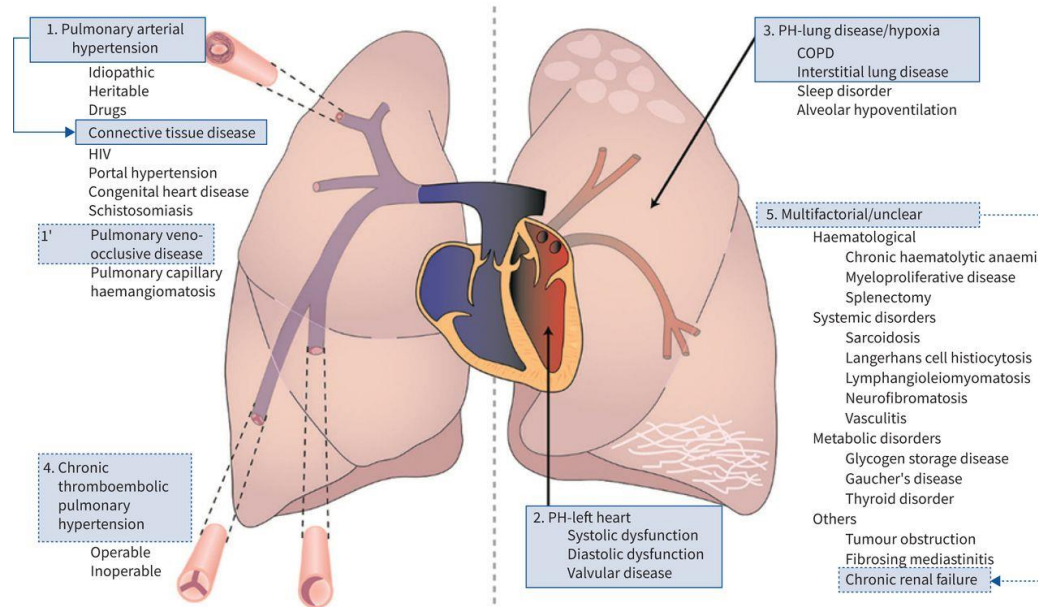


# Overview of 2022 ESC/ERS PH Guideline



*Eur Respir Rev 2021; 30: 210053*

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Department of Pulmonary and Allergy Medicine

**Suhyun Kim**

# Evolution of the ESC/ERS Guidelines

**Table 2** Changes in the haemodynamic definitions of PH

WSPH/guideline document	PH	PAH	Pre-capillary PH	Post-capillary PH	Exercise PH
<b>First WSPH (Geneva 1973)</b>	mPAP >25 mmHg	Not defined	Not defined	Not defined	mPAP >30 mmHg
<b>Second WSPH (Evian 1998)</b>	No change	No change	No change	No change	No change
<b>Third WSPH (Venice 2003)</b>	No change	mPAP >25 mmHg + PAWP ≤15 mmHg + PVR >3 WU	No change	No change	No change
<b>ESC PAH Guidelines 2004 [6]</b>	No change	No change	No change	No change	No change
<b>Fourth WSPH (Dana Point 2008)</b>	mPAP ≥25 mmHg	mPAP ≥25 mmHg + PAWP ≤15 mmHg	No change	No change	Not defined
<b>ESC/ERS PH Guidelines 2009 [9]</b>	No change	No change	mPAP ≥25 mmHg + PAWP ≤15 mmHg	mPAP ≥25 mmHg + PAWP >15 mmHg (passive: TPG ≤12 mmHg, reactive: TPG >12 mmHg)	No change
<b>Fifth WSPH (Nice 2013)</b>	No change	mPAP ≥25 mmHg + PAWP ≤15 mmHg + PVR >3 WU	mPAP >25 mmHg + PAWP ≤15 mmHg + PVR >3 WU	mPAP ≥25 mmHg + PAWP >15 mmHg (isolated: DPG <7 mmHg, combined: DPG ≥7 mmHg)	No change
<b>ESC/ERS PH Guidelines 2015 [15]</b>	No change	No change	mPAP ≥25 mmHg + PAWP ≤15 mmHg	mPAP ≥25 mmHg + PAWP >15 mmHg (isolated: DPG <7 mmHg and/or PVR ≤3 WU, combined: DPG ≥7 mmHg and/or PVR >3 WU)	No change
<b>Sixth WSPH (Nice 2018)</b>	mPAP >20 mmHg	mPAP >20 mmHg + PAWP ≤15 mmHg + PVR ≥3 WU	mPAP >20 mmHg + PAWP ≤15 mmHg + PVR ≥3 WU	mPAP >20 mmHg + PAWP >15 mmHg (isolated: PVR <3 WU, combined: PVR ≥3 WU)	No change

# 2022 ESC/ERS Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension

Developed by the task force for the diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and the European Respiratory Society (ERS).

Endorsed by the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT) and the European Reference Network on rare respiratory diseases (ERN-LUNG).

**Table 3** Classes of recommendations

	Definition	Wording to use	
Classes of recommendations	<b>Class I</b>	Evidence and/or general agreement that a given treatment or procedure is beneficial, useful, effective.	Is recommended or is indicated
	<b>Class II</b>	Conflicting evidence and/or a divergence of opinion about the usefulness/efficacy of the given treatment or procedure.	
	Class IIa	Weight of evidence/opinion is in favour of usefulness/efficacy.	Should be considered
	Class IIb	Usefulness/efficacy is less well established by evidence/opinion.	May be considered
	<b>Class III</b>	Evidence or general agreement that the given treatment or procedure is not useful/effective, and in some cases may be harmful.	Is not recommended

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**Table 4** Levels of evidence

Level of evidence A	Data derived from multiple randomized clinical trials or meta-analyses.
Level of evidence B	Data derived from a single randomized clinical trial or large non-randomized studies.
Level of evidence C	Consensus of opinion of the experts and/or small studies, retrospective studies, registries.

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# 2022 4<sup>th</sup> edition of ESC/ERS Guidelines for PH : What is new

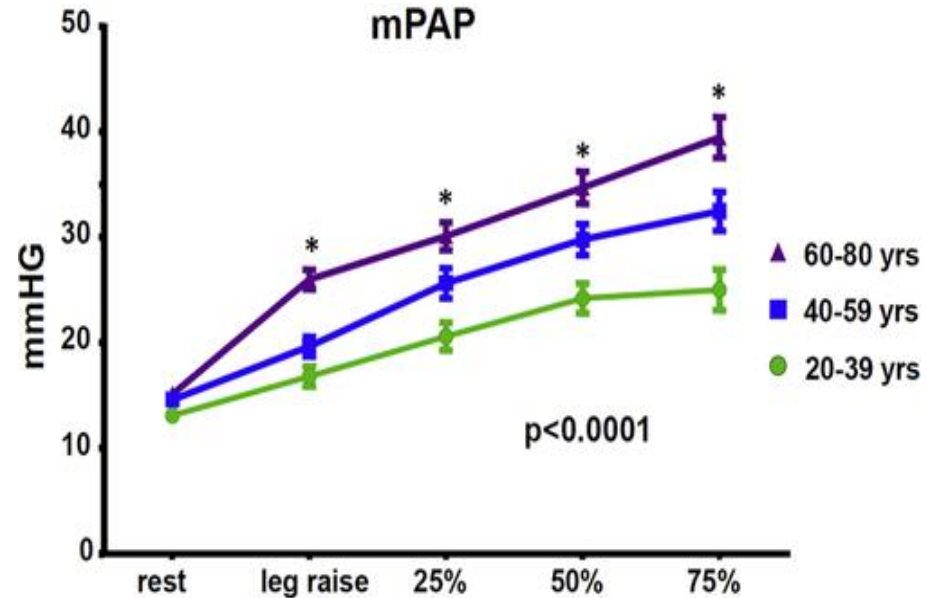
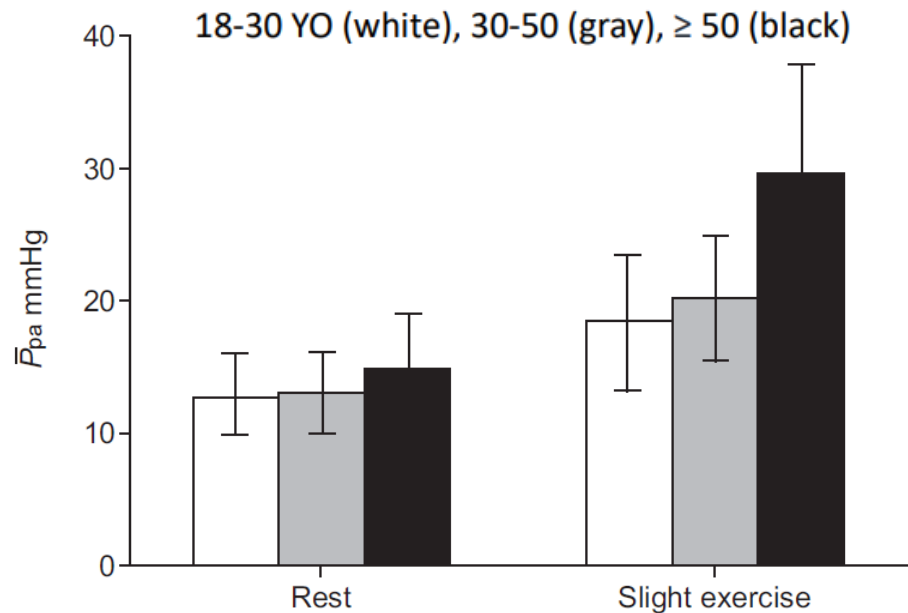
1. **New definitions of PH** including a revised cut-off level for mPAP, pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR) and a definition of exercise PH.
2. **The classification of PH** has been updated, including repositioning of vasoreactive patients with IPAH and a revision of group 5 PH.
3. **A new diagnostic algorithm** aiming at earlier detection of PH in the community with expedited referral for high-risk or complex patients.
4. **The PAH treatment algorithm modification** highlighting risk assessment both at diagnosis and follow-up, and the importance of combination therapies.
  - Treatment strategies during follow-up based on the **four strata model**.
  - The recommendations for managing PH-LHD and lung including a new hemodynamic definition of **severe PH in patients with lung disease**.
5. **In group 4 PH,**
  - **the term CTEPD** with or without PH has been introduced
  - Interventional treatment by BPA in combination with medical therapy in the **therapeutic algorithm of CTEPH**.

# Definition of Pulmonary Hypertension (PH)

- The definitions for PH are based on hemodynamic assessment by right heart catheterization (RHC).
  - an increase in pressure in the pulmonary vessels, as denoted by an elevation in **mean pulmonary arterial pressure (mPAP) > 20 mmHg at rest.**

2022 Updated

# Normal mPAP in healthy subjects

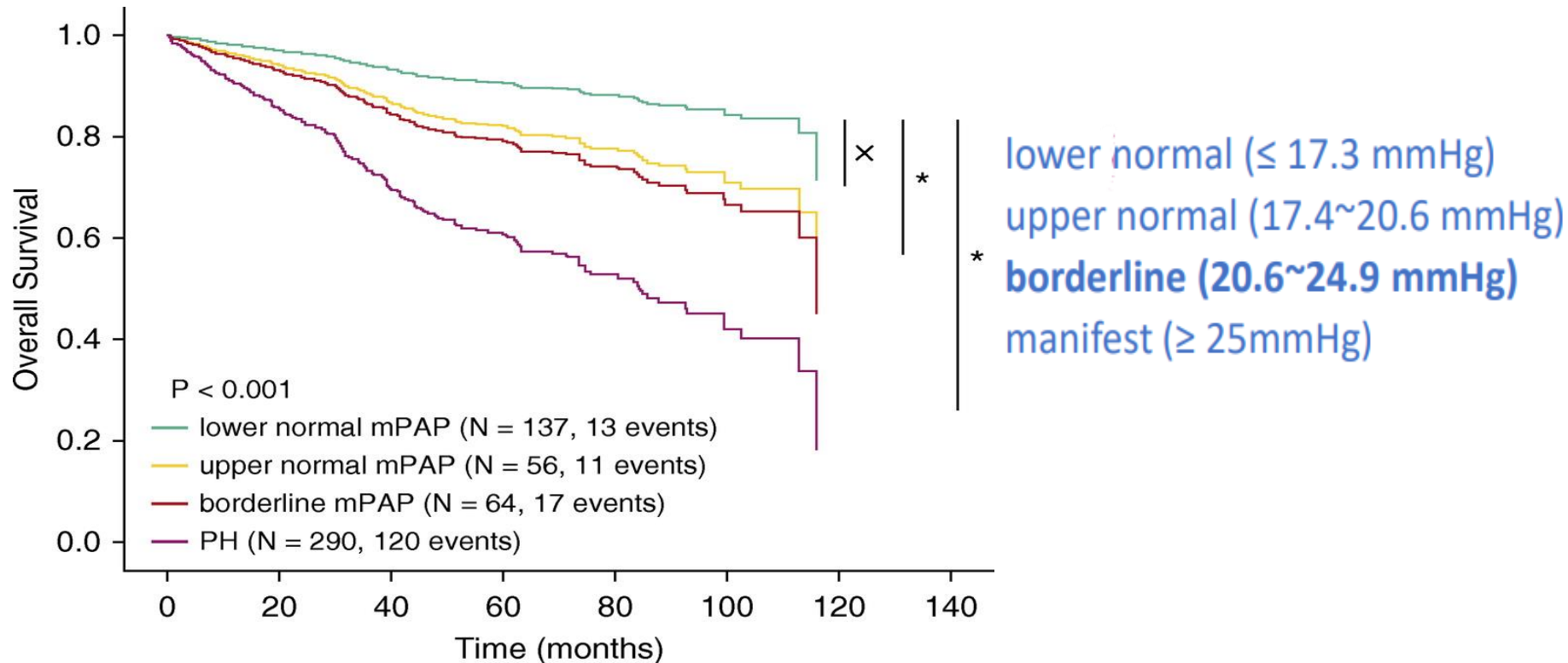


- 1187 normal subjects from 47 studies by RHC

- **mPAP = 14.0 ± 3.3 mmHg**

- 62 Caucasians (32 women, 30 men)
- No patients exceeded 21 mmHg of mPAP during rest.

# Mild elevation of PAP as a predictor of mortality



- A total of 547 patients undergoing RHC.
- Values between 20 mmHg and 25 mmHg represent an **independent predictor of poor survival.**

# Hemodynamic definitions of PH

## Pulmonary Hypertension

Mean PAP > 20 mmHg at rest by right heart catheterization (RHC)

### Pre-capillary PH

Mean PAP  
> 20 mmHg  
at rest by RHC

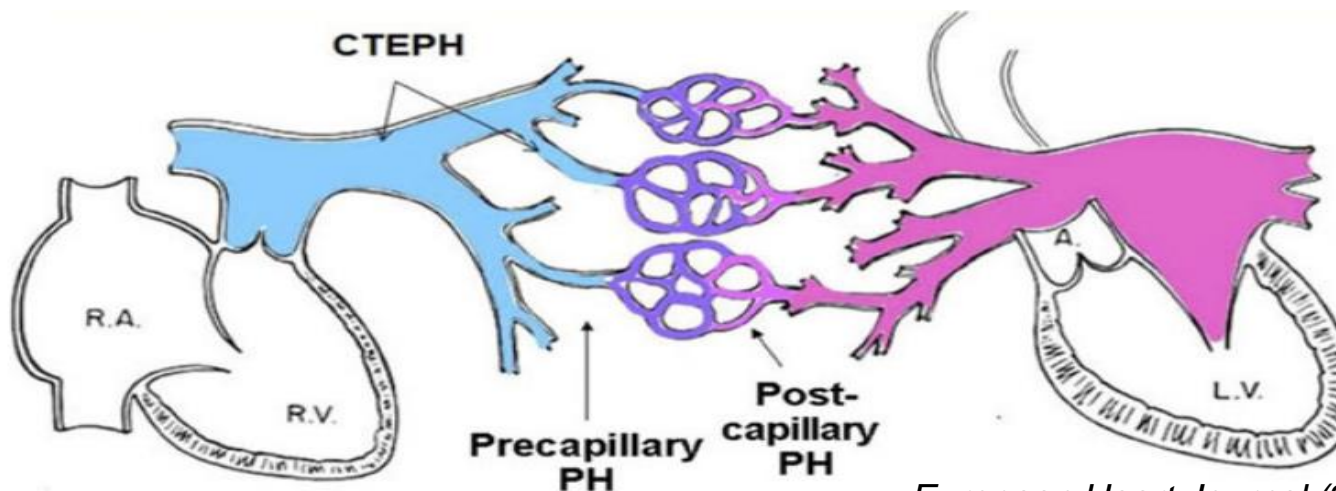
+

PAWP  
 $\leq 15$  mmHg

+

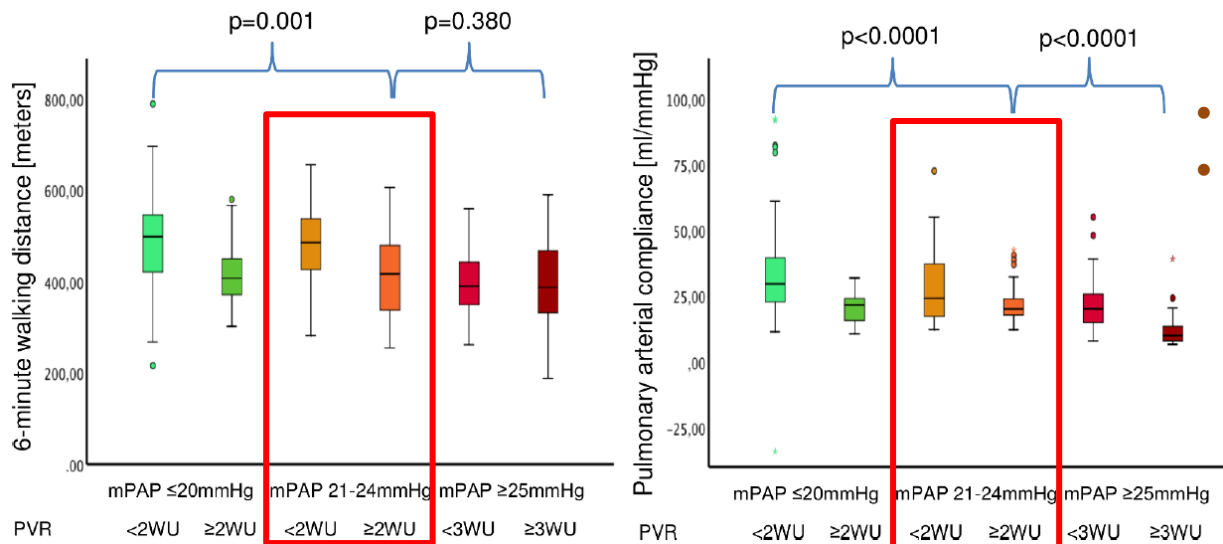
Pulmonary vascular  
Resistance (PVR)  
> 2 Wood units (WU)

2022 Updated

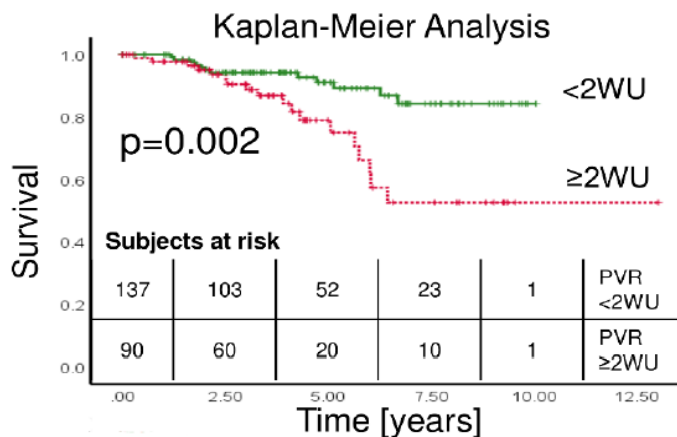
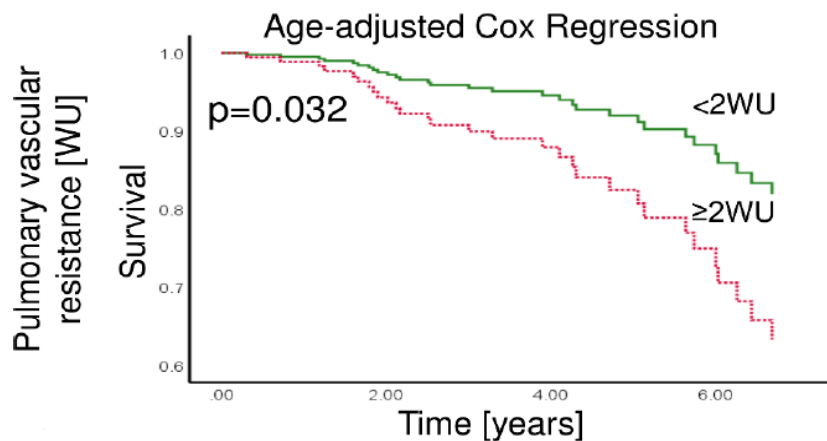


PAWP, pulmonary arterial wedge pressure

# too high PVR ( $PVR=(mPAP-PAWP)/CO$ ) threshold $\geq 3$ WU to enable an early diagnosis of PAH



- 284 SSc patients
- 28(9.8%) patients with mPAP of 21–24 mm Hg & PVR  $\geq 2$  WU already presented with early pulmonary vascular disease.



- Patients with PVR  $< 2$  WU showed a significantly better survival than with PVR  $\geq 2$  WU.

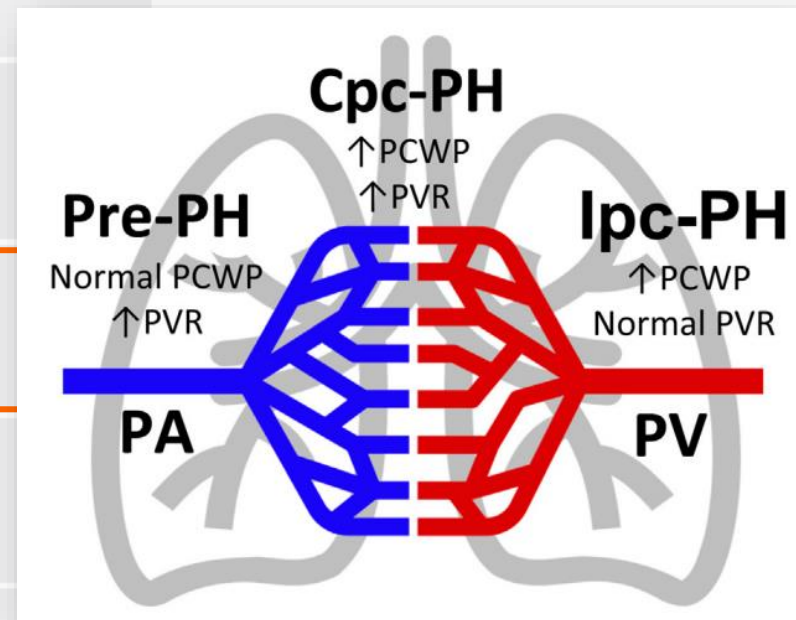
# 2022 ESC/ERS Guidelines

## Hemodynamic definitions of PH

Definition	Haemodynamic characteristics
PH	mPAP >20 mmHg
Pre-capillary PH	mPAP >20 mmHg PAWP ≤15 mmHg PVR >2 WU
<b>Unclassified PH</b>	mPAP >20 mmHg PAWP ≤15 mmHg PVR ≤2 WU
lpcPH	mPAP >20 mmHg PAWP >15 mmHg PVR ≤2 WU
CpcPH	mPAP >20 mmHg PAWP >15 mmHg PVR >2 WU
Exercise PH	mPAP/CO slope between rest and exercise >3 mmHg/L/min

2022 Updated

2022 Updated



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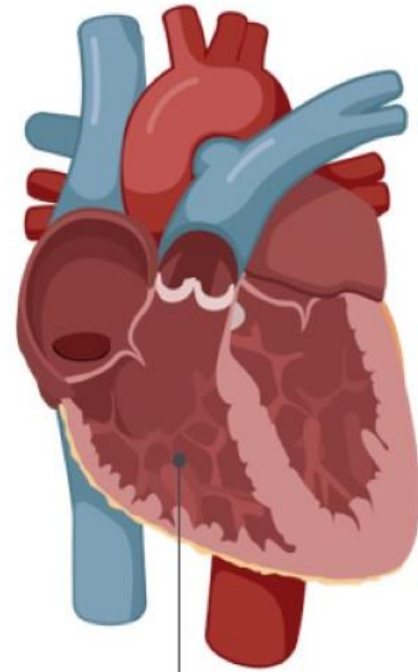
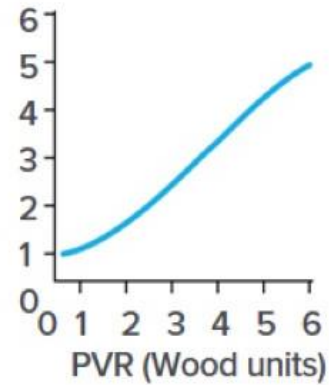
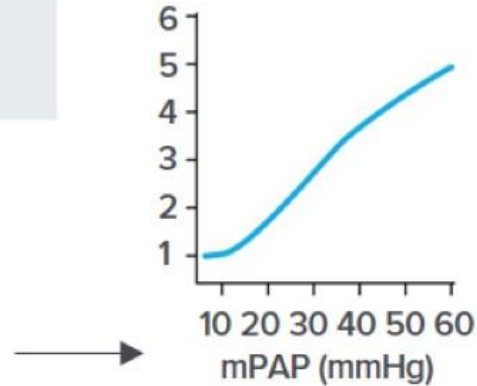
Am J Kidney Dis. 2020;75(5);713-724.

*lpcPH, Isolated post-capillary pulmonary hypertension;*  
*CpcPH, Combined post- and pre-capillary pulmonary hypertension*

# Epidemiology of PH



Prevalence 1% of global population



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Right heart failure

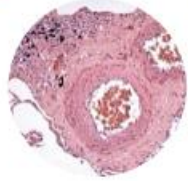
Pulmonary congestion in post-capillary PH

Pulmonary vascular disease/obstruction in pre-capillary PH

## CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION

### GROUP 1

Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)



- Idiopathic/heritable
- Associated conditions

### GROUP 2

PH associated with left heart disease



- IpcPH
- CpcPH

### GROUP 3

PH associated with lung disease



- Non-severe PH
- Severe PH

### GROUP 4

PH associated with pulmonary artery obstructions



- CTEPH
- Other pulmonary obstructions

### GROUP 5

PH with unclear and/or multifactorial mechanisms



- Haematologic disorders
- Systemic disorders

## PREVALENCE

Rare



Very common



Common



Rare



Rare



## THERAPEUTIC STRATEGIES

### Medical therapy

- PAH drugs
- CCB in responders

Lung transplantation

### IpcPH:

- Treatment of LHD<sup>a</sup>

### CpcPH:

- Treatment of LHD<sup>a</sup>
- Potentially: PAH drugs (trials)

### PH-lung disease:

- Optimized care of underlying lung disease

### Severe PH:

- Potentially: PAH drugs (trials)

### Surgical therapy:

- PEA

### Interventional:

- BPA

### Medical therapy:

- PH drugs

### Optimized treatment of underlying disease

- Potentially: PAH drugs (trials)

# Clinical classification of PH

## **GROUP 1** Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)

### 1.1 Idiopathic

1.1.1 Non-responders at vasoreactivity testing

1.1.2 Acute responders at vasoreactivity testing

### 1.2 Heritable<sup>a</sup>

### 1.3 Associated with drugs and toxins<sup>a</sup>

### 1.4 Associated with:

1.4.1 Connective tissue disease

1.4.2 HIV infection

1.4.3 Portal hypertension

1.4.4 Congenital heart disease

1.4.5 Schistosomiasis

### 1.5 PAH with features of venous/capillary (PVOD/PCH) involvement

### 1.6 Persistent PH of the newborn

## **GROUP 2** PH associated with left heart disease

### 2.1 Heart failure:

2.1.1 with preserved ejection fraction

2.1.2 with reduced or mildly reduced ejection fraction<sup>b</sup>

### 2.2 Valvular heart disease

### 2.3 Congenital/acquired cardiovascular conditions leading to post-capillary PH

## **GROUP 3** PH associated with lung diseases and/or hypoxia

3.1 Obstructive lung disease or emphysema

3.2 Restrictive lung disease

3.3 Lung disease with mixed restrictive/obstructive pattern

3.4 Hypoventilation syndromes

3.5 Hypoxia without lung disease (e.g. high altitude)

3.6 Developmental lung disorders

## **GROUP 4** PH associated with pulmonary artery obstructions

4.1 Chronic thrombo-embolic PH

4.2 Other pulmonary artery obstructions<sup>c</sup>

## **GROUP 5** PH with unclear and/or multifactorial mechanisms

5.1 Haematological disorders<sup>d</sup>

5.2 Systemic disorders<sup>e</sup>

5.3 Metabolic disorders<sup>f</sup>

5.4 Chronic renal failure with or without haemodialysis

5.5 Pulmonary tumour thrombotic microangiopathy

5.6 Fibrosing mediastinitis

<sup>a</sup>Including inherited and acquired chronic haemolytic anaemia and chronic myeloproliferative disorders.

<sup>e</sup>Including sarcoidosis, pulmonary Langerhans's cell histiocytosis, and neurofibromatosis type 1.

<sup>f</sup>Including glycogen storage diseases and Gaucher disease.

# Group 1. Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)

## **GROUP 1** Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)

### 1.1 Idiopathic

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1.1.2 Acute responders at vasoreactivity testing

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1.5 PAH with features of venous/capillary (PVOD/PCH) involvement

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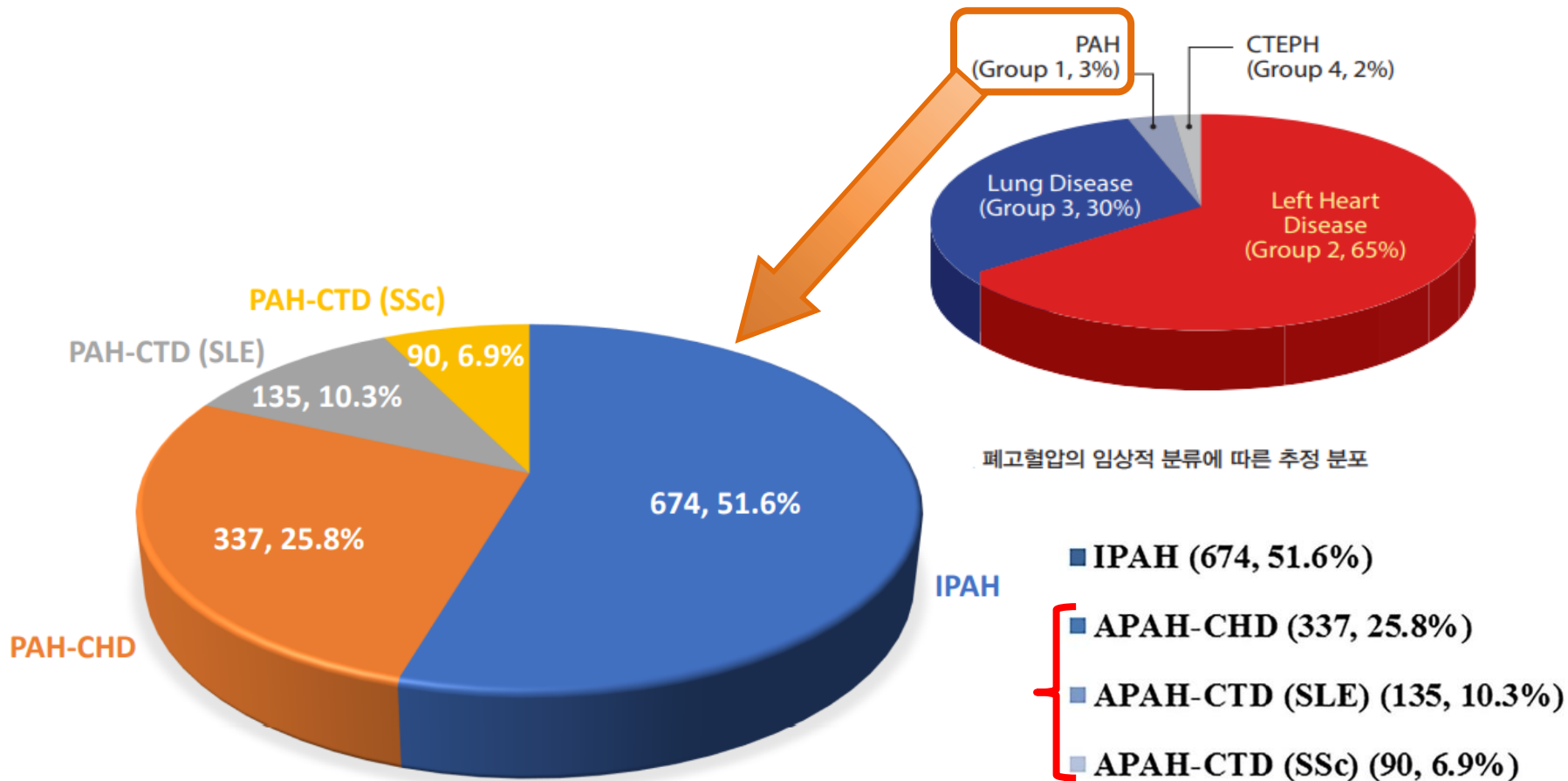
*PVOD, pulmonary veno-occlusive disease;  
PCH, pulmonary capillary haemangiomas*

# Epidemiology of PAH

- 건강보험심사평가원 자료에 기반한 후향적 연구 (2008~2016년) :
  - 연간 인구 100만 명당 4.84명 (평균연령  $44 \pm 13$ 세, 여성 69.3%)  
*PLoS ONE 2018;13(12): e0209148*
- 국내의 4개 학회가 참여한 전향적 등록연구 (KORPAH) :
  - 인구 100만 명당 1.9명으로 추정 (평균연령  $48 \pm 16$ 세, 여성호발)  
*J Korean Med Sci 2015; 30: 1429-1438*
- Recent data from the USA and Europe
  - 평균 연령 36세 → 50-65세
  - often present with cardiovascular comorbidities
  - 여성 호발 → 고령 환자에서 발병 시 more equal distribution  
*European Heart Journal (2022) 00, 1–114*

# Etiology of PAH in Korea

: derived from HIRA claim database 2008–2016



- January 2008 to December 2016, mean age ( $44 \pm 13$  years), female (69.3%)
- 3-year survival rate = 54%
- annual incidence = 4.84 patients/1 million/year

# Associated with Drugs and Toxins

Definite association	Possible association
Aminorex	Alkylating agents (cyclophosphamide, mitomycin C) <sup>a</sup>
Benfluorex	Amphetamines
Dasatinib +	Bosutinib
Dexfenfluramine	Cocaine
Fenfluramine	Diazoxide
Methamphetamines +	Direct-acting antiviral agents against hepatitis C virus (sofosbuvir)
Toxic rapeseed oil	Indirubin (Chinese herb Qing-Dai)
	Interferon alpha and beta
	Leflunomide
	L-tryptophan
	Phenylpropanolamine
	Ponatinib
	Selective proteasome inhibitors (carfilzomib)
	Solvents (trichloroethylene) <sup>a</sup>
	St John's Wort

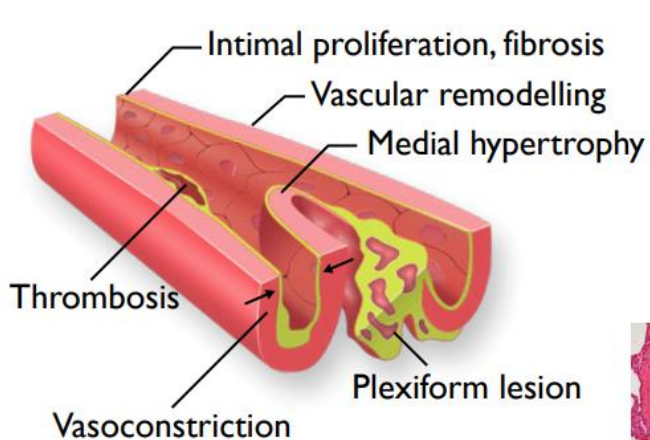
<sup>a</sup>Pulmonary veno-occlusive disease.

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
It is recommended to make a diagnosis of drug- or toxin-associated PAH in patients who had relevant exposure and in whom other causes of PH have been excluded	I	C
In patients with suspected drug- or toxin-associated PAH, it is recommended to <u>immediately discontinue the causative agent</u> whenever possible	I	C
<u>Immediate PAH therapy should be considered in patients who present with intermediate-/high-risk PAH at diagnosis</u>	IIa	C
<u>Patients with low-risk PAH should be re-evaluated 3–4 months after discontinuing the suspected drug or toxin</u> , and PAH therapy may be considered when the haemodynamics have not normalized	IIb	C

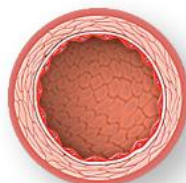
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# Pathology of PAH

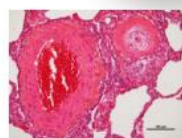
## Pulmonary vasculopathy



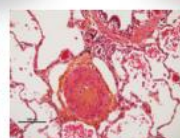
## Pulmonary artery



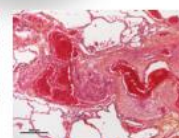
## Vascular obstruction



Medial hyperplasia

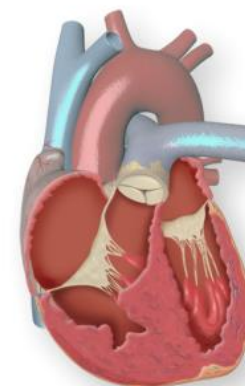


Intimal proliferation



Plexiform lesions

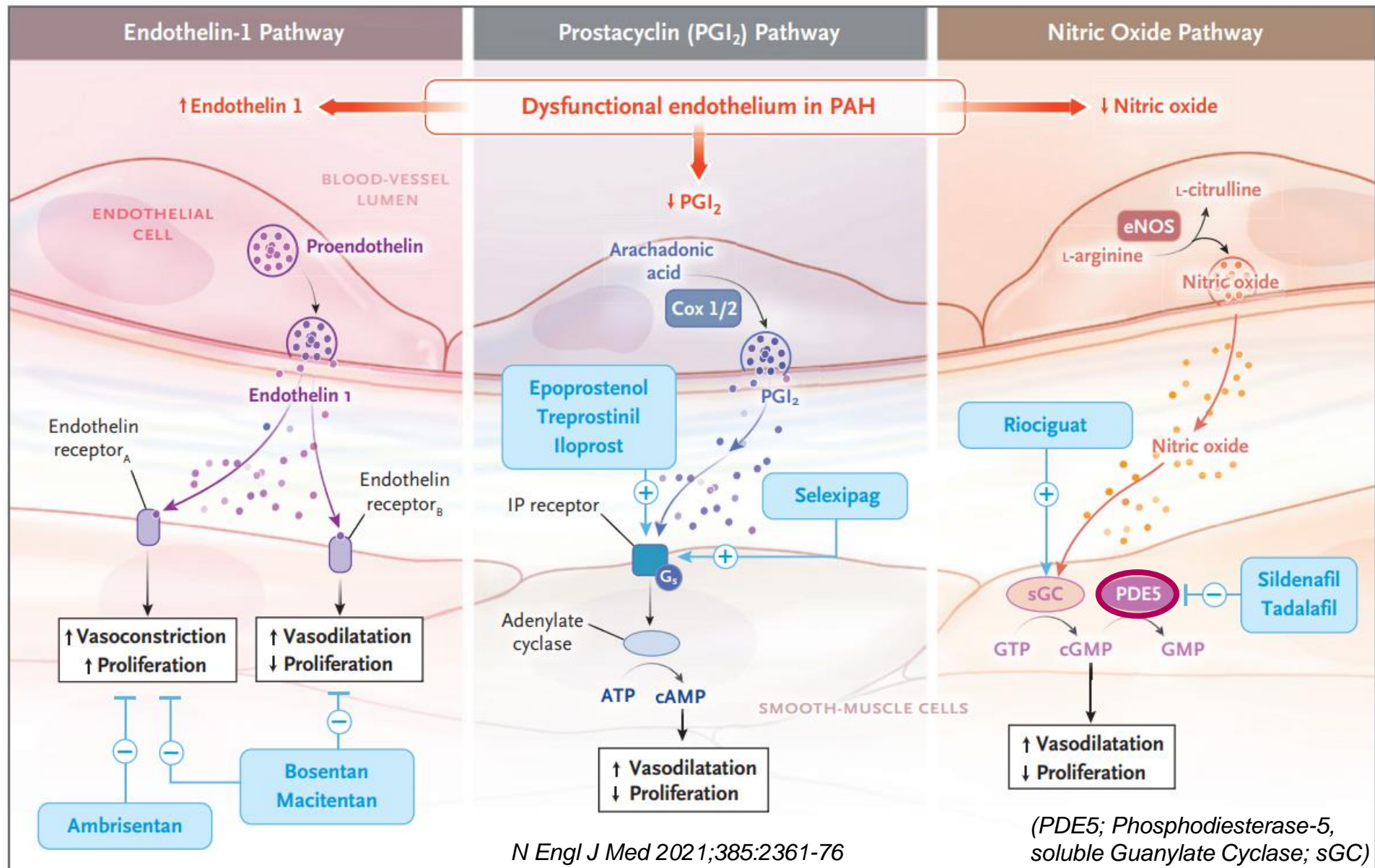
## Right heart failure



Right ventricular remodelling / dysfunction

작은 폐동맥에 병변이 발생하여 혈관 내부 공간이 줄어들고 점차적으로 폐혈관 저항이 증가하고, 결과적으로 우심실 후부하가 증가되어 우심실 부전 발생

# Three Classic Pathways of Targeted Therapy for PAH



# Group 2. PH associated with left heart disease (PH-LHD)

## GROUP 2 PH associated with left heart disease

### 2.1 Heart failure:

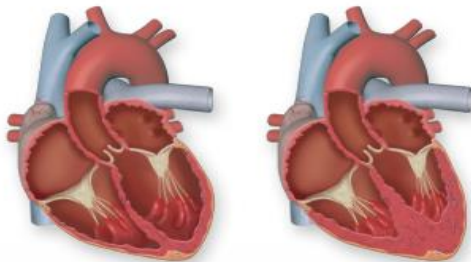
2.1.1 with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF)

2.1.2 with reduced or mildly reduced ejection fraction<sup>b</sup> (HFrEF, HFmrEF)

### 2.2 Valvular heart disease (Left-sided VHD)

2.3 Congenital/acquired cardiovascular conditions leading to post-capillary PH

#### Heart failure/cardiomyopathy



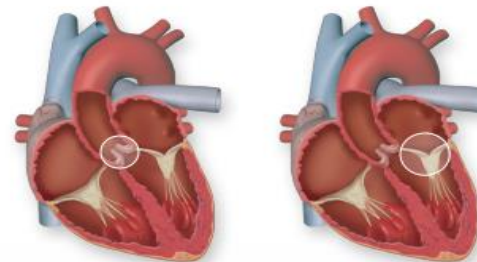
<sup>b</sup>Left ventricular ejection fraction with mild to moderate reduction

HFrEF  
EF  $\leq 40\%$

HFmrEF  
EF 41–49%

HFpEF  
EF  $\geq 50\%$

#### Valvular heart disease

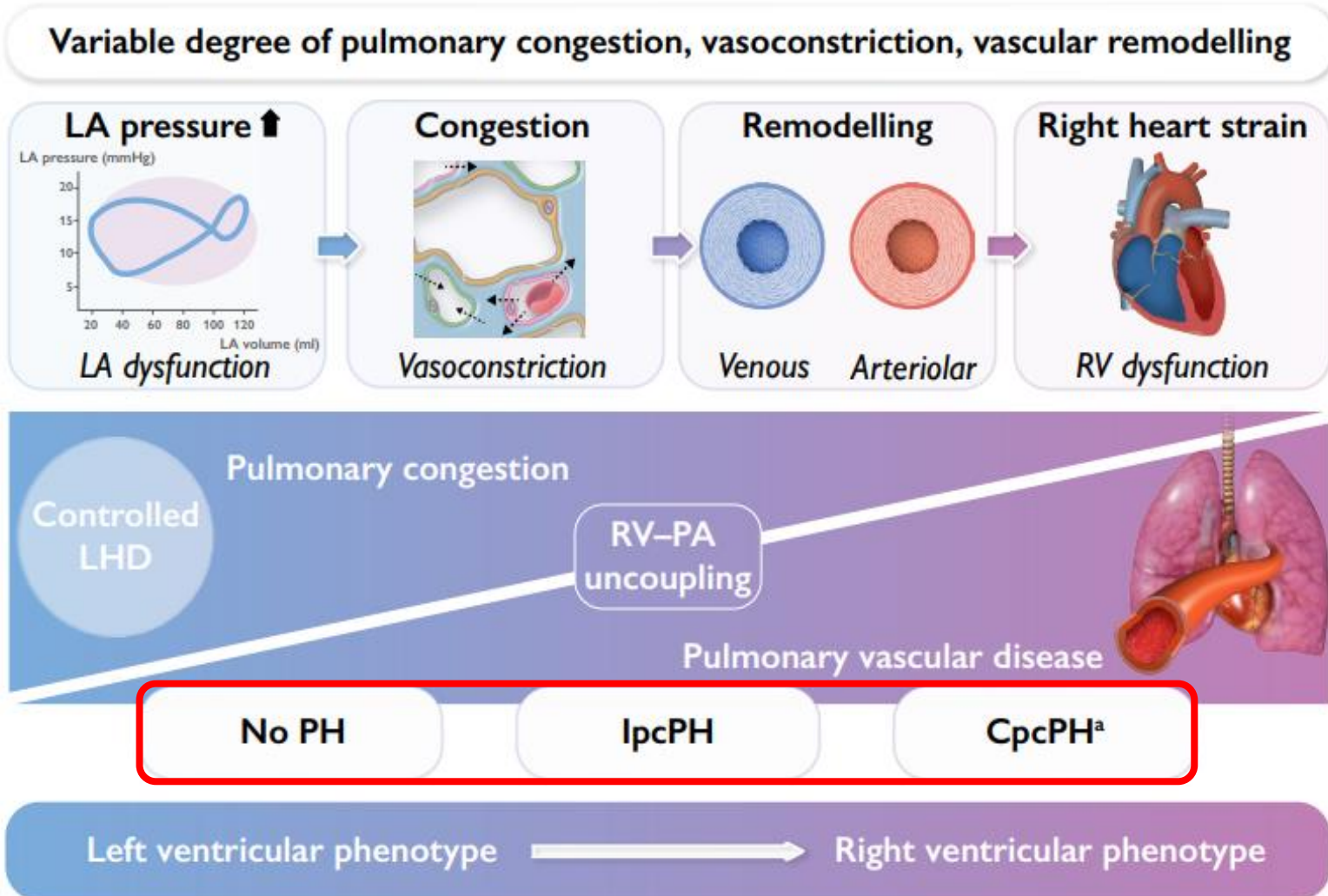


Aortic valve

Mitral valve

Stenosis/Regurgitation

- PH-LHD represents the most prevalent form of PH : 65–80% of PH.
- 20–30% of patients are categorized as having CpcPH.



# Patient phenotyping and likelihood for Left Heart Disease as cause of PH

**Table 23** Patient phenotyping and likelihood for left heart disease as cause of pulmonary hypertension

Feature	PH-LHD unlikely	Intermediate probability	PH-LHD likely
Age	<60 years	60–70 years	>70 years
Obesity, hypertension, dyslipidaemia, glucose intolerance/diabetes	No factors	1–2 factors	>2 factors
Presence of known LHD	No	Yes	Yes
Previous cardiac intervention	No	No	Yes
Atrial fibrillation	No	Paroxysmal	Permanent/persistent
Structural LHD	No	No	Present
ECG	Normal or signs of RV	Mild LVH	LBBB or LVH

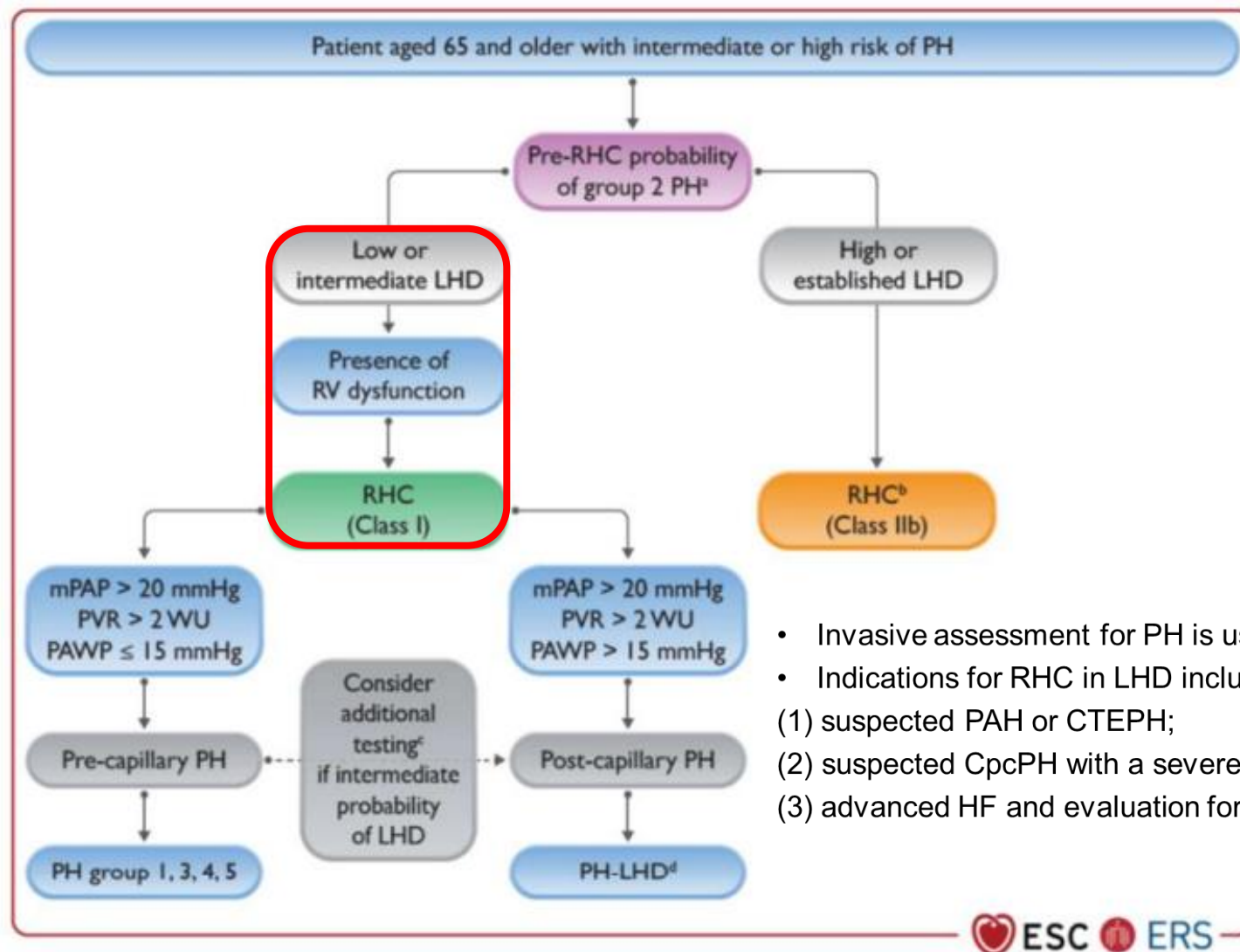
	Clinical Variable	Values	Points
<b>H<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>H</b> heavy	Body mass index > 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	2
	<b>H</b> ypertensive	2 or more antihypertensive medicines	1
<b>F</b>	Atrial <b>F</b> ibrillation	Paroxysmal or Persistent	3
<b>P</b>	<b>P</b> ulmonary Hypertension	Doppler Echocardiographic estimated Pulmonary Artery Systolic Pressure > 35 mmHg	1
<b>E</b>	<b>E</b> lder	Age > 60 years	1
<b>F</b>	<b>F</b> illing Pressure	Doppler Echocardiographic E/e' > 9	1
<b>H<sub>2</sub>FPEF score</b>			<b>Sum (0-9)</b>

**Supplementary Table 1.** Calculation of HFA-PEFF score

Parameter	HFA-PEFF score			
	Major		Minor	
	Value	Point	Value	Point
Functional	Septal e' < 7 cm/sec or lateral e' < 10 cm/sec or average E/e' ≥ 15 or TR Vmax > 2.8 m/sec (PASP > 35 mmHg)	2	Average E/e' 9–14 or GLS < 16%	1
Morphological	LAVI > 34 mL/m <sup>2</sup> or LVMI ≥ 149/122 g/m <sup>2</sup> (M/W) + RWT > 0.42	2	LAVI 29–34 mL/m <sup>2</sup> or LVMI ≥ 115/95 g/m <sup>2</sup> (M/W) or RWT > 0.42 or LV wall thickness ≥ 12 mm	1
Biomarker				
SR	NT-proBNP > 220 pg/mL or BNP > 80 pg/mL	2	NT-proBNP 125–220 pg/mL or BNP 35–80 pg/mL	1
AF	NT-proBNP > 660 pg/mL or BNP > 240 pg/mL	2	NT-proBNP 365–660 pg/mL or BNP 105–240 pg/mL	1

Figure 1. H2FPEF Score proposed by Reddy et al. <https://doi.org/10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.118.034646>

# Invasive assessment in PH-LHD



- Invasive assessment for PH is usually not indicated.
- Indications for RHC in LHD include:
  - (1) suspected PAH or CTEPH;
  - (2) suspected CpcPH with a severe pre-capillary component;
  - (3) advanced HF and evaluation for heart transplantation.

<sup>a</sup>According to probability of LHD as cause of PH (Table 24).

<sup>b</sup>RHC may be considered and indicated for prognosis or specific treatment decision purposes, according to the appropriate guidelines.

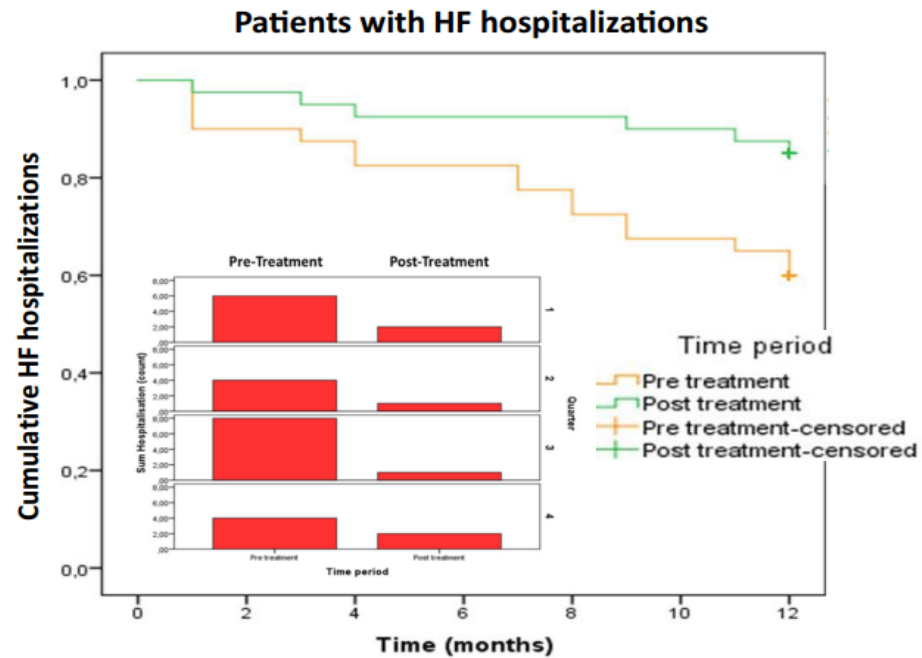
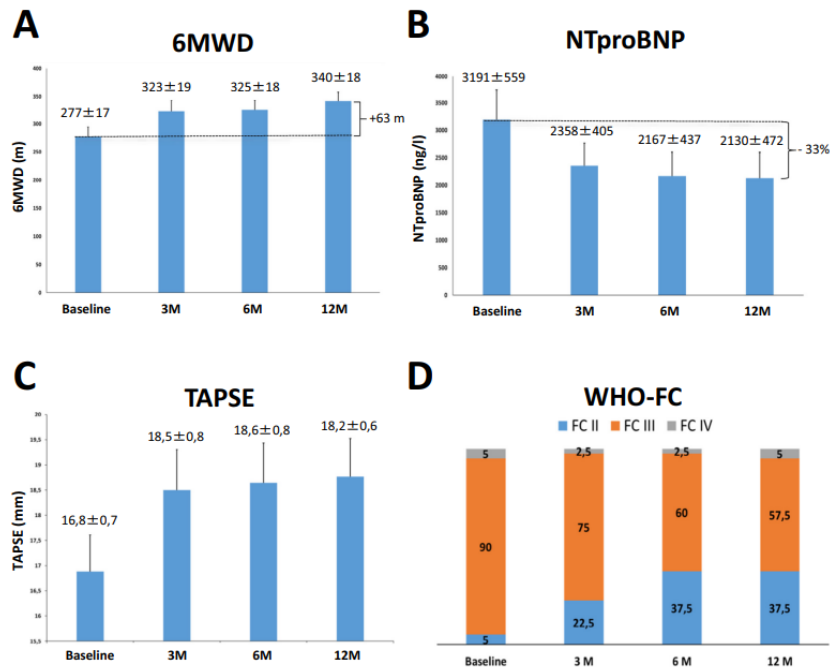
# Use of drugs approved for PAH in PH-LHD

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
In patients with LHD, optimizing treatment of the underlying condition is recommended before considering assessment of suspected PH <sup>27,28</sup>	I	A
RHC is recommended for suspected PH in patients with LHD, if it aids management decisions	I	C
RHC is recommended in patients with severe tricuspid regurgitation with or without LHD prior to surgical or interventional valve repair	I	C
For patients with LHD and suspected PH with features of a severe pre-capillary component and/or markers of RV dysfunction, referral to a PH centre for a complete diagnostic work-up is recommended <sup>29,47,142</sup>	I	C
In patients with LHD and CpcPH with a severe pre-capillary component (e.g. PVR >5 WU), an individualized approach to treatment is recommended	I	C
When patients with PH and multiple risk factors for LHD, who have a normal PAWP at rest but an abnormal response to exercise or fluid challenge, are treated with PAH drugs, close monitoring is recommended	I	C
In patients with PH at RHC, a borderline PAWP (13–15 mmHg) and features of HFpEF, additional testing with exercise or fluid challenge may be considered to uncover post-capillary PH <sup>133,143</sup>	IIb	C
Drugs approved for PAH are not recommended in PH-LHD <sup>c 631,678,683,684,701,706</sup>	III	A

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<sup>c</sup>Safety concerns have been identified when ERAs are used in patients with HF (HFpEF and HFrEF, with or without PH) and when sildenafil is used in patients with persistent PH after correction of valvular heart disease.

	Macitentan	Placebo	Treatment effect % (95% CI) <sup>#</sup>	p-value <sup>  </sup>
<b>Subjects n</b>	31	32		
<b>Significant fluid retention or worsening in NYHA functional class from baseline<sup>*</sup></b>	7 (22.6)	4 (12.5)	10.08 [−15.07 to 33.26]	0.34
<b>Significant fluid retention</b>	7 (22.6)	3 (9.4)	13.21 [−11.96 to 36.21]	0.18
Increased body weight from baseline by ≥5% or ≥5 kg due to fluid overload	3 (9.7)	0 (0)		
Parenteral administration of diuretics	5 (16.1)	3 (9.4)		
<b>Worsening in NYHA functional class from baseline<sup>§</sup></b>	1 (3.2)	2 (6.3)		



*International Journal of Cardiology 283 (2019) 152–158*

- In 40 hemodynamically precisely characterized patients with HFpEF and Cpc-PH who were treated with a PDE5i for at least 12 months
- A subset with HFpEF and CpcPH who tolerate PDE5i may benefit from targeted therapy.

Recommendations	GRADE			
	Quality of evidence	Strength of recommendation	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
No recommendation can be given for or against the use of PDE5is in patients with HFpEF and combined post- and pre-capillary PH	Low	None	–	–
The use of PDE5is in patients with HFpEF and isolated post-capillary PH is not recommended	Low	Conditional	III	C

# Group 3. PH associated with lung diseases and/or hypoxia

## GROUP 3 PH associated with lung diseases and/or hypoxia

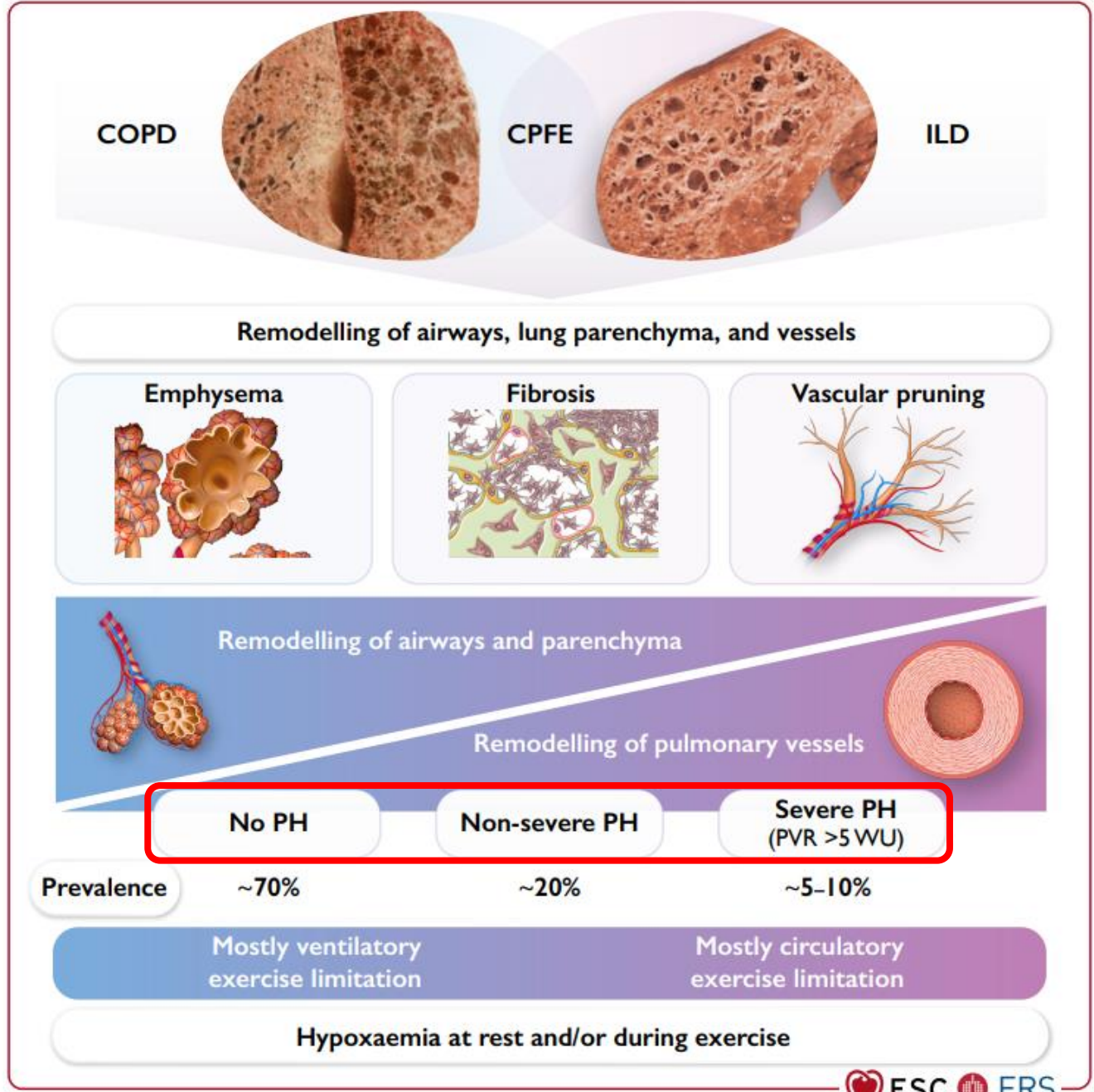
- 3.1 Obstructive lung disease or emphysema
- 3.2 Restrictive lung disease
- 3.3 Lung disease with mixed restrictive/obstructive pattern
- 3.4 Hypoventilation syndromes
- 3.5 Hypoxia without lung disease (e.g. high altitude)
- 3.6 Developmental lung disorders

*2022 ESC/ERS guidelines for PH*

## 3. Pulmonary hypertension due to lung diseases and/or hypoxia

- 3.1 Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- 3.2 Interstitial lung disease
- 3.3 Other pulmonary diseases with mixed restrictive and obstructive pattern
- ~~3.4 Sleep-disordered breathing~~
- 3.5 Alveolar hypoventilation disorders
- 3.6 Chronic exposure to high altitude
- 3.7 Developmental lung diseases (Web Table III)

*2015 ESC/ERS guidelines for PH*



**Figure 12** Pathophysiology of pulmonary hypertension associated with lung disease (group 3).

# Definition of severe PH-Lung disease

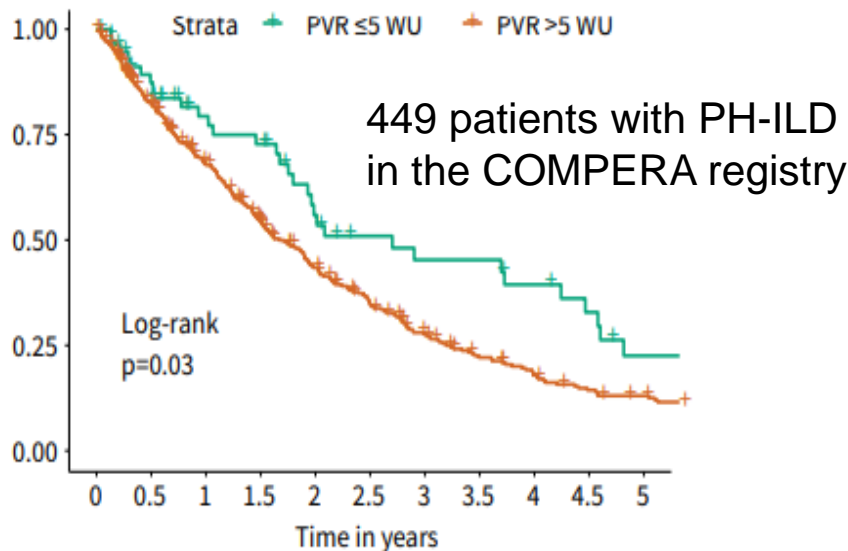
Terminology	Haemodynamics (right heart catheterization)
COPD/IPF/CPFE without PH	PAPm <25 mmHg
COPD/IPF/CPFE with PH	PAPm ≥25 mmHg
COPD/IPF/CPFE with severe PH	PAPm >35 mmHg, or PAPm ≥25 mmHg in the presence of a low cardiac output (CI <2.5 L/min, not explained by other causes)

2015 ESC/ERS guidelines for PH



In COPD/ILD	Threshold
non-severe PH	PVR ≤5 WU
severe PH	PVR >5 WU

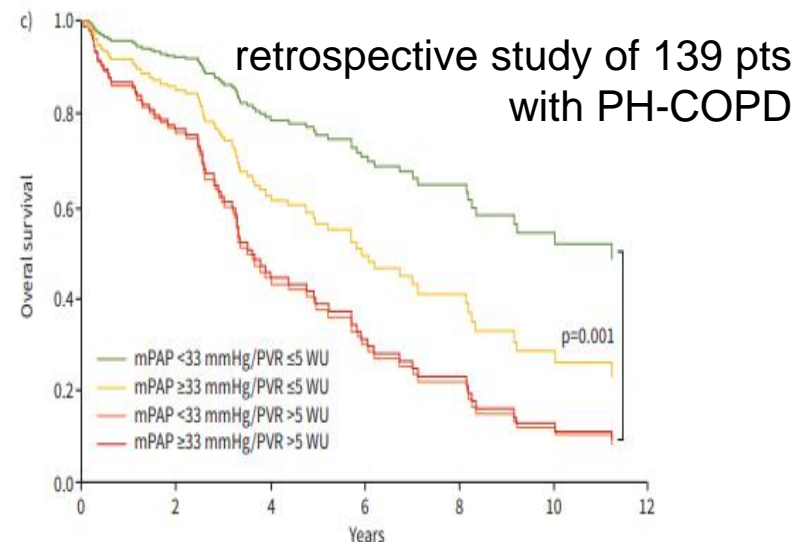
2022 ESC/ERS guidelines for PH



Number at risk

Time (years)	0	0.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5
PVR ≤5 WU	59	47	36	33	23	18	16	16	13	10	6
PVR >5 WU	390	294	226	174	132	99	73	54	42	32	27

Olsson KM, et al. Eur Respir J 2021; 58: 2101483



Number at risk

Time (years)	0	2	4	6	8	10	12
mPAP <33 mmHg/PVR ≤5 WU	55	52	31	26	20	14	
mPAP ≥33 mmHg/PVR ≤5 WU	28	23	15	9	5	3	
mPAP <33 mmHg/PVR >5 WU	6	5	2	1			
mPAP ≥33 mmHg/PVR >5 WU	49	29	12	8	6	3	

Zeder K, et al. Eur Respir J. 2021;58: 210094

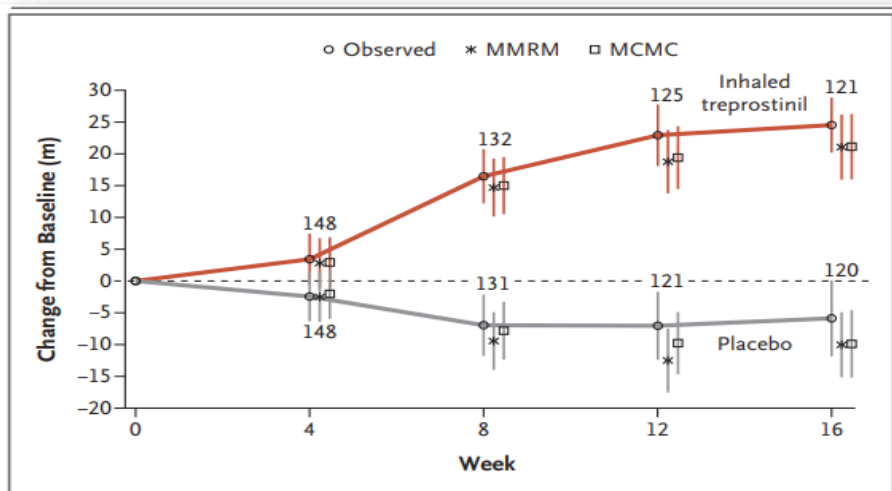
Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
If PH is suspected in patients with lung disease, it is recommended that echocardiography <sup>c</sup> be performed and the results interpreted in conjunction with ABG, PFTs including DLCO, and CT imaging	I	C
In patients with lung disease and suspected PH, it is recommended to optimize treatment of the underlying lung disease and, where indicated, hypoxaemia, sleep-disordered breathing, and/or alveolar hypoventilation	I	C
In patients with lung disease and <u>suspected severe PH</u> , or where there is uncertainty regarding the treatment of PH, <u>referral to a PH centre</u> is recommended <sup>d</sup>	I	C
In patients with lung disease and severe PH, an <u>individualized approach to treatment</u> is recommended	I	C
It is recommended to refer eligible patients with lung disease and PH for LTx evaluation	I	C
In patients with lung disease and suspected PH, <u>RHC is recommended if the results are expected to aid management decisions</u>	I	C
Inhaled treprostinil may be considered in patients with PH associated with ILD <sup>734</sup>	IIb	B
The use of ambrisentan is not recommended in patients with PH associated with IPF <sup>740</sup>	III	B
The use of riociguat is not recommended in patients with PH associated with IIP <sup>181</sup>	III	B
The use of PAH medication is not recommended in patients with lung disease and non-severe PH <sup>e</sup>	III	C

2022 Updated

Recommendations	GRADE		Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
	Quality of evidence	Strength of recommendation		
PDE5is may be considered in patients with severe PH associated with ILD (individual decision-making in PH centres)	Very low	Conditional	IIb	C
The use of PDE5is in patients with ILD and non-severe PH is not recommended	Very low	Conditional	III	C

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Inhaled Treprostinil in Pulmonary Hypertension Due to Interstitial Lung Disease



**Figure 2.** Mean Change from Baseline in Peak 6-Minute Walk Distance through Week 16.

*N Engl J Med 2021;384:325-34 INCREASE study*

and Secondary End Points.\*

	Inhaled Treprostinil (N=163)	Placebo (N=163)	Treatment Effect (95% CI)	P Value
distance from baseline	21.08±5.12	-10.04±5.12	31.12±7.25 (16.85 to 45.39)‡	<0.001

Secondary end points§

Change in plasma concentration of NT-proBNP from baseline to wk 16¶

	Inhaled Treprostinil (N=163)	Placebo (N=163)	Treatment Effect (95% CI)	P Value
Mean (±SD) change — pg/ml	-396.35±1904.90	1453.95±7296.20		
Median — pg/ml	-22.65	20.65		
Range — pg/ml	-11,433.0 to 5373.1	-5483.3 to 87,148.3		
Ratio to baseline	0.85±0.06	1.46±0.11	0.58±0.06 (0.47 to 0.72)‖	<0.001

Occurrence of clinical worsening — no. (%)	Inhaled Treprostinil (N=163)	Placebo (N=163)	Treatment Effect (95% CI)	P Value
Any event	37 (22.7)	54 (33.1)		
Hospitalization for cardiopulmonary indication	18 (11.0)	24 (14.7)		
Decrease in 6-minute walk distance of >15% from baseline	13 (8.0)	26 (16.0)		
Death from any cause	4 (2.5)	4 (2.5)		
Lung transplantation	2 (1.2)	0		

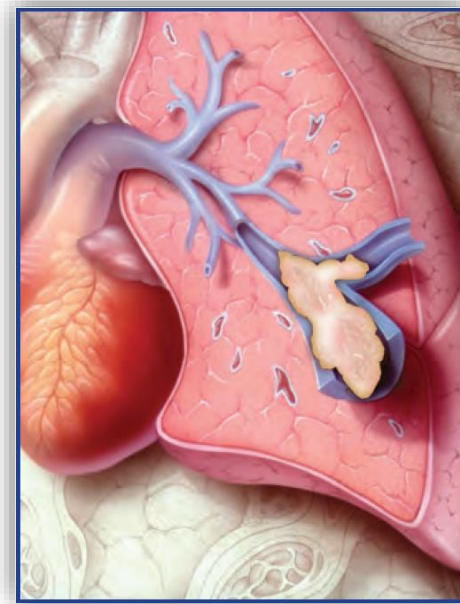
# Group 4. PH associated with pulmonary artery obstructions

**GROUP 4** PH associated with pulmonary artery obstructions

4.1 Chronic thrombo-embolic PH

4.2 Other pulmonary artery obstructions<sup>c</sup>

# Chronic Thrombo-embolic Pulmonary Hypertension (CTEPH)



- **Defining CTEPH**

- PH after 3 months of therapeutic anticoagulation

- **Persistent perfusion defect(s) on V/Q scan with chronic, organized, fibrotic clots in CTPA/DSA.**

- not only a consequence of PA obstruction by organized fibrotic clots but can also be related to the associated microvasculopathy.

- CTEPH is thought to develop following a pulmonary embolism (PE) that fails to resolve in between 0.1% and 11.8% of patients.

In patients with persistent or new-onset dyspnoea or exercise limitation following PE, further diagnostic evaluation to assess for CTEPH/CTEPD is recommended

I

## DIAGNOSIS OF ACUTE PE

Anticoagulate

FOLLOW-UP AT 3–6 MONTHS<sup>a</sup>

Dyspnoea and/or functional limitation<sup>b</sup>?

Yes

No

TTE:  
Determine probability of PH<sup>c</sup>

≥ 1 present:  
may consider TTE

ASSESS:  
Risk factors for CTEPH<sup>d</sup>

Low

Intermediate

High

None  
present

CONSIDER:

- 1) Elevated NT-proBNP
- 2) Risk factors for CTEPH<sup>d</sup>
- 3) Abnormal CPET results<sup>e</sup>

≥ 1  
present

None  
present

Seek alternative  
causes of dyspnoea<sup>f</sup>  
and/or  
common causes of PH

No

V/Q SCAN:  
Mismatched perfusion defects?

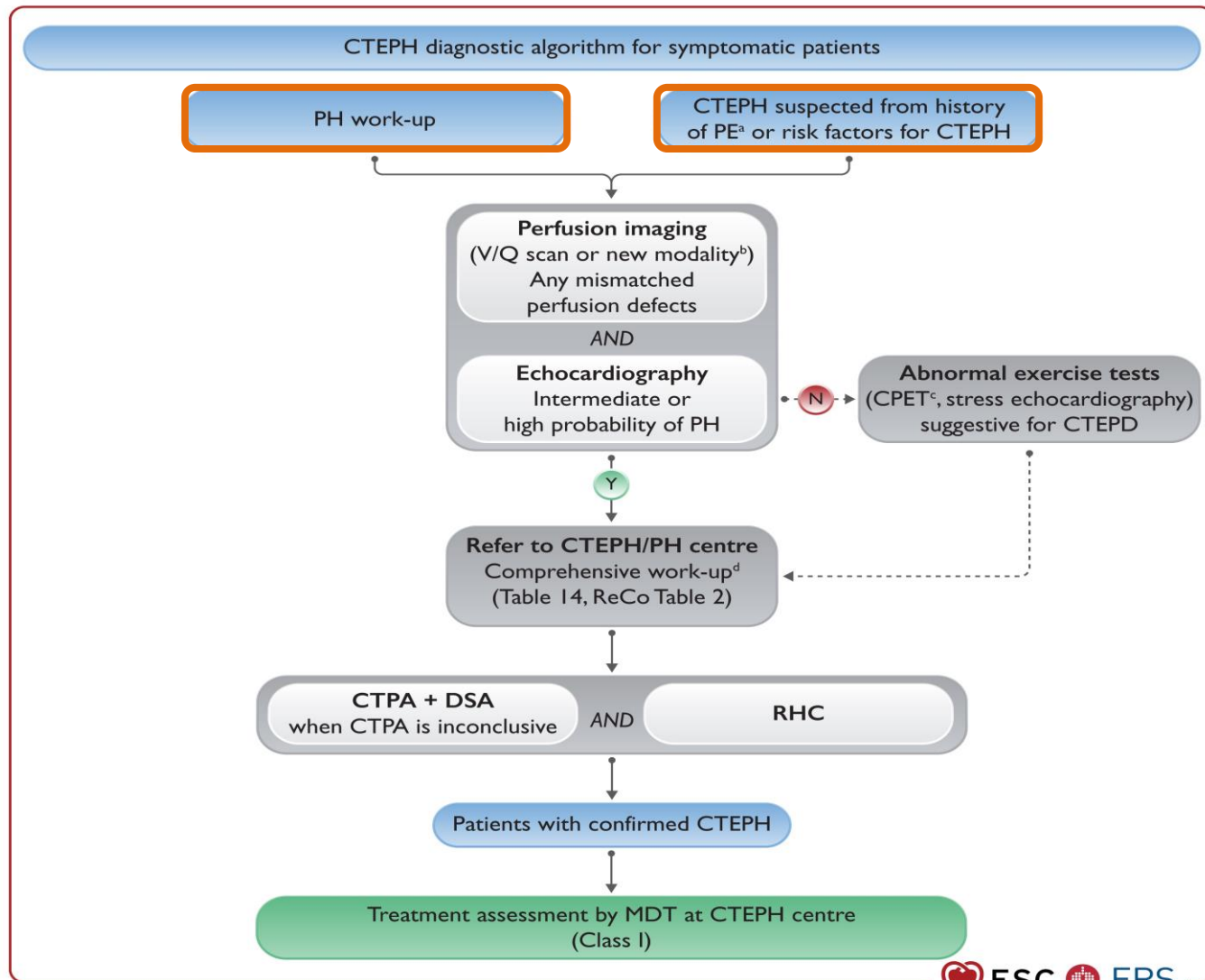
Yes

Refer to PH/CTEPH expert  
centre for further diagnostic  
work-up

For symptomatic patients with mismatched perfusion lung defects beyond 3 months of anticoagulation for acute PE, referral to a PH/CTEPH centre is recommended after considering the results of echocardiography, BNP/NT-proBNP, and/or CPET

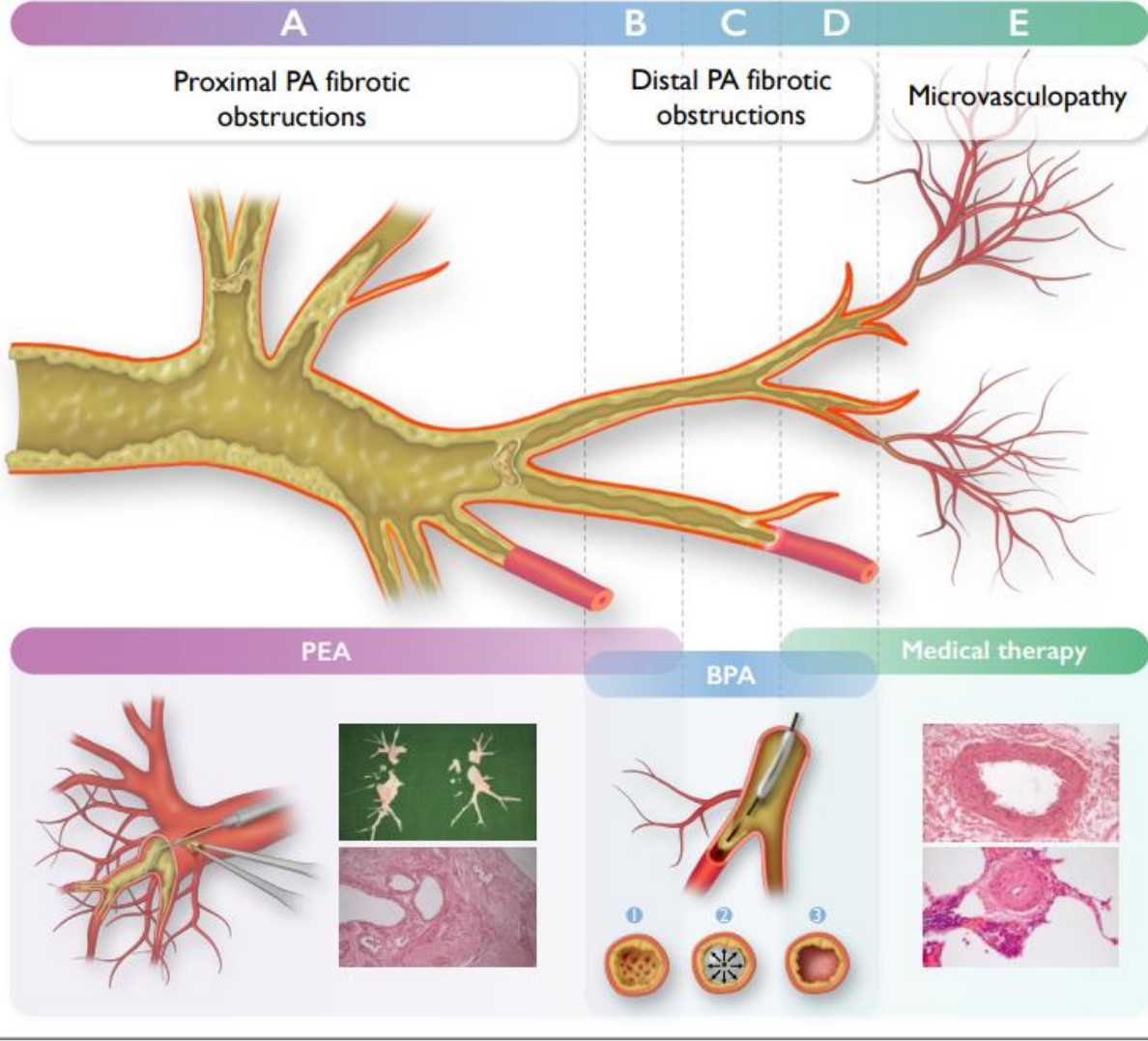
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# Diagnostic strategy in CTEPH



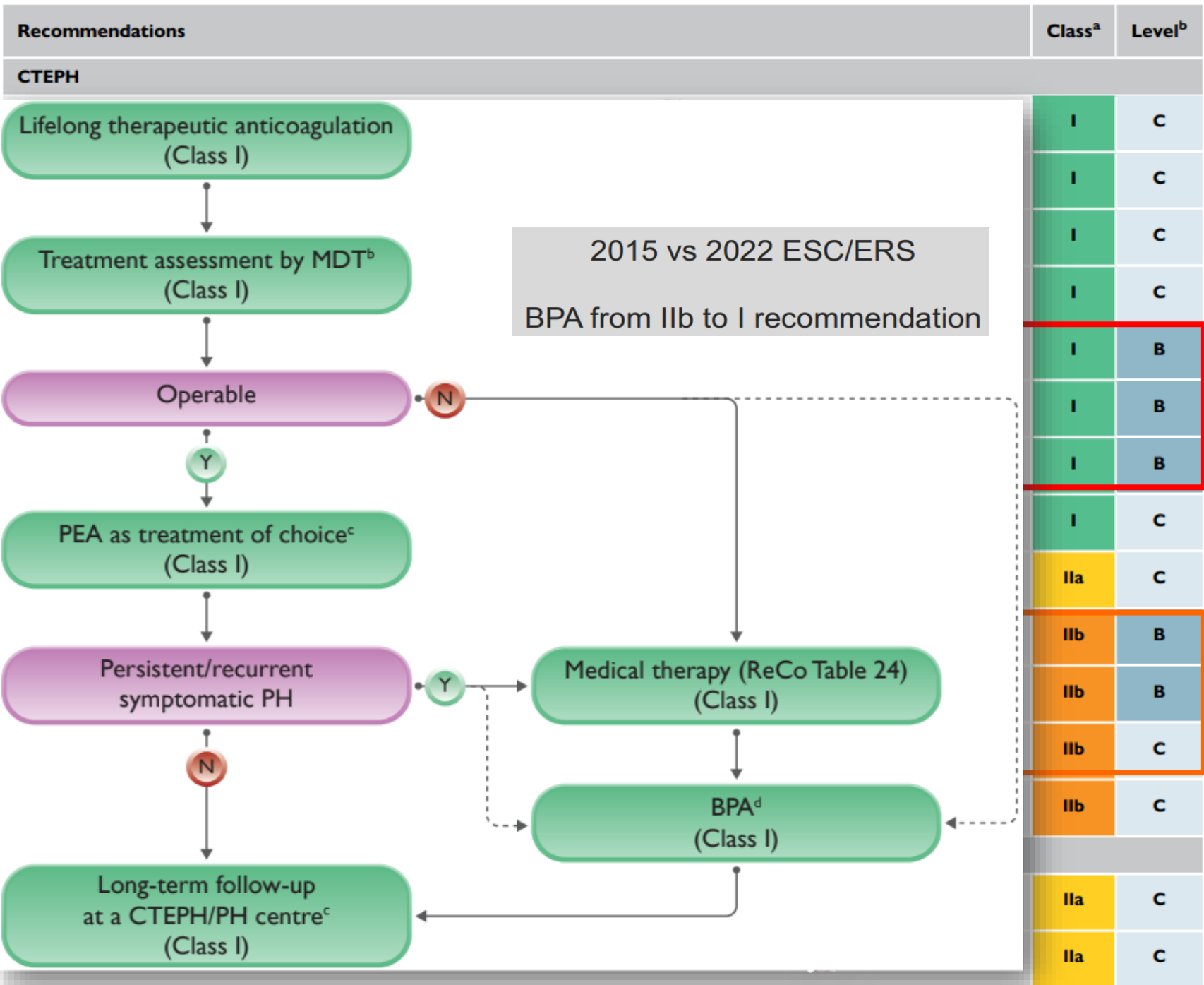
<sup>b</sup>Alternative perfusion imaging techniques—such as iodine subtraction mapping, DECT, and MRI perfusion CTPA, computed tomography pulmonary angiography; DSA, digital subtraction angiography;

# Management strategy in CTEPH



Multimodal CTEPH treatment

PEA, Pulmonary endarterectomy;  
 BPA, Balloon pulmonary angioplasty



2015 vs 2022 ESC/ERS  
BPA from IIb to I recommendation

Lifelong therapeutic anticoagulation (Class I)

Treatment assessment by MDT<sup>b</sup> (Class I)

Operable

PEA as treatment of choice<sup>c</sup> (Class I)

Persistent/recurrent symptomatic PH

Long-term follow-up at a CTEPH/PH centre<sup>c</sup> (Class I)

Medical therapy (ReCo Table 24) (Class I)

BPA<sup>d</sup> (Class I)

# Diagnosis and Assessment of PH/PAH

## *New ESC Pulmonary Hypertension Guidelines Urge Earlier Diagnosis*

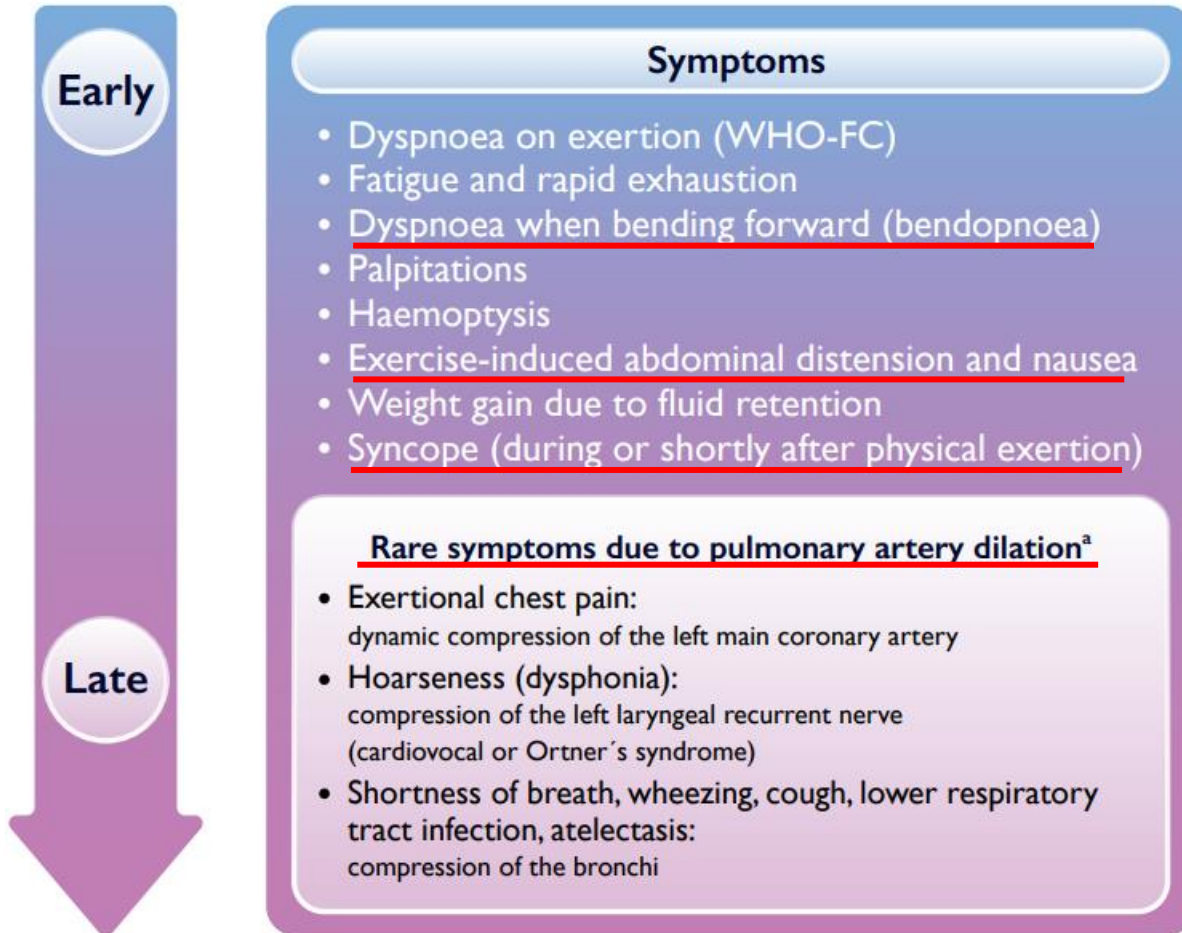
### **1. To raise early suspicion of PH**

→ fast-track referral to PH centers in patients with a high likelihood of PAH, CTEPH, or other forms of severe PH.

### **2. To identify underlying diseases** (LHD, lung disease, comorbidities)

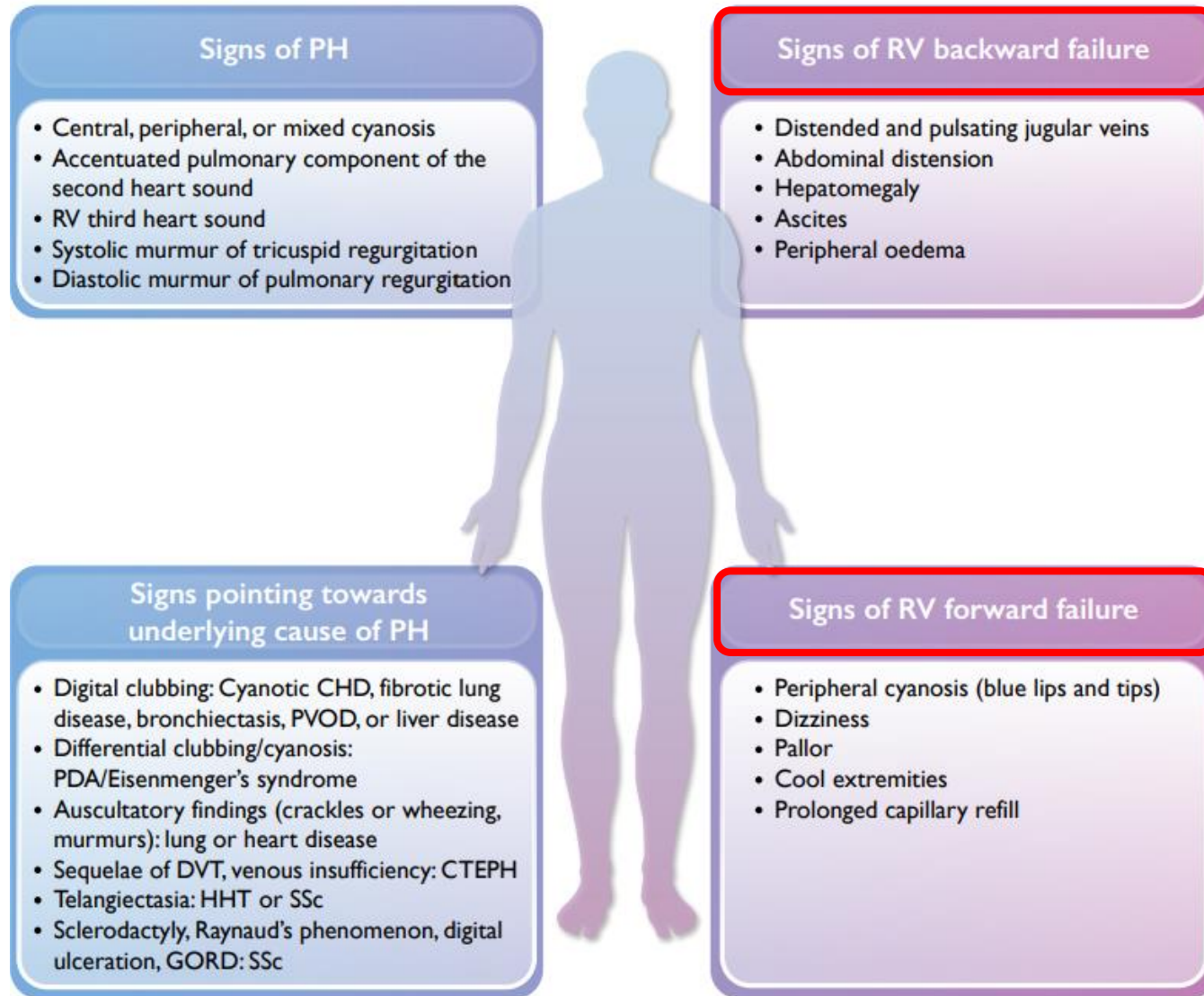
→ proper classification, risk assessment, and treatment

# Symptoms in patients with PH



*<sup>a</sup>Thoracic compression syndromes are found in a minority of patients with PAH with pronounced dilation of the pulmonary artery, and may occur at any disease stage and even in patients with otherwise mild functional impairment.*

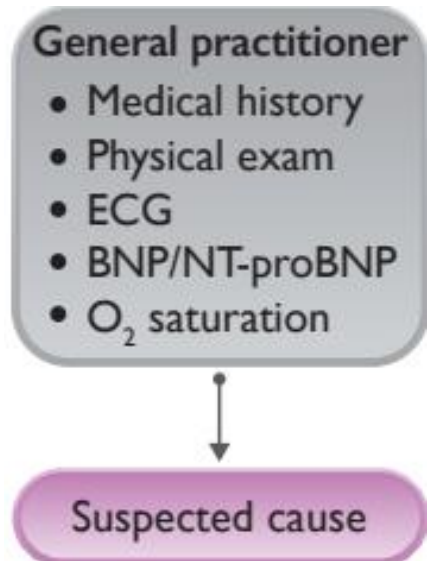
# Clinical signs in patients with PH



# Diagnostic algorithm

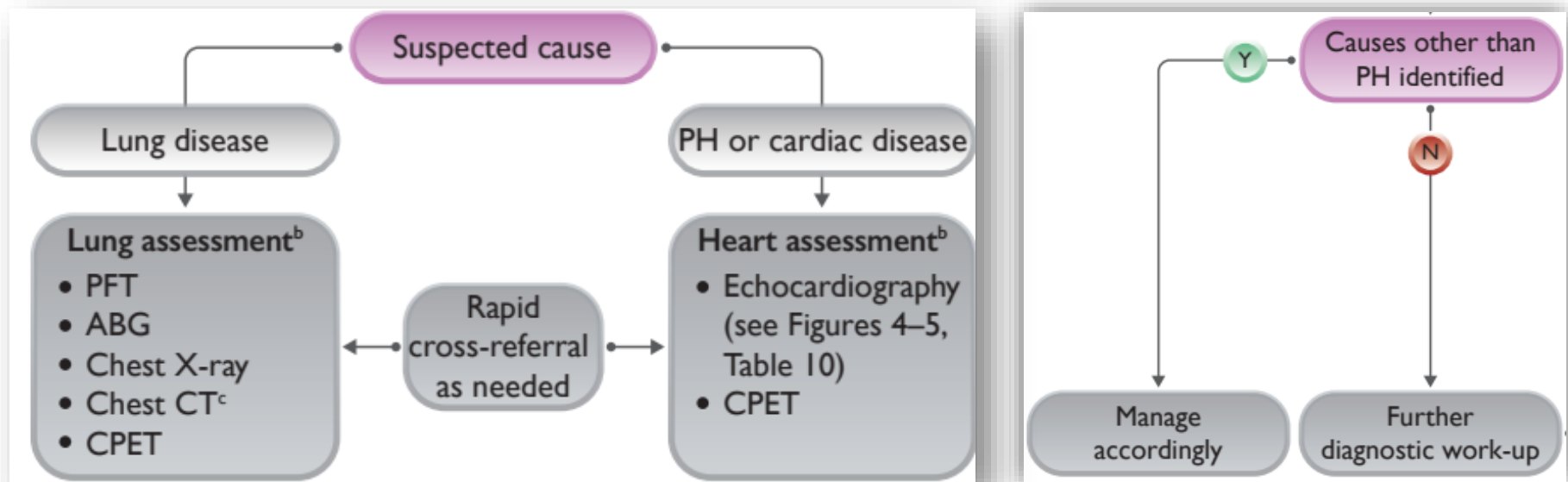
Diagnostic algorithm of patients with unexplained exertional dyspnoea and/or suspected PH

- **Step 1 (suspicion) : initial evaluation**
- raise a suspicion of a cardiac or respiratory disorder causing the symptom
  - a comprehensive medical/familial history
  - thorough physical examination (including BP, HR, SpO<sub>2</sub>)
  - blood test to determine BNP/NT-proBNP
  - resting ECG



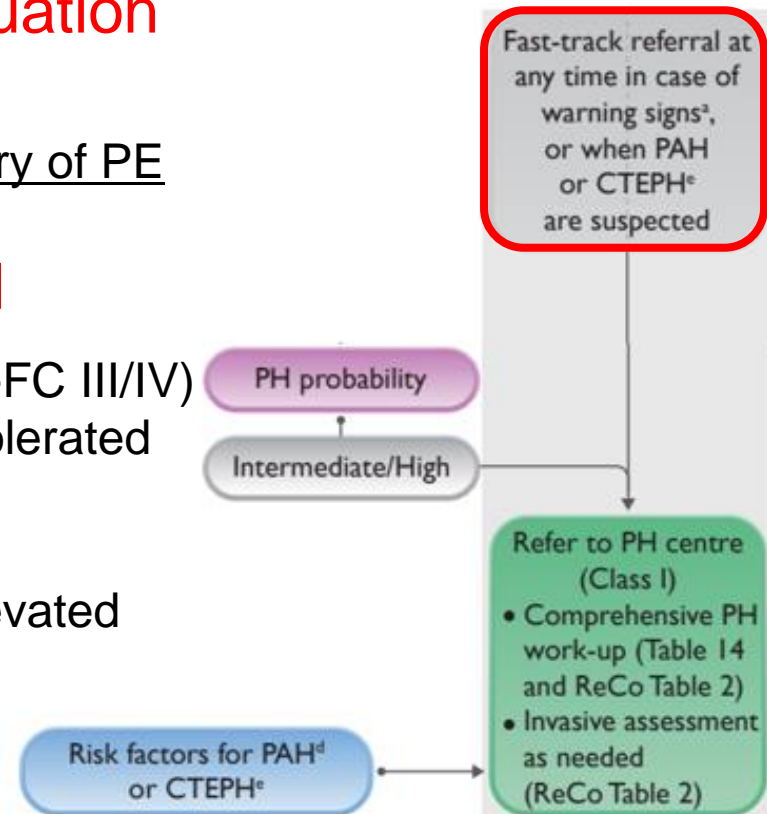
# Diagnostic algorithm

- **Step 2 (detection)** : non-invasive lung & cardiac testing
- **Screening of PH with cardiac echo** is important.
- Patients should be managed accordingly based on this initial assessment.



# Diagnostic algorithm

- **Step 3 (confirmation)** : comprehensive & invasive w-up
- distinguishing between the various causes of PH according to the current clinical classification
- **Refer to PH center for further evaluation**
  - 1) intermediate/high probability of PH
  - 2) in the presence of RF for PAH, or a history of PE
- **Warning signs must be recognized**
  - 1) rapidly evolving/severe symptoms(WHO-FC III/IV)
  - 2) syncope, signs of low CO state, poorly tolerated arrhythmias, hypotension/tachycardia
  - 3) clinical signs of RV failure
  - 4) RV dysfunction by echocardiography, elevated cardiac biomarkers



Diagnostic algorithm of patients with unexplained exertional dyspnoea and/or suspected PH

**Step 1: (suspicion)**

- general practitioner, seeking for a common (respiratory or cardiac) cause
- Fast track referral in “warning” clinical scenario

General practitioner

- Medical history
- Physical exam
- ECG
- BNP/NT-proBNP
- O<sub>2</sub> saturation

Fast-track referral at any time in case of warning signs<sup>a</sup>, or when PAH or CTEPH<sup>e</sup> are suspected

Suspected cause

Lung disease

PH or cardiac disease

Lung assessment<sup>b</sup>

- PFT
- ABG
- Chest X-ray
- Chest CT<sup>c</sup>
- CPET

Heart assessment<sup>b</sup>

- Echocardiography (see Figures 4–5, Table 10)
- CPET

Rapid cross-referral as needed

Causes other than PH identified

Low

PH probability

Intermediate/High

Y

N

Manage accordingly

Further diagnostic work-up

Risk factors for PAH<sup>d</sup> or CTEPH<sup>e</sup>

Refer to PH centre (Class I)

- Comprehensive PH work-up (Table 14 and ReCo Table 2)
- Invasive assessment as needed (ReCo Table 2)

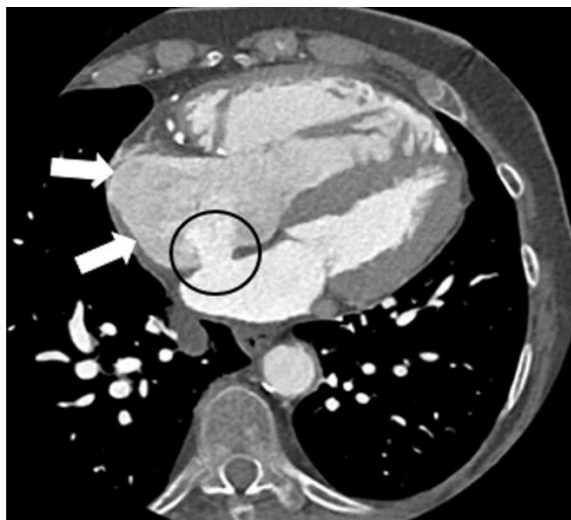
**Step 2: (detection)**

- Assessment of heart (with EchoCG) and lung with a rapid cross referral

**Step 3: (confirmation)**

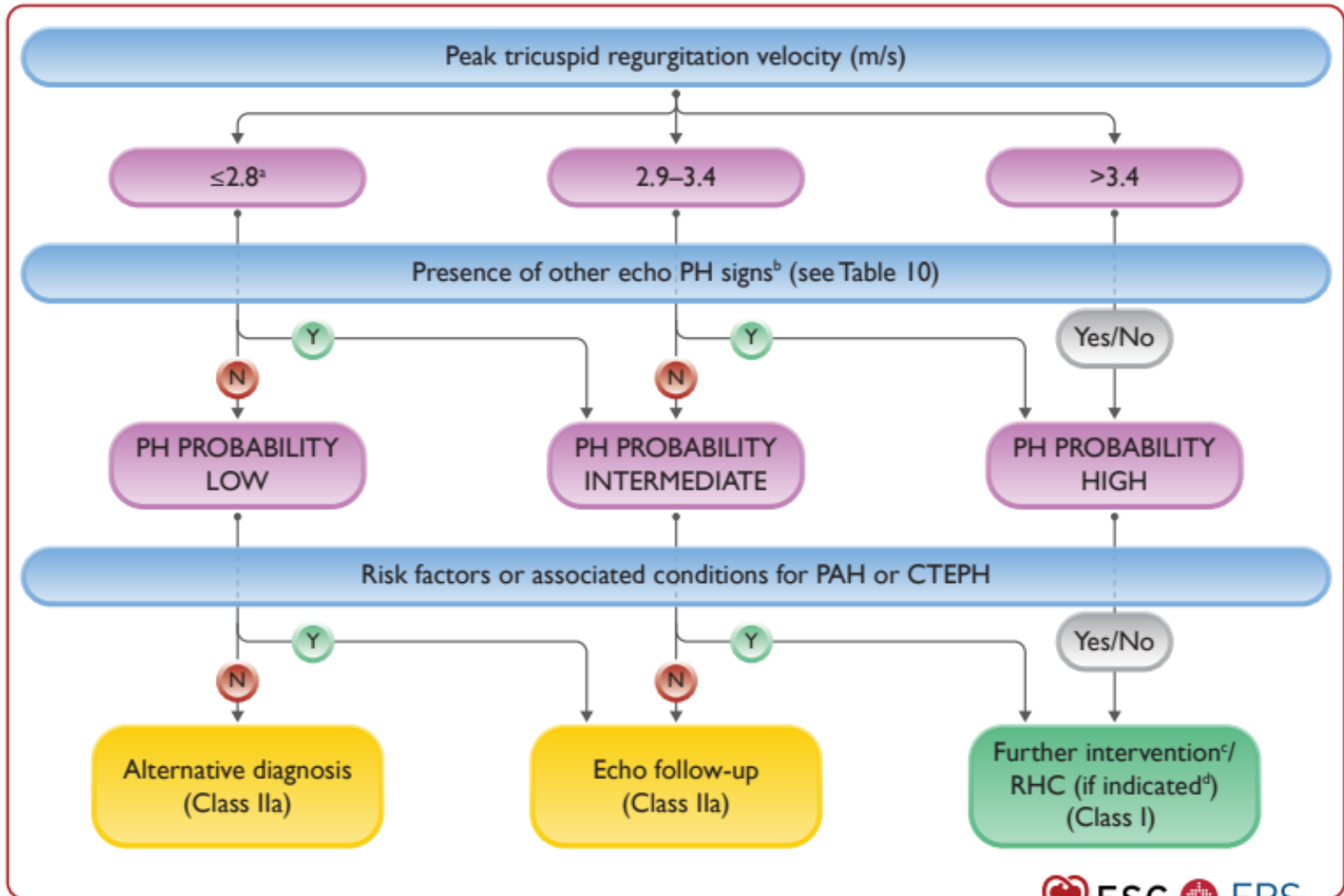
- Further W/U based on PH probability
- Referral to PH center for invasive assessment and comprehensive W/U

# Radiographic signs of PH



Signs of PH and concomitant abnormalities	Signs of left heart disease/ pulmonary congestion	Signs of lung disease
Right heart enlargement	Central air space opacification	Flattening of diaphragm (COPD/emphysema)
PA enlargement (including aneurysmal dilatation)	Interlobular septal thickening 'Kerley B' lines	Hyperlucency (COPD/emphysema)
Pruning of the peripheral vessels	Pleural effusions	Lung volume loss (fibrotic lung disease)
'Water-bottle' shape of cardiac silhouette <sup>a</sup>	Left atrial enlargement (including splayed carina) Left ventricular dilation	Reticular opacification (fibrotic lung disease)

# Echocardiographic probability of PH



**Table 10** Additional echocardiographic signs suggestive of pulmonary hypertension

A: The ventricles	B: Pulmonary artery	C: Inferior vena cava and RA
RV/LV basal diameter/area ratio >1.0	RVOT AT <105 ms and/or mid-systolic notching	IVC diameter >21 mm with decreased inspiratory collapse (<50% with a sniff or <20% with quiet inspiration)
Flattening of the interventricular septum (LVEI >1.1 in systole and/or diastole)	Early diastolic pulmonary regurgitation velocity >2.2 m/s	RA area (end-systole) >18 cm <sup>2</sup>
TAPSE/sPAP ratio <0.55 mm/mmHg	PA diameter >AR diameter PA diameter >25 mm	

Tricuspid annular plane systolic excursion

(TAPSE) 삼첨판륜 수축기 이동거리

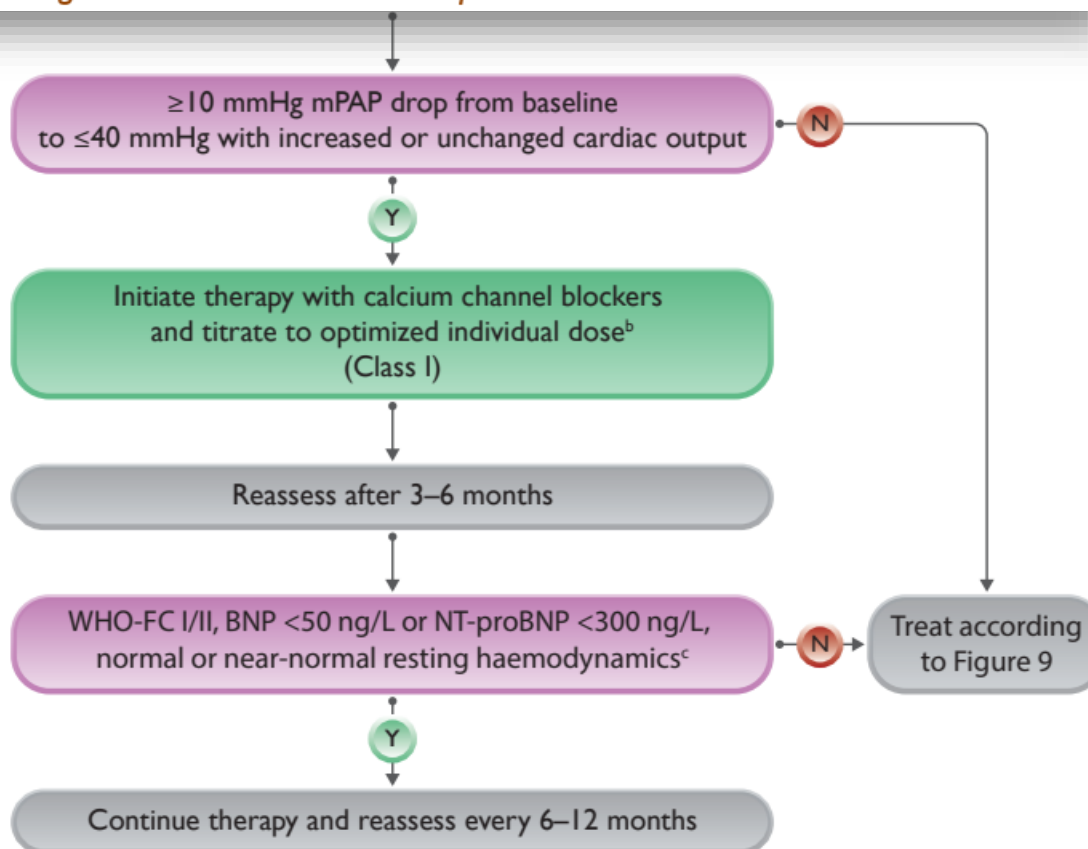
Vasoreactivity testing algorithm in patients with presumed diagnosis of I/H/D-PAH and treatment of responders

**Table 12** Route of administration, half-life, dosages, and duration of administration of the recommended test compounds for vasoreactivity testing in pulmonary arterial hypertension

Compound	Route	Half-life	Dosage	Duration
Nitric oxide <sup>129</sup>	inh	15–30 s	10–20 p.p.m.	5–10 min <sup>a</sup>
Iloprost <sup>130,131</sup>	inh	30 min	5–10 µg <sup>b</sup>	10–15 min <sup>c</sup>
Epoprostenol <sup>129</sup>	i.v.	3 min	2–12 ng/kg/min	10 min <sup>d</sup>

© ESC/ERS 2022

*IV Adenosine is no longer recommended d/t frequent S/E*



# **Treatment of PH/PAH**

# General measures

2015

## Recommendations

Oral anticoagulant treatment may be considered in patients with IPAH, HPAH and PAH due to use of anorexigens.

**IIb**

**C**

## General measures

Supervised exercise training is recommended in patients with PAH under medical therapy<sup>314,315,317</sup>

**I**

**A**

Psychosocial support is recommended in patients with PAH

**I**

**C**

Immunization of patients with PAH against SARS-CoV-2, influenza, and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* is recommended

**I**

**C**

Diuretic treatment is recommended in patients with PAH with signs of RV failure and fluid retention

**I**

**C**

Long-term oxygen therapy is recommended in patients with PAH whose arterial blood oxygen pressure is <8 kPa (60 mmHg)<sup>c</sup>

**I**

**C**

In the presence of iron-deficiency anaemia, correction of iron status is recommended in patients with PAH

**I**

**C**

In the absence of anaemia, iron repletion may be considered in patients with PAH with iron deficiency

**IIb**

**C**

Anticoagulation is not generally recommended in patients with PAH but may be considered on an individual basis

**IIb**

**C**

The use of ACEis, ARBs, ARNIs, SGLT-2is, beta-blockers, or ivabradine is not recommended in patients with PAH unless required by comorbidities (i.e. high blood pressure, coronary artery disease, left HF, or arrhythmias)

**III**

**C**

### Special circumstances

In-flight oxygen administration is recommended for patients using oxygen or whose arterial blood oxygen pressure is <8 kPa (60 mmHg) at sea level

**I**

**C**

For interventions requiring anaesthesia, multidisciplinary consultation at a PH centre to assess risk and benefit should be considered

**IIa**

**C**

# Recommendations for women of childbearing potential

2022 Updated

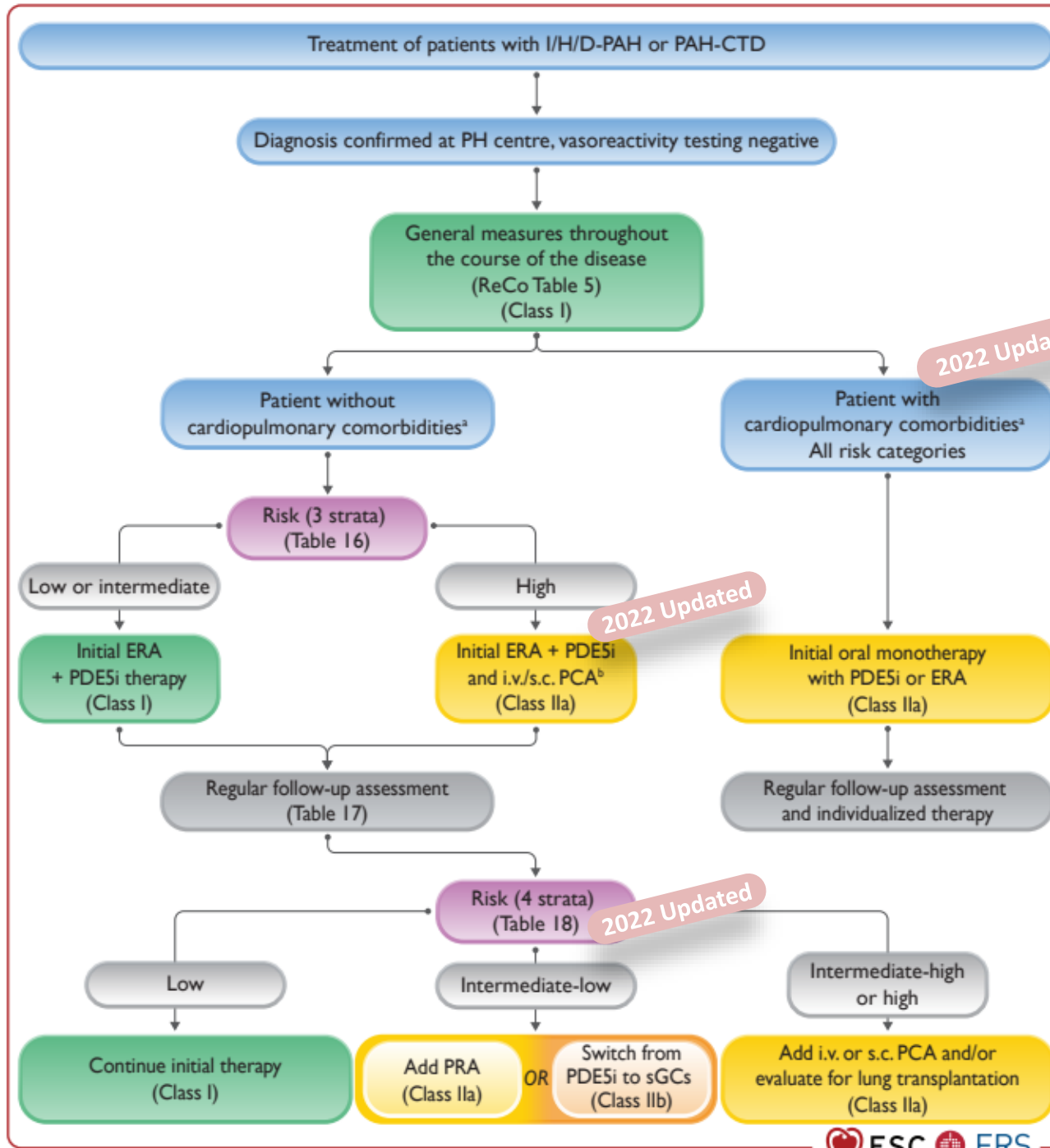
Recommendations	2015	Class	Level
It is recommended to avoid pregnancy in patients with PAH.		I	C

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
It is recommended that women of childbearing potential with PAH are counselled at the time of diagnosis about the risks and uncertainties associated with becoming pregnant; this should include advice against becoming pregnant, and referral for psychological support where needed	I	C
It is recommended to provide women of childbearing potential with PAH with clear contraceptive advice, considering the individual needs of the woman but recognizing that the implications of contraceptive failure are significant in PAH	I	C
It is recommended that women with PAH who consider pregnancy or who become pregnant receive prompt counselling in an experienced PH centre, to facilitate genetic counselling and shared decision-making, and to provide psychological support to the patients and their families where needed	I	C
For women with PAH having a termination of pregnancy, it is recommended that this be performed in PH centres, with psychological support provided to the patients and their families	I	C

# Comprehensive risk assessment in PAH (three-strata model)

2022 Updated

Determinants of prognosis (estimated 1-year mortality)	Low risk (<5%)	Intermediate risk (5–20%)	High risk (>20%)
<b>Clinical observations and modifiable variables</b>			
Signs of right HF	Absent	Absent	Present
Progression of symptoms and clinical manifestations	No	Slow	Rapid
Syncope	No	Occasional syncope <sup>a</sup>	Repeated syncope <sup>b</sup>
WHO-FC	I, II	III	IV
6MWD <sup>c</sup>	>440 m	165–440 m	<165 m
CPET	Peak VO <sub>2</sub> >15 mL/min/kg (>65% pred.) VE/VCO <sub>2</sub> slope <36	Peak VO <sub>2</sub> 11–15 mL/min/kg (35–65% pred.) VE/VCO <sub>2</sub> slope 36–44	Peak VO <sub>2</sub> <11 mL/min/kg (<35% pred.) VE/VCO <sub>2</sub> slope >44
Biomarkers: BNP or NT-proBNP <sup>d</sup>	BNP <50 ng/L NT-proBNP <300 ng/L	BNP 50–800 ng/L NT-proBNP 300–1100 ng/L	BNP >800 ng/L NT-proBNP >1100 ng/L
Echocardiography	RA area <18 cm <sup>2</sup> TAPSE/sPAP >0.32 mm/mmHg No pericardial effusion	RA area 18–26 cm <sup>2</sup> TAPSE/sPAP 0.19–0.32 mm/mmHg Minimal pericardial effusion	RA area >26 cm <sup>2</sup> TAPSE/sPAP <0.19 mm/mmHg Moderate or large pericardial effusion
cMRI <sup>e</sup>	RVEF >54% SVI >40 mL/m <sup>2</sup> RVESVI <42 mL/m <sup>2</sup>	RVEF 37–54% SVI 26–40 mL/m <sup>2</sup> RVESVI 42–54 mL/m <sup>2</sup>	RVEF <37% SVI <26 mL/m <sup>2</sup> RVESVI >54 mL/m <sup>2</sup>
Haemodynamics	RAP <8 mmHg CI ≥2.5 L/min/m <sup>2</sup>	RAP 8–14 mmHg CI 2.0–2.4 L/min/m <sup>2</sup>	RAP >14 mmHg CI <2.0 L/min/m <sup>2</sup>
	SVI >38 mL/m <sup>2</sup>	SVI 31–38 mL/m <sup>2</sup>	SVI <31 mL/m <sup>2</sup>
	SvO <sub>2</sub> >65%	SvO <sub>2</sub> 60–65%	SvO <sub>2</sub> <60%



a. **Cardiopulmonary comorbidities:** a/w an increased risk of left ventricular diastolic dysfunction, and include obesity, HTN, DM, and coronary heart disease; **Pulmonary comorbidities :** include signs of mild parenchymal lung disease and are often a/w a low DLCO (<45% predicted value)

PRA, prostacyclin receptor agonist:  
: **Selexipag**

sGCs, soluble guanylate cyclase stimulator  
: **Riociguat**

**Table 17** Suggested assessment and timing for the follow-up of patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension

	At baseline	3–6 months after changes in therapy <sup>a</sup>	Every 3–6 months in stable patients <sup>a</sup>	In case of clinical worsening
Medical assessment (including WHO-FC)	Green	Green	Green	Green
6MWT	Green	Green	Green	Green
Blood test (including NT-proBNP) <sup>b,c</sup>	Green	Green	Green	Green
ECG	Green	Green	Green	Green
Echocardiography or cMRI	Green	Green	Orange	Green
ABG or pulse oximetry <sup>d</sup>	Green	Green	Green	Green
Disease-specific HR-QoL	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
CPET	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
RHC	Green	Yellow	Orange	Yellow

Green indicated Yellow should be considered; Orange may be considered.

**Table 18** Variables used to calculate the simplified four-strata risk-assessment tool

Determinants of prognosis	Low risk	Intermediate–low risk	Intermediate–high risk	High risk
Points assigned	1	2	3	4
WHO-FC	I or II <sup>a</sup>	-	III	IV
6MWD, m	>440	320–440	165–319	<165
BNP or NT-proBNP, <sup>a</sup> ng/L	<50 <300	50–199 300–649	200–800 650–1100	>800 >1100

Risk is calculated by dividing the sum of all grades by the number of variables and rounding to the next integer

# Take Home Points

- **The hemodynamic definition of PH has been updated as mPAP >20mmHg.**
  - The definition of PAH also implies a PAWP  $\leq$ 15 mmHg & PVR >2 WU.
- **The main diagnostic algorithm for PH has been simplified following**
  - **a three-step approach** : suspicion by first-line physicians, detection by echocardiography, and confirmation with RHC in PH centers
  - Rapid referral for Warning signs
- **Risk assessment & Treatment algorithm in PAH**
  - **The three-strata risk-stratification assessment at diagnosis.**
  - **A four-strata risk stratification at follow-up**
  - Initial combination therapy in non-Cardiopulmonary comorbidities
- **In group 3 PH,**
  - **Severe PH-LD** : mPAP > 35mmHg  $\rightarrow$  PVR > 5WU
  - PAH drugs may be considered in severe PH-LD
  - inhaled treprostinil is the first FDA-approved drug for PH-ILD



Thank you !

