

# Antithrombotic treatment after stroke due to intracerebral haemorrhage (ICH): harmful or beneficial?

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# My disclosures



## Salary (paid to me)



## Grants (paid to employer)



## Consultancies (paid to employer)



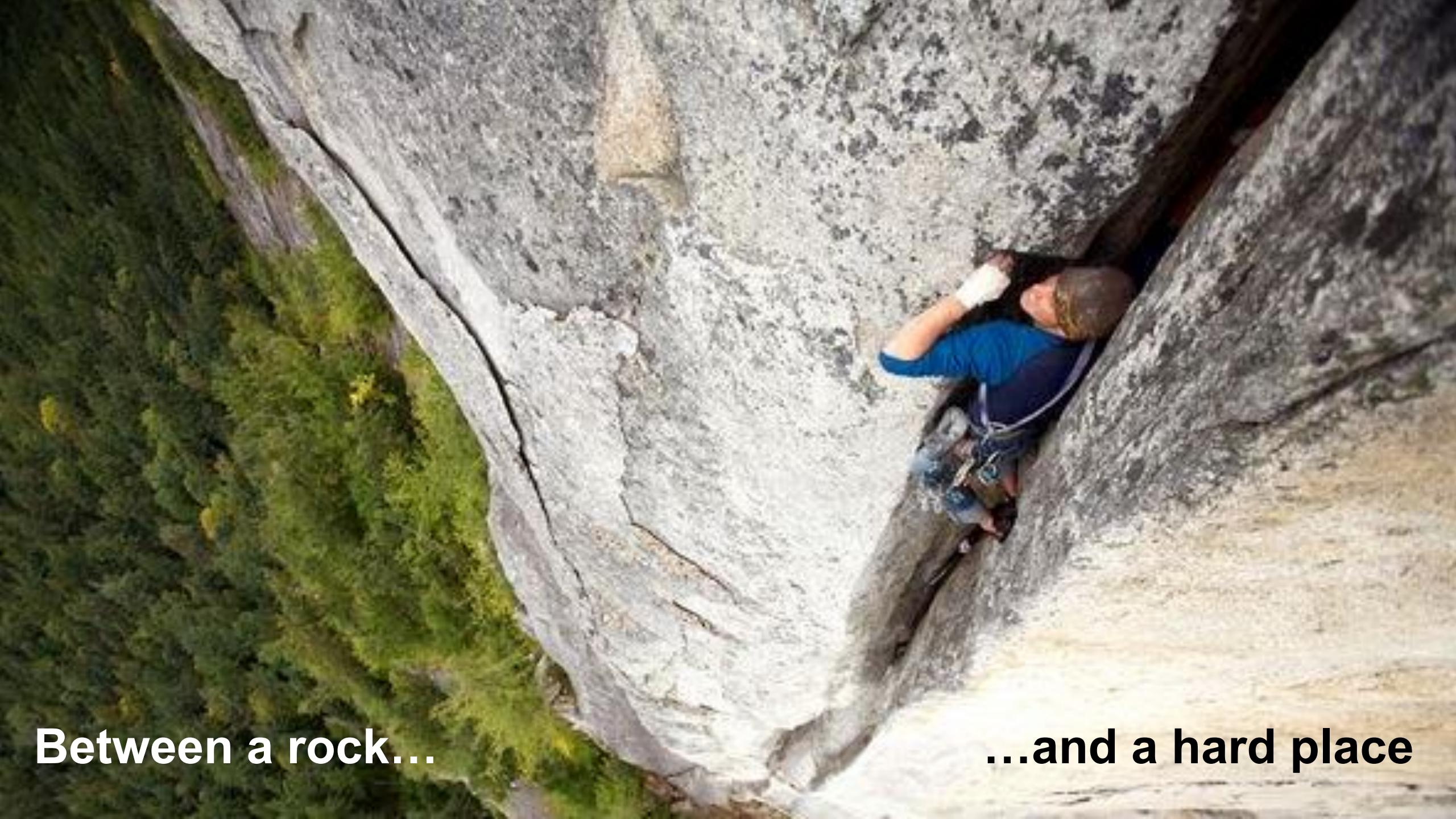
# My disclosures







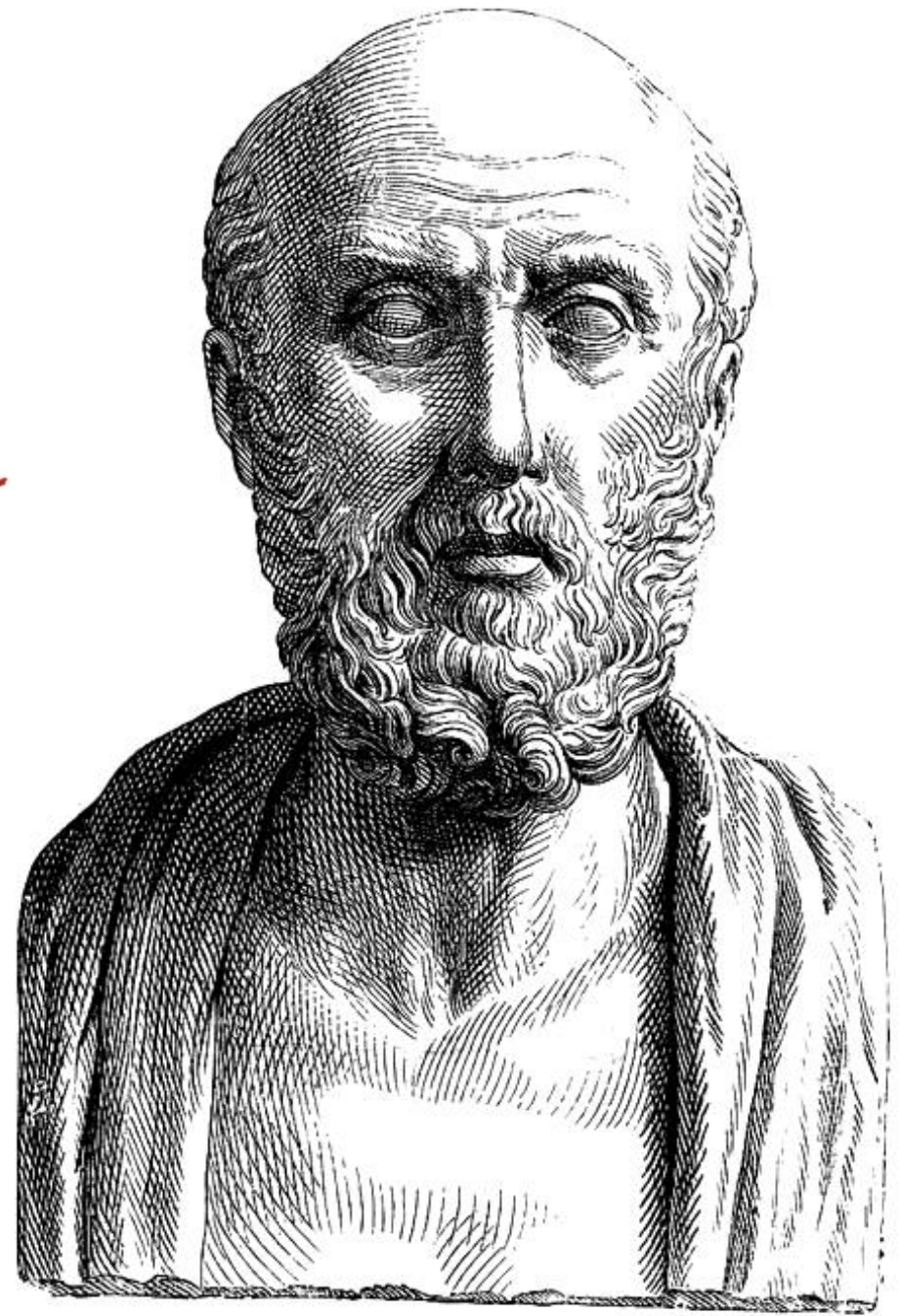




**Between a rock...**

**...and a hard place**



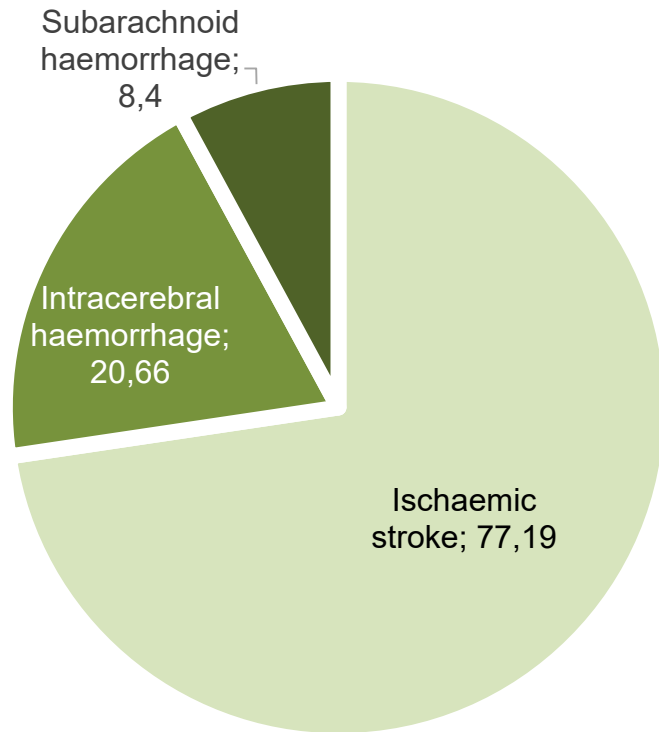


# Reality check: global burden of stroke

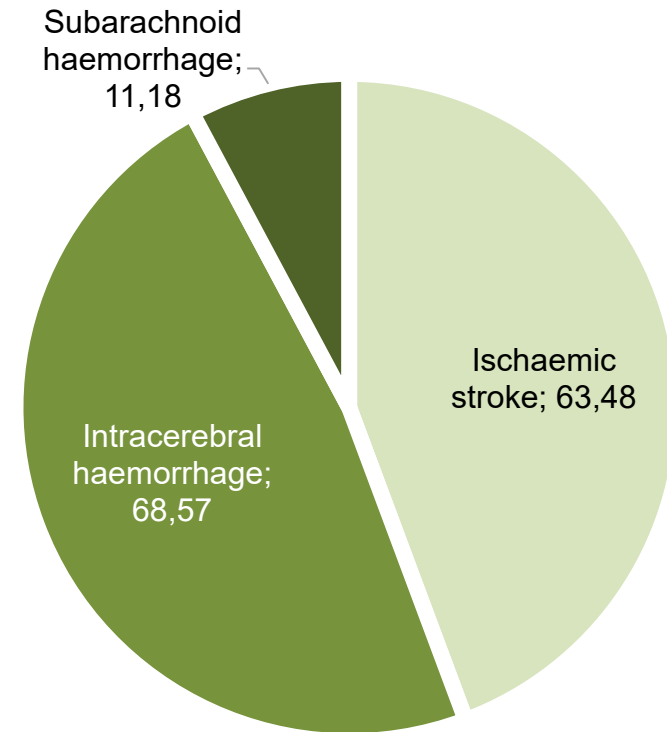


CELEBRATING 20 YEARS  
OF COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION

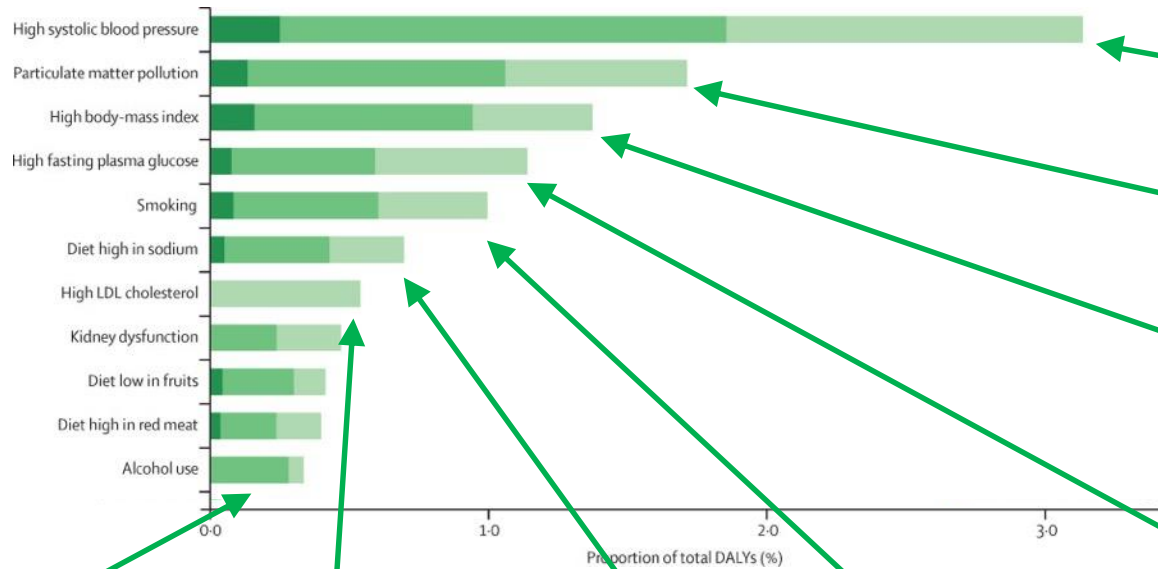
## Prevalence (millions) in 2019



## DALYs (millions) in 2019



# What are the main risk factor contributions to DALYs due to ICH?



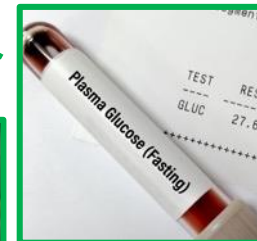
High systolic BP



Particulate matter pollution



High body mass index



High fasting plasma glucose



Smoking



Diet (salt etc)



High HDL cholesterol



Alcohol use



**Risks**



**Risk factors**



**Treatment effects**



**Heterogeneity  
of treatment effect**





**Risks**



**Risk factors**



**Treatment effects**



**Heterogeneity  
of treatment effect**

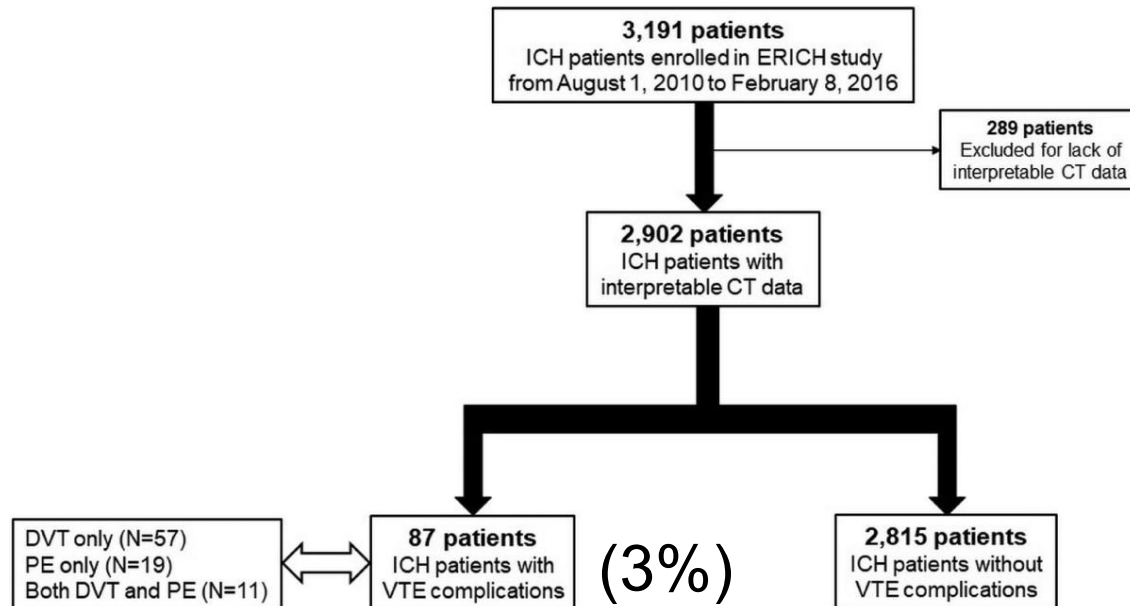




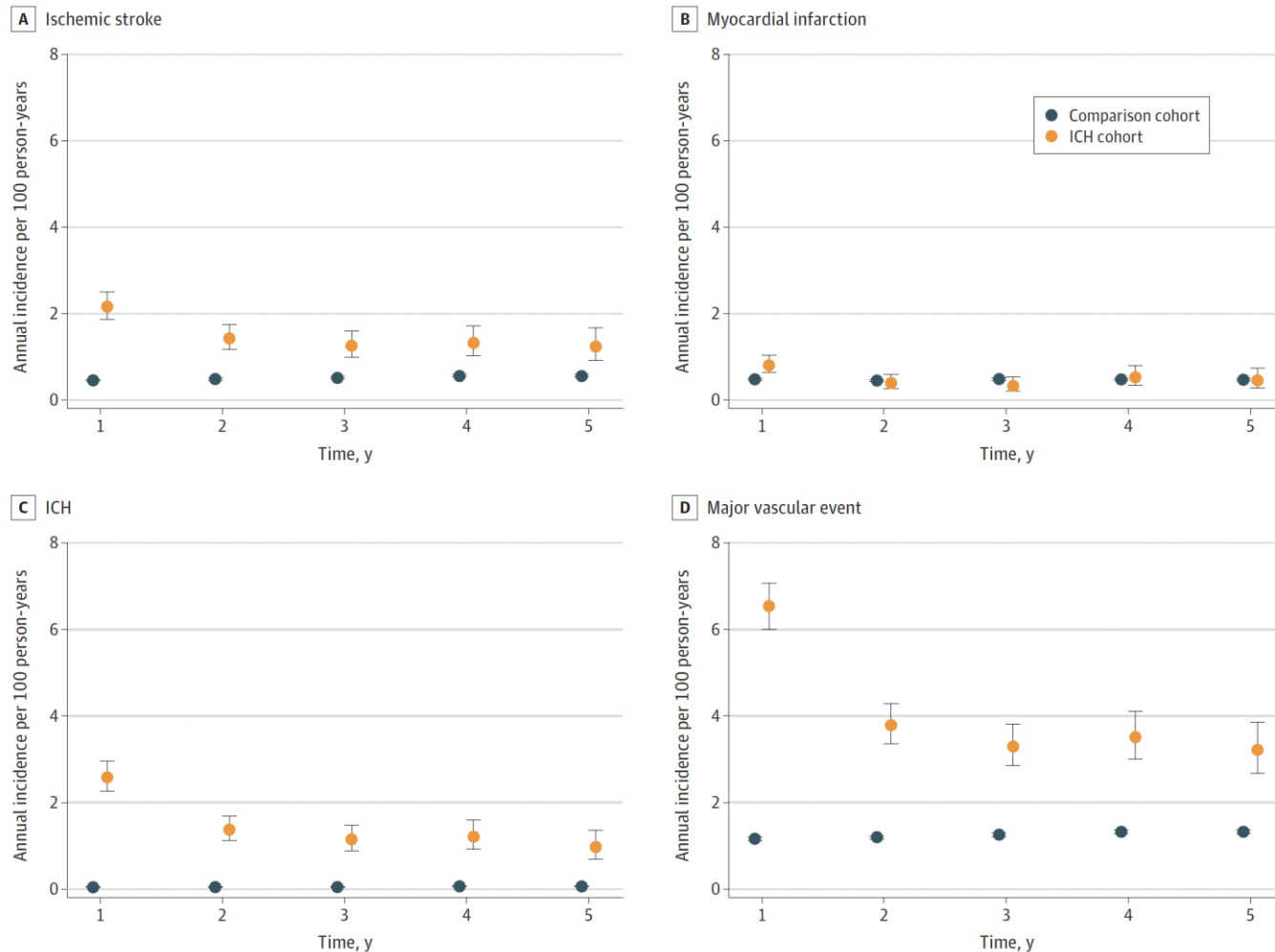
# Risk of venous thromboembolism (VTE) after ICH

Ethnic/Racial Variations of Intracerebral Hemorrhage study

## Multicentre cohort study



# Risks of major adverse cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events (MACE) after ICH





**Risks**



**Risk factors**



**Treatment effects**



**Heterogeneity  
of treatment effect**



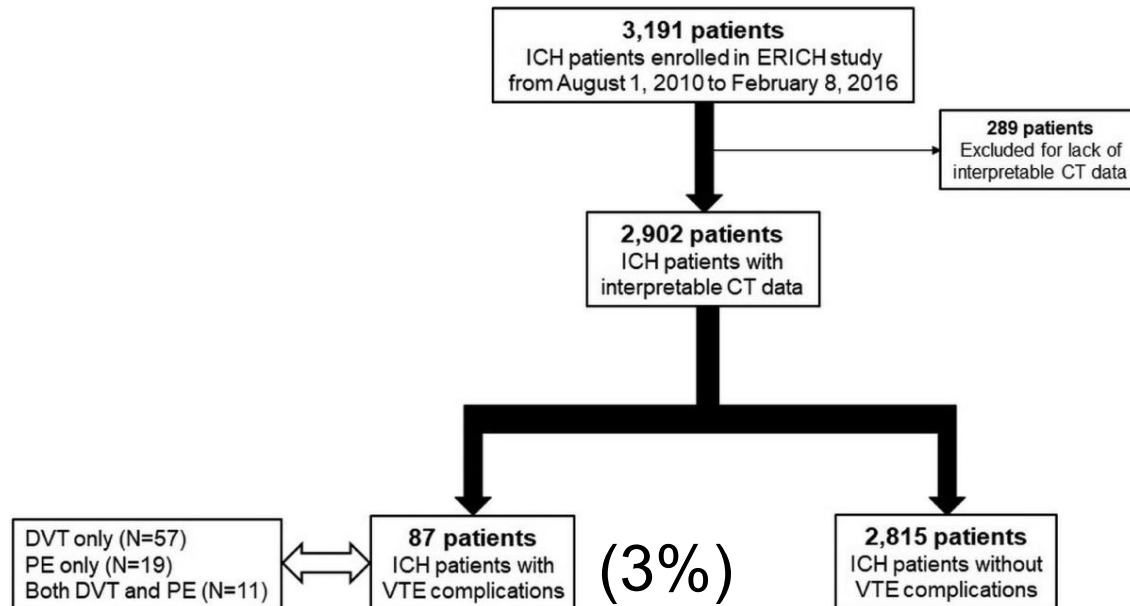


# Risk factors for VTE after ICH

Ethnic/Racial  
Variations of  
Intracerebral  
Hemorrhage study

## Multicentre cohort study

## Independent risk factors



Predictor	OR (95%CI)	p
Prior VTE	6.8 (3.4-13.4)	<0.0001
Intubation	4.0 (2.4-6.5)	<0.0001
IVH	1.8 (1.1-2.9)	0.0157

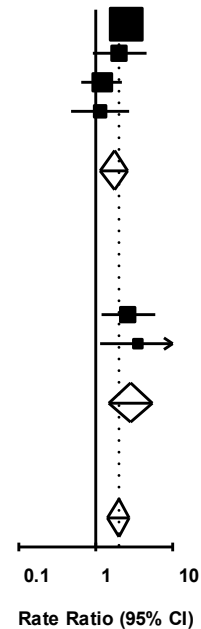


# Risk factors for recurrent ICH and ischaemic stroke, after ICH

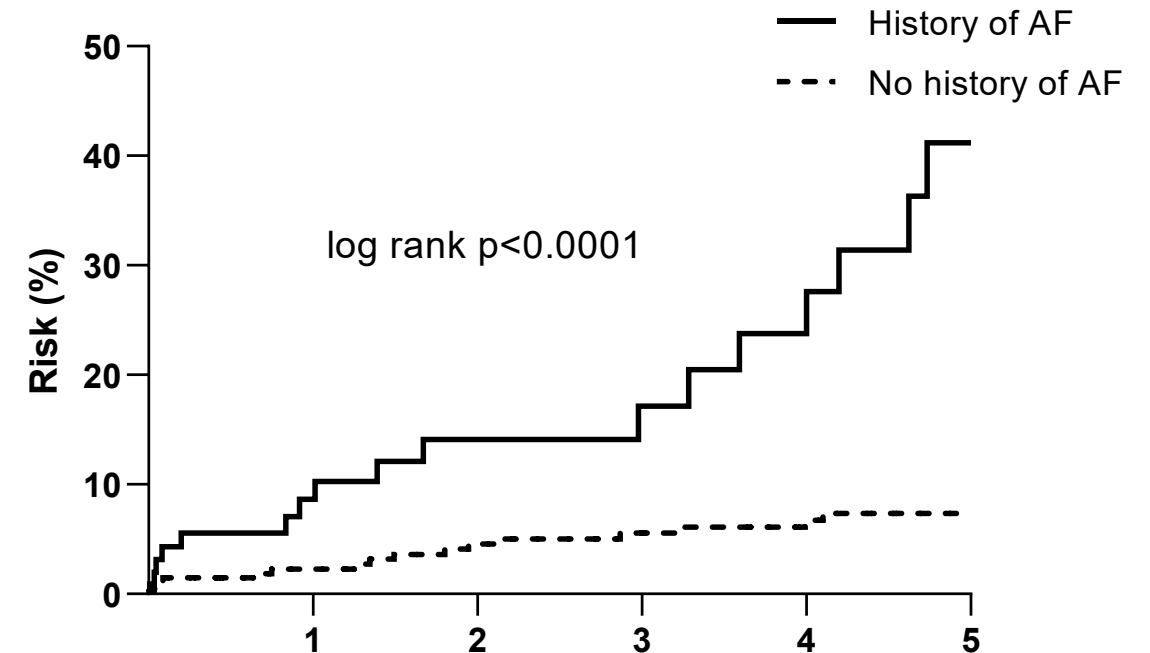


## Recurrent ICH: lobar vs. non-lobar

Study	Events / Patient-years		RR	95% CI
	Lobar	Non-lobar		
<b>Hospital-based studies</b>				
Biffi	102 / 1308	44 / 1375	2.4	1.7-3.5
Casolla	13 / 690	11 / 1170	2.0	0.9-4.5
Chong	17 / 776	25 / 1374	1.2	0.7-2.2
Zia	9 / 360	11 / 500	1.1	0.5-2.8
Total	141 / 3134	91 / 4419	1.7	1.2-2.6
Significance: p = 0.008 Heterogeneity: p = 0.15				
<b>Population-based studies</b>				
LATCH	22 / 384	9 / 404	2.6	1.2-5.9
OxVASC	11 / 275	4 / 351	3.5	1.1-11.0
Total	33 / 659	13 / 755	2.8	1.5-5.5
Significance: p = 0.002 Heterogeneity: p = 0.66				
<b>TOTAL</b>	174 / 3793	104 / 5174	2.0	1.4-2.7
Significance: p < 0.0001 Heterogeneity: p = 0.25				



## Ischaemic stroke: atrial fibrillation (AF) vs. no AF



# High risks of MACE in all sub-groups



Pooled community-based studies in Oxford and Edinburgh, stratified by two risk factors

Annual outcome event rate, % per year (95% CI)

	Recurrent ICH	Ischaemic stroke	MACE
AF and lobar ICH	4.4 (1.6-11.6)	7.3 (3.5-15.4)	14.6 (8.6-24.6)
AF and non-lobar ICH	3.6 (1.3-10.3)	5.6 (2.5-12.4)	14.9 (5.8-38.2)
No AF and lobar ICH	5.2 (3.6-7.5)	0.9 (0.2-4.8)	9.1 (6.6-12.6)
No AF and non-lobar ICH	1.6 (0.9-2.9)	0.9 (0.2-4.8)	5.0 (1.9-13.1)

*Lancet Neurology* 2021;20:437-47 (Oxford 2002-2018, Edinburgh 2010-2013)



**Risks**



**Risk factors**



**Treatment effects**



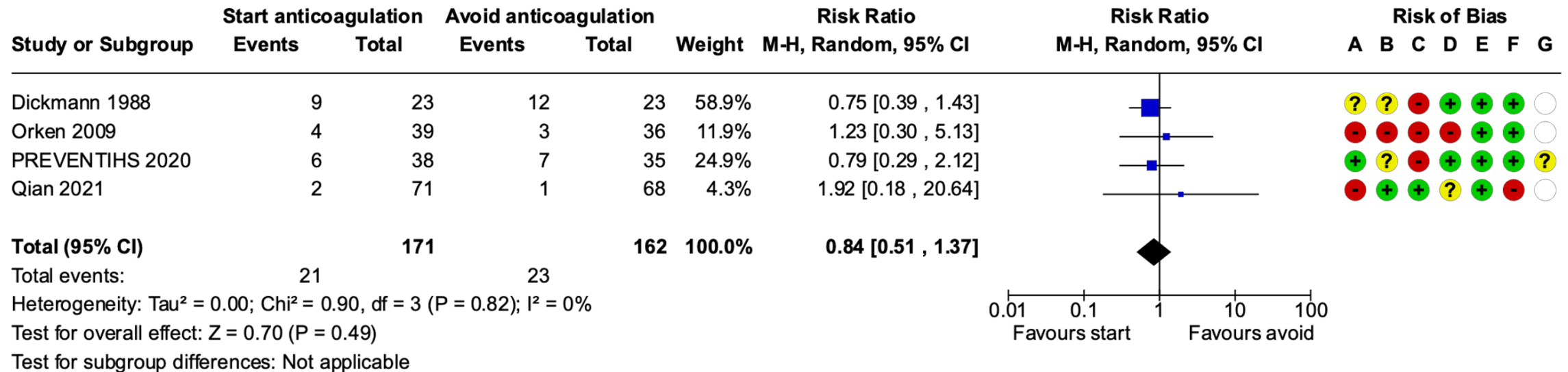
**Heterogeneity  
of treatment effect**



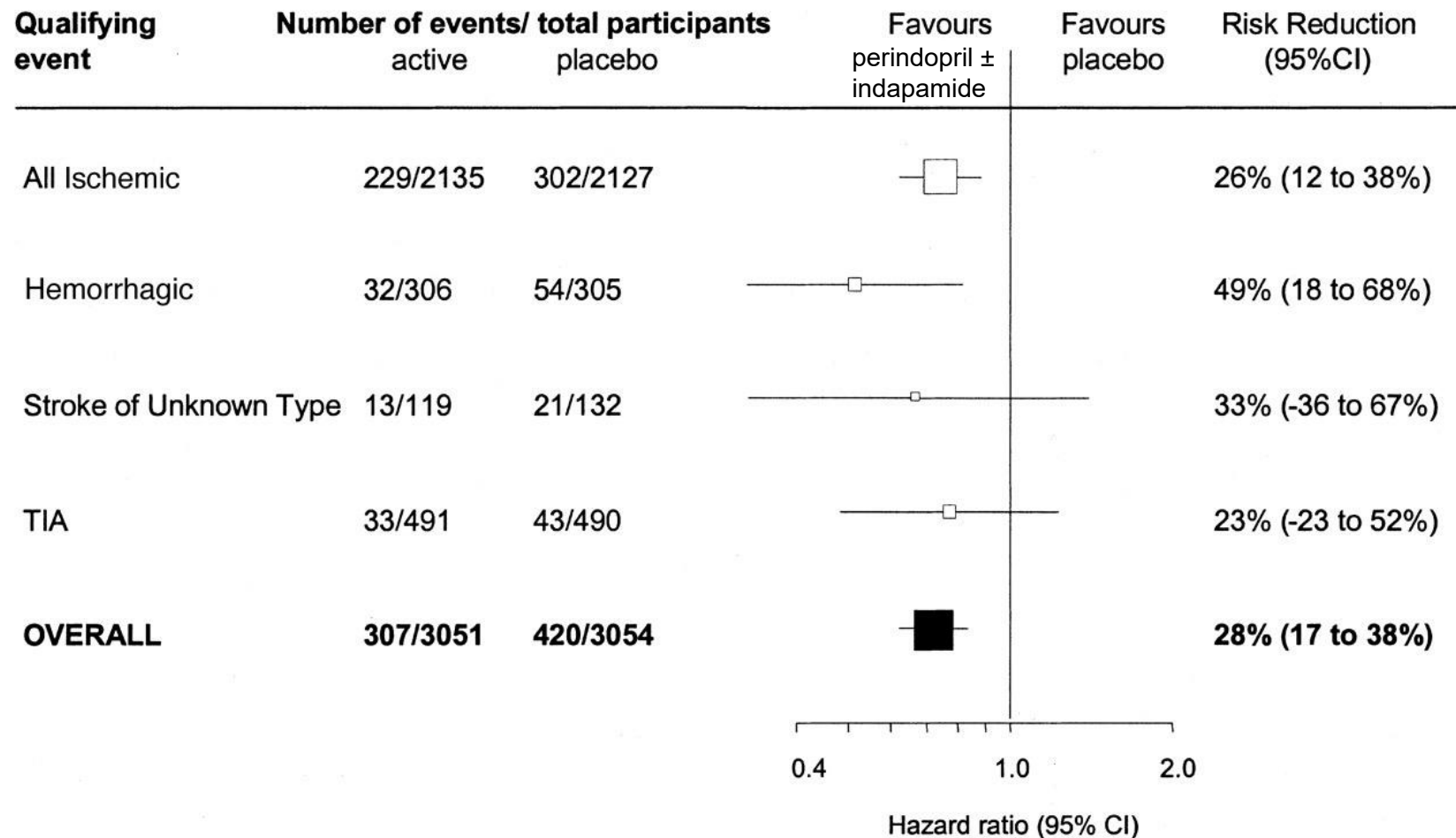


# Effect of short-term prophylactic dose anticoagulation after ICH on VTE

## Uncertain effects in small randomised controlled trials (RCTs)



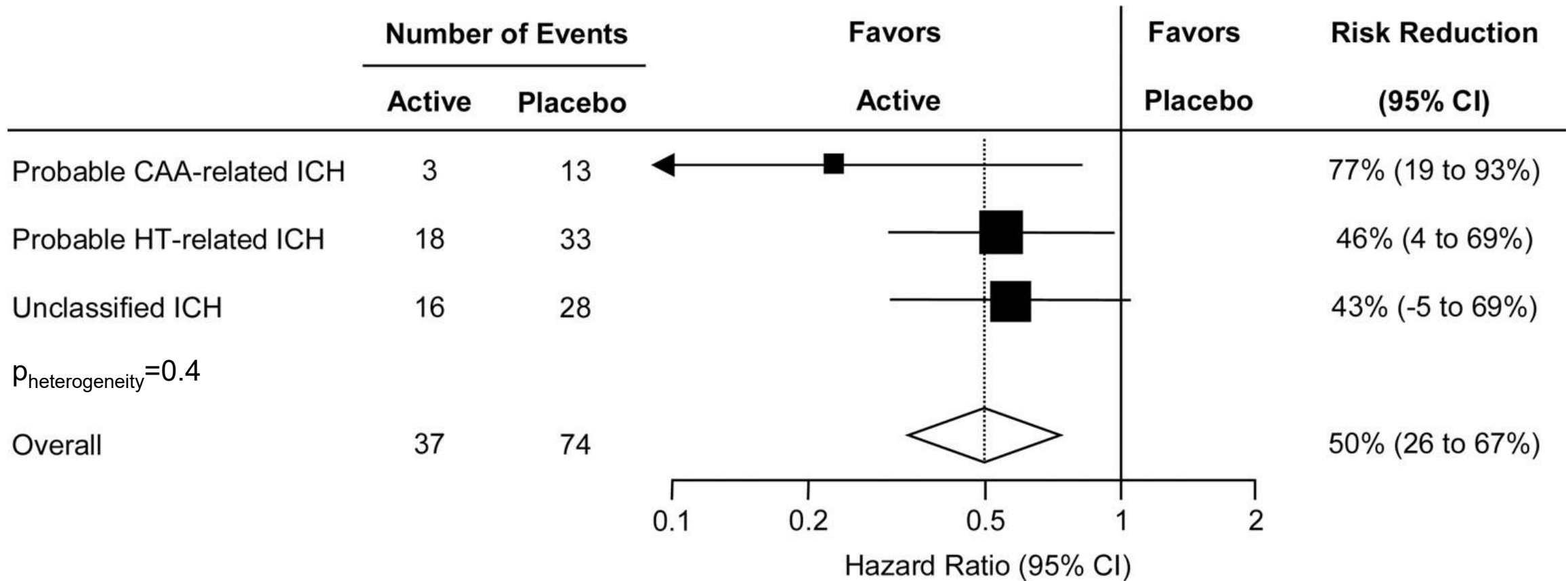
# Secondary prevention: BP lowering reduced recurrent stroke after ICH in PROGRESS



*Lancet* 2001;358:1033, *Stroke* 2004;35:116



# Secondary prevention: BP lowering reduced recurrent stroke, regardless of ICH sub-type



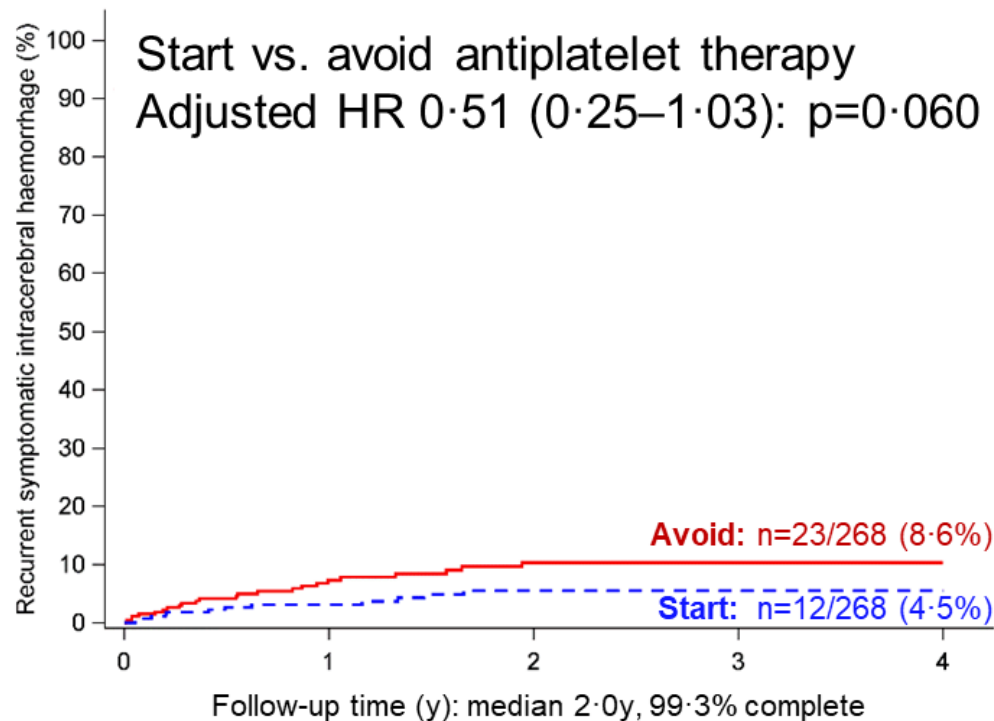
# Start vs. avoid antiplatelet agents after ICH



REstart or  
STop  
Antithrombotics  
Randomised  
Trial



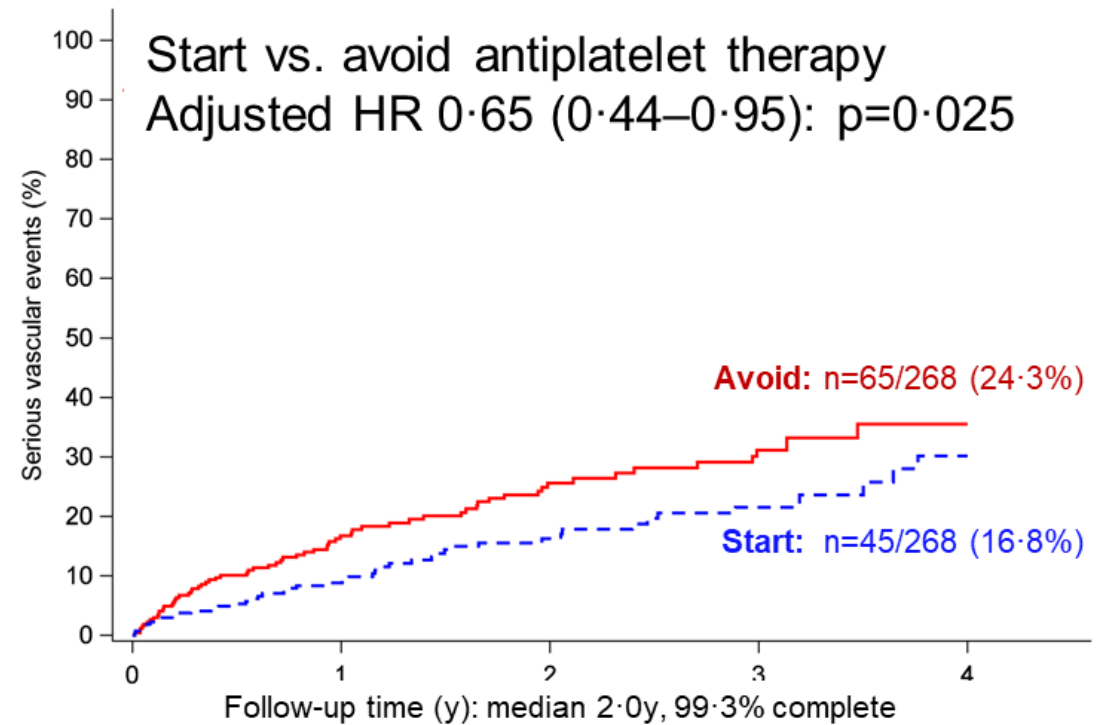
## Primary outcome: recurrent ICH



Patients-at-Risk (No. Cumulative Events)

	0	1	2	3	4
Avoid	268 (0)	184 (18)	121 (23)	73 (23)	22 (23)
Start	268 (0)	190 (8)	122 (12)	72 (12)	25 (12)

## MACE

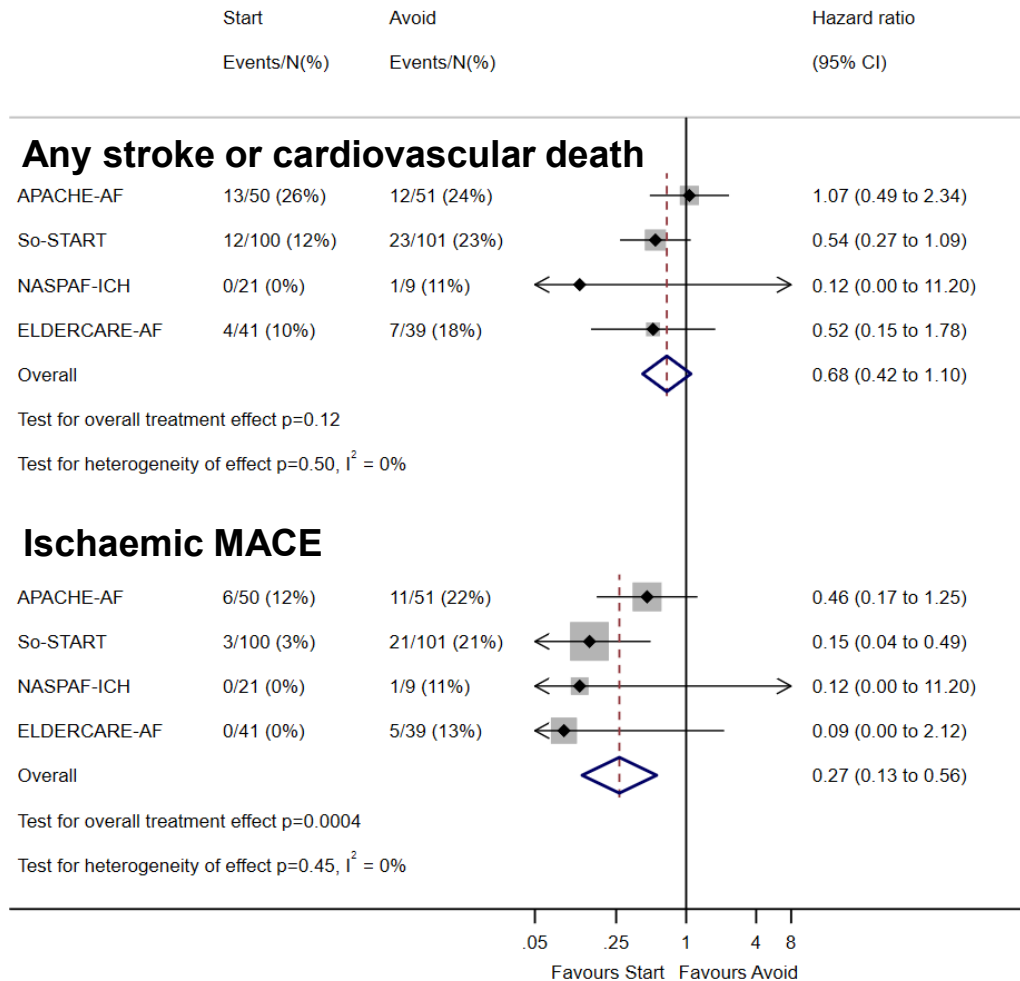


Patients-at-Risk (No. Cumulative Events)

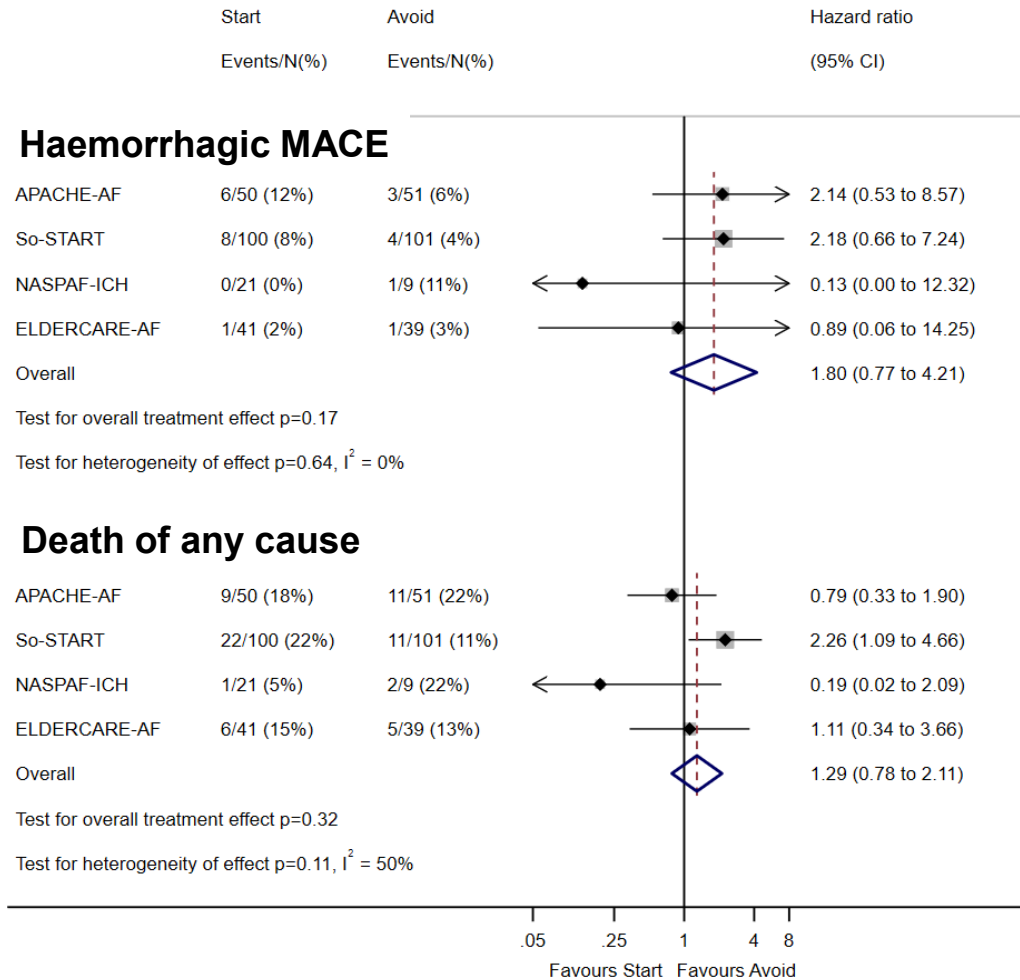
	0	1	2	3	4
Avoid	268 (0)	169 (42)	105 (57)	63 (63)	18 (65)
Start	268 (0)	185 (22)	115 (35)	66 (41)	21 (45)



# Start vs avoid oral anticoagulation (OAC) for AF after ICrH



# Start vs avoid OAC for AF after ICrH





**Risks**



**Risk factors**



**Treatment effects**



**Heterogeneity  
of treatment effect**

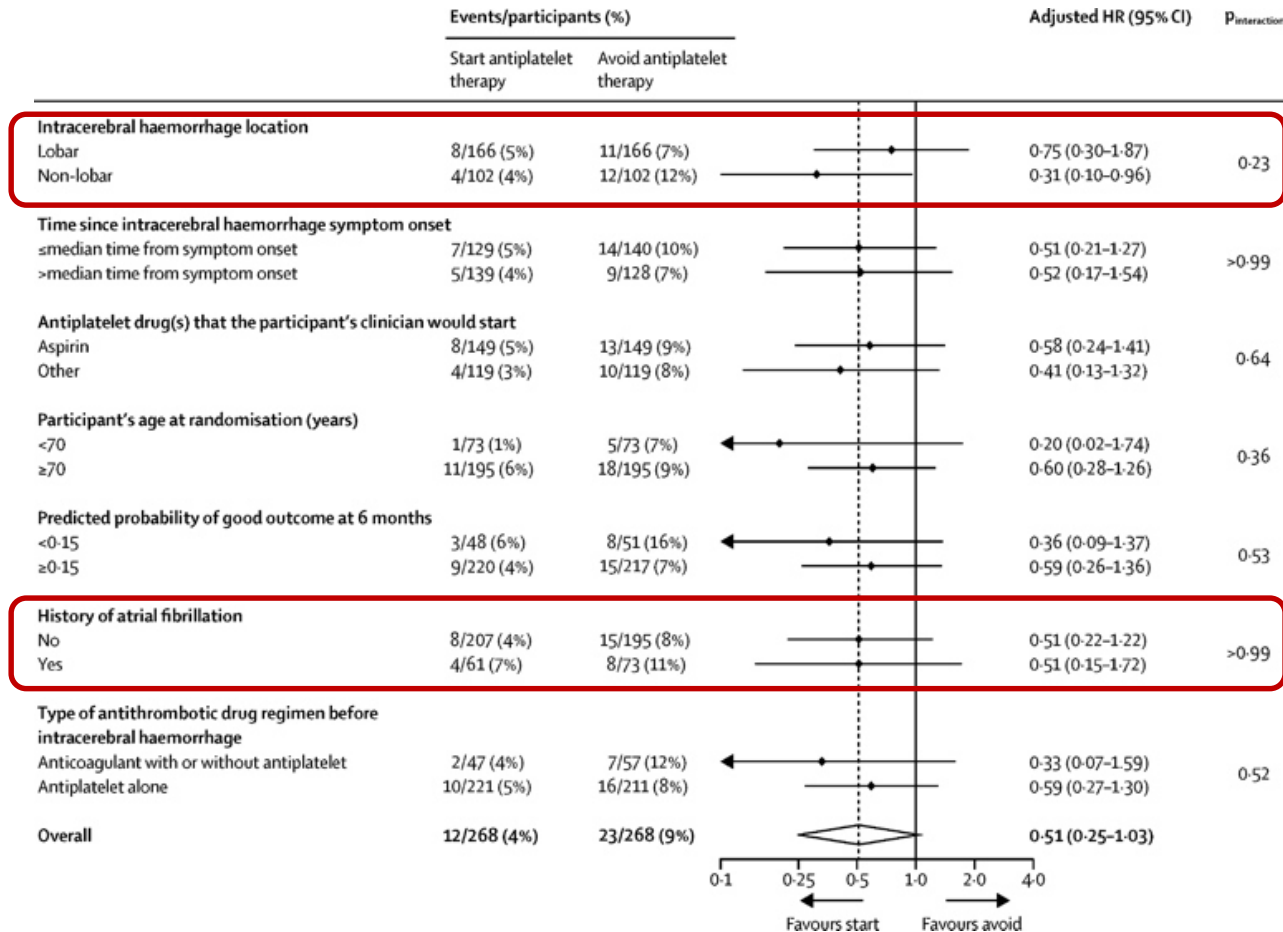




# Antiplatelet agent effects on recurrent ICH in sub-groups

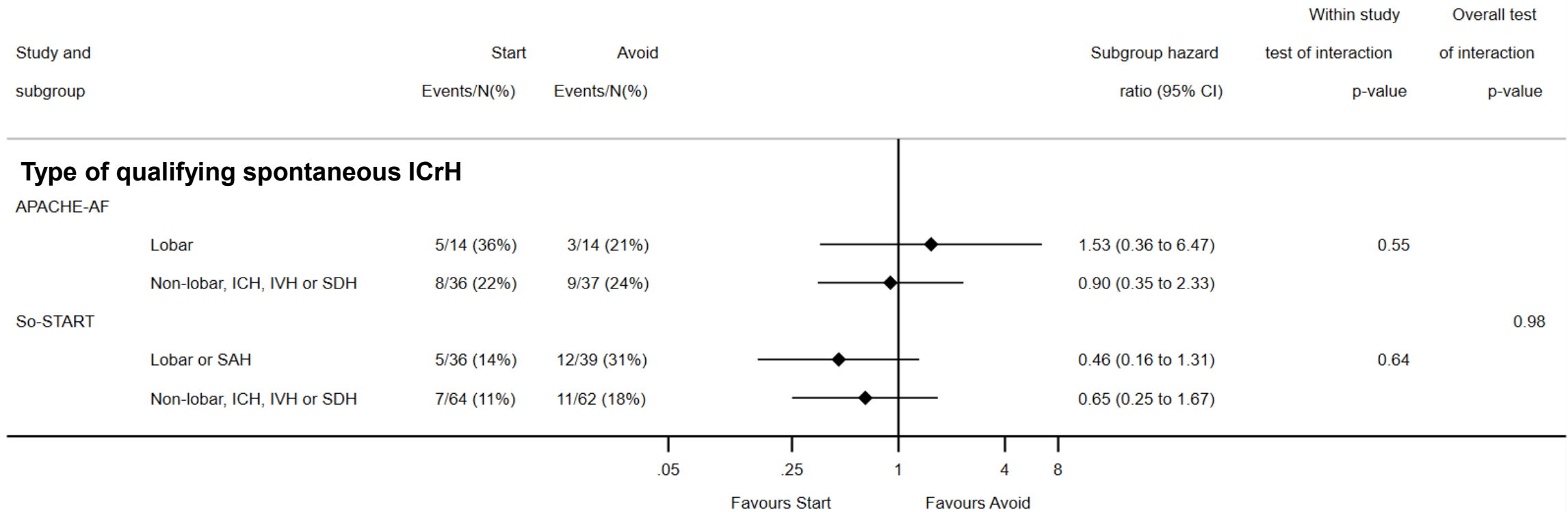


REstart or  
STOP  
Antithrombotics  
Randomised  
Trial





# OAC for AF after ICrH effects on stroke / cardiovascular death in sub-groups



# OAC for AF after lobar ICH / convexity SAH in the ongoing ENRICH-AF trial

Correspondence

## Anticoagulation in patients with cerebral amyloid angiopathy

Survivors of intracranial haemorrhage with atrial fibrillation are a population that have a heightened risk of future ischaemic stroke and recurrent intracranial haemorrhage.<sup>1</sup> In the absence of definitive randomised evidence to guide antithrombotic prophylaxis in these patients, current guidelines recommend individualised decisions that weigh a patient's absolute risks of thromboembolism and recurrent haemorrhage.<sup>2</sup> Intracranial haemorrhage can occur from different underlying causes, with different rates of disease progression

with non-anticoagulant medical treatment for stroke prevention in survivors of intracranial haemorrhage with atrial fibrillation. ENRICH-AF is currently enrolling patients at 239 hospitals in 20 countries. Following a safety review of the first 699 patients (174 [25%] of 699 with lobar intracranial haemorrhage and 34 [5%] of 699 with convexity subarachnoid haemorrhage), the ENRICH-AF data safety monitoring board (DSMB) recommended that participants with lobar intracranial haemorrhage and convexity subarachnoid haemorrhage stop receiving the drug as soon as possible and that no further patients with these intracranial haemorrhage subtypes be enrolled. The DSMB indicated that

convexity subarachnoid haemorrhage with atrial fibrillation outside of ongoing randomised trials until more data become available on the net benefit of anticoagulation in these high-risk subgroups of patients.

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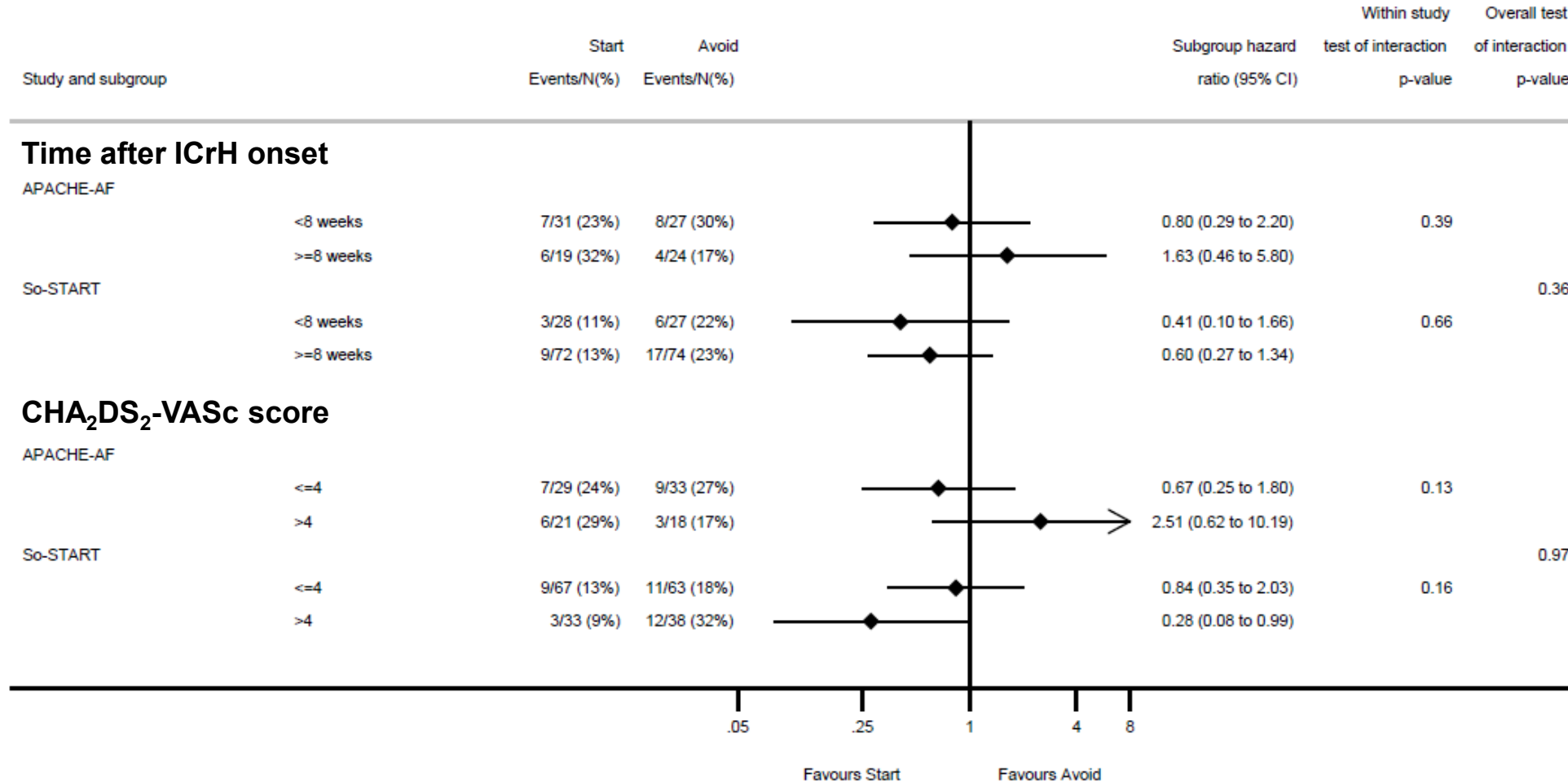
Ashkan Shoamanesh, on behalf of the  
\*ENRICH-AF Steering Committee  
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# OAC for AF after ICrH effects on stroke / cardiovascular death in sub-groups





**Risks**



**Risk factors**



**Treatment effects**



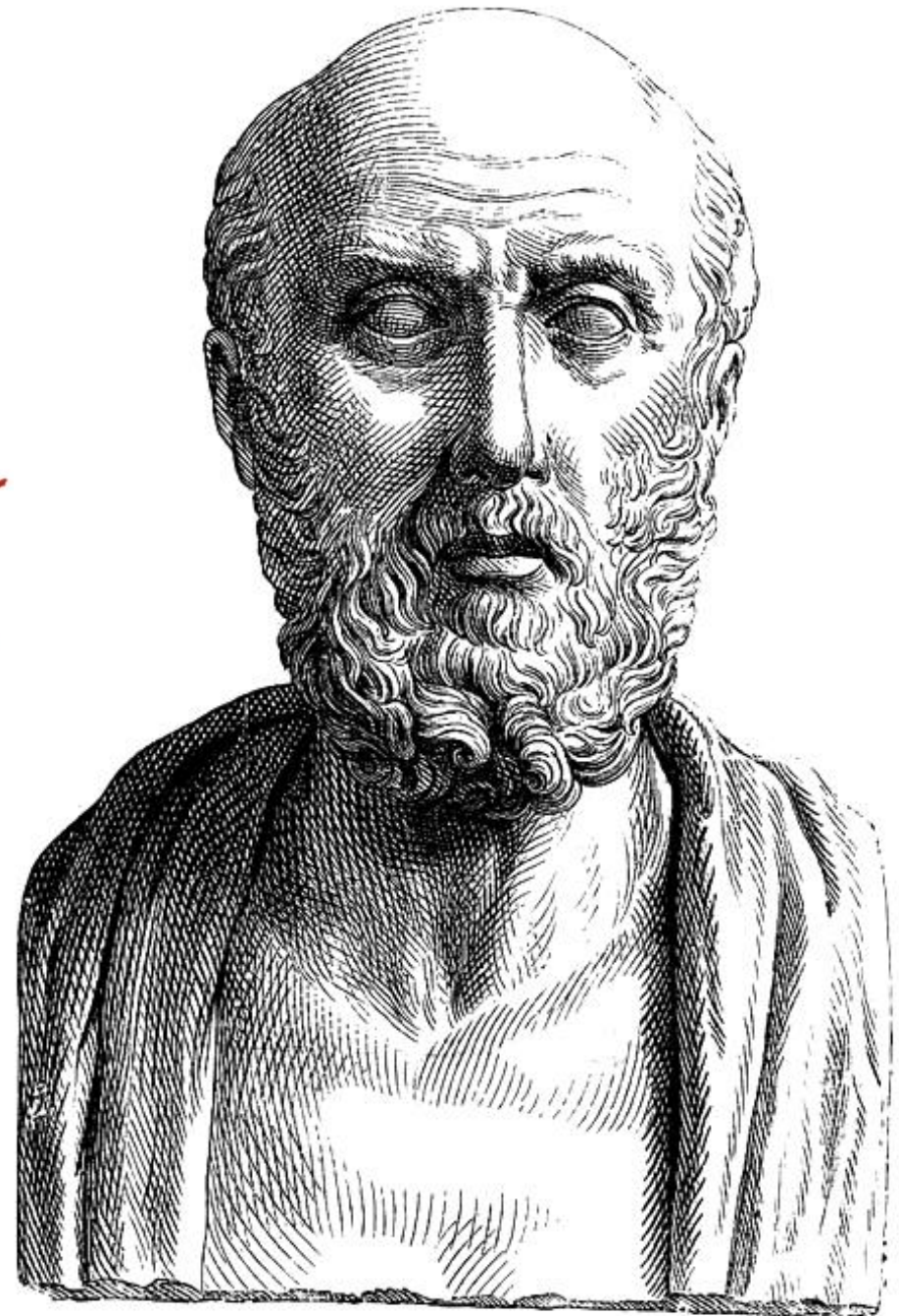
**Heterogeneity  
of treatment effect**



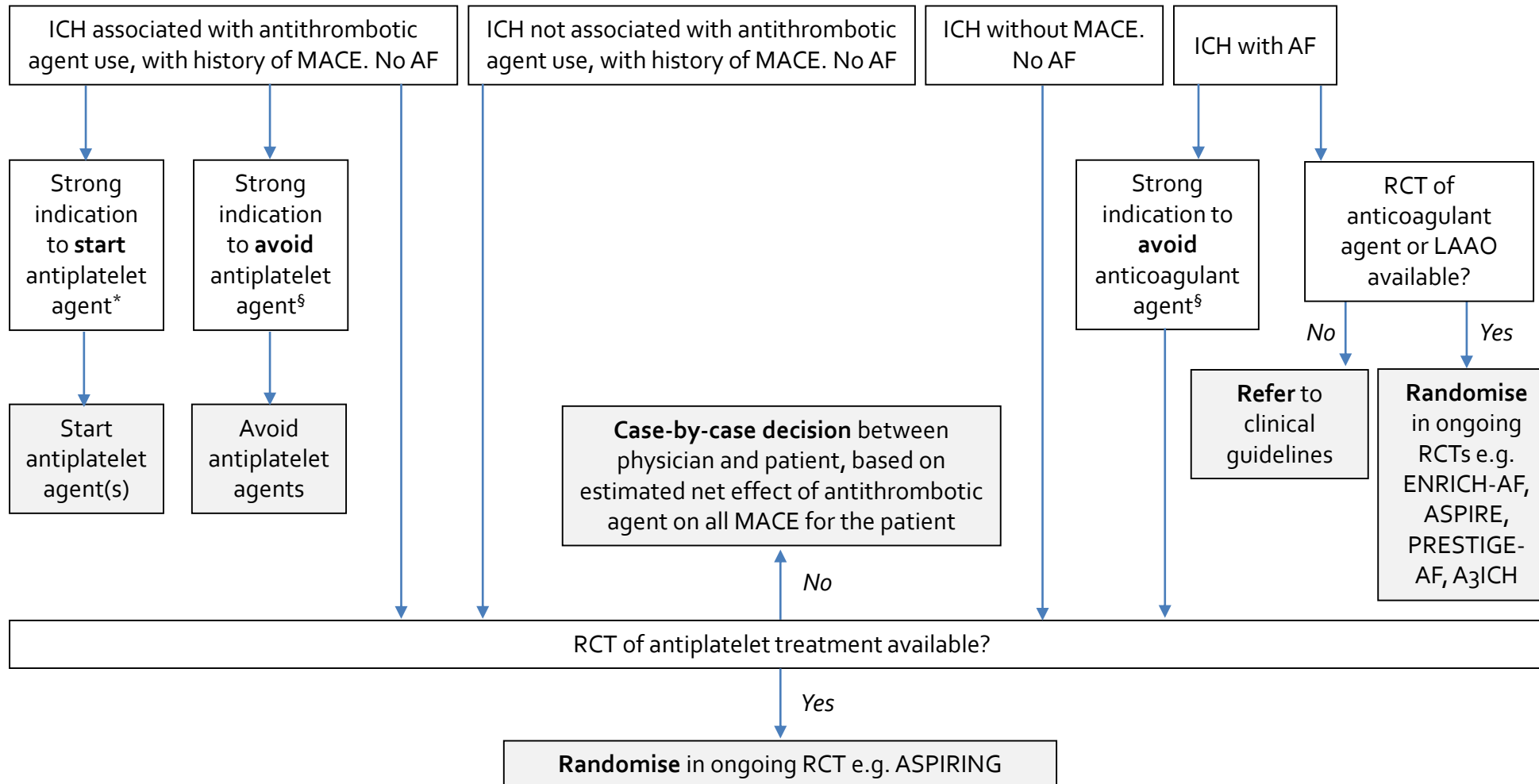


**Let's be definitive...**

**...not defensive**



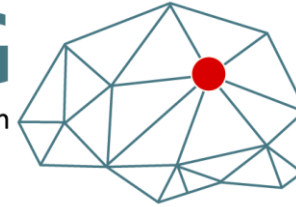
# What should you do about antiplatelet drugs after ICH in your clinical practice today?





# Definitive ICH trial of antiplatelet agents

**ASPIRING**  
Antiplatelet Secondary Prevention  
International Randomised study  
after INtracerebral haemorrhage



**R**esearch to  
**U**nderstand  
**S**troke due to  
**H**æmorrhage

Age  $\geq 18$ y and survived  $\geq 24$ h after ICH (1,383 with prior VOD and 2,765 without prior VOD)

Randomisation (central)

1:1

START antiplatelet monotherapy\* (n=2,074)

AVOID antiplatelet monotherapy\* (n=2,074)

Follow-up at hospital discharge: outcomes and adherence

Follow-up (1-5y): All major adverse cardiovascular (ischaemic and haemorrhagic) events (MACE) and adherence

# What should you do about OAC for AF after ICH in your clinical practice today?



2b	B-NR	3. In patients with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation (AF) and spontaneous ICH, the resumption of anti-coagulation to prevent thromboembolic events and reduce all-cause mortality <b>may be considered</b> based on weighing benefit and risk. <sup>590–595</sup>
2b	C-LD	4. In patients with AF and spontaneous ICH in whom the decision is made to restart anticoagulation, initiation of anticoagulation $\approx$ 7 to 8 weeks after ICH <b>may be considered</b> after weighing specific patient characteristics to optimize the balance of risks and benefits. <sup>596,597</sup>
2b	C-LD	5. In patients with AF and spontaneous ICH deemed ineligible for anticoagulation, left atrial appendage closure <b>may be considered</b> to reduce the risk of thromboembolic events. <sup>598–602</sup>

## National Clinical Guideline for Stroke for the UK & Ireland







- Patients with lobar ICH associated with probable CAA and AF **may be considered** for OAC for stroke prevention, but wherever possible patients should be offered participation in a randomised trial. If participation in a randomised trial is not possible then clinicians should make an individualised decision based on estimates of the future risks of recurrent ICH and vaso-occlusive events.
- Patients with lobar ICH associated with probable CAA and AF **may be considered** for a left atrial appendage occlusion (LAAO) device, but wherever possible patients should be offered participation in a randomised trial. If participation in a randomised trial is not possible then LAAO may be considered based on an estimation of the future risks of recurrent ICH and vaso-occlusive events.



# RCTs of OAC for AF after ICrH



RCT		Stroke type(s)	Intervention vs. comparator	Recruited / target	Contact
A <sub>3</sub> ICH		ICH	Apixaban vs LAAO vs no antithrombotic therapy	117/300 (39%)	Cordonnier
PRESTIGE-AF		ICH	DOAC vs no OAC	319/350 (81%)	Veltkamp
ASPIRE		ICH	Apixaban vs aspirin	331/700 (47%)	Sheth/Kamel
ENRICH-AF		ICrH	Edoxaban vs no OAC	919/950 (97%)	Shoamanesh

Recruitment as of October 2024



**Risks**



**Risk factors**



**Treatment effects**



**Heterogeneity  
of treatment effect**





A puffin with a black cap and a large, colorful beak stands on a rocky cliff edge. The background shows a vast ocean and a rugged coastline under a bright sky. The puffin is facing right, looking out over the water.

1

- Do clinical trials that are needed, rigorous & green

2

- Do clinical trials of greener health promotion/care

3

- Live a greener life: <https://realzero.earth/>

1. Move your money to a bank that doesn't invest in fossil fuels
2. Move your power supplier to a 100% renewable source
3. More plant-based food, seasonal and local where possible
4. More green travel (walking, cycling, more trains, fewer planes)
5. More pre-loved local and low-carbon brands
6. Measure your CO<sub>2</sub> footprint and cut where you can
7. Motivate your loved ones to perform their 7 acts to save the world

# Contact/follow us

## Clinical care and audit



## Education & teaching

Neurology   Statistics   Nursing   Radiology   Neurosurgery



## Research



## Public engagement

