

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CARDIAC ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY

Natig Gassanov

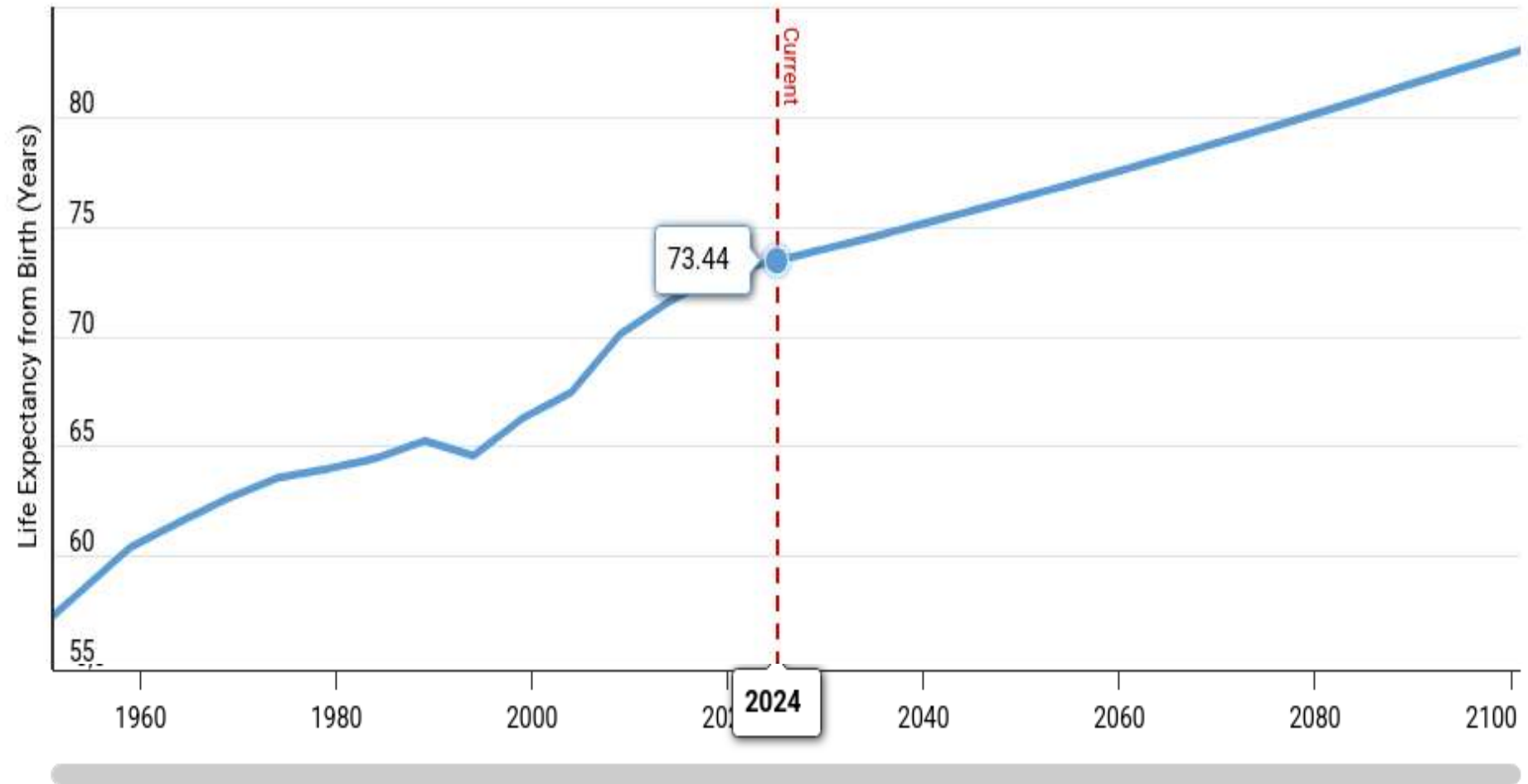
Medizinische Klinik II
- Kardiologie, Pneumologie, Intensivmedizin -
Klinikum Idar-Oberstein,
Akademisches Krankenhaus der Universität Mainz

Life expectancy 2024

Germany



Azerbaijan



WHO, <https://data.who.int/countries/031>

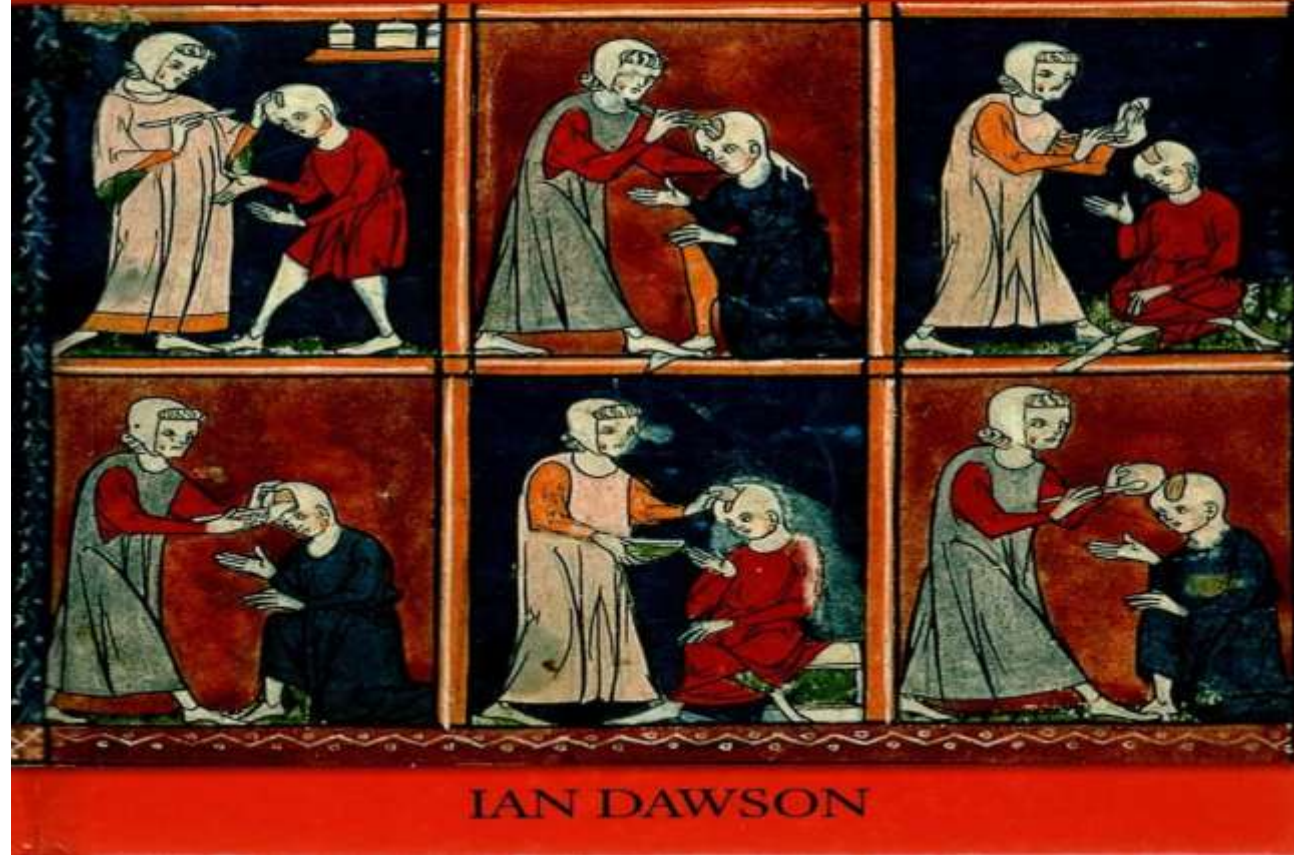
Life expectancy



**Entwicklung der Lebenserwartung
bei Geburt seit 1880**
Datenbasis: Periodensterbetafeln 1880
bis 2011* [\[6, 7\]](#)

Jahre	Jahre	
	Frauen	Männer
1880	-	-
1881	38,45	35,58

THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE
Medicine in
the Middle Ages



Medicine in the Middle Ages



Life expectancy in Germany

**Entwicklung der Lebenserwartung
bei Geburt seit 1880**
Datenbasis: Periodensterbetafeln 1880
bis 2011* [\[6, 7\]](#)

Jahre	Jahre	
	Frauen	Männer
1880	-	-
1881	38,45	35,58
1890	40,25	37,17
1900	43,97	40,56
1910	48,33	44,82
1911	50,68	47,41
1926	58,82	55,97
1934	62,81	59,86
1951	68,48	64,56
1962	72,39	66,86
1972	73,83	67,41
1988	78,68	72,21
1993	79,01	72,47
1996	79,72	73,29
1999	80,57	74,44
2002	81,22	75,38
2005	81,78	76,21
2008	82,40	77,17
2011	82,73	77,72

Gesundheitsberichterstattung des Bundes, Statistisches Bundesamt



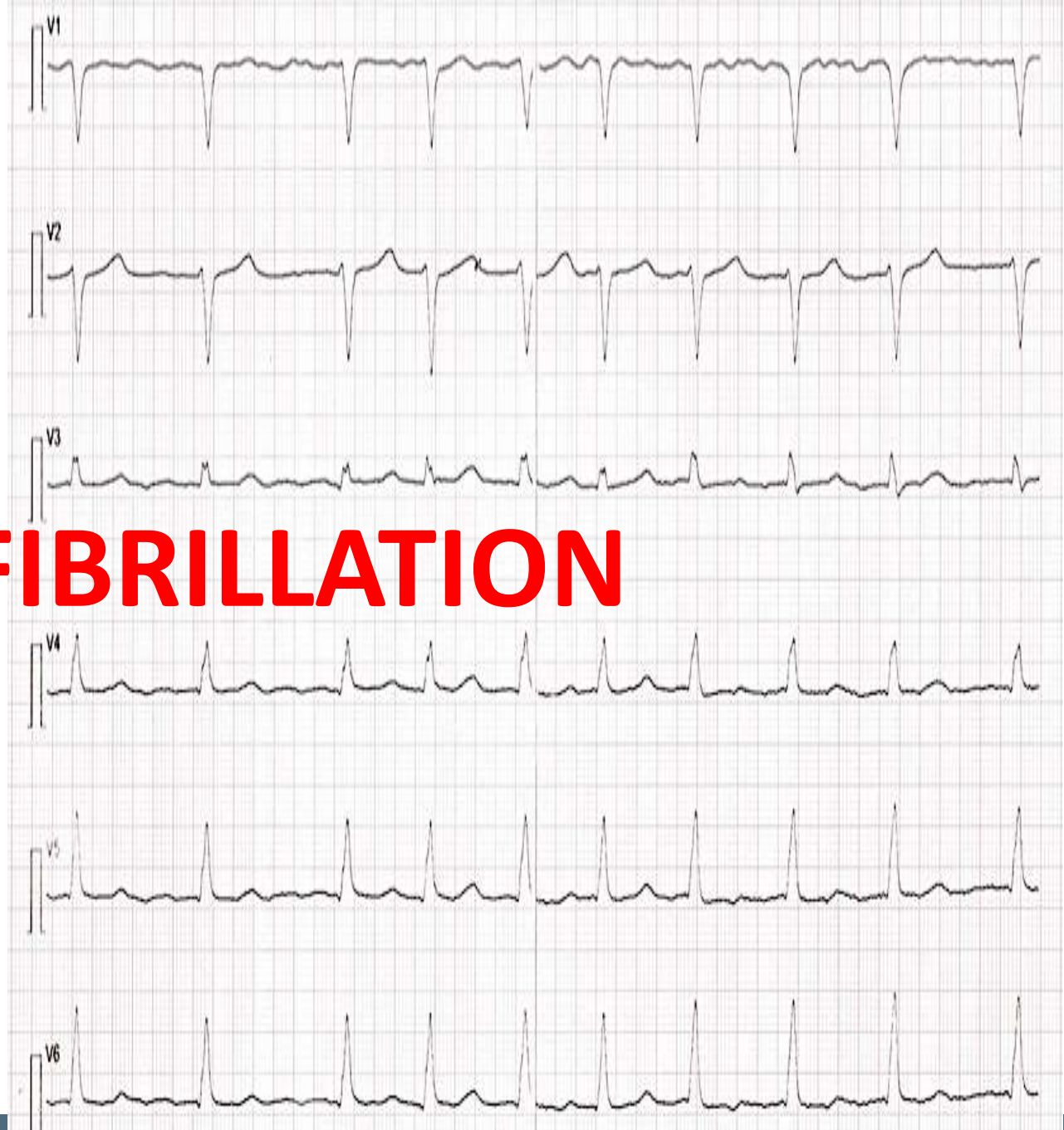
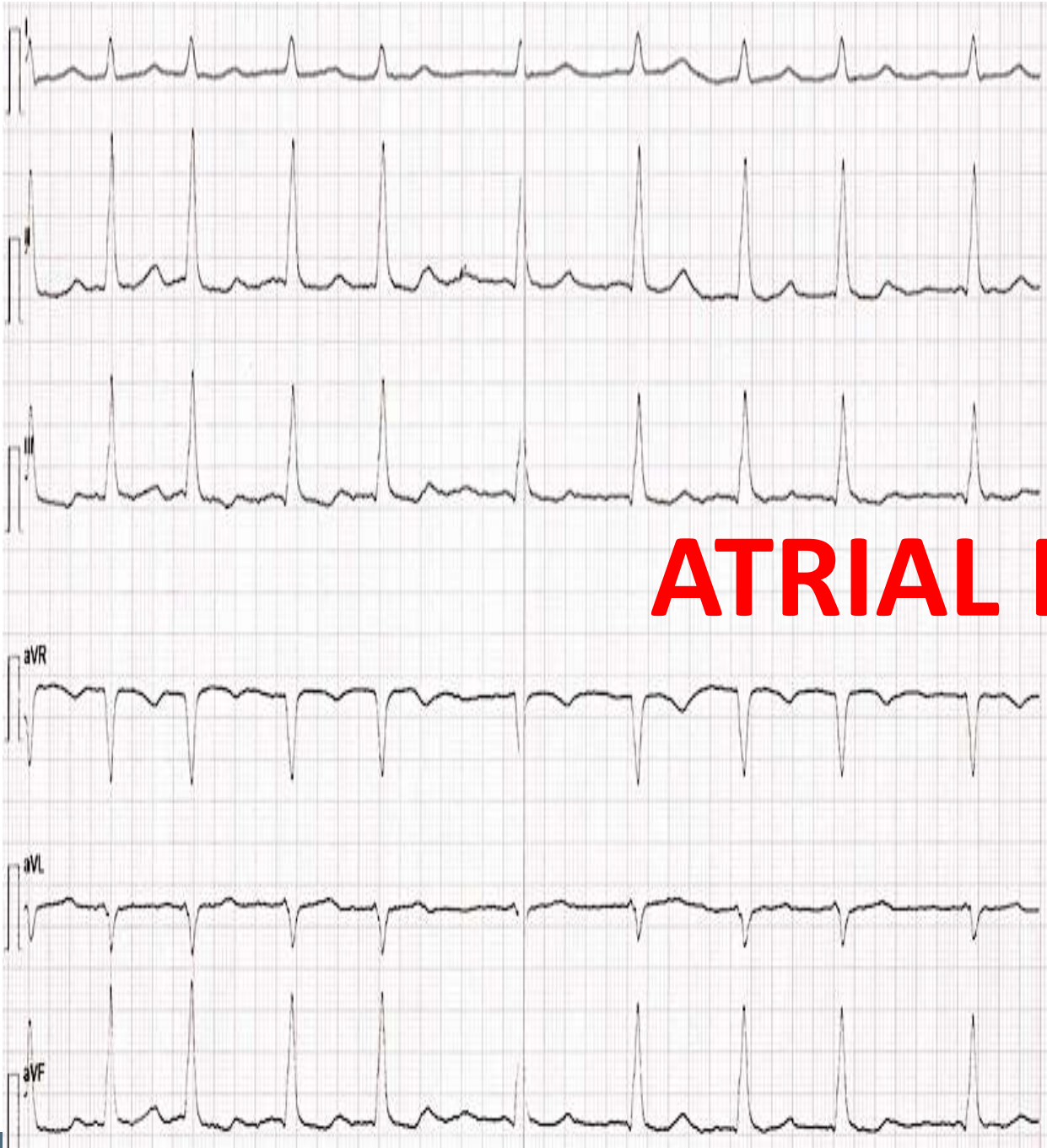
Clinical case

74 years old man

- Chest pain since yesterday
- Tachycardia and palpitations

Pt. History

- Arterial hypertension
- Transient ischemic attack 2022
- Exclusion of coronary artery disease (coronary angiography 2022)
- HFpEF



ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

Atrial fibrillation

3% prevalence in general population

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AF

Who is at risk for AF?

AF is a common age-related arrhythmia:^{3, 26, 27} it mostly affects people **40 years old and older** and is more **common in men**.

40+



1 in 4 ADULTS

40 YEARS AND OLDER

develop AF in their lifetime.²⁷

40+

65+









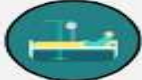
Nearly 8 out of 10 ADULTS

suffering from (or diagnosed with) AF
or Atrial Flutter

ARE 65 YEARS OLD OR OLDER²⁵

65+

AF-related OUTCOMES

AF-Related Outcome	Frequency in AF	Mechanism(s)
 <p>Death</p>	1.5 - 3.5 fold increase	Excess mortality related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HF, comorbidities • Stroke
 <p>Stroke</p>	20-30% of all ischaemic strokes, 10% of cryptogenic strokes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardioembolic, or • Related to comorbid vascular atheroma
 <p>LV dysfunction / Heart failure</p>	In 20-30% of AF patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessive ventricular rate • Irregular ventricular contractions • A primary underlying cause of AF
 <p>Cognitive decline / Vascular dementia</p>	HR 1.4 / 1.6 (irrespective of stroke history)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brain white matter lesions, inflammation, • Hypoperfusion, • Micro-embolism
 <p>Depression</p>	Depression in 16-20% (even suicidal ideation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severe symptoms and decreased QoL • Drug side effects
 <p>Impaired quality of life</p>	>60% of patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related to AF burden, comorbidities, psychological functioning and medication • Distressed personality type
 <p>Hospitalizations</p>	10-40% annual hospitalization rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AF management, related to HF, MI or AF related symptoms • Treatment-associated complications

Hindricks et al., 2020 Eur Heart J

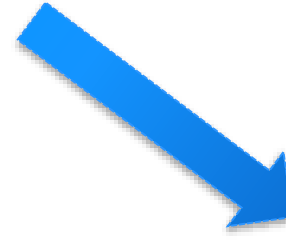
THERAPY OPTIONS



Rhythm vs. frequency control



- Cardioversion + antiarrhythmics?
- Cardioversion + no therapy change?
- Ablation?



Anticoagulation (CHA₂DS₂-VASC-Score)

- Dabigatran
- Apixaban
- Rivaroxaban
- Edoxaban

SPONTANEOUS INITIATION OF ATRIAL FIBRILLATION BY ECTOPIC BEATS ORIGINATING IN THE PULMONARY VEINS

MICHEL HAÏSSAGUERRE, M.D., PIERRE JAÏS, M.D., DIPEN C. SHAH, M.D., ATSUSHI TAKAHASHI, M.D., MÉLÈZE HOCINI, M.D., GILLES QUINIOU, M.D., STÉPHANE GARRIGUE, M.D., ALAIN LE MOUROUX, M.D., PHILIPPE LE MÉTAYER, M.D., AND JACQUES CLÉMENTY, M.D.

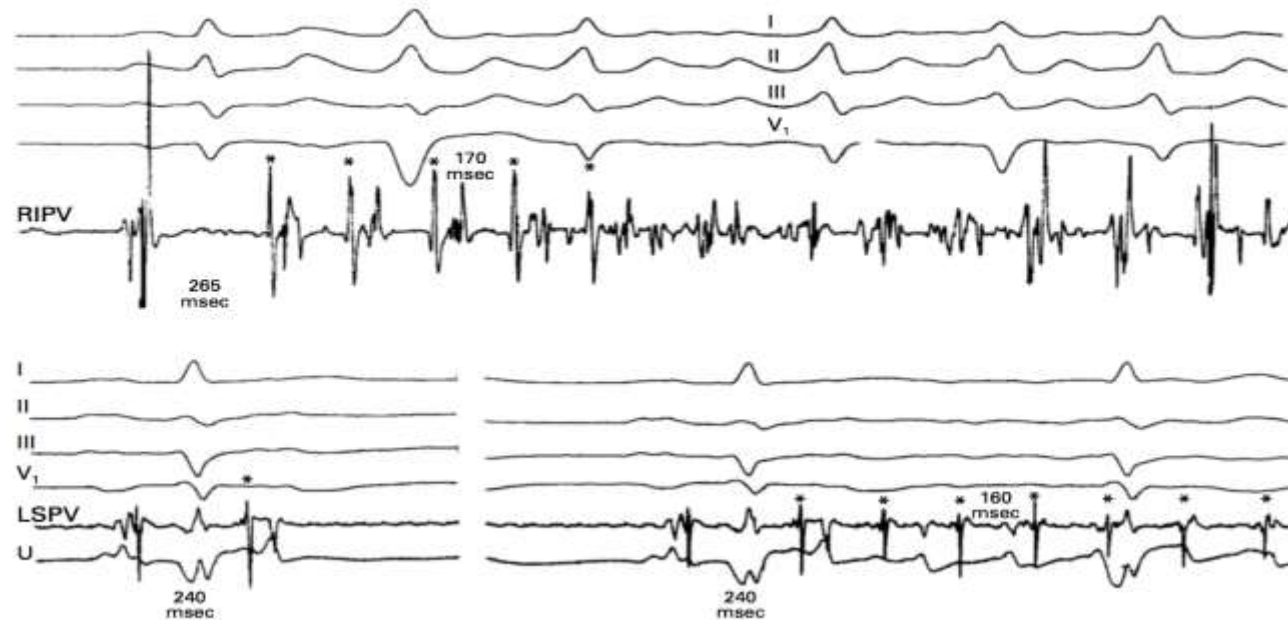


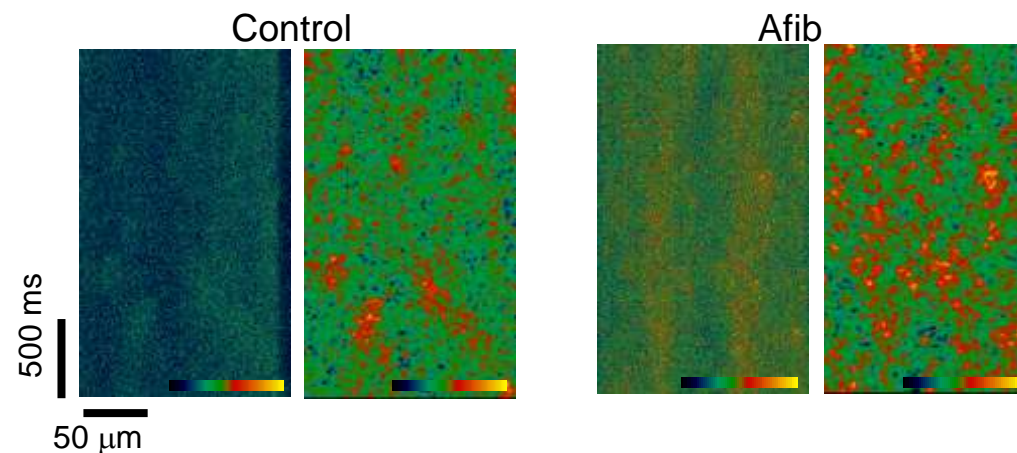


Figure 3. Two Examples of the Onset of Atrial Fibrillation from Foci in a Right Inferior Pulmonary Vein and a Left Superior Pulmonary Vein.

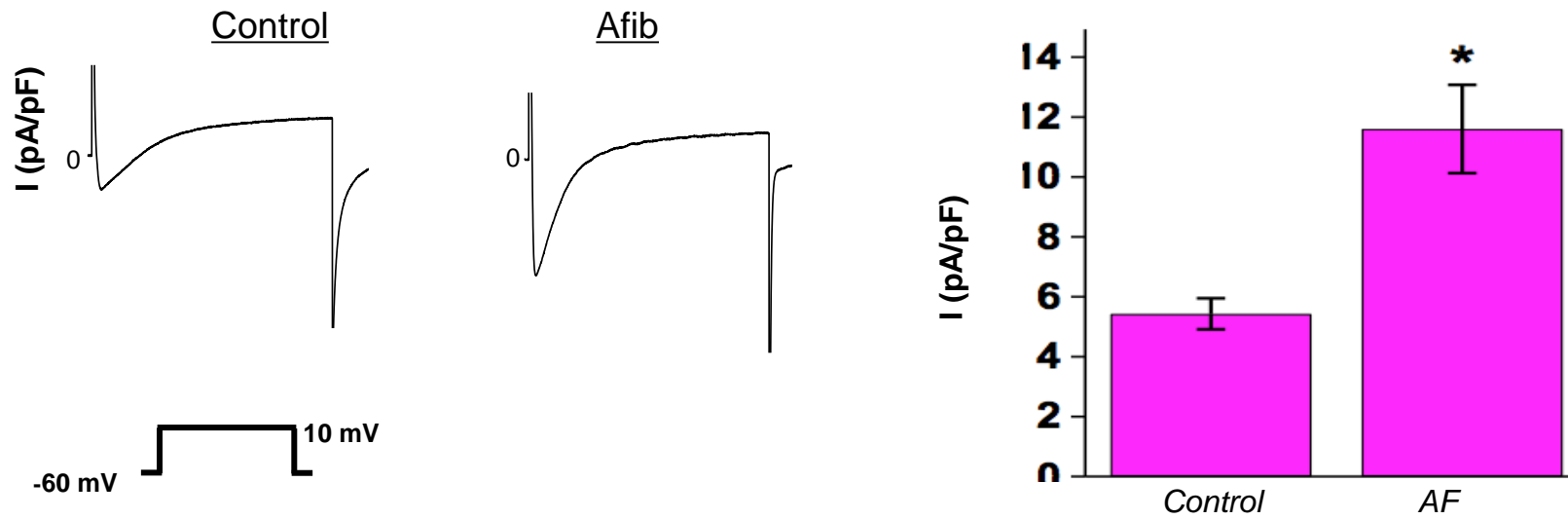
Angiotensin II-induced changes of calcium sparks and ionic currents in human atrial myocytes: Potential role for early remodeling in atrial fibrillation

Natig Gassanov^a, Mathias C. Brandt^{a,b}, Guido Michels^{a,b}, Michael Lindner^a, Fikret Er^a, Uta C. Hoppe^{a,b}  

Ca²⁺- homeostasis in atrial fibrillation



Overexpression of L-type-calcium channels in atrial fibrillation ($I_{Ca,L}$)



Gassanov et al., JBC, 2008

MANTRA-PAF



Radiofrequency Ablation as Initial Therapy in Paroxysmal Atrial Fibrillation

Jens Cosedis Nielsen, M.D., D.M.Sc., Arne Johannessen, M.D., D.M.Sc., Pekka Raatikainen, M.D., Ph.D., Gerhard Hindricks, M.D., Ph.D., Håkan Wallfridsson, M.D., Ph.D., Ole Kongstad, M.D., Ph.D., Steen Pehrson, M.D., D.M.Sc., Anders Englund, M.D., Ph.D., Juha Hartikainen, M.D., Ph.D., Leif Spange Mortensen, M.Sc., and Peter Steen Hansen, M.D., D.M.Sc.

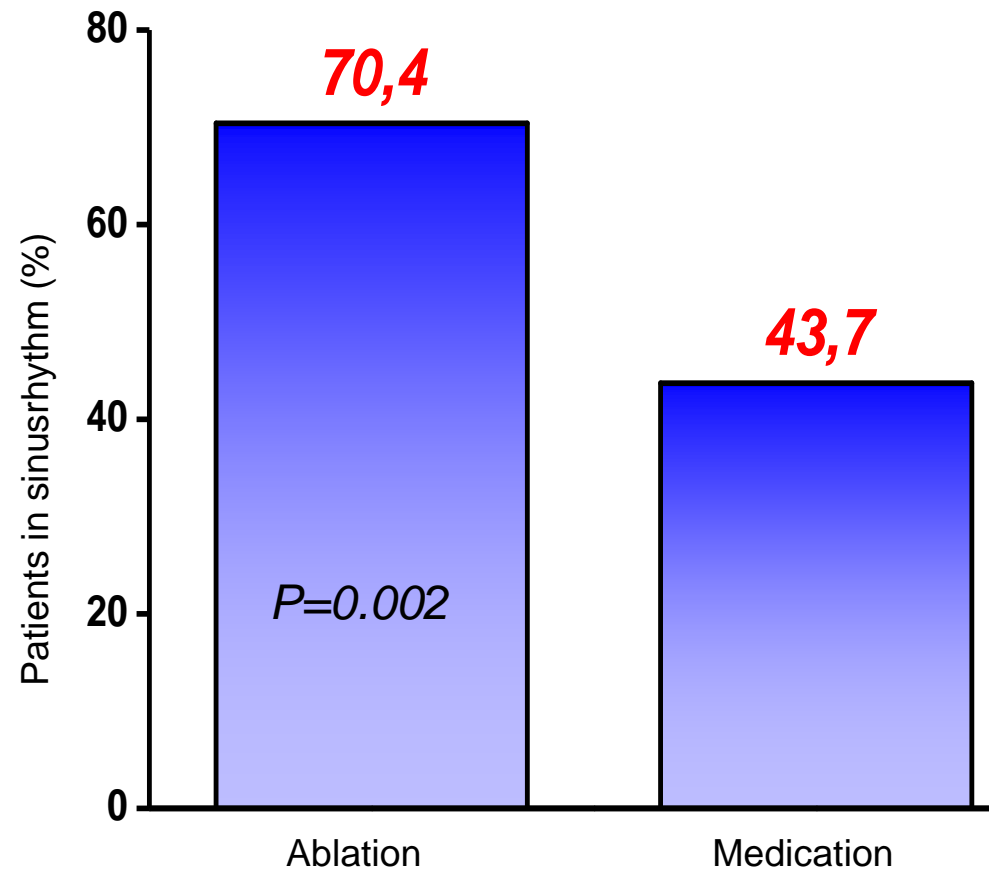


SARA-Study

Catheter ablation vs. antiarrhythmic drug treatment of persistent atrial fibrillation: a multicentre, randomized, controlled trial
($n=449$)

Primary Endpoint: *Afib at 1 year*

Follow-up: 2 years



Mont et al., Eur Heart J 2014

Recommendation Table 19 — Recommendations for catheter ablation of AF (see also Evidence Table 19)

First-line rhythm control therapy

Catheter ablation is recommended as a first-line option within a shared decision-making rhythm control strategy in patients with paroxysmal AF, to reduce symptoms, recurrence, and progression of AF. ^{16,591–594}

I	A
---	---

AF patients resistant or intolerant to antiarrhythmic drug therapy

Catheter ablation is recommended in patients with paroxysmal or persistent AF resistant or intolerant to antiarrhythmic drug therapy to reduce symptoms, recurrence, and progression of AF. ^{3,15,503,505,506,508}

I	A
---	---

Left atrial catheter ablation

Recommendations	Class ^a	Level ^b
Catheter ablation of AF may be considered in patients with symptomatic long-standing persistent AF refractory to antiarrhythmic drugs.	IIb	C
Catheter ablation of AF in patients with heart failure may be considered when antiarrhythmic medication, including amiodarone, fails to control symptoms.	IIb	B
Catheter ablation of AF may be considered prior to antiarrhythmic drug therapy in symptomatic patients despite adequate rate control with paroxysmal symptomatic AF and no significant underlying heart disease.	IIb	B

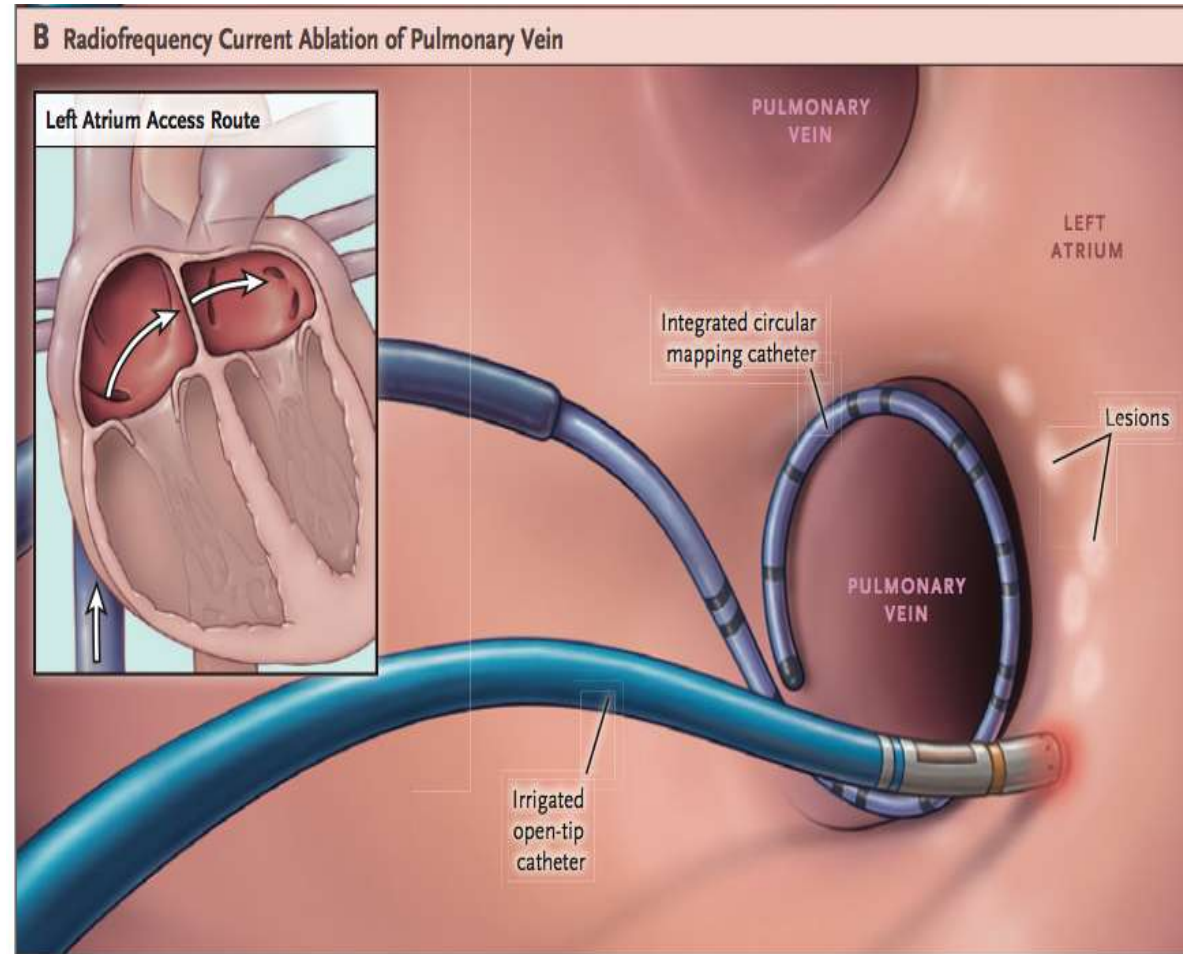
^aClass of recommendation.

^bLevel of evidence.

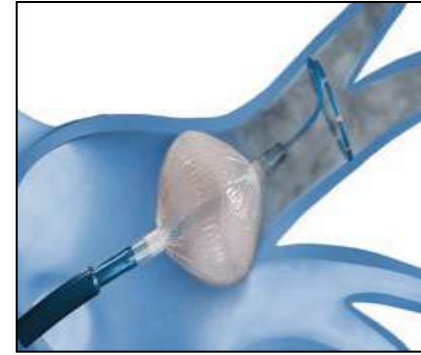
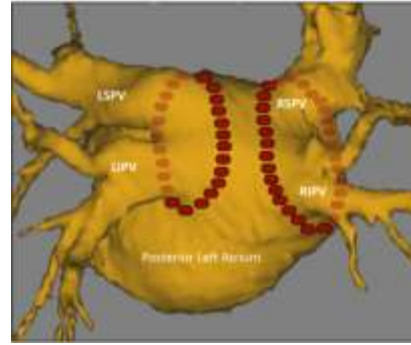
AF = atrial fibrillation; i.v. = intravenous; LMWH = low molecular weight heparin; OAC = oral anticoagulant; UFH = unfractionated heparin.

Pulmonary vein isolation

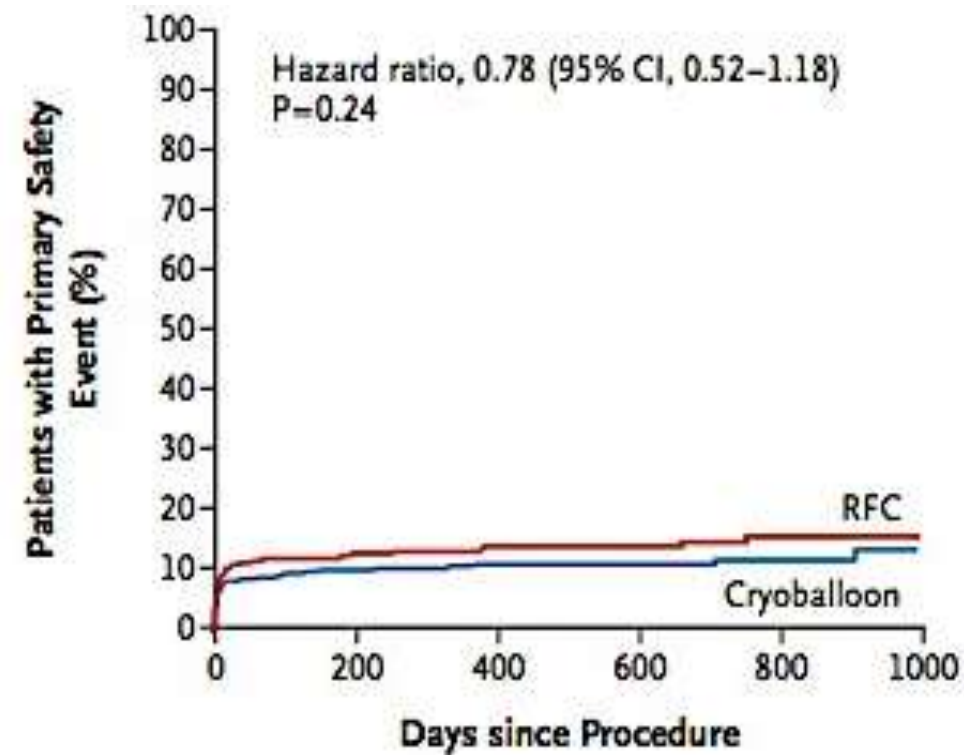
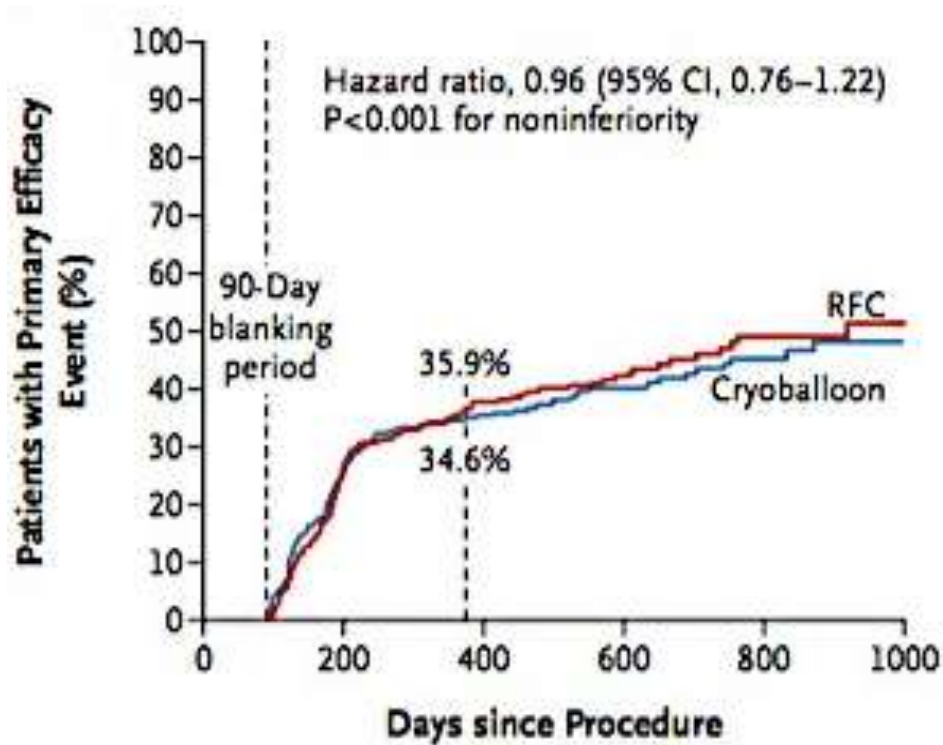
2005-2016



FIRE AND ICE



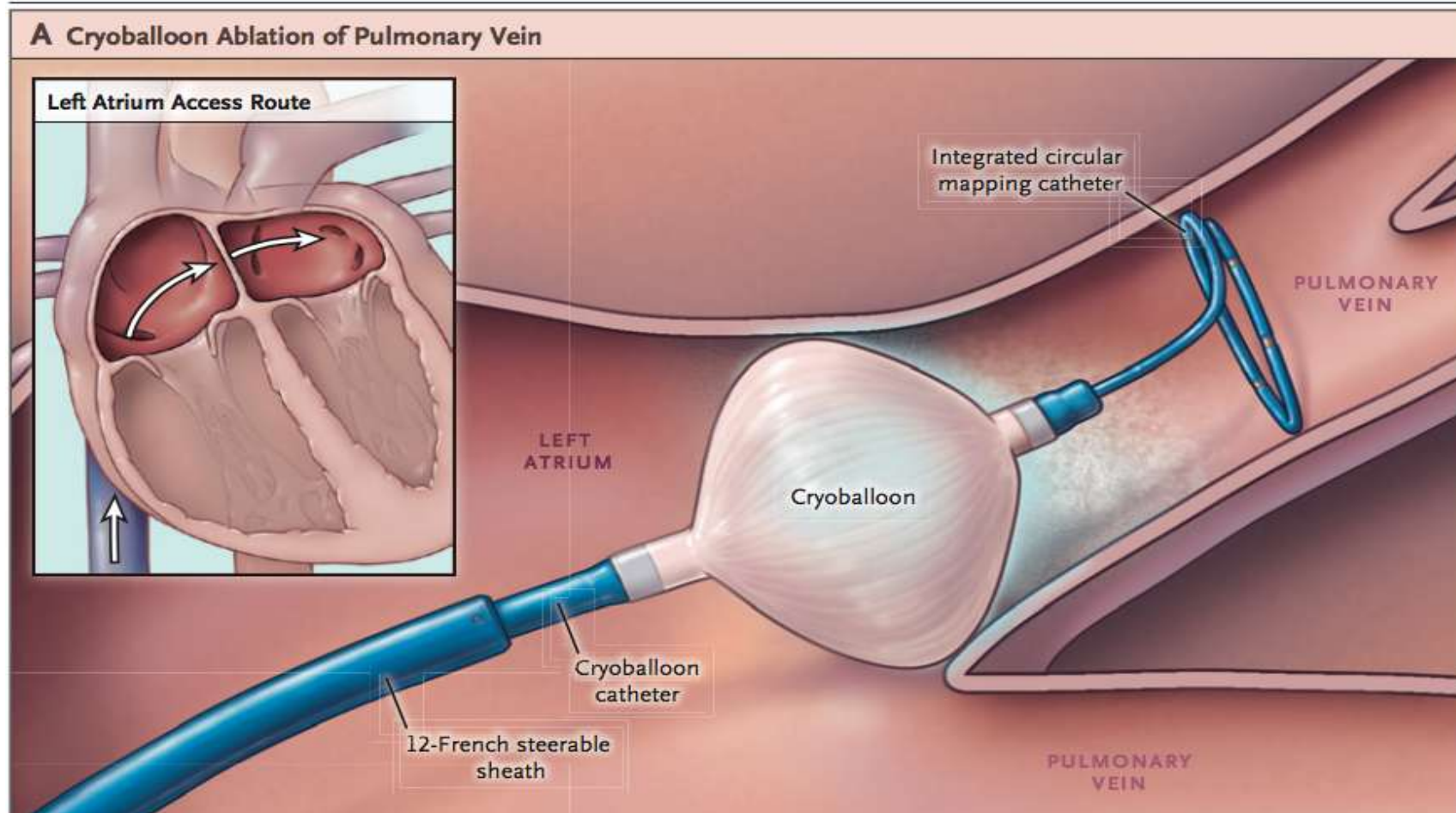
- Patients with paroxysmal AF (n=762), Follow-up 1,5 years
- Primary efficacy endpoint: SVT (AF, atrial flutter, atrial tachycardia)
- Primary safety endpoint: death, apoplex/TIA, complications of the PVI



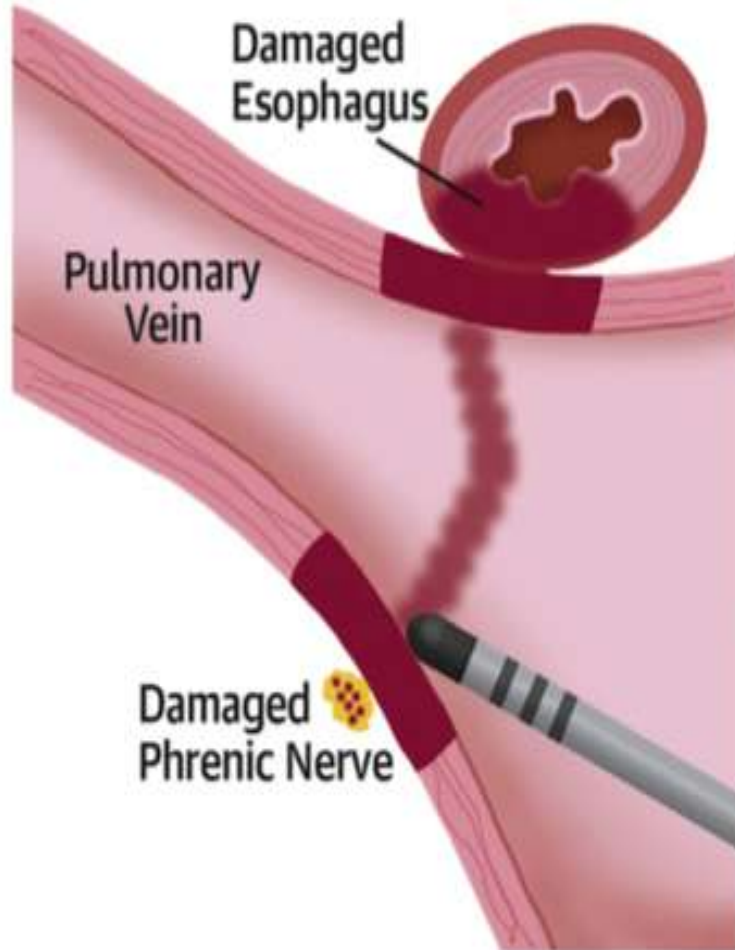
Kuck et al., NEJM, 2016

Pulmonary vein isolation

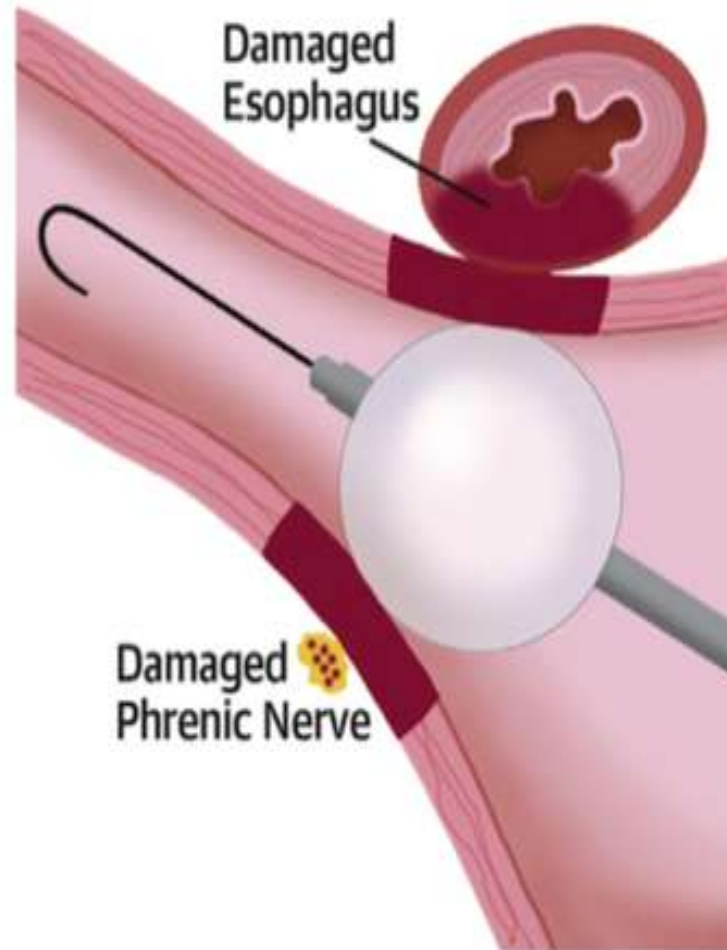
Since 2016



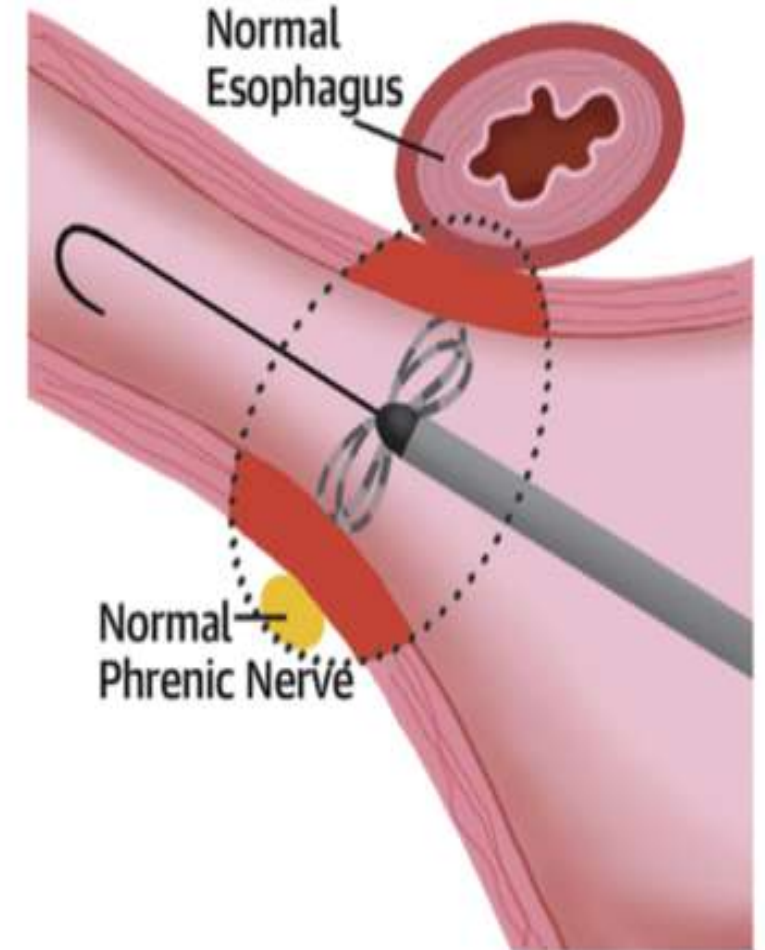
Radiofrequency Ablation



Cryoballoon Ablation



Pulsed Field Ablation



Pulsed field Ablation: new chances, new risks?

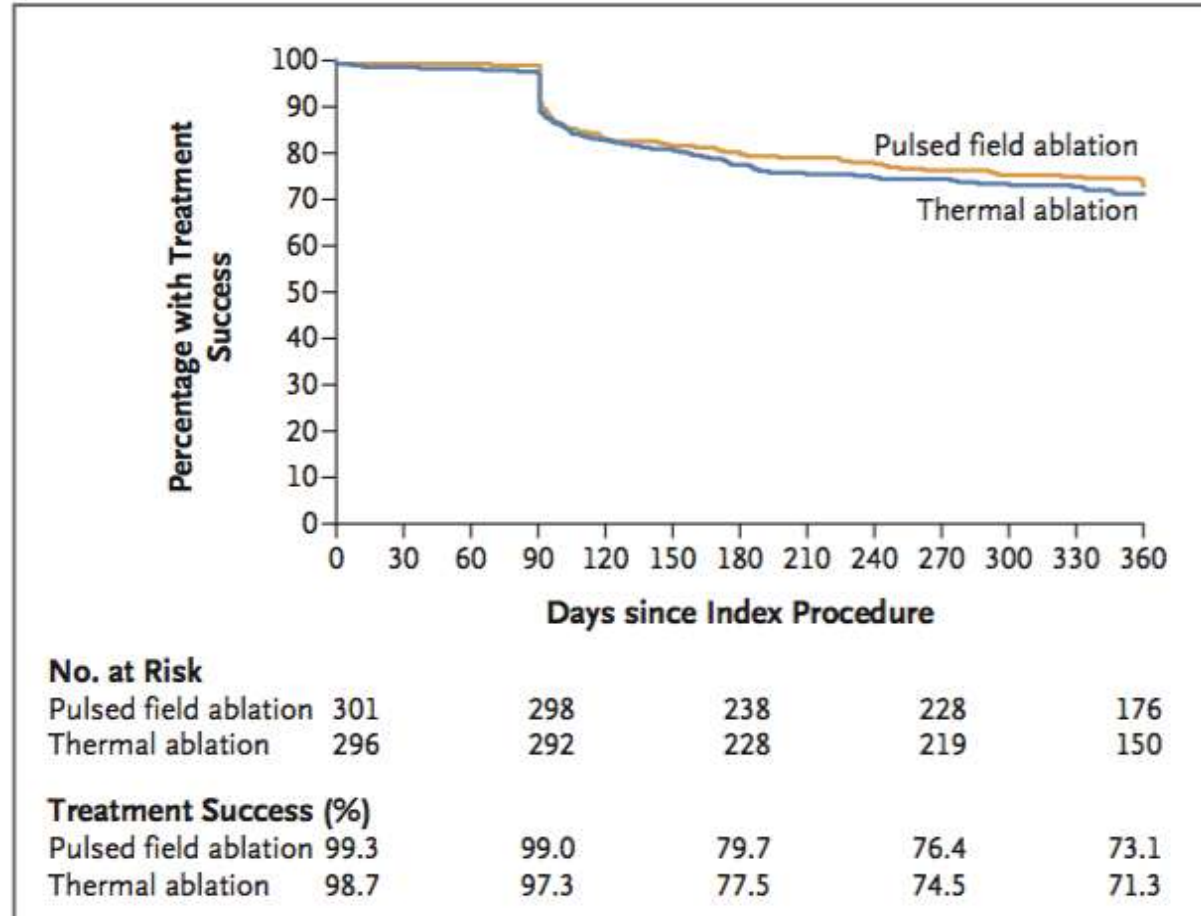


Table 3. Serious and Nonserious Adverse Events.*

Event	Serious Adverse Events†		Serious or Nonserious Adverse Events‡	
	Pulsed Field Ablation (N=305)	Thermal Ablation (N=302)	Pulsed Field Ablation (N=305)	Thermal Ablation (N=302)
	<i>number of patients (percent)</i>			
Any event	6 (2.0)§	4 (1.3)	7 (2.3)§	6 (2.0)
Death	1 (0.3)	0	1 (0.3)	0
Myocardial infarction	0	0	0	0
Persistent phrenic-nerve palsy	0	0	0	2 (0.7)
Stroke	0	1 (0.3)	0	1 (0.3)
TIA	1 (0.3)	0	1 (0.3)	0
Systemic thromboembolism	0	0	0	0
Cardiac tamponade or perforation	2 (0.7)	0	2 (0.7)	0
Pericarditis	1 (0.3)	0	2 (0.7)	0
Pulmonary edema	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)
Vascular-access complication	1 (0.3)	2 (0.7)	1 (0.3)	2 (0.7)
Heart block	0	0	0	0
Gastric motility or pyloric spasm	0	0	0	0
Pulmonary vein stenosis	0	0	0	0
Atrioesophageal fistula	0	0	0	0

Reddy et al., NEJM, 2023

First cases in Idar-Oberstein Hospital ($n=14$)



- Average time < 50 Minutes
- AF-Recurrence: 1/14
- No major complication

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)



Chart: netSTART GmbH • Source: [AI-Index.info](https://ai-index.info) • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapperr](#)

AI-INDEX 15 compared to Dow Jones, Nasdaq Composite and Dax 40 since calendar week 1/19

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN CARDIAC ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY?

TAILORED-AF

first multicenter trial on PVI using artificial intelligence (AI) in persistent AF

n =374 in 26 centres in Europe and North America

- AI-Software identified 3D-guided appropriate ablation sites (n=188)
- Primary endpoint: AF-free survival after 1 year

Results

- Compared with PVI alone, AI-Guided Ablation Lowers AF at 12 Months (88% vs. 70%, $p < 0,0001$)
- Longer procedure time (178 vs 62 minutes, $p < 0,001$)

Deisenhofer et al, HRS, 2024, Boston

CONCLUSION

- Evidence-based medicine in the driving motor of the medical progress
- Ablation is now a standard treatment of atrial fibrillation
- The technological progress will possibly make it more effective and easier in future
- Open for collaboration with our colleagues in Azerbaijan