

# Effect and Safety of Tocilizumab in critically ill COVID-19 patients

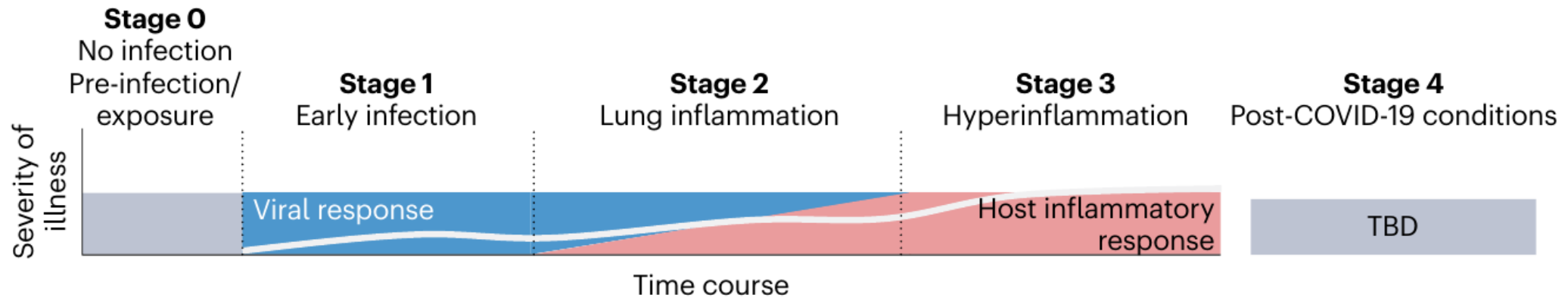


전남대학교병원 호흡기 내과  
김태옥

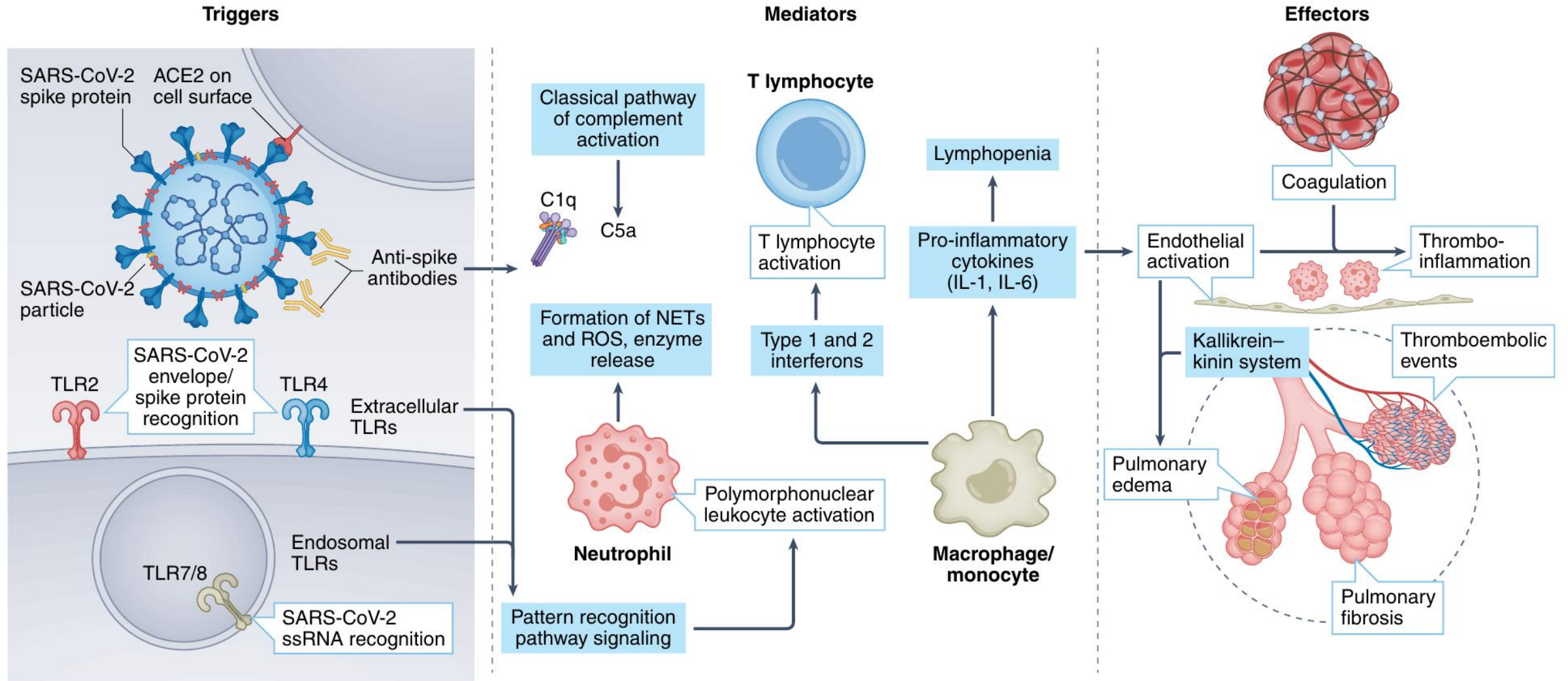
# Time course of COVID-19

**a**

Clinical symptoms	None	Fever, dry cough, diarrhoea, headache	Shortness of breath, hypoxia	ARDS, SIRS/shock, cardiac failure	Fatigue, neurological sequelae, pain, tachycardia
Interventions	Vaccines, antivirals	Fever-reducing agents, antivirals	Antivirals, immunomodulators, oxygen supplementation		TBD



# Pathophysiological factors targeted by immune based therapies



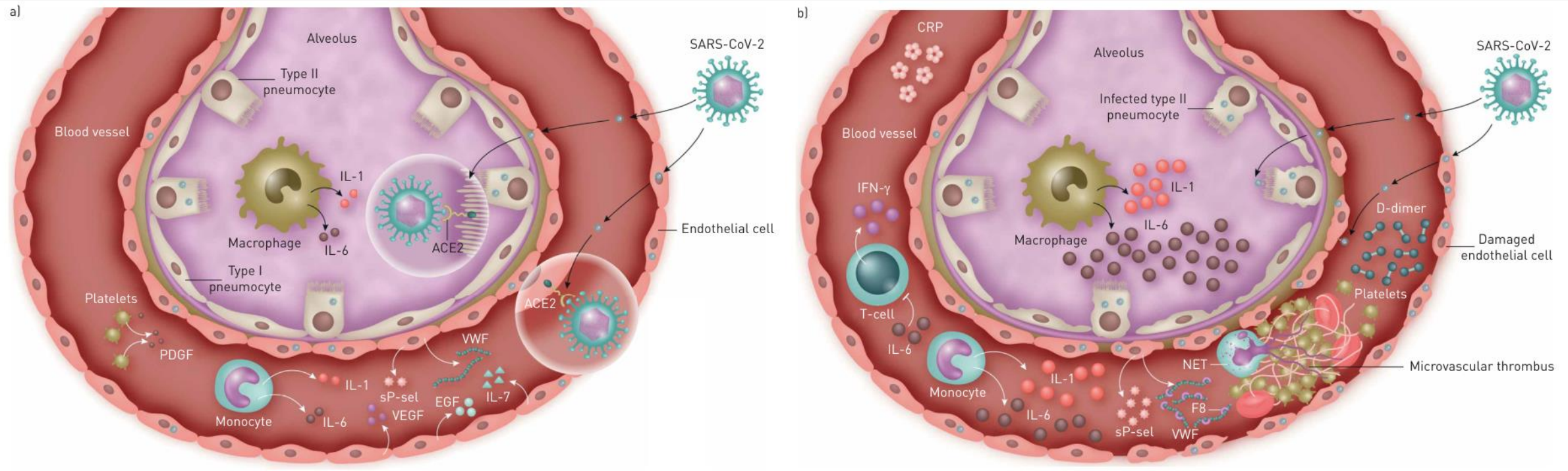
# Cytokine Storm Syndrome

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## ➤ Definition

- ✓ immune dysregulation characterized by perpetuated activation of lymphocytes and macrophages
- ✓ resulting in secretion of large quantities of cytokines;
- ✓ leading to overwhelming systemic inflammation and multi-organ failure with high mortality.

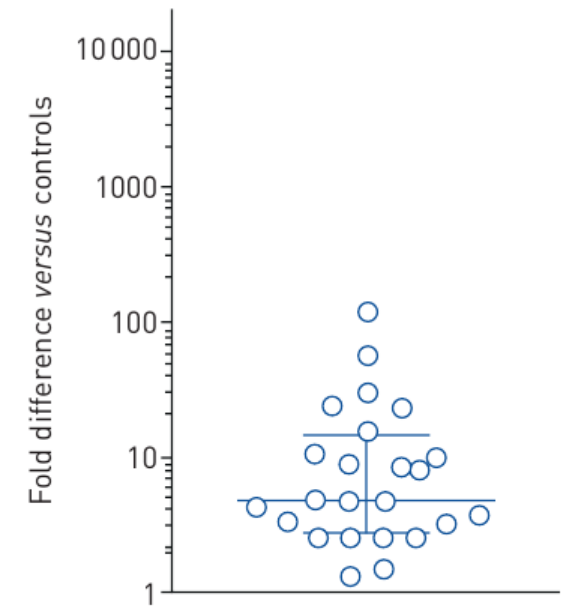
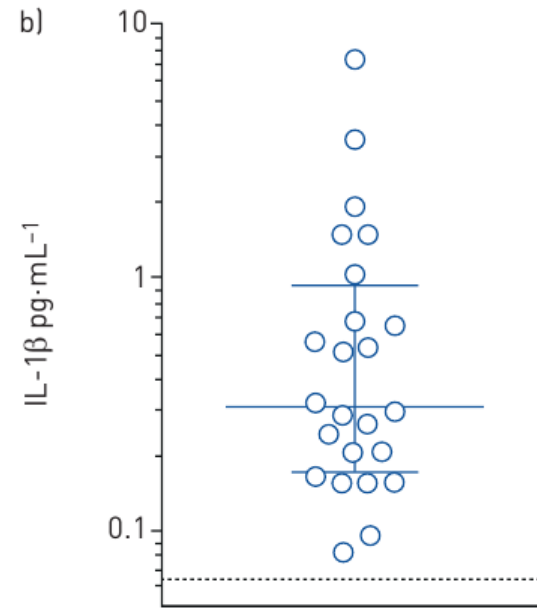
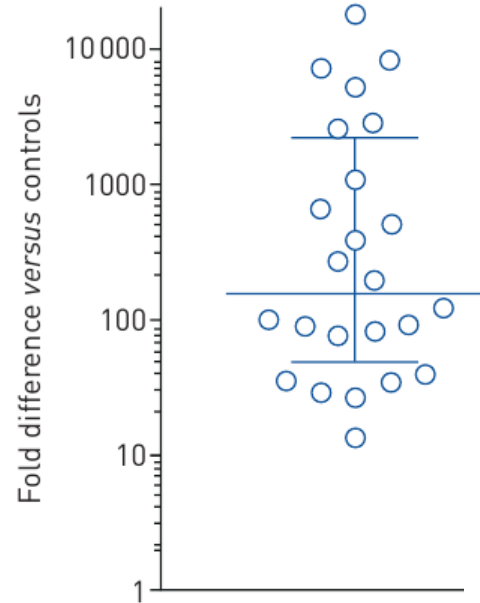
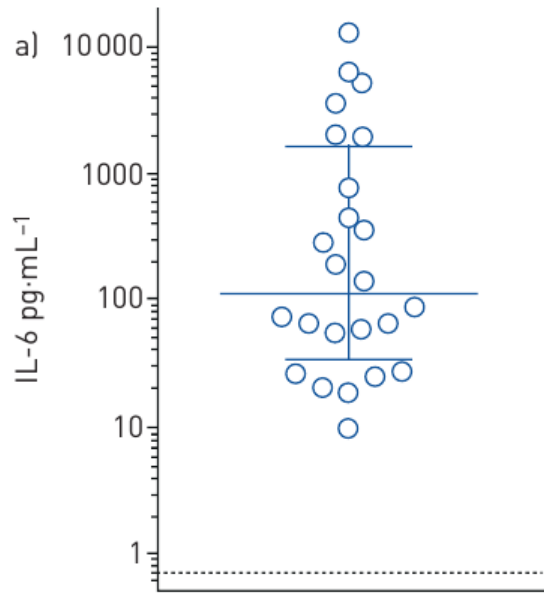
# Comparing mechanisms between mild and severe COVID-19

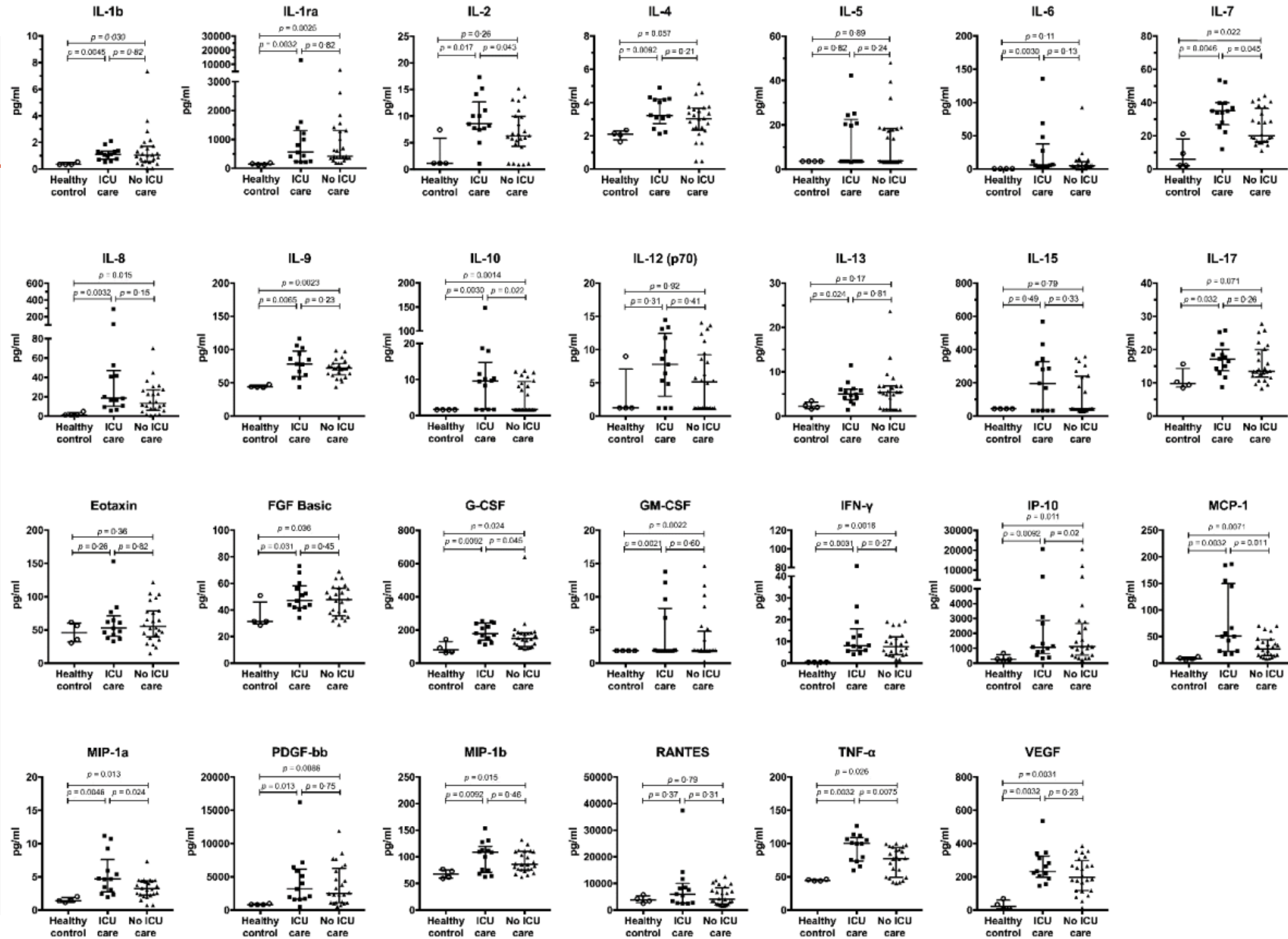


Low inflammatory cytokines and high tissue reparative growth factors

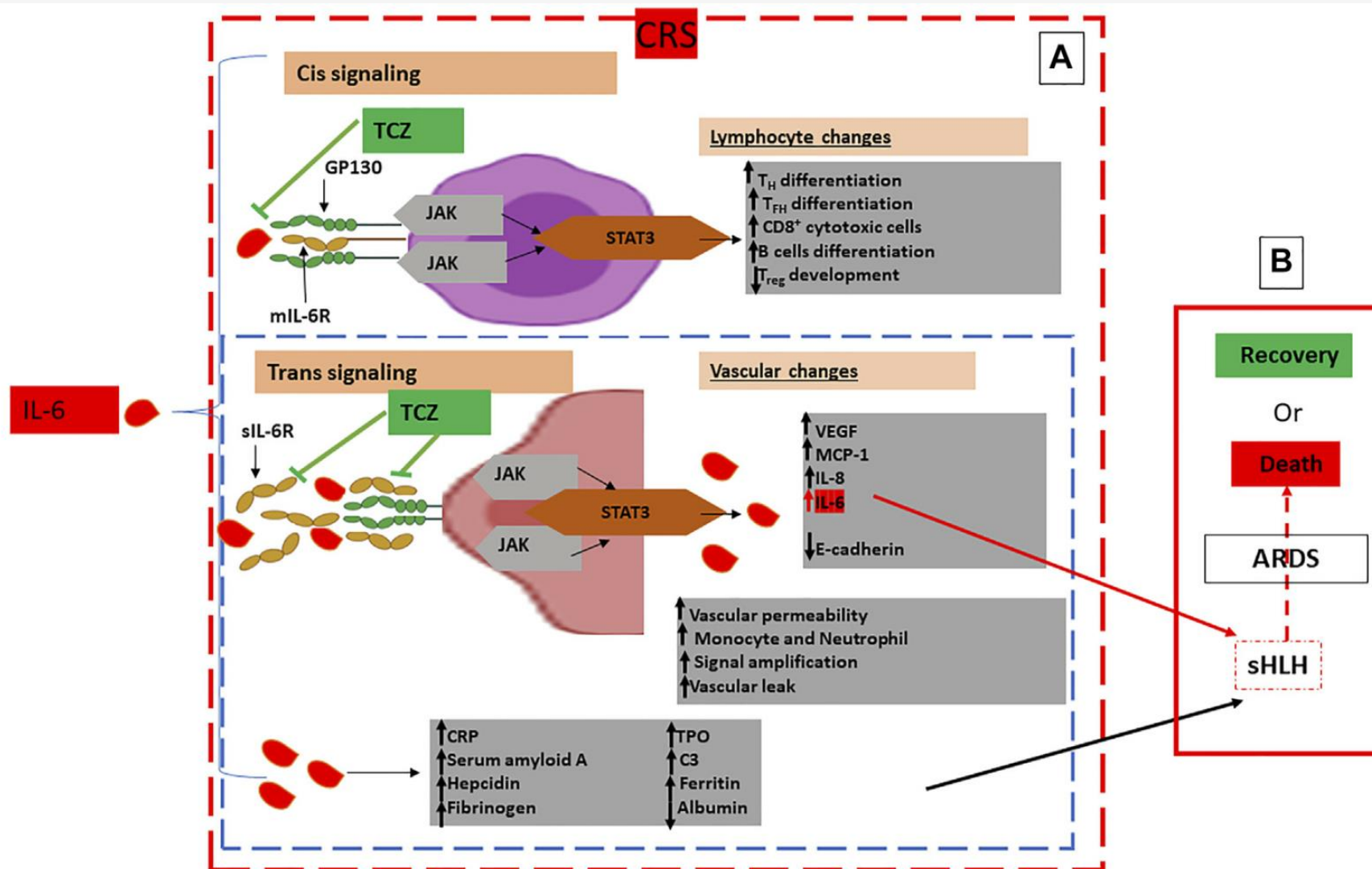
High inflammatory cytokines and Markers of endothelial activation

# Absolute cytokine levels in critically ill COVID-19 patients





# Pathogenic Host Response to SARS-CoV-2 and Pathways to CRS



# Efficacy of Tocilizumab in COVID-19



Study	Key Inclusion Criteria	Primary Outcome	Characteristics of study population
COVACTA	Hypoxemia Bilateral chest infiltrates	Clinical status at Day 28, as measured by on OS	Oxygen support HFNC or NIV(30%), MV(38%) multiorgan failure(25%) Received corticosteroids at 36% in tocilizumab vs. 55% in placebo
EMPACTA	COVID-19 pneumonia	Progression to MV, ECMO, or death by Day 28	Corticosteroids: 80% in tocilizumab arm vs. 88% in placebo arm RDV: 53% in tocilizumab arm vs. 59% in placebo arm
BACC bay	1. $\geq 2$ of the following conditions: Fever $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Pulmonary infiltrates, Need for supplemental oxygen 2. $\geq 1$ of the following laboratory criteria: CRP $\geq 50$ mg/L, D-dimer $>1,000$ ng/mL, LDH $\geq 250$ U/L, Ferritin $>500$ ng/mL	Progression to MV or death by Day 28	COT $\leq 6$ L/min(80%), HFNC(4%), No oxygen(16%) Corticosteroids: 11% in tocilizumab arm vs. 6% in placebo arm RDV: 33% in tocilizumab arm vs. 29% in placebo arm
REMDACTA	COVID-19 pneumonia and requiring supplemental oxygen $>6$ L/min	Time to hospital discharge or readiness for discharge by Day 28	NIV or HFNC oxygen: 78% in tocilizumab vs. 83% in placebo MV or ECMO: 15% in tocilizumab vs. 11% in placebo Corticosteroid use: 83% in tocilizumab vs. 86% in placebo, during trial: 88% in both
REMAP-CAP	ICU admission Receipt of MV, NIV, or cardiovascular support	Composite of in-hospital mortality and organ support-free days to Day 21	HFNC oxygen or NIV(68%) MV(32%) Corticosteroids: 67% in SOC arm, 82% in tocilizumab arm, 89% in sarilumab arm
RECOVERY	SpO <sub>2</sub> $<92\%$ on room air or receipt of supplemental oxygen; CRP $\geq 75$ mg/L	28-day all-cause mortality	COT(45%), HFNC or NIV(41%), MV(14%) Corticosteroids(82%)

# Efficacy of Tocilizumab in Patients Hospitalized with Covid-19

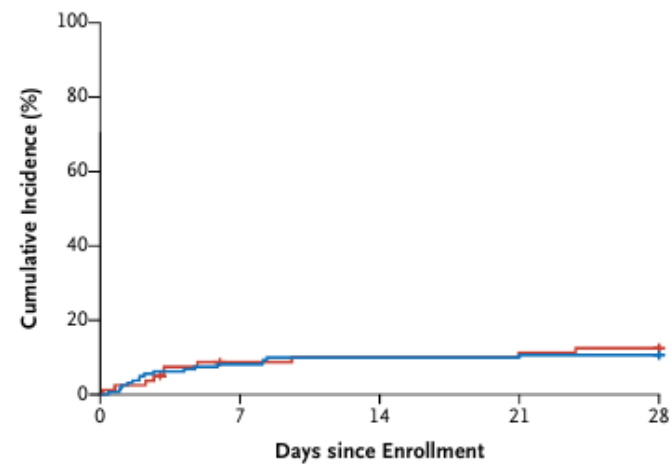
J.H. Stone, M.J. Frigault, N.J. Serling-Boyd, A.D. Fernandes, L. Harvey,

- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial
- Hospitalized patients with fever, pulmonary infiltrates or the need for supplemental oxygen
- IV tocilizumab 8mg/kg (n=161) vs. Placebo (n=82), single dose
- Primary outcome
  - Intubation or death, assessed in a time to event analysis

**Table 2. Time-to-Event Outcomes in the Modified Intention-to-Treat Population.\***

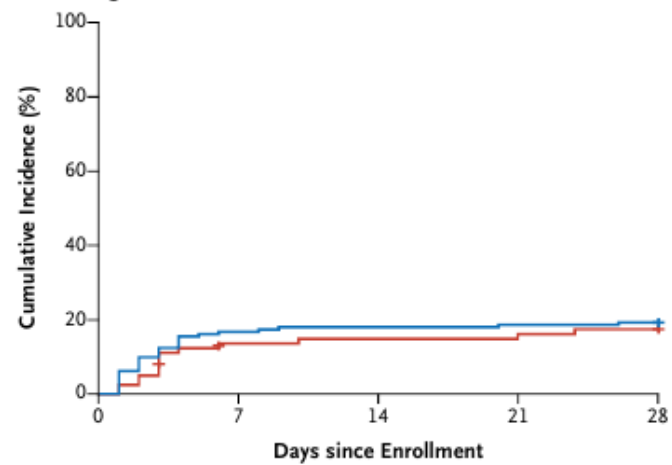
Outcome	No. of Patients with Event within 28 Days	Percentage of Patients with Event (95% CI)†		Median No. of Days to Event (95% CI)	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	Log-Rank P Value‡
		Day 14	Day 28			
<b>Measures of worsening</b>						
Primary outcome: mechanical ventilation or death						
Tocilizumab	17	9.9 (6.2–15.7)	10.6 (6.7–16.6)	NR	0.83 (0.38–1.81)	0.64
Placebo	10	10.0 (5.1–18.9)	12.5 (6.9–22.0)	NR		
Secondary outcome: clinical worsening on ordinal scale§						
Tocilizumab	31	18.0 (12.9–24.9)	19.3 (14.0–26.2)	NR	1.11 (0.59–2.10)	0.73
Placebo	14	14.9 (8.7–24.7)	17.4 (10.7–27.7)	NR		
Tertiary outcome: mechanical ventilation¶						
Tocilizumab	11	6.8 (3.6–11.4)	6.8 (3.6–11.4)	NR	0.65 (0.26–1.62)	—
Placebo	8	10.0 (4.6–17.7)	10.0 (4.6–17.7)	NR		
Tertiary outcome: death						
Tocilizumab	9	4.4 (2.1–8.9)	5.6 (3.0–10.5)	NR	1.52 (0.41–5.61)	—
Placebo	3	1.3 (0.2–8.7)	3.8 (1.2–11.3)	NR		
<b>Measures of improvement</b>						
Secondary outcome: discontinuation of supplemental oxygen among patients receiving it at baseline						
Tocilizumab	114	75.4 (67.9–82.2)	82.6 (75.9–88.4)	5.0 (3.8–7.6)	0.94 (0.67–1.30)	0.69
Placebo	56	78.8 (68.3–87.7)	84.9 (75.2–92.2)	4.9 (3.8–7.8)		
Tertiary outcome: clinical improvement on ordinal scale§						
Tocilizumab	147	86.3 (80.6–91.1)	91.3 (86.3–95.1)	6.0 (5.0–6.0)	1.06 (0.80–1.41)	—
Placebo	72	81.5 (72.4–89.0)	88.9 (81.0–94.5)	5.0 (4.0–7.0)		
Tertiary outcome: initial discharge						
Tocilizumab	147	86.3 (80.6–91.1)	91.3 (86.3–95.0)	6.0 (4.0–7.0)	1.08 (0.81–1.43)	—
Placebo	72	81.5 (72.4–89.0)	88.9 (81.0–94.5)	6.0 (5.0–6.0)		

**A Mechanical Ventilation or Death**



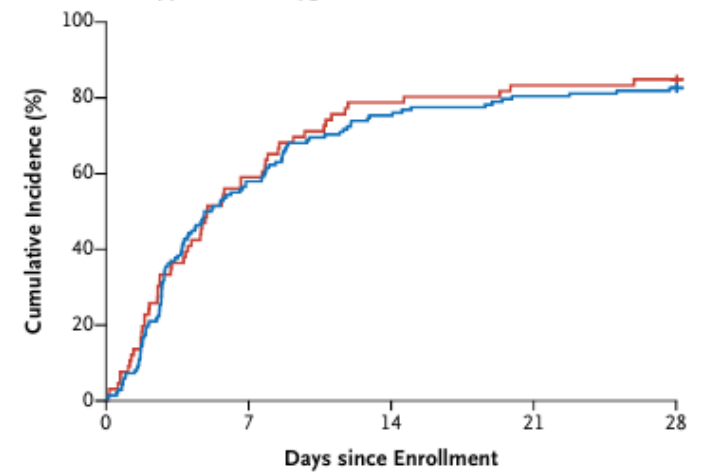
No. at Risk		0	7	14	21	28
Tocilizumab	161	148	145	144	144	
Placebo	81	72	71	70	69	

**B Clinical Worsening on Ordinal Scale**



No. at Risk		0	7	14	21	28
Tocilizumab	161	134	132	131	130	
Placebo	81	68	67	66	65	

**C Discontinuation of Supplemental Oxygen**



No. at Risk		0	7	14	21	28
Tocilizumab	138	58	34	27	24	
Placebo	66	27	14	11	10	

# Tocilizumab in Patients Hospitalized with Covid-19 Pneumonia

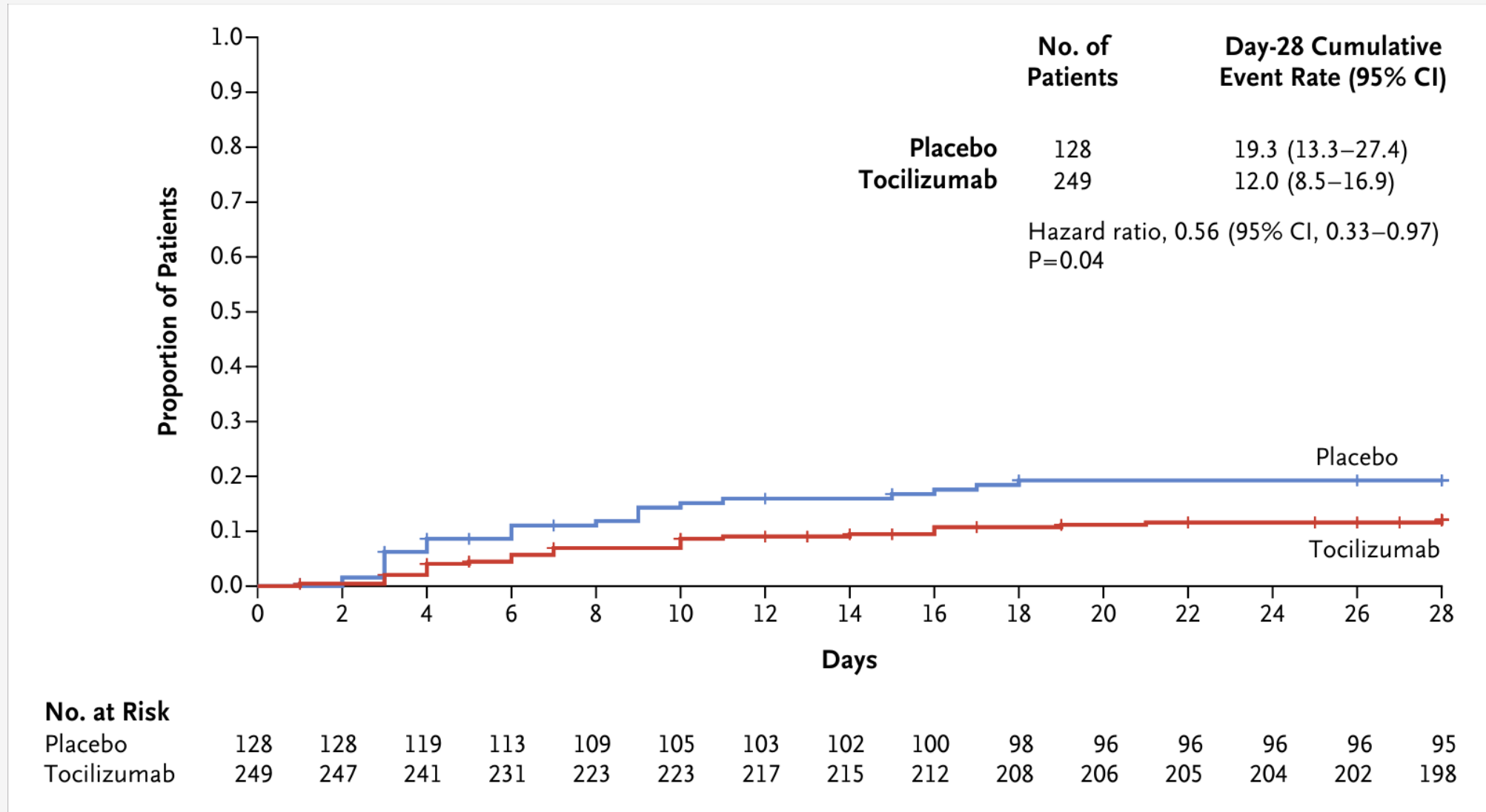
Carlos Salama, M.D., Jian Han, Ph.D., Linda Yau, Ph.D.,

- Phase 3, Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial
- Hospitalized patients without receiving mechanical ventilation
- IV tocilizumab 8mg/kg vs. Placebo
- Primary outcome
  - Invasive mechanical ventilation or ECMO or death by day 28

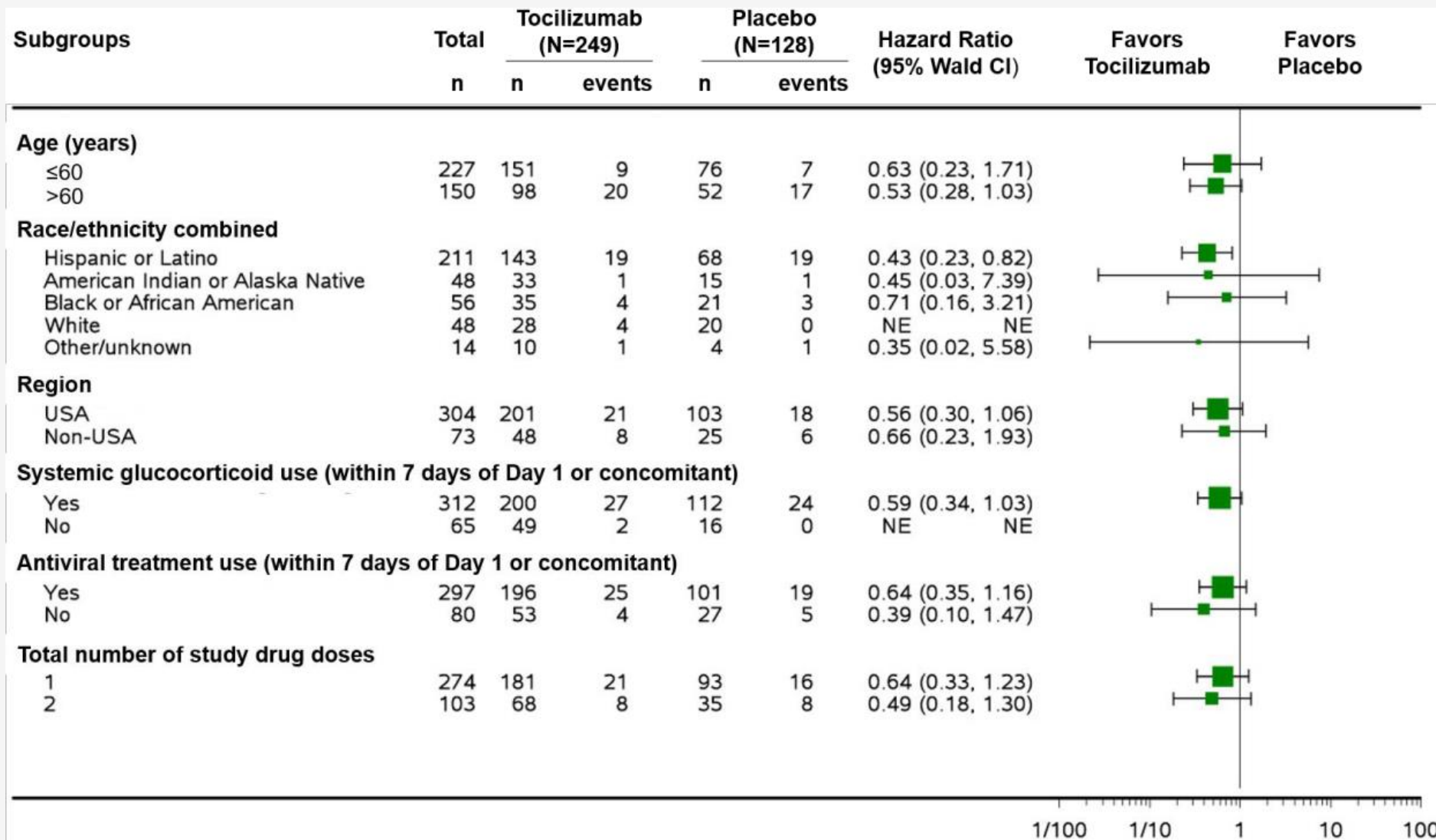
**Table 2. Primary and Key Secondary Efficacy Outcomes by Day 28 in the Modified Intention-to-Treat Population.\***

Outcome	Tocilizumab (N = 249)	Placebo (N = 128)	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	Weighted Difference (95% CI)	P Value†
Primary outcome: mechanical ventilation or death — % (95% CI)‡	12.0 (8.5 to 16.9)	19.3 (13.3 to 27.4)	0.56 (0.33 to 0.97)	NA	0.04
Secondary outcomes					
Median time to hospital discharge or readiness for discharge (95% CI) — days§	6.0 (6.0 to 7.0)	7.5 (7.0 to 9.0)	1.16 (0.91 to 1.48)	NA	
Median time to improvement in clinical status (95% CI) — days§¶	6.0 (6.0 to 7.0)	7.0 (6.0 to 9.0)	1.15 (0.90 to 1.48)	NA	
Median time to clinical failure (95% CI) — days§	NE	NE	0.55 (0.33 to 0.93)	NA	
Death — no. (% [95% CI])	26 (10.4 [7.2 to 14.9])	11 (8.6 [4.9 to 14.7])	NA	2.0 (−5.2 to 7.8)**	

# Time to mechanical ventilation or death



# Subgroup analysis



# Tocilizumab in Hospitalized Patients with Severe Covid-19 Pneumonia

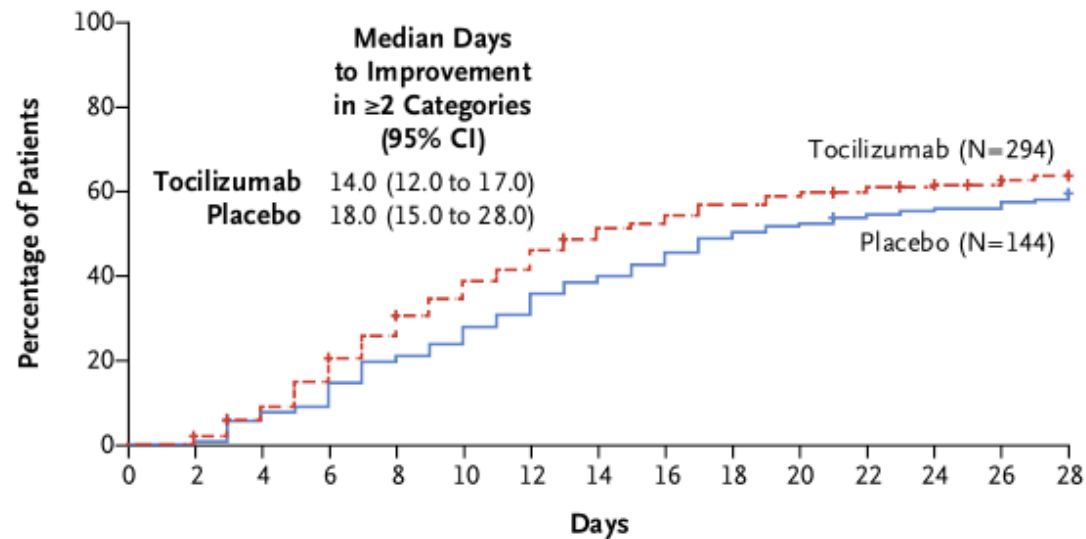
- Phase 3, Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial
- hospitalized with severe Covid-19 pneumonia
  - Bilateral pulmonary infiltrates
  - RA SaO<sub>2</sub> ≤ 93% or PaO<sub>2</sub>/FiO<sub>2</sub> < 300 mmHg
- SoC : antiviral treatment, low-dose glucocorticoids, convalescent plasma and supportive care
- IV tocilizumab 8mg/kg (n=294) vs. Placebo (n=144)
- Primary outcome
  - Clinical status at day 28 on an 7 category ordinal scale
- 2ndary outcome
  - Mortality at day 28, time to improvement from baseline by at least 2 categories, time to hospital discharge

# Clinical status on 7-category ordinal scale at day 28

**Table 2. Primary and Secondary Efficacy Outcomes.\***

Outcome	Tocilizumab (N = 294)	Placebo (N = 144)	Difference or Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P Value
<b>Primary outcome</b>				
<u>Median value for clinical status on 7-category ordinal scale at day 28 (95% CI)</u>	<u>1.0 (1.0 to 1.0)</u>	<u>2.0 (1.0 to 4.0)</u>	<u>-1.0 (-2.5 to 0.0)</u>	<u>0.31†</u>
<b>Secondary outcomes</b>				
Median value for clinical status at day 14 on 7-category ordinal scale (95% CI)‡	3.0 (2.0 to 4.0)	4.0 (3.0 to 5.0)	-1.0 (-2.0 to 0.5)	
<u>Death at day 28 — no. (%)</u>	<u>58 (19.7)</u>	<u>28 (19.4)</u>	<u>0.3 (-7.6 to 8.2)§</u>	<u>0.94</u>
Median no. of days until hospital discharge or readiness for discharge (95% CI)	20.0 (17.0 to 27.0)	28.0 (20.0 to NE)	1.35 (1.02 to 1.79)¶	
Median no. of days until improvement by ≥2 categories on 7-category ordinal scale in clinical status (95% CI)	14.0 (12.0 to 17.0)	18.0 (15.0 to 28.0)	1.26 (0.97 to 1.64)¶	
Median no. of days in ICU (95% CI)	9.8 (7.0 to 15.7)	15.5 (8.7 to 25.5)	-5.8 (-15.0 to 2.9)	
Incidence of ICU stay among patients not in ICU at baseline — no./total no. (%)	27/127 (21.3)	23/64 (35.9)	-14.8 (-28.6 to -1.0)	
Median no. of ventilator-free days at day 28 (95% CI)	22.0 (18.0 to 28.0)	16.5 (11.0 to 26.0)	5.5 (-2.8 to 13.0)	
Incidence of mechanical ventilation among patients not receiving mechanical ventilation at randomization — no./total no. (%)	51/183 (27.9)	33/90 (36.7)	-8.9% (-20.7 to 3.0)	
Clinical failure among patients not receiving mechanical ventilation at randomization — no./total no. (%)**	53/183 (29.0)	38/90 (42.2)	0.61 (0.40 to 0.94)††	

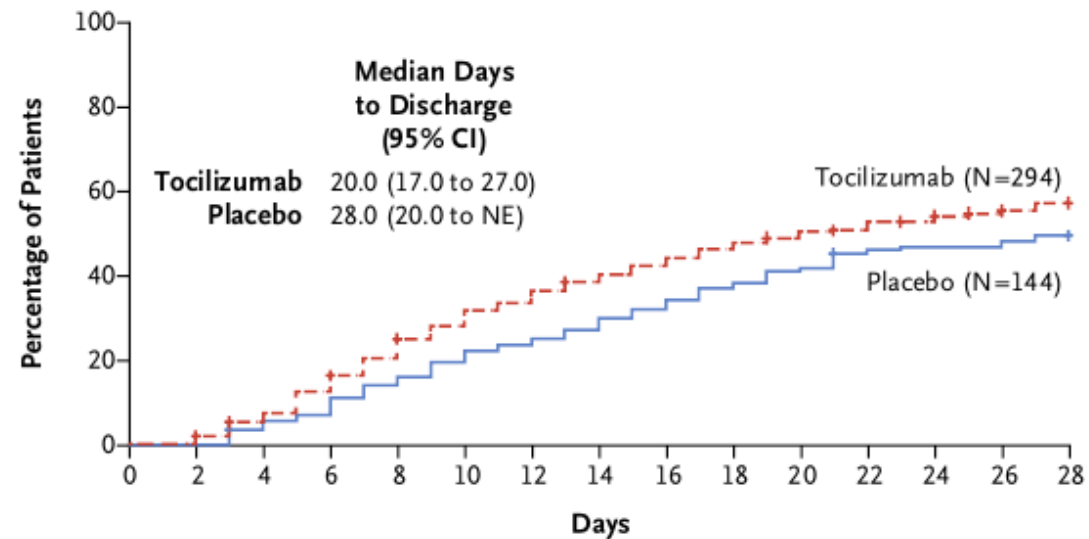
### A Improvement in Ordinal Clinical Status



#### No. at Risk

Tocilizumab	294	294	275	248	216	189	169	148	137	124	118	115	110	107	99
Placebo	144	144	135	130	115	109	99	88	82	73	69	65	63	62	59

### B Hospital Discharge



#### No. at Risk

Tocilizumab	294	294	276	255	231	208	192	176	165	153	145	139	132	124	114
Placebo	144	144	138	133	123	115	109	104	97	90	84	76	74	74	70

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APRIL 22, 2021

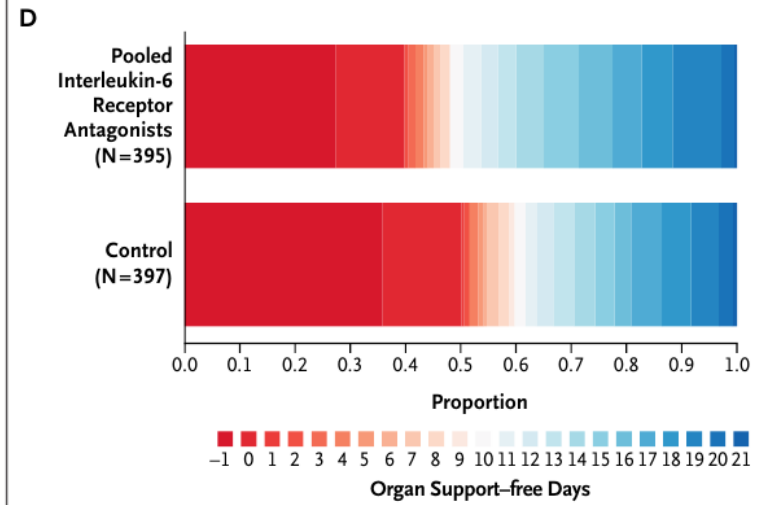
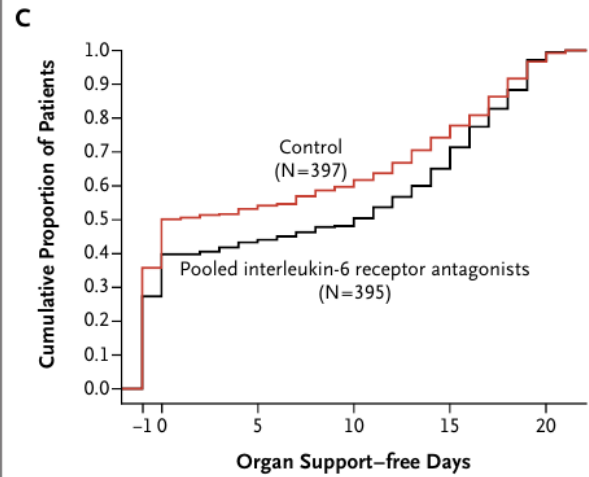
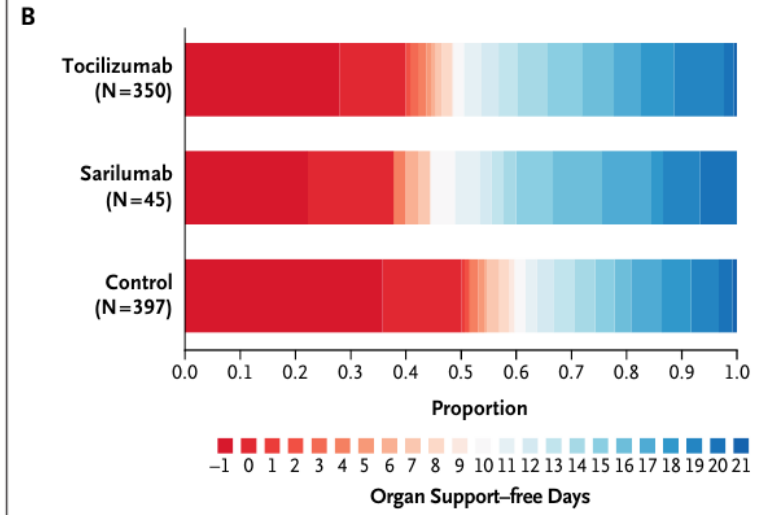
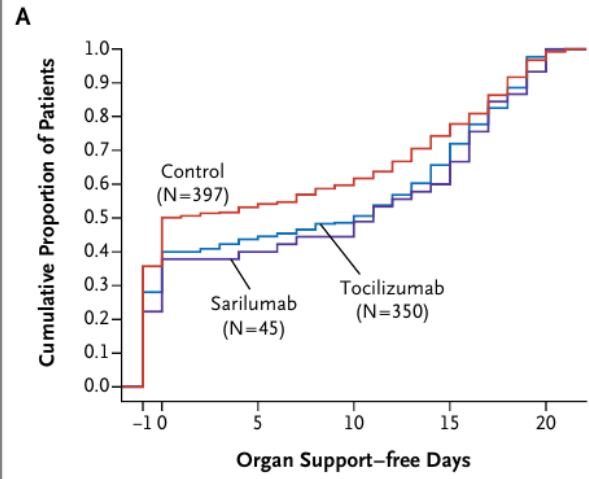
VOL. 384 NO. 16

## Interleukin-6 Receptor Antagonists in Critically Ill Patients with Covid-19

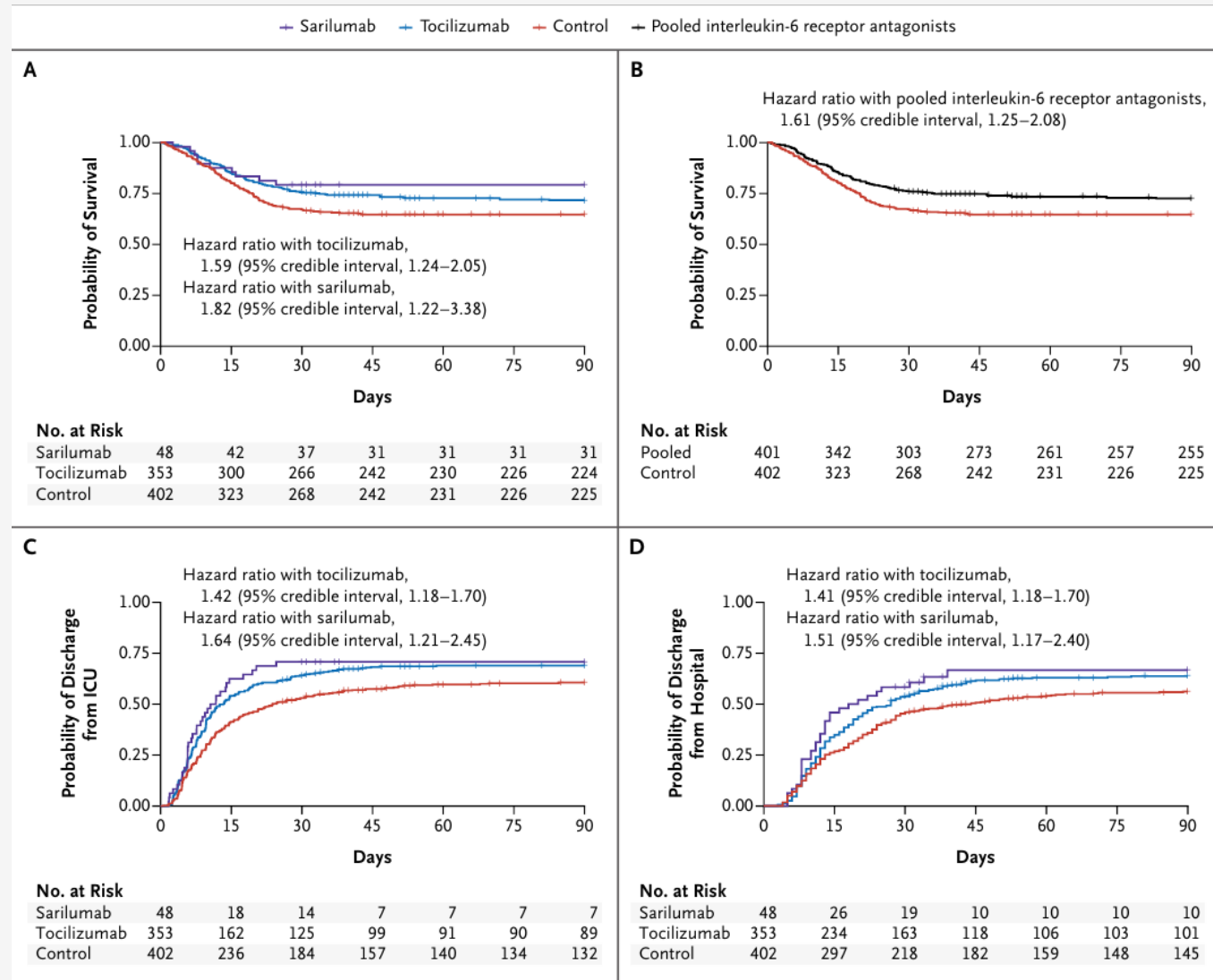
- Multifactorial, adaptive platform trial
- Within 24 hours after starting organ support in ICU
  - Respiratory organ support : invasive MV or NIV or HFNC ( $\geq 30\text{L}/\text{min}$  and  $\geq 0.4$ )
  - Cardiovascular organ support : IV infusion of any vasopressor or inotrope
- IV tocilizumab (8mg/kg) or Sarilumab (400mg) vs. Placebo
- Primary outcome
  - Respiratory and cardiovascular organ support-free days, on an ordinal scale combining in-hospital death and days free of organ support to day 21

**Table 2. Primary and Secondary Outcomes.\***

Outcome or Analysis	Tocilizumab (N=353)	Sarilumab (N=48)	Control (N=402)
<b>Primary outcome</b>			
<b>Organ support-free days</b>			
Median (IQR)	10 (-1 to 16)	11 (0 to 16)	0 (-1 to 15)
Adjusted odds ratio			
Mean	1.65±0.23	1.83±0.44	1
Median (95% credible interval)	1.64 (1.25 to 2.14)	1.76 (1.17 to 2.91)	1
Probability of superiority to control — %	>99.9	99.5	—
<b>Subcomponents of organ support-free days</b>			
In-hospital death — no./total no. (%)	98/350 (28)	10/45 (22)	142/397 (36)
Concurrent with tocilizumab randomization	—	—	127/355 (36)†
Concurrent with sarilumab randomization	—	—	19/63 (30)†
Median no. of days free of organ support in survivors (IQR)	14 (7 to 17)	15 (6 to 17)	13 (4 to 17)
<b>Primary in-hospital survival</b>			
Adjusted odds ratio			
Mean	1.66±0.31	2.25±0.96	1
Median (95% credible interval)	1.64 (1.14 to 2.35)	2.01 (1.18 to 4.71)	1
Probability of superiority to control — %	99.6	99.5	—
<b>Secondary analysis of primary outcome</b>			
Adjusted odds ratio			
Mean	1.68±0.24	1.84±0.44	1
Median (95% credible interval)	1.66 (1.26 to 2.18)	1.77 (1.18 to 2.90)	1
Probability of superiority to control — %	>99.9	99.6	—
<b>Secondary analysis of primary in-hospital survival</b>			
Adjusted odds ratio			
Mean	1.67±0.31	2.24±0.94	1
Median (95% credible interval)	1.65 (1.15 to 2.34)	2.00 (1.17 to 4.69)	1
Probability of superiority to control — %	99.6	99.4	—



# Time to survival and ICU and hospital discharge



# Tocilizumab in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19 (RECOVERY): a randomised, controlled, open-label, platform trial



RECOVERY Collaborative Group\*

- Randomized, controlled, open-label, platform trial
- Hospitalized in general ward with Covid-19
  - ✓ Hypoxia (RA SaO<sub>2</sub> < 92%) and CRP ≥ 75 mg/L
- SoC : dexamethasone(82%)
- IV tocilizumab 400-800mg(depending on weight)
- Primary outcome
  - ✓ 28-day mortality

Primary outcome				
28-day mortality	621 (31%)	729 (35%)	0.85 (0.76–0.94)	0.0028
Secondary outcomes				
Median time to being discharged, days	19	>28	..	..
Discharged from hospital within 28 days	1150 (57%)	1044 (50%)	1.22 (1.12–1.33)	<0.0001
Receipt of invasive mechanical ventilation or death*	619/1754 (35%)	754/1800 (42%)	0.84 (0.77–0.92)	<0.0001
Invasive mechanical ventilation	265/1754 (15%)	343/1800 (19%)	0.79 (0.69–0.92)	0.0019
Death	490/1754 (28%)	580/1800 (32%)	0.87 (0.78–0.96)	0.0055

Number  
Tocil  
Us



Tocilizumab group

Usual care group

Risk ratio (95% CI)

**Age, years ( $\chi^2=0.0$ ;  $p=0.88$ )**

<70	273/1331 (21%)	309/1355 (23%)		0.88 (0.74-1.03)
70-79	212/478 (44%)	245/480 (51%)		0.82 (0.68-0.99)
≥80	136/213 (64%)	175/259 (68%)		0.92 (0.73-1.15)

**Sex ( $\chi^2=2.4$ ;  $p=0.12$ )**

Men	417/1337 (31%)	529/1437 (37%)		0.80 (0.71-0.91)
Women	204/685 (30%)	200/657 (30%)		0.97 (0.80-1.18)

**Ethnicity ( $\chi^2=0.0$ ;  $p=0.98$ )**

White	476/1530 (31%)	573/1597 (36%)		0.83 (0.73-0.94)
Black, Asian, or minority ethnic	99/354 (28%)	123/378 (33%)		0.83 (0.64-1.09)
Unknown	46/138 (33%)	33/119 (28%)		1.20 (0.77-1.88)

**Days since symptom onset ( $\chi^2=1.1$ ;  $p=0.30$ )**

≤7	214/668 (32%)	256/660 (39%)		0.78 (0.65-0.94)
>7	407/1354 (30%)	473/1433 (33%)		0.88 (0.77-1.01)

**Respiratory support at randomisation ( $\chi^2=0.8$ ;  $p=0.38$ )**

No ventilator support*	180/935 (19%)	214/933 (23%)		0.81 (0.67-0.99)
Non-invasive ventilation†	310/819 (38%)	366/867 (42%)		0.86 (0.74-1.00)
Invasive mechanical ventilation‡	131/268 (49%)	149/294 (51%)		0.93 (0.74-1.18)

**Use of corticosteroids§ ( $\chi^2=7.7$ ;  $p=0.01$ )**

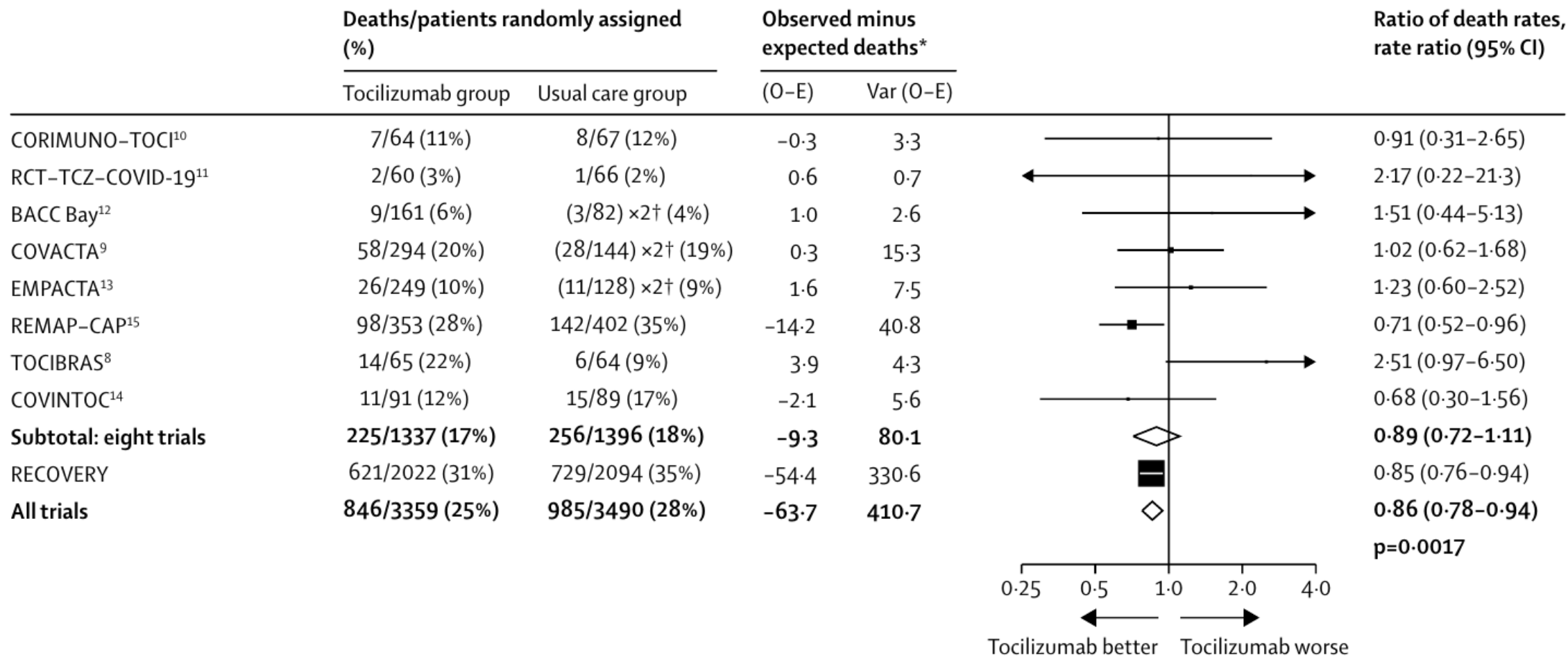
Yes	482/1664 (29%)	600/1721 (35%)		0.79 (0.70-0.89)
No	139/357 (39%)	127/367 (35%)		1.16 (0.91-1.48)
Unknown	0/1 (0%)	2/6 (33%)		..

**All participants****621/2022 (31%)**      **729/2094 (35%)** **0.85 (0.76-0.94)** **$p=0.0028$** 

0.5      0.75      1.0      1.5      2.0

←      →

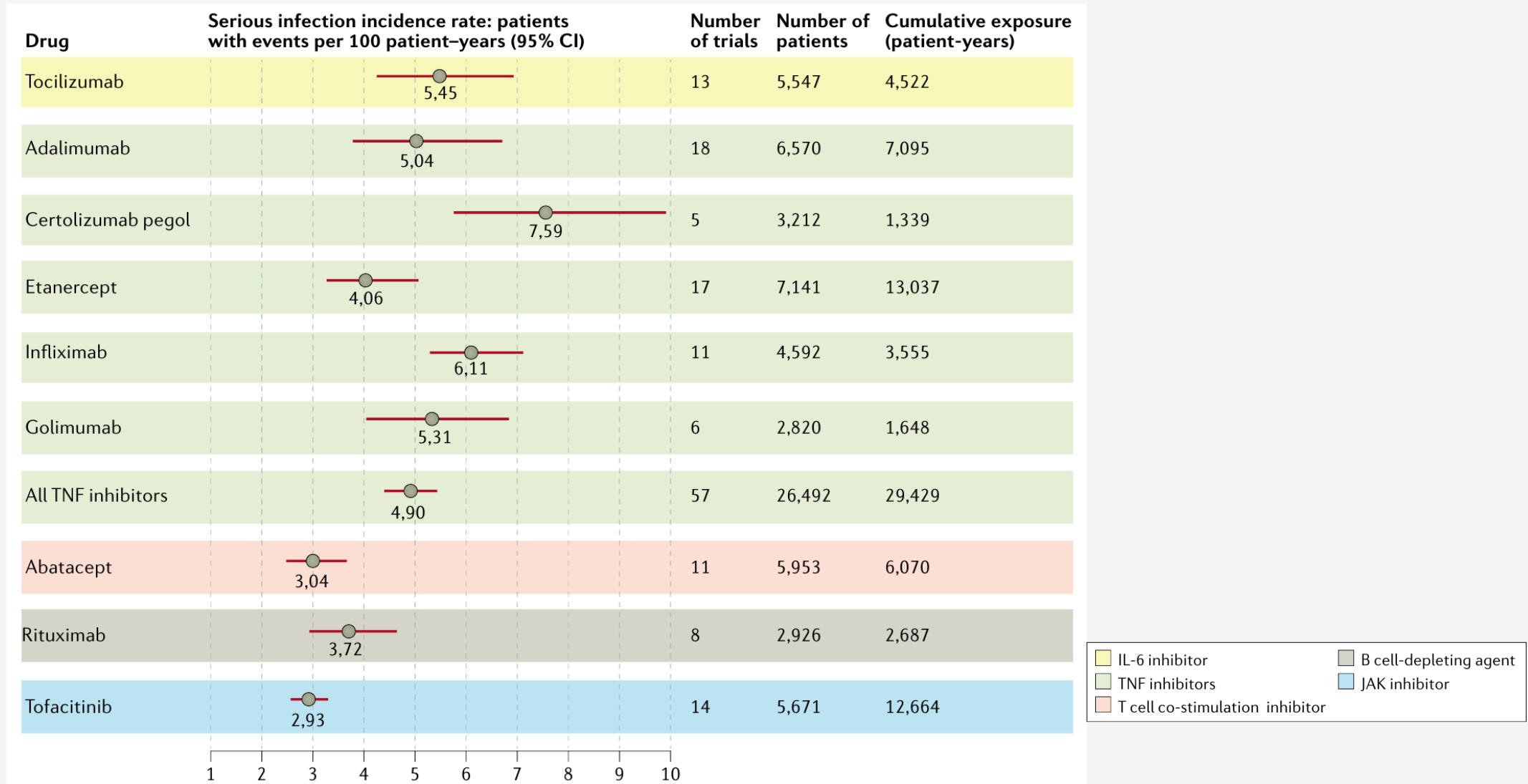
Favours tocilizumab      Favours usual care



# Safety of Tocilizumab in COVID-19



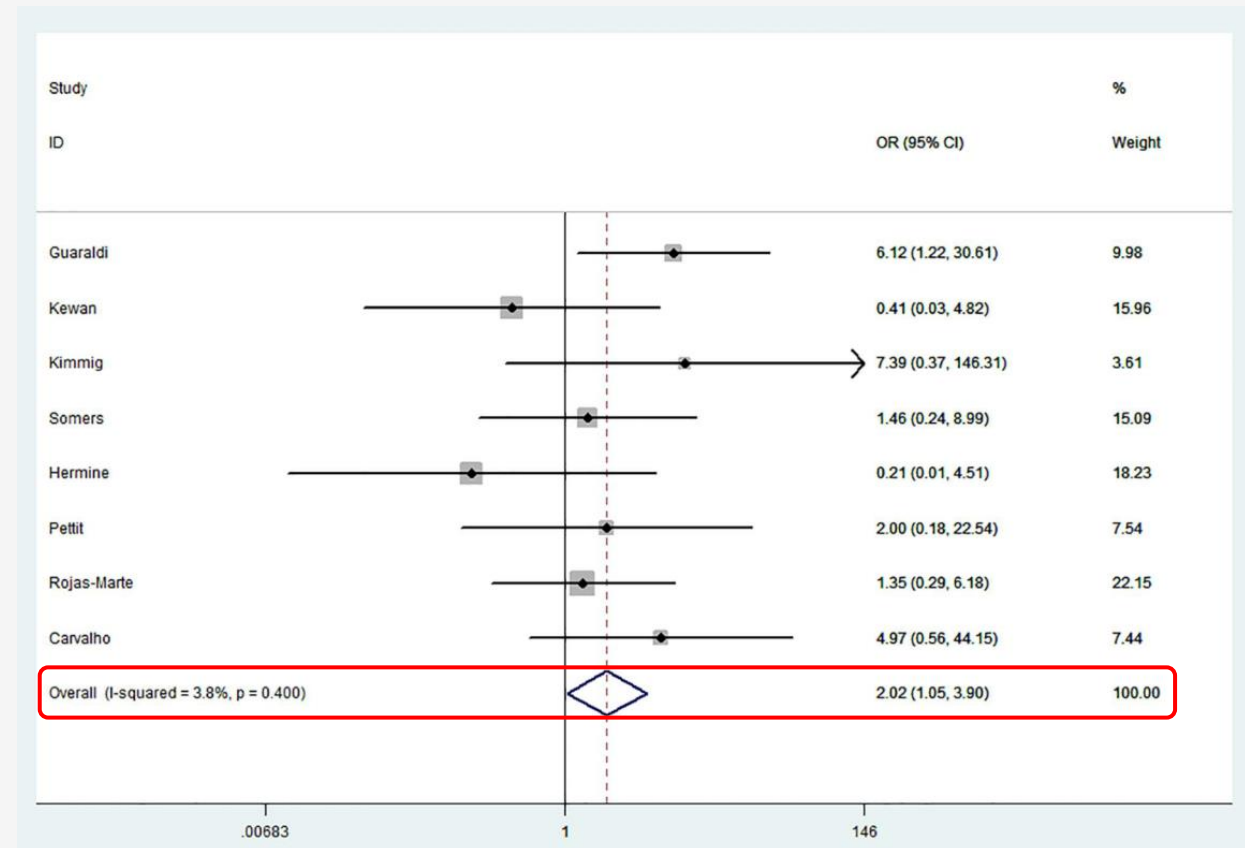
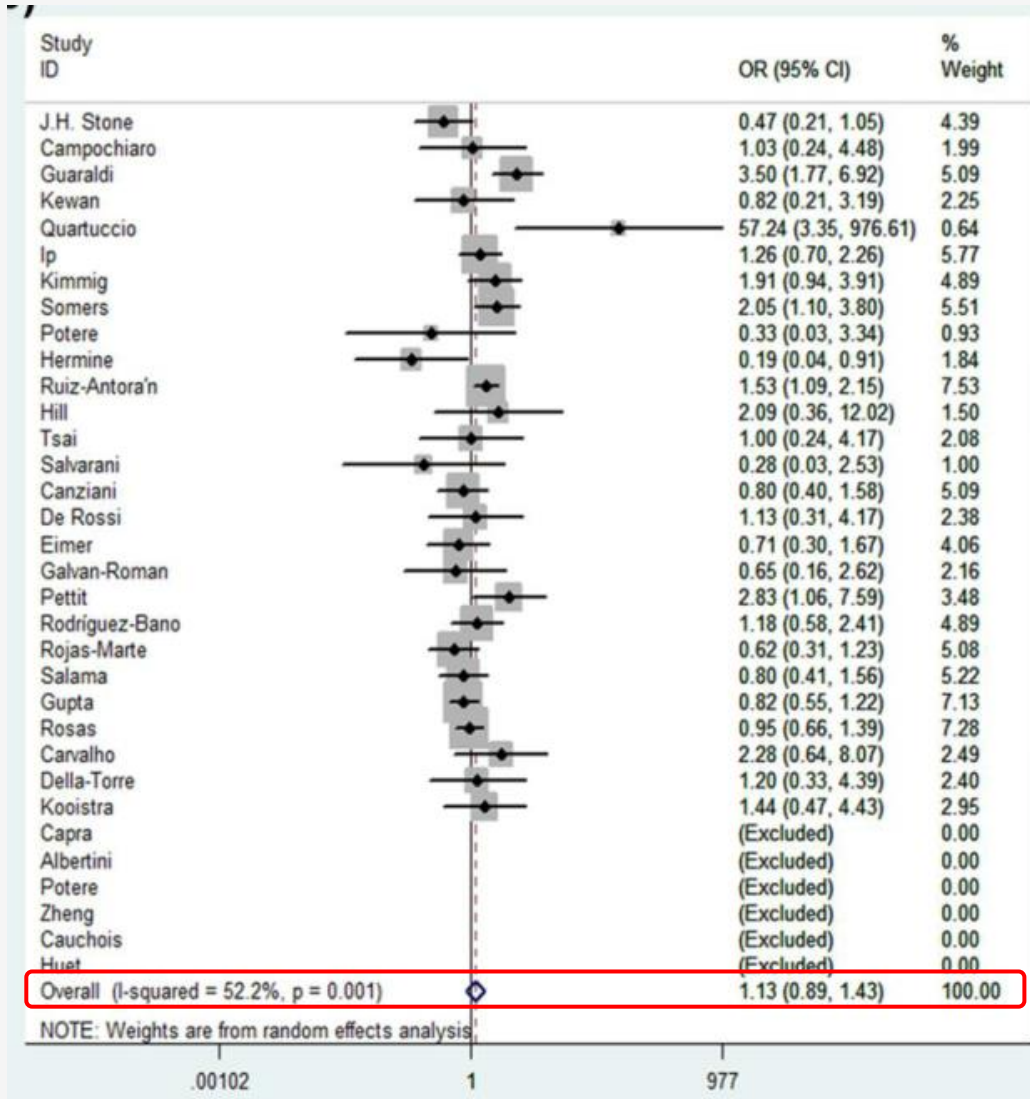
# Estimated serious infection rates among clinical trials of biologics in RA



**Webtable 2: Effect of allocation to tocilizumab on cause-specific 28-day mortality**

	Treatment allocation		Absolute percent difference (95% CI)
	Tocilizumab (n=2022)	Usual care (n=2094)	
COVID-19	595 (29.4%)	699 (33.4%)	-3.95 (-6.79,-1.12)
Other infection	1 (0.0%)	6 (0.3%)	-0.24 (-0.49,0.01)
Cardiac	1 (0.0%)	3 (0.1%)	-0.09 (-0.28,0.09)
Stroke	2 (0.1%)	2 (0.1%)	0.00 (-0.19,0.19)
Other vascular	1 (0.0%)	2 (0.1%)	-0.05 (-0.21,0.12)
Cancer	6 (0.3%)	3 (0.1%)	0.15 (-0.13,0.44)
Other medical	14 (0.7%)	12 (0.6%)	0.12 (-0.37,0.60)
External	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	-
Unknown cause	1 (0.0%)	2 (0.1%)	-0.05 (-0.21,0.12)
All-cause	621 (30.7%)	729 (34.8%)	-4.10 (-6.97,-1.24)

# Secondary bacterial & fungal infection



# Secondary infections in patients received tocilizumab

Bacterial and fungal infections amongst intensive care unit (ICU) patients at University Hospital Limerick (January–December 2021)

		COVID-19 ICU patients		General ICU patients
		Tocilizumab	No tocilizumab	
	<i>N</i>	41	33	332
Bacterial infection, % ( <i>N</i> )	HAP	59 (24)	30 (10)	8 (27)
	BSI	46 (19)	27 (9)	5 (17)
	CAUTI	12 (5)	12 (4)	3 (9)
	<i>Clostridioides difficile</i>	0 (0)	3 (1)	1 (3)
	SSTI	2 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Fungal infection, % ( <i>N</i> )	IFD	10 (4)	3 (1)	1 (2)
	Candidemia	7 (3)	0 (0)	1 (3)
Time to detection of first bacterial infection (days)	From hospital admission			
	Median	14	22	-
	Range	3–102	3–94	-
	From tocilizumab administration			
	Median	13	-	-
	Range	1–95	-	-

# Secondary infections in patients received tocilizumab

**Table 1.** Outcome of secondary infections in patients received tocilizumab. **Table 2.** Incidence of Secondary infections in tocilizumab and control groups.

	Tocilizumab group (n = 66)	Control group (n = 49)	49)	P
Mechanical ventilation Extracorporeal circulation Secondary infections Death (%)	Gram-positive pneumonia	4 (6.1%) <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (4)	4 (8.2%) <i>S. aureus</i> (4)	0.34
	Gram-negative pneumonia	20 (30.3%) <i>Stenotrophomonas</i> (4) <i>Serratia</i> (4) <i>Pseudomonas</i> (3) <i>Enterobacter</i> (3) <i>Klebsiella</i> (2) <i>Escherichia coli</i> (2) <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> (2)	7 (14.3%) <i>Pseudomonas</i> (4) <i>Escherichia coli</i> (2) <i>Acinetobacter</i> (1)	0.12 <b>0.02</b> 0.67
	Fungal pneumonia	5 (7.6%) <i>Candida</i> (4) <i>Aspergillus</i> (1)	2 (4.1%) <i>Candida</i> (2)	
	Gram-positive bacteremia	4 (6.1%) <i>S. aureus</i> (2) <i>Enterococcus</i> (1) <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> (1)	2 (4.1%) <i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> (1) <i>Micrococcus</i> (1)	
	Gram-negative bacteremia	5 (7.6%) <i>Enterobacter</i> (3) <i>Pseudomonas</i> (2)	1 (2.0%) <i>Pseudomonas</i> (1)	
	Fungemia	2 (3.0%) <i>Candida</i> (2)	0 (0%)	

# Secondary infections in patients received tocilizumab vs. baricitinib

Outcomes	Before Weighting		After Weighting		
	Tocilizumab	Baricitinib	HR <sup>a</sup>	Tocilizumab vs. baricitinib	
	% (N)	% (N)		95% CI	p-value
Clinical improvement on WHO clinical progression scale by $\geq 1$ score	84.8% (165)	81.6% (76)	0.86	(0.57, 1.29)	0.459
Hospital discharge (score $\leq 3$ )	80.6% (165)	78.9% (76)	0.85	(0.57, 1.27)	0.418
Recovery (score $\leq 4$ )	75.4% (118)	68.6% (51)	1.04	(0.64, 1.67)	0.883
Viral clearance (first negative PCR result)	47.7% (155)	33.3% (72)	1.94	(1.01, 3.73)	0.048
Low viral load (Ct value $\geq 35$ )	46.8% (156)	35.2% (71)	1.49	(0.85, 2.60)	0.162
IgG antibody	85.5% (138)	84.9% (53)	0.97	(0.61, 1.54)	0.909
Outcomes	% (N)	% (N)	HR <sup>b</sup>	95% CI	p-value
In-hospital death or invasive mechanical ventilation (score $\geq 7$ ) or intensive care unit admission	33.6% (137)	27.3% (66)	0.96	(0.47, 2.00)	0.922
In-hospital death (score = 10)	17.6% (165)	19.7% (76)	0.63	(0.29, 1.35)	0.233
Severe liver injury	18.5% (162)	13.2% (76)	1.15	(0.43, 3.08)	0.778
Acute renal failure	11.6% (164)	5.3% (76)	2.33	(0.61, 8.82)	0.213
Hyperinflammatory syndrome	88.9% (18)	64.3% (14)	2.32	(0.87, 6.25)	0.091
Secondary infection	7.4% (163)	2.6% (76)	2.97	(0.62, 14.31)	0.173
Thrombotic and bleeding events	10.6% (141)	4.9% (41)	1.39	(0.32, 6.00)	0.658

Note: CI, confidence interval; Ct = cycle threshold; HR, hazard ratio; IgG = immunoglobulin G; PCR, polymerase chain reaction.

<sup>a</sup>HR > 1 (or <1) indicates that tocilizumab use was associated with better (worse) clinical improvement, earlier (later) hospital discharge or recovery compared to that of baricitinib.

<sup>b</sup>HR > 1 (or <1) indicates that tocilizumab use was associated with higher (lower) risk of adverse clinical outcomes compared to that of baricitinib.

# Risk factors of bacterial infection

## Immunosuppression by hospital day 2

Corticosteroids

Tocilizumab

Both

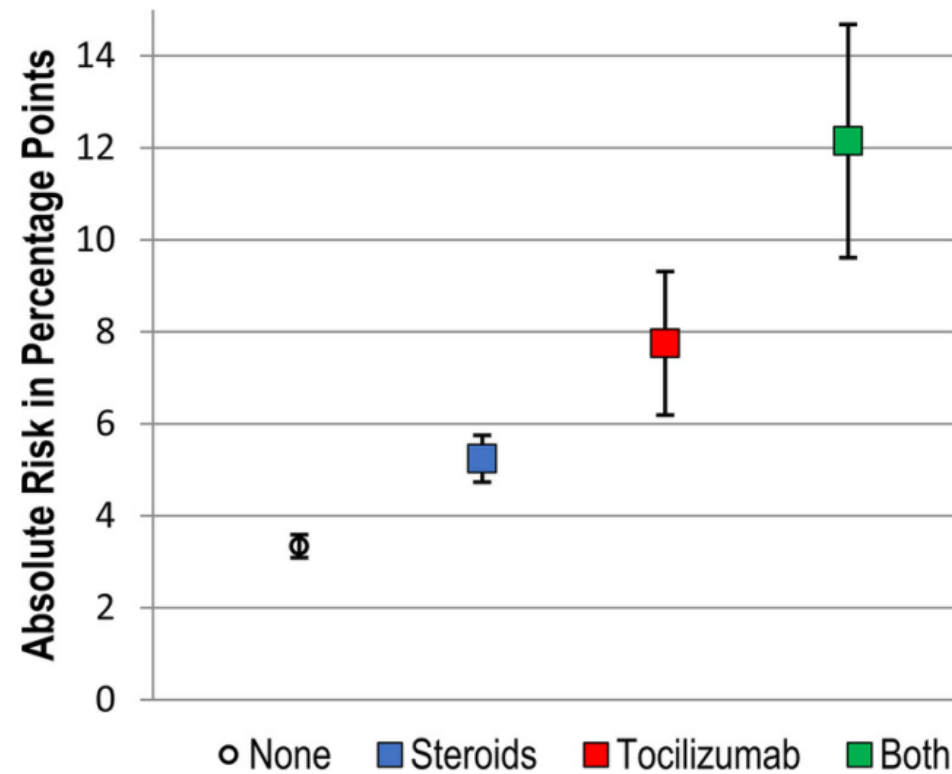
Neither

5.2 (4.7, 5.8)

7.8 (6.2, 9.3)

12.2 (9.6, 14.7)

3.3 (3.1, 3.6)



# Risk and benefit of Tocilizumab in COVID-19



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➤ RECOVERY

✓ Hospitalized in general ward with Covid-19

- Hypoxia (RA SaO<sub>2</sub> < 92%) and CRP ≥ 75 mg/L

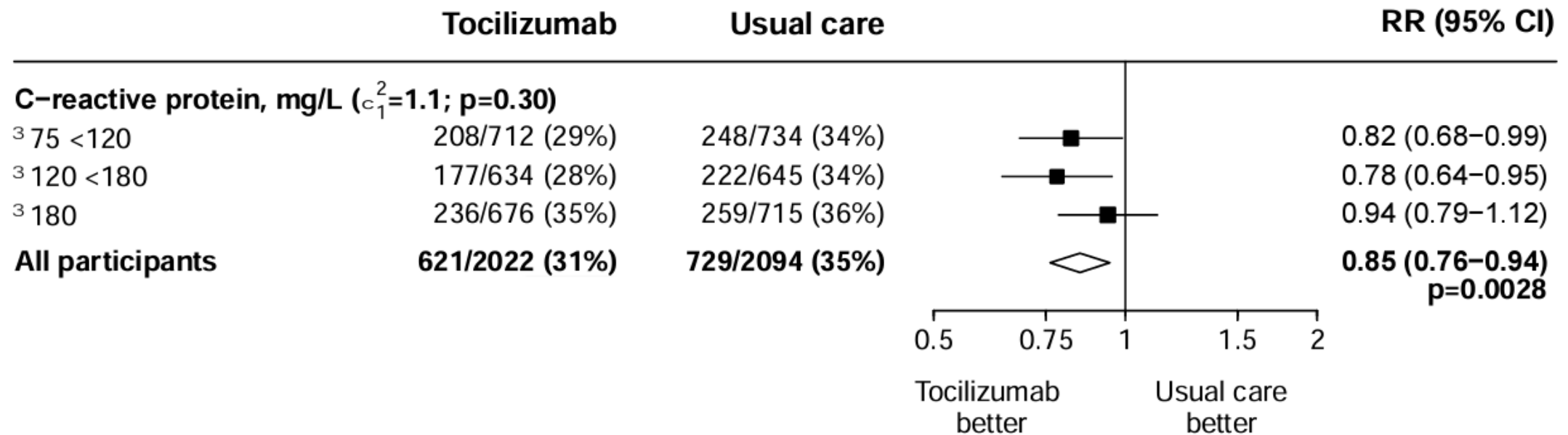
✓ REMAP-CAP

✓ Within 24 hours after starting organ support in ICU

- Respiratory organ support : invasive MV or NIV or HFNC (≥ 30L/min and ≥ 0.4)
- Cardiovascular organ support : IV infusion of any vasopressor or inotrope

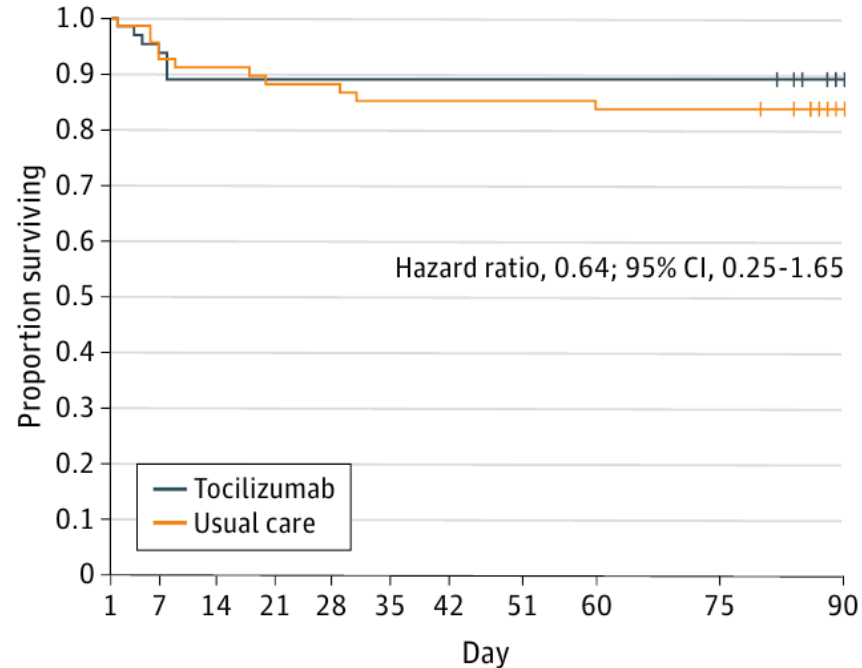
# A high CRP is a indicator of tocilizumab's effectiveness

## Effect of allocation to tocilizumab on 28-day mortality by baseline C-reactive protein



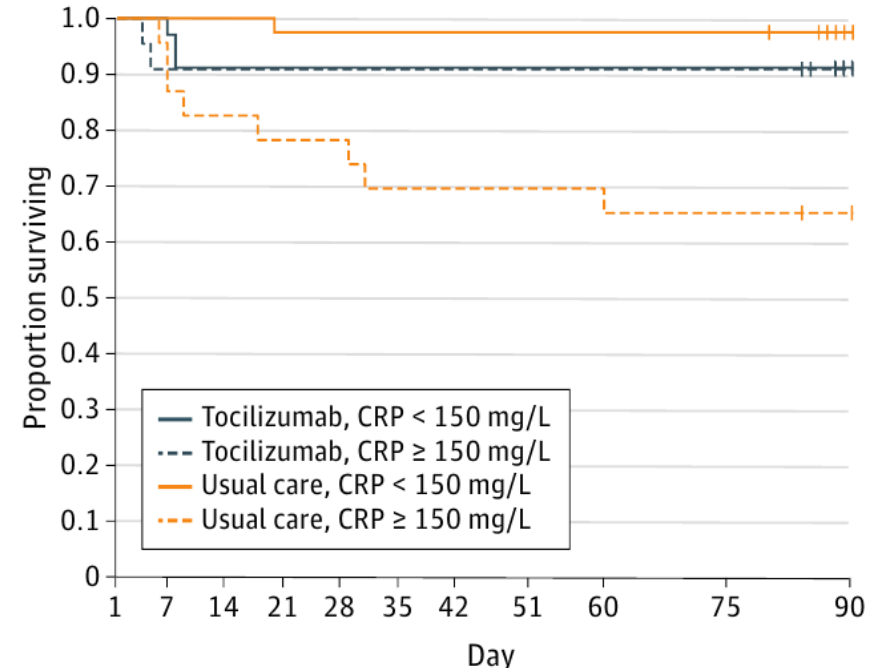
# A high CRP is a indicator of tocilizumab's effectiveness

**A** Overall survival



No. at risk	1	7	14	21	28	35	42	51	60	75	90
Tocilizumab	63	60	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	45
Usual care	67	64	61	59	59	57	57	57	57	56	49

**B** Overall survival stratified by CRP level



No. at risk	1	7	14	21	28	35	42	51	60	75	90
Tocilizumab, CRP < 150 mg/L	34	34	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	27
Tocilizumab, CRP ≥ 150 mg/L	22	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	14
Usual care, CRP < 150 mg/L	40	40	40	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	33
Usual care, CRP ≥ 150 mg/L	23	22	19	18	18	16	16	16	16	15	14

Disease Severity	Recommendations for Antiviral or Immunomodulator Therapy		Recommendations for Anticoagulant Therapy
	Clinical Scenario	Recommendation	
<b>Hospitalized for Reasons Other Than COVID-19</b>	Patients with mild to moderate COVID-19 who are at high risk of progressing to severe COVID-19 <sup>a,b</sup>	See <a href="#">Therapeutic Management of Nonhospitalized Adults With COVID-19</a> .	For patients without an indication for therapeutic anticoagulation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prophylactic dose of heparin</b>, unless contraindicated (<b>AI</b>); (<b>BIII</b>) for pregnant patients</li> </ul>
<b>Hospitalized but Does Not Require Oxygen Supplementation</b>	All patients	The Panel <b>recommends against</b> the use of <b>dexamethasone (AIIa)</b> or other systemic corticosteroids ( <b>AIII</b> ) for the treatment of COVID-19. <sup>c</sup>	
	Patients who are at high risk of progressing to severe COVID-19 <sup>a,b</sup>	<b>Remdesivir<sup>d</sup> (BIII)</b>	
<b>Hospitalized and Requires Conventional Oxygen<sup>e</sup></b>	Patients who require minimal conventional oxygen	<b>Remdesivir<sup>d,f</sup> (BIIa)</b>	For nonpregnant patients with D-dimer levels above the ULN who do not have an increased bleeding risk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Therapeutic dose of heparin<sup>h</sup> (CIIa)</b></li> </ul>
	Most patients	Use <b>dexamethasone plus remdesivir<sup>d</sup> (BIIa)</b> . If remdesivir cannot be obtained, use <b>dexamethasone (BI)</b> .	For other patients: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prophylactic dose of heparin</b>, unless contraindicated (<b>AI</b>); (<b>BIII</b>) for pregnant patients</li> </ul>
	Patients who are receiving dexamethasone and who have rapidly increasing oxygen needs and systemic inflammation	Add <b>PO baricitinib<sup>g</sup> (BIIa)</b> or <b>IV tocilizumab<sup>g</sup> (BIIa)</b> to 1 of the options above.	
<b>Hospitalized and Requires HFNC Oxygen or NIV</b>	All patients	<b>Dexamethasone</b> should be administered to all patients ( <b>AI</b> ). <b>If the patient has not already received a second immunomodulator, promptly add 1 of the following (listed in order of preference):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PO baricitinib<sup>g,i</sup> (AI)</b></li> <li>• <b>IV tocilizumab<sup>g,i</sup> (BIIa)</b></li> </ul>	For patients without an indication for therapeutic anticoagulation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prophylactic dose of heparin</b>, unless contraindicated (<b>AI</b>); (<b>BIII</b>) for pregnant patients</li> </ul>
		Add <b>remdesivir</b> to 1 of the options above in certain patients ( <b>CIIa</b> ). <sup>j</sup>	For patients who are started on a therapeutic dose of heparin in a non-ICU setting and then transferred to the ICU, the Panel recommends switching to a <b>prophylactic dose of heparin</b> , unless there is another indication for therapeutic anticoagulation ( <b>BIII</b> ).
<b>Hospitalized and Requires MV or ECMO</b>	All patients	<b>Dexamethasone</b> should be administered to all patients ( <b>AI</b> ). <b>If the patient has not already received a second immunomodulator, promptly add 1 of the following (listed in alphabetical order):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PO baricitinib<sup>g,i</sup> (BIIa)</b></li> <li>• <b>IV tocilizumab<sup>g,i</sup> (BIIa)</b></li> </ul>	

Each recommendation in the Guidelines receives a rating for the strength of the recommendation (A, B, or C) and a rating for the evidence that supports it (I, IIa, IIb, or III). See [Guidelines Development](#) for more information.

# Tocilizumab in Korean critically ill COVID-19 patients



- 
- Retrospective, multicenter study
  - 1114 critically ill COVID-19 patients
  - 96 patients (8.6%) received tocilizumab
  - All patients received dexamethasone before tocilizumab and 89(92.7%) patients received remdesivir

	Tocilizumab(+)	Tocilizumab(-)	P-value
Sex, male	64(66.7%)	608(59.8%)	0.302
Age	61.2(14.3)	68.3(13.7)	<0.001
BMI	25.5(4.07)	24.8(5.15)	0.095
Underline disease			
HTN	39(40.6%)	560(55.1%)	0.014
DM	28(29.2%)	348(34.2%)	0.470
Cardiovascular disease	9(9.4%)	120(11.8%)	0.728
Chronic lung disease	6(6.3%)	84(8.3%)	0.754
Chronic kidney disease	6(6.3%)	74(7.3%)	0.898
Malignancy	5(5.2%)	75(7.4%)	0.706
LAB			
WBC	8.45(5.74)	9.02(6.71)	0.464
CRP	39.9(174.8)	22.2(46.8)	0.014
Lactate	1.64(0.76)	2.04(2.69)	0.216

	Tocilizumab(+)	Tocilizumab(-)	P-value
Treatment drug			
Remdesivir	736(72.4%)	89(92.7%)	<0.001
Dexamethasone	96(100%)	961(94.5%)	0.060
Time to tocilizumab after dexa	3.5(4.8)		
Time to tocilizumab after symptom	9.0(5.7)		
MV	57(59.4%)	581(57.1%)	0.630
CRRT	11(11.5%)	117(11.5%)	0.937
ICU LOS	19.4(23.4)	22.4(23.3)	0.242
Hospital LOS	30.6(32.5)	32.6(34.7)	0.589
ICU mortality	20(20.8%)	241(24.5%)	0.614
Hospital mortality	21(21.9%)	273(26.8%)	0.812
Blood stream infection	16(16.7%)	191(18.8%)	0.621

	Death	Survival	P-value	
HTN	175(59.5%)	423(51.6%)	0.044	<0.001
Chronic lung disease	38(12.9%)	52(6.3%)	0.002	
Cardiovascular disease	47(16.0%)	82(10.0%)	0.022	
Chronic neurologic disease	61(20.7%)	92(11.2%)	<0.001	
Chronic kidney disease	36(12.2%)	44(5.4%)	<0.001	
Malignancy	38(12.9%)	42(5.1%)	<0.001	
Remdesivir	204(69.4%)	621(75.8%)	0.023	
MV	251(85.4%)	388(47.4%)	<0.001	
ECMO	73(24.8%)	54(6.6%)	<0.001	<0.001
CRRT	99(33.7%)	29(3.5%)	<0.001	<0.001
Blood stream infection	86(29.3%)	121(14.8%)	<0.001	
Tocilizumab	21(7.1%)	75(9.2%)	0.812	
Age	74.4(12.2)	65.2(13.6)	<0.001	
WBC	10.28(9.93)	8.49(4.86)	<0.001	
CRP	27.7(104.2)	22.5(49.2)	0.258	
Lactate	2.73(4.48)	1.74(1.25)	<0.001	0.055
SOFA in MV	8.3(3.34)	7.2(3.1)	<0.001	

	Survival(n=75)	Death(n=21)	P-value
Sex, male	48(64.0%)	6(28.6%)	0.295
Age	57.9(13.3)	72.8(11.5)	<0.001
BMI	25.2(3.30)	25.5(4.27)	0.095
Underline disease			
HTN	28(37.3%)	11(52.4%)	0.215
DM	20(26.7%)	8(38.1%)	0.308
Cardiovascular disease	6(8.0%)	3(14.3%)	0.382
Chronic lung disease	2(2.7%)	4(19.0%)	0.020
Chronic kidney disease	4(5.3%)	2(9.5%)	0.483
Malignancy	2(2.7%)	3(14.3%)	0.068
LAB			
WBC	8.33(6.15)	8.88(4.07)	0.626
CRP	18.5(40.6)	116.9(362.2)	0.022
Lactate	1.62(0.79)	1.18(1.98)	0.666

	Survival(n=75)	Death(n=21)	P-value
Treatment drug			
Remdesivir	69(92.0%)	20(95.2%)	0.614
MV	38(50.7%)	19(90.5%)	0.001
CRRT	2(2.7%)	9(42.9%)	<0.001
Time to tocilizumab after symptom	8.6(4.2)	11.0(10.1)	0.152
Time to tocilizumab after dexamethasone	3.1(3.3)	5.2(8.3)	0.079
CRRT	11(11.5%)	11(11.5%)	0.937
ICU LOS	19.4(23.4)	22.4(23.3)	0.242
Hospital LOS	30.6(32.5)	32.6(34.7)	0.589
Blood stream infection	11(14.7%)	5(23.8%)	0.301

가... 감사합니다!



넘 숙