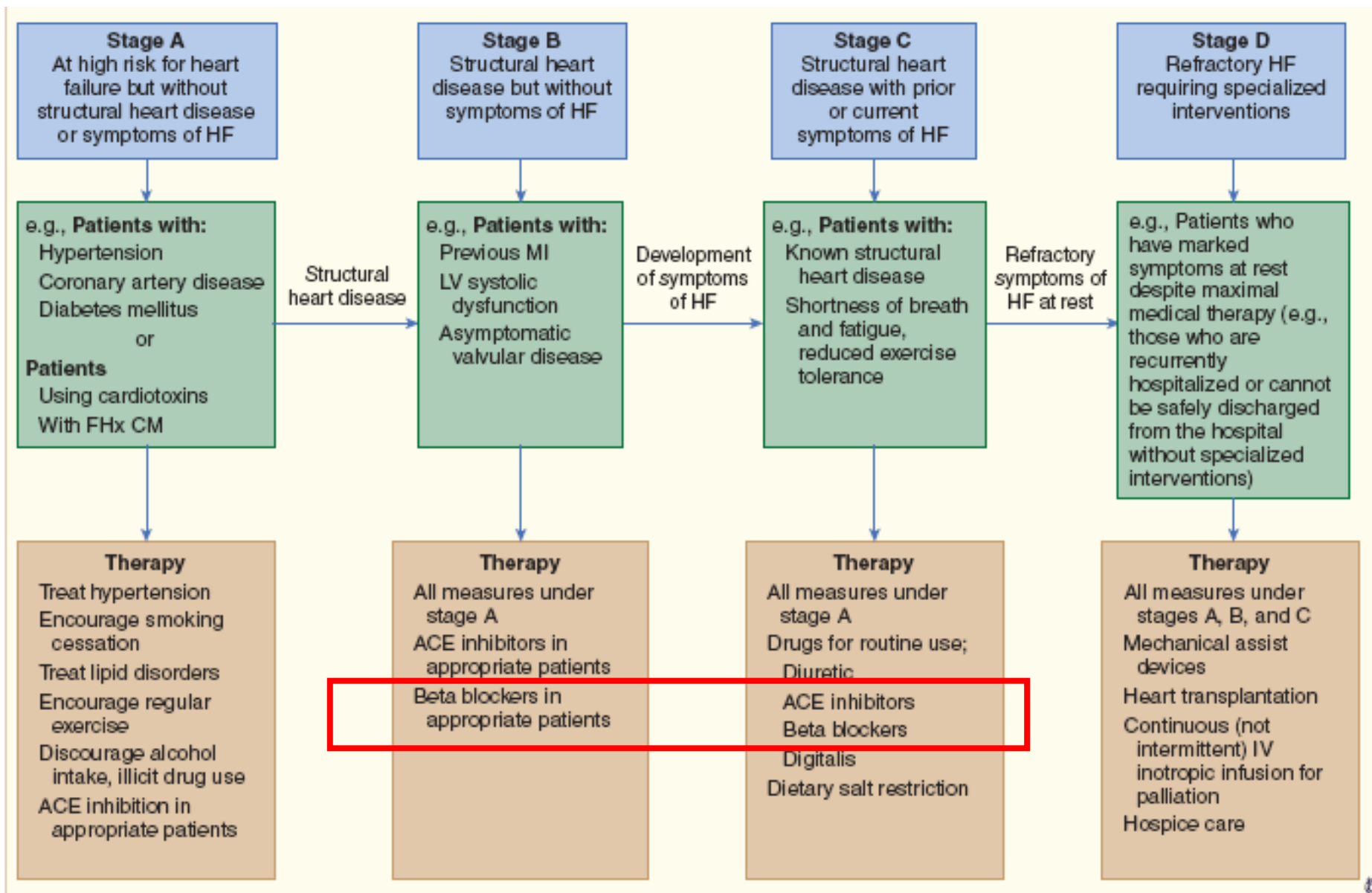


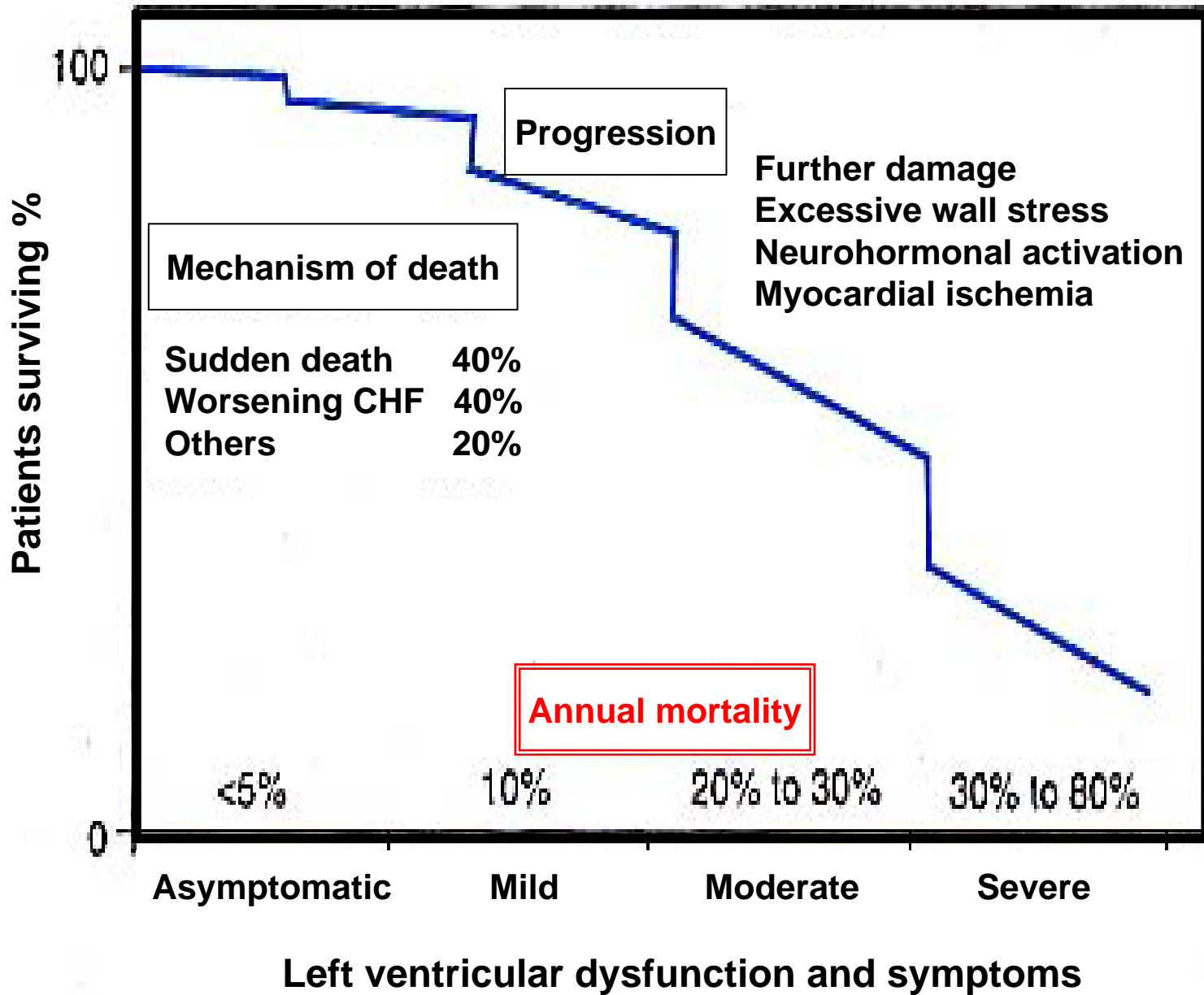
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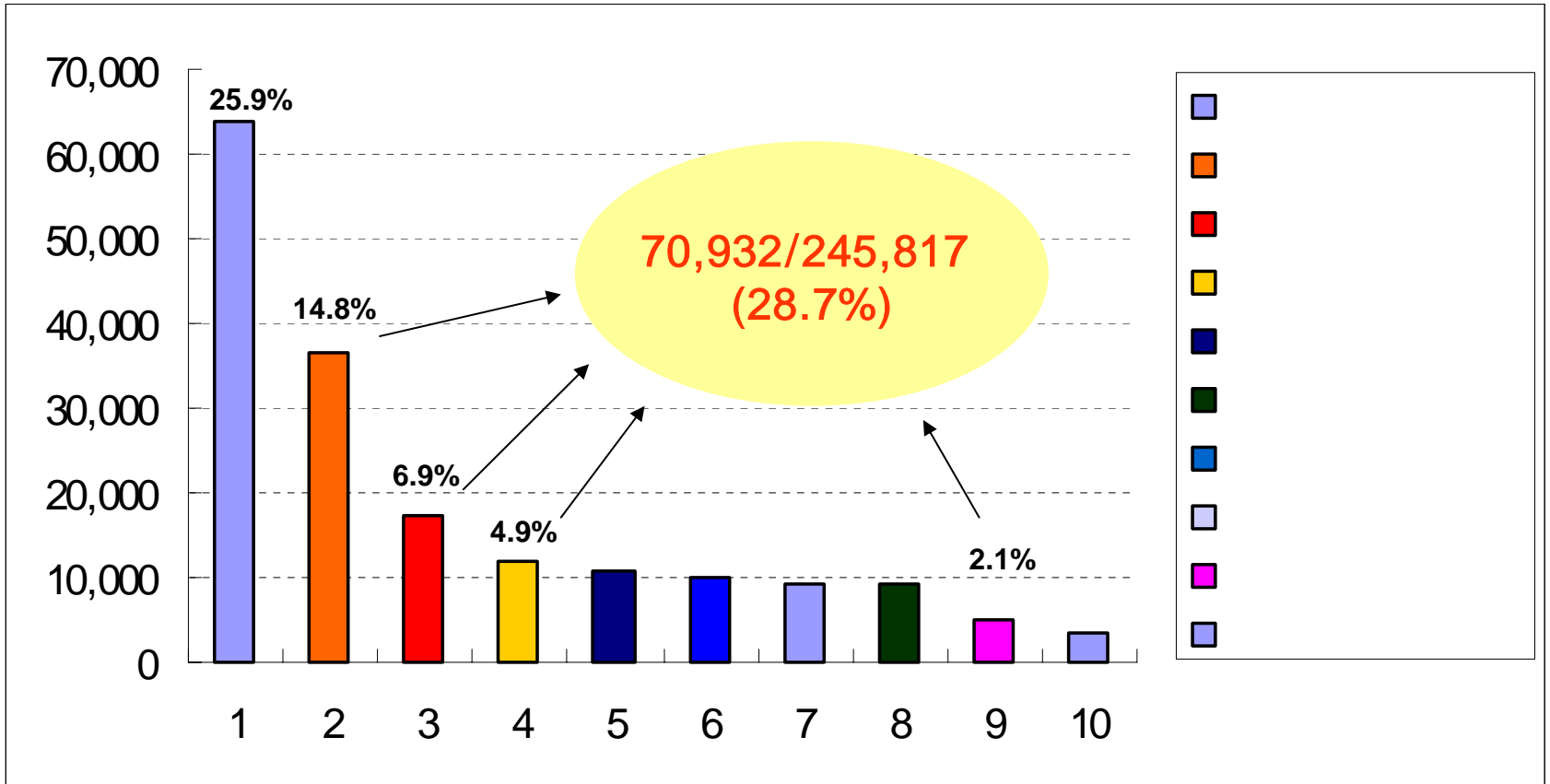
# Recommended Therapy by Heart Failure Stage



# Natural History of Heart Failure



# 2003



-

= 70,932/245,817 (28.7%)

# Neurohormonal Activation in LV Dysfunction

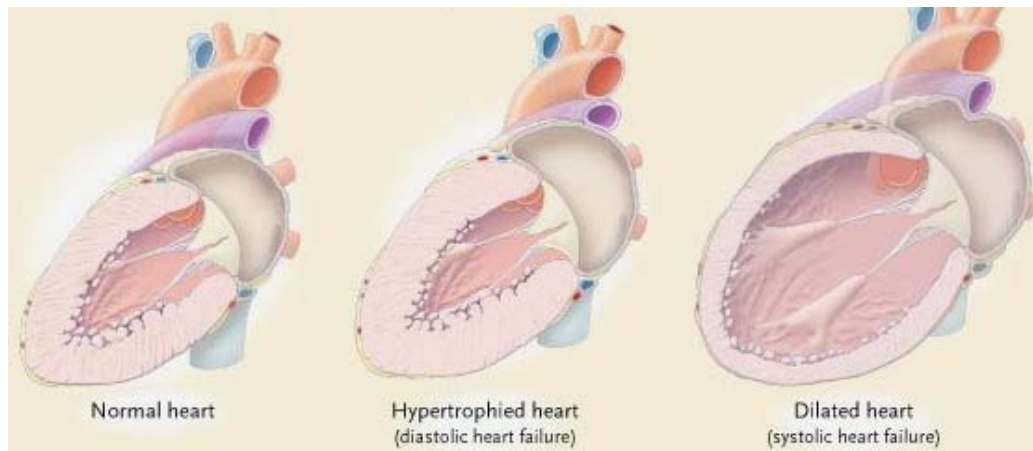
• **Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System**

• **Sympathetic Nervous System**

↑ **Angiotensin II**

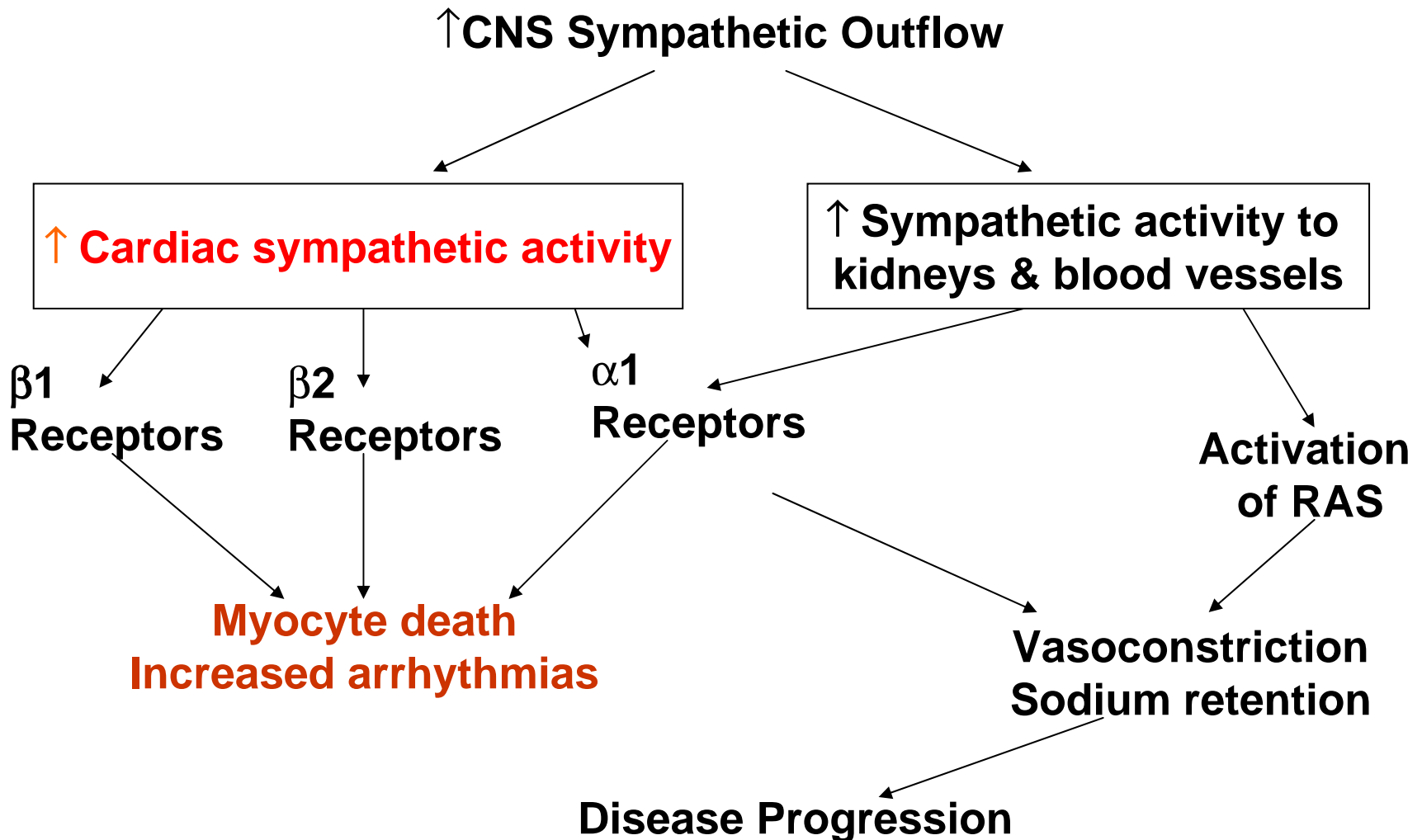
↑ **Norepinephrine**

Hypertrophy, Apoptosis, Ischemia, Arrhythmias, Remodeling, Fibrosis

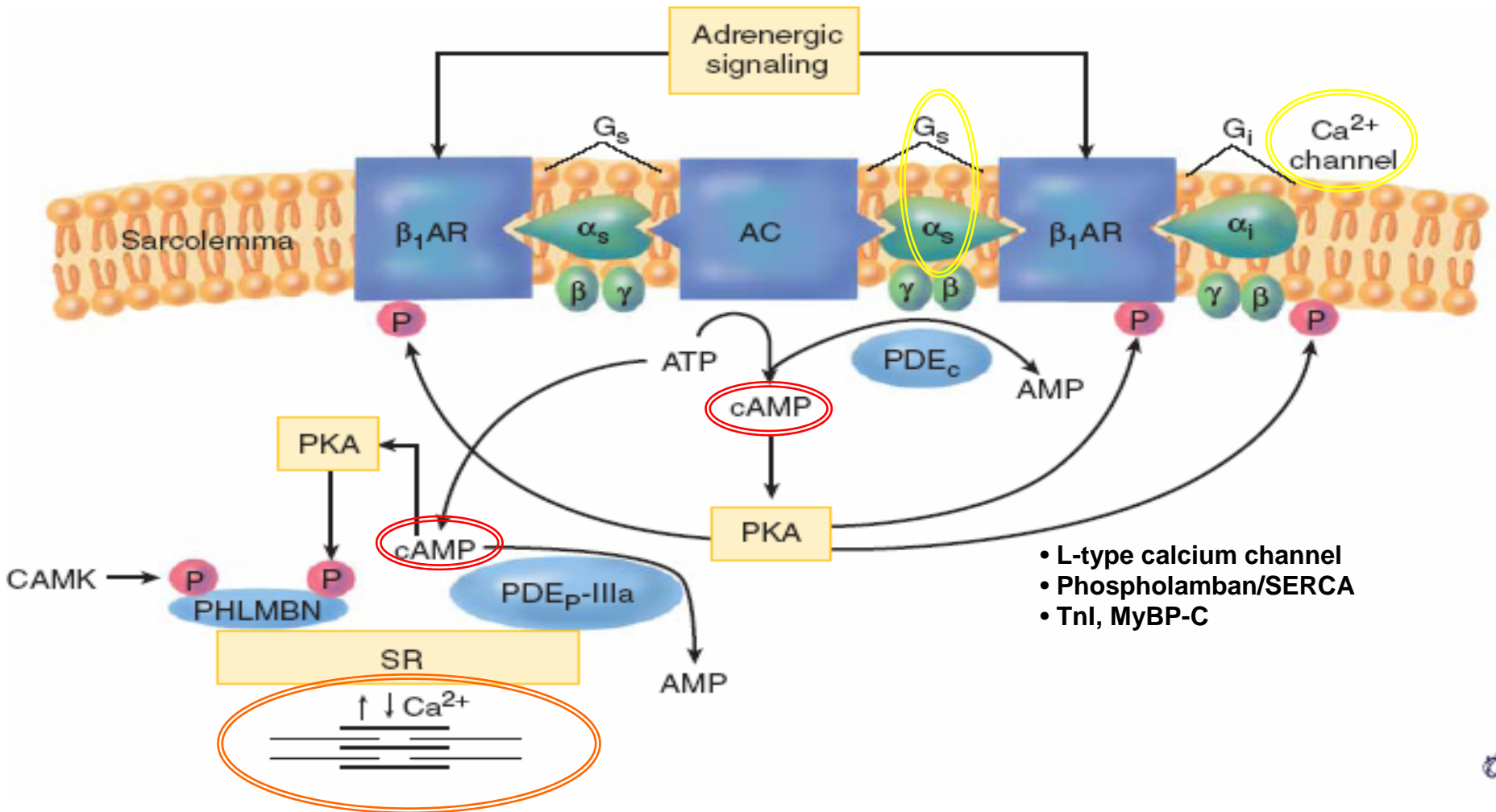


**Progressive LV Dysfunction  
Morbidity and Mortality**

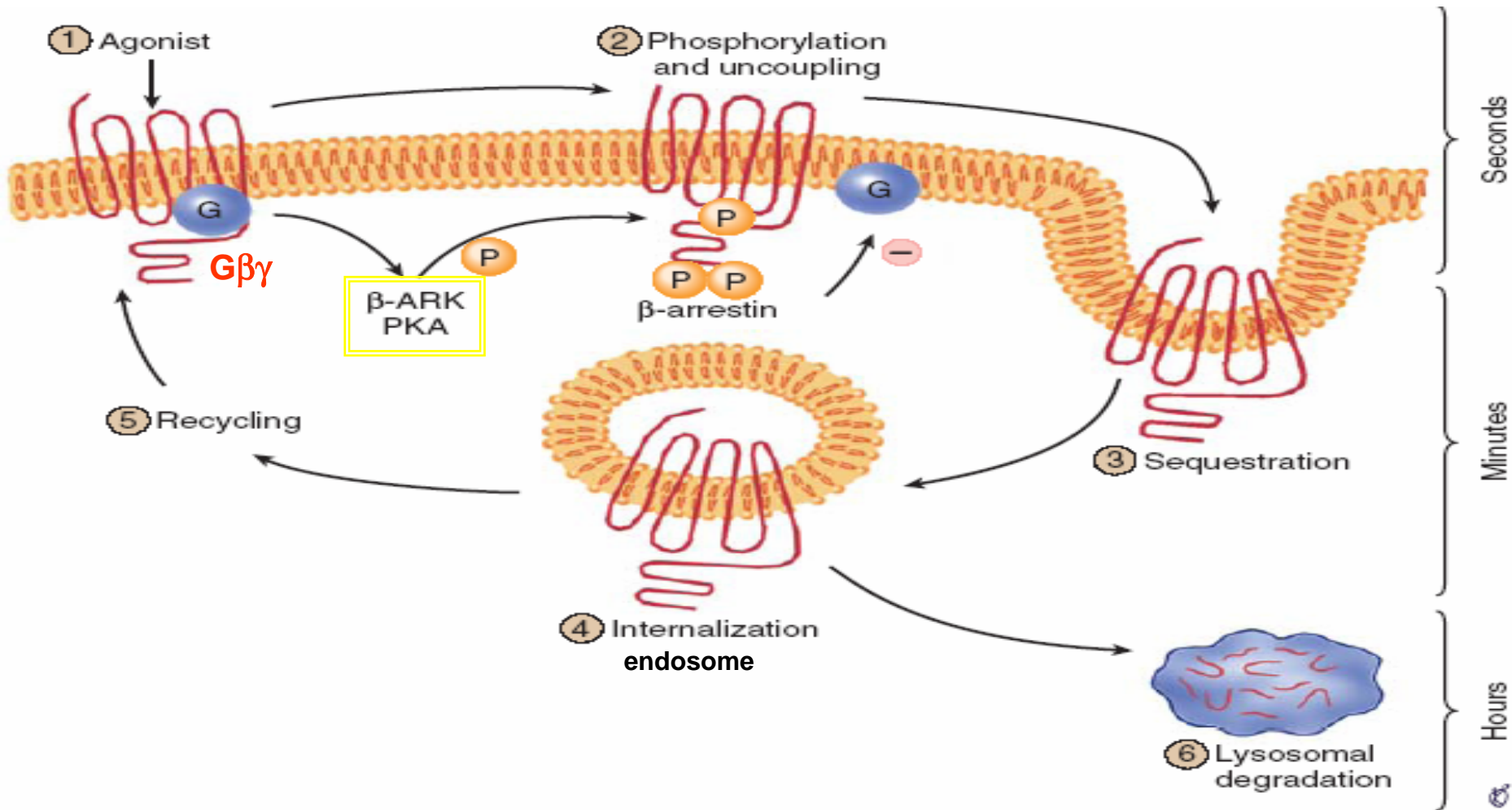
# Effect of Sympathetic Activation in Heart Failure



# Selected Components of the Cardiac Myocyte $\beta_1$ - and $\beta_2$ -adrenergic Receptor Pathways



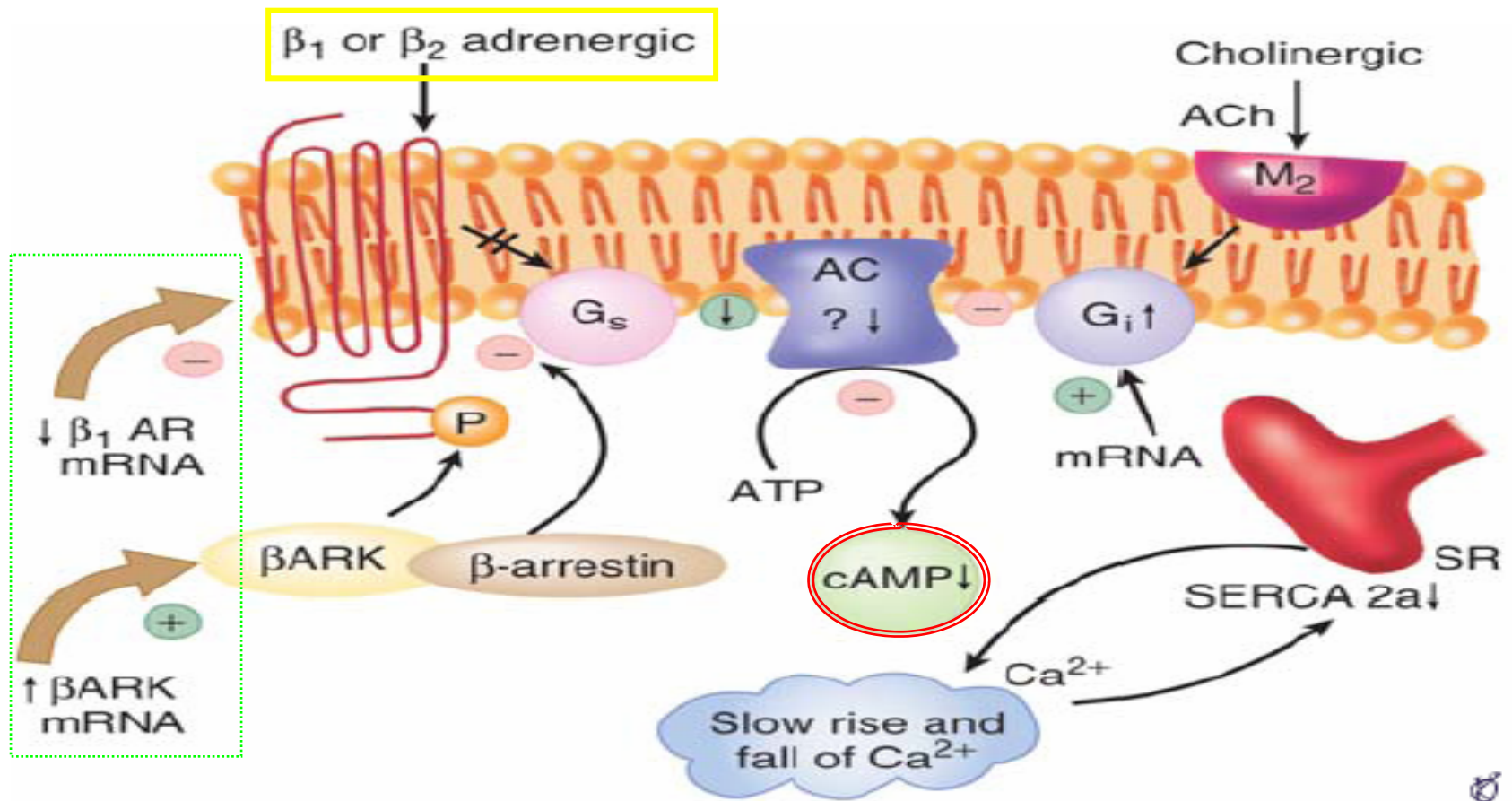
# Mechanisms of $\beta$ -adrenergic Receptor Desensitization and Internalization



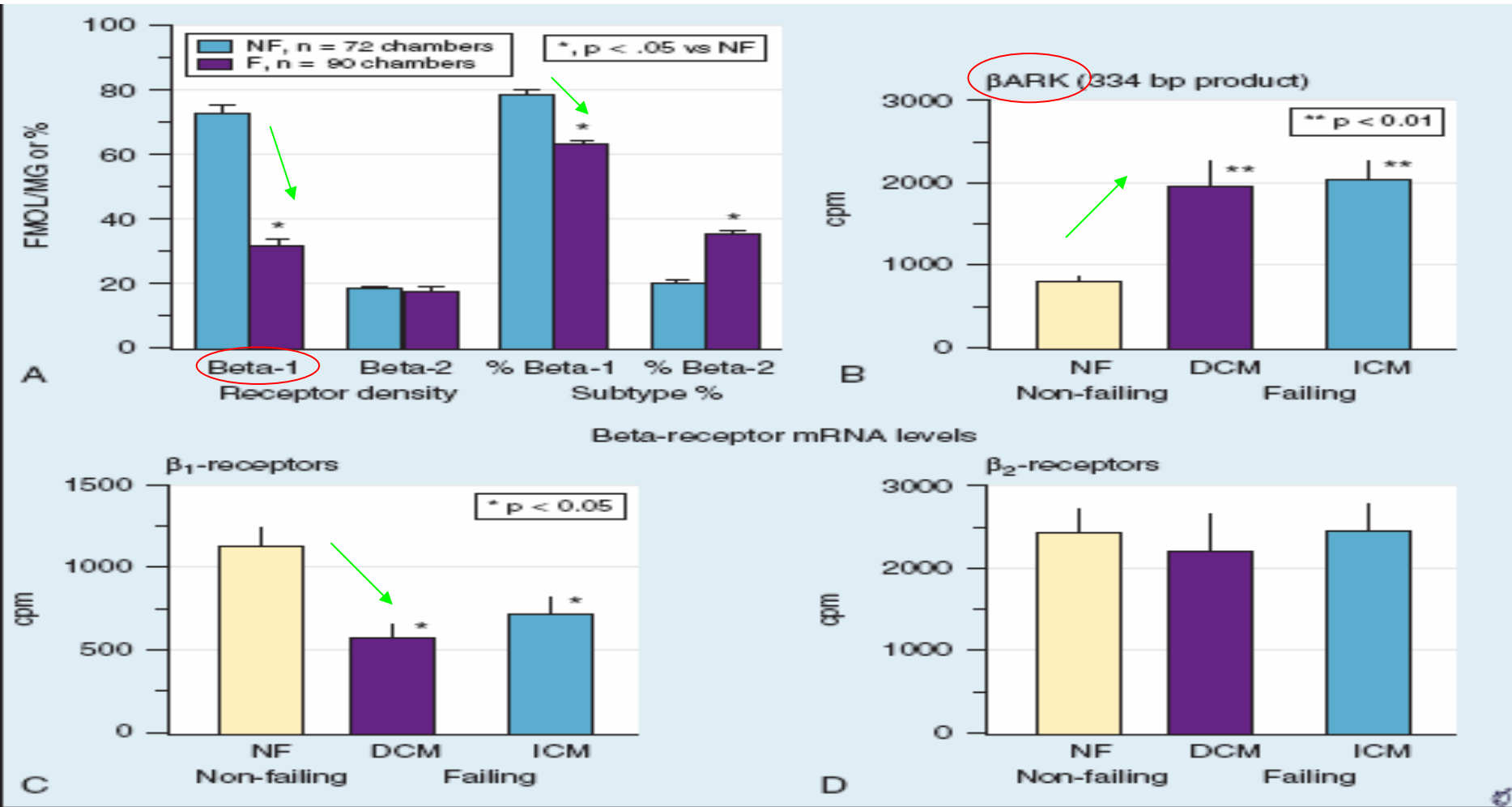
GRK family: GRK2 ( $\beta$ ARK1), GRK5 in heart



# Proposed Changes in $\beta$ -adrenergic Receptor Signal System and Sarcoplasmic Reticulum in Severe CHF



# Downregulation of $\beta$ -adrenergic Receptors in Myocardium from Patients with Heart Failure



# ♥ Beta receptor levels in heart failure

♥ Normal Heart                       $\beta_1$  80 :  $\beta_2$  20

♥ Severe Heart Failure            $\beta_1$  60 :  $\beta_2$  40

♥  $\beta_1$  receptors to selectively down-regulate  
secondary to high levels of catecholamine

♥  $\beta_2$  agonists retain full inotropic activity mediated  
through a  $\beta_2$  population that is not significantly  
decreased

# Biological Responses Mediated by Adrenergic Receptors in the Human Heart

| Biological Response            | Adrenergic Receptor Mediation          |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Positive inotropic response    | $\beta_1, \beta_2, \alpha_1$ (minimal) |
| Positive chronotropic response | $\beta_1, \beta_2$                     |
| Myocyte toxicity               | $\beta_1 \gg \beta_2$                  |
| Myocyte apoptosis              | $\beta_1$                              |
| Cardiac myocyte growth         | $\beta_1 \gg \beta_2, \alpha_1$        |
| Fetal gene induction           | $\beta_1 \gg \beta_2, \alpha_1$        |
| Proarrhythmic                  | $\beta_1, \beta_2, \alpha_1$           |

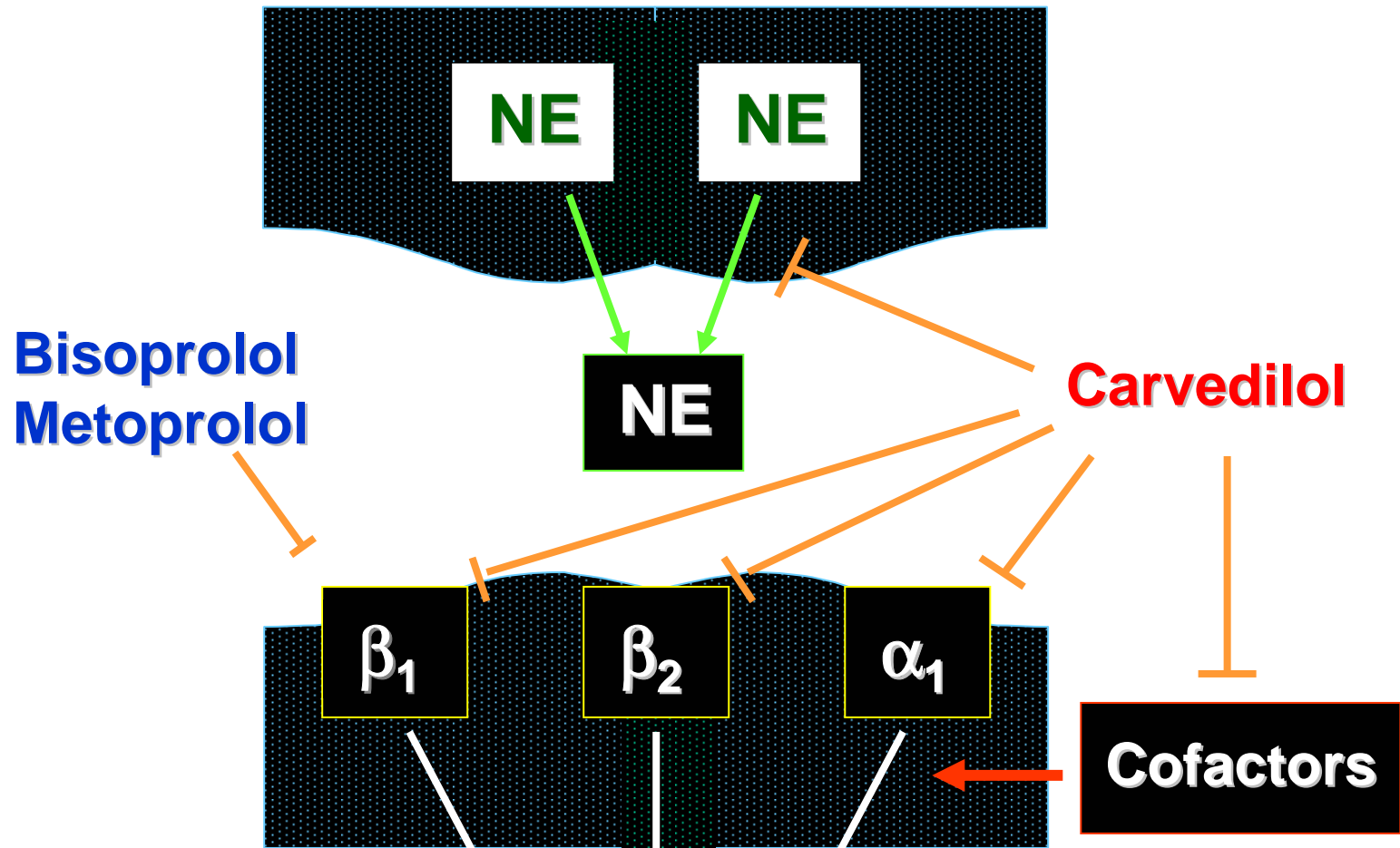
# Potential Beneficial Cellular Effects of $\beta$ -adrenergic Blocker Therapy in Heart Failure

- Upregulation of  $\beta_1$ -receptor
- Correction of **Gs** and **Gi** abnormalities
- Protection against **cytosolic Ca<sup>2+</sup> overload**
- Shift in metabolic substrate utilization from **Fatty acid to Glucose**
- Decrease in **Renin** release
- Prevention of **Myocyte hypertrophy**
- **Antioxidant** effect
- Decrease in **Apoptosis**
- **Antiarrhythmic** effects

## Adrenergic Receptor Blocking Affinities of $\beta$ -blocking Agents in Human Receptors

| Generation/ Class                  | Compound                      | $K(\beta_1)^{\dagger}$ (nM) | $K(\beta_2)$ (nM) | Beta <sub>1</sub> /Beta <sub>2</sub><br>Selectivity | $K(\alpha_1)$ (nM) | Beta <sub>1</sub> /Alpha <sub>1</sub><br>Selectivity |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| First/nonselective                 | Propranolol <sup>‡</sup>      | 4.1                         | 8.5               | 2.1   | —                  | —  |
| Second/selective beta <sub>1</sub> | Metoprolol                    | 45                          | 3,345             | 74  | —                  | —  |
|                                    | Bisoprolol                    | 121                         | 14,390            | 119   | —                  | —  |
| Third/beta blocker-<br>vasodilator | <u>Carvedilol<sup>‡</sup></u> | 4.0                         | 29                | 7.3   | 9.4                | 2.4  |
|                                    | Bucindolol <sup>‡</sup>       | 3.6                         | 5.0               | 1.4   | 238                | 66 (19)*   |
|                                    | Nebivolol                     | 0.7                         | 225               | 352   | 330                | 471  |

# Effects of Different $\beta$ Blocking Agents



**Cardiac cell toxicity**

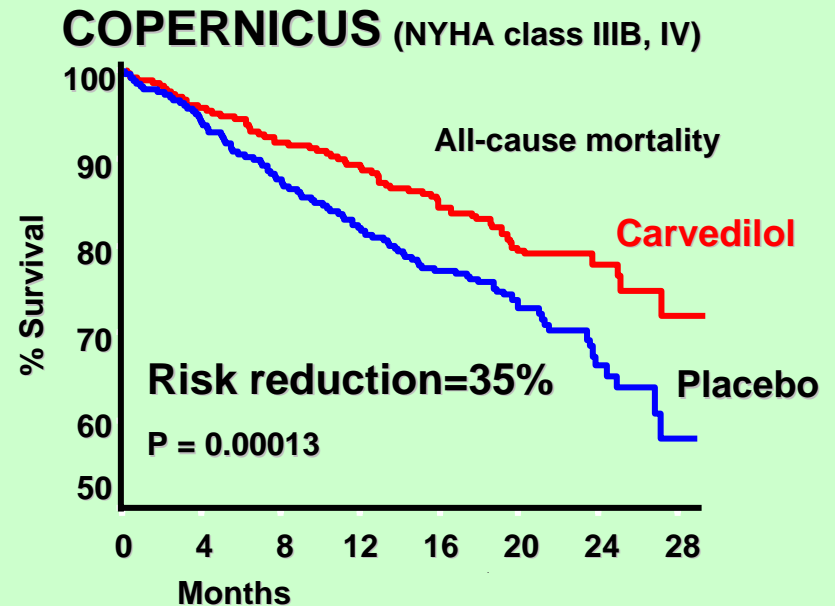
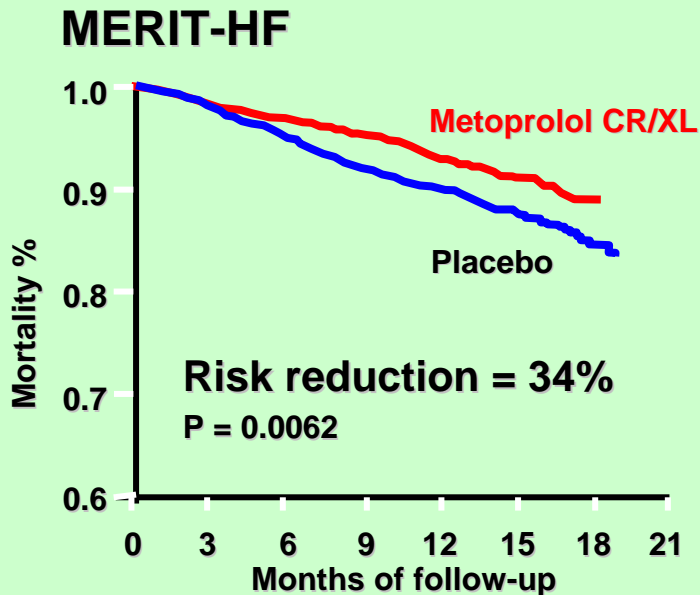
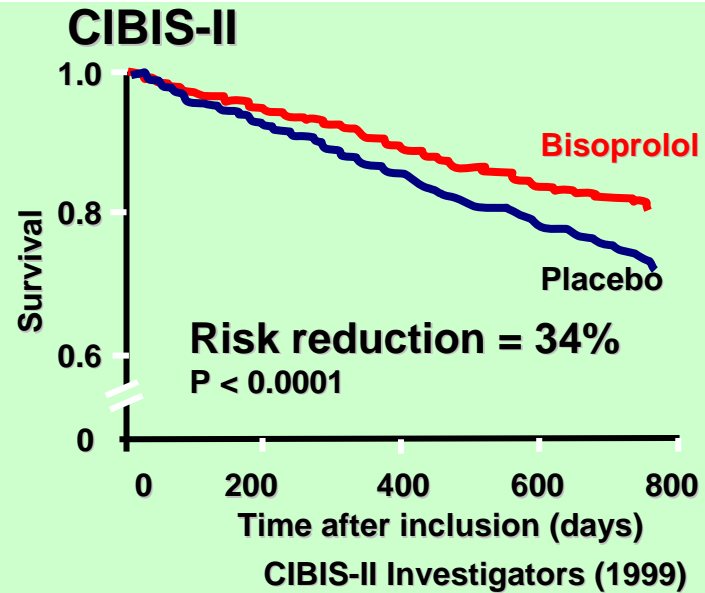
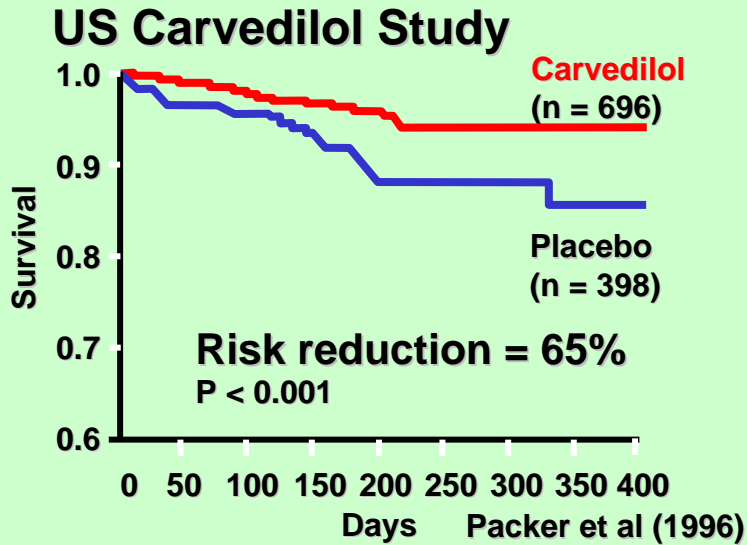
# β blocker Trials Conducted in Chronic Heart Failure

| Trial Name                             | Agent         | NYHA Class  | Heart Failure Stage, 1-4* | No. of Subjects Enrolled | 12-Month Placebo Mortality (%) | 12-Month Effect Size (%) |
|--|---------------|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Stage 2 Populations of Patients</b> |               |             |                           |                          |                                |                          |
| CIBIS-I                                | Bisoprolol    | “III,IV”    | 2                         | 641                      | 11                             | ↓20                      |
| Carvedilol U.S.                        | Carvedilol    | II,III      | 2                         | 1,094                    | 10                             | ↓66                      |
| CIBIS-II                               | Bisoprolol    | “III,IV”    | 2                         | 2,647                    | 13                             | ↓33                      |
| MERIT-HF                               | Metoprolol CR | II-IV       | 2                         | 3,991                    | 11                             | ↓35                      |
| <b>Stage 3 Populations of Patients</b> |               |             |                           |                          |                                |                          |
| BEST                                   | Bucindolol    | III,IV      | 3                         | 2,708                    | 17                             | ↓10 <sup>†</sup>         |
| COPERNICUS                             | Carvedilol    | “Severe HF” | 3                         | 2,289                    | 18                             | ↓38                      |
| Beta blocker totals                    |               | II-IV       | 2-3                       | 13,370                   | 14                             | ↓32                      |
| <b>Post-MI Populations of Patients</b> |               |             |                           |                          |                                |                          |
| CAPRICORN                              | Carvedilol    | I           | 1                         | 1,959                    | 11                             | ↓23                      |
| BEAT                                   | Bucindolol    | I           | 1                         | 343                      | 21                             | ↓12                      |

BEAT=bucindolol evaluation in acute myocardial infarction trial; BEST=Beta Blocker Evaluation of Survival Trial; CAPRICORN= Carvedilol Post-Infarct Survival Control in Left Ventricular Dysfunction; CIBIS= Cardiac Insufficiency Bisoprolol Study; COPERNICUS= Carvedilol Prospective Randomized Cumulative Survival; MERIT-HF= Metoprolol CR/XL Randomized Interventional Trial in Congestive Heart Failure; NYHA= New York Heart Association.



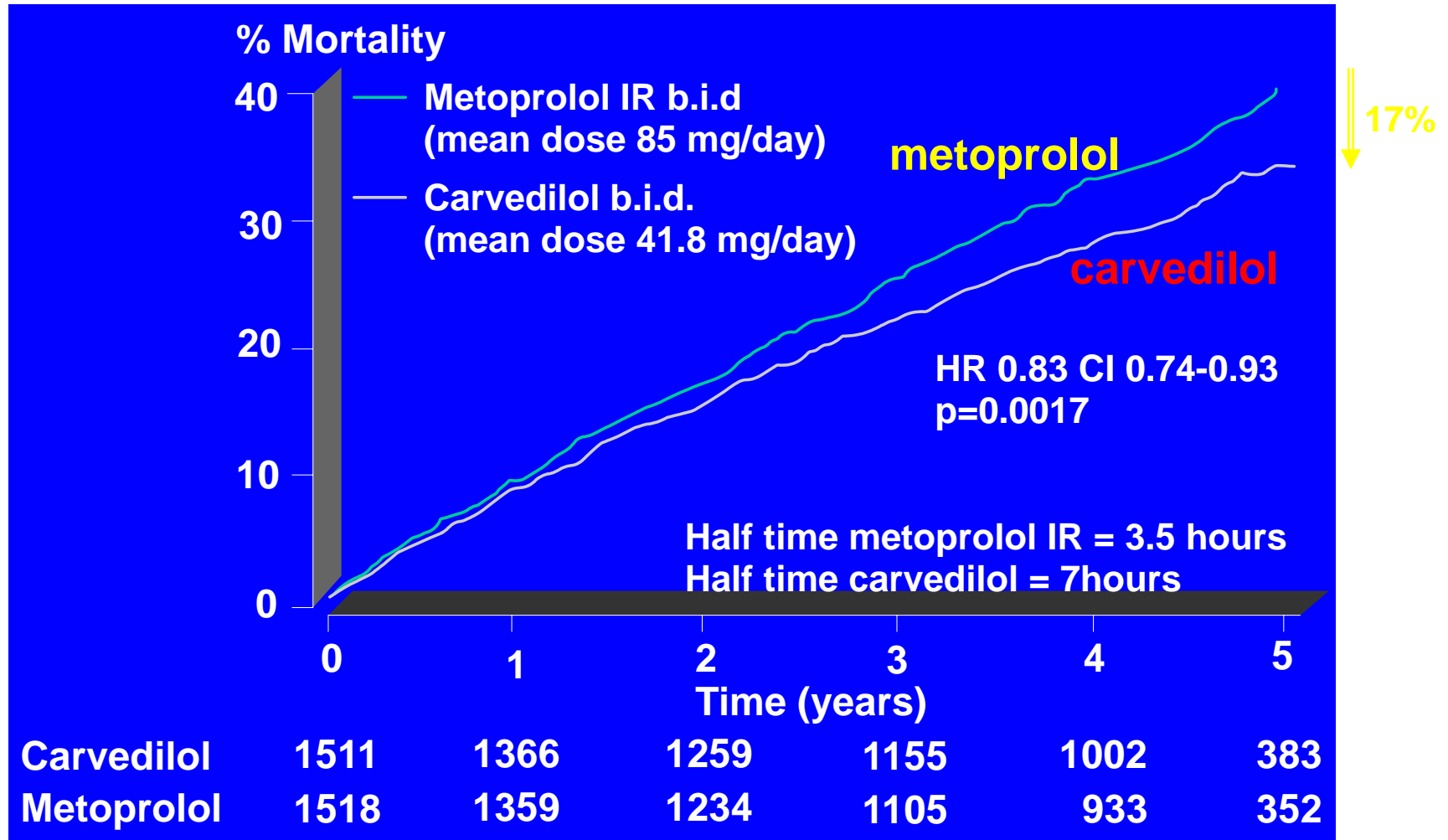
# b blockers in CHF: All-cause Mortality



The MERIT-HF Study Group (1999)

Packer et al. NEJM (2001)

# Comparison Carvedilol – Metoprolol IR in Congestive Heart Failure: COMET Trial



## Class Clinical Effects of $\beta$ -adrenergic Blocking Agents in Chronic Heart Failure

| Effect                                   | Studies  | Beta Blockers   |
|--|--|---|
| Reduction in total mortality             | CIBIS-II, MERIT-HF, COPERNICUS                 | Metoprolol CR/XL, bisoprolol, carvedilol                                  |
| Reduction in CV mortality                | CIBIS-II, MERIT-HF, COPERNICUS, BEST           | Metoprolol CR/XL, bisoprolol, carvedilol, bucindolol                      |
| Reduction in CV or HF hospitalizations   | MDC, MERIT-HF, CIBIS-II, U.S. Carvedilol, BEST | Metoprolol tartrate, metoprolol CR/XL, bisoprolol, carvedilol, bucindolol |
| Improved HF symptoms                     | MDC, MERIT-HF, CIBIS-II, U.S. Carvedilol       | Metoprolol tartrate, metoprolol CR/XL, bisoprolol, carvedilol             |
| Reduced need for cardiac transplantation | MDC, BEST                                      | Metoprolol tartrate, bucindolol   |
| Reduction in myocardial infarction       | BEST   | Bucindolol  |

BEST = Beta Blocker Evaluation of Survival Trial; CIBIS = Cardiac Insufficiency Bisoprolol Study; COPERNICUS = Carvedilol Prospective Randomized Cumulative Survival; CV = cardiovascular; HF = heart failure; MDC = Metoprolol in Dilated Cardiomyopathy; MERIT-HF = Metoprolol CR/XL Randomized Interventional Trial in Congestive Heart Failure.

# β blockers Prolong Survival in Elderly with Heart Failure

|                    |                         |                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Parameter</b>   | <b>Elderly, n=4617</b>  | <b>Nonelderly, n=8112</b> |
| <b>RR (95% CI)</b> | <b>0.76 (0.64-0.90)</b> | <b>0.66 (0.52-0.85)</b>   |

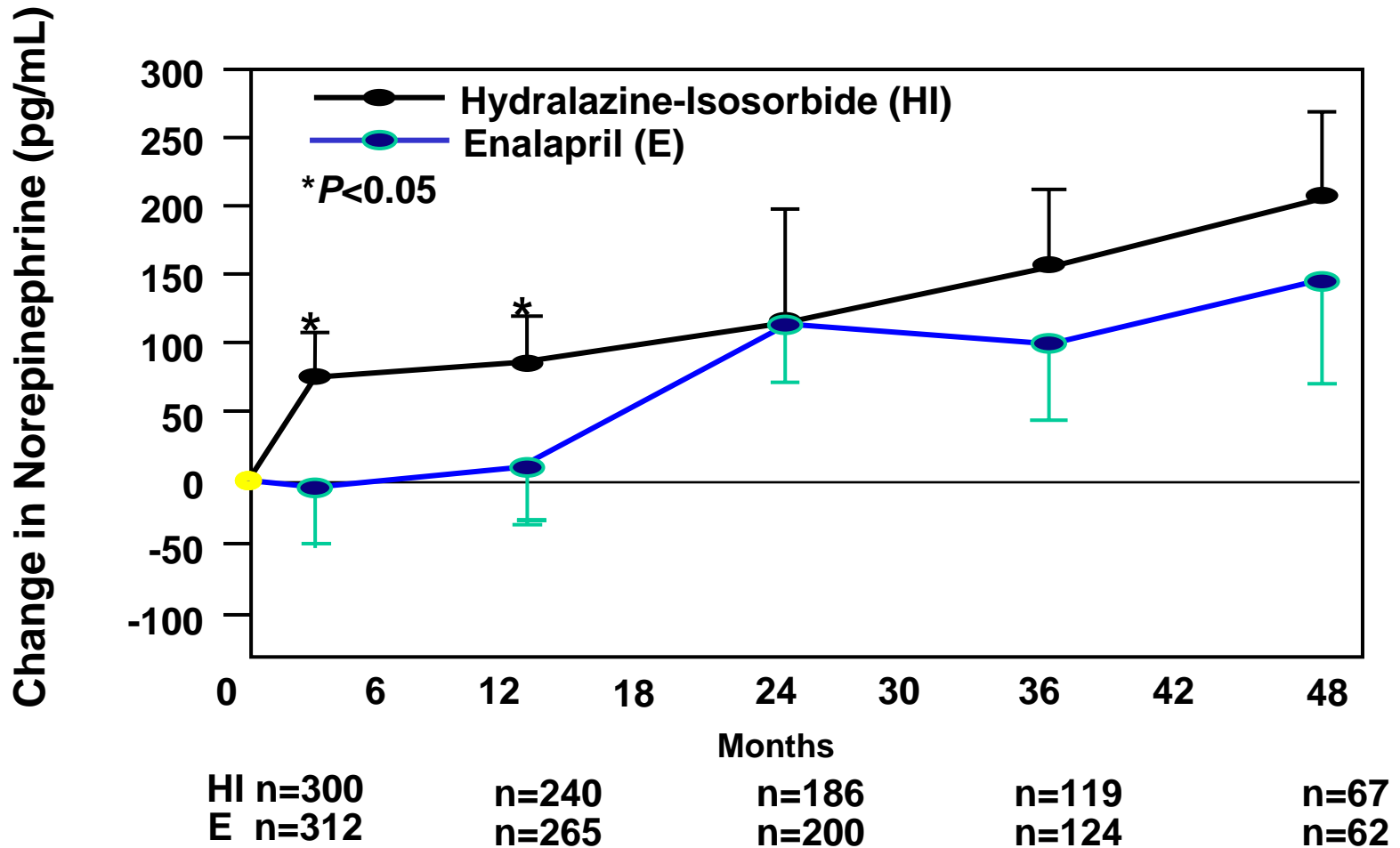
| <b>Trial<br/>(β blocker used)</b>            | <b>n</b>    | <b>NHYA<br/>Class</b> | <b>LVEF<br/>(%)</b> | <b>Duration<br/>(months)</b> | <b>Definition<br/>of elderly</b> |
|--|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>BEST<br/>(bucindolol)</b>                 | <b>2708</b> | <b>3-4</b>            | <b>&lt;35</b>       | <b>24</b>                    | <b>65 years</b>                  |
| <b>Carvedilol US trials<br/>(carvedilol)</b> | <b>1094</b> | <b>2-4</b>            | <b>&lt;35</b>       | <b>6.5<br/>(median)</b>      | <b>59 years</b>                  |
| <b>CIBIS-2<br/>(bisoprolol)</b>              | <b>2647</b> | <b>3-4</b>            | <b>&lt;35</b>       | <b>15.6</b>                  | <b>71 years</b>                  |
| <b>COPERNICUS<br/>(carvedilol)</b>           | <b>2289</b> | <b>3-4</b>            | <b>&lt;25</b>       | <b>10.4</b>                  | <b>65 years</b>                  |
| <b>MERIT-HF<br/>(metoprolol)</b>             | <b>3991</b> | <b>2-4</b>            | <b>&lt;40</b>       | <b>12</b>                    | <b>Upper tertile*</b>            |

## Starting and Target Doses for $\beta$ Blockers

| Agent                   | Starting Dose        | Target Dose <75-85 kg | Target Dose $\geq$ 75-85 kg |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Metoprolol CR/XL        | 12.5 or 25 mg PO qd* | 200 mg PO qd          | 200 mg PO qd                |
| Bisoprolol <sup>†</sup> | 1.25 mg PO qd        | 5 mg PO qd            | 10 mg PO qd                 |
| Carvedilol              | 3.125 mg PO b.i.d.   | 25 mg PO b.i.d.       | 50 mg PO b.i.d.             |

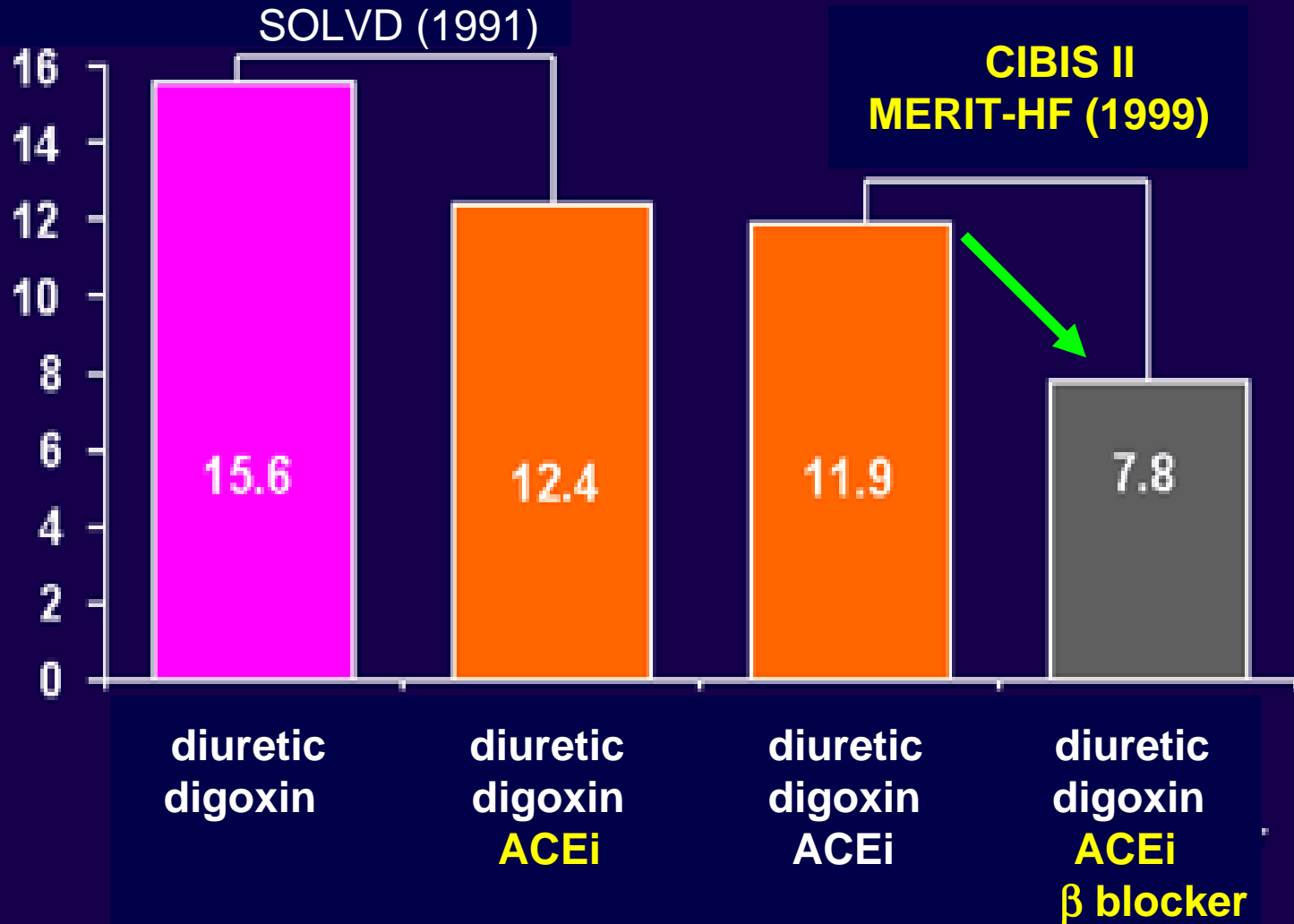
\*Starting dose should be half of above if disease is Class III or IV or if the patient has severe right-sided heart failure or is tenuous.

# Progressive Adrenergic Activation Despite Use of ACE Inhibitors



# Mortality Benefit of $\beta$ Blockers and ACEIs in CHF Trials

% death at 1 year



## Medical Therapies Proven to Reduce Death in Cardiovascular Disease

| Therapy      | Indication | # pts  | Reduction in deaths* |          |
|--------------|------------|--------|----------------------|----------|
|              |            |        | Relative             | Absolute |
| Aspirin      | MI         | 19,077 | 23%                  | 2.3%     |
| Thrombolysis | MI         | 58,000 | 18%                  | 1.8%     |
| Beta blocker | MI         | 28,970 | 13%                  | 1.3%     |
| ACEI         | MI (early) | 98,500 | 7%                   | .5%      |
| ACEI         | MI (late)  | 15,100 | 17%                  | 2.8%     |
| Statins      | 2nd prev   | 17,617 | 23%                  | 2.7%     |
| ACEI         | 2nd prev   | 9297   | 17%                  | 1.9%     |
| Beta blocker | CHF        | 12,385 | 26%                  | 4%       |
| Spirolactone | CHF        | 1663   | 30%                  | 11%      |
| ACEI         | CHF        | 12,763 | 20%                  | 3.8%     |



# Beta blockers in HF

- **Stable patients with mild to moderate symptoms without significant congestion**
- **Additional benefit even in severe but stable HF and post-MI LV dysfunction**
- **Carvedilol** seems better than metoprolol
- **Not always beneficial with all kinds of  $\beta$  blockers and study populations**

# **Limitations of $\beta$ -blocker Therapy in Chronic Heart Failure**

- **Contraindications to  $\beta$ -blockade such as reactive airway disease, sinus node or conduction system disease with bradycardia and advanced HF with hemodynamic decompensation**
- **Initiation of therapy and uptitration of  $\beta$  blocking agent can be difficult**
- **Some patient do not respond to  $\beta$  blockade; not yet clear mechanism**



# Alterations in $\beta$ -adrenergic Pathway in the Failing Heart

