

Gender differences in drug responses to cardiovascular and heart failure medication



Chim Lang
Professor of Cardiology
University of Dundee



Conflicts of interest

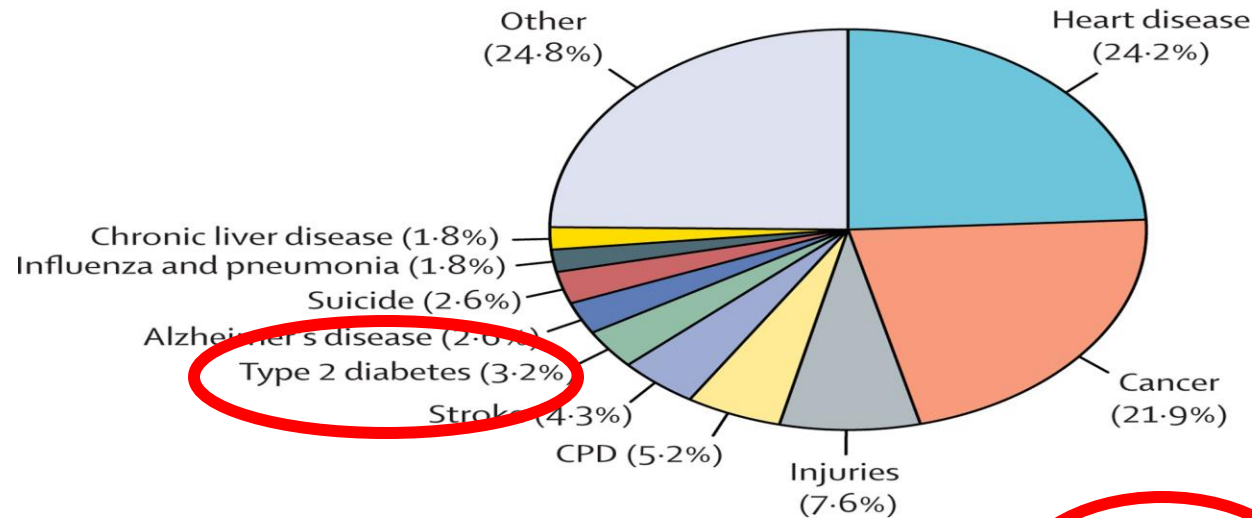
- I have received consultancy fees and/or research grants from Amgen, AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, MSD, Novartis, Novo Nordisk and Servier;
- I have grant funding from European Union FP-7 and Horizon 2020 IMI2 Program, MRC, UKRI-Newton Ungku fund, NIHR, British Heart Foundation, EFSD, Tenovus, Chief Scientist Office

University of Dundee

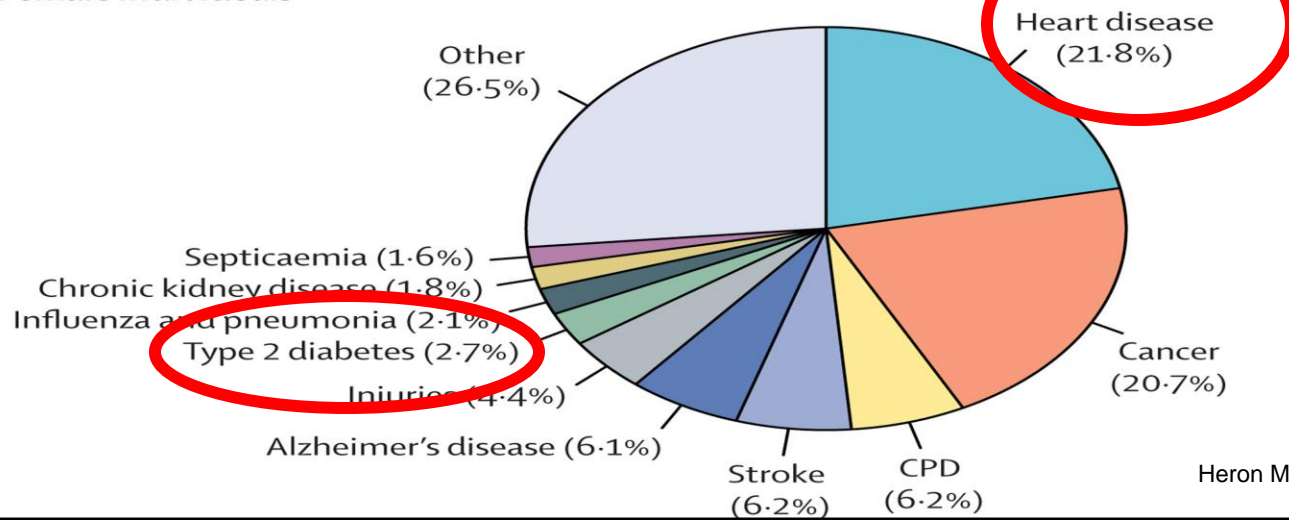


CVD is a leading cause of death in **both** Men and Women

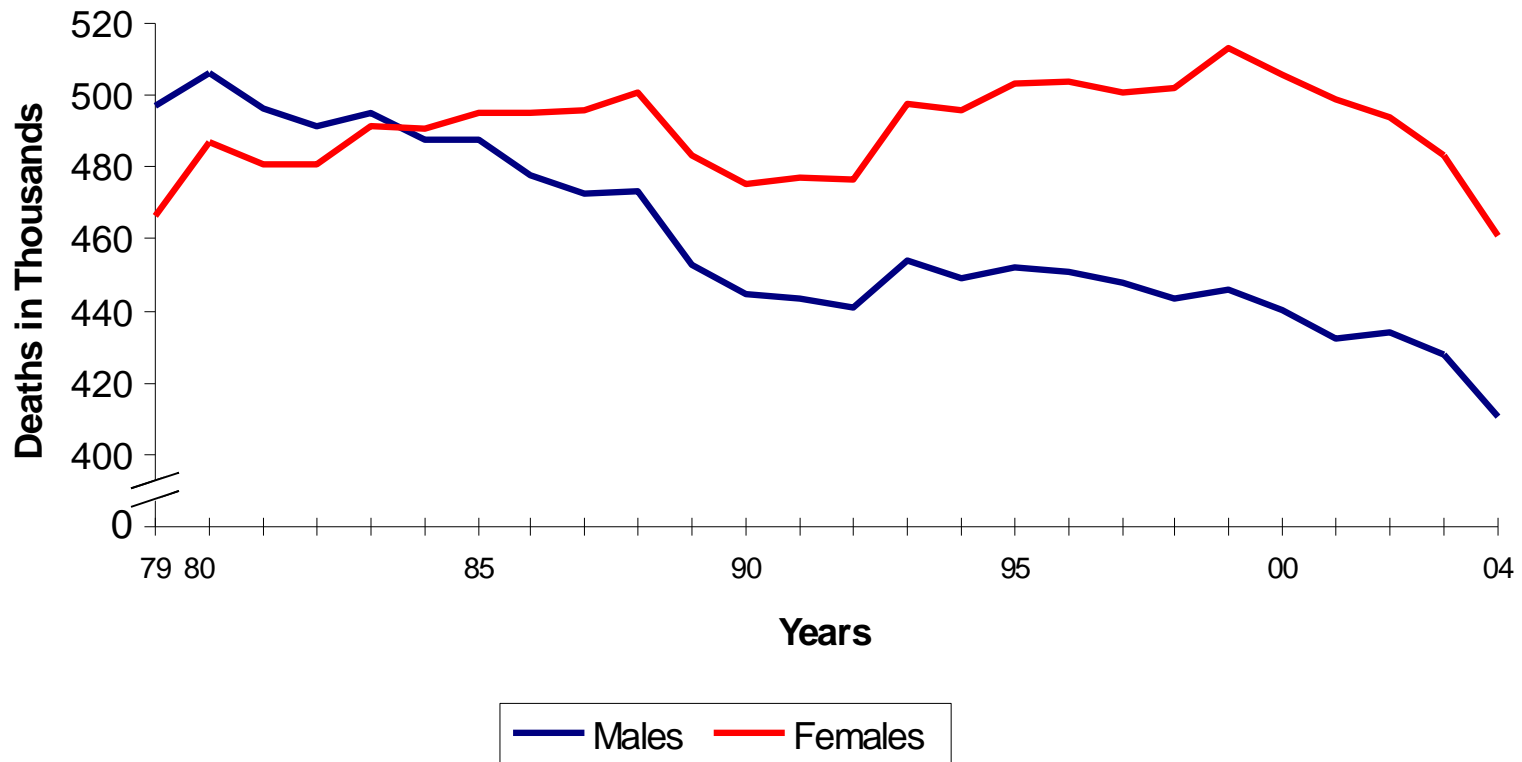
Male individuals



Female individuals



Cardiovascular Disease Mortality Trends for Women and Men United States: 1979-2004



Striking sex and gender **disparities** in CVD

Epidemiology

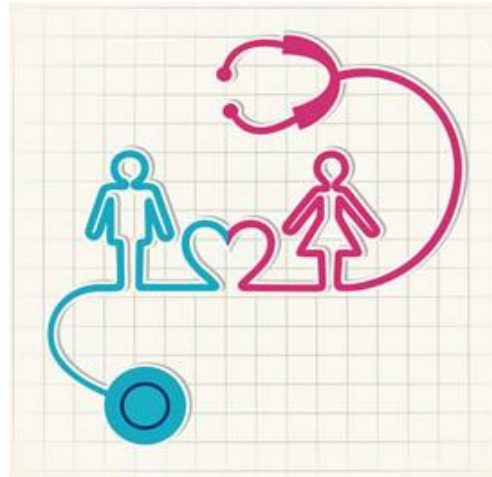
Pathophysiology

- Risk factor profile

Disease
Progression
and Outcome

Clinical Manifestation

- Presentation
- Testing



Treatment

- Efficacy
- Side effects

Sex versus Gender

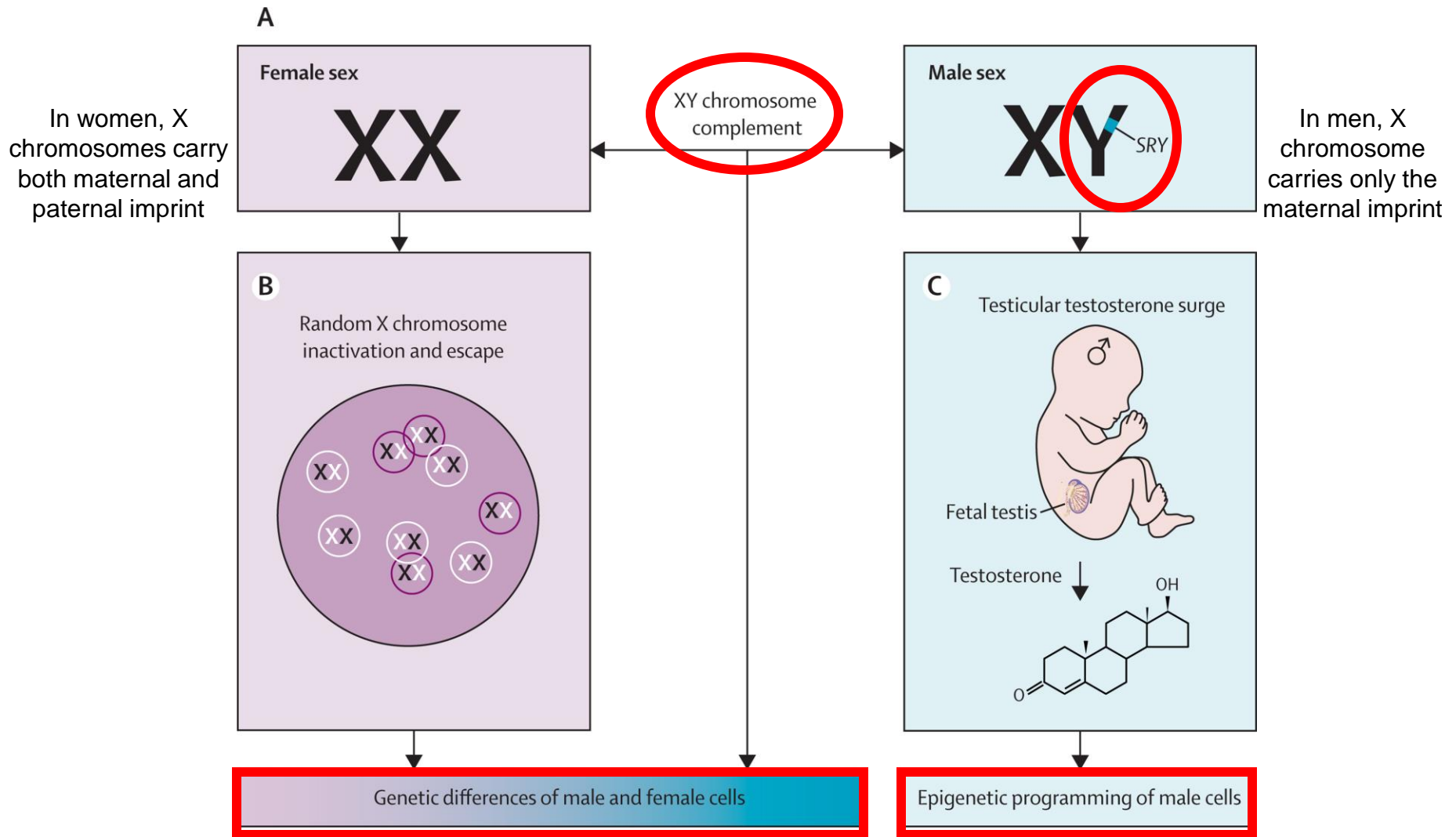
Sex

- Biological
- Given by Birth
- Therefore, CANNOT BE CHANGED

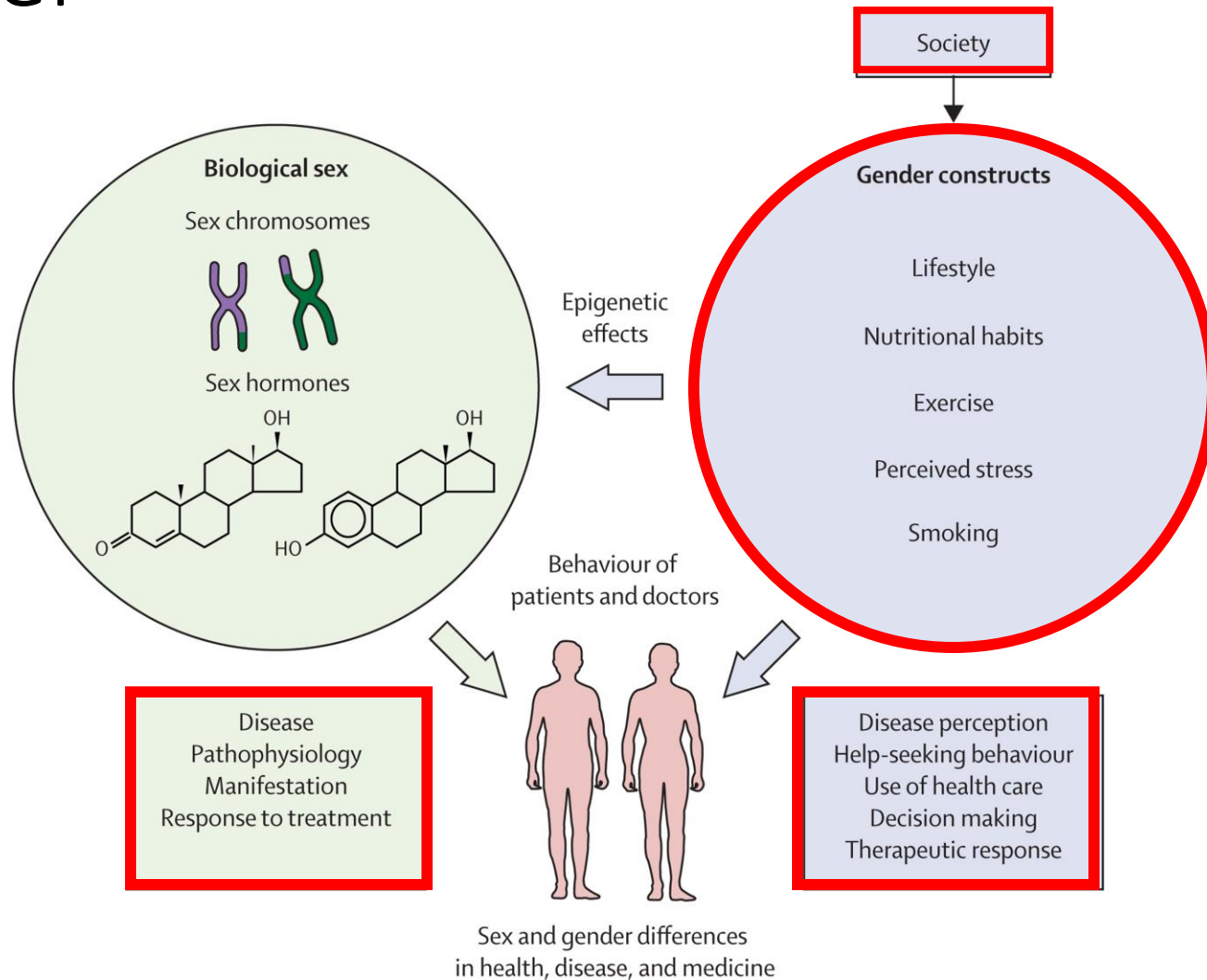
Gender

- Behavioural, psychological, emotional and cultural traits associated with one's sex
- Learned through socialization
- Therefore, CAN BE CHANGED

Sex differences, rooted in genetic differences, modifies disease via genetic, hormonal and epigenetics



Inter-relation between sex and gender



Striking sex and gender **disparities** in CVD

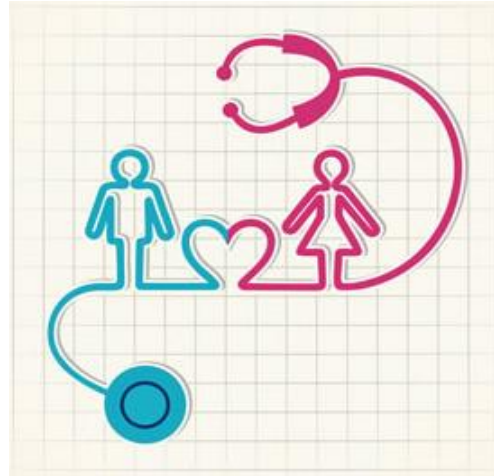
Epidemiology

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- Risk factor profile

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Disease
Progression
and Outcome

Treatment

- Efficacy
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Sex and Gender differences in CVD and DM

	Male Sex	Female Sex	Gender Differences, women
Heart Disease	Younger age; more obstructive CAD, more HFrEF	Older age, more coronary micro-vascular dysfunction, more HFpEF	Less evidence based treatment, higher MI mortality
Ischaemic Strokes	Younger age of onset	Older age onset, aspirin greater benefit	Untreated, poorer outcome
Type 2 DM	More frequent Impaired fasting glycaemia	More frequent IGTT, greater clustering of CV risk factors, higher prevalence of CV complications	Under-treatment of T2DM in women

Diabetes confers a greater risk for CVD events in women than men

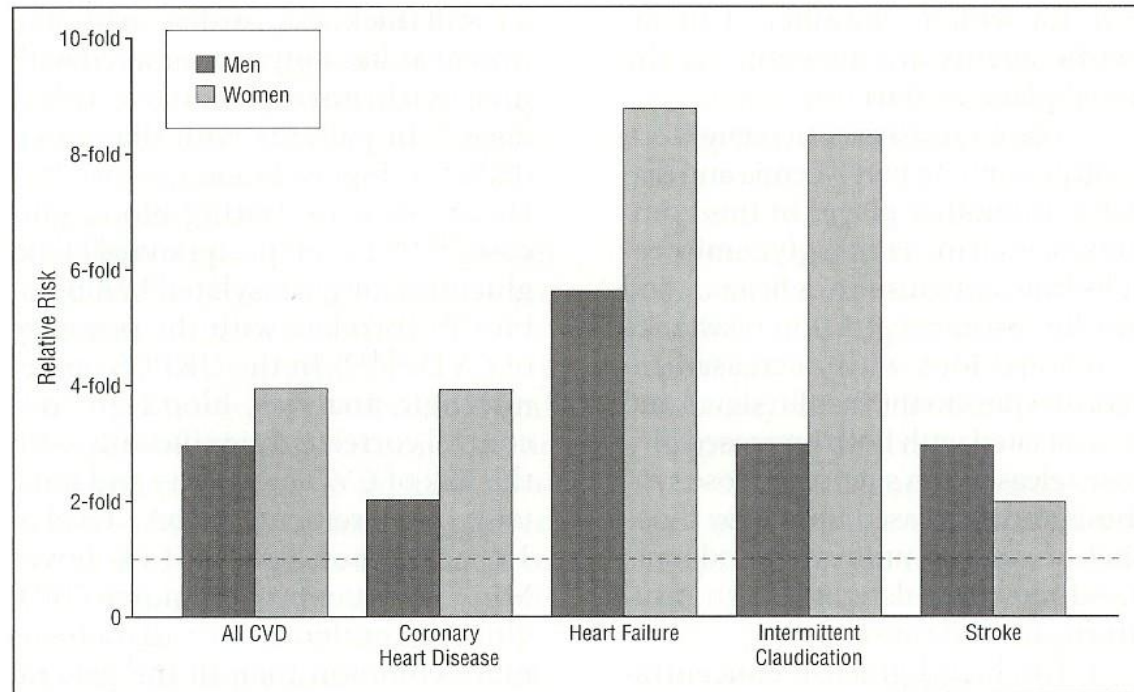


Figure 2. Relative risk of cardiovascular events in people with diabetes. Except for stroke, the relative risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD) associated with diabetes is greater for women than for men. The dashed line represents a relative risk of 1 (ie, the relative risk expected of a control group). Adapted from Wilson and Kannel⁶ (1992), with permission.

AHA Scientific Statement

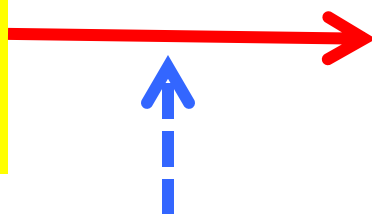
Sex Differences in the Cardiovascular Consequences of Diabetes Mellitus

A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association

Judith G. Regensteiner, PhD, FAHA, Co-Chair; Sherita Golden, MD, MHS, FAHA, Co-Chair;
Amy G. Huebschmann, MD, MSc; Elizabeth Barrett-Connor, MD, FAHA;
Alice Y. Chang, MD, MSc; Deborah Chyun, PhD, RN, FAHA; Caroline S. Fox,* MD, FAHA;
Catherine Kim, MD, MPH; Nehal Mehta, MD, MSCE; Jane F. Reckelhoff, PhD, FAHA;
Jane E.B. Reusch, MD; Kathryn M. Rexrode, MD, MPH; Anne E. Sumner, MD, FAHA;
Francine K. Welty, MD, FAHA; Nanette K. Wenger, MD, FAHA; Blair Anton, MLIS, MS, AHIP;
on behalf of the American Heart Association Diabetes Committee of the Council on Lifestyle and
Cardiometabolic Health, Council on Epidemiology and Prevention, Council on Functional Genomics
and Translational Biology, and Council on Hypertension

Striking sex and gender **disparities** in **CV Consequences of Diabetes Mellitus**

Diabetes
Mellitus



CV
Complications



Sex differences


- Impact of sex hormones
- **CV risk factors**
 - **Gestational diabetes, PCOS**
- Lifestyle
- Treatment

Although non-T2DM women have fewer MI events than non-T2DM men of the same age, this **advantage is lost in the context of T2DM**

Previous meta-analysis have shown sex specific association with MI risk but needed adjustment for confounders

RESEARCH

 OPEN ACCESS

 Check for updates

Sex differences in risk factors for myocardial infarction: cohort study of UK Biobank participants

Elizabeth R C Millett,¹ Sanne A E Peters,^{1,2} Mark Woodward^{1,3,4}

¹The George Institute for Global Health, University of Oxford, Oxford OX1 2BQ, UK

²Julius Center for Health Sciences and Primary Care, University Medical Center

ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVES

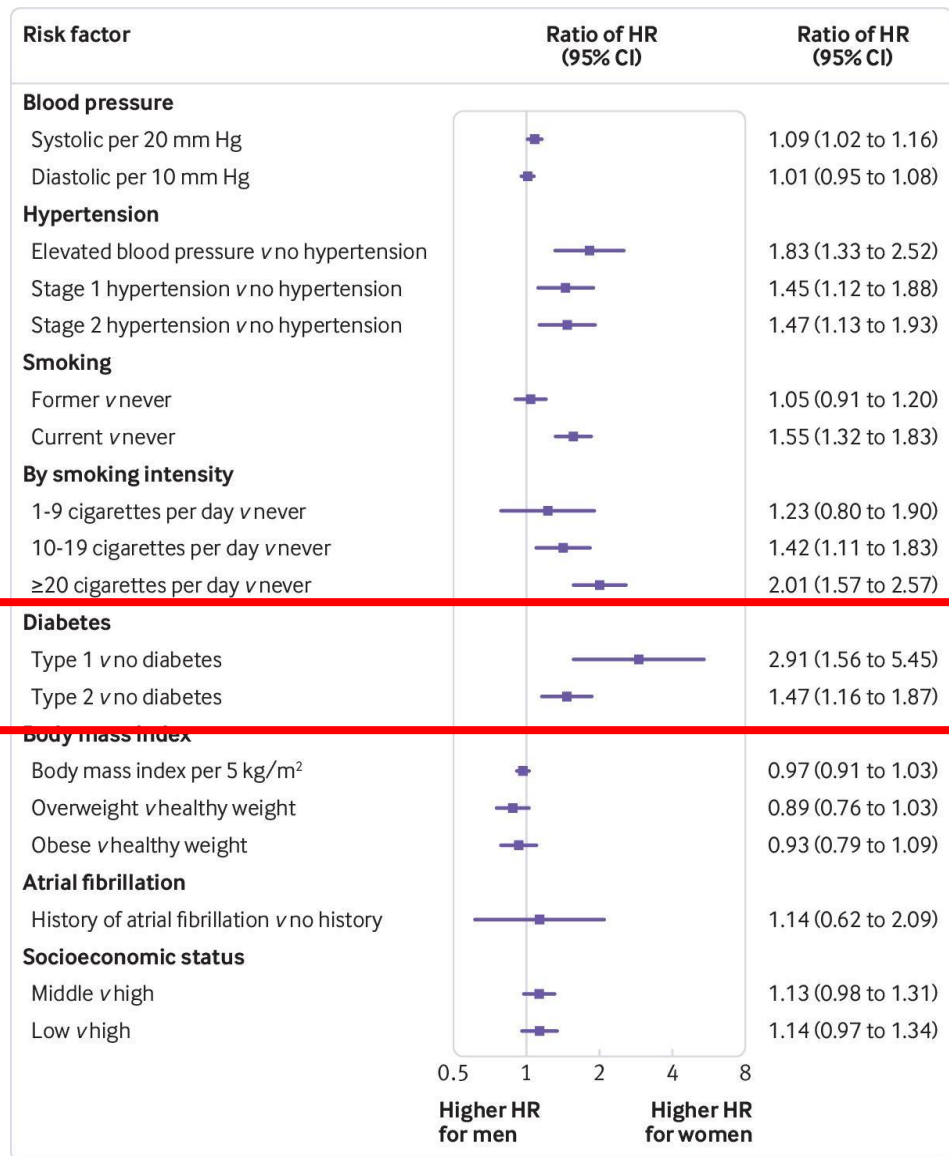
To investigate sex differences in risk factors for incident myocardial infarction (MI) and whether they vary with age.

CONCLUSIONS

Although the incidence of MI was higher in men than in women, several risk factors were more strongly associated with MI in women compared with men. Sex specific associations between risk factors and MI

Millet ER et al. BMJ 2018

Diabetes mellitus was associated with greater risk for incident MI in Women



HR 2.91 (T1DM)
HR 1.47 (T2DM)

REVIEW

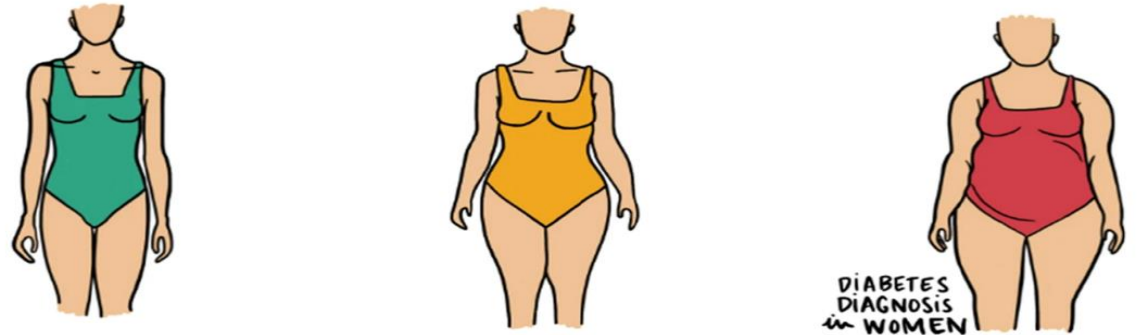
Open Access

Sex differences in the risk of vascular disease associated with diabetes



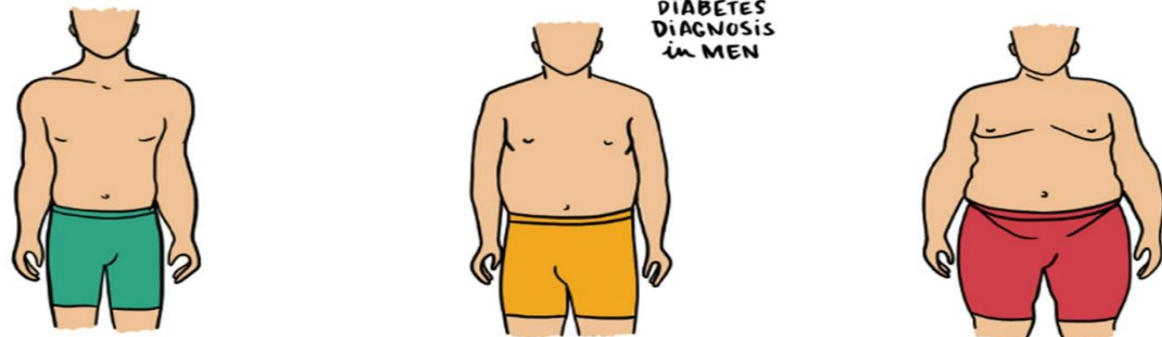
Rianneke de Ritter^{1,2†}, Marit de Jong^{3†}, Rimke C. Vos^{3,4}, Carla J. H. van der Kallen^{1,2}, Simone J. S. Sep^{1,2}, Mark Woodward^{5,6,7}, Coen D. A. Stehouwer^{1,2}, Michiel L. Bots³ and Sanne A. E. Peters^{3,5*}

Metabolic risk factors in women has to deteriorate to a **GREATER** magnitude to develop diabetes



DIABETES DIAGNOSIS in WOMEN

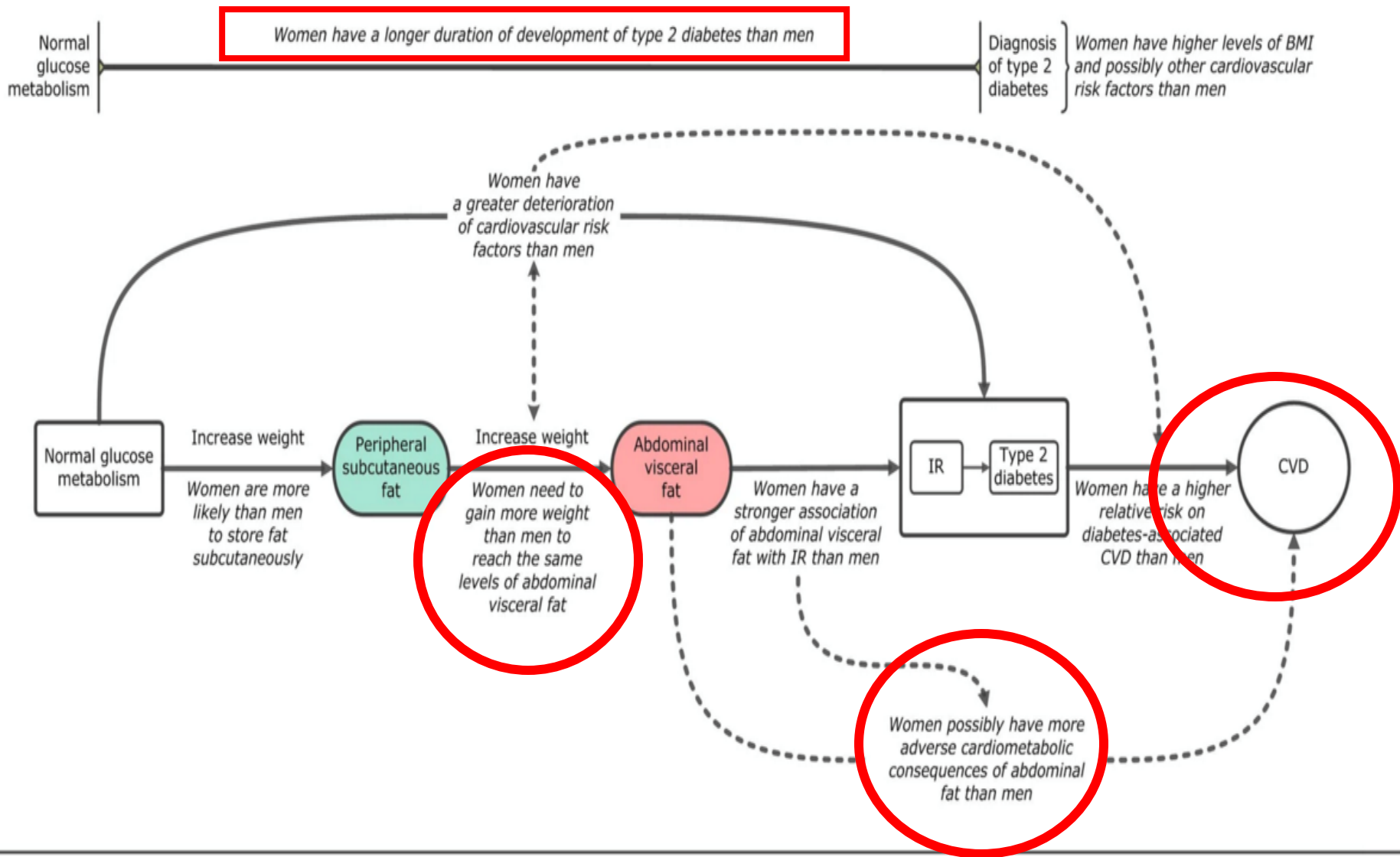
Pre-diabetes period: 8.5 yrs in Men and 10.3 years in women



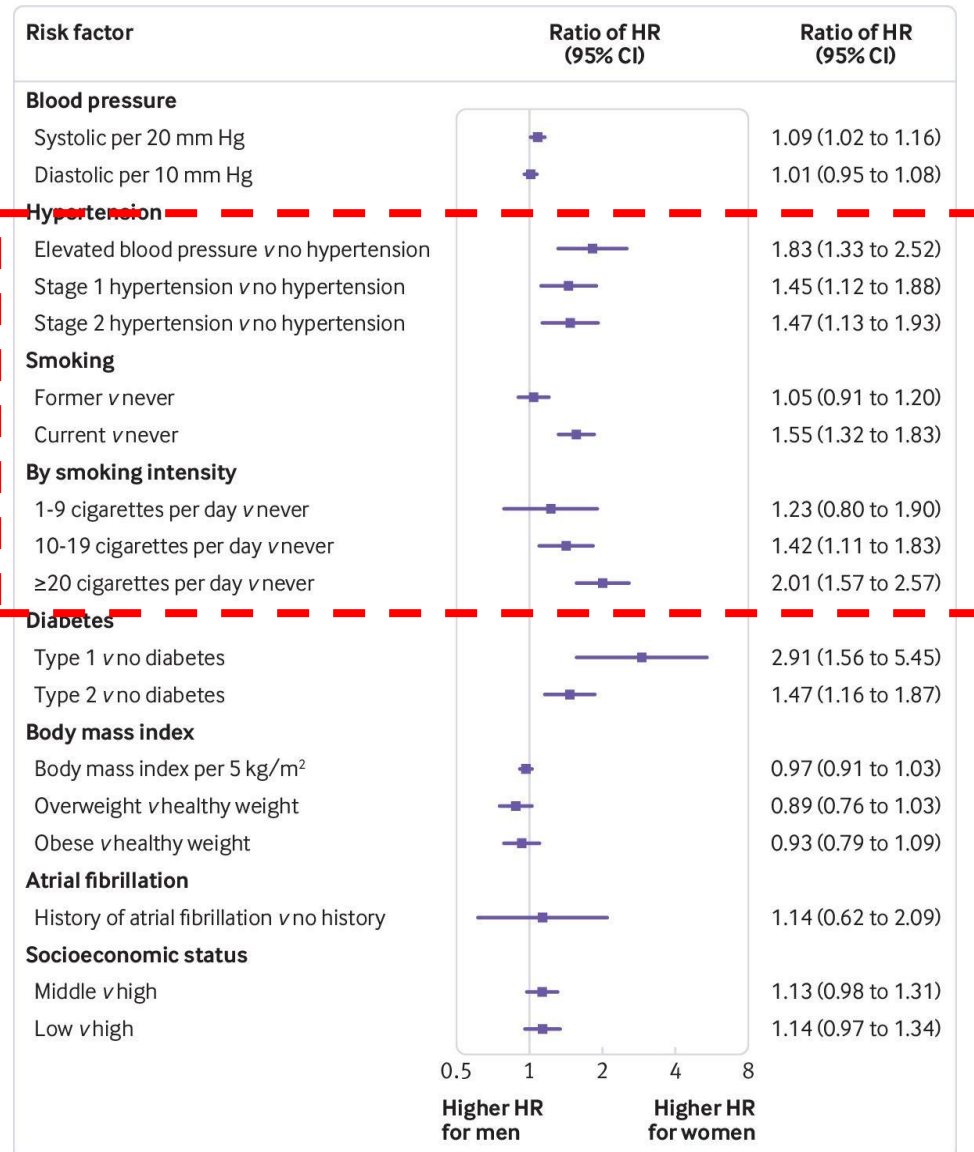
DIABETES DIAGNOSIS in MEN

Sex differences in visceral and subcutaneous fat and their association with the time of diagnosis of diabetes

Sex differences in adiposity in association with diabetes and cardiovascular disease; women versus men

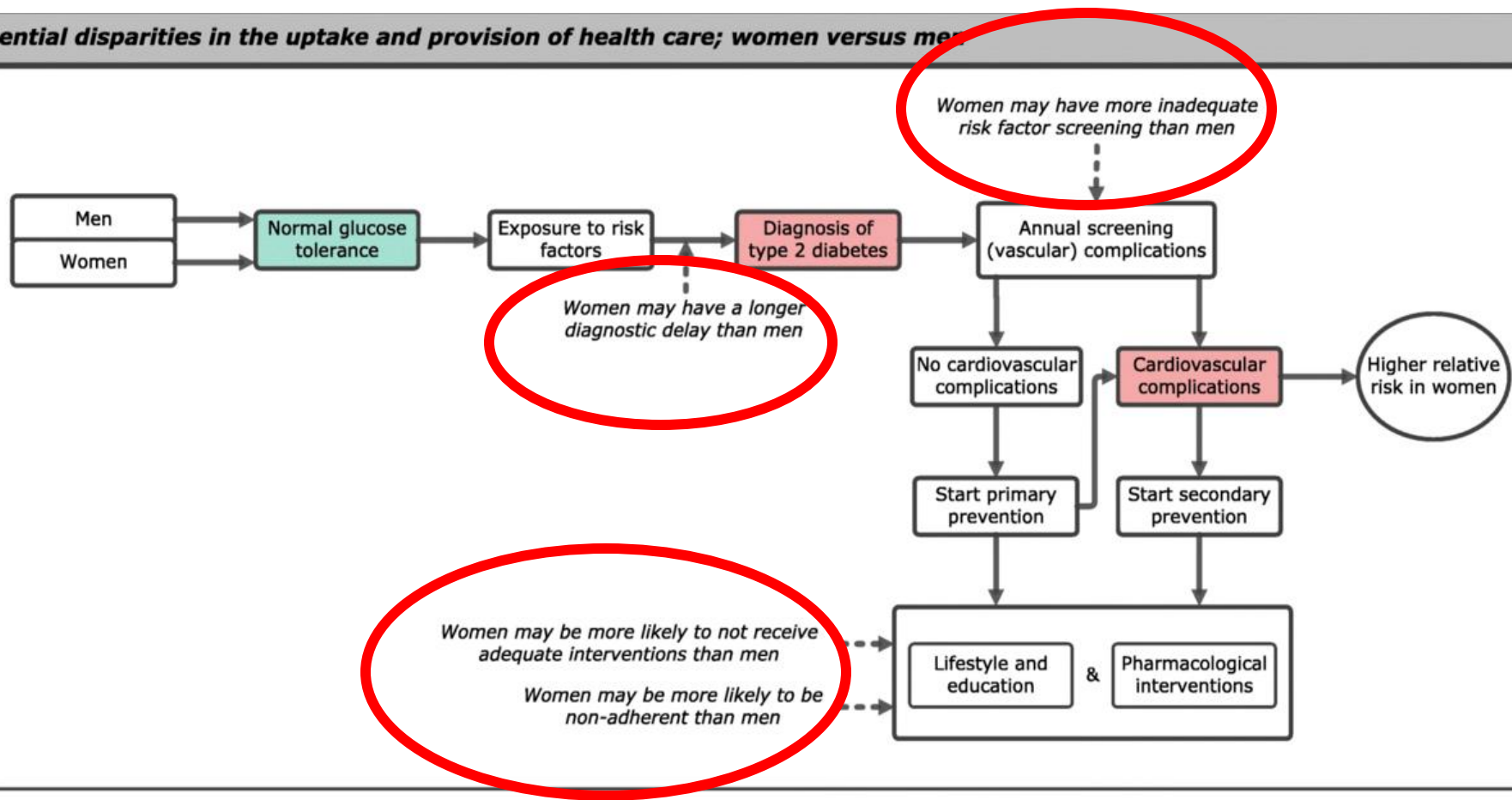


CV risk factors (BP, smoking) was associated with greater MI risk in Women



CV complication of T2DM in Women: Disparities in uptake and provision of healthcare

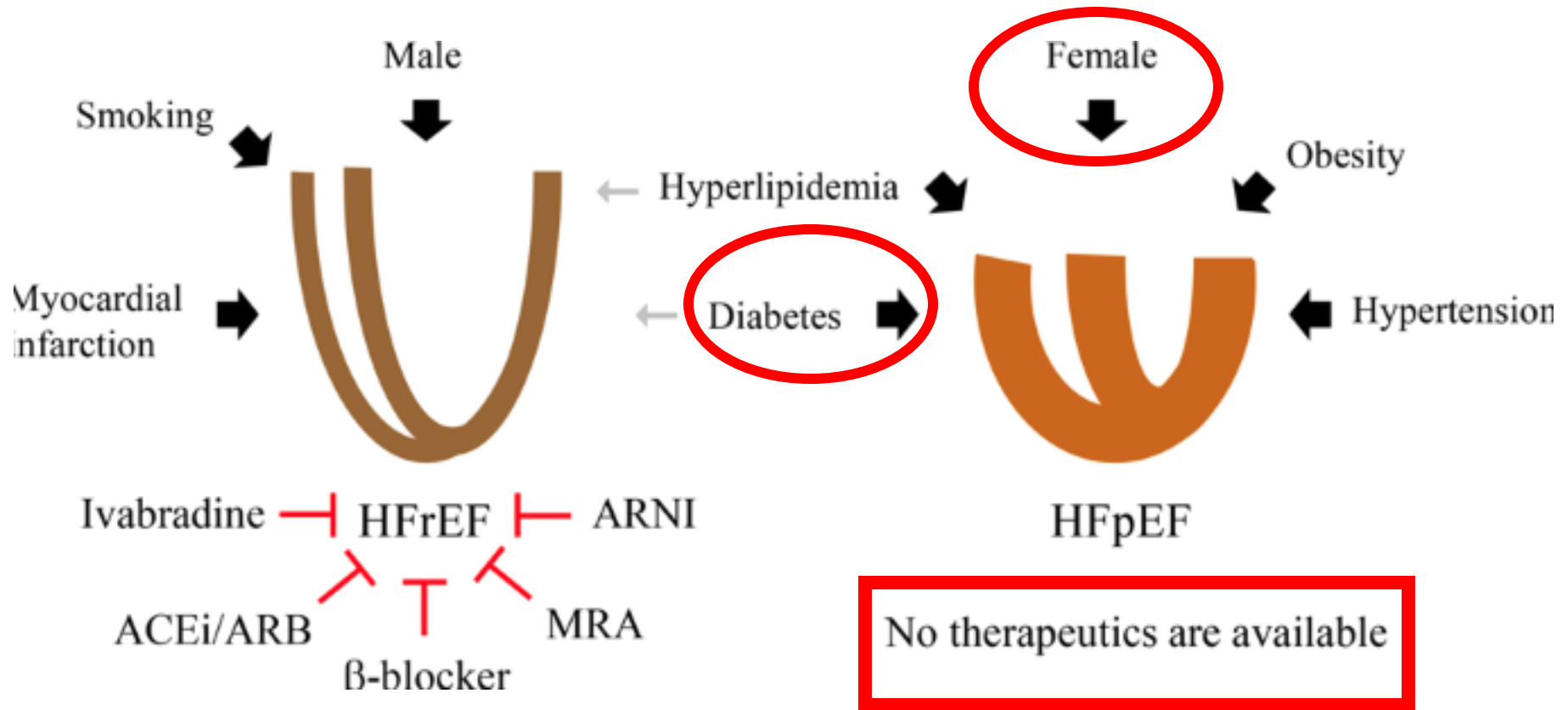
Potential disparities in the uptake and provision of health care; women versus men



Sex and Gender differences in CVD and DM

	Male Sex	Female Sex	Gender Differences, women
Heart Disease	Younger age; more obstructive CAD, more HFrEF	Older age, more coronary micro-vascular dysfunction, more HFpEF	Less evidence based treatment, higher MI mortality
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Type 2 DM	More frequent Impaired fasting glycaemia	More frequent IGTT, greater clustering of CV risk factors, higher prevalence of CV complications	Under-treatment of T2DM in women

HF reduced EF versus HF preserved EF



Influence of co-morbidities in women on HFpEF

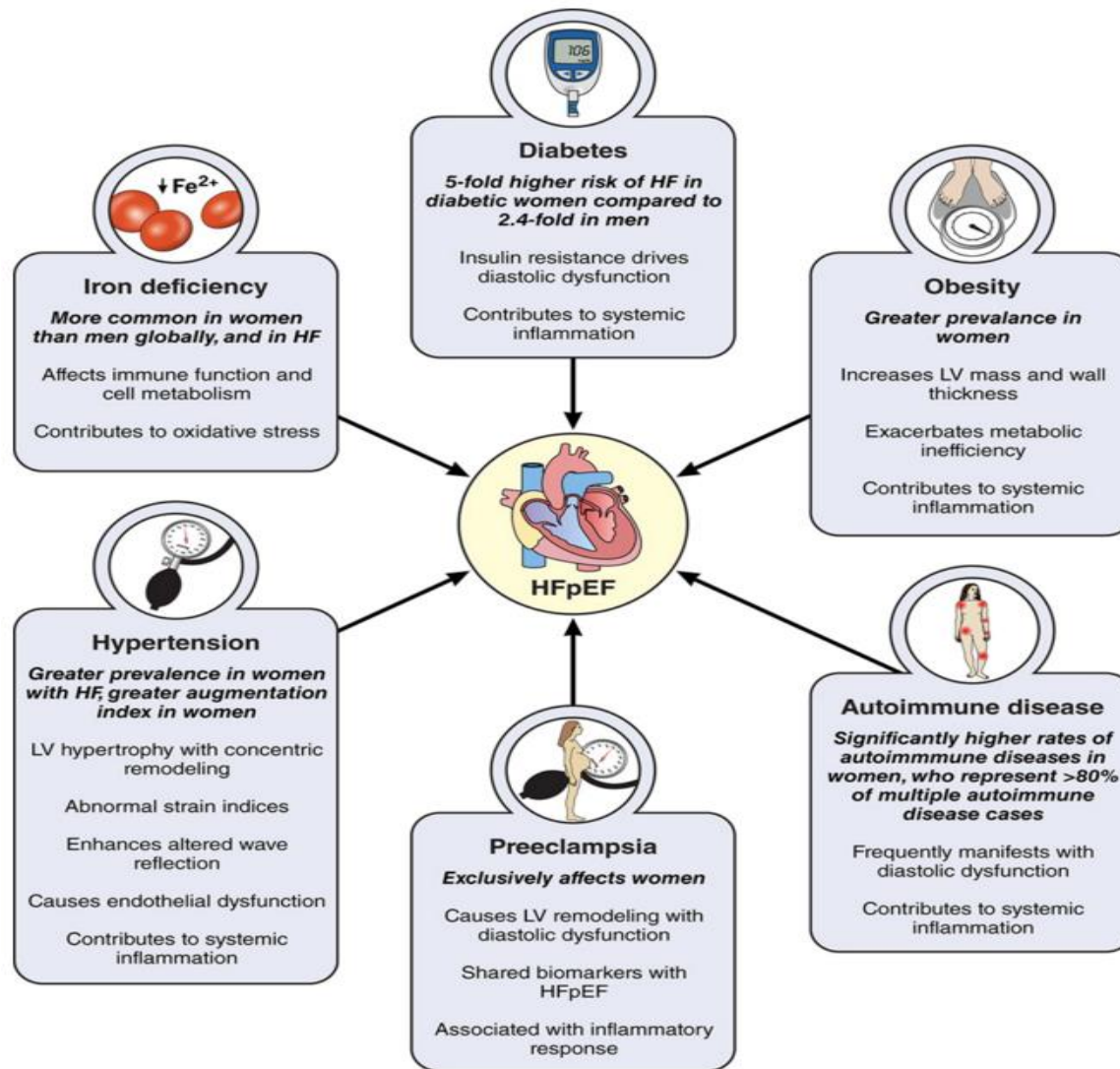
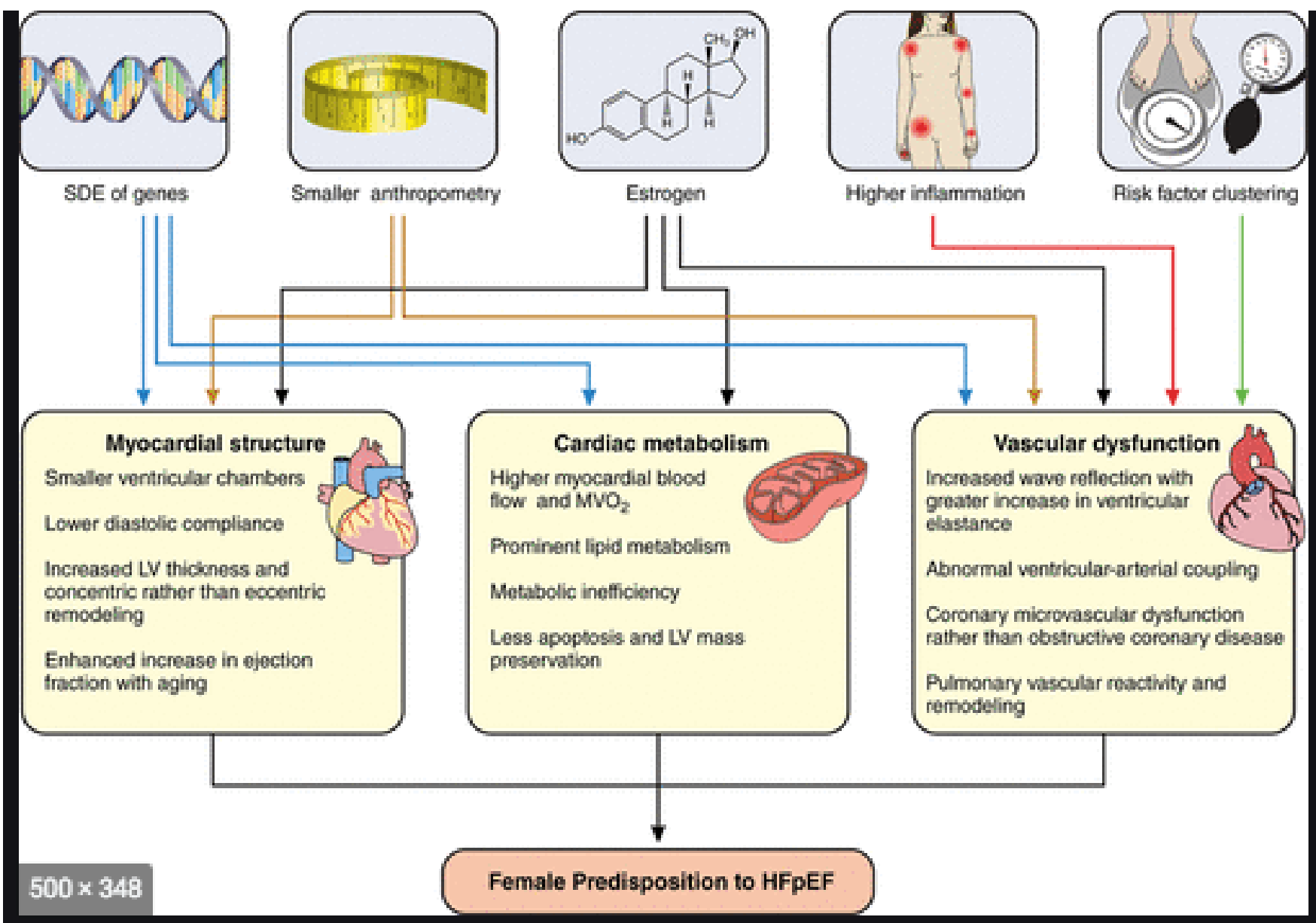


Figure 2. The influence of comorbidities on the development of HFpEF in women. Comorbidities including iron



500 x 348

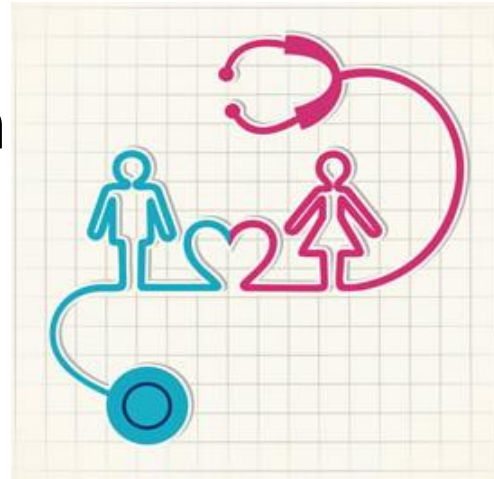
Striking sex and gender **disparities** in CVD

Epidemiology

Pathophysiology

- Risk factor profile

Disease
Progression
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Treatment

- Efficacy
- Side effects

Clinical Manifestation

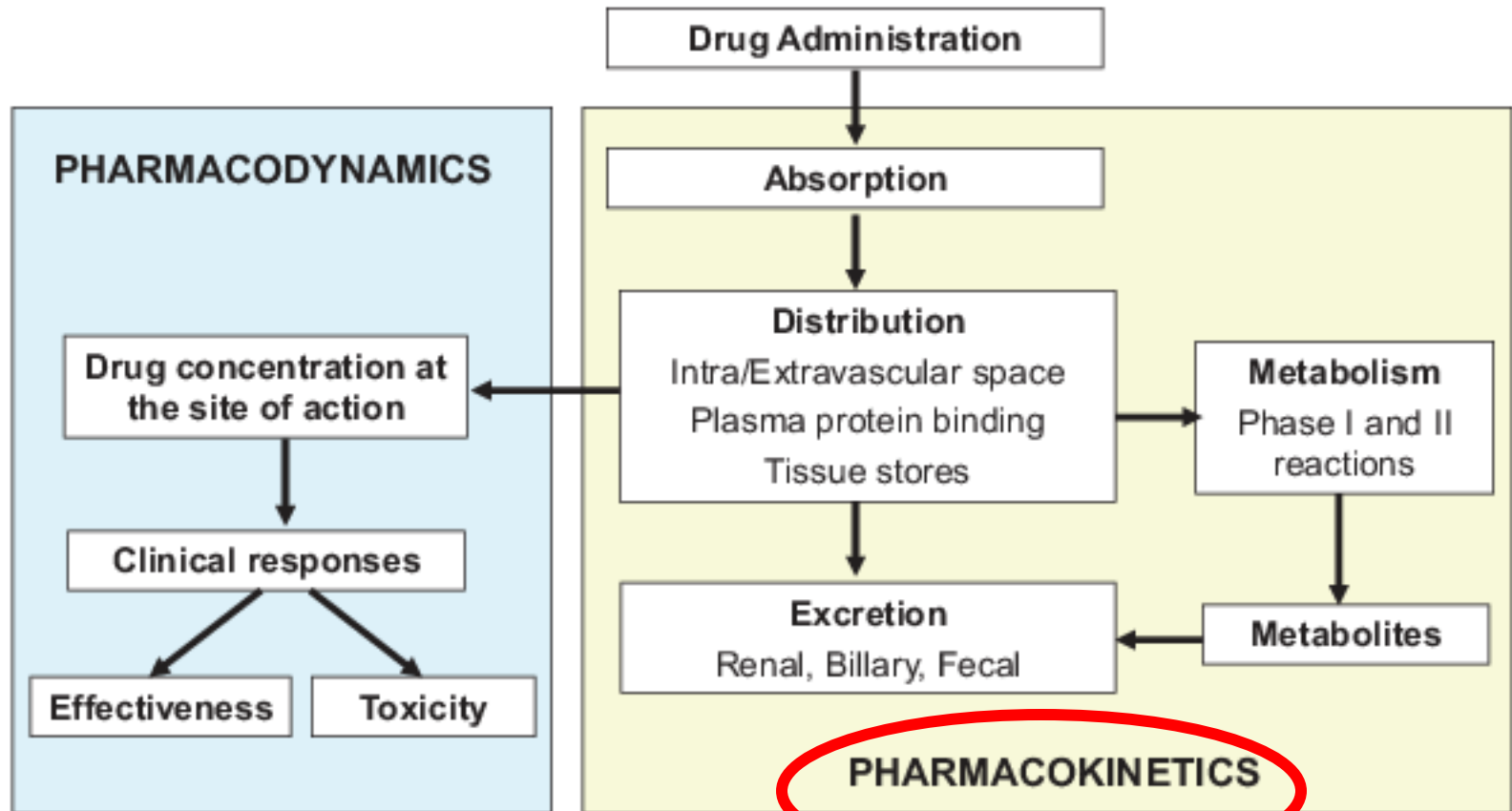
- Presentation
- Testing

Gender differences in the effect of cardiovascular drugs: a position document of the Working Group on Pharmacology and Drug Therapy of the ESC

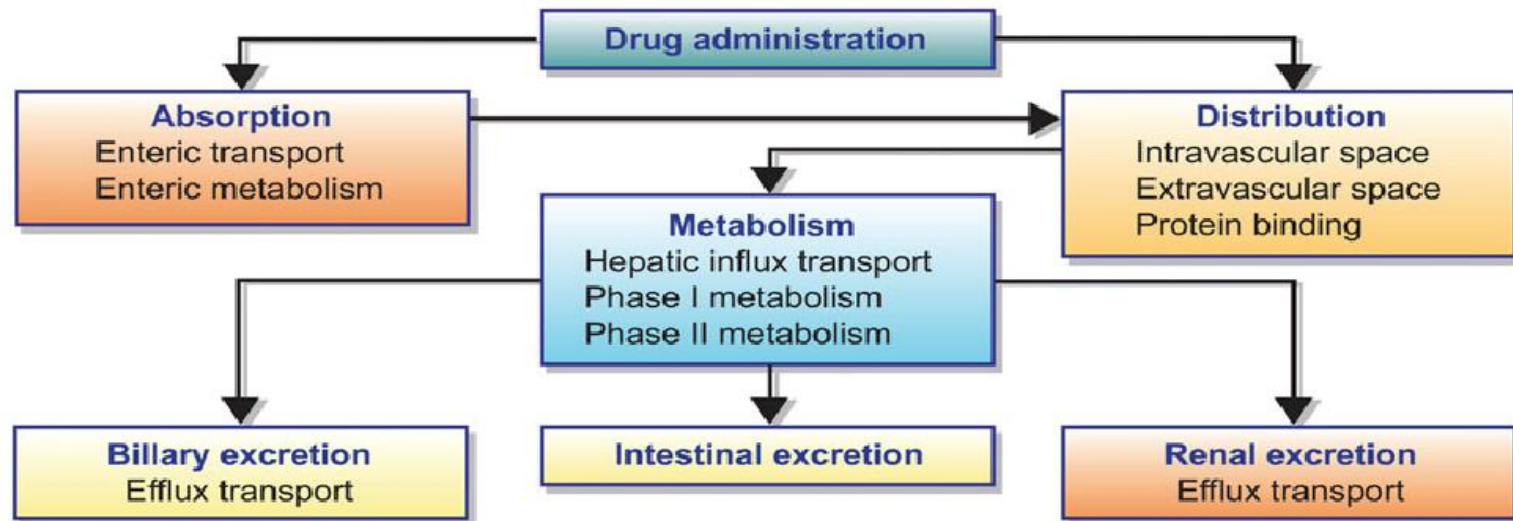
**Giuseppe M.C. Rosano^{1,2*}, Basil Lewis³, Stefan Agewall⁴, Sven Wassmann⁵,
Cristiana Vitale¹, Harald Schmidt⁶, Heinz Drexel⁷, Atul Patak⁸,
Christian Torp-Pedersen⁹, Keld Per Kjeldsen¹⁰, and Juan Tamargo¹¹**

¹Centre for Clinical and Basic Research, Department of Medical Sciences, IRCCS San Raffaele Pisana, Rome, Italy; ²Cardiovascular and Cell Sciences Research Institute, St George's University of London, UK; ³Lady Davis Carmel Medical Center, Ruth and Bruce Rappaport School of Medicine, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Tel Aviv, Israel; ⁴Oslo University Hospital Ullevål, and Institute of Clinical Sciences, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway; ⁵Department of Cardiology, Isar Heart Center, Isar Kliniken, Munich, Germany; ⁶Pharmacology, Universiteit Maastricht, 6200 MD Maastricht, Limburg, Netherlands; ⁷Vorarlberg Institute for Vascular Investigation and Treatment (VIVIT), Feldkirch, Austria; ⁸Department of Pharmacology, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Toulouse, Toulouse, France; ⁹Department of Cardiology, Copenhagen University Hospital, Hellerup, Denmark; ¹⁰Copenhagen University Hospital (Rigshospitalet) and Aalborg University, The Heart Centre, 2100 Copenhagen, Denmark; and ¹¹Department of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, Universidad Complutense, 28040 Madrid, Spain

Received 21 March 2014; revised 13 April 2015; accepted 21 April 2015; online publish-ahead-of-print 6 May 2015



Gender differences in Pharmacokinetics



Absorption:

- Slower GI motility and transit time
- Lower gastric acid secretion
- Less drug enzymes and transporters
- Lower absorption rates

Body composition:

- Lower BW, organ size and blood flow

Distribution:

- Greater body fat and lower body water content (Higher Vd for lipophilic drugs, Lower Vd for water-soluble drugs)
- Less α 1-acid glycoprotein
- Lower cardiac output

Excretion:

- Lower renal blood flow, glomerular filtration rate (GFR), tubular secretion and reabsorption
- Slower clearance of renally excreted drugs
- Longer elimination half-life

Other Factors:

- Differences in BW, cardiac output, plasma volume and regional blood flow

CYP Enzyme

1A2
2A6
2B6
2C9
2C19
2D6
3A4

Enzyme Activity

M > W
W > M
W > M
M = W
M = W
Mostly W > M
Mostly W > M

UDP-glucuronosyltransferases (UGTs)

M > W

Sulfotransferases

M > W

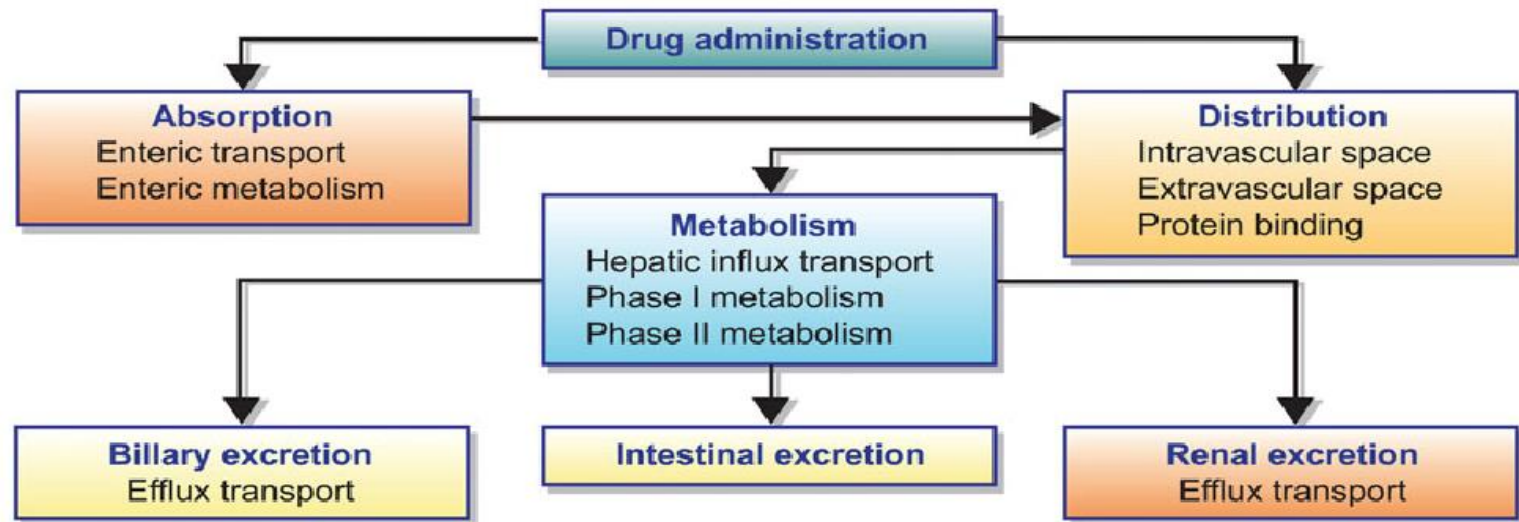
N-acetyltransferases

M < W

Methyltransferases

M > W

Gender differences in Pharmacokinetics



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CYP Enzyme	Enzyme Activity
1A2	M > W
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2B6	W > M
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2C19	M = W
2D6	Mostly W > M
3A4	Mostly W > M
UDP-glucuronosyltransferases (UGTs)	M > W
Sulfotransferases	M > W
N-acetyltransferases	M < W
Methyltransferases	M > W

Article

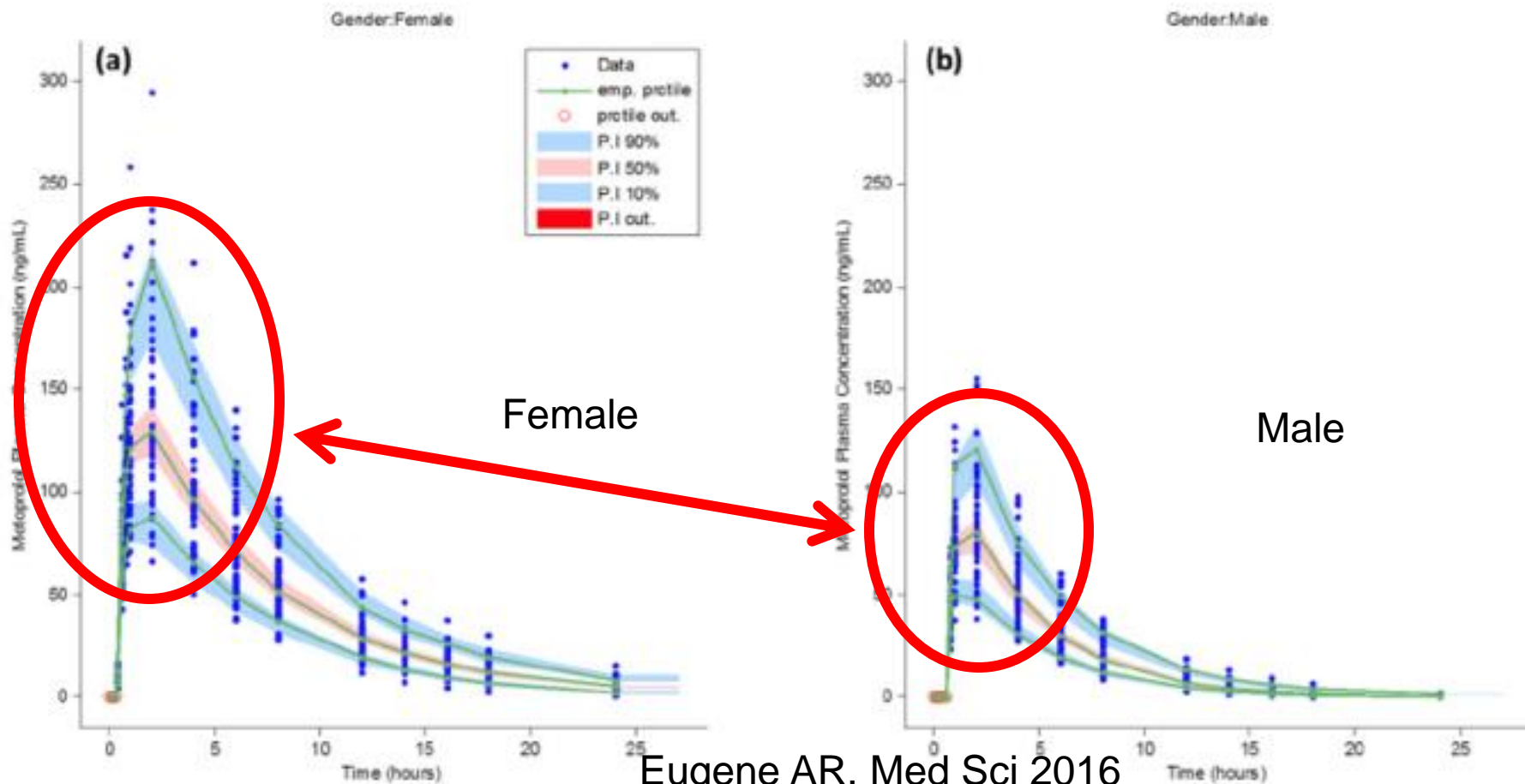
Metoprolol Dose Equivalence in Adult Men and Women Based on Gender Differences: Pharmacokinetic Modeling and Simulations

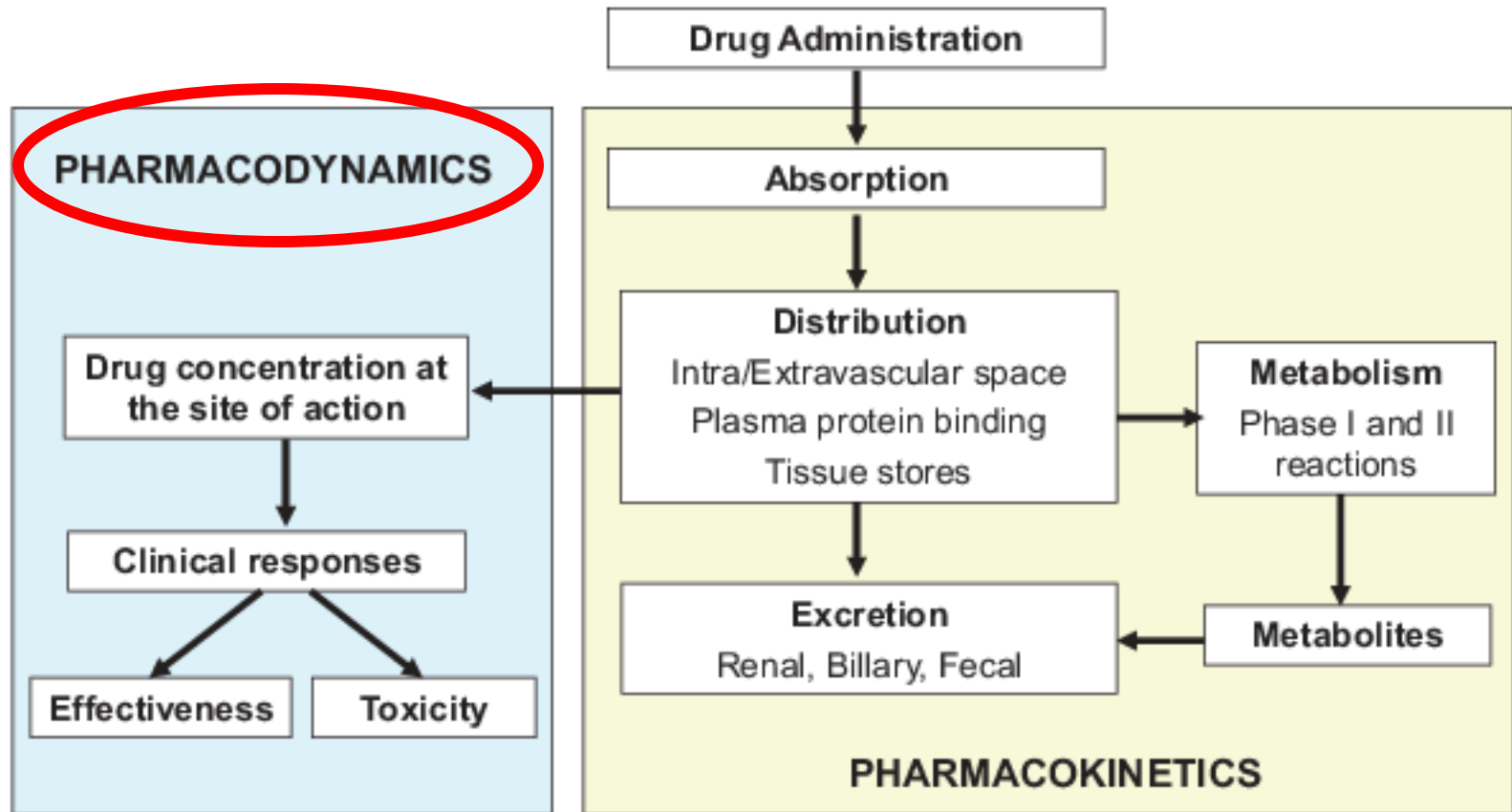
Andy R. Eugene

Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Gonda 19, Mayo Clinic, 200 First Street SW, Rochester, MN 55905, USA; eugene.andy@mayo.edu; Tel.: +1-507-284-2790

Table 1. One-compartment pharmacokinetic parameters for *R*- and *S*-metoprolol for young men and women.

	<i>S</i> -Metoprolol		<i>R</i> -Metoprolol	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
V (L): Volume of distribution	34.9	55.3	38.1	63.9
CL (L/h): Clearance Rate	101	253	120	316
Ka (h⁻¹): Absorption rate constant	0.161	0.241	0.165	0.234
Tlag (h): Absorption lag time	0.38	0.67	0.39	0.59





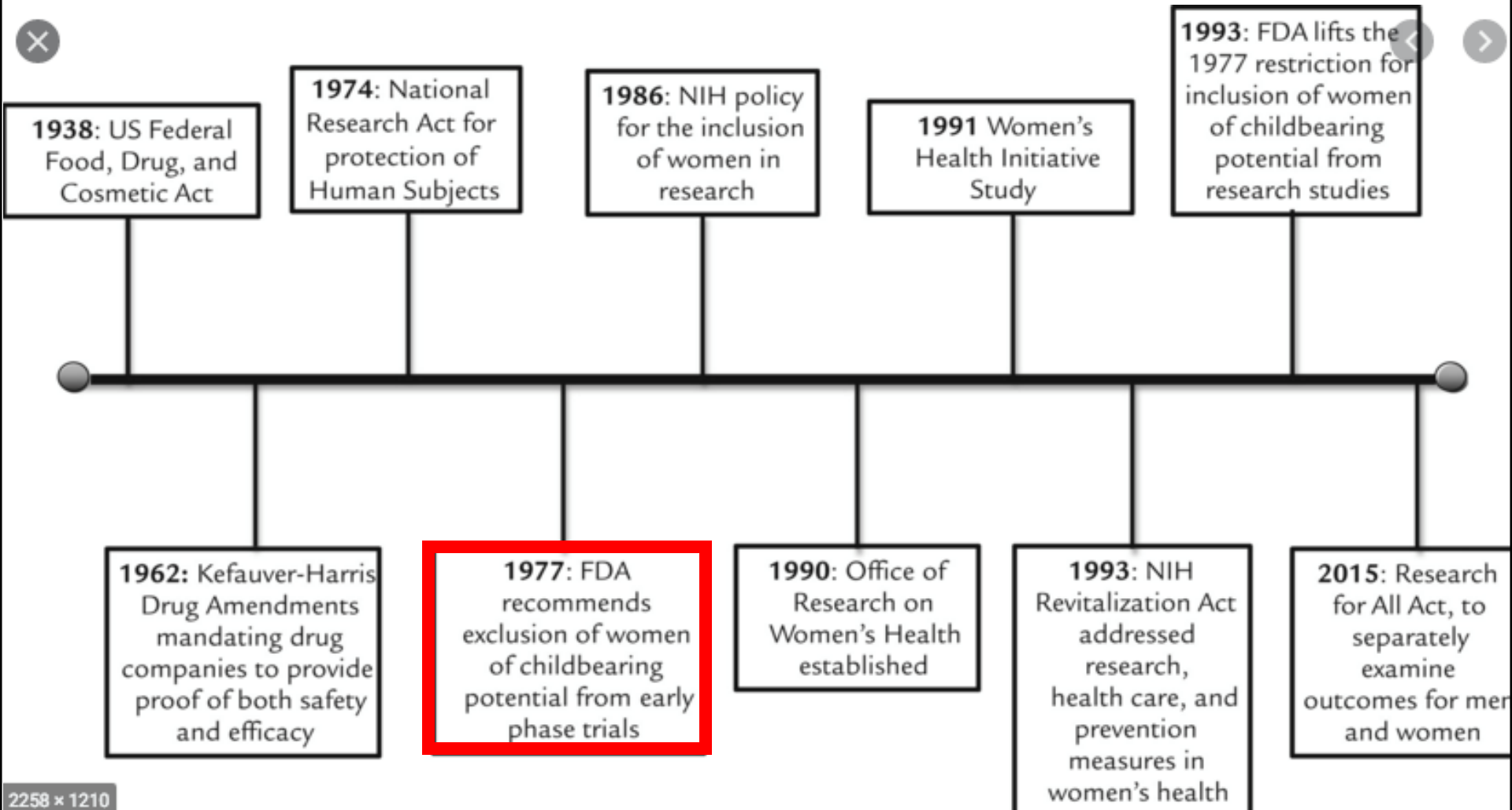
PD Differences less studied and difficult to quantify

Mainly retrospective analysis of clinical trials that have revealed gender differences

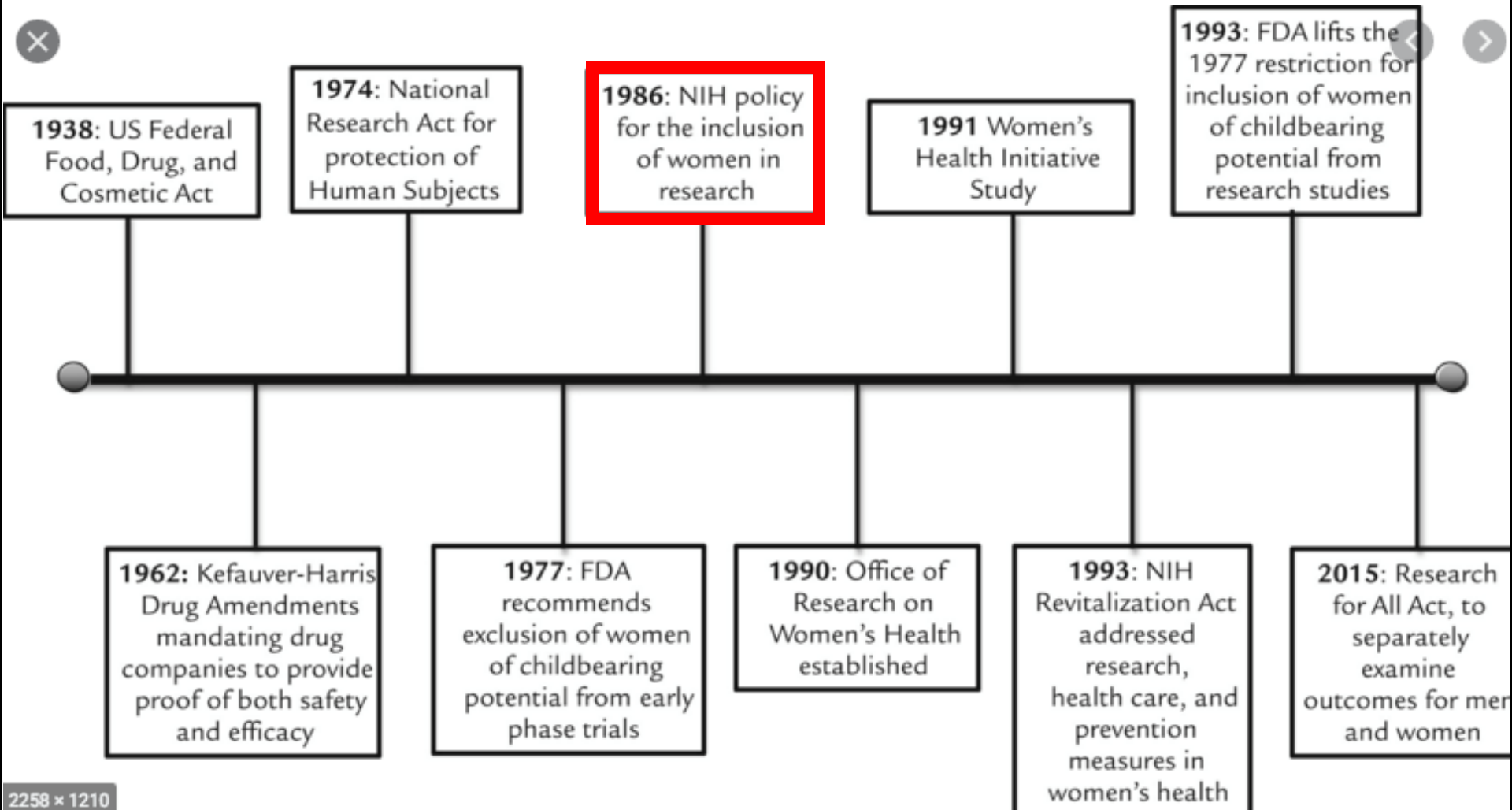
Gender differences in pharmacodynamics

- Difficult to quantify as it is little studied
- Sex-based biology and medical research has not been a priority
- Pre-clinical research and drug development studies have predominantly used male animal models and cells
- Historically, women of child bearing had been excluded from trials

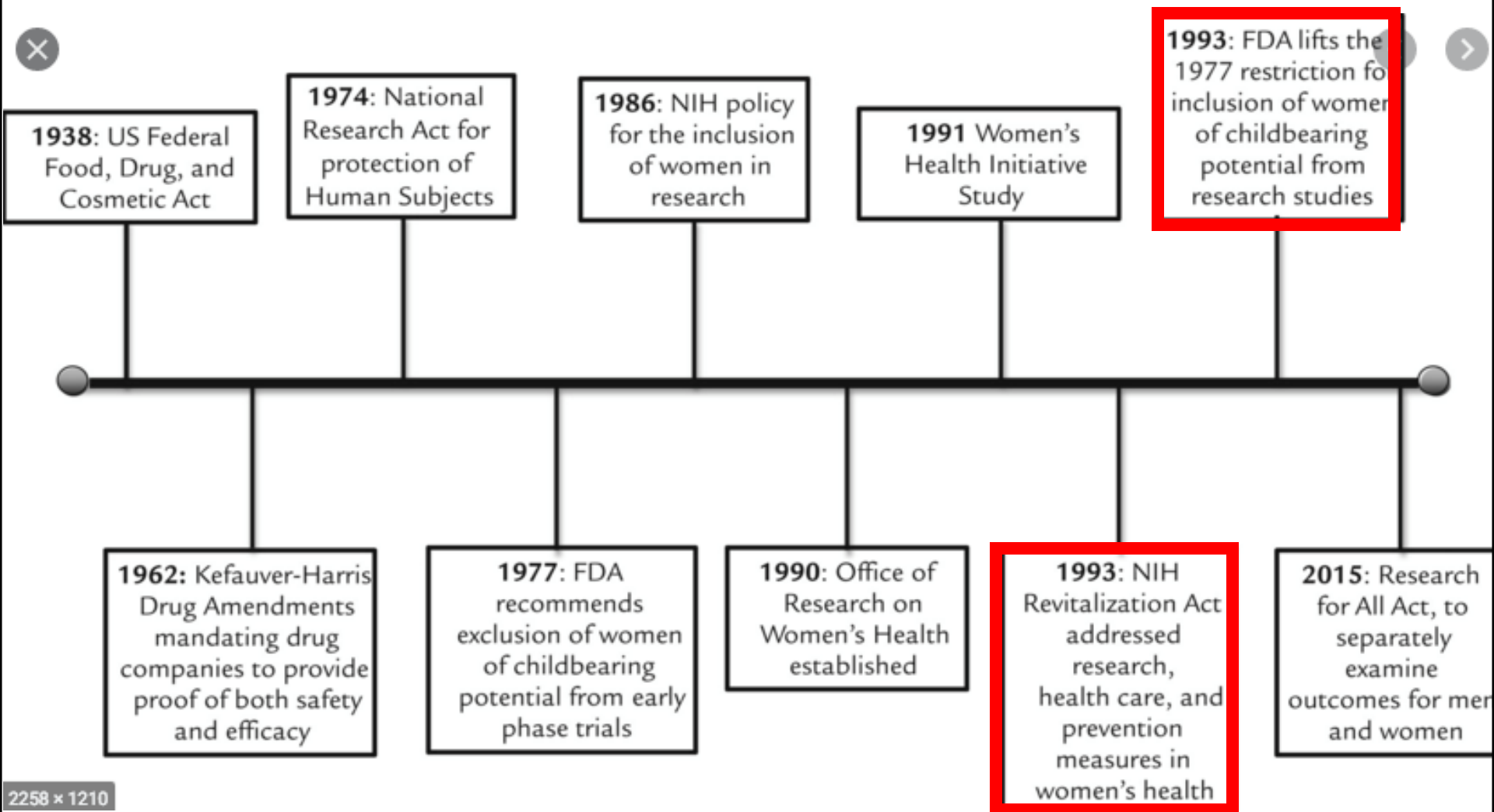
Recommendations and legislation of inclusion of women in clinical research



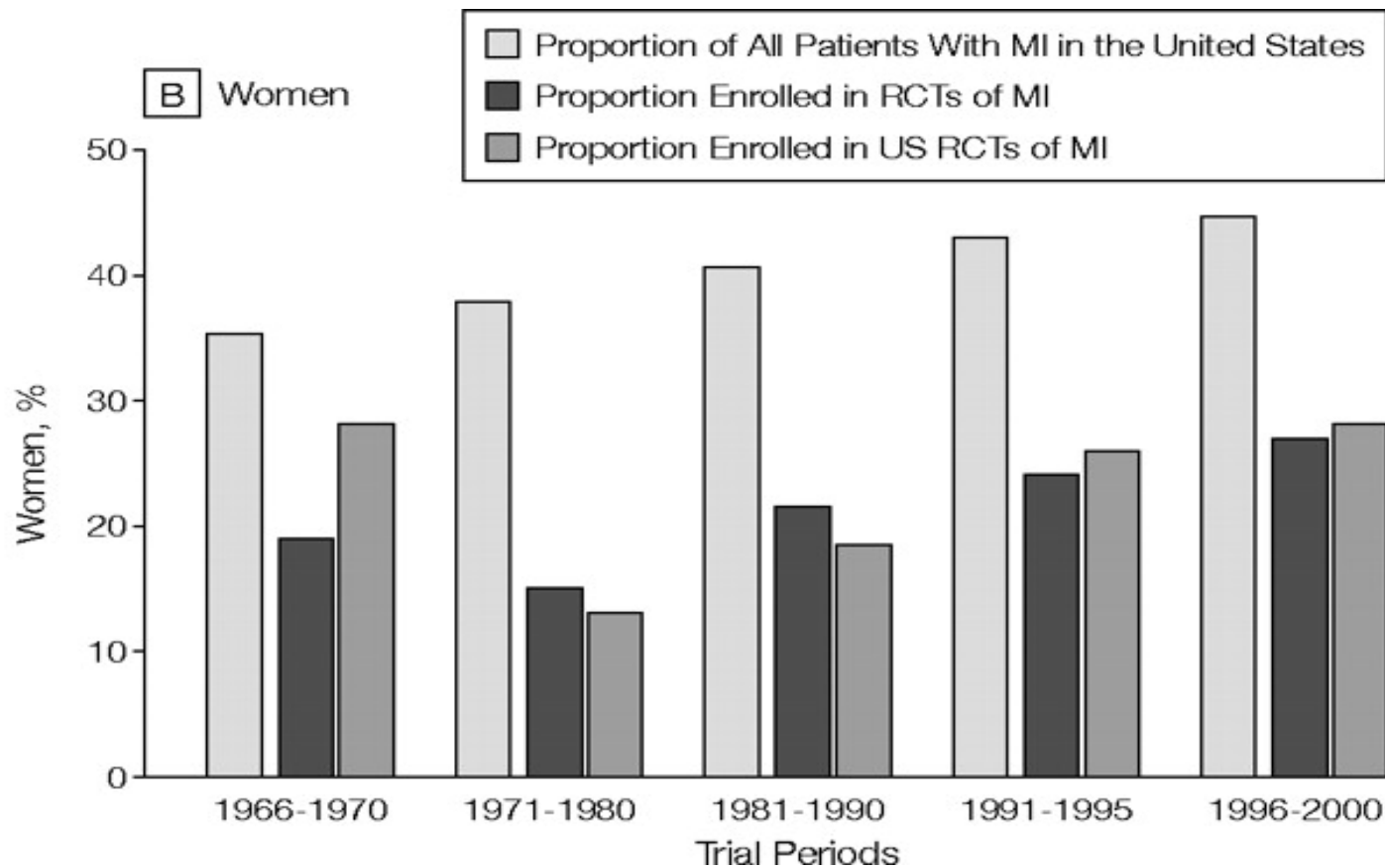
Recommendations and legislation of inclusion of women in clinical research



Recommendations and legislation of inclusion of women in clinical research



Under-representation of women in clinical trials



Drug safety's Blind Spot: Gender Differences

US General Accounting Office 2001 Report..'
Most drugs withdrawn had greater health risks in
Women'

The New York Times

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G.A.O. Report Finds Women Are Hurt by Withdrawn Drugs

By The Associated Press

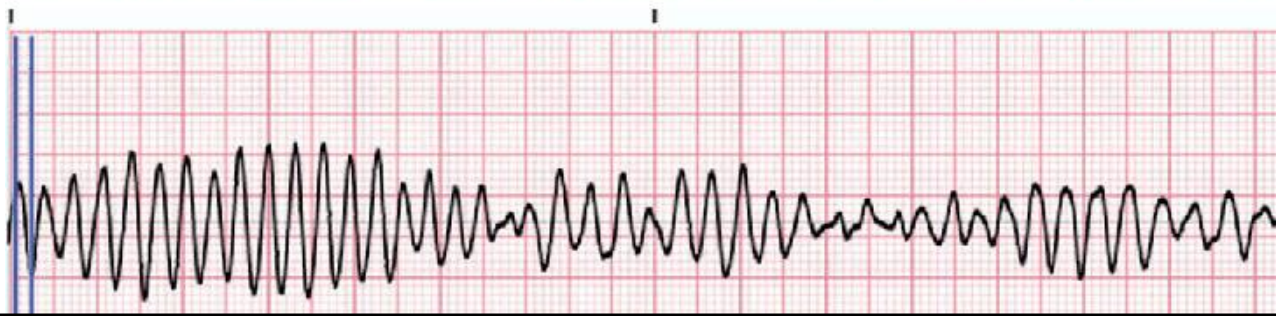
Feb. 9, 2001



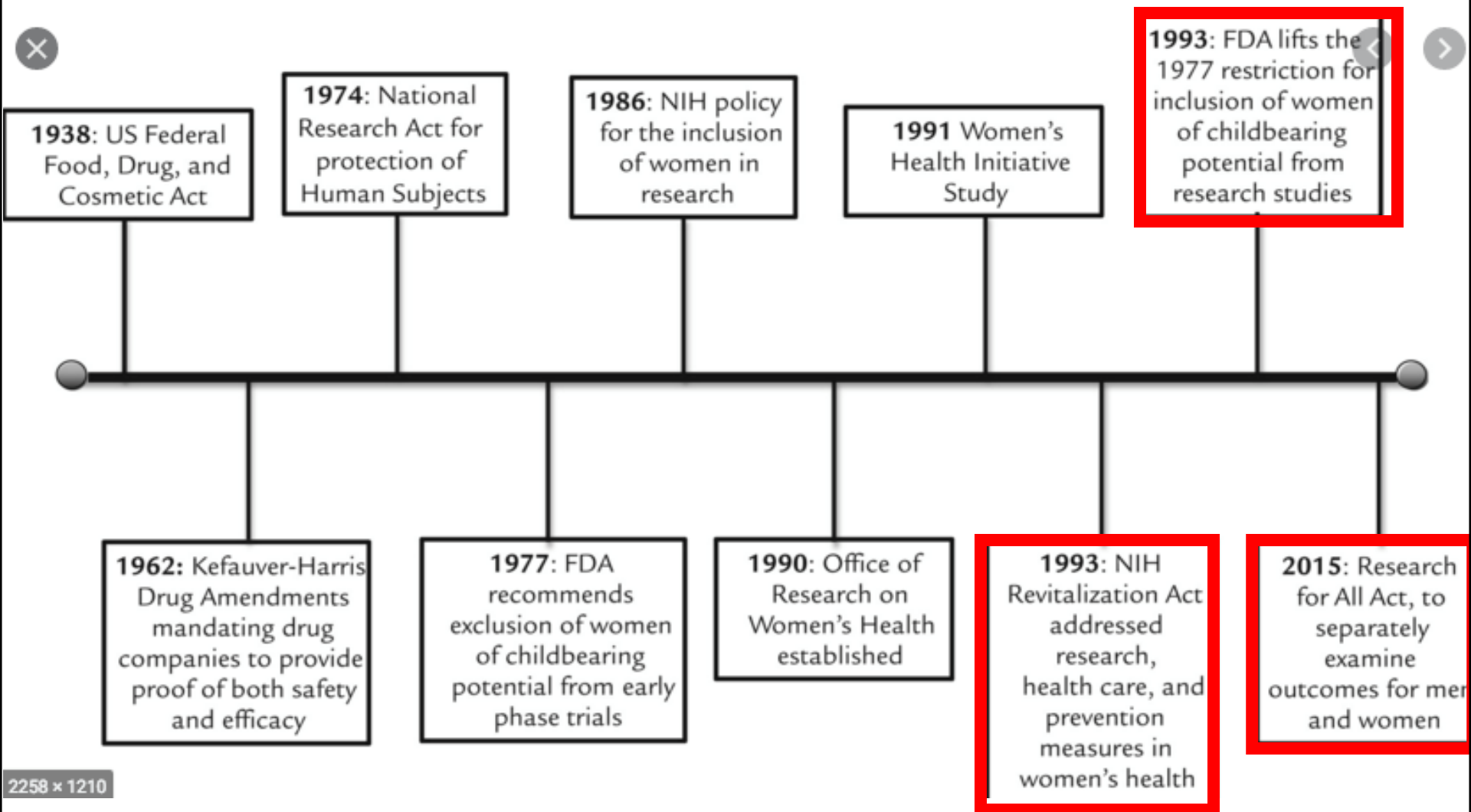
Gender differences in Adverse drug reactions

- ADRs tends to more common and more severe (requiring hospitalizations) in women
- Causes
 - Greater use of drugs (polypharmacy)
 - Gender differences in pharmacokinetics
 - Risk of drug-induced torsade des pointes
 - Women have longer QTc and are an independent risk factor for TdP
 - Sex-related differences in drug-induced QT prolongation hormones

Ventricular Tachycardia Torsade de Pointes - EKG Reference



Recommendations and legislation of inclusion of women in clinical research



Participation of Women in Clinical Trials Supporting FDA Approval of Cardiovascular Drugs



Pamela E. Scott, PhD, MA,^a Ellis F. Unger, MD,^b Marjorie R. Jenkins, MD, MEdHP,^a Mary Ross Southworth, PHARM.D,^b Tzu-Yun McDowell, PhD,^b Ruth J. Geller, MHS,^a Merina Elahi, BS,^a Robert J. Temple, MD,^b Janet Woodcock, MD^b

ABSTRACT

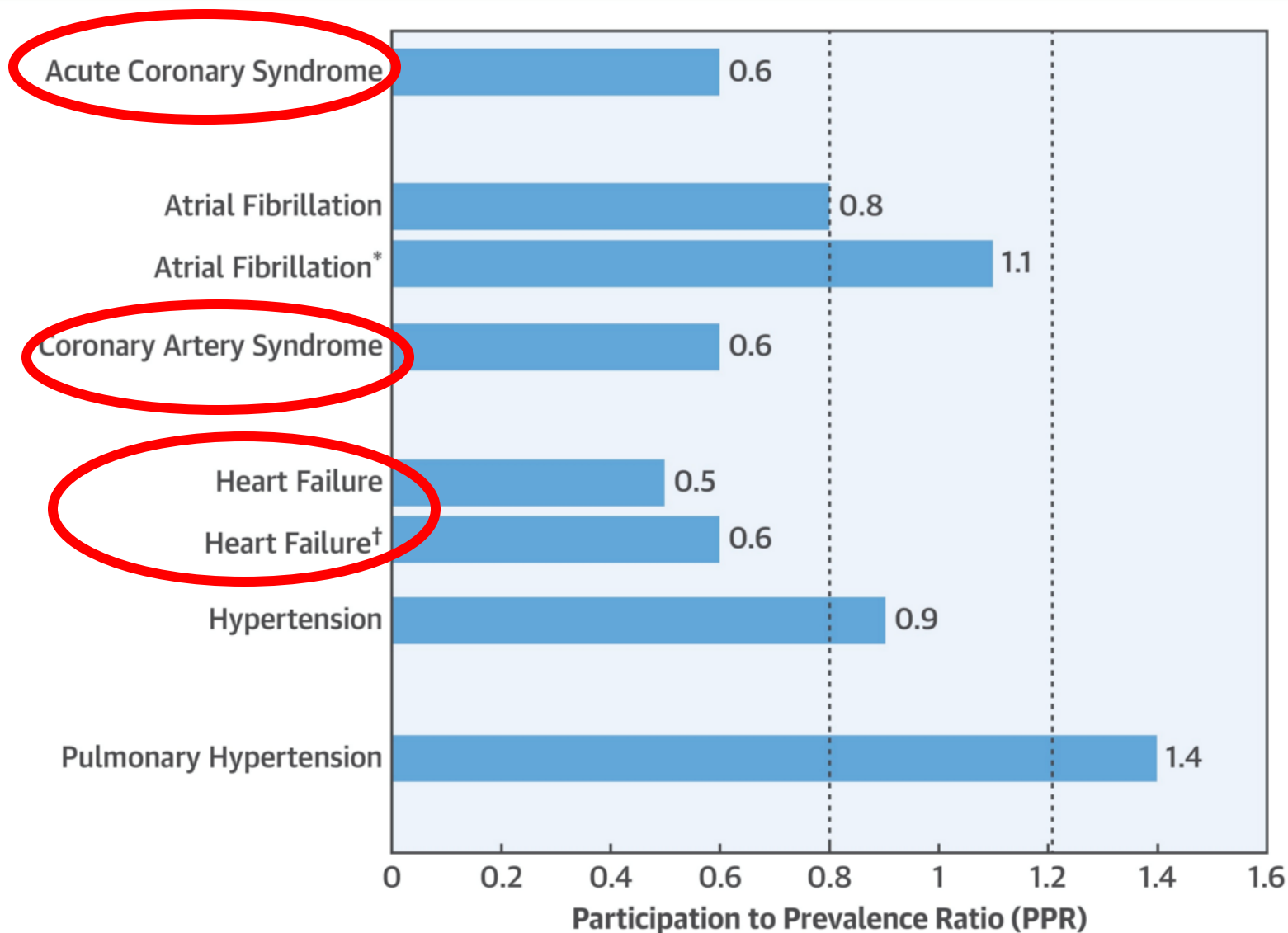
$$\text{PPR} = \frac{\text{Percentage of women among trial participants (\%)}}{\text{Percentage of women among disease population}}$$

PPR = 1; gender composition approximates disease population

PPR < 0.8, women under-represented

PPR > 1.2, women over-represented

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Participation of Women of CVD Clinical Trial: Prevalence-Corrected Estimate



Gender differences in common CV drugs

- Aspirin
- Digoxin
- Beta-blockers
- RAAS blockers
 - ARNIs



DIFFERENT RESPONSE TO ASPIRIN

Efficacy

Aspirin for the Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Events in Women and Men

A Sex-Specific Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Jeffrey S. Berger, MD, MS
 Maria C. Ronzaglioni, MD
 Fausto Avanzini, MD
 Iorta Pangrazzi, MD
 Gianni Tognoni, MD
 David L. Brown, MD

Context: Aspirin therapy reduces the risk of cardiovascular disease in adults who are at increased risk. However, it is unclear if women derive the same benefit as men.

Objective: To determine if the benefits and risks of aspirin treatment in the primary prevention of cardiovascular disease vary by sex.

Data Sources and Study Selection: MEDLINE and the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials databases (1966 to March 2005), bibliographies of retrieved trials, and reports presented at major scientific meetings. Eligible studies were prospective, randomized controlled trials of aspirin therapy in participants without cardiovascular disease that reported data on myocardial infarction (MI), stroke, and cardiovascular mortality. Six trials with a total of 95 456 individuals were identified. 3 trials included only men, 1 included only women, and 2 included both sexes.

Data Extraction: Studies were reviewed to determine the number of patients randomized, mean duration of follow-up, and end points (a composite of cardiovascular events [fatal MI, nonfatal stroke, and cardiovascular mortality], each of these in-

Berger JS, et al. *JAMA*. 2006;295(3):306–313.

ALTHOUGH THE BENEFITS OF aspirin therapy for reducing the risk of myocardial infarction (MI), stroke, and vascular death among men and women with preexisting cardiovascular disease are

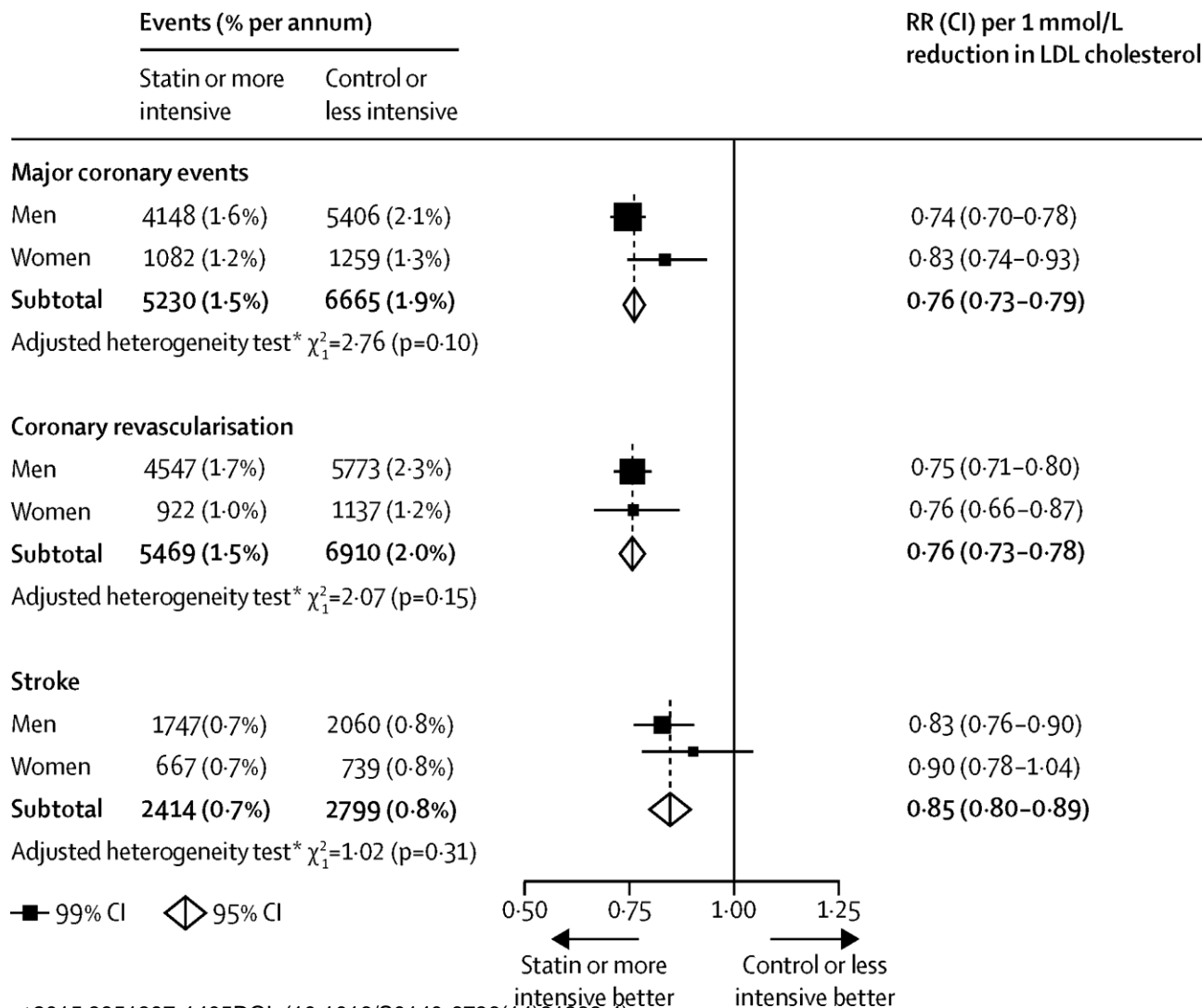
JS Berger et al *JAMA*. 2006;295:306-313

	MEN	WOMEN
Ischemic Stroke		↓
MI	↓	
Bleeding	↑	↑



In secondary prevention trials, statins reduce risk of CV events similarly in men and women

Cholesterol Treatment Trialists' (CTT) Collaboration*

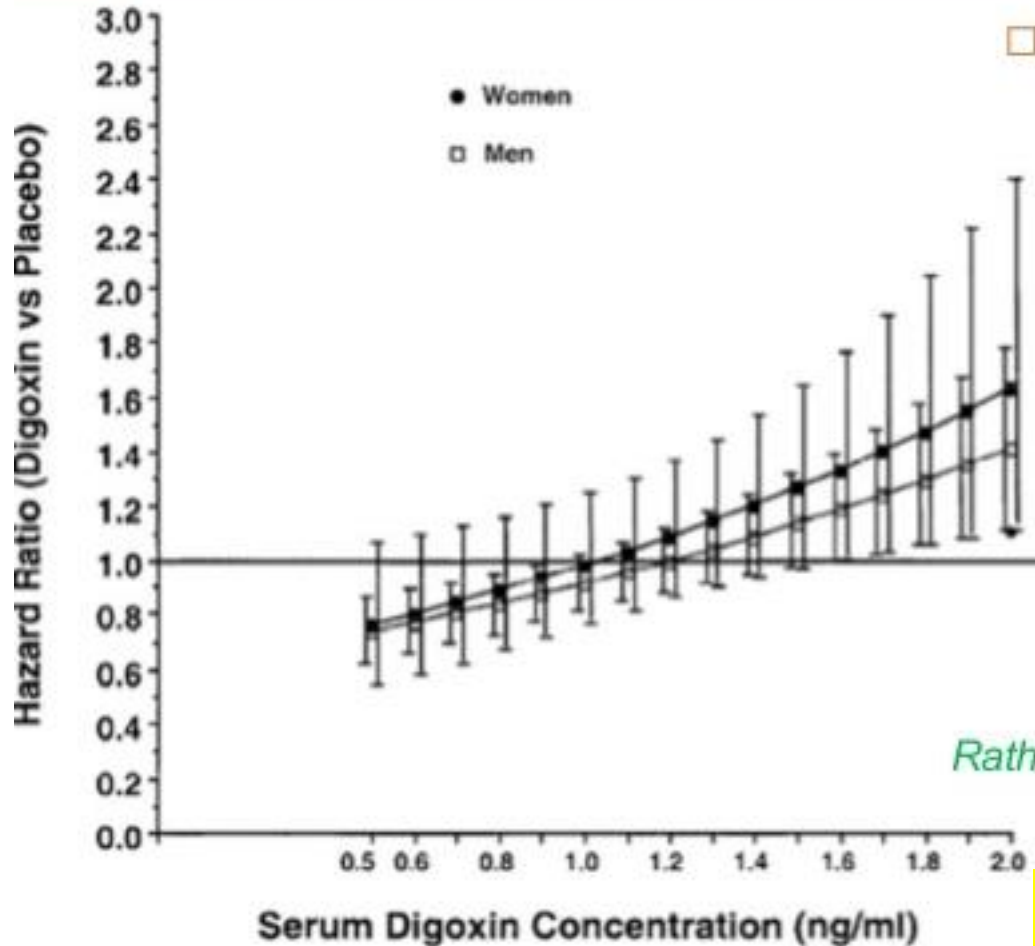


Women have more statin associated ADRs

- Possible explanations
 - Lower metabolism
 - lower BMI
 - Lower plasma volume
 - reduced muscle mass



DIG Post-hoc: Sex Differences



□ adjusted HR for death of

□ 1.23 for women vs pbo

□ 0.93 for men vs pbo

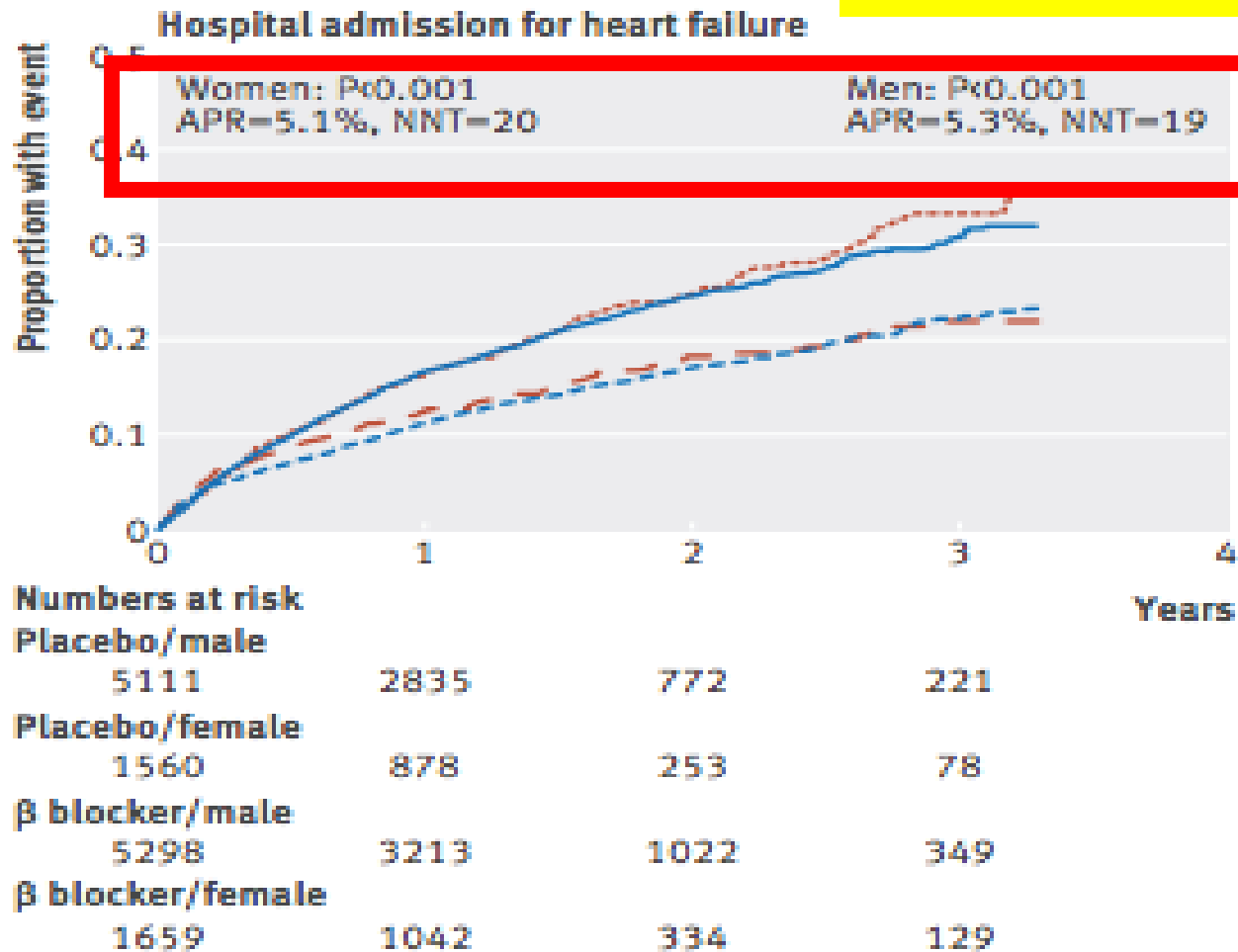
Rathore S et al., New Engl J Med 2002

- ? Supra-therapeutic plasma levels due
- Reduced Vd
 - Slower renal clearance

Effect of age and sex on efficacy and tolerability of β blockers in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction: individual patient data meta-analysis

Dipak Kotecha,^{1,2} Luis Manzano,³ Henry Krum,² Giuseppe Rosano,^{4,5} Jane Holmes,⁶

No Gender Differences



Long-term ACE-inhibitor therapy in patients with heart failure or left ventricular dysfunction: a systematic overview of data from individual patients

Marcus D Flather, Salim Yusuf, Lars Køber, Marc Pfeffer, Alistair Hall, Gordon Murray, Christian Torp-Pedersen, Stephen Ball, Janice Pogue, Lemuel Moyé, Eugene Braunwald, for the ACE-Inhibitor Myocardial Infarction Collaborative Group

No Gender Differences

Subgroup	Number of patients	Deaths	Odds ratio (95% CI)	p ₁	Death/CHF/MI	Odds ratio (95% CI)	p ₂
Sex							
Men	10 367	2506	0.79 (0.72-0.87)	0.54	3759	0.71 (0.65-0.77)	0.34
Women	2396	671	0.85 (0.71-1.02)		1012	0.79 (0.67-0.93)	

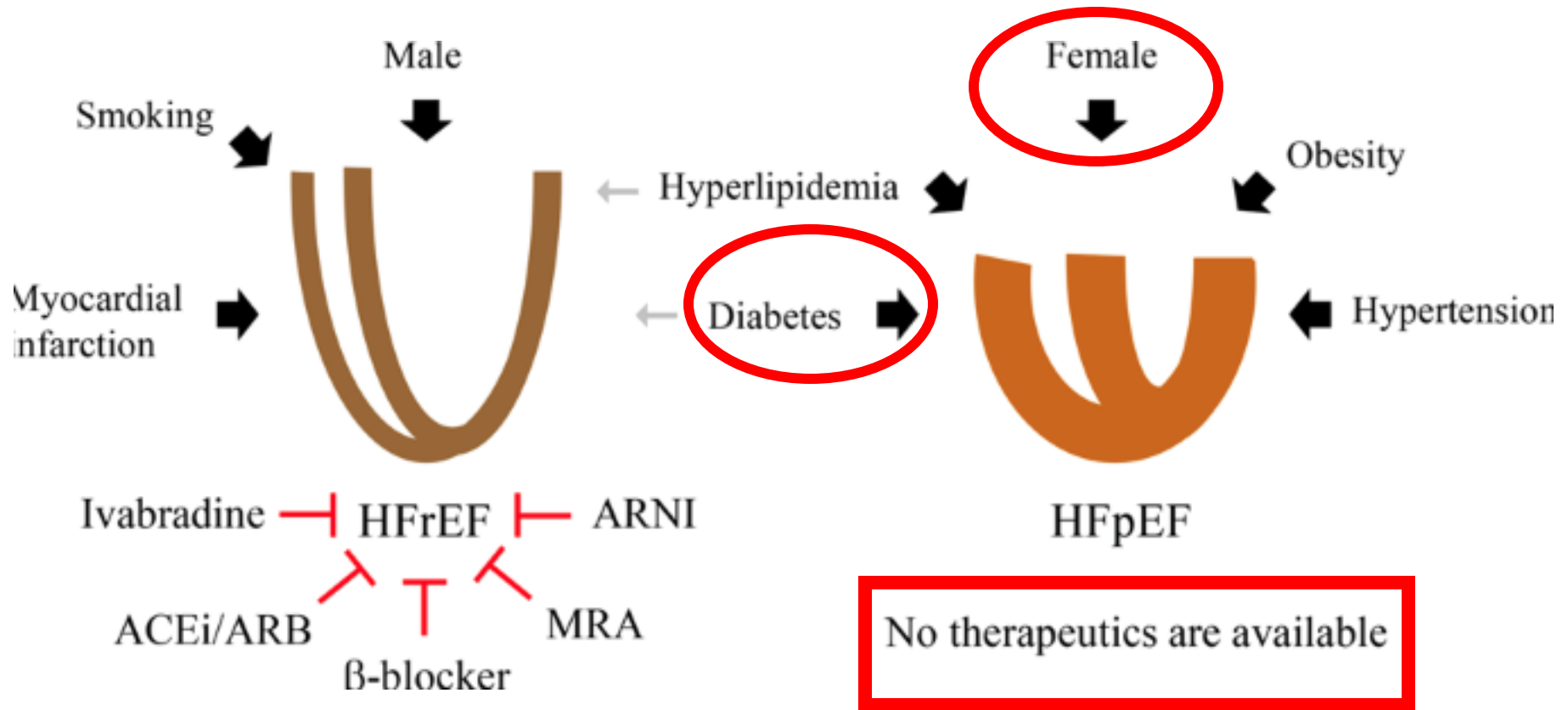
? Optimal dosing of ACEi and BBs



Identifying optimal doses of heart failure medications in men compared with women: a prospective, observational, cohort study

Bernadet T Santema, Wouter Ouwerkerk, Jasper Tromp, Iziyah E Sama, Alice Ravera, Vera Regitz-Zagrosek, Hans Hillege, Nilesh J Samani, Faiez Zannad, Kenneth Dickstein, Chim C Lang, John G Cleland, Jozine M Ter Maaten, Marco Metra, Stefan D Anker, Pim van der Harst, Leong L Ng, Peter van der Meer, Dirk J van Veldhuisen, Sven Meyer, Carolyn S P Lam on behalf of the ASIAN-HF investigators, Adriaan A Voors*

HF reduced EF versus HF preserved EF





Efficacy and Safety of LCZ696 Compared to Valsartan, on Morbidity and Mortality in Heart Failure Patients With Preserved Ejection Fraction

Inclusion Criteria
Age > 50 years
Symptomatic HF, NYHA class II-IV
LVEF ≥ 45%
Elevated natriuretic peptides
Structural heart disease on echocardiogram
n=4,822

Sequential Single-Blind Run-In Periods



Sacubitril/Valsartan at Target Dose

Valsartan at Target Dose



Median Follow-up 35 months



Primary Endpoint

• Modest 13% ↓ in CV Death or Total HF Hospitalizations
• Non-Significant P=0.058
• Driven by Effects on HF Hospitalization
• Consistent Sensitivity



Secondary Endpoints*

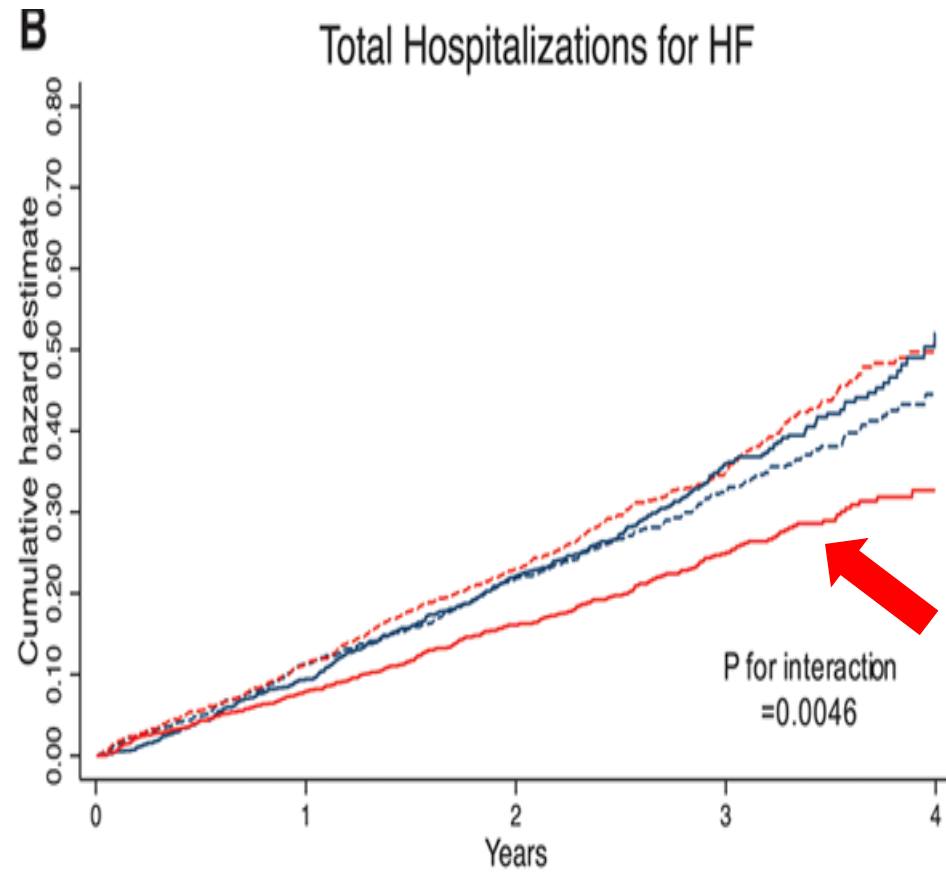
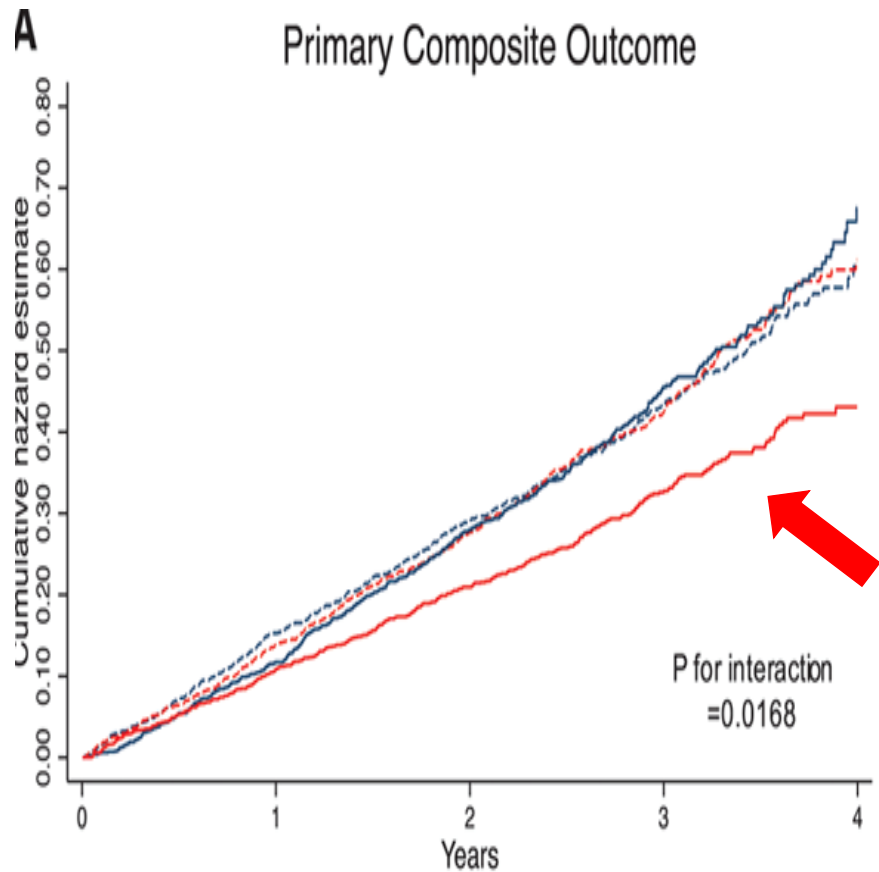
- Improved Health-Related Quality of Life
- Improved NYHA Class
- 50% ↓ Renal Events
- No Effect on Death



Potential Subgroups with Benefit

- Women
- Lower Range of LVEF

PARAGON HFpEF: Women versus Men pre-specified sub-group analysis



--- Men: Valsartan - - - Women: Valsartan
— Men: Sacubitril-valsartan — Women: Sacubitril-valsartan

--- Men: Valsartan - - - Women: Valsartan
— Men: Sacubitril-valsartan — Women: Sacubitril-valsartan

Sex Differences in Outcomes and Responses to Spironolactone in Heart Failure With Preserved Ejection Fraction

A Secondary Analysis of TOPCAT Trial

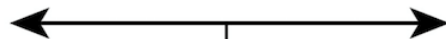


Miranda Merrill, MD,^a Nancy K. Sweitzer, MD,^b JoAnn Lindenfeld, MD,^c David P. Kao, MD^d

Exploratory, post-hoc and non-pre-specified

Spironolactone better

Placebo better



Events
At Risk

CVM + HFH

Women

Men

Spironolactone

Placebo

$P_{\text{interaction}}$

111/442 (25.1%)

130/440 (29.5%)

0.84

131/444 (29.5%)

150/441 (34.0%)

CVM

Women

Men

40/442 (9.0%)

58/440 (13.2%)

0.31

56/444 (12.6%)

69/441 (15.6%)

HFH

Women

Men

87/442 (19.7%)

102/440 (23.2%)

0.95

97/444 (21.8%)

114/441 (25.9%)

ACM

Women

Men

70/442 (15.8%)

98/440 (22.3%)

0.02

112/444 (25.2%)

107/441 (24.3%)

Non-CVM

Women

Men

23/442 (5.2%)

25/440 (5.7%)

0.35

44/444 (9.9%)

31/441 (7.0%)

CVH

Women

Men

161/442 (36.4%)

173/440 (39.3%)

0.45

181/444 (40.8%)

175/441 (39.7%)

Non-CVH

Women

Men

185/442 (41.9%)

186/440 (42.3%)

0.42

199/444 (44.8%)

191/441 (43.3%)

0.5

1

2

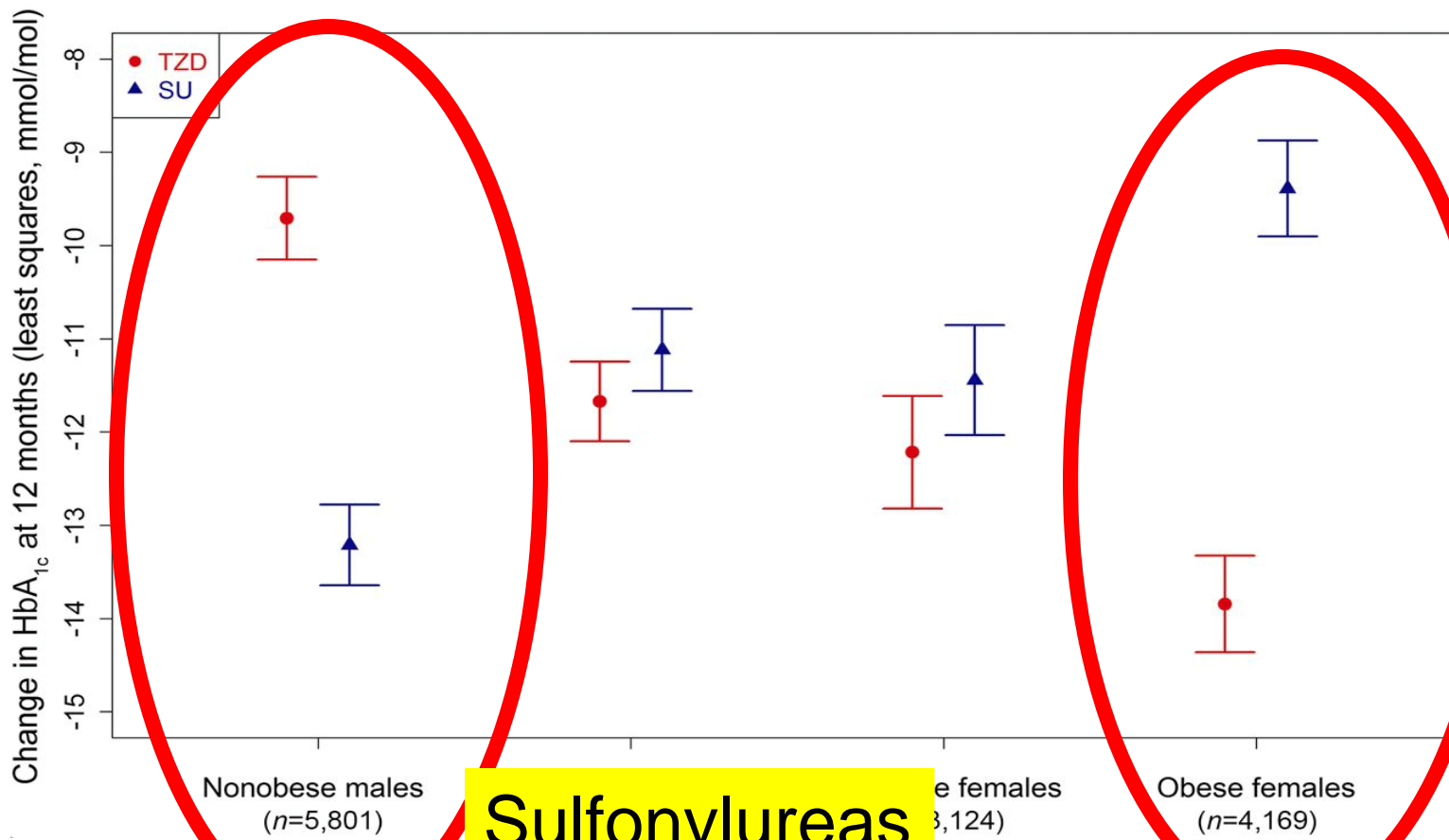
Multivariate hazard ratio



Sex and BMI Alter the Benefits and Risks of Sulfonylureas and Thiazolidinediones in Type 2 Diabetes: A Framework for Evaluating Stratification Using Routine Clinical and Individual Trial Data

John M. Dennis,¹ William E. Henley,¹ Michael N. Weedon,² Mike Lonergan,³ Lauren R. Rodgers,¹ Angus G. Jones,^{4,5} William T. Hamilton,² Naveed Sattar,⁶ Salim Janmohamed,⁷ Rory R. Holman,^{8,9} Ewan R. Pearson,³ Beverley M. Shields,⁶ and Andrew T. Hattersley,^{4,5} on behalf of the MASTERMIND Consortium*

Diabetes Care 2018;41:1844–1853 | <https://doi.org/10.2337/dc18-0344>



Sulfonylureas

TZDs

Striking sex and gender **disparities** in CVD

Epidemiology

Pathophysiology

- Risk factor profile

Disease
Progression
and Outcome



Treatment

- Efficacy
- Side effects

Clinical Manifestation

- Presentation
- Testing

**we need
to do
more**

**THE
DOERS.**

Participation of Women in Clinical Trials Supporting FDA Approval of Cardiovascular Drugs



Pamela E. Scott, PhD, MA,^a Ellis F. Unger, MD,^b Marjorie R. Jenkins, MD, MEdHP,^a Mary Ross Southworth, PharmD,^b Tzu-Yun McDowell, PhD,^b Ruth J. Geller, MHS,^a Merina Elahi, BS,^a Robert J. Temple, MD,^b Janet Woodcock, MD^b

ABSTRACT

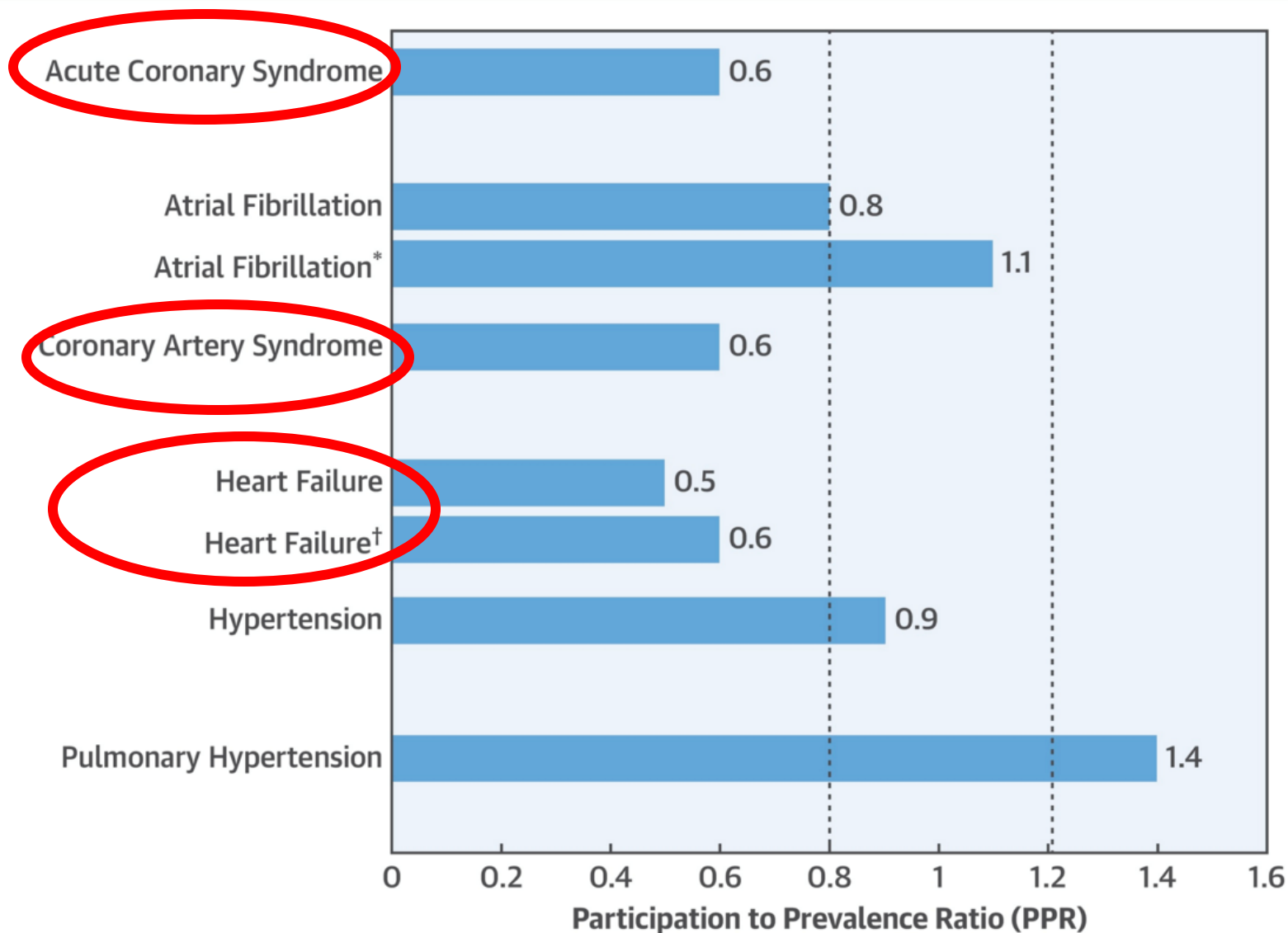
$$\text{PPR} = \frac{\text{Percentage of women among trial participants (\%)}}{\text{Percentage of women among disease population}}$$

PPR = 1; gender composition approximates disease population

PPR < 0.8, women under-represented

PPR > 1.2, women over-represented

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Participation of Women of CVD Clinical Trial: Prevalence-Corrected Estimate

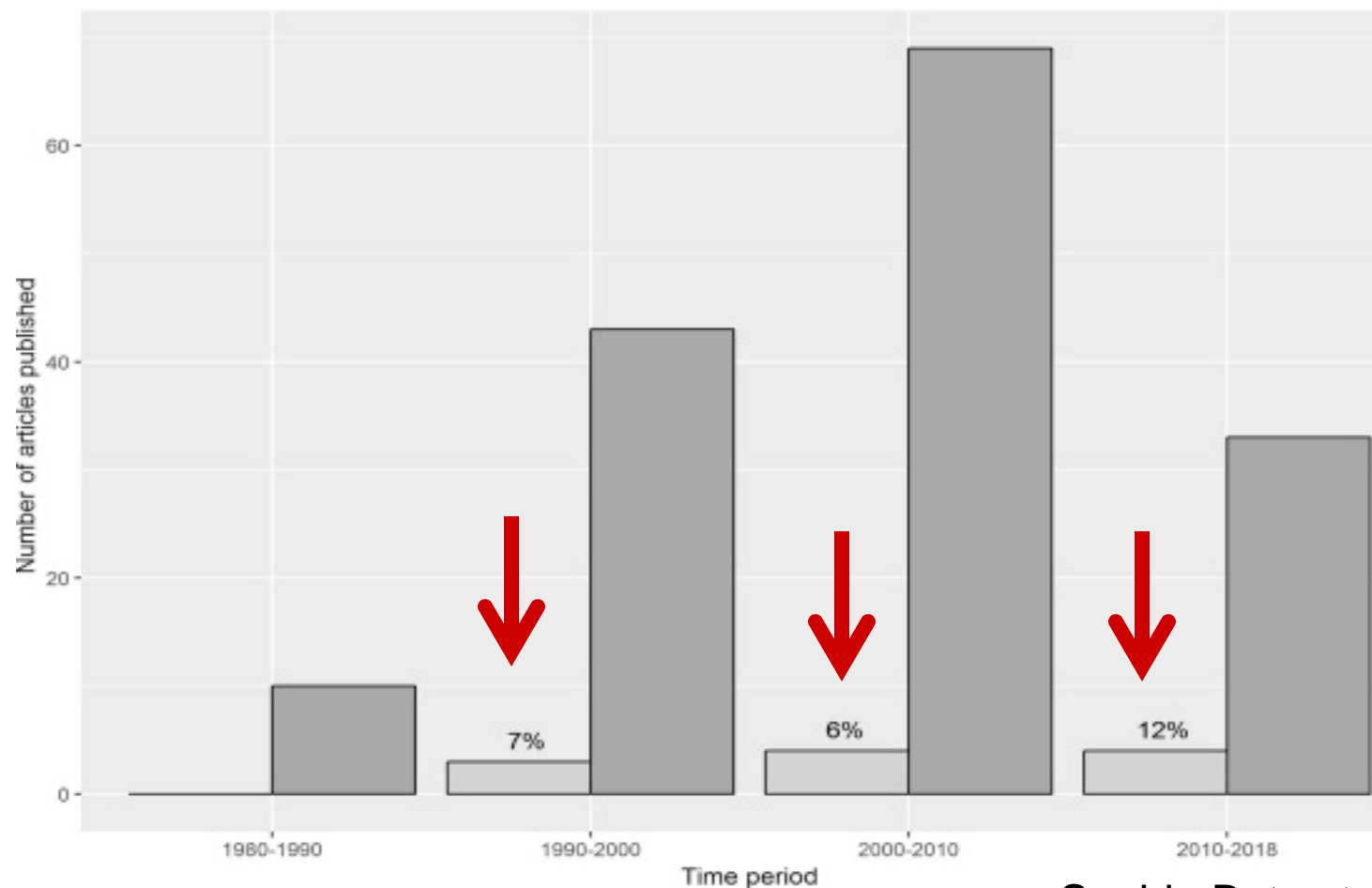


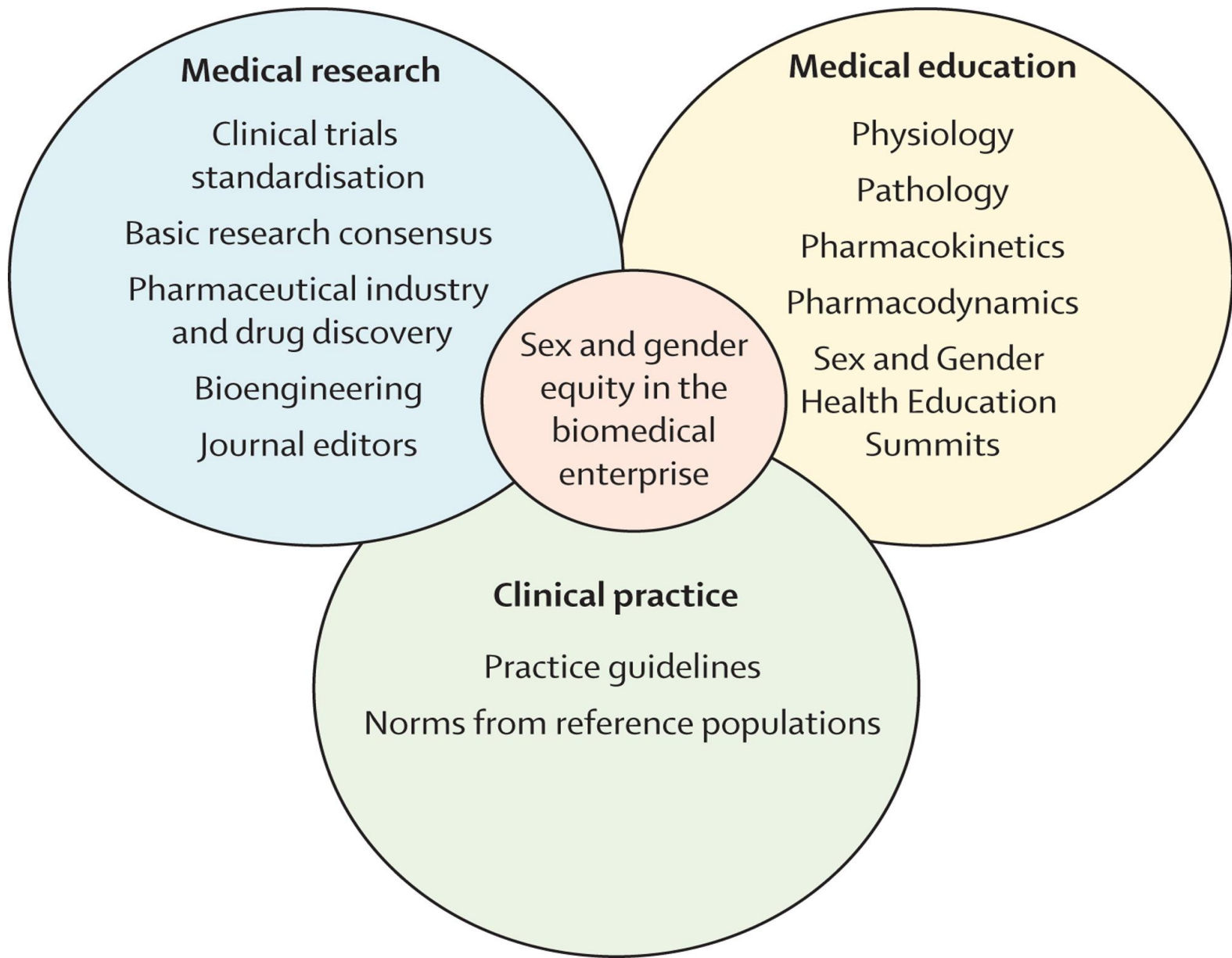
Adverse Drug Reactions to Guideline-Recommended Heart Failure Drugs in Women

A Systematic Review of the Literature

Sophie H. Bots, MSc,^a Floor Groepenhoff, MD,^b Anouk L.M. Eikendal, MD, PhD,^a Cara Tannenbaum, MD, MSc,^c Paula A. Rochon, MD, MPH,^{d,e} Vera Regitz-Zagrosek, PhD,^{f,g} Virginia M. Miller, PhD,^h Danielle Day, PhD,ⁱ Folkert W. Asselbergs, MD, PhD,^{j,k,l} Hester M. den Ruijter, PhD^a

Persistent Lack of sex-specific ADR data





More work to be done

- Medical Education
 - Sex and Gender Health Education Summit [Chin et al 2016]
- Research
 - **Inclusion in** International guidelines
 - International Council for Harmonization of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human use
 - All phases of drug development
 - **Discovery phase/ Pre-clinical**
 - **Proof principle studies**: Block randomisation by gender
 - If warranted, then to **inform Phase 3 trials** that adequately powered studies to address sex-specific endpoints
- Clinical Practice
 - **Sex-based clinical practice recommendations**

Thank you

