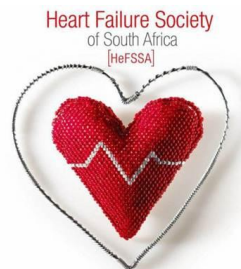


# HeFSSA Practitioners Program 2014

- 08:00 – 08:30 Registration
- 08:30 – 09:15 Clinical Case Presentation 1
- 09:15 – 10:00 Clinical Case Presentation 2
- 10:00 – 10:30 Tea Break
- 10:30 – 11:15 Clinical Case Presentation 3
- 11:15 – 11:45 Clinical Case Presentation 4
- 11:45 – 12:00 Questionnaire
- 12:00 – 14:00 Lunch



- Elderly lady
- Intermittent chest pain over few days
- Associated
  - Shortness of breath
  - Fatigue
- Syncope x 1
- Presents to Casualty 00h30



- Past history
  - Hypertension
  - Dyslipidaemia
    - Refused statins – too old
- Returned from Australia 36 hours ago



# CHEST PAIN

- **Coronary artery disease**
- Pneumonia
- Pulmonary embolus
- Aortic dissection
- Pericarditis
- Reflux
- Ulcer
- Costochondritis
- Intercostal neuralgia
- Muscle strain
- Fracture
- Bony pathology – met
- Could this be stress, Dr?



- Intermittent chest pain over a few days
  - Localized or diffuse
  - Duration
  - Central or lateral
  - Burning, sharp, crushing
  - Aggravated by movement or breathing
  - Aggravated by exertion
  - Rest or on exertion
  - Supine or recumbent
  - Cough – productive (of what)



# CHEST PAIN

- Examination
  - BP - high or low or normal
  - Pulse – fast, slow, normal, weak, absent
  - Respiratory rate
  - Temperature
  - Crackles
  - Bronchial breathing
  - Localized tenderness



# CHEST PAIN

- Investigations

- ECG

- CXR

- Bloods

- FBC

- U + E + Cr (always do!)

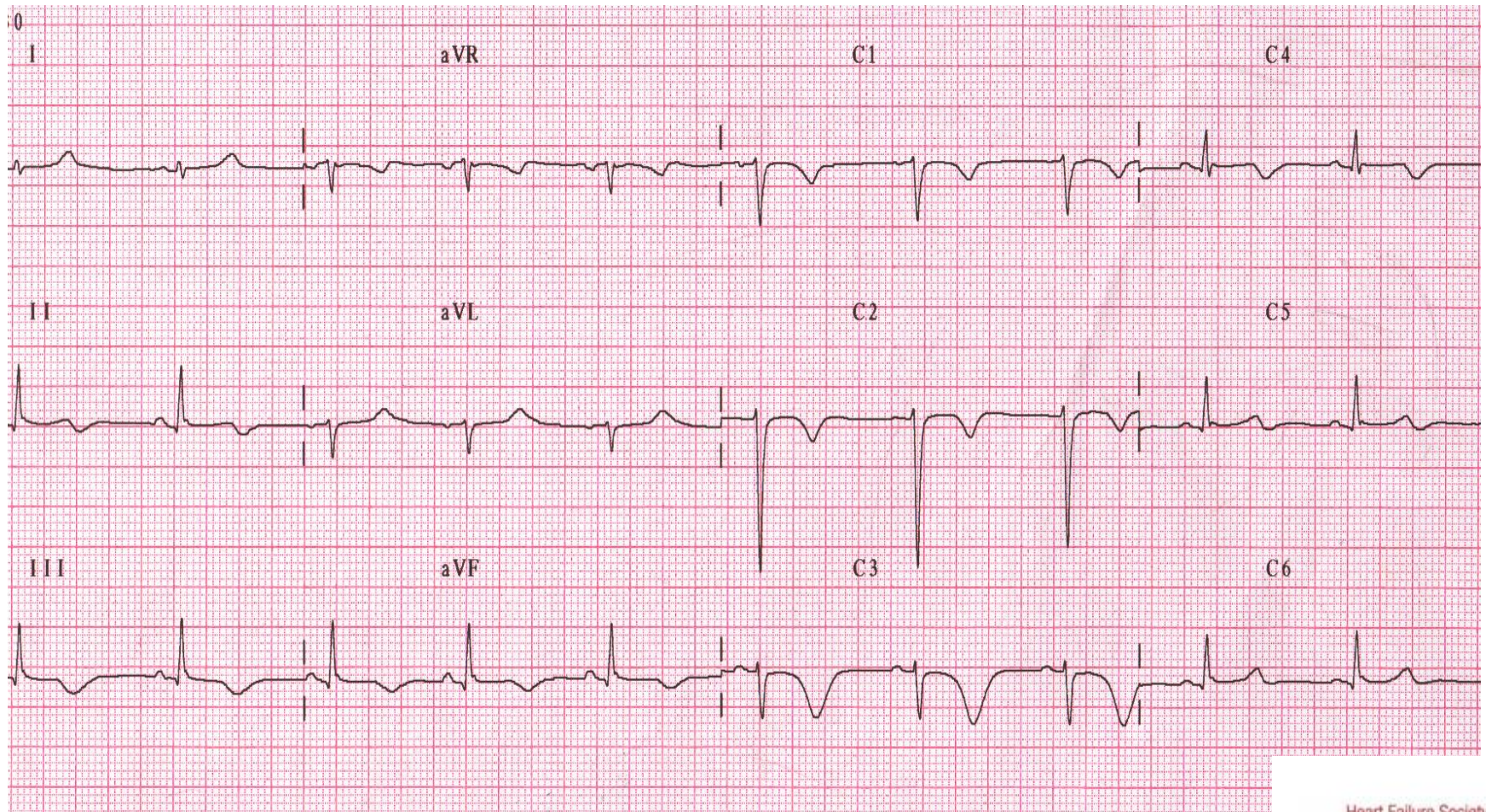
- D Dimer

- Troponin / enzymes

- (Echocardiography, Spiral CT, V/Q scan, CT brain)



# Coronary? Pulm embolus? Myopericarditis? Dissection?





25/04/2014  
07:28:33

Casualty

Sitting

AP

Acc:60108098

Srs:1001

Img:1001

Sens:391.000000

17cm

Zoom : 17.78%

WL : 2048

WW : 4096

Not our lady, but a man with shortness of breath, similar circumstances



# RESULTS

- ECG – normal
- CXR – pulm congestion
- Hb 12.3
- WCC 12.2
- Troponin T 12
- NTProBNP 1980
- D Dimer 0.64
- ECHO EF 54%
- Rules out CAD?
- Acute Heart Failure?
- Normal
- Pneumonia? CAD? PE?  
Dissection? Pericarditis?
- Rules out CAD?
- Acute Heart Failure? PE?  
Pneumonia?
- Confirms PE?
- Excludes Heart Failure?

# NTProBNP

- Chronic setting  $< 125$  pg/ml excludes HF\*
- Acute setting  $< 300$  pg/ml excludes HF\*
- Produced by left AND right ventricle
- Rises rapidly
- “Diagnostic” of Heart Failure
- PE, AMI, Pneumonia, Aortic stenosis

\*Mpe, MT et al. SAMJ 2013;9(Suppl 2):661-7;

\*McMurray JJV, et al. Eur Heart J 2012;33(14):1787-1847



# ACUTE HEART FAILURE?

- ECG – normal
- CXR – pulm congestion
- Hb 12.3
- WCC 12.2
- Troponin T 12
- NTProBNP 1980
- D Dimer 0.64
- ECHO EF 54%



# ACUTE HEART FAILURE

## 12.1 Initial assessment and monitoring of patients

Three parallel assessments must be made during the initial evaluation of the patient, aided by the investigations listed in *Figure 4*.

- (i) Does the patient have HF or is there an alternative cause for their symptoms and signs (e.g. chronic lung disease, anaemia, kidney failure, or pulmonary embolism)?
- (ii) If the patient does have HF, is there a precipitant and does it require immediate treatment or correction (e.g. an arrhythmia or acute coronary syndrome)?
- (iii) Is the patient's condition immediately life-threatening because of hypoxaemia or hypotension leading to underperfusion of the vital organs (heart, kidneys, and brain)?

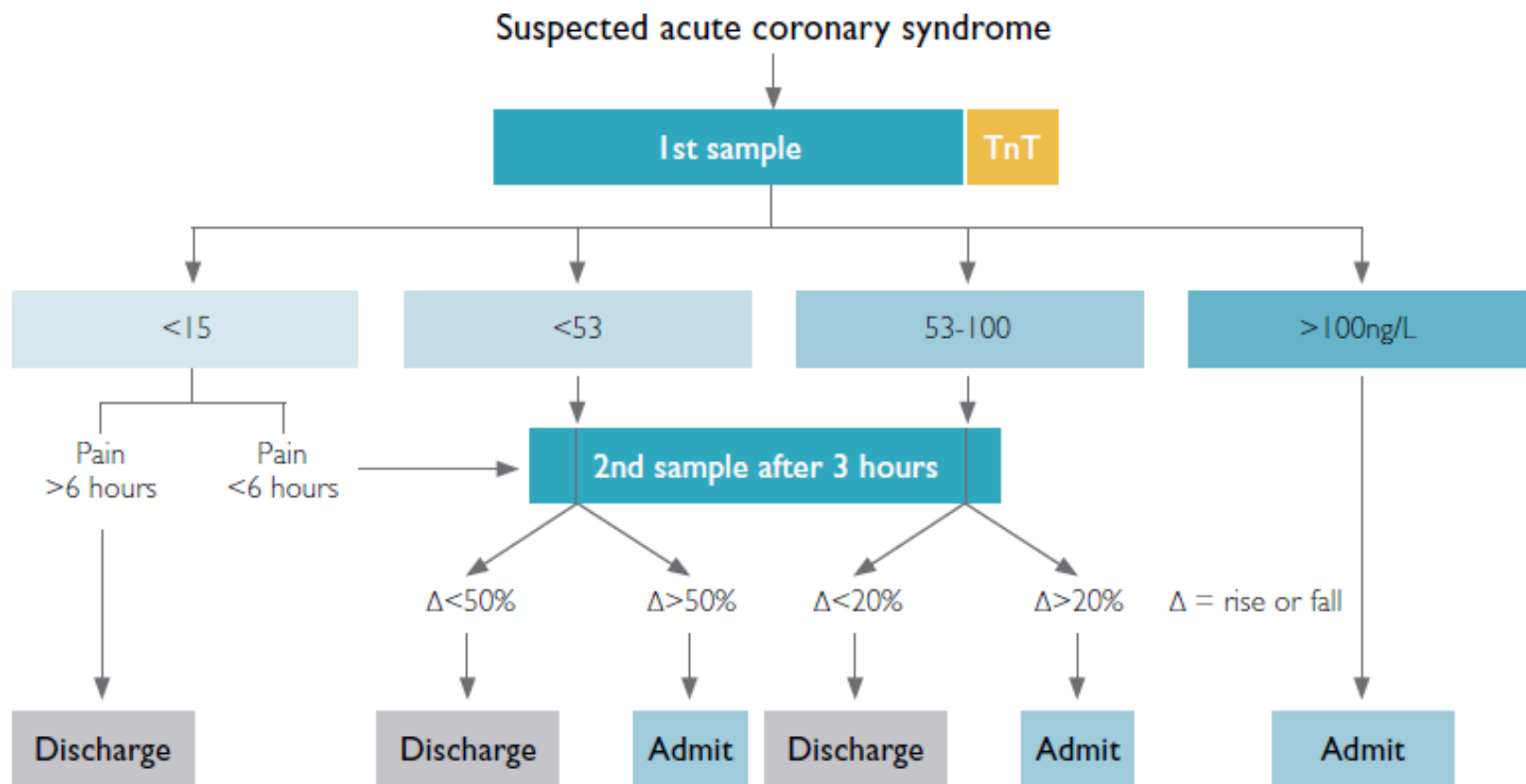


# TROPONIN T

- “Specific” for cardiac muscle injury
- Rises fairly early – within 4 – 6 hours  
(not as early as NTProBNP)
- Rises earlier than CK, CK-MB
- More sensitive than CK, CK-MB







Jardine, RM et al. SA Heart 2012;9:210-215



SA Heart Association

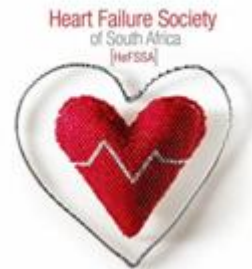
#### Task force

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 P.D. Rambau FFPATH(SA)‡; E.S. Hitchcock MMed(Chem Path)\*



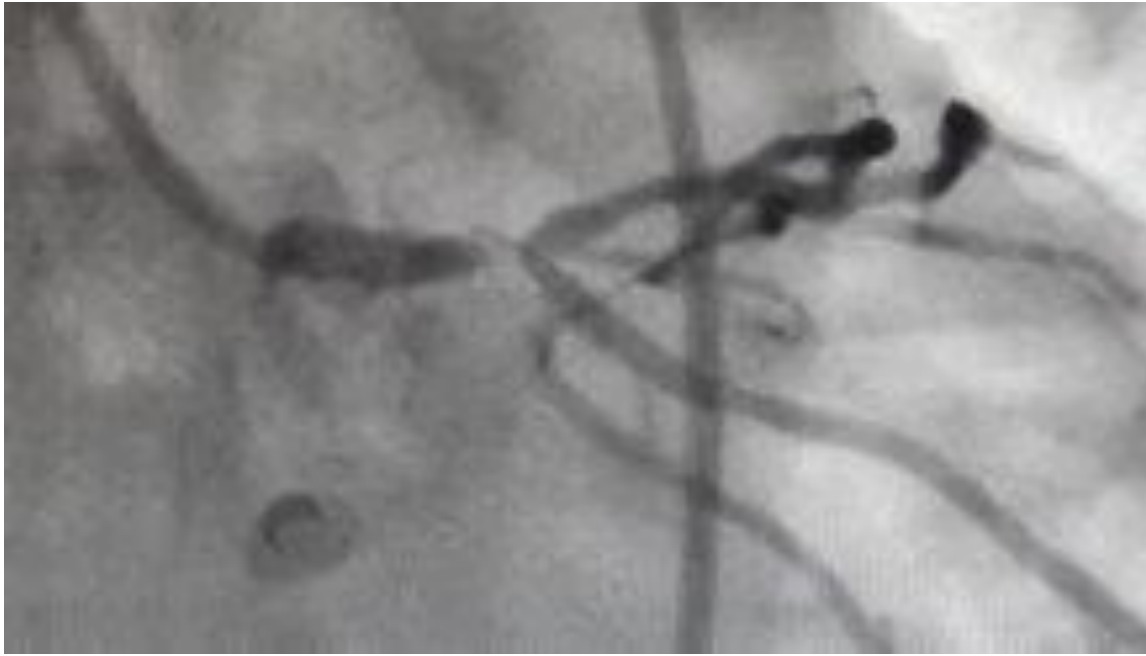
# TROPONIN T

- Repeated 6 hours later
  - 288 ng/L
- Home and dry?
  - Acute coronary syndrome precipitating heart failure?



# CARDIAC TROPONIN ELEVATION (other than ACS)

Acute	Acute		Chronic
Ischaemic mechanism	Other mechanisms		Stable atherosclerotic coronary artery disease
Acute heart failure	Cardiac contusion	Myo-pericarditis	Other coronary disease e.g. SLE, scleroderma, Kawasaki's disease, transplant vasculopathy
Pulmonary embolism	Procedural trauma:	Endocarditis	
Tachy-arrhythmias	Cardiac surgery	Stroke	Atrial fibrillation
Brady-arrhythmias	Uncomplicated PCI	Tako-tsubo cardiomyopathy	Chronic heart failure
Accelerated hypertension	ASD closure	Rhabdomyolysis	Chronic renal failure
Hypotension / shock	Endomyocardial biopsy	COPD exacerbation	Hypertension/ LV hypertrophy
Sepsis	Pacing	Acute renal failure	Pulmonary arterial hypertension
ARDS	ICD shocks	Burns >30%	Aortic valve disease
Aortic dissection	RF/cryo ablation	Snake venoms	Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
Carbon monoxide poisoning	External cardiac massage	Chemotherapy: Adriamycin, 5-fluoro-uracil, herceptin	Infiltration: amyloidosis, haemochromatosis, sarcoidosis
	External cardioversion / defibrillation	Sympathomimetic drugs	Peri-partum cardiomyopathy
		Strenuous exertion	Hypothyroidism
		After non-cardiac surgery	Diabetes

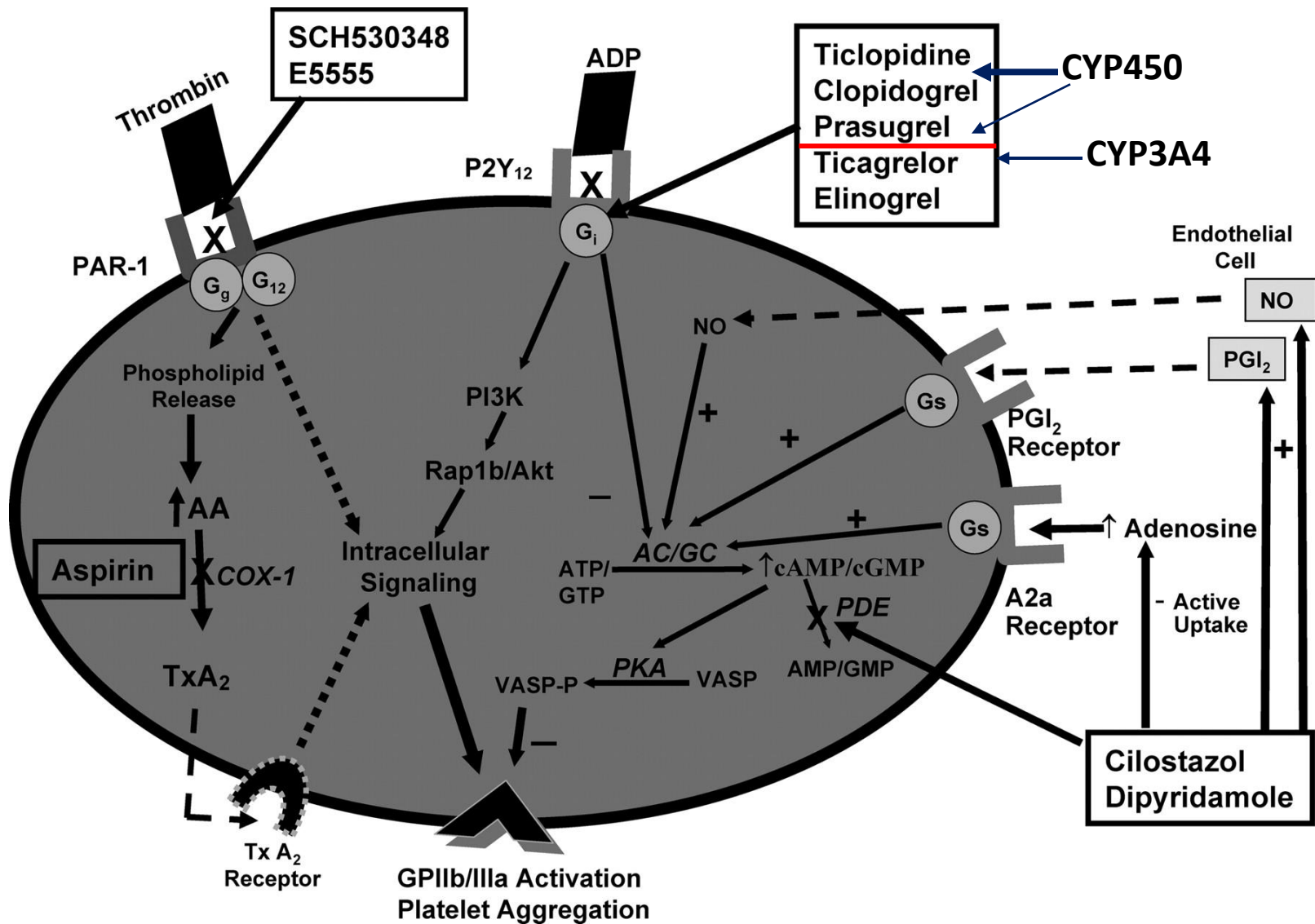


Advised CABG  
Elderly lady – asked if “there was anything else”

# DUAL ANTIPLATELET THERAPY

- DAPT
  - Dispirin + Clopidogrel
    - Very effective
      - Platelet resistance
    - Prodrug
      - 2 steps of activation
    - Relatively quick onset of action
    - Prolonged duration of action
      - 5 days
    - Delay surgery
    - Operate with higher risk of bleeding





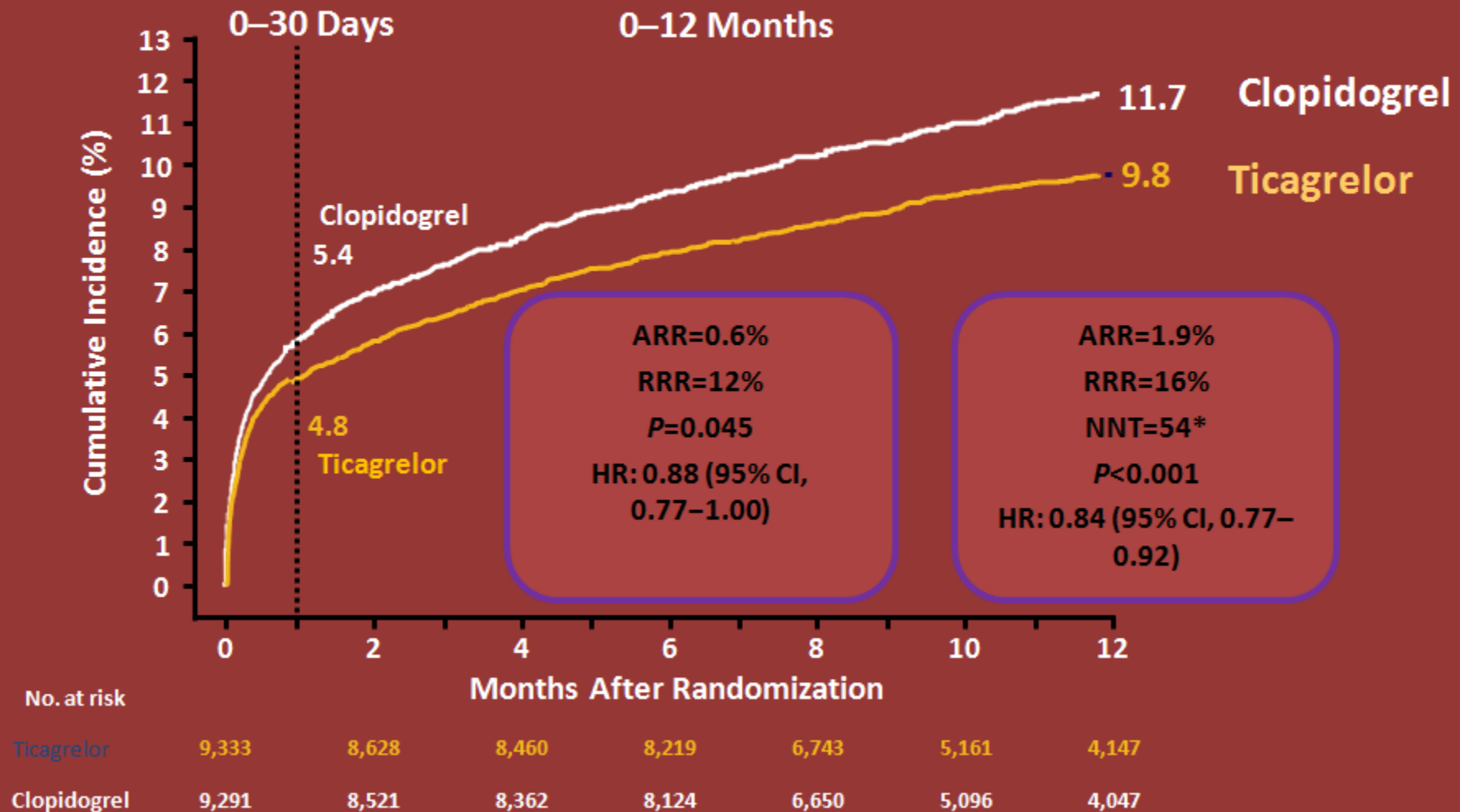
Gurbel P A , Tantry U S Circulation 2010;121:569-583



# TICAGRELOR

- Non-thienodipyridine drug
- P2Y<sub>12</sub> inhibitor
- Active
- Reversible
- Faster onset of action
- Shorter duration of action
- bd dosage (90mg bd)
- Dyspnoea, pauses / bradycardia

# PLATO: Primary Efficacy Endpoint (Composite of CV Death, MI, or Stroke)

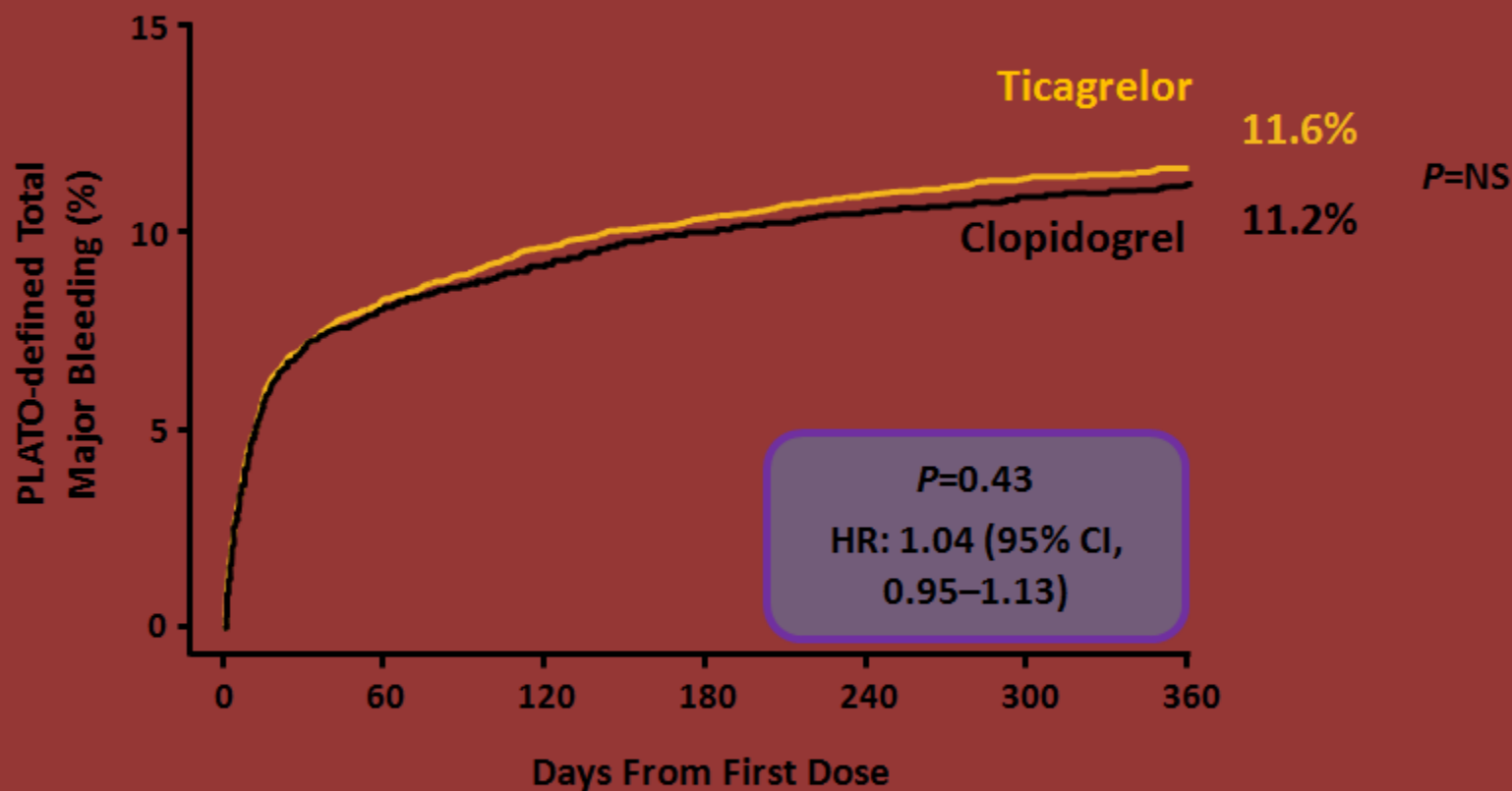


Both groups included aspirin.

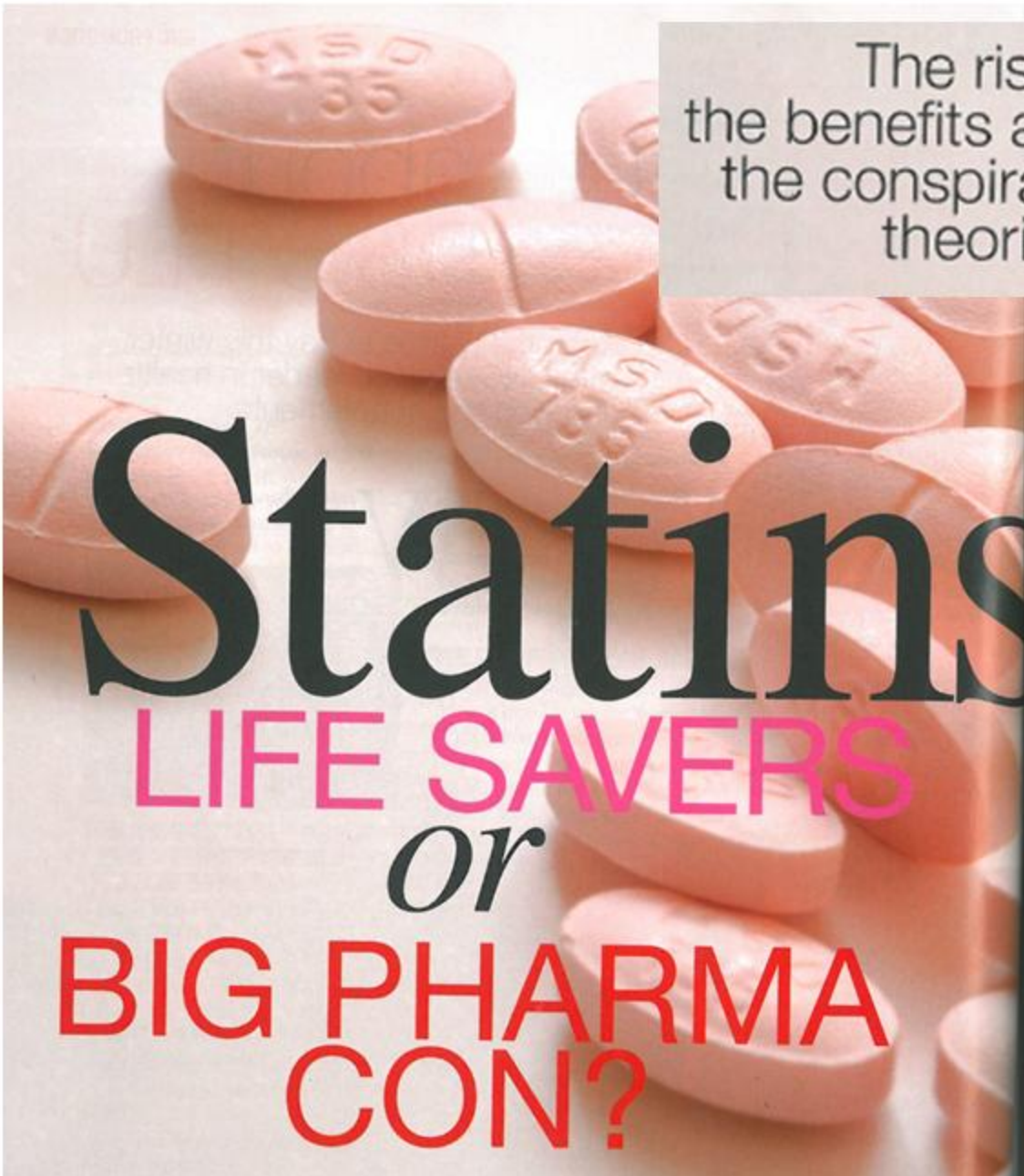
\*NNT at one year.

Wallentin L, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2009;361:1045–1057.

# PLATO: Primary Safety Endpoint



No. at risk							
Ticagrelor	9,235	7,246	6,826	6,545	5,129	3,783	3,433
Clopidogrel	9,186	7,305	6,930	6,670	5,209	3,841	3,479



The risks,  
the benefits and  
the conspiracy  
theories.

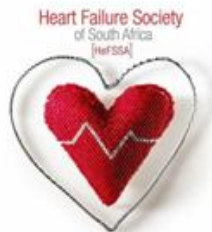
**S**ome claim they're nothing but a con, marginally effective drugs foisted on the public by pharmaceutical companies out to make a profit at the expense of our health; others say they are so effective in the fight against cardiovascular disease that they should be added to our drinking water.

# Statins

LIFE SAVERS  
*or*  
BIG PHARMA  
CON?

*Detractors  
oppose the  
'medicalisation'  
of people who are  
not ill, and also  
cite grave  
side effects as  
reason enough to  
avoid the drugs.*

- Statins
  - Bad press
    - Memory loss
    - Muscle aches and pains
    - Fatigue
    - Depression
    - My friends have all had side effects
    - No benefit
- Did Noakes say “throw away your statins”?



# STATINS IN THE ELDERLY

- Fewer people > 75 in statin trials
- Continue statin if already on
- Starting high intensity statin >75 for 2<sup>o</sup> prevention, not clearly supported on the few data available
- Moderate intensity statin Rx supported ASCVD >75
- Few data available to indicate event reduction in 1<sup>o</sup> prevention >75, without
- clinical ASCVD
- Starting statin for 1<sup>o</sup> prevention >75; requires additional factors, must consider increasing comorbidities, safety,
- Can look at 10 year risk of ASCVD





# CONCLUSION

- Elderly lady, chest pain, short of breath
  - Wide differential
- Acute Heart Failure
  - CXR congestion
  - ProBNP 1980
- Precipitated by an acute coronary syndrome
  - Coronary angiogram
- Stent
  - Dispirin + Clopidogrel (Ticagrelor soon to be here)

