



THE 29TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

ADVANCES IN CRITICAL CARE NEPHROLOGY

# AKI & CRRT 2024

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UC San Diego  
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MARCH 12-15, 2024

MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

**Symposium B - Deresuscitation in the ICU:  
How to use Diuretics, Ultrafiltration and Dialysis**

# Ultrafiltration and Diuretic Therapy in Acute Heart Failure



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# Disclosures

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# Outline

Congestion and Natriuresis in AHF

Diuretic Therapy in AHF

Sequential Nephron Blockade

Ultrafiltration for AHF

# Case

A 65-year-old man with a history of CAD, HTN, HFrEF (EF 35%) is admitted to the Cardiac ICU for progressive dyspnea and a weight gain of 15 lbs over the last 1 month. His BP is 121/56, PR 14, RR 59, T 98.5. His home meds include lisinopril 40 mg/day, furosemide 40 mg BID, and Metoprolol XL 50 mg/day. CXR shows pulmonary edema.

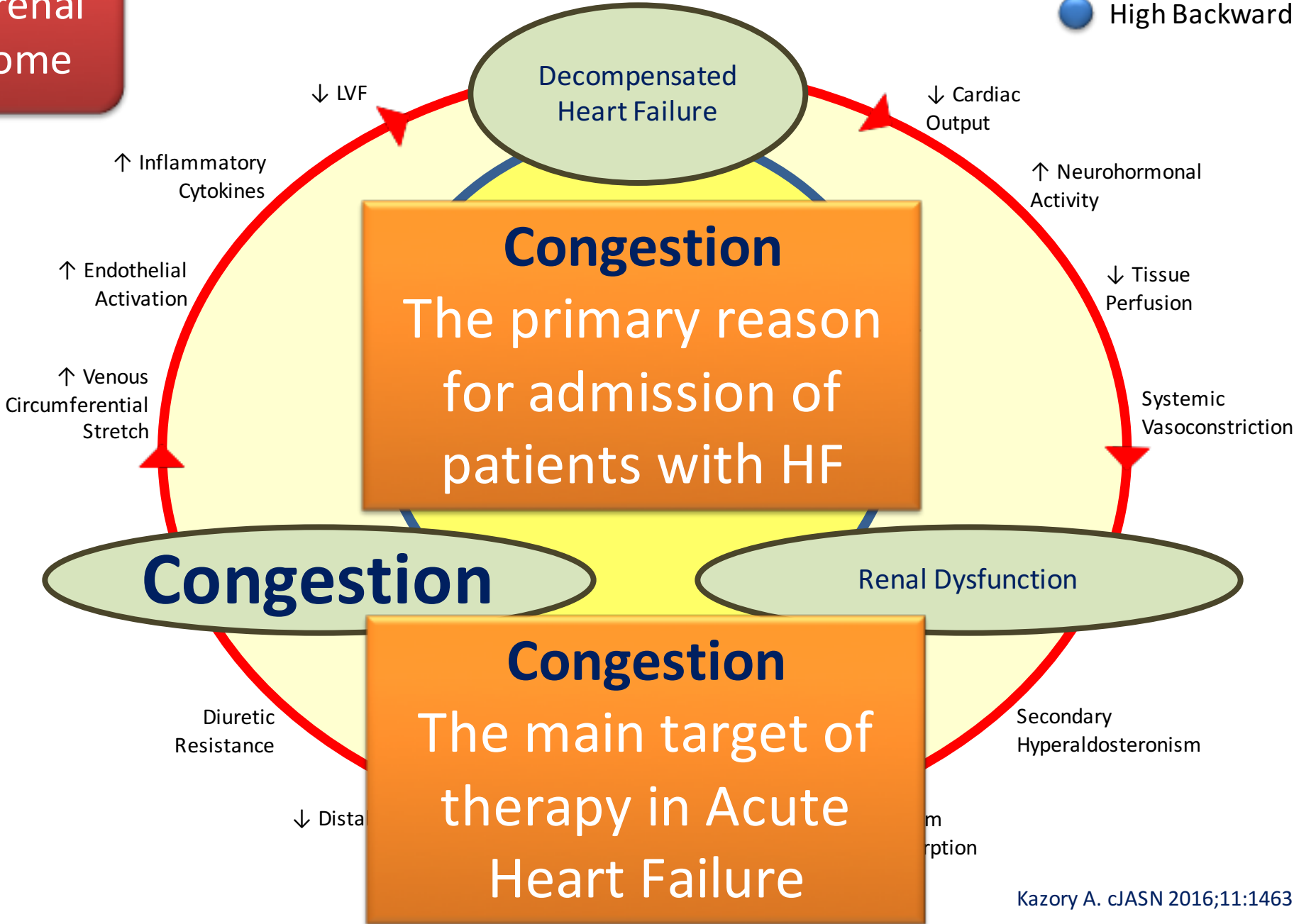
He is started on IV furosemide 80 mg BID. The next day, his urine output is 450 ml and the labs show the following: Na 136, K 4.1, Cl 96, Bicarb 29, BUN 22, Creatinine 1.2

Which of the following is the best next step?

- 1) Check urine sodium
- 2) Add IV acetazolamide 500 mg once daily
- 3) Add Empagliflozin 10 mg once daily
- 4) Start HCTZ 25 mg once daily
- 5) Start ultrafiltration

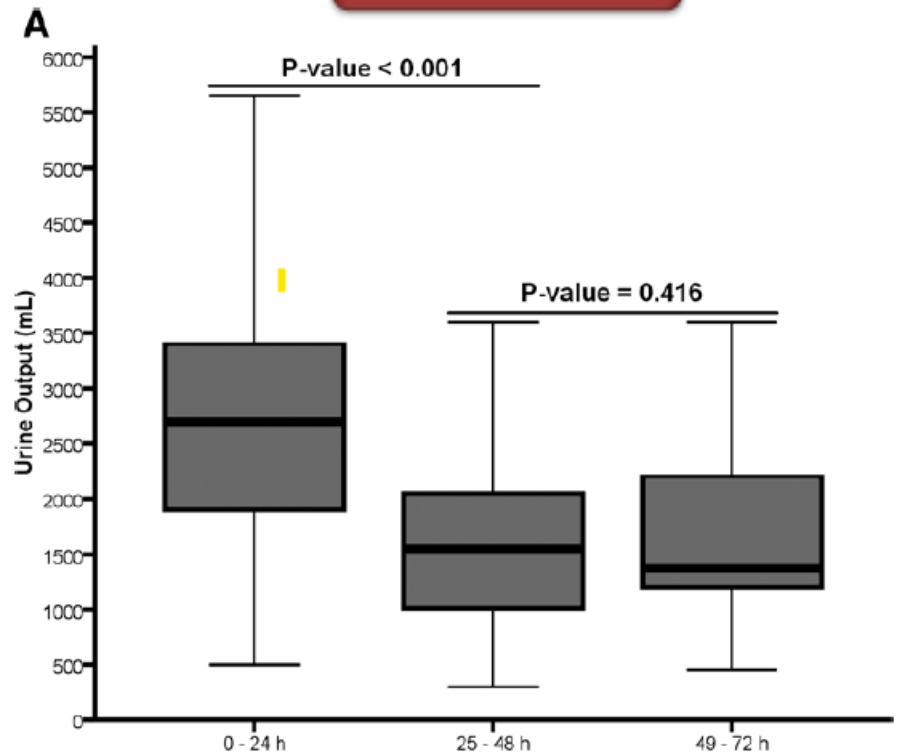
# Cardiorenal Syndrome

● Low Forward Flow (arterial)  
● High Backward Pressure (venous)

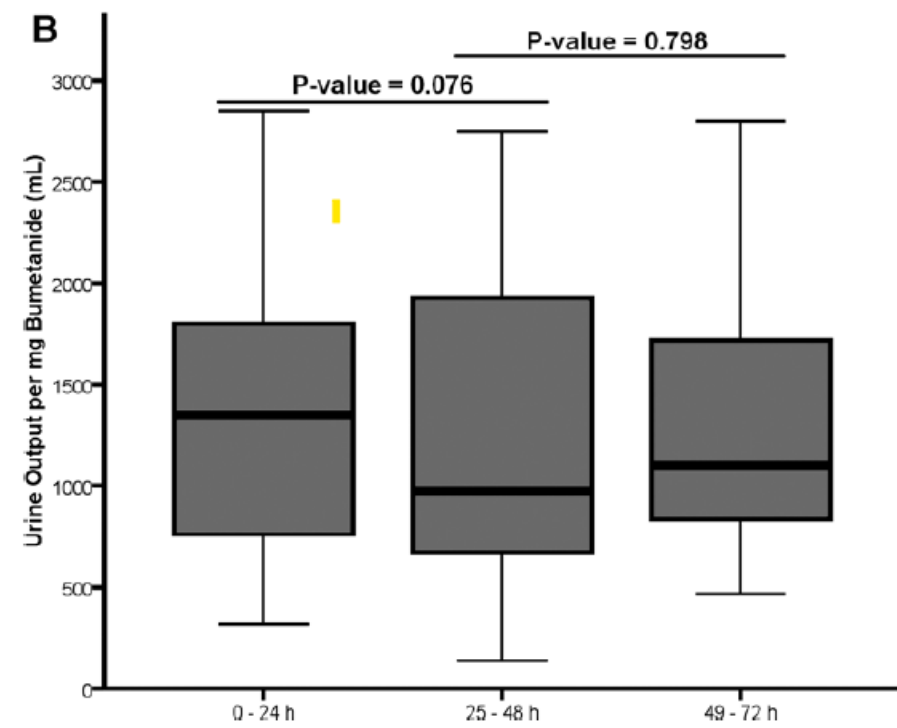


# Natriuresis Declines Rapidly During Decongestion

Urine Output (ml)

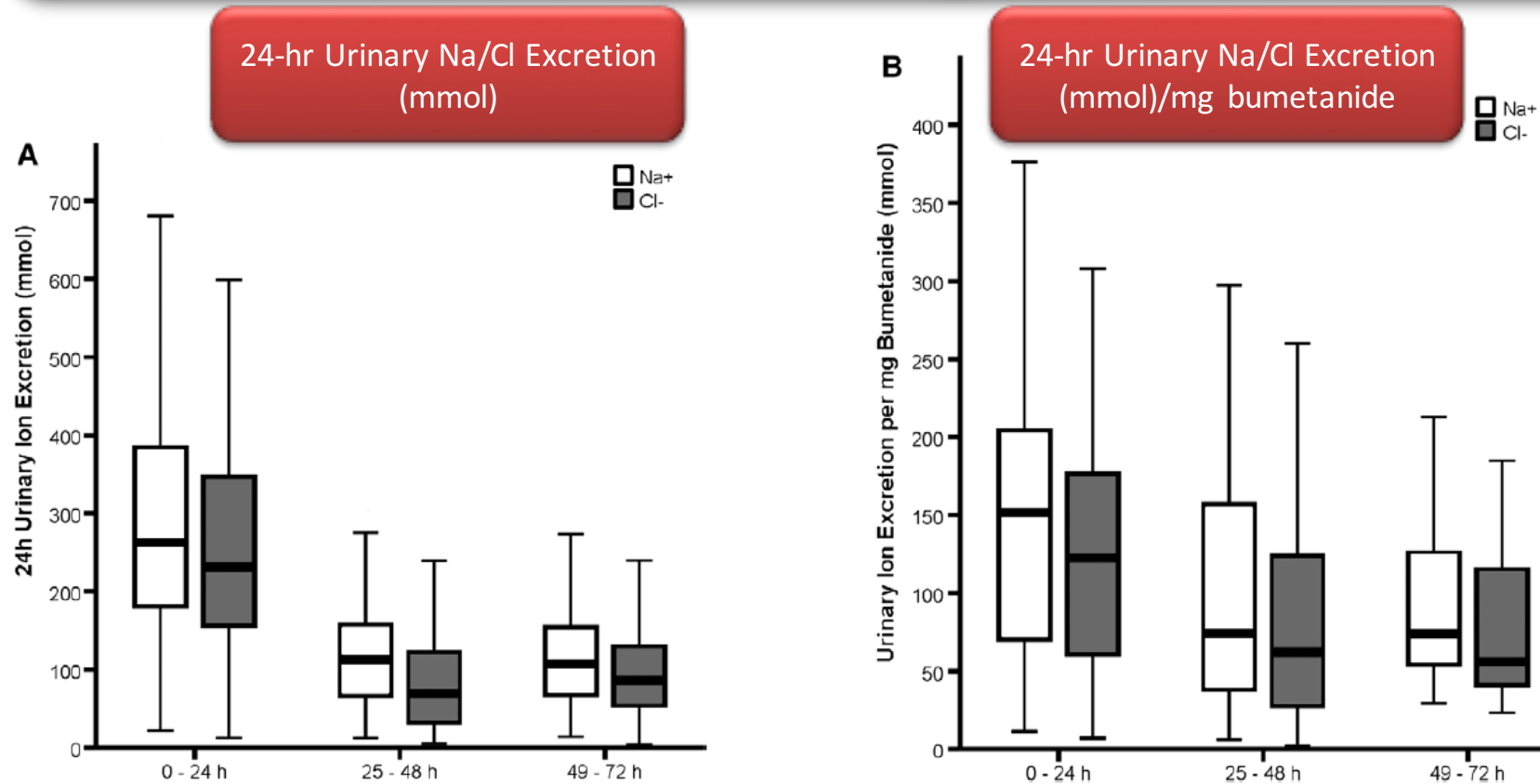


Urine Output (ml)/mg Bumetanide



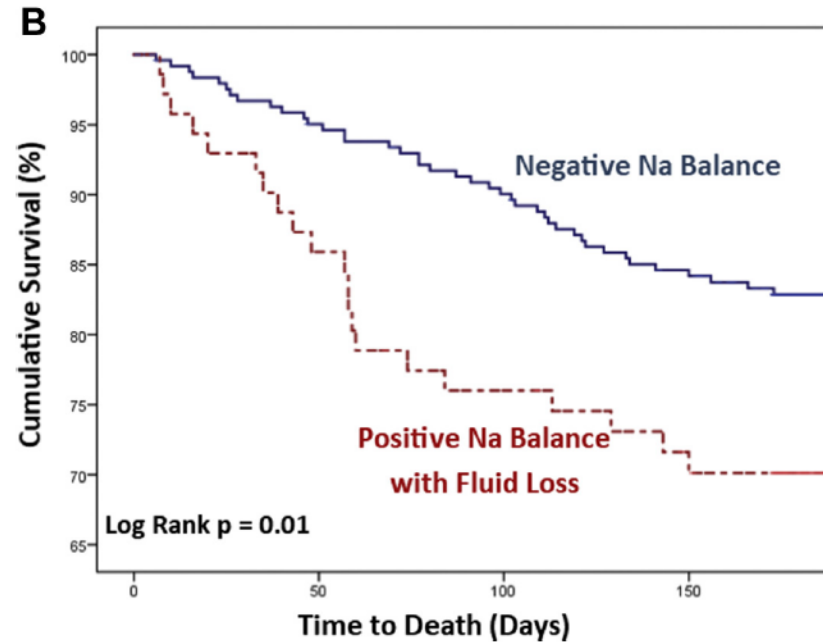
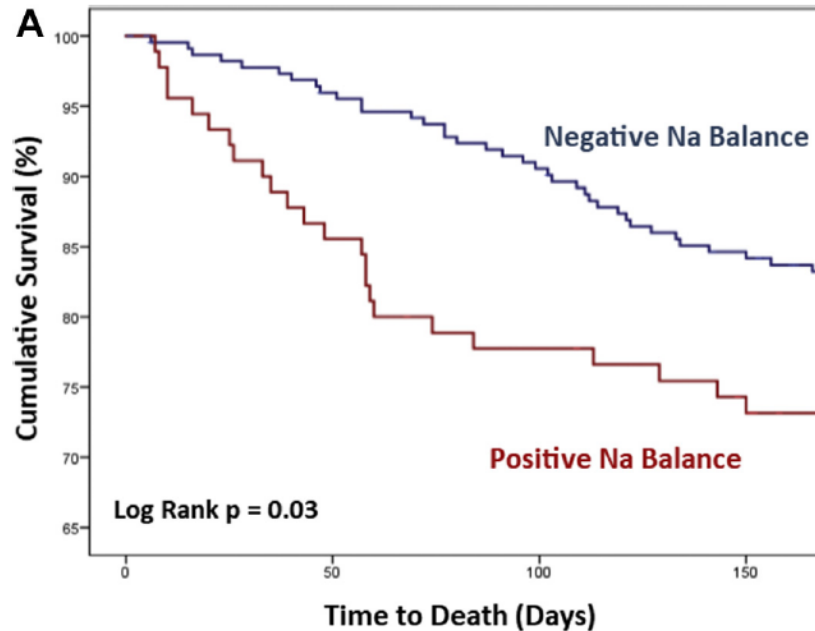
Urine volume does not decline when adjusted for diuretic dose  
Urine output/mg of bumetanide: 900-1300 ml

# Natriuresis Declines Rapidly During Decongestion



Natriuresis does decline even after adjustment for diuretic dose  
Urine sodium/mg of bumetanide: 75-150 mmol

# Natriuretic Response and Survival

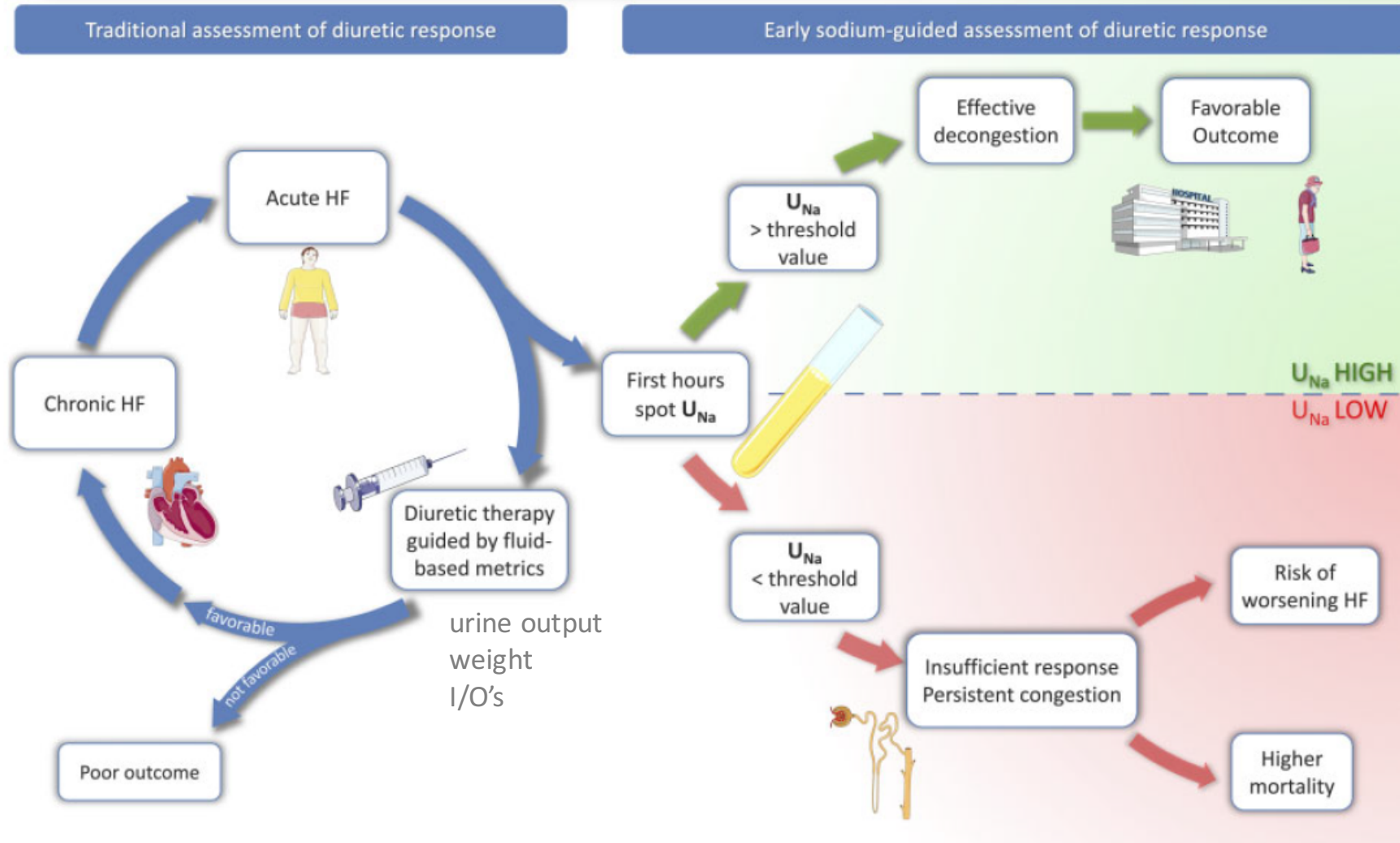


2 g/day sodium diet

A positive sodium balance is associated with an increased risk of death, even in the presence of negative fluid balance



# Natriuresis-Guided Therapy in AHF



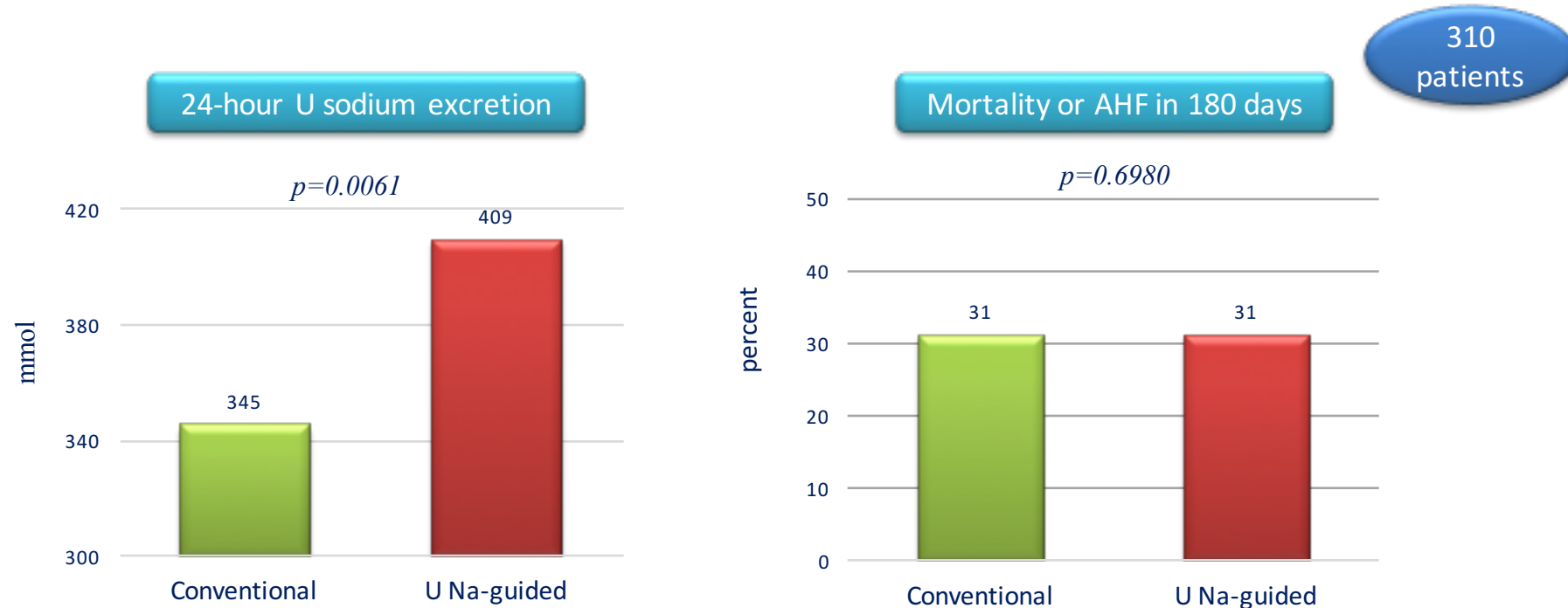
# Natriuresis-Guided Therapy in AHF

Name	Clinical Trial Identifier	Expected Number of Patients	Design	Intervention arm	Control arm	Primary Endpoint
<b>PUSH-HF</b>	NCT04606927	310	RCT	Natriuresis-guided treatment	Standard of care	Total natriuresis after 24 hours, first occurrence of all-cause mortality or heart failure rehospitalization
<b>DECONGEST</b>	NCT05411991	104	RCT	Natriuresis-guided treatment	Standard of care	Mortality, days in hospital, and decongestion
<b>ENACT-HF</b>	NR	454	Multi-national Pragmatic	Natriuresis-guided treatment	Standard of care	Total natriuresis after 24 hours
<b>Collins S.</b>	NCT04481919	484	RCT	Natriuresis-guided treatment	Guideline-based care	Days of clinical benefit (global clinical status, hospital days, and death)

# PUSH-AHF Trial

European Society of Cardiology – Amsterdam (Aug 28, 2023)

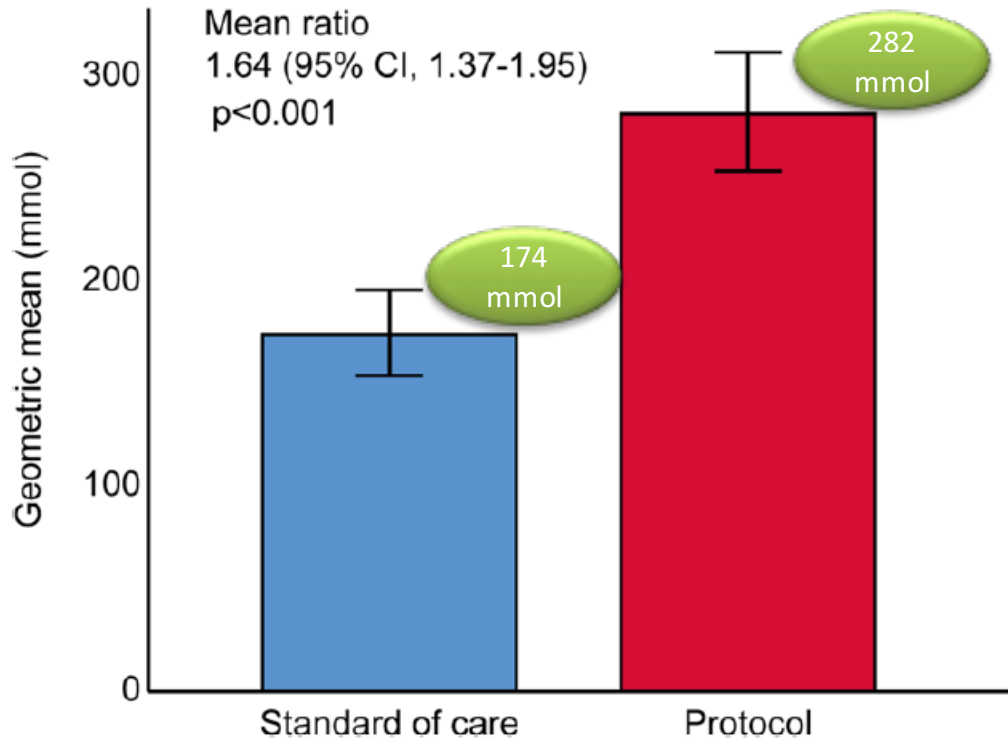
Urinary Sodium-based treatment algorithm in Acute Heart Failure



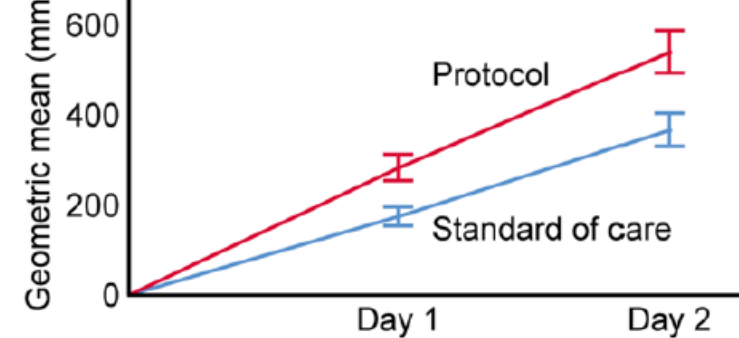
Natriuresis during the first 24 hours was significantly higher in the natriuresis guided group, but the combined endpoint of time to all-cause mortality or first HF rehospitalization at 180 d was the same.

# ENACT-HF Trial

## A Primary endpoint: natriuresis after 1 day

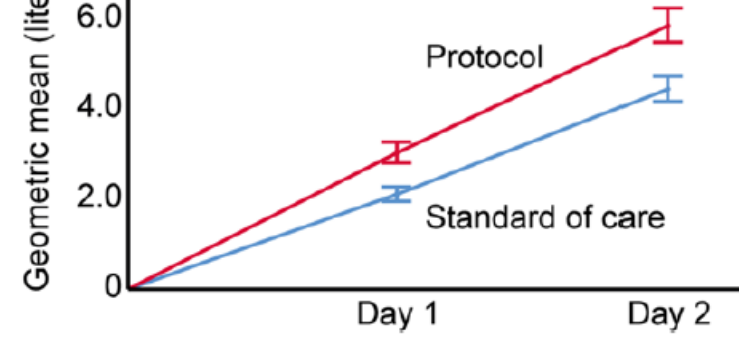


## B Cumulative natriuresis $p < 0.001$



401 patients

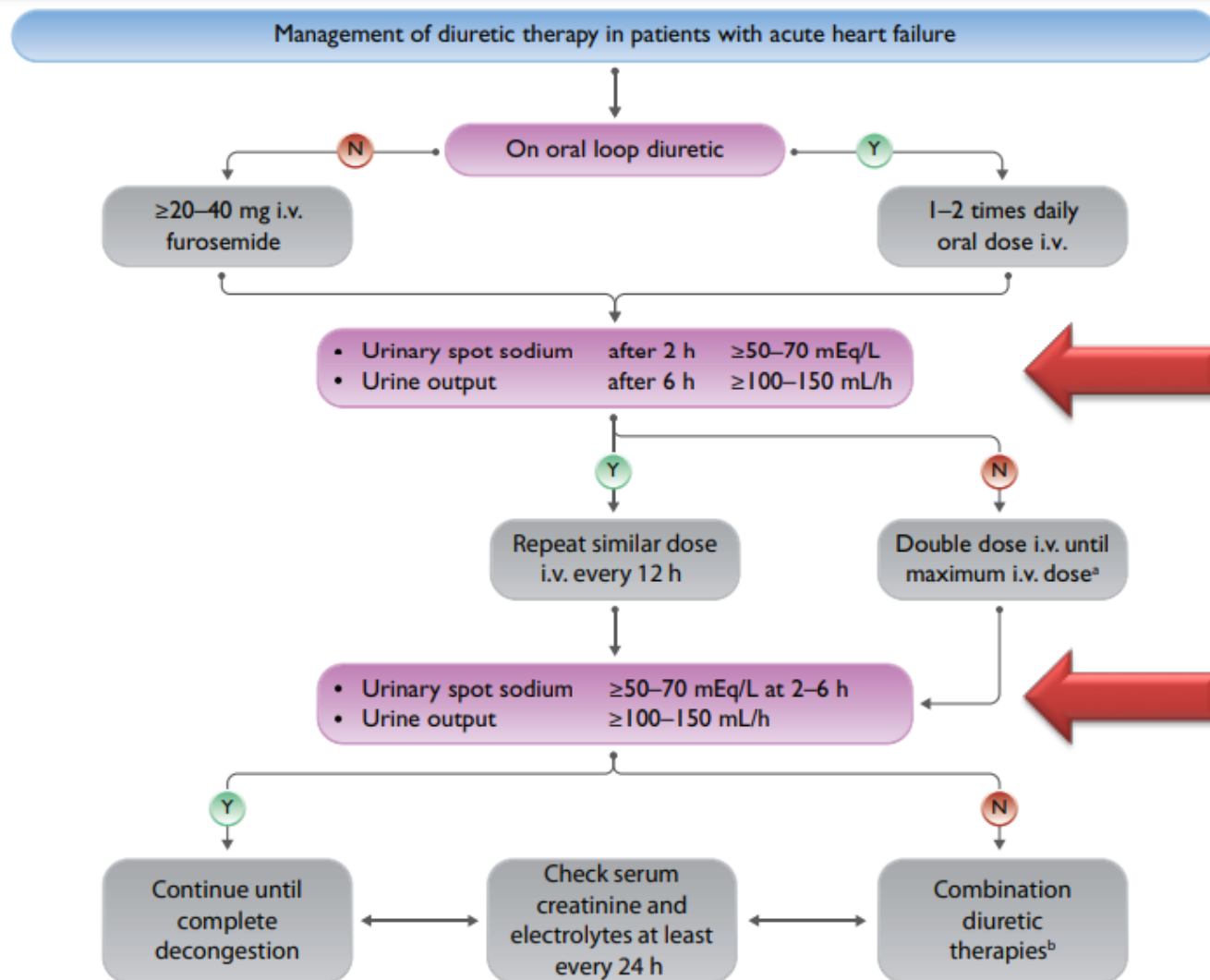
## C Cumulative diuresis $p < 0.001$



Natriuresis and diuresis were significantly higher in the natriuresis guided group, with shorter length of stay

# Treatment Algorithm for AHF

European Society of Cardiology

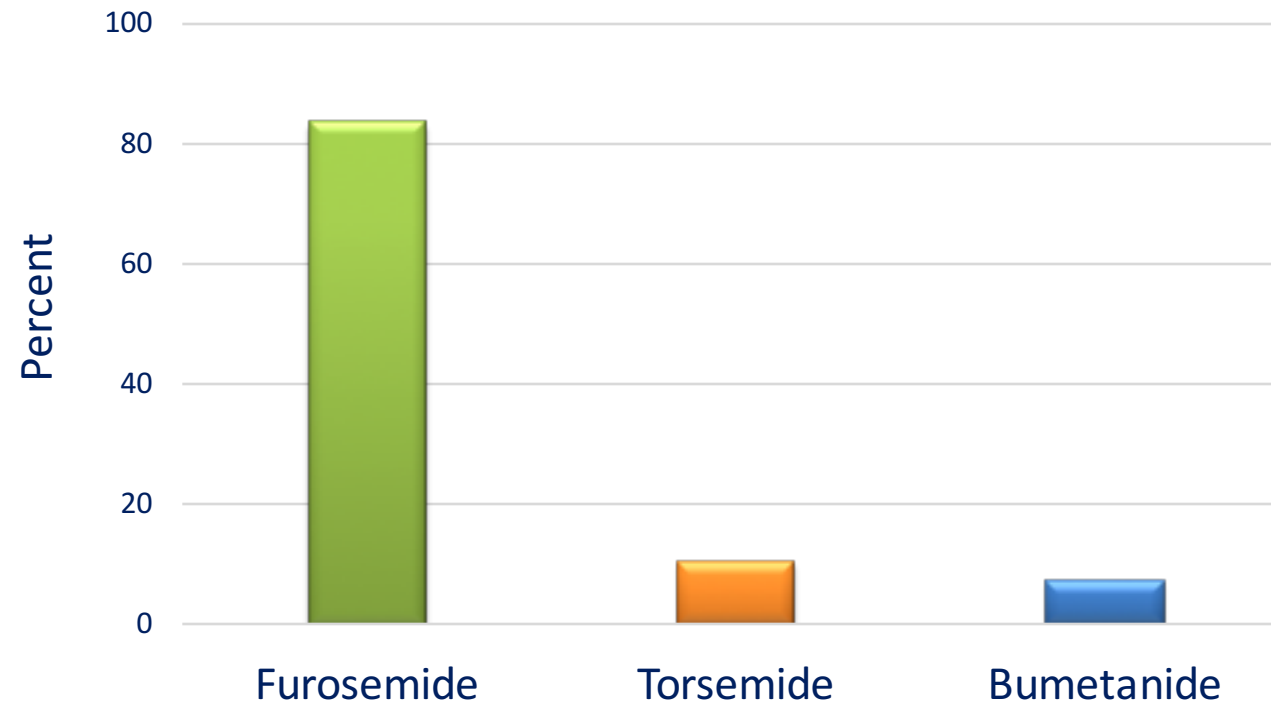


The maximal daily dose for i.v. loop diuretics is generally considered **furosemide 400-600 mg**, though up to 1000 mg may be considered in patients with severely impaired kidney function.

# Furosemide or Torsemide?

Outpatient Chronic HFrEF

3426 patients



# Furosemide or Torsemide?

## Potential Advantages of Torsemide over Furosemide

### Preclinical data

- Improved diuresis
- Decreased kaliuresis
- Decreased aldosterone secretion
- Inhibition of aldosterone receptor\*
- Inhibition of Ang II effects
- Improved LV function
- Decreased myocardial collagen
- Increased survival rate

### Clinical data

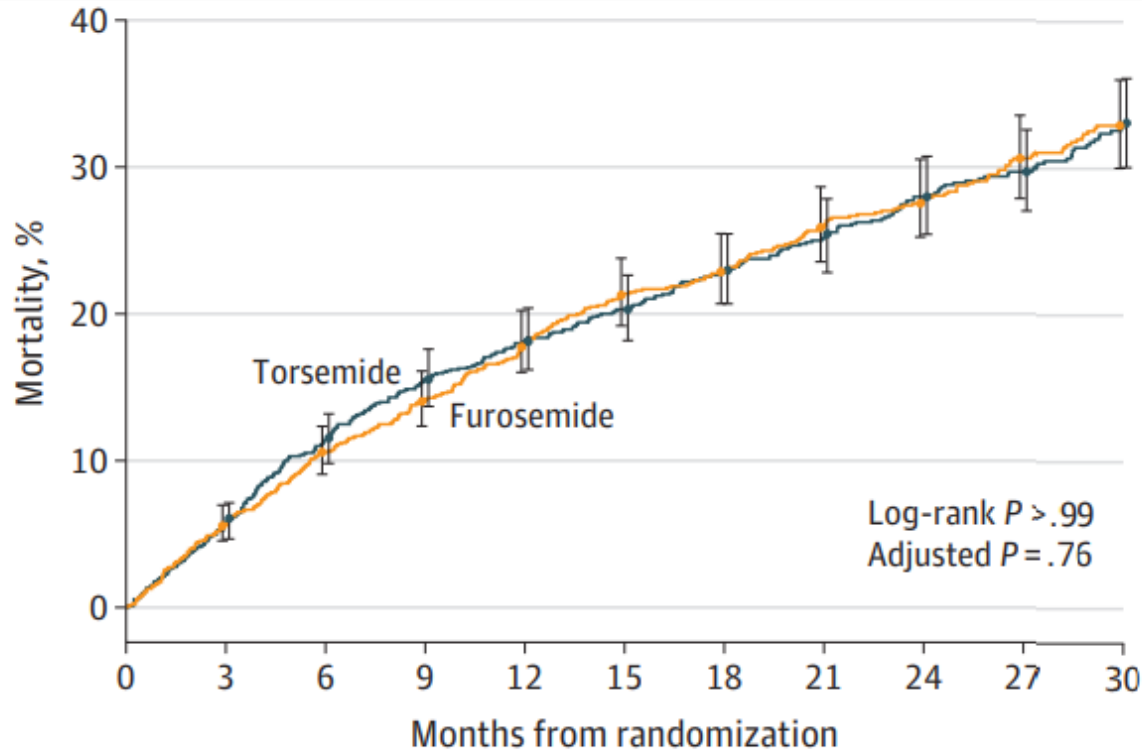
- Improved diuresis and weight reduction
- Decreased transcardiac aldosterone extraction
- Less RAAS activation
- Decreased myocardial collagen
- Decreased levels of PICP† and PIIINP (collagen surrogates)Decreased PCP activity
- Decreased levels of plasma BNP
- Improved LV function
- Improved NYHA class‡
- Improved subjective quality of life
- Decreased all-cause‡ and cardiac-associated mortality
- Decreased rates of hospitalization‡
- Decreased length of hospital stay related to HF

# Furosemide or Torsemide?

## TRANSFORM-HF trial

### Primary Outcome of All-Cause Mortality

2859 patients



Patients discharged after HF hospitalization  
Open-label, pragmatic RCT  
participants hospitalized with HF  
60 hospitals in US  
median follow-up of 17.4 months

No. at risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
Torsemide	1431	1301	1135	1027	904	787	689	661	543	434	317
Furosemide	1428	1295	1151	1036	897	782	707	658	542	428	317



# Furosemide or Torsemide?

## TRANSFORM-HF trial

2859 patients

Subgroup	Deaths, No./total (%)		Hazard ratio (95% CI)	Favors torsemide	Favors furosemide	P value for interaction
	Torsemide	Furosemide				
Overall	373/1431 (26.1)	374/1428 (26.2)	1.02 (0.89-1.18)			
Age, y						
<65	119/680 (17.5)	121/663 (18.3)	0.96 (0.75-1.24)			.64
≥65	254/751 (33.8)	253/765 (33.1)	1.04 (0.87-1.23)			
<75	249/1083 (23.0)	219/1049 (20.9)	1.12 (0.93-1.34)			.09
≥75	124/348 (35.6)	155/379 (40.9)	0.86 (0.68-1.09)			
Sex						
Male	244/933 (26.2)	221/871 (25.4)	1.06 (0.88-1.27)			.57
Female	129/498 (25.9)	153/557 (27.5)	0.97 (0.77-1.22)			
Race and ethnicity <sup>a</sup>						
Asian	6/37 (16.2)	6/26 (23.1)	1.08 (0.35-3.36)			.31
Black	98/474 (20.7)	119/494 (24.1)	0.82 (0.63-1.08)			
White	248/831 (29.8)	234/837 (28.0)	1.11 (0.93-1.33)			
Other	21/87 (24.1)	15/68 (22.1)	1.23 (0.63-2.39)			
Left ventricular ejection fraction, %						
≤40	239/935 (25.6)	212/901 (23.5)	1.14 (0.94-1.37)			.35
41-49	20/81 (24.7)	21/70 (30.0)	0.80 (0.43-1.48)			
≥50	84/318 (26.4)	101/330 (30.6)	0.88 (0.66-1.17)			
Unknown	30/97 (30.9)	40/127 (31.5)	0.90 (0.56-1.44)			
Loop diuretic prior to index hospitalization						
Furosemide	229/754 (30.4)	227/778 (29.2)	1.08 (0.90-1.30)			.30
Torsemide	53/146 (36.3)	42/113 (37.2)	1.03 (0.69-1.55)			
Bumetanide/ethacrynic acid	26/64 (40.6)	23/65 (35.4)	1.32 (0.75-2.32)			
None/unknown	65/467 (13.9)	82/472 (17.4)	0.78 (0.57-1.09)			

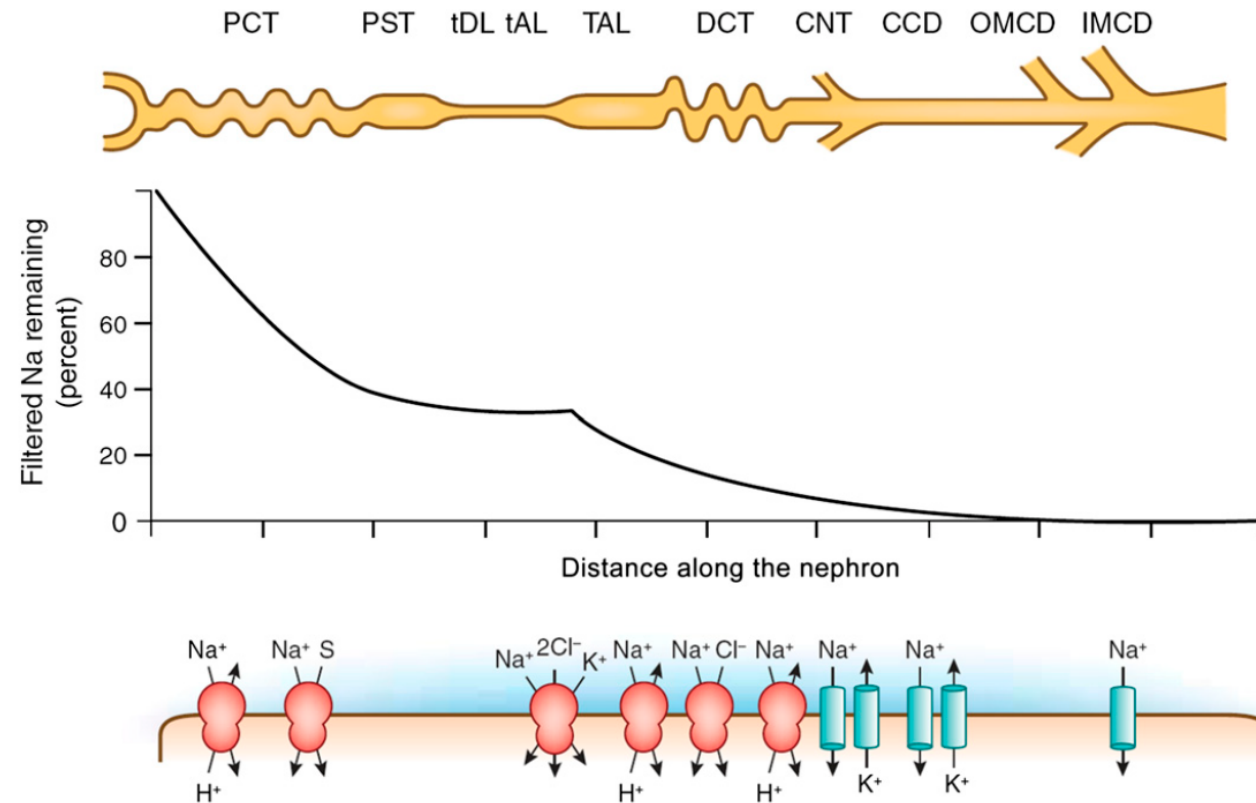
### eGFR categories, mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>

<30	58/144 (40.3)	68/165 (41.2)	1.08 (0.76-1.53)
≥30 to <60	181/641 (28.2)	188/607 (31.0)	0.95 (0.77-1.17)
≥60	134/644 (20.8)	118/653 (18.1)	1.13 (0.88-1.45)



Diabetes						
No	167/743 (22.5)	165/752 (21.9)	1.11 (0.89-1.38)			.27
Yes	206/688 (29.9)	209/676 (30.9)	0.94 (0.78-1.14)			
Mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist use at randomization						
No	258/907 (28.4)	245/930 (26.3)	1.11 (0.93-1.32)			.11
Yes	115/524 (21.9)	129/498 (25.9)	0.86 (0.67-1.11)			
Enrolled at an academic/teaching hospital						
No	12/30 (40.0)	13/31 (41.9)	1.08 (0.49-2.37)			.89
Yes	361/1401 (25.8)	361/1397 (25.8)	1.02 (0.88-1.18)			
Duration of heart failure						
Worsening of chronic heart failure	319/1002 (31.8)	313/1018 (30.7)	1.06 (0.91-1.24)			.27
Newly diagnosed	54/428 (12.6)	61/410 (14.9)	0.85 (0.59-1.23)			

# Sodium Transport along the Nephron (Healthy Individuals)



In healthy individuals, the majority of sodium absorption takes place within proximal tubule and thick ascending limb of loop of Henle

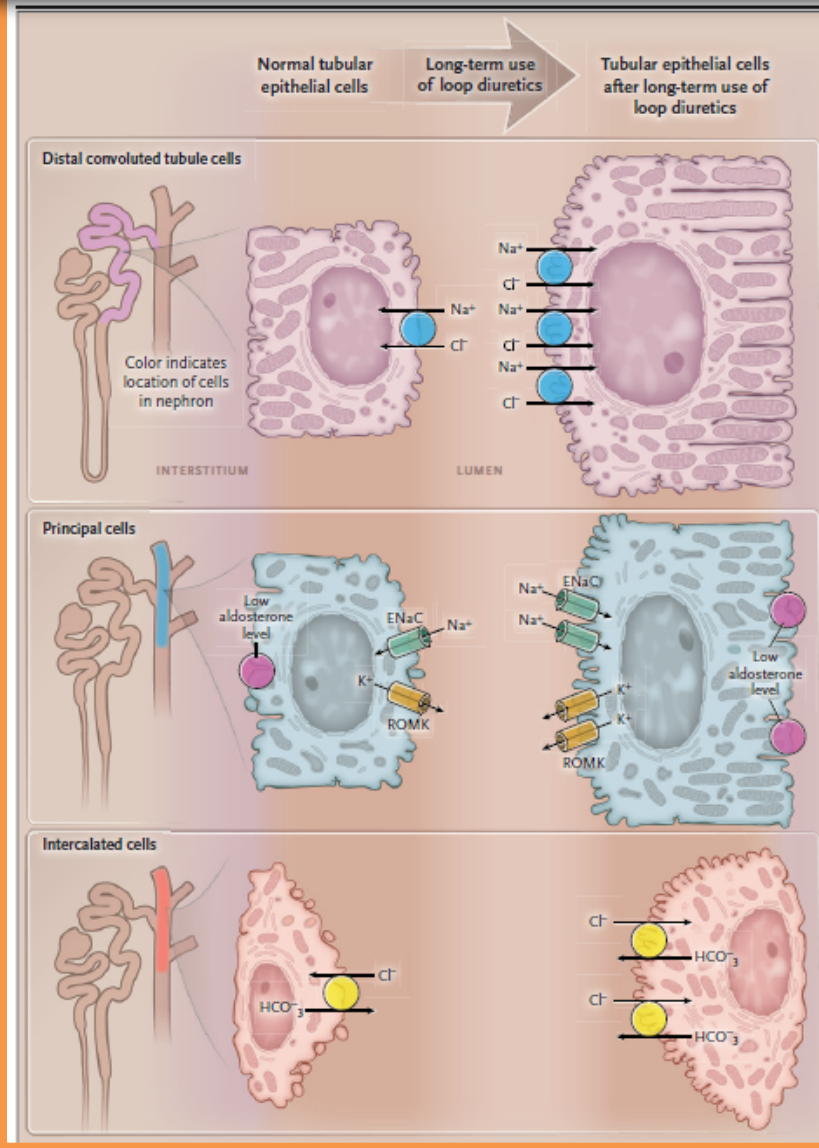
# Distal Nephron Remodeling

long-term use of loop diuretics

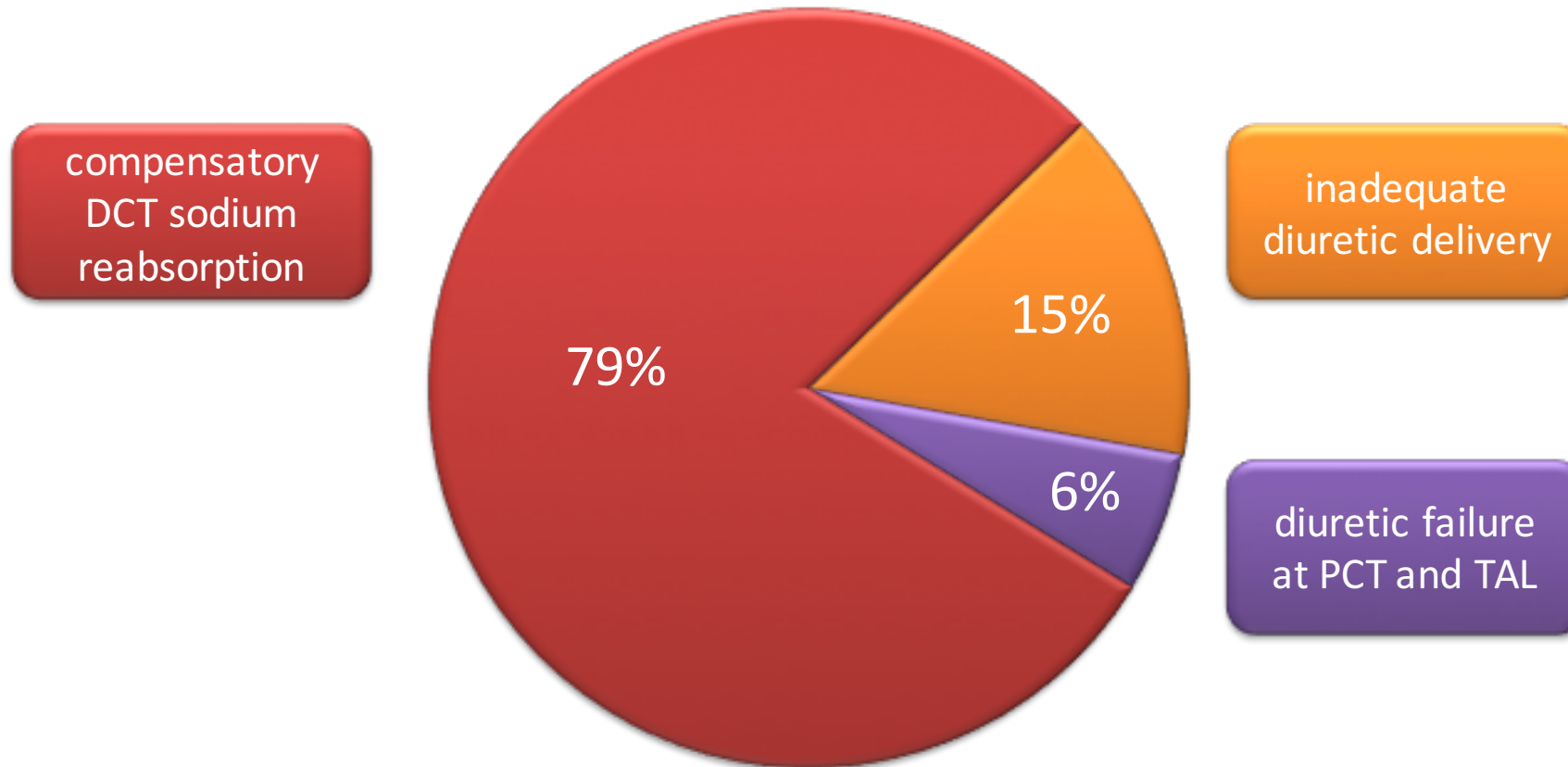
NCC

ENaC

Pendrin



# Diuretic Resistance is Driven by DCT



In humans, similar to rodents, distal tubular compensatory sodium reabsorption is a primary driver of DR

# What to do when diuresis/natriuresis is suboptimal?

Nesiritide



Dopamine



Hypertonic Saline



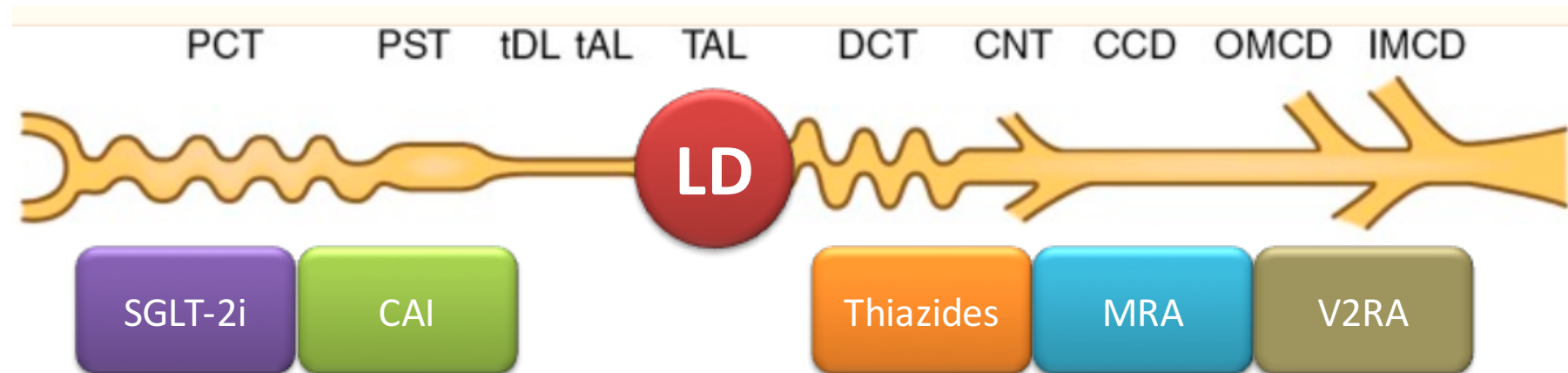
Sequential Nephron Blockade



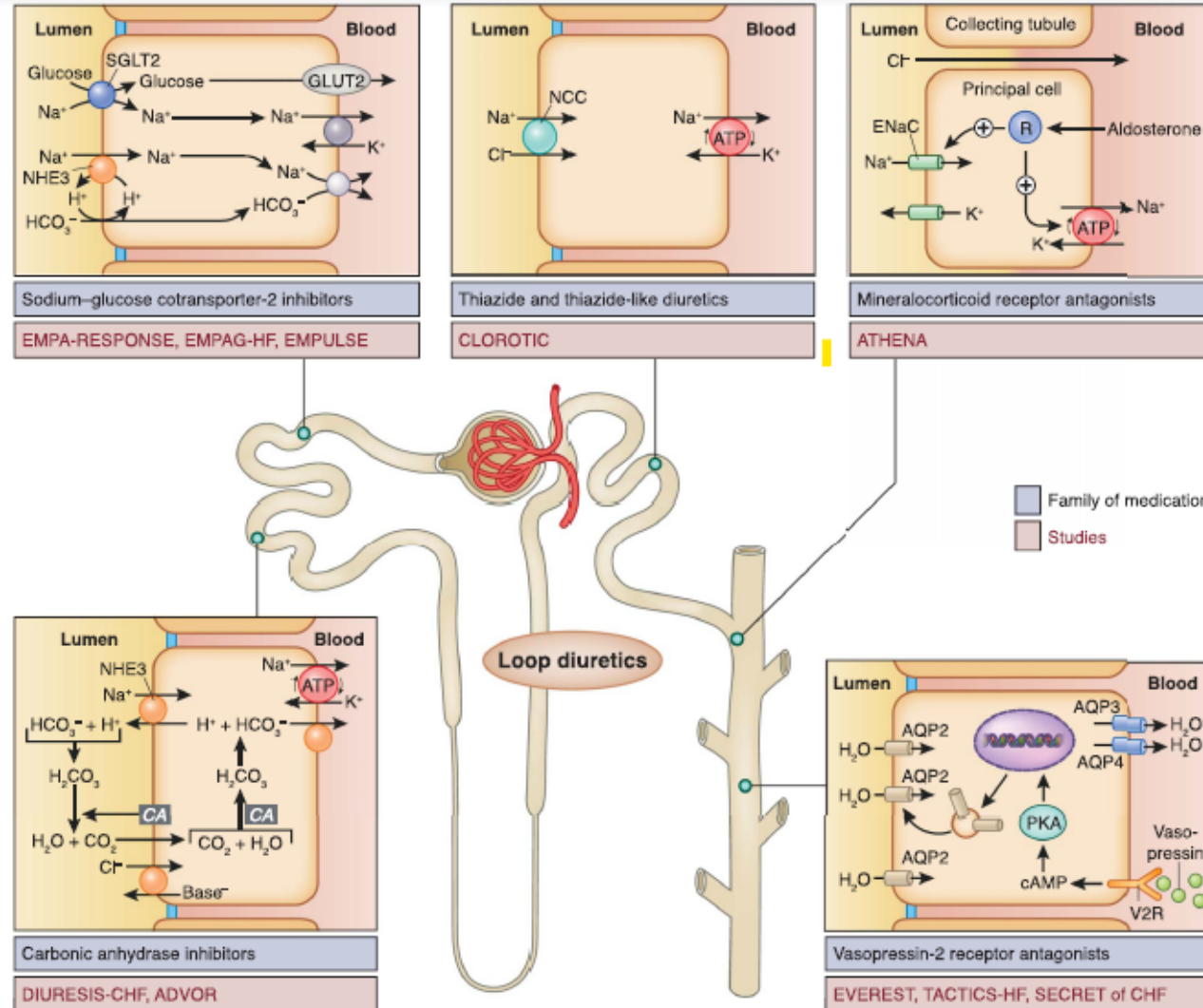
Extracorporeal Ultrafiltration



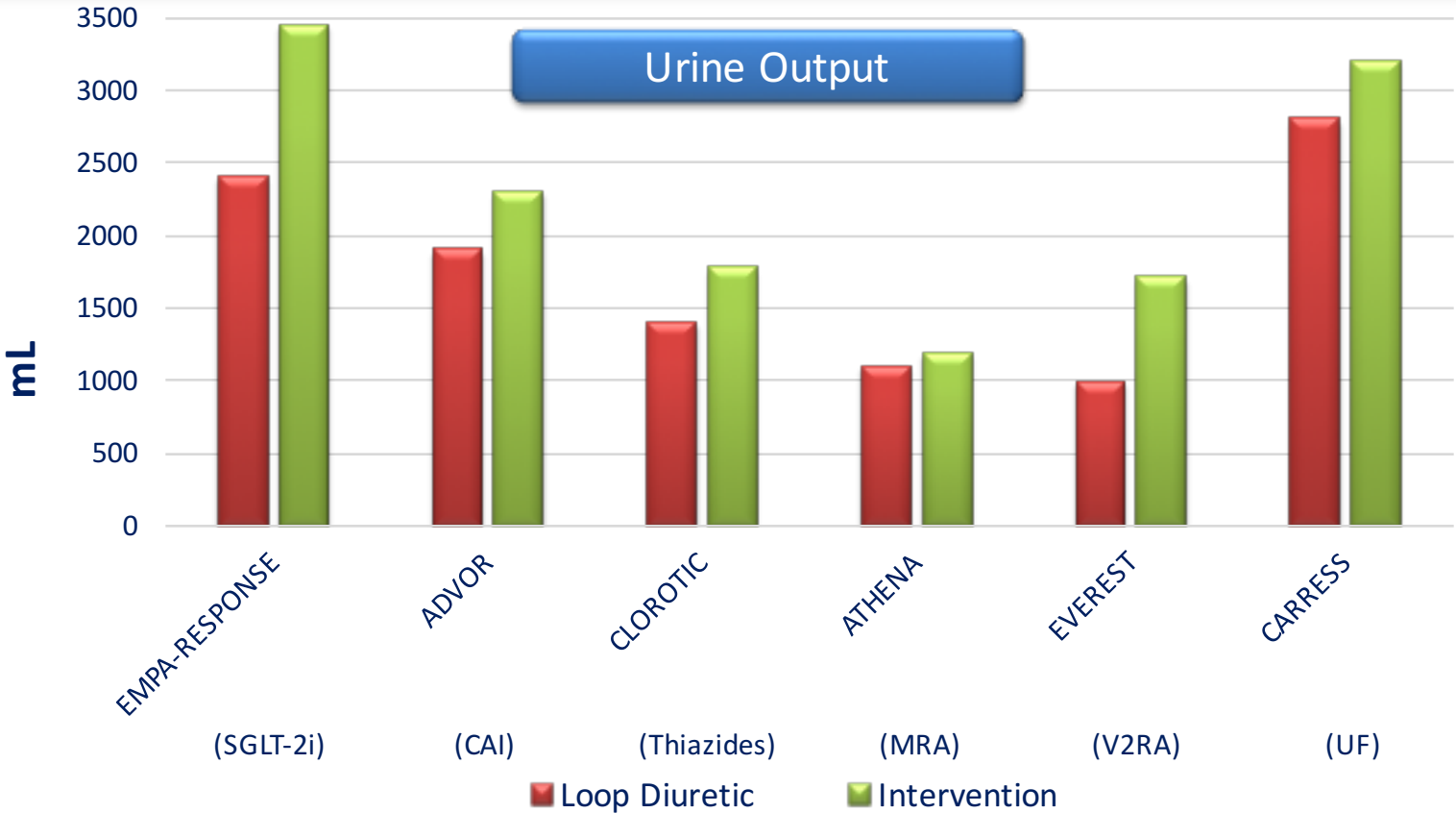
# Sequential Nephron Blockade



# Sequential Sodium Blockade in 2024



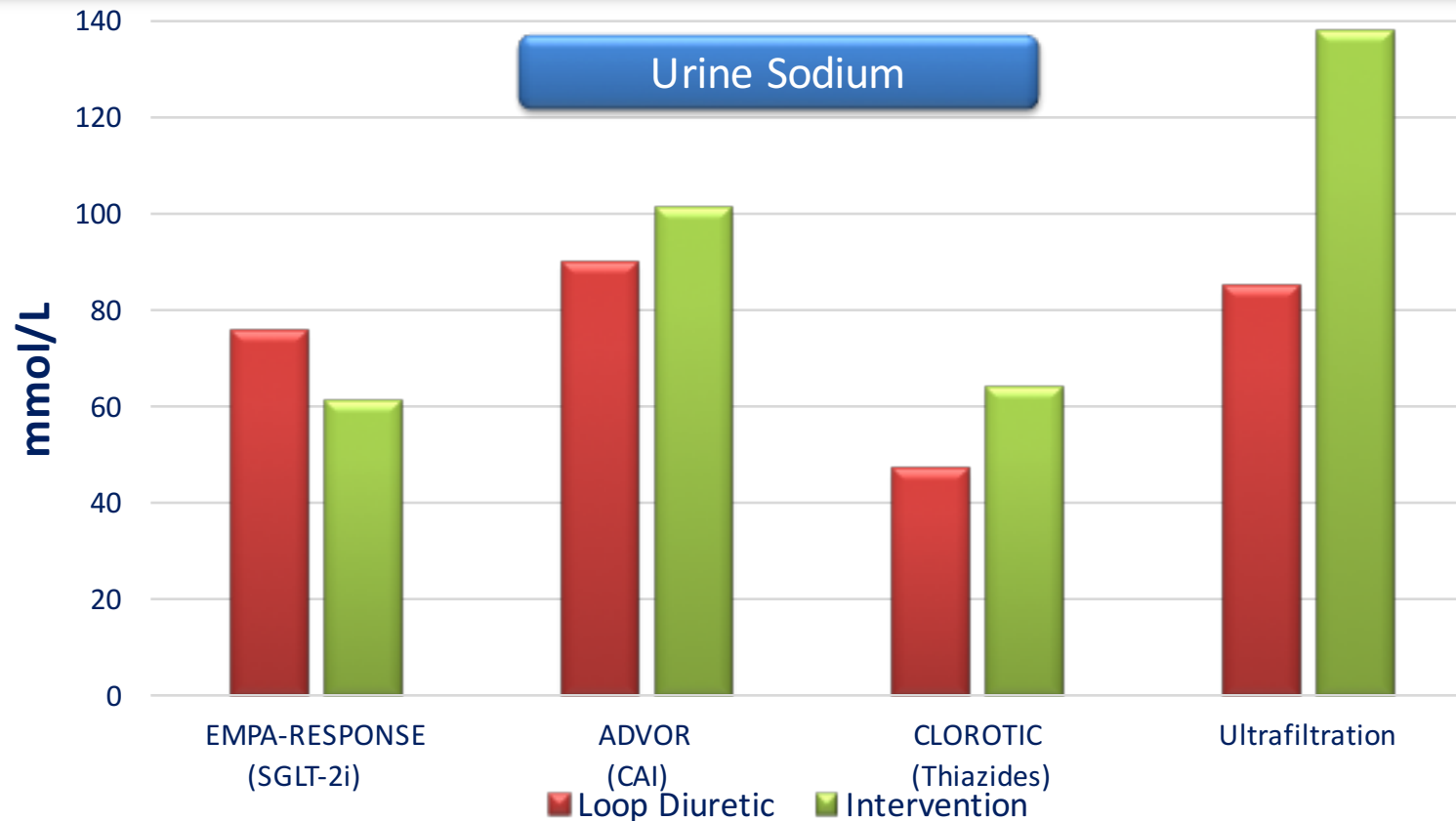
# CDT and Urine Volume



The difference in UOP is more pronounced for SGLT-2i and V2RA



# CDT and Urine Sodium



The difference in sodium concentration is more pronounced for Thiazides and ultrafiltration

# ULTRAFILTRATION

**“Practice of UF Therapy”:  
What did Landmark  
Clinical Trials Show?**

## UNLOAD

ADHF – 200 patients

Randomized within 24 hours  
of admission

Baseline Creatinine  
1.5 mg/dl

Primary Endpoint:  
changes in weight

Flexible UF (up to 500 ml/hr)

## CARRESS-HF

CRS – 186 patients

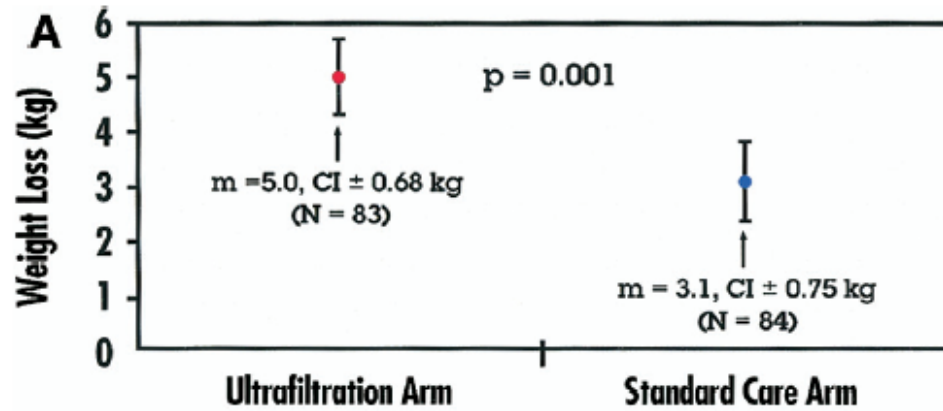
RSC 90 days before to 10  
days after admission

Baseline Creatinine  
2.0 mg/dl

Primary Endpoint: changes in  
weight and serum creatinine

Fixed UFR (200 ml/hr)

# UNLOAD



Decongestion: UF > DR  
RSC (WRF): UF = DR

# CARRESS-HF

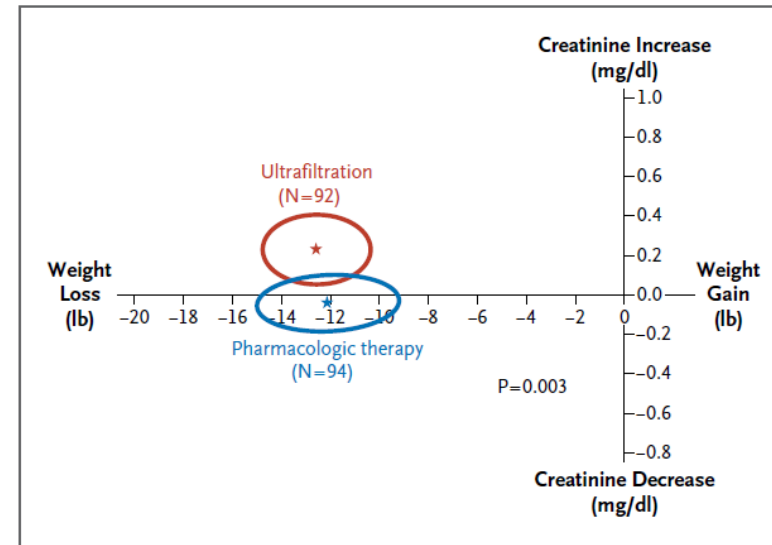
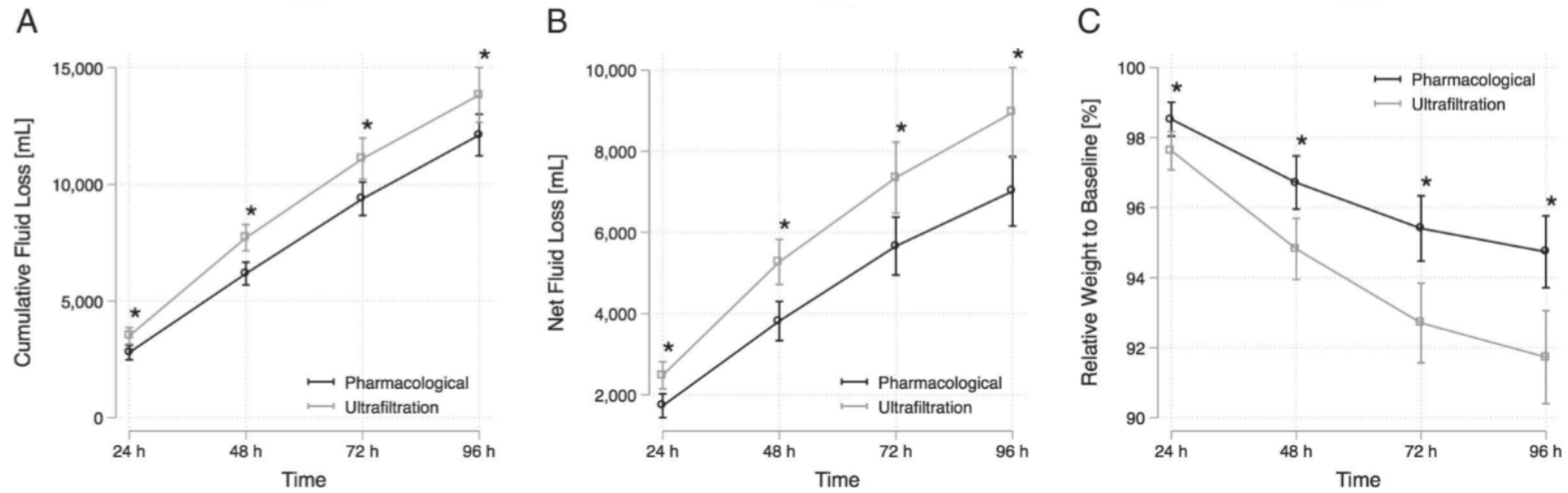


Figure 1. Changes in Serum Creatinine and Weight at 96 Hours (Bivariate Response).

Decongestion: UF = DR  
RSC (WRF): UF > DR

# CARRESS-HF

## per-protocol analysis

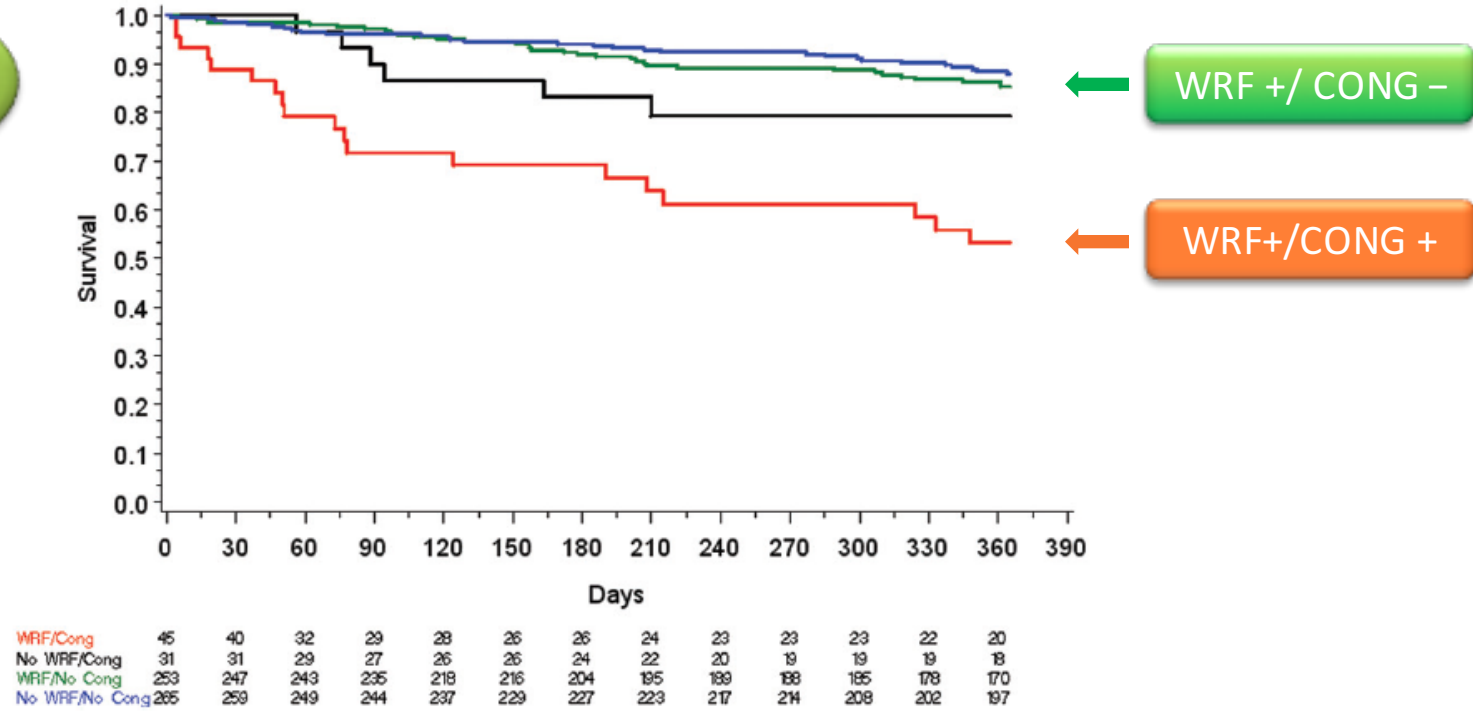


In contrast to the original trial (intention-to-treat), UF was associated with significantly more fluid loss and weight reduction

**Decongestion: UF > DR**

# Interplay of RSC (WRF)-De(Congestion)

599 patients



Endpoints: 1 year death or urgent transplantation

# AVOID-HF

ADHF – 224 patients

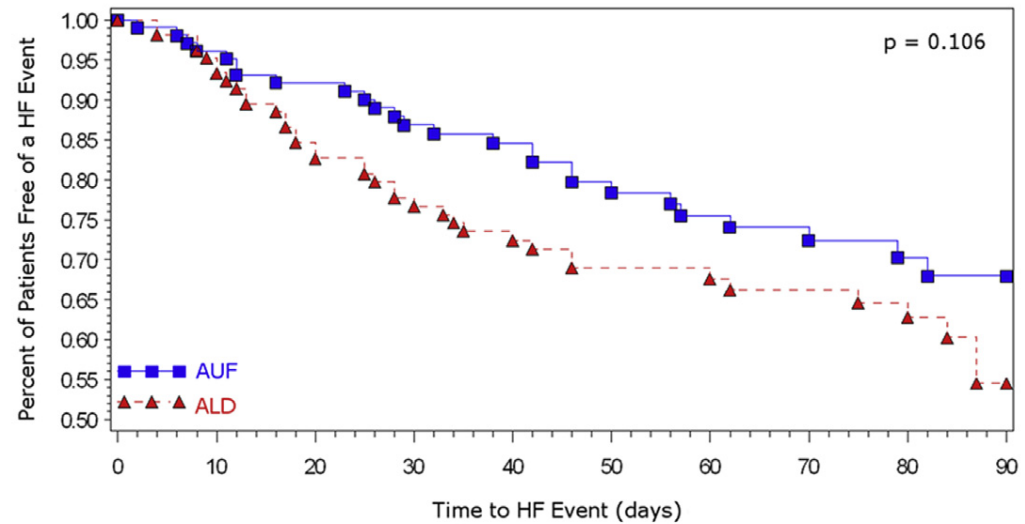
Randomized within 24 hours  
of admission

Baseline Creatinine  
1.5 mg/dl

Time to first HF event within  
90 days: Primary Endpoint

Adjustable UF

**FIGURE 2** Primary Endpoint: Time to Heart Failure Event after Discharge



**Fluid Removal: UF > DR**  
**HF Event: UF < DR**  
**RSC (WRF): UF = DR**



**Table IV.** Treatment guidelines for the aquapheresis arm

General comments:

1. Once an initial UF rate is chosen, avoid increasing the UF rate unless there are clear indications to do so.
2. Because patients' plasma refill rate usually declines as fluid is removed, it should be expected that UF rate will need to be decreased during the course of therapy.

A. Choose initial UF rate:

- SBP <100 mm Hg: 150 cc/h
- SBP 100-120 mm Hg: 200 cc/h
- SBP >120 mm Hg: 250 cc/h

General comments:

1. Once an initial UF rate is chosen, avoid increasing the UF rate unless there are clear indications to do so.
2. Because patients' plasma refill rate usually declines as fluid is removed, it should be expected that UF rate will need to be decreased during the course of therapy.

A. Choose initial UF rate:

- SBP <100 mm Hg: 150 cc/h
- SBP 100-120 mm Hg: 200 cc/h
- SBP >120 mm Hg: 250 cc/h

B. Decrease starting UF rate by 50 cc/h if any of the following are present:

- a. RV > LV systolic dysfunction
- b. sCr increase 0.3 mg/dL above recent baseline
- c. Baseline sCr > 2.0 mg/dL
- d. History of instability with diuresis or UF in the past

C. Reevaluate UF rate every 6 h:

1. Evaluate recent BP, HR, UO, net intake/output, sCr
2. Consider decreasing Aq. by 50 cc/h and checking STAT sCr (unless sent in past 2 h) if:

D. Consider completion of UF therapy if one of the following occurs:

1. Resolution of congestion (all of following):
  - a. Jugular venous pressure <8 cm H<sub>2</sub>O
  - b. No orthopnea
  - c. Trace or no peripheral edema
2. Best achievable dry weight has been reached
  - a. Evidence of poor tolerance of fluid removal

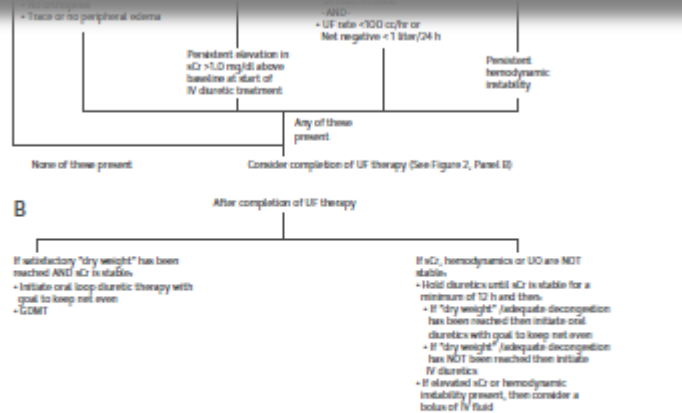
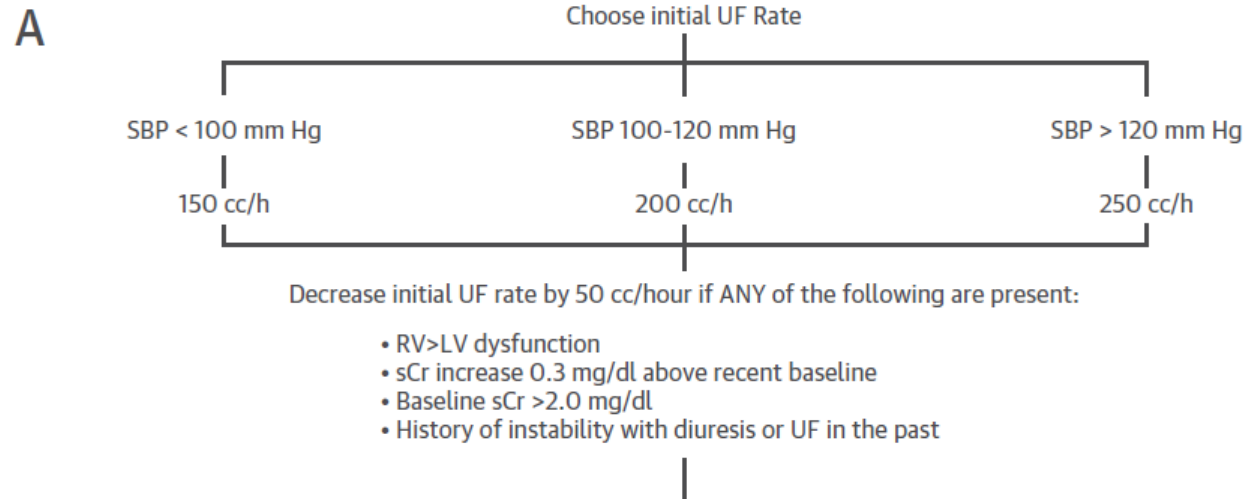
AND

- b. UF rate <100 cc/h or net negative <1 L/24 h
3. Persistent elevation in sCr >1.0 mg/dL above baseline at start of UF treatment
  4. Persistent hemodynamic instability

E. After completion of UF Therapy:

1. If satisfactory dry weight has been reached AND sCr is stable:
  - a. Initiate oral loop diuretics with goal to keep net even (new dose of loop diuretics may be less than baseline dose in some patients)
  - b. GDMT
2. If sCr, hemodynamics, or UO are NOT stable:
  - a. Hold diuretics until sCr is stable for minimum of 12 h, then:
    - i. If dry weight/adequate decongestion has been reached then initiate oral diuretics as above
    - ii. If dry weight/adequate decongestion has NOT been reached then initiate IV diuretics
  - b. If elevated sCr or hemodynamic instability persist, then consider bolus of IV fluids

**FIGURE 2** Adjustable UF Guidelines Used by the AVOID-HF Investigators



(A) Guidelines for the adjustment of UF therapy. (B) Guidelines for the completion of ultrafiltration therapy: 40 mg of furosemide = 1 mg bumetanide or 10 mg of torsemide (52,53). b.i.d. = twice daily; GDMT = guideline-directed medical therapy; IV = intravenous; JVP = jugular venous pressure; LV = left ventricular; QD = once daily; RV = right ventricular; SBP = systolic blood pressure; sCr = serum creatinine; UO = urine output; other abbreviations as in Figure 1.

Average  
UFR: 138 ml/h  
For 80 hours

# Optimal Ultrafiltration Protocol for ADHF and Fluid Overload

- 1) Patients selection (recurrent admissions)
- 2) Early initiation of UF
- 3) Withhold Diuretics during UF therapy
- 4) Use low UFR
- 5) Customize UF therapy on initiation
- 6) Revisit UFR frequently during therapy
- 7) Objectively monitor decongestion

# In the Pipeline: 2024

## Ultrafiltration versus IV Diuretics in Worsening Heart Failure (REVERSE-HF)

Multicenter, Open  
Label, RCT USA

Aqualex Smartflow<sup>®</sup>  
System

Adjustable UF vs.  
Adjustable Diuretics

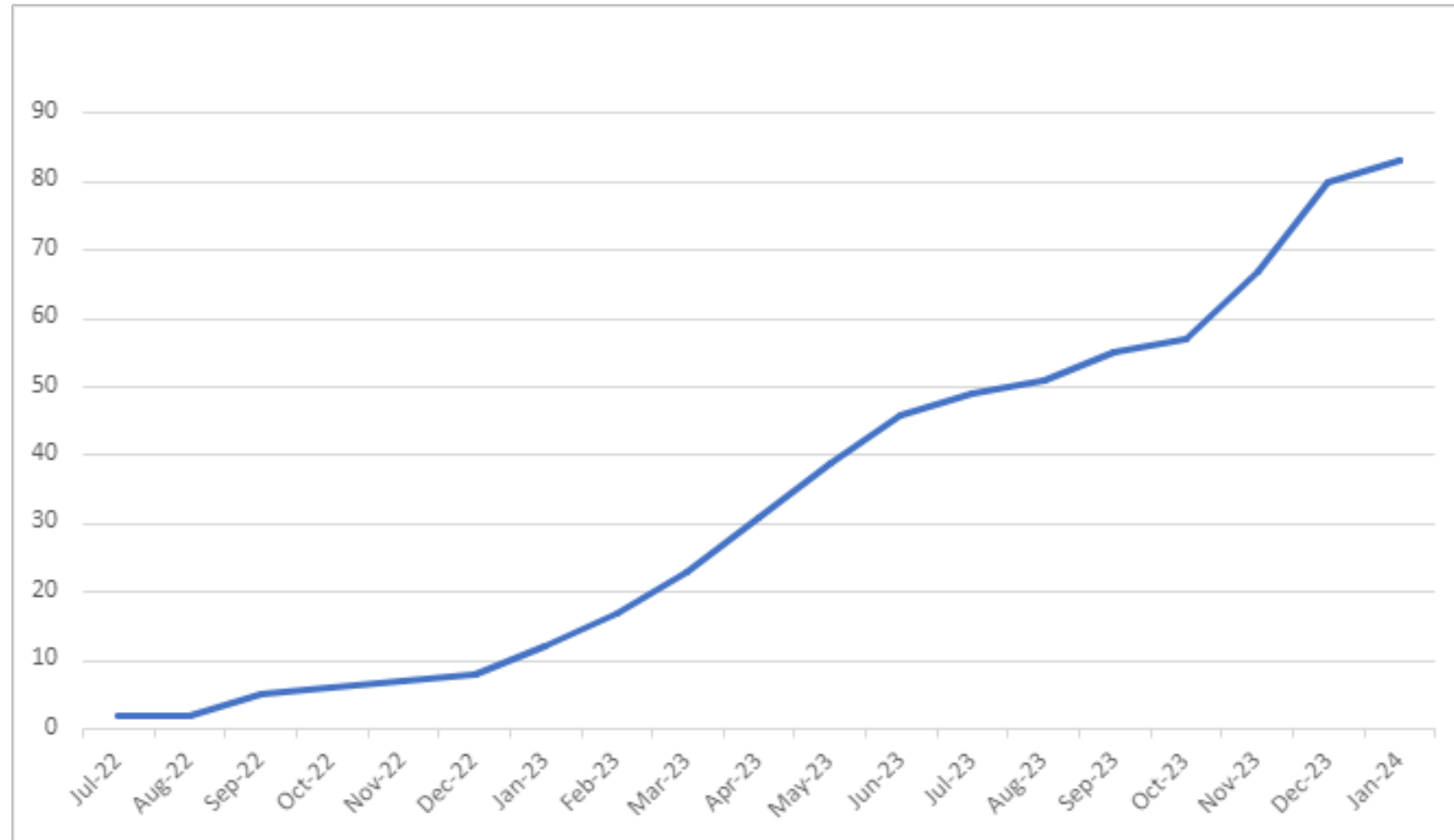
ADHF – 372 patients

6 months follow up

Endpoints: Time to  
first HF event (90 d),  
Mortality (90 d),  
HF event (30 d)

# In the Pipeline: 2024

REVERSE-HF Subjects Enrolled



# Case

A 65-year-old man with a history of CAD, HTN, HFrEF (EF 35%) is admitted to the Cardiac ICU for progressive dyspnea and a weight gain of 15 lbs over the last 1 month. His BP is 121/56, PR 14, RR 59, T 98.5. His home meds include lisinopril 40 mg/day, furosemide 40 mg BID, and Metoprolol XL 50 mg/day. CXR shows pulmonary edema.

He is started on IV furosemide 80 mg BID. The next day, his urine output is 450 ml and the labs show the following: Na 136, K 4.1, Cl 96, Bicarb 29, BUN 22, Creatinine 1.2

Which of the following is the best next step?

- 1) Check urine sodium
- 2) Add IV acetazolamide 500 mg once daily
- 3) Add Empagliflozin 10 mg once daily
- 4) Start HCTZ 25 mg once daily
- 5) Start ultrafiltration

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He is started on IV furosemide 80 mg BID. The next day, his urine output is 450 ml and the labs show the following: Na 136, K 4.1, Cl 96, Bicarb 29, BUN 22, Creatinine 1.2

Which of the following is the best next step?

- 1) Check urine sodium [**PUSH-HF**]
- 2) Add IV acetazolamide 500 mg once daily [**ADVOR**]
- 3) Add Empagliflozin 10 mg once daily [**EMPA-RESPONSE**]
- 4) Start HCTZ 25 mg once daily [**CLOROTIC**]
- 5) Start ultrafiltration [**ADVOR**]



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MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

# *Thank You...*

*E-mail: [Amir.Kazory@medicine.ufl.edu](mailto:Amir.Kazory@medicine.ufl.edu)*

*X (Twitter): [@AmirKazory](https://twitter.com/AmirKazory)*

