



# Cerebral Protection during Percutaneous Structural Cardiac Interventions

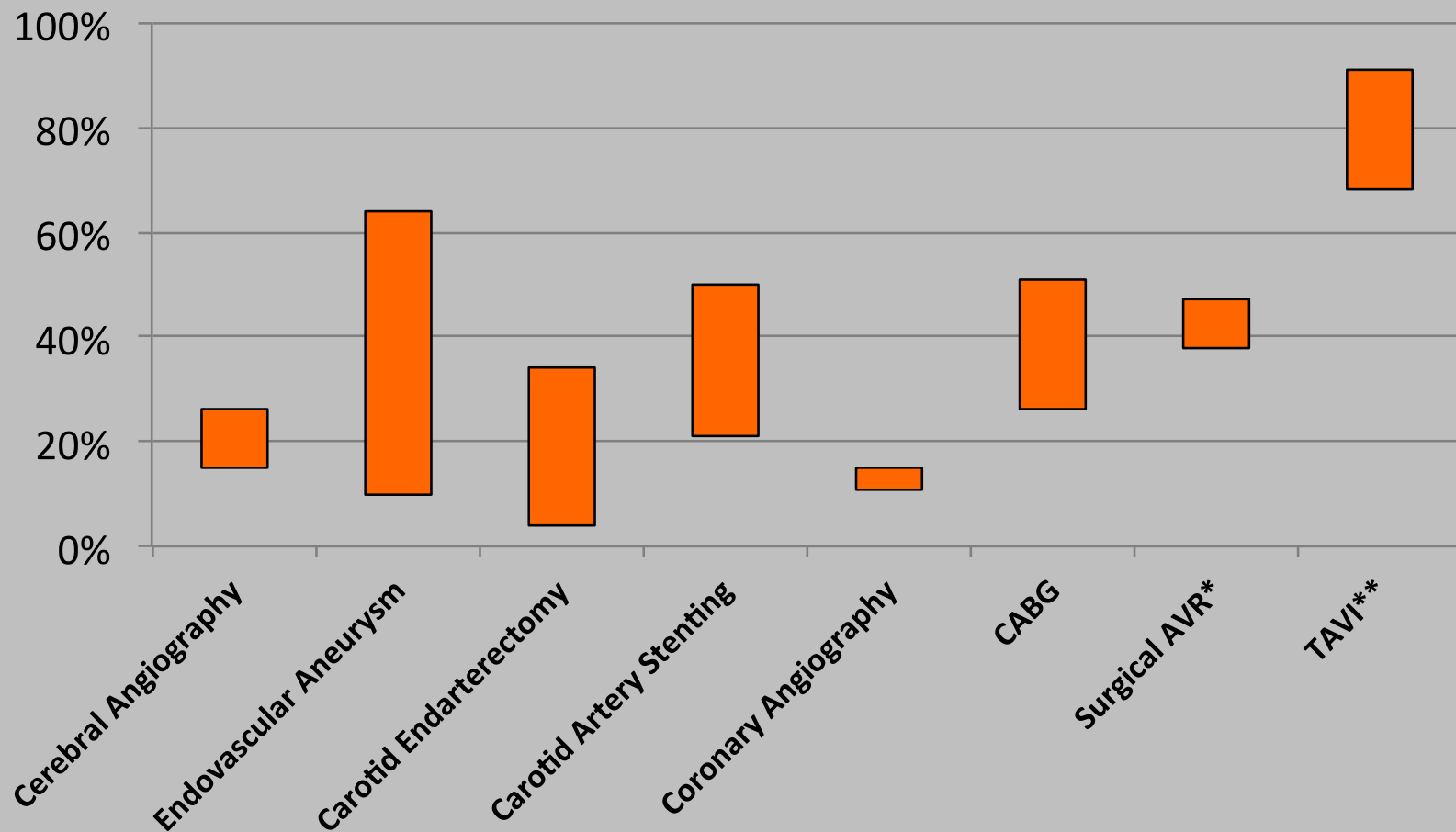
Jan Kovac  
Glenfield Hospital  
University of Leicester Hospitals  
United Kingdom

Heart and Brain Workshop, Prague 2018

# ESC Council on Valvular Heart Disease



# Incidence of New Brain Lesions



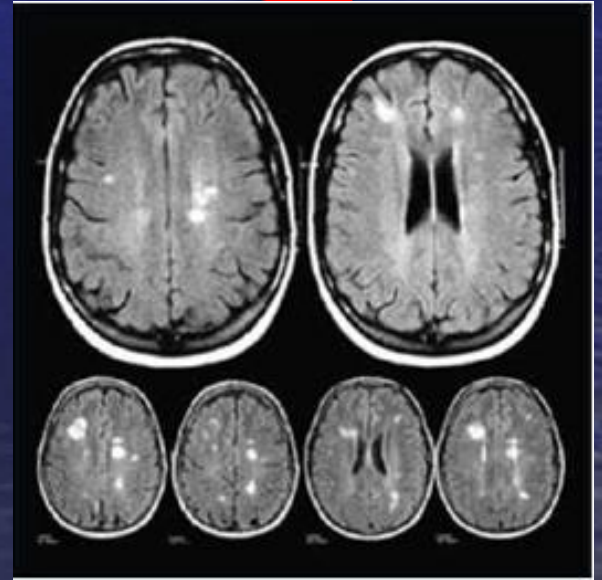
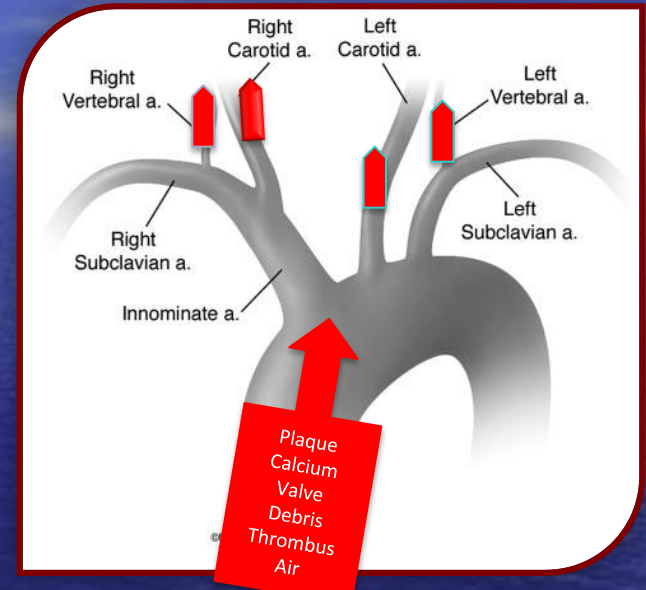
\*Knipp 2005, Stolz 2004.

\*\*Astarci 2011, Ghanem 2010, Kahlert 2010, Rodés-Cabau 2011.



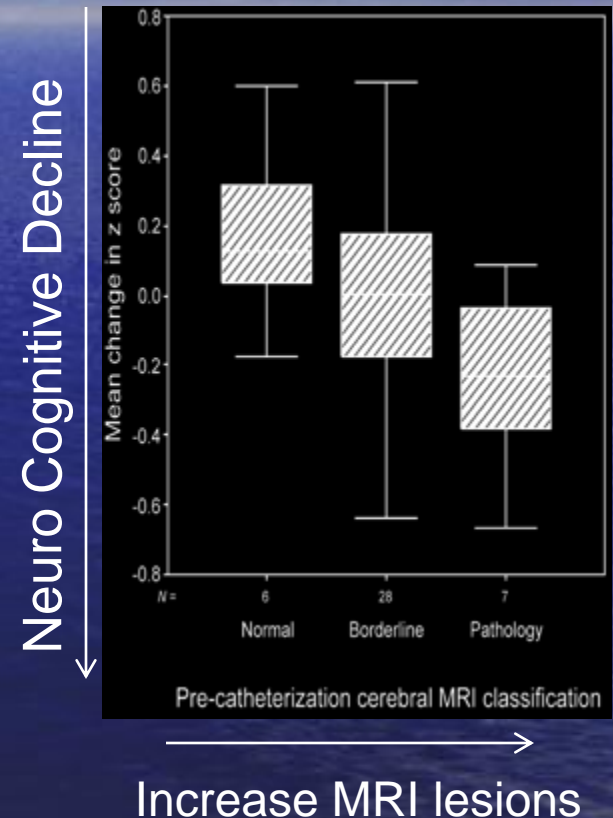
# Background

- Stroke is a rare but devastating complication of TAVI
- 50% of events occur periprocedurally
- Clinically 'silent' or non-detected strokes are frequent
- New embolic lesions in the brain can be detected in up to 100% of patients following a TAVI procedure
- Embolic events have been linked to neurocognitive decline



# Neurocognitive Decline and New Lesions

- Pre-existing and new lesions on DW-MRI after catheterization is related to cognitive decline
- Patients with new ischemic lesions post CABG (20%) had a larger neurocognitive decline than the patients with stable
- The link between new lesions on DW MRI in TAVI cohort yet to be established..





# TAVI is moving to Lower Risk Patient Groups

- Bicuspid Valves
- Lower Age
- Moderate AS
- Asymptomatic AS

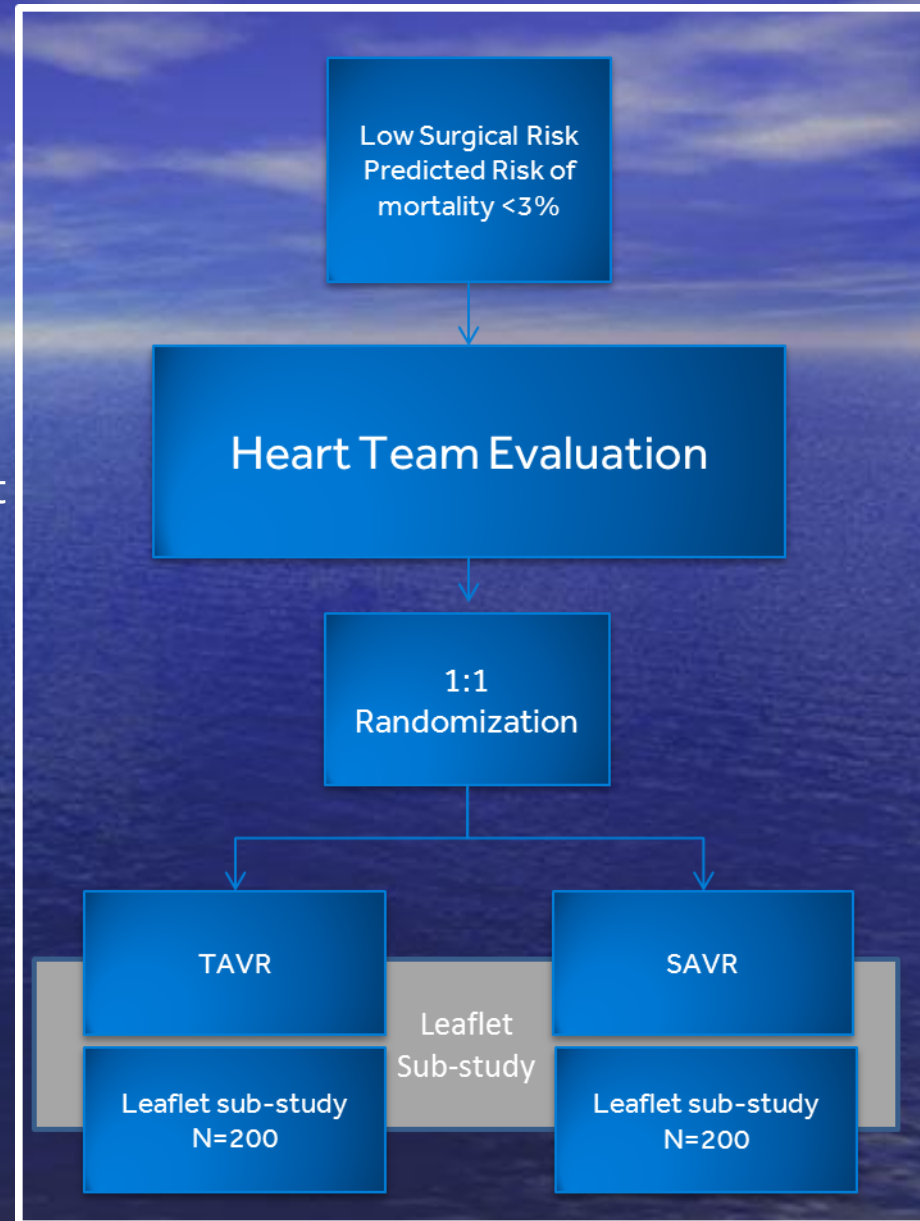
Speaker

- AS with Impaired LV

# Moving to Low Risk Patients

## LOW RISK & LEAFLET SUB-STUDY

- **Patient Population: Low Risk Cohort**
  - Determined by Heart Team to be low surgical risk
- **Primary Endpoint:**
  - Safety: Death, all stroke, life-threatening bleeding, major vascular complications, or AKI at 30 days
  - Efficacy: Death or major stroke at 2 years
- **Sample Size: ~1200 Subjects**
- **Follow-up Evaluations:**
  - 30-days, 6-month , and 1 Through 5 years
- **Number of Sites: Up to 80 sites**





# Study Flowchart



THE  
**EARLY TAVR**  
TRIAL

## Asymptomatic, Severe Aortic Stenosis

### Screening / Stress Test

Inclusion/exclusion criteria, treadmill stress test

### Asymptomatic

Negative stress test OR medical history

1:1 Randomization

**Transfemoral  
TAVR**

**Clinical  
Surveillance**

### Primary Endpoint

2 year composite of all-cause mortality, all stroke,  
and unplanned cardiovascular hospitalization

### Symptomatic

Positive stress test

### Registry

Commercial AVR (TAVR or  
SAVR), Clinical Trial (e.g.  
PARTNER 3 Trial), etc.

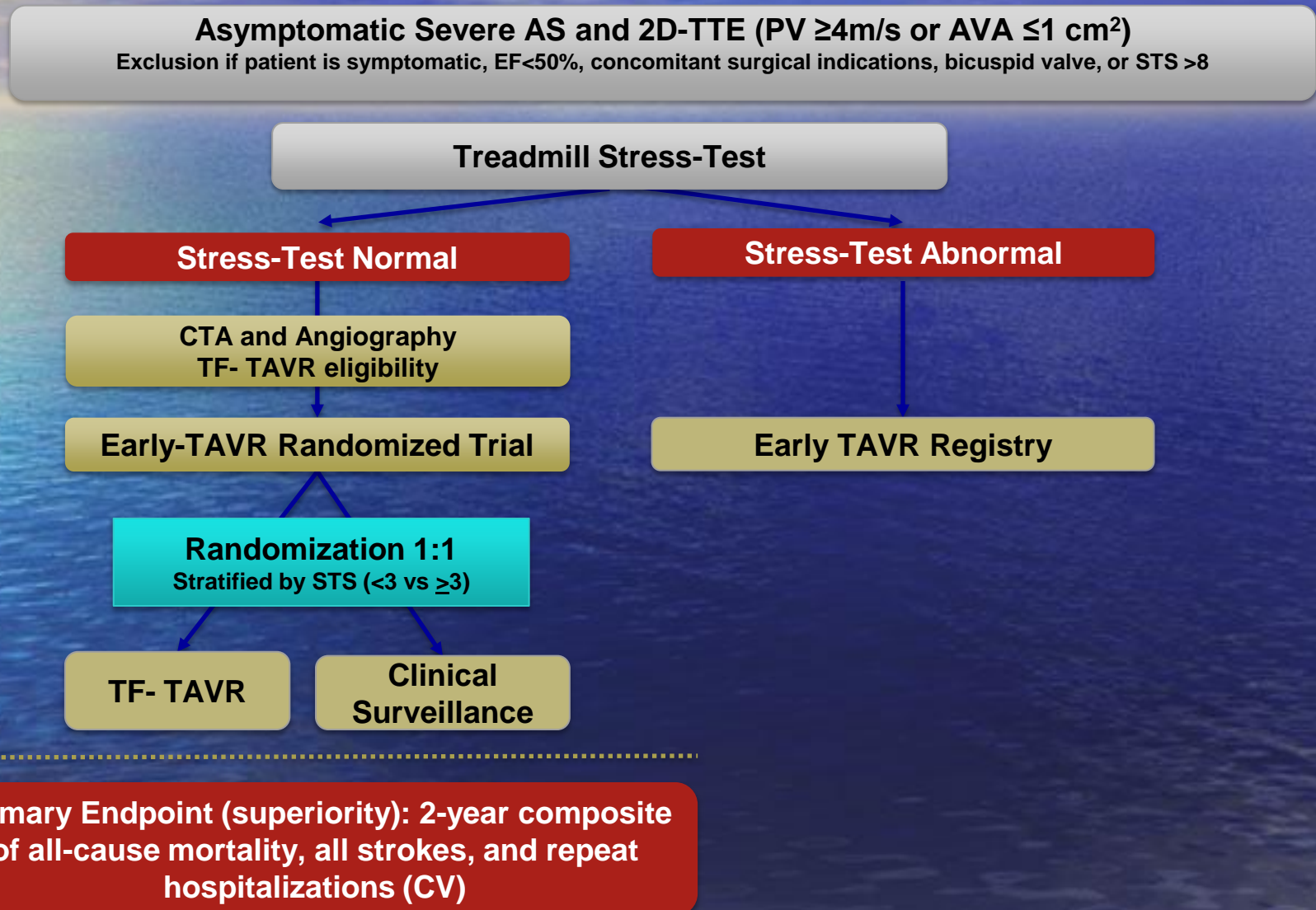
**Principal Investigator:**  
Philippe Généreux, MD,  
**Chair:** Martin B. Leon, MD

NCT03042104



# EARLY TAVR Trial

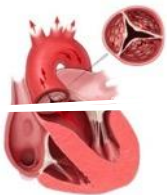
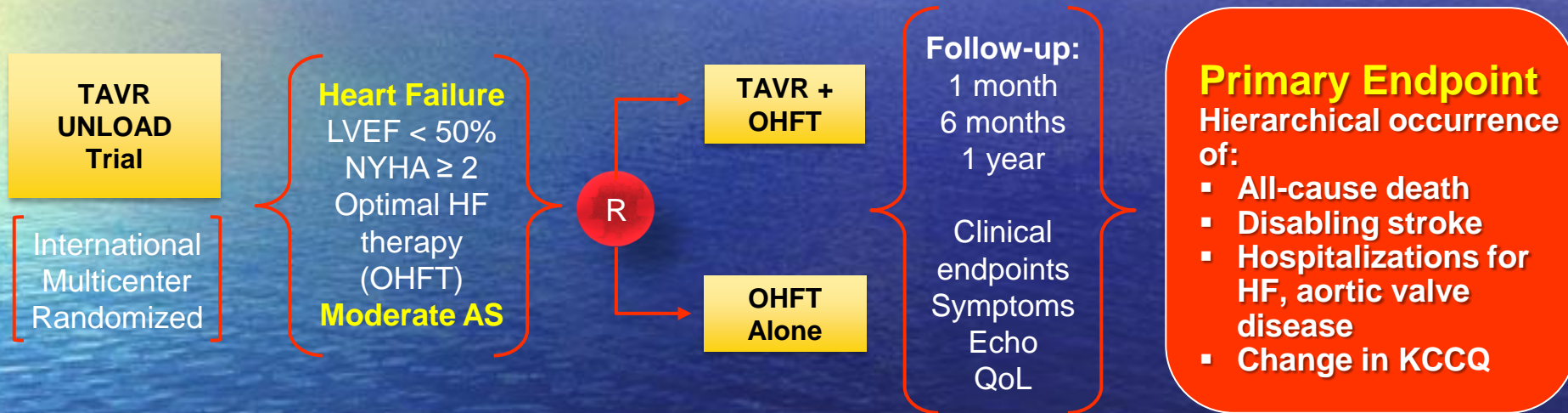
## Study Flow



# TAVR UNLOAD Trial

## Study Design

(600 patients, 1:1 Randomized)



**Reduced AFTERLOAD**  
Improved LV systolic  
and diastolic function

# Patient Perceptions and Expectations

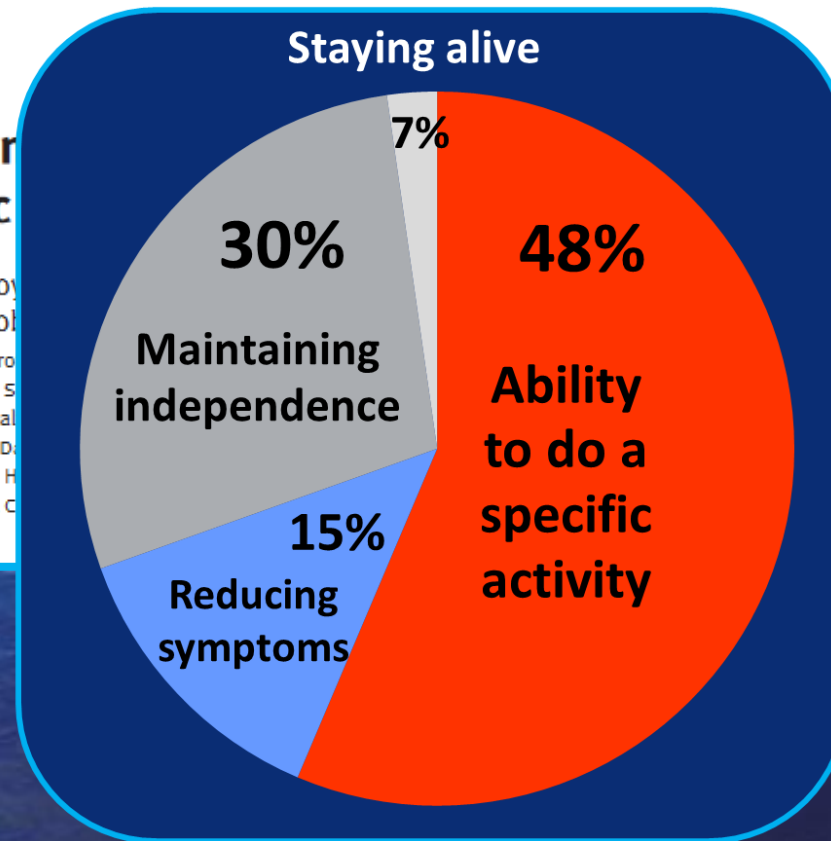
Health Expectations

An International Journal of  
Public Participation in  
Health Care and Health Policy

**Patient  
aortic**

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doi: 10.1111/hex.12393

**vere**

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# CLINICAL QUESTIONS

1. Is (embolic) stroke during TAVI/R a relevant clinical problem ?
2. Is there clinical/functional correlation of 'silent' microembolic events ?
3. Can we improve outcomes with embolic protection devices ?

# Mechanisms of peri-procedural stroke

## *Embolic*

- Wire and catheter manipulation
- BAV
- Device positioning in the root
- Valve deployment
- Post-dilatation

## *Haemorrhagic*

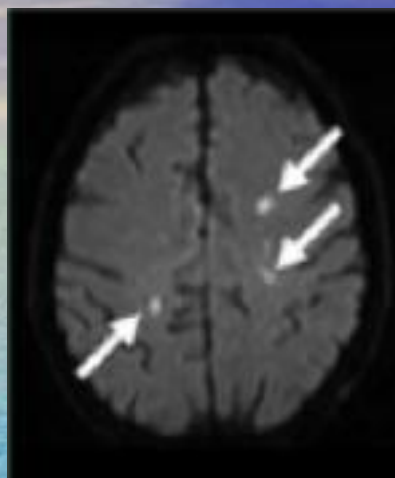
- Bolus dose heparin
- Severe hypertension

## *Global Ischaemia*

- Severe hypotension
- Rapid pacing

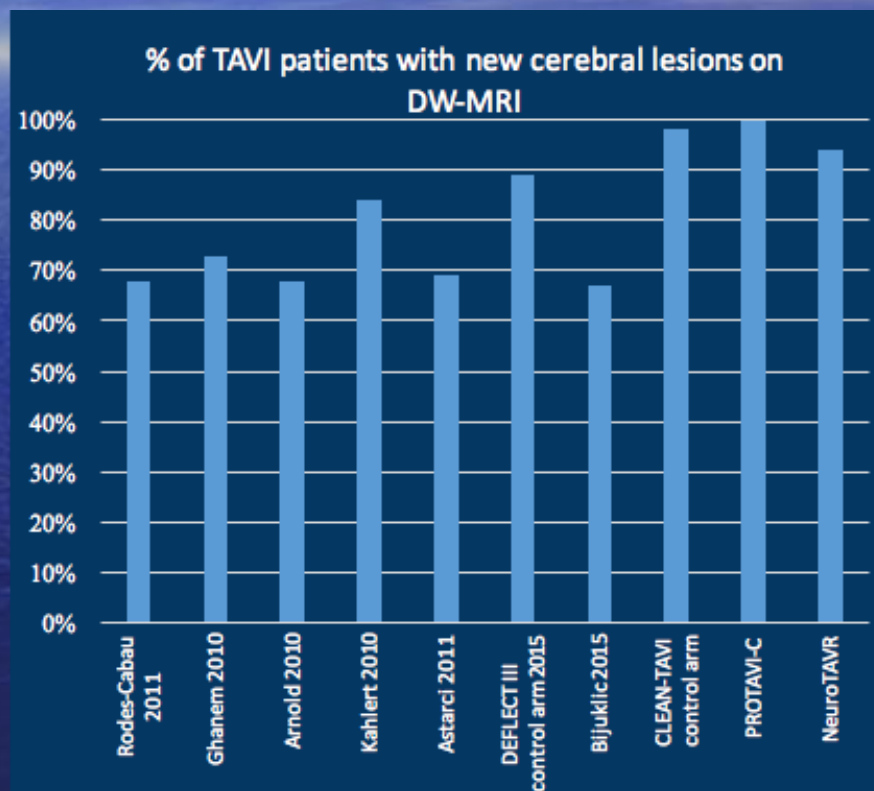


# MRI imaging is "truly frightening" post TAVI...



*Ghanem, et. al, JACC 2010*

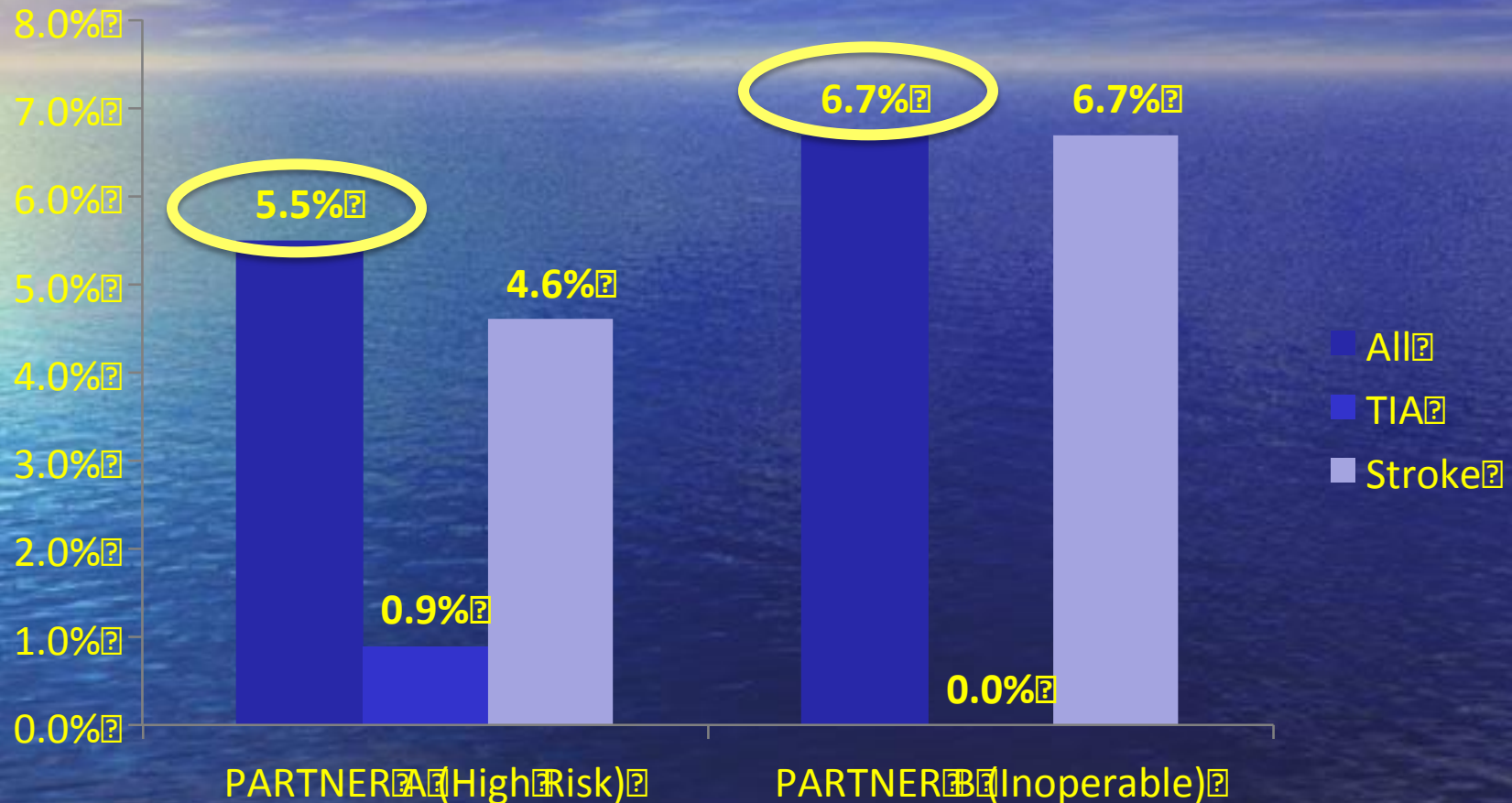
- 68-100% of TAVI patients affected<sup>1-10</sup>
- Most patients have multiple infarcts
- "Silent" infarcts associated with<sup>11-13</sup>
  - 2-4-fold risk of future stroke
  - >3-fold risk of mortality
  - >2-fold risk of dementia
  - Cognitive decline
  - Dementia





# Insight from Pivotal studies

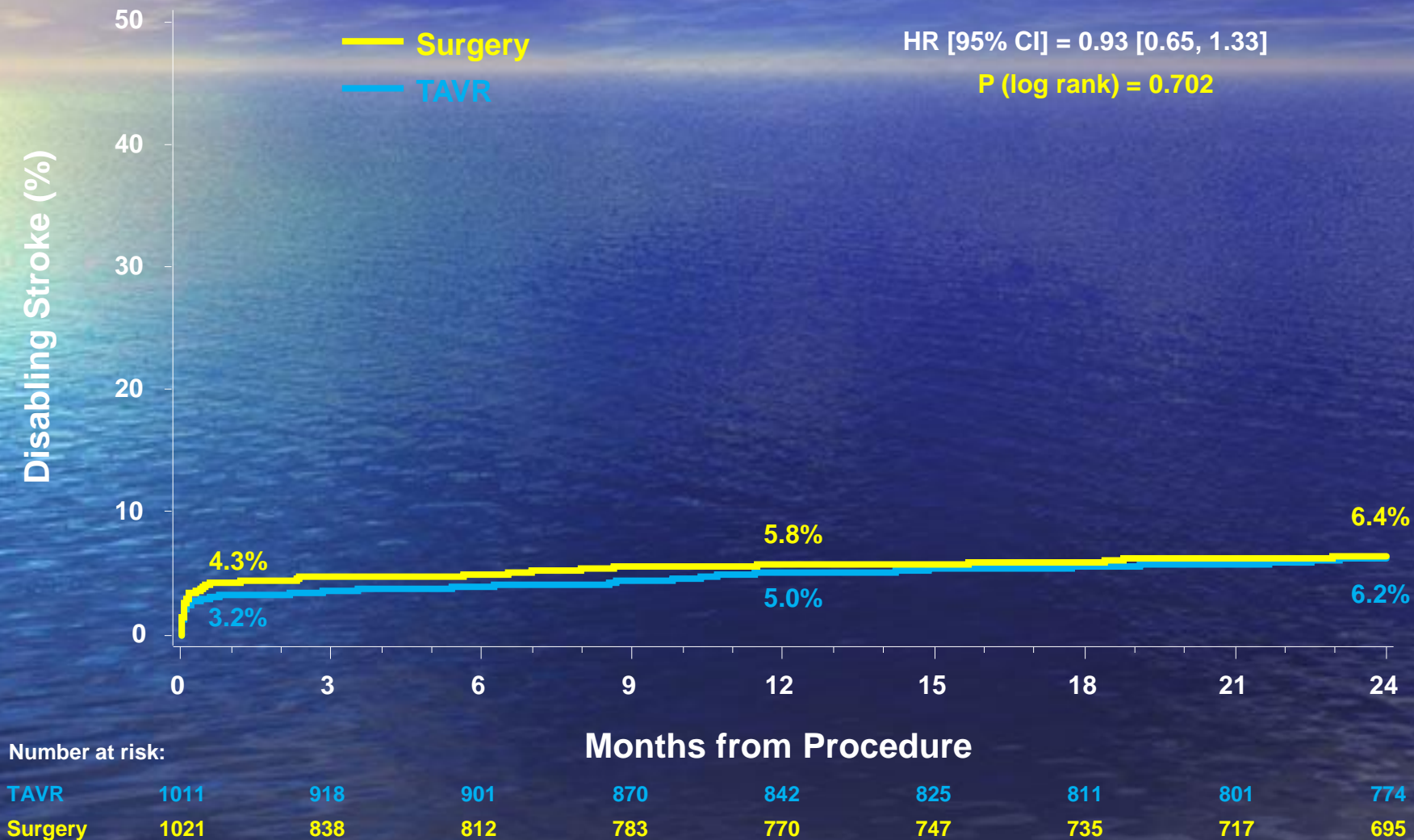
Acute Manifestations: PARTNER A and B (30-Day Events)



# PARTNER 2A

## Disabling Stroke (ITT)

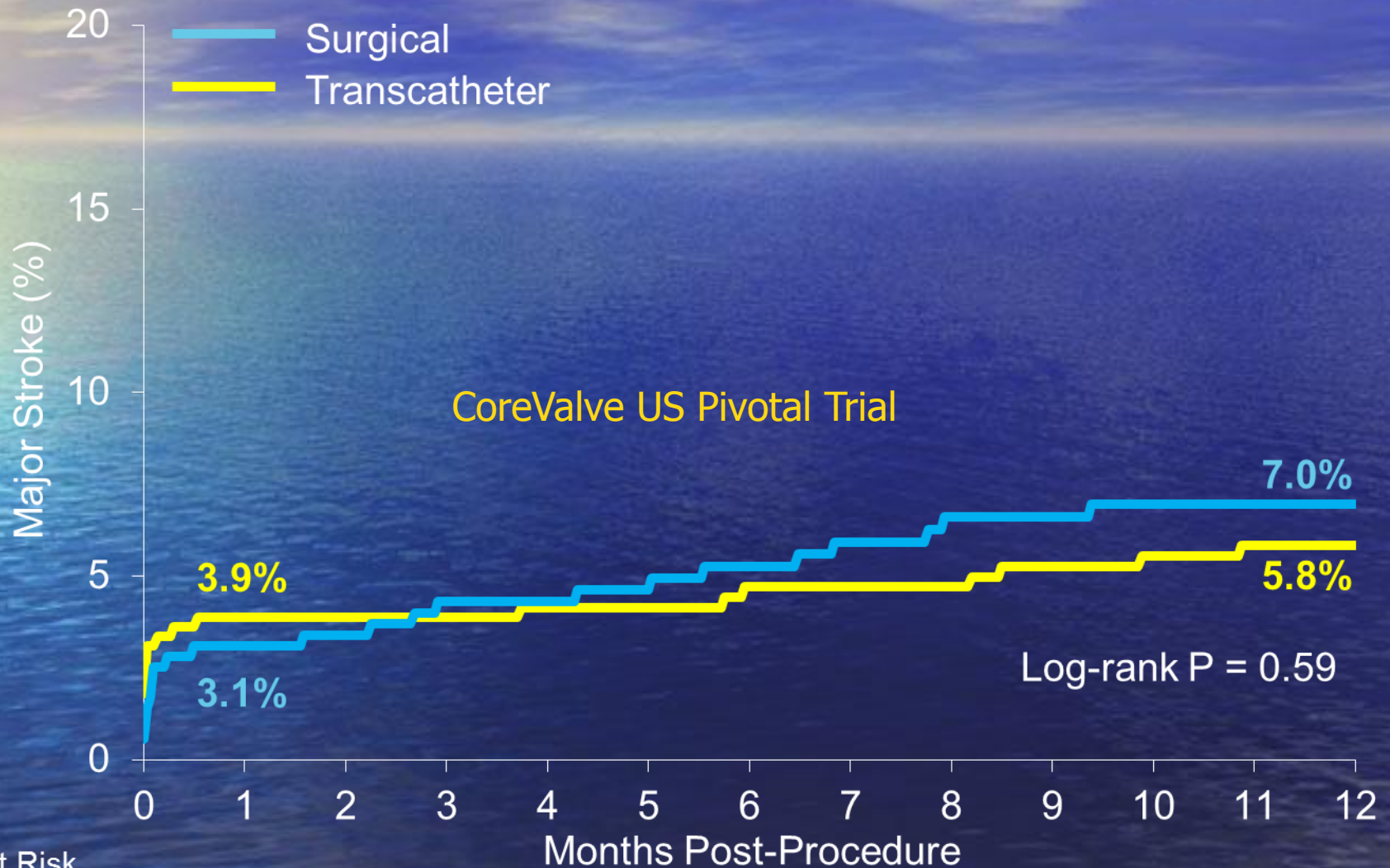
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# Major Stroke

## CoreValve US Pivotal Trial



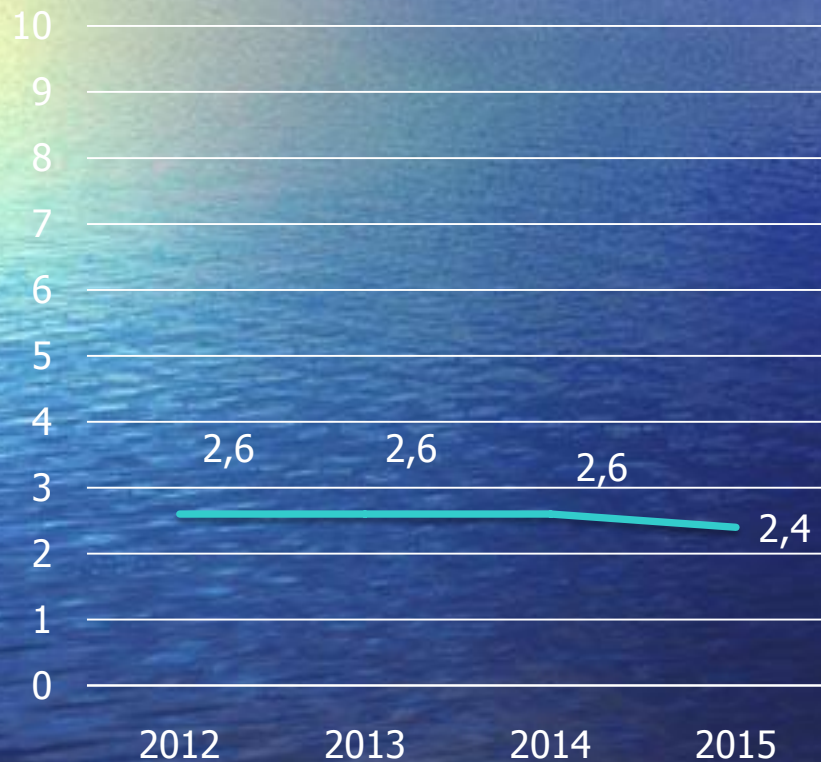
No. at Risk

Surgical	357	333	289	263
Transcatheter	390	367	344	322

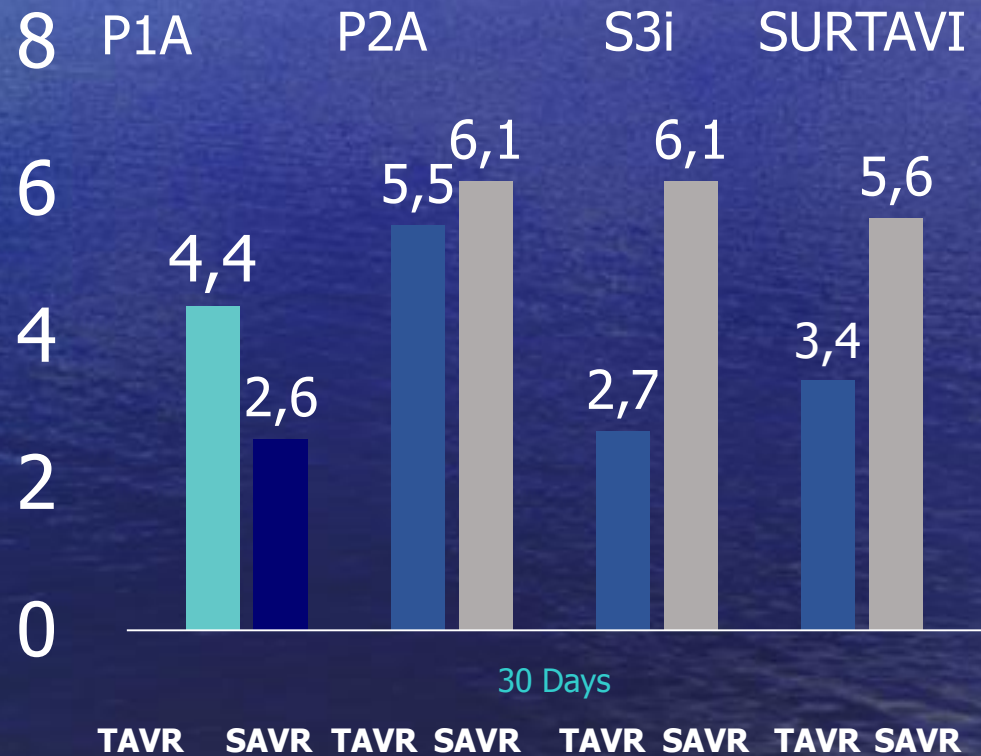


# Major Stroke Rates: Better with TAVR but Consistent over time

TVT 30 day Stroke rates  
% 30 Day Stroke



Stroke is lower with TAVR than SAVR



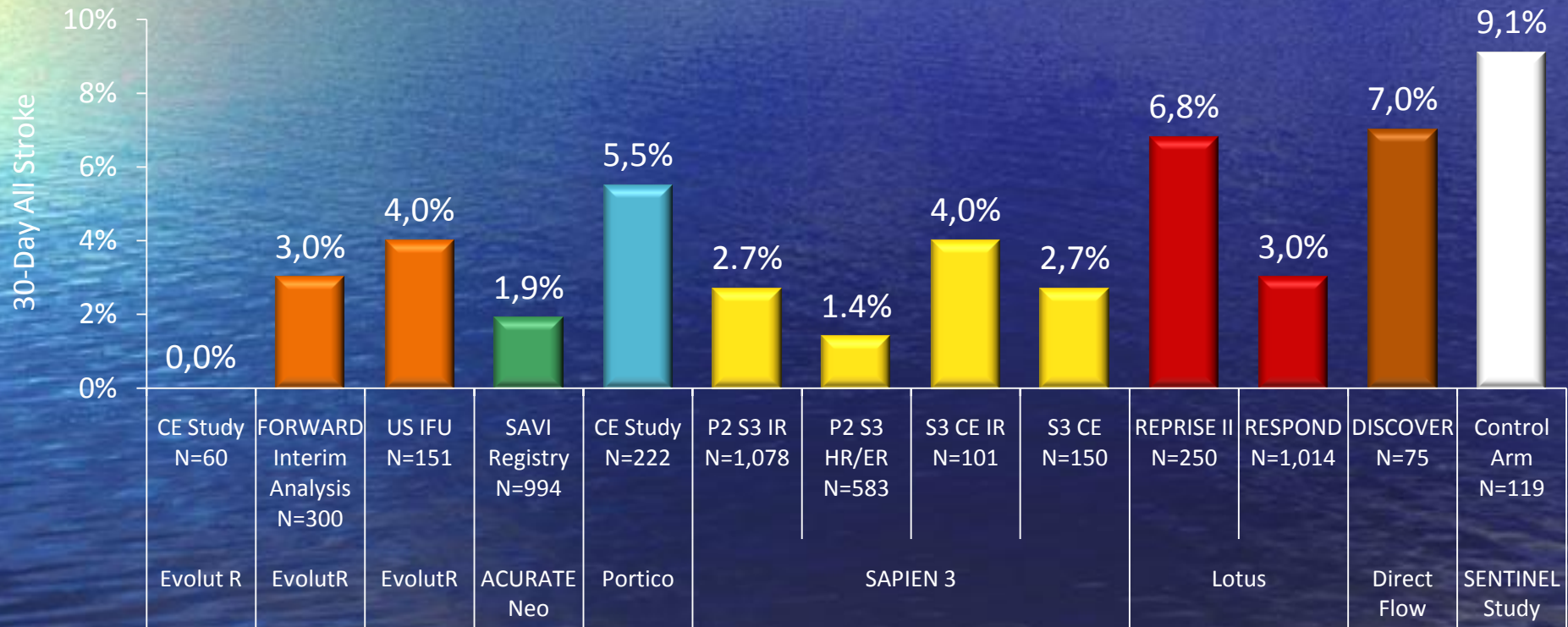
# National registry-FRANCE 2

- N 3191 pts undergoing TAVI
- 3.98% reported CVE
  - 55% major strokes
  - 14.5% minor strokes
  - 30.5 % TIA
- Predictors: advanced age, multiple valves



# ALL Stroke Frequency with Contemporary TAVR Devices

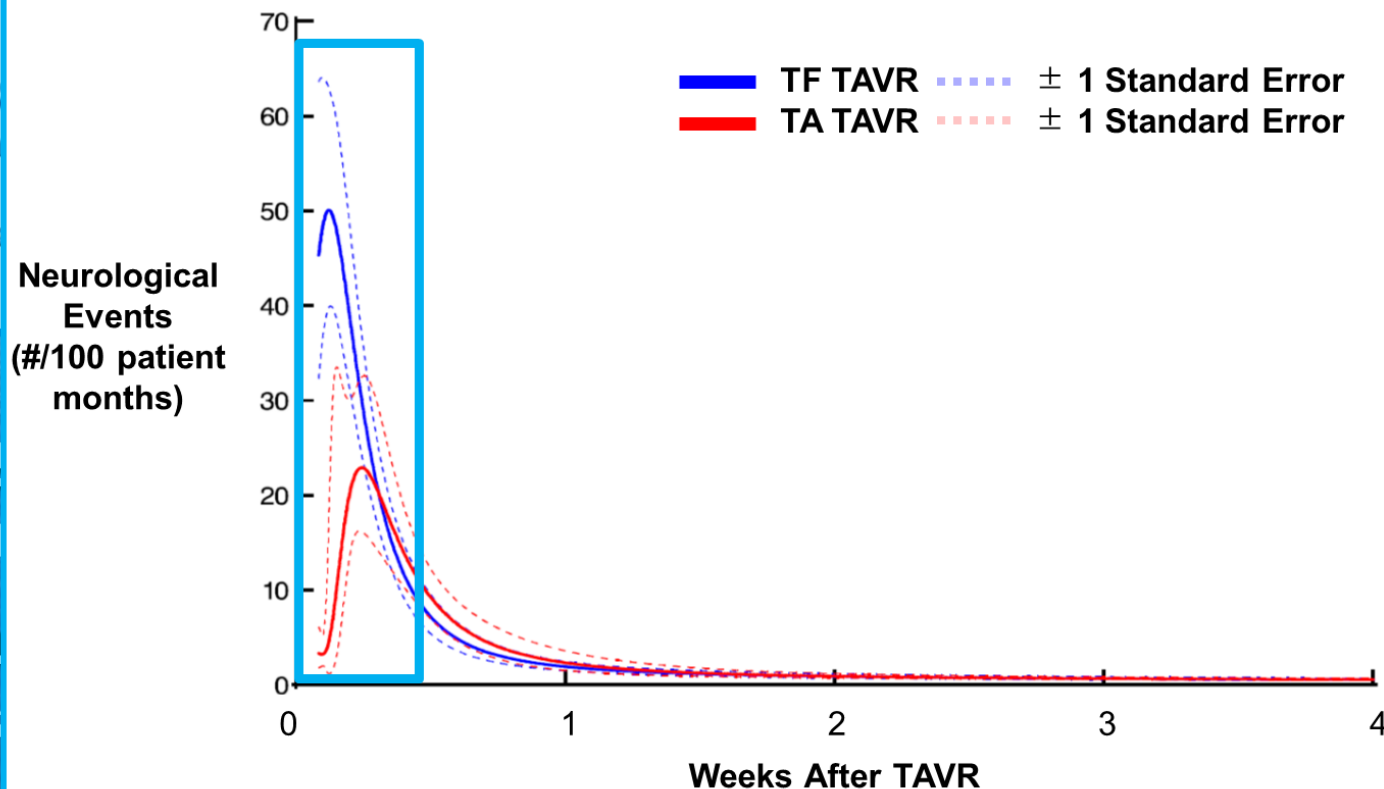
Weighted average (n=4,795 pts) = ~3.5%





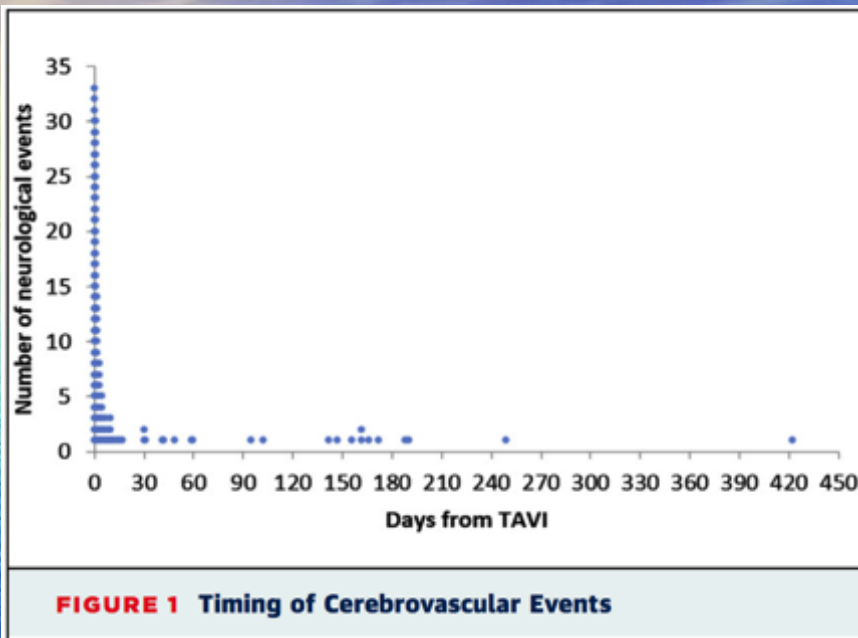
# Timing of Strokes after TAVI

## Insights Into Timing, Risk Factors, and Outcomes of Stroke and Transient Ischemic Attack After Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement in the PARTNER Trial (Placement of



- 262
- CE
- Ac
- 2 d

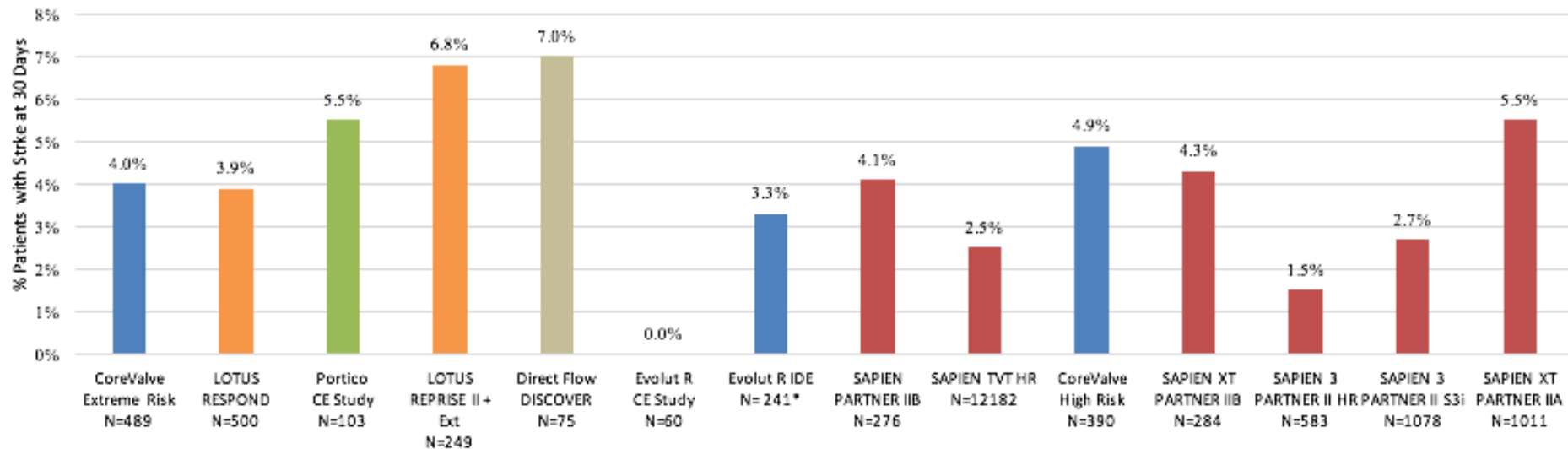
# FRANCE 2: Timing of Stroke



50% periprocedural  
Majority of major strokes on day 1

Time From Date of Valve Placement (in Calendar Days)	No.	Mean	SD	Median	Range
Overall	131	22.9	59.5	2	0-422
Major stroke	72	21.3	52.8	1	0-249
Minor stroke	19	28.2	96.3	2	0-422
Transient ischemic attack	40	23.1	48.8	2	0-188

# 2nd generation devices and in intermediate risk patients-Stroke Remains Issue



Extreme Risk

Extreme/High Risk

High Risk

Intermediate Risk

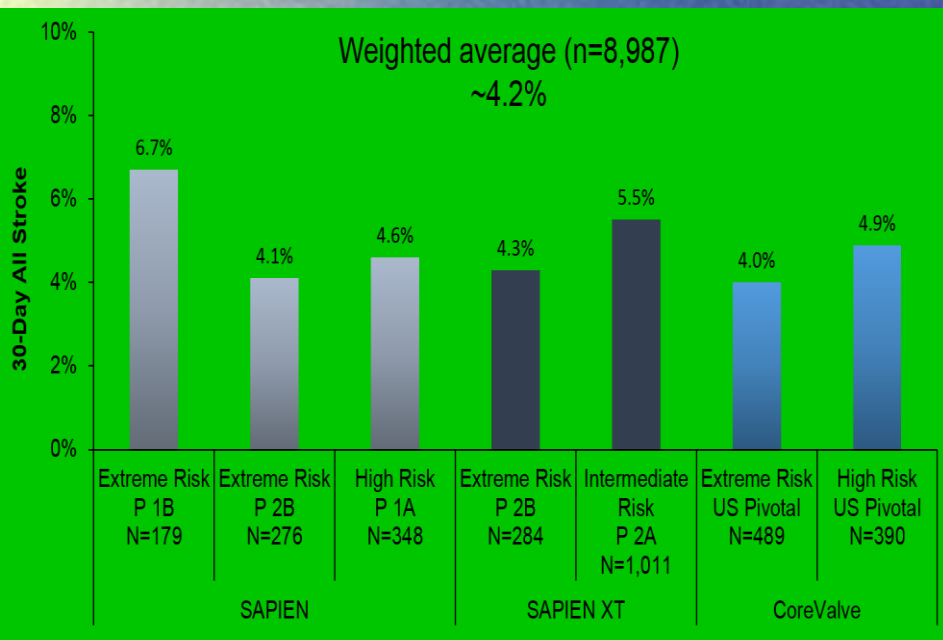
Meredith, et al., presented at PCR London Valves 2014; Adams, et al., *N Engl J Med* 2014; 370: 1790-8; Leon, et al. presented at ACC 2013; Lefevre et al., *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2016; 1; Popma, et al., *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2014; 63: 1972-81; Linke, et al. presented at London Valves 2015; Van Mieghem, et al., presented at EuroPCR 2015; Kodali, et al., presented at ACC 2015; Holmes, et al., *JAMA* 2015; 313: 1019-28; Meredith, et al., presented at ACC 2015; Williams, et al. presented at ACC 2016; Thourani, et al., presented at ACC 2016



# Major Stroke Rates in Randomized TAVR Trials

## 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Devices

## Current Generation Devices

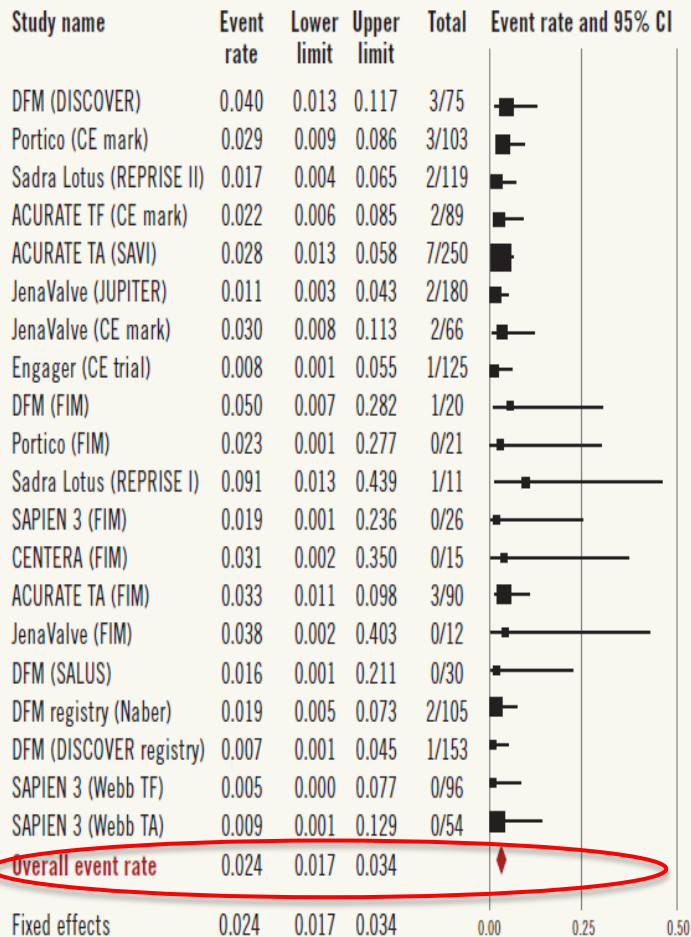


<sup>1</sup>Leon, et al., *N Engl J Med* 2010;363:1597-1607; <sup>2</sup>Webb, et al., *J Am Coll Cardiol Interv* 2015;8:1797-806; <sup>3</sup>Smith, et al., *N Engl J Med* 2011;364:2187-98; <sup>4</sup>Leon, et al., *N Engl J Med* 2016;374:1609-20; <sup>5</sup>Popma, et al., *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2014;63:1972-81; <sup>6</sup>Adams, et al., *N Engl J Med* 2014;370:1790-8;

<sup>1</sup>Manoharan, et al., *J Am Coll Cardiol Interv* 2015; 8: 1359-67; <sup>2</sup>Moellman, et al., presented at PCR London Valves 2015; <sup>3</sup>Linke, et al., presented at PCR London Valves 2015; <sup>4</sup>Kodali, et al., *Eur Heart J* 2016; doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehw112; <sup>5</sup>Vahanian, et al., presented at EuroPCR 2015; <sup>6</sup>Webb, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol Interv* 2015; 8: 1797-806; <sup>7</sup>DeMarco, et al, presented at TCT 2015; <sup>8</sup>Meredith, et al., presented at PCR London Valves 2015; <sup>9</sup>Falk, et al., presented at EuroPCR 2016; <sup>10</sup>Kodali, presented at TCT 2016; Reardon, M Published in NEJM March 2017

# Stroke Rates with Second Generation TAVR Valves

## B Event rate for 30-day major stroke



Compare with: PARTNER IA=3.8%, PARTNER IB=5.0%, PARTNER IIB=3.1%, CoreValve High Risk=3.9%, CoreValve Extreme Risk=2.3%.

UK TAVI=4.1%\*, FRANCE 2=2.3%, European Sentinel Registry=1.8%.

Meta-analysis of 2nd generation TAVI valves ( $I^2=36.471$ ,  $\tau^2=0.00$ )

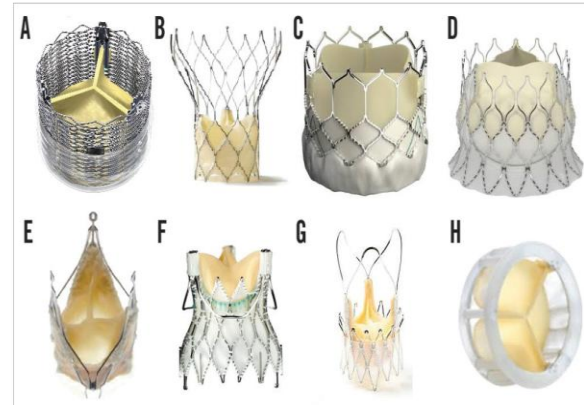


Figure 7. Second-generation transcatheter aortic valves. A) Sadra™ Lotus Medical valve (Boston Scientific SciMed Inc, Maple Grove, MN, USA); B) Portico® valve (St. Jude Medical); C) Edwards SAPIEN 3 valve (Edwards Lifesciences); D) Edwards CENTERA valve (Edwards Lifesciences); E) JenaValve (JenaValve Technology); F) Engager™ valve (Medtronic Inc.); G) Symetis ACURATE™ valve (Symetis SA); H) Direct Flow Medical® valve (Direct Flow Medical).

- Meta-analysis of ~20 non-randomized, mostly FIM, valve-company sponsored studies

**2.4% major stroke at 30-days**

Athappan, et al. A systematic review on the safety of second-generation transcatheter aortic valves. *EuroIntervention* 2016;

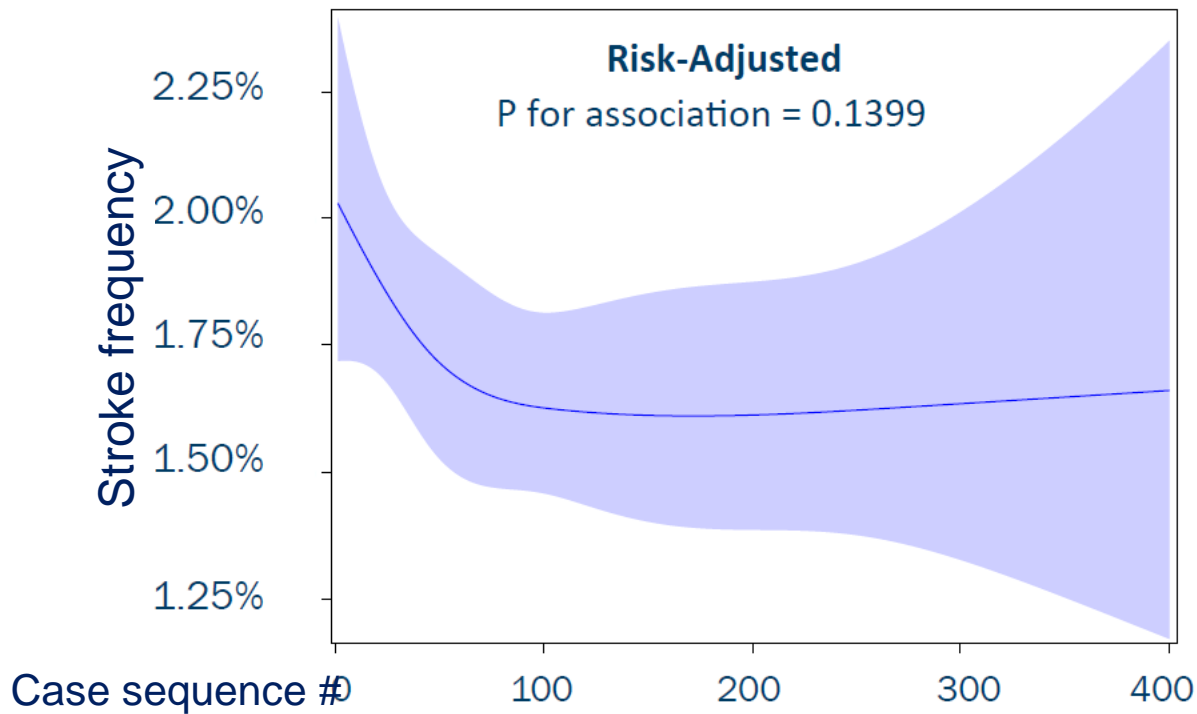
'Self-reported' rates almost certainly an underestimate





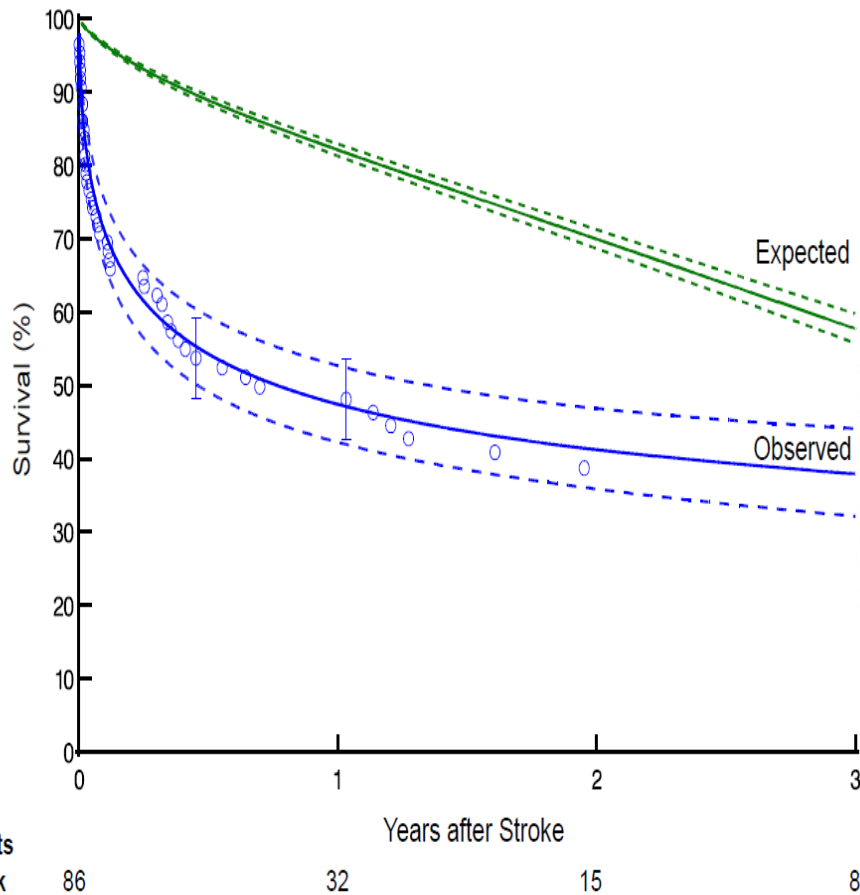
# TVT Registry - TAVR in the U.S.

## Relationship Between Procedure Volume and Outcome for Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement in



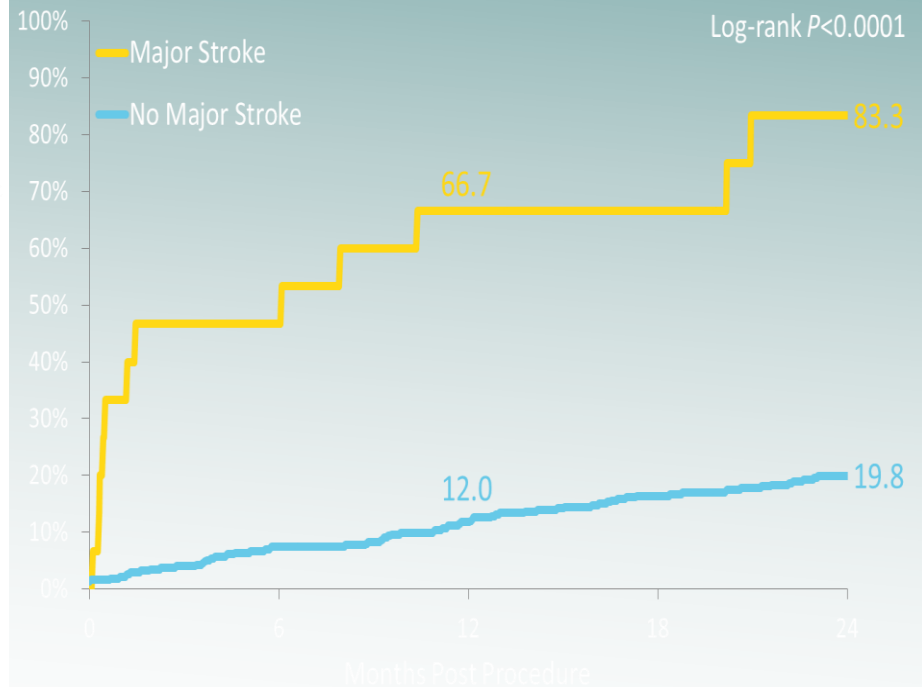
# Major Stroke Increases Mortality 3-9 Fold

## Partner Trials



Kapadia et al, Circ Int 2016

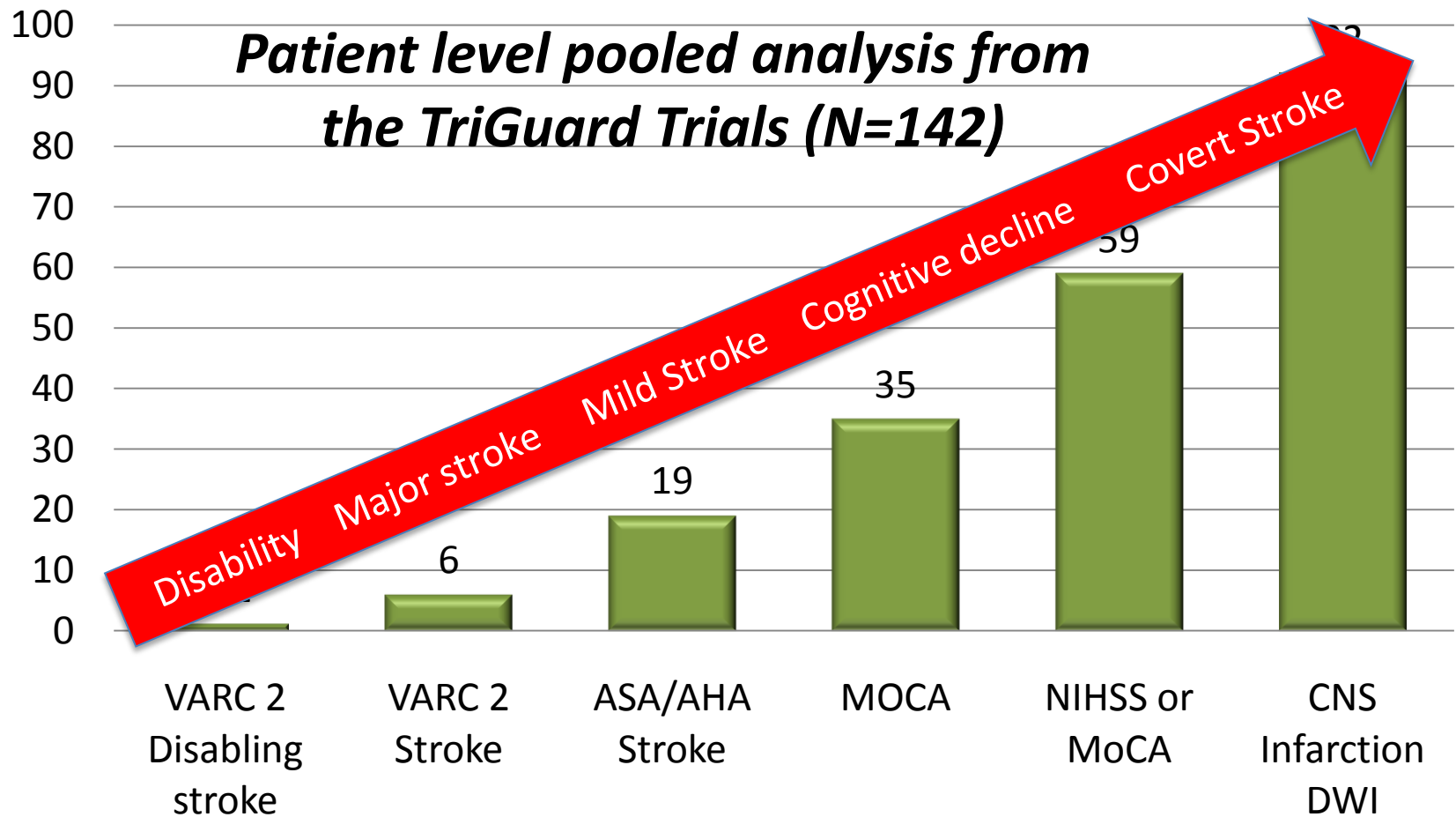
## CoreValve High Risk Trial



No. at Risk

Major Stroke	15	10	5	2
No Major Stroke	37	368	329	217
Stroke	6			

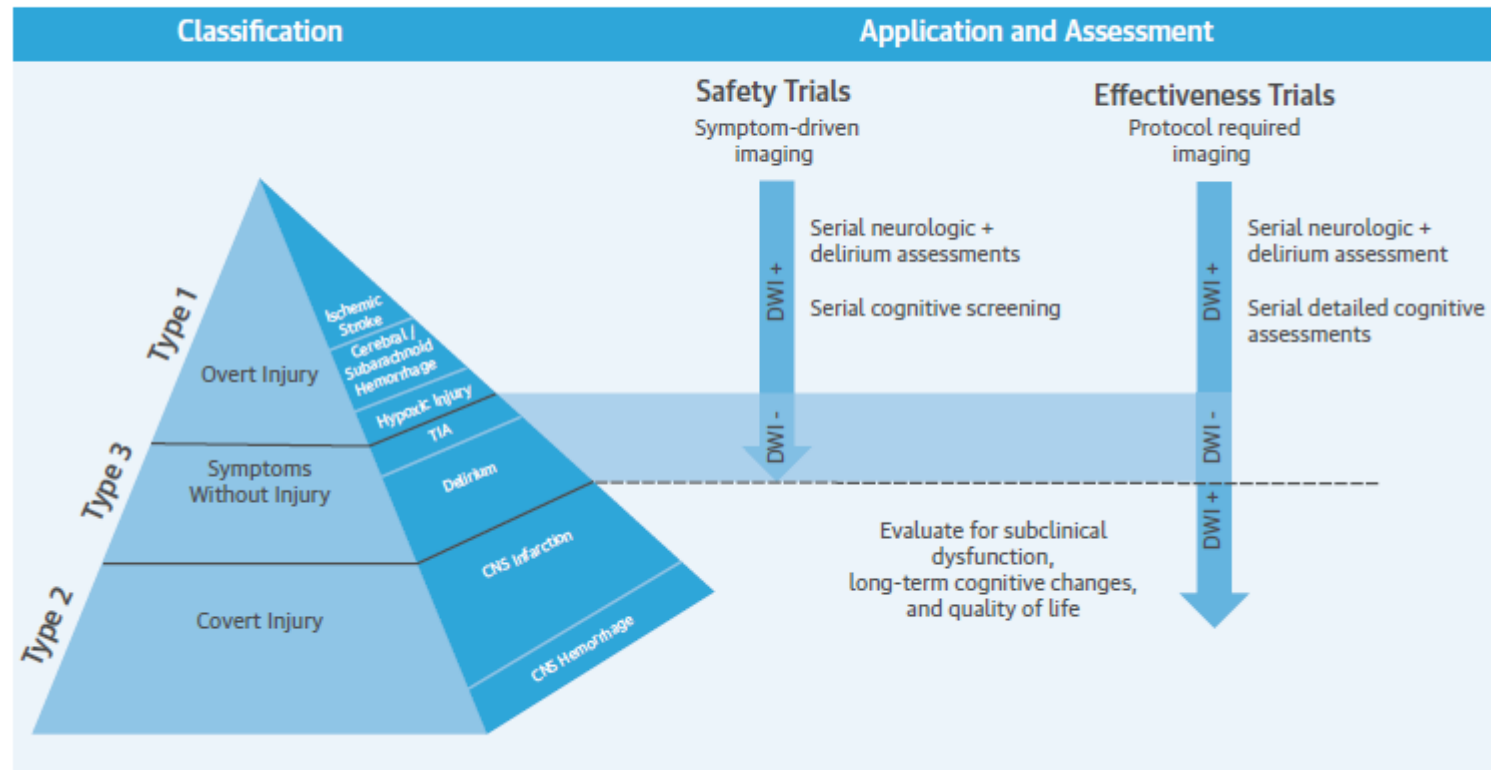
# The Dilemma: What is Cerebral Injury?





# NeuroARC Consensus Report


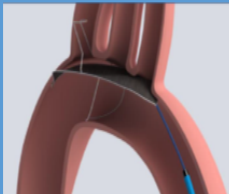
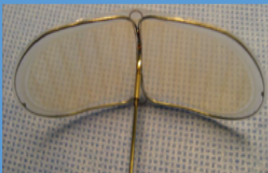


**CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION** Neurologic Academic Research Consortium Consensus: Classification, Application, and Assessment of Neurological Events in Clinical Trials



Lansky, A.J. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2017;69(6):679-91.

Classification, Application, and Assessment of Neurological Events

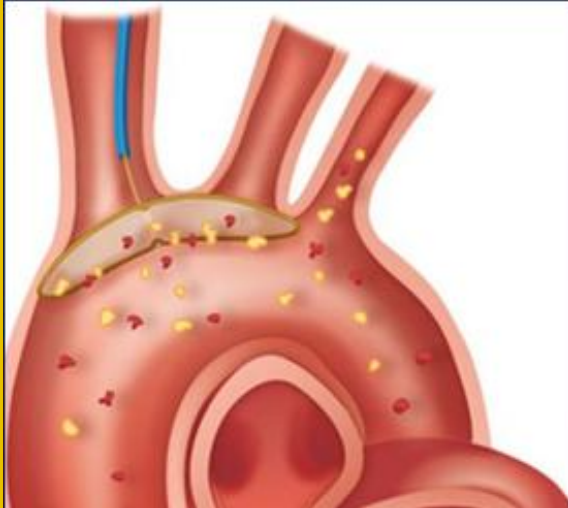
# Can we improve outcomes with embolic protection devices ?

Company and Product	Claret Medical Sentinel 	Keystone TriGuard 	Edwards Embrella 	ICS Emblok 	Transverse Point-Guard 
<b>EU Status</b>	CE Mark 97% market share	CE Mark 3% market share	CE Mark <3% market share	FIM first clinical case March 15, 2017	Pre-clinical/prototype
<b>US Status</b>	IDE study completed Positive FDA Panel Feb 23, 2017	IDE trial underway	No IDE yet	No IDE yet	No IDE yet
<b>Access</b>	6 Fr Right Radial	9Fr TF	Right Radial	12Fr TF sheath	TF
<b>Debris</b>	Captures and removes	Deflects downstream	Deflects downstream	Captures and removes	Deflects downstream
<b>Placement and Interaction with TAVR devices</b>	Not in aortic arch	Sits in aortic arch. Devices must pass over and back across	Sits in aortic arch. Devices must pass over and back across	Sits in ascending aorta Devices must pass over and back across	Sits in aortic arch. Devices must pass over and back across



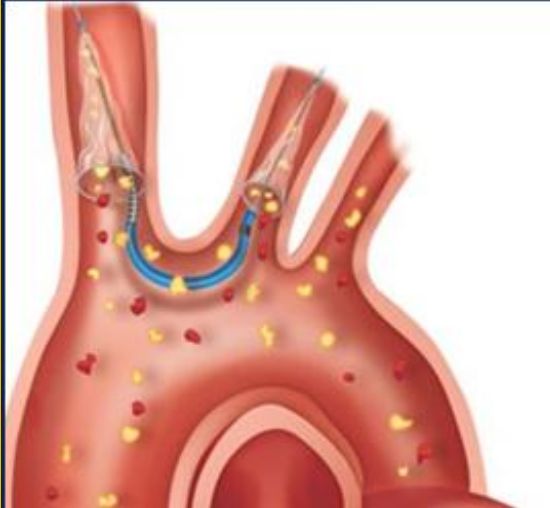
# Current Devices

## Embrella Embolic Deflector System (Edwards Lifesciences)



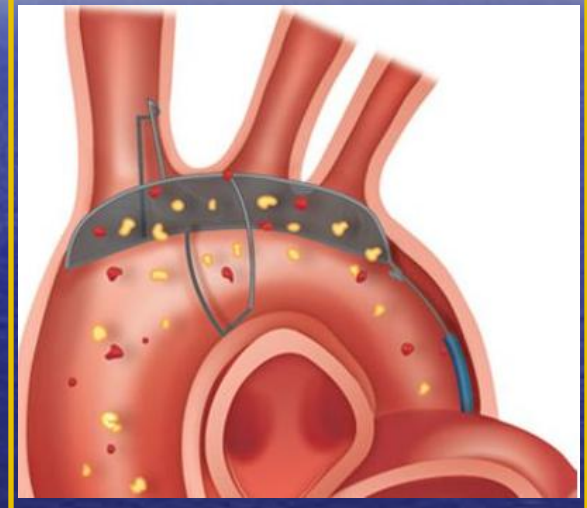
- ✓ Pore Size: 100  $\mu\text{m}$
- ✓ Delivery Sheath: 6F
- ✓ Access: Brachial
- ✓ Coverage: Brachiocephalic, left common carotid

## Sentinel Cerebral Protection System (Claret Medical)



- ✓ Pore Size: 140  $\mu\text{m}$
- ✓ Delivery Sheath: 6F
- ✓ Access: Brachial or radial
- ✓ Coverage: Brachiocephalic, left common carotid

## TriGuard Embolic Deflection Device (Keystone Heart)

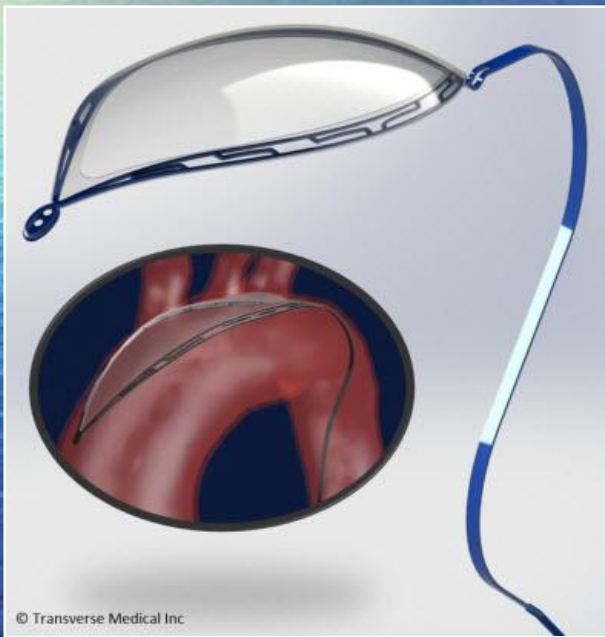


- ✓ Pore Size: 130  $\mu\text{m}$
- ✓ Delivery Sheath: 9F
- ✓ Access: Transfemoral
- ✓ Coverage: Brachiocephalic, left common carotid, left subclavian

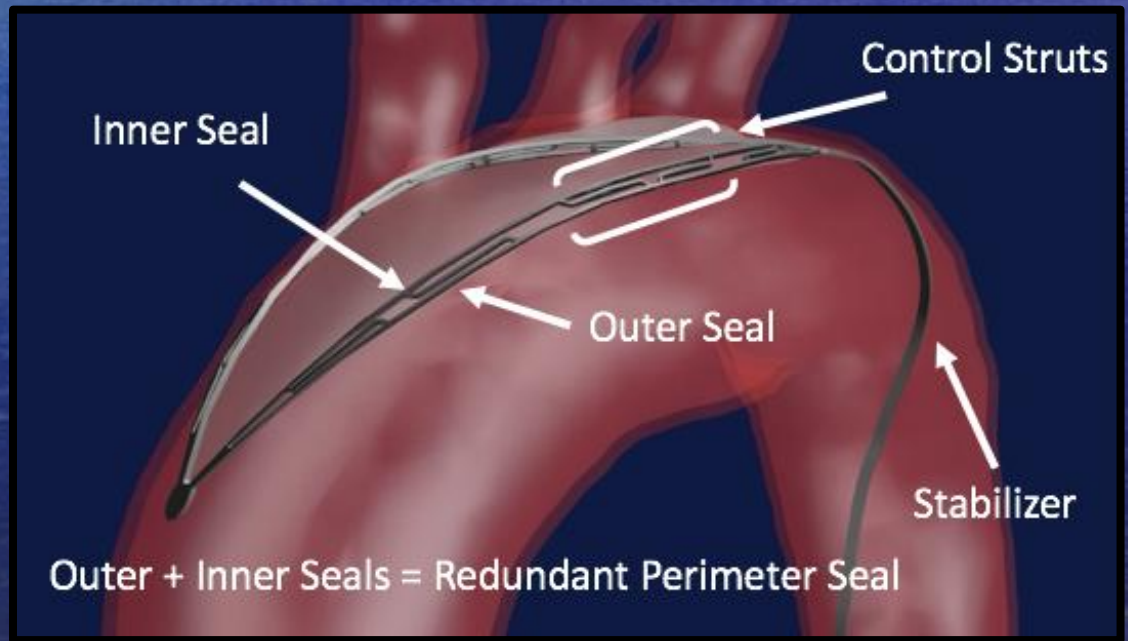
# Newer Devices...

## Transverse Medical POINTGUARD CEP Device

### Maximum Filter Coverage

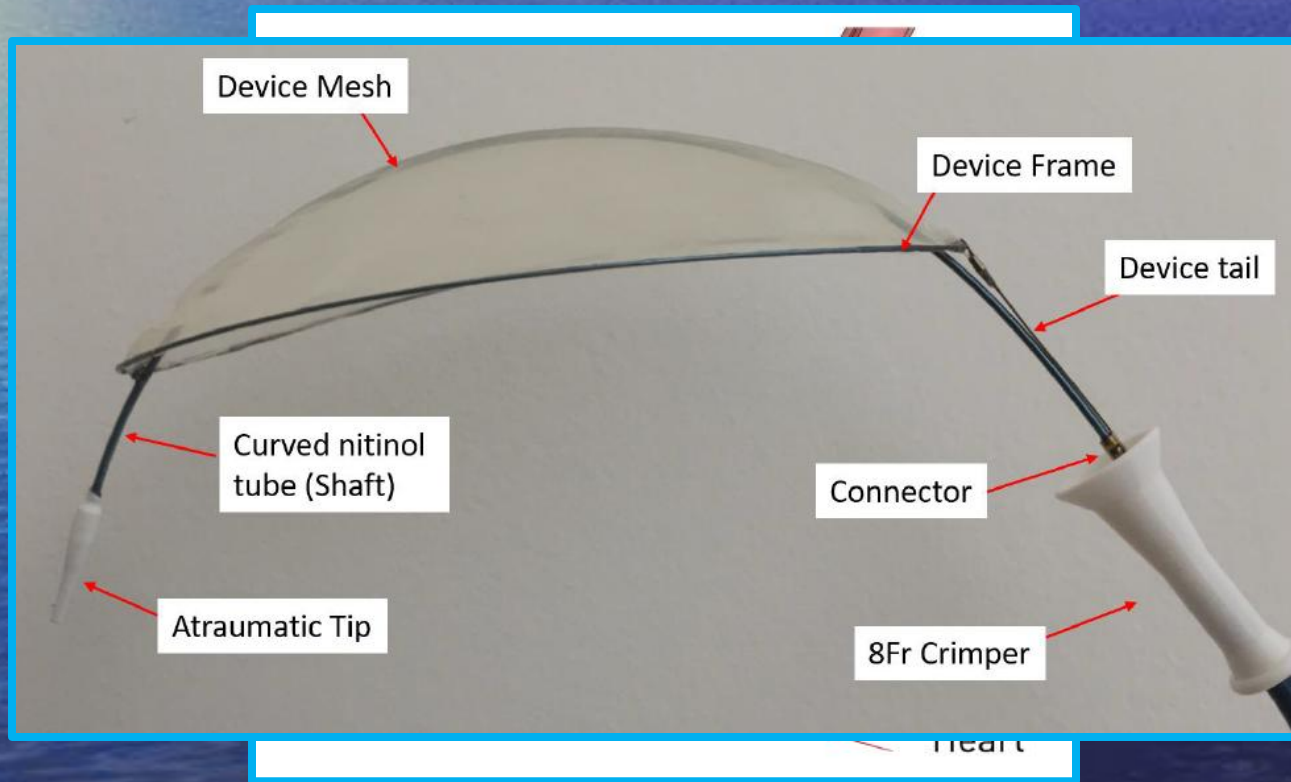


### Balanced Filtration and Deflection





# Keystone Heart NEW TriGUARD 3 CEP Device

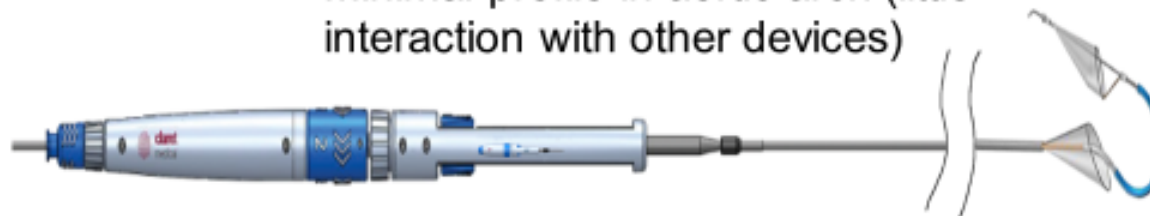




# CLARET



- Two independent filters capture & remove embolic material
- Polyurethane filter, pore size = 140  $\mu\text{m}$
- Standard R trans-radial sheath access (6F)
- One size accommodates most vessel sizes (brachiocephalic 9-15 mm and left common carotid [LCC] 6.5-10 mm)
- Deflectable compound-curve catheter facilitates cannulation of LCC
- Minimal profile in aortic arch (little interaction with other devices)



# Claret data

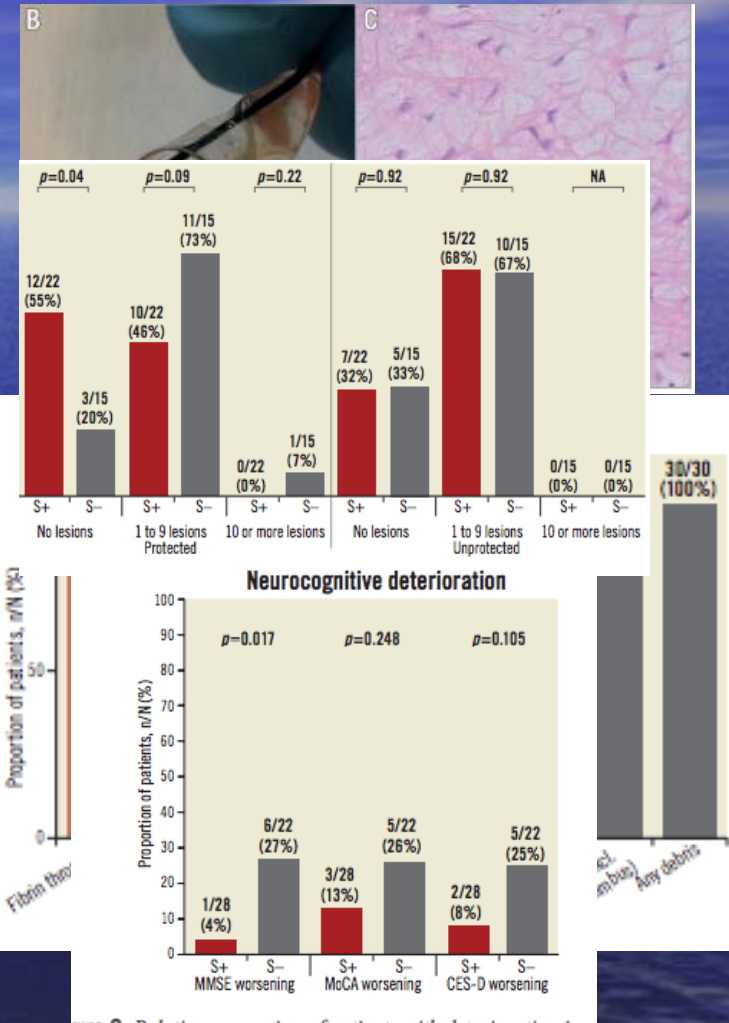
It does seem effective in capturing debris..

MISTRAL-C trial of 65 patients randomised to Claret vs no protection

Debris found in all deployed devices

But only a modest effect on number and size of MRI lesions (with ~65% MRI follow up...

Some suggestion that neurocognitive decline ameliorated



# CLEAN-TAVI

100 patient, single-centre RCT

Randomised to Claret vs no  
Claret

Reduction in new MRI lesion  
volume and number

no data on neurocognitive  
improvement

## Neurological Outcome

intention-to-treat		cumulative	2 days (No, %)	7 days (No, %)	30 days (No, %)
<b>C</b> <sub>ontrol</sub>	Any symptom	17 (34 %)	14 (28 %)	5 (10 %)	6 (12 %)
	- Ataxia	16 (32 %)	12 (24 %)	4 (8 %)	5 (10 %)
<b>F</b> <sub>ilter</sub>	Any symptom	14 (28 %)	8 (16 %)	8 (16 %)	6 (12 %)
	- Ataxia	12 (24 %)	6 (12 %)	7 (14 %)	6 (12 %)

RR 1.379 (0.927 to 2.050), OR 2.042, p=0.175

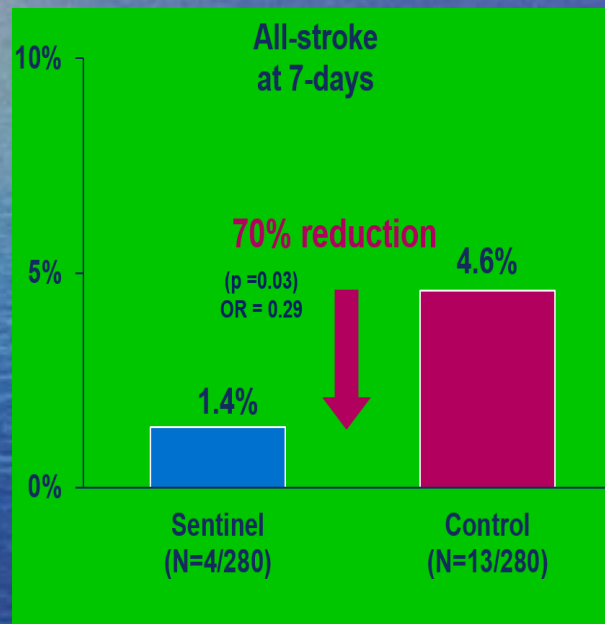
RR 1.439 (0.963 to 2.149), OR 2.316, p=0.118



# Ulm Sentinel Study:

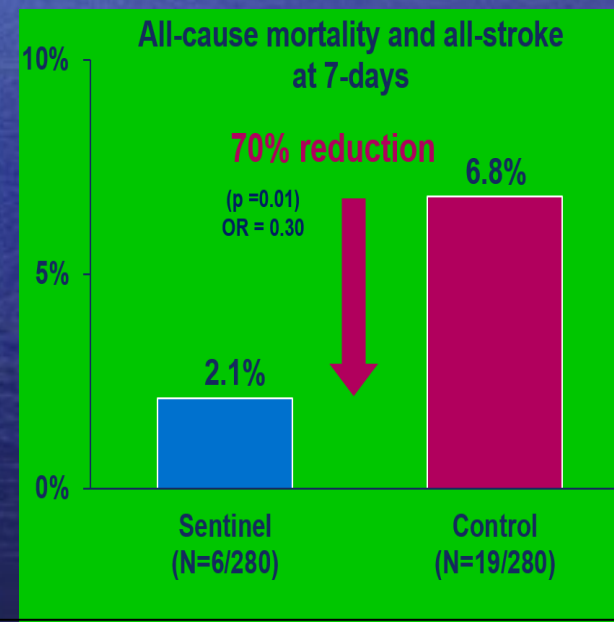
## Procedural Protection=Procedural Benefit

- 802 single center all-comer consecutive TAVR patients
- A propensity-matched analysis of 280 patients with Sentinel to 280 control patients



Predictor of Stroke at 7 days:

- No cerebral emboli protection (p=0.044)

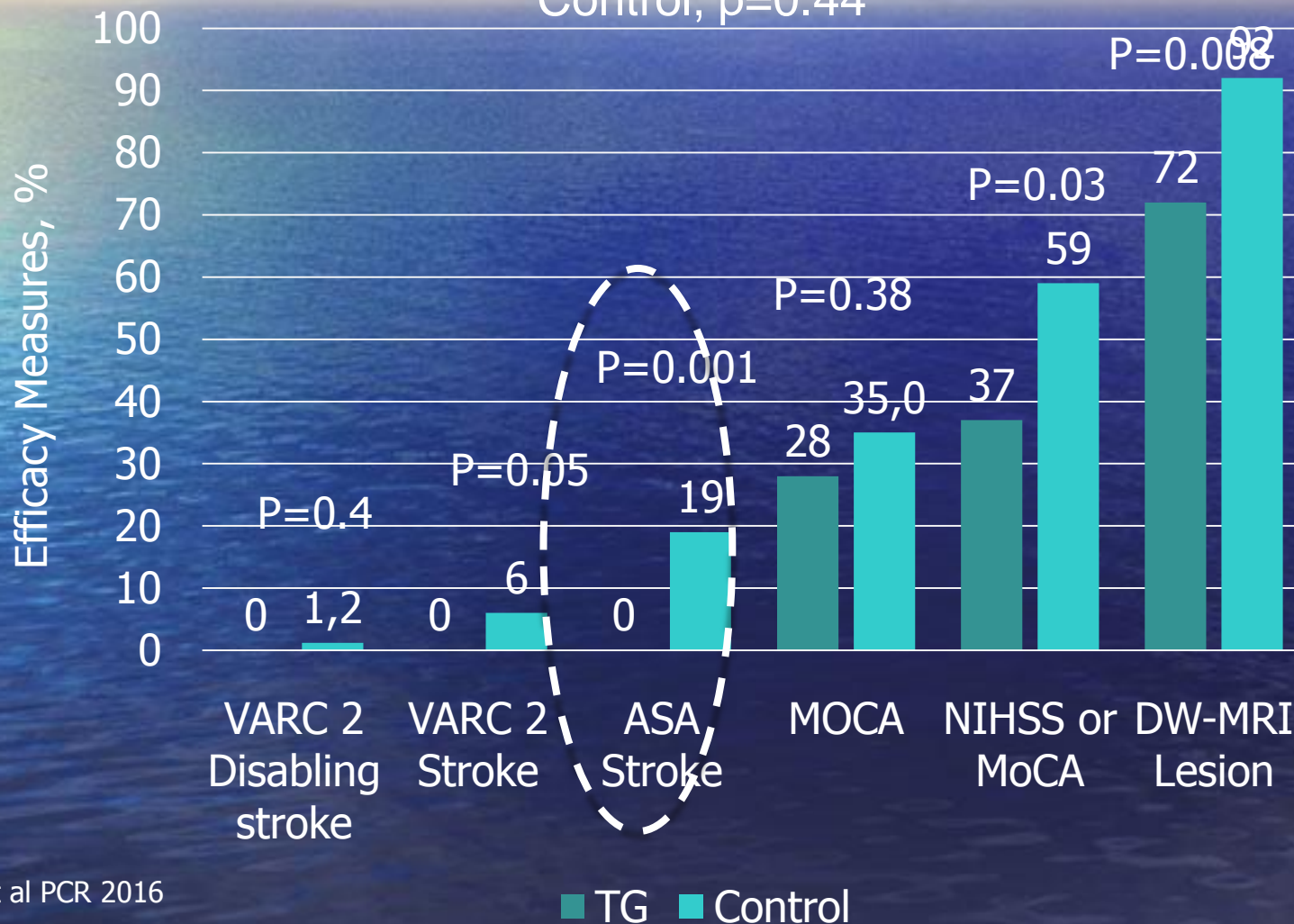


Predictor of Stroke and Death at 7 deaths:

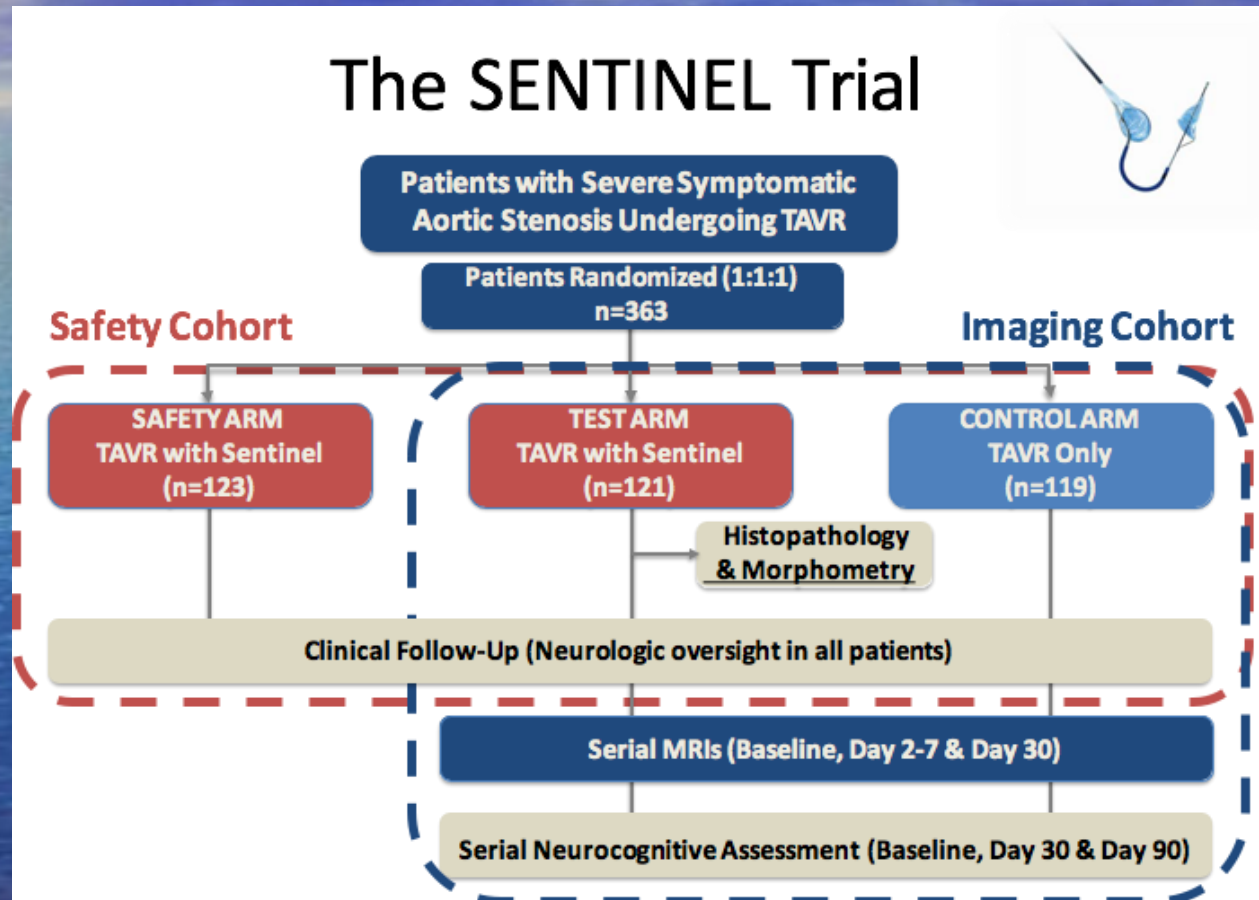
- No cerebral emboli protection (p=0.028)
- STS score (<8 vs.  $\geq$ 8) (p=0.021)

# TriGuard HDH Pooled Analysis

Primary Safety Endpoint of 30 day MACCE: 18.2% TG vs 24.1% Control,  $p=0.44$



# Claret Randomised data





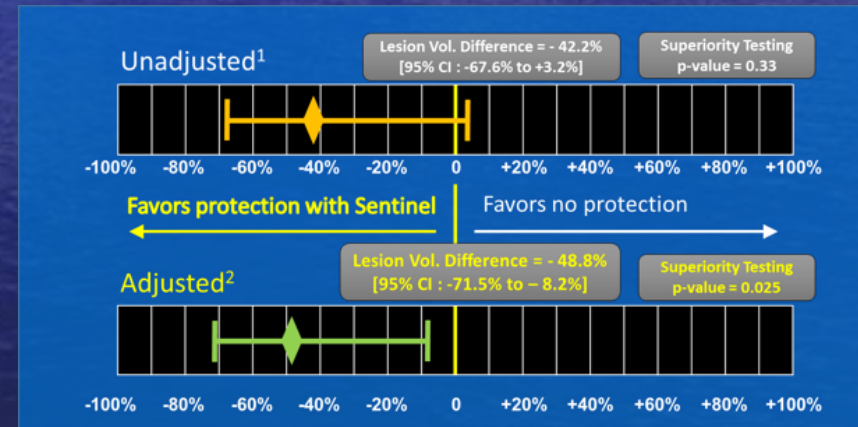
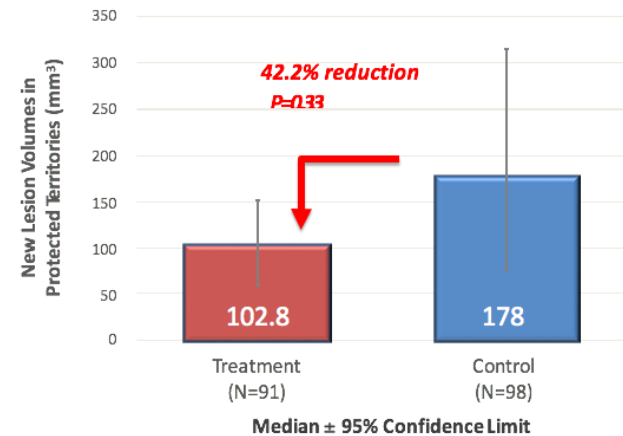
No difference in clinical stroke rates..

Despite a reduction in MRI lesion volume study failed to reach its primary end-point...

Favourable safety profile- ie no evidence of harm..

No difference in clinical stroke rates..

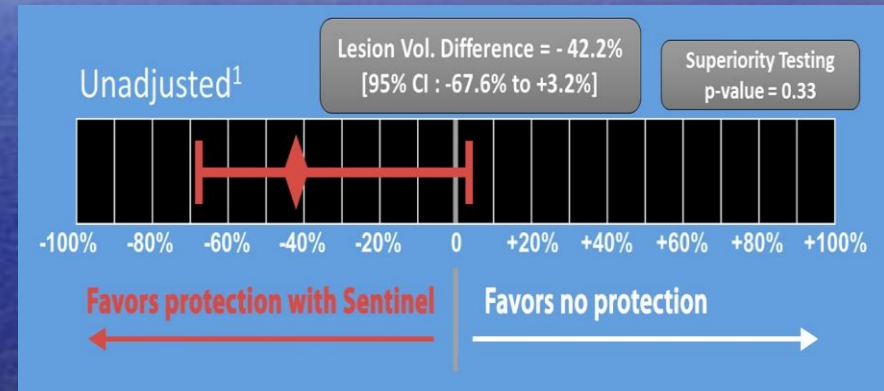
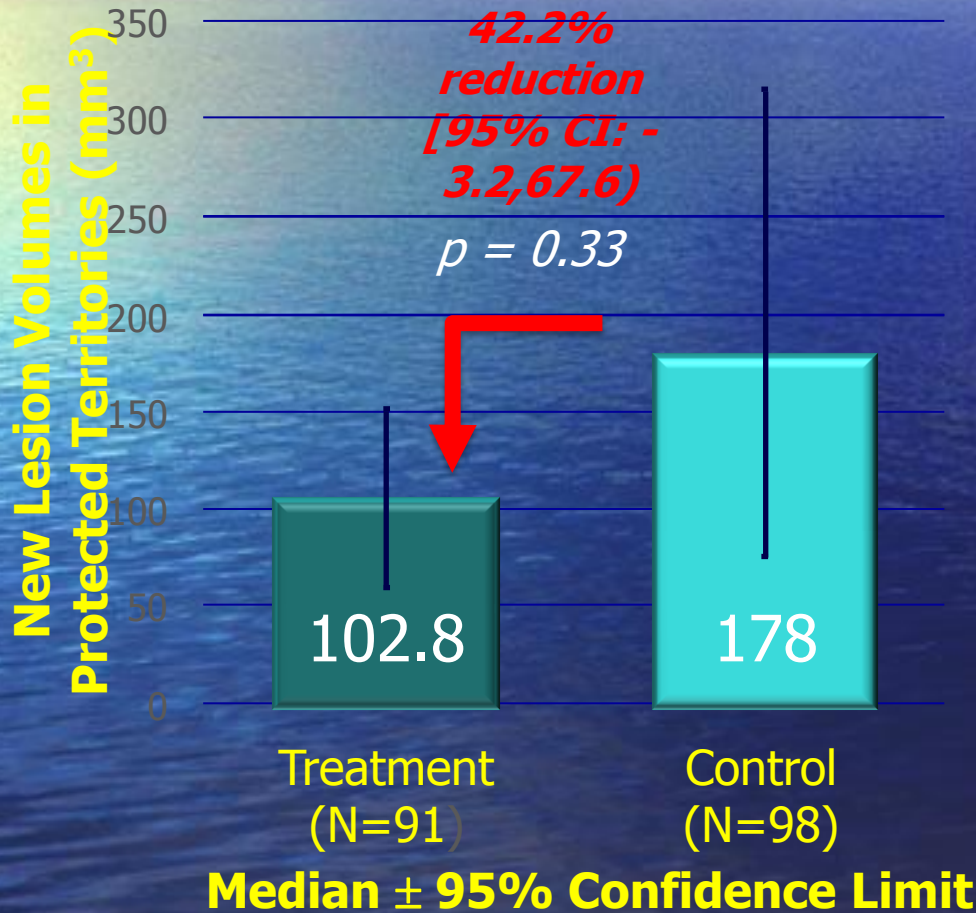
## Primary Efficacy Endpoint



# SENTINEL US IDE Trial (N=363)

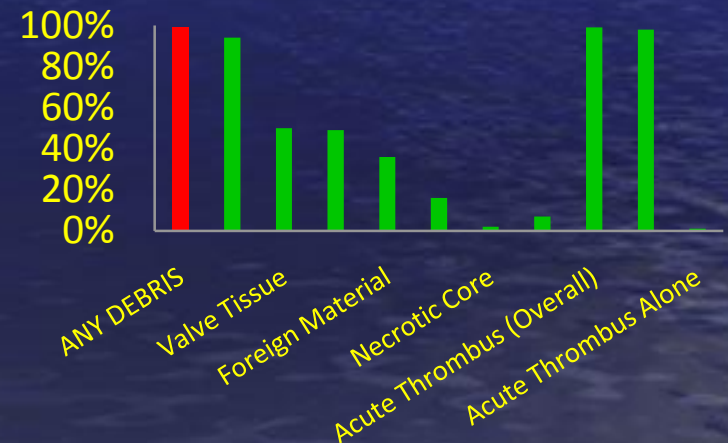
## Primary Efficacy Endpoint (Superiority)

Median TLV in protected territories assessed by DW-MRI at Day 2-7 post-procedure



## HISTOPATHOLOGY

### Debris Capture by Type

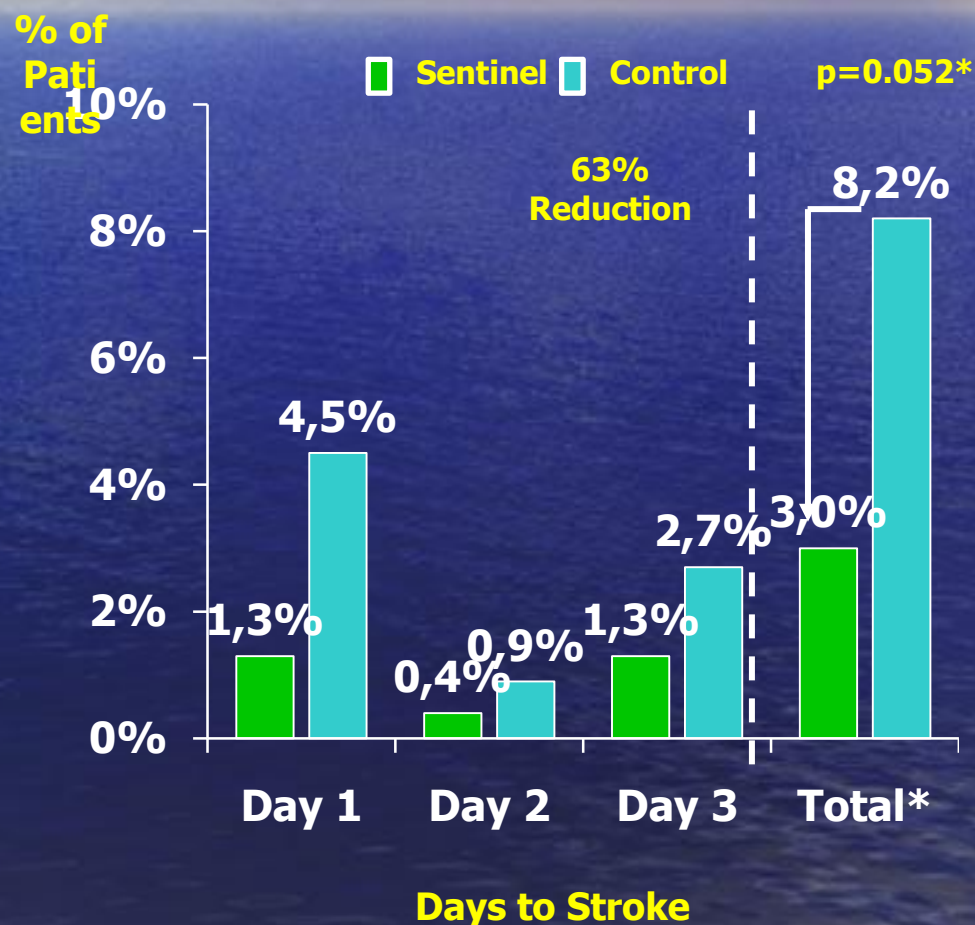


# Lessons Learned : Timing of Ascertainment Sentinel Trial

30 Day Stroke Diagnosis (Analyzed ITT)

	Device Arm (n=234)	Control Arm (n=111)	p-value
<b>30-day Clinical Outcomes</b>			
<b>Any MACCE<sup>†</sup></b>	7.3%	9.9%	0.40
<b>Death (all-cause)</b>	1.3%	1.8%	0.65
<b>Stroke</b>	5.6%	9.1%	0.25
<b>Disabling</b>	0.9%	0.9%	1.00
<b>Non-disabling</b>	4.8%	8.2%	0.22
<b>AKI (Stage 3)</b>	0.4%	0%	1.00
<b>TIA</b>	0.4%	0%	1.00
<b>Sentinel Access Site Complications</b>	0.4%	N/A	0.53

Stroke Diagnosis ≤72 hours (Analyzed ITT)

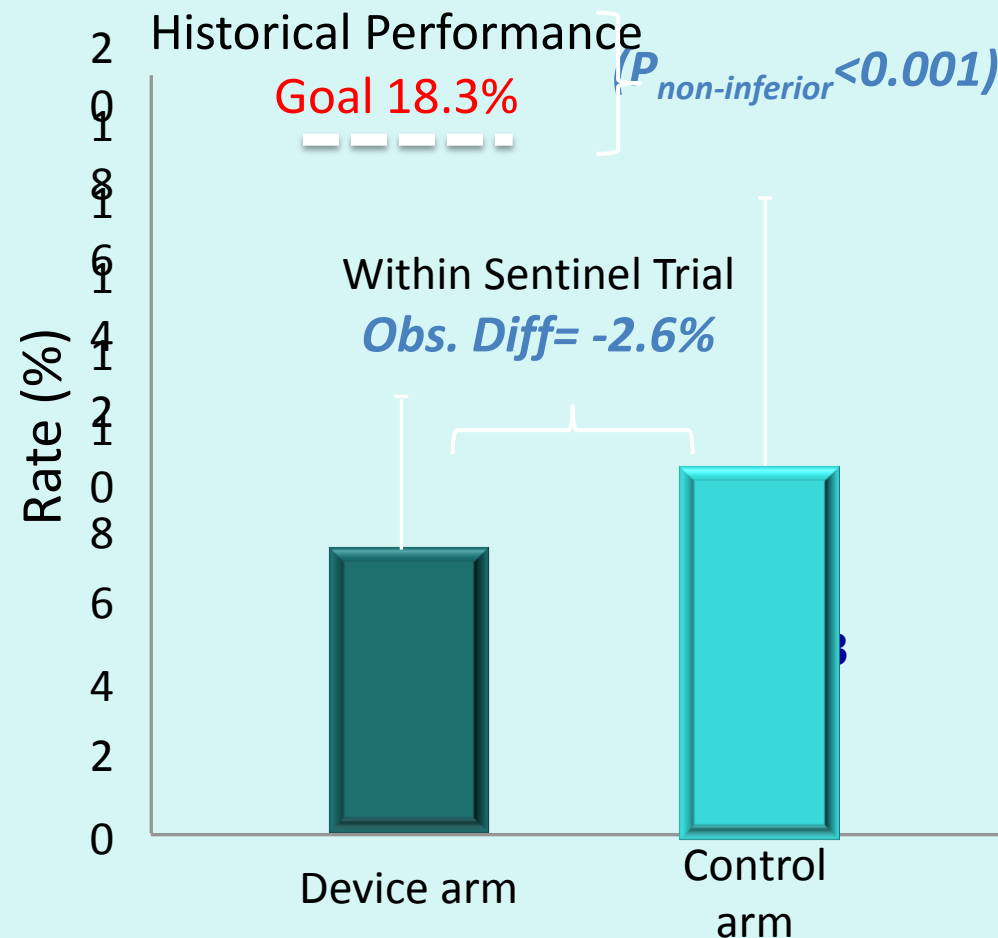


\*Fisher Exact Test



# Primary Safety Endpoint (NI): All Cause Death, Stroke, AKI stage 3

## 30-Day MACCE



	Device Arm (n=234)	Control Arm (n=111)	p-value
<b>Any MACCE<sup>†</sup></b>	7.3%	9.9%	0.40
<b>Stroke</b>	5.6%	9.1%	0.25
<b>Disabling</b>	0.9%	0.9%	1.00
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<b>TIA</b>	0.4%	0%	1.00
<b>Sentinel Site Complications</b>	0.4%	N/A	0.53

# Where to use without definitive/compelling evidence?

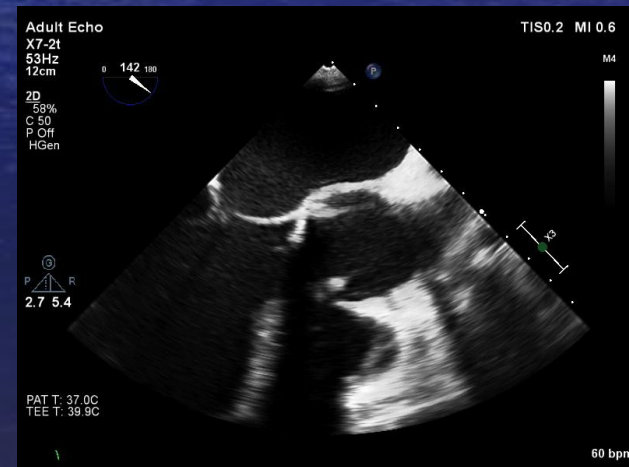
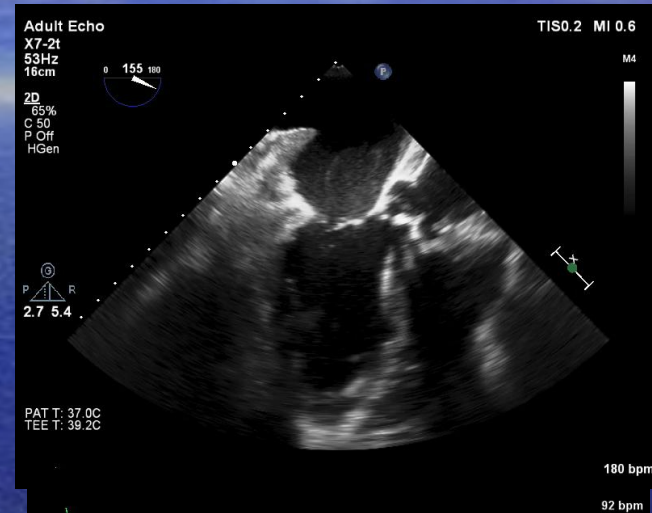
## Selectively?

With mobile structures present on the AoV

Laminar LV thrombus in 'no option' patient

Large burden/mobile aortic atheroma..

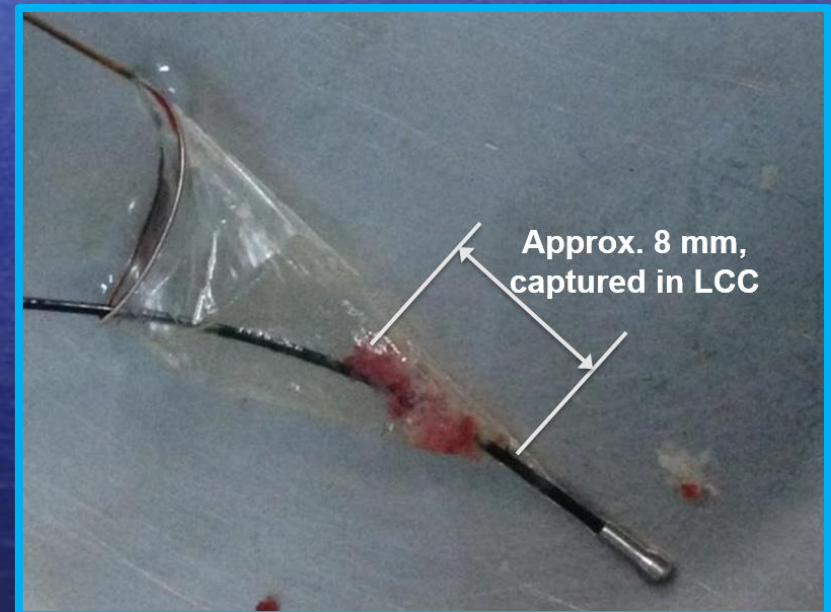
?LA appendage clot/SEC



# Or better for Everyone?



*Would you take a chance and drive without a seatbelt?!*



*You never know when you'll need protection!?*



# Summary

- Stroke continues to be a clinically relevant problem in TAVI
- 'Silent' cerebral infarcts are frequent and are shown to have an impact on cognitive function
- While initial results with cerebral protection devices promising, so far failed to be validated in powered randomized trials
- As TAVI moves to lower risk groups...
- Freedom from new brain lesions should be a gold standard after TAVI?