

Scientific update on COVID-19

Updated on July 22nd 2021

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THERAPEUTIC

Questions:

- What drug showed clinical efficacy?
- What drugs did not show proven benefits?

COVID-19 Treatment

- **Dexamethasone** is the first drug to show life-saving efficacy in patients infected with COVID-19
- More data from clinical trials are needed

Classes of treatment

Anti viral effect

(Hydroxy)chloroquine

Ivermectin

Lopinavir/ritonavir

Remdesivir

Monoclonal antibody

Anti-C5a IFX-1

IL-1 R Antagonist

IL-6 R Antagonist

LY CoV 555/016

REG CoV2

Immunomodulatory effect

Corticosteroids

INF β -1a

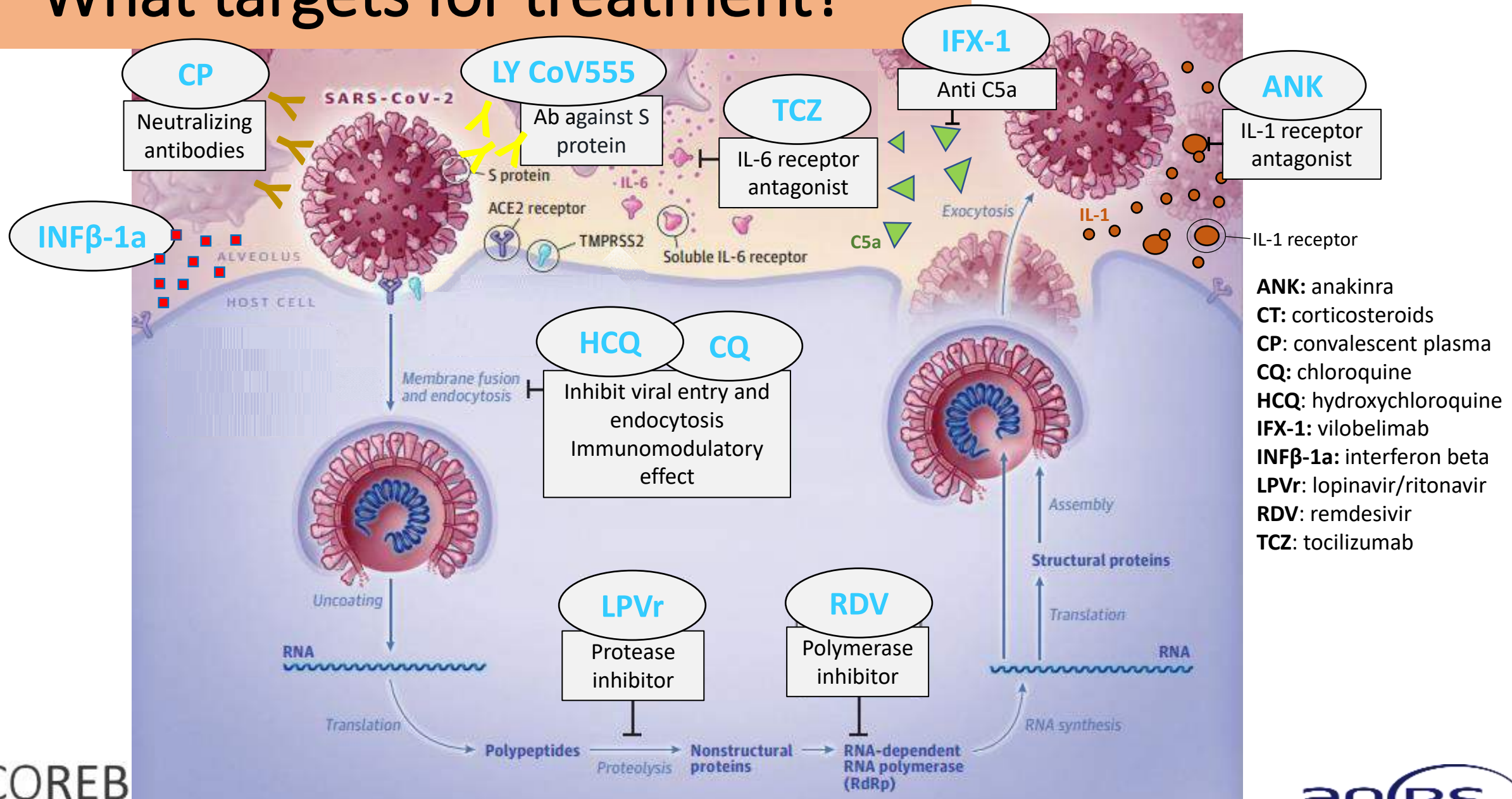
Janus Kinase (JAK) inhibitor

Passive immunity

Convalescent
plasma

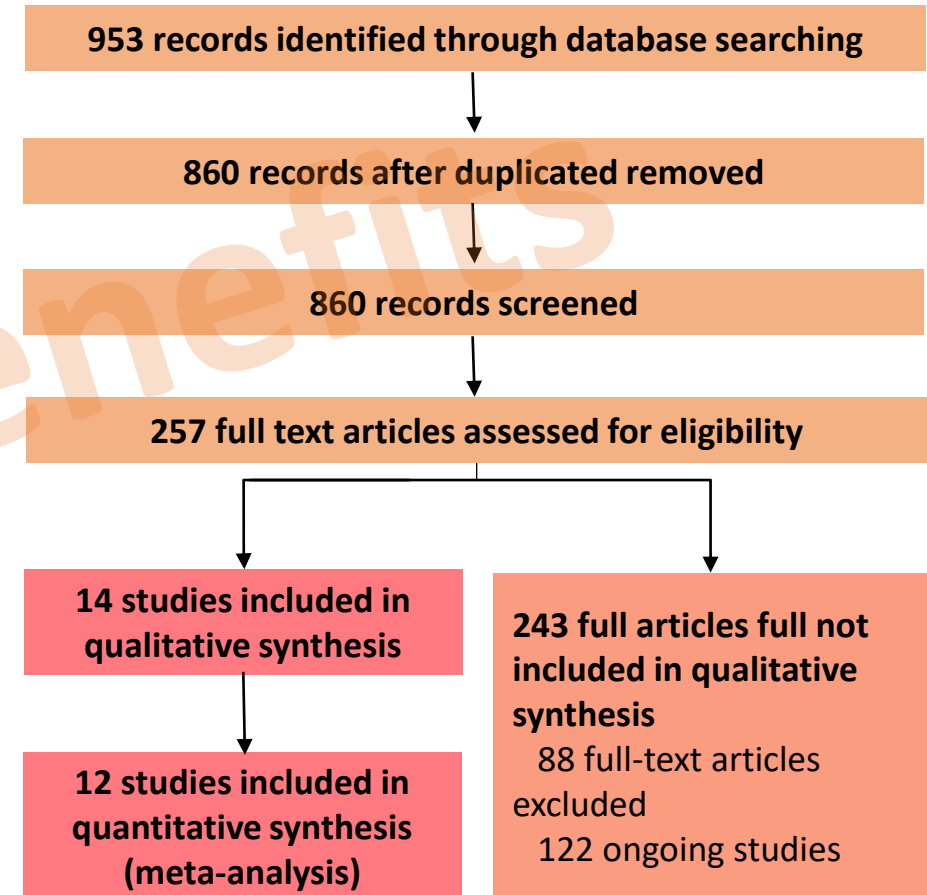
What targets for treatment?

5



Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ)

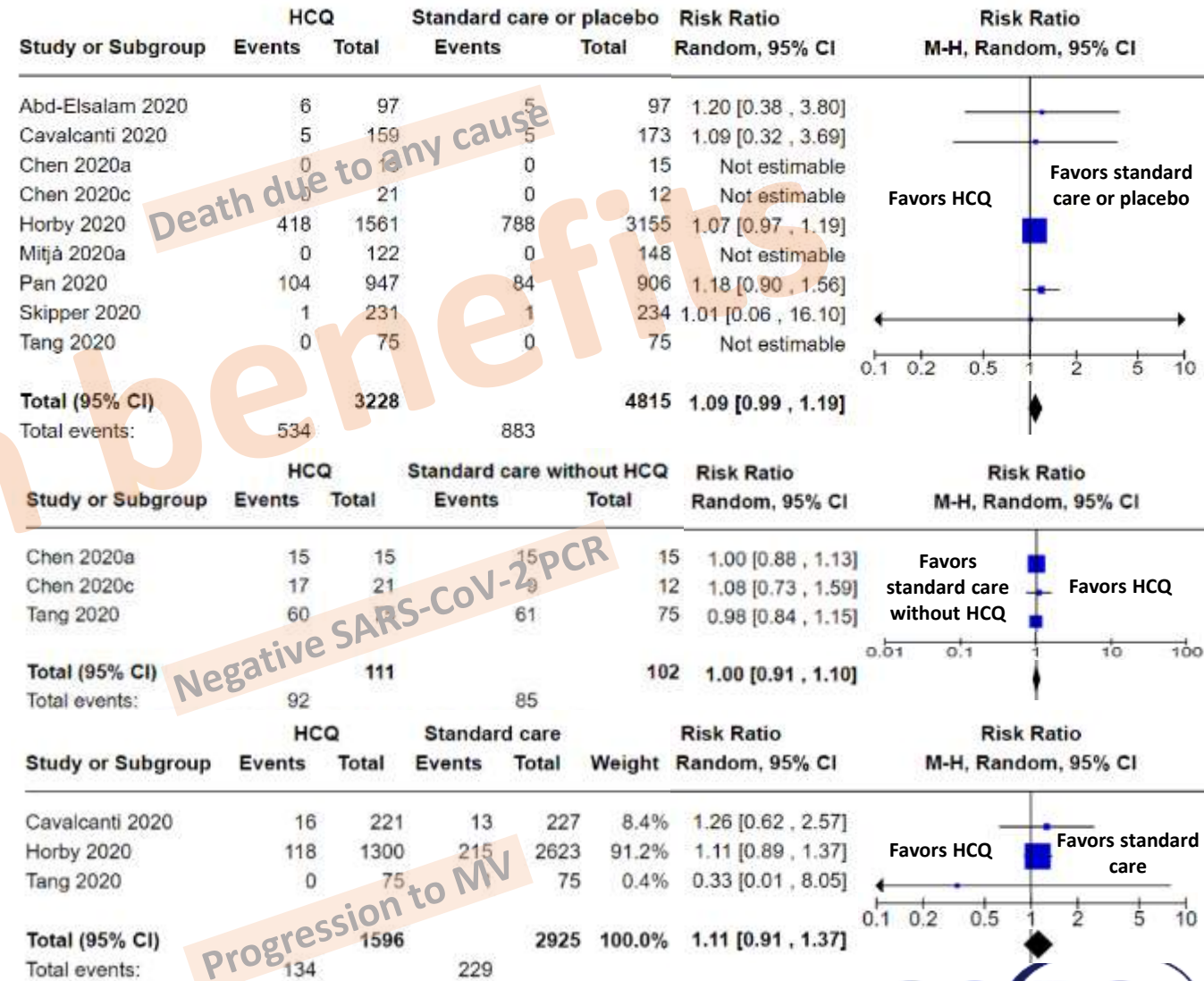
- Systematic review of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) , using standard Cochrane methods, academic study, UK
- **Inclusion criteria:** RCTs testing chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine in people with COVID-19, people at risk of COVID-19 exposure, and people exposed to COVID-19
- **Data collection:** Two review authors independently assessed eligibility of search results, extracted data from the included studies, and assessed risk of bias using the Cochrane “Risk of bias” tool
- **Outcomes:** Death due to any cause, negative PCR for SARS-CoV-2 on respiratory samples at D14 from enrolment, proportion admitted to hospital, progression to mechanical ventilation, length of hospital admission, time to clinical improvement, time to negative PCR for SARS-CoV-2 on respiratory samples, any adverse events...



Anti viral effect

Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ)

- HCQ makes little or no difference to **death due to any cause**, compared with no HCQ; RR: 1.09, 95% CI [0.99, 1.19]; 8040 participants; 9 trials
- HCQ may make little or no difference to the **likelihood of a negative PCR for SARS-CoV-2 on respiratory samples at day 14 from enrolment**; RR: 1, 95% CI [0.91, 1.10]; 213 participants; 3 trials
- HCQ probably results in little to no difference in **progression to mechanical ventilation**; RR: 1.11, 95% CI [0.91, 1.37]; 4521 participants; 3 trials



Anti viral effect

Lopinavir/ritonavir (LPVr)

1 st Author	Design	Groups	Participants	Primary outcome	Main results (Primary outcome)
Cao	Randomized, controlled, open-label	LPVr vs. SoC (Hospitalized)	N= 199 SaO ₂ ≤ 94% or PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ < 300 mm Hg	Time to clinical improvement	LPVr group not associated with a difference in time to clinical improvement HR: 1,31 _{95%} CI[0,95-1,80]
RECOVERY	Randomized, controlled, open-label	LPVr + SoC vs. SoC (Hospitalized)	N= 5 040 Not specified	28-day all-cause mortality	LPVr + SoC group: 364/1616 (23%) vs. SoC group 767/3424 (22%); RR: 1,03 _{95%} CI[0,91-1,17], p=0,60
Schoergenhofer	Experimental	One group (Hospitalized)	N= 8 Non ICU patients	LPVr plasma concentration	Approximately 2-fold higher than HIV patients receiving the same dose (7.1 µg/mL) 60 to 120-fold higher concentrations are required to reach the assumed LPV EC ₅₀

No virological data on some studies

Anti viral effect

Lopinavir/ritonavir (LPVr)

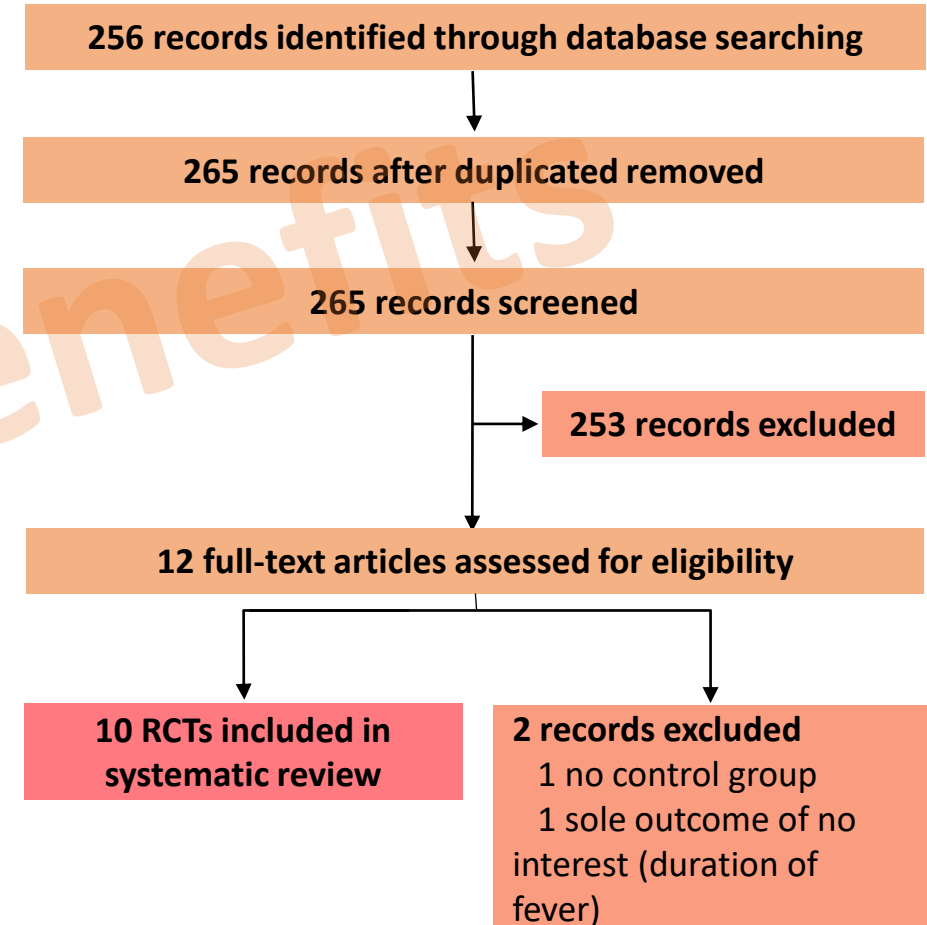
1 st Author	Design	Groups	Participants	Primary outcome	Main results (Primary outcome)
SOLIDARITY (WHO)	Multicenter, randomized, open-label, non-placebo-controlled	LPVr vs. control (Hospitalized)	N= 2 791 Study stopped for Futility	All-cause mortality	LPVr group : 148/1399 (9,7%) vs. placebo group: 146/1372 (10,3%); rate ratio: 1,00; _{95%} CI[0,79-1,25]; p= 0,97
Zhang	Systematic review and meta-analysis	LPVr vs. control specified (Hospitalized)	N= 4 023 Not specified	ARDS and Mortality rate	ARDS rate: LPVr group 15,6% vs. control group 24,2%; p= 0,49 Mortality rate: LPVr group 6,2% vs. control group 5,5%; p= 0,93
DISCOVERY*	Multicenter, randomized, open-label, superiority-controlled	LPVr + SoC vs. SoC (Hospitalized)	N= 150 SaO ₂ ≤ 94% or requiring supplemental O ₂	D15 clinical status	LPVr vs. control; adjusted odds ratio: 0,83; _{95%} CI[0,55-1,26]; p= 0,39

* Discovery study is included in Solidarity study

No virological data on some studies

Ivermectin (IVM)

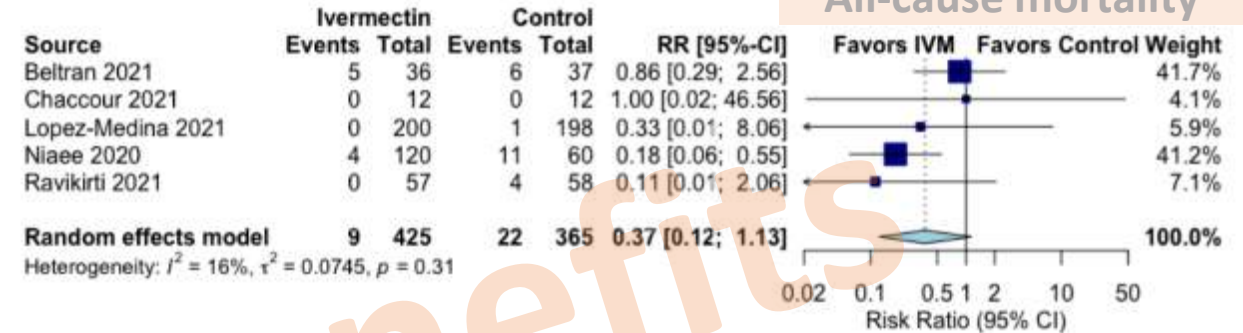
- Systematic review of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) , academic study, USA/Peru/Brazil
- **Inclusion criteria:** RCTs assessing ivermectin effects on COVID-19 adult patients, hospitalized and non-hospitalized, irrespective of severity
- **Data collection:** Two investigators independently screened titles and abstracts, data extracted from five databases and preprints, and assessed risk of bias using the Cochrane “Risk of bias” 2.0 tool
- **Outcomes:** all-cause mortality, length of hospital stay, and adverse events (AE), SARS-CoV-2 clearance on respiratory samples, clinical improvement, need for mechanical ventilation, and severe adverse events (SAE)



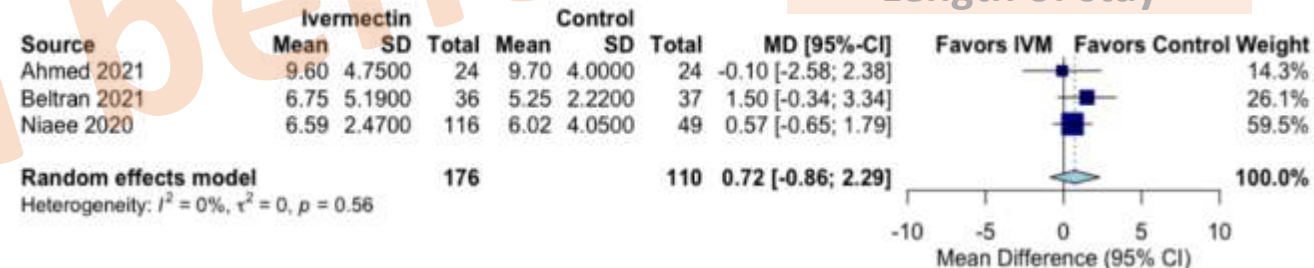
Ivermectin (IVM)

- IVM did not have effect on **all-cause mortality** compared with controls; RR: 0,37, 95% CI [0,12;1,13]; 425 participants; 5 trials
- IVM did not have effect on **length of stay** compared with controls; Mean difference: 0,72, 95% CI [-0,862;2,29]; 176 participants; 3 trials
- IVM did not have effect on **adverse events** compared with controls; RR: 0,95, 95% CI [0,79;1,07]; 425 participants; 5 trials
- No effect of IVM on **severe adverse events** in comparison to the controls; RR: 1,39, 95% CI [0,36;5,30]; 425 participants; 5 trials

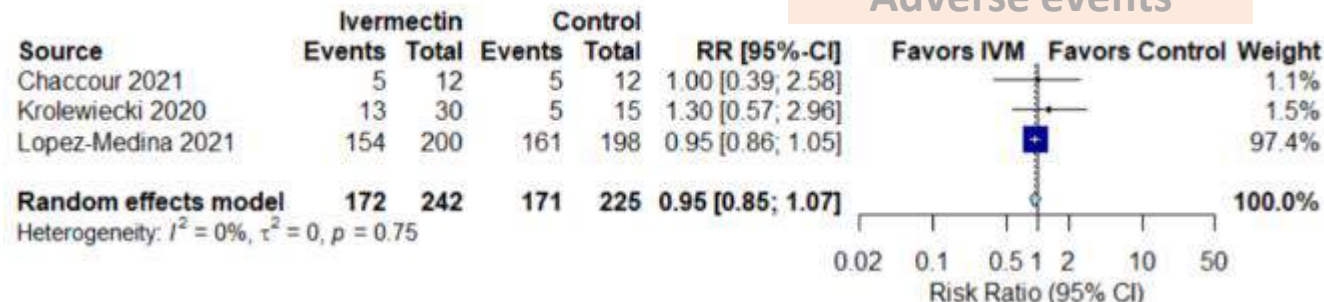
All-cause mortality



Length of stay



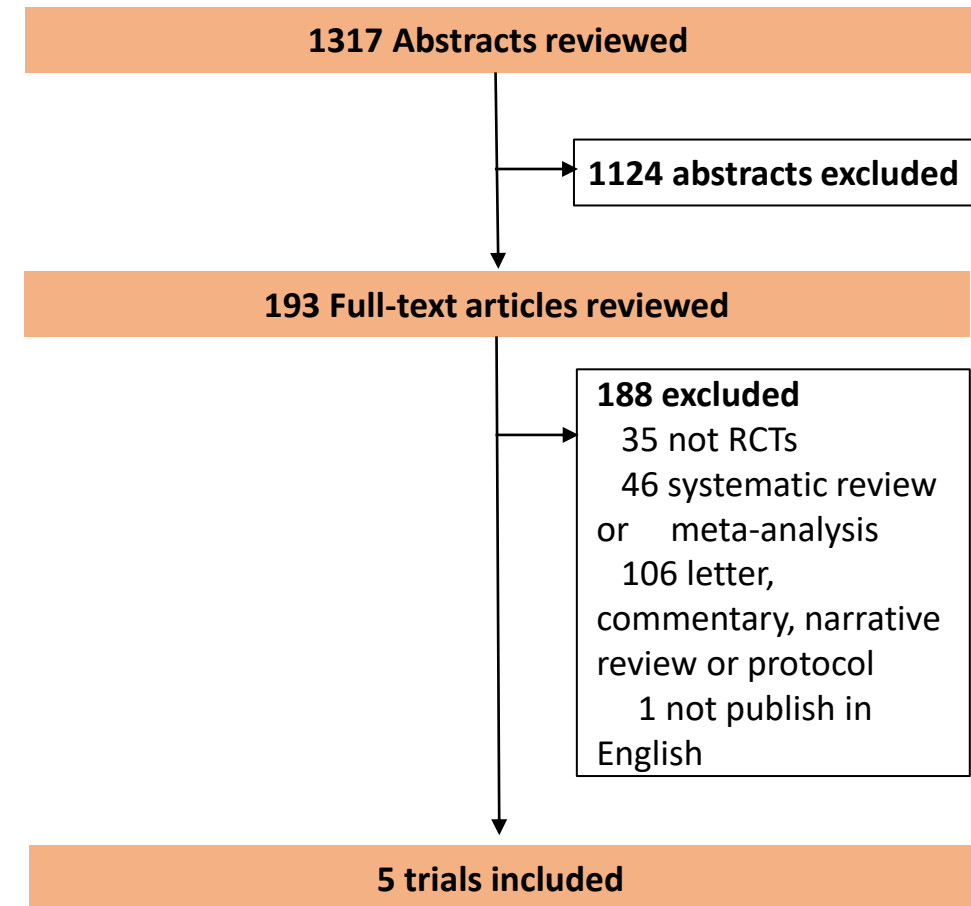
Adverse events



Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV)

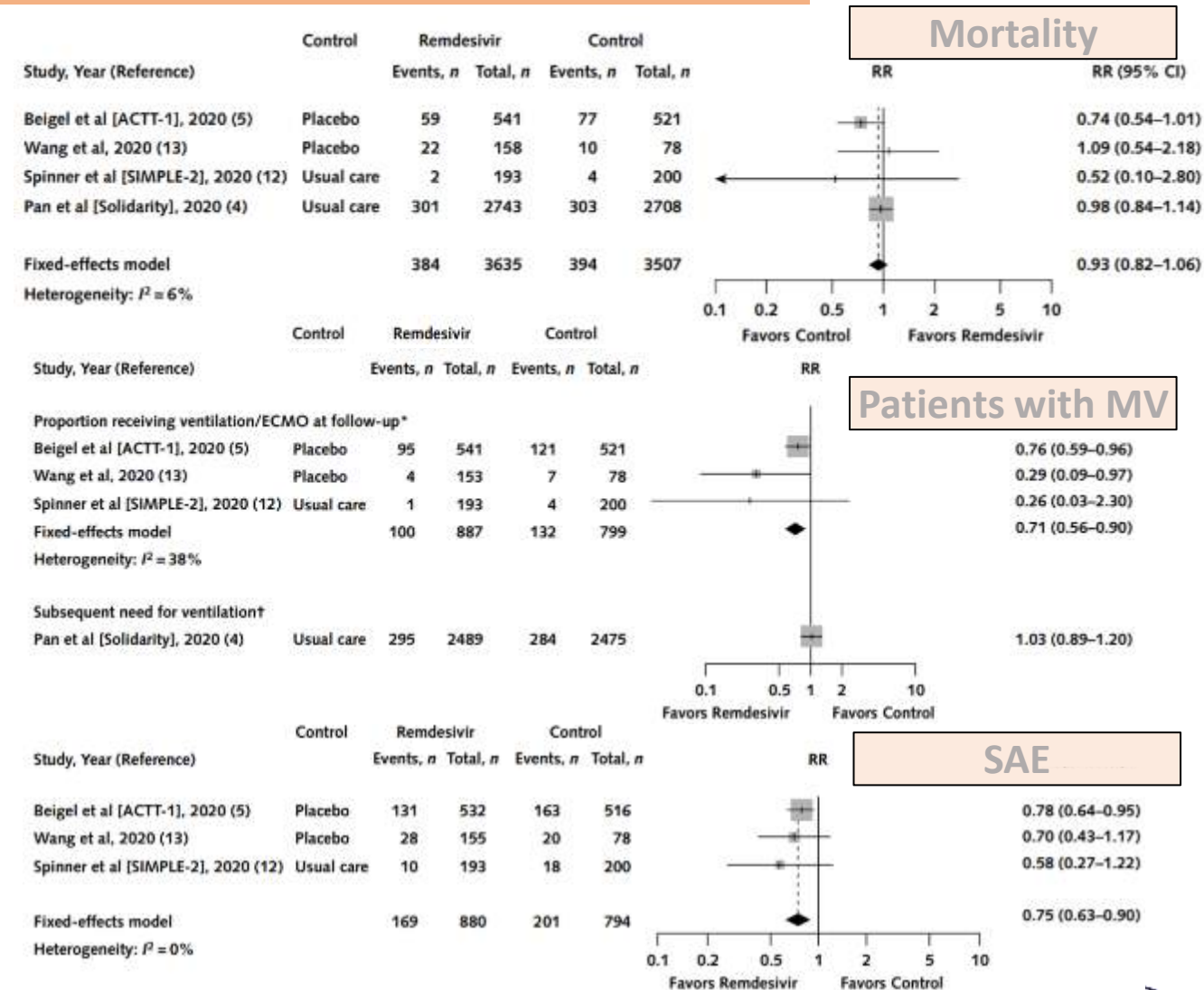
- Systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials (RCTs), academic study, USA
- **Inclusion criteria:** English-language, RCTs reporting on remdesivir for treatment of adults with confirmed or suspected COVID-19. Studies were eligible if they compared remdesivir *versus* placebo, standard care, or another agent
- **Data collection:** Two investigators; one abstracted data (study information, population, disease severity, intervention...), a second reviewer verified data. The Cochrane Risk of Bias Tool and Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation (GRADE) method were used
- **Outcomes:** all-cause mortality, percentage of patients who recovered, and serious adverse events (SAE)



Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV)

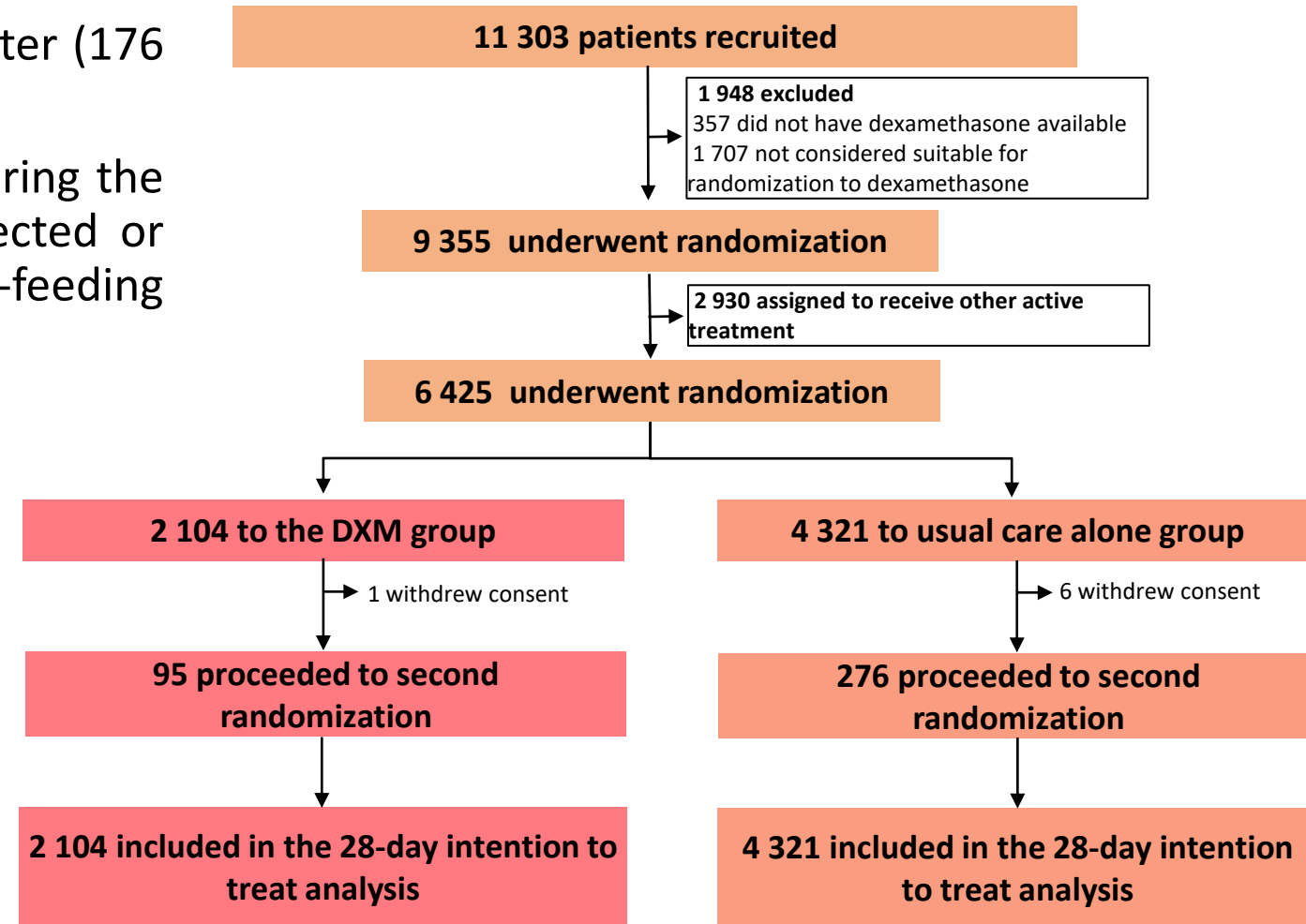
- Ten-day course of remdesivir probably results in little to no reduction in **mortality** compared with controls; RR: 0,93, 95% CI [0,82:1,06]; 3635 participants; 4 trials
- Ten-day course of remdesivir may result in a small reduction in the **proportion of patients receiving mechanical ventilation (MV)** compared with controls; RR: 0,71, 95% CI [0,56:0,90]; 887 participants; 3 trials
- Ten-day course of remdesivir probably reduces **serious adverse events (SAE)** by a moderate amount compared with controls; RR: 0,75, 95% CI [0,63:0,90]; 880 participants; 3 trials



Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 1

- Randomized, controlled, open-label, multi center (176 hospitals), academic study, UK (RECOVERY)
- **Inclusion criteria** : age ≥ 9 yo (age changed during the study)), SARS-CoV-2 infection (clinically suspected or laboratory confirmed), pregnant or breast-feeding women were eligible
- **Primary outcome**: all-cause mortality within 28 days after randomization
- **Secondary outcome**: time until discharge from hospital, invasive mechanical ventilation (including ECMO) or death (among patients not receiving invasive mechanical ventilation at randomization)
- **6 425** participants; **4 321** usual care alone group, **2 104** DXM group (2:1)



Immunomodulatory
effect

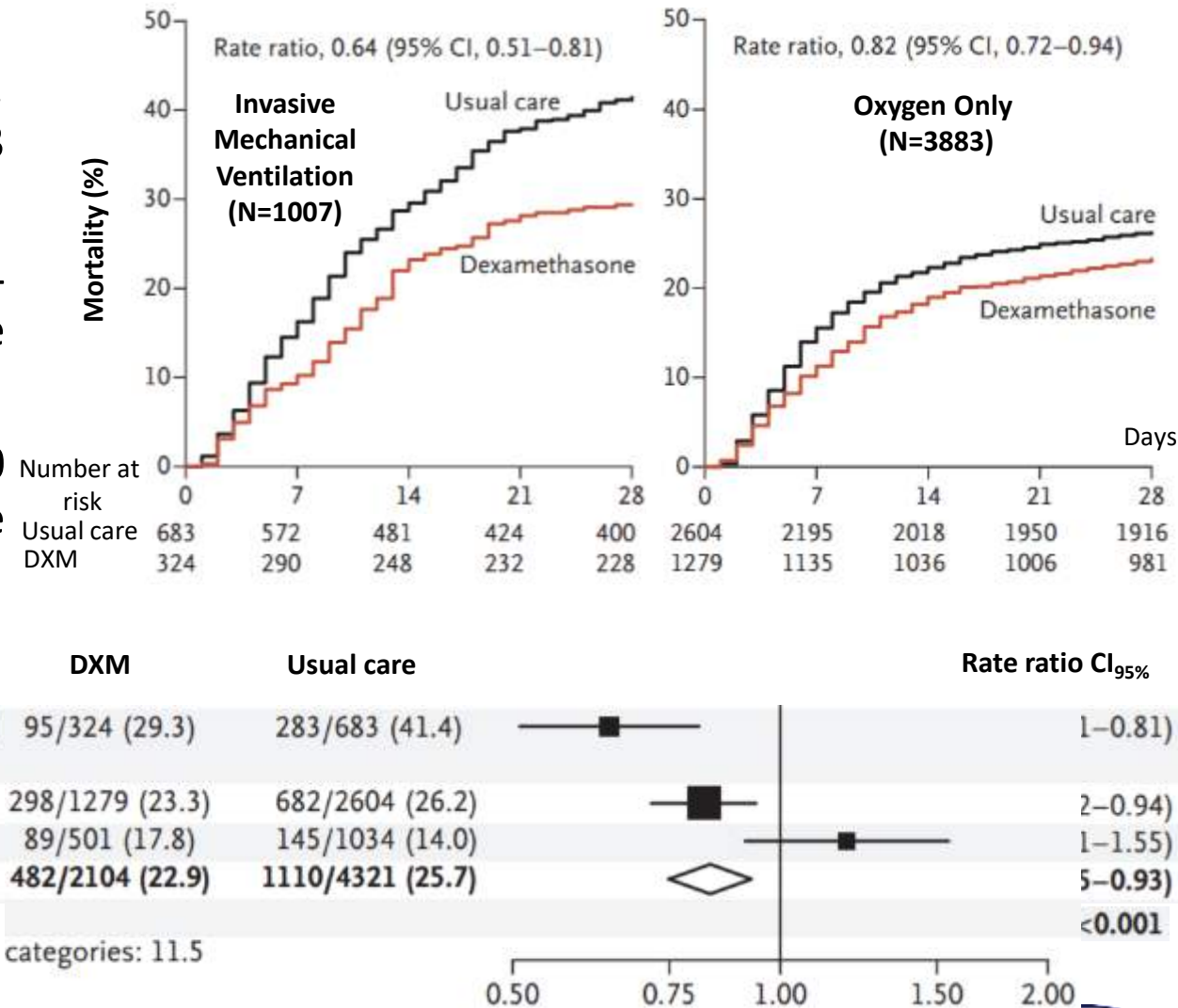
Corticosteroids (CT) - 1

Characteristics	Treatment assignment	
	DXM (N=2 104)	Usual care (N=4 321)
Age ≥ 70 yr – no (%)	963 (45)	1817 (42)
Female sex – no (%)	766 (36)	1572 (36)
Coexisting conditions		
Diabetes – no (%)	521 (25)	1025 (24)
Heart disease – no (%)	586 (49,1)	1171 (27)
Chronic lung disease – no (%)	415 (20)	931 (22)
SARS-CoV-2 test result		
Positive – no (%)	20 (18-22)	18 (18-20)
Respiratory support received		
No oxygen – no (%)	501 (24)	1034 (24)
Oxygen only – no (%)	1279 (61)	2604 (60)
Invasive mechanical ventilation – no (%)	324 (15)	683 (16)

Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 1

- **Day 28 mortality:** 482/2104 (22,9%) DXM group vs. 1110/4321 (25,7%) usual care group, risk ratio 0,83 $CI_{95\%}[0,75-0,93]$
- **Discharged from hospital within 28 days:** 1413/2104 (67,2%) DXM group vs. 2745/4321 (63,5%) usual care group, risk ratio 1,10 $CI_{95\%}[1,03-1,17]$
- **Invasive mechanical ventilation or death:** 456/1780 (25,6%) DXM group vs. 994/3638 (27,3%) usual care group, risk ratio 0,92 $CI_{95\%}[0,84-1,01]$
- **Limits:** Preliminary report, patients without confirmed SARS-CoV-2 positive PCR included, age of inclusion changed during the study, absence of viral load follow-up



Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 2

- Prospective Meta-analysis, academic study, WHO Rapid Evidence Appraisal for COVID-19 Therapies (REACT) Working Group
- **Objective:** estimate the association between administration of corticosteroids compared with usual care or placebo and 28-day all-cause mortality
- **Primary outcome:** all-cause mortality at 28 days after randomization
- **Secondary outcome:** investigator-defined serious adverse events
- 1703 included participants; **678 (40%) corticosteroid group** (systemic dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, or methylprednisolone); **1025 (60%) usual care or placebo group**

16 Trials identified

13 Found via database searches
3 Found via other sources

16 Screened after duplicates removed

7 Excluded

3 Wrong interventions
3 Not yet recruiting
1 ineligible population

9 Trial investigators contacted for participation

2 Excluded

1 No response
1 Declined participation due to ongoing recruiting for trial

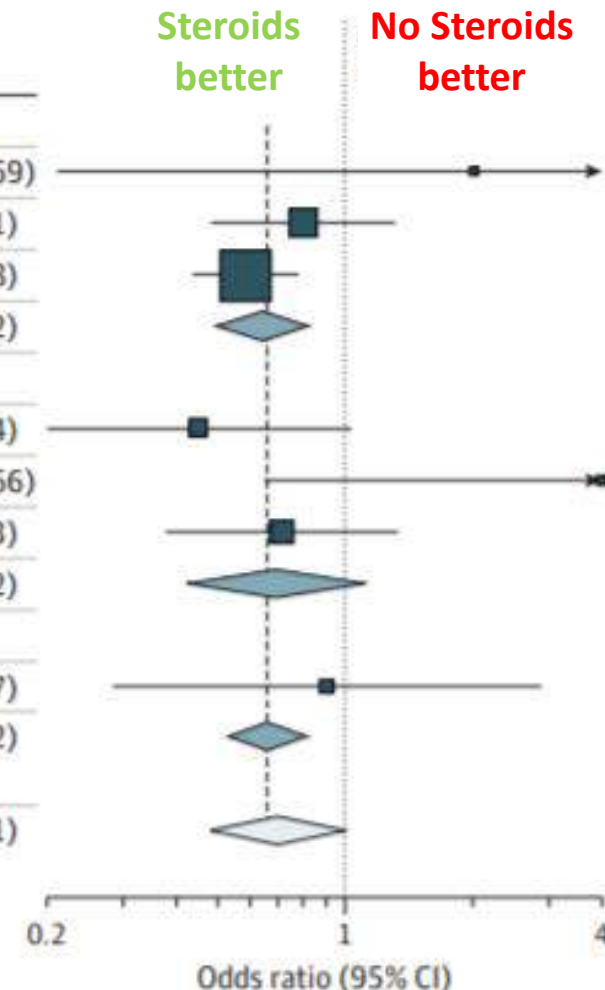
7 Trial included in quantitative synthesis (meta-analysis)

Immunomodulatory effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 2

- 222/678 deaths among patients randomized to corticosteroids group vs. 425/1025 deaths among patients randomized to usual care or placebo; OR: 0,66 IC_{95%} [0,53-0,82]; $p < 0,001$ fixed-effect meta-analysis)
- **Association with mortality:** **DXM:** 0,64 IC_{95%} [0,5-0,82]; $p < 0,001$ (3 trials), **HC:** 0,69 IC_{95%} [0,43-1,12]; $p = 0,13$ (3 trials), **mPred:** 0,91 IC_{95%} [0,29-2,87]; $p = 0,87$ (1 trial)
- **Limits:** risk of selective reporting or of publication bias, missing outcome data, trials only recruited adults, effect of corticosteroids on children remains unclear

Drug and trial	No. of deaths/total No. of patients		Odds ratio (95% CI)
	Steroids	No steroids	
Dexamethasone			
DEXA-COVID 19	2/7	2/12	2.00 (0.21-18.69)
CoDEX	69/128	76/128	0.80 (0.49-1.31)
RECOVERY	95/324	283/683	0.59 (0.44-0.78)
Subgroup fixed effect	166/459	361/823	0.64 (0.50-0.82)
Hydrocortisone			
CAPE COVID	1/75	20/73	0.46 (0.20-1.04)
COVID STEROID	6/15	2/14	4.00 (0.65-24.66)
REMAP-CAP	26/105	29/92	0.71 (0.38-1.33)
Subgroup fixed effect	43/195	51/179	0.69 (0.43-1.12)
Methylprednisolone			
Steroids-SARI	13/24	13/23	0.91 (0.29-2.87)
Overall (fixed effect)	222/678	425/1025	0.66 (0.53-0.82)
P = .31 for heterogeneity			
Overall (random effects ^a)	222/678	425/1025	0.70 (0.48-1.01)



Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 3

Author	CT	Design	Groups	Participants	Primary outcome	Main results (primary outcome)
Fadel R	mPred	Multi-center, quasi- experimental	mPred vs. no mPred	N=213 Moderate to severe COVID-19, Median time to CT initiation from admission: 2 days (1-4)	Escalation of care from ward to ICU	SoC group 31 (44,3%) vs. mPred group 32 (27,3%) OR: 0,47 _{95%} CI[0,25-0,88], p= 0,017
					New requirement for MV	SoC group 26 (36,6%) vs. CT group 26 (21,7%) OR: 0,47 _{95%} CI[0,25-0,92], p= 0,025
					Death	SoC group 21 (26,3%) vs. CT group 18 (13,6%) OR: 0,45 _{95%} CI[0,22-0,91], p= 0,024
Nelson B	mPred	Case-control study	mPred vs. control	N=117 Requiring MV Median time from symptom onset to admission: 7 days (3–8)	D28 ventilator-free after admission	mPred group 6,2 vs. control group 3,14, p=0,044

Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 4

Author	CT	Design	Groups	Participants	Primary outcome	Main results (primary outcome)
Prado Jeronimo	mPred	Parallel, double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized	mPred vs. placebo	N=416 Suspected COVID-19 hospitalized patients Median time from illness onset to randomization: 13 days (9–16)	D28 mortality	mPred group 72/194 (37,1%) vs. placebo group 76/199 (38,2%) HR: 0,924 ^{95%} CI[0,669-1,275]; p= 0,629
Tomazini	DXM	Multicenter, randomized, open-label	DXM + SoC vs. SoC	N= 299 Receiving MV, Median time since symptom onset: DXM group: 9 days (7-11) vs. SoC group 10 days (6-12)	Ventilator-free days during the first 28 days	Study interrupted DXM + SoC group 6,6 IC _{95%} [5-8,2] vs. SoC group 4,0 ^{95%} CI[2,9-5,4]; p= 0,04

Immunomodulatory
effect

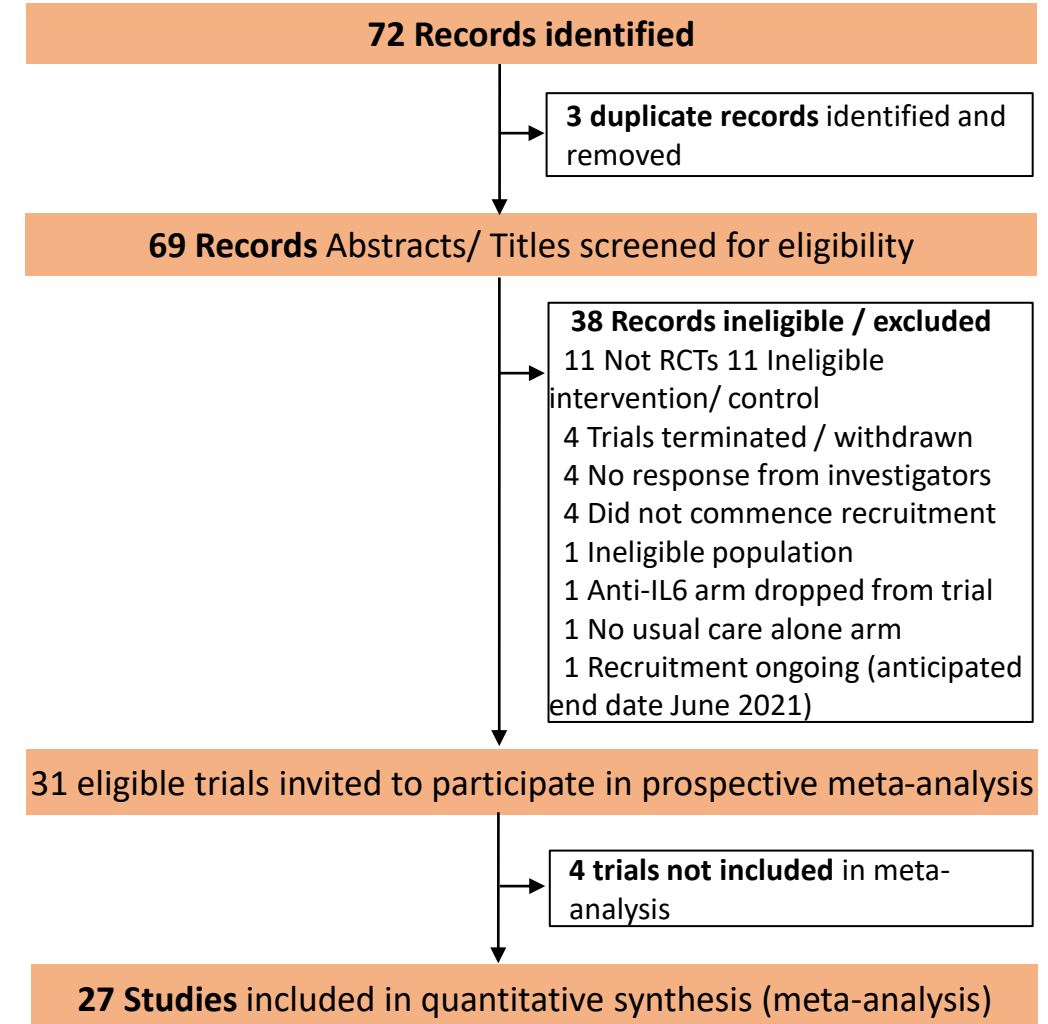
Corticosteroids (CT) - 5

Author	CT	Design	Groups	Participants	Primary outcome	Main results (primary outcome)
Dequin	HC	Multicenter randomized double-blind	HC vs. placebo	N=149 Critically ill, acute respiratory failure Median durations of symptoms prior to randomization: HC group 9 days (7-11,5) vs. placebo group 10 days (8-12)	D21 treatment failure	Study stopped early HC group 32/76 (42,1%) vs. placebo group 37/76 (50,7%) p= 0,29
Angus	HC	Multicenter, open label trial	HC vs. placebo	N=384 Admitted in ICU for respiratory or cardiovascular organ support	D21 respiratory and cardiovascular organ support-free	Study stopped early No treatment strategy met prespecified criteria for statistical superiority, precluding definitive conclusions

Immunomodulatory
effect

IL-6 Receptor Antagonist

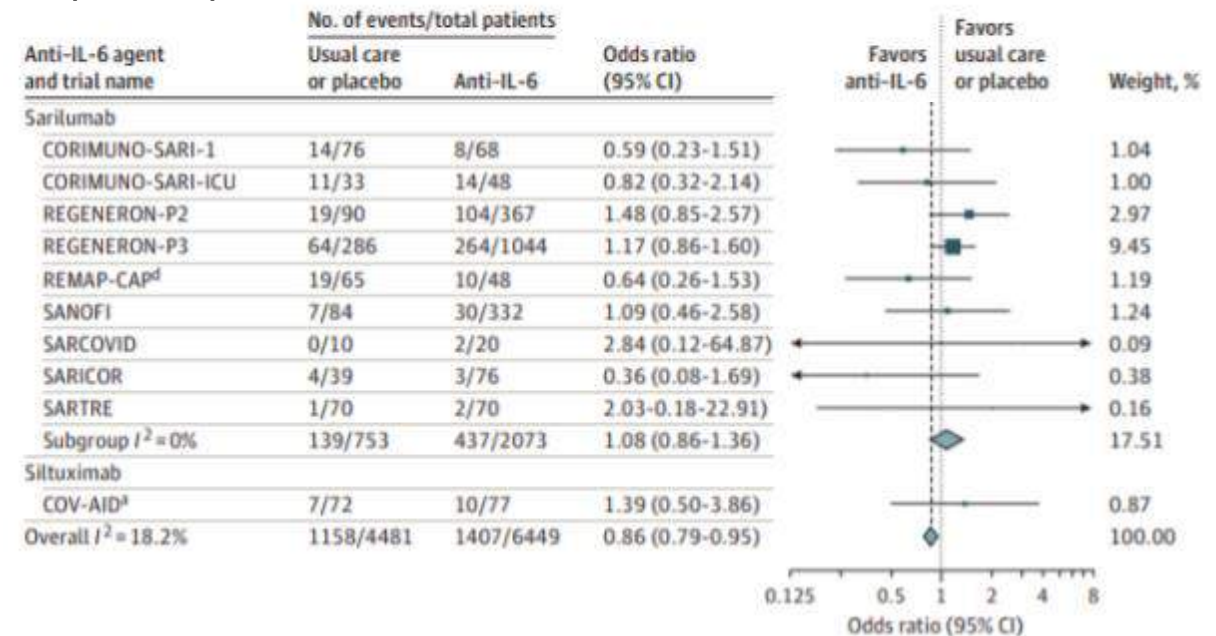
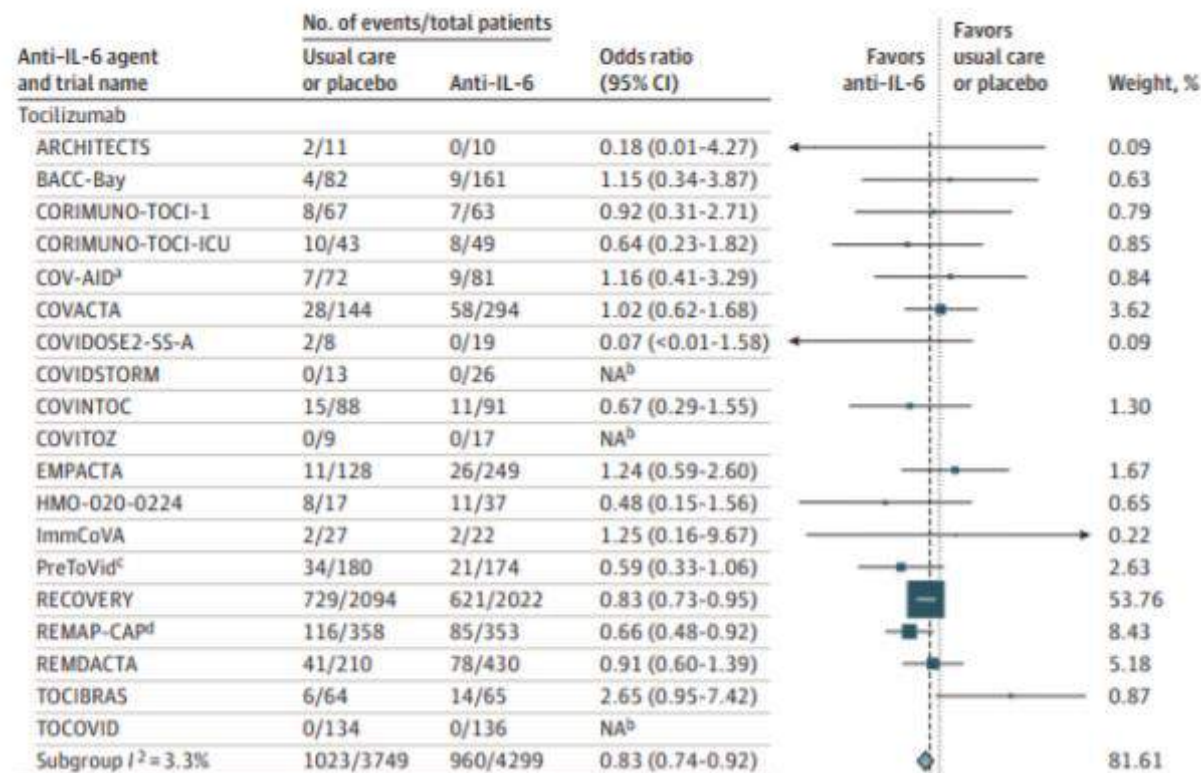
- Prospective meta-analysis, WHO Rapid Evidence Appraisal for COVID-19 Therapies (REACT) Working Group
- **Inclusion criteria:** clinical trials, hospitalized COVID-19 patients, administration of IL-6 antagonists compared with usual care or placebo
- **Data collection:** systematic searches of ClinicalTrials.gov, EU Clinical Trials Register, WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform. Search terms employed included IL-6, IL-6 antagonist, tocilizumab, sarilumab, COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2. Bias assessed using version 2 of the “Cochrane Risk of Bias”. GRADE approach used to assess certainty of the evidence
- **Outcomes:** all-cause mortality at 28 days after randomization



Immunomodulatory
effect

IL-6 Receptor Antagonist

- **D28 all-cause mortality tocilizumab:** 960/4299 (22%) tocilizumab group vs. 1023/3749 (25%) usual care or placebo group; OR: 0,83, $_{95\%}$ CI [0,74:0,92]; $p < 0,001$, 8048 participants; 19 trials.
- **D28 all-cause mortality sarilumab:** 473/2073 (26%) sarilumab group vs. 139/753 (25%) usual care or placebo group; OR: 1,08, $_{95\%}$ CI [0,86:1,36]; $p = 0,52$, 2826 participants; 9 trials

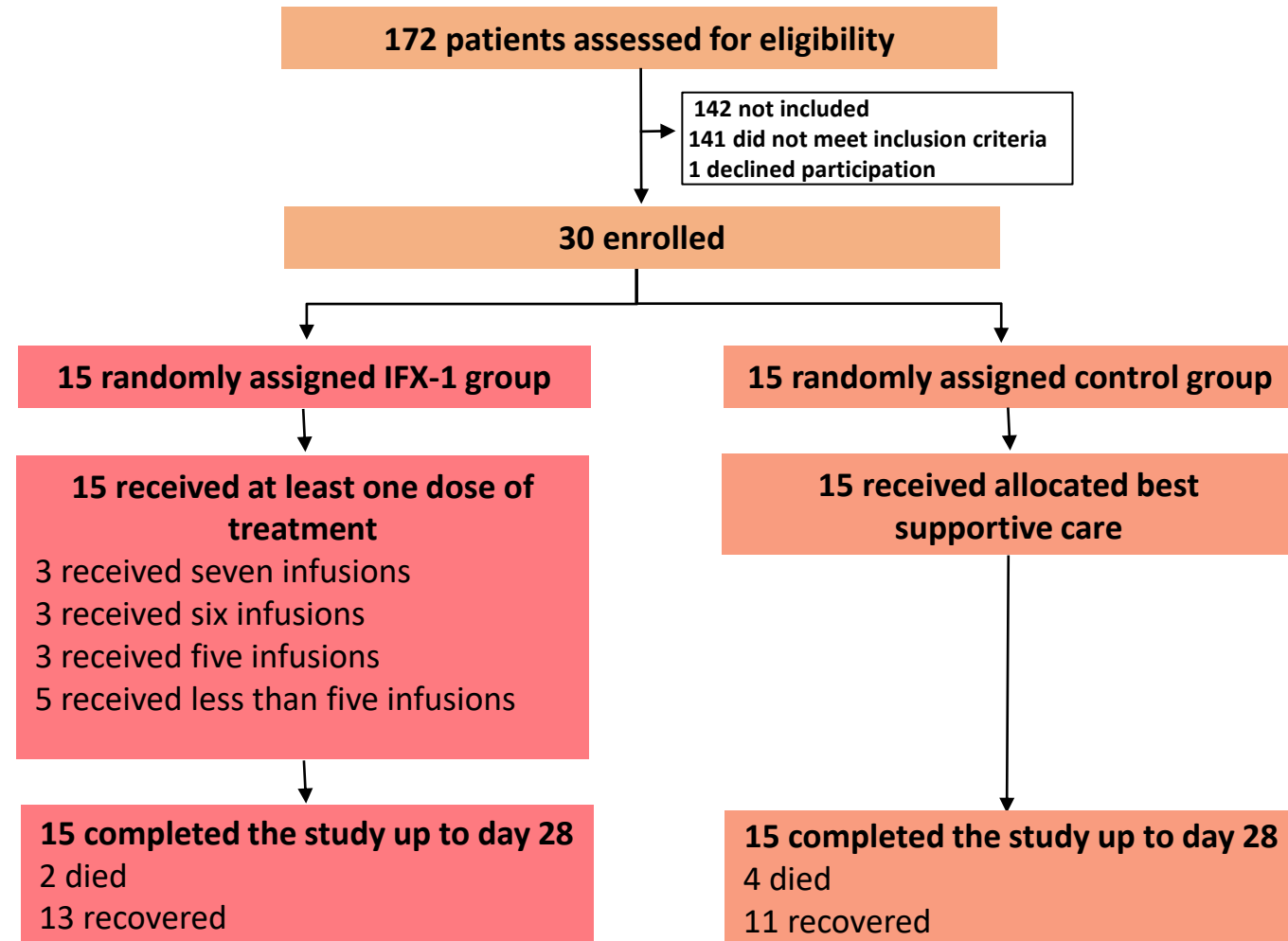


- **D28 all-cause mortality overall IL-6 Receptor antagonist:** 1407/6449 (22%) IL6 group vs. 1158/4481 (25%) usual care or placebo group; OR: 0,86, $_{95\%}$ CI [0,79:0,95]; $p = 0,003$

Monoclonal
antibody

Vilobelimab (IFX-1)

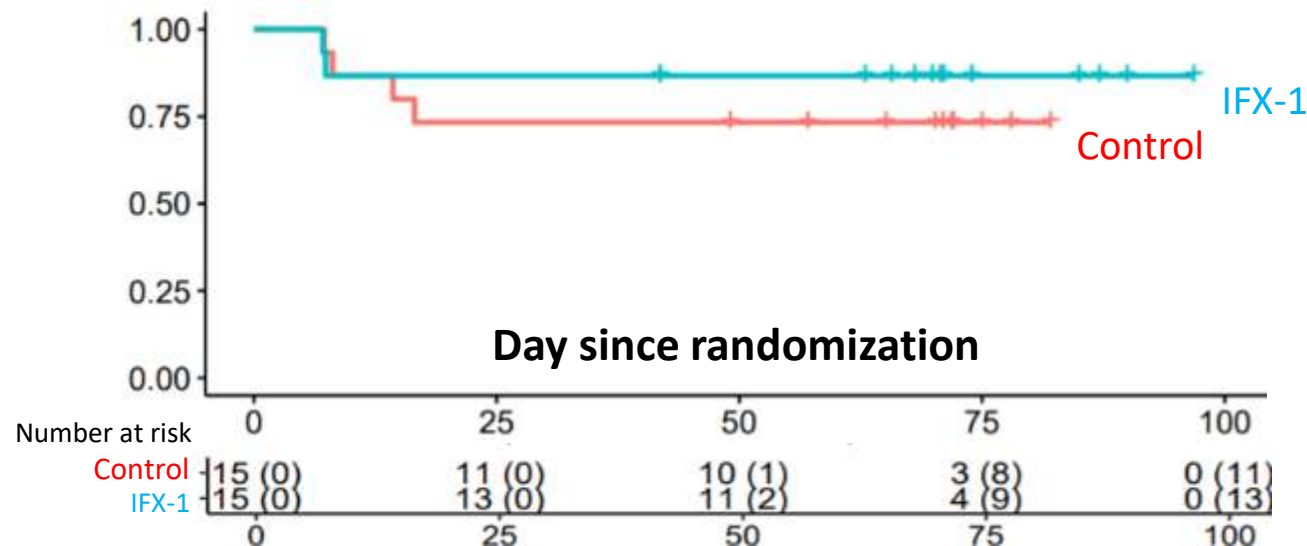
- **IFX-1:** anti-complement C5a monoclonal antibody
- Exploratory, open label, randomized, phase 2, multicenter, academic study, Netherlands
- **Inclusion criteria** : age ≥ 18 yo, severe pneumonia ($\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2$ between [100-250] mmHg), positive RT-PCR SARS-CoV-2 test, requiring non-invasive or invasive ventilation
- **Primary outcome:** Day 5 $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2$ percentage change from the baseline
- **Secondary outcome:** Day 28 mortality
- **30 participants; 15 control group, 15 IFX-1 treated group (1:1)**



Monoclonal
antibody

Vilobelimab (IFX-1)

- **Day 5 PaO₂/FiO₂ percentage change:** no differences; IFX-1 group (17%) vs. control group (41%); difference -24%
95%CI[-58-9], p=0,15
- **D28 mortality:** IFX-1 group 13%; 95%CI[0-31] vs. control group 27 %; 95%CI[7-49]; HR=0,65 95%CI[0,1-4,14]



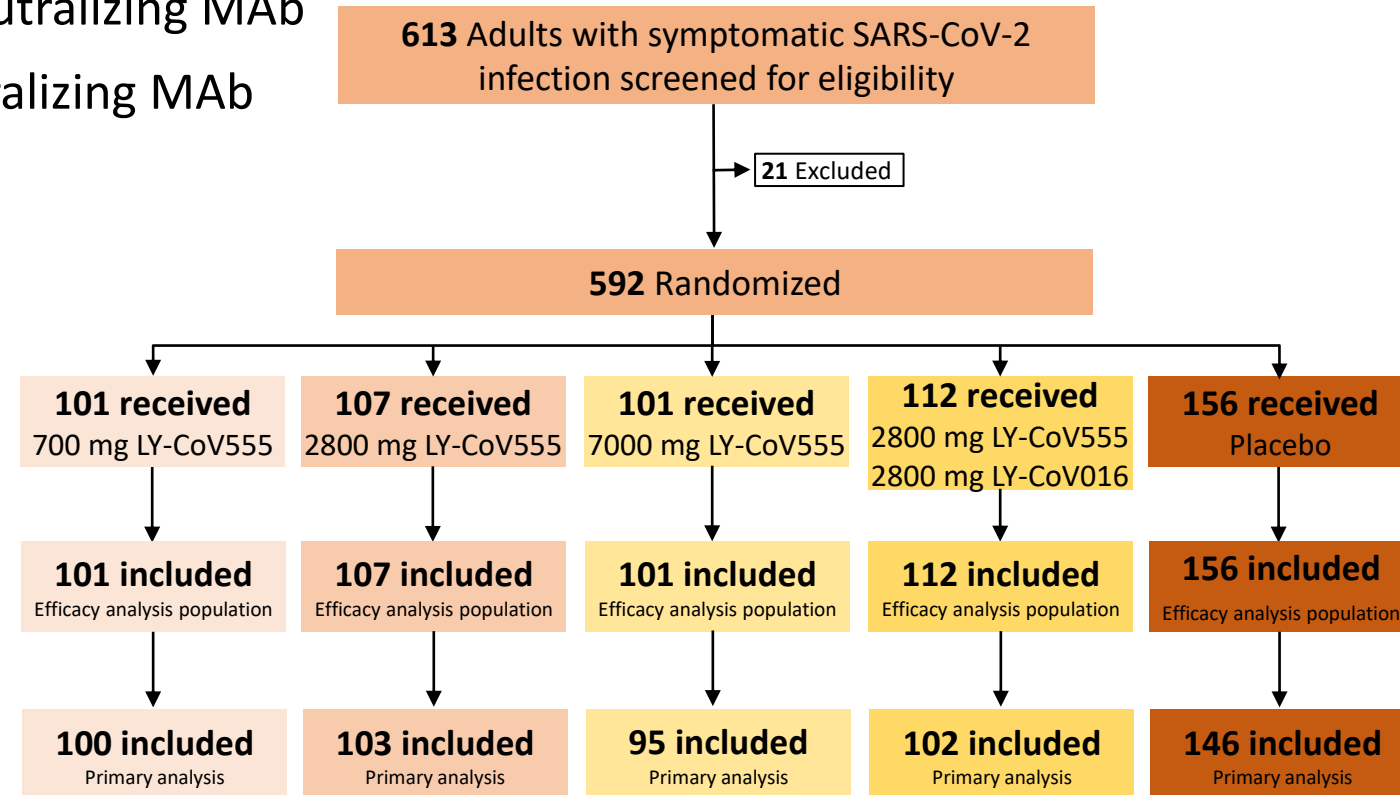
- **Limits:** patient heterogeneity, open label study, very low number of participants (15 in each group)

Characteristics	IFX-1 (N=15)	Control (N=15)
Age, mean (SD) - yr	58 (9)	63 (8)
Male sex – no (%)	11 (73)	11 (73)
Coexisting conditions		
Hypertension – no (%)	6 (40)	3 (20)
Diabetes – no (%)	4 (27)	4 (27)
Obesity – no (%)	2 (13)	4 (27)
Respiratory support		
Intubated at randomization – no (%)	8 (53)	10 (67)
Oxygen mask – no (%)	6 (40)	2 (13)
Nasal cannula – no (%)	1(7)	3 (20)

Monoclonal
antibody

LY-CoV555 and LY-CoV016 - 1

- **LY-CoV555** (bamlanivimab): potent antispikes neutralizing MAb
- **LY-CoV016** (etesevimab): potent antispikes neutralizing MAb
- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter, USA (BLAZE-1)
- **Inclusion criteria** : age ≥ 18 yo, not hospitalized, ≥ 1 mild or moderate COVID-19 symptoms, first positive SARS-CoV-2 viral infection ≤ 3 days prior to start of the infusion
- **Primary outcome**: effect of LY-CoV555 monotherapy and combination therapy with LY-CoV555 and LY-CoV016 compared with placebo on SARSCoV-2 log viral load from baseline to day 11 (± 4 days)
- **577 participants**; 101 LY-CoV555 700 mg group, 107 LY-CoV555 2800 mg group, 101 LY-CoV555 7000 mg group, 112 LY-CoV555 2800 mg + LY-CoV016 2800 mg group, 156 placebo group



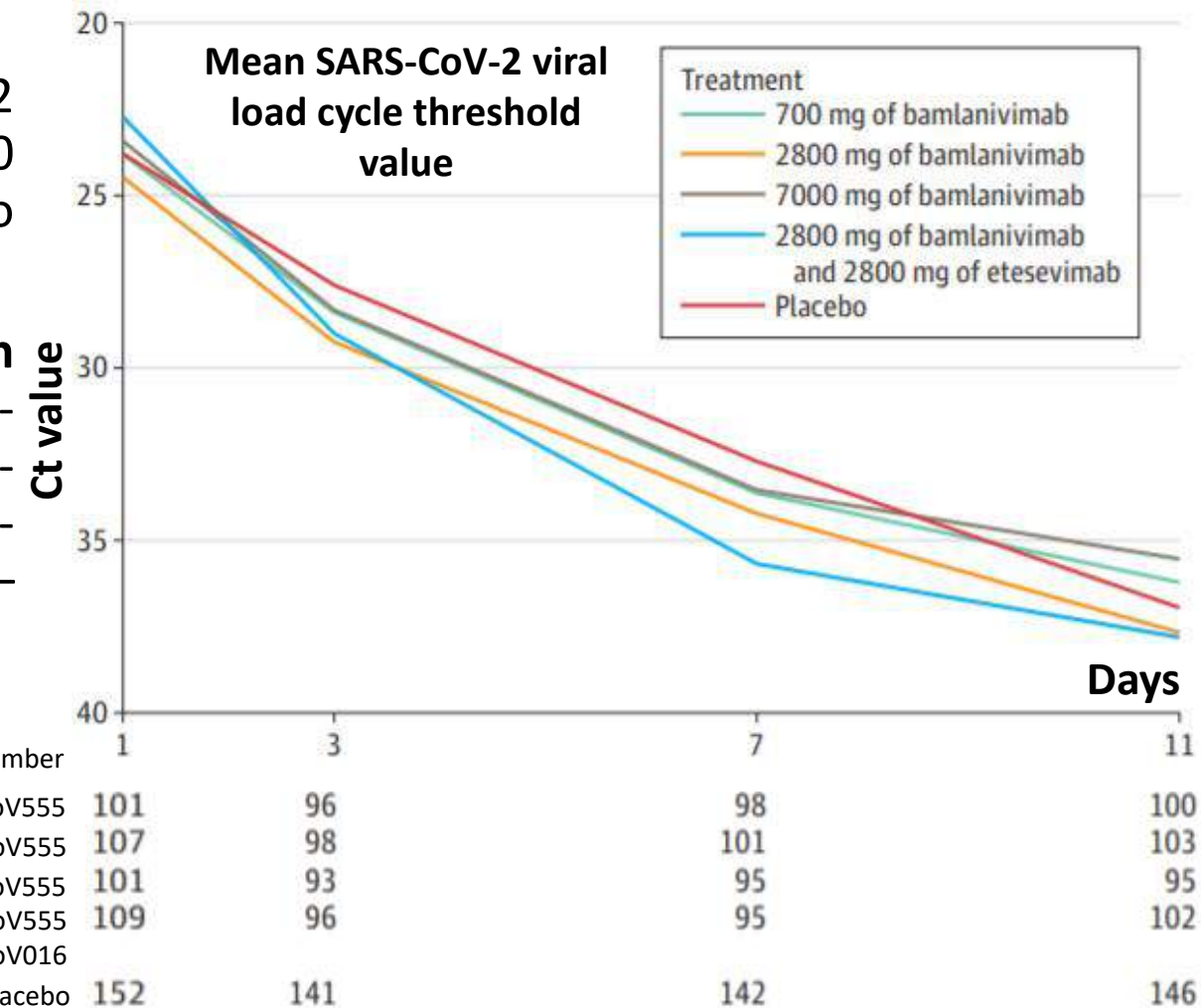
Monoclonal
antibody

LY-CoV555 and LY-CoV016 - 1

Characteristics	LY-CoV555			LY-CoV555 + LY-CoV016	Placebo
	700 mg N=101	2800 mg N=107	7000 mg N=101	2800 mg + 2800 mg N= 112	N= 156
Age (y) – median (IQR)	39 (31-58)	45 (31-56)	46 (34-55)	44 (30-60)	46 (35-57)
Female sex – no (%)	63 (62.4)	51 (47.7)	58 (57.4)	58 (51.8)	85 (54.5)
BMI (kg/m ²) – median (IQR)	28,8 (25,1-35,4)	30,4 (25,6-34,0)	27,8 (24,7-32,3)	27,2 (22,9-33,0)	29,2 (25,9-34,2)
Duration of symptoms (days) , median (IQR)	5 (3-6)	4 (3-6)	4 (2-7)	4 (3-5)	4 (3-6)
SARS-CoV-2 Ct – mean (SD)	23,8 (6,5)	24,5 (7,6)	23,4 (6,8)	22,7 (8,0)	23,8 (7,8)
COVID-19 severity					
Mild – no (%)	83 (82,2)	79 (73,8)	70 (69,3)	92 (82,1)	125 (80,1)
Moderate – no (%)	18 (17,8)	28 (26,2)	31 (30,7)	20 (17,9)	31 (19,9)

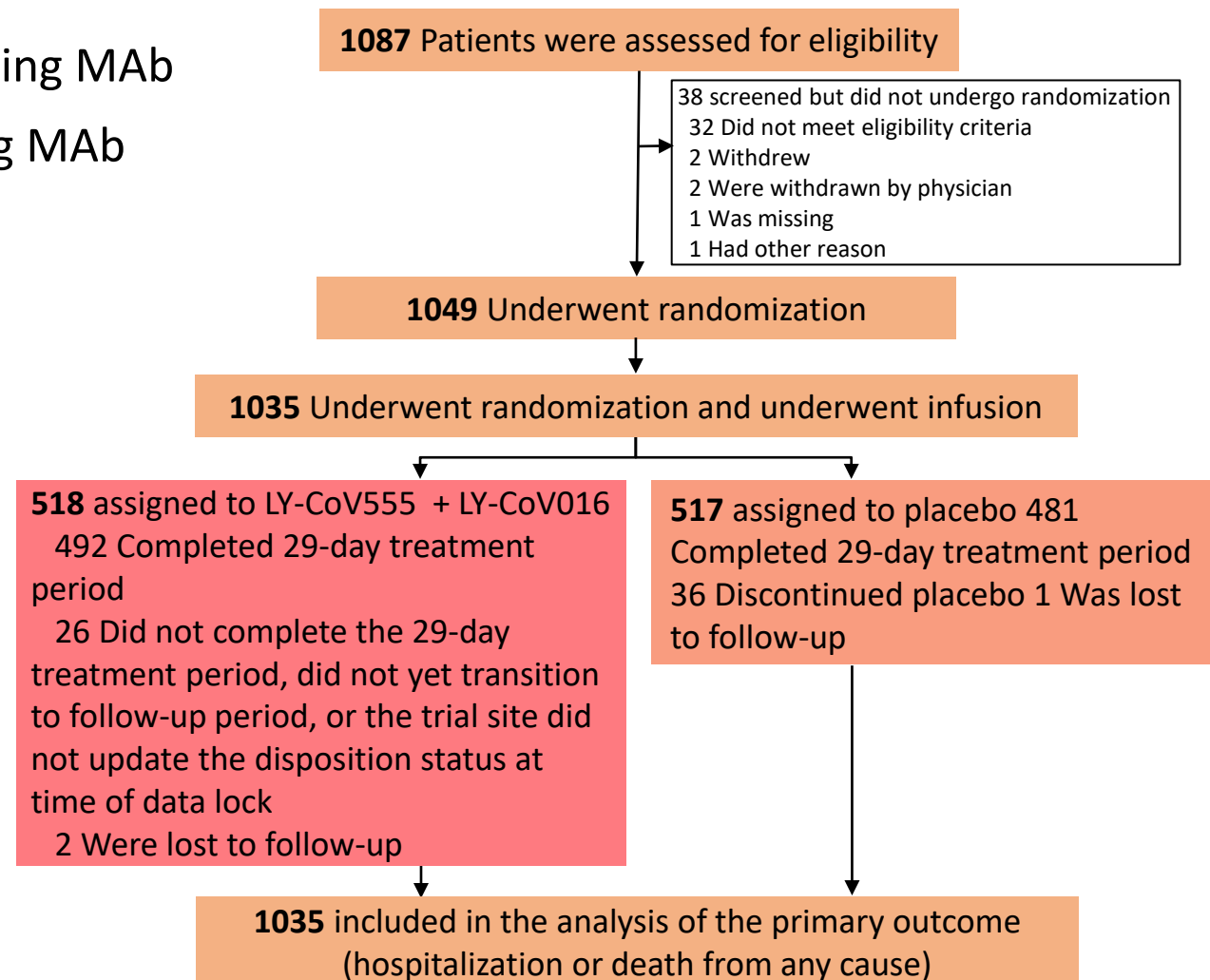
LY-CoV555 and LY-CoV016 - 1

- **D11 change from baseline SARS-CoV-2 viral load:** -3,72 700 mg group vs. - 4,08 2800 mg group vs. -3,49 7000 mg group, -4,37 combination treat group, -3,80 placebo group
- **Compared with placebo, differences in the change in log viral load at D11:** 700 mg group 0,09; 95% CI[-0,35 - 0,52], p=0,69, vs. 2800 mg group -0,27; 95% CI[-0,71 - 0,16], p=0,21, vs. 7000 mg group 0,31; 95% CI[-0,13 - 0,76], p=0,16 vs. combination treatment -0,57 95% CI, [-1,00 - -0,14], p = 0,01
- **Limits:** small patient population, trial originally designed as a safety and biomarker study
- **Importance to check the impact of variants on the neutralizing capacity of said antibodies**



LY-CoV555 and LY-CoV016 - 2

- **LY-CoV555** (bamlanivimab): potent antispikes neutralizing MAb
- **LY-CoV016** (etesevimab): potent antispikes neutralizing MAb
- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter, USA (BLAZE-1)
- **Inclusion criteria** : age ≥ 12 yo, not hospitalized, ≥ 1 mild or moderate COVID-19 symptoms, first positive SARS-CoV-2 viral infection ≤ 3 days prior to start of the infusion
- **Primary outcome**: Day-29 Covid-19-related hospitalization (acute care for ≥ 24 hours) or death from any cause
- **1035** participants; **518 LY-CoV555 + LY-CoV016** group, **517 placebo** group (1:1)



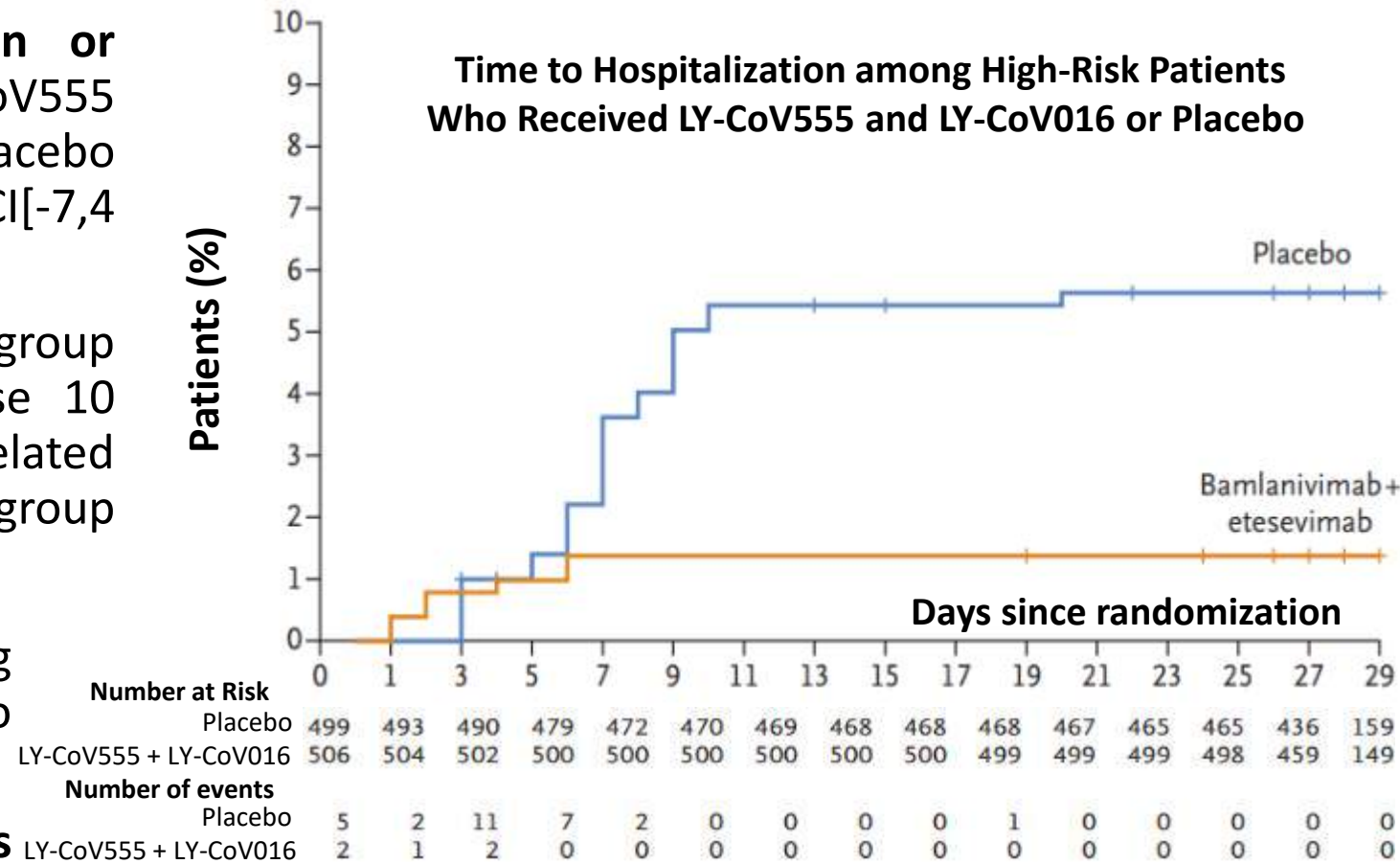
Monoclonal
antibody

LY-CoV555 and LY-CoV016 - 2

Characteristics	LY-CoV555 + LY-CoV016	Placebo
	N= 518	N= 517
Age (y) – mean (SD)	54,3 (17,1)	53,3 (16,4)
BMI (kg/m ²) – median (IQR)	34,14	33,90
Median days from symptom onset to randomization — no (range)	4 (0–29)	4 (0–13)
SARS-CoV-2 viral load (Ct) – mean	23,98	23,97
Risk of severe Covid-19		
High – no/total no (%)	493/518 (95,2)	490/517 (94,8)
Low – no/total no (%)	25/518 (4,8)	27/517 (5,2)
COVID-19 severity		
Mild – no (%)	397 (76,6)	403 (77,9)
Moderate – no (%)	121 (23,4)	114 (22,1)

LY-CoV555 and LY-CoV016 - 2

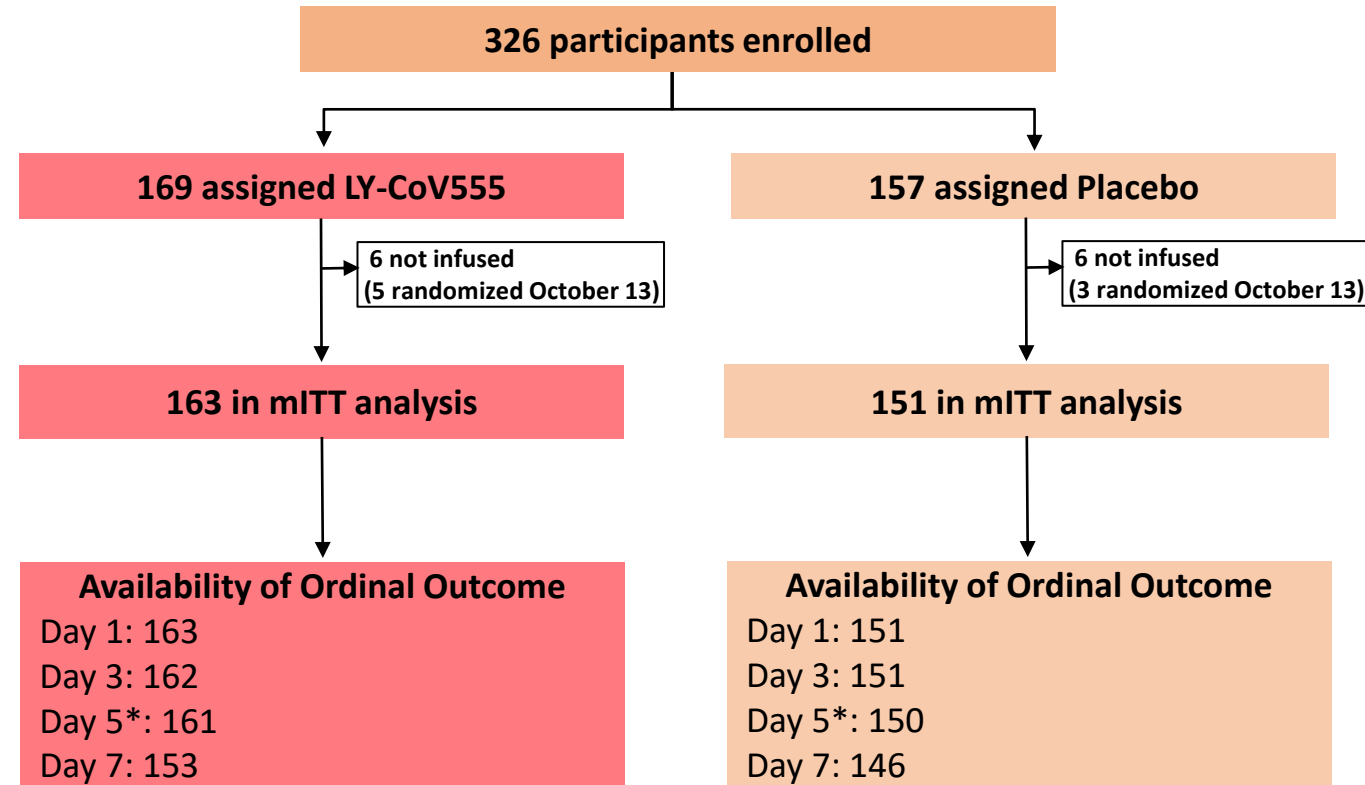
- **Day-29 Covid-19–related hospitalization or death from any cause** : 11/518 (2,1%) LY-CoV555 and LY-CoV016 group vs. 36/517 (7%) placebo group. Absolute risk difference: -4,8%; 95% CI[-7,4 -2,3], relative risk difference: 70%, $p < 0,001$
- **Death** : 0/518 LY-CoV555 and LY-CoV016 group vs. 10/517 (2%) placebo group. Of these 10 deaths, 9 were deemed to be Covid-19–related by trial staff who were unaware of the trial-group assignments
- **Limits:** low number of participant receiving immunosuppressive agents, study limited to the United States
- **Importance to check the impact of variants on the neutralizing capacity of said antibodies**



Monoclonal
antibody

LY-CoV555

- **LY-CoV555 = LY3819253 = bamlanivimab;** potent antispikes neutralizing MAb
- ACTIV-3/TICO (Therapeutics for Inpatients with COVID-19) platform, therapeutic agents platform trial
- **Inclusion criteria :** hospitalized patients, documented SARS-CoV-2 infection, duration of Covid-19 symptoms < 12 days
- **Primary outcome:** time to sustained recovery, time to hospital discharge
- **Secondary out come:** death from any cause, safety
- **314** participants; **163 LY-CoV555** group, **151 placebo** group (1:1)



* Primary measure of efficacy in stage 1

Monoclonal
antibody

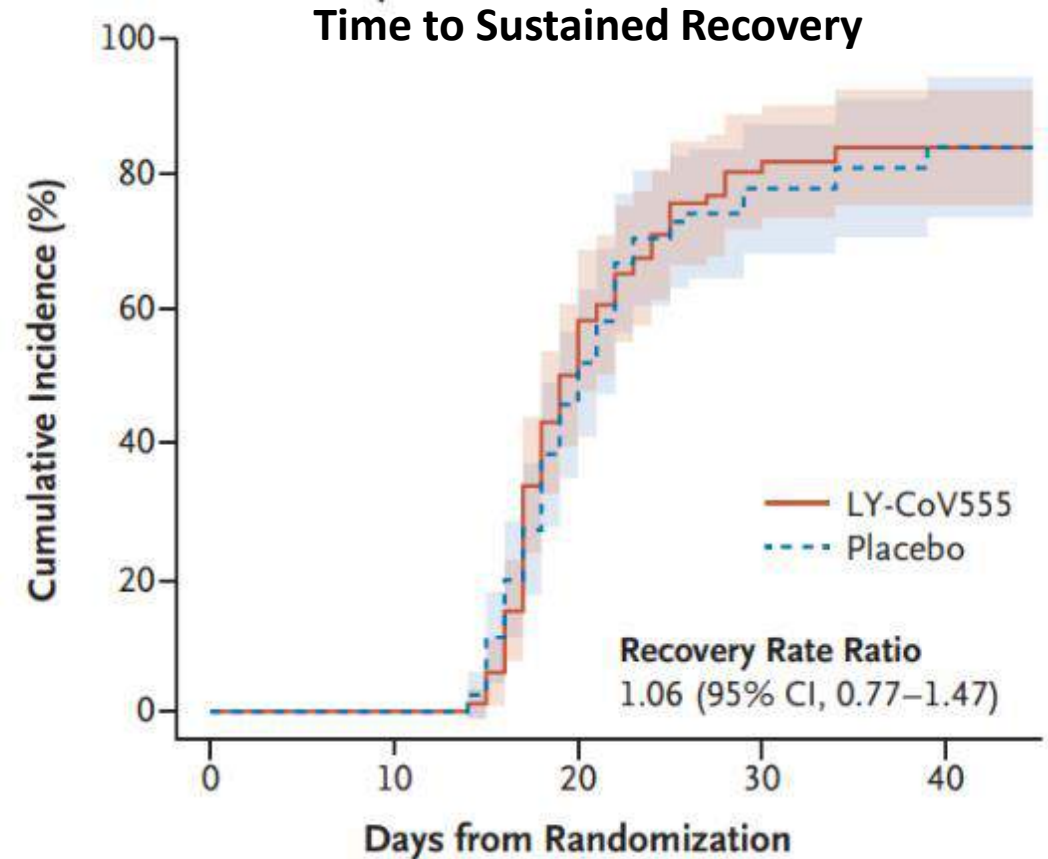
LY-CoV555

Characteristics	LY-CoV555 (N=163)	Placebo (N=151)
Age (y) – median (IQR)	63 (50-72)	59 (48-71)
Female sex – no (%)	66 (40)	71 (47)
BMI ≥ 30 kg/m ² – no (%)	81 (50)	83 (55)
Duration of symptoms (days) , median (IQR)	7 (5-9)	8 (5-9)
Coexisting conditions		
Hypertension requiring medication – no (%)	82 (50)	72 (48)
Diabetes requiring medication – no (%)	54 (33)	36 (24)
Renal impairment – no (%)	24 (15)	9 (6)
Noninvasive ventilation or high-flow device – no (%)	30 (18)	18 (12)
Invasive ventilation or ECMO	0	0
Associated medication		
Remdesivir – no (%)	60 (37)	66 (44)
Glucocorticoid – no (%)	80 (49)	74 (49)

Monoclonal antibody

LY-CoV555

- **Time to sustained recovery:** 71/87 (82%) Ly-CoV555 group vs. 64/81 (79%) placebo group, rate ratio 1,06 CI_{95%}[0,77-1,47]
- **Time to hospital discharge:** 143/163 (88%) Ly-CoV555 group vs. 136/151 (79%) placebo group, rate ratio 0,97 CI_{95%}[0,78-1,20]
- **Death:** 9/163 (6%) Ly-CoV555 group vs. 5/151 (3%) placebo group, hazard ratio 2,00 CI_{95%}[0,67-5,99]; p=0,22
- **Safety** (composite outcome): 49/163 (30%) Ly-CoV555 group vs. 37/151 (25%) placebo group, hazard ratio 1,25 CI_{95%}[0,81-1,93]; p=0,31
- **Limitation:** inability to make definitive statements about the safety (small sample size, short follow-up duration)



No. at Risk

	0	10	20	30	40
LY-CoV555	87	86	41	9	3
Placebo	81	81	41	10	4

LY-CoV555 and REGN-COV2

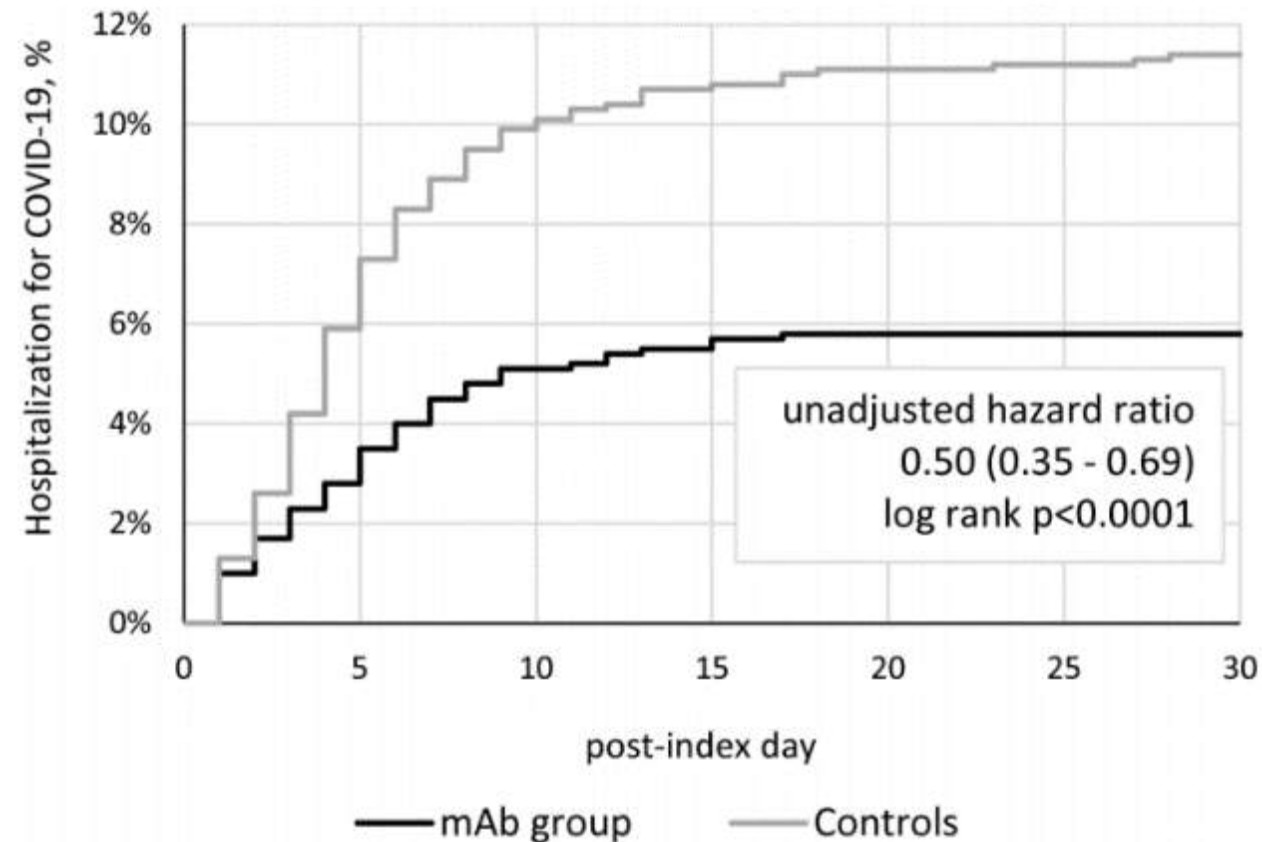
- **LY-CoV555 = bamlanivimab;**
- **REGN-COV2 = casirivimab and imdevimab**
- **Inclusion criteria :** adults (>18 years), mild-to moderate COVID-19 infection, no supplemental O₂, received NmAb infusion (LY-CoV555 or REGN-COV2), not hospitalized, first onset symptoms ≤ 10 days
- **Primary outcome:** hospitalization with a COVID-19 diagnosis between one and 30 days after the index date
- **Secondary outcome:** length of inpatient stay for hospitalized patients, post-index ER/clinic visits, and post-index death
- **707** received NmAb (**533** LY-CoV555, **154** REGN-COV2), **1709** control group

Characteristics	NmAb (N=707)	Control (N=1709)
Age (y) – mean (SD)	59,8 (15,9)	58,1 (15,2)
BMI ≥ 35 kg/m ² – no (%)	232 (32,8)	306 (17,9)
Duration of symptoms before infusion (days) – mean (SD)	6,15 (2,76)	-
Coexisting conditions		
Chronic pulmonary disease – no (%)	96 (13,6)	240 (14,0)
Diabetes without complications – no (%)	132 (18,7)	278 (16,3)
Diabetes with complications – no (%)	27 (3,8)	115 (6,7)
Renal disease – no (%)	40 (5,7)	129 (7,5)
Congestive heart failure– no (%)	22 (3,1)	95 (5,6)

LY-CoV555 and REGN-COV2

- **Hospitalization rate:** 41/707 (5,8%) NmAb group vs. 195/1709 (11,4%) control group; $p < 0,0001$
- **Length of inpatient stay (days):** $5,2 \pm 4,6$ NmAb group vs. placebo group $7,4 \pm 8,1$; $p = 0,02$
- **ER visits within 30 days post-index:** 57/707 (8,1%) NmAb group vs. 210/1709 (12,3%) placebo group; $p = 0,003$
- **Hospitalisation-free survival:** longer NmAb group vs. control group; unadjusted HR: 0,5 $CI_{95\%}[0,35-0,69]$; $p < 0,0001$
- **Limitations:** retrospective study using electronics medical record (EMR)
- **Importance to check the impact of variants on the neutralizing capacity of said antibodies**

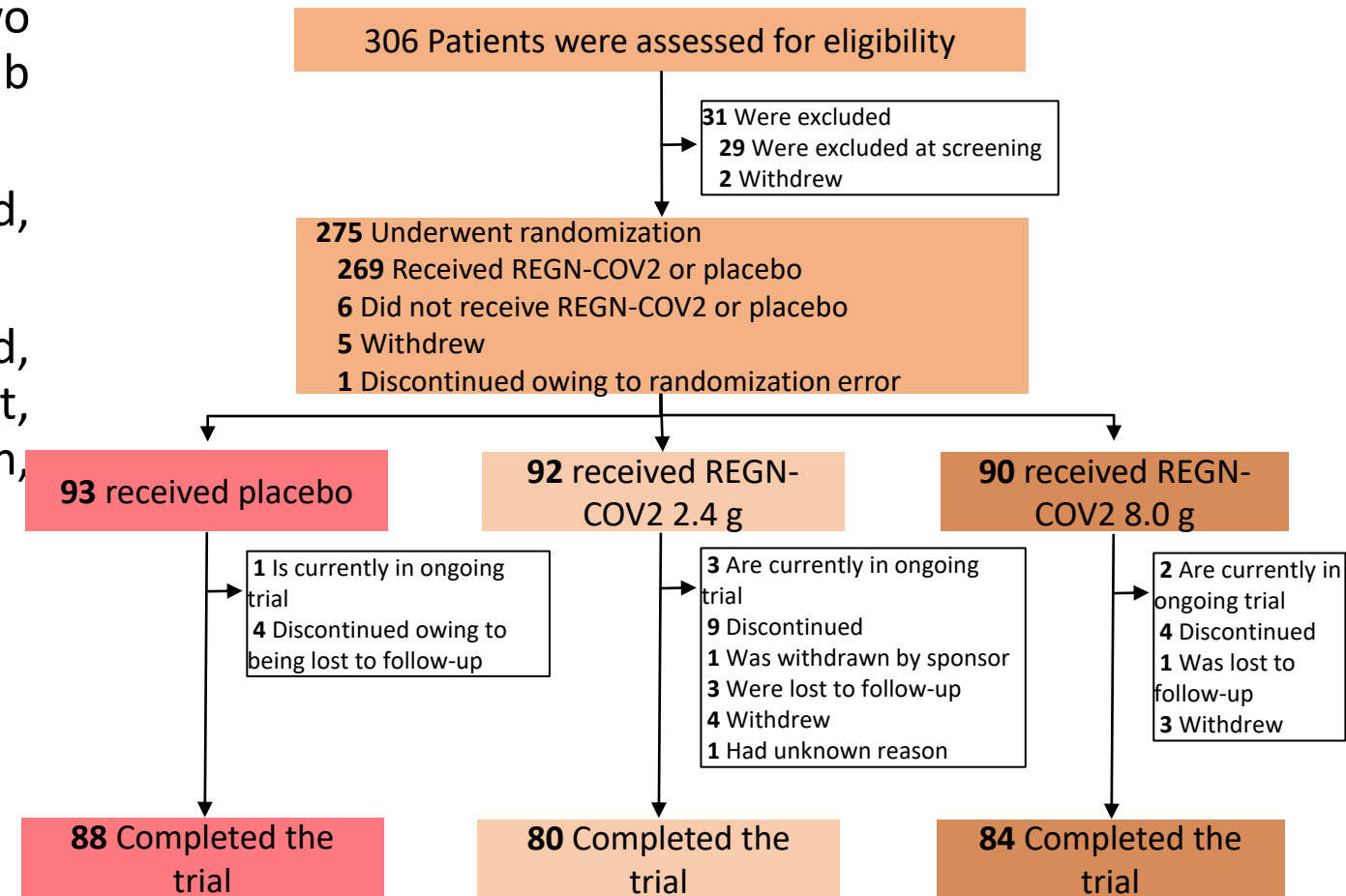
Hospitalizations for COVID-19 in patients who received a NmAb infusion and controls (censored at 30 days)



Monoclonal antibody

REGN-COV2

- **REGN-COV2:** antibody cocktail containing two SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing antibodies (casirivimab and imdevimab)
- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter, phase 1–3 study
- **Inclusion criteria :** age ≥ 18 yo, not hospitalized, positive SARS-CoV-2 antigen or molecular test, symptom onset ≤ 7 days before randomization, O_2 saturation $\geq 93\%$ (room air)
- **Primary outcome:** D7 viral load (VL) average change
- **Secondary outcome:** safety
- **275** participants; **90 REGN-COV2 high dose** group, **92 REGN-COV2 low dose** group, **93 placebo** group (1:1:1)



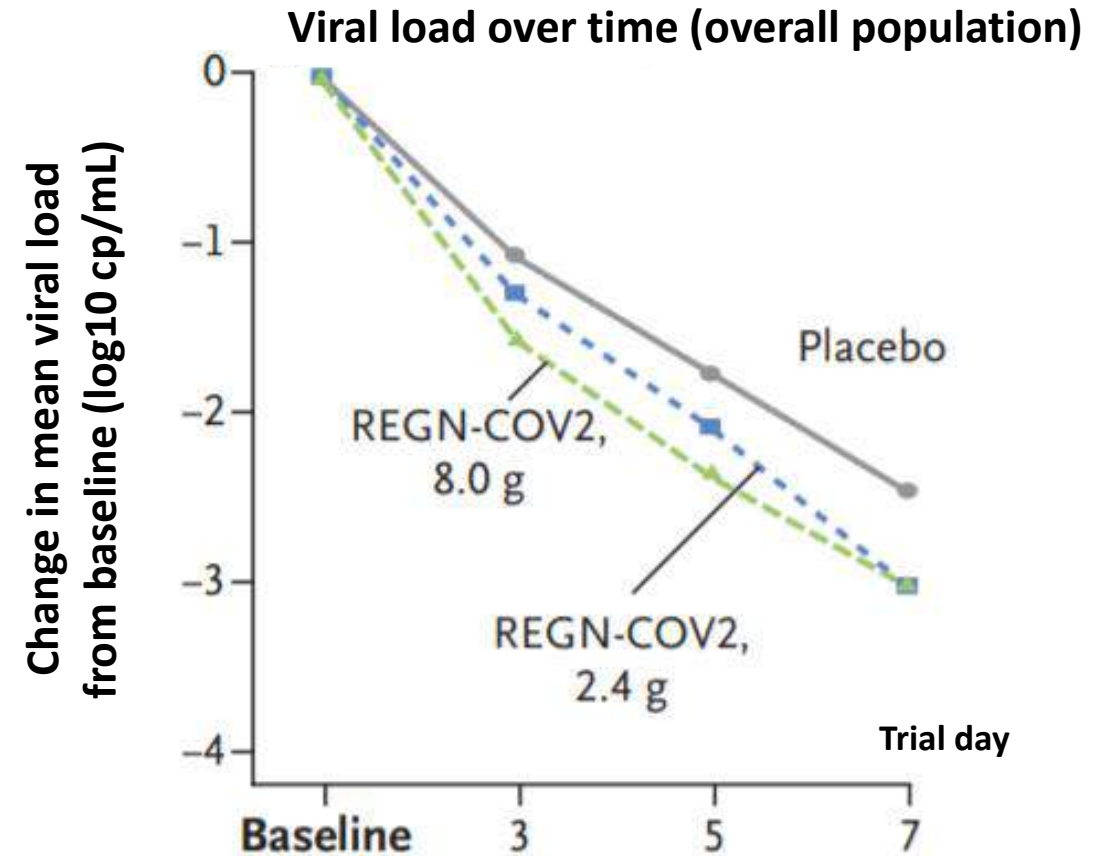
Monoclonal
antibody

REGN-COV2

Characteristics	REGN-COV2 (N=182)	Placebo (N=93)
Age (y) - median (IQR)	43,0 (35,0–52,0)	45,0 (34,0–54,0)
Female sex - no (%)	98 (54)	43 (46)
BMI (kg/m ²) - mean (SD)	30,51 (6,87)	29,73 (7,15)
Days from symptom onset to randomization - median (range)	3,0 (0–8)	3,0 (0–8)
Positive baseline qualitative RT-PCR - no (%)	147 (81)	81 (87)
Viral load (log ₁₀ copies/mL) - mean (SD)	5,02 (2,50)	4,67 (2,37)
Baseline serum C-reactive protein (mg/L) - Mean (SD)	11,7 (24,4)	21,5 (43,5)
At least one risk factor for hospitalization - no (%) Age > 50 years, obesity, cardiovascular disease (including hypertension), chronic lung disease (including asthma), chronic metabolic disease (including diabetes), chronic kidney disease (including receipt of dialysis), chronic liver disease, and immunocompromise	118 (65)	58 (62)

REGN-COV2

- **Time-weighted average change in viral load from day 1 through day 7:** $-1,74$ $_{95\%CI[-1,95 - -1,53]}$ REGN-COV2 group vs. $-1,34$ \log_{10} cp/mL $_{95\%CI[-1,60 - -1,08]}$ placebo group
- **Viral load difference vs. placebo at day 7:** $-0,41$ \log_{10} cp/mL $_{95\%CI[-0,71 - -0,10]}$
- **Safety:** Grade 3 or 4 event: 1/176 (0,56%) REGN-COV2 group vs. 1/93 (1,07%) placebo group, Event that led to infusion interruption 1/176 (0,56%) REGN-COV2 group vs. 1/93 (1,07%) placebo group, none led to death
- **Limits:** interim analysis
- **Importance to check the impact of variants on the neutralizing capacity of said antibodies**

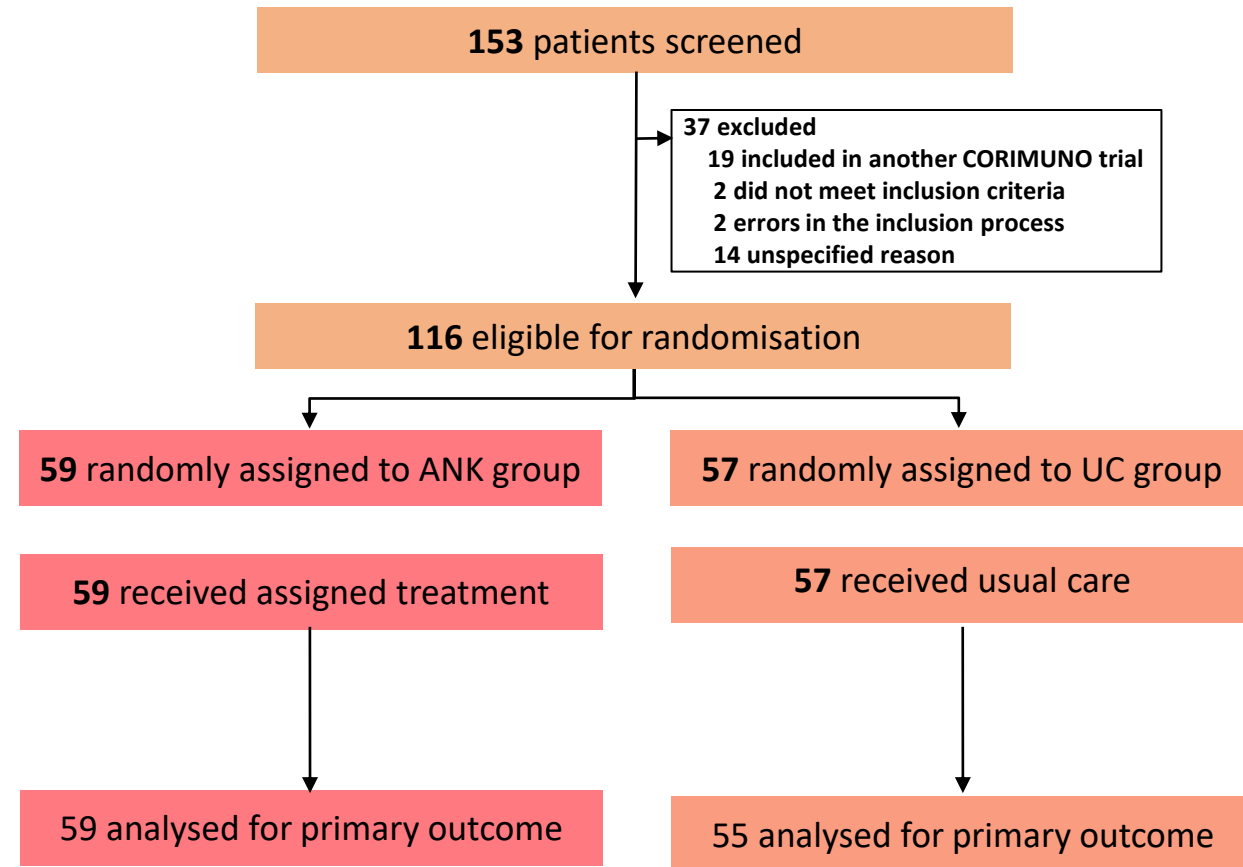


Placebo	81	70	78	78
REGN-COV2, 2.4 g	73	66	69	70
REGN-COV2, 8.0 g	74	70	73	73

Monoclonal
antibody

Anakinra (ANK)

- **Anakinra**: recombinant human IL-1 receptor antagonist
- Multicenter, open-label, Bayesian randomized clinical trial, France (CORIMUNO-ANA-1)
- **Inclusion criteria** : positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR or chest CT scan typical of COVID-19 pneumonia, mild-to-moderate, severe, or critical pneumonia (O₂ flow of >3 L/min *via* mask or nasal cannula and WHO-CPS score ≥5 points)
- **Coprimary outcome**: proportion of patients who had died or needed NIV or MV (WHO-CPS score of >5 points) at D4, survival with no need for MV or NIV at D14
- **116** participants; **59 ANK** group, **57 usual care** group (1:1)



Monoclonal
antibody

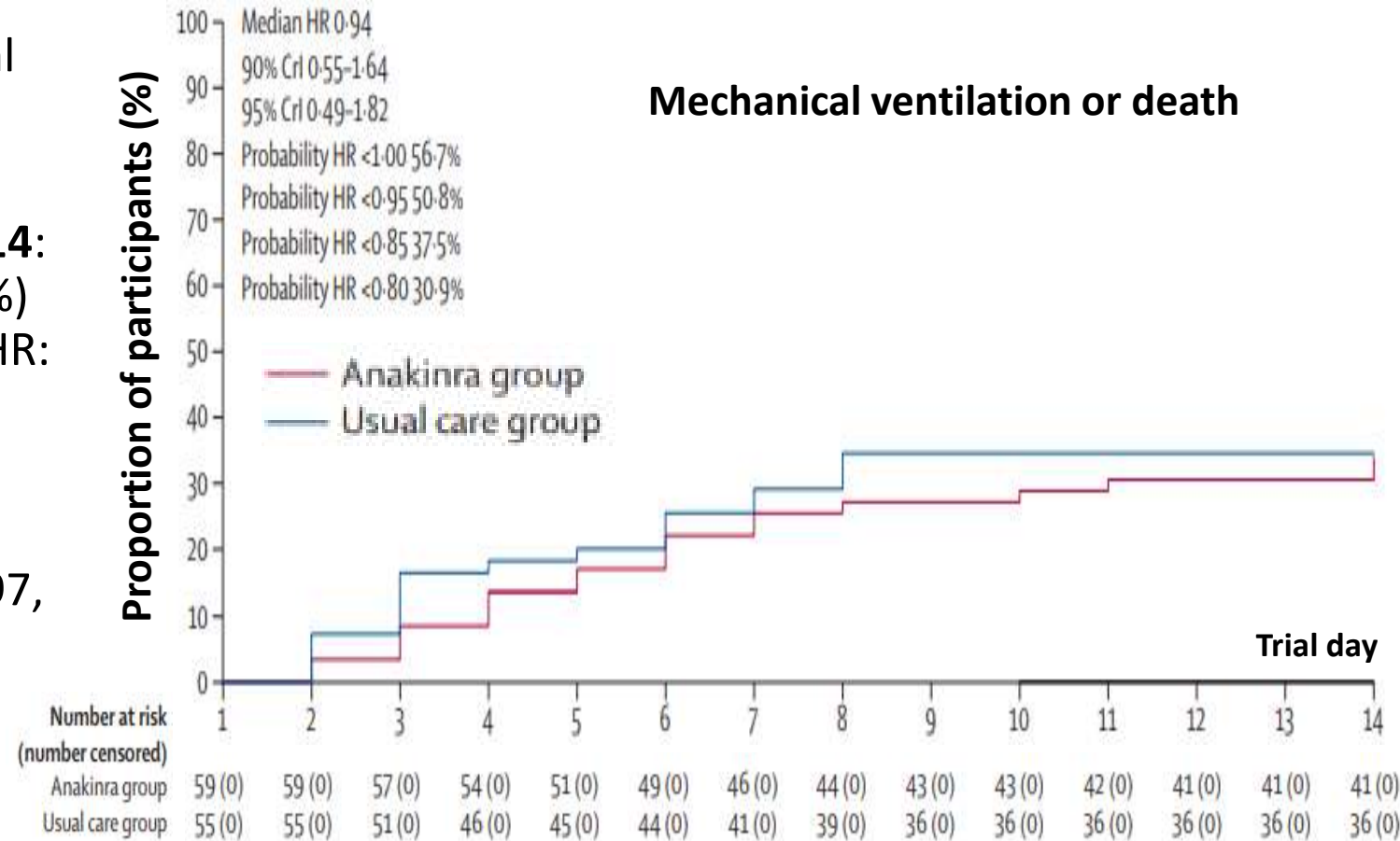
Anakinra (ANK)

Characteristics	Anakinra (N=59)	Usual care (N=55)
Age (y) - median (IQR)	67,0 (55,5–74,3)	64,9 (59,5–78,3)
Female sex - no (%)	16 (27)	18 (33)
BMI (kg/m ²) - median (IQR)	27,4 (24,9–32,0)	26,8 (24,7–31,5)
Coexisting conditions		
Chronic cardiac disease - no (%)	22 (37%)	14 (25%)
Diabetes - no (%)	19 (32%)	15 (27%)
Chronic kidney disease (stage 1 to 3) or dialysis - no (%)	5 (8%)	3 (5%)
Others		
O ₂ flow (L/min) - median (IQR)	5,0 (4,0–7,0)	6,0 (4,0–9,0)
Respiratory rate (breaths/min) - median (IQR)	28,0 (24,0–32,0)	28,0 (23,0–36,0)
C-reactive protein (mg/L) - median (IQR)	121,0 (77,0–198,0)	120,0 (87,0–191,5)
Time from symptoms onset to randomization (days) - median (IQR)	10,0 (8,0–13,0)	10,0 (7,0–13,0)

Monoclonal
antibody

Anakinra (ANK)

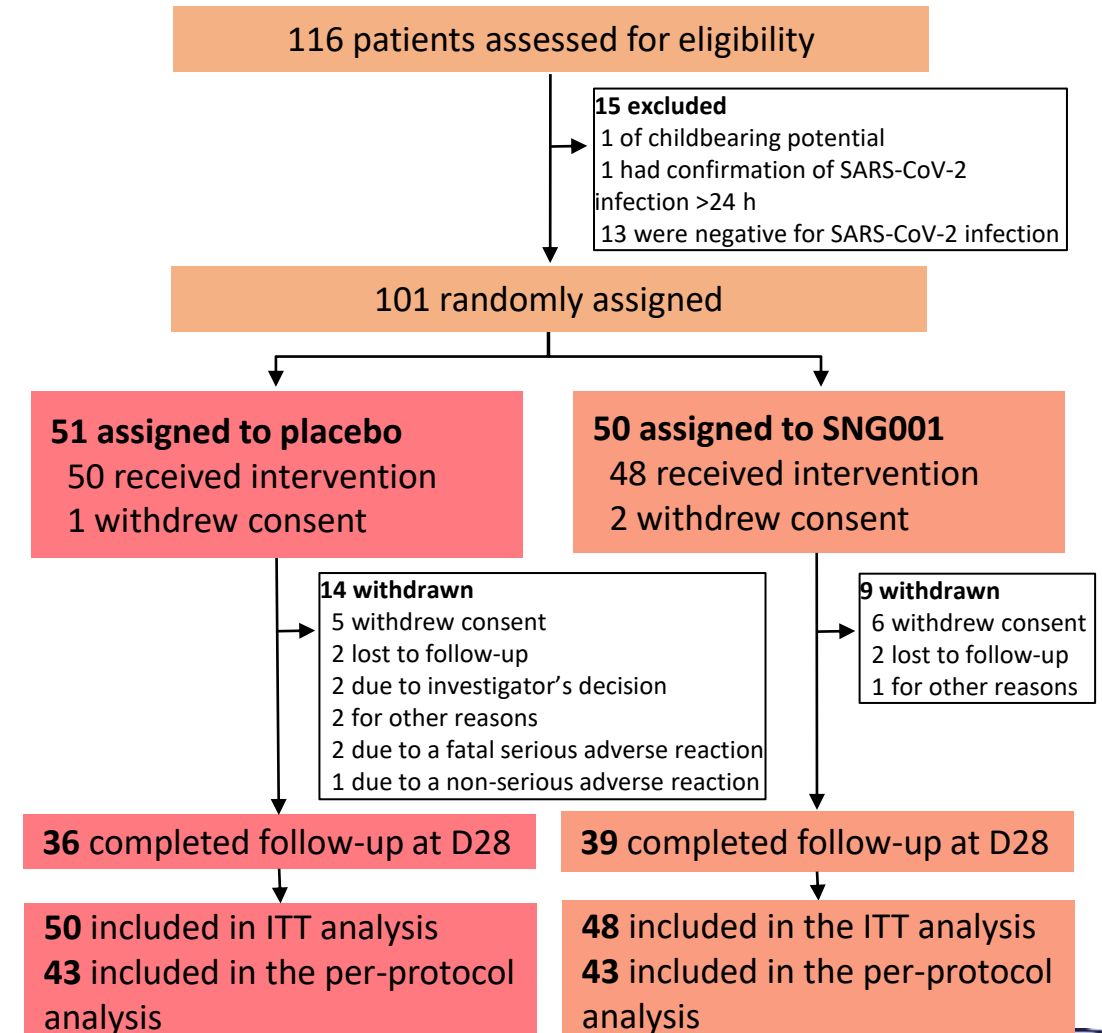
- **WHO-CPS score of >5 points) at D4:** 21/59 (36%) anakinra group vs. 21/55 (38%) usual treatment group, median posterior ARD: – 2,5%, 90% CI[–17,1 - 12,0]
- **Survival with no need for MV or NIV at D14:** 28/59 (47%) anakinra group vs. 28/55 (51%) usual treatment group, median posterior HR: 0,97, 90% CI[0,62 - 1,52]
- **Overall mortality at D90:** 16/59 (27%) anakinra group vs. 15/55 (27%) usual treatment group, median posterior HR: 0,97, 95% CI[0,46 - 2,04]
- **Limits:** not blinded trial, usual care may differed among centers, small sample size
- **Study stopped early for futility**



Immunomodulatory
effect

Interferon beta 1a - 1

- **SNG001**: inhaled nebulized Interferon beta 1a (INFβ-1a)
- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 2, multicenter, academic trial, UK (SG016)
- **Inclusion criteria**: age ≥ 18 yo, hospitalized patients, COVID-19 symptoms, positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR
- **Exclusion criteria**: inability to use a nebulizer, pregnant and breastfeeding women,
- **Primary outcome**: clinical condition change (WHO Ordinal Scale for Clinical Improvement)
- **Secondary outcome**: change in Breathlessness, Cough And Sputum Scale score, safety and tolerability
- **101 participants**; **50 SNG001** group, **51 placebo** group (1:1)



Immunomodulatory
effect

Interferon beta 1a - 1

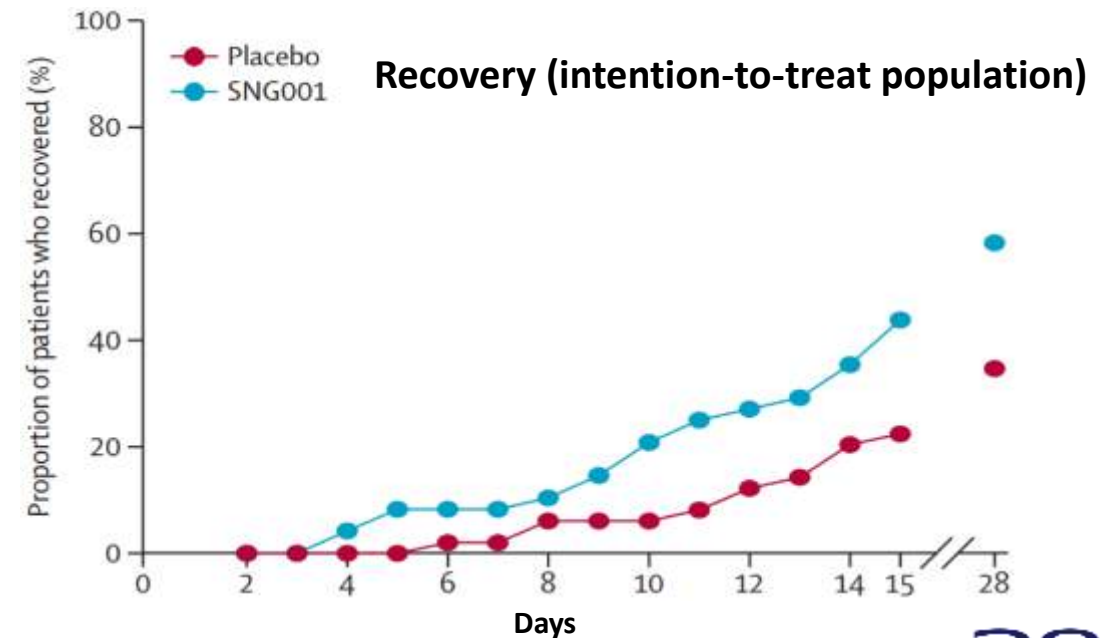
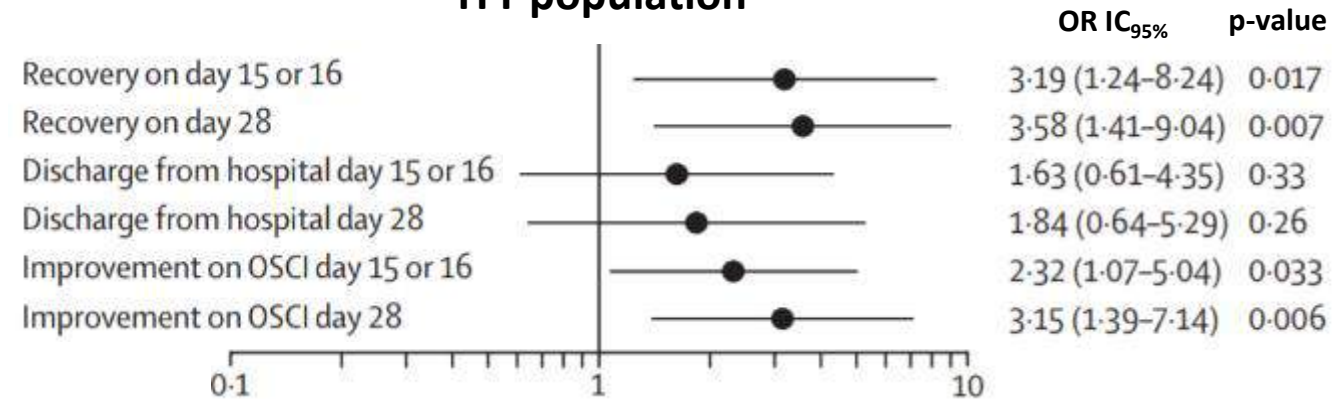
Characteristics	SNG001 (N=50)	Placebo (N=51)
Age (y) – mean (SD)	57,8 (14,6)	56,5 (11,9)
Male sex – no (%)	27 (56)	31 (62)
Coexisting conditions		
Hypertension – no (%)	18/26 (69)	11/27 (41)
Diabetes – no (%)	3/26 (12)	9/27 (33)
Cardiovascular disease – no (%)	5/26 (19)	8/27 (30)
Chronic lung condition – no (%)	11/26 (42)	12/27 (44)
Severity of disease at baseline		
Limitation of activities — no (%)	0	1 (2)
Hospitalised (no oxygen therapy) — no (%)	11 (23)	19 (38)
Oxygen by mask or nasal prongs — no (%)	36 (75)	28 (56)
Non-invasive ventilation or high-flow oxygen — no (%)	1 (2)	1 (2)

Immunomodulatory
effect

Interferon beta 1a - 1

- **Clinical condition change (D15 or D16 OSCI improvement):** 36/48 (75,0%) SNG001 group vs. 35/50 (70%) placebo group; OR: 2,32; 95%CI[1,07-5,04], p=0,033
- **D14 BCSS score:** difference between SNG001 group and placebo group: -0,8; 95%CI[-1,5;-0,1], p=0,026
- **Safety:** serious adverse events considered either unlikely be related to study treatment or not related to study treatment
- **Limits:** limited sample size, OSCI: new tool at the time of the study, nebulizer not suitable for ventilated patients, follow-up limited at 28 days

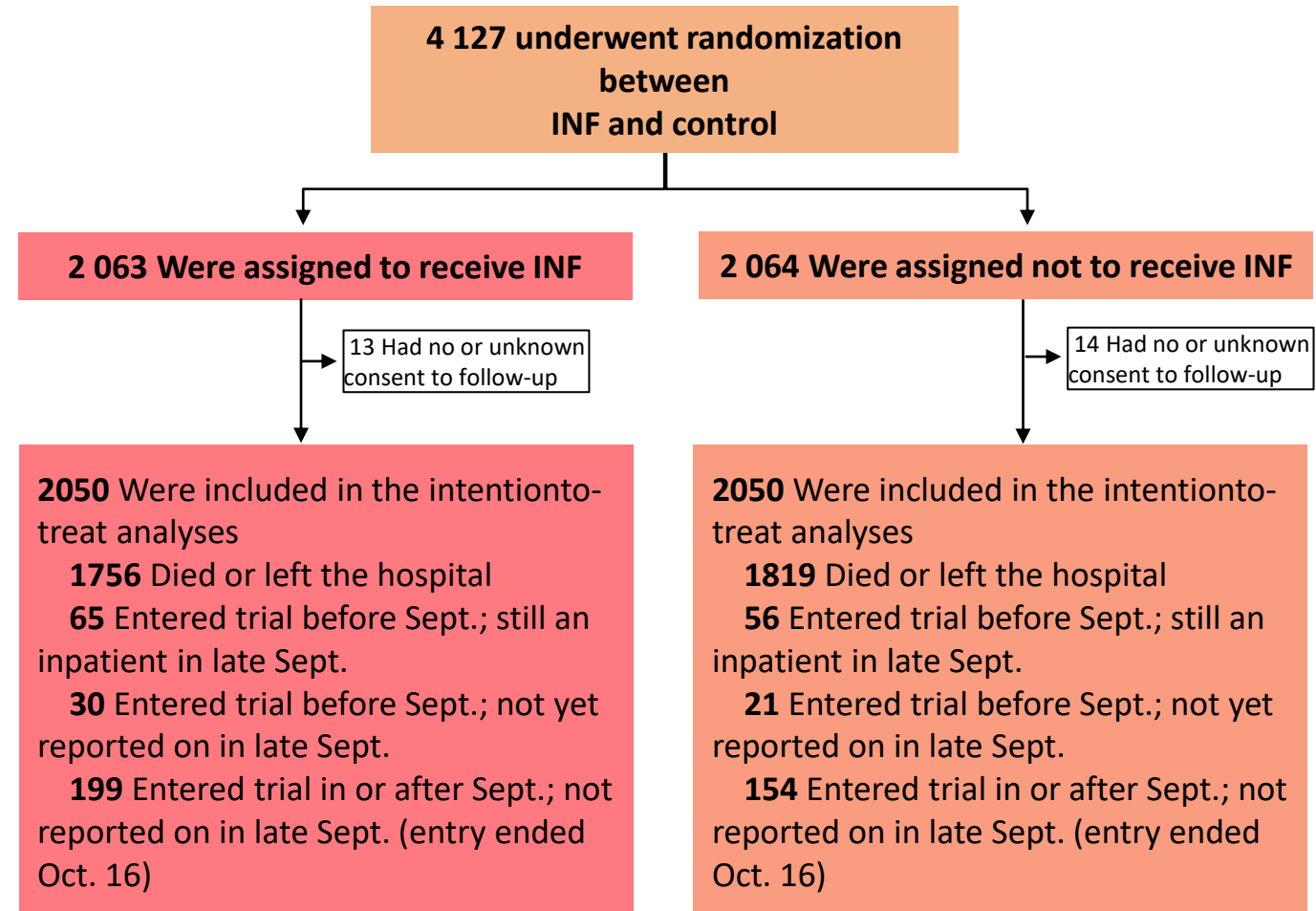
ITT population



Immunomodulatory effect

Interferon beta 1a - 2

- Randomized, open-label, non-placebo-controlled, international trial, WHO, SOLIDARITY
- **Inclusion criteria:** patients aged ≥ 18 yo, hospitalized with definite COVID-19, not already receiving any of the study drugs, no allergy nor contra-indications to any of them
- **Exclusion criteria:** significant contraindication to any one of the study drugs
- **Primary outcome:** all-cause mortality
- **Secondary outcome:** initiation of mechanical ventilation and hospitalization duration
- **4127** patients underwent randomization; **2063** INF group, **2064** control group (1:1)



Immunomodulatory
effect

Interferon beta 1a - 2

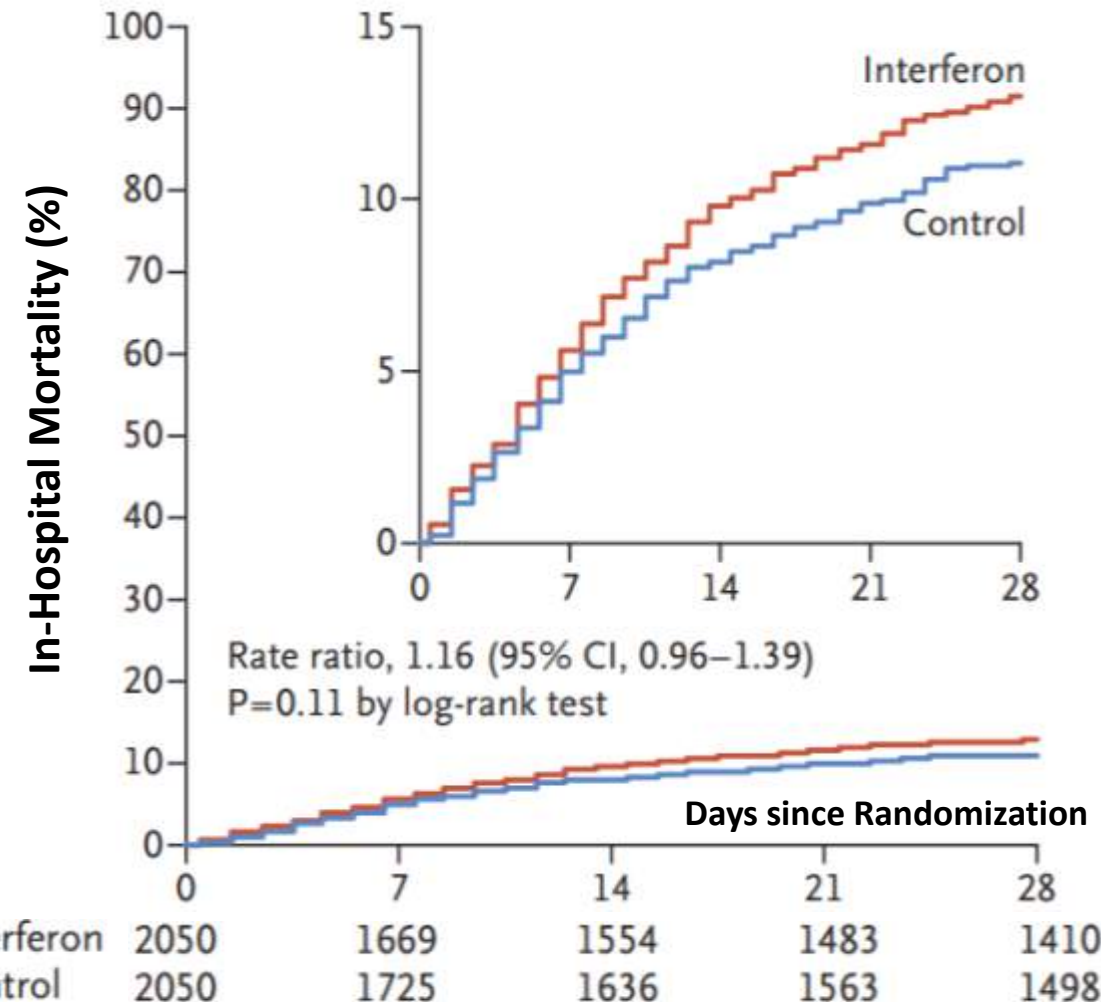
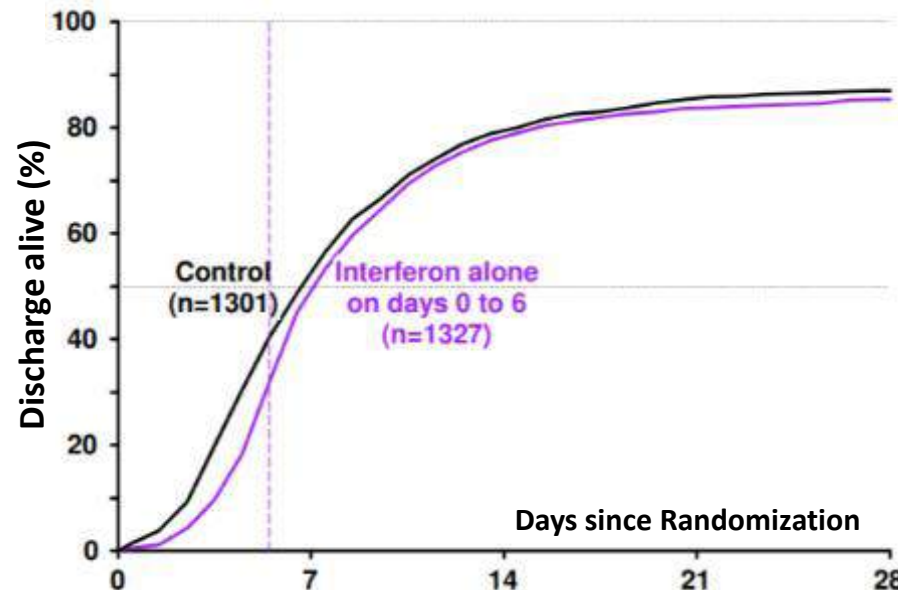
Characteristics		All (N= 11 266)	INF (N= 2 050)	Control (N=2 050)
Age	< 50 yr – no (%)	3995 (35)	720	697
	50-69 yr – no (%)	5125 (45)	934	973
	≥ 70 yr – no (%)	2146 (19)	396	380
Sex	Male sex – no (%)	6985 (62)	1303	1278
Co existing conditions	Diabetes – no(%)	2768 (25)	489	537
	Heart disease – no (%)	2337 (21)	427	456
	Chronic lung disease – no (%)	635 (6)	114	109
Respiratory support	No supplemental O ₂ at entry	3204 (28)	482	490
	Supplemental O ₂ at entry	7146 (63)	1429	1430
	Already receiving ventilation	916 (8)	139	130

Immunomodulatory
effect

Interferon beta 1a - 2

- **All-cause mortality:** 243/2050 (12,9%) INF β -1a group vs. 216/2050 (11%) placebo group; rate ratio: 1,16; 95% CI[0,96-1,39]; p= 0,11
- **Initiation of mechanical ventilation:** INF β -1a group: 209/1911 (10,9%) vs. control group 210/2475 (10,9%)
- **Time to discharge:** INF β -1a did not reduced hospitalization duration

Study stopped for
futility on 16th
October

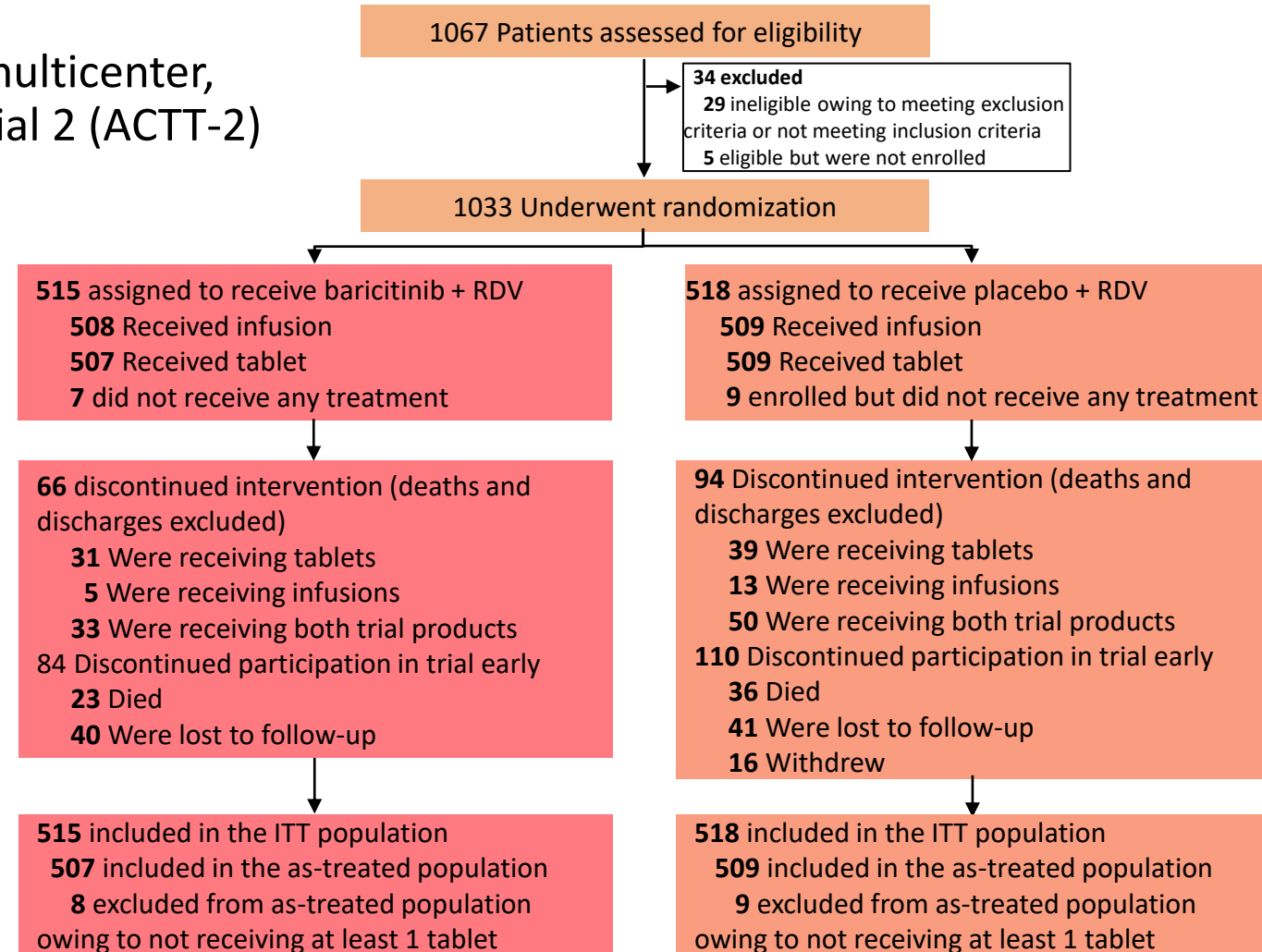


Immunomodulatory
effect

Baricitinib (JAK inhibitors)

- Double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, multicenter, academic study, Adaptive Covid-19 Treatment Trial 2 (ACTT-2)

- **Inclusion criteria:** hospitalized patients aged ≥ 18 yo, positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR test, lower respiratory tract infection (radiographic infiltrates, $\text{SpO}_2 \leq 94\%$ (room air), requiring supplemental O_2 , mechanical ventilation, or ECMO)
- **Exclusion criteria:** significant contraindication to any one of the study drugs
- **Primary outcome:** time to recovery
- **Secondary outcome:** clinical status at day 15, D28 mortality, adverse events
- **1033** patients underwent randomization; **515 Baricitinib + RDV** group, **518 control** group (1:1)



Immunomodulatory
effect

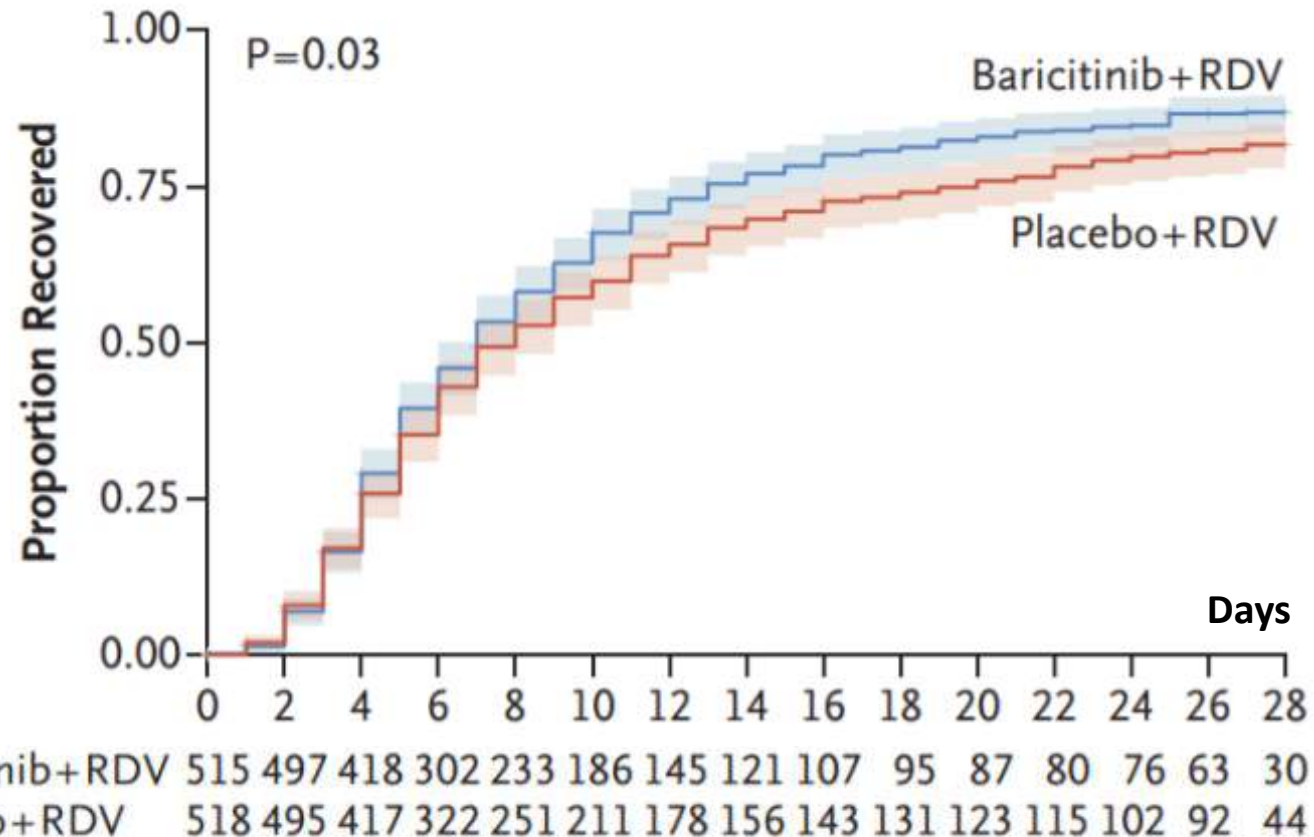
Baricitinib (JAK inhibitors)

Characteristics	All (N= 1033)	Baricitinib + RDV (N= 515)	Placebo + RDV (N= 518)
Age – Mean – yr (SD)	55,4 (15,7)	55,0 (15,4)	55,8 (16,0)
Male sex – no (%)	652 (63,1)	319 (61,9)	333 (64,3)
BMI – Mean – kg/m ² (SD)	32,2 (8,3)	32,2 (8,2)	32,3 (8,4)
Time from symptom onset to randomization – Median – days (IQR)	8 (5–10)	8 (5–10)	8 (5–11)
Disease severity			
Moderate – no (%)	706 (68,3)	358 (69,5)	348 (67,2)
Severe – no (%)	327 (31,7)	157 (30,5)	170 (32,8)
Score on ordinal scale – no (%)			
4. Hospitalized, not requiring supplemental O ₂ , requiring ongoing medical care (Covid-19–related or otherwise)	142 (13,7)	70 (13,6)	72 (13,9)
5. Hospitalized, requiring supplemental O ₂	564 (54,6)	288 (55,9)	276 (53,3)
6. Hospitalized, receiving NIV or high-flow O ₂ devices	216 (20,9)	103 (20,0)	113 (21,8)
7. Hospitalized, receiving invasive MV or ECMO	111 (10,7)	54 (10,5)	57 (11,0)

Immunomodulatory
effect

Baricitinib (JAK inhibitors)

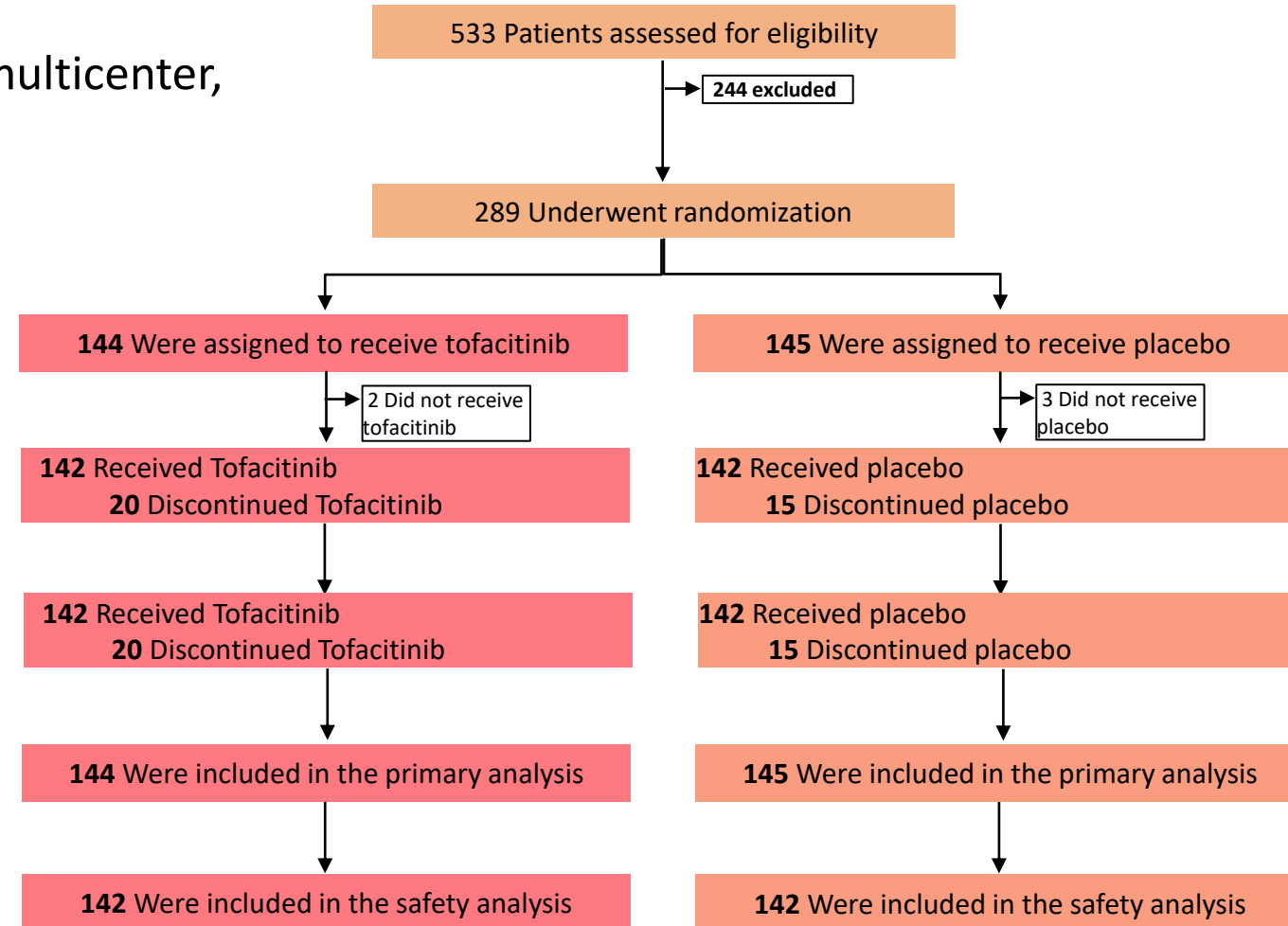
- **Time to recovery** (median days): 7 days Baricitinib + RDV group vs. 8 days RDV group; RR: 1,16 $_{95\%}$ CI[1,01-1,32]; $p = 0,03$
- **Clinical status at day 15:** Baricitinib + RDV group 30% higher odds of improvement; OR: 1,3 $_{95\%}$ CI[1,0-1,6]
- **D28 mortality:** Baricitinib + RDV group: 5,1% $_{95\%}$ IC[3,5-7,6] vs. RDV group: 7,8% $_{95\%}$ IC[5,7-10,6], Hazard ratio: 0,65; $_{95\%}$ CI[0,39-1,09]
- **Serious adverse events:** Baricitinib + RDV group: 81/515 (16%) vs. RDV group: 107/518 (21%) between-group difference: -5.0; $_{95\%}$ CI[-9,8;-0,3]; $p=0.03$



Immunomodulatory
effect

Tofacitinib (JAK inhibitors)

- Double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, multicenter, industrial study, Brazil, STOP-COVID
- **Inclusion criteria:** aged ≥ 18 yo, positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR test, Covid-19 pneumonia on radiographic imaging, hospitalized patient for less than 72 hours
- **Exclusion criteria:** use of noninvasive or invasive MV or ECMO on the day of randomization
- **Primary outcome:** D28 occurrence of death or respiratory failure
- **Secondary outcome:** All-cause mortality
- **289** patients underwent randomization; **144 tofacitinib** group, **145 placebo** group (1:1)



Immunomodulatory
effect

Tofacitinib (JAK inhibitors)

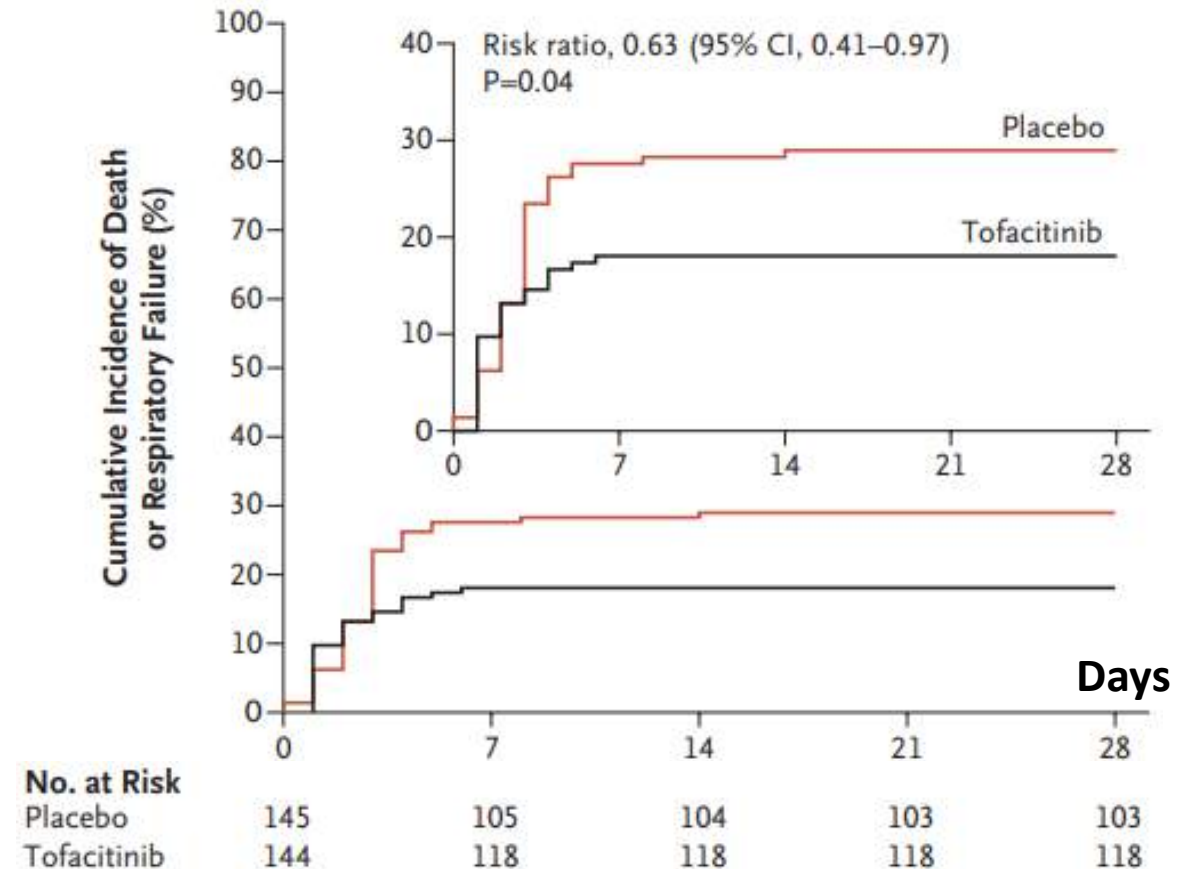
Characteristics	Total (N= 289)	Tofacitinib (N= 144)	Placebo (N= 145)
Age – Mean – yr (SD)	56 (14)	54 (14)	57 (14)
Female sex – no (%)	101 (34,9)	50 (34,7)	51 (35,2)
BMI – Median – kg/m ² (IQR)	29,7 (26,7-32,9)	29,4 (26,8-33,2)	29,7 (26,4-32,7)
Time from symptom onset to randomization – Median – days (IQR)	10 (7–11)	10 (7–12)	9 (7–11)
Time from Covid-19 diagnosis to randomization – Median – days (IQR)	5 (2–8)	5 (2–8)	4 (2–8)
Hospitalization in the ICU at randomization — no (%)	54 (18,7)	28 (19,4)	26 (17,9)
Score on ordinal scale – no (%)			
4. Hospitalized, not requiring supplemental O ₂ , requiring ongoing medical care (Covid-19–related or otherwise)	71 (24,6)	34 (23,6)	37 (25,5)
5. Hospitalized, requiring supplemental O ₂	181 (62,6)	91 (63,2)	90 (62,1)
6. Hospitalized, receiving NIV or high-flow O ₂ devices	37 (12,8)	19 (13,2)	18 (12,4)

Immunomodulatory
effect

Tofacitinib (JAK inhibitors)

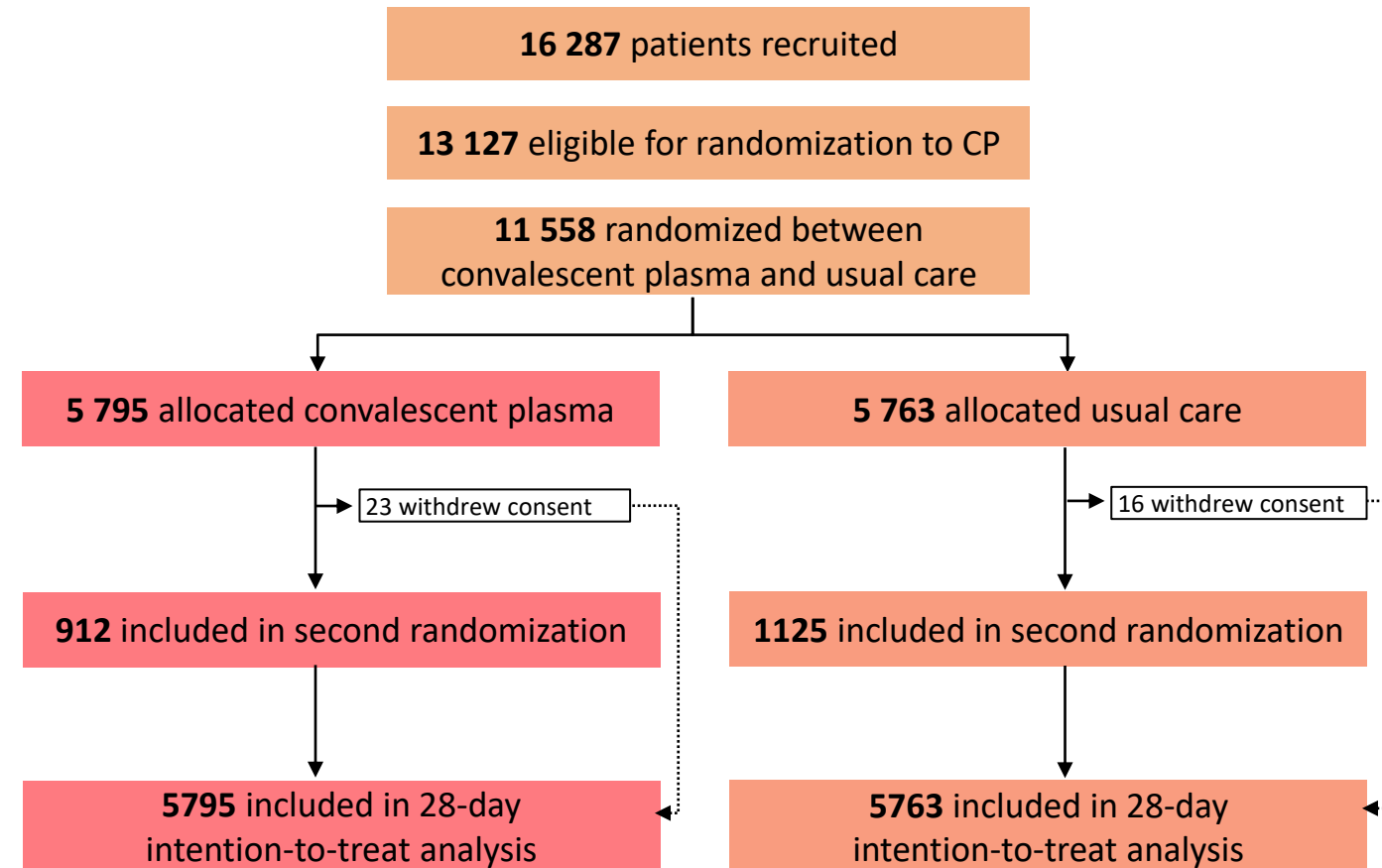
- **D28 cumulative of death or respiratory failure:** 26/144 (18,1%) Tofacitinib group vs. 42/145 (29%) placebo group; RR: 0,63_{95% CI[0,41-0,97]}; p = 0,04
- **D28 all causes mortality:** 4/144 (2,8%) Tofacitinib group vs. 8/145 (5,5%) placebo group; HR: 0,49_{95% CI[0,15-1,63]}
- **Proportional odds of having a worse score on the eight-level ordinal scale with Tofacitinib vs. control;** D14: 0,60_{95% CI[0,36-1,00]}, D28: 0,54_{95% CI[0,27-1,06]}

Cumulative Incidence of death or respiratory failure through day 28



Convalescent plasma (CP) - 1

- Randomized, controlled, open-label, multicenter trial, academic study, UK, (Randomized Evaluation of COVID-19 Therapy) RECOVERY
- **Inclusion criteria:** Hospitalized patients of any age, clinically suspected or laboratory confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, no medical contraindications to join the trial
- **Primary outcome:** all-cause mortality
- **Secondary outcome:** time to discharge from hospital, in patients not receiving MV at randomization; receipt of invasive MV (including ECMO) or death
- **11 558** patients underwent randomization; **5795 CP** group, **5763 usual care** group (1:1)

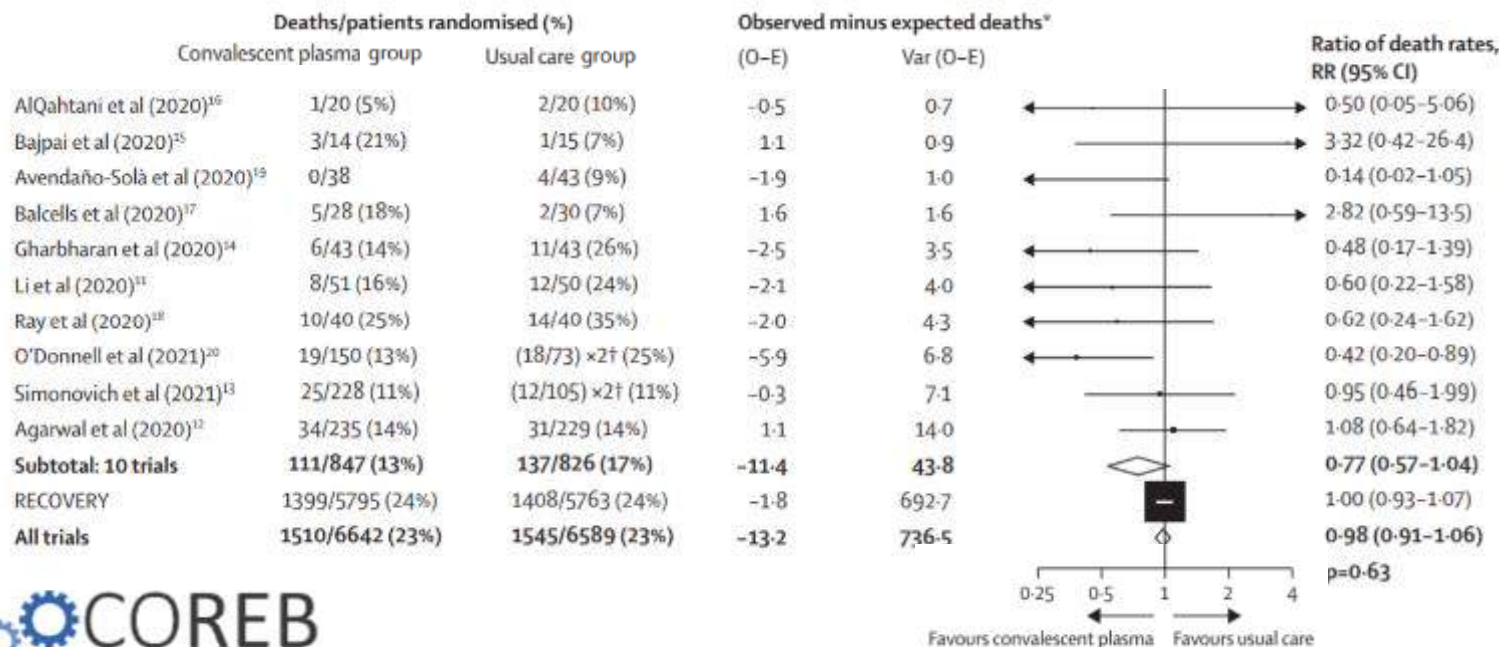
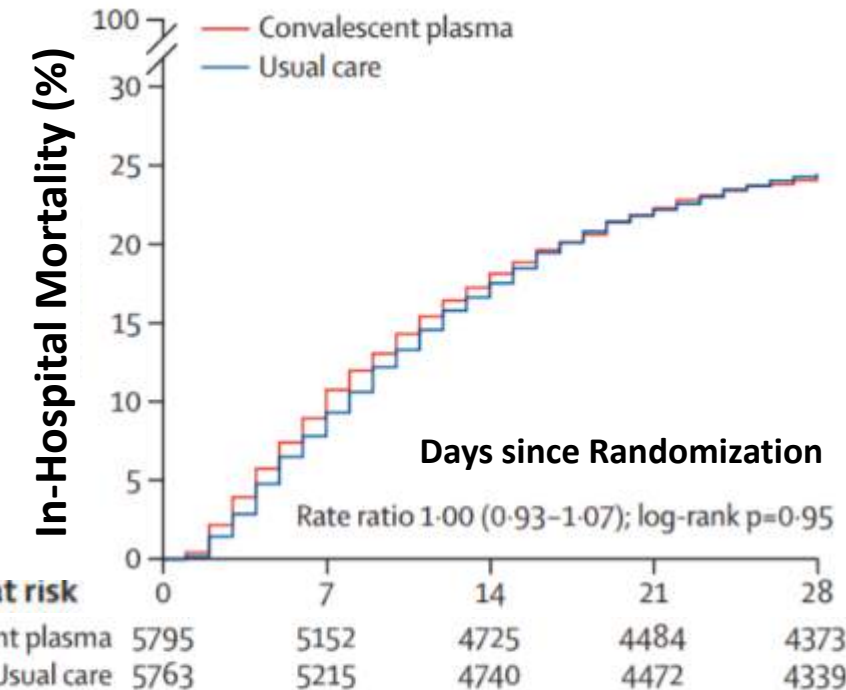


Convalescent plasma (CP) - 1

Characteristics		CP (N= 5 795)	Usual care (N=5 763)
Age	< 70 yr – no (%)	3 705 (64)	3 748 (65)
	70-79 yr – no (%)	1 310 (23)	1 281 (22)
	≥ 80 yr – no (%)	780 (13)	734 (13)
Sex			
	Male sex – no (%)	3 643 (63)	3 787 (66)
Co existing conditions	Diabetes – no(%)	1 535 (26)	1 569 (27)
	Heart disease – no (%)	1 267 (22)	1 309 (23)
	Chronic lung disease – no (%)	1 385 (24)	1 328 (23)
Median number of days since symptom onset		9 (6–12)	9 (6–12)
Median number of days since admission to hospital		2 (1–3)	2 (1–4)
Respiratory support received	Oxygen only – no (%)	5 051 (87)	4 993 (87)
	Invasive mechanical ventilation – no (%)	302 (5)	315 (5)

Convalescent plasma (CP) - 1

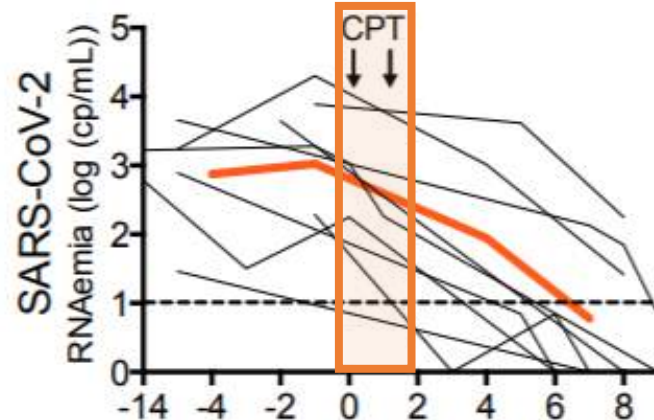
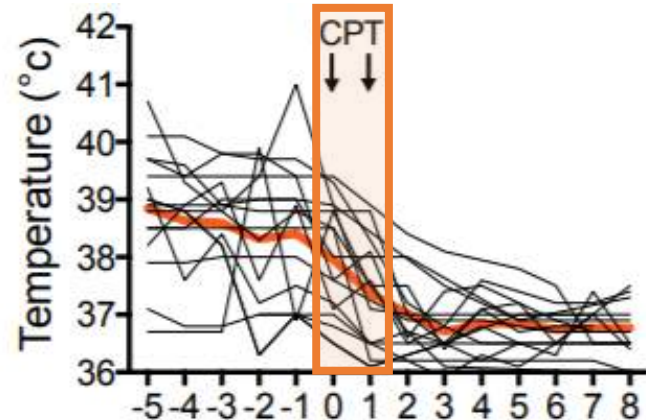
- **28-day mortality:** 1388/5795 (24%) CP group vs. 1408/5763 (24%) usual care group; rate ratio: 1,00; 95% CI[0,93-1,07]; p= 0,95
- **Discharge alive within 28 days:** CP group: 3822/5795 (66%) vs. usual care group 3822/5763 (10,9%); rate ratio: 0,99; 95% CI[0,94-1,03]; p= 0,57
- **Invasive MV or death:** CP group: 1568/5493 (29%) vs. usual care group 1568/5448 (29%); rate ratio: 0,99; 95% CI[0,93-1,05]; p= 0,79



- **Meta-analysis of mortality in RECOVERY and other trials:** mortality rate ratio: 0,98 ; 95% CI[0,91-1,06]; p= 0,63

Convalescent plasma (CP) - 2

- Observational, multicenter, academic study, France
- **Inclusion criteria:** B-cell immunodeficiency with prolonged COVID-19 symptoms, positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR from respiratory samples, no SARS-CoV-2 seroconversion
- 17 patients treated with 4 units of COVID-19 convalescent plasma



- **Clinical symptoms:** 16/17 patients experienced amelioration of SARS-CoV-2 within 48 hours CP
- **SARS-CoV-2 RNAemia:** 9/9 patients witnessed a decreased below sensitivity threshold

Characteristics (N=17)		CP
Age, median [range] - yr		58 [35-77]
Male sex – no (%)		12 (71)
Hematological malignancies		15 (88)
Non - Hematological malignancies		2 (12)
COVID -19 severity (WHO score), n (%)	4 – no (%)	5 (29)
	5-6 – no (%)	10 (59)
	7 – no (%)	2 (12)
Time between COVID -19 symptoms onset and CPT (days), median [range]		56 [7-83]
Time for oxygen weaning after CPT (days), median [range]		5 [1-45]
Overall survival, n (%)		16 (94)

THERAPEUTIC (July 22nd 2021)

1. What drug showed clinical efficacy?

- Dexamethasone is the first drug to show life-saving efficacy in patients infected with COVID-19

2. What drugs did not show proven benefits?

- No proven benefits have been reported with (hydroxy)chloroquine, ivermectin nor lopinavir/ritonavir treatment



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