

# **Incidence and Impact of Acute Valve Syndrome before Aortic Valve Replacement: Insights from The EARLY TAVR Trial**

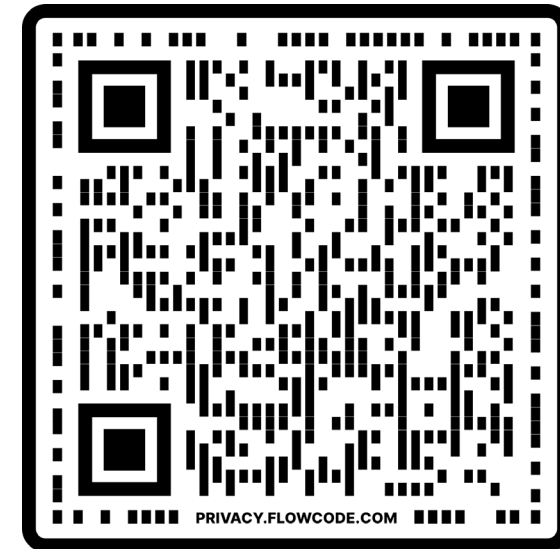
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**Edwards**

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# ***Incidence and Impact of Acute Valve Syndrome before Aortic Valve Replacement:*** ***Insights from the EARLY TAVR trial***

**ACC.25**

**Drs. Philippe Généreux,  
Allan Schwartz, & Martin B. Leon**  
on behalf of the EARLY TAVR Investigators



## ***ACC 2025 • Chicago, IL • March 29-31***

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- **Principal Investigator**
- **Equity**

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Abbott Vascular, Abiomed, Edwards Lifesciences, Haemonetics, Pi-Cardia, Puzzle Medical Inc., Saranas, Shockwave Medical, Teleflex Incorporated, 4C Medical

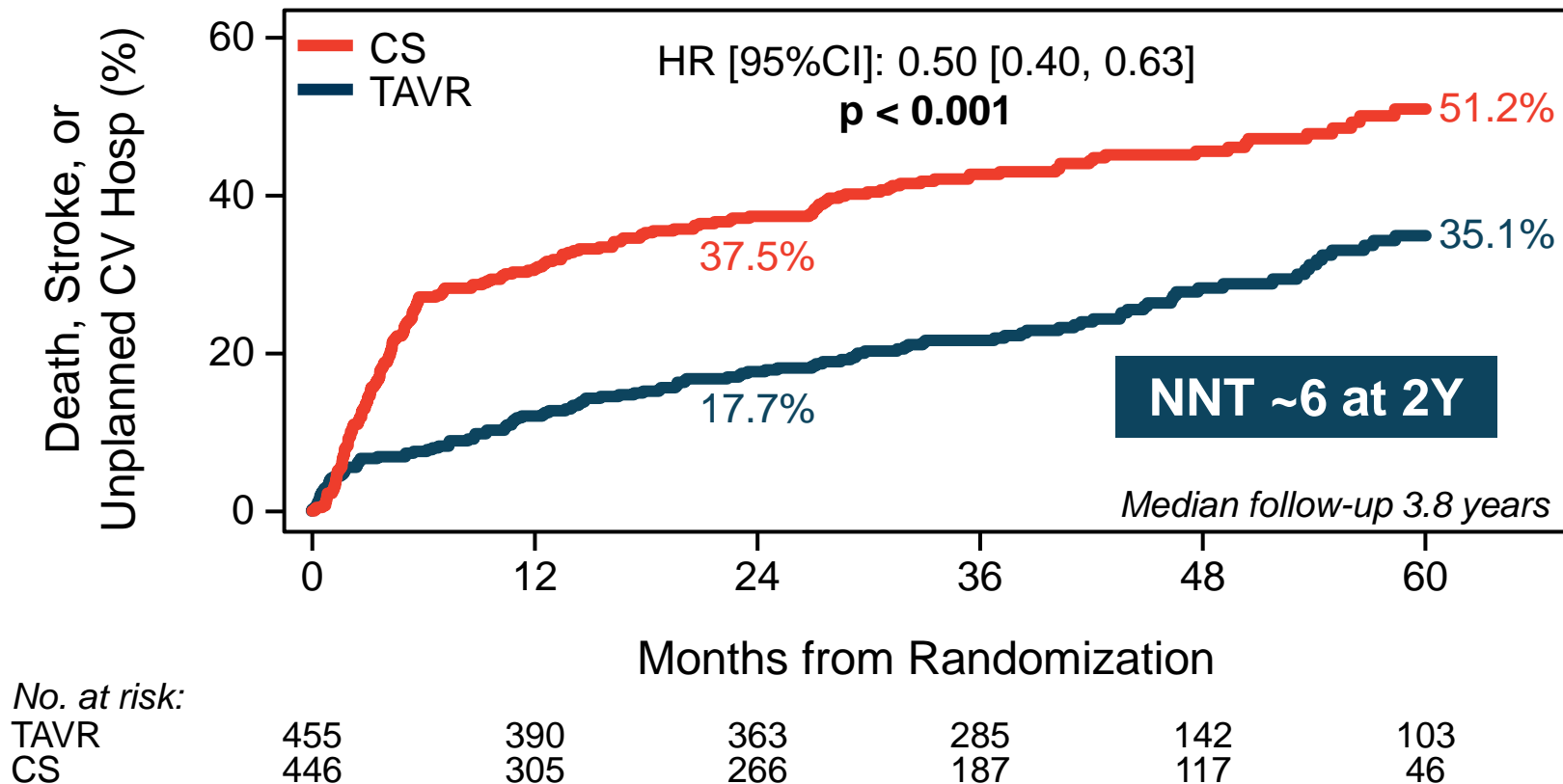
EARLY TAVR trial, PROGRESS trial, ECLIPSE trial, 4C Feasibility trial

Puzzle Medical Inc., Pi-Cardia, Saranas

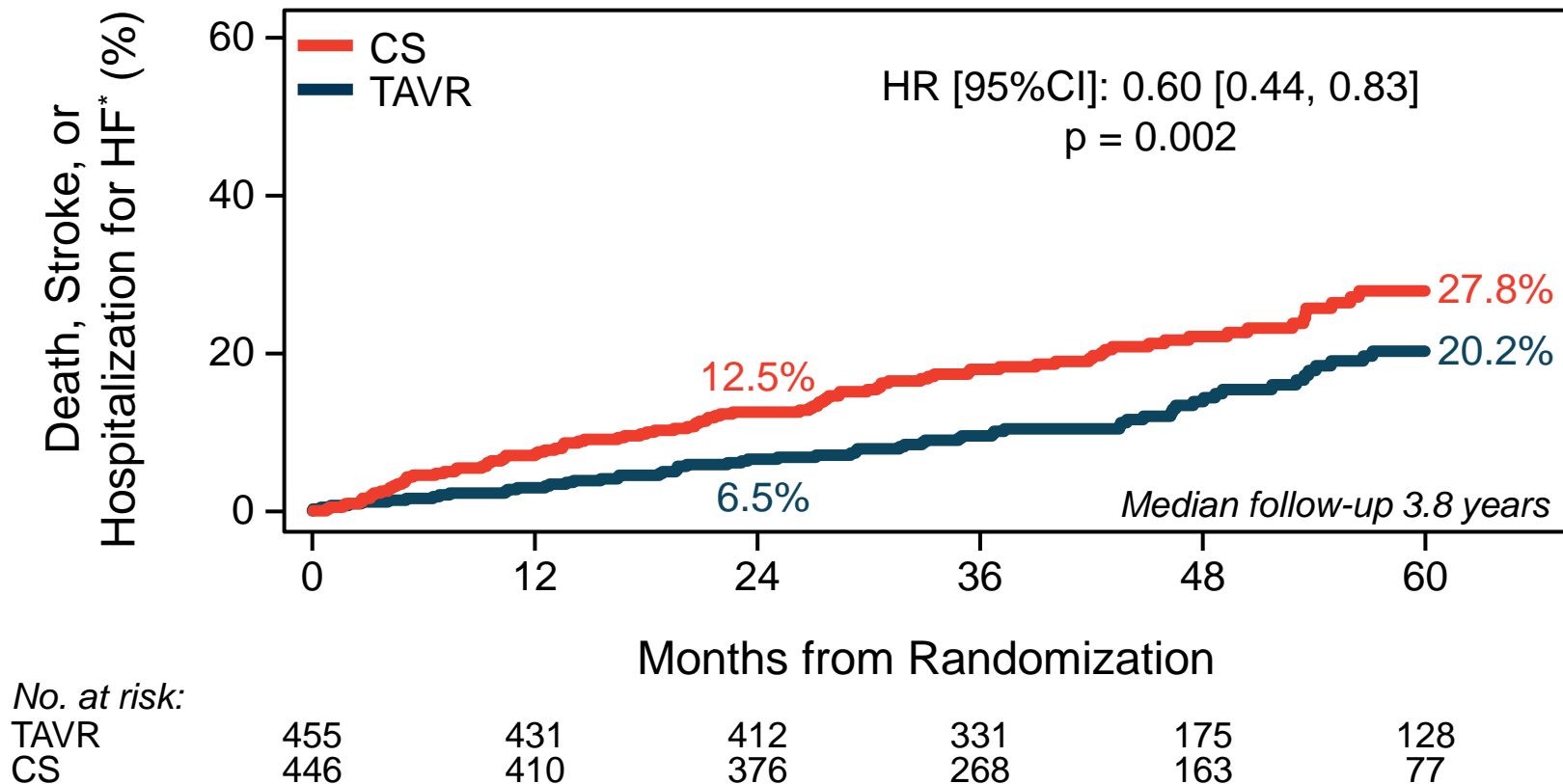
# Background

- For patients with asymptomatic severe AS, the EARLY TAVR trial demonstrated that a strategy of early TAVR was superior to clinical surveillance (CS) with respect to the primary endpoint of death, stroke, or unplanned CV hospitalization\*

# Primary Endpoint – Intent-to-Treat Analysis



# Death, Stroke, or HF Hospitalization\*



# Background

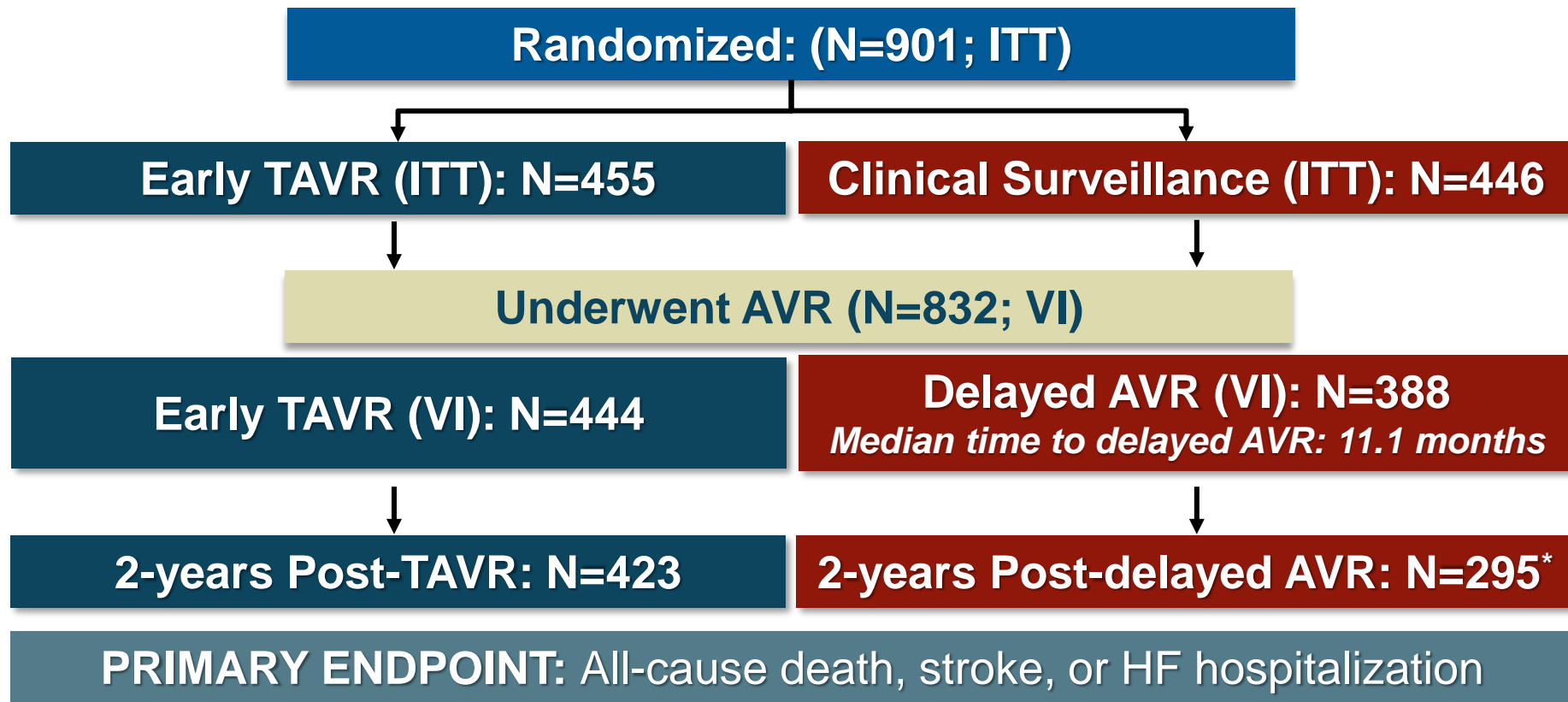
- The high frequency of conversions to delayed AVR<sup>†</sup> within 2 years<sup>‡</sup> in the CS arm requires an in-depth analysis of outcomes and ***clinical presentation among patients who underwent AVR in both arms***



# Purpose

- To compare **outcomes** between patients undergoing **early TAVR** and those randomized to clinical surveillance who underwent **delayed AVR**
- Assess the **impact of clinical presentation at the time of conversion to AVR**

# Patient Flow: Valve Implanted Population



# Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	EARLY TAVR Screening (N=444)	Delayed AVR Screening (N=388)
<b>Age, y</b>	76.0 ± 5.9	75.4 ± 6.0
Female sex	28.8%	31.2%
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	28.5 ± 4.6	28.5 ± 4.8
STS score, %	1.8 ± 1.0	1.7 ± 1.0
Low-risk per Heart team	84.0%	85.1%
Asymptomatic Criteria		
Treadmill stress test*	90.3%	91.0%
<b>6-minute walk test, m</b>	377.0 ± 105.6	373.0 ± 104.3
Prior stroke	4.3%	4.1%
Diabetes	26.1%	26.0%
<b>Atrial Fibrillation</b>	15.8%	12.6%
<b>KCCQ Score</b>	92.9 ± 8.6	92.5 ± 9.7
<b>NT-proBNP, pg/mL</b>	273 (139, 596)	299 (148, 617)

Values presented as %, mean ± SD, or median (IQR)

# Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	EARLY TAVR Screening (N=444)	Delayed AVR Screening (N=388)	Delayed AVR Pre-procedure (N=388)
<b>Age, y</b>	76.0 ± 5.9	<b>75.4 ± 6.0</b>	<b>76.5 ± 6.1<sup>†</sup></b>
Female sex	28.8%	31.2%	-
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	28.5 ± 4.6	28.5 ± 4.8	28.2 ± 5.0 <sup>†</sup>
STS score, %	1.8 ± 1.0	1.7 ± 1.0	2.1 ± 1.8
Low-risk per Heart team	84.0%	85.1%	-
Asymptomatic Criteria			
Treadmill stress test*	90.3%	91.0%	-
<b>6-minute walk test, m</b>	377.0 ± 105.6	<b>373.0 ± 104.3</b>	<b>327.9 ± 128.5<sup>†</sup></b>
Prior stroke	4.3%	4.1%	5.4%
Diabetes	26.1%	26.0%	26.3%
<b>Atrial Fibrillation</b>	15.8%	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>16.5%<sup>†</sup></b>
<b>KCCQ Score</b>	92.9 ± 8.6	<b>92.5 ± 9.7</b>	<b>77.7 ± 18.0<sup>†</sup></b>
<b>NT-proBNP, pg/mL</b>	273 (139, 596)	<b>299 (148, 617)</b>	<b>462.2 (211, 1041)<sup>†</sup></b>

Values presented as %, mean ± SD, or median (IQR)

# Baseline Echo Characteristics

Characteristic	EARLY TAVR Screening (N=444)	Delayed AVR Screening (N=388)
AVA, cm <sup>2</sup>	0.86 ± 0.23	0.85 ± 0.24
Peak velocity, m/s	4.3 ± 0.5	4.4 ± 0.4 <sup>*</sup>
Mean gradient, mmHg	46.5 ± 10.1	47.5 ± 10.5 <sup>*</sup>
LVEF, %	67.4 ± 6.6	67.1 ± 6.8
LV mass index, g/m <sup>2</sup>	102.2 ± 23.0	103.0 ± 24.7

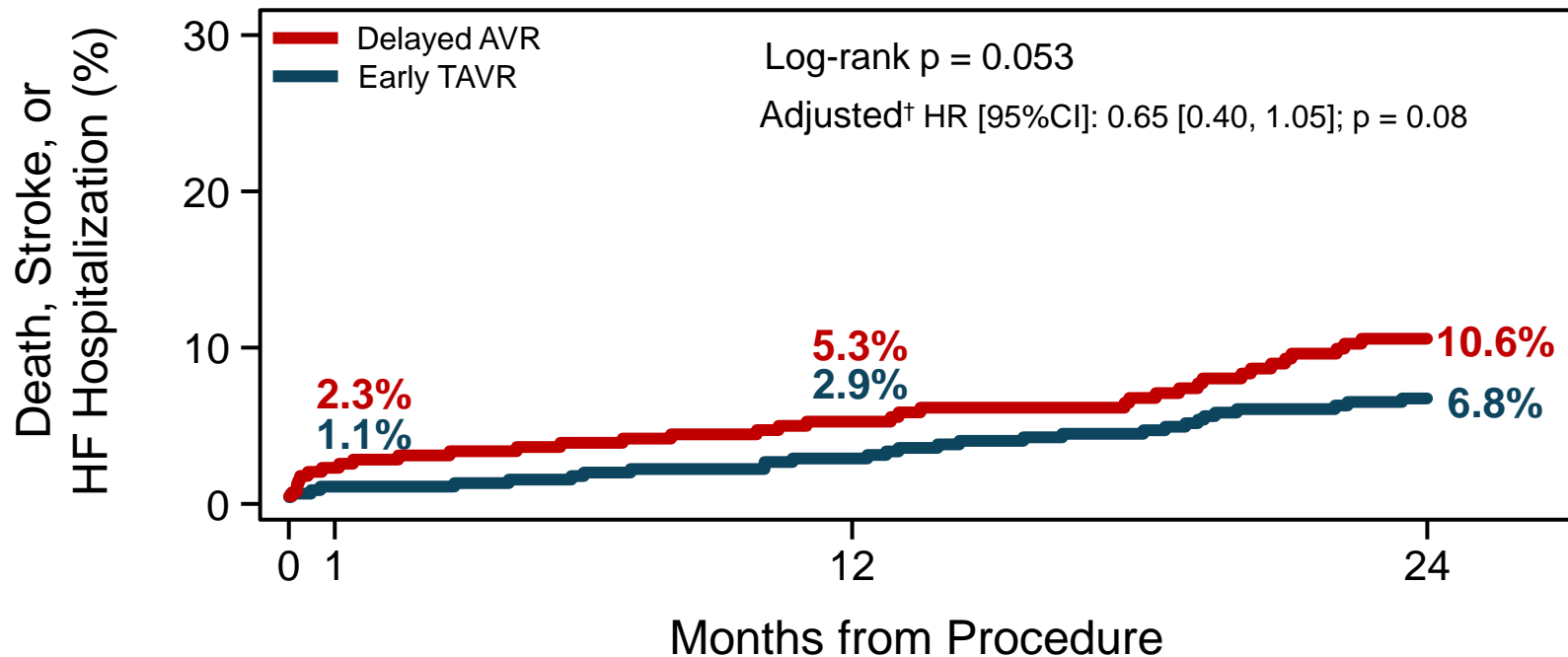
Values presented as % or mean ± SD

# Baseline Echo Characteristics

Characteristic	EARLY TAVR Screening (N=444)	Delayed AVR Screening (N=388)	Delayed AVR Pre-procedure (N=388)
AVA, cm <sup>2</sup>	0.86 ± 0.23	<b>0.85 ± 0.24</b>	<b>0.79 ± 0.17<sup>†</sup></b>
Peak velocity, m/s	4.3 ± 0.5	<b>4.4 ± 0.4<sup>*</sup></b>	<b>4.6 ± 0.6<sup>†</sup></b>
Mean gradient, mmHg	46.5 ± 10.1	<b>47.5 ± 10.5<sup>*</sup></b>	<b>53.7 ± 13.6<sup>†</sup></b>
LVEF, %	67.4 ± 6.6	<b>67.1 ± 6.8</b>	<b>65.3 ± 8.3<sup>†</sup></b>
LV mass index, g/m <sup>2</sup>	102.2 ± 23.0	<b>103.0 ± 24.7</b>	<b>108.0 ± 26.9<sup>†</sup></b>

Values presented as % or mean ± SD

# Death, Stroke, or HF Hospitalization\*



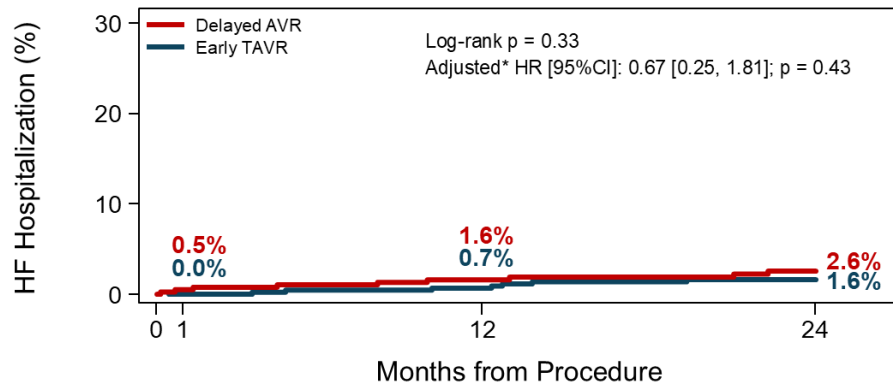
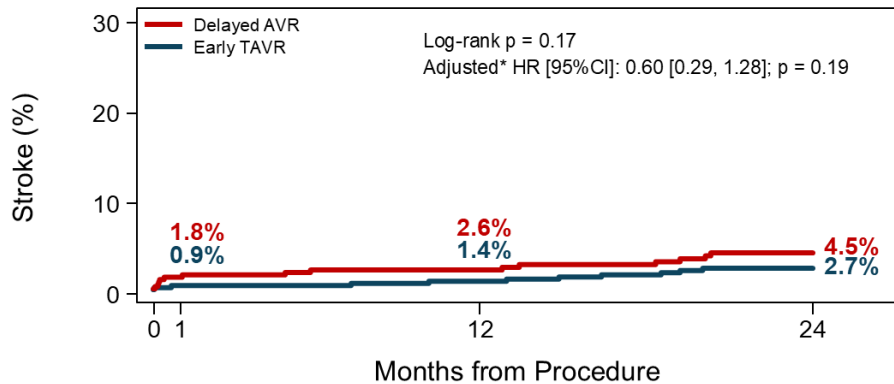
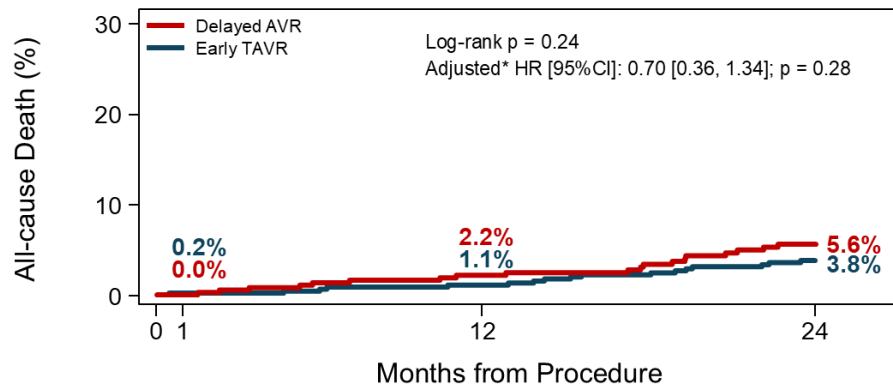
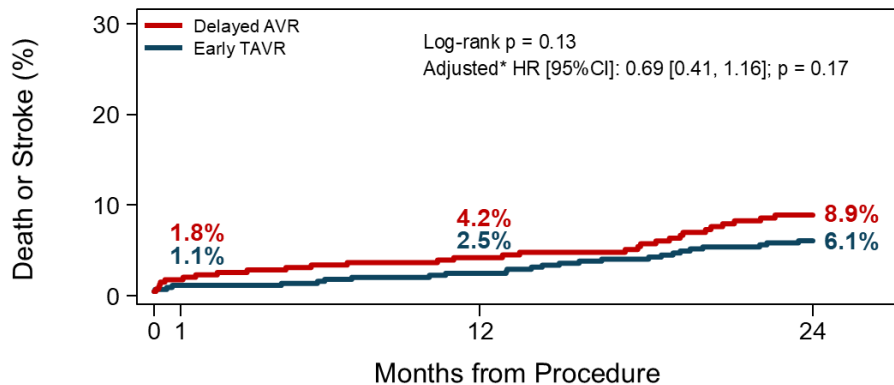
No. at risk:  
Early TAVR  
Delayed AVR

444 439  
388 375

430  
340

409  
277

# Additional Clinical Outcomes





## Patients classified based on acuity and severity of signs/symptoms

### Asymptomatic

Includes pts who may have converted to AVR b/c they required additional medical procedures

### Progressive Valve Syndrome

NYHA II

Increase in HF medication from baseline  
 $\geq 1.5$ - to  $< 3$ -fold increase in NT-proBNP from baseline and age-specific threshold\*

\*125 pg/mL for patients  $\leq 75$  years and 450 pg/mL for  $> 75$  years

Additional exploratory analysis

### Acute Valve Syndrome

NYHA III/IV

Syncope

Atrial fibrillation

Ventricular arrhythmia

Resuscitated sudden death/cardiac arrest

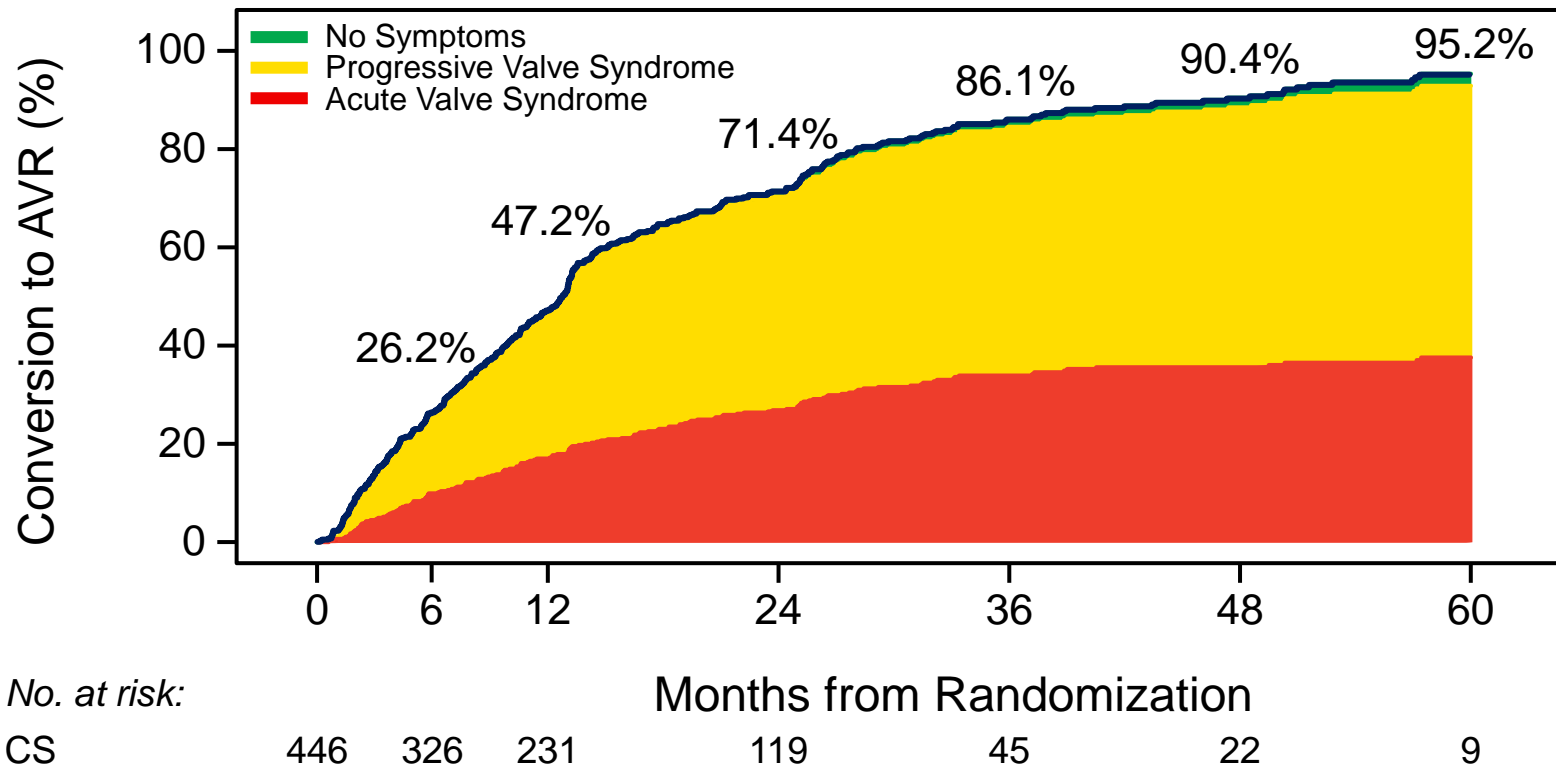
Hospitalization for HF and/or pulmonary edema

LVEF drops to  $< 50\%$

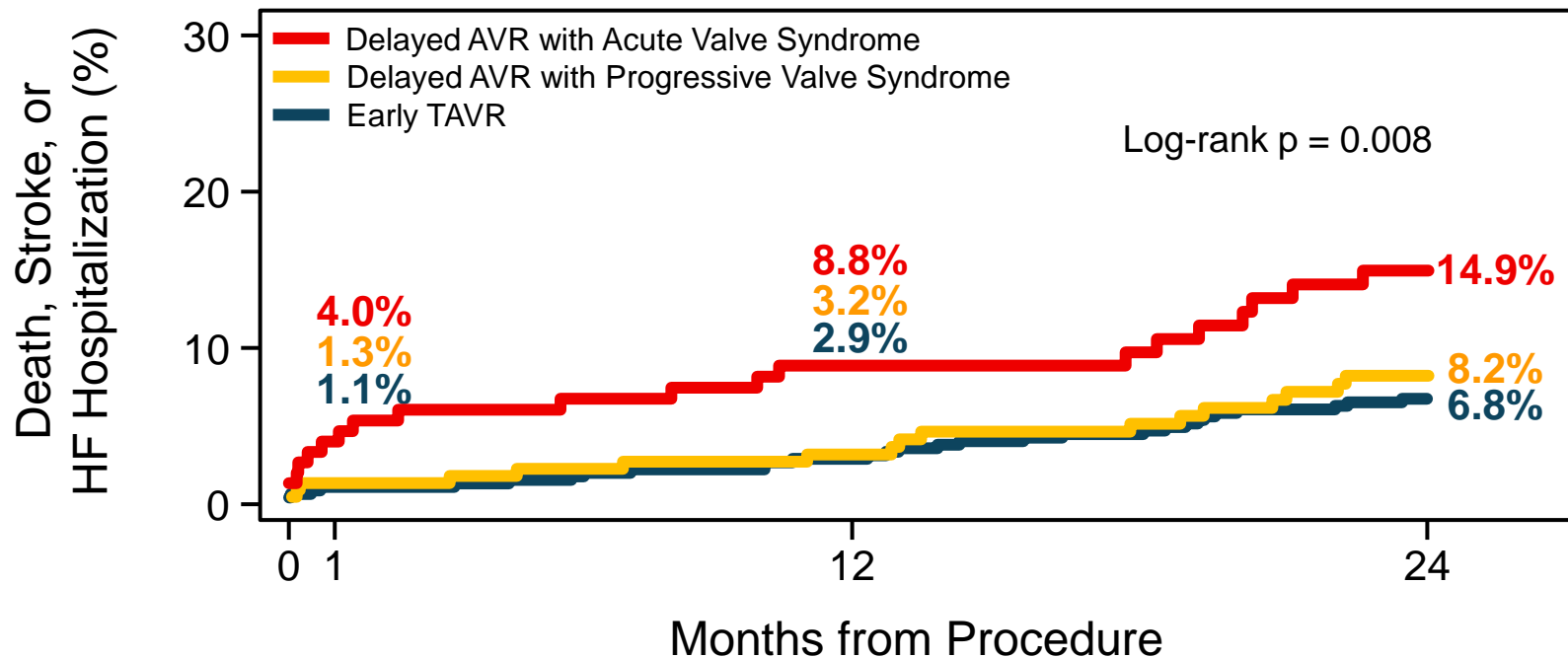
$\geq 3$ -fold increase in NT-proBNP from baseline and age-specific threshold\*

# Signs & Symptoms at Time of Conversion to AVR

Median time to delayed AVR: 11.1 months



# Death, Stroke, or HF Hospitalization\*



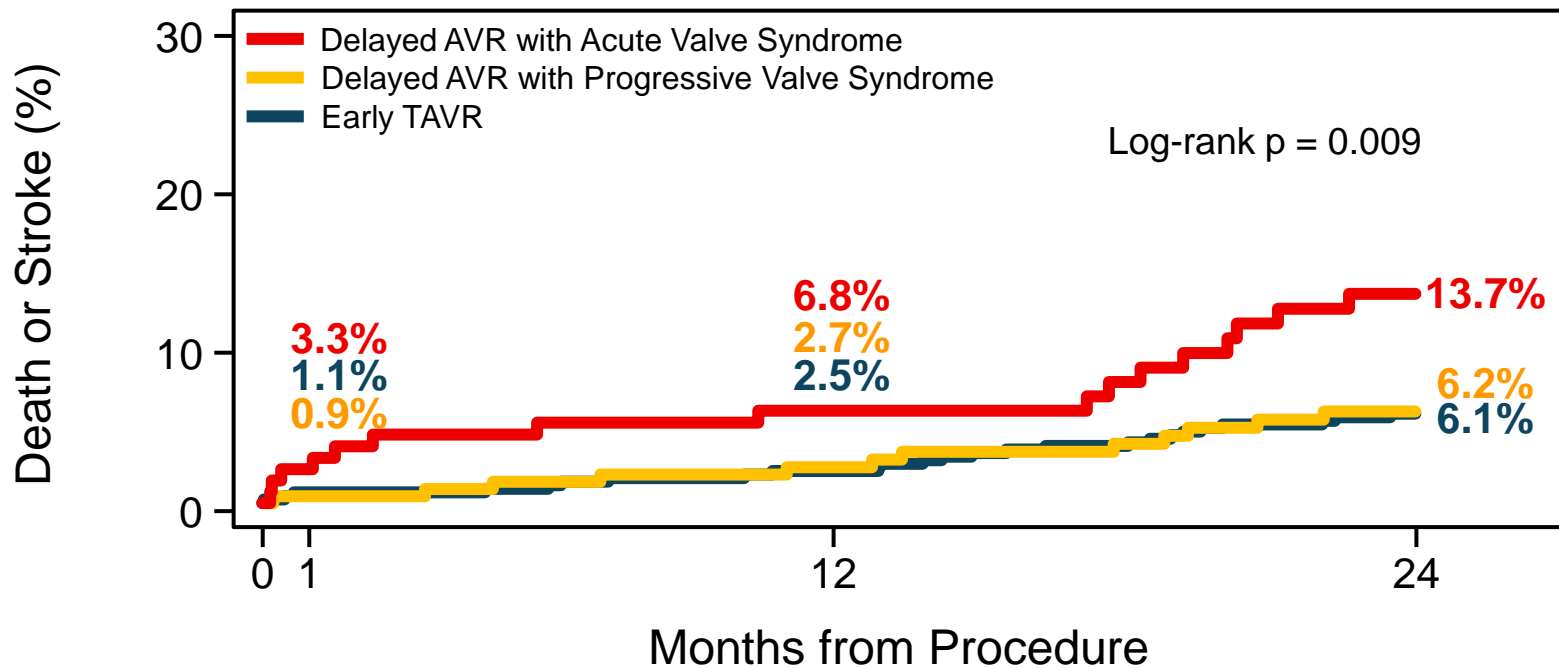
No. at risk:

Early TAVR	444	439
Delayed AVR + PVS	227	222
Delayed AVR + AVS	152	144

430
207
125

409
175
96

# Death or Stroke



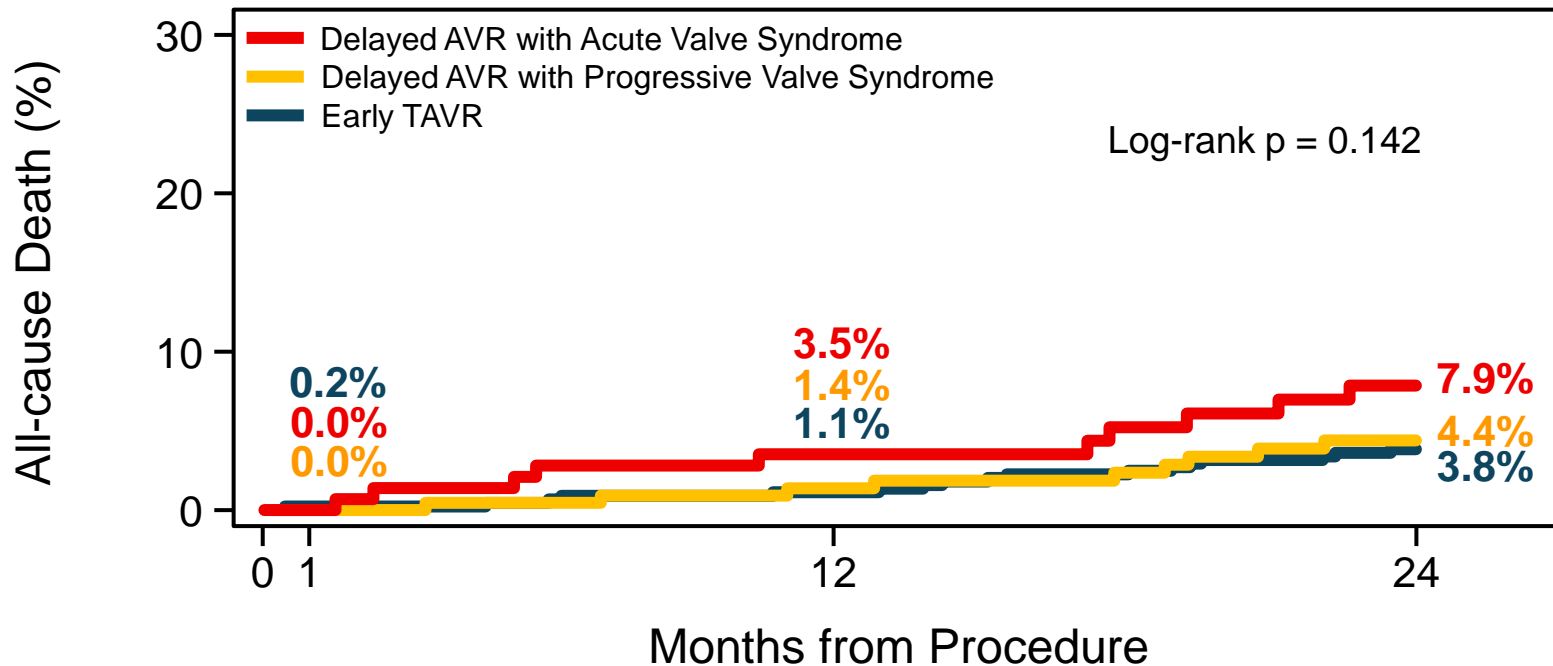
No. at risk:

Early TAVR	444	439
Delayed AVR + PVS	227	223
Delayed AVR + AVS	152	145

432
208
128

412
179
98

# All-cause Death



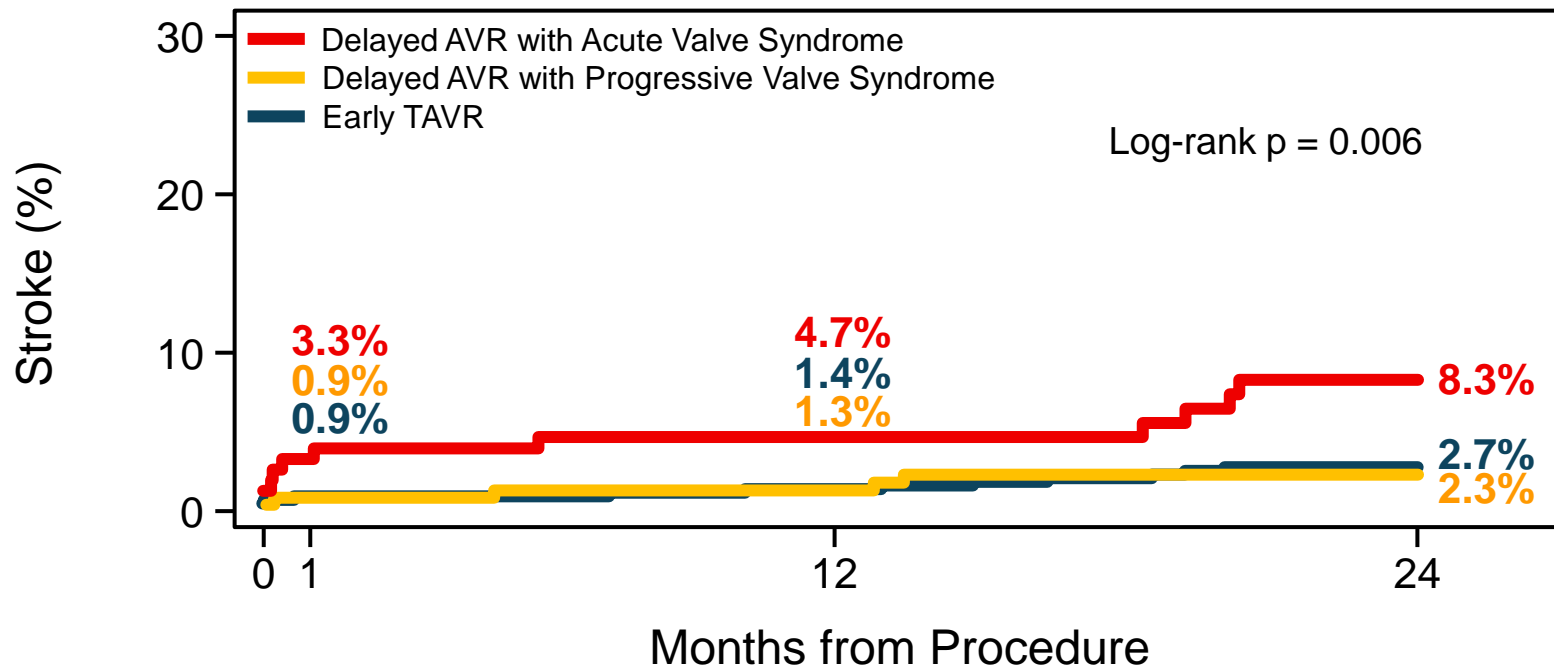
No. at risk:

Early TAVR	444	443
Delayed AVR + PVS	227	225
Delayed AVR + AVS	152	149

438
211
131

422
183
104

# All Stroke



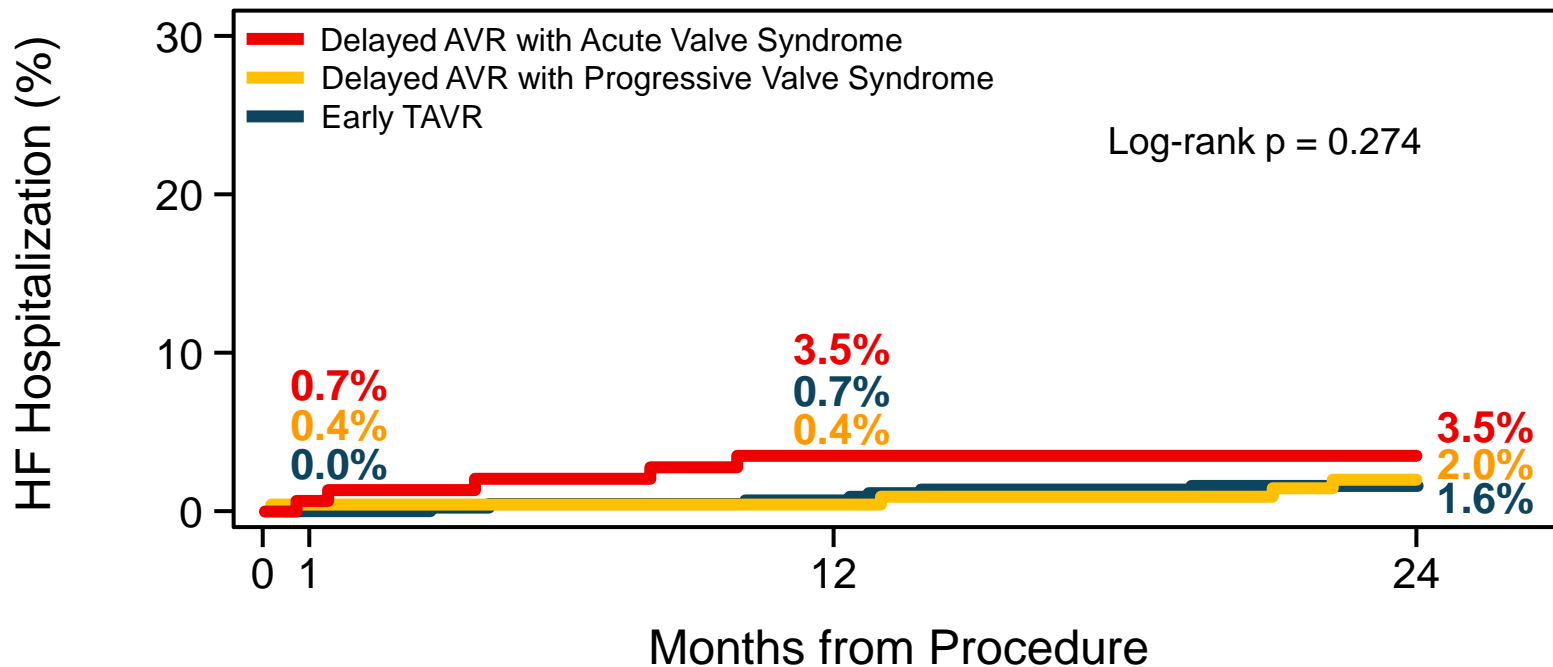
No. at risk:

Early TAVR	444	439
Delayed AVR + PVS	227	223
Delayed AVR + AVS	152	145

432
208
128

412
179
98

# HF Hospitalization\*



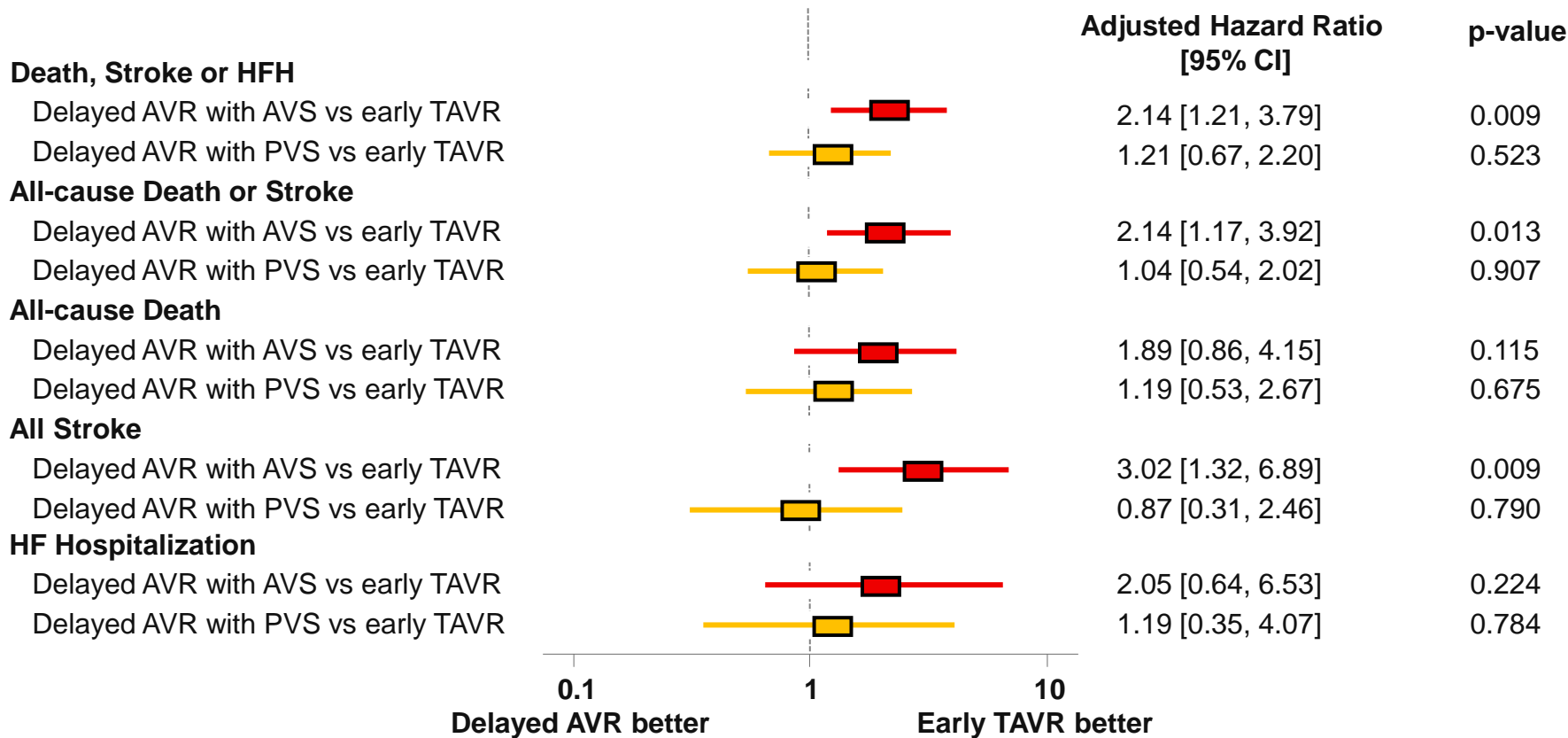
No. at risk:

Early TAVR	444	443
Delayed AVR + PVS	227	224
Delayed AVR + AVS	152	148

435
210
128

418
179
102

# Adjusted Analysis comparing **Delayed AVR with AVS** or **Delayed AVR with PVS** vs **Early TAVR**





# Conclusions

- **Compared with Early TAVR, delayed AVR was associated with increased risk of death, stroke, or heart failure hospitalization within 2 years post-procedure**
- **Conversion to delayed AVR with Acute Valve Syndrome was:**
  - Frequent, representing 40% of conversion to delayed AVR
  - Associated with worse outcomes, including composite of death or stroke, primarily driven by increase in stroke rate post-procedure

**These findings provide a strong rationale for prompt intervention in patients with asymptomatic severe AS to prevent progression to Acute Valve Syndrome and poor outcomes**



# THANK YOU!

*To all the patients, sites, and investigators  
who participated in the EARLY TAVR trial*

# Important Safety Information

## Edwards SAPIEN 3, Edwards SAPIEN 3 Ultra, and Edwards SAPIEN 3 Ultra RESILIA Transcatheter Heart Valve System

### **Indications:**

The Edwards SAPIEN 3, SAPIEN 3 Ultra, and SAPIEN 3 Ultra RESILIA Transcatheter Heart Valve system is indicated to reduce the risks associated with progression from asymptomatic to symptomatic severe native calcific aortic stenosis in patients who are judged by a heart team to be appropriate for transcatheter heart valve replacement therapy.

The Edwards SAPIEN 3, SAPIEN 3 Ultra, and SAPIEN 3 Ultra RESILIA Transcatheter Heart Valve system is indicated for relief of aortic stenosis in patients with symptomatic heart disease due to severe native calcific aortic stenosis who are judged by a Heart Team, including a cardiac surgeon, to be appropriate for the transcatheter heart valve replacement therapy.

The Edwards SAPIEN 3, SAPIEN 3 Ultra, and SAPIEN 3 Ultra RESILIA Transcatheter Heart Valve system is indicated for patients with symptomatic heart disease due to a failing (stenosed, insufficient, or combined) surgical or transcatheter bioprosthetic aortic valve, or a native mitral valve with an annuloplasty ring who are judged by a heart team, including a cardiac surgeon, to be at high or greater risk for open surgical therapy (i.e., predicted risk of surgical mortality  $\geq 8\%$  at 30 days, based on the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) risk score and other clinical co-morbidities unmeasured by the STS risk calculator).

The Edwards SAPIEN 3, SAPIEN 3 Ultra, and SAPIEN 3 Ultra RESILIA Transcatheter Heart Valve system is indicated for patients with symptomatic heart disease due to a failing (stenosed, insufficient, or combined) surgical bioprosthetic mitral valve who are judged by a heart team, including a cardiac surgeon, to be at intermediate or greater risk for open surgical therapy (i.e., predicted risk of surgical mortality  $\geq 4\%$  at 30 days, based on the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) risk score and other clinical co-morbidities unmeasured by the STS risk calculator).

**Contraindications:** The valves and delivery systems are contraindicated in patients who cannot tolerate an anticoagulation/antiplatelet regimen or who have active bacterial endocarditis or other active infections, or who have significant annuloplasty ring dehiscence.

**Warnings:** Observation of the pacing lead throughout the procedure is essential to avoid the potential risk of pacing lead perforation. There may be an increased risk of stroke in transcatheter aortic valve replacement procedures, as compared to balloon aortic valvuloplasty or other standard treatments in high or greater risk patients. The devices are designed, intended, and distributed for single use only. Do not resterilize or reuse the devices. There are no data to support the sterility, nonpyrogenicity, and functionality of the devices after reprocessing. Incorrect sizing of the valve may lead to paravalvular leak, migration, embolization, residual gradient (patient-prosthesis mismatch), and/or annular rupture. Accelerated deterioration of the valve due to calcific degeneration may occur in children, adolescents, or young adults and in patients with an altered calcium metabolism. Prior to delivery, the valve must remain hydrated at all times and cannot be exposed to solutions other than its shipping storage solution and sterile physiologic rinsing solution. Valve leaflets mishandled or damaged during any part of the procedure will require replacement of the valve.



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**Warnings (cont.):**

Caution should be exercised in implanting a valve in patients with clinically significant coronary artery disease. Patients with pre-existing prostheses should be carefully assessed prior to implantation of the valve to ensure proper valve positioning and deployment. Do not use the valve if the tamper-evident seal is broken or the storage solution does not completely cover the valve (SAPIEN 3 and SAPIEN 3 Ultra only), the temperature indicator has been activated, the valve is damaged, or the expiration date has elapsed. Do not mishandle the delivery system or use it if the packaging or any components are not sterile, have been opened or are damaged (e.g., kinked or stretched), or if the expiration date has elapsed. Use of excessive contrast media may lead to renal failure. Measure the patient's creatinine level prior to the procedure. Contrast media usage should be monitored. Patient injury could occur if the delivery system is not un-flexed prior to removal. Care should be exercised in patients with hypersensitivities to cobalt, nickel, chromium, molybdenum, titanium, manganese, silicon, and/or polymeric materials. The procedure should be conducted under fluoroscopic guidance. Some fluoroscopically guided procedures are associated with a risk of radiation injury to the skin. These injuries may be painful, disfiguring, and long-lasting. Valve recipients should be maintained on anticoagulant/antiplatelet therapy, except when contraindicated, as determined by their physician. This device has not been tested for use without anticoagulation. Do not add or apply antibiotics to the storage solution (SAPIEN 3 and SAPIEN 3 Ultra only), rinse solution, or to the valve. Balloon valvuloplasty should be avoided in the treatment of failing bioprostheses as this may result in embolization of bioprosthesis material and mechanical disruption of the valve leaflets. Do not perform stand-alone balloon aortic valvuloplasty procedures in the INSPIRIS RESILIA aortic valve for the sizes 19-25 mm. This may expand the valve causing aortic incompetence, coronary embolism or annular rupture. Transcatheter valve replacement in mitral annuloplasty rings is not recommended in cases of partial annuloplasty ring dehiscence due to high risk of PVL. Transcatheter valve replacement in mitral annuloplasty rings is not recommended in cases of partial (incomplete) annuloplasty rings in the absence of annular calcium due to increased risk of valve embolization. Transcatheter valve replacement in mitral annuloplasty rings is not recommended in cases of rigid annuloplasty rings due to increased risk of PVL or THV deformation.

**Precautions:**

Long-term durability has not been established for the valve. Regular medical follow-up is advised to evaluate valve performance. Limited clinical data are available for transcatheter aortic valve replacement in patients with a congenital bicuspid aortic valve who are deemed to be at low surgical risk. Anatomical characteristics should be considered when using the valve in this population. In addition, patient age should be considered as long-term durability of the valve has not been established. Data on TAVR in patients with asymptomatic severe aortic stenosis are based on study of predominantly low surgical risk patients. Limited clinical data to inform benefit-risk considerations are available for TAVR in patients with asymptomatic severe aortic stenosis who are deemed to be at intermediate or greater surgical risk. Glutaraldehyde may cause irritation of the skin, eyes, nose, and throat. Avoid prolonged or repeated exposure to, or breathing of, the solution. Use only with adequate ventilation. If skin contact occurs, immediately flush the affected area with water; in the event of contact with eyes, seek immediate medical attention. For more information about glutaraldehyde exposure, refer to the Safety Data Sheet available from Edwards Lifesciences. If a significant increase in resistance occurs when advancing the catheter through the vasculature, stop advancement and investigate the cause of resistance before proceeding. Do not force passage, as this could increase the risk of vascular complications. As compared to SAPIEN 3, system advancement force may be higher with the use of SAPIEN 3 Ultra/SAPIEN 3 Ultra RESILIA THV in tortuous/challenging vessel anatomies. To maintain proper valve leaflet coaptation, do not overinflate the deployment balloon. Appropriate antibiotic prophylaxis is recommended post-procedure in patients at risk for prosthetic valve infection and endocarditis. Additional precautions for transseptal replacement of a failed mitral valve bioprosthesis include, the presence of devices or thrombus or other abnormalities in the caval vein precluding safe transvenous femoral access for transseptal approach; and the presence of an Atrial Septal Occluder Device or calcium preventing safe transseptal access.



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**Precautions (cont.):**

Special care must be exercised in mitral valve replacement to avoid entrapment of the subvalvular apparatus. Safety and effectiveness have not been established for patients with the following characteristics/comorbidities: non-calcified aortic annulus; severe ventricular dysfunction with ejection fraction < 20%; congenital unicuspid aortic valve; pre-existing prosthetic ring in the tricuspid position; severe mitral annular calcification (MAC); severe (> 3+) mitral insufficiency, or Gorlin syndrome; blood dyscrasias defined as leukopenia (WBC < 3000 cells/mL), acute anemia (Hb < 9 g/dL), thrombocytopenia (platelet count < 50,000 cells/mL), or history of bleeding diathesis or coagulopathy; hypertrophic cardiomyopathy with or without obstruction (HOCM); echocardiographic evidence of intracardiac mass, thrombus, or vegetation; a known hypersensitivity or contraindication to aspirin, heparin, ticlopidine (Ticlid), or clopidogrel (Plavix), or sensitivity to contrast media, which cannot be adequately premedicated; significant aortic disease, including abdominal aortic or thoracic aneurysm defined as maximal luminal diameter 5 cm or greater, marked tortuosity (hyperacute bend), aortic arch atheroma (especially if thick [> 5 mm], protruding, or ulcerated) or narrowing (especially with calcification and surface irregularities) of the abdominal or thoracic aorta, severe “unfolding” and tortuosity of the thoracic aorta; access characteristics that would preclude safe placement of the Edwards sheath, such as severe obstructive calcification or severe tortuosity; bulky calcified aortic valve leaflets in close proximity to coronary ostia; a concomitant paravalvular leak where the failing prosthesis is not securely fixed in the native annulus or is not structurally intact (e.g., wireframe frame fracture, annuloplasty ring dehiscence); or a partially detached leaflet of the failing bioprosthesis that in the aortic position may obstruct a coronary ostium. For Left axillary approach, a left subclavian takeoff angle  $\sim \geq 90^\circ$  from the aortic arch causes sharp angles, which may be responsible for potential sheath kinking, subclavian/axillary dissection and aortic arch damage. For left/right axillary approach, ensure there is flow in Left Internal Mammary Artery (LIMA)/Right Internal Mammary Artery (RIMA) during procedure and monitor pressure in homolateral radial artery. Residual mean gradient may be higher in a “THV-in-failing prosthesis” configuration than that observed following implantation of the valve inside a native aortic annulus using the same size device. Patients with elevated mean gradient post procedure should be carefully followed. It is important that the manufacturer, model and size of the preexisting prosthesis be determined, so that the appropriate valve can be implanted and a prosthesis-patient mismatch be avoided. Additionally, pre-procedure imaging modalities must be employed to make as accurate a determination of the inner diameter as possible.

**Potential Adverse Events:**

Potential risks associated with the overall procedure, including potential access complications associated with standard cardiac catheterization, balloon valvuloplasty, the potential risks of conscious sedation and/or general anesthesia, and the use of angiography: death; stroke/transient ischemic attack, clusters, or neurological deficit; paralysis; permanent disability; respiratory insufficiency or respiratory failure; hemorrhage requiring transfusion or intervention; cardiovascular injury including perforation or dissection of vessels, ventricle, atrium, septum, myocardium, or valvular structures that may require intervention; pericardial effusion or cardiac tamponade; thoracic bleeding; embolization including air, calcific valve material, or thrombus; infection including septicemia and endocarditis; heart failure; myocardial infarction; renal insufficiency or renal failure; conduction system defect which may require a permanent pacemaker; arrhythmia; retroperitoneal bleed; arteriovenous (AV) fistula or pseudoaneurysm; reoperation; ischemia or nerve injury or brachial plexus injury; restenosis; pulmonary edema; pleural effusion; bleeding; anemia; abnormal lab values (including electrolyte imbalance); hypertension or hypotension; allergic reaction to anesthesia, contrast media, or device materials; hematoma; syncope; pain or changes (e.g., wound infection, hematoma, and other wound care complications) at the access site; exercise intolerance or weakness; inflammation; angina; heart murmur; and fever. Additional potential risks associated with the use of the valve, delivery system, and/or accessories include: cardiac arrest; cardiogenic shock; emergency cardiac surgery; cardiac failure or low cardiac output; coronary flow obstruction/transvalvular flow disturbance; device thrombosis requiring intervention; valve thrombosis; device embolization; device migration or malposition requiring intervention; left ventricular outflow tract obstruction; valve deployment in unintended location; valve stenosis; structural valve deterioration (wear, fracture, calcification, leaflet tear/tearing from the stent posts, leaflet retraction, suture line disruption of components of a prosthetic valve, thickening, stenosis); device degeneration; paravalvular or transvalvular leak; valve regurgitation; hemolysis; device explants; nonstructural dysfunction; mechanical failure of delivery system and/or accessories; and non-emergent reoperation.



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## **Edwards Crimper**

### **Indications:**

The Edwards crimper is indicated for use in preparing the Edwards SAPIEN 3 transcatheter heart valve, Edwards SAPIEN 3 Ultra transcatheter heart valve, and the Edwards SAPIEN 3 Ultra RESILIA transcatheter heart valve for implantation.

### **Contraindications:**

There are no known contraindications.

### **Warnings:**

The device is designed, intended, and distributed for single use only. Do not resterilize or reuse the device. There are no data to support the sterility, nonpyrogenicity, and functionality of the device after reprocessing. Do not mishandle the device. Do not use the device if the packaging or any components are not sterile, have been opened or are damaged, or the expiration date has elapsed.

### **Precautions:**

For special considerations associated with the use of the Edwards crimper prior to THV implantation, refer to the THV Instructions for Use.

### **Potential Adverse Events:**

There are no known potential adverse events associated with the Edwards crimper.

**CAUTION: Federal (United States) law restricts these devices to sale by or on the order of a physician.**



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**CAUTION: Federal (United States) law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a physician.**

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