



# Update of Diagnosis and Treatment of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension

Seoul Metropolitan Seoul Medical Center  
Department of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

**Suhyun Kim M.D.**

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# Overview

- Definition
- Classification and Epidemiology
- WHO classification group I : PAH
- Diagnosis and Assessment
- Treatment

# Definition of Pulmonary Hypertension

## Pulmonary Hypertension

Mean PAP  $\geq 25$  mmHg at rest by right heart catheterization (RHC)

## Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH)

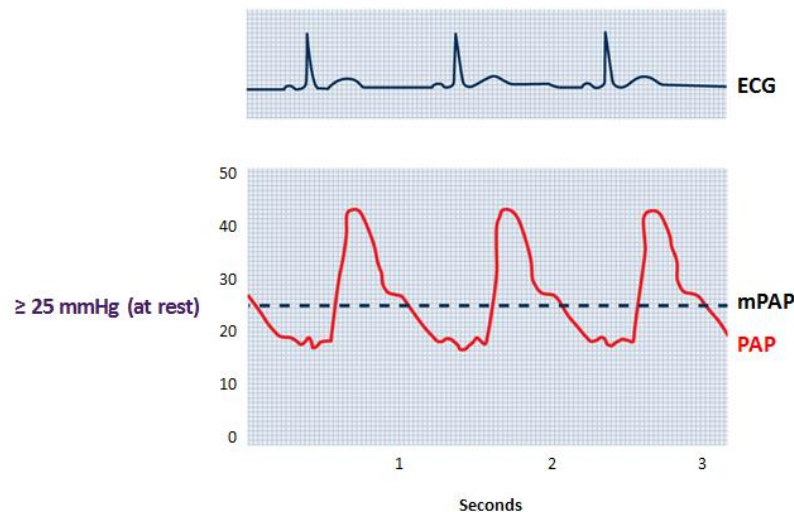
Mean PAP  
 $\geq 25$  mmHg  
at rest by RHC

+

PCWP/LVEDP  
 $\leq 15$  mmHg

+

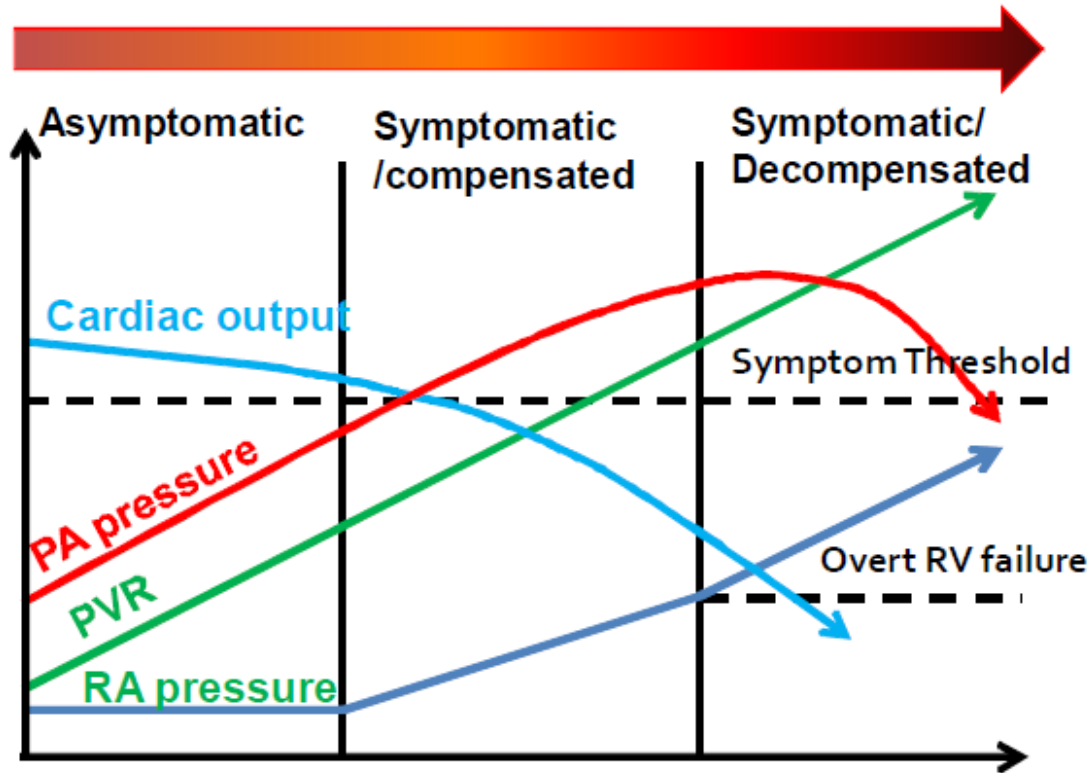
Pulmonary vascular  
Resistance  $> 3$  Wood units  
( $240 \text{ dynes}\cdot\text{sec}\cdot\text{cm}^{-5}$ )



$$\text{PVR} = (\text{meanPAP} - \text{PCWP}) / \text{Cardiac Output}$$

$$\text{meanPAP} = \text{PVR} \times \text{Cardiac Output} + \text{PCWP}$$

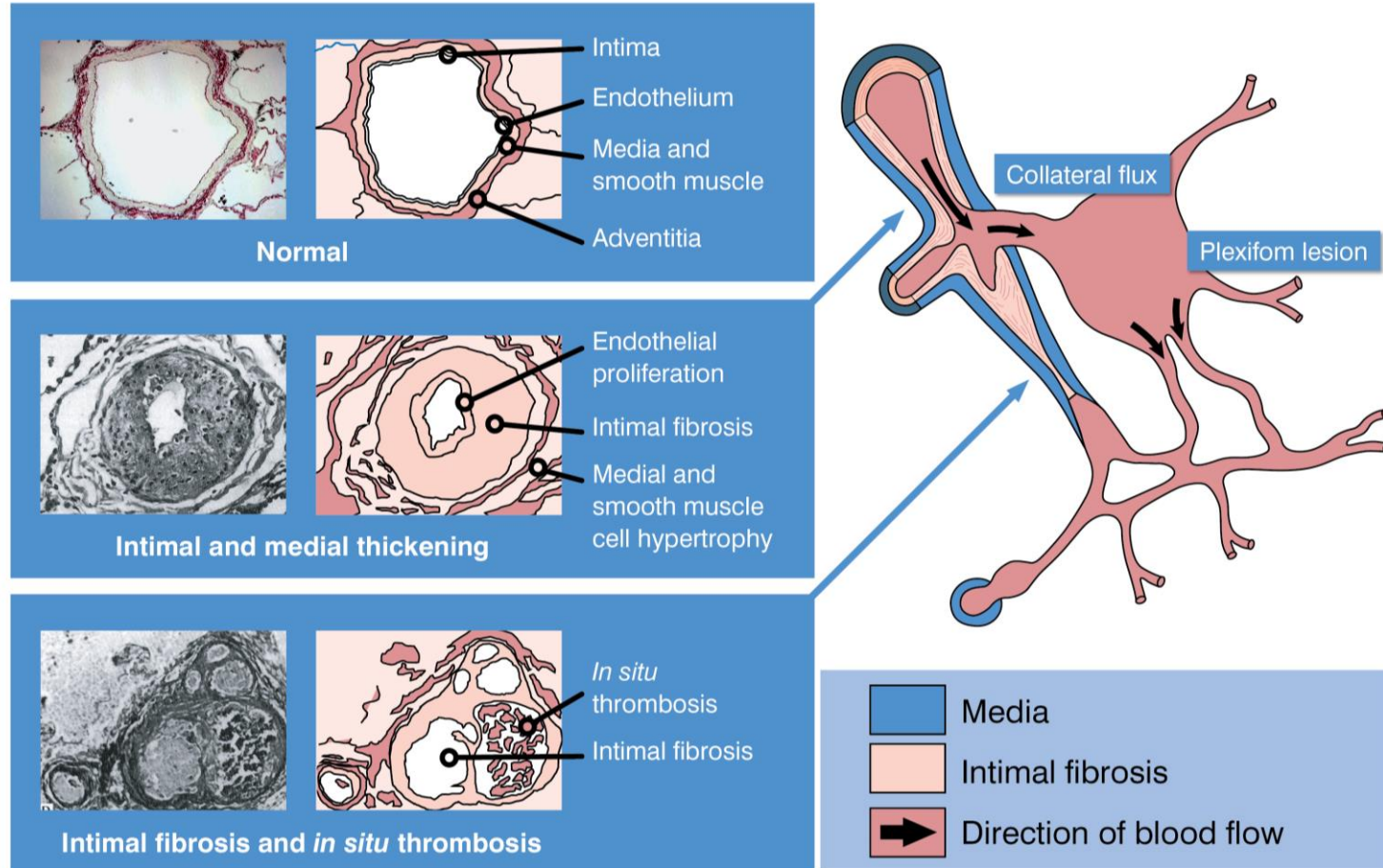
# Hemodynamic change of PAH



- ▶ 폐동맥압 : 심박출량이 유지되는 동안에는 폐 혈관저항이 증가함에 따라 함께 증가
  - decompensated heart failure 단계에 다다르면, 폐동맥압력도 함께 저하
  - 진행된 폐동맥고혈압 환자에서 치료효과의 판정기준이 되지 못하며, 예후와의 연관성 희박
- ▷ **심박출량, 폐혈관저항, 우심실의 기능저하** : 환자의 상태를 평가하는데 매우 중요한 요소

# Changes in the pulmonary arteries in PAH

## - histopathological features



# Vasoactive Mediators Involved in PAH

## ABNORMALITIES

Nitric oxide  
deficiency

Prostacyclin  
deficiency

Endothelin  
overexpression

## THERAPIES

### PDE-5 inhibitors

Block the activity of PDE-5, restoring vasodilation through an increase in cGMP<sup>1</sup>

### Prostacyclin

Supplement the deficiency in PGI<sub>2</sub>, resulting in vasodilation and inhibition of platelet aggregation<sup>2</sup>

### ERAs

Block the binding of ET-1 to its receptors, preventing vasoconstrictor effects of ET-1<sup>3</sup>

cGMP, cyclic guanosine monophosphate; ERA, endothelin receptor antagonist; ET-1, endothelin; PDE-5, phosphodiesterase type 5; PGI<sub>2</sub>, prostacyclin.

1. Humbert et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2004;43(suppl S):13S-24S. 2. Humbert et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2004;351:1425-1436.

3. Galiè et al. *Eur Heart J.* 2004;25:2243-2278.



# 2015 ESC/ERS Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension

**The Joint 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: Association for European Paediatric and Congenital Society for Heart and Lung**

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

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.

# Diagnostic Classification (NICE 2013)

## 1. Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)

### 1.1. Idiopathic PAH (IPAH)

### 1.2. Heritable (HPAP)

1.2.1. BMPR2

1.2.2. ALK1, ENG, SMAD9, CAV1, KCNK3

1.2.3. Unknown

### 1.3. Drug- and toxin-induced

### 1.4. Associated with (APAH)

1.4.1. Connective tissue diseases (CTD)

1.4.2. HIV infection

1.4.3. Portal hypertension

1.4.4. Congenital heart diseases

1.4.5. Schistosomiasis

1' Pulmonary veno-occlusive disease  
and/or Pulmonary capillary hemangiomatosis  
1'' Persistent PH of the newborn

## 2. PH due to left heart disease

2.1. Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

2.2. Left ventricular diastolic dysfunction

2.3. Valvular disease

2.4. Congenital/acquired left heart inflow/  
outflow tract obstruction and  
congenital cardiomyopathies

## 3. PH due to lung diseases and/or hypoxemia

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

## 4. Chronic thromboembolic PH

## 5. PH with unclear multifactorial mechanisms

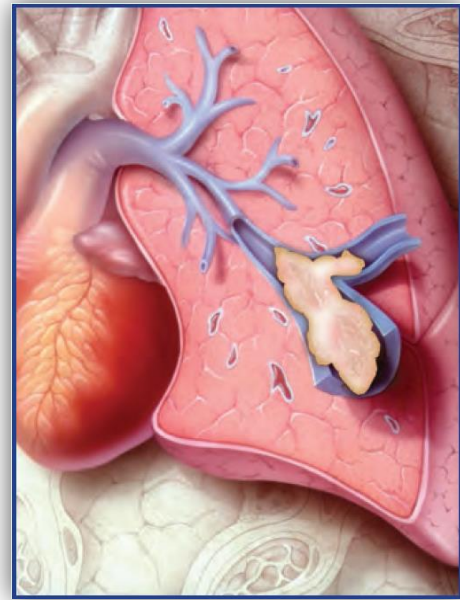
5.1. Hematologic disorders: **chronic hemolytic anemia**, myeloproliferative disorders, splenectomy

5.2. Systemic disorders: **sarcoidosis**, pulmonary histiocytosis: lymphangiomyomatosis

5.3. Metabolic disorders: glycogen storage disease, Gaucher disease, thyroid disorders

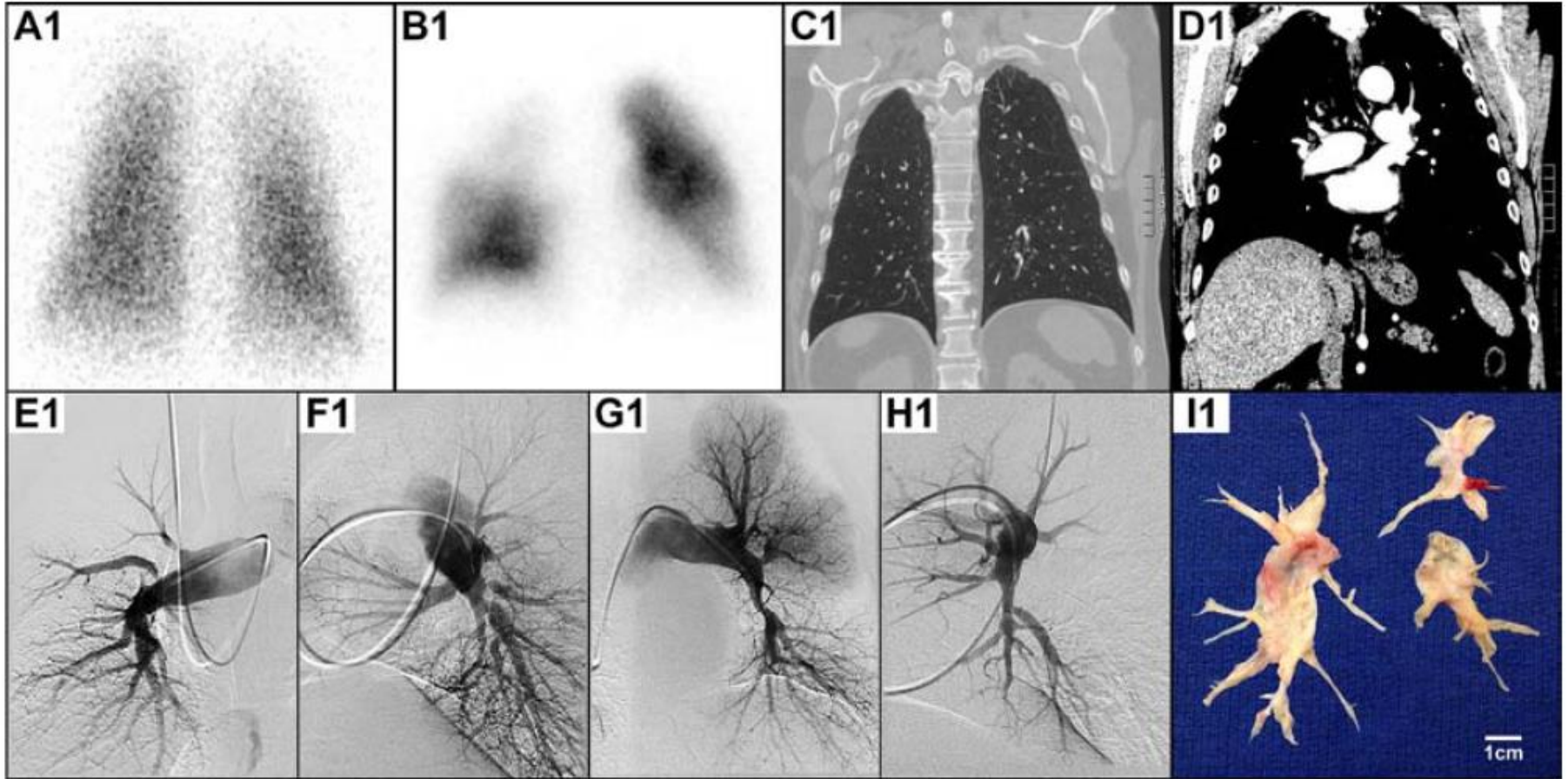
5.4. Others: tumoral obstruction, **fibrosing mediastinitis**, **chronic renal failure**, segmental PH

# Chronic Thromboembolic Pulmonary Hypertension (CTEPH)



- **Defining CTEPH**
  - After 3 months of therapeutic anticoagulation
    - mPAP  $\geq$  25 mmHg
    - Persistent perfusion defect(s) with chronic/organized occlusive thrombi/emboli
- The obstruction of pulmonary arteries with fibrotic material and vascular remodelling that leads to increased pulmonary arterial pressure and right ventricular failure.
- CTEPH is thought to develop following a pulmonary embolism (PE) that fails to resolve in between 0.57% and 9.1% of patients.

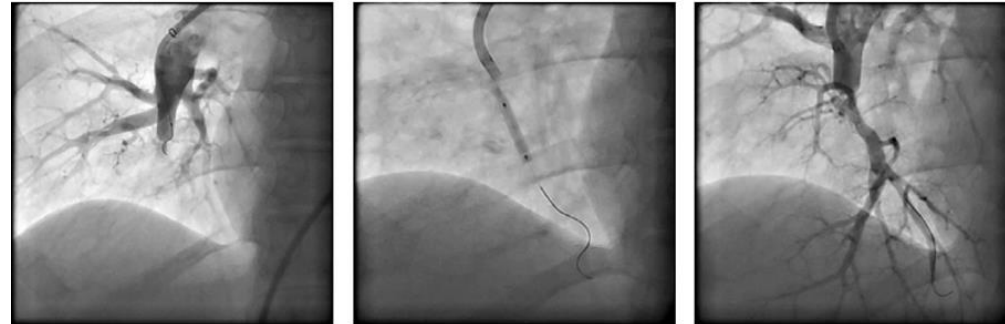
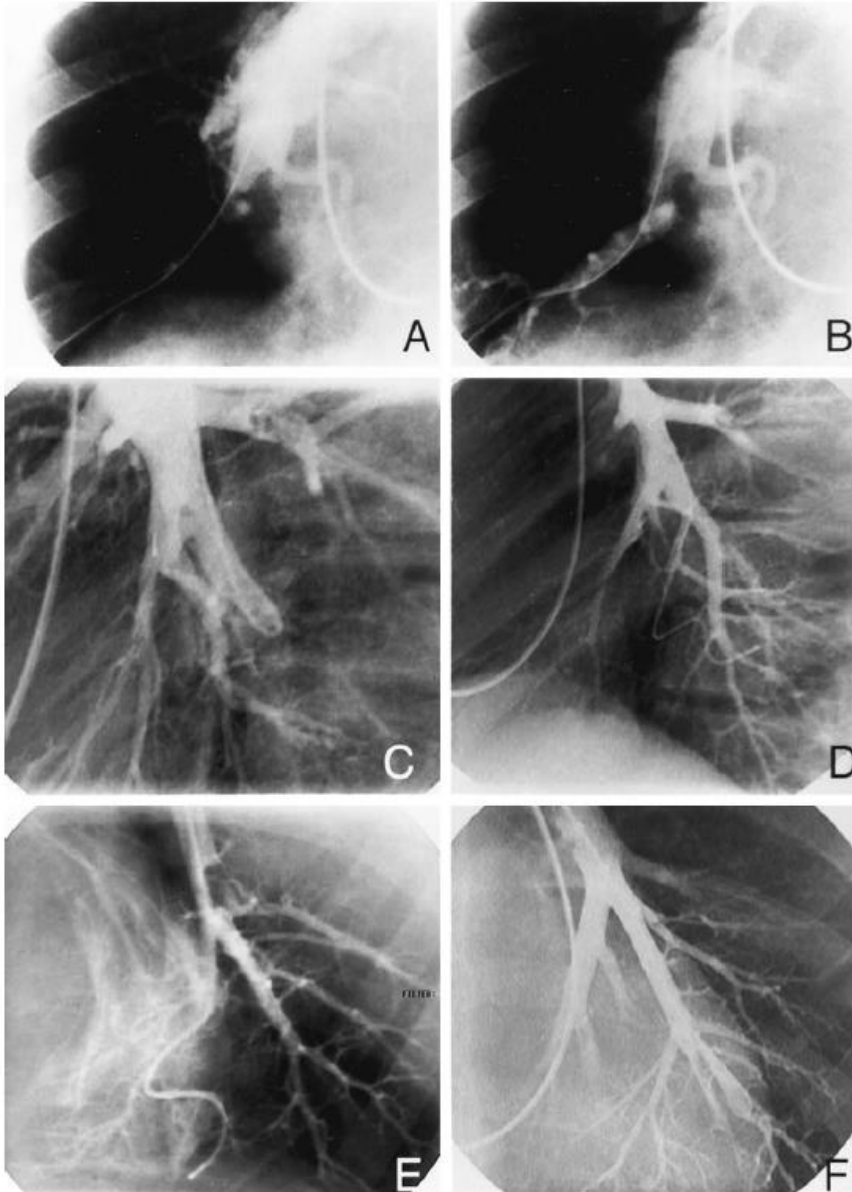
**Ventilation/perfusion lung scan should be performed to screen CTEPH.**  
**Pulmonary Angiogram is required for the workup of CTEPH.**  
**Pulmonary endarterectomy (PEA) is the treatment of choice.**



**Stenosis, Cutoff**

**Narrowing**

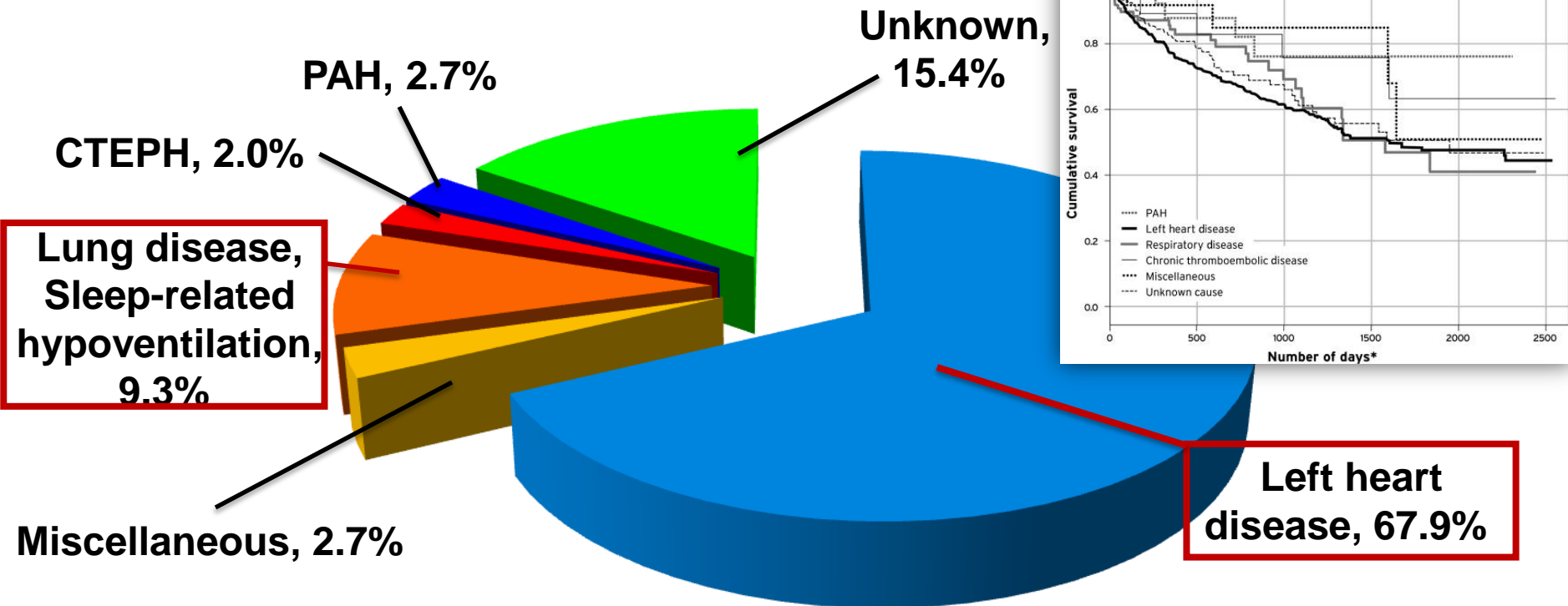
# Balloon Pulmonary Angioplasty (BPA) in CTEPH



- Angiographic appearance of occluded (A, C), and stenotic (E) lower lobe pulmonary artery segmental branches.
- They are horizontally paired with angiograms performed immediately after successful BPA (B, D, and F).

# Epidemiology of Pulmonary Hypertension

- Single echo lab / Australian community of 165,450
- Etiology of PH noted on echocardiogram
- ~10% of patients had estimated sPAP >40 mm Hg
  - Only 2.7% with PAH after full evaluation



N=936 of 10,314 patients with echo PASP >40 mm Hg.  
Strange G et al. *Heart*. 2012;98:1805-1811.

# PH in Chronic Lung Diseases

Underlying Lung Disease	mPAP <25 mm Hg at Rest	mPAP ≥25 and <35 mm Hg at Rest	mPAP ≥35 mm Hg at Rest*
<p>COPD with FEV1 ≥60% of predicted                      IPF with FVC ≥70% of predicted                      CT: absence of or only very modest airway or parenchymal abnormalities</p>	<p>No PH                      No PAH treatment recommended</p>	<p>PH classification uncertain                      No data currently support treatment with PAH-approved drugs</p>	<p>PH classification uncertain: discrimination between PAH (group 1) with concomitant lung disease or PH caused by lung disease (group 3)                      Refer to a center with expertise in both PH and chronic lung disease</p>
<p>COPD with FEV1 &lt;60% of predicted                      IPF with FVC &lt;70% of predicted                      Combined pulmonary fibrosis and emphysema on CT</p>	<p>No PH                      No PAH treatment recommended</p>	<p>PH-COPD, PH-IPF, PH-CPFE                      No data currently support treatment with PAH-approved drugs</p>	<p>Severe PH-COPD, severe PH-IPF, severe PH-CPFE                      Refer to a center with expertise in both PH</p>
	<p><b>COPD/IPF/CPFE without PH</b></p>	<p><b>COPD/IPF/CPFE with PH</b></p>	<p><b>COPD/IPF/CPFE with severe PH</b></p>

## Key Points

Group III PH is Generally Associated with Mild to Moderate Elevations in mPAP

The presence of group III PH is correlated with worse functional status and outcomes

Treatment should be aimed at optimization of the underlying pulmonary condition along with oxygen therapy, pulmonary rehabilitation, diuretics and vaccinations

There is limited data to support the use of pulmonary vasodilator therapy for group III PH

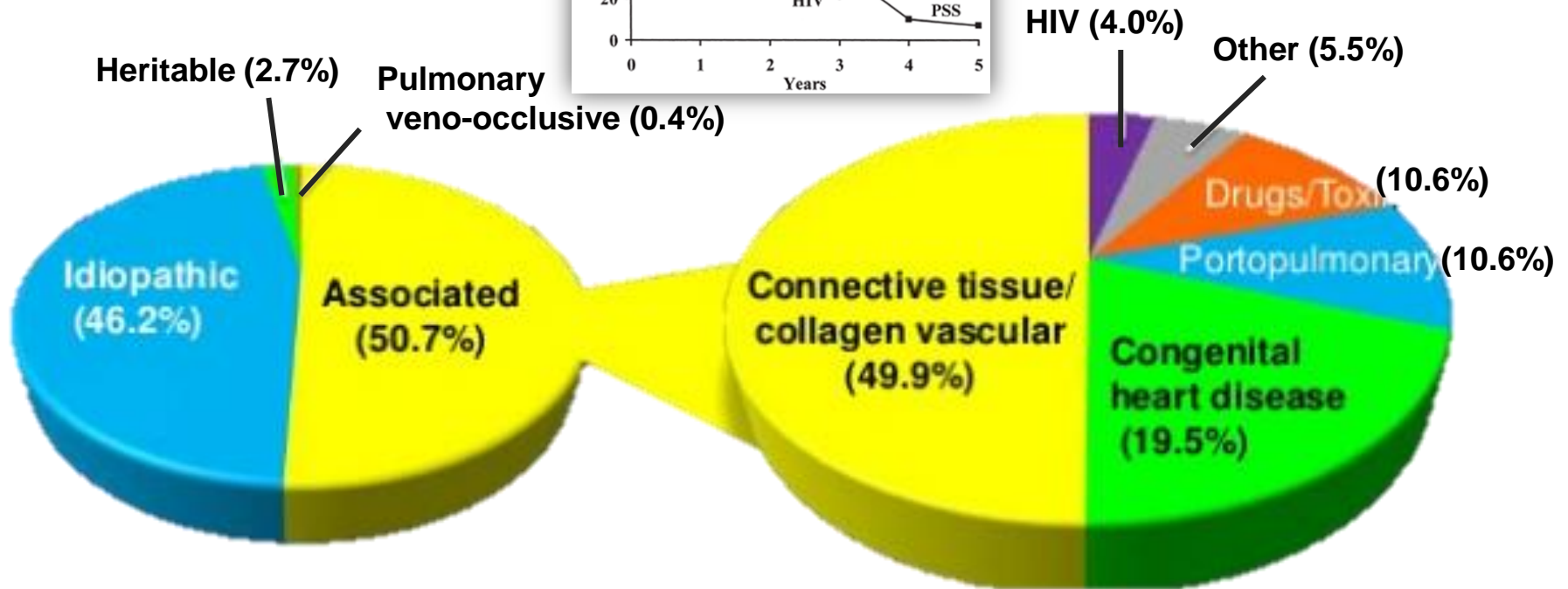
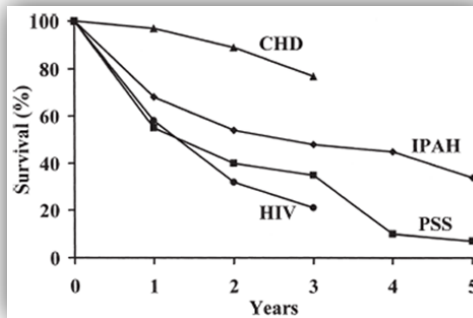
# Epidemiology of PAH from REVEAL Registry

**Prevalence : 15 cases/1 million, Incidence : 2.4/1 million**

*N = 2525*

*Mean age = 53 years old*

*Female = 79.5% population*



# WHO group I (PAH)

## I. Pulmonary arterial hypertension

- I.1 Idiopathic
- I.2 Heritable
  - I.2.1 BMPR2 mutation
  - I.2.2 Other mutations
- I.3 Drugs and toxins induced
- I.4 Associated with:
  - I.4.1 Connective tissue disease
  - I.4.2 Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection
  - I.4.3 Portal hypertension
  - I.4.4 Congenital heart disease (Table 6)
  - I.4.5 Schistosomiasis

## I'. Pulmonary veno-occlusive disease and/or pulmonary capillary haemangiomatosis

- I'.1 Idiopathic
- I'.2 Heritable
  - I'.2.1 EIF2AK4 mutation
  - I'.2.2 Other mutations
- I'.3 Drugs, toxins and radiation induced
- I'.4 Associated with:
  - I'.4.1 Connective tissue disease
  - I'.4.2 HIV infection

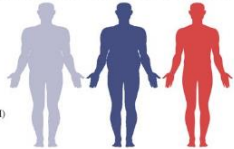
# Drug/Toxins known to induced PAH

## Fen-Phen and Primary Pulmonary Hypertension (PPH)

Fen-Phen (fenfluramine/phentermine) is a weight loss drug used to suppress appetite and cause weight loss. Fen-Phen releases additional serotonin, a neurotransmitter that controls how appetite is perceived in the brain. Wyeth Pharmaceuticals manufactured Pondimin and Redux, two drugs using Fen-Phen. The company spent \$52 million marketing these drugs but has since paid over \$13 billion to settle claims filed by people who used the drugs. The primary claim raised by plaintiffs is that this dangerous drug causes primary pulmonary hypertension (PPH), also known as idiopathic pulmonary arterial hypertension (IPAH).

### Common Side Effects:

Fatigue  
Dizziness  
Shortness of breath or hyperventilation



### Serious Side Effects:

Primary pulmonary hypertension (PPH)  
Idiopathic pulmonary arterial hypertension (IPAH)  
Heart valve disease  
Heart failure

Normal Heart

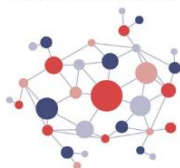
Heart with PPH



1973: Pondimin, a fenfluramine drug, was introduced.



1983: Pharmacologist Michael Weintaub combined fenfluramine and phentermine.



1992: Doctors began prescribing Fen-Phen for weight loss even though it had not been approved by the FDA.

1996: In April, the FDA approved Redux, a fenfluramine drug. Wyeth spends \$52 million marketing its Fen-Phen products. As a result of the marketing, Fen-Phen prescriptions exceeded 18 million earning the company \$300 million in annual sales.

**\$300 Million**

1997: A 30-year-old woman died from heart problems after taking Fen-Phen for only a month.



30 Year Old Woman  
**DEAD**

The New England Journal of Medicine published a study performed by the Mayo Clinic, which found that 24 women taking Fen-Phen experienced PPH due to the excess of serotonin caused by the drug.

**PPH**

The FDA received 144 adverse event reports on Fen-Phen drugs and found that 30% of people using the drug reported unusual echocardiogram results. On September 15, Wyeth withdrew Pondimin and Redux from the market.



**%30**

2003: In September, Forbes Magazine published the article, "Bad Medicine," stating that 153,000 lawsuits had been filed against Wyeth Pharmaceuticals and \$13 billion had been paid by the company.



**153,000 Lawsuits**

Please contact the law offices of d'Oliveira & Associates at 1-800-992-6877

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**\$300 Million**



**153,000 Lawsuits**

Definite	Likely	Possible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aminorex</li> <li>• Fenfluramine</li> <li>• Dexfenfluramine</li> <li>• Toxic rapeseed oil</li> <li>• Benfluorex</li> <li>• Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amphetamines</li> <li>• Dasatinib</li> <li>• L-tryptophan</li> <li>• Methamphetamines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cocaine</li> <li>• Phenylpropanolamine</li> <li>• St John's Wort</li> <li>• Amphetamine-like drugs</li> <li>• Interferon <math>\alpha</math> and <math>\beta</math></li> <li>• Some chemotherapeutic agents such as alkylating agents (mytomyicine C, cyclophosphamide)<sup>b</sup></li> </ul>

# Clinical classification of PAH associated with congenital heart disease

## 1. Eisenmenger's syndrome

Includes all large intra- and extra-cardiac defects which begin as systemic-to-pulmonary shunts and progress with time to severe elevation of PVR and to reversal (pulmonary-to-systemic) or bidirectional shunting; cyanosis, secondary erythrocytosis, and multiple organ involvement are usually present.

## 2. PAH associated with prevalent systemic-to-pulmonary shunts

- Correctable<sup>a</sup>
- Non-correctable

Includes moderate to large defects; PVR is mildly to moderately increased, systemic-to-pulmonary shunting is still prevalent, whereas cyanosis at rest is not a feature.

## 3. PAH with small/coincidental defects<sup>b</sup>

Marked elevation in PVR in the presence of small cardiac defects (usually ventricular septal defects <1 cm and atrial septal defects <2 cm of effective diameter assessed by echo), which themselves do not account for the development of elevated PVR; the clinical picture is very similar to idiopathic PAH. Closing the defects is contra-indicated.

## 4. PAH after defect correction

Congenital heart disease is repaired, but PAH either persists immediately after correction or recurs/develops months or years after correction in the absence of significant postoperative haemodynamic lesions.



Impressions/Diagnoses:

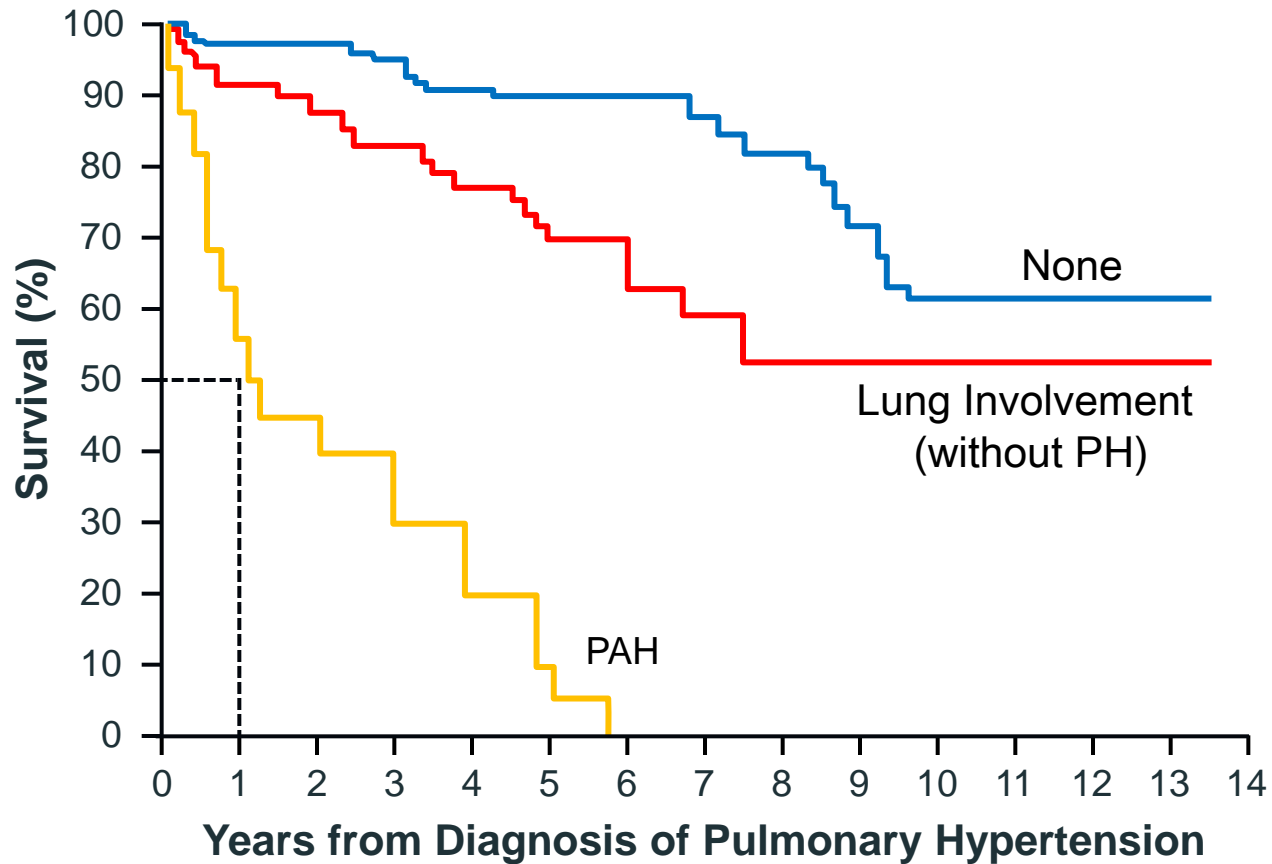
- 1) PAH/CHD - Eisenmenger's
- 2) NYHAC III
- 3) Secondary polycythemia

# Epidemiology of PAH from Korean PAH Registry

Parameters	All patients	IPAH	All patients with APAH	P value	APAH subgroup		
					CHD	CTD	Other
Patients, No. (%)	625 (100)	145 (23.2)	480 (76.8)		159 (25.4)	311 (49.8)	10 (1.6)
Age, mean ± SD (yr)	47.6 ± 15.7	45.1 ± 15.7	48.4 ± 15.7	0.027	41.1 ± 13.4	52.2 ± 15.6	47.7 ± 10.0
19-64, No. (%)	513 (82.1)	121 (83.5)	392 (81.7)	NS	149 (93.7)	233 (74.9)	10 (100)
65-74, No. (%)	74 (11.8)	18 (12.4)	56 (11.7)		8 (5.0)	48 (15.4)	-
> 75, No. (%)	38 (6.1)	6 (4.1)	32 (6.7)		2 (1.3)	30 (9.7)	-
Female, No. (%)	503 (80.5)	106 (73.1)	397 (82.7)	0.011	116 (73.0)	274 (88.1)	7 (70.0)
Functional class, No. (%)				< 0.001			
I	136 (21.8)	5 (3.5)	131 (27.3)		9 (5.7)	121 (38.9)	1 (10.0)
II	218 (34.9)	48 (33.1)	170 (35.4)		71 (44.7)	96 (30.9)	3 (30.0)
III	240 (38.4)	82 (56.6)	158 (32.9)		76 (47.8)	77 (24.8)	5 (50.0)
IV	31 (5.0)	10 (6.9)	21 (4.4)		3 (1.9)	17 (5.5)	1 (10.0)
Systolic BP (mean ± SD)	114 ± 16.8	116 ± 17.6	113 ± 16.1	NS	113 ± 14.8	111 ± 18.3	118 ± 21.3
BNP (pg/mL)	516 ± 1,093	465 ± 1,001	562 ± 1,176	NS	645 ± 1,423	362 ± 444	871 ± 662
NT proBNP (pg/mL)	2,798 ± 6,375	2,192 ± 3,244	2,876 ± 6,673	NS	1,900 ± 5,047	3,234 ± 7,152	687 ± 978
6MWD (mean ± SD, m)	376 ± 124	398 ± 116	364 ± 127	NS	382 ± 119	347 ± 133	277 ± 162
D <sub>LCO</sub> (%)	64.1 ± 24.3	74.1 ± 20.7	59.3 ± 24.5*	< 0.001	95.1 ± 34.5	56.3 ± 20.9	52.2 ± 22.5

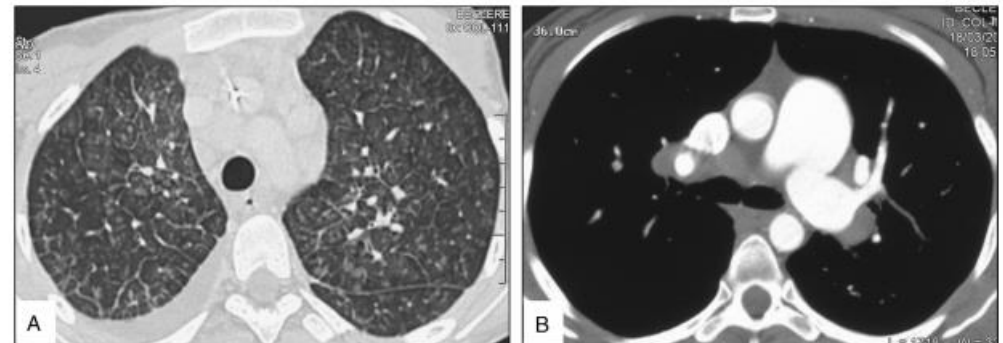
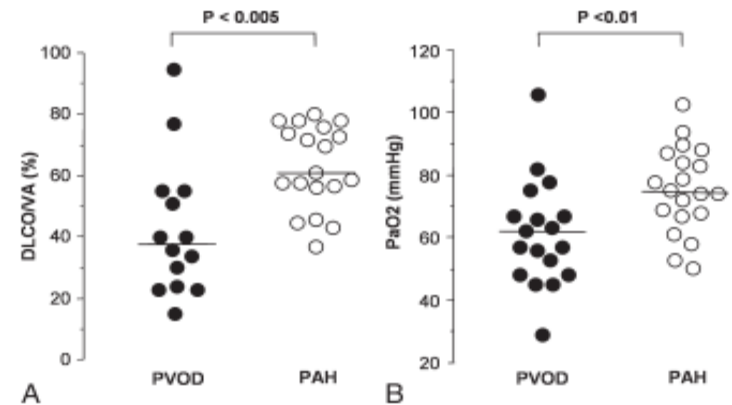
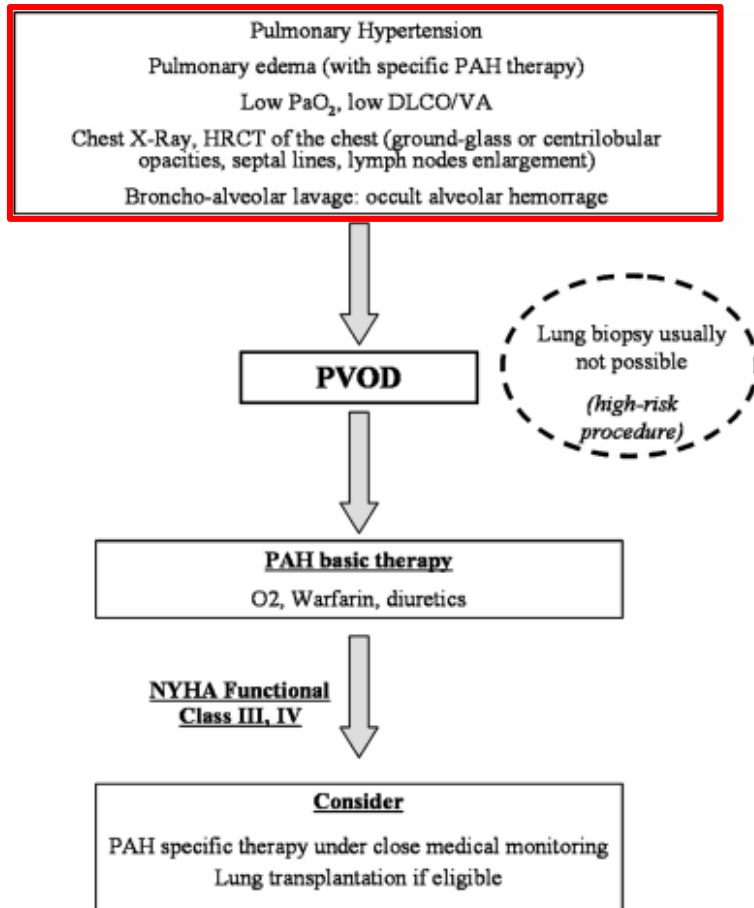
The incidence of **systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) (35.3%)** was comparable to that of **systemic sclerosis (SSc) (28.3%)** in CTD-PAH.

# Survival Curves of Scleroderma Patients Based on Organ Involvement



# Pulmonary Veno-Occlusive Disease

- Preferentially affects the **post-capillary venous pulmonary vessels** and may include significant pulmonary capillary dilatation/proliferation.
- The pathologic hallmark of PVOD is the **extensive and diffuse occlusion of pulmonary veins by fibrous tissue**.

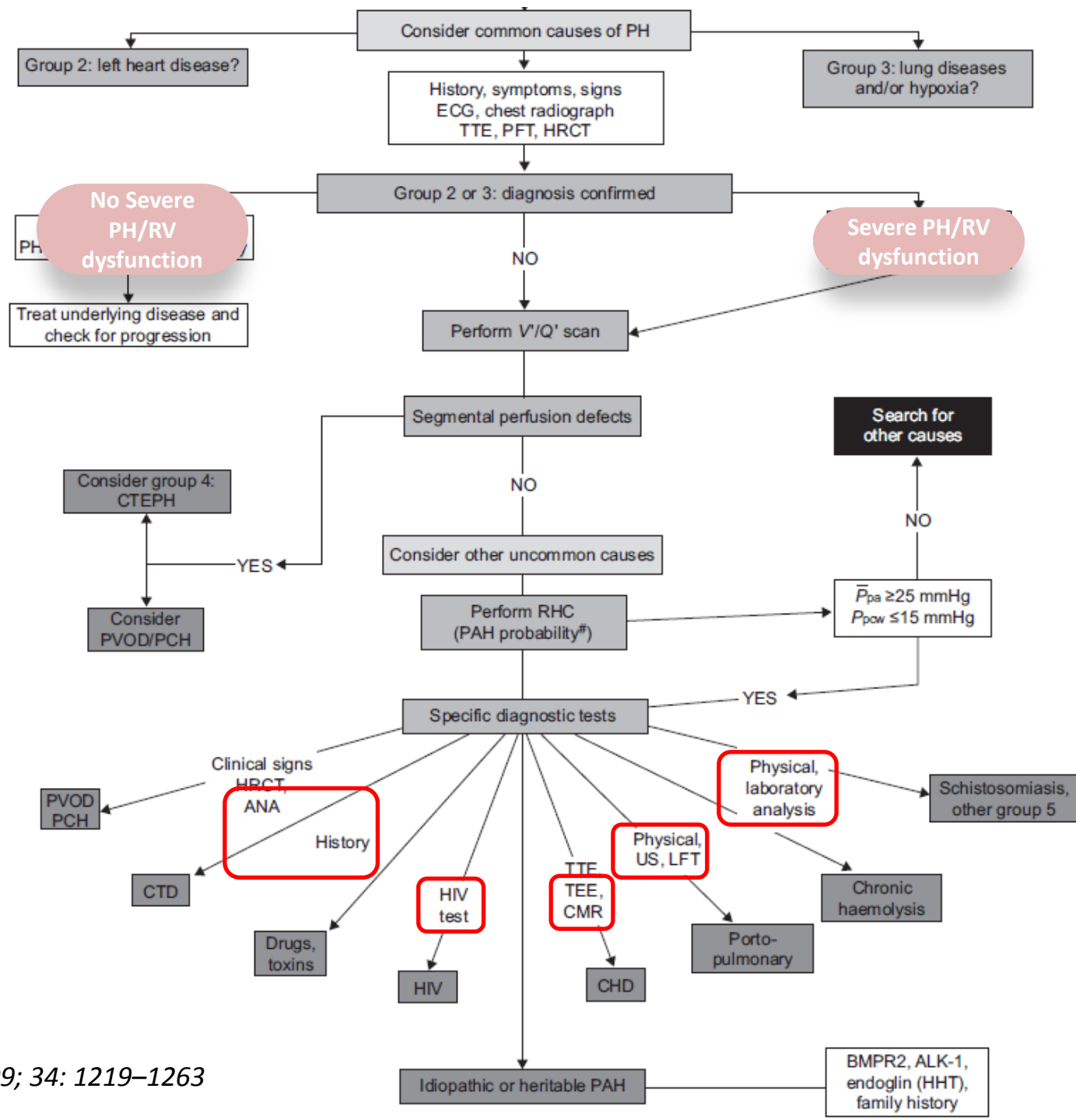


**FIGURE 4.** High-resolution CT of the chest in PVOD. **A.** High-resolution CT of the chest showing marked ground-glass opacities with centrilobular pattern, poorly defined nodular opacities, septal lines, and minimal right pleural effusion. **B.** High-resolution CT of the chest showing mediastinal lymph node enlargement.

# **Diagnosis and Assessment of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension**

# Four stage approach to diagnosis of PAH

- **Stage 1 ; Clinical suspicion & Screening of PH with Echo**
  - Symptoms, known risk factors
- **Stage 2 ; Exclude other causes of PH**
  - Exclusion of Group 2 (left heart disease) and Group 3 (lung disease) PH : ECG, echocardiography, chest radiograph, PFTs, HRCT, PSG with overnight oxymetry
  - Exclusion of Group 4 (CTEPH) PH : ventilation/perfusion lung scan
- **Stage 3 ; Confirm PAH right heart catheterisation (RHC)**
- **Stage 4 ; Characterize PAH**
  - Cardiac MRI, haematology, biochemistry, serology, and ultrasonography
  - Functional class and exercise capacity



# Stage 1: Diagnosis of PH

## Clinical suspicion of pulmonary hypertension

- progressive dyspnea on exertion (>90%)
- fatigue, angina, syncope (mostly exercise-induced)
- signs of right heart failure (abdominal distension and ankle edema)
- Screening of patients with associated conditions
  - Connective Tissue Disease (systemic sclerosis)
  - Congenital Heart Disease
  - HIV, Sickle Cell Disease, portal hypertension

## Detection of pulmonary hypertension

- Chest radiograph
- ECG (p-pulmonale, Rt axis deviation, RBBB)
- Doppler echocardiography
- Early clues for PH : BNP, low paCO<sub>2</sub>



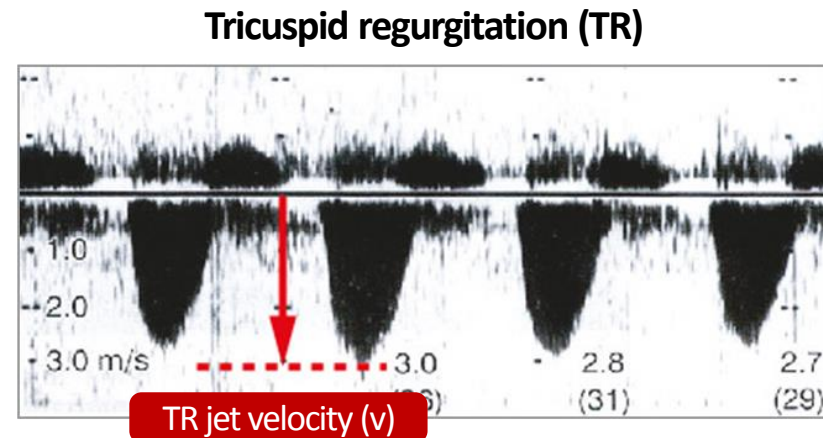
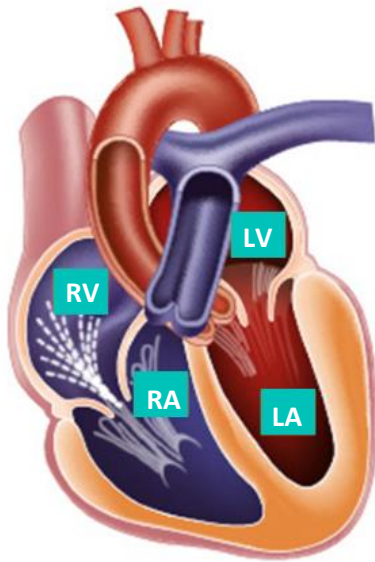
PAH with evidence of cardiomegaly  
and enlarged pulmonary arteries

# Recommendations for PAH screening

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
Resting echocardiography is recommended as a screening test in asymptomatic patients with systemic sclerosis.	I	B
Resting echocardiography is recommended as a screening test in <i>BMPR2</i> mutation carriers or first-degree relatives of patients with HPAH and in patients with PoPH referred for liver transplantation.	I	C
A combined approach (including biomarkers, PFTs and echocardiography) should be considered to predict PH in systemic sclerosis.	IIa	B
Systemic sclerosis patients with a mean PAP ranging from 21 to 24 mmHg should be closely monitored, because of a higher risk of PAH.	IIa	B
Initial screening using the stepwise DETECT algorithm may be considered in adult systemic sclerosis patients with >3 years' disease duration and a DLCO <60% predicted.	IIb	B
Annual screening with echocardiography, PFTs and biomarkers may be considered in patients with systemic sclerosis.	IIb	B
In individuals who test positive for PAH-causing mutations and first-degree relatives of HPAH cases may be considered to have an annual screening echocardiogram.	IIb	C
Exercise echocardiography is not recommended to predict PH in high risk population.	III	C

# Stage 1: Diagnosis of PH

## Tricuspid regurgitation by Doppler echo



**Syst PAP = right ventricular systolic pressure**  
(in the absence of pulmonary outflow obstruction)

**RVSP =  $4v^2$  + estimated right atrial pressure**

**mPAP =  $0.6 \times \text{sPAP} + 2$**

**Overestimation & underestimation of sPAP by Doppler echocardiography occurred**

# Echocardiographic Probability of PH in Symptomatic Patients With a Suspicion of PH

Peak Tricuspid Regurgitation Velocity (m/s)	Presence of Other Echocardiographic PH Signs*	Echocardiographic Probability of PH
≤2.8 or not measurable	No	Low
≤2.8 or not measurable	Yes	Intermediate
2.9 to 3.4	No	
2.9 to 3.4	Yes	High
>3.4	Not required	

\*Other PH signs include the dimensions of the RV, the PA, and the IVC (see next slide)

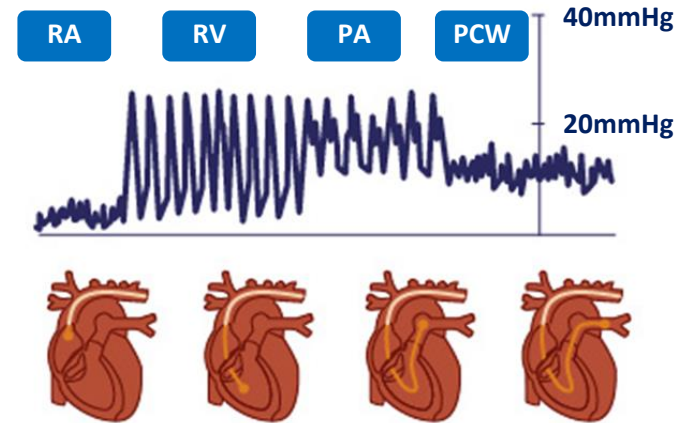
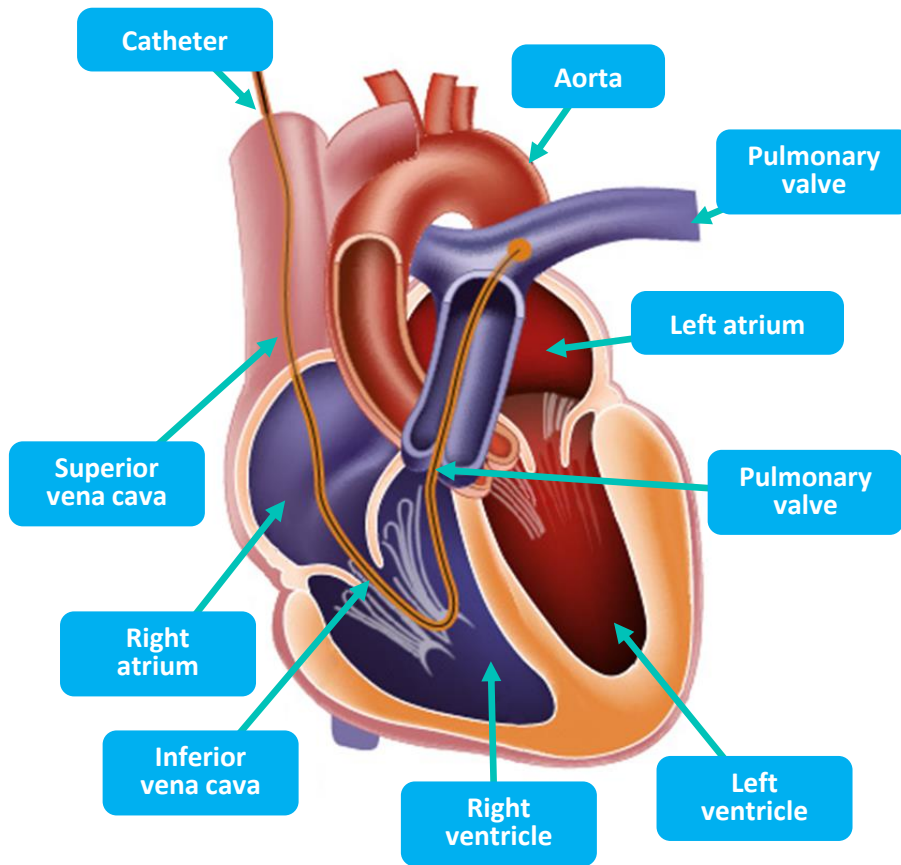
# Other Echocardiographic PH signs

A: The ventricles <sup>a</sup>	B: Pulmonary artery <sup>a</sup>	C: Inferior vena cava and right atrium <sup>a</sup>
Right ventricle/ left ventricle basal diameter ratio >1.0	Right ventricular outflow Doppler acceleration time <105 msec and/or midsystolic notching	Inferior cava diameter >21 mm with decreased inspiratory collapse (<50 % with a sniff or <20 % with quiet inspiration)
Flattening of the interventricular septum (left ventricular eccentricity index >1.1 in systole and/or diastole)	Early diastolic pulmonary regurgitation velocity >2.2 m/sec	Right atrial area (end-systole) >18 cm <sup>2</sup>
	PA diameter >25 mm.	

\* Echocardiographic signs from at least two different categories (A/B/C) from the list should be present to alter the level of echocardiographic probability of PH.

# Stage 3: Confirm PAH

## Right heart catheterization



Characteristic intracardiac pressure waveforms during passage through the heart

# Hemodynamic definitions of PH as Assessed by RHC

Definition	Characteristics <sup>a</sup>	Clinical group(s) <sup>b</sup>
PH	PAPm $\geq 25$ mmHg	All
Pre-capillary PH	PAPm $\geq 25$ mmHg PAWP $\leq 15$ mmHg	1. Pulmonary arterial hypertension 3. PH due to lung diseases 4. Chronic thromboembolic PH 5. PH with unclear and/or multifactorial mechanisms
Post-capillary PH	PAPm $\geq 25$ mmHg PAWP $> 15$ mmHg	2. PH due to left heart disease 5. PH with unclear and/or multifactorial mechanisms
Isolated post-capillary PH (Ipc-PH)	DPG $< 7$ mmHg and/or PVR $\leq 3$ WU <sup>c</sup>	
Combined post-capillary and pre-capillary PH (Cpc-PH)	DPG $\geq 7$ mmHg and/or PVR $> 3$ WU <sup>c</sup>	

CO = cardiac output; DPG = diastolic pressure gradient (diastolic PAP – mean PAWP); mPAP = mean pulmonary arterial pressure; PAWP = pulmonary arterial wedge pressure; PH = pulmonary hypertension; PVR = pulmonary vascular resistance; WU = Wood units.

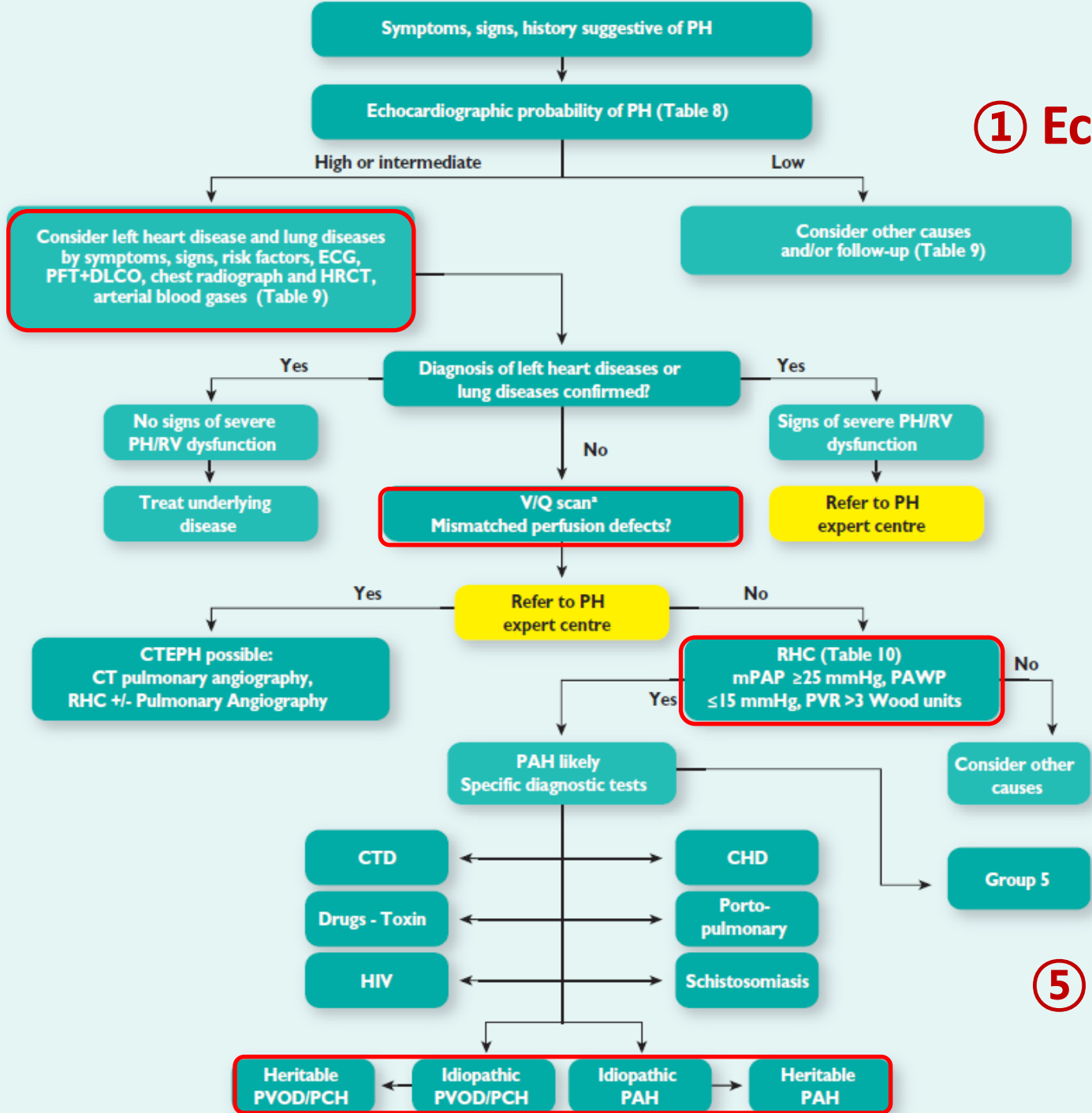
# Vasoreactivity testing

- **Agents for vasodilator testing**
  - Inhaled NO (10 → 20 ppm)
  - IV epoprostenol (2 → 12 ng/kg/min)
  - cf. IV adenosine, inhaled iloprost
- **Responder Criteria**
  - Fall in mPAP  $\geq$  10 mmHg
  - Absolute mPAP  $\leq$  40 mmHg

Drug	Route	Half-life	Dose range <sup>d</sup>	Increments <sup>e</sup>	Duration <sup>f</sup>	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
Nitric oxide	Inh	15–30 sec	10–20 ppm	-	5 min <sup>g</sup>	I	C
Epoprostenol	i.v.	3 min	2–12 ng/kg/min	2 ng/kg/min	10 min	I	C
Adenosine	i.v.	5–10 sec	50–350 $\mu$ g/kg/min	50 $\mu$ g/kg/min	2 min	IIa	C
Iloprost	Inh	30 min	5–20 $\mu$ g	-	15 min	IIb	C

# Recommendations for vasoreactivity testing

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
Vasoreactivity testing is indicated only in expert centres	I	C
Vasoreactivity testing is recommended in patients with <b>IPAH, HPAH and PAH associated with drugs</b> use to detect patients who can be treated with high doses of a CCB	I	C
A positive response to vasoreactivity testing is defined as a reduction of mean PAP $\geq 10$ mmHg to reach an absolute value of mean PAP $\leq 40$ mmHg with an increased or unchanged cardiac output	I	C
Nitric oxide is recommended for performing vasoreactivity testing	I	C
Intravenous epoprostenol is recommended for performing vasoreactivity testing as an alternative	I	C
Adenosine should be considered for performing vasoreactivity testing as an alternative	IIa	C
Inhaled iloprost may be considered for performing vasoreactivity testing as an alternative	IIb	C
The use of oral or intravenous CCBs in acute vasoreactivity testing is not recommended	III	C
Vasoreactivity testing to detect patients who can be safely treated with high doses of a CCB is not recommended in patients with PAH other than IPAH, HPAH and PAH associated with drugs use and is not recommended in PH groups 2,3,4 and 5	III	C



① Echocardiography

② Heart or Lung disease?

③ CTEPH?

④ RHC +/-Angiogram

⑤ Classification

# Evaluation of severity :

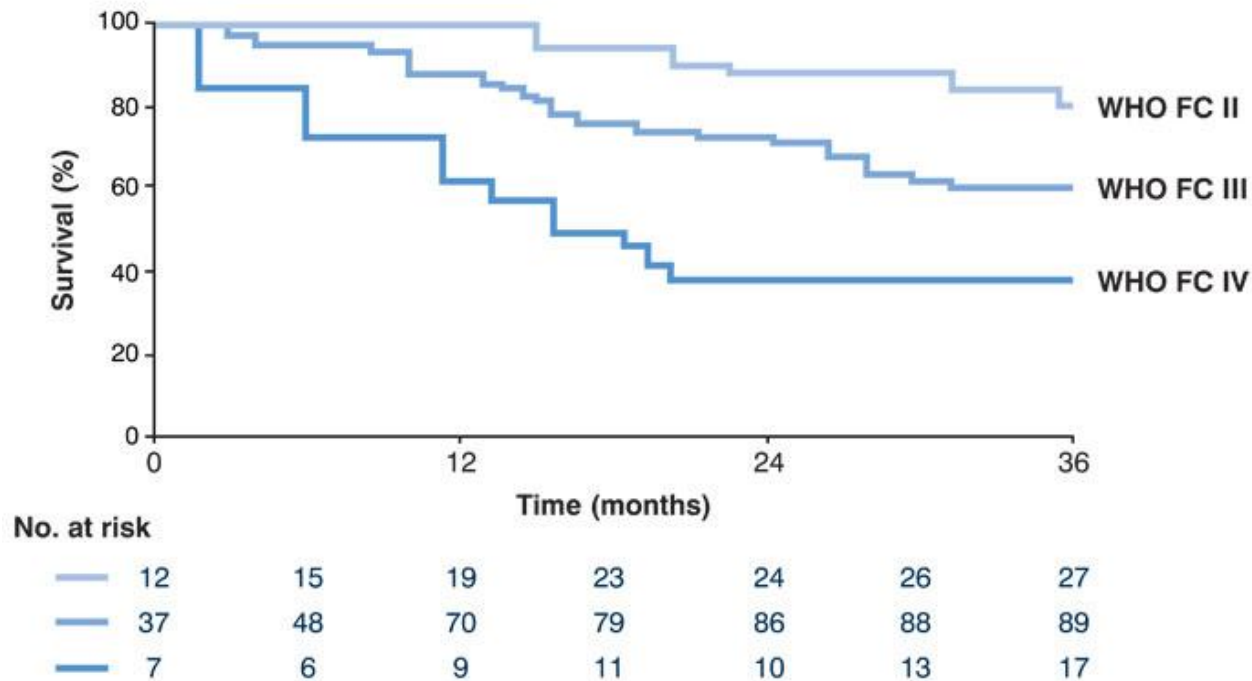
## WHO Functional class

Functional Class	Symptomatic profile
I	Patients with pulmonary hypertension but <b>without resulting limitation of physical activity</b> . Ordinary physical activity does not cause dyspnoea or fatigue, chest pain, or near syncope
II	Patients with pulmonary hypertension resulting in <b>slight limitation of physical activity</b> . They are comfortable at rest. Ordinary physical activity causes undue dyspnoea or fatigue, chest pain, or near syncope
III	Patients with pulmonary hypertension resulting in <b>marked limitation of physical activity</b> . They are comfortable at rest. Less than ordinary activity causes undue dyspnoea or fatigue, chest pain, or near syncope.
IV	Patients with pulmonary hypertension with <b>inability to carry out any physical activity without symptoms</b> . These patients manifest signs of right heart failure. Dyspnoea and/or fatigue may even be present at rest. Discomfort is increased by any physical activity

# Functional class and survival

- Even with advanced medical therapy, patients in WHO FC IV continue to have extremely poor survival rates.

Survival according to functional class<sup>2</sup>



# Risk assessment for PAH

## = Treatment Goal

Determinants of prognosis <sup>a</sup> (estimated 1-year mortality)	Low risk <5%	Intermediate risk 5–10%	High risk >10%
Clinical signs of right heart failure	Absent	Absent	Present
Progression of symptoms	No <b>slow</b>	Slow	Rapid
Syncope	No	Occasional syncope <sup>b</sup>	Repeated syncope <sup>c</sup>
WHO functional class	I, II	III	IV
6MWD	>440 m <b>500m</b>	165–440 m	<165 m <b>300m</b>
Cardiopulmonary exercise testing	<b>added</b> 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 36–44.9	Peak VO <sub>2</sub> <11 ml/min/kg (<35% pred.) VE/VCO <sub>2</sub> slope ≥45
NT-proBNP plasma levels	<b>value</b> BNP <50 ng/l NT-proBNP <300 ng/l	BNP 50–300 ng/l NT-proBNP 300–1400 ng/l	BNP >300 ng/l NT-proBNP >1400 ng/l
Imaging (echocardiography, CMR imaging)	<b>No TAPSE RA area added</b> RA area <18 cm <sup>2</sup> No pericardial effusion	RA area 18–26 cm <sup>2</sup> No or minimal, pericardial effusion	RA area >26 cm <sup>2</sup> Pericardial effusion
Haemodynamics	<b>added</b> RAP <8 mmHg CI ≥2.5 l/min/m <sup>2</sup> SvO <sub>2</sub> >65%	RAP 8–14 mmHg CI 2.0–2.4 l/min/m <sup>2</sup> SvO <sub>2</sub> 60–65%	RAP >14 mmHg CI <2.0 l/min/m <sup>2</sup> SvO <sub>2</sub> <60%

# **Treatment of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension**

# Diagnostic Classification (NICE 2013)

## 1. Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)

### 1.1. Idiopathic PAH (IPAH)

### 1.2. Heritable

1.2.1. BMPR2

1.2.2. ALK1, ENG, SMAD9, CAV1, KCNK3

1.2.3. Unknown

### 1.3. Drug- and toxin-induced

### 1.4. Associated with (APAH)

1.4.1. Connective tissue diseases (CTD)

1.4.2. HIV infection

1.4.3. Portal hypertension

1.4.4. Congenital heart diseases

1.4.5. Schistosomiasis

1' Pulmonary veno-occlusive disease  
and/or Pulmonary capillary hemangiomatosis

1'' Persistent PH of the newborn

## 2. PH due to left heart disease

2.1. Left ventricular systolic dysfunction

2.2. **NO APPROVED PH-TARGETED THERAPY** stenosis

2.3. **NO APPROVED PH-TARGETED THERAPY** stenosis

2.4. **PH-TARGETED THERAPY** stenosis/ outflow tract obstruction and congenital cardiomyopathies

## 3. PH due to lung diseases and/or hypoxemia

3.1. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

3.2.

3.3. **NO APPROVED PH-TARGETED THERAPY** mixed pattern

3.4. Sleep-disordered breathing

3.5. Alveolar hypoventilation disorders

3.6. Chronic exposure to high altitude

3.7. Developmental lung diseases

## 4. Chronic thromboembolic PH

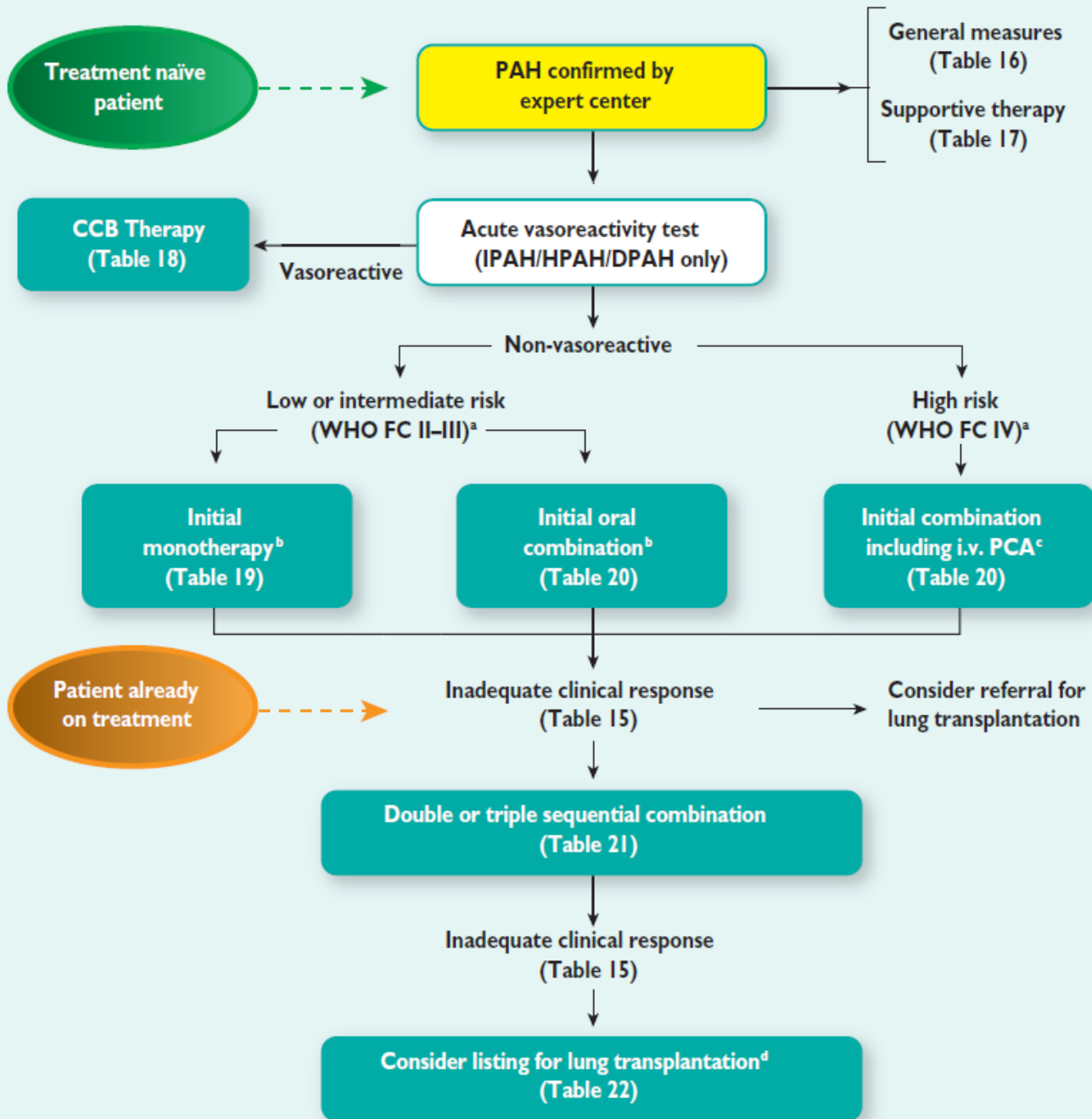
## 5. PH with unclear multifactorial mechanisms

5.1. Hematologic disorders: chronic hemolytic anemia, myeloproliferative disorders splenectomy

5.2. **NO APPROVED PH-TARGETED THERAPY**

5.3. Metabolic disorders: glycogen storage disease, Gaucher disease, thyroid disorders

5.4. Others: tumoral obstruction, fibrosing mediastinitis, chronic renal failure, segmental PH



- **IPAH** ; idiopathic PAH
- **HPAH** ; heritable PAH
- **DPAH** ; drug-induced PAH

# PAH Treatment: General Measures

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
It is recommended that PAH patients <b>avoid pregnancy</b>	I	C
<b>Immunization of PAH patients against influenza and pneumococcal infection</b> is recommended	I	C
<b>Psychosocial support</b> is recommended in PAH patients	I	C
<b>Supervised exercise training</b> should be considered in physically deconditioned PAH patients under medical therapy	IIa	B
<b>In-flight O<sub>2</sub> administration</b> should be considered for patients <u>in WHO-FC III and IV and those with arterial blood O<sub>2</sub> pressure consistently &lt; 8 kPa (60 mmHg)</u>	IIa	C
In elective surgery, <b>epidural rather than general anaesthesia should be preferred</b> whenever possible	IIa	C
<b>Excessive physical activity that leads to distressing symptoms is not recommended</b> in PAH patients	III	C

# PAH Treatment: Supportive Therapy

Recommendations	Class <sup>a</sup>	Level <sup>b</sup>
<b>Diuretic treatment</b> is recommended in PAH patients <u>with signs of RV failure and fluid retention</u>	I	C
<b>Continuous long-term O<sub>2</sub> therapy</b> is recommended in PAH patients when <u>arterial blood O<sub>2</sub> pressure consistently &lt; 8 kPa (60 mmHg)</u>	I	C
<b>Oral anticoagulant treatment</b> may be considered in patients with <u>IPAH, HPAH and PAH due to use of anorexigens</u>	IIb	C
<b>Correction of anemia and/or iron status</b> may be considered in PAH patients	IIb	C
<b>The use of angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, angiotensin-2 receptor antagonists, beta-blockers and ivabradine is not recommended</b> in patients with PAH unless required by co-morbidities (i.e. high blood pressure, coronary artery disease or left heart failure)	III	C

# PAH Treatment: Specific Drug Therapy

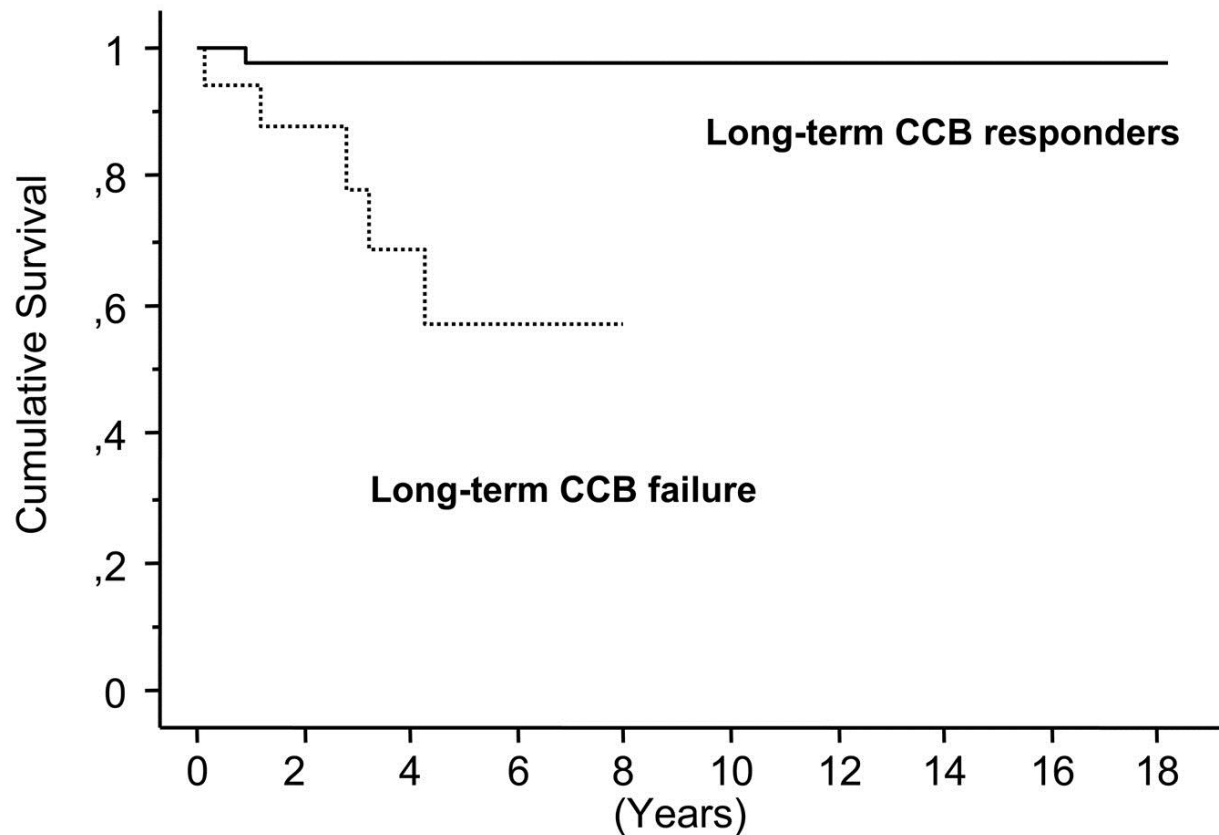
## High Dose CCBs in Vasoreactive Patients

The daily doses of these drugs that have shown efficacy in IPAH are relatively high: 120–240 mg for nifedipine, 240–720 mg for diltiazem and up to 20 mg for amlodipine.

## Drugs Approved for PAH

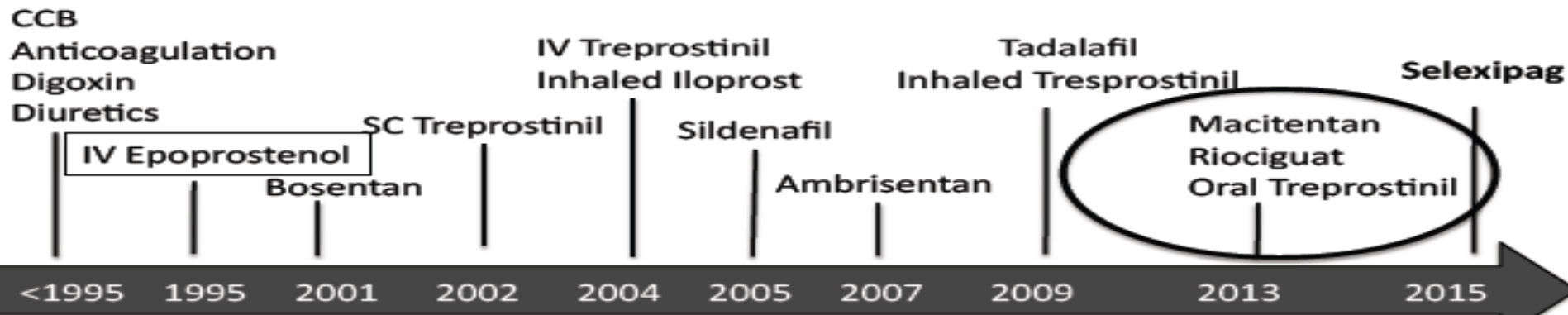
- Endothelin receptor **antagonists**
- Phosphodiesterase-5 inhibitors and guanylate cyclase stimulators
- Prostacyclin analogs and prostacyclin receptor agonists

**Figure 2. Kaplan-Meier estimates in the 57 of 70 acute responder patients who survived after 1 year onward on CCB. The number of patients included in the long-term CCB failure subgroup was only 19 of 32, with the 13 remaining patients being dead (n=6), transplanted (n=4), or lost to follow-up (n=3, considered “dead” in the analysis) within the first year.**

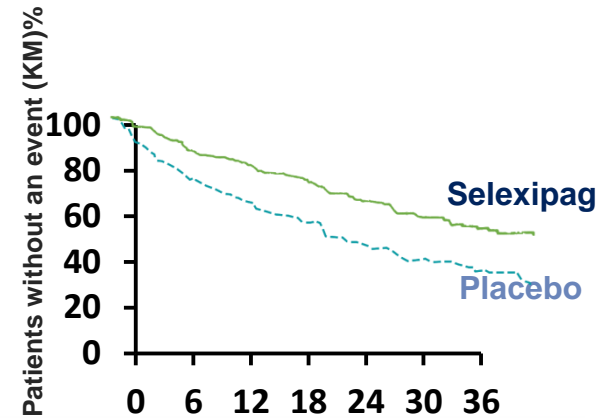
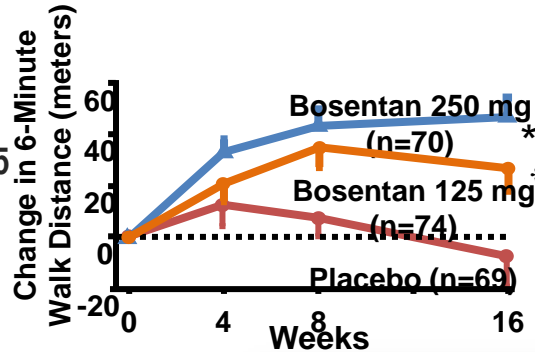
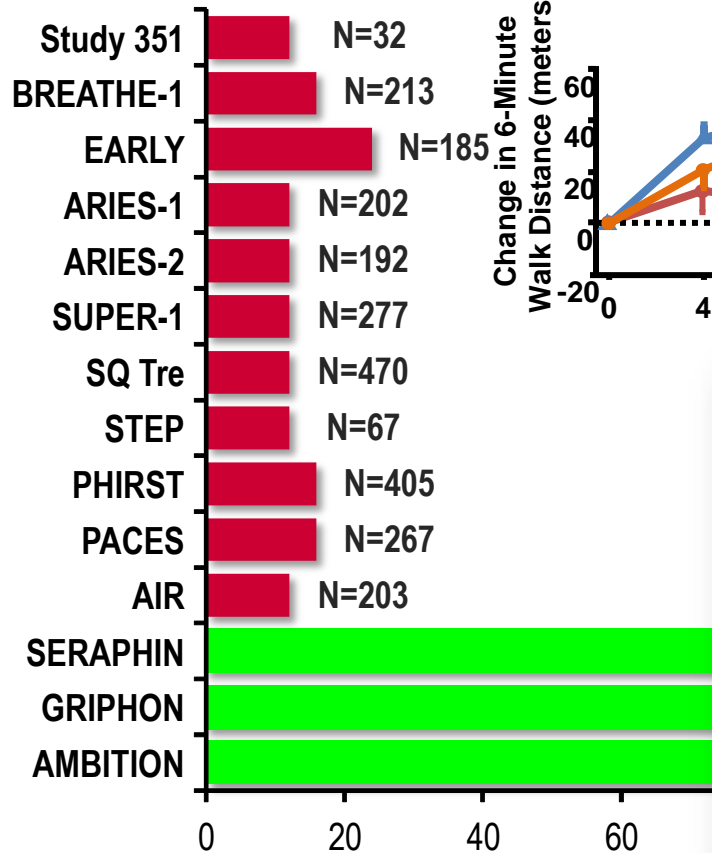


	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	
Subjects at risk, n	38	33	30	22	13	8	3	3	2	1	Long-term CCB responders
	19	12	7	4	0						Long-term CCB failure

# Evolution of PAH Treatment



# Evolution of double blind RCTs in PAH



## Primary endpoint

Time from start of treatment to first morbidity or mortality event, defined as follows:

1. Death, or
2. Atrial septostomy, or
3. Lung transplantation, or
4. Initiation of intravenous or subcutaneous prostanoids (e.g., epoprostenol, treprostinil), or
5. Other worsening of pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Other worsening of pulmonary arterial hypertension is defined by the combination of all of the three following components:

- A decrease in 6MWD of at least 15% from baseline that should be confirmed by two 6-minute walk tests, performed on different days, within 2 weeks

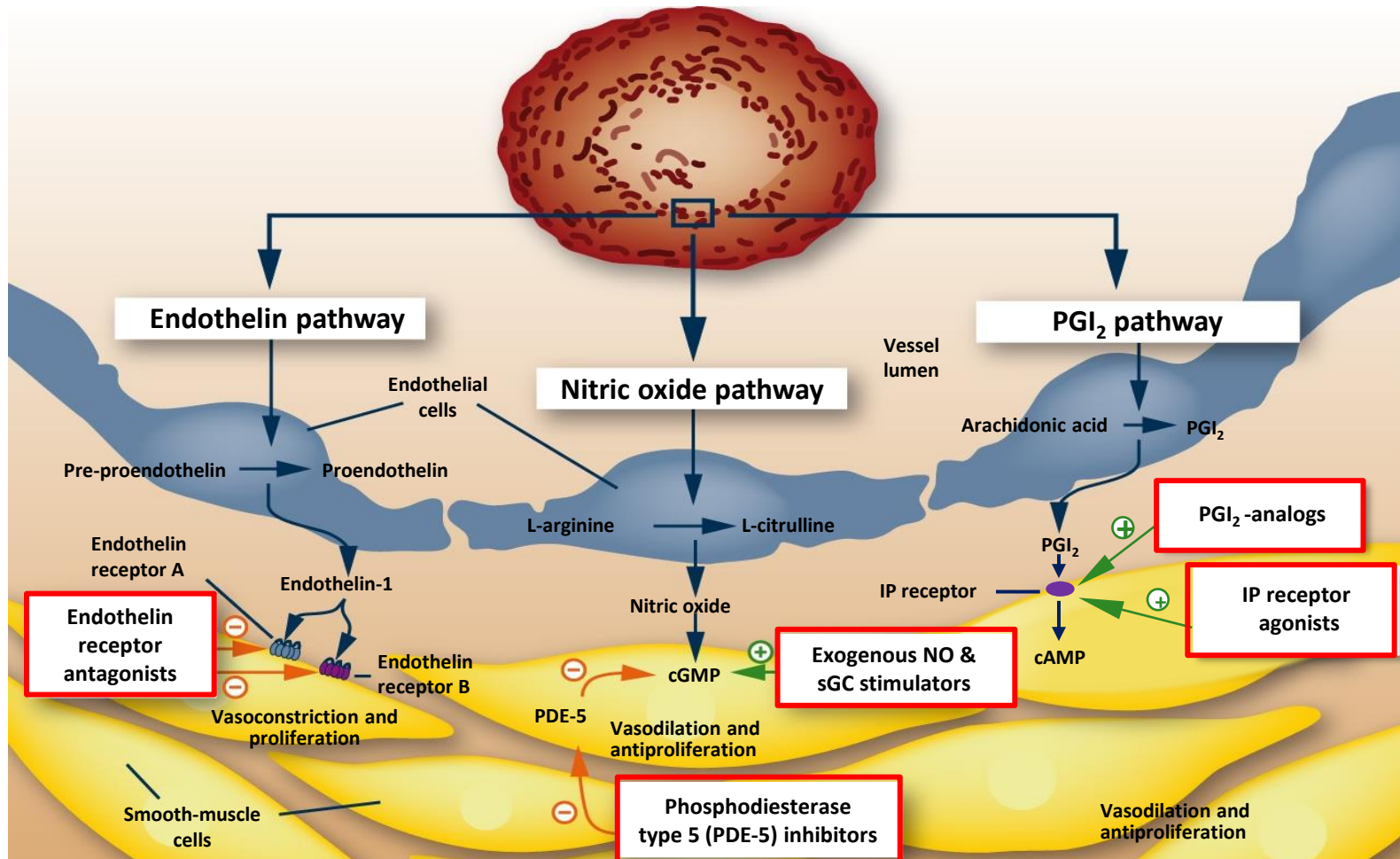
**AND**

- Worsening of PAH symptoms<sup>1</sup>

**AND**

- Need for new treatment(s) for PAH<sup>2</sup>

# Target pathways of Therapeutic drugs



cAMP: cyclic adenosine monophosphate; cGMP: cyclic guanosine monophosphate; NO: nitric oxide; sGC: soluble guanylate cyclase

# Recommendations for efficacy of drug monotherapy

Measure/treatment		Class <sup>a</sup> -Level <sup>b</sup>						
		WHO-FC II		WHO-FC III		WHO-FC IV		
Calcium channel blockers		I	C <sup>d</sup>	I	C <sup>d</sup>	-	-	
Endothelin receptor antagonists	Ambrisentan	I	A	I	A	IIb	C	
	Bosentan	I	A	I	A	IIb	C	
	Macitentan <sup>e</sup>	I	B	I	B	IIb	C	
Phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitors	Sildenafil	I	A	I	A	IIb	C	
	Tadalafil	I	B	I	B	IIb	C	
	Vardenafil <sup>g</sup>	IIb	B	IIb	B	IIb	C	
Guanylate cyclase stimulators	Riociguat	I	B	I	B	IIb	C	
Prostacyclin analogues	Epoprostenol	Intravenous <sup>e</sup>	-	-	I	A	I	A
		Inhaled	-	-	I	B	IIb	C
	Iloprost	Intravenous <sup>g</sup>	-	-	IIa	C	IIb	C
		Subcutaneous	-	-	I	B	IIb	C
		Inhaled <sup>g</sup>	-	-	I	B	IIb	C
		Intravenous <sup>f</sup>	-	-	IIa	C	IIb	C
	Beraprost <sup>g</sup>	Oral <sup>g</sup>	-	-	IIb	B	-	-
			-	-	IIb	B	-	-
IP receptor agonists	Selexipag (oral) <sup>g</sup>	I	B	I	B	-	-	

# PAH Targeted Agents: Prostacyclin Analogues

	Epoprostenol	Iloprost	Treprostinil
<b>Route</b>	IV	Inhalation	IV, SQ, inhalation, PO
<b>Indication</b>	WHO Group I PAH	WHO Group I PAH	WHO Group I PAH
<b>Contraindications</b>	CHF or pulmonary edema during initial dose titration	None	Severe hepatic impairment for ER tablets
<b>Side effects</b>	Flushing, HA, jaw pain, D, N, V, rash, thrombocytopenia	Flushing, cough, hypotension, N, HA, bronchospasm	Flushing, headache, nausea, diarrhea, jaw pain, rash
<b>Comments</b>	AC should be initiated to decrease PE or systemic embolism risk (not guideline based)	Hemoptysis has been reported with iloprost use	Abrupt withdrawal may worsen PAH Sx, can occur with other agents in this class as well

HA = headache; D = diarrhea; N = nausea; V = vomiting; ER = extended release; PE = pulmonary embolism; Sx = symptoms. AC = anticoagulant. <http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/301450-medication#3>. Accessed December 21, 2014. <http://www.pdr.net/browse-by-drug-name>. Accessed December 21, 2014.

# PAH Targeted Agents: Endothelin Antagonists

	Bosentan	Ambrisentan	Macitentan
<b>Route</b>	PO	PO	PO
<b>Indication</b>	WHO Group I PAH	WHO Group I PAH	WHO Group I PAH
<b>Contraindications</b>	Pregnancy Category X	Pregnancy Category X, WHO Group 3 PH, IPF	Pregnancy Category X
<b>Side effects</b>	Increased ALT/AST, HA, Nasal congestion, edema, decreased Hgb	Increased ALT/AST, edema, HA, nasal congestion, dyspnea, decreased Hgb	Increased ALT/AST, nasal congestion, HA, anemia, bronchitis
<b>Comments</b>	Serum liver enzymes at baseline & then monthly, monthly pregnancy tests	Pregnancy test at baseline & then monthly	Pregnancy test at baseline & then monthly

**IPF = idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis; ALT = alanine transaminase; AST = aspartate transaminase; Hgb = hemoglobin.**

<http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/301450-medication#3>. Accessed December 21, 2014.

<http://www.pdr.net/browse-by-drug-name>. Accessed December 21, 2014.

# PAH Targeted Agents: PDE-5 Inhibitors and sGC Stimulators

	Sildenafil	Tadalafil	Riociguat
<b>Route</b>	PO	PO	PO
<b>Indication</b>	WHO Group I PAH	WHO Group I PAH	WHO Group I PAH, WHO Group 4 PH
<b>Contraindications</b>	Organic nitrates in any form	Organic nitrates in any form	Pregnancy Category X
<b>Side effects</b>	HA, flushing, epistaxis, dyspepsia, insomnia, erythema, diarrhea	HA, myalgia, flushing, respiratory tract infection, dyspepsia, nasal congestion	HA, dyspepsia and gastritis, dizziness, N, D, V, hypotension
<b>Comments</b>	Vaso-occlusive crisis (PAH secondary to sickle-cell anemia)	CYP3A4 inhibitors may increase drug levels	Monthly pregnancy tests and 1 month after discontinuation

**PDE-5 = phosphodiesterase type 5; sGC = soluble guanylate cyclase; NO = nitric oxide.**

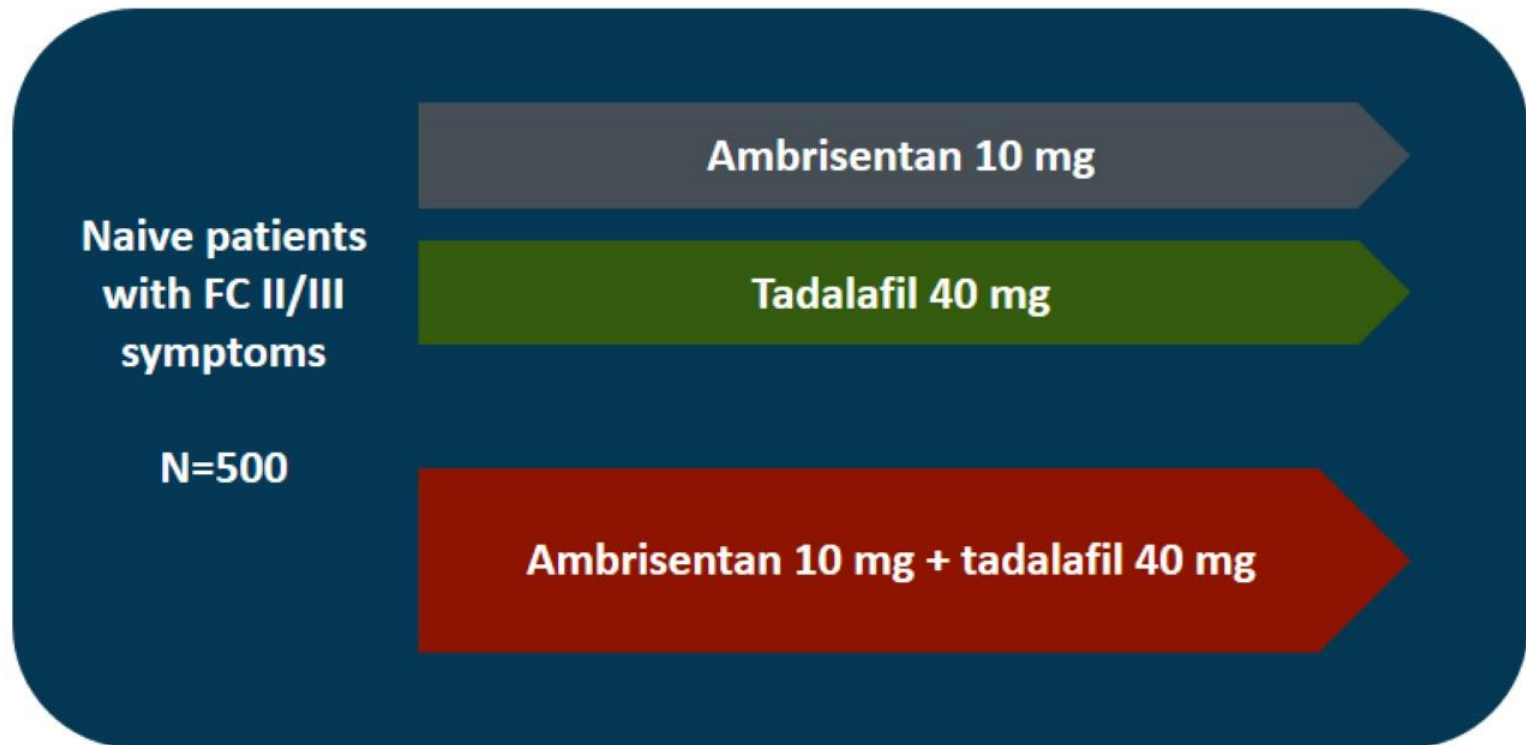
<http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/301450-medication#3>. Accessed December 21, 2014.

<http://www.pdr.net/browse-by-drug-name>. Accessed December 21, 2014.

# Sequential drug combination therapy

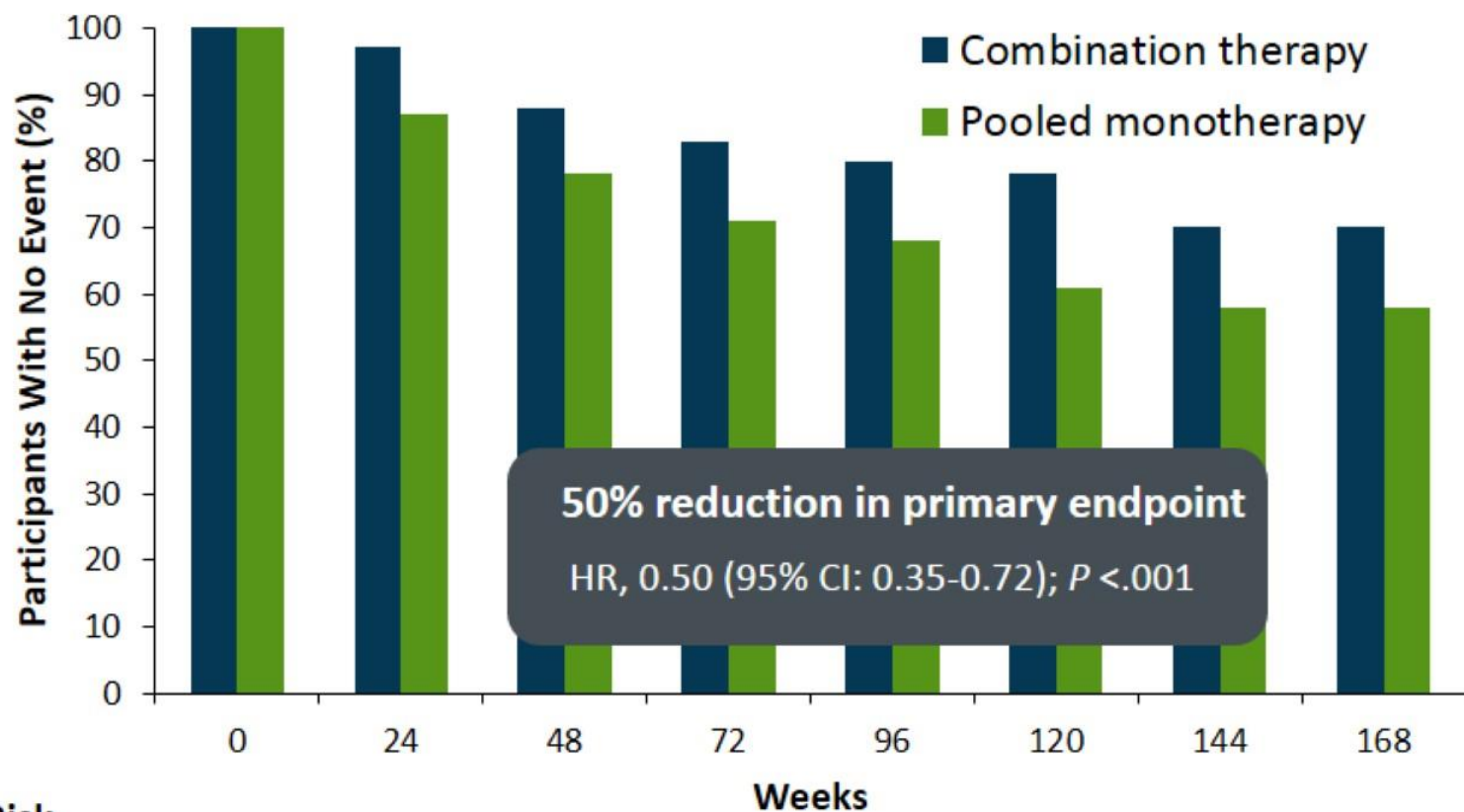
Measure / treatment	Class - Level					
	WHO - FC II		WHO - FC III		WHO - FC IV	
Macitentan added to Sildenafil	I	B	I	B	IIa	C
Riociguat added to bosentan	I	B	I	B	IIa	C
Selexipag added to ERA and/or PDE-5i	I	B	I	B	IIa	C
Sildenafil added to epoprostenol	-	-	I	B	IIa	B
Treprostinil inhaled added to sildenafil or bosentan	IIa	B	IIa	B	IIa	C
Iloprost inhaled added to bosentan	IIb	B	IIb	B	IIb	C
Tadalafil added to bosentan	IIa	C	IIa	C	IIa	C
Ambrisentan added to sildenafil	IIb	C	IIb	C	IIb	C
Bosentan added to epoprostenol	-	-	IIb	C	IIb	C
Bosentan added to sildenafil	IIb	C	IIb	C	IIb	C
Sildenafil added to bosentan	IIb	C	IIb	C	IIb	C
Other double combinations	IIb	C	IIb	C	IIb	C
Other triple combinations	IIb	C	IIb	C	IIb	C
Riociguat added to sildenafil or other PDE-5i	III	B	III	B	III	B

# AMBITION: Initial Use of Combination Ambrisentan + Tadalafil



- Primary endpoint: time to clinical failure (death, hospitalization, disease progression, unsatisfactory clinical response)

# AMBITION Trial: Primary Endpoint\* Results



## No. at Risk

Combination therapy	253	229	186	145	106	71	36	4
Pooled monotherapy	247	209	155	108	77	49	25	5

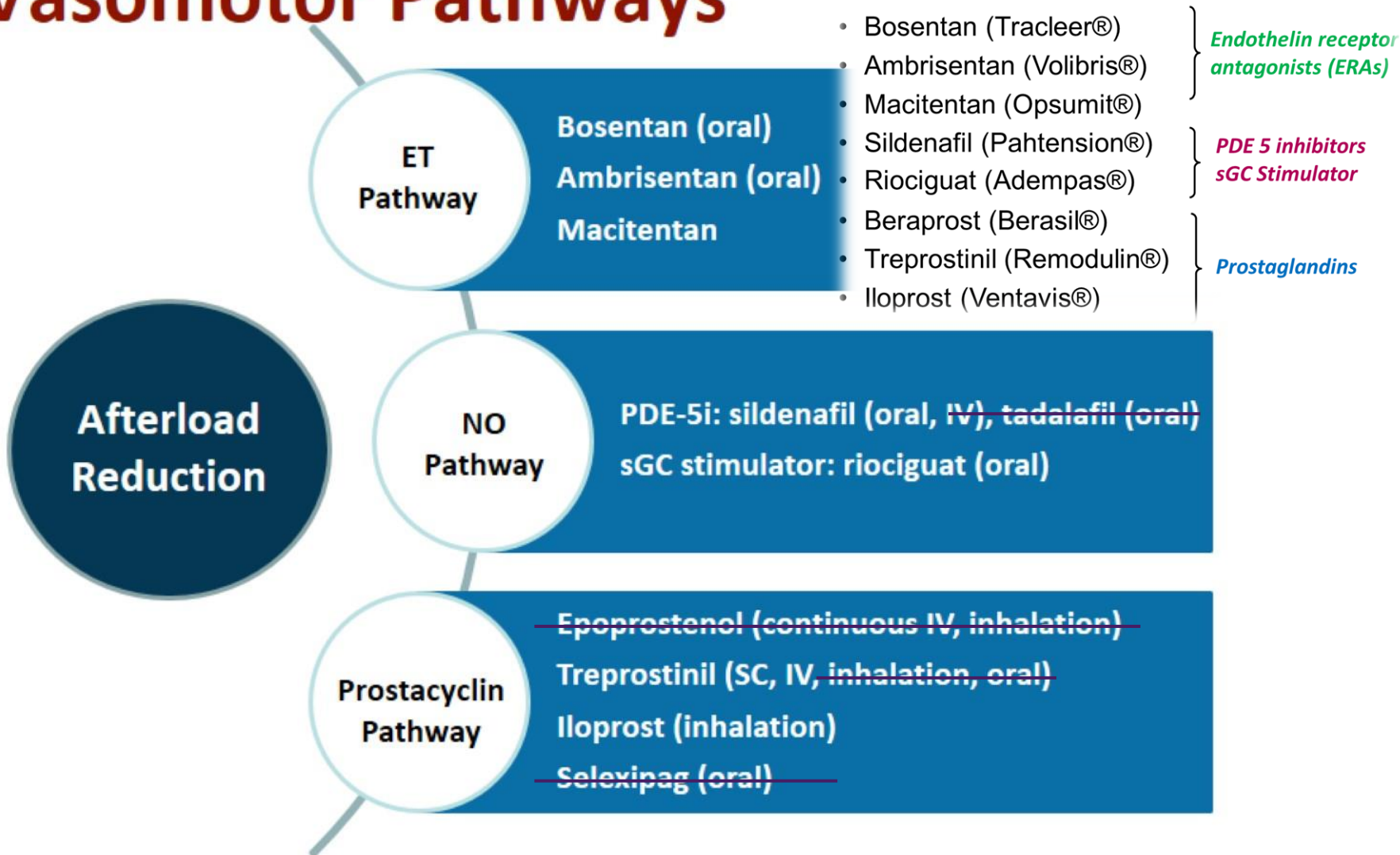
\*Time to clinical failure (death, hospitalization, disease progression, unsatisfactory clinical response)

# Initial Combination Therapy for Low/Intermediate-Risk Patients With PAH

Treatment	WHO FC II		WHO FC III	
	Rec. Class	Evidence Level	Rec. Class	Evidence Level
Ambrisentan + tadalafil	I	B	I	B
Other ERA + PDE-5i	IIa	C	IIa	C
Bosentan + sildenafil + IV epoprostenol	---	---	IIa	C
Bosentan + IV epoprostenol	---	---	IIa	C
Other ERA or PDE-5i + SC treprostinil			IIb	C
Other ERA or PDE-5i + other IV prostacyclin analog			IIb	C

# PAH Therapies Target Diverse Vasomotor Pathways

## Approved drugs in Korea



# Suggested assessment and timing for the follow-up of patients with PH

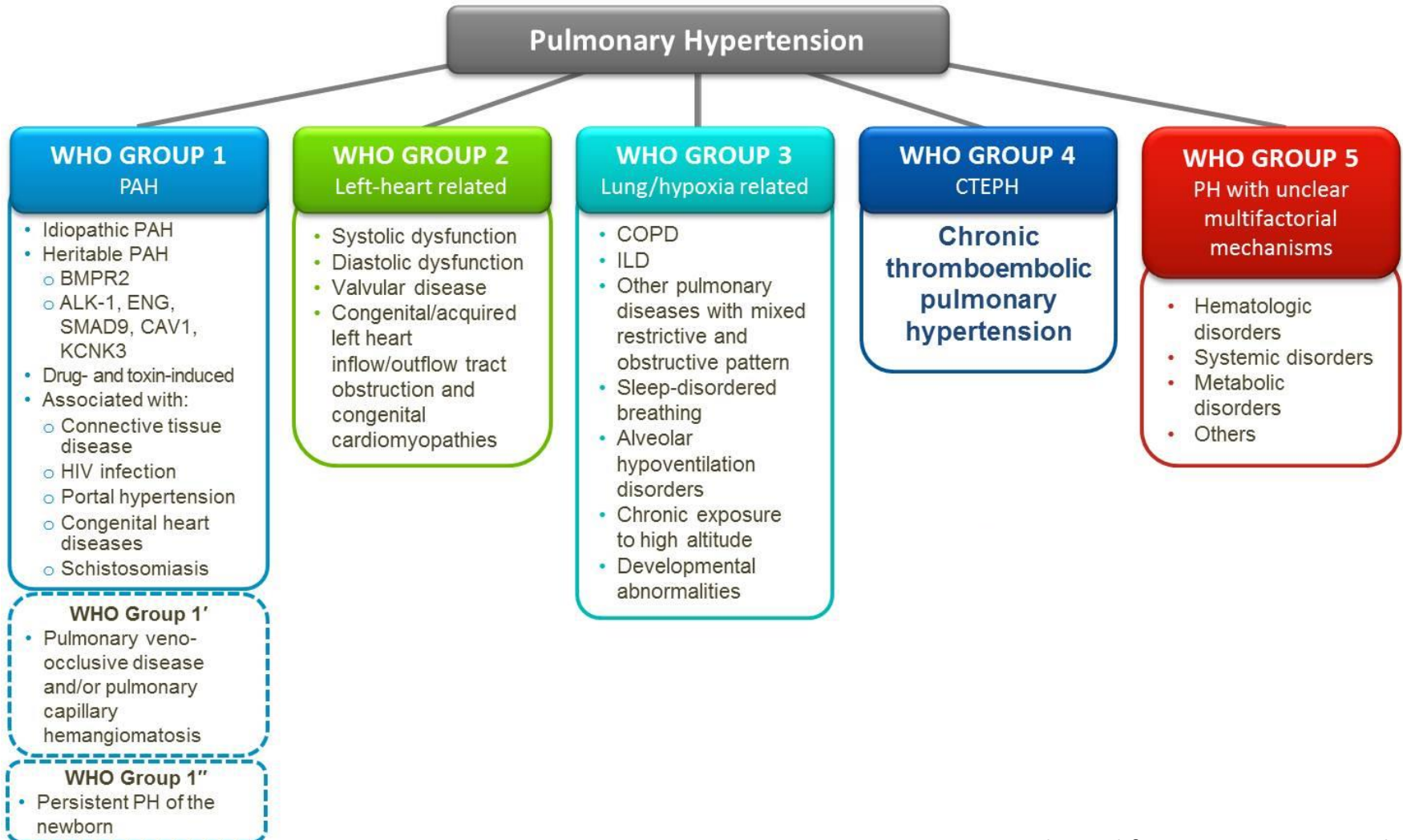
	At baseline	Every 3–6 months <sup>a</sup>	Every 6–12 months <sup>a</sup>	3–6 months after changes in therapy <sup>a</sup>	In case of clinical worsening
Medical assessment and determination of functional class	+	+	+	+	+
ECG	+	+	+	+	+
6MWT/Borg dyspnoea score	+	+	+	+	+
CPET	+		+		+ <sup>e</sup>
Echo	+		+	+	+
Basic lab <sup>b</sup>	+	+	+	+	+
Extended lab <sup>c</sup>	+		+		+
Blood gas analysis <sup>d</sup>	+		+	+	+
Right heart catheterization	+		+ <sup>f</sup>	+ <sup>e</sup>	+ <sup>e</sup>

- Basic lab includes blood count, INR in patients receiving vitamin K antagonists, serum creatinine, sodium, potassium, AST/ALT (in patients receiving ERAs), bilirubin, and BNP/NT-proBNP.
- Extended lab includes TSH, uric acid, iron status (iron, ferritin, soluble transferrin receptor) and other variables according to individual patient needs.

# Take Home Points

- **Important to accurately identify the cause of PH**
  - Initial screening via echocardiography
  - Include V/Q to rule-out CTPEH
- **Do not delay work-up ; RHC provides definite diagnosis**
- **Risk assessment before initiating therapy**
- **Do not delay appropriate treatment(s)**
  - Oral therapies, including PDE 5 inhibitors, ERA, the GC activator (riociguat), and the selective prostacyclin IP receptor agonist (selexipag), are recommended first-line therapies for patients with mild to-moderate PAH
  - Parenteral prostacyclins for patients with more severe PAH
  - Growing data that combination PAH therapy works

# Pulmonary Hypertension categorized by the WHO



*Adapted from Simonneau et al  
J Am Coll Cardiol 2013;62:D34–D41*



Thank you !