

# **Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death in Postinfarct Patients**

**Kwang Soo Cha, MD, FACC, FSCAI**

Dong-A University Medical Center  
Busan, South Korea

# **Case: M, 74 yr (Shin DC)**

**C. C.: Acute-onset severe chest pain**

**Present Illness:**

**2004. 4. 13                  acute-onset chest pain  
unstable angina                  BP                  , dyspnea**

**Past Hx: HTN(-), DM(-), smoker (2 p/40yrs)**

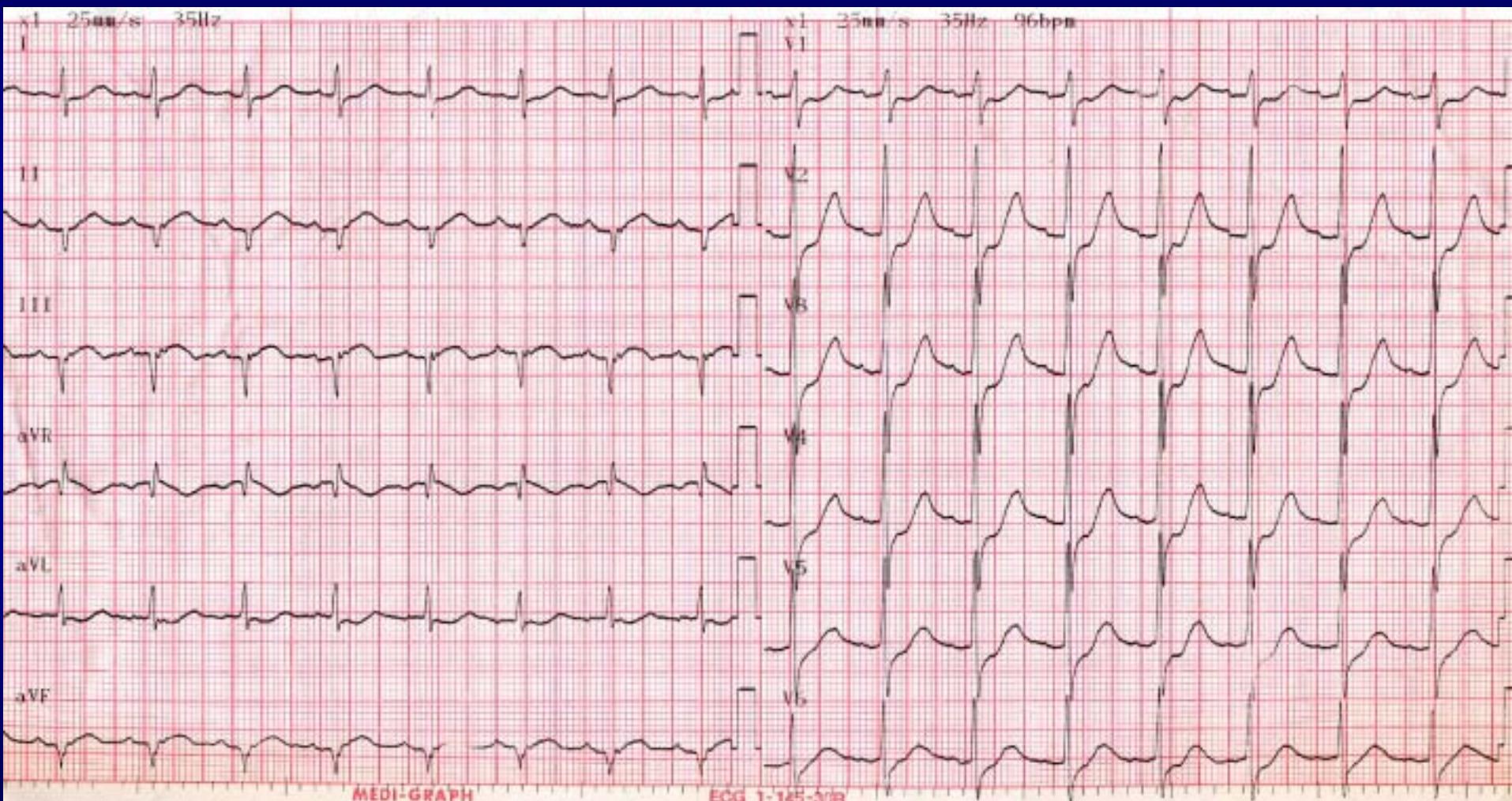
**COPD & Bronchiectasis (?)**

**V/S: 120/80 mmHg, 86 bpm, 36.6 °C, 16 RR**

*(with inotropic agents)*

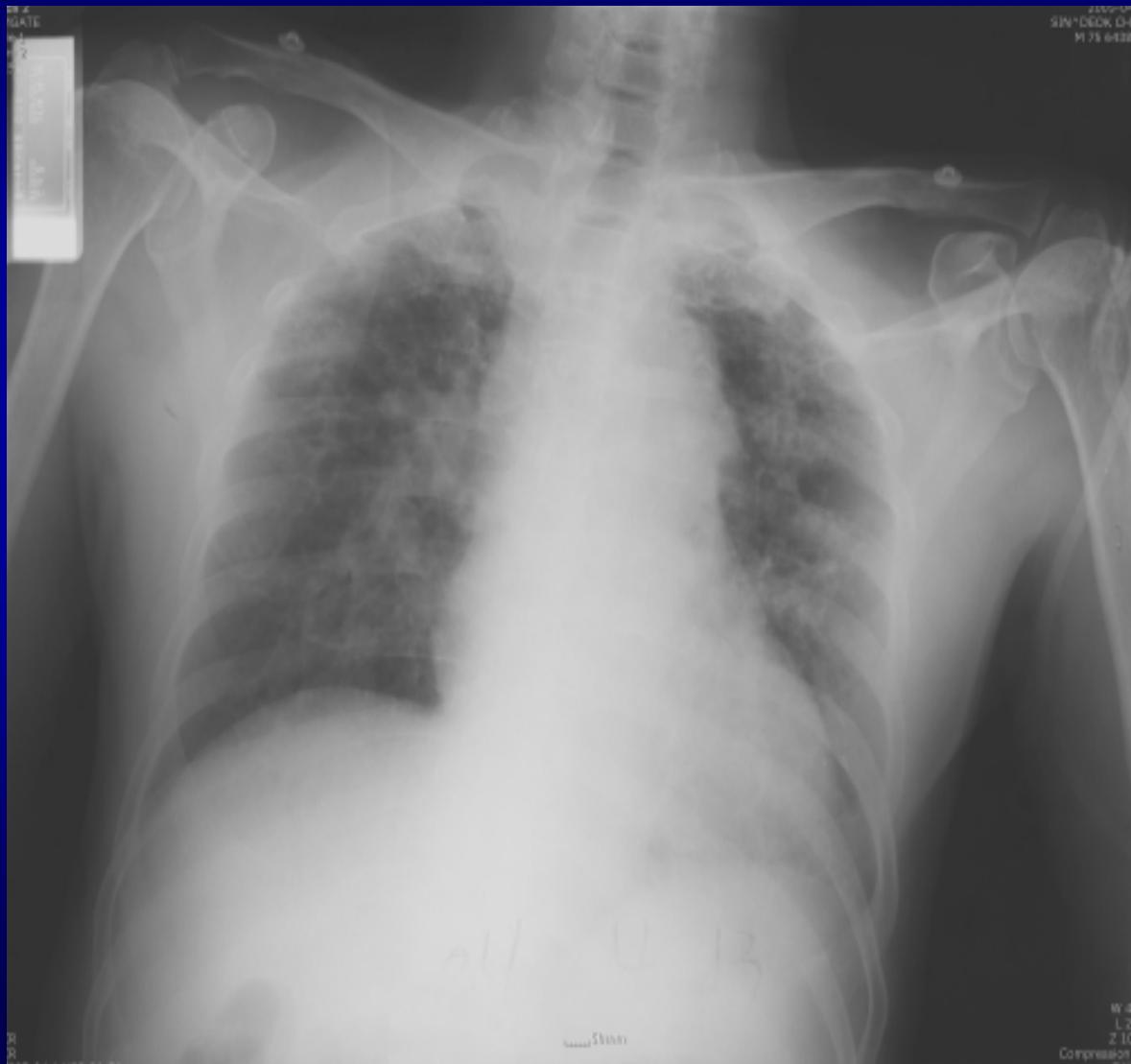
**Chest: crackle on both lower lungs**

# ECG

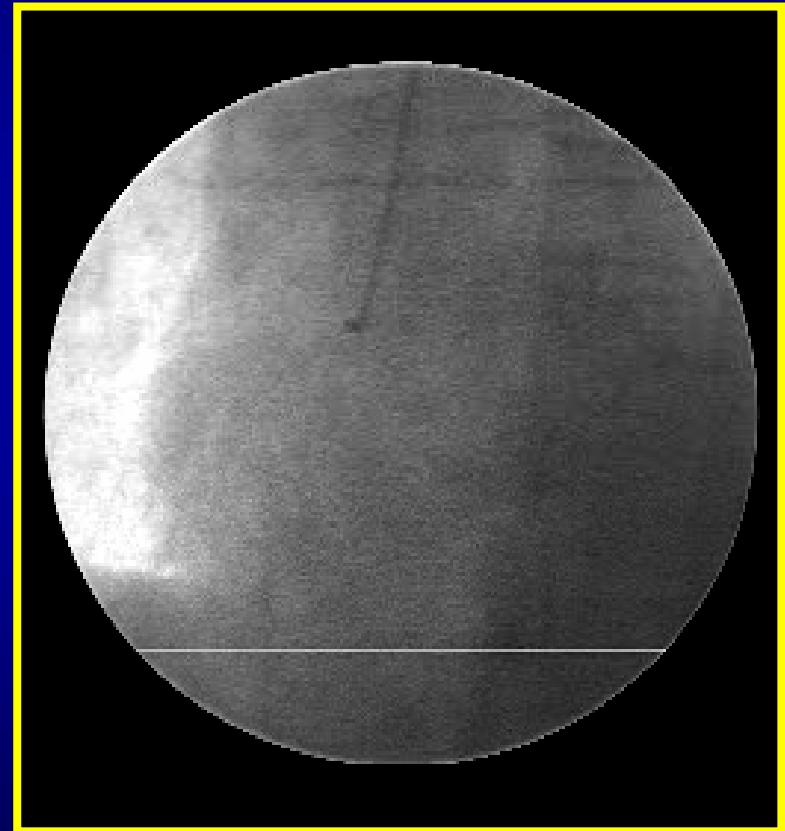


Acute STEMI, inferoposterior wall

# Chest X-Ray

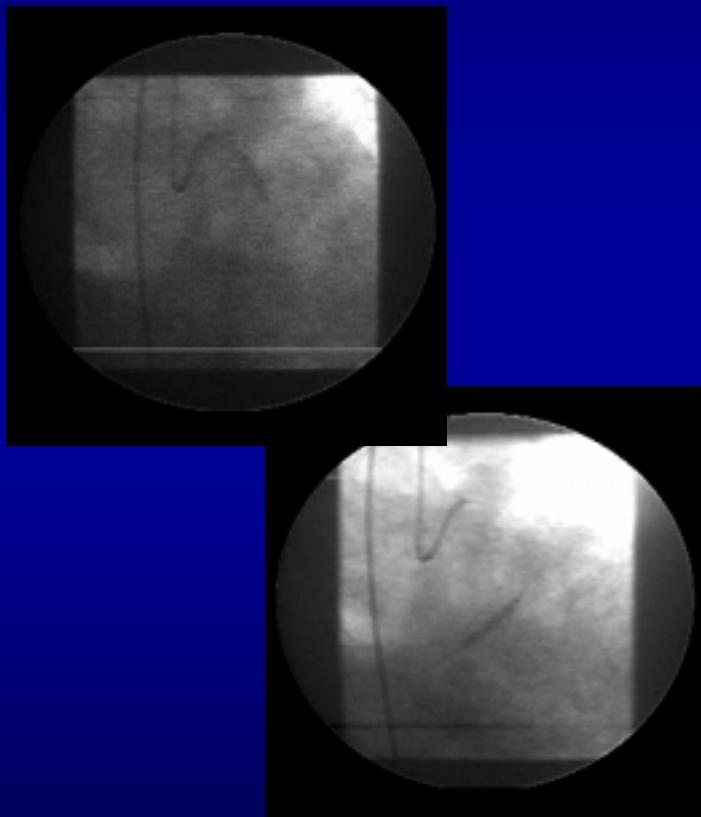


# Coronary Angiograms

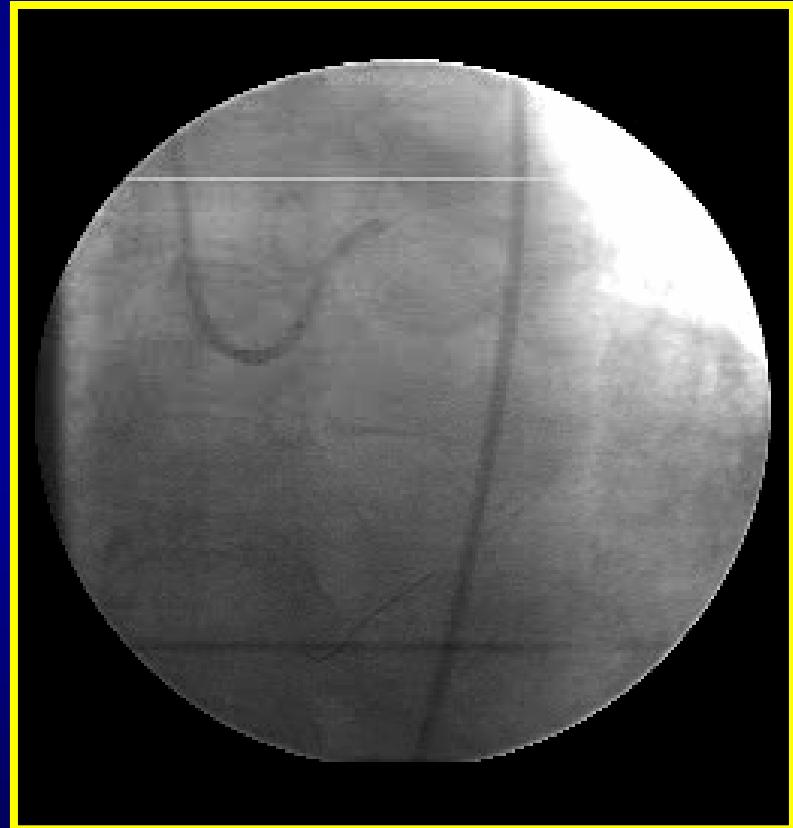


# After Primary Stenting

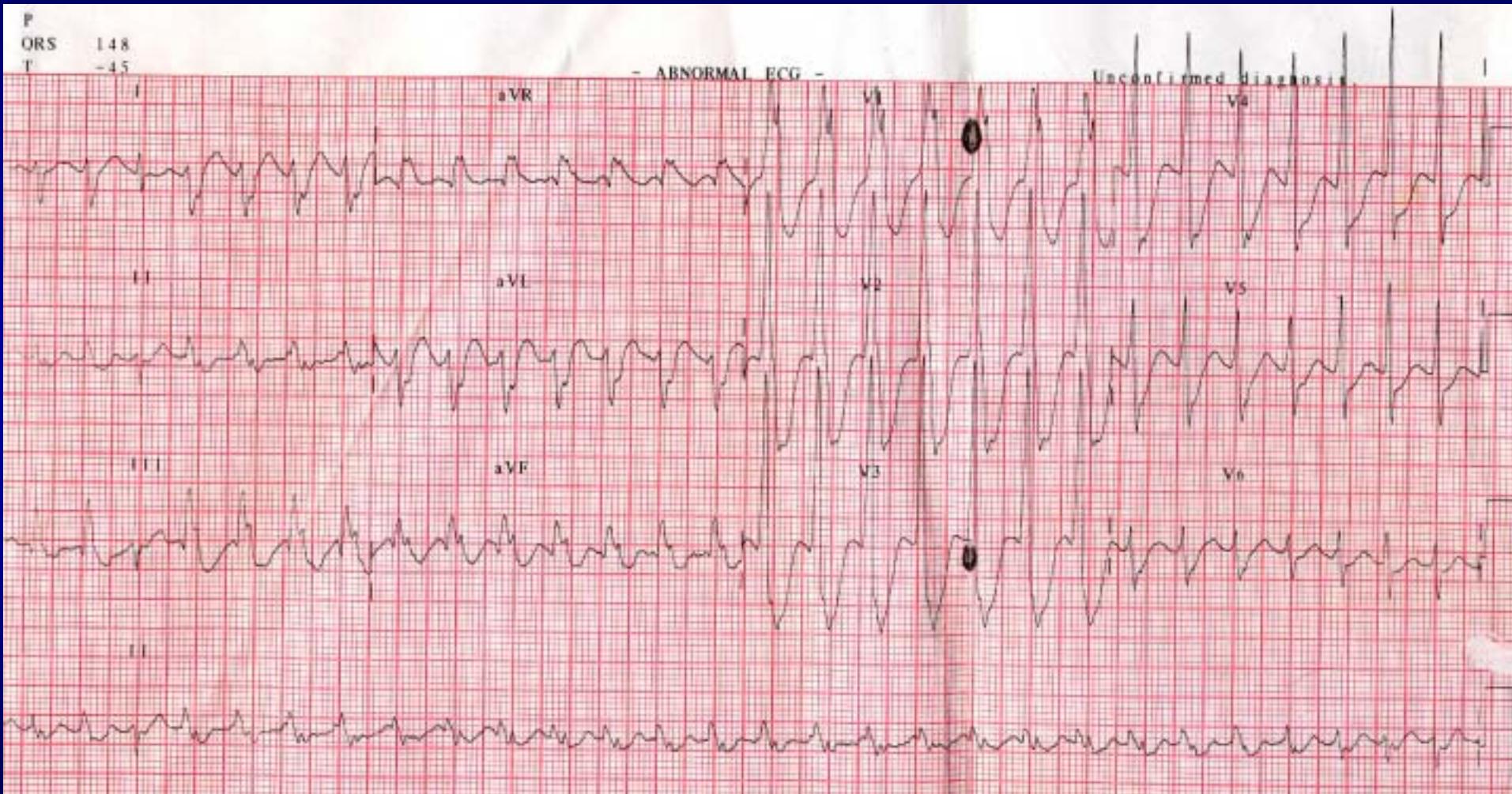
Cypher 3.0x18 mm at p-LCx



Cypher 2.75x18 mm at d-LCx

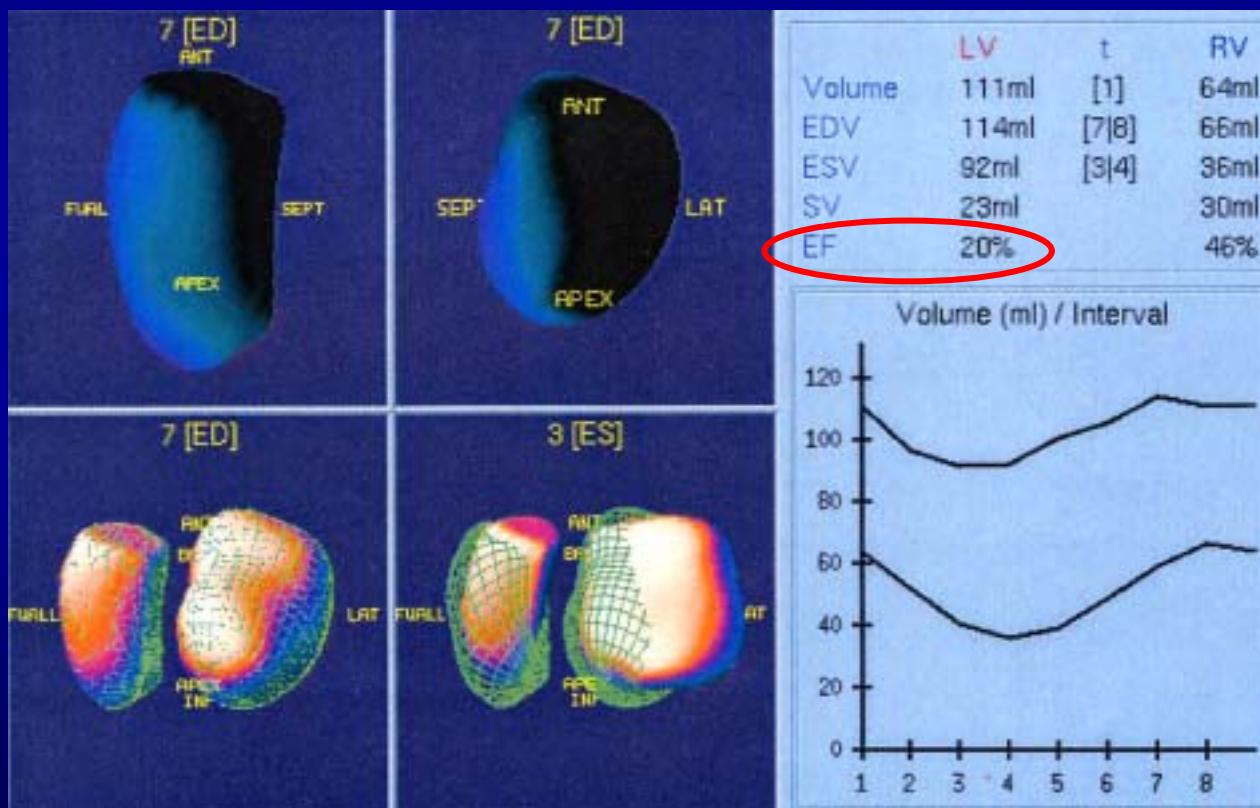


# 2 Days After Stenting



Sustained VT

# Gated Blood Pool SPECT After 2 Weeks



# Follow-up Without Event

- The patient is stable for over 1 year
- Astrix 100 mg qd  
Plavix 75 mg qd  
Tritace 2.5 mg qd  
Lasix 20 mg bid  
Aldactone 25 mg bid  
Dilatrend 6.25 mg qd  
Digoxin 0.125 mg bid  
Cordarone 200 mg qd  
Mevalothin 40 mg qd

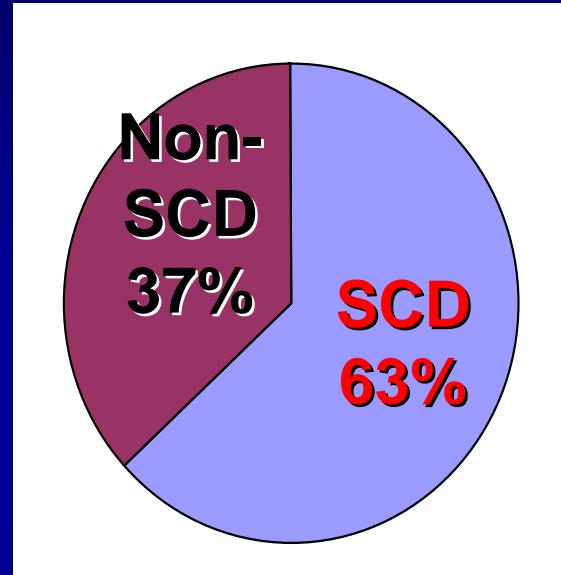
**Do I recommend him a  
prophylactic ICD to prevent  
sudden cardiac death ?**

# Cardiac Mortality

- In 1999 US,

Total cardiac mortality 730,000

SCD 460,000



- 80% of SCD victims not survive to discharge  
50% of those who do survive die within 3 yrs  
→ the importance of primary and secondary prevention of SCD

# SCD: Etiology (Substrate and Triggers)

## Cardiac (n = 102)

39 (38.2%)

evidence of acute  
MI or ischemia

Coronary artery disease

72 (70.6%)

Cardiomyopathy

13 (12.7%)

Primary arrhythmic diseases

13 (12.7%)

Valvular heart diseases

7

Hypertension

3

## Noncardiac (n = 58)

Respiratory failure

24

Sepsis

14

Gastrointestinal diseases

9

Cerebrovascular accidents

7

Drug intoxication

3

SCD in Korea  
Multicenter Trial  
2001

# **Prevention of SCD in CAD**

- **Pharmacologic treatments**
- **Primary prevention of SCD in CAD**
  - **MADIT II** and **SCD-HeFT**
  - **DINAMIT**
  - **ICDs for all patients after MI ?**

# Medications to Reduce SCD

- **β-blockers** (Lancet 2001;357:1385-90)
- **ACE inhibitors** (JACC 1999;33:598-604)
- **Angiotensin II-receptor blockers** (Circ 2004;110:2618-26)
- **Aldosterone antagonists** (NEJM 1999;341:709)
- **Statins** (Arch Intern Med 2005;165:62-7)

# $\beta$ -Blockers on SCD

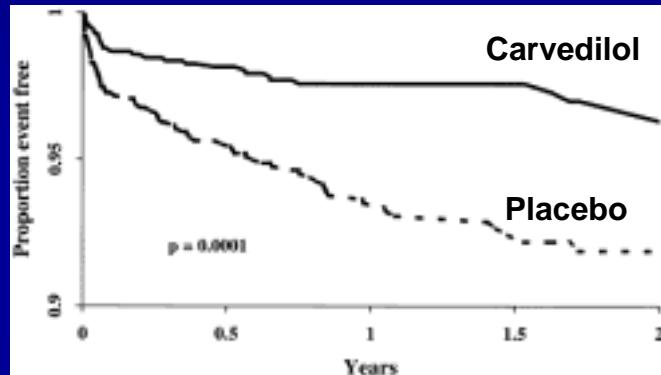
	No. of Deaths/Patients		Reduction (%)	p Value
	Control	$\beta$ Blocker		
<u>Total mortality</u>				
All long-term studies (n = 24) <sup>1</sup>	1,199/12,431	1,027/13,815	20	< 0.0001
All short-term studies (n = 28)	586/13,721	513/13,815	13	< 0.02
<u>Sudden deaths</u>				
All studies (n = 16)	480/9,441	333/9,887	34	< 0.0001

<sup>1</sup>2-Year follow-up.

Hjalmarson A, AJC 1997;80:35J-39J

# Carvedilol on SCD after AMI

**CAPRICORN trial** (Carvedilol Post-Infarct Survival Control in Left Ventricular Dysfunction)



	Placebo	Carvedilol	HR	p
Any VAs	7.0%	2.7%	0.37	<0.0001
VT or VF	3.9%	0.9%	0.24	<0.0001

# Spironolactone on SCD: RALES trial

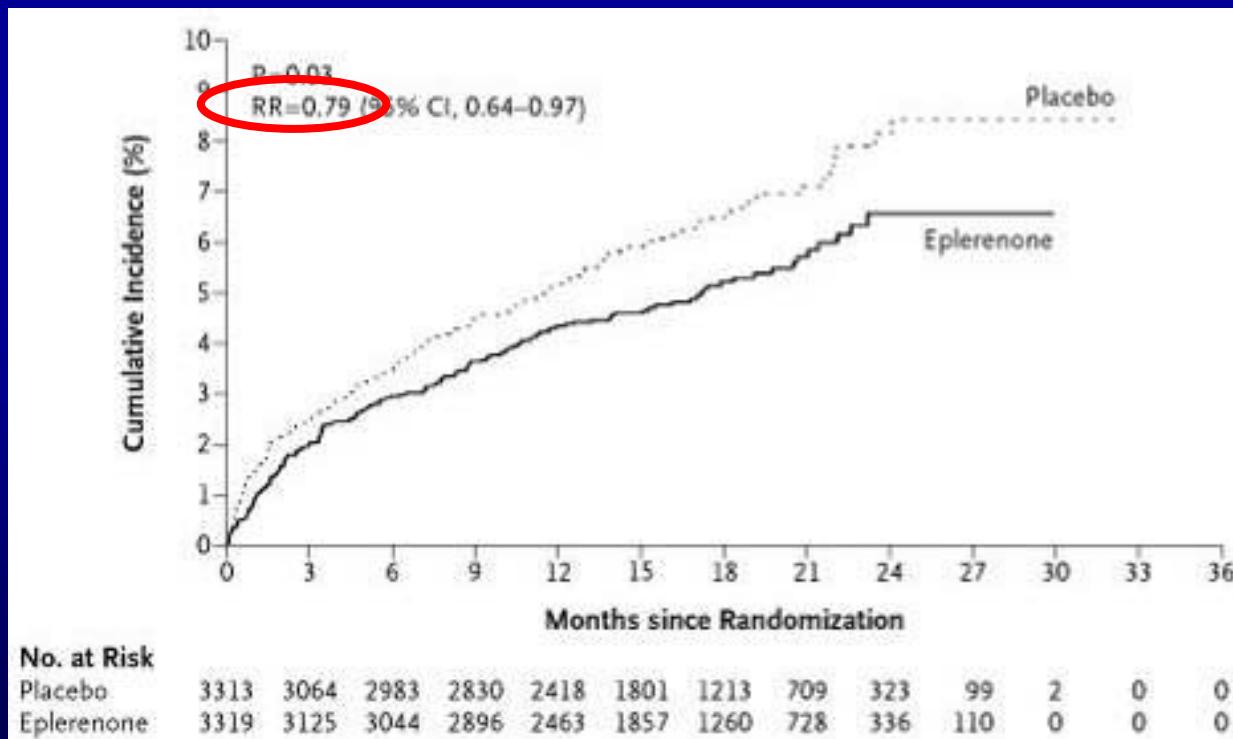
CHF & EF ≤35%

VARIABLE	PLACEBO GROUP (N=841)	SPIRONOLACTONE GROUP (N=822)	RELATIVE RISK (95% CI)*	P VALUE
no. of patients				
<b>Cause of death</b>				
Cardiac causes	314	226	0.69 (0.58–0.82)	<0.001
Progression of heart failure†	189	127	0.64 (0.51–0.80)	<0.001
Sudden death‡	110	82	0.71 (0.54–0.95)	0.02
Myocardial infarction	15	17		
Other cardiovascular causes	13	12		
Stroke	11	8		
Noncardiovascular causes	41	29		
Unknown	7	9		
Total	386	284	0.70 (0.60–0.82)	<0.001

# Eplerenone (selective aldosterone blocker) on SCD

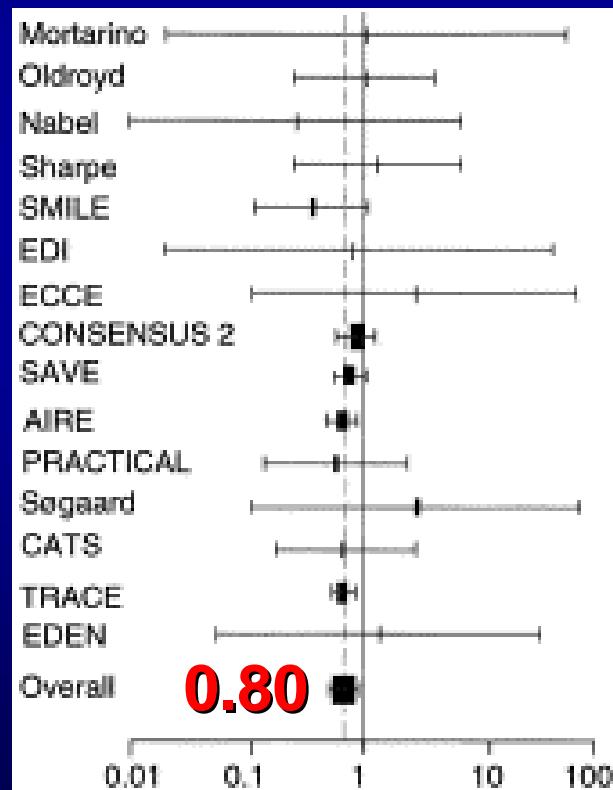
**Ephesus trial** (Eplerenone Post–Acute Myocardial Infarction Heart Failure Efficacy and Survival Study )

**Eplerenone vs. placebo in MI survivor  
(3-14 days after AMI, EF ≤40%, CHF)**



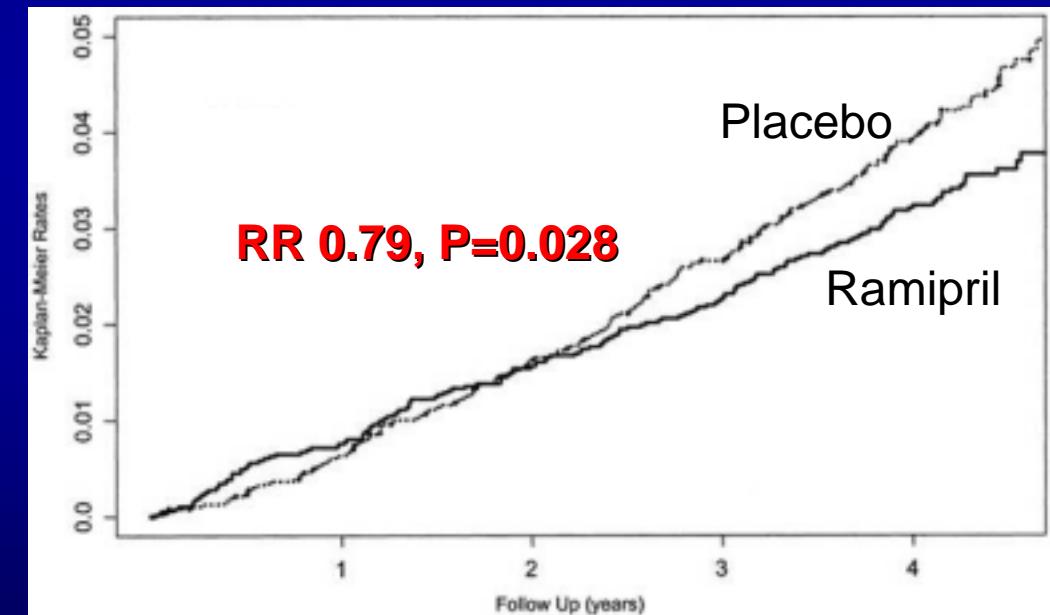
# ACE Inhibitors on SCD after AMI

CHF  
Depressed LV function



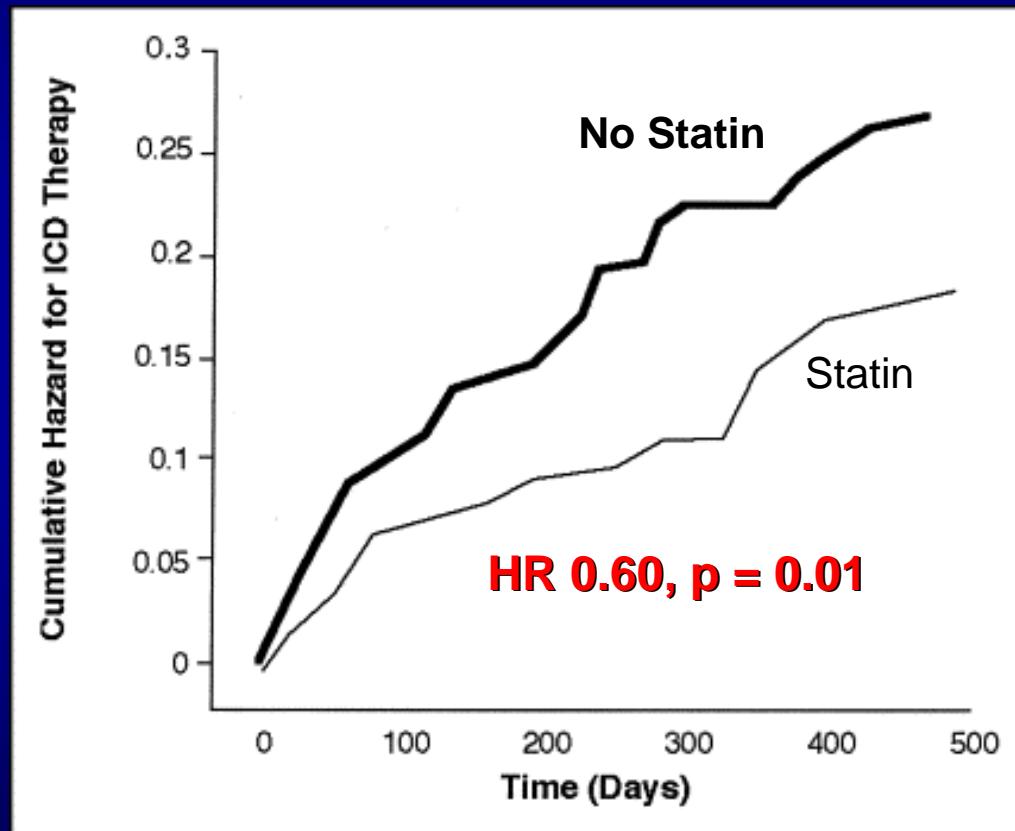
JACC 1999;33:598-604

Without CHF or overt LV dysfunction (HOPE)



Circulation 2004;110:1413-7

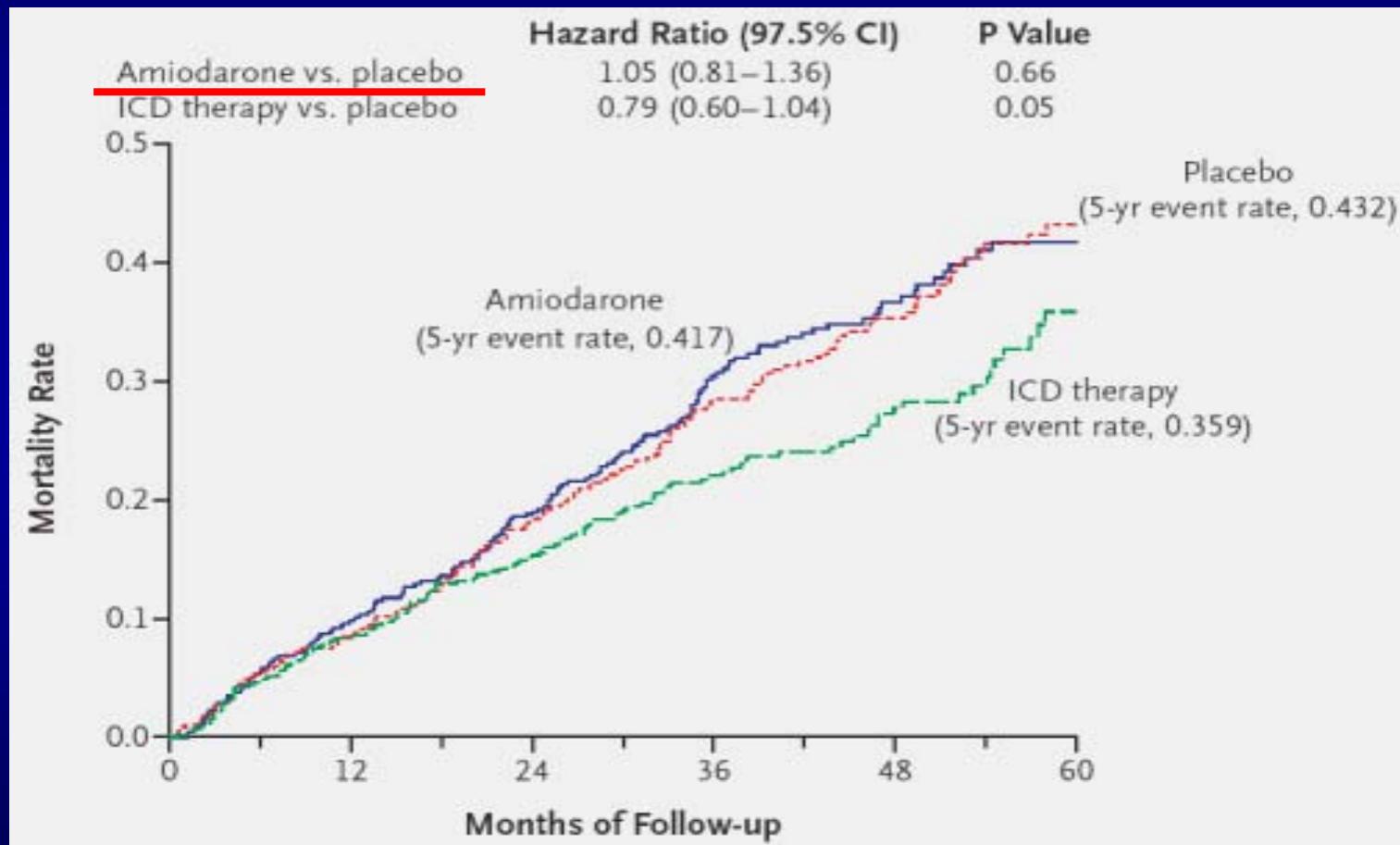
# Statins on Ventricular Arrhythmias



N = 281 pts with CAD  
after ICD  
Mean f/u = 10 mo

# Amiodarone on SCD in Ischemic CHF

## SCD-HeFT (Sudden Cardiac Death in Heart Failure Trial)



# Prevention of SCD in CAD

- Pharmacologic treatments
- Primary prevention of SCD in CAD
  - MADIT II and SCD-HeFT
  - DINAMIT
  - ICDs for all patients after MI ?

# MADIT II

(Multicenter Automatic Defibrillator Implantation Trial)

## Inclusion Criteria

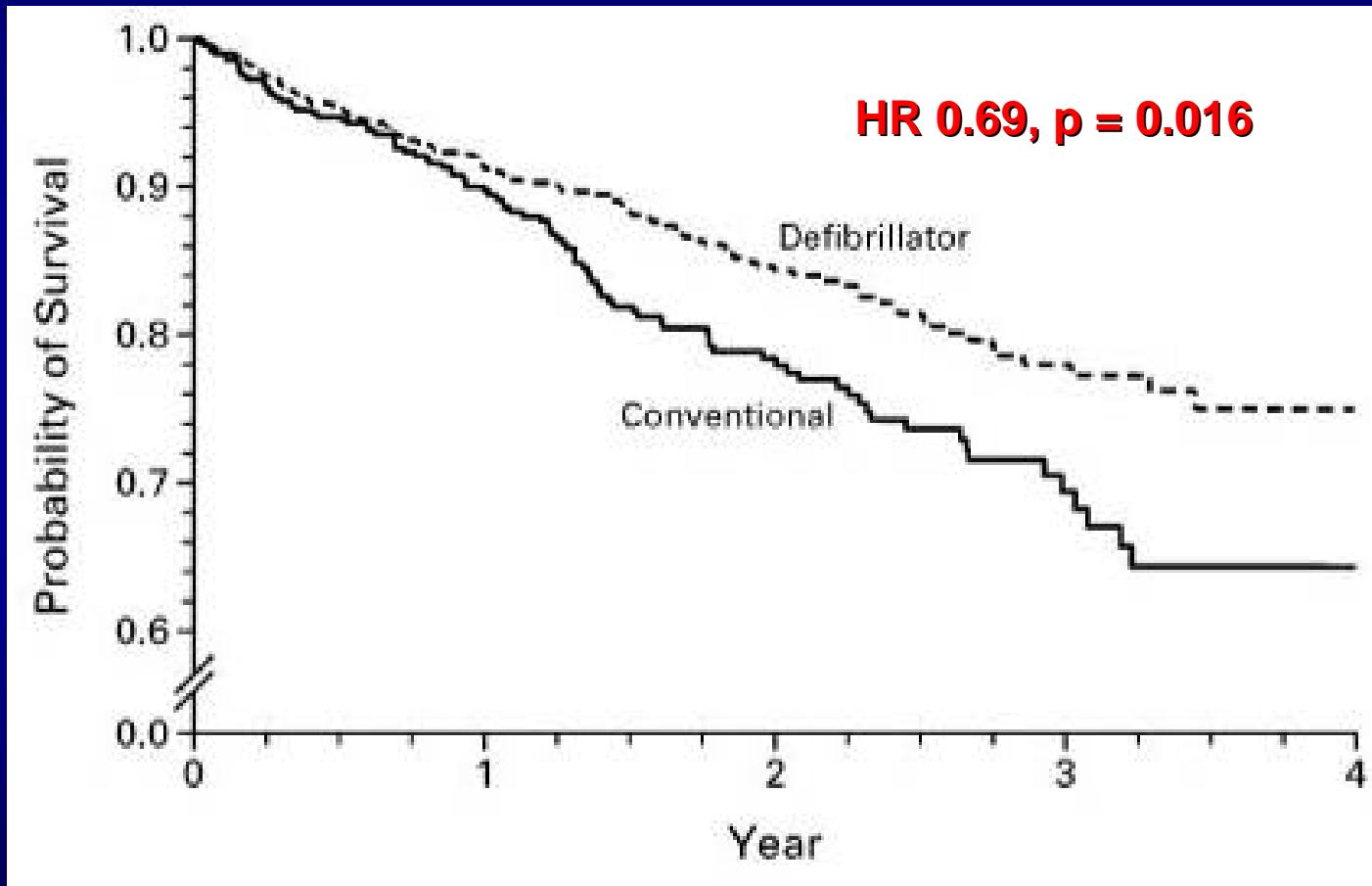
- Pts with a prior MI 1 month or more before entry
- EF <30%
- No requirement of NSVT or EPS

# MADIT II: Patients Characteristics

CHARACTERISTIC	DEFIBRILLATOR GROUP (N=742)	CONVENTIONAL- THERAPY GROUP (N=490)	
Age (yr)		64±10	65±10
Male sex (%)		84	85
NYHA functional class (%)†			
I		35	39
II		35	34
III		25	23
IV		5	4
Treatment for hypertension (%)		53	53
Diabetes (%)		33	38
Current or former cigarette smoker (%)		80	82
Coronary <u>bypass</u> surgery (%)		58	56
Coronary <u>angioplasty</u> (%)		45	42
Interval of >6 mo between most recent myo- cardial infarction and enrollment (%)		88	87
Cardiac findings at enrollment (%)			
Blood urea nitrogen >25 mg/dl (8.92 mmol/liter)		29	32
Atrial fibrillation		9	8
QRS interval ≥0.12 sec		50	51
Nonspecific conduction defect		22	26
Right bundle-branch block		9	7
Left bundle-branch block		19	18
Left ventricular <u>ejection fraction</u>		23±5	23±6
Medications at last contact (%)‡			
Amiodarone		13	10
Angiotensin-converting-enzyme inhibi- tors		68	72
Beta-blockers		70	70
Calcium-channel blockers		9	9
Class I antiarrhythmic agents		3	2
Digitalis		57	57
Diuretics		72	81
Lipid-lowering statin drugs		67	64

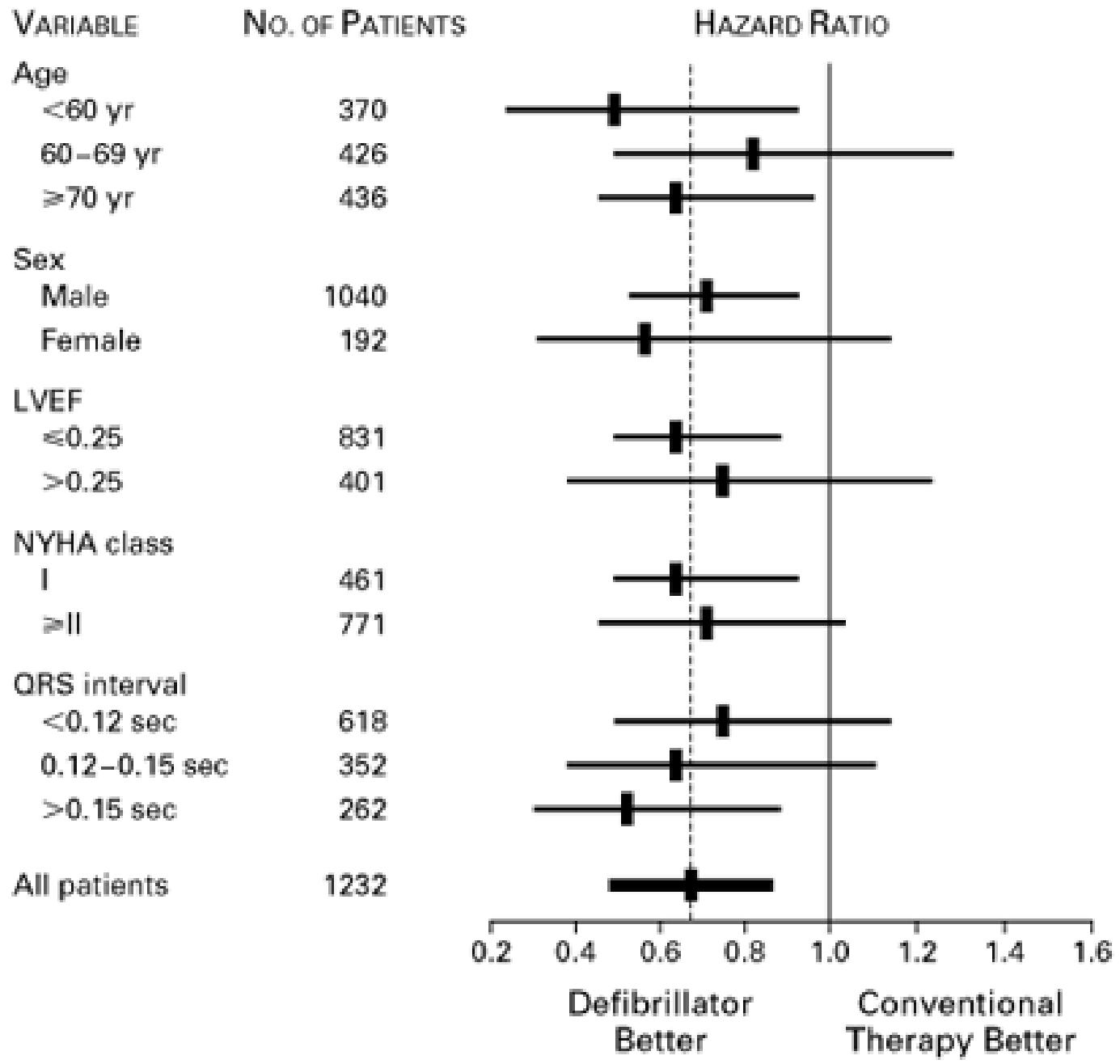
Moss, NEJM 2002;346:877-83

# MADIT II: All-cause Mortality



Moss, NEJM 2002;346:877-83

# MADIT II: Subgroup Analyses



Moss, NEJM

2002;346:877-83

# SCD-HeFT

(Sudden Cardiac Death in Heart Failure Trial)

DCM  $\pm$  CAD and CHF



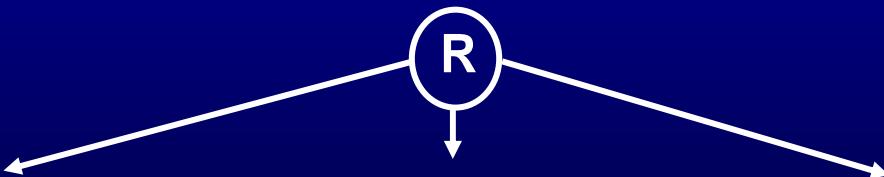
EF  $\leq 35\%$



NYHA Class II or III



6 minute walk, Holter



Bardy, NEJM

2005;352:225-37

# SCD-HeFT

## Baseline Enrollment Characteristics

- CHF duration 24.5 mo (8.1, 59.4)
- LV EF 25.0 (20.0, 30.0)
- NYHA II, III 70%, 30%
- Ischemic, non-ischemic 52%, 48%
- 6 minute walk 1130 ft (840, 1360)
- Diabetes 30%

Bardy, NEJM 2005;352:225-37

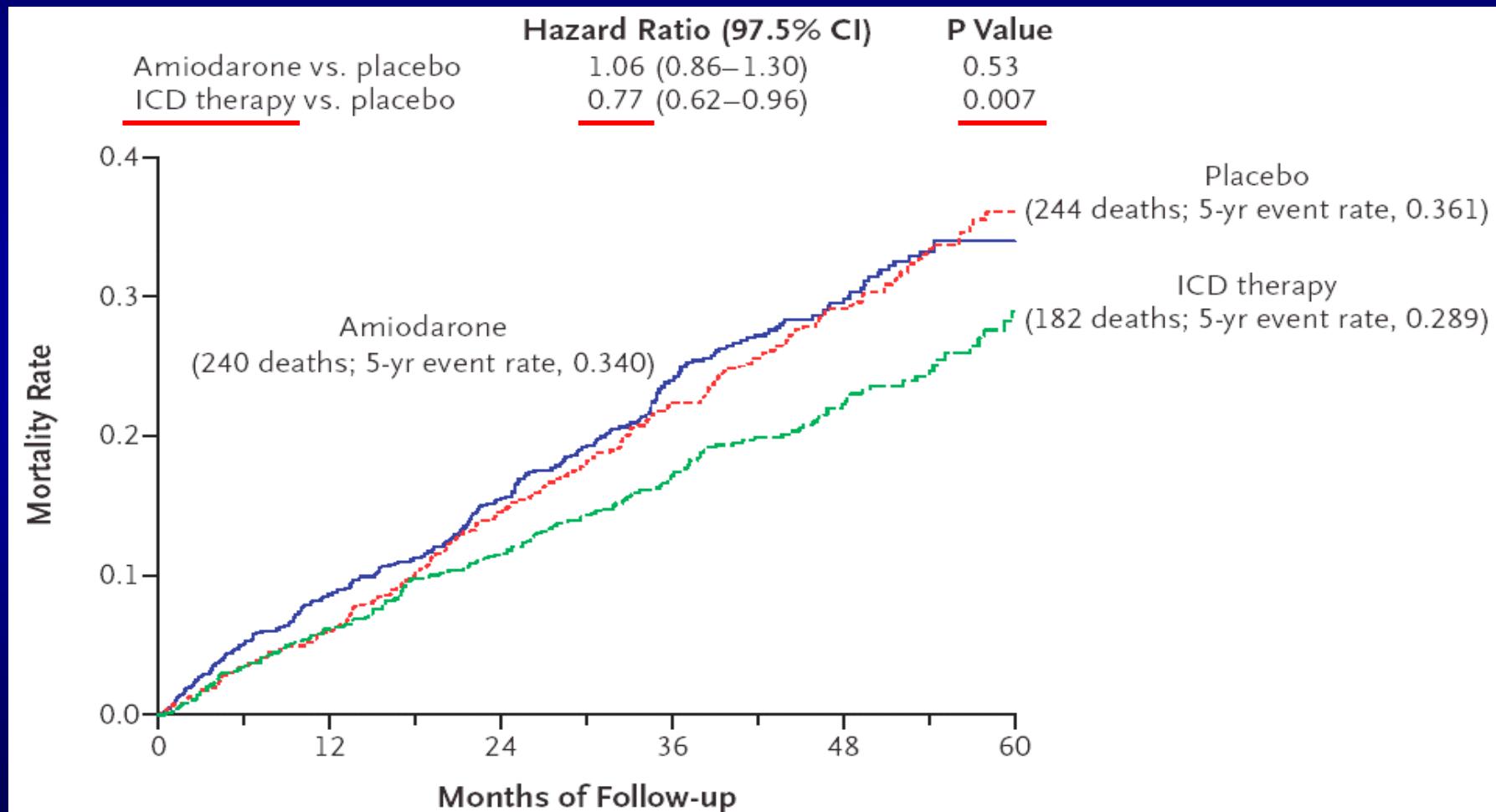
# **SCD-HeFT**

## **Background Medications**

	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Last F/U</b>
<b>ACE I</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>72%</b>
<b>ACE I or ARB</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>87%</b>
<b>β-Blockers</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>Spironolactone</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>Loop diuretics</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Aspirin</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>Statin</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>47%</b>

Bardy, NEJM 2005;352:225-37

# SCD-HeFT: All-cause Mortality



# SCD-HeFT: Primary Conclusions

1. In class II or III CHF pts with EF  $\leq 35\%$  on good background drug therapy, the mortality rate for placebo-controlled patients is 7.2% per year over 5 years
2. Simple, single lead, shock-only ICDs decrease mortality by 23%
3. Amiodarone, when used as a primary preventative agent, does not improve survival

**Should all patients after AMI  
with depressed LV function  
receive ICDs ?**

# DINAMIT

(Defibrillator in Acute Myocardial Infarction Trial)

## Inclusion Criteria

- Recent MI (6 ~ 40 days)
- EF <35% & abnormal HRV (SDNN ≤ 70 ms or 24-hr RR ≤ 750 ms)
- Age 18 ~ 80 yrs

# DINAMIT

## Key Baseline Criteria

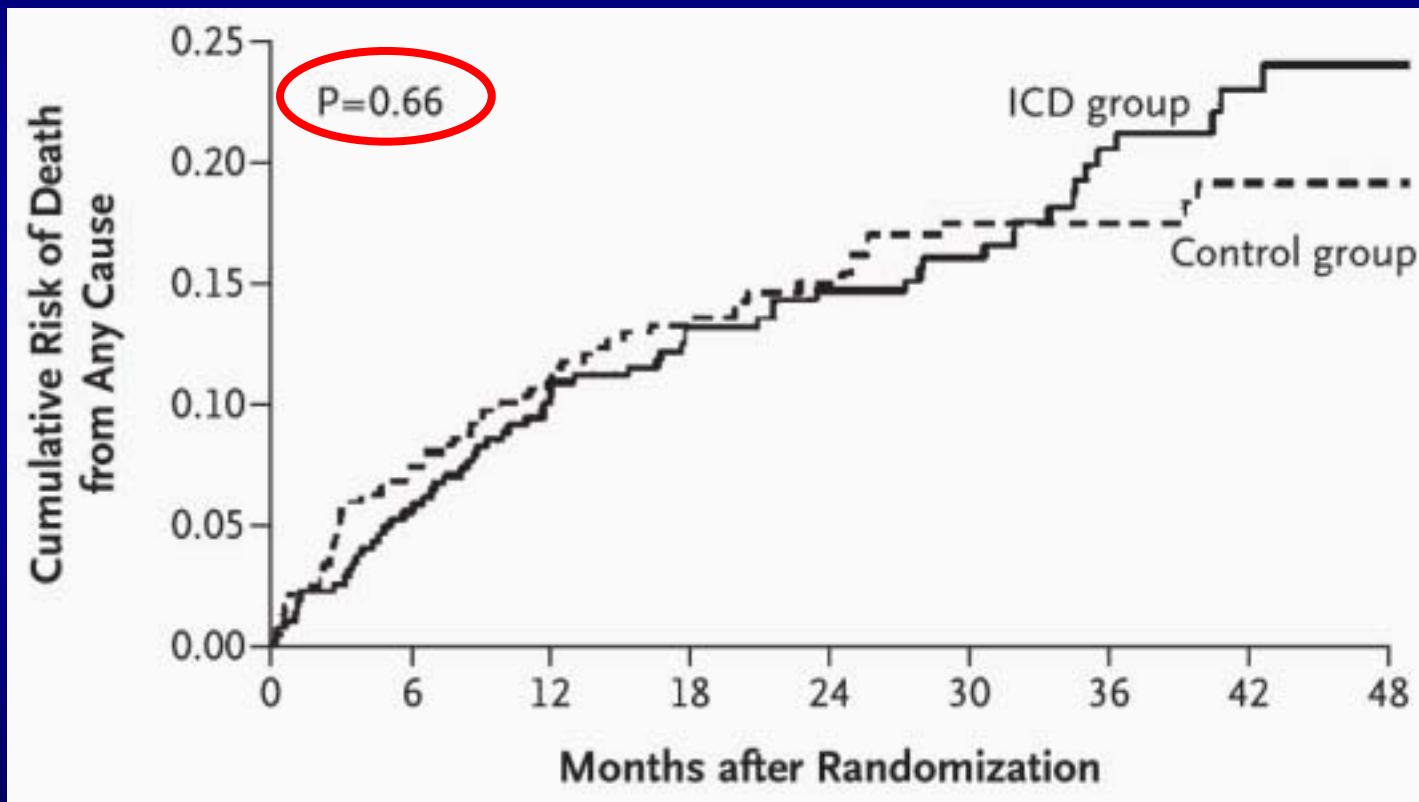
---

	ICD	Control
LVEF	28%	28%
SDNN	61 ms	61 ms
24-hr RR	745 ms	747 ms

---

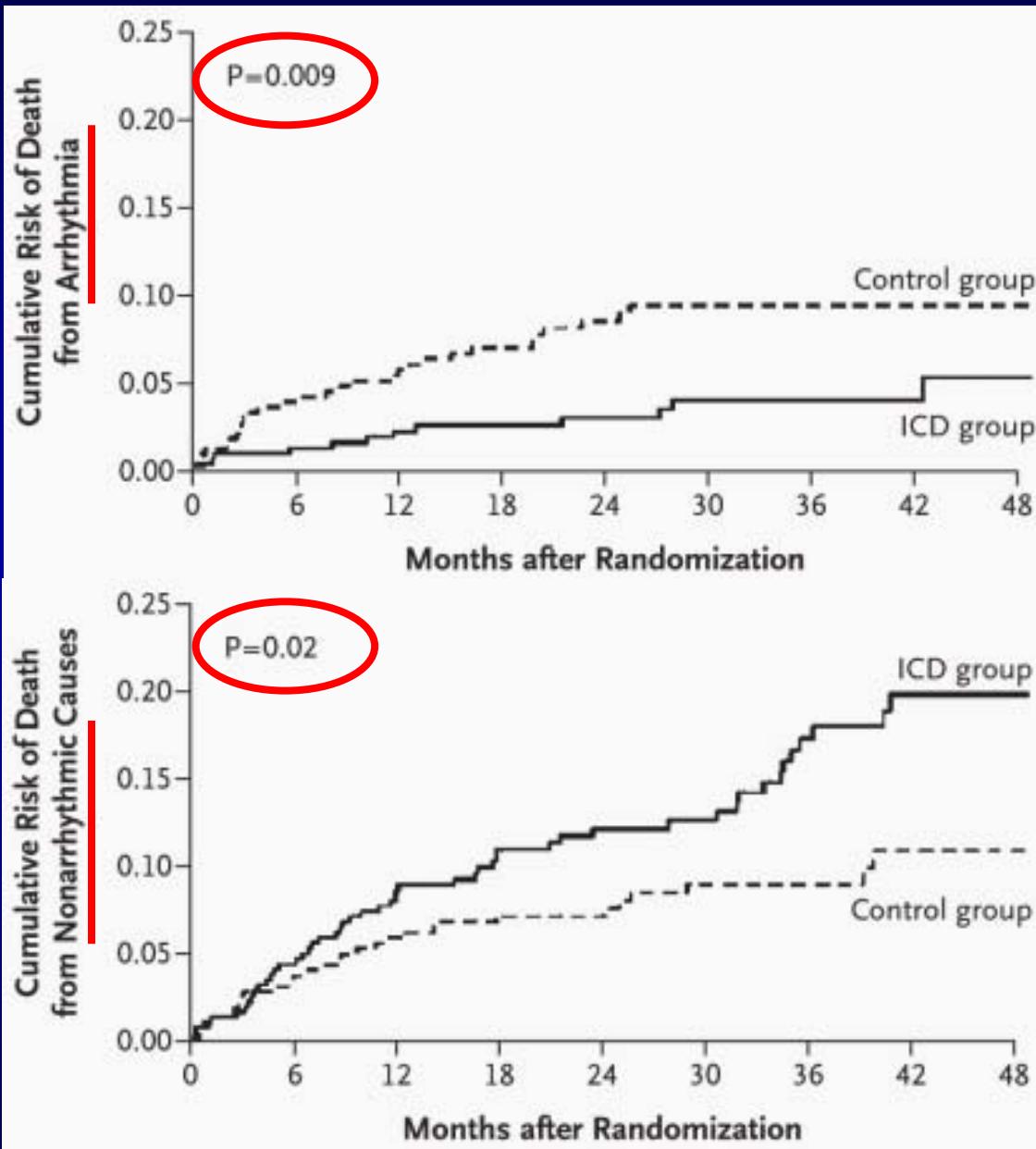
Hohnloser SH, NEJM 2004;351:2481-8

# DINAMIT: All-cause Mortality



Hohnloser SH, NEJM 2004;351:2481-8

# DINAMIT: Arrhythmic and Nonarrhythmic Death



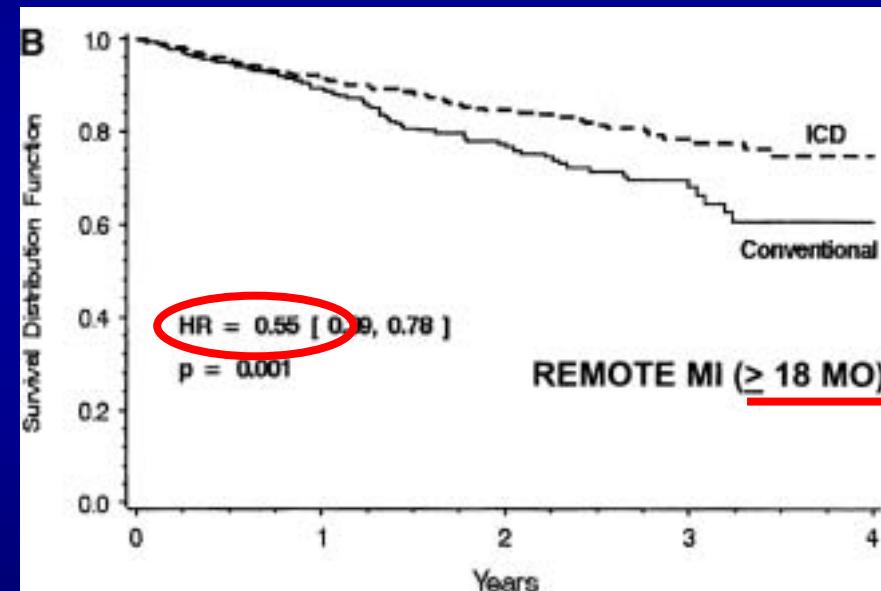
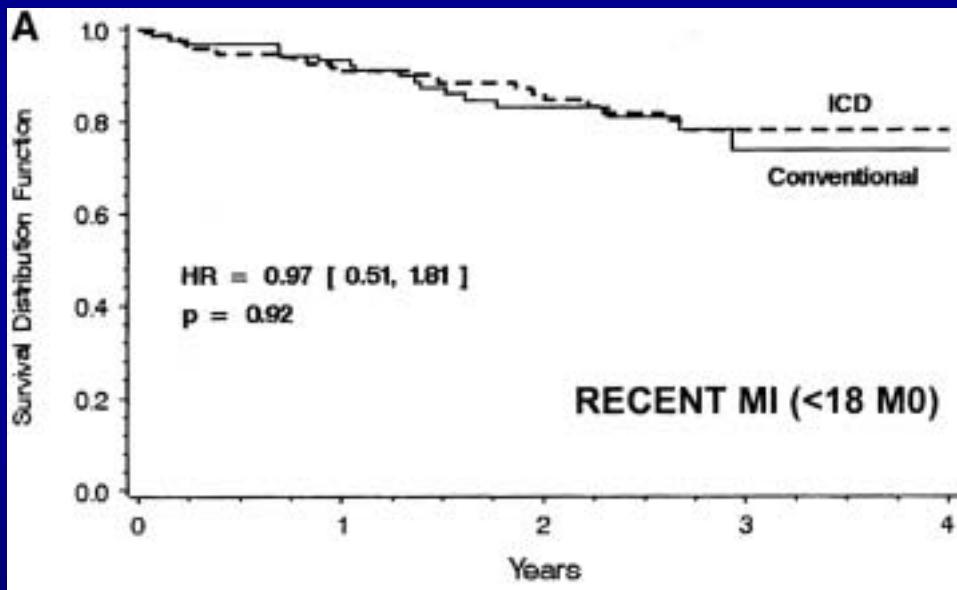
Hohnloser SH  
NEJM 2004;351:2481-8

# Differences on 1<sup>o</sup> Prevention Trials

	MADIT II	SCD-HeFT	DINAMIT
<b>Patients</b>	1,232	2,521	674
<b>Age</b>	64	60	61
<b>Time from most recent MI</b>	6.5 yr	24.4 mo	18 day
<b>LVEF</b>	23%	25%	28%
<b>NYHA III</b>	25%	30%	40%
<b>Follow-up</b>	20 mo	45.5 mo	30 mo

# MADIT II:

## Survival in pts with recent MI vs. remote MI



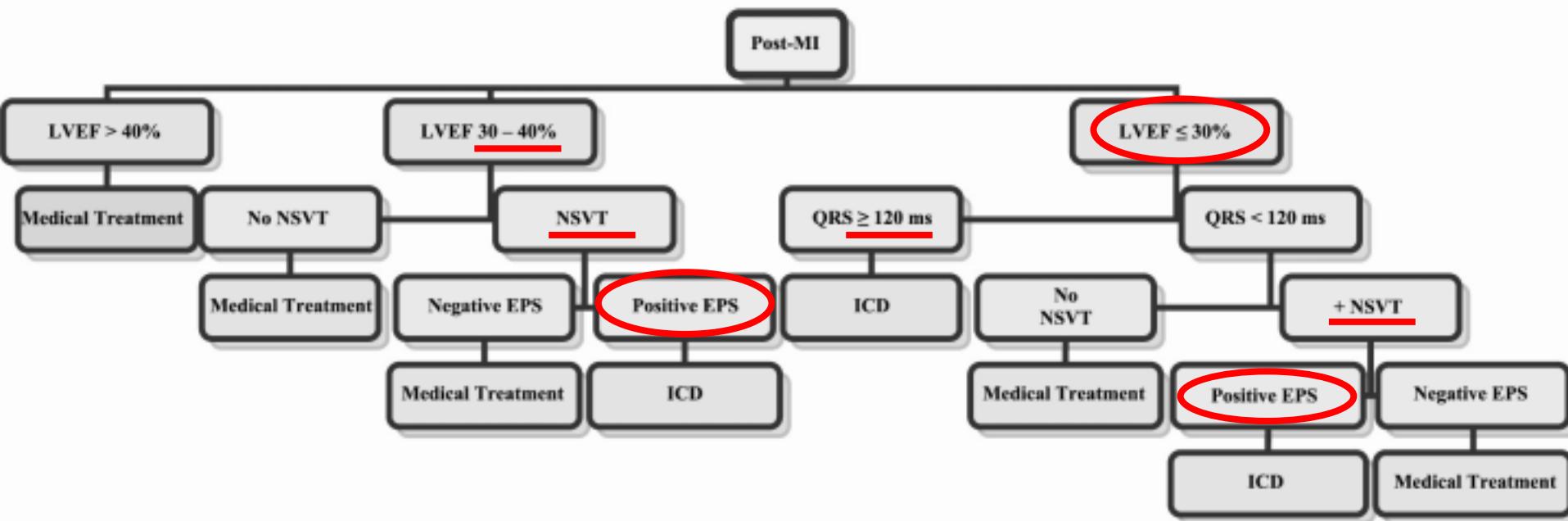
# MADIT II:

## Effect of the ICD by Elapsed Time From MI

MI Time, mo	HR	95% CI	P
<18	<u>0.98</u>	0.52–1.84	<u>0.95</u>
18–59	0.52	0.26–1.05	0.07
60–119	0.50	0.28–0.91	0.02
≥120	0.62	0.36–1.08	0.09

**DINAMIT & MADIT II fail to demonstrate survival benefit during 18 mo after MI**

# Triaging Patients for 1<sup>o</sup> Preventive ICD Therapy



# Insurance Coverage

,

가

(1) 30% low EF

(2)

(3) (EPS)

# All DINAMIT Patients

- had an indicator of autonomic dysfunction (abnormal heart-rate variability, elevated HR at rest) possibility that presence of marker of autonomic dysfunction identified a patient cohort at high risk for death due to progressive HF
- Further studies to determine whether pts with impaired autonomic function late after MI do not obtain a survival benefit from ICD therapy

# MADIT II Criteria

- Only 50% of pts with MADIT II indications for ICD tx received tx for VTAs within 3 yrs after implantation
- As compared with 74% of pts with a prior MI who received an ICD for **2<sup>o</sup> prevention of sudden death**

# Better Risk-stratification Techniques

- To identify the pts at high risk for sudden death who are **most likely to benefit** from prophylactic ICD use. (for cost-effective use of ICD tx)
- Prophylactic ICD tx needs to be individualized according to pt's **risk of sudden cardiac death** and the **competing risk of death from other causes**