



**Best Medical has improved:
but how much and will BMT be
good enough to replace repair?**

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Disclosure

Isabelle Van Herzeele has the following potential conflicts of interest to report:

☒ Consulting

Silk Road Medical, Sunnyvale, CA, USA

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Medtronic Academia, Tolochenaz, Swiss

Silk Road Medical, Sunnyvale, CA, USA

MEET
2015
MULTIDISCIPLINARY EUROPEAN
ENDOVASCULAR THERAPY

Who Benefits Most from Intervention for Asymptomatic Carotid Stenosis: Patients or Professionals?

From the Editors

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Carotid Stenting—Why Treating an Artery May Not Treat the Patient

Aggressive-
Katherine Pahiannis, PhD;
MD; Walter Koroshetz, MD

Theodore H. Yuo, MD, MS, Joseph Sidaoui, MD, Luke K. Marone, MD, Michel S. Makaroun, MD, and Rabih A. Chaer, MD, MS, *Pittsburgh, Pa*



BEST MEDICAL TREATMENT?



ANTIPLATELETS

Symptomatic carotid disease

- Antiplatelet Trialists Collaboration
ASA (75-150 mg) **20-25% RR reduction of thromboembolic stroke**
BMJ 2002; 324: 71-86
- CARESS ASA + clopidogrel ↓ microemboli
Circulation 2005; 111: 2233-40
- CHANCE ASA + clopidogrel for 21 days after initial TIA
 - N= 5170 – China
 - Stroke 8.2% vs. 11.7% - HR 0.68 95% CI 0.57-0.81
NEJM 2013; 369: 11-9
- + clopidogrel – day before surgery ↓ microemboli
Circulation 2004; 109: 1476-81
- ASA +dipyridamole, clopidogrel, trifusal ...
Stroke 2008; 39: 1638-46, Lancet 2006; 367: 1665-73

Disease	Treatment	RRR %	ARR % per year	NNT to avoid 1 event per year
Non-cardioembolic ischaemic stroke or TIA	aspirin / PCB	13	1.0	100
	aspirin + DIP / PCB	28	1.9	53
	aspirin + DIP / aspirin	18	1.0	104
	Clop / PCB	23	1.6	62
	Clop / aspirin	10	0.6	166
Atrial fibrillation (primary prevention)	warfarin / PCB	62	2.7	37
	aspirin / PCB	22	1.5	67
Atrial fibrillation (secondary prevention)	warfarin / PCB	67	8	13
	aspirin / PCB	21	2.5	40

ANTIPLATELETS

Asymptomatic carotid stenosis

- Meta-analysis : ↓ coronary or cardiovasc events – no reduction in stroke

Ann Intern Med 1995; 123: 649-55

- US Preventive Task Force - ASA in high risk patients \geq 3% per 5 years

Stroke 2011; 42: 517-84

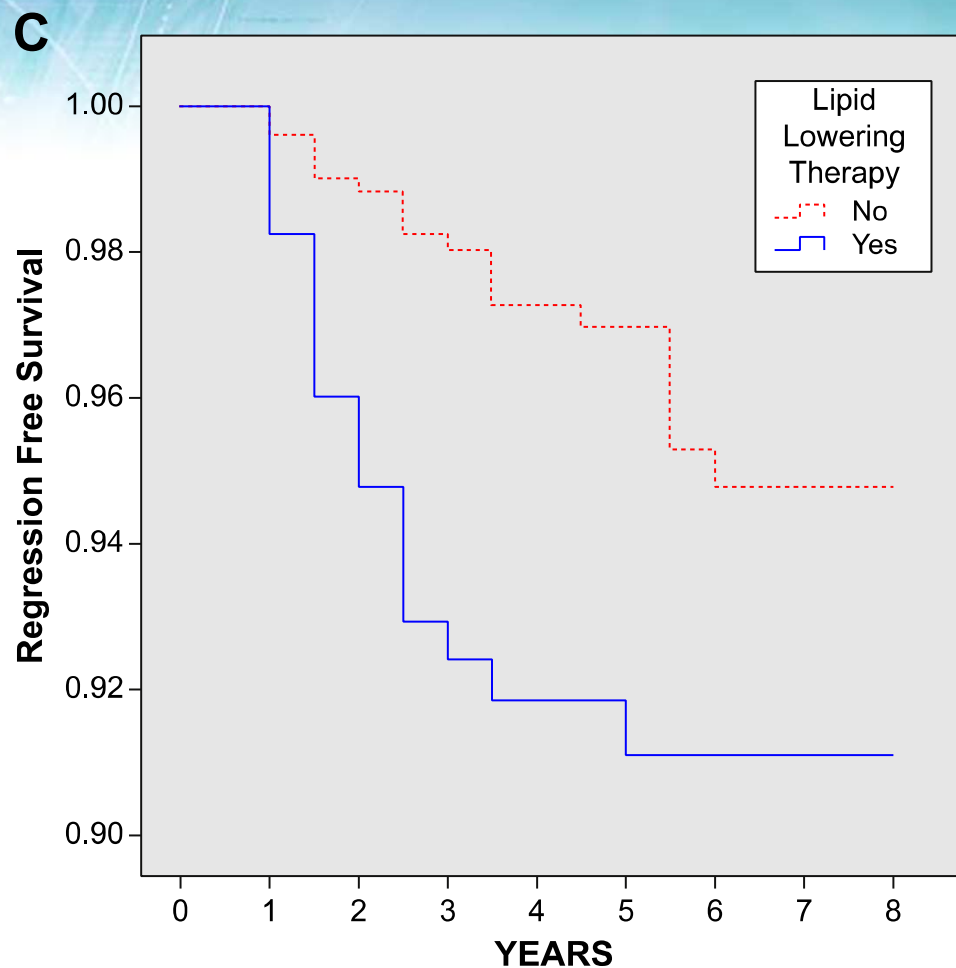
- CHARISMA

– ASA vs. ASA + clopidogrel – **no** benefit in asympt carotid artery disease (>70%)

INTENSIVE STATIN THERAPY

- **Heart Protection Study** Simvastatin 40 mg OD vs. placebo
Lancet 2002; 360: 7-22
 - All patients N= 20 536 (CHD, TIA/Stroke, CEA)
 - 25% reduction in stroke, 30% reduction in ischemic stroke
- **SPARCL trial** Atorvastatin 80 mg OD or placebo
NEJM 2006; 355: 549-59
 - N= 4731 (recent stroke or TIA < 6 months)
 - 33% reduction in any stroke*Stroke 2008; 39: 3297-302*
 - N= 1007 (known carotid stenosis) –**ARR of stroke = 1% per year** –
NNT= 20 over 5 years
- Meta-analysis
Each 10% reduction in LDL chol – reduction stroke risk by 15.6%
J Vasc Surg 2007; 46: 373-86
- Intensive statin treatment + **Ezetimibe - reduction in plaque area**
Stroke 2012; 43: 1153-55
to be confirmed by **IMPROVE-IT trial**

ACSRS Study: Impact of statins



Numbers at risk

Lipid lowering therapy

No	704	420	262	117
Yes	276	175	112	56

J Vasc Surg 2014; 59: 956-67

Best Medical Treatment

- **Medical**

- DIABETIC CONTROL – no significant stroke reduction

- UK prospective diabetic study *Circulation* 1999; 99: 461-2
 - ACCORD *NEJM* 2008; 358: 2545-59
 - ADVANCE *NEJM* 2008; 358: 2560-72

- ANTI-HYPERTENSIVES **30-40% reduction in stroke**

- PROGRESS perindopril (TIA/Stroke) 30% stroke reduction
Lancet. 2001;358:1033–41
 - ***Ideal antihypertensive agent ???***
Thiazides, ACE inhibitors, beta-blockers
HOPE, CAPPP, PATS, LIFE, ALLHAT, Veterans Administration Cooperation Study Group Trial

- **Life style**

- Smoking cessation *smoking doubles risk of ischemic stroke*

BMJ 1989; 298: 789-94

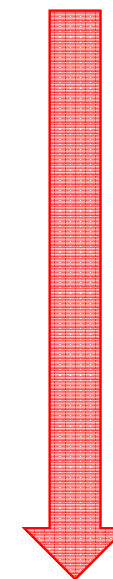
- Lifestyle modification

- Moderate exercise
 - Mediterranean Diet (healthy incl. fish, fruit, vegetables, fibers)
Northern Manhattan Study – ↓ composite outcome of ischemic stroke, MI and vascular death
Am J Clin Nutr 2011; 94: 1458-64

Clinical condition	Treatment	RRR %	ARR % per year	NNT to avoid 1 event per year
General population with increased blood pressure	Antihypertensive	42	0.4	250
General population with increased vascular risk	ACE-Inhibitor	22	0.65	154
Post-stroke / TIA with increased blood pressure	<u>Antihypertensive</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>2.2</u>	<u>45</u>
Post-stroke / TIA with normal blood pressure	ACE-inhibitor ± diuretic	24	0.85	118
Post-stroke / TIA	Statins	16	0.44	230
	<u>Smoking cessation</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>2.3</u>	<u>43</u>

IMPROVEMENT OF BMT

TRIAL	year published	study years	5 year rate of 'any' stroke	5 year rate of 'ipsilateral' stroke
ACAS	1995	1-5	17.5% (3.5%pa)	11.0% (2.2%pa)
ACST	2004	1-5	11.8% (2.4%pa)	5.3% (1.1%pa)
ACST	2010	6-10	7.2% (1.4% pa)	3.6% (0.7%pa)



EJVES 2009; 37: 625-32
The Surgeon 2015; 34-43

Changes in risk factor profile of patients recruited to carotid endarterectomy trials over 20 years

Risk factor	ECST (1988-1994)	ICSS (2001-2008)	
Current smoker	53%	23%	P<0.05
Mean cholesterol	6.4 mmol/L	5.3 mmol/L	P<0.005

	30-day death/stroke after CEA	Stroke Rate including 30-day death/stroke		strokes prevented per 1000 CEAs	unnecessary CEAs per 1000 CEAs
		CEA	BMT		
ACAS ¹¹ 5 yrs	2.3%	5.1%	11.0%	59@5y	941 (94%)
	Modeled at 0.0%*	2.8%	11.0%	82@5y	918 (92%)
ACST ¹² 5 yrs	2.8%	6.4%	11.8%	53@5y	947 (95%)
	Modeled at 0.0%*	3.5%	11.8%	83@5y	917 (92%)
ACST ¹³ 10 yrs	2.8%	13.4%	17.9%	46@10y	954 (95%)
	Modeled at 0.0%*	10.5%	17.9%	74@10y	926 (93%)



The benefits were calculated using the procedural risks observed in the constituent trial. They were then remodelled assuming a 0% procedural risk to see whether this significantly increased the number of strokes prevented.

BMT GOOD ENOUGH TO REPLACE REPAIR (CEA OR CAS)?

TIMELY INITIATION OF BMT

Symptomatic disease

EXPRESS study = Effect of urgent treatment of TIA and minor stroke on early recurrent stroke

- GP initiates BMT

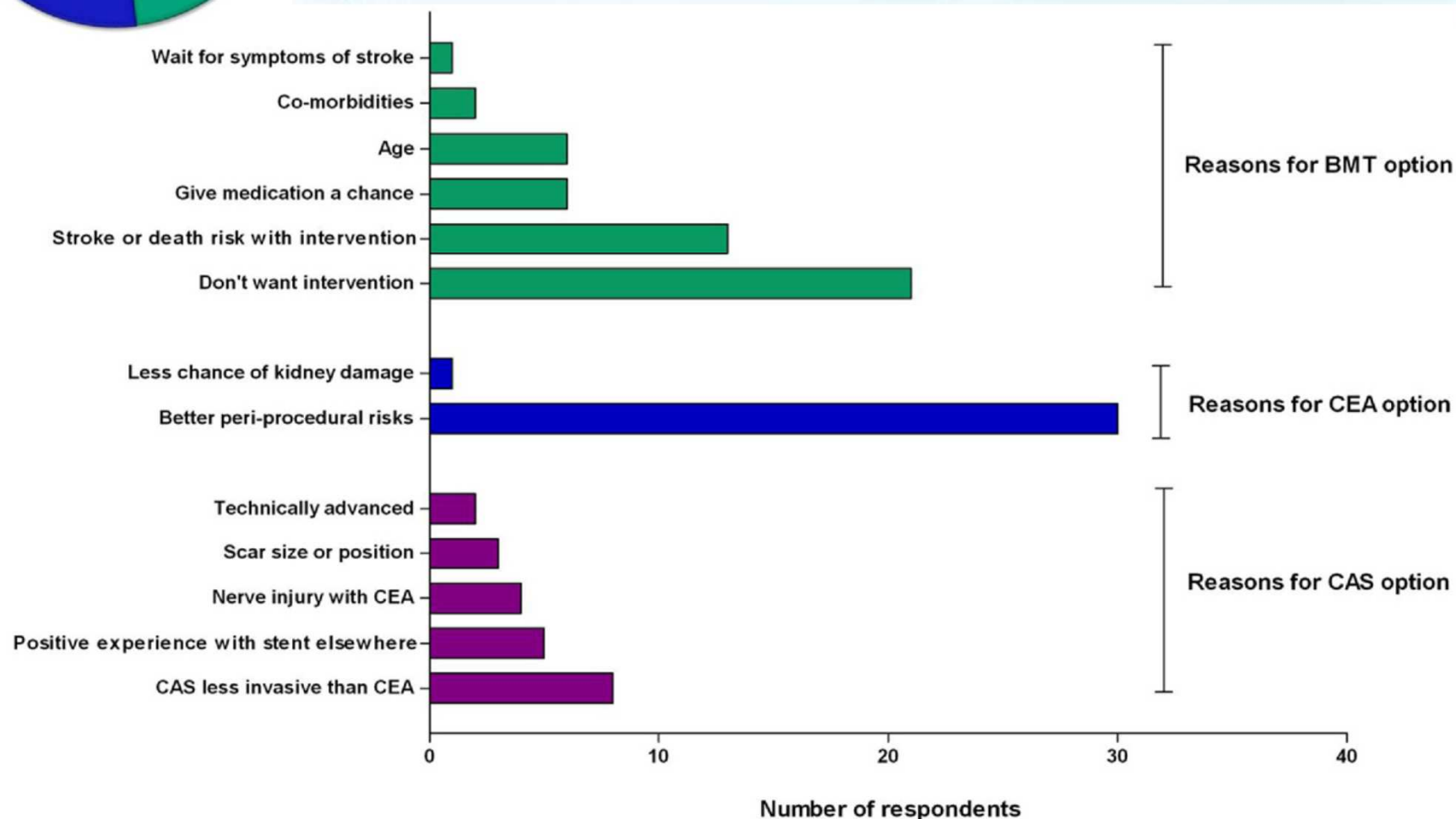
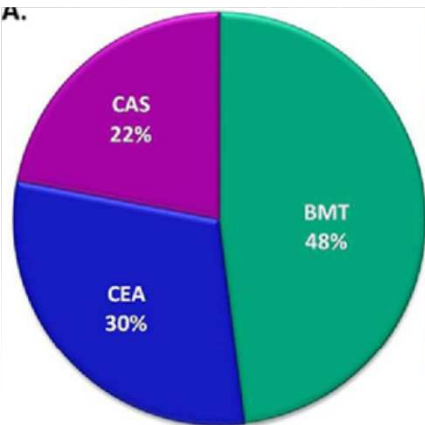
versus

- Outpatient clinic – BMT initiated

- 10% vs. 2% ($p = 0.0001$) risk of stroke within 90 days

Lancet 2007; 370: 1432-42

WHAT DOES THE PATIENT WANT?



PATIENT COMPLIANCE

– 50% - 80%

- Forgetfulness
- Being away from home
- Drug shortage

Arch Pharm Res 2011; 34: 1143-52

EJVES 2015; 49: 366-74

– Better compliance in acute than in chronic conditions

NEJM 2005; 353: 487-97

– Patient Education

– In clinical trials 43- 78%

- More access to clinicians



BMT in ACST II

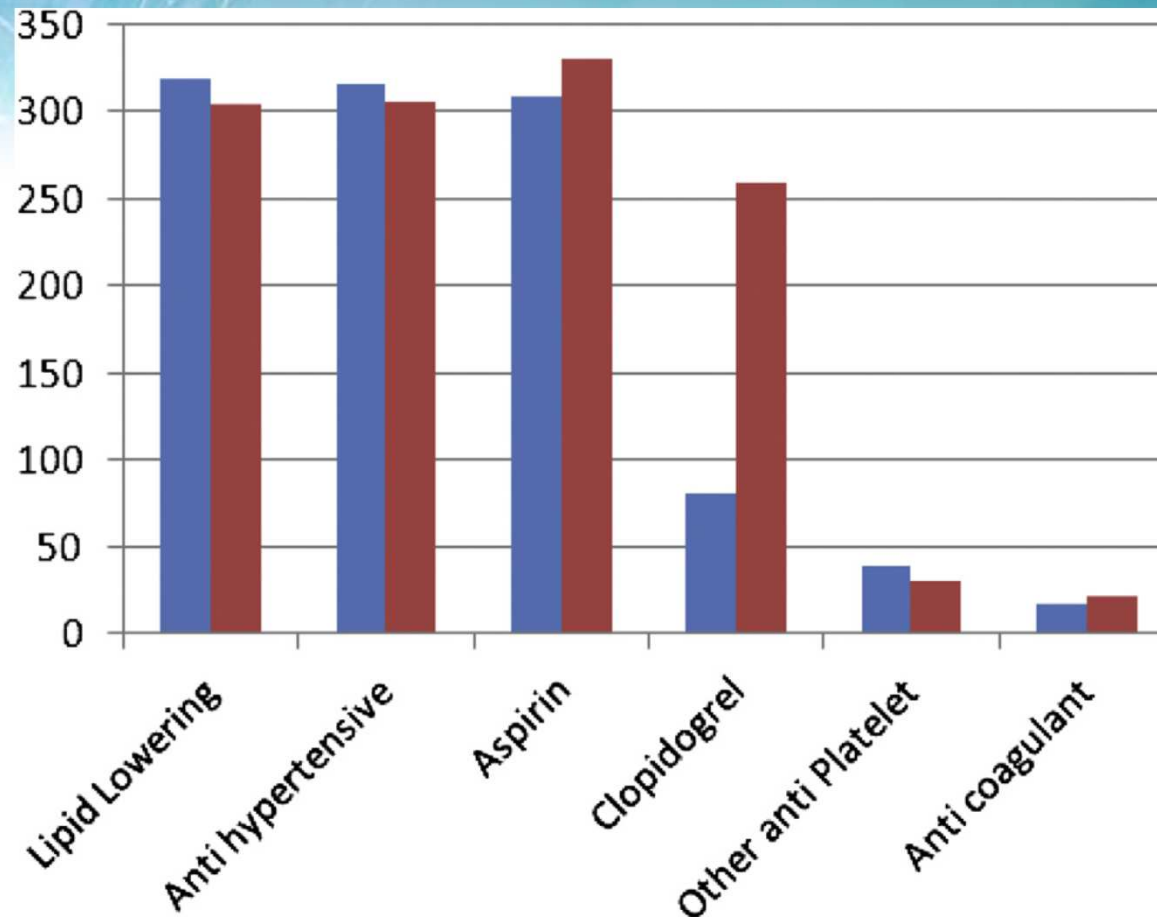


Figure 1. Current therapy at 1-month follow-up. Blue = carotid endarterectomy; red = carotid artery stenting.

WHAT HAPPENS AROUND THE WORLD?

Treatment of asymptomatic significant carotid artery stenosis

- USA 90%
- Italy 70%
- Hungary and Switzerland 40%
- UK, Finland, Sweden and Norway 15-20%
- Denmark 0%

J Vasc Surg 2008; 48: 1442-50

EJVES 2012; 44: 11-7

*.... Enthusiasm of revascularization is driven by the worst nightmare of clinicians that a patient with a known carotid artery stenosis on BMT experiences a disabling stroke and that “**they should have done more**”...*

STOP !!!

Mortality Risk after CAS *among Medicare Beneficiaries*

Original Investigation

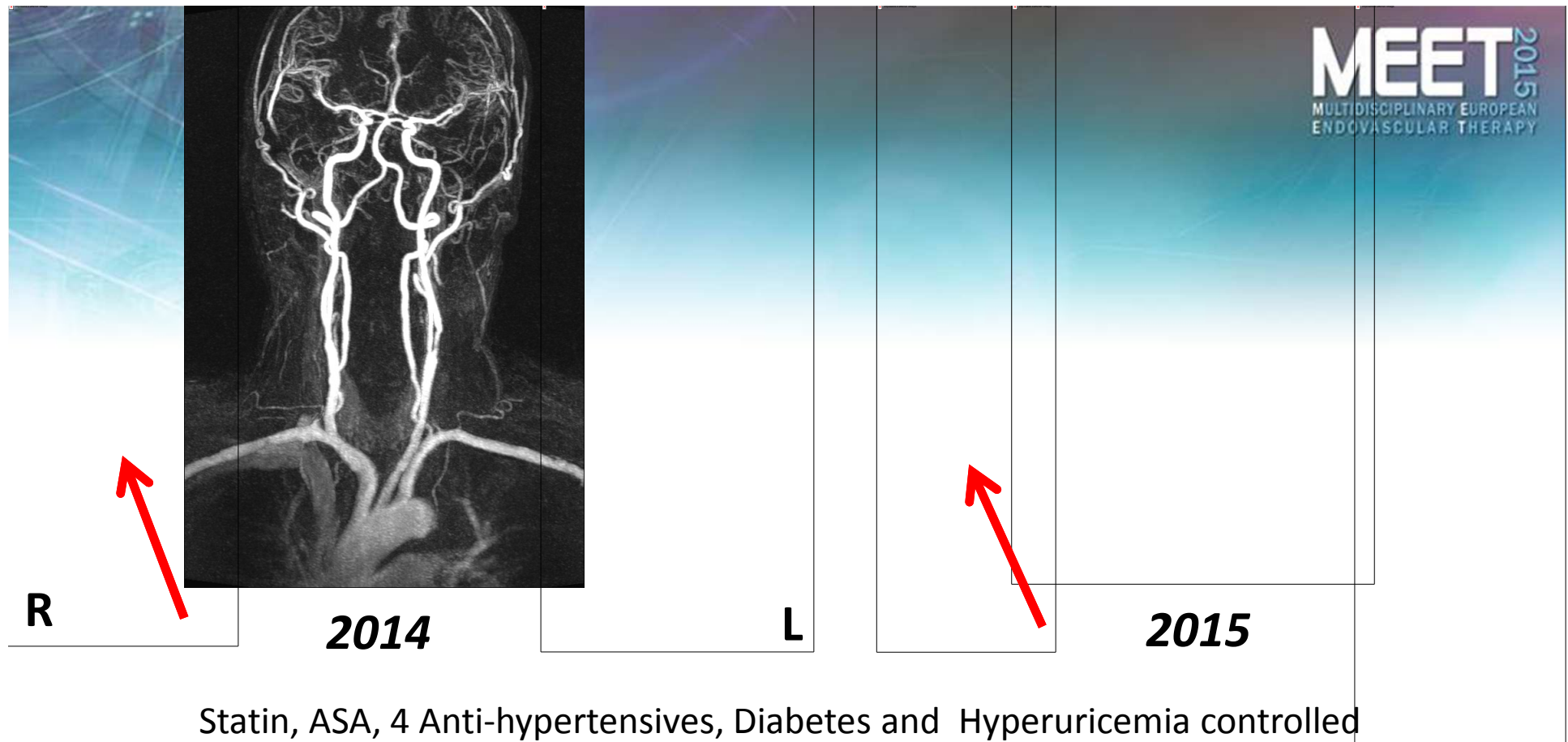
Outcomes After Carotid Artery Stenting in Medicare
Beneficiaries, 2005 to 2009

N = 22 000

Variable	No.	Asymptomatic	
		Periprocedural Period	After the Periprocedural Period
Overall	11 839	1.2 (0.9-0.1)	27.7 (26.4-28.9)
Patient Characteristics			
Age, y			
66-69	2122	0.6 (0.3-1.0)	18.1 (15.6-20.7)
70-74	2928	0.7 (0.4-1.0)	23.1 (20.5-25.6)
75-79	3186	1.2 (0.8-1.6)	28.4 (25.7-31.1)
≥80	3603	1.4 (1.0-1.8)	36.8 (34.2-39.2)

JAMA Neurol 2015; 72(3): 276-86

JAMA Neurol 2015; 72(3): 263-4



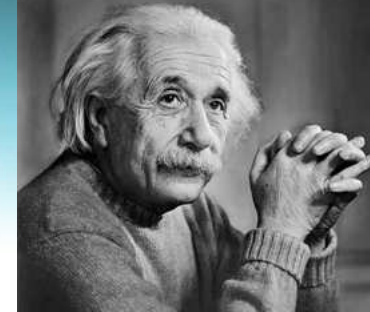
Progression of asymptomatic carotid stenosis despite optimal medical therapy.

At the 5-year of follow-up, OMT failed to prevent carotid disease **progression** or development of **ipsilateral symptoms** in **45%** of patients with AMCAS.

Asymptomatic carotid artery stenosis *Identify high-risk*

If you can't explain it **simply**, you
don't understand it well enough.

– Albert Einstein



- History of contralateral stroke or TIA - *HR 3*
- Baseline degree of stenosis - *weak predictor*
- Microemboli on TCD ≥ 2 embolic signals/ hour
- Unstable carotid plaque
 - US – plaque echolucency, ulceration, rupture - ACSRS study
 - MRI – intraplaque hemorrhage, luminal thrombus
- Reduced Cerebral Blood Flow Reserve
- Silent embolic infarcts brain CT or MRI *double stroke risk*
- Progression in severity of asymptomatic carotid stenosis despite BMT – *double ipsilateral stroke risk 2%*

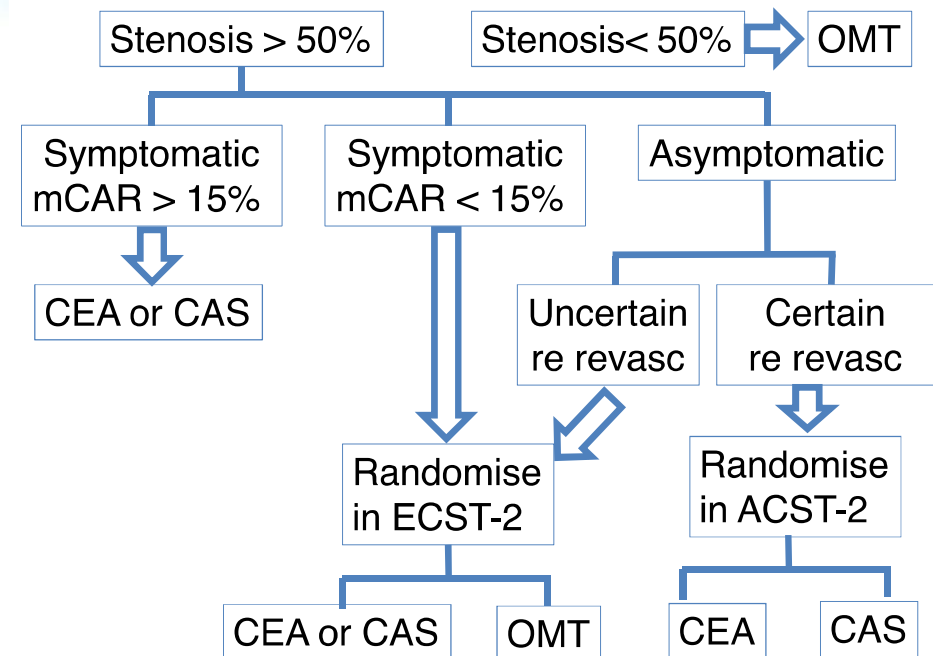
Stroke 2013; 2955-6

Stroke 2014; 3720-4

Trials awaited

- **AMTEC** = BMT vs. BMT+CEA (atorvastatin, asa, losartan, amlodipine) Aggressive Medical Treatment Evaluation for asymptomatic carotid stenosis
Completed (N=400)
- ***Compass trial*** = rivoroxaban +ASA vs. rivoroxaban (Bayer)
Cardiovascular OutcoMes for People Using Anticoagulation Strategies
Enrolling
- **ACT 1** = 3 CAS vs. 1 CEA asympt carotid (Abbott) – Halted (business decision)
- **SPACE 2** = 3 to 2 arm strategy BMT+CAS vs. BMT+ CEA asympt carotid – Halted Jan 2015 (>500)
- ***ACST 2*** = CAS vs. CEA asympt carotid (enrolled 1849/3600)
- ***CREST 2*** = BMT vs. BMT+CEA; BMT vs. BMT+CAS (enrolled 36/2480)
- ***ECST 2*** = sympt or asympt moderate or severe carotid stenosis at low or intermediate risk of future stroke (CAR score) – BMT (deferred CEA) vs. BMT + CEA (CAS) -(enrolled 81/2000)

ECST-2 en ACST-2





- BMT has improved
 - Initiate and control BMT
- ***At present*** BMT will ***NOT*** replace carotid treatment
 - Interdisciplinary teams
 - Treat symptomatic carotid disease early
 - Treat asymptomatic carotid stenosis selectively
 - WE must participate in RCT