

PLATFORM OF LABORATORIES FOR ADVANCES IN CARDIAC EXPERIENCE

#### ROMA

9ª Edizione

Centro Congressi di Confindustria **Auditorium** 

30 Settembre

1 Ottobre

della Tecnica 2022





Lorenzo A. Menicanti IRCCS Policlinico San Donato





## **No Conflict of interest**

Lorenzo A. Menicanti MD

**IRCCS Policlinico San Donato** 

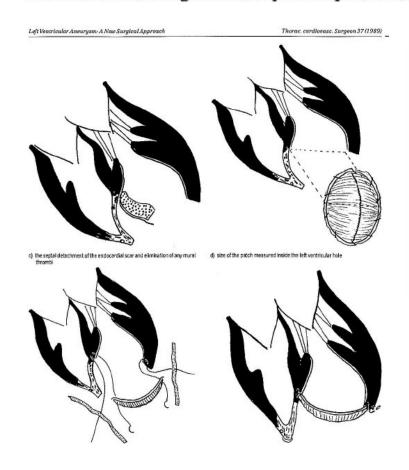
San Donato Milanese - Milano Italy

# Left Ventricular Aneurysm: A New Surgical Approach

V. Dor, M. Saab\*, P. Coste, M. Kornaszewska, and F. Montiglio

Centre Cardiothoracique de Monaco, Monaco

\* Service de chirurgie cardiaque, Hopital Pasteur, CHU, Nice, France



The technique involves the following steps:

- Resection of dyskinetic or akinetic LV free wall and thrombectomy when indicated.
- A dacron patch lined with pericardium is secured at the junction of the endocardial muscle and scarred tissue, thereby excluding non contractile portions of the LV and septum.
- Myocardial revascularization is performed as indicated with particular attention paid to revascularizing the proximal left anterior descending segment.



doi:10.1093/eurhearti/ehw128

**ESC GUIDELINES** 



#### 2016 ESC Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic heart failure

The Task Force for the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic heart failure of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)

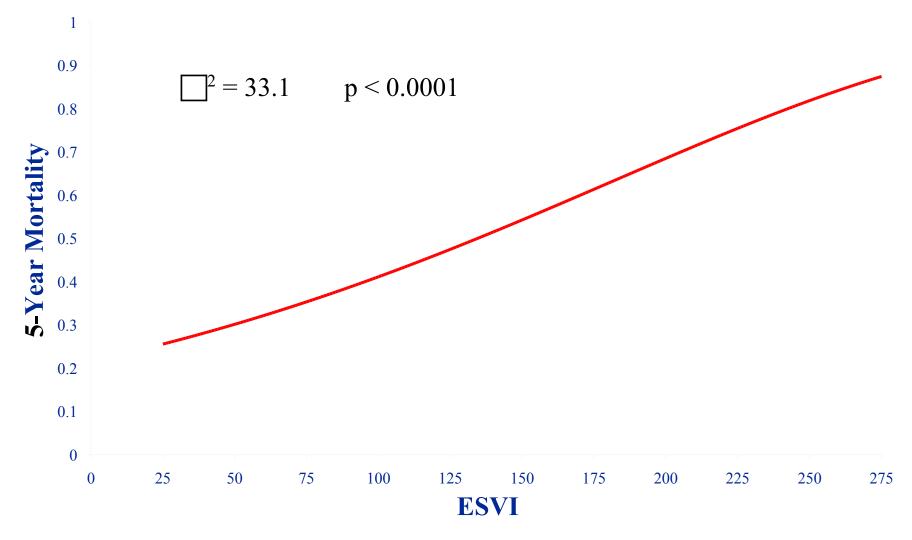
Developed with the special contribution of the Heart Failure Association (HFA) of the ESC

Table 3.4 Actiologies of heart failure

Ischaemic heart	Myocardial scar	
disease	Myocardial stunning/hibernation	
	Epicardial coronary artery disease	
	Abnormal coronary microcirculation	8
	Endothelial dysfunction	
Toxic damage	Recreational substance abuse	Alcohol, cocaine, amphetamine, anabolic steroids.
	Heavy metals	Copper, iron, lead, cobalt.
	Medications	Cytostatic drugs (e.g. anthracyclines), immuno modulating drugs (e.g. interferons monoclonal antibodies such as trastuzumab, oetuximab), antidepressant drugs, antiarrhythmics, non-stero idal anti-Inflammatory drugs, anaesthetics.
	Radiation	
Immune-mediated and inflammatory damage	Related to infection	Bacteria, spirochaetes, fungi, protozoa, parasites (Chagas disease), rickettsiae, viruses (HIV/AIDS).
	Not related to infection	Lymphocytic/giant cell myocarditis, auto immune diseases (e.g. Graves' disease, rheumato id arthritis, connective tissue disorders, mainly systemic lupus enythematosus), hypersensitivity and eosinophilic myocarditis (Churg-Strauss).
Infiltration	Related to malignancy	Direct infiltrations and metastases.
	Not related to malignancy	Amylo idosis, sarcoidosis, haemochromatosis (iron), glycogen storage diseases (e.g. Rompe disease), lysosomal storage diseases (e.g. Fabry disease).
Metabolic derangements	Hormonal	Thyroid diseases, parathyroid diseases, acromegaly, GH deficiency, hypercortisolaemia, Conn's disease, Addison disease, diabetes, metabolic syndrome, phaeochromocytoma, pathologies related to pregnancy and peripartum.
	Nutritional	Deficiencies in thiamine, L-carnitine, selenium, iron, phosphates, calcium, complex malnutrition (e.g. malignancy, AIDS, ano rexia nervosa), obesity.
Genetic abnormalities	Diverse forms	HCM, DCM, LV non-compaction, ARVC, restrictive cardiomyopathy (for details see respective expert documents), muscular dystrophies and lamino pathies.



# 5-Year Mortality vs. ESVI







#### **ESC/EACTS GUIDELINES**



## 2014 ESC/EACTS Guidelines on myocardial revascularization

The Task Force on Myocardial Revascularization of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS)

Developed with the special contribution of the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI)



# Recommendations on revascularizations in patients with chronic heart failure and systolic LV dysfunction (ejection fraction <35%)

Recommendations	Classa	Level <sup>b</sup>	Ref
CABG is recommended for patients with significant LM stenosis and LM equivalent with proximal stenosis of both LAD and LCx arteries.	ı	U	70
CABG is recommended for patients with significant LAD artery stenosis and multivessel disease to reduce death and hospitalization for cardiovascular causes.	-	В	112,288
LV aneurysmectomy during CABG should be considered in patients with a large LV aneurysm, if there is a risk of rupture, large thrombus formation or the aneurysm is the origin of arrhythmias.	lla	O	
Myocardial revascularization should be considered in the presence of viable myocardium.	lla	В	55
CABG with surgical ventricular restoration may be considered in patients with scarred LAD territory, especially if a post-operative LVESV Index < 70 mL/m <sup>2</sup> can be predictably achieved.	IIb	<b>-</b>	291–295
PCI may be considered if anatomy is suitable, in the presence of viable myocardium, and surgery is not indicated.	IIb	O	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Class of recommendation.

CABG = coronary artery bypass grafting; LAD = left anterior descending; LCx = left circumflex; LM = left main; LVESV = left ventricular end-systolic volume; PCI = percutaneous coronary intervention; SVR = surgical ventricular reconstruction.

bLevel of evidence.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup>References.

# 8 Myocardial revascularization in patients with heart failure

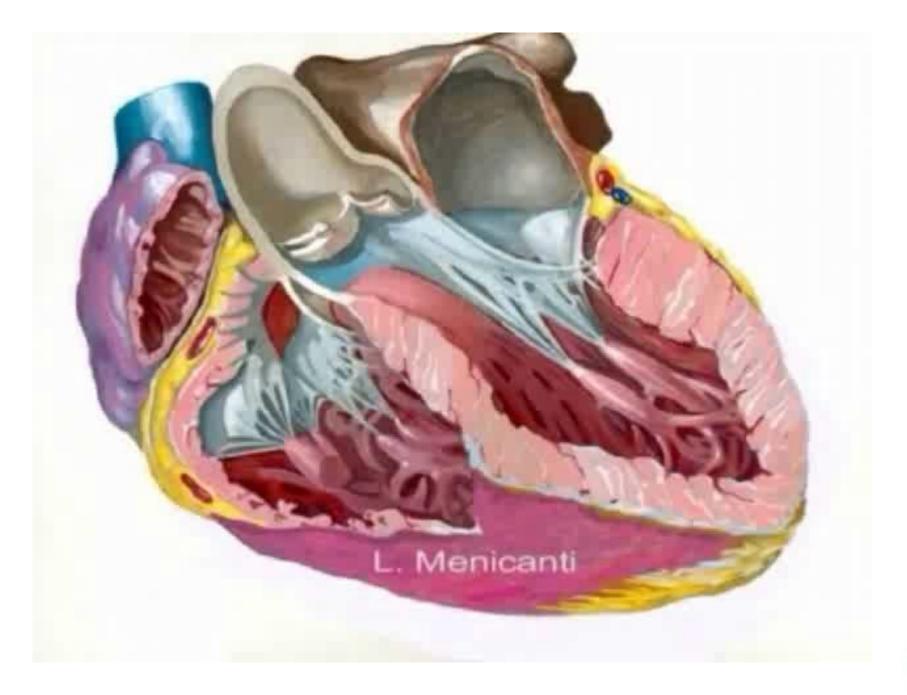
#### 8.1.2 Ventricular reconstruction and aneurysm resection

The aim of surgical ventricular reconstruction (SVR) is to restore physiological volume, and achieve an elliptical shape of the LV, by scar resection and LV wall reconstruction on a mannequin of predefined size. The aim of ventricular aneurysmectomy is to remove fibrous scars in cases of severe dilatation, thrombus formation, or as a source of life-threatening ventricular arrhythmias.

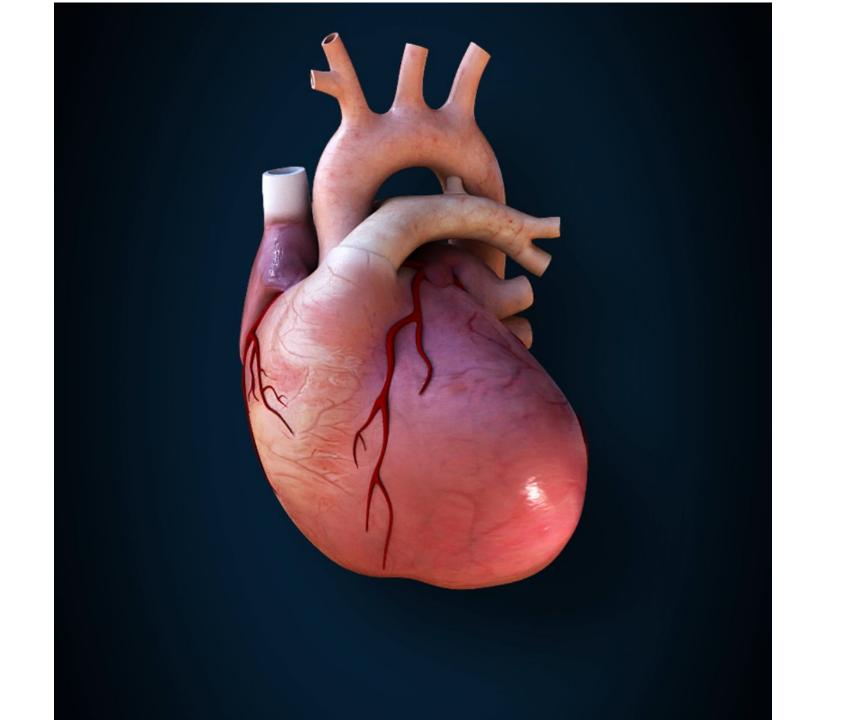
Recommendations on revascularizations in patients with chronic heart failure and systolic left ventricular dysfunction (ejection fraction  $\leq$  35%)

Recommendations	Classa	Levelb
In patients with severe LV systolic dysfunc- tion and coronary artery disease suitable for intervention, myocardial revascularization is recommended. 81,250	1	В
CABG is recommended as the first revas- cularization strategy choice in patients with multivessel disease and acceptable surgical risk. <sup>68,81,248,255</sup>	ı	В
In patients with one- or two-vessel dis- ease, PCI should be considered as an alternative to CABG when complete revascularization can be achieved.	Ila	c
In patients with three-vessel disease, PCI should be considered based on the evaluation by the Heart Team of the patient's coronary anatomy, the expected completeness of revascularization, diabetes status, and comorbidities.	lla	c
LV aneurysmectomy during CABG should be considered in patients with NYHA class IIVIV, large LV aneurysm, large thrombus formation, or if the aneurysm is the origin of arrhythmias.	lla	С
Surgical ventricular restoration during CABG may be considered in selected patients treated in centres with expertise. 252-254,256,257	ПЬ	В

ESC 2018

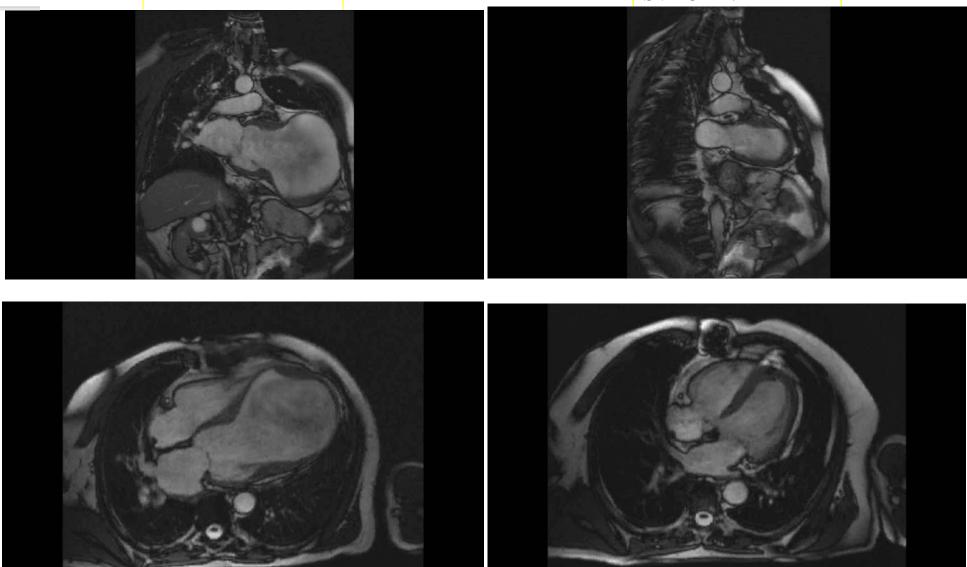






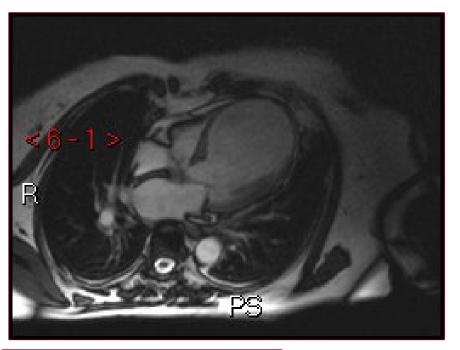


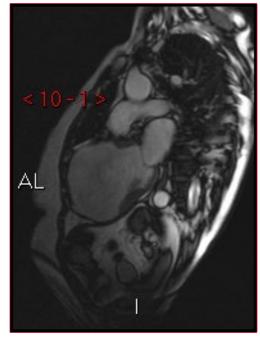
EDVI 485 ml/m2 ESVI 435 ml/m2 EF 10% SVI=50ml/m2 EDVI 57ml/m2 ESVI 26 ml/m2 EF 54% SVI=31ml/m2



# R.M. $\bigcirc$ 70 years old NYHA IV transplant candidate

Magnetic Risonance Imaging – LGE MRI



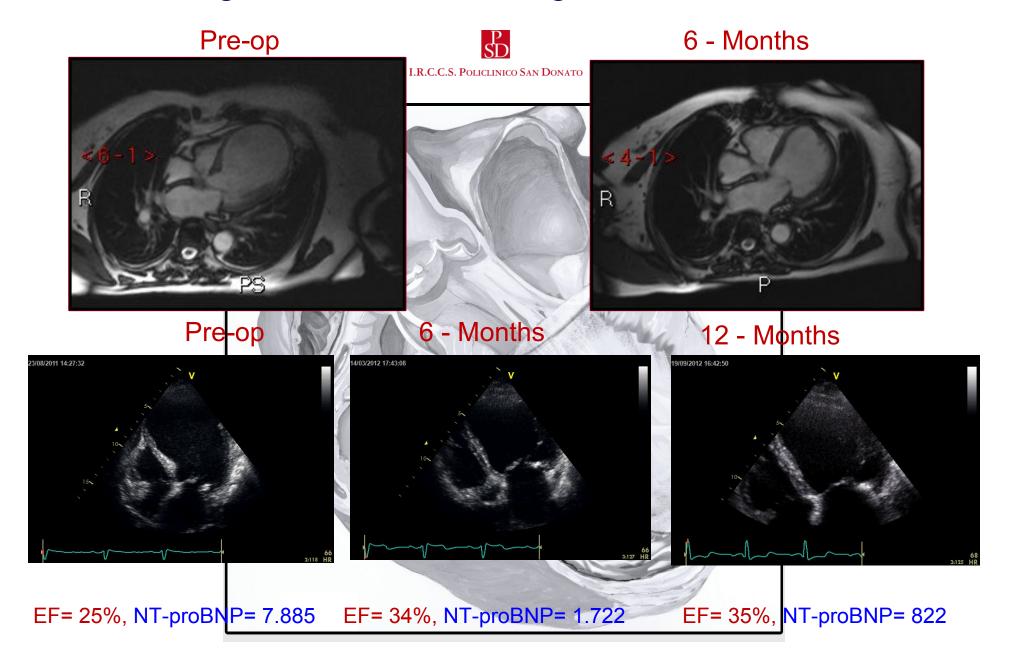




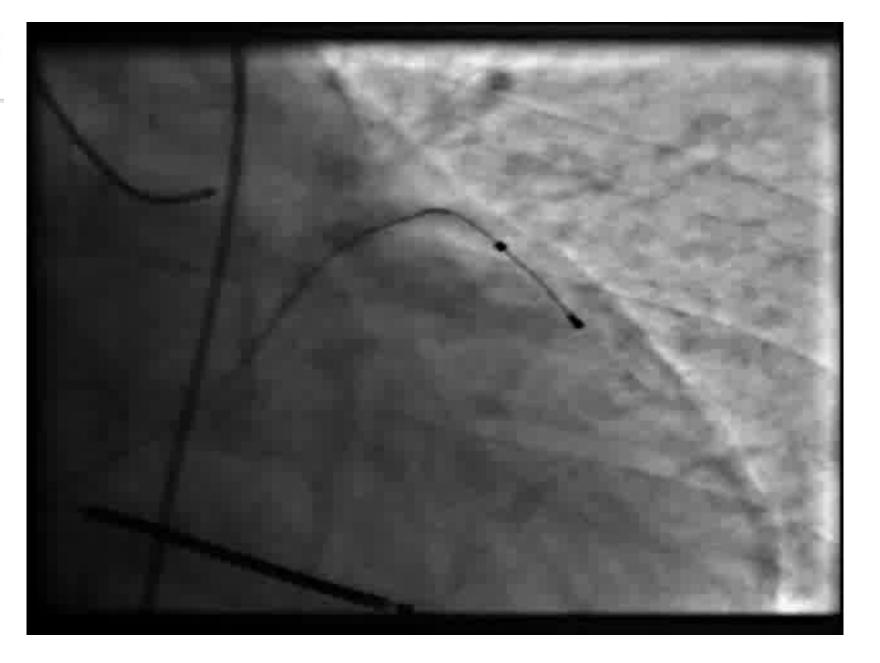




## Surgical LV Remodeling for Ischemic HF

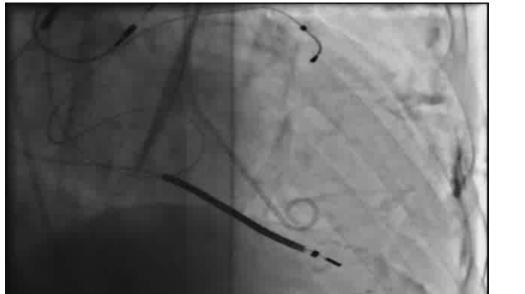






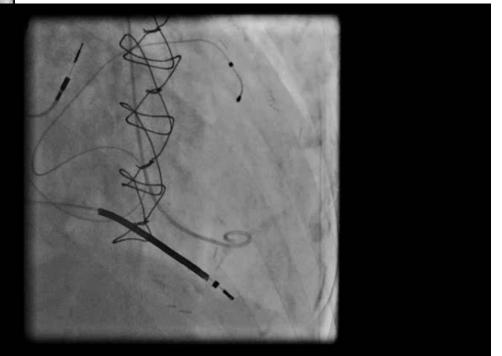
## P.I. MALE 67 YEARS TRANSPLANT CANDIDATE

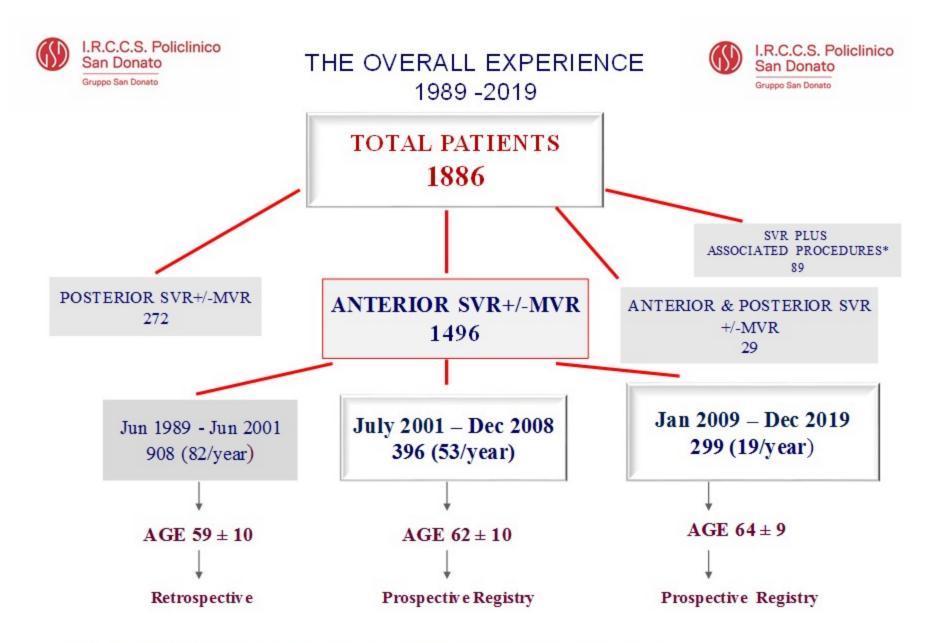




13-11-2011

26-11-2011





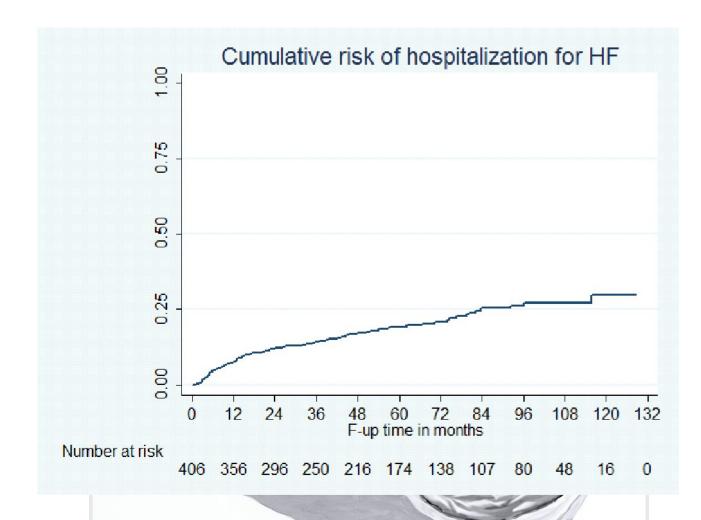
<sup>\*</sup> MV/AV Replacement (17/26), Tricuspid Valve Repair (35), Bentall Op (1), VSD Closure (10)

# SURGICAL VENTRICULAR RECONSTRUCTION AND LONG-TERM OUTCOME: RESULTS FROM 10-YEAR-SINGLE CENTER EXPERIENCE

Table 2. Preoperative and postoperative	e echocardiographic variables
---	-------------------------------

Variable	Pre	Post	p-value*
Diastolic Diameter (mm)	63.8 (9.0)	61.3 (8.4)	< 0.0001
Systolic Diameter (mm)	50.8 (10.2)	48.0 (10.3)	< 0.0001
EDVI $(mL/m^2)$	116.0 (41.3)	89.1 (24.4)	< 0.0001
ESVI (mL/m²)	80.8 (37.5)	54.2 (20.8)	< 0.0001
EF (%)	32.3 (8.3)	40.2 (9.5)	< 0.0001
SV (mL)	35.2 (9.4)	33.9 (9.8)	< 0.08
TAPSE (mm)	19.9 (4.4)	16.2 ( (3.4)	< 0.0001
PAPs (mmHg)	40.3 (14.7)	36.3 (11.8)	0.02
LVMI $(g/m^2)$	166.4 (41.6)	150.3 (38.9)	< 0.0001
Sphericity Index, diastole	0.57 (0.1)	0.67 (0.1)	< 0.0001
Sphericity Index, systole	0.49 (0.1)	0.58 (0.1)	< 0.0001
Conicity Index, diastole	0.86 (0.17)	0.78 (0.12)	< 0.0001
Conicity Index, systole	0.99 (0.30)	0.93 (0.16)	< 0.0001

# SURGICAL VENTRICULAR RECONSTRUCTION AND LONG-TERM OUTCOME: RESULTS FROM 10-YEAR-SINGLE CENTER EXPERIENCE

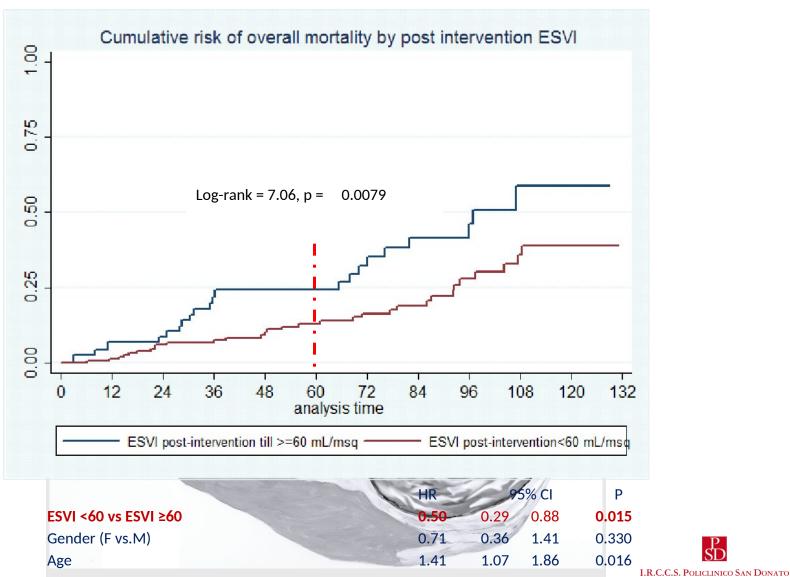






## SURGICAL VENTRICULAR RECONSTRUCTION AND LONG-TERM **OUTCOME: RESULTS FROM 10-YEAR-SINGLE CENTER EXPERIENCE**

Cumulative risk of all-causes mortality by post-operative ESVI classes ( $<60 \text{ mL/m}^2 \text{ and } \ge 60 \text{ mL/m}^2$ )



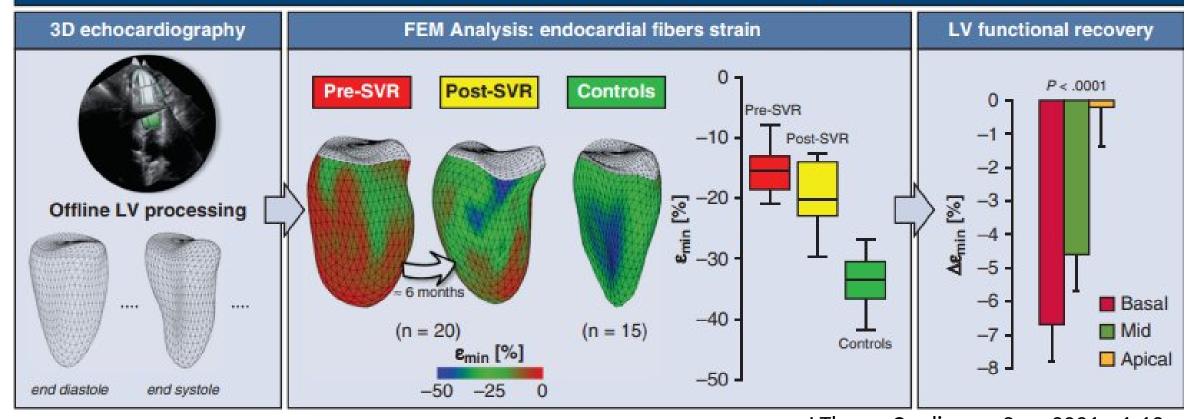
SD



Elucidating the mechanisms underlying left ventricular function recovery in patients with ischemic heart failure undergoing surgical remodeling: A 3-dimensional ultrasound analysis

Serenella Castelvecchio, MD, FESC,<sup>a</sup> Matteo Frigelli, MSc,<sup>b,c</sup> Francesco Sturla, PhD,<sup>b,c</sup> Valentina Milani, PhD,<sup>d</sup> Omar A. Pappalardo, PhD,<sup>b</sup> Michele Citarella, CVt,<sup>a</sup> Lorenzo Menicanti, MD,<sup>a</sup> and Emiliano Votta, PhD<sup>b,c</sup>

#### Surgical ventricle reconstruction (SVR) improves LV endocardial strain mostly in the remote myocardium



J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2021;-:1-12

TABLE 2. Results of global and segmental ultrasound-based analysis within each group (controls, pre-SVR, and post-SVR)

				P value			
	Controls (n = 15)	Pre-SVR (n = 20)	Post-SVR (n = 20)	Pre-SVR vs controls	Pre-SVR vs post-SVR	Post-SVR vs controls	
EDVi [mL/m <sup>2</sup> ]	63.1 (58.7, 70.3)	121.4 (99.2, 152.9)	79.3 (64.6, 104.5)	<.0001	<.0001	.0085	
ESVi [mL/m <sup>2</sup> ]	25.0 (20.9, 27.0)	90.8 (67.6, 126.7)	51.6 (34.9, 64.6)	<.0001	.0002	<.0001	
EF [%]	60.0 (59.1, 65.8)	27.1 (21.4, 33.3)	42.3 (28.5, 44.1)	<.0001	.0009	<.0001	
GLS [%]	-19.6 (-20.8, -17.4)	-6.7 (-9.5, -5.3)	-11.3 (-12.3, -9.6)	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001	
ε <sub>min</sub> [%] Basal Mid	-33.6 (-36.6, -30.5) -30.6 (-31.5, -29.0) -35.3 (-41.7, -31.6)	-15.4 (-18.6, -13.1) -16.6 (-21.4, -13.3) -15.8 (-18.8, -13.6)	-20.3 (-23.0, -14.0) -22.3 (-26.4, -17.4) -21.5 (-23.2, -13.5)	<.0001 <.0001 <.0001	.0032 .0027 .0064	<.0001 <.0001 <.0001	
Apical MD [% cycle] Basal	-31.4 (-37.5, -28.9) 5.8 (4.7, 6.3) 6.2 (5.0, 7.5)	-12.9 (-14.9, -8.9) 11.7 (8.9, 14.0) 9.8 (7.7, 12.9)	-14.9 (-17.0, -9.9) 8.2 (7.6, 9.2) 7.8 (6.3, 9.0)	<.0001 <.0001 <.0001	.0696 .0007 .0049	<.0001 <.0001 .0463	
Mid Apical	5.6 (4.9, 6.5) 3.9 (3.0, 4.9)	10.2 (8.3, 13.4) 12.1 (9.6, 15.5)	7.8 (6.5, 9.4) 7.8 (6.7, 9.8)	<.0001 <.0001 <.0001	.0049	<.0001 <.0001	
MD [ms] Basal Mid	48 (42, 63) 51 (42, 68) 46 (41, 59)	106 (69, 137) 94 (58, 117) 88 (66, 125)	79 (70, 86) 75 (48, 91) 77 (69, 88)	<.0001 .0014 <.0001	.0017 .0094 .0266	<.0001 .0230 <.0001	
Apical	32 (26, 40)	101 (72, 162)	71 (60, 87)	<.0001	.0004	<.0001	



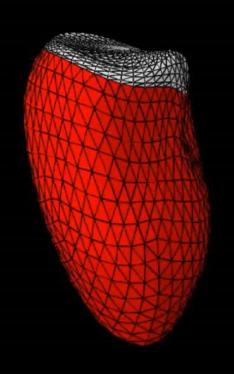
Time: 0.000000

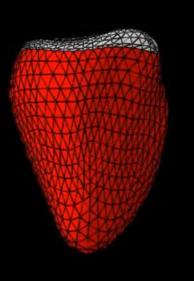


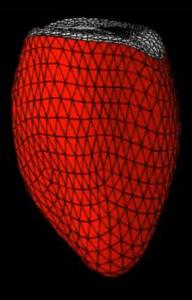
Time: 0.000000

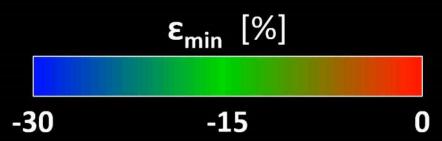


Time: 0.000000









# The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE



## Coronary Bypass Surgery with or without Surgical Ventricular Reconstruction

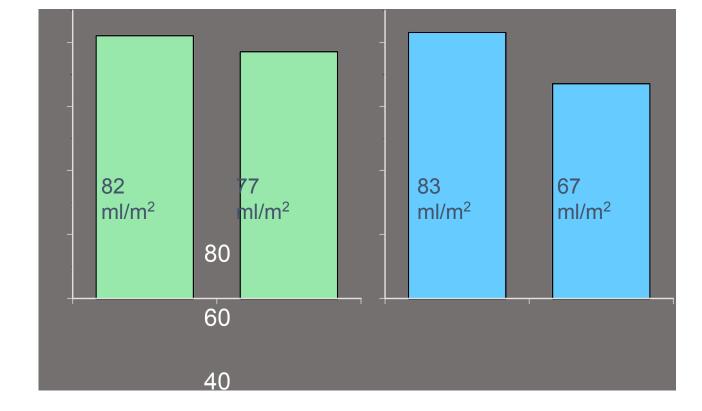
Robert H. Jones, M.D., Eric J. Velazquez, M.D., Robert E. Michler, M.D., George Sopko, M.D., Jae K. Oh, M.D., Christopher M. O'Connor, M.D., James A. Hill, M.D., Lorenzo Menicanti, M.D., Zygmunt Sadowski, M.D., Patrice Desvigne-Nickens, M.D., Jean-Lucien Rouleau, M.D., and Kerry L. Lee, Ph.D., for the STICH Hypothesis 2 Investigators\*

#### CONCLUSIONS

Adding surgical ventricular reconstruction to CABG reduced the left ventricular volume, as compared with CABG alone. However, this anatomical change was not associated with a greater improvement in symptoms or exercise tolerance or with a reduction in the rate of death or hospitalization for cardiac causes. (ClinicalTrials. gov number, NCT00023595.)

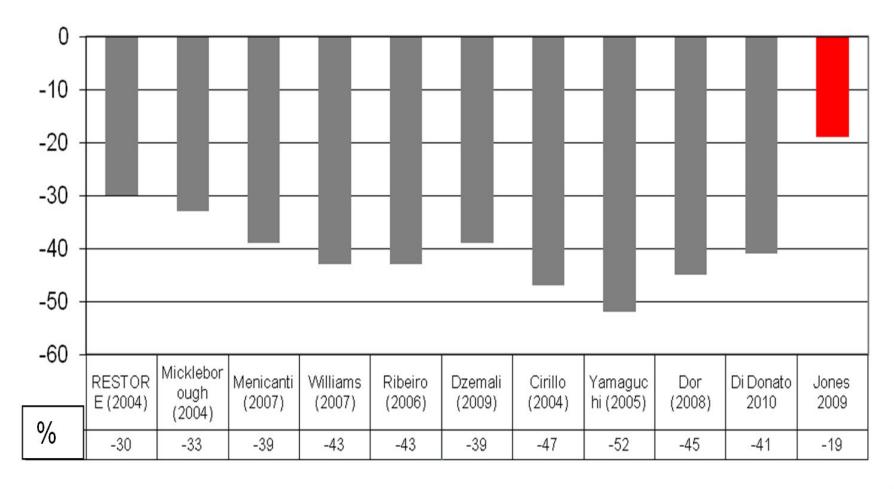
# Baseline and Four Month End-Systolic Volume Index (ESVI) in 373 Hypothesis 2 Patients With Quantitative Echocardiogram at Both Intervals

Esvi ml

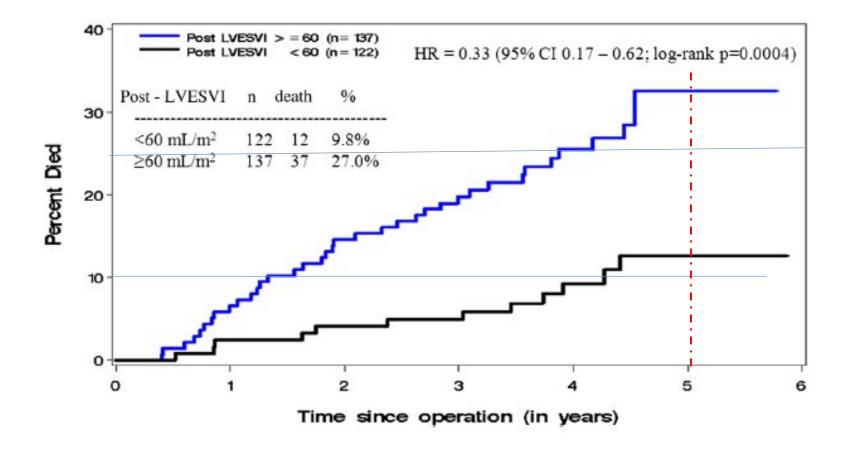




### Percentage (%) of LVESV Reduction following SVR









Subgroup	No. of Patients	Hazard Ratio for Event (95% CI)		P Value for Interaction
All patients	1000	<b>⊢</b>	0.99 (0.84-1.17)	
Age		1	,	0.48
≥65 yr	391	<b>⊢</b> •••	1.06 (0.83-1.35)	
<65 yr	609	<b>→</b>	0.94 (0.76-1.17)	
Sex		- 1		0.60
Male	853	<b>⊢</b>	1.01 (0.84-1.20)	
Female	147 ⊢	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	0.90 (0.58-1.39)	
Race		i i		0.44
Black or other	124	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	0.83 (0.51-1.36)	
White	876	<b>——</b>	1.01 (0.85-1.20)	
NYHA heart failure class		1		0.97
l or II	515	<b>⊢</b>	0.99 (0.78-1.25)	
III or IV	485	<del></del>	0.99 (0.79-1.24)	
CCS angina class				0.39
No angina or ≤ class II	508	<b>→</b>	0.92 (0.73-1.16)	
Class III or IV	492	<b>→</b>	1.06 (0.85-1.34)	
Baseline diabetes				0.20
Yes	344	<b>⊢</b>	1.14 (0.87-1.50)	
No	656	<b>⊢</b> •	0.92 (0.75-1.12)	
LVEF				0.33
≤28%	534	<b>⊢</b>	1.07 (0.86-1.31)	
>28%	466	<b>—</b>	0.90 (0.70-1.17)	
No. of vessels with stenosis of ≥509	%			0.21
1 or 2	362	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	0.86 (0.65-1.13)	
3	638		1.07 (0.87-1.31)	
LM stenosis of ≥50% or proximal LAD stenosis of ≥75%				0.53
No	179	<b></b>	0.89 (0.61-1.30)	
Yes	821	<b>⊢</b>	1.02 (0.85-1.22)	
Mitral regurgitation		1		0.44
None or trace	363	<b>├</b>	0.89 (0.68-1.17)	
Mild (≤2+)	449	<b>⊢</b>	1.12 (0.88-1.43)	
Moderate or severe (3+ or 4+)	178	<b>⊢</b>	0.94 (0.65-1.36)	
Stratum		1		0.44
В	141	<del> </del>	1.15 (0.76-1.76)	
С	859	<b>→</b>	0.96 (0.81-1.15)	
Region		1		0.41
Poland	288	<b>⊢</b>	1.02 (0.76-1.37)	
United States	200	<del></del>	1.10 (0.79-1.54)	
Canada	154 ⊢	• <del> </del>	0.77 (0.50-1.18)	
Western Europe	164 ⊢	• ;	0.80 (0.53-1.22)	
Other	194		1.24 (0.81-1.91)	
	0.5	1.0 2.	0	
	- 0	CABG plus SVR CABG Better Better		

Jones R et al. N Engl J Med 2009;10.1056/NEJMoa0900559 Journal of the American College of Cardiology © 2010 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation Published by Elsevier Inc. Vol. 56, No. 6, 2010 ISSN 0735-1097/\$36.00 doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2009.11.102

#### **Cardiac Surgery**

# STICH (Surgical Treatment for Ischemic Heart Failure) Trial Enrollment

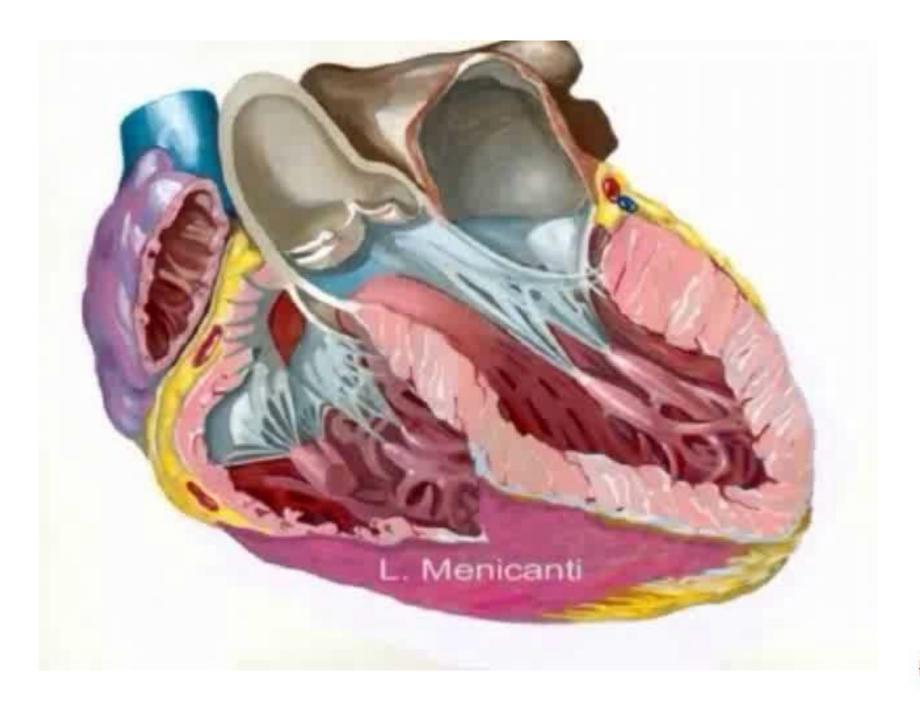
Robert H. Jones, MD,\* Harvey White, MB, CHB, DSC, Eric J. Velazquez, MD,† Linda K. Shaw, MHS, Ricardo Pietrobon, MD, PhD,‡¶ Julio A. Panza, MD,# Robert O. Bonow, MD,\*\* George Sopko, MD,†† Christopher M. O'Connor, MD,† Jean-Lucien Rouleau, MD‡‡

Durham, North Carolina; Auckland, New Zealand; Singapore; Washington, DC; Chicago, Illinois; Bethesda, Maryland; and Montreal, Quebec, Canada



The clinical judgment of physicians and surgeons responsible for care
of STICH-eligible patients determined the enrolment stratum offered
for patient consent under the oversight of the ethics committee at
each site. The primary ethical concern guiding equipoise for
randomization was to offer patients treatment combination judged
to have similar long term mortality







## Long-term results of surgical ventricular reconstruction and comparison with the Surgical Treatment for Ischemic Heart Failure trial

Mario Gaudino, MD, PhD, a Serenella Castelvecchio, MD, Mohamed Rahouma, MD, N. Bryce Robinson, MD, Katia Audisio, MD, Giovanni J. Soletti, MD, Gianmarco Cancelli, MD, Derrick Y. Tam, MD, Andrea Garatti, MD, Umberto Benedetto, MD, PhD, Torsten Doenst, MD, PhD, Leonard N. Girardi, MD, Robert E. Michler, MD, Stephen E. Fremes, MD, Eric J. Velazquez, MD, and Lorenzo Menicanti, MD

#### **Comparison Between the San Donato and STICH Cohorts**

The San Donato cohort was compared with the SVR group of the hypothesis 2 of STICH and with the medical therapy group and the CABG group of STICHES in 3 separate pairwise comparisons. To reduce confounders, propensity scores (PS) for each of the compared techniques was developed using a generalized boosted regression model.

#### **Exploratory Analysis on the Association Between Postoperative LVESVI and Mortality**

Based on data from both the San Donato and STICH groups on the prognostic role of postoperative LVESVI, we investigated the association between postoperative LVESVI and mortality in both groups of patients who underwent SVR. For this purpose, we included all patients from the San Donato cohort with available paired echocardiographic data at baseline and at 6-month follow-up (n = 506/725, 69.8% of the San Donato population) and all patients from the STICH-SVR cohort with available paired imaging studies at baseline and at 4-month follow-up (n = 259/501, 51.7% of the STICH-SVR cohort)

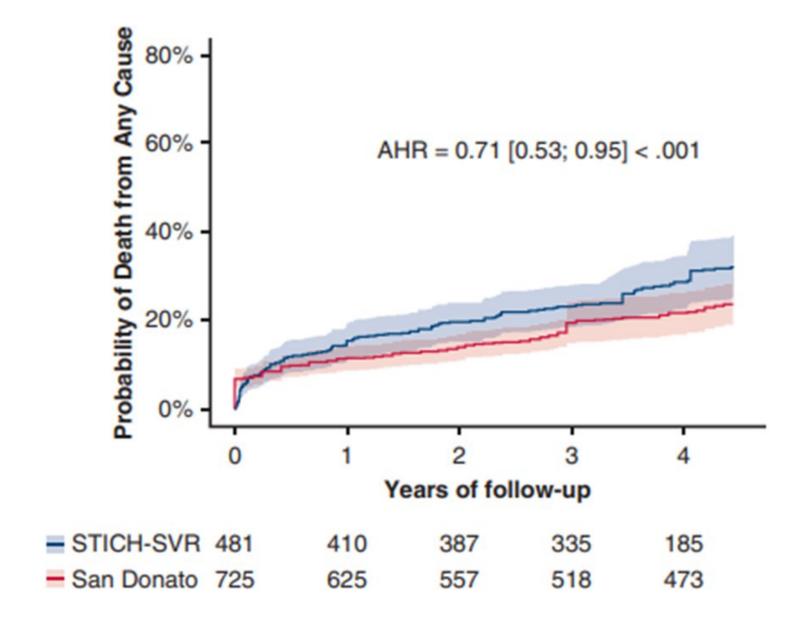
(J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2022;-:1-10)

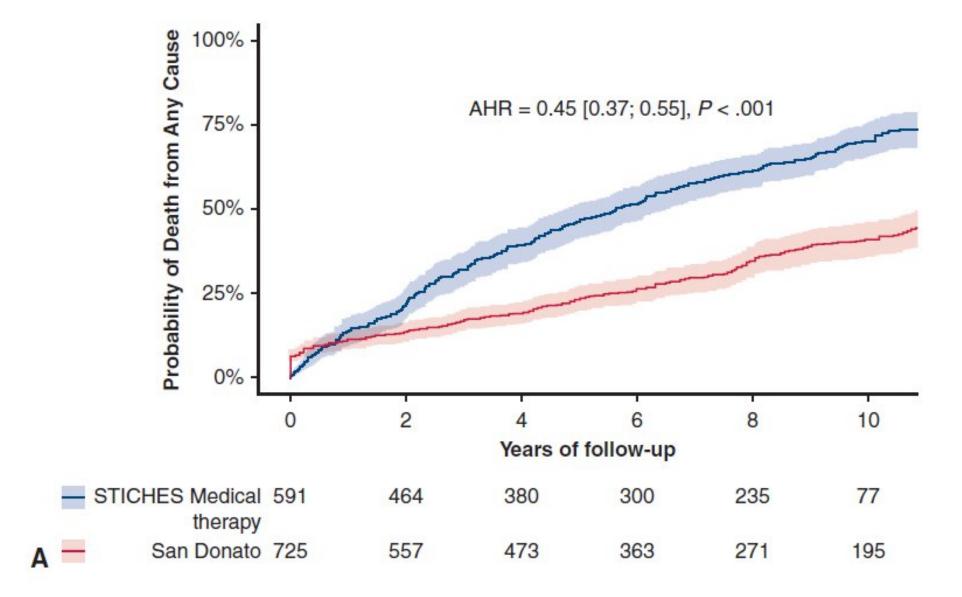
TABLE 3. Comparison of baseline characteristics between the San Donato, STICH-SVR, and STICHES cohorts

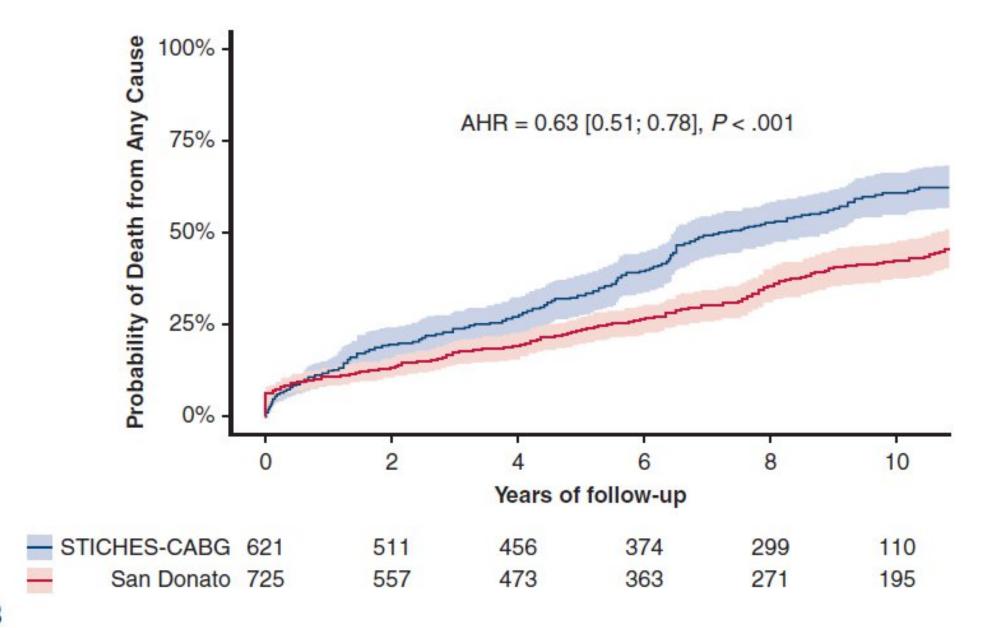
				STICHES-medical			
	San Donato	STICH-SVR	SMD	therapy	SMD	STICHES-CABG	SMD
No. of patients (as-treated)	725	481		591		621	
Age, y, median [Q1, Q3]	66.0 [58.0, 72.0]	61.5 [54.5, 68.4]	0.32	59.2 [53.7, 67.1]	0.43	59.9 [53.4, 67.3]	0.45
Female sex	128 (17.7)	67 (13.9)	0.10	70 (11.8)	0.16	78 (12.6)	0.14
BSA, m <sup>2</sup> , median [Q1, Q3]	1.8 [1.7, 2.0]	1.94 [1.8, 2.1]	0.54	1.9 [1.8, 2.1]	0.43	1.9 [1.8, 2.1]	0.38
Hypertension	425 (58.6)	285 (59.3)	0.01	363 (61.4)	0.06	365 (58.8)	< 0.01
Hyperlipidemia	418 (57.7)	343 (71.5)	0.29	356 (60.2)	0.05	374 (60.4)	0.06
Diabetes	192 (26.5)	164 (34.1)	0.17	241 (40.8)	0.31	237 (38.2)	0.25
Current smoker	138 (19.0)	93 (19.3)	0.01	118 (20.0)	0.02	134 (21.6)	0.06
Renal failure	56 (7.7)	43 (8.9)	0.04	50 (8.5)	0.03	44 (7.1)	0.02
Previous stroke	58 (8.0)	29 (6.0)	0.08	39 (6.6)	0.25	53 (8.5)	0.32
NYHA			0.20		0.37		0.31
I	31 (4.3)	42 (8.7)		75 (12.7)		64 (10.3)	
П	336 (46.4)	196 (40.7)		303 (51.3)		323 (52.0)	
III	315 (43.5)	215 (44.7)		196 (33.2)		216 (34.8)	
IV	42 (5.8)	28 (5.8)		17 (2.9)		18 (2.9)	

TABLE 4. LVESVI and LVEF at baseline and follow-up in the different groups

	San Donato (n = 506)	STICH-SVR $(n = 259)$	STICH-CABG (n = 296)
Baseline LVESVI, mL/m $^2$ , mean $\pm$ standard deviation	$82.0 \pm 34.9$	$83.8 \pm 41.6$	$76.9 \pm 31.1$
Follow-up* LVESVI, mL/m $^2$ , mean $\pm$ standard deviation	$49.4\pm25.2$	$74.8 \pm 38.4$	$72.1 \pm 31.7$
Baseline LVEF, %, median [Q1, Q3]	32.0 [26.0, 37.0]	27.0 [21.1, 33.0]	27.0 [22.0, 32.8]
Follow-up LVEF,* %, median [Q1, Q3]	41.0 [35.0, 46.0]	32.9 [25.4, 40.6]	27.5 [21.2, 33.6]







In conclusion, in an experienced center the long-term results of SVR in patients with depressed ventricular function and postinfarction LV remodeling were favorable and significantly better than those reported in the STICH trial. Our data suggest that a new trial testing the SVR hypothesis with clearly defined and standardized criteria for patient enrollment and intervention delivery may be warranted









Choosing to add SVR to CABG should be based on a careful evaluation of patients, including symptoms (HF symptoms should be predominant over angina), measurements of LV volumes, assessment of the transmural extent of myocardial scar tissue, and should be performed only in centres with a high lovel of ESC/EACTS GUIDELINES surgical expertise Guidelines on myocardial revascularization

The Task Force on Myocardial Revascularization of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS)

Developed with the special contribution of the European Association for Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI)†

Authors/Task Force Members: William Wijns (Chairperson) (Belgium)\*, Philippe Kolh (Chairperson) (Belgium)\*, Nicolas Danchin (France), Carlo Di Mario (UK), Volkmar Falk (Switzerland), Thierry Folliguet (France), Scot Garg (The Netherlands), Kurt Huber (Austria), Stefan James (Sweden), Juhani Knuuti (Finland), Jose Lopez-Sendon (Spain), Jean Marco (France), Lorenzo Menicanti (Italy) Miodrag Ostojic (Serbia), Massimo F. Piepoli (Italy), Charles Pirlet (Belgium), Jose L. Pomar (Spain), Nicolaus Reifart (Germany), Flavio L. Ribichini (Italy), Martin J. Schalij (The Netherlands), Paul Sergeant (Belgium), Patrick W. Serruys (The Netherlands), Sigmund Silber (Germany), Miguel Sousa Uva (Portugal), David Taggart (UK)

ESC Committee for Practice Guidelines: Alec Vahanian (Chairperson) (France), Angelo Auricchio (Switzerland), Jeroen Bax (The Netherlands), Claudio Ceconi (Italy), Veronica Dean (France), Gerasimos Filippatos (Greece) Christian Funck-Brentano (France), Richard Hobbs (UK), Peter Kearney (Ireland), Theresa McDonagh (UK), Bogdan A. Popescu (Romania), Zeljko Reiner (Croatia), Udo Sechtem (Germany), Per Anton Sirnes (Norway) Michal Tendera (Poland), Panos E. Vardas (Greece), Petr Widimsky (Czech Republic)

EACTS Clinical Guidelines Committee: Philippe Kolh (Chairperson) (Belgium), Ottavio Alfieri (Italy), Joel Dunnin (UK), Stefano Elia (Italy), Pieter Kappetein (The Netherlands), Ulf Lockowandt (Sweden), George Sarris (Greece

Document Reviewers: Peter Kearney (ESC CPG Review Coordinator) (Ireland), Ludwig von Segesser (EACTS Review Coordinator) (Switzerland), Stefan Agewall (Norway), Alexander Aladashvili (Georgia) Dimitrios Alexopoulos (Greece), Manuel J. Antunes (Portugal), Enver Atalar (Turkey), Aart Brutel de la Riviere

