

# Fundamentals of PCI-- Balloons and Stents

JOHN C. MESSENGER, MD, FSCAI  
PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE  
DIRECTOR, CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION LABS  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



# DISCLOSURES:

- ▶ None relevant to the content of this presentation

# Outline

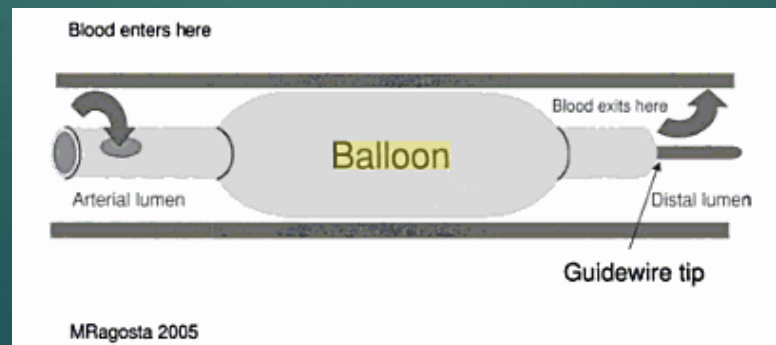
- ▶ Coronary Angioplasty Balloons
  - ▶ Angioplasty Balloons of Historical Interest
  - ▶ Balloon Design Considerations
  - ▶ Specialty Balloons
- ▶ Intracoronary Stents
  - ▶ Coronary Stents of Historical Interest
  - ▶ Bare Metal Stents
  - ▶ Drug Eluting Stents
  - ▶ Covered Stents
  - ▶ Bioresorbable Scaffolds
- ▶ Conclusions

# Early Coronary Angioplasty Balloons

## ► Fixed Wire Balloons

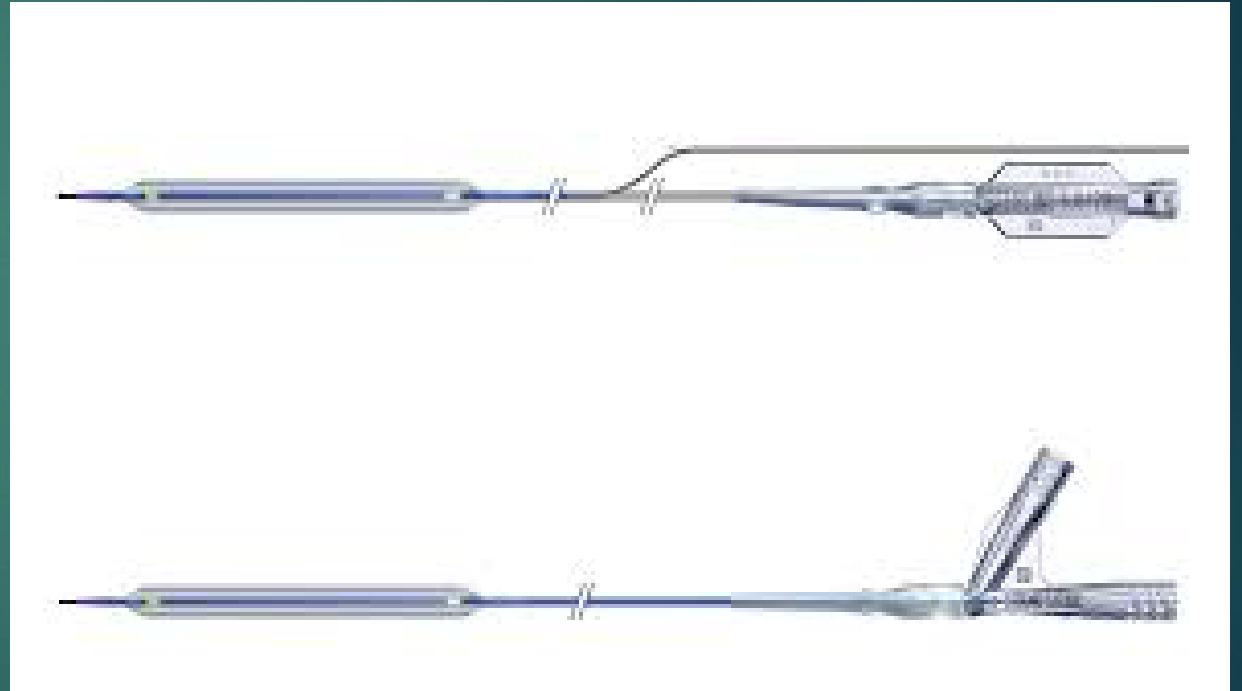


## ► Perfusion Balloons



# Design Characteristics of Contemporary Coronary Balloons

- ▶ Rapid Exchange (RX)
  - Most commonly used system
  - 190 cm guidewire used
- ▶ Over-the-wire (OTW)
  - 145-155 cm working length
  - 300 cm guidewire used



# Rapid Exchange Balloons

## **Advantages**

- Allows for single operator
- Quicker exchanges over a short guidewire
- Less fluoroscopy time
- Can use for kissing balloon applications with most 6F systems

## **Disadvantages**

- Pushability can be reduced by short wire lumen
- Cannot reshape or exchange wire without loss of position
- More difficult to use balloon for support in crossing lesions or advancing wire

# Over The Wire Balloons

## **Advantages**

- Ability to change wires through catheters
- Better pushability due to wire running entire course of balloon

## **Disadvantages**

- Need for two operators
- Longer fluoroscopy times needed for exchanges
- Slightly larger profile/shaft sizes
  - Especially for kissing balloon angioplasty



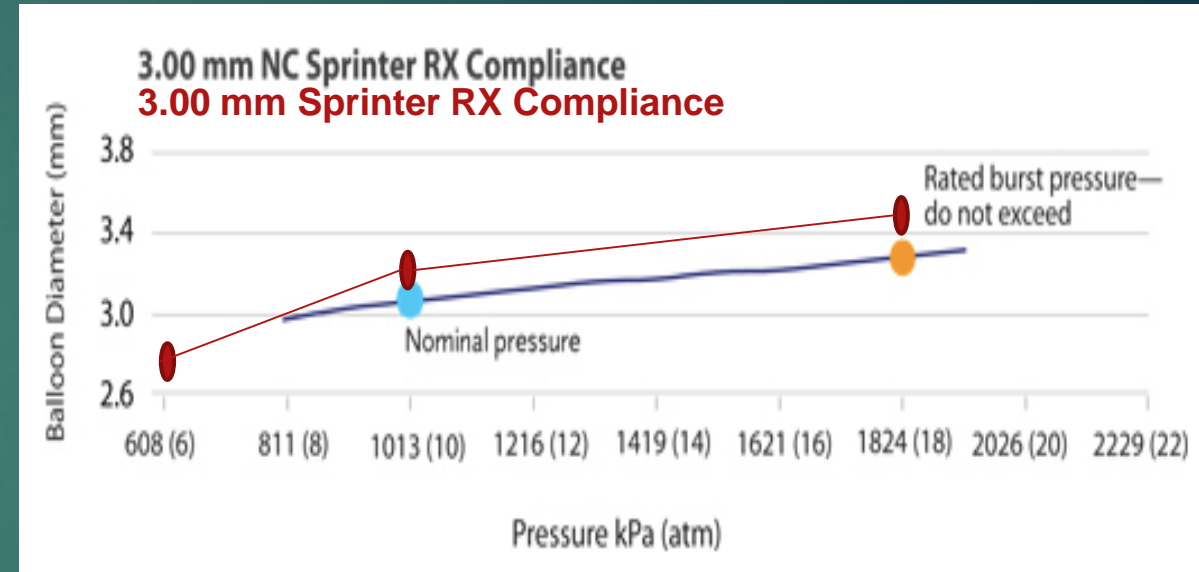
# Balloon Construction and Function

- ▶ Polyolefin copolymer (POC)
- ▶ Pebax (polyether block amide)
- ▶ Polyethylene (PE)
- ▶ Nylon
- ▶ Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)

More Compliant



Less Compliant



**Nominal Pressure:** Pressure at which the balloon is at listed size (outside the body)

**Rated Burst Pressure:** Highest pressure at which 99.5% of balloons will not rupture



# Balloon Selection

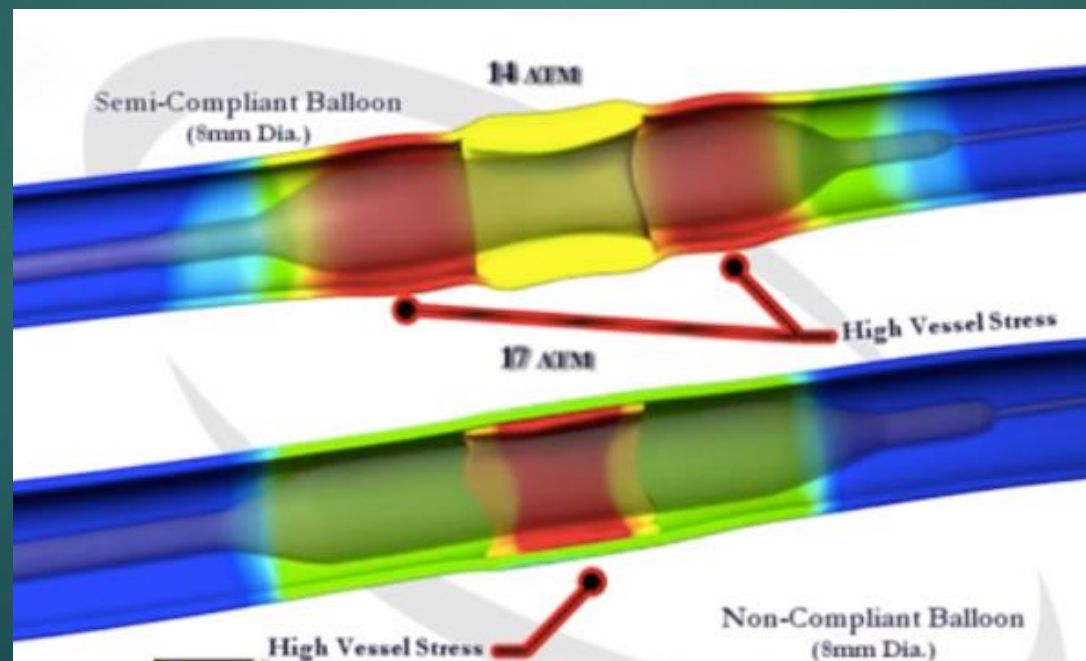
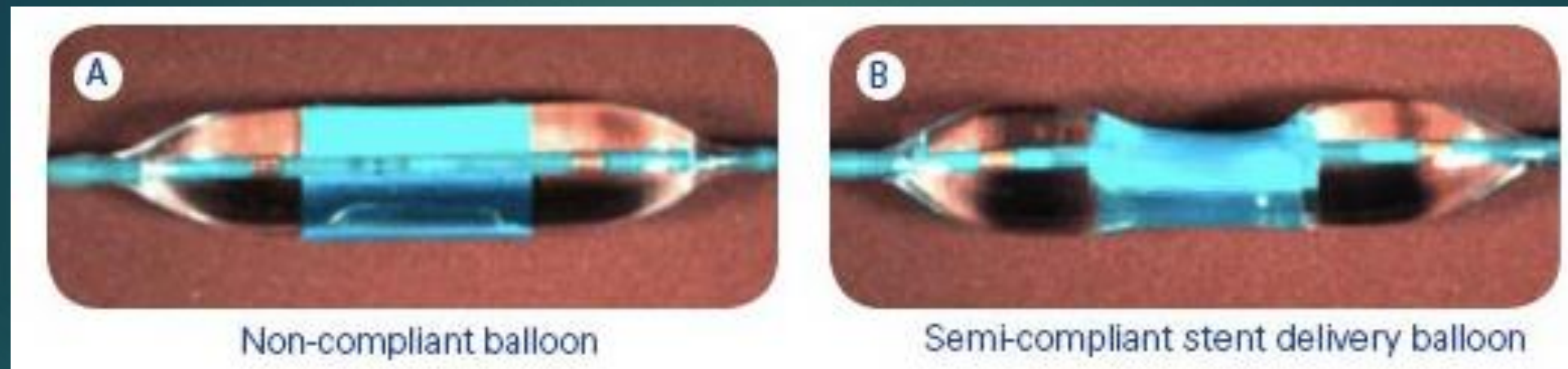
## Compliant and Semi-Compliant Balloons

- ▶ Pre-dilation
- ▶ Ballooning through side struts
- ❖ Very tight lesions
- ❖ Tortuous anatomy
- ❖ Re-crossing stents
- ❖ Side branch access

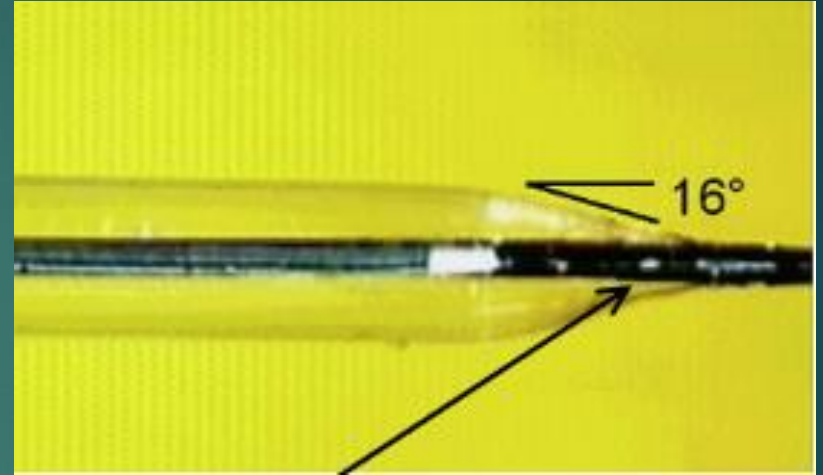
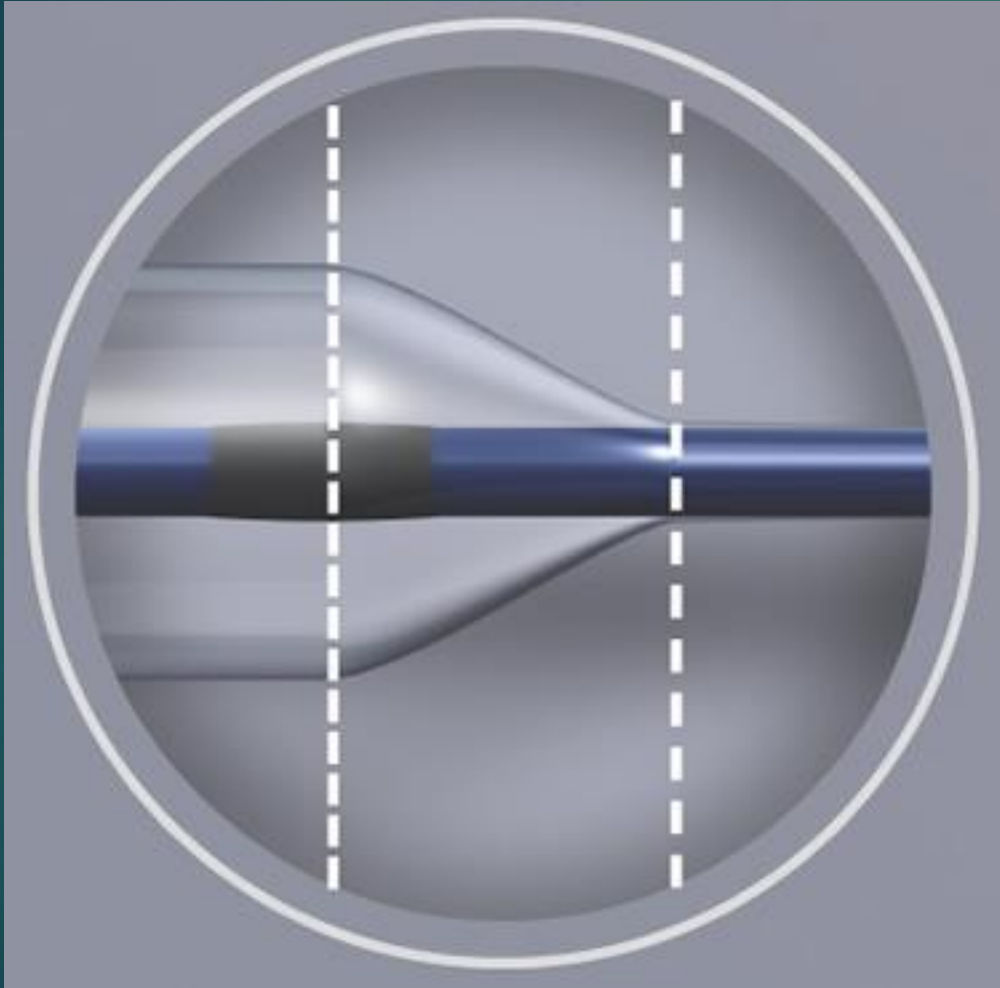
## Non-Compliant Balloons

- ▶ Post-dilation of stents
- ▶ Resistant lesions
- ❖ Heavy calcification
- ❖ Non-dilatable lesions
- ❖ Aorto-ostial lesions

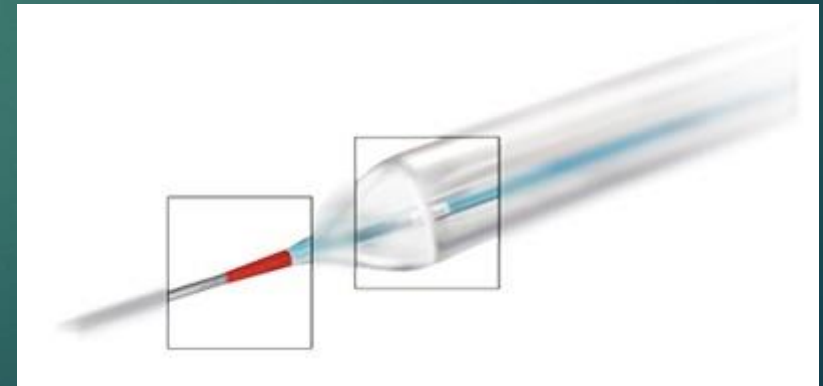
# Compliance and Wall Stress



# Balloon Tip Taper



Longer taper increases crossability

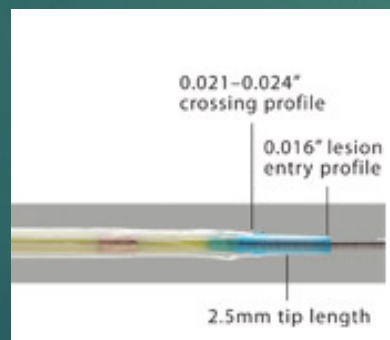


Shorter shoulders decrease edge effects

# Current Balloon Options\*

Vendor	Compliant	Non-Compliant
Abbott Vascular	Trek (2.25-5.0 mm) MiniTrek (1.20 and 1.5-2.0 mm)	NC Trek (1.5 mm – 5.0 mm)
Boston Scientific	Emerge Flex (1.2-4.0 mm) Emerge Push (1.2 and 1.5 mm)	NC Emerge (2.0-6.0 mm) NC Quantum Apex (2.0-5.0 mm)
Medtronic	Euphora (1.5-4.0 mm) Sprinter Legend (1.25-4.0 mm)	NC Euphora (2.0-5.0 mm) NC Sprinter (2.0-5.0 mm)

Crossing profiles:



Compliant Balloons (0.021-0.026")

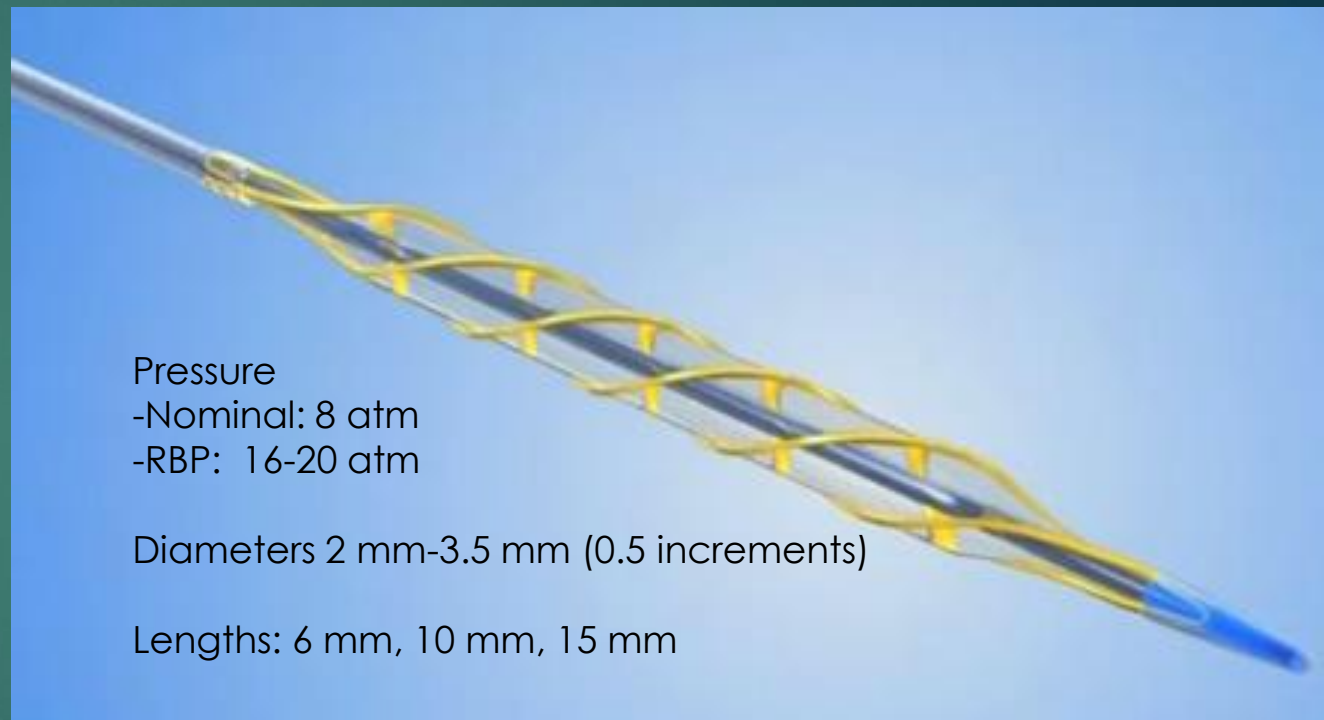
Non-compliant balloons (0.024-0.031")

\*FDA Approved

# Cutting/Scoring Balloons



Flextome Cutting Balloon—Boston Scientific



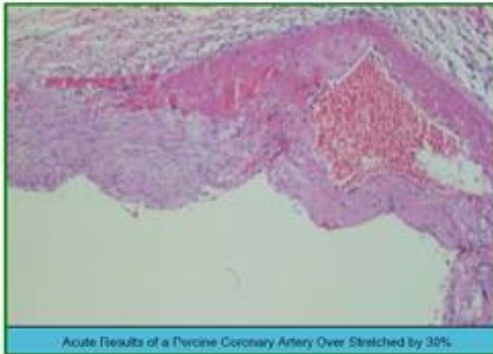
Angiosculpt Scoring Balloon—AngioScore, Inc



# Cutting/Scoring Balloons

## Acting Mechanisms of Regular and Cutting Balloons

*Regular  
balloon*



- Entire balloon surface contact the vessel wall – arterial wall damage
- Multiple rips and tears in media
- Endothelium is completely disrupted, large hematoma has formed due to trauma

*Cutting  
balloon*



- Injury localized to the scoring sites - reduced trauma
- Media with no visible disruption
- Endothelial layer remains intact

### Pros:

- “Controlled” dissection
- Less slippage
- Non-compliant balloons

### Cons:

- Expensive
- Higher profile
- Stiffer balloons so difficult to navigate tortuosity

# Early Coronary Stent Designs

## Stent Design Type

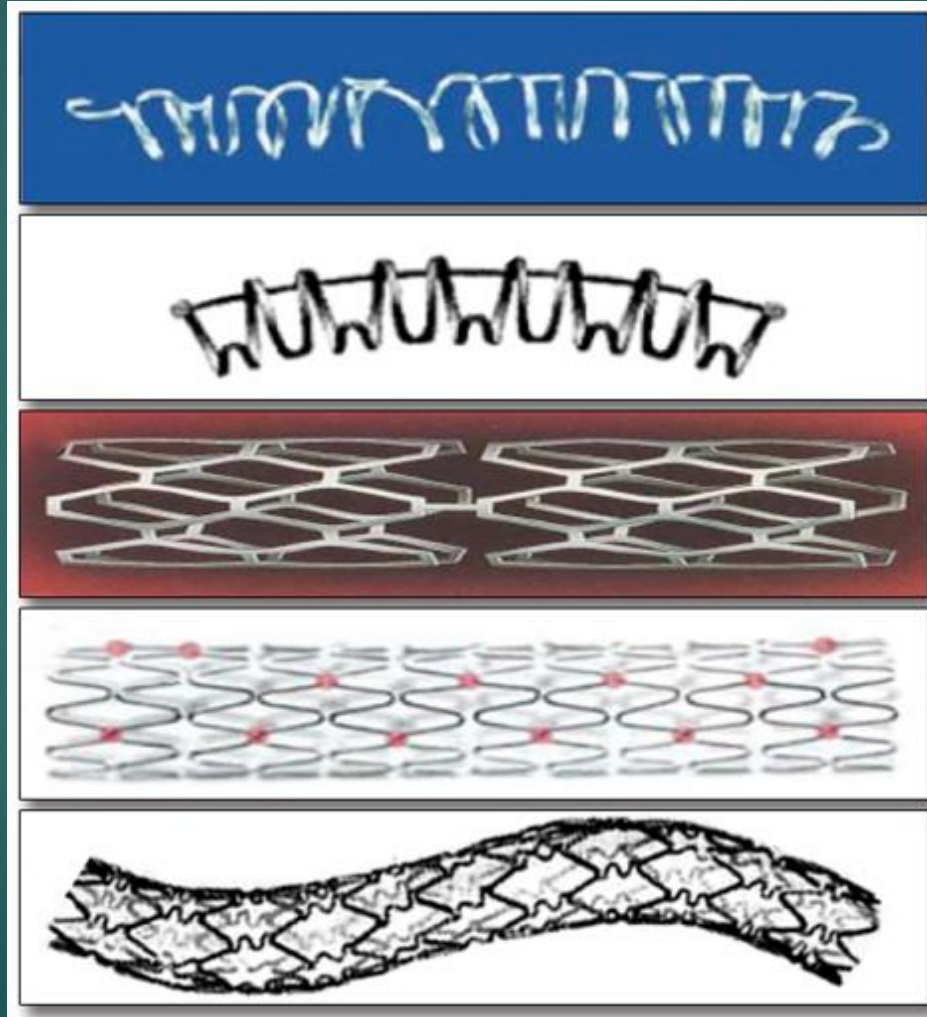
Coiled Wire



Slotted Tube

Modular ring

Multicellular



Gianturco-Roubin (GR-1)

Gianturco-Roubin II

Palmaz-Schatz (J and J)

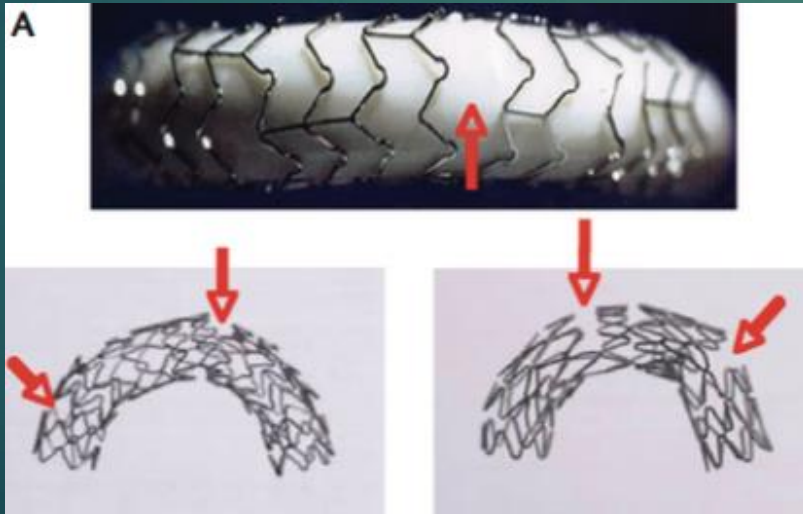
Driver--Medtronic

Bx Velocity

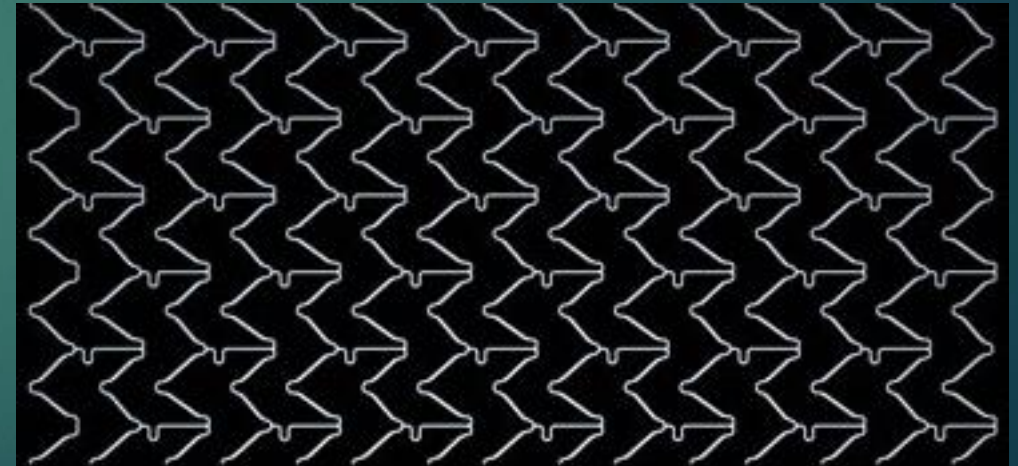


# Stent Design

- ▶ Open-cell design
  - More space between struts
  - More flexible/conformable
  - ? More tissue prolapse



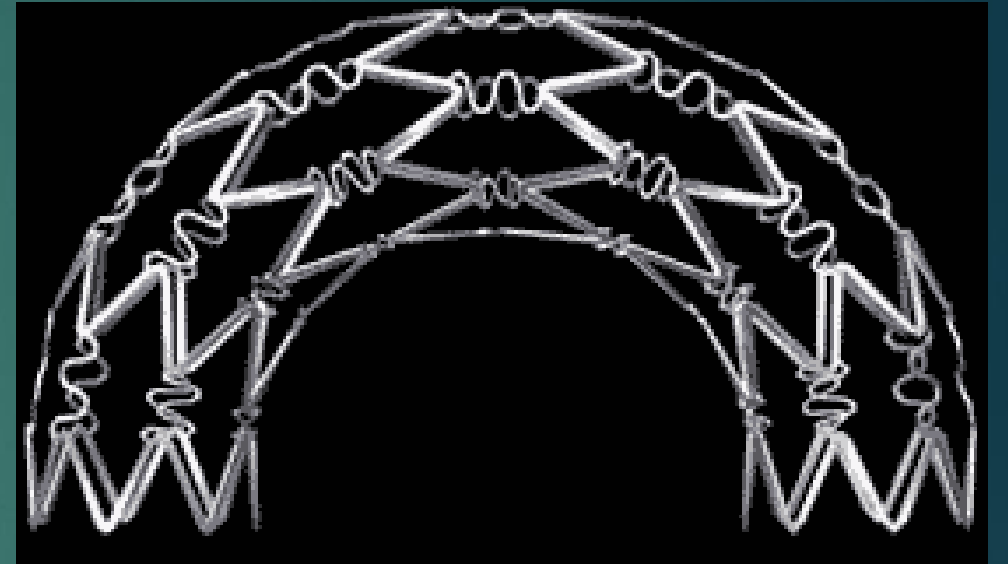
VeriFlex BMS BSCI



Multi-Link MiniVision Abbott

# Stent Design

- ▶ Closed-cell design
  - Smaller area per cell
  - Higher metal to artery ratio
  - Improved scaffolding
  - ? Smaller side branch access



Cypher Stent (Bx Velocity Platform) Cordis Co.

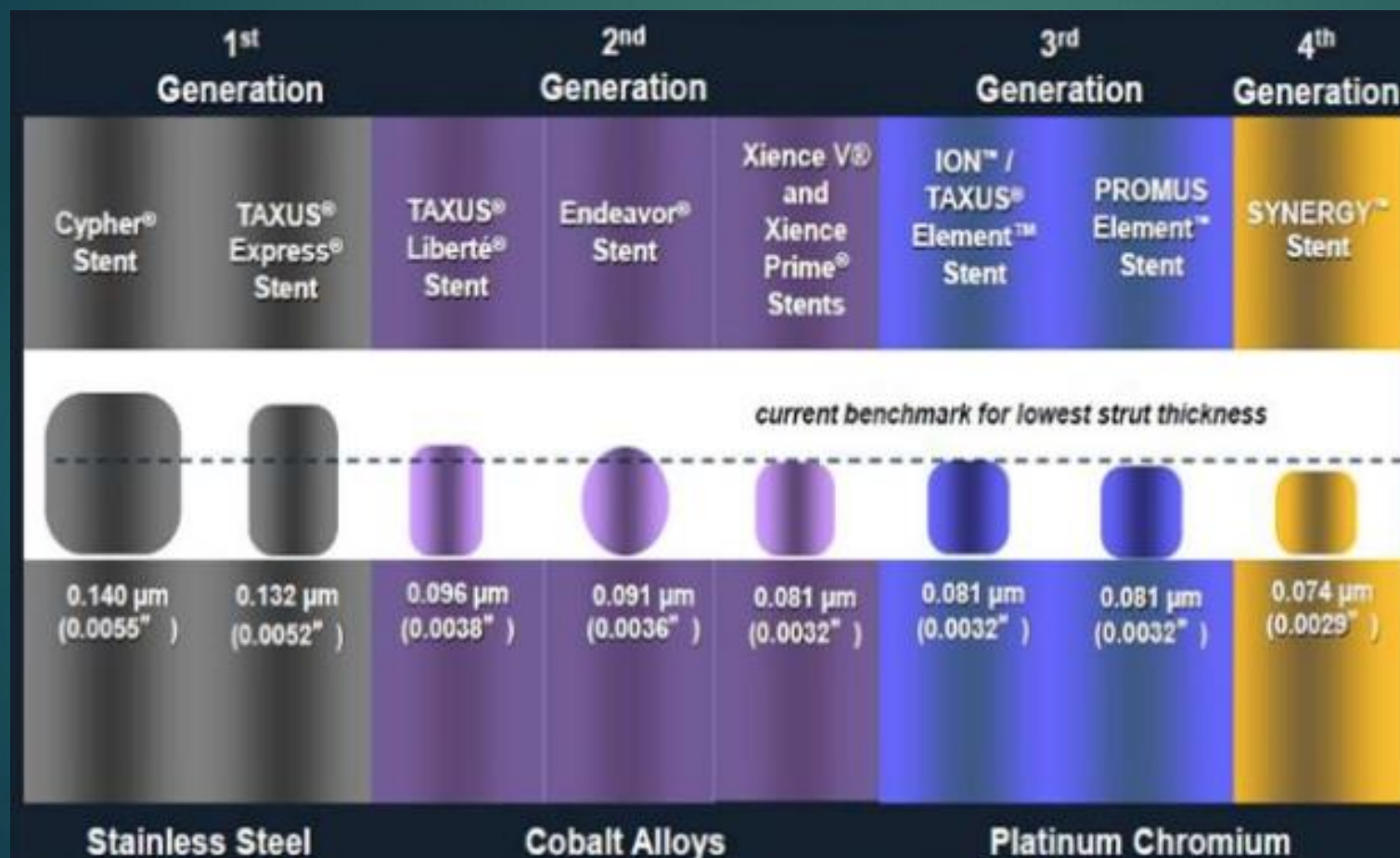
# Stent Attributes

- ▶ Trackability
- ▶ Flexibility
- ▶ Deliverability
- ▶ Radial strength
- ▶ Lesion/vessel coverage
- ▶ Radiologic visibility

The screenshot shows the FDA website with the following elements:

- Header:** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Protecting and Promoting Your Health. Includes a search bar and links for A to Z Index, Follow FDA, and En Español.
- Navigation:** Home, Food, Drugs, Medical Devices, Radiation-Emitting Products, Vaccines, Blood & Biologics, Animal & Veterinary, Cosmetics, Tobacco Products.
- Regulatory Information:** Home > Regulatory Information > Search for FDA Guidance Documents.
- Search for FDA Guidance Documents:** A sidebar menu with links to FDA Guidance Documents (General and Cross-Cutting Topics), Advisory Committee Guidance Documents, Clinical Trials Guidance Documents, Combination Products Guidance Documents, Import and Export Guidance Documents, International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) Guidance Documents, and Veterinary International Conference on Harmonization (VICH) Guidance Documents.
- Main Content:**
  - Title:** Guidance for Industry and FDA Staff - Non-Clinical Engineering Tests and Recommended Labeling for Intravascular Stents and Associated Delivery Systems
  - Share Buttons:** f SHARE, TWEET, in LINKEDIN, PIN IT, EMAIL, PRINT.
  - Document issued on:** April 18, 2010.
  - PDF Printer Version:** (305 KB).
  - Update Notice:** On August 30, 2013 FDA issued a draft guidance **Select Updates for Non-Clinical Engineering Tests and Recommended Labeling for Intravascular Stents and Associated Delivery Systems**. When final, that guidance document will update and augment (but not replace) this guidance.
  - Superseding Document:** This document supersedes the guidance "Non-Clinical Engineering Tests and Recommended Labeling for Intravascular Stents and Associated Delivery Systems" dated January 13, 2005.
  - Contact Information:** For questions regarding this document contact Hina Pinto at 301-796-6351 or [hina.pinto@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:hina.pinto@fda.hhs.gov) or Elizabeth Hillebrenner at 301-796-6346 or [elizabeth.hillebrenner@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:elizabeth.hillebrenner@fda.hhs.gov).

# Progress in Stent Strut Thickness and Composition





# Stent Design—Balloon Overhang



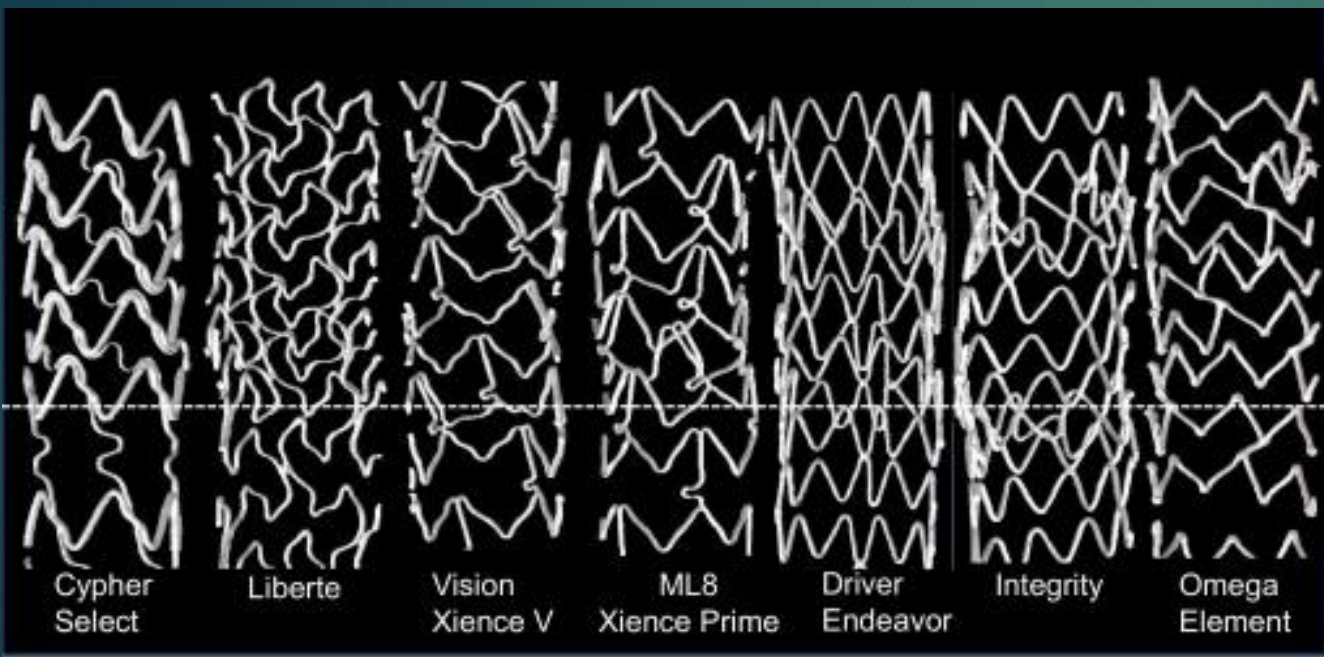
# Longitudinal Stent Deformation

## Multivariable Predictors of Stent Deformation from 1800 patients

Variable	Odds ratio (95% CI)	P-value
Promus Element stent	5.53 (1.54 – 19.85)	0.0088
Multiple stents	2.06 (1.45 – 2.90)	<0.0001
Guideliner	22.09 (4.73 – 103.04)	0.0001
Postdilation balloon	5.47 (1.31 – 22.81)	0.0197

Biomatrix Flex, Resolute Integrity, Promus Element, and Xience V stents

Original Stent Shape

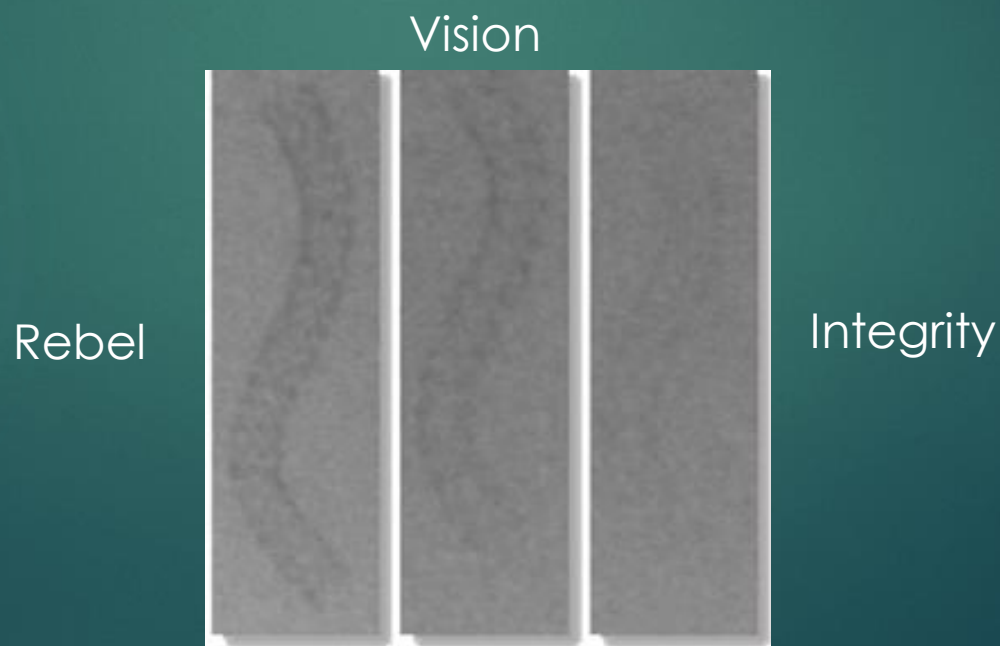


Ormiston et al. JACC: Cardiovascular Intervention, 2011.

Arnous S et al. Cathet Cardiovasc Interv 86:1002–1011;2015

# Current Bare Metal Stent Options--

Vendor	Stent	Sizes	Lengths
Abbott Vascular	Vision (CoCr)	2.75-4.00 mm	8-28 mm
	Mini-Vision (CoCr)	2.00-2.50 mm	8-28 mm
Boston Scientific	VeriFLEX (316L SS)	2.75-5.00 mm	8-32 mm
	Rebel (PtCr)	2.25-4.50 mm	8-32 mm
Medtronic	Integrity (CoCr)	2.25-4.00 mm	8-30 mm





# Evolution of DES



Easter Island (Rapa Nui)



Pacific Yew Tree

# Drug Eluting Stent Components

Currently available DES are characterized by three principal components:

- ▶ The drug
  - ▶ antiproliferative agents that reduce neointimal hyperplasia.
- ▶ The polymer
  - ▶ durable or bioabsorbable polymers that represent the vehicle for drug delivery and can be modulated to alter the dosage and timing of drug release
  - ▶ Polymer-free DES have been developed
- ▶ The platform
  - ▶ durable or bioresorbable stent scaffolds.

# DES Polymers

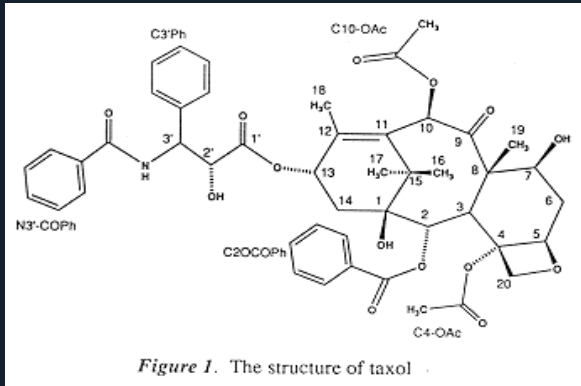
## ***Polymer Surface Coatings***

- ▶ Polymers control the dosage and duration of antiproliferative drug release
- ▶ Durable polymers Identified as a potential trigger for hypersensitivity reactions associated with chronic inflammation and delayed arterial healing
  - ▶ may increase the risk of VLST and delayed restenosis.
- ▶ Biodegradable polymers may provide the safety benefit of BMS after polymer breakdown and has been associated with a reduced rate of VLST.
  - ▶ Each has a specific biocompatibility profile and degradation time
  - ▶ Must resist mechanical stress of balloon inflation and the configuration change during stent expansion.
- ▶ Polymer-free drug carrier systems have been developed and are under investigation

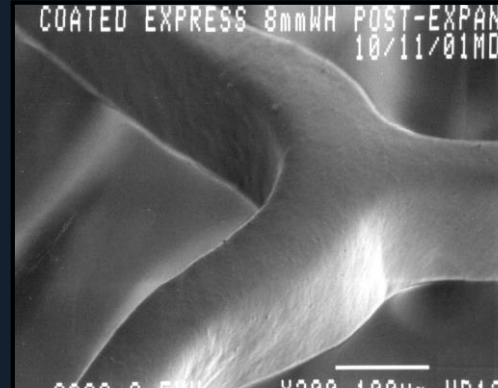


# Drug-eluting Stents: 1<sup>st</sup> Generation

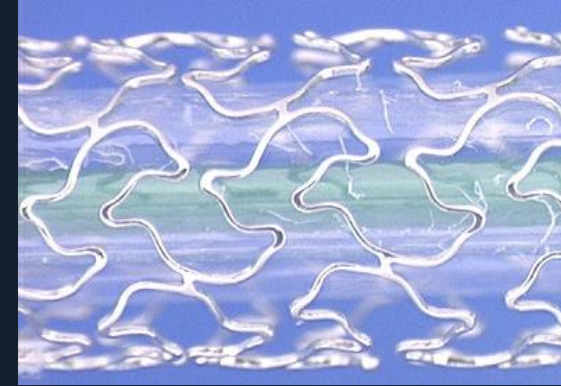
TAXUS



Paclitaxel  
Drug

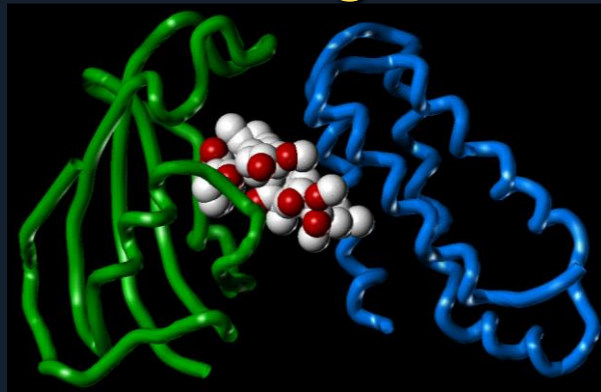


Polyolefin derivative  
Polymer

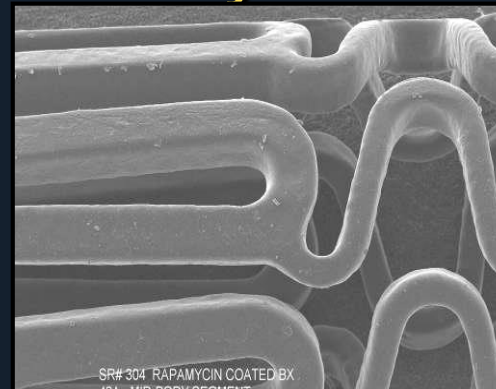


Liberté  
Stent

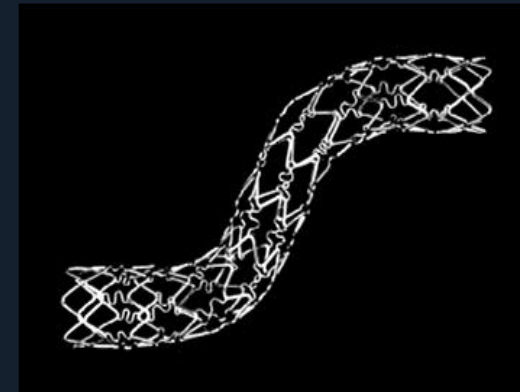
Cypher



Sirolimus

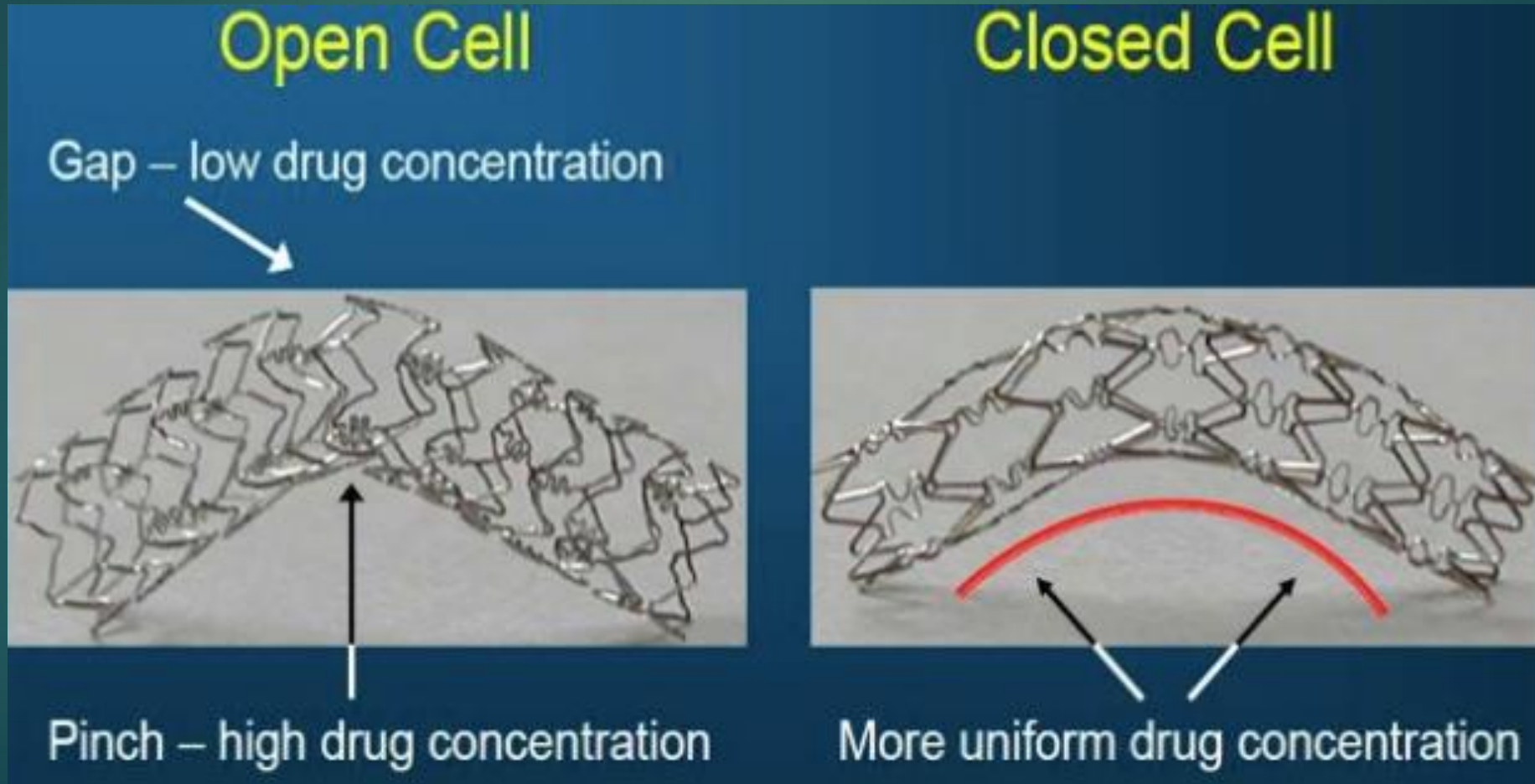


PEVA + PBMA blend



BX Velocity

# Stent Design Can Influence Drug Elution

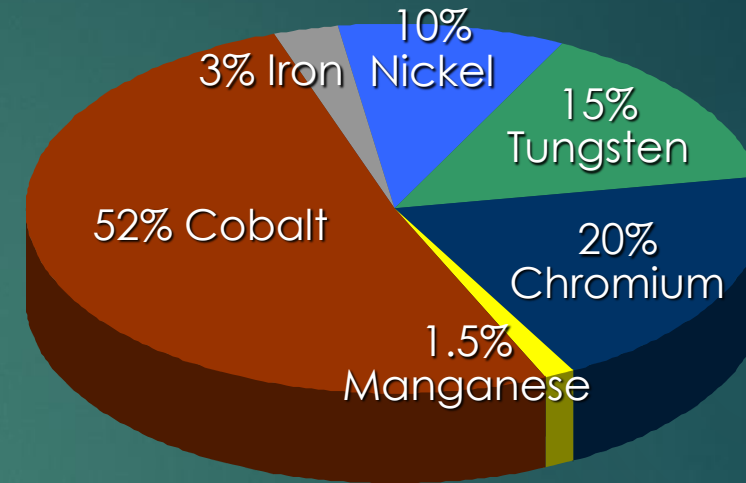
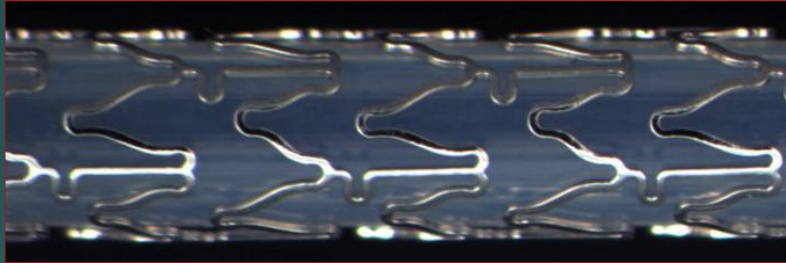


# Drug Eluting Stents-- 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation

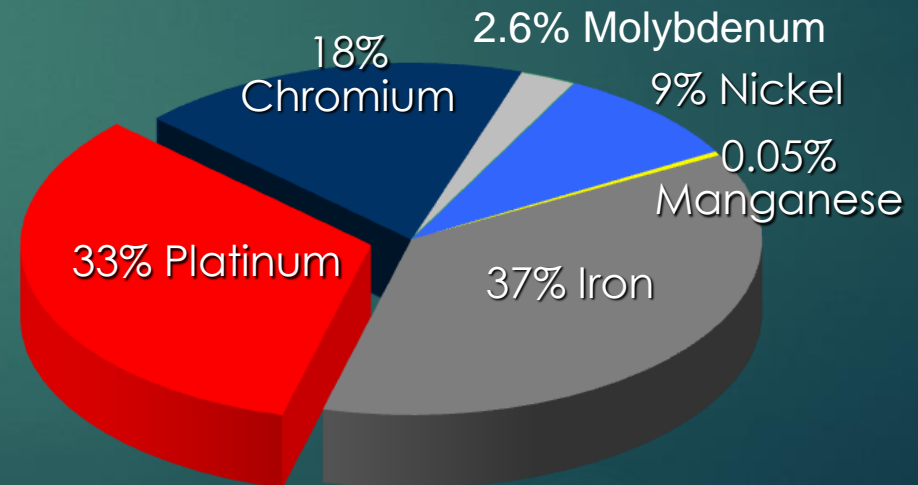
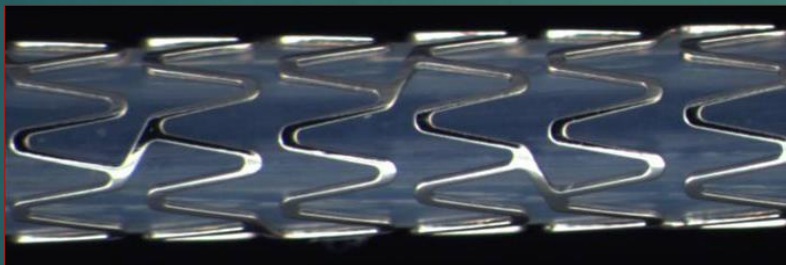
Everolimus concentration: 100 ug/cm<sup>2</sup>

Polymer: PBMA & PVDF-ss)

XIENCE V / PROMUS (CoCr-EES)



PROMUS Element (PtCr-EES)



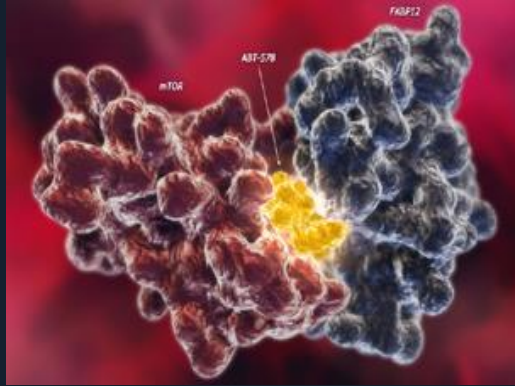
PBMA=poly (n-butyl methacrylate) (primer layer);  
PVDF-HFP=poly (vinylidene fluoride-co-hexafluoropropylene) (drug matrix layer)

Stone GW et al. JACC 2011; 57:1700–8

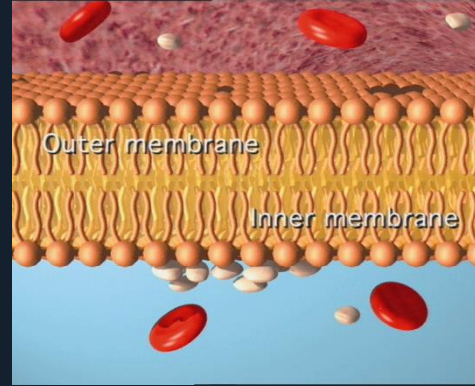


# Drug-eluting Stents: 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation

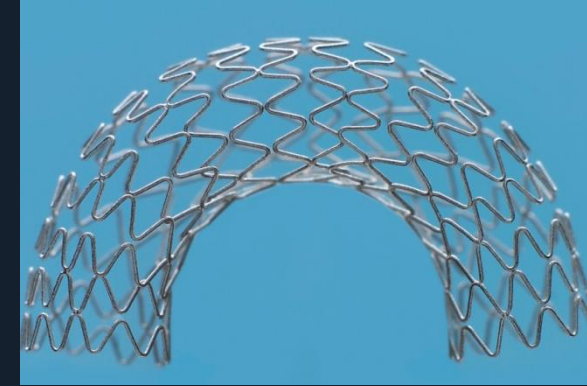
Endeavor



Zotarolimus  
**Drug**

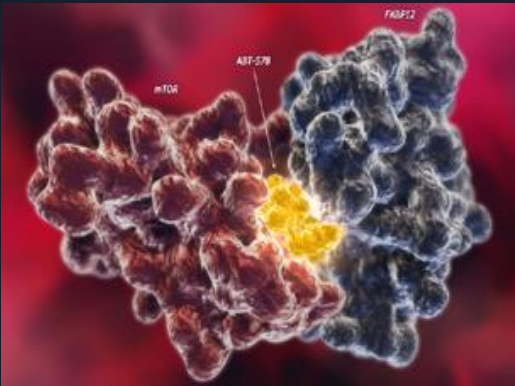


Phosphorylcholine  
**Polymer**

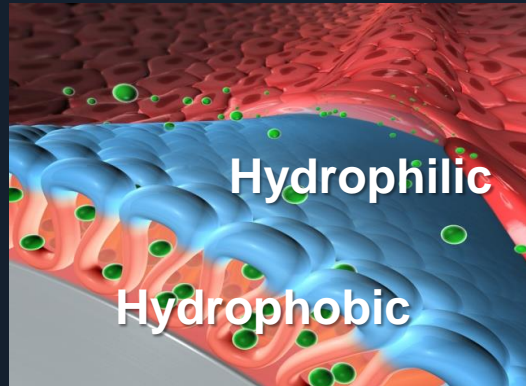


Driver  
**Stent**

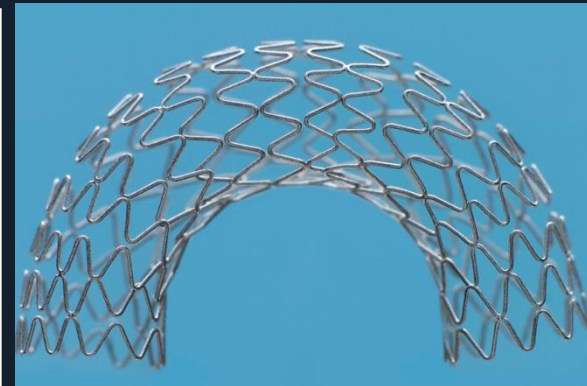
Resolute



Zotarolimus



BioLinx



Driver



# Drug Eluting Stent Timeline

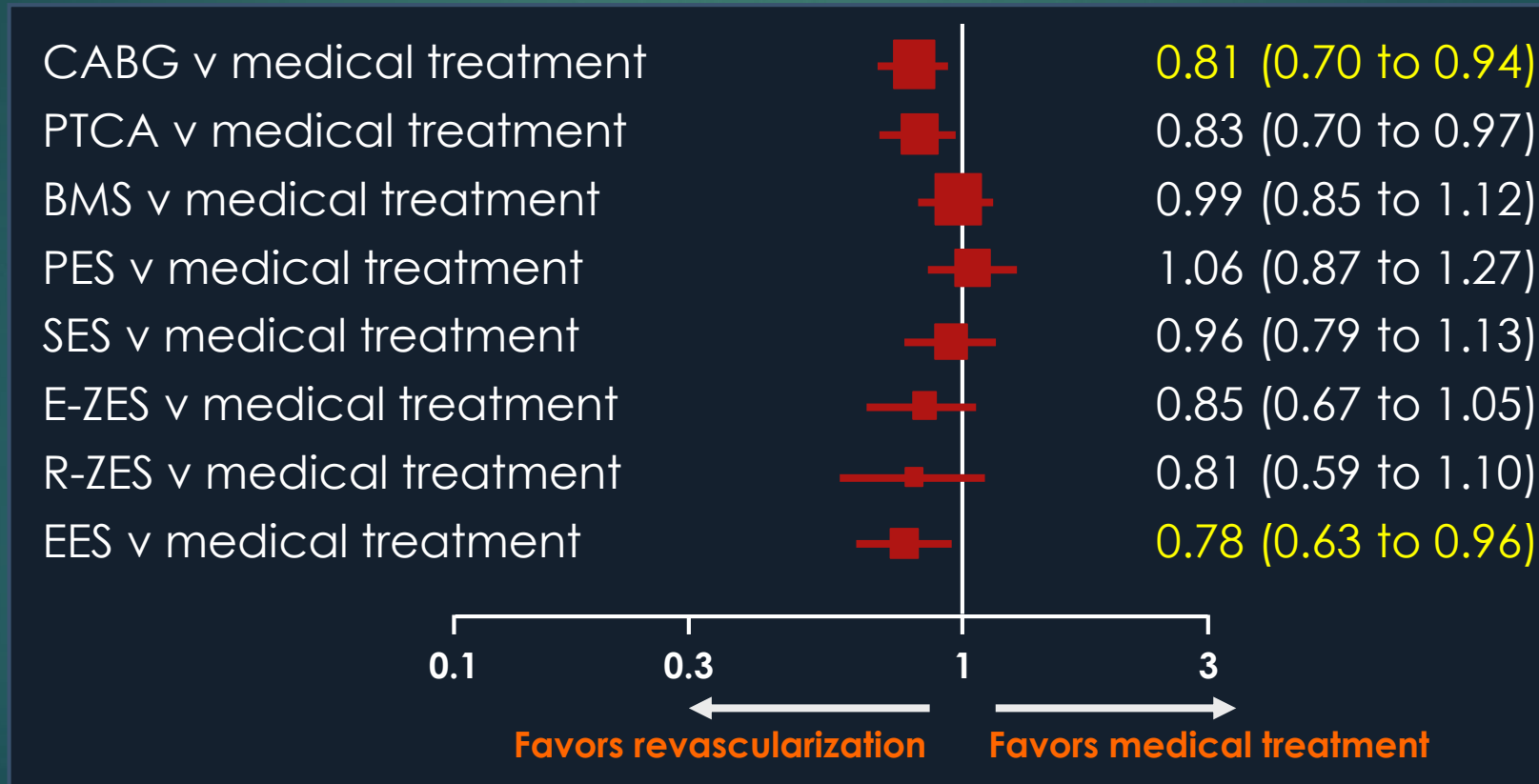
	Date Approved	Manufacturer	Stent Alloy	Drug	Polymer
<b>First Generation</b>					
Cypher	2003	Cordis	Stainless steel	Sirolimus	Durable
Taxus	2004	Boston Scientific	Stainless steel	Paclitaxel	Durable
<b>Second Generation</b>					
Xience V	2007	Abbott Vascular	Cobalt chromium	Everolimus	Durable
Promus	2008	Boston Scientific	Cobalt chromium	Everolimus	Durable
Endeavor	2008	Medtronic	Cobalt chromium	Zotarolimus	Durable
Xience Prime	2011	Abbott Vascular	Cobalt chromium	Everolimus	Durable
Promus Element	2011	Boston Scientific	Platinum chromium	Everolimus	Durable
Taxus Ion	2011	Boston Scientific	Platinum chromium	Paclitaxel	Durable
Resolute	2012	Medtronic	Cobalt chromium	Zotarolimus	Durable

# Revascularization vs. Medical Rx: SIHD

## Impact of new DES

100 trials in 93,553 pts with 262,090 pt-yrs follow-up

### Death or MI (88 trials, 89,373 pts)

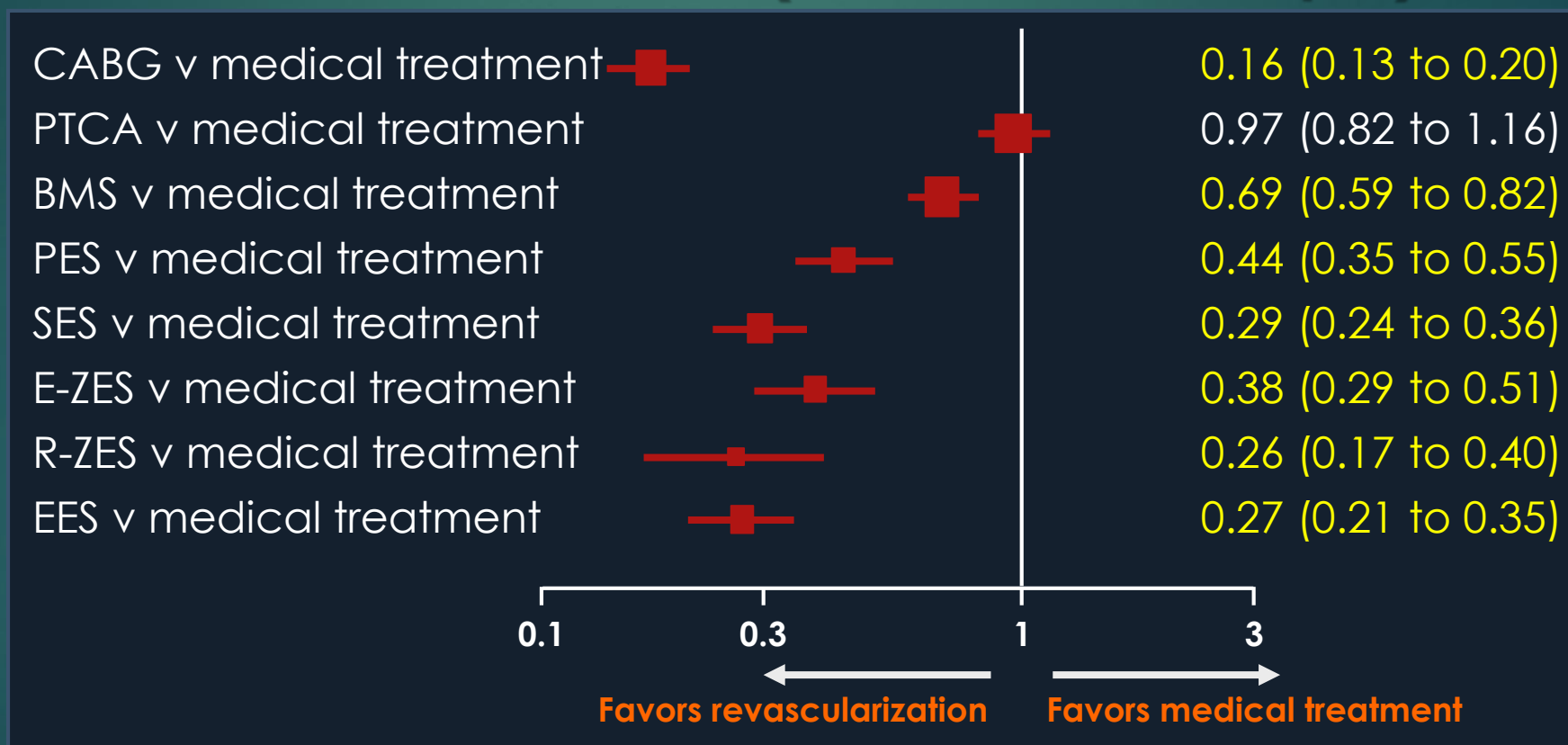


# Revascularization vs. Medical Rx: SIHD

## Impact of new DES

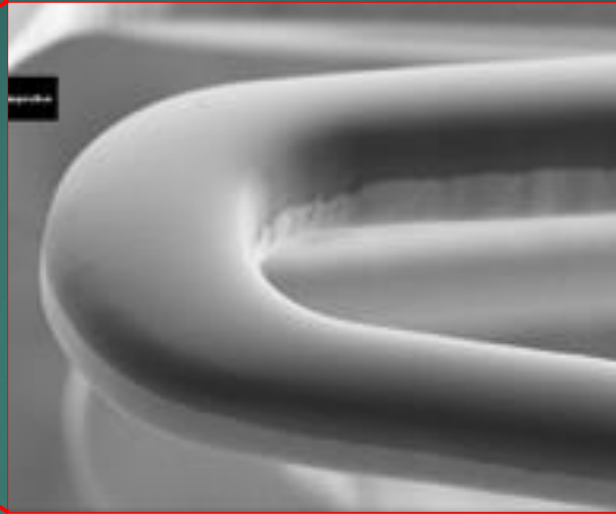
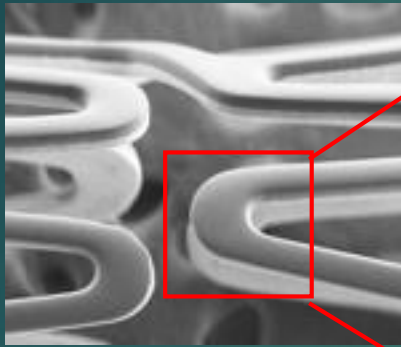
100 trials in 93,553 pts with 262,090 pt-yrs follow-up

### Revascularization (94 trials, 90,282 pts)



# Abluminal Bioabsorbable Polymer

BSC Synergy stent



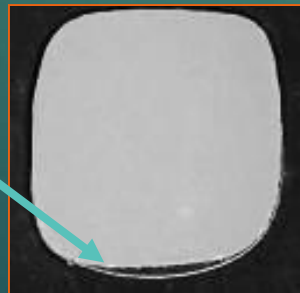
Bioabsorbable polymer (PLGA)  
• gone in 4 months

Applied only to the abluminal surface

Thin strut (0.0028")  
PtCr Stent

Abluminal Bioabsorbable Polymer

PLGA Bioabsorbable Polymer  
+  
Everolimus  
on Abluminal Side  
of Stent  
(Elutes in 3 months)



Current Durable Polymer



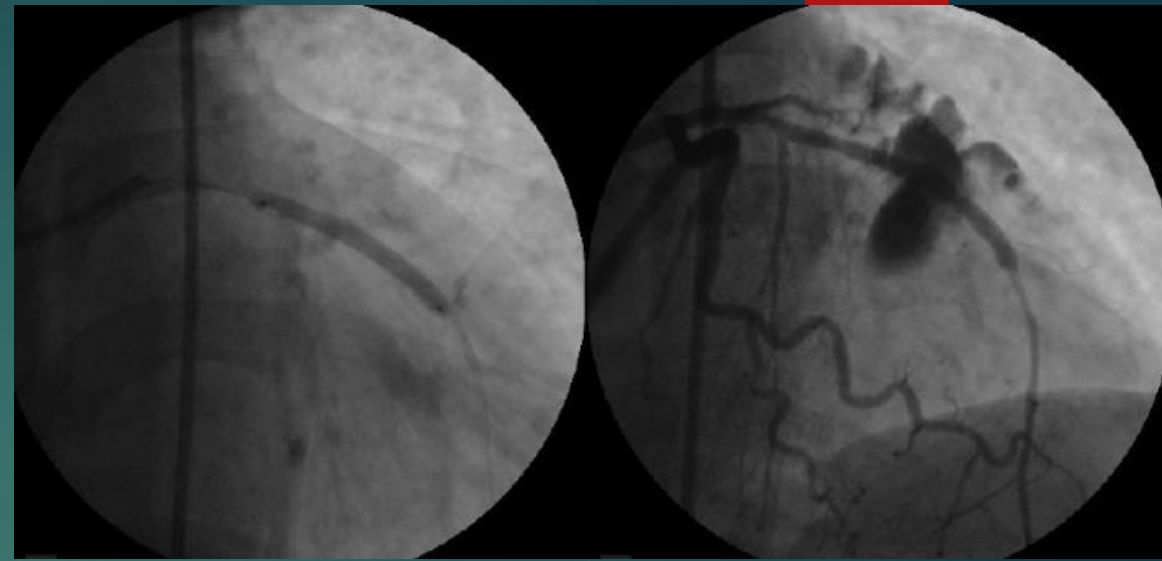
Durable Permanent Polymer  
+  
Drug  
360° Around Stent

# Current Drug Eluting Stent Options--

Vendor	Stent	Drug	Polymer	Size	Length
Abbott Vascular	Xience V and Xience Nano Xience Prime (CoCr) Xience Xpedition (CoCr) Xience Alpine (CoCr)	Everolimus	Durable	2.25-4.00 mm	8-38 mm
Boston Scientific	Ion (PtCr) Promus Element Plus (PtCr) Promus Premier (PtCr) Synergy (PtCr)	Paclitaxel Everolimus	Durable	2.25-4.00 mm	8-38 mm
		Everolimus	Bioabsorbable	2.25-4.00 mm	8-38 mm
Medtronic	Resolute Integrity	Zotarolimus	Durable	2.25-4.00 mm	8-30 mm 34, 38 in 3.0-4.0

# Covered Stents

- ❖ Graftmaster Rx Stent (Abbott Labs)
  - ❖ Previously known as Jostent
- ❖ Two 316L stainless steel stents with PTFE membrane between them
- ❖ FDA approved under humanitarian device exemption (HDE) for the treatment of free perforations of native coronary arteries or saphenous vein grafts
- ❖ IRB approval required for use (particularly for off-label use)
- ❖ Requires mandatory paperwork for submission to Abbott prior to re-ordering
- ❖ Needed in every cath lab, but hopefully not used!





# Covered Stents--Considerations

❖ Guide Catheter Size Needs to Be Considered

GRAFTMASTER® Diameter	2.8 – 4.0 mm	4.5 – 4.8 mm
Stent Material	Stainless Steel 316L	Stainless Steel 316L
Graft Material	Expandable Polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE) sandwiched between two identical stents	Expandable Polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE) sandwiched between two identical stents
Double Wall Thickness (mm)	0.52	0.52
Balloon Material	Semi Compliant	Semi Compliant
Shaft Size (F)	2.0 – 2.7	2.0 – 2.7
Minimum Deployment Pressure (ATM)	15	15
Rated Burst Pressure (ATM)	16	16
Minimum Guide Wire (in)	0.014	0.014
Usable Length (cm)	143	143
Maximum Stent Graft Expansion (mm)*	5.5	5.5
Minimum Guide Catheter (in) / F	0.068 / ≥ 6	0.074 / ≥ 7
Crimped Stent Profile (in)	0.064	0.068
Tip Entry Profile (in)	0.024	0.024
Average Crossing Profile (in)	0.064	0.068

Long term patency is not well studied

❖ Need to Size to Outer Diameter

Inner Diameter Compliance Chart



ATM	2.80 mm	3.50 mm	4.00 mm	4.50 mm	4.80 mm
11	1.37	1.83	2.30	2.86	2.98
12	1.67	2.34	2.74	3.20	3.57
13	1.91	2.47	2.90	3.30	3.89
14	2.08	2.63	3.08	3.52	3.98
15 (NOM)	2.18	2.81	3.31	3.79	4.16
16 (RBP)	2.32	3.01	3.54	3.98	4.34
17	2.47	3.19	3.72	4.15	4.52
18	2.62	3.32	3.86	4.31	4.64
19	2.73	3.43	3.96	4.42	4.77

Outer Diameter Compliance Chart



ATM	2.80 mm	3.50 mm	4.00 mm	4.50 mm	4.80 mm
11	1.89	2.35	2.82	3.38	3.50
12	2.19	2.86	3.26	3.72	4.09
13	2.43	2.99	3.42	3.82	4.41
14	2.60	3.15	3.60	4.04	4.50
15 (NOM)	2.70	3.33	3.83	4.31	4.68
16 (RBP)	2.84	3.53	4.06	4.50	4.86
17	2.99	3.71	4.24	4.67	5.04
18	3.14	3.84	4.38	4.83	5.16
19	3.25	3.95	4.48	4.94	5.29



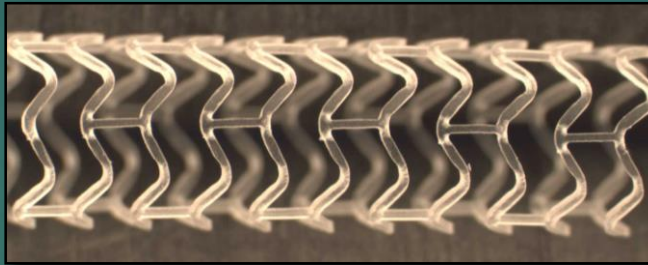
# Fully Bioresorbable Stents (Scaffolds)

**Igaki-Tamai**



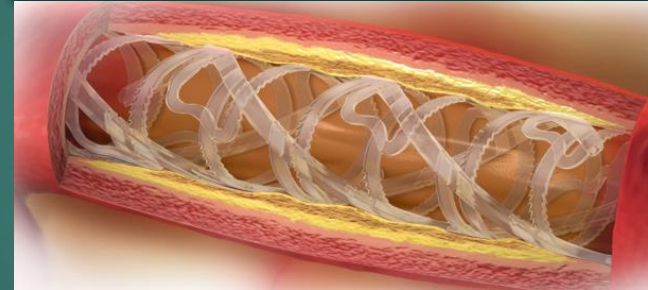
PLA

**BVS**



PLA (everolimus coat)

**REVA**



Iodinated tyrosine-polycarbonate (with PTX)

**BTI**



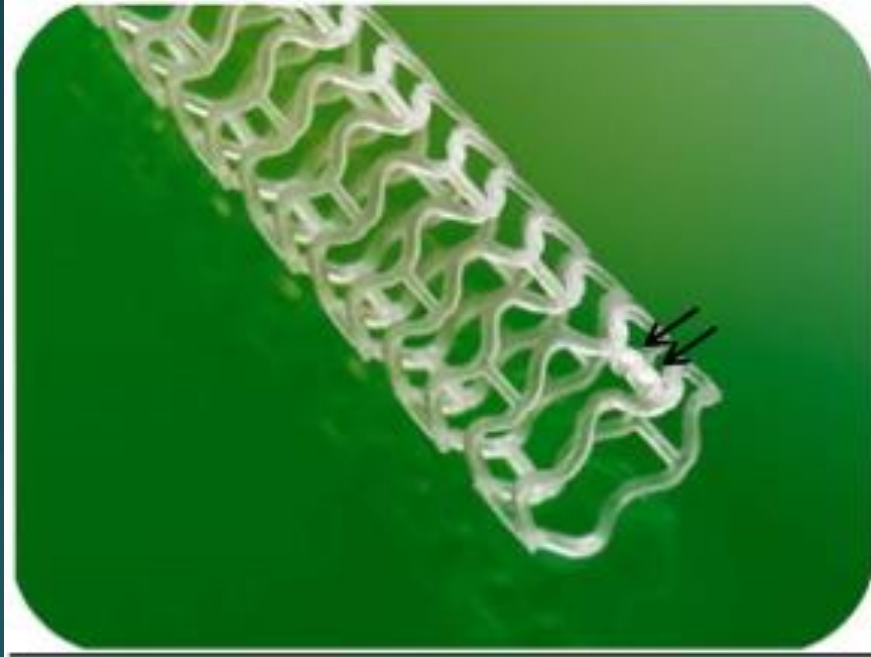
PAE-salicylate (with sirolimus)

**Biotronik**



Magnesium

# ABSORB



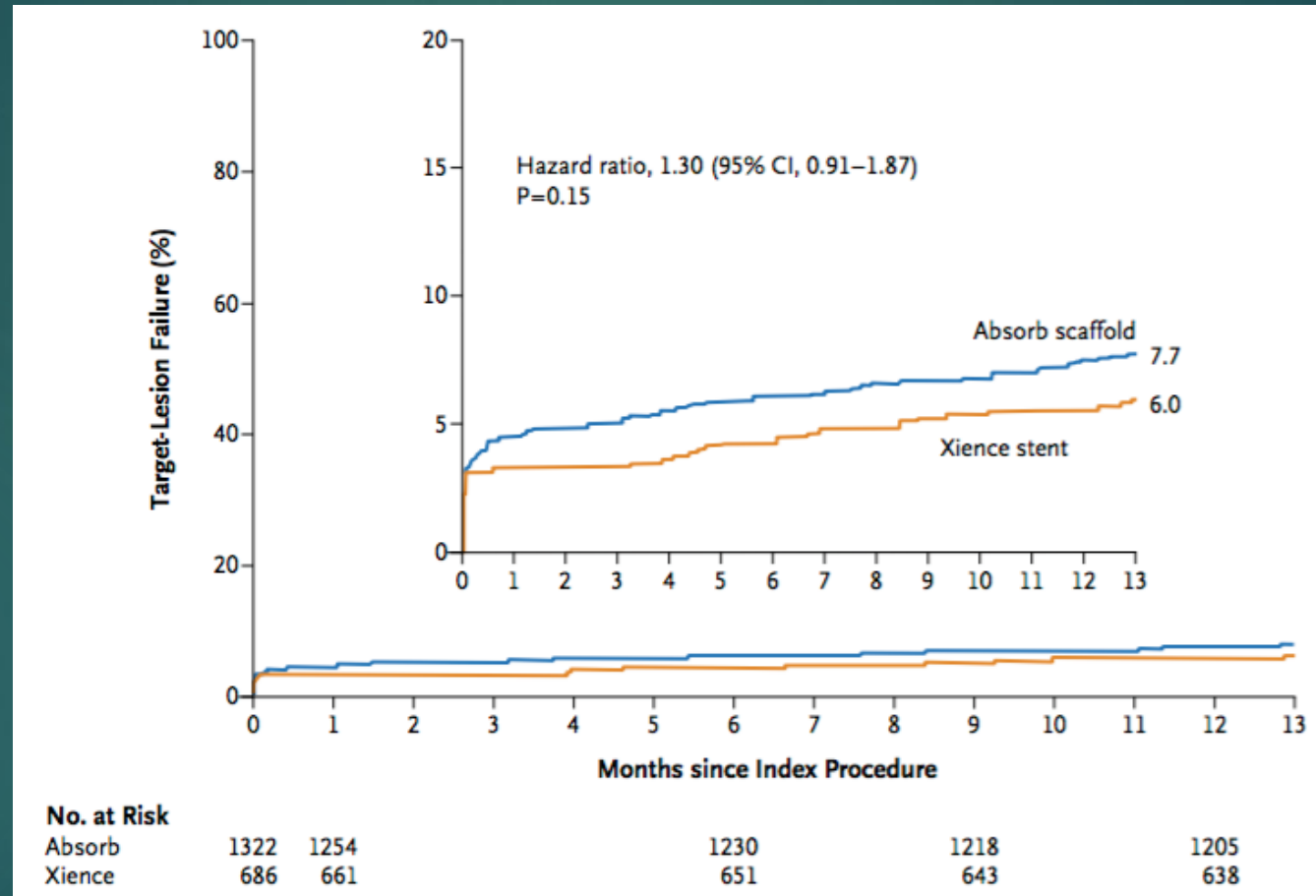
Bioresorbable Vascular Scaffold (BVS) System  
(Abbott Vascular, Santa Clara, CA)

Diameters: 2.5, 3.0 and 3.5 mm  
Lengths: 8, 12, 18 and 28 mm lengths

- ❖ balloon-expandable with two platinum markers at each end
- ❖ poly-L-lactic acid (PLLA) scaffold (average strut thickness 150  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- ❖ bioresorbable poly-D,L-lactic acid (PDLLA) coating ( $\sim 7 \mu\text{m}$  thick)
- ❖ Everolimus, (100 mcg/cm<sup>2</sup>), 80% eluted in 30 days
- ❖ The PLLA scaffold is composed of circumferentially oriented sinusoidal rings connected by linear links similar to MultiLink stent design

# ABSORB III—US Pivotal Trial

## Primary Endpoint: Target Lesion Failure



Target Lesion Failure=cardiac death, target-vessel MI, or ischemia-driven target-lesion revascularization

Ellis SG et al. N Engl J Med 2015; 373:1905-1915

# Conclusions

- ▶ Balloon construction determines the clinical role for specific balloons in patients undergoing PCI
  - Specialty balloons may have a role in specific clinical scenarios
- ▶ Stent design has markedly improved over the last 22 years since the first BMS was FDA approved
  - While there were differences in early stent design and performance, current BMS and DES are all quite good
  - Specific clinical scenarios require specific stents...ensure you are familiar with what is on your shelf!
- Drug eluting stent design is rapidly advancing with a goal to have polymers that are bioresorbable or drug delivery systems that don't require polymers
- Bioresorbable scaffolds are promising but we have much to learn (re-learn) about their use