

# Left Atrial Appendage Closure

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# Disclosures

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Scientific Advisory Board: Medtronic  
Boston Scientific  
Abbott Vascular

Consultant: SentreHeart  
Foldax

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# Atrial Fibrillation

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- Most common sustained arrhythmia disorder<sup>1</sup>
- Affects over 5 million Americans<sup>1</sup>
- Expected to affect up to 16 million Americans by 2050<sup>1</sup>
- Causes 460,000 hospitalizations and contributes to 80,000 deaths annually<sup>1</sup>
- Responsible for 10-15% of ischemic strokes and 50% of cardioembolic strokes<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Lip GY. J Thromb Haemost

<sup>2</sup>Hart RG, et al. JACC 2000; 25:182

# 2014 AHA/ACC/HRS Guidelines for Management of Patients with Atrial Fibrillation

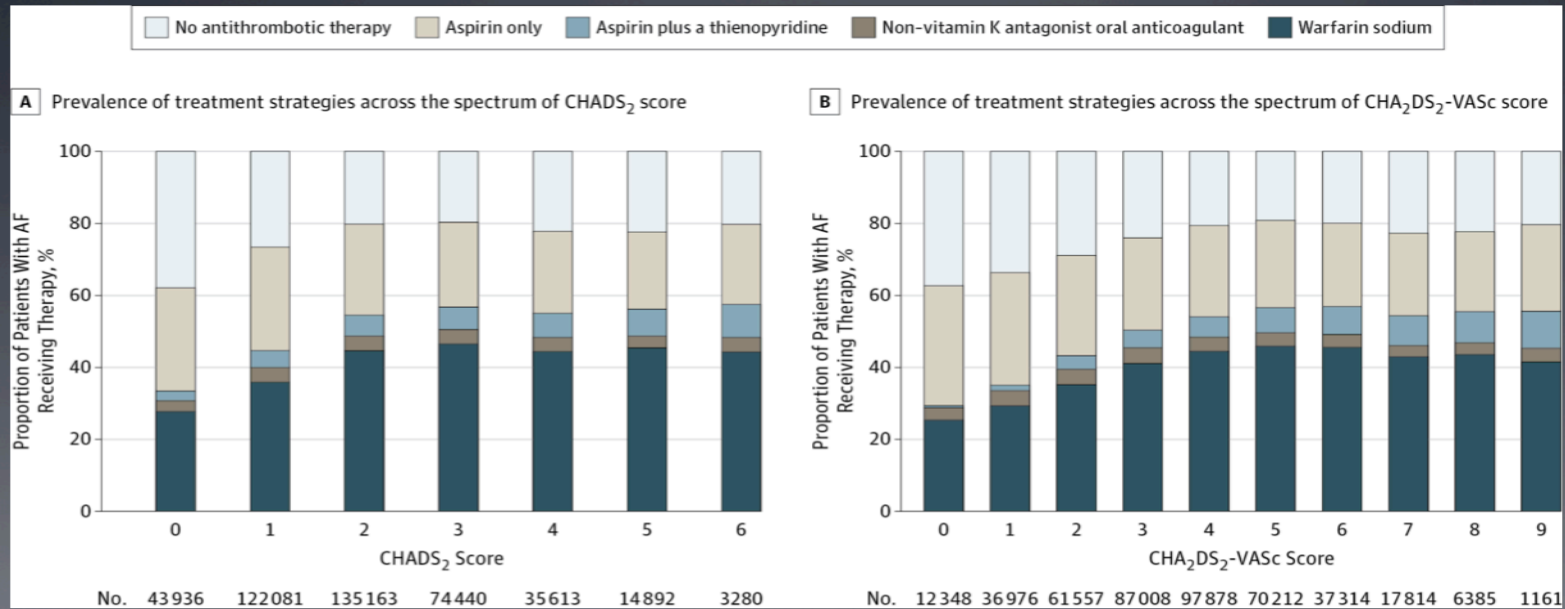
Recommendations	COR	LOE	References
Antithrombotic therapy based on shared decision making, discussion of risks of stroke and bleeding, and patient's preferences	I	C	N/A
Selection of antithrombotic therapy based on risk of thromboembolism	I	B	(167-170)

With prior stroke, TIA, or CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc score  $\geq 2$ , oral anticoagulants recommended. Options include:

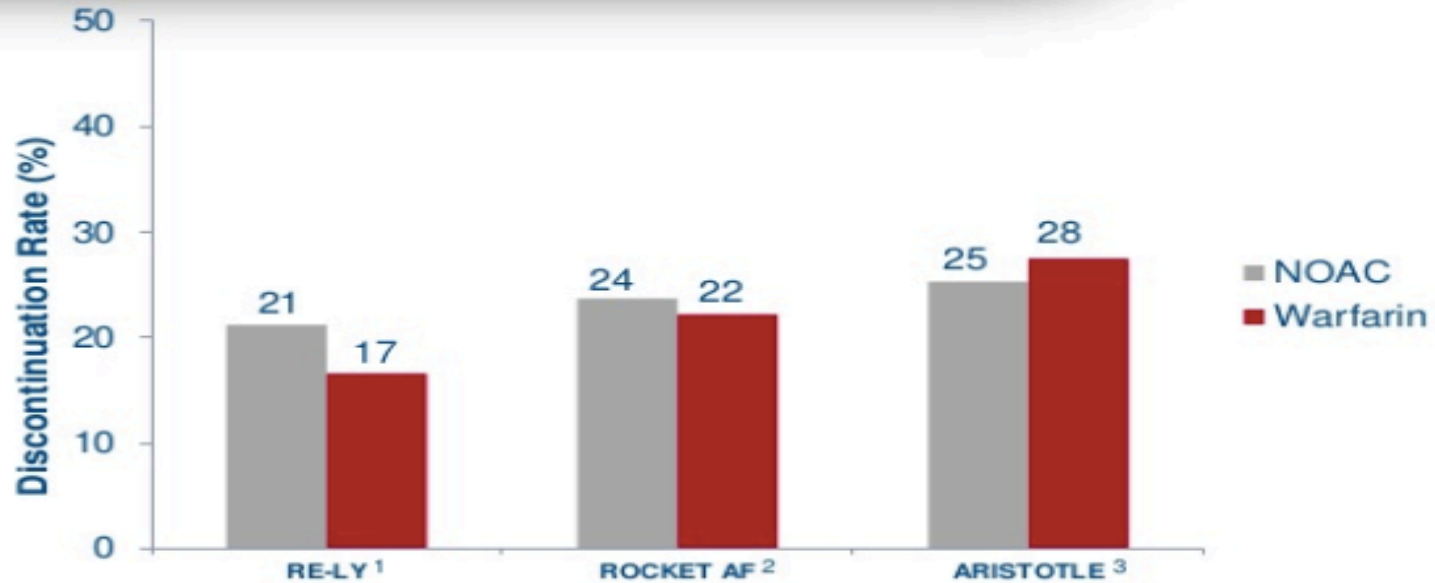
Warfarin	I	A
Dabigatran, rivaroxaban, or apixaban	I	B

With warfarin, determine INR at least weekly during initiation of therapy and monthly when stable	I	A	(180-182)
Direct thrombin or factor Xa inhibitor recommended if unable to maintain therapeutic INR	I	C	N/A
Reevaluate the need for anticoagulation at periodic intervals	I	C	N/A

# Less Than Half of Eligible Patients with Atrial Fibrillation are Anticoagulated



# NOAC Discontinuation in Clinical Trials



Connolly, S. NEJM 2009; 361:1139-1151 – 2 yrs f-up (Corrected), 150 mg <sup>1</sup>Patel, M. NEJM 2011; 365:883-891 – 1.9 yrs f-up, ITT <sup>2</sup>Granger, C. NEJM 2011; 365:981-992 – 1.8 yrs f-up  
SH 296002 AB MAR 2015

# Common reasons for not prescribing or discontinuing anticoagulation

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- Advanced Age
- Frailty
- Falls Risk
- Labile INRs
- Patient Preference
- Previous Bleeding or Risk Factors for Bleeding



# Risk Assessment

## CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc

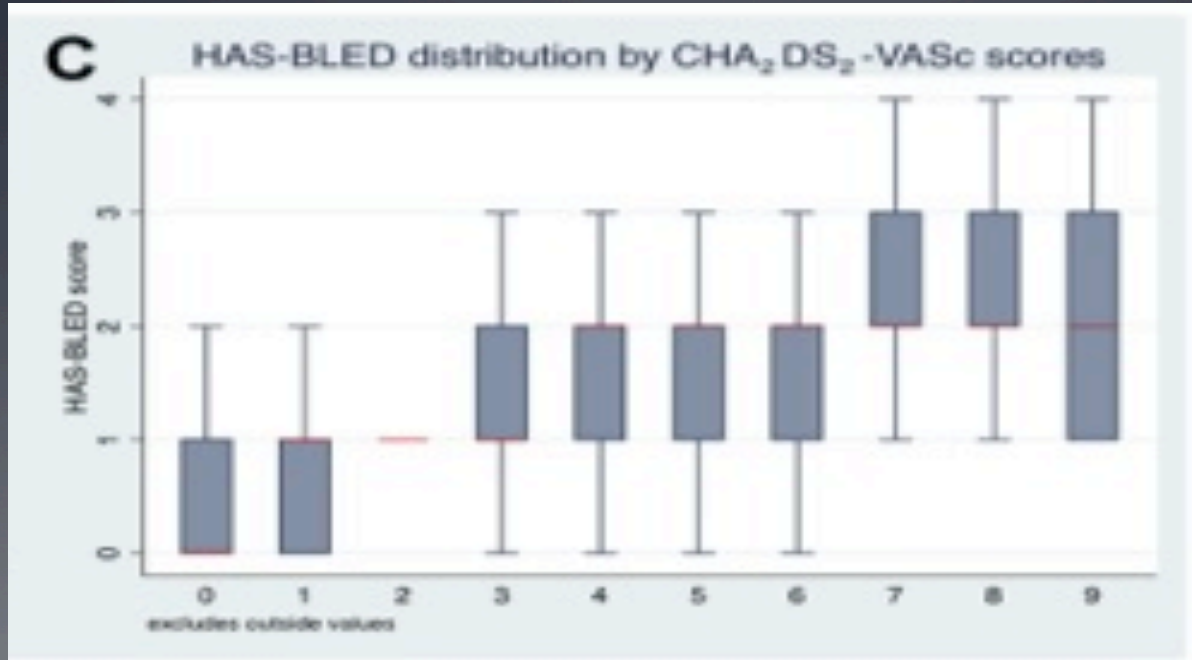
! "\$ % & ( ) \* % ' + , - " \$ # \* . ! CHF/  
LV dysfunction, Diabetes,  
Vascular Disease, Female  
Gender

! 4 , # & 1 '  
( ) \* % '  
+ , - " \$ # \* :  
HTN,  
Previous  
stroke, TIA,  
TE, and age  
> 65

## HAS-BLED

/ 0 & & 1 ) 2 3 ' ( ) \* % ' + , - " \$ # \* . !  
Abnormal Renal/Liver,  
History of Bleed, Labile  
INR, Alcohol,  
Antiplatelet/NSAIDS

# Bleeding Risk Increases with Stroke Risk



Marcucci, M, et al. Am J Med. 2014 Oct;127(10):  
979-986.e2

# Stroke Pathology in Non-Valvular Atrial Fibrillation

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- Insufficient LAA contraction leads to stagnant blood flow
- Most likely culprit: embolization of LAA clot
- 90% of thrombus found in LAA
- Risk factors identifiable on TEE include
  - Enlarged LAA
  - Spontaneous echo contrast
  - Reduced LAA flow velocities

Blackshear, Ann Thoracic Surg 61, 1996

Johnson, Eur J Cardiothoracic Surg 17, 2000

Eagan: Echocardiography 17, 2000

# FDA Approval and Labeling

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FDA Approval in March 2015 with an indication to reduce the risk of thromboembolism from the left atrial appendage in patients

- 1.) with non valvular atrial fibrillation
- 2.) who are recommended anticoagulation based on their CHADS<sub>2</sub> or CHADS VASC score to decrease stroke risk
- 3.) are deemed suitable for warfarin
- 4.) who have an appropriate rationale to seek a non pharmacologic alternative to warfarin



# CMS National Coverage Decision

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- $CHA_2DS_2$ -VASc of  $\geq 3$  or CHADS<sub>2</sub>  $\geq 2$ .
- Formal shared decision making (SDM) interaction utilizing an independent, non-interventional physician whose opinion must be written in the medical record.
- Suitability for short-term warfarin, but deemed unable to take long-term anticoagulation, after the conclusion of SDM, as LAAC is only covered as second line to oral anticoagulation
- Procedure must be performed in a hospital with an established structural heart disease or electrophysiology program.
- Procedure must be performed by an interventional cardiologist, electrophysiologist or cardiovascular surgeon, who must have received formal training by the manufacturer, have performed  $\geq 25$  transeptal procedures, and continue to perform  $\geq 25$  transeptal procedures, including 12 of which are LAA occlusion, over a two year period.
- Patient is enrolled, and physicians and hospital participate in a prospective, national, audited registry for at least four years from the time of implantation.



# Suggested Contraindications to *Long Term* Warfarin Use

- History of intracranial bleeding, or other spontaneous or non ICH bleeding such as GI or retroperitoneal bleeding
- Documented poor compliance with AC or labile INRs
- Intolerance of warfarin or new oral anticoagulants
- High risk of recurrent falls
- Cognitive impairment
- Severe renal failure
- Occupation related high bleeding risk
- Need for prolonged dual antiplatelet therapy
- Increased bleeding risk not reflected by the HAS-BLED score (e.g. thrombocytopenia, cancer, or risk of tumor associated bleeding in case of systemic anticoagulation)
- Other situations for which anticoagulation is inappropriate.

# The Data

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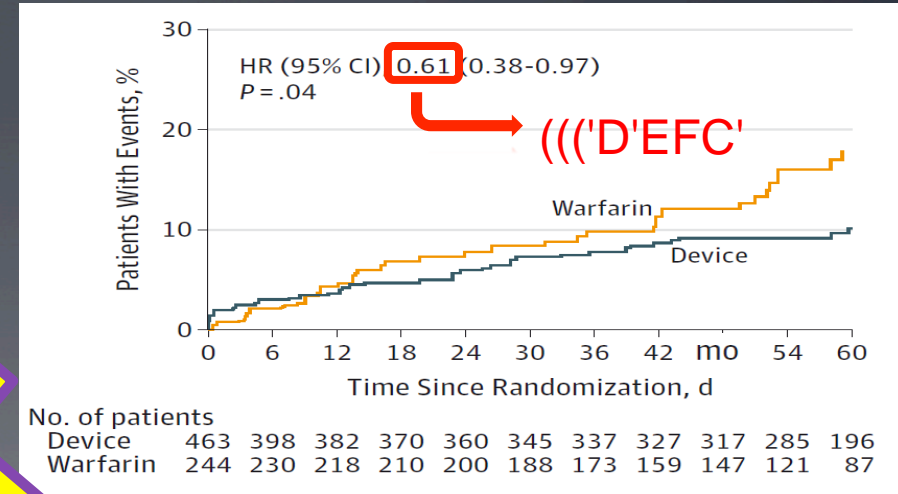
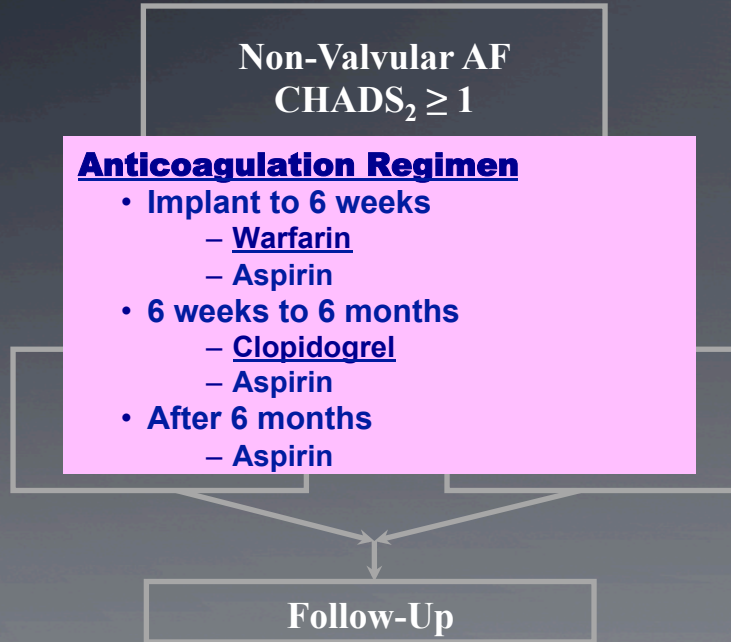
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# PROTECT AF

## Superiority of Watchman over Warfarin

- RCT: Can the WATCHMAN device *replace* Warfarin?

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:!"#\$%&'!8';<=>&,"4' ?

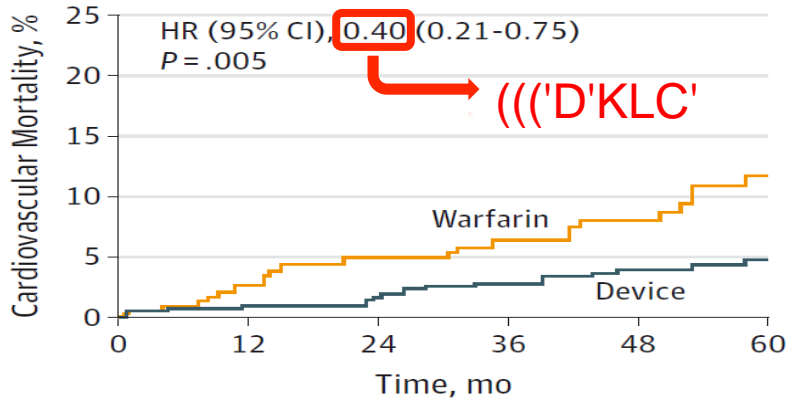


@&6\$##4,3)-!"#\$%&.'ABC ↓"

# PROTECT AF: Watchman vs Warfarin

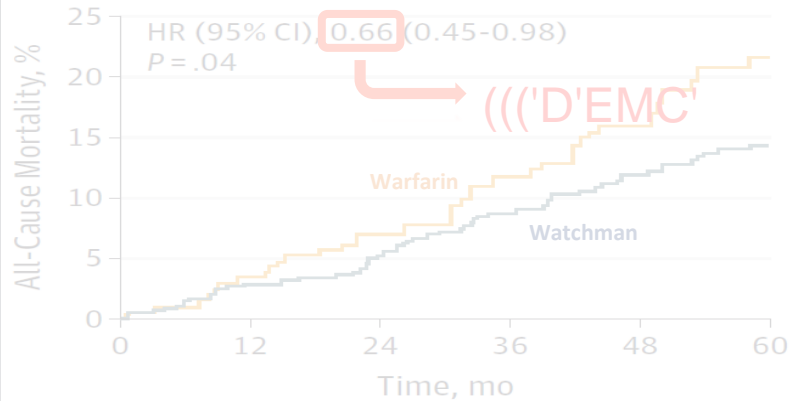
## Mortality Benefit with Watchman

$\leq$ '>&,"4'



463	389	372	351	328	165
244	222	204	176	147	69

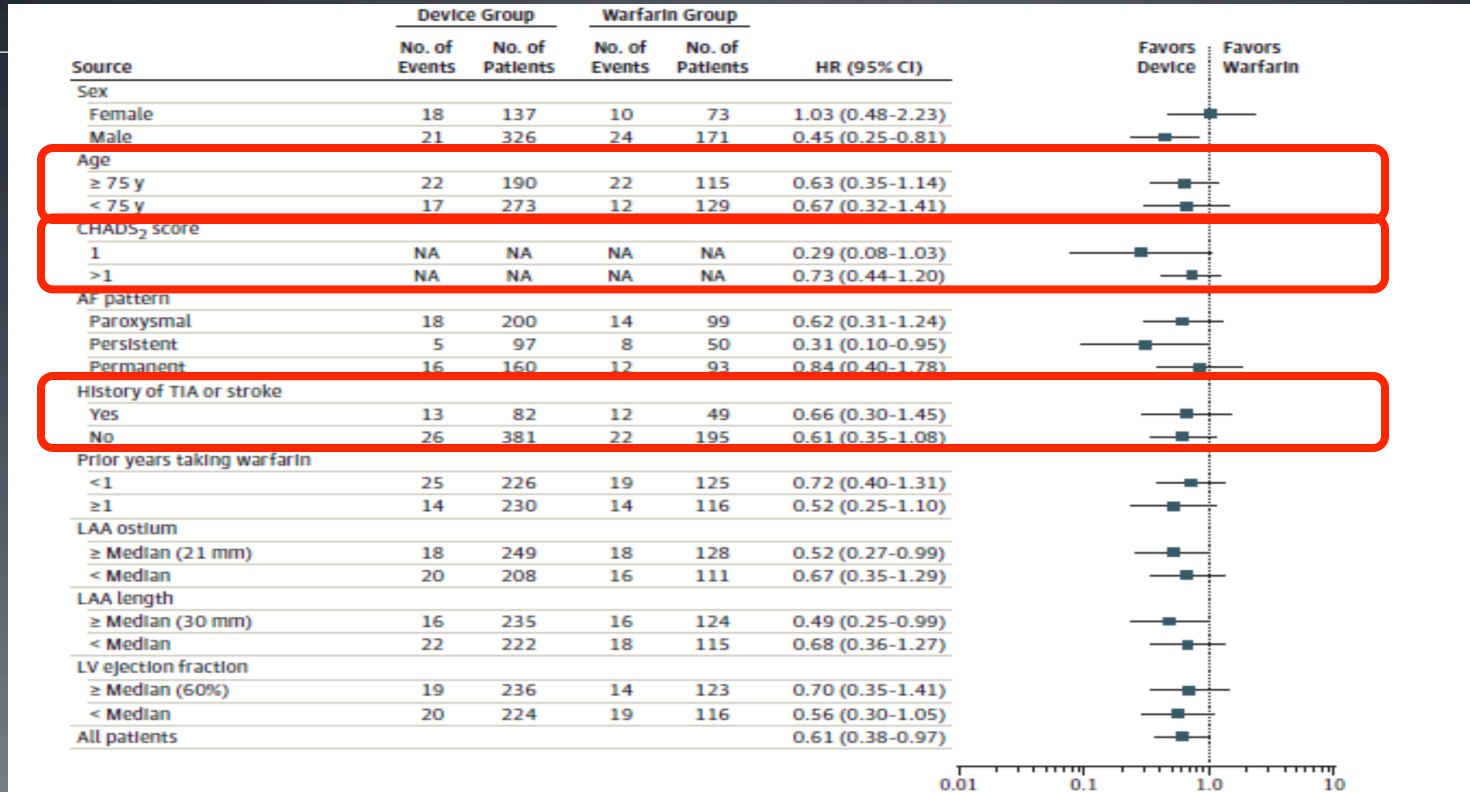
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463	389	373	352	330	202
244	222	204	177	150	92

# PROTECT AF: Watchman vs Warfarin

## Benefit by Sub-Groups





# PROTECT-AF & PREVAIL

## Combined Analysis

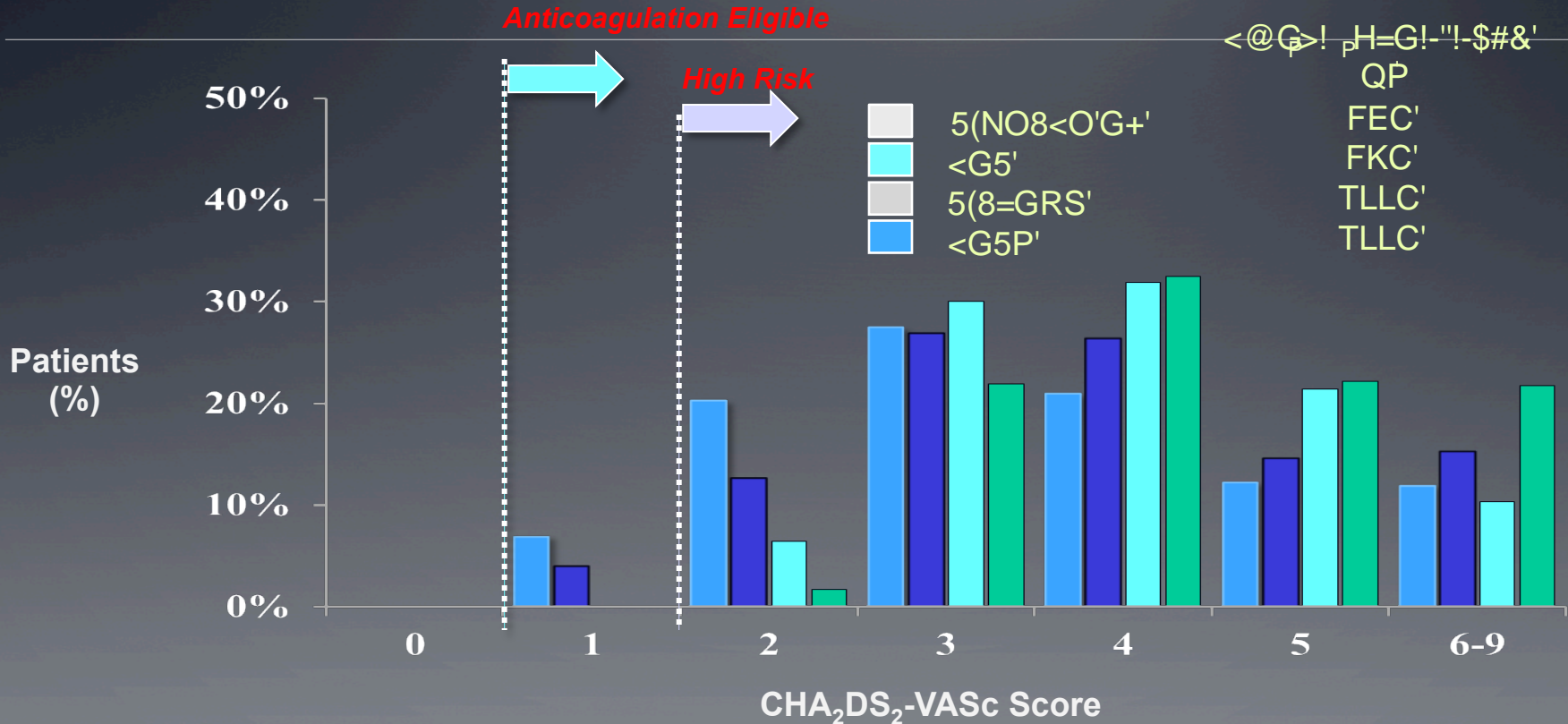
**TABLE 1 PROTECT AF and CAP: Largest Data Sets to Evaluate Totality of Data**

	PROTECT AF	PREVAIL	CAP	CAP2	Total
Enrollment	2005-2008	2010-2012	2008-2010	2012-2014	
<b>Enrolled</b>	800	461	566	579	<b>2,406</b>
Randomized	707	407	—	—	1,114
Watchman:warfarin (2:1)	463:244	269:138	566	579	1,877:382
Mean follow-up, yrs	4.0	2.2	3.7	0.58	N/A
<b>Patient-years</b>	2,717	860	2,022	332	<b>5,931</b>

CAP = Continued Access to PROTECT AF registry; CAP2 = Continued Access to PREVAIL registry; N/A = not applicable; PREVAIL = Prospective Randomized Evaluation of the Watchman LAA Closure Device In Patients With Atrial Fibrillation Versus Long Term Warfarin Therapy; PROTECT AF = Watchman Left Atrial Appendage System for Embolic Protection in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation.

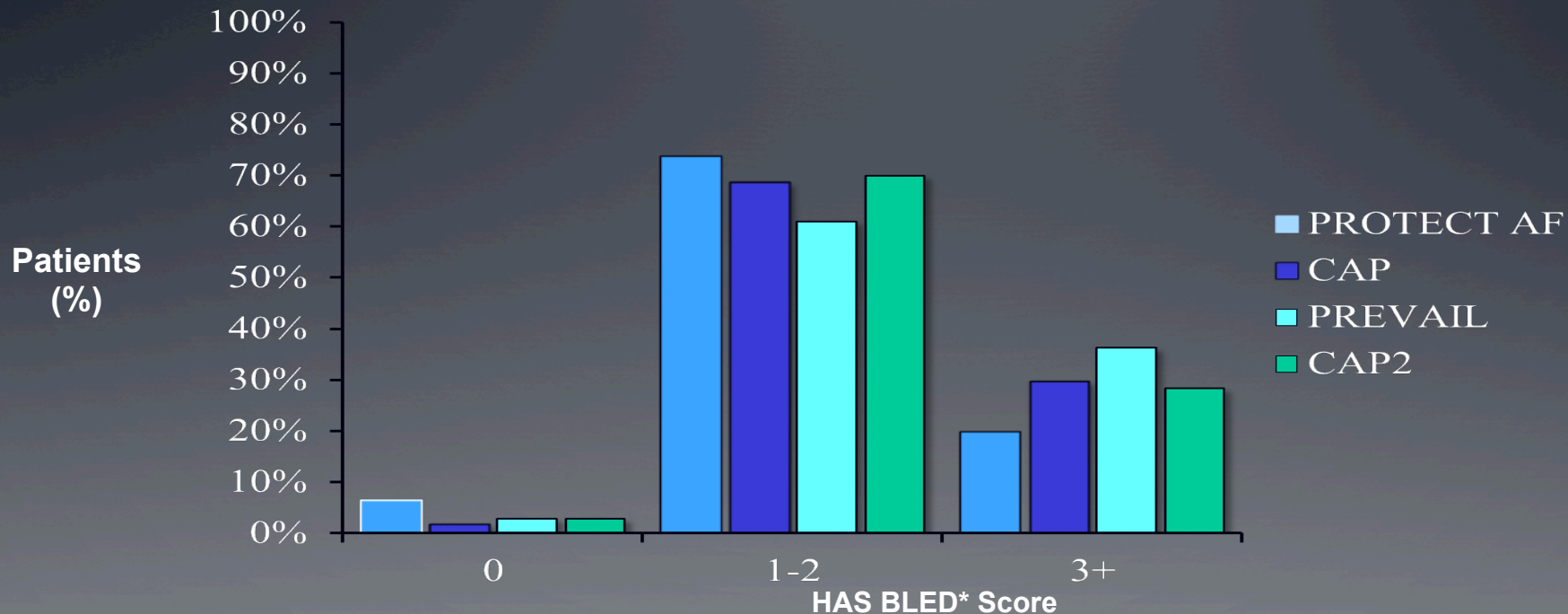
# Clinical Trial Patient Characteristics

## Most at a High Stroke Risk



# Clinical Trial Patient Characteristics

## Most at Moderate to High Bleeding Risk



\* Estimated HAS BLED score. Labile INR and liver function were not collected and given a score of zero

# Stroke Severity in PROTECT AF/PREVAIL

## Non-Disabling vs Disabling/Fatal



- Disabling stroke defined as MRS change of 2 or more or death
- Similar results if defined as absolute MRS > 2

# Safety Events Across Trials

## FDA Trials vs "Real World" (EWOLUTION)

Patients with Safety Event (%)

FUFC'

- '5&#)-, #1), 0'O, 69\$2, 1&."LUBC'
- '5#\$-&1|#&H(&0, "&1'J\$#", 0)".7LUTC'
- '5\$\*"H+>G'G99#\$Z, 0'Y!'8[9&#)&2-&\\'

PROTECT AF  
 N=232      N=231  
 1<sup>st</sup> Half      2<sup>nd</sup> Half

<G5"  
 N=566

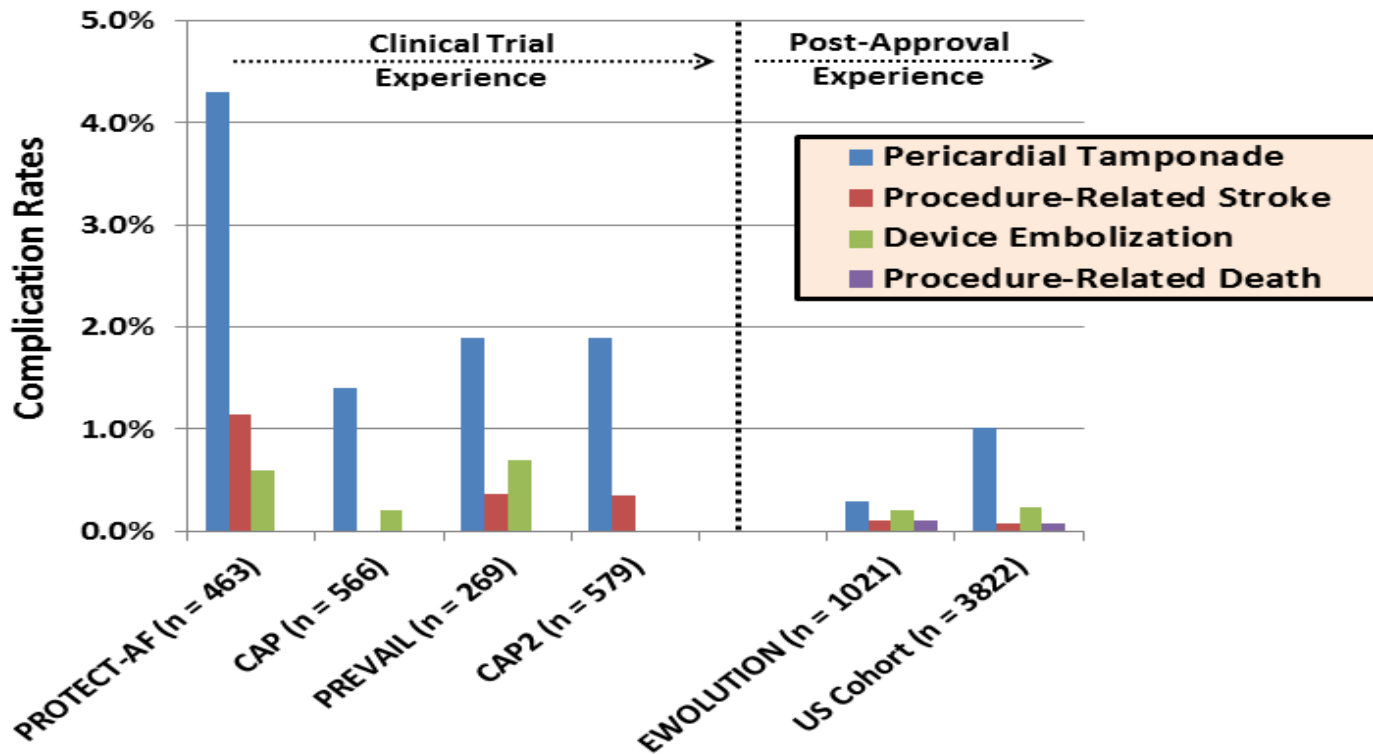
5(8=GRS'  
 N=269

<G5P'  
 N=579

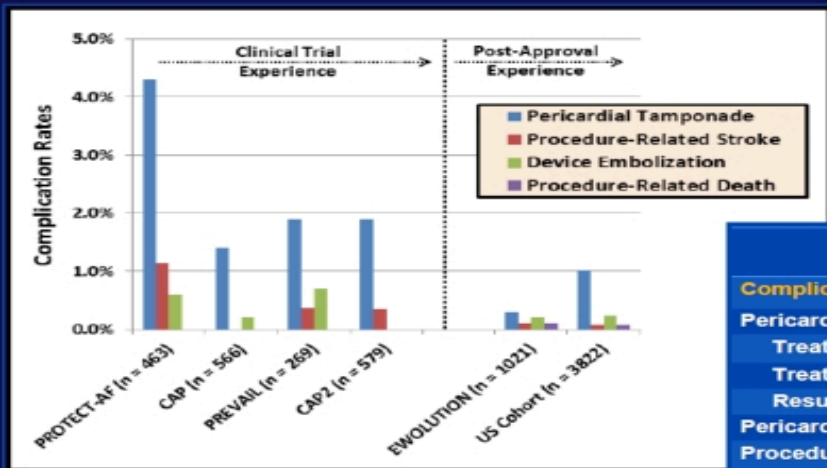
8XINSTORN  
 N=1021



# Comparison of Procedural Complications Across Watchman Studies



# Post Approval Experience



Complications	Post-FDA Approval Experience
<b>Pericardial Tamponade</b>	<b>39 (1.02%)</b>
Treated with Pericardiocentesis	24 (0.63%)
Treated Surgically	12 (0.31%)
Resulted in Death	3 (0.078%)
Pericardial Effusion – No Intervention	11 (0.29%)
Procedure-Related Stroke	3 (0.078%)
Device Embolization	9 (0.24%)
Removed Percutaneously	3
Removed Surgically	6
<b>Death</b>	
Procedure-Related Mortality	3 (0.078%)
Additional Mortality within 7 days	1 (0.026%)

# Outcomes in the Post-FDA Approval Watchman Experience N=3822

## Post-FDA Approval Experience

Complications	
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# Comparison of Procedural Complications Across Watchman Studies

	5(N08<OHG+)	5(8=GRS)	<G5'	<G5P'	8XNSYORNV	5\$**H+>G' G99#&Z,0'	G33#&3,"&'>,"'
5&#)-, #1),0'O,69\$2,1&'	PL]MUFC^	B]TUFC^	A]TUMC^	TT]TUFC^	E]LUPFC^	EF]TULPC^	AK]TUPAC^
"O#&,"&1'_) "4' "9&#)-, #1)\$-&2"&*)**	TE]PUAC^	M]TUBC^	]JTUPC^	2;,'	P]LUPLC^	PM]LUKEC^	
"O#&,"&1'*I#3)-,007'	]JTUBC^	T]LUMC^	T]LUPC^	2;,'	T]LUTLC^	TP]LUETC^	
"(&*I0"&1')2'1&,"4'	L'	L'	L'	L'	L'	E]LU`AC^	
5&#)-, #1),0'&aI*)\$2'b'2\$)2"&#Z&2")\$2'	M]LUFC^	L'	B]LUFC^	E]LUBC^	M]LUEFC^	TT]LUPFC^	P]LUMLC^
5#\$-&I1#&H#&0,"&1'*"#&\$%&'	B]JTUBC^	T]LUE`C^	L'	P]LUEBC^	T]LUTLC^	E]LUL`AC^	TP]LUTAC^
>&Z)-& &6W\$0)c,")\$2'	E]LUKC^	P]LU`C^	T]LUPC^	L'	P]LUPLC^	F]LUPMC^	T]LUPBC^
"(&6\$Z&1" "9&#-I",2&\$I*07'	T'	L'	L'	L'	T'	E'	
"(&6\$Z&1'*I#3)-,007'	P'	P'	T'	L'	T'	K'	
>&,"4'							
"5#\$-&I1#&H#&0,"&1' "6\$#"0)"7'	L'	L'	L'	L'	T]LUTC^	E]LUL`AC^	M]LULKC^
"G11)"\$2,0'6\$#"0)"7' "_)4)2`'1,7'ys	L'	L'	L'	T]LUT`C^	E]LUPFC^	T]LULPKC^	B]LUL`C^

# Device Embolization Details

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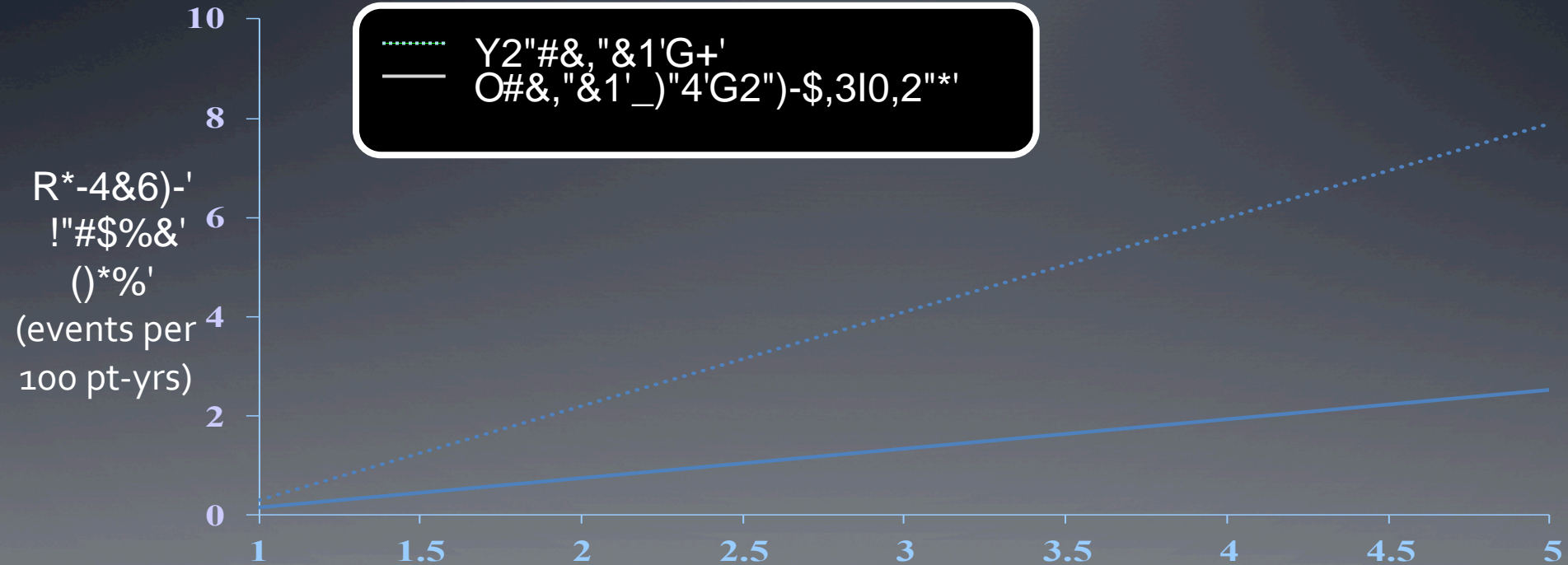
Device Size	Method of Removal
21 mm	Percutaneous Snare
21 mm	Percutaneous Snare
33 mm	Surgical
33 mm	Surgical
30 mm	Surgical
24 mm	Percutaneous Snare
27 mm	Surgical
27 mm	Surgical
27 mm	Surgical

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# Ischemic Stroke by CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc Score

## Current Treatment



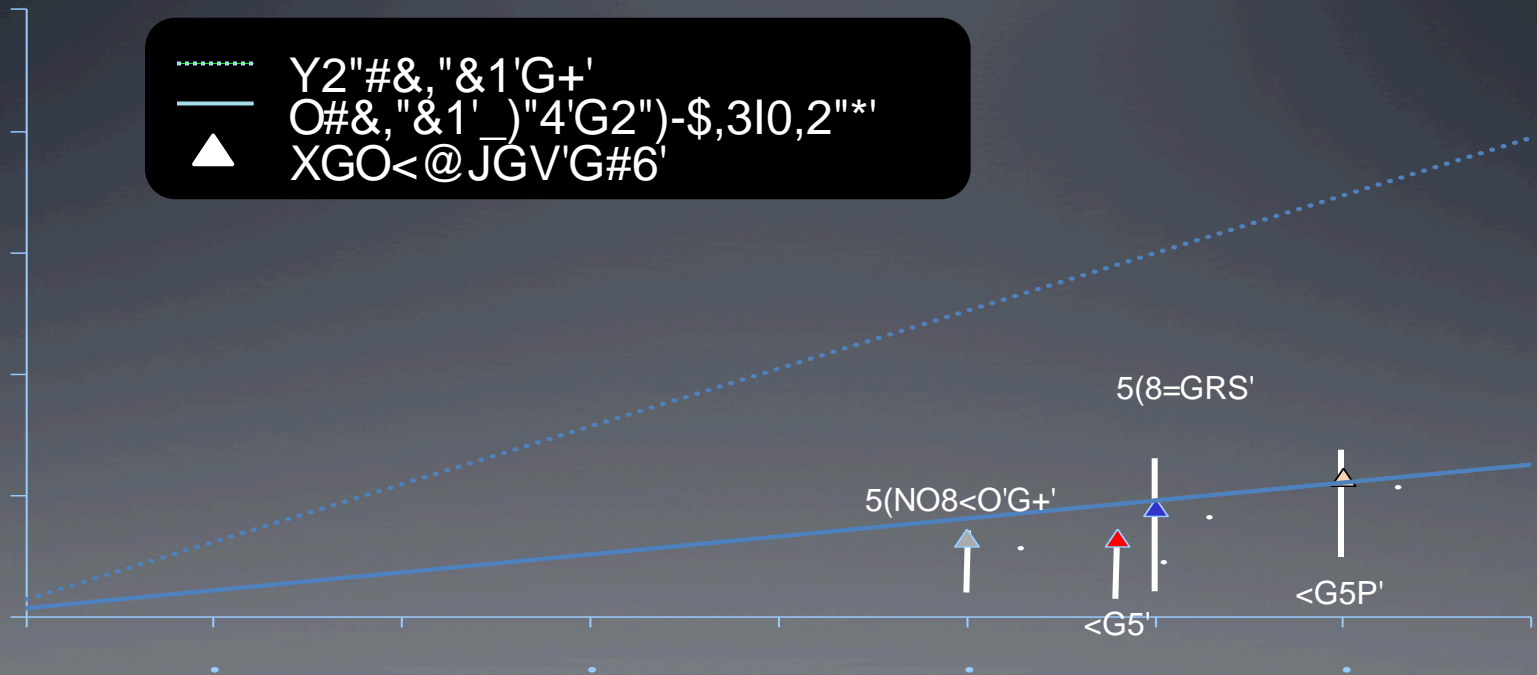
Fraser et al. Eur Heart J (2012); NICE UK (2014). WATCHMAN FDA Panel Sponsor Presentation. Oct 2014

R\*-4&6)-'!"#\$%&'W7'<@G p H=G!-'!-\$#&

**PROTECT AF 5 Yrs / PREVAIL 3 Yrs**

..... Y2"#&,"&1'G+'  
 — O#&,"&1' )"4'G2")-\$,310,2"\*'  
 ▲ XGO<@JGV'G#6'

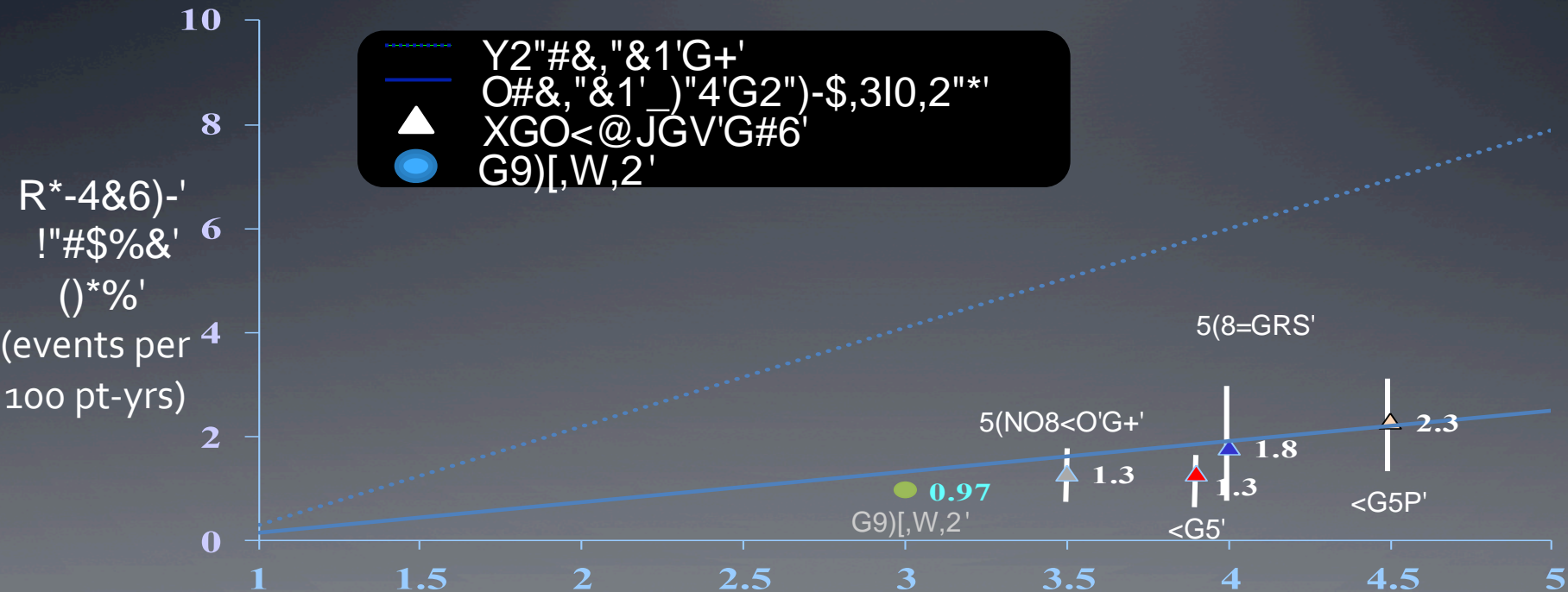
R\*-4&6)-'  
!"#\$%&'  
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(events per  
100 pt-yrs)



/, \* & 0) 2 & ' < @ G ! p H = G ! - ' ! - \$ # & '

R\*-4&6)-'!"#\$%&'W7'<@G p H=G!-'!-\$#&'

## Rates in Perspective



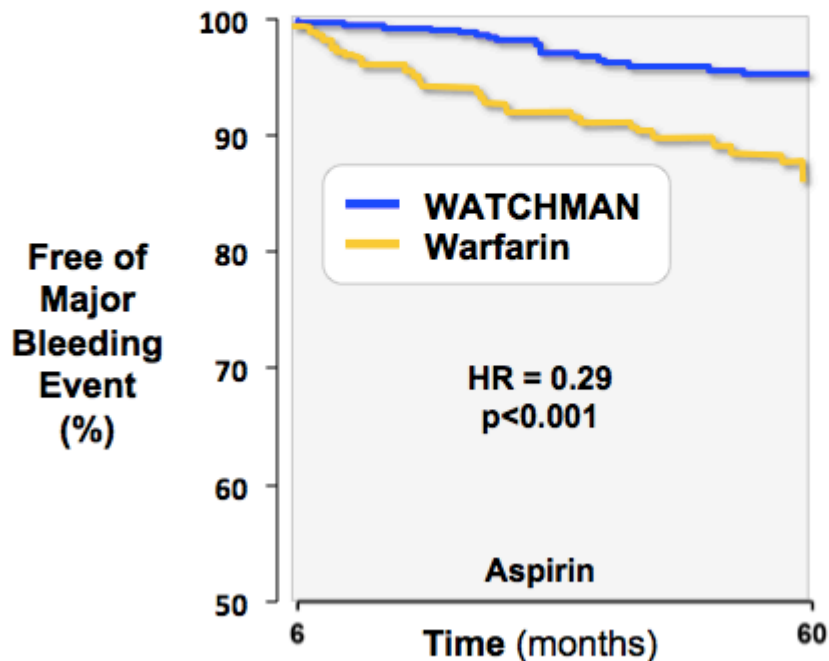
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Friberg. Eur Heart J (2012); NICE UK (2014). WATCHMAN FDA Panel Sponsor Presentation. Oct 2014; Lopes, R, et al. Lancet 2012; 380: 1749-58.; Granger, C et al. N Engl J Med 2011; 365: 981-92.

# PROTECT-AF & PREVAIL Combined Analysis

## Reduction in Major Bleeding (>6-mo)

➤ Late Major Bleeding was Reduced by 71%



MOUNT SINAI  
SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE



MOUNT SINAI  
SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE



# PROTECT-AF & PREVAIL Combined Analysis

## Late (>6-mo) Bleeding by Subgroups

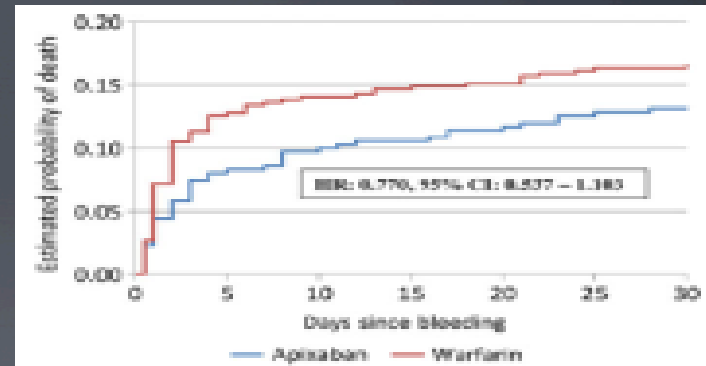
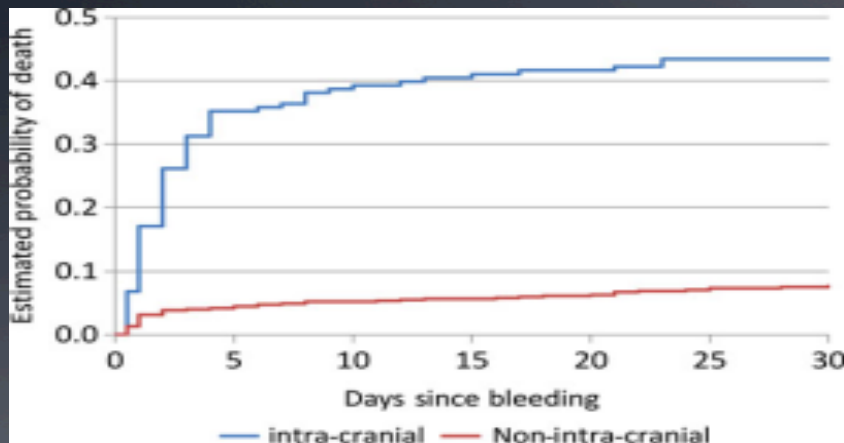
**TABLE 5 Major Bleeds Beyond 6 Months Post-Randomization According to Subgroup**

	LAA Closure	Warfarin	Hazard Ratio (95% Confidence Interval)	p Value	p Interaction
Age ≤75 yrs	1.4 (6/436)	7.8 (17/217)	0.17 (0.147-0.196)	<0.001	0.005
Age >75 yrs	4.4 (13/296)	10.9 (18/165)	0.43 (0.264-0.701)	0.001	
CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VASc ≤4	1.8 (10/551)	8.5 (22/258)	0.21 (0.138-0.321)	<0.001	0.28
CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VASc >4	5.1 (9/178)	10.7 (13/121)	0.47 (0.161-1.378)	0.17	
Modified HAS-BLED <3	1.4 (8/561)	7.9 (23/291)	0.17 (0.173-0.174)	<0.001	0.001
Modified HAS-BLED ≥3	6.4 (11/171)	13.2 (12/91)	0.55 (0.282-1.070)	0.078	
No history of TIA/stroke	2.3 (13/570)	8.9 (26/292)	0.26 (0.216-0.305)	<0.001	0.67
History of TIA/stroke	3.7 (6/162)	10.0 (9/90)	0.35 (0.102-1.225)	0.10	
Female	1.8 (4/224)	12.0 (13/108)	0.17 (0.074-0.369)	<0.001	0.02
Male	3.0 (15/508)	8.0 (22/274)	0.35 (0.320-0.393)	<0.001	



# Impact of Bleeding on 30-Day Mortality

## ARISTOTLE Sub-Analysis



Odds Ratio of 30-day Mortality After ISTH Major Bleeding:

**Intracranial Bleeding: 121.5**

**Non-Intracranial Bleeding: 11.6'**

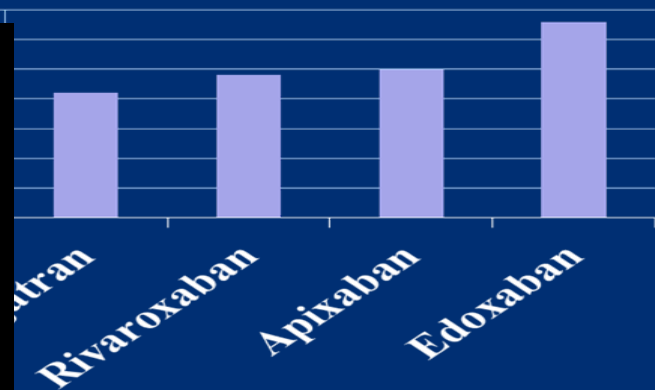
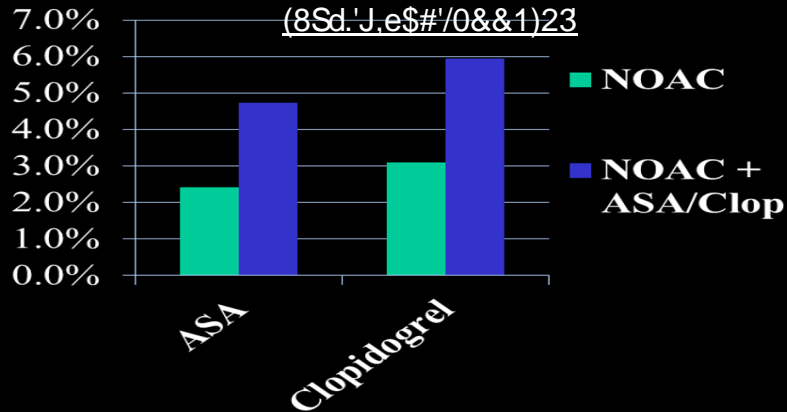
# Ok, LAAC is as good as (or better than) Warfarin

## But we now have NOACs...

- NOACs are excellent medications → Preferred Rx
- But NOACs are not a panacea:
  - Even in the NOAC clinical trials between 25%-33% of patients stopped taking the medication by 2 years
  - Concomitant treatment with

### 2-yr Drug Cessation

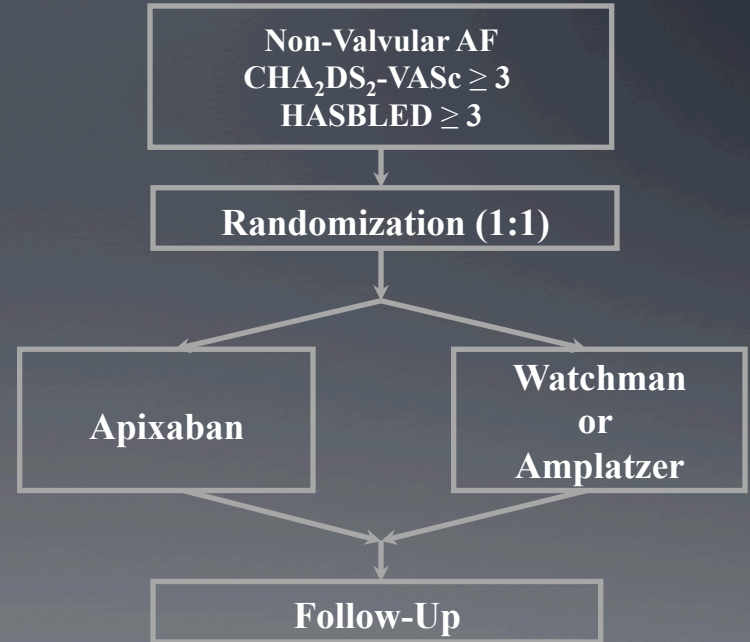
35%



# Comparing LAAC with NOACs

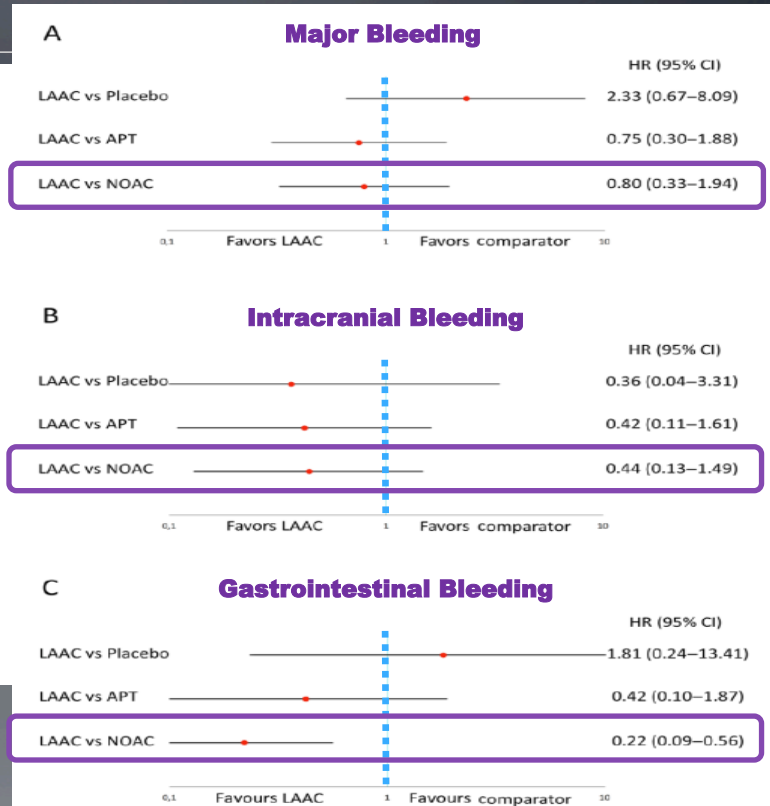
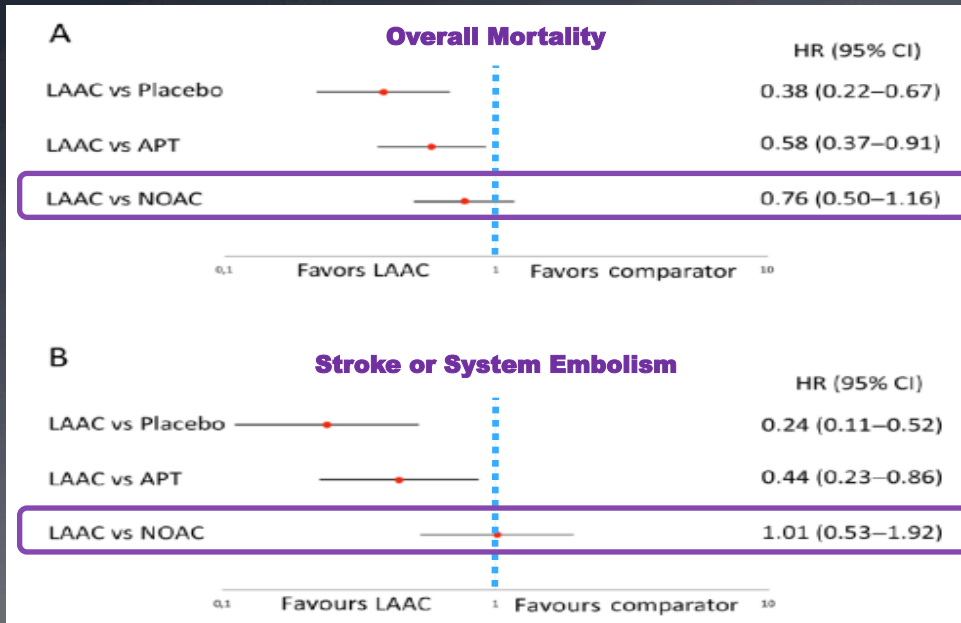
## PRAGUE-17: Watchman/Amplatzer vs Apixaban

- Multicenter (n=7) RCT
- PI: Pavel Osmancik, Charles University
- Primary Funding: Ministry of Health, Czech Republic
- Inclusion Criteria
  - CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc ≥ 3, or HASBLED ≥ 3, or
  - Major Bleeding on warfarin, or
  - Embolic event on warfarin
- Randomization, 1:1
  - LAAC: Watchman or ACP-Amulet
  - NOAC: Apixaban
- Total sample size = 1000
- Composite Primary Endpoint:
  - Stroke, Systemic Embolism, CV Death, Procedural Complications, Major Bleeding, All-cause mortality



# Comparing LAAC & NOACs

## Network Meta-Analysis



# Stroke Severity in LAAC vs NOAC Trials

## Non-Disabling vs Disabling/Fatal



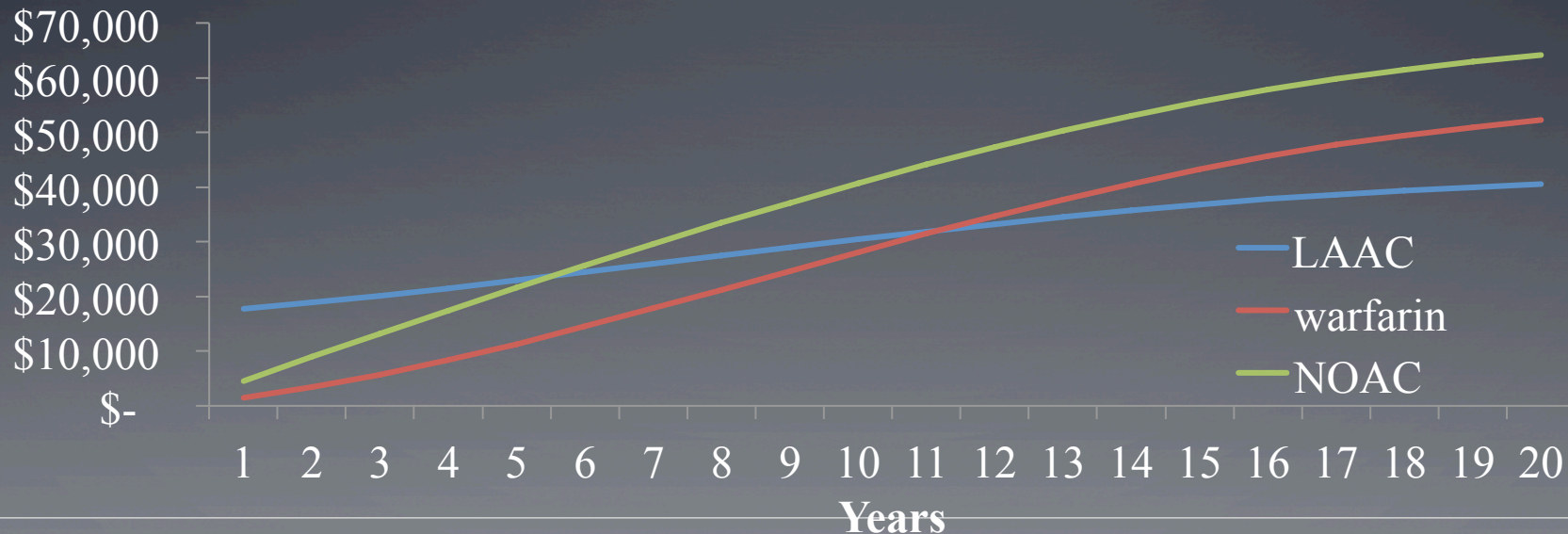
- Disabling stroke defined as MRS change of 2 or more or death
- Similar results if defined as absolute MRS > 2



# Economic Analysis: Cost Effectiveness

## Watchman<sub>PROTECT AF</sub> + PREVAIL vs NOACs vs Warfarin

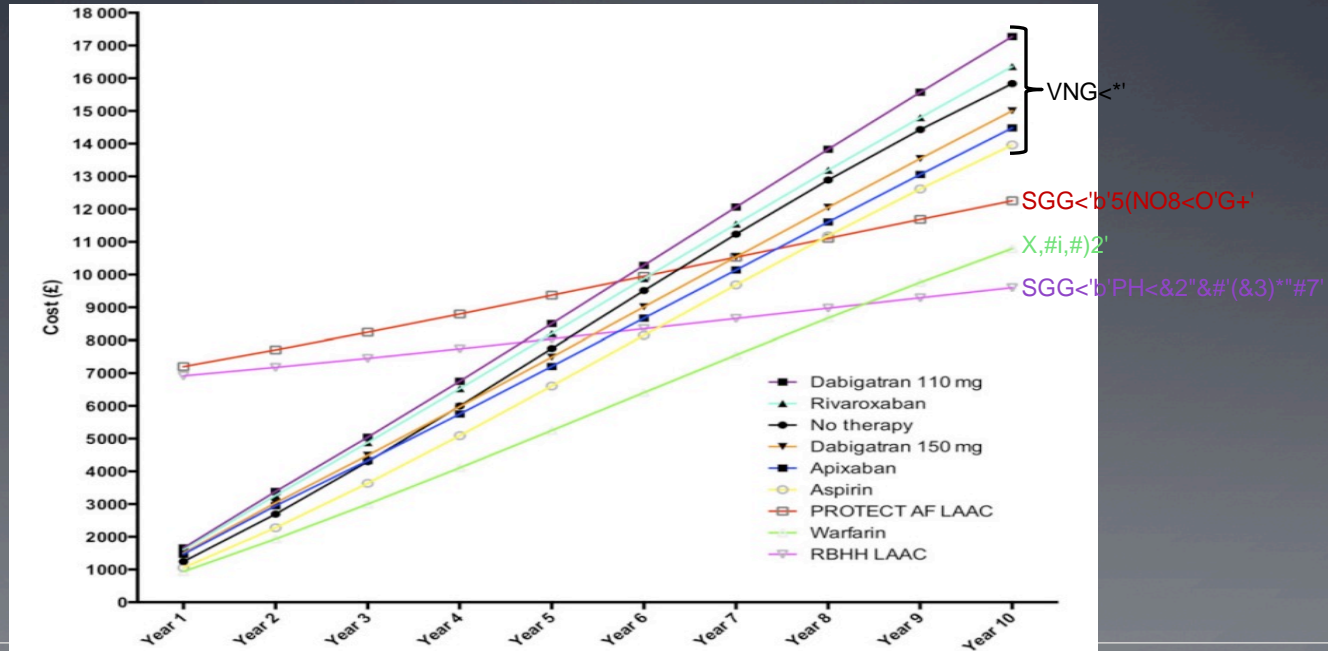
- Patient level Markov micro-simulation decision analytic model
- Watchman Inputs: Combined *PROTECT AF* (5 yrs) + *PREVAIL* (3 yrs)
- NOAC meta-analysis of all 4 NOACs (Ruff et al, *Lancet* 383:955, 2014)
- Incorporated costs based on the level of disability resulting from strokes



# Cost Analysis

## Watchman vs OACs: Clinical Trial vs Real-World

- Economic costs from the U.K. perspective
- Watchman Cohorts: i) PROTECT AF, ii) 2-Center Registry (n=110 pts)
- OACs: A network meta-analysis (Dogliotti et al, *Heart* 100:396, 2014)



# Left Atrial Appendage Closure

## Why not use it in everybody???

- Number of patients in FDA trials
- Who were the patients enrolled in the LAAC trials?

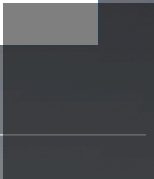
- Inclusion Criteria:

- Paroxysmal / Persistent / Permanent AF
- CHADS  $\geq 1$
- Eligible for long-term Warfarin therapy

- Exclusion Criteria

- Mechanical valve
- Symptomatic Carotid disease
- LVEF  $< 30\%$

➤ 5,")&2"4,"\_&#&'&i&##&1"'"4&'SGG<"#),0\*  
\_&#&'9\$\$\$'-,21)1,"&\*"i\$#0\$23H"&#6'\$#,0'  
,2")-\$,3!0,")\$2"



# After a Major Bleeding Episode Should OAC be restarted???

**STUDY PROTOCOL**

**Open Access**



## Apixaban versus Antiplatelet drugs or no antithrombotic drugs after anticoagulation-associated intraCerebral HaEmorrhage in patients with Atrial Fibrillation (APACHE-AF): study protocol for a randomised controlled trial

Koen M. van Nieuwenhuizen<sup>1\*</sup>, H. Bart van der Worp<sup>1</sup>, Ale Algra<sup>1,2</sup>, L. Jaap Kappelle<sup>1</sup>, Gabriel J. E. Rinkel<sup>1</sup>, Isabelle C. van Gelder<sup>3</sup>, Roger E. G. Schutgens<sup>4</sup>, and Catharina J. M. Klijn<sup>1,5</sup> on behalf of the APACHE-AF investigators

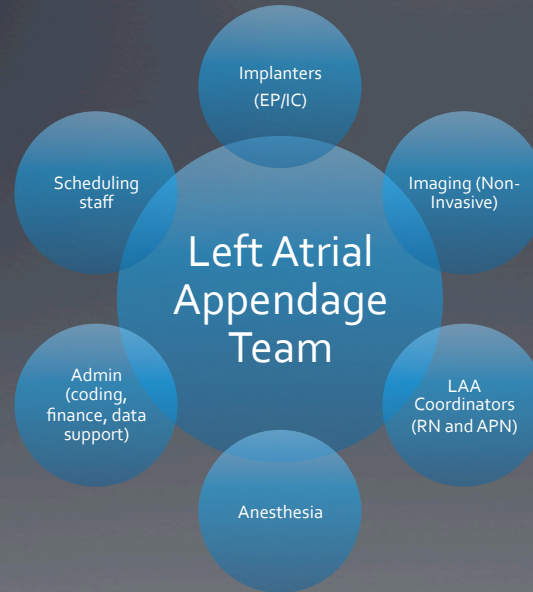
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# How Are Patients Evaluated for LAAC

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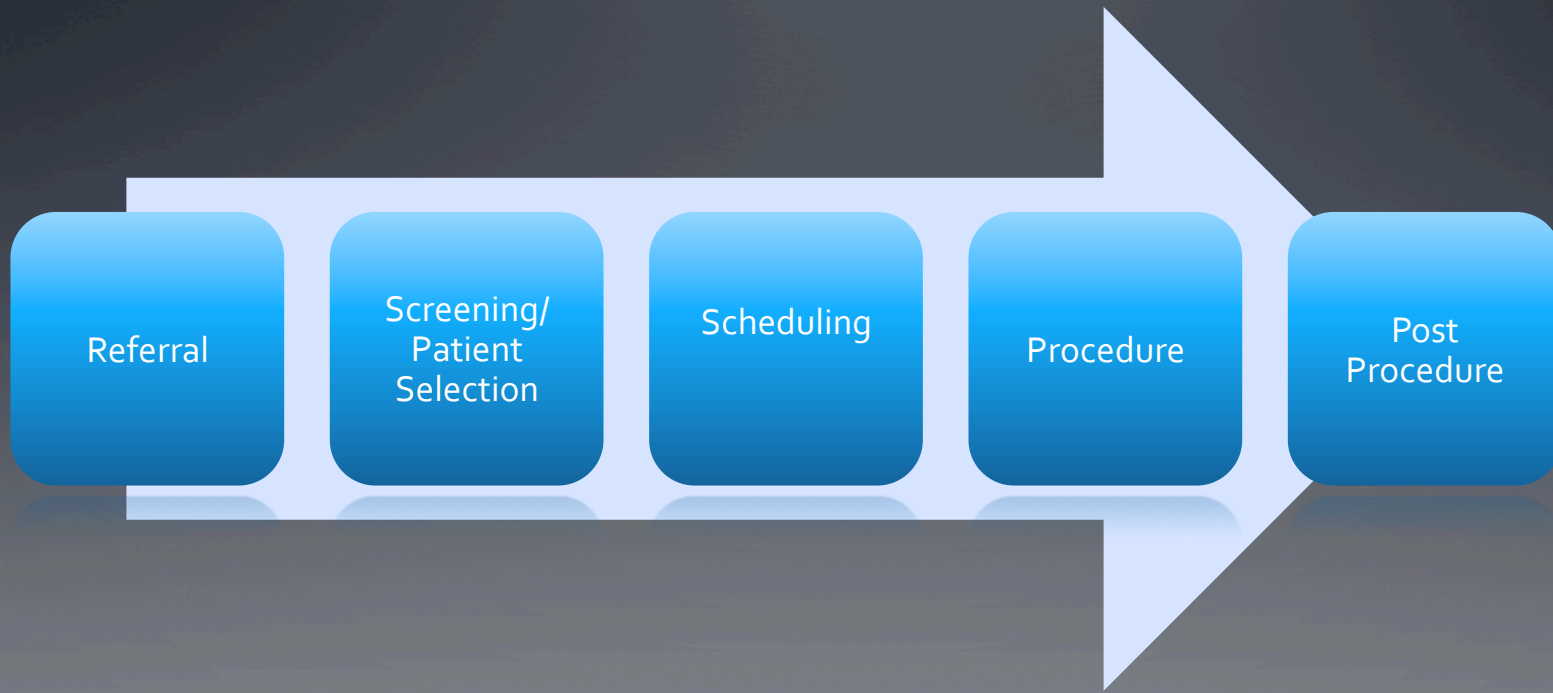
# OhioHealth Heart and Vascular Institute LAAO Program: Team Based Care



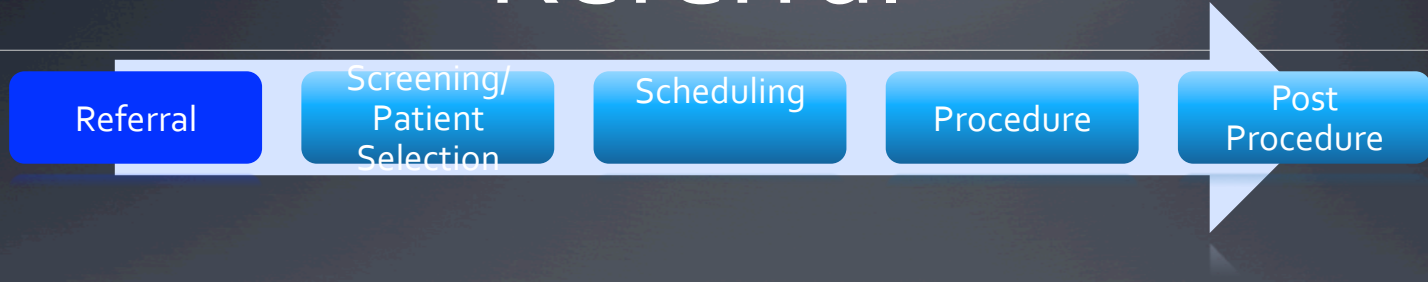
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# OhioHealth Heart and Vascular Institute LAAO Program

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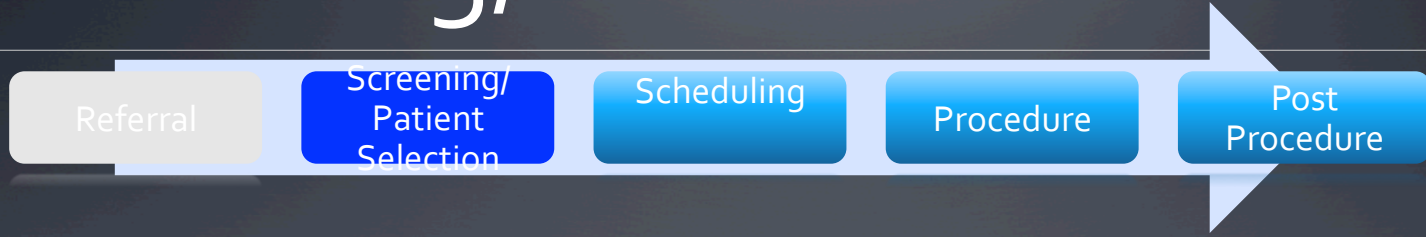


# Referral



Referral base: cardiology, neurology, internal medicine, hematology, gastrointestinal, nephrology, ophthalmology

# Screening/Patient Selection



- Pre-visit Chart Review- obtain outside records
- Eligibility: Review NCD requirements
- Specialist consultation/collaboration (GI/Neuro/Hematology)
- Shared Decision Making
- AC Clinic referral

# Shared Decision Making

**Decision Memo for Percutaneous Left Atrial Appendage (LAA) Closure Therapy (CAG-00445N)**

Expand All | Collapse All

**Decision Summary**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) covers percutaneous left atrial appendage closure (LAAC) for non-valvular atrial fibrillation (NVAF)

- *A formal shared decision making interaction with an independent non-interventional physician using an evidence-based decision tool on oral anticoagulation in patients with NVAF prior to LAAC. Additionally, the shared decision making interaction must be documented in the medical record.*

*anticoagulation in patients with NVAF prior to LAAC. Additionally, the shared decision making interaction must be documented in the medical record.*

- *A suitability for short-term warfarin but deemed unable to take long term oral anticoagulation following the conclusion of shared decision making, as LAAC is only covered as a second line therapy to oral anticoagulants. The patient (preoperatively and postoperatively) is under the care of a cohesive, multidisciplinary team (MDT) of medical professionals. The procedure must be furnished in a hospital with an established structural heart disease (SHD) and/or electrophysiology (EP) program.*
- *The procedure must be performed by an interventional cardiologist(s), electrophysiologist(s) or cardiovascular surgeon (s) that meet the following criteria:*
  - *Has received training prescribed by the manufacturer on the safe and effective use of the device prior to performing LAAC; and*
  - *Has performed ≥ 25 interventional cardiac procedures that involve transeptal puncture through an intact septum; and*
  - *Continues to perform ≥ 25 interventional cardiac procedures that involve transeptal puncture through an intact septum, of which at least 12 are LAAC, over a two year period.*
- *The patient is enrolled in, and the MDT and hospital must participate in a prospective, national, audited registry that: 1) consecutively enrolls LAAC patients and 2) tracks the following annual outcomes for each patient for a period of at least four years from the time of the LAAC:*
  - *Operator-specific complications*
  - *Device-specific complications including device thrombosis*
  - *Stroke, adjudicated, by type*
  - *Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)*
  - *Systemic embolism*
  - *Death*
  - *Major bleeding, by site and severity*

The registry must be designed to permit identification and analysis of patient, practitioner and facility level factors that predict patient risk for these outcomes. The registry must collect all data necessary to conduct analyses adjusted for relevant confounders and have a written executable analysis plan



# Shared Decision Making

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“The process by which the optimal decision may be reached for a patient at a fateful health crossroads is called shared decision making and involves, at minimum, a clinician and the patient, although other members of the health care team or friends and family members may be invited to participate. In shared decision making, both parties share information: the clinician offers options and describes their risks and benefits, and the patient expresses his or her preferences and values. Each participant is thus armed with a better understanding of the relevant factors and shares responsibility in the decision about how to proceed.” Barry and Edgman-Levitan (2012)

# Shared Decision Making

Verizon 5:29 PM 51%

**Calculate Risk** | **Review Therapy**

Stroke Risk: 6 <sup>CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc</sup> High risk

Renal Function: 1.2 <sup>SCr</sup> mg/dL, 60.7 <sup>CrCl</sup> mL/min

**CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc**

Select all that apply

- CHF/LV dysfunction ⓘ
- Hypertension ⓘ
- Age ≥ 75 yrs
- Diabetes mellitus
- Stroke/TIA/TE ⓘ
- Vascular disease ⓘ
- Age 65-74 yrs
- Sex: Female

**Creatinine Clearance**

Verizon 5:29 PM 51%

**Calculate Risk** | **Review Therapy**

6 <sup>CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc</sup> High risk | 1.2 <sup>SCr</sup> mg/dL | 60.7 <sup>CrCl</sup> mL/min

**2 Select Therapy Option**

No Therapy

**3 Evaluate Therapy**

Standard Dose (clinical trials): Not applicable

Stroke Risk/Benefit | Bleed Risk | Safety Info

**Risk/Benefit Information\***

Patient's ANNUAL risk of stroke + thromboembolism with No Therapy: 12.5%

*Based on SPARC Tool developed by Peter Loewen, ACPR, Pharm.D., FCSHP*

Verizon 5:30 PM 51%

**Calculate Risk** | **Review Therapy**

6 <sup>CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc</sup> High risk | 1.2 <sup>SCr</sup> mg/dL | 60.7 <sup>CrCl</sup> mL/min

**2 Select Therapy Option**

Warfarin

**3 Evaluate Therapy**

Standard Dose (clinical trials): Initial dose 0.5-7 mg daily. Individualize and adjust dose based on INR and patient factors. Target INR = 2.5, 2.0 to 3.0

Stroke Risk/Benefit | Bleed Risk | Safety Info

**Risk/Benefit Information\***

Patient's ANNUAL risk of stroke + thromboembolism with Warfarin: 4.1%

Relative risk reduction: 66%

Absolute risk reduction: 8.4%

# Shared Decision Tools



[https://www.acponline.org/patients\\_families/products/brochures/afib\\_booklet.pdf](https://www.acponline.org/patients_families/products/brochures/afib_booklet.pdf)

**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

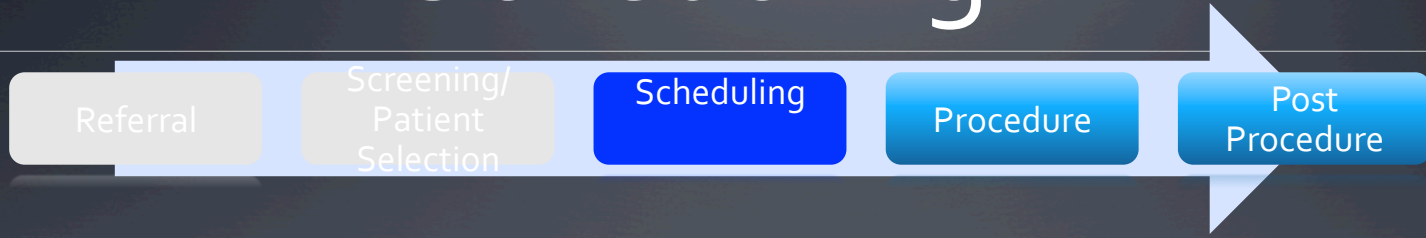
Parent decision aid

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg180/resources/patient-decision-aid-243734797>



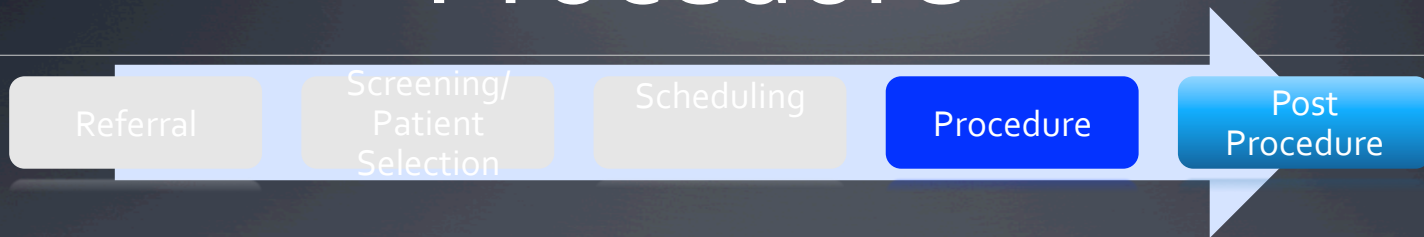
<http://www.acc.org/tools-and-practice-support/quality-programs/anticoagulation-initiative/anticoagulation-shared-decision-making-tool>

# Scheduling



- Start or continue anticoagulation 3 weeks prior to scheduled implant
- Start working on prior authorization for commercial insurance payers. NCD established uniform coverage for Medicare. For Commercial can leverage NCD. May need peer-peer review or letter
- Obtain CCTA or TEE prior to implant to assess LAA anatomy and evaluate for thrombus

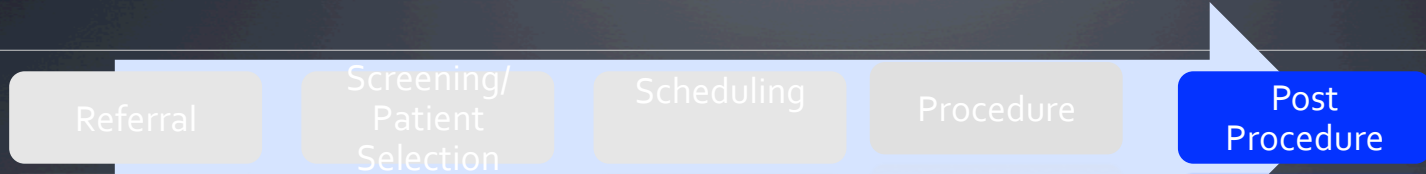
# Procedure



- CT/TEE images sent to company representative, physician review prior to procedure
- Coordinated schedules of EP/IC implanters, Non-Invasive Cardiologist for intra-procedural TEE, Anesthesiologist, Company Representative, Hybrid Lab
- INR in acceptable range, NOAC appropriately held
- Type and Cross



# Post Procedure



- One night hospital stay
  - Limited echo prior to discharge
  - Start warfarin and aspirin 81 mg
  - 30-45 day follow up with APN
  - 45 day TEE. If no or minimal (<5mm) peridevice leak then transition to 6 months
- Clopidogrel/aspirin. Aspirin to continue indefinitely. If inadequate closure, continue warfarin and repeat TEE at 6 months
  - Antibiotic endocarditis prophylaxis for 6 months
  - 4 years data collection as specified by NCDR Registry

- 
- How To Perform Watchman
-

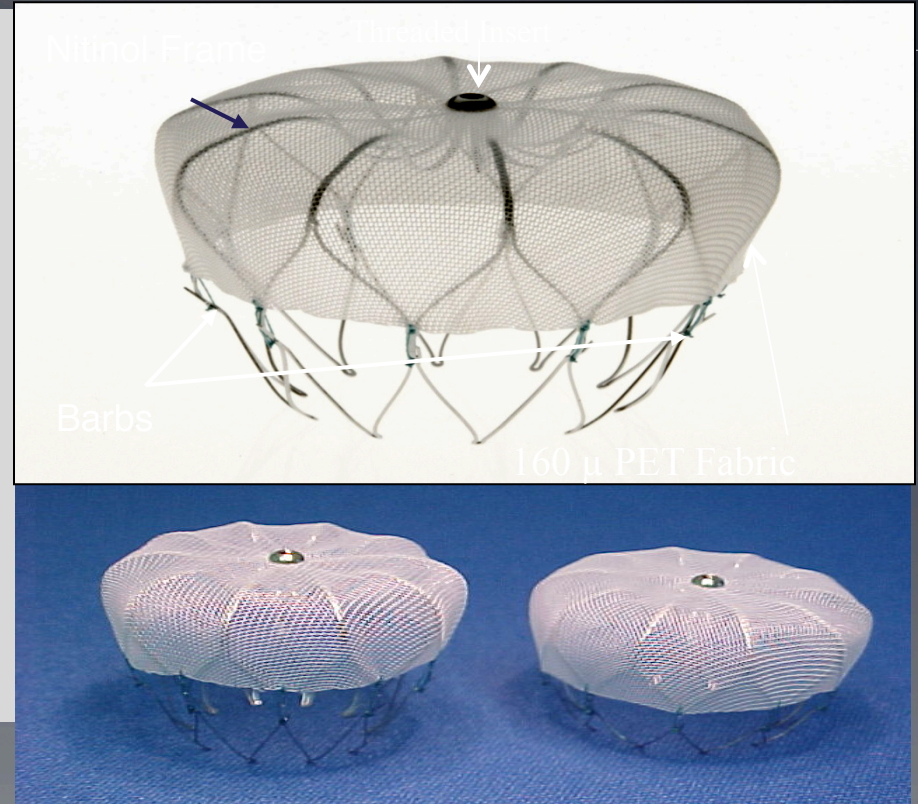
# Procedural Steps

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- Transseptal Puncture
    - TEE
    - Transseptal access system
  - Measurement of LAA
  - Engagement of LAA
    - Pigtail catheter
    - Guide selection
  - Positioning of the Device
  - Release of Device
-

# Watchman™ LAA occlusion Device

- Nitinol Frame
- PET Fabric Cap( 160 micron filter)
- Fixation anchors
- Threaded Insert
- Various Sizes  
(21,24,27,30,33mm)

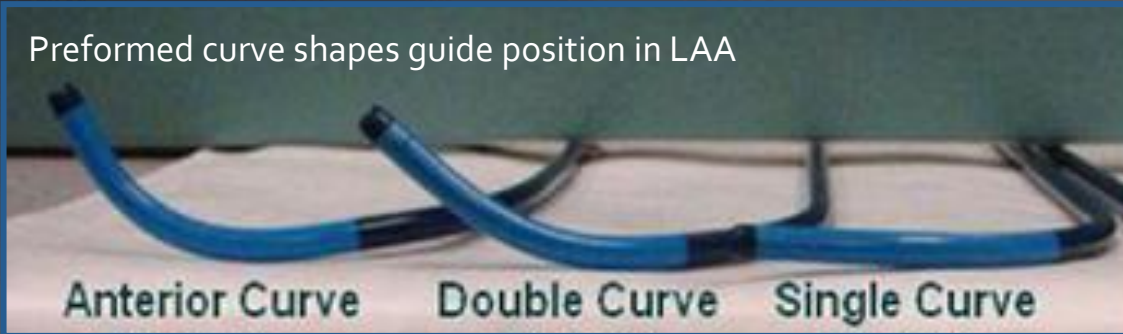




# Watchman™ LAA occlusion system

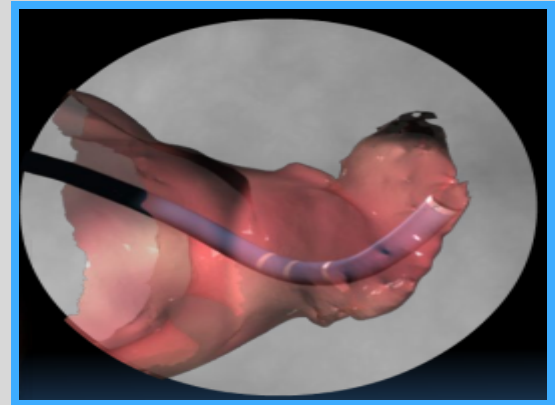
## Access Sheath

Preformed curve shapes guide position in LAA



### Trans-septal Access System

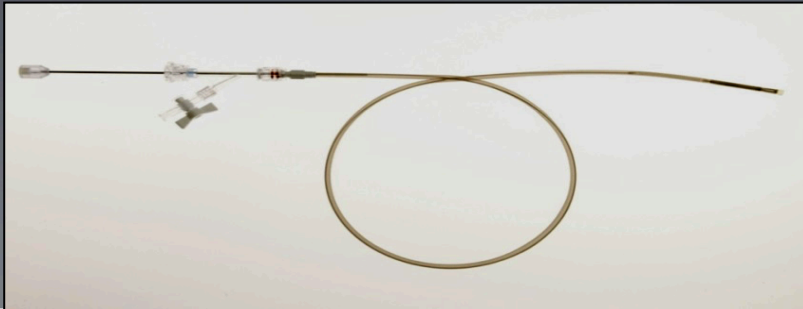
- Double, Single or Anterior Curve styles
- 14F outer diameter (4.7mm) 12F inner diameter (4 mm)
- 75 cm working length





# Watchman™ LAA occlusion system

## Delivery system



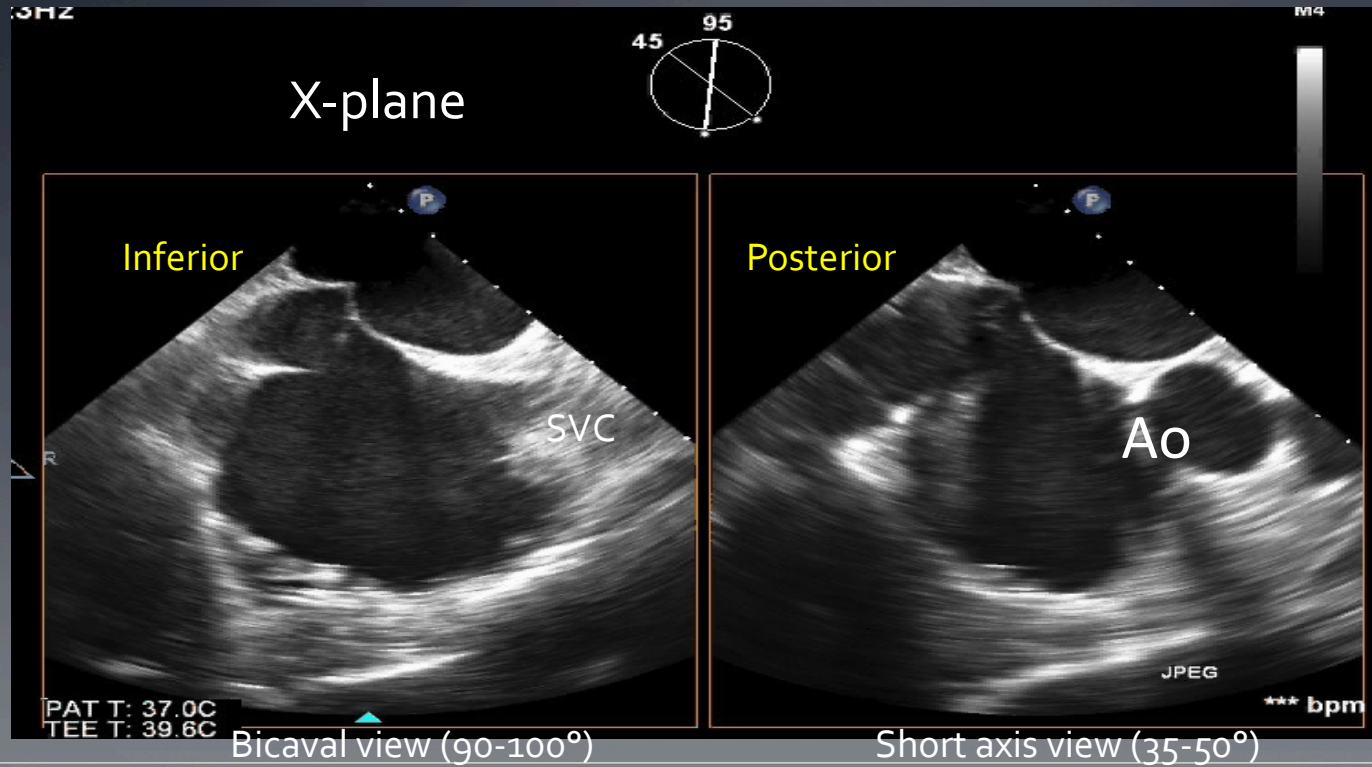
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# Procedural Steps

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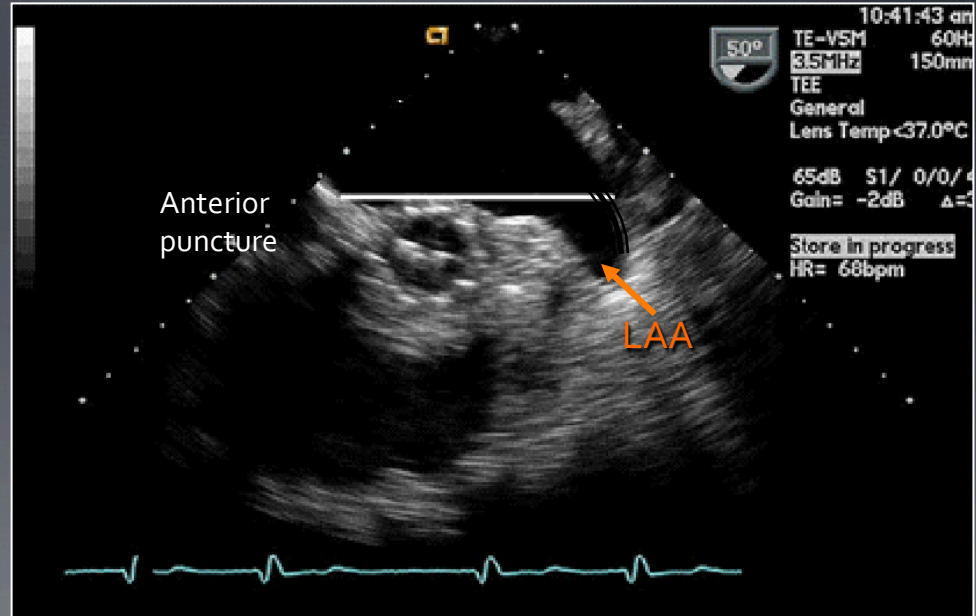
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# Use of Fluoro & TEE for Transseptal puncture



## *Advantages of TEE guided Transseptal puncture*

- Accurate localization
- Avoid Puncture of the posterior wall or roof of LA
- Early detection of pericardial effusion
- Usually do not use PFO (too superior)



# Procedural Steps

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- Transseptal Puncture
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-



# Working View Correlation

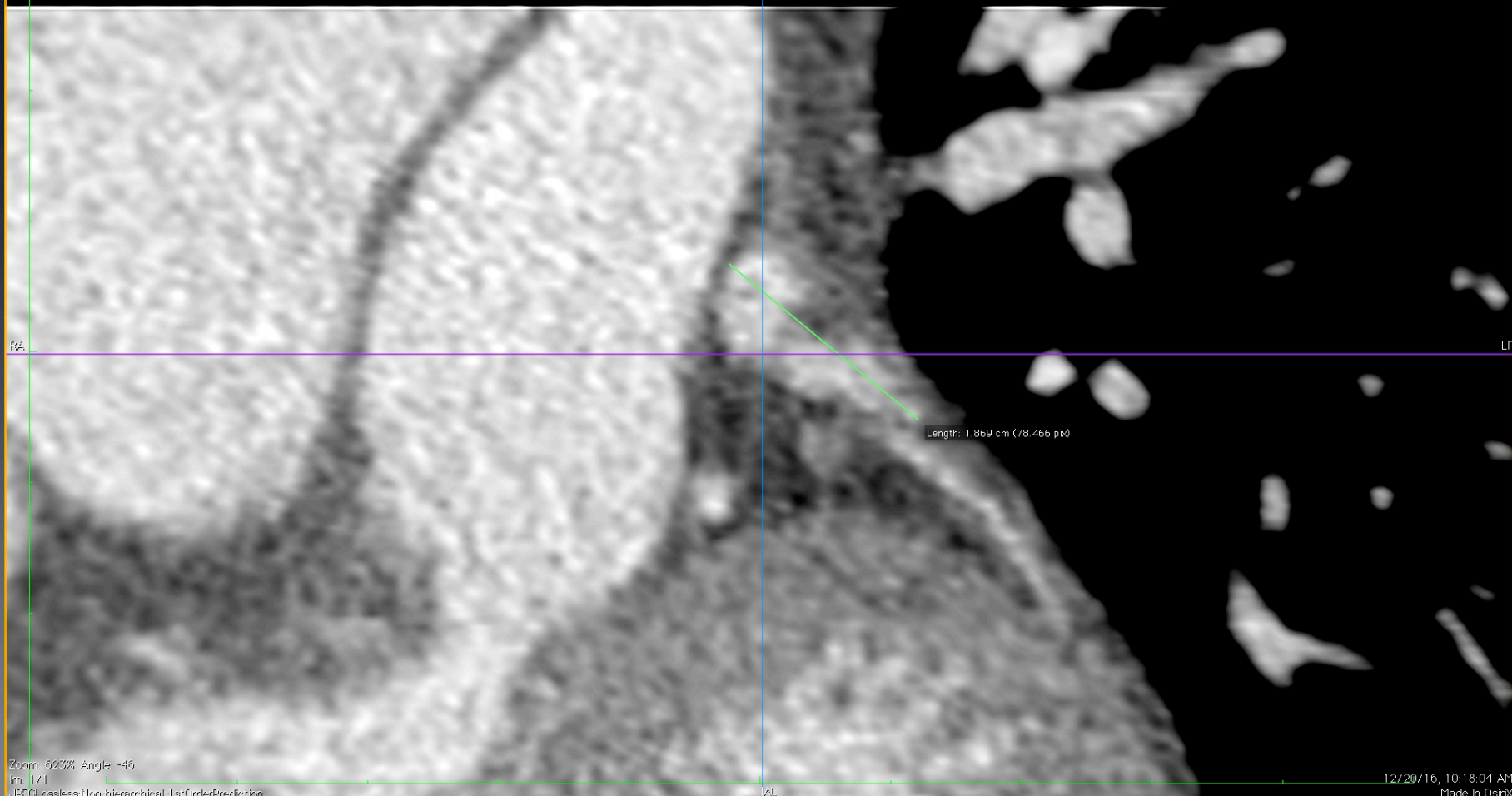
Echo View	Fluoroscopic views
0 degrees	AP cranial
45 degrees	RAO 30 cranial 20
90 degrees	RAO 30
135 degrees	RAO 30 caudal 20

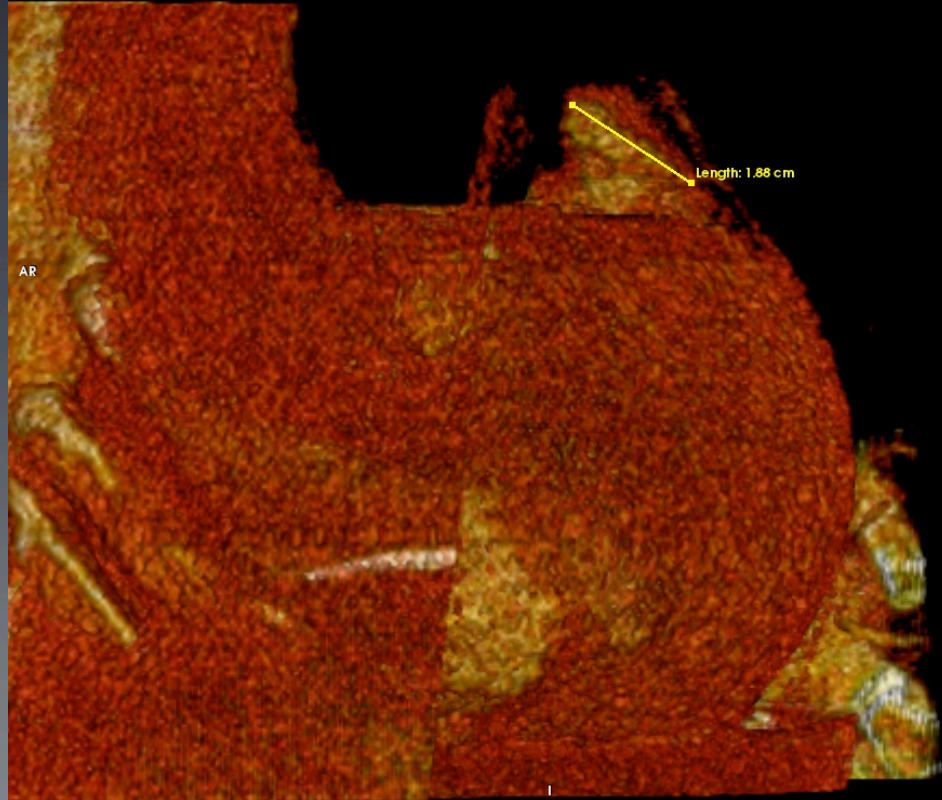
- Maximal LAA diameter measured usually in 0 and 135°
- RAO caudal is usually maximal LAA angiographic diameter (working view)

Access Sheath Marker Band	Loaded Device Length*
21mm	20.2mm
24mm	22.9mm
27mm	26.5mm
30mm	29.4mm
33mm	31.5mm

Maximum LAA Ostium (mm)	Device Size (mm) (uncompressed diameter)
17-19	21
20-22	24
23-25	27
26-28	30
29-31	33

Device Size (uncompressed diameter)	Maximum (20%) Compression Measured Diameter*	Minimum (8%) Compression Measured Diameter*
21	16.8 mm	19.3 mm
24	19.2 mm	22.1 mm
27	21.6 mm	24.8 mm
30	24.0 mm	27.6 mm
33	26.4 mm	30.4 mm





AR

PL





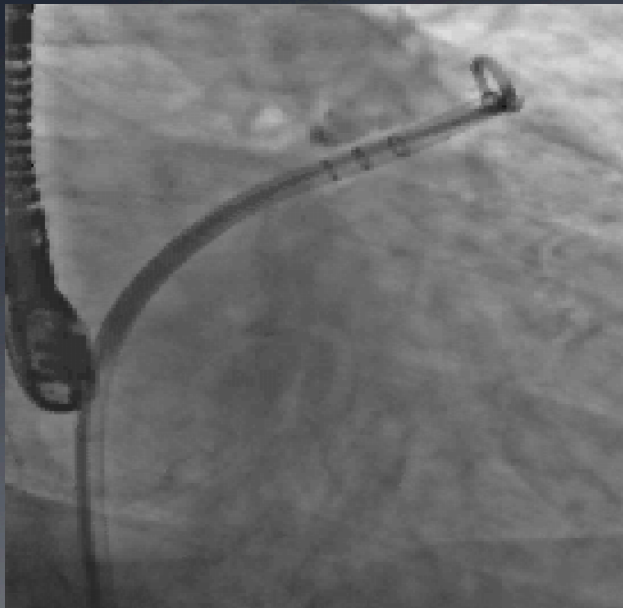
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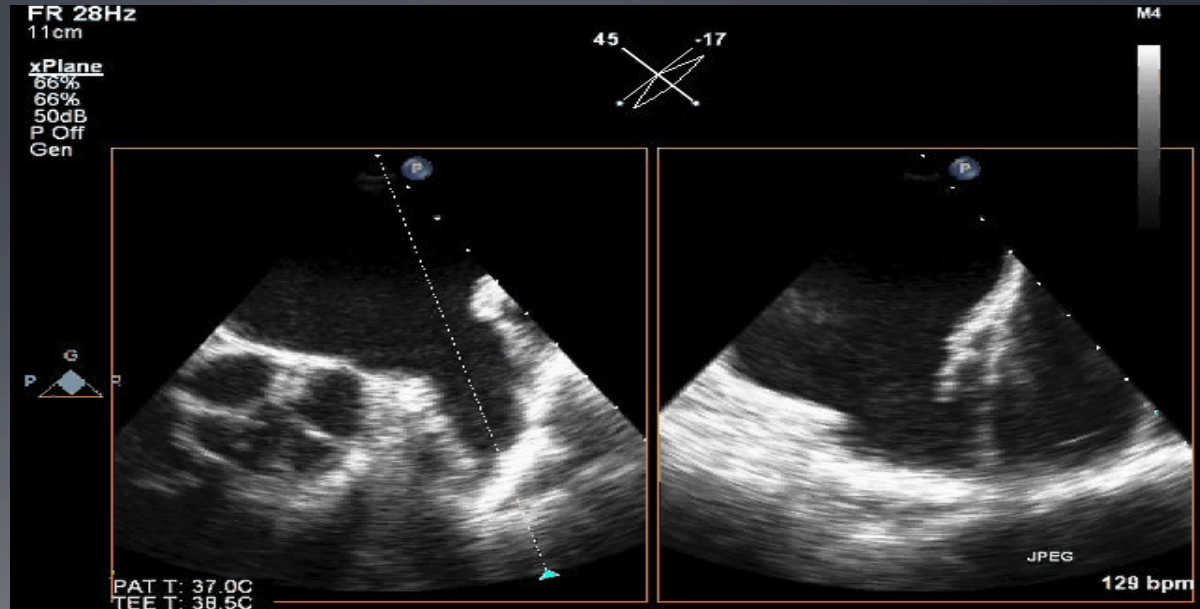
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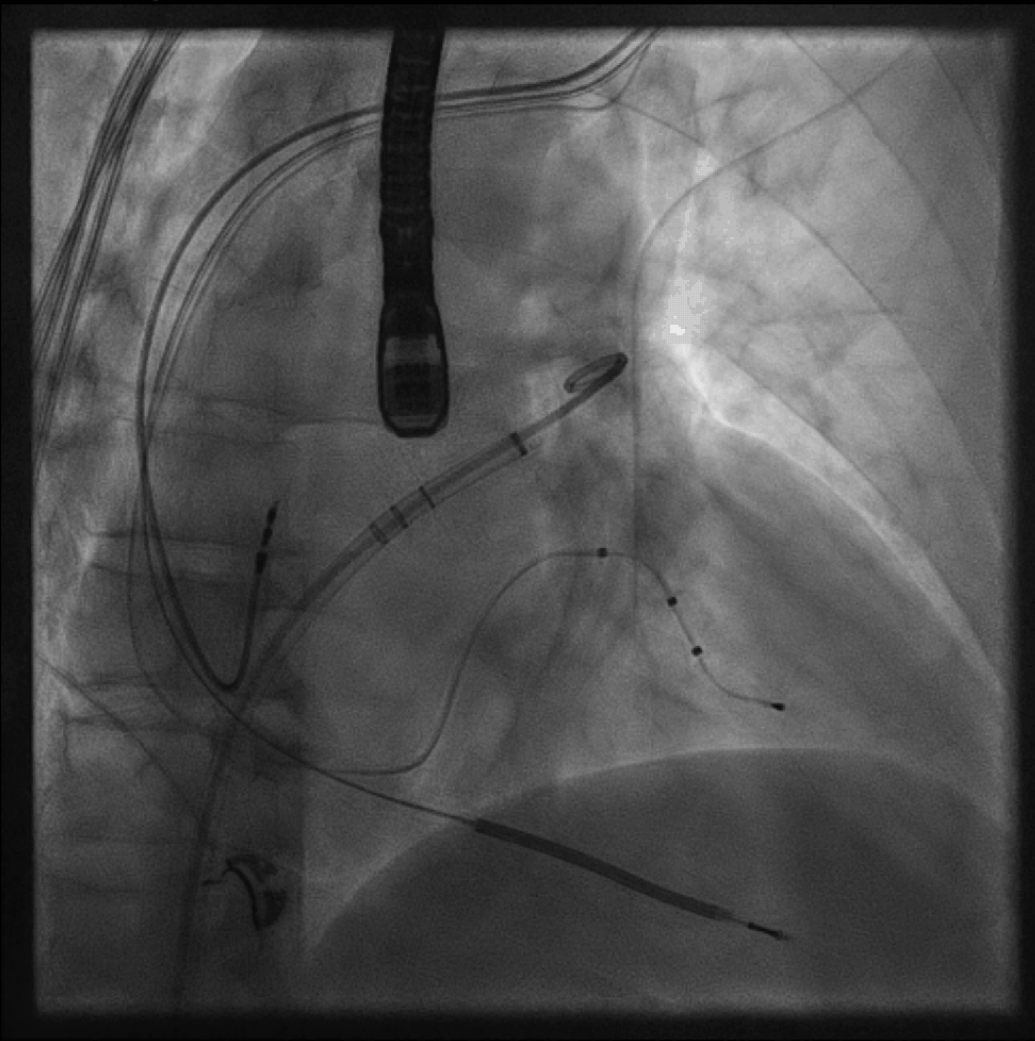
# The best working views



*"RAO Caudal"*



*"X plane 45 & 135 degrees"*

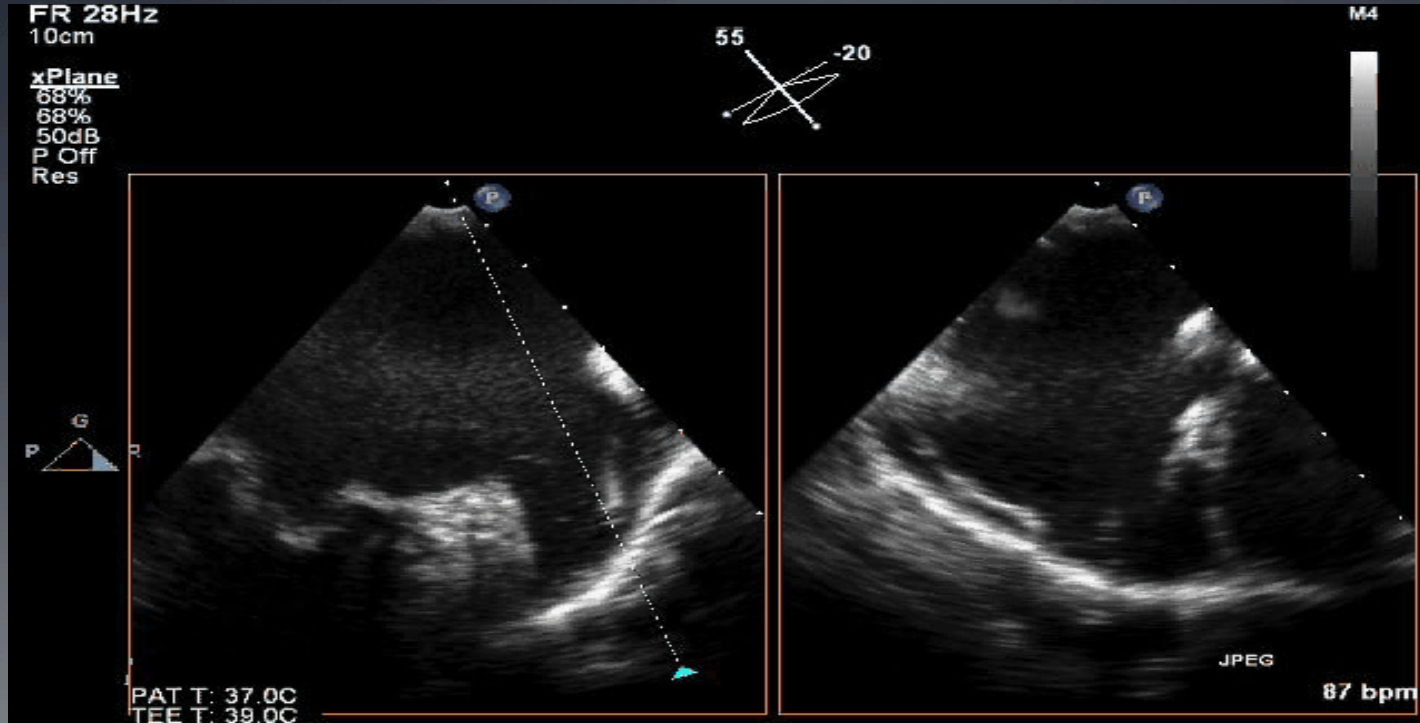


# Procedural Steps

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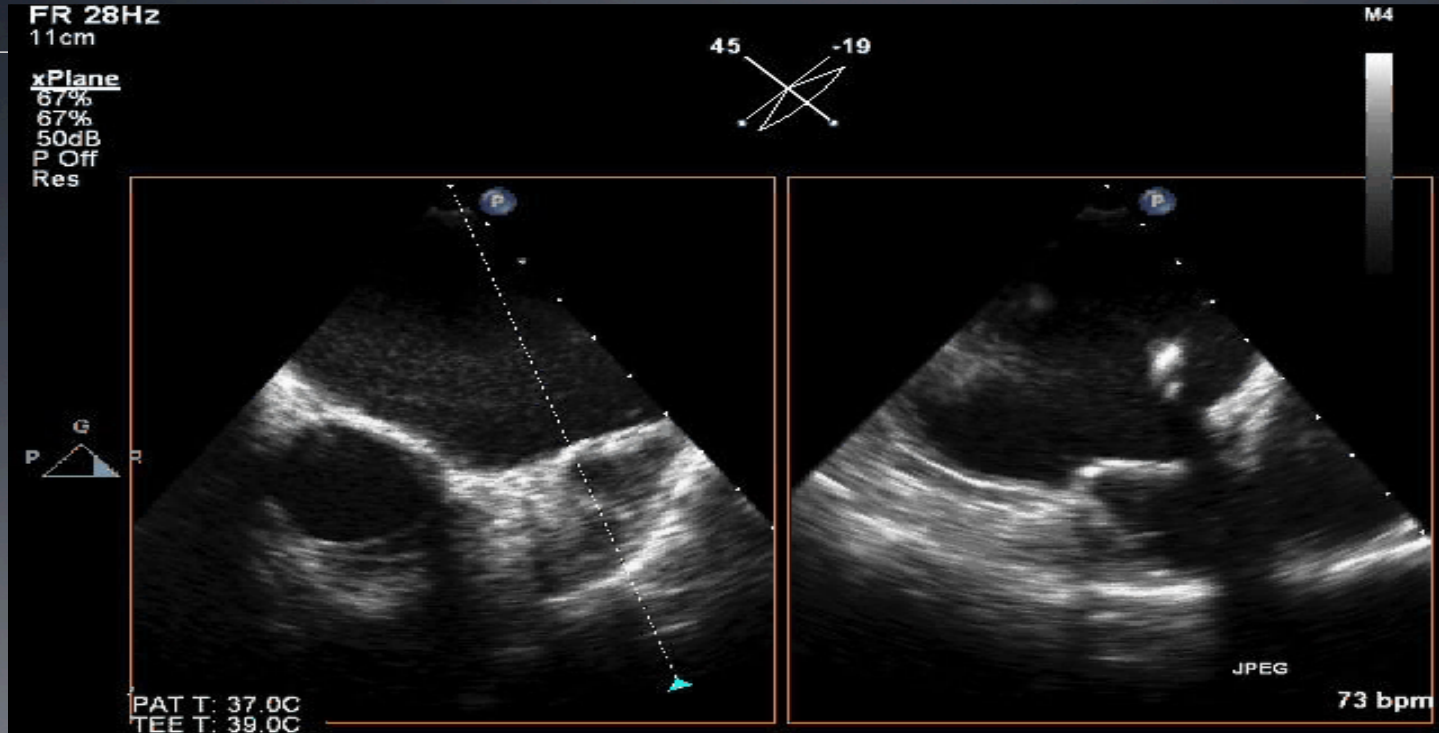
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# Best device placement: Sheath alignment biased towards anterior aspect of LAA





# Deployment of LAA occluder



45°

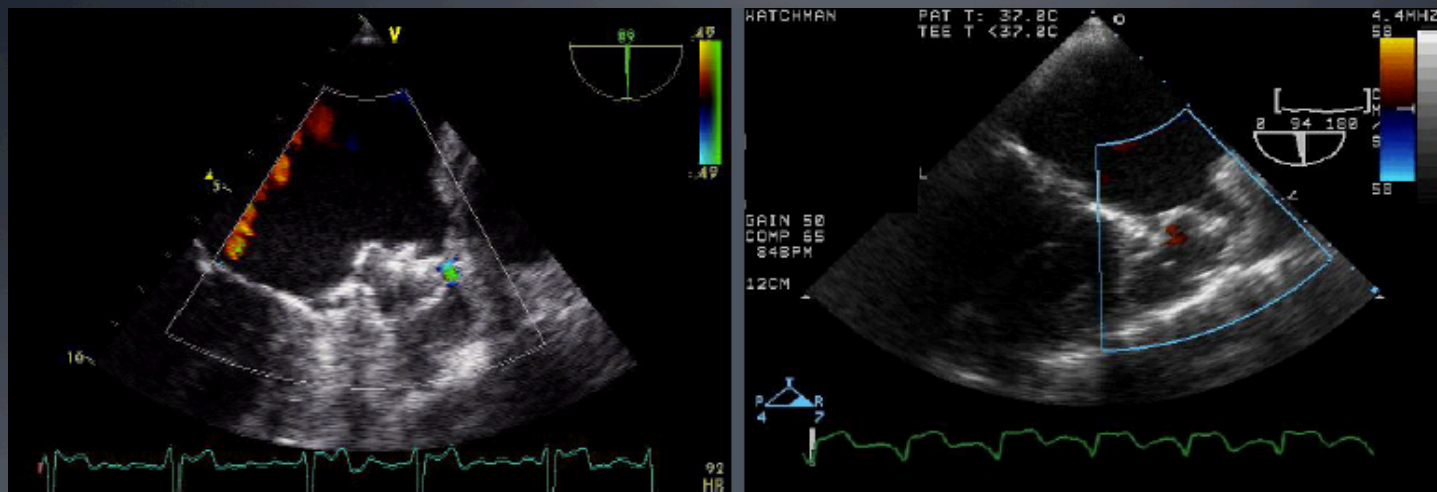
135°



## ***All criteria must be met prior to device release***

- ✓ **Position** – device is distal to or at the ostium of the LAA
- ✓ **Anchor** – (stability) fixation anchors engaged / device is stable using tug test
- ✓ **Size** – device is compressed at least 8-20% of original size
- ✓ **Seal** - device spans ostium so no color flow Doppler is seen, all lobes of LAA are covered

*If necessary, device can be recaptured (partial or full)*



- Jet must be  $< 5\text{mm}$  for acceptable release criteria
- If device not yet released, improve position or sealing through partial recapture and reposition or full recapture and replacement

# ASAP TOO

Purpose: US indication expansion for patients deemed contraindicated to oral anticoagulation

- 888 subjects, 100 sites, Global and multi center
- Randomized 2:1 WATCHMAN +DAPT vs Single antiplatelet or no therapy
- Primary Effectiveness endpoint: Ischemic stroke/systemic embolism
- 5 year follow up
- Status: Enrolling

Discharge through 3 month visit	3 month visit through 12 month visit	Following the 12 month visit
Yes, suggested dose: 75-100 mg	Yes, suggested dose: 75-100 mg	No, unless other indication
Yes, suggested dose 75 mg	No, unless other indication	No, unless other indication

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amaze

Left Atrial Appendage Ligation with the LARIAT® Suture Delivery System as Adjunctive Therapy to Pulmonary Vein Isolation for Persistent or Longstanding Persistent Atrial Fibrillation

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# Rationale for **a**mazeTrial

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- LAA ligation produces electrical isolation of the LAA, decreases AF burden and recurrence of AF, thus creating a “closed-chested MAZE” procedure
  - Demonstrate LARIAT + PVI will lead to reduced incidence of recurrent AF compared to PVI alone, with a high safety profile
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# amaze Trial Protocol

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Principal Purpose	Evaluate the additional efficacy of LARIAT to decrease the 12-month rate of AF, and to confirm an acceptable safety profile
Patient Population	Patients (18-80 y.o.) with documented persistent or longstanding persistent AF (< 3 yrs continuous AF) planned for catheter ablation
Design	Prospective, multicenter, RCT (2:1) Bayesian Adaptive Design; 400 – 600 subjects total; ~50 sites 2 randomized stages: Stage 1 $\leq$ 175 subjects; interim safety and performance analysis of first 100
Investigational Tx	LARIAT LAA ligation followed by PVI catheter ablation (4 weeks)
Control Tx	PVI catheter ablation without LAA ligation

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## Primary Endpoints

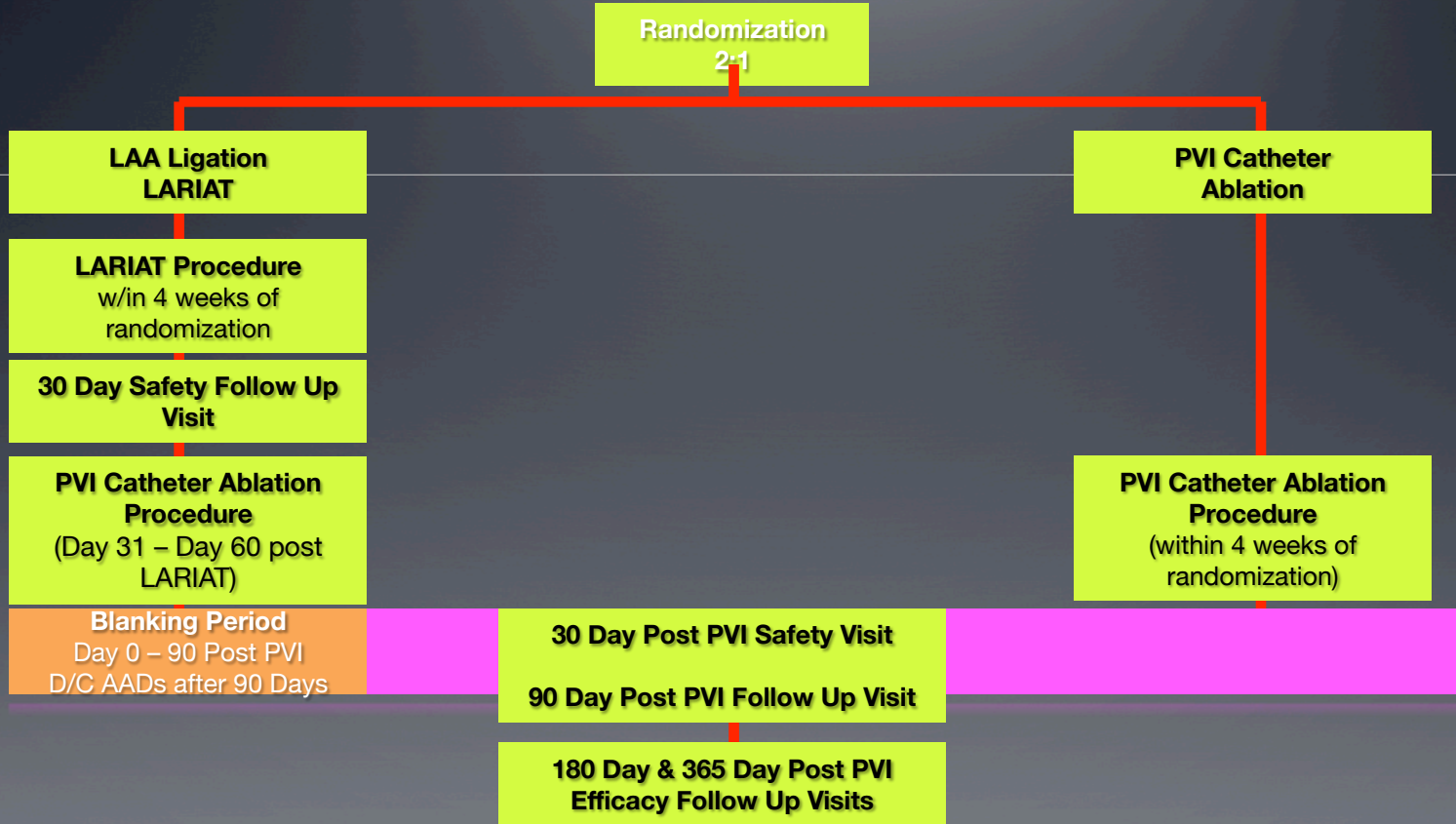
### Primary Effectiveness Endpoint

Freedom from episodes of AF > 30 seconds and no requirement for new Class I or III AAD therapy at 12 months post PVI, measured by 24-hr holter or symptomatic event monitoring.

### Primary Safety Endpoint

The incidence of significant LARIAT device or procedure-related SAEs occurring within 30 days after the LAA ligation procedure (Performance Goal).

# Treatment Scheme & Patient Flow



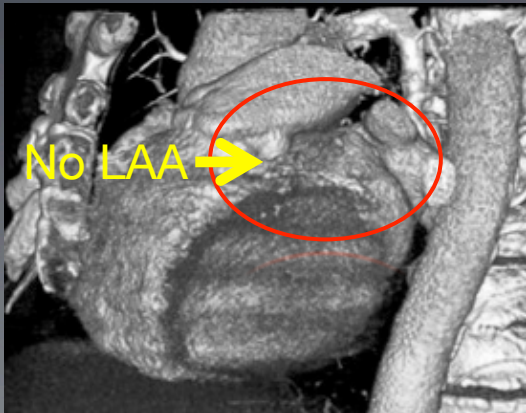
# amaze Summary



Clinically relevant solution to adjunctive treatment of persistent and longstanding persistent AF.

Multiple studies demonstrate the clinical benefits of mechanical & electrical isolation of the LAA with LARIAT in over 4,000 procedures.

Opportunity to improve poor outcomes of existing standard of care (ablation only)





Thank You