



CAG Symposium: IBD- Managing Biologics “Optimizing Response”



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CanMEDS Roles Covered

X	Medical Expert (as <i>Medical Experts</i> , physicians integrate all of the CanMEDS Roles, applying medical knowledge, clinical skills, and professional values in their provision of high-quality and safe patient-centered care. <i>Medical Expert</i> is the central physician Role in the CanMEDS Framework and defines the physician's clinical scope of practice.)
	Communicator (as <i>Communicators</i> , physicians form relationships with patients and their families that facilitate the gathering and sharing of essential information for effective health care.)
X	Collaborator (as <i>Collaborators</i> , physicians work effectively with other health care professionals to provide safe, high-quality, patient-centred care.)
X	Leader (as <i>Leaders</i> , physicians engage with others to contribute to a vision of a high-quality health care system and take responsibility for the delivery of excellent patient care through their activities as clinicians, administrators, scholars, or teachers.)
	Health Advocate (as <i>Health Advocates</i> , physicians contribute their expertise and influence as they work with communities or patient populations to improve health. They work with those they serve to determine and understand needs, speak on behalf of others when required, and support the mobilization of resources to effect change.)
X	Scholar (as <i>Scholars</i> , physicians demonstrate a lifelong commitment to excellence in practice through continuous learning and by teaching others, evaluating evidence, and contributing to scholarship.)
X	Professional (as <i>Professionals</i> , physicians are committed to the health and well-being of individual patients and society through ethical practice, high personal standards of behaviour, accountability to the profession and society, physician-led regulation, and maintenance of personal health.)

Dr. Waqqas Afif

Financial Interest Disclosure

(over the past 24 months)

Commercial Interest	Relationship
Janssen/Abbvie	Advisory board/consultant/investigator
Takeda/Pfizer/Merck/Shire/Ferring	Advisory board
Prometheus/Theradiag/Buhlmann	Investigator

Learning Objectives

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

Compare the risks and benefits of combination therapy versus monotherapy in the treatment of patients with IBD

Assess the utility of premedication in the treatment of patients with IBD on biologic therapy

Manage the treatment of patients with IBD on biologic therapy using therapeutic drug monitoring

Combination Therapy in IBD

A very long history ...

REACT Trial: Algorithm-based Treatment with Early Combined Immunosuppression Reduced Complications in CD

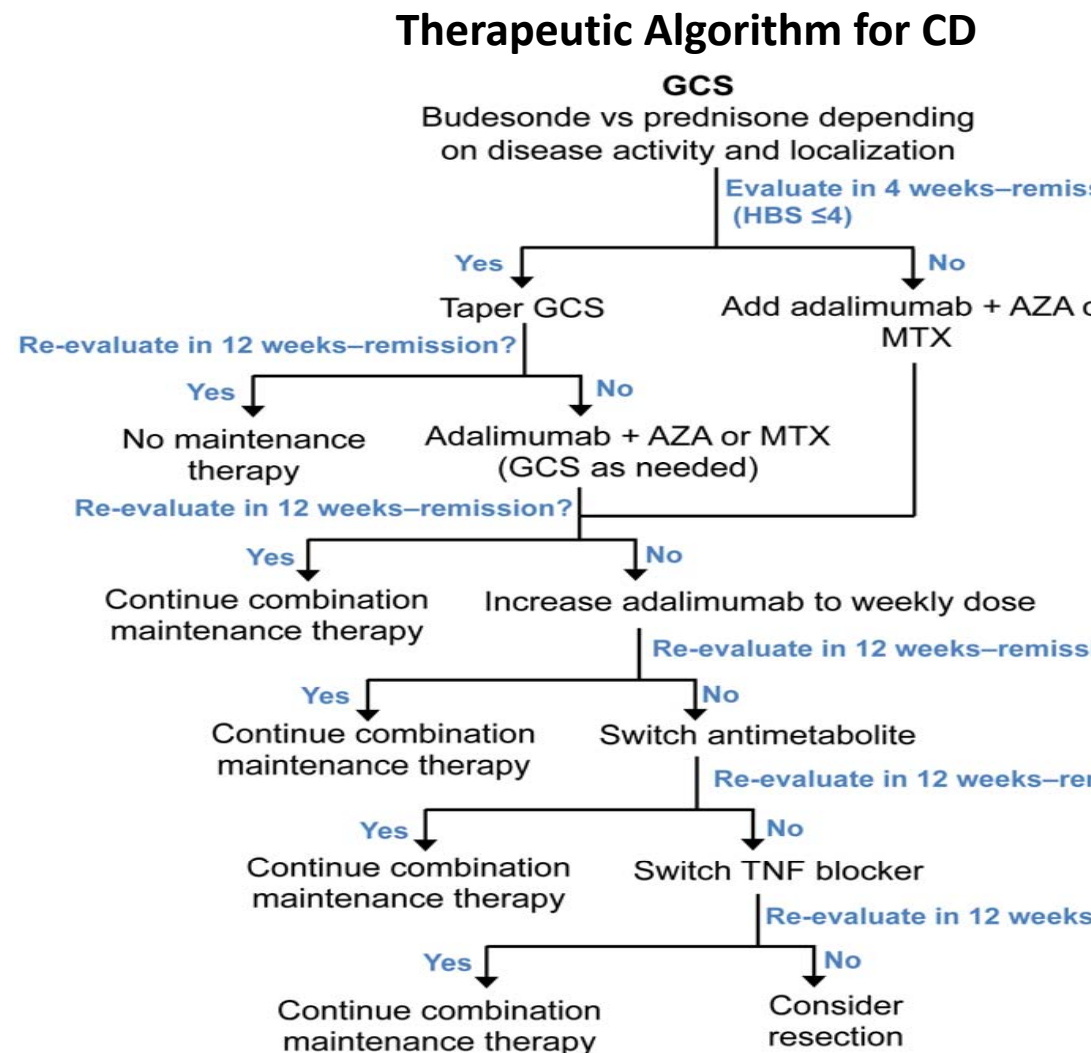
Center-level cluster randomisation to early combined immunosuppression algorithm or current best practice

Patients recruited from 40 centers (n=1982)

Regular clinical review at 4 weeks and then Q12 weeks

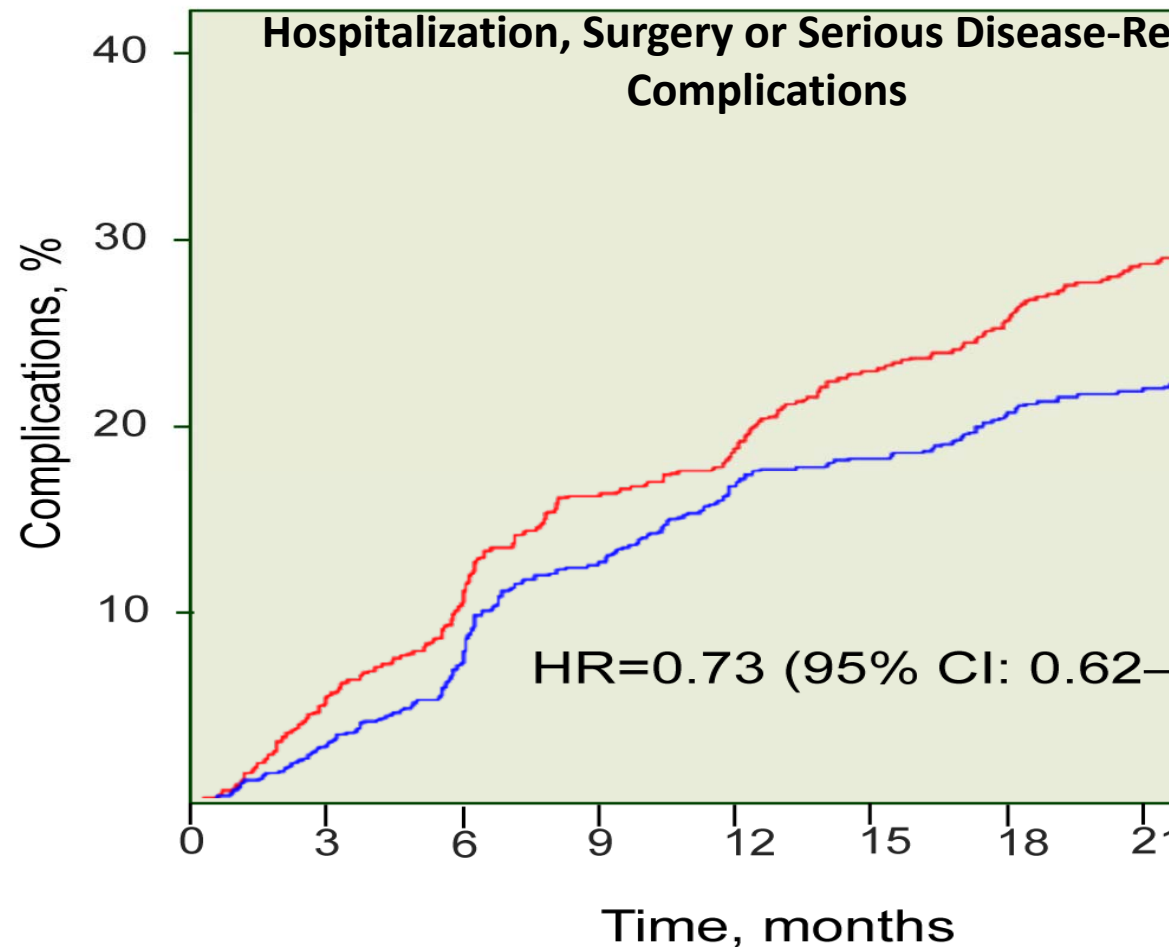
Used algorithm to treat to target
Followed for 24 months

Primary endpoint: clinical remission (BI <5 & no steroids) at 12 months



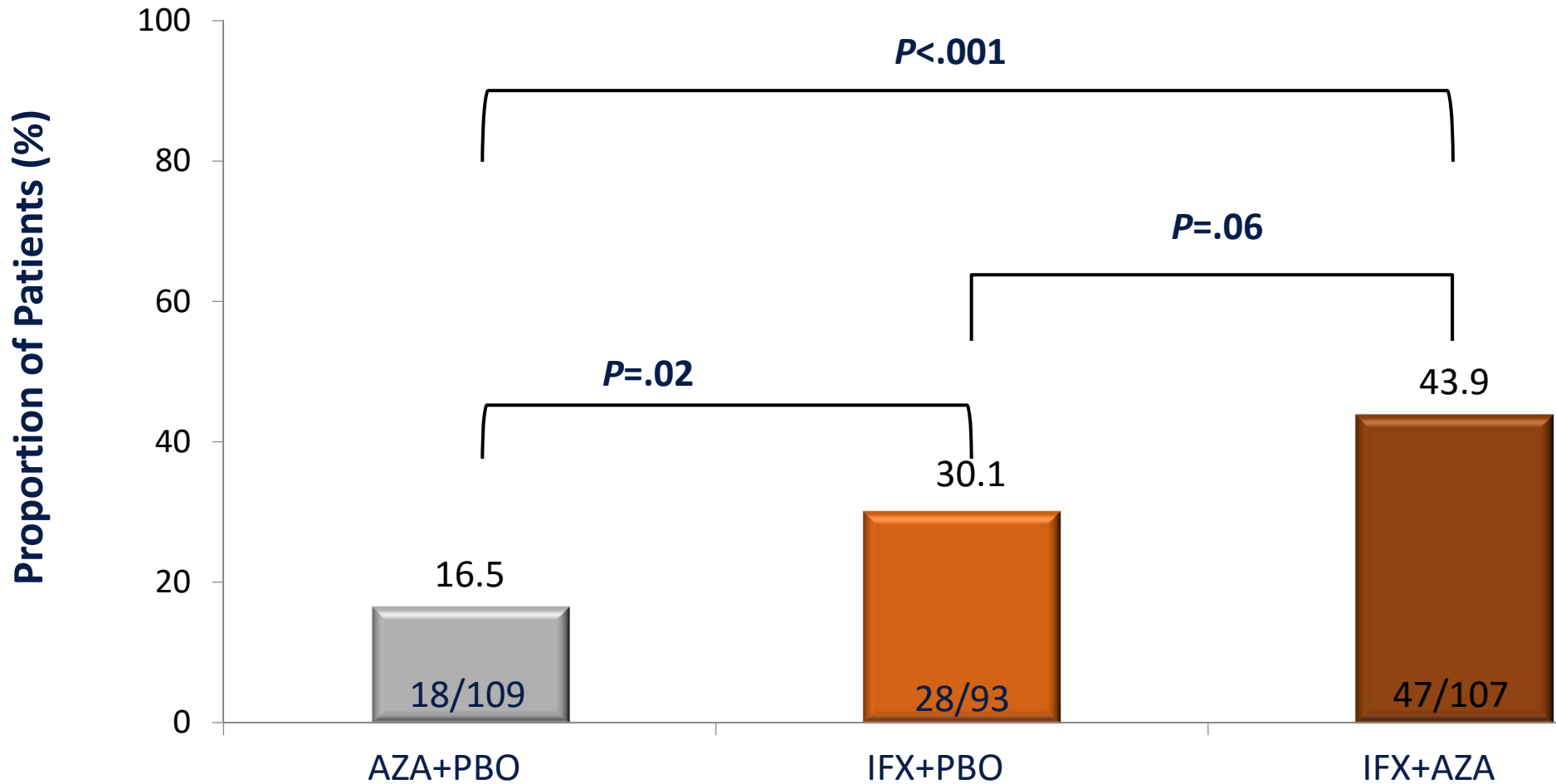
ACT Trial: Algorithm-based Treatment with Early Combination Immunosuppression (ECI) Reduced Complications in CD

primary endpoint (symptomatic remission) was not met BUT →

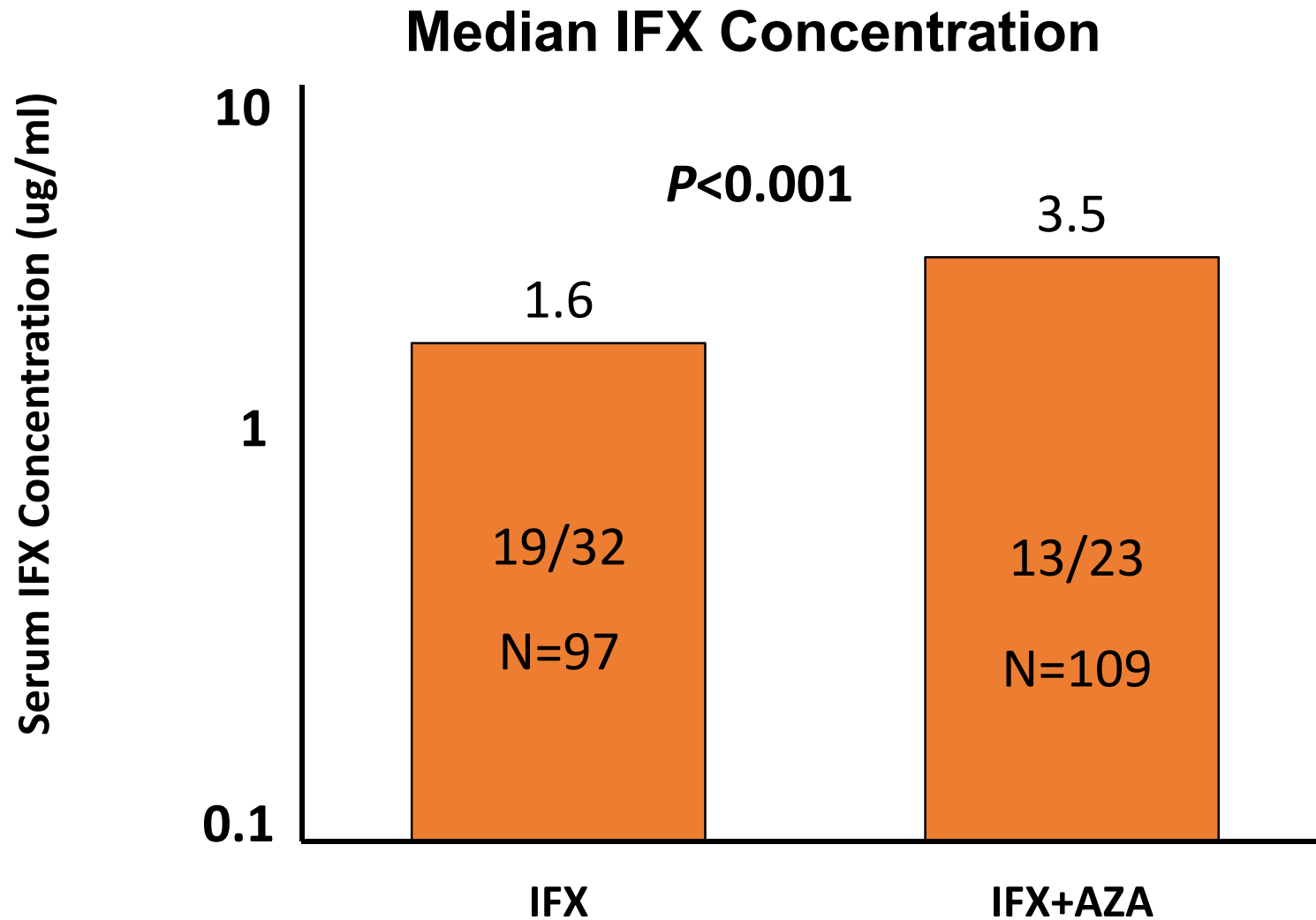


SONIC: Mucosal Healing at Week 26

Median disease duration 2.4 years

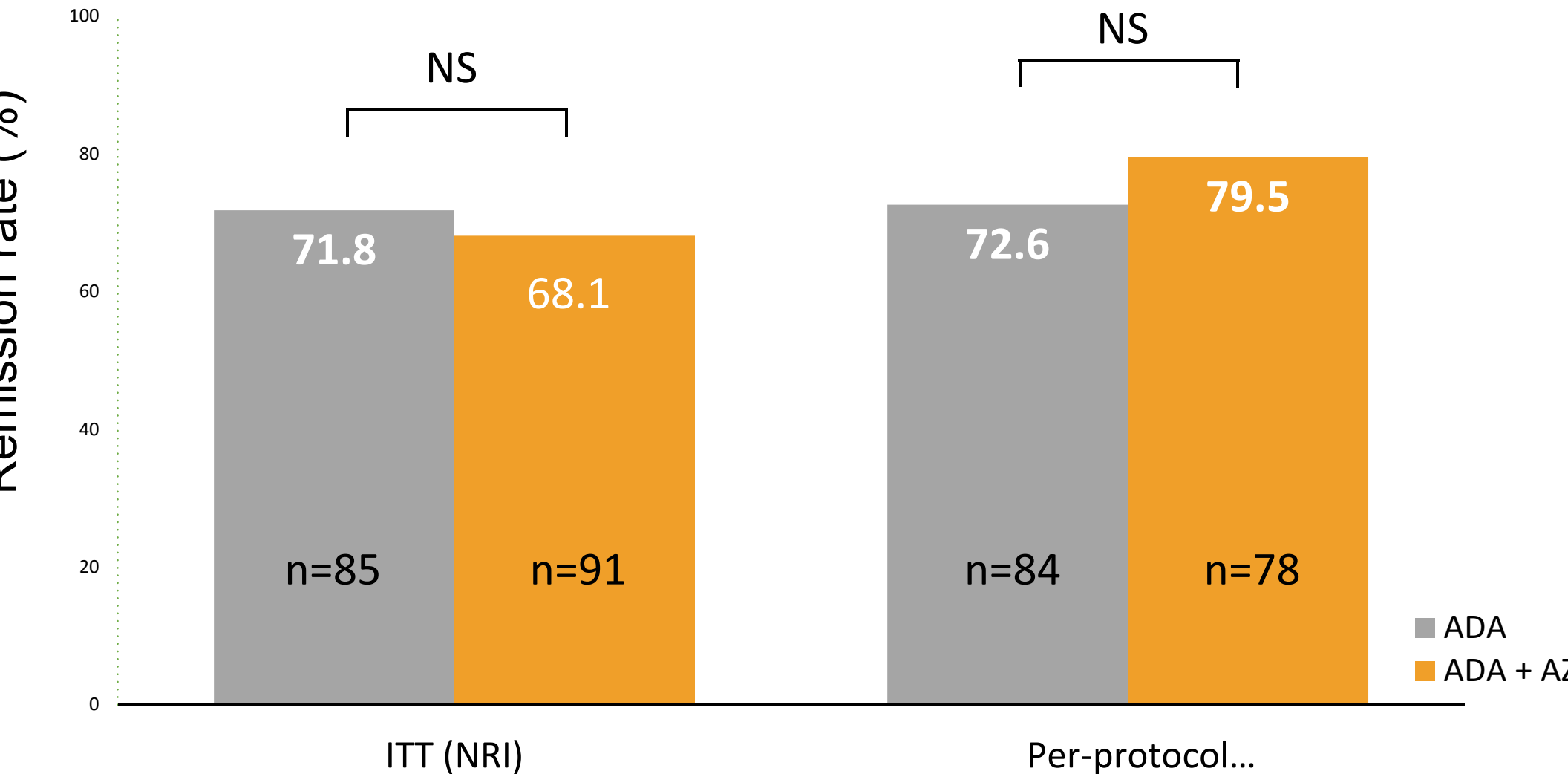


SONIC Study: Serum Infliximab Trough Levels at Week 30



DIAMOND

Combination therapy vs monotherapy with ADAL: Primary Endpoint at week

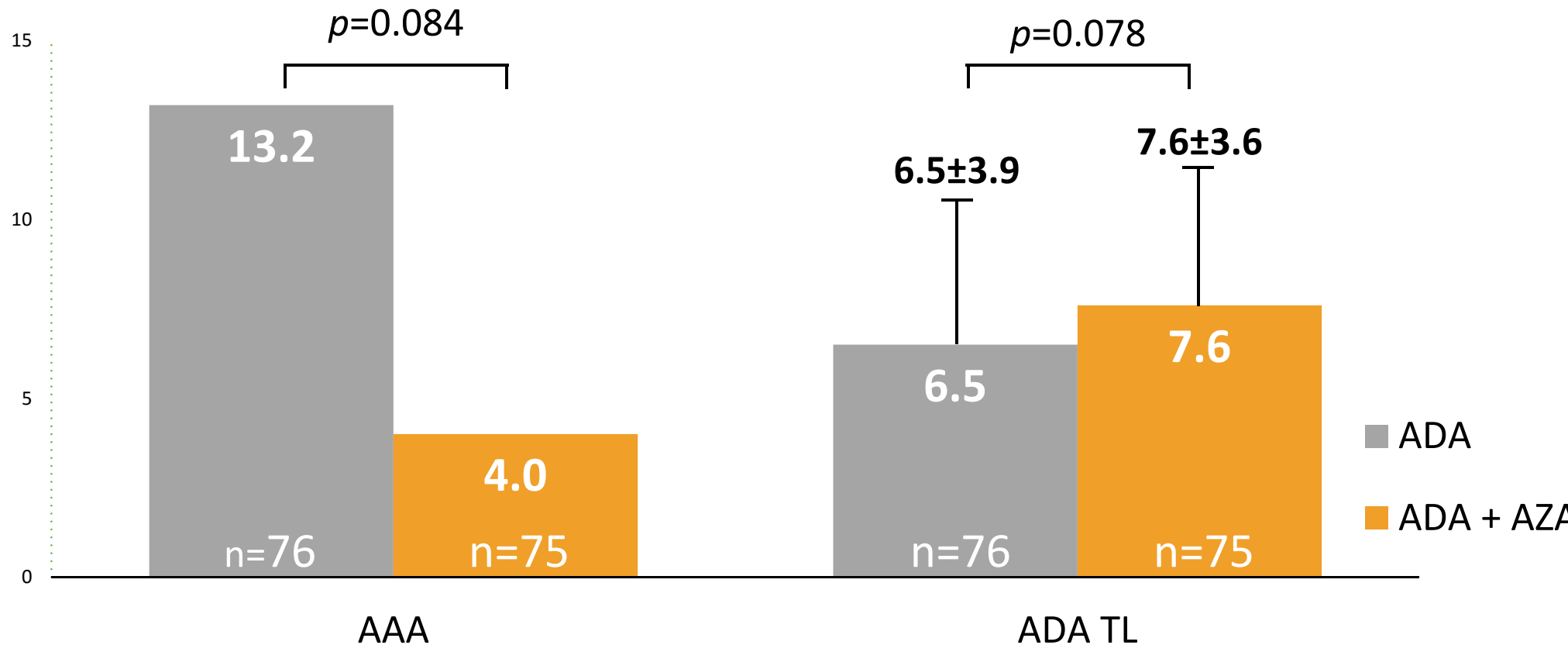


Matsumoto T, et al. . J Crohns Colitis 2016. Epub ahead

DIAMOND

Combination therapy vs monotherapy with ADAL: Primary Endpoint at week

- ADA Trough Level ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)



Positive Rate of AAA (%)

Meta-analysis: Anti-TNF mono- or combination therapy:

Induction of clinical response (between week 4 to 14) and concomitant IMM use

adalimumab



OR: 0.88 (0.60-1.00)

infliximab

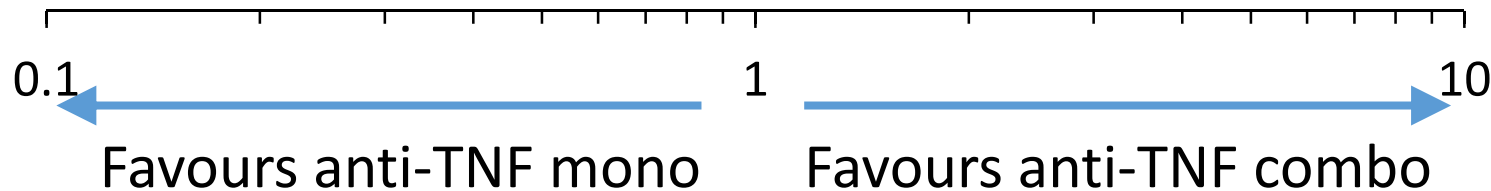


OR: 1.01 (0.66-1.56)

certolizumab



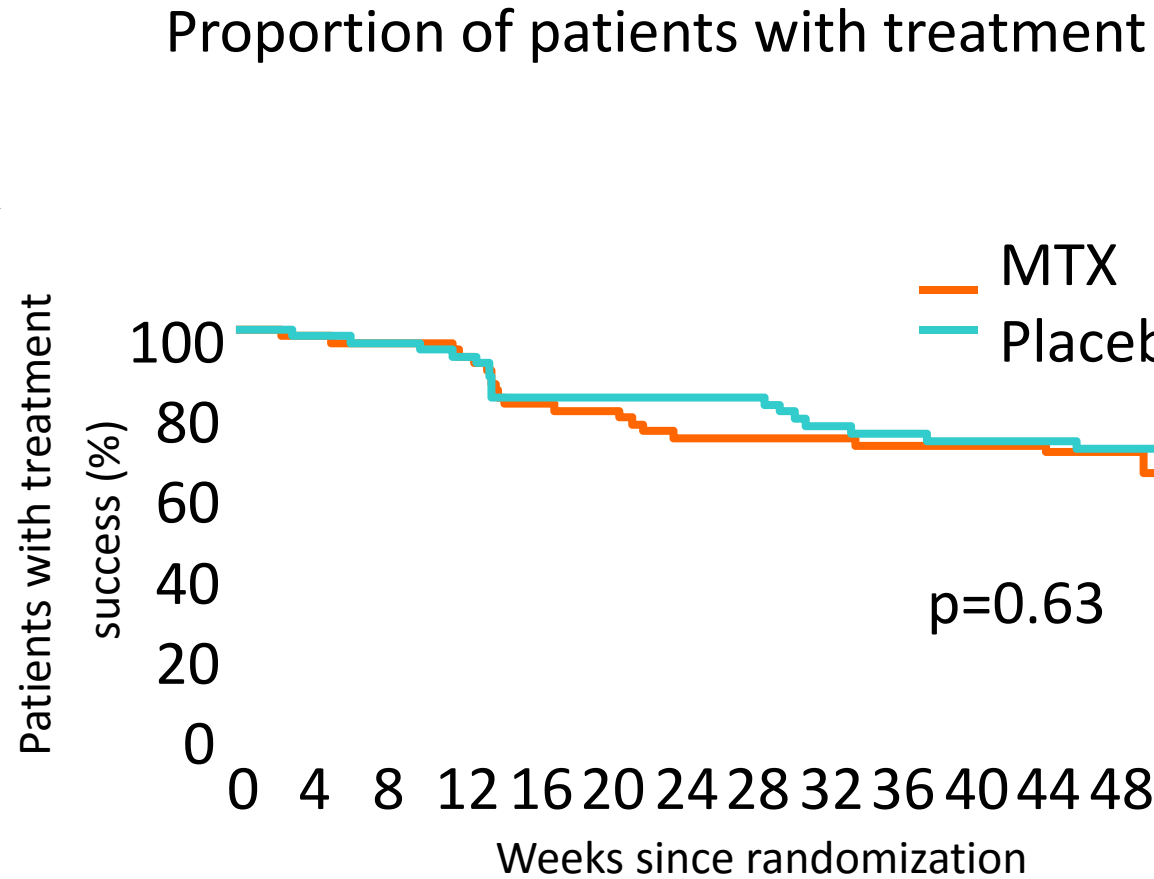
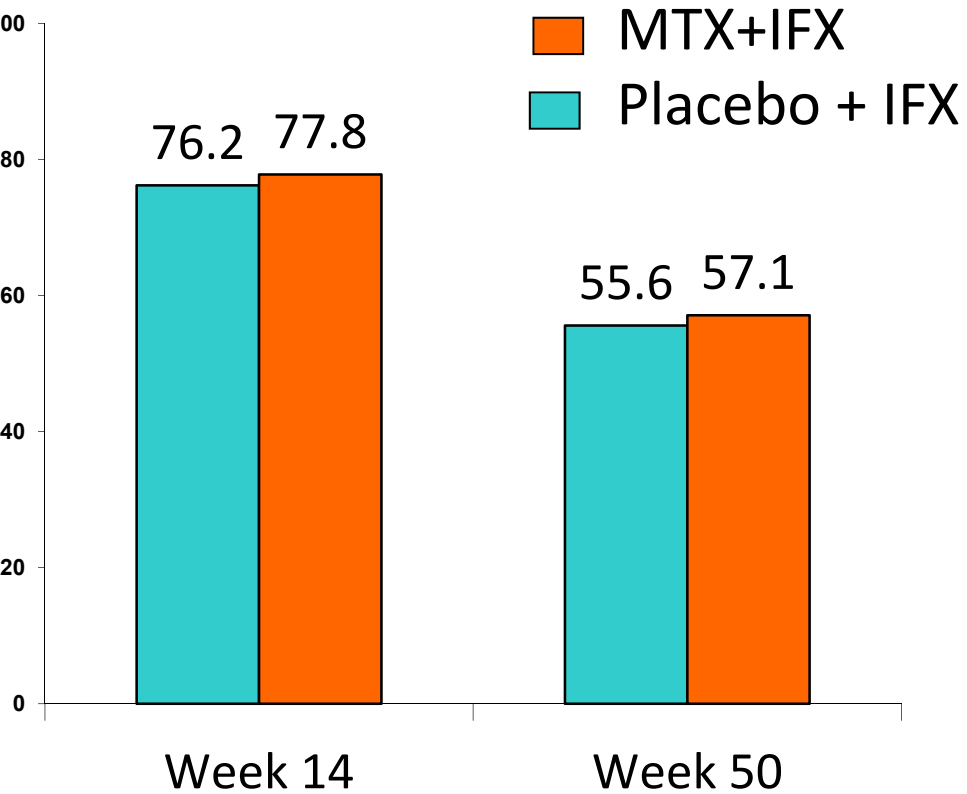
OR: 2.02 (1.09-3.74)



Systematic review of 11 RCTs in patients with luminal and/or fistulising CD who received anti-TNF therapy with/without concomitant IM therapy; combination therapy was not associated with serious adverse events compared to monotherapy across all anti-TNF therapies

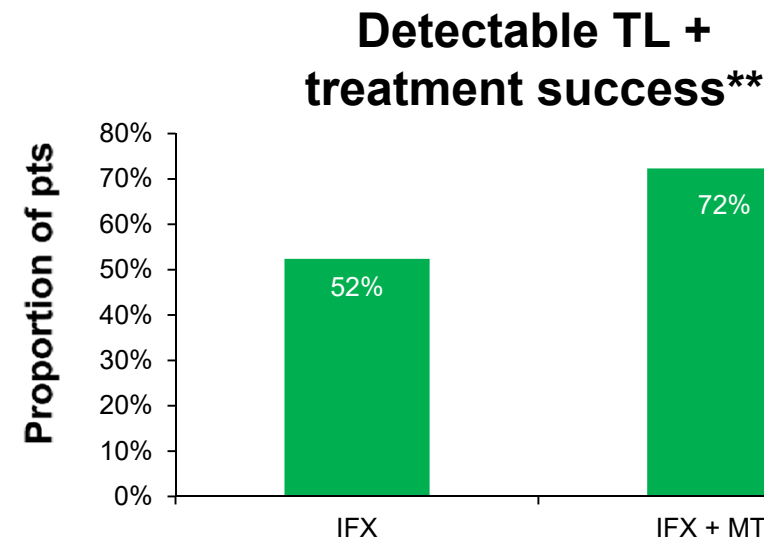
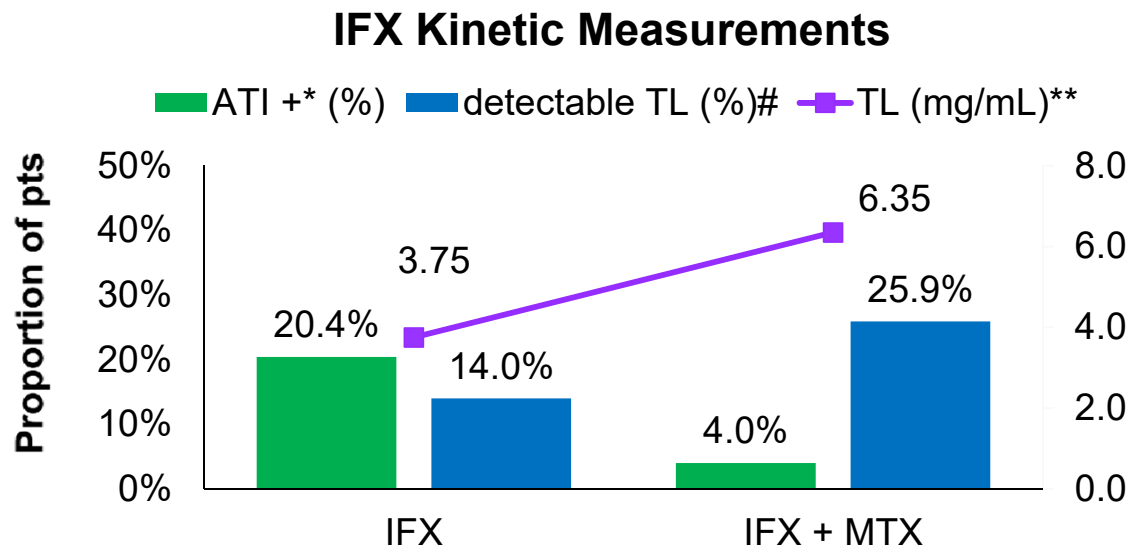
Jones J, et al. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol* 2015;13

COMMIT: MTX plus IFX in CD



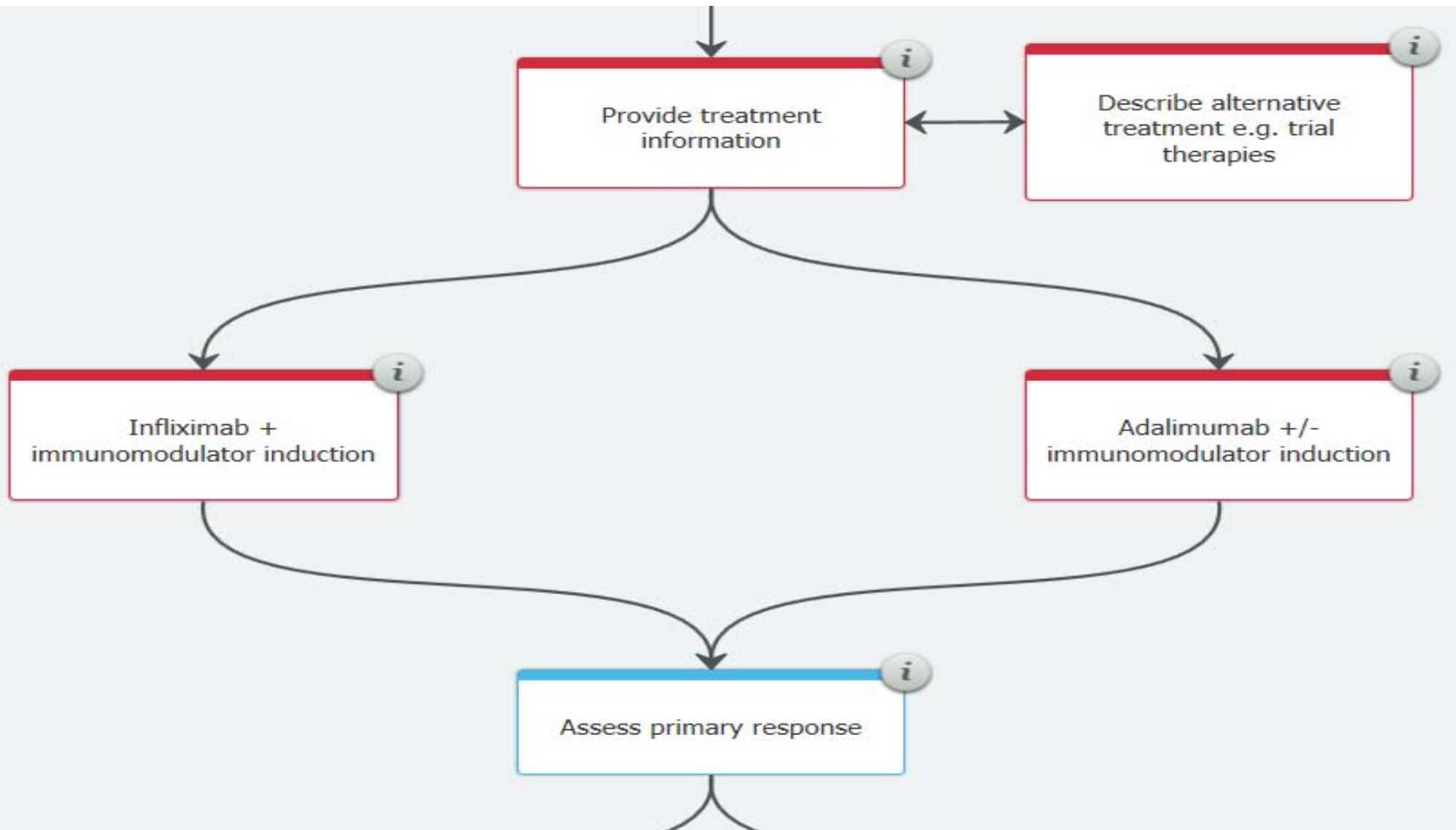
COMMIT: MTX for the Prevention of ADA

Subjects: 126 MTX-naïve CD pts (63 w/ IFX) – ATI and Trough levels (TL) were measured



0.01 **P=0.08 #P=0.13

2016 ECCO Guidelines: CD and UC



Safety: Combination Therapy

EACT: Safety of Early Combined Immunosuppression

No increased risk of infections

Types of Complications / SAEs

	Conventional Management (n=898)	Early Combined Immunosuppression (n=1084)
Worsening Disease	92 (32%)	97 (36%)
Disease Related Complications	134 (47%)	113 (42%)
Extra-Intestinal Manifestations	50 (17%)	47 (17%)
Procedural Complication	2 (0.7%)	2 (0.7%)
Medication Related	10 (3.5%)	10 (3.7%)

CESAME: Risk of Lymphoma with Thiopurines

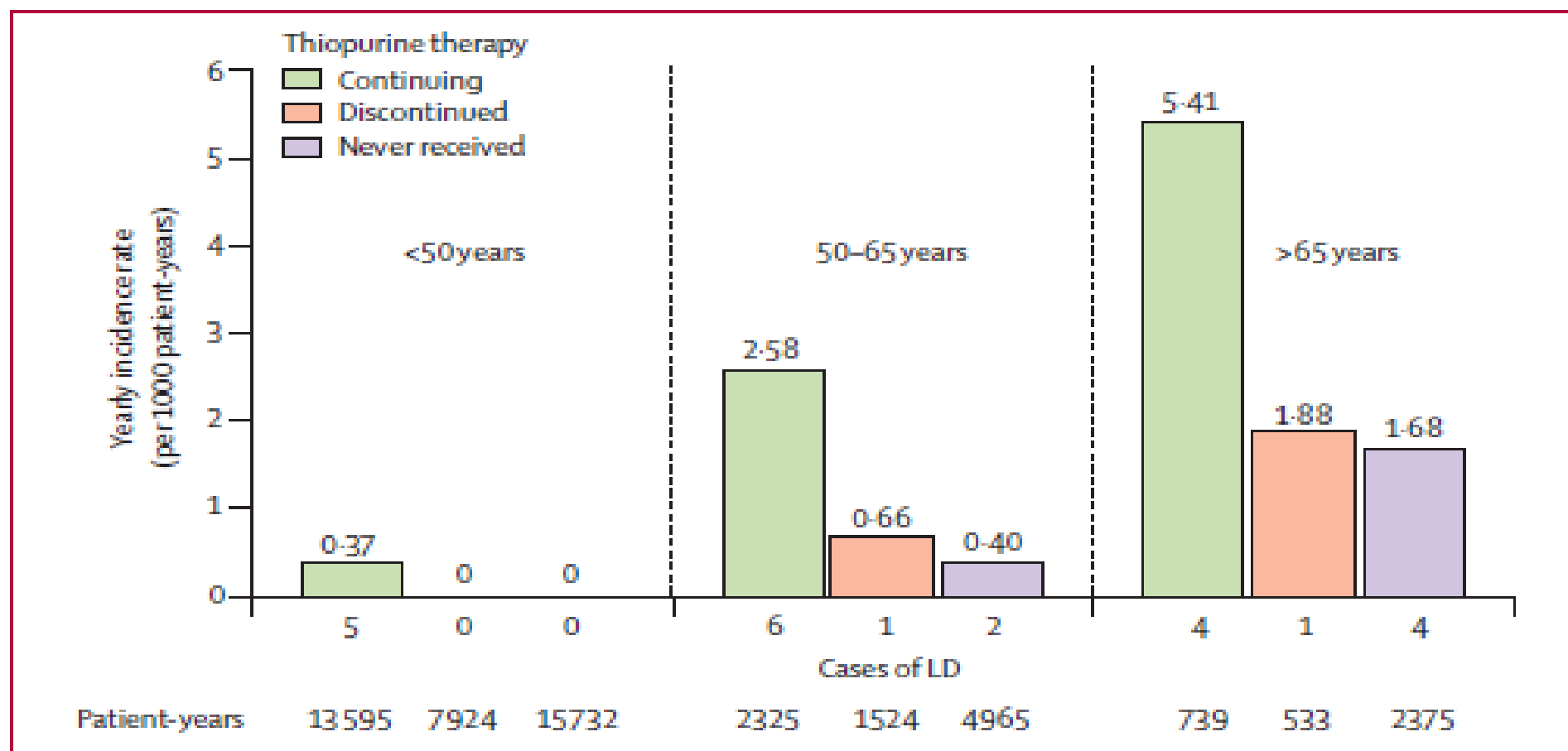
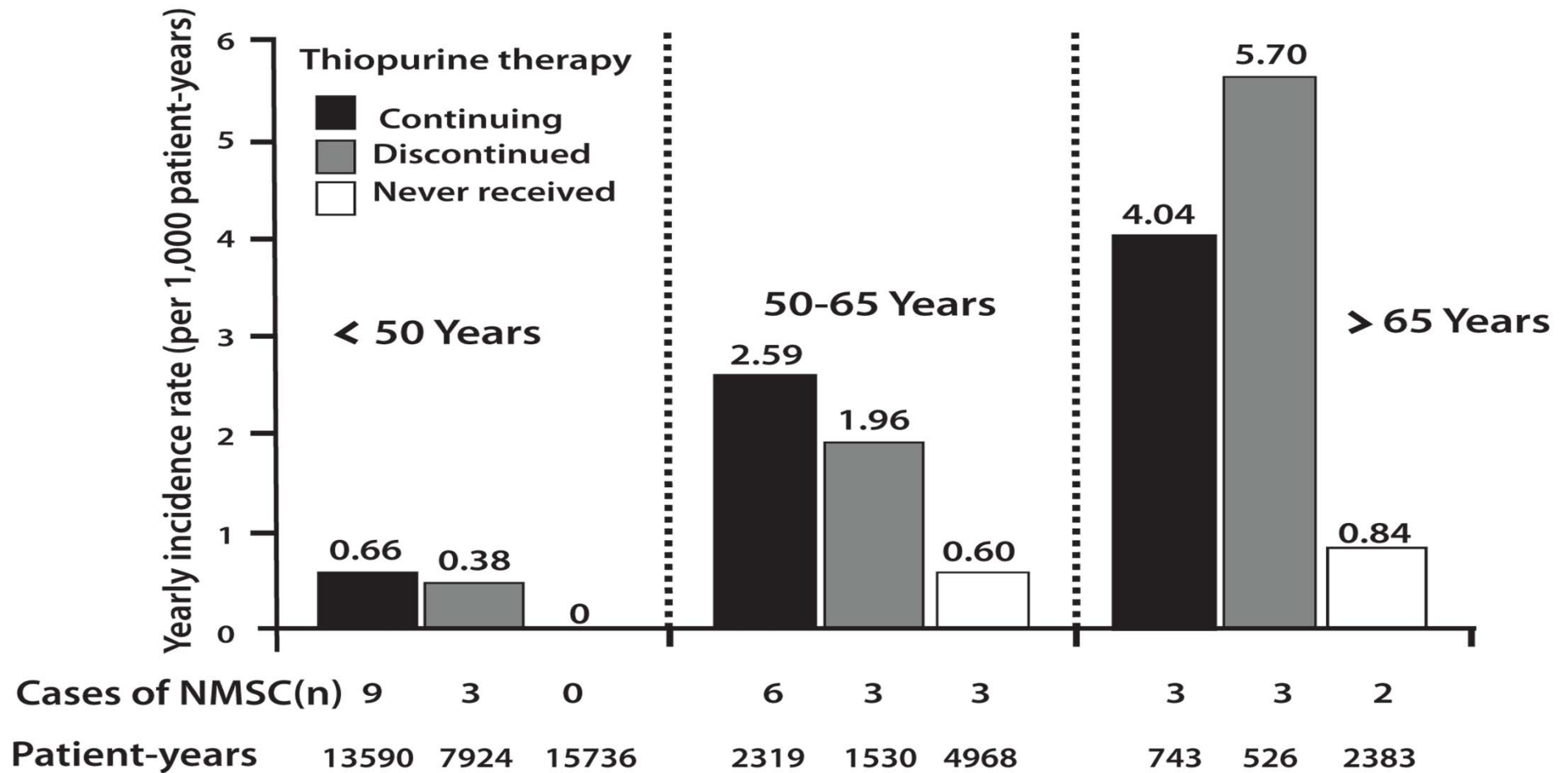


Figure: Incidence rates of lymphoproliferative disorders according to thiopurine exposure grouped by age at entry in the cohort

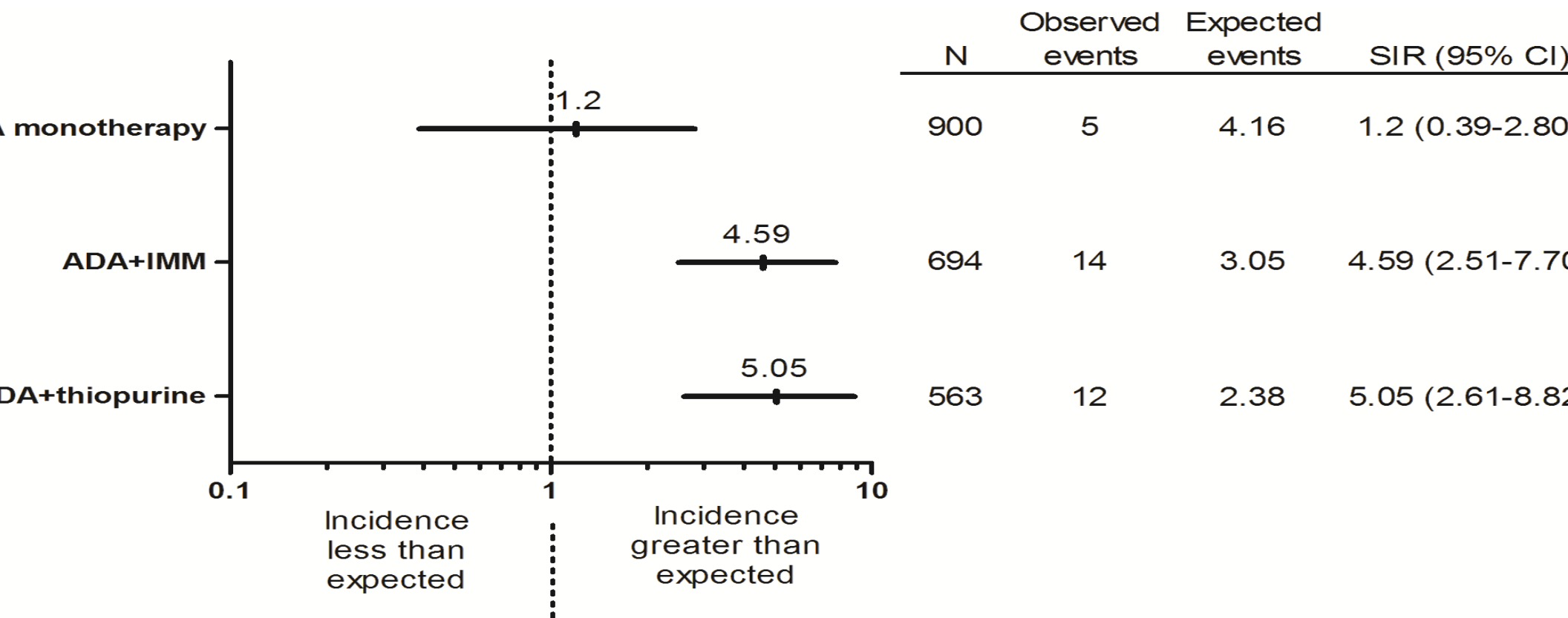
LD=lymphoproliferative disorder.

CESAME: Risk of NMSC with Thiopurines



NMSC: Risk with combination therapy likely attributable to immunomodulators

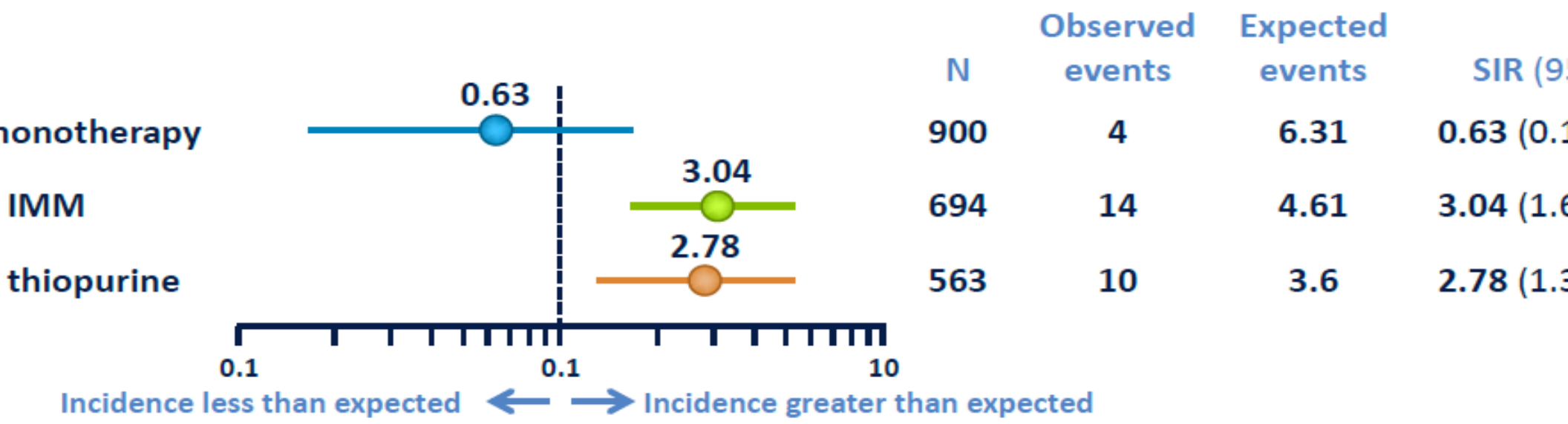
of NMSC with ADA monotherapy or combination therapy compared to the general population



Patients treated with adalimumab combination therapy (either with any IMM or with thiopurine) had a significant 5-fold increased risk of NMSC when compared to the general population.

Malignancies excluding NMSC: Risk with combination therapy likely attributable to immunomodulators

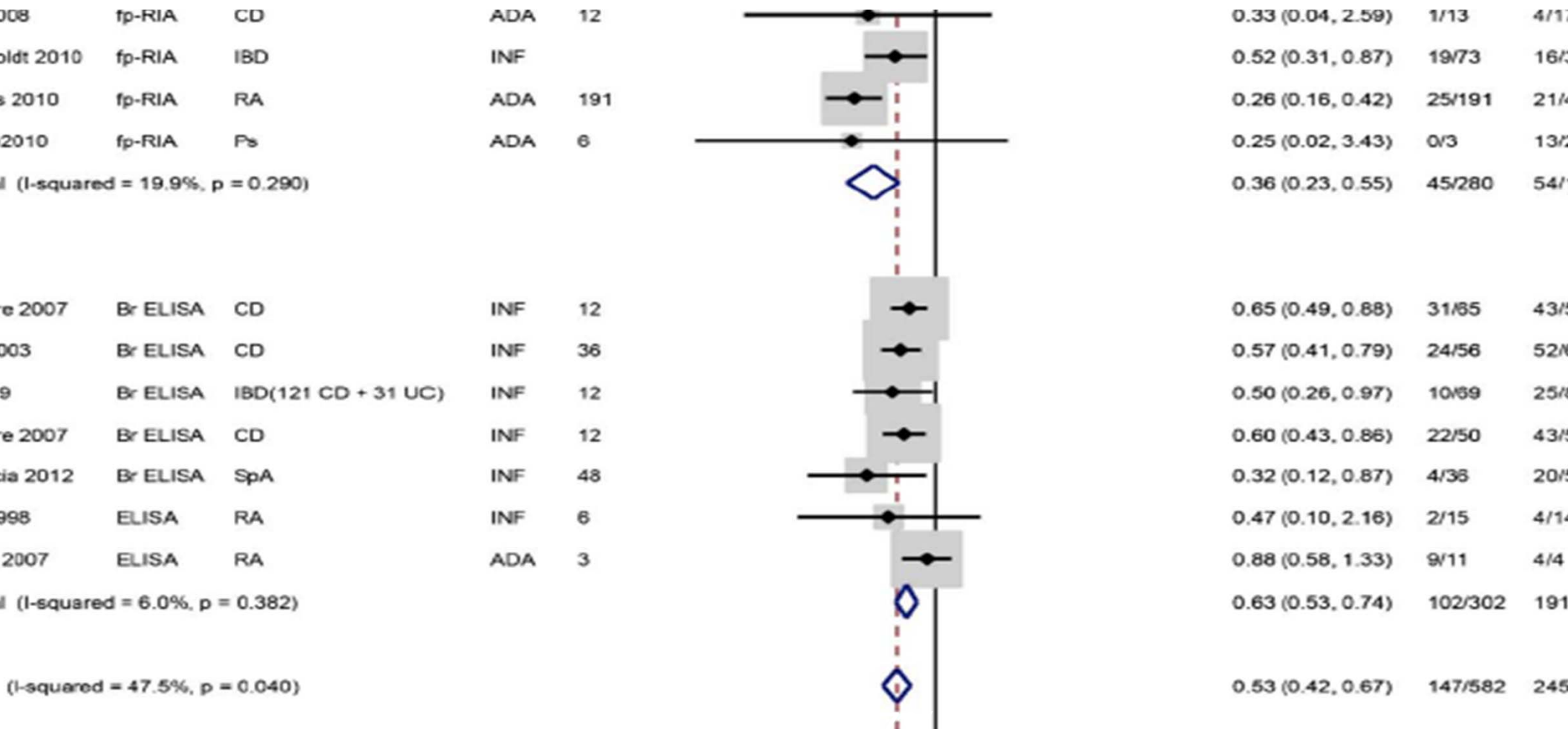
of malignancies excluding NMSC with ADA monotherapy or combination therapy compared to general population



Patients treated with adalimumab combination therapy (either with any IMM or with thiopurine) had a significant 3-fold increased risk of malignancies other than NMSC when compared to the general population.

Do we need to continue
immunosuppression long term ?

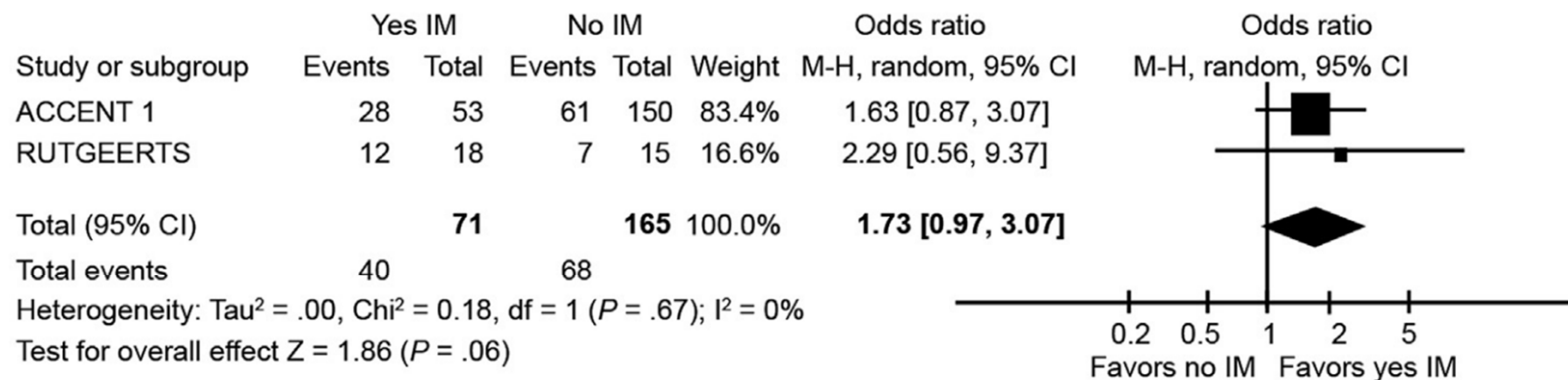
Meta-analysis: Decreased antibody formation with IS Rx



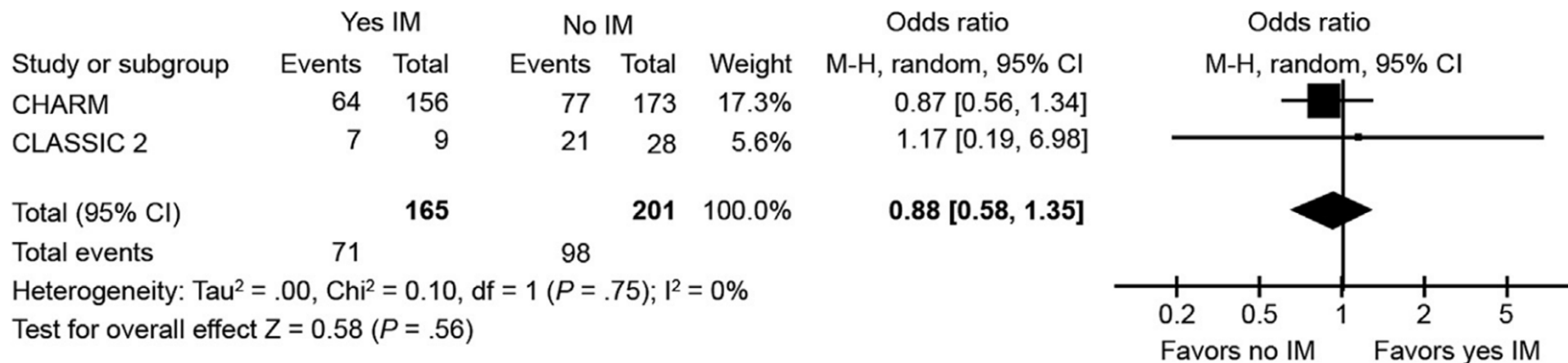
Meta-analysis:

Maintenance anti-TNF mono- or combination therapy

6 month remission for infliximab

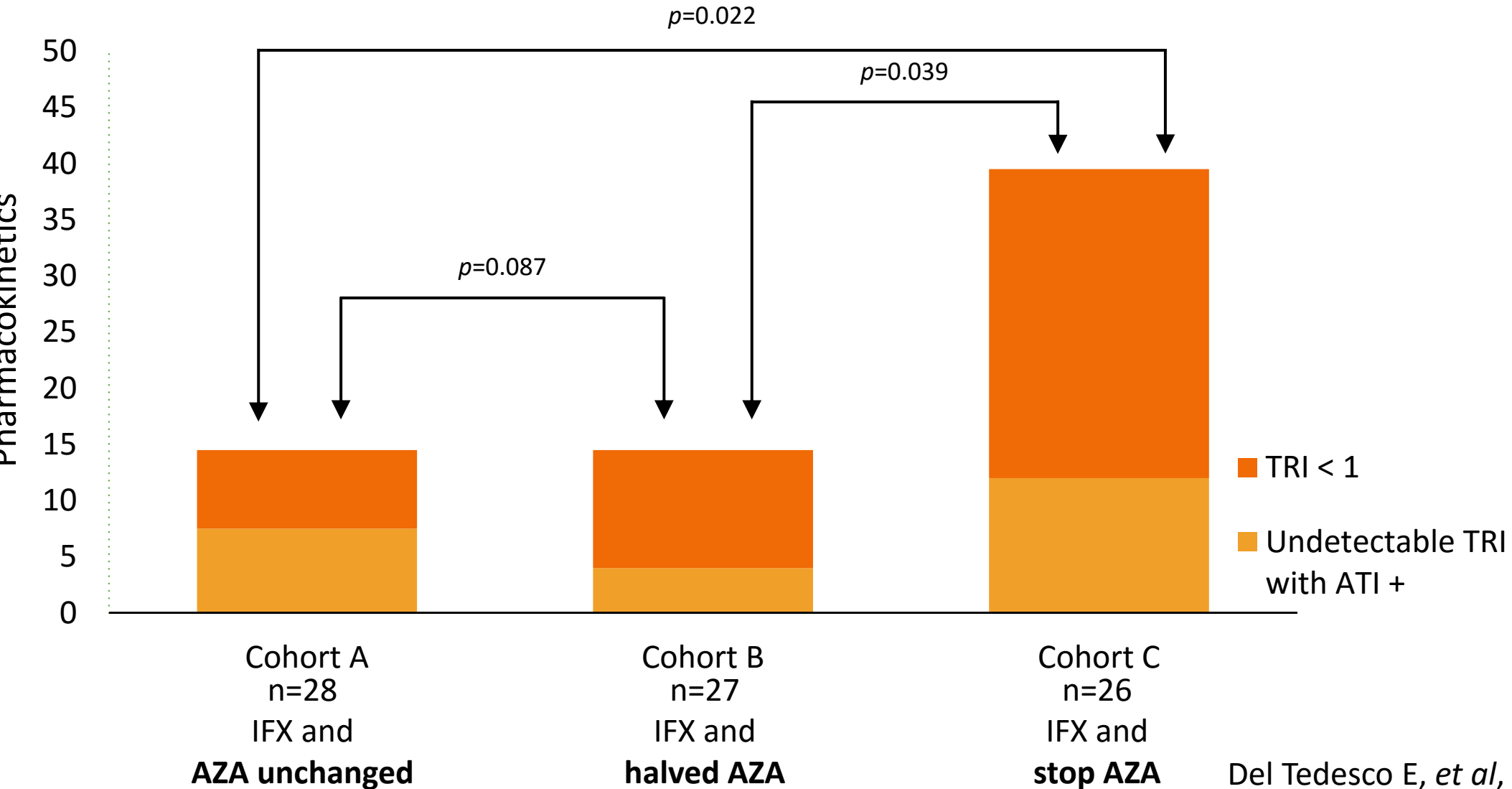


6 month remission for adalimumab



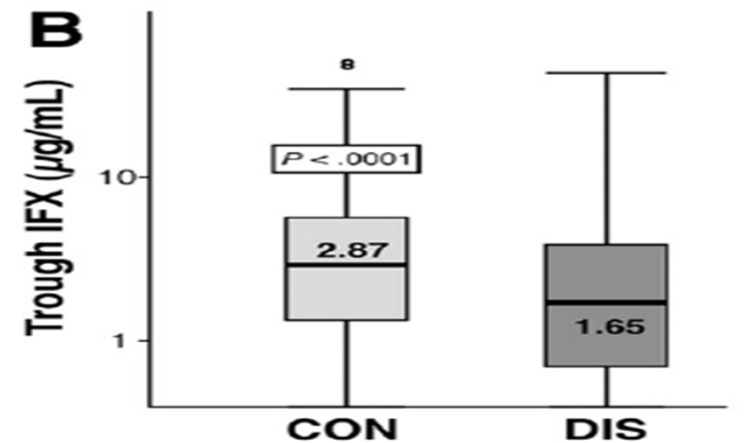
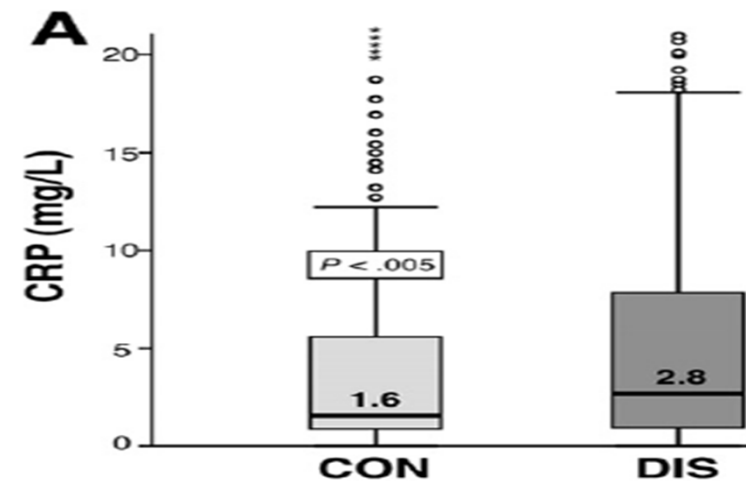
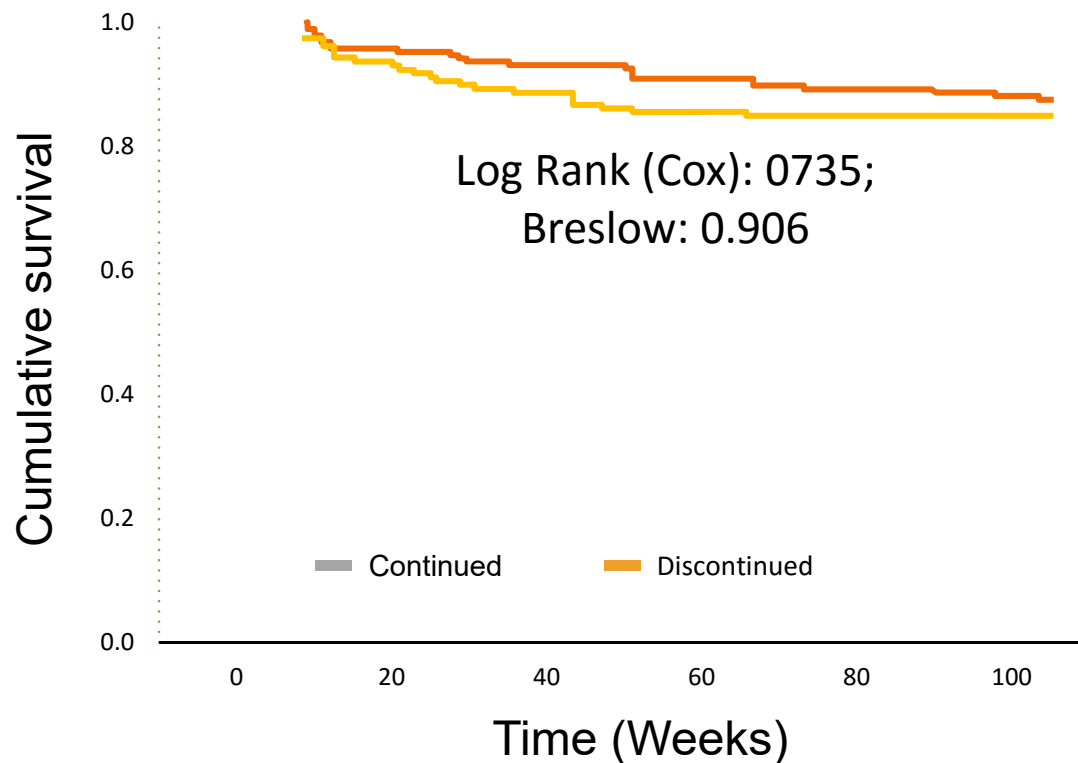
AZA Dose Reduction in Patients on Combination Therapy

- Unfavourable evolution of IFX pharmacokinetics at Week 52



Withdrawal of immunosuppression

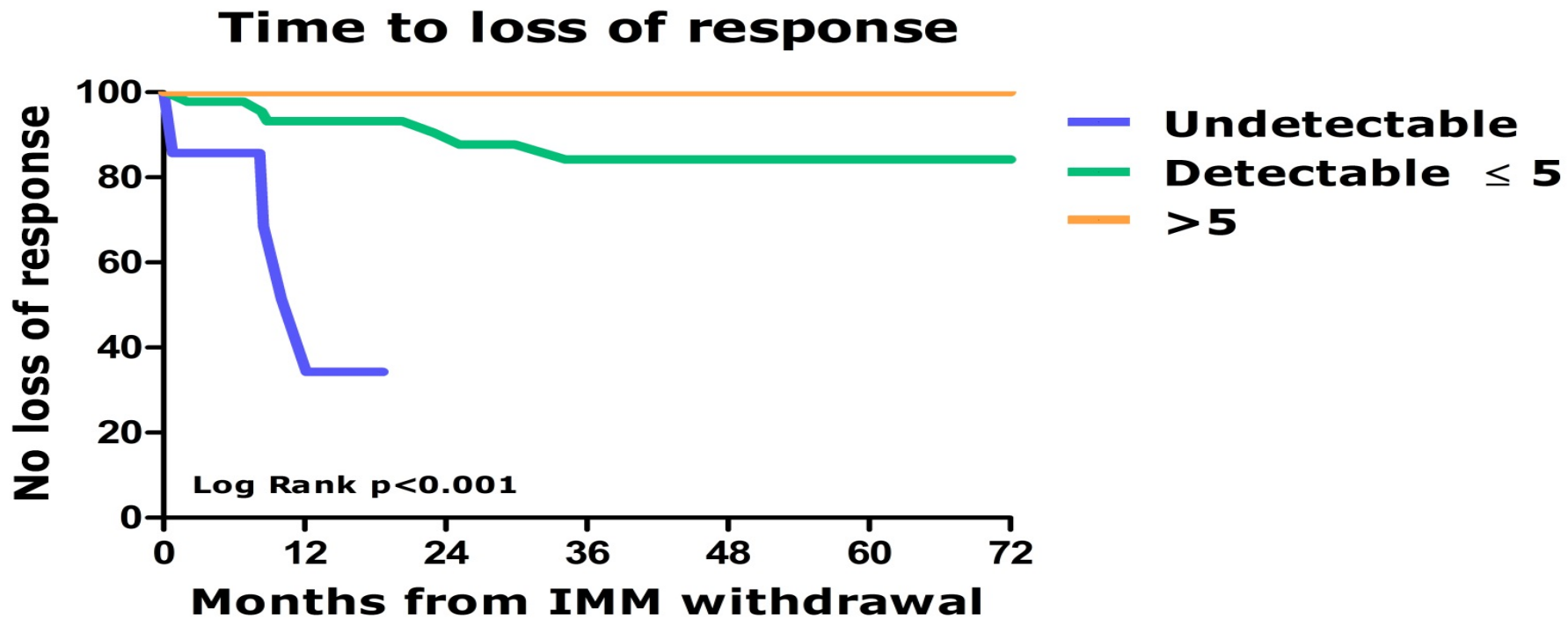
**Primary Endpoint:
No need for early 'rescue' IFX**



- Van Assche G, et al. *Gastroenterology*. 2008 Jun;13

IFX trough levels at the time of withdrawal predicts loss of response

n=223 CD on IFX maintenance
trial serum samples for TLs



Optimizing Therapy: Combination Therapy

Consider combination therapy during induction

Increased risk of malignancy with thiopurines

After 6-12 months, consider $\frac{1}{2}$ dose thiopurine versus low dose MTX

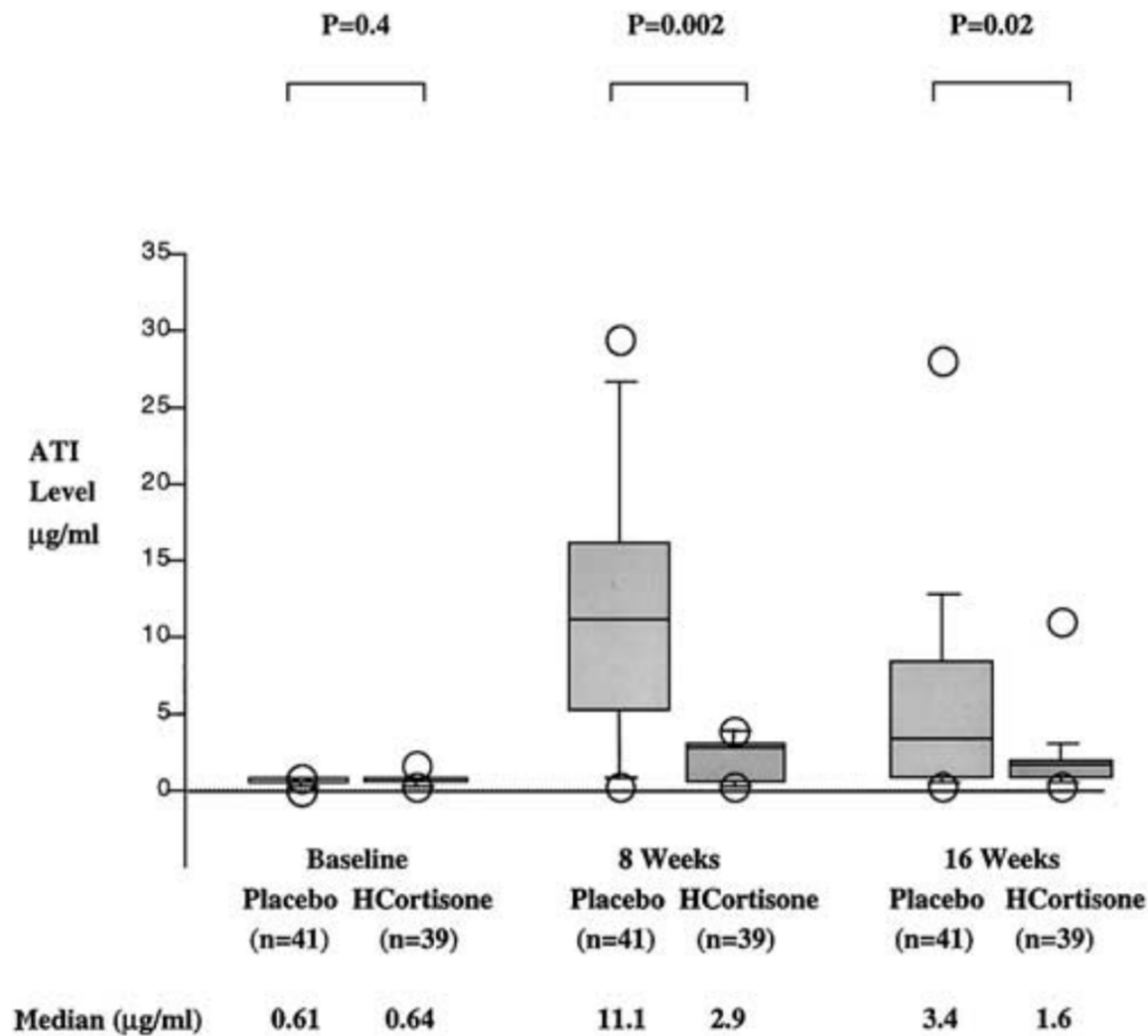
Consider withdrawal in patients with a durable response and adequate drug concentrations

Optimizing Therapy

Premedication

Premedication with IV corticosteroids in episodic therapy

Decreased antibody formation with regular dosing



medication: No decrease in infusion reaction

	Level	Cohort	Study type	Premedication	% IR, group A	% IR, group B
[27]	1B	n=355, RA	DB PL RCT	A. Oral betamethasone 0.15mgkg ⁻¹ 30min pre-infusion B. No premedication	16.8	10.2
[24]	1B	n=80, CD	DB PL RCT	A. Hydrocortisone 200mg i.v. immediately prior to infusion B. No premedication	15	24
n et al.	2B	n=113, RA	Prosp cohort	A. Diphenhydramine 25mg (95%) or 50mg (25%) i.v. 30min pre-infusion B. No premedication	14.7	14.3

ase; DB, double blind; IR, infusion reaction; i.v., intravenous; NS, not significant; PL, placebo controlled; Prosp, prospective; RA, rheumatoid arthritis; RCT, randomized controlled trial.

Pediatric IBD study of 243 pts (Jacobson et al.):

- No decreased risk of infusion reactions with pre-medications
- Non significant trend towards less **repeat** infusion reactions with pre-medica

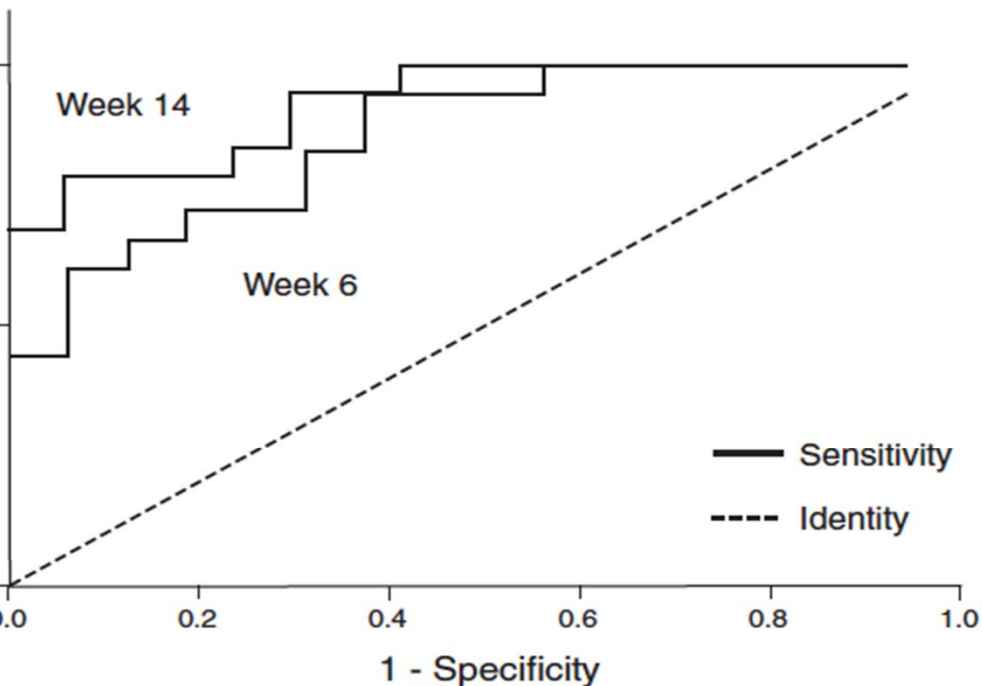
Lecluse et al., The British Journal of Dermatology. 2008;159(3):527-536.

Jacobstein DA, Markowitz JE, Kirschner BS et al.. Inflamm Bowel Dis 2005;

Optimizing Therapy

Post-induction

Post Induction TDM



ROC analysis of TLI at week 14 showed that a TLI < 2.2 µg/ml gave 94% specificity and 79% sensitivity for ATI formation.

An IFX trough level at week 14 < 2.2 µg/ml predicted IBD discontinuation due to persistent loss of response (LOR) with 74% specificity and 82% sensitivity (likelihood ratio 3.1; $P=0.0026$).

Receiver operator curve (ROC) of infliximab (IFX) trough level at week 14 for the prediction of antibody to IFX (ATI) formation. Week 6: area under the curve = 0.865 (s.e. = 0.06; $P < 0.001$) and for week 14: area under the curve = 0.929 (s.e. = 0.04; $P < 0.0001$).

Post Induction TDM

pediatric IBD prospective cohort

hypothesis: Trough levels at week 14 predict IFX durability

results

Trough level at week 14	>3mcg/mL	>4mcg/mL	>7mcg/mL
PPV for week 54 clinical remission without IFX intensification	64%	76%	100%

infliximab trough level <3µg/ml: 4 fold increased risk of developing ADA

Post Induction TDM

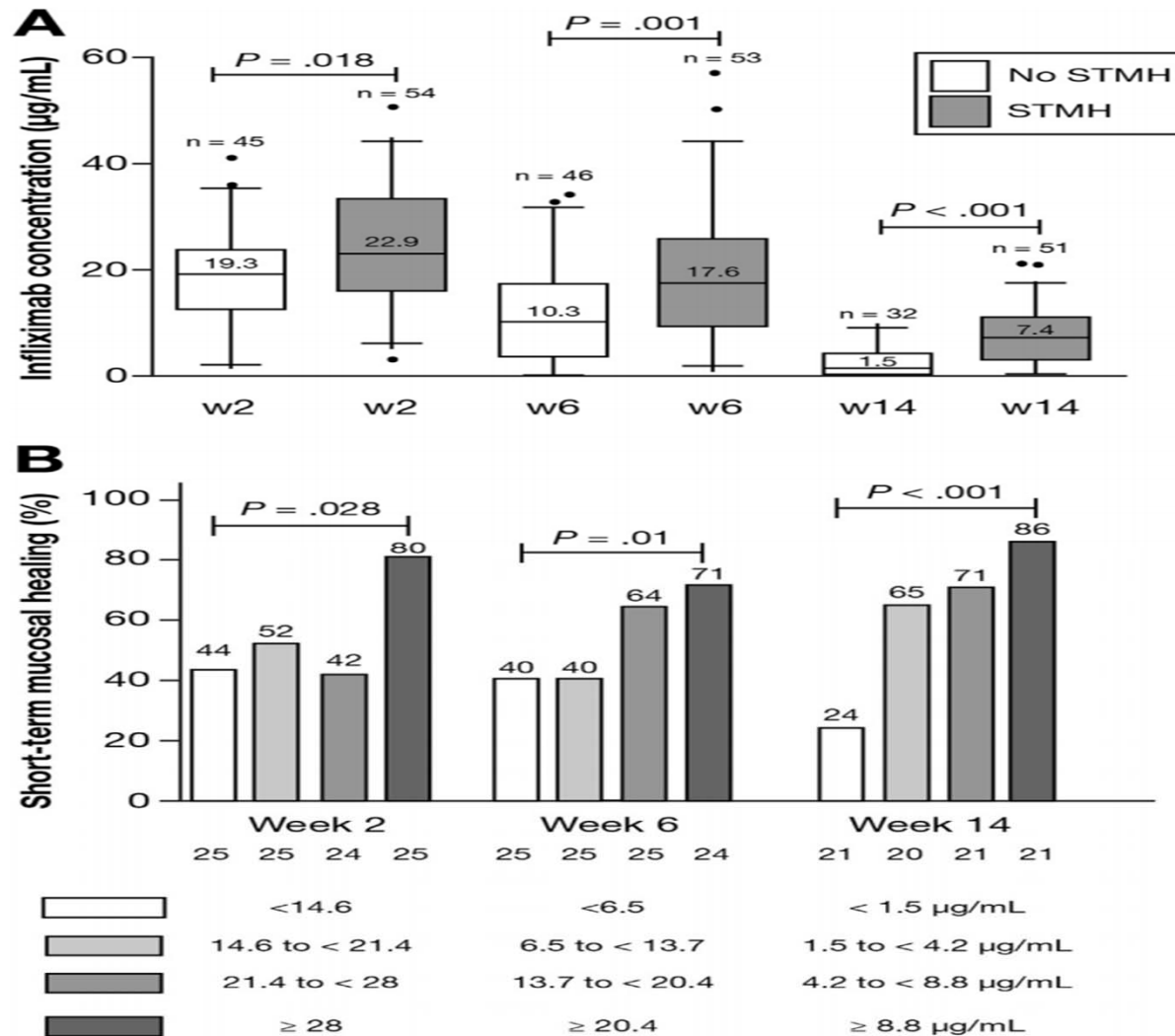
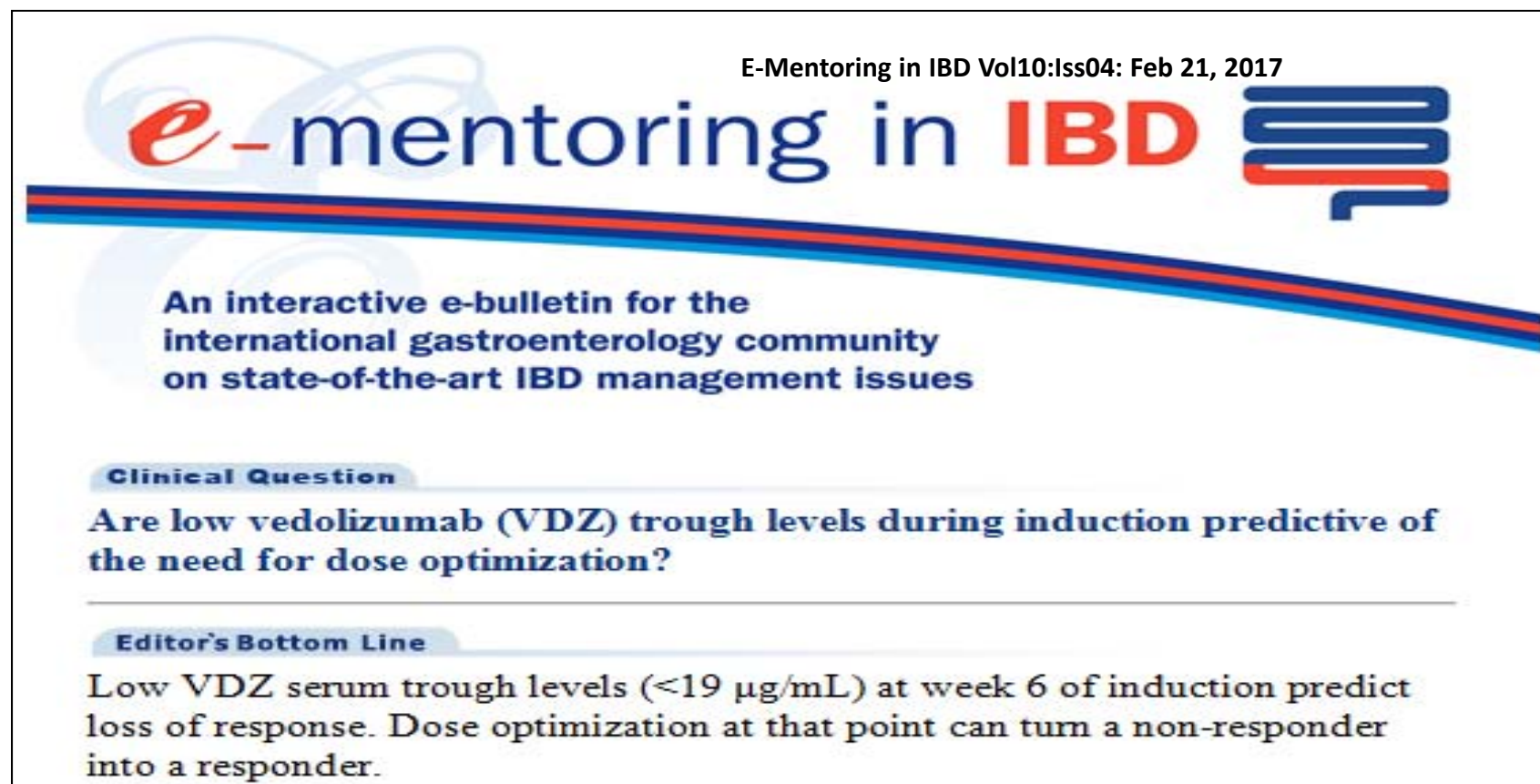


Figure 3. Distribution of serum infliximab concentrations during induction therapy on the basis of STMH. *Gray boxes* represent

Association Between Low VDZ TLs During Induction Predicts Need for Optimization Within 6 months



pective study of 27 CD and 7 UC pts starting VDZ, low TL's at week 6 (<19 µg/mL) are associated with need for additional doses (given at week 10 and then every 4 weeks)

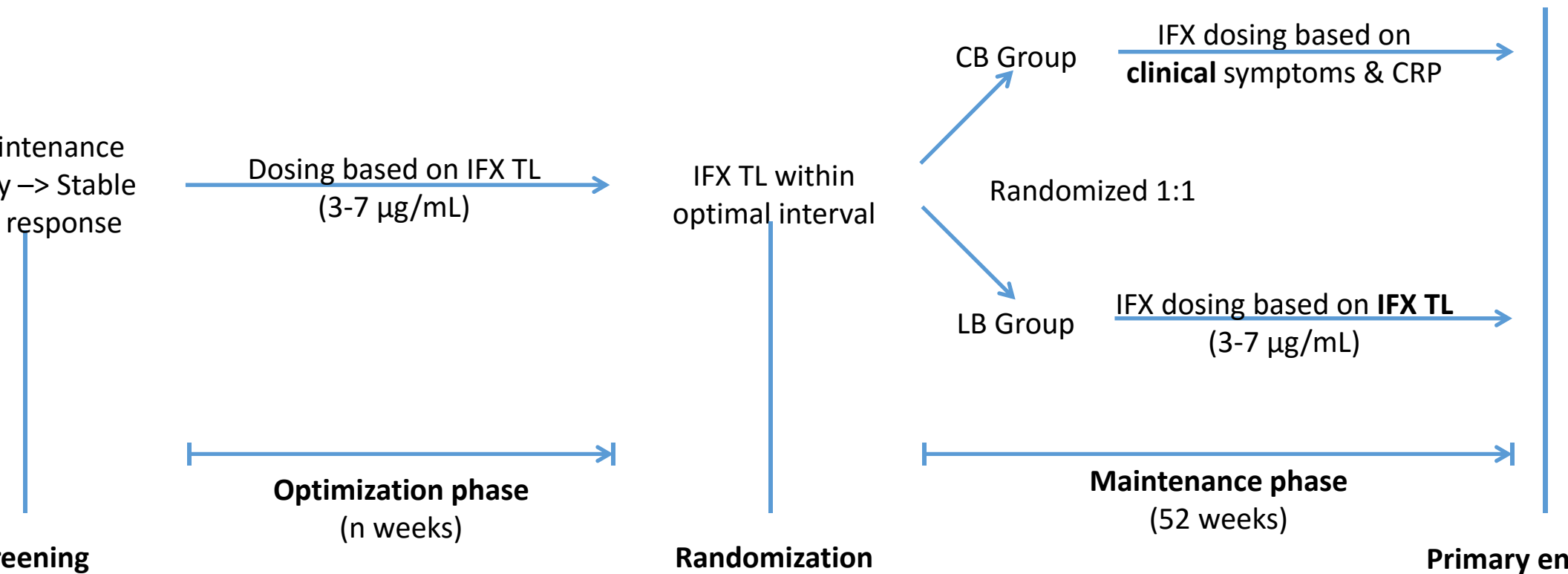
Patients receiving these additional doses achieved a clinical response 4 weeks later

Williet et al. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol 2016 Nov 24. (16)

Optimizing Therapy

Maintenance Treatment

Prospective Controlled Trial of Trough Level Adapted Infliximab Treatment (TA)



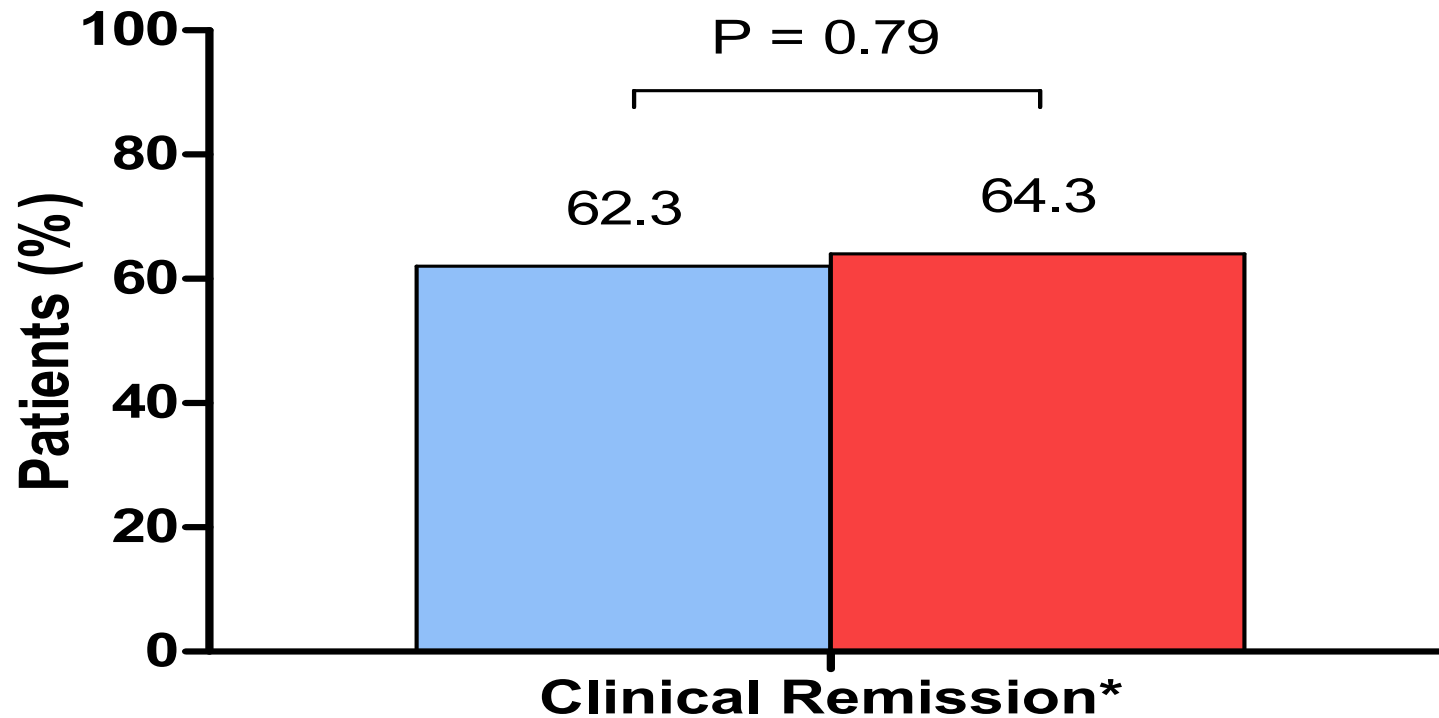
Primary end point = rate of clinical (Harvey-Bradshaw or Partial Mayo score) and biological (C-reactive protein ≤ 5 mg/l) remission 1 year after randomization in each group

CB Group = Clinically Based Group; LB Group = Level Based Group

TAXIT Results: Maintenance Phase

Primary end point

■ CB Group (N = 122) ■ LB Group (N = 126)

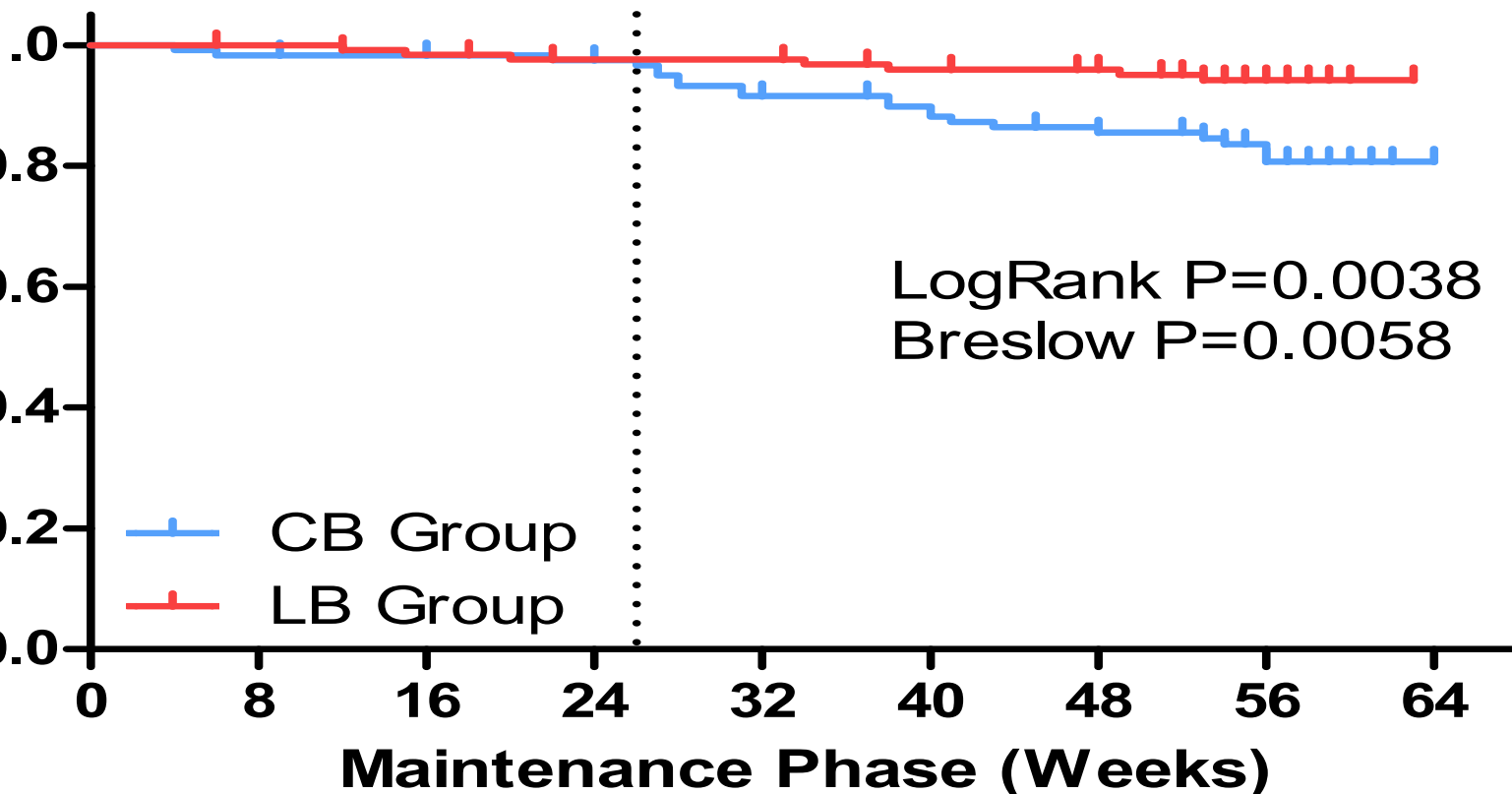


*Harvey-Bradshaw index score ≤ 4 (CD) or Partial MAYO score ≤ 2 (UC) and C-reactive protein level ≤ 5 mg/l. Primary end point could not be calculated for 3 Patients (1 CD from CB and 1 UC and 1 CD from LB group).

Vande Casteele N, et al. Gastroenterology 2015;14

TAXIT Results: Maintenance Phase

Secondary end point (loss of response and need for an intervention)



17.3% of CB Group
of LB Group needed
therapy by the end
maintenance ph

127	126	122	122	119	116	65	1
120	118	116	109	105	100	57	1

TAILORIX: Proactive TDM in Maintenance

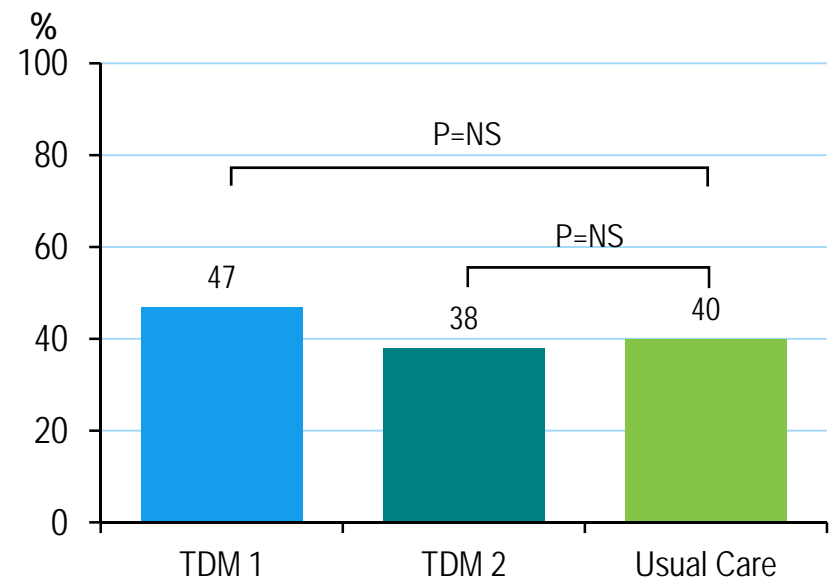
Results:

Proactive trough-level-based dose intensification was not superior to dose intensification based on symptoms alone.

Dose increase of 2.5mg/kg as effective as 5mg/kg

Detailed pharmacokinetic, immunogenicity, and biomarker analysis pending

Primary endpoint



*Steroid-free clinical remission from weeks 22-54 & absence of ulceration

Suboptimal IFX concentrations of the TDM group

Additional outcomes

Percent of patients	TDM1	TDM2	Usual care
IFX dose escalation	51	65	40
Sustained IFX > 3 µg/ml weeks 14-52	47	46	60
CD Endoscopic Index of Severity < 3	49	51	45
Absence of ulcers			
Week 12	36	16	40
Week 54	36	43	48

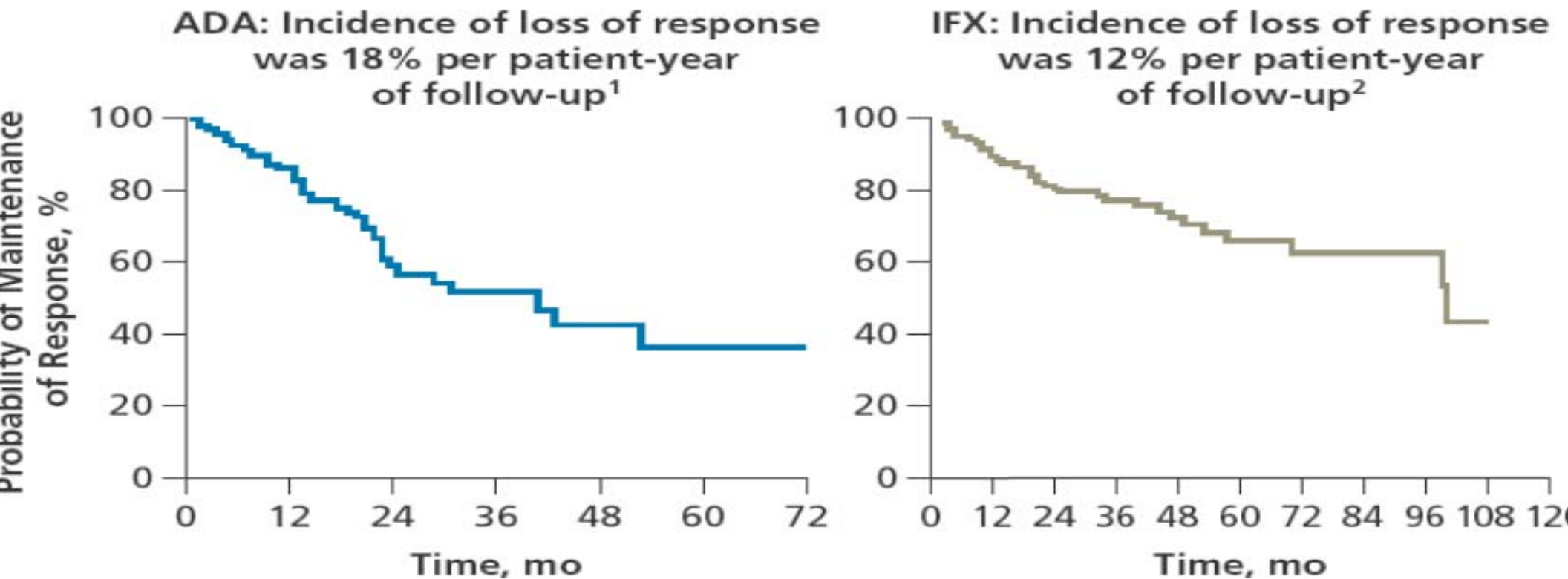
Optimizing Therapy

Loss of Response

Progressive LOR to Anti-TNF Therapy in CD

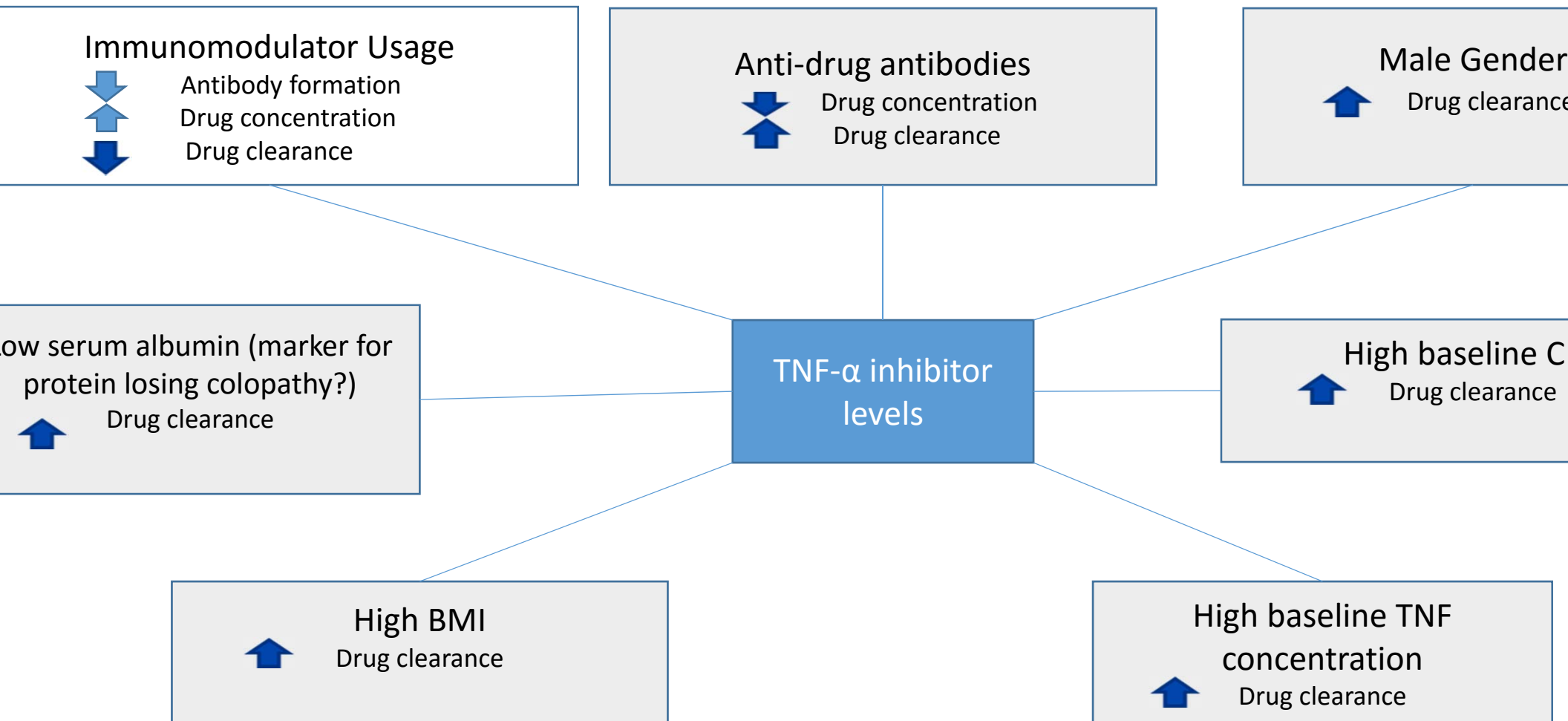
Primary non responder rate ; 20%

Time to Loss of Response in Patients With an Initial Response to ADA or IFX



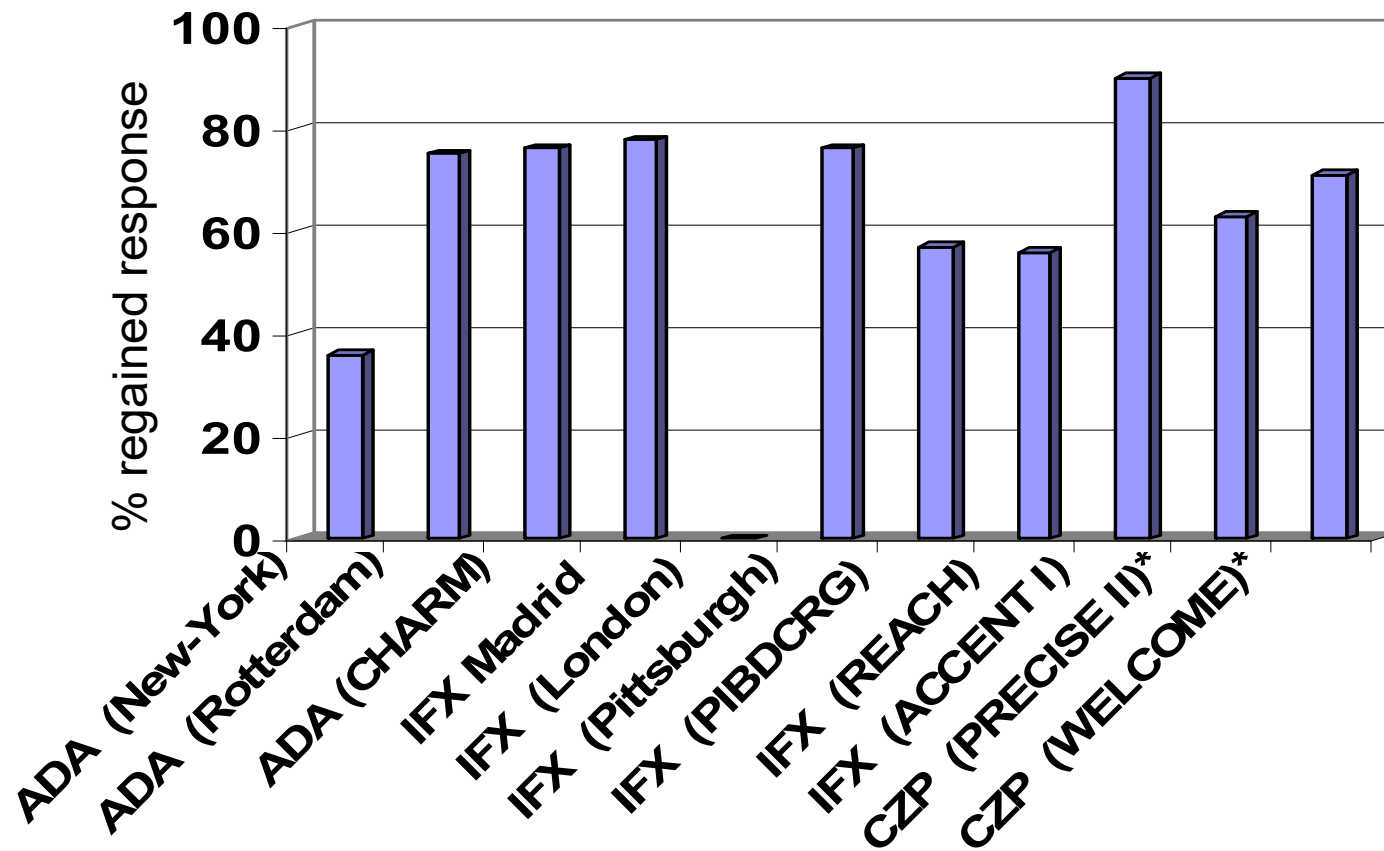
1. Chaparro M et al. IBD doi:10.2001/
2. Chaparro M et al. Clin Gastro 2011;

Variables Affecting TNF- α Inhibitor Levels



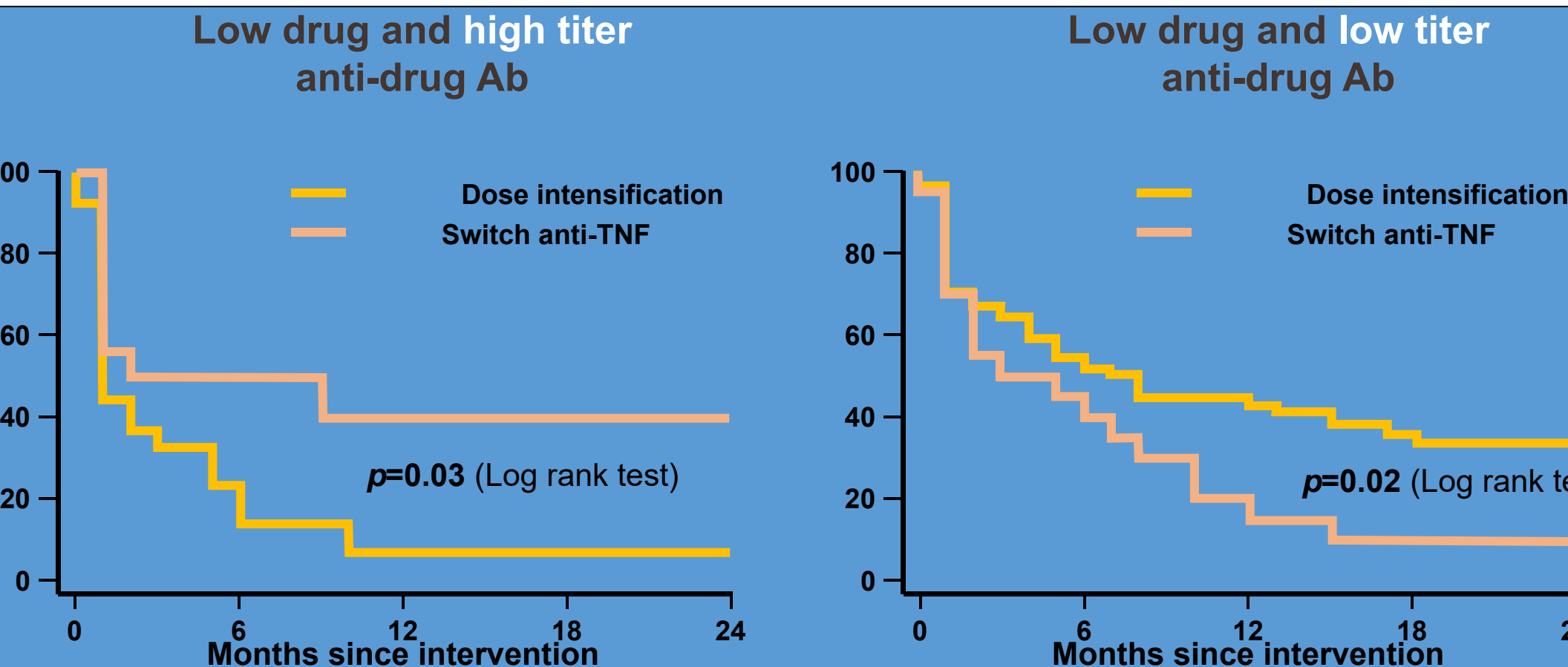
Managing loss of response: dose intensification

Dose escalation results in ~60-70% short-term response



When drug (and anti-drug antibodies) concentrations go down
which intervention is best for loss of response ?

Levels of drug/anti-drug antibodies and outcome of interventions after loss of response to infliximab or adalimumab

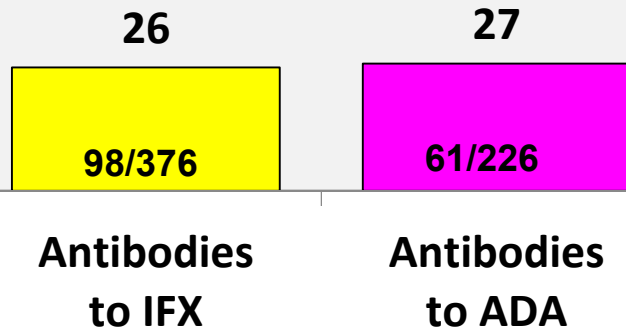


High-titer anti-drug Ab:
>4 µg/mL anti-adalimumab Ab
>9 µg/mL anti-infliximab Ab

Disappearance of Anti-Drug Antibodies to IFX and ADA Following Immunosuppressant in IBD

Rate of Antibody-Positivity

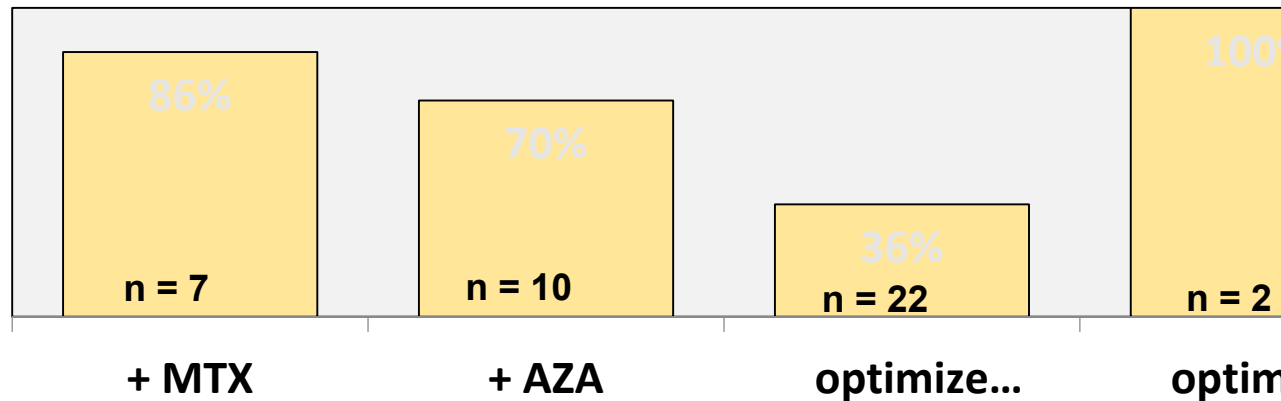
Antibody-positive if levels were ≥ 12 AE/ml



Intervention after antibody formation (n = 159)

Anti-TNF switched/terminated (n = 118/159)

Rate of Success Following Intervention (reduction of antibodies and/or inc. drug levels)



ectional study of 602 IBD pts receiving aTNF therapy

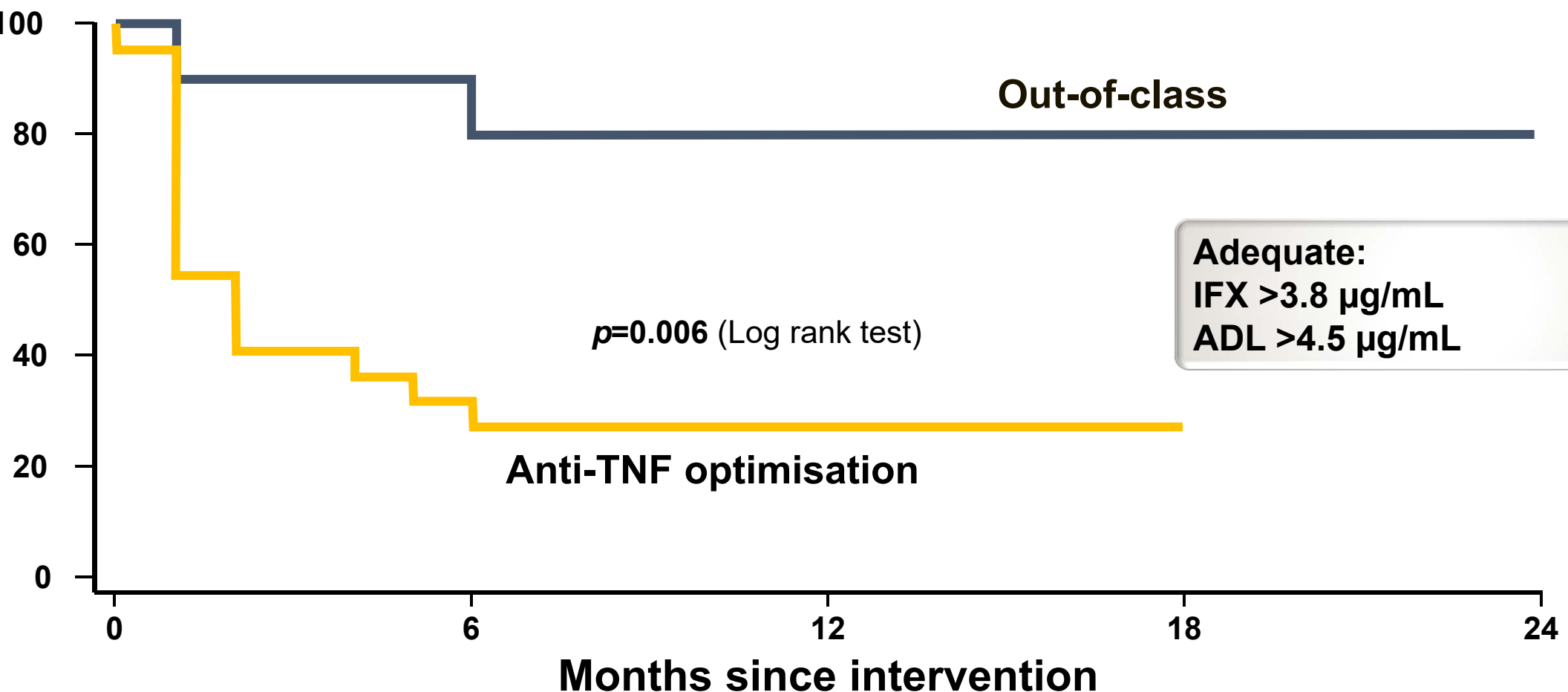
body levels measured with ELISA and RIA, respectively (Sanquin)

Strik et al. ECCO 2016

the titer of measurable antibodies predicts response
to dose-escalation versus switch

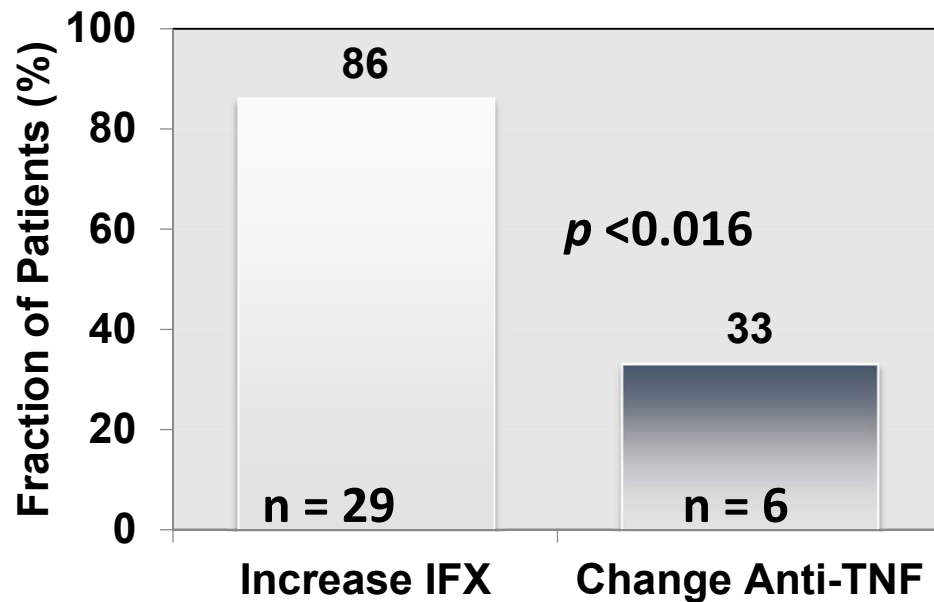
Anti-TNF concentrations

Drug concentration is adequate and IBD inflammation: switch out-of-class is better than anti-TNF optimization

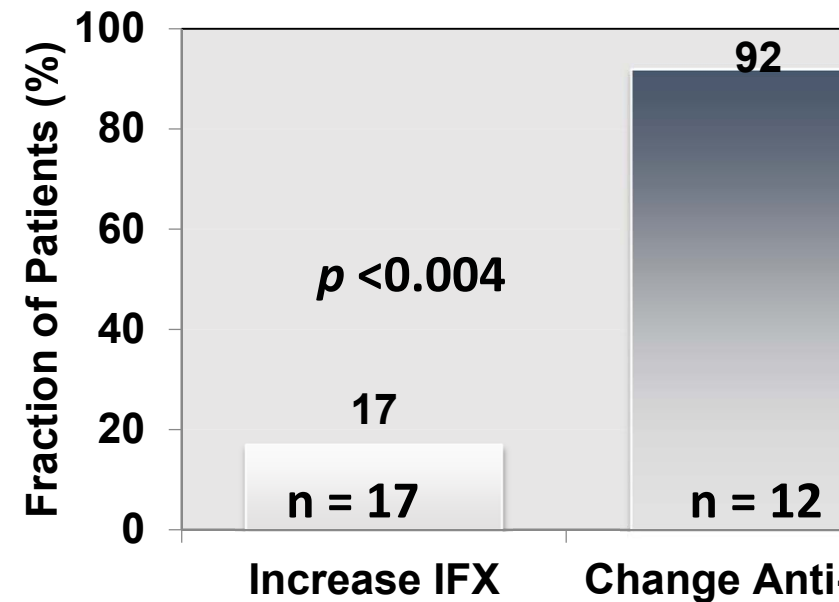


Improved outcomes using TDM

Response: Subtherapeutic IFX



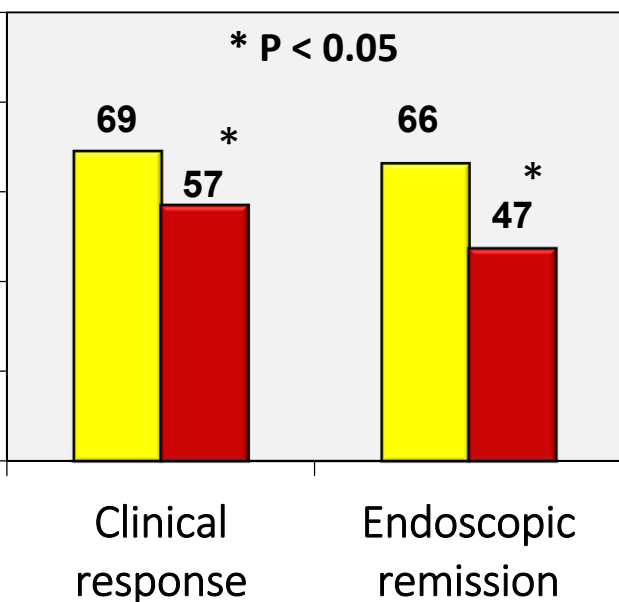
Result: Detectable ATI



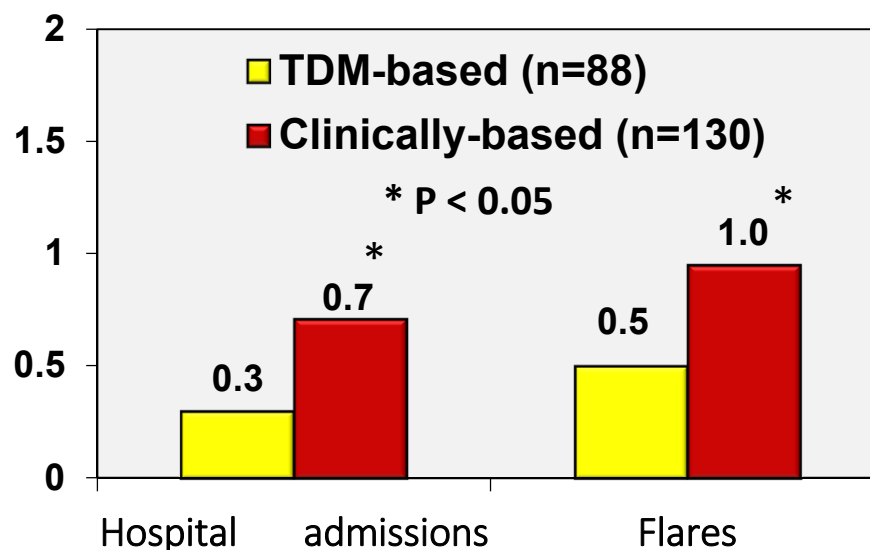
single centre, retrospective study, n = 155 pts with TDM test

Dose Optimization Using TDM is More Effective Than Dose Optimization Based on Clinical Assessment Alone

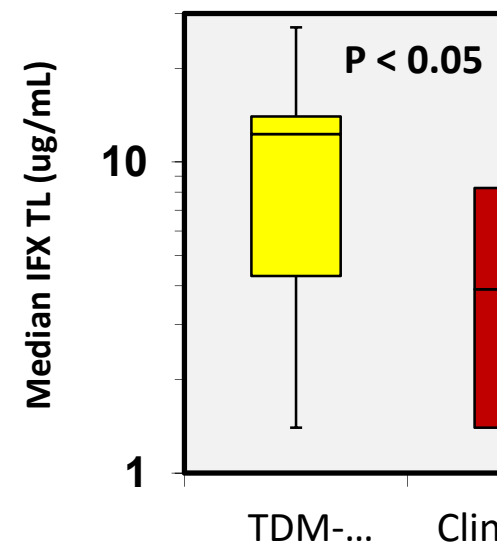
Clinical Outcomes



Post Dose Adjustment



Trough Level



IBD pts → IFX dose optimization following secondary LOR (2008-2014)

TDM-based optimization led to higher rates of clinical response, endoscopic remission, hospitalization and flares (all p < 0.05)

Improvement in symptoms + biomarkers markers and/or endoscopic response;

Clinical Remission: Mayo subscore ≤ 1 or SES-CD < 3 or Rutgeert's score ≤ 1, Assay: Prometheus HMSA

Kelly et al. DDW 2015, Abstract

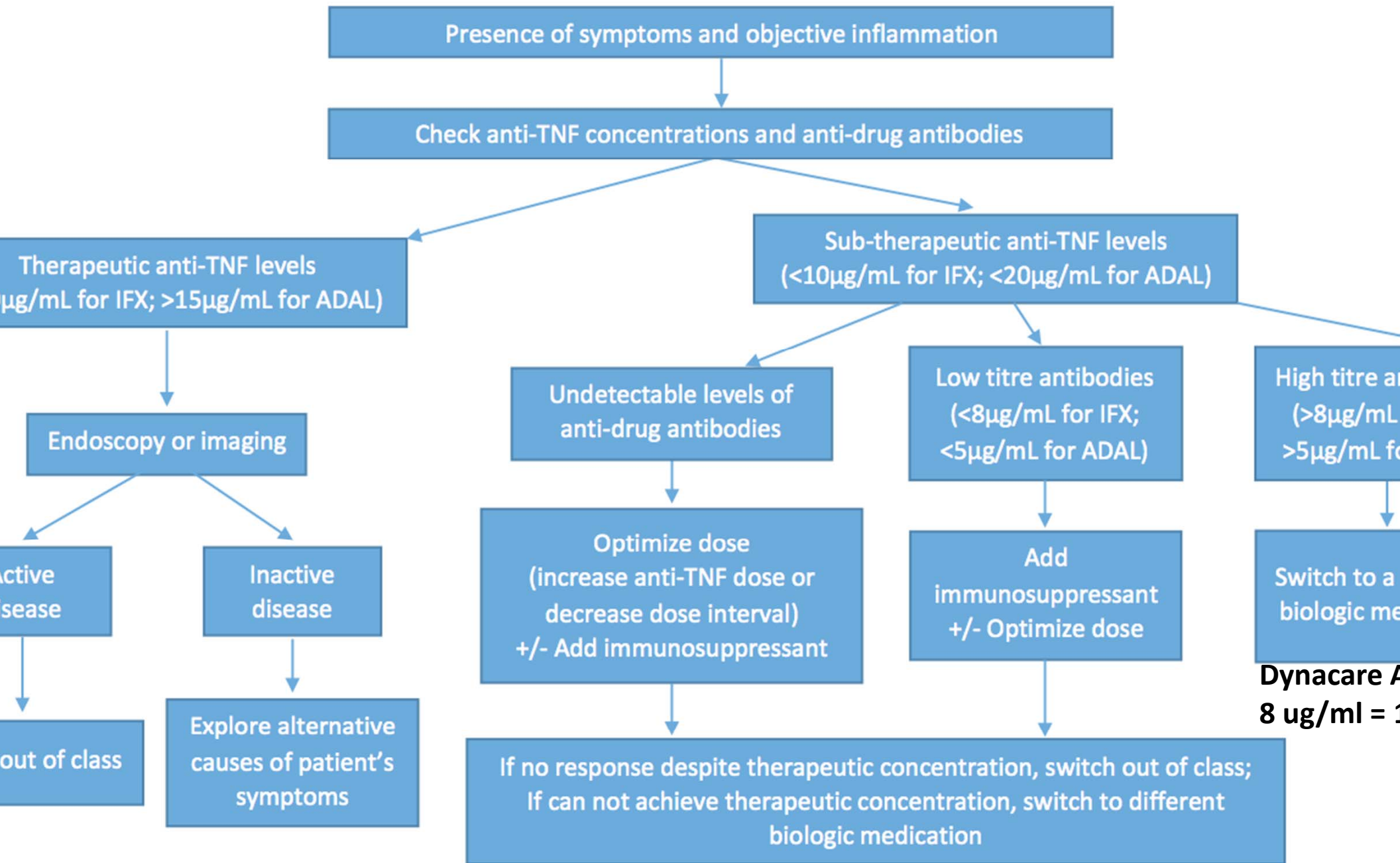
TDM Results and Algorithm

Verify that the patient is taking the drug!

Up to 15%–29% of adalimumab/infliximab-treated patients are not
adherent to their injections

(Missed at least one injection/infusion during the last 3 months)

Billioud V, *et al. Inflamm Bowel Dis* 2011;17:1000–1006
Lopez A, *et al. Inflamm Bowel Dis* 2013;19:1000–1006



Optimizing therapy for differing phenotypes

Perianal fistulising disease

117 Crohn's patients with perianal fistulising disease

Higher concentration for fistula healing vs active fistulas. Median infliximab trough level

- 18.5µg/mL versus 6.5µg/mL, $P < 0.0001$

Incremental improvement in perianal fistula healing			
Trough level (ug/ml)	≥2.9	≥10.1	≥20.2
Fistula healing rate %	65	79	86

Optimizing treatment using TDM in IBD

Secondary loss of response/partial response:	yes
Post induction prior to maintenance therapy	likely
Maintenance therapy in patients in remission	no
Withdrawal of immunosuppression in combination therapy	yes
<i>Dose de-escalation</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>After drug holiday</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Use for UST and VDZ</i>	<i>likely</i>

Evaluation and Certificate of Attendance

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