



# Warum SGLT2-inhibitoren auch bei GFR unter 20 getestet werden

Why SGLT2 inhibitors are also tested  
in patients with GFR <20

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# Conflicts of interest

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- Fees for consultancy and/or grants for research from Abbvie, Astra-Zeneca, Baxter, Bayer, Dutch Kidney Foundation, Dutch Heart Foundation, Galapagos, Happitech, Healthy.io, Health Holland, Ipsen, Mironid, Roche, Sanofi-Genzyme, Sandoz, Otsuka and ZonMw
- All money is paid to the employing institution (the UMC Groningen)
- No stock nor patents

# Positioning the SGLT2 inhibitor trials

			Albuminuria stages, description and range		
			A1	A2	A3
			Normoalbuminuria	Microalbuminuria	Macroalbuminuria
			<30 mg/g	30–300 mg/g	>300 mg/g
GFR categories (mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> )	Stage 1	≥90			
	Stage 2	60–89	<b>E</b> <b>C</b> <b>D</b>		
	Stage 3a	45–59			
	Stage 3b	30–44			
	Stage 4	15–29			
	ESKD 5	<15			

**CREDESCENCE (DKD only)**  
eGFR ≥30 to <90 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>  
and UACR ≥300 mg/g

**DAPA-CKD (CKD)**  
eGFR ≥25 to <75 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>  
and UACR ≥200 mg/g

**EMPA-KIDNEY (CKD)**  
eGFR ≥45 to <75 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>  
and UACR ≥200 mg/g  
OR  
eGFR ≥20 to <45 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>

E=EMPA-REG OUTCOME; C=CANVAS; D=DECLARE-TIMI 58

# The 2024 KDIGO guideline

## Evaluation and Management of CKD

### CKD with T2DM

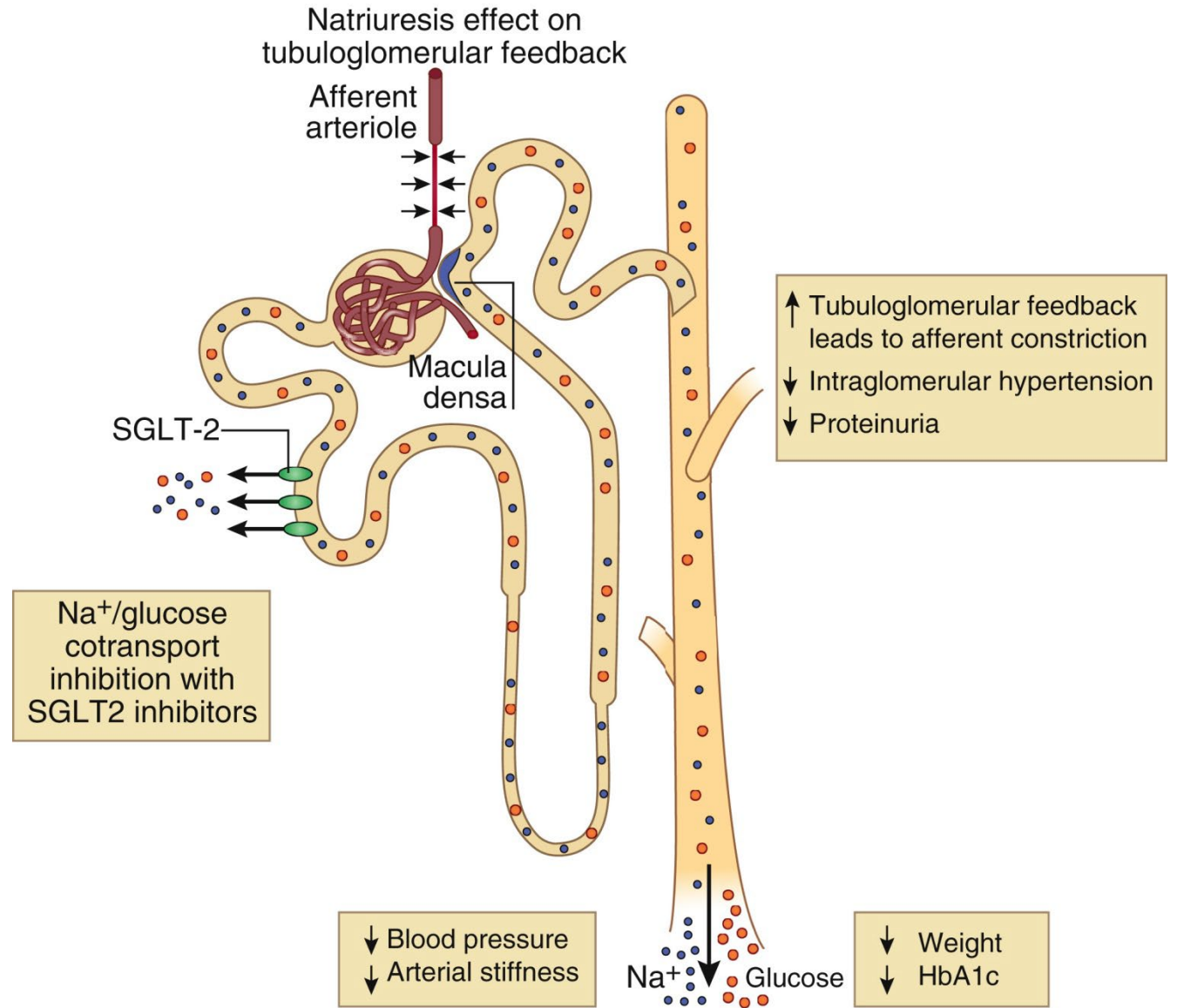
				Persistent albuminuria categories		
				A1	A2	A3
				Normal to mildly increased	Moderately increased	Severely increased
				< 30 mg/g < 3 mg/mmol	30–300 mg/g 3–30 mg/mmol	> 300 mg/g > 30 mg/mmol
GFR categories (ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> ) Description and range	G1	Normal or high	≥ 90			
	G2	Mildly decreased	60–89			
	G3a	Mildly to moderately decreased	45–59	Level of Evidence 1A		
	G3b	Moderately to severely decreased	30–44			
	G4	Severely decreased	15–29			
	G5	Kidney failure	< 15			

### Non-diabetic CKD

				Persistent albuminuria categories		
				A1	A2	A3
				Normal to mildly increased	Moderately increased	Severely increased
				< 30 mg/g < 3 mg/mmol	30–300 mg/g 3–30 mg/mmol	> 300 mg/g > 30 mg/mmol
GFR categories (ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> ) Description and range	G1	Normal or high	≥ 90			
	G2	Mildly decreased	60–89			
	G3a	Mildly to moderately decreased	45–59			1A
	G3b	Moderately to severely decreased	30–44	2B		
	G4	Severely decreased	15–29			
	G5	Kidney failure	< 15			

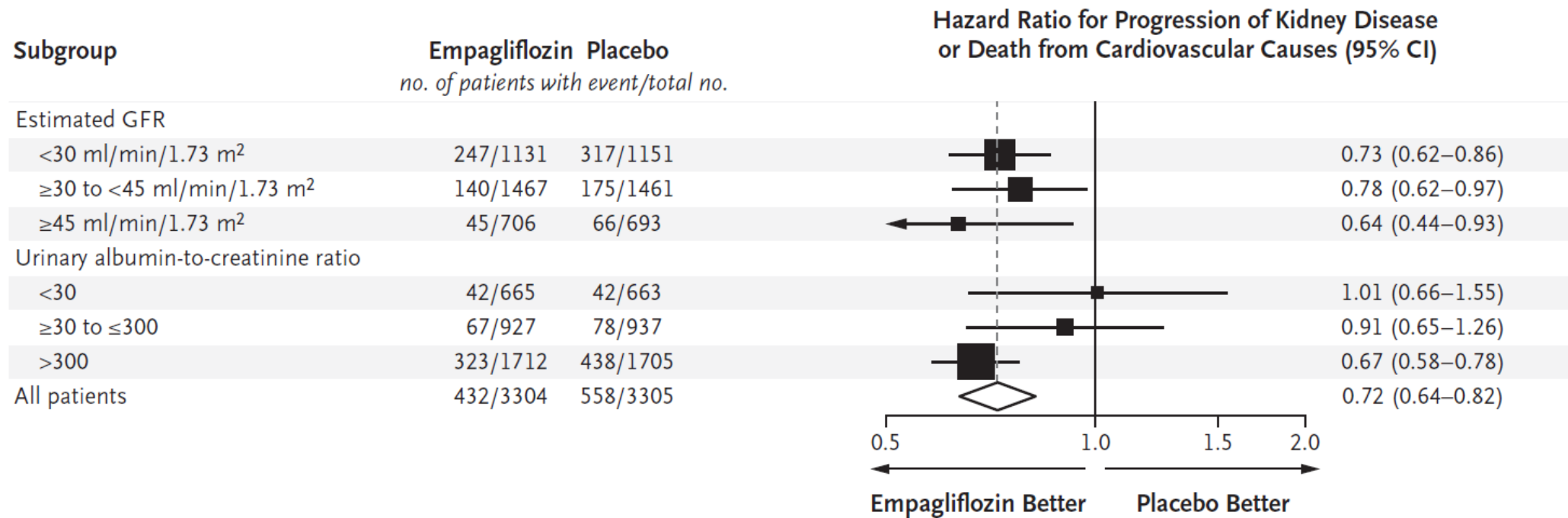
# SGLT-2-inhibitors

## Mode of Action



# The EMPA-KIDNEY trial

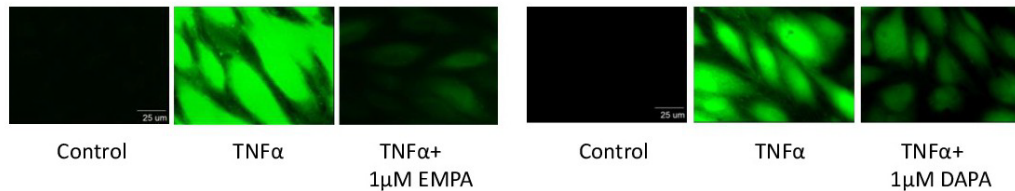
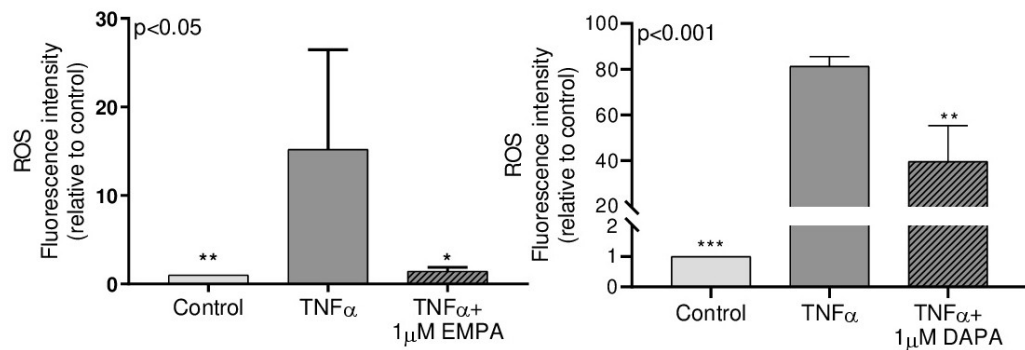
## Severely impaired eGFR, does it matter?



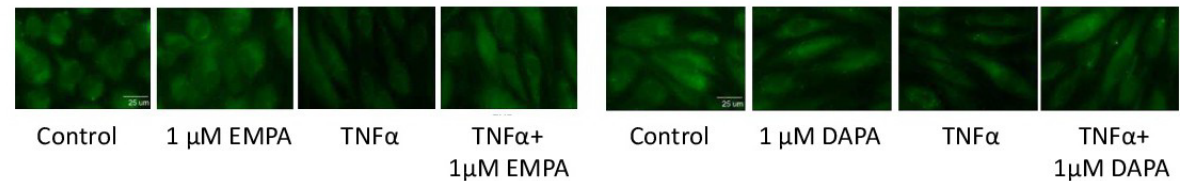
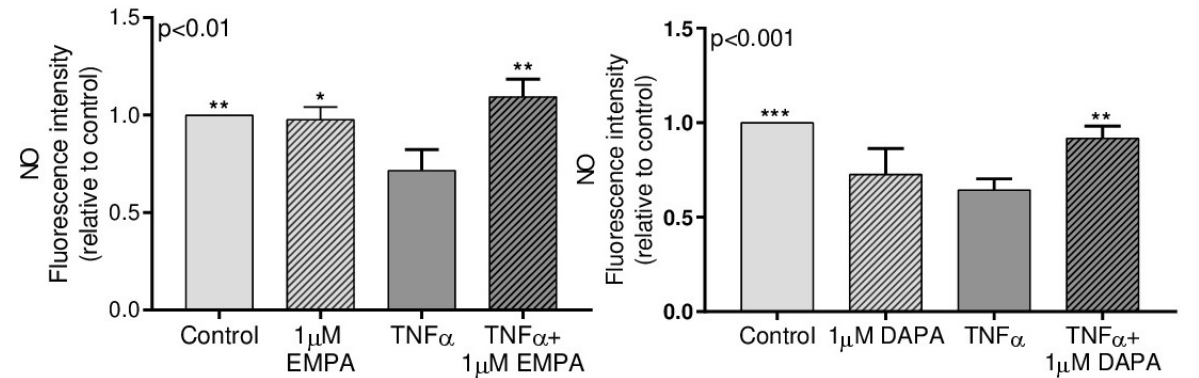
# SGLT2 inhibition

## Effects independent of tubular SGLT2 ?

Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) levels  
Vasoconstricting

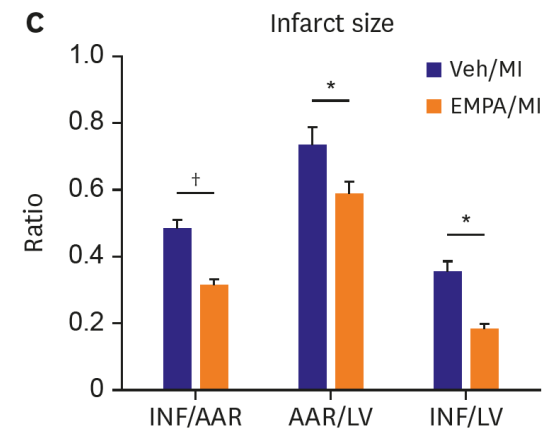
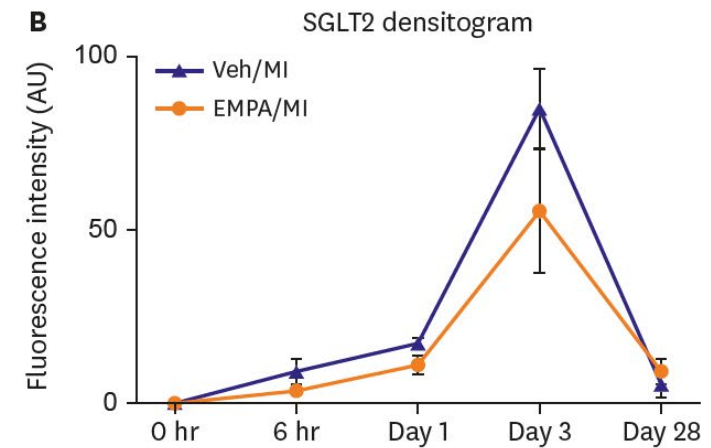
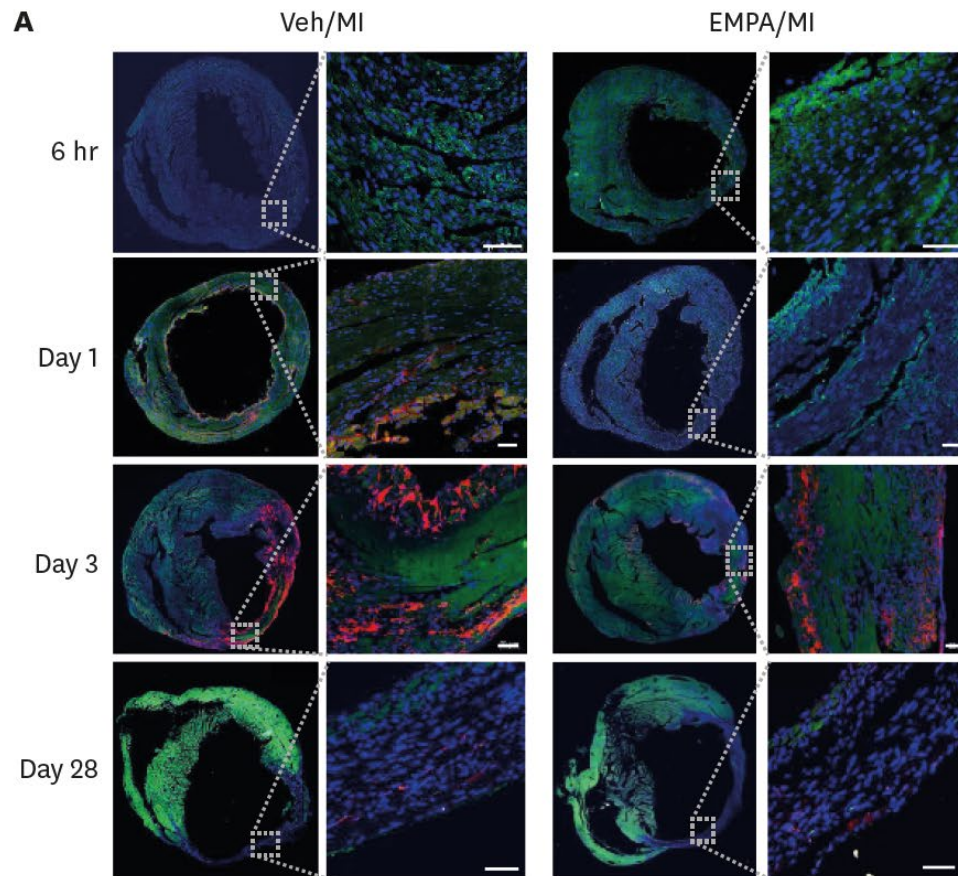


Nitric oxide (NO) levels  
Vasodilating



# SGLT2 inhibition

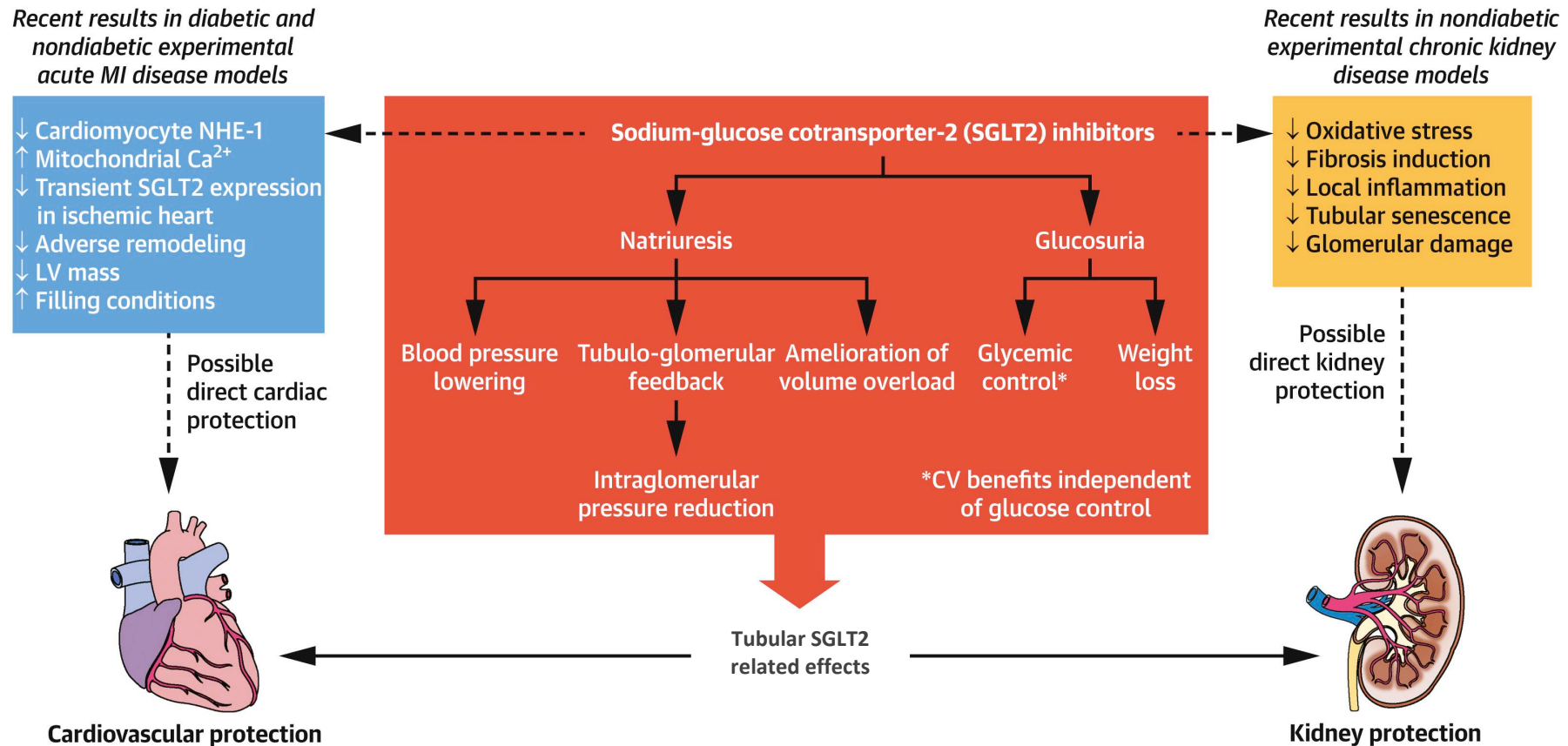
## SGLT2 is expressed in the heart





# SGLT2 inhibition

## Pleiotropic, direct effects on the kidney and the heart?



# SGLT2 inhibition in dialysis

## Limited experience

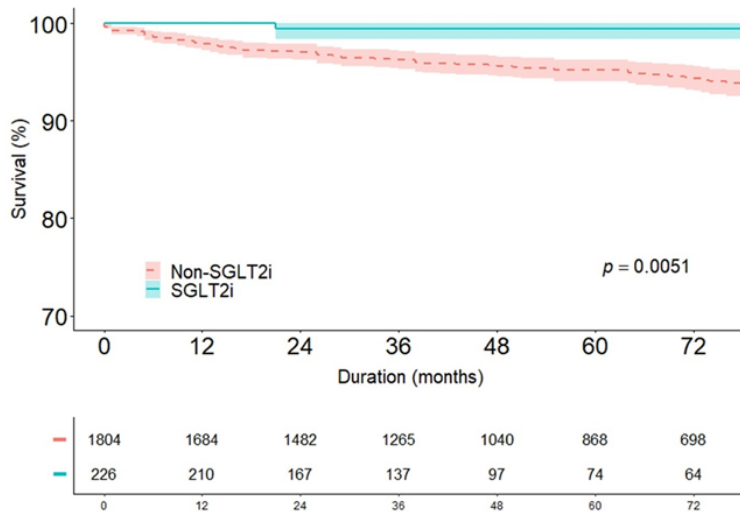
	Dapagliflozin		Placebo		Total	
	<i>n</i> (%)	Event rate (100 patient-years)	<i>n</i> (%)	Event rate (100 patient-years)	<i>n</i> (%)	Event rate (100 patient-years)
Overall mortality	101/2152 (4.7)	2.2	146/2152 (6.8)	3.1	247/4304 (5.7)	2.6
Without chronic dialysis, <i>n</i>	2084		2053		4137	
All-cause mortality	89 (4.3)	1.9	121 (5.9)	2.6	210 (5.1)	2.2
Cardiovascular death	35 (1.7)	0.7	44 (2.1)	0.9	79 (1.9)	0.8
Non-cardiovascular death	31 (1.5)	0.7	48 (2.3)	1.0	79 (1.9)	0.8
Undetermined cause of death	23 (1.1)	0.5	29 (1.4)	0.6	52 (1.3)	0.5
With chronic dialysis, <i>n</i>	68		99		167	
All-cause mortality	12 (17.6)	8.6	25 (25.3)	13.4	37 (22.2)	11.4
Cardiovascular death	6 (8.8)	3.9	6 (6.1)	2.6	12 (7.2)	3.1
Non-cardiovascular death	5 (7.4)	3.2	18 (18.2)	9.0	23 (13.8)	6.5
Undetermined cause of death	1 (1.5)	0.6	1 (1.0)	0.4	2 (1.2)	0.5

**HR 0.64**  
**P<0.01**

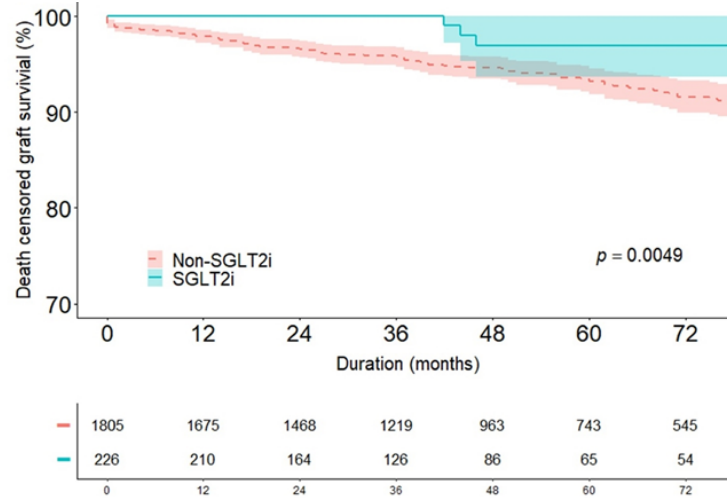
# SGLT2 inhibition in kidney transplant recipients

## Limited experience

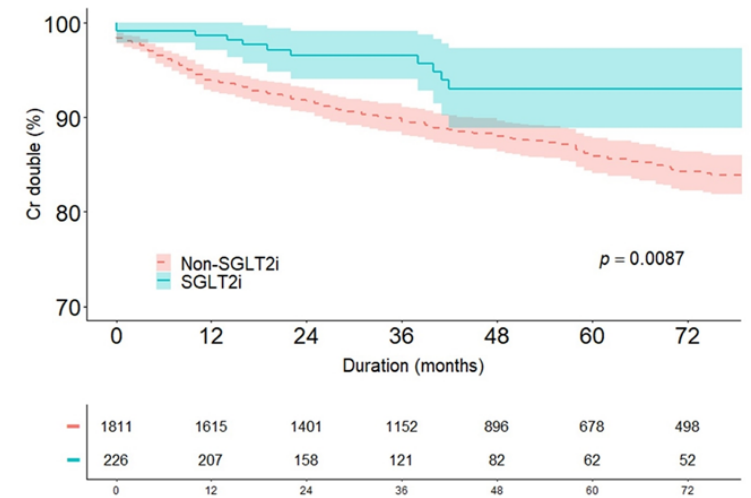
### All cause mortality



### Death censored graft failure



### Doubling sCreat



# SGLT2 inhibition in kidney transplant recipients

## Limited experience

### Cox regression analysis of primary composite outcome and individual components

Model	Primary composite outcome		All-cause mortality		Death-censored graft failure		Serum creatinine doubling	
	HR (95% CI)	P	HR (95% CI)	P	HR (95% CI)	P	HR (95% CI)	P
Model 1 <sup>a</sup>	0.45 (0.27-0.75)	0.002	0.17 (0.04-0.70)	0.014	0.27 (0.10-0.72)	0.009	0.49 (0.29-0.85)	0.010
Model 2 <sup>b</sup>	0.37 (0.22-0.62)	<0.001	0.22 (0.05-0.90)	0.034	0.22 (0.08-0.59)	0.003	0.37 (0.54-0.90)	<0.001
Model 3 <sup>c</sup>	0.38 (0.22-0.64)	<0.001	0.24 (0.06-0.99)	0.049	0.22 (0.08-0.61)	0.004	0.38 (0.22-0.66)	<0.001
Model 4 <sup>d</sup>	0.43 (0.24-0.78)	0.006	0.35 (0.08-1.45)	0.147	0.34 (0.12-0.95)	0.040	0.41 (0.22-0.77)	0.005
Model 5 <sup>e</sup>	0.45 (0.24-0.85)	0.013	0.31 (0.07-1.32)	0.112	0.30 (0.09-0.98)	0.046	0.45 (0.23-0.88)	0.019

<sup>a</sup>Unadjusted.

<sup>b</sup>Adjusted for age, sex, body mass index, donor type (deceased or living), ABO incompatibility, and acute rejection.

<sup>c</sup>Adjusted for age, sex, body mass index, donor type (deceased or living), ABO incompatibility, underlying comorbidities (diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia), diabetic end-stage kidney disease, ACEi or ARB usage, and eGFR at 3 mo after transplant.

<sup>d</sup>Adjusted for age, sex, body mass index, donor type (deceased or living), ABO incompatibility, underlying comorbidities (diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia), diabetic end-stage kidney disease, posttransplantation 1-y mean HbA1c (%) calculated by area under the curve, and metformin usage.

<sup>e</sup>Propensity score-matched covariates: age, sex, donor type (deceased or living), ABO incompatibility, underlying comorbidities (diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia), diabetic end-stage kidney disease, posttransplantation 1-y mean HbA1c (%) calculated by area under the curve, metformin usage, acute rejection, ACEi or ARB usage, and eGFR at 3 mo after transplant.

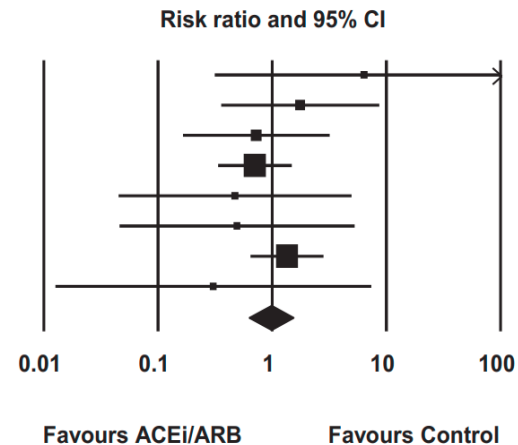
ACEi, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker; CI, confidence interval; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; HR, hazard ratio.

# ACE inhibition in kidney transplant recipients

## Limited experience

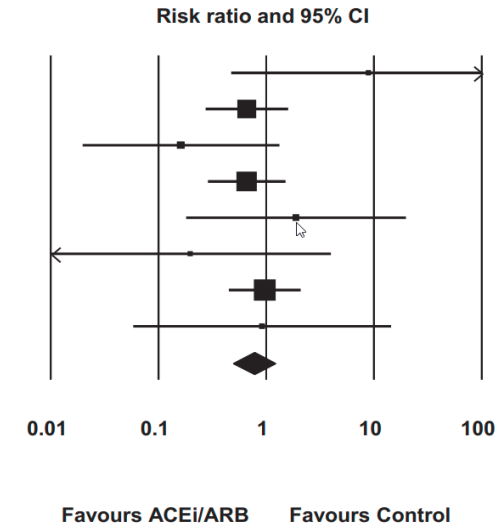
### All cause mortality

Trial	Year	Risk ratio	95% CI	p	Dead / Total	
					RAS blockade	Control
Midtvedt	2001	6.36	0.31 129.85	0.2	2 / 54	0 / 69
Amara	2010	1.76	0.36 8.70	0.5	4 / 25	2 / 22
Philipp	2010	0.73	0.16 3.21	0.7	3 / 255	4 / 247
Ibrahim	2013	0.71	0.33 1.49	0.4	10 / 77	14 / 76
Paoletti	2013	0.47	0.04 4.97	0.5	1 / 36	2 / 34
Salzberg	2014	0.49	0.05 5.30	0.6	1 / 66	2 / 65
Knoll	2015	1.35	0.64 2.83	0.4	14 / 103	11 / 109
Mandelbrot	2015	0.30	0.01 7.41	0.5	0 / 138	1 / 126
<b>Summary RR</b>		<b>0.96</b>	<b>0.62 1.51</b>	<b>0.9</b>		



### Graft failure

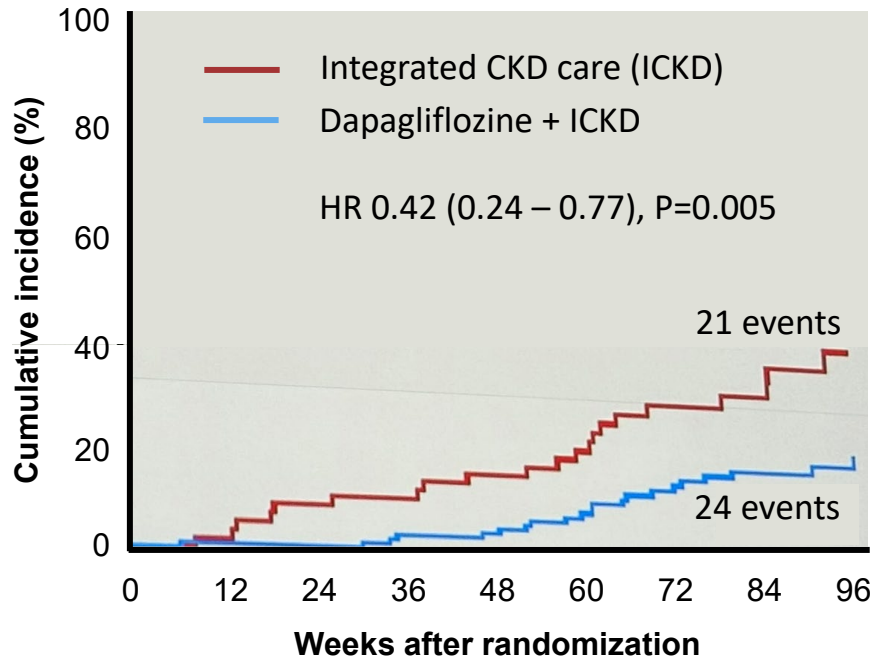
Trial	Year	Risk ratio	95% CI	p	Graft failure / Total	
					RAS blockade	Control
Midtvedt	2001	8.91	0.47 168.87	0.2	3 / 54	0 / 69
Amara	2010	0.66	0.27 1.61	0.4	6 / 25	8 / 22
Philipp	2010	0.16	0.02 1.33	0.09	1 / 255	6 / 247
Ibrahim	2013	0.66	0.29 1.52	0.3	8 / 77	12 / 76
Paoletti	2013	1.89	0.18 19.89	0.6	2 / 36	1 / 34
Salzberg	2014	0.20	0.01 4.03	0.3	0 / 66	2 / 65
Knoll	2015	0.97	0.45 2.10	0.9	11 / 103	12 / 109
Mandelbrot	2015	0.91	0.06 14.44	0.9	1 / 138	1 / 126
<b>Summary RR</b>		<b>0.76</b>	<b>0.49 1.18</b>	<b>0.2</b>		



# SGLT2 inhibition in CKD stages G4-5

## Limited experience

**Renal composite outcome**  
 ≥50% eGFR decline, eGFR<5 or start of KRT



<b>ICKD</b>	60	59	54	53	50	43	30	24	13
<b>Dapa + ICKD</b>	120	118	118	114	111	96	82	62	36

### Renal and HF outcome

Renal outcome + incidence HF hospitalization  
 HR 0.46 (0.25 – 0.82), p=0.008

### Renal and CV outcome

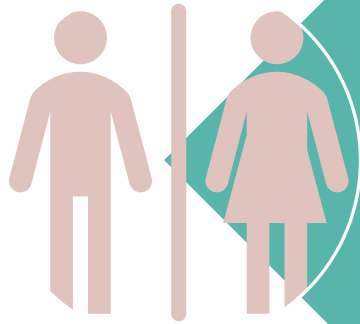
Renal outcome + incidence AP, PTCA/CABG, MI, CVA and HF hospitalization  
 HR 0.53 (0.30 – 0.94), p=0.03

Open label (i.e. no placebo)  
 Single center  
 Limited number of patients (n=180)  
 Powered for n=225, aborted early

# The Renal Lifecycle trial

## An Investigator Initiated Study

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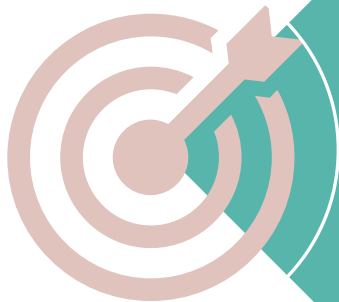


In total n=1750 (endpoint driven)

or 1) severely impaired kidney function; eGFR <25 ml/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>

or 2) patients on dialysis

or 3) kidney transplant recipients with an eGFR <45 ml/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>



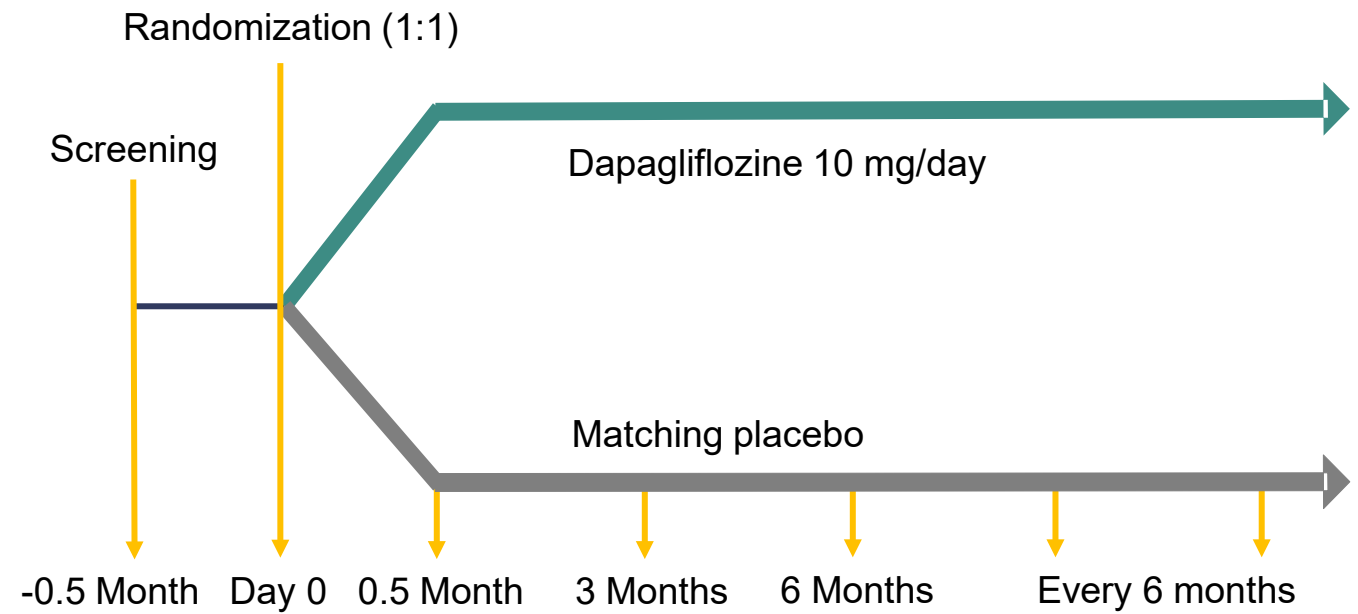
### Endpoints

- 1) Composite of incidence kidney failure, HF hospitalization, mortality
- 2) Incidence of each component in the overall population
- 3) Incidence of composite in each subgroup
- 4) Safety & tolerability

# Trial design



- Pragmatic: visits as part of routine clinical



- Trial will last  $\pm$  4 yr, dependent on incidence “primary end points”





# A joint project

## The Netherlands

- Groningen + 59 centers

## Germany

- Wurzburg (prof. Christoph Wanner) + 15 sites

## Belgium

- Leuven (prof. Dirk Kuypers) + 9 sites

## Australia

- Sydney (dr. Sunil Badve) + 13 sites

## Spain

- Valencia (dr. Jose Gorriz) + 19 sites



# Conclusions

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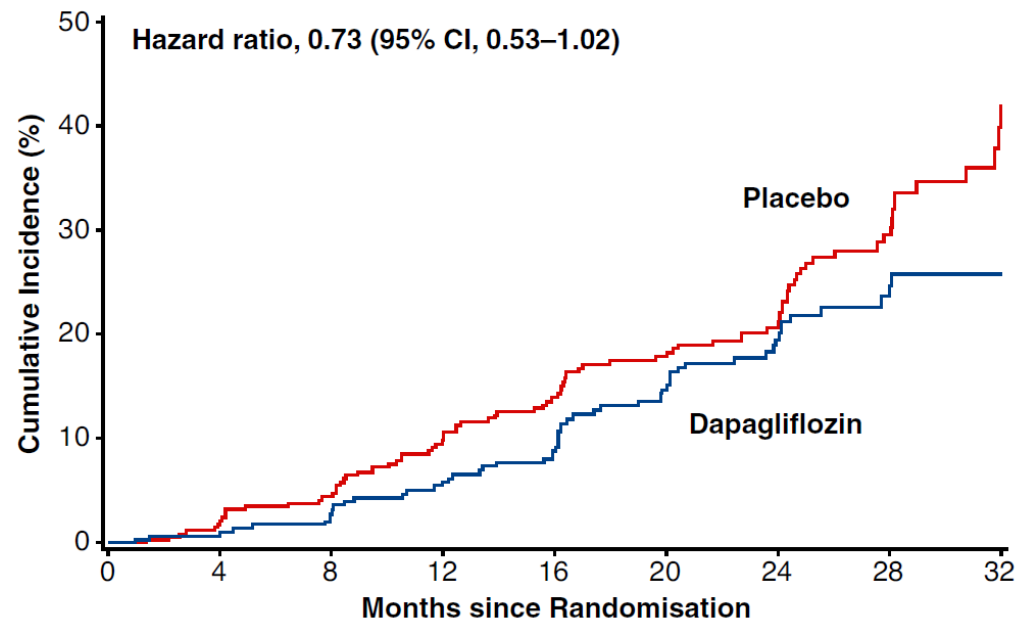
As yet starting SGLT2 inhibitors in case of severe CKD should be avoided

- Theoretically, this class of drugs should be less / not effective at low kidney function
- Very few clinical data (but surprisingly these preliminary findings do suggest efficacy)
- Experimental data suggest direct effects, independent of SGLT2 in the proximal tubules
- Safety concern, especially in immune suppressed kidney transplant recipients (UT/genital infections)

The Renal Lifecycle trial has been designed to specifically test the efficacy of SGLT2 inhibition in case of severe CKD. This study will have to provide the answer whether the efficacy / safety balance is sufficient in this vulnerable patient group

# The DAPA-CKD trial

## Severely impaired eGFR, does it matter ?



No. at Risk	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32
Dapagliflozin	293	274	262	249	239	206	135	69	21
Placebo	331	300	285	265	244	223	163	88	29

### Participants:

CKD with or without T2D, *eGFR 25-30 ml/min*, n = 624

### Primary outcome:

Incidence of 50% decrease in eGFR, kidney failure, or renal and cardiovascular mortality

# Inclusion overall and per country

## Progress 28 Nov 2024

