

# Two-year Clinical and Echocardiographic Outcomes from the PARTNER 3 Low-risk Randomized Trial



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on behalf of the PARTNER 3 Trial Investigators

# Disclosures - Michael J. Mack, MD

## *ACC 2020; Chicago, IL; March 28–30, 2020*

Within the past 36 months, I or my spouse/partner has had a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with the organization(s) listed below.

### **Financial Relationship**

- Research Support
- Consulting Fees
- Trial Co-PI or Study Chair  
(Travel expenses only, for trial activities)

### **Company**

Abbott, Edwards Lifesciences, Gore,  
Medtronic

None

Abbott, Edwards Lifesciences,  
Medtronic

# Background

- Previous PARTNER trials have shown that TAVR was superior to standard therapy in extreme-risk patients and non-inferior to surgery in high- and intermediate-risk patients with aortic stenosis.
- Results from the PARTNER 3 Trial in low-risk patients demonstrated superiority for TAVR vs. surgery for the primary endpoint of death, stroke, or rehospitalization at 1 year.

# Purpose

To report the clinical and echocardiographic outcomes of the PARTNER 3 Trial at *2 years* for low-risk patients with severe symptomatic aortic stenosis treated with the SAPIEN 3 TAVR system vs. surgery

# PARTNER 3 Study Design

**Symptomatic Severe Aortic Stenosis**

**Low Risk/TF ASSESSMENT by Heart Team  
(STS < 4%)**

**1:1 Randomization  
1000 Patients**

**TAVR  
(SAPIEN 3 THV)**

**Surgery  
(Surgical Bioprosthetic Valve)**

**Follow-up: 30 days, 6 mos, and annually through 10 years**

**PRIMARY ENDPOINT:  
Composite of all-cause mortality, stroke, or CV re-hospitalization  
at 1 year post-procedure**

# Key Inclusion Criteria

## Severe Calcific Aortic Stenosis

- $AVA \leq 1.0 \text{ cm}^2$  or  $AVA \text{ index} \leq 0.6 \text{ cm}^2/\text{m}^2$
- Jet velocity  $\geq 4.0 \text{ m/s}$  or mean gradient  $\geq 40 \text{ mmHg}$ , AND
  - NYHA Functional Class  $\geq 2$ , OR
  - Abnormal exercise test with severe SOB, abnormal BP response, or arrhythmia, OR
  - Asymptomatic with LVEF  $< 50\%$

## Low Surgical Risk

- Determined by multi-disciplinary heart team
- STS  $< 4\%$
- Adjudicated by case review board

# Key Exclusion Criteria

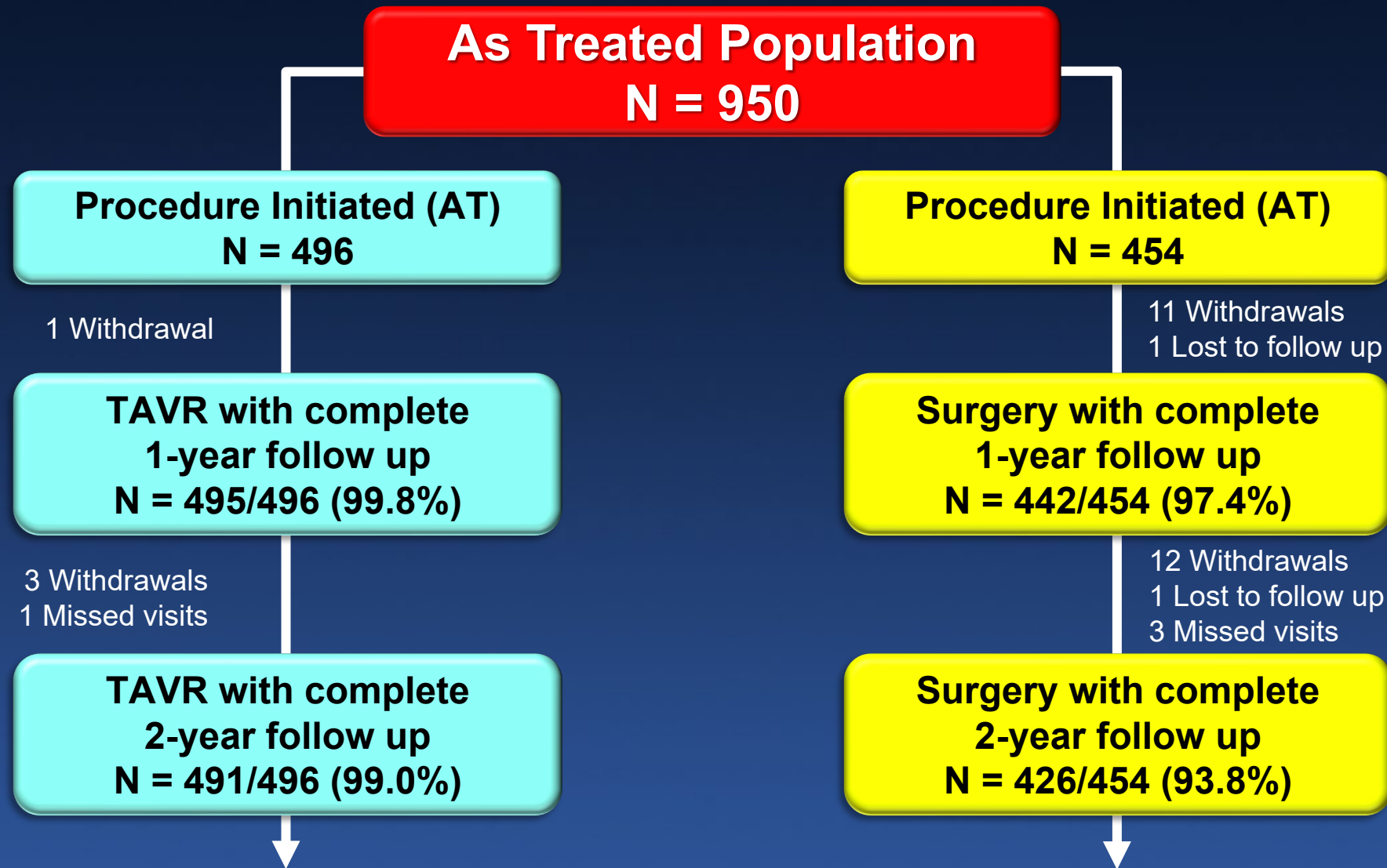
## Anatomic

- Aortic annulus diameter < 16 mm or > 28 mm (3D imaging)
- **Bicuspid valve (CT imaging)**
- Severe AR (> 3+) or MR (> 3+)
- Severe LV dysfunction (LVEF < 30%)
- **Severe calcification of aortic valvular complex (esp. LVOT)**
- **Vascular anatomy not suitable for safe femoral access**
- **Complex CAD: ULM, Syntax score > 32, or not amenable for PCI**
- Low coronary takeoff (high risk for obstruction)

## Clinical

- Acute MI within 1 month
- Stroke or TIA within 90 days
- **Renal insufficiency** (eGFR < 30 ml/min) and/or renal replacement Rx
- Hemodynamic or respiratory instability
- **Frailty** (objective assessment; > 2/4+ metrics)

# Patient Disposition to 2 Years



**96.5% Available for Primary Endpoint Analysis at 2 Years**



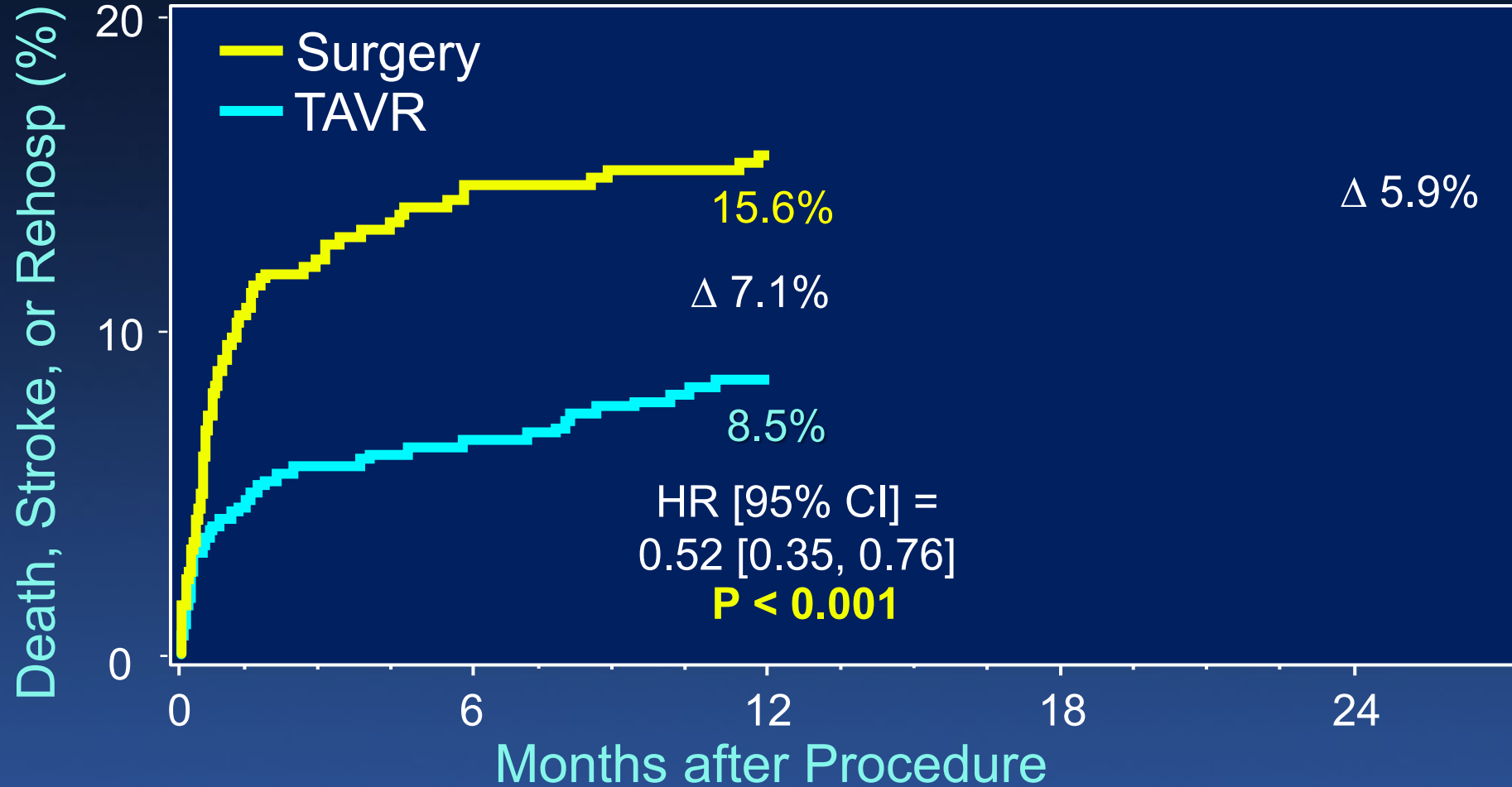
# Baseline Patient Characteristics

<b>Demographics &amp; Vascular Disease</b>	<b>TAVR (N=496)</b>	<b>Surgery (N=454)</b>	<b>Other Co-Morbidities</b>	<b>TAVR (N=496)</b>	<b>Surgery (N=454)</b>
Age (years)	73.3 ± 5.8	73.6 ± 6.1	Diabetes	31.3%	30.2%
Male	67.5%	71.1%	COPD (any)	5.1%	6.2%
BMI – kg/m <sup>2</sup>	30.7 ± 5.5	30.3 ± 5.1	Pulmonary Hypertension	4.6%	5.3%
<b>STS Score</b>	<b>1.9 ± 0.7</b>	<b>1.9 ± 0.6</b>	Creatinine > 2mg/dL	0.2%	0.2%
NYHA Class III or IV*	31.3%	23.8%	Frailty (overall; > 2/4+)	0	0
Coronary Disease	27.7%	28.0%	Atrial Fibrillation (h/o)	15.7%	18.8%
Prior CABG	3.0%	1.8%	Permanent Pacemaker	2.4%	2.9%
Prior CVA	3.4%	5.1%	Left Bundle Branch Block	3.0%	3.3%
Peripheral Vascular Disease	6.9%	7.3%	Right Bundle Branch Block	10.3%	13.7%

% or mean ± SD

\*P = 0.01

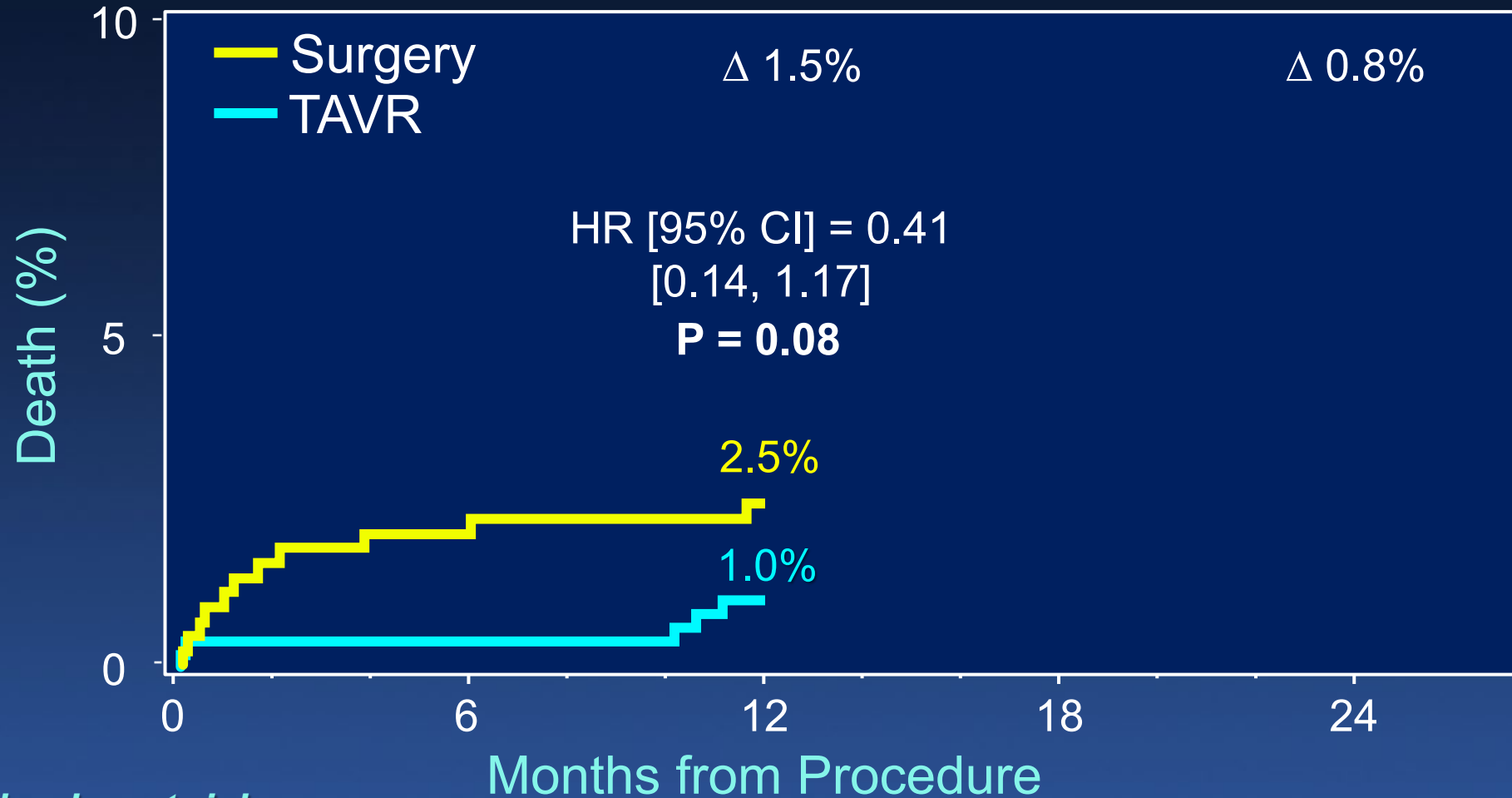
# Primary Endpoint



**Number at risk:**

	0	6	12	18	24
Surgery	454	378	370	352	339
TAVR	496	462	452	436	422

# Death



*Number at risk:*

Surgery	454	432	425	408	397
TAVR	496	493	489	477	466

# Causes of Death (Year 1 to 2)

## TAVR

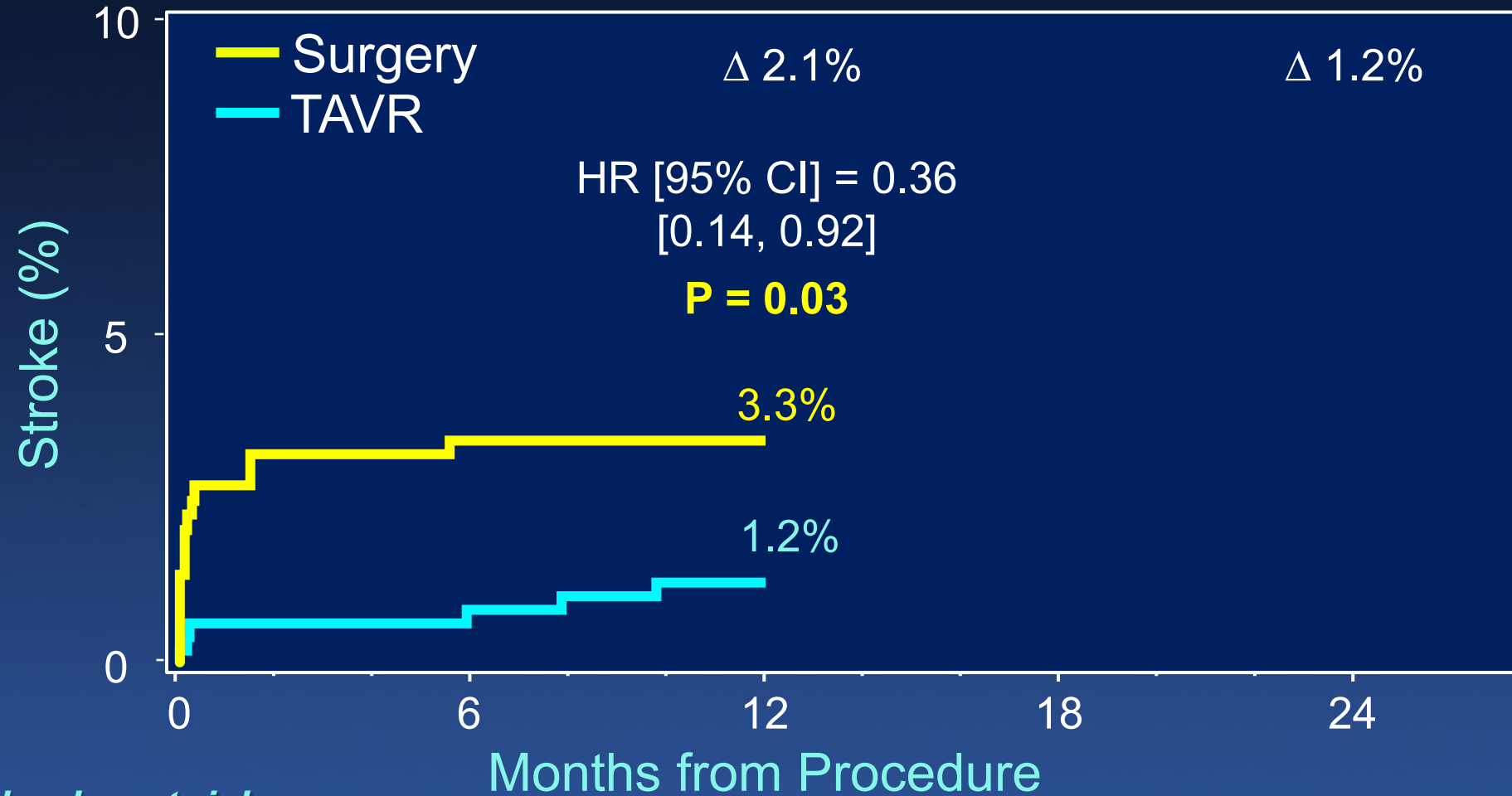
POD	Cause of death	Age
452	Sudden cardiac death	82
553	Fatal intracranial bleed secondary to fall	78
592	Unknown	72
628	Cardiac arrest secondary to complications of hip surgery	79
607	Cancer	72
657	Suicide	60
679	Sepsis	81

## Surgery

POD	Cause of death	Age
408	Heart failure	76
615	Unknown	84
510	Unknown	73

Light blue rows indicate CV-death; dark blue rows are non-CV death

# Stroke



*Number at risk:*

Surgery	454	421	414	398	386
TAVR	496	489	485	468	456

# Stroke Events (Year 1 to 2)

## TAVR

POD	Event Description	Age
442	L-sided weakness, CT & MRI pos; mRS 2 @90d	83
492	Aphasia, MRI pos; valve explanted (thrombosis)	68
578	L-sided weakness, MRI pos; mRS 4 @ 30d	69
376	R-sided weakness; mRS 1 @ 90d	76
456	Dysarthria, confusion; CT neg; mRS 0 @ 30d	84
518	Visual disturbances, CT neg @ time of event; KCCQ showed no disability @ f/u	71

## Surgery

POD	Event Description	Age
612	RUE weakness, CT neg/MRI pos mRS 1 @ 90d.	69

Light blue rows indicate a disabling stroke; dark blue rows are non-disabling

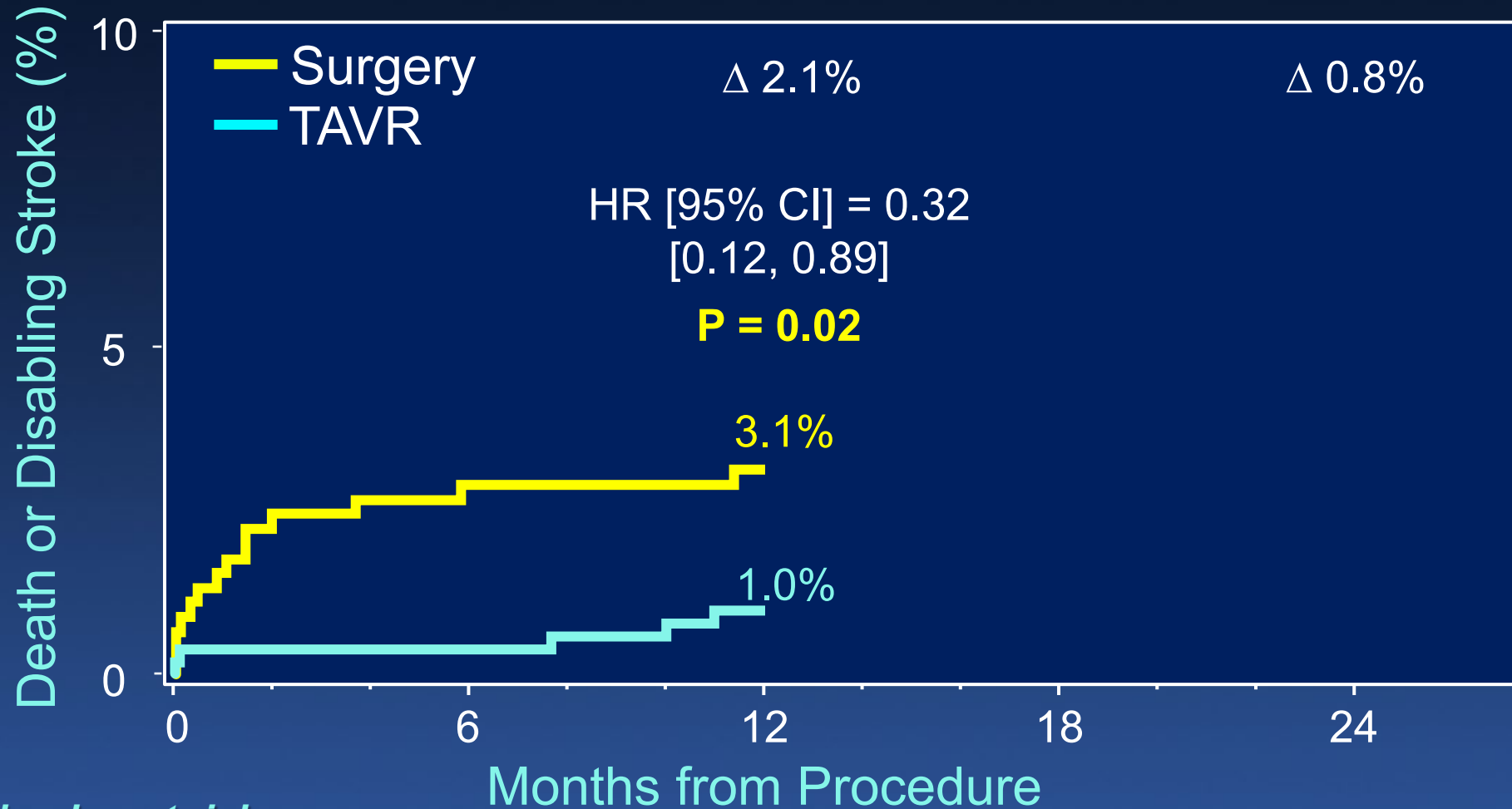
# Stroke Events (Year 1 to 2)

REFERENCE

- There were 6 new stroke events in TAVR and 1 in surgery from years 1 to 2
- All 7 strokes from year 1 to 2 were ischemic
  - The 1 stroke event in the surgery arm was non-disabling
  - Of the 6 strokes in the TAVR group, 3 were disabling:
    - 2 had AFib (one pre-existing, one new onset)
    - 2 had valve thrombosis
    - 1 was on anticoagulation (Xarelto) for pre-existing AFib

<b>Disabling Stroke</b>	<b>Atrial Fibrillation</b>	<b>Anti-Coagulation</b>	<b>Valve Thrombosis</b>
#1	Yes (Prior)	Yes	Yes
#2	Yes (New Onset)	No	No
#3	No	No	Yes

# Death or Disabling Stroke

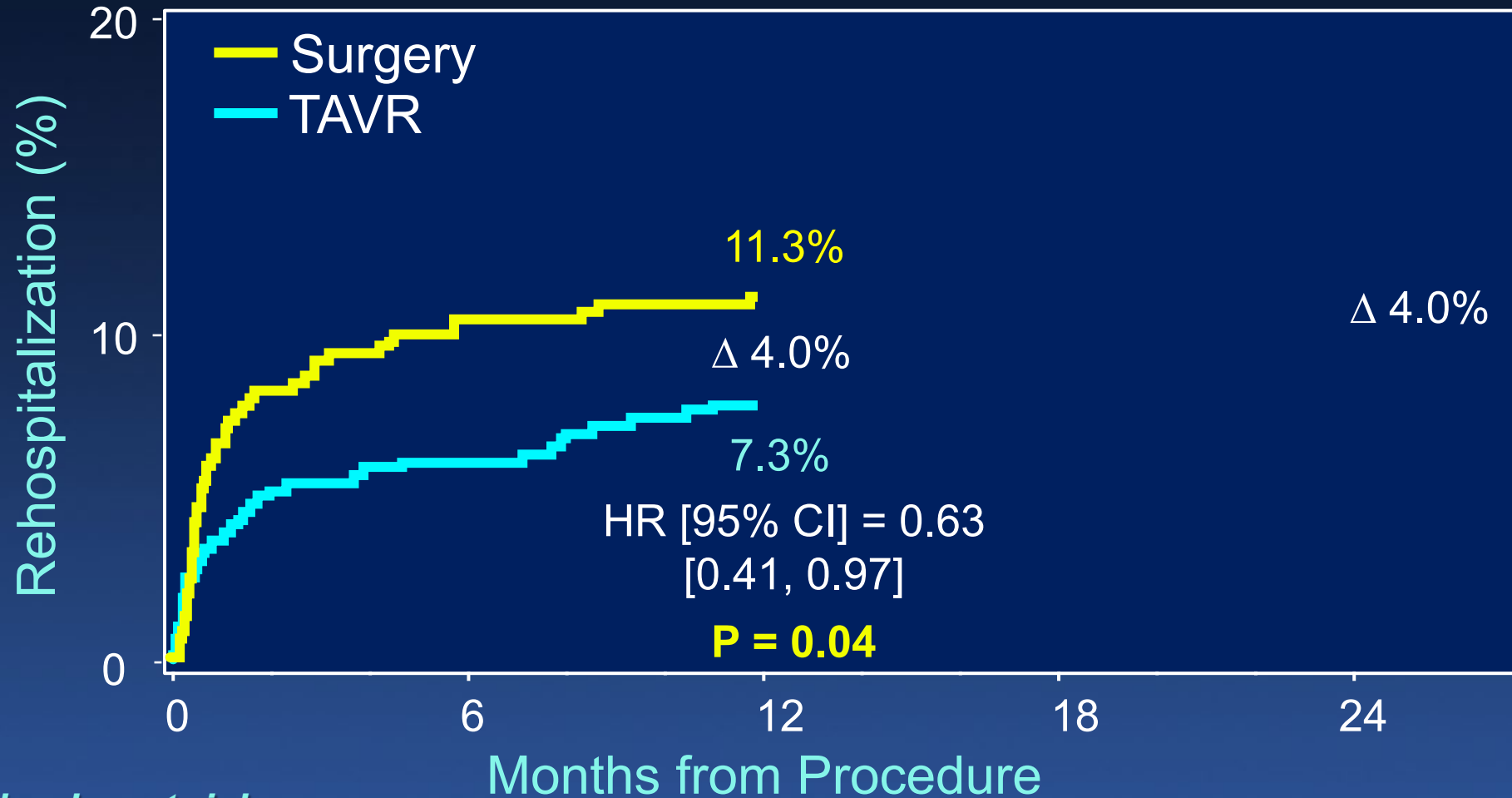


*Number at risk:*

Surgery	454	430	423	406	395
TAVR	496	493	489	475	463



# Rehospitalization



*Number at risk:*

Surgery	454	387	379	360	348
TAVR	496	465	454	441	427

# Causes of Rehospitalization

## *Year 1 to 2*

<b>Cause of Rehospitalization</b>	<b>TAVR (N=10)</b>	<b>Surgery (N=8)</b>
<b>CHF</b>	60% (6)	75.0% (6)
<b>CVA with Valve Thrombosis</b>	20% (2)	0% (0)
<b>Syncope</b>	10% (1)	0% (0)
<b>Bacteremia</b>	10% (1)	0% (0)
<b>Endocarditis</b>	0% (0)	12.5% (1)
<b>Permanent Pacemaker Implantation</b>	0% (0)	12.5% (1)

Event rates are incidence [% (no. of subjects with event)]

# Secondary Endpoints

Outcomes	1 Year			2 Years		
	TAVR (N=496)	Surgery (N=454)	P-value	TAVR (N=496)	Surgery (N=454)	P-value
MI	1.2% (6)	2.2% (10)	0.23	1.8% (9)	2.7% (12)	0.36
New onset atrial fibrillation	7.2% (30)	40.9% (150)	< 0.001	7.9% (33)	41.8% (153)	< 0.001
New PPM (incl baseline)	7.3% (36)	5.4% (24)	0.21	8.5% (42)	6.3% (28)	0.19
New LBBB	23.9% (115)	8.0% (35)	< 0.001	24.4% (117)	9.4% (41)	< 0.001
Coronary Obstruction	0.2% (1)	0.7% (3)	0.28	0.2% (1)	0.7% (3)	0.28
AV Re-intervention	0.6% (3)	0.5% (2)	0.76	0.8% (4)	0.9% (4)	0.85
Endocarditis	0.2% (1)	0.5% (2)	0.49	0.2% (1)	0.9% (4)	0.13
Valve Thrombosis*	1.0% (5)	0.2% (1)	0.13	2.6% (13)	0.7% (3)	0.02

Event rates are Kaplan-Meier estimate [% (no. of subjects with event)] and P-values are based on Log-Rank test

\* Valve thrombosis according to VARC 2 definition [Thrombus associated with an implanted valve, interfering with valve function or warranting treatment (anticoagulation or explantation)]

# Valve Thrombosis to 2 Years

Outcomes	TAVR (N=496)	Surgery (N=454)	P-value
<b>Valve Thrombosis</b>	2.6% (13)	0.7% (3)	<b>0.02</b>
Mean Gradient > 20mmHg and ↑ > 10mmHg	53.8% (7)	0% (0)	
Mean Gradient > 20mmHg and ↑ < 10mmHg	30.7% (4)	100.0% (3)	
↑ transvalvular AR (mild) with no change in mean gradient	7.7% (1)	0% (0)	
CT findings with no change in hemodynamics	7.7% (1)	0% (0)	

CEC adjudicated valve thrombosis per VARC 2 (all patients received anticoagulation). Valve thrombosis events are Kaplan-Meier estimate [% (no. of subjects with event)] and P-value is based on Log-Rank test; all other event rates are incidence [% (no. of subjects with event)]

# Valve Thrombosis Clinical Events

*Possibly Related to Valve Thrombosis*

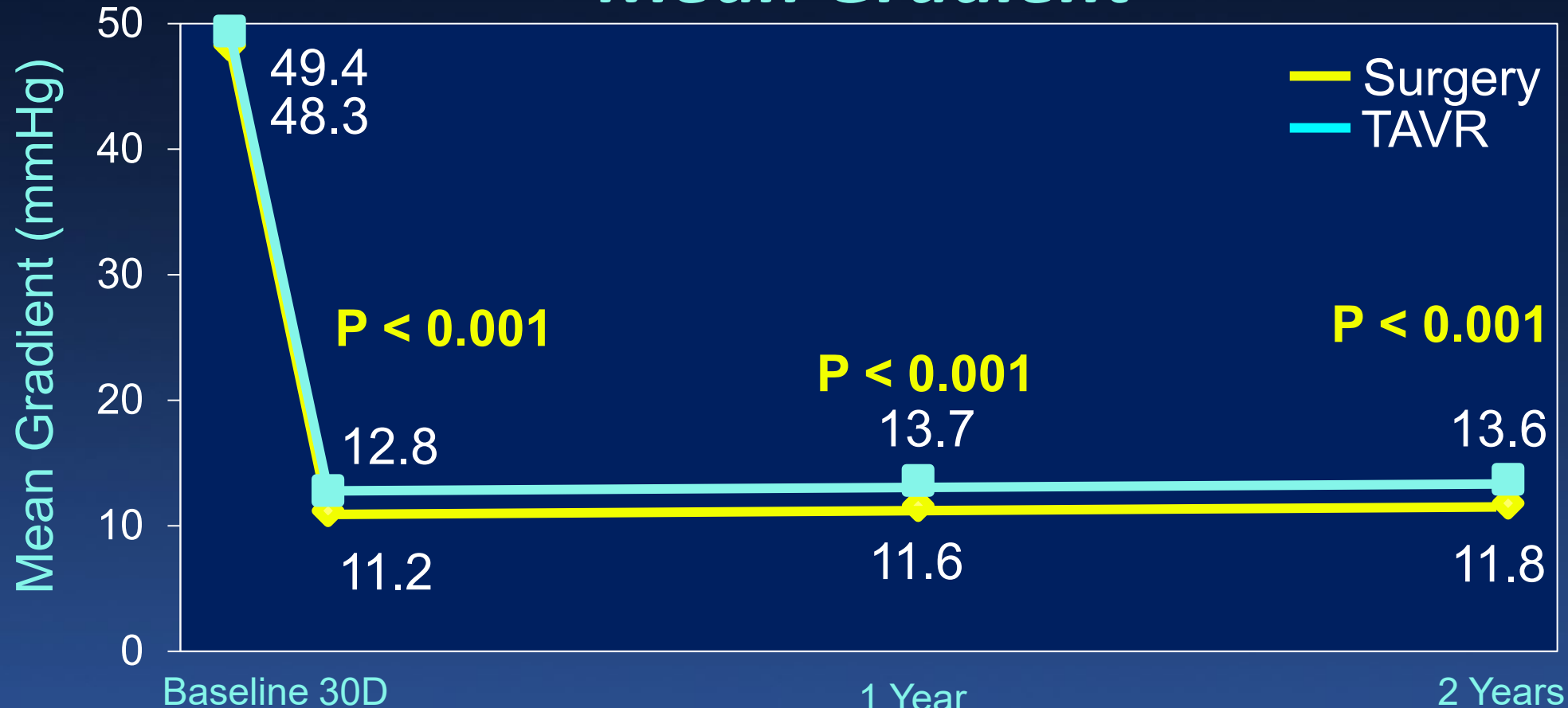
Patient	Treatment Arm	Timing of Valve Thrombosis	Timing of Clinical Event	Clinical Event
1	TAVR	~18 months	~18 months	CVA
2	TAVR	12 months	19 months	CVA
3	TAVR	1 month	~4 months	Syncope
4	Surgery	12 months	21 months	TIA

*Possibly Related to Anticoagulation*

Patient	Treatment Arm	Timing of Valve Thrombosis	Timing of Clinical Event	Clinical Event
1	TAVR	12 months	~24 months	Periorbital ecchymosis
2	TAVR	1 month	~2 months	Subdural hematoma

# Echocardiography Findings

## Mean Gradient



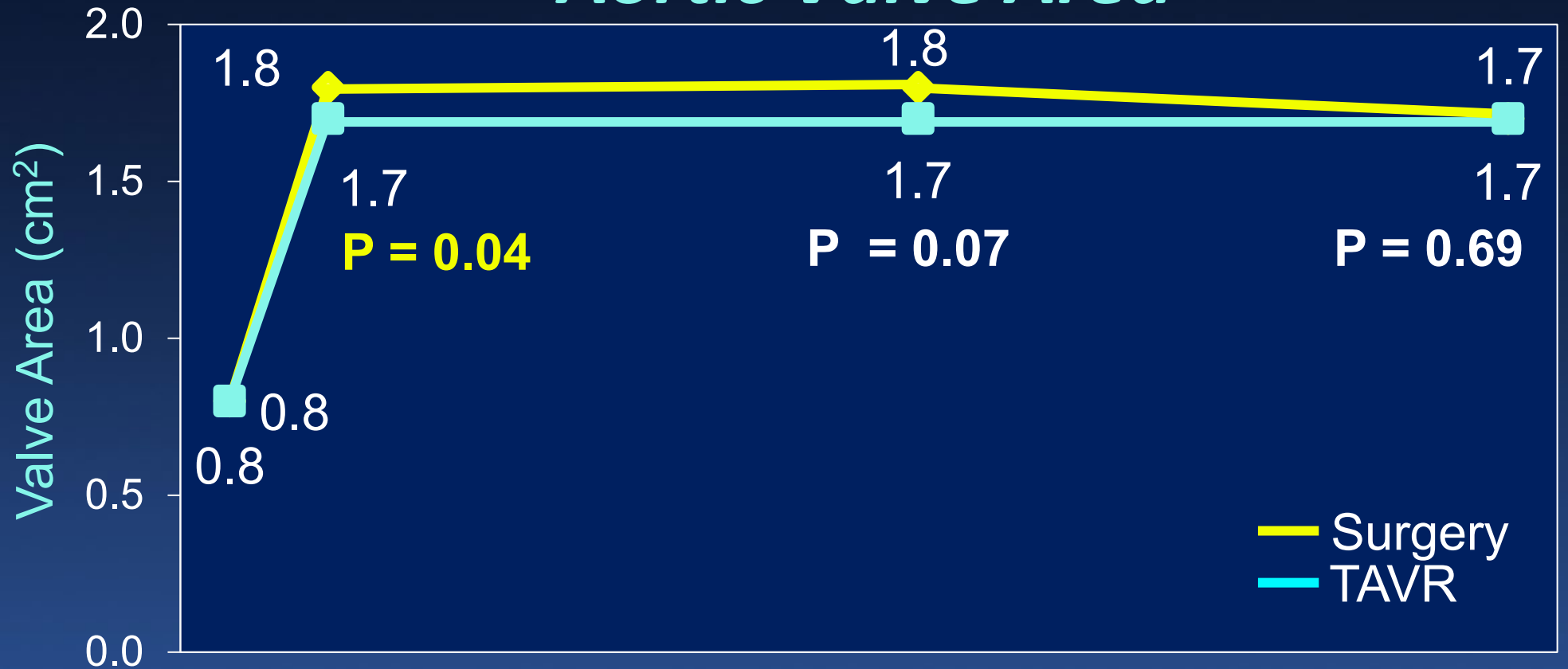
### No. of Echos

	Baseline	30D	1 Year	2 Years
Surgery	441	426	391	355
TAVR	483	490	473	431

P-values are based on the ANCOVA, with baseline as a covariate

# Echocardiography Findings

## Aortic Valve Area

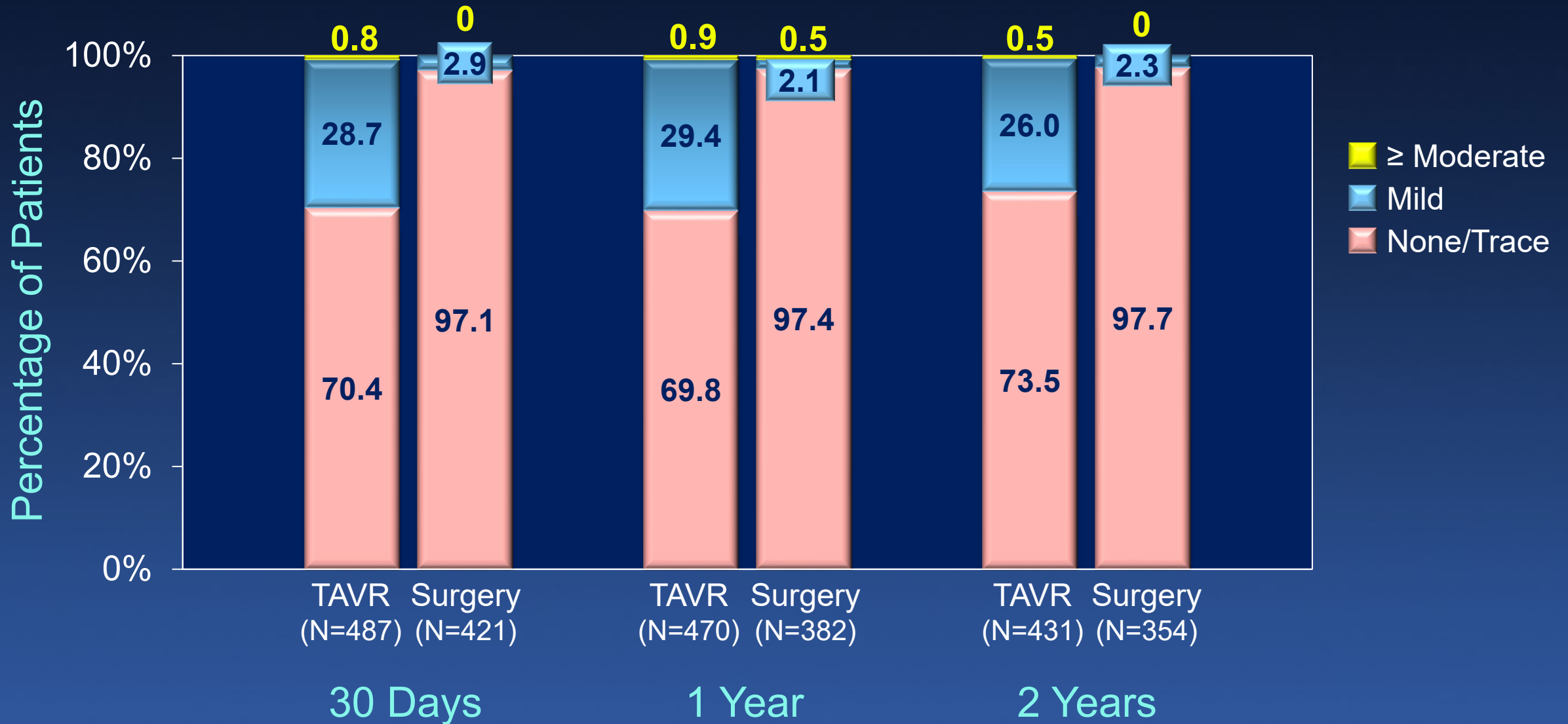


No. of Echos	Baseline 30D		1 Year	2 Years
Surgery	441	395	371	339
TAVR	483	470	450	410

P-values are based on the ANCOVA, with baseline as a covariate

# Paravalvular Regurgitation

≥ mod PVR: P = NS; ≥ mild PVR: P < 0.001 for all time points





# The PARTNER 3 Trial

## *Study Limitations*

- Results only apply to the enrolled AS population (e.g. bicuspid aortic valves, severe LVOT calcification, non-suitable for TF, and complex CAD excluded)
- Less follow-up data available in the surgical group due to greater patient withdrawal
- Valve thrombosis definitions by VARC 2 criteria are outdated and may be exaggerated by recent CT-imaging leaflet thickening studies
- Results reflect only 2-year outcomes; long-term assessment of structural valve deterioration is required
  - 10-year clinical and echocardiographic FU planned in all patients

# The PARTNER 3 Trial

## Conclusions (1)

*In a defined population of severe symptomatic aortic stenosis patients who were at low surgical risk, TAVR (using the SAPIEN 3 valve) compared to surgery @ 2 years demonstrated:*

- Reduced primary endpoint events (37% reduction in death, stroke or CV rehospitalization); BUT...
  - More death and stroke events in TAVR patients from 1 to 2 years; no significant differences @ 2 years
  - Reduced CV rehospitalizations favoring TAVR

# The PARTNER 3 Trial

## *Conclusions (2)*

- Increased valve thrombosis events in TAVR patients, esp. from 1 to 2 years
- Hemodynamic improvements and frequency of moderate or mild paravalvular regurgitation were unchanged between 1 and 2 years in both TAVR and surgery patients

# Back-Up Slides

# Study Leadership

## National Principal Investigators

- Martin B. Leon, MD, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, NY
- Michael J. Mack, MD, The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano, Plano, TX

## Steering Committee

- Howard Herrmann, Samir Kapadia, Susheel Kodali, Martin B. Leon, Michael J. Mack, Raj Makkar, Craig R. Smith (chair), Wilson Szeto, Vinod Thourani, John Webb

## Data & Safety Monitoring Board

- Cardiovascular Research Foundation, New York, NY; Joseph Carrozza, Jr., MD, chair

## Clinical Events Committee

- Cardiovascular Research Foundation, New York, NY; Steven O. Marx, MD, chair

## CT Core Laboratory

- The University of British Columbia; Jonathon Leipsic, MD, chair; Philipp Blanke, MD, chair

## Echocardiographic Core Laboratory

- Quebec Heart & Lung Institute (Laval University); Philippe Pibarot, DVM PhD, chair
- Cardiovascular Research Foundation, New York, NY; Rebecca Hahn, MD, chair

## Sponsor

- Edwards Lifesciences, Irvine, CA

# Study Methodology

- The primary endpoint was a non-hierarchical composite of **all-cause mortality, all strokes, or CV rehospitalization** at 1 year.
- Analysis cohort was the **'as-treated' (AT) population**, defined as all randomized patients in whom the procedure was initiated.
- Baseline and 30-day neuro assessment in all patients; serial neurologist examinations and neuro-imaging for suspected neuro events.
- **CEC adjudication of all primary endpoint events, valve thrombosis, endocarditis, and AV-reintervention to 2 years.**
- **10-year clinical and echocardiography follow-up** in all patients.

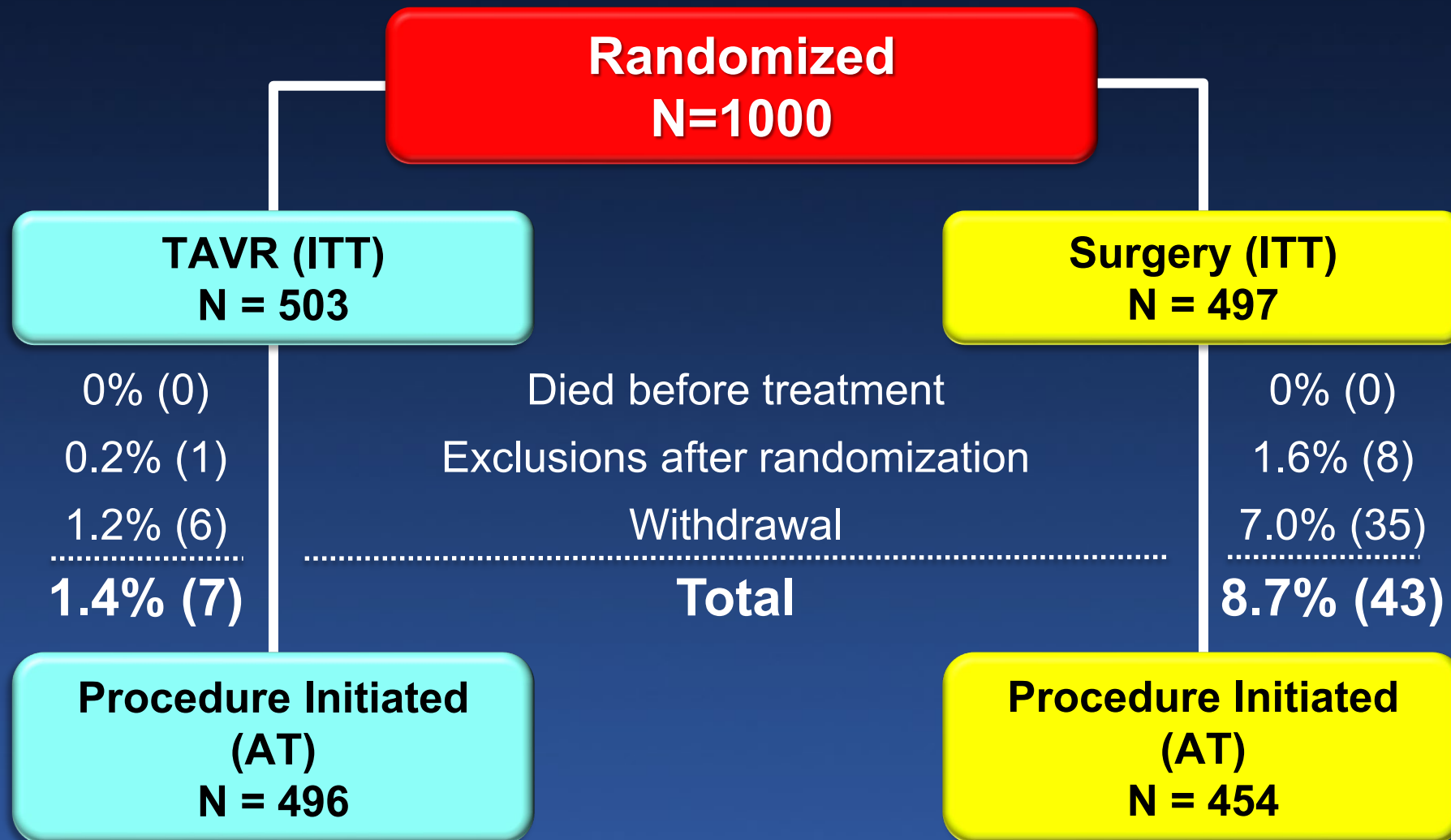
# Key Endpoint Definitions

- **Valve Thrombosis (VARC 2)**
  - Thrombus associated with an implanted valve, interfering with valve function or warranting treatment (anticoagulation or explantation)
- **Hemodynamic Valve Deterioration - Stage 2 or 3 (VARC 3)\***
  - $\uparrow$  mean gradient  $\geq 10$  or  $20$  mmHg with final mean gradient  $\geq 20$  or  $30$  mmHg AND: i)  $\downarrow$  AVA  $\geq 0.3$  or  $0.6$  cm<sup>2</sup> or  $\geq 25$  or  $50\%$ ; OR ii)  $\downarrow$  DVI  $\geq 0.1$  or  $0.2$  or  $\geq 20$  or  $40\%$ ; AND/OR  $\geq 1$  or  $2$  grade new/worsening transvalvular AR with final grade  $\geq$  mod or severe
- **Bioprosthetic Valve Failure (VARC 3/EACTS-EAPCI)\***
  - Re-intervention or death 2<sup>ry</sup> to valve dysfunction OR Severe (Stage 3) HVD related to intrinsic permanent changes to the prosthetic valve

\* HVD and BVF cases were adjudicated by a group of 3 experts

# Study Populations

## *ITT to AT Patient Cohorts*





# Primary Endpoint

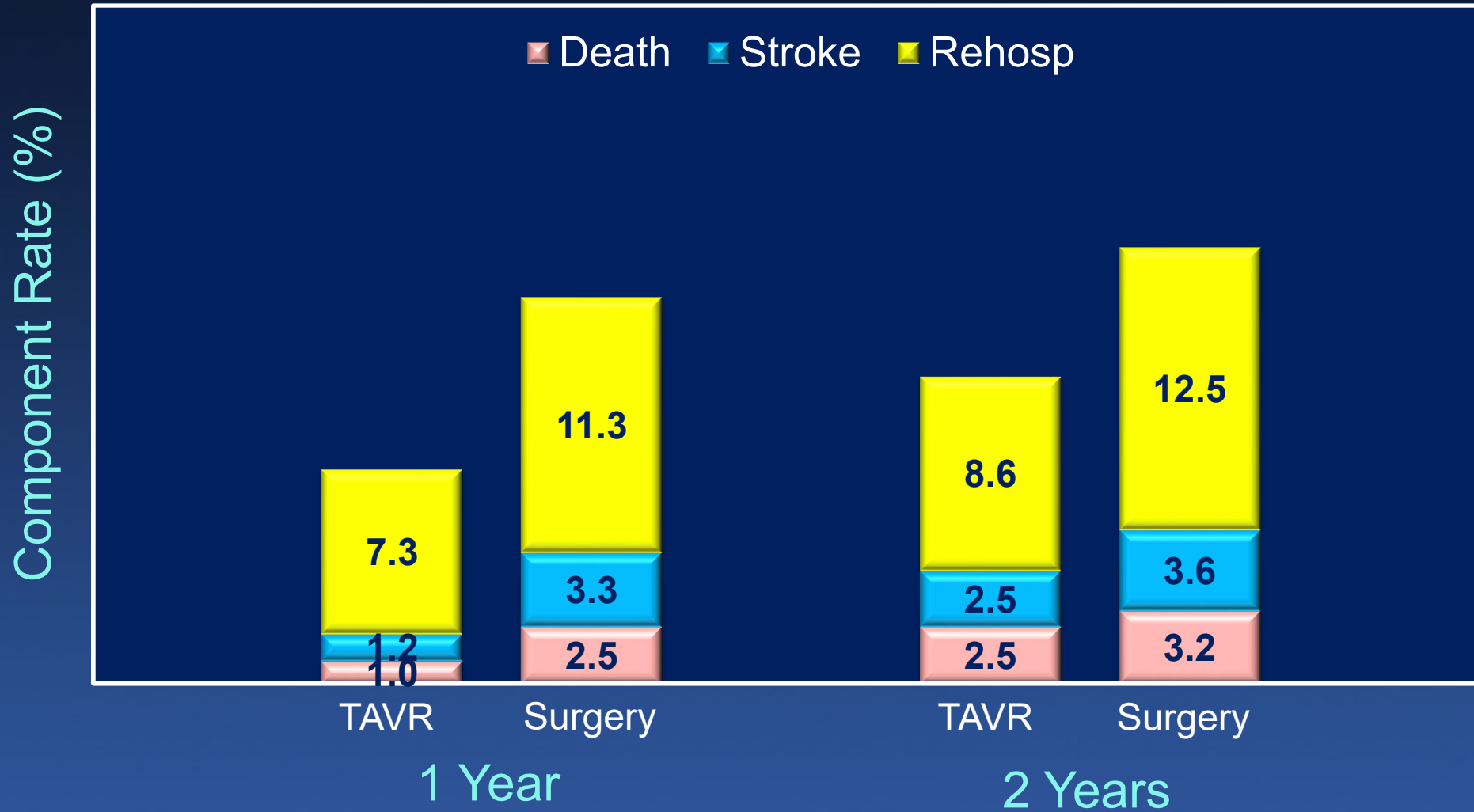
## *As Treated Population*

Endpoint	KM Rate at 1 Year				KM Rate at 2 Years			
	TAVR (N=496)	Surgery (N=454)	Hazard Ratio [95% CI]	P- value	TAVR (N=496)	Surgery (N=454)	Hazard Ratio [95% CI]	P- value
Death, stroke, and re hosp <sup>‡</sup>								

Event rates are Kaplan-Meier estimate [% (no. of subjects with event)] and P-values are based on Log-Rank test

<sup>‡</sup> Rehospitalization (valve- or procedure-related and including heart failure)

# Component Rates of the Primary Endpoint



# Causes of Death (to 1 Year)

## TAVR

## Surgery

POD	Cause of death	Age	Valve Size
0	Annulus rupture	64	29mm
3	LV perforation (intra-procedural)	83	23mm
318	Fatal Intracranial bleed secondary to fall following ViV procedure	74	26mm
335	Sudden cardiac death (PEA arrest)	68	23mm
305	Motor vehicle accident	78	26mm

POD	Cause of death	Age	Valve Size
0	PEA arrest	80	19mm
4	PEA arrest	54	23mm
10	PEA arrest	61	21mm
14	Respiratory failure	68	21mm
31	Failure to wean from ECMO	69	25mm
47	Hemorrhagic stroke	84	23mm
59	Endocarditis	68	23mm
111	Acute MI	79	25mm
177	Stroke with subsequent pneumonia	73	25mm
25	Sepsis	70	25mm
346	Cancer	81	25mm

Light blue rows indicate CV-death; dark blue rows are non-CV death

# Stroke to 2 Years

Outcomes	TAVR (N=12)	Surgery (N=16)
<b>All Stroke</b>		
Disabling	66.7% (8)	31.3% (5)
Non-disabling	33.3% (4)	68.8% (11)
<b>Timing of Stroke</b>		
Peri-procedural (within 30 days)	25.0% (3)	75.0% (12)
Acute ( $\leq$ 24 hours)	8.3% (1)	37.5% (6)
Subacute (24 hours – 30 days)	16.7% (2)	37.5% (6)
Early (30 days – 1 year)	25.0% (3)	18.8% (3)
Late (> 1 year)	50.0% (6)	6.3% (1)
<b>Type of Stroke</b>		
Ischemic	100.0% (12)	68.8% (11)
Hemorrhagic	0% (0)	12.5% (2)*
Undetermined	0% (0)	18.8% (3)

Event rates are incidence [% (no. of subjects with event)]

\*Both hemorrhagic strokes were fatal

# Causes of Rehosp (Year 1 to 2)

## TAVR

## Surgery

POD	Event Description	Age	Valve Size
494	CVA w/ valve thrombosis	68	29
617	CHF	77	29
695	CHF	75	26
392	Syncope	75	20
604	CHF	69	23
578	CVA w/ valve thrombosis	69	26
439	Bacteremia	74	23
416	CHF	68	23
422	CHF	68	29
510	CHF	68	29

POD	Event Description	Age	Valve Size
430	CHF	81	23
544	CHF	75	25
622	CHF	74	21
519	CHF	69	21
581	CHF/PVL w/ reintervention	81	25
413	CHB w/ PPM implantation	78	25
711	Endocarditis w/ reintervention	72	25
644	CHF	76	25

# KCCQ Overall Summary Score

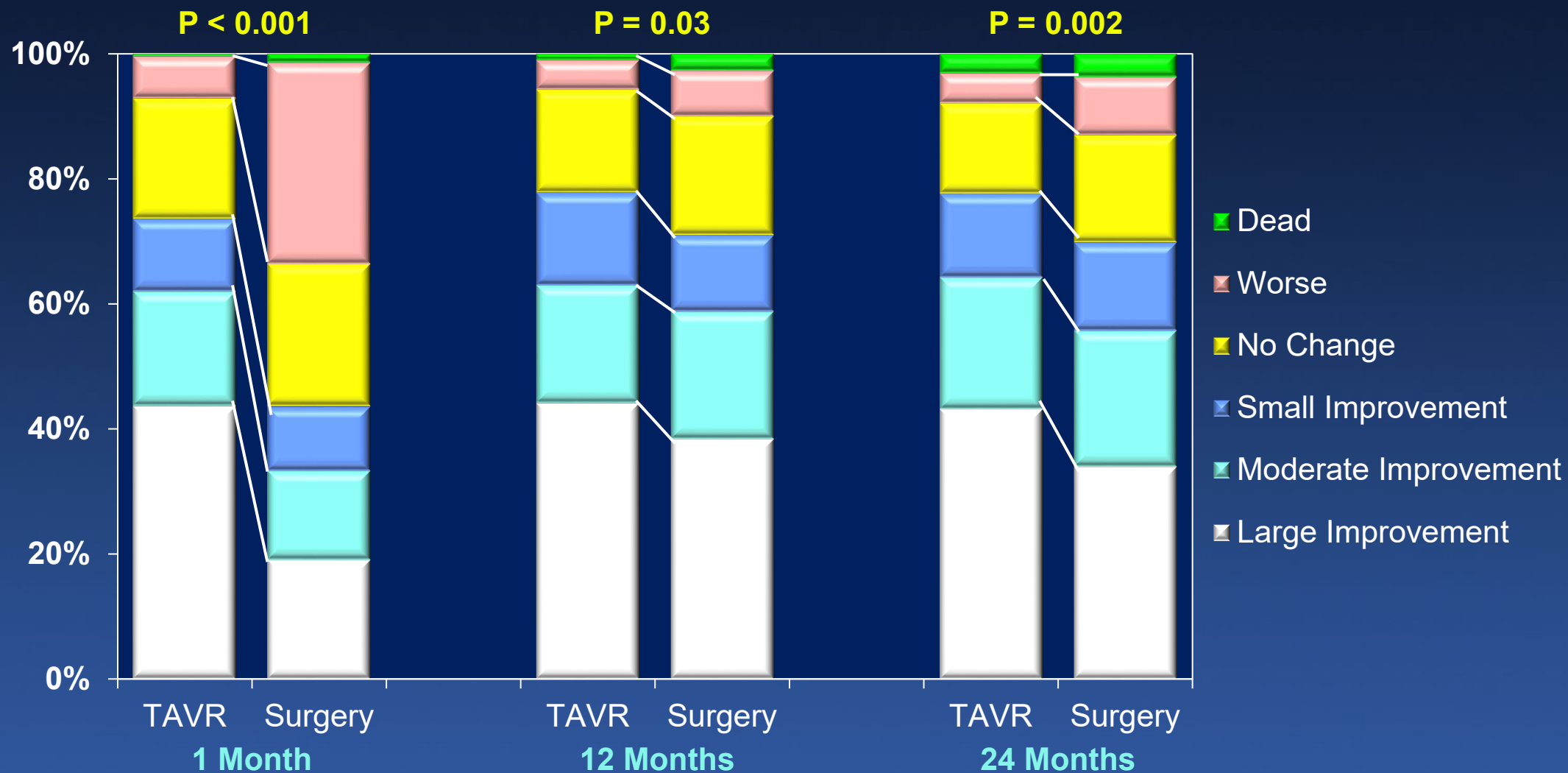


<b>Surgery</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>366</b>
<b>TAVR</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>444</b>

P-values are based on t-test and indicate change from baseline.

# Categorical Analysis:

## *Survival and Health Status (KCCQ-OS) Combined*



# Primary Endpoint Sensitivity Analyses to 2 years

## *Multiple Imputation*

	<b>TAVR (N=503)</b>	<b>Surgery (N=497)</b>	<b>HR</b>	<b>95% CI for the HR</b>	<b>P-value (sup)</b>
<b>No Imputation</b>	11.5%	17.4%	0.63	[0.45, 0.88]	0.007
<b>Missing at Random</b>	11.6%	17.3%	0.67	[0.48, 0.94]	0.02
<b>Informative Missing</b>	11.5%	17.3%	0.67	[0.48, 0.94]	0.02

\*95% CI based on the Greenwood standard error

## *WIN Ratio*

<b>No. of Total Pairs</b>	<b>No of TAVR Win</b>	<b>No. of Surgery Win</b>	<b>Win ratio for Primary Endpoint</b>	<b>95% CI* for the WR</b>	<b>P-value</b>
<b>454 X 496 = 225,184</b>	36496	23020	1.59	[1.13, 2.23]	0.008

\*95% CI and p-value is based on the Finkelstein and Schoenfeld approach



# Restricted Mean Survival Time

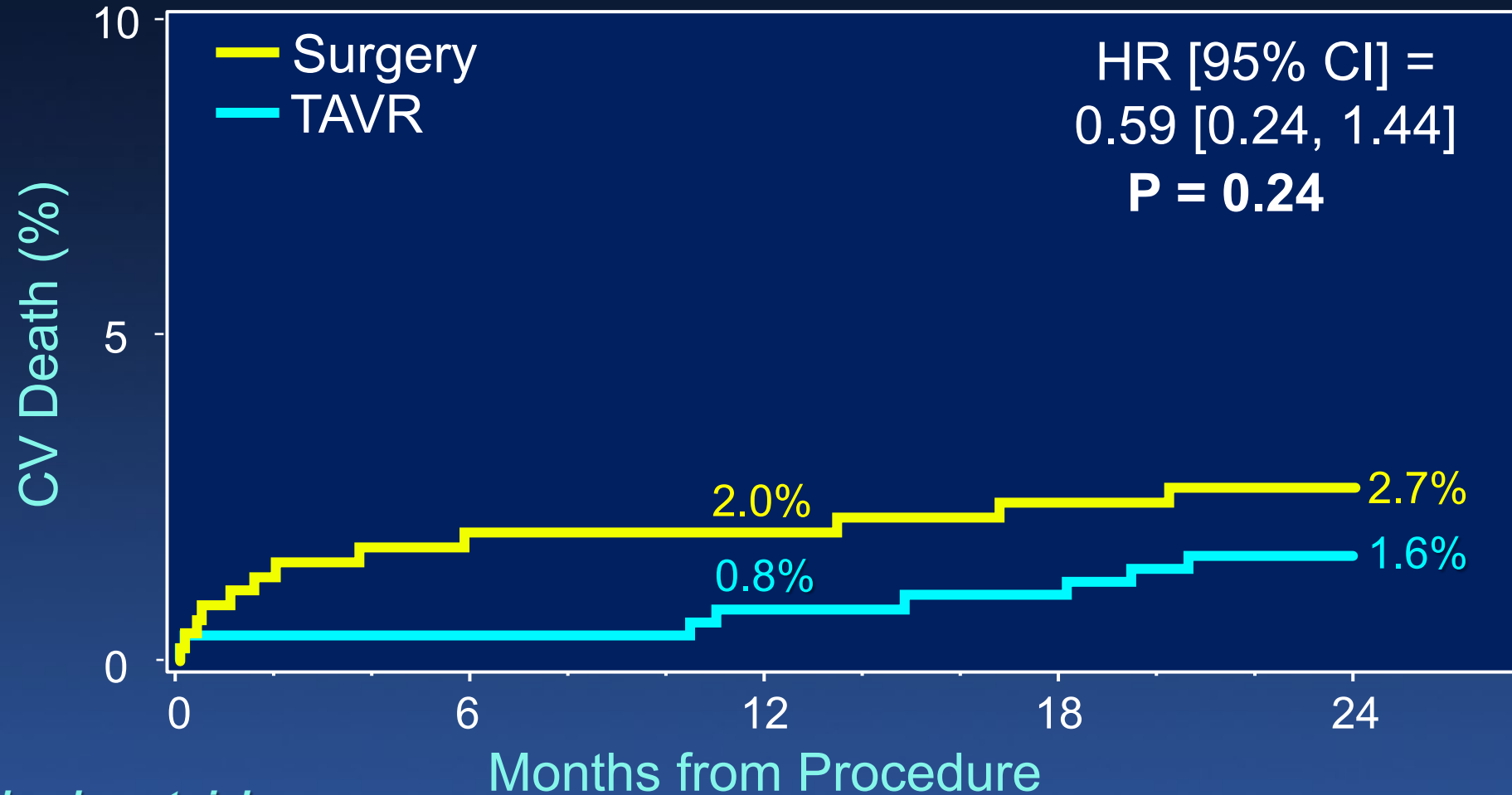
## *PMAAT Restricted at 2 years*

Endpoint	Statistic in 730 days	TAVR [95% CI]	Surgery [95% CI]	Difference (TAVR – Surgery) [95% CI]	P-Value
Death, stroke, and re hosp <sup>‡</sup>	Mean primary endpoint-free time	670.13 [653.93, 686.32]	621.53 [598.66, 644.39]	48.60 [20.58, 76.62]	< 0.001
Death	Mean survival time	722.65 [717.49, 727.82]	712.43 [702.81, 722.04]	10.23 [-0.69, 21.15]	0.07
Stroke	Mean stroke-free time	719.46 [712.96, 725.97]	706.02 [694.21, 717.83]	13.44 [-0.04, 26.93]	0.05
Re hosp <sup>‡</sup>	Mean re hosp-free time	680.90 [665.83, 695.98]	652.29 [632.36, 672.21]	28.61 [3.63, 53.60]	0.02

Based on Restricted Mean Survival Time (RMST): Royston & Parmar, BMC Medical Research Methodology, 2013, 13-152

<sup>‡</sup> Rehospitalization (valve- or procedure-related and including heart failure)

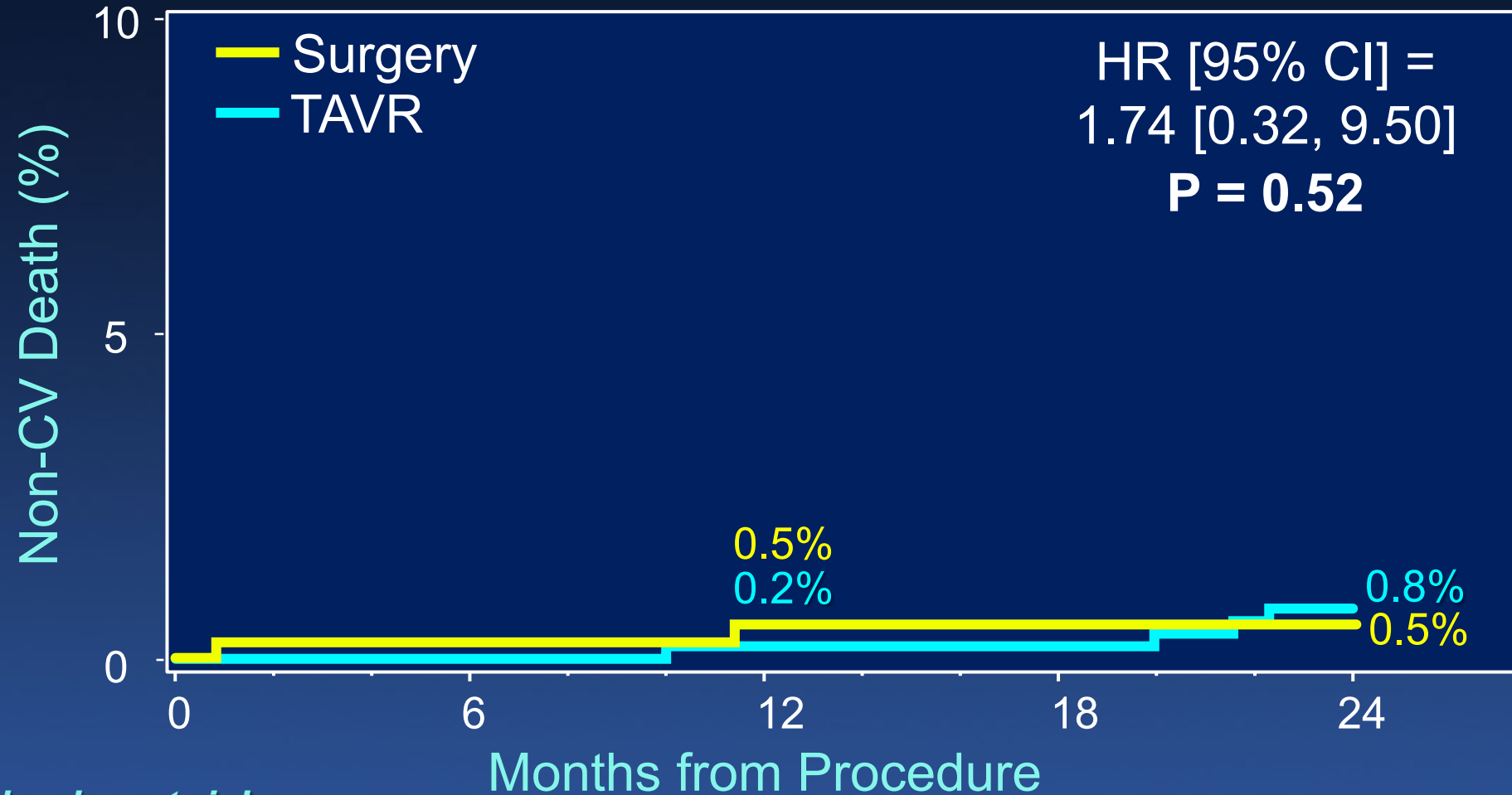
# Cardiovascular Death



*Number at risk:*

Surgery	454	432	425	408	397
TAVR	496	493	489	477	466
















# Non-Cardiovascular Death



*Number at risk:*

Surgery	454	432	425	408	397
TAVR	496	493	489	477	466

# Primary Endpoint - Subgroup Analysis

Subgroup	TAVR	Surgery		Diff [95% CI]	P-value*
<b>Overall</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>17.5</b>		<b>-5.9 [-10.4, -1.4]</b>	
<b>Age</b>					
≤ 74 (n=516)	13.6	17.2		-3.5 [-9.8, 2.8]	<b>0.25</b>
> 74 (n=434)	9.1	17.8		-8.8 [-15.2, -2.3]	
<b>Sex</b>					
Female (n=292)	11.3	21.0		-9.7 [-18.3, -1.1]	<b>0.30</b>
Male (n=658)	11.7	16.1		-4.3 [-9.6, 1.0]	
<b>STS Score</b>					
≤ 1.8 (n=464)	11.3	17.5		-6.3 [-12.7, 0.2]	<b>0.88</b>
> 1.8 (n=486)	11.9	17.4		-5.5 [-11.9, 0.8]	
<b>LV Ejection Fraction</b>					
≤ 65 (n=384)	13.0	20.2		-7.2 [-14.7, 0.4]	<b>0.48</b>
> 65 (n=524)	10.7	14.5		-3.8 [-9.5, 2.0]	
<b>NYHA Class</b>					
I/II (n=687)	9.8	16.1		-6.3 [-11.3, -1.3]	<b>0.997</b>
III/IV (n=263)	15.5	21.9		-6.3 [-16.1, 3.4]	
<b>Atrial Fibrillation</b>					
No (n=786)	10.6	15.7		-5.1 [-9.9, -0.3]	<b>0.63</b>
Yes (n=163)	17.0	25.4		-8.4 [-21.0, 4.2]	
<b>KCCQ Overall Summary Score</b>					
≤ 70 (n=407)	13.4	22.2		-8.8 [-16.3, -1.3]	<b>0.28</b>
> 70 (n=536)	9.9	13.6		-3.7 [-9.2, 1.8]	

Event rates are KM estimates (%)

\* P-value is for interaction

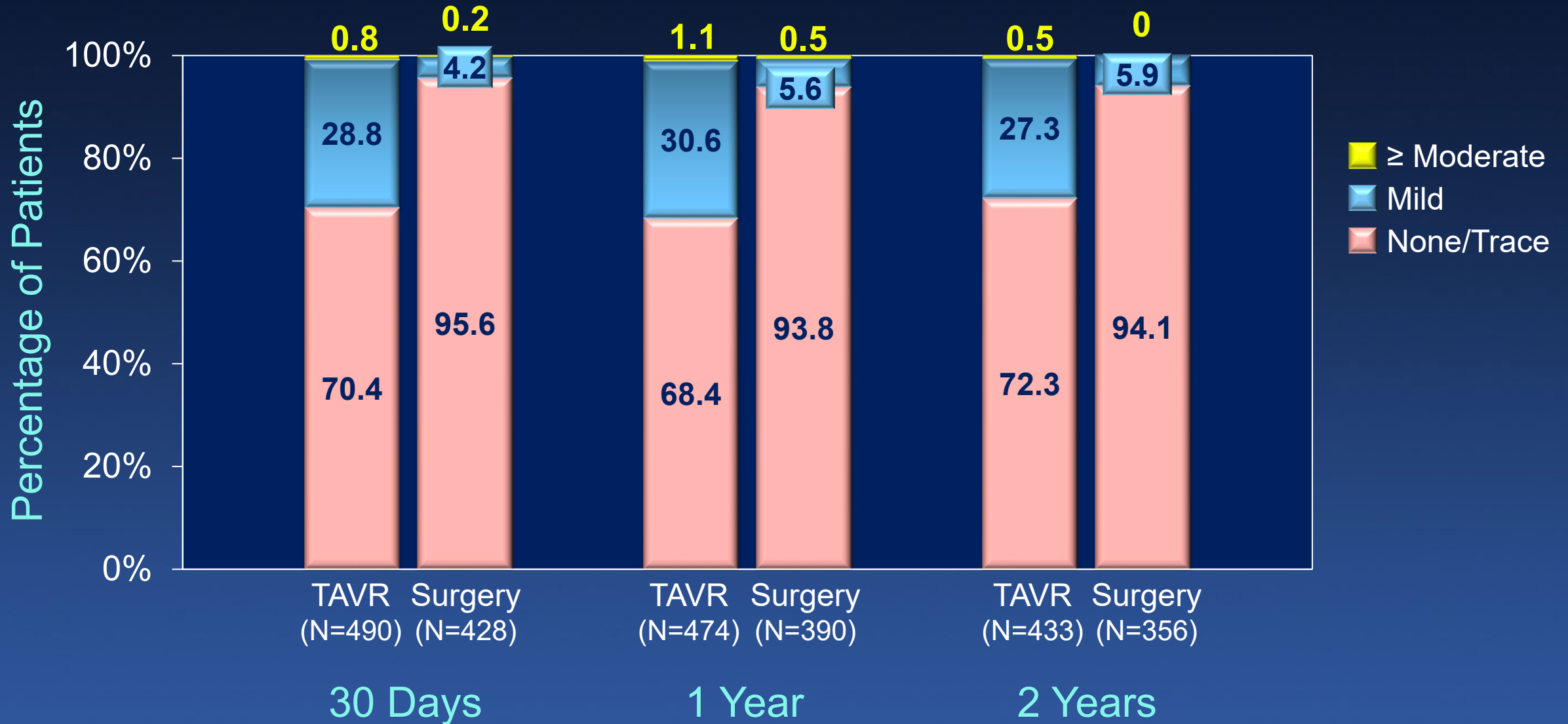


# Total Aortic Regurgitation

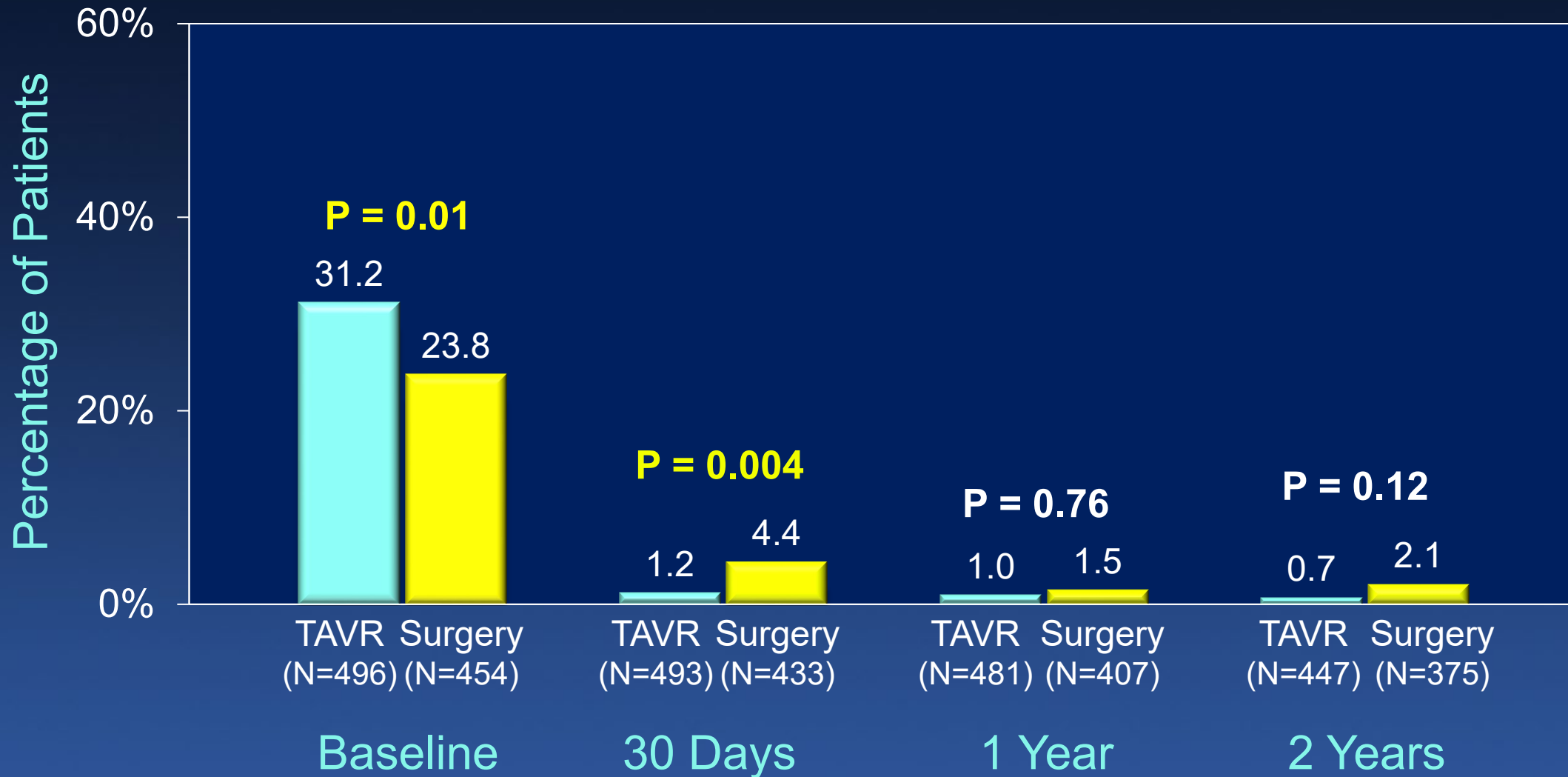
≥ mod AR: P = 0.38

≥ mod AR: P = 0.47

≥ mod AR: P = 0.50



# NYHA Class III/IV



P-values are based on Fisher's Exact test.

# KCCQ Overall Summary Score



<b>Surgery</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>366</b>
<b>TAVR</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>444</b>

P-values are based on t-test and indicate change from baseline.