

# Advances in Heart Failure Therapeutics



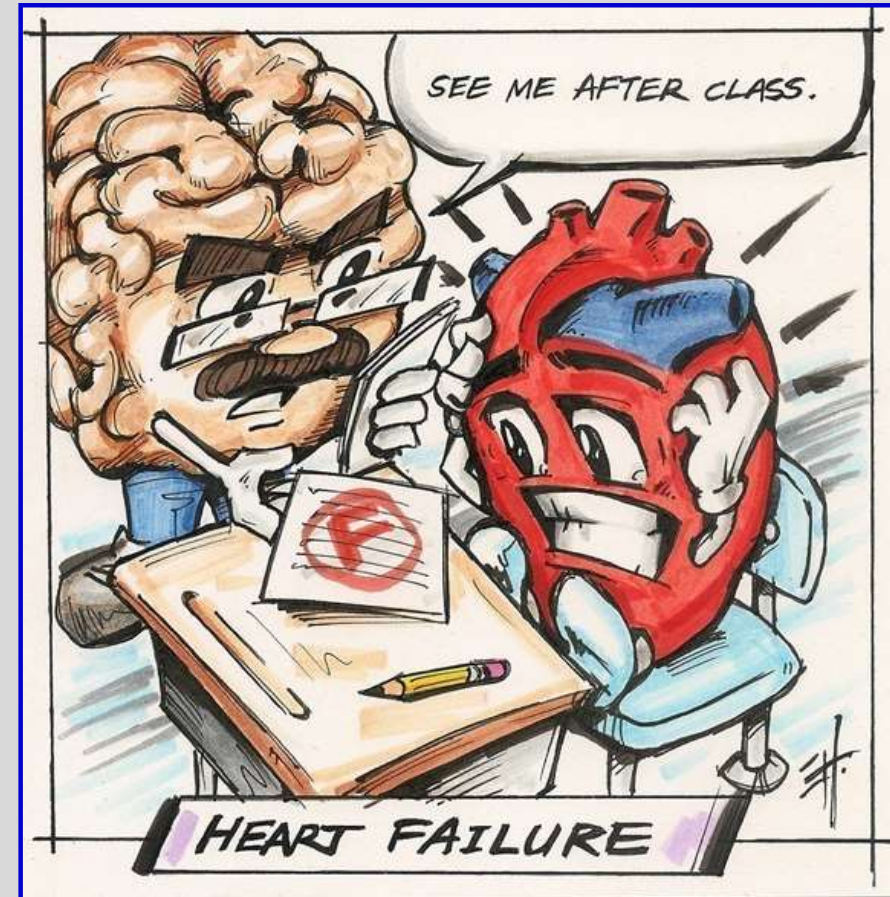
# **Rajakrishnan Vijayakrishnan MD**

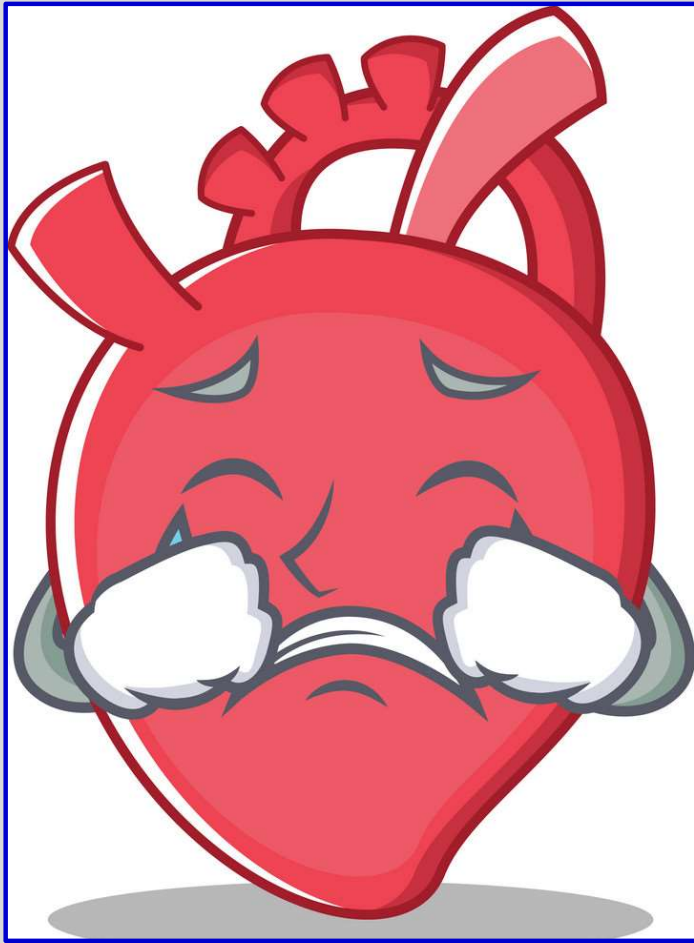
**Assistant Professor of Medicine, Creighton University  
Medical Director of Advanced Heart Failure Therapies and Mechanical  
Circulatory Support  
Norton Thoracic Institute/St Joseph Hospital and Medical Center**



**No Financial Disclosure**

- Definition of Advanced Heart Failure
- Diagnostics
- Inotropic Approach
- Temporary Circulatory Support Devices
- Durable Circulatory Support Devices
- Heart Transplantation





Introduction

➤ *Burden:*

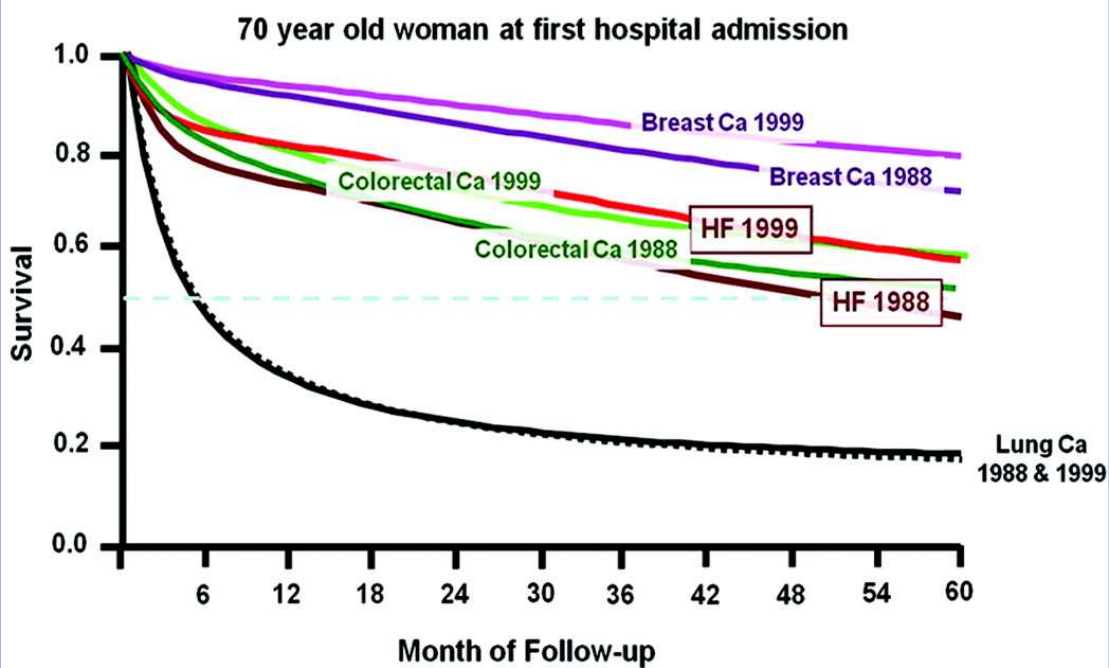
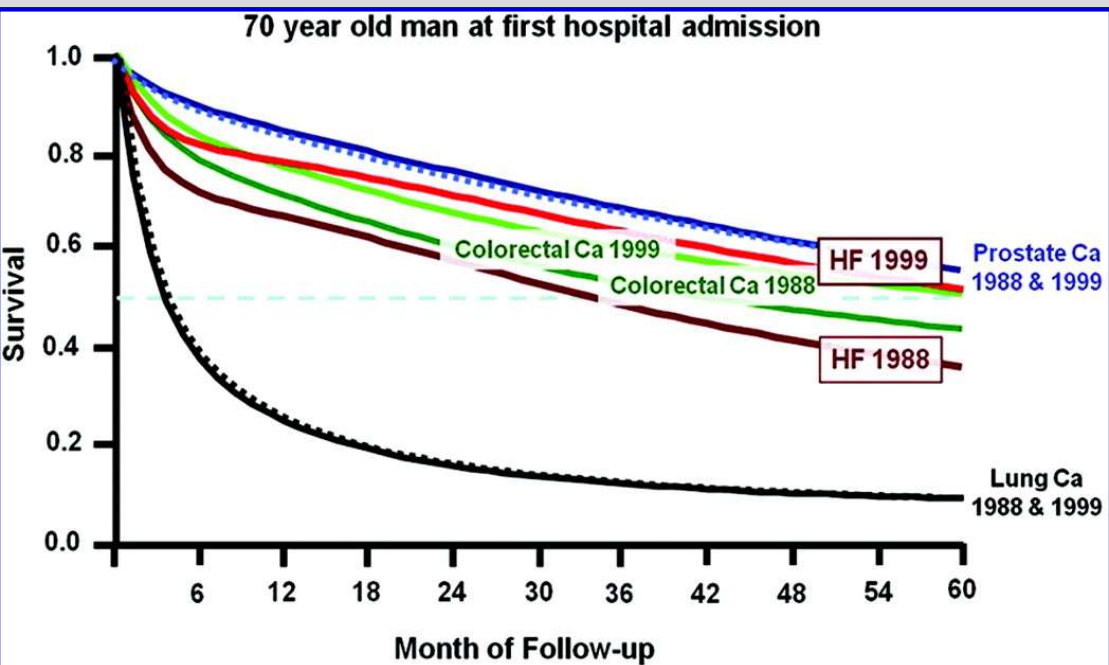
- Heart failure (HF) affects nearly 6.2 million Americans
- Hospitalizations annually: 1 million (primary diagnosis)/2 million (secondary diagnosis)
- By 2030, more than 8 million people in the United States (1 in every 33) will have HF

➤ *Mortality/Morbidity*

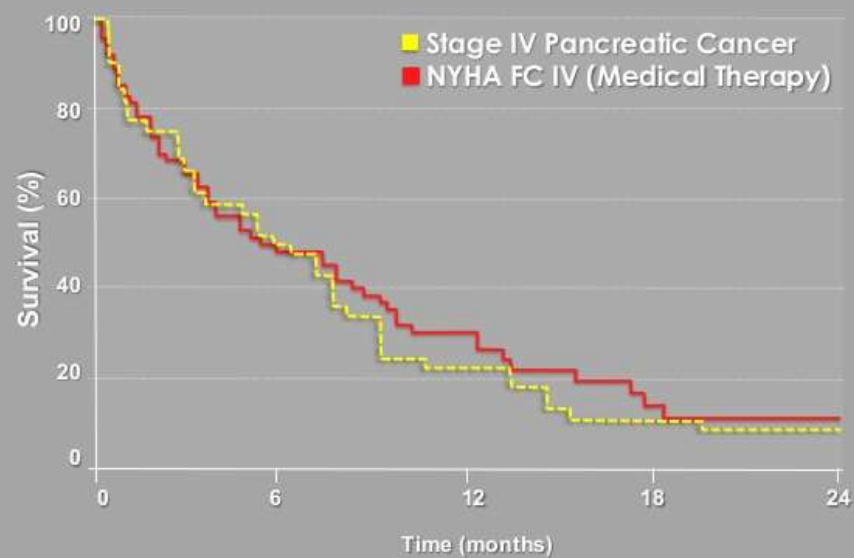
- Inpatient mortality ranges from 4% to 12% and may increase to 20% to 25% in high-risk subgroups
- Readmissions and events are common, and the age adjusted risk for all-cause mortality is tripled compared with non-HF patients

- The stages are progressive and inviolate; once a patient moves to a higher stage, regression to an earlier stage of HF is not usually observed
- Progression in HF stages is associated with reduced 5-year survival
- 5-year mortality data, survival for stages:
  - A: 97 %
  - B: 96 %
  - C: 75 %
  - **D: 20 %**





## Advanced Heart Failure is Cardiac Cancer



*J Heart Lung Transplant 2011;30:402-7*



## Definition of Advanced Heart Failure



# ACCF/AHA Stages of HF

Stage	Definition
<b>A</b>	At high risk for HF but without structural heart disease or symptoms of HF
<b>B</b>	Structural heart disease but without signs or symptoms of HF
<b>C</b>	Structural heart disease with prior or current symptoms of HF
<b>D</b>	Refractory HF requiring specialized interventions

# Clinical Events: Advanced HF

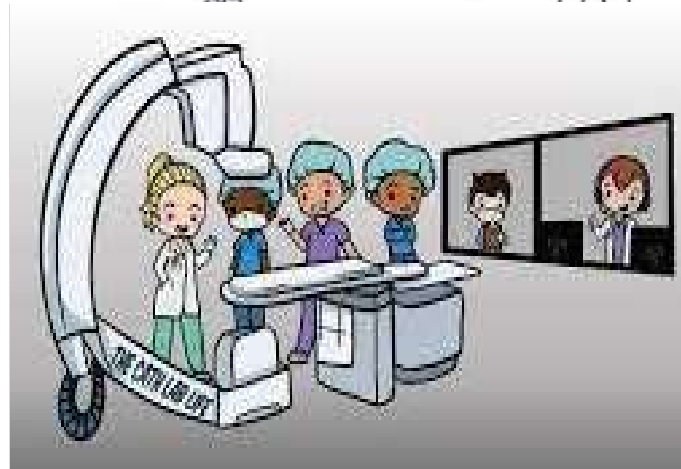
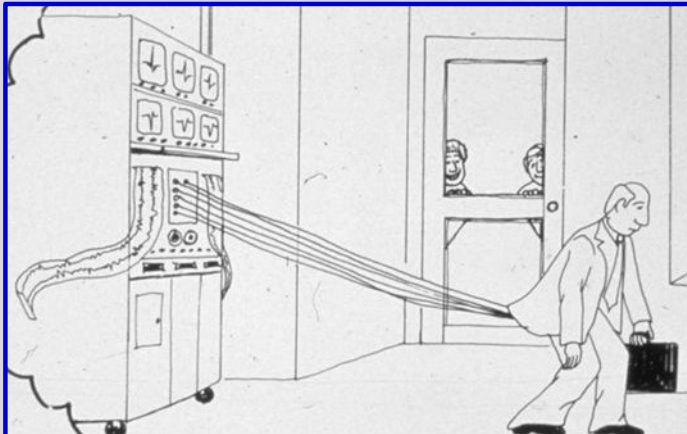
- Repeated ( $\geq 2$ ) hospitalizations or ER visits for HF in the last one year
- Persistent dyspnea/fatigue with:
  - Dressing/bathing requiring rest
  - Walking 1 block on level ground
- Wt loss without other causes (eg cardiac cachexia)

# Clinical Findings: Advanced HF

- Progressive deterioration in renal function
- Frequent systolic blood pressure < 90 mmHg
- Frequent ICD shocks
- Progressive decline in serum sodium (<133 mEq/L)

# Clinical Findings: Advanced HF

- Intolerance to ACE-I due to hypotension and/or worsening renal functions
- Intolerance to BB due to worsening HF or hypotension
- Recent need to escalate diuretics to maintain volume status (often reaching furosemide equivalent dose > 160 mg/day and or supplemental metolazone)



## Diagnostic Tools

# Echocardiography



- Transthoracic Echocardiogram: Gold standard Initial Diagnostic tool
- Transesophageal Echocardiogram: Special conditions needing evaluation of Valvular Disease
- Defines the LV and RV systolic and diastolic function along with size
- Hence key to screen and serially follow the cardiomyopathy
- Sonar technology and Bernoulli's principle (modified)

# Cardio-Pulmonary Exercise Test



- Significance: peak  $\text{VO}_2 \leq 14 \text{ ml/kg/min}$  [peak  $\text{VO}_2 > 14 \text{ ml/kg/min}$  had 6% 1-year mortality]
- peak  $\text{VO}_2$  and  $\text{VE}/\text{VCO}_2$  slope:
  - incremental prognostic value beyond relevant clinical covariates for the composite of all-cause death, LVAD implantation or heart transplant, and for incident HF hospitalization

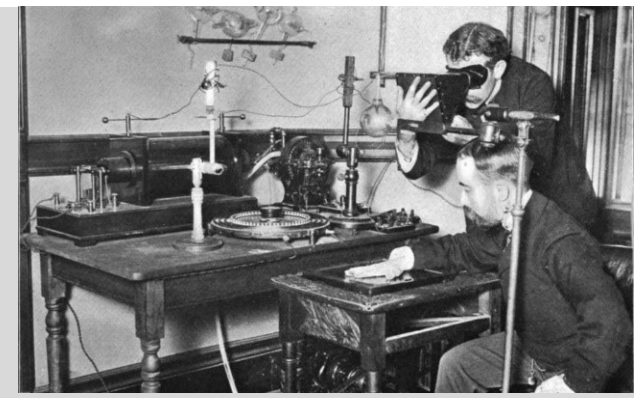
*Circulation 1991;83:778–86*  
*JACC HF 2016;4:607–16*  
*J Am Heart Assoc.2017;6*



# Cardiac Catheterization

- Left Heart Cath/Coronary Angiogram
- Right Heart Cath
- Continuous Hemodynamics via Pulmonary Artery Catheter

# Left Heart Catheterization



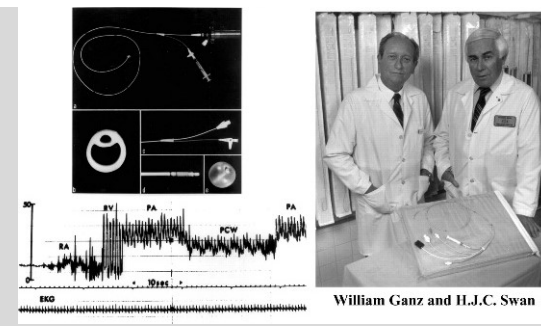
- Assessment of post pulmonary cardiac hemodynamics
- Assessment of Coronary Anatomy
- Based on X-ray technology

# Right Heart Catheterization



- Assessment of:
  - Pressures:
    - PCWPM: a surrogate of LVEDp
    - PA Pressure: a surrogate of lung/pulmonary strain
    - RA Pressure: surrogate of RV strain and Volume Status
  - Flows: Cardiac Output
  - Shunt Runs
- Ohm's Law ( $V = IR$ )

# Continuous PA Cath Monitoring



- Cardiogenic Shock: prognostication and management
- Pulmonary HTN
- Temporary Mechanical Circulatory Support device management
- VAD/Heart Transplant Work up/Management

# A word or two on CCO swan guided therapy

- *SUPPORT/ESCAPE/PAC-Man/Cochrane Database Syst Rev trials:*
  - Recommended against routine use in heart failure hospitalizations
  - However they excluded cardiogenic shock patients
- *2019 Study:*
  - Mortality for CS patients with PA catheter was 29.7% compared with 38.1% in those without it

*JAMA. 1996;276(11):889–97*

*JAMA. 2005;294(13):1625–33*

*Lancet. 2005;366(9484):472–7*

*Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2013;2:CD003408*

*Curr Treat Options Cardio Med. 2021;23,29*

# Cardiogenic Shock Working Group

- PA catheter Hemo before MCS device initiation:
  - survival from CS across all SCAI CS stages and having no PA catheter assessment was associated with higher in-hospital mortality than complete PA catheter assessment

## 2013 ISHLT Guidelines

- After MCS if persistent or recurrent HF symptoms to evaluate for evidence of RV failure or device malfunction (I, B)
- After MCS placement when evaluating for myocardial recovery before pump explantation (IIa, C)
- At regular intervals in patients being evaluated for or listed for heart transplant for evaluation of irreversible pulmonary hypertension (I, A)



# SCAI/HFSA clinical expert consensus

- Diagnosis of cardiogenic shock
- Continuous hemodynamic monitoring with a PA catheter in patients with MCS
- To guide weaning of MCS
- To assess candidacy for and transition to advanced heart failure therapies (VAD/HTx)



**Advanced HF Therapies**

- Bridge Therapy

- Inotrope therapy
  - Temporary Mechanical Circulatory Support Devices

- Definitive Therapy

- Ventricular Assist Device
  - Heart Transplant
  - Palliative Therapy



Inotrope Therapy

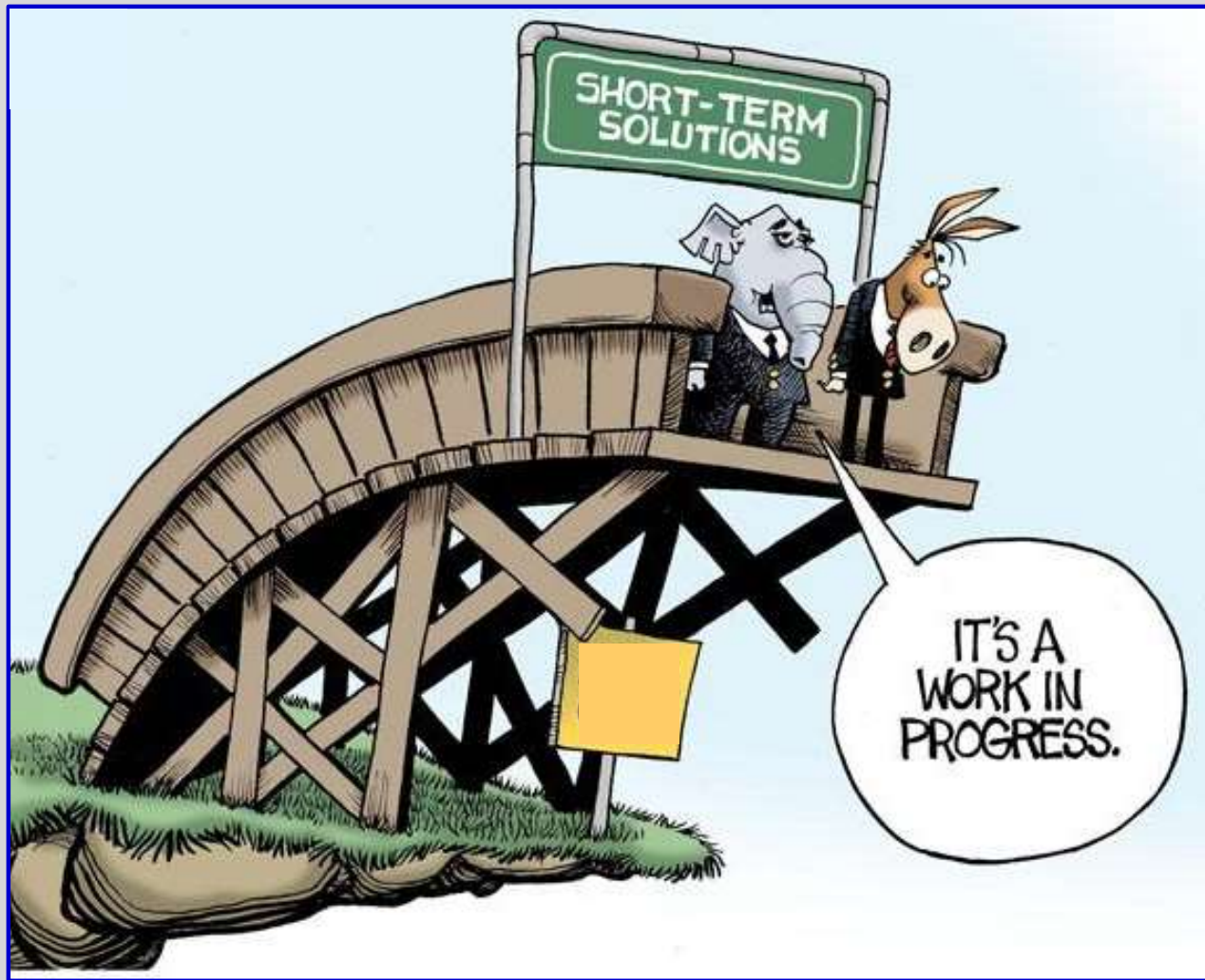
- Intravenous continuous infusion of inotropes
  - Milrinone
  - Dobutamine
  
- Best used as a “bridge” while patients undergoing evaluation for more definitive therapies
  
- Additional ICU Inotrope Therapies
  - Epinephrine
  - Norepinephrine

- Reduces hospital admissions
  - Length of stay
  - Cost of care
  - Improves functional class in patients with advanced (NYHA class IV) heart failure
- 
- Now more and more patients are utilizing Intravenous continuous infusion as part of *Palliation* at home
  - Made Possible by our understanding of titrations of Inotropes

# Levosimendan

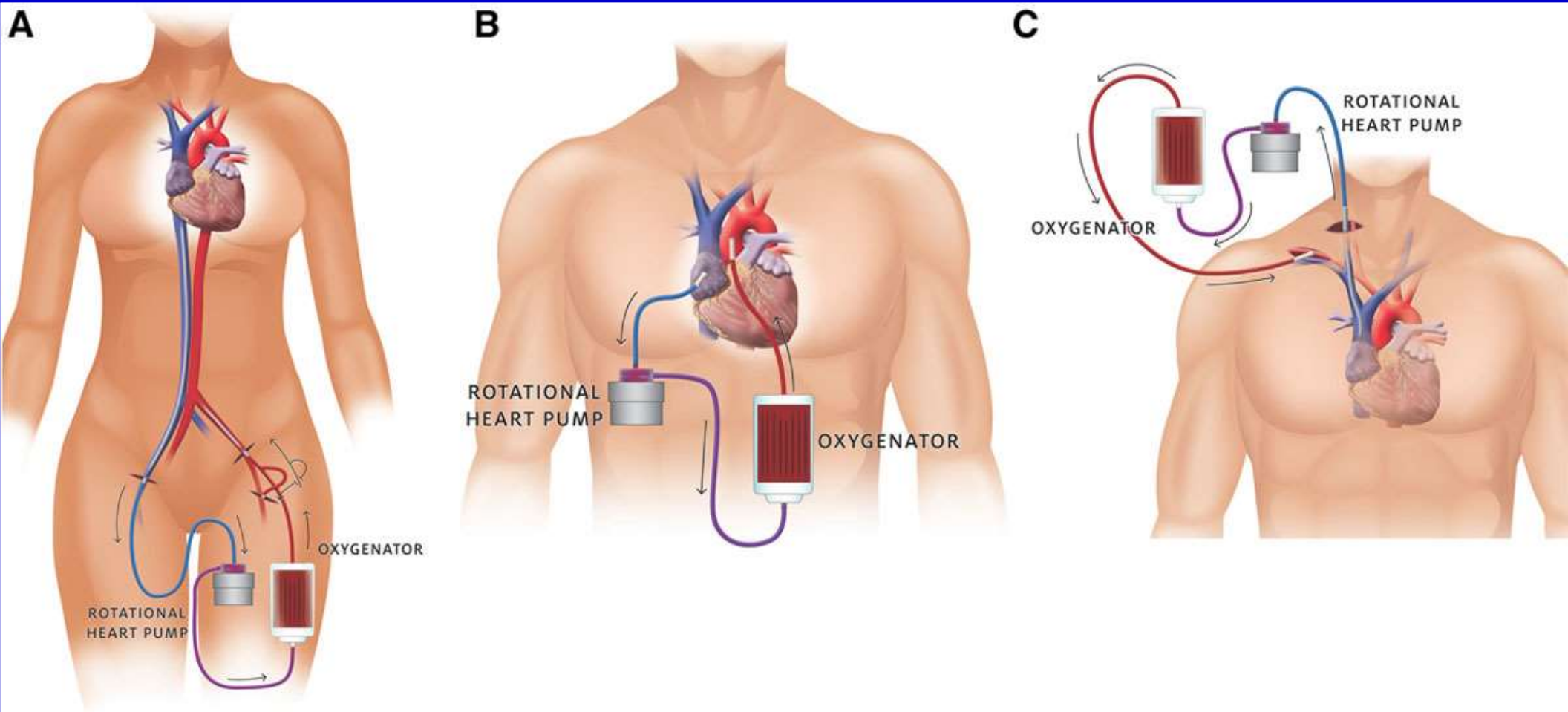
- SURVIVE Trial
  - Compared to dobutamine
- LEVO-CTS
  - Used on CABG patients
- Both have been associated with increased mortality
- AFib/Hypokalemia/Headache





**Temporary Mechanical Circulatory Support Devices**

# Veno-Arterial ECMO



# Veno-Arterial ECMO

- Initial Introduction: 1972
- US FDA: Approves use up to 6 hours
- Bridge Therapy:
  - To Recovery
  - To Definitive Therapy
  - To Decision
- Due to concerns for increasing LV end-diastolic pressures, unloading is recommended
- All patients are recommended to have continuous PAC monitoring

# Veno-Arterial ECMO

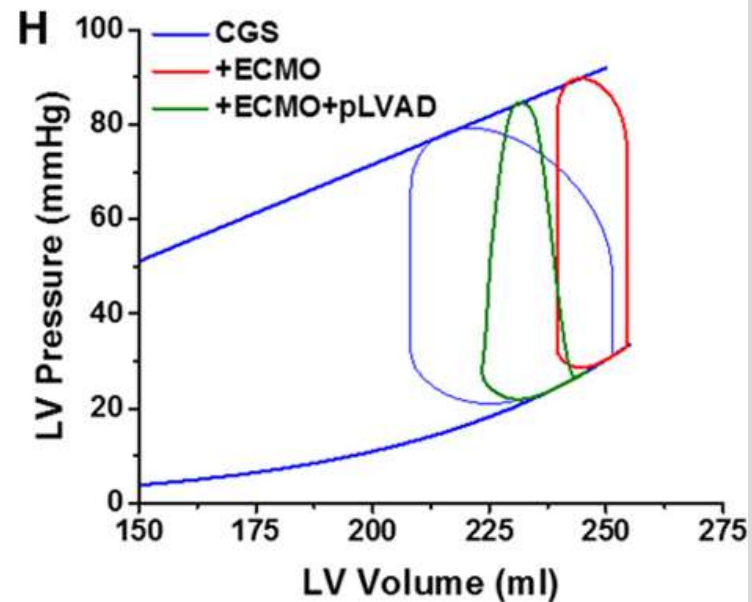
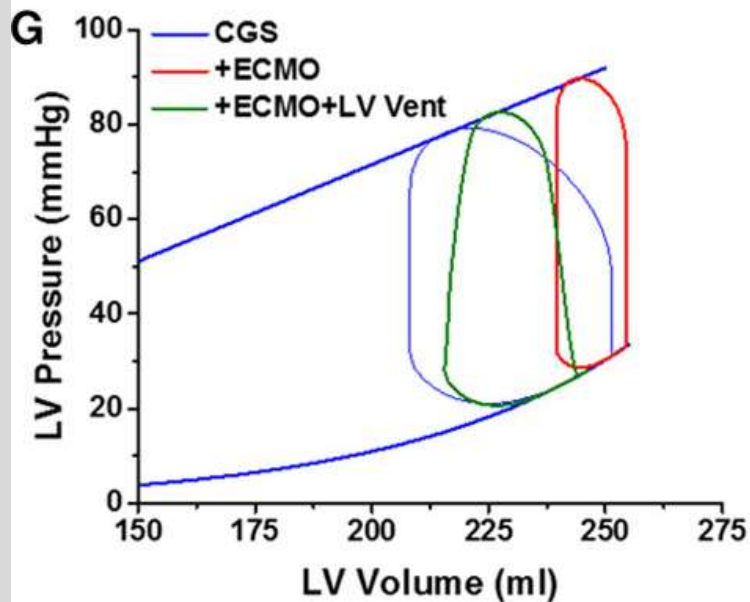
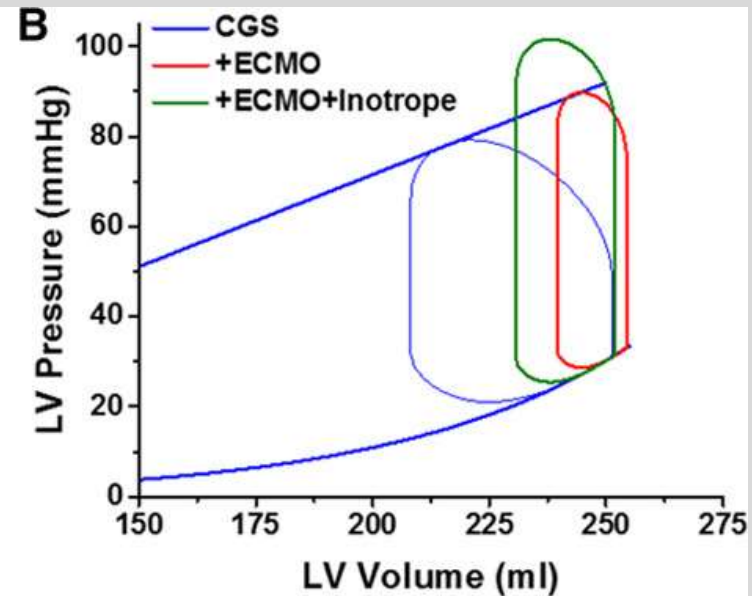
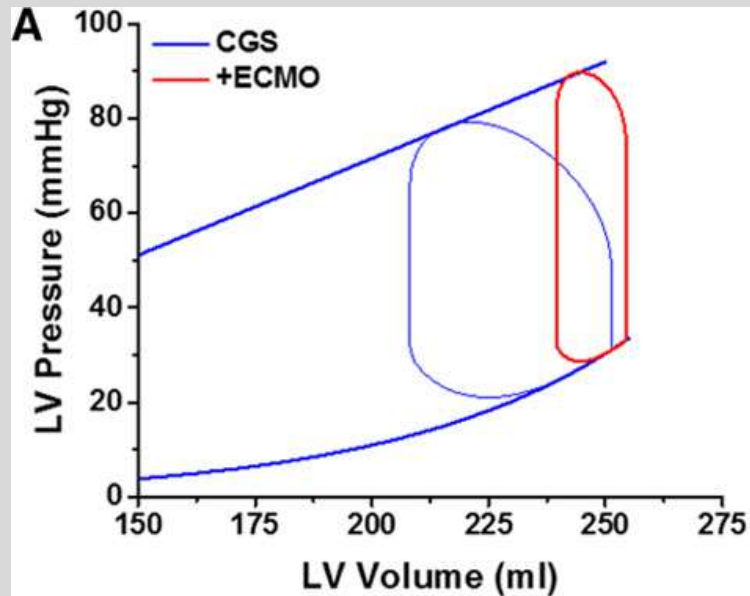
- Survival to hospital discharge:
  - 29% (extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation)
  - 41% (refractory cardiogenic shock)
- Non-post-cardiotomy Data (n=55 with  $36 \pm 20.9$  month follow up):
  - Complications: Bleeding (38.2%)
  - Bridge to LVAD (47.3%)
  - Survival to death (months):  $26 \pm 5.3$
- Adult ECLS Registry Report (33,115 patients):
  - Cardiac Survival: 59%
  - Survival to DC/transfer: 44%

*Circulation: Heart Failure. 2018;11:e004905*

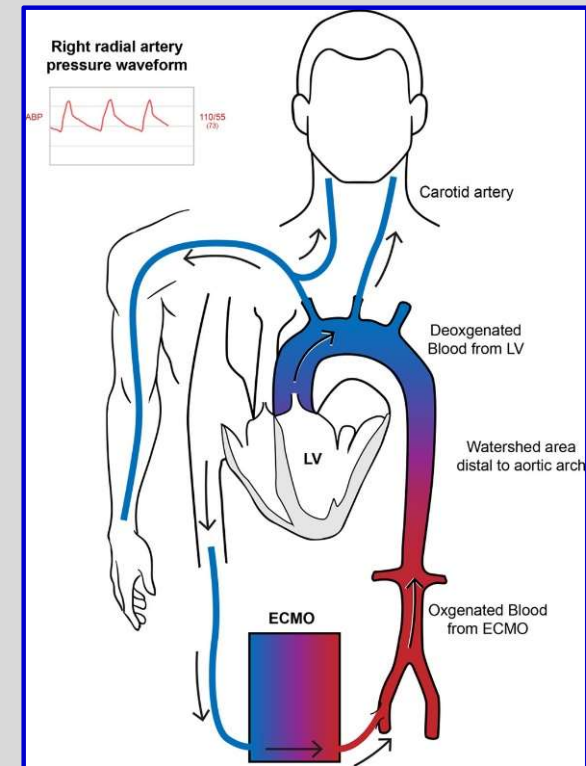
*Medicina Kaunas. 2022 Mar 15;58(3):427*

*ECLS Registry Report. International Summary, October 2021*

# Veno-Arterial ECMO: LV Unloading



- North-South Syndrome (Harlequin/Watershed Region)
- Limb Ischemia (12% to 22%)
- Anticoagulation Related Coagulopathy
- Device related Coagulopathy
- **SAVE Score** can be helpful but limited due to baseline data drive



*Circulation. 2014; 130:864–865*  
*Int J Cardiol. 2015; 187:164–165*  
*Eur Heart J. 2015;36(33):2246-56*



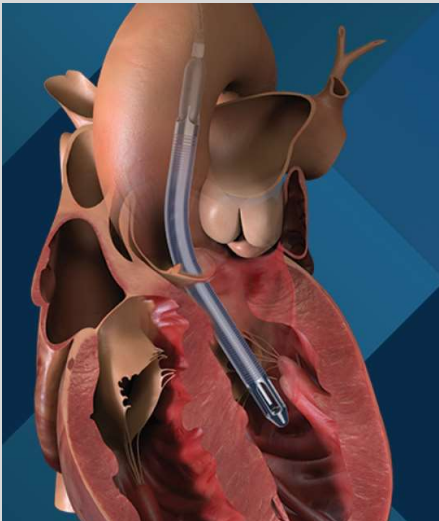
# Impella® Heart Pump

## Impella

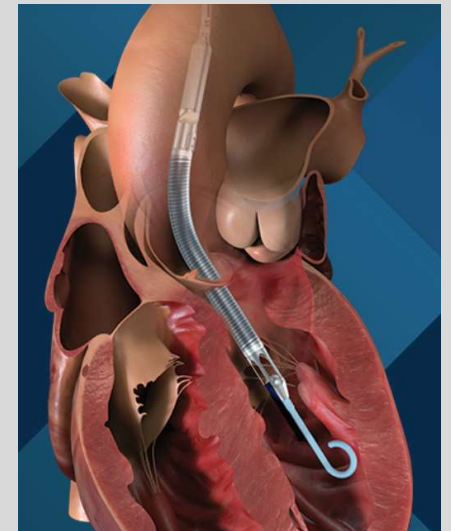
- Impella 2.5
- Impella CP



- Impella 5.5



- Impella 5.0





## Impella 2.5 and CP

### ➤ PROTECT II Study:

- 2.5 vs IABP: 3 v/d or LM with low LVEF (~25%)
- Slight non-significant benefit (30 and 90 day outcomes)
- MACE: reduced with 2.5

## Impella 5.0 and 5.5

### ➤ RECOVER I:

- 75 % survived at one year -- > 64% (later 100 pt study)
- 93 % recovered native heart function

### ➤ 55 pt study:

- 84 % survived
- 76 % recovered native heart function

*Circulation. 2012;126:1717–1727*  
*J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg. 2013;145(2):548-554*  
*Ann Thorac Surg. 2020;109(5):1370-1377*  
*ASAIO Journal. 2020;66(7):746-752*

## Impella Connect®

- Secure, cloud-based, remote monitoring of Impella® status for better patient outcomes



## SmartAssist® Technology

### Optical Sensor and Advanced Metrics

- Pump re-positioning without image guidance
- Better, faster resolution of suction alarms
- Earlier identification of right heart failure
- Assist in hemodynamic assessment and successful weaning guidance

# TandemHeart®

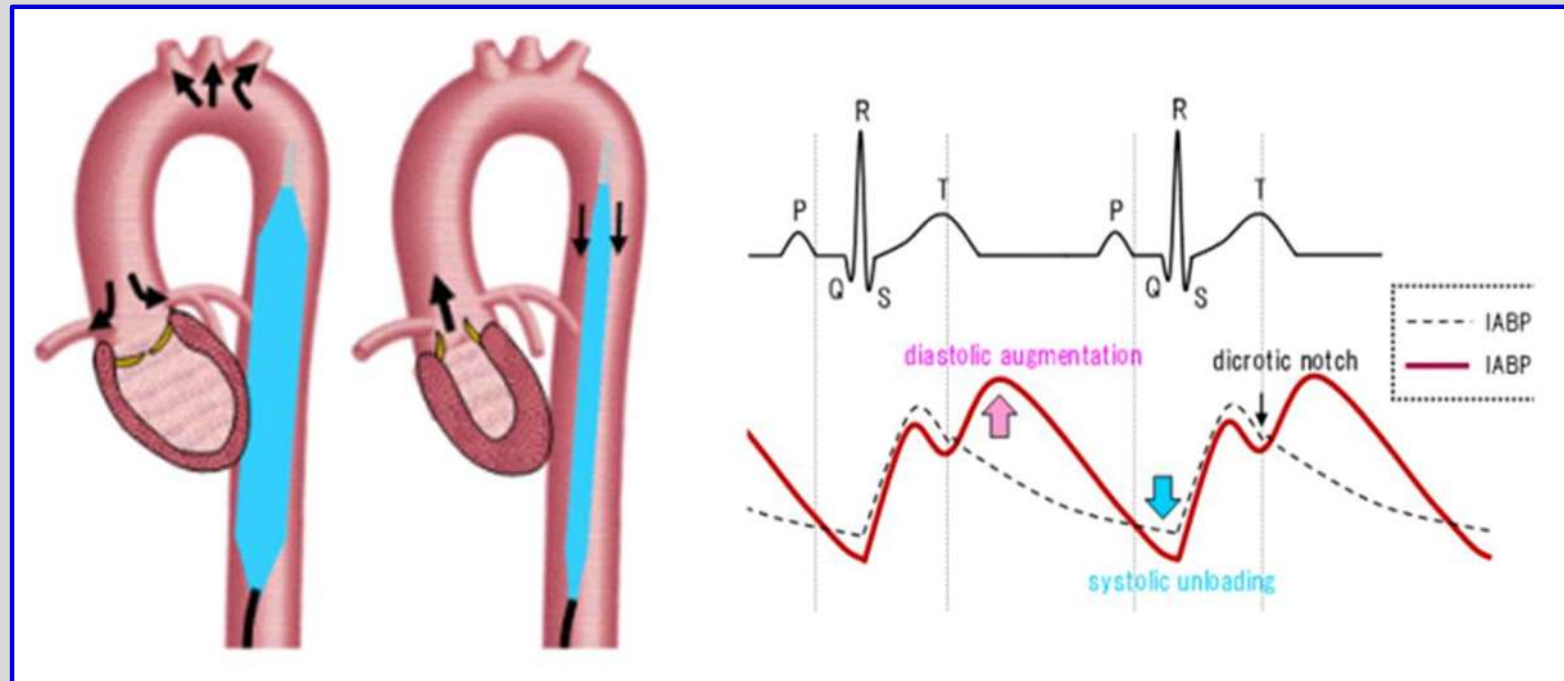
## Centrifugal System

- Magnitude of hemodynamic benefit is good, but it may worsen ischemia in shock
- Afterload: increased
- Bridge to LVAD: 44%
- Recovery: 20%
- Death: 36%
- Complication: ~ 50%



# Intra Aortic Balloon Pump

- SHOCK Trial
- Currently most useful in ACS/Acute Proximal CAD with active angina -- > Cardiogenic Shock



- Afterload: Reduced
- LV stroke volume: Slight increase
- Coronary perfusion: Slight increase
- 
- LV preload: Slightly reduced
- PCWP: Slightly reduced
- Peripheral tissue perfusion: No significant increase

	IABP (Ascending Ao)	Impella 2.5 (LV/LVOT)	Impella 5.0 (LV/LVOT)	TandemHeart (LA to Systemic Artery)	ECMO (Femoral Artery and Vein)
Primary hemodynamic effect(s)	LV volume or pressure unloading	LV volume or pressure unloading	LV volume or pressure unloading	LV volume unloading	Biventricular pressure and volume unloading
TPR	Decreased	Decreased	Decreased	Mildly increased	Highly increased
Bridge to recovery	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No*
Hemodynamic support	Low	Moderate	High	High	High
Pump mechanism	Pneumatic	Axial flow	Axial flow	Centrifugal	Centrifugal
Cannula size	7.9 Fr	13 Fr	22 Fr	21 Fr inflow; 15–17 Fr outflow	18–21 Fr inflow;15–22 Fr outflow
Implantation time	Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Moderate
Risk of limb ischemia	Very low	Low	Low	High	High
Anticoagulation	Very low	Very low	Very low	High	High
Hemolysis	Very low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Postimplantation management complexity	Very low	Moderate	Moderate	High	Very high

# Augmentation of Cardiac Output

- IABP: 0.5 L/min
- Impella 2.5: 2.5 L/min
- TandomHeart: 3.5 L/min
- Impella CP: 3.7 L/min
- Impella 5.5: 5.5 L/min

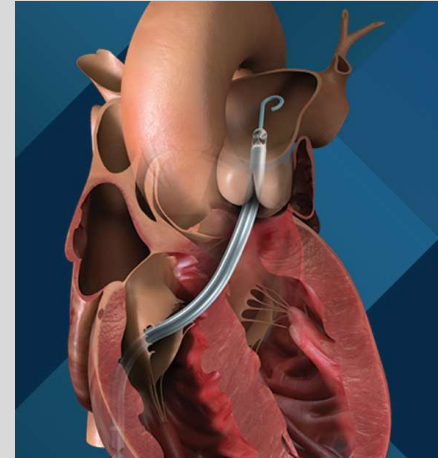


# Right Sided Support Devices

## Impella RP

### ➤ Recover Right Study:

- 12 after cardiectomy/MI
- 18 after LVAD implantation
- 30 day survival 73.3% (All 30 patients alive at 180 days)



### ➤ RVF in Acute PE

- Initial data was promising but not in real-world experience (worst outcome in post ACS-MI)

### ➤ Pig Study:

- Norepi + Mil resulted in better cerebral perfusion

*JHLT. 2015;34(12):1549-60*

*J Artif Organs. 2020;23(2):105-112*

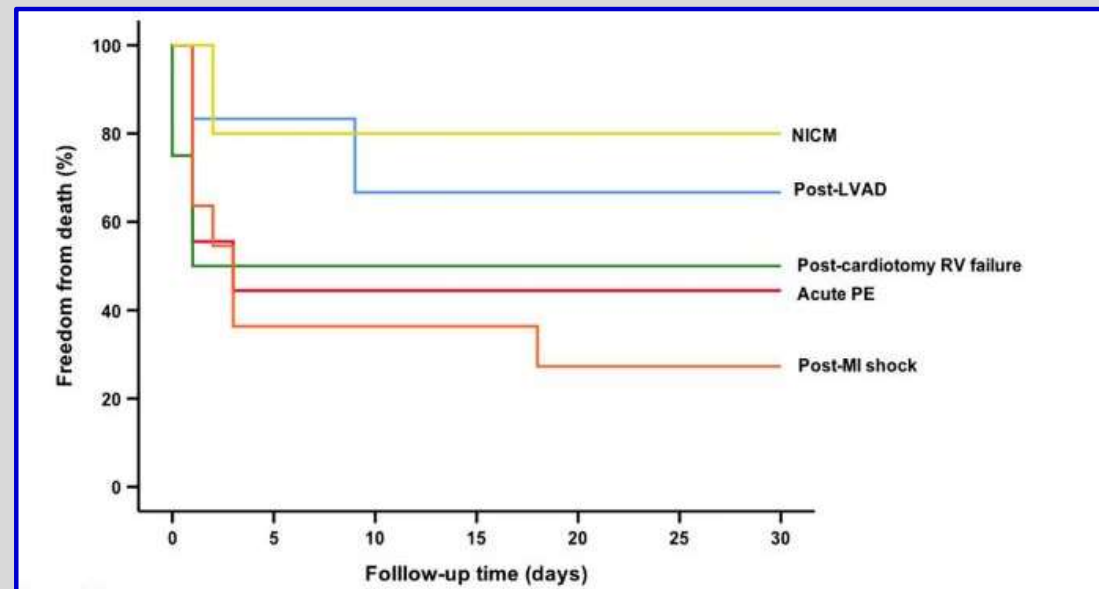
*J Cardiovasc Transl Res. 2021;14(6):1021-1029*



# Right Sided Support Devices

## Impella RP

- Real-world experience (worst outcome in post ACS-MI)



- FDA Post-Approval Study:
  - 30-day survival: 28.6 % (in patients who did not meet premarket clinical study enrollment criteria)

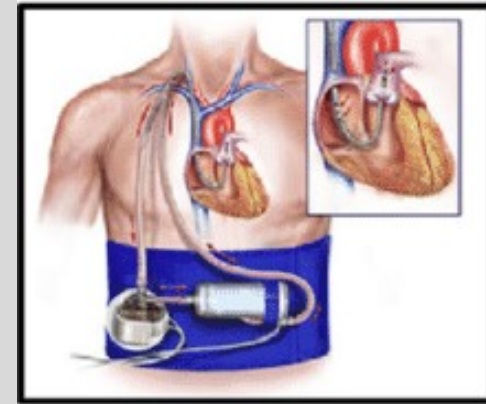
*Catheter Cardiovasc Interv. 2021;97(1):E161-E167*

[https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfpma/pma\\_pas.cfm?t\\_id=615919&c\\_id=4556](https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfpma/pma_pas.cfm?t_id=615919&c_id=4556)

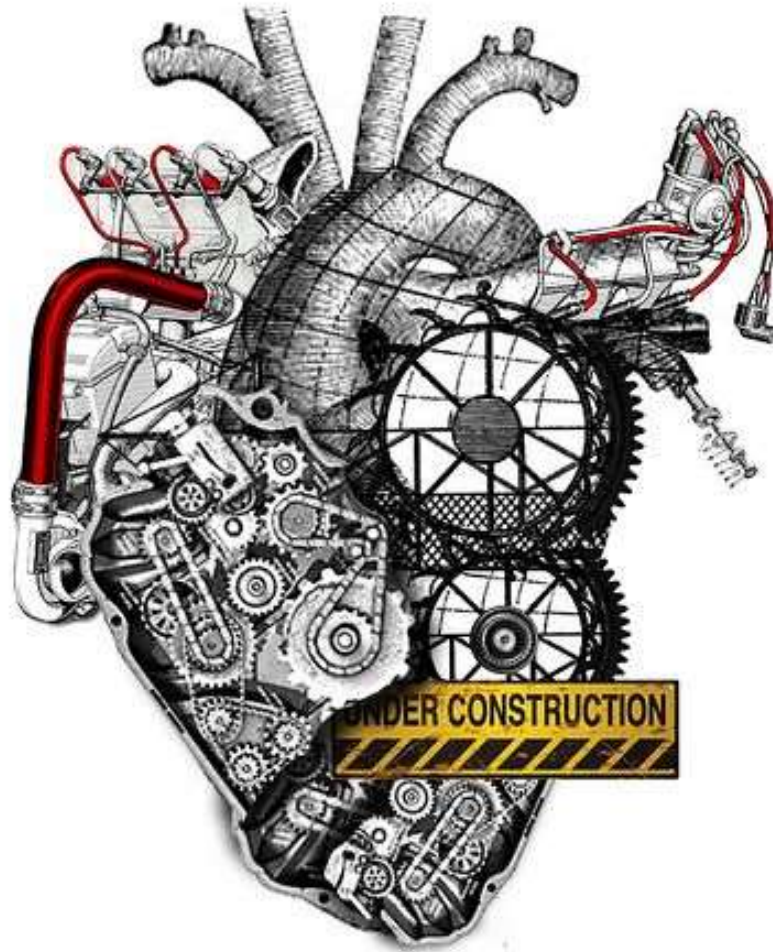
# Right Sided Support Devices

## Protek Duo

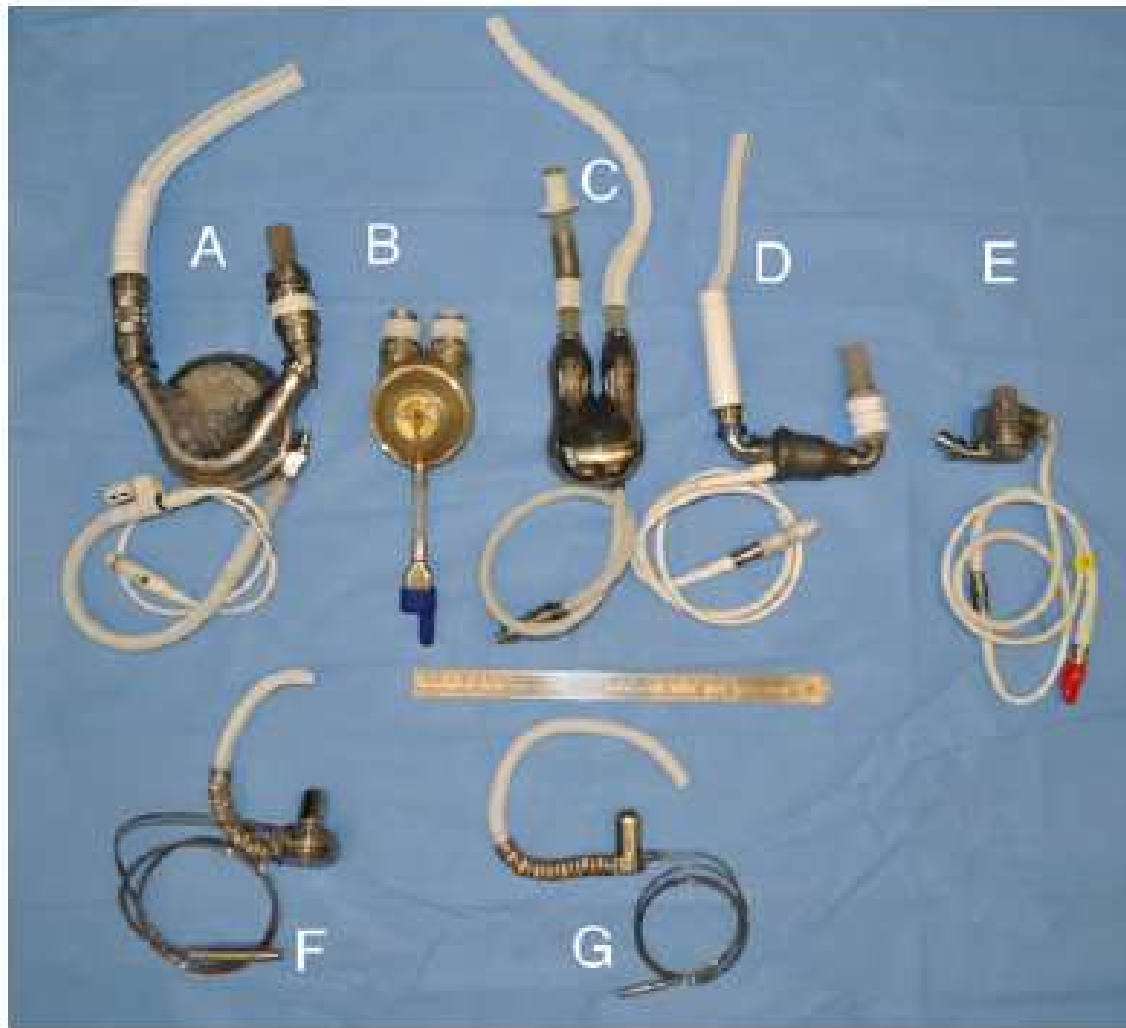
- 23% successful wean without additional support
- 41% did not survive
- Current studies based on Post-Surgical Acute RVF
  - Post LVAD
  - Post OHTx (Acute/Hyperacute Rejections)



Protek Oxy-RVAD

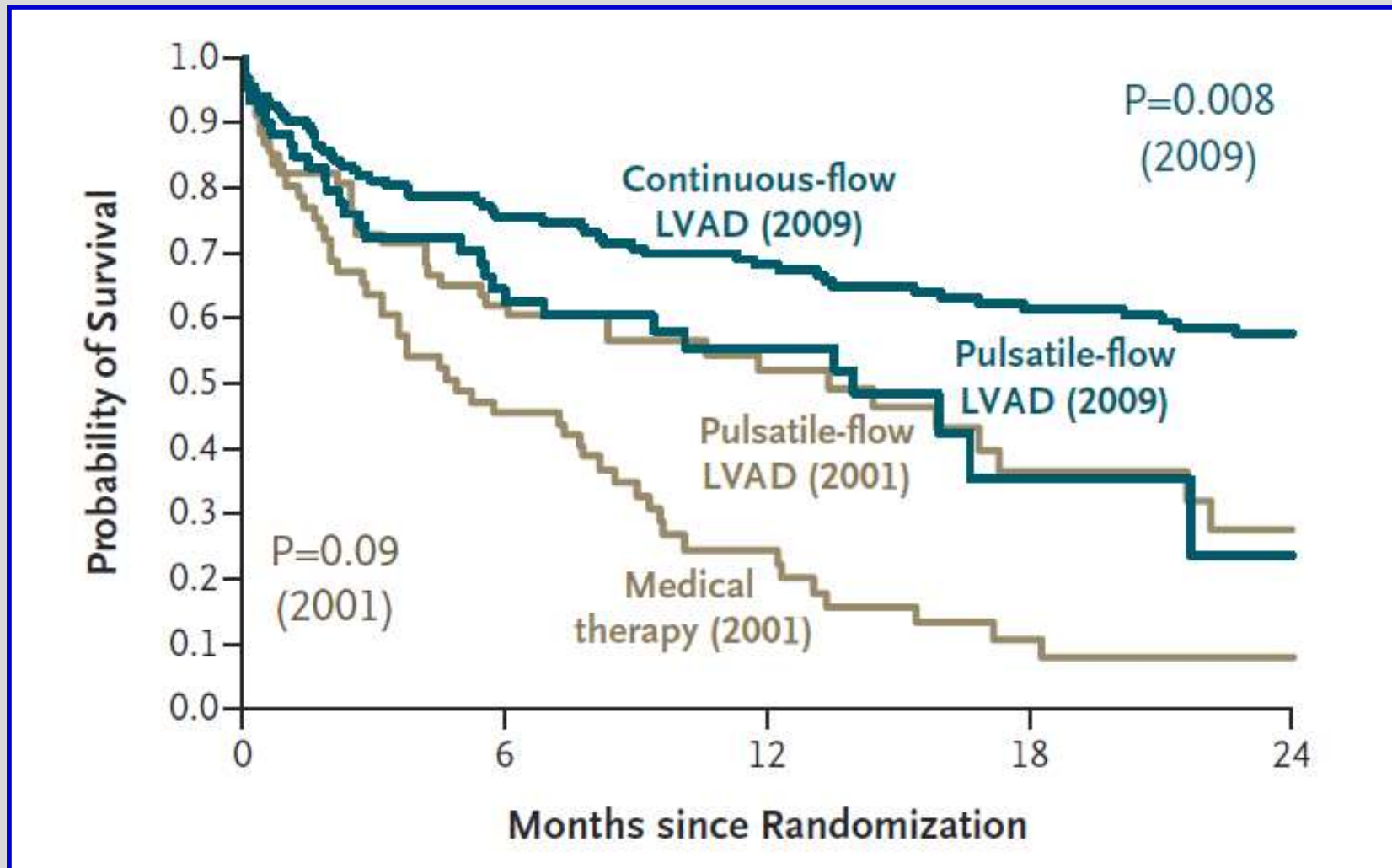


## Ventricular Assist Devices

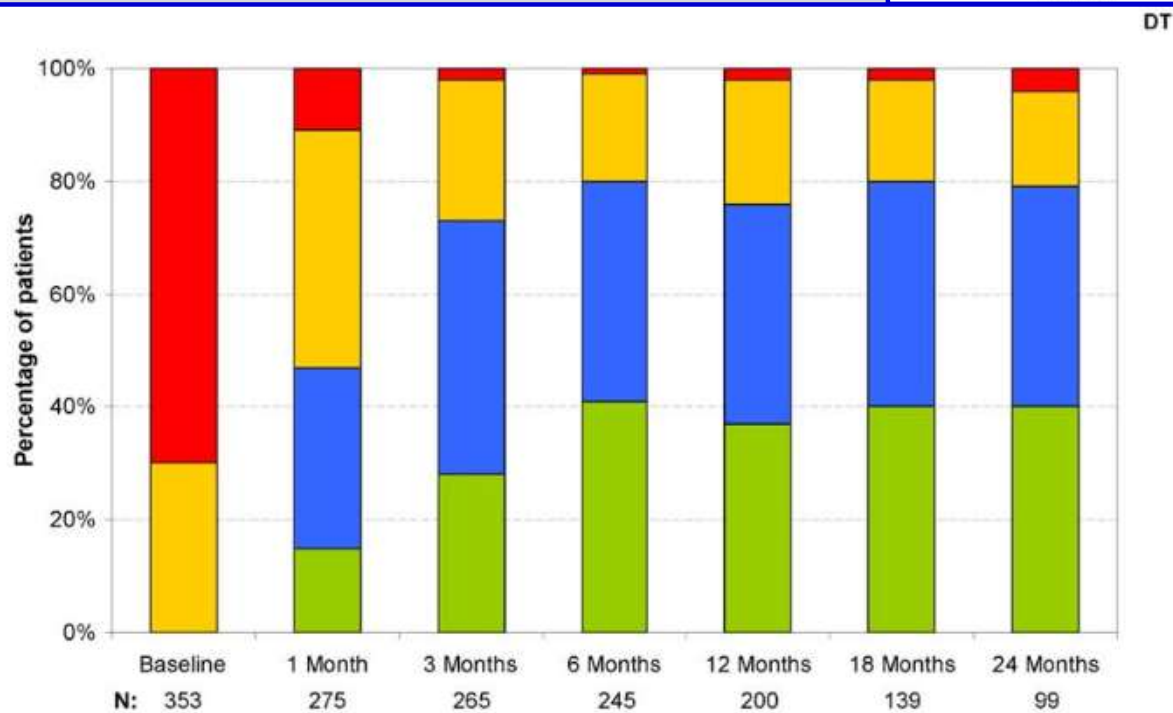
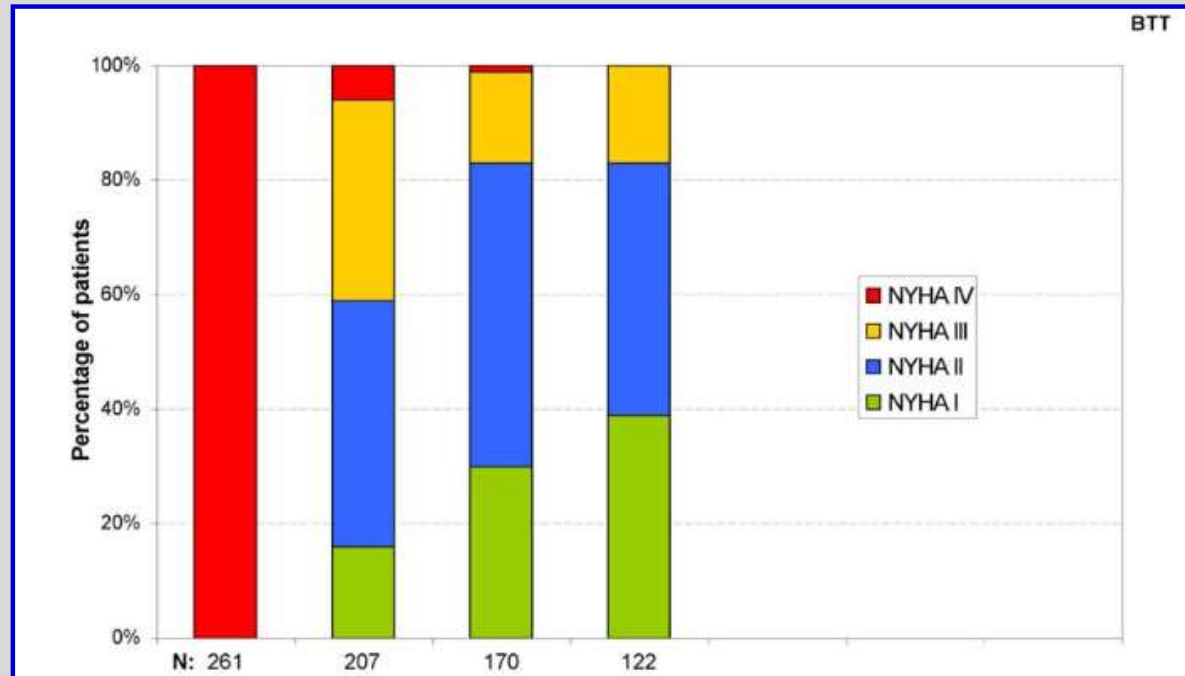


**Figure 1** The progression of miniaturization of left ventricular assist devices. Adapted from Giridharan *et al.* and reproduced with permission from John Wiley and Sons.<sup>11</sup> (A) HeartMate XVE, (B) Thoratec PVAD, (C) Thoratec IVAD, (D) HeartMate II, (E) HeartMate III, (F) HeartWare HVAD, and (G) HeartWare MVAD.

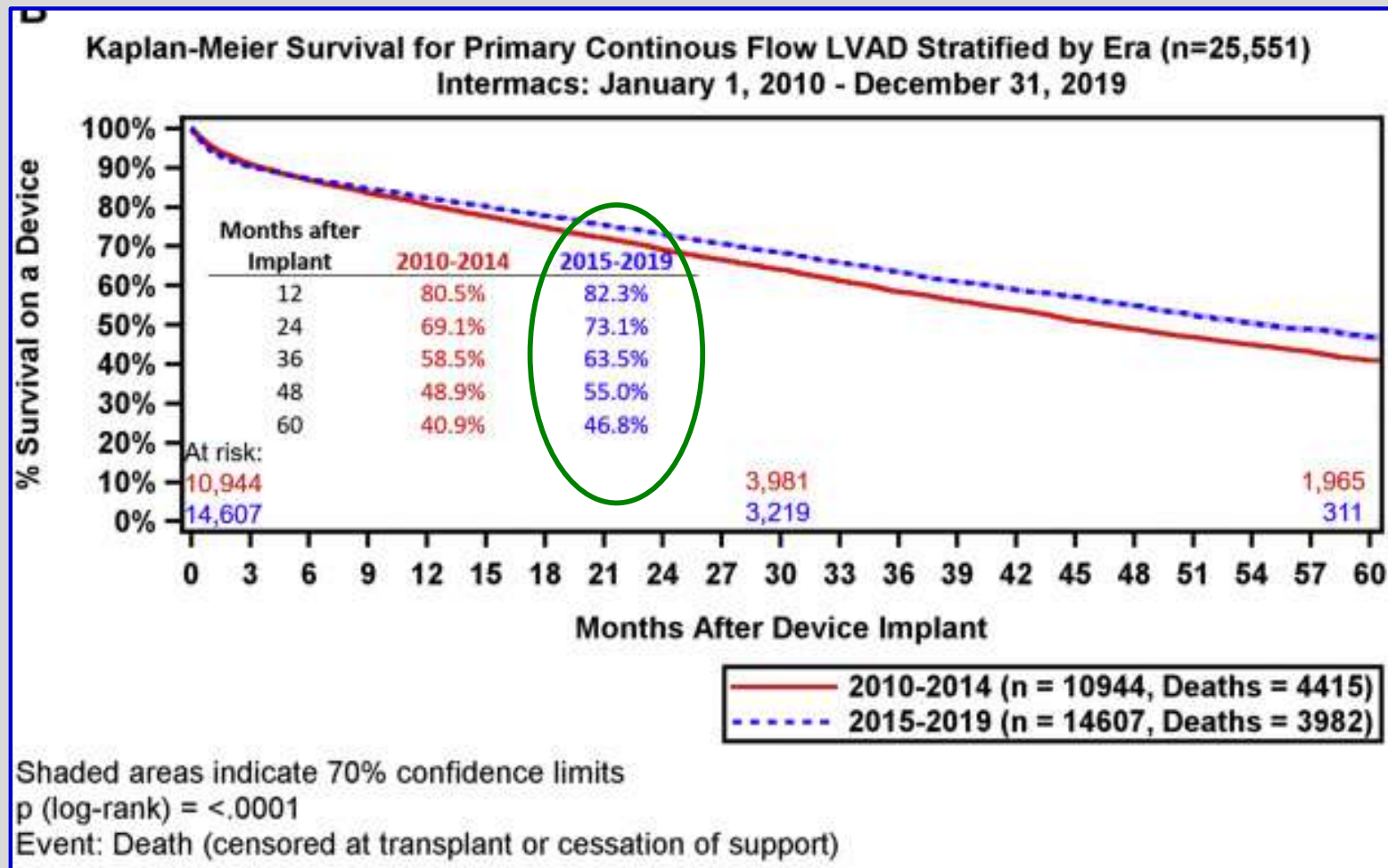
# VAD: Survival



# Functional Status

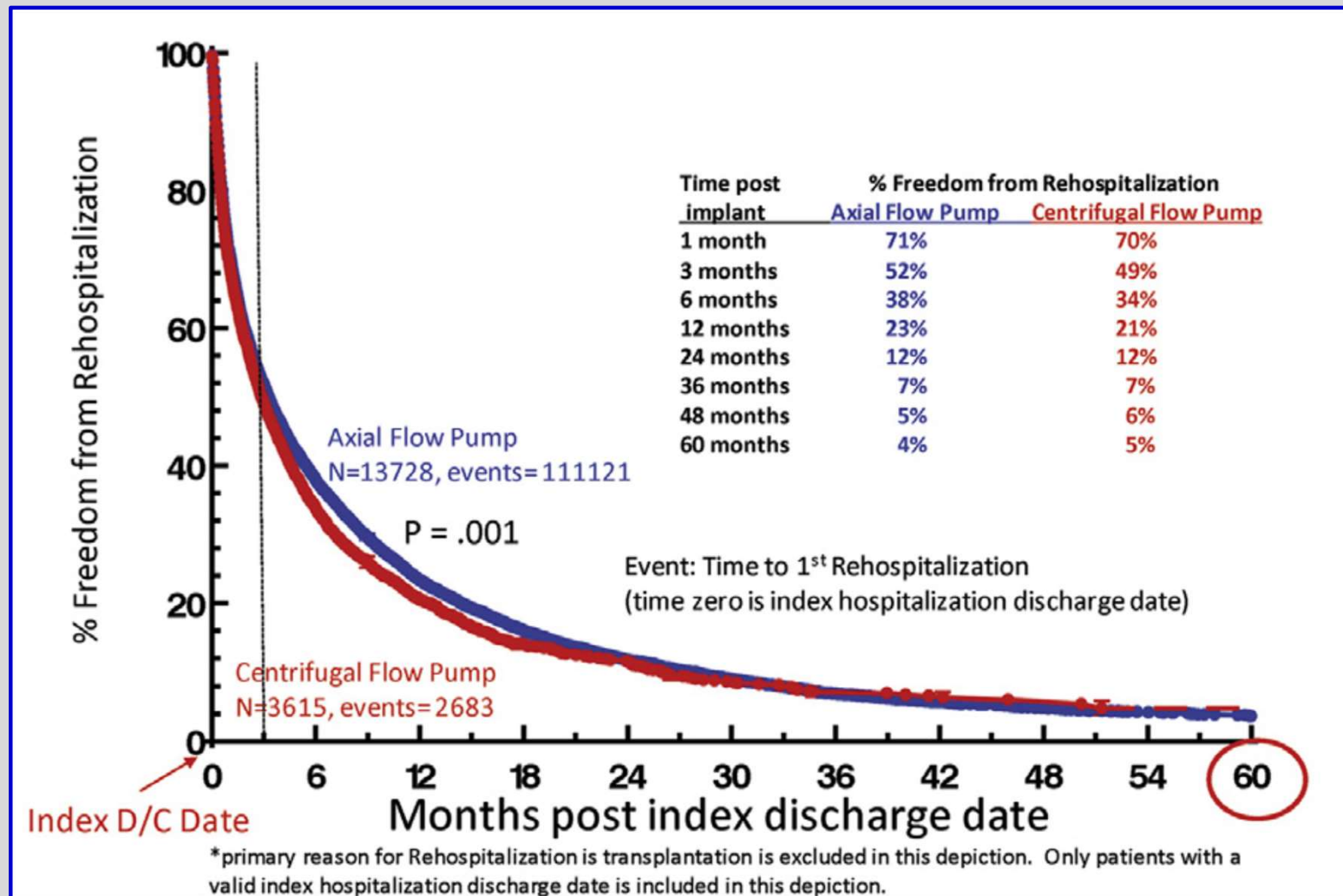


# VAD: Survival

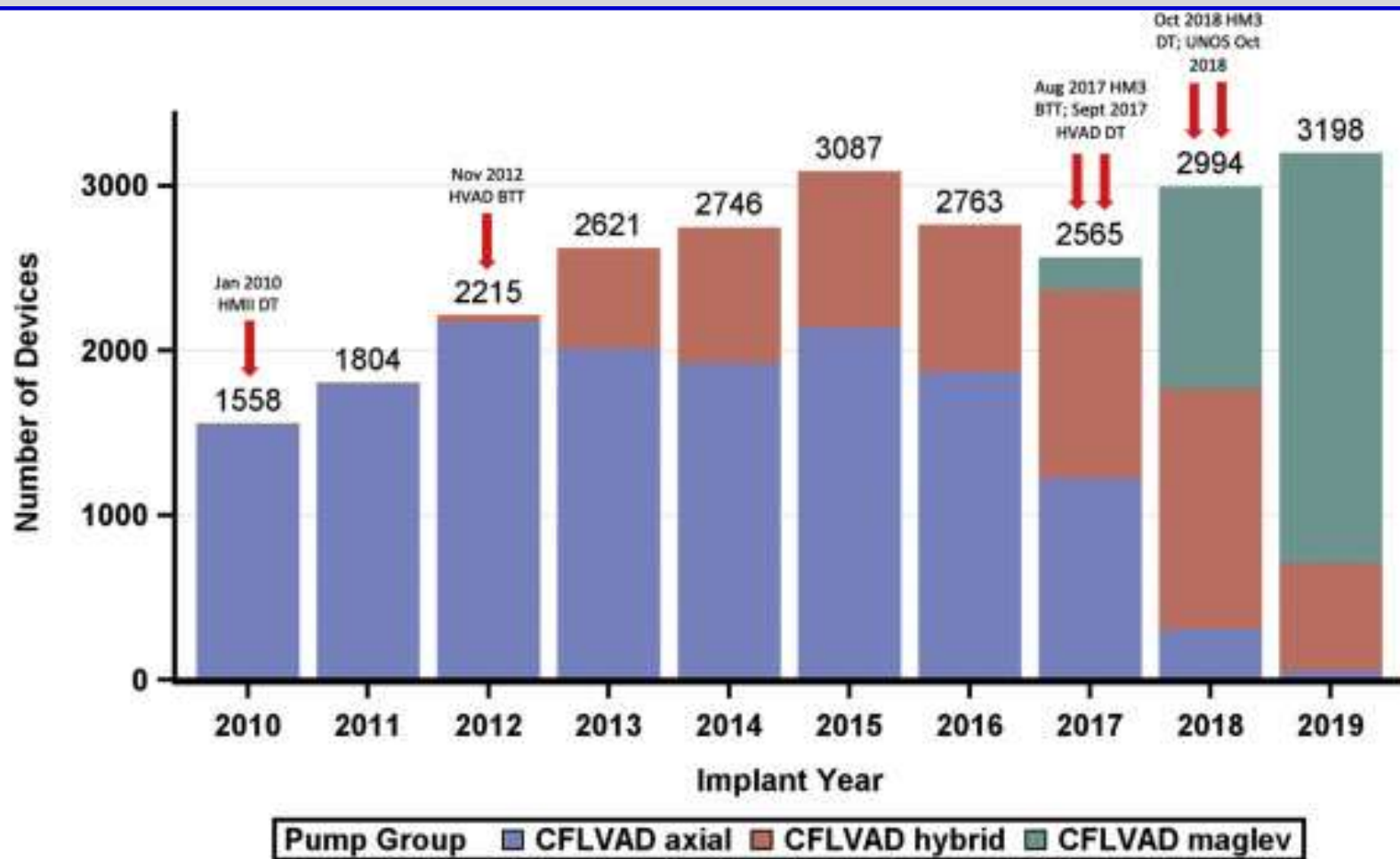




# VAD: Freedom from Rehospitalization



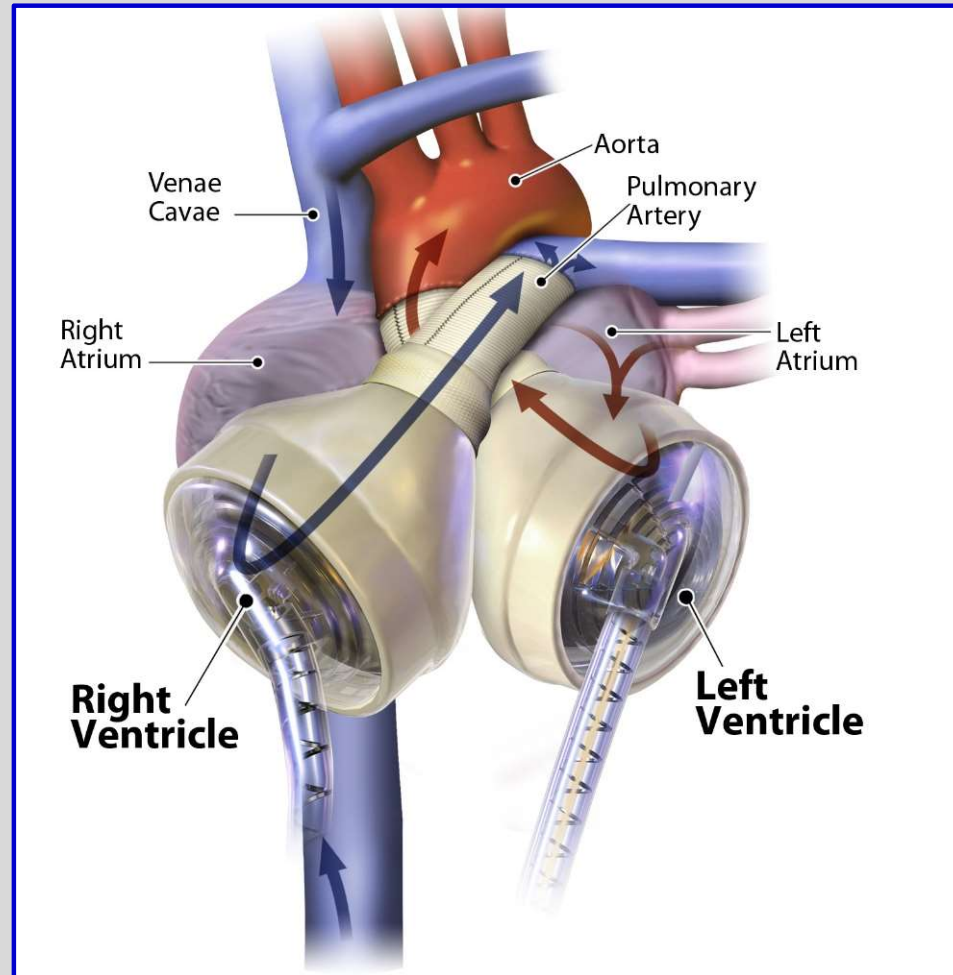




# VAD: AE CnF LVAD

<b>Adverse Event (percentage)</b>	<b>Early (<math>\leq 90</math> days)</b>	<b>Late</b>
Rehospitalization	37.0	65.9
Major Bleeding	22.4	22.7
GIB	11.7	16.5
CVA	6.3	10.4
Device Malfunction	2.5	8.0
Pump Thrombus	3.6	8.8
Infection	23.2	31.9

# Total Artificial Heart

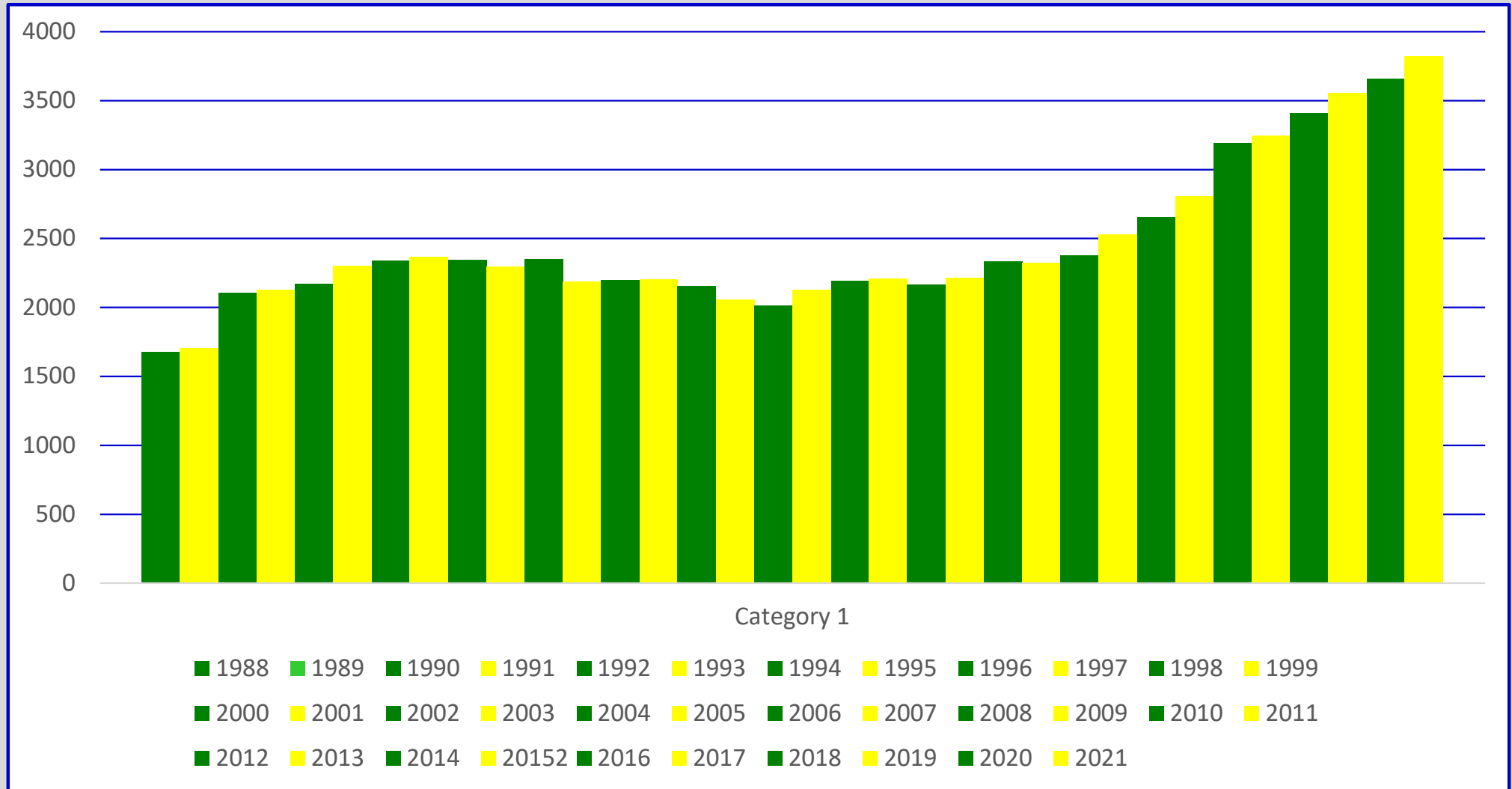


- Bridge to Heart Transplant
- FDA approval: Oct 15, 2004
- Two Sizes: 70cc [9.5 L/min] and 50cc [7.5 L/min]
- Companion 2(C2) Driver
- Freedom Driver: 13.5 pounds
- Trial: Destination Therapy



Heart Transplantation

# U.S. Transplants Performed : January 1, 1988 - February 28, 2022



*Based on OPTN data as of March 31, 2022*

# Donor and Recipient Characteristics

	1992-2003 (N = 48,388)	2004-2008 (N = 17,666)	2009-6/2015 (N = 24,474)	p-value
Pre-operative support (multiple items may be reported)				
Hospitalized at time of transplant	59.0%	46.4%	44.1%	<0.0001
On IV inotropes	54.6% <sup>1</sup>	44.6%	39.4%	<0.0001
Ventilator	3.3%	3.0%	2.1%	<0.0001
IABP	6.4%	7.0%	6.4%	0.1497
<i>Mechanical circulatory support</i>	22.2% <sup>2</sup>	26.0%	<b>44.7%</b>	<0.0001
<i>LVAD</i>	20.1% <sup>2</sup>	22.2%	<b>38.1%</b>	<0.0001
RVAD	-	4.4% <sup>3</sup>	3.2%	<0.0001
TAH	0.5% <sup>2</sup>	0.5%	1.4%	<0.0001
ECMO	0.3% <sup>4</sup>	0.9%	1.3%	<0.0001

<sup>1</sup> Based on 4/1994-2003 transplants.

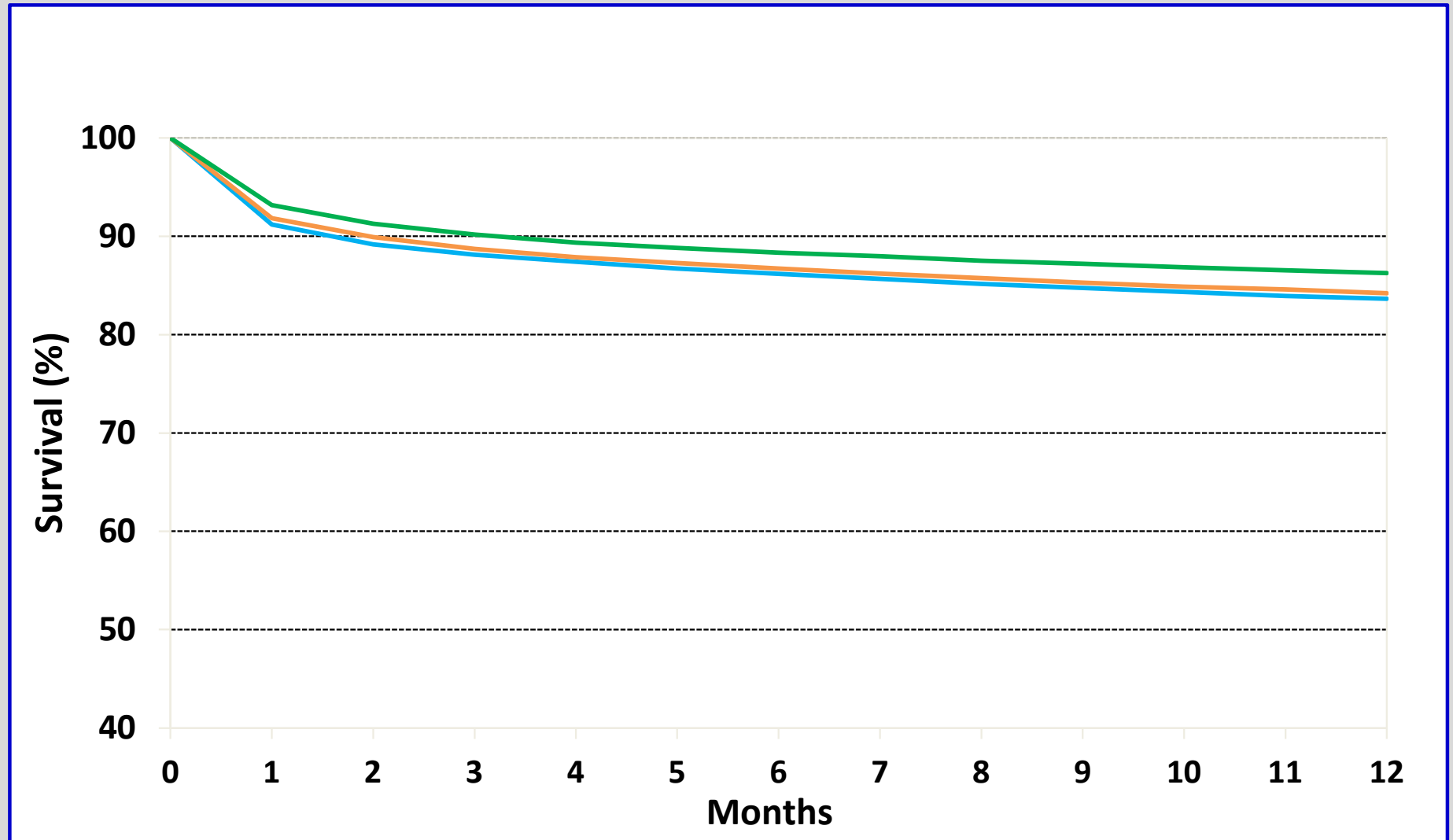
<sup>2</sup> Based on 11/1999-2003 transplants.

<sup>3</sup> Based on 2005-2008 transplants.

<sup>4</sup> Based on 5/1995-2008 transplants.

# Kaplan-Meier Survival within 12 months by Era

Transplants: January 2000 – June 2017



2000-2005 (N=21,600)

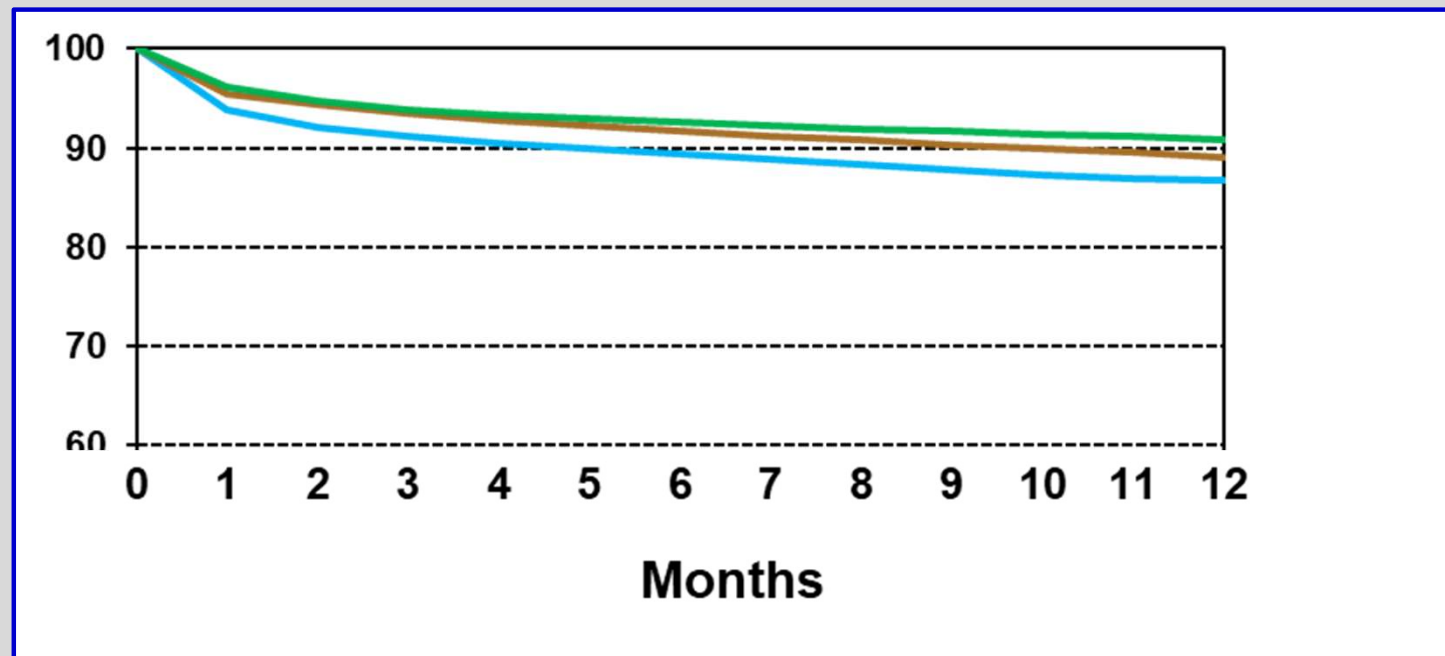
2006-2011 (N=22,422)

2012-2017 (N=23,202)



# Kaplan-Meier Survival within 12 months in North America

Transplants: January 2000 – June 2017



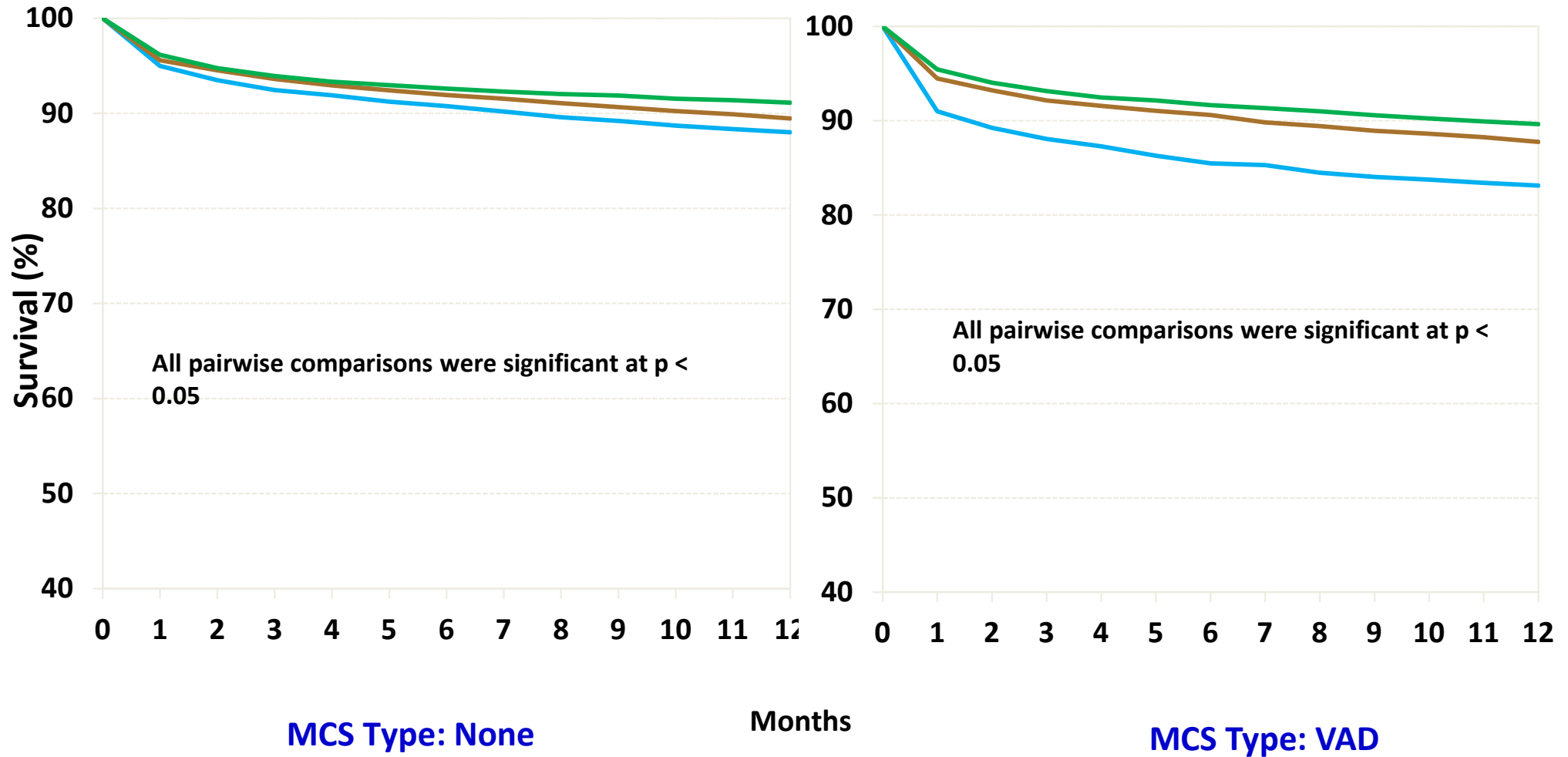
2000-2005

2006-2011

2012-2017

# Kaplan-Meier Survival within 12 months by Recipient MCS and Era

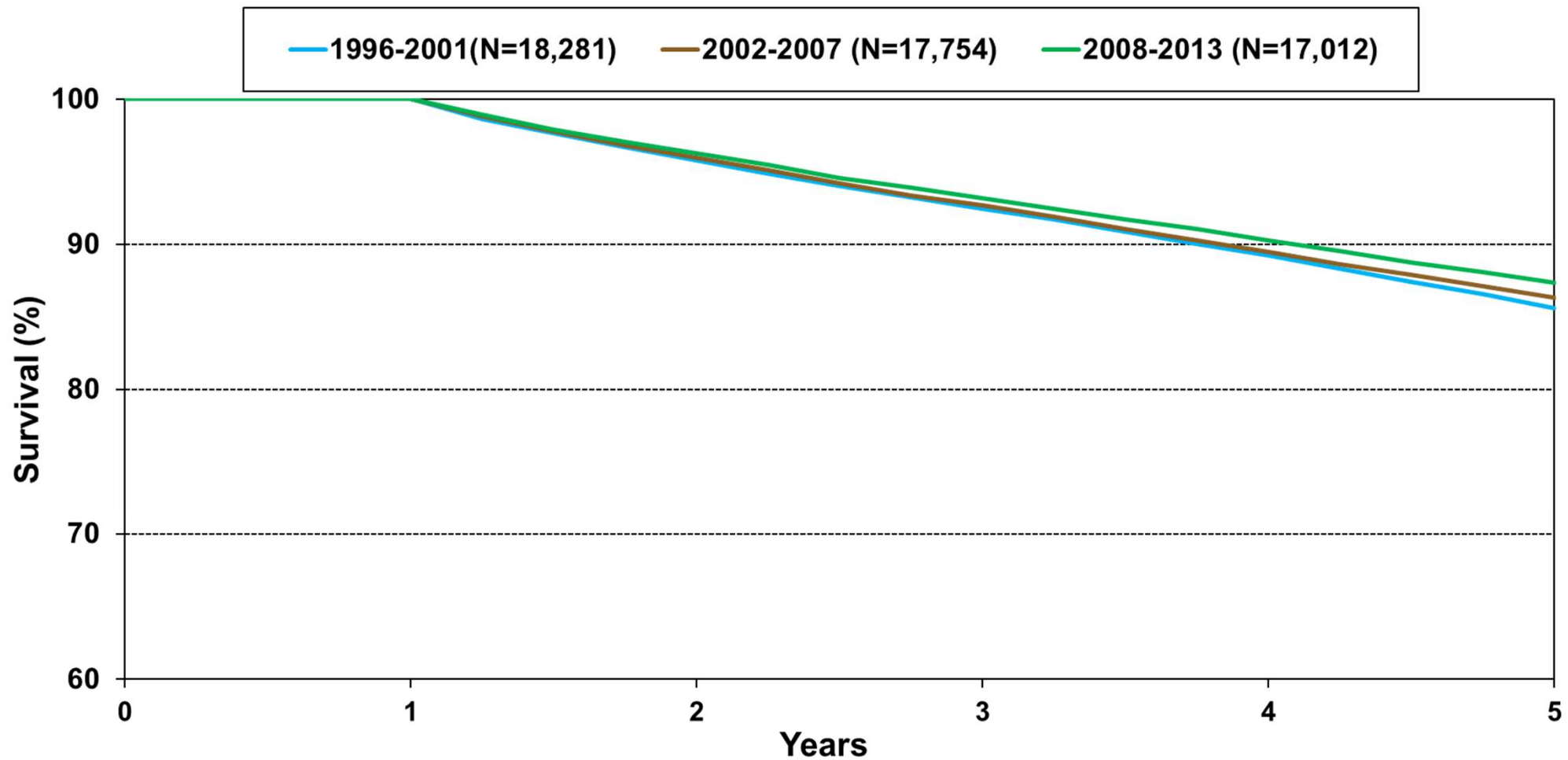
## Transplants: January 2000 – June 2017



2000-2005 (N=21,600)  
2006-2011 (N=22,422)  
2012-2017 (N=23,202)

# Kaplan-Meier Survival within 5 years by Era

Transplants: January 1996 – June 2013





Candidacy for Advanced Heart Failure Therapy

# Contraindications for Advanced Therapy

- Systemic Illness with life expectancy  $< 2$  years
- Severe lung disease
- Severe diabetes with end organ damage ( $\geq$  Stage IV CKD)
- Severe peripheral vascular disease
- Severe liver disease (cirrhosis)
- Active mental illness/lack of psychosocial support

# Transplant Specific Evaluation Concerns

- Pulmonary hypertension problematic
  - Cannot have irreversible pulmonary hypertension
- Age cutoffs more strict
  - Generally must be  $< 70$
- Obesity (BMI  $> 35 - 38$ )
- Underlying infection
- Uncontrolled Diabetes with end-organ failure

# LVAD Specific Evaluation Concerns

- Right ventricular dysfunction
  - VAD can contribute to RV failure
- Significant renal disease
  - Practically difficult to dialyze patients with VAD
- Immuno-compromised patient
  - Risk of driveline infection is high
- Patients at high risk for bleeding
  - VAD increases risk of bleeding

# Advanced HF Referral Process

- Referral Coordinator
  - Ms Ebony
  - Call MD directly anytime
- Our Team will start the coordinated transfer of care within 24 hours
  - Following records:
    - Patient Information/Face Sheet/Last office visit note/TTE report (+/- images)/Heart Cath report (+/- images)/Previous Surgical reports/Latest Labs



# Advanced Heart Failure Team

## **Cardiovascular Surgery**

- ☐ Kevin Brady, MD
- ☐ Ken Ashton, MD
- ☐ Linda McLaughlin, NP

## **Cardiovascular Medicine**

- ☐ Raj Vijayakrishnan, MD
- ☐ Andrew Boshara, MD
- ☐ Linda Staley, NP
- ☐ Kelly Wesselhoff, NP
- ☐ Cathy Garcia, NP
- ☐ Cameron Scott, RN

## **Administration**

- ☐ Brady Krushelniski (VP)
- ☐ Ms Ebony (Coordinator)

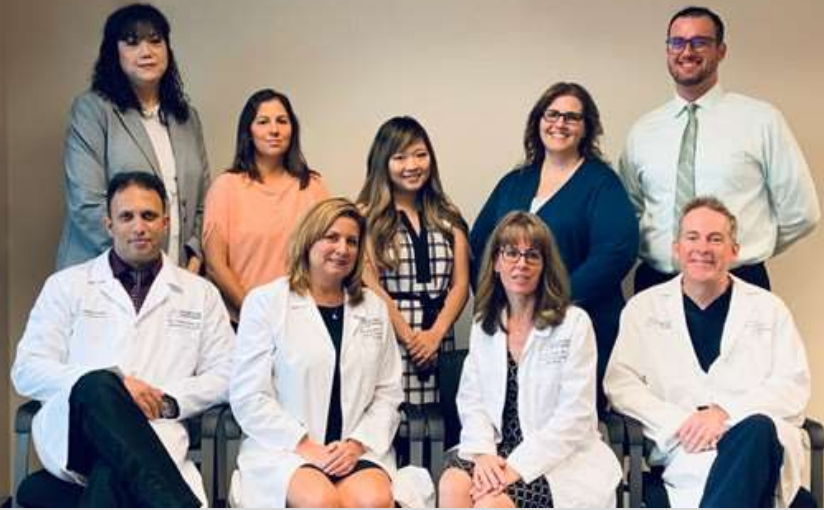
## **Multidisciplinary Team Members**

- ☐ Intensivists
- ☐ Palliative Care
- ☐ VAD specific Quality team members
- ☐ Perfusion Services
- ☐ 4T-ICU and 7T-Intermediate Care Nurse Managers
- ☐ Pharmacy
- ☐ Dietary
- ☐ Physical / Occupational Therapy
- ☐ Social Work
- ☐ Psychiatry/Psychology

## **Support Departments**

- ☐ Cardiopulmonary/Diagnostics
- ☐ Cardiac Catheterization Lab
- ☐ Operating Room
- ☐ PACU
- ☐ Hospital and NTI Quality Departments
- ☐ Hospital Chief Medical Officer

# SJHMC Team



**Center for Advanced Heart Failure**  
at Norton Thoracic Institute



THE SECRET  
TO GETTING AHEAD  
IS GETTING STARTED.

MARK TWAIN

Thank You

Thank You