



***Boca Raton Hospital Annual Conference***

***Nephroprotection Strategies 2024***

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## *Disclosures*

**Warren Kupin, M.D., faculty for this educational activity, has no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies to disclose, and has indicated that the presentation or discussion will not include off-label or unapproved product usage.**

# *The Battle for Nephroprotection / Nephropreservation*



# *Opportunities for Nephroprotection*

**CKD**

Preserve the long term function of the remaining nephrons

**AKI**

Protect the nephrons from hemodynamic / toxic injury

**KT**

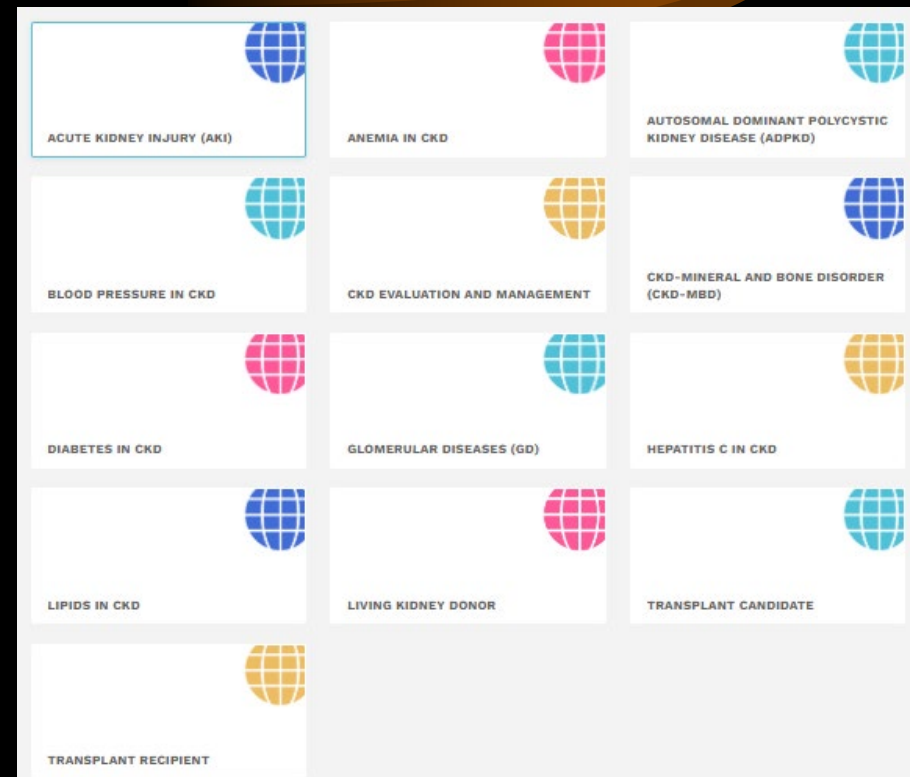
Protect the nephrons from preservation injury and preserve long term nephron function



# Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO)

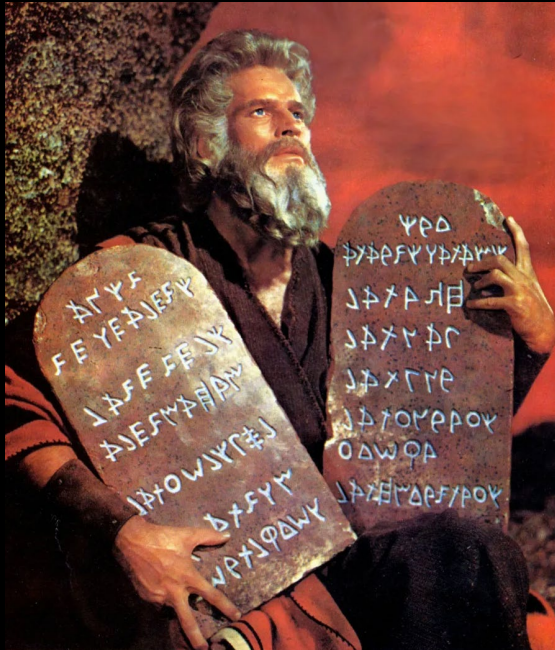


- Originally established in 2003 by the National Kidney Foundation
- **KDIGO is a global organization developing and implementing evidence-based clinical practice guidelines in kidney disease**
- It is now an independent, volunteer-led, self-managed foundation incorporated in Belgium





# *Behold !!! The Guidelines are Here !!! The Commandments of Treating CKD and Preserving the Nephrons!!!*



**KDIGO 2023 CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE FOR  
THE EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT OF  
CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE**

- 1) 2 Tablets - 10 commandments
- 2) Published 2500 yrs ago
- 3) Revisions – none
- 4) Peer reviewed – no
- 5) Public commentary – none
- 6) References – 0

- 1) 269 pages
- 2) Published 2024
- 3) Revisions – 2002, 2012
- 4) Peer reviewed – yes
- 5) Public commentary – yes
- 6) References – 782

**You have Chronic  
Kidney Disease from  
your Diabetes and  
Hypertension**

**OMG !!! Doctor – What is my  
risk of going on dialysis ??  
And staying alive ?  
OMG ! Give it to me straight  
please – be honest !**



# *Impact of a Decreased GFR and Albuminuria on Patient Morbidity and Mortality Compared to the General Population*

CKD = 3 month persistence of either decreased GFR or albuminuria

Prognosis of CKD by GFR and albuminuria categories: KDIGO 2012

				Persistent albuminuria categories		
				Description and range		
				A1	A2	A3
				Normal to mildly increased	Moderately increased	Severely increased
				< 30 mg/g < 3 mg/mmol	30–300 mg/g 3–30 mg/mmol	> 300 mg/g > 30 mg/mmol
GFR categories (ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> ) Description and range	G1	Normal or high	≥ 90			
	G2	Mildly decreased	60–89			
	G3a	Mildly to moderately decreased	45–59			
	G3b	Moderately to severely decreased	30–44			
	G4	Severely decreased	15–29			
	G5	Kidney failure	< 15			





# Albuminuria



GFR



Age <65 eGFRcr-cys	ACR, mg/g				ACR, mg/g			
	<10	10-29	30-299	300+	<10	10-29	30-299	300+
	All-cause mortality				Myocardial infarction			
105+	0.99	1.2	1.5	2.4	0.93	1.0	1.1	2.6
90-104	ref	1.3	1.5	2.5	ref	1.2	1.3	1.9
60-89	1.2	1.6	2.0	2.9	1.3	1.4	1.6	2.1
45-59	2.1	2.7	2.9	4.5	1.8	2.6	3.1	3.5
30-44	2.7	3.8	4.2	5.6	1.9	2.3	3.0	3.9
<30	5.2	4.0	7.1	8.6	4.1	3.6	4.7	5.8
	Cardiovascular mortality				Stroke			
105+	0.95	1.4	1.7	4	0.96	1.2	1.6	2.7
90-104	ref	1.6	1.8	3.5	ref	1.2	1.5	2.2
60-89	1.3	1.7	2.3	3.9	1.2	1.4	1.7	2.6
45-59	2.5	4.0	4.6	6.0	1.9	2.0	2.5	3.8
30-44	3.1	6.6	5.3	7.1	2.6	3.7	3.5	3.5
<30	6.0	5.5	9.4	12	2.6	2.9	5.1	5.1
	Kidney failure replacement therapy				Heart failure			
105+	0.57	0.77	2.3	12	0.86	1.1	1.7	3.4
90-104	ref	1.4	3.9	11	ref	1.3	1.5	3.0
60-89	1.9	3.7	8.3	33	1.2	1.7	2.1	3.6
45-59	7.0	16	28	100	1.7	3.3	3.4	5.3
30-44	22	34	109	210	3.5	4.3	6.8	5.7
<30	335	267	419	625	7.5	6.3	9.7	8.9
	Acute kidney injury				Atrial fibrillation			
105+	0.75	1.0	1.4	3.4	0.93	1.0	1.3	1.9
90-104	ref	1.2	1.8	2.6	ref	1.2	1.4	2.3
60-89	1.6	2.7	2.9	5.8	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.8
45-59	4.2	6.0	5.6	7.6	1.5	2.0	2.1	2.6
30-44	5.7	9.4	9.8	9.4	1.8	2.4	3.0	2.8
<30	15	14	14	13	3.7	2.9	4.3	5.4
	Hospitalization				Peripheral artery disease			
105+	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.5	0.93	1.9	1.5	2.6
90-104	ref	1.1	1.2	1.3	ref	1.8	2.1	3.9
60-89	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.2	2.1	2.2	5.4
45-59	1.3	1.7	1.5	2.0	3.2	7.3	3.4	8.4
30-44	1.5	1.8	1.6	2.1	6.5	9.1	6.6	13
<30	2.1	2.4	2.4	3.5	1.4	7.6	18	16

**Recommendation 2.2.1: In people with CKD G3–G5, we recommend using an externally validated risk equation to estimate the absolute risk of kidney failure (1A).**

**Practice Point 2.2.1:** A 5-year kidney failure risk of 3%–5% can be used to determine need for nephrology referral in addition to criteria based on eGFR or urine ACR, and other clinical considerations.

**Practice Point 2.2.2:** A 2-year kidney failure risk of >10% can be used to determine the timing of multidisciplinary care in addition to eGFR-based criteria and other clinical considerations.

**Practice Point 2.2.3:** A 2-year kidney failure risk threshold of >40% can be used to determine the modality education, timing of preparation for kidney replacement therapy (KRT) including vascular access planning or referral for transplantation, in addition to eGFR-based criteria and other clinical considerations.

**Practice Point 2.2.4:** Note that risk prediction equations developed for use in people with CKD G3–G5, may not be valid for use in those with CKD G1–G2.

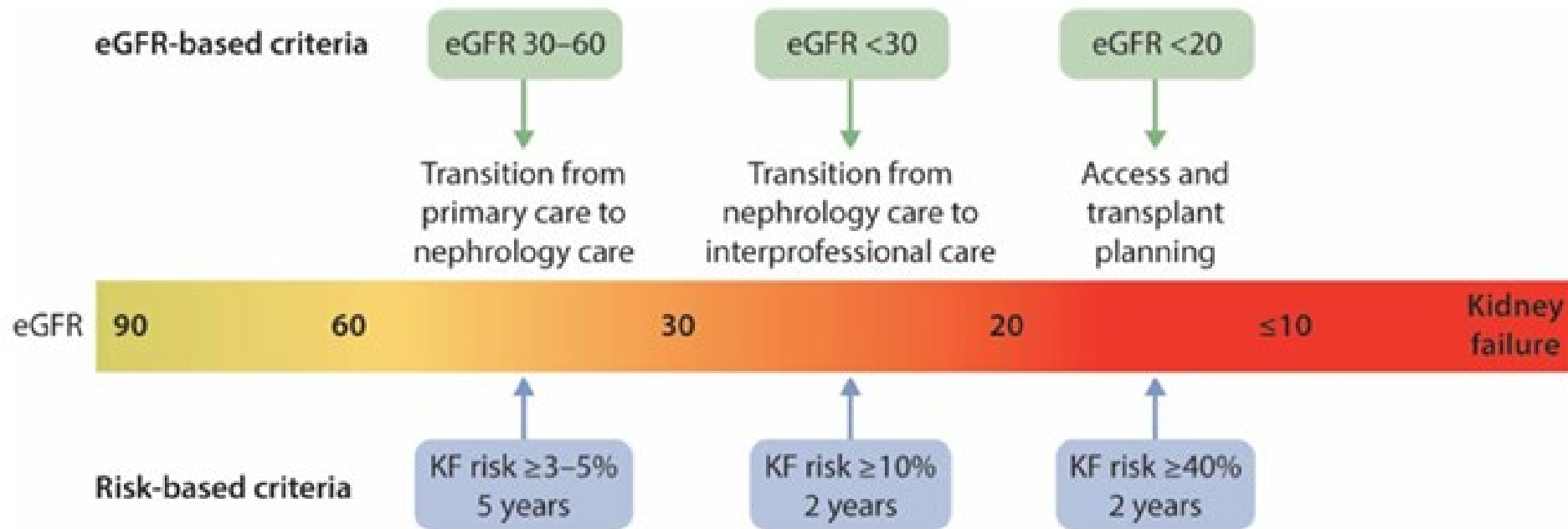
**Practice Point 2.2.5:** Use disease-specific, externally validated prediction equations in people with immunoglobulin A nephropathy (IgAN) and autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD).

### **2.3 Prediction of cardiovascular risk in people with CKD**

**Practice Point 2.3.1:** For cardiovascular risk prediction to guide preventive therapies in people with CKD, use externally validated models that are either developed within CKD populations or that incorporate eGFR and albuminuria.

**Practice Point 2.3.2:** For mortality risk prediction to guide discussions about goals of care, use externally validated models that predict all-cause mortality specifically developed in the CKD population.

# *Progression to ESRD from CKD is a Slow Process*



**CKD Patients have a higher risk of mortality  
from CVD than ending up on Dialysis**

***New Guideline :***  
***Perform Risk Assessment Models for***  
***ESRD and CVD in Patients with CKD***

- <https://www.ckdpc.org/risk-models.html>
- These models will provide an estimate of the risk of cardiovascular disease and risk of progressing to ESRD in patients with different degrees of CKD
- **DO NOT USE the standard atherosclerotic risk score built into most EMR databases**
  - **Not valid in patients with CKD**
- The SCORE2 and PCE models are recommended



<https://www.ckdpc.org/risk-models.html>

### **Kidney Failure Risk Equation**

Who is it for?  
eGFR < 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>

What does it predict?  
2- and 5-yr risk of End Stage Kidney Disease (ESKD)

### **Risk of 40% Decline in Kidney Function**

Who is it for?  
Everyone

What does it predict?  
3-yr risk of 40% decline in eGFR

### **Advanced CKD Risk Tool**

Who is it for?  
eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>

What does it predict?  
2- and 4-yr risk of ESKD, cardiovascular disease, and death

### **Conversion to Urine Albumin-to-Creatinine Ratio**

Who is it for?  
Anyone with only a urine protein-to-creatinine ratio or urine dipstick protein level available

What does it predict?  
Urine albumin-to-creatinine ratio (ACR)

### **SCORE2 Cardiovascular Risk with eGFR & ACR**

Who is it for?  
Everyone

What does it predict?  
10-yr risk of myocardial infarction, stroke, and CVD mortality

### **PCE ASCVD Risk with GFR + ACR**

Who is it for?  
Everyone

What does it predict?  
10-yr risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease



# YOUR RESULTS



**250** mg/g  
URINE ALBUMIN



**M**  
SEX



**65**  
AGE

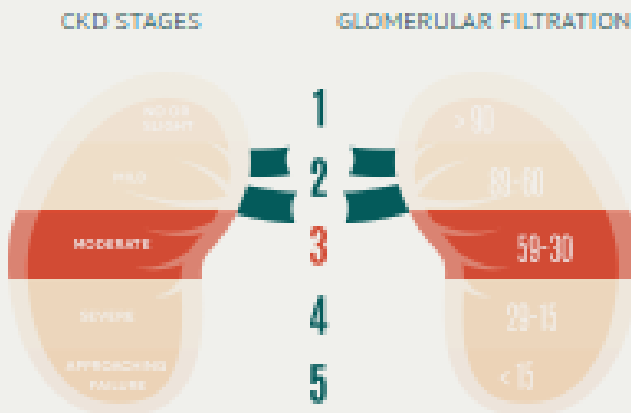


**55** mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>  
GFR

## ASSESSMENT

### STAGE 3

MODERATE DECREASE IN FUNCTION



GLOMERULAR FILTRATION RATE

Patient risk of progression to kidney failure requiring dialysis or transplant:

AT 2 YEARS

AT 5 YEARS

**0.45 %**

**1.42 %**

Risk thresholds used in health systems include:

- 3-5 % over 5 years for referral to a kidney doctor
- 10 % over 2 years for team based care (Kidney Doctor, Nurse, Dietician, Pharmacist)
- 20-40 % over 2 years for planning a transplant or fistula

# YOUR RESULTS

 **250** mg/g  
URINE ALBUMIN

 **M**  
SEX

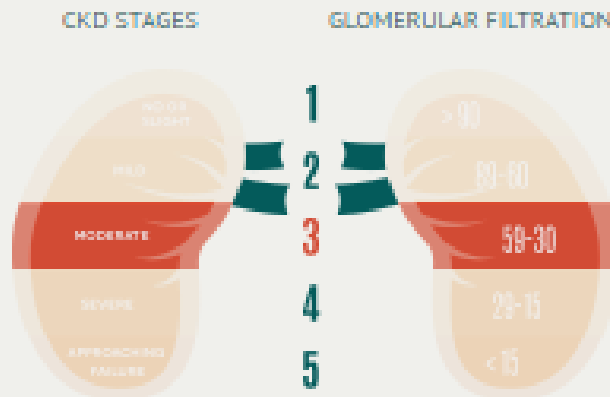
 **30**  
AGE

 **55** mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>  
GFR

## ASSESSMENT

### STAGE 3

MODERATE DECREASE IN FUNCTION



GLOMERULAR FILTRATION RATE

Patient risk of progression to kidney failure requiring dialysis or transplant:

AT 2 YEARS

0.99 %

AT 5 YEARS

3.05 %

Risk thresholds used in health systems include:

- 3-5 % over 5 years for referral to a kidney doctor
- 10 % over 2 years for team based care (Kidney Doctor, Nurse, Dietician, Pharmacist)
- 20-40 % over 2 years for planning a transplant or fistula

# *GFR is a Major Influence on the Risk of Developing CVD*

Very high risk countries	
Original SCORE2	Original SCORE2 + CKD Add-on
<b>12.0%</b>	<b>28.5%</b>

[Print summary](#)

**Kidney Measures**

eGFR (estimated glomerular filtration rate)  
(mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>)

Urine Albumin to Creatinine Ratio (mg/g)  
click on units to change between mg/g and mg/mmol  
[Convert Urine Protein-Creatinine to Albumin-Creatinine](#)

**SCORE2 Variables**

Age (18-80yrs)

Gender

Systolic Blood Pressure (mmHg)

Total Cholesterol (mg/dL)  
click on units to change between mg/dL and mmol/L

HDL Cholesterol (mg/dL)  
click on units to change between mg/dL and mmol/L

Smoking Status

Diabetes

## Take home message

**CKD guidelines are now requesting physicians be familiar and perform CVD risk assessment profiles in their patients and follow this longitudinally**



**RAAS Inhibition**



***Nephroprotection in CKD***

**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Sugar as needed**

**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Pressure 130/80**

# *Nephroprotection*

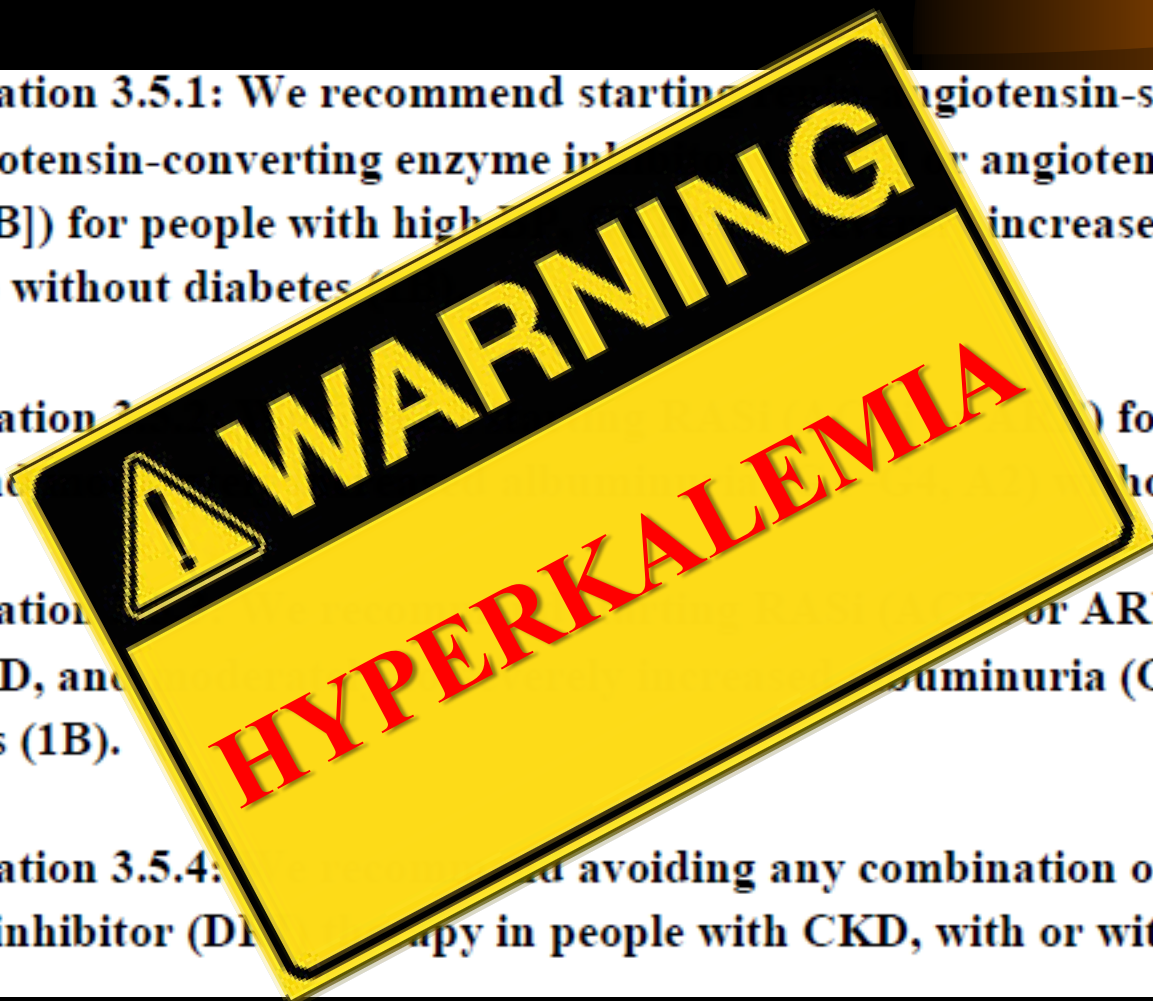
## *Maximal RAAS Inhibition Required !!*

Recommendation 3.5.1: We recommend starting with an angiotensin-system inhibitor (RASi) (angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor [ACEi] or angiotensin II receptor blocker [ARB]) for people with high BP, CKD, and increased albuminuria (G1–G4, A3) without diabetes (1B).

Recommendation 3.5.2: We recommend starting with an ACEi or ARB for people with high BP, CKD, and increased albuminuria (G1–G4, A2 and A3) without diabetes (2C).

Recommendation 3.5.3: We recommend starting with an ACEi or ARB for people with high BP, CKD, and increased albuminuria (G1–G4, A2 and A3) with diabetes (1B).

Recommendation 3.5.4: We recommend avoiding any combination of ACEi, ARB, and direct renin inhibitor (DRI) in people with CKD, with or without diabetes (1B).





# *Nephroprotection*

*Maximal RAAS Inhibition Required !!*




**WARNING**

**HYPERKALEMIA**



**Veltassa (Patiromer)**  
**Ca-K exchange**



**Lokelma (sodium  
zirconium cyclosilicate)**  
**Na-K exchange**

**K binding exchange resins can prevent the risk of Hyperkalemia  
and allow for maximum titration of RAAS inhibition**

# *Nephroprotection*

## *Maximal RAAS Inhibition Required !!*



**Practice Point 3.5.4: Continue ACEi or ARB therapy unless serum creatinine rises by more than 30% within 4 weeks following initiation of treatment or an increase in dose.**

**Consider reducing diuretic dose if this occurs and recheck**  
**Every effort should be made**  
**not to reduce RAAS inhibition**

# *We Discussed this Last Year !*

## *Keep RAAS Inhibition even at Stage 4 CKD*

Does the discontinuation of RAS inhibitors improve eGFR in patients with advanced CKD?



#NephJC

Open-Label Randomized Control Trial		1° Outcome eGFR (by MDRD*)	2° Outcome (ESKD or RRT)	MACE
39 Centers United Kingdom  411 Adults Stage 4 or 5 CKD (eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup> )  > 2 mL/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup> per year eGFR decline over 2 year  RAS inhibitor > 6 months (ACEi or ARB)	Continue RAS inhibitor n=205	 <b>13.3±0.6</b> mL/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup>	 <b>56%</b> (115/205)	 <b>43%</b> (88/205)
3 years		<b>P = 0.42</b> (-2.5 to 1.0)	<b>HR = 1.28</b> (0.99 to 1.65)	<b>Similar</b>
	Discontinue RAS inhibitor n=206	<b>12.6±0.7</b> mL/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup>	<b>62%</b> (128/206)	<b>52%</b> (108/206)

**Conclusion:** Among patients with advanced and progressive chronic kidney disease, the discontinuation of RAS inhibitors was not associated with a significant between-group difference in the long-term rate of eGFR decline.

\*Modification of Diet in Renal Disease

**Reference:** STOP ACEi trial investigators, Renin-Angiotensin System Inhibition in Advanced Chronic Kidney Disease.

Visual Abstract by: Dana Larsen, MD @dana\_m\_larsen



# *Nephroprotection in CKD*



**RAAS Inhibition**



**SGLT2 Inhibitors**



**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Sugar as needed**



**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Pressure 130/80**

**Are you  
Flozinators ?**





# ***SGLT-2 Inhibitors Recommended in Diabetic and Non-Diabetic CKD***

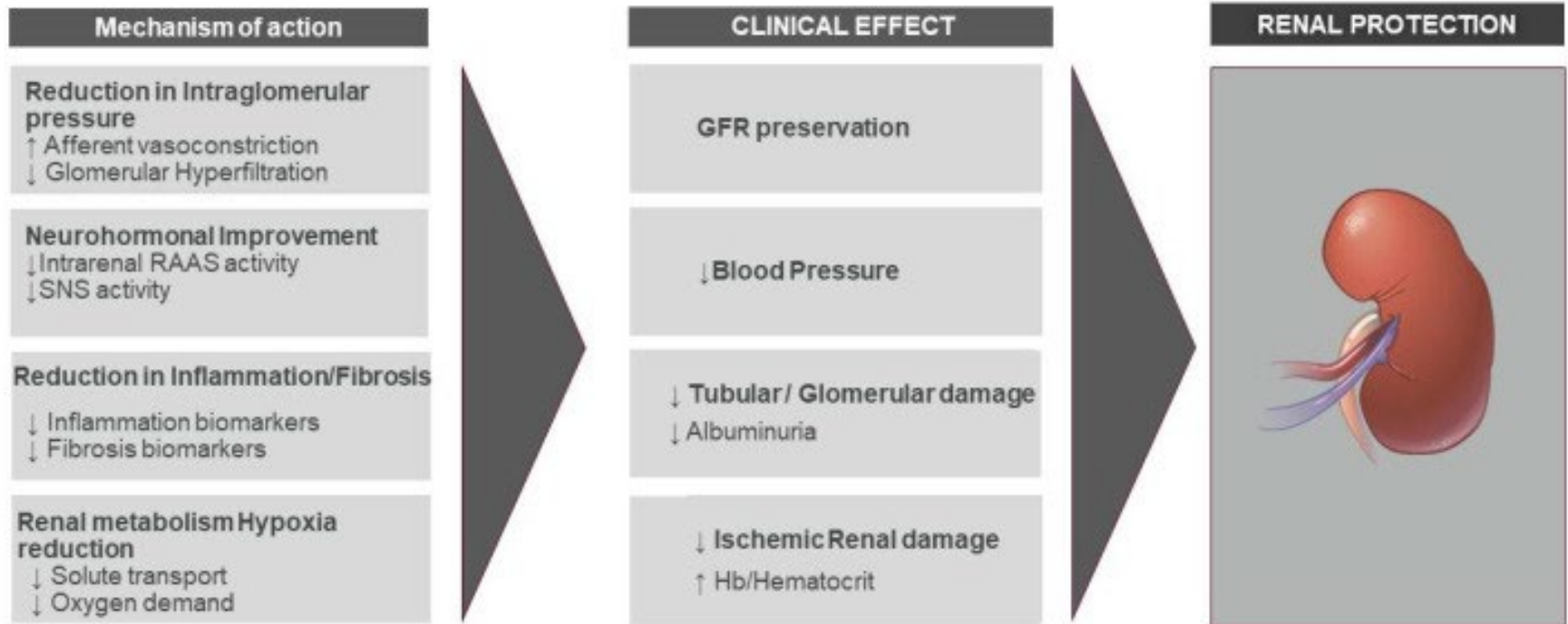
**Recommendation 3.6.1: We recommend treating patients with type 2 diabetes (T2D), CKD, and an eGFR  $\geq 20$  ml/min per  $1.73 \text{ m}^2$  with an SGLT2i (1A).**

**Practice Point 3.6.1: Once an SGLT2i is initiated, it is reasonable to continue an SGLT2i even if the eGFR falls below  $20 \text{ ml/min per } 1.73 \text{ m}^2$ , unless it is not tolerated or KRT is initiated.**

**Practice Point 3.6.2: It is reasonable to withhold SGLT2i during times of prolonged fasting, surgery, or critical medical illness (when people may be at greater risk for ketosis).**

**Recommendation 3.6.3: We suggest treating adults with eGFR  $\geq 20$  to  $45 \text{ ml/min per } 1.73 \text{ m}^2$  with urine ACR  $< 200 \text{ mg/g}$  with an SGLT2i (2B).**

# SGLT2is and renal protection: from biological mechanisms to clinical benefits



- **The Nephroprotective effects of SGLT2 inhibitors represent a class effect**
- **Multiple mechanisms are involved both renal and extrarenal**

*The Flozin Winning Streak in CKD/DM/CHF  
Every Study ..... A Success !!!*

**EMPA-REG**

**CANVAS**

**SCORED**

**VERTIS CV**

**DECLARE-  
TIMI**

**CREDENCE**

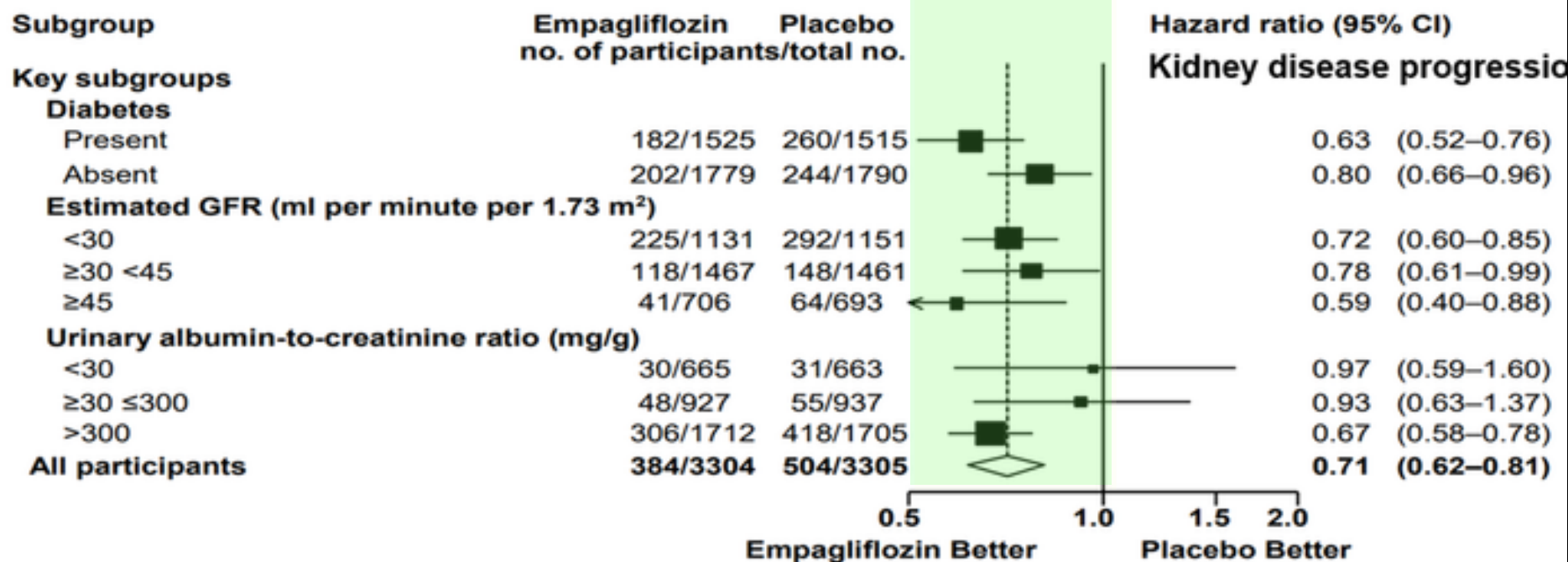
**DAPA-CKD**

**DAPA-HF**

**DELIVER**

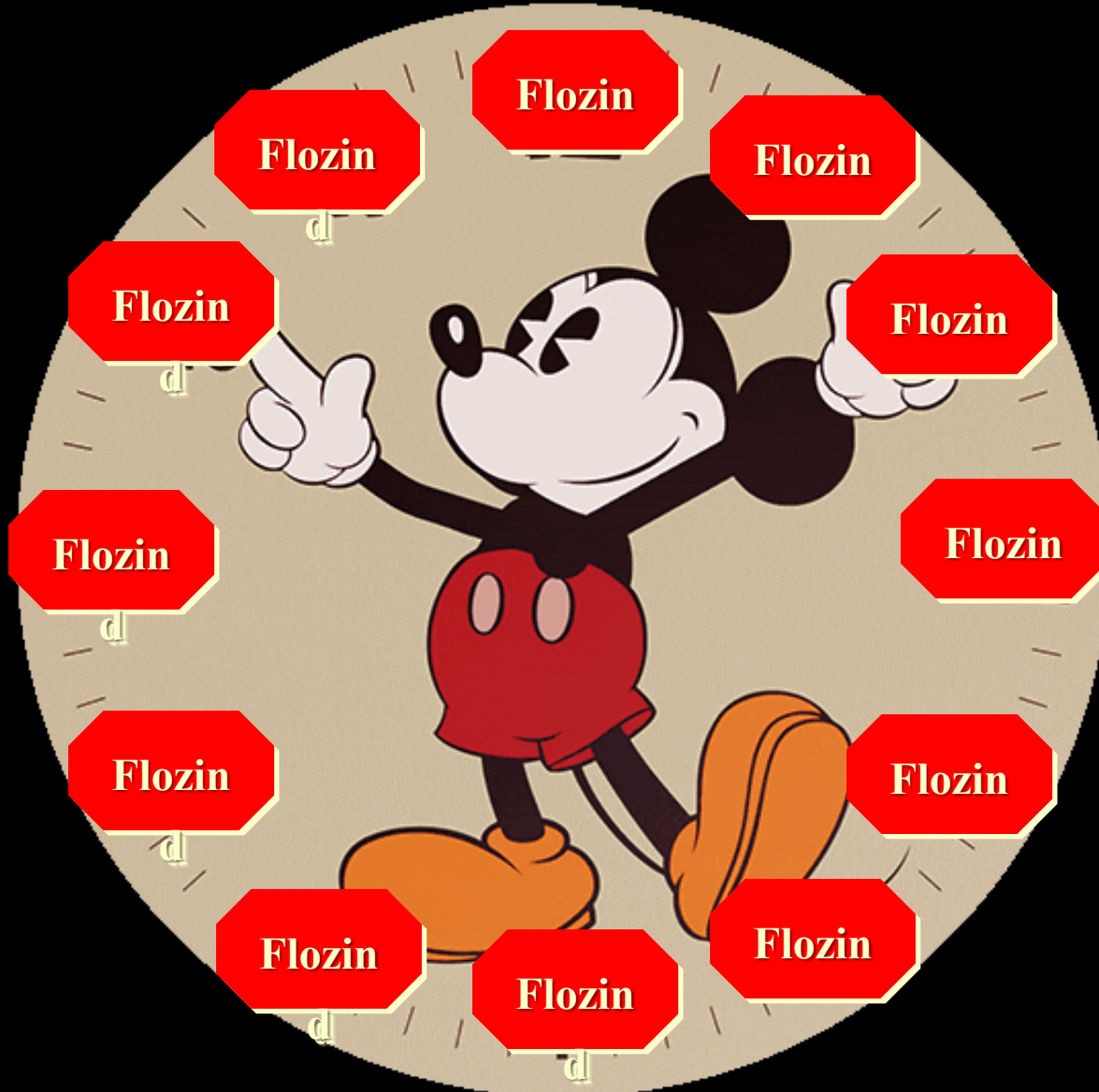
# EMPA Outcome : CKD and CVD

Benefit Across all subgroups with  
Empagliflozin



# *SGLT-2 Inhibitors – Where Dreams Come True !*

## *It's Always Flozin Time !*





# *Nephroprotection in CKD*

**RAAS Inhibition**

**SGLT2 Inhibitors**

**Aldosterone Inhibitors**

**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Sugar as needed**

**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Pressure 130/80**



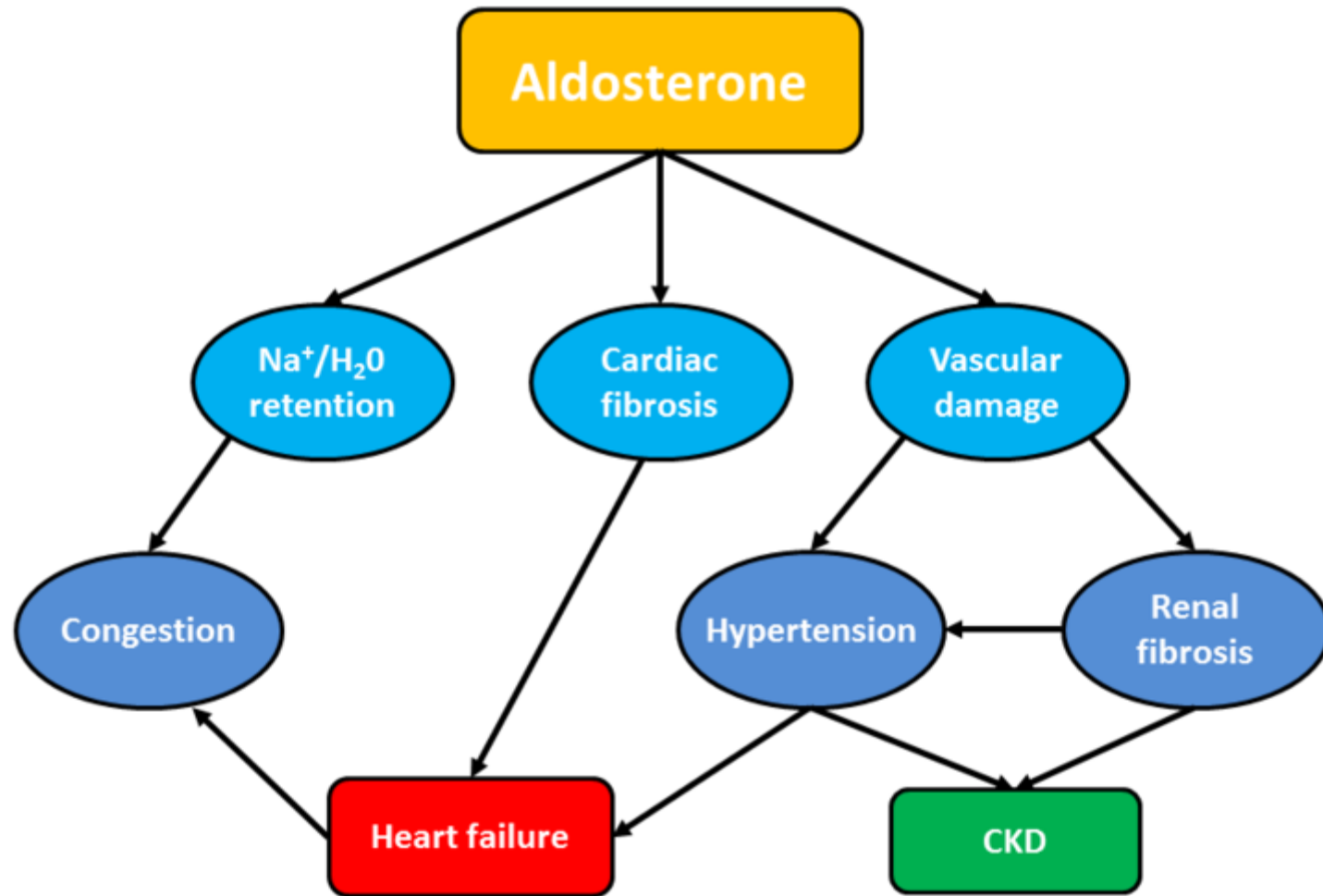
# *Mineralocorticoid Inhibitors as Add on Therapy for Nephroprotection*

**Recommendation 3.7.1:** We suggest a nonsteroidal mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist with proven kidney or cardiovascular benefit for adults with T2D, an eGFR  $>25$  ml/min per  $1.73$  m<sup>2</sup>, normal serum potassium concentration, and albuminuria ( $>30$  mg/g [ $>3$  mg/mmol]) despite maximum tolerated dose of RAS inhibitor (RASi) (2A).

**Practice Point 3.7.1:** Nonsteroidal MRA are most appropriate for adults with T2D who are at high risk of CKD progression and cardiovascular events, as demonstrated by persistent albuminuria despite other standard-of-care therapies.

**Practice Point 3.7.2:** A nonsteroidal MRA may be added to a RASi and an SGLT2i for treatment of T2D and CKD in adults.

# *Adverse Consequences of Chronic Elevation of Angiotensin II / Aldosterone*



# *Mineralocorticoid Receptor (MR) Antagonists*

Steroidal

Spironolactone

MR Blockade

+

+

Androgen Blockade

+

+

+

Epleronone

+

+

Non Steroidal

Finerenone

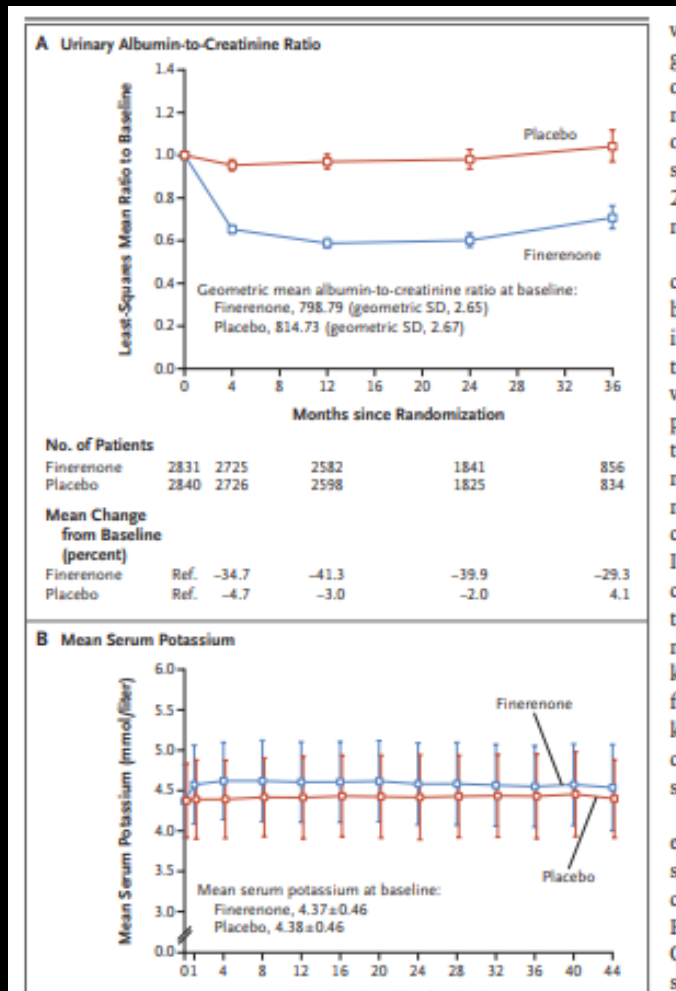
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# The Finerenone in Reducing Kidney Failure and Disease Progression in Diabetic Kidney Disease (FIDELIO-DKD)



- Significant reduction in albuminuria without a major risk of Hyperkalemia

# The Finerenone in Reducing Kidney Failure and Disease Progression in Diabetic Kidney Disease (FIDELIO-DKD)

Outcome	Finerenone	Placebo	Finerenone	Placebo	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P Value
	(N=2833)	(N=2841)	(N=2833)	(N=2841)		
	no. of patients with event (%)		no. of patients with event per 100 patient-yr			
Primary composite outcome	504 (17.8)	600 (21.1)	7.59	9.08	0.82 (0.73–0.93)	0.001
Kidney failure	208 (7.3)	235 (8.3)	2.99	3.39	0.87 (0.72–1.05)	—
End-stage kidney disease	119 (4.2)	139 (4.9)	1.60	1.87	0.86 (0.67–1.10)	—
Sustained decrease in eGFR to <15 ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	167 (5.9)	199 (7.0)	2.40	2.87	0.82 (0.67–1.01)	—
Sustained decrease of ≥40% in eGFR from baseline	479 (16.9)	577 (20.3)	7.21	8.73	0.81 (0.72–0.92)	—
Death from renal causes	2 (<0.1)	2 (<0.1)	—	—	—	—
Key secondary composite outcome	367 (13.0)	420 (14.8)	5.11	5.92	0.86 (0.75–0.99)	0.03
Death from cardiovascular causes	128 (4.5)	150 (5.3)	1.69	1.99	0.86 (0.68–1.08)	—
Nonfatal myocardial infarction	70 (2.5)	87 (3.1)	0.94	1.17	0.80 (0.58–1.09)	—
Nonfatal stroke	90 (3.2)	87 (3.1)	1.21	1.18	1.03 (0.76–1.38)	—
Hospitalization for heart failure	139 (4.9)	162 (5.7)	1.89	2.21	0.86 (0.68–1.08)	—
Death from any cause	219 (7.7)	244 (8.6)	2.90	3.23	0.90 (0.75–1.07)	—
Hospitalization for any cause	1263 (44.6)	1321 (46.5)	22.56	23.87	0.95 (0.88–1.02)	—
Secondary composite kidney outcome	252 (8.9)	326 (11.5)	3.64	4.74	0.76 (0.65–0.90)	—
Sustained decrease of ≥57% in eGFR from baseline	167 (5.9)	245 (8.6)	2.41	3.54	0.68 (0.55–0.82)	—

0.50                      1.00                      2.00

← Finerenone Better                      Placebo Better →



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## News Release

Not intended for U.S. and UK Media

### U.S. FDA approves finerenone for the treatment of patients with chronic kidney disease associated with type 2 diabetes

- Finerenone is the first non-steroidal, selective mineralocorticoid receptor (MR) antagonist to demonstrate positive kidney and cardiovascular outcomes in patients with chronic kidney disease associated with type 2 diabetes
- Despite guideline-directed therapies, many patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) associated with type 2 diabetes (T2D) still progress to loss of kidney function and are at high risk for cardiovascular events
- By blocking MR overactivation, a key driver of CKD progression, finerenone works on a pathway largely unaddressed by existing treatments for CKD in T2D

Berlin, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Bayer announced today that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved finerenone, the first non-steroidal, selective mineralocorticoid receptor (MR) antagonist, under the brand name Kerendia<sup>®</sup>. Finerenone 10 mg or 20 mg is indicated to reduce the risk of sustained estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) decline, end-stage kidney disease, cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction, and hospitalization for heart failure in adult patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) associated with type 2 diabetes (T2D).

The approval of finerenone by the FDA is based on the positive results of the pivotal Phase III FIDELIO-DKD study, presented at the American Society of Nephrology's (ASN) Kidney Week Reimagined 2020 and simultaneously published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in October 2020, and follows Priority Review designation granted by the FDA in January 2021.

# Treatment of Diabetic Kidney Disease

- 1) ACEI / ARB
- 2) SGLT2 inhibitors
- 3) Finerenone





# *Insurance Coverage for Nonsteroidal Mineralocorticoid Inhibitors ?*



**But ..... It is worth an effort as this drug class is significantly superior to steroidal MRA with proven benefit**

# *Nephroprotection in CKD*

**RAAS Inhibition**

**SGLT2 Inhibitors**

**Aldosterone Inhibitors**

**GLP-1 Agonists**

**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Sugar as needed**

**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Pressure 130/80**

# *We Already Know this about GLP-1 Agonists .....*



The NEW ENGLAND  
JOURNAL of MEDICINE



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

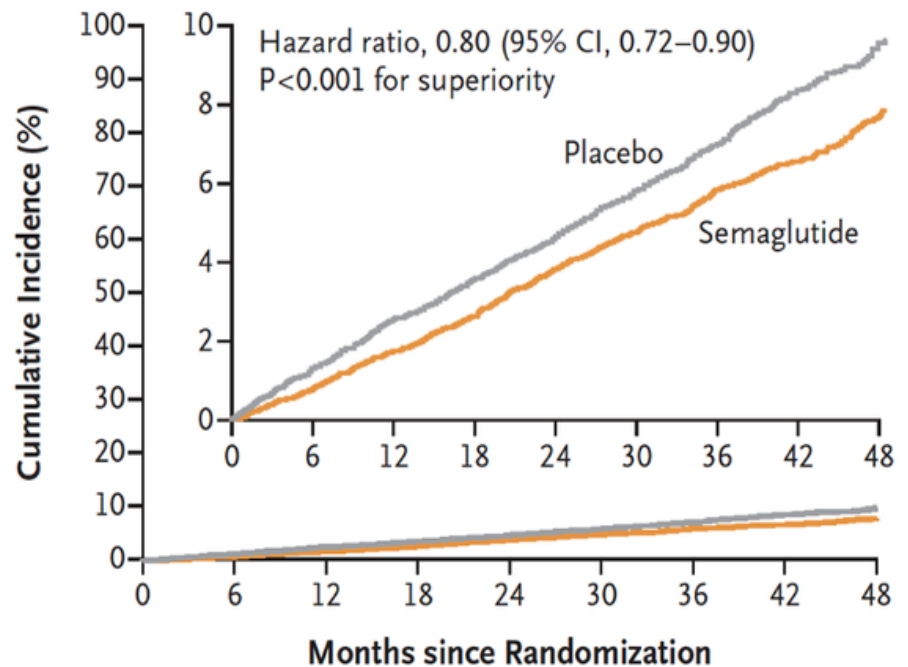
## Semaglutide and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Obesity without Diabetes

A. Michael Lincoff, M.D., Kirstine Brown-Frandsen, M.D., Helen M. Colhoun, M.D., John Deanfield, M.D., *et al.*, for the SELECT Trial Investigators\*

November 11, 2023

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2307563

### Primary Cardiovascular Composite End Point



### No. at Risk

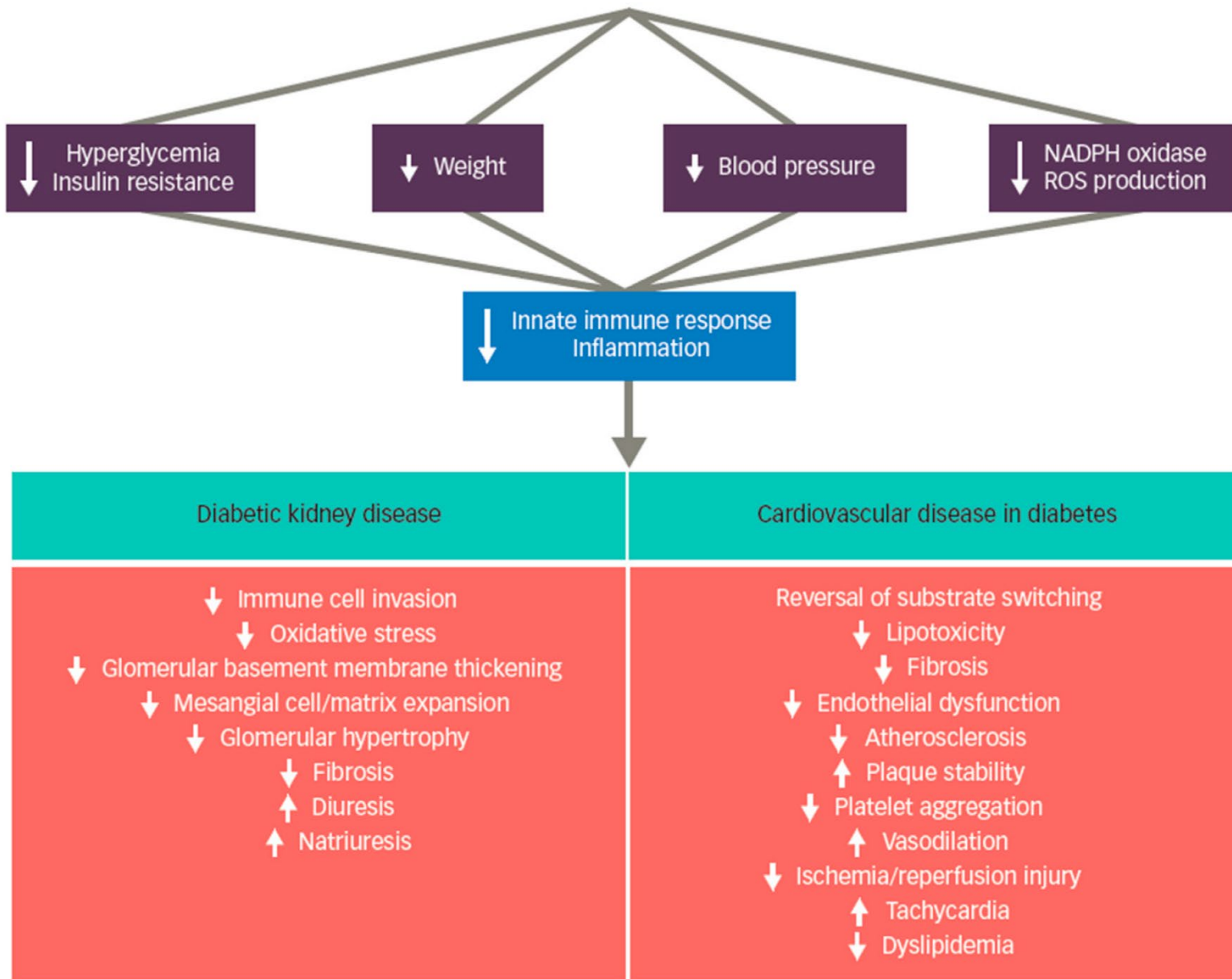
Placebo	8801	8652	8487	8326	8164	7101	5660	4015	1672
Semaglutide	8803	8695	8561	8427	8254	7229	5777	4126	1734

***But .... What about This ?  
Brand NEW !!!***

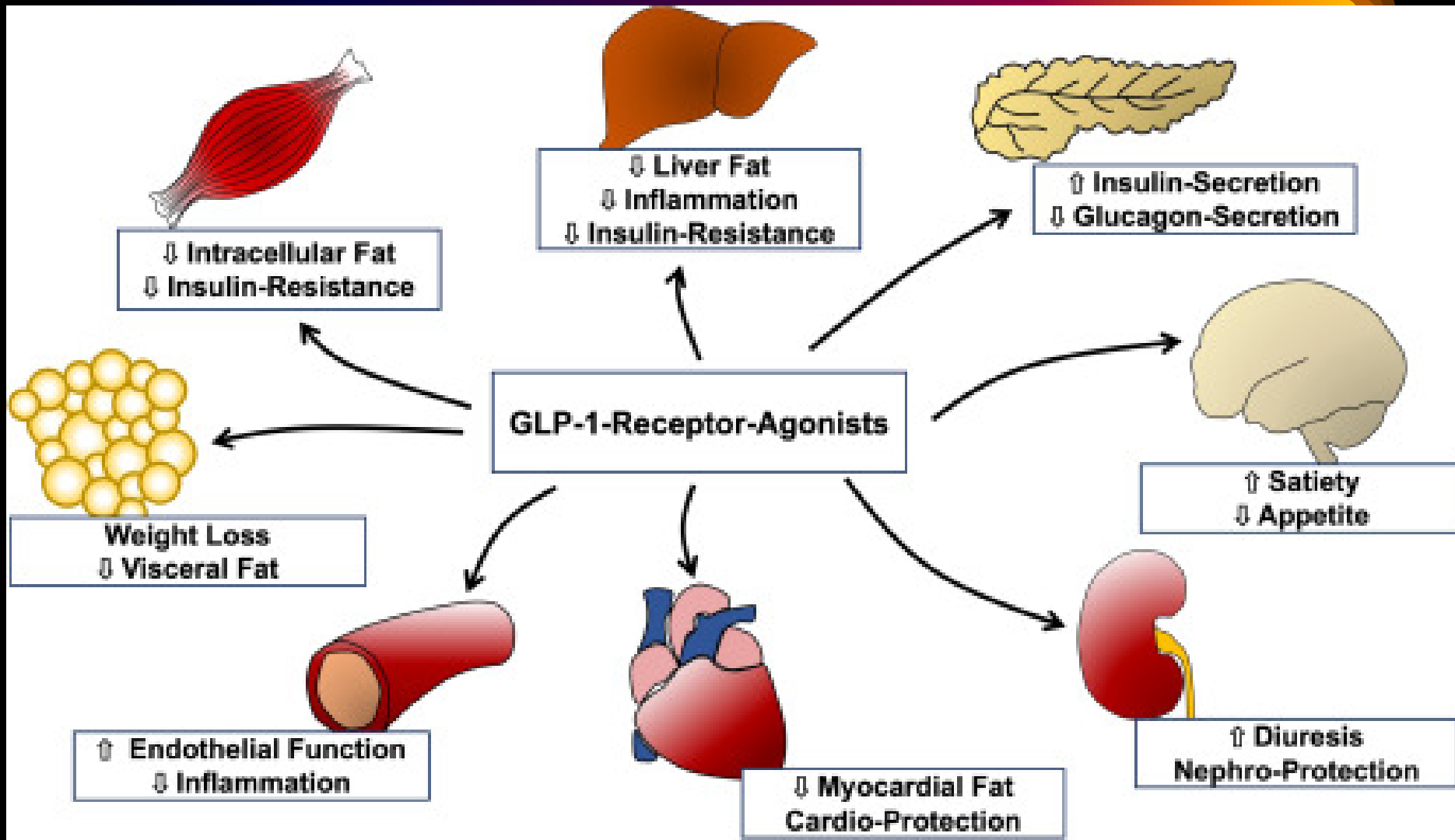
**Recommendation 3.8.1:** In adults with T2D and CKD who have not achieved individualized glycemic targets despite use of metformin and SGLT2 inhibitor treatment, or who are unable to use those medications, we recommend a long-acting GLP-1 RA (1B).

**Practice Point 3.8.1:** The choice of GLP-1 RA should prioritize agents with documented cardiovascular benefits.

# Effects of glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists

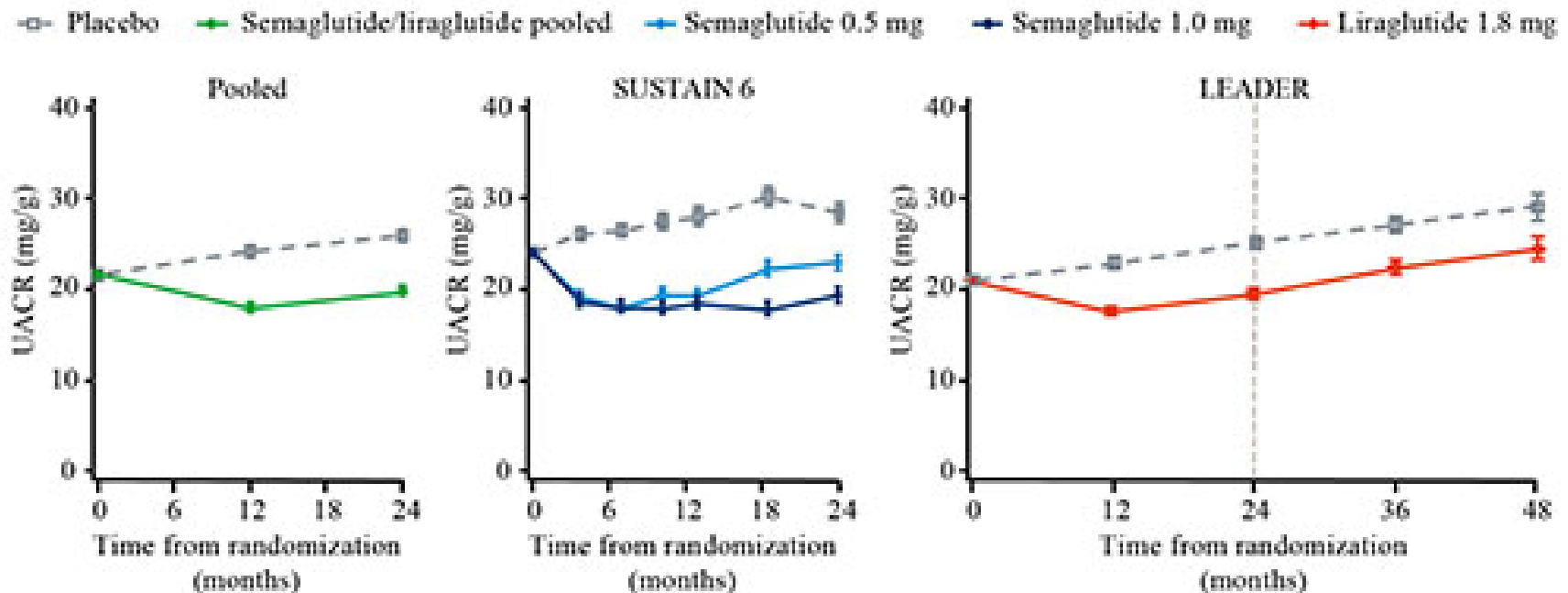


# Multi-Organ Effects of GLP-1 Activation



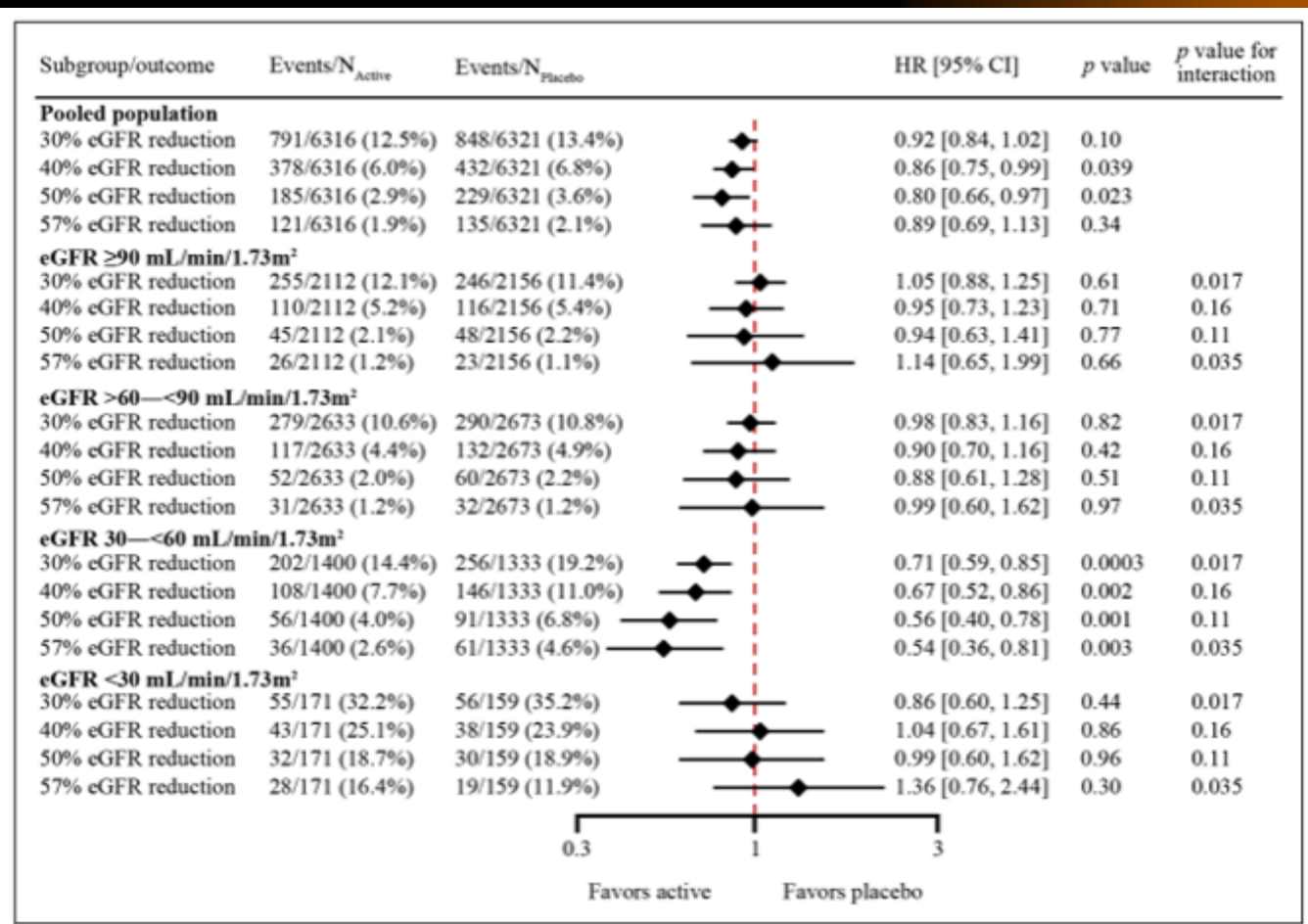


# GLP-1 Agonists Reduce Proteinuria Independent of other Therapy



Estimated treatment ratio at 2 years (treatment vs placebo) [95% CI]; <i>p</i> value*			
Overall pooled trial population	SUSTAIN 6		LEADER
	Semaglutide 0.5 mg	Semaglutide 1.0 mg	Liraglutide 1.8 mg
0.76 [0.73, 0.80]; <i>p</i> <0.001	0.80 [0.72, 0.90]; <i>p</i> <0.001	0.67 [0.60, 0.76]; <i>p</i> <0.001	0.77 [0.73, 0.82]; <i>p</i> <0.001
Estimated treatment ratio at 2 years (by-treatment comparisons) [95% CI]; <i>p</i> value			
Liraglutide 1.8 mg vs semaglutide 0.5 mg	0.96 [0.85, 1.09]; <i>p</i> =0.53	Liraglutide 1.8 mg vs semaglutide 1.0 mg	1.15 [1.02, 1.31]; <i>p</i> =0.024

# GLP-1 Agonists Reduce Decline in GFR

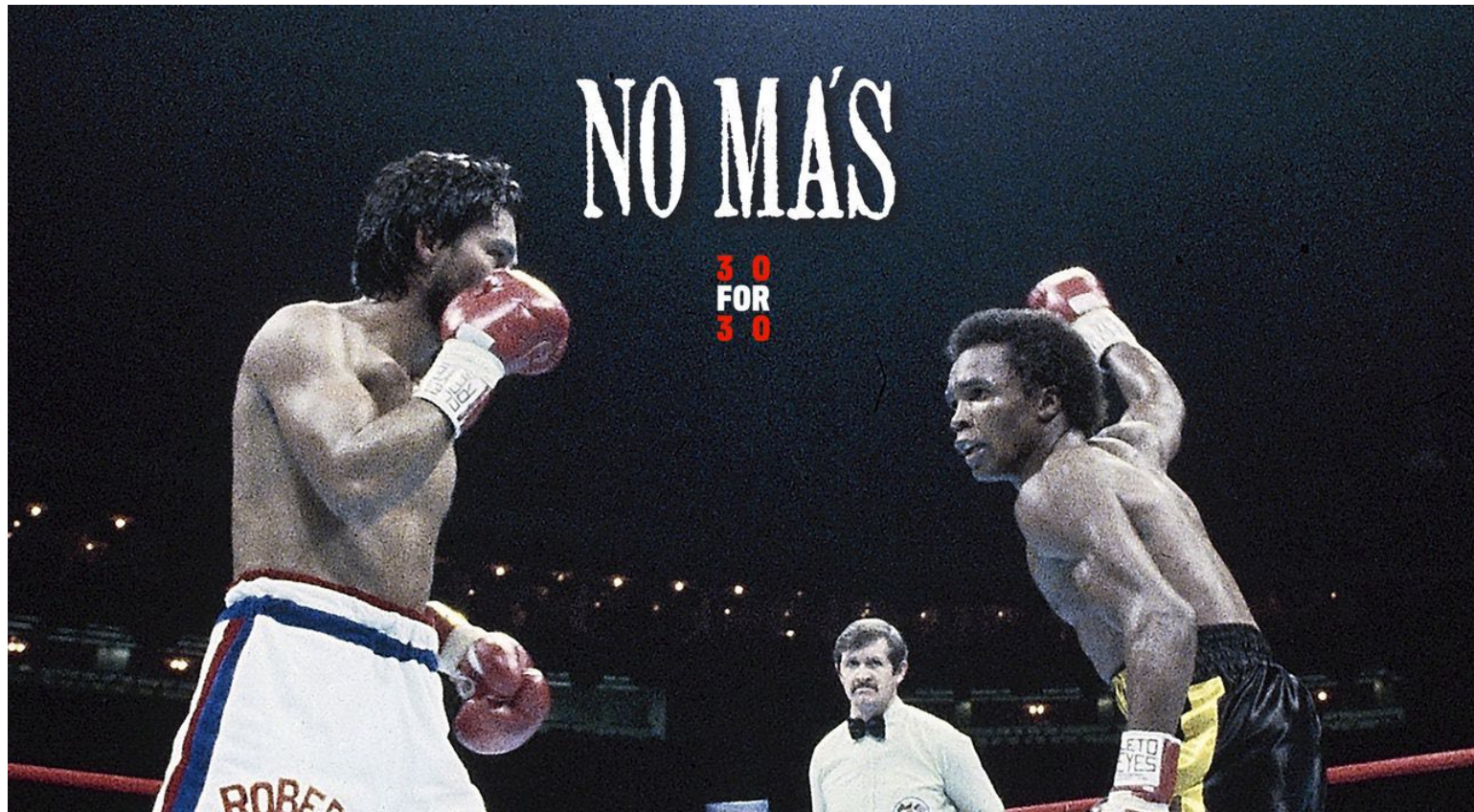


**Figure 3.** Effects of semaglutide and liraglutide versus placebo on time to the first persistent reduction in eGFR in the pooled population and subgroups according to eGFR at baseline.

# ***FLOW TRIAL***

- **Randomized, double-blind, parallel-group, placebo-controlled, superiority trial comparing injectable semaglutide 1.0 mg against placebo therapy as an adjunct to standard of care on kidney outcomes in DM and CKD**
  - **Onset of persistent  $\geq 50\%$  reduction in eGFR according to the CKD-EPI2 equation compared with baseline**
  - **Onset of persistent eGFR (CKD-EPI2)  $< 15$  mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>,**
  - **Initiation of chronic kidney replacement therapy**
  - **Death from kidney disease or death from CVD**
  - **Annual rate of decline of GFR**

## Novo Ends Semaglutide Kidney Study Early Due to Strong Efficacy Signals



**Semaglutide WINS !!!**

**24% Reduction in CKD Progression**



# *Nephroprotection in CKD*

**RAAS Inhibition**

**SGLT2 Inhibitors**

**Aldosterone Inhibitors**

**GLP-1 Agonists**

**Protein  
Restriction**

**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Sugar as needed**

**Dietary and Medical management to control Blood Pressure 130/80**

# ***Nephroprotection : Decreased Emphasis on Protein Restriction***

- **Early studies demonstrated a slower rate of decline of GFR in patients on low protein diets (<0.8 gm/kg/day)**
- **These results have not been substantiated in followup studies**
  - **Increase risk of malnutrition**
  - **Difficult to tolerate**
- **High protein diets have been shown in increase GFR and increase decline in GFR**

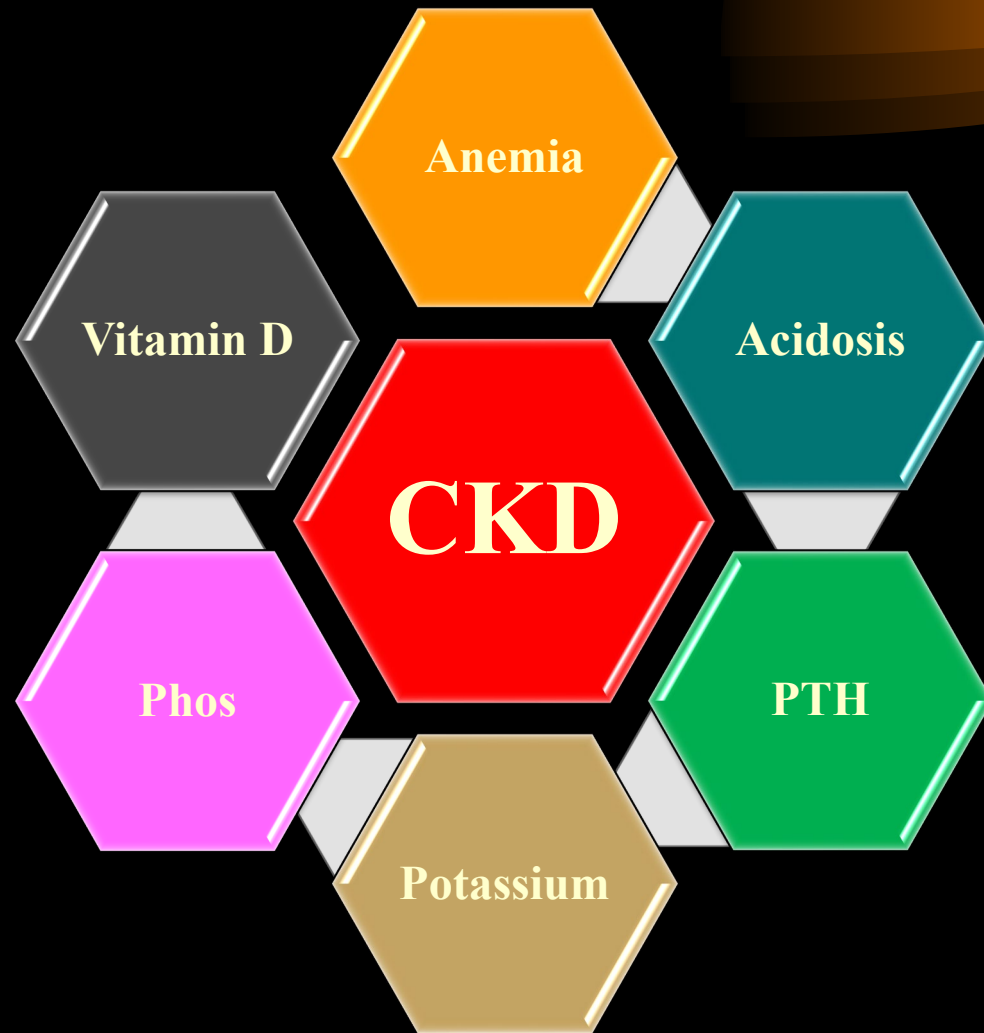
## **3.3.1. Protein intake**

**Recommendation 3.3.1.1: We suggest maintaining a protein intake of 0.8 g/kg/day in adults with CKD G3–G5 (2C).**

**Practice Point 3.3.1.2: Avoid high protein intake (>1.3 g/kg/day) in adults with CKD at risk of progression.**



# *Interventions that Improve Morbidity and Mortality but Are Not Associated with Nephroprotection*



# Oath of the Nephron

I do Solemnly swear to Preserve , Protect  
and Defend the GFR of the Kidneys



# *References*

- KDIGO 2024 Clinical Practice Guideline for the Evaluation and Management of Chronic Kidney Disease. *Kidney International* (2024) 105 (Suppl 4S), S117–S314
- Cox, E.J. (2020). *US Endocrinology*, 16, 80–87.
- Shaman, A., et al. (2022). *Circulation*, 145, 575–585.
- Schaefer, L., & Pierre, S. V. (2023). Cell and Molecular Physiology Section of the American Physiological Society in connection with *American Journal of Physiology-Cell Physiology*. *American Journal of Physiology-Cell Physiology*, 325(1), C362-C363.