

# Timing of Anti-Platelet Therapy for ACS (EARLY-ACS & ACUITY)

*Mitchell W. Krucoff, MD, FACC*

*Professor, Medicine/Cardiology*

**Duke University Medical Center**

*Director, Cardiovascular Devices Unit*

**Duke Clinical Research Institute**



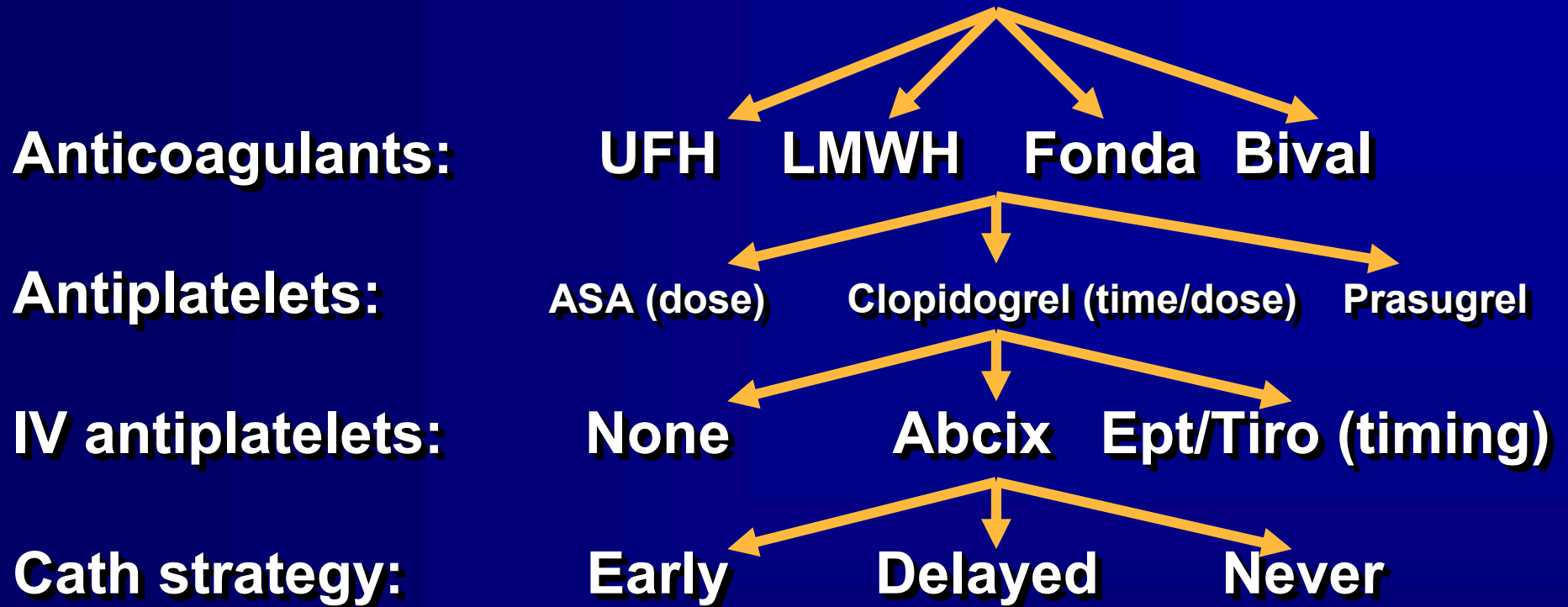
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## With special thanks:

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- ☐ George Dangas



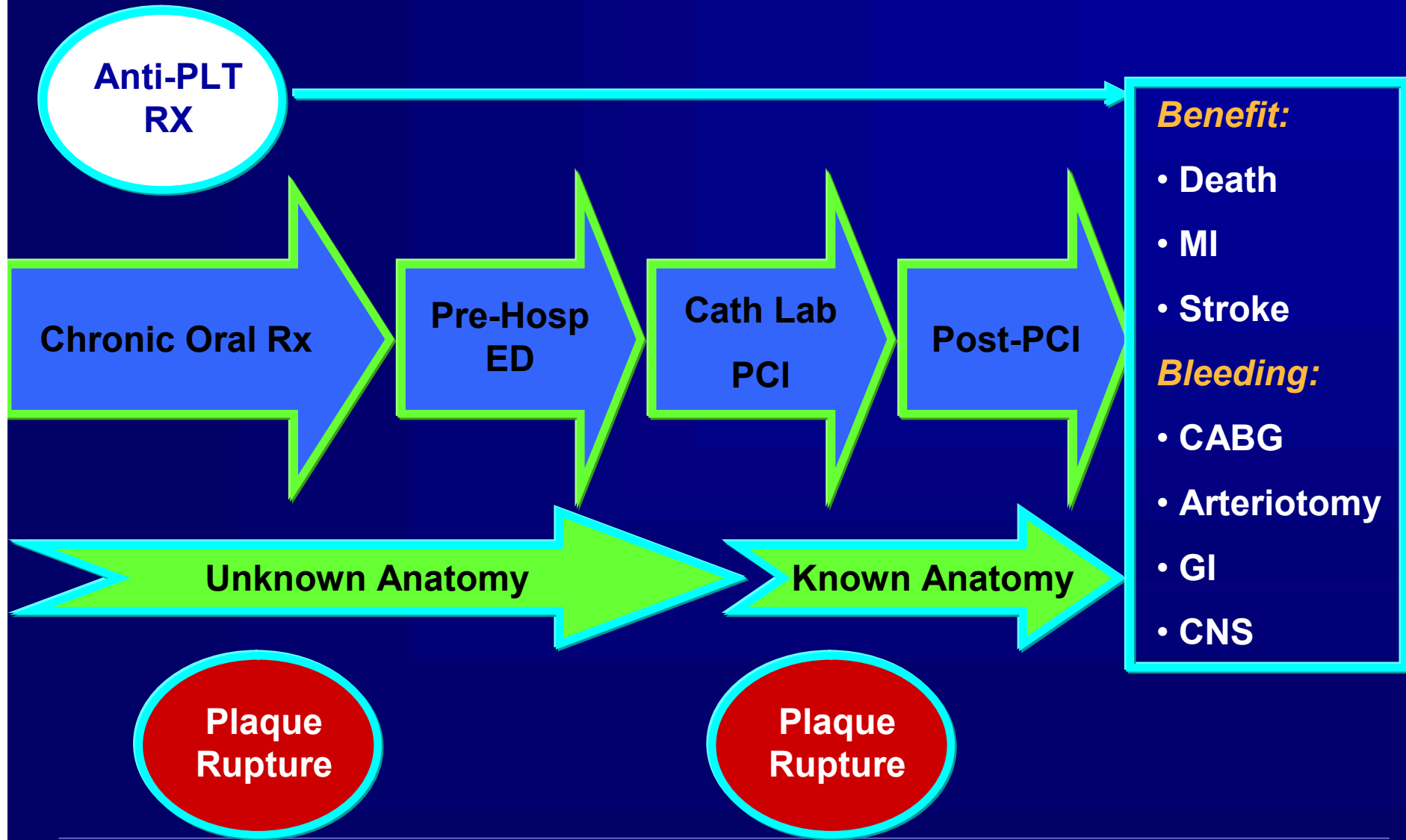
# Choices Impacting Anti-PLT Therapy



**>100 Different Combinations!**



# When to start?



# Delay of Invasive Therapy: Should We Prolong The “Upstream” Window?

*Can we “passify” plaque & improve  
PCI & clinical outcomes?*



# EARLY ACS

## Study Design

2 of 3 high-risk criteria:

1. Age  $\geq$  60 years
2. + CKMB or TnT/I
3. ST  $\downarrow$  or transient ST  $\uparrow$   
(Or age 50-59, h/o CVD  
and + CKMB or TnT/I)

High-risk NSTEMI  
ACS

n = 10,500

Routine, early eptifibatide  
(180/2/180)

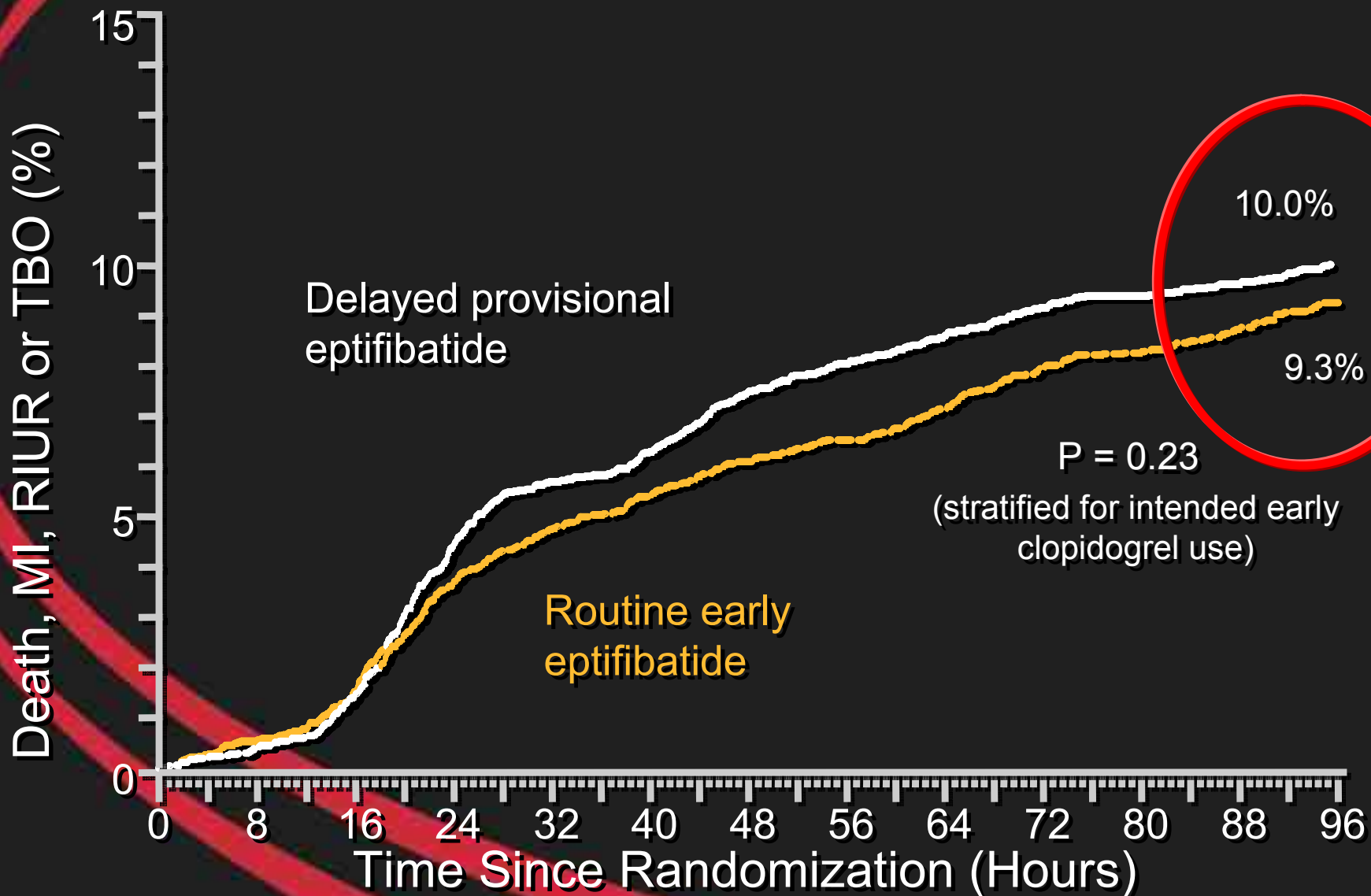
Placebo / delayed provisional  
eptifibatide pre-PCI

*Randomize within 12 hours of presentation*

*Invasive strategy: 12 to 96 hours after randomization*

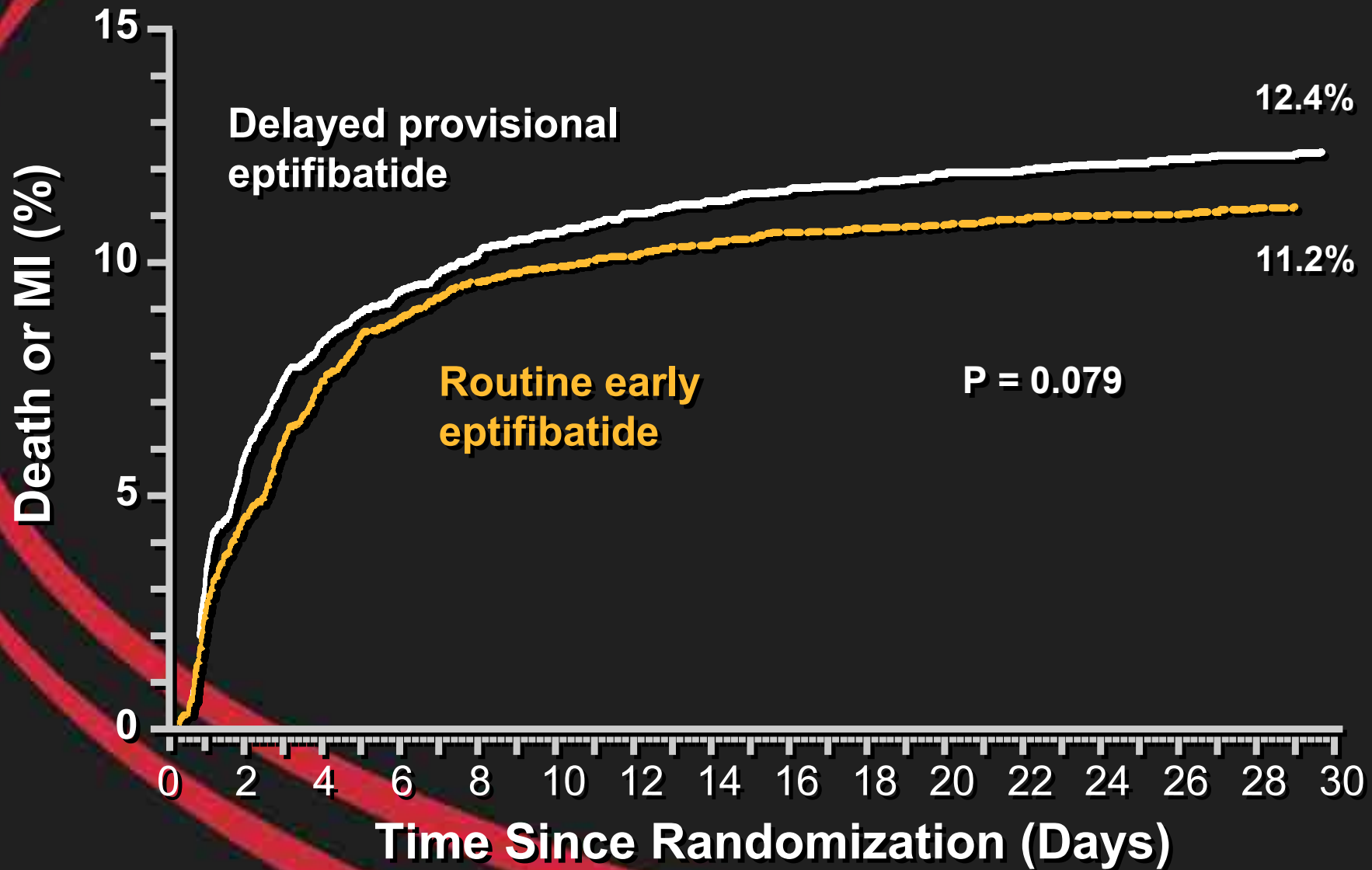
Safety Endpoints at 120 hrs: Bleeding (GUSTO and TIMI scales), Transfusions, Stroke, Non-hemorrhagic SAEs

# Kaplan-Meier Curves for Primary Endpoint



EARLY ACS

## Secondary Endpoint: 30-day Death or MI



EARLY ACS



## Secondary Endpoint: Bleeding

	<b>Routine Early Eptifibatide</b> (n=4686)	<b>Delayed Provisional Eptifibatide</b> (n=4643)	<b>OR</b> (95% CI)	<b>P</b>
<b>Bleeding (all patients, %)</b>				
TIMI major	2.6	1.8	1.42 (1.07-1.89)	0.015
GUSTO moderate or severe	7.6	5.1	1.52 (1.28-1.80)	<0.001
PRBC transfusion	8.6	6.7	1.31 (1.12-1.53)	0.001

## **“Upstream” Clopidogrel Use in EARLY-ACS**

- **Clopidogrel use and timing were determined by treating physician**
- **Randomization in the EARLY-ACS Trial was stratified by declared intent for upstream clopidogrel use**
- **Does addition of early thienopyridine to early eptifibatide “passify” ACS lesions?**

# Study Population

**EARLY-ACS Patients**

**N = 9,406**

No cardiac catheterization (n=240)

**Final Study Population**

**N = 9,166 (97%)**

Median time to angiography 21 hrs (IQR 17 - 33)

**Upstream  
Clopidogrel**

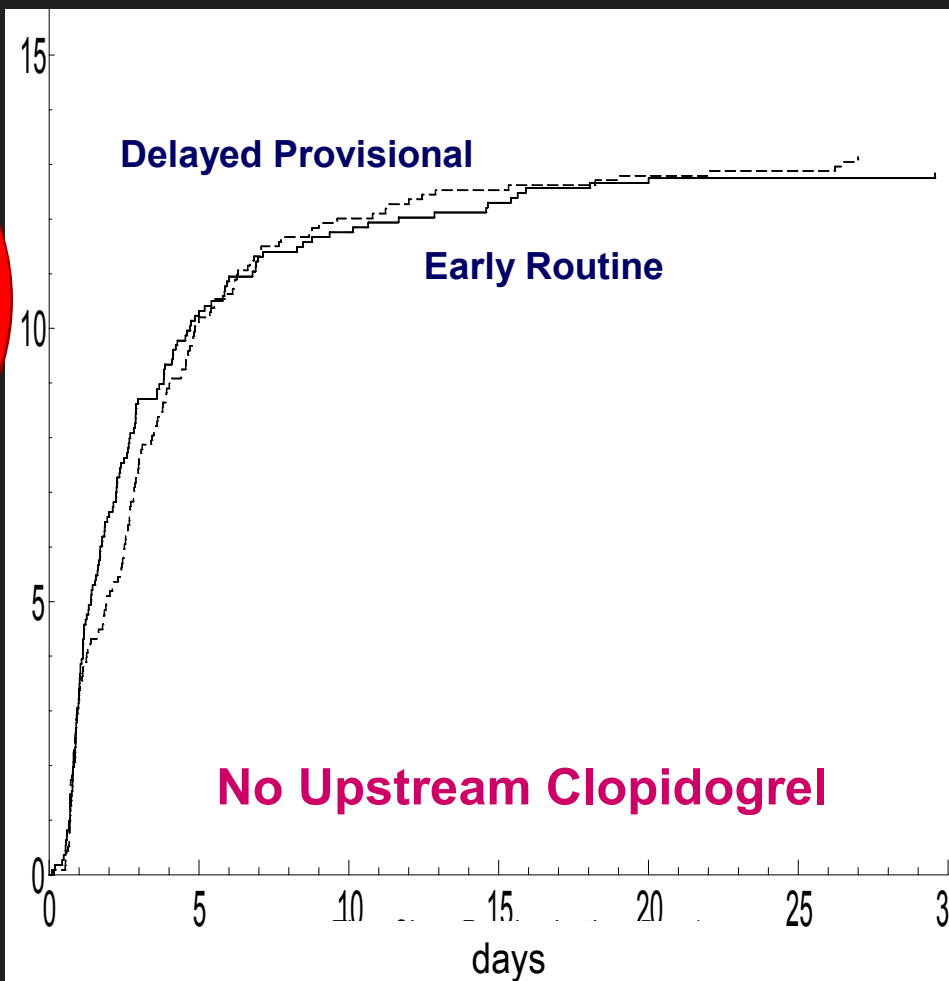
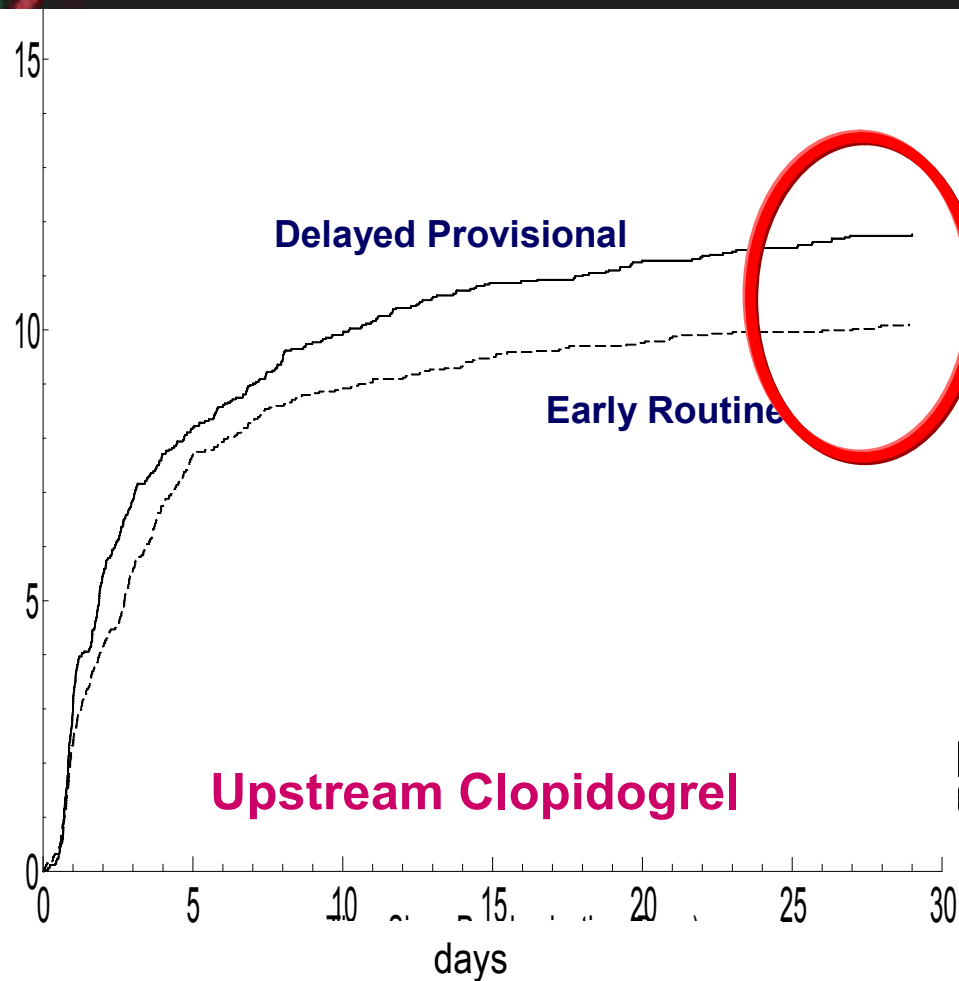
**N = 6895 (75%)**

**No upstream  
Clopidogrel**

**N = 2271 (25%)**

EARLY ACS

# Death or MI at 30 days



# Bleeding (adjusted)

## TIMI Major Bleeding

*Upstream Clopidogrel*

*No Clopidogrel*

***p for interaction = 0.31***

Adjusted OR (95% CI)

1.54 (1.07 – 2.24)

1.13 (0.69 – 1.84)

## GUSTO Mod/Severe Bleeding

*Upstream Clopidogrel*

*No Clopidogrel*

***p for interaction = 0.13***

1.72 (1.37 – 2.16)

1.29 (0.96 – 1.74)

## Transfusion

*Upstream Clopidogrel*

*No Clopidogrel*

***p for interaction = 0.52***

1.38 (1.04 – 1.83)

1.23 (1.01 – 1.51)



EARLY ACS

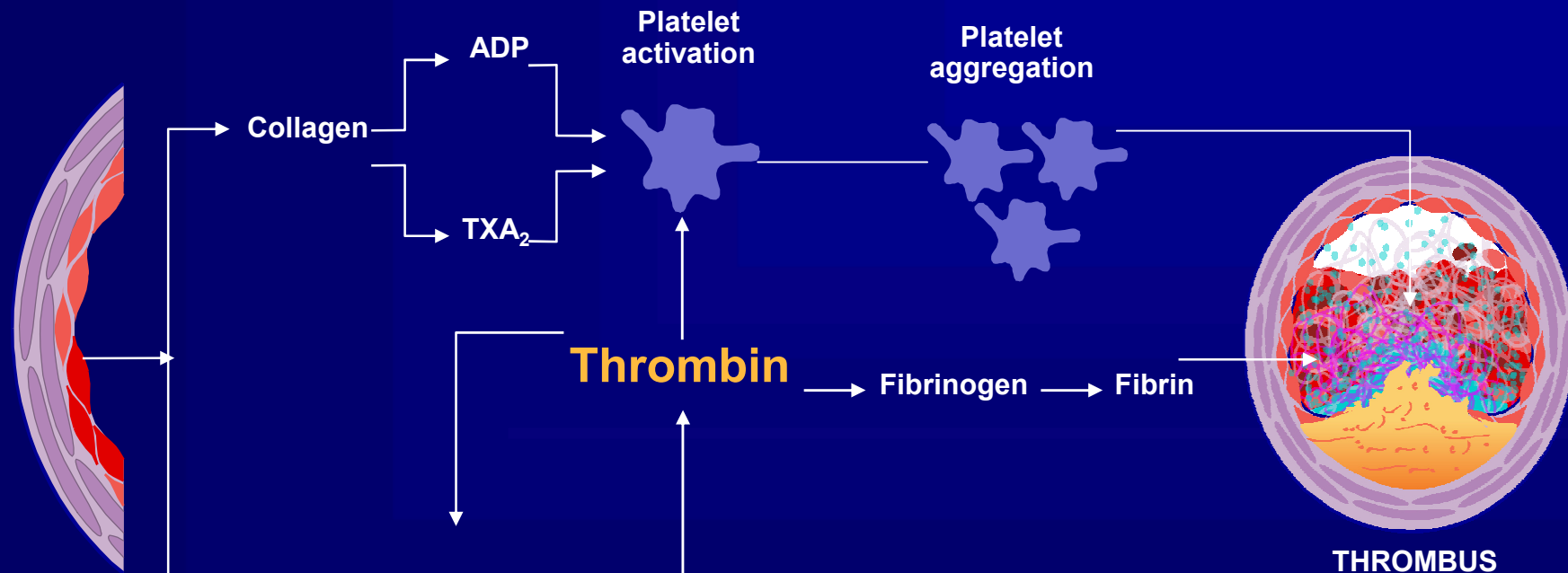
# Can Need for “Upstream” Anti-Platelet Therapy Be Eliminated by Selective Anti-Thrombotics?

*Can we “passify” thrombin signaling for better PCI & clinical outcomes?*



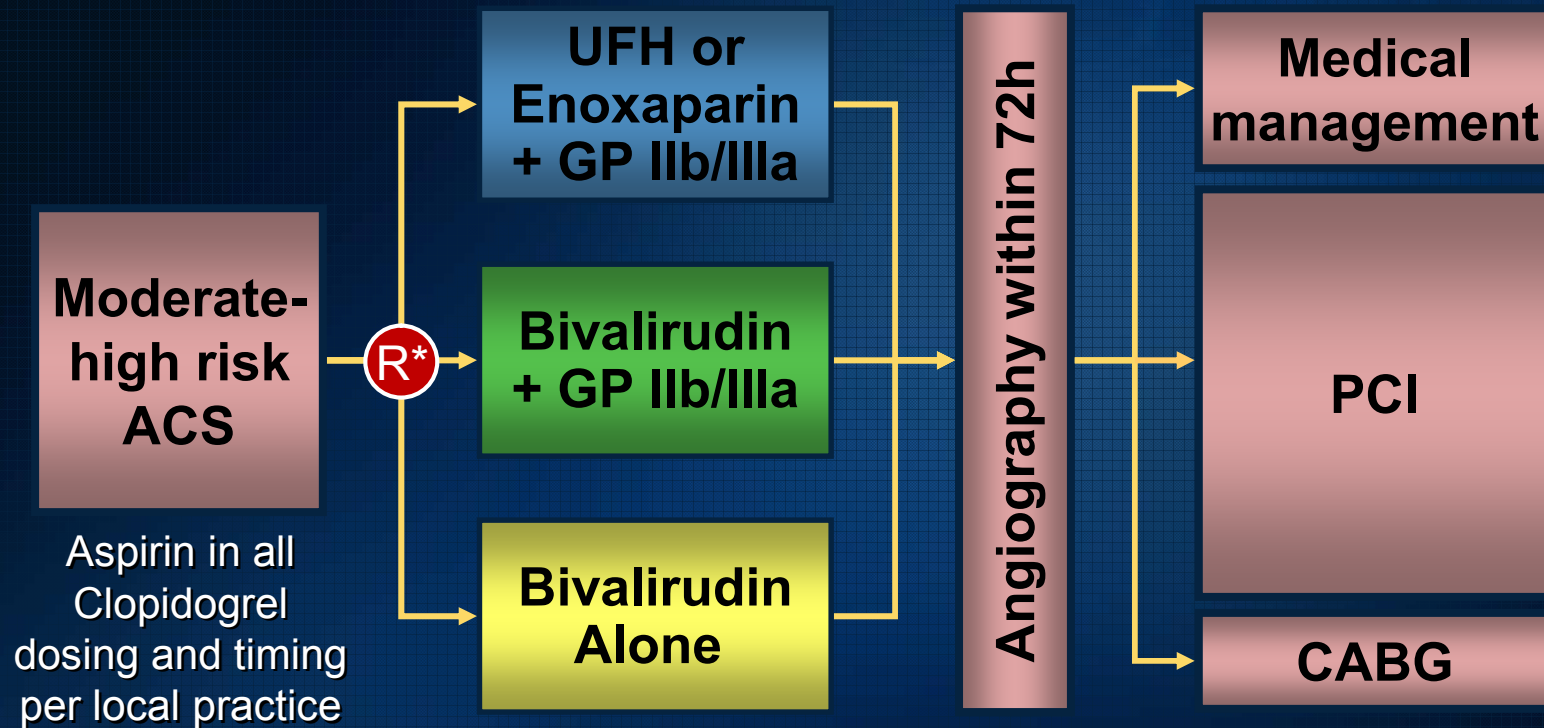
# Thrombus formation

Thrombin plays a central role among tissue injury, coagulation, and platelet response.



# ACUITY - Study design

Moderate-high risk unstable angina or NSTEMI undergoing an invasive strategy (N = 13,800)



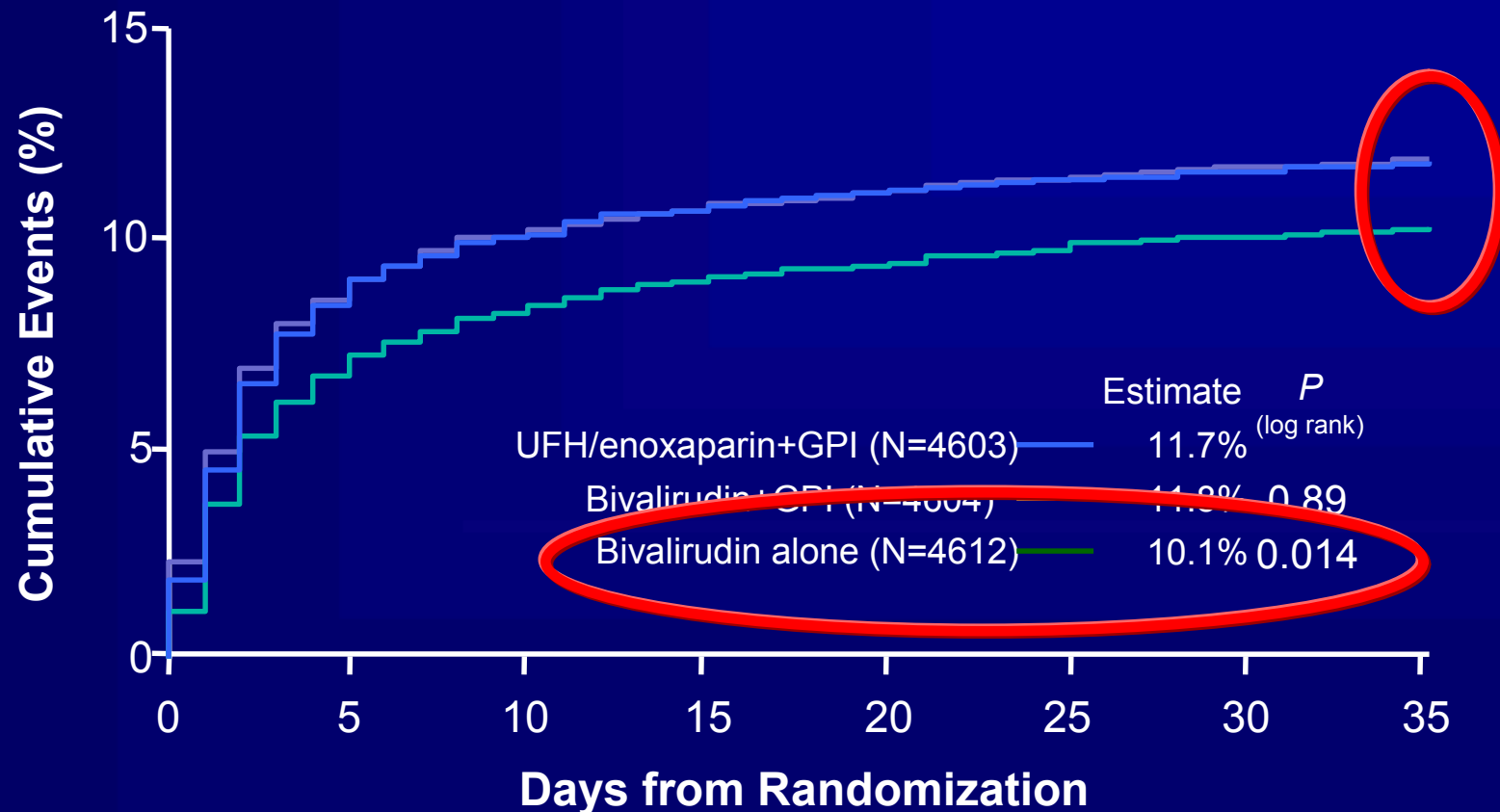
**Primary endpoint: "Net Clinical Composite"**

**Death, MI, TVR, Bleeding**



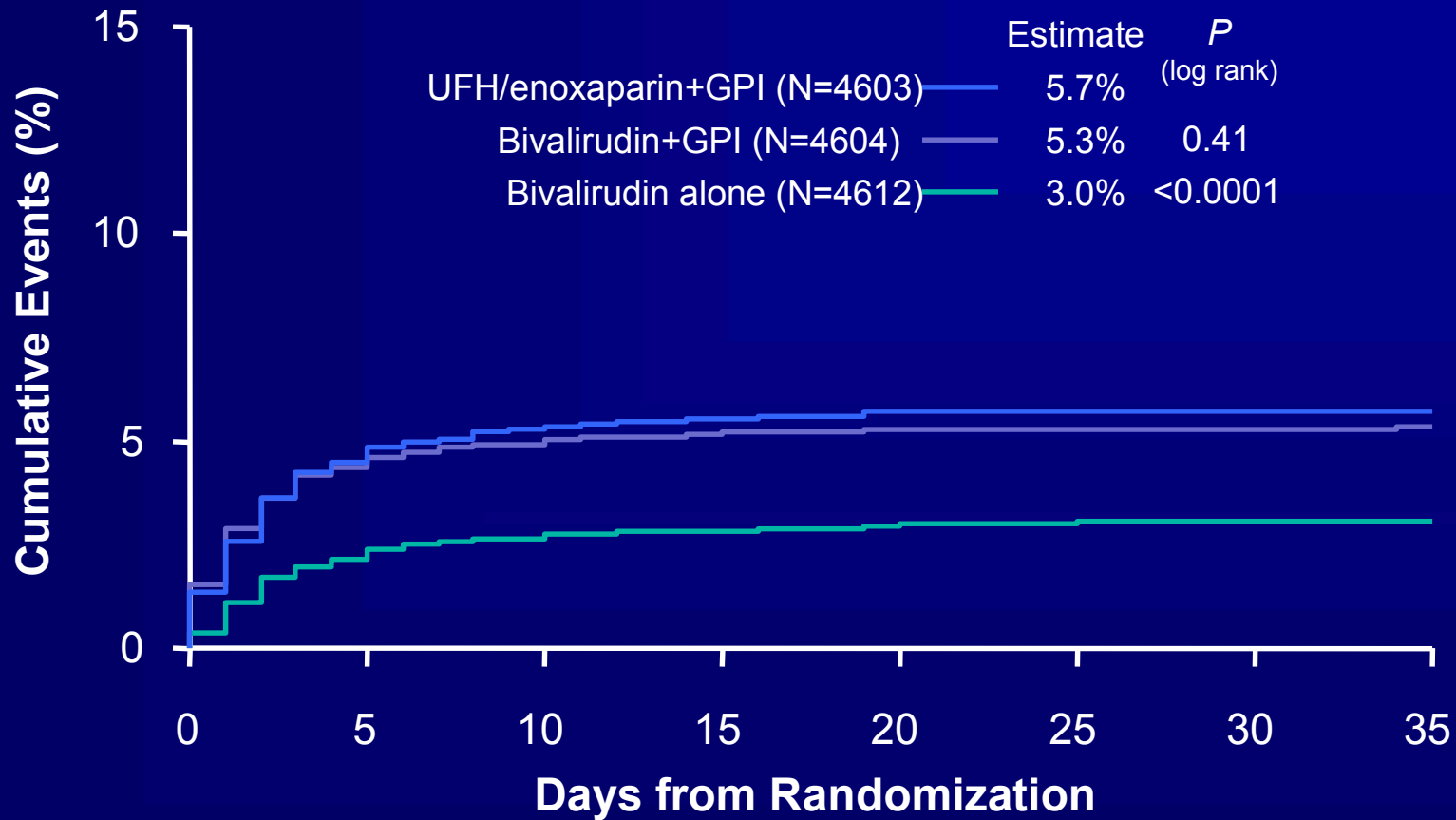
# ACUITY: Net Clinical Outcome Composite Endpoint: Death, MI, TVR, Bleeding

UFH/enoxaparin+GPI vs bivalirudin+GPI vs bivalirudin alone



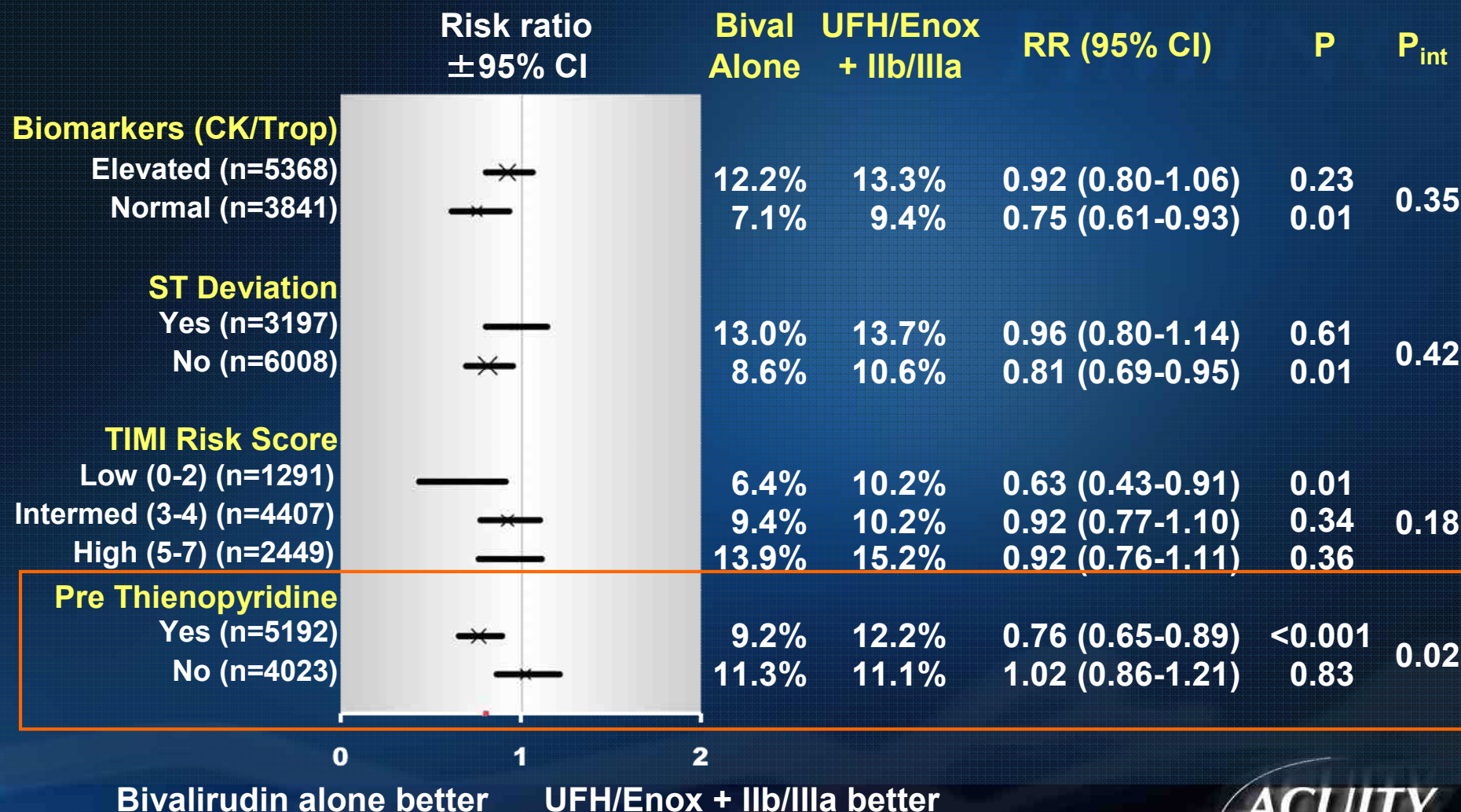
# ACUITY: Major Bleeding Endpoint

UFH/enoxaparin+GPI vs bivalirudin+GPI vs bivalirudin alone



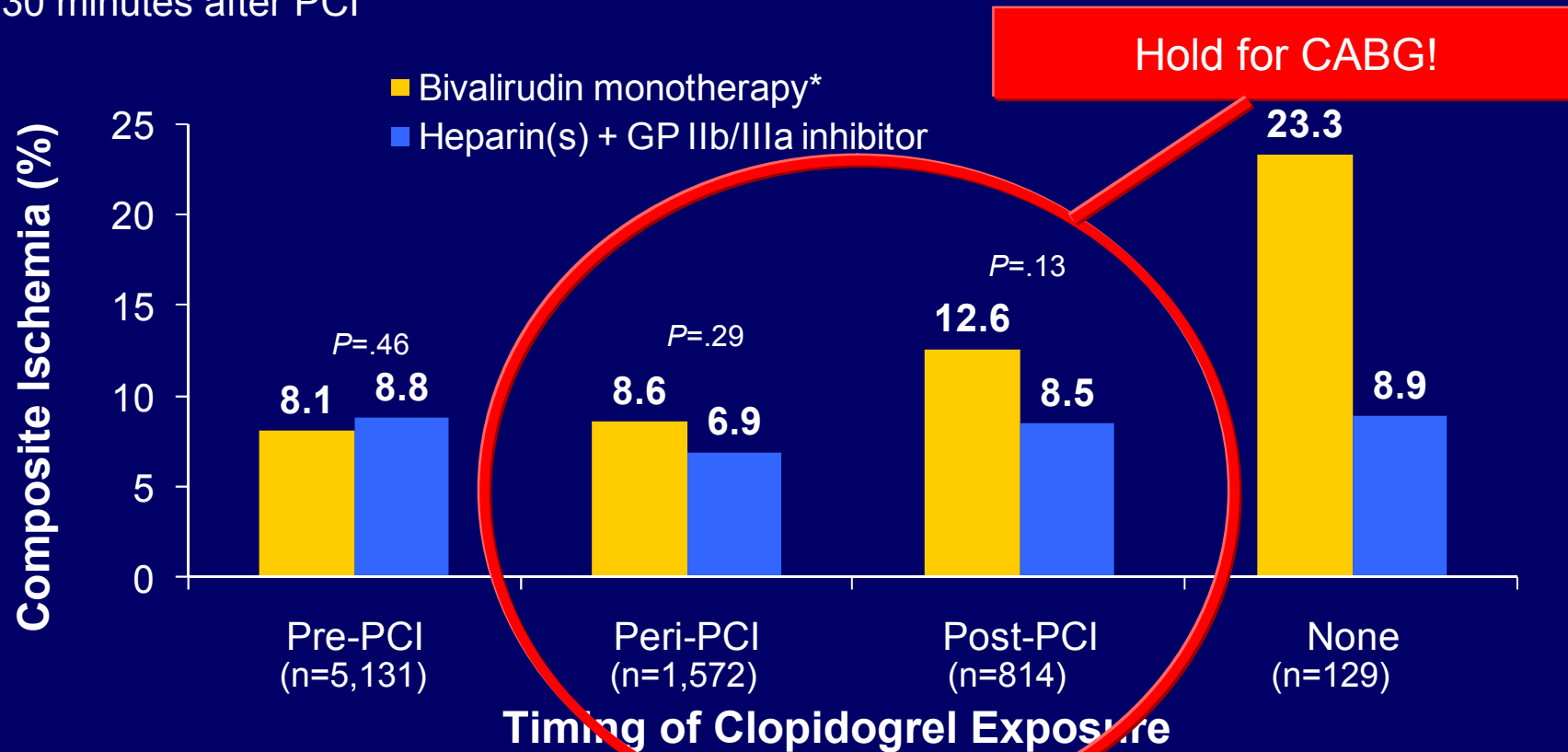
# Net Clinical Outcome Composite

## UFH/Enoxaparin + IIb/IIIa vs. Bivalirudin Alone



# Clopidogrel Timing and Incidence of 30-Day Composite Ischemic Outcome

- Similar rates of composite ischemia were demonstrated with bivalirudin monotherapy vs heparin + GP IIb/IIIa inhibitor when clopidogrel was administered either before or within 30 minutes after PCI



\*In the bivalirudin monotherapy group, 91% of PCI patients received bivalirudin monotherapy.

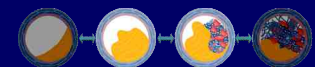
Pre-PCI = patients who received clopidogrel either prehospital, prerandomization, postrandomization, or preangiography.

Peri-PCI = patients who received clopidogrel after angiography and within 30 minutes after PCI procedure.

Post-PCI = patients who received clopidogrel any time >30 minutes after PCI within the index hospitalization.

None = patients who had no documentation of receiving clopidogrel at any time before or after the PCI procedure.

Lincoff AM et al. *JACC Cardiovasc Interv.* 2008;1:639-648.



# Routine Upstream Initiation vs Deferred Selective Use of Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Inhibitors in Acute Coronary Syndromes

## The ACUITY Timing Trial

Gregg W. Stone, MD

Michel E. Bertrand, MD

Jeffrey W. Moses, MD

E. Magnus Ohman, MD

A. Michael Lincoff, MD

James H. Ware, PhD

Stuart J. Pocock, PhD

Brent T. McLaurin, MD

David A. Cox, MD

M. Zubair Jafar, MD

Harish Chandna, MD

Franz Hartmann, MD

Franz Leisch, MD

**Context** In patients with moderate- and high-risk acute coronary syndromes (ACS) who undergo an early, invasive treatment strategy, current guidelines recommend administration of platelet glycoprotein IIb/IIIa (Gp IIb/IIIa) inhibitors, either upstream to all patients prior to angiography or deferred for selective use in the catheterization laboratory just prior to angioplasty. The preferred approach is undetermined.

**Objective** To determine the optimal strategy for the use of Gp IIb/IIIa inhibitors in patients with moderate- and high-risk ACS undergoing an early, invasive treatment strategy.

**Design** Prospective, randomized, open-label trial with 30-day clinical follow-up.

**Setting** Four hundred fifty academic and community-based institutions in 17 countries.

**Patients** A total of 9207 patients with moderate- and high-risk ACS undergoing an invasive treatment strategy.

**Interventions** Patients were randomly assigned to receive either routine upstream (n=4605) or deferred selective (n=4602) Gp IIb/IIIa inhibitor administration, respectively.

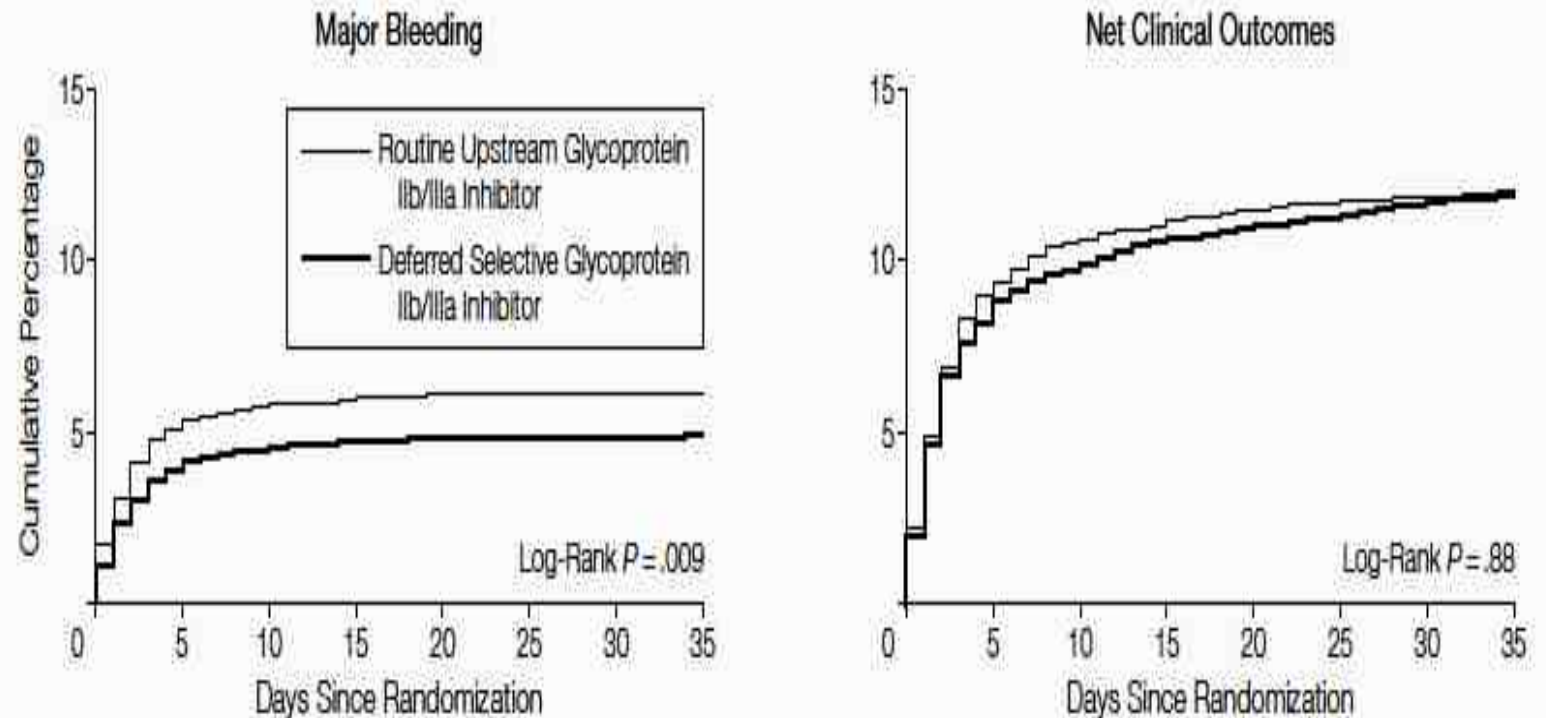
**Main Outcome Measures** The primary outcome was assessment of noninferiority of deferred Gp IIb/IIIa inhibitor use compared with upstream administration for the prevention of composite ischemic events (death, myocardial infarction, or un-

*JAMA. 2007;297:591-602*



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**Figure 3.** Time-to-Event Curves of Routine Upstream and Deferred Selective Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Inhibitor Administration for Major Bleeding and Net Clinical Outcomes



No. at Risk	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35
Routine Upstream Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Inhibitor	4605	4304	4257	4238	4225	4191	3685	2563
Deferred Selective Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Inhibitor	4602	4361	4311	4286	4269	4239	3805	2637

4605	4149	4071	4043	4018	3983	3500	2424
4602	4181	4104	4064	4042	4005	3579	2465

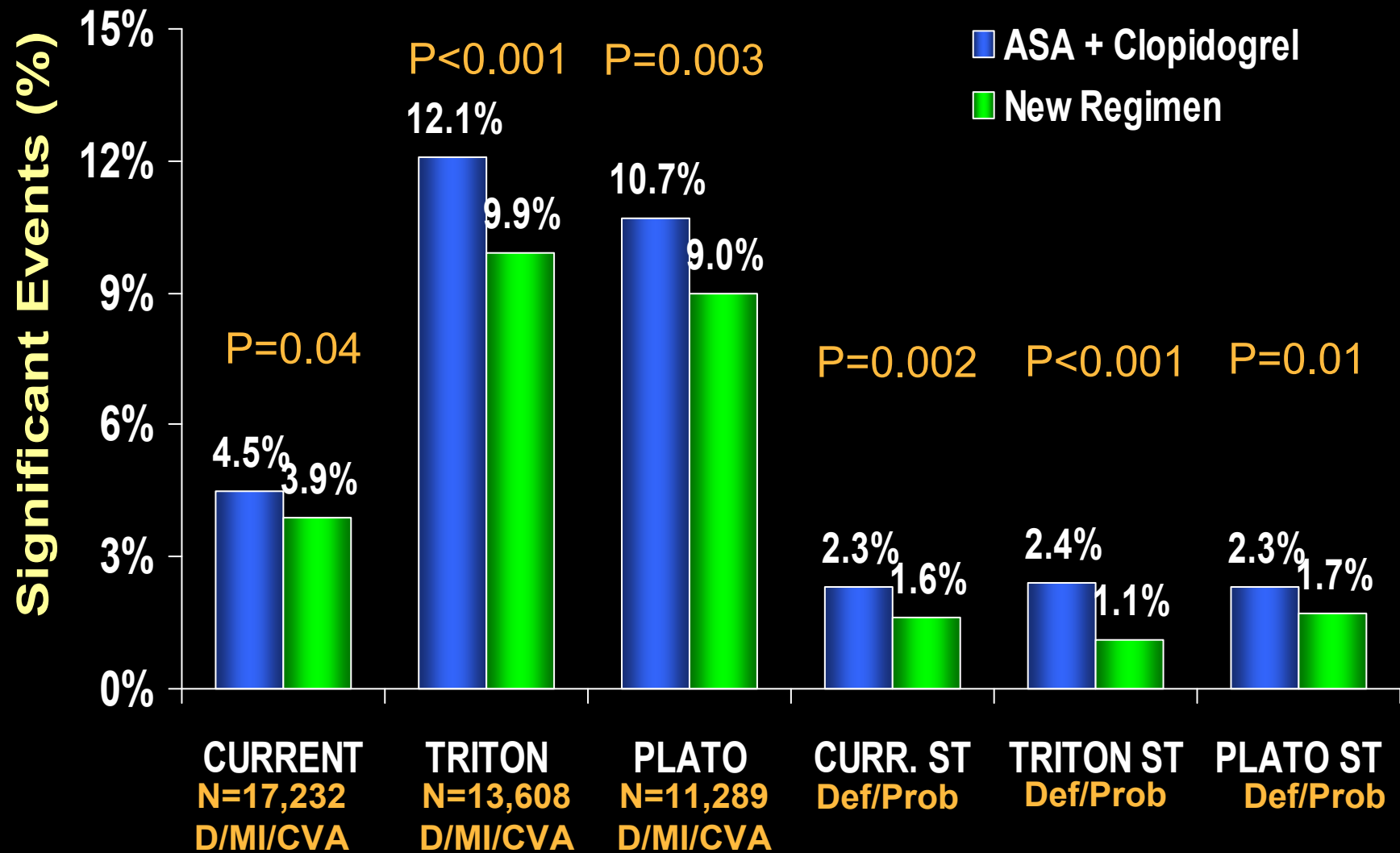


# Optimal Dosing, Duration, & New Novel Agents



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# ACS+PCI: 3 RCTs vs. Std Clopidogrel





## Initial Invasive Strategy: Antiplatelet, Anticoagulant Therapy

- Aspirin
- Initiate anticoagulant therapy as soon as possible after presentation (I, A). Regimens with established efficacy:
  - Enoxaparin or UFH (I, A)
  - Bivalirudin or fondaparinux (I, B)
- Prior to angiography, initiate one (I, A) or both (IIa, B)
  - Clopidogrel
  - IV GP IIb/IIIa inhibitorUse both if:
  - Delay to angiography
  - High-risk features
  - Early recurrent ischemic syndromes

### Changes coming?

- Bivalirudin + later thienopyridine?
- Prasugrel ?

# **Optimal Use of Anti-PLT Therapies: Conclusions**

- 1. Cath should not be delayed to “passify” lesions with IIb/IIIa therapy (EARLY-ACS, ACUITY)**
- 2. Combined/prolonged thienopyridine and eptifibatide might provide benefit, but clearly with added bleeding (EARLY-ACS)**
- 3. Specific thrombin inhibitors may obviate the need for “upstream” platelet inhibition, but are not sufficient as solo therapy (ACUITY)**
- 4. Reduced arteriotomy site bleeding through trans-radial approach might improve “net” clinical benefit**



## *Cardiac Safety Research Consortium*

*Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI)*



# **Shifting the Balance of Potency and Bleeding Risk for Anti-Coagulant and Anti-Platelet Agents Through Radial Arteriotomy:**

**An Obligatory Drug-Device Safety Interaction Cardiac Safety Critical Path  
Thinktank/Incubator**

**23-June, 2010  
Washington D.C.  
FDA Headquarters**

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- **Cleveland Clinic**
- **Columbia University**
- **Duke University**
- **Harvard**
- **Johns Hopkins**
- **Washington Heart Ctr**
- **U.S. FDA**
- **AHRQ**
- **NIH**
- **ACC**
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[www.cardiac-safety.org](http://www.cardiac-safety.org)

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