

Chronic Primary Mitral Regurgitation

The Case For Early Surgical Intervention

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DISCLOSURES

Relevant Financial Relationship(s)

None

Off Label Usage

None

Watchful Waiting . . .

. . . Is Looking for Trouble

Quantitative Determinants of Outcome of Asymptomatic MR

Initial Patient Characteristics

- 456 Asymptomatic patients with MR
- Mean age 63 ± 14 yrs
- MR regurgitant volume 66 ± 40 cm³,
ERO 40 ± 27 mm²; (Gr IV/IV in 54%)
- LVEF: $70 \pm 8\%$, LVESD: 34 ± 6 mm
- Systolic PAP: 38 ± 11 mmHg



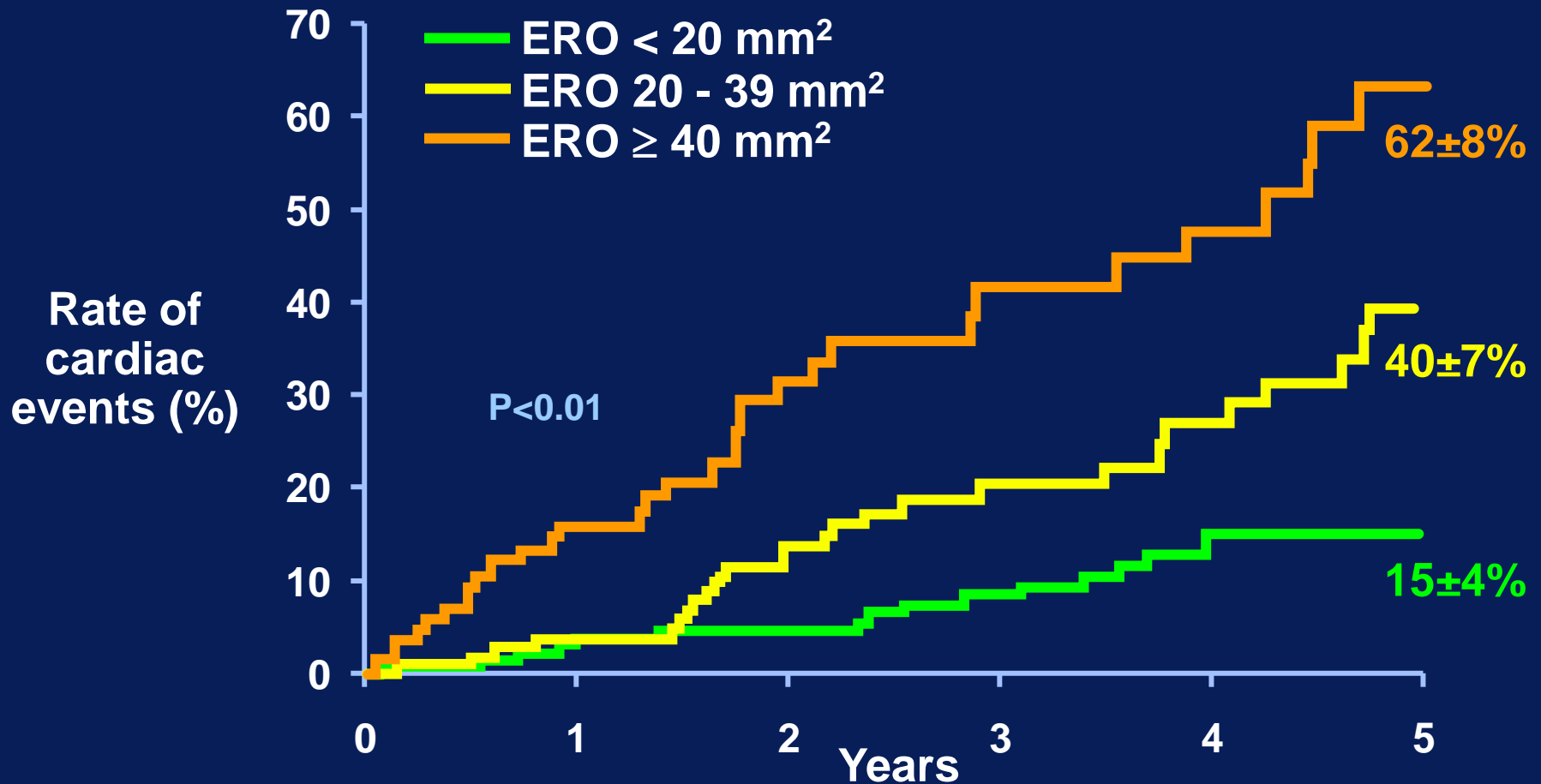
Quantitative Determinants of Outcome of Asymptomatic MR

Patient Follow-up

- Follow-up: 5.1 ± 2.9 yrs
- 5 Yr freedom from surgery: $46 \pm 3\%$
- 5 Yr freedom from surgery/death: $36 \pm 3\%$
- Triggers for mitral valve surgery
 - Cardiac symptoms: 41%
 - LVESD ≥ 40 mm: 39%
 - Other: 20%

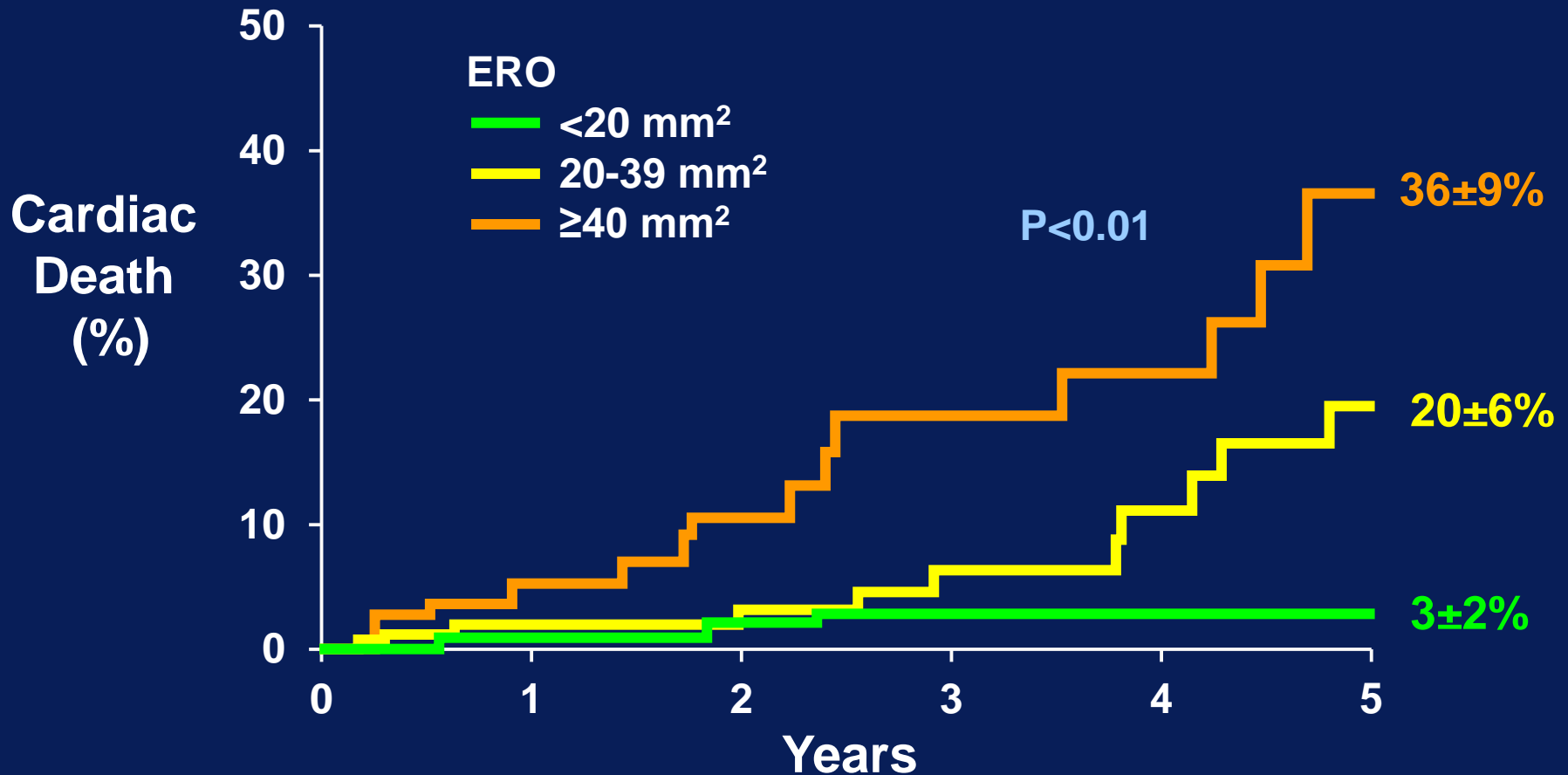
Quantitative Determinants of Outcome of Asymptomatic MR

Events: Cardiac Death, CHF, New Atrial Fibrillation



Quantitative Determinants of Outcome of Asymptomatic MR

Death From Cardiac Causes

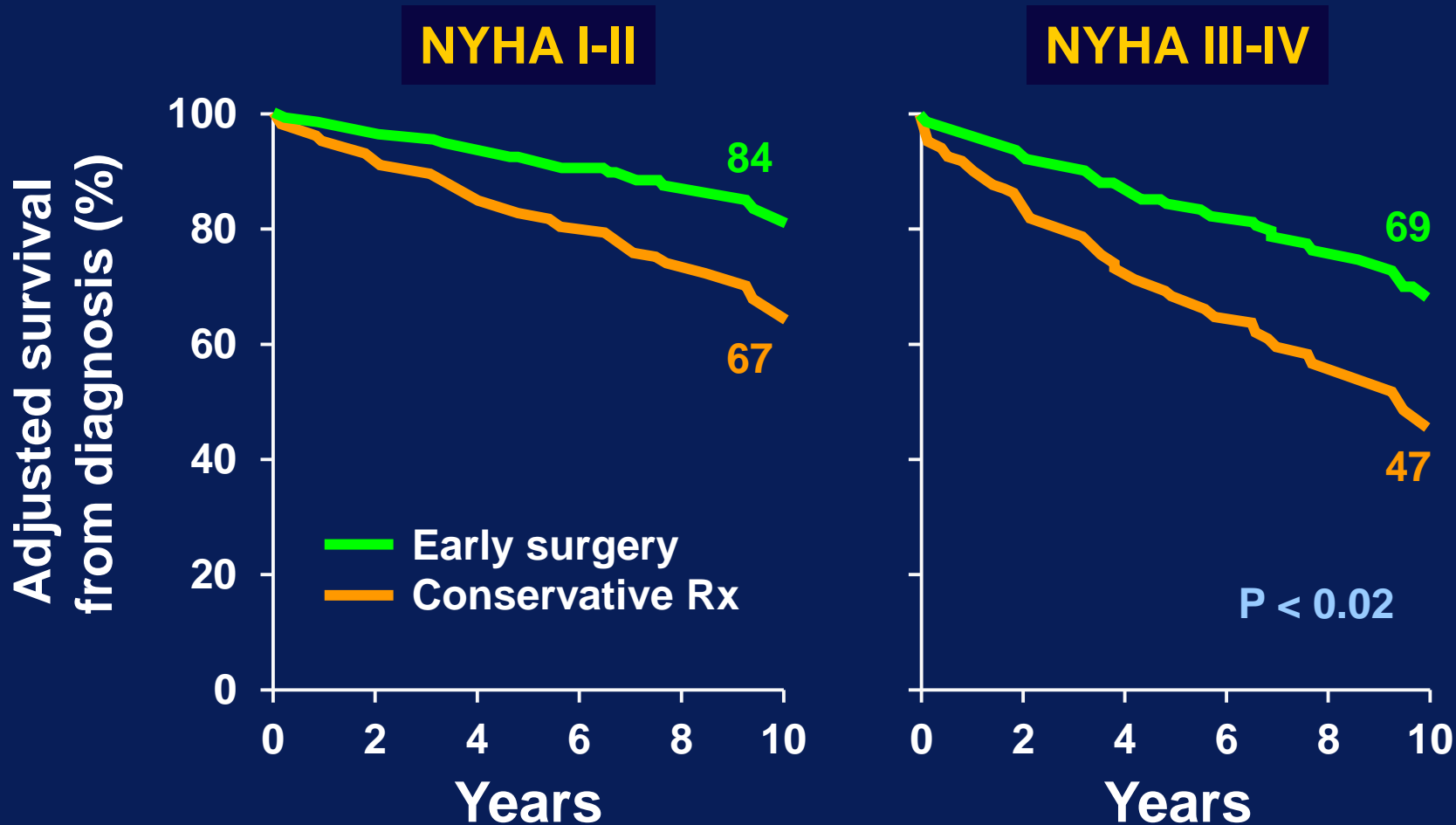


Waiting for Symptoms. . .

. . . Is Asking for Trouble

Early Surgery vs Conservative Therapy For Severe MR

Impact of Preoperative Symptoms

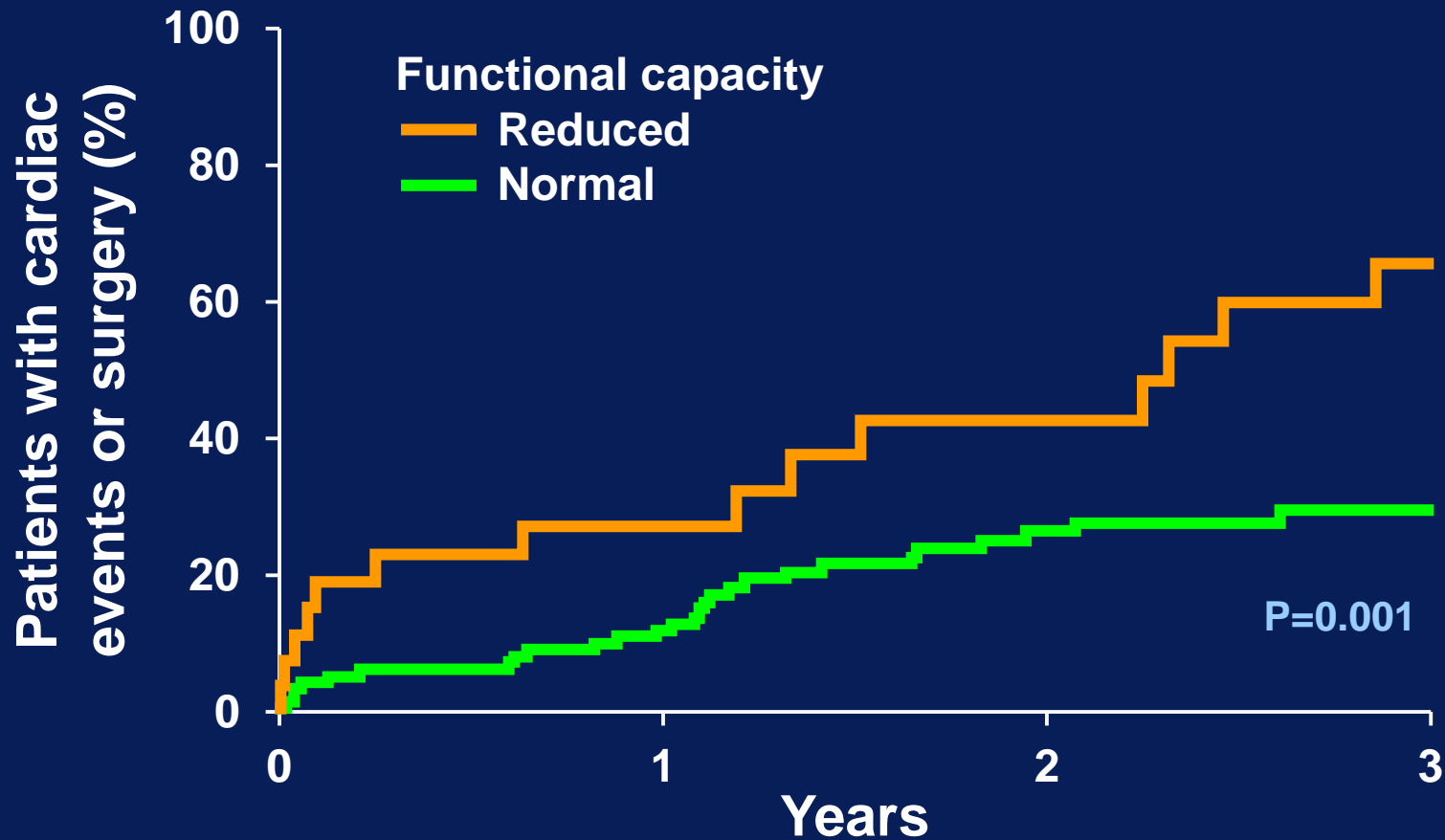


Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing in “Asymptomatic” MR: Is the Patient Truly Asymptomatic?

- 134 Asymptomatic patients; 63 ± 14 yrs
- MR regurgitant volume 68 ± 24 cm³,
ERO 35 ± 14 mm²; LVEF $73 \pm 6\%$
- Reduced functional capacity (<84% predicted) related to MR in **19%**
Peak VO₂ 22 ± 5 ($74 \pm 8\%$ Predicted)

Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing in “Asymptomatic” MR

Events: Death, Heart Failure, Surgery, AFib

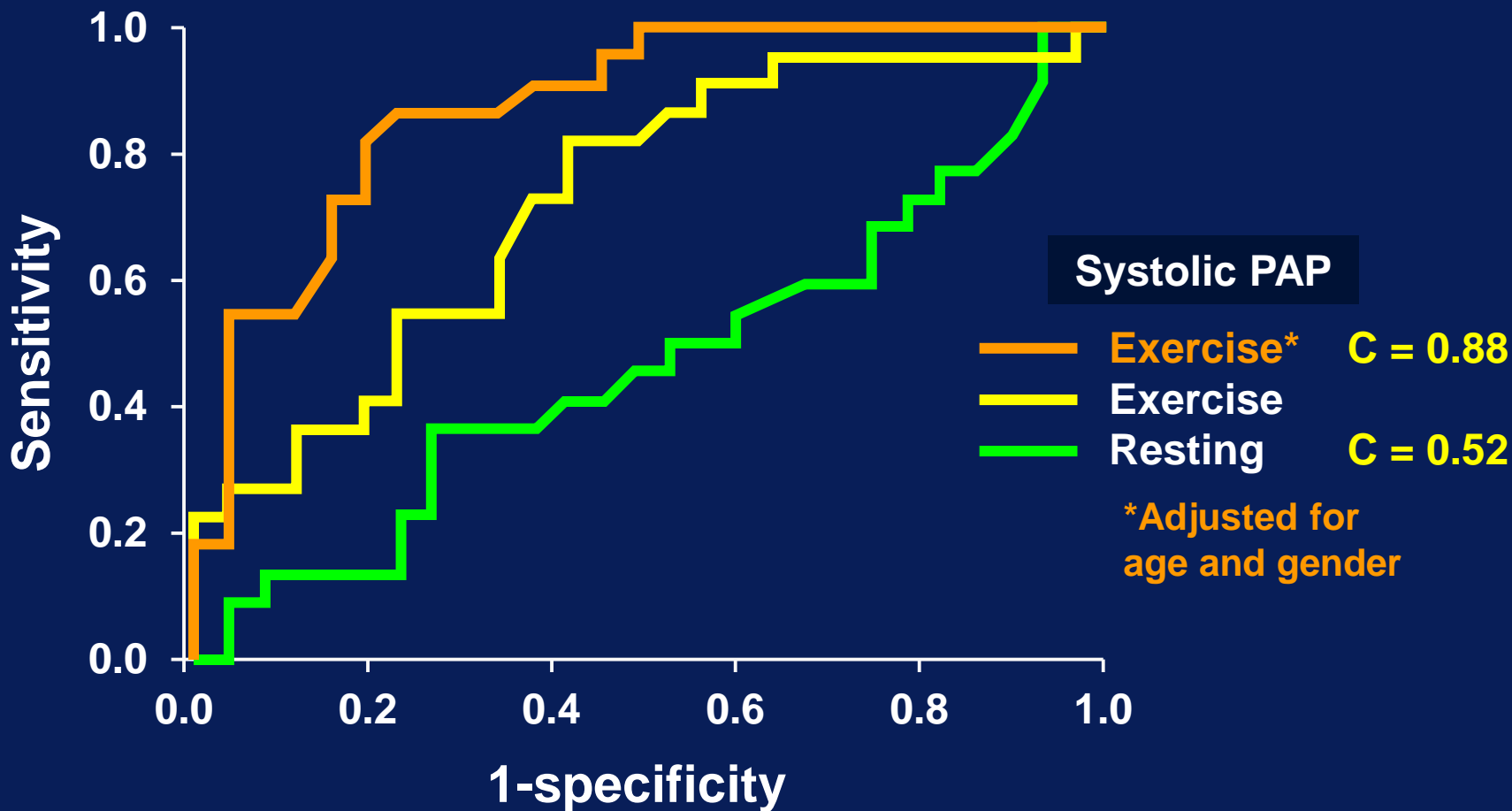


“Asymptomatic” MR: Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hypertension

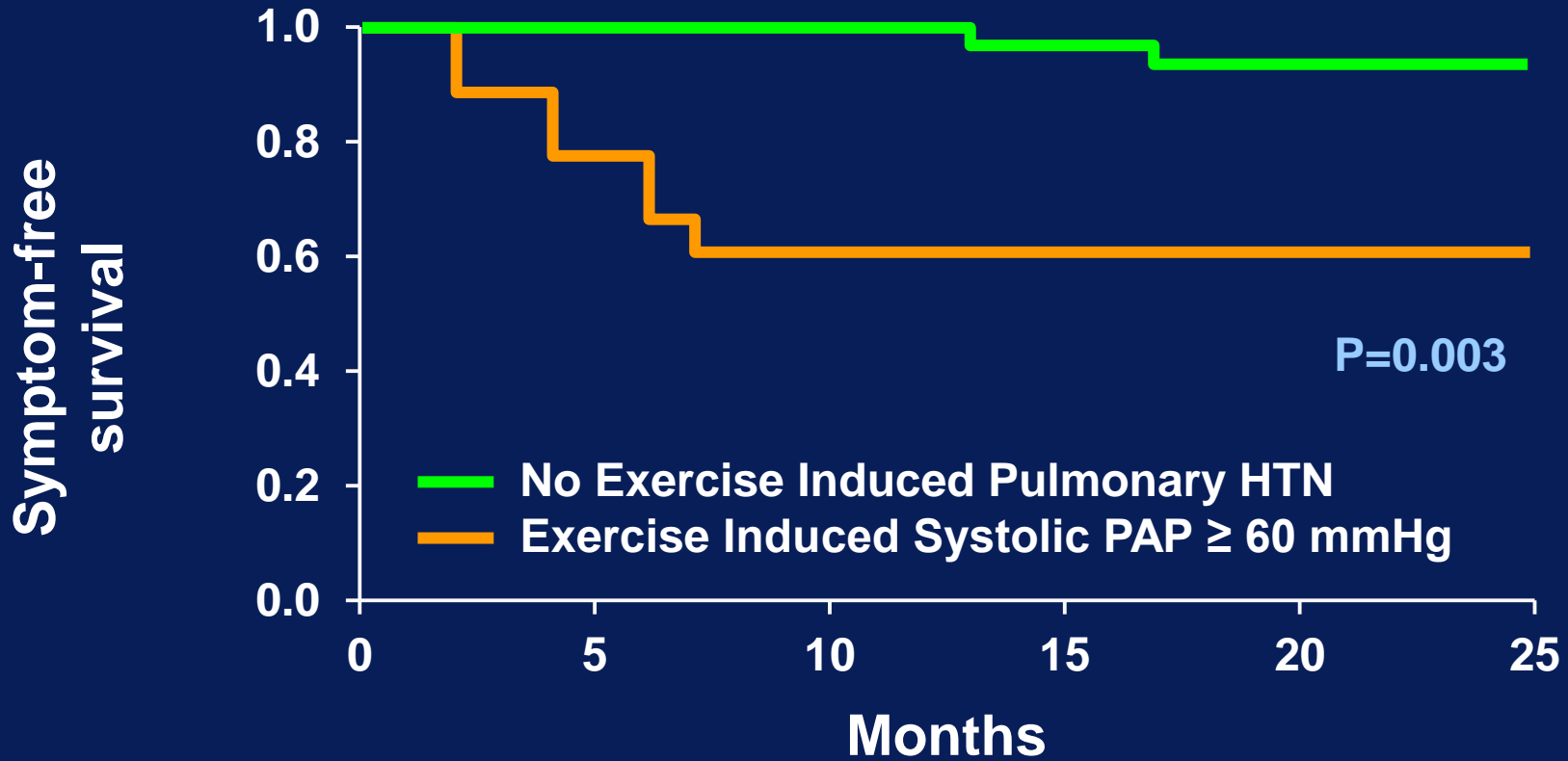
Is the Patient Truly Asymptomatic?

- 49 Asymptomatic patients with MR
- MR ERO 0.40 ± 0.14 cm², RVSP 30 ± 7 mmHg
- LVEF 67 ± 7 %, LVESD 31 ± 6 mm
- Symptom limited exercise echo VO_2 stress
- 24% with $<80\%$ functional aerobic capacity (FAC)
- Exercise induced pulmonary hypertension (**RVSP ≥ 60 mmHg**) the strongest multivariate predictor of poor FAC and onset of symptoms

“Asymptomatic” MR: Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hypertension Is the Patient Truly Asymptomatic?



“Asymptomatic” MR: Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hypertension Is the Patient Truly Asymptomatic?



	0	5	10	15	20	25
Patients at Risk	31	31	31	30	29	29
	18	14	11	11	11	11

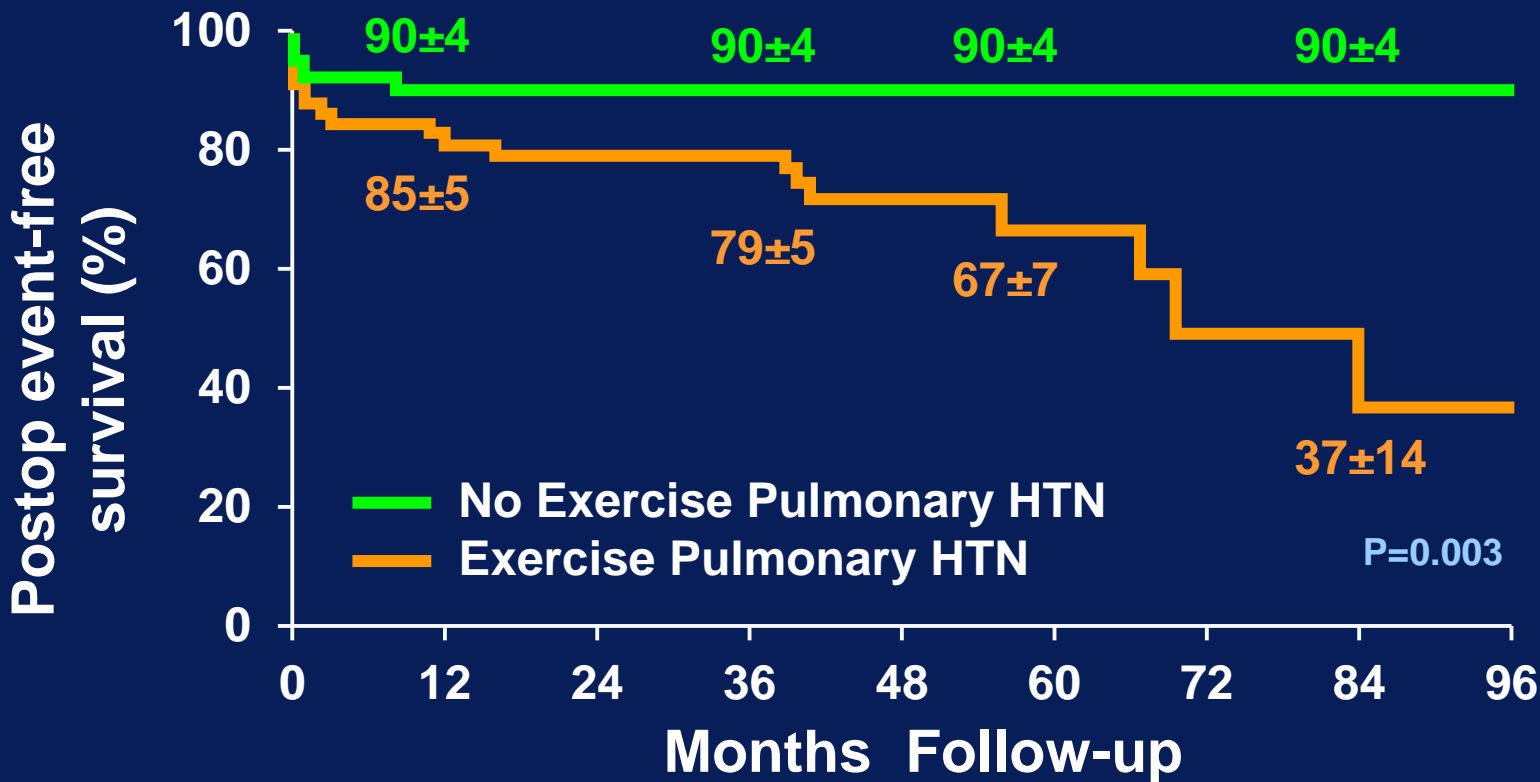
“Asymptomatic” MR: Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hypertension

Post-Op Events: Heart Failure, Stroke, Death

- 104 Patients; mean age 64 ± 12 yrs
- MR ERO 0.40 ± 0.07 cm², RVSP 36 ± 7 mmHg
- LVEF 71 ± 5 %, LVESD 34 ± 6 mm
- Preoperative exercise echo: **58%** of patients had exercise induced pulmonary HTN (RVSP ≥ 60 mmHg)
- Mitral surgery for isolated primary MR directed by ACC/AHA guideline triggers

“Asymptomatic” MR: Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hypertension

Post-Op Events: Heart Failure, Stroke, Death



Patients
at Risk

43	37	26	6	2
59	48	37	15	4

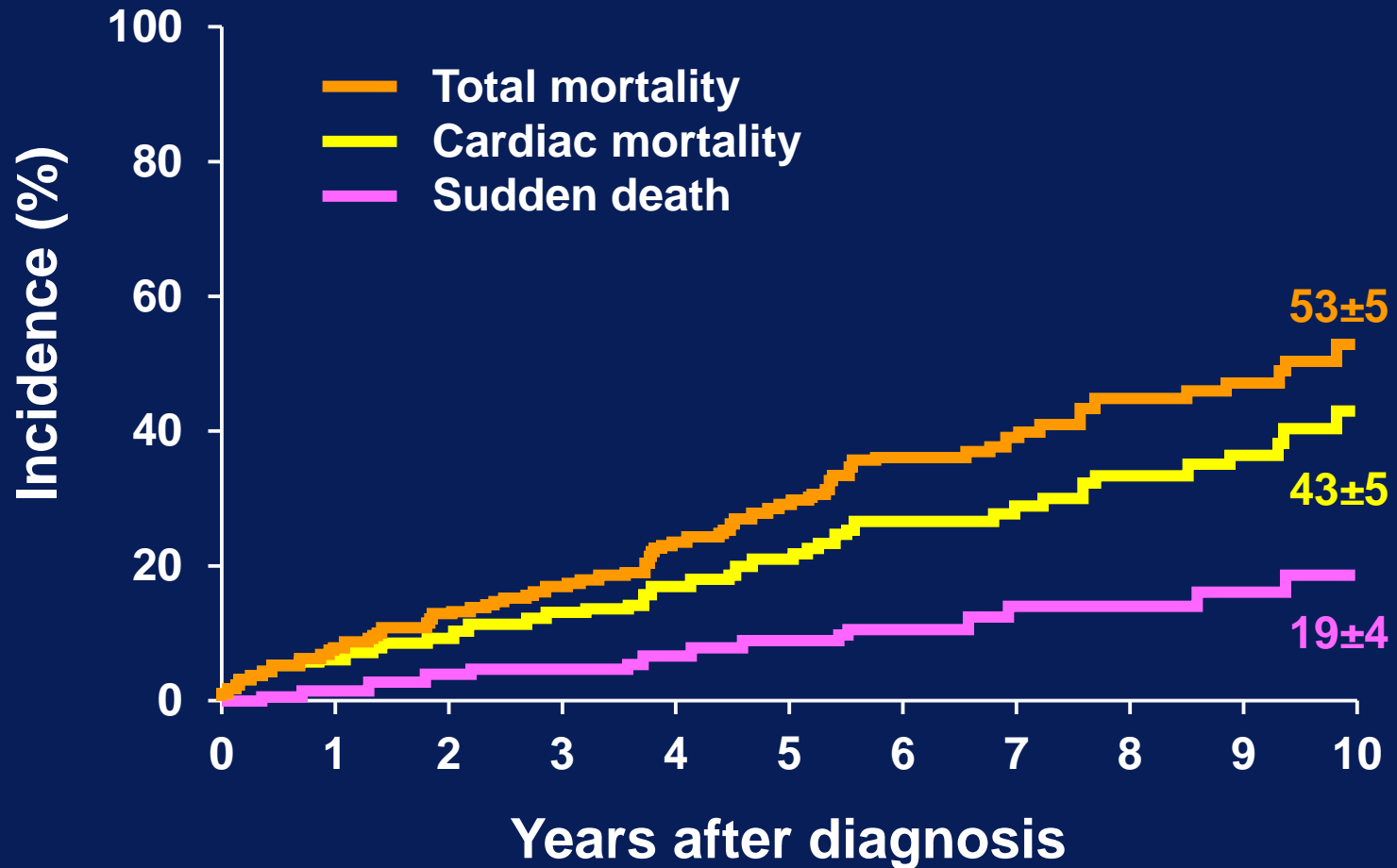
And we must be wary . . .

... of the ultimate end-point

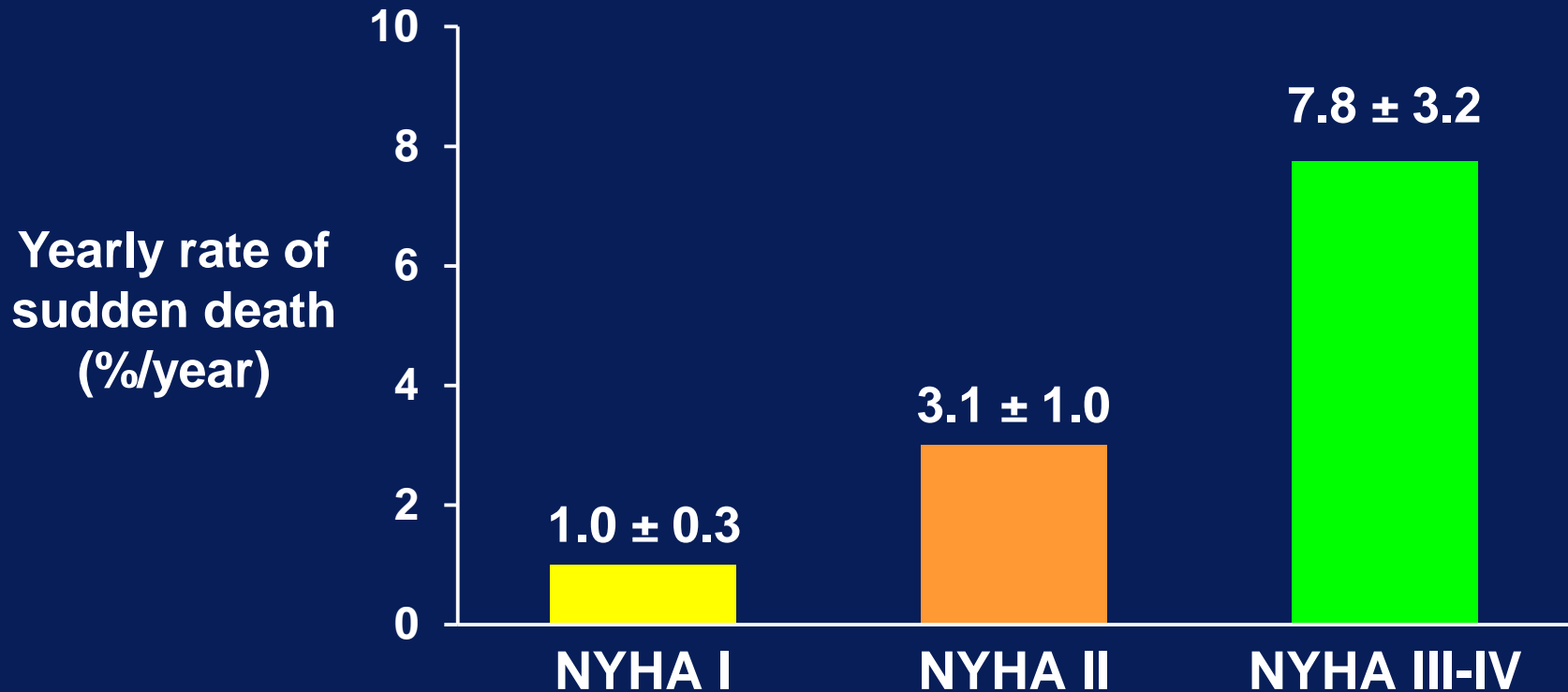
Sudden Death in Severe MR Due to Flail Leaflet

- 348 Patients with flail MV leaflet
- Mean age: 67 ± 12 yrs; 48 ± 41 mo. F/U
- Under medical therapy: 99 deaths
Sudden death: 25 patients (7.2%)
- Sudden death multivariate predictors :
 - NYHA functional class
 - LVEF (mean initial EF $63 \pm 10\%$)
 - Atrial fibrillation

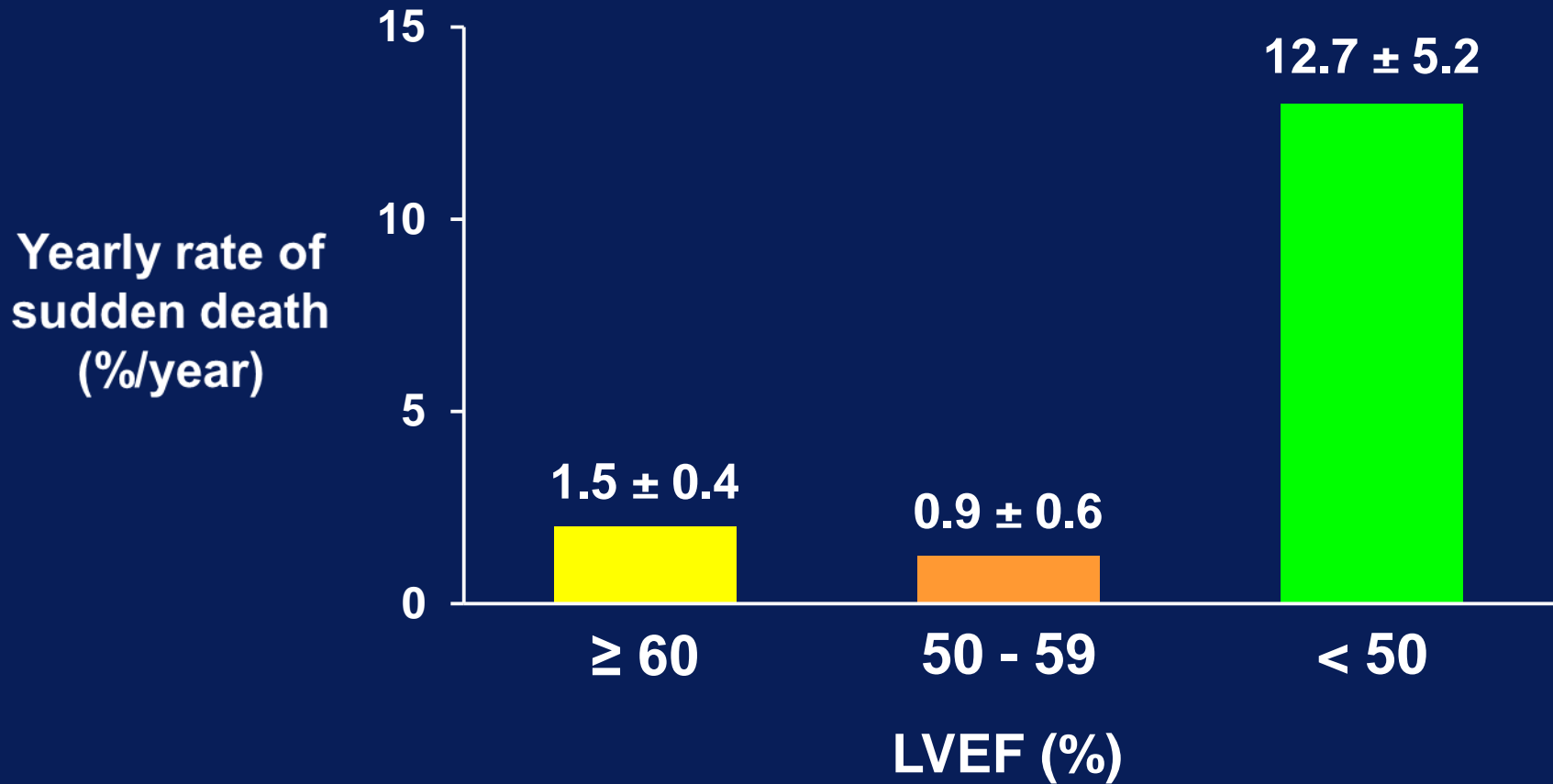
Sudden Death in Severe MR Due to Flail Leaflet



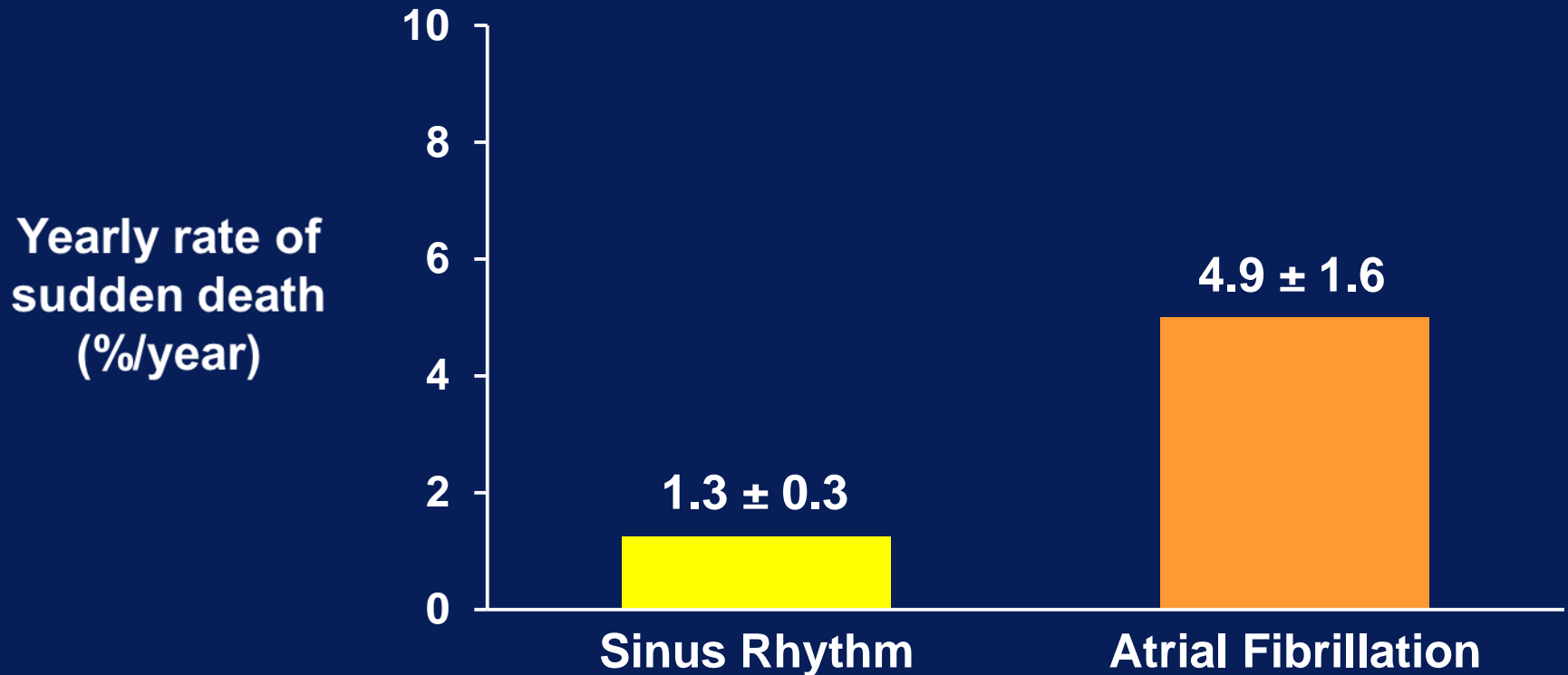
Sudden Death in Severe MR Due to Flail Leaflet: Relation to NYHA Functional Class



Sudden Death in Severe MR Due to Flail Leaflet: Relation to LVEF



Sudden Death in Severe MR Due to Flail Leaflet: Sinus Rhythm vs. Atrial Fibrillation



Sudden Death in Severe MR Due to Flail Mitral Leaflet

In patients NYHA Class I-II, in
sinus rhythm, LVEF \geq 60%, and
no history of CAD:

Rate of sudden death = 0.8% / yr

**If There Are No Randomized
Controlled Trials . . .**

. . . Perform a Meta - Analysis

Early Surgical Intervention vs. Watchful Waiting for Asymptomatic MR

A Meta-Analysis

- **Observational studies; tertiary referral**
- **Asymptomatic patients without Class I Guideline triggers for surgery**
- **All primary (degenerative) MR etiology**
- **All included a watching waiting cohort**

Timing of Surgical Intervention for Asymptomatic MR (No Class I Trigger)

All Cause Mortality (1,823 Patients)



A Stitch in Time . . .

. . . Saves Nine

Surgery for MR: The Importance of Experience and Volume

STS Database (13,614 MV operations)

Hospital Mitral Procedures / Year

≤ 35 36-70 71-140 > 140

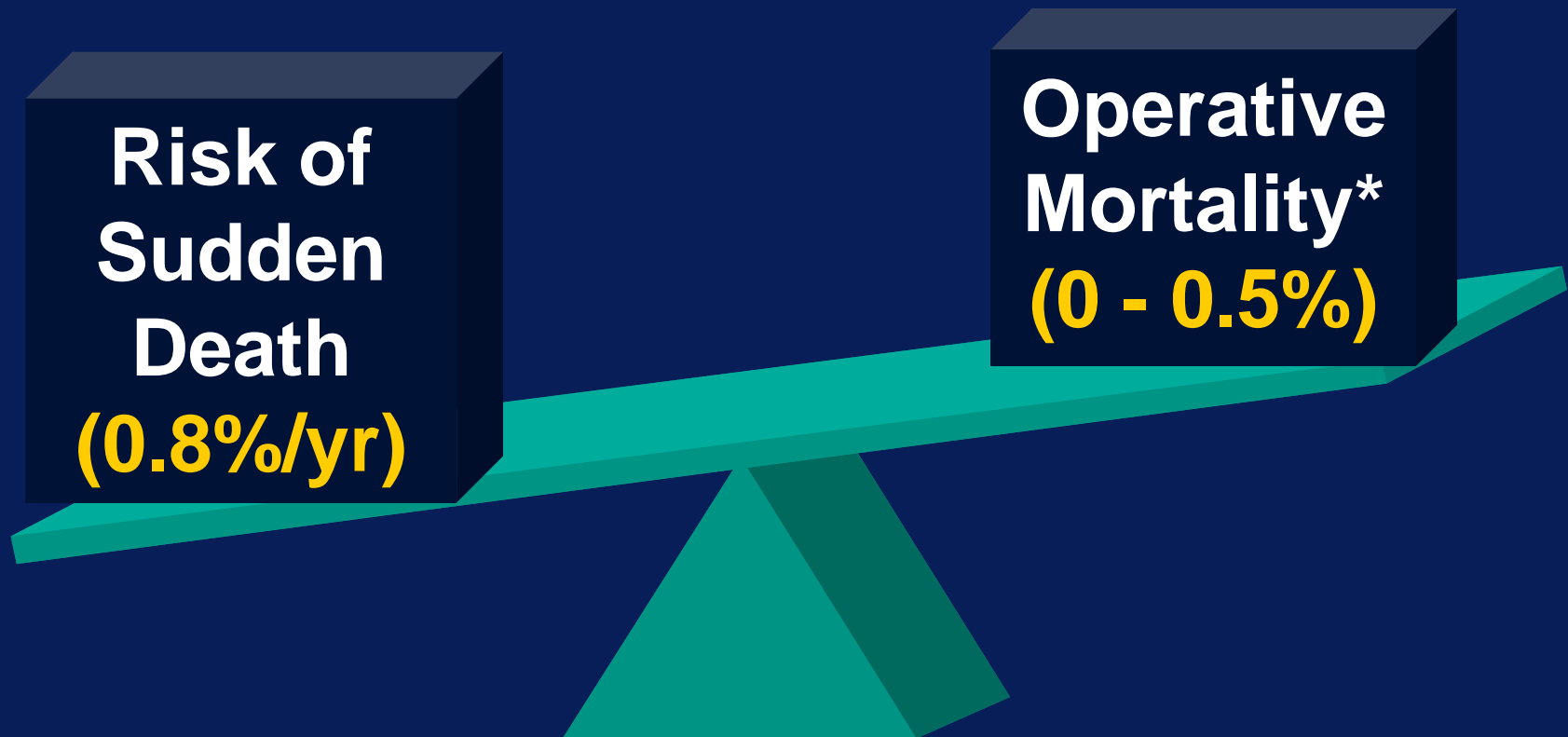
**Operative
Mortality**

3.1% 2.3% 2.0% 1.1%

**MV Repair
Rate**

48% 55% 65% 78%

Elective Mitral Repair For Severe MR vs. Risk of Sudden Death



*** High volume, tertiary referral surgical centers**

Grigioni F, et al. JACC 1999; 34:2078

DeBonis M, et al Eur Heart J 2013;34;13

Kang DH et al. Circulation 2009; 119:797

Suri RM et al. JAMA 2013; 310:609

Yazdchi F, et al. Ann Thorac Surg 2015; 99:1992

**Are we delaying surgery
too long....**

**. . . with the current guideline
triggers to intervention?**

Current (2014) Guideline Indications Triggering Surgery for Severe MR Is There an Outcome Penalty?

1,512 Patients: Surgery for Primary MR

Class I
Triggers: Cardiac Symptoms, LVEF < 60%,
or LVESD > 40 mm (n = 794)

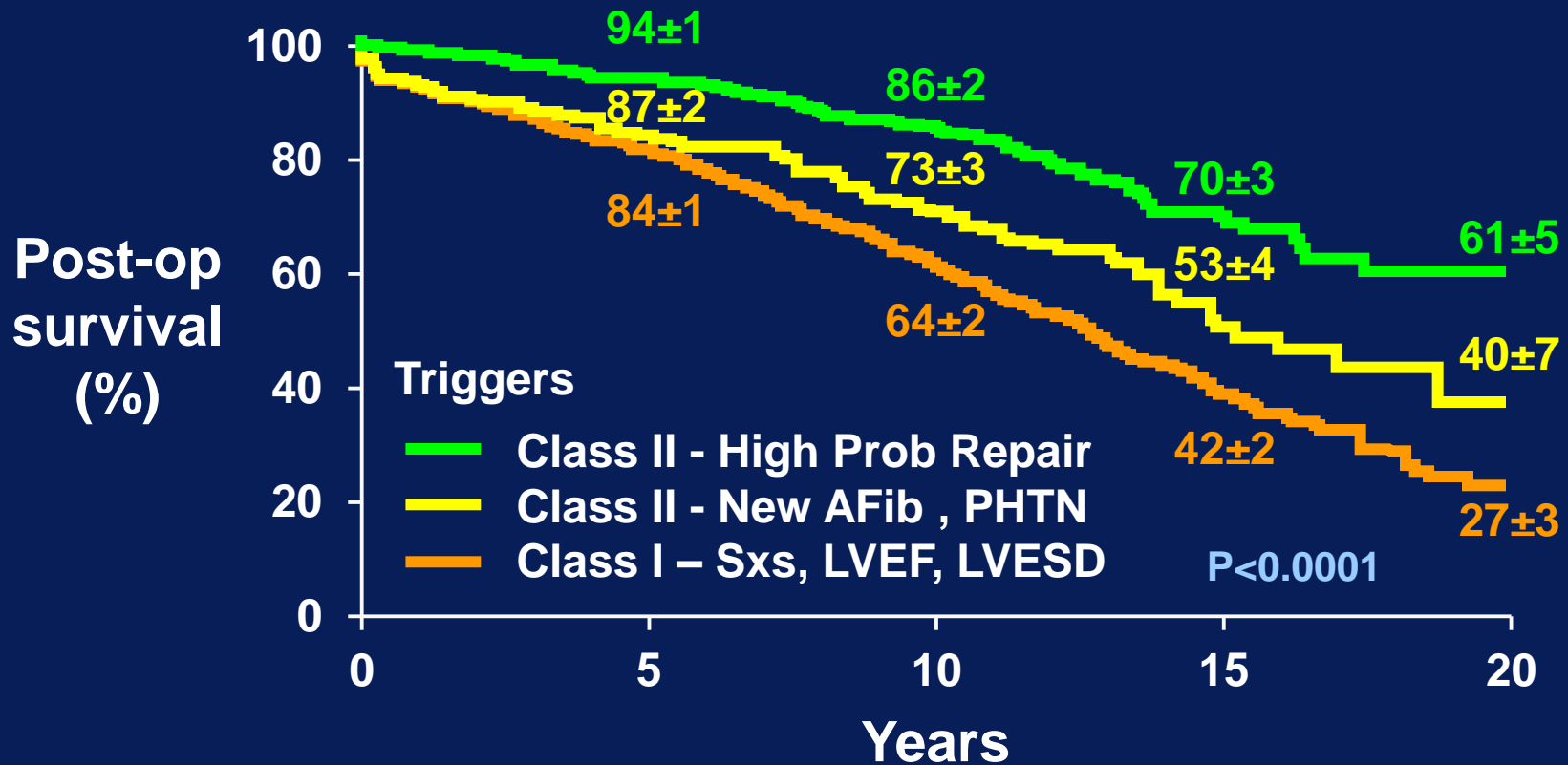
Class II
Triggers: **Clinical complications:** New AFib,
or pulmonary HTN (n = 195)

Class II
Triggers: **Early Asymptomatic:** Gr 4/4 MR, High
probability of MV Repair only (n = 523)

Sarano ME, et al. J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2015; 150: 50

Nishimura RA, CM Otto, et al. JACC 2014; 63: e57

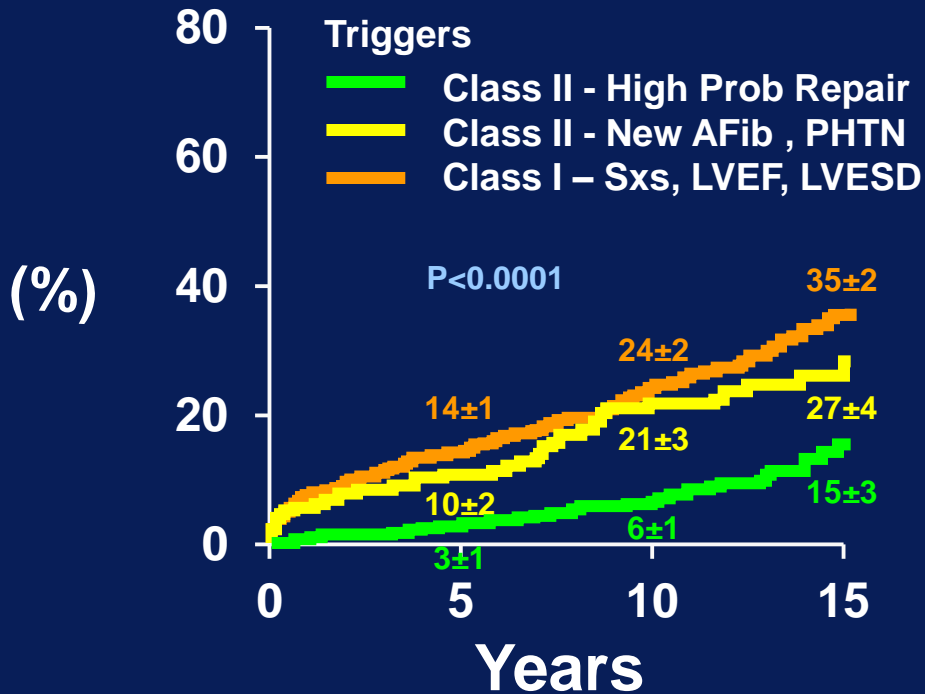
Guideline Indication Triggers for Surgery in Severe MR: Impact on Post-Op Survival



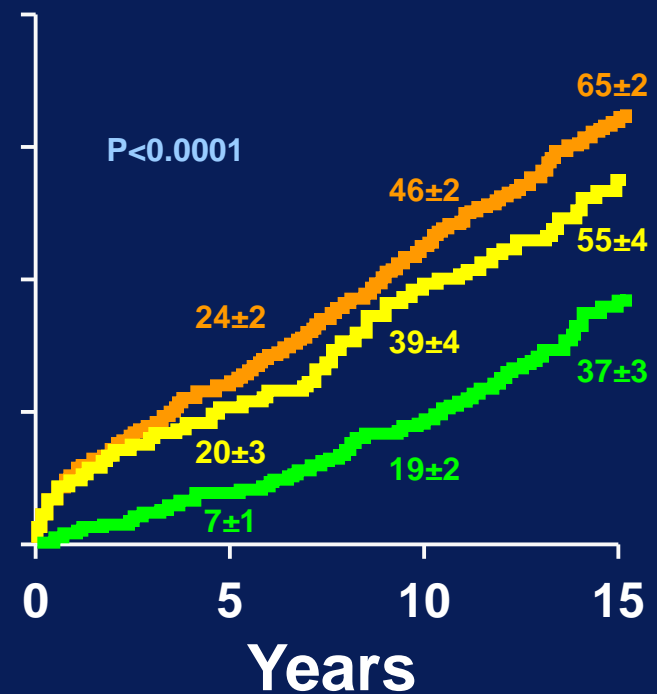
	0	5	10	15	20
Patients at Risk	523	488	403	68	6
	195	168	127	38	3
	794	664	461	135	13

Guideline Indication Triggers for Surgery in Severe MR: Impact on Outcome

Heart Failure



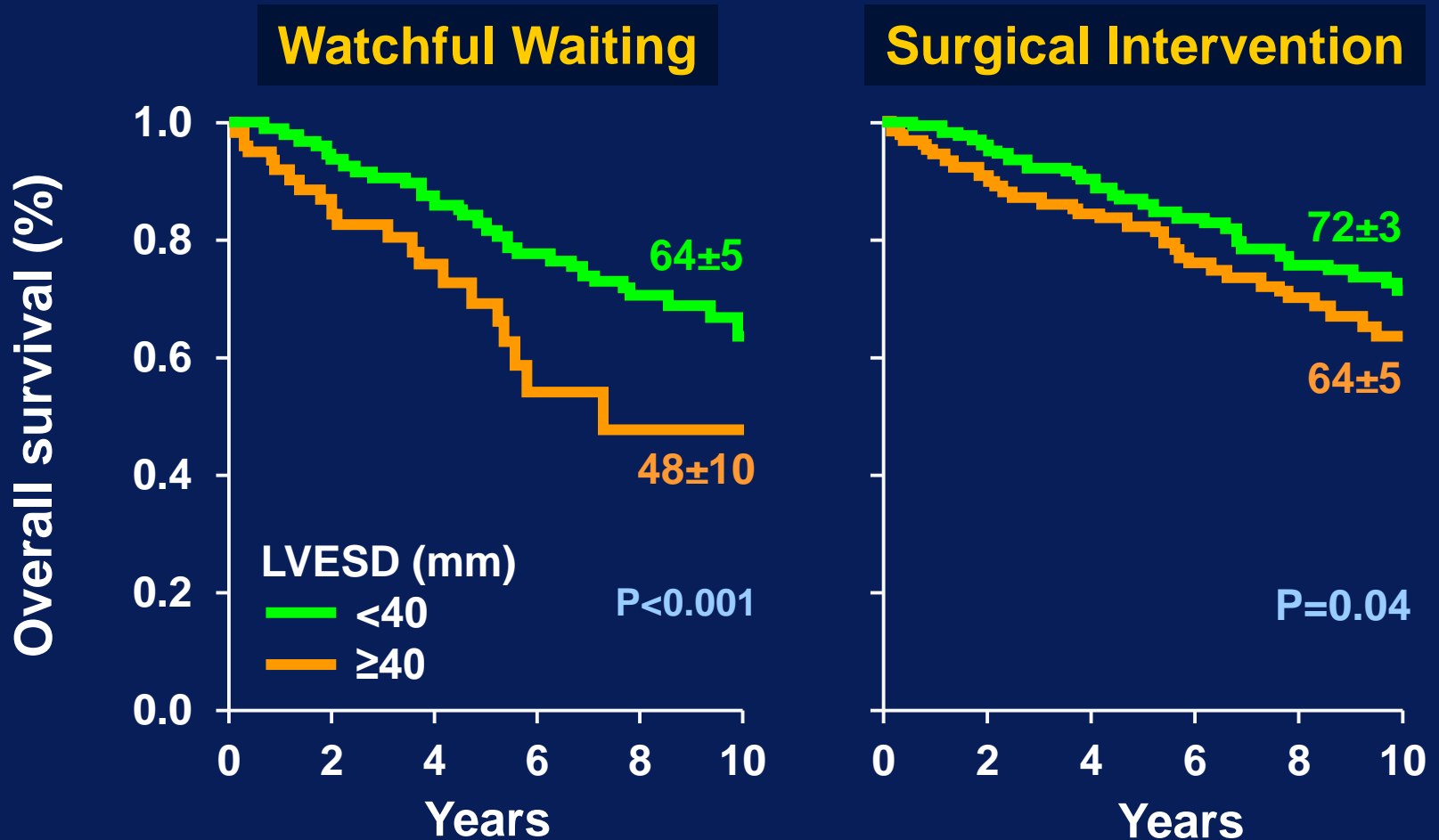
Death or Heart Failure



	Class II - High Prob Repair	Class II - New AFib, PHTN	Class I - Sxs, LVEF, LVESD
Patients at Risk	478	383	61
	155	110	33
	592	383	107

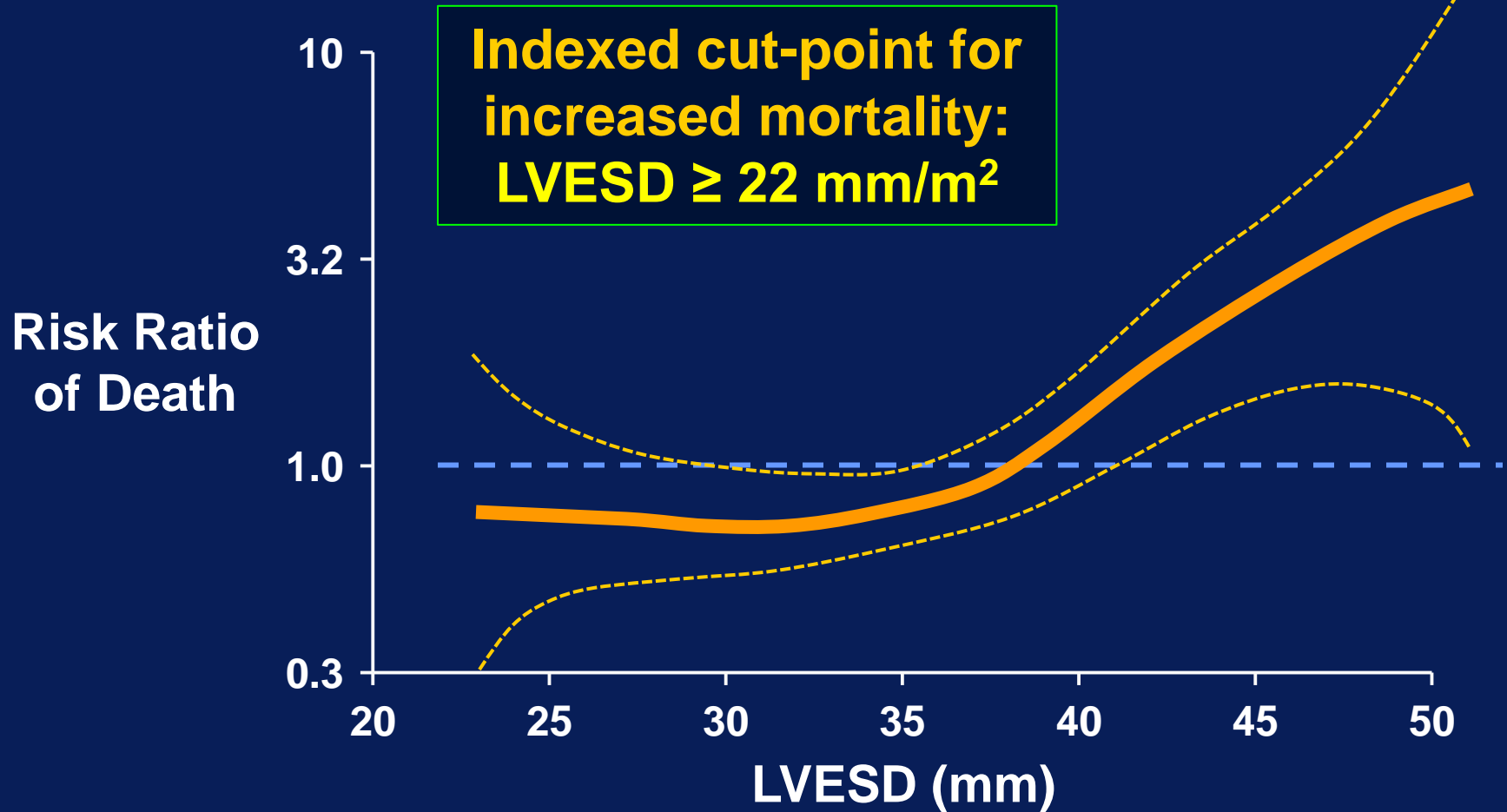
Left Ventricular End-Systolic Dimension (LVESD) in Severe MR

MIDA Database: 739 Patients with Flail Leaflet



Left Ventricular End-Systolic Dimension (LVESD) in Severe MR

Risk of Mortality With Watchful Waiting



Severe MR: The Fallacy of “Normal” Preoperative LV Function

Post-Op LV Ejection Fraction

≥ 50% (n = 1,391)

< 50% (n = 314)

LVEF (%)

Pre-Op

66.8 ± 4.8

65.3 ± 4.0

Post-Op

59.2 ± 5.8

41.8 ± 6.2 p<0.001

LVESD (mm)

Pre-Op

34.2 ± 4.6

37.7 ± 4.4 p<0.001

Post-Op

33.4 ± 5.1

41.9 ± 5.4 p<0.001

Severe MR: Predictors of Early Postoperative LVEF < 40% *

OR (\pm 95% CI)

RVSP
> 49 mmHg



LVEDD
> 36 mm



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

* Post-Operative Death HR = 1.74 (1.03-2.92)



Severe Primary Mitral Regurgitation: The Case for Early Surgical Intervention

Conclusions

- **Unoperated severe MR has serious clinical consequences, even if asymptomatic**
- **Clinical symptom status is often unreliable**
- **Stress testing discriminates elusive functional status and prognosticates**
- **Early surgical intervention improves outcome**
- **Selection of surgical center and surgeon is critical**
- **Current ACC/AHA guideline triggers to surgery may delay intervention, resulting in suboptimal outcome**
- **Why wait for the inevitable, and increase patient risk?**

