



# Preventing CKD: today and in future

Christoph Wanner, Würzburg and Oxford, Germany and UK



25<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Congress of Nephrology  
Athens June 19-21, 2024



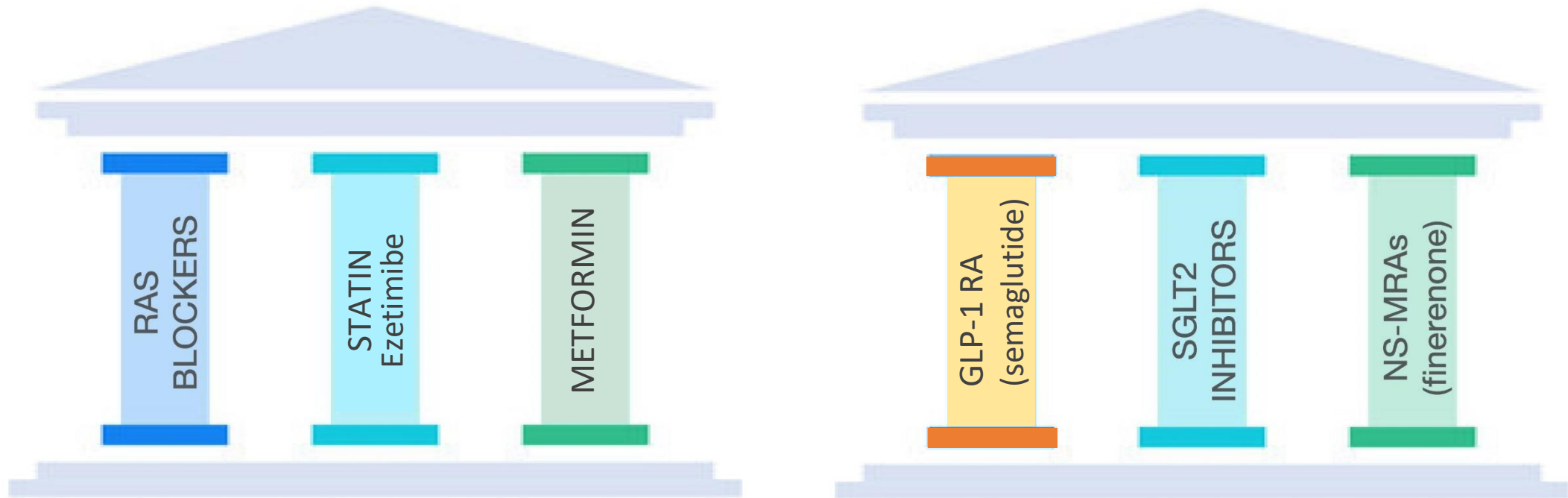
# Disclosures

Honoraria: Steering Committees, AdBoards & Lecturing

Alexion, Amgen, Astellas, AZ, Bayer, BI, CSL-Vifor, FMC, GSK, Lilly, MSD, Novartis, NovoNordisk, Sanofi

# A 3 Pillar Approach

- Organ Protective Therapies -



# Semaglutide and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Obesity without Diabetes

A. Michael Lincoff, M.D., Kirstine Brown-Frandsen, M.D., Helen M. Colhoun, M.D., John Deanfield, M.D., Scott S. Emerson, M.D., Ph.D., Sille Esbjerg, M.Sc., Søren Hardt-Lindberg, M.D., Ph.D., G. Kees Hovingh, M.D., Ph.D., Steven E. Kahn, M.B., Ch.B., Robert F. Kushner, M.D., Ildiko Lingvay, M.D., M.P.H., Tugce K. Oral, M.D., Marie M. Michelsen, M.D., Ph.D., Jorge Plutzky, M.D., Christoffer W. Tornøe, Ph.D., and Donna H. Ryan, M.D.,  
for the SELECT Trial Investigators\*

Nephropathy composite end point <sup>‡‡</sup>	155 (1.8)	198 (2.2)	0.78 (0.63 to 0.96)	NA
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<sup>‡‡</sup> The nephropathy end point was a five-component composite of death from renal causes, initiation of long-term renal replacement therapy (dialysis or transplantation), onset of a persistent eGFR lower than 15 ml per minute per 1.73 m<sup>2</sup>, persistent 50% reduction in eGFR relative to baseline, or onset of persistent macroalbuminuria (urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio, >300 mg per gram).



Global Science. Local Change.

**KDIGO Controversies Conference on  
Maintaining Kidney Health and Preventing CKD**

**November 30 – December 3, 2023**

**Rome, Italy**



# Maintaining or Restoring Kidney Health

## Albuminuria

<i>KDIGO CKD-Guideline Kidney Int Suppl. 2013;3:1-150</i>				Albuminuria stages, description and range (mg/g)		
				A1	A2	A3
				Normal to mildly increased	Moderately increased	Severely increased
				<30	30–300	>300
GFR categories, description and range (ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> )	G1	Normal or high	≥90	Green	Yellow	Orange
	G2	Mild decrease	60–89	Green	Yellow	Orange
	G3a	Mild–moderate decrease	45–59	Yellow	Orange	Red
	G3b	Moderate–severe decrease	30–44	Orange	Red	Red
	G4	Severe decrease	15–29	Red	Red	Red
	G5	Kidney failure	<15	Red	Red	Red

**GFR**

JAMA 2023;330:  
1266-1277



# 3 categories that define early risk for CKD

## A) Metabolic diseases

1. T1D/T2D, SLD (steatotic liver disease), morbid obesity (in aging and aged societies)
2. Prediabetes, gestational diabetes
3. Adverse intrauterine child conditions (metabolic imprinting, epigenetic factors)
4. Gout & arthritis

## B) Familial, in-extrinsic, multifactorial

1. CKD in families (a high genetic risk score), Gestational age - preterm - low birth weight
2. High BP, preeclampsia, CAKUT, unilateral nephrectomy and albuminuria
3. Ethnic minorities

## C) Environmental

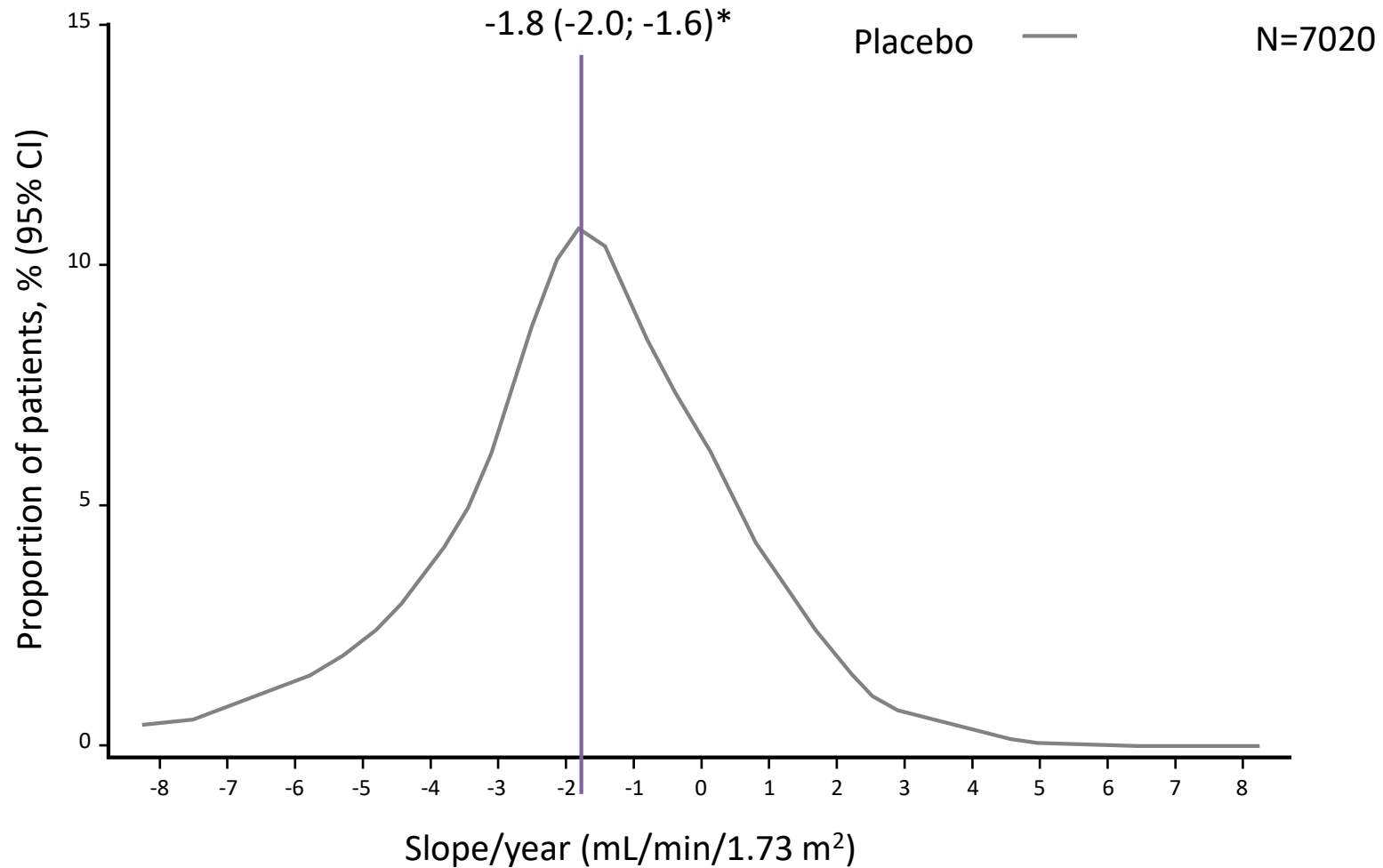
1. Toxins (air pollution), NSAIDs, chemotherapy
2. ICU risks, AKI
3. Young rural males in central America

Discussed by



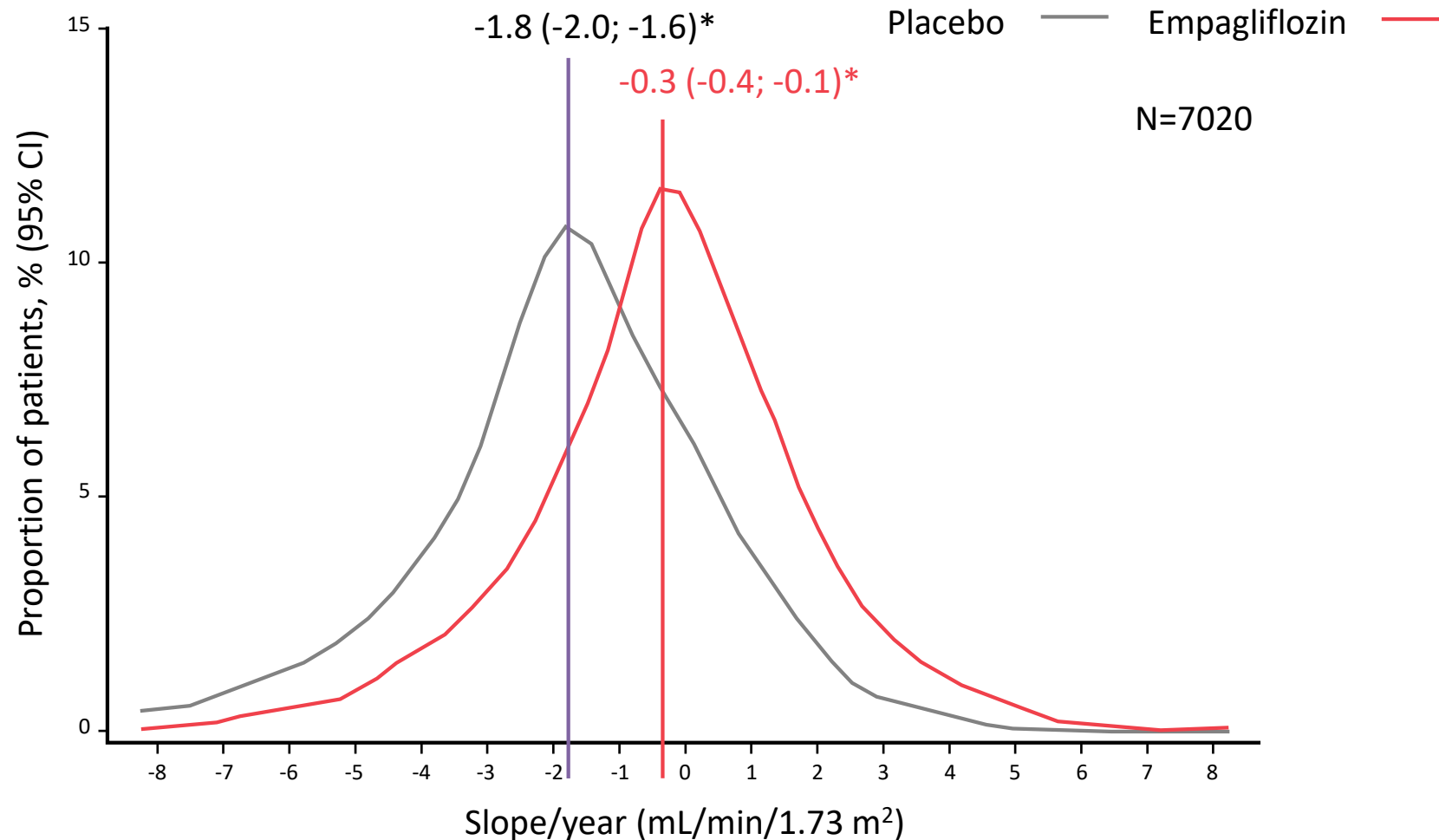
In a controversy conference  
on early prevention, Rome,  
Dec 3-5, 2023

# EMPAREG-OUTCOME: Distribution of individual eGFR slopes in the total cohort (baseline to follow-up)



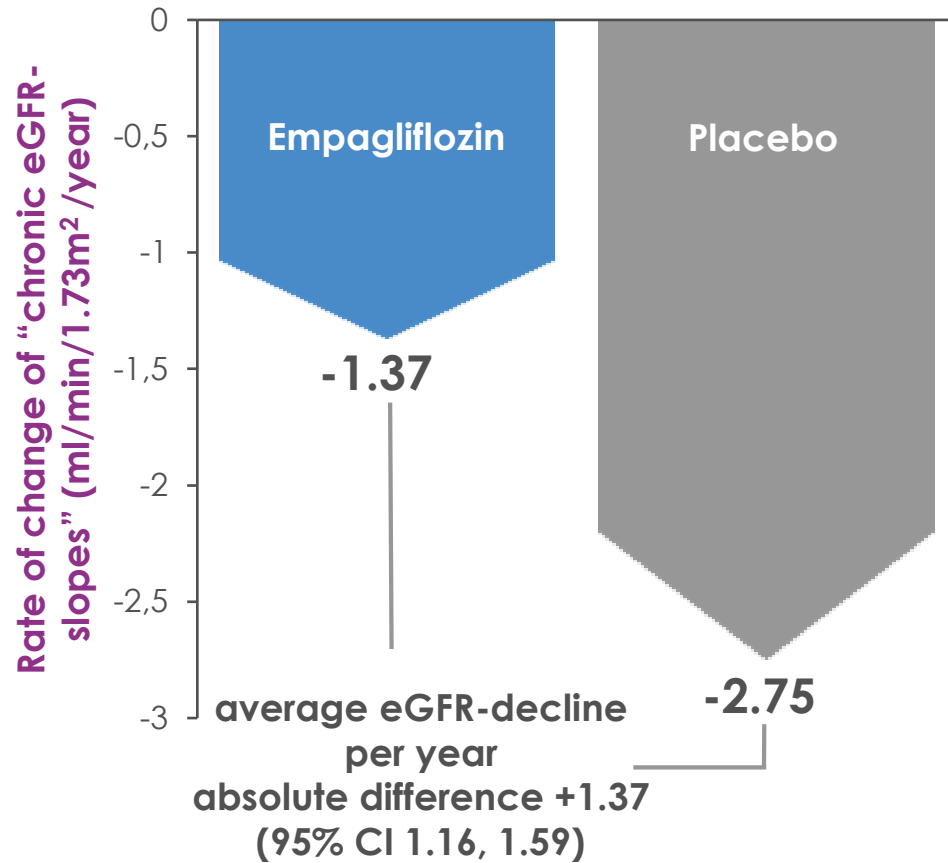
\*Adjusted mean (95% CI).

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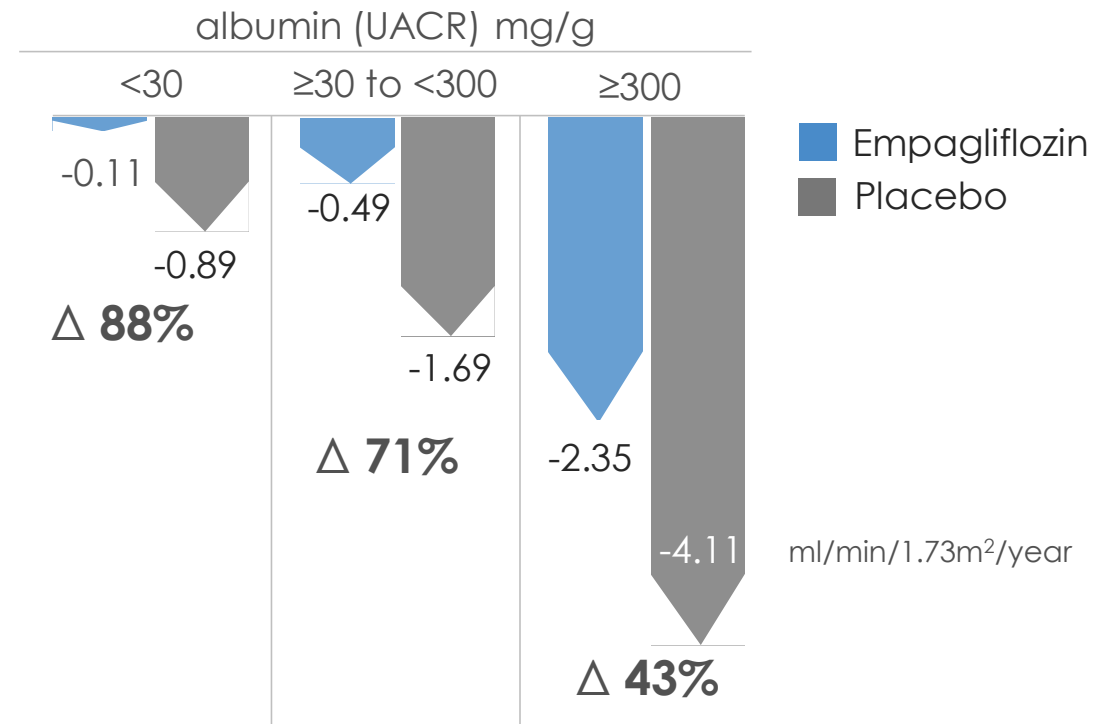


\*Adjusted mean (95% CI).

# EMPA-KIDNEY: loss of kidney function in relation to albuminuria



Compared to Placebo Empagliflozin reduces the decline in eGFR (ml per year) with and without albuminuria<sup>+</sup>



**Do we need an implementation trial ?**

Science is global - Implementation is local

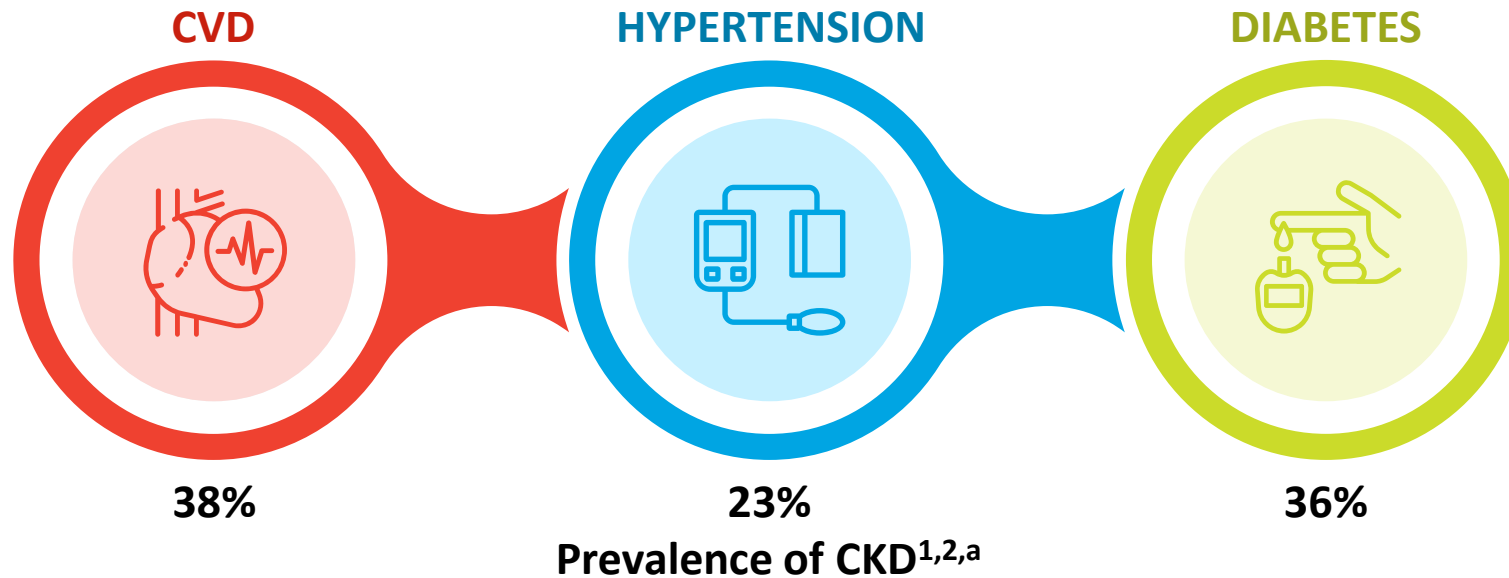
We need more trials ?

The lack of diagnosis (missing screenings)

„Before the treatment there is a diagnosis“

Adherence - Compliance

# Even in these patients, rates of **undiagnosed** CKD are as high as **95%** <sup>3-5,b</sup>



**KDIGO defines patients at high risk for CKD as those with:**

**SCREENING IS RECOMMENDED IN THESE PATIENTS<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>a</sup>Based on data from USA 2015-2018; <sup>b</sup>Based on CKD Stage 3 diagnosis rate data from German, France, Japan and US cohorts included in REVEAL-CKD study. 1. ISN. CKD Early Identification & Intervention Toolkit. Available at: [https://www.theisn.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ISN\\_KDIGO\\_EarlyScreeningBooklet\\_WEB\\_updatedOct11.pdf](https://www.theisn.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ISN_KDIGO_EarlyScreeningBooklet_WEB_updatedOct11.pdf) (Accessed April 2023); 2. USRDS. 2021 Annual Data Report. Available at: <https://usrds-adr.niddk.nih.gov/2021> (Accessed April 2023); 3. Schneider MP, et al. Presented at WCN, March 24-27, 2022. Virtual and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; 4. Sultan AA, et al. Presented at ADA, June 25-29, 2021. Virtual ; 5. Virgitti JB, et al. Presented at ASN, November 4-7, 2021. Virtual

# Why A and E

KDIGO CKD-Guideline; *Kidney Int Suppl.* 2013;3:1-150

## Albuminuria

**eGFR**

				Albuminuria stages, description and range (mg/g)		
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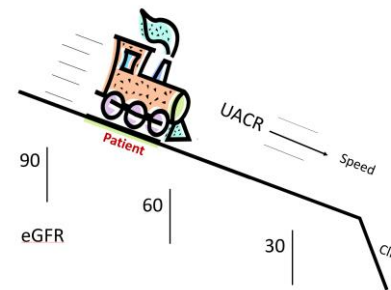
# General Practitioners do not measure UACR

A task for specialists to collaborate with GPs?

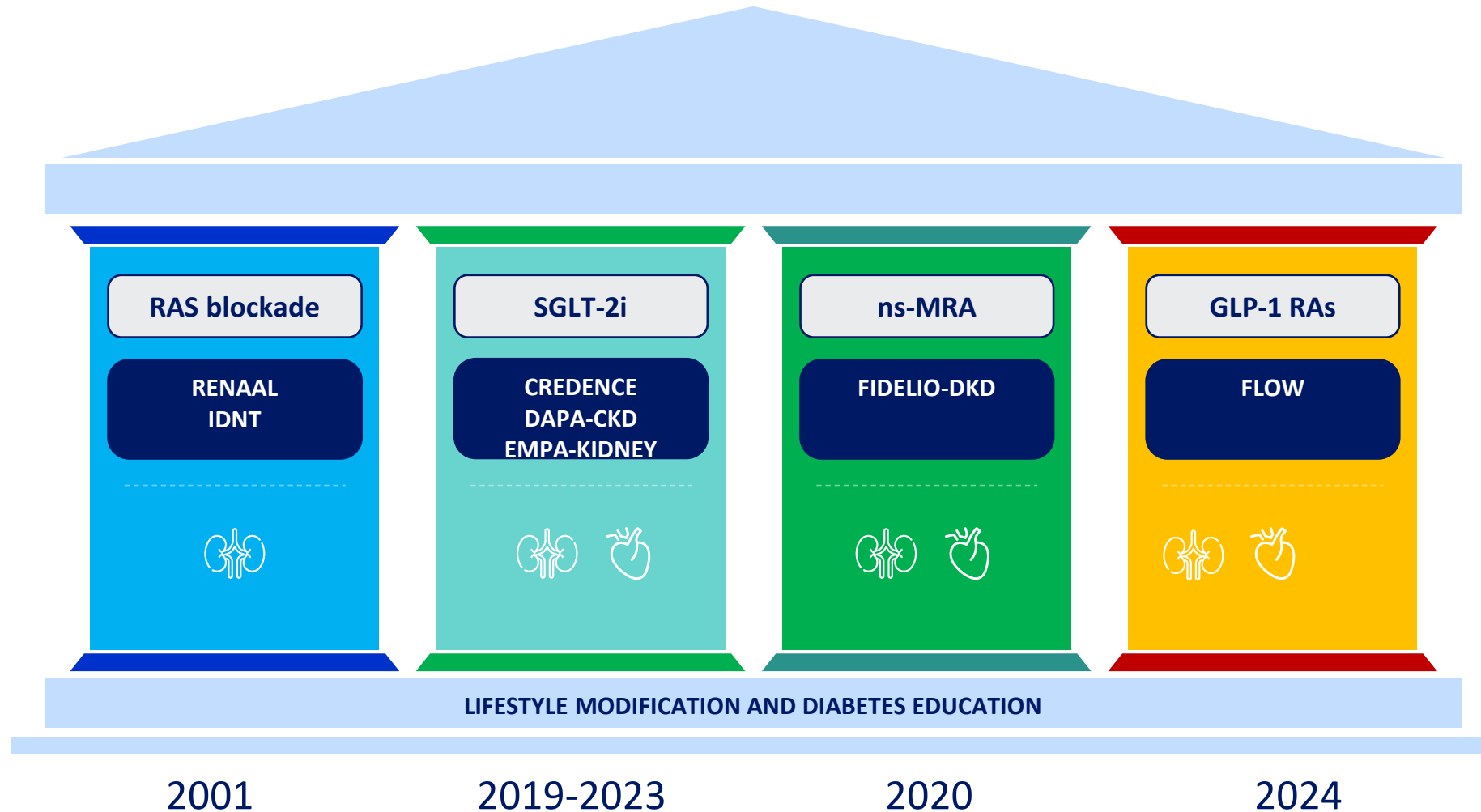
**Please answer the following W's for UACR**

When do I sample ?  
Where to send and how ?  
What does it cost ?  
Who is paying ?  
What does it mean (mg/g) ?

Morning spot urine  
Central lab, together with blood  
3 Euro 40 Cent (Germany)  
Insurance (different among countries)



# The 4 Foundational Therapies – The 4 Pillar Approach

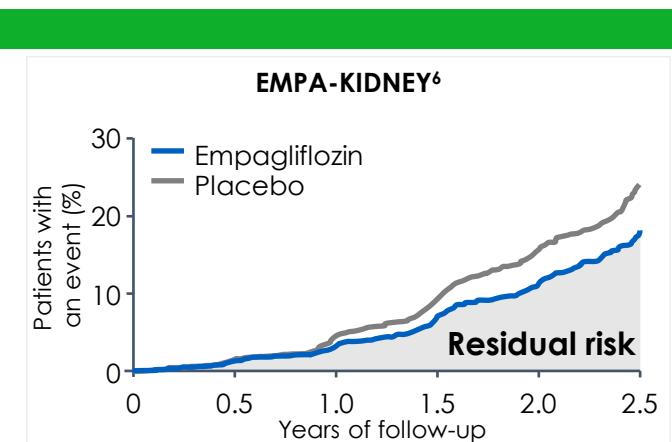
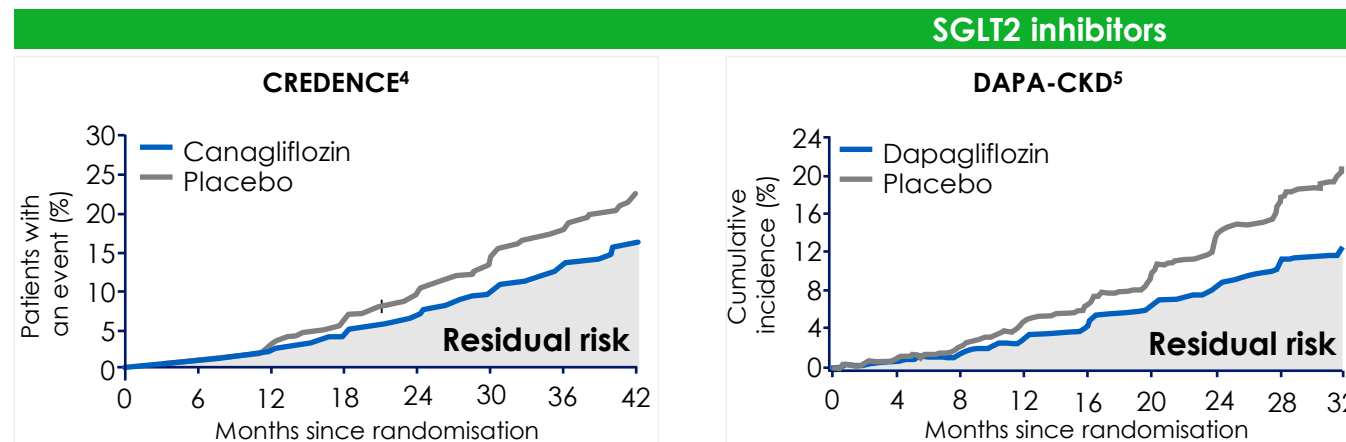
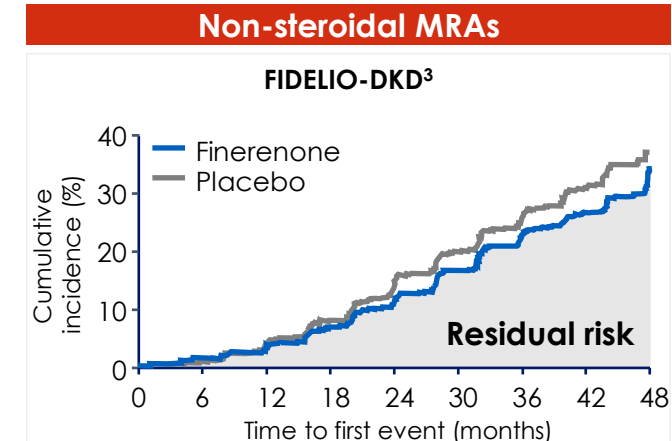
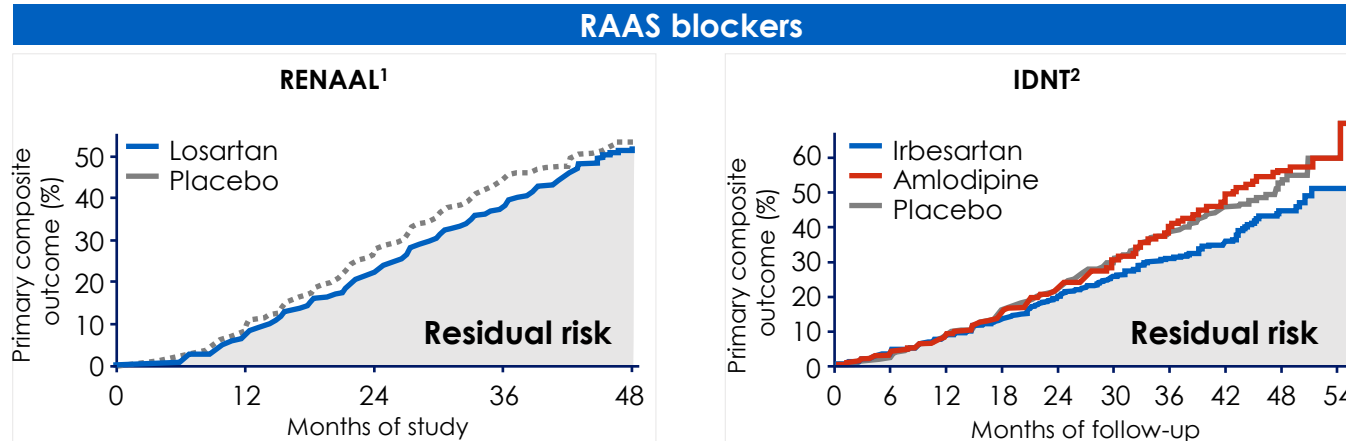


## How to optimally implement ..... ?

- **Why do we need** all 4 treatments ?
- **A good sequence:** RASi - SGLT2i - nsMRA ?
- **Add GLP1-RA at any time** – preference by specialists, by ‘consensus’ !
- **All-in** - in 3 months – Do we hesitate because we think we may cause harm ?
- **Adherence/Compliance:** the polypill for baseline therapy – standard of care (RASi, CCBs, statin – or RASi, HCTZ, CCBs)

To overcome barriers to combine all current kidney protective therapies

# Residual risk despite available treatment options



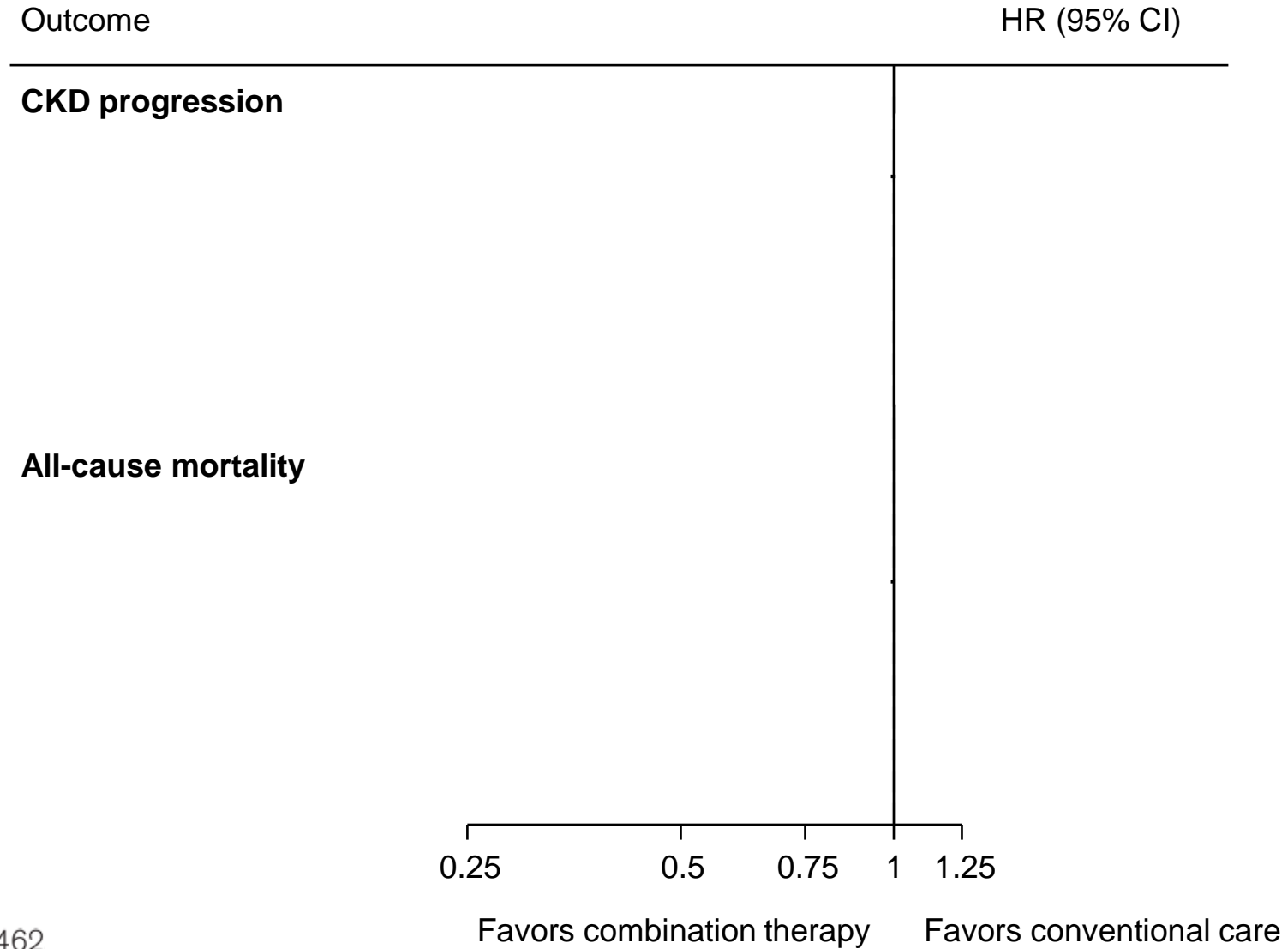
1. Brenner BM et al. *NEJM* 2001;345:861-69; 2. Lewis EJ et al. *NEJM* 2001;345:851-60; 3. Bakris GL et al. *NEJM* 2020;383:2219-29; 4. Perkovic V et al. *NEJM* 2019;380:2295-306; 5. Heerspink HJL et al. *NEJM* 2020;383:1436-46; 6. The EMPA-KIDNEY Collaborative Group. *NEJM* 2023;388:117-27

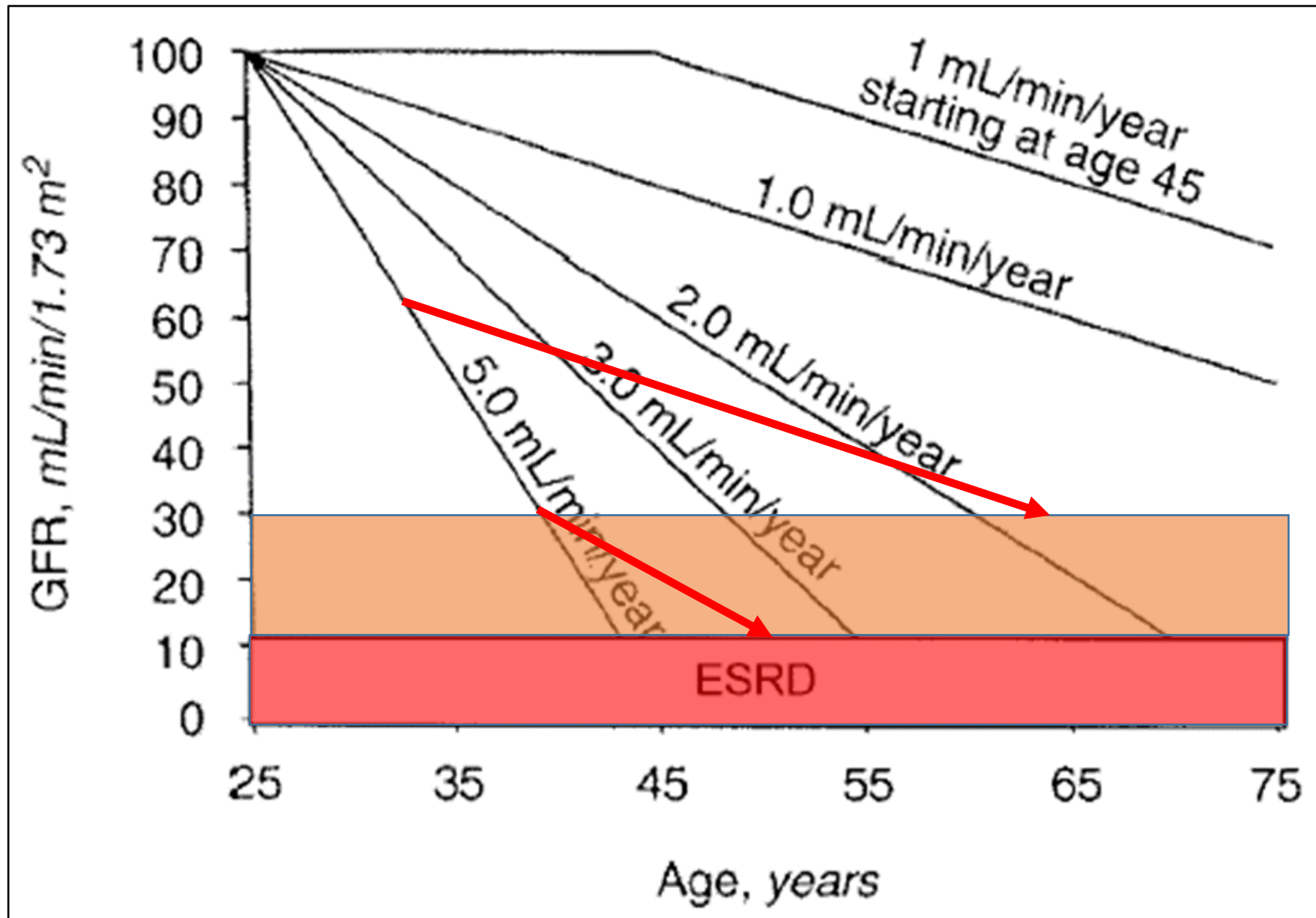


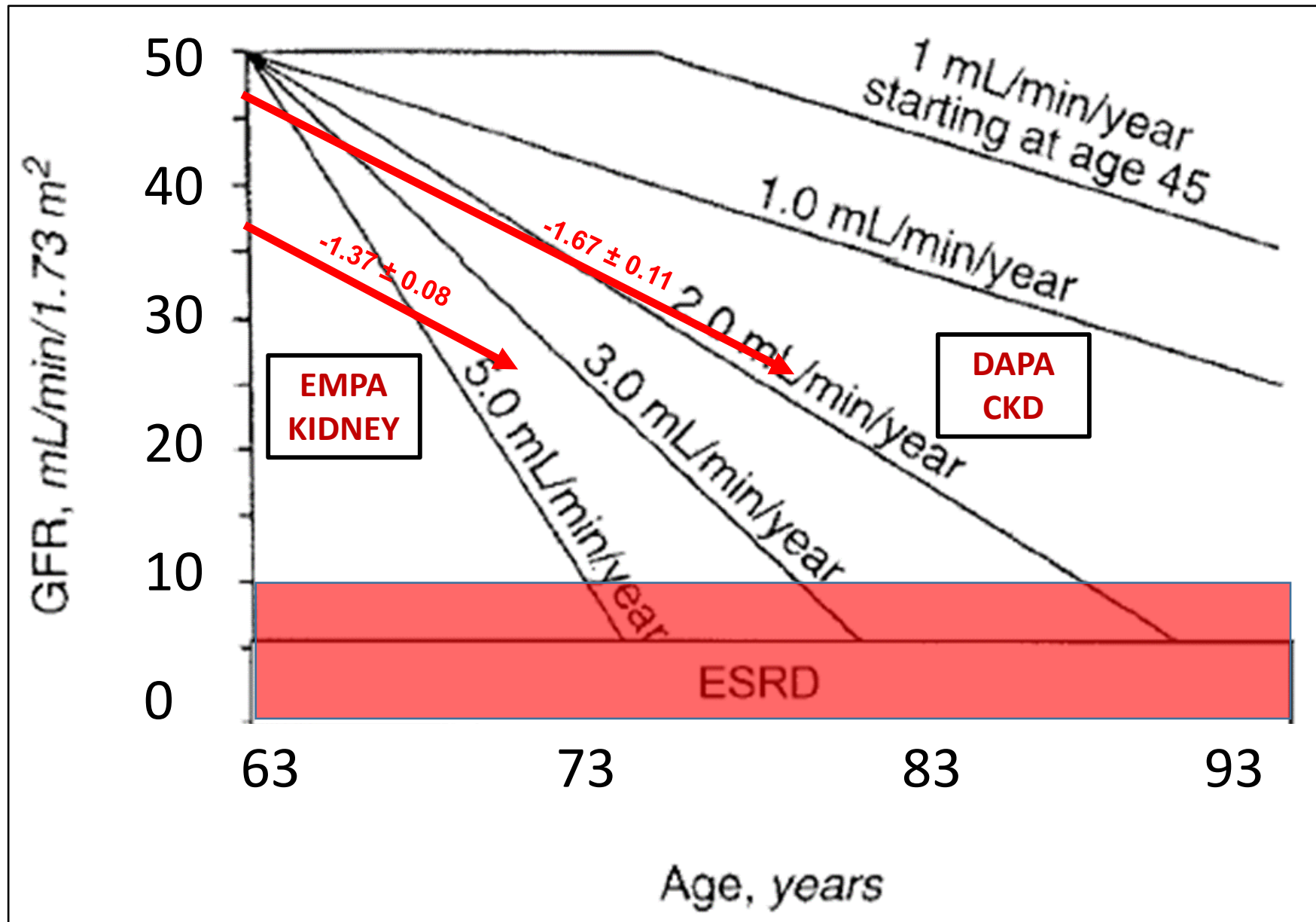
# Estimated Lifetime Cardiovascular, Kidney, and Mortality Benefits of Combination Treatment With SGLT2 Inhibitors, GLP-1 Receptor Agonists, and Nonsteroidal MRA Compared With Conventional Care in Patients With Type 2 Diabetes and Albuminuria

Brendon L. Neuen<sup>1</sup>, MBBS, MSc, PhD; Hiddo J.L. Heerspink<sup>2</sup>, PhD; Priya Vart, PhD; Brian L. Claggett<sup>3</sup>, PhD; Robert A. Fletcher<sup>4</sup>, MSc; Clare Arnott<sup>5</sup>, MBBS, PhD; Julianna de Oliveira Costa<sup>6</sup>, PhD; Michael O. Falster<sup>7</sup>, PhD; Sallie-Anne Pearson<sup>8</sup>, PhD; Kenneth W. Mahaffey<sup>9</sup>, MD; Bruce Neal<sup>10</sup>, MB ChB, PhD; Rajiv Agarwal<sup>11</sup>, MD; George Bakris<sup>12</sup>, MD; Vlado Perkovic<sup>13</sup>, MBBS, PhD; Scott D. Solomon<sup>14</sup>, MD; Muthiah Vaduganathan<sup>15</sup>, MD, MPH

# Effects of combination therapy on CKD progression and all-cause mortality







## **Intermediate summary:** to overcome barriers to combine all kidney protective therapies

- **We need** all 4 treatments
- **Any sequence** is good, as long as implemented. Dont lose time
- **Add GLP1-RA at any time**
- **All-in** appears to be a good concept
- **Ask the GP** and the patient may never need a nephrologist

**Do we need more trials ?**

Dissemination is easy

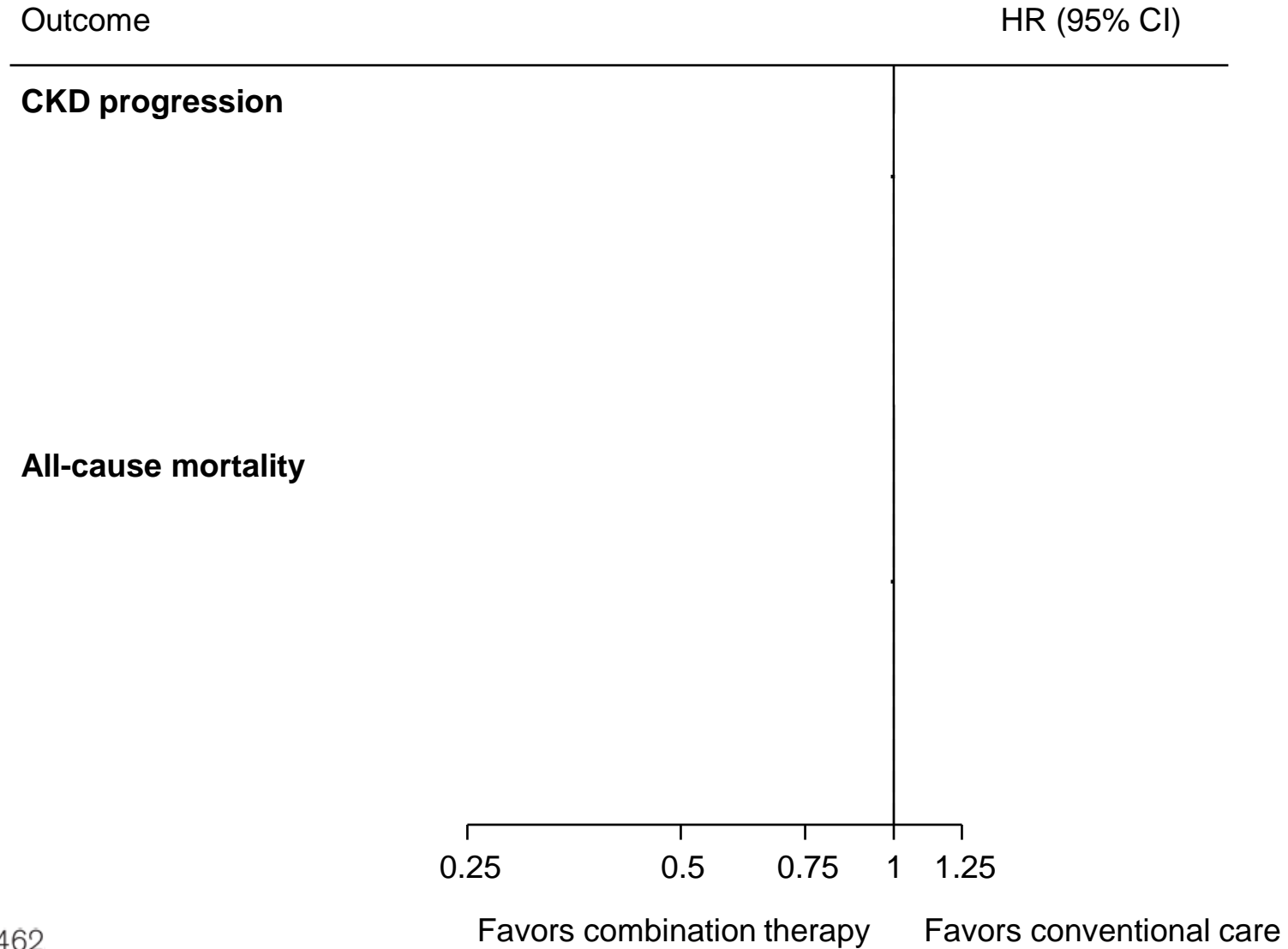
**Do we need an implementation trial ?**



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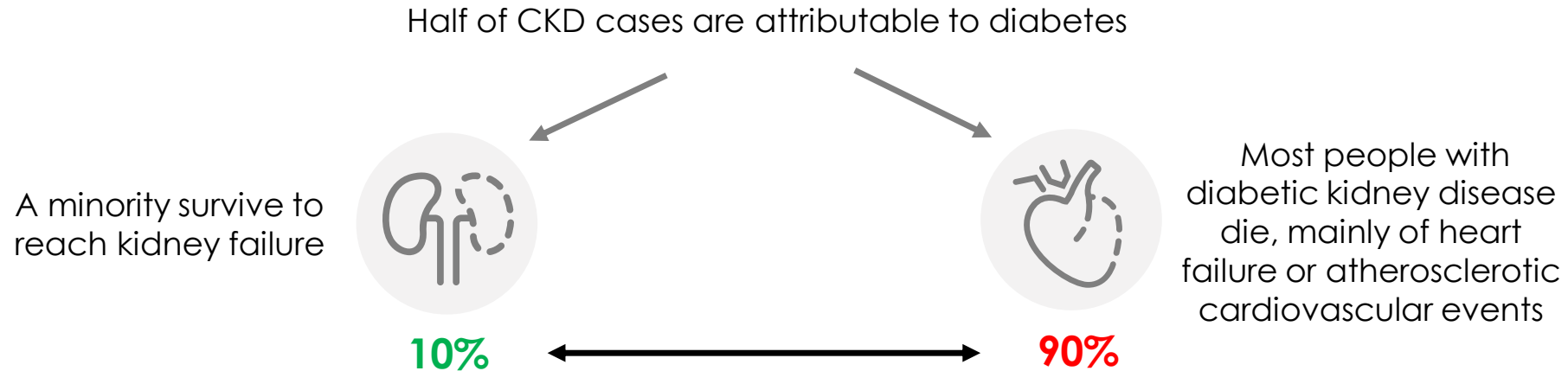
# Effects of combination therapy on CKD progression and all-cause mortality



To overcome barriers on

optimally combine all current  
renoprotective treatments?

# What problem are we trying to solve?



**FLOW Authors:** “Clinicians and patients will need to consider the order and priority of use for semaglutide” .... “the benefits for these outcomes shown in the FLOW trial provide a rationale to consider the use of semaglutide as part of initial therapeutic options in this patient population”

**Prioritization-Opinion:** SLT2i for kidney outcomes and HF, Finerenone for both, kidney and CV outcomes, Semaglutide for CV outcomes ?

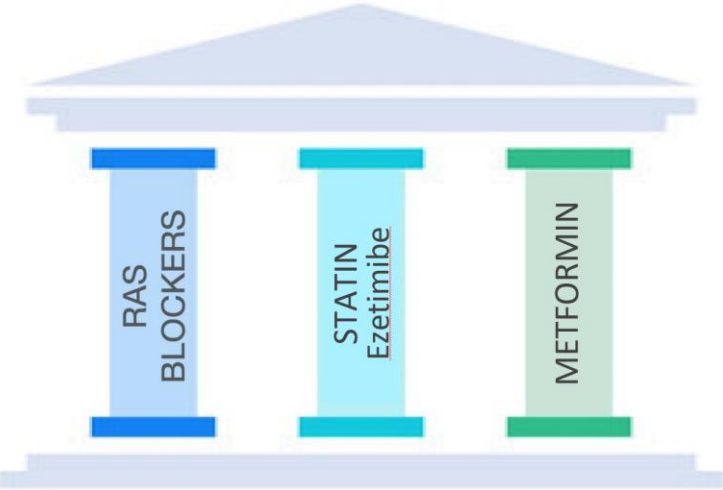
# Death from any Cause: Event rates in Placebo treated patients in Landmark trials

		no. of patients with event per 1000 patient-yr	Age yr	
EMPA-REG OUTCOME		28.6	63.2	
	(2015)			
CREDENCE	(2019)	35.0	62.2	
DAPA-CKD	(2020)	31.0	61.9	
FIDELIO-DKD	(2021)	32.3	65.7	
EMPA KIDNEY	(2023)	25.8	63.8	
FLOW	(2024)	48.4	66.6	>95% ACEi/ARB >80% 'statin' >15% SGLT2i

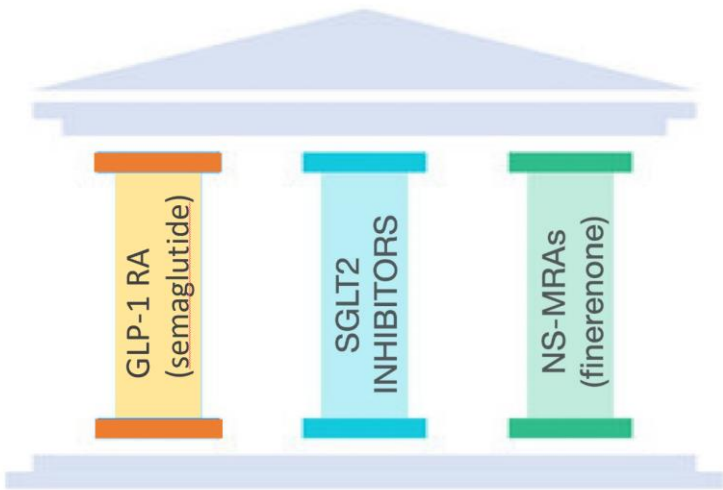
Semaglutide reduced mortality in the FLOW trial

# Current and future treatment with an one size fits all approach

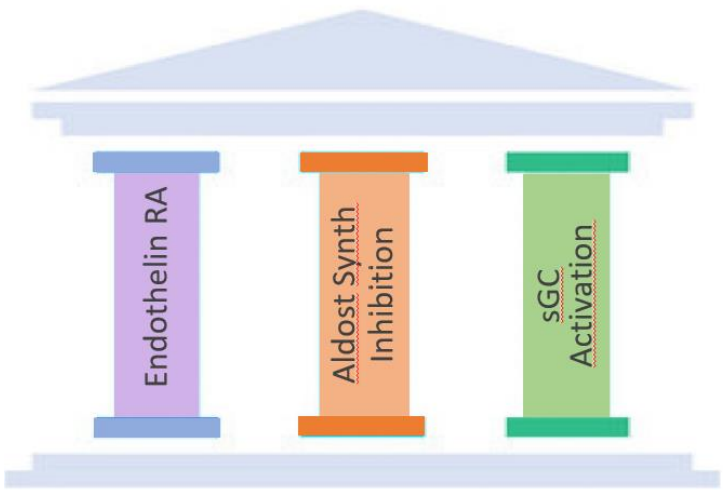
Basic Standard-of-Care



Current Organ Protective Treatments



Future Potential Additions



Lifestyle, Nutrition (salt), Blood pressure, Glycemic control



1. de Boer IH, et al. *Diabetes Care* 2022;doi:10.2337/dci22-0027; 2. Blazek O & Bakris G. *AHJO Plus: Cardiology Research and Practice* 19 (2022) 100187



Thank You!

