before entering RCA



85 Pa mean

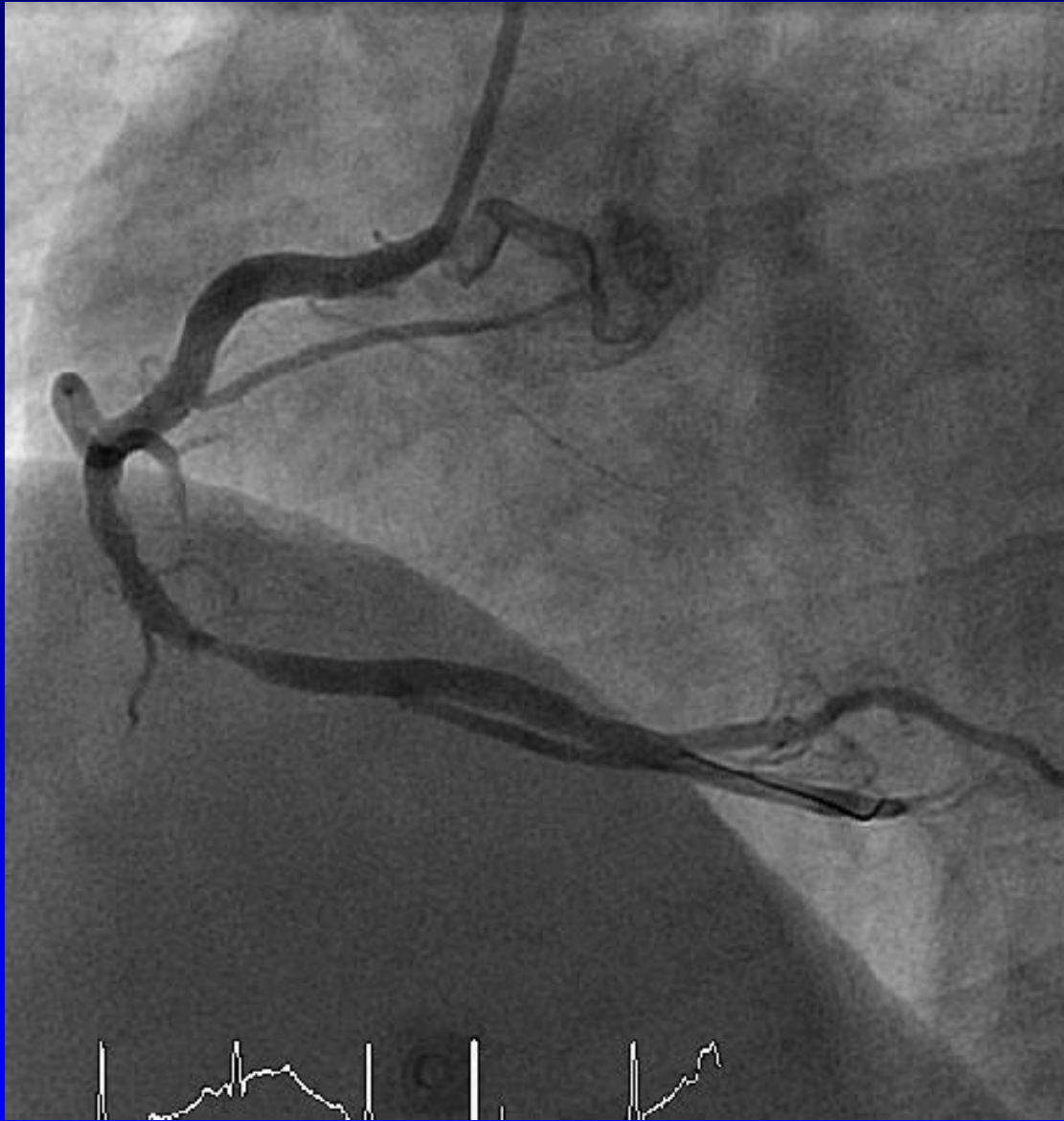
85 Pd mean

1,00 FFR

0,2 CURSOR



RESET



PressureWire in RCA

COM

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FOLDER	PATIENT ID	DATE	TIME	VESSEL	PROCEDURE	ACTION	TYPE	SIZE
SchreuderBifurclesie	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:11:53				FFR	69Kb
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RULO	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:06:31				FFR	103Kb
RokvenFAME3P220168	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:04:06				FFR	48Kb
REGADENOSON_081	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:01:55				FFR	11Kb

PRINT EDIT RENAME EXPORT ERASE SETUP



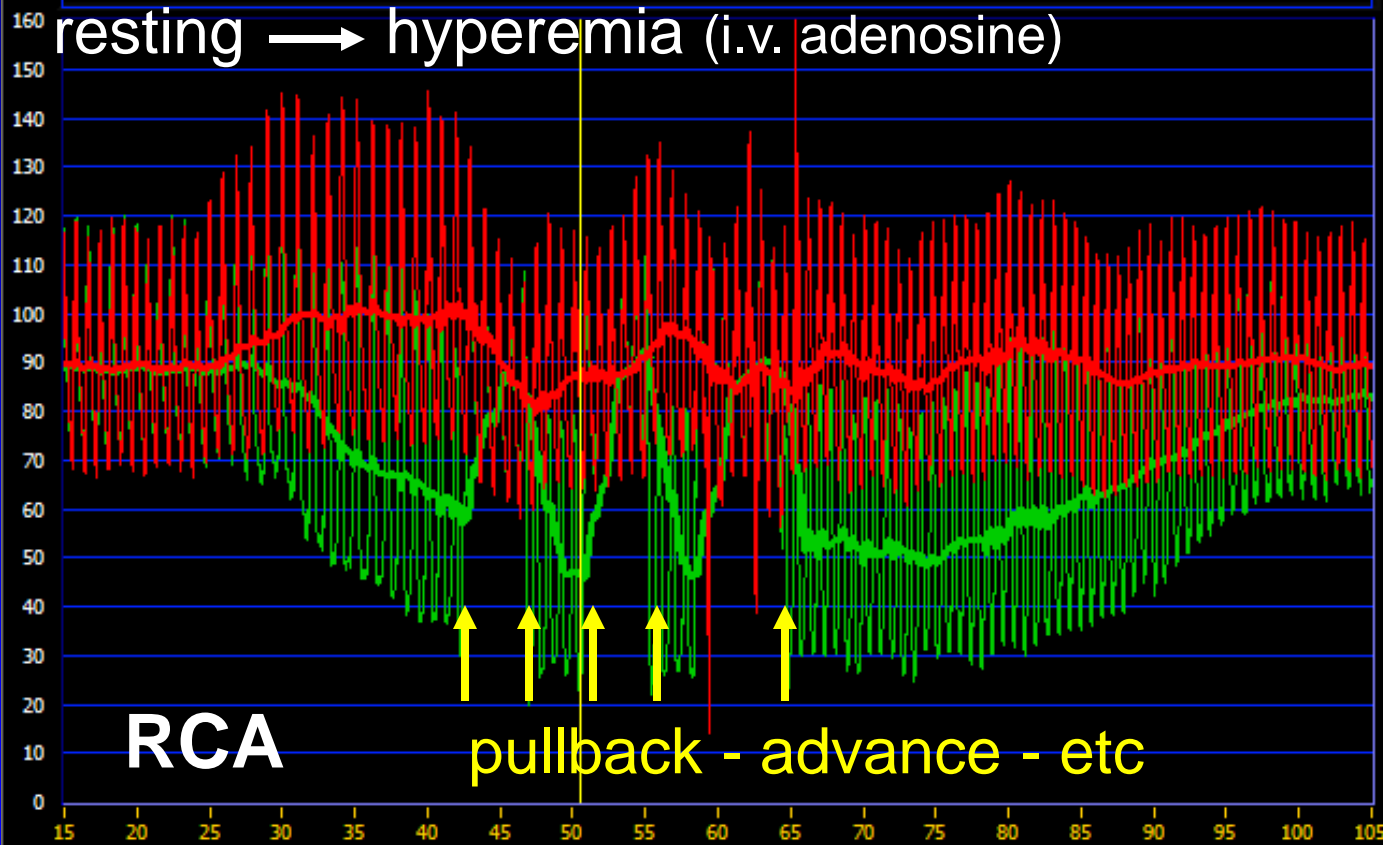
FAME3PhrR220168 2014-02-19 11:06:31

88
Pa mean

47
Pd mean

0,53
FFR

resting → hyperemia (i.v. adenosine)



50,5 CURSOR

+ [magnifying glass icon] [crosshair icon]

RESET

COM



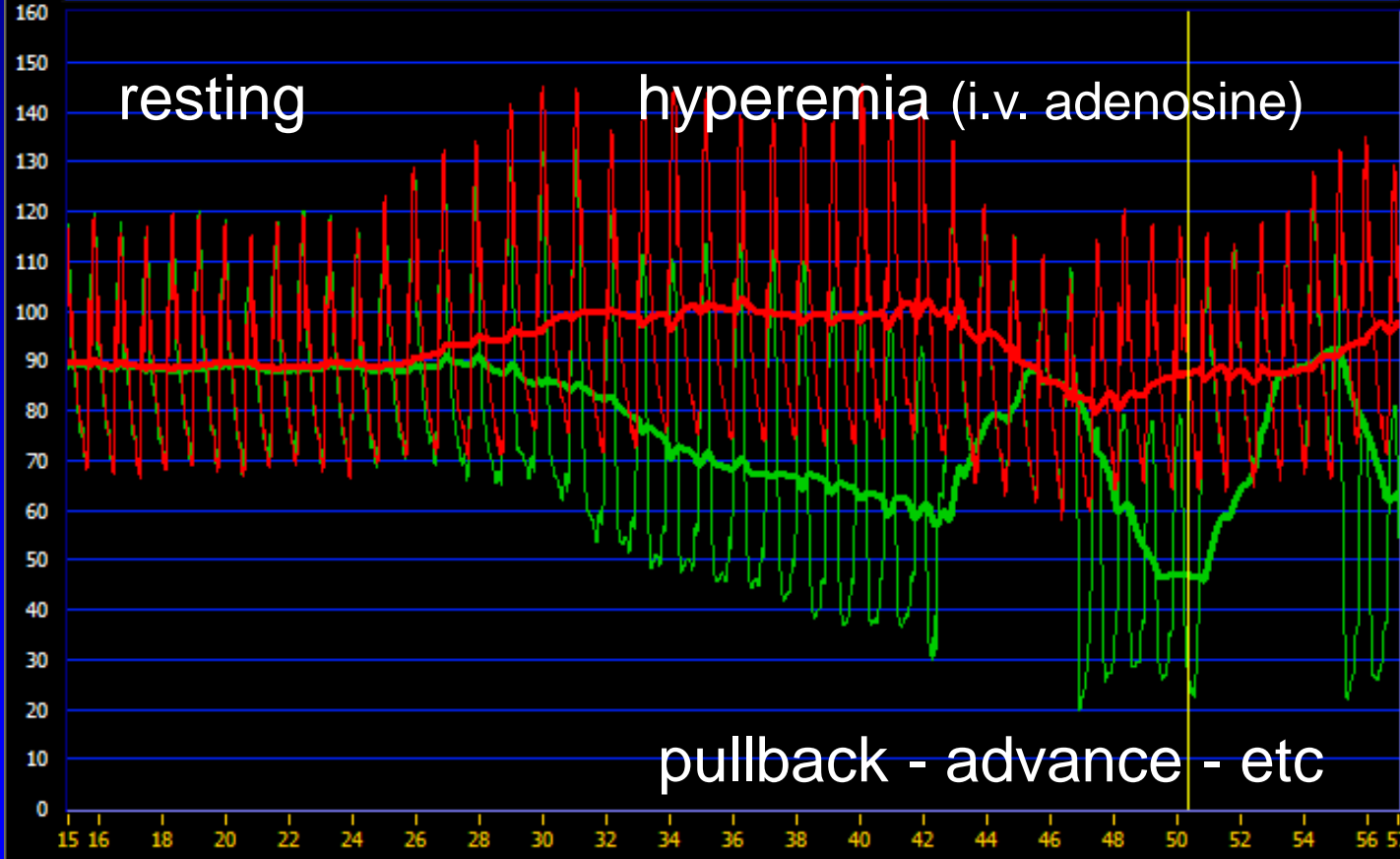
FOLDER
SchreuderBifurclesie
salmans
RULO
RokvenFAME3P220168
REGADENOSON_081

D:\Mijn documenten\radi_download\RokvenFAME3P220168 RADI

PATIENT ID	DATE	TIME	VESSEL	PROCEDURE	ACTION	TYPE	SIZE
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:11:53				FFR	69Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:06:31				FFR	103Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:04:06				FFR	48Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:01:55				FFR	11Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:54:57				FFR	5Kb

PRINT EDIT RENAME EXPORT ERASE SETUP

FAME3PhrR220168 2014-02-19 11:06:31



87
Pa mean

47
Pd mean

0,54
FFR

50,4
CURSOR



RESET

COM

ARCHIVE CUSTOM

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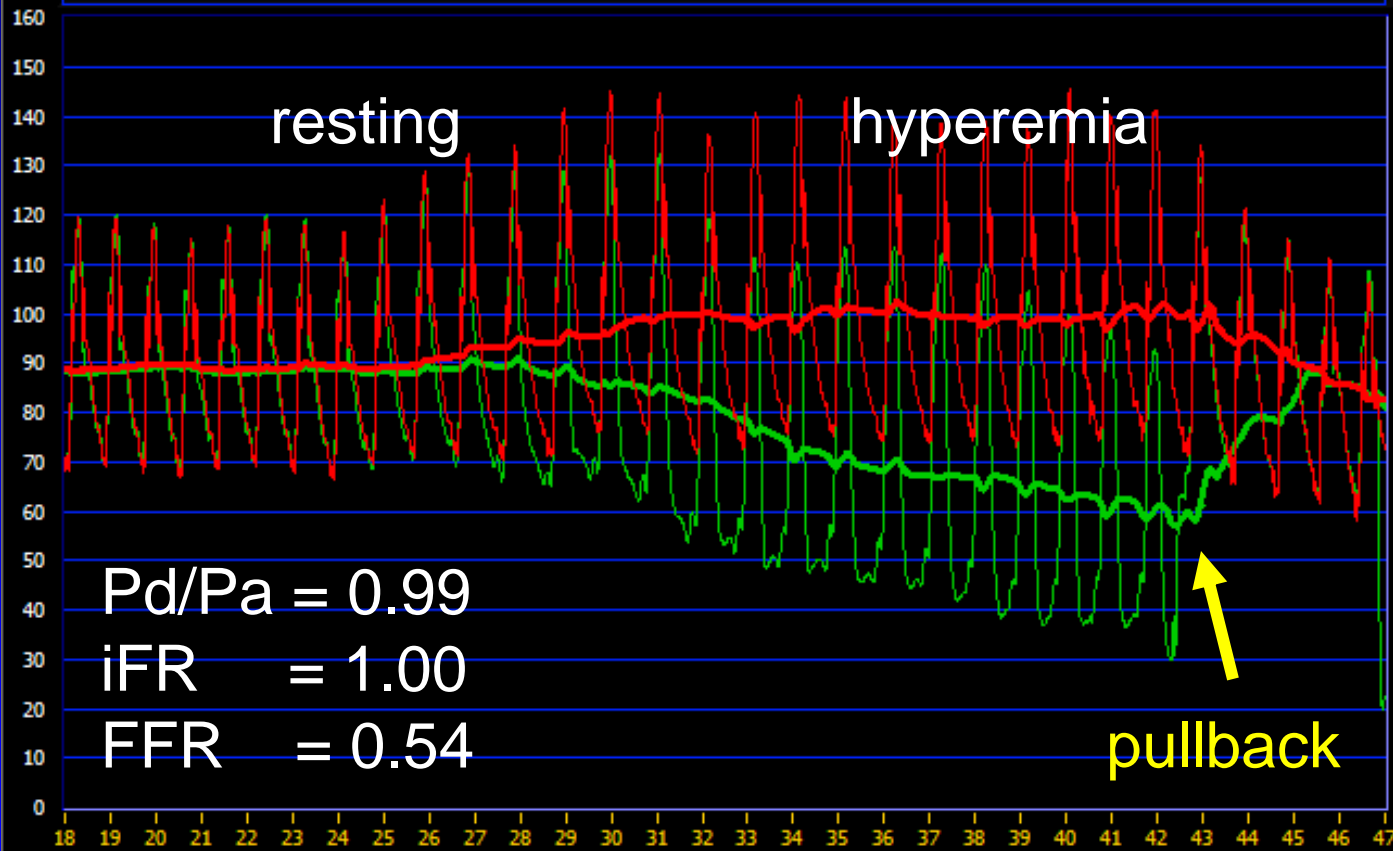
- FOLDER
- SchreuderBifurclesie
- salmans
- RULO
- RokvenFAME3P220168
- REGADENOSON_081

PATIENT ID	DATE	TIME	VESSEL	PROCEDURE	ACTION	TYPE	SIZE
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:11:53				FFR	69Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:06:31				FFR	103Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:04:06				FFR	48Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:01:55				FFR	11Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	10:54:57				FFR	5Kb

PRINT EDIT RENAME EXPORT ERASE SETUP

FAME3PhrR220168

2014-02-19 11:06:31



resting

hyperemia

Pd/Pa = 0.99

iFR = 1.00

FFR = 0.54

pullback



87 Pa mean

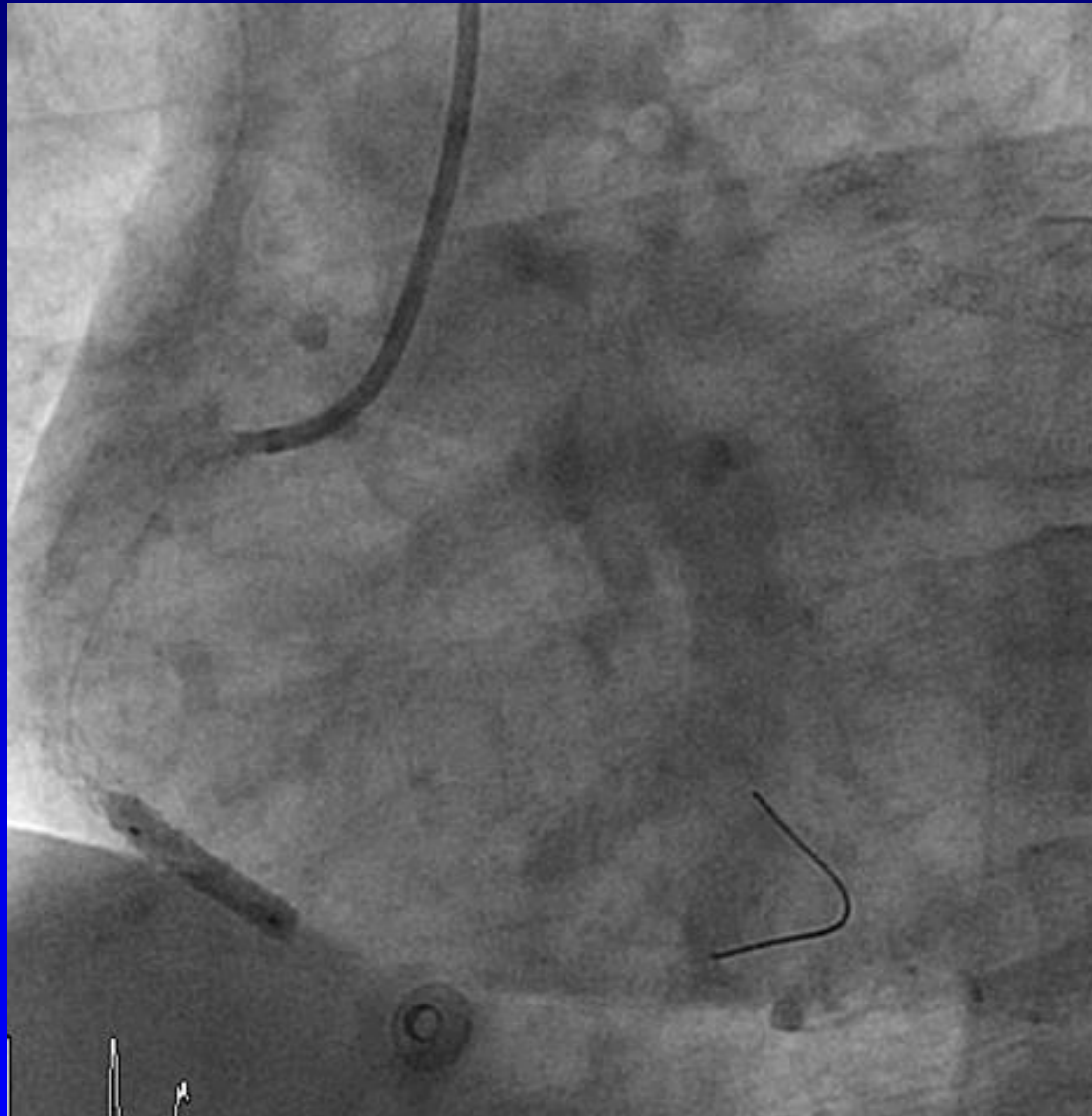
47 Pd mean

0,54 FFR

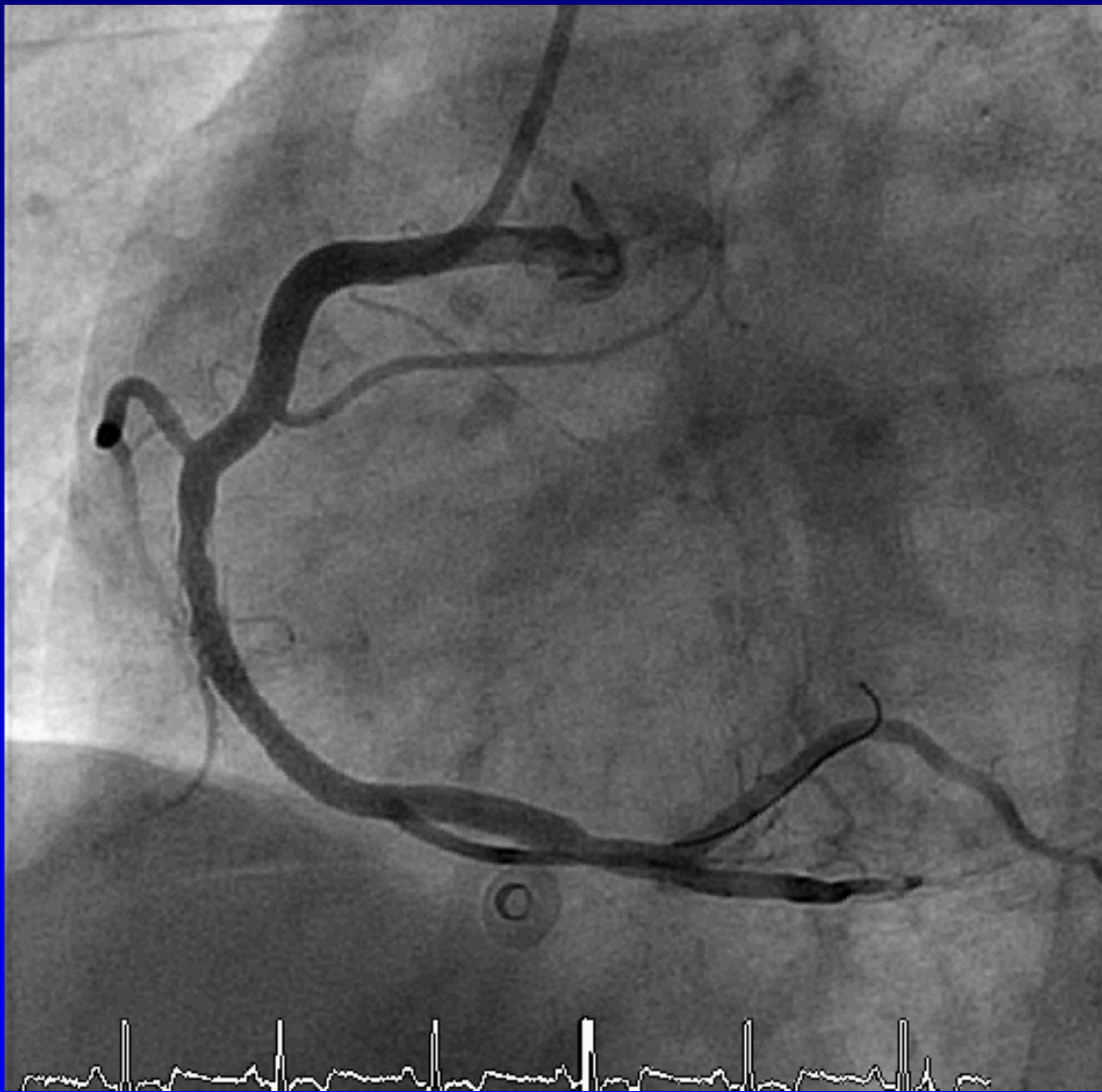
50,4 CURSOR

+ - ↕

 RESET



Stent in RCA (3,5x 18)



RCA after stenting

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FOLDER

- SchreuderBifurclesie
- salmans
- RULO
- RokvenFAME3P220168
- REGADENOSON_081

PATIENT ID	DATE	TIME	VESSEL	PROCEDURE	ACTION	TYPE	SIZE
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:11:53				FFR	69Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:11:53				FFR	69Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:06:31				FFR	103Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:04:06				FFR	48Kb
FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:01:55				FFR	11Kb

PRINT

EDIT

RENAME

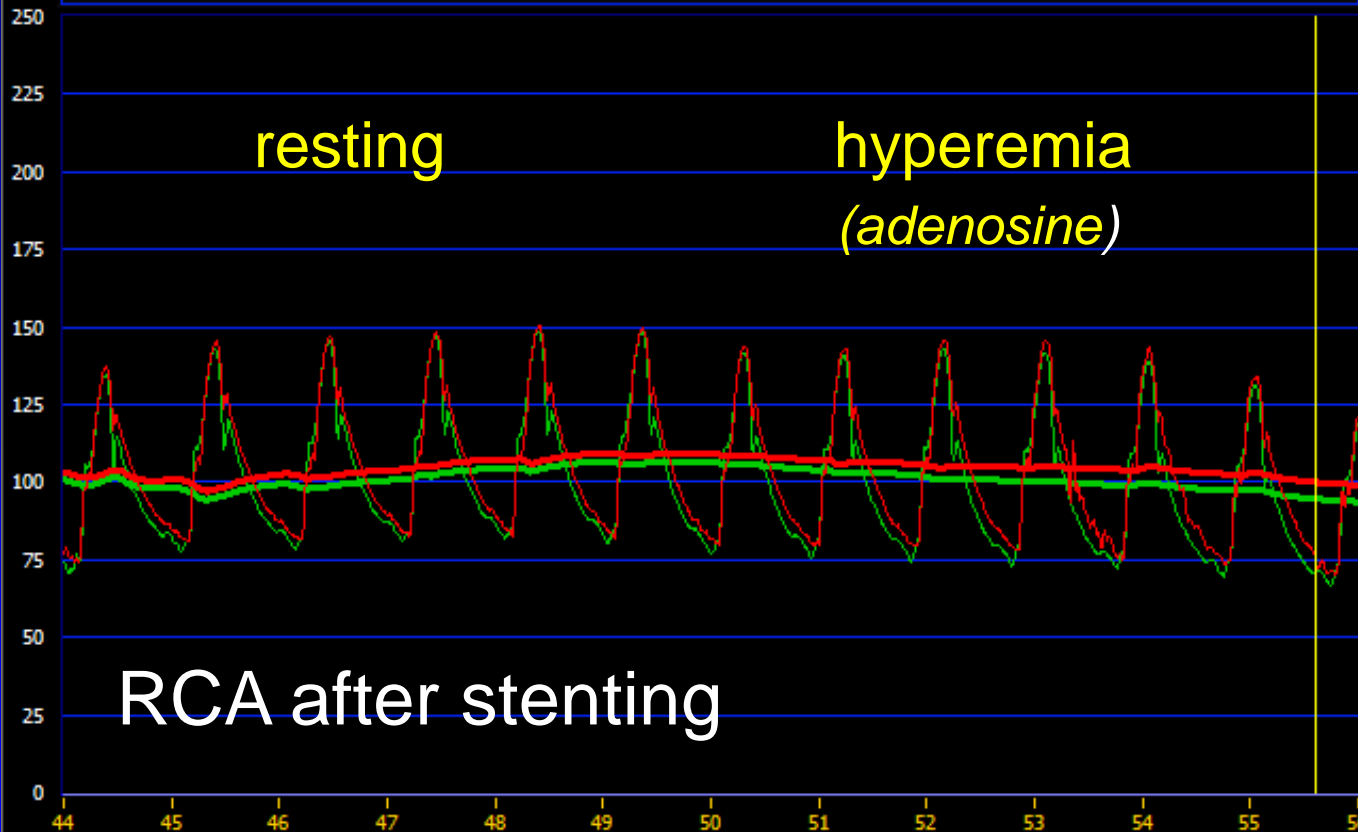
EXPORT

ERASE

SETUP

FAME3PhrR220168

2014-02-19 11:11:53



resting

hyperemia
(adenosine)

RCA after stenting

100
Pa mean

95
Pd mean

0,95
FFR

55,6
CURSOR



RESET





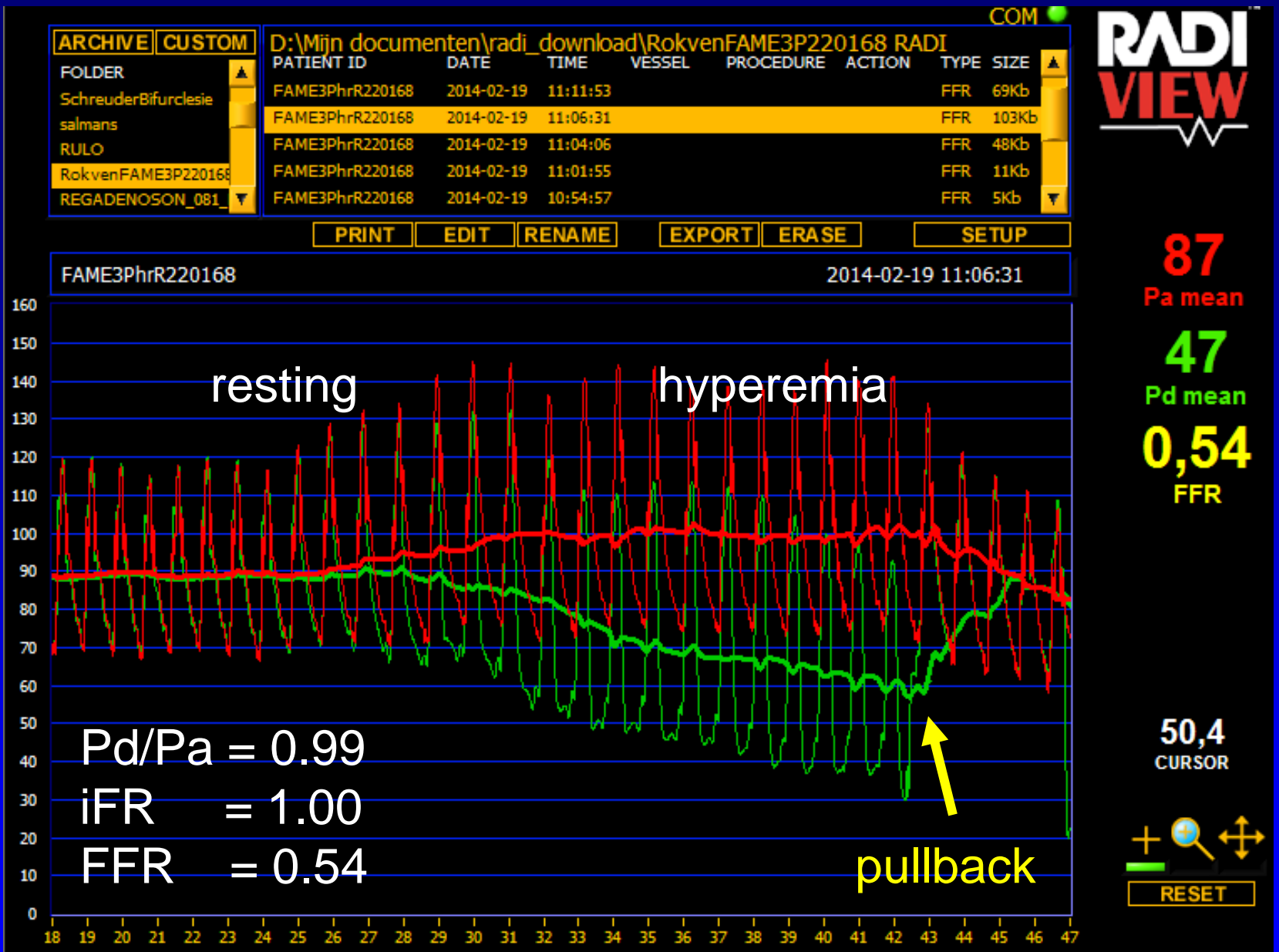
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RokvenFAME3P220168	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:04:06				FFR	48Kb
REGADENOSON_081	FAME3PhrR220168	2014-02-19	11:01:55				FFR	11Kb

PRINT EDIT RENAME EXPORT ERASE SETUP



82
Pa mean
82
Pd mean
0,99
FFR

Total time for all measurements in 3 arteries (with central i.v. adenosine) and 3 stents in 2 arteries: 31 minutes



It is often mandatory to use some kind of hyperemia to unmask the true severity of a coronary stenosis !!

In general:

- small perfusion territory, distal stenosis, older patient, moderate long lesion, small artery, microvascular disease:
 - *often moderate gradient at rest with little increase at hyperemia*
- large perfusion territory, proximal stenosis, young patient, short severe lesion, large artery, intact microvasculature:
 - *often minimal gradient at rest with large increase at hyperemia*

Let's have a closer look to FFR

Prerequisites for a reliable index for decision making

- sound scientific basis and experimental validation
- accurate
- reproducible
- easy to perform
- ***predict outcome*** → ***tomorrow***

Recent developments:

- wireless connections (*Aeris Wire, SJM*)
- complete integration of FFR measurement in the regular environment of the cathlab (*General Electric*)
- new hyperemic stimuli (single peripheral injection of Regadenoson) → *next speaker*
- non-hyperemic or semi-hyperemic indices and even non-invasive FFR by CT (*friday afternoon session*)
- development of fiberoptic wires and a monorail hypotube (*Opsens, BostonSc, Acist; saturday morning*)

In many complex angiographic conditions, FFR can be assessed as regular:

- ostial lesions
- MVD
- left main lesions
- tandem lesions
- diffuse disease

tomorrow morning

the hyperemic pull-back recording is necessary to guide where exactly the stent(s) should be Placed and to evaluate the result

FFR and microvascular disease

In microvascular disease, FFR may be higher than it would be without microvascular disease

(Because FFR compares maximum myocardial flow in the presence of the stenosis with maximum flow as it would be without that stenosis, but still not normal because of the microvascular disease)

But it still indicates exactly to what degree maximum blood flow can be improved by stenting an epicardial coronary stenosis !

GUIDELINES ESC SEPTEMBER 2010

FFR UPGRADED TO LEVEL I A INDICATION

10 – Procedural aspects of PCI

Table 28: Specific PCI devices and pharmacotherapy

	Class	Level
FFR-guided PCI is recommended for detection of ischemia-related lesion(s) when objective evidence of vessel-related ischemia is not available	I	A
DES* are recommended for reduction of restenosis/reocclusion, if no contraindication to extended DAPT	I	A
Distal embolic protection is recommended during PCI of SVG disease to avoid distal embolisation of debris and prevent MI	I	B
Rotablation is recommended for preparation of heavily calcified or severely fibrotic lesions that cannot be crossed by a balloon or adequately dilated before planned stenting	I	C

Finally, a few practical tips.....

OPTIMUM FFR TECHNIQUE: catheters

Guiding or diagnostic catheter ? 6F or smaller ?

- FFR has been measured by 5F diagnostic catheters
- but: - *more difficult steering/wire manipulation*
(because diagnostic catheter lacks inner coating)
 - *damping of aortic pressure signal* due to smaller lumen
- *I advice to use guiding catheter*
(changing catheter is less cumbersome than long manipulation with wire or suboptimum signal)

OPTIMUM FFR TECHNIQUE: manipulation of PW

How to prepare and manipulate the pressure wire

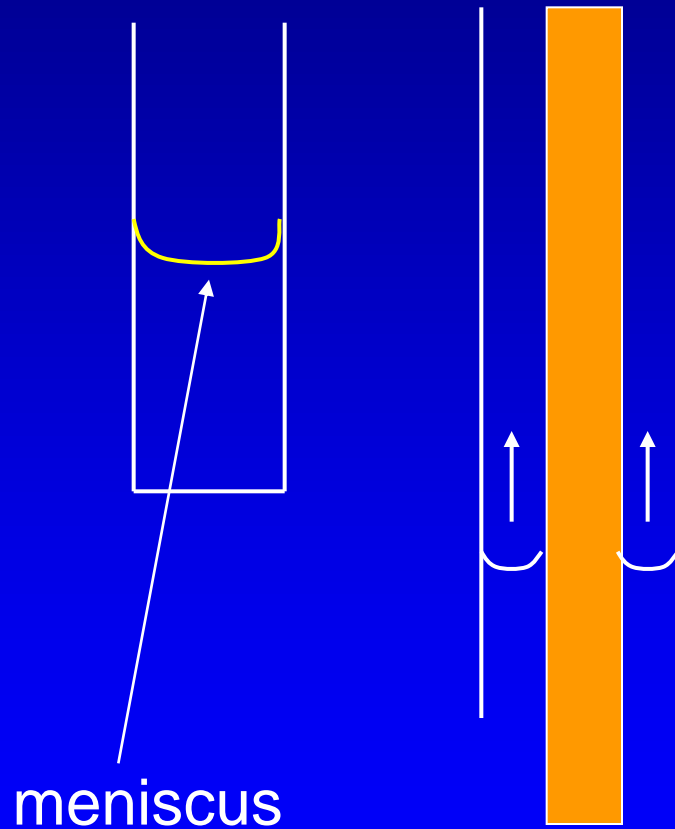
- short curve of 45-60 degree
- use the pressure wire with a torquer (cf Sion wire),
i.e. *true steering*

OPTIMUM FFR TECHNIQUE: decrease of drift

How to decrease (apparent) drift

- after equalization (sensor at the tip of the guiding catheter), *wait for 20-30 seconds for stabilization* (small airbubbles in sensor cavity are flushed away)
- realize that more often as you believe, there is no drift but an inaccuracy with the guiding catheter signal (*dynamic pressure; capillary forces; you forgot about the introducer*)

Capillary forces in guiding catheter



sometimes capillary forces result in misregistration of pressure by the guiding up to 10 mm Hg

in procedures without pressure wire, this remains unnoticed

vigorous manual flushing of the guiding with 5-10 cc of saline, might restore true aortic pressure

Starting – up FFR measurements in your Lab:

- study the principles and understand the concept
- be prepared to rely upon your brains, rather than on the angio: what you measure is more reliable than what you see
- involve your nurses/technicians/residents and convince your fellow staff members
- do not just an occasional patient with a mild stenosis once in a week, but use the PW consistently in 10 or 20 consecutive cases (also in tight stenosis) during 1 or 2 weeks and try out several hyperemic stimuli

HOW TO START A FFR PROGRAM IN YOUR CATH-LAB

cooperation of your nurses is of paramount importance !

- preparing the equipment, cables, pressure wire
- taking care of hyperemic stimulus
(keep it simple)
- anticipate to the procedure, remind you to measure
- willingness to spend some extra time, if needed

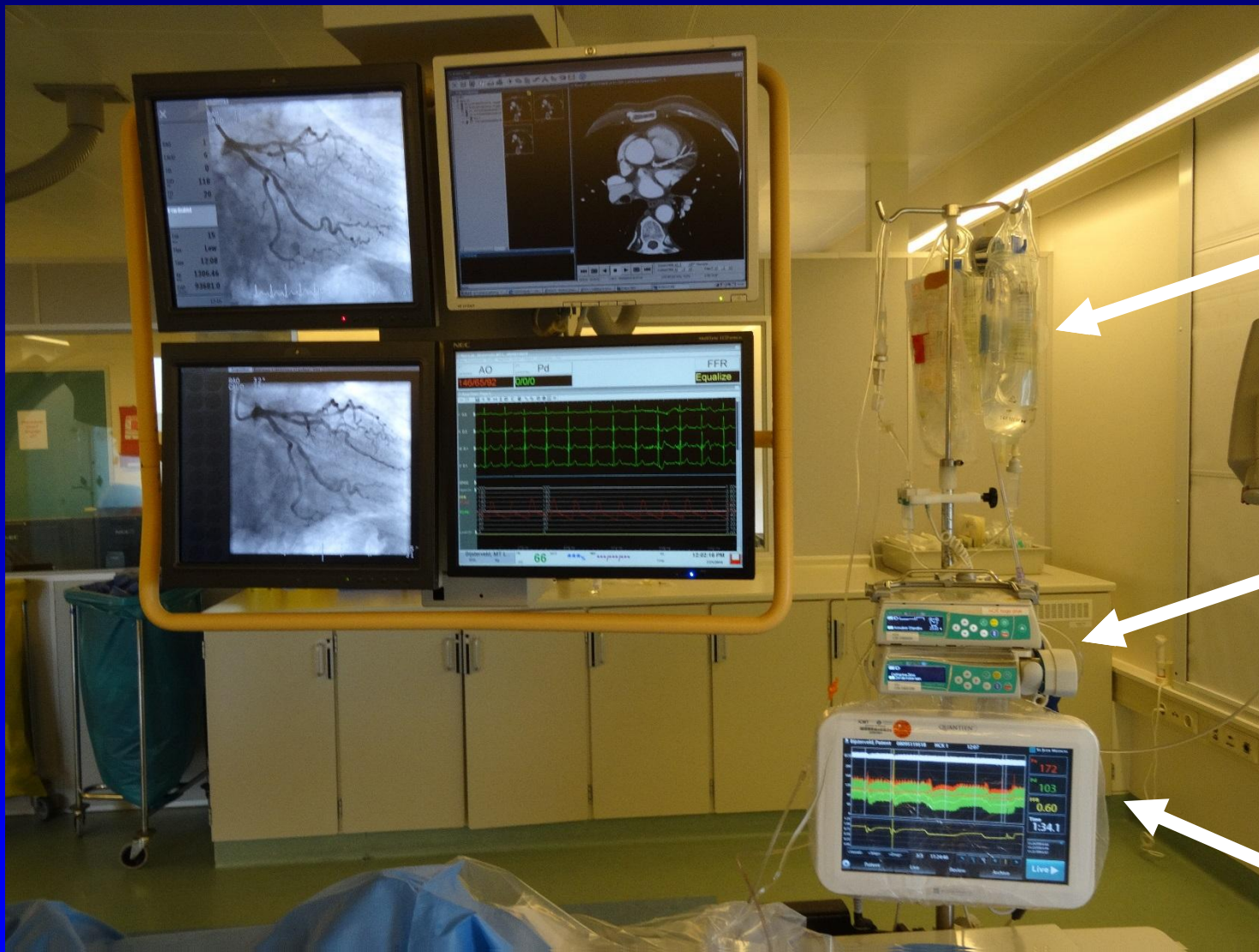
therefore, train your nurses and make them understand the principles, practice, and great advantages of FFR

Similar for fellows and colleagues !

....and last but not least:

EASY to use means **READY to use** :

- Design the configuration in your cath.lab in an optimum way to enable instantaneous use of the PressureWire if the case demands it



adenosine

Infusion pump

Quantien interface

Practical logistics in the cath lab: ***Keep it simple***

Catharina Hospital, Eindhoven, NL

1600 FFR cases per year



“It is a pleasure to measure pressure”

EINDE