



October 16 - 18
14th EDITION 2015



**NO CONFLICT OF
INTEREST TO
DECLARE**

End-stage renal disease and other arrhythmias: what relationships and clinical implications?



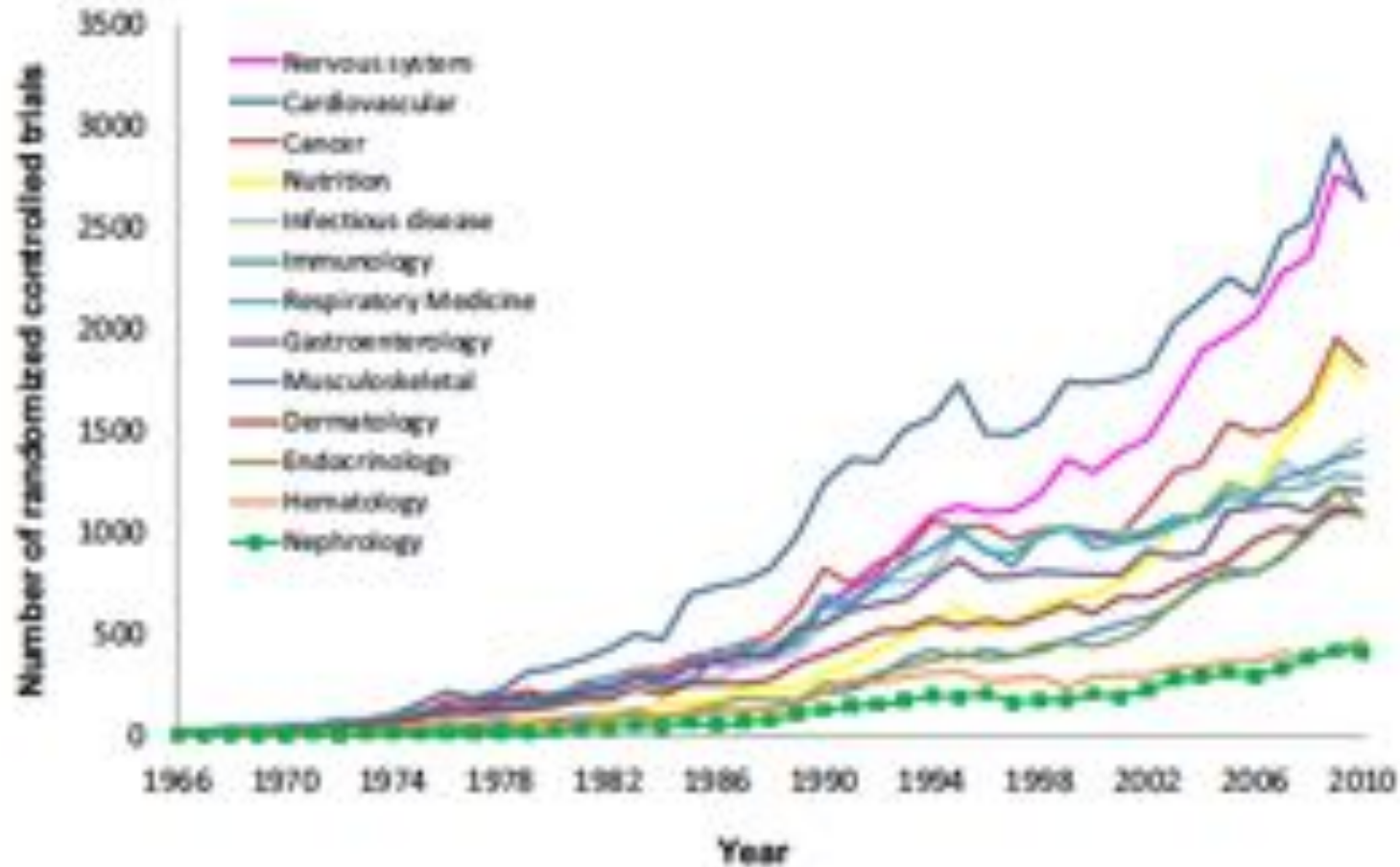
Dr Charlie Ferro

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, UK

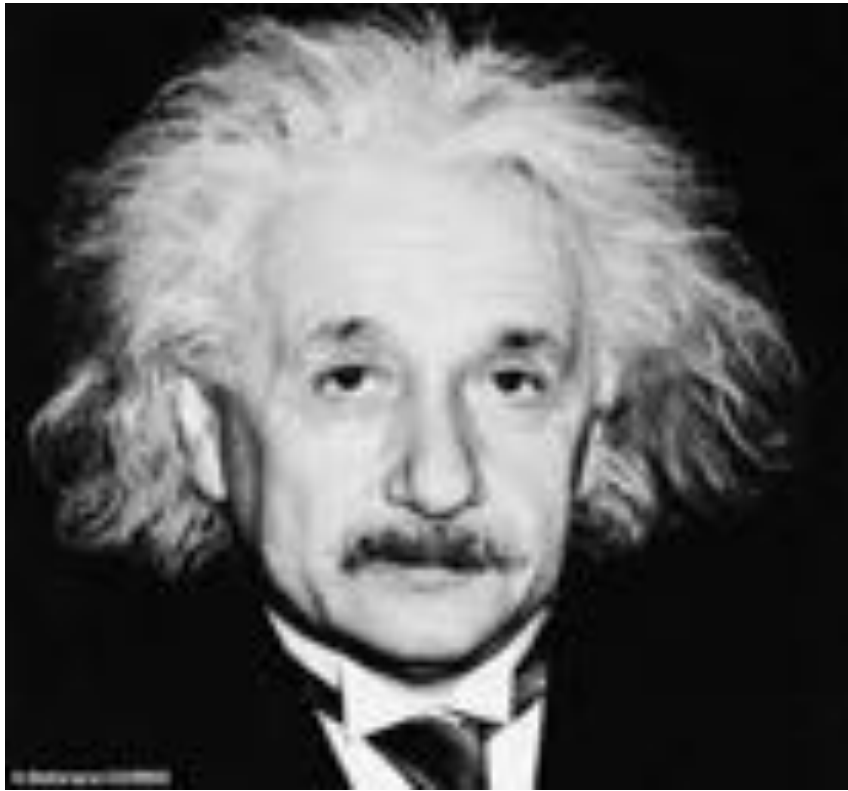
“Birmingham has more miles of canals than Venice and more trees than Paris. But, unfortunately for the canals and trees, they are in Birmingham and not Venice or Paris. This makes them all quite sad.”



Cardiologists and nephrologists



Quality as well as quantity



Plan

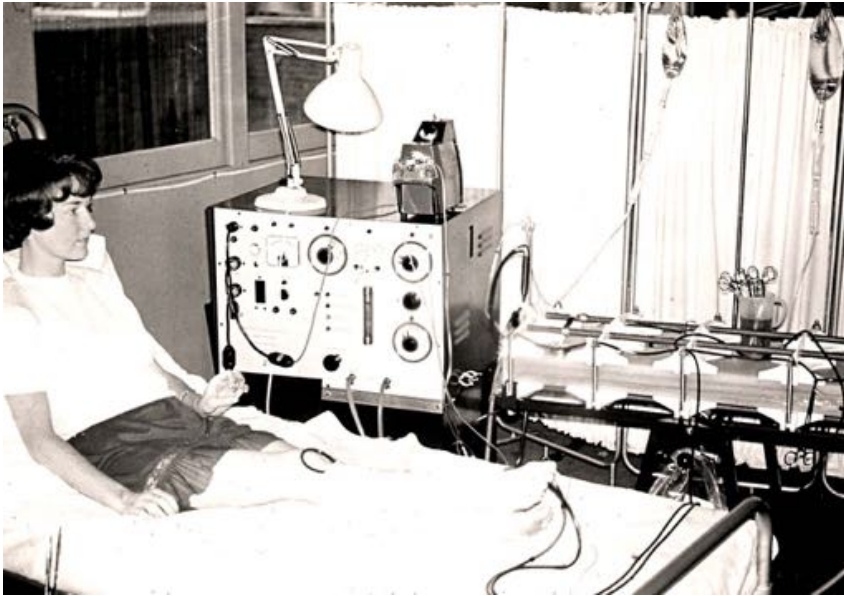
- Haemodialysis?
- Overview of Arrhythmias in ESKD
- Sudden Cardiac Death
- Causes
- Potential therapeutic options
- The Future

Haemodialysis



- 3 x weekly for 4 hours ie intermittent...
- BUT week = 7 days
- Gives a creatinine clearance of approx 10 ml/min
- Does not replace all the other kidney functions:
 - Ca/Phos/Vit D axis
 - Erythropoietin synthesis
 - Middle/large molecule clearance?
 - Etc, etc

Dialysis has not changed much: patients have!



How co-morbid are dialysis patients

Birmingham?



Reality

- Hypertension 89%
- Diabetes 66%
- PVD 30%
- CHF 39%
- MI 16%
- Angina 5%
- COPD 19%
- Cancer 19%
- Rh arthritis 7%

Arrhythmias are common in dialysis patients



Monitoring in Dialysis (MID) Study

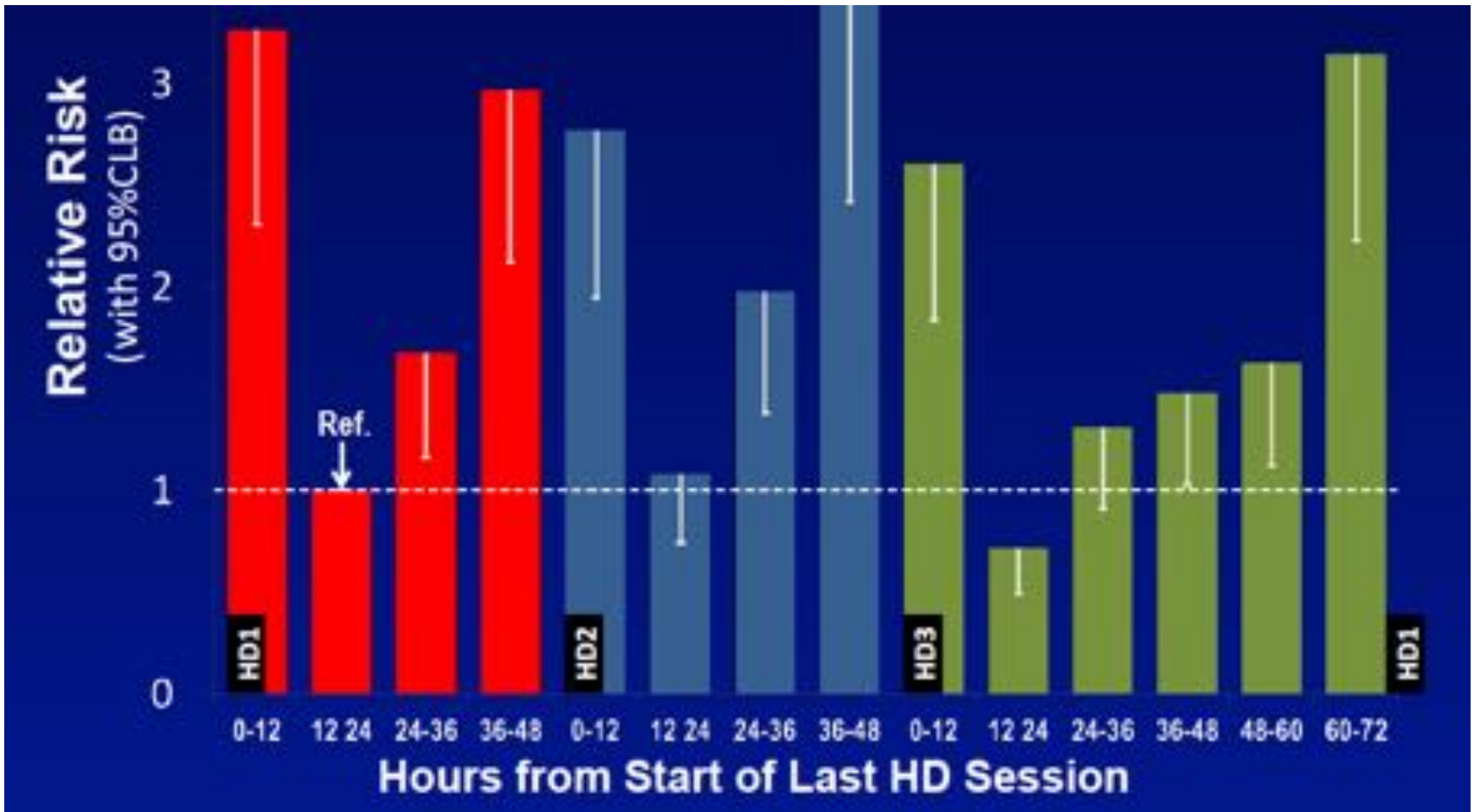
- 50 haemodialysis patients – 6 months
- Reveal XT™ Implantable Cardiac Monitoring
- Quantify clinically significant arrhythmias
 - VT \geq 130 bpm for \geq 30 seconds
 - Asystole \geq 3 seconds
 - Bradycardia \leq 40 bpm for \geq 6 seconds
 - Symptomatic arrhythmias



Arrhythmias Confirmed by ECG Review

	Review Confirmed Arrhythmic episodes	Review-confirmed Arrhythmias by Type:					Patient Marked
		Atrial	Brady	Asystole	Ventricular	Sinus Tach	
Number of events (% of total)	7801 (100%)	4478 (57.4%)	1197 (15%)	28 (0.4%)	706 (9.1%)	3165 (41%)	183 (2.3%)
Subjects with events (% of implanted)	50 (100%)	46 (92%)	13 (26%)	6 (12%)	38 (76%)	42 (84%)	35 (70%)
Expected events per patient month (95% CI)	29.7 (19.2-46.0)	16.4 (10.2-26.5)	5.2 (1.3-20.0)	0.1 (0-0.3)	2.7 (1.6-4.5)	11.9 (7.0-20.3)	0.7 (0.4-1.0)

Timing of Arrhythmias

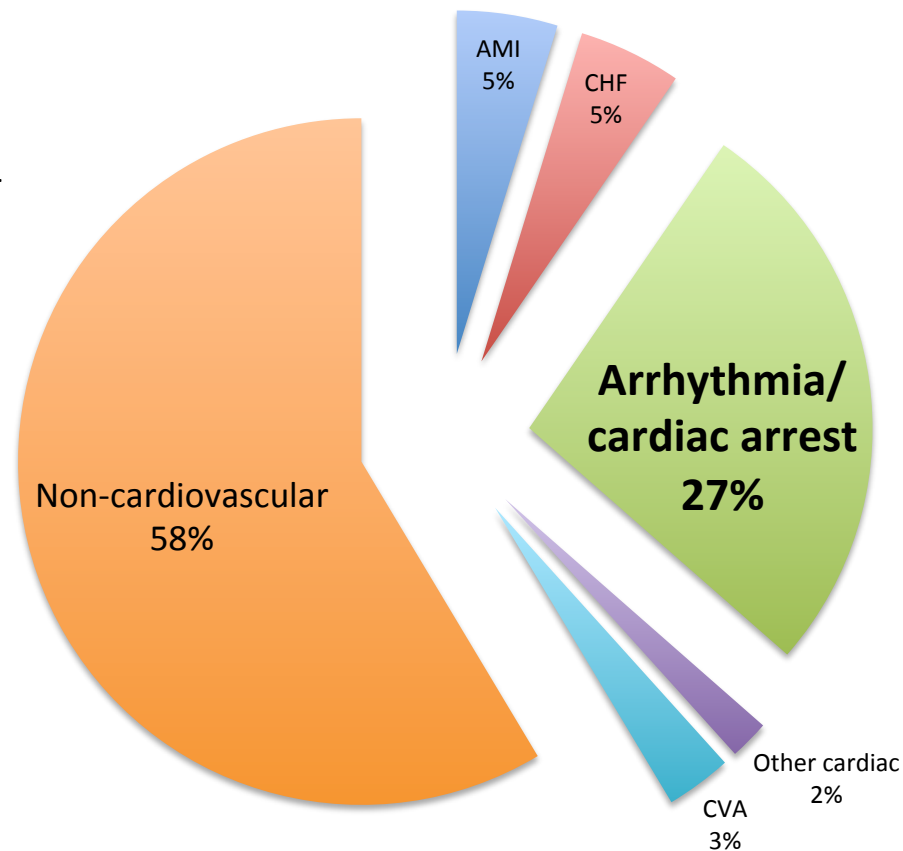


Sudden Cardiac Death

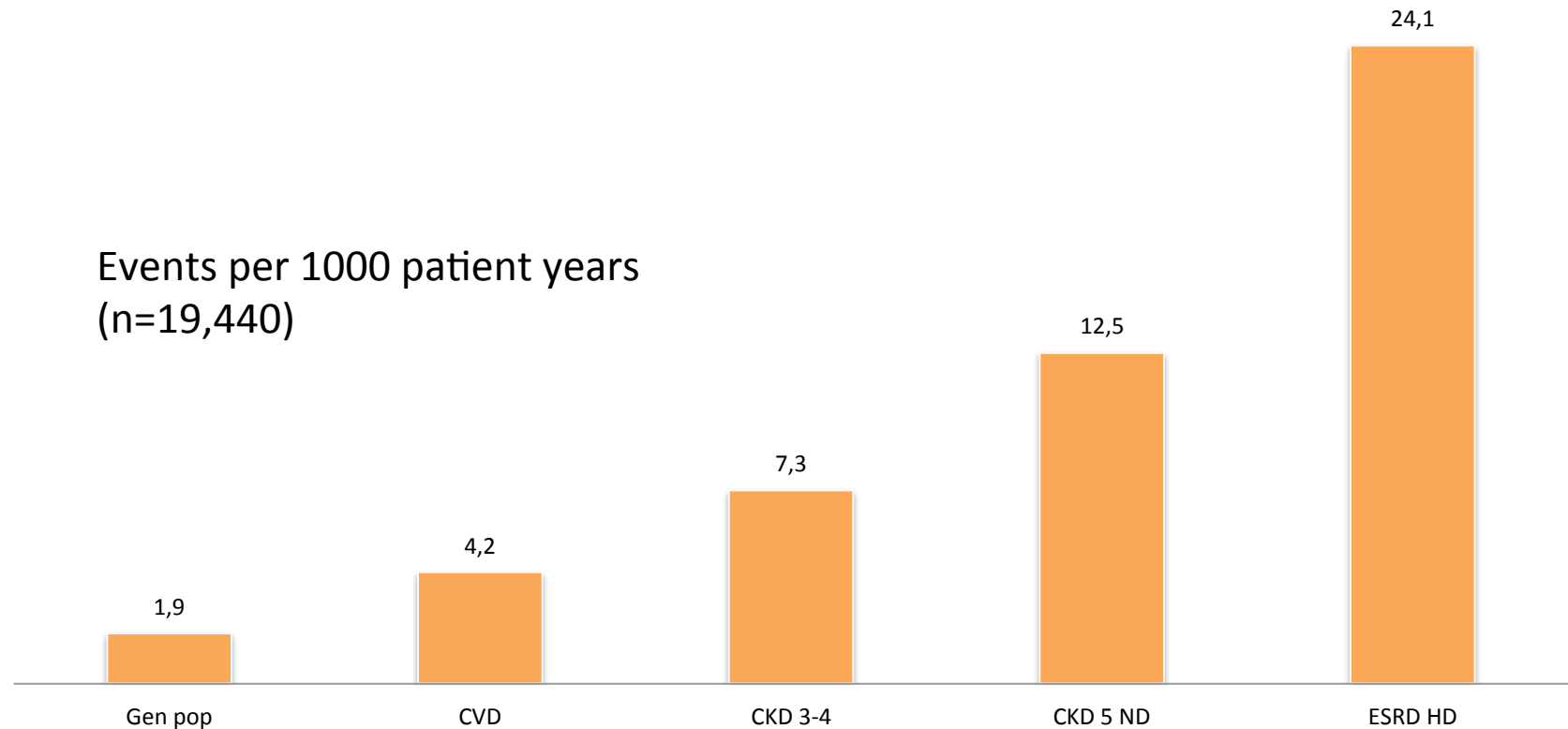


Sudden Cardiac Death is the Leading Cause of Death in Dialysis Patients

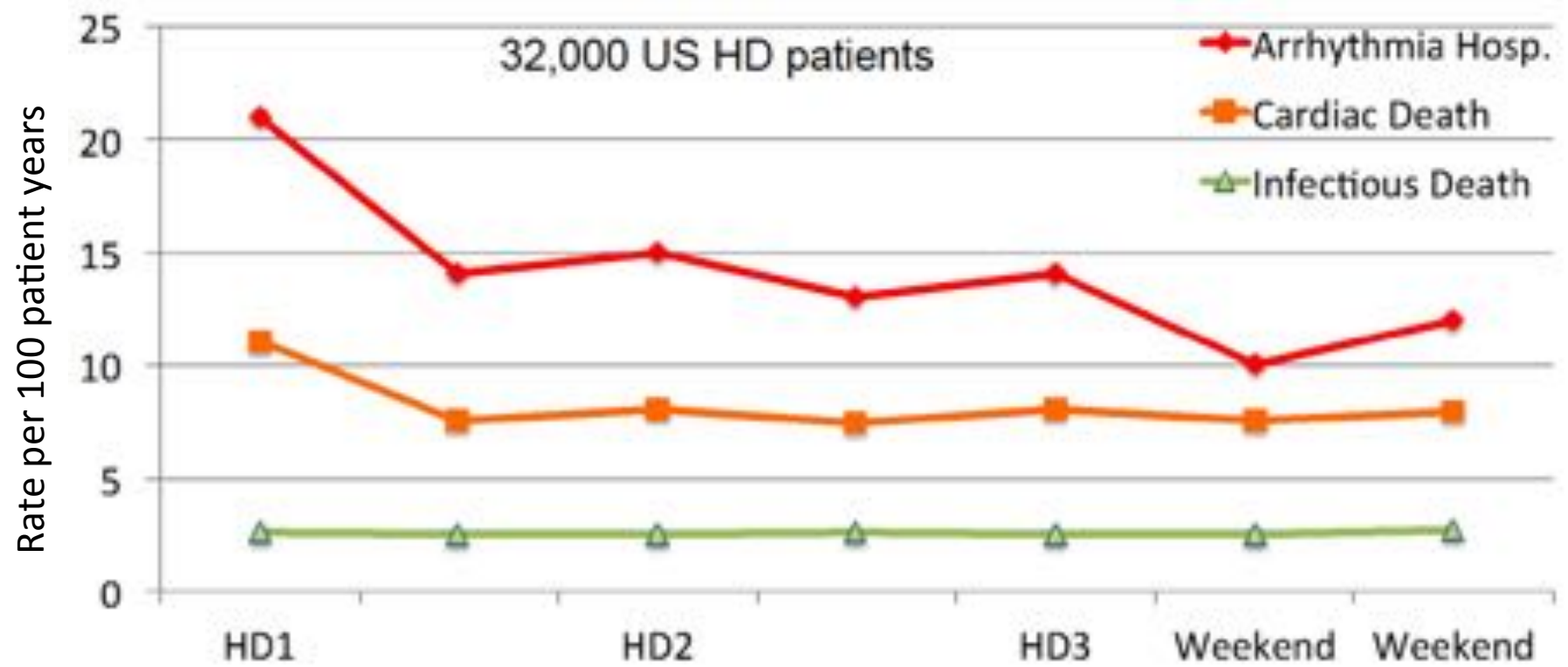
Prevalent dialysis patients 2009-2011



Risk of SCD in Haemodialysis Patients is 20x Greater than in General Population



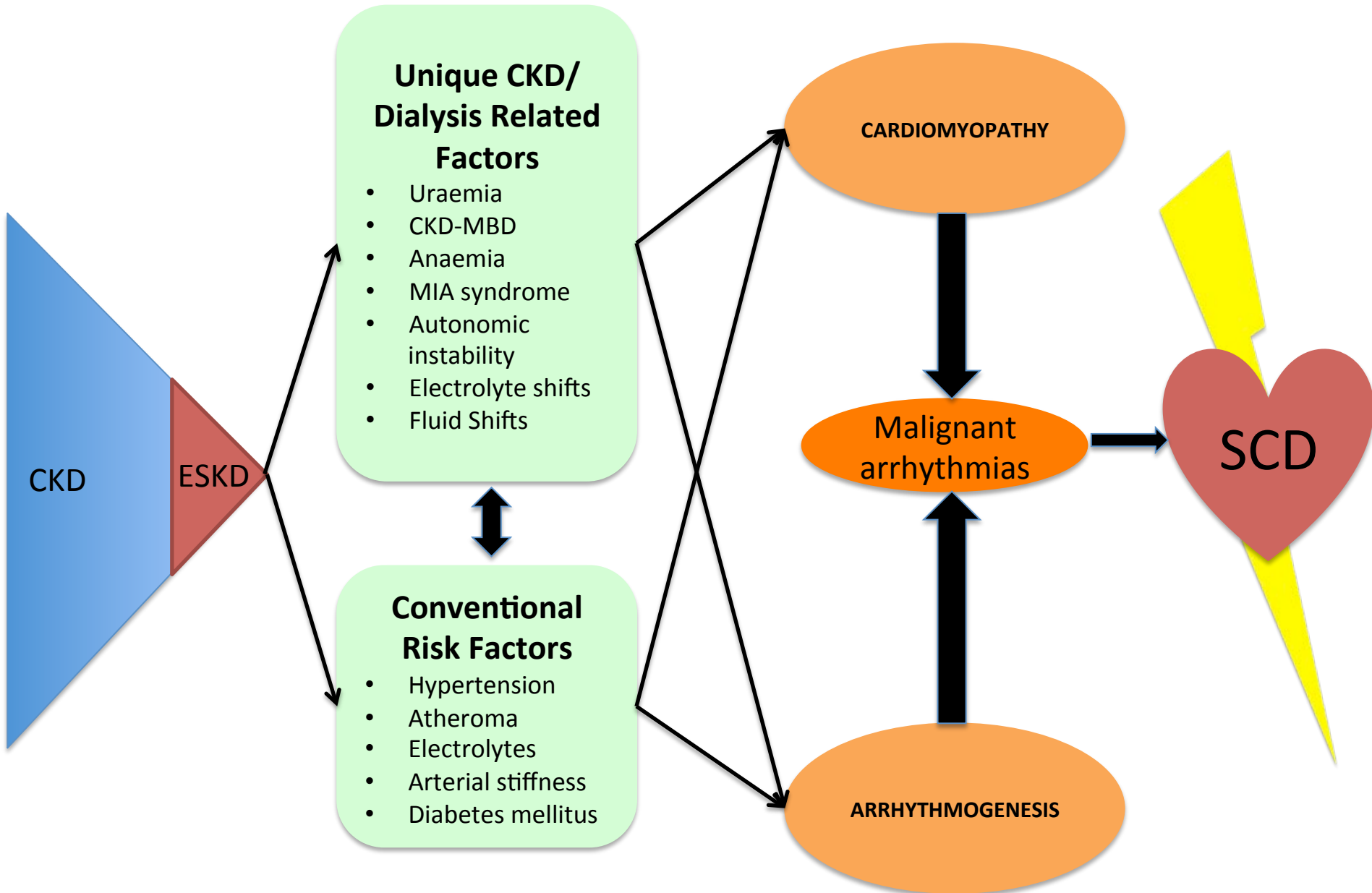
Sudden cardiac death and arrhythmias are more common after the long dialysis break



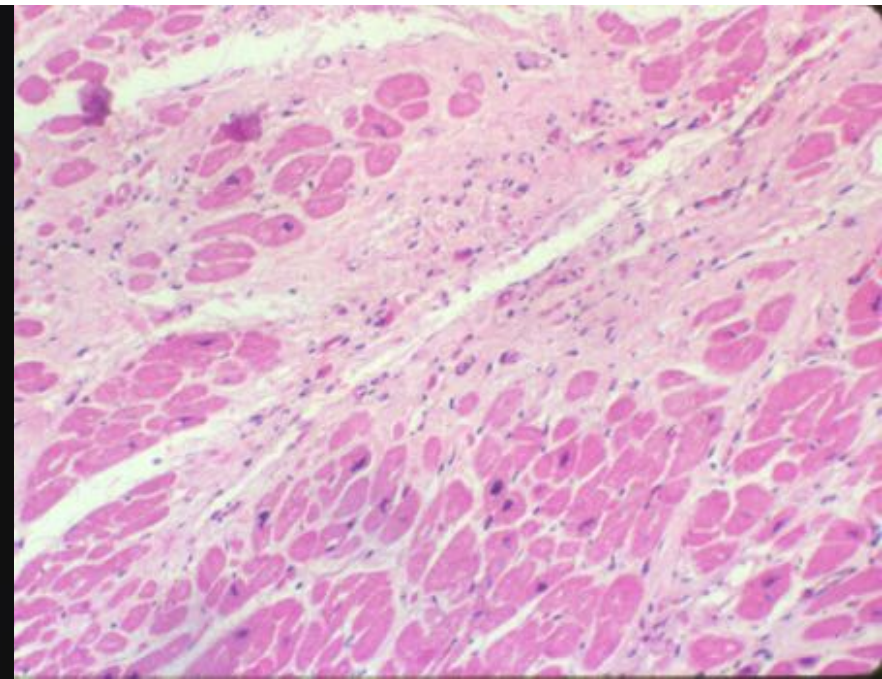
Why?

- Misclassification?
 - Unlikely rates consistent across observational cohorts, registries, interventional trials etc
- Same disease as in general population, only worse?
 - Ischaemic heart disease, diabetes, heart failure
- New disease, novel risk factors?

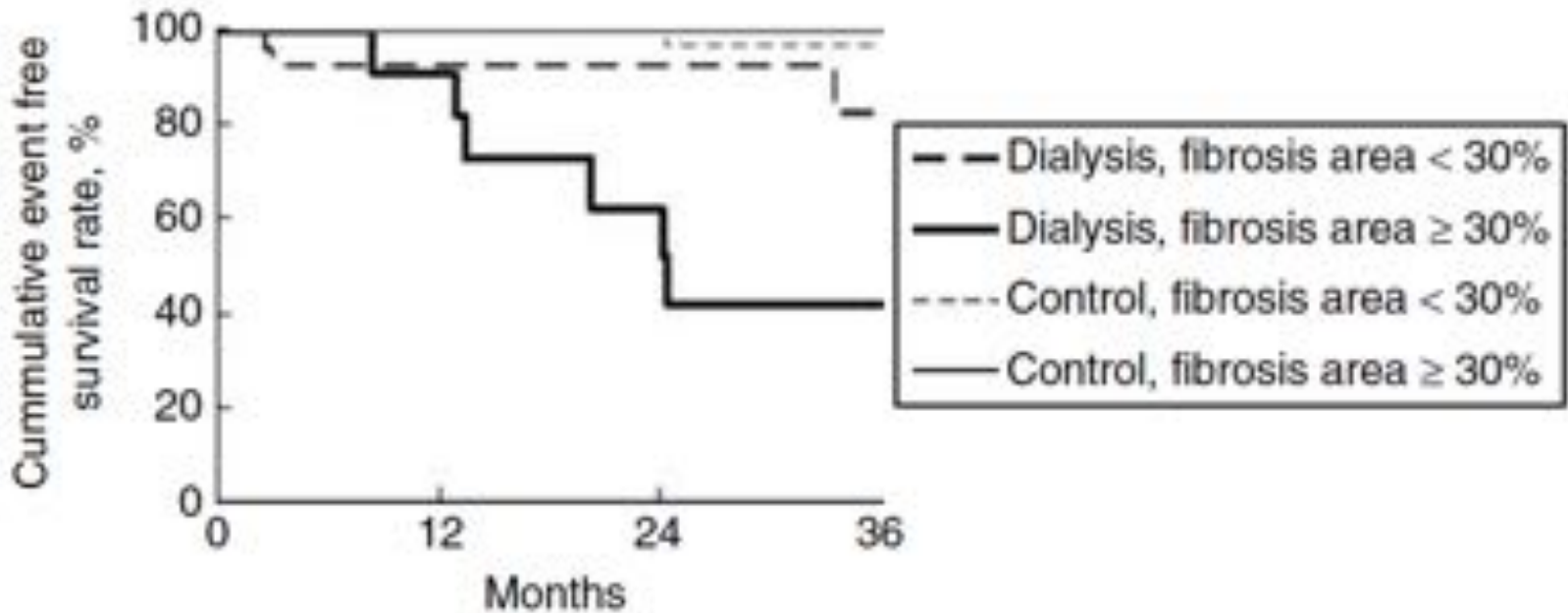
Sudden Cardiac Death in CKD/ESKD



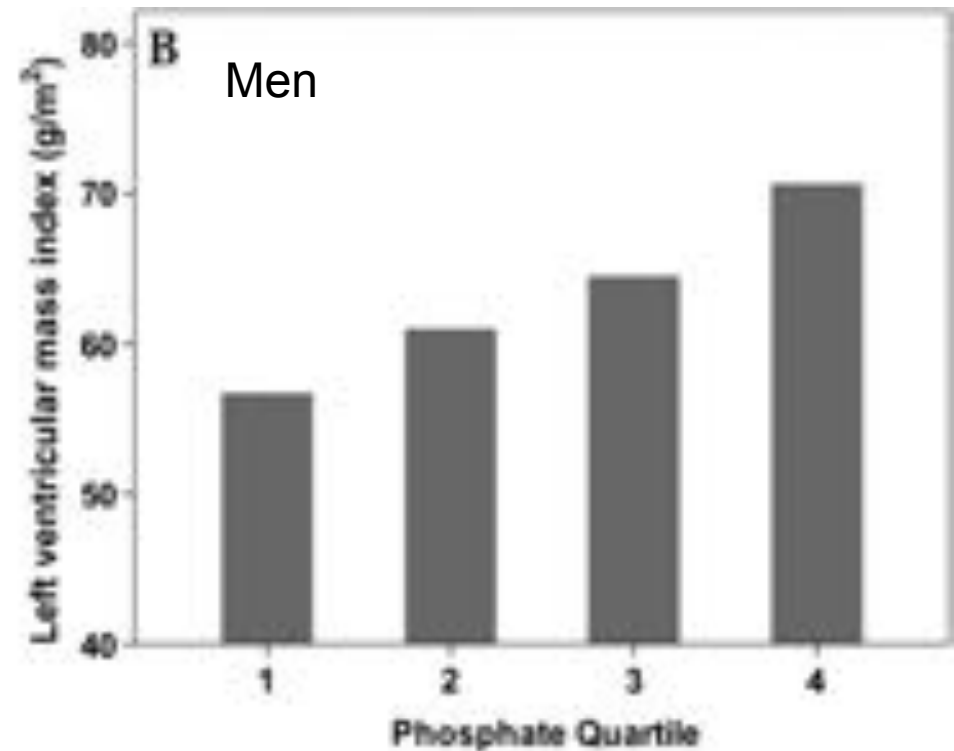
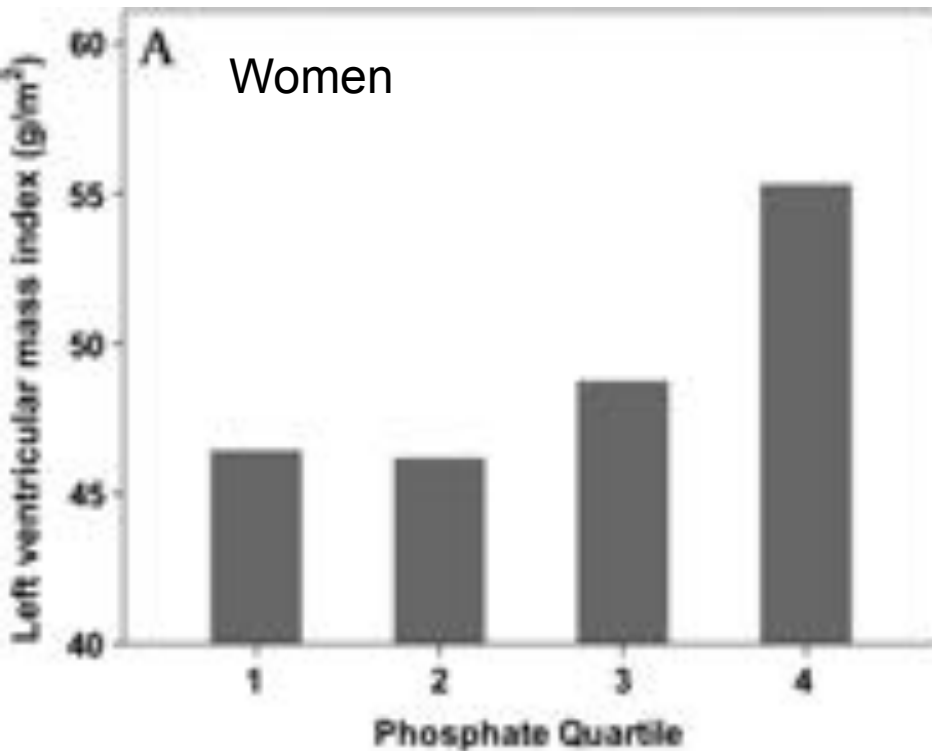
Increased LV Mass and Myocardial Fibrosis



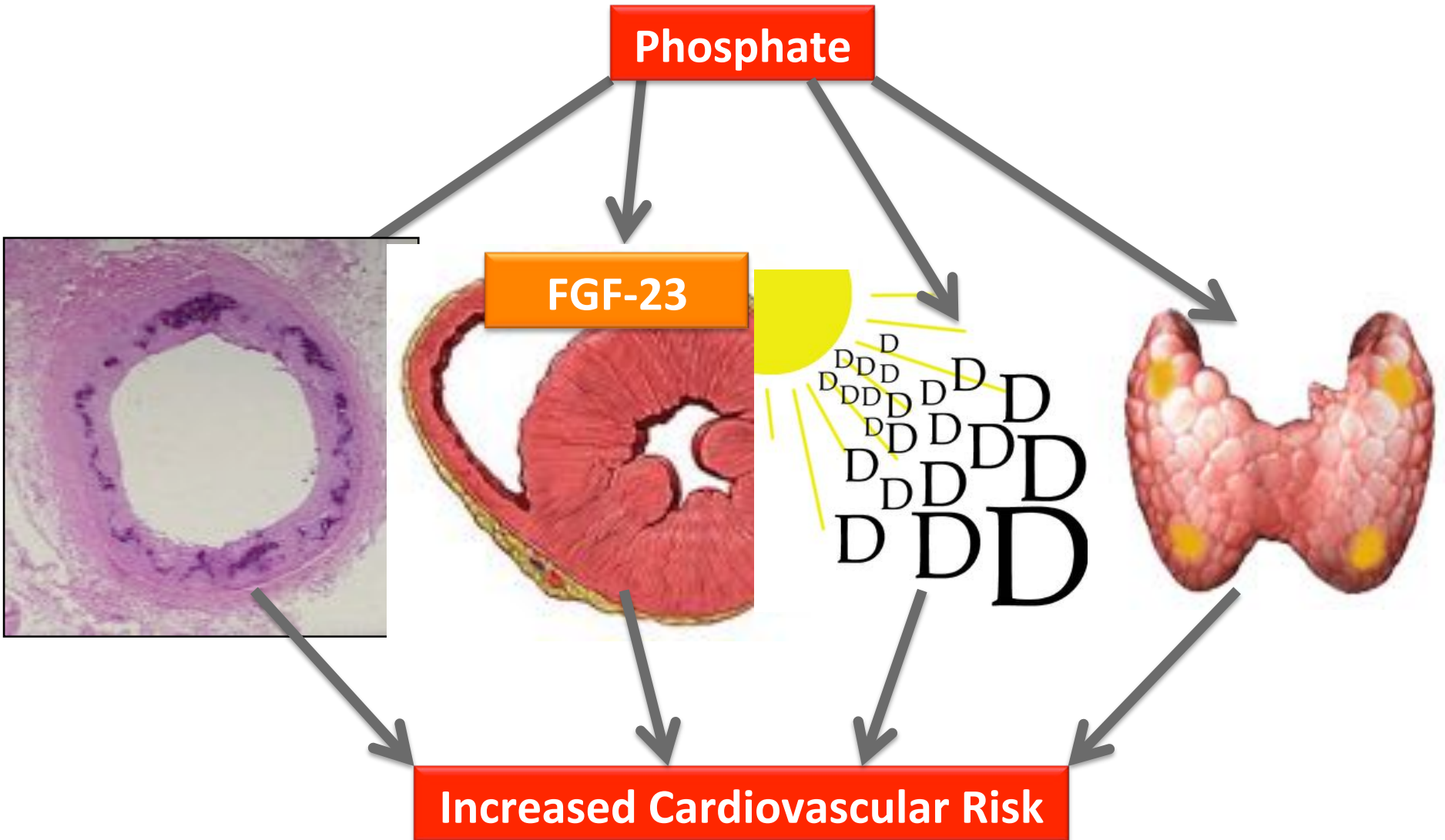
Cardiac fibrosis associated with increased mortality ESRD patients.



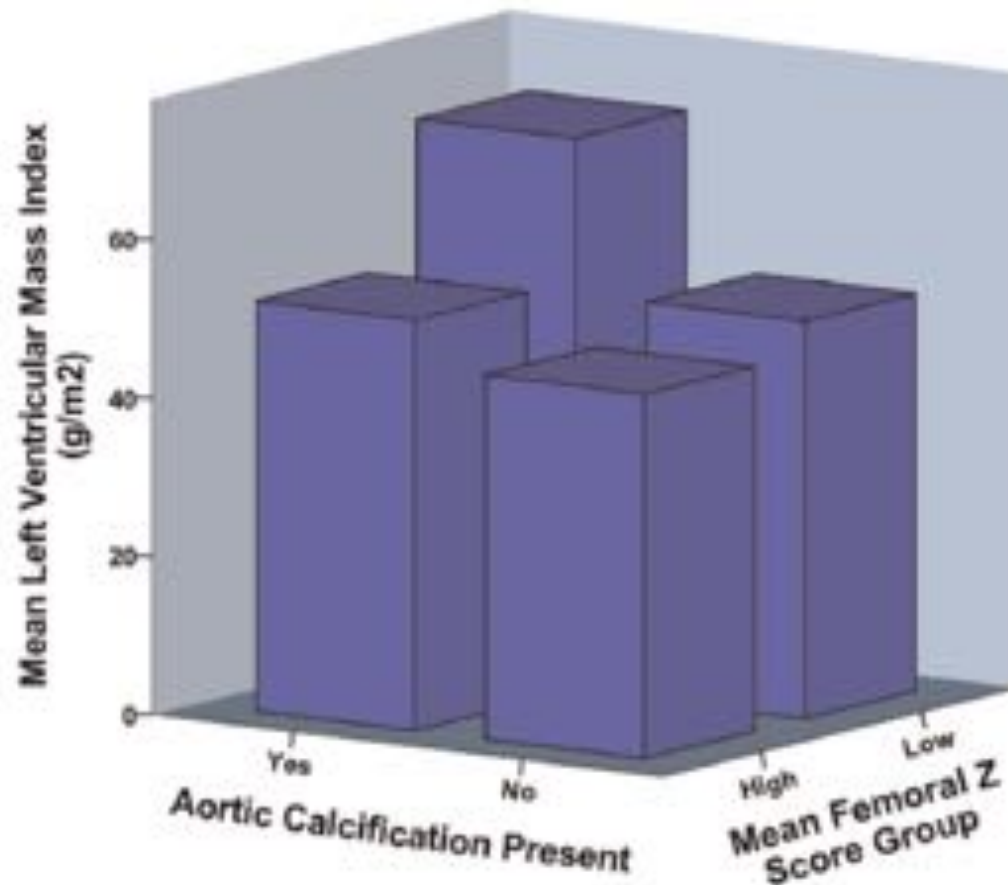
Serum phosphate is associated with LVM in CKD



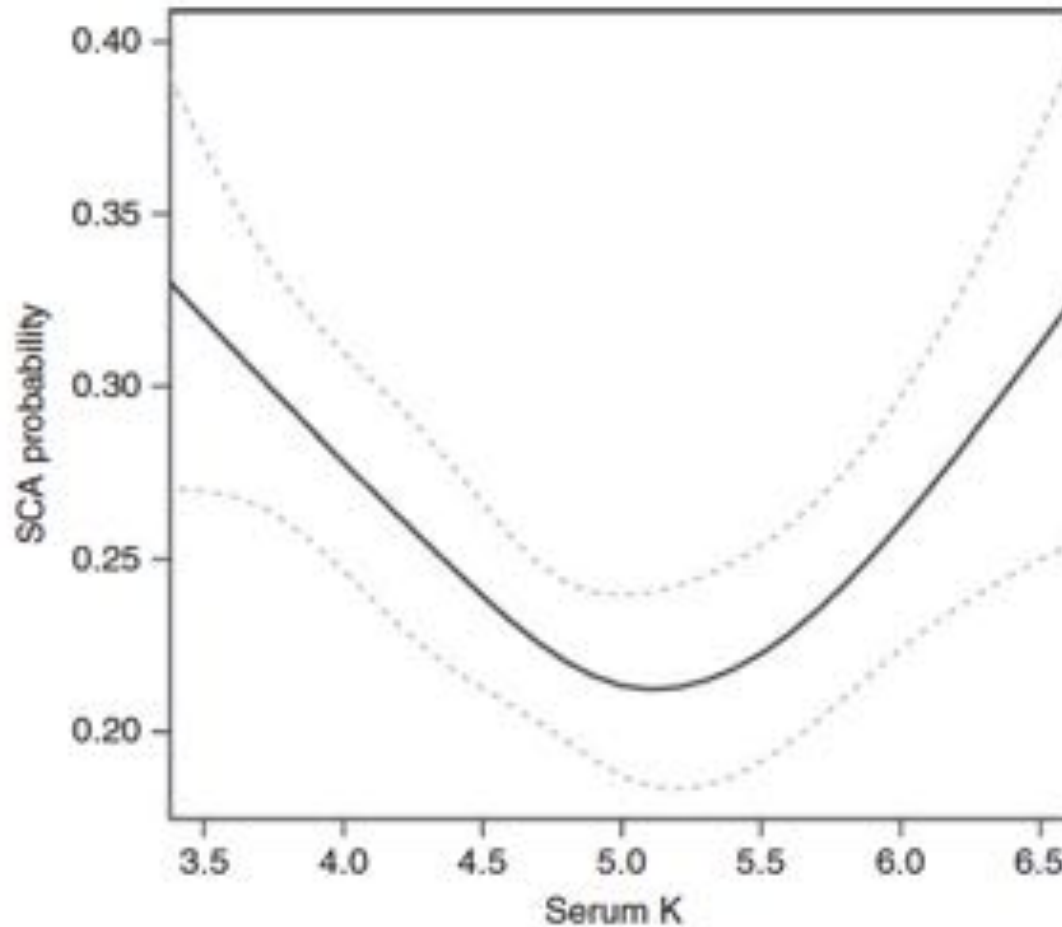
Phosphate is a Mediator of Cardiovascular Disease



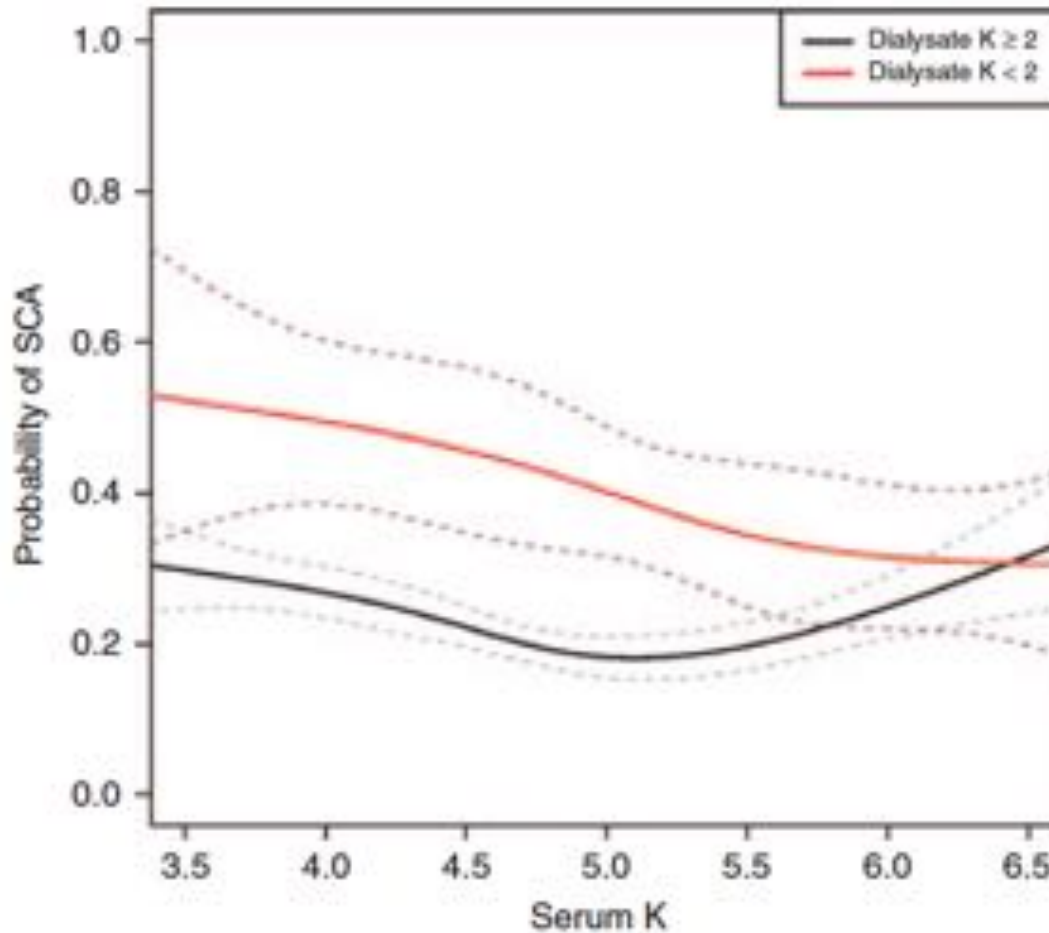
LV Mass Increases with Increasing Aortic Calcification and Decreasing Bone Density



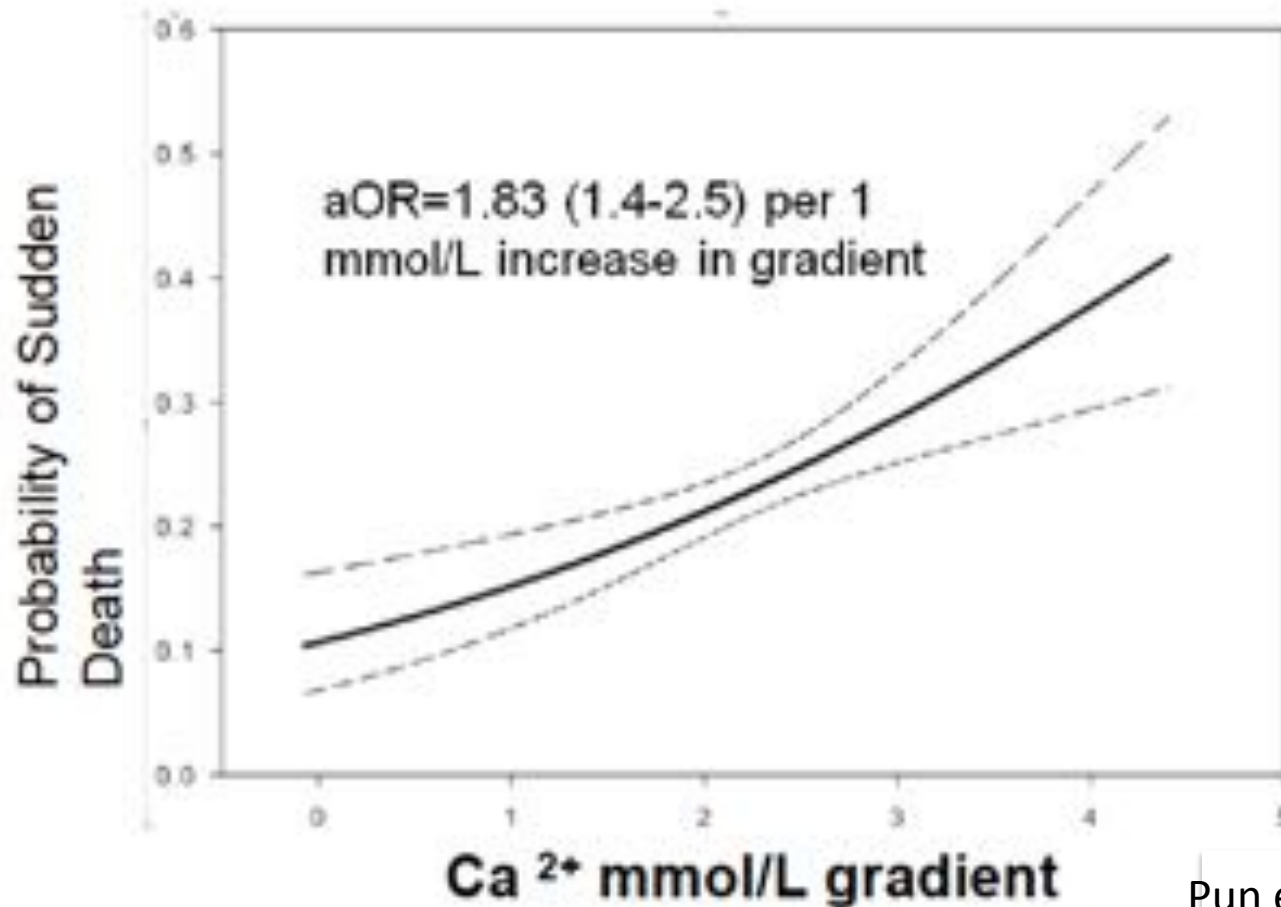
Pre-dialysis Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Serum Potassium



Low dialysate potassium associated with worse outcomes



Low calcium dialysate associated with increased risk of SCD

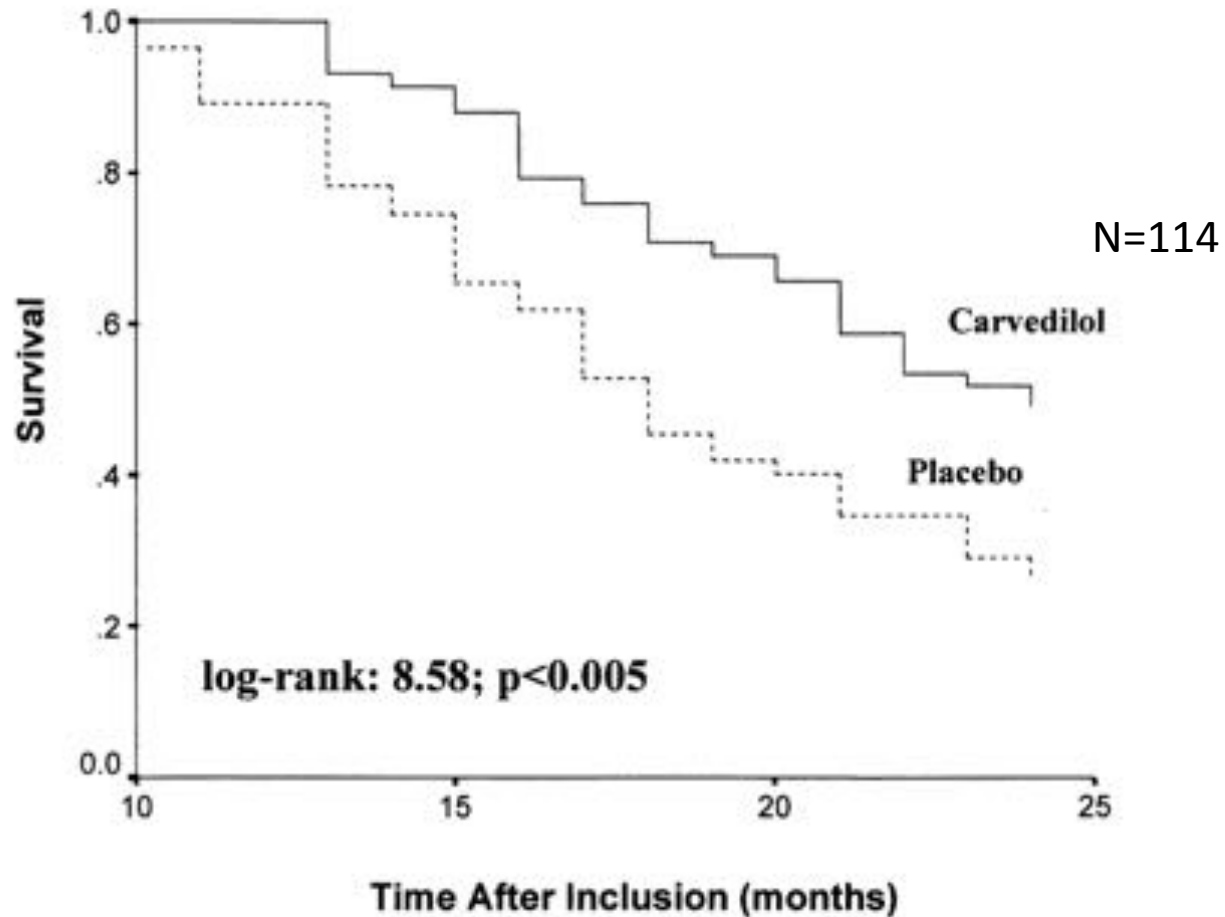


Potential “Conventional” Treatments

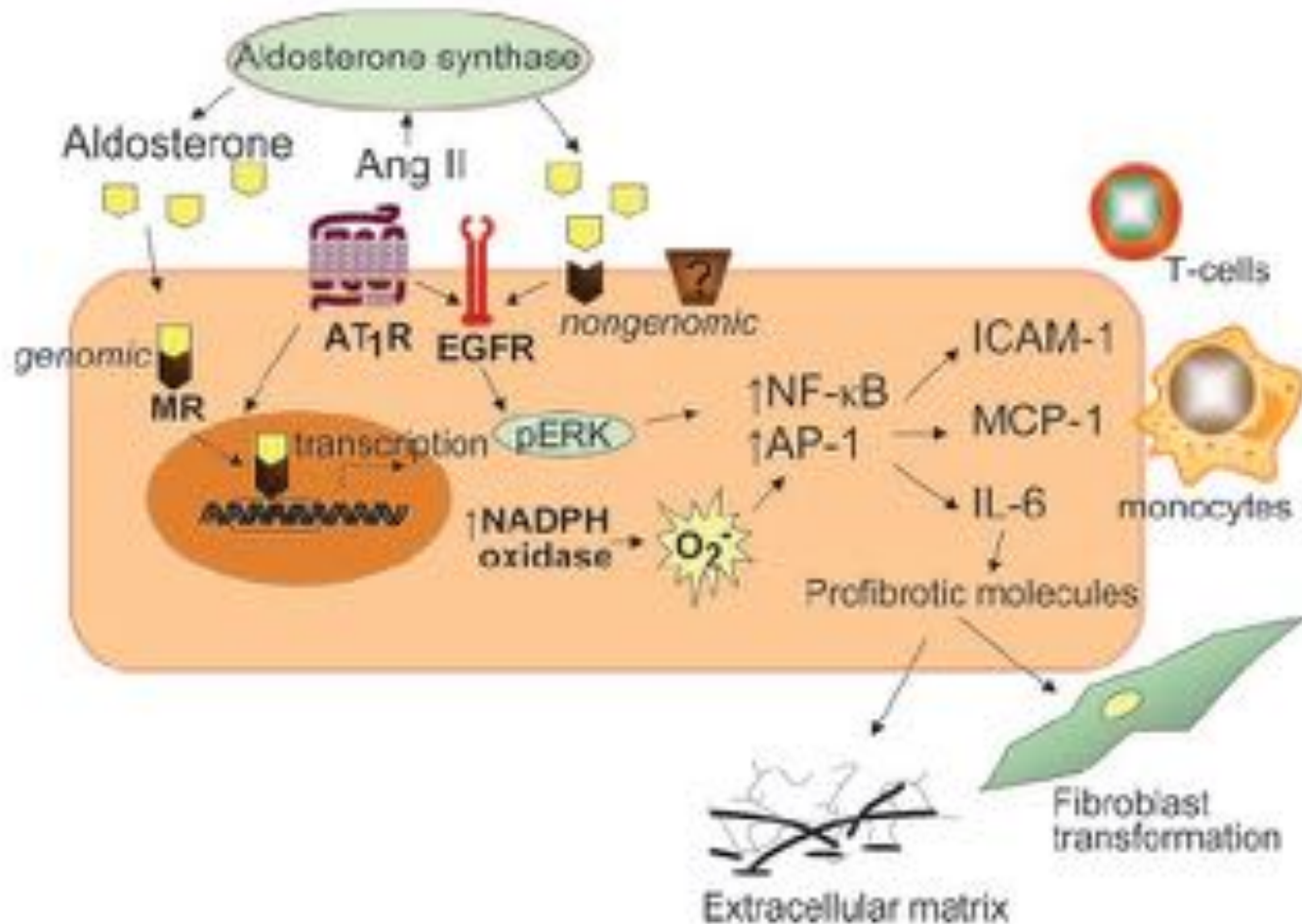
- Beta-blockers
- RAAS Inhibition
- Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators



Double-blind RCT of Carvedilol in Dialysis Patients with Dilated Cardiomyopathy



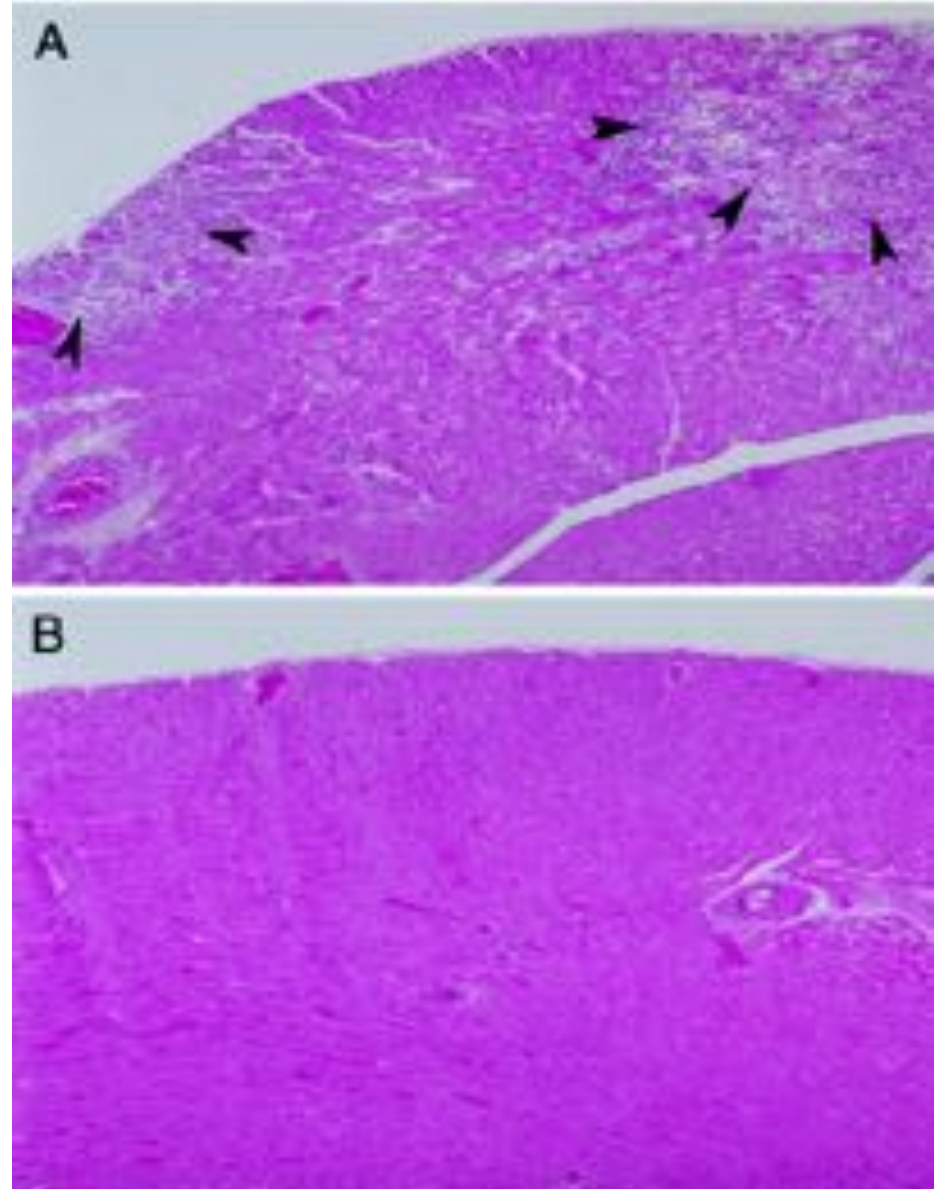
Aldosterone: a pro-inflammatory and pro-fibrotic stimulus in the heart and vasculature



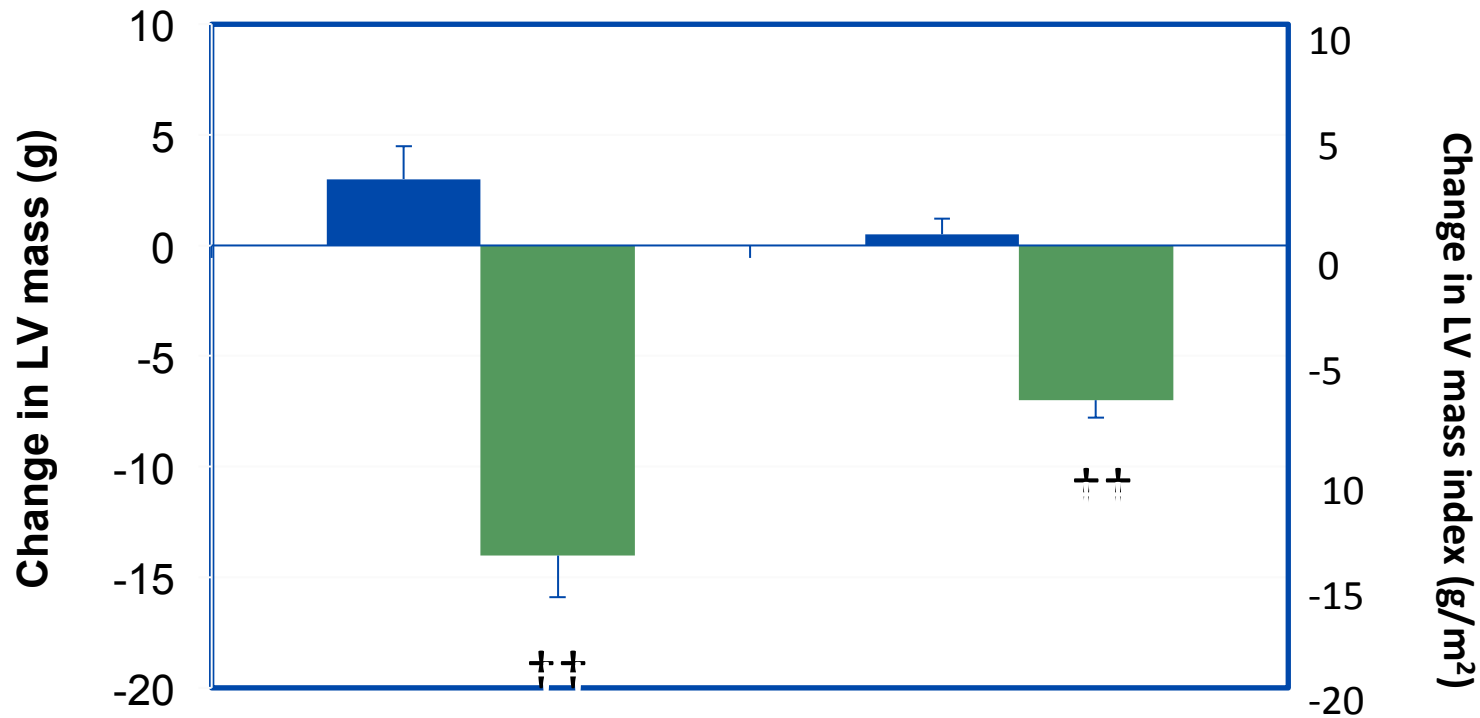
Aldosterone and Myocardial Necrosis

Representative myocardial necrotic lesions induced by L-NAME/Ang II/ NaCl treatment.

Myocardium of an animal Receiving L-NAME/Ang II/NaCl treatment in the presence of eplerenone showing no necrotic lesions.



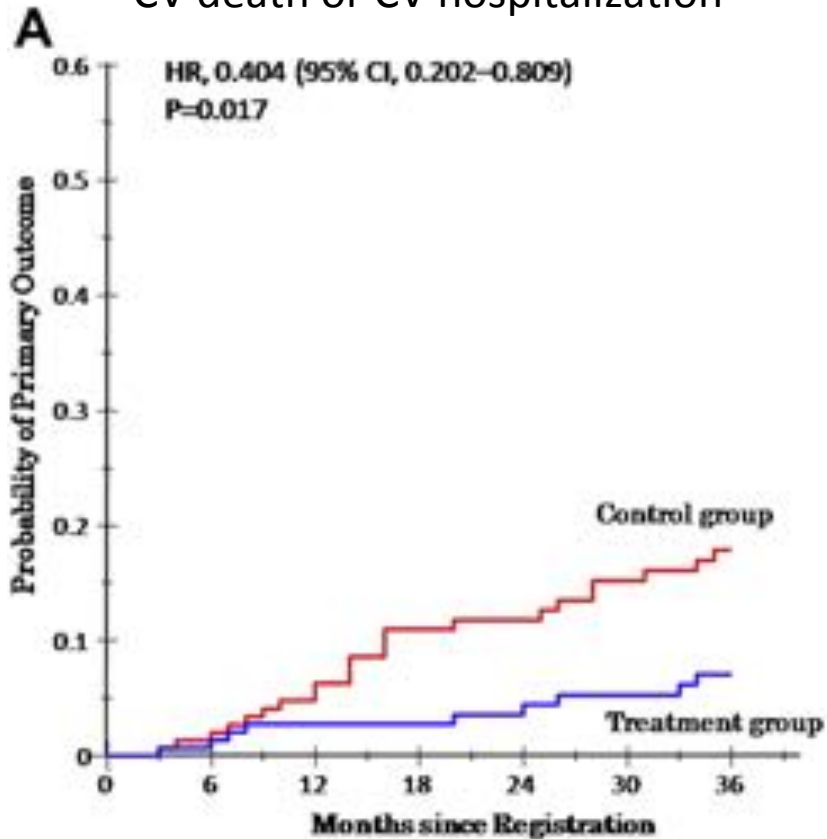
Addition of low dose spironolactone lowers LV Mass independently of blood pressure in optimally managed patients with CKD



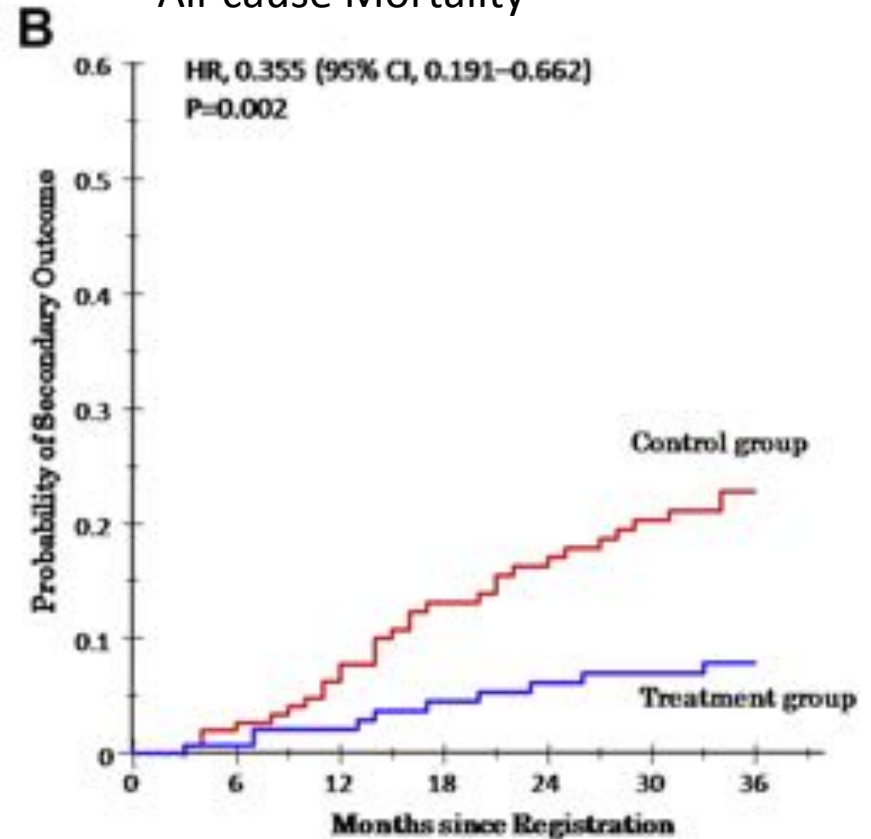
Data are mean \pm SD
† p<0.05 †† p<0.01

Spironolactone Reduces Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Morbidity and Mortality in Hemodialysis Patients (n=309)

CV death or CV hospitalization



All-cause Mortality



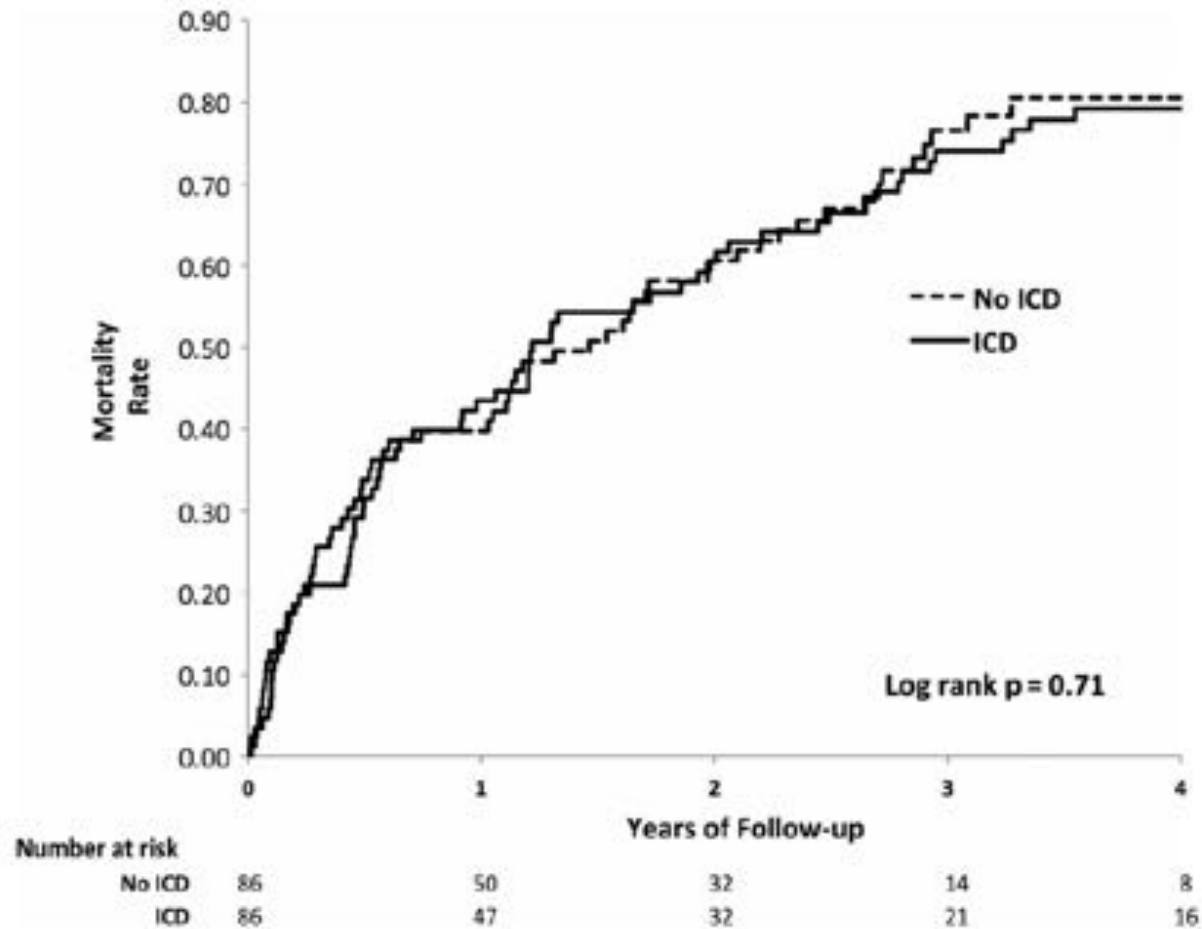
Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators in Dialysis Patients

- No dialysis patients included in any RCT
- In secondary prevention:

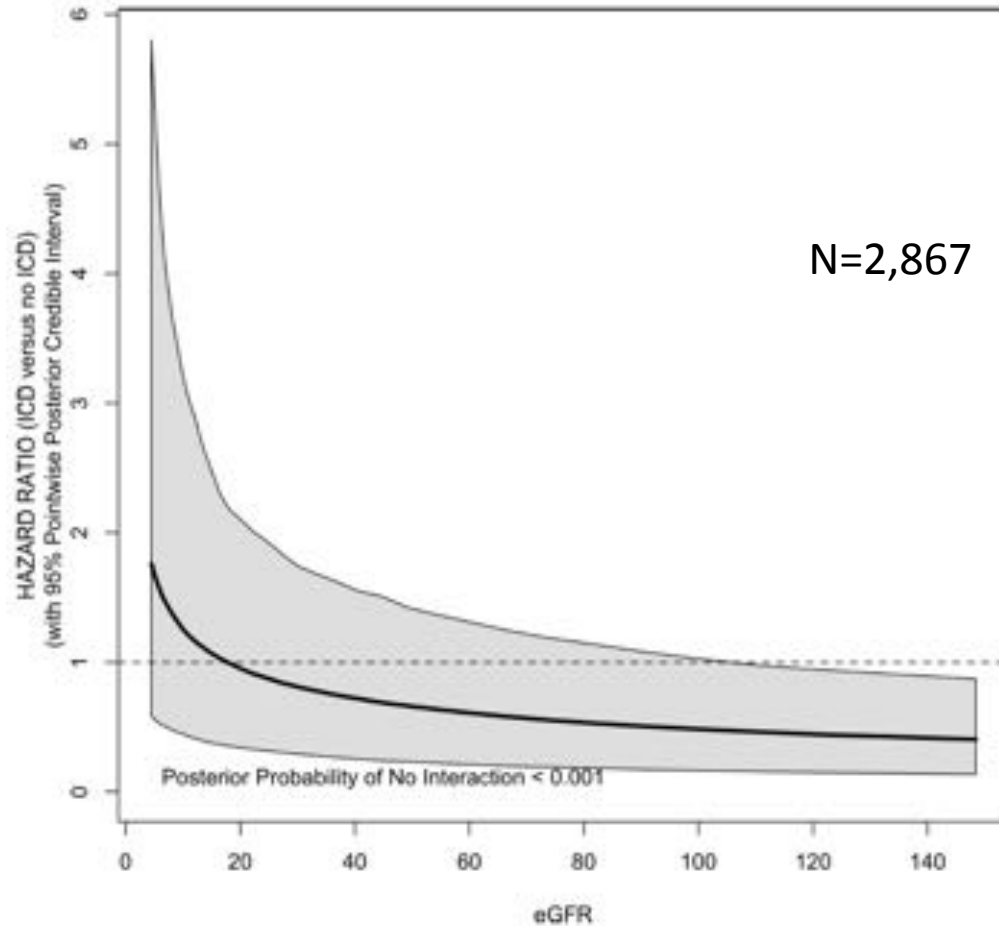
Observational analyses found survival advantage
in cardiac arrest survivors fitted with ICD

– Confounded by indication

ICD for primary prevention in dialysis patients: a matched cohort study



Reduced Kidney Function Associated with less benefit from ICD in primary prevention trials: a patient level meta-analysis



Why Might ICDs Not work in ESKD?

- Increased defibrillation thresholds
- Events might not be “shockable”
(38% of dialysis patients with an ICD still have a sudden death)
- Competing risks
 - High death rate
 - Bacteraemia/endocarditis
 - Associated vascular access problems

Longer or more frequent dialysis associated with less SCD/Arrhythmias?

- Studies relatively small (52 – 245 patients)
- BUT
 - Lower blood pressure
 - Reduce interdialytic weight gain
 - Reduced LV mass
 - Improved blood results – potassium, calcium, phosphate, PTH

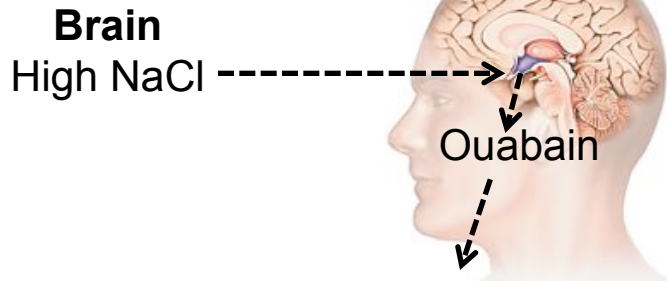
All of which theoretically should lower risk (?)

Current therapeutic options

- Prevent/treat cardiomyopathy
 - Beta-blockers in dilated cardiomyopathy
 - Treat elements of CKD MBD
- Avoid precipitating factors
 - Avoid low potassium and calcium dialysates
 - Reduce IDWG/large fluid shifts
 - Adjust dialysis prescription – daily dialysis?

Cardiotonic Steroids?

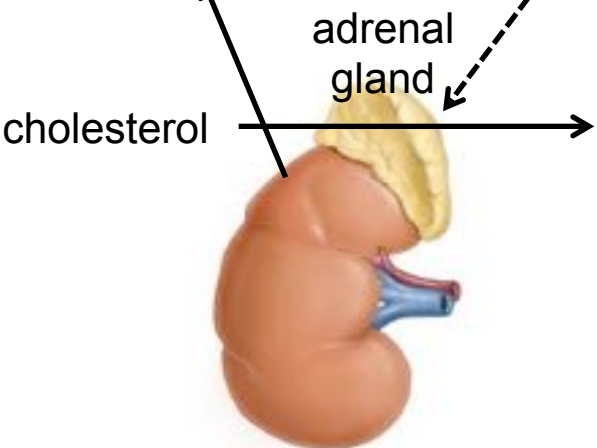




Short term:
Natriuresis
Long term adaptation:
Hypertrophy
Glomerulosclerosis

ACTH
Angiotensin II

Short term:
Inotropy
Long term adaptation:
Hypertrophy
Fibrosis
Diastolic dysfunction
Arrhythmogenesis



Ouabain
MBG
Bufalin
Telocinobufagin



Cardiac NKA
Inhibition/signalling
 $\alpha 1, \alpha 2, \alpha 3$
Na/K ATPase

Kidney NKA
Inhibition/signalling
 $\alpha 1, \alpha 2, \alpha 3$
Na/K ATPase



Arterial Wall
Inhibition/signaling
 $\alpha 1, \alpha 2, \alpha 3$
Na/K ATPase

Short term:
Vasoconstriction
Long term adaptation:
Arterial hypertension
Muscle hypertrophy

Randomised-controlled trials in chronic kidney disease – a call to arms!

*Misery acquaints a man with strange bedfellows.
Trinculo, The Tempest by William Shakespeare*

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