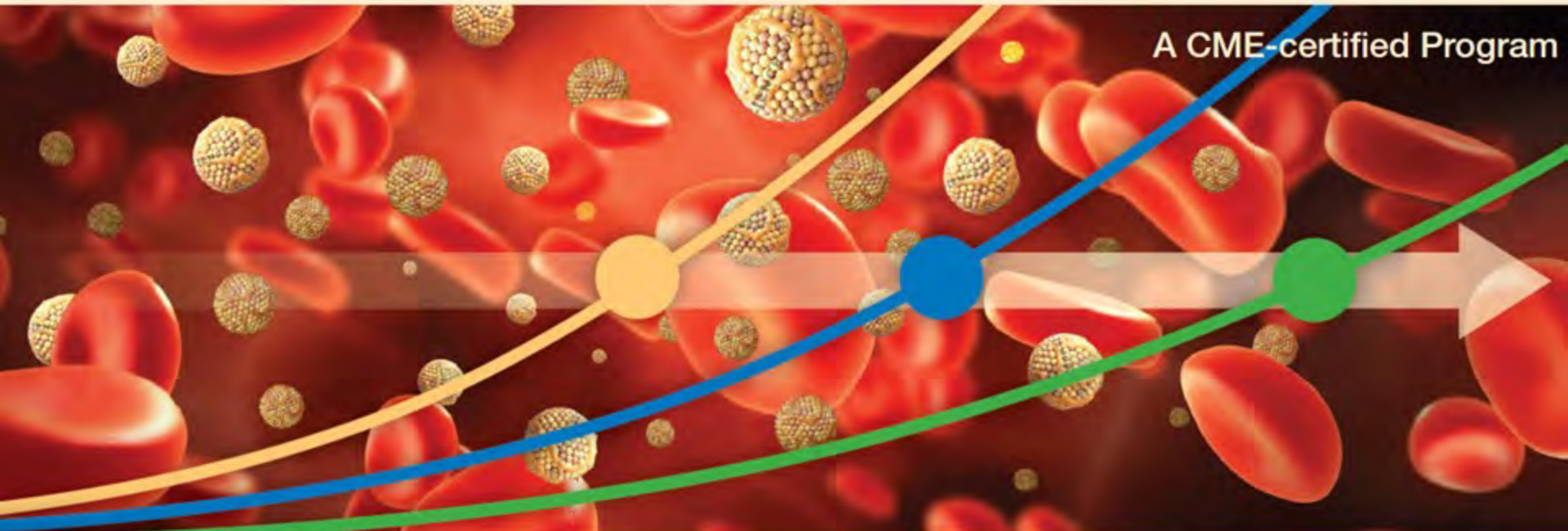


# Managing Severe or Resistant Hypercholesterolemia

The Next Generation of LDL-C Lowering Agents

A CME-certified Program



Jointly provided by the Potomac Center for Medical Education and Rockpointe



Rockpointe

This activity is supported by educational funding provided by Amgen

# Steering Committee

## **Michael Miller, MD, FACC, FAHA**

Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine  
Epidemiology and Public Health  
University of Maryland School of Medicine  
Staff Physician, Baltimore VAMC  
Director, Center for Preventive Cardiology  
University of Maryland Medical Center  
Baltimore, MD

## **Peter P. Toth, MD, PhD**

Director of Preventative Cardiology, CGH Medical Center, Sterling, IL  
Professor of Clinical Family and Community Medicine  
University of Illinois College of Medicine, Peoria, IL  
Professor of Clinical Medicine, Michigan State University College of  
Osteopathic Medicine, East Lansing, MI  
Adjunct Associate Professor Medicine  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Baltimore, MD

# Disclosures

## **Faculty and Steering Committee Disclosures**

*The faculty and steering committee reported the following relevant financial relationships that they or their spouse/partner have with commercial interests:*

**Michael Miller, MD, FACC, FAHA:** *Consultant/Independent Contractor: Pfizer; National Coordinator: SPIRE*

**Peter P. Toth, MD, PhD:** *Consultant/Independent Contractor: Amarin, Amgen, Kowa, Merck, Regeneron-Sanofi, Speaker's Bureau: Amarin, Amgen, Kowa, Merck, Regeneron-Sanofi*

## **Non-faculty Disclosures**

*Non-faculty content contributors and/or reviewers reported the following relevant financial relationships that they or their spouse/partner have with commercial interests:*

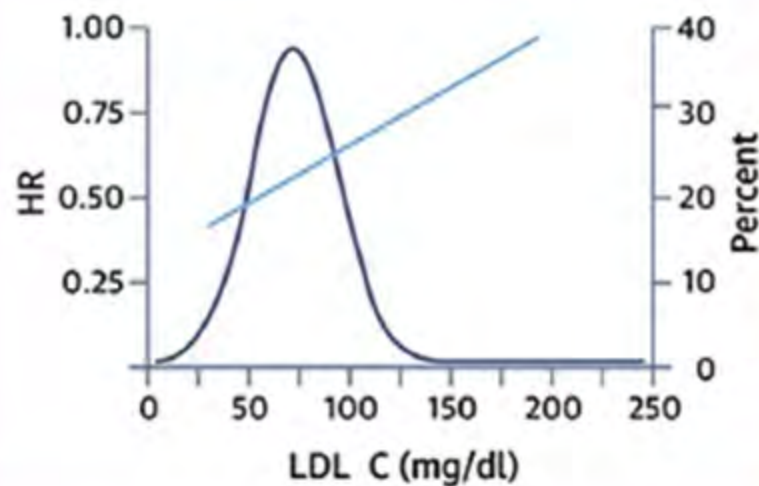
**Barry Watkins, PhD; Blair St. Amand; Jay Katz, MA, CHCP; Lindsay Scott, PT, DPT, ATC:**  
Nothing to disclose.

# LDL-C

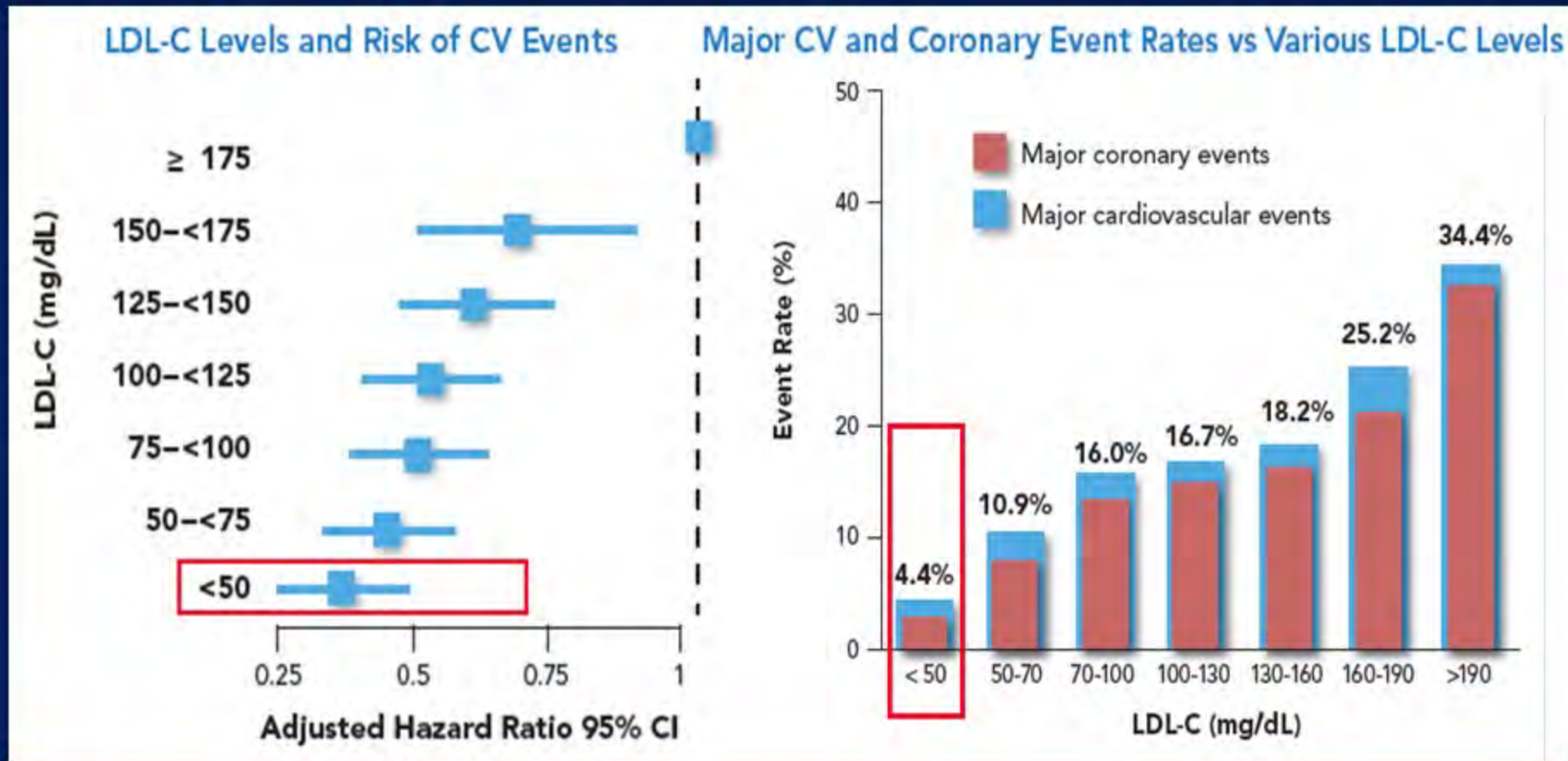
*Metabolism and Pathobiology*

**CONCLUSIONS** The reductions of LDL-C, non-HDL-C, and apoB levels achieved with statin therapy displayed large interindividual variation. Among trial participants treated with high-dose statin therapy, >40% did not reach an LDL-C target <70 mg/dl. Patients who achieve very low LDL-C levels have a lower risk for major cardiovascular events than do those achieving moderately low levels. (J Am Coll Cardiol 2014;64:485-94) © 2014 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation.

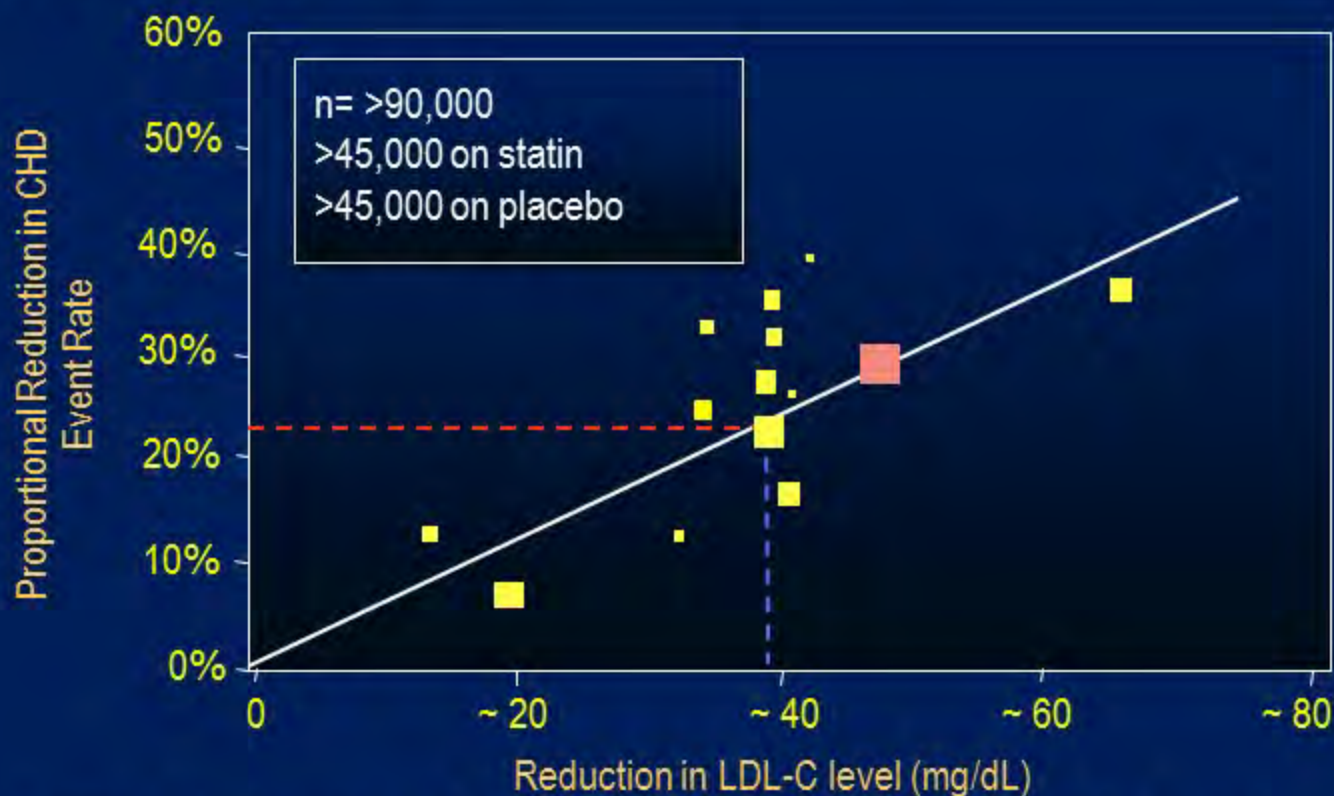
When LDL-C is reduced to 50 mg/dL or lower, the risk for CV events is reduced **by more than half.**



# Mean Attained LDL-C on Statin Therapy and Risks of Secondary Cardiovascular Events



# Relation Between Reduction in Incidence of Major CVD Events and Mean Absolute LDL-C Reduction at Year 1\*

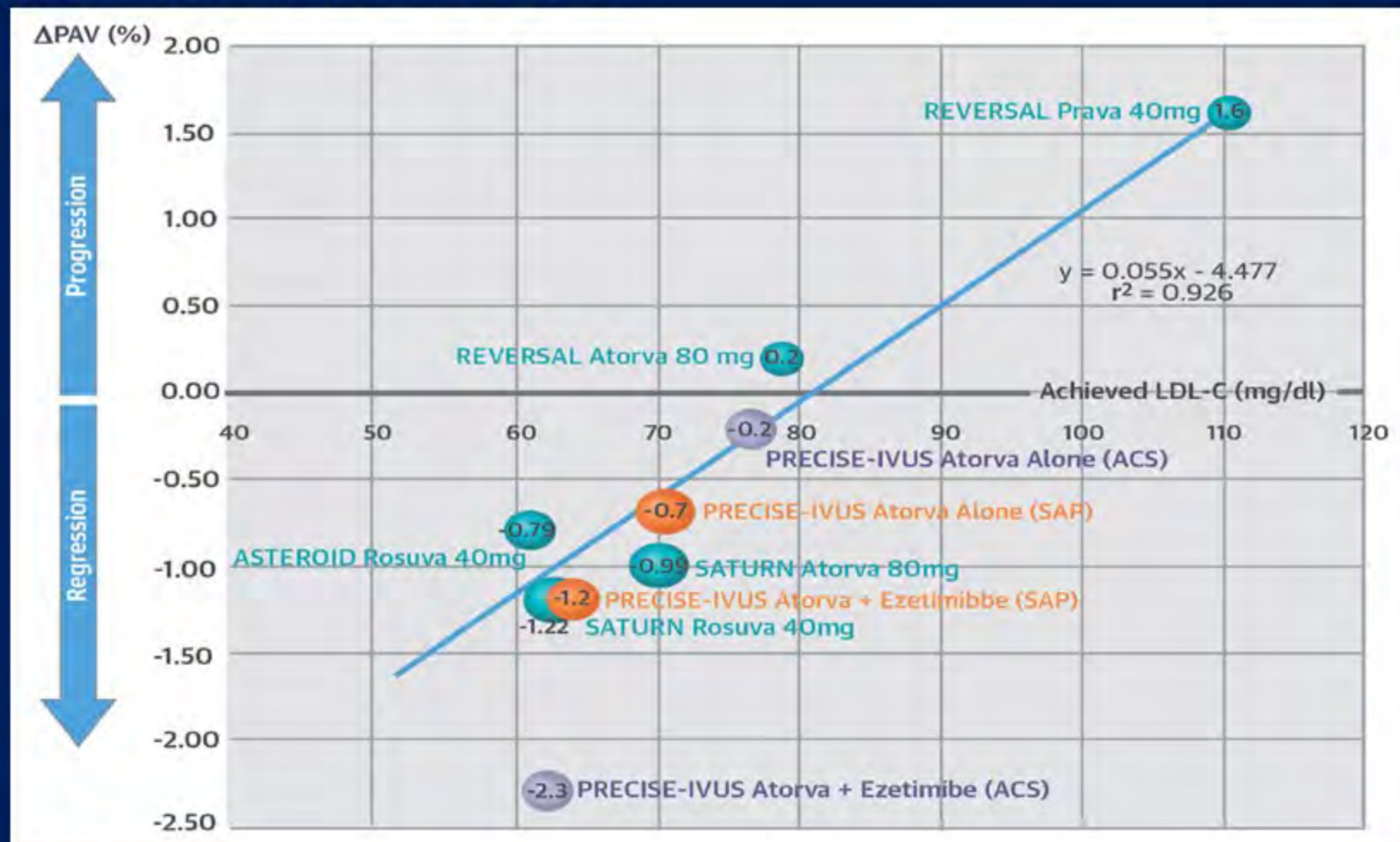


1 mmol/L reduction in LDL-C results in 20% reduction in CVD risk at 1 year

\*Meta-analysis of 14 statin trials (CTT collaborators)

# PRECISE-IVUS

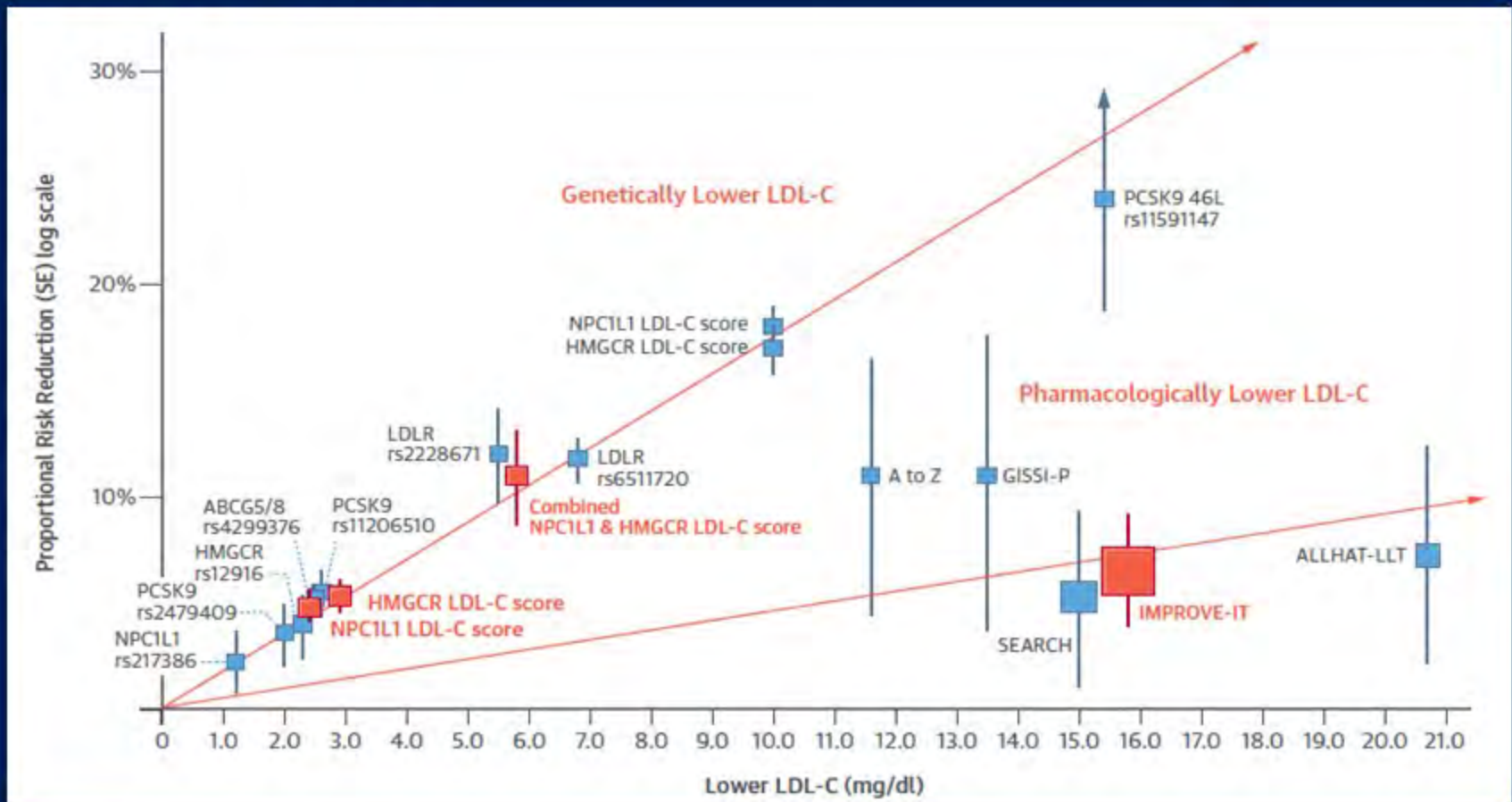
*Median Change in % Atheroma Volume (PAV) Relates to Achieved LDL-C Levels*



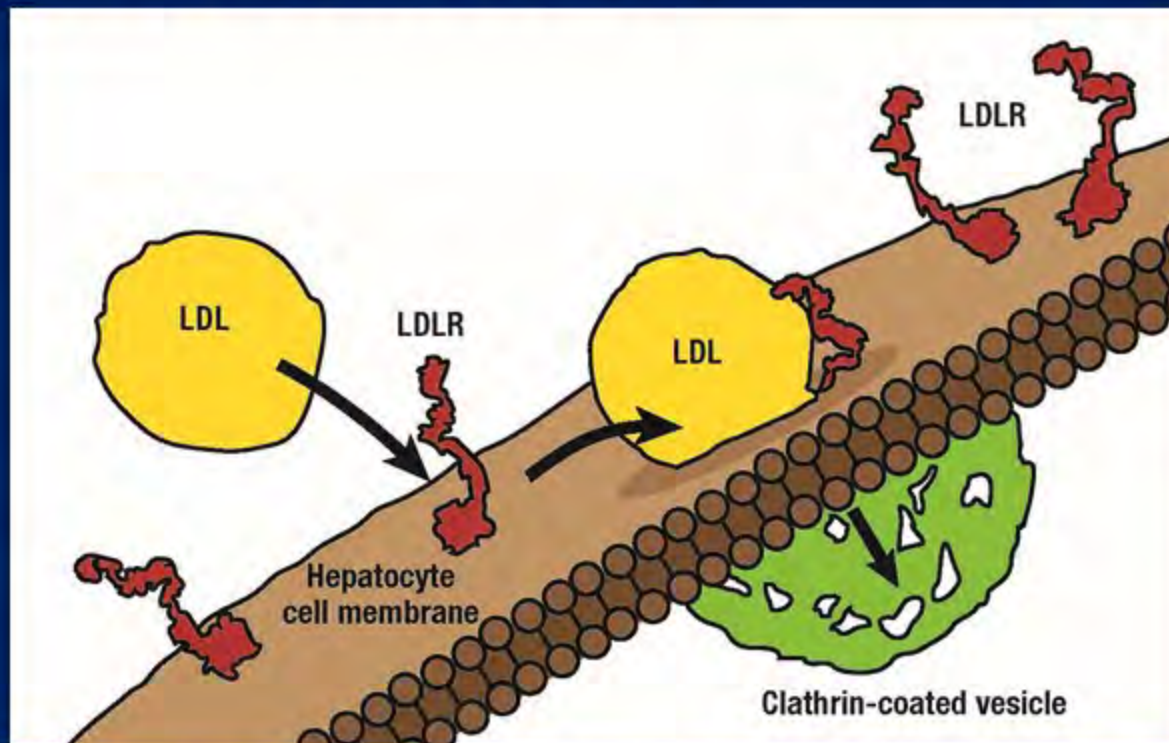
# Cholesterol Metabolism

*Targets for LDL-C Lowering*

# Genetically and Pharmacologically Mediated Reduction of LDL-C Lowers Risk of Coronary Heart Disease



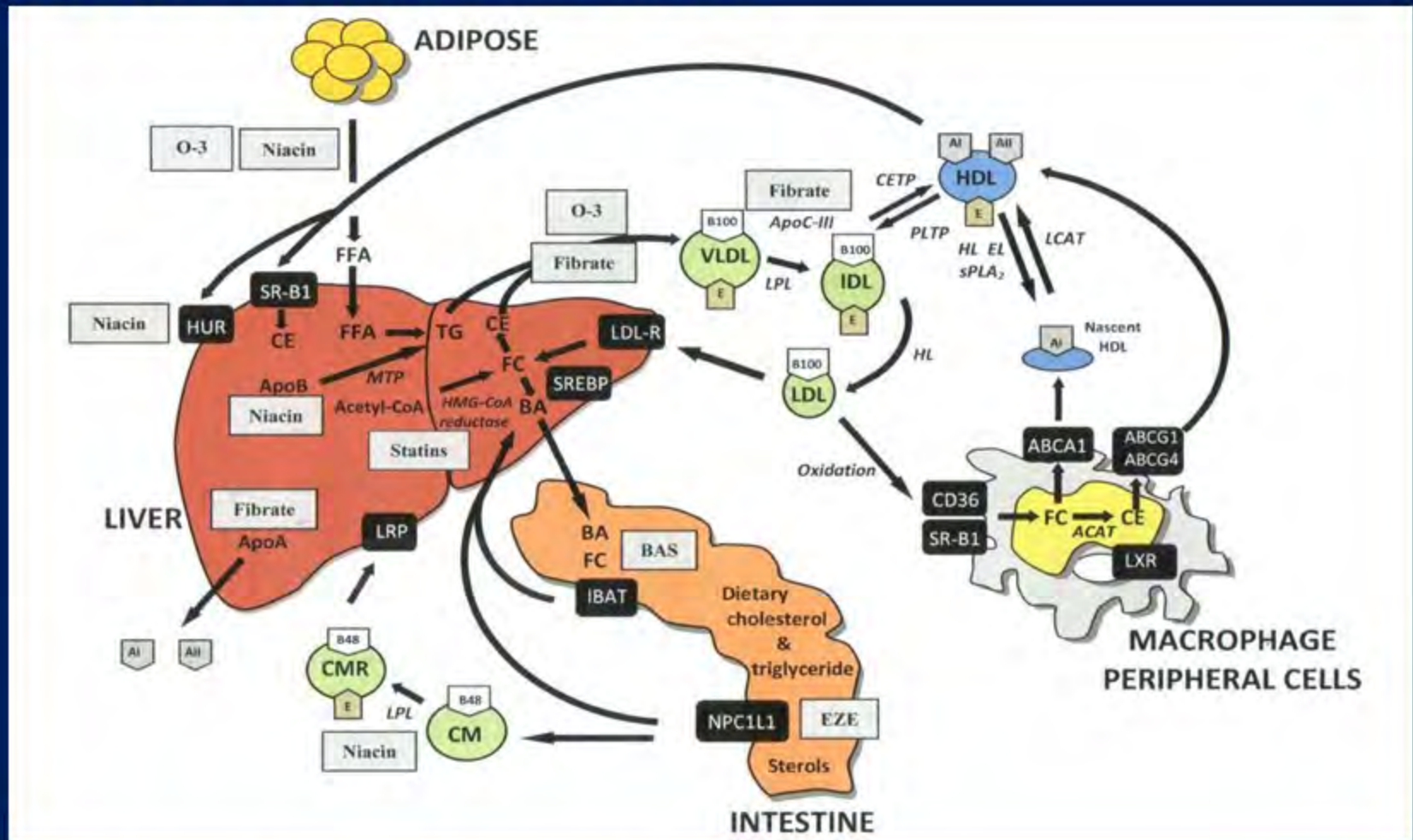
# Hepatic LDL Receptors Play a Central Role in Cholesterol Homeostasis



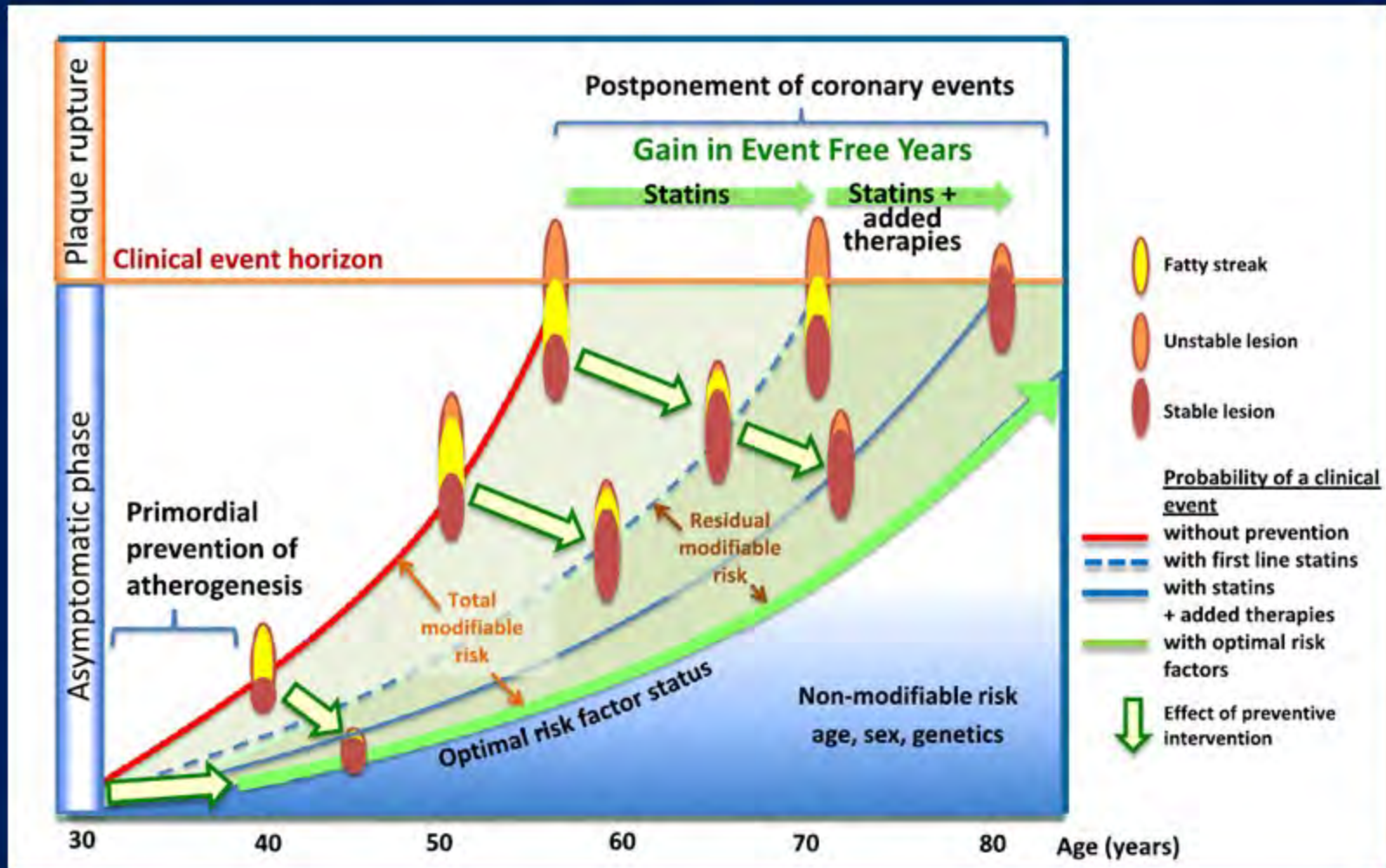
- The LDL/LDLR complex is internalized into the hepatocyte via clathrin-coated vesicles, thereby removing LDL from the blood<sup>1-3</sup>
- Affinity of hepatic LDLR for apoB on LDL enables LDLRs to clear plasma LDL effectively<sup>4</sup>

1. Brown MS, Goldstein JL. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 1979;76:3330-3337.
2. Goldstein JL, Brown MS. *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol*. 2009;29:431-438.
3. Brown MS, Goldstein JL. *J Lipid Res*. 2009;50:S15-S27.
4. Brown MS, Goldstein JL. *Science*. 1986;232:34-47.

# Mechanisms of Drug Actions in Lipoprotein Metabolism



# Disease Trajectories in CVD Prevention

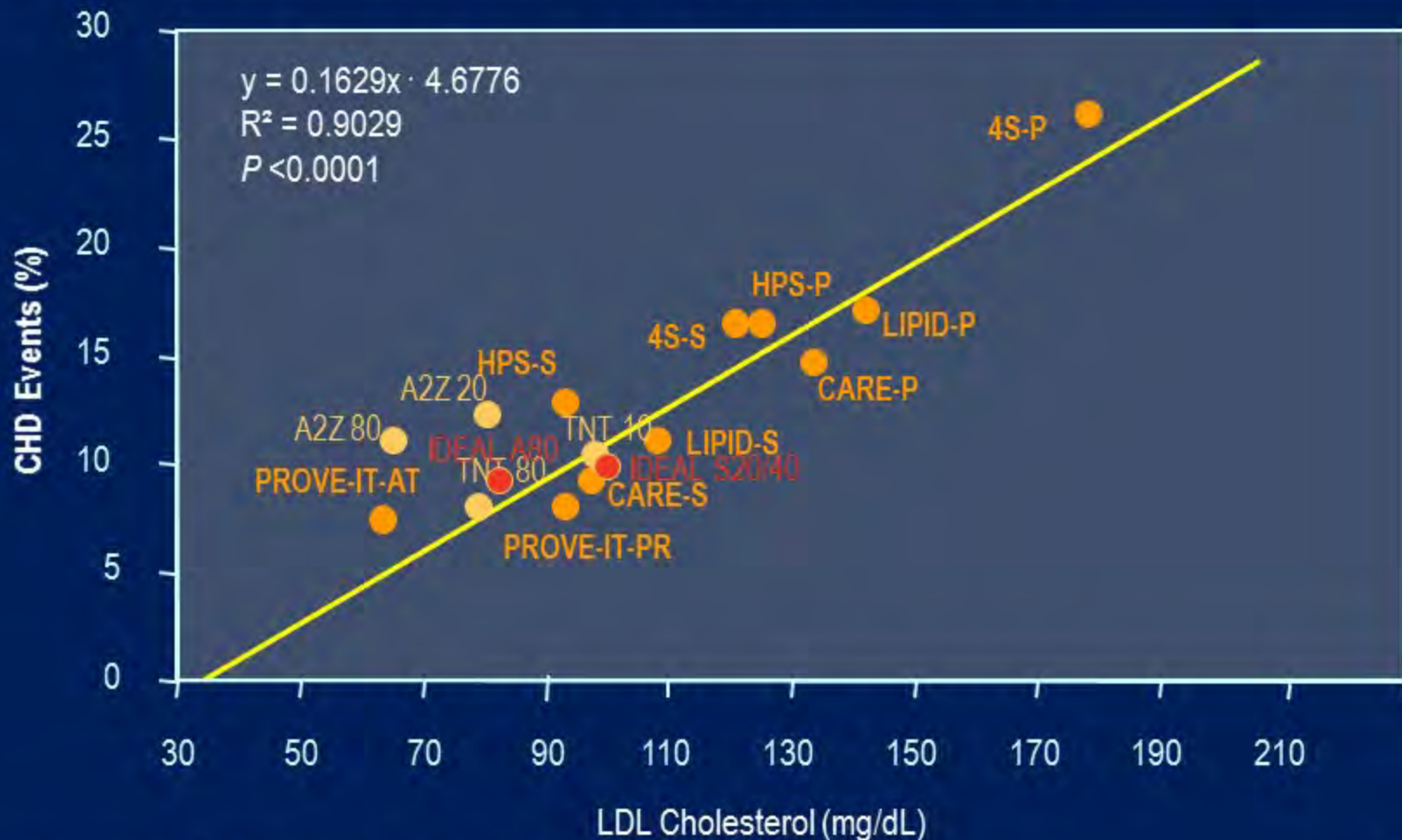


# Statins

*The Gold Standard for LDL-C Reduction*

# CHD Events Are Reduced Proportional to LDL-C Lowering with Statins

*ACS and Other Secondary Prevention Trials*



# High, Moderate, and Low-intensity Statin Therapy Used in Clinical Trials

| High-intensity Statin Therapy                                     | Moderate-intensity Statin Therapy                                                                                                                                                                                | Low-intensity Statin Therapy                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Daily dose lowers LDL-C, on average, by approximately $\geq 50\%$ | Daily dose lowers LDL-C, on average, by approximately 30% to $< 50\%$                                                                                                                                            | Daily dose lowers LDL-C, on average, by approximately $< 30\%$                                                        |
| Atorvastatin 40*-80* mg<br>Rosuvastatin 20*-40** mg               | Atorvastatin 10* (20**) mg<br>Rosuvastatin (5**) 10* mg<br>Simvastatin 20*-40* mg<br>Pravastatin 40* (80**) mg<br>Lovastatin 40* mg<br>Fluvastatin XL 80** mg<br>Fluvastatin 40 mg BID*<br>Pitavastatin 2-4** mg | Simvastatin 10** mg<br>Pravastatin 10*-20* mg<br>Lovastatin 20* mg<br>Fluvastatin 20**-40** mg<br>Pitavastatin 1** mg |

\*Statins demonstrated reduction in major CVD events

\*\*FDA-approved doses not tested in clinical trials

FDA = Food and Drug Administration

Stone NJ et al. *Circulation*. 2014;129(25 Suppl 2):S1-45.

Goff DC et al. *Circulation*. 2014;129(25 Suppl 2):S49-73.

## 2013: ACC/AHA Guideline

### *Treatment of Blood Cholesterol to Reduce Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Risk in Adults*

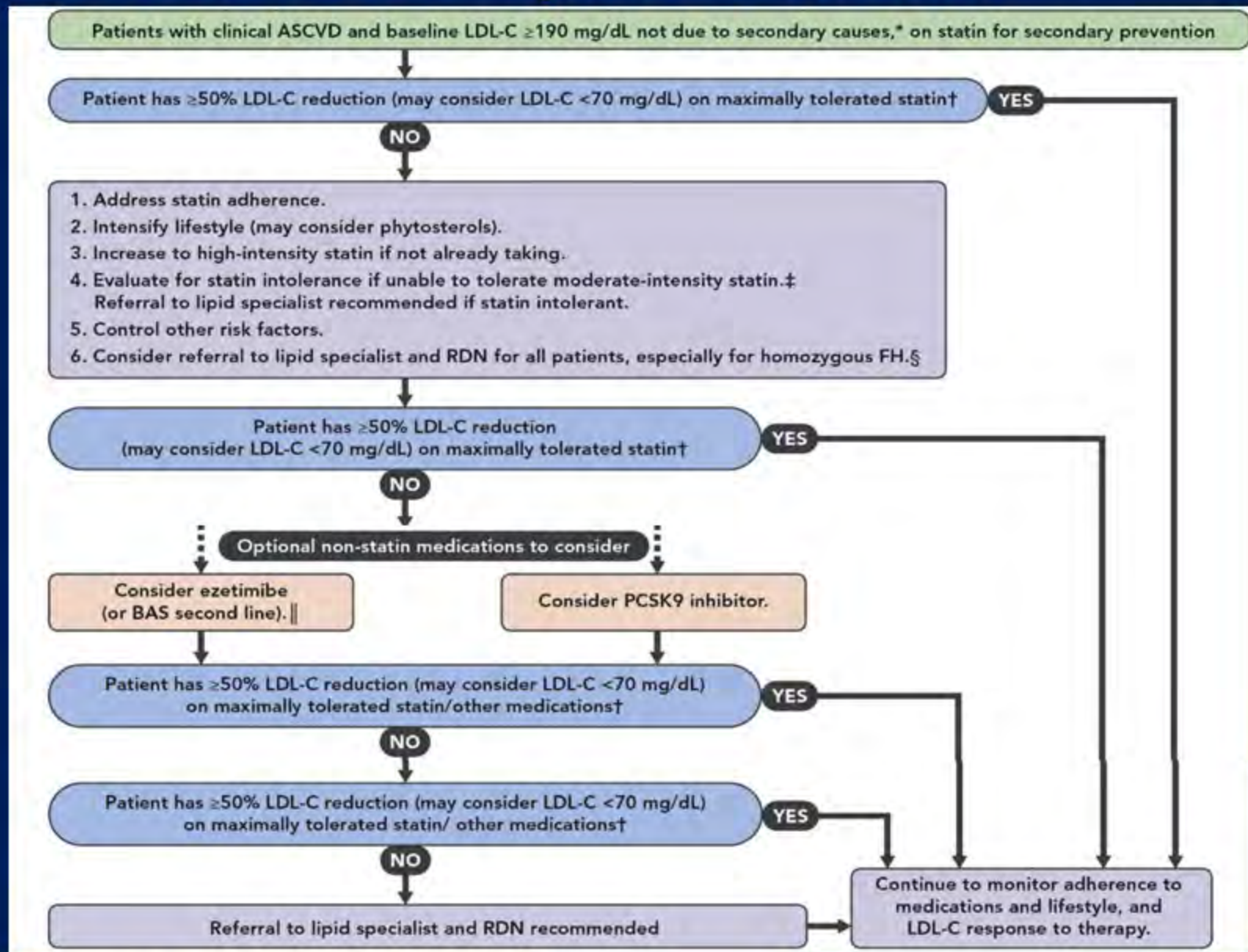
- Low-intensity statins are recommended only in patients with history of or at risk for adverse drug effects
- Moderate-to-high-intensity statins recommended for patients with clinical ASCVD and those with diabetes
- High-intensity statins recommended for patients with LDL-C >190 mg/dL
- Did not find evidence to support LDL-C thresholds or targets of therapy. No evidence was found that titration or combination drug therapy to achieve specific LDL-C or non-HDL-C levels or percent reduction improved ASCVD outcomes. No dose titration recommended.
- Monitor LDL-C to assess compliance and response to therapy

HDL-C = high-density lipoprotein cholesterol

Stone NJ et al. *Circulation*. 2014;129(25 Suppl 2):S1-45.

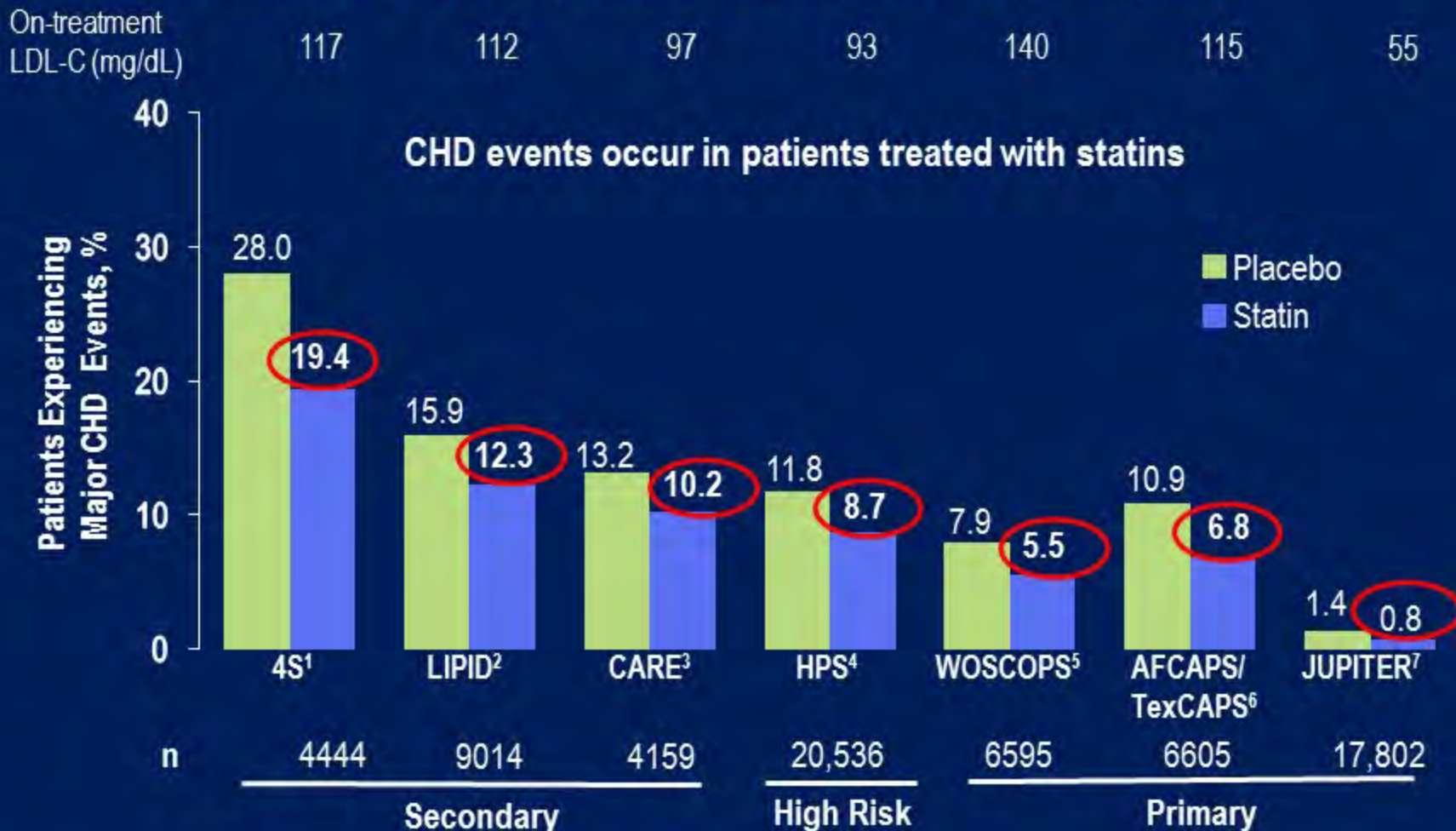
Goff DC et al. *Circulation*. 2014;129(25 Suppl 2):S49-73

# 2016 ACC/AHA Expert Consensus



# **Residual CHD Risk Despite Statin Therapy**

# Major Statin Trials: Despite Benefit, Substantial Residual CV Risk Remains



<sup>1</sup>4S Group. *Lancet*. 1994;344:1383-1389.

<sup>2</sup>LIPID Study Group. *N Engl J Med*. 1998;339:1349-1357.

<sup>3</sup>Sacks FM et al. *N Engl J Med*. 1996;335:1001-1009.

<sup>4</sup>HPS Collaborative Group. *Lancet*. 2002;360:7-22.

<sup>5</sup>Shepherd J et al. *N Engl J Med*. 1995;333:1301-1307.

<sup>6</sup>Downs JR et al. *JAMA*. 1998;279:1615-1622.

<sup>7</sup>Ridker PM et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2008;359:2195-2207.

# Ezetimibe

# Ezetimibe

## IMPROVE IT Trial Design

**Patients stabilized post-ACS  $\leq 10$  days**  
**LDL-C  $\leq 125$  mg/dL (or  $\leq 100$  mg/dL if prior statin)**

*Double-blind*

*n ~ 18,000*

**ASA + Standard Medical Therapy**

**Simvastatin 40 mg\***

**Ezetimibe/ Simvastatin  
10/40 mg\***

**Follow-up visit day 30, every 4 months**

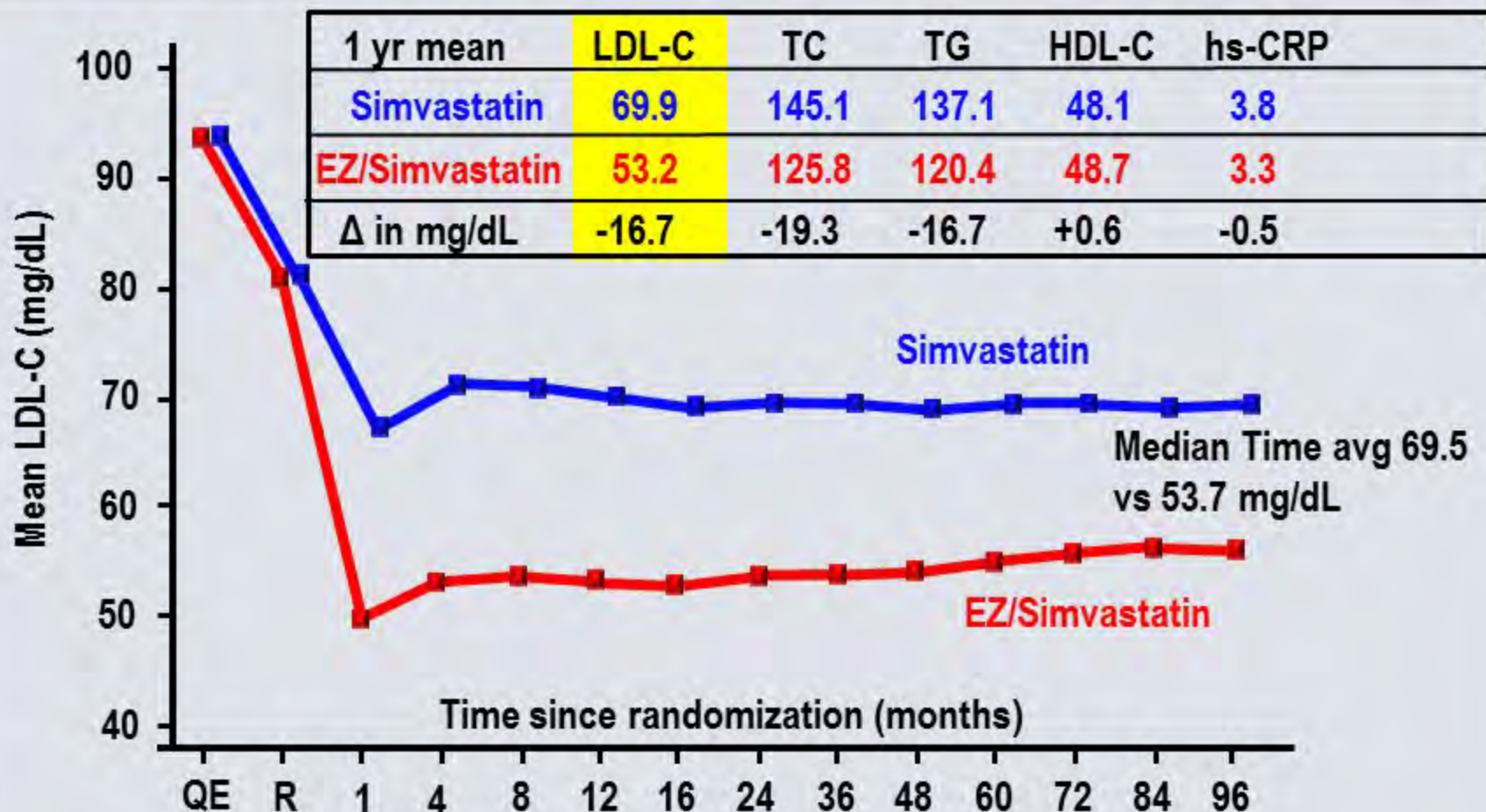
\*up-titrated to  
80 mg if LDL-C  
>79 mg/dL

**Duration: Minimum 2.5 year follow-up (5250 events)**

**Primary Endpoint: CV death, MI, Hospitalization for UA,  
Revascularization (>30 days after randomization), or Stroke**

# IMPROVE IT Trial: Effect on LDL-C

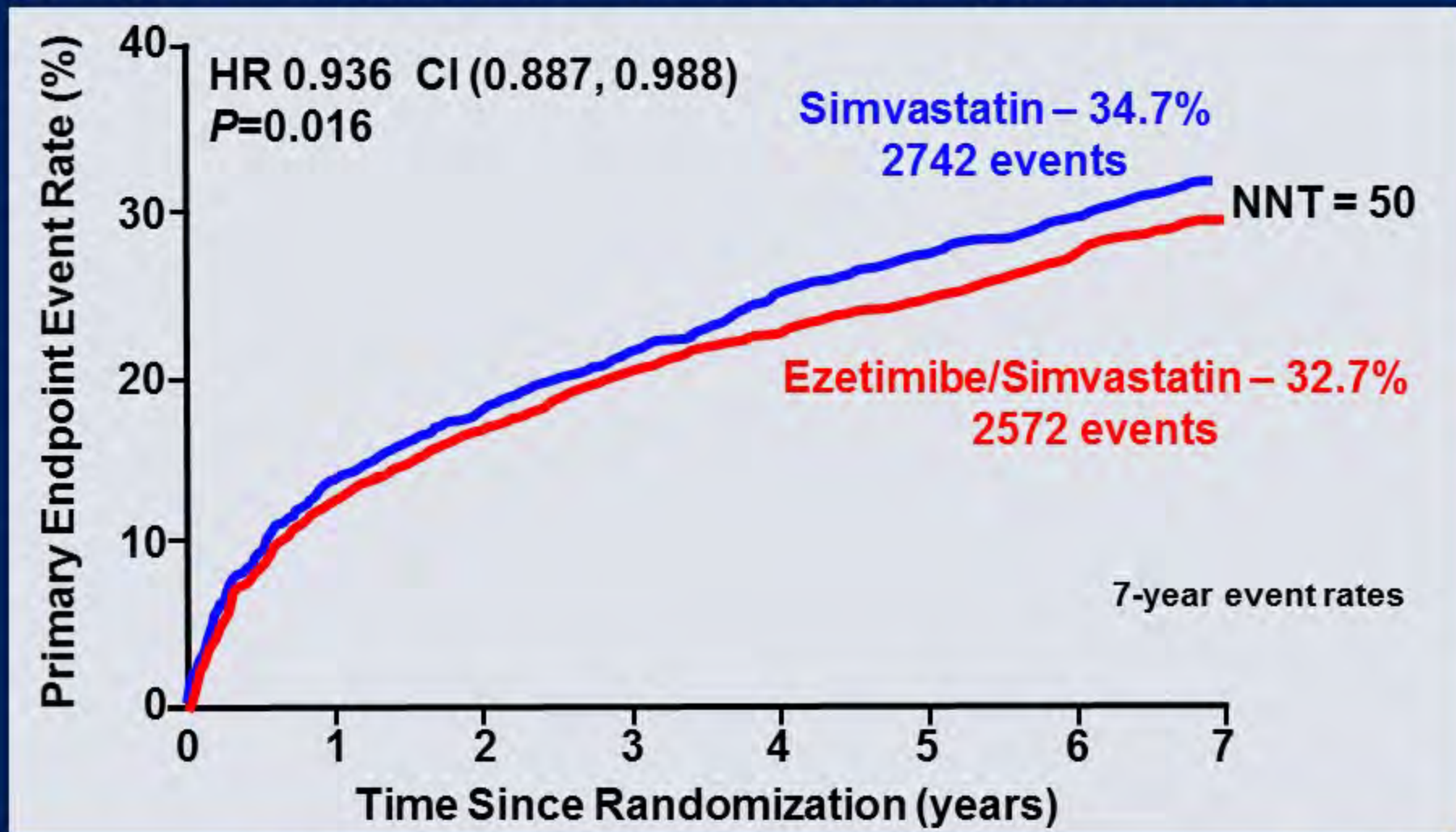
*Ezetimibe (EZ) + Simvastatin vs Simvastatin Alone*



# IMPROVE IT Trial

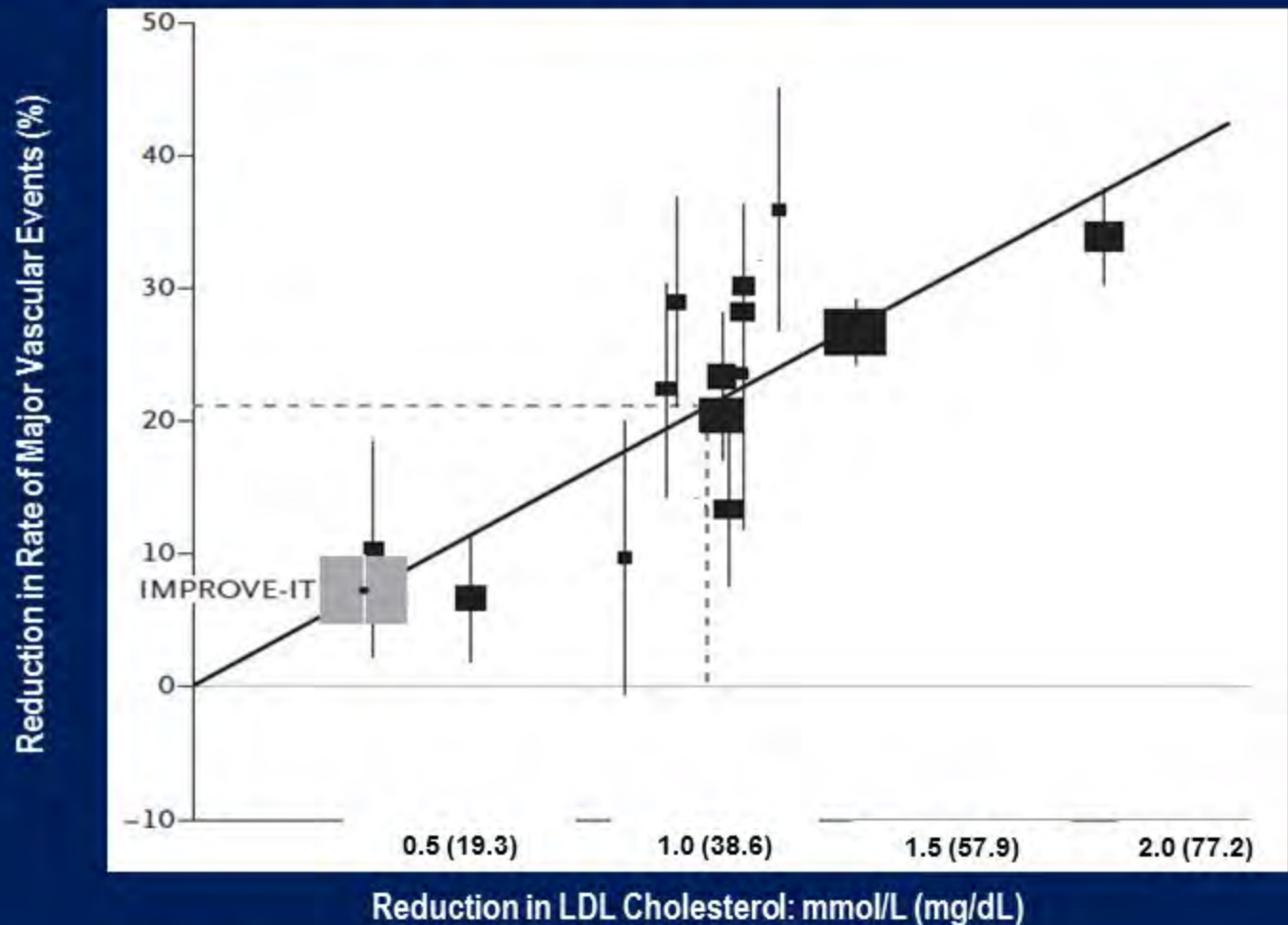
## Ezetimibe + Simvastatin vs Simvastatin Alone

Primary Endpoint: death from cardiovascular disease, a major coronary event, or nonfatal stroke



# IMPROVE-IT: Ezetimibe vs Statin Benefit

## Change in LDL-C vs Clinical Benefit



Cannon CP et al. CTT Collaboration. *Lancet*. 2005;366:1267-1278.

CCT Collaboration. *Lancet*. 2010;376:1670-1681.

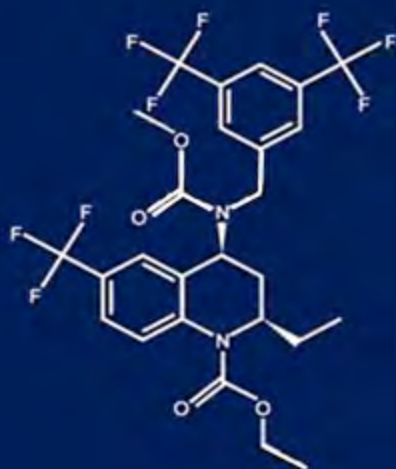
Cannon CP et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2015;372:2387-2397.

# CETP Inhibition

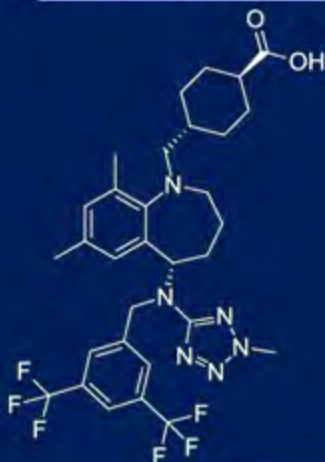
*CETP = Cholesteryl ester transfer protein*

# CETP Inhibitors and Modulators

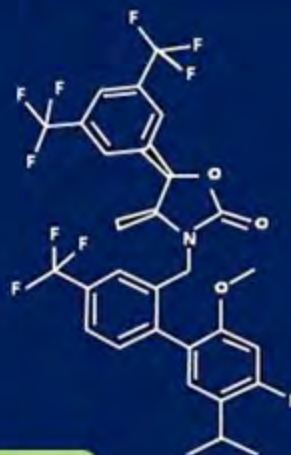
Torcetrapib  
(discontinued)



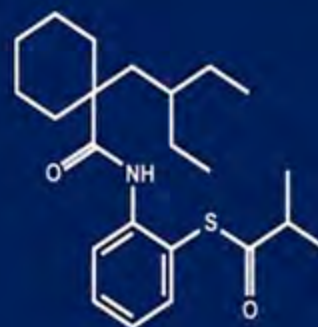
Evacetrapib  
(discontinued)



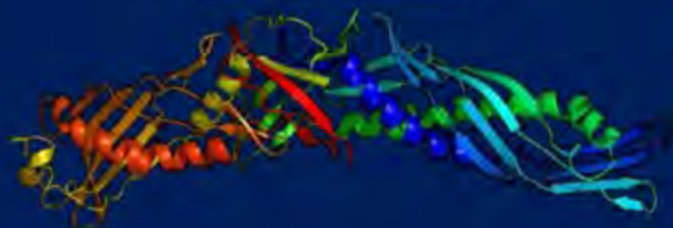
Anacetrapib  
(investigational)



Dalcetrapib  
(discontinued)



CETP

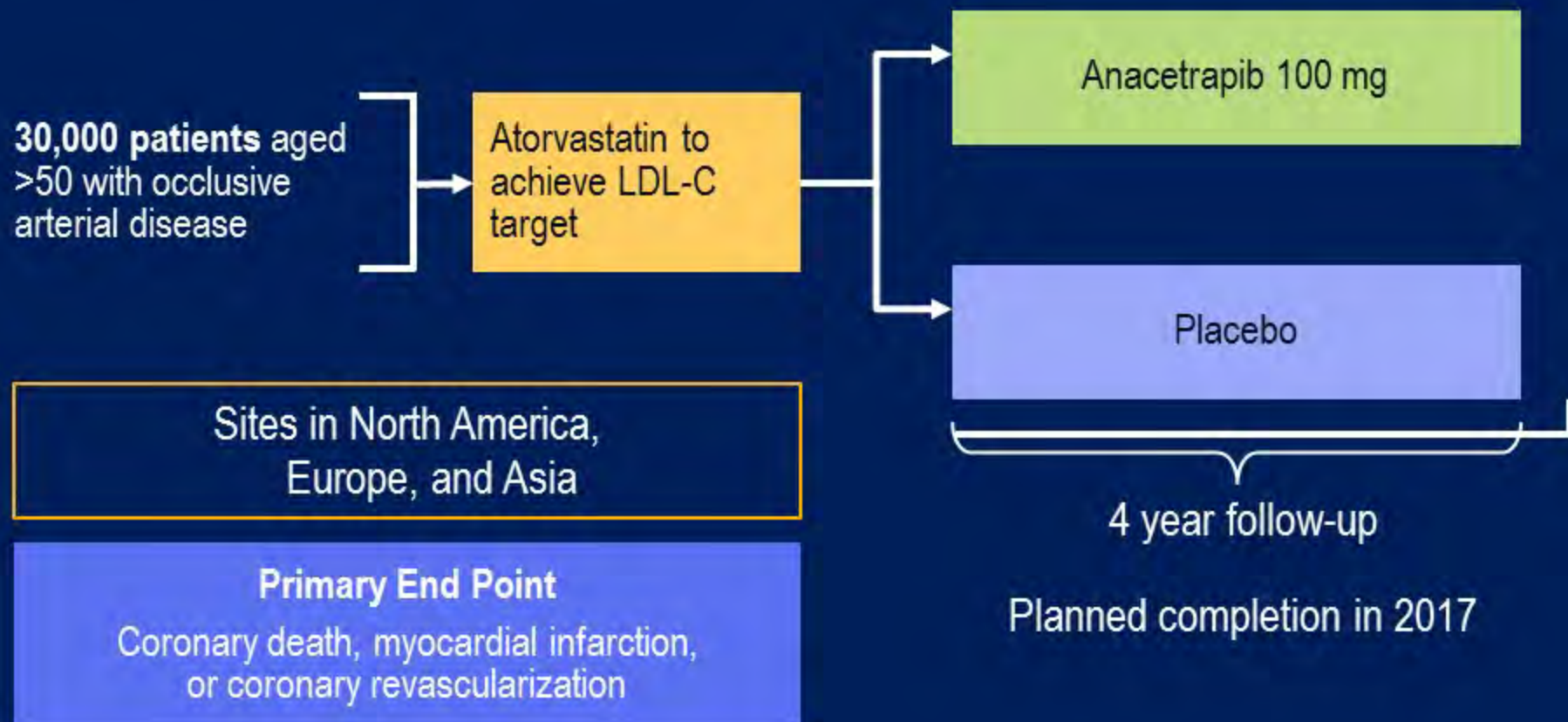


Barter PJ et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2007;357:2109-2122.

Qiu X et al. *Nat Struct Mol Biol.* 2007;14:106-112.

# REVEAL

## *Trial Design for Efficacy of Anacetrapib*



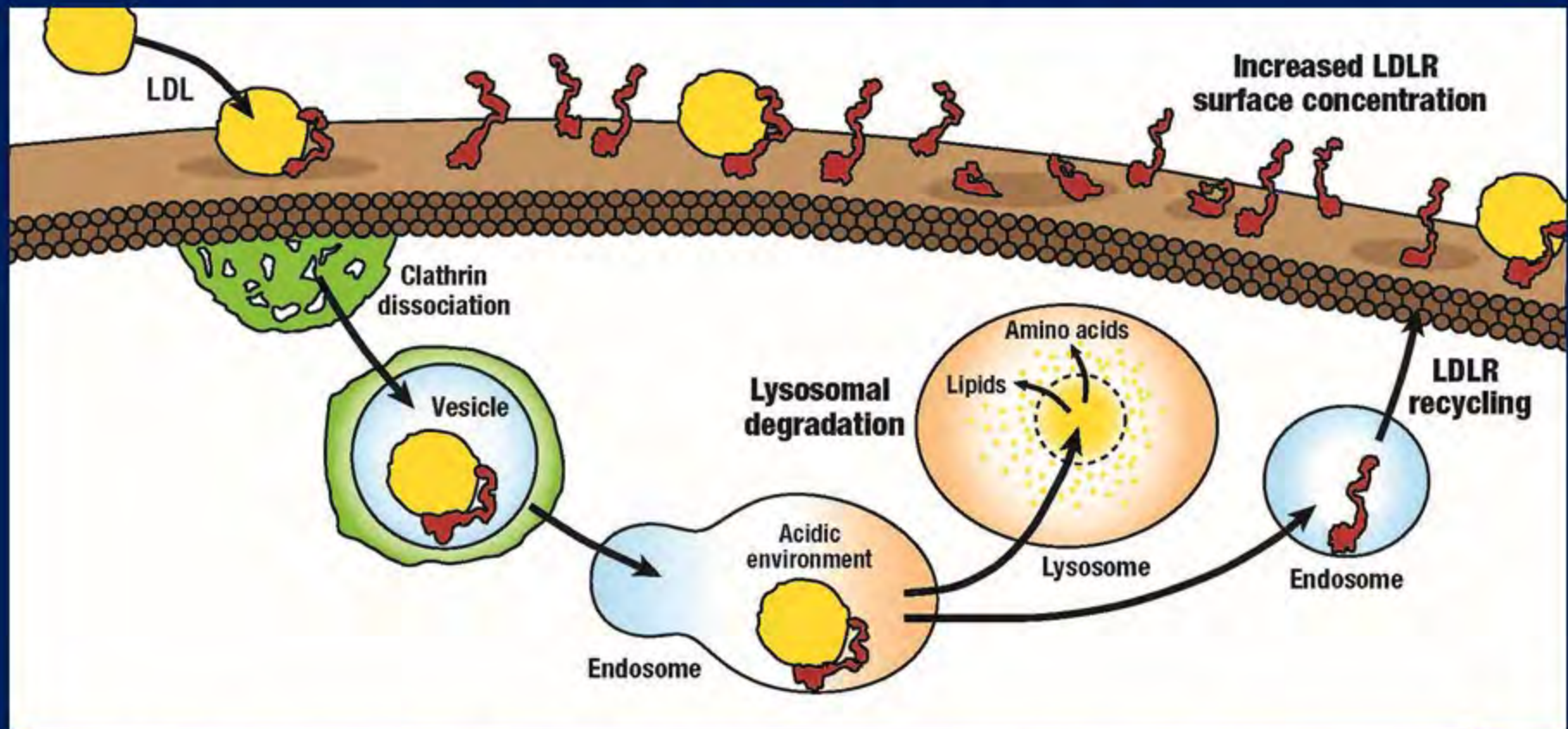
# Modulation of Hepatic LDL Receptors

# Modulation of Hepatic LDL Receptors

## *PCSK9 Inhibitors*

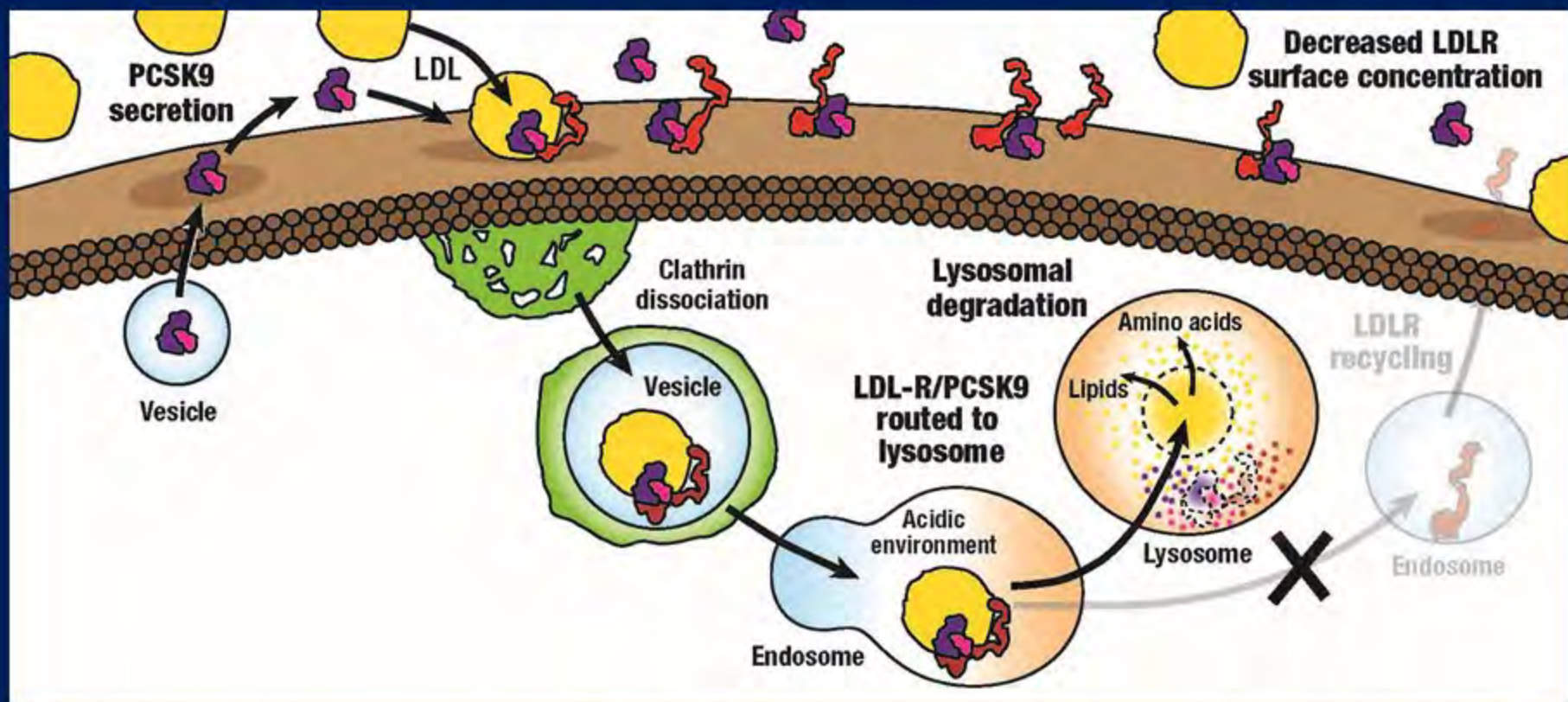
*PCSK9 = proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9*

# Recycling of LDL-Receptors Enables Efficient Clearance of LDL Particles



- The ability of hepatic LDLRs to be recycled is a key determinant of hepatic efficacy in lowering plasma LDL levels

# PCSK9 Is a Regulator of LDL-R Recycling



- PCSK9 mediates degradation of the LDL-R by interacting with the extracellular domain and targeting the receptor for degradation
- PCSK9 is highly expressed in the liver, small intestine, and kidney

# Genetic Variants of PCSK9 Demonstrate Its Importance in Regulating LDL Levels

|                                                                  |                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| PCSK9 Gain of Function                                           | Fewer LDL-Receptors <sup>1,3,5</sup> |
| PCSK9 Loss of Function                                           | More LDL-Receptors <sup>2,4</sup>    |
| 1% - 3% of population have Loss of Function PCSK9 <sup>6,7</sup> |                                      |

1. Horton JD et al. *J Lipid Res.* 2009;50:S172-S177.

2. Lakoski SG et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2009;94:2537-2543.

3. Abifadel M et al. *Hum Mutat.* 2009;30:520-529.

4. Cohen J et al. *Nat Genet.* 2005;37:161-165.

5. Steinberg D et al. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.* 2009;106:9546-9547.

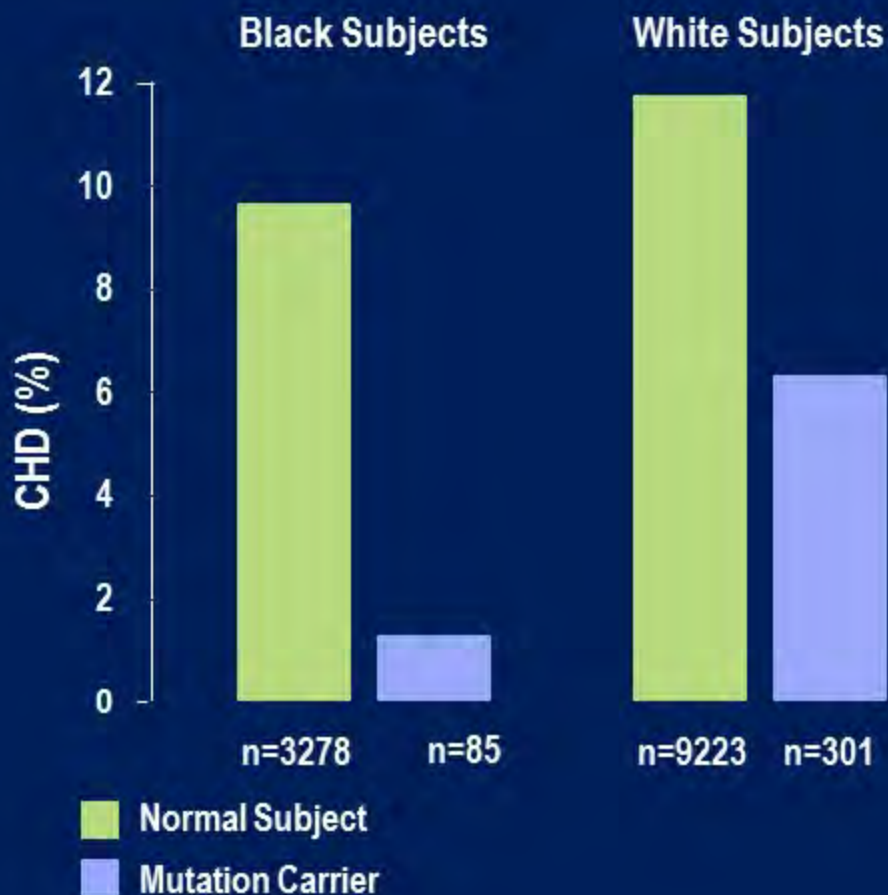
6. Cohen JC et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2006;354:1264-1272.

7. Benn M et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2010;55:2833-2842.

# PCSK9 Loss-of-Function Mutations

*Resulted in Lower LDL-C Levels and Reduced CHD Rates*

- Wild-type PCSK9 degrades LDL receptors.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Loss-of-function (LOF) mutations increase hepatic LDL receptor expression, reducing LDL-C levels by 15%-40%.<sup>2,3</sup>
- CHD incidence was reduced 47%-88% in PCSK9 loss-of-function mutation carriers compared with normal individuals.<sup>3</sup>



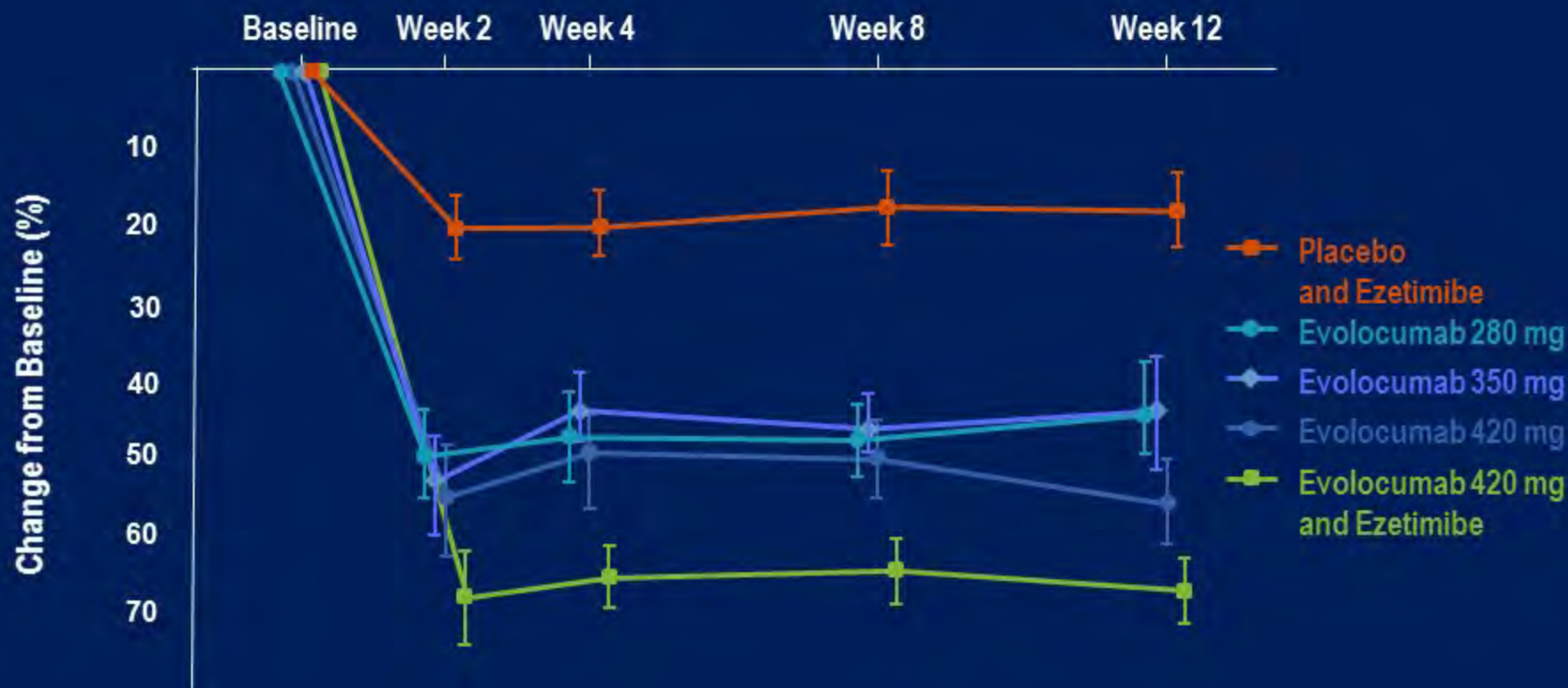
1. Peterson AS et al. *J Lipid Res.* 2008;49:1595-1599.

2. Cohen J et al. *Nature Genetics.* 2005;37:161-165.

3. Cohen JC et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2006;354:1264-1272.

# GAUSS: Effect of Evolocumab on Percentage Change in LDL-C from Baseline

## Statin-Intolerant Patients

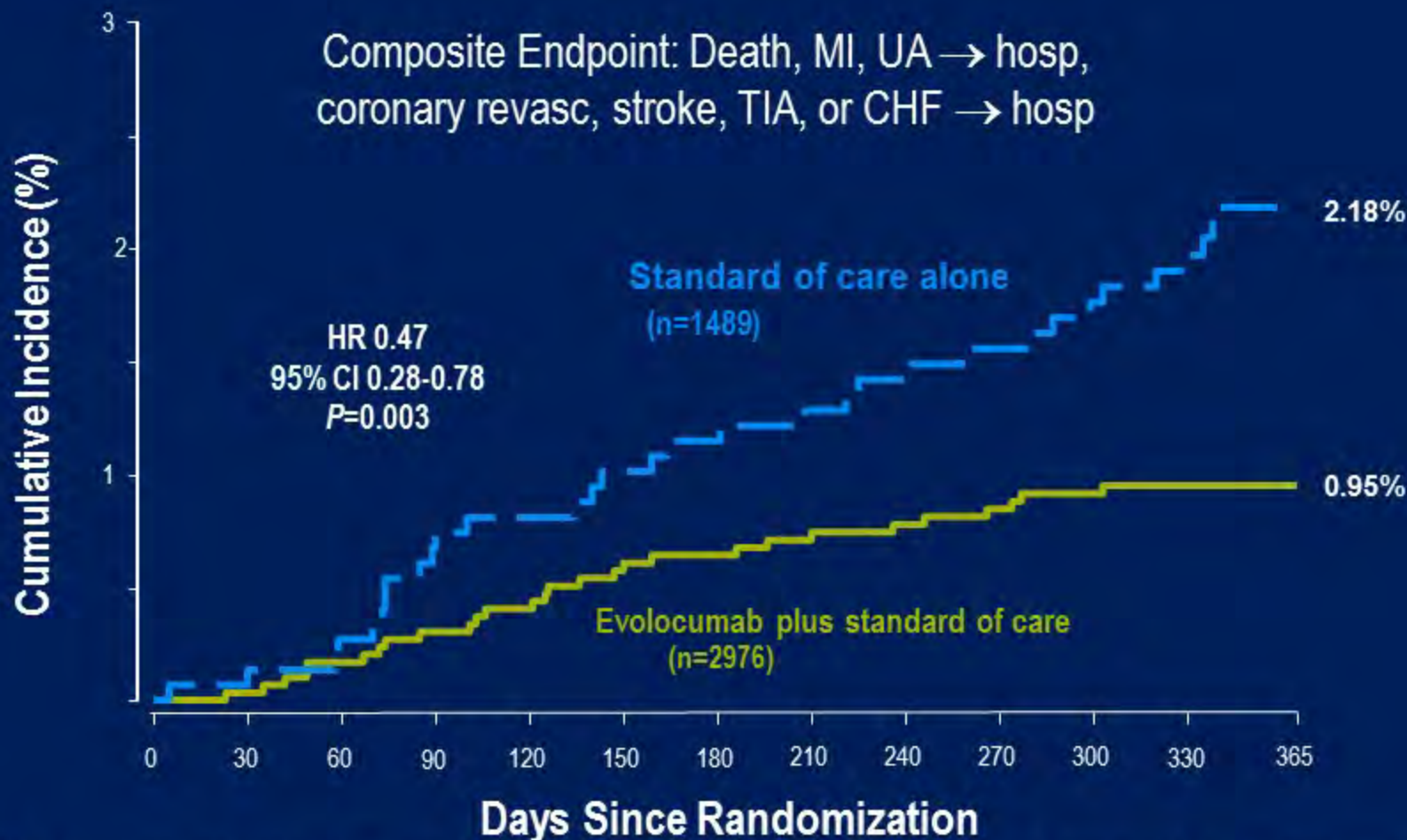


GAUSS = Goal Achievement after Utilizing an Anti-PCSK9 Antibody in Statin Intolerant Subjects

Sullivan D et al. *JAMA*. 2012;308:2497-2506.

# OSLER Trial

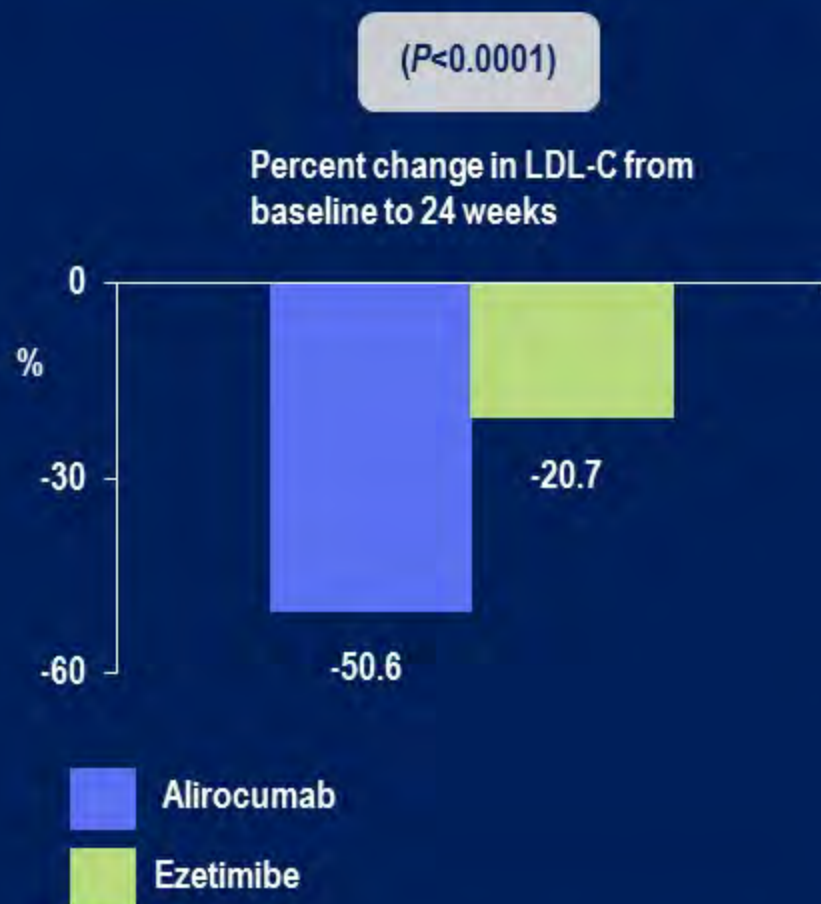
## Evolocumab on Cardiovascular Outcomes



TIA = transient ischemic attack; CHF = congestive heart failure; MI = myocardial infarction; UA = unstable angina

# Alirocumab: ODYSSEY COMBO II

## *Patients with High CV Risk and Max Statin Therapy*



### Results

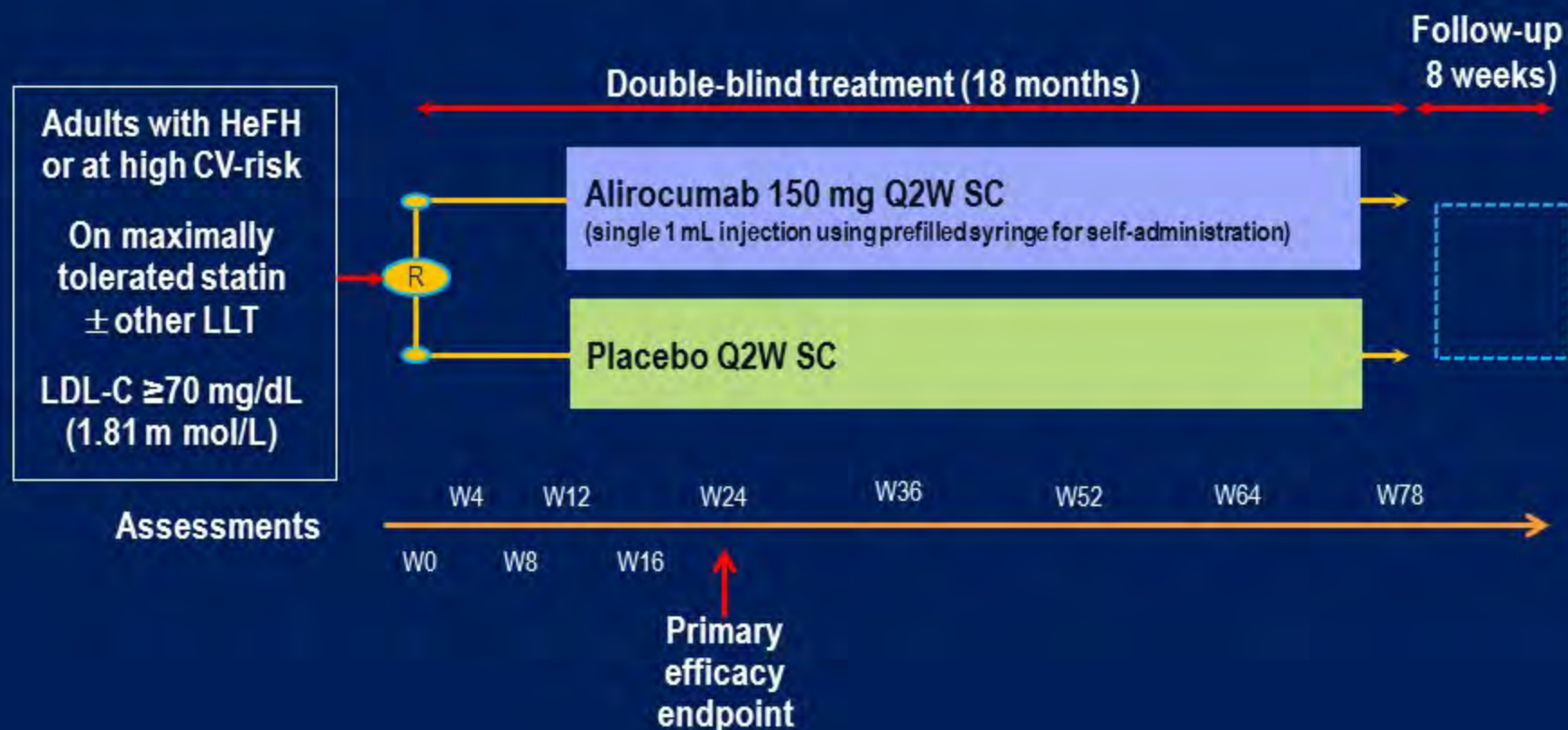
- From baseline to 24 weeks, the change in LDL-C: -50.6% for alirocumab vs -20.7% for ezetimibe ( $P < 0.0001$ )
- LDL-C was maintained at 52 weeks: 53 mg/dL with alirocumab vs 85 mg/dL with ezetimibe
- Treatment-emergent adverse events leading to drug discontinuation: 7.5% of the alirocumab group vs 5.4% of the placebo group

### Conclusions

- Among patients with high CV risk, alirocumab resulted in large reduction in LDL-C compared with ezetimibe, which was maintained to 52 weeks

# Alirocumab

## ODYSSEY Long Term: Study Design



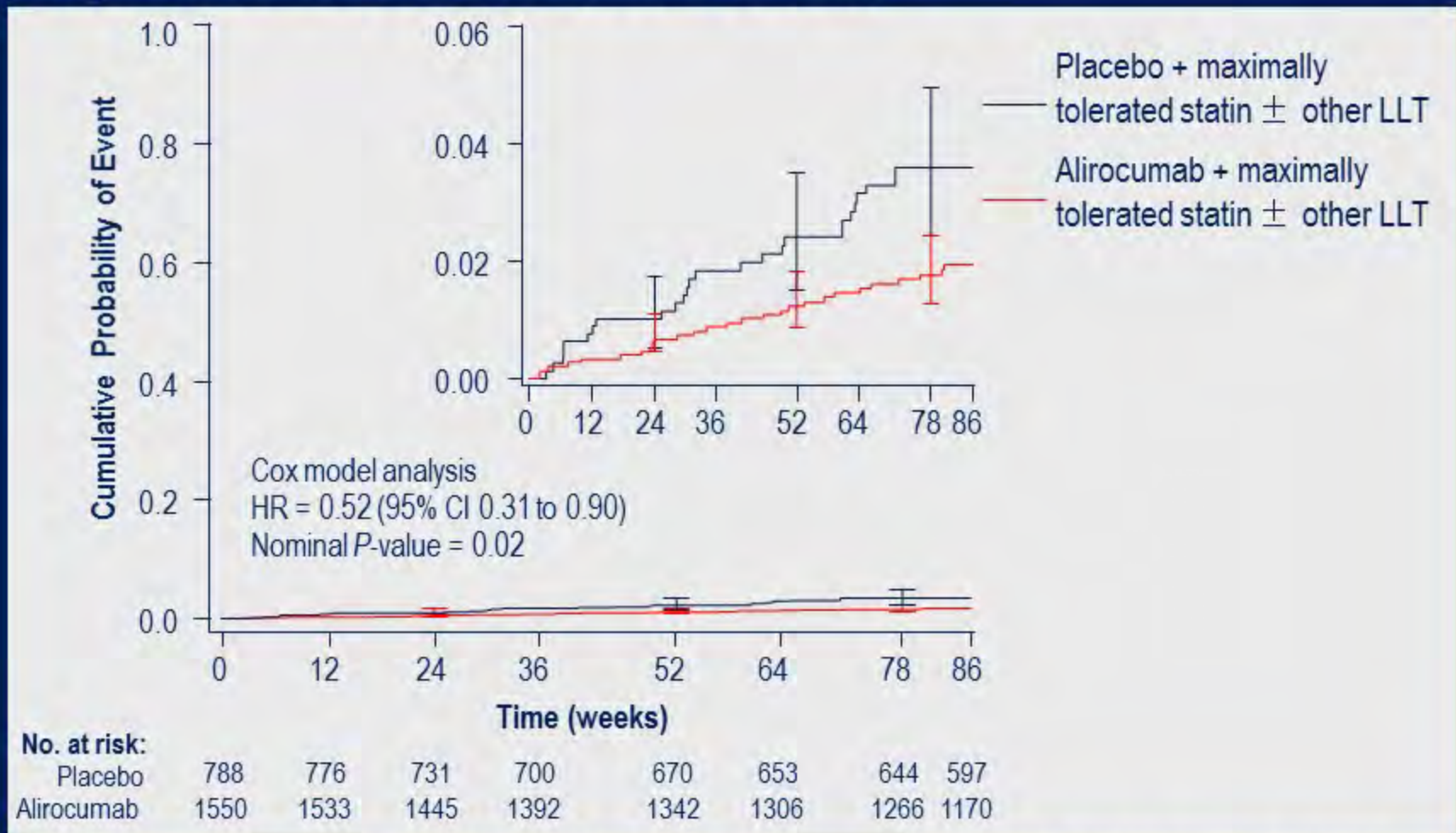
SC = subcutaneous; W = week

Robinson JG et al. *N Eng J Med*. 2015;372:1489-1499.

Rockpointe

# Alirocumab: Post hoc Analysis

## Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events\*



\*Based on primary endpoint for the ODYSSEY OUTCOMES trial, including CHD death, non-fatal MI, fatal and non-fatal ischemic stroke, and unstable angina requiring hospitalization. Unstable angina requiring hospitalization was considered based on strict criteria/clear progression of ischemia.

Robinson JG et al. *N Eng J Med*. 2015;372:1489-1499.

# Indications for Use of Alirocumab

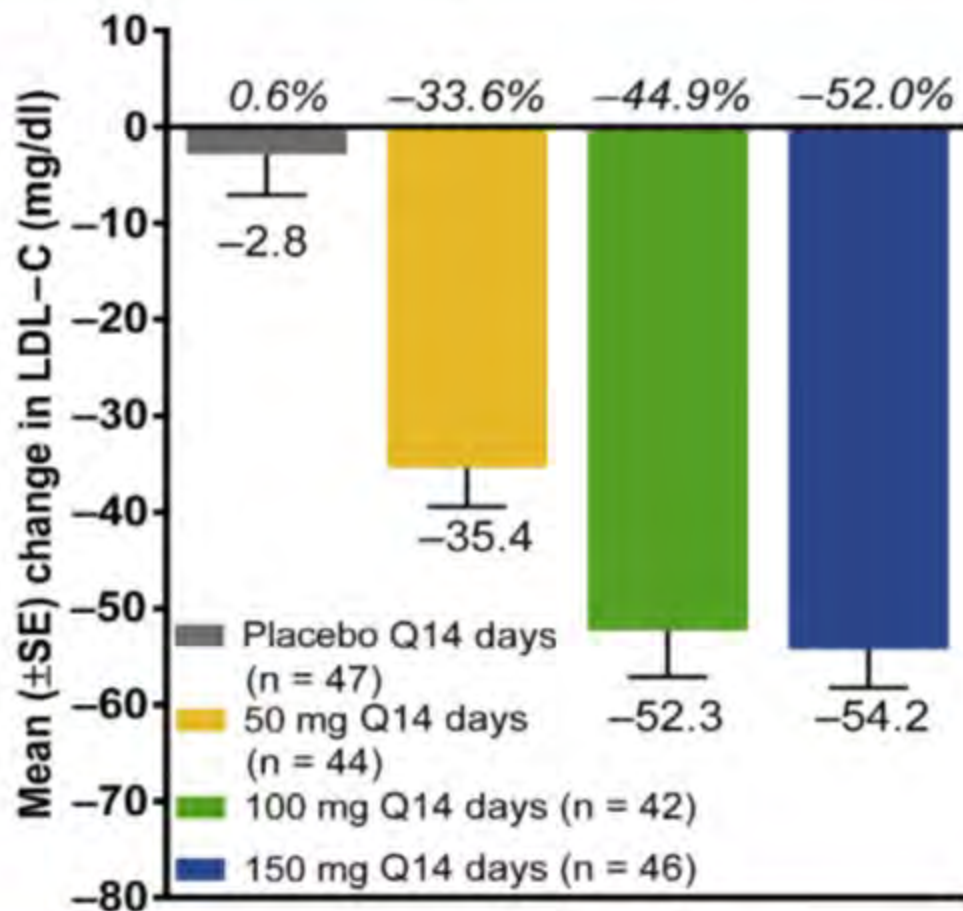
- Indicated as adjunct to diet and maximally tolerated statin therapy for the treatment of adults with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia or clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, who require additional lowering of LDL-C
- The effect of alirocumab on cardiovascular morbidity and mortality has not been determined

# Indications for Use of Evolocumab

- Primary Hyperlipidemia
  - Indicated as an adjunct to diet and maximally tolerated statin therapy for the treatment of adults with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HeFH) or clinical atherosclerotic CVD, who require additional lowering of LDL-C
- Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia
  - Indicated as an adjunct to diet and other LDL-lowering therapies (e.g. statins, ezetimibe, LDL apheresis) for the treatment of patients with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH) who require additional lowering of LDL-C

# Bococizumab

*Effect of 12 Weeks of SQ Dosing on LDL-C in Patients Receiving Stable Statin Therapy*



# PCSK9 Inhibitors

## Cardiovascular Outcomes Trials

|             | Alirocumab                                            | Evolocumab                                                                                                                | Bococizumab                                       |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Sponsor     | Sanofi/Regeneron                                      | Amgen                                                                                                                     | Pfizer                                            |
| Trial       | ODYSSEY Outcomes                                      | FOURIER                                                                                                                   | SPIRE I                                           |
| Sample Size | 18,000                                                | 28,000                                                                                                                    | 17,000                                            |
| Patients    | 4-16 weeks post-ACS                                   | MI, stroke, or PAD                                                                                                        | High risk of CV event                             |
| Statin      | Evidence-based Rx                                     | Atorvastatin $\geq 20$ mg or equivalent                                                                                   | Lipid-lowering Rx                                 |
| LDL-C       | $\geq 70$ mg/dL                                       | $\geq 70$ mg/dL                                                                                                           | 70-99 mg/dL                                       |
| Dosing (sc) | Every 2 weeks                                         | Every 2 or Every 4 weeks                                                                                                  | Every 2 weeks                                     |
| Endpoint    | CHD death, MI, ischemic stroke, or UA hospitalization | Primary: CV death, MI, stroke, UA hospitalization or coronary revascularization<br>Key Secondary: CV death, MI, or stroke | CV death, MI, stroke, or urgent revascularization |
| Completion  | February 2018                                         | November 2016                                                                                                             | June 2018                                         |

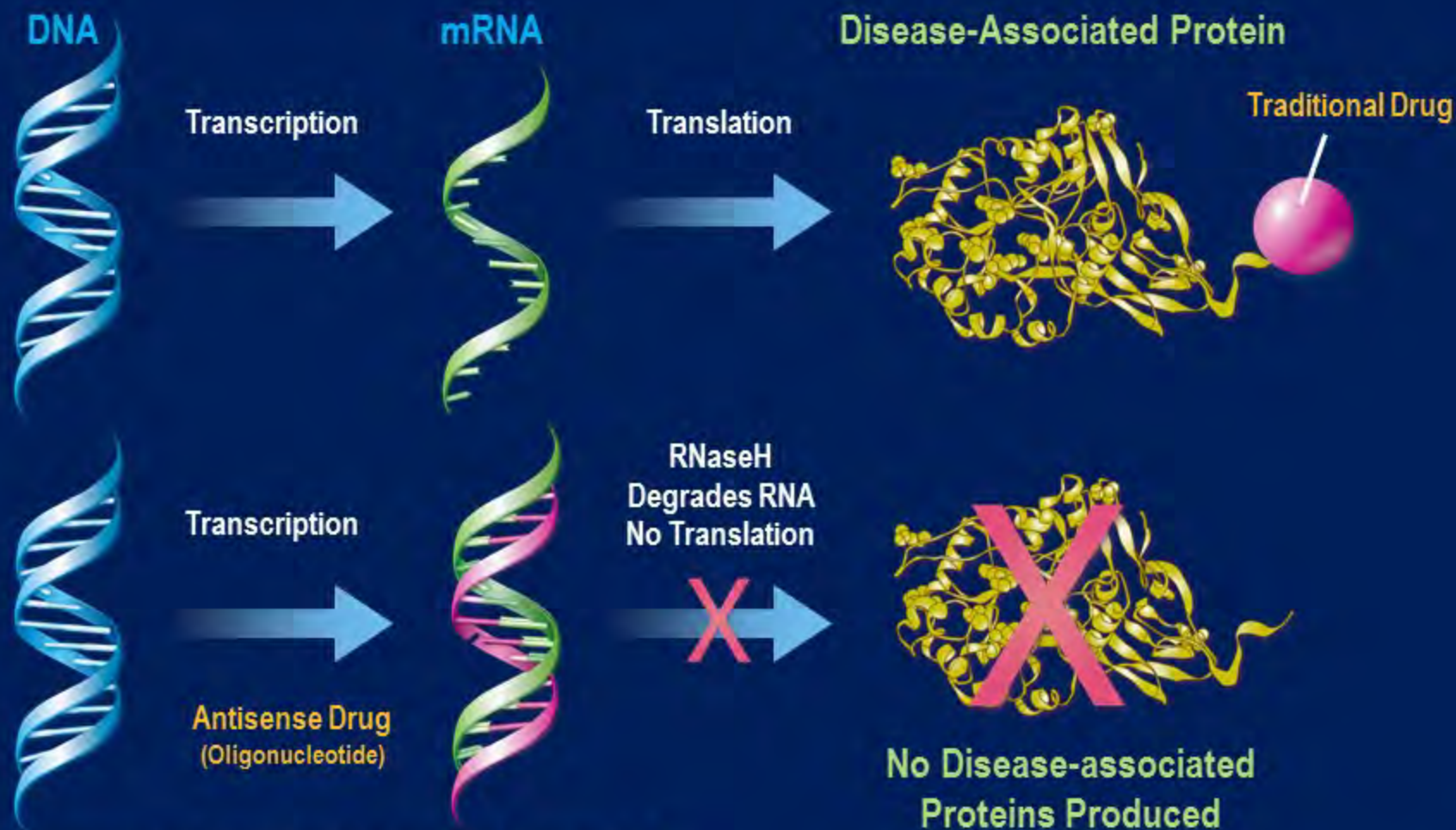
# Modulation of VLDL Production

*Mipomersen*

*Antisense Direct Inhibitor of Apo-B*

# A New Mechanism of Action

## Antisense Oligonucleotide



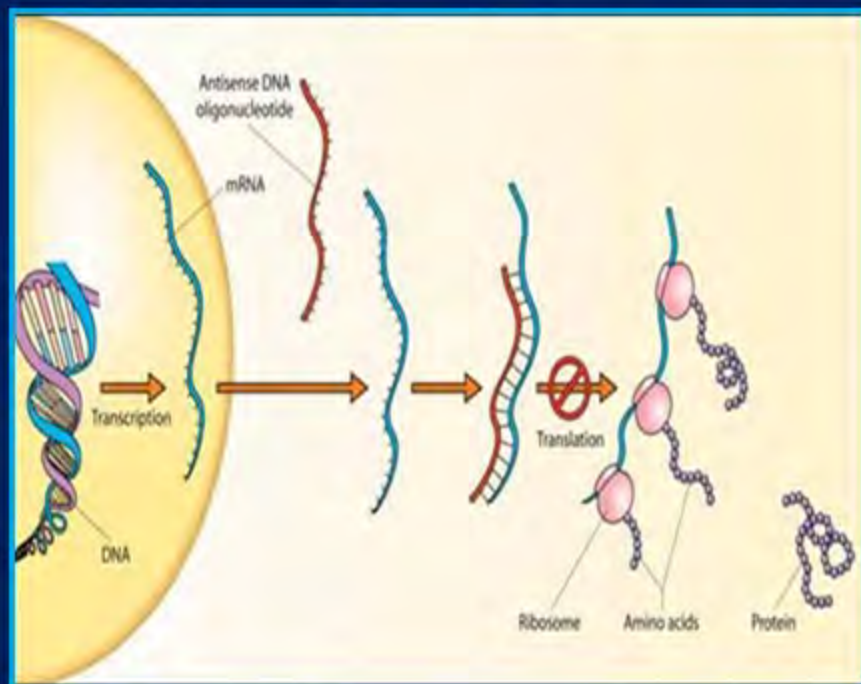
DNA = deoxyribonucleic acid; mRNA = messenger ribonucleic acid

Goldberg AC. *J Clin Lipidol*. 2010;4:350-356.

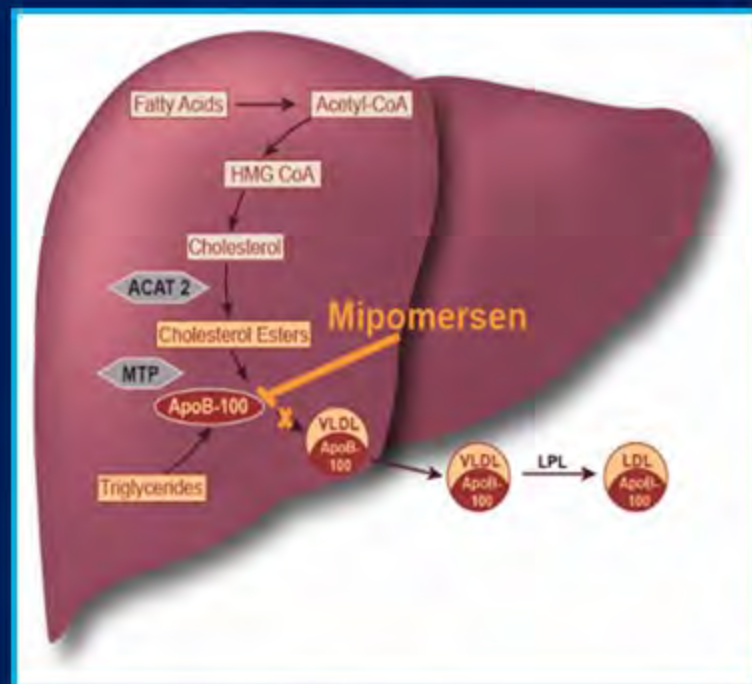
Rockpointe

# Mipomersen

ASO (Antisense Oligonucleotide)



- An apoB antisense mRNA blocking protein synthesis<sup>1</sup>



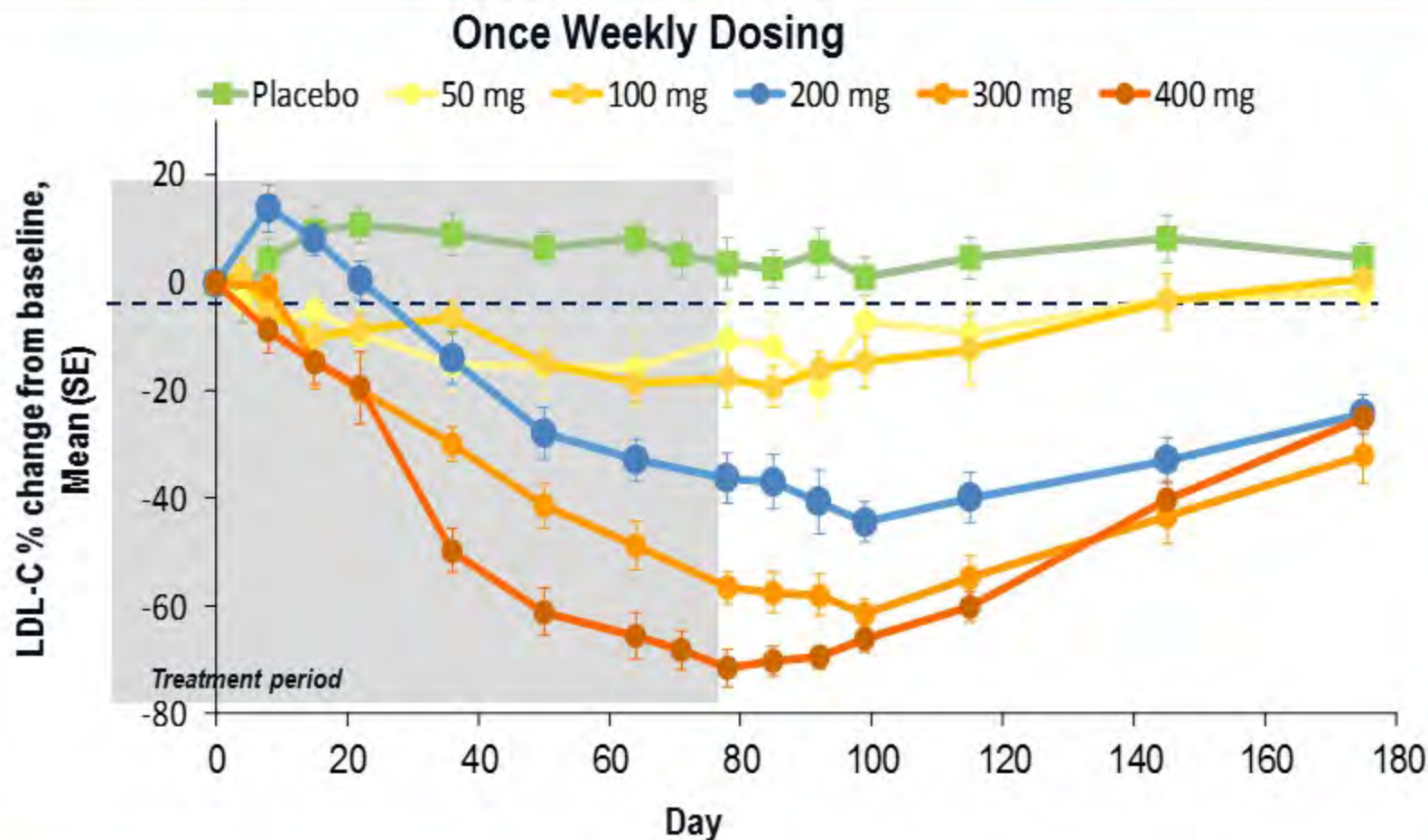
- ApoB-100 as target<sup>2</sup>
- Essential for the synthesis and transport of VLDL and LDL-C<sup>2</sup>
- Plays a critical role in lipid management<sup>2</sup>

1. Castanotto D, Rossi JJ. *Nature*. 2009;457:426-433.

2. Sjouke B et al. *Curr Cardiol Rep*. 2011;13:527-536.

# Phase II: Hypercholesterolemia, Monotherapy

## Dose-dependent Reduction of LDL-C



SE = standard error

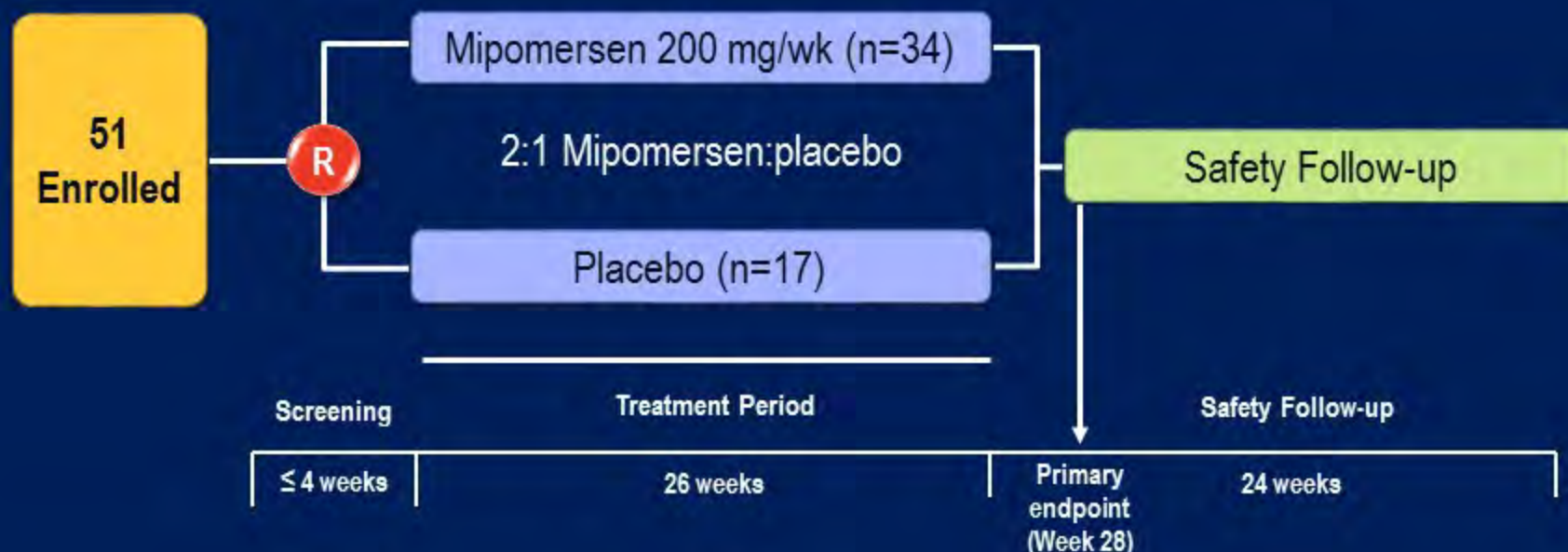
Akdim F et al. *Eur Heart J*. 2011;32:2650-2659.

Rockpointe

# Mipomersen

## Phase III Study Design in HoFH Patients

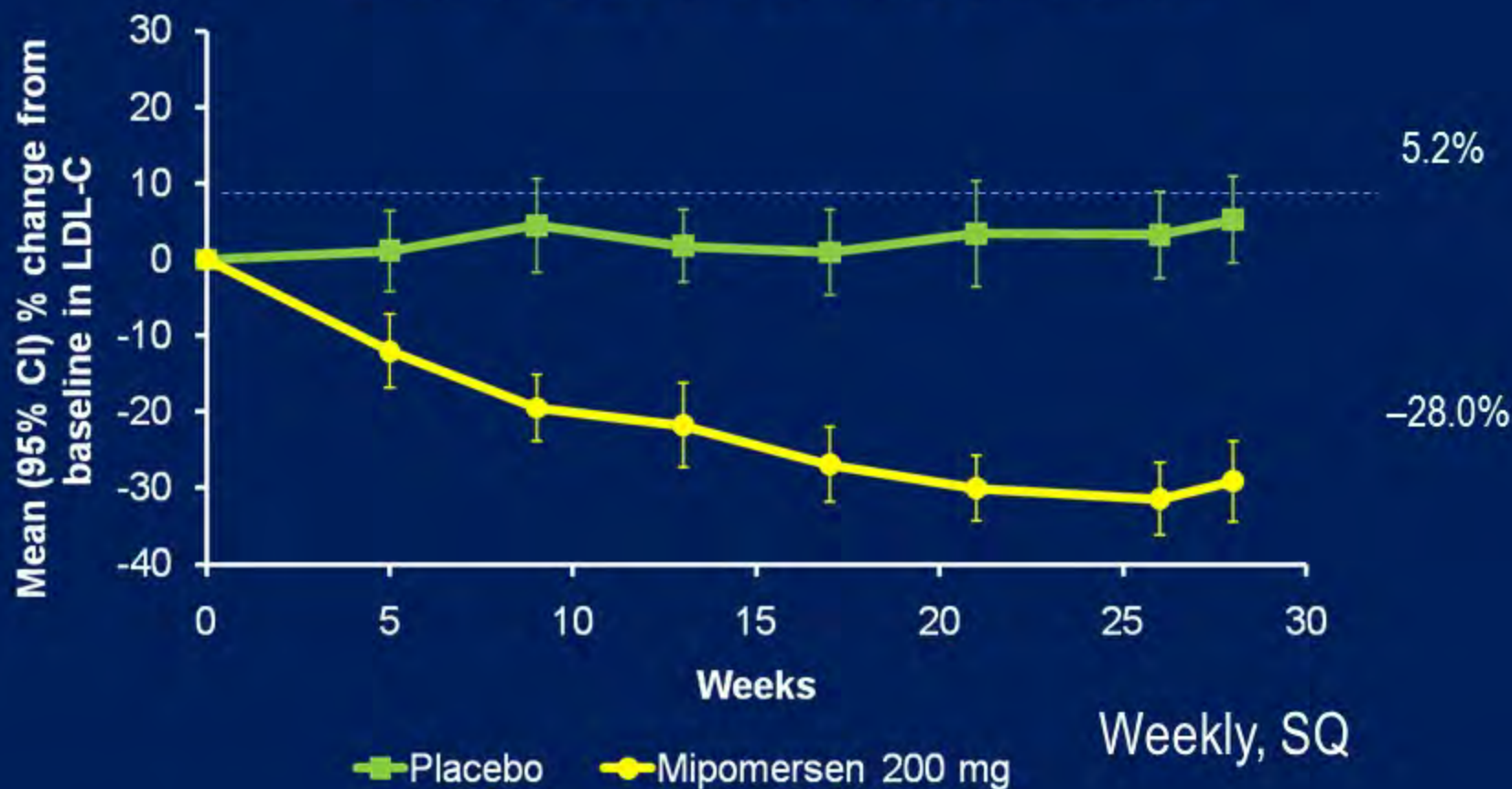
- Multi-national, randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind trial
- Mipomersen as an adjunct to lipid-lowering medications
- Weekly subcutaneous injections for 26 weeks
- Primary efficacy endpoint: % change in LDL-C from baseline at week 28



# Mipomersen

*Antisense Oligonucleotide for apoB-100*

## Effect on LDL-C over 28 Weeks of Treatment



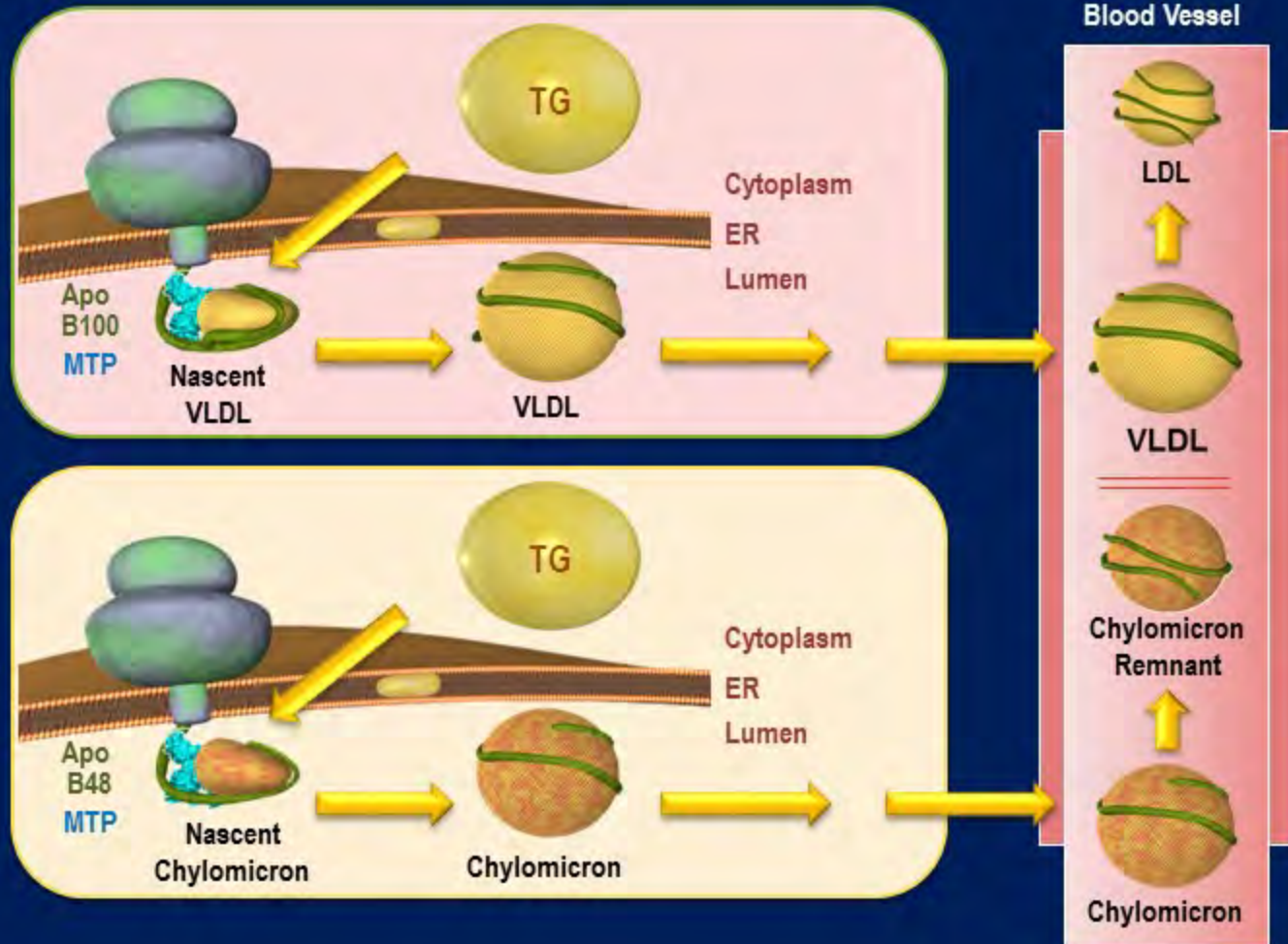
# Modulation of VLDL Production

*Lomitapide*

*Inhibitor of MTP (microsomal triglyceride transfer protein)*

# VLDL and Chylomicron Synthesis

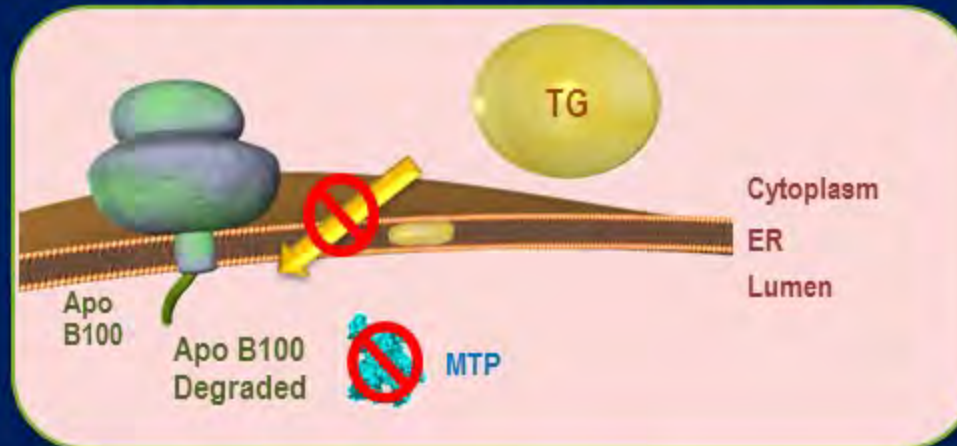
Liver Cell



# Lomitapide Inhibits MTP

*Microsomal Triglyceride Transfer Protein (MTP) Inhibitor*

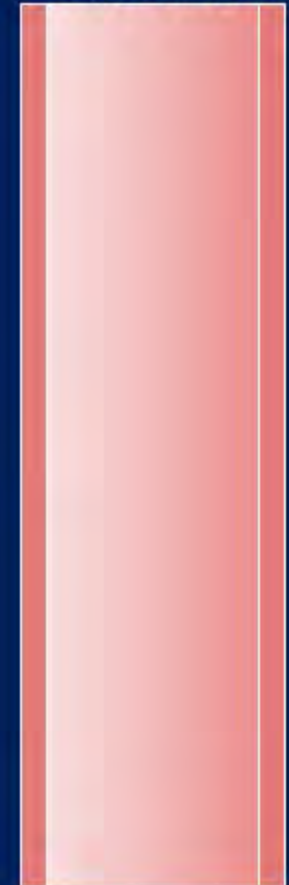
Liver Cell



Intestinal  
Epithelial  
Cell



Blood Vessel



# Lomitapide: Phase III Study Design



- Safety Phase: From Week 26-78
  - Continued maximum tolerated dose
  - Changes in concomitant LLTs allowed
  - Week 56 data submitted in NDA
- Extension study for patients who successfully completed the Phase III study
- 4-month safety report through week 78 and the extension study

# Lomitapide

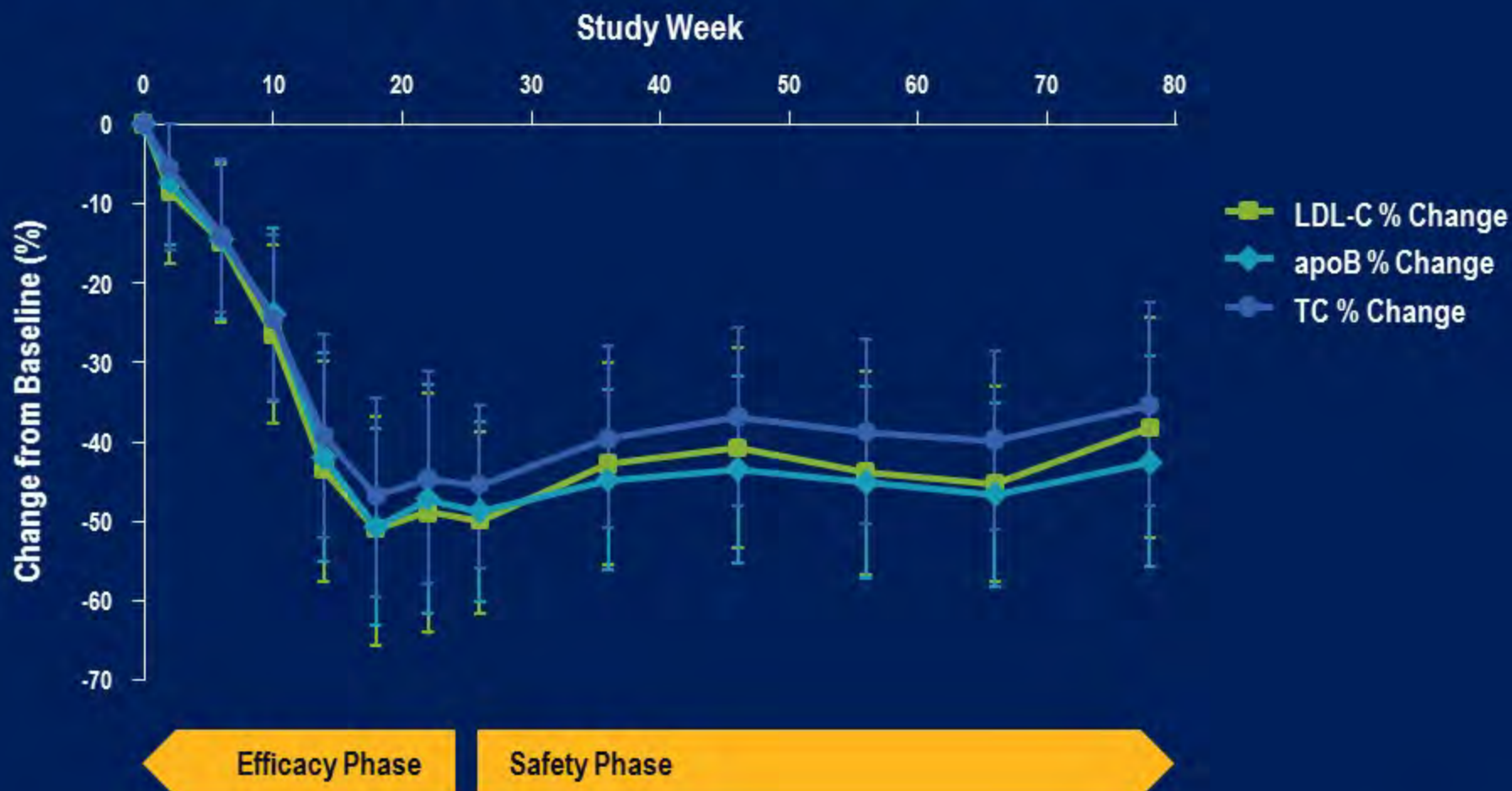
*Microsomal Triglyceride Transfer Protein Inhibitor*

Change in Lipid; No Background Therapy



# Lomitapide

## Long-term Effects in Patients with HoFH

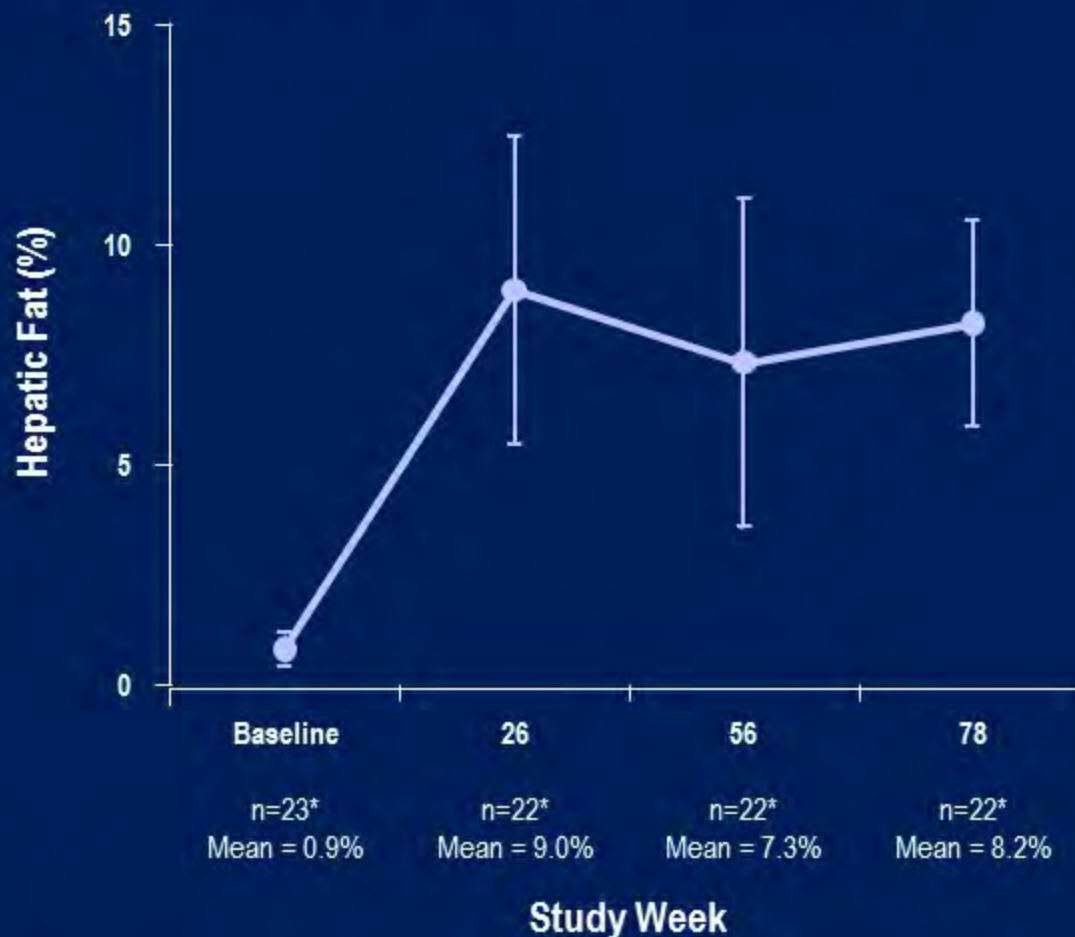


Data are mean, 95%CI (n=23)

Cuchel M et al. *Lancet*. 2013;381:40-46.

# Lomitapide HoFH Phase III Study

## Safety: Effects on Hepatic Fat Content



\*Fewer number of nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy reads due to patients with contraindication for MRI

# Conclusions

# Conclusions

- Despite significant reduction in LDL-C and CVD risk associated with statin use, considerable residual risk persists.
- The addition of ezetimibe to statins yields incremental but modest improvements in CVD risk.
- The addition of CETP inhibitors to statins have not demonstrated improvements in CVD risk to date.
- PCSK9 inhibitors represent the most promising new class of LDL-C lowering therapy and ongoing outcomes trials will help to determine the clinical utility of these agents.
- Direct and indirect inhibitors of apoB are FDA approved for adjunctive treatment of HoFH.

# Managing Severe or Resistant Hypercholesterolemia

The Next Generation of LDL-C Lowering Agents

*Thank you for joining us today!*

Please remember to complete the  
**EVALUATION FORM.**

Your participation will help shape future  
CME activities.