

Aspirin in Primary and Secondary
Cardiovascular Disease Prevention. Still Four
Questions: About Enteric-Coated, Indicated
Doses, Use in Diabetes, Use in PVD

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Disclosure

I received consultant and speakers fees from **Amgen, AstraZeneca, Bayer and GlaxoSmithKline**

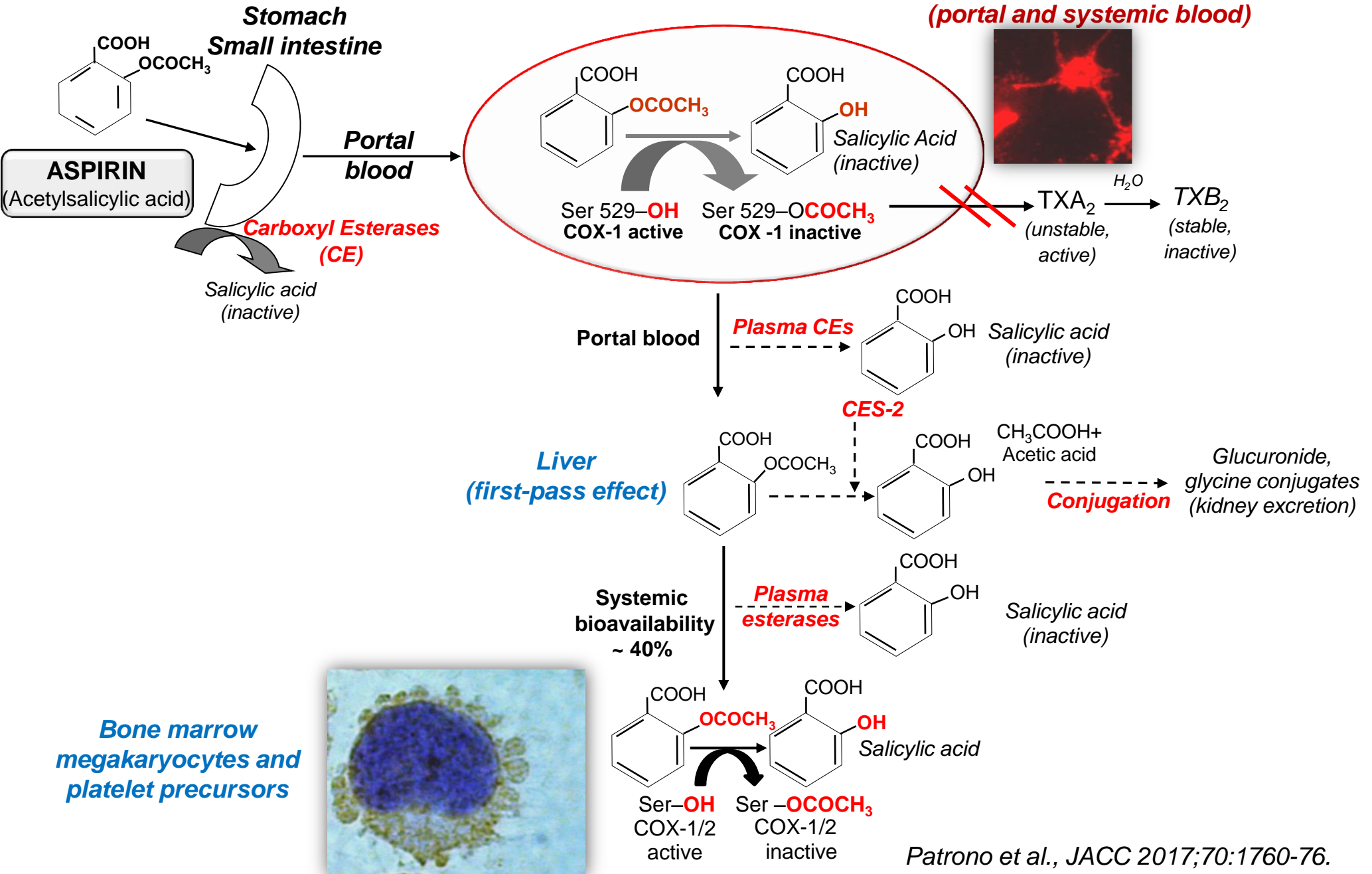
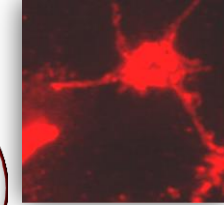
I chair the Scientific Advisory Board of the **International Aspirin Foundation**

I received grant support for investigator-initiated research from:

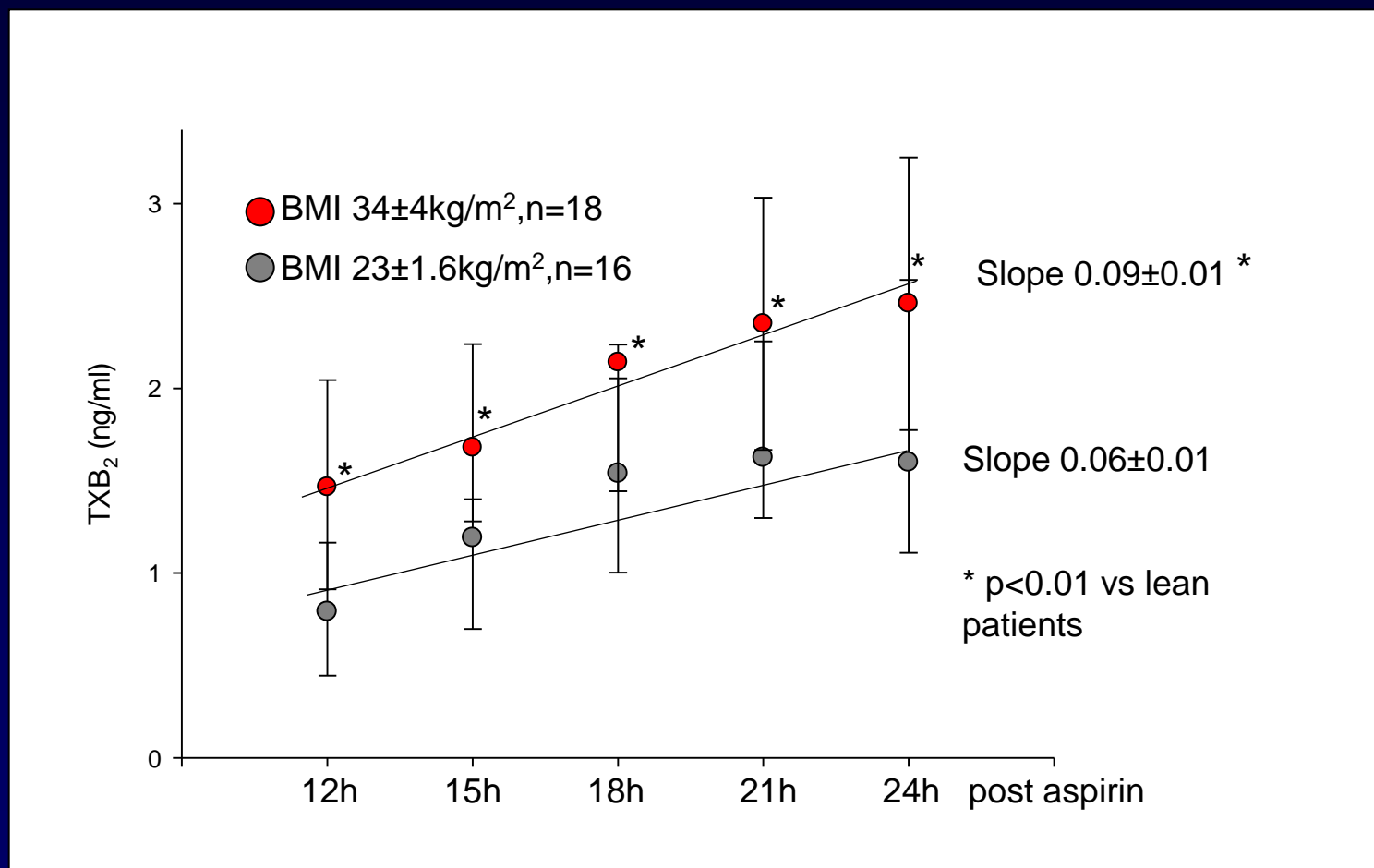
- **European Commission, FP6 and FP7 Programmes**
- **Bayer AG**

Aspirin Has Two Distinct Cellular Targets

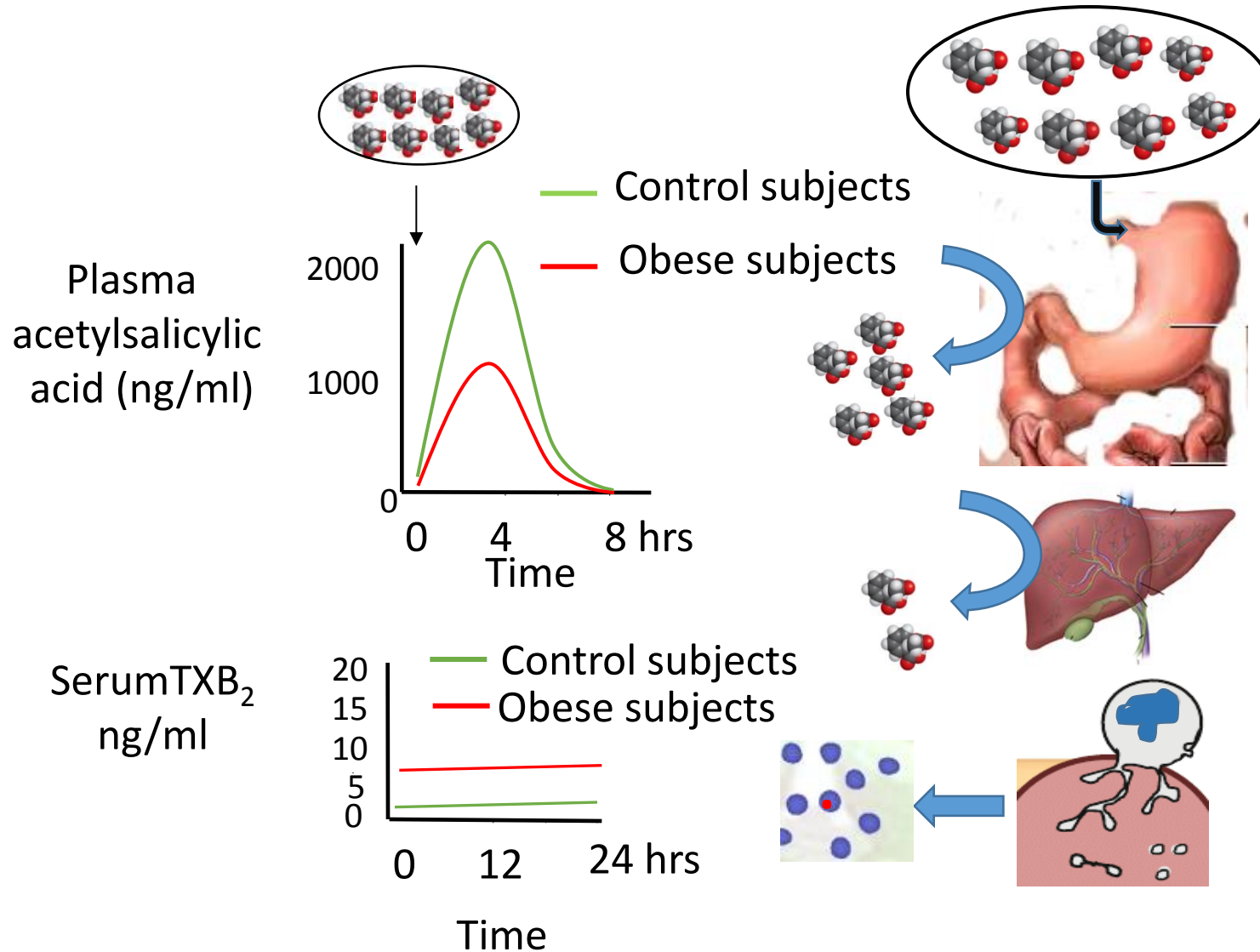
Platelets
(portal and systemic blood)



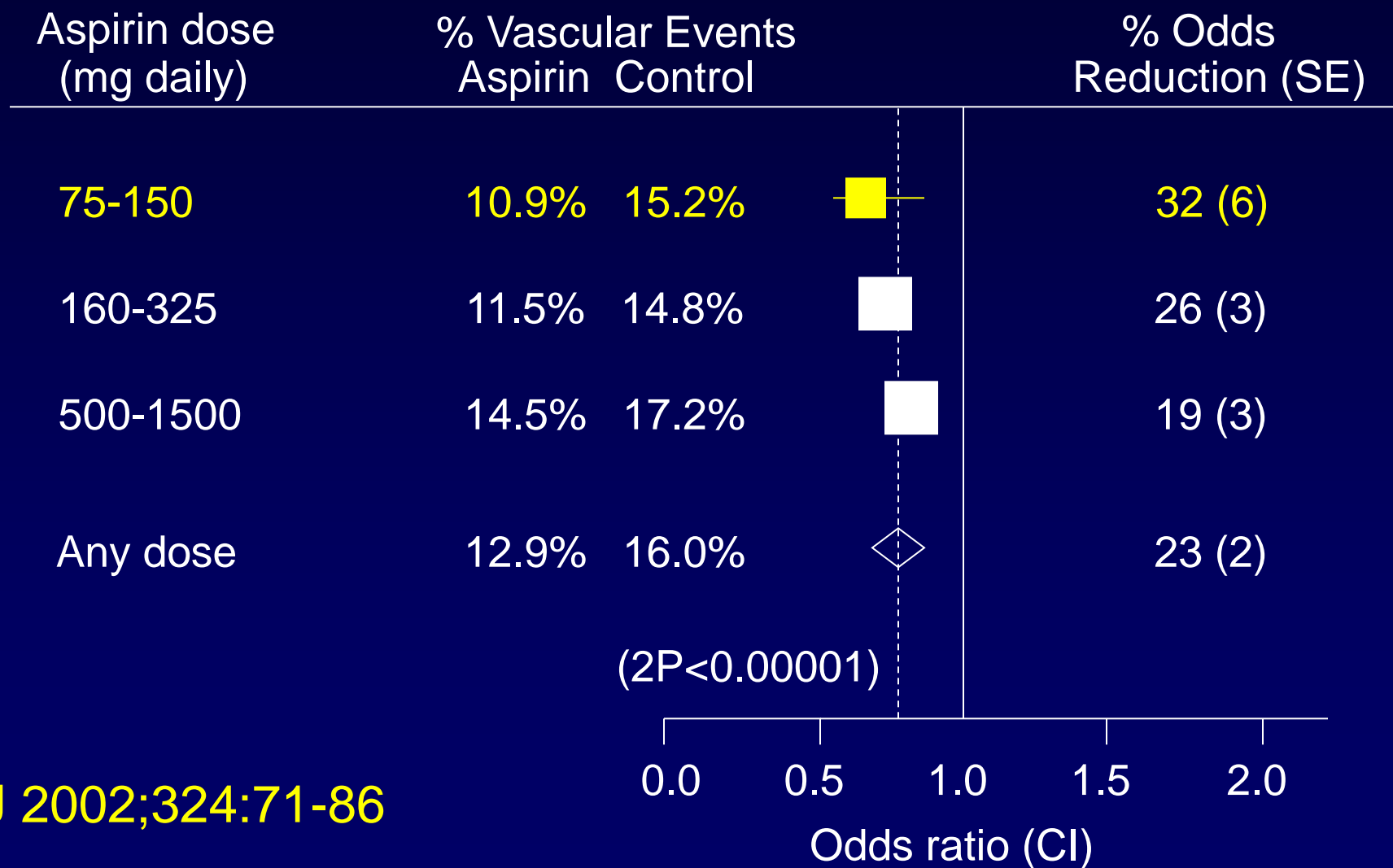
Serum TXB₂ Levels are Significantly Higher in EC Aspirin-Treated Obese vs Lean Non-Diabetic Patients Over the 12-24h Dosing Interval



Obesity and Aspirin PK



Antithrombotic Trialists' Collaboration Meta-Analysis of Aspirin Trials in High-Risk Patients



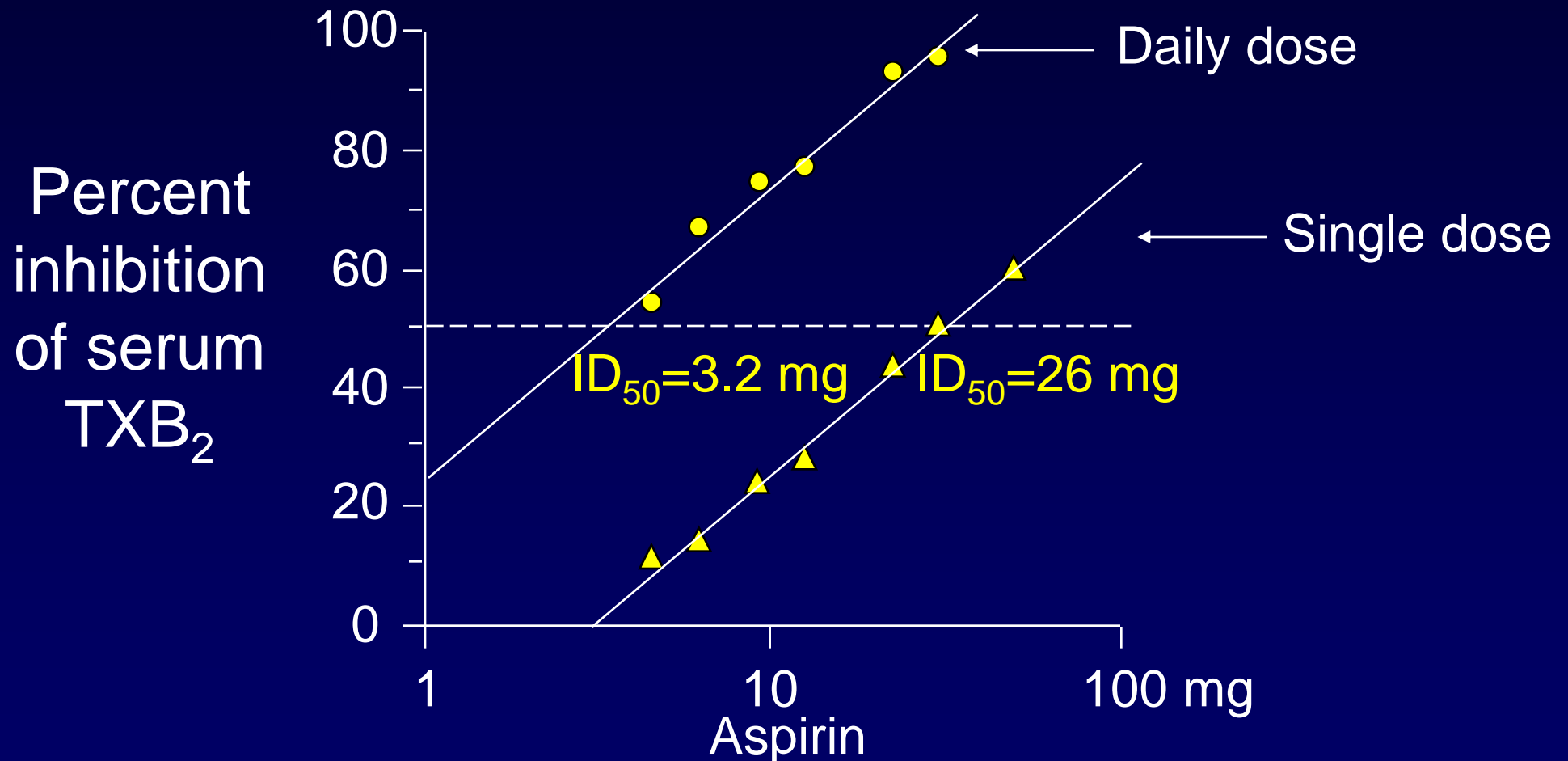
BMJ 2002;324:71-86

Does One Size Fit All?

Probably yes, because:

- a) Inactivation of platelet COX-1 and suppression of thromboxane production are **cumulative** upon repeated daily dosing, and **saturable at doses as low as 30-40 mg daily**.
- b) There is **no evidence** that higher doses (e.g., 300-325 mg) are more effective than lower doses (i.e., 75-100 mg), and **the opposite may be true**.

Cumulative Inhibition of Platelet COX-1 by Low Doses of Aspirin Shifts the Dose-Response Curve by a Factor Equivalent to the Daily Platelet Turnover

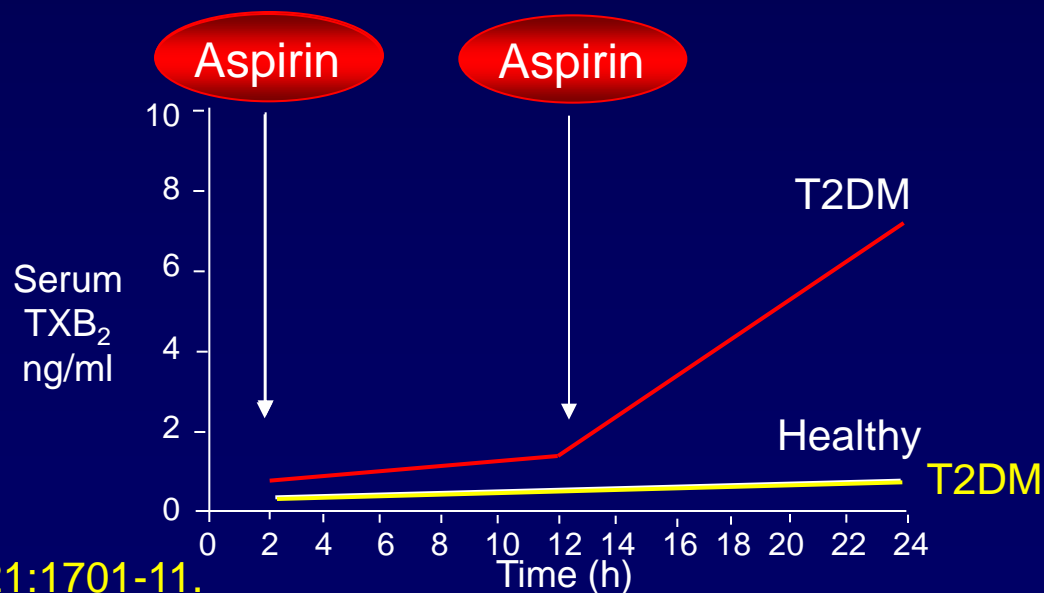
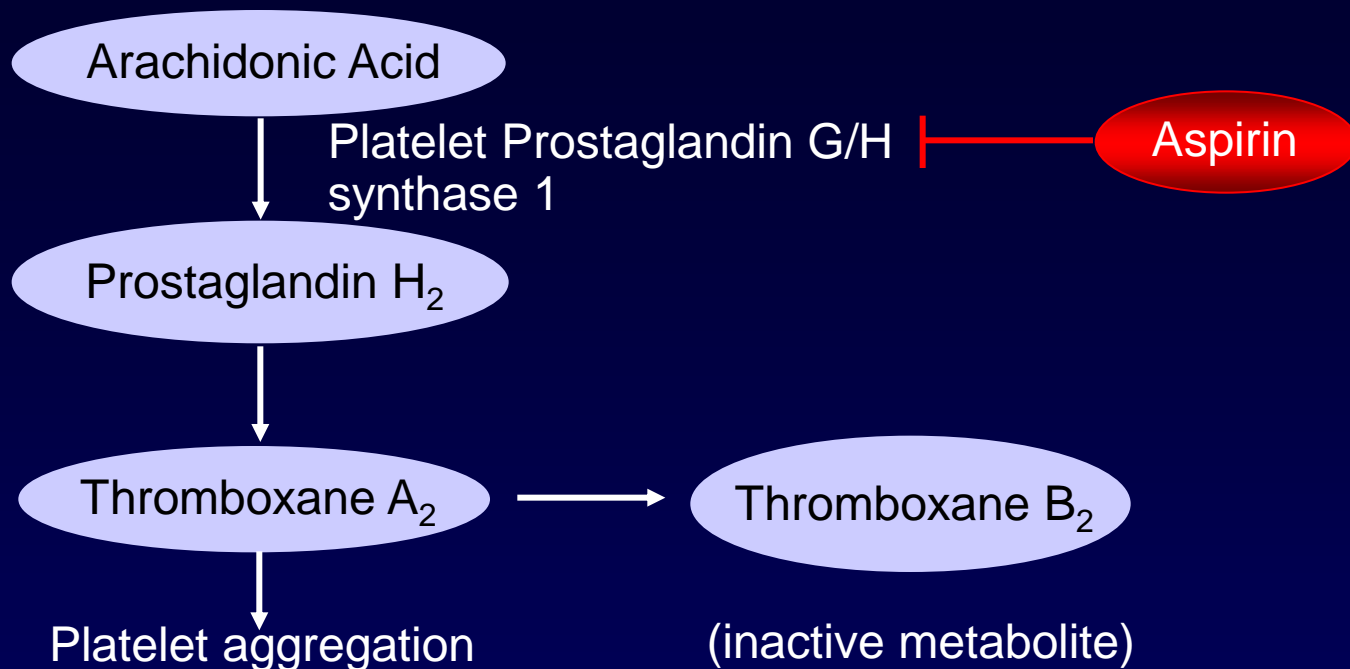
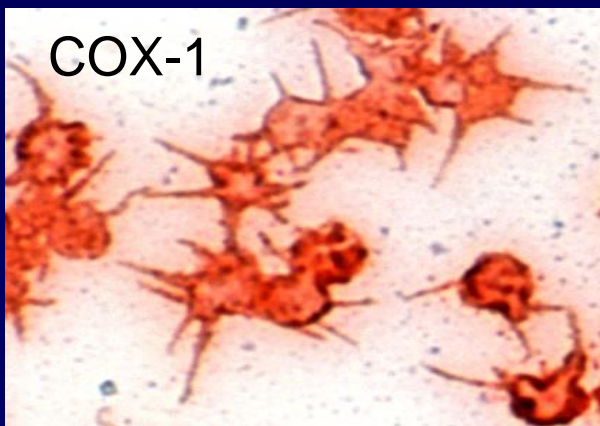
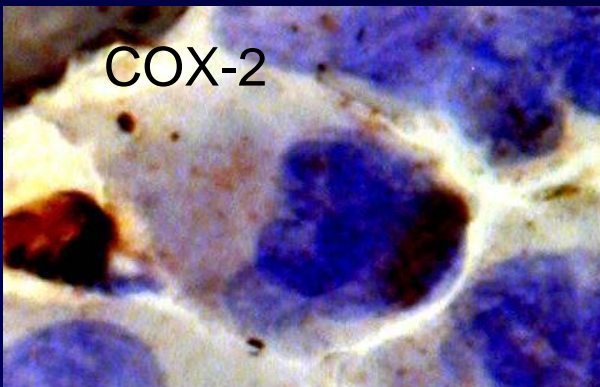
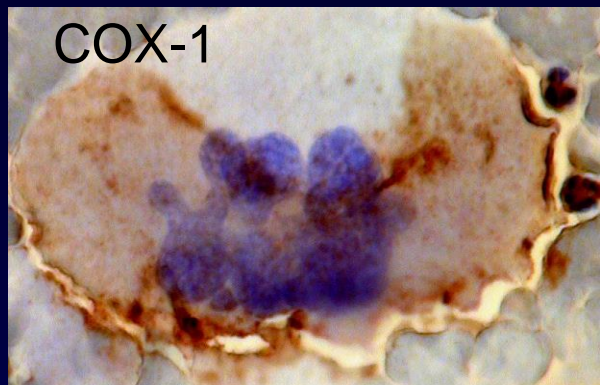


Patrino et al., *Circulation* 1985; 72:1177-84

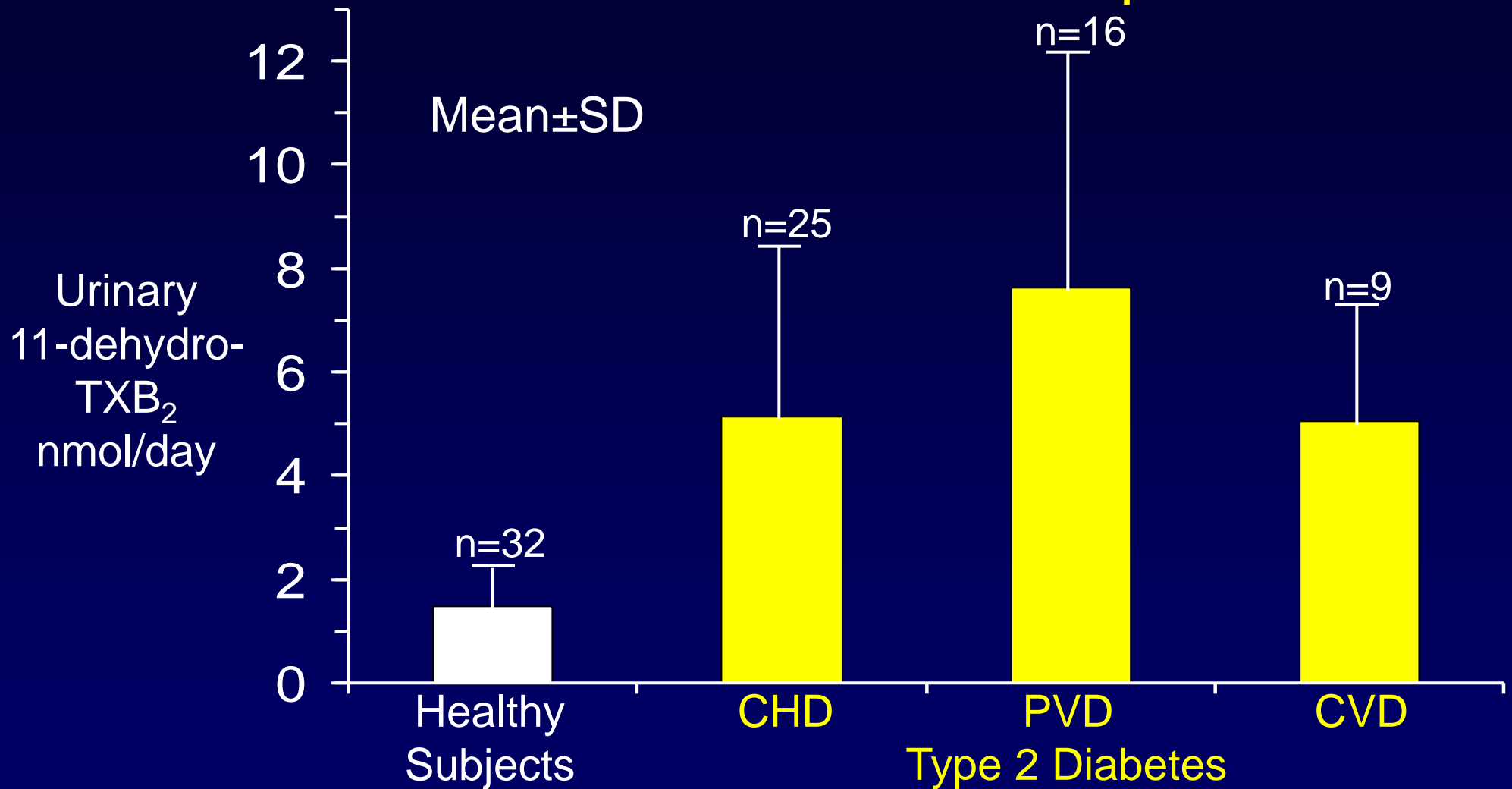
Does One Dosing Regimen Fit All?

Maybe not, because there is **substantial interindividual variability in the rate of recovery** of platelet COX-1 activity during the 24-hour dosing interval, perhaps requiring **more frequent dosing (e.g., bid)** in patients with **accelerated renewal of the drug target**.

Altered Pharmacodynamics of Low-Dose Aspirin in Type 2 Diabetes



Thromboxane Biosynthesis is Enhanced in Type 2 Diabetes with Macrovascular Complications



Aspirin for Primary Prevention of CVD in Diabetes: Current Guidelines

ADA/AHA¹

1) Low-dose aspirin (75-162 mg/day) is reasonable among those with a 10-year CVD risk of at least 10% and without an increased risk of bleeding.
2) Low-dose aspirin is reasonable in adults with diabetes mellitus at intermediate risk (10-year CVD risk, 5-10%)

ESC-EASD²

Antiplatelet therapy for primary prevention may be considered in high-risk patients with DM on an individual basis

IDF³

Recommended in people at high risk

AACE⁴

Recommended

Canadian Diabetes Association⁵

No evidence, use left to individual clinical judgment

1. Circulation 2015;132:691-718

2. Eur Heart J 2013;34:3035-87

3. Diabet Med 2006;23:579-593

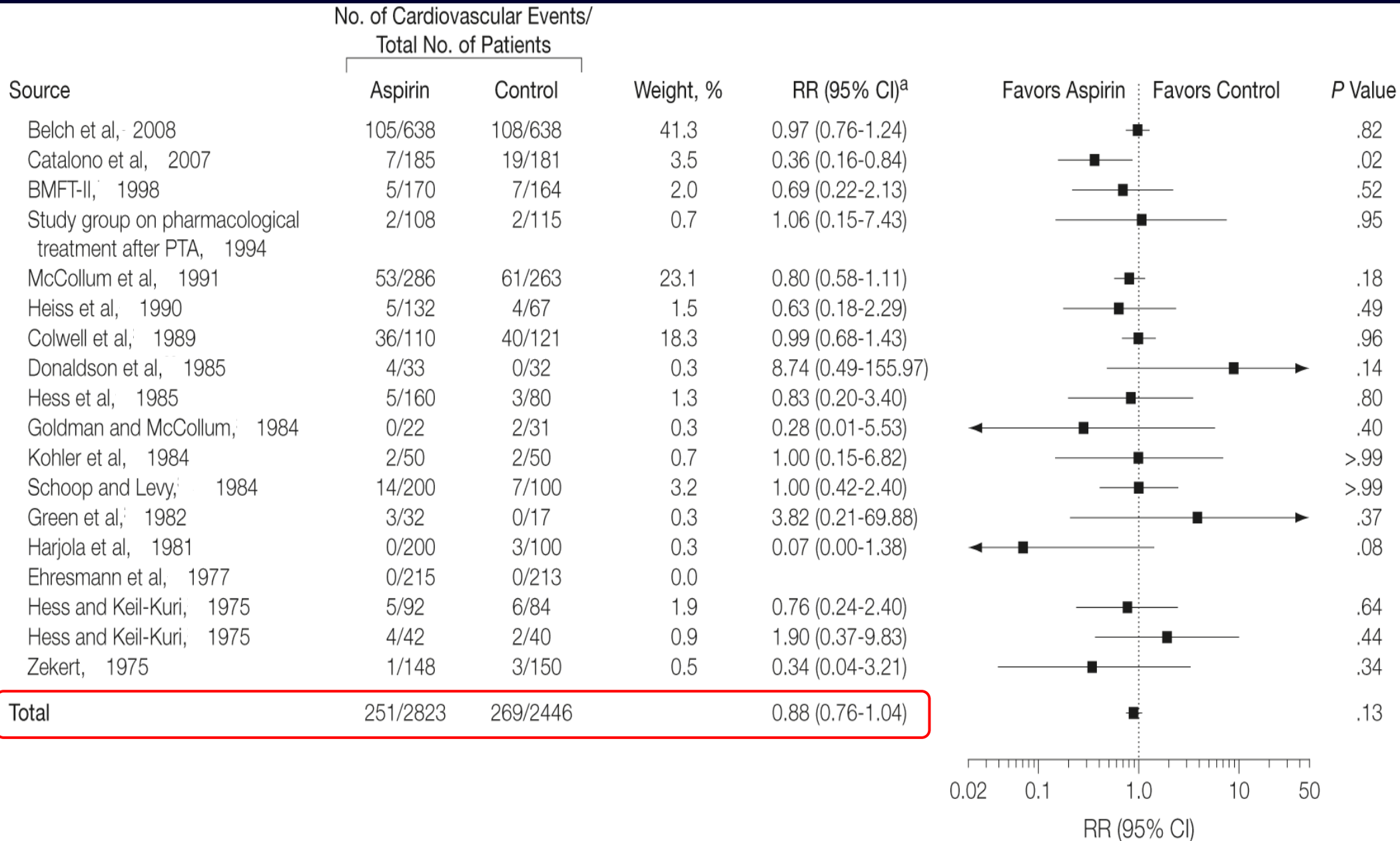
4. Endocr Pract. 2007;13(Suppl 1)

5. CMAJ 2008;179:920-926

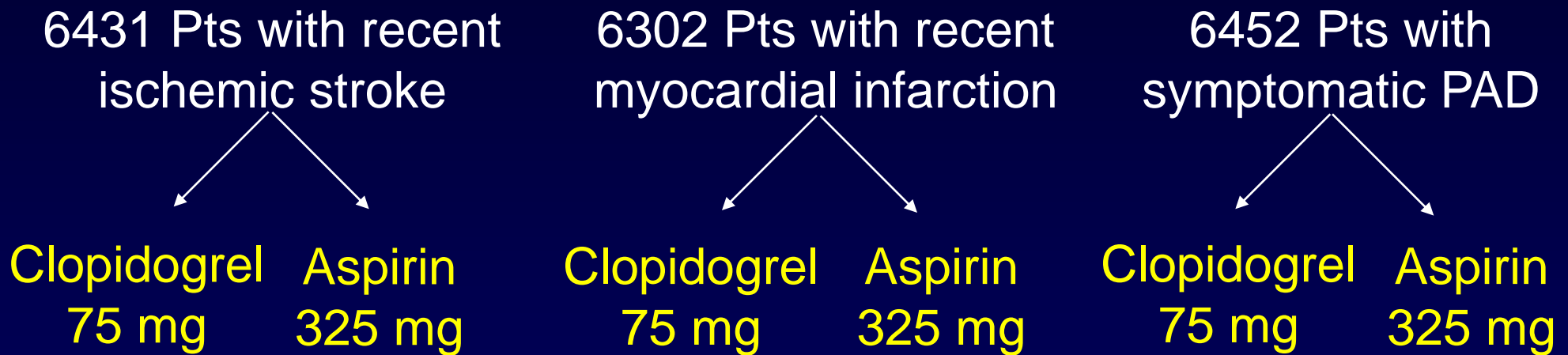
Ongoing Randomized Trials of Aspirin vs Placebo: High-Risk Individuals

Study	Regimen(s)	Treatment duration	N	Eligibility	Primary endpoint	End date
ARRIVE	EC Aspirin 100 mg vs Placebo	5y	~12,000	10-20% estimated 10y risk of CHD	MI, stroke, CV death, unstable angina, TIA	2018
ASPREE	EC Aspirin 100 mg vs Placebo	5 y	~ 19,000	Elderly, no diabetes or CVD	Death, dementia or significant disability	2018
ASCEND	EC Aspirin 100 mg vs Placebo (ω3FA vs P)	7.5 y	~ 15,000	Diabetes, no CVD	MI, stroke or TIA, or CV death	2018

Effect of Aspirin on Major Vascular Events in PAD Trials



Clopidogrel vs Aspirin in Patients at Risk of Ischemic Events (CAPRIE)



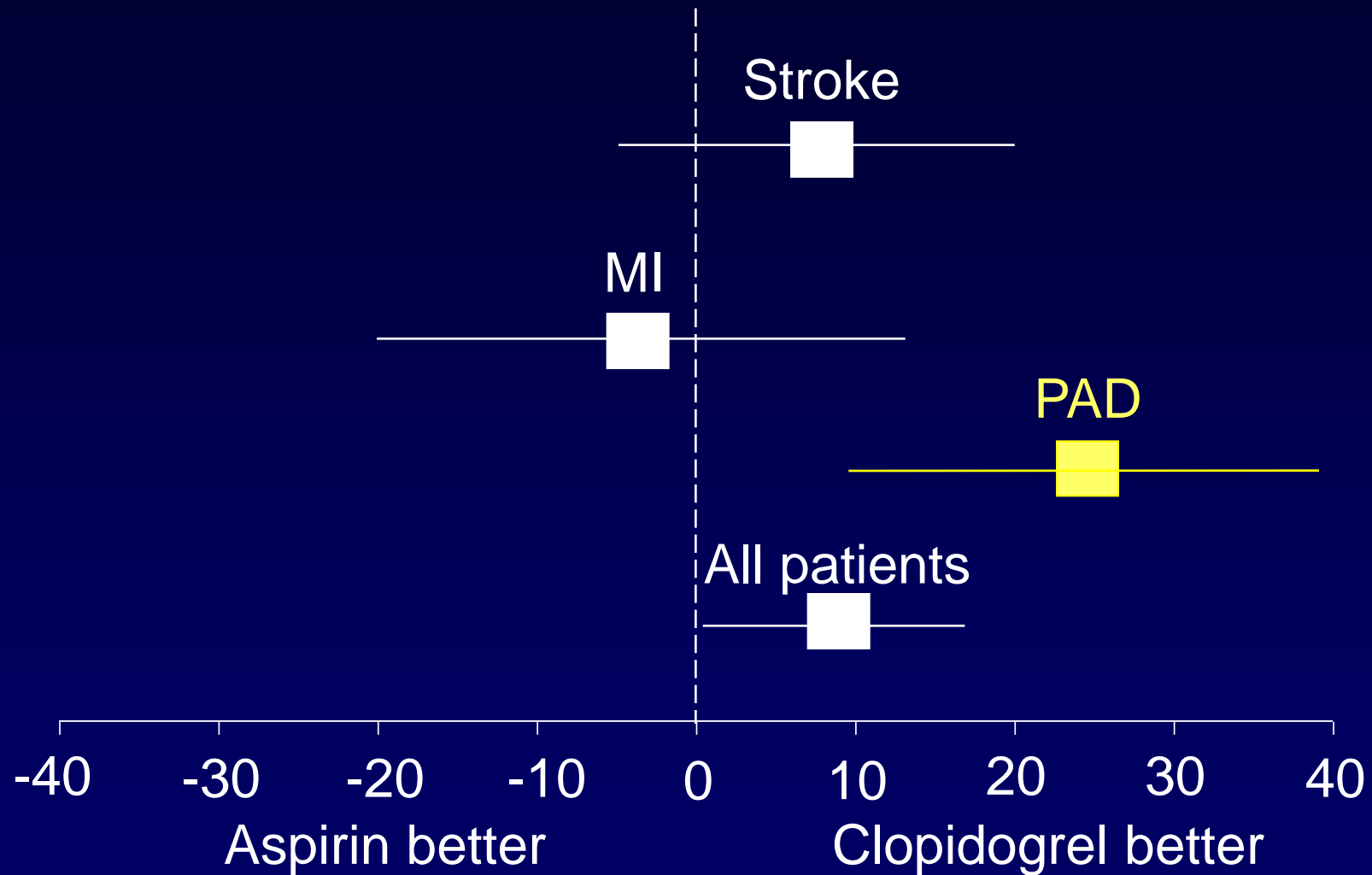
Follow-up: 1.91 yr (1-3yr)

Primary end-point: cluster of ischemic stroke, MI, or vascular death

Primary analysis: intention-to-treat comparison for the entire patient population and for each of the clinical categories

Lancet 1996;348:1329-39.

Relative Risk Reduction and 95% CI



Lancet 1996;348:1329-39.

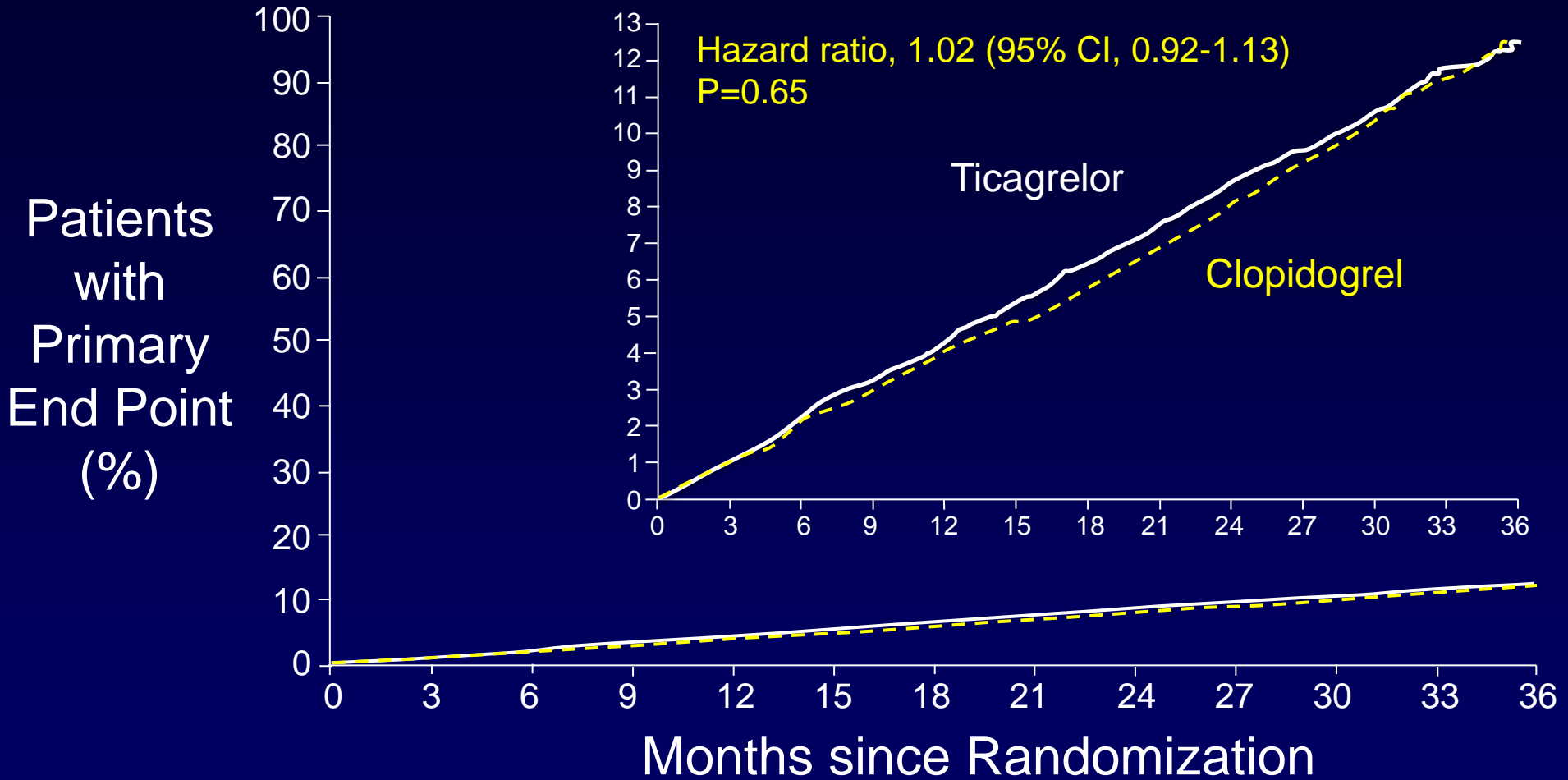
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Ticagrelor versus Clopidogrel in Symptomatic Peripheral Artery Disease

William R. Hiatt, M.D., F. Gerry R. Fowkes, M.D., Gretchen Heizer, M.S., Jeffrey S. Berger, M.D., Iris Baumgartner, M.D., Peter Held, M.D., Ph.D., Brian G. Katona, Pharm.D., Kenneth W. Mahaffey, M.D., Lars Norgren, M.D., Ph.D., W. Schuyler Jones, M.D., Juuso Blomster, M.D., Marcus Millegård, M.Sc., Craig Reist, Ph.D., and Manesh R. Patel, M.D., for the EUCLID Trial Steering Committee and Investigators*

N Engl J Med 2017;376:32-40.

Kaplan–Meier Analysis of the Primary End Point



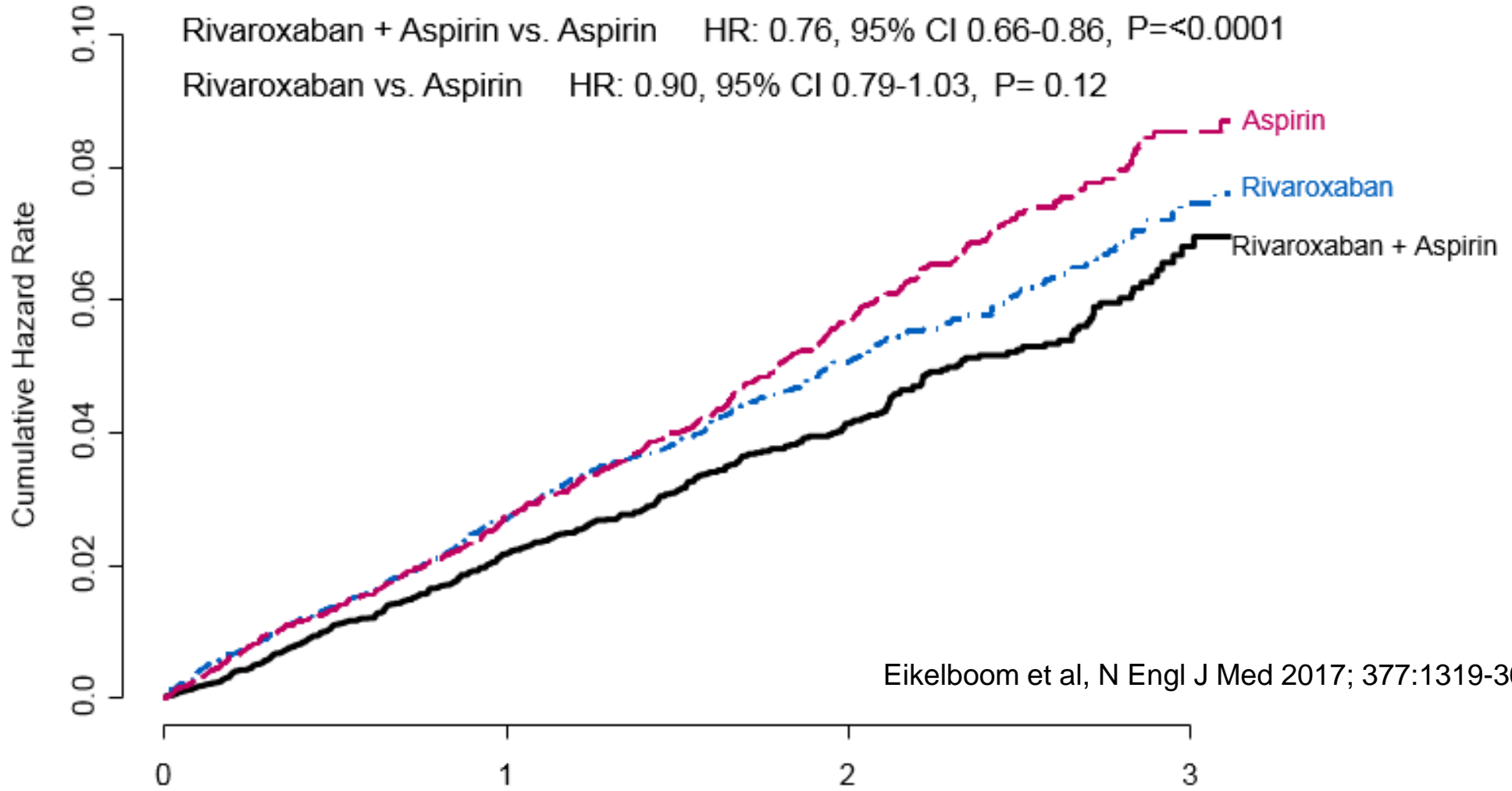
No. At Risk

Ticagrelor	6930	6792	6679	6583	6474	6360	6248	6143	6036	5802	3830	2089	865
Clopidogrel	6955	6830	6744	6639	6538	6455	6353	6237	6111	5835	3834	2055	852

2016 AHA/ACC Guideline on the Management of Patients With Lower Extremity Peripheral Artery Disease

COR	LOE	Recommendations
I	A	Antiplatelet therapy with aspirin alone (range 75-325 mg per day) or clopidogrel alone (75 mg per day) is recommended to reduce MI, stroke, and vascular death in patients with symptomatic PAD.
IIa	C-EO	In asymptomatic patients with PAD (ABI ≤ 0.90), antiplatelet therapy is reasonable to reduce the risk of MI, stroke, or vascular death.
IIb	B-R	In asymptomatic patients with borderline ABI (0.91–0.99), the usefulness of antiplatelet therapy to reduce the risk of MI, stroke, or vascular death is uncertain.
IIb	B-R	The effectiveness of dual antiplatelet therapy (DAPT) (aspirin and clopidogrel) to reduce the risk of cardiovascular ischemic events in patients with symptomatic PAD is not well established.
IIb	C-LD	DAPT (aspirin and clopidogrel) may be reasonable to reduce the risk of limb-related events in patients with symptomatic PAD after lower extremity revascularization.
IIb	B-R	The overall clinical benefit of vorapaxar added to existing antiplatelet therapy in patients with symptomatic PAD is uncertain.

COMPASS: Aspirin, Rivaroxaban, or Both in Stable CAD and PAD



No. at Risk
 Rivaroxaban + Aspirin
 Rivaroxaban
 Aspirin

9152
 9117
 9126

7904
 7824
 7808

Year

3912
 3862
 3860

658
 670
 669

COMPASS: CAD and PAD

Subgroups for Primary Outcome

Outcome	R + A N=9,152	A N=9,126	Rivaroxaban + Aspirin vs. Aspirin
	N (%)	N (%)	HR (95% CI)
CAD	347 (4.2%)	460 (5.6%)	0.74 (0.65-0.86)
PAD	126 (5.1%)	174 (6.9%)	0.72 (0.57-0.90)

Conclusions

1. Obesity and diabetes are independent and possibly additive determinants of poor aspirin responsiveness, limiting the extent and/or duration of platelet inhibition, and possibly requiring different dosing strategies, **well beyond the uncertain effect of enteric coating.**
2. Except for a loading dose in the setting of ACS or acute ischemic stroke, prescribing aspirin 325 mg daily for long-term treatment would not produce any additional benefit above and beyond 75-100 mg, while **exposing the patient to unnecessary GI damage and undue bleeding complications, as well as to potential negative interactions** with ACE-inhibitors and ticagrelor.

Conclusions

3. Use of aspirin for primary CV prevention in diabetes **is not uniformly recommended** because of inadequate evidence. The results of the **ASCEND trial** should clarify its benefit/risk profile in this setting.
4. Use of aspirin in PAD is controversial and **is associated with high residual CV risk**. Combination of **aspirin with a factor Xa inhibitor** may improve clinical outcomes in this setting.