

# Retarding progression of Diabetic Kidney Disease

MEDICINE REVIEW COURSE 2015

Titus Lau MD MRCP FRCP FAMS  
Division of Nephrology  
National University Hospital Singapore

# Learning objectives

- Diagnosis of DM nephropathy
- Screening for renal disease in patients with DM
- Managing DM nephropathy

# Firstly to diagnose DM Kidney Disease

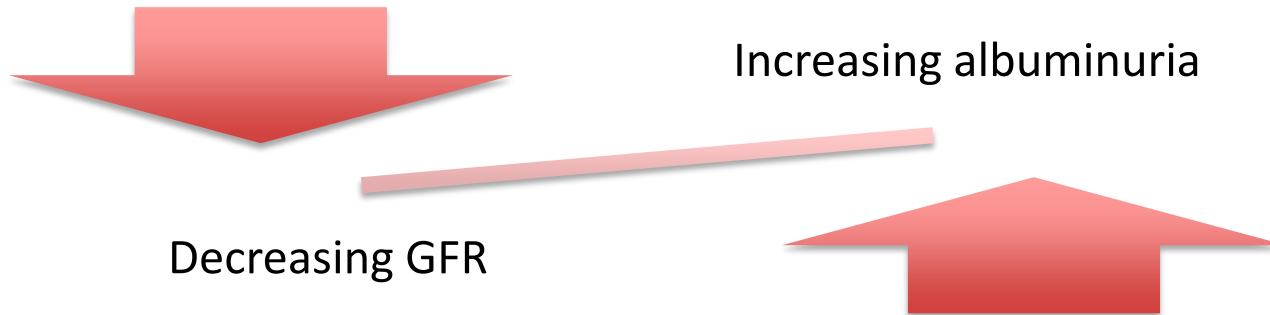
**CKD  
in Diabetes**



**ACR  $\geq 2.0$  mg/mmol**

**and / or**

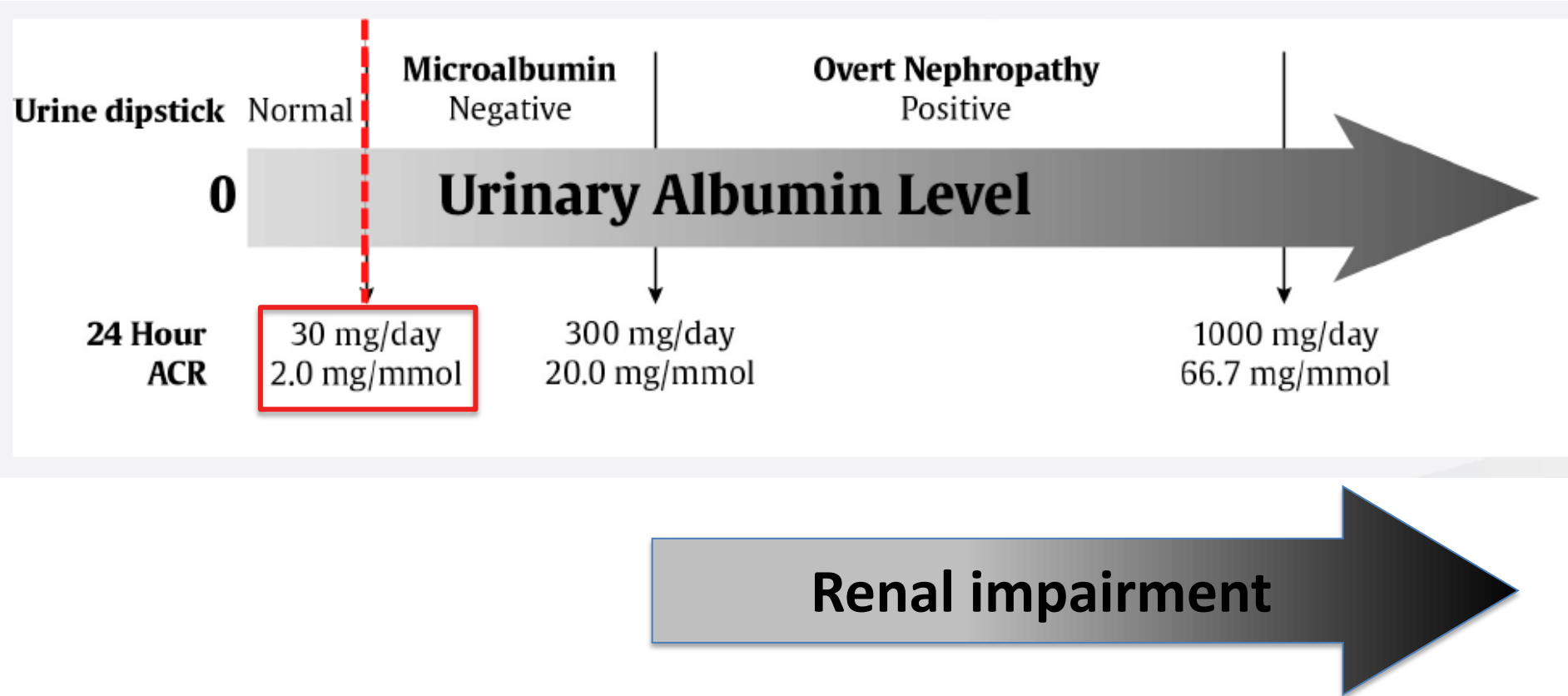
**eGFR  $< 60$  mL/min**



Either one of the above or both defines presence of DM nephropathy

\*ACR = Albumin : Creatinine ratio

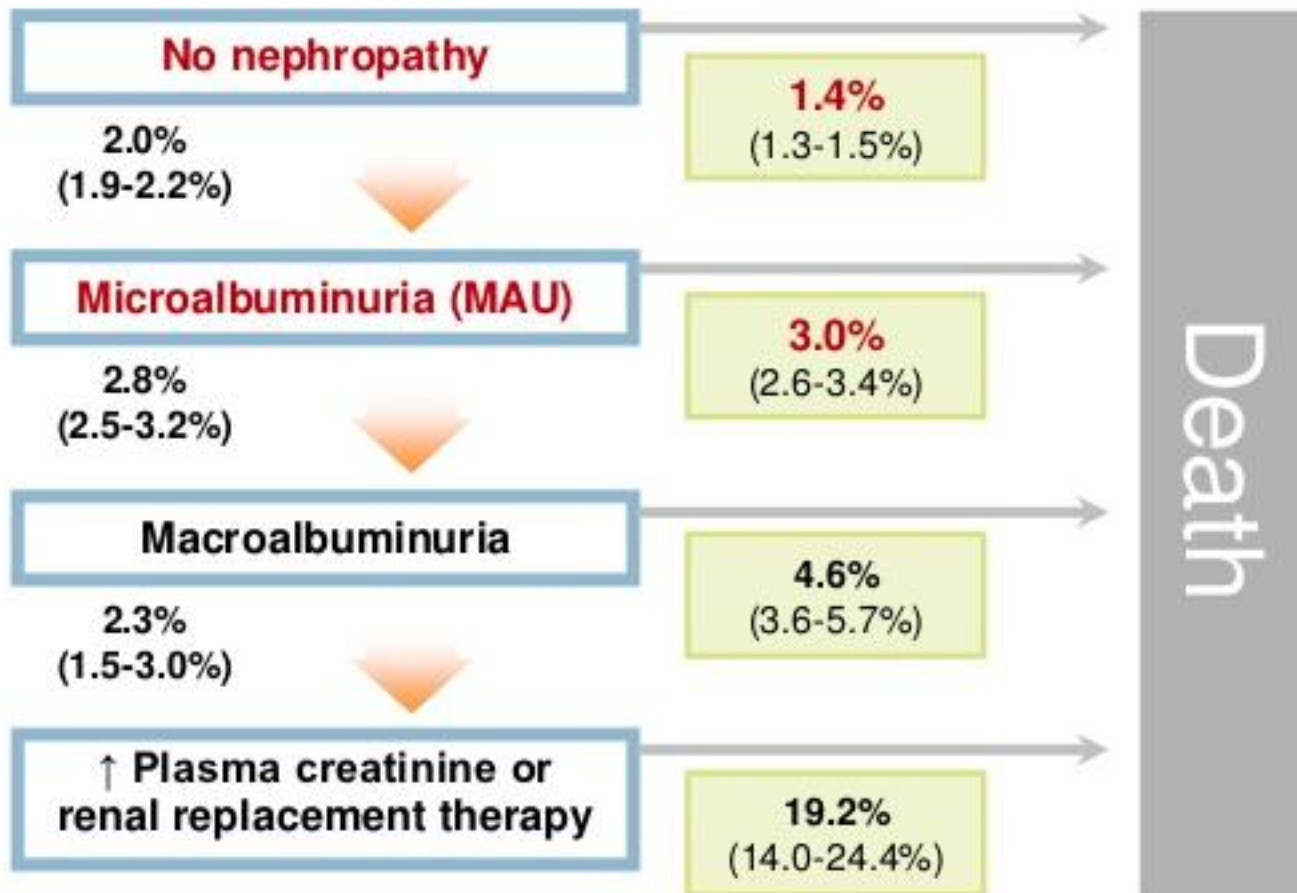
# Stages of Diabetic Kidney Disease



*As albuminuria becomes heavier, the renal function will also be correspondingly lower*

Remember that the progression of DM CKD is also accompanied by increasing risk of death

Annual transition rates through stages of albuminuria in patients with type 2 diabetes



# Best to do urine screening using UACR and not regular urine dipstick

**Stages of Diabetic Nephropathy by Level of Urinary Albumin Level**

| <b>Stage of nephropathy</b> | <b>Urine dipstick for protein</b> | <b>Urine ACR (mg/mmol)</b> | <b>24 hour urine collection for albumin</b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Normal                      | Negative                          | <2                         | <30 mg/day                                  |
| Microalbuminuria            | Negative                          | 2-20                       | 30-300 mg/day                               |
| Overt nephropathy           | Positive                          | >20                        | >300 mg/day                                 |
|                             |                                   | >67                        | >1000 mg/day                                |

Values are for urinary albumin, not total urinary protein, which will be higher than urinary albumin levels.  
ACR results may be elevated with conditions other than diabetic nephropathy (see text and Table 4)

Regular urine dipstick will only detect high level of albuminuria (overt proteinuria) and will miss lower level of albuminuria [= early DM nephropathy]

# When and how to screen?

Screen annually when no transient causes of albuminuria or low eGFR are present, and when acute kidney injury or non-diabetic kidney disease is not suspected

Type 1 diabetes: Annually in postpubertal individuals with duration of diabetes  $\geq 5$  years

Type 2 diabetes: At diagnosis and annually thereafter



Order random urine ACR and serum creatinine for eGFR

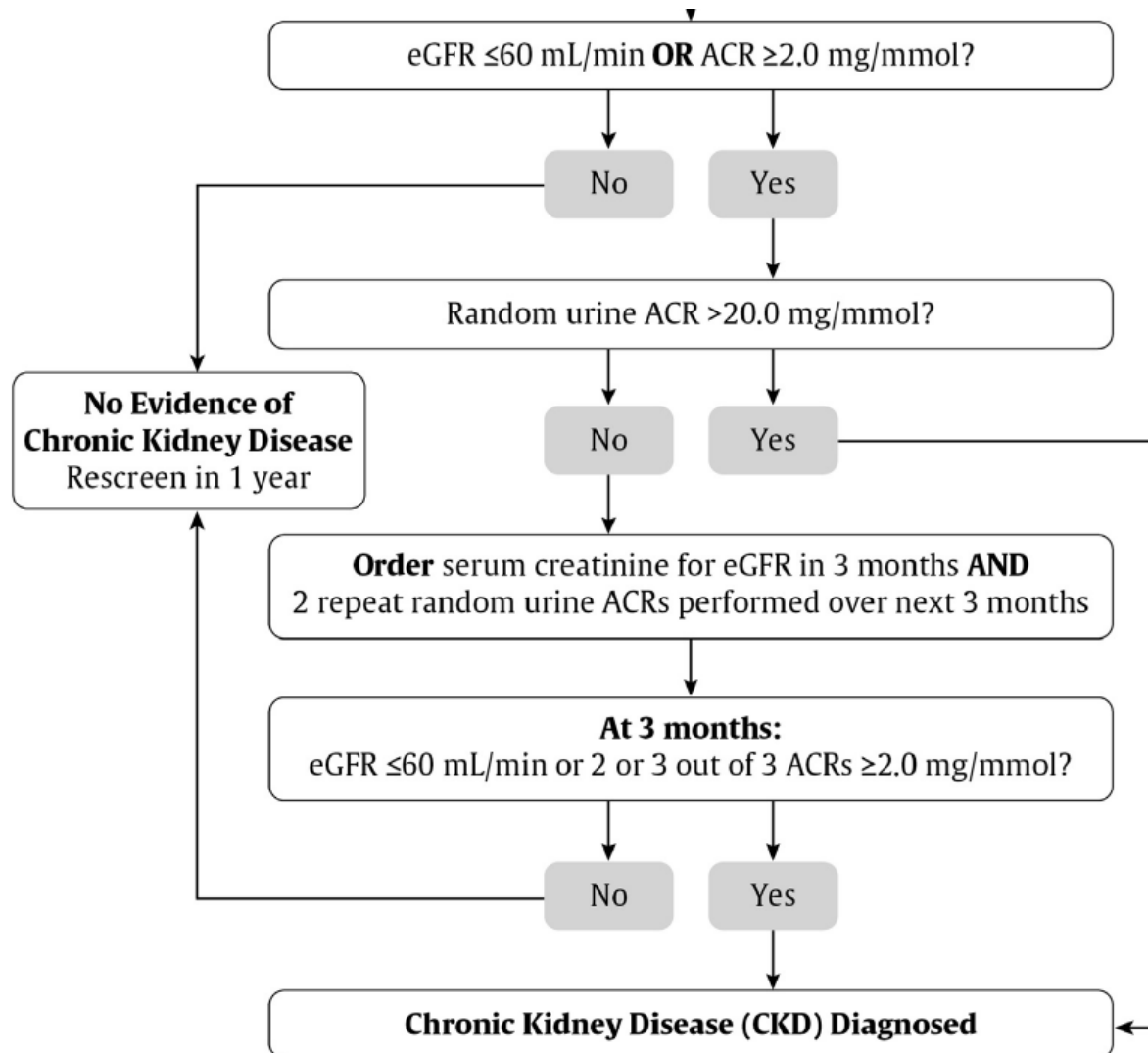


# Beware of transient albuminuria from various other causes

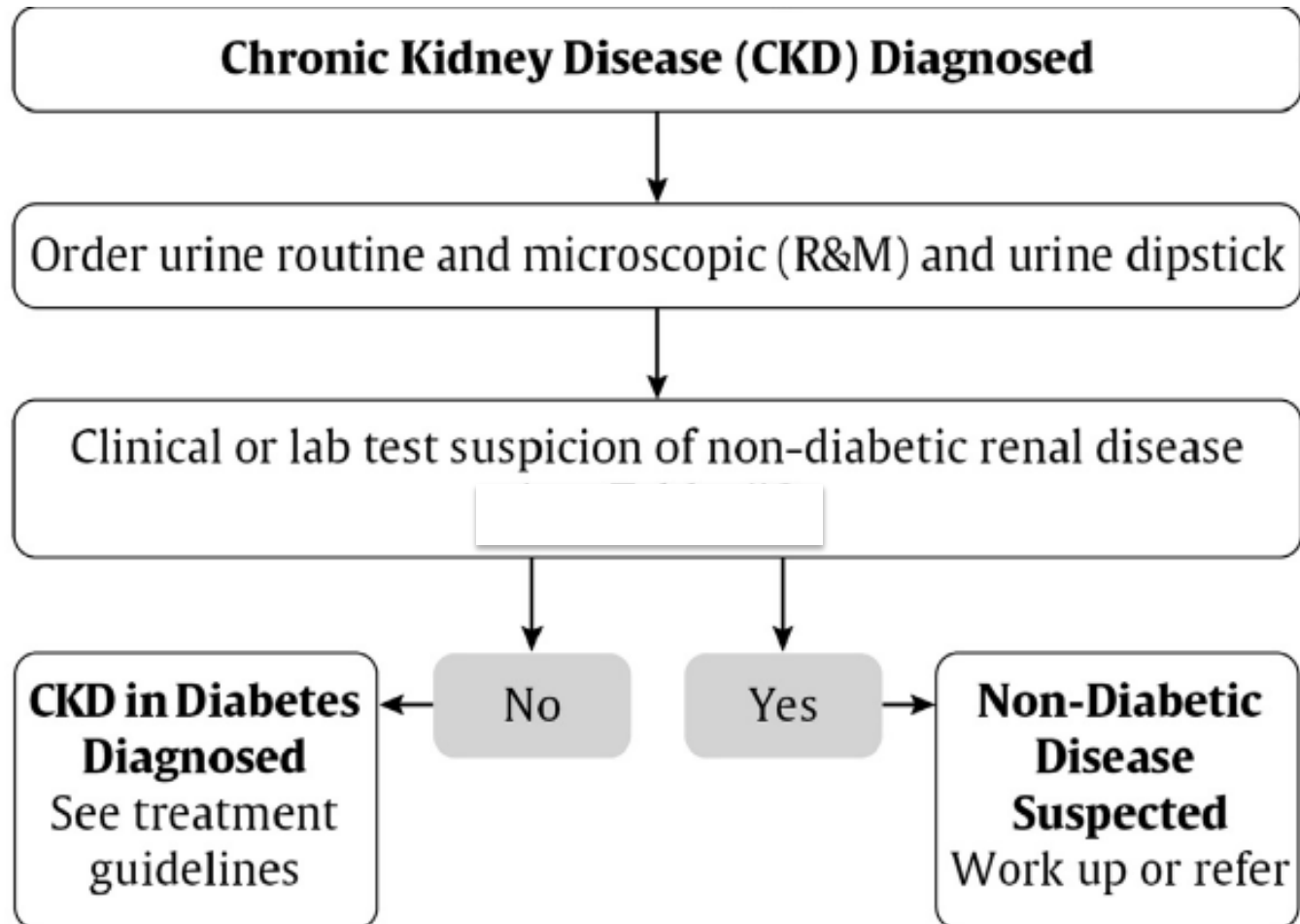
## **Potential Causes for Transient Albuminuria**

Recent major exercise  
Urinary tract infection  
Febrile illness  
Decompensated congestive heart failure  
Menstruation  
Acute severe elevation in blood glucose  
Acute severe elevation in blood pressure

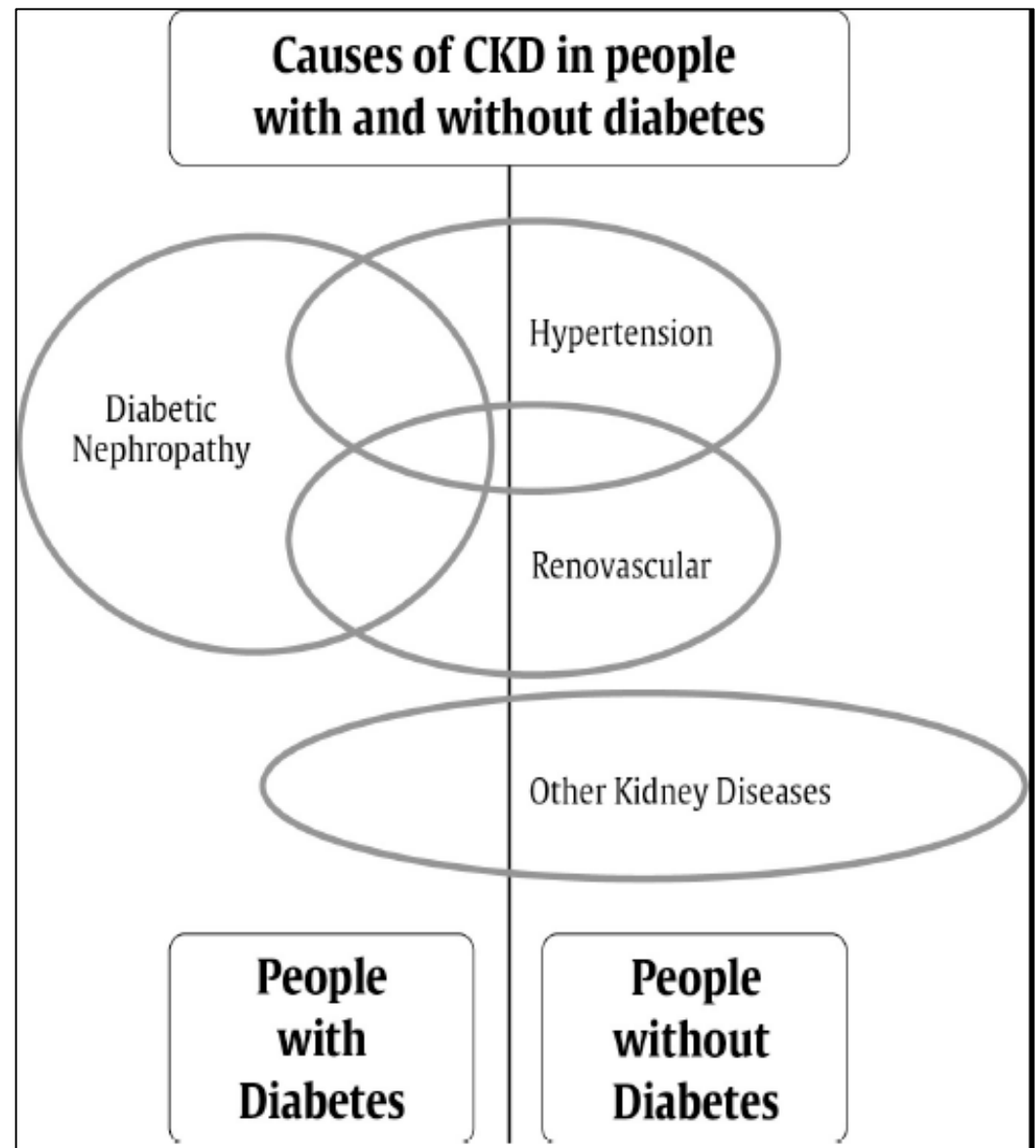
# Screening algorithm



# Clinical diagnosis of DM nephropathy is a diagnosis of exclusion



# CKD in someone with DM is **not always** DM nephropathy



# When to consider other causes of CKD in diabetic patients?

**Factors Favouring Classical Diabetic Nephropathy vs. Alternate Diagnoses (17-20)**

| <b>Favours Diabetic Nephropathy</b>        | <b>Favours Alternate Renal Diagnosis</b>                                     |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Persistent albuminuria                     | Extreme proteinuria (>6 g/d)                                                 |
| Bland urine sediment                       | Persistent hematuria (micro- or macroscopic) or active urinary sediment      |
| Slow progression of disease                | Rapidly falling eGFR                                                         |
| Low eGFR associated with overt proteinuria | Low eGFR with little or no proteinuria                                       |
| Other complications of diabetes present    | Other complications of diabetes not present or relatively not as severe      |
| Known duration of DM >5 years              | Known duration of diabetes <5 years                                          |
|                                            | Family history or nondiabetic renal disease (e.g. polycystic kidney disease) |
|                                            | Signs or symptoms of systemic disease                                        |

# When to refer to renal specialist clinic?

- Chronic, progressive loss of kidney function
- ACR persistently very high ( $>60$  mg/mmol)
- eGFR  $<30$  mL/min (stage 4 CKD or worse)
- Unable to remain on renal-protective therapies due to adverse effects such as hyperkalemia or a  $>30\%$  increase in serum Cr within 3 months of starting ACEi or ARB
- Unable to achieve target BP (could be referred to any specialist in hypertension)
- Reasons to suspect the CKD is not DM nephropathy

# Retarding progression of DM nephropathy

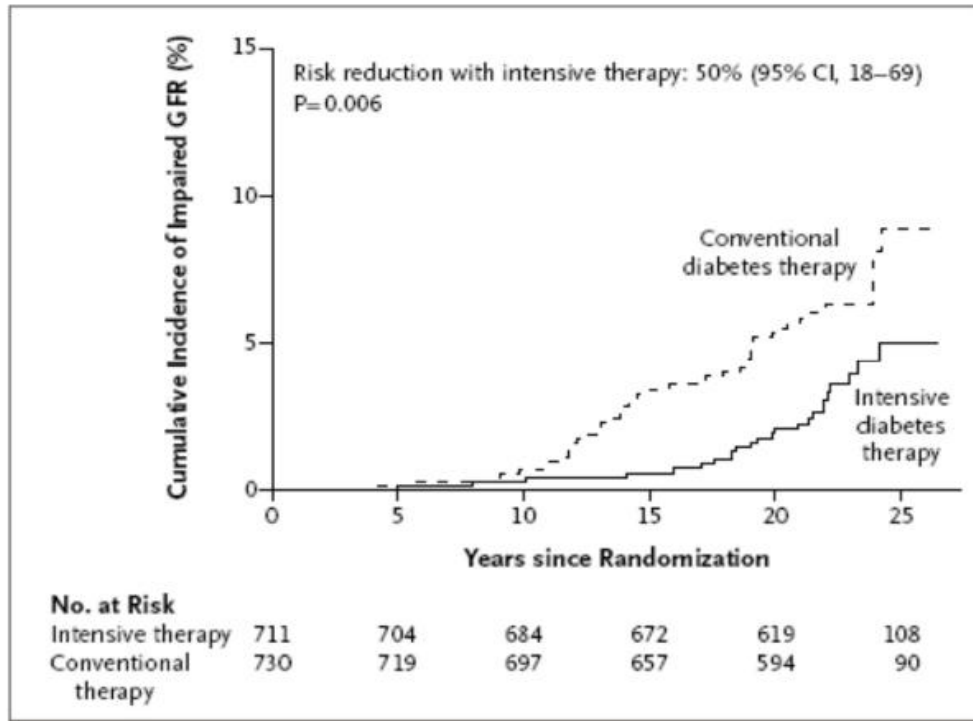
Optimal glycemic control

Optimal blood pressure control

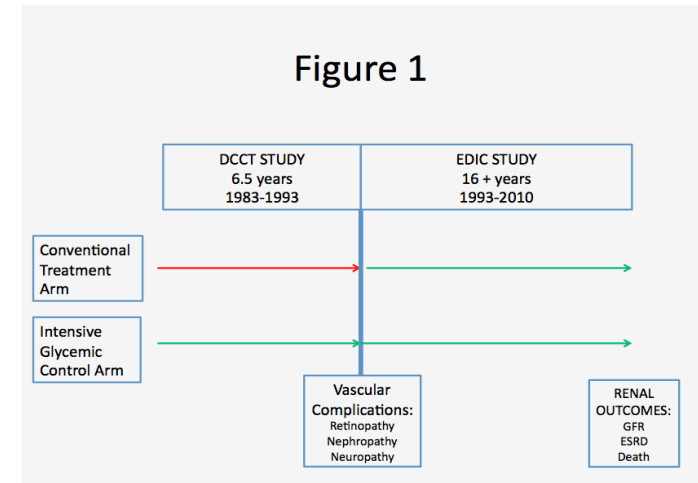
ACE-inhibitor (ACEi) or Angiotensin Receptor Blocker (ARB)

Moderating dietary protein intake

# Optimal glycemic control in type I DM

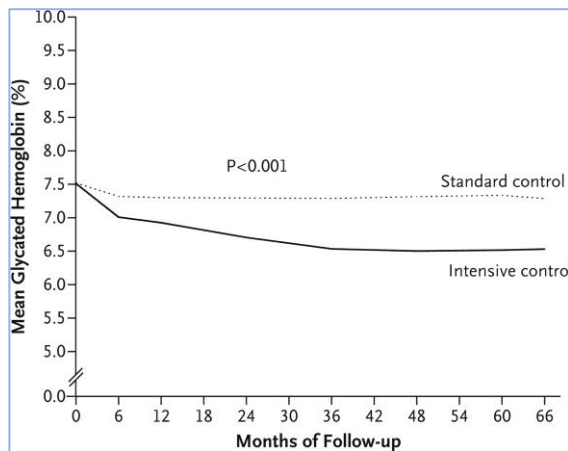


Impaired GFR was defined as GFR <60 ml/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>



In the DCCT, the mean HbA1C achieved was 7.2 ± 0.9% versus 9.1 ± 1.3% in intensive arm and conventional arm respectively. Epidemiology of Diabetes Interventions and Complications (EDIC) study was the subsequent observational follow-up period of the DCCT cohort

# Intensive glycemic control in type II DM and DM nephropathy (surrogate)



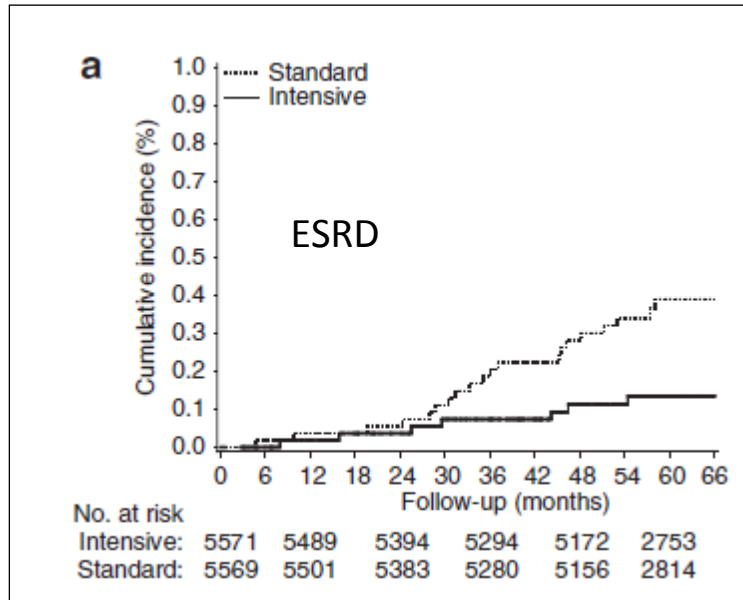
|                              | Number of patients with event |                    | Favors Intensive | Favors Standard | Relative risk reduction (95% CI) |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
|                              | Intensive (n=5,571)           | Standard (n=5,569) |                  |                 |                                  |
| Microvascular                | 526                           | 605                |                  |                 | 14% (3 to 23) †                  |
| New or worsening retinopathy | 332                           | 349                |                  |                 | 5% (-10 to 18)                   |
| New or worsening nephropathy | 230                           | 292                |                  |                 | 21% (7 to 34) ‡                  |

Hazard ratio

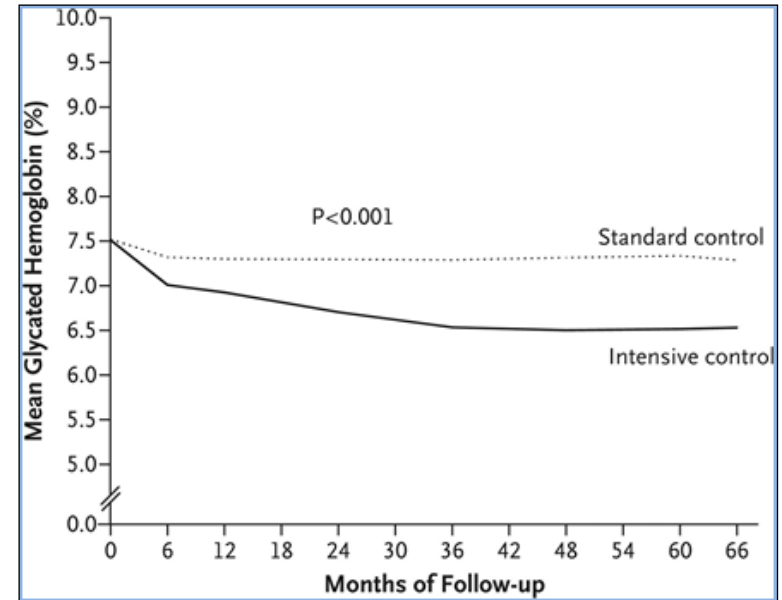
ADVANCE trial randomly assigned 11,140 DM type II participants to an intensive glucose-lowering strategy (hemoglobin A1c target 6.5% or less) or standard glucose control

Relative effects of glucose-control strategy on microvascular disease

# Intensive glycemic control and ESRD



Kaplan–Meier curves depicting the incidence of end-stage kidney disease (ESRD)



ADVANCE trial randomly assigned 11,140 DM type II participants to an intensive glucose-lowering strategy (hemoglobin A1c target 6.5% or less) or standard glucose control



# In a nutshell

Glycemic control is an important element of therapy that can reduce incidence of DM nephropathy and ESRD. This is best done early on in the disease and less beneficial later on.



## About KDIGO

KDIGO Clinical Practice Guideline  
for the Management of Blood Pressure in  
Chronic Kidney Disease

## **KDIGO: BP TARGET FOR DM CKD**

# KDIGO: BP management in CKD (non dialysis) patients with DM

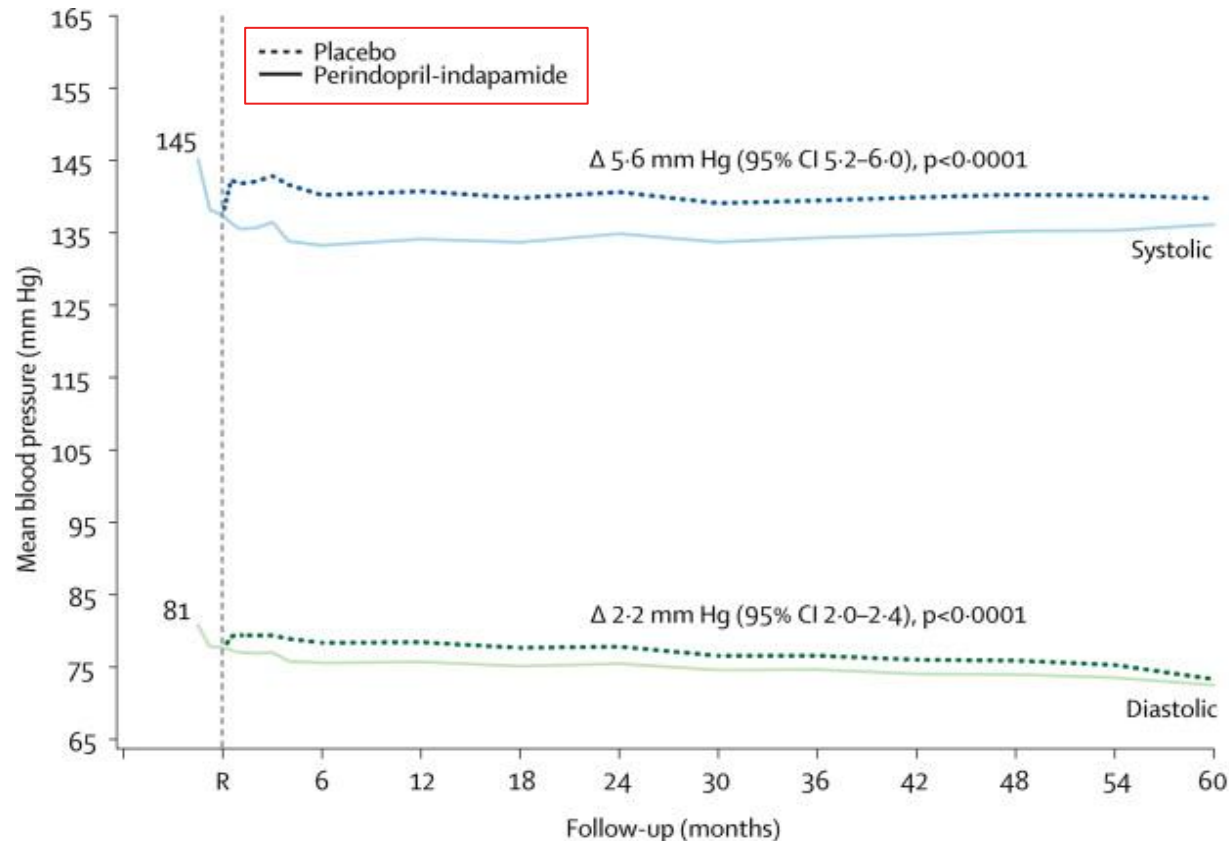
**4.1:** We recommend that adults with diabetes and CKD ND with urine albumin excretion **<30 mg per 24 hours** (or equivalent\*) whose office BP is consistently >140 mm Hg systolic or >90 mm Hg diastolic be treated with BP lowering drugs to maintain a BP that is consistently  $\leq 140$  mm Hg systolic and  $\leq 90$  mm Hg diastolic. (1B)

**4.2:** We suggest that adults with diabetes and CKD ND with urine albumin excretion **>30 mg per 24 hours** (or equivalent\*) whose office BP is consistently >130 mm Hg systolic or >80 mm Hg diastolic be treated with BP lowering drugs to maintain a BP that is consistently  $\leq 130$  mm Hg systolic and  $\leq 80$  mm Hg diastolic (2D)

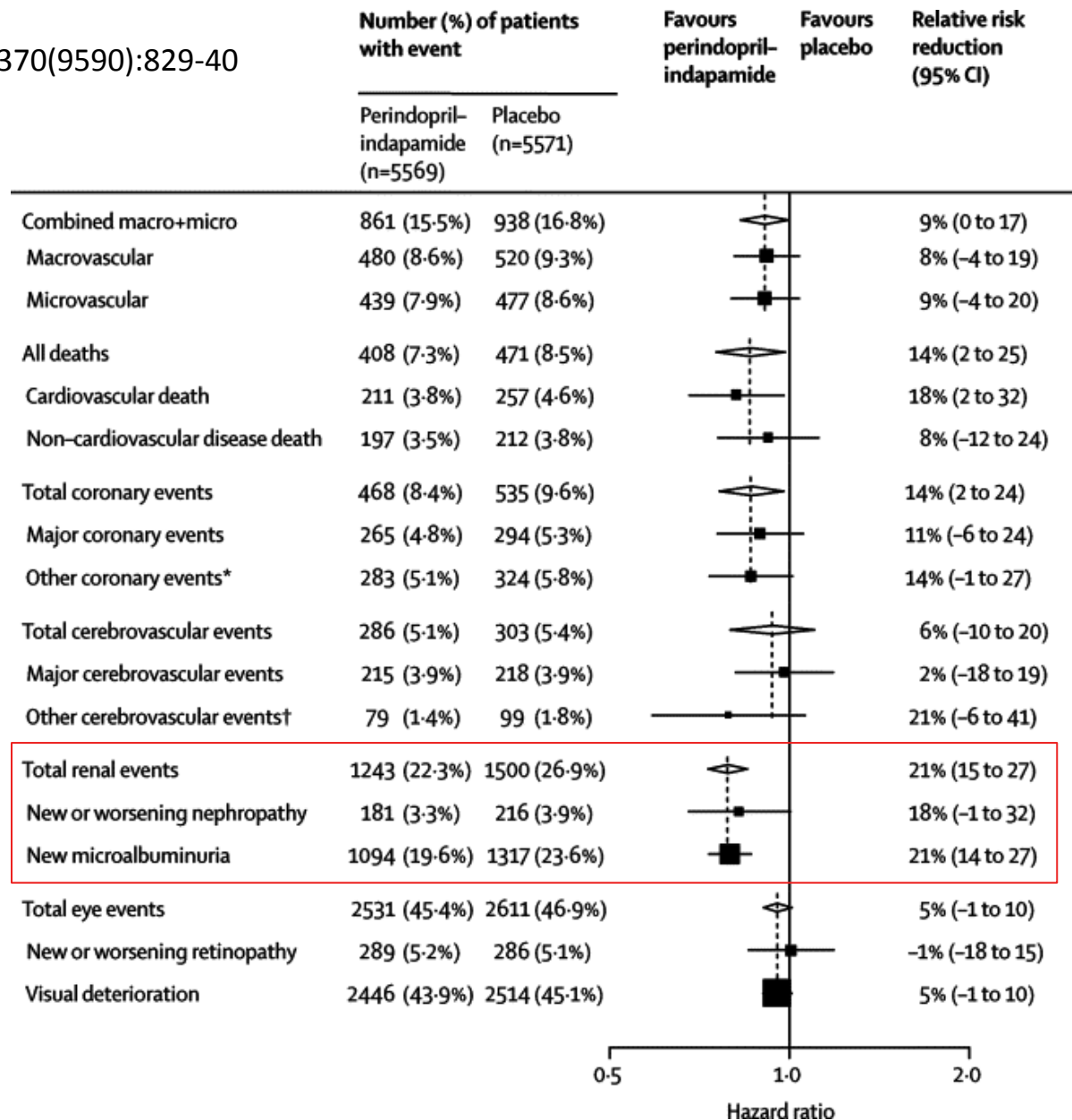
**4.3:** We suggest that an ARB or ACE-I be used in adults with diabetes and CKD ND with urine albumin excretion of 30 to 300 mg per 24 hours (or equivalent\*). (2D)

**4.4:** We recommend that an ARB or ACE-I be used in adults with diabetes and CKD ND with urine albumin excretion >300 mg per 24 hours (or equivalent\*). (1B)

# ADVANCE: Intensive BP lowering in DM type 2



|         |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Placebo | 137/78 | 140/78 | 141/78 | 140/78 | 141/78 | 139/77 | 139/77 | 140/76 | 140/76 | 140/75 | 140/73 |
| Per-ind | 137/78 | 133/76 | 134/76 | 134/75 | 135/75 | 134/75 | 134/75 | 135/74 | 135/74 | 135/74 | 136/73 |



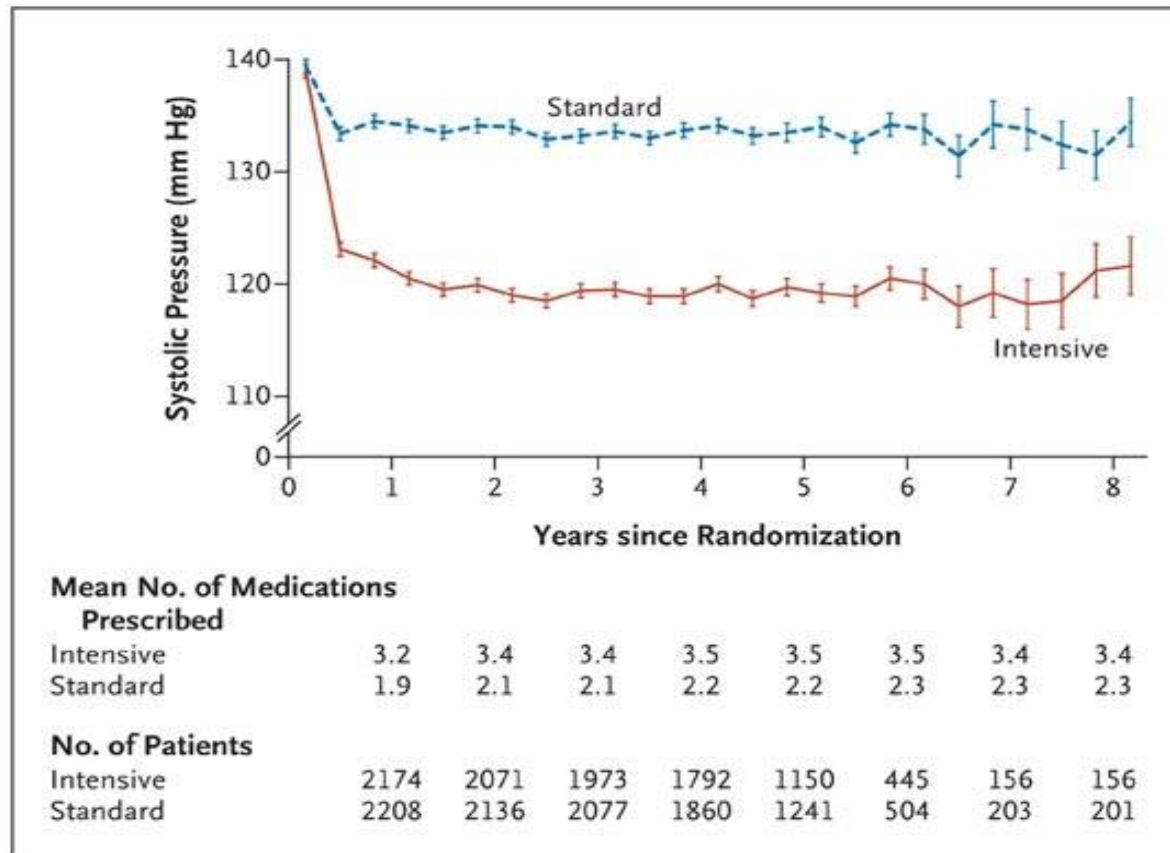
RENAL



The Action in Diabetes and Vascular Disease: Preterax and Diamicron MR Controlled Evaluation (ADVANCE) study

# Effects of intensive BP in DM type 2: ACCORD

The Action to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes (ACCORD)



# The Action to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes (ACCORD)

**Table 3. Primary and Secondary Outcomes.**

| Outcome                         | Intensive Therapy<br>(N = 2363) |             | Standard Therapy<br>(N = 2371) |             | Hazard Ratio<br>(95% CI) | P Value |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|---------|
|                                 | <i>no. of events</i>            | <i>%/yr</i> | <i>no. of events</i>           | <i>%/yr</i> |                          |         |
| Primary outcome*                | 208                             | 1.87        | 237                            | 2.09        | 0.88 (0.73–1.06)         | 0.20    |
| Prespecified secondary outcomes |                                 |             |                                |             |                          |         |
| Nonfatal myocardial infarction  | 126                             | 1.13        | 146                            | 1.28        | 0.87 (0.68–1.10)         | 0.25    |
| Stroke                          |                                 |             |                                |             |                          |         |
| Any                             | 36                              | 0.32        | 62                             | 0.53        | 0.59 (0.39–0.89)         | 0.01    |
| Nonfatal                        | 34                              | 0.30        | 55                             | 0.47        | 0.63 (0.41–0.96)         | 0.03    |
| Death                           |                                 |             |                                |             |                          |         |
| From any cause                  | 150                             | 1.28        | 144                            | 1.19        | 1.07 (0.85–1.35)         | 0.55    |
| From cardiovascular cause       | 60                              | 0.52        | 58                             | 0.49        | 1.06 (0.74–1.52)         | 0.74    |

No benefit seen in the primary outcome measure (composite of nonfatal myocardial infarction, nonfatal stroke, or death from cardiovascular causes).

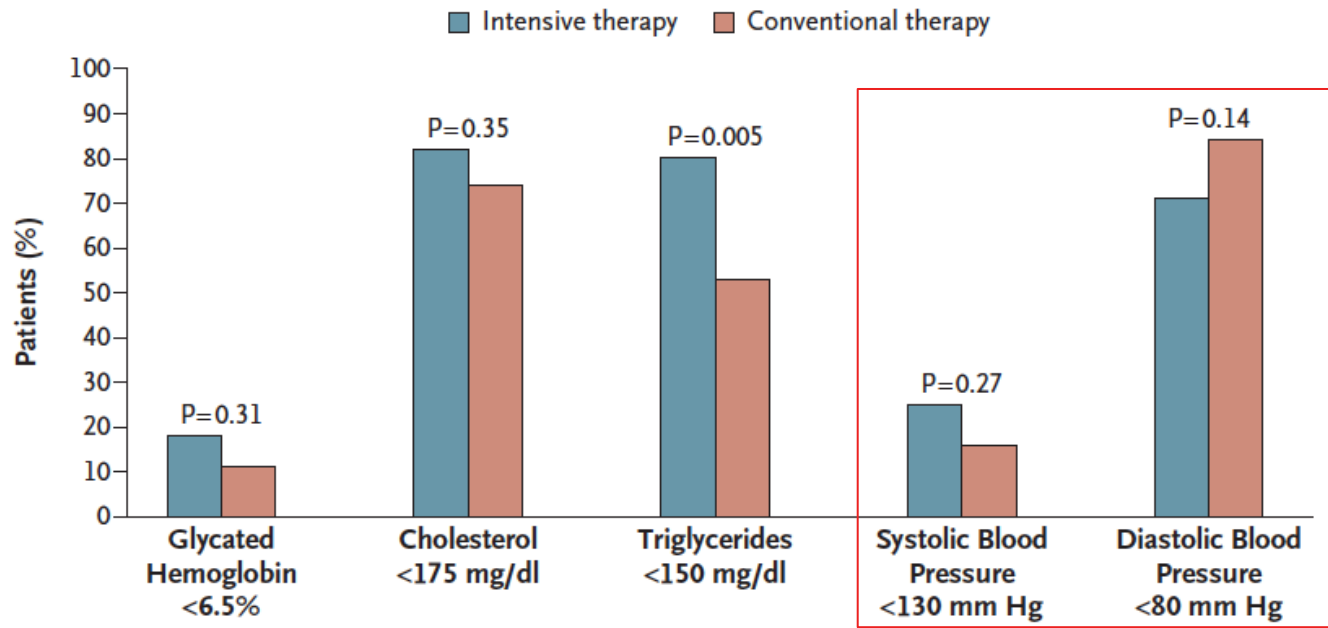
**Table 2. Serious Adverse Events and Clinical Measures after Randomization.\***

| Variable                                       | Intensive Therapy<br>(N = 2362) | Standard Therapy<br>(N = 2371) | P Value |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Serious adverse events — no. (%)†</b>       |                                 |                                |         |
| Event attributed to blood-pressure medications | 77 (3.3)                        | 30 (1.27)                      | <0.001  |
| Hypotension                                    | 17 (0.7)                        | 1 (0.04)                       | <0.001  |
| Syncope                                        | 12 (0.5)                        | 5 (0.21)                       | 0.10    |
| Bradycardia or arrhythmia                      | 12 (0.5)                        | 3 (0.13)                       | 0.02    |
| Hyperkalemia                                   | 9 (0.4)                         | 1 (0.04)                       | 0.01    |
| Angioedema                                     | 6 (0.3)                         | 4 (0.17)                       | 0.55    |
| Renal failure                                  | 5 (0.2)                         | 1 (0.04)                       | 0.12    |
| End-stage renal disease or need for dialysis   | 59 (2.5)                        | 58 (2.4)                       | 0.93    |
| <b>Adverse laboratory measures — no. (%)</b>   |                                 |                                |         |
| Potassium <3.2 mmol/liter                      | 49 (2.1)                        | 27 (1.1)                       | 0.01    |
| Potassium >5.9 mmol/liter                      | 73 (3.1)                        | 72 (3.0)                       | 0.93    |
| Elevation in serum creatinine                  |                                 |                                |         |
| >1.5 mg/dl in men                              | 304 (12.9)                      | 199 (8.4)                      | <0.001  |
| >1.3 mg/dl in women                            | 257 (10.9)                      | 168 (7.1)                      | <0.001  |
| Estimated GFR <30 ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>   | 99 (4.2)                        | 52 (2.2)                       | <0.001  |
| Microalbuminuria — no./total no. (%)           | 656/2174 (30.2)                 | 712/2205 (32.3)                | 0.13    |
| Macroalbuminuria — no. /total no. (%)          | 143/2174 (6.6)                  | 192/2205 (8.7)                 | 0.009   |

Note: At baseline, mean eGFR was normal with normal urine albumin excretion

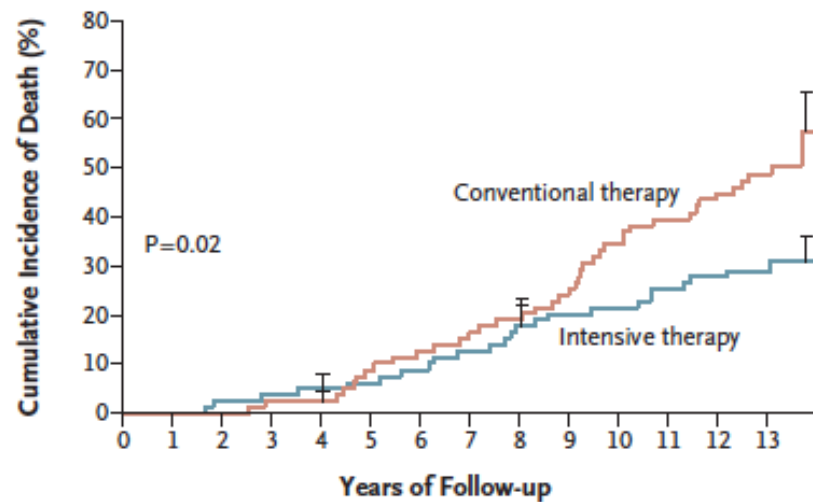
# STENO-2 is multi intervention study

Target SBP of <130 mm Hg & a DBP <80 mm Hg



In the Steno-2 Study, they randomly assigned 160 patients with type 2 diabetes and persistent microalbuminuria to receive either intensive therapy or conventional therapy; the mean treatment period was 7.8 years. Patients were subsequently followed observationally for a mean of 5.5 years, until December 31, 2006

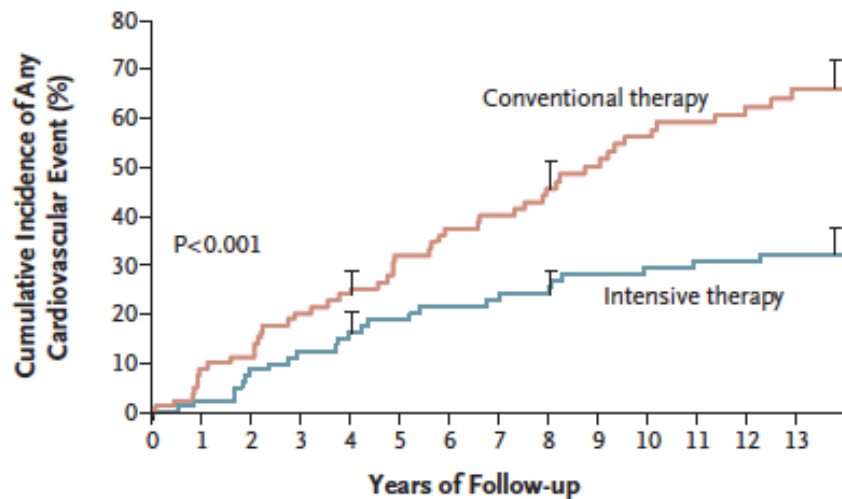
A



No. at Risk

|                      |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Intensive therapy    | 80 | 78 | 75 | 72 | 65 | 62 | 57 | 39 |
| Conventional therapy | 80 | 80 | 77 | 69 | 63 | 51 | 43 | 30 |

B



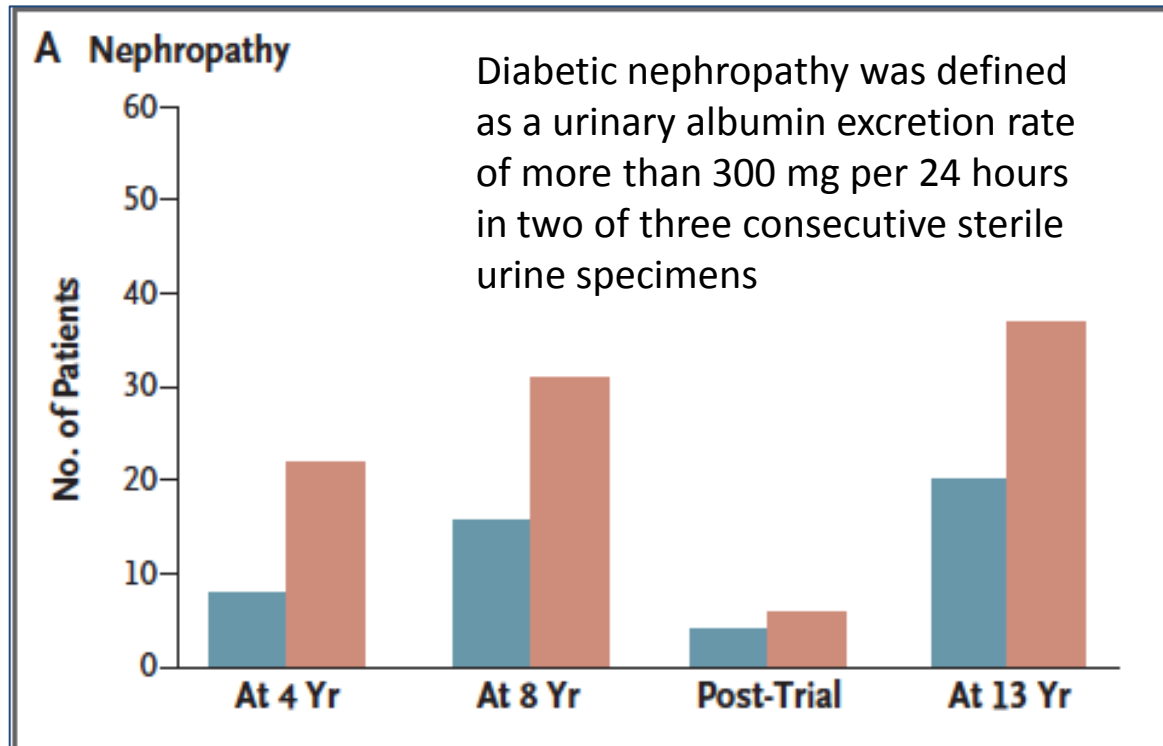
No. at Risk

|                      |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Intensive therapy    | 80 | 72 | 65 | 61 | 56 | 50 | 47 | 31 |
| Conventional therapy | 80 | 70 | 60 | 46 | 38 | 29 | 25 | 14 |

**Figure 3. Kaplan–Meier Estimates of the Risk of Death from Any Cause and from Cardiovascular Causes and the Number of Cardiovascular Events, According to Treatment Group.**

Panel A shows the cumulative incidence of the risk of death from any cause (the study's primary end point) during the 13.3-year study period. Panel B shows the cumulative incidence of a secondary composite end point of cardiovascular events, including death from cardiovascular causes, nonfatal stroke, nonfatal myocardial infarction, coronary-artery bypass grafting (CABG), percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), revascularization for peripheral atherosclerotic artery disease, and amputation; Panel C shows the number of events for each component of the composite end point. In Panels A and B, the I bars represent standard errors.

# STENO-2 and renal outcome



During the entire observation period, diabetic nephropathy developed in 20 patients in the intensive-therapy group, as compared with 37 patients in the conventional-therapy group (relative risk, 0.44; 95% CI, 0.25 to 0.77;  $P = 0.004$ ). One patient in the intensive-therapy group had progression to end-stage renal disease requiring dialysis, as compared with six patients in the conventional-therapy group ( $P = 0.04$ ).



## In a nutshell

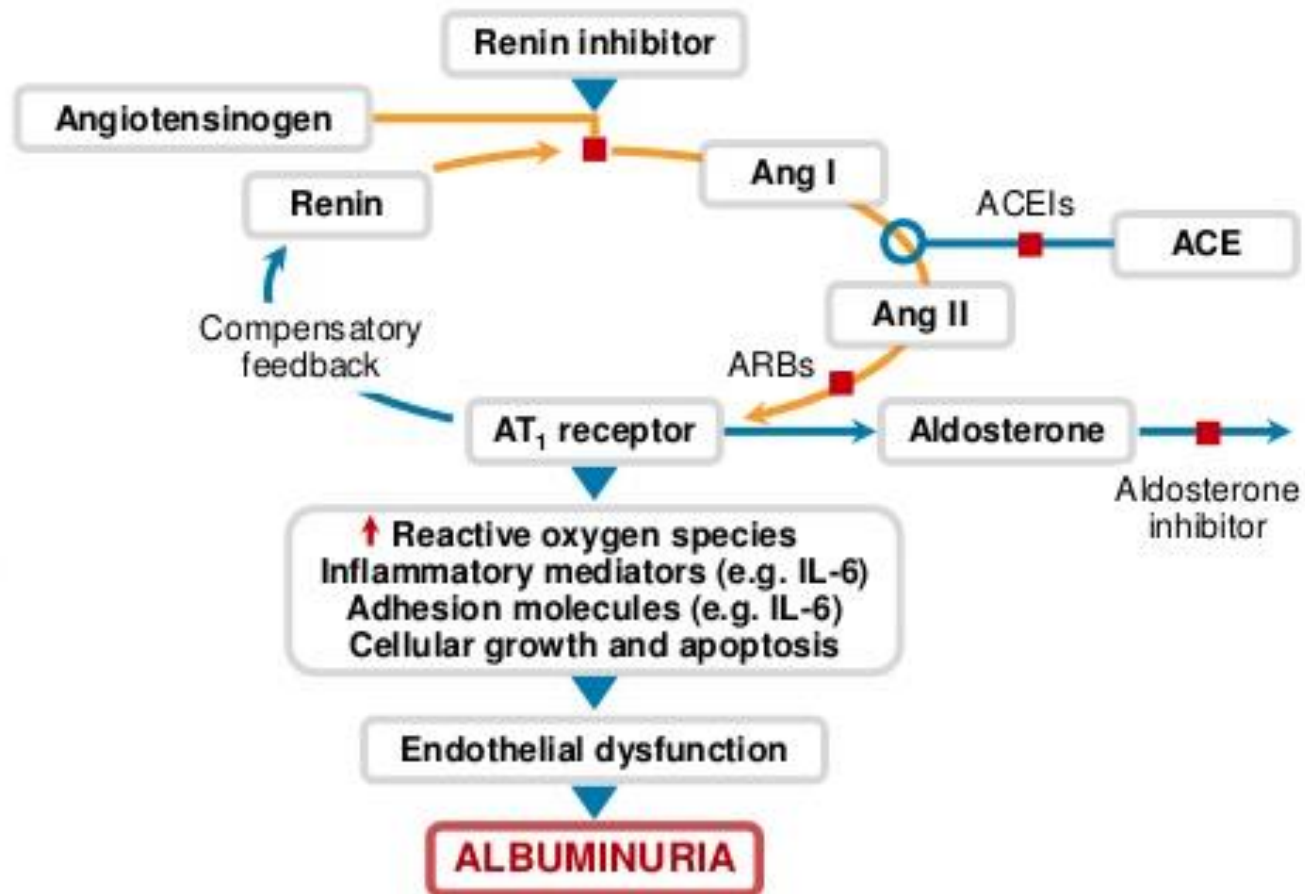
Maintain appropriate BP target for patients with DM CKD depending on the presence or absence of excess albuminuria

What is best class of anti-HPT for DM nephropathy?

ACE inhibitor (ACEI)

Angiotensin receptor blocker (ARB)

# The RAAS and possible interventions



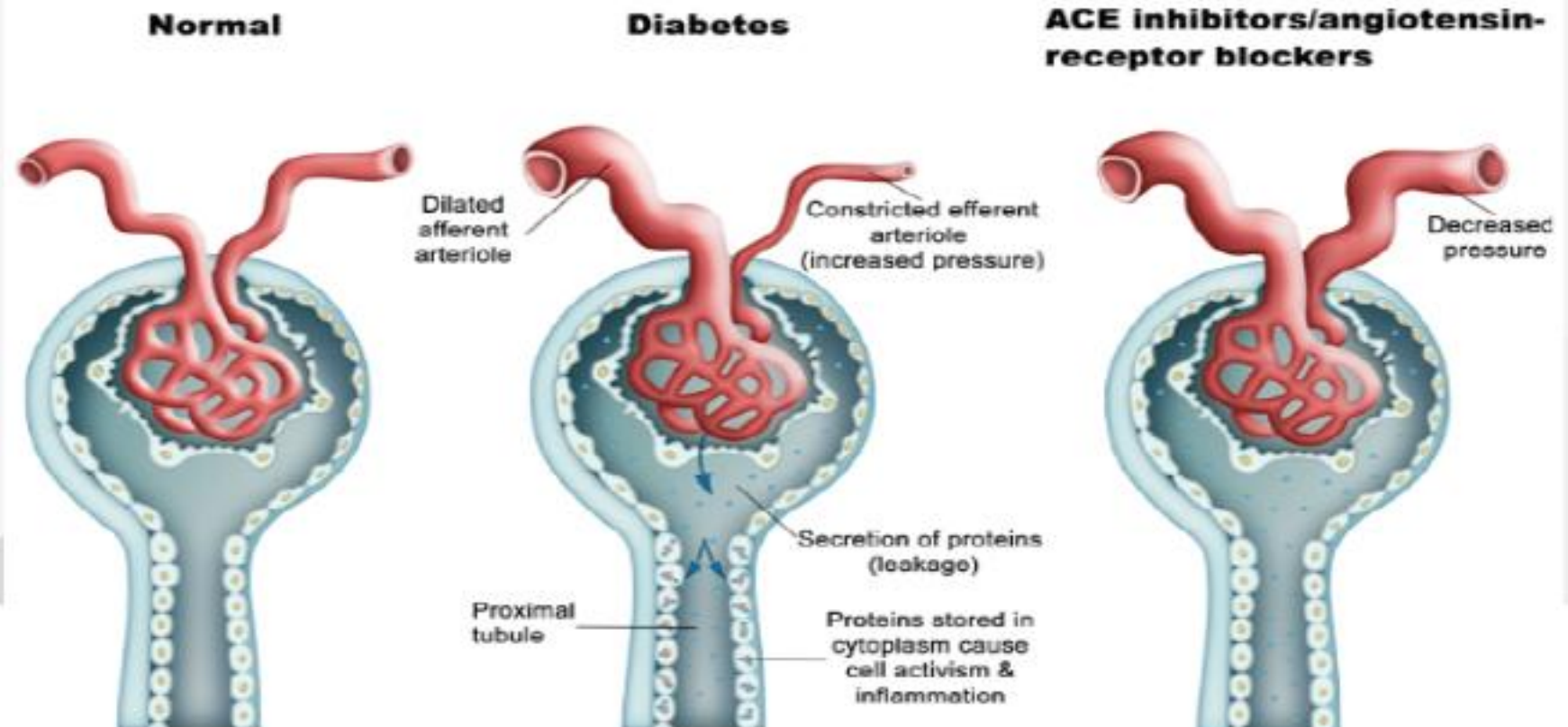
Ang = angiotensin; AT<sub>1</sub> = angiotensin II type 1; ACEI = ACE inhibitor; ARB = AT receptor blocker; IL-6 = interleukin 6; ICAN-1 = intercellular adhesion molecule.

How does RAS blockade with ACEI or ARB protect the kidneys?  
The theory of hyperfiltration injury

**WHY ACEI OR ARB?**

# Reducing intra-glomerular pressure

Local effects of ARBs and ACEIs in the kidney in the patient with type-2 diabetes. Vasoconstriction in the efferent arteriole is reduced and less protein crosses the glomerular filter into the tubule of the nephron



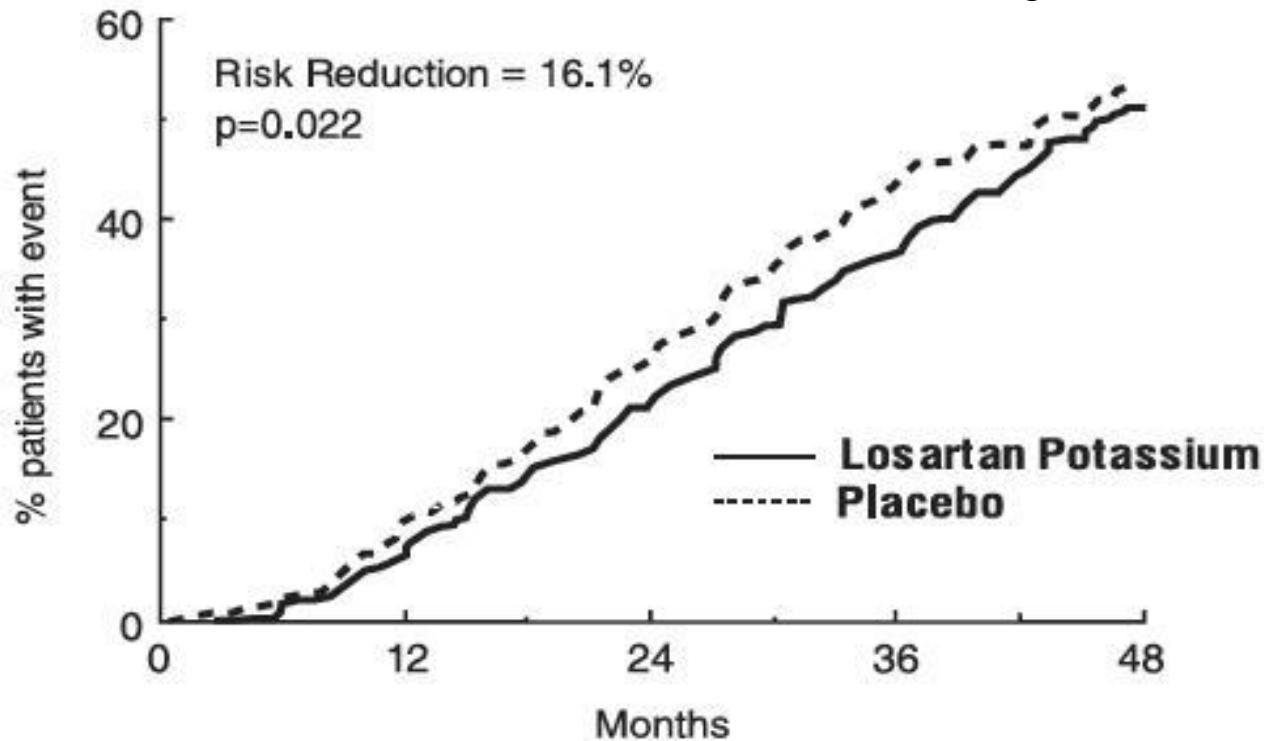
# Treating DM nephropathy

Late stage DM nephropathy  
(CKD stage 3-4)

# RENAAL: The basis for Losartan use in DM type II CKD

The Reduction of Endpoints in NIDDM with the Angiotensin II Receptor Antagonist Losartan (RENAAL) study of DM CKD stage 3-4 with UACR > 300mg/g (overt)

N Engl J Med. 2001; 345:861-9

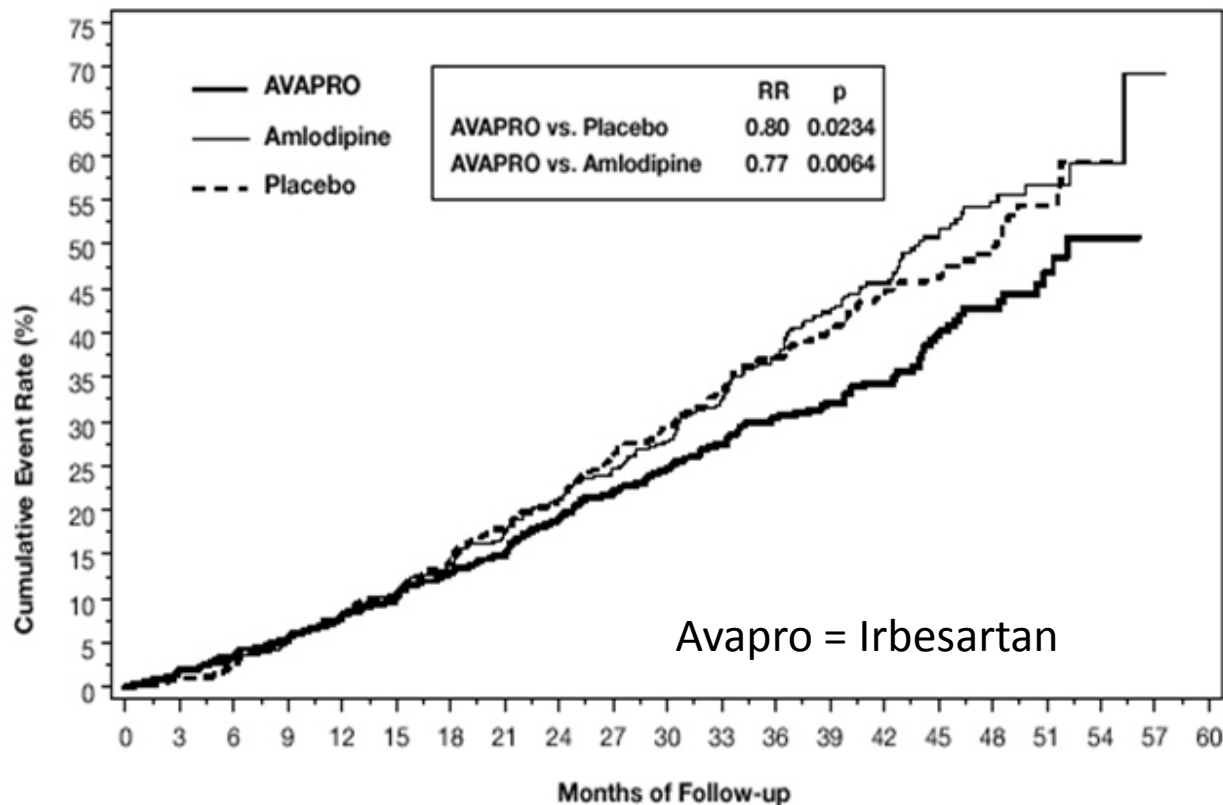


Results: Primary composite end points of doubling of serum creatinine, need for dialysis or death

# IDNT: The basis for Irbesartan use in DM type II CKD

The Irbesartan Diabetic Nephropathy Trial (IDNT) of DM type II CKD stage 3-4 with proteinuria of 900mg/day

N Engl J Med. 2001; 345:851-60

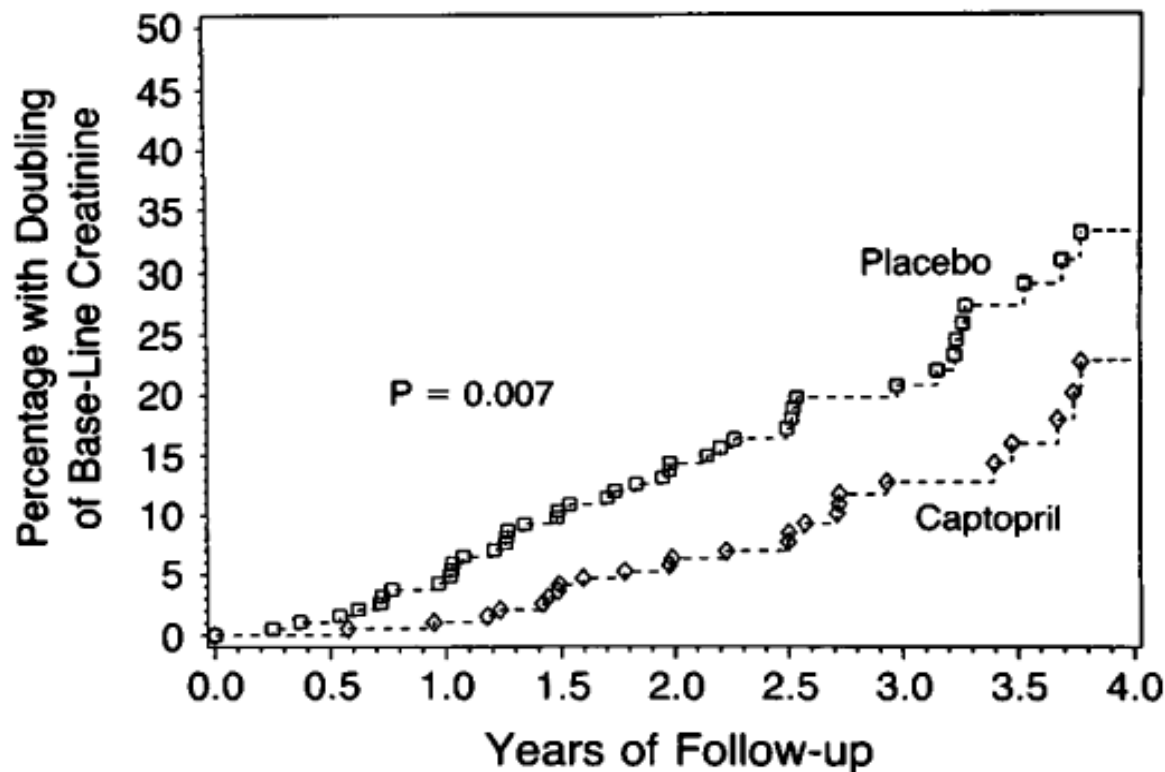


Results: Primary composite end points of doubling of serum creatinine, need for dialysis or death

# CSG: The basis for ACEI use in DM (type I) CKD

Collaborative Study Group: use of ACEI in DM type I with proteinuria > 500mg/day and CKD stage 2-3

N Engl J Med. 1993 Nov 11;329(20):1456-62



Results: Primary outcome is doubling of serum creatinine to at least 2mg/dl



## In a nutshell

Overt DM nephropathy (CKD 3-4 with overt proteinuria) should be treated with ARB or ACEI – using optimal dose as tolerated

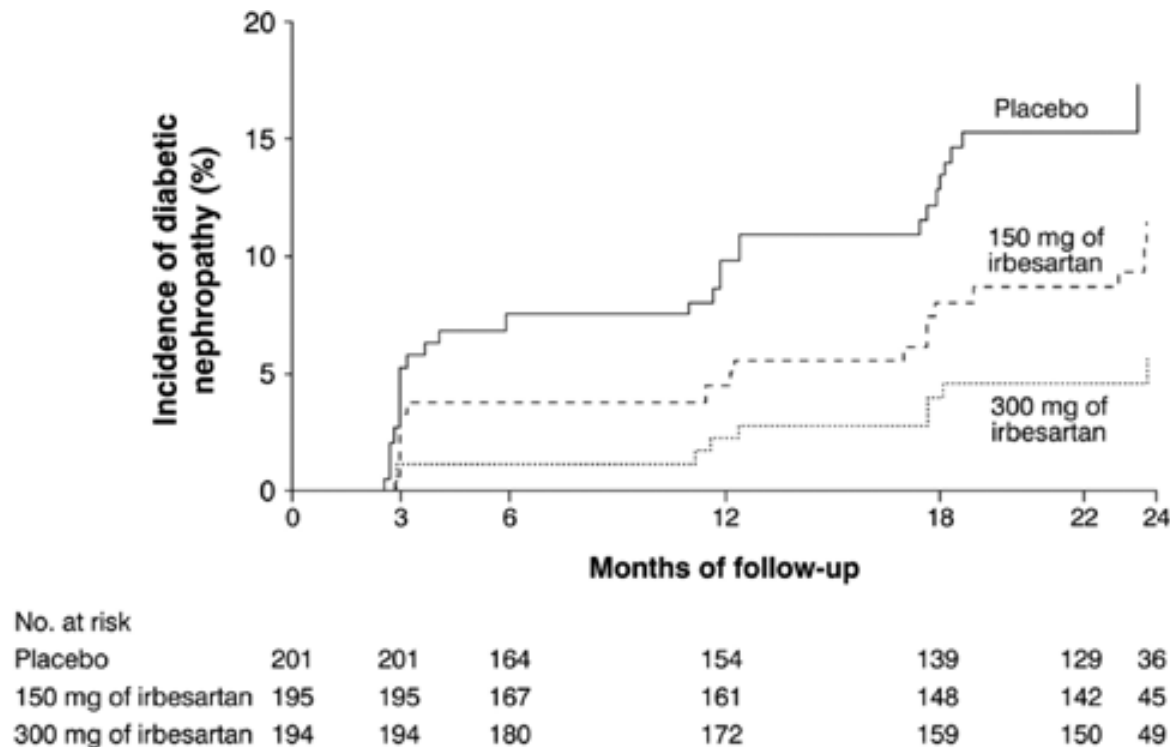
# Treating DM nephropathy

Early stage DM nephropathy  
(CKD stage 1-2)

# IRMA 2: The basis for Irbesartan use in early DM type II CKD

Irbesartan study in DM with Microalbuminuria

N Engl J Med. 2001; 345:870-8

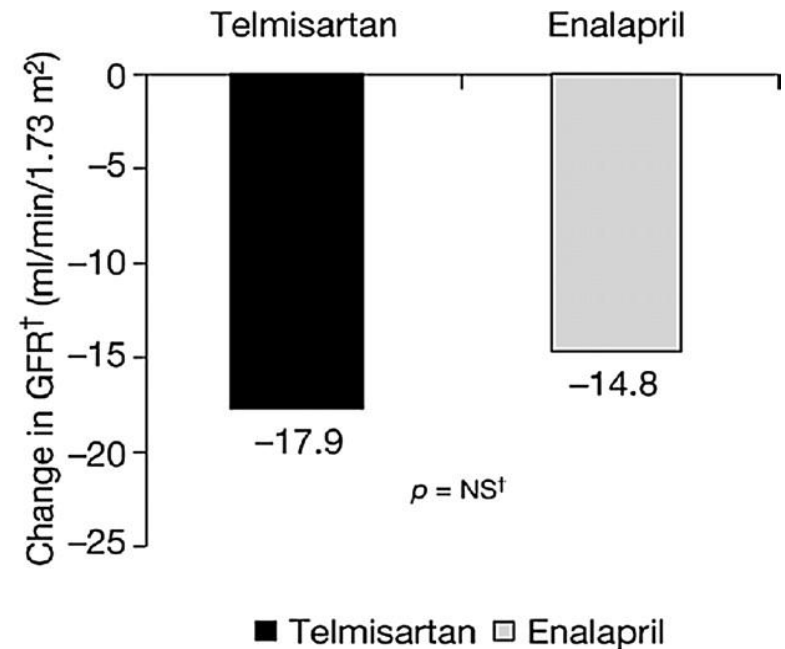
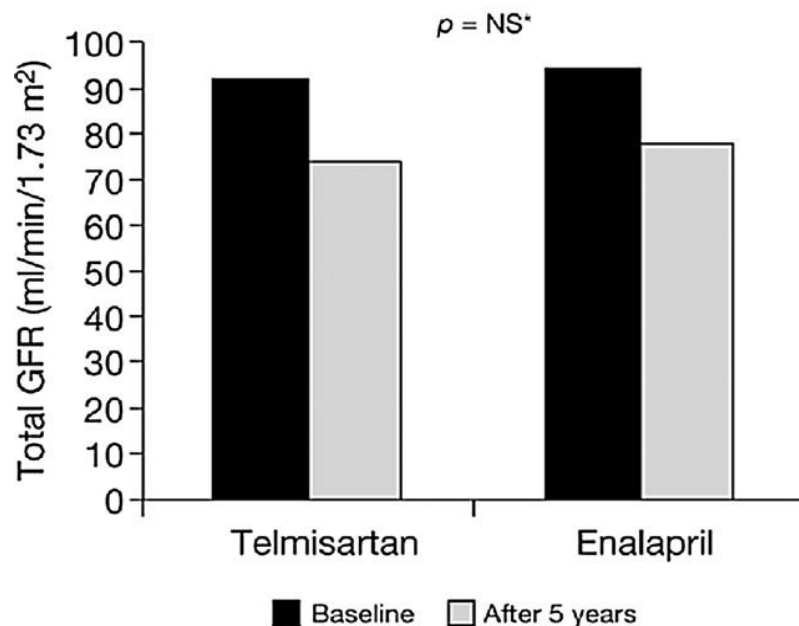


Outcome: prevention of development to over proteinuria

# DETAIL: The basis for the use of ACEI vs ARB in early DM type II CKD

Diabetics Exposed to Telmisartan & Enalapril study of DM type II CKD 1-2 with mostly microalbuminuria (80%)

N Engl J Med 2004;351:1952-61



\*All patients, last observation carried forward

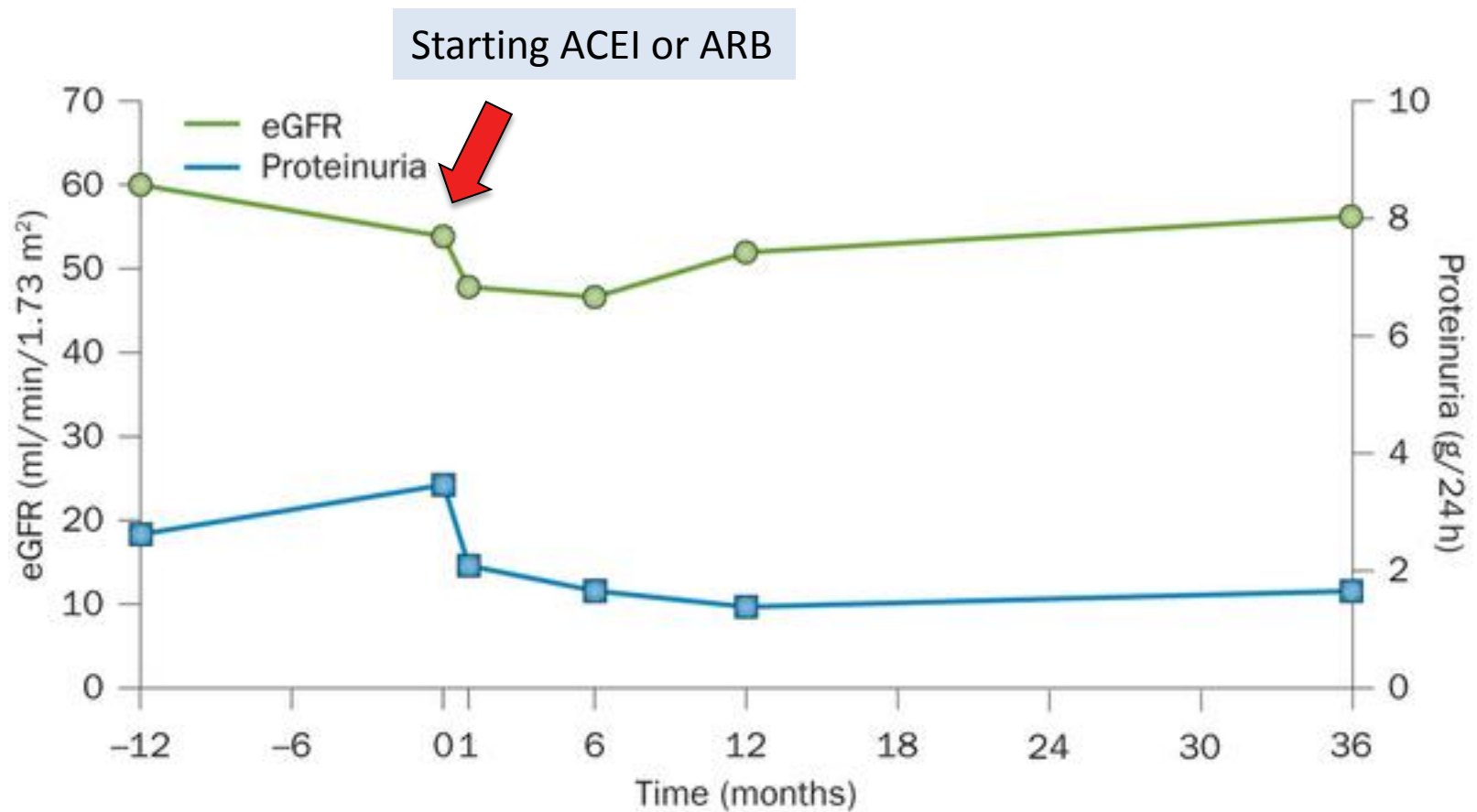
† $p = \text{NS}$ , telmisartan vs enalapril



# In a nutshell

Early DM nephropathy (CKD 1-2 with microalbuminuria) should be treated with ARB or ACEI

# Improvement in proteinuria but also a temporary decline in GFR



# Practical Tips: Potassium (K<sup>+</sup>) and Creatinine

Check serum K<sup>+</sup> and Cr

- Baseline
- Within 1-2 weeks of initiation or titration
- During acute illness



If K<sup>+</sup> becomes elevated or Cr >30% increase

Review therapy

Recheck serum K<sup>+</sup> and Cr

# Practical Tips: Potassium (K<sup>+</sup>) and Creatinine

- Mild to moderate stable hyperkalemia
  - Counsel on a low potassium diet
  - If persistent, consider adding non-potassium sparing diuretics and/or oral sodium bicarbonate (in those with metabolic acidosis)
  - Consider temporarily holding or discontinuing ACEi, ARB or Direct Renin Inhibitor (DRI)
- Severe hyperkalemia
  - Hold or discontinue ACEi, ARB or DRI
  - Emergency management strategies

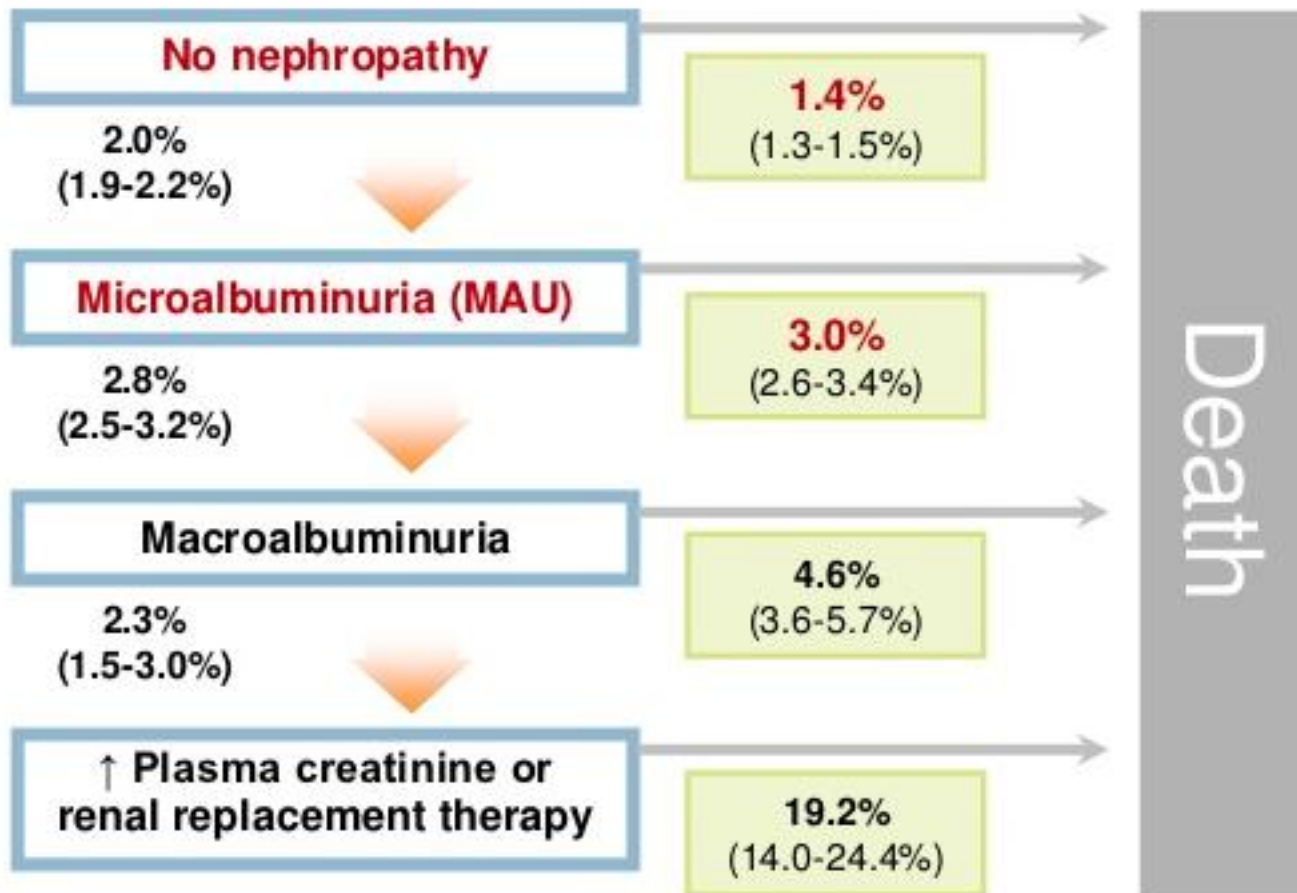
## Caution!!

Combination of agents that block the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (ACE-inhibitor, ARB, DRI) should **not** be routinely used in the management of diabetes and CKD [Grade A, Level 1].

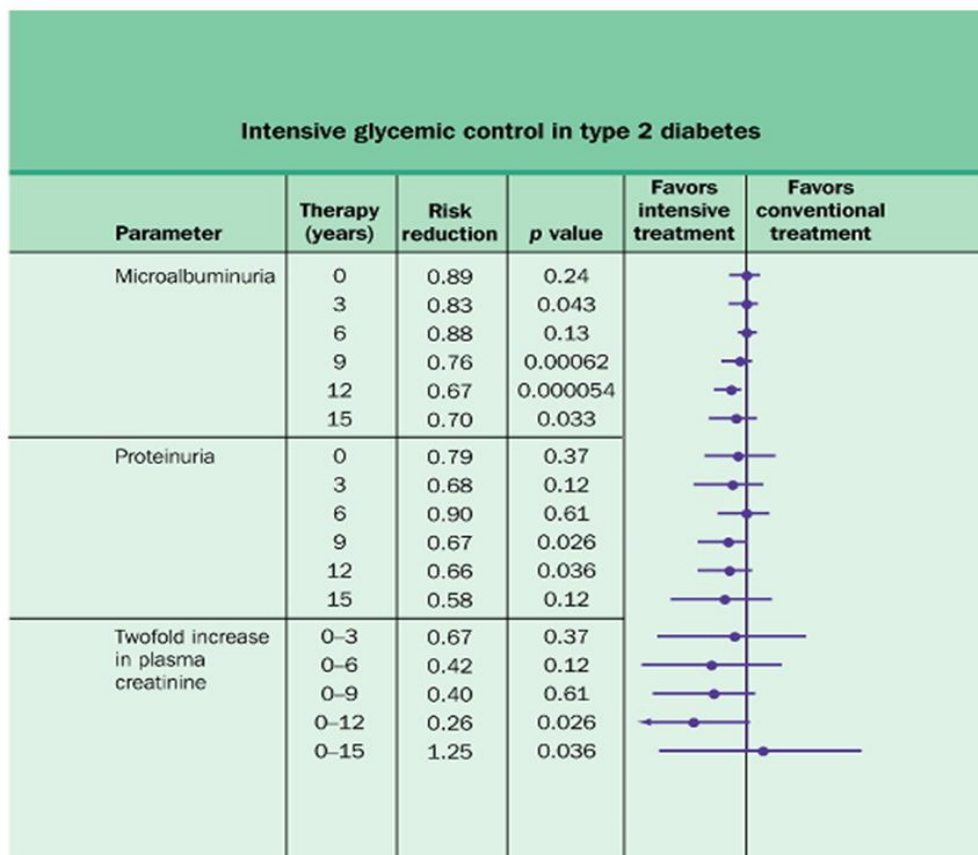
# Can we prevent onset of nephropathy?

## Primary prevention

Annual transition rates through stages of albuminuria in patients with type 2 diabetes

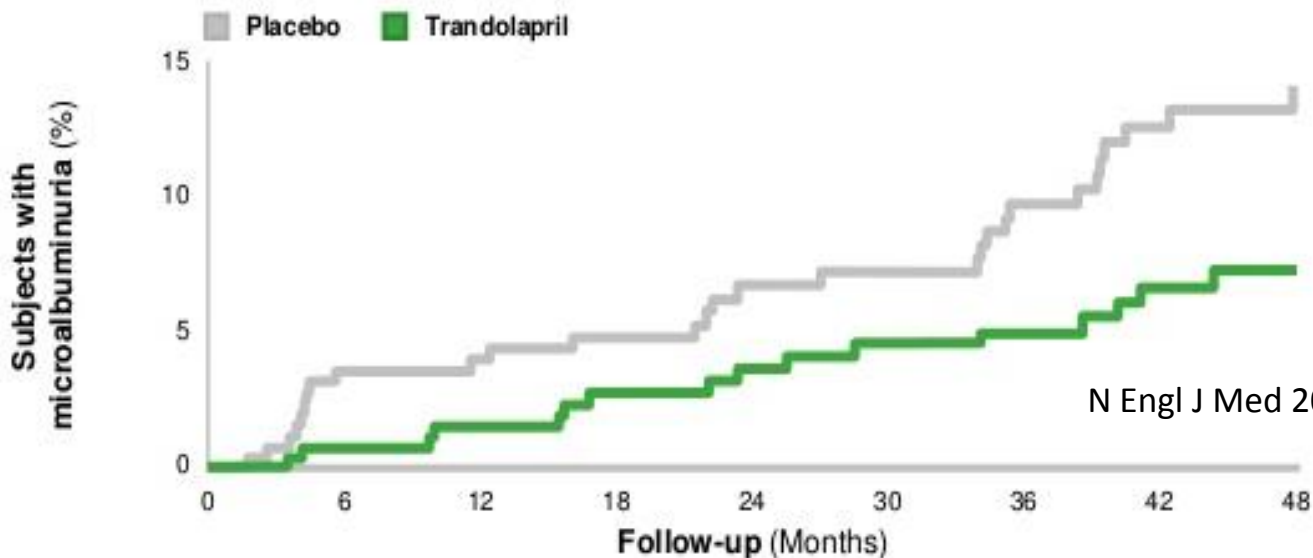


# UKPDS – intensive control in type II DM and primary prevention



# Primary prevention in DM type II using ACEI

Proportion (%) of participants with MAU during treatment with trandolapril or placebo



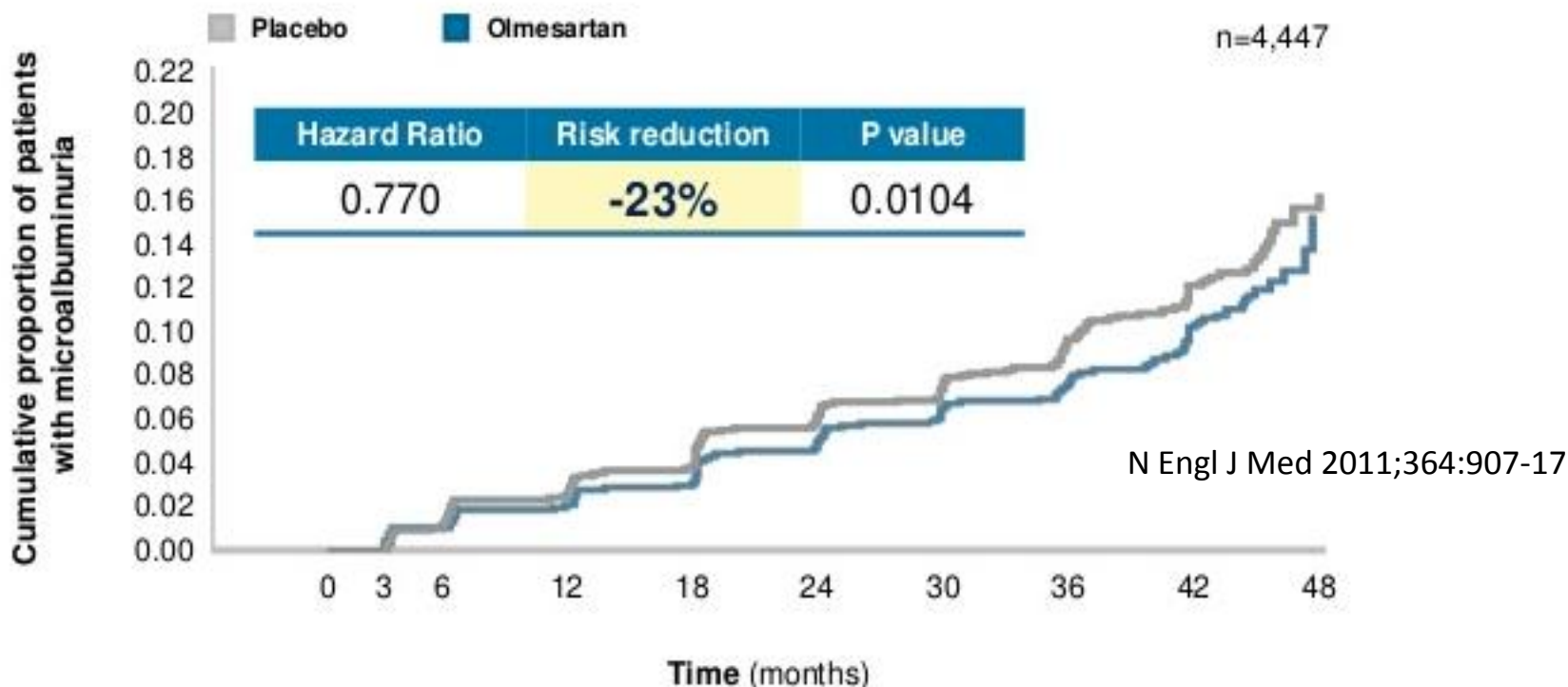
N Engl J Med 2004; 351: 1941-51

MAU = microalbuminuria; T2D = type 2 diabetes; HT = hypertension; BP = blood pressure; RAAS = renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system

\*Defined as UACR  $\geq 20$ g/min in at least 2 of 3 consecutive overnight urine collections and confirmed after approx. 2 months in at least 3 consecutive overnight urine collections; †Significant difference ( $p=0.01$ ) vs. placebo after adjusting for pre-specified covariates.

**Treatment with an ACE inhibitor reduces the incidence of MAU in individuals with T2D and hypertension**

# Primary prevention in DM type II using ARB



Subjects: type 2 diabetes (T2D) and  $\geq 1$  additional CV risk factor (e.g. dyslipidaemia, hypertension, obesity, smoking).  
94% of participants had blood pressure below 130/80 mmHg or were receiving antihypertensive treatment with a non-RAAS medication

**ARB therapy significantly delays the onset of MAU –  
by 23% compared with placebo in individuals with T2D**

(After correction for diastolic and systolic blood pressure, the risk reduction with olmesartan dropped to 18% and 17%, respectively, losing statistical significance)



## In a nutshell

Primary prevention is possible with intensive glycemic control. It is also possible with the use of ACEI or ARB but only for those with HPT and need for anti-HPT

Questions?

**THANK YOU**