



Heart Failure Update 2021: How to fix a broken heart

Sheri L. Koshman BScPharm, PharmD, ACPR, FCSHP
Associate Professor, Division of Cardiology, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
sheri.koshman@ualberta.ca

@iheart_Rx

CSHP AB
Feb 3, 2021



Presenter Disclosure



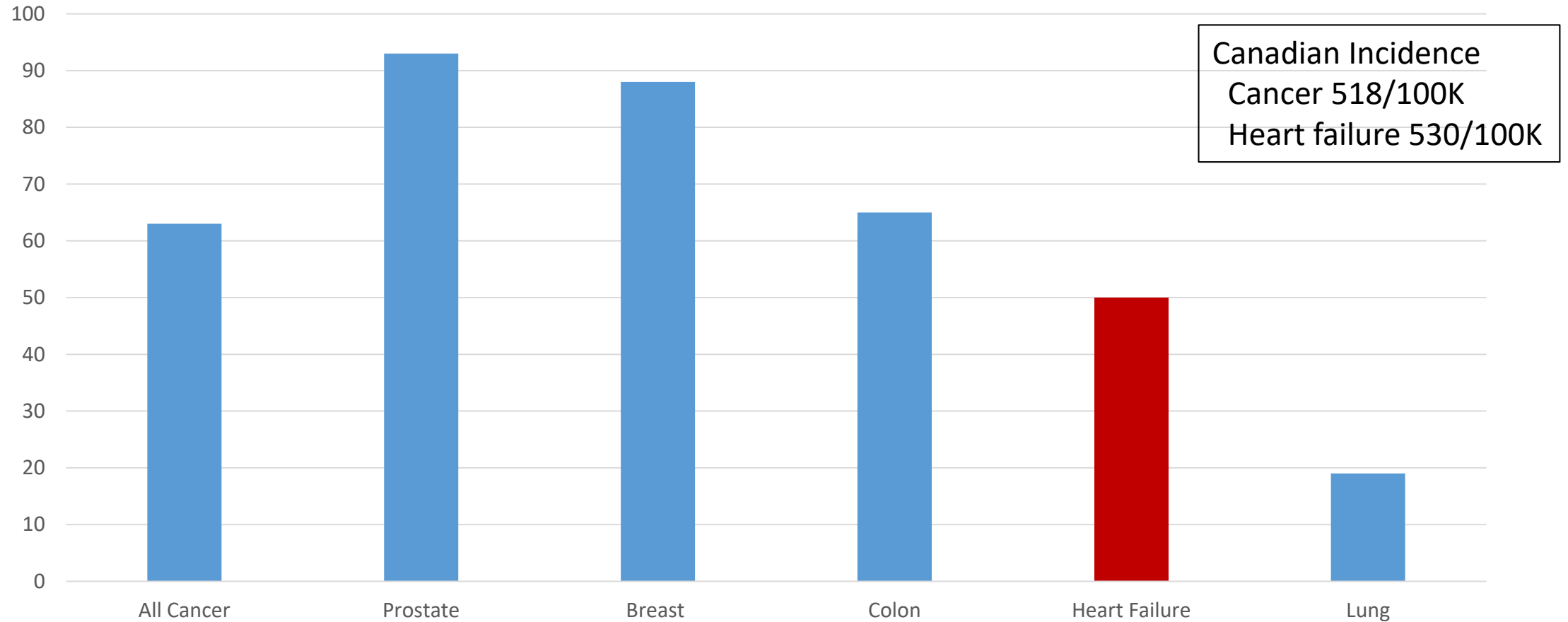
- Relationships with commercial interests:
 - Grants/Research Support: none
 - Speakers Bureau/Honoraria: Astra Zeneca, Novartis
 - Consulting Fees: Novartis
 - Other: none
- This presentation has received financial support from Novartis in the form of honorarium.
- Content and slides were created by Dr. Sheri Koshman independantly

Objectives



- By the end of this presentation, you should be able to:
 - Discuss an approach to HF management

5 year survival



<https://www.cancer.ca/~media/cancer.ca/CW/cancer%20information/cancer%20101/Canadian%20cancer%20statistics/Canadian-Cancer-Statistics-2019-EN.pdf?la=en>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/report-heart-disease-Canada-2018.html>

HEART FAILURE IS A GROWING EPIDEMIC



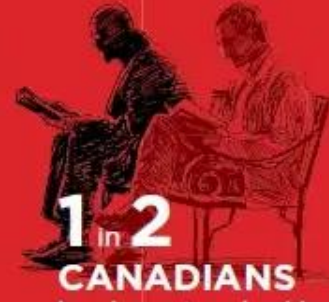
HEART FAILURE is on the **RISE** in **CANADA.**



600,000 CANADIANS are living with **HEART FAILURE.**



50,000 CANADIANS are diagnosed each year with **HEART FAILURE.**



1 in 2 CANADIANS has been touched by **HEART FAILURE.**



HEART FAILURE costs more than **\$2.8 BILLION** per year.

HEART FAILURE COSTS EVERYONE



HEART FAILURE patients have **LONG and FREQUENT** hospital stays.



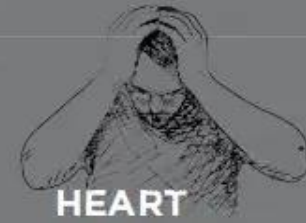
There is **NO CURE** for **HEART FAILURE.**



HEART FAILURE patients are **COMPLEX,** often managing other conditions.



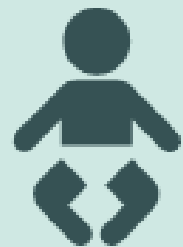
HEART FAILURE patients experience **SHORTNESS OF BREATH,** exhaustion and swelling.



HEART FAILURE caregivers are often overwhelmed and **STRESSED.**

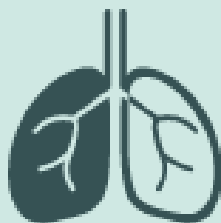
TOP 5

reasons for
hospital stays



1

Giving
birth



2

COPD and
bronchitis



3

Heart
failure



4

Heart
attack



5

Osteoarthritis
of the knee

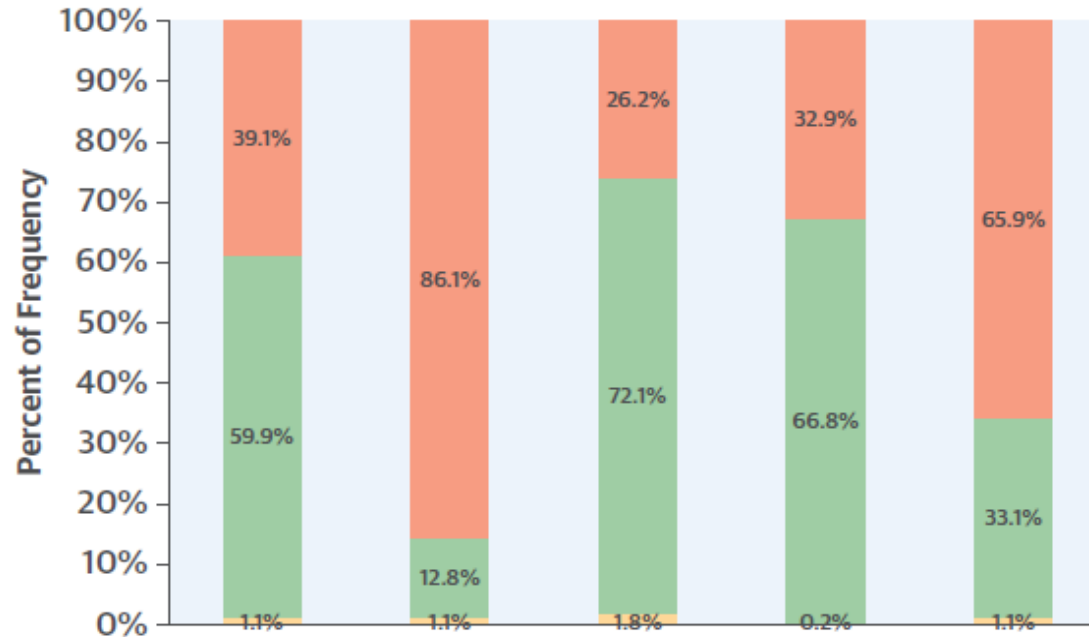
Timeline of HFrEF Pharmacotherapy

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Hydralazine/ ISDN	VHeFT I (1986)		A-HeFT (2004)		
ACEi/ARB	CONSENSUS (1987)	SOLVD (1991) VHeFT II (1991) SAVE (1992) SOLVD-P (1992)	Val-Heft (2001) CHARM (2003) VALIANT (2003)		
BB		Carvedilol (1996) Merit-HF (1999) CIBIS II (1999)	COPERNICUS (2001) COMET (2003)		
Digoxin		DIG (1997)			
MRA		RALES (1999)	EMPHASIS-HF (2003) EPHESUS (2003)		
Ivabradine			BEAUTIFUL (2008)	SHIFT (2010)	
Sacubitril / Valsartan				PARADIGM-HF (2014) PIONEER-HF (2019)	
SGLT2i					DAPA-HF (2020) EMPEROR Reduced (2021)

The HF GDMT Care Gap

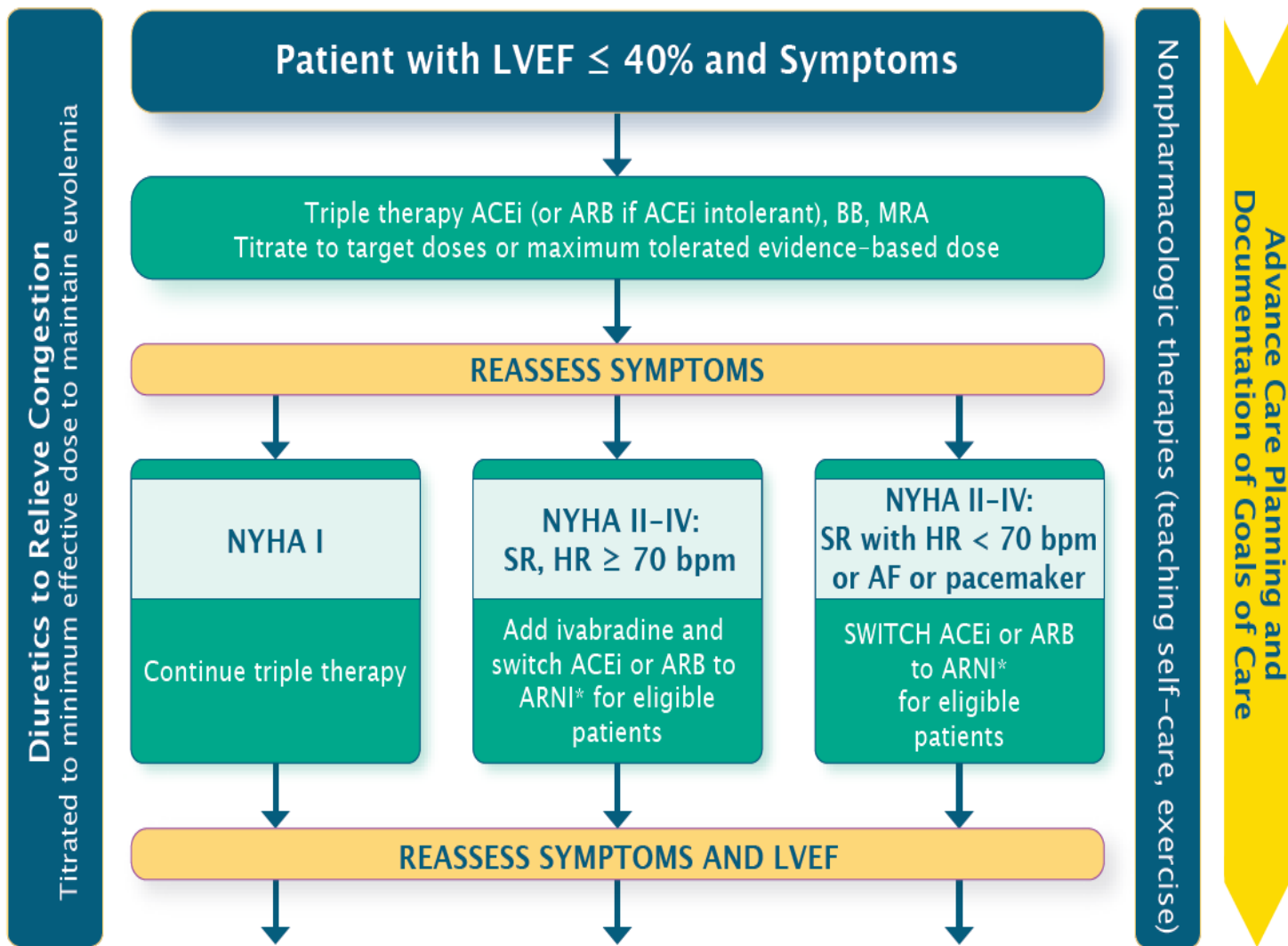
CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION Use and Dosing of Guideline-Directed Medical Therapy Among Patients With Chronic HFrEF in Contemporary U.S. Outpatient Practice

A



	ACEI/ARB	ARNI	ACEI/ARB/ ARNI	Beta- Blocker	MRA
Without Contraindication and Not Treated	1374	3029	920	1159	2317
Treated	2107	452	2536	2351	1163
With Contraindication	37	37	62	8	38

Guideline Overview: 2017 CCS HF Guidelines

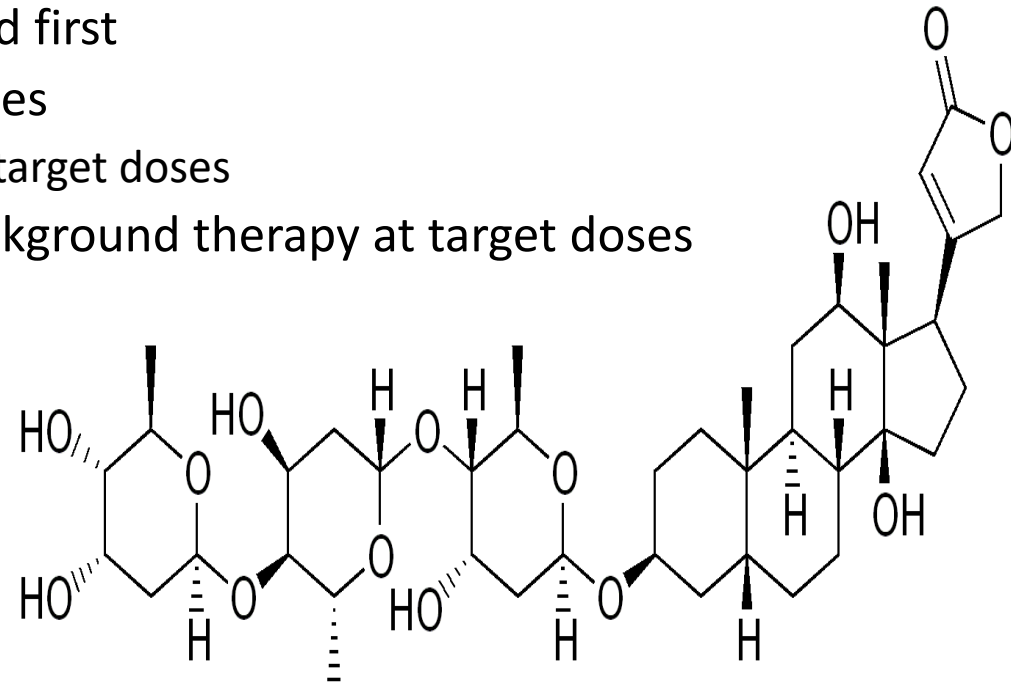


2020 Guidelines

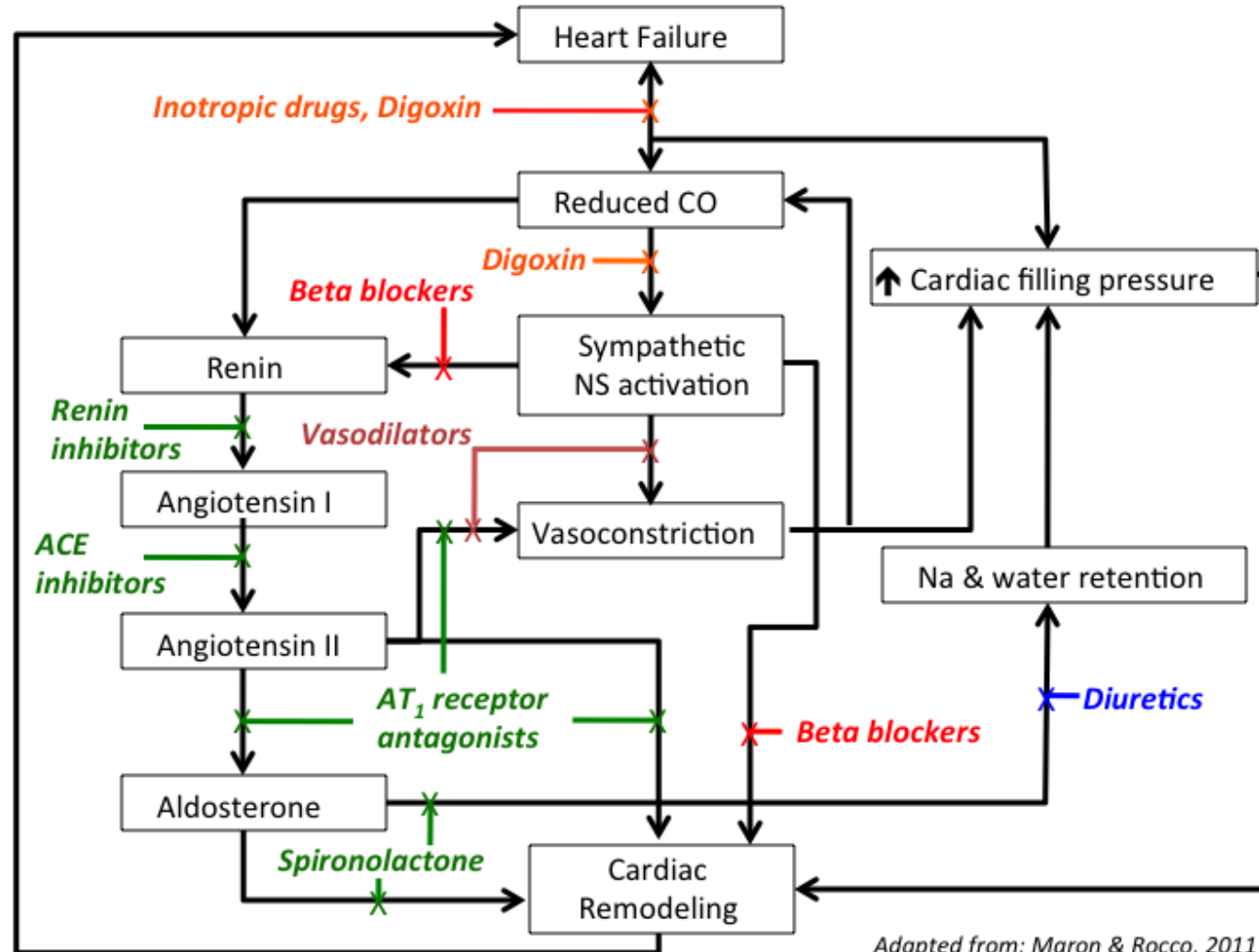
8. **New.** We recommend SGLT2 inhibitors, such as dapagliflozin be used in patients with mild to moderate HF due to reduced LVEF ($\leq 40\%$) and concomitant type 2 diabetes, to improve symptoms and quality of life and to reduce the risk of hospitalization and cardiovascular mortality (Strong Recommendation, High-Quality Evidence).
9. **New.** We recommend SGLT2 inhibitors, such as dapagliflozin be used in patients with mild to moderate HF due to reduced LVEF ($\leq 40\%$) and without concomitant diabetes, to improve symptoms and quality of life and to reduce the risk of hospitalization and cardiovascular mortality (Conditional Recommendation, High-Quality Evidence).

Stepped Approach Pitfall: Historical Precedent

- Precise sequence of clinical testing over 40 years
- Limitations
 - Assumes:
 - most effective / well tolerated drugs are developed first
 - Drug are only effective when titrated to target doses
 - Limited evidence to support significant value with target doses
 - Efficacy / safety of each class was tested on all background therapy at target doses



Stepped Approach Pitfall: Complex Pathophysiology



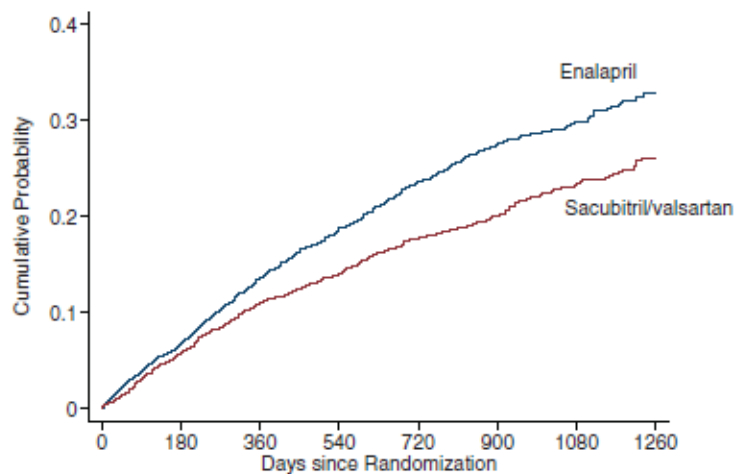
Stepped Approach Pitfalls: Magnitude of treatment effects

- Overlooks:
 - Magnitude of treatment benefits are independent of each other
 - Magnitude of adding a class is likely larger than up-titrating an existing drug



MRA

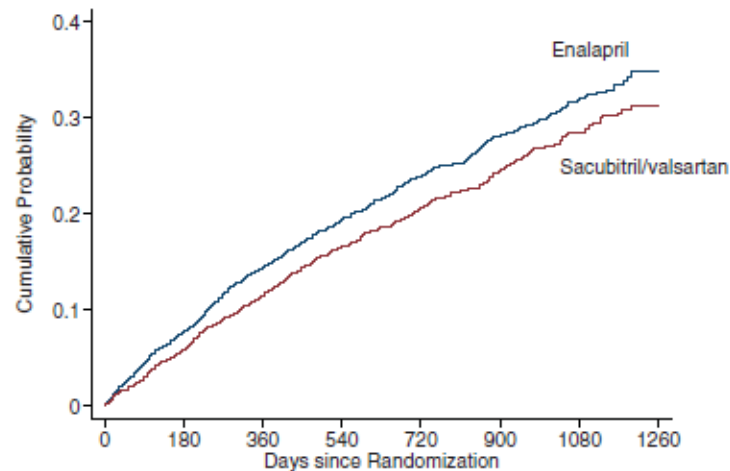
No mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist



Number at risk	
Enalapril	1812 1683 1546 1327 1036 785 500 134
Sacubitril/valsartan	1916 1794 1674 1456 1196 875 549 157

Beta-blocker dose <50% target dose

Mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist

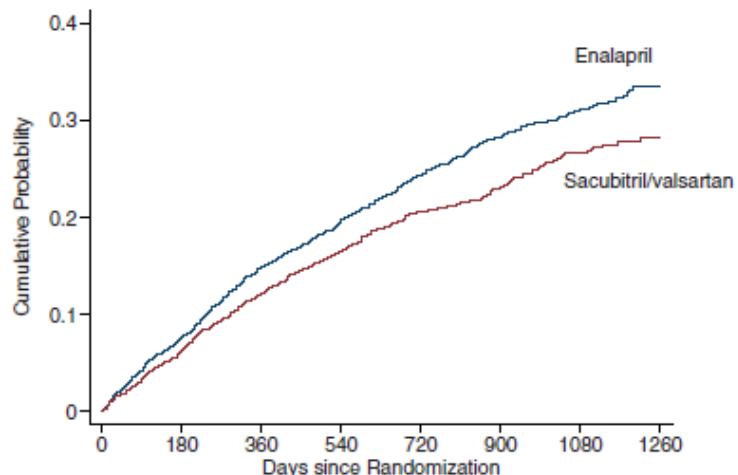


Number at risk	
Enalapril	2400 2200 2033 1595 1087 703 353 102
Sacubitril/valsartan	2271 2128 1989 1562 1061 669 347 92

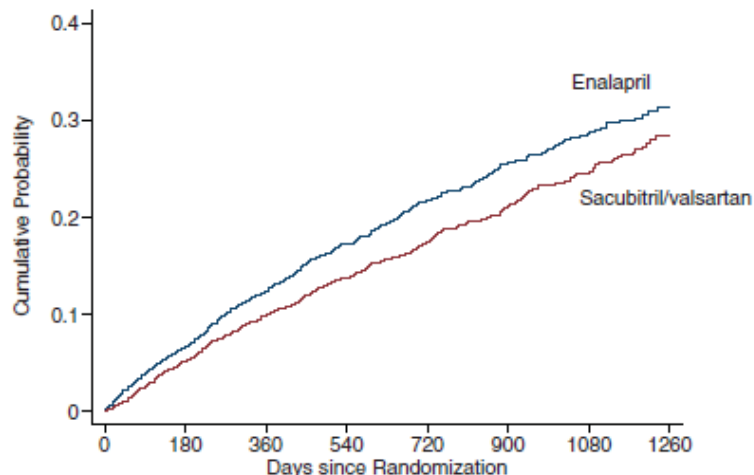
Beta-blocker dose ≥50% target dose

PARADIGM-HF
Secondary analysis
Background therapy

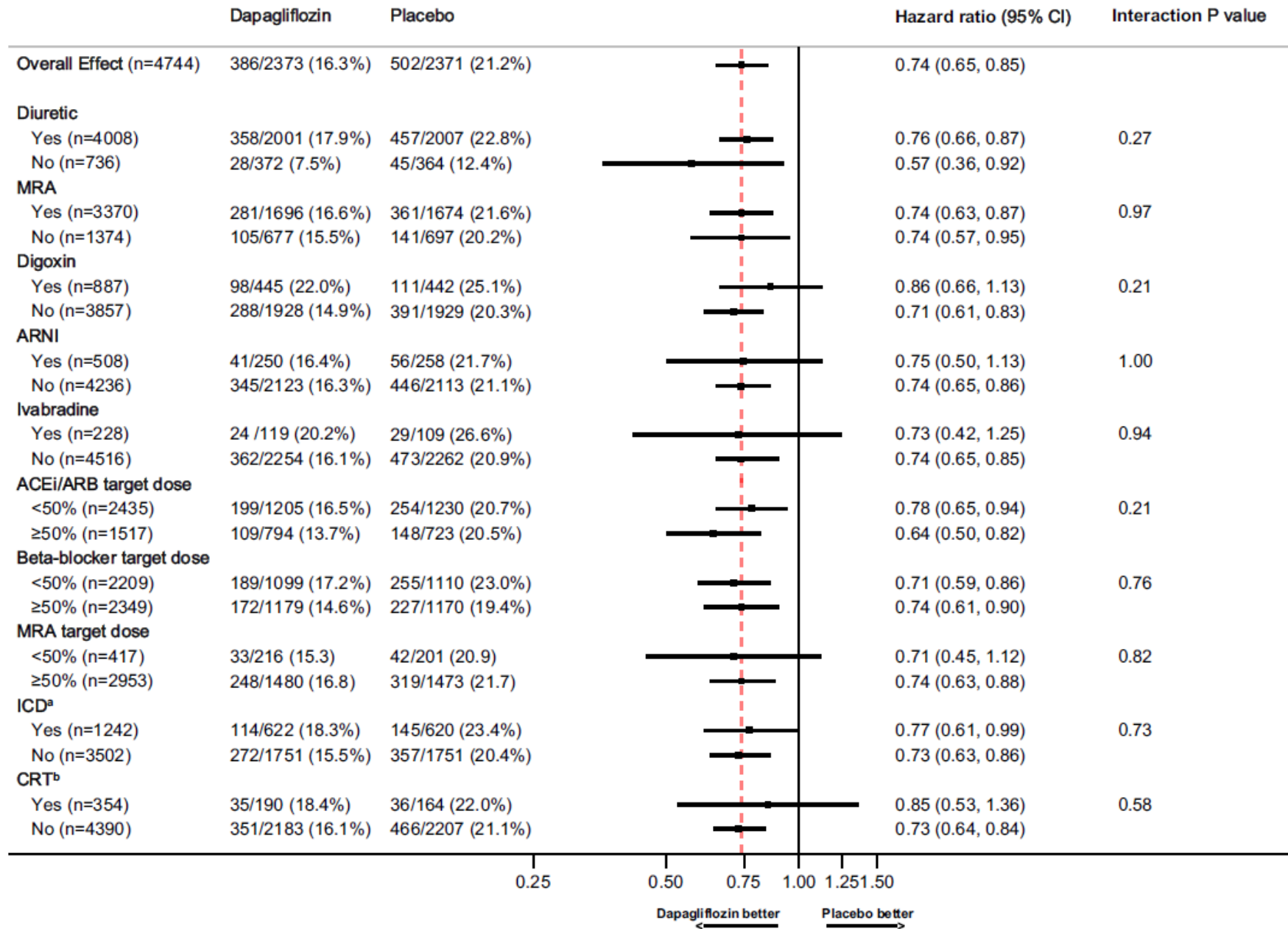
BB



Number at risk	
Enalapril	2123 1948 1784 1464 1069 742 411 103
Sacubitril/valsartan	2044 1907 1770 1444 1048 713 388 114

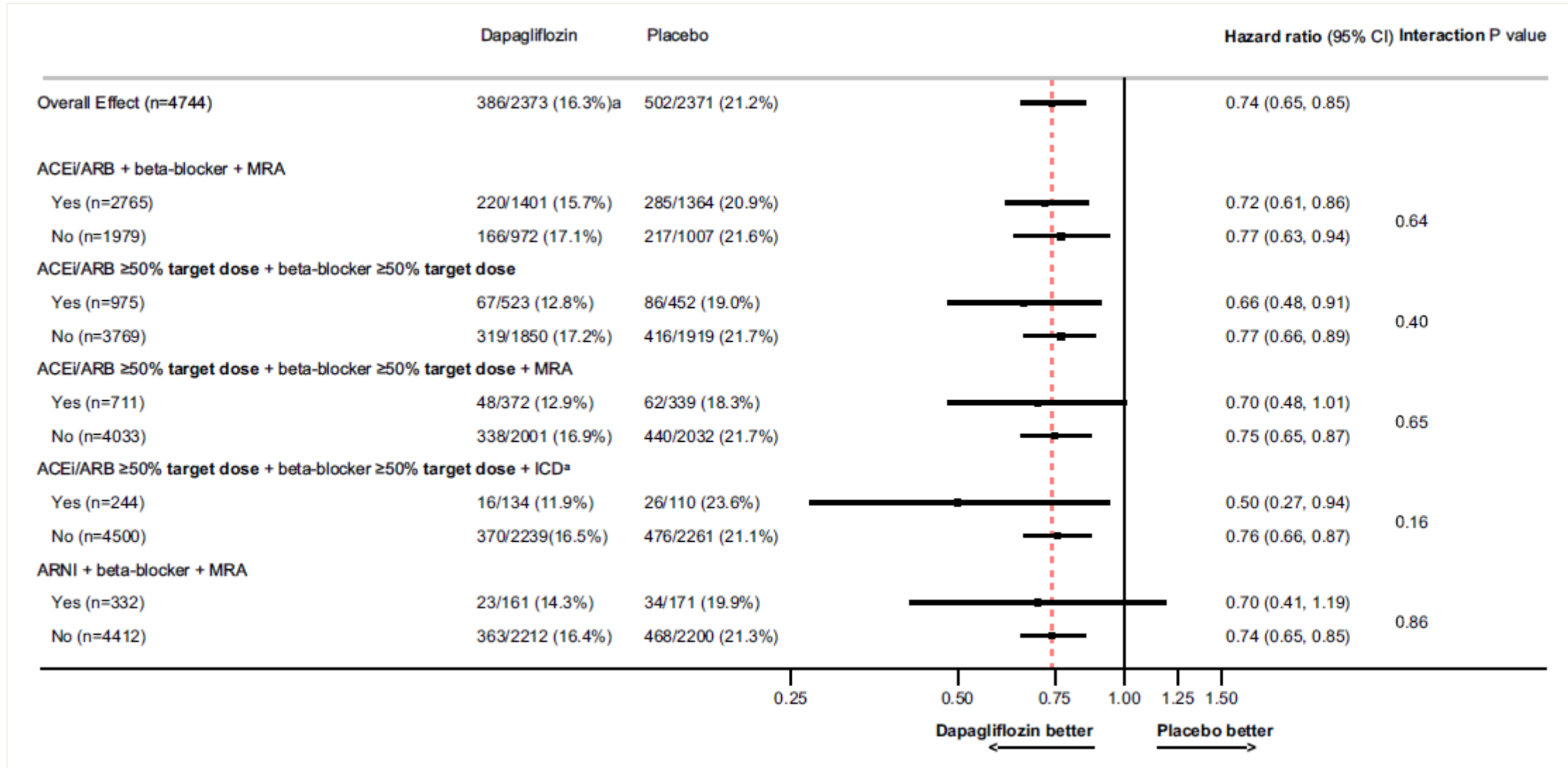


Number at risk	
Enalapril	1789 1665 1555 1273 919 646 382 120
Sacubitril/valsartan	1855 1749 1650 1373 1054 730 453 120



DAPA-HF
 Post-hoc analysis
 Background therapy

Post-hoc: DAPA-HF Background Therapy



Comprehensive vs. Conventional Treatment

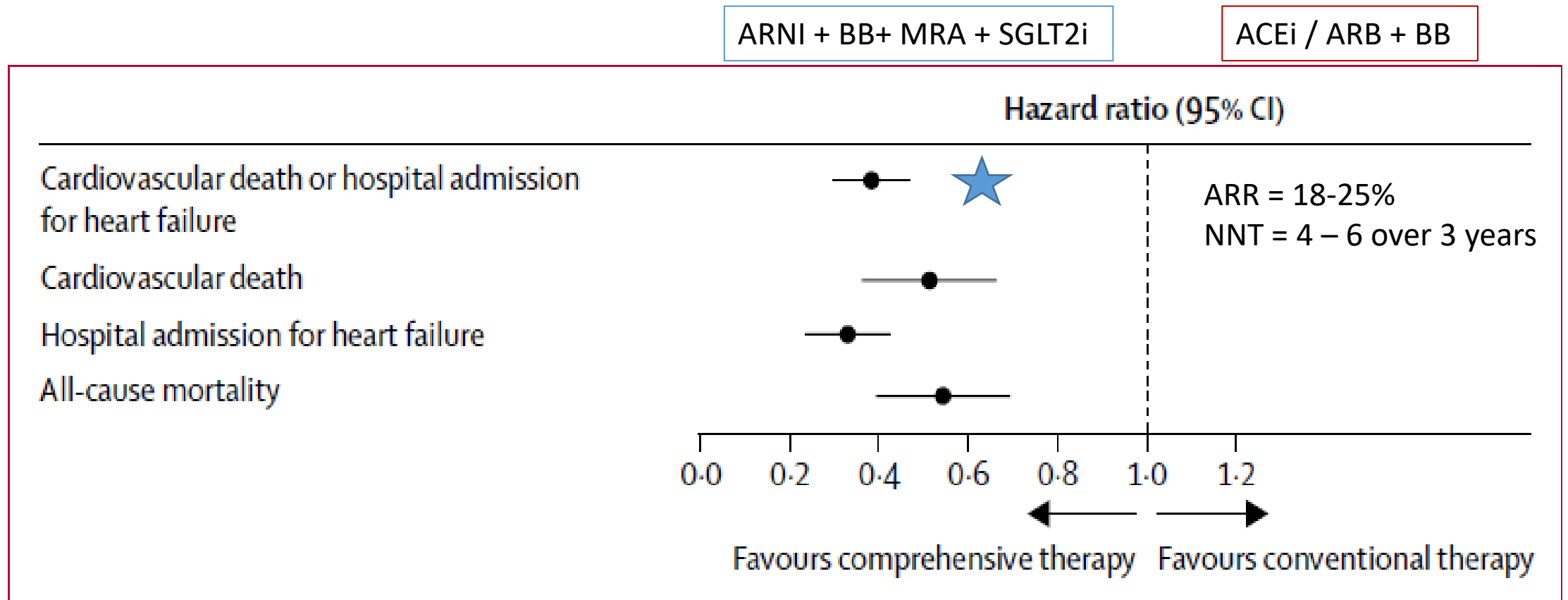


Figure 1: Estimation of relative treatment effects of comprehensive disease-modifying pharmacological therapy on key cardiovascular events

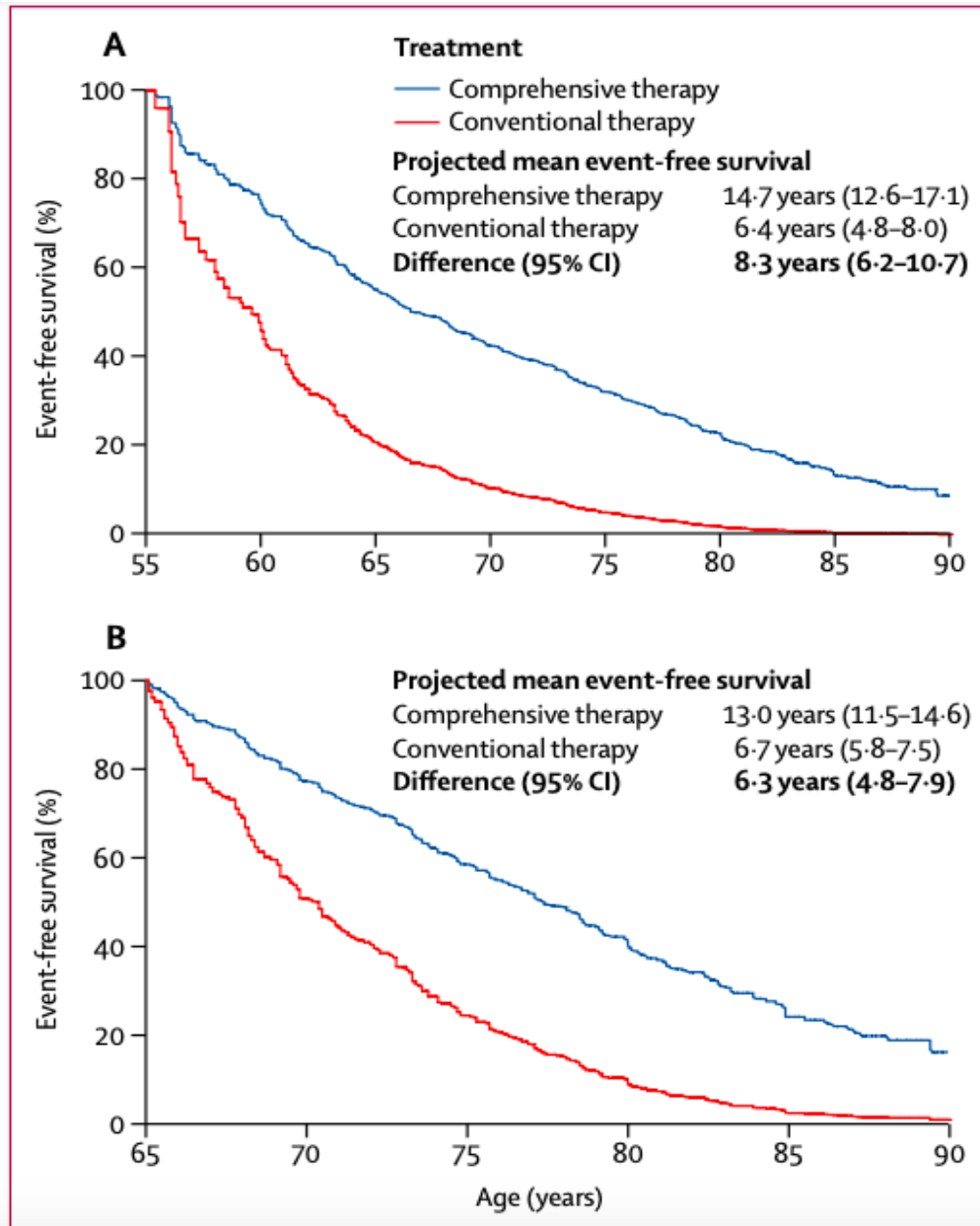
Mean Event free survival

Comprehensive

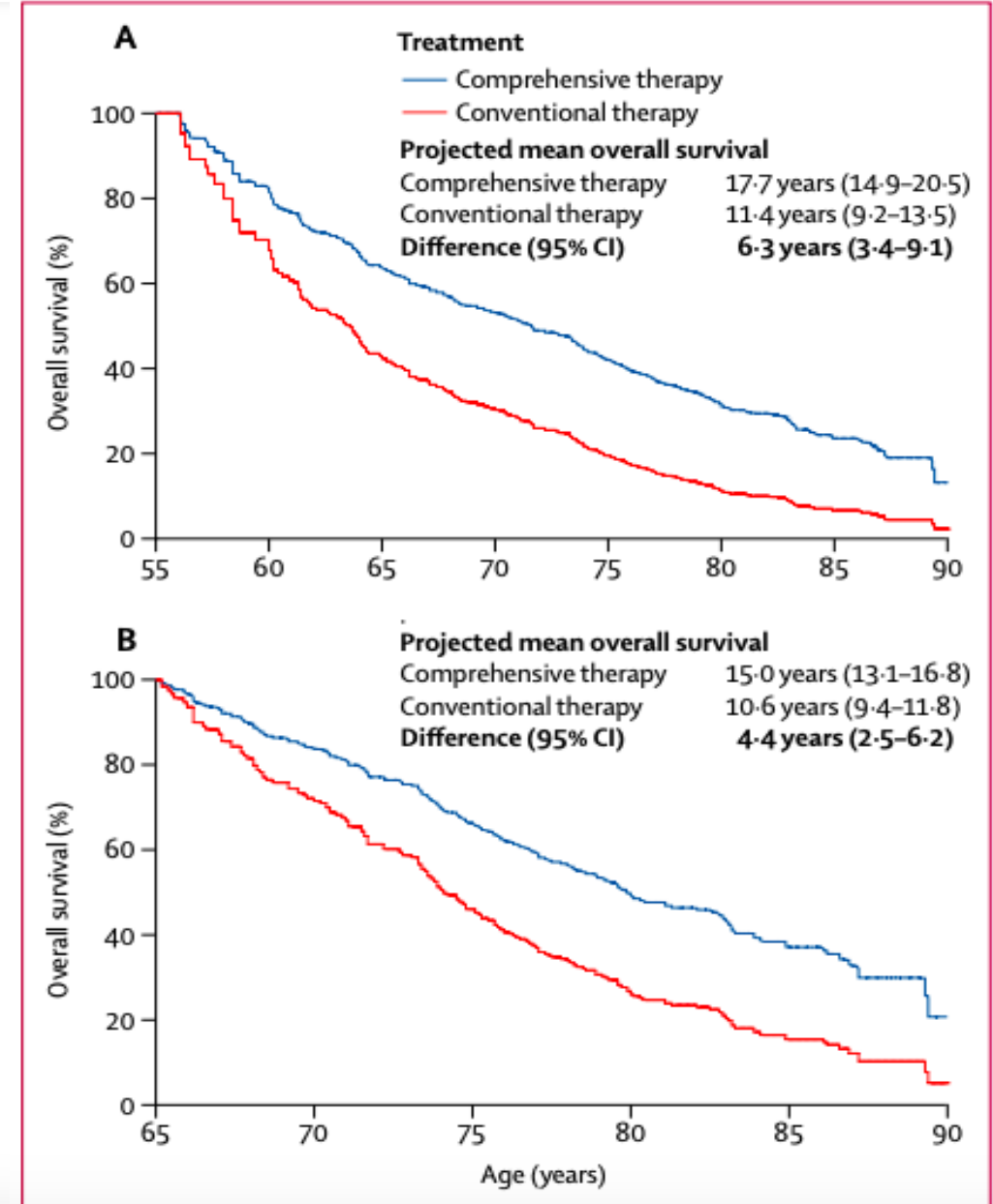
- ARNI
- BB
- MRA
- SGLT2i

Conventional

- ACEi/ARB
- BB



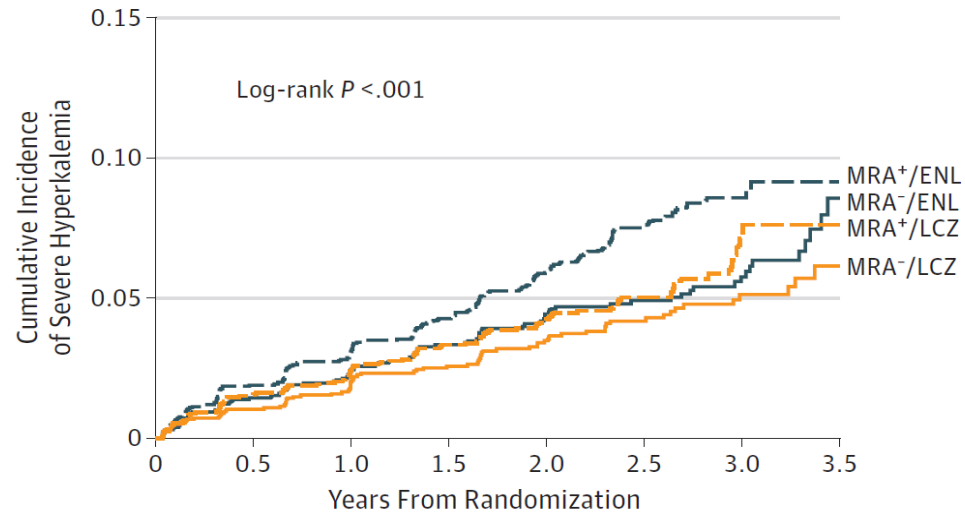
Mean Overall Survival



Stepped Approach Pitfall: Proper sequencing may improve safety / tolerability

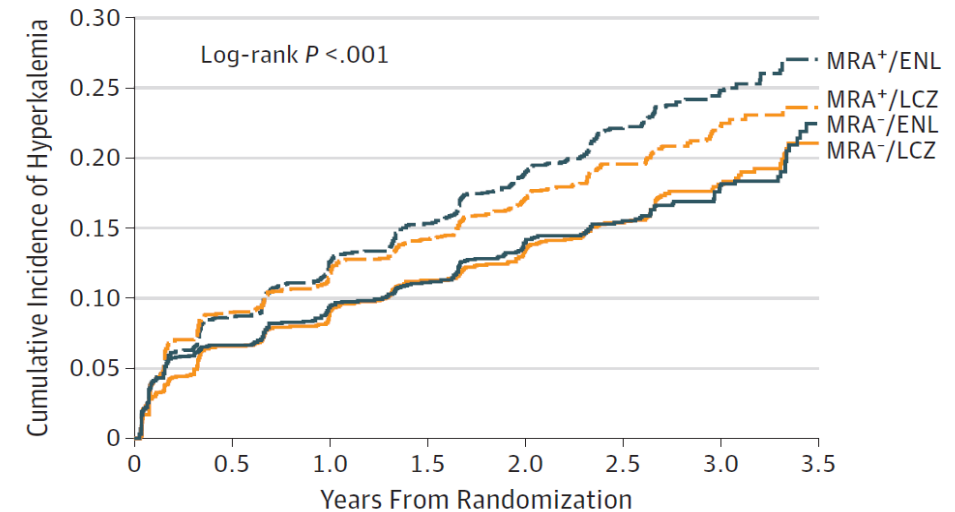
Figure 3. Time to Development of Severe Hyperkalemia (A) and Hyperkalemia (B) According to Mineralocorticoid Receptor Antagonist (MRA) Use at Baseline and Treatment Assignment

A Severe hyperkalemia (potassium level >6.0 mEq/L)



No. at risk	0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5
MRA ⁻ /ENL	1812	1717	1612	1409	1117	845	524	124
MRA ⁻ /LCZ	1916	1833	1731	1511	1235	885	523	133
MRA ⁺ /ENL	2400	2246	2110	1658	1132	733	353	86
MRA ⁺ /LCZ	2271	2152	2040	1619	1105	696	363	93

B Hyperkalemia (potassium level >5.5 mEq/L)



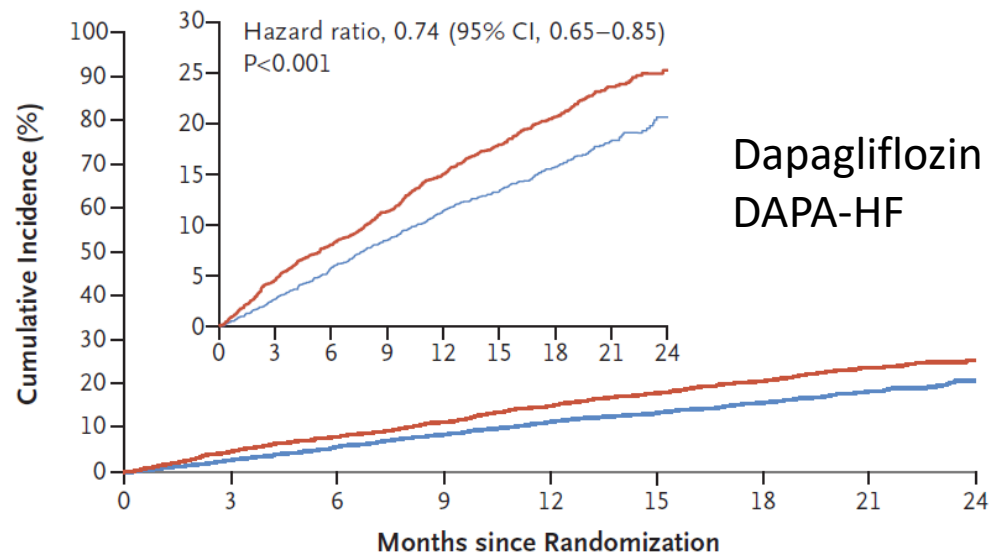
No. at risk	0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5
MRA ⁻ /ENL	1812	1618	1487	1282	989	735	446	110
MRA ⁻ /LCZ	1916	1705	1574	1352	1081	754	439	110
MRA ⁺ /ENL	2400	2048	1849	1430	941	592	283	70
MRA ⁺ /LCZ	2271	1954	1808	1419	945	589	307	82

ENL indicates enalapril; and LCZ, sacubitril/valsartan.

Stepped Approach Pitfalls: Delayed time to initiation of effective classes

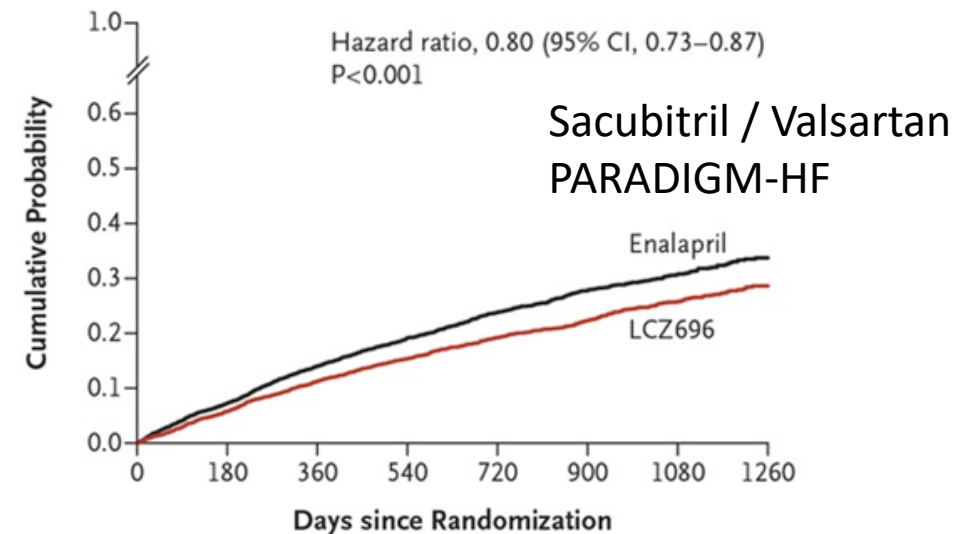
- CCS: 6 mos
- Trials: benefits as early as 1-3 mos

A Primary Outcome



No. at Risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
Placebo	2371	2258	2163	2075	1917	1478	1096	593	210
Dapagliflozin	2373	2305	2221	2147	2002	1560	1146	612	210

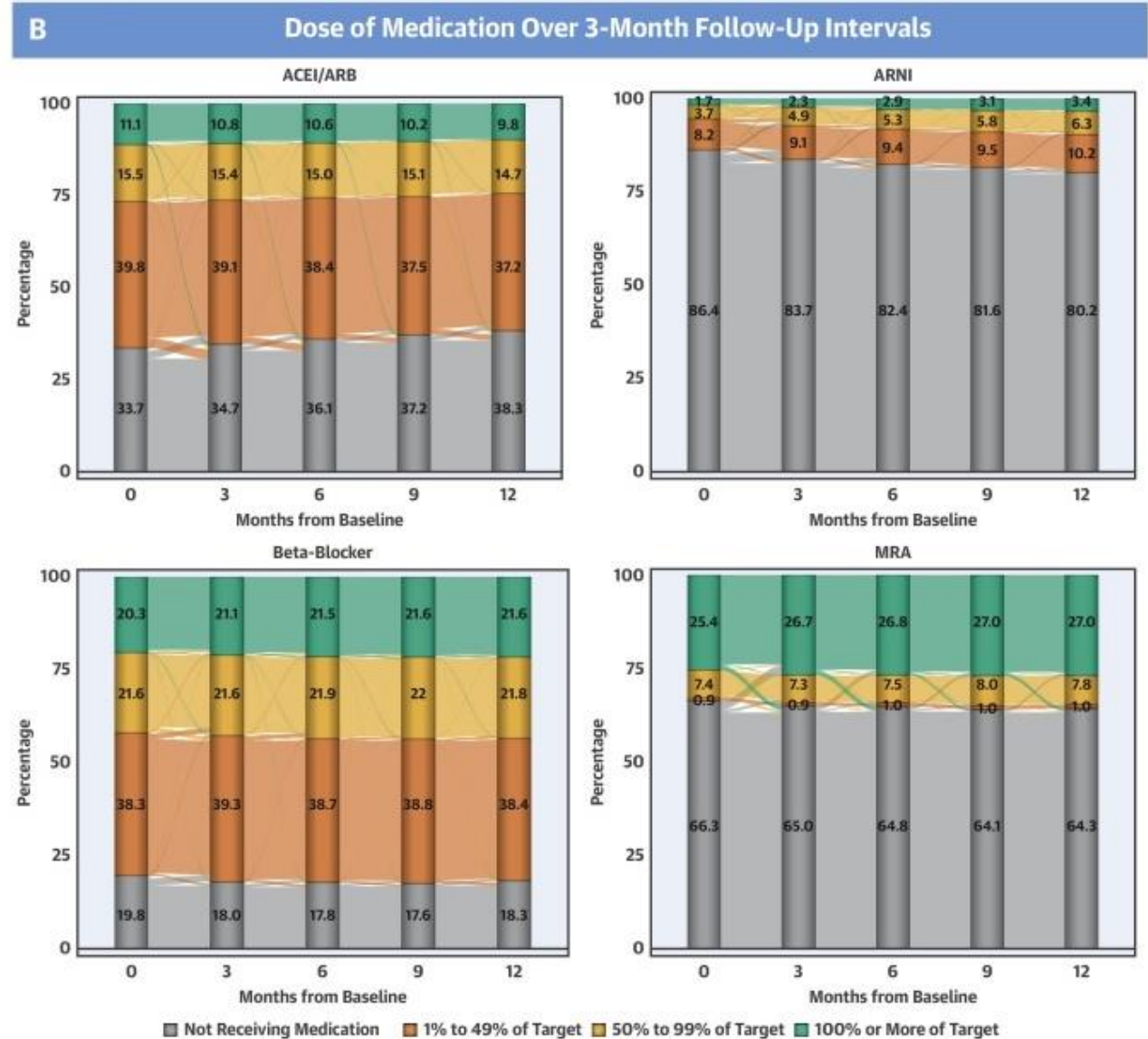
A Primary End Point



No. at Risk	0	180	360	540	720	900	1080	1260
LCZ696	4187	3922	3663	3018	2257	1544	896	249
Enalapril	4212	3883	3579	2922	2123	1488	853	236

Stepped Approach Pitfalls: Human Resources

- Time and energy is required for up-titration
 - Sub-optimal utilization
 - Sub-optimal doses



Principles and Pathophysiologic Targets of HFrEF Pharmacotherapy



5 PATHWAYS

Modulation of five pathways shown to improve outcomes in the general HFrEF population

Angiotensin 2

Norepinephrine

Aldosterone

Neprilysin

SGLT



4 DRUGS

ARNI

May start with ACEi/ARB or ARNI in de novo. May use ACEi/ARB if cost or availability concerns.

Beta-blockers

Carvedilol, bisoprolol, metoprolol succinate

MRAs

SGLT2i

Dapagliflozin, Empagliflozin



3 OTHERS

Three additional pathways shown to improve outcomes in specific populations:

Ivabradine

NSR HR \geq 70 bpm

Hydralazine/nitrate

Self identified blacks

Vericiguat

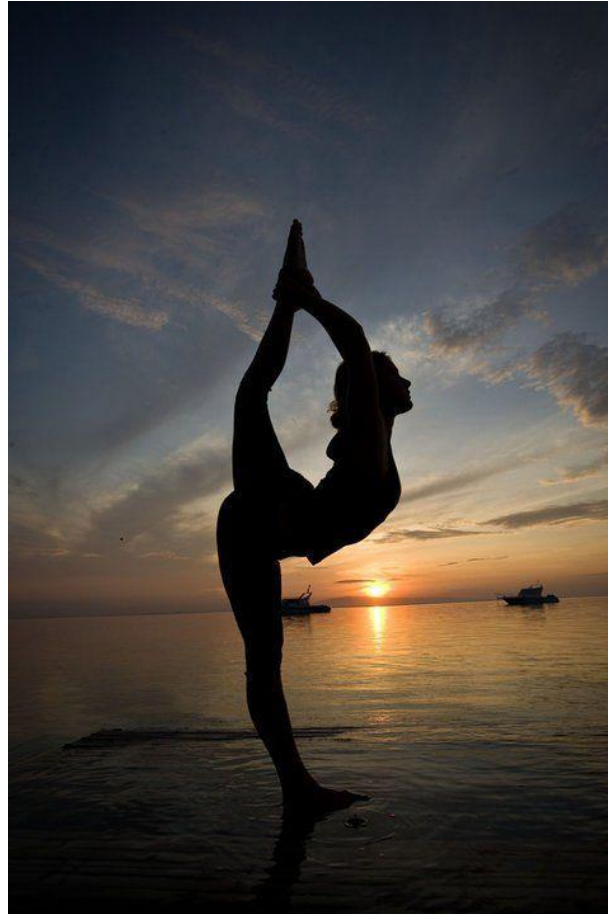
Worsening HF

Omecamtiv Mecarbil

Tolerability, availability, costs, patient preference, and other consideration may impact choices, doses, and sequences of therapies – but pharmaco-pathophysiologic rationale suggests that **all attempts should be made to modulate all five pathways.**

Lam C, Butler J. Circulation 2020; 142(12):1129-31

New Approach = flexibility = individualization



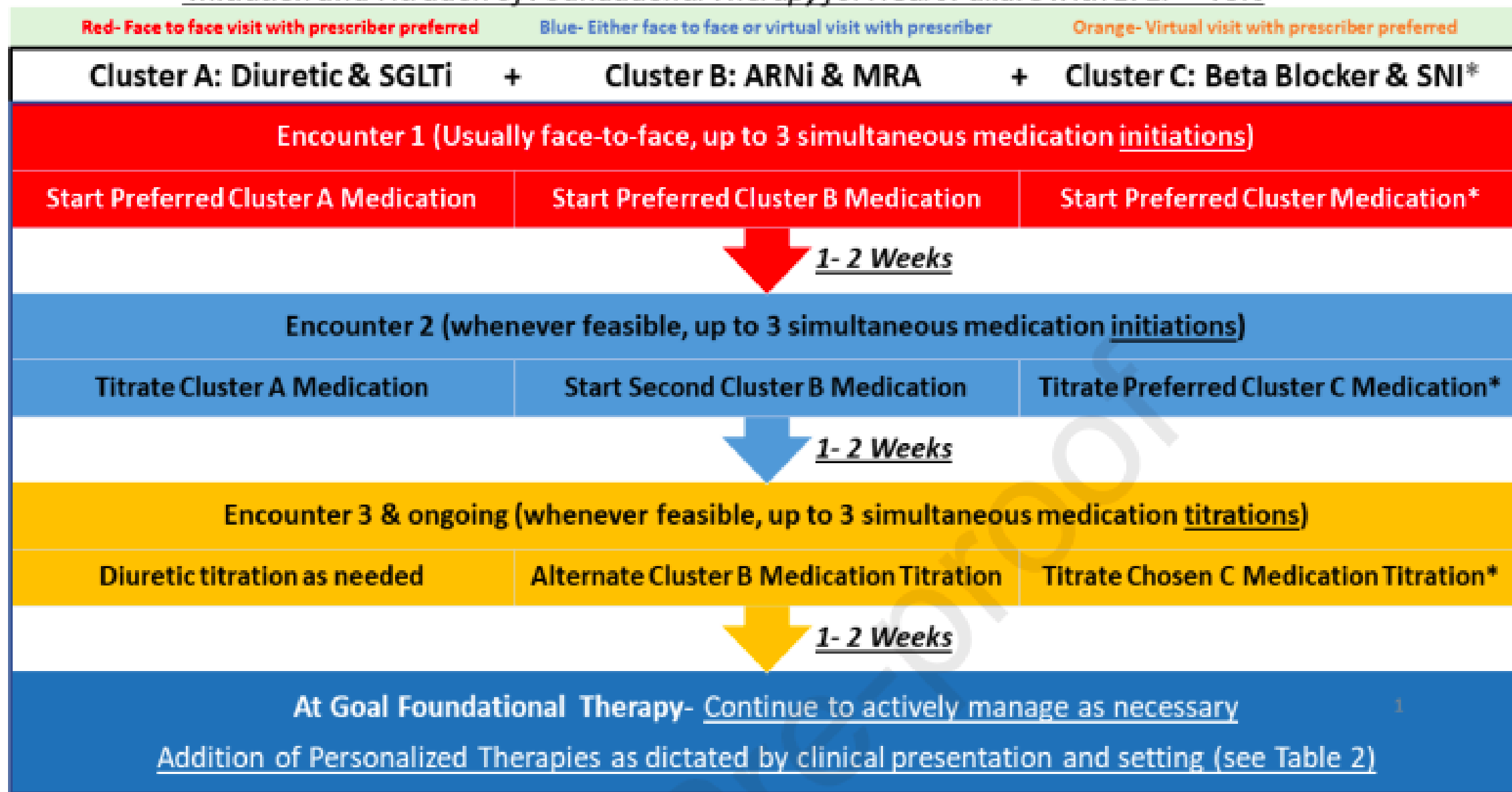
The “Cluster Approach”

- Grouping classes:
 - Foundational
 - rapid improvement in CV morbidity and mortality
 - applicable to most patients
 - synergistic/additive effects irrespective of background therapy
 - Personalized
 - select population
 - lack of improvement in mortality
- Application:
 - Prioritize foundational therapies prior to optimization
 - Cluster medications (maximize safety, rapid initiation)
 - In-hospital initiation
 - Use medication titration protocols with multidisciplinary teams (pharmacists, NP) +/- remotely assisted titration

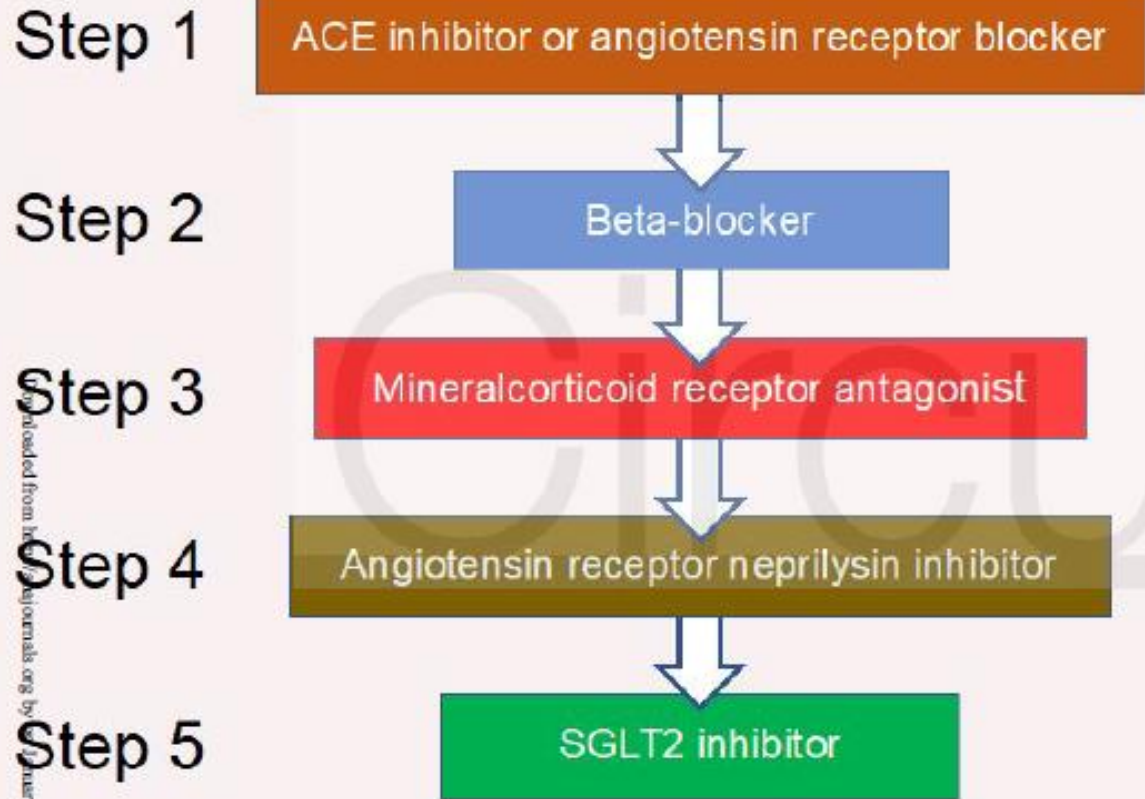
Cluster Scheme

Initiation and Titration of Foundational Therapy for Heart Failure with LVEF < 40%

Recommended Total Time for Titration ≤ 12 weeks (3 months)

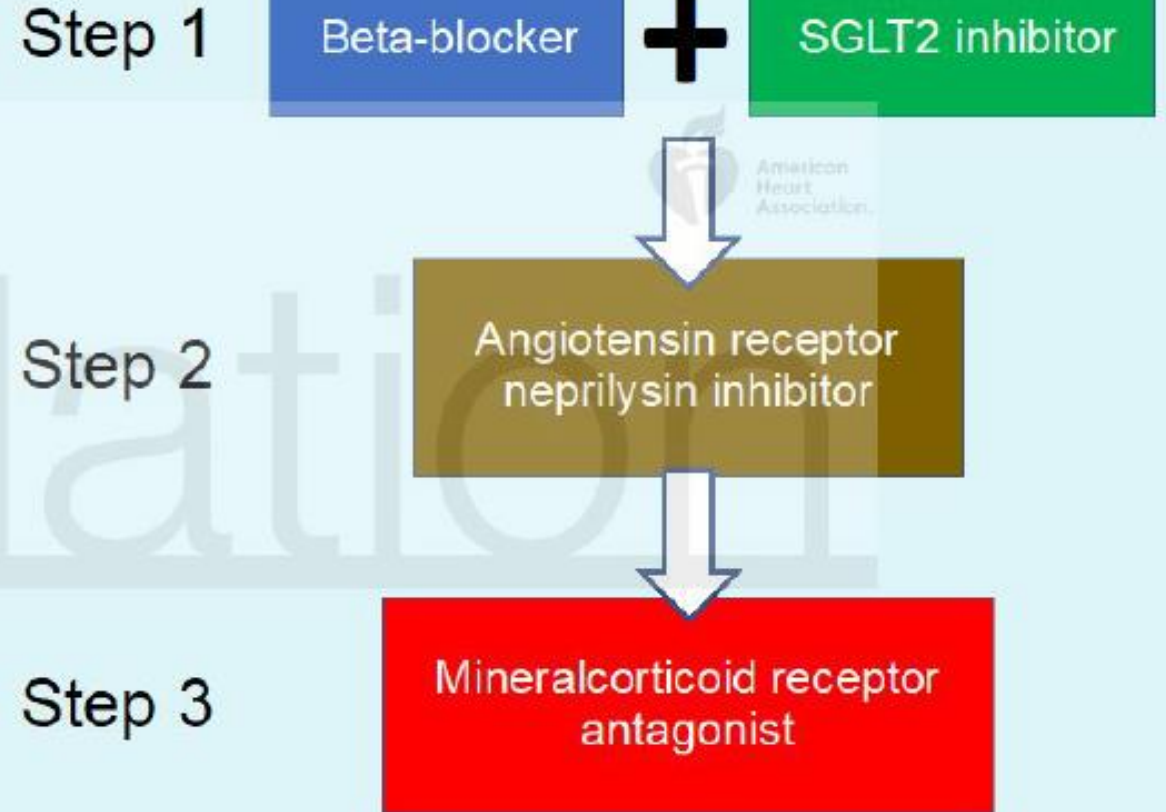


Conventional Sequencing



*Uptitration to target doses at each step
Typically requires 6 months or more*

Proposed New Sequencing



*All 3 steps achieved within 4 weeks
Uptitration to target doses thereafter*

Key Points

- HFrEF management is rapidly evolving
- New agents and their place in therapy require a new approach to increase application and save lives
- A multi-pathway approach should be prioritized over dose optimization
- Sequencing and optimization is flexible
- Focused early and efficient initiation will be key
- Barriers
 - Expertise / competency
 - Drug don't work in those that don't take them, especially with complex regimens
 - Universal access / coverage is necessary
 - Cost-effectiveness