

# Managing special patients with comorbidities



Giovanni Guaraldi  
Università di Modena



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DI MODENA E REGGIO EMILIA

# Menu

- Integration of comorbidities in a total patient care approach
- Polypharmacy

# Mr. A: HIV infection detected at an older age (2012)

53 yrs  
Heterosexual  
Live with family and nephews

HIV diagnosis: 2012  
CDC group A  
CD4 nadir 320/microL  
HIV-1 wild type  
HIV VL=46000 c/mL

## Antropometry

BMI=25.2  
Waist=102 cm  
Leg fat%=27%  
VAT=256cc

## Life style

Sedentary  
Non smoker  
(pack year=58)

## Co-morbidities

- ✓ HTN
- ✓ MS
- ✓ Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)

## Rx

Lisinopril  
Tamsulosin

NEAT Trial  
Randomised in  
TDF/FTC+DRV/r

# Aging with HIV: Emerging importance of chronic comorbidities in patients over 75

N(%)	Elderly [50-75[ n=12748	Geriatric ≥75 n=430	P. value
<b>Diabetes</b>	1195 (9.4)	96 (22.3)	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<b>Hypertension</b>	2685 (21.1)	182 (42.3)	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<b>Hyperlipidemia</b>	2700 (21.2)	120 (27.9)	<b>0.001</b>
<b>Cardio-vascular disease</b>	1081 (8.5)	89 (20.7)	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<b>Stroke</b>	319 (2.5)	27 (6.3)	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<b>Osteoporosis</b>	626 (4.9)	36 (8.4)	<b>0.002</b>
<b>Neoplasia</b>	1526 (12)	97 (22.6)	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<b>Renal failure*</b>	594 (4.7)	60 (14)	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<b>Depression</b>	2114 (16.6)	65 (15.1)	<b>NS</b>
<b>Liver fibrosis</b>	620 (4.9)	10 (2.3)	<b>0.021</b>
<b>Number of AANC</b>			<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
- 0-1	9058 (71.1)	197 (45.8)	
- 2-3	3147 (24.7)	173 (40.2)	
- ≥4	543 (4.3)	60 (14)	

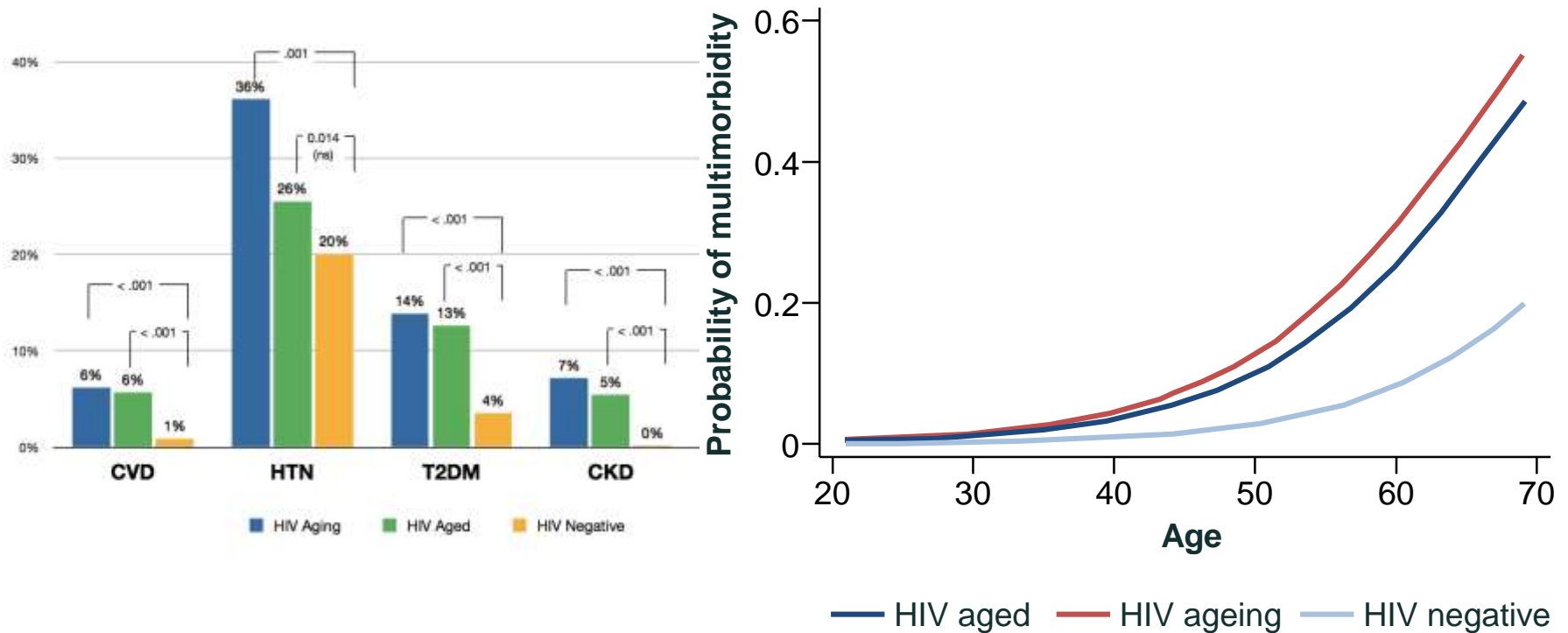
\*eGFR <60 ml/mn/1,73m<sup>2</sup>

Allavena ,C et al CROI 2016 Feb 22-24 Boston

**Table 4 Antiretroviral history and current ART regimen**

	<b>Elderly [50-75[ N=12 748</b>	<b>Geriatric ≥75 N=430</b>	<b>P. value</b>
<b>Age at ART initiation, median [IQR]</b>	44.1 [37.5-50.7]	64.5 [60-70]	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<b>Age at ART initiation by strata, n (%)</b>			<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<50 year-old	9024 (72.6)	0 (0)	
[50-75[ year-old	3409 (27.4)	370 (88.1)	
≥75 year-old	0 (0)	50 (11.9)	
<b>ART Status at last visit, n (%)</b>			<b>NS</b>
ART interruption	124 (1)	3 (0.7)	
on ART	12309 (96.6)	417 (97)	
ART-naïve	315 (2.5)	10 (2.3)	
<b>Number of ART regimen, median [IQR]</b>	5 [3-9]	6 [3-10]	<b>0.016</b>
<b>ART at last visit, n (%)</b>			<b>0.015</b>
2 NRTIs + INSTI	1234 (9.7)	43 (10)	
2 NRTIs + PI	280 (2.2)	15 (3.5)	
2 NRTIs + bPI	3311 (26)	95 (22.1)	
2 NRTIs + NNRTI	4182 (32.8)	126 (29.3)	
3 NRTIs	140 (1.1)	10 (2.3)	
NRTI-sparing bPI-based regimen	2024 (15.9)	75 (17.4)	
NRTI and bPI-sparing regimen	1262 (9.9)	56 (13)	
<b>Number of ARV, n (%)</b>			<b>NS</b>
1 or 2 ARVs	1355 (11.0)	60 (14)	
3 ARVs	10101 (82.6)	333 (77.6)	
≥ 4 ARVs	962 (7.8)	26 (6.1)	

# Aging vs aged patients: Prevalence and probability for multimorbidities increases with HIV duration



At any age, long-term infected people (ageing patients) had a 5-fold accentuated risk of multimorbidity than HIV-negative controls, while more recently infected people (aged patients) had an intermediate risk compared with the control group

# Mr. A (2016)

57 yrs

CD4=770/microL

HIV VL<40 c/mL

TC=165 mg/dL

LDL=91 mg/dL

TG=213 mg/dL

Crea=1.4 mg/dL

Lumbar t-score=-2.3

GGT=60 mg/mL

TDF/FTC+DRV/r

ASCVD=10.5%

CKD-epi=55.4 mg/dL

## Antropometry

BMI=31

Waist=122 cm

VAT=286cc

## Life style

Sedentary

Non smoker

(pack year=58)

## Co-morbidities

✓ T2DM

✓ HTN

✓ MS

✓ Benign prostatic  
hyperplasia (BPH)

## Polifarmacy

ASA 100

Pravastatin

Metformin

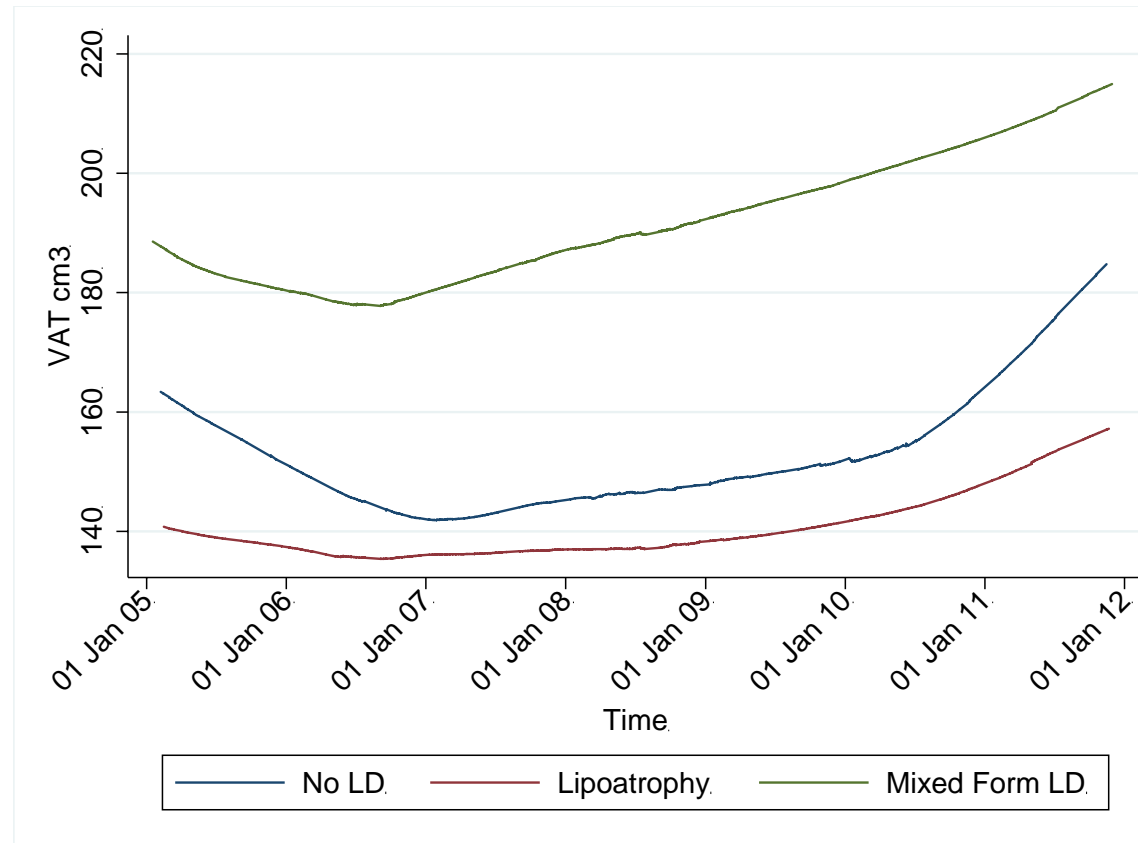
Lisinopril

Vit D

Finasteride

Sertraline

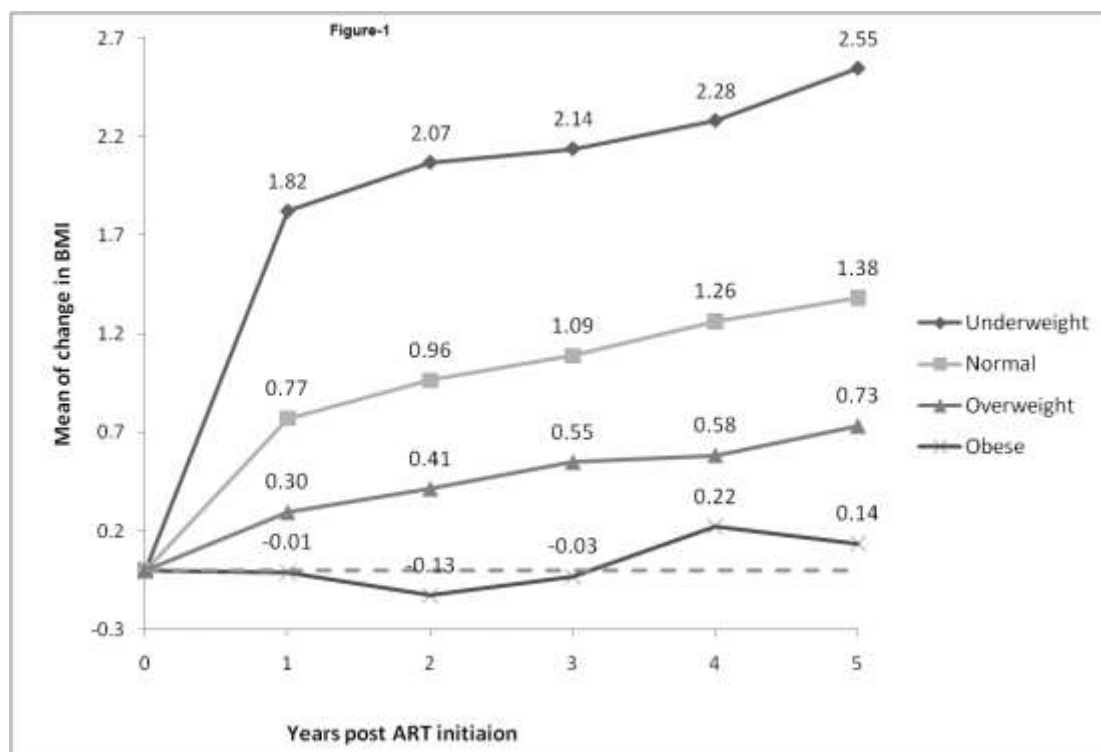
# Aging Phenotype vs Lipohypertrophy



Guaraldi G, HIV Medicine. 2014

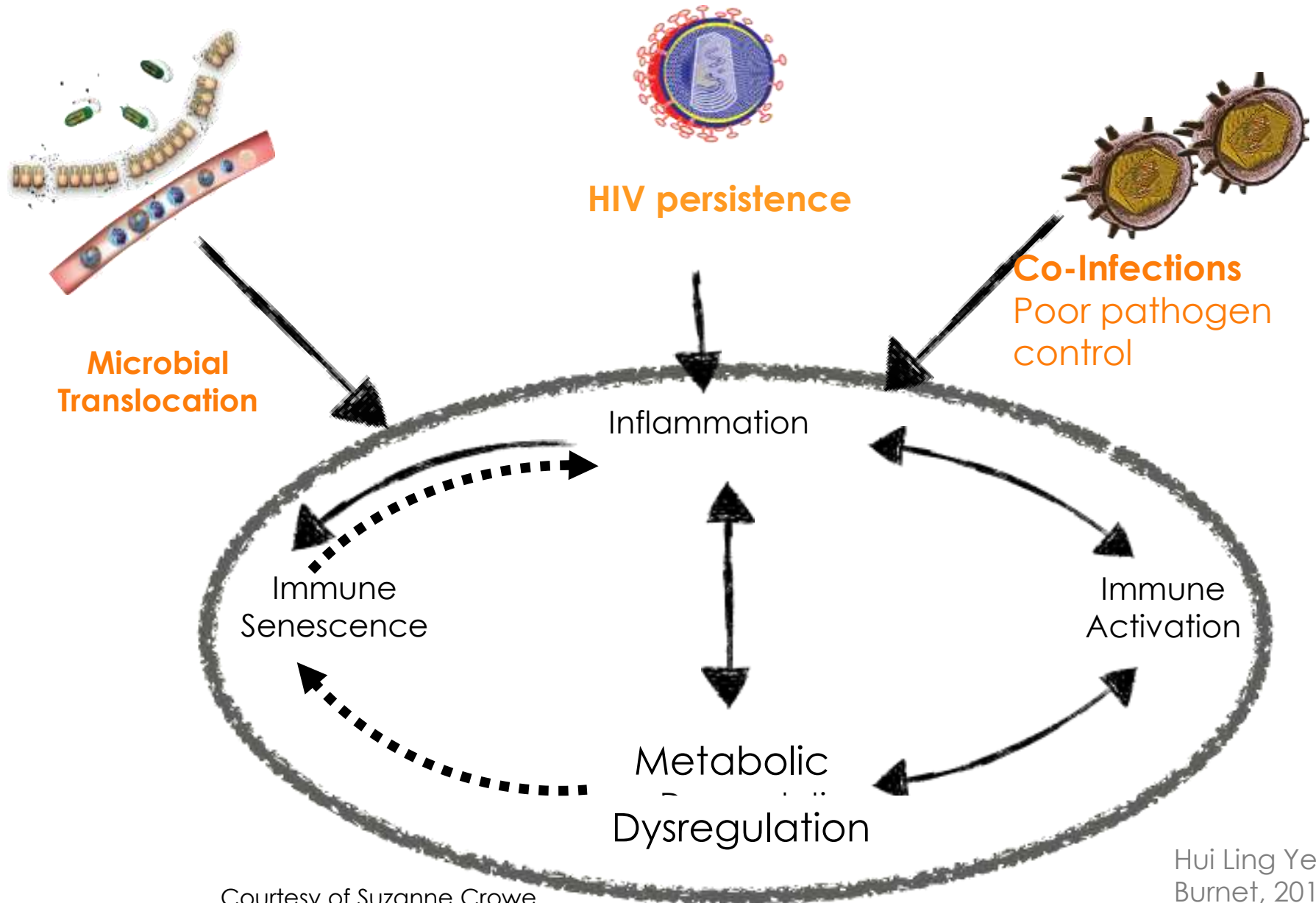


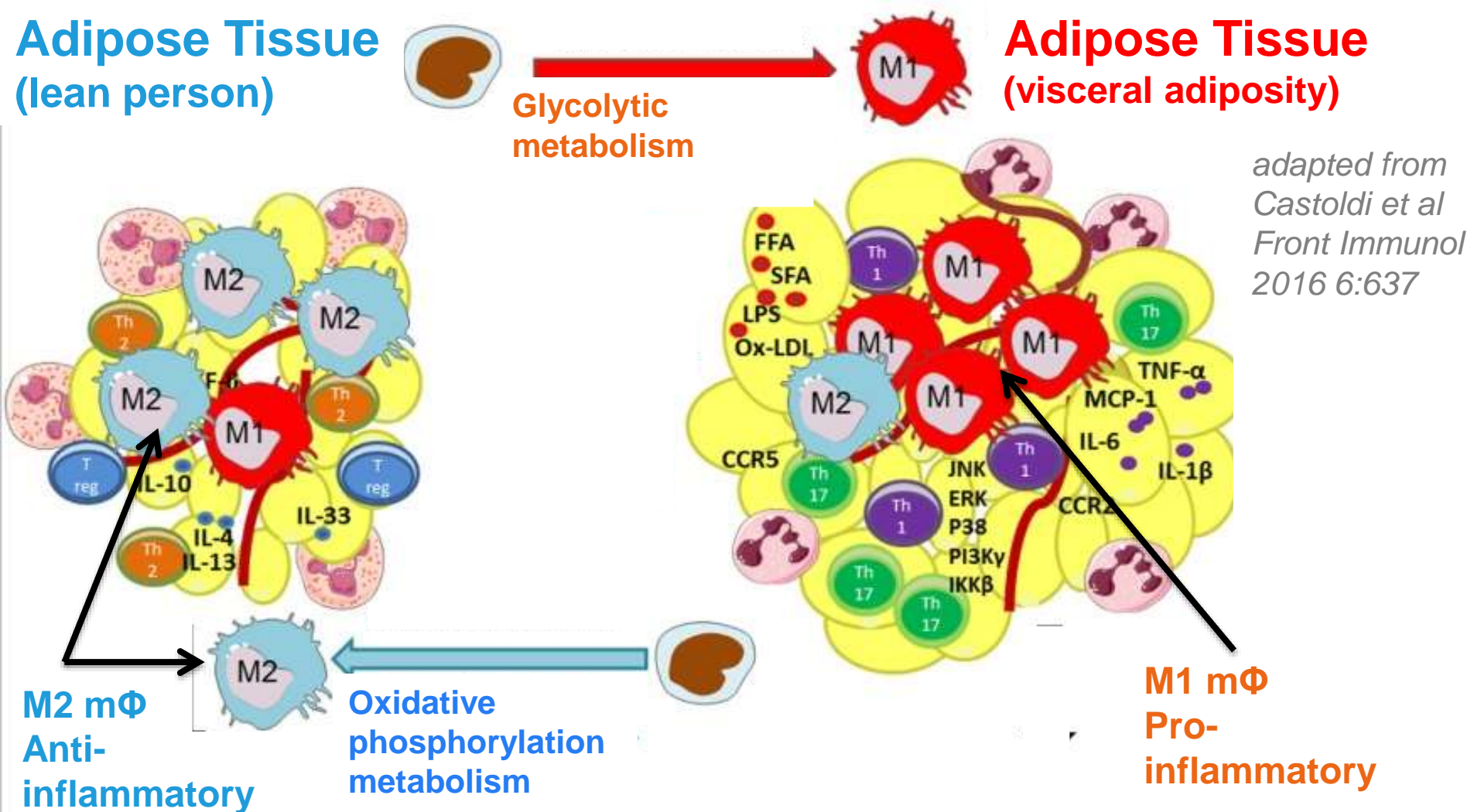
# Short-term weight gain after antiretroviral therapy initiation and subsequent risk of cardiovascular disease and diabetes: the D:A:D study.



Short-term gain in BMI following ART initiation appears to increase the longer term risk of CVD, but only in those with pre-ART BMI in the normal range. It was also associated with increased risk of diabetes regardless of pre-ART BMI.

# Microbial translocation, HIV persistence and coinfections cause persistent innate immune activation





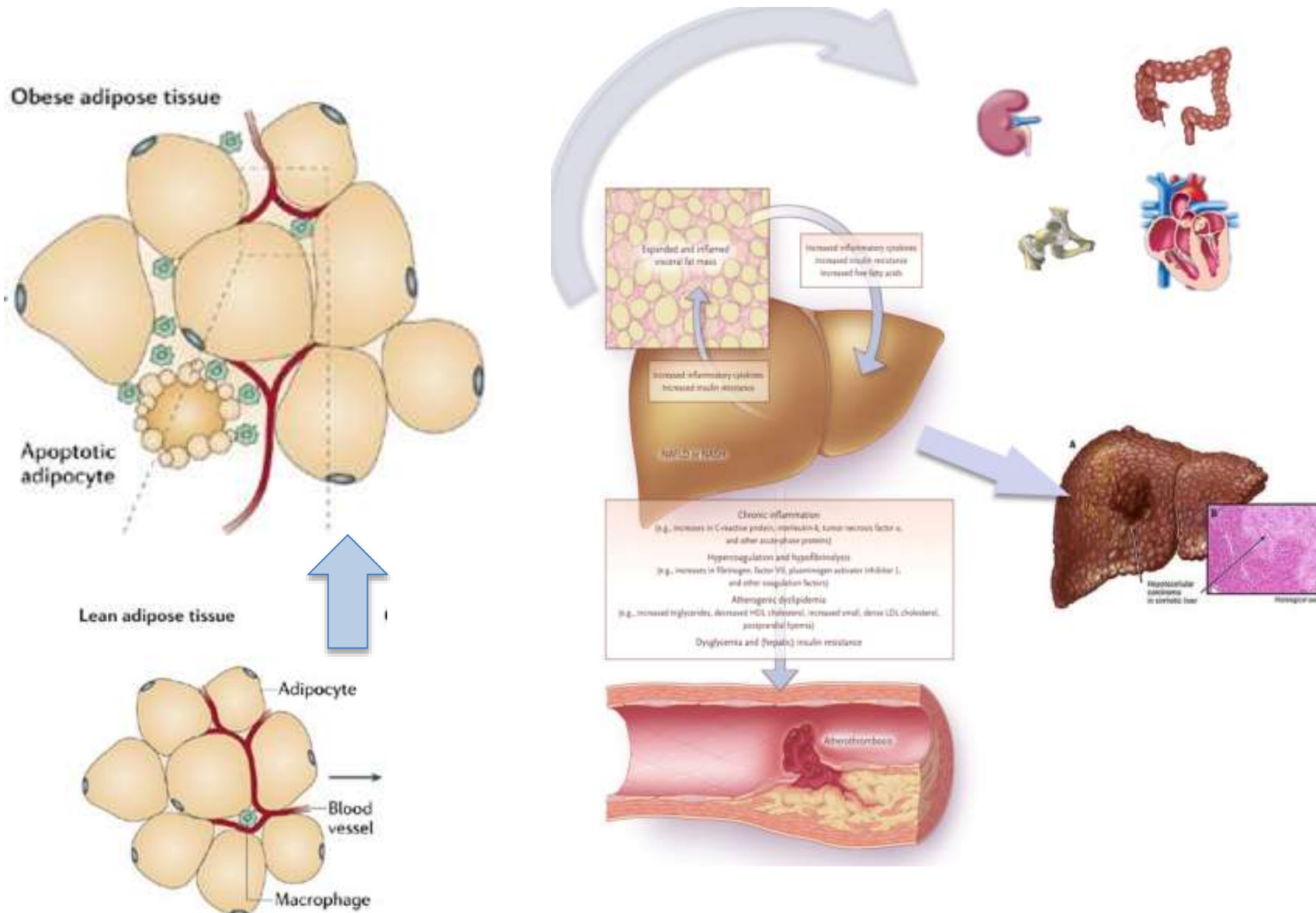
**Tissue mΦ and metabolism are critical in adiposity pathogenesis**

In obese AT, M1mΦ use glycolytic metabolism.

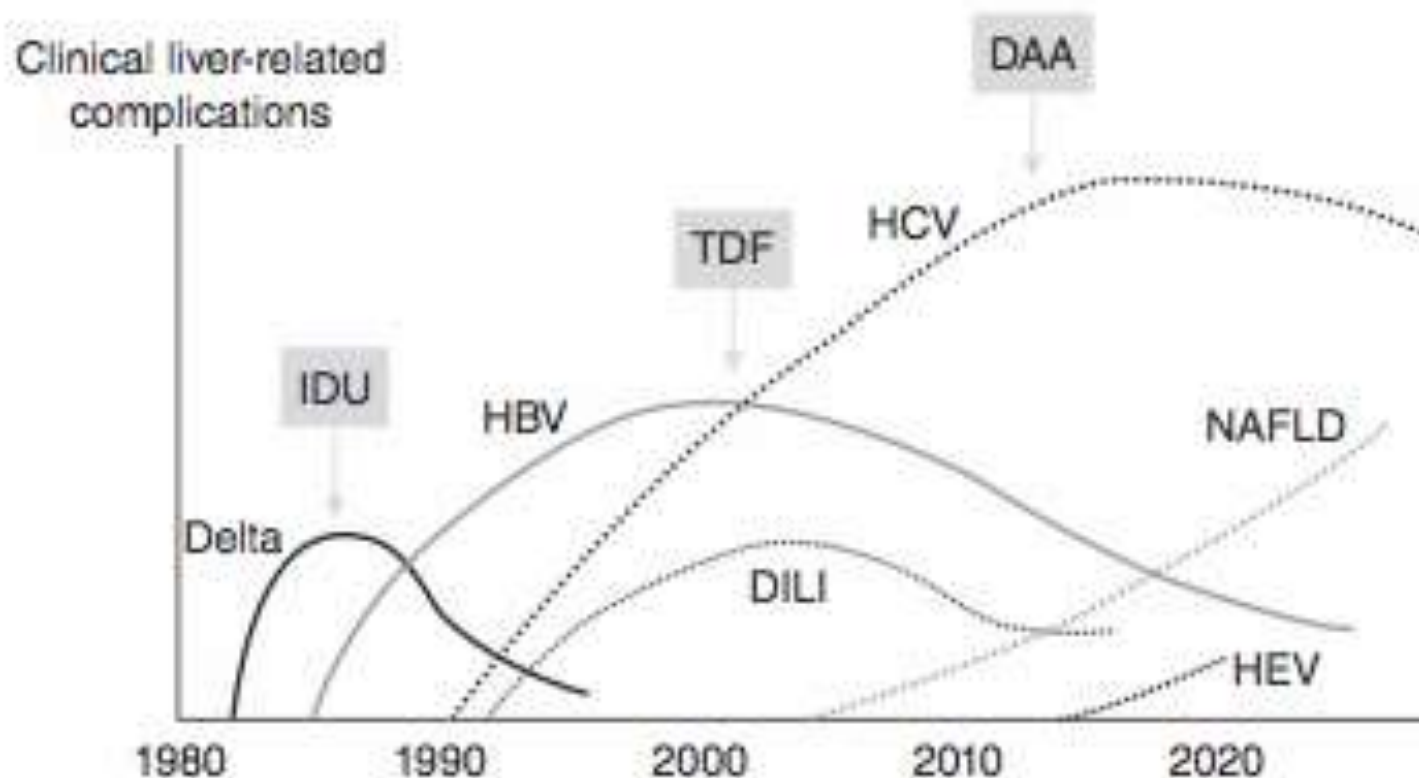
Switch to glycolysis in M1mΦ is central for pro-inflammatory profile

Courtesy of Suzanne Crowe

# Metabolic endotoxemia



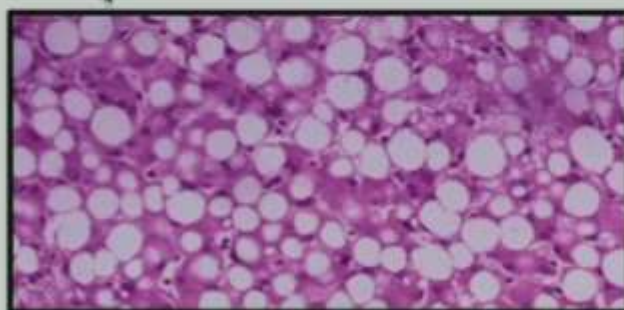
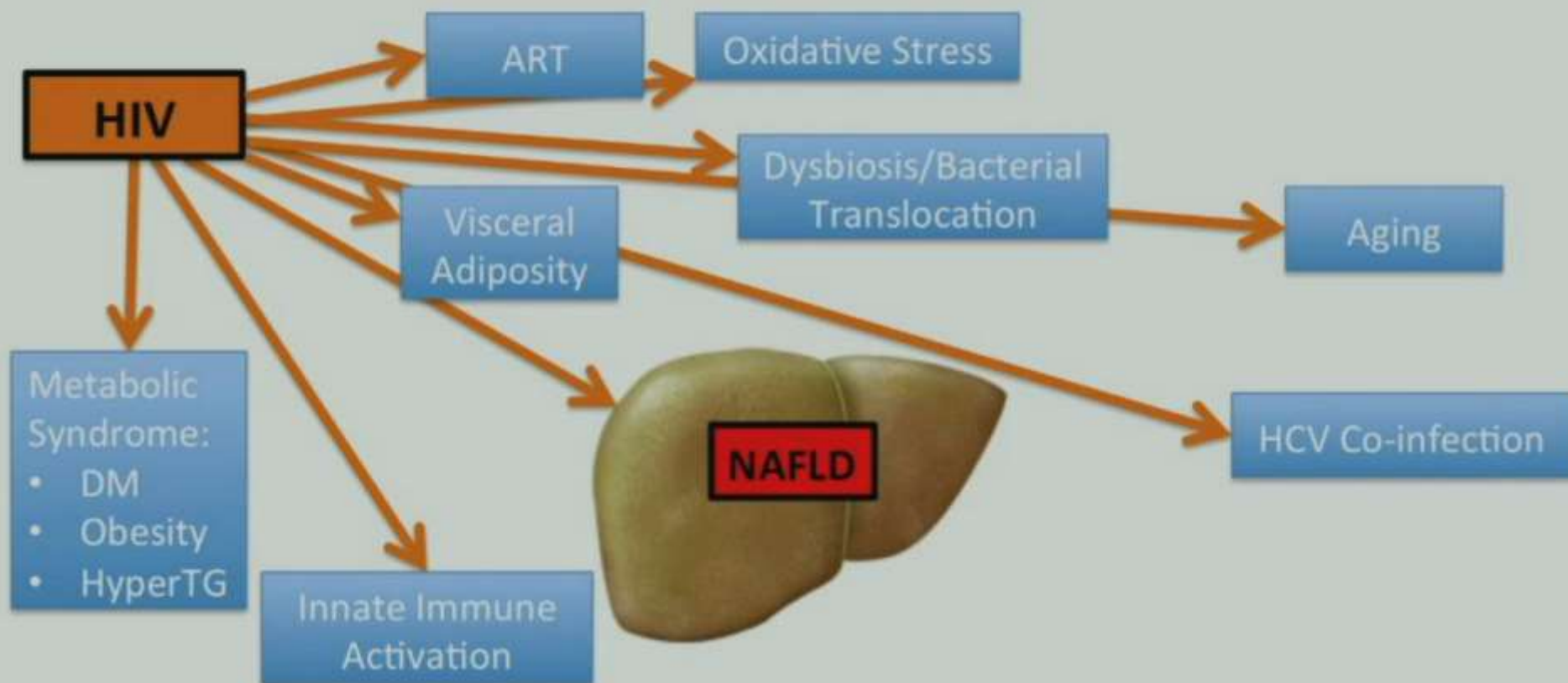
# The Changing Epidemiology of Liver Disease in HIV Patients



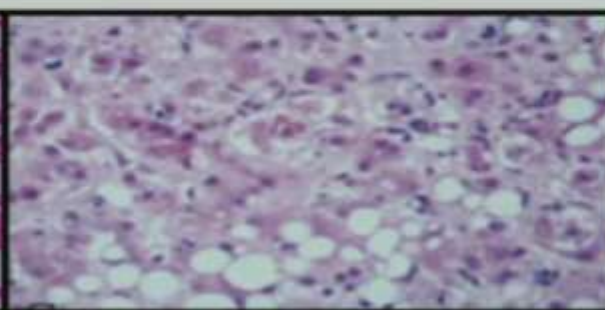
Time trends in liver disease etiologies in HIV patients.

DAA: direct-acting antivirals; TDF: tenofovir; IDU: intravenous drug users; NAFLD: non-alcoholic fatty liver disease; DILI: drug-induced liver injury; HEV: hepatitis E virus.

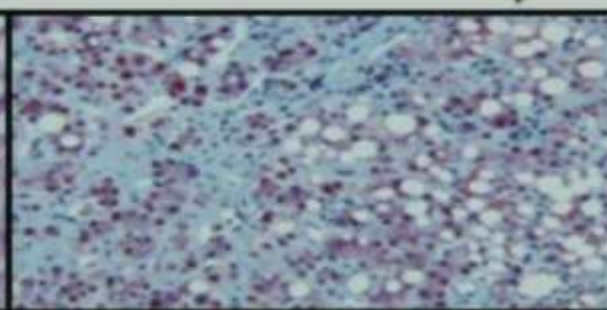




**Steatosis**

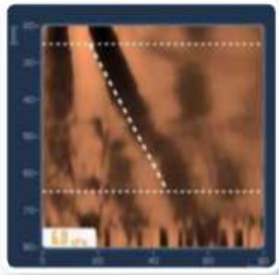


**Steatohepatitis  
(NASH)**



**Fibrosis &  
Cirrhosis**

## Stiffness (E)



- Stiffness is computed from the **ELASTOGRAM**
- The Elastogram is a **GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION** of the shear wave propagation as a function of time and depth
- The Young's Modulus (E) is expressed in **KILOPASCAL (kPa)**

**FIBROSIS**  
(1-2)

**3 CM<sup>3</sup>**

- **At least 100 TIMES LARGER** than with a liver biopsy
- **Steatosis and stiffness are simultaneously measured IN THE SAME LIVER VOLUME**
- **Stiffness & CAP results are the MEDIAN of 10 valid measurements**

## Controlled Attenuation Parameter (CAP™)



- CAP is computed from the **ULTRASOUND** acquired for stiffness measurement
- CAP is **ONLY CALCULATED** if the stiffness acquisition is **VALID**
- CAP is expressed in **DECIBEL PER METER (dB/m)**

**STEATOSIS**  
(23-27)

## FIBROSIS BIOMARKERS

Surrogate markers of liver fibrosis:

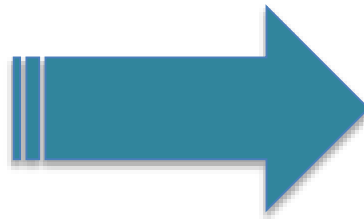
1. AST to ALT Ratio (**AAR**), AST to Platelet Ratio Index (**APRI**)
2. **BARD** score
3. **FIB-4** score
4. NAFLD Fibrosis Score (**NFS**)

## STEATOSIS BIOMARKERS

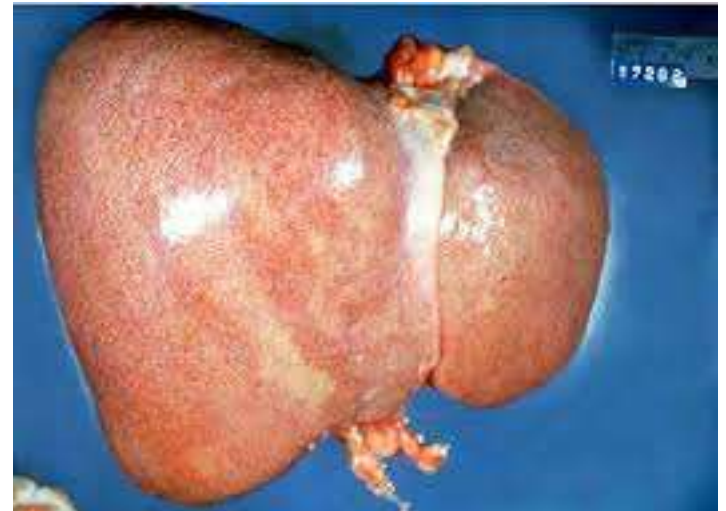
Surrogate markers of liver steatosis:

1. Fatty Liver Index (**FLI**)
2. Lipid Accumulation Product (**LAP**)
3. NAFLD liver fat score (**NAFLD-LFS**)
4. Hepatic Steatosis Index (**HSI**)
5. Visceral Adiposity Index (**VAI**)
6. Triglycerides and glucose (**TyG**) index.

# This is metabolism!



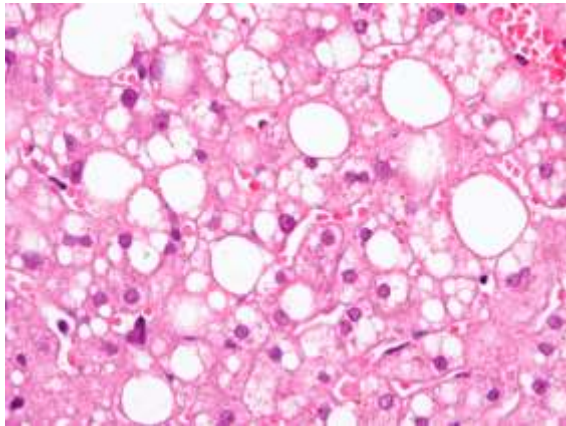
Metabolism is an  
organ disease



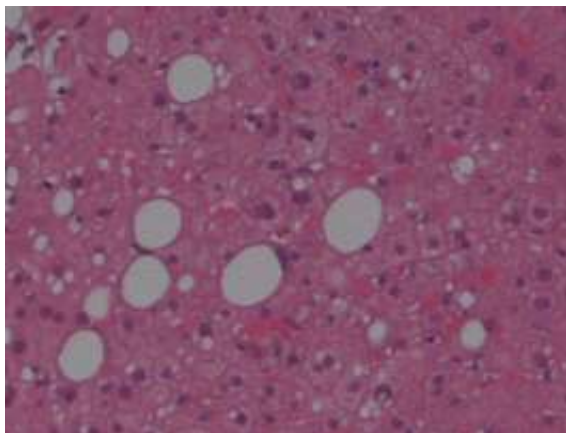
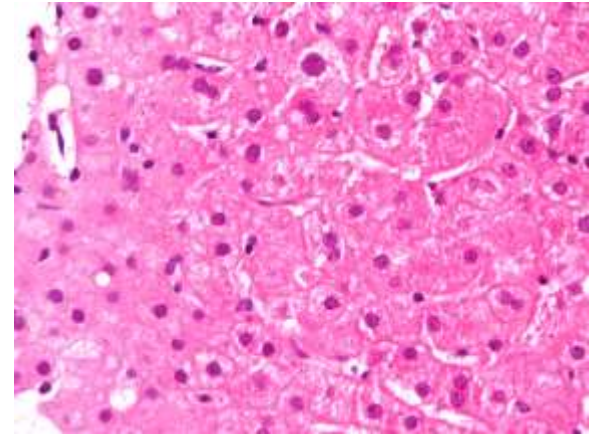
Better drugs, HCV clearance and increased life expectancy will not solve but rather change the metabolic problems of people living with HIV.



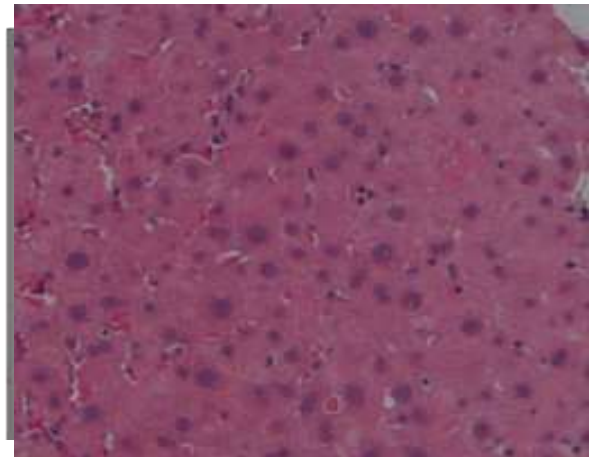
## NRTI-sparing+ MRV



PG, male, 64 years old  
287 CD4 402  
21.6 BMI 22.8  
109 Gly 97  
2.5 HOMA-IR 1.38  
68 Tg 104  
68/152 HDL/LDL 49/141  
23/18 ALT/AST 46/44  
G1 S0 Brunt GS G1 S0  
3 NAS 1  
55 LB fat 10  
25 RM fat 7  
micromacro Steatosis type micromacro  
0 Inflammation 0  
1 Ballooning 0  
0 Fibrosis 0



FE, male, 77 years old  
448 CD4 297  
23.7 BMI 22.2  
83 Gly 81  
1.68 HOMA-IR 1.15  
207 Tg 146  
42/124 HDL/LDL 47/129  
27/22 ALT/AST 15/19  
G1S2 Brunt GS G1S2  
3 NAS 0  
15 LB fat 0  
9.1 RM fat 6.7  
micromacro Steatosis type NA  
0 Inflammation 0  
1 Ballooning 0  
1 Fibrosis 1



# Novel concept in handling of HIV+ persons on stable ART at HIV clinics

- Diversification of type of visits
  - Traditional f2f visit with responsible physician
  - Triage with experienced nurse
  - Community clinic
  - Telemedicine (for most stable patients)
- Enhancing self management
- Focus areas
  - Ensure retainment in care
  - Shared access to electronic systems (lab, medicine) to allow for proactive alert and prompts

HIV specialist physicians have to continue to lead the way to ensure optimization of quality of care for HIV+ persons

## New challenges and unmet needs of PLHIV aged 50+

2000

2005

2010

2013

2015

Drug toxicities

Co-morbidities

Multi-morbidities

Frailty

Disability

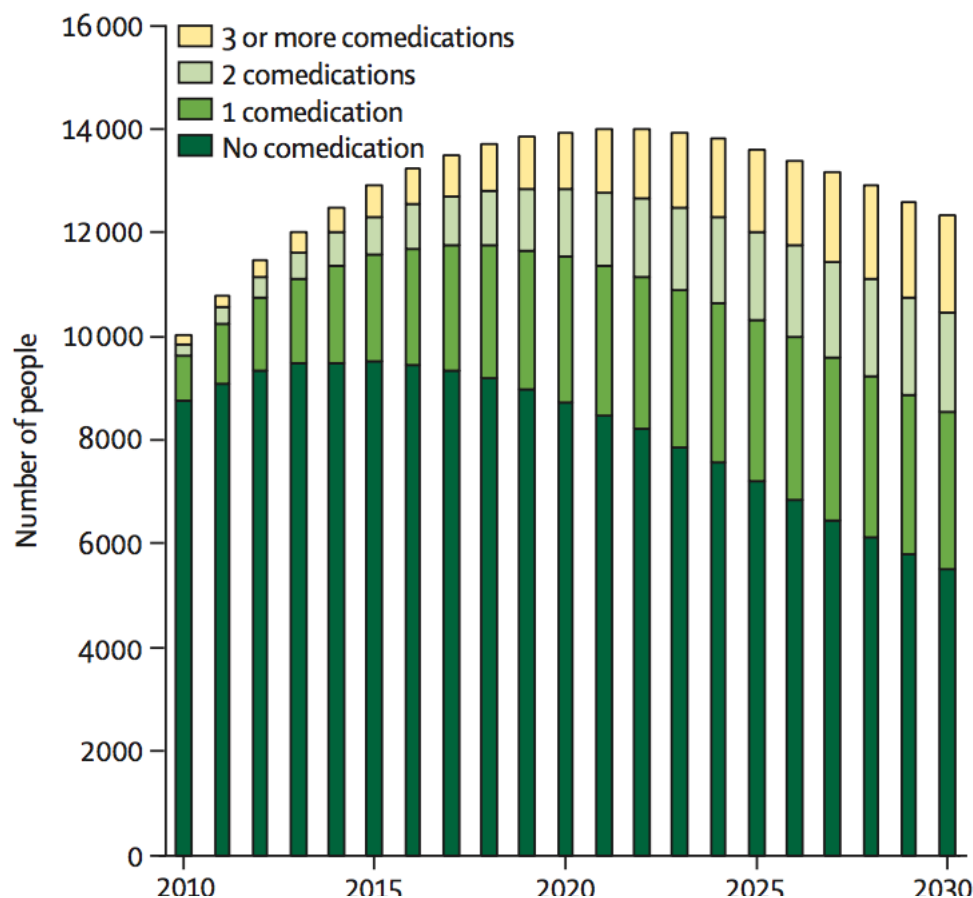


# Future challenges for clinical care of an ageing population infected with HIV: a modelling study

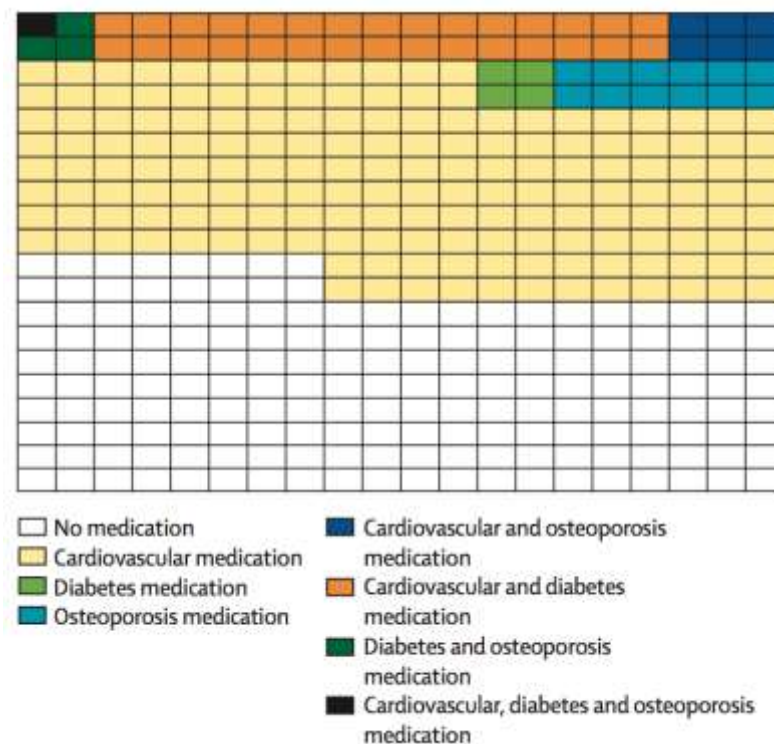


Mikaela Smit, Kees Brinkman, Suzanne Geerlings, Colette Smit, Kalyani Thyagarajan, Ard van Sighem, Frank de Wolf, Timothy B Hallett, on behalf of the ATHENA observational cohort

## Predicted burden of co-medications in HIV-infected patients between



Predicted prevalence of comedication in 2030 as cross-section of number of patients on the different types of co-medications, based on a representative 400 patients (each square represents a patient). NCD=non-communicable disease.



# Polypharmacy (PP) in the HIV infected older adult population

Def: 1. the use of 5 or more medications  
2. the use of a potentially inappropriate drug

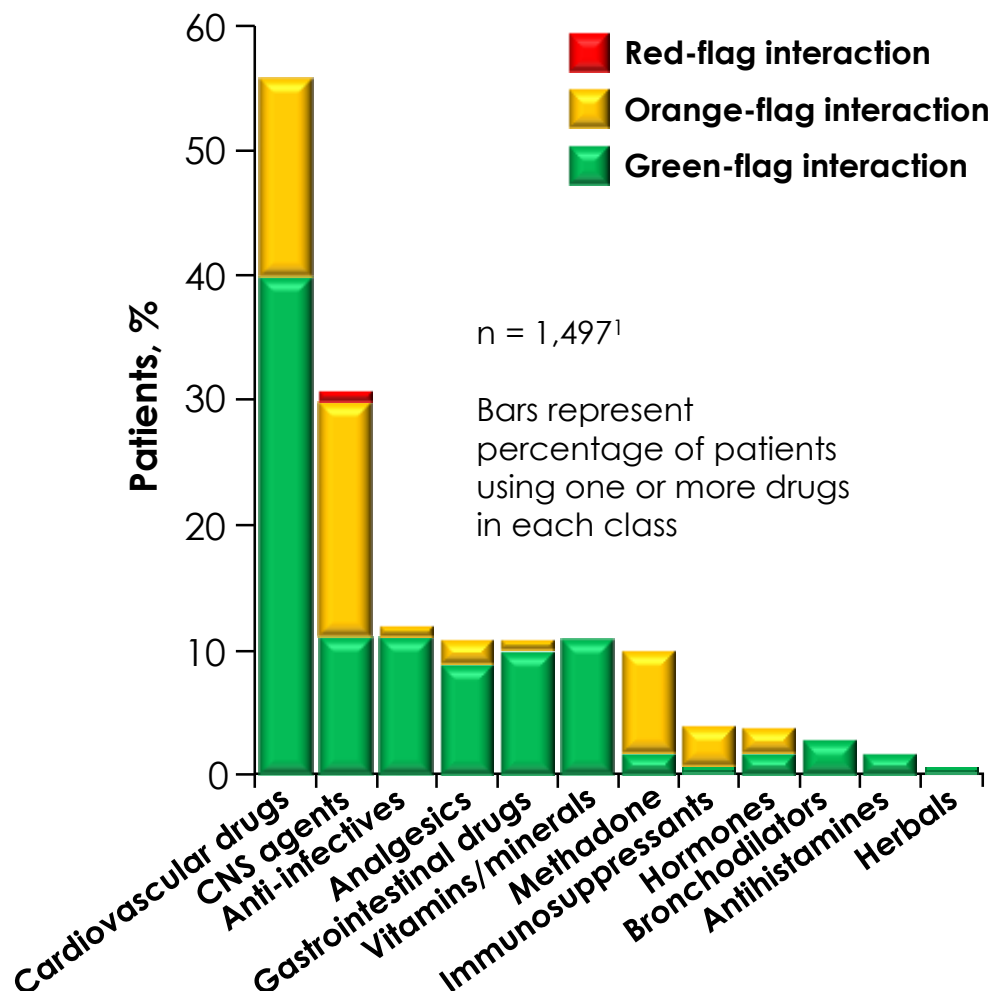
## NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF PP

1. ADE
2. DDIs
3. INCREASED COSTS
4. PILL BURDEN
5. ADHERENCE
6. FALLS
7. MORTALITY





# Potential drug-drug interactions with cART are more likely in older patients



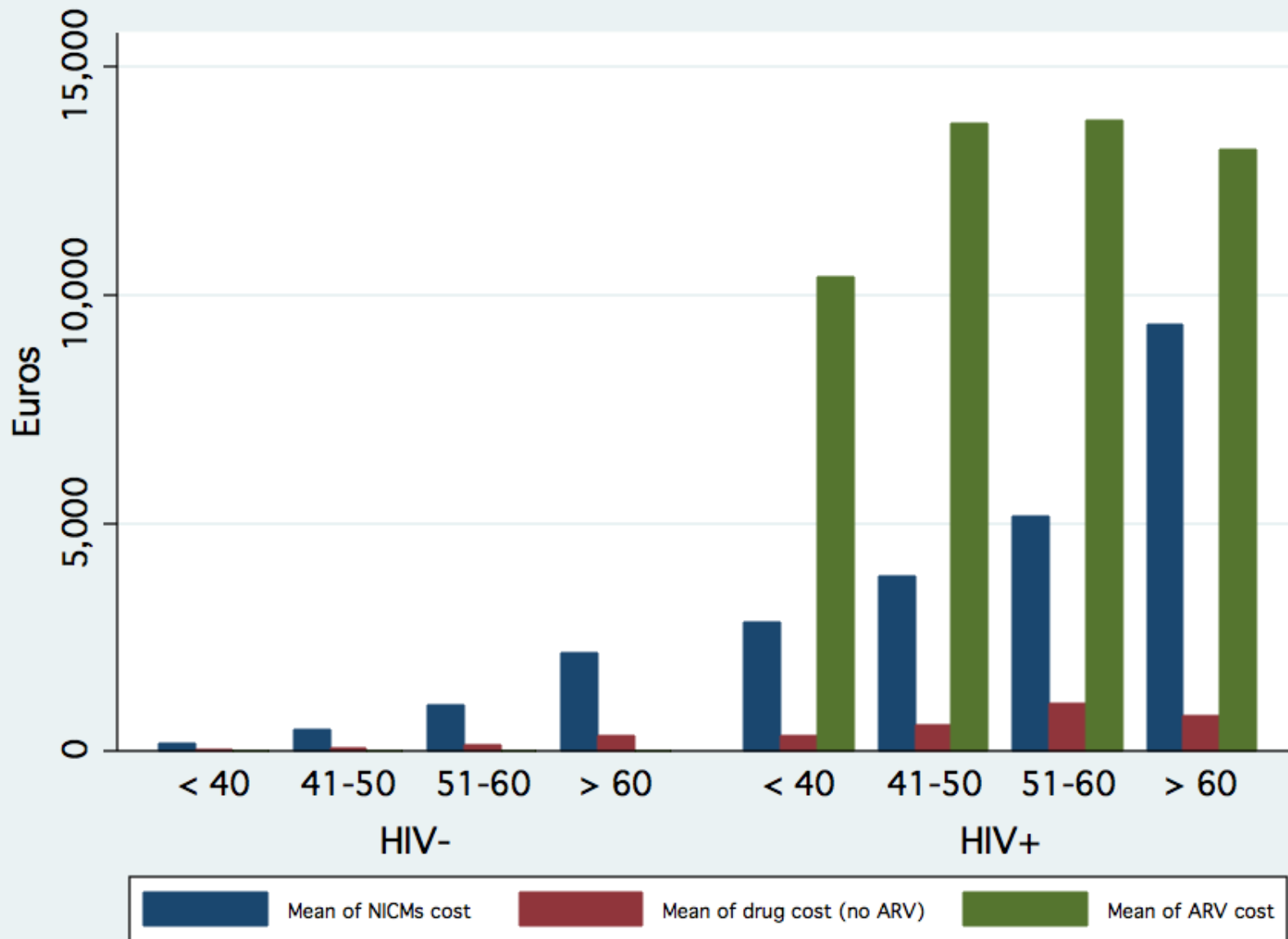
- ARVs may interact with a number of medications, including\*<sup>2</sup>

- Methadone
- Oral contraceptives
- Antiepileptics
- Antidepressants
- Lipid-lowering agents
- Acid-reducing agents
- Antimicrobials
- Antiarrhythmics
- Tuberculosis therapy
- Anti-cancer drugs
- Immunosuppressants
- Phosphodiesterase inhibitors
- Anti-HCV therapies

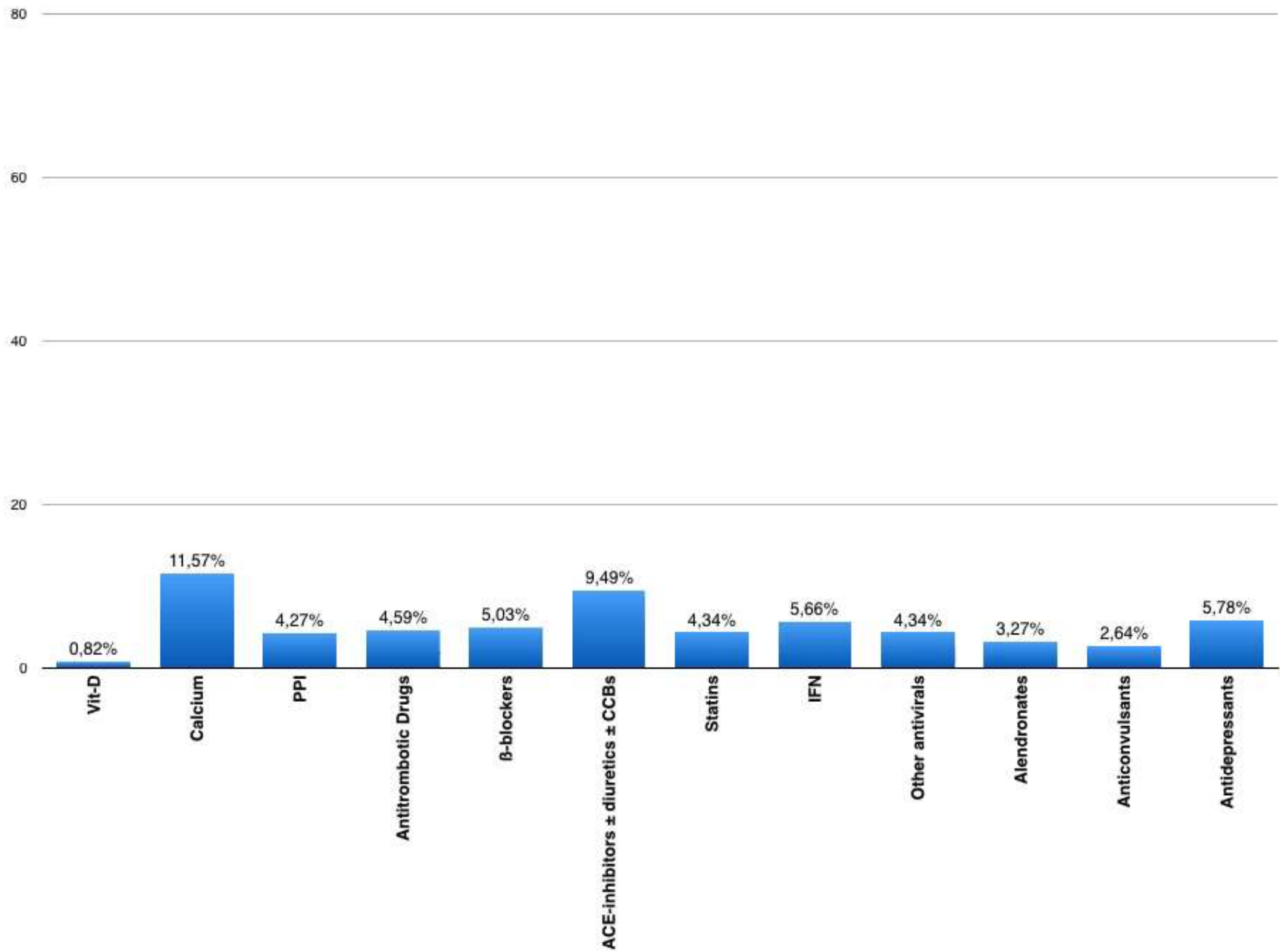
**START LOW  
GO SLOW**

\*For further information please visit [www.hiv-druginteractions.org](http://www.hiv-druginteractions.org)

## Hospital costs +NICM medication and ARV costs

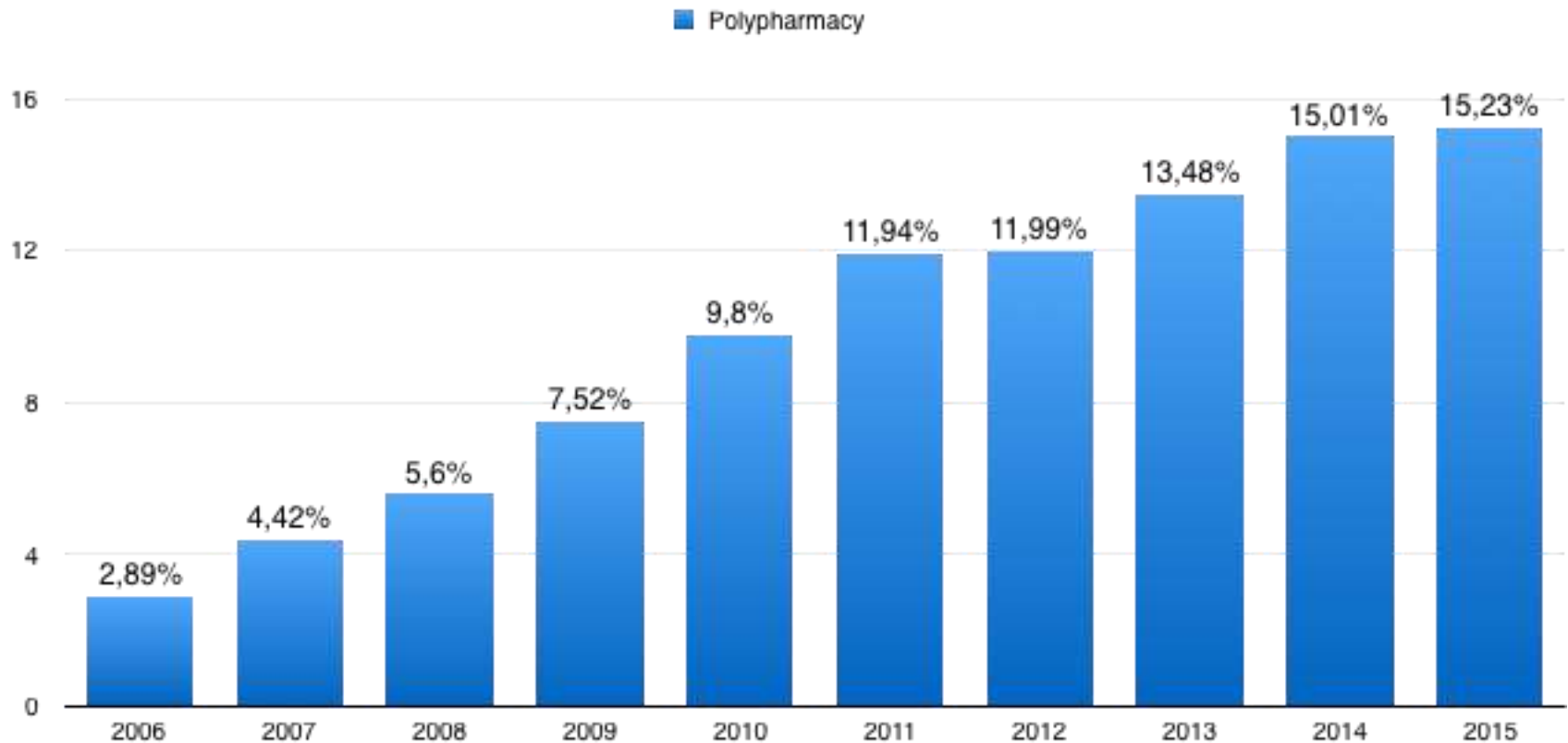


2006

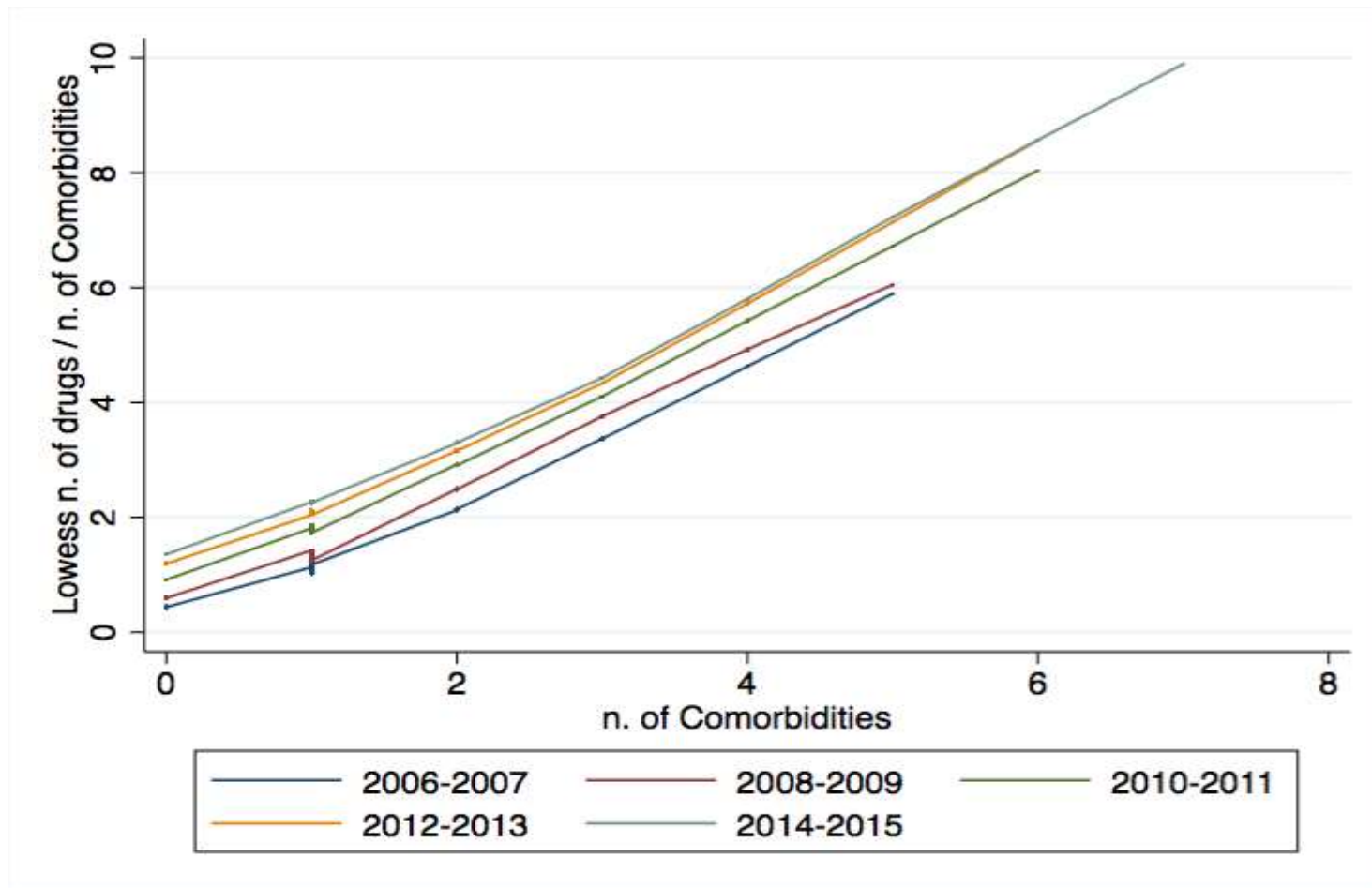




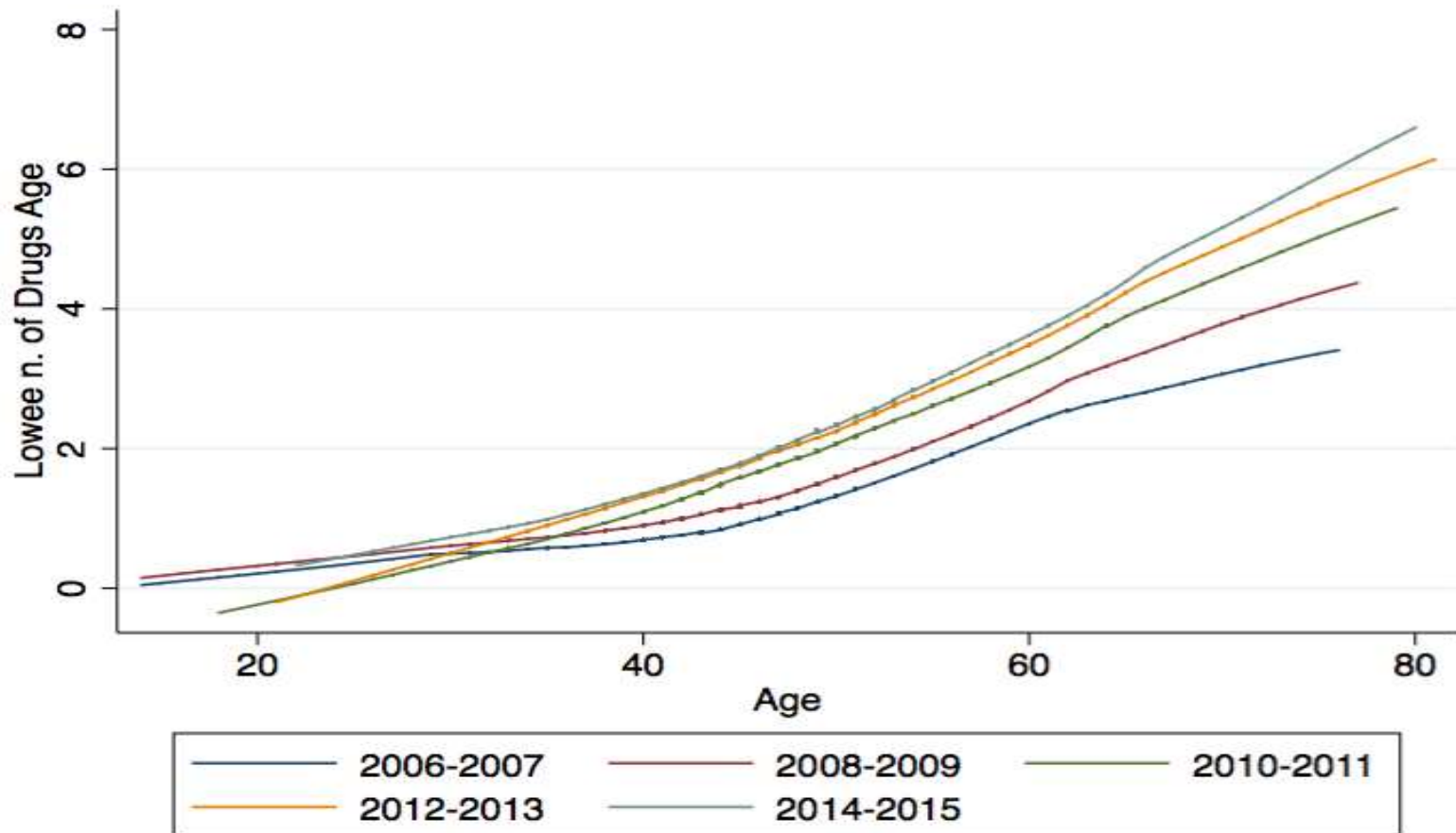
# Prevalence of Polypharmacy at MHMC by calendar year



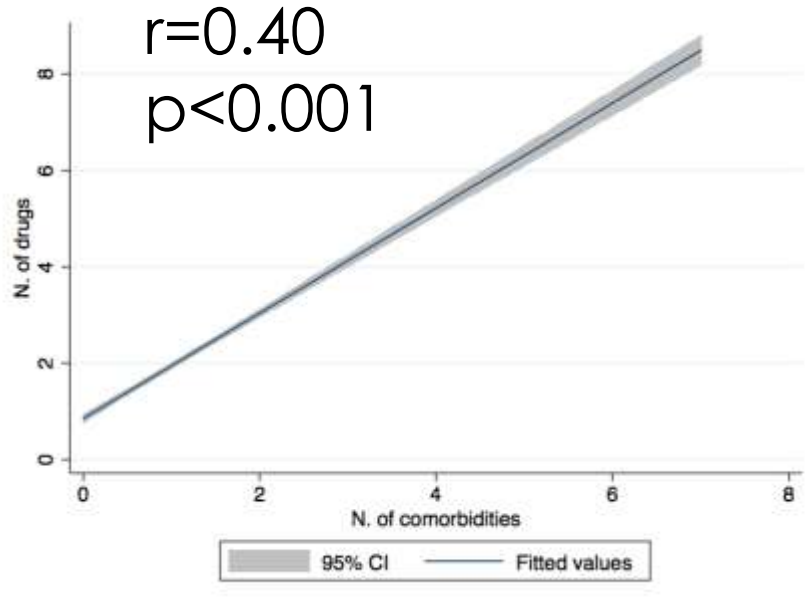
# Association between Polypharmacy (PP) and Comorbidity, Age and Frailty by calendar year



# Association between Polypharmacy (PP) and Comorbidity, Age and Frailty by calendar year



# MM and PP are two face of the same coin



FI and PP are also co-linear

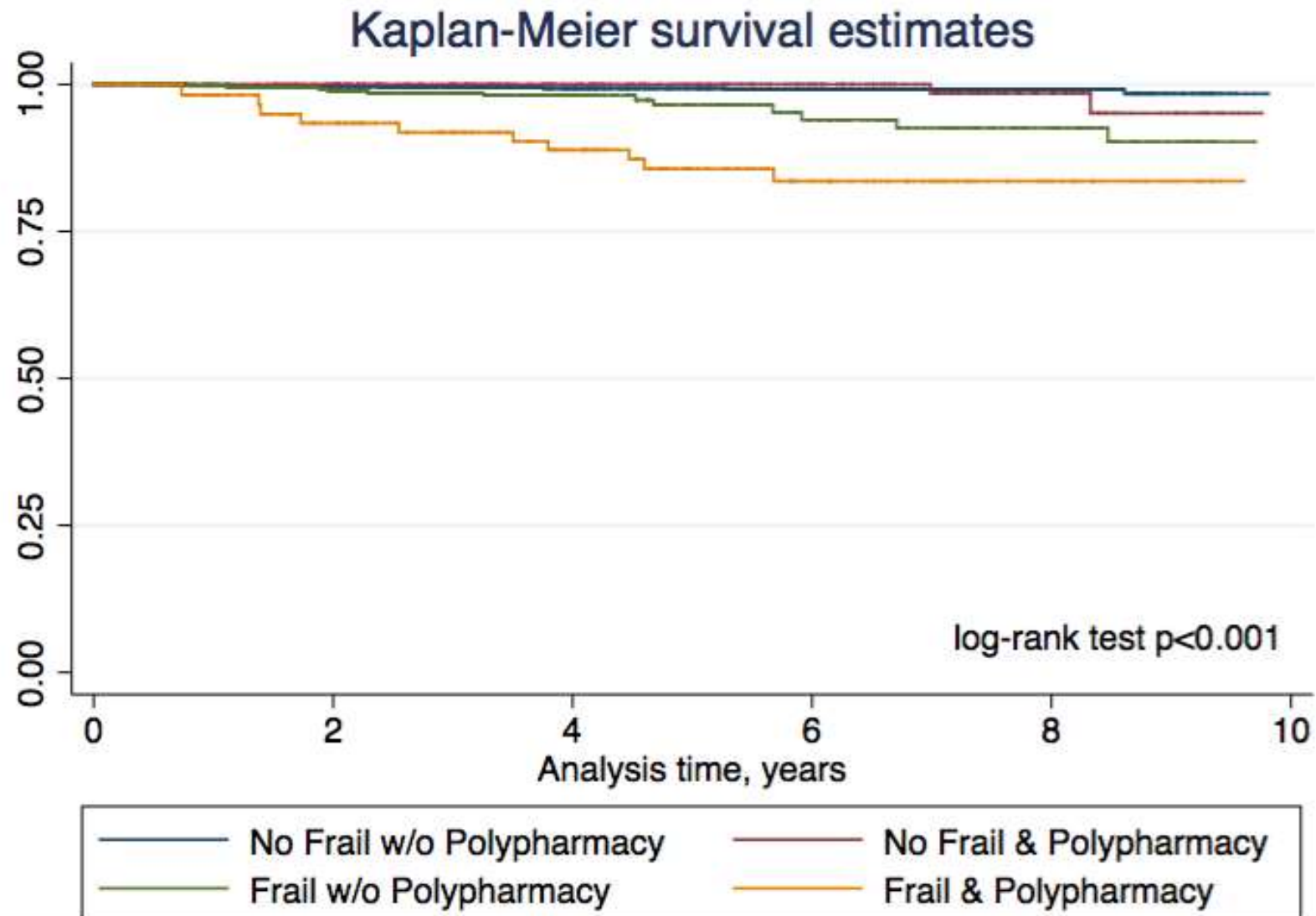
$r=0.18$  ( $p<0.001$ ).

Frailty is a measure of clinical complexity capable to express the clinical burden of MM discriminating vulnerable patients with and without PP.

MM(+), PP(-)=172;  
(5.84%)

FI(+), PP(-)= 1,523;  
(51.7%).

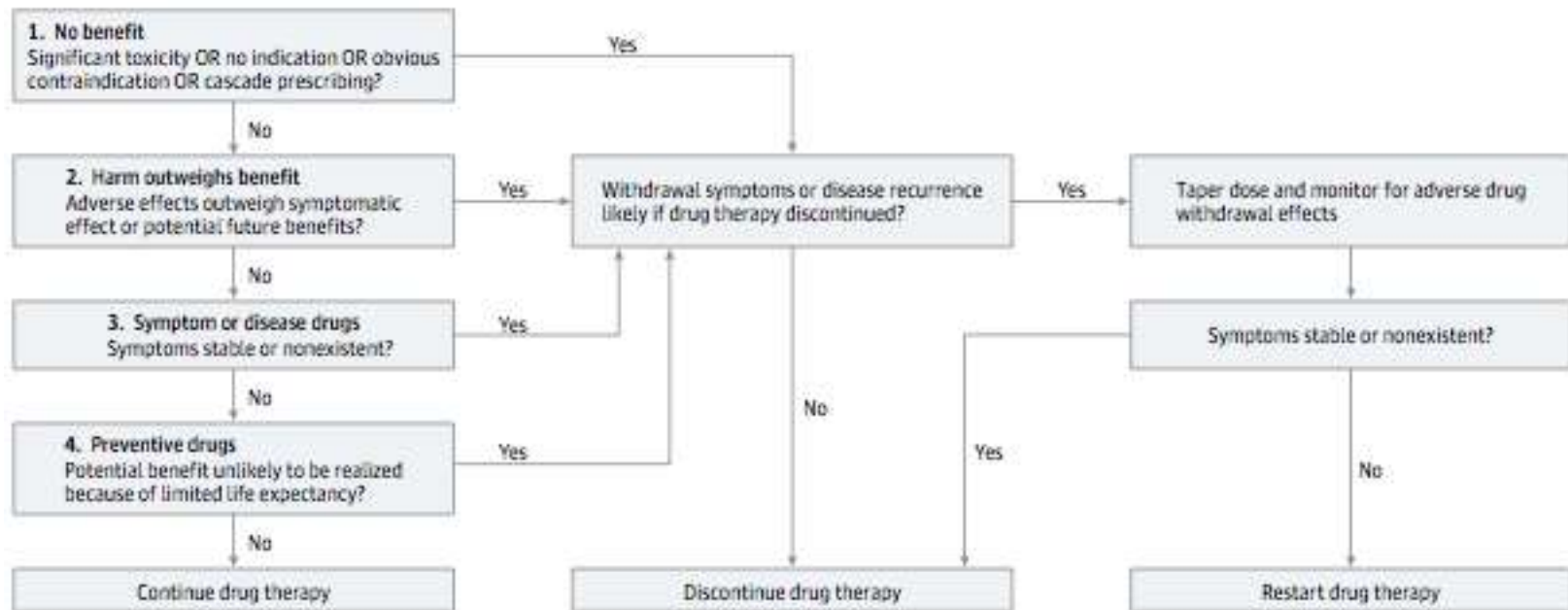
# Polipharmacy in frail patients is a predictor of fall and overall mortality



## Special Communication | LESS IS MORE

# Reducing Inappropriate Polypharmacy

## The Process of Deprescribing



Algorithm for Deciding Order and Mode in Which Drug Use Could Be Discontinued

# General considerations for managing polypharmacy in older adults

## 1. Throughout medication history

“Brown Bag” asking patient to bring in all prescription, OTC, and herbal medications

“Teach-back” method, patient shows how taking medication

## 2. Determine patient adherence to medication and barriers if not adherent

Is the patient forgetting to take?

Is the pill difficult to take?

Is the pill costly?

Does the patient believe that the drug is not needed?

## 3. Is the dosage correct?

- Review drug–drug interactions
- Determine the therapeutic ratio

## 4. Start low and go slow for titration up

- Good communication with other healthcare providers (physicians and caregivers)

## 5. Where possible use the same pharmacy

Indications for current medications

## 6. Determine if medication is on Beers List or Medication Appropriateness Index



# American Geriatrics Society 2015 Updated Beers Criteria for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in Older Adults

*By the American Geriatrics Society 2015 Beers Criteria Update Expert Panel*

**Table 2. 2015 American Geriatrics Society Beers Criteria for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in Older Adults**

Organ System, Therapeutic Category, Drugs	Rationale	Recommendation	Quality of Evidence	Strength of Recommendation
Antidepressants, alone or in combination Amitriptyline Amoxapine Clomipramine Desipramine Doxepin >6 mg/d Imipramine Nortriptyline Paroxetine Protriptyline Trimipramine	Highly anticholinergic, sedating, and cause orthostatic hypotension; safety profile of low-dose doxepin ( $\leq 6$ mg/d) comparable with that of placebo	Avoid	High	Strong
Proton-pump inhibitors	Risk of <i>Clostridium difficile</i> infection and bone loss and fractures	Avoid scheduled use for >8 weeks unless for high-risk patients (e.g., oral corticosteroids or chronic NSAID use), erosive esophagitis, Barrett's esophagitis, pathological hypersecretory condition, or demonstrated need for maintenance treatment (e.g., due to failure of drug discontinuation trial or H <sub>2</sub> blockers)	High	Strong
Pain medications Meperidine	Not effective oral analgesic in dosages commonly used; may have higher risk of neurotoxicity, including delirium, than other opioids; safer alternatives available	Avoid, especially in individuals with chronic kidney disease	Moderate	Strong

**Table 5. 2015 American Geriatrics Society Beers Criteria for Potentially Clinically Important Non-Anti-infective Drug-Drug Interactions That Should Be Avoided in Older Adults**

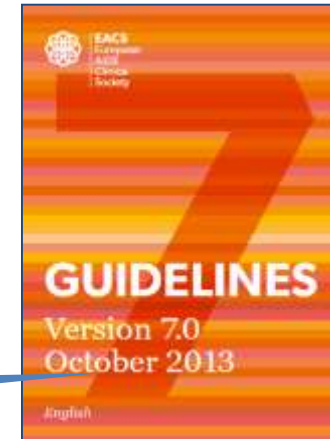
**Table 6. 2015 American Geriatrics Society Beers Criteria for Non-Anti-Infective Medications That Should Be Avoided or Have Their Dosage Reduced with Varying Levels of Kidney Function in Older Adults**



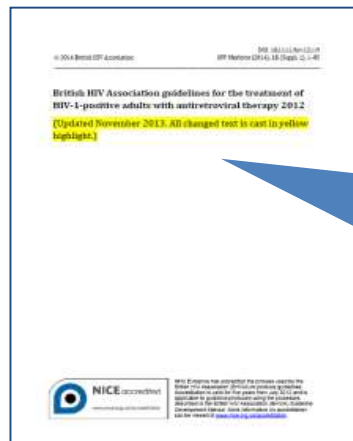
# What do the HIV guidelines recommend for FRAIL patients?



DHHS: no mention



EACS: no mention



BHIVA: no mention



IAS-USA: no mention

CV: cardiovascular; FRAX: WHO Fracture Risk Assessment Tool

# Objective

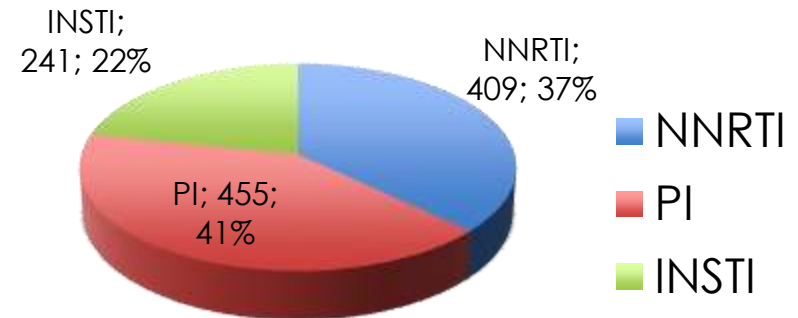
- To describe patterns of ARV use both in terms of drugs class and regimen, in relation to frailty, age or gender in a clinical setting in patients with well controlled HIV infection.

# Patterns of ARV use in relation to frailty and age

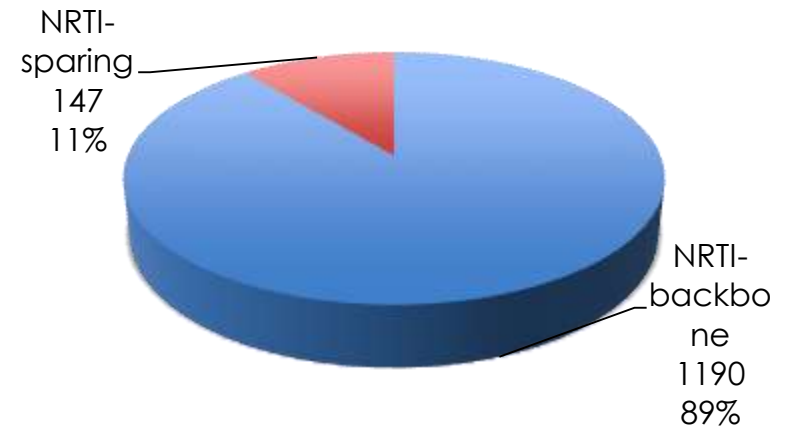
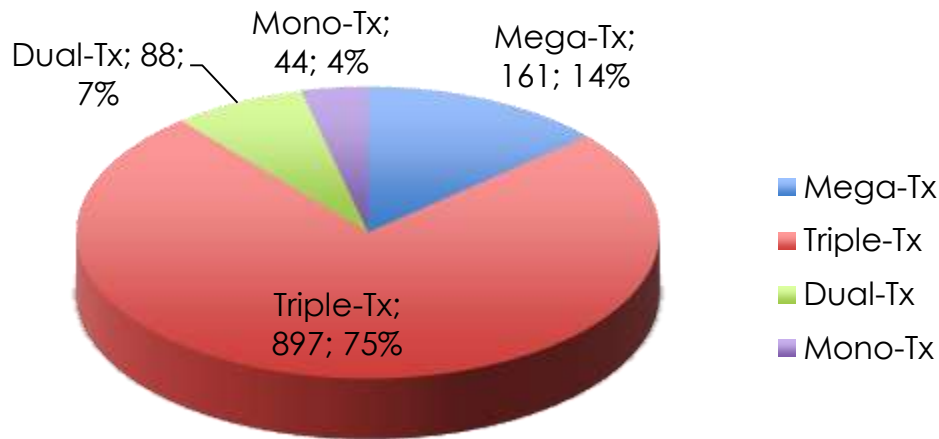
## Demographic and HIV characteristics

Patients	1202
Age (Mean±SD)	50 ±7
Women (n [%])	383 (32)
Duration HIV months (Median IQR)	153 (100 – 196)
Nadir CD4 (Median IQR)	209 (101 – 300)
Current CD4 (Median IQR)	721 (610 – 893)
Frailty index (Mean±SD)	0.30 ±0.09
Multi-morbidity (n [%])	357 (30)

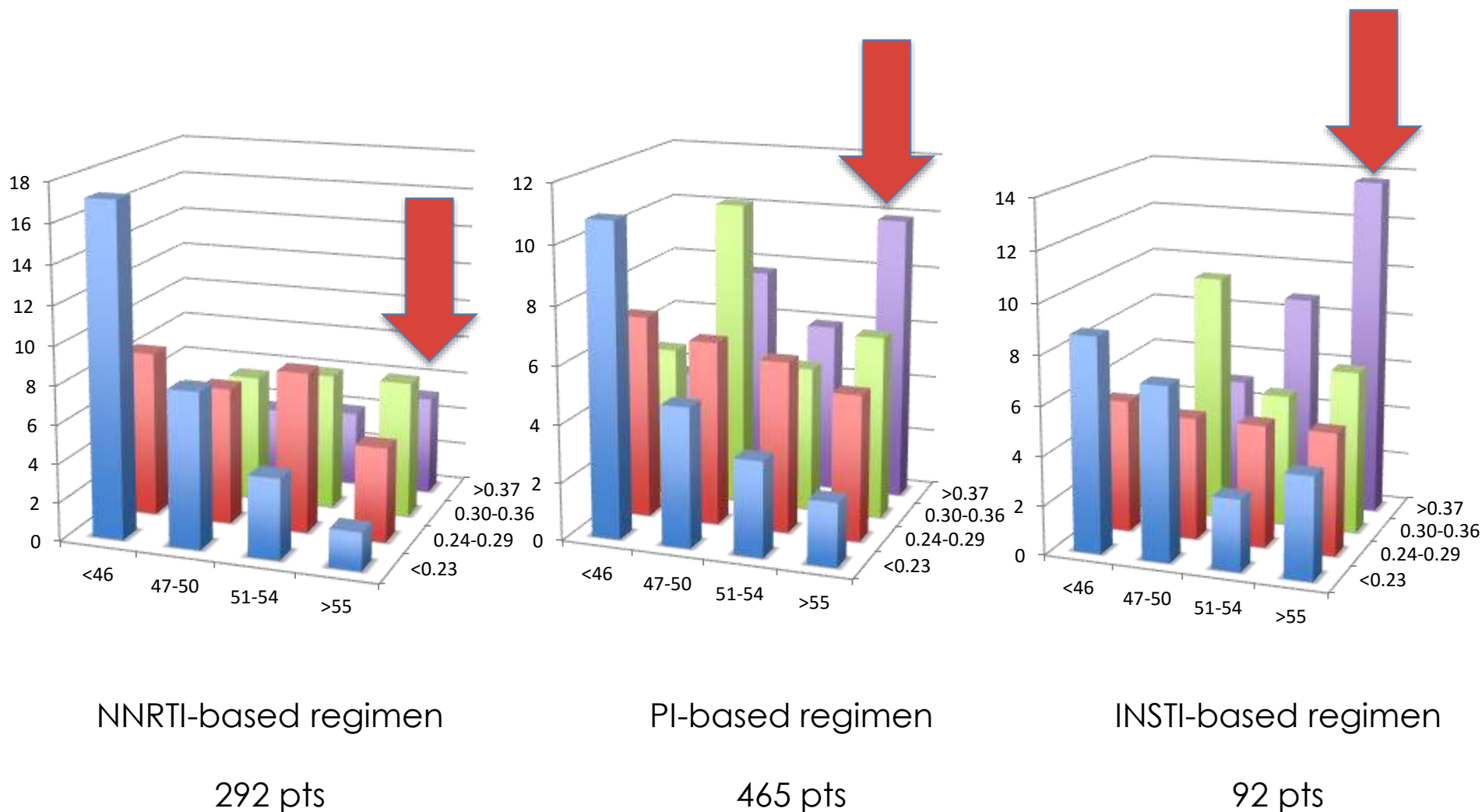
## ARV drug class exposure (most recent visit)



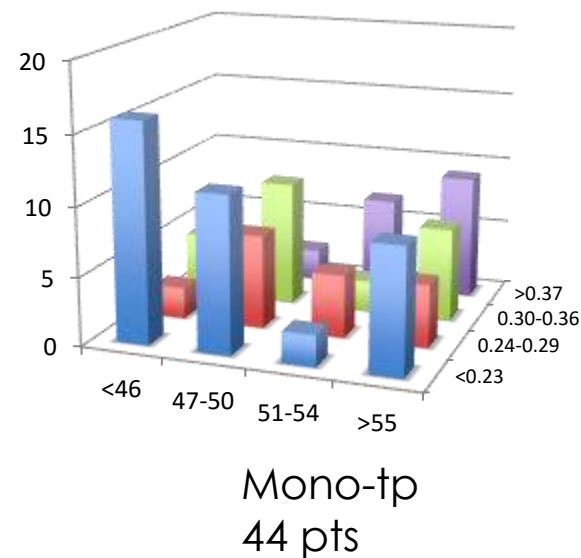
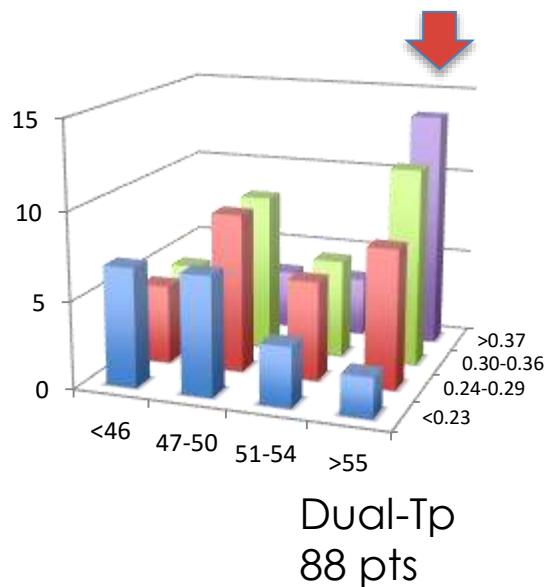
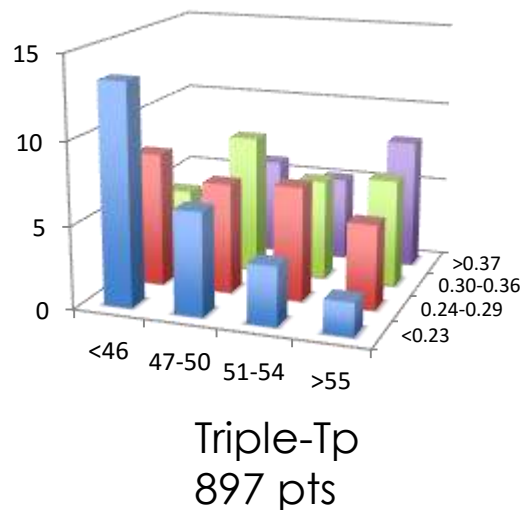
## ARV regimen current exposure (most recent visit)



# Age and frailty spectrum in different ARV drug classes current exposure

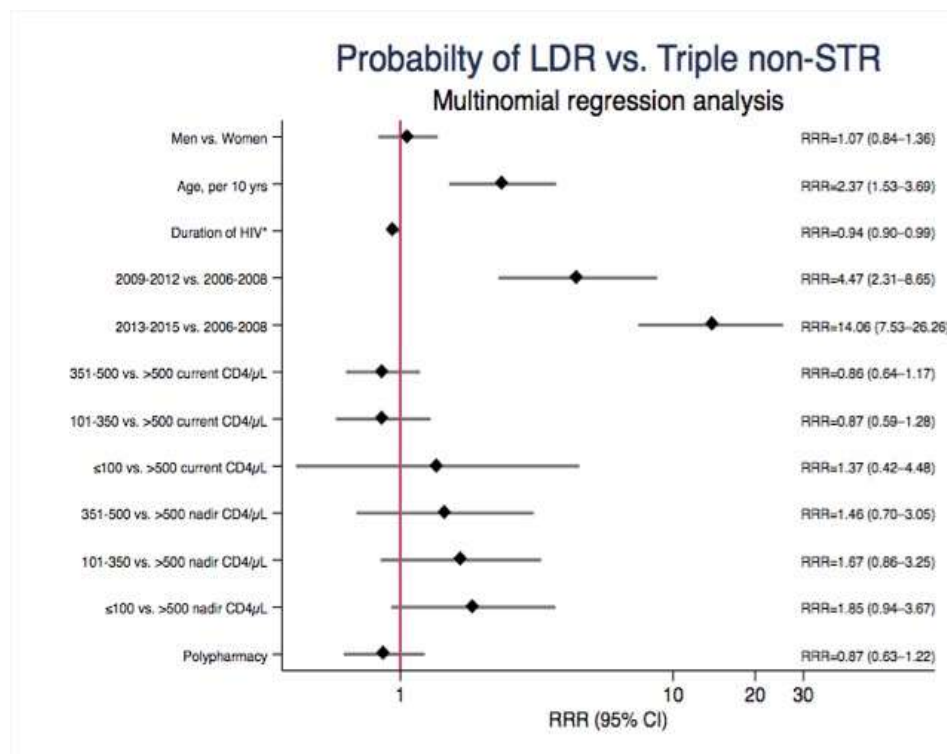
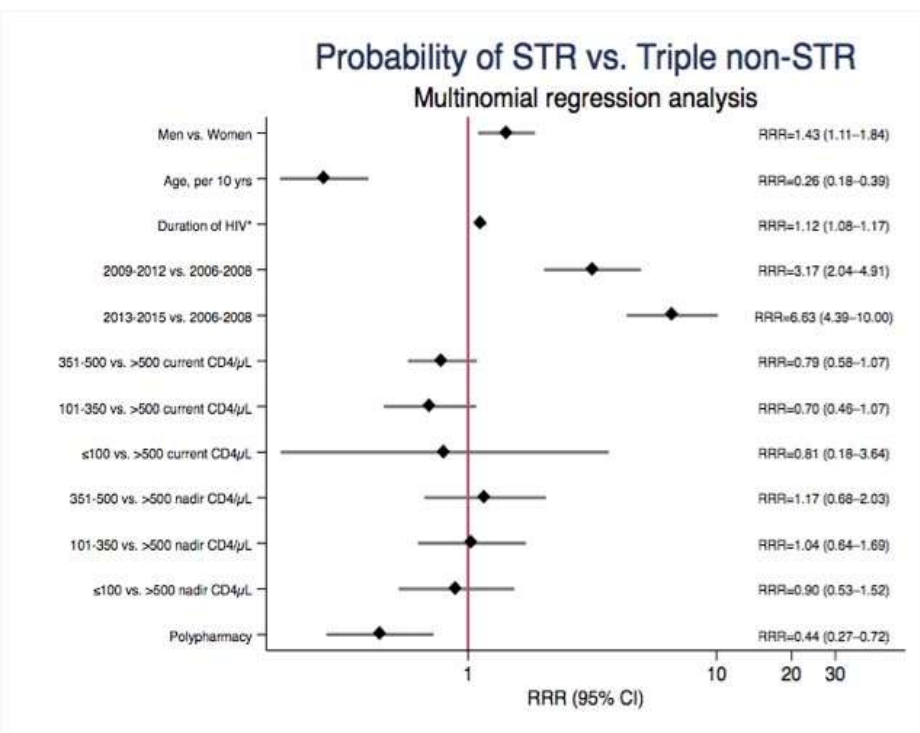


# Age and frailty spectrum in different ARV regimen current exposure



The objective of this study is to analyse the impact of PP on ARV prescription.

On one side PP may be a driver of STR regimen in order to reduce pill burden and, on the other, it may represent a barrier to patient-tailored therapy required by comorbidities



The balance between treatment tailoring, prevention for drug-associated toxicity and reduction in number of pills need to be prospectively studied in order to provide the best approach to ageing HIV-patients.

# Considerations in Management of ART in the Older HIV Patient

It is time to move into a proactive approach in ARV management in older HIV patients

			<b>NRTI</b>	<b>NNRTI</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>INSTI</b>	<b>FI</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Co-morbid conditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ eg., cardiovascular, hepatic, metabolic</li> <li>✓ may be exacerbated by effects of HIV or its treatment</li> </ul>	X	✓ > X	X > ✓	✓	✓ > X
<b>2.</b>	<b>Greater medication use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– overlapping side effects or potential interactions with ARVs and concomitant medications</li> </ul>	✓ > X	X	X	✓	✓
<b>3.</b>	<b>Age-related changes in drug handling (PK) and response (PD)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– toxicity</li> </ul>	X	X	X	✓	✓

# Take home messages

## CANGE IN HIV ASSESSMENT:

- ✓ Co-morbidities are an intrinsic characteristic of aging and describe patient complexity

## CHANGE IN HIV MANAGEMENT:

- ✓ Care management starts in the recognition of polypharmacy and how to reduce inappropriate prescription





Thank you....  
...and stay fit!