

**AAV 2001-2021**

***Cyclophosphamide  
to  
Avacopan***

**Dr. John H. Stone  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Harvard Medical School**

# Disclosures

- Chemocentryx
- Roche/Genentech
- Sanofi
- Bristol-Myers Squibb
- AstraZeneca
- Argenx
- AbbVie
- Q32BIO

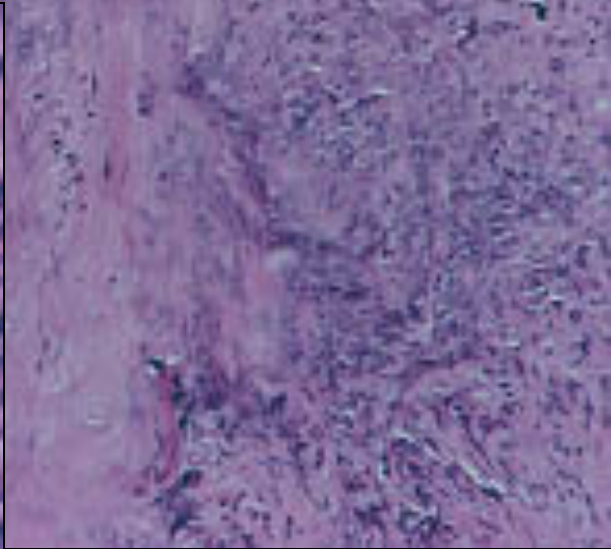
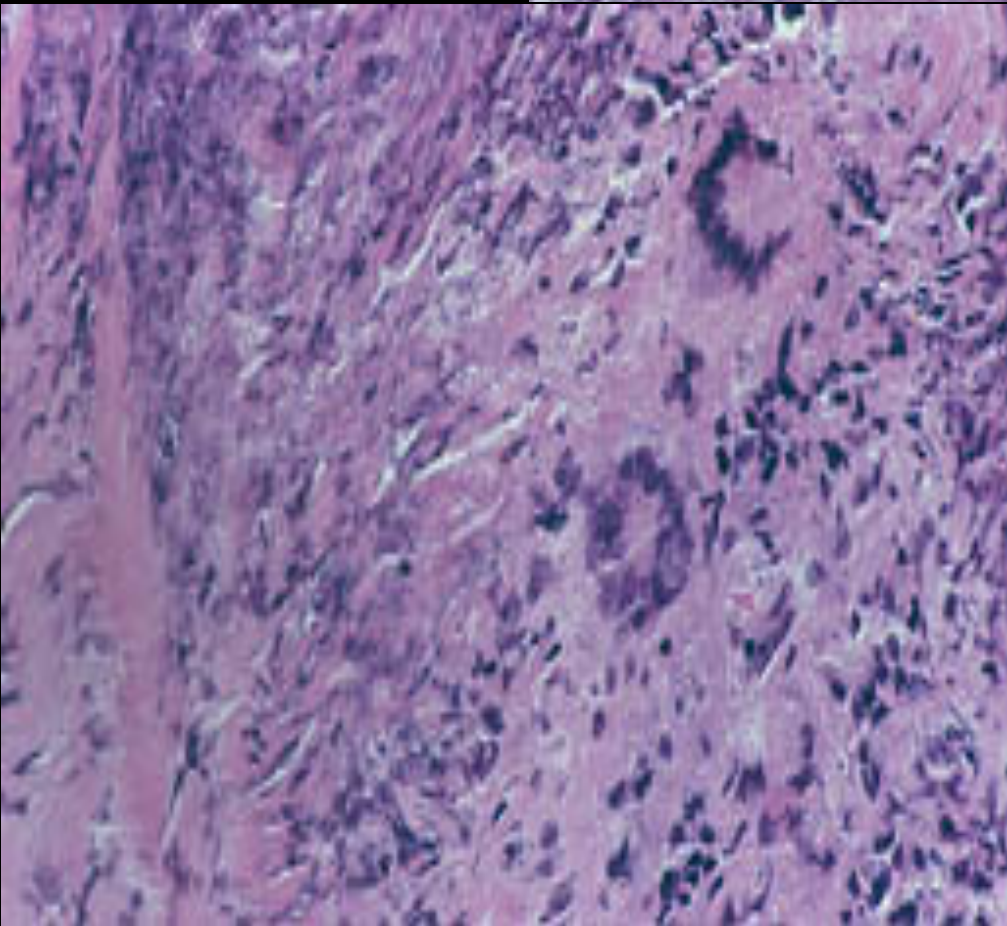
# **A Patient: Mr. S**

## **Holiday Party**

**December, 2001**

















**Urinalysis: 3+ proteinuria, 40-50 RBCs/hpf**



**Serum Cr 1.3 mg/dL**



**PR3-ANCA 194 (nl < 20)**

# Cyclophosphamide: Daily or Intermittent?



**“CYCLOPS”**

**I.V. CYC regimen:  
Q 2 weeks**

**Cyclophosphamide:**

**Daily or Intermittent?**

**Titratable**

# Serum creatinine and BUN

| Date                 | Creatinine<br>(mg/dL) | BUN<br>(mg/dL) |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Feb 13 <sup>th</sup> | 1.3                   | 19             |

Admitted

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| Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>                 | 1.3                   | 19             |
| <b>Admitted</b> Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> | 1.4                   | 22             |

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| Mar 6 <sup>th</sup>                  | 8.1                   | 115            |

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*What next?...*



***Serum creatinine = 8.1 mg/dL***

## **Options:**

Door A: More steroids?

Door B: Increase cyclophosphamide?

Door C: Kidney biopsy?

Door D: Plasma exchange?

# What About Plasma Exchange?

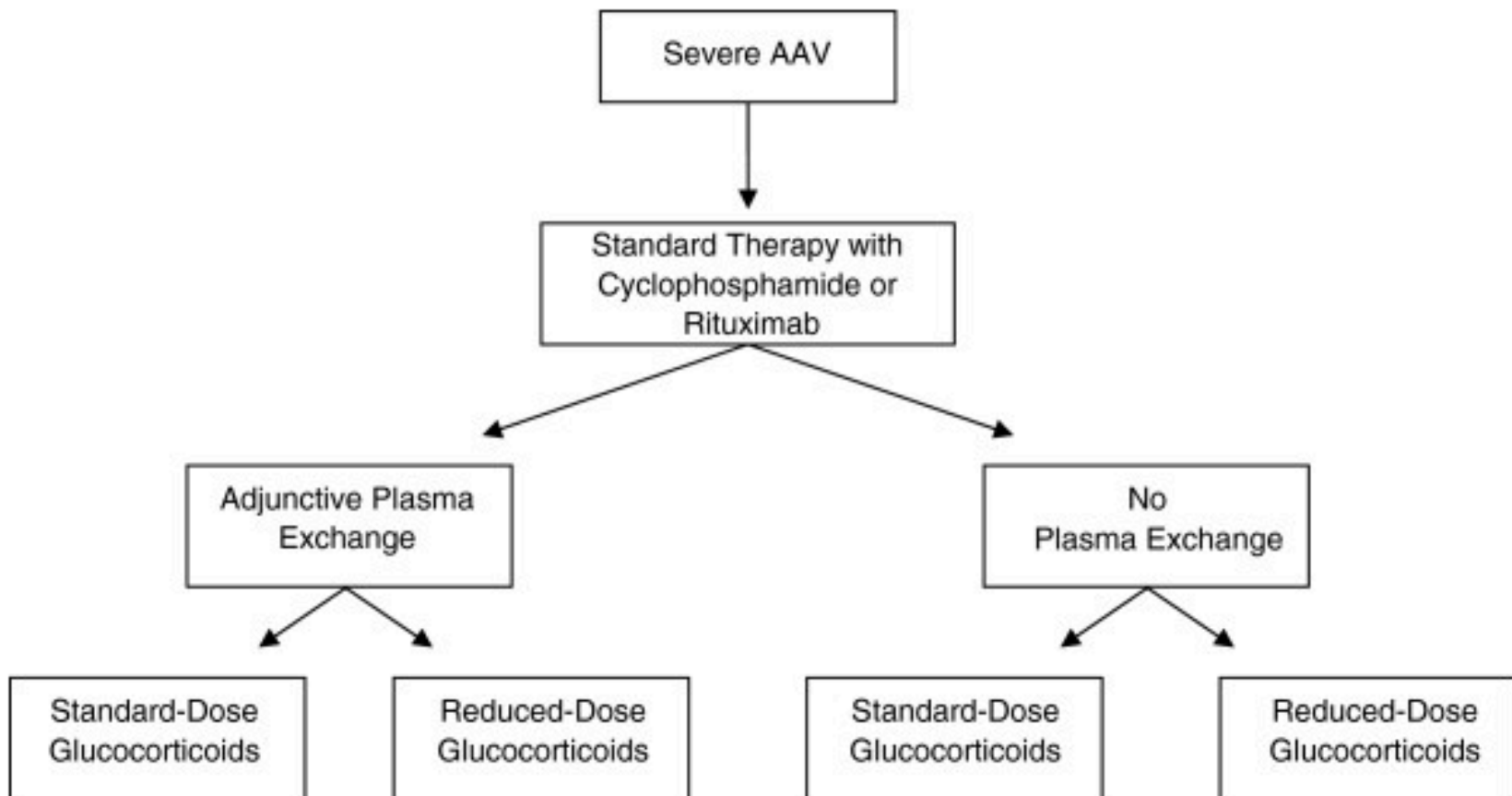
*The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE*

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Plasma Exchange and Glucocorticoids in Severe ANCA-Associated Vasculitis

M. Walsh, P.A. Merkel, C.-A. Peh, W.M. Szpirt, X. Puéchal, S. Fujimoto,  
C.M. Hawley, N. Khalidi, O. Floßmann, R. Wald, L.P. Girard, A. Levin,  
G. Gregorini, L. Harper, W.F. Clark, C. Pagnoux, U. Specks, L. Smyth, V. Tesar,  
T. Ito-Ihara, J.R. de Zoysa, W. Szczeklik, L.F. Flores-Suárez, S. Carette,  
L. Guillevin, C.D. Pusey, A.L. Casian, B. Brezina, A. Mazzetti, C.A. McAlear,  
E. Broadhurst, D. Reidlinger, S. Mehta, N. Ives, and D.R.W. Jayne,  
for the PEXIVAS Investigators\*

# Would Plasma Exchange Have Altered Mr. S' Outcome?





# PEXIVAS: Doomed to Fail

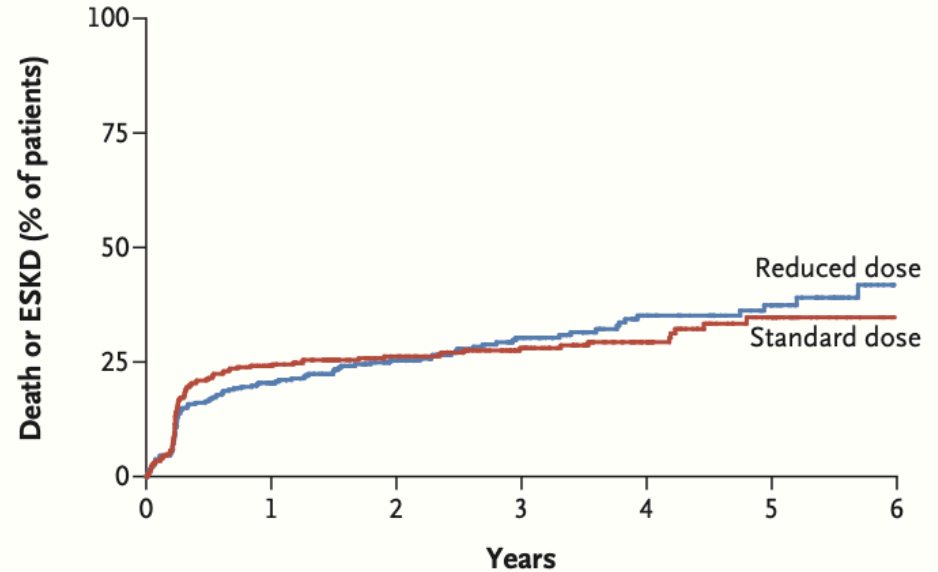
A close-up photograph of a person's face, focusing on their eyes. The person has light-colored eyes and a wide-eyed, shocked, or distressed expression. The background is dark, making the face stand out.

Composite Primary Endpoint:  
death from any cause or ESRD.

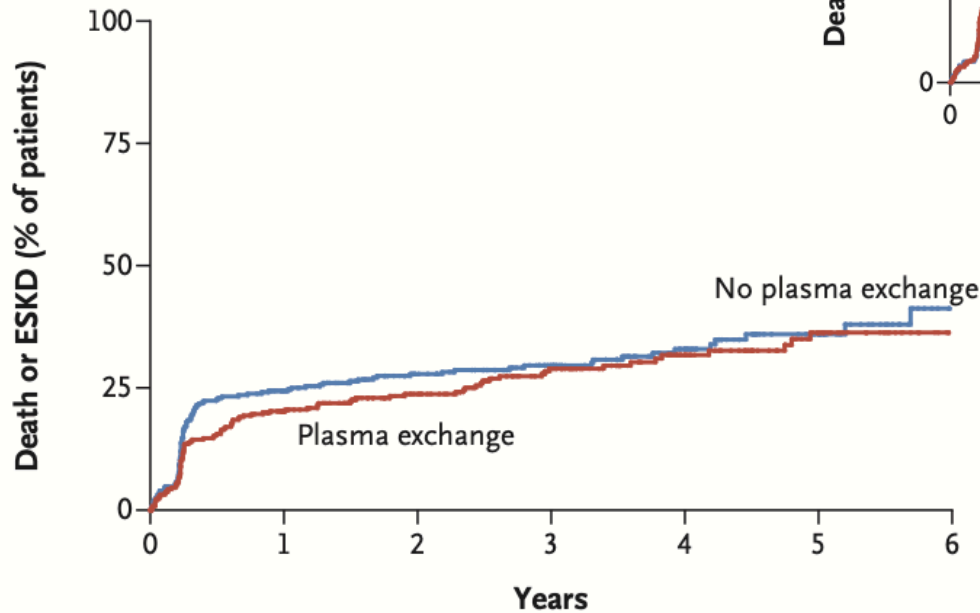
The utility of plasma exchange – if any – is EARLY

# Primary Outcome

Primary Outcome According to Glucocorticoid Regimen



Primary Outcome According to Plasma Exchange



# Secondary Outcomes

| Secondary Outcome            | Plasma Exchange vs. No Plasma Exchange | Reduced-Dose vs. Standard-Dose Glucocorticoid Regimen |
|------------------------------|--|---|
|                              | <i>effect size (95% CI)</i>            |   |
| Death from any cause         | 0.87 (0.58–1.29)                       | 0.78 (0.53–1.17)                                      |
| End-stage kidney disease     | 0.81 (0.57–1.13)                       | 0.96 (0.68–1.34)                                      |
| Sustained remission          | 1.01 (0.89–1.15)                       | 1.04 (0.92–1.19)                                      |
| Serious adverse events       | 1.21 (0.96–1.52)                       | 0.95 (0.75–1.20)                                      |
| Serious infections at 1 year | 1.16 (0.87–1.56)                       | 0.69 (0.52–0.93)                                      |

# Other Problems with PEXIVAS

- Underlying Premise
- Steroid regimen
- Does it convince anyone?

# Conclusions:

~~1. Plasma exchange does not reduce the incidence of death or ESKD.~~

~~2. A faster glucocorticoid taper was noninferior to a standard-dose regimen with respect to death or ESKD.~~

# Editorial

“Without baseline biopsy data, the proportion of patients who had kidney dysfunction caused by active inflammation, which may respond to immunomodulatory therapy, as compared with chronic sclerosis, which would not respond to this therapy, is unknown....”

# Editorial

~~“Without baseline biopsy data, the proportion of patients who had kidney dysfunction caused by active inflammation, which may respond to immunomodulatory therapy, as compared with chronic sclerosis, which would not respond to this therapy, is unknown. A subgroup of patients with aggressive kidney disease with minimal scarring may benefit from plasma exchange.”~~

# Editorial (cont.):

“In our judgment, until a study specifically designed to evaluate efficacy in patients with pulmonary hemorrhage has been performed,



## Editorial (cont.):

~~“In our judgment, until a study specifically designed to evaluate efficacy in patients with pulmonary hemorrhage has been performed, plasma exchange should remain part of the induction regimen for patients with ANCA-induced pulmonary hemorrhage.”~~



***Serum creatinine = 8.1 mg/dL***

## **Options:**

Door A: More steroids?

Door B: Increase cyclophosphamide?

Door C: Kidney biopsy?

Door D: Plasma exchange?

CYC lowered as  
renal function worsened:

125 mg/day →→ 50 mg/day

| <b>Date</b>                      | <b>Creatinine<br/>(mg/dL)</b> | <b>BUN<br/>(mg/dL)</b> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Mar 18<sup>th</sup>, '02</b>  | <b>4.7</b>                    | <b>74</b>              |
| <b>Mar 25<sup>th</sup>, '02</b>  | <b>3.2</b>                    | <b>54</b>              |
| <b>May 10<sup>th</sup>, '02</b>  | <b>1.9</b>                    | <b>20</b>              |
| <b>June 10<sup>th</sup>, '02</b> | <b>1.8</b>                    | <b>20</b>              |

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→ Azathioprine 100 mg/day

**2007**

**1.9**

**ANCA negative**





- Recurrence
- Renal failure
- Transplant
- CMV retinitis
- Blind

# WHAT CAUSED THIS?

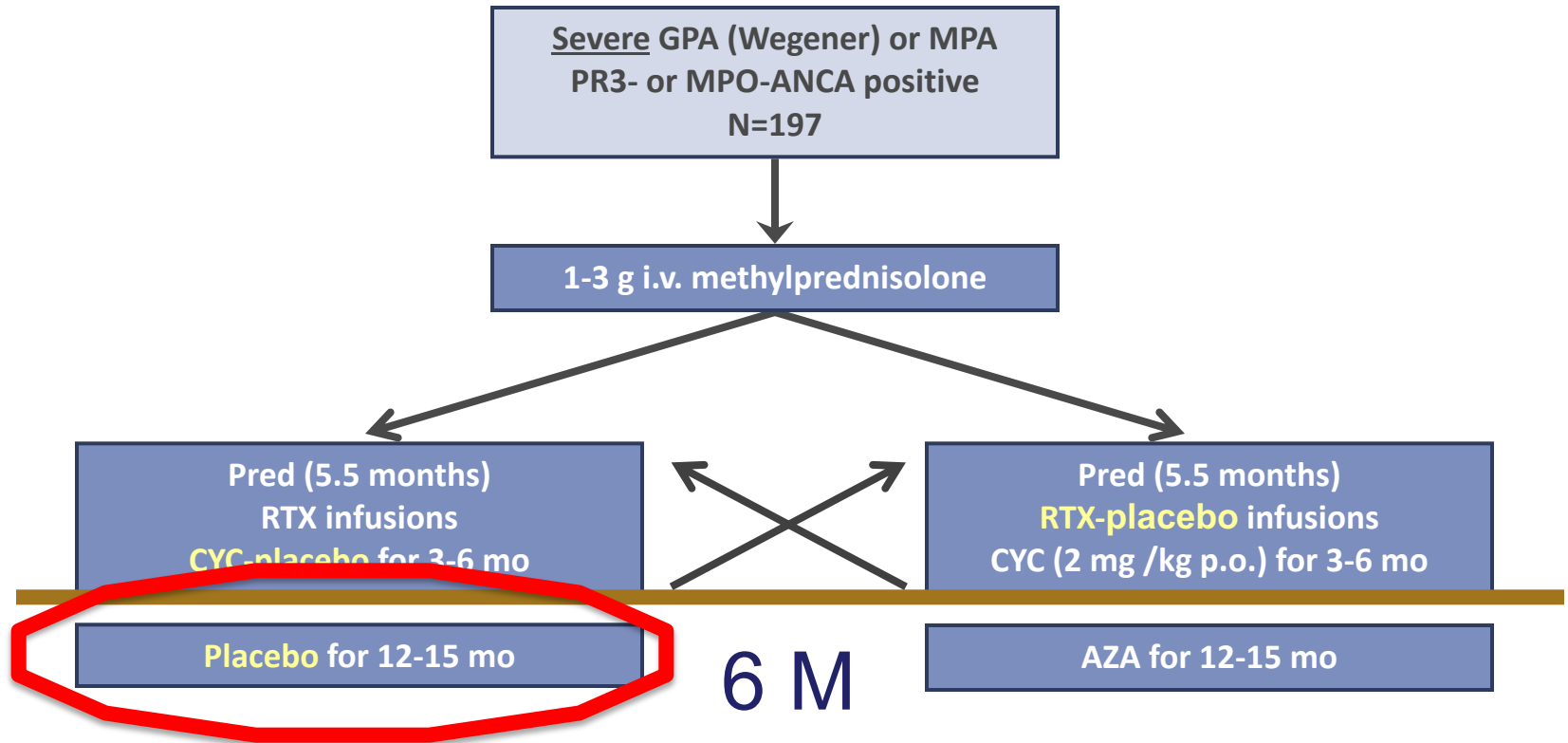
- Transplant regimen?
- Azathioprine?
- Cyclophosphamide?
- Rituximab?
- **Glucocorticoids?**



# The RAVE Trial

- Challenged CYC head to head
- Stopped prednisone completely in < 6 months
- Blinded trial

# RAVE Trial Design



# RAVE Primary Endpoint (6 mos)

BVAS/WG = 0 and Prednisone = 0 mg

**CYC**  
**(N=98)**

**53%**

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**Only 53% of CYC-treated patients achieved the primary outcome?**

**Why?**

**The trial was blinded**

**Prednisone stopped entirely**

# *The* NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

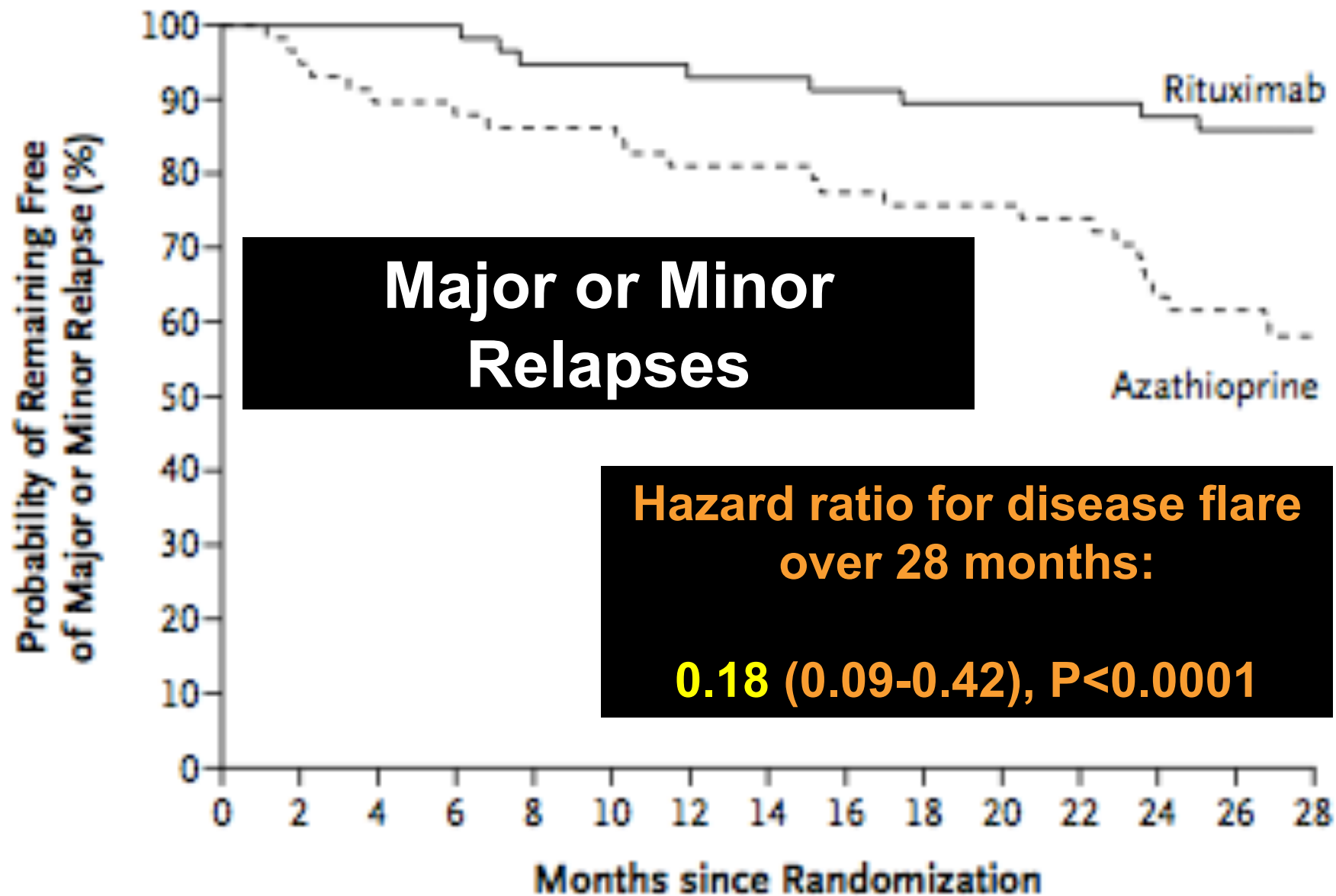
NOVEMBER 6, 2014

VOL. 371 NO. 19

## Rituximab versus Azathioprine for Maintenance in ANCA-Associated Vasculitis

L. Guillevin, C. Pagnoux, A. Karras, C. Khouatra, O. Aumaître, P. Cohen, F. Maurier, O. Decaux, J. Ninet, P. Gobert, T. Quémeneur, C. Blanchard-Delaunay, P. Godmer, X. Puéchal, P.-L. Carron, P.-Y. Hatron, N. Limal, M. Hamidou, M. Ducret, E. Daugas, T. Papo, B. Bonnotte, A. Mahr, P. Ravaud, and L. Mouthon, for the French Vasculitis Study Group\*

**A positive superiority trial  
against an active comparator.**



**Major or Minor Relapses**

**Hazard ratio for disease flare over 28 months:**

**0.18 (0.09-0.42), P<0.0001**

But we really do have another problem...

**42% of the patients in RAVE  
were primary outcome failures**

ARTHRITIS & RHEUMATISM

Vol. 65, No. 9, September 2013, pp 2441–2449

DOI 10.1002/art.38044

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## Clinical Outcomes of Remission Induction Therapy for Severe Antineutrophil Cytoplasmic Antibody–Associated Vasculitis

E. M. Miloslavsky,<sup>1</sup> U. Specks,<sup>2</sup> P. A. Merkel,<sup>3</sup> P. Seo,<sup>4</sup> R. Spiera,<sup>5</sup> C. A. Langford,<sup>6</sup>  
G. S. Hoffman,<sup>6</sup> C. G. M. Kallenberg,<sup>7</sup> E. W. St.Clair,<sup>8</sup> N. K. Tchao,<sup>9</sup> L. Viviano,<sup>10</sup> L. Ding,<sup>10</sup>  
L. P. Sejjismundo,<sup>4</sup> K. Mieras,<sup>2</sup> D. Iklé,<sup>11</sup> B. Jepson,<sup>11</sup> M. Mueller,<sup>12</sup> P. Brunetta,<sup>13</sup> N. B. Allen,<sup>8</sup>  
F. C. Fervenza,<sup>2</sup> D. Geetha,<sup>4</sup> K. Keogh,<sup>2</sup> E. Y. Kissin,<sup>14</sup> P. A. Monach,<sup>14</sup> T. Peikert,<sup>2</sup>  
C. Stegeman,<sup>7</sup> S. R. Ytterberg,<sup>2</sup> and J. H. Stone,<sup>1</sup> for the Rituximab in ANCA-Associated  
Vasculitis–Immune Tolerance Network Research Group

# Six-Month Outcomes

| RTX | Outcome                            | CYC/AZA |
|-----|------------------------------------|---------|
| 7   | Uncontrolled Disease               | 3       |
| 3   | Severe Flare                       | 9       |
| 11  | Limited Flare                      | 14      |
| 5   | Adverse Event                      | 10      |
| 9   | BVAS/WG > 0 or still on prednisone | 11      |
| 1   | Other                              | 2       |
| 1   | Death                              | 2       |

**47 of 197 patients (24%) failed within the first six months because of active disease.**



*The* NEW ENGLAND  
JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

FEBRUARY 18, 2021

VOL. 384 NO. 7

Avacopan for the Treatment of ANCA-Associated Vasculitis

David R.W. Jayne, M.D., Peter A. Merkel, M.D., M.P.H., Thomas J. Schall, Ph.D., and Pirow Bekker, M.D, Ph.D.,  
for the ADVOCATE Study Group\*

**Avacopan:  
First-in-class complement inhibitor**

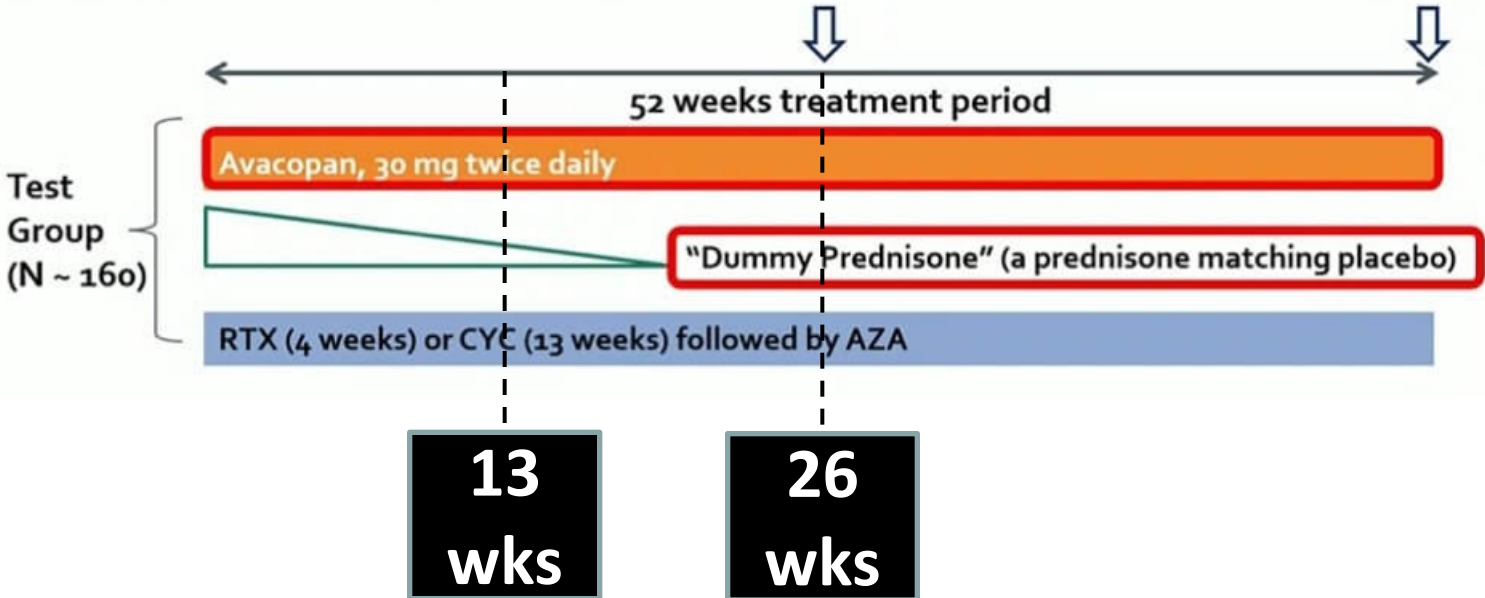
**Reduction in steroid morbidity:  
Glucocorticoid Toxicity Index (GTI)**

# ADVOCATE Trial Design

Two primary endpoints  
(analyzed after 52 weeks of dosing)

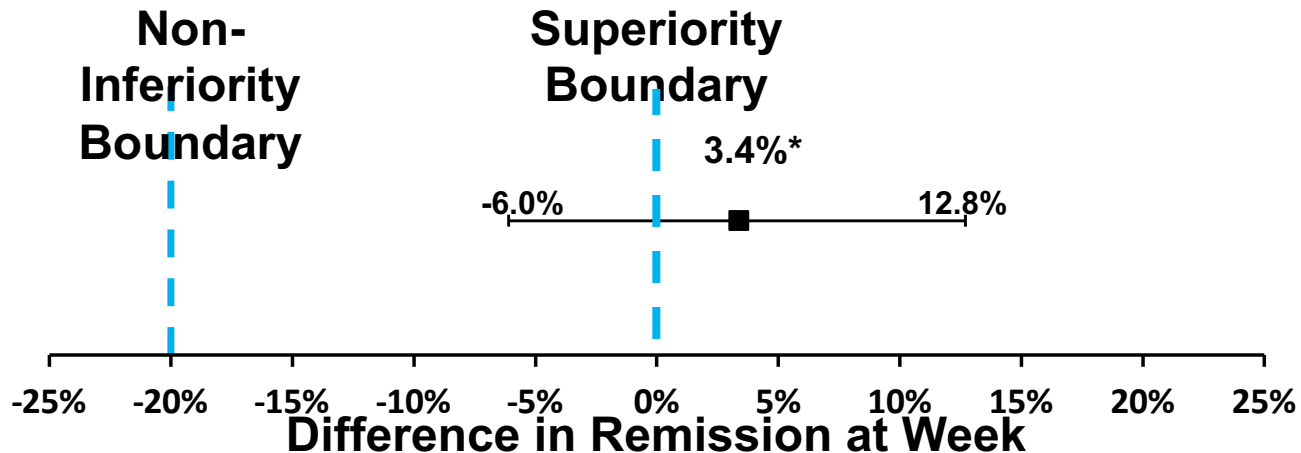
Remission at 26 weeks  
(based on BVAS and off GC)

Sustained remission at 52 weeks  
(based on BVAS and off GC)



# Primary Endpoint: Avacopan Non-Inferior to Prednisone in Week 26 Clinical Remission

|                    | Patients Achieving Clinical Remission<br>n (%) | Non-Inferiority<br>p-value | Superiority<br>p-value |
|--------------------|--|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Avacopan (N=166)   | 120 (72.3%)                                    | < 0.0001                   | 0.2387                 |
| Prednisone (N=164) | 115 (70.1%)                                    |                            |                        |



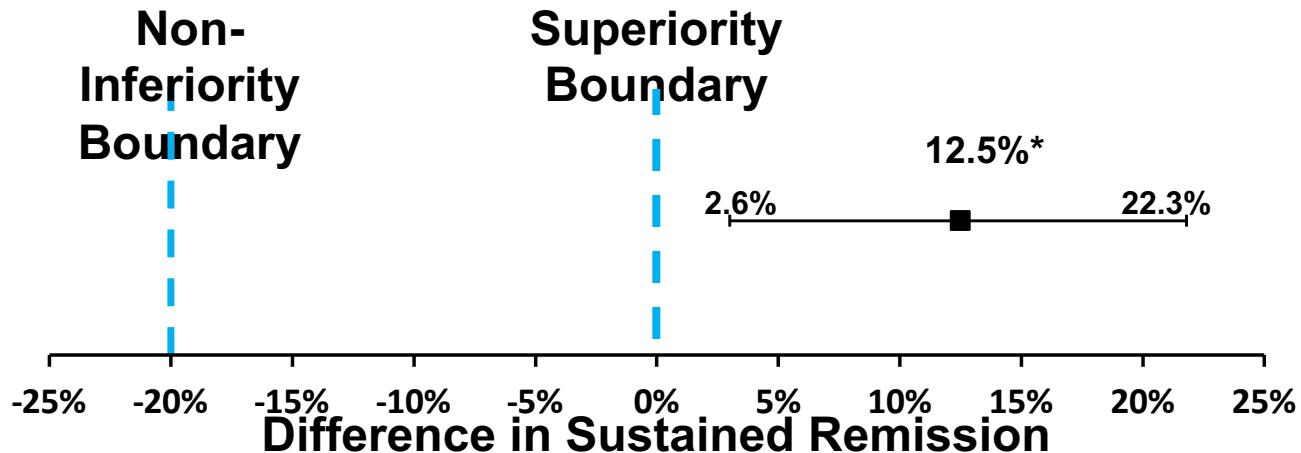
26

Avacopan – Prednisone, difference  
(95% CI)

\*Summary score estimate of common difference in remission rates (Agresti 2013) by using inverse-variance stratum weights

# Primary Endpoint: Avacopan Superior to Prednisone in Week 52 Sustained Remission

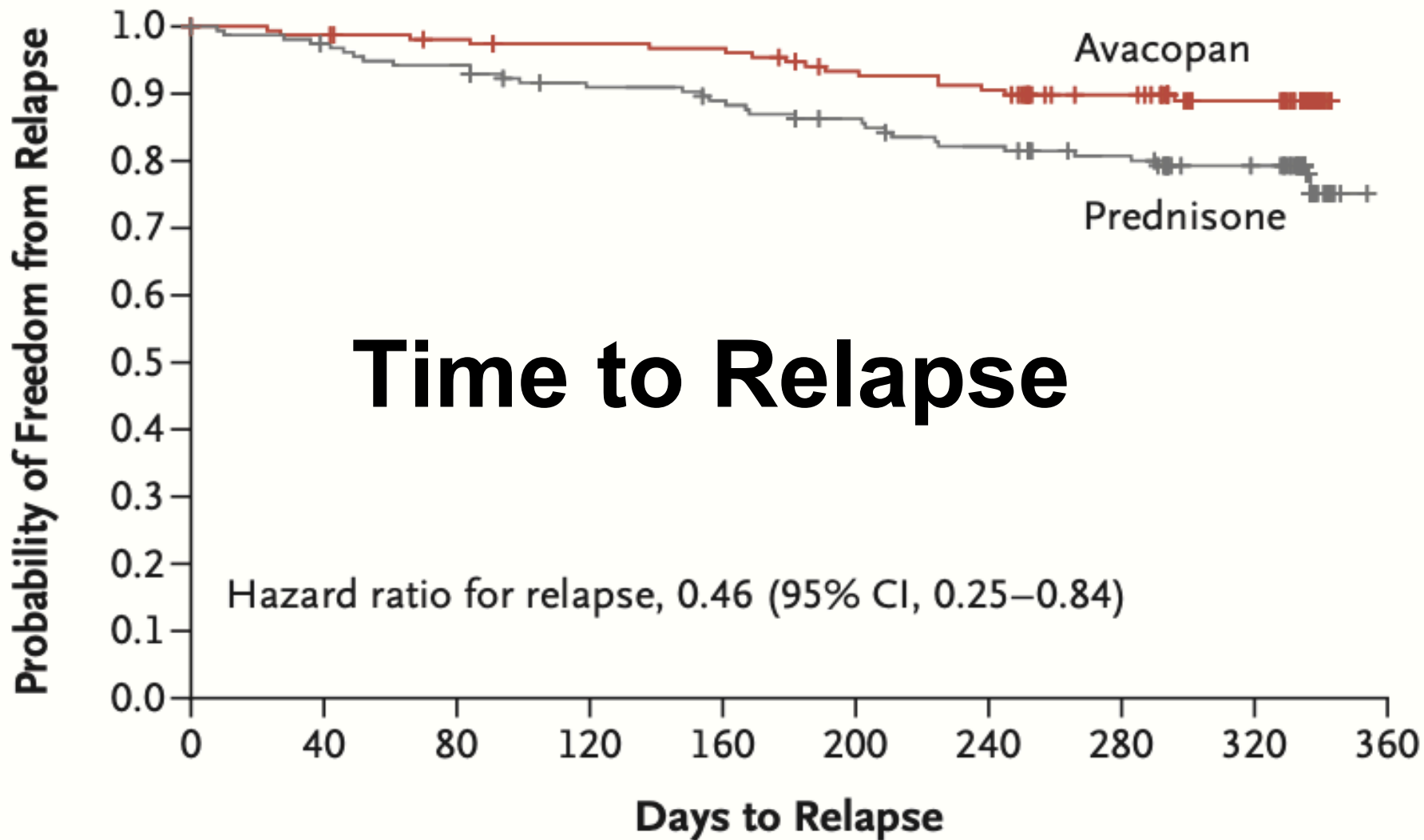
|                    | Patients Achieving Sustained Remission<br>n (%) | Non-Inferiority<br>p-value | Superiority<br>p-value |
|--------------------|---|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Avacopan (N=166)   | 109 (65.7%)                                     | < 0.0001                   | 0.0066                 |
| Prednisone (N=164) | 90 (54.9%)                                      |                            |                        |



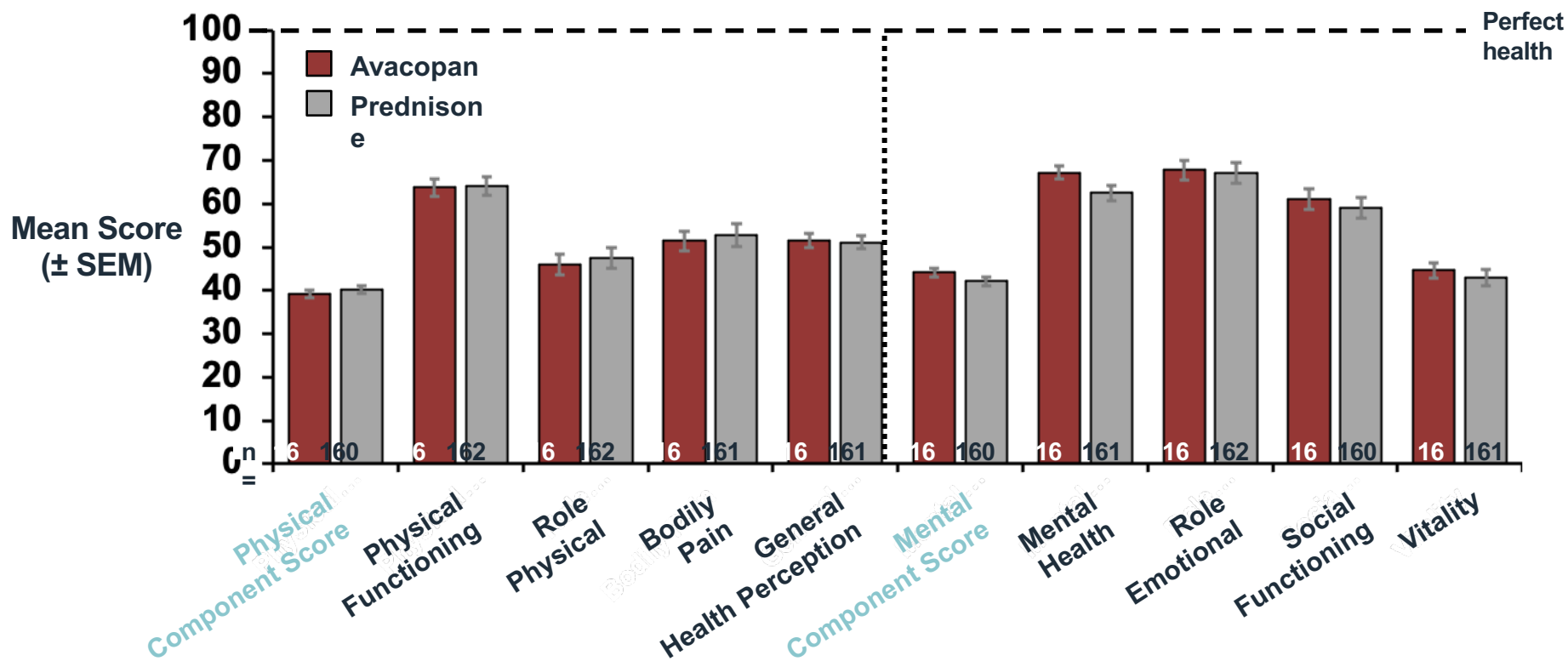
at Week 52 Avacopan –

Prednisone, difference (95% CI)

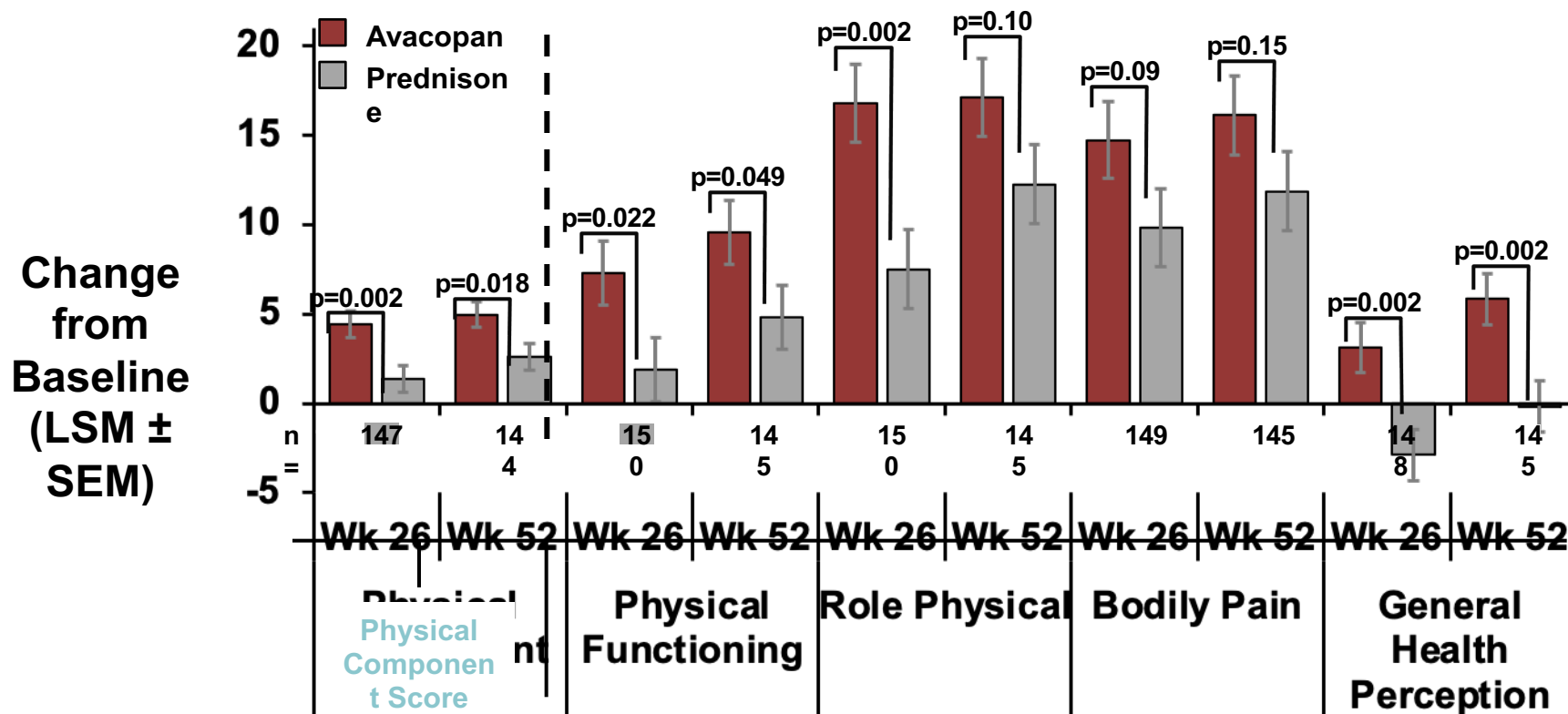
\*Summary score estimate of common difference in remission rates (Agresti 2013) by using inverse-variance stratum weights



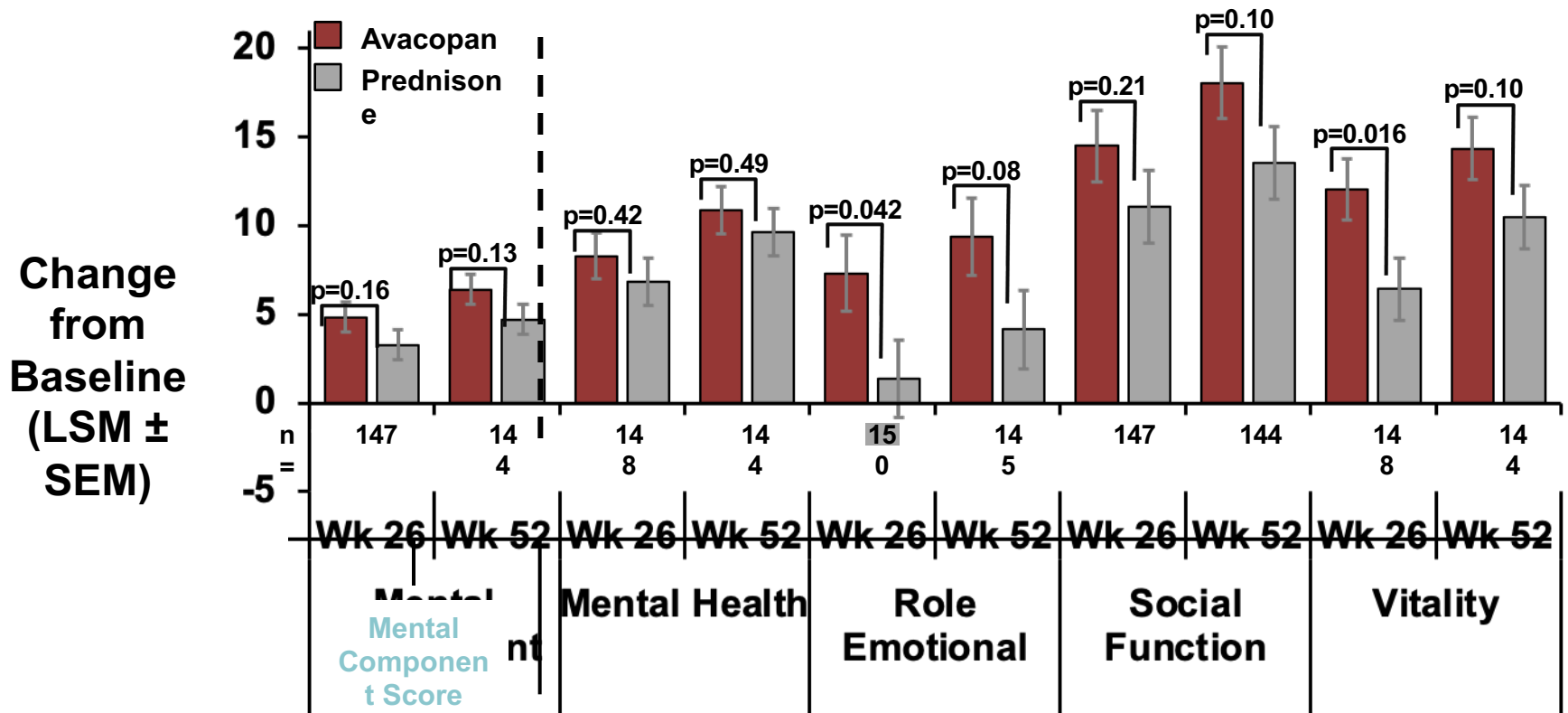
# Impaired QOL at Baseline Measured by SF-36



# Avacopan Improved Health-Related QoL: SF-36 Physical Component Domains



# SF-36 Mental Component Domains

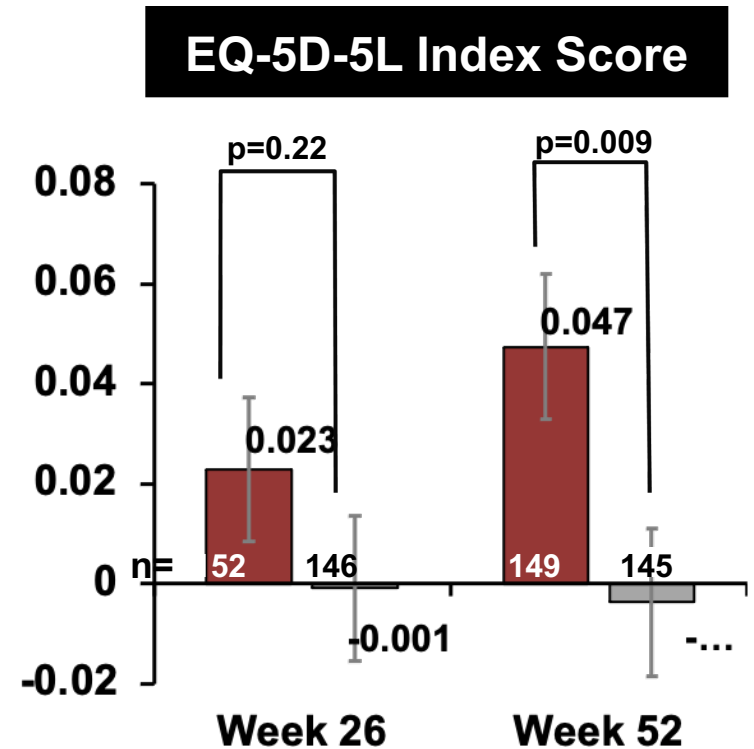
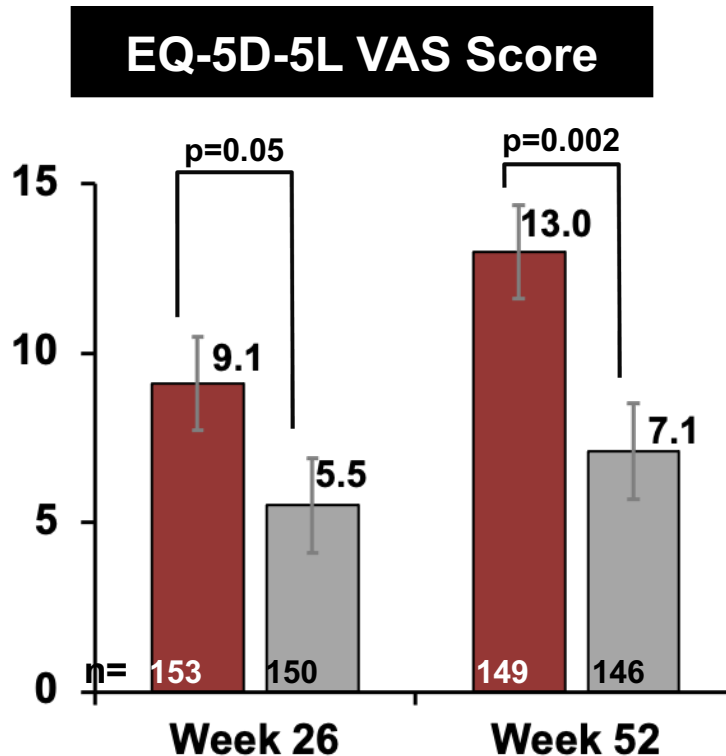




# Significant Improvement in EQ-5D-5L at Week 52 with Avacopan Compared to Prednisone

■ Avacopan  
■ Prednisone

Change in EQ-5D-5L (LSM ± SEM)



VAS = visual analogue scale (0-100)

# Treating Mr. S: 2021

- **Rituximab + avacopan**
  - Minimal prednisone
  - No cyclophosphamide
  - Consider additional RTX at four months
- **Follow closely**
  - Re-induce if disease returns
- **Maintenance?**

**Thank you!**

