

# TALLER DE FISIOLÓGÍA CORONARIA

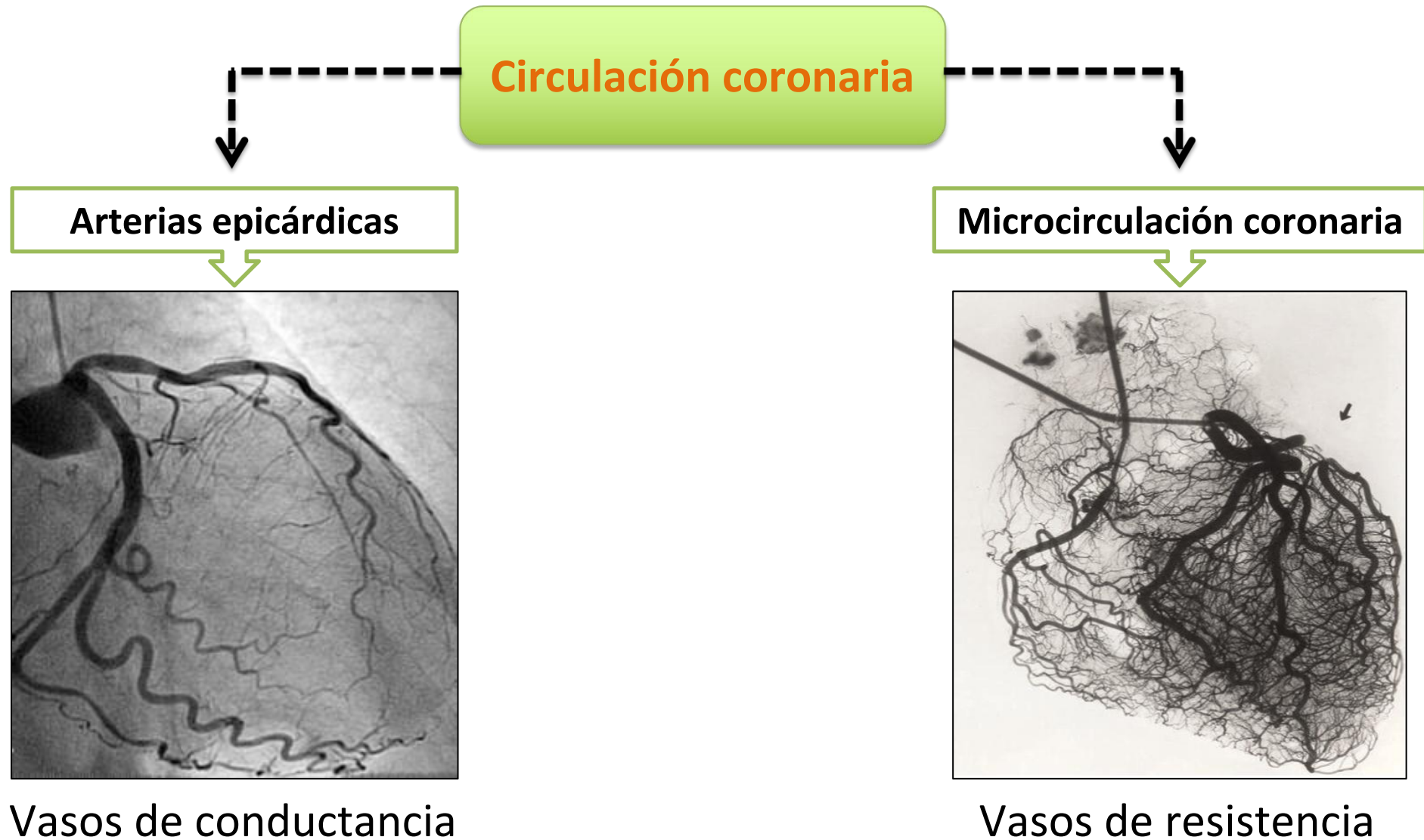
Hernán Mejía Rentería, MD, PhD, FESC

Cardiología Intervencionista  
Hospital Clínico San Carlos, Madrid

# Contenido

1. Relevancia clínica de la microcirculación coronaria
2. Recomendaciones de las guías de práctica clínica
3. Métodos para la evaluación funcional coronaria
4. Evaluación funcional coronaria, paso a paso
5. Hands-on con modelo de agua

# Densidad vascular coronaria

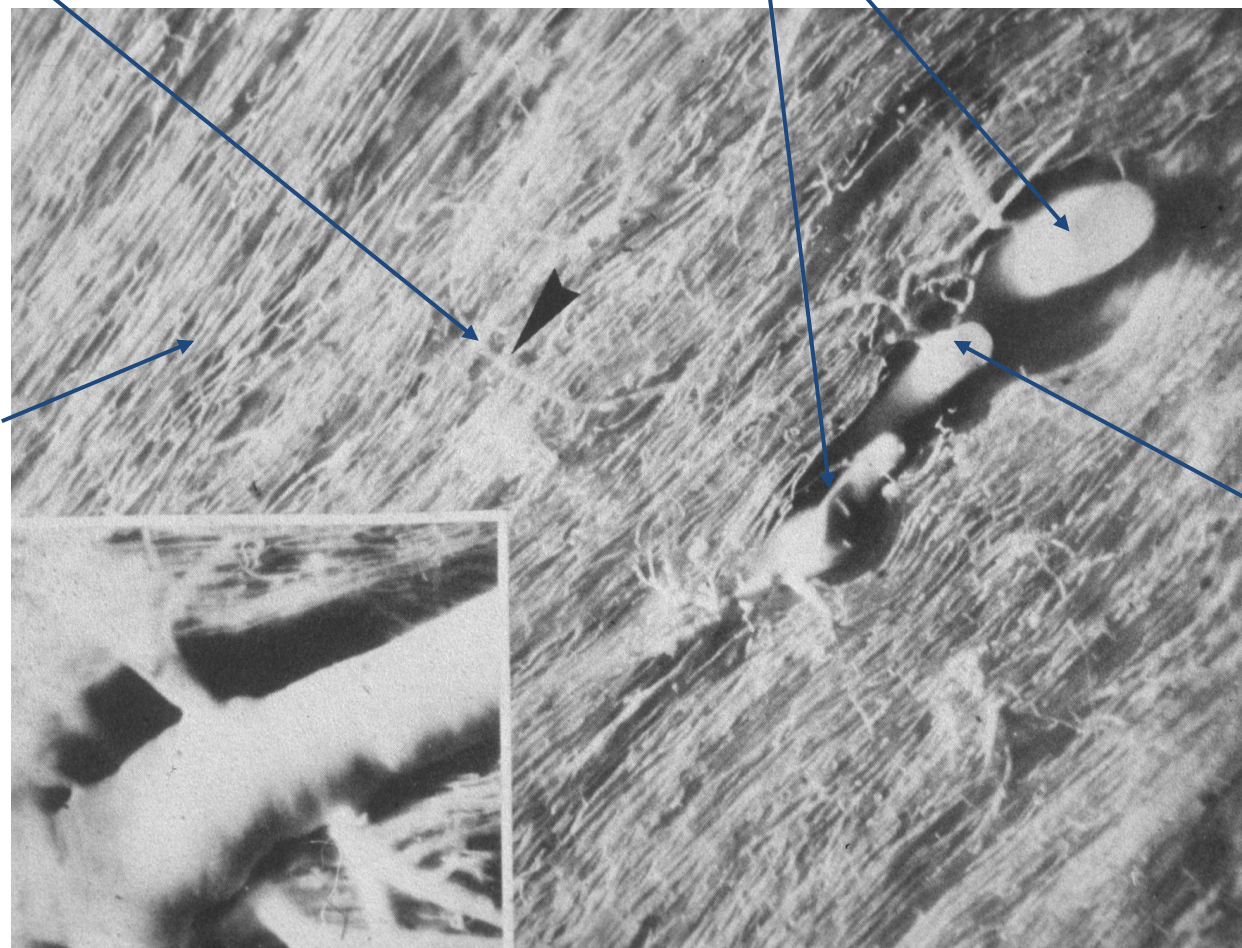


# Componentes de la Microcirculación coronaria

Arteriola terminal  
(Control metabólico)

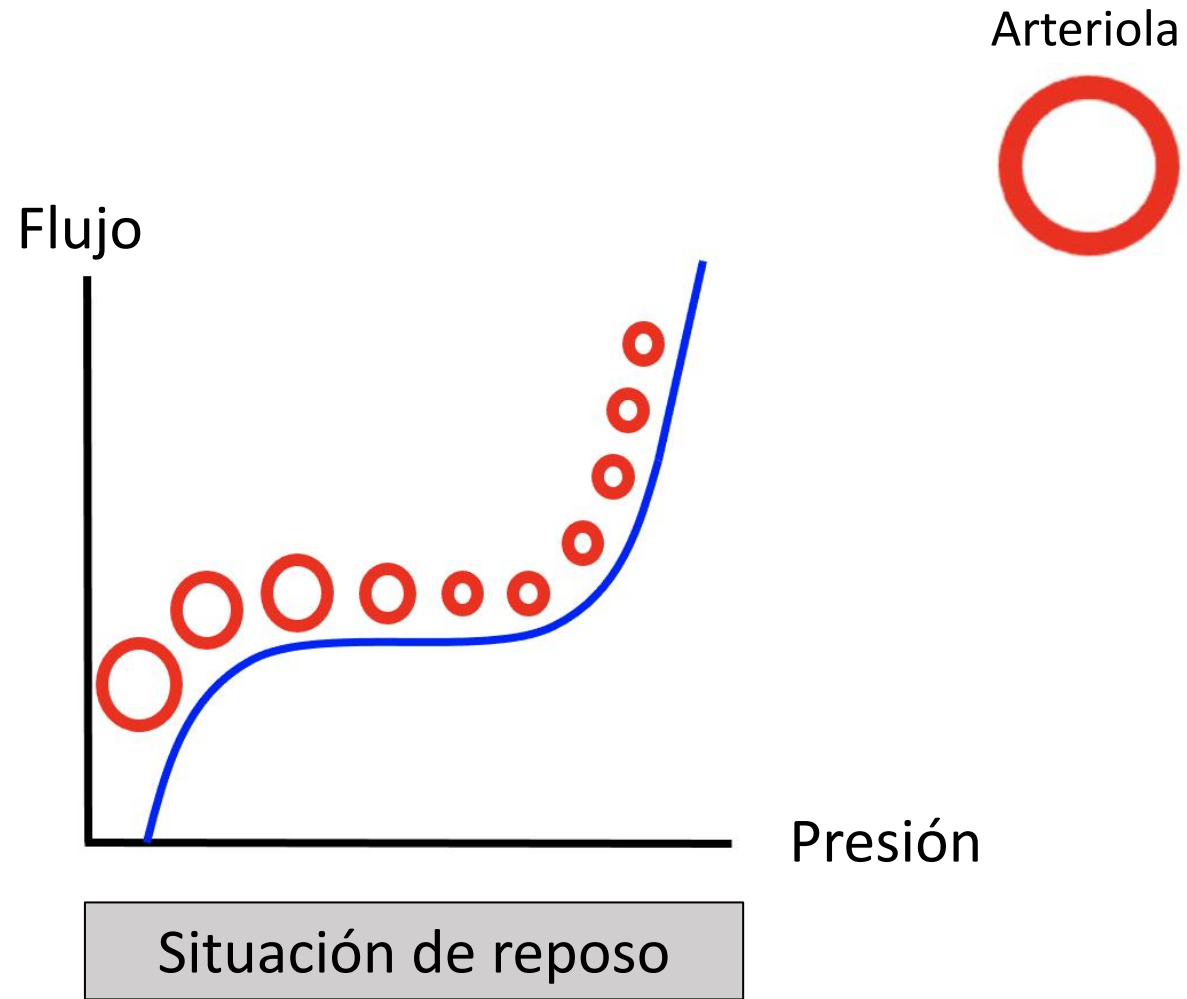
Vénulas (sensibles a  
compresión)

Capilares  
(sensibles a  
compresión)

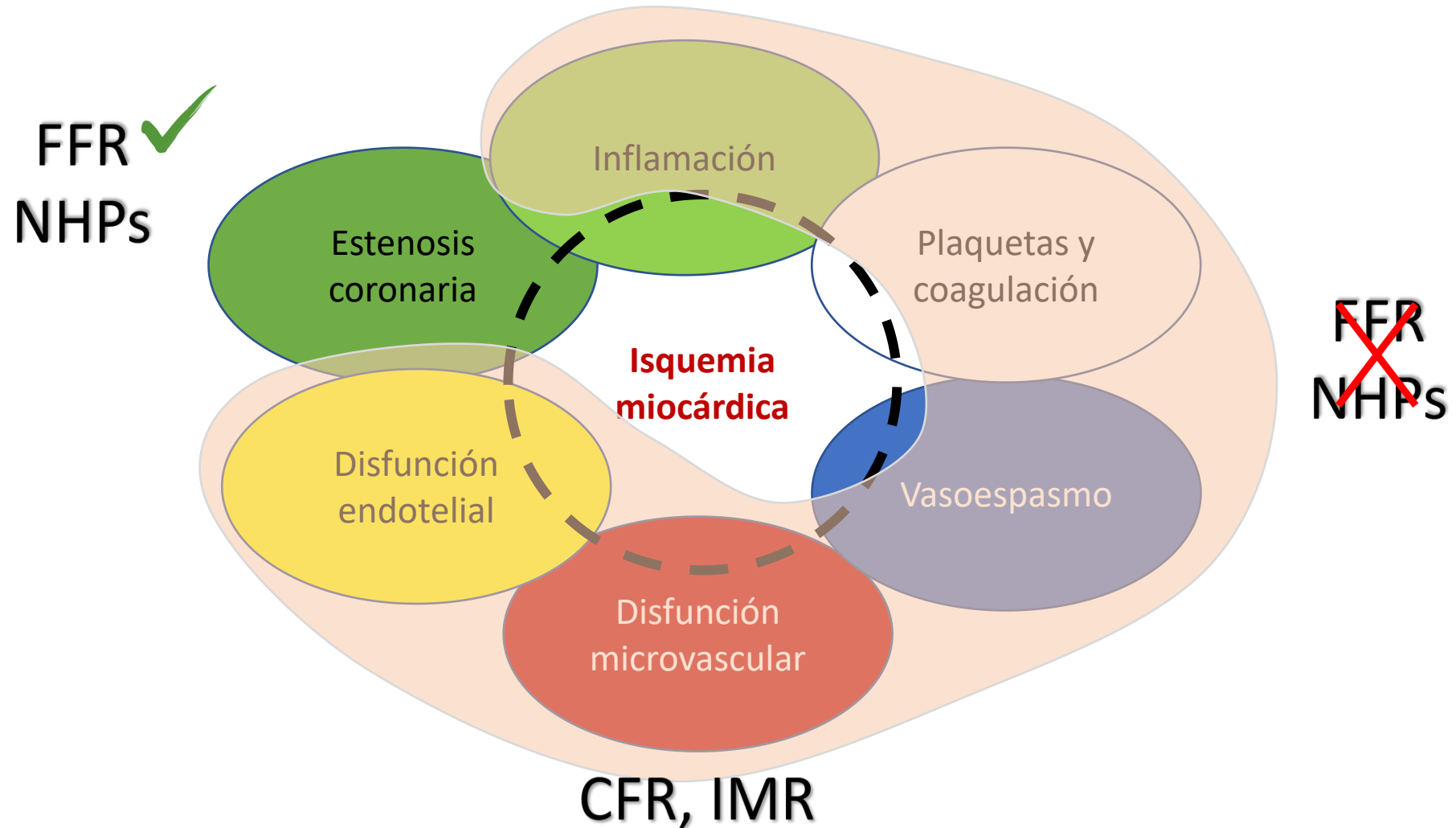


Arteriola 50  $\mu\text{m}$   
(estímulos  
miogénicos)

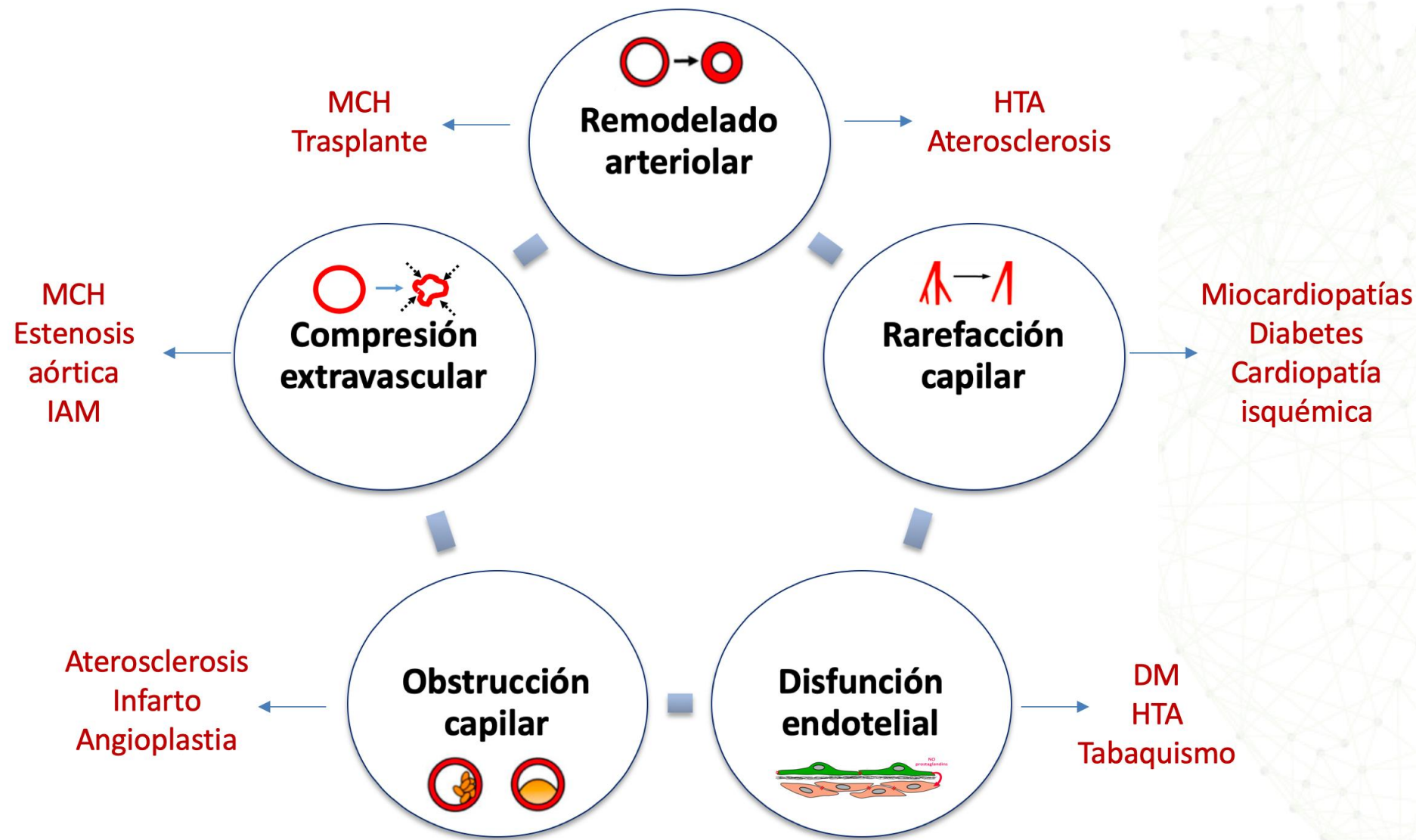
# Autorregulación coronaria



# Mecanismos de isquemia miocárdica



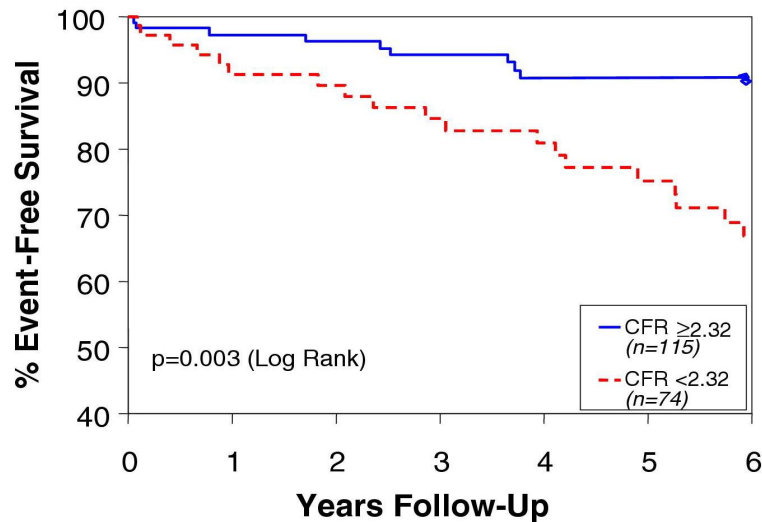
# Mecanismos de disfunción microvascular coronaria



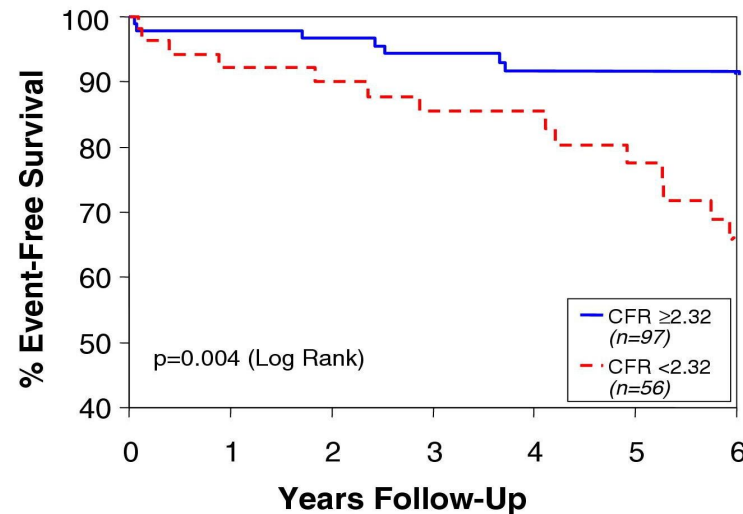
# Impacto clínico de la disfunción microvascular coronaria

## *En mujeres sin enfermedad coronaria aterosclerótica*

**All Women**



**Women without CAD**



CFR  $\geq 2.3$

CFR  $< 2.3$

**MACE:**

Muerte cardíaca

IAM

Ictus o

Ingreso por ICC

Valor de corte CFR:  $< 2.3$

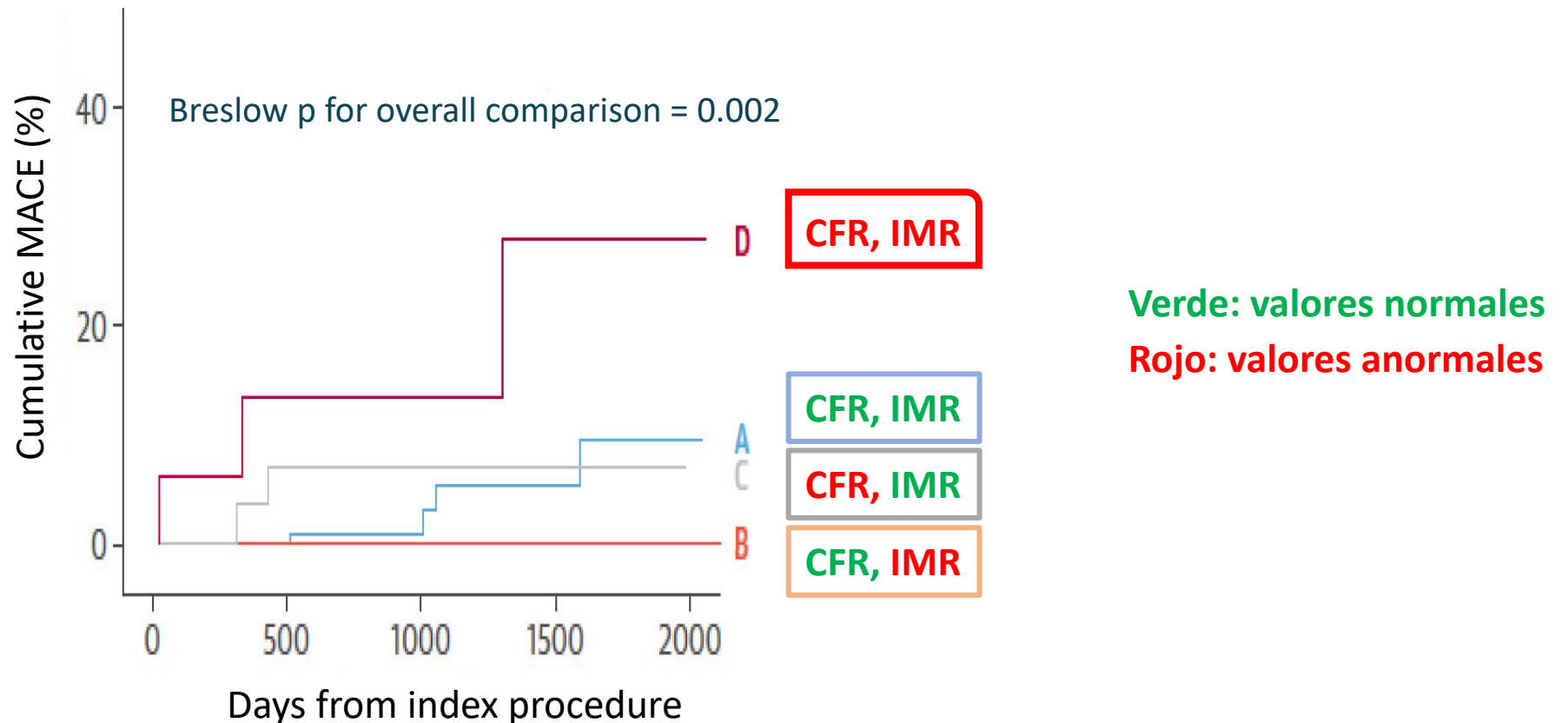
Asociación significativa entre la reserva coronaria y el pronóstico cardiovascular en mujeres con clínica de cardiopatía isquémica sin enfermedad coronaria.



# Impacto clínico de la disfunción microvascular coronaria

## *En pacientes con estenosis coronarias estables*

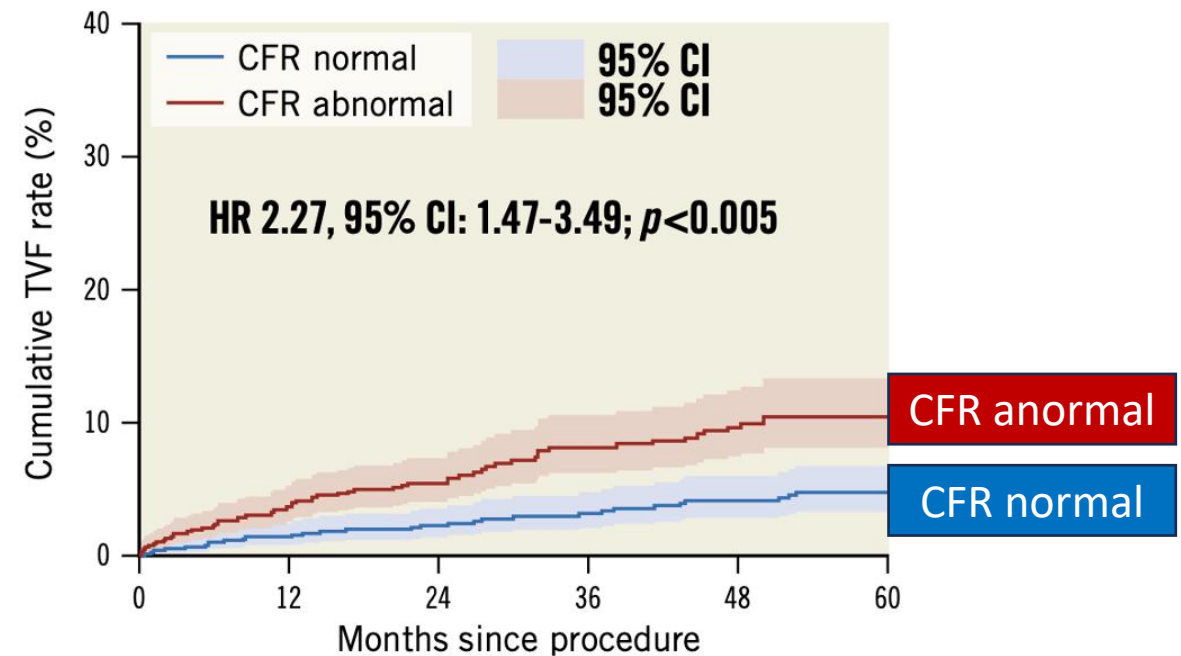
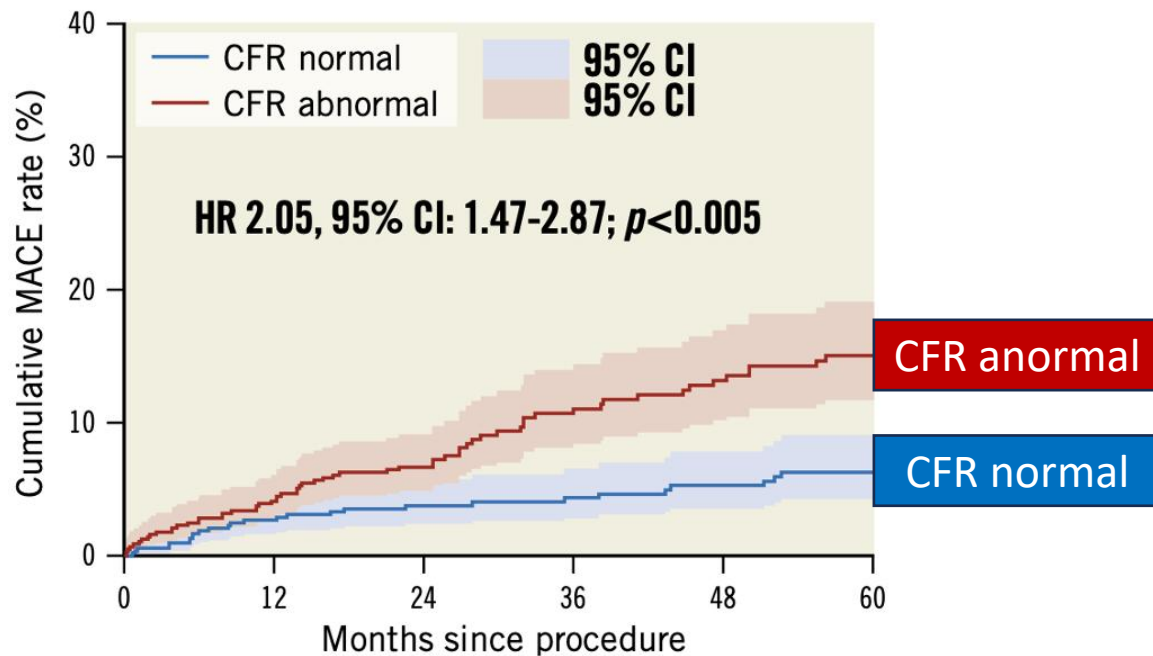
313 pacientes (663 vasos) con  $\text{FFR} > 0.80$



# Impacto clínico de la disfunción microvascular coronaria

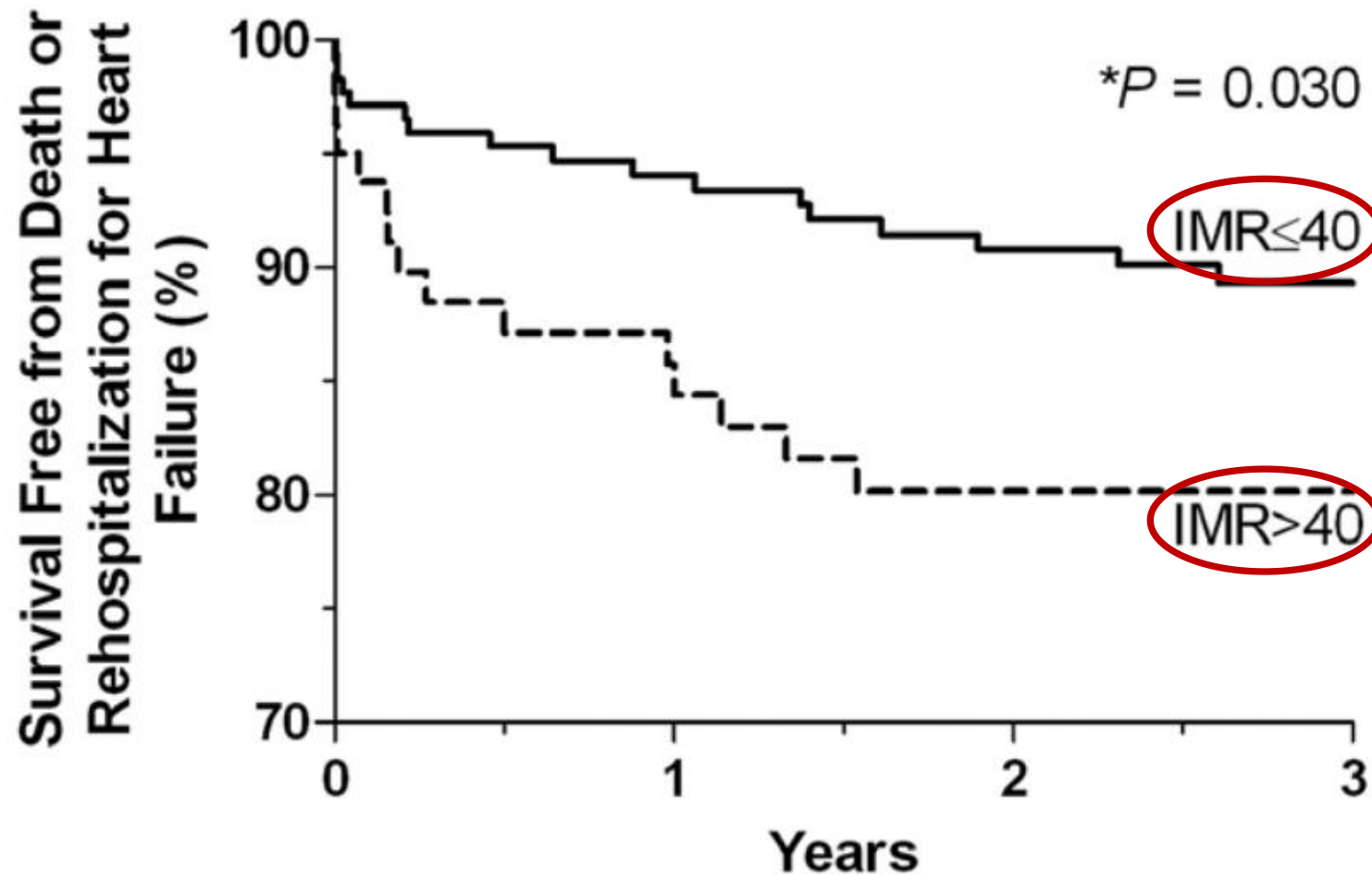
## *En pacientes con estenosis coronarias estables*

1102 pacientes sin enf coronaria obstructiva (FFR > 0.80)  
5 años de seguimiento



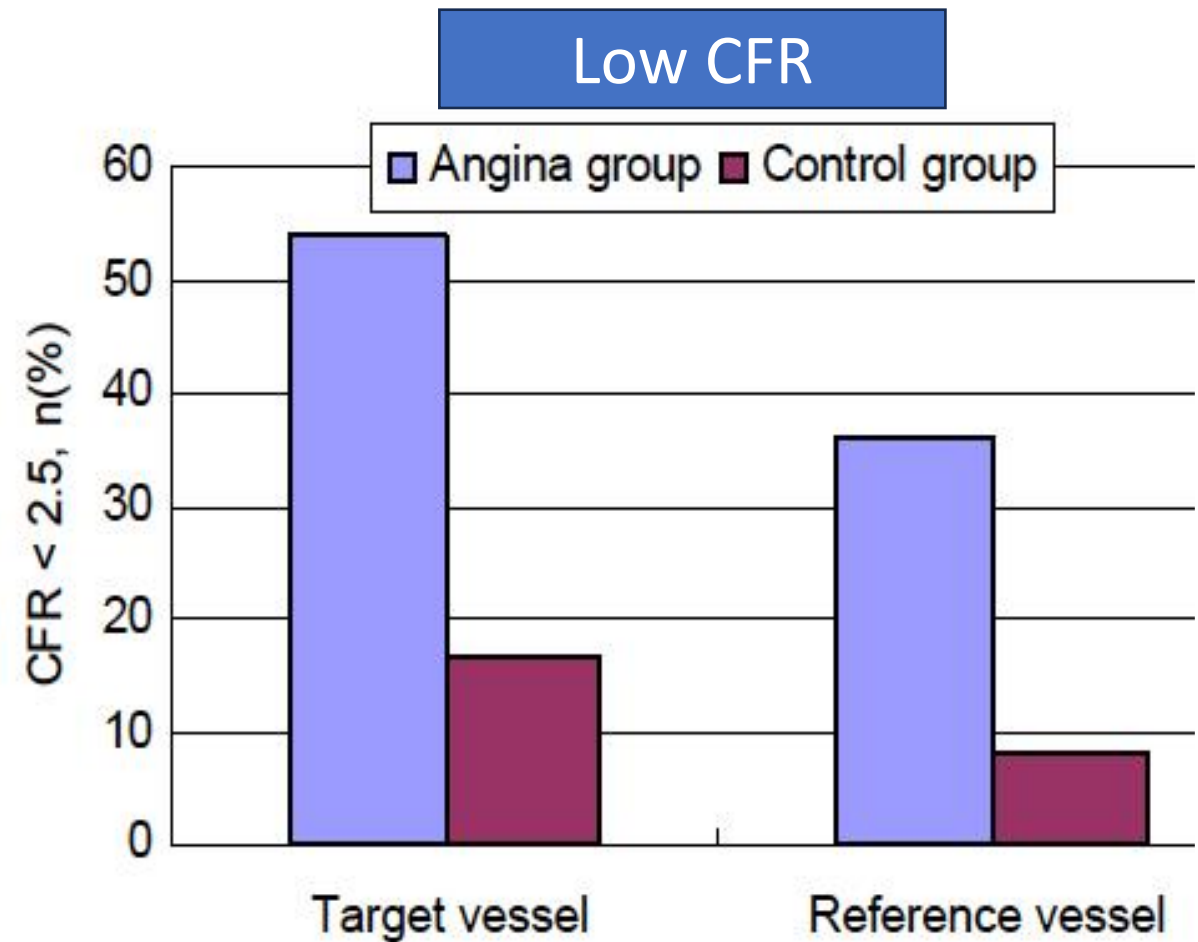
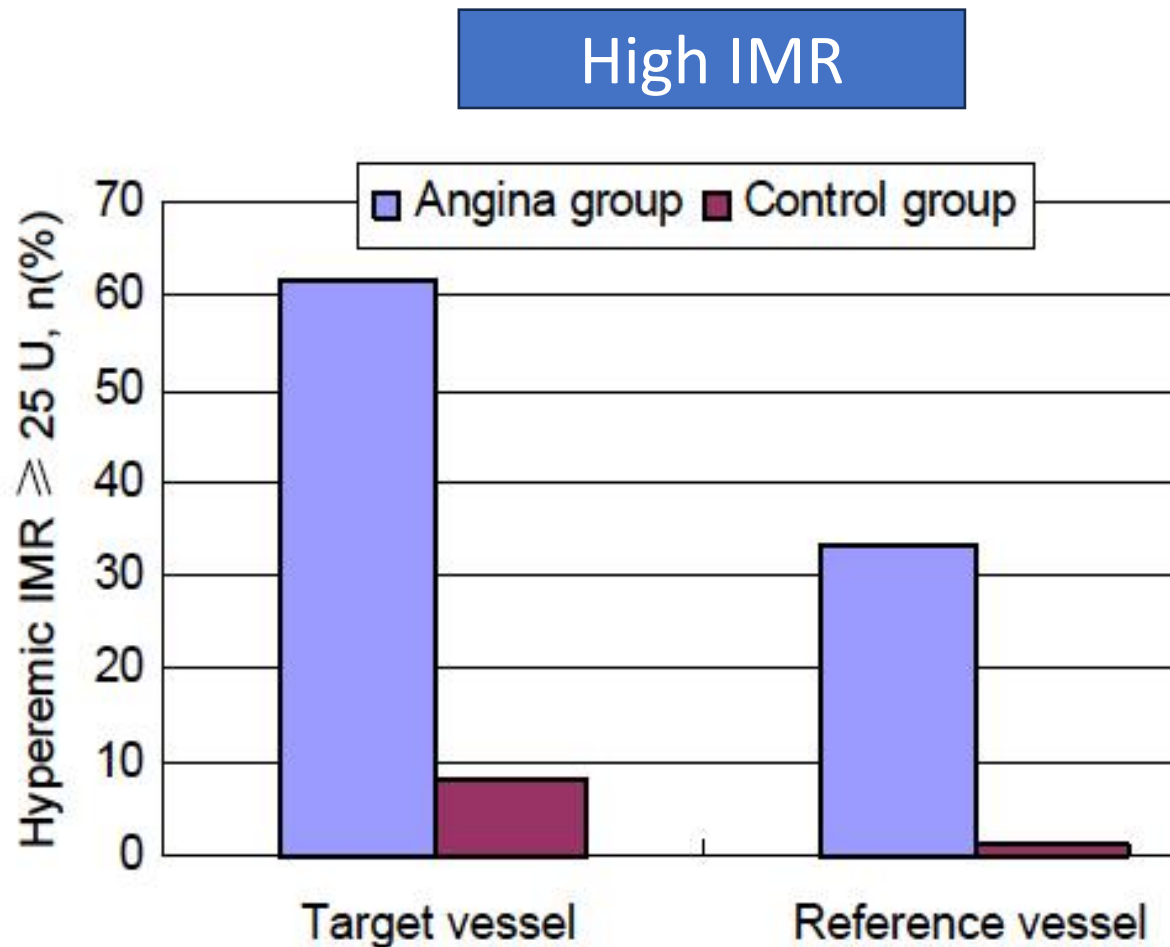
# Impacto clínico de la disfunción microvascular coronaria

*En pacientes con IAMCEST*



# Impacto clínico de la disfunción microvascular coronaria

*En pacientes con angina post-ICP*

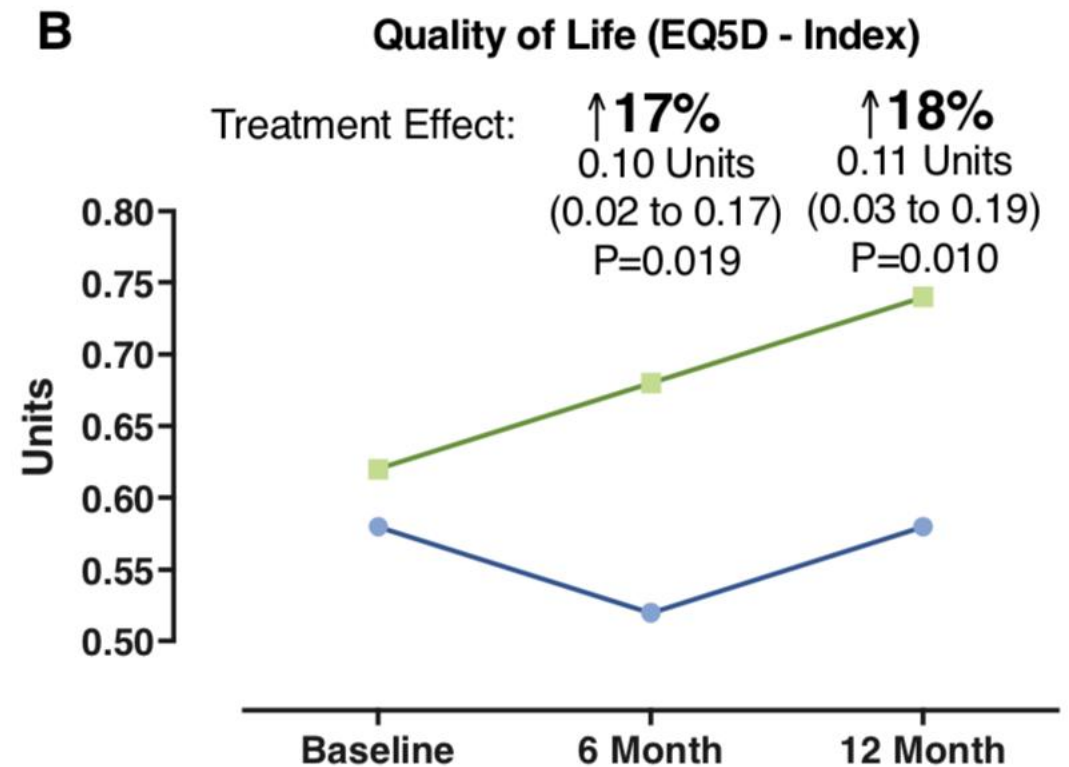
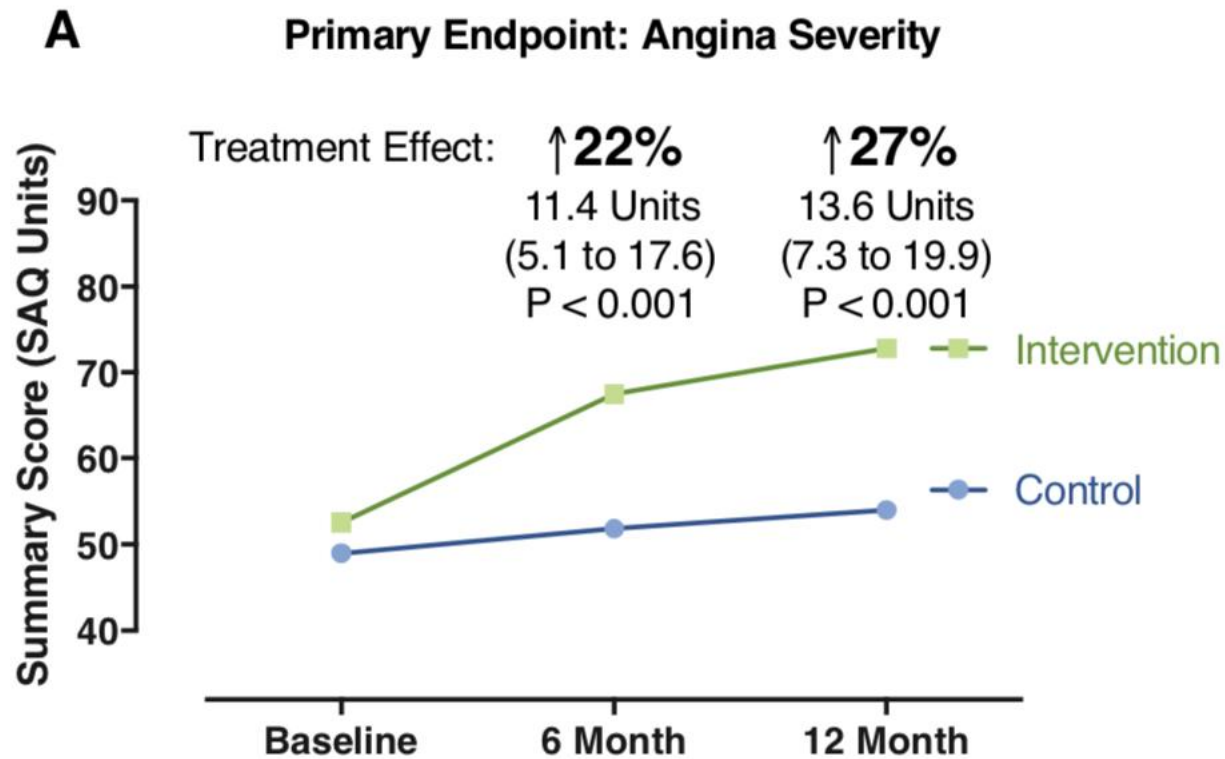


# Impacto clínico de la disfunción microvascular coronaria

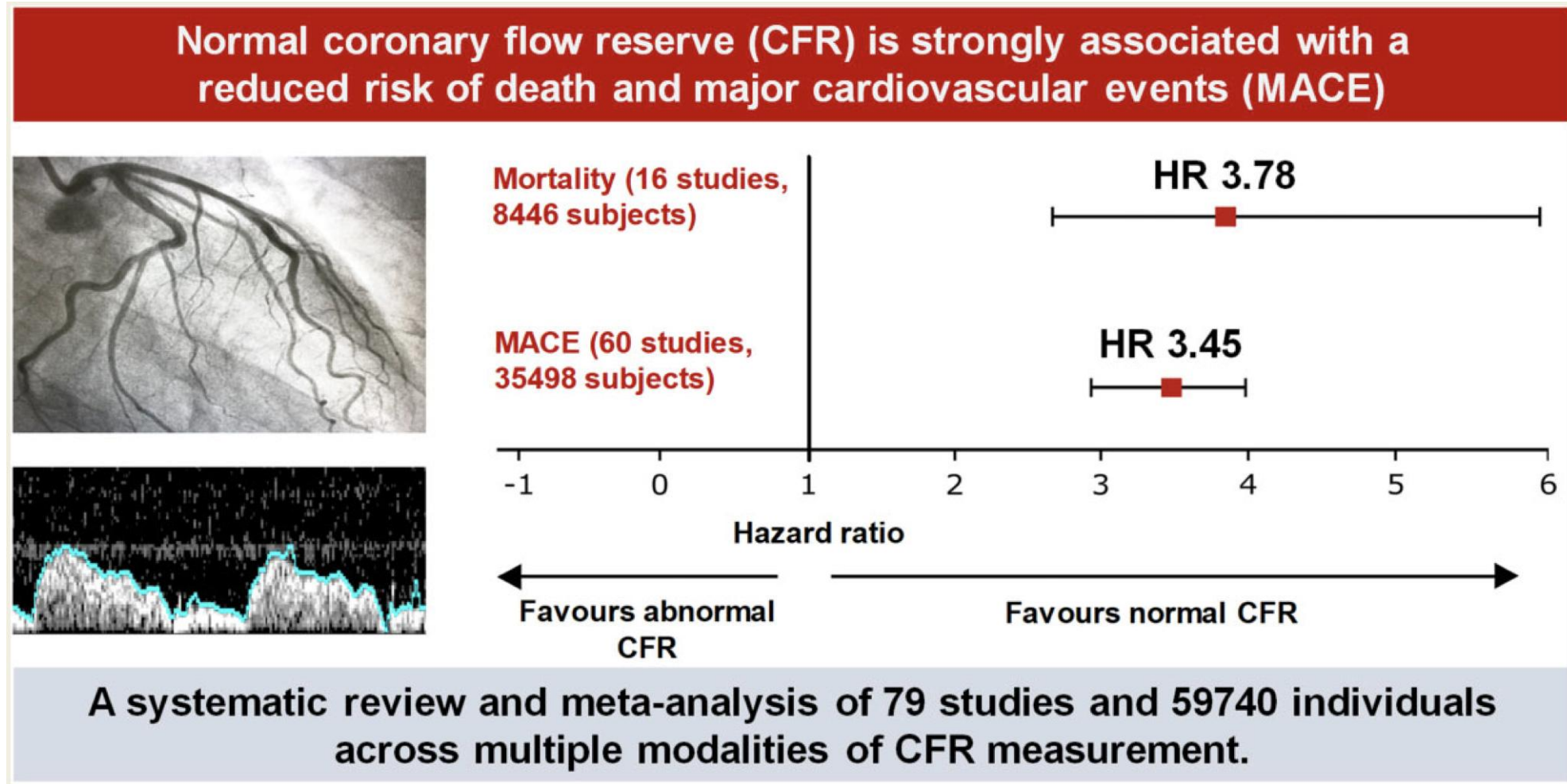
## En la calidad de vida

### Angina

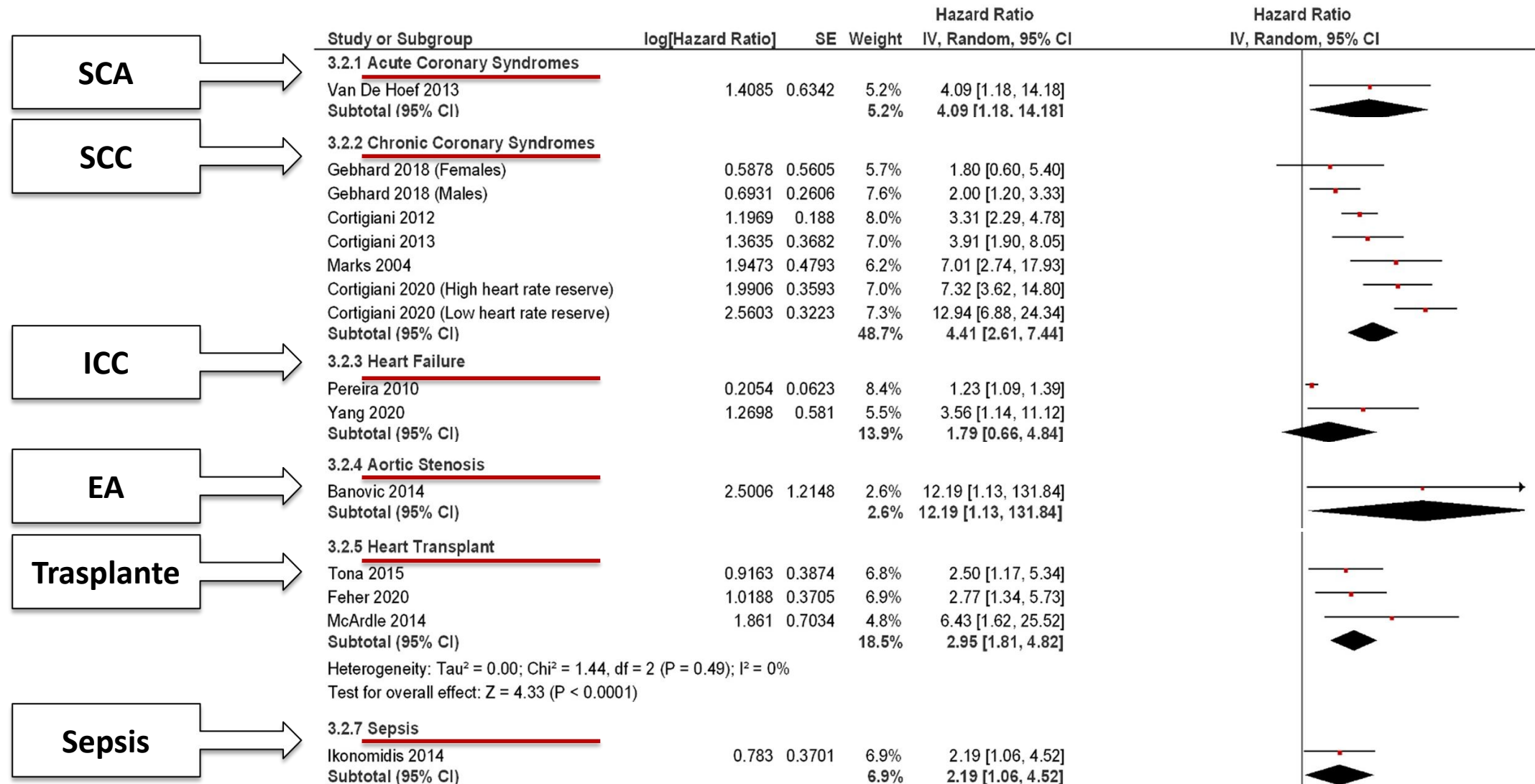
### Calidad de vida



# Impacto clínico de la disfunción microvascular coronaria



# Impacto clínico de la disfunción microvascular coronaria



Main mechanisms of myocardial ischaemia in chronic coronary syndromes





Epicardial Microvascular

FFR / NHP


Acetilcolina

Adenosina

**Structural**

-  Atherosclerosis (focal or diffuse)
-  Stabilized intramural haematoma
-  Myocardial bridge
-  Coronary aneurysm

**Functional**

 Epicardial vasospasm

↑

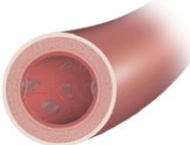
Endothelial dysfunction and/or VSMC hyperreactivity

Autonomic dysregulation

**Structural**

- Inward arteriolar remodelling
- Capillary rarefaction
- Intravascular plugging
- Perivascular fibrosis or infiltration
- Extramural compression (myocardial hypertrophy, increased LVEDP)

**Functional**

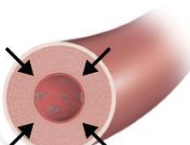
 Impaired vasodilation

↑

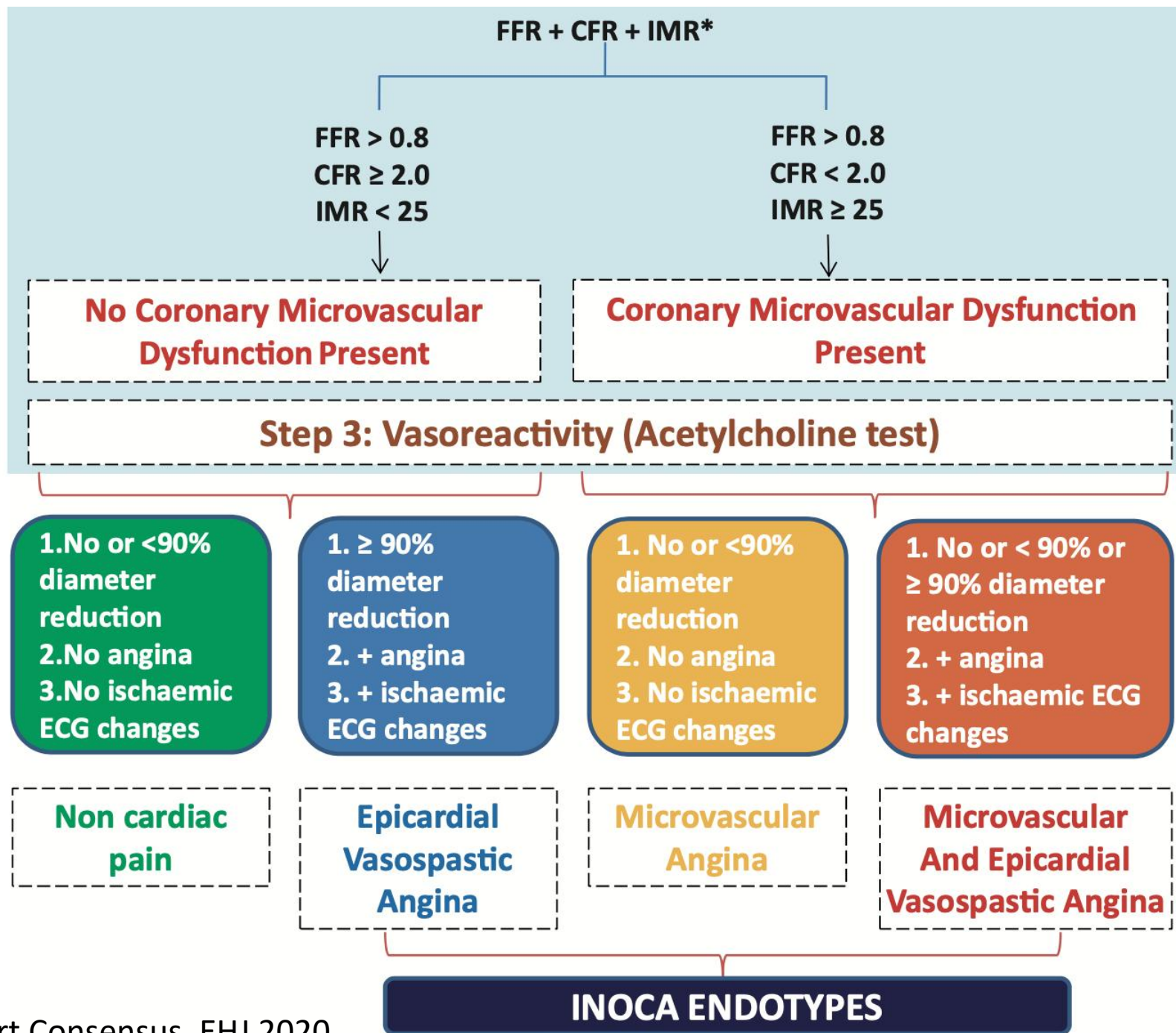
Endothelial dysfunction and/or VSMC hyperreactivity

Autonomic dysregulation

↓

 Increased vasoconstriction

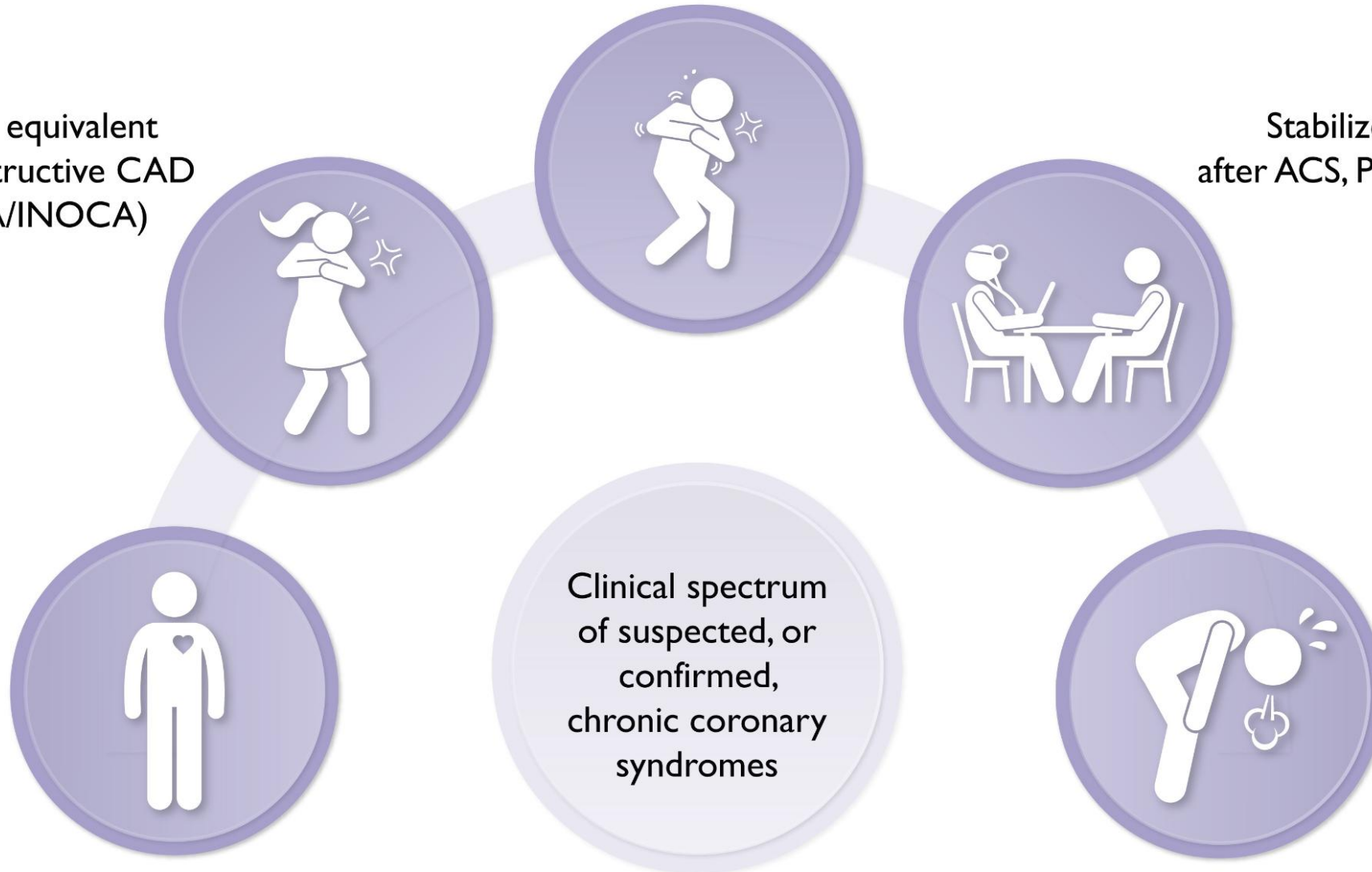




Stress-induced angina, or equivalent,  
with obstructive CAD

Angina or equivalent  
with no obstructive CAD  
(ANOCA/INOCA)

Stabilized phase  
after ACS, PCI, or CABG



Asymptomatic with abnormal  
coronary anatomical  
or functional test

LV dysfunction or heart  
failure of ischaemic origin

# Management of INOCA

## 1. Lifestyle factors



Nutrition



Exercise



Weight management



Smoking cessation



Coping with stress

## 2. Risk factor management



Hypertension



Dyslipidaemia



Diabetes mellitus

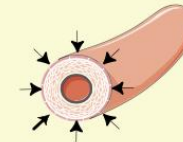
## 3. Antianginal medication



Microvascular angina

1. Betablocker
2. Calcium channel blocker
3. Nicorandil
4. Ranolazine
5. Ivabradine
6. Trimetazidine

Consider statins and ACEI/ARB



Vasospastic angina

1. Calcium channel blocker
2. Long-acting nitrate
3. Nicorandil

Recommendations	Class	Level
<b><i>Functional assessment of epicardial artery stenosis severity during invasive coronary angiography</i></b>		
During ICA, selective assessment of functional severity of intermediate diameter stenoses is recommended to guide the decision to revascularize, using the following techniques:		
• FFR/iFR (significant $\leq 0.8$ or $\leq 0.89$ , respectively);	I	A
• QFR (significant $\leq 0.8$ ).	I	B
<i>In addition:</i>		
• CFR/HSR/CFC should be considered as a complementary investigation;	IIa	B
• resting invasive measurement of Pd/Pa, dPR, RFR, or angiography-derived vessel FFR may be considered as alternative parameters.	IIb	C
Systematic and routine wire-based coronary pressure assessment of all coronary vessels is not recommended.	III	A

Recommendations	Class	Level
<b><i>Selection of individual diagnostic tests in individuals with suspected chronic coronary syndrome</i></b>		
To rule out obstructive CAD in individuals with low or moderate (>5%–50%) pre-test likelihood, CCTA is recommended as the preferred diagnostic modality.	I	B
CCTA is recommended in individuals with low or moderate (>5%–50%) pre-test likelihood of obstructive CAD if functional imaging for myocardial ischaemia is not diagnostic.	I	B
Invasive coronary angiography with the availability of invasive functional assessment is recommended to confirm or exclude the diagnosis of obstructive CAD or ANOCA/INOCA in individuals with an uncertain diagnosis on non-invasive testing.	I	B
In patients with a known intermediate coronary artery stenosis in a proximal or mid coronary segment on CCTA, CT-based FFR may be considered.	IIb	B

Recommendations	Class	Level
<b><i>Recurrent or refractory angina/ischaemia</i></b>		
In patients with refractory angina leading to poor quality of life and with documented or suspected ANOCA/INOCA, invasive coronary functional testing is recommended to define ANOCA/INOCA endotypes and appropriate treatment, considering patient choices and preferences.	I	B

# Revised recommendations

2019 Guidelines	Class	Level	2024 Guidelines	Class	Level
<b><i>Diagnosis and management of patients with angina/ischaemia with non-obstructive coronary arteries</i></b>					
Guidewire-based CFR and/or microcirculatory resistance measurements should be considered in patients with persistent symptoms, but coronary arteries that are either angiographically normal or have moderate stenoses with preserved iwFR/FFR.	<b>IIa</b>	<b>B</b>	In persistently symptomatic patients despite medical treatment with suspected ANOCA/INOCA (i.e. anginal symptoms with normal coronary arteries or non-obstructive lesions at non-invasive imaging, or intermediate stenoses with normal FFR/iFR at coronary arteriography) and poor quality of life, invasive coronary functional testing is recommended to identify potentially treatable endotypes and to improve symptoms and quality of life, considering patient choices and preferences.	<b>I</b>	<b>B</b>

# Revised recommendations

2019 Guidelines	Class	Level	2024 Guidelines	Class	Level
<b><i>Diagnosis and management of patients with ANOCA/INOCA cont.</i></b>					
Intracoronary acetylcholine with ECG monitoring may be considered during angiography, if coronary arteries are either angiographically normal or have moderate stenoses with preserved iwFR/FFR, to assess microvascular vasospasm.	<b>IIb</b>	<b>B</b>	In persistently symptomatic patients despite medical treatment with suspected ANOCA/INOCA (i.e. anginal symptoms with normal coronary arteries or non-obstructive lesions at non-invasive imaging, or intermediate stenoses with normal iFR/FFR at coronary arteriography) and poor quality of life, intracoronary functional testing is recommended to identify potentially treatable endotypes and to improve symptoms and quality of life, considering patient choices and preferences.	<b>I</b>	<b>B</b>



Recommendations	Class	Level
<b><i>Diagnosis and management of patients with angina/ischaemia with non-obstructive coronary arteries</i></b>		
<b><i>Management of ANOCA/INOCA</i></b>		
In symptomatic patients with ANOCA/INOCA, medical therapy based on coronary functional test results should be considered to improve symptoms and quality of life.	<b>IIa</b>	<b>A</b>
For the management of endothelial dysfunction, ACE-I should be considered for symptom control.	<b>IIa</b>	<b>B</b>
For the management of microvascular angina associated with reduced coronary/myocardial blood flow reserve, beta-blockers should be considered for symptom control.	<b>IIa</b>	<b>B</b>
For the treatment of isolated vasospastic angina:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>calcium channel blockers are recommended to control symptoms and to prevent ischaemia and potentially fatal complications;</li> </ul>	<b>I</b>	<b>A</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>nitrates should be considered to prevent recurrent episodes.</li> </ul>	<b>IIa</b>	<b>B</b>
In patients with evidence of overlapping endotypes, combination therapy with nitrates, calcium channel blockers, and other vasodilators may be considered.	<b>IIb</b>	<b>B</b>

# Métodos de fisiología coronaria

*Técnicas*

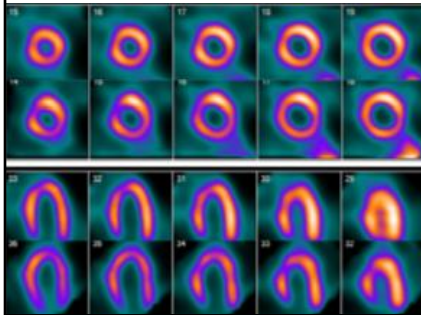
*Índices*

*Fármacos*

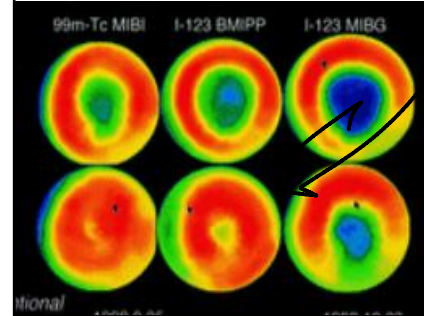
# Técnicas

## Métodos no invasivos

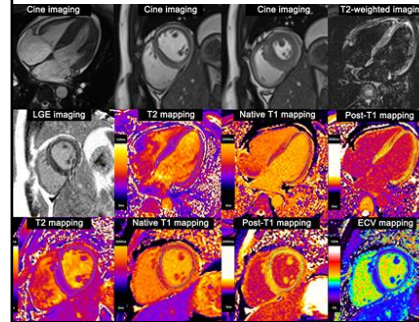
Scintigraphy



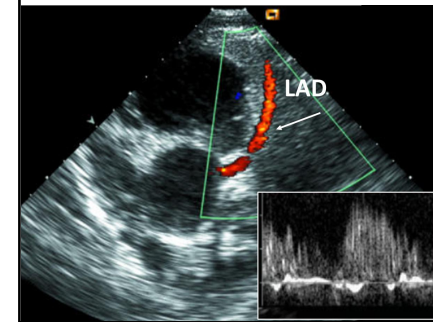
PET



RMC

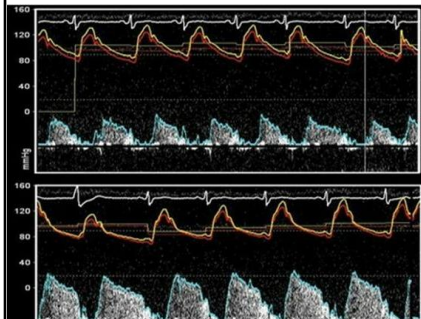


Doppler

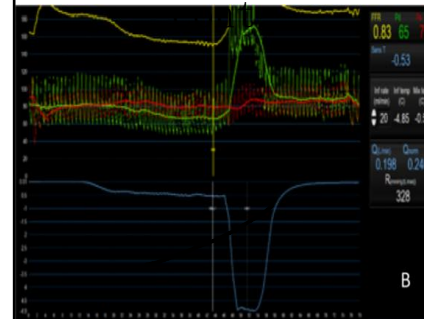


## Métodos invasivos

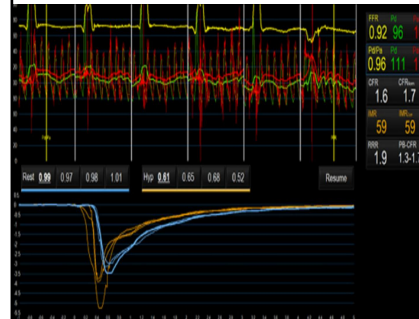
Doppler



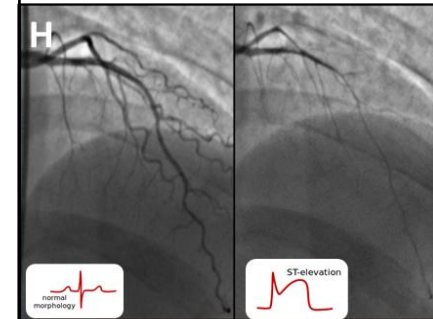
Termodilución



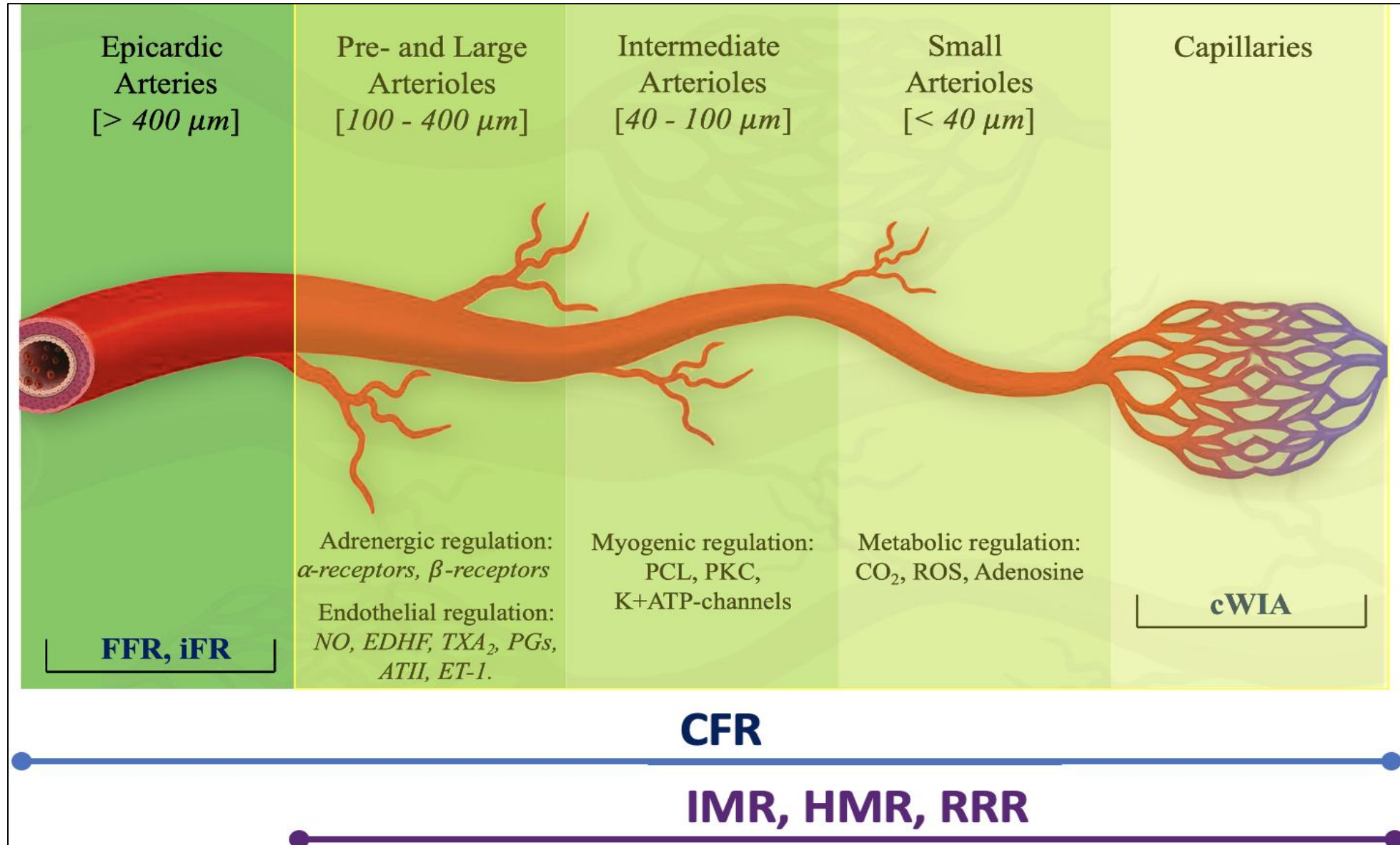
Termodilución bolos



Acetilcolina



# Índices



# Dos fármacos

## Vasoespasma coronario



Epicardial  
vasospasm

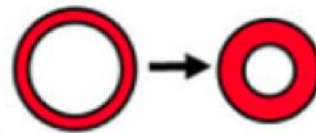
Microcirculatory  
vasospasm

Acetilcolina

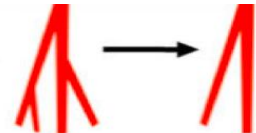
## Disfunción coronaria microvascular



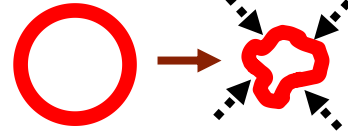
Remodelling



Rarefaction



Compression



Plugging

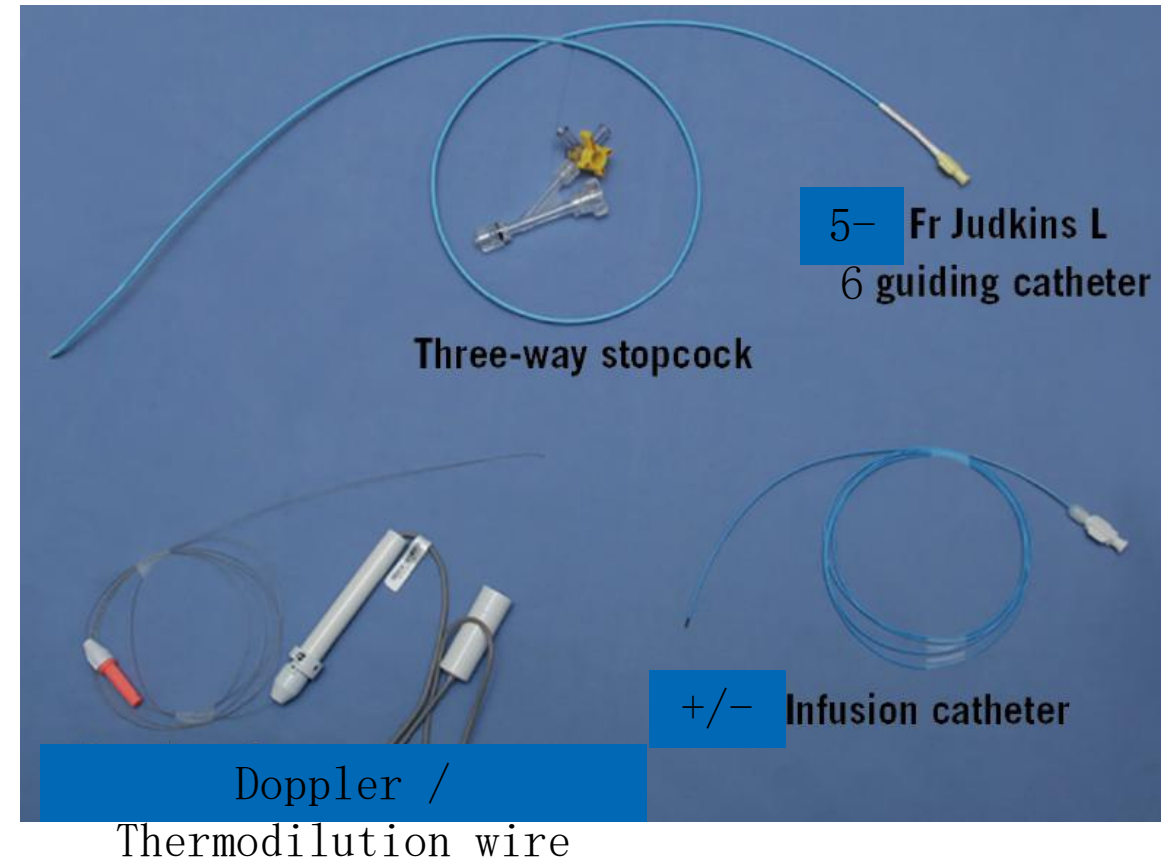


Adenosina

# Invasive functional coronary angiography

## Set-up

- ⌘ Preparation of the patient:
  - ⌘ Avoid caffeine and nicotine for  $\geq 24$  hours.
  - ⌘ Withdraw of vasodilators (CCB, nitrates)  $\geq 18$  hours before the procedure.
- ⌘ LAD (pre-specified target vessel).
  - ⌘ RCA or LCx, if indicated by regional abnormalities in non-



## Set-up

- ⌘ Projection showing long axis of target vessel
- ⌘ Full heparinization (50 - 70 U/kg, ACT > 250 s).



### Contraindications to adenosine:

Asthma

2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> grade atrioventricular block without pacemaker

~~History of a non-ablated accessory pathway=~~

### Contraindications to acetylcholine:

Asthma

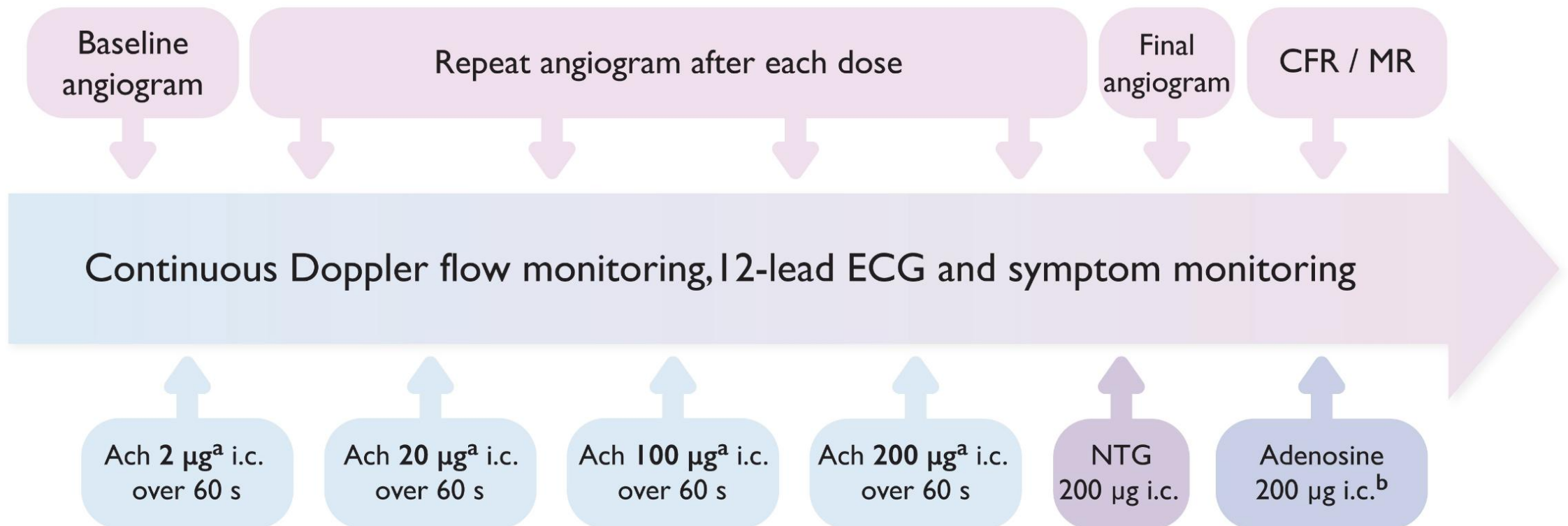
2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> grade atrioventricular block without pacemaker

Paroxysmal atrial fibrillation

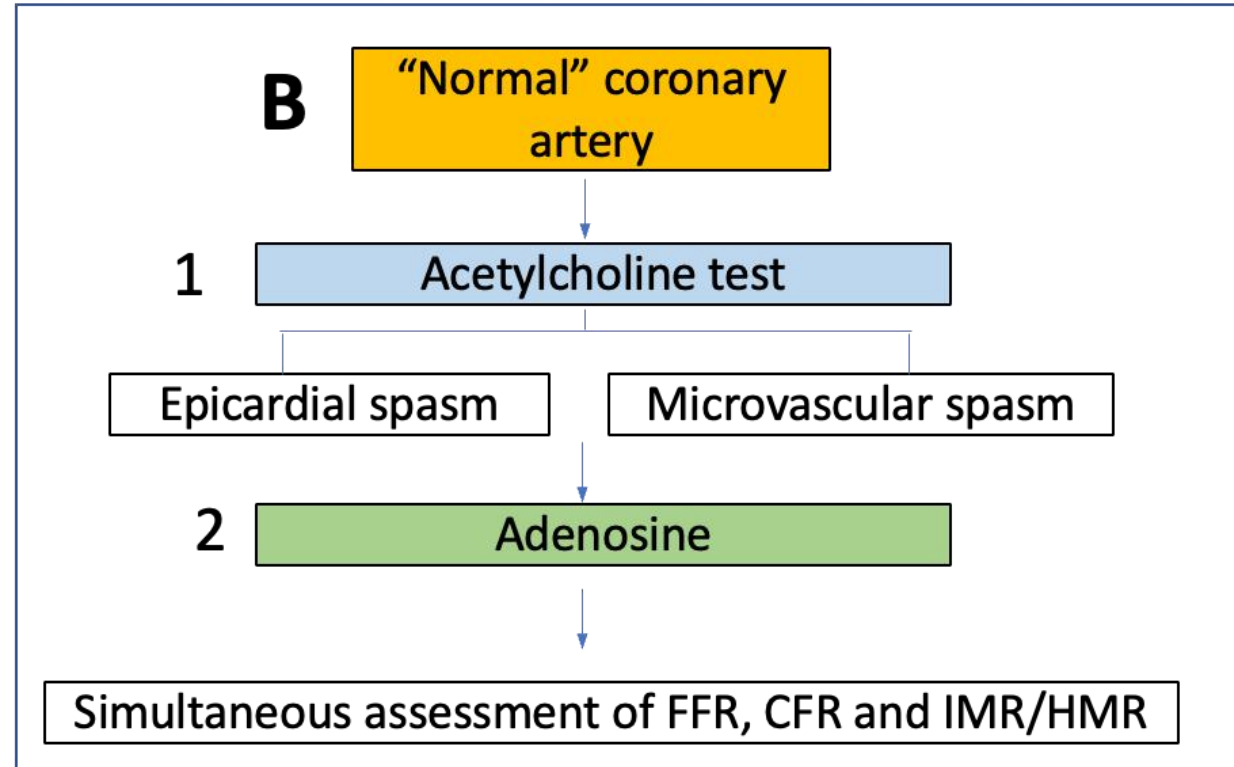
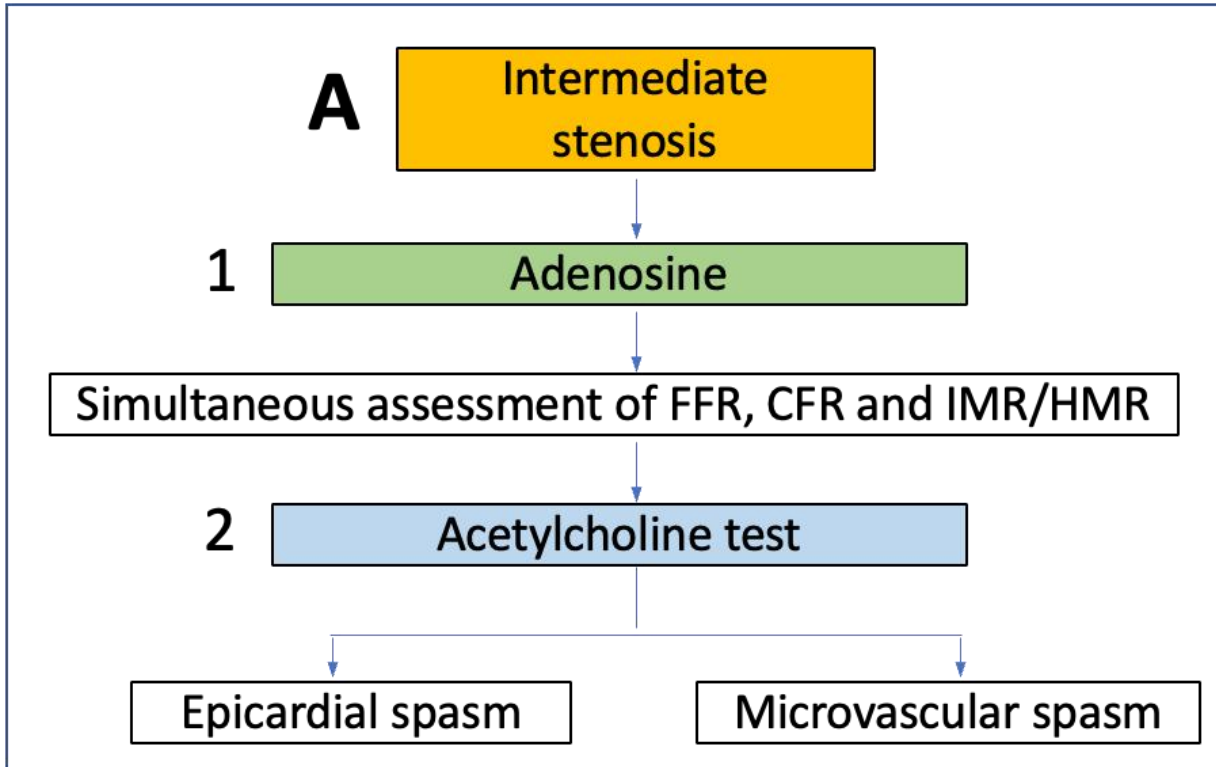
# How to proceed

## Ach- and adenosine-based vasoreactivity protocol

Ach testing performed after at least 24 hours of washout from CCB and nitrates







⌘ Nitroglycerine half-life: 2 min → only 3% at 10 min.

Grupo	Método de infusión	Dosis utilizadas	Tiempo de administración por dosis	Comentarios
Grupo de Harvard <sup>30</sup>	Infusión por microcatéter y bomba de infusión	4 diluciones de $10^{-7}$ , $10^{-6}$ , $10^{-5}$ y $10^{-4}$ por litro (infusión a 0,8 ml/min) en la CI	2 minutos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ideado para valorar la función endotelial</li> <li>– Se estima una concentración final de <math>10^{-9}</math>, <math>10^{-8}</math>, <math>10^{-7}</math> y <math>10^{-6}</math> (equivalente a una dosis total selectiva en una arteria de 0,03, 0,3, 3 y 30 <math>\mu\text{g}</math>)</li> <li>– Se realiza en la CI</li> </ul>
Clínica Mayo <sup>32</sup>	Infusión por microcatéter y bomba de infusión	3 diluciones de $10^{-6}$ , $10^{-5}$ y $10^{-4}$ por litro (infusión a 1 ml/min) seguidas de un bolo de 100 $\mu\text{g}$ (por el mismo microcatéter)	3 minutos (el bolo final durante 20-30 segundos)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Protocolo mixto para valorar la función endotelial (equivalente a 0,5, 5 y 50 <math>\mu\text{g}</math> selectivo por arteria) y el vasoespasmo con bolo de 100 <math>\mu\text{g}</math></li> <li>– Incluye una valoración funcional de la microcirculación con guía Doppler durante la infusión de acetilcolina</li> <li>– Se realiza en la CI</li> </ul>
Grupo de Korea <sup>33</sup>	Infusión manual por catéter guía	3 dosis de 20, 50 y 100 $\mu\text{g}$ en la CI	1 minuto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Se realiza en la CI</li> </ul>
Japanese Circulation Society <sup>10</sup>	Infusión manual por catéter guía	3 dosis de 20, 50 y 100 $\mu\text{g}$ en la CI Si no hay vasoespasmo se recomiendan 2 dosis de 20 y 50 $\mu\text{g}$ en la CD	20 segundos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provocación de vasoespasmo en la CI y la CD</li> <li>– Se recomienda la implantación de un electrocatéter para su realización</li> </ul>
Grupo de Standford <sup>19</sup>	Infusión manual por catéter guía	4 dosis de 20, 50, 100 y 200 $\mu\text{g}$ en la CI	1 minuto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Se realiza en la CI</li> </ul>
Grupo de Stuttgart <sup>34</sup>	Infusión manual por catéter guía	4 dosis de 2, 20, 100 y 200 $\mu\text{g}$ en la CI En ausencia de vasoespasmo en la CI se recomienda una dosis de 80 $\mu\text{g}$ en la CD	20 segundos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Estudia la CI y la CD</li> </ul>
Estudio CorMicA y grupo COVADIS <sup>6,29</sup>	Infusión mixta con bomba y manual	3 dosis crecientes de 0,18, 1,82 y 18,2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ infundidas por bomba en el catéter guía Finaliza con un bolo manual de 100 $\mu\text{g}$ (50 $\mu\text{g}$ en la CD)	2 minutos para cada dosis y 20 segundos para el bolo final	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Se realiza en la CI tras el estudio de la microcirculación con adenosina mediante guía de presión</li> <li>– Valora la función endotelial y la provocación de vasoespasmo en el mismo procedimiento</li> </ul>
Protocolo de la ACI-SEC (presente documento)	Infusión manual por catéter guía	3 dosis de 2, 20 y 100 $\mu\text{g}$ en la CI En caso de sospecha de vasoespasmo de CD se empieza la prueba en esta arteria con dosis de 2, 20 y 50 $\mu\text{g}$	20 segundos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Si se quiere valorar la función endotelial las dosis deben administrarse más lentamente, durante 2-3 minutos</li> <li>– Se realiza en la CI</li> </ul>

- Way of administration
- Number of doses
- Whole amount of Ach
- Infusion duration

# Assessment of endothelium-dependent function

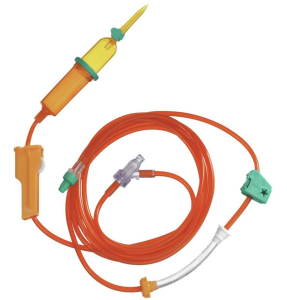
## Acetylcholine

### test

⌘ Preparation of acetylcholine:

⌘ Drug instability → preparation just before the procedure (valid for consecutive studies).

1 mL (10 mg) in 500 mL of saline → 20  $\mu$ g/mL



20 mg



2 mL  
10 mg/mL

○ Coronaria izquierda:

1. **ACH IC 2mcg.** Coger 1cc, diluir hasta 10cc (2mcg/ml). Desechar 9cc, y volver a diluir hasta 10cc = **(2mcg/10ml)**
2. **ACH IC 20mcg.** Coger 1cc (20mcg) y diluir hasta 10cc SSF= **(20mcg/10ml)**
3. **ACH IC 100mcg.** Coger 5cc (100mcg) y diluir hasta 10cc SSF= **(100mcg/10ml)**
4. **ACH IC 200mcg.** Coger 10cc (200mcg) = **(200mcg/10ml)**

○ Coronaria derecha:

1. **ACH IC 2mcg.** Coger 1cc, diluir hasta 10cc (2mcg/ml). Desechar 9cc, y volver a diluir hasta 10cc = **(2mcg/10ml)**
2. **ACH IC 20mcg.** Coger 1cc (20mcg) y diluir hasta 10cc SSF= **(20mcg/10ml)**
3. **ACH IC 80mcg.** Coger 4cc (80mcg) y diluir hasta 10cc SSF= **(80mcg/10ml)**

# Spasm provocation

⌘ Increasing doses of Ach:

⌘ Left coronary artery: 2 → 20 → 100 μg (→ 200 μg).

⌘ Right coronary artery: 2 → 20 → 50 μg (→ 80 μg).

⌘ Administration as a bolus (20–30 s) + slow flush with saline.

⌘ 2 min between doses.

- Symptoms (reproduction).
- ECG ischaemic abnormalities.
- Epicardial spasm.

**Epicardial vs microvascular  
spasm**

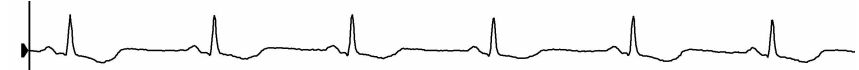
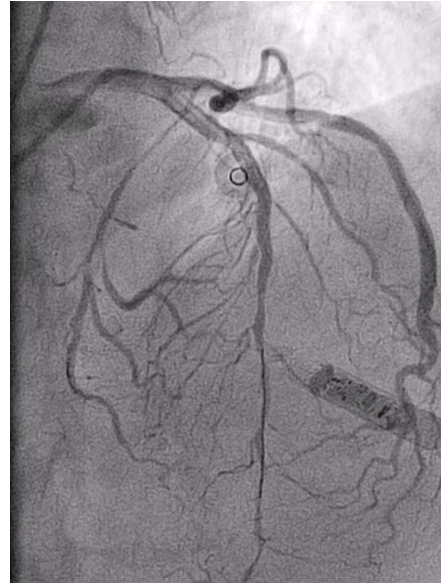
⌘ Nitroglycerine (200–300 μg).

## Epicardial spasm

Symptoms

ECG ischaemic abnormalities

Reduction in coronary diameter  
>90% from baseline

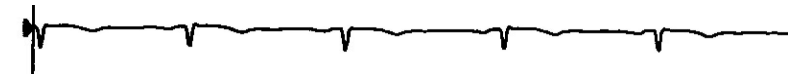


## Microvascular spasm

Symptoms

ECG ischaemic abnormalities

No epicardial spasm (<90%  
reduction in coronary artery  
diameter)



# Assessment of endothelium-independent function

∞ Use of a dedicated guidewire

## Thermodilution



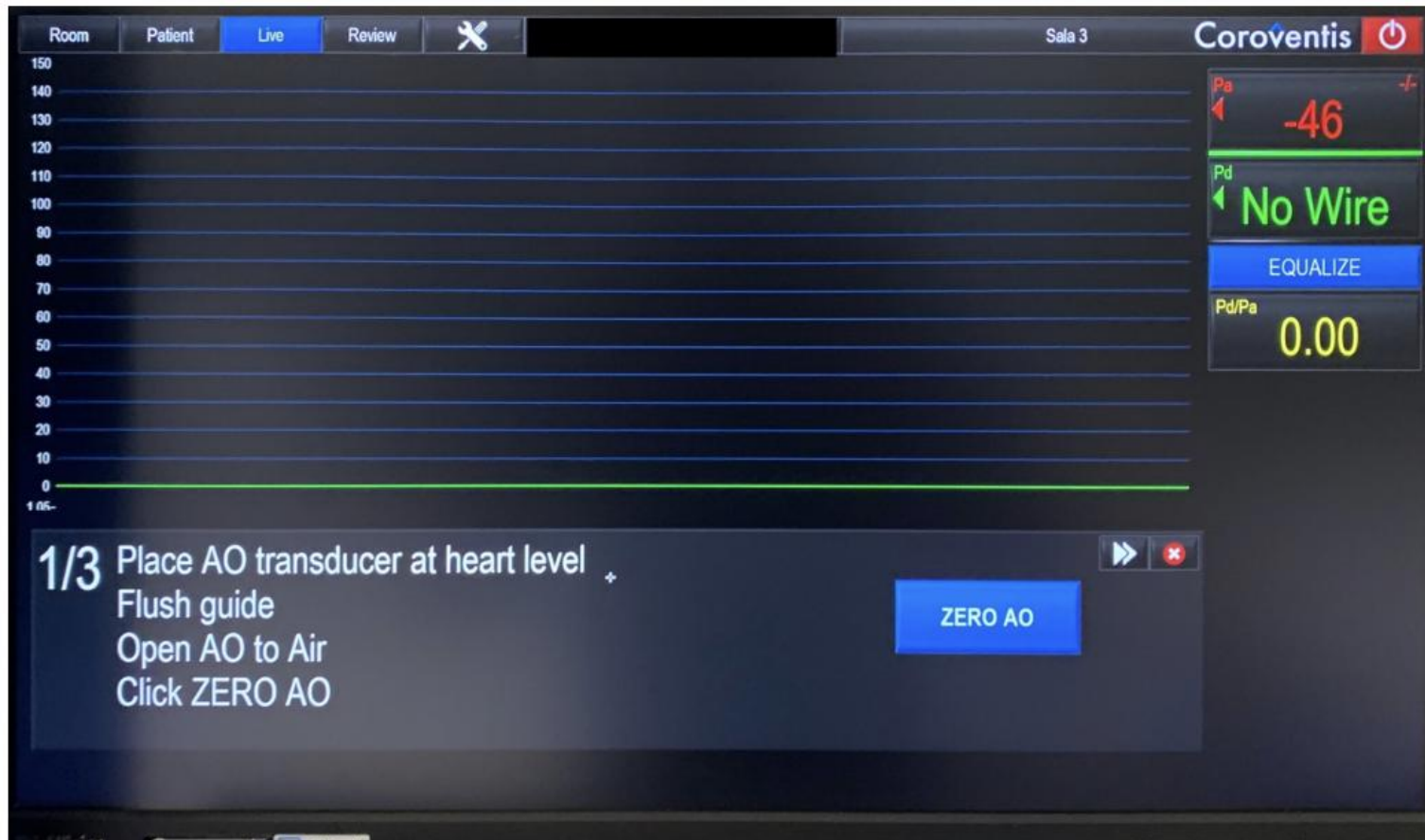
*PressureWire X  
(Abbott)*

## Doppler



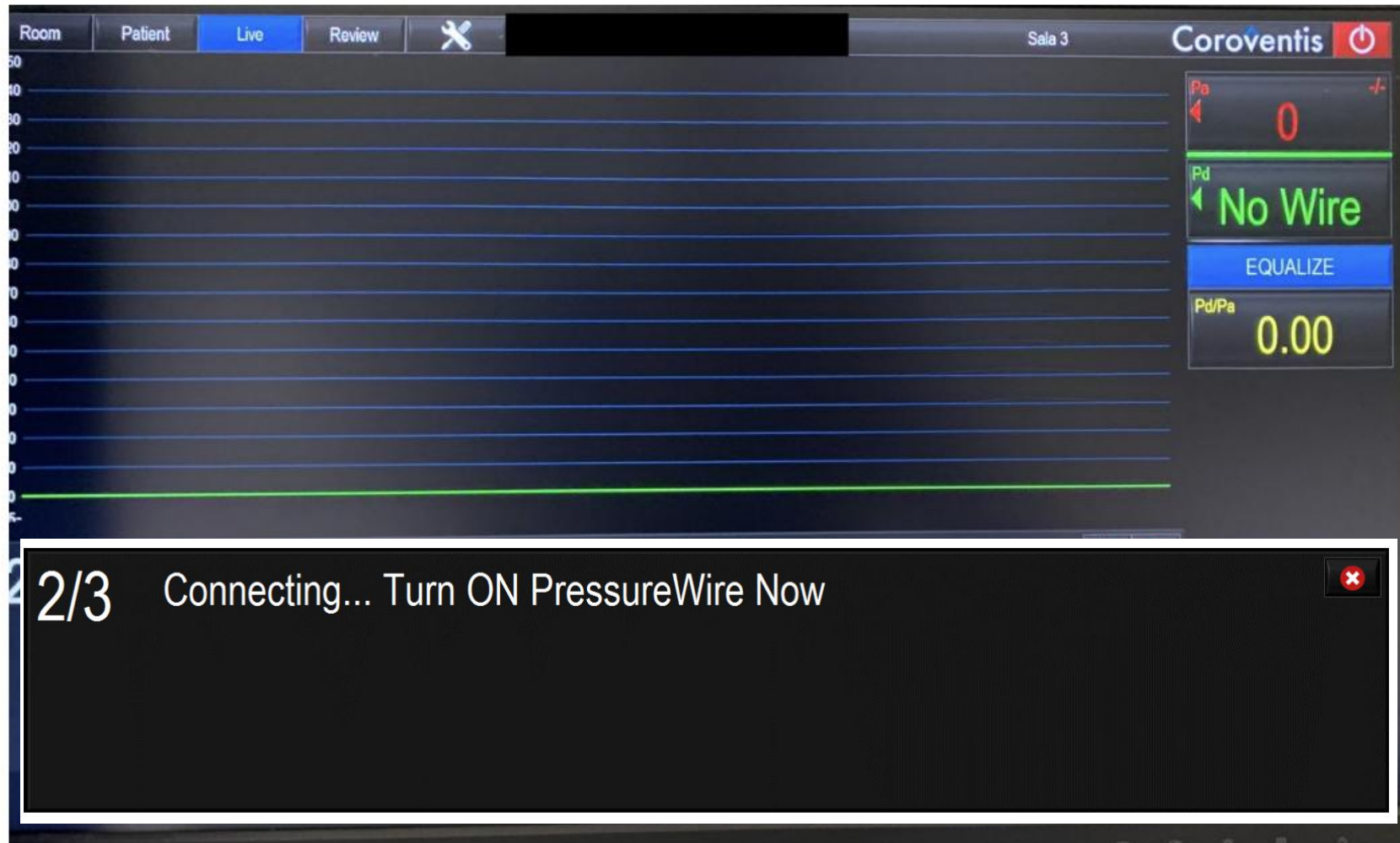
*ComboWire XT Flowwire*

# PressureWire X & Coroventis management



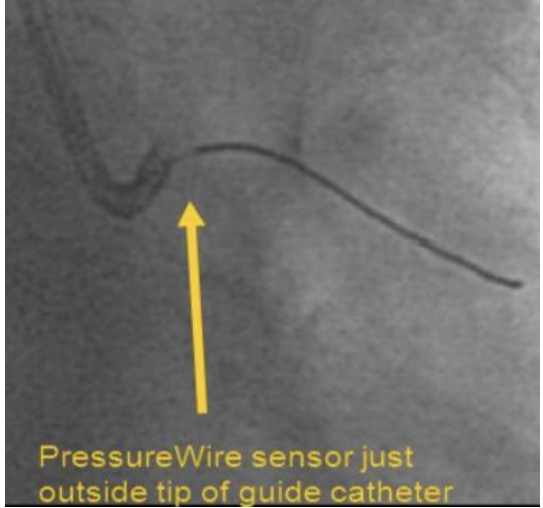
- ⌘ Flush the guide catheter
- ⌘ Zero in aortic pressure

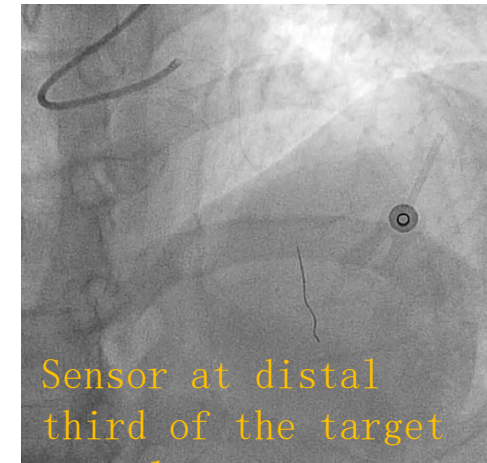
# PressureWire X & Coroventis management



- ⌘ Flush PressureWire X
- ⌘ Do not turn it on YET







- ⌘ Flush guide catheter
- ⌘ Select measure



⌘ 3 intracoronary injections of saline (3-4 ml) at room temperature.  
 → Resting mean transient time

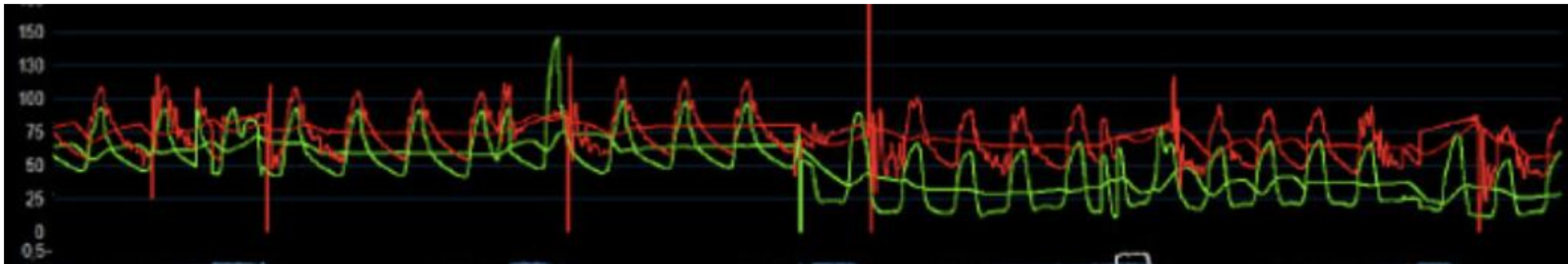
- ⌘ Ensure correct catheter cannulation
- ⌘ Most frequent alarms
- ⌘ Discordant values

Start    Inject Now    Wait...    Induce Hyperemia & Press here    Click to End and Save



⌘ Steady-state hiperemia: intravenous adenosine (140  $\mu$ g/kg/min).

⌘ Alternative: bolus of adenosine (200  $\mu$ g for LCA, 100  $\mu$ g for RCA ).



Assess hemodynamic markers of coronary hiperemia:

- 1) “Ventricularization” of the distal pressure waveform.
- 2) Disappearance of distal dicrotic pressure notch.

3) Separation of mean aortic and distal pressures

⌘ Wait until stable hyperemia is achieved.

⌘ Then, click in “Induce Hyperemia & Press here”



Induce Hyperemia & Press here



⌘ At steady-state hyperemia: 3 new injections.  
 → Hyperemic mean transient time