



PHYSICIANS' ACADEMY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR EDUCATION

# 3<sup>RD</sup> SNAPSHOT

Diabetes and reducing CVD:  
Are novel interventions living  
up to their promise?

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**Presented - August 30, 2014**

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## Math Test

1. Bob has 36 candy bars. He eats 29.  
What does he have now?

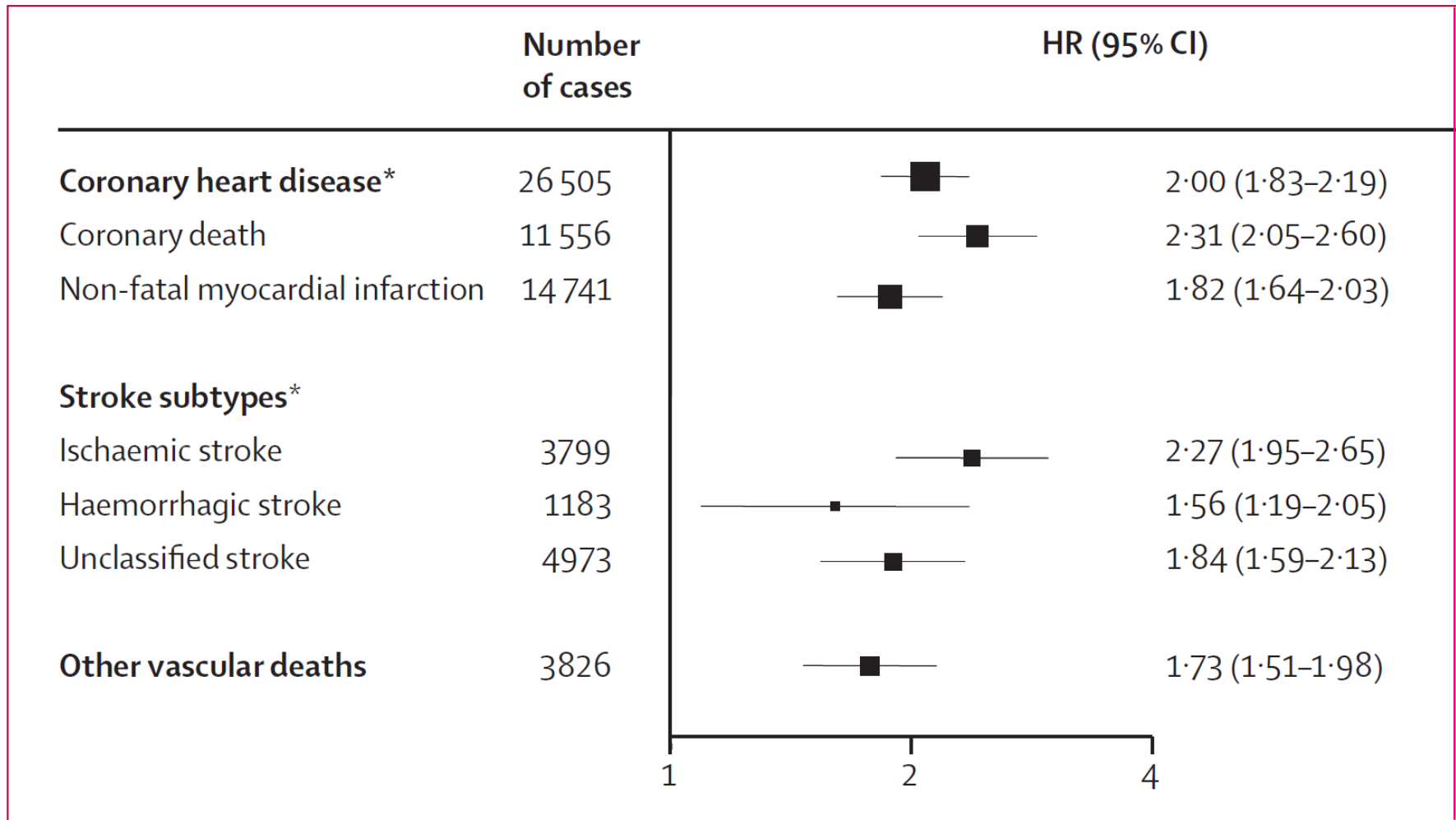
Diabetes.

Bob has diabetes.

2. Two trains left Kalamazoo, one heading  
the other heading south. The  
the second

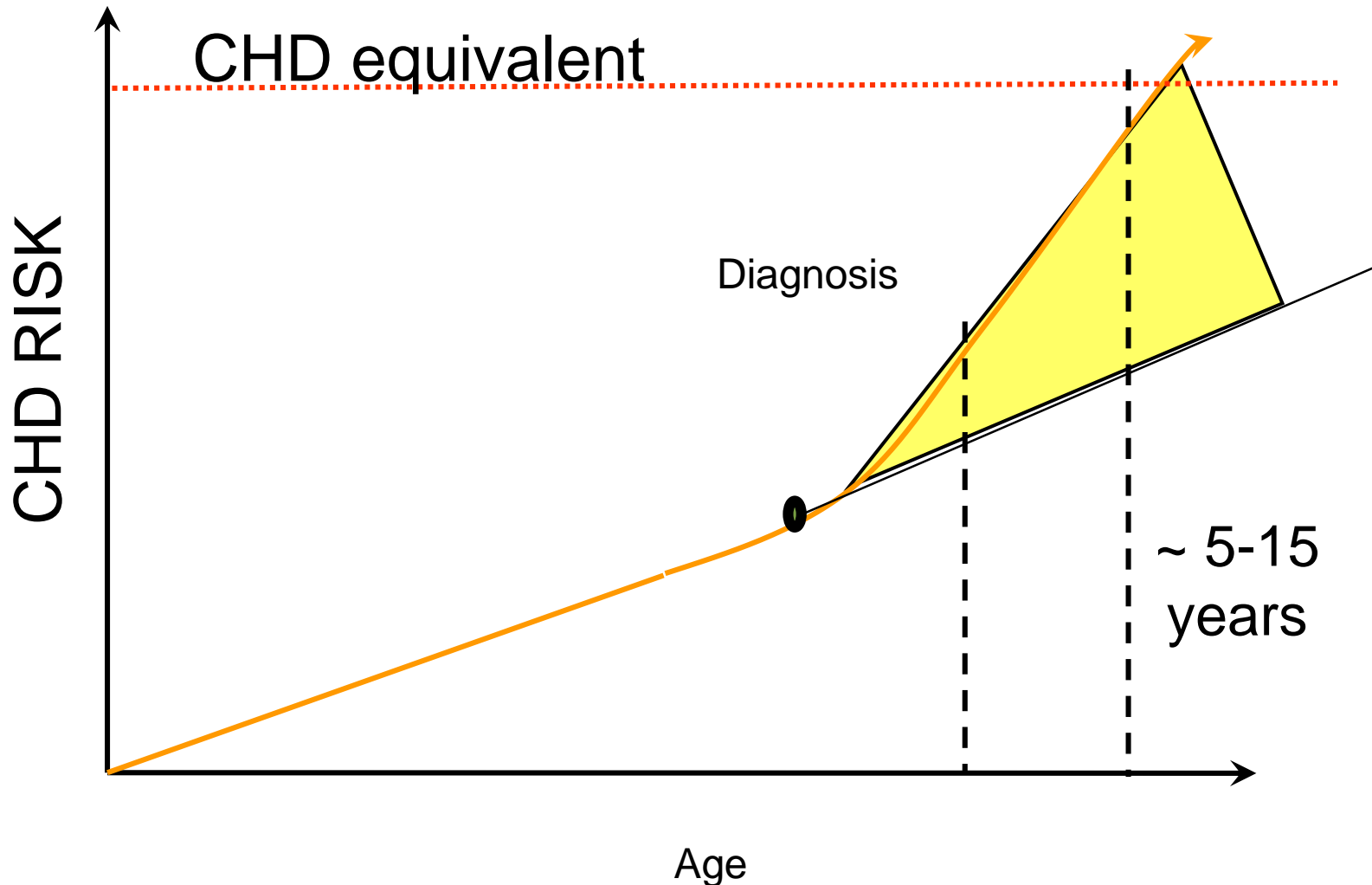
# Relative risk in DM vs Non-DM

## ERFC (2010) Lancet



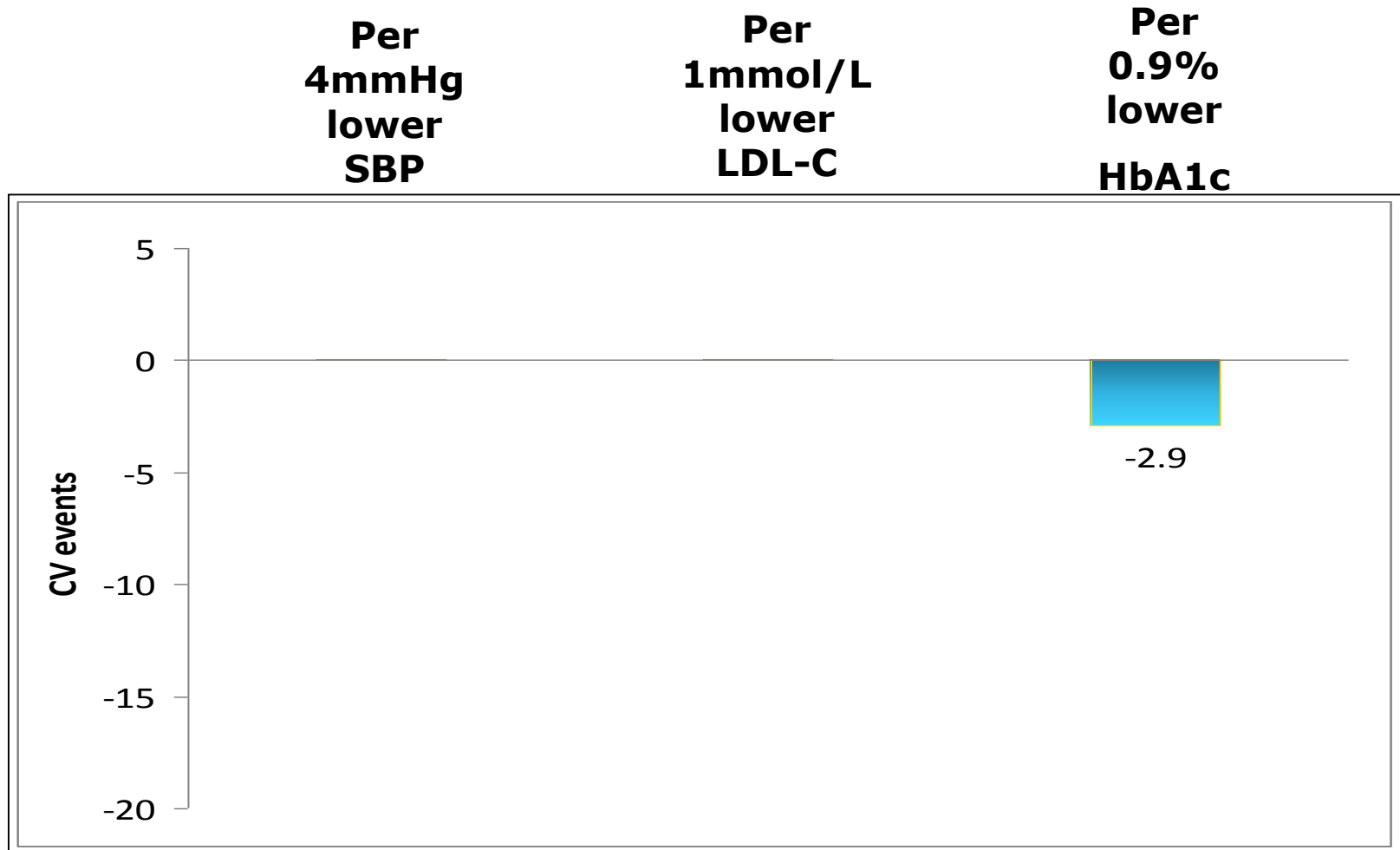
Hazard ratios for vascular outcomes DM vs. no DM

# Several years of diabetes before CVD equivalence



# Benefit per 200 diabetes pts treated for 5 years

## BP and LDL-c lowering trump HbA1c reduction



Ray et al Lancet 2009 Meta-analysis of intensive glucose-lowering trials

# Why does glucose lowering appear to work less well for CVD?

**T2DM-CVD risk not just ↑ glucose**

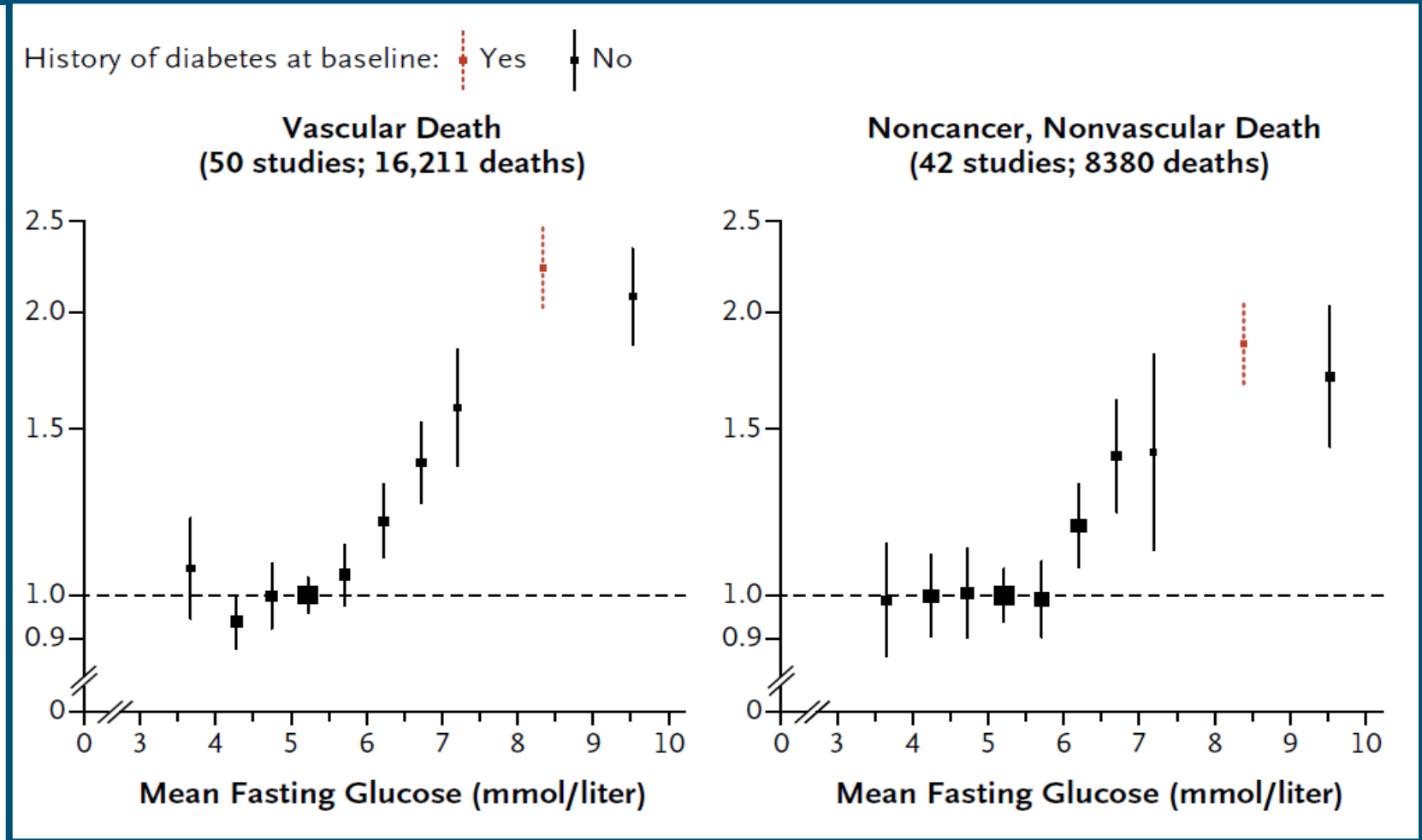
**HbA1c targets hardest**

**DM agents have other effects**

**Glycaemia vs. CVD risk relationship  
still not fully understood**



# Glucose is not continuous risk factor for vascular risk or non-CVD



# Glucose, HbA1c vs. CVD: thresholds of risk apply

- **IFG alone  $\neq$  high CVD risk (HR only 1.1)**
- **ADVANCE:**
  - micro risk  $\geq 6.5\%$  HbA1c (=DETECT2),
  - **macro risk  $\geq 7.0\%$**
  - Zoungas et al (2012) Diabetologia
- **Best to recruit above these levels (ORIGIN below this / but hoping for some insulin effect)**



# Diabetes field in a 'brave' new world



- **FDA 2008: new approach to diabetes drugs as:**
  - Drugs ↓ sugar (“surrogate”) levels  $\neq$  ↓ CVD or ↓ mortality and may increase?
  - Sattar (2013) Diabetologia
- **Proof of CVD safety for all new anti-diabetic agents**
  - Non-inferiority with upper confidence interval 1.3
  - Study designs “forced” / expediency
  - Cost management as big numbers

# **!8 ongoing trials 170K patients**

- **6 DPP-4**
- **5 GLP-1**
- **5 SGLT2**
  - most vs. placebo, one versus SU

# CV outcome trials in T2DM: DPP4 inhibitors (“gliptins”)

Trial	Treatment Company	Inclusion criteria	Primary endpoint ≡	Number End date
EXAMINE NCT00968708	Placebo <b>Alogliptin</b> -Takeda	T2DM HbA1c 6.5 – 11.0% ≥ 18 years ACS	CV death, MI or stroke ≡ 4.75 years	5400 May 2014
TECOS NCT00790205	Placebo <b>Sitagliptin</b> -Merck	T2DM HbA1c 6.5 – 8.0% ≥ 50 years CVD	CV death, MI, UA or stroke ≡ 5 years	14000 Dec 2014
SAVOR (TIMI-53) NCT01107886	Placebo <b>Saxagliptin</b> -BMS	T2DM HbA1c ≥ 6.5% ≥ 40 years CVD/CV risk factors	CV death, MI or stroke ≡ 5 years	12000 Apr 2014
CAROLINA NCT01243424	Glimepiride <b>Linagliptin</b> -Eli Lilly	T2DM HbA1c 6.5-8.5% 40-85 years CVD/CV risk factors/ diabetes end organ damage	CV death, MI, UA or stroke ≡ 7-8 years	6000 Sep 2018

# DPP-4 and CVD: meta-analysis ‘hints’

*Monami et al (2013) DOM*

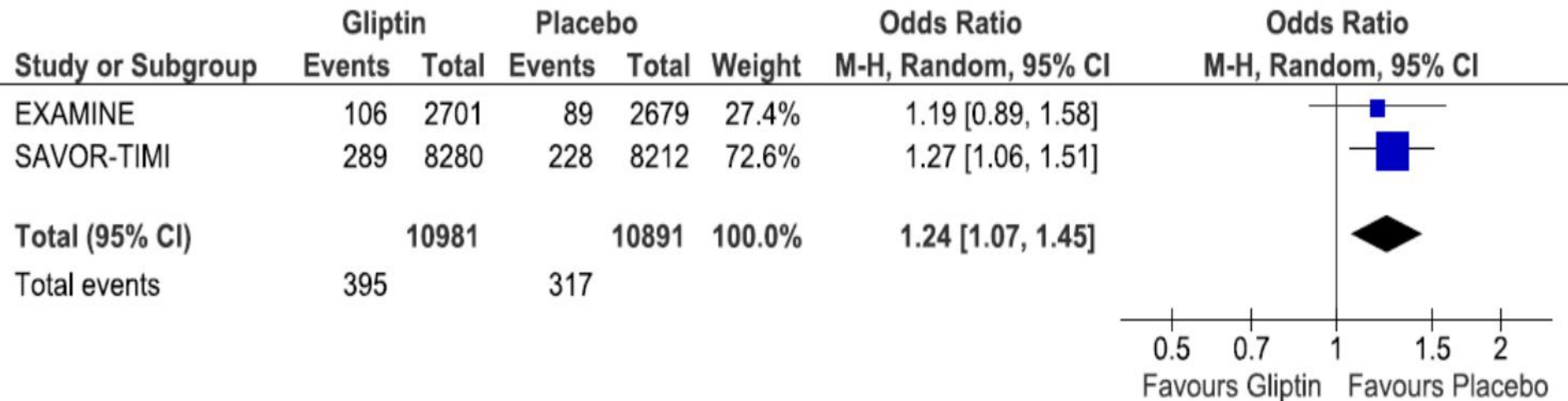
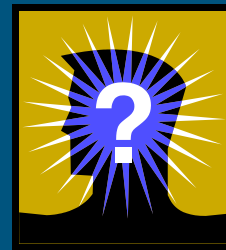
	# trials	# trials with events	# events (DPP4i)	# events (Comparator)	MH-OR [95%, CI]	p	Kendall's tau	p	0.0	1.0	10.0
<i>MACE</i>	70	63	263	232	0.71[0.59;0.86]	<0.001	0.04	0.64			
<i>Sitagliptin</i>	27	24	77	67	0.86[0.60;1.24]	0.430	0.04	0.80			
<i>Vildagliptin</i>	16	15	75	74	0.61[0.43;0.86]	0.005	0.03	0.89			
<i>Saxagliptin</i>	13	12	62	46	0.67[0.45;0.99]	0.047	0.36	0.10			
<i>Linagliptin</i>	9	8	37	41	0.72[0.45;1.16]	0.18	0.00	1.00			
<i>Alogliptin</i>	5	4	12	4	0.86[0.25;2.93]	0.81	0.30	0.15			

**MACE HR 0.71 [0.59 to 0.86]**  
Perception of “protective” effects

# But 'only' Non-inferiority achieved

- **SAVOUR HR 1.00 [0.89-1.12]**
- **EXAMINE HR 0.96 (x - 1.16) NS**
- **Should we surprised? No**
  - HbA1c ↓ ~0.30% / 0.35% (not glucose efficacy trials)
  - Median durations of follow-up short: 1.5 to ~2 years
  - DPP-4 inhibitors minimal effects on BP/lipids
- **DPP4i need strong 'pleiotropic' actions for CVD benefit**
  - Clearly not there

# ↑ Heart Failure Hospitalisations unexpected: real? Take seriously



**Sig. in top quarter NT pro-BNP (333 to 44K pg/ml)  
But 13% only HF at baseline**

**EXAMINE data post hoc (recurrent events important)**

**WHAT WILL TECOS SHOW?**

# More reasons to be optimistic re: GLP-1 and SGLT2?

	DPP-4	GLP-1	SGLT2
<b>Hypo risk</b>	Low	Low	Low
<b>Weight</b>	neutral	Lower	Lower
<b>BP</b>	neutral	Lower	Lower
<b>Lipids</b>	Neutral	Improved	LDL↑
<b>Other effects</b>	HF signal?	HR ↑	Infections

# Putting together Ferguson & Sattar (2013) DOM

	Glucose-lowering	BP lowering	Statins
<b>CHD*</b>	↓*	↓↓↓	↓↓↓
Affordability	+	+ / +++	+++
Simplicity	+	++	+++



# Summary: target usual risk factors to ↓CVD risk: watch future trials



- **Evidence ↓ CVD in DM over several decades**
  - Better management CVD risk factors big part
    - ◆ BP and LDL-c reduction >> glucose reduction
    - ◆ But many still sub-optimally treated
    - ◆ Trials require ever bigger numbers
- **Whether new DM agents ↓CVD not known**
  - ◆ Must alter usual risk factors?
  - ◆ GLP-1 & SGLT2 more promise than DPP-4
  - ◆ Only trials can prove / but neutrality ok?

