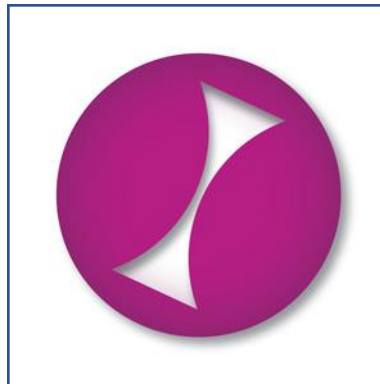


Pneumo Update Europe 2017

9 - 10 June, Vienna

Asthma



Roland Buhl, Germany

Asthma

- **Asthma prevention**

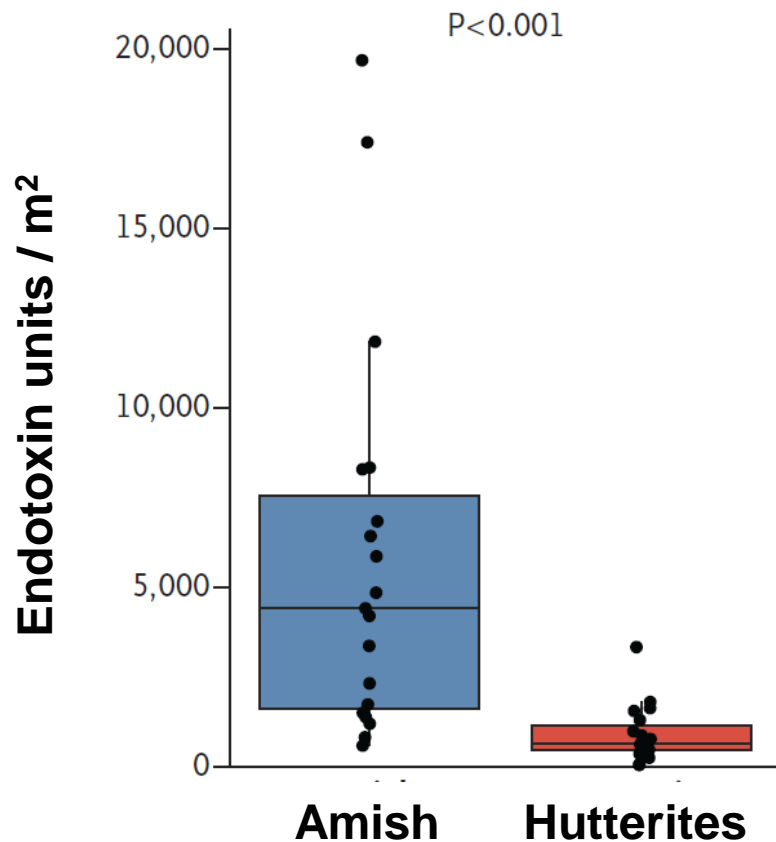
Innate immunity and asthma risk

Amish farm children			Hutterite farm children	
Allergy	7.2%	vs.	33.3%	
Asthma	5.2%	vs.	21.3%	

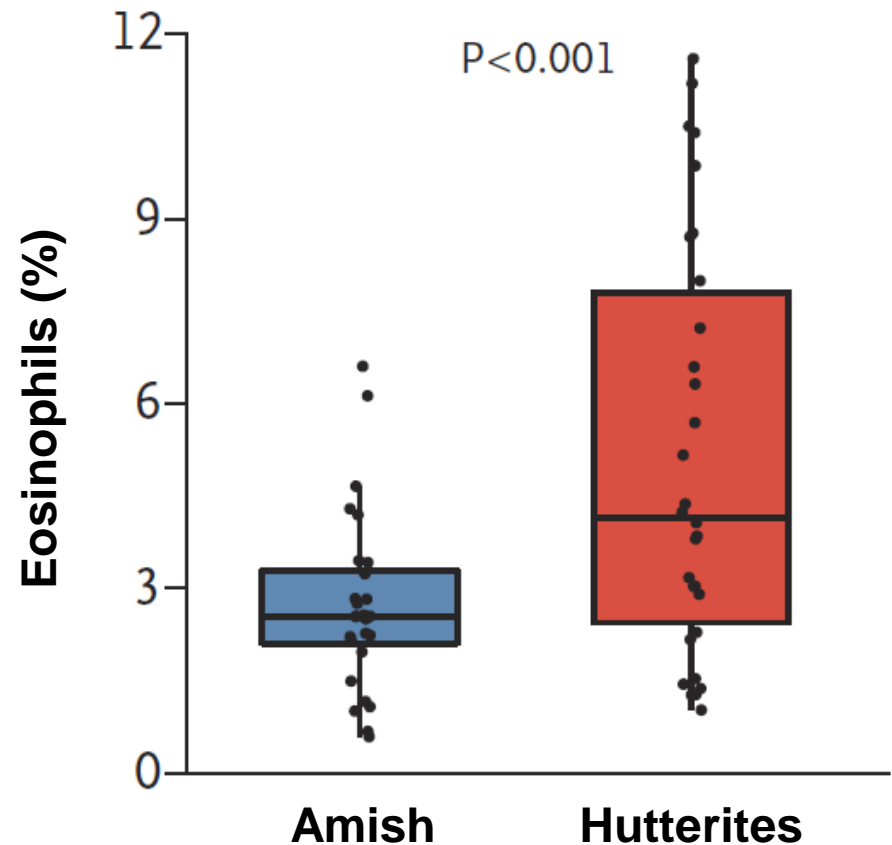
Motika, et al. J Allergy Clin Immunol 128:774-779, 2011; Holbreich, et al. J Allergy Clin Immunol 129:1671-1673, 2012; TA Chatila. N Engl J Med 375(5):477-479, 2016

Innate immunity and asthma risk

Endotoxin levels in airborne dust

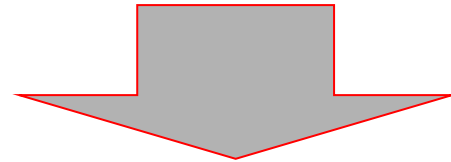


Blood eosinophils



Innate immunity and asthma risk

- Amish environment and lifestyle protect against allergy and asthma by inducing long-term, low-level, proinflammatory innate immune responses



New preventive approach ?

TA Chatila. N Engl J Med 375(5):477-479, 2016

Asthma

- **Asthma prevention**
- **Immunotherapy**
- **LABA safety**

Safety of adding salmeterol to fluticasone propionate in children with asthma

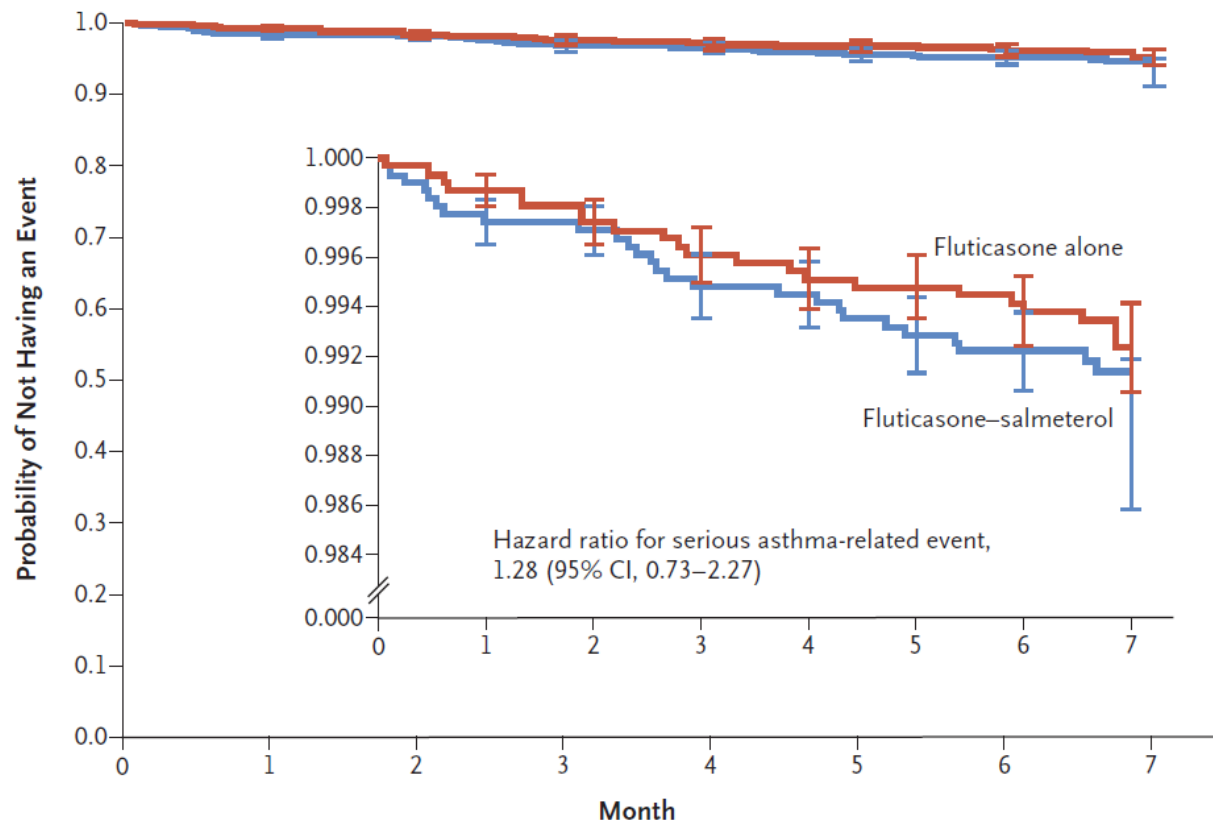
6208 asthma patients
4-11 yrs.,
≥ 1 exacerbation
in previous year

- Salm/FP bid 50/125 µg or 50/250 µg
- Fluticasone bid 125 µg or 250 µg

26 weeks

- First serious asthma-related event (death, intubation, or hospitalization)

First serious asthma-related event



Safety of adding salmeterol to fluticasone propionate in children with asthma

Safety endpoints

Safety End Point	Fluticasone–Salmeterol (N = 3107)	Fluticasone Alone (N = 3101)
Composite safety end point — no. (%)	27 (0.9)	21 (0.7)
Asthma-related death	0	0
Asthma-related intubation	0	0
Asthma-related hospitalization	27 (0.9)	21 (0.7)
Total no. of asthma-related hospitalizations*	28	22

**Stempel et al. N Engl J Med
375(9):840-849, 2016**

**Bush et al. N Engl J Med
375(9):889-891, 2016**

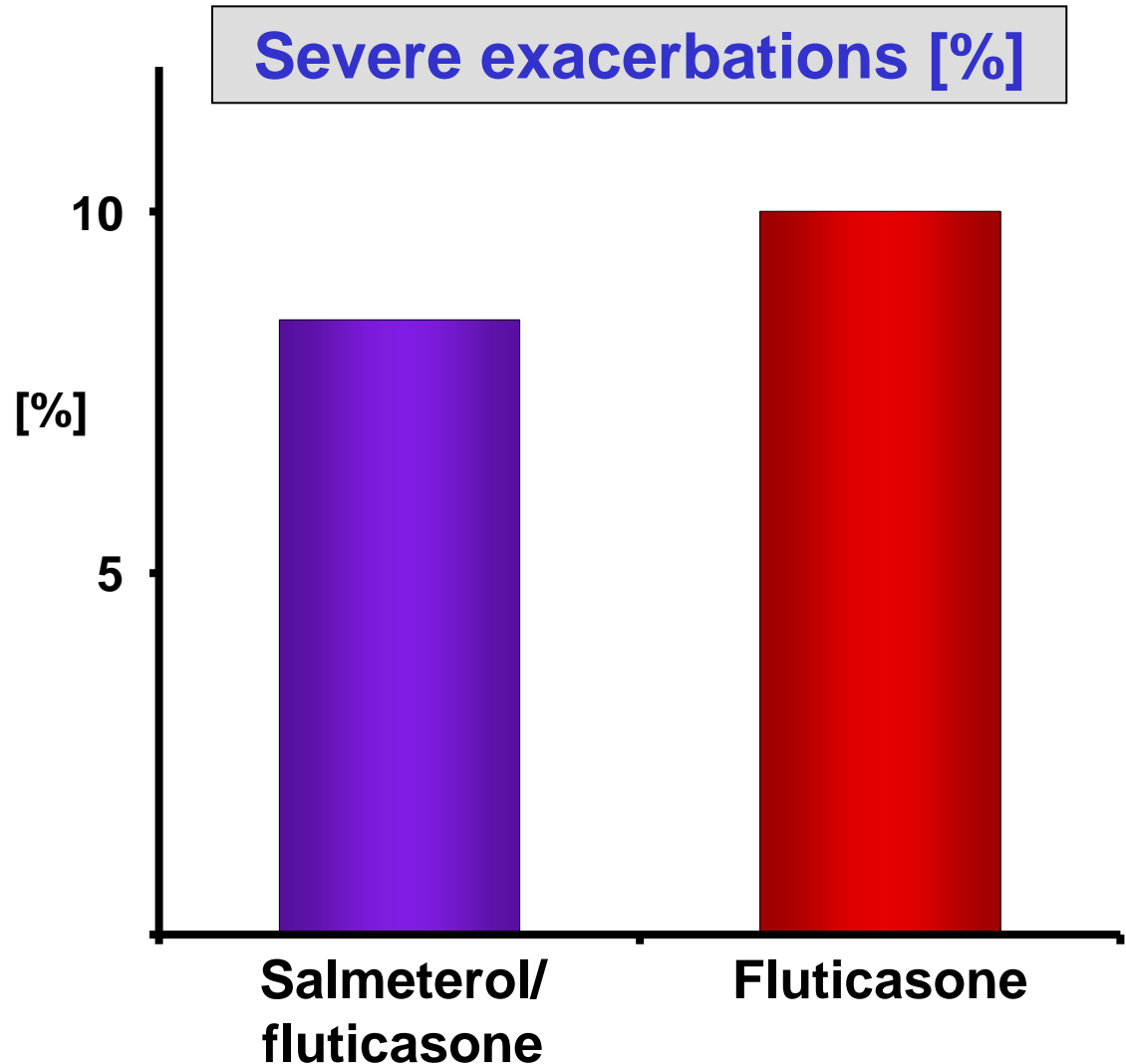
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- First serious asthma-related event (death, intubation, or hospitalization)



Safety of adding salmeterol to fluticasone propionate in children with asthma

6208 asthma patients
4-11 yrs.,
≥ 1 exacerbation
in previous year

Severe exacerbations [%]

10
5
[%]

- Salm/FP bid 50/125 µg or 50/250 µg
- Fluticasone bid 125 µg or 250 µg

Risk of severe asthma exacerbation 14% lower in the fluticasone/salmeterol group

- First serious asthma-related event (death, intubation, or hospitalization)

Salmeterol/
fluticasone

Fluticasone

Serious asthma events with budesonide plus formoterol vs. budesonide alone

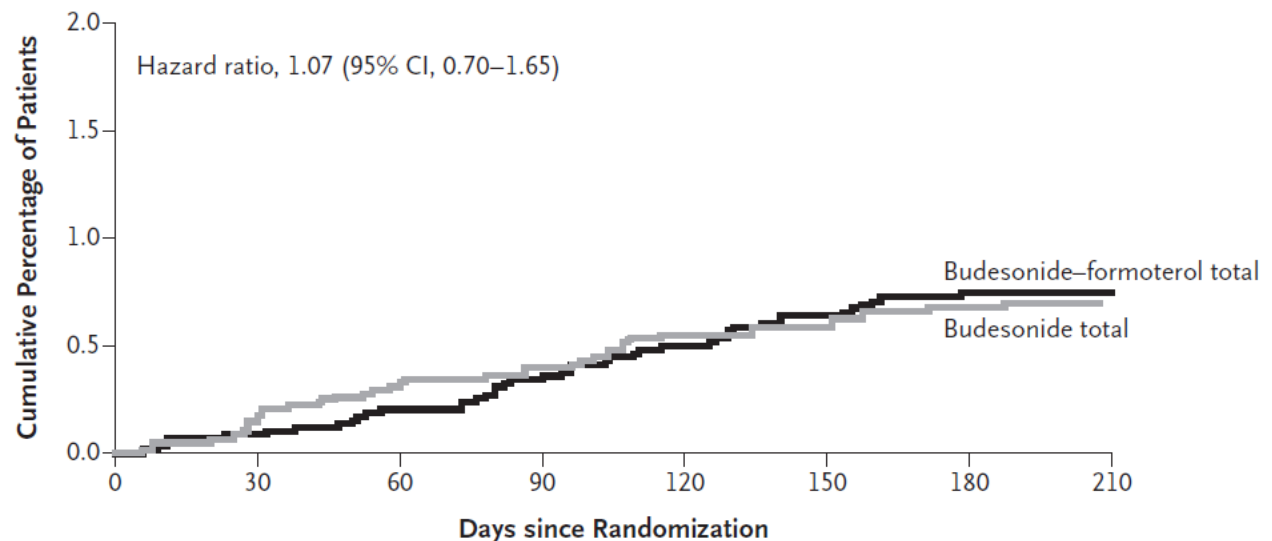
11693 asthma patients
≥ 1 exacerbation
in previous year

- Bud/Form
2x 80/4.5 µg or
160/4.50 µg bid
- Budesonide
2x 80 µg or
160 µg bid

26 weeks

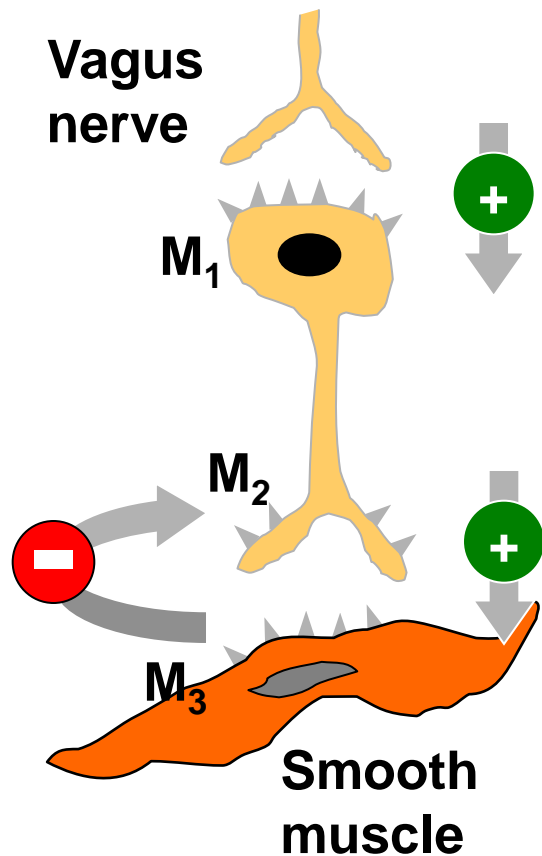
- First serious asthma-related event (death, intubation, or hospitalization)

Time to first serious asthma-related event



Asthma

- Asthma prevention
- Immunotherapy
- LABA safety
- Tiotropium in asthma



Tiotropium add-on in adolescents with moderate asthma

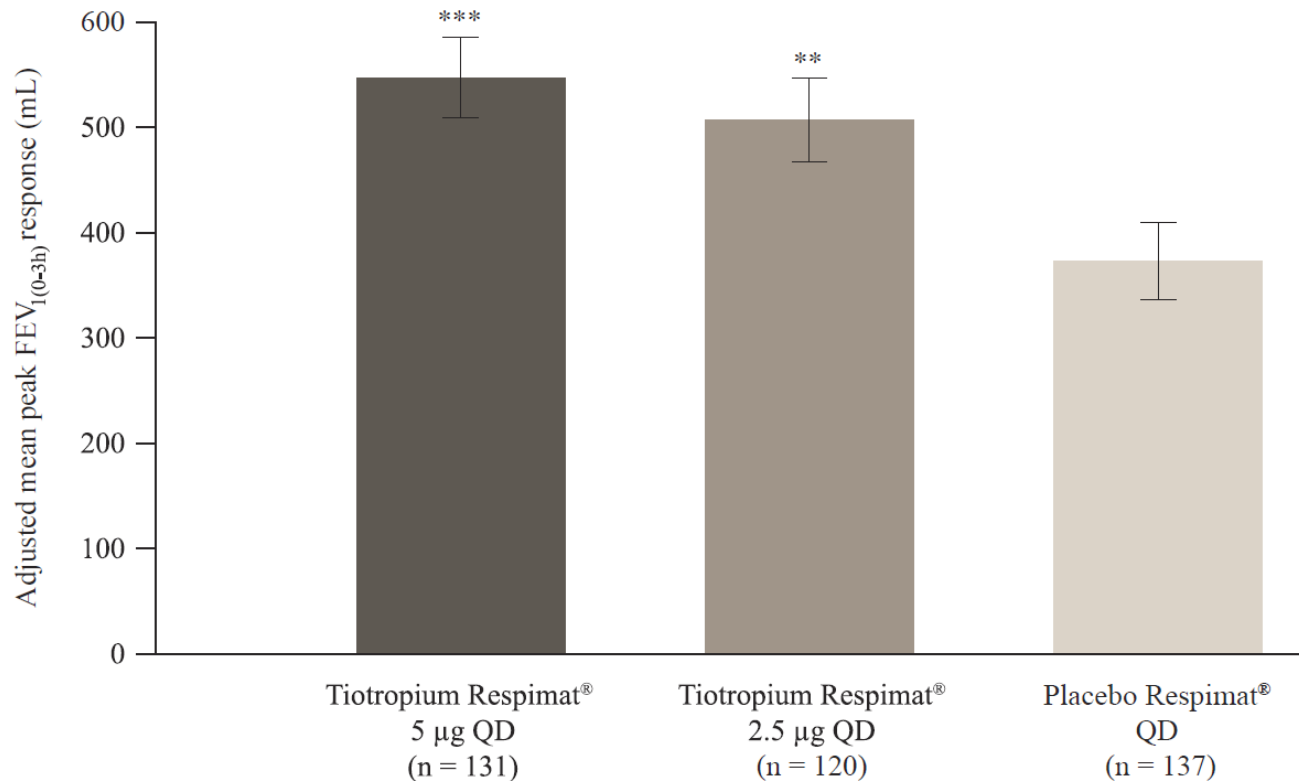
398 asthma patients
ICS ± LTRA
12 – 17 years

- Tiotropium
 - 1x 5 µg
 - 1x 2.5 µg
- Placebo

48 weeks

- Lung function

Peak FEV₁(0-3 h) in week 24



Tiotropium add-on in adolescents with severe symptomatic asthma

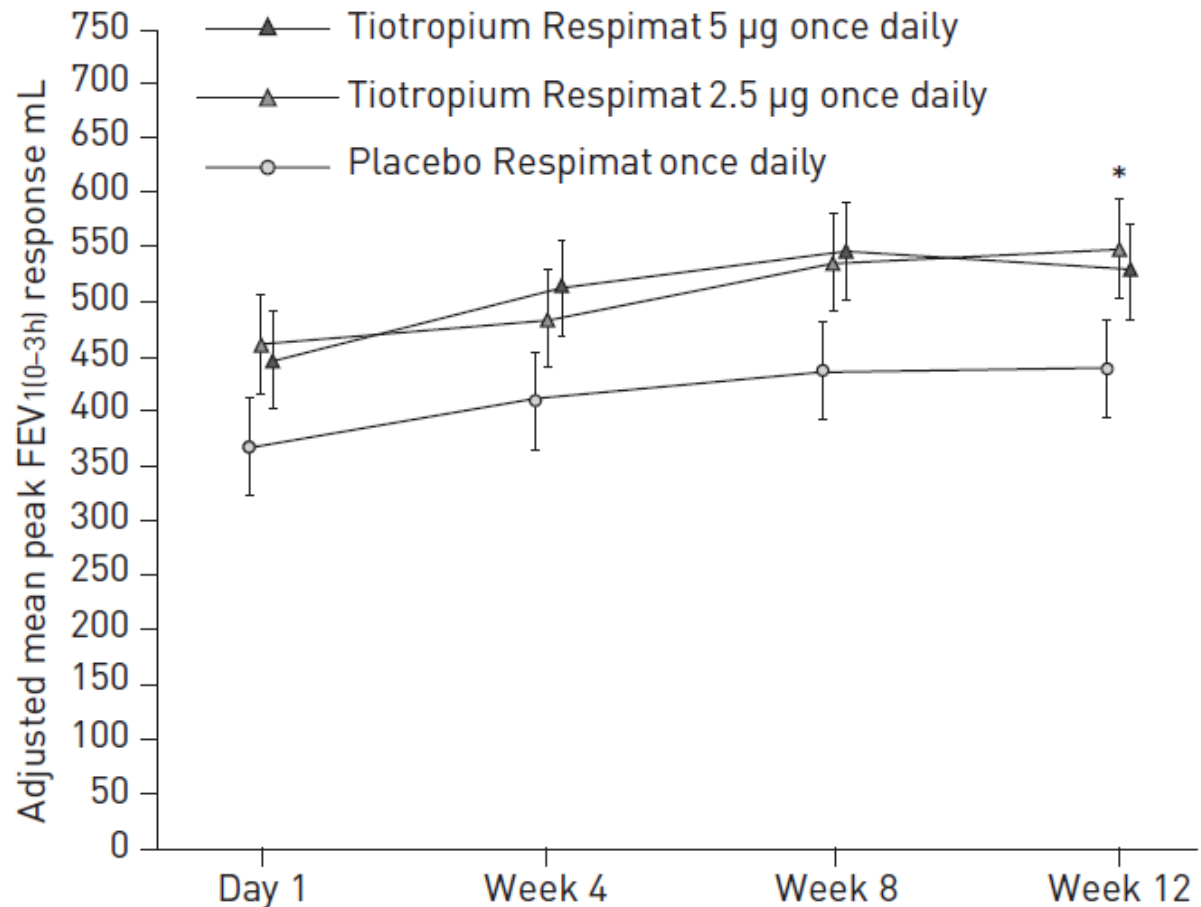
392 asthma patients
ICS + other controller(s)
12 – 17 years

- Tiotropium
 - 1x 5 µg
 - 1x 2.5 µg
- Placebo

12 weeks

- Lung function

Peak FEV₁(0-3 h) in week 12



Tiotropium: Asthma indication in the US

- **The proposed indication for tiotropium Respimat is the longterm, once-daily, add-on maintenance treatment of asthma in patients 12 years of age and older who remain symptomatic on at least inhaled corticosteroids**

Tiotropium add-on improves lung function in children with severe symptomatic asthma

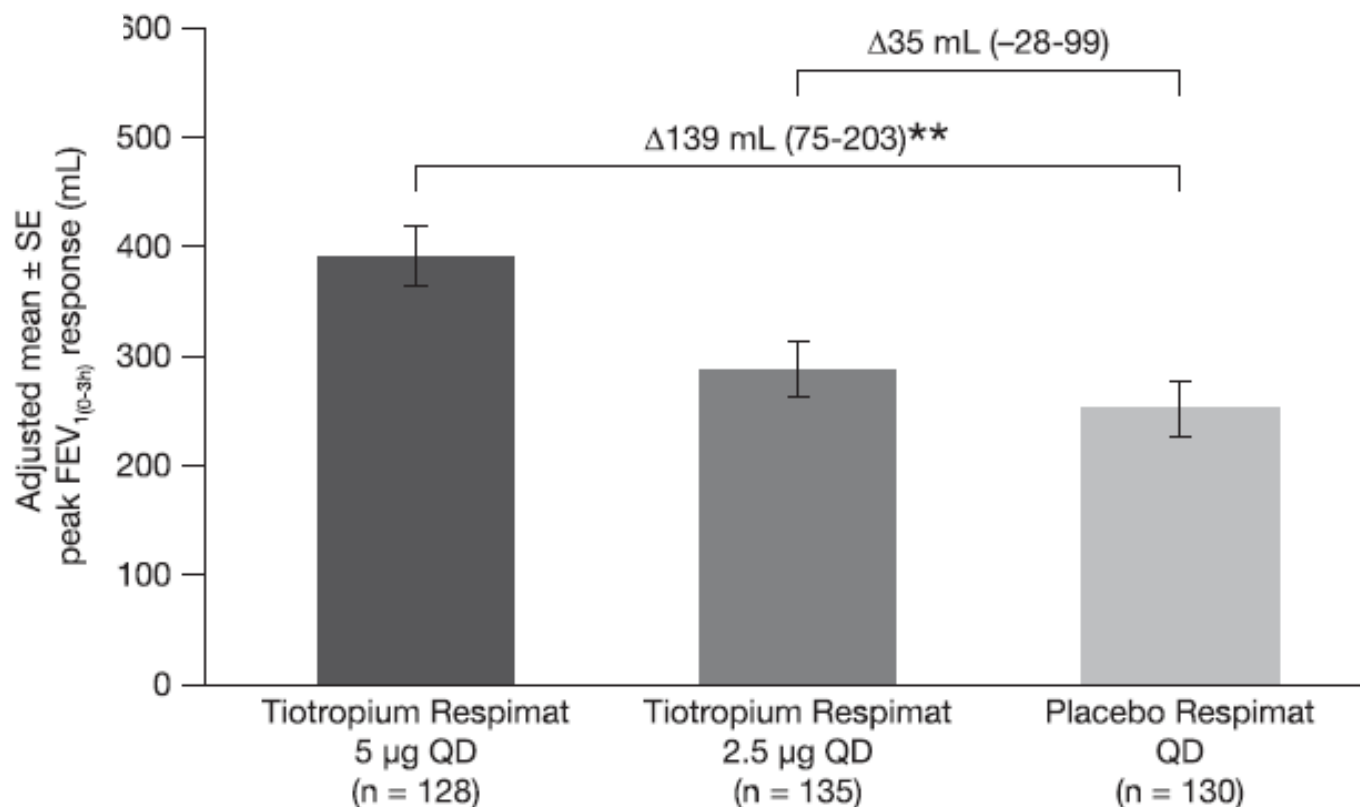
401 asthma children
6 - 11 yrs., ACQ ≥ 1.5
FEV1 81.6 ± 11.5 %
ICS + LABA \pm LTRA

Peak FEV₁(0-3 h)

- Tiotropium
 - 1x 5 μ g
 - 1x 2.5 μ g
- Placebo

12 weeks

- Lung function in week 12



Safety and tolerability of tiotropium in children with severe symptomatic asthma

Adverse events (AE)

N (%)	Tiotropium 5 mg QD (n = 130)	Tiotropium 2.5 mg QD (n = 136)	Placebo QD (n = 134)
Any AE	56 (43.1)	59 (43.4)	66 (49.3)
Drug-related AEs	1 (0.8)	0	2 (1.5)
AEs leading to discontinuation	2 (1.5)	0	2 (1.5)
Serious AEs	4 (3.1)	2 (1.5)	2 (1.5)
AEs in >2% of participants			
Asthma	24 (18.5)	20 (14.7)	30 (22.4)
Decreased PEF	15 (11.5)	15 (11.0)	20 (14.9)
Nasopharyngitis	6 (4.6)	6 (4.4)	11 (8.2)
Viral RTI	5 (3.8)	2 (1.5)	4 (3.0)
Respiratory tract infection (RTI)	3 (2.3)	1 (0.7)	5 (3.7)

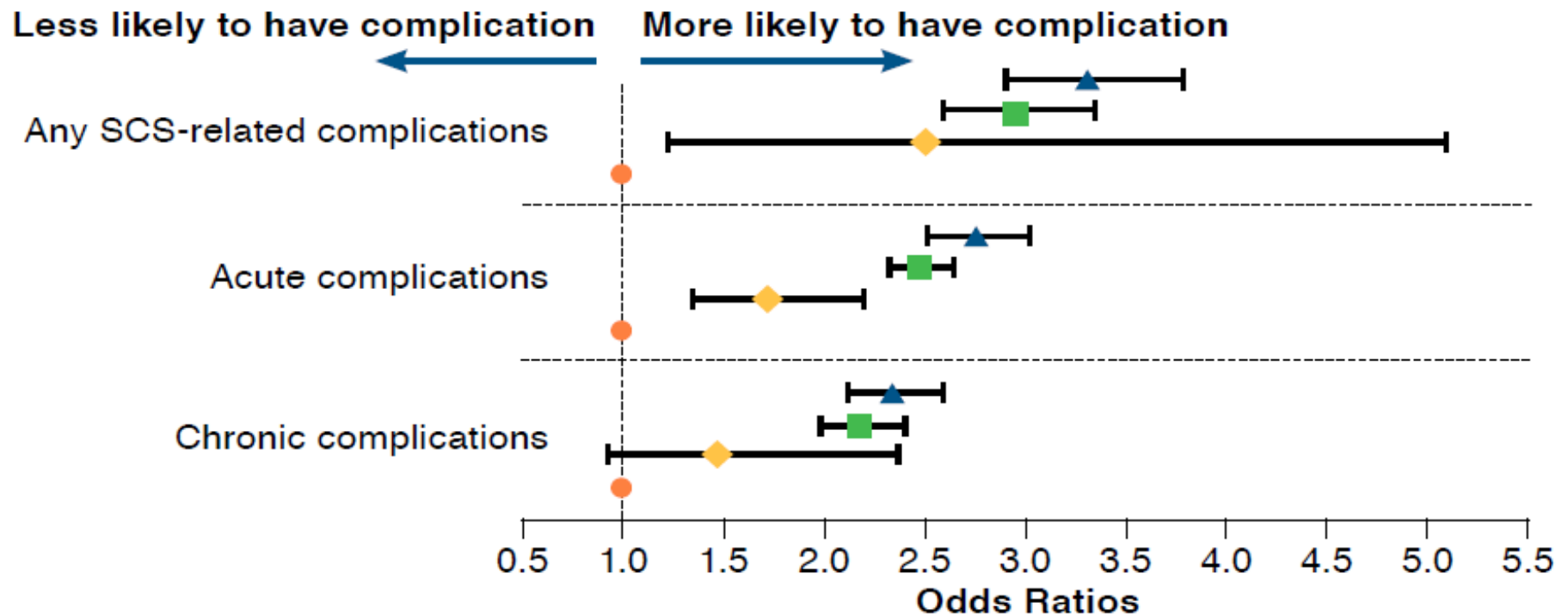
Asthma

- **Asthma prevention**
- **Immunotherapy**
- **LABA safety**
- **Tiotropium in asthma**
- **OCS side effects**

[http://columbiasurgery.org/
conditions-and-treatments/
cushings-syndrome](http://columbiasurgery.org/conditions-and-treatments/cushings-syndrome)

Risk of developing SCS-related complications with SCS exposure

Acute and chronic complications



▲ SCS dose >10 mg/day (high) ■ SCS dose ≥5-10 mg/day (medium) ◆ SCS dose <5 mg/day (low) ● No SCS

SCS: Systemic corticosteroids

Morbidity associated with oral corticosteroids in severe asthma

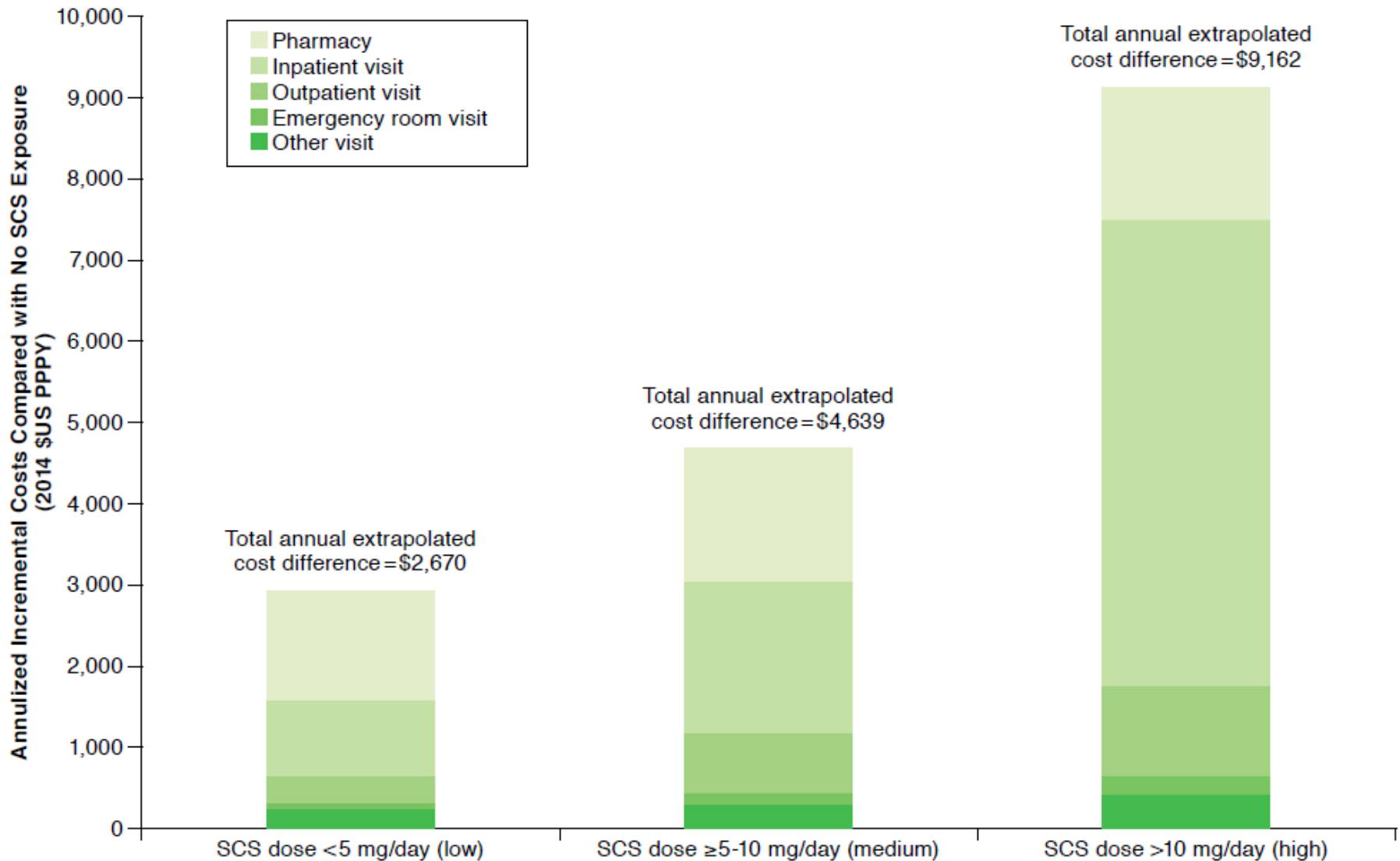
- 93% of patients with severe asthma had one or more condition linked to systemic corticosteroid exposure

Compared with mild/moderate asthma

- **Diabetes (type II)** 10% vs. 7%
OR=1.46, $p<0.01$
- **Osteoporosis** 16% vs. 4%
OR=5.23, $p<0.001$
- **Dyspeptic disorders** 65% vs. 34%
OR=3.99, $p<0.001$
- **Cataracts** 9% vs. 5%
OR=1.89, $p<0.001$

Lefebvre, et al. JACI 136(6):
1488-1495, 2015; Sweeney, et al.
Thorax 71(4):339-346, 2016;
Choo & Pavord. Thorax 71(4):
302-304, 2016

Incremental costs of SCS-related complications



SCS: Systemic corticosteroids

Asthma

- **Asthma prevention**
- **Immunotherapy**
- **LABA safety**
- **Tiotropium in asthma**
- **OCS side effects**
- **What's new in GINA 2017 ?**

What's new in GINA 2017 ?

- **Step 1**
 - **Consider low dose inhaled corticosteroids (ICS)**

Inhaled corticosteroids for mild asthma and symptom frequency

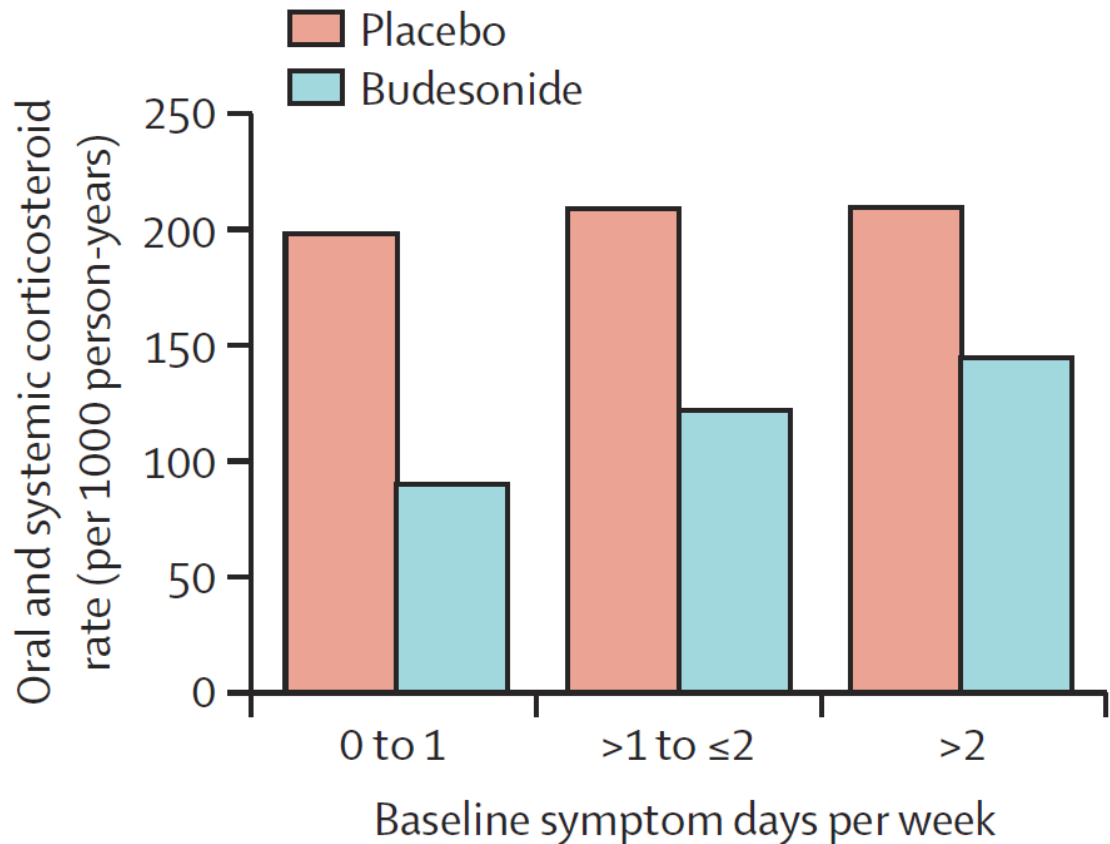
7165 asthma patients

- Individual asthma therapy *plus*
 - budesonide (400 µg/d.)
 - placebo

3 years

Severe asthma-related events (hospital admission, emergency treatment, or death)

Severe exacerbations



Rate ratio

0.48

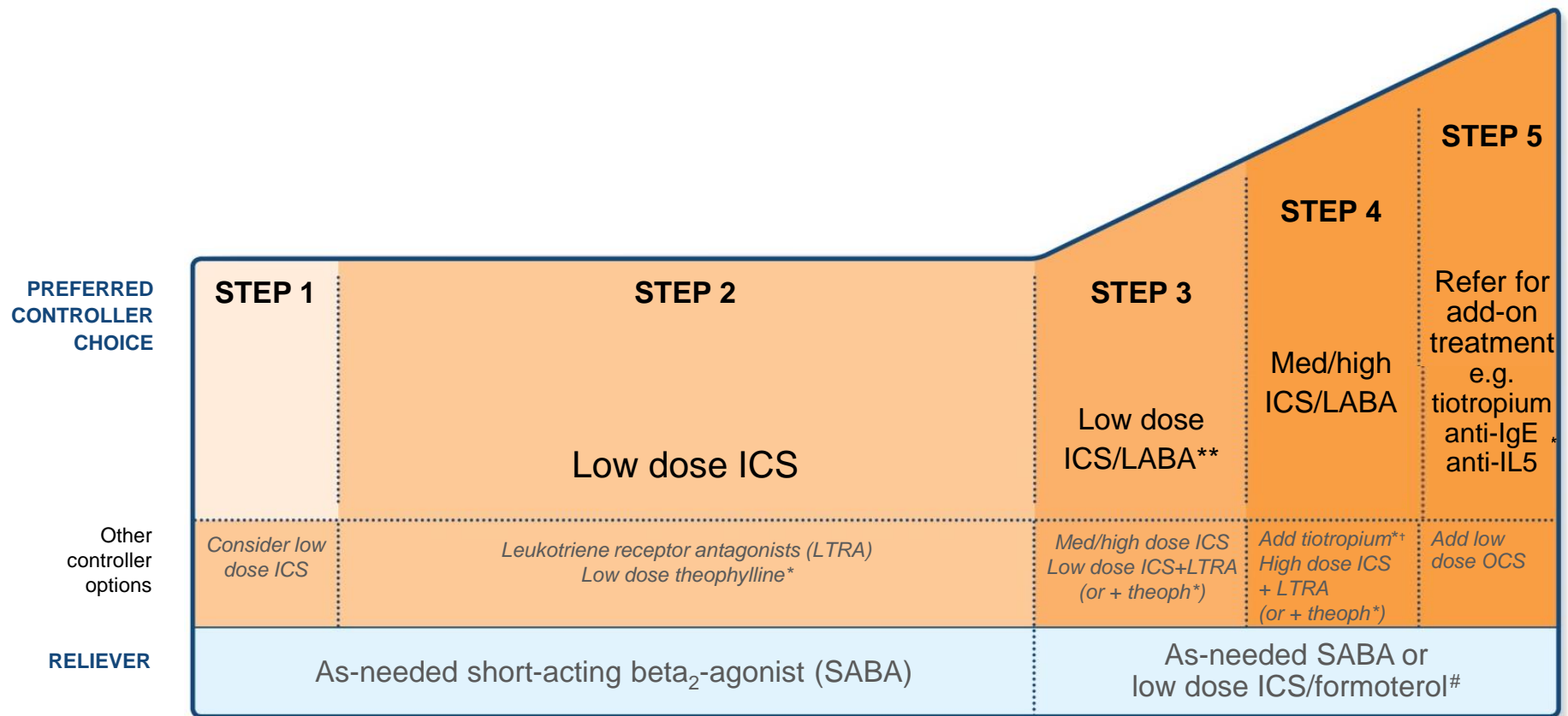
0.56

0.66

What's new in GINA 2017 ?

- **Step 1**
 - **Consider low dose inhaled corticosteroids (ICS)**
- **Steps 3 - 4**
 - **Add-on immunotherapy can now be considered in adult house dust mite-sensitive patients with asthma and allergic rhinitis uncontrolled despite ICS treatment, provided FEV1 is >70%**
- **Step 5**
 - **Add-on reslizumab (anti-IL5) for severe eosinophilic asthma (≥ 18 years)**

Stepwise asthma treatment for adults and adolescents



*Not for children <12 years. **For children 6–11 years, the preferred Step 3 treatment is medium dose ICS.

Low dose ICS/formoterol is the reliever medication for patients prescribed low dose budesonide/formoterol or low dose beclometasone/formoterol for maintenance and reliever therapy.

†Tiotropium by mist inhaler is an add-on treatment for patients with a history of exacerbations (not for children <12 years)

What's new in GINA 2017 ?

- **Step 1**
 - **Consider low dose inhaled corticosteroids (ICS)**
- **Steps 3 - 4**
 - **Add-on immunotherapy can now be considered in adult house dust mite-sensitive patients with asthma and allergic rhinitis uncontrolled despite ICS treatment, provided FEV1 is >70%**
- **Step 5**
 - **Add-on reslizumab (anti-IL5) for severe eosinophilic asthma (≥ 18 years)**
- **Add-on leukotriene receptor antagonist as an option for helping to down-titrate ICS**

Stepping down medications in patients with controlled asthma

Asthma control		Level of asthma control		
In the past 4 weeks, has the patient had:		Well controlled	Partly controlled	Uncontrolled
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daytime asthma symptoms more than twice a week?• Any night waking due to asthma?• Reliever needed for symptoms more than twice a week?• Any activity limitation due to asthma?		None of these symptoms	1 - 2 of these symptoms	3 - 4 of these symptoms

- Once good asthma control has been achieved and maintained for ≥ 3 months, treatment can often be successfully reduced, without loss of asthma control

Rank, et al. JACI 137(5):1373-1379, 2016

GINA & GOLD: ACOS no longer advised

- **‘Asthma-COPD overlap syndrome’, or ACOS, is no longer advised, because this term has often been used as if it was a separate disease**
- **‘Asthma-COPD overlap’ is the term recommended by GINA and GOLD to describe patients who have features of both asthma and COPD**

Asthma and COPD are 2 different diseases

- **Asthma and COPD
may occur
in the same patient**

**P Barnes. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 174(3):240-243, 2006
& Postma & Boezen. Chest 126(2 Suppl):96S-104S, 2004**

Accurate diagnosis does matter !

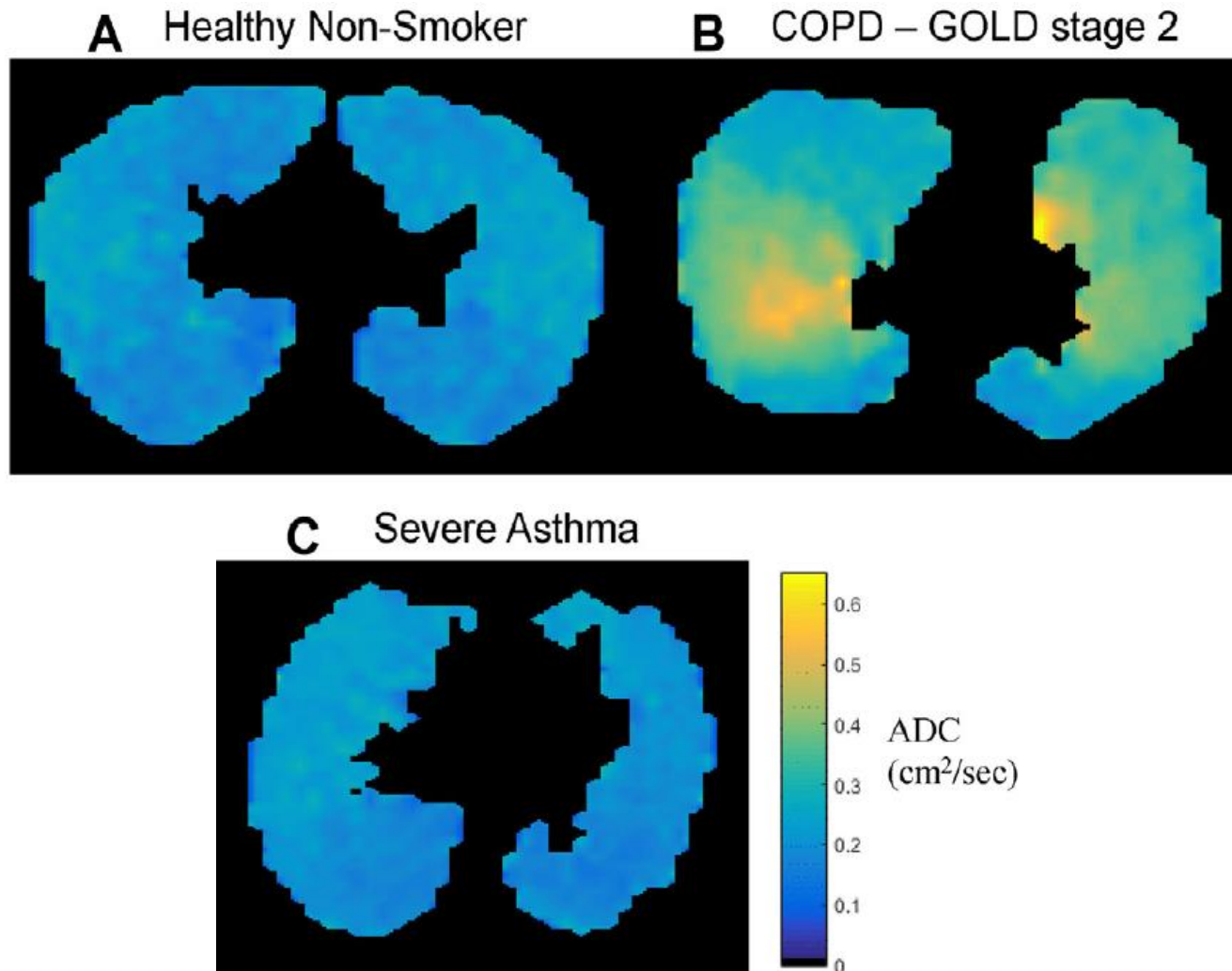
Treatment	Asthma	COPD
Inhaled corticosteroids	Mandatory first line treatment	Third line treatment in subpopulation
LABAs	No monotherapy !	First line treatment
LAMAs	Tiotropium 2nd or 3rd line	First line treatment
LABA + LAMA	Not without an ICS !	First line treatment
Oral corticosteroids	Severe asthma, exacerbations	Treatment of exacerbations
Montelukast, omalizumab	Effective and approved	Not approved, efficacy questionable
Roflumilast	Not approved	Approved
New biologics	Highly effective	No or disappointing data
Immunotherapy	Promising new data	No data
Beta-blocker	High risk	Recommended

Asthma and COPD - a few simple rules

- **Asthma and COPD cannot (yet!) be easily defined based on simple and easy to measure clinical, physiological or imaging parameters**
- **In a minority of patients it may not be possible to make a final or exclusive diagnosis of COPD or asthma**
 - **regular reassessment and ongoing monitoring may help to confirm or change the initial diagnosis**
- **Precise diagnosis is mandatory to guide treatment**
- **Patients with co-existing asthma and COPD should be treated as having asthma but with COPD-expected outcomes**

Imaging as a biomarker for asthma

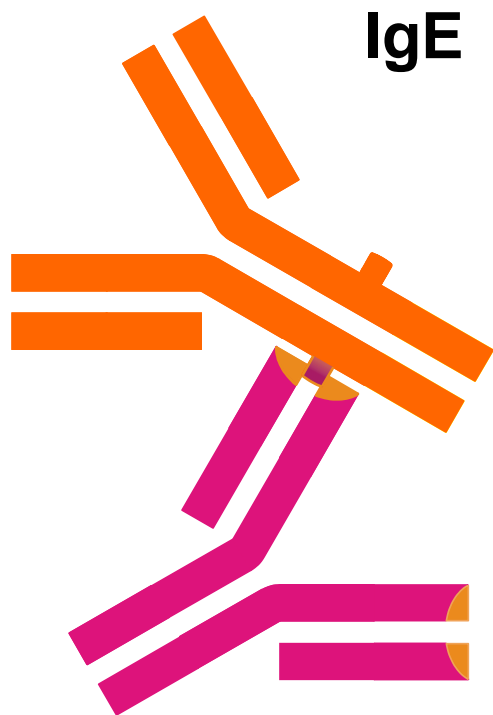
Quantitative computed tomographie



Asthma

- **Asthma prevention**
- **Immunotherapy**
- **LABA safety**
- **Tiotropium in asthma**
- **OCS side effects**
- **What's new in GINA 2017 ?**
- **Severe asthma**
- **Biologics**

Biologics in severe asthma



- **Anti - IgE**
 - Omalizumab
 - Ligelizumab (QGE031) >>
 - Quilizumab >>

Anti - IgE

Novartis termination
letter, 21.12.2015

Harris et al. Respir
Res 17(1):29, 2016

Phenotype ,allergic asthma‘

- Usually early disease onset
- Symptoms related to allergen exposure
- Allergic comorbidities
- Skin prick test
- Total (and specific) IgE
- Treatment response to glucocorticosteroids and omalizumab

Persistence of omalizumab response after long-term therapy

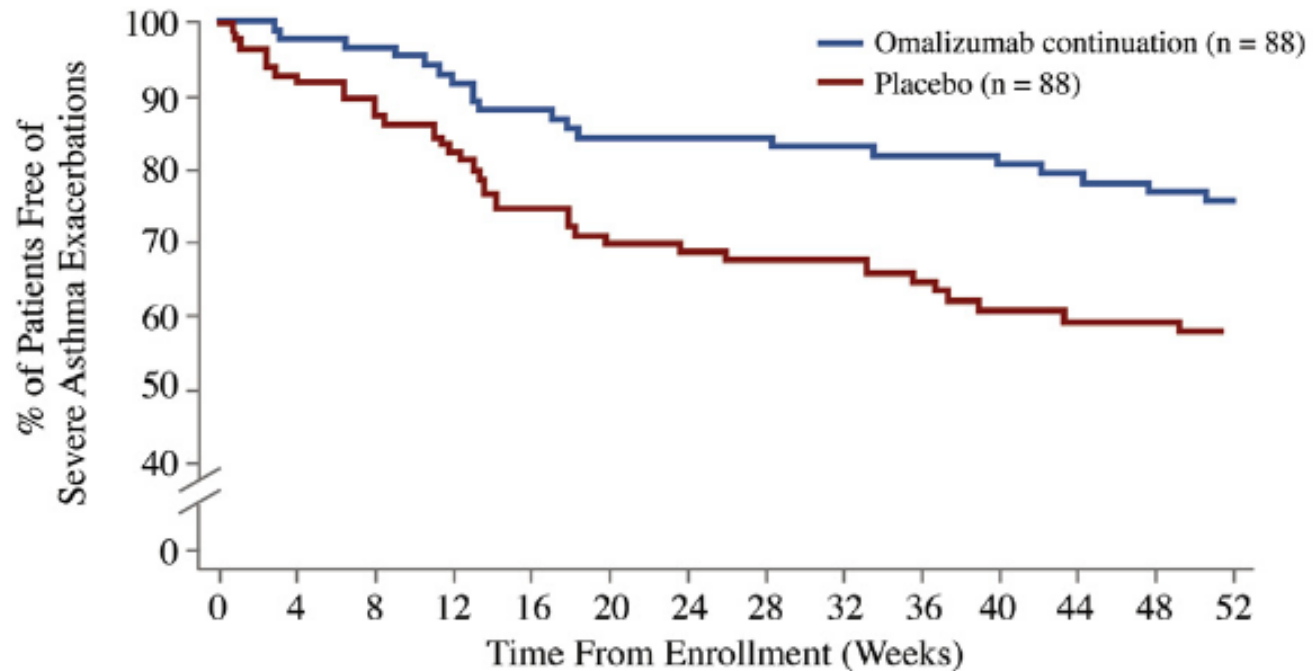
- Moderate-to-severe asthma
- Omalizumab for ~ 5 yr.

- Continue omalizumab
- Withdraw to placebo

1 year

- Severe asthma exacerbation
- Asthma control

Time to 1st exacerbation



Persistence of omalizumab response after long-term therapy

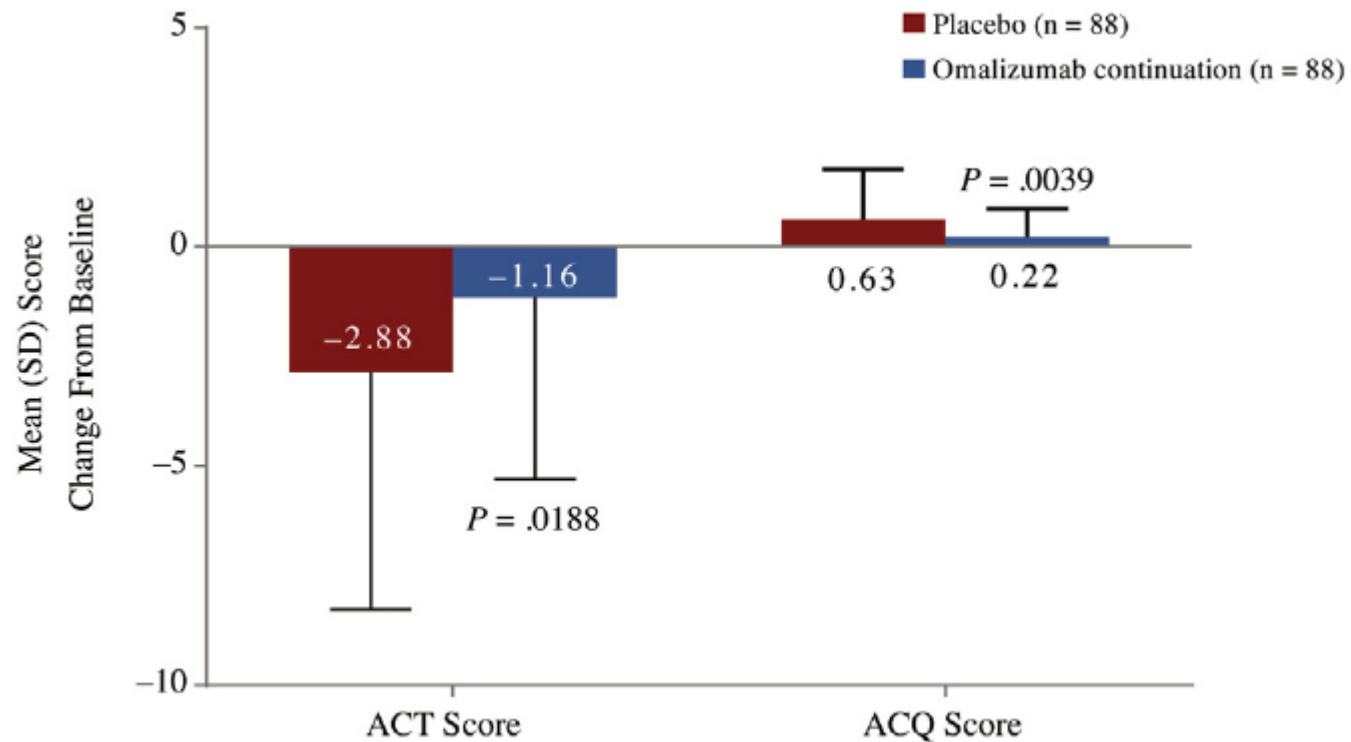
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1 year

- Severe asthma exacerbation
- Asthma control

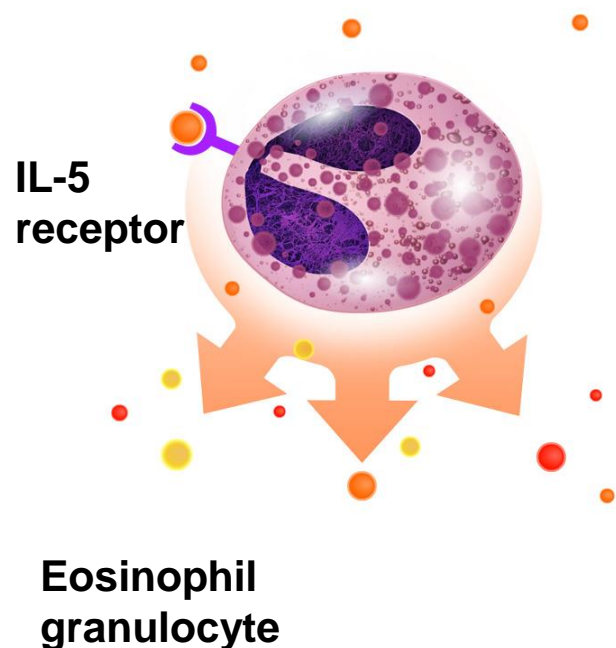
Asthma control



Biologics in severe asthma

- **Anti - IgE**
 - Omalizumab

- **Anti - IL-5**
 - Mepolizumab
 - Reslizumab
 - Benralizumab (anti-IL-5 - receptor)



The role of eosinophils in asthma

- **< 50% of severe asthmatics suffer from eosinophilic asthma**
- **Activated eosinophils release various mediators which can damage lung tissue and induce airway hyperresponsiveness and mucus hypersecretion**
- **Numbers of airway and blood eosinophils correlate with asthma severity**
- **IL-5 mediates eosinophil mobilization, maturation, activation, and survival**

Reslizumab indication in the EU

- **Reslizumab is indicated as add-on therapy in adult patients with severe eosinophilic asthma inadequately controlled despite high dose inhaled corticosteroids plus another medicinal product for maintenance treatment**
- **The recommended dose of reslizumab is 3.0 mg/kg every 4 weeks, given as an intravenous infusion**

Reslizumab for inadequately controlled eosinophilic asthma

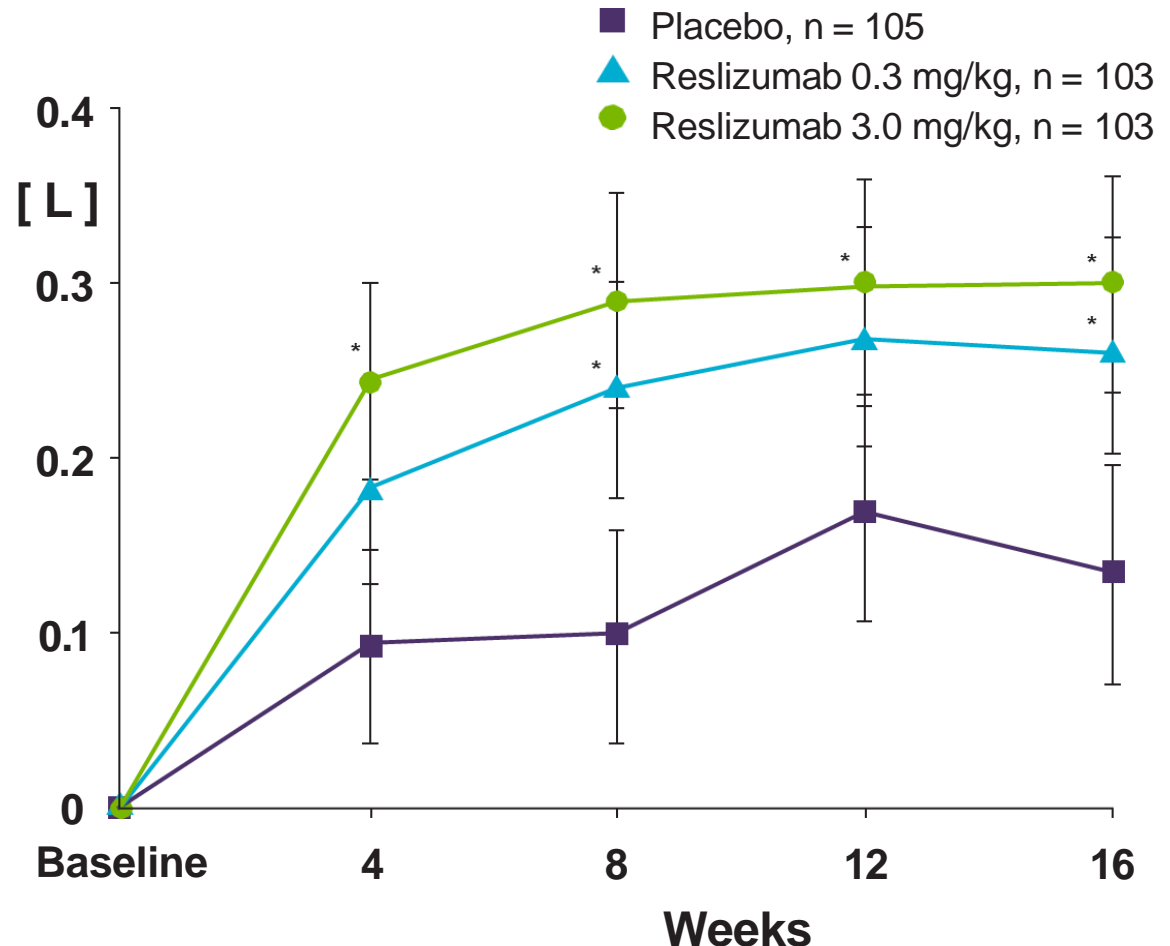
315 asthma patients
uncontrolled on MD-ICS
 ≥ 400 eosinophils/ μ l

- Reslizumab 0.3 or 3 mg/Kg iv every 4 weeks
- Placebo

16 weeks

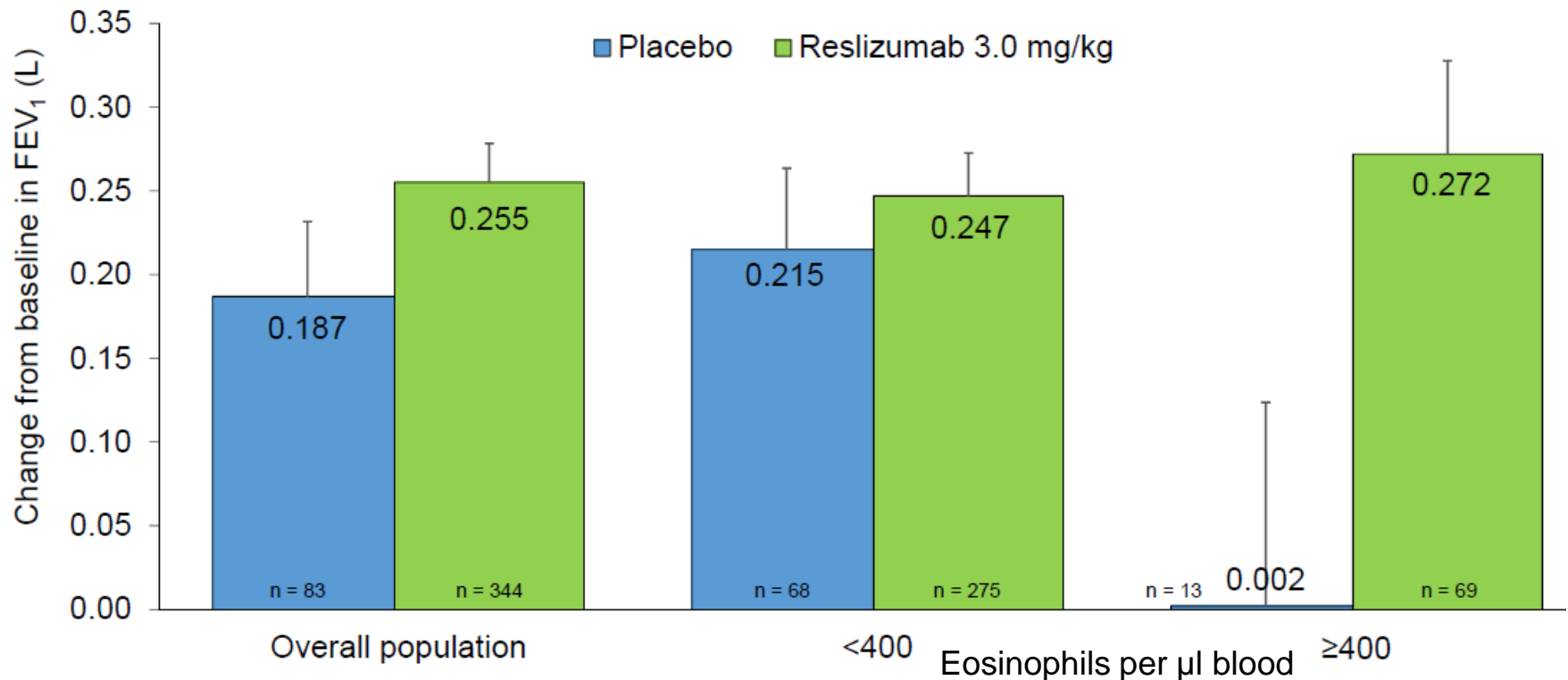
- Lung function

Lung function [FEV₁, L]



Effects of reslizumab on lung function stratified by baseline eosinophil thresholds

- 492 asthma pts. (18-65 yrs.) with an ACQ-7 score ≥ 1.5 inadequately controlled by fluticasone propionate ≥ 440 $\mu\text{g/day}$ or equivalent
- 16-week double-blind (4:1 randomisation) treatment with reslizumab 3.0 mg/kg or placebo once every 4 weeks



Benralizumab for severe asthma uncontrolled with high-dose ICS and LABA (SIROCCO)

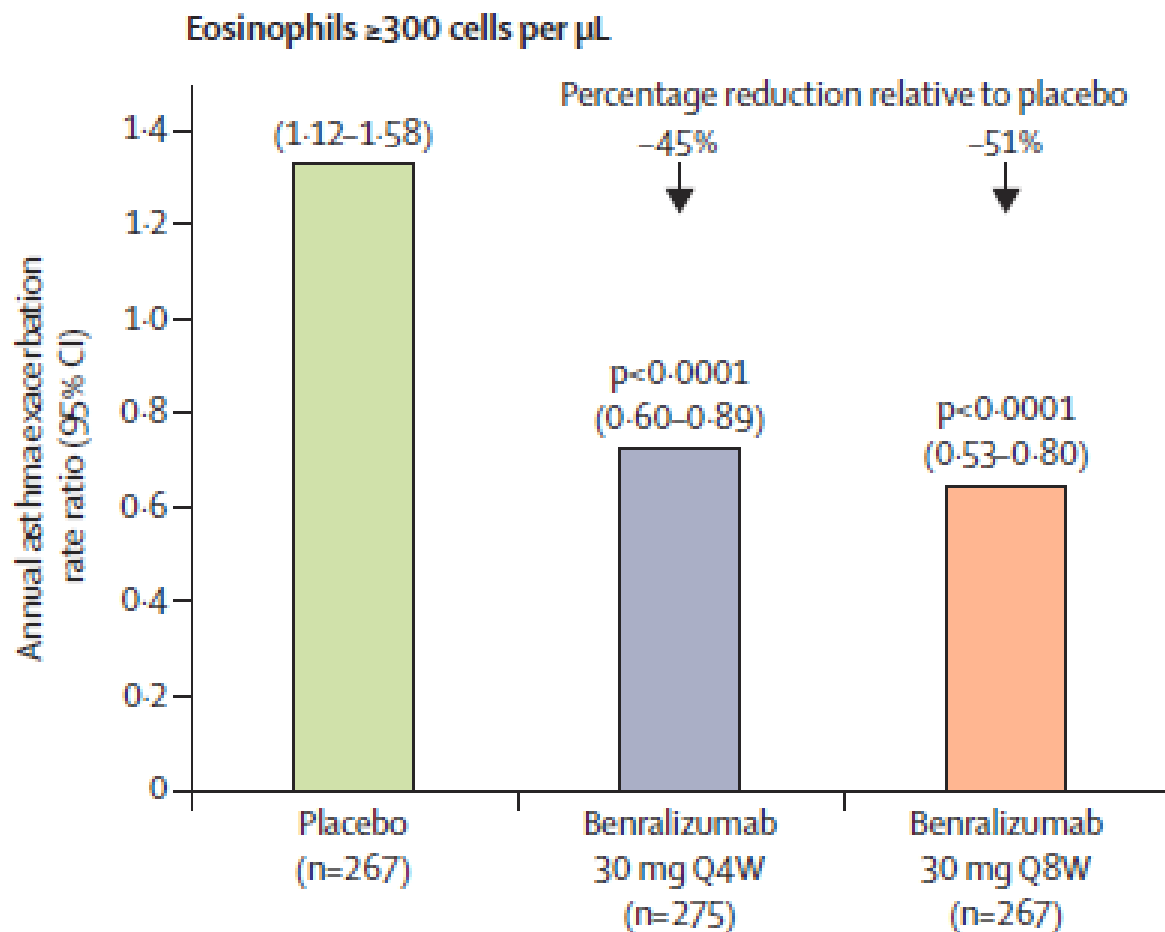
Exacerbations / year

1205 asthma patients
12-75 yrs., HD ICS + LABA
≥ 2 exac./prev. year

- Benralizumab 30 mg s.c. Q4W
- Benralizumab 30 mg s.c. 3x Q4W → Q8W
- Placebo

48 weeks

- Exacerbation rate



Benralizumab for severe asthma uncontrolled with high-dose ICS and LABA (SIROCCO)

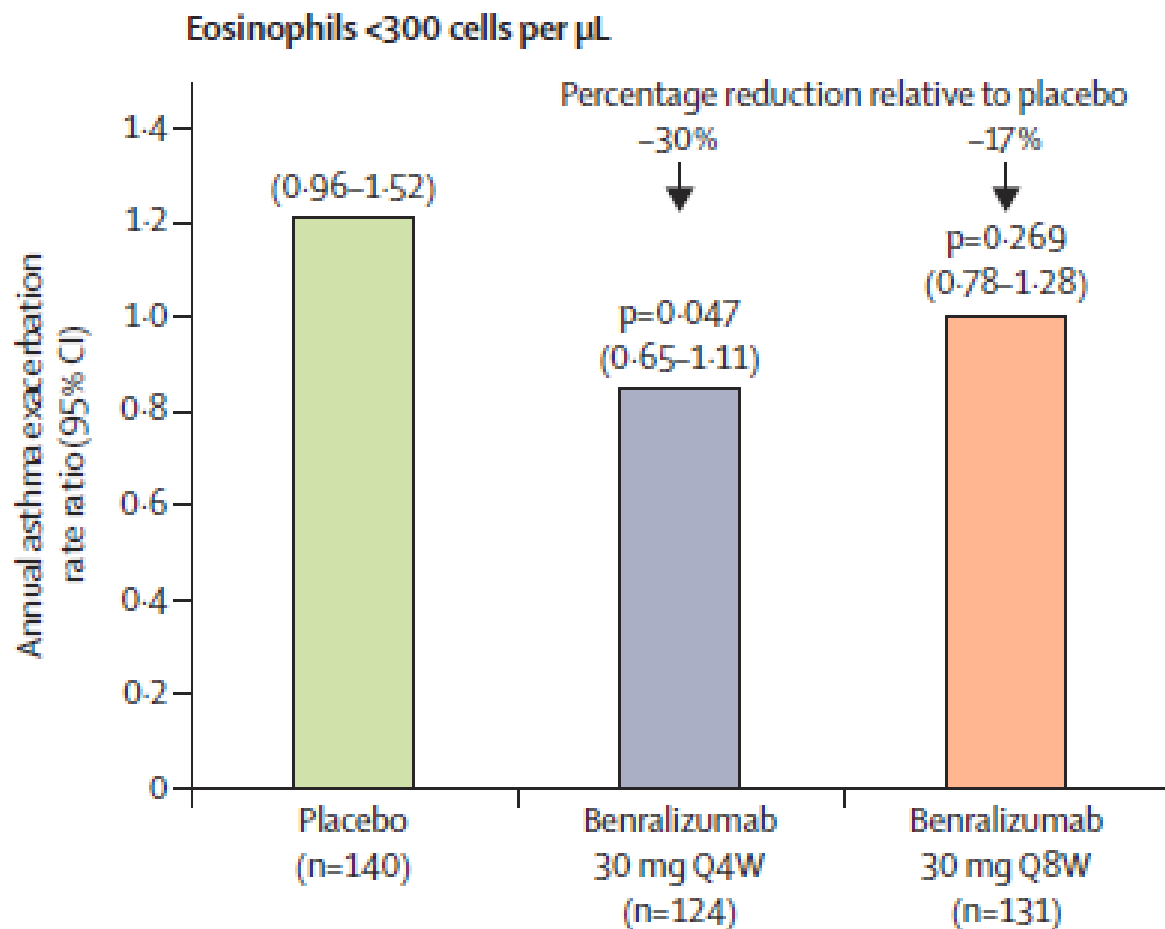
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Benralizumab for severe asthma uncontrolled with high-dose ICS and LABA (SIROCCO)

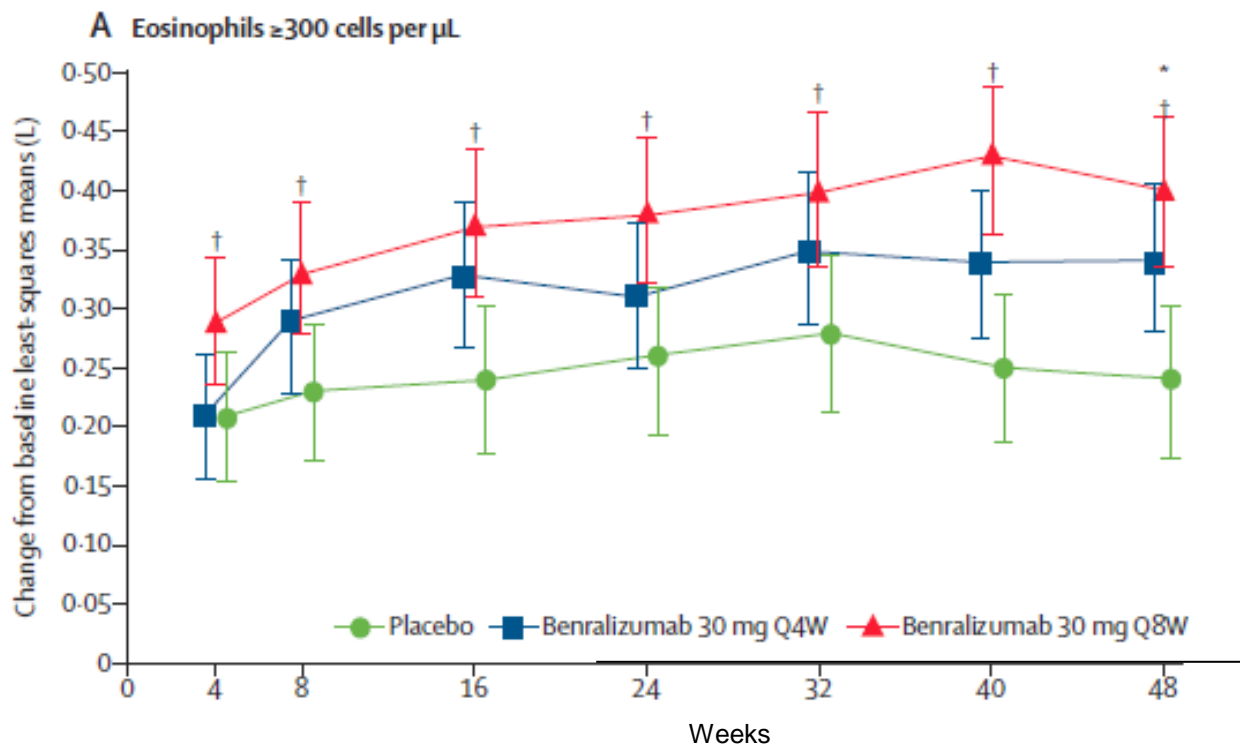
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- Placebo

48 weeks

- Lung function

Δ FEV1 (vs. baseline)



Benralizumab for severe asthma uncontrolled with high-dose ICS and LABA (SIROCCO)

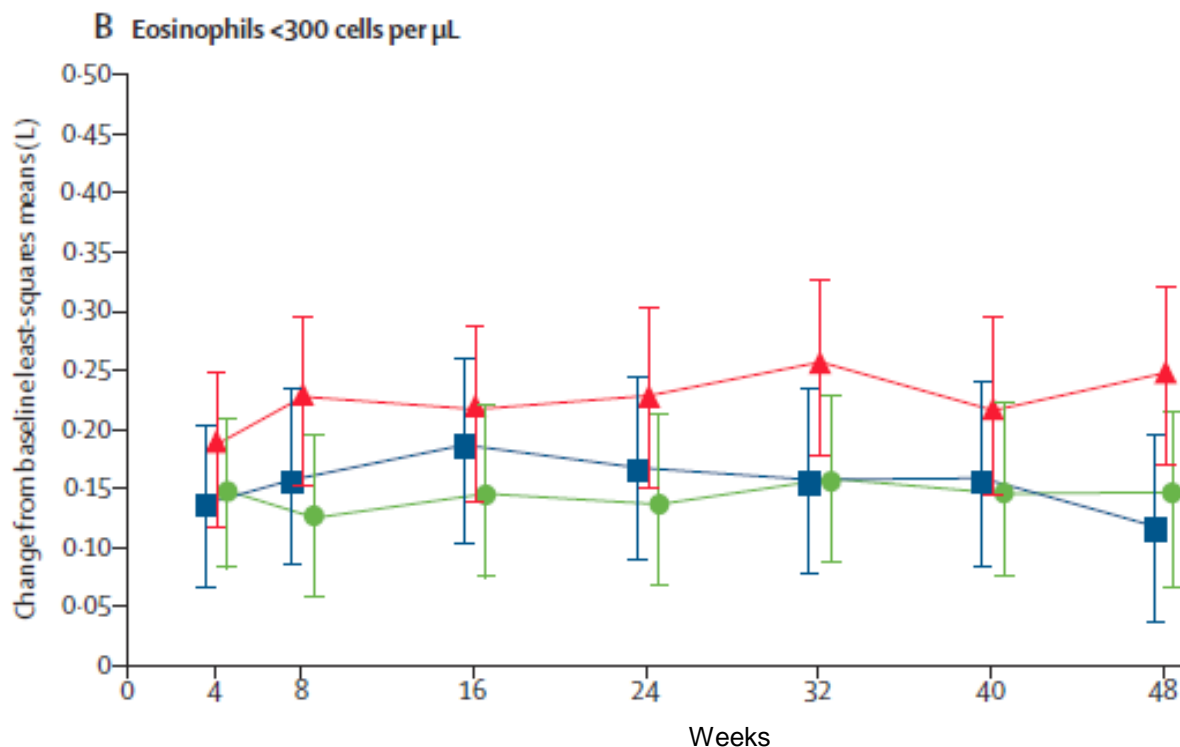
1205 asthma patients
12-75 yrs., HD ICS + LABA
≥ 2 exac./prev. year

- Benralizumab 30 mg s.c. Q4W
- Benralizumab 30 mg s.c. 3x Q4W → Q8W
- Placebo

48 weeks

- Lung function

Δ FEV1 (vs. baseline)



ZONDA: Oral glucocorticoid-sparing effect of benralizumab in severe asthma

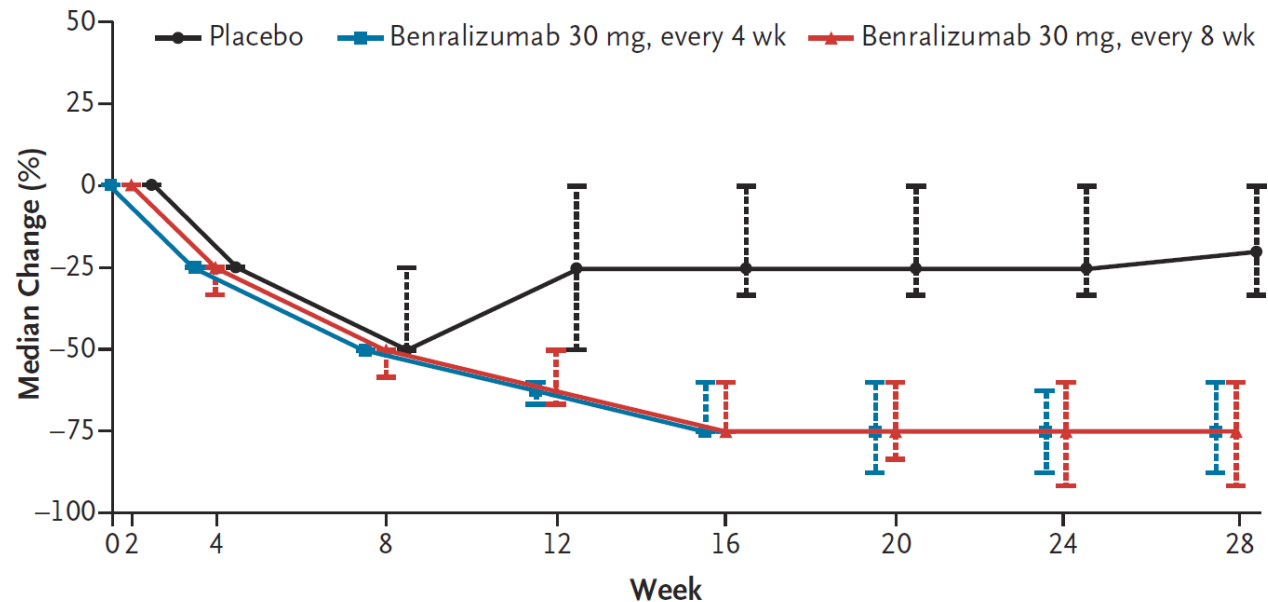
220 asthma patients
≥150 blood eos/μL
despite GINA step 5
incl. predniso(lo)ne
7.5-40 mg/day

- Benralizumab 30 mg sc 4- / 8-weekly
- Placebo












28 weeks

- Change in OCS dose

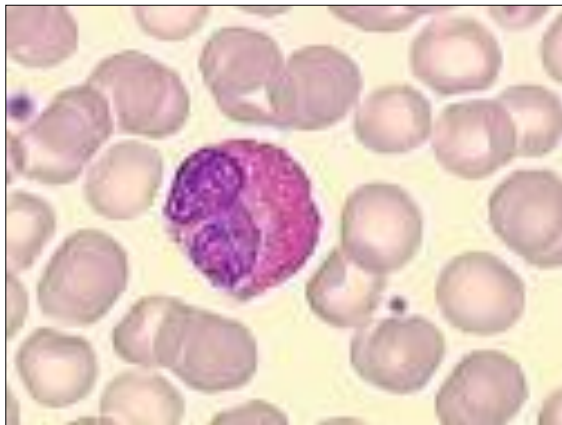
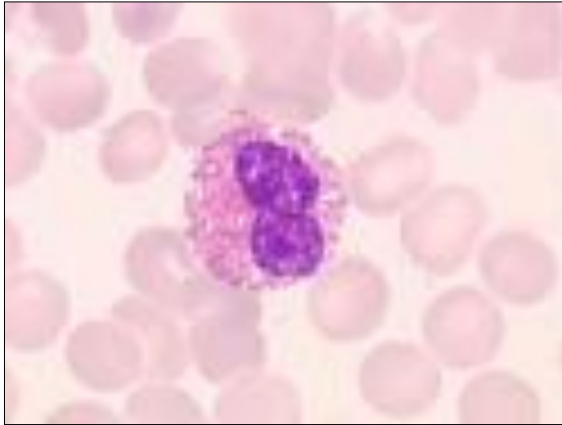
Change in OCS dose [%]



Anti - IL-5 antibodies: Clinical efficacy

	Mepolizumab	Reslizumab	Benralizumab
Exazerbations ↓ (vs. placebo)			
FEV ₁ ↑			
Asthma symptoms (ACQ-5/6)			
Oral steroids ↓			
Dosage	q4w 100 mg s.c.	q4w 3 mg/kg i.v.	q8w 30 mg s.c.

Phenotype 'eosinophilic' asthma



- Late onset of disease
- Symptoms ↑, exacerbations ↑
- Eosinophilia in blood (± sputum)
- ± FeNO > 50 ppb
- No *clinically relevant* allergy
- ± Nasal polyposis
 - smell ↓ & taste ↓
- Response to (oral) glucocorticoids and anti - IL-5

Diagnosis of severe eosinophilic asthma

Major criteria

- Severe asthma
- Blood eosinophilia (≥ 2 occasions)
- Frequent exacerbations (≥ 2 per year)
- Dependence (continuous or intermittent) on oral corticosteroids

Minor criteria

- Late onset of disease
- Upper airway disease (chronic rhinosinusitis, often with nasal polyposis)
- Other biomarkers (FeNO?)
- Fixed airflow obstruction
- Air trapping / presence of mucus plugs

Severe asthma

Blood
eosinophils (/μl)

Non-allergic asthma

- Anti - IL-5
- Omalizumab (POC*)

Asthma

Allergy

Eosinophilia

- Anti - IL-5
- Omalizumab

Type 2 low
asthma

?

Allergic asthma

- Omalizumab

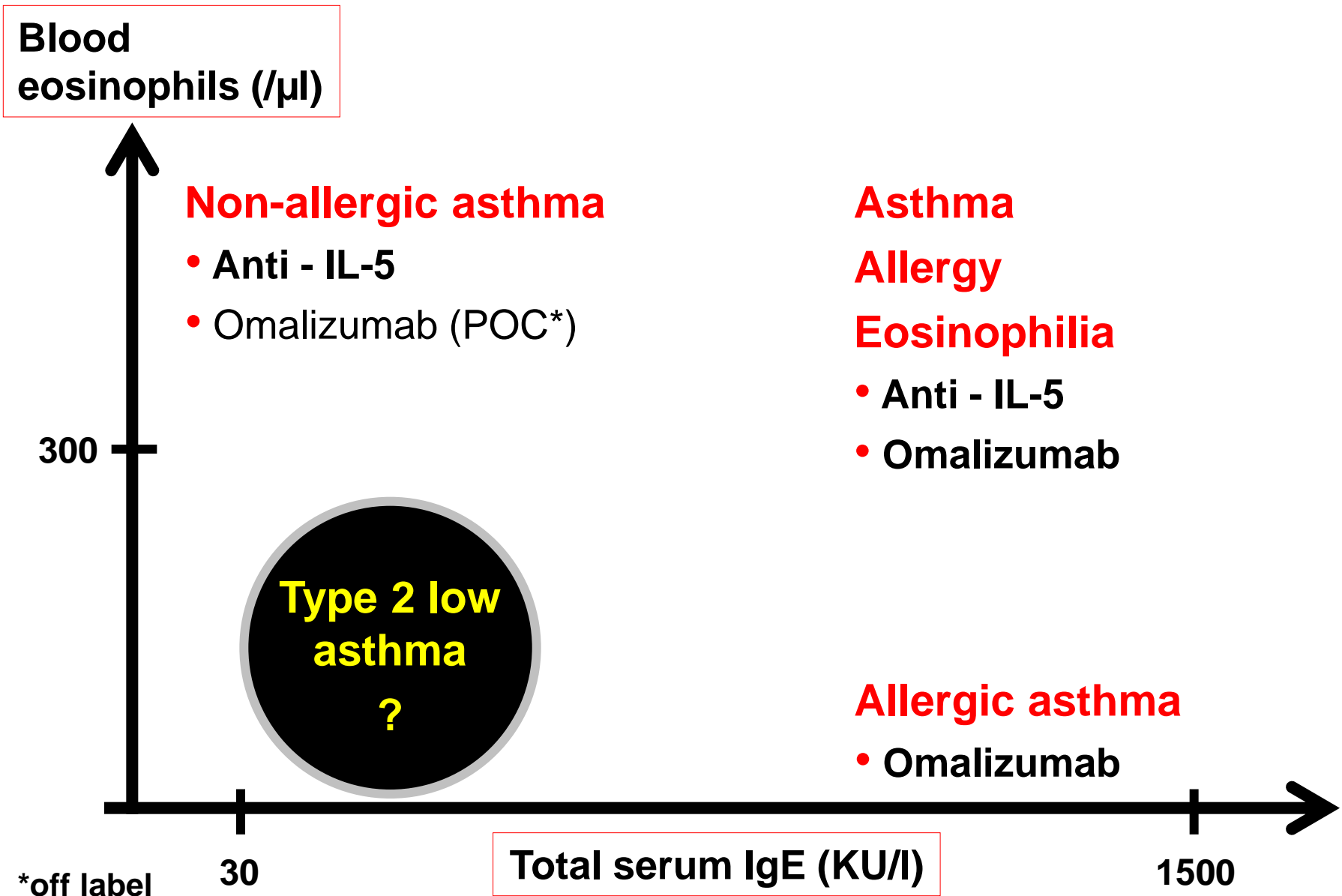
300

*off label

30

Total serum IgE (KU/l)

1500



Biologics in severe asthma

- **Anti - IgE**
 - **Omalizumab**
- **Anti - IL-5**
 - **Mepolizumab**
 - **Reslizumab**
 - **Benralizumab (anti-IL-5 - receptor)**
- **Anti - IL-13**
 - **Lebrikizumab >>**
 - **Tralokinumab ?**

**Human
interleukin-13**

**AstraZeneca Media Release
STRATOS-1, 10.5.2017**

**Roche Media Release
LAVOLTA, 29.2.2016**

Lebrikizumab in uncontrolled asthma

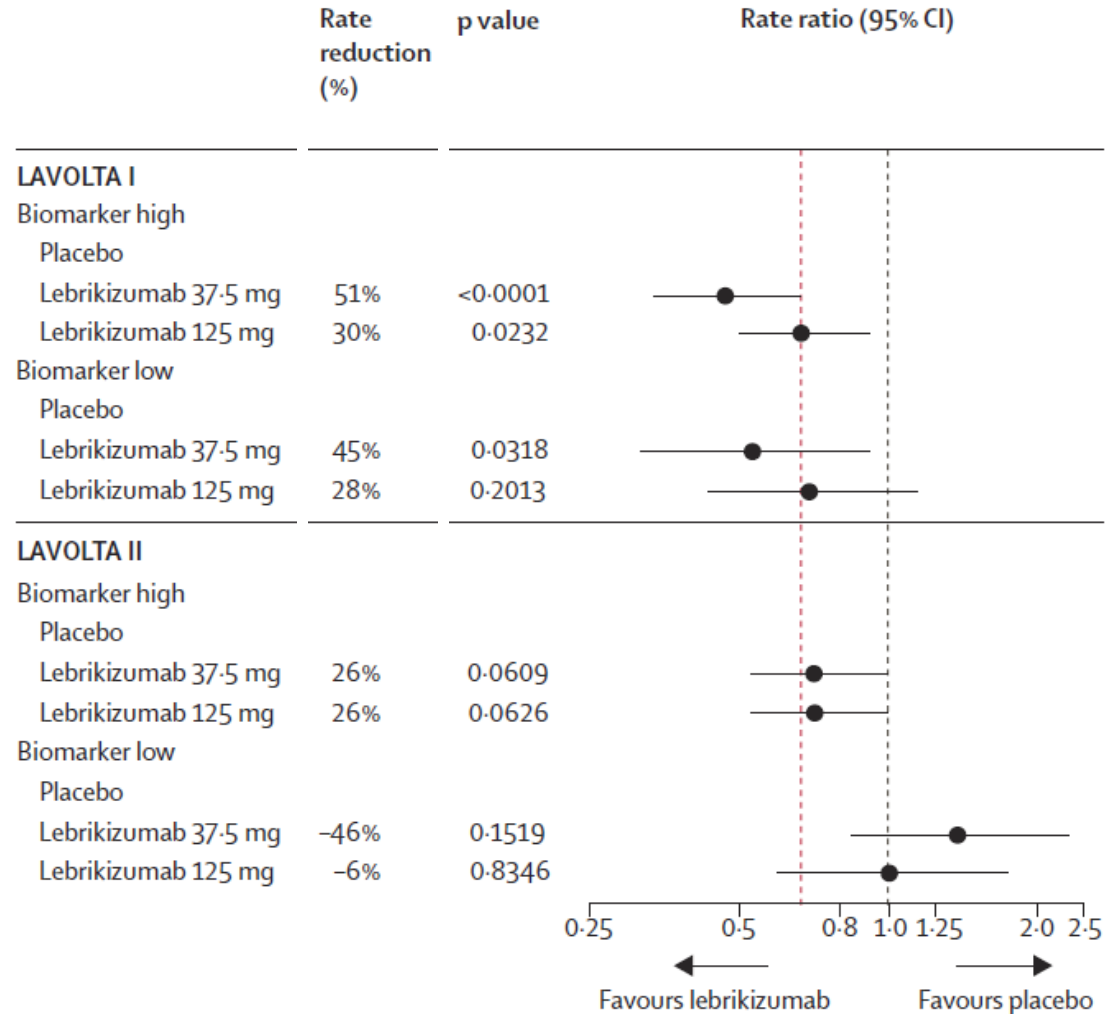
1081 patients with uncontrolled asthma, pre-BD FEV1 40-80%

- Lebrikizumab s.c. 37.5 mg or 125 mg every 4 weeks
- Placebo

52 weeks

- Asthma exacerbations in biomarker-high pts. (periostin ≥ 50 ng/mL or blood eosinophils ≥ 300 cells/ μ l)

Asthma exacerbations



Lebrikizumab in uncontrolled asthma

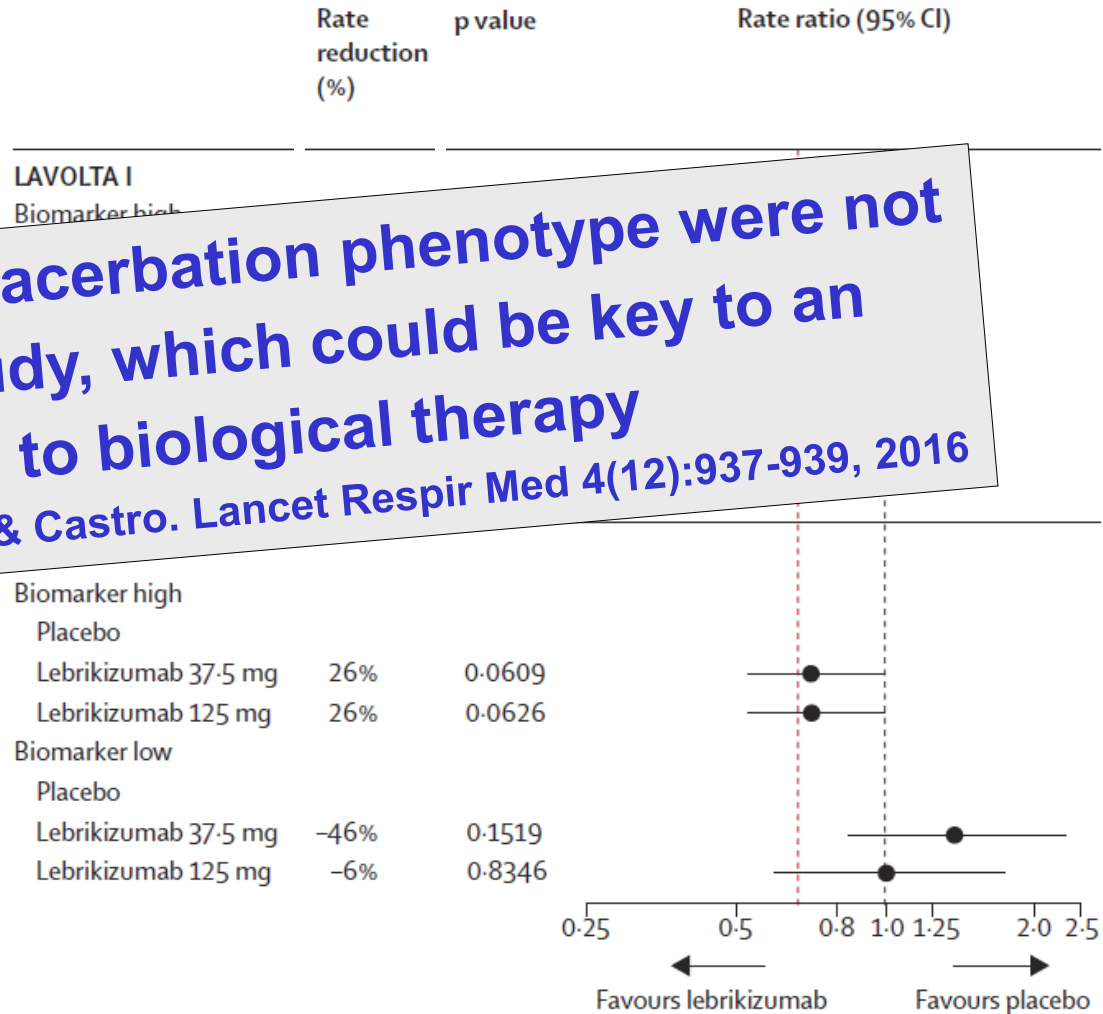
1081 patients with uncontrolled asthma, pre-BD FEV1 40-80%

Asthma exacerbations

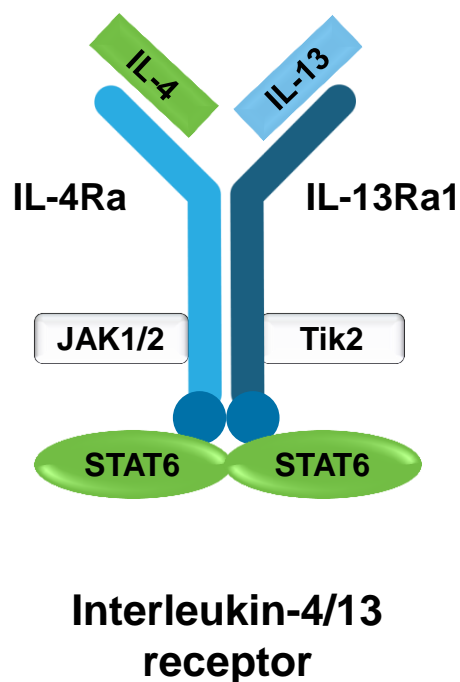
- Lebrikizumab s.c. 37.5 mg or 125 mg every 4 weeks

Patients with an exacerbation phenotype were not selected in this study, which could be key to an effective response to biological therapy
 Sood & Castro. Lancet Respir Med 4(12):937-939, 2016

- Asthma exacerbations in biomarker-high pts. (periostin ≥ 50 ng/mL or blood eosinophils ≥ 300 cells/ μ l)

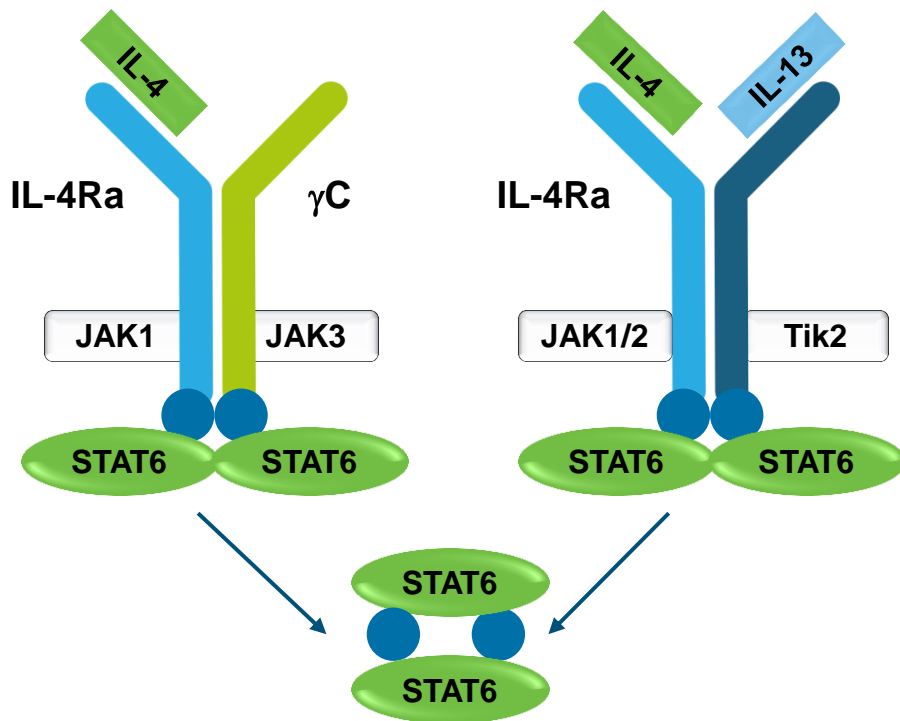


Biologics in severe asthma



- **Anti - IgE**
 - Omalizumab
- **Anti - IL-5**
 - Mepolizumab
 - Reslizumab
 - Benralizumab (anti-IL-5 - receptor)
- **Anti - IL-13**
 - Lebrikizumab >>
 - Tralokinumab ?
- **Anti - IL-4 / IL-13**
 - Dupilumab (anti-IL-4/IL-13-receptor)

Dupilumab in uncontrolled asthma despite ICS + LABA



- **FEV1 ↑**
- **Exacerbations ↓**
- **Nasal polyps ↓**
- **Atopic dermatitis ↓**

Thaçi, et al. Lancet 387:40-52, 2016

Wenzel, et al. Lancet 388:31-44, 2016

Bachert, et al. JAMA 315(5):469-479, 2016

Simpson, et al. NEJM 375(24):2335-2348, 2016

Asthma

- **Asthma prevention**
- **Immunotherapy**
- **LABA safety**
- **Tiotropium in asthma**
- **OCS side effects**
- **What's new in GINA 2017 ?**
- **Severe asthma**
- **Biologics**
- **Two more things**

Eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangitis (Churg-Strauss-syndrome)

Diagnostic criteria

- Asthma
- Blood eosinophilia > 10%
- Polyneuropathy or Mononeuritis multiplex
- Pulmonary infiltrates, non-fixed
- Paranasal sinus abnormality
- Extravascular eosinophils (biopsy)

If at least 4 of this 6 criteria are positive, a patient shall be said to have Churg-Strauss-syndrome



Anti-interleukin-5 (mepolizumab) in a patient with Churg-Strauss- syndrome

Mepolizumab for eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis

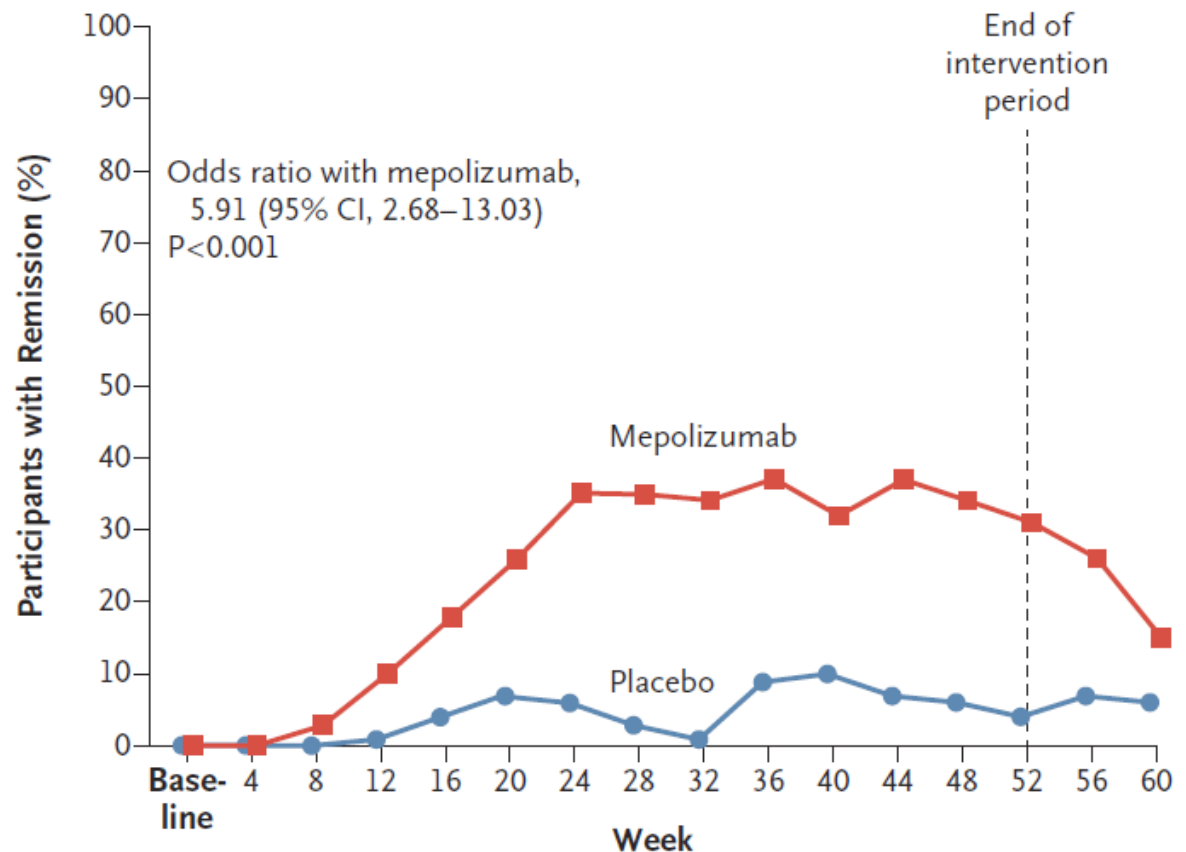
136 EGPA-Patienten
Predniso(lo)ne ≥ 7.5
mg/day

- Mepolizumab 300 mg sc 4-weekly
- Placebo

52 weeks

- Weeks of remission
- Patients in remission at weeks 36 and 48

Patients in remission



Mepolizumab for eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis

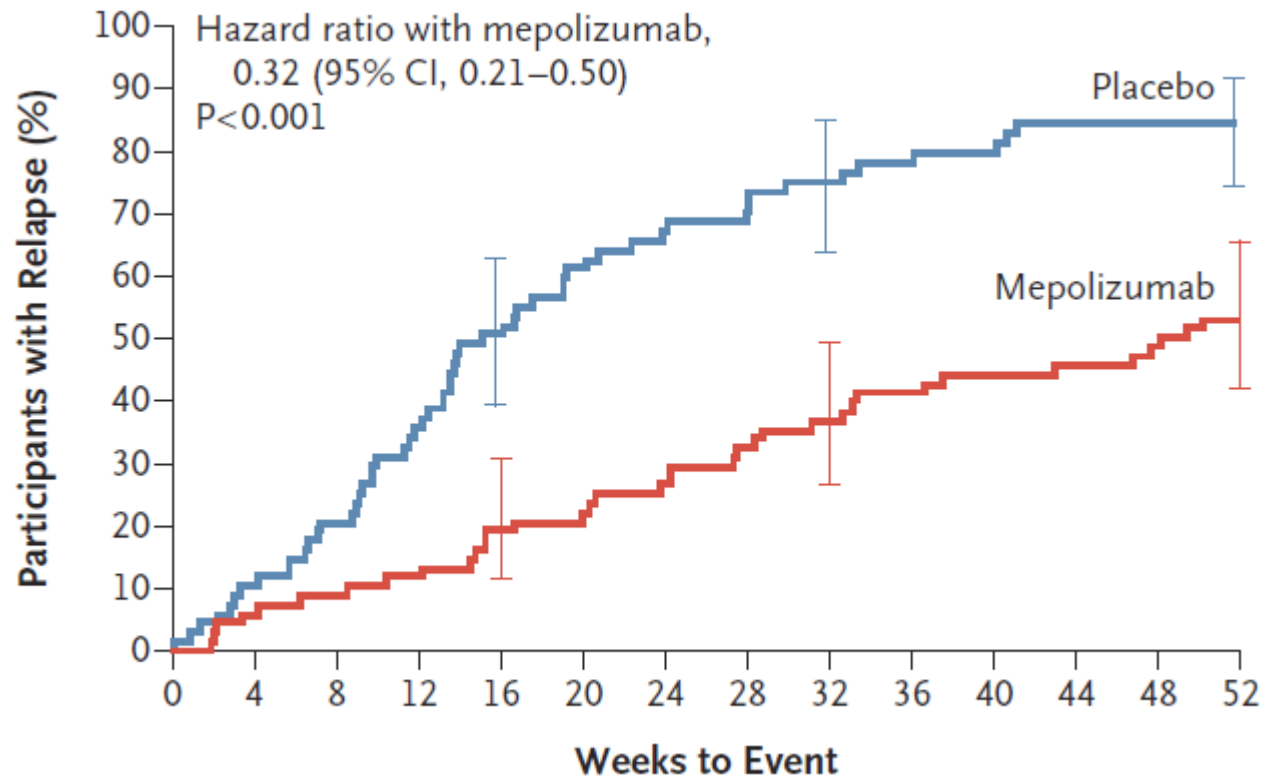
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52 weeks

- Weeks of remission
- Patients in remission at weeks 36 and 48

Patients with relapse [%]

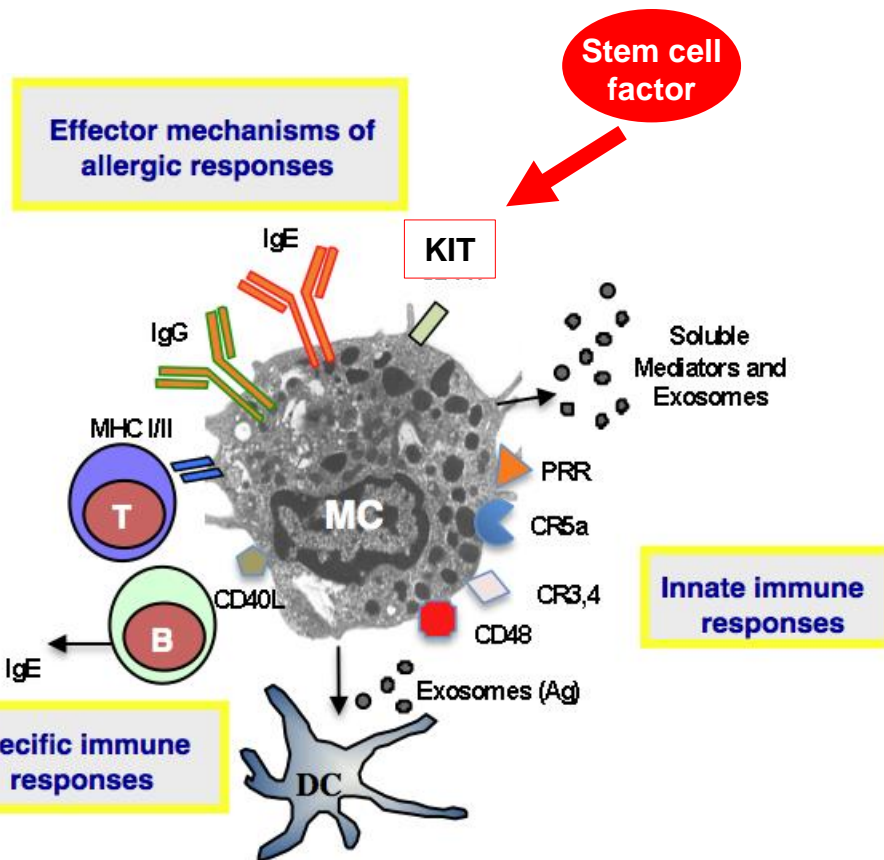


Mepolizumab for eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis

- **Definition of relapse**
 - **asthma**
 - **sinonasal disease**
 - **combination**
- **Fewer exacerbating asthma- or sinonasal-based relapses**
 - **mepolizumab response of vasculitic component?**
- **Relapses after remission raise questions**
 - **mechanism(s) of relapses ➔ role of eosinophils?**
 - **dose of mepolizumab?**

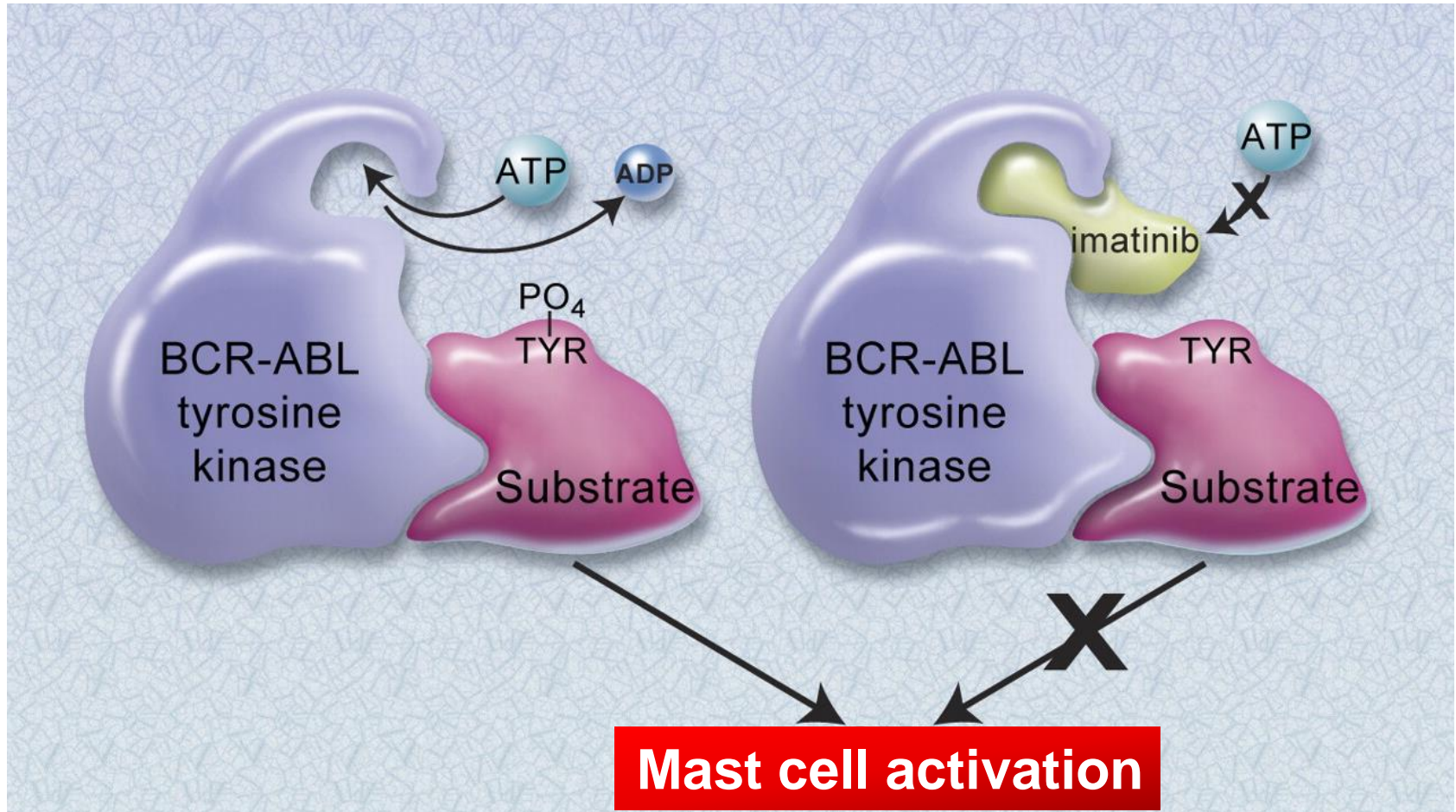
Djukanovic & O'Byrne. N Engl J Med 376 (20):1985-1986, 2017

Mast cells and KIT



- Stem cell factor and its receptor KIT regulate mast cell survival, differentiation, proliferation, and modulate the activation of mast cells through Fc ϵ RI receptors

Mast cell inhibition by imatinib



KIT inhibition by imatinib in severe asthma

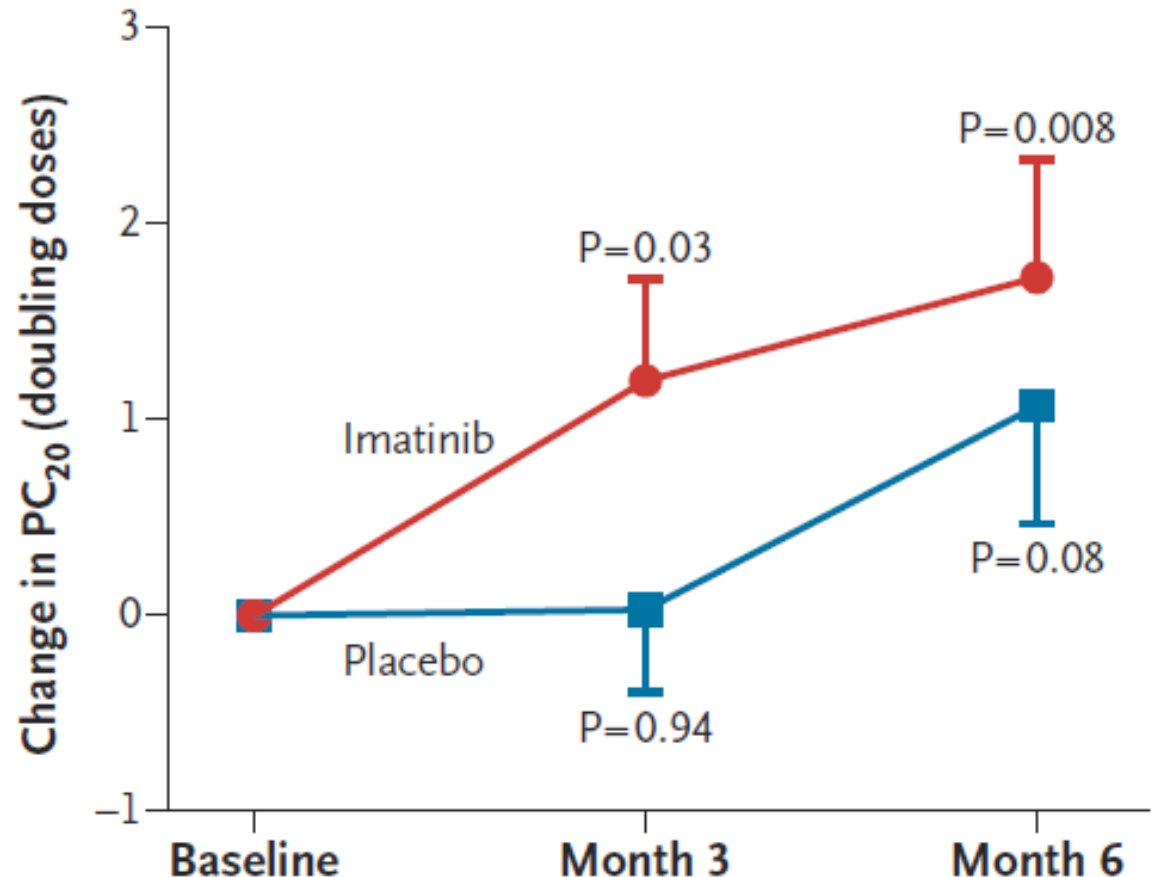
62 asthma patients
on high dose ICS
+ 2nd controller
ACQ ≥ 1.5

- Imatinib
400 mg/day
- Placebo

24 weeks

- Airway hyperreactivity
- Lung function

Airway hyperreactivity



KIT inhibition by imatinib in severe asthma

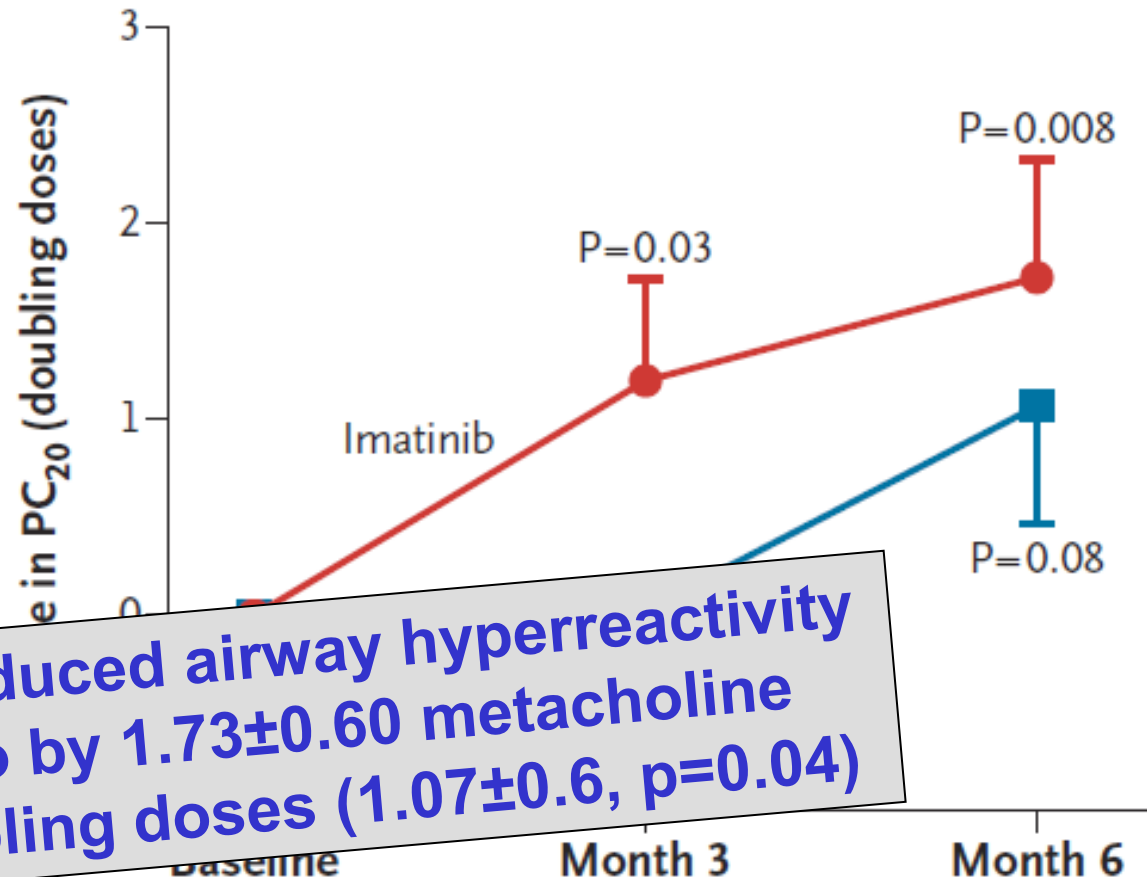
62 asthma patients
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400 mg/day
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24 weeks

- Airway hyperreactivity
- Lung function

Airway hyperreactivity



Imatinib reduced airway hyperreactivity vs. placebo by 1.73 ± 0.60 metacholine PC₂₀ doubling doses (1.07 ± 0.6 , $p=0.04$)

KIT inhibition by imatinib in severe asthma

Measure	Change from Baseline		P Value
	Imatinib	Placebo	
PEF (liters/min)			
Morning	7.3±46.1	−6.4±39.3	0.38
Evening	8.3±53.6	−8.2±37.2	0.31
FE _{NO} (ppb)	7.89±33.0	−5.92±33.2	0.11
Maximum post-bronchodilation FEV ₁ (liters)	0.01±0.2	−0.08±0.26	0.10
ACQ-6 score	−0.62±0.96	−0.49±0.89	0.31
AQLQ score	0.55±1.0	0.25±0.80	0.11

- Improvements of FEV1 (+46 ml (95% CI 36 to 56), fewer asthma exacerbations, higher peak expiratory flows, and improvements in patient-reported outcomes in the imatinib group

KIT inhibition by imatinib in severe asthma

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AQLQ score	0.55±1.0	0.25±0.80	0.11

- Improvements of FEV₁ / FVC in the imatinib group
- Mast cells are a potential treatment target (not only?) in severe asthma

Asthma

- **Asthma prevention**
- **Immunotherapy**
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- **Two more things**

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