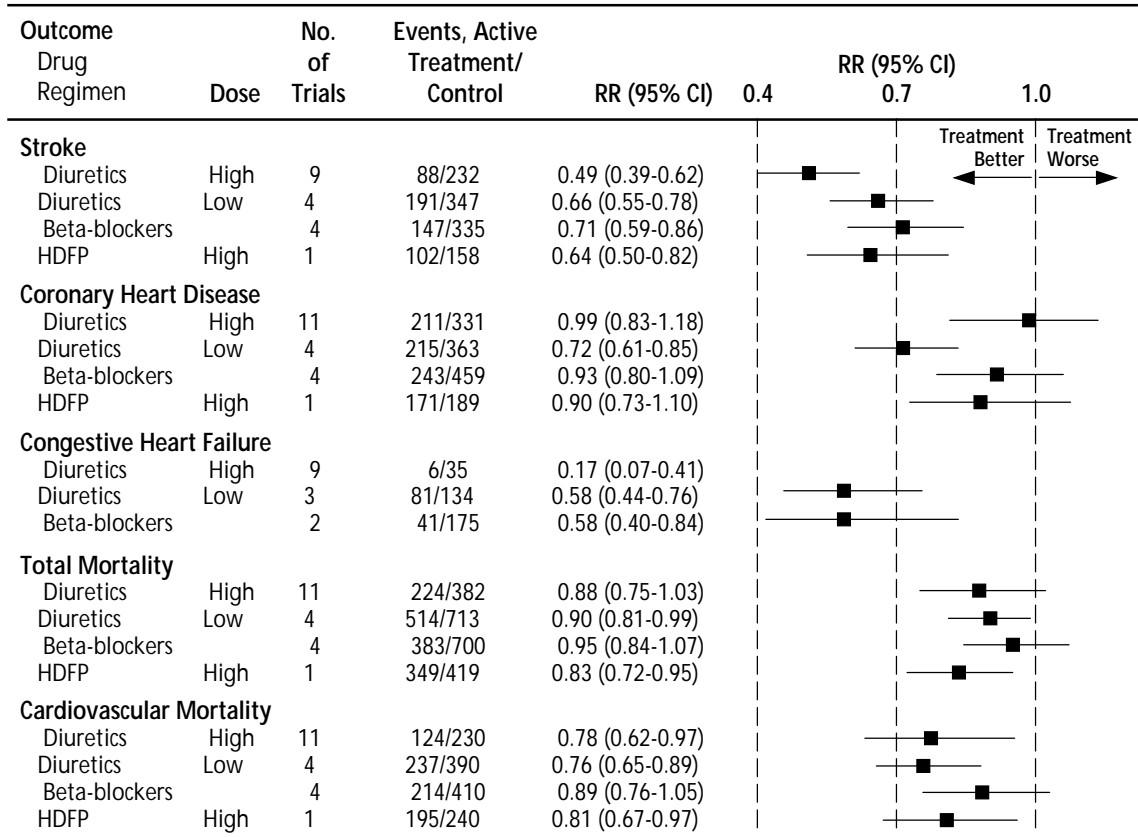


Figure 6

# **META-ANALYSIS OF RANDOMIZED, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED CLINICAL TRIALS IN HYPERTENSION ACCORDING TO FIRST-LINE TREATMENT STRATEGY**



Trials indicate number of trials with at least one endpoint of interest. For these comparisons, the numbers of participants randomized to active therapy and placebo, respectively, were 7,768 and 12,075 for high-dose diuretic therapy; 4,305 and 5,116 for low-dose diuretic therapy, and 6,736 and 12,147 for beta-blocker therapy. Because the Medical Research Council trials included two active arms, the placebo group is included twice in these totals (for diuretic comparison and for beta-blocker comparison). The total number of participants randomized to active therapy and control therapy were 24,294 and 23,926, respectively. RR indicates relative risk; CI, confidence interval; and HDFP, Hypertension Detection and Follow-up Program (5,484 subjects in stepped care and 5,455 in referred care).

Source: Psaty et al.<sup>118</sup> © 1997, American Medical Association.