

Echocardiographic Results of Transcatheter Versus Surgical Aortic Valve Replacement in Women with Severe Aortic Stenosis

The RHEIA Trial



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Disclosure of Relevant Financial Relationships

Within the prior 24 months, I, [Philippe Pibarot](#), have had a financial relationship with
a company producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing
healthcare products used by or on patients:

Nature of Financial Relationship

Grant/Research Support

Ineligible Company

Edwards Life Sciences, Boston
Sc., Novartis, Pi-Cardia,
Cardiac Success

RHEIA Trial: Investigator Initiated and Sponsored Trial funded by Edwards Lifesciences.

Background And Objectives

- In the Randomized researchH in **womEn** all comers with Aortic stenosis (RHEIA) trial, the incidence of the primary endpoint of death, stroke, or rehospitalization at 1-year was lower with transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) than with surgical aortic valve replacement (SAVR).

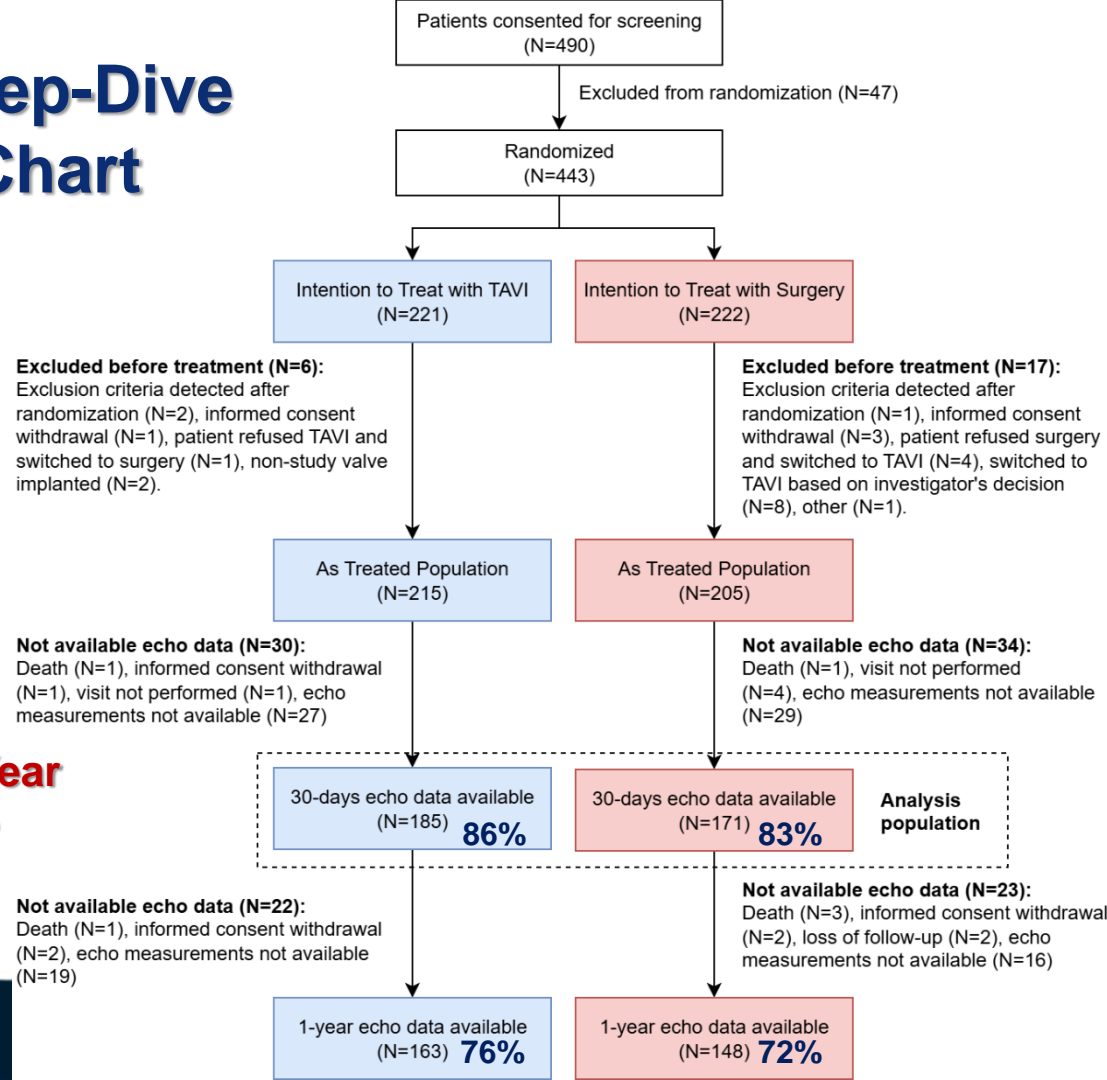
Study Objectives:

- i) To compare echocardiographic findings in women with severe AS following SAVR or TAVI.
- ii) To determine the association between echocardiographic parameters at 30-days and clinical outcomes at 1-year.

RHEIA Echo Deep-Dive Study Flow Chart

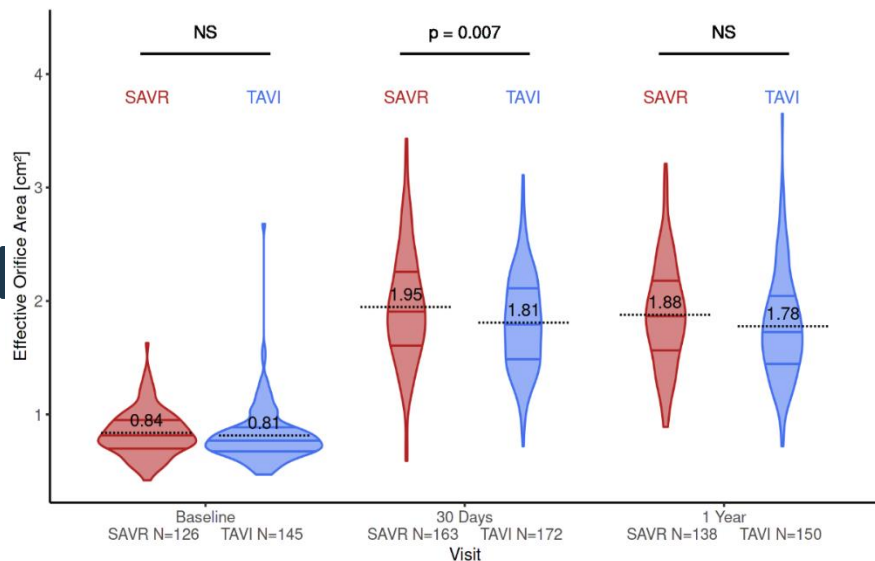
As treated population

Baseline, 30 days, and 1 Year TTEs analyzed by an echo corelab

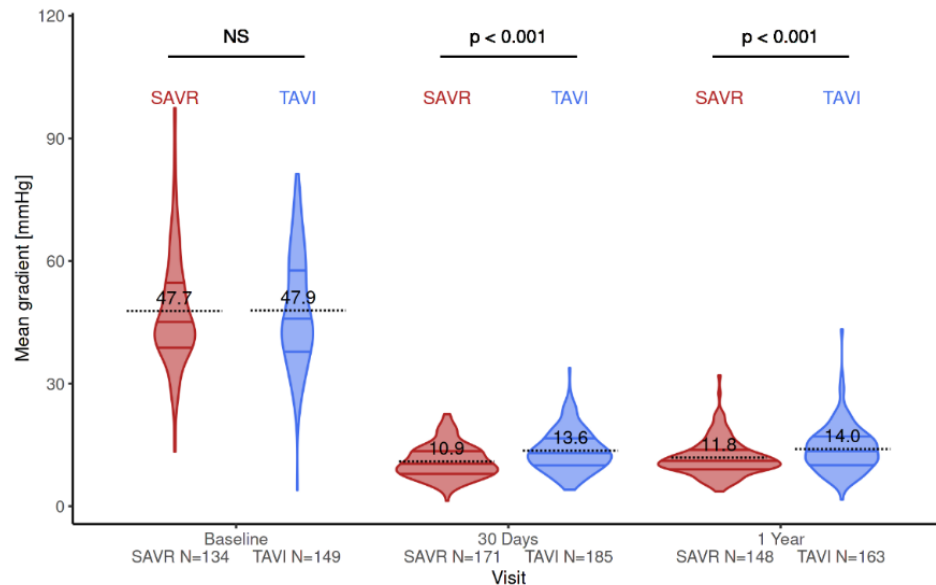


Aortic Valve Hemodynamics in TAVI vs. SAVR

Aortic Valve Area (cm²)

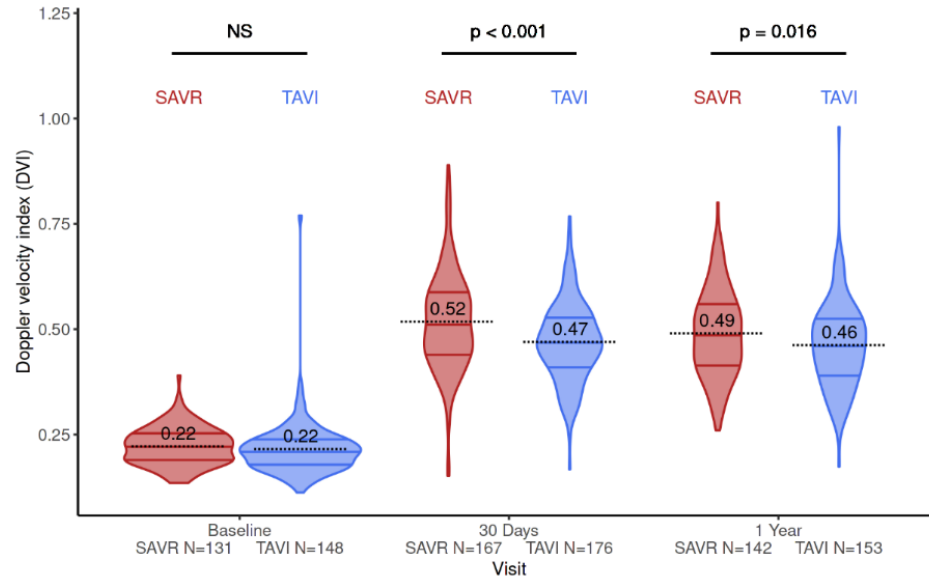


Mean Gradient (mmHg)



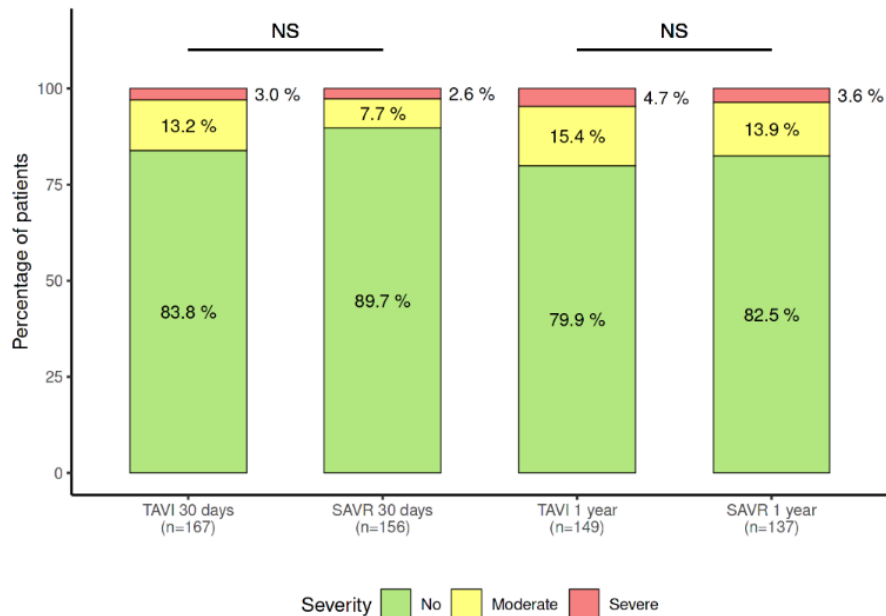
Aortic Valve Hemodynamics in TAVI vs. SAVR

Doppler Velocity Index

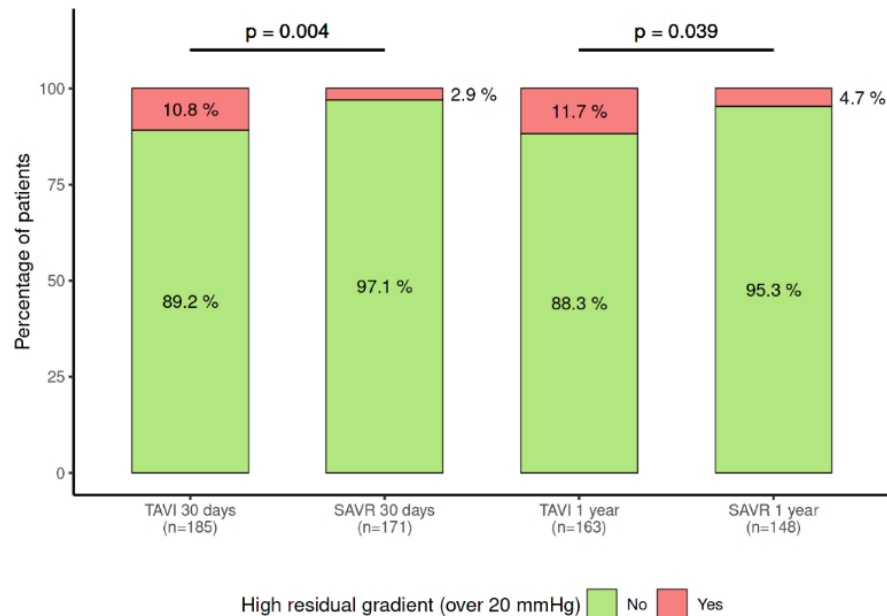


Aortic Valve Hemodynamics in TAVI vs. SAVR

Prosthesis-Patient Mismatch

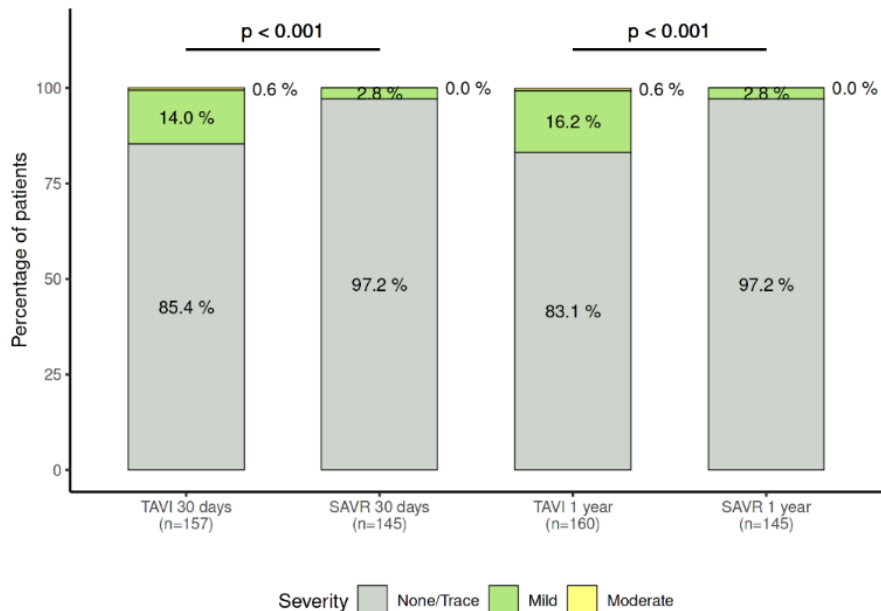


High Residual Gradient (>20 mmHg)

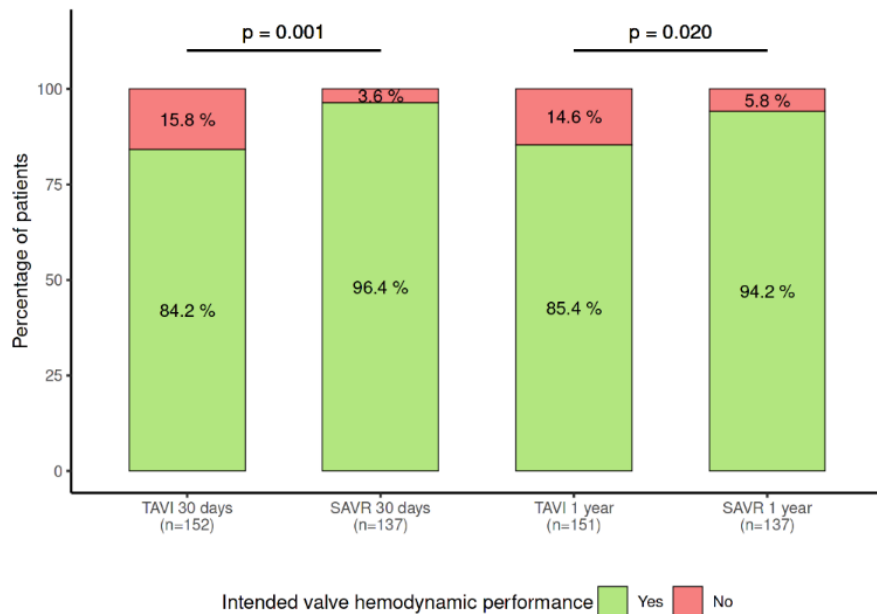


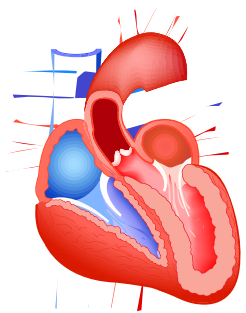
Aortic Valve Hemodynamics in TAVI vs. SAVR

Paravalvular Aortic Regurgitation



Intended Valve Hemodynamic Performance (VARC3: mean gradient <20 mmHg, DVI >0.25, and PVL <moderate)

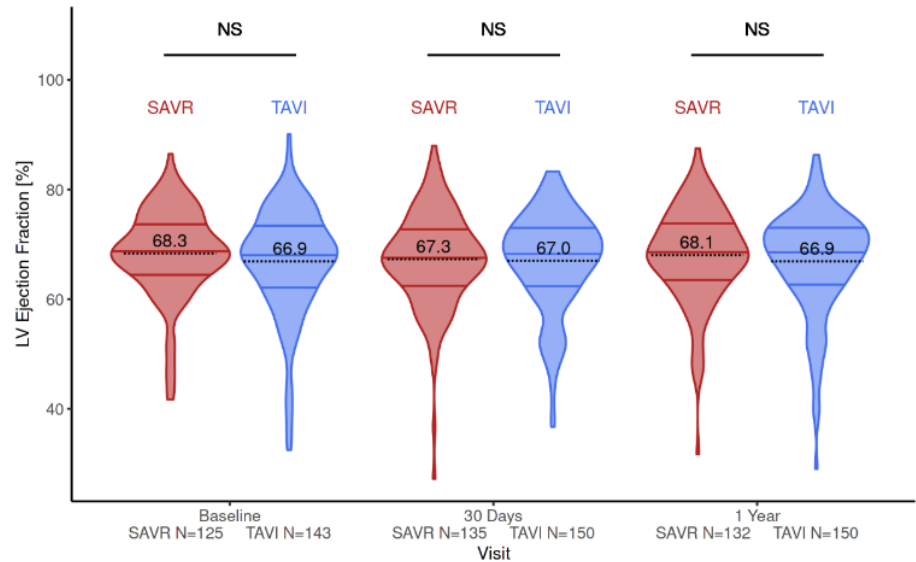
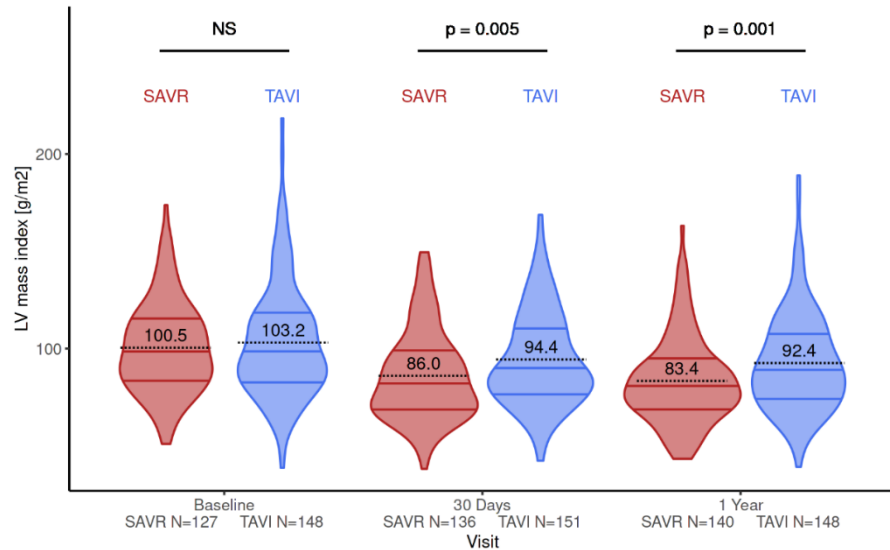




LV Remodeling and Systolic Function in TAVI vs. SAVR

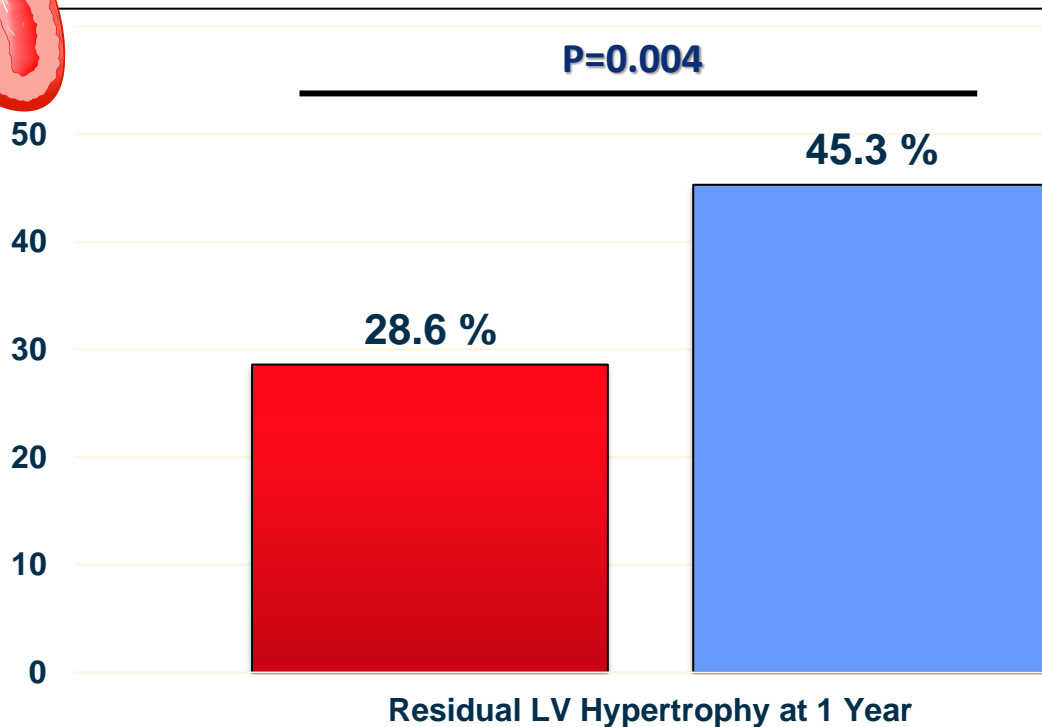
LV Mass Index (g/m²)

LVEF (%)



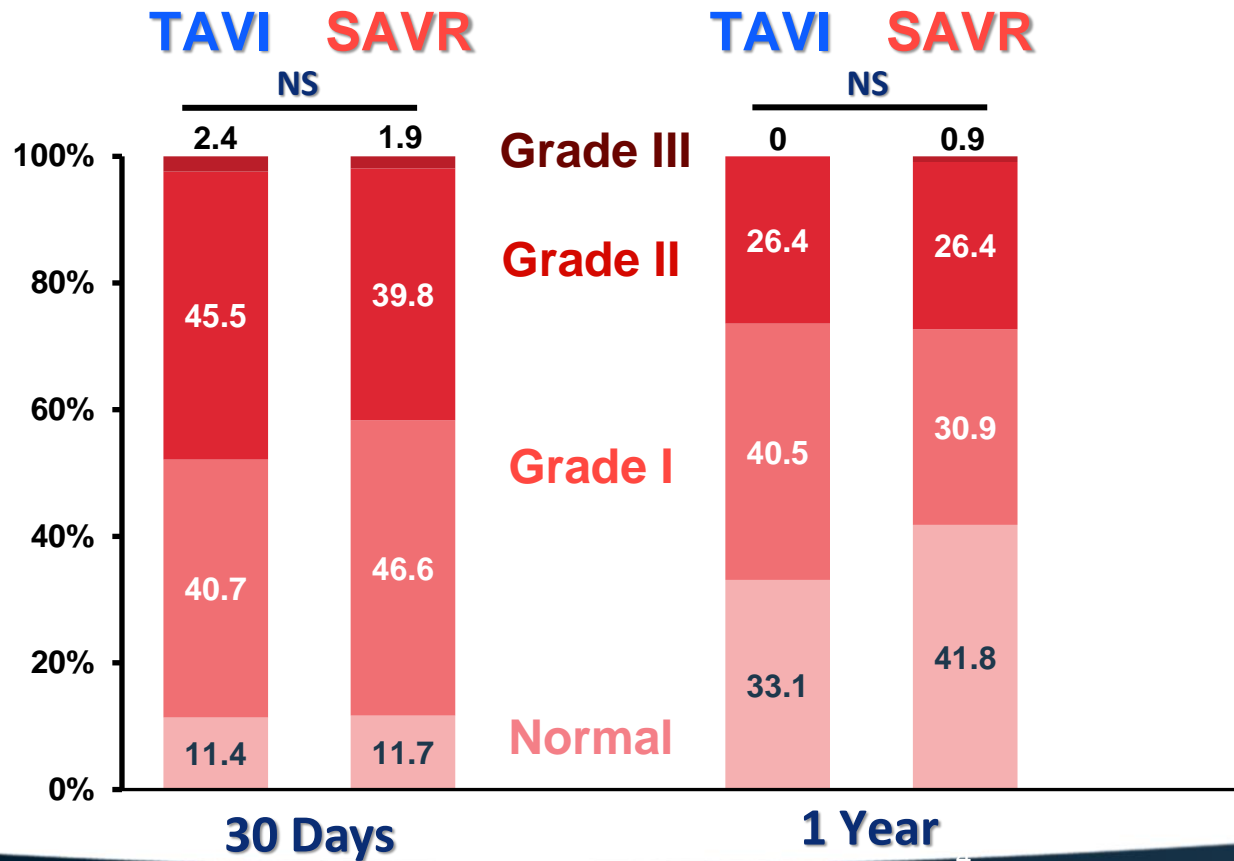
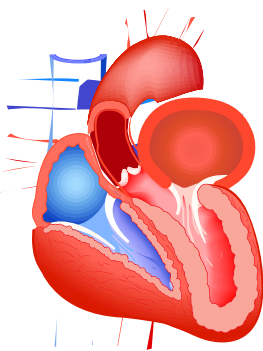
Residual LV Hypertrophy in TAVI vs. SAVR

% of Residual LV Hypertrophy ($> 91 \text{ g/m}^2$)

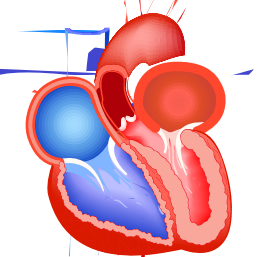


\geq mild paravalvular AR was independently associated with residual LV hypertrophy at 1-year (Odds Ratio: 2.60 (1.10–6.34); $p=0.03$).

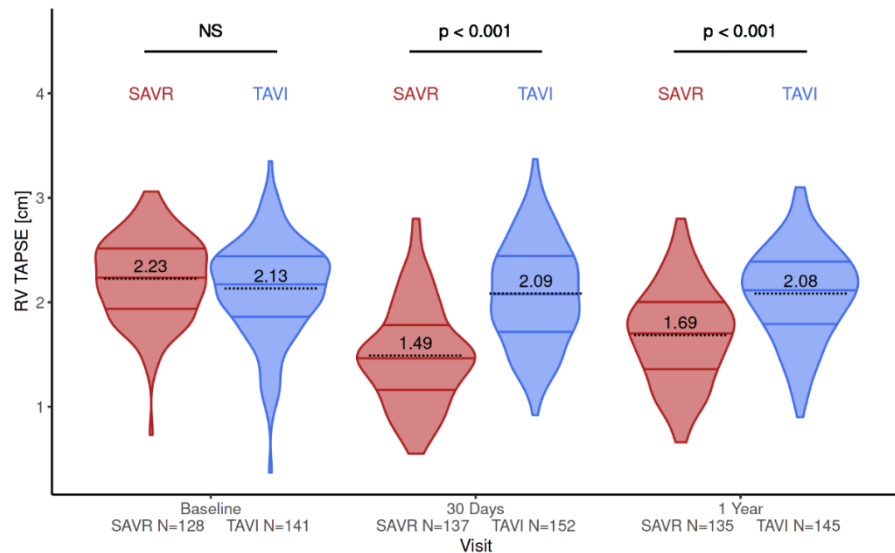
LV Diastolic Function in TAVI vs. SAVR



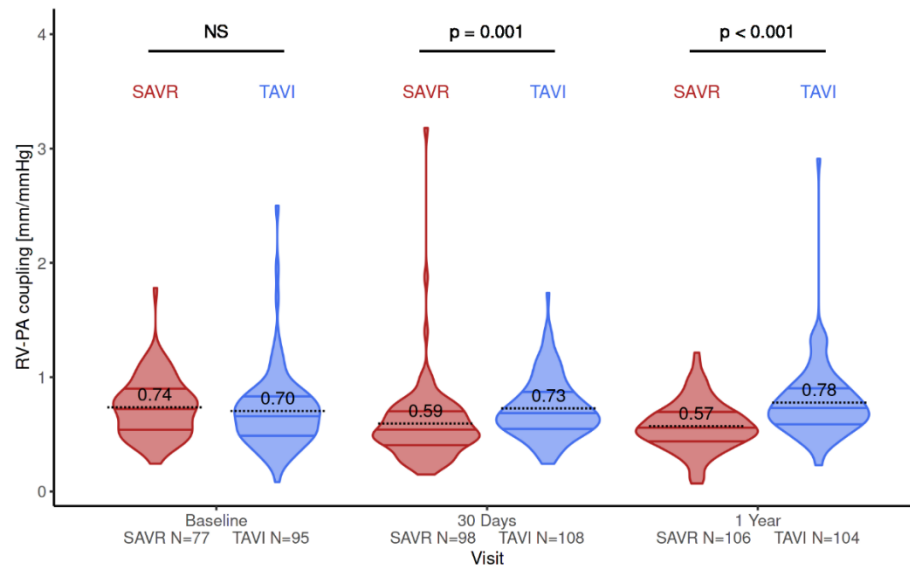
RV Systolic Function and PA Coupling in TAVI vs. SAVR

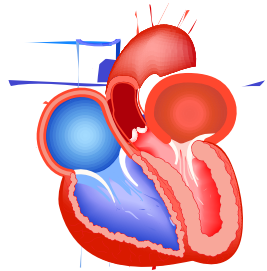


TAPSE (cm)



RV-PA Coupling: TAPSE / PASP (mm/mmHg)



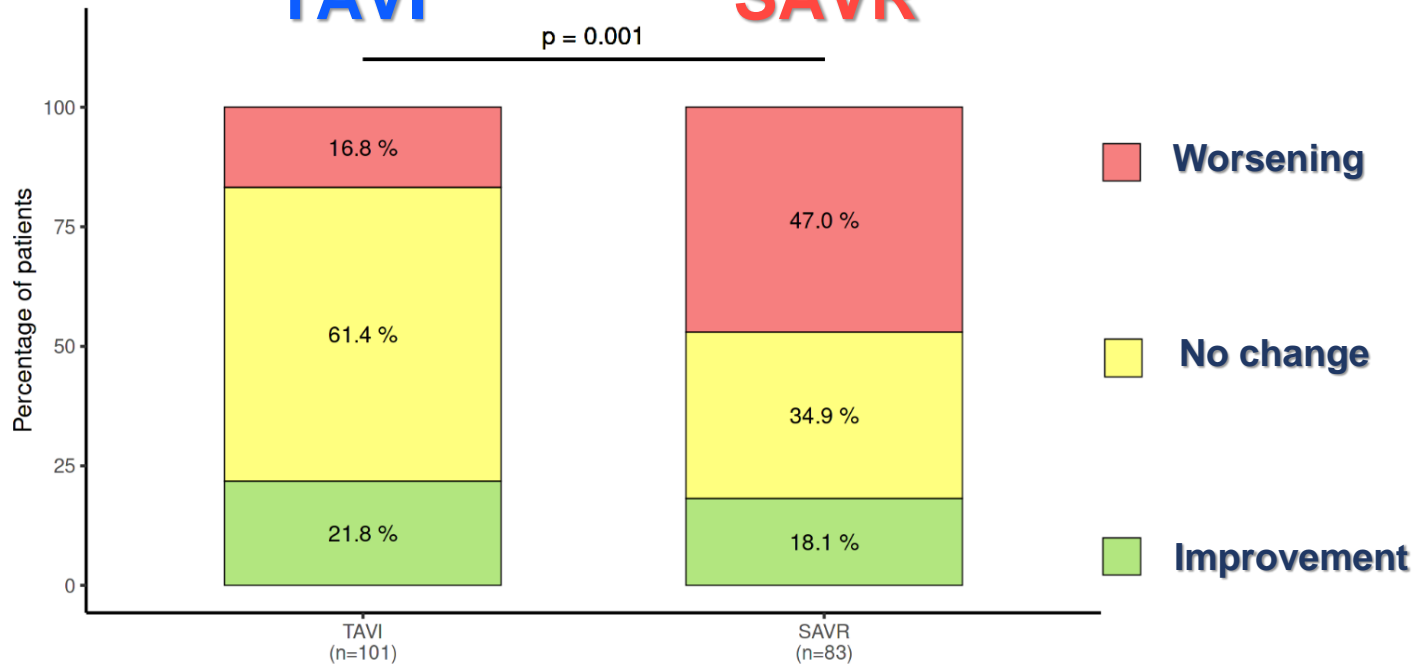


Evolution of Cardiac Damage Stage from Baseline to 1 Year in TAVI vs. SAVR

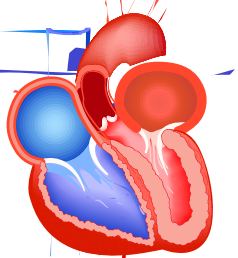
TAVI

SAVR

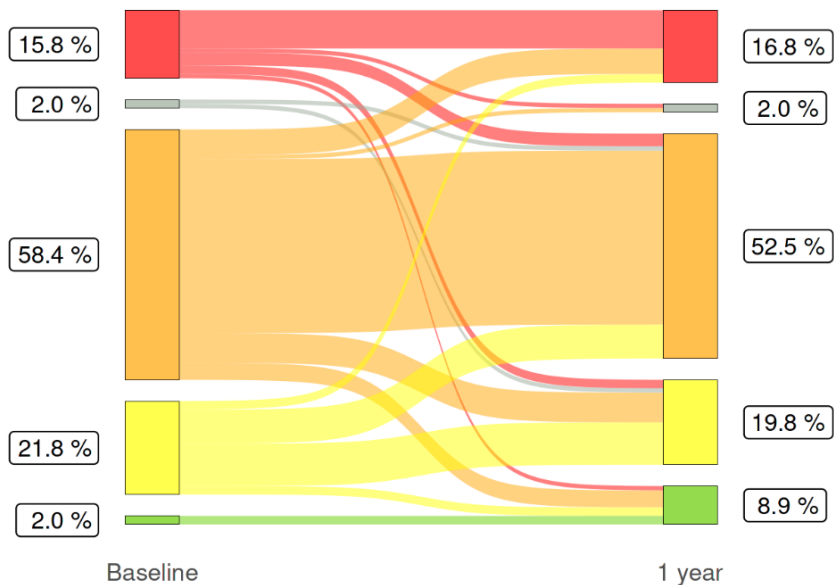
$p = 0.001$



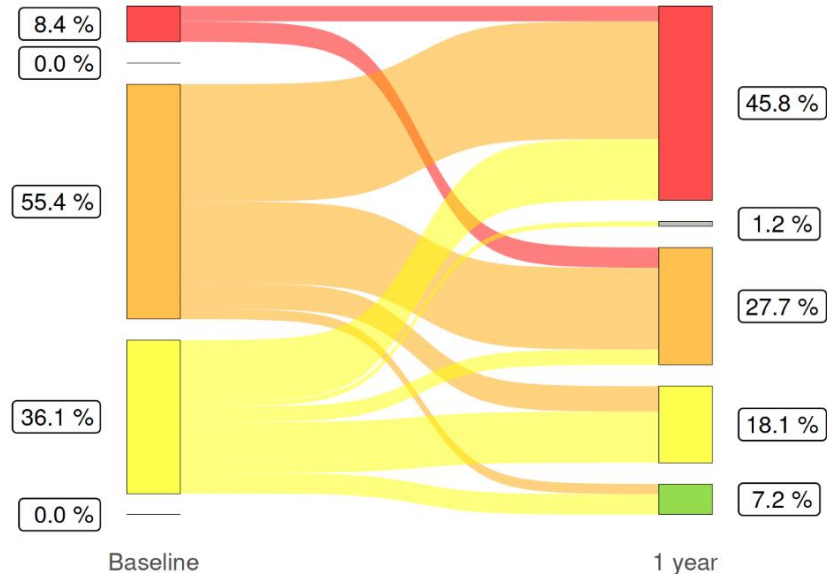
Evolution of Cardiac Damage Stage from Baseline to 1 Year in TAVI vs. SAVR



TAVI



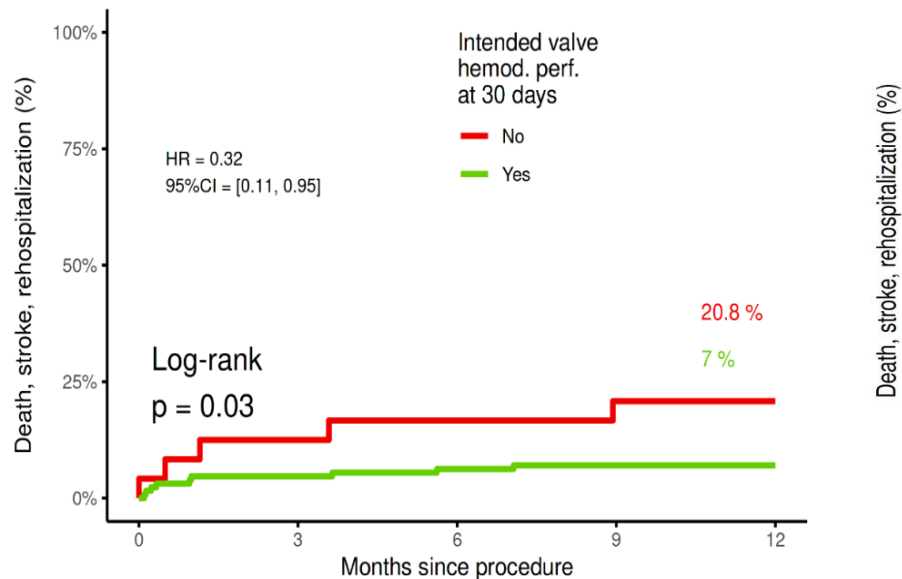
SAVR



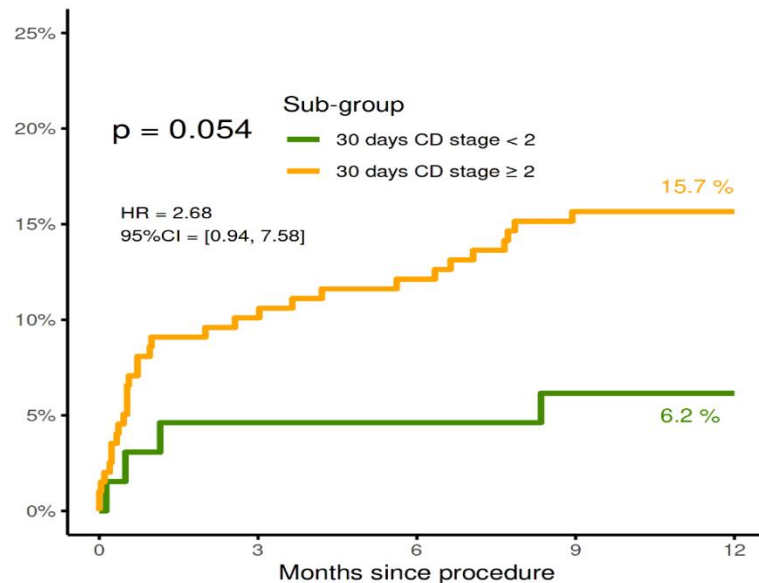
CD ■ Stage 0 ■ Stage 1 ■ Stage 2 ■ Stage 3 ■ Stage 4

Association between Echo Parameters at 30 Days and Primary Clinical Outcome at 1 year (TAVI + SAVR)

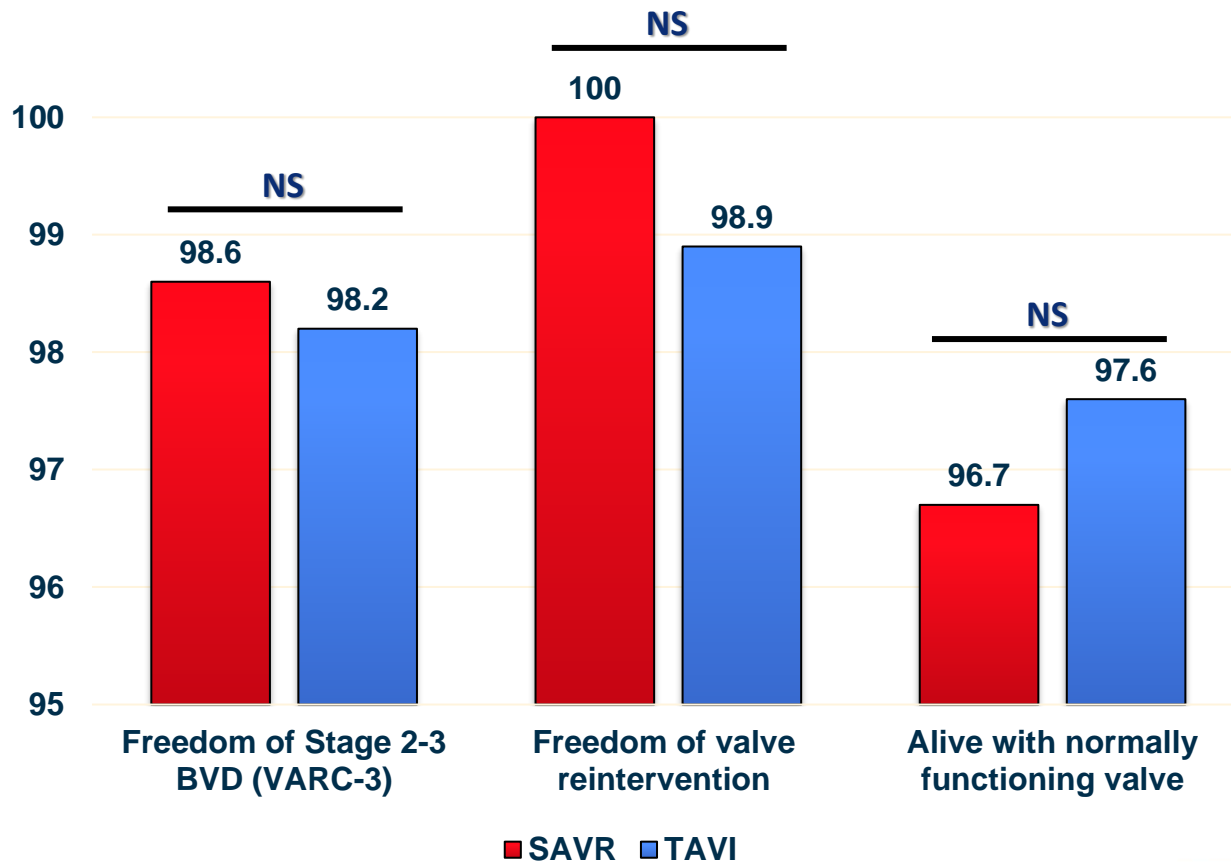
Intended valve hemodynamic performance



Cardiac Damage Stage ≥ 2



Bioprosthetic Valve Dysfunction at 1 Year



Conclusions (1)

Among women with severe AS:

- Both TAVI and SAVR achieved excellent valve hemodynamic results with low and similar rates of moderate paravalvular AR (<1%) and severe PPM (<3%).
- SAVR was associated with lower rates of high residual gradients and mild paravalvular AR, and less residual LV hypertrophy but similar improvements in LV diastolic & systolic function.
- The higher rate of residual LV hypertrophy with TAVI appears to be related to the higher rate of mild paravalvular AR.
- TAVI was associated with better RV systolic function and RV-PA coupling, and better evolution of cardiac damage stage at 1-year.

Conclusions (2)

- The rates of hemodynamic valve deterioration and reintervention were low ($< 2\%$) in both groups with $\sim 97\%$ of patients being alive with a normally functioning valve at 1-year.
- Non-intended valve hemodynamic performance and cardiac damage stage ≥ 2 were associated with increased risk of the primary endpoint.

Thank You!

48 Clinical Sites - 443 Patients - 12 Countries

Top 10 enrolling sites

1. *Clinique Pasteur, Toulouse, France (Tchéché Didier, Berthoumieu Pierre, 31 pts.)*
2. *St Antonius Ziekenhuis Nieuwegein, Nieuwegein, The Netherlands (Swaans Martin, Timmers Leo, 29 pts.)*
3. *Universitätsklinik der Ruhr-Universität Bochum Herz- und Diabeteszentrum Nordrhein-Westfalen, Bad Oeynhausen, Germany (Rudolph Tanja, Bleiziffer Sabine, 27 pts.)*
4. *Hôpital Cardiologique du Haut-Lévêque, Bordeaux, France (Leroux Lionel, Modine Thomas, 25 pts.)*
5. *Leids University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands (Bax Jeroen, Frank van der Kley, 22 pts.)*
6. *CHU Rouen - Hôpital Charles Nicolle, Rouen, France (Eltchaninoff Hélène, 18 pts.)*
7. *CHU Rennes - Hôpital de Pontchaillou, Rennes, France (Auffret Vincent, Tomasi Jacques, 18 pts.)*
8. *Universitätsklinik Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria (Bonaros Nikolaos, Stastny Lukas, 17 pts.)*
9. *Allgemeines Krankenhaus der Stadt Wien, Vienna, Austria (Hengstenberg Christian, Andreas Martin, 17 pts.)*
10. *CHU Montpellier - Hôpital Arnaud de Villeneuve, Montpellier, France (Leclercq Florence, Gandet Thomas, 16 pts.)*

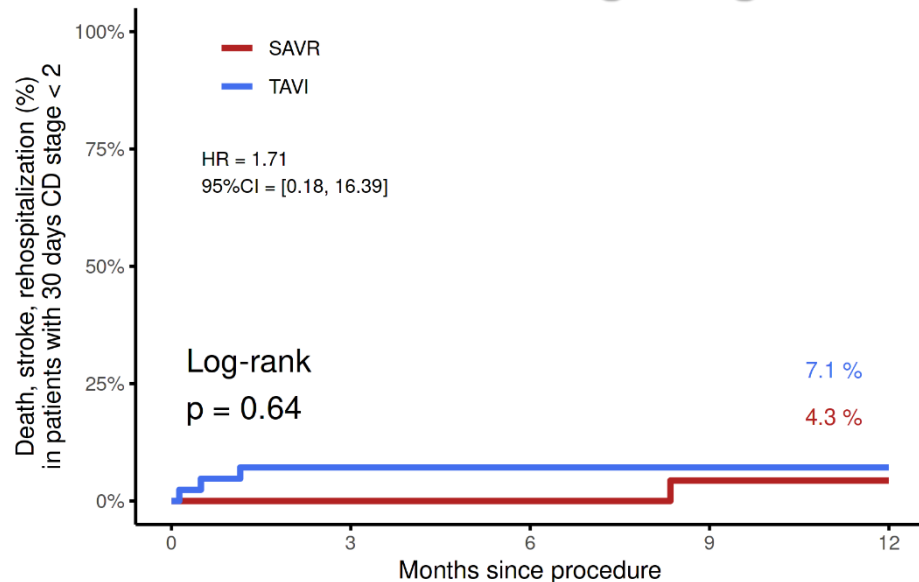


Study Limitations

- RHEIA trial was of limited size
- Women with unicuspid, bicuspid, or non-calcified valves were excluded
- Concomitant procedures were performed in 13.2 % of the surgical patients
- The findings relate to a third-generation balloon-expandable valve system and cannot be extrapolated to other valve types
- The recruitment period was long (~3.5 years) because of COVID pandemic
- Echocardiographic data were missing in 15% of the study cohort
- TAPSE was the sole parameter used to assess RV function
- The duration of the follow-up is limited to 1-year

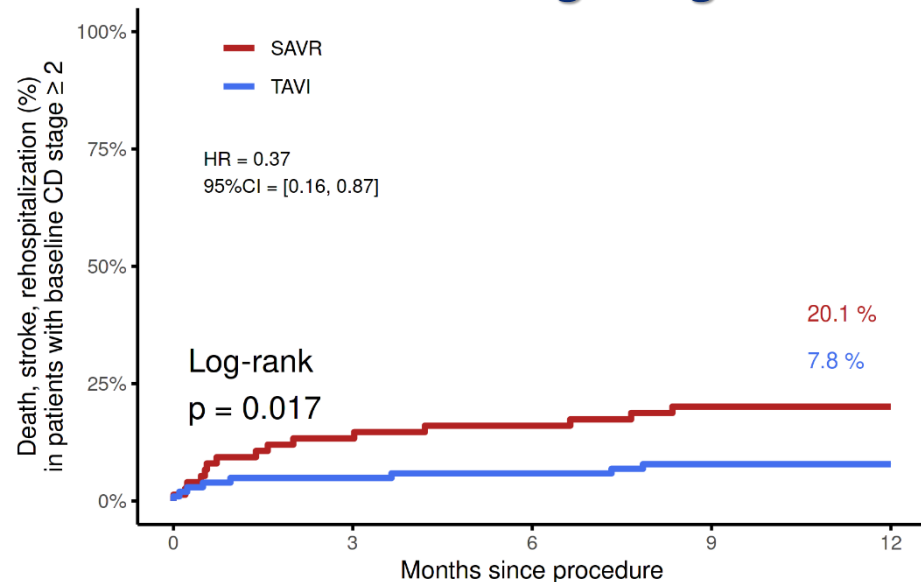
Association between Echo Parameters at 30 Days and Primary Clinical Outcome at 1 year: Subgroup Analysis

Cardiac Damage Stage < 2



SAVR	23	23	23	22	6
TAVI	42	39	39	39	23
	0	3	6	9	12

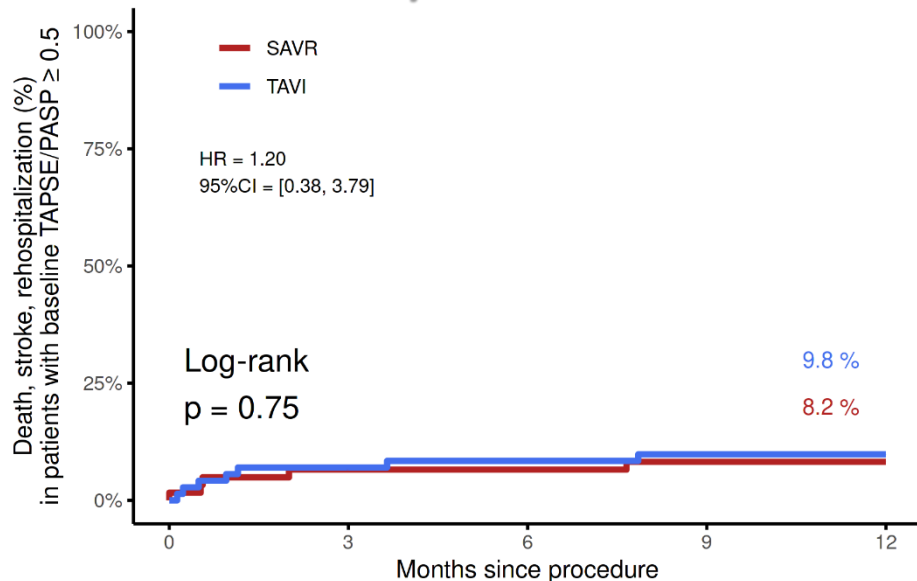
Cardiac Damage Stage ≥ 2



SAVR	75	64	62	59	33
TAVI	102	97	96	94	54
	0	3	6	9	12

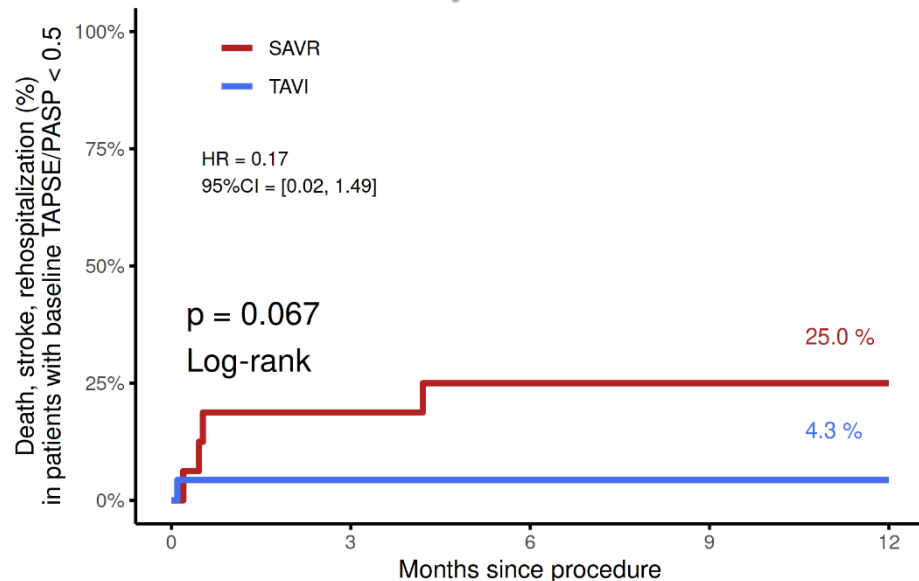
Association between Echo Parameters at 30 Days and Primary Clinical Outcome at 1 year: Subgroup Analysis

TAPSE / PASP ≥ 0.50



SAVR	61	56	56	55	30
TAVI	72	66	65	64	39
	0	3	6	9	12

TAPSE / PASP < 0.50



SAVR	16	13	12	12	6
TAVI	23	22	22	22	11
	0	3	6	9	12