

**7th Advances
in Heart
Failure 2024**

10 e 11 de Outubro

FACULDADE DE MEDICINA DA UNIVERSIDADE DO PORTO

Terapêuticas inovadoras na Miocardiopatia hipertrófica

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Nova Medical School, Lisbon, Portugal

Disclosures

Myokardia/BMS EXPLORER & LTE investigator, mavacamten advisory board member

Cytokinetics SEQUOIA: initial investigator, aficamten advisory board member

The advent of “pathophysiology- targeted” treatments for HCM

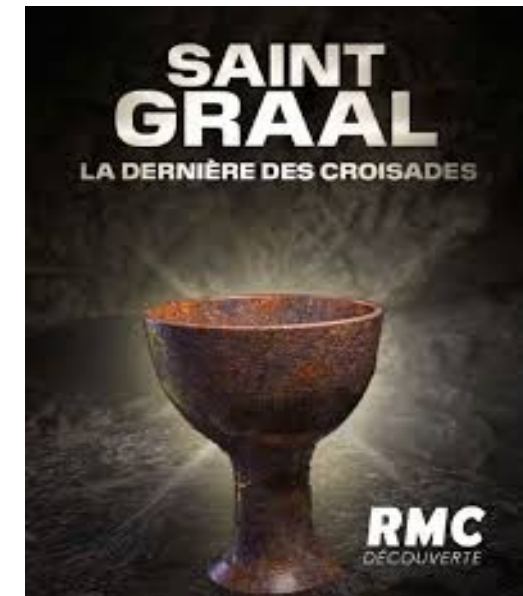
1. Non genetic

- Modulation of ryanodine receptor (dantrolene, flecainide, verhexiline, trimetazidine, ninerafaxstat)
- Inhibition of late- sodium channels (ranolazine and eleclazine)
- Reduction of fibrosis (spironolactone, valsartan, losartan)
- Stabilization of mutant protein (beta-blockers, inhibitors of activators of MYBCP)
- SGLTsi
- **Myosin inhibitors**

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

2. Genetic therapy

- Editing
- Replacement
- Silencing
- Modulation



Myosin inhibitors

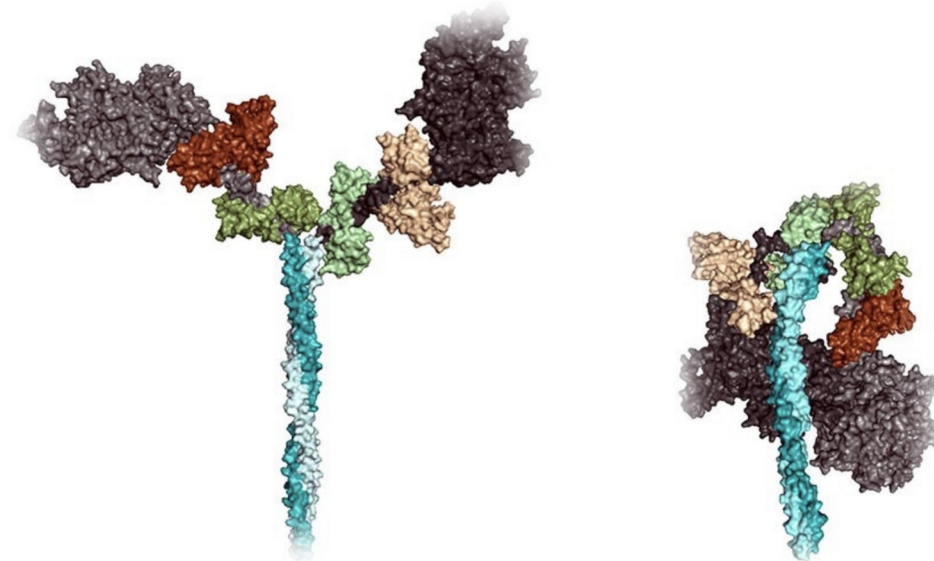
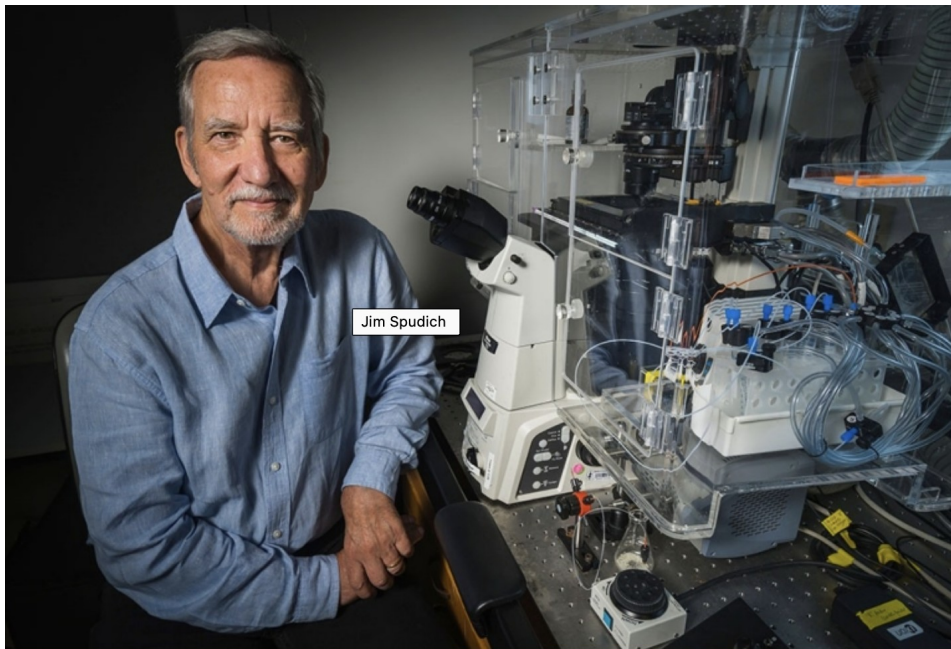
Myosin inhibitors

Mystery novel and dream spur key scientific insight into heart defect

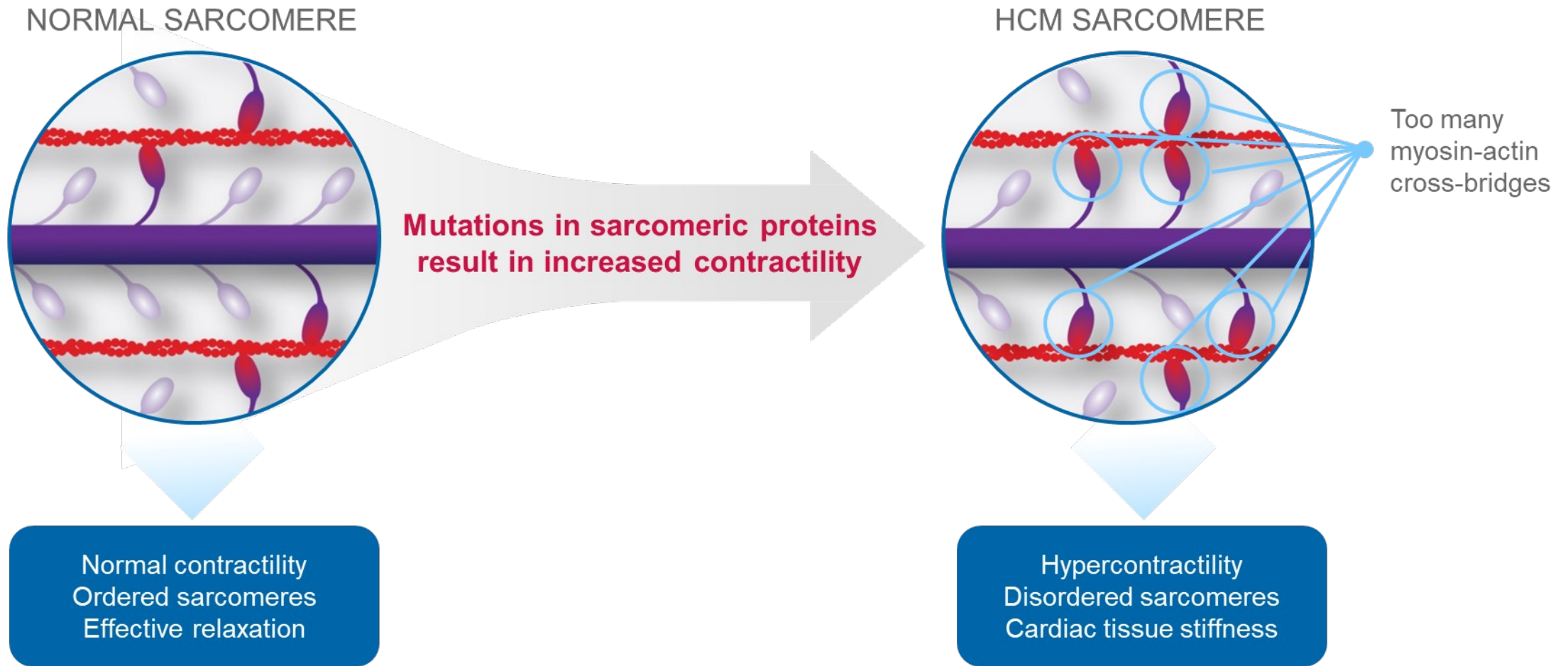
On Dec. 14, 2014, after many months of not getting expected results, biochemist Jim Spudich got into bed, read a chunk of a novel, fell asleep and had a dream that would change the thinking in his field about what causes a common and often lethal heart defect.

2014

%"on-off" myosin-actin crossbridges



HCM: a myosin-actin cross bridges disease



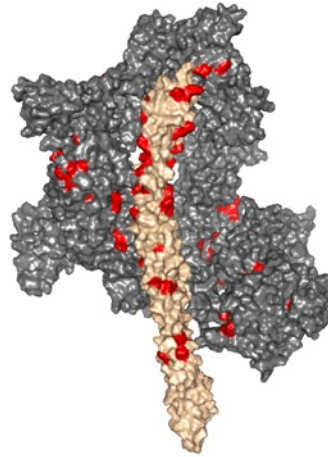
Myosin in sarcomeric HCM

Normals: 50-60% myosins "on"

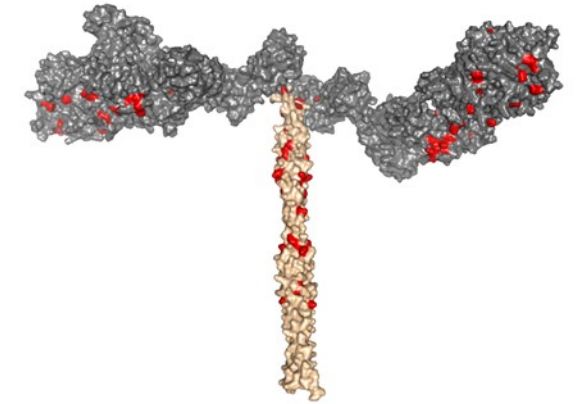
In a healthy heart, 40-50% of myosins are in an "off" state

HCM: 80-85% myosins "on"

In HCM, many mutations destabilize this state, and 15-20% of myosins are in an "off" state



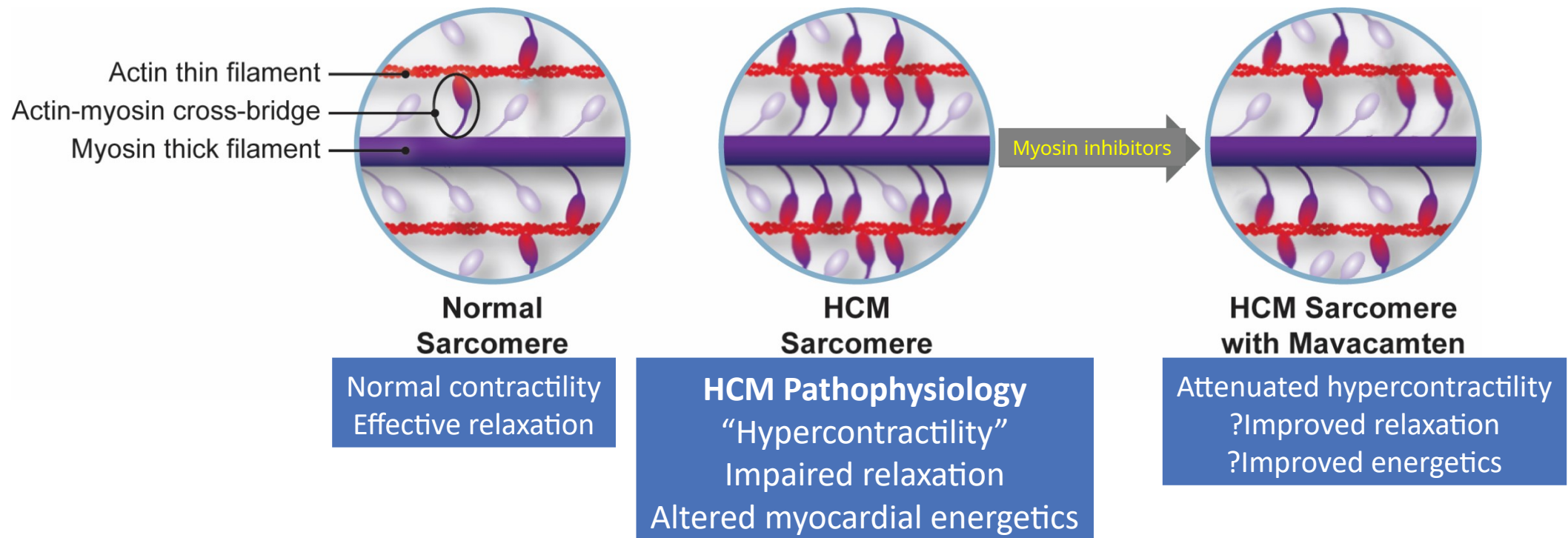
"Off" state
No contraction



"On" state
Able to contract

Too many myosins in the "on" state in HCM are thought to engage **too many cross-bridges** leading to **excess contractility** and **impaired relaxation**

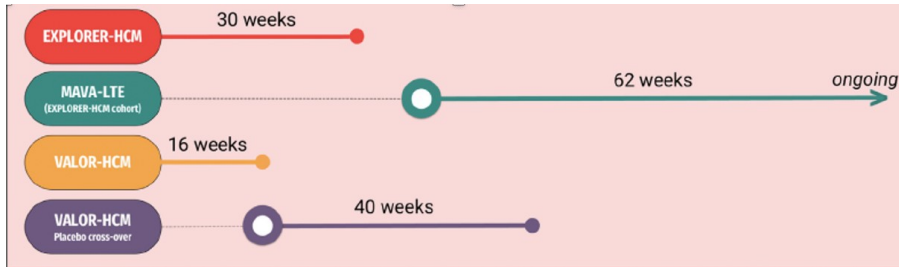
Myosin inhibitors: Mechanism of Action



Myosin inhibitors are selective allosteric inhibitor of cardiac myosin

→ Reduce the number of myosin-actin cross-bridges and thus decreases excessive contractility characteristic of HCM

Mavacamten



Effective & safe

> exercise capacity, < LVOTO, > diastolic function < biomarkers, <symptoms & > health status in oHCM ...

EF, interactions, dosage titration...

	EXPLORER-HCM	MAVA-LTE (EXPLORER-HCM cohort)	VALOR-HCM	VALOR-HCM Placebo cross-over
Study characteristics				
Population	NYHA II-III oHCM pts	EXPLORER-HCM pts	SRT guideline-eligible oHCM patients	VALOR-HCM pts
Design	Double-blind placebo-controlled RCT	Single-arm dose-blinded	Double-blind placebo-controlled RCT	Placebo cross-over to active treatment
N. of patients	n=251	n=231	n=112	n=108
Efficacy				
LVOT gradient*	Mava. : -47 ± 40 mmHg Placebo: -10 ± 30 mmHg	-35.6 ± 32.6 mmHg	Mava. : -39.1 ± 36.5 mmHg Placebo: -1.8 ± 28.8 mmHg	$-49.4 (-61.9, -36.9)$ mmHg
≥ 1 NYHA class reduction	Mava. : 65.0% Placebo: 31.1%	67.5%	Mava. : 62.5% Placebo: 21.4%	72.6%
SRT guideline-eligible	NA	NA	Mava. : 14.3% Placebo: 69.6%	19.2%
Safety				
LVEF <50%	Mava. : 5.7% Placebo: 1.6%	5.2%	Mava. : 3.6% Placebo: 0%	9.3%
Cardiac Failure	Mava. : 1.6% Placebo: 2.3%	3.5%	Mava. : 0% Placebo: 0%	0.9%
AF/flutter	Mava. : 6.5% Placebo: 7%	9.1%	Mava. : 3.6% Placebo: 0%	2.7%

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Mavacamten for treatment of symptomatic obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (EXPLORER-HCM): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial

[Dr Iacopo Olivetto, MD](#) ^{a,b} · [Artur Oreziak, MD](#) ^c · [Roberto Barriaes-Villa, MD](#) ^{d,e,f,g,h} · [Prof Theodore P Abraham, MD](#) ⁱ · [Ahmad Masri, MD](#) ^j · [Pablo Garcia-Pavia, MD](#) ^{h,k,l} · et al. [Show more](#)



ORIGINAL INVESTIGATIONS

Myosin Inhibition in Patients With Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Referred for Septal Reduction Therapy

Milind Y. Desai, MD, MBA, ^{a,b,c} Anjali Owens, MD, ^d Jeffrey B. Geske, MD, ^e Kathy Wolski, MPH, ^{b,c} Srihari S. Naidu, MD, ^f Nicholas G. Smedira, MD, MBA, ^{a,g} Paul C. Cremer, MD, MS, ^{b,c} Hartzell Schaff, MD, ^h Ellen McErlean, RN, MSN, ^{b,c} Christina Sewell, RN, ^{b,c} Wanying Li, PhD, ⁱ Lulu Sterling, PhD, ⁱ Kathy Lampl, MD, ⁱ Jay M. Edelberg, MD, PhD, ⁱ Amy J. Sehnert, MD, ⁱ Steven E. Nissen, MD ^{b,c}

Mavacamten



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FREE ACCESS
LETTER

Mavacamten Favorably Impacts Cardiac Structure in Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy



EXPLORER-HCM Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Substudy Analysis

[Clinical Trial](#) > [JACC Heart Fail.](#) 2024 Jan;12(1):164-177. doi: 10.1016/j.jchf.2023.09.028.

Mavacamten Treatment for Symptomatic Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy: Interim Results From the MAVA-LTE Study, EXPLORER-LTE Cohort

Long-term effects of mavacamten treatment in obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM): updated cumulative analysis of the EXPLORER cohort of MAVA-long-term extension (LTE) study up to 120 weeks



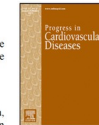
JAMA Cardiology | [Original Investigation](#)

Mavacamten in Patients With Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Referred for Septal Reduction
Week 56 Results From the VALOR-HCM Randomized Clinical Trial

Journal Pre-proof

Real-world experience with mavacamten in obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy: Observations from a tertiary care center

Milind Y. Desai, Adel Haji-Ali, Katy Rutkowski, Susan Ospina, Andrew Gaballa, Michael Emery, Craig Asher, Bo Xu, Maran Thamilarasan, Zoran B. Popovic



Mavacamten in Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Patients Referred for Septal Reduction

Health Status Analysis Through Week 56 in VALOR-HCM Trial

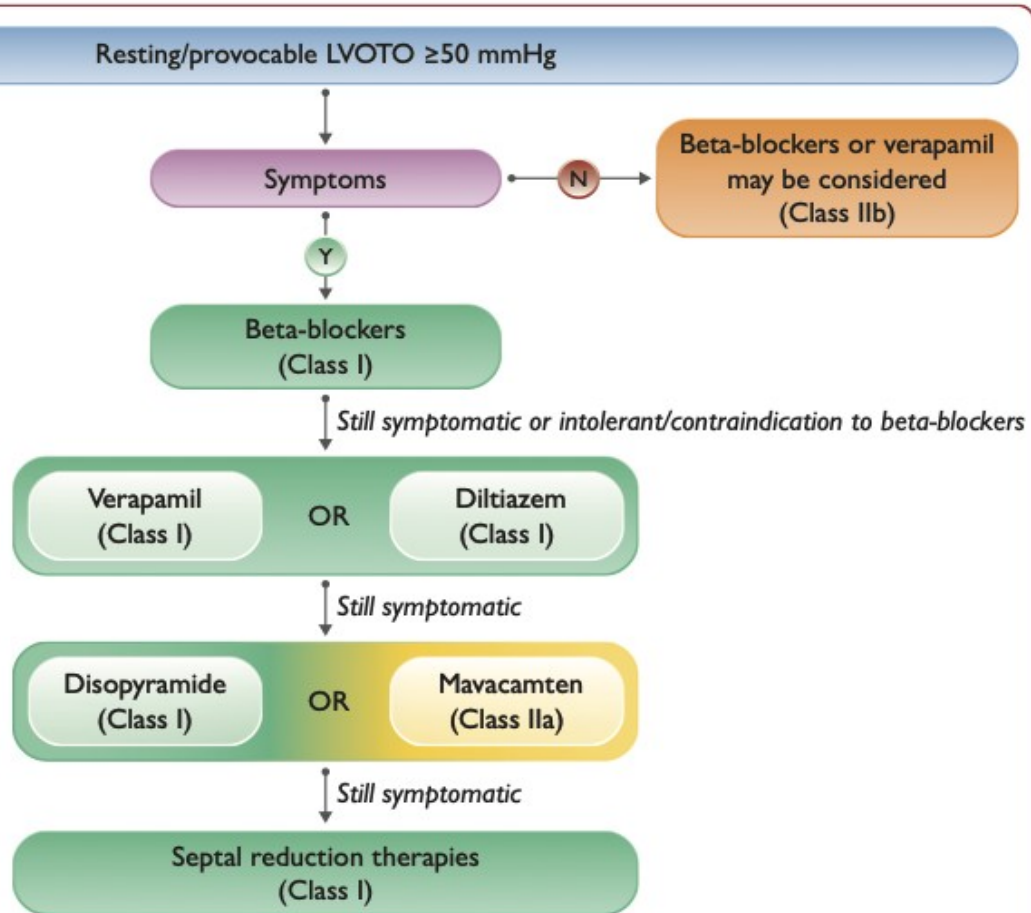
Mavacamten-Associated Temporal Changes in Left Atrial Function in Obstructive HCM

Insights From the VALOR-HCM Trial

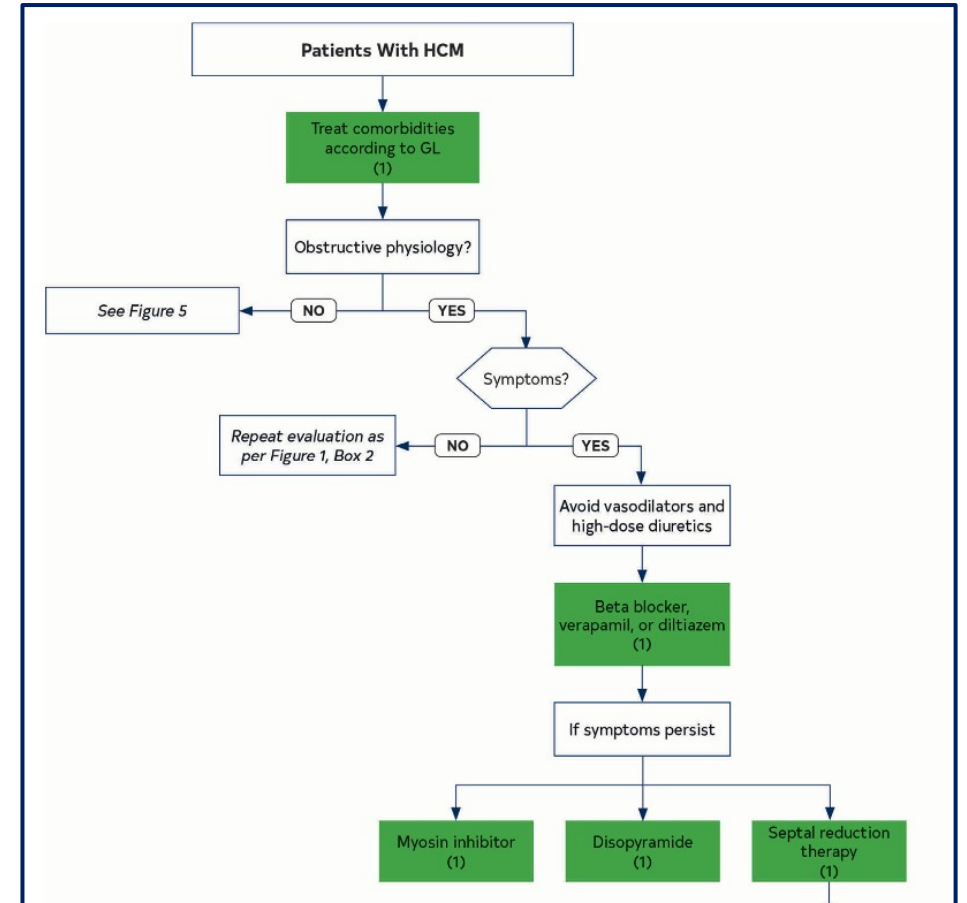
Mavacamten in the guidelines

Effective & safe

ESC 2023, IIa



AHA-ACC 2024, Ia



Mavacamten issues..

- CYP2C19 **metaboliser** phenotype (18% Asians, 2% Europeans are **poor/slow metabolisers**)
- Use of CYP2C19 **inhibitors (& inducers)**
- **LVEF < 50%** small and rare but real - Echo guided dose titration



April 2022

REMS

(risk evaluation and mitigation strategy)

Echo guided dose titration (7 first year, 4 after)



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

April 2023

CYP genotype

to determine the appropriate dose

Echo guided dose titration

*Negative inotropism + > the duration of transition from diastole to systole and prolongs time from the onset to the peak in systole

Aficamten

Binds to cardiac myosin at a distinct allosteric binding site

Potential “in vivo” pharmacodynamic advantages (different binding site):

- faster **onset** of action (steady state 2 weeks)
- shorter half life -rapid **reversibility** of effect (no interruption but dose reduction)
- minimal drug **interactions** (multiple elimination pathways)
- favorable tolerability
- easy titration of dosage
- no reduced effect under BB

- under review by the **FDA**
- **EMA** will follow



The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

SEQUOIA-HCM

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Aficamten for Symptomatic Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Authors: Martin S. Maron, M.D., Ahmad Masri, M.D., Michael E. Nassif, M.D., Roberto Barriaes-Villa, M.D., Ph.D., Michael Arad, M.D., Nuno Cardim, M.D., Ph.D., Lubna Choudhury, M.D., [+26](#), for the SEQUOIA-HCM

Investigators* [Author Info & Affiliations](#)

Published May 13, 2024 | N Engl J Med 2024;390:1849-1861 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2401424 | [VOL. 390 NO. 20](#)

**LVOT gradients, LA size, LV diastolic function indices, markers of LV filling pressures
Correlations with improvements in pVO₂, KCCQ-CSS, NT-proBNP
Modest reduction in LVEF**

Aficamten [®]	SEQUOIA-HCM
	24 weeks (n = 282)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LVEF \geq 60% LVOT gradient \geq 30 mm Hg at rest and \geq 50 mm Hg after Valsalva NYHA class II or III decreased exercise capacity, defined by a predicted peak oxygen uptake of 90% or less based on age and sex
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mean age 59 years 59% men 76% NYHA class II, 24% class III/IV 61% on beta blockers (11% on disopyramide) 15% not on background HCM therapy
	5 mg/day with dose titration at 2, 4, and 6 weeks
	change in pVO ₂ from baseline to week 24
	change from baseline to week 24:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCCQ-23 CSS NYHA class LVOT Valsalva gradient Valsalva LVOT gradient < 30 mm Hg duration of eligibility for SRT total workload on CPET
	change from baseline to week 12:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCCQ-23 CSS NYHA functional class LVOT Valsalva gradient Valsalva LVOT gradient < 30 mm Hg

Effect of Aficamten on Health Status Outcomes in Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Results from SEQUOIA-HCM



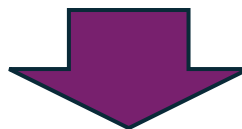
Effect of Aficamten on Cardiac Structure and Function in Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

SEQUOIA-HCM CMR Substudy

Impact of Aficamten on Disease and Symptom Burden in Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Results From SEQUOIA-HCM

Impact of Aficamten on Echocardiographic Cardiac Structure and Function in Symptomatic Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy



Mavacamten vs Aficamten

Commentary

Two cardiac myosin inhibitors in the treatment of obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

Milind Y. Desai^{1,3,*} and Eugene Braunwald²

No direct comparisons possible
Trials too different for comparisons

Table 1. Key characteristics of all phase 3 trials on cardiac myosin inhibitors for patients with symptomatic obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

	Mavacamten ^a			Aficamten ^b
	EXPLORER-HCM 30 weeks (n = 251)	VALOR-HCM 16 weeks (n = 112)	EXPLORER-CN 30 weeks (n = 81)	SEQUOIA-HCM 24 weeks (n = 282)
Key inclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> peak LVOT gradient of ≥ 50 mm Hg at rest or after Valsalva LVEF of $\geq 55\%$ NYHA class II or III 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> peak LVOT gradient of ≥ 50 mm Hg at rest or after Valsalva LVEF of $\geq 60\%$ NYHA class III/IV or class II with exertional syncope referred for and actively considering SRT on maximally tolerated background HCM therapy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> peak LVOT gradient of ≥ 50 mm Hg at rest or after Valsalva LVEF of $\geq 55\%$ NYHA class II or III 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LVEF $\geq 60\%$ LVOT gradient ≥ 30 mm Hg at rest and ≥ 50 mm Hg after Valsalva decreased exercise capacity, defined by a predicted peak oxygen uptake of 90% or less based on age and sex
Key patient characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mean age 59 years 59% men 73% NYHA class II, 27% class III/IV 75% on beta blockers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mean age 60 years 51% men 93% NYHA class III/IV, 7% class II 75% on beta blockers (36% on combination therapy, including disopyramide) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mean age 52 years 72% men 82% NYHA class II, 16% class III 89% on beta blockers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mean age 59 years 59% men 76% NYHA class II, 24% class III/IV 61% on beta blockers (11% on disopyramide) 15% not on background HCM therapy
Starting dose and dose titration	5 mg/day with dose titration at 8 and 12 weeks		2.5 mg/day with dose titration at 8, 14, and 20 weeks	5 mg/day with dose titration at 2, 4, and 6 weeks
Key primary endpoints ^c	1.5 mL/kg/min or greater increase in pVO ₂ and at least one NYHA class reduction or 3.0 mL/kg/min or greater increase in pVO ₂ without NYHA class worsening	patient deciding to proceed with SRT or continuing to meet guideline eligibility for SRT	change in Valsalva LVOT peak gradient from baseline to week 30	change in pVO ₂ from baseline to week 24
Key secondary endpoints	change from baseline to week 30: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> post-exercise LVOT gradient pVO₂ proportion of patients with at least one NYHA class improvement KCCQ-23 CSS HCM5Q subscore 	change from baseline to week 16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> post-exercise LVOT gradient NYHA functional class KCCQ-23 CSS NT-proBNP cardiac troponin I 	proportion of patients at week 30 with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valsalva LVOT peak gradient <30 mm Hg Valsalva LVOT peak gradient <50 mm Hg at least 1 NYHA class improvement change from baseline to week 30: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> resting LVOT peak gradient KCCQ-23 CSS NT-proBNP high-sensitivity cardiac troponin I LVMi evaluated by cardiac magnetic resonance 	change from baseline to week 24: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCCQ-23 CSS NYHA class LVOT Valsalva gradient Valsalva LVOT gradient <30 mm Hg duration of eligibility for SRT total workload on CPET change from baseline to week 12: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCCQ-23 CSS NYHA functional class LVOT Valsalva gradient Valsalva LVOT gradient <30 mm Hg
Criteria for therapy interruption	LVEF <50% for temporary interruption or <30% for permanent discontinuation			LVEF <40%
Dose adjustments and therapy interruptions	core-lab			site-read

Table 1. Continued

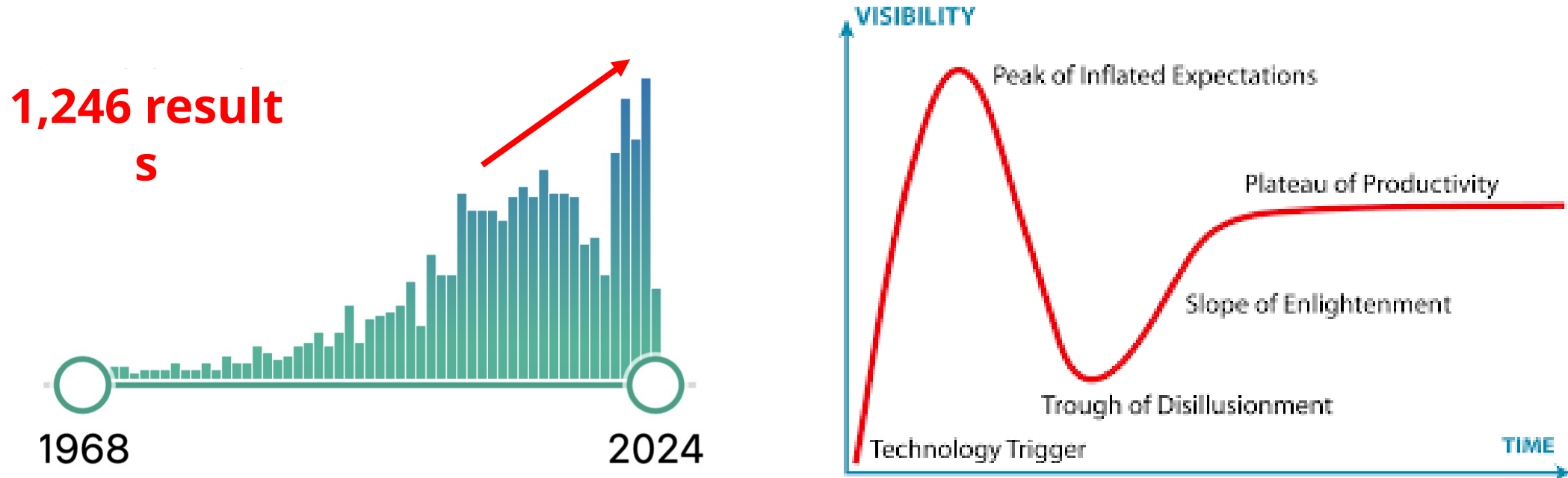
	Mavacamten ^a			Aficamten ^b
	EXPLORER-HCM	VALOR-HCM	EXPLORER-CN	SEQUOIA-HCM
Drug dosages	last dose at end of double-blind period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.5 mg = 6% 5 mg = 49% 10 mg = 33% 15 mg = 11% 	last dose at end of double-blind period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.5 mg = 21% 5 mg = 23% 10 mg = 34% 15 mg = 21% 	last dose at end of double-blind period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.5 mg = 6% 5 mg = 59% 10 mg = 30% 15 mg = 4% 	dose at end of escalation phase: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 mg = 3% 10 mg = 13% 15 mg = 35% 20 mg = 49%
Primary findings	37% of patients on mavacamten vs. 17% on placebo met the primary endpoint (difference +19.4%, 95% CI, 8.7 to 30.1; $p = 0.0008$)	76.8% of patients assigned to placebo and 17.9% assigned to mavacamten met guideline criteria or underwent SRT (difference 58.9%, 95% CI, 44.0 to 73.9; $p < 0.001$)	LSM difference in post-Valsalva LVOT gradient between mavacamten and placebo was -70.3 mm Hg (95% CI, -89.6 to -50.9 mm Hg; one-sided $p < 0.001$)	LSM difference in pVO ₂ between aficamten and placebo was 1.7 mL/kg/min (95% CI, 1.0 to 2.4; $p < 0.001$)
Key secondary findings	all key secondary endpoints were significantly positive in favor of mavacamten vs. placebo			all key secondary endpoints were significantly positive in favor of aficamten vs. placebo
LVEF reduction during trial	-4.0%; 95% CI, -5.5 to -2.5		LSM change, 3.7% in mavacamten vs. 3.0% in placebo	-4.8%; 95% CI, -6.3 to -3.2
LVEF <50%	total of 9 patients through week 30 (5 during the study at week 26 [3 on mavacamten and 2 on placebo] and an additional 4 on mavacamten at week 30)	total of 2 patients on mavacamten through week 16	0 patients through week 30	total of 5 patients on aficamten through week 24 and 1 on placebo

CI, confidence interval; CPET, cardiopulmonary exercise testing; HCM, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy; HCM5Q, HCM Symptom Questionnaire; KCCQ-23 CSS, Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire 23-point clinical summary score; LSM, least-squares mean; LVEF, left ventricular ejection fraction; LVMi, left ventricular mass index; LVOT, left ventricular outflow tract; NT-proBNP, N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide; NYHA, New York Heart Association; SRT, septal reduction therapy.

^aData adapted from Desai et al.,¹ Olivetto et al.,² and Tian et al.³

^bData adapted from Maron et al.¹¹

Cardiac Myosin inhibitors: a reflexion

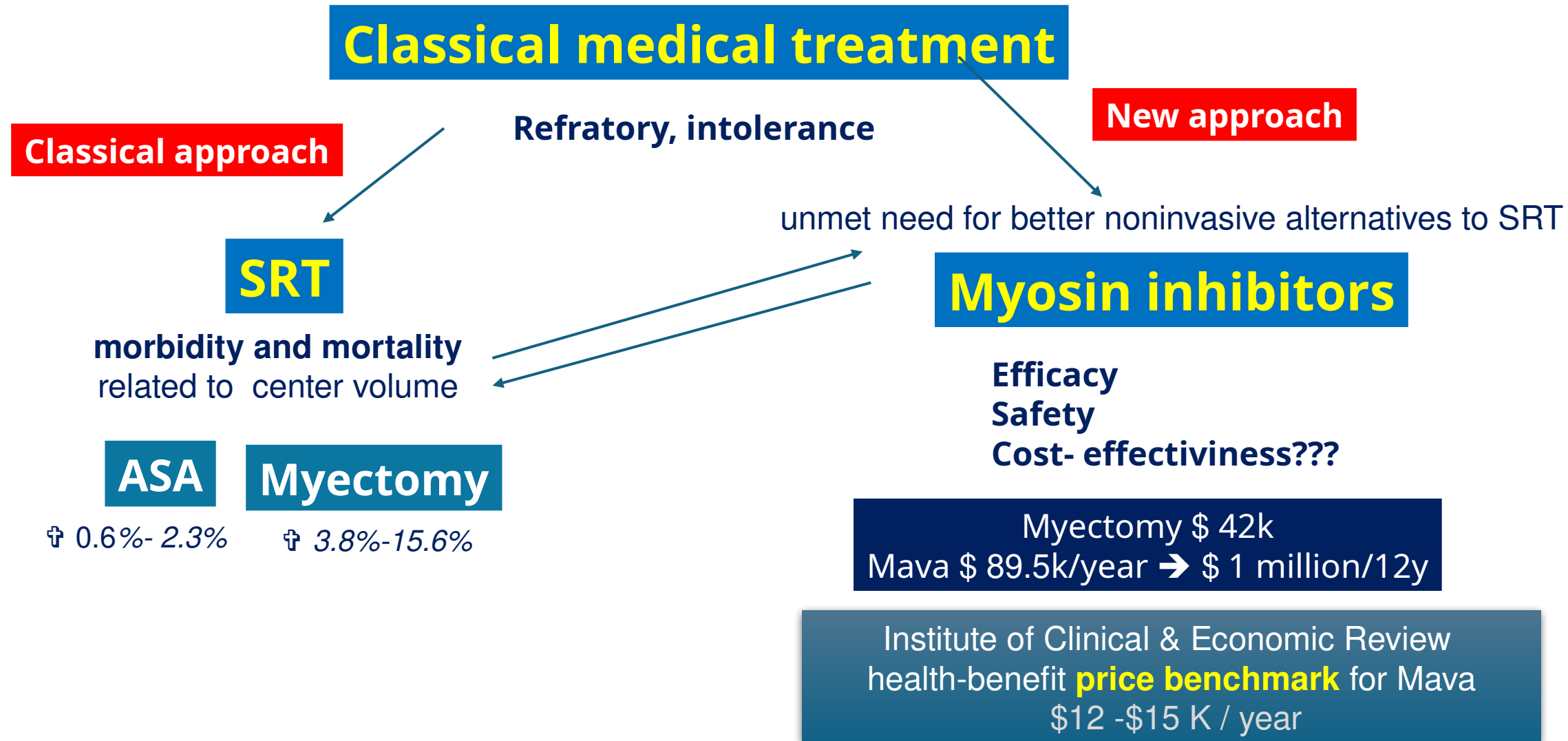


...the myosin inhibitor hysteria....

In transit from the **proof of concept hype zone** → Precise clinical indications

with its **inherent clinical, administrative, & financial burdens**

Not for all oHCM patients



Europa 1 k mês ?= 12k/ano=120 k em 10 anos Myectomia 30 K? ASA?

In which patients?

1. Alternative to Medical treatment

Non responders
intolerant to first line therapy

2. Alternative to SRT (ASA, Myectomy)

Frail/ high risk SRT (myectomy- ASA)
Refuse invasive SRT
non-expert centers
Bridge to septal reduction

3. Special subsets of more functional oHCM patients ?

Hypercontractile phenotypes
Severe obstruction and minimal LVH

Open questions

Sustained effectiveness & safety

LT extensions, multiple echos & genetic do not spoil a new fascinating group of drugs...

Clinical profiles

- oHCM → done
- Non obstructive HCM (HFpEF) → ?work in progress.. **ODISSEY, ACACIA-HCM... & MAVERICK.**
- SCD → ? Direct vs Indirect Effect (LAVI, gradient, MWT...)
- AF-Stroke → VALOR results ... LA reverse remodeling
- HFrEF → No...? Remember BB ..

Natural history

- Early non-hypertrophic phenotypes → may be..
- Classical phenotypes → oHCM
- Adverse Remodeling → No...? Remember BB ..
- Overt dysfunction → No...? Remember BB ..

- Placebo -Effect
- Non- responders
- AF?

Pot-Pourri

- Ethnic diversity in response?...black under represented..
- Pediatrics?
- Phenotypes? (Danon, Noonan,....)
- Genotype? No differences G+ G- nor between genes/mutations..

Mava or Aficamten?*

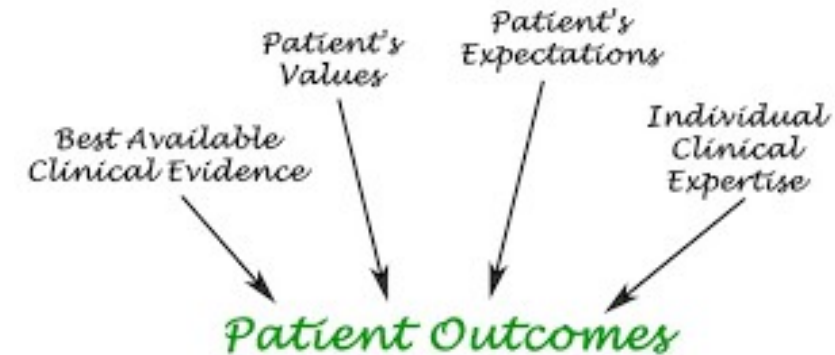
Cost-effectiveness

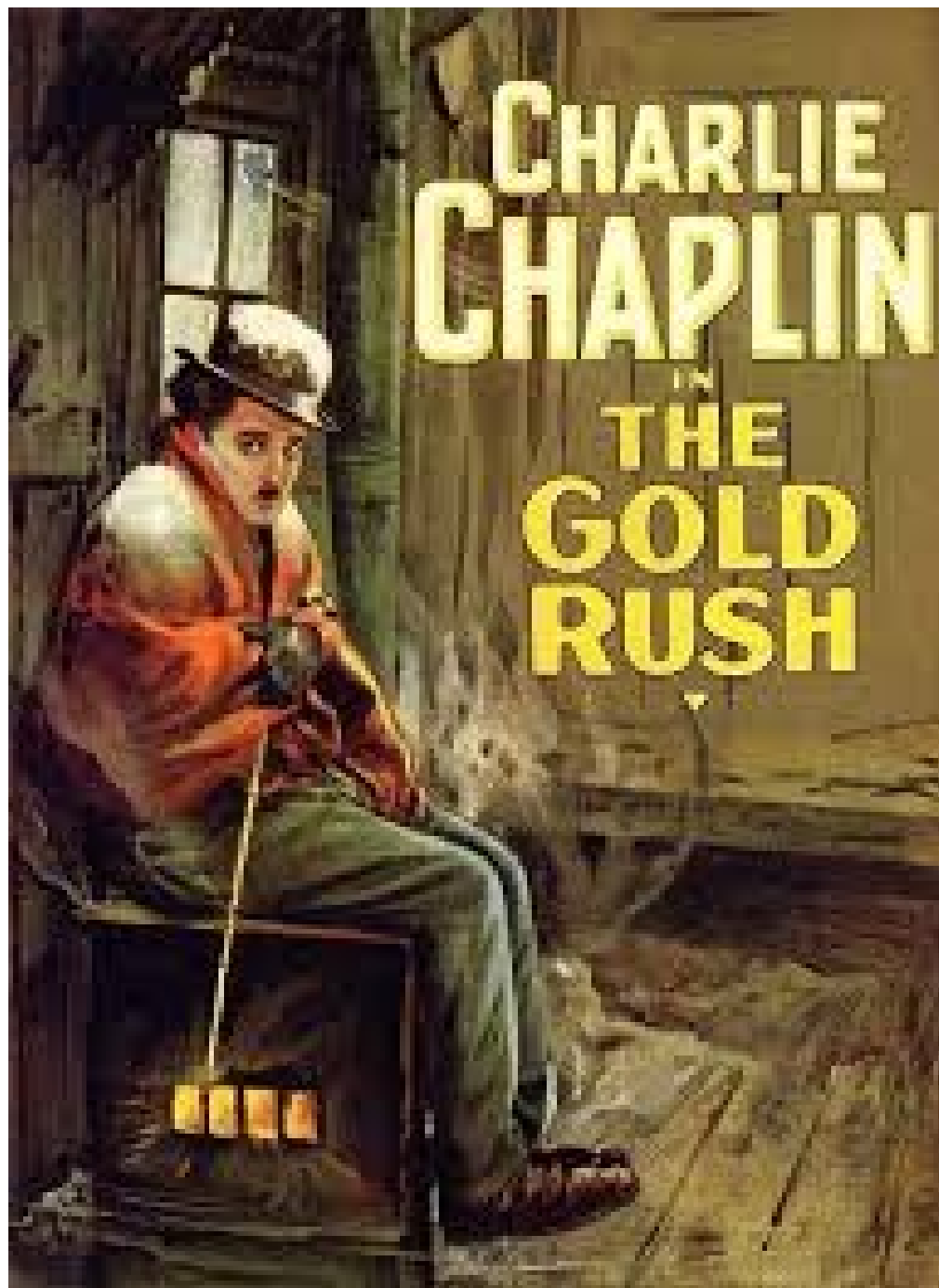
Should doctors care about it in 2025?

Understanding the Current Healthcare System



- 1 Complexity and Fragmentation
- 2 Insurance Coverage and Reimbursement
- 3 Care Coordination and Continuity
- 4 Health Information Technology
- 5 Case Study
- 6 Tips for Patients

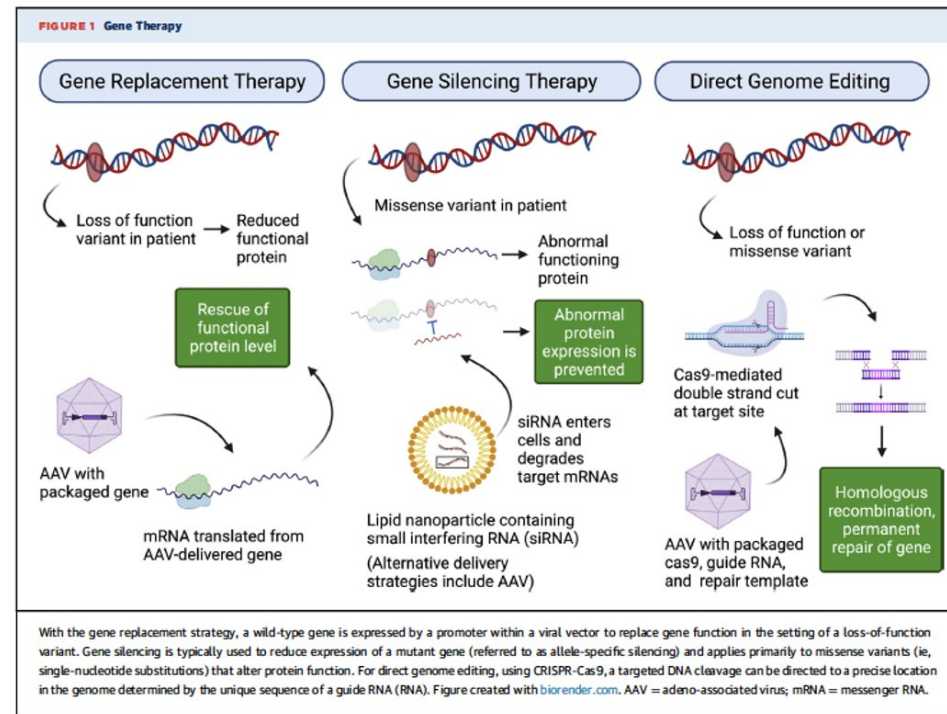
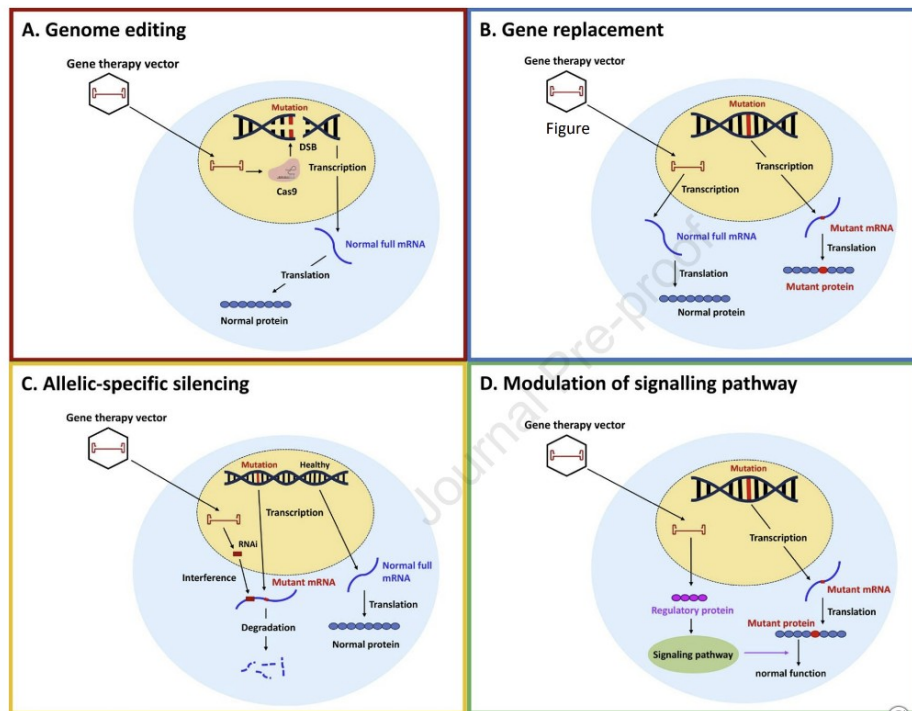




Genetic therapy

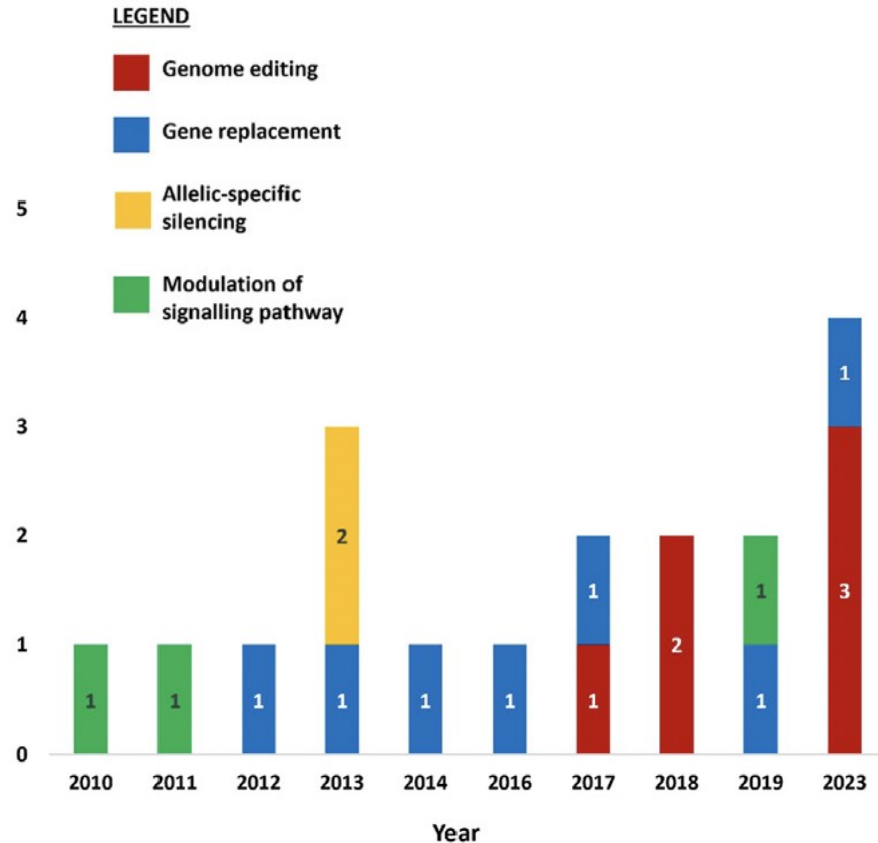
Gene Therapy : the new frontier?

- HCM → genetic treatment of a genetic disease, is logical → **cure** of the disease
- young HCM pts >> adverse events & worse prognosis than those presenting late in life
- **Editing, replacement, silencing?** All, one or none?

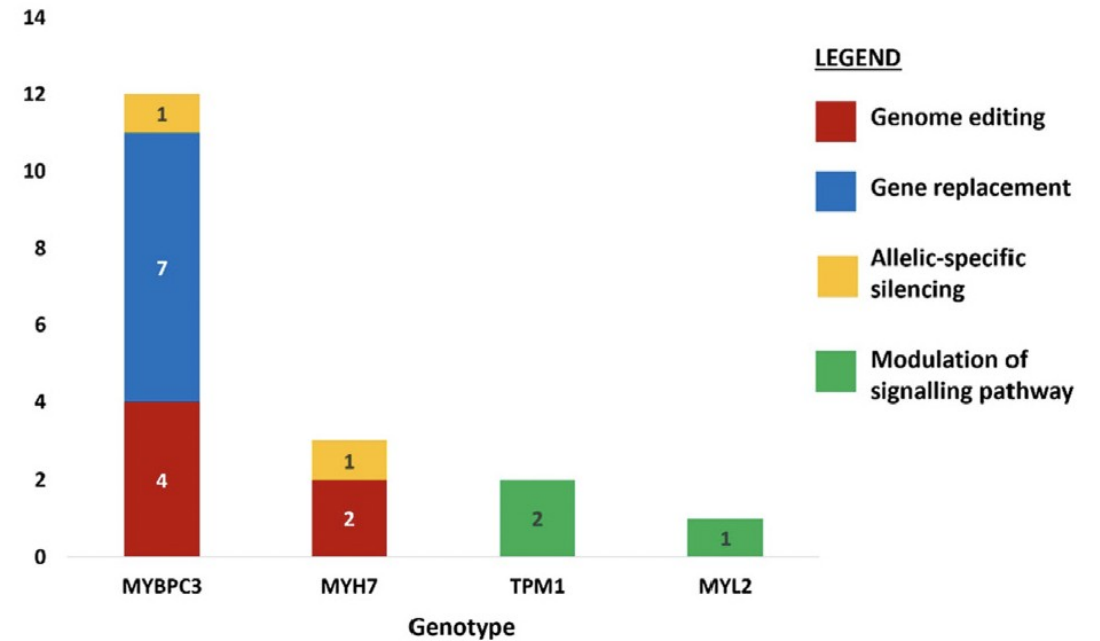


vehicle or method of delivery: AAV9, lipid nanoparticles (LNPs)

Genetic therapy under investigation



Consistent but small increase

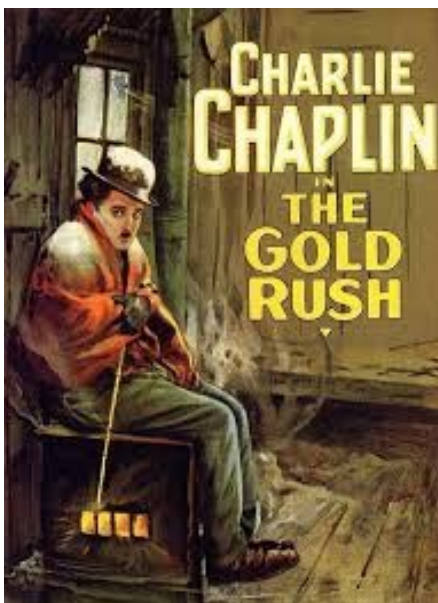


MYBPC (> frequent , missense/loss of function)

Conclusions

Myosin inhibitors in HCM

- Efficacy
- Safety
- Real-world results
- Ready for prime time but..
- Cost-effectiveness, safety, dosage, CP450
- The case of Capropril and BB in HF rLVEF
- Do not spoil a fantastic new group of drugs



Genetic therapy in HCM

- Enormous potential, cure, but..
- Equity (costs)
- Safety (AAV inflammation + off-target effects)
- Efficacy (AAV antibodies, single dose problems)
- Minority (non monogenic disease+ severe & lethal refractory HCM in young pts → rare in HCM)



Thank you