

Winter School:

LA PROTEZIONE RENALE ALLA LUCE DELLE NUOVE EVIDENZE SCIENTIFICHE

30 Novembre - 1 Dicembre 2023

Bologna, Royal Hotel Carlton



Evidenze e meccanismi di nefroprotezione delle glifozine

Roberto Pontremoli

Università degli Studi e IRCCS Ospedale
Policlinico San Martino - Genova

Il sottoscritto Roberto PONTREMOLI

ai sensi dell'art. 76, comma 4 dell'Accordo Stato-Regioni del 2 febbraio 2017 e del paragrafo 4.5. del Manuale nazionale di accreditamento per l'erogazione di eventi ECM

dichiara che

negli ultimi due anni ha avuto i seguenti rapporti con soggetti portatori di interessi commerciali in ambito sanitario

- ASTRAZENECA
- BOEHRINGER-INGELHEIM
- LILLY
- GUIDOTTI
- MENARINI
- BAYER
- ALFA-SIGMA
- NOVONORDISK



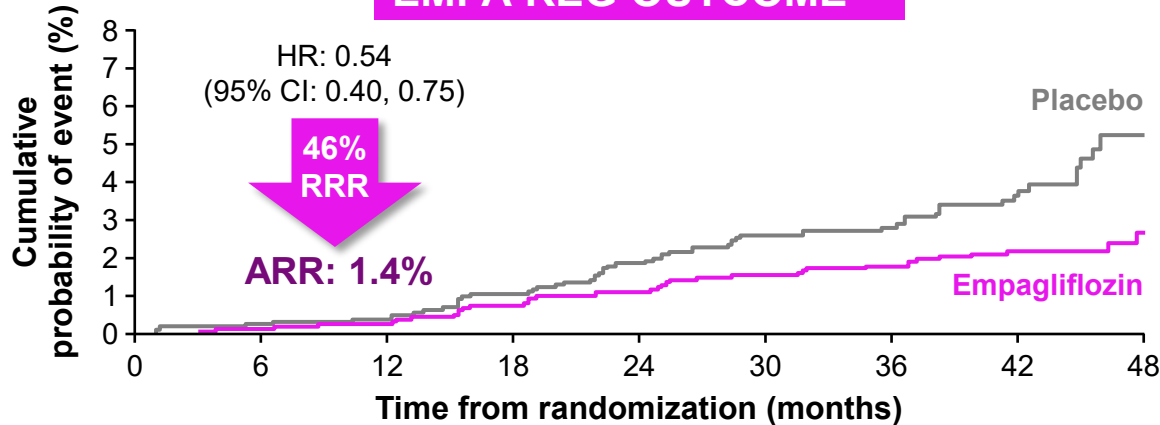
Domande Aperte

- **Quale tipologia di paziente (fenotipo di presentazione) si giova maggiormente della terapia con SGLT2i?**
- **Quale ritieni sia il meccanismo predominante alla base dell'effetto nefroprotettivo degli SGLT2i? e perché?**

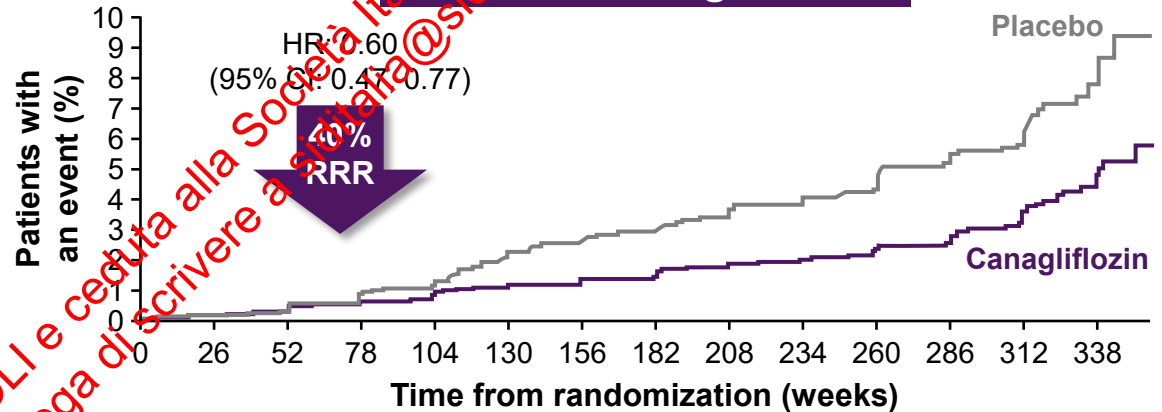
Diapositiva preparata da ROBERTO PONTREMOLI e ceduta alla Società Italiana di Diabetologia
Per ricevere la versione originale si prega di scrivere a siditalia@siditalia.it

SGLT2 inhibitors in CVOTs consistently reduced the risk of kidney composite endpoints compared with placebo

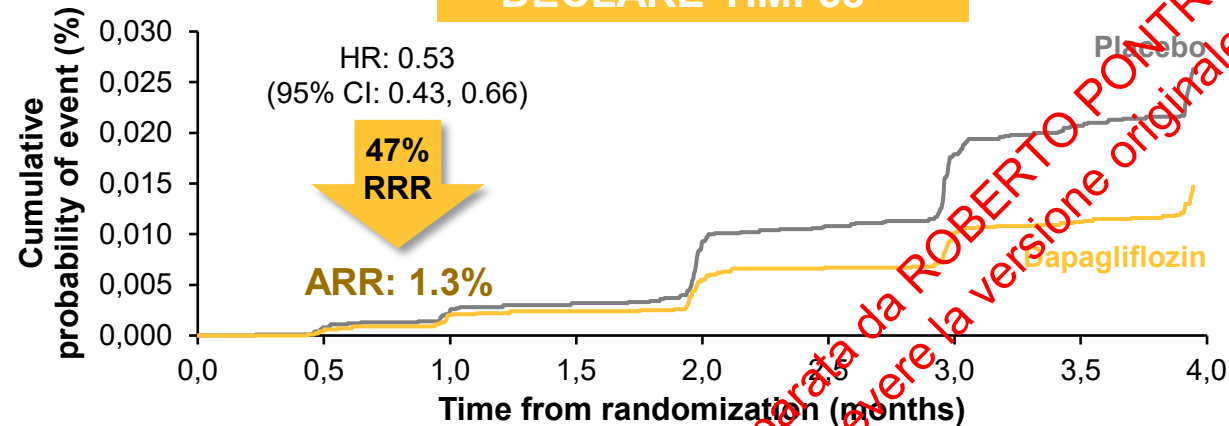
EMPA-REG OUTCOME^{1,a}



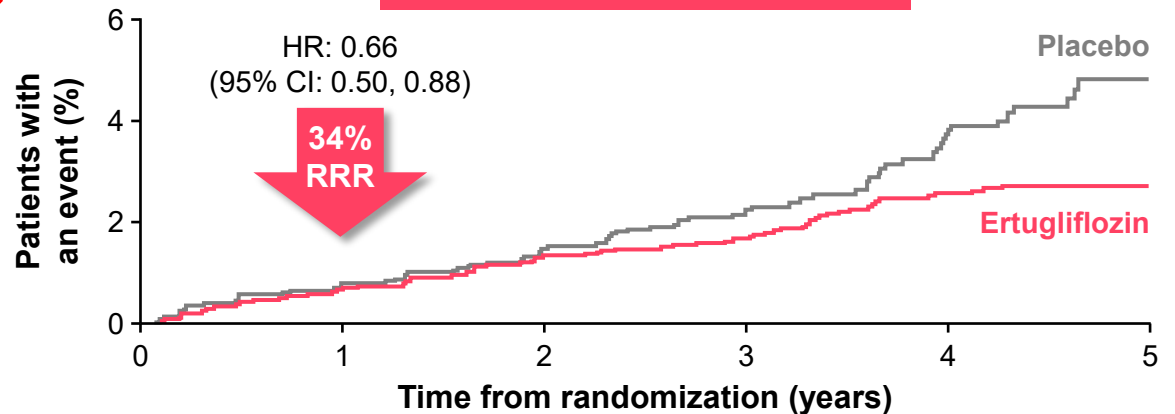
CANVAS Program^{2,b}



DECLARE-TIMI 58^{3,c}



VERTIS CV^{4,d}



1. Wanner C, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2016;375:633–334; 2. Neal B, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2017;377:644–657; 3. Mosenzon O, et al. *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol* 2019;7:606–617; 4. Cherney DZI, et al. *Diabetologia* 2021;64:1256–1267



Domanda

❖ ***Qual è l'entità della nefroprotezione attribuibile all'impiego di SGLT2i?***

- 1. 10-15%***
- 2. 20%***
- 3. 30-45%***
- 4. Simile a quella ottenibile con ACEis e ARBS***

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Kidney outcomes using generally consistent definitions: Sustained $\geq 40\%$ decline in eGFR, ESKD or renal death

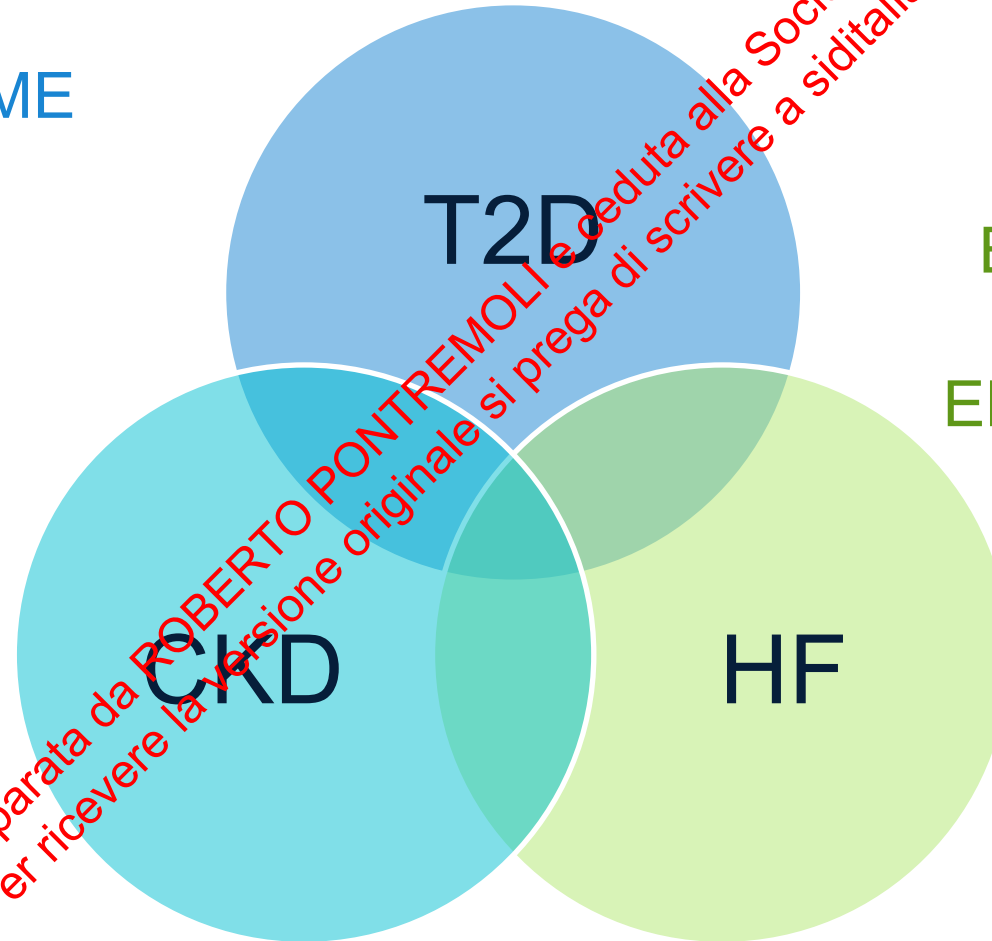
Kidney composite outcomes		HR (95% CI)
EMPA-REG OUTCOME ¹	Sustained $\geq 40\%$ reduction in eGFR, renal-replacement therapy (dialysis or transplantation), or death from renal causes	0.55 (0.41, 0.73)
CANVAS Program ²	Sustained $\geq 40\%$ reduction in eGFR, renal-replacement therapy (dialysis or transplantation), or death from renal causes	0.60 (0.47, 0.77)
DECLARE-TIMI 58 ³	Sustained $\geq 40\%$ decrease in eGFR to < 60 mL/min/1.73 m ² and/or end-stage renal disease and/or renal death	0.53 (0.43, 0.66)
VERTIS CV*	Sustained $\geq 40\%$ reduction in eGFR, renal-replacement therapy (dialysis or transplantation), or death from renal causes	0.66 (0.50, 0.88)

*Pre-specified exploratory, intention-to-treat analysis set, 95.0% CI. CV, cardiovascular; CI, confidence interval; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; ESKD, end-stage kidney disease; HR, hazard ratio. ¹Post-hoc exploratory, Perkovic V et al. Nephrol Dial Transplant (2019) 1–9; ²Pre-specified exploratory, Neal B et al. N Engl J Med 2017;377:644–657; ³Pre-specified secondary, Wiviott SD et al. N Engl J Med 2019;380:347–357

Large clinical trials of SGLT-2 inhibitors

EMPA-REG OUTCOME
CANVAS
DECLARE-TIMI 58
VERTIS-CV

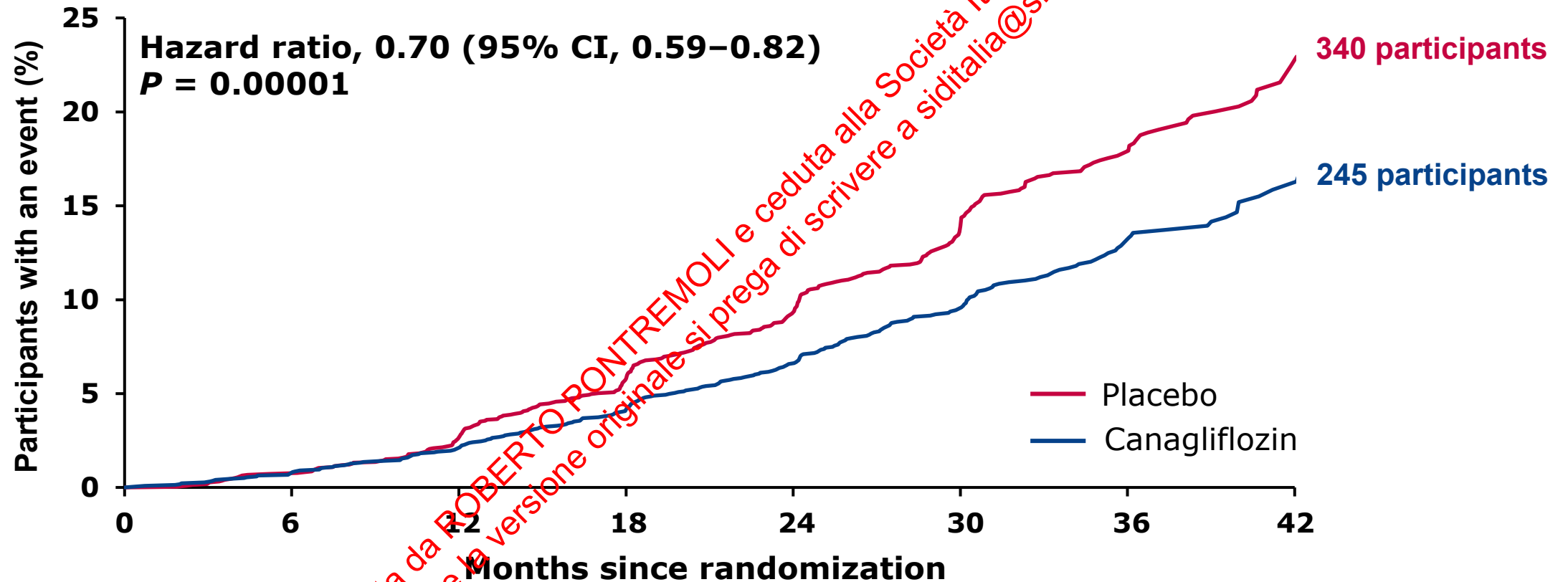
CREDENCE
DAPA-CKD
SCORED
EMPA-Kidney



DAPA-HF
EMPEROR-Reduced
SOLOIST
EMPEROR-Preserved
DELIVER

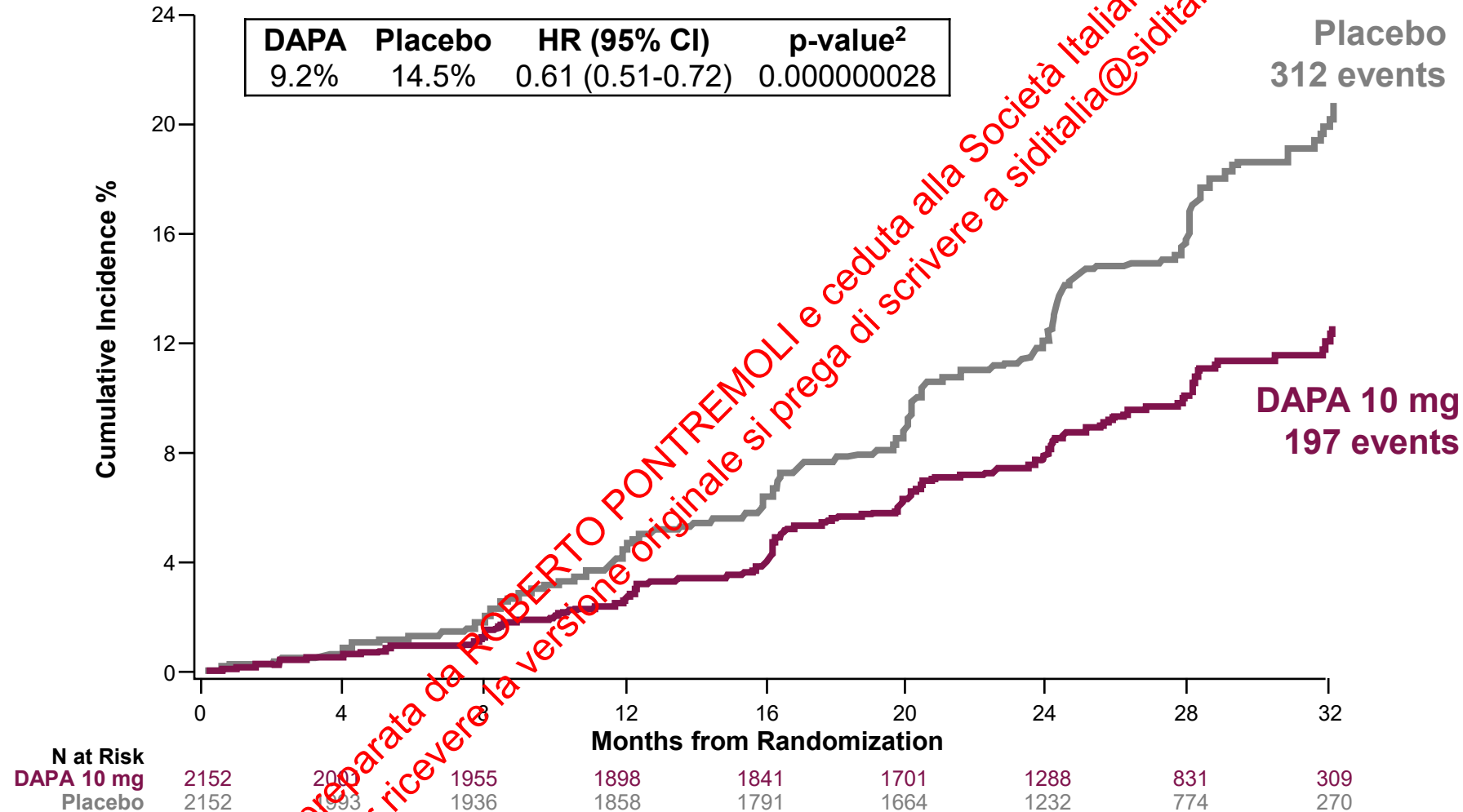
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CREDENCE - Primary Outcome: ESKD, Doubling of Serum Creatinine, or Renal or CV Death



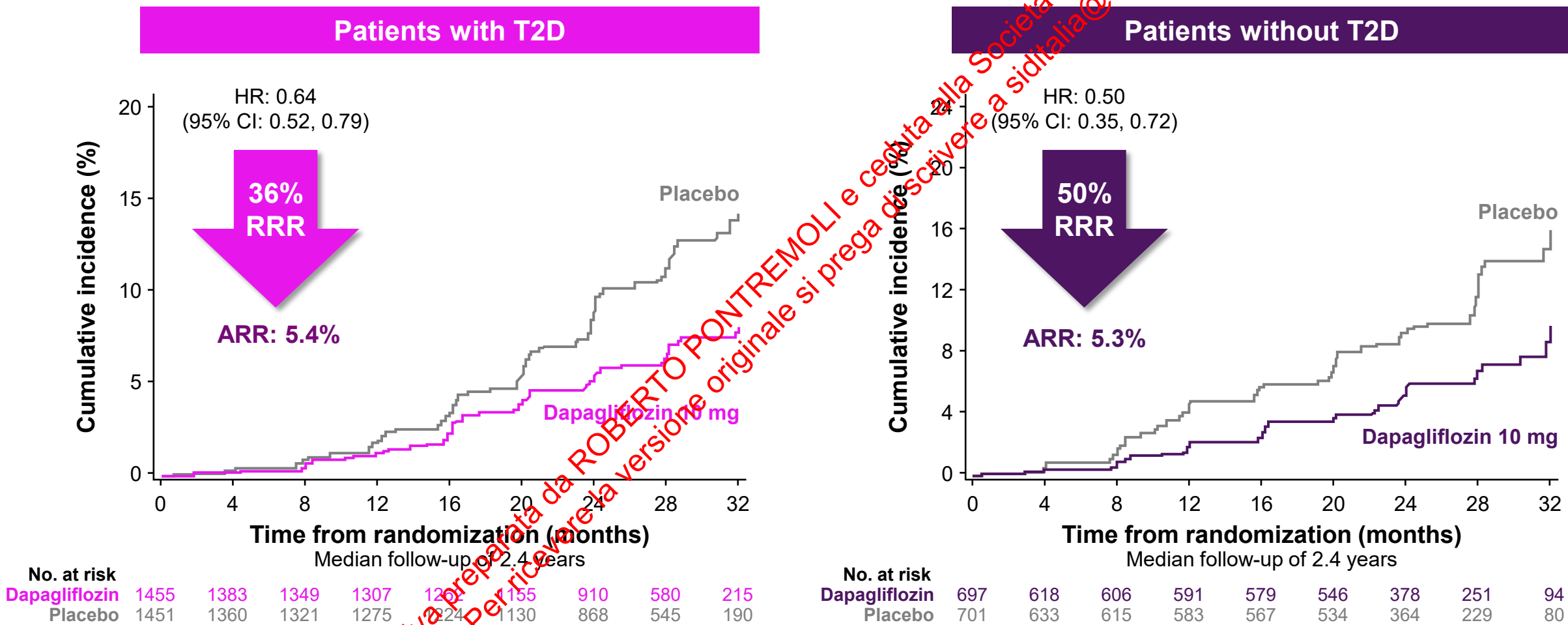
No. at risk								
Placebo	2199	2178	2132	2047	1725	1129	621	170
Canagliflozin	2202	2187	2145	2081	1786	1211	646	196

DAPA-CKD - Primary Composite Outcome: Sustained $\geq 50\%$ eGFR Decline, ESKD, Renal or CV Death



In DAPA-CKD, the effect of dapagliflozin on the risk of the primary endpoint was consistent in patients with and without T2D

The effect of dapagliflozin on the primary composite outcome^a compared with placebo, stratified by diabetes status



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Empagliflozin in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease

The EMPA-KIDNEY Collaborative Group*

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

The effects of empagliflozin in patients with chronic kidney disease who are at risk for disease progression are not well understood. The EMPA-KIDNEY trial was designed to assess the effects of treatment with empagliflozin in a broad range of such patients.

METHODS

We enrolled patients with chronic kidney disease who had an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) of at least 20 but less than 45 ml per minute per 1.73 m² of body-surface area, or who had an eGFR of at least 45 but less than 90 ml per minute per 1.73 m² with a urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio (with albumin measured in milligrams and creatinine measured in grams) of at least 200. Patients were randomly assigned to receive empagliflozin (10 mg once daily) or matching placebo. The primary outcome was a composite of progression of kidney disease (defined as end-stage kidney disease, a sustained decrease in eGFR to <10 ml per minute per 1.73 m², a sustained decrease in eGFR of ≥40% from baseline, or death from renal causes) or death from cardiovascular causes.

RESULTS

A total of 6609 patients underwent randomization. During a median of 2.0 years of follow-up, progression of kidney disease or death from cardiovascular causes occurred in 432 of 3304 patients (13.1%) in the empagliflozin group and in 558 of 3305 patients (16.9%) in the placebo group (hazard ratio, 0.72; 95% confidence interval [CI], 0.64 to 0.82; P<0.001). Results were consistent among patients with or without diabetes and across subgroups defined according to eGFR ranges. The rate of hospitalization from any cause was lower in the empagliflozin group than in the placebo group (hazard ratio, 0.86; 95% CI, 0.78 to 0.95; P=0.003), but there were no significant between-group differences with respect to the composite outcome of hospitalization for heart failure or death from cardiovascular causes (which occurred in 4.0% in the empagliflozin group and 4.6% in the placebo group) or death from any cause (in 4.5% and 5.1%, respectively). The rates of serious adverse events were similar in the two groups.

CONCLUSIONS

Among a wide range of patients with chronic kidney disease who were at risk for disease progression, empagliflozin therapy led to a lower risk of progression of kidney disease or death from cardiovascular causes than placebo. (Funded by Boehringer Ingelheim and others; EMPA-KIDNEY ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT03594113; EudraCT number, 2017-002971-24.)

The members of the writing committee (W.G. Herrington, N. Staplin, C. Wanner, J.B. Green, S.J. Hauske, J.R. Emberson, D. Preiss, P. Judge, K.J. Mayne, S.Y.A. Ng, E. Sammons, D. Zhu, M. Hill, W. Stevens, K. Wallendszus, S. Brenner, A.K. Cheung, Z.-H. Liu, J. Li, L.S. Hooi, W. Liu, T. Kadowaki, M. Nangaku, A. Levin, D. Cherney, A.P. Maggioni, R. Pontremoli, R. Deo, S. Goto, X. Rossello, K.R. Tuttle, D. Steubl, M. Petrini, D. Massey, J. Eilbracht, M. Brueckmann, M.J. Landray, C. Baigent, and R. Haynes) assume responsibility for the overall content and integrity of this article. The full names, academic degrees, and affiliations of the members of the writing committee are listed in the Appendix. Dr. Herrington can be contacted at cco.empakidney@ndph.ox.ac.uk or at the EMPA-KIDNEY Central Coordinating Office, Richard Doll Building, Old Road Campus, Roosevelt Dr., Oxford OX3 7LF, United Kingdom.

*A complete list of members of the EMPA-KIDNEY Collaborative Group is provided in the Supplementary Appendix, available at NEJM.org.

Drs. Herrington and Staplin and Drs. Landray, Baigent, and Haynes contributed equally to this article.

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The members of the writing committee (W.C. Herrington, M. Staplin, C. Wanner, B. Green, S.J. Hauck, J.R. Emberson, D. Preiss, P. Judge, K.J. Morris, S.T.A. Ng, E. Samson, D. Zhu, M. Hill, W. Stevens, K. Willeit, S. Brenner, A. K. Cheung, Z.-H. Liu, J. Li, L.S. Fiu, W. Lin, T. Fad, M. Nangala, A. Levin, D. Chertsey, A.P. Maggioni, P. Pontremoli, R. Diao, S. Goto, X. Rosado, K.R. Tuttle, D. Suck, M. Petroni, D. Massey, J. Elfrache, M. Ruckelshaus, M.J. Landray, C. Bagant, and R. Haynes) assume responsibility for the overall content and integrity of this article. The full names, academic degrees, and affiliations of the members of the writing committee are listed in the Appendix. Dr. Herrington can be contacted at cc.empakidney@ingelheim.ac.uk or at the EMPA-KIDNEY Central Coordinating Office, Richard Doll Building, Old Road Campus, Roosevelt Dr., Oxford OX3 7LJ, United Kingdom.

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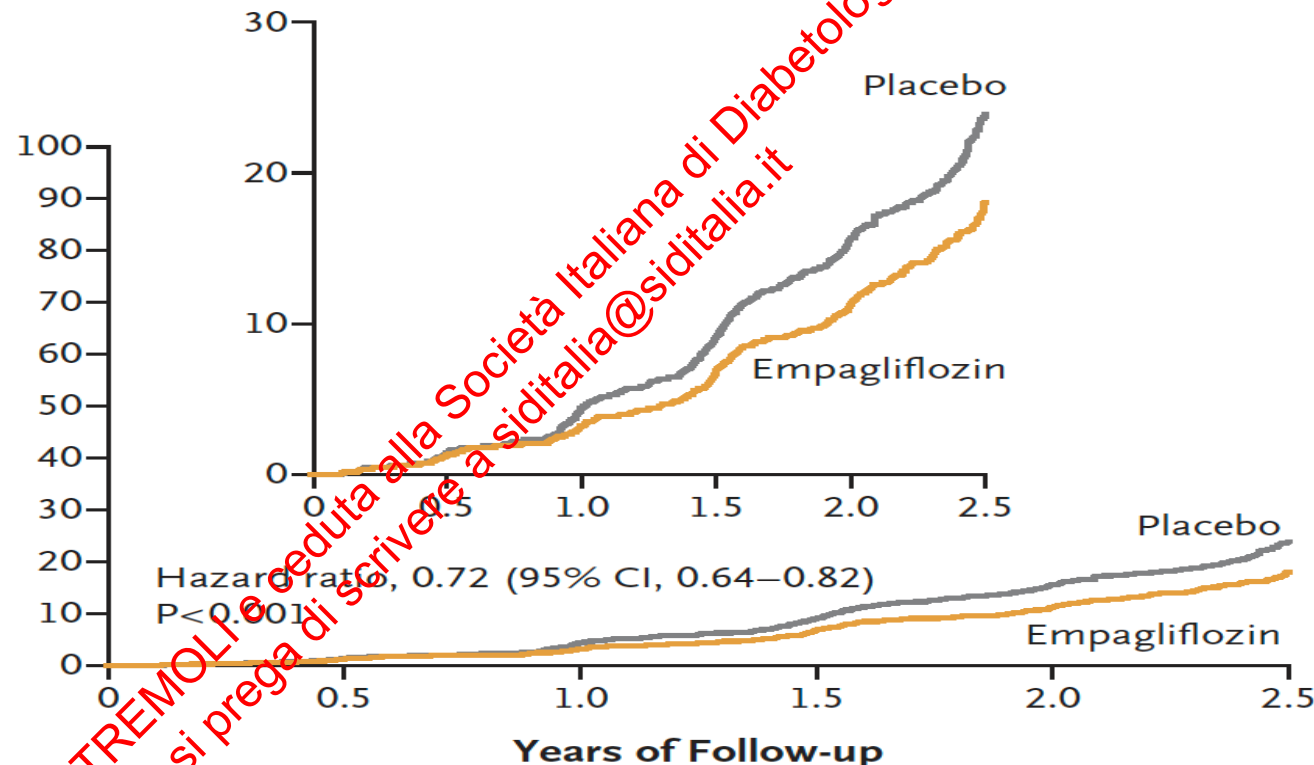
Drs. Herrington and Staplin and Drs. Landray, Bagant, and Haynes contributed equally to this article.

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Percentage of Patients with Event



No. at Risk

	0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5
Placebo	3305	3250	3129	2243	1496	592
Empagliflozin	3304	3252	3163	2275	1538	624

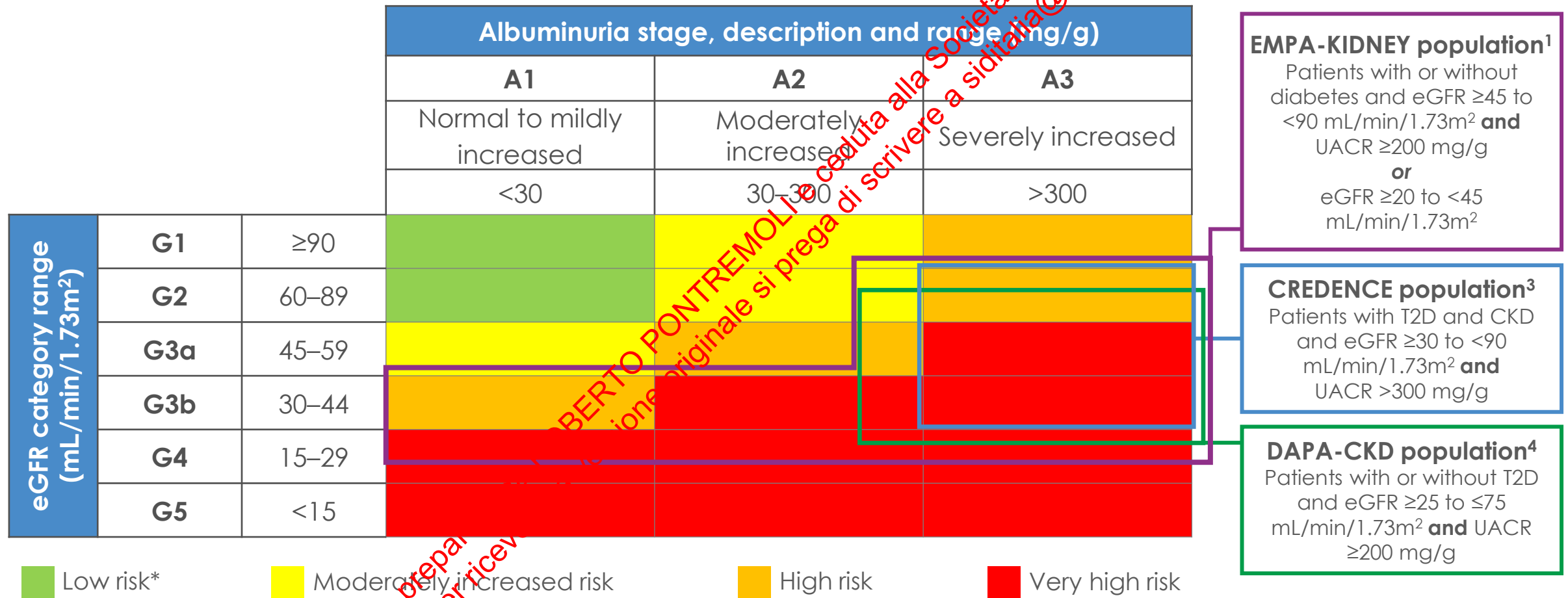
Figure 1. Progression of Kidney Disease or Death from Cardiovascular Causes.

Shown are the results of the primary composite outcome of progression of kidney disease or death from cardiovascular causes. Over a median of 2 years of follow-up, progression of kidney disease or death from cardiovascular causes occurred in 432 patients (13.1%) in the empagliflozin group and in 538 patients (16.9%) in the placebo group, representing 42 fewer primary-outcome events per 1000 patients in the empagliflozin group than in the placebo group over 2 years. The inset shows the same data on an enlarged y axis.

HR 0.72
(0.64-0.80)
P<0.001
RR 28%

EMPA-KIDNEY enrolled a CKD population with a broad range of eGFR, with and without albuminuria¹

Prognosis of CKD by eGFR and albuminuria categories²



*If no other markers of kidney disease, no CKD.

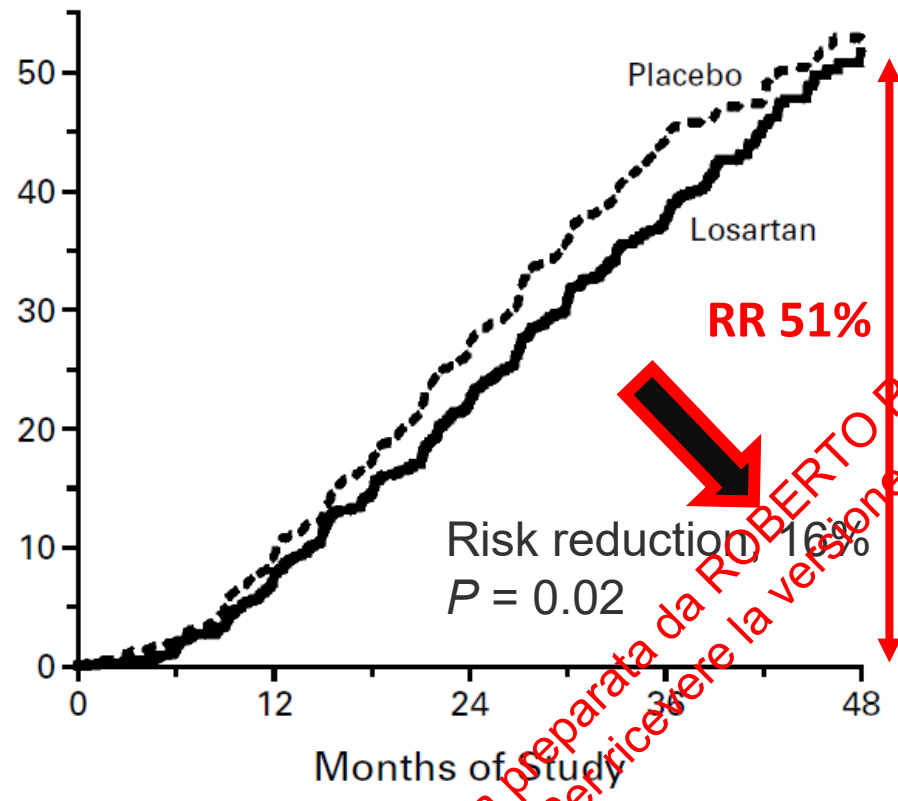
CKD, chronic kidney disease; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; UACR, urine albumin-to-creatinine ratio; T2D, type 2 diabetes.

1. The EMPA-KIDNEY Collaborative Group. [Published online ahead of print March 3 2022]. *Nephrol Dial Transplant*. 2022. DOI:10.1093/ndt/gfac054 2. KDIGO 2012 Clinical Practice Guideline for the Evaluation and Management of Chronic Kidney Disease. *Kidney Int Suppl*. 2013;3(1):1–150. 3. Perkovic V, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2019; 380:2295–2306 4. Wheeler DC, et al. *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 2020;35:1700.

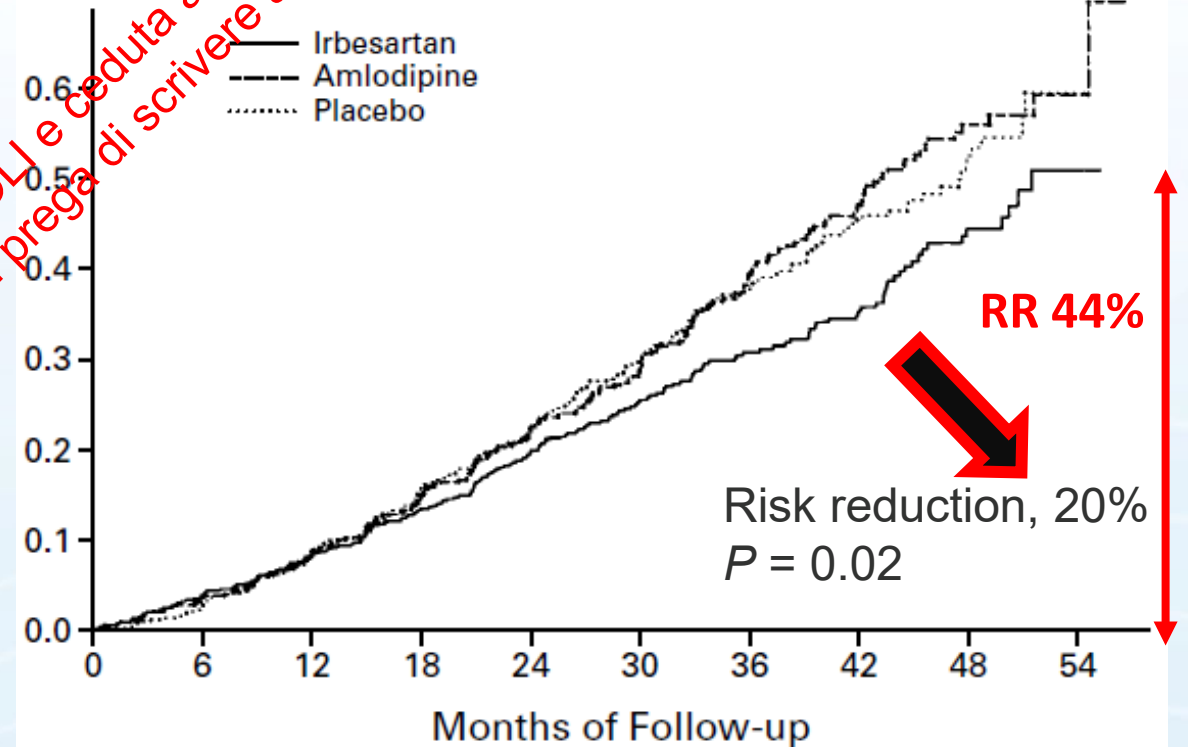
The residual risk in RAASi treated DKD patients: RENAAL & IDNT

Doubling of serum creatinine, ESKD, or death

RENAAL



IDNT





Domanda

❖ ***L'efficacia (nefroprotezione) degli SGLT2i varia in base al rischio renale del paziente:***

1. sì

2. No

Diapositiva preparata da ROBERTO PONTREMOLI e ceduta alla Società Italiana di Diabetologia
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**Benefit independent
of diabetes status,
eGFR at baseline**

Subgroup

Empagliflozin Placebo

no. of patients with event/total no.

Diabetes mellitus

Present

218/1525 306/1515

0.64 (0.54–0.77)

Absent

214/1779 252/1790

0.82 (0.68–0.99)

Estimated GFR

<30 ml/min/1.73 m²

247/1131 317/1151

0.73 (0.62–0.86)

≥30 to <45 ml/min/1.73 m²

140/1467 175/1465

0.78 (0.62–0.97)

≥45 ml/min/1.73 m²

45/706 64/693

0.64 (0.44–0.93)

Urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio

<30

42/601 47/663

1.01 (0.66–1.55)

≥30 to ≤300

67/927 78/937

0.91 (0.65–1.26)

>300

923/1702 438/1705

0.67 (0.58–0.78)

All patients

432/3304 538/3305

0.72 (0.64–0.82)

Hazard Ratio for Progression of Kidney Disease or Death from Cardiovascular Causes (95% CI)

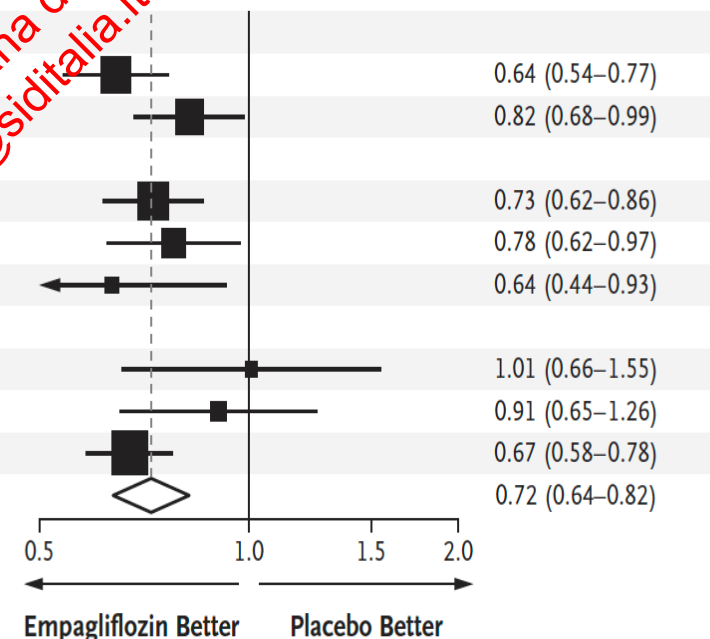


Figure 2. Primary Outcome in Key Prespecified Subgroups.

Shown are the hazard ratios for the primary outcome in key prespecified subgroups defined according to baseline characteristics. Hazard ratios and confidence intervals were estimated with the use of Cox proportional-hazards regression models, with adjustment for age, sex, history of diabetes, estimated glomerular filtration rate (GFR), urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio (with albumin measured in milligrams and creatinine measured in grams), and geographic region. The area of each box is proportional to the inverse of the variance of the log hazard ratios. The arrow indicates that the boundary of the 95% confidence interval is outside the graphed area. The diamond represents the result of the primary analysis, with the width of the diamond indicating the 95% confidence interval. The dashed line indicates the hazard ratio in the overall population.

Is albuminuria a prerequisite for DKD?

	Patients n.	DM %	Follow-up years	Renal impairment	Non-albuminuric renal impairment
UKPDS <i>Diabetes</i> 55: 1832-1839, 2006	4,006	100	15	28%	67% (51%)
DCCT/EDIC <i>Diabetes Care</i> 33: 1536-1543, 2010	1,439	100 (type 1)	19	63%	24%
AMD Annals Diabetes Metab Res Rev 2017 in press	20,464	100 (T1DM)	19	23.5%	49%

MacIsaac RJ et al., <i>Diabetes Care</i> 27: 195-200, 2004	301	100	---	36%	39%
Kramer HJ et al., NHANES III <i>JAMA</i> 289: 3273-3277, 2003	1,197	100	---	13%	36%
Thomas MC et al., NEFRON <i>Diabetes Care</i> 32: 1497-1502, 2009	3,893	100	---	23%	55%
Ninomiya T et al., ADVANCE <i>J Am Soc Nephrol</i> 20: 1813-1821, 2009	10,640	100	---	19%	62%
Bakris GL et al., ACCOMPLISH <i>Lancet</i> 375: 1173-1181, 2010	11,482	60	---	9.5%	47%
Tube SW et al., ONTARGET/ TRASCEND <i>Circulation</i> 123: 1098-1107, 2011	23,422	37	---	24%	68%
Drury PL et al., FIELD <i>Diabetologia</i> 54: 32-43, 2011	9,765	100	---	5.3%	59%
RIACE Study Group, RIACE <i>J Hypertens</i> 29: 1802-1809, 2011	15,773	100	---	18.8%	57%
AMD ANNALS NDT 2015	116,777	100	---	21%	48%



Association of kidney disease measures with risk of renal function worsening in patients with hypertension and type 2 diabetes

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^b Department of Medical Sciences, Scientific Institute "San Sotero della Misericordia", San Giovanni Azzurro (PC), Italy

^c Diabetes and Metabolism Unit ASL, Turin 5, Chieri (TO), Italy

^d Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques August Pi i Sunyer (IDIBAPS) and Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red sobre Enfermedades Metabólicas Asociada (CIBERESP), Barcelona, Spain

^e Department of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases, IRCCS Gruppo MultiMedica, San to San Giovanni, Milano, Italy

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ABSTRACT

Aims: To assess the role of kidney disease measures on the development of chronic kidney disease (CKD) in patients with type 2 diabetes (T2D) and hypertension (HT).

Methods: Clinical records from a total of 17,160 patients with T2D and HT, a baseline estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) ≥ 60 mL/min/1.73 m², and no history of CKD, were analyzed for the development of CKD stage 3 or higher over a 5-year period.

2 out of 3 pts with DKD progressing to ESRD are non-albuminuric

non-albuminuric phenotype, renal function worsening is more likely to be observed in patients without albuminuria. © 2016 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

1. Introduction

The prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) has been steadily growing in recent years mainly as a consequence of improvements in the prevention and management of cardiovascular complications and the subsequent increase in life expectancy of patients with type 2 diabetes (T2D) (Gregg, Williams, & Geiss, 2014). Yet, the development of renal disease carries an unfavorable impact on patients' quality of life and greatly reduces their life expectancy mainly by raising the incidence of cardiovascular events (Tancredi et al., 2015). Due to its direct and indirect costs, diabetic kidney disease (DKD) is rapidly becoming a major concern for public health systems worldwide.

Conflict of interest: There are no conflict of interest.

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Albuminuria and glomerular filtration rate (GFR) reduction are well known independent predictors of cardiovascular and renal events (Fox et al., 2012). At variance with the traditional clinical presentation of renal disease in type 1 diabetes, wherein the development of albuminuria is known to precede and predict renal function worsening, in patients with T2D the presence of increased albuminuria carries a somewhat less specific predictive power with respect to renal function deterioration (Penno et al., 2011). Furthermore, it has recently been reported that a significant portion of diabetic patients progressing to ESRD do not show albuminuria or proteinuria (So et al., 2006).

Hypertension (HT) is an exceedingly common feature of patients with T2D (Hypertension in Diabetes Study, 1993). While an increase in blood pressure (BP) may result from diabetes itself, it may also accompany the development of diabetic renal impairment, it more often precedes the onset of diabetes (Ritz, 2013) and represents a well-known risk factor for the development of albuminuria as well as for progression

developing stage 3 CKD. The presence of albuminuria entails a greater renal risk at any given GFR value. However, due to a greater occurrence of the non-albuminuric phenotype at baseline, progression to CKD stage 3 is more likely to be observed in patients without albuminuria.

50%

40%

30%

20%

10%

eGFR <60 mL/min/1.73 m²

■ Normoalbuminuria

■ Albuminuria

■ 17,160 patients

■ Age: 64 ± 9 years

■ Diabetes duration: 11 ± 8 years

■ 59% male

1,3%

8,2%

13,2%

12,0%

19,2%

16,0%

24,8%

Cumulative incidence

eGFR 60-90

ALB+
12,7%

OR=5.24

OR=1.0

eGFR >90

ALB-
34,3%

OR=2.94

eGFR 60-90

ALB-
43,2%

OR=1.67

eGFR >90

ALB+
9,9%



Domanda

❖ ***Nei pazienti con normale escrezione urinaria di albumina il beneficio del trattamento con SGLT2i è irrilevante:***

- 1. Sì, il principale beneficio deriva dalla riduzione dell'albuminuria***
- 2. No, gli SGLT2i dovrebbero comunque essere impiegati***

Diapositiva preparata da ROBERTO PONTREMOLI e ceduta alla Società Italiana di Diabetologia
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Annual rate of change in eGFR by key subgroups

– Chronic slope

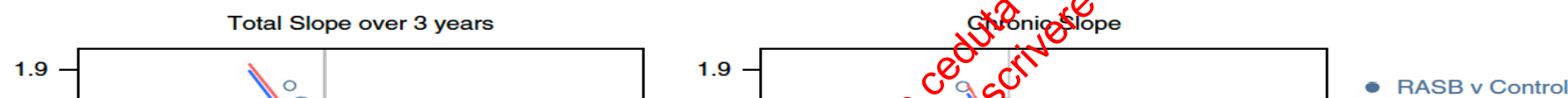
Subgroup	Empagliflozin	Placebo	Absolute difference (95% CI)	Absolute difference (95% CI)
	Annual rate of change in eGFR, ml/min/1.73m ² , mean (SE)			
Diabetes				
No	-1.66 (0.11)	-2.75 (0.11)	1.09 (0.79, 1.39)	
Yes	-1.05 (0.12)	-2.73 (0.12)	1.68 (1.36, 2.00)	
eGFR, ml/min/1.73m ²				
<30	-1.84 (0.14)	-2.85 (0.14)	1.01 (0.63, 1.39)	
≥30 to <45	-1.18 (0.12)	-2.50 (0.12)	1.32 (0.99, 1.65)	
≥45	-1.58 (0.17)	-3.60 (0.17)	2.01 (1.53, 2.49)	
UACR, mg/g				
A1 (<30) normal to mildly increased	-0.11 (0.11)	-0.89 (0.16)	0.78 (0.32, 1.23)	
A2 (≥30 to ≤300) moderately increased	-0.49 (0.14)	-1.69 (0.14)	1.20 (0.81, 1.59)	
A3 (>300) severely increased	-2.33 (0.14)	-4.11 (0.11)	1.76 (1.46, 2.05)	
All participants	-1.37 (0.08)	-2.75 (0.08)	1.37 (1.16, 1.59)	

Mean annual rates of change in eGFR from 12 months to the final follow-up visit ('chronic slopes') by treatment allocation were estimated using shared parameter models.
eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; UACR, urine albumin-to-creatinine ratio.
The EMPA-KIDNEY Collaborative Group. *N Engl J Med* 2022; DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2204233



GFR Slope as a Surrogate End Point for Kidney Disease Progression in Clinical Trials: A Meta-Analysis of Treatment Effects of Randomized Controlled Trials

Lesley A. Inker,¹ Hiddo J. L. Heerspink,² Hocine Tighiouart,^{3,4} Andrew S. Levey,¹ Josef Coresh,⁵ Ron T. Gansevoort,⁶ Andrew L. Simon,¹ Jinn-Boing,⁷ Gerald J. Beck,⁸ Christoph Wanner,⁹ Jürgen Floege,¹⁰ Philip Kam-Tao Li,¹¹ Mado Perkovic,¹² Edward F. Vonesh,¹³ and Tom Greene⁷



Results Across all studies, the treatment effect on 3-year total GFR slope (median $R^2=0.97$; 95% Bayesian credible interval [BCI], 0.78 to 1.00) and on the chronic slope (R^2 0.96; 95% BCI, 0.63 to 1.00) accurately predicted treatment effects on the clinical end point. With a sufficient sample size, a treatment effect of 0.75 ml/min per 1.73 m²/yr or greater on total slope over 3 years or chronic slope predicts a clinical benefit on CKD progress with at least 96% probability.

Conclusions With large enough sample sizes, GFR slope may be a viable surrogate for clinical end points in CKD RCTs.

Treatment Effect on GFR Slope (Mean Difference)



Domanda

❖ ***Quale è il principale meccanismo fisiopatologico di nefroprotezione degli SGLT2i?***

- 1. Miglioramento dell'emodinamica glomerulare (TGF)***
- 2. Protezione dal danno tubulare (molteplici meccanismi)***
- 3. Induzione di bilancio idrico negativo***

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Kidney protective effects of SGLT2 inhibitors could be mediated by different mechanisms

Reduction in sodium and glucose reabsorption induced by SGLT2 inhibitors reduces tubular workload and could **ameliorate renal hypoxia**, resulting in **improvements in tubular cell structural integrity** and possibly function¹

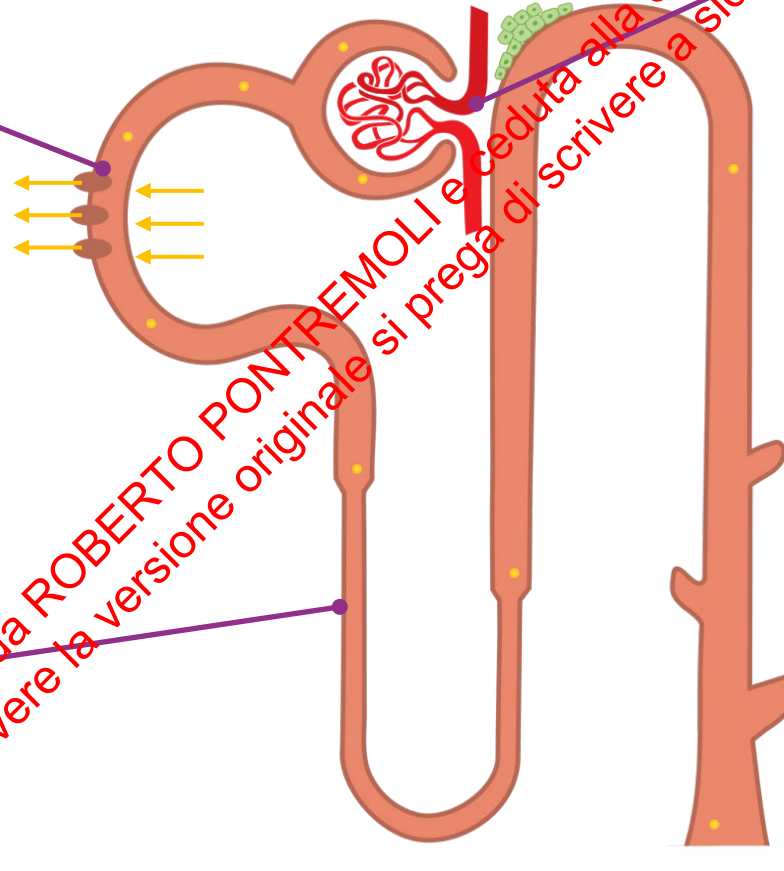
SGLT2 inhibitors have beneficial effects on **anti-inflammatory**, **anti-oxidant** and **anti-fibrotic** markers¹

SGLT2 inhibitors increase distal sodium delivery, thereby activating **tubuloglomerular feedback** and reducing hyperfiltration¹

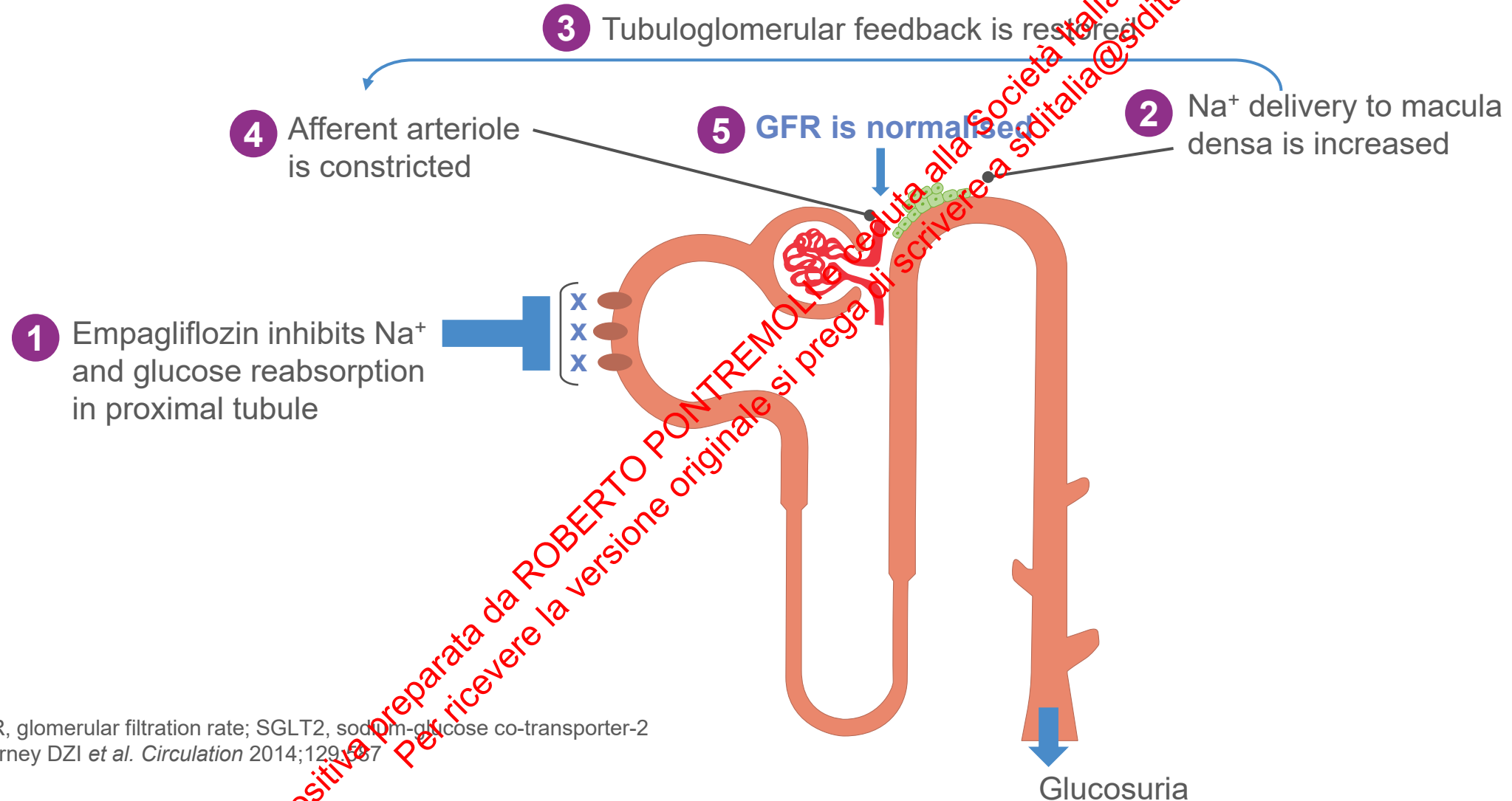
This leads to:

- Decreased intraglomerular pressure^{2,3}
- Decreased proteinuria³

SGLT2 inhibitors reduce **body weight** and **fat mass** along with improvement of endothelial function⁴

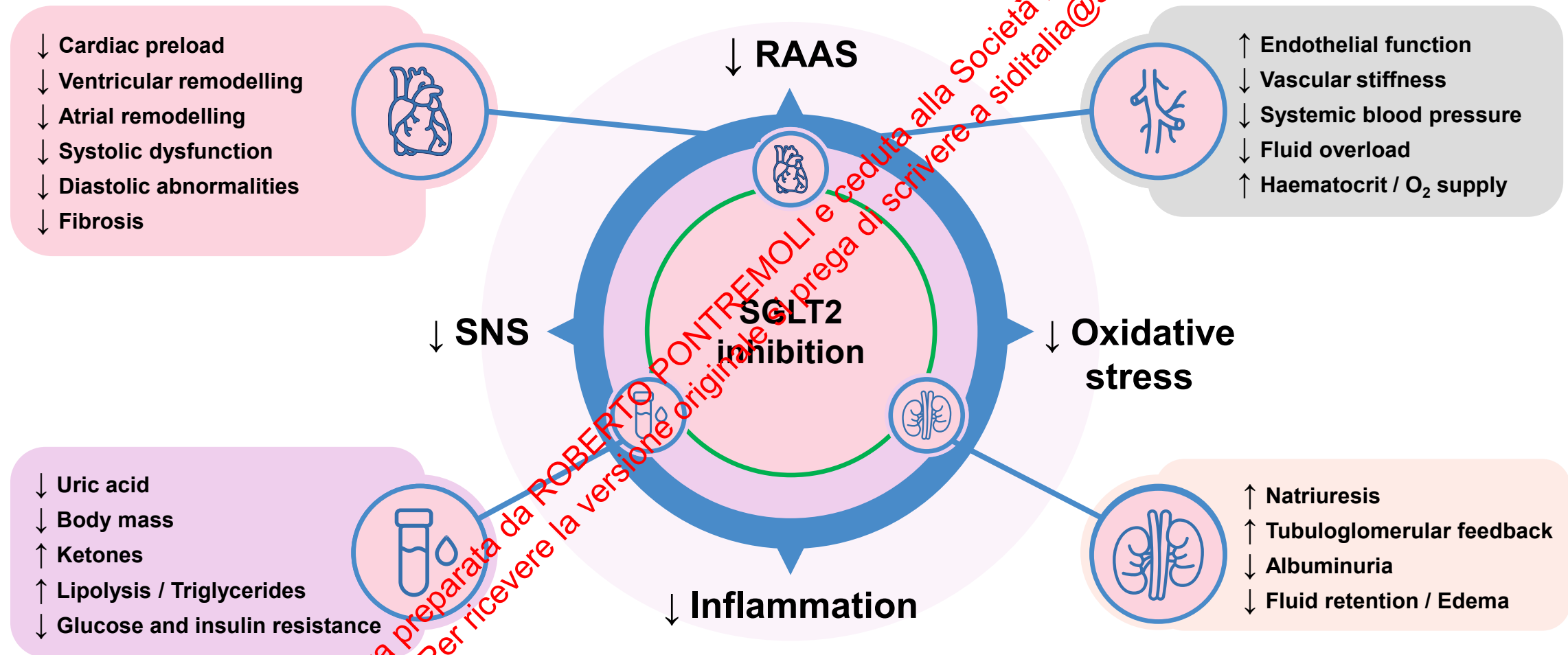


SGLT2 inhibition activates tubuloglomerular feedback, reducing intraglomerular pressure



GFR, glomerular filtration rate; SGLT2, sodium-glucose co-transporter-2
Cherney DZI *et al.* *Circulation* 2014;129:587

Direct and indirect actions of SGLT2 inhibitors are likely to produce CRM benefits^{1–5}



ATP, adenosine triphosphate; CRM, cardiovascular, renal and metabolic; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; RAAS, renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system; SNS, sympathetic nervous system.

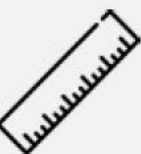
1. Givens RC, Schulze PC. Molecular changes in heart failure. In: Eisen H, ed. Heart Failure: A Comprehensive Guide to Pathophysiology and Clinical Care. London: Springer Verlag; 2017:1–26. 2. Ronco C et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2008;52:1527. 3. Santos-Ferreira D et al. Cardiology. 2020;145:311–20. 4. Cowie M, Fisher M. Nat Rev Cardiol. 2020;17:761–72. 5. Scheen AJ. Nat Rev Endocrinol. 2020;16:556–77.

Effects of Empagliflozin on Fluid Overload, Weight and Blood Pressure in Chronic Kidney Disease

METHODS



EMPA-KIDNEY trial (n=6609)
Bioimpedance substudy (n=660)



Fresenius **Body Composition Monitor (BCM)** bioimpedance spectroscopy device: three-compartment model



BCM at randomization, 2 & 18 months
Weight & blood pressure at every visit

Mixed model repeated measures analysis:



OUTCOMES

Primary: Study average “Fluid Overload”
(excess extracellular water in lean and/or adipose tissue)
Secondary: “Fluid Overload” by time

Tertiary assessments: subgroup effects on “Fluid Overload”;
extra- & intracellular water; BCM-derived fat & lean tissue indices;
weight & blood pressure in the substudy population

OUTCOMES

PRIMARY



“Fluid Overload”
(excess extracellular water)
-0.24 (-0.38, -0.11) L

SECONDARY

Effects were sustained over time:

2 months

-0.23 L
(-0.37, -0.08)

18 months

-0.26 L
(-0.46, -0.06)

TERTIARY



Weight
-0.7 kg
(-1.3, -0.1)



Systolic BP
-3.3 mmHg
(-5.5, -1.2)
Diastolic BP
-0.2 mmHg
(-1.4, 1.0)

TERTIARY

Effects on “Fluid Overload” were
consistent across subgroups:
Sex, diabetes, eGFR, NTpro-BNP,
baseline fluid status or diuretic use.

Significant ↓ total body water:

Total body water
-0.82 L
(-1.24, -0.40)



Extracellular
-0.49 L (-0.69, -0.30)
Intracellular
-0.30 L (-0.57, -0.03)

No significant effect on adiposity:

Fat tissue index
-0.07 kg/m²
(-0.35, 0.20)



Lean tissue index
-0.14 kg/m²
(-0.39, 0.10)

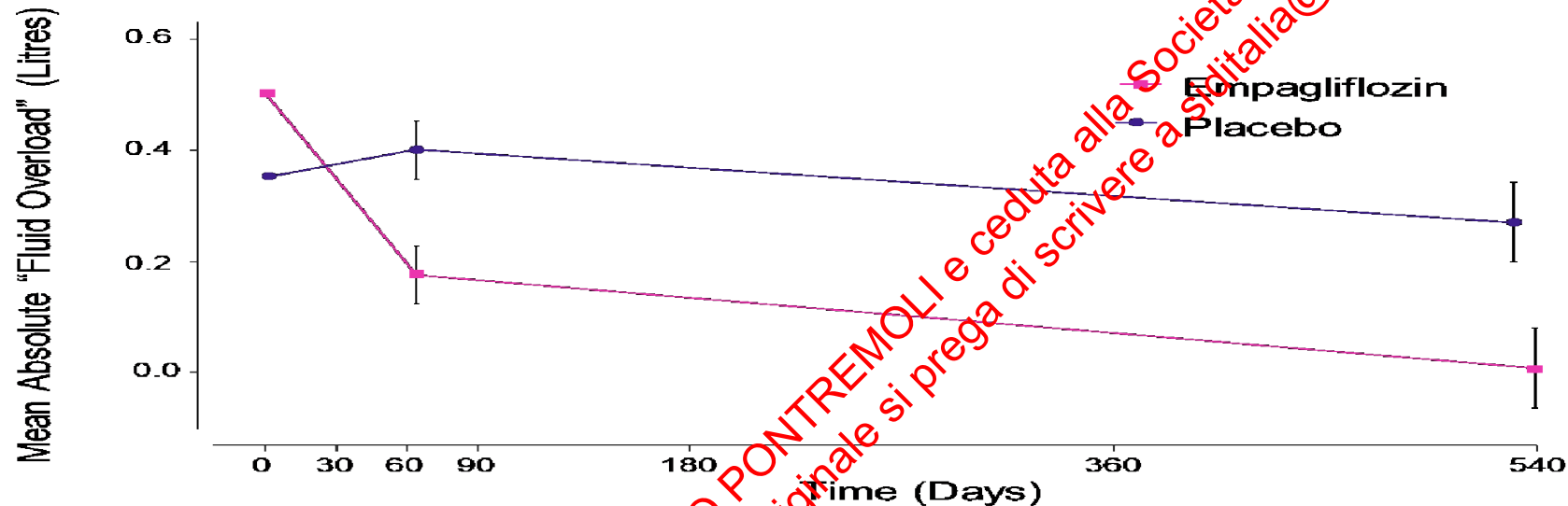
Results are between-group difference (95% CI): empagliflozin – placebo. Negative differences favour empagliflozin.
eGFR = estimated glomerular filtration rate; NTpro-BNP = N-terminal-pro B-type natriuretic peptide; BP = blood pressure.

Conclusion

In a broad range of patients with CKD, empagliflozin resulted in a sustained reduction in bioimpedance-derived estimates of body water, with no statistically significant effect on fat mass.

The EMPA-KIDNEY Bioimpedance Substudy Group,
on behalf of the EMPA-KIDNEY Collaborative Group
JASN 2023, *in press*

Figure 1: Effects of empagliflozin on mean bioimpedance-derived absolute “Fluid Overload” by time



Empagliflozin	311	290	231
Placebo	309	288	238

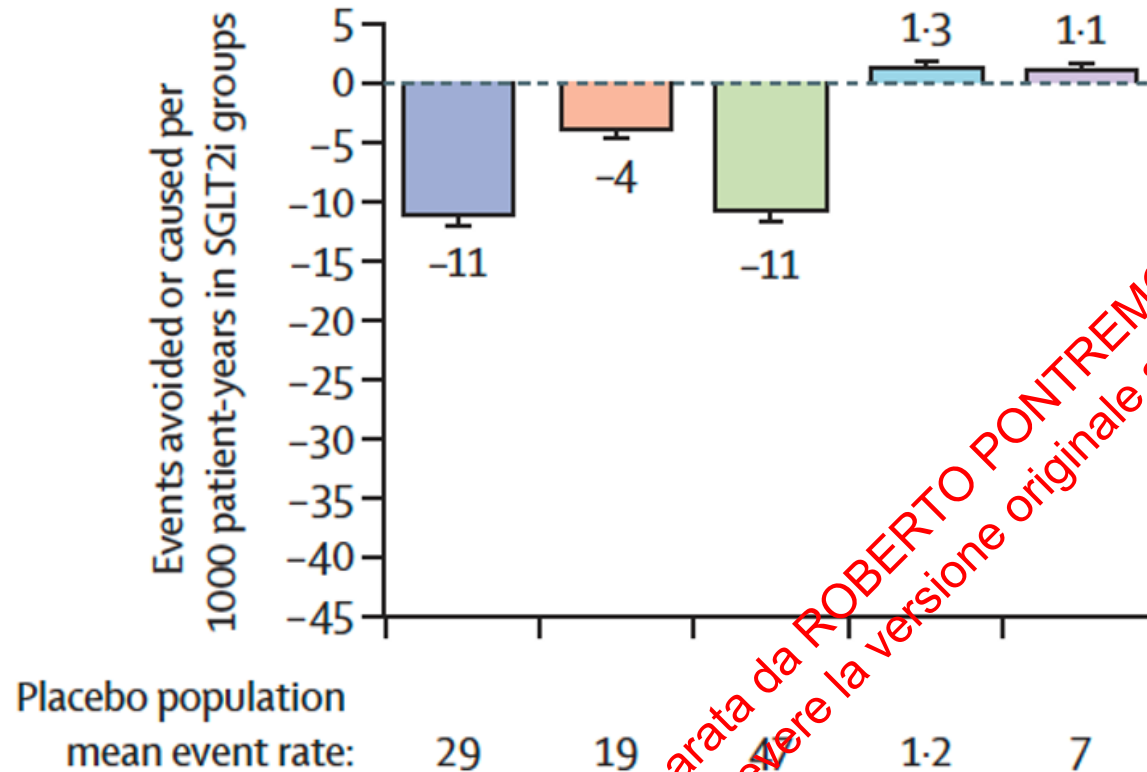
	Empagliflozin Mean (SE)	Placebo Mean (SE)	Absolute Difference (95% CI)
Study average	0.10±0.05 L	0.34±0.05 L	-0.24 (-0.38, -0.11) L

The treatment group-specific estimated marginal mean (and standard error) absolute “Fluid Overload” extracted from the mixed model repeated measures model is plotted at the median follow-up day in each time window. Analyses are adjusted for baseline absolute “Fluid Overload”, age, sex, diabetes, eGFR and uACR. Participants with included measurements at each time point are shown beneath the x-axis; analyses excluded 40 consenting participants with no valid follow-up measurements (3 deaths before first follow-up measurement, 28 with no measurement performed and 9 excluded due to inadequate data quality). Study averages are shown in the table (see Table 2 for differences in time windows separately). There was no significant interaction between treatment allocation and time (p=0.11).

Benefits and harms of SGLT2i in patients with CKD

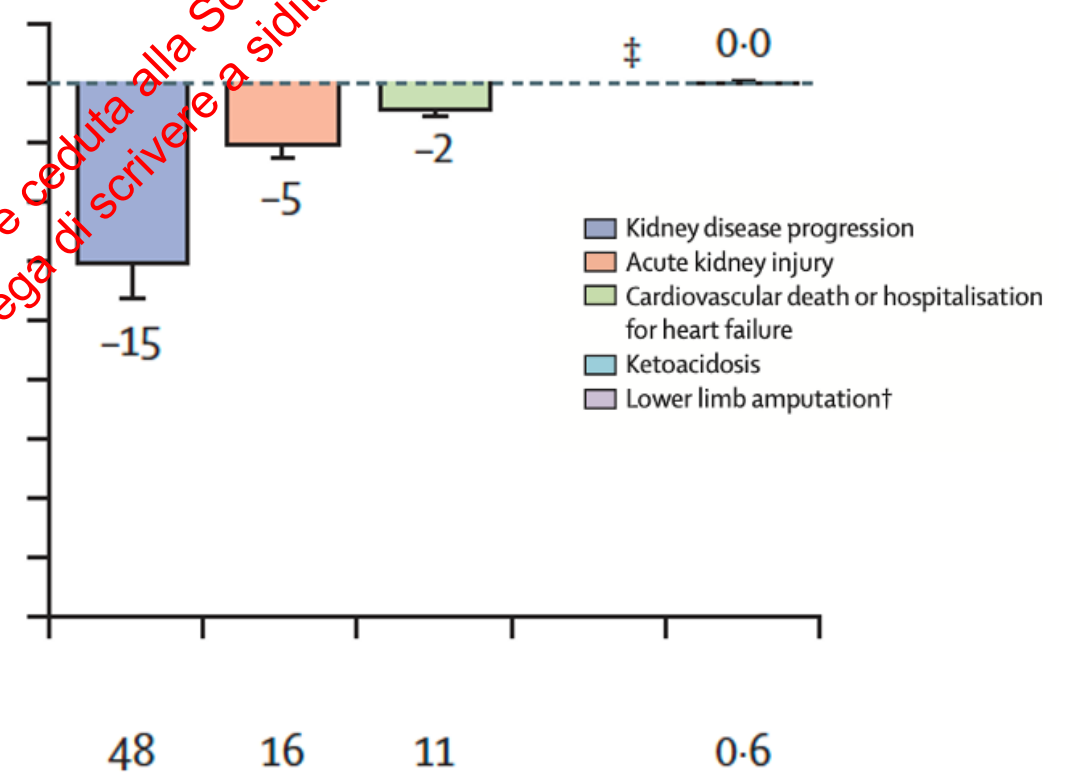
Diabetes

Mean eGFR: 45 mL/min per 1.73m²

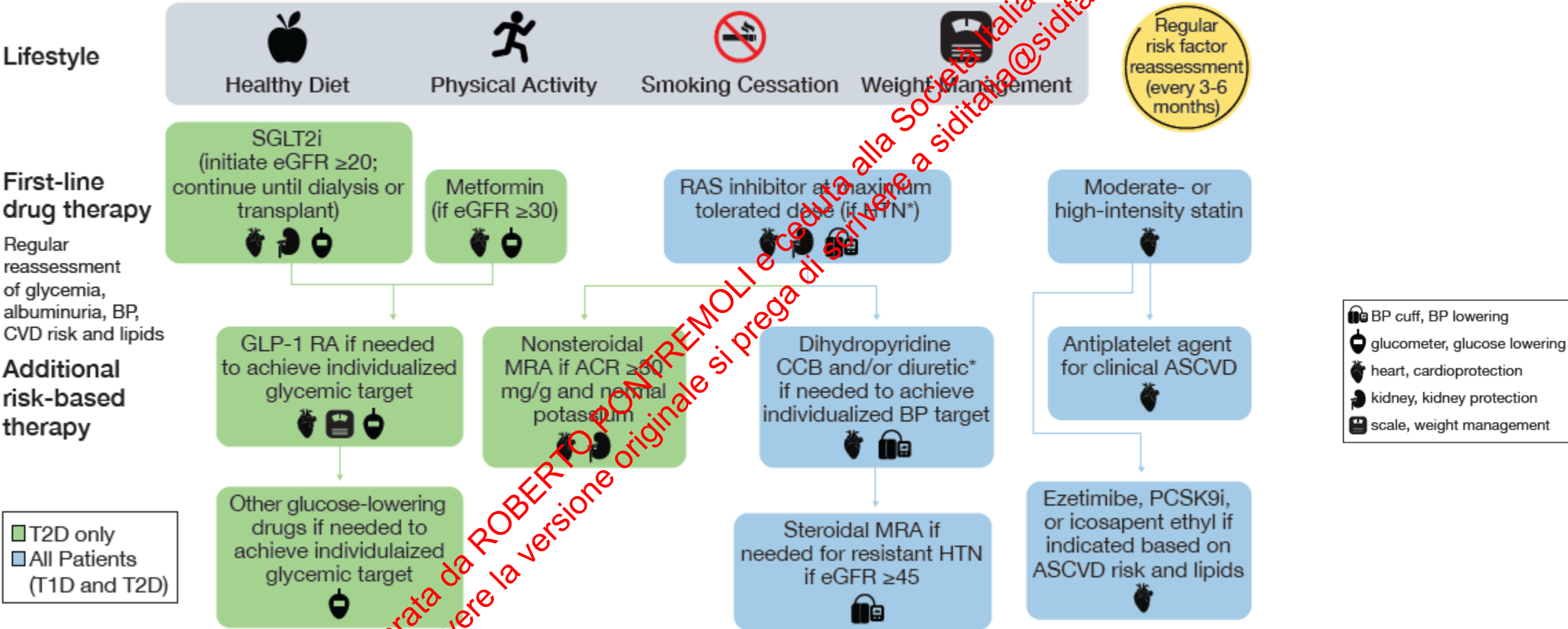


no diabetes

Mean eGFR: 40 mL/min per 1.73m²



2022 KDIGO Approach for Improving Outcomes in People With Diabetes and CKD



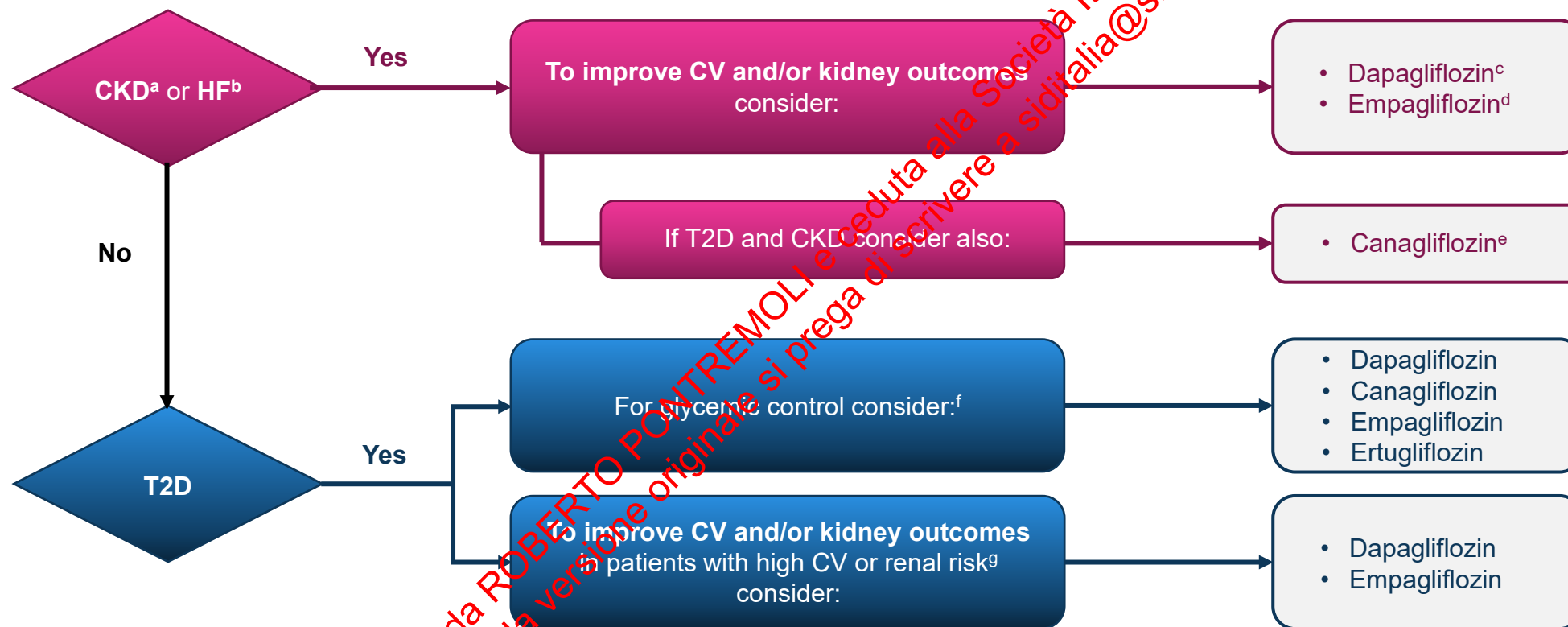
Note: eGFR is presented in units of mL/min/1.73 m².

*Maximum tolerated ACEi or ARB should be first-line therapy for HTN when albuminuria is present. Otherwise, dihydropyridine CCB or diuretic can also be considered;

all three classes are often needed to attain BP targets

ACEi = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ACR = albumin-creatinine ratio; ARB = angiotensin II receptor blocker; ADA = American Diabetes Association; ASCVD = atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease; BP = blood pressure; CCB = calcium channel blocker; CKD = chronic kidney disease; CVD = cardiovascular disease; eGFR = estimated glomerular filtration rate; GLP-1 RA = glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonist; HTN = hypertension; KDIGO = Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes; MRA = mineralocorticoid-receptor antagonist; PCSK9i= proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 inhibitor; RAS = renin-angiotensin system; SGLT2i = sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitor; T1D = type 1 diabetes; T2D = type 2 diabetes.

2023 ERA Consensus Paper: Algorithm for Selection of SGLT2i in Patients With CKD, HF, or T2D



^aeGFR <60 mL/min/1.73 m² or UACR >30 mg/g; ^bWith reduced or preserved ejection fraction; ^cStart if eGFR ≥25 mL/min/1.73 m² and continue until start of KRT; ^dStart if eGFR ≥20 mL/min/1.73 m²; ^eStart if eGFR ≥30 mL/min/1.73 m² and continue until start of KRT; ^fWhile all 4 drugs may be used for glycemic control with eGFR ≥45 mL/min/1.73 m², an SGLT2i that has improved outcomes in CKD randomized controlled trials would be preferable if eGFR is 45-60 mL/min/1.73 m²; ^gEstablished atherosclerotic CV disease (coronary, peripheral vascular, or cerebral artery disease).

Mark PB et al. Online ahead of print. *Nephrology Dial Transplant*. 2023;gfa112.

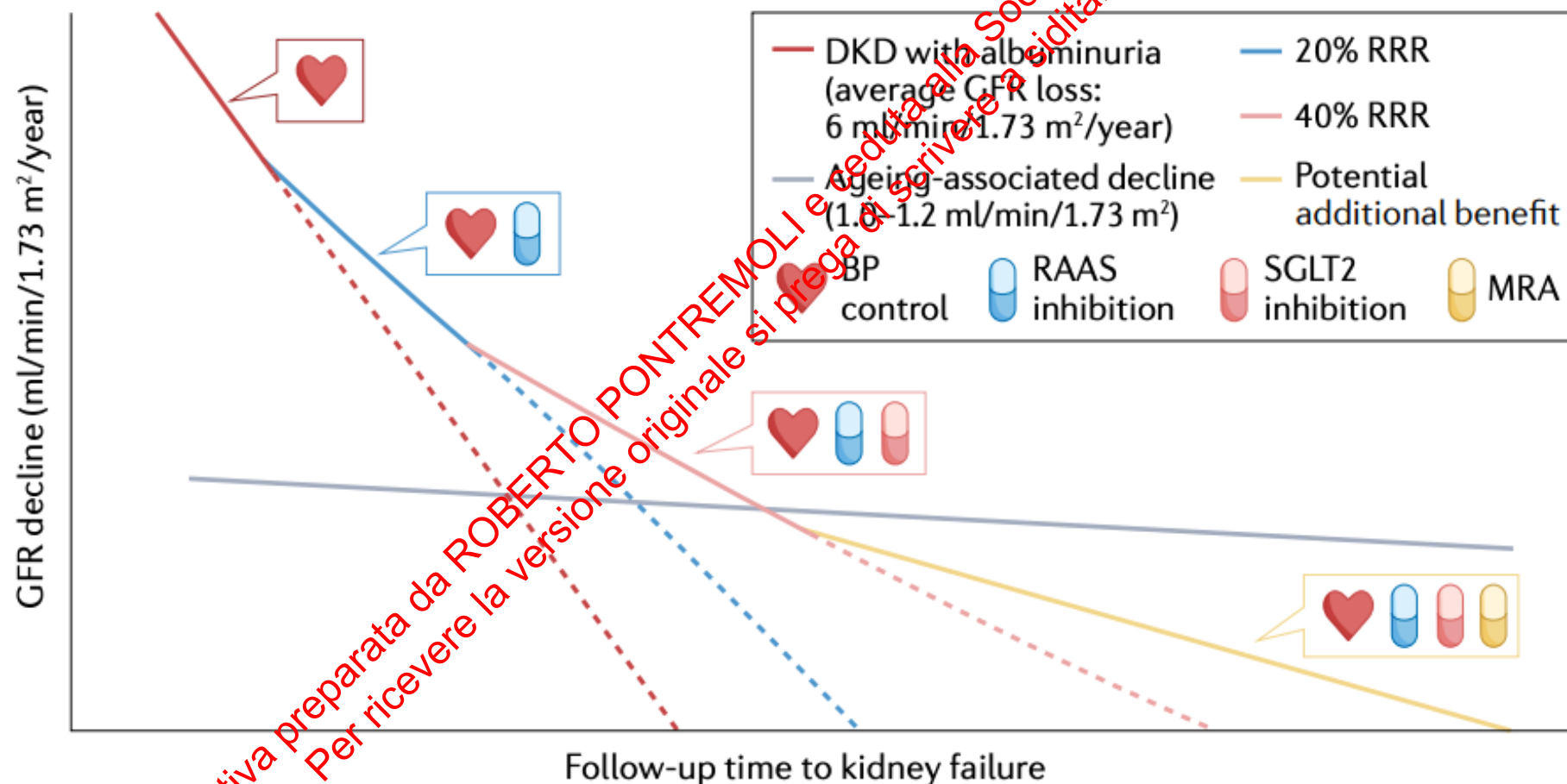
Expanding the therapy options for diabetic kidney disease

Paola Fioretto  and Roberto Pontremoli 



YEAR IN REVIEW

NATURE REVIEWS | NEPHROLOGY



Diapositiva preparata da ROBERTO PONTREMOLI e presentata alla Società Italiana di Diabetologia
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