



# Hypertensions pulmonaires de l'enfant

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**Centre de Référence Maladies Rares  
Maladies Cardiaques Héritaires- CARDIOGEN**



Association pour la Recherche en Cardiologie  
du Fœtus à l'Adulte



**European  
Reference  
Network**

for rare or low prevalence  
complex diseases

**Network**  
Respiratory Diseases  
(ERN-LUNG)



**European  
Reference  
Network**

for rare or low prevalence  
complex diseases

**Network**  
Heart Diseases  
(ERN GUARD-HEART)

# NICE

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## TASK FORCE 12

### Pediatrics



TENSION

ERIKA ROSENZWEIG MD, *Chair*  
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New York, NY USA  
Groningen, THE NETHERLANDS

# New guidelines since Nice 2013

## AHA/ATS Guideline

### **Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension Guidelines From the American Heart Association and American Thoracic Society**

Steven H. Abman, MD, Co-Chair; Georg Hansmann, MD, PhD, FAHA, Co-Chair;  
Stephen L. Archer, MD, FAHA, Co-Chair; D. Dunbar Ivy, MD, FAHA; Ian Adatia, MD;  
Wendy K. Chung, MD, PhD; Brian D. Hanna, MD; Erika B. Rosenzweig, MD;  
J. Usha Raj, MD; David Cornfield, MD; Kurt R. Stenmark, MD;  
Robin Steinhorn, MD, FAHA; Bernard Thébaud, MD, PhD; Jeffrey R. Fineman, MD;  
Titus Kuehne, MD; Jeffrey A. Feinstein, MD; Mark K. Friedberg, MD;  
Michael Earing, MD; Robyn J. Barst, MD†; Roberta L. Keller, MD; John P. Kinsella, MD;  
Mary Mullen, MD, PhD; Robin Deterding, MD; Thomas Kulik, MD;  
George Mallory, MD; Tilman Humpl, MD; David L. Wessel, MD; on behalf of the American Heart  
Association Council on Cardiopulmonary, Critical Care, Perioperative and Resuscitation; Council on  
Clinical Cardiology; Council on Cardiovascular Disease in the Young; Council on Cardiovascular  
Radiology and Intervention; Council on Cardiovascular Surgery and Anesthesia; and the American  
Thoracic Society

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**Executive summary. Expert consensus statement on  
the diagnosis and treatment of paediatric pulmonary  
hypertension. The European Paediatric Pulmonary  
Vascular Disease Network, endorsed by ISHLT and  
DGPK**

Georg Hansmann, (Chair)<sup>1</sup> Christian Aplitz, (Co-Chair)<sup>2</sup> Hashim Abdul-Khaliq,<sup>3</sup>  
Tero-Pekka Alastalo,<sup>4,5</sup> Phillip Beerbaum,<sup>1</sup> Damien Bonnet,<sup>6</sup> Karl-Otto Dubowy,<sup>7</sup>  
Matthias Gorenflo,<sup>8</sup> Alfred Hager,<sup>9</sup> Anne Hilgendorff,<sup>10</sup> Michael Kaestner,<sup>2</sup>  
Martin Koestenberger,<sup>11</sup> Juha W Koskenvuo,<sup>4,5</sup> Rainer Kozlik-Feldmann,<sup>12</sup>  
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Dietmar Schranz,<sup>15</sup> Gregor Warnecke,<sup>20,21</sup> Peter Zartner<sup>22</sup>

# Specific guidelines for neonatal pulmonary hypertension

MEDICAL  
PROGRESS

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## Evaluation and Management of Pulmonary Hypertension in Children with Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia

Usha Krishnan, MD<sup>1\*</sup>, Jeffrey A. Feinstein, MD<sup>2\*</sup>, Ian Adata, MBChB<sup>3</sup>, Eric D. Austin, MD<sup>4</sup>, Mary P. Mullen, MD, PhD<sup>5</sup>, Rachel K. Hopper, MD<sup>6</sup>, Brian Hanna, MD, PhD<sup>6</sup>, Lew Romer, MD<sup>7</sup>, Roberta L. Keller, MD<sup>8</sup>, Jeffrey Fineman, MD<sup>9</sup>, Robin Steinhorn, MD<sup>10</sup>, John P. Kinsella, MD<sup>11</sup>, D. Dunbar Ivy, MD<sup>12</sup>, Erika Berman Rosenzweig, MD<sup>1</sup>, Usha Raj, MD<sup>13</sup>, Tilman Humpl, MD<sup>14</sup>, and Steven H. Abman, MD<sup>15</sup>, for the Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension Network (PPHNet)<sup>†</sup>

COMMENTARY

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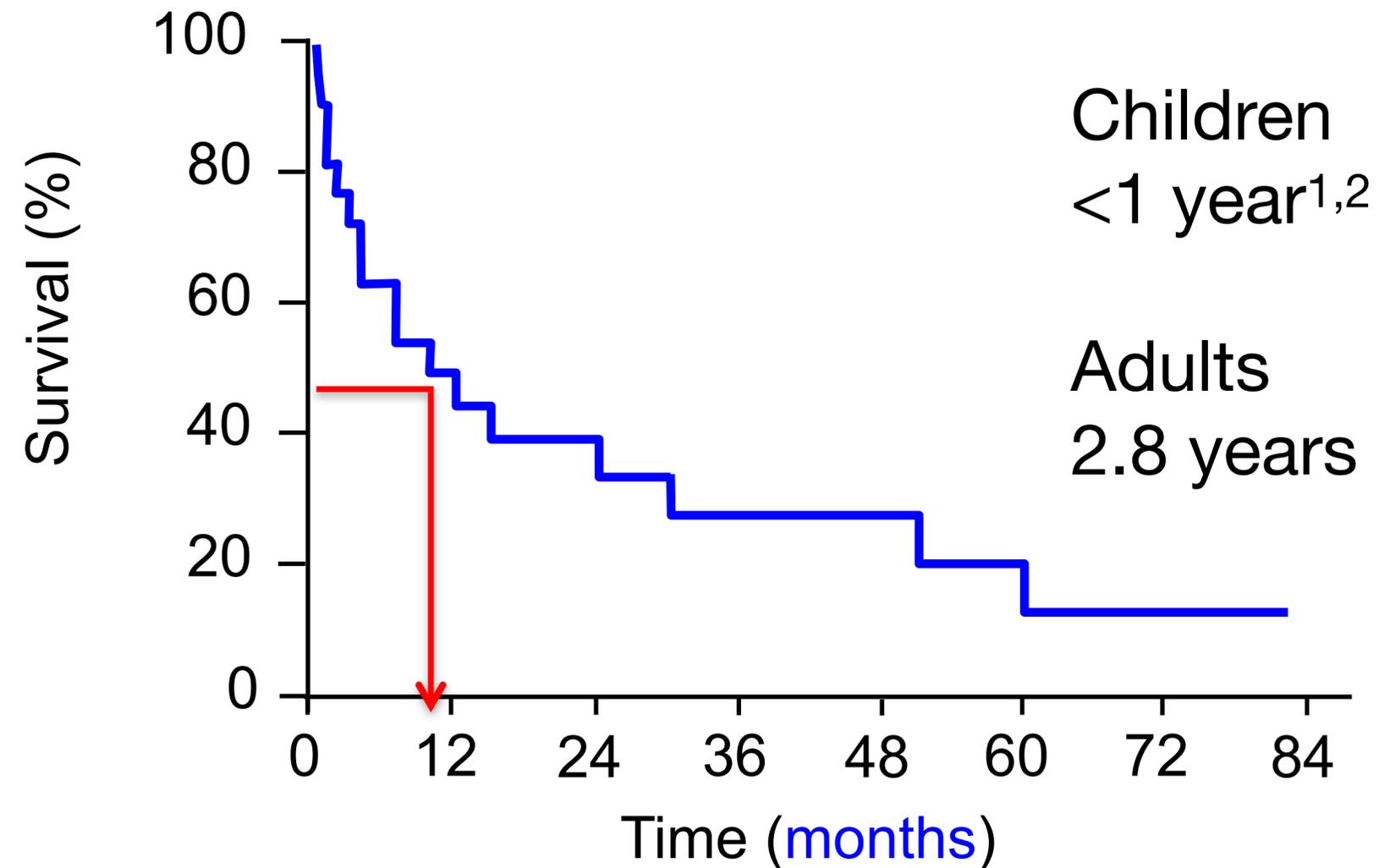
## Recommendations for the Use of Inhaled Nitric Oxide Therapy in Premature Newborns with Severe Pulmonary Hypertension

John P. Kinsella, MD<sup>1</sup>, Robin H. Steinhorn, MD<sup>2</sup>, Usha S. Krishnan, MD<sup>3</sup>, Jeffrey A. Feinstein, MD<sup>4</sup>, Ian Adata, MBChB<sup>5</sup>, Eric D. Austin, MD<sup>6</sup>, Erika B. Rosenzweig, MD<sup>3</sup>, Allen D. Everett, MD<sup>7</sup>, Jeffrey R. Fineman, MD<sup>8</sup>, Brian D. Hanna, MD, PhD<sup>9</sup>, Rachel K. Hopper, MD<sup>9</sup>, Tilman Humpl, MD<sup>10</sup>, D. Dunbar Ivy, MD<sup>11</sup>, Roberta L. Keller, MD<sup>12</sup>, Mary P. Mullen, MD, PhD<sup>13</sup>, J. Usha Raj, MD<sup>14</sup>, David L. Wessel, MD<sup>15</sup>, and Steven H. Abman, MD<sup>16</sup>

# Natural History of IPAH: NIH Registry

Median survival: 2.8 years (n=194)

Pediatric median survival: 0.8 years (n=16)



1. Houde C, et al. *Br Heart J* 1993;70:461-8.  
2. Barst, RJ, et al. *Circulation* 1999; 99:1197-208.

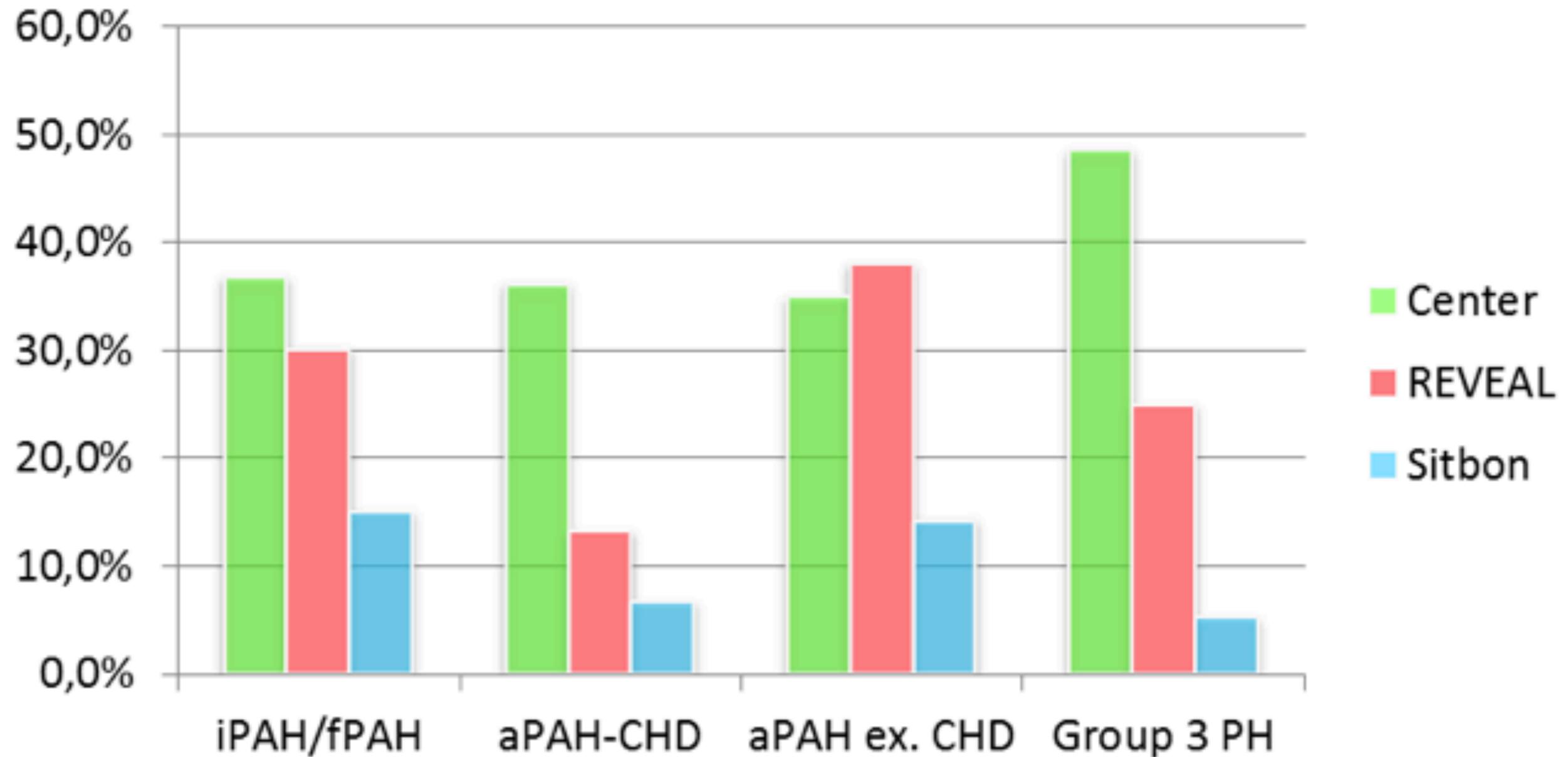
# Recent landmarks in pediatric PH

- Extension of drug approval in children (n=1) !
- Expansion of use of interventional-surgical approaches for end-stage PAH in children
- Genetic discoveries relevant to pediatric practice
- New insights from pediatric specific registry data

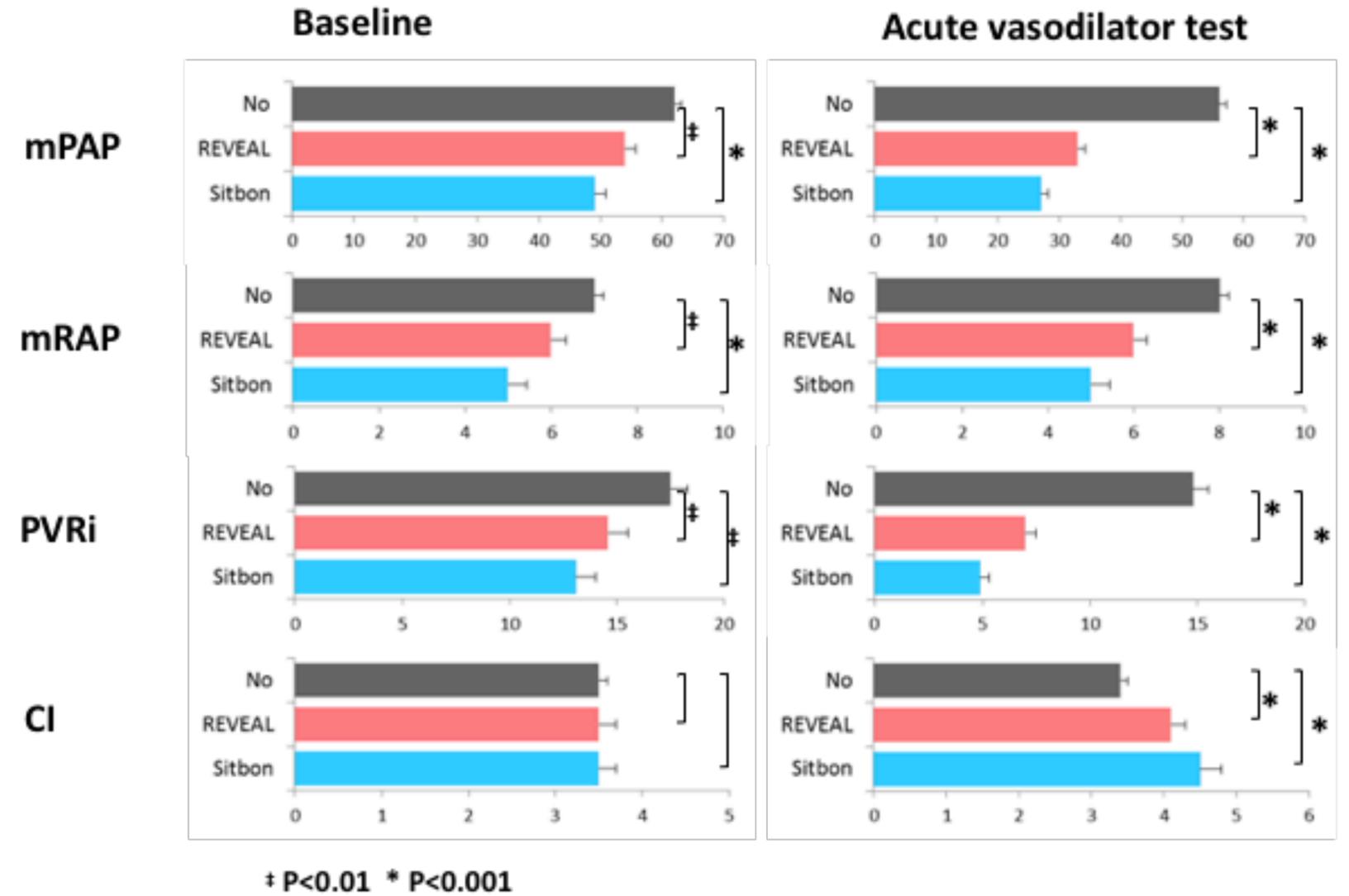
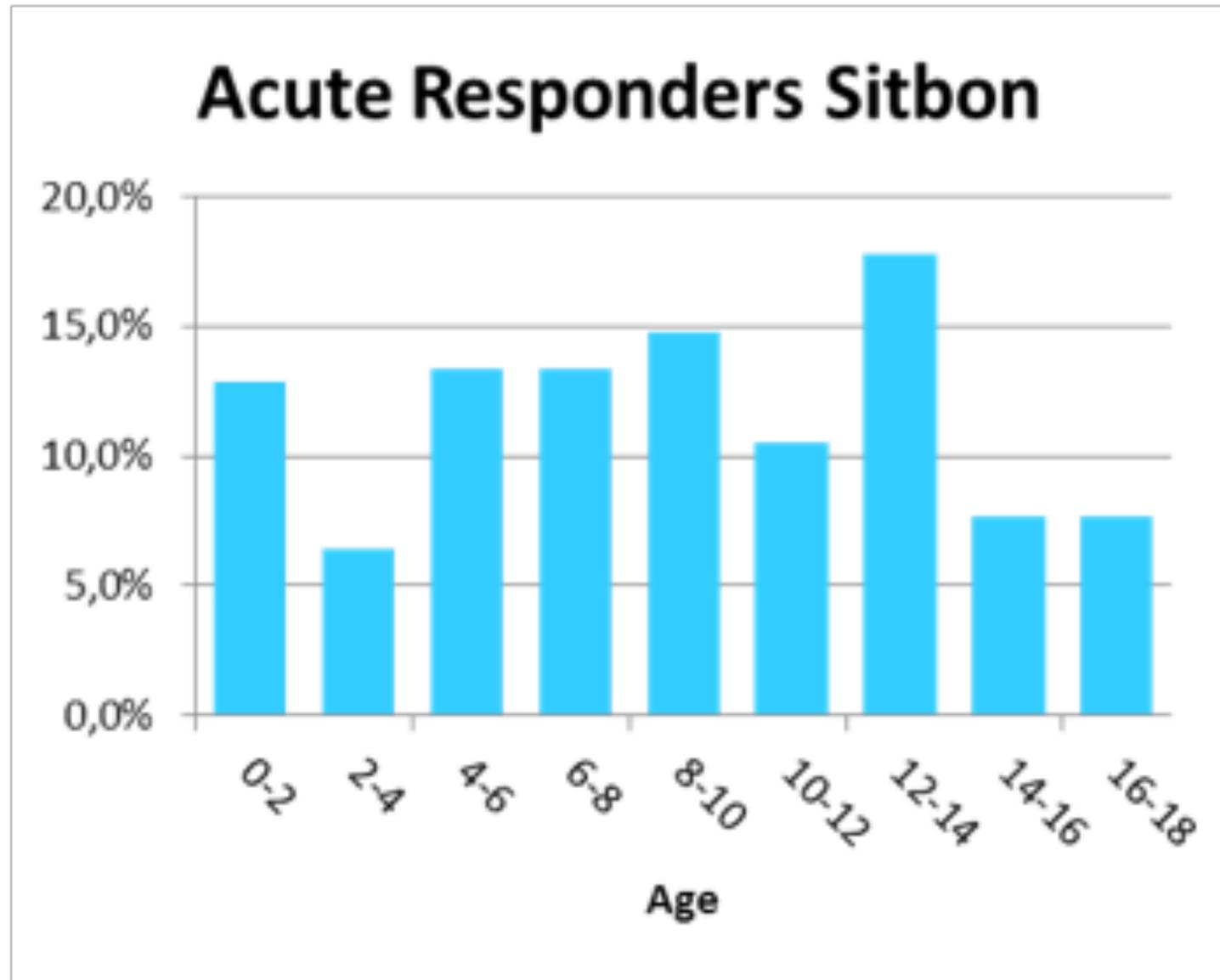
# Definition of pediatric PH/PAH

- A mean pulmonary arterial pressure of  $>25$  mmHg with a capillary wedge pressure of  $<15$  mmHg and a  $PVR_i > 3WU \cdot m^2$  in children  $> 3$  months of age with two ventricle anatomy.
- Limited data to extend the definition to children with mean PAP 21-24 mmHg.
- Age is a pending problem:
  - Definition of PH in children less than 3 months of age
  - No RHC measure of pulmonary pressure in neonates with PPHN or PH associated with developmental lung disease

# Definition of vasoreactivity in children



# Definition of vasoreactivity in children



# Heritable PAH in pediatrics

- Known mutations: BMPR2, ALK1, ENG, CAV1, KCNK3, EIF2AK4, TBX4, SOX17
- TBX4 – described potential role in pediatric PAH and small patella syndrome and lung development <sup>1</sup>
- SOX17 - role in PAH and cardiac development

1-Kerstjens-Frederikse WS, J Clin Genet 2013

2-Levy M, ERJ, 2016

# Heritable PAH in pediatrics

- Genetic screening for PAH genes mutations should be performed in children
  - in expert centers with a genetic counseling group in all children diagnosed with IPAH and HPAH
- Genetic screening for PAH/lung-cardiac development should be done in APAH-CHD ?
  - TBX4 and SOX17 genes mutations
- Genetic screening for neonatal pulmonary hypertension is potentially recommended
  - FOXF1 in alveolo-capillary dysplasia
  - TBX4 in neonatal respiratory distress and PPHN
- Sharing exception may hold key to future understanding of PH in children

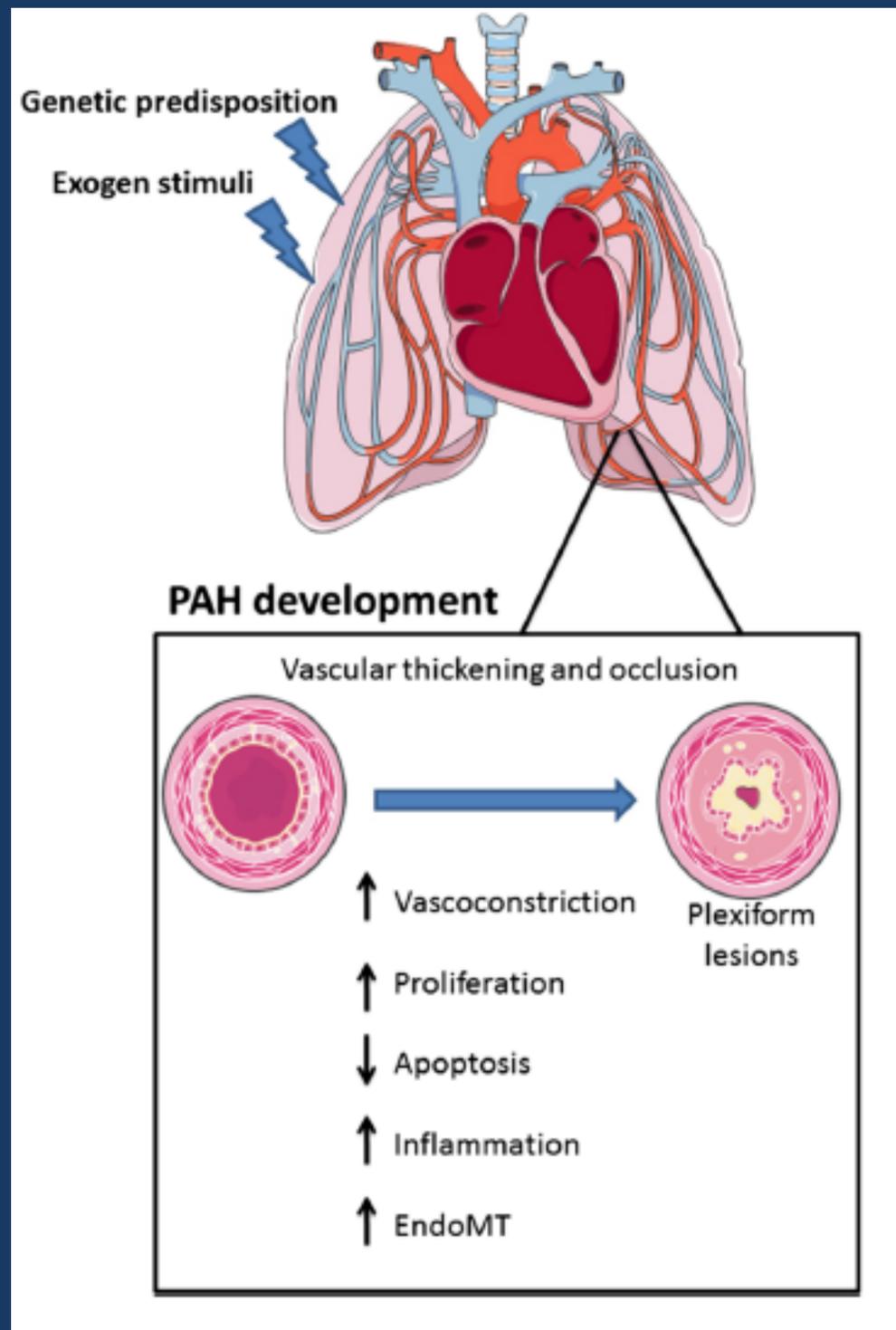
# Identification of PAH genes mutations in a pediatric population

## *Results*

- No mutations in children with group 3 and type 4 APAH-CHD.
- **8 mutations were found in 36 children with iPAH (22%)**
  - 3 in *BMPR2*,
  - 3 in *ALK1*,
  - 2 in *TBX4*.
  - No mutations were identified in *ENG*, *SMAD9* or *KCNK3*.
- **4 mutations were found in the 8 fPAH families (50%)**
  - 2 in *BMPR2*, 1 in *ALK1*, 1 in *TBX4*.
  - only one sibling of an index case with a *TBX4* mutation was alive with PAH, and had the same mutation. In the three remaining families, the first-degree relatives who had PAH were all dead at inclusion of the index case into our study with no material available for genetic testing.
- **2 mutation in *EIF2AK4* in the two patients with clinical, hemodynamic and CT features of PVOD.**

# Low prevalence of known genes for PAH

## *PAH genes variants and risk of PVD*



Gender and PAH

Ethnicity

Genetic predisposition in CHD

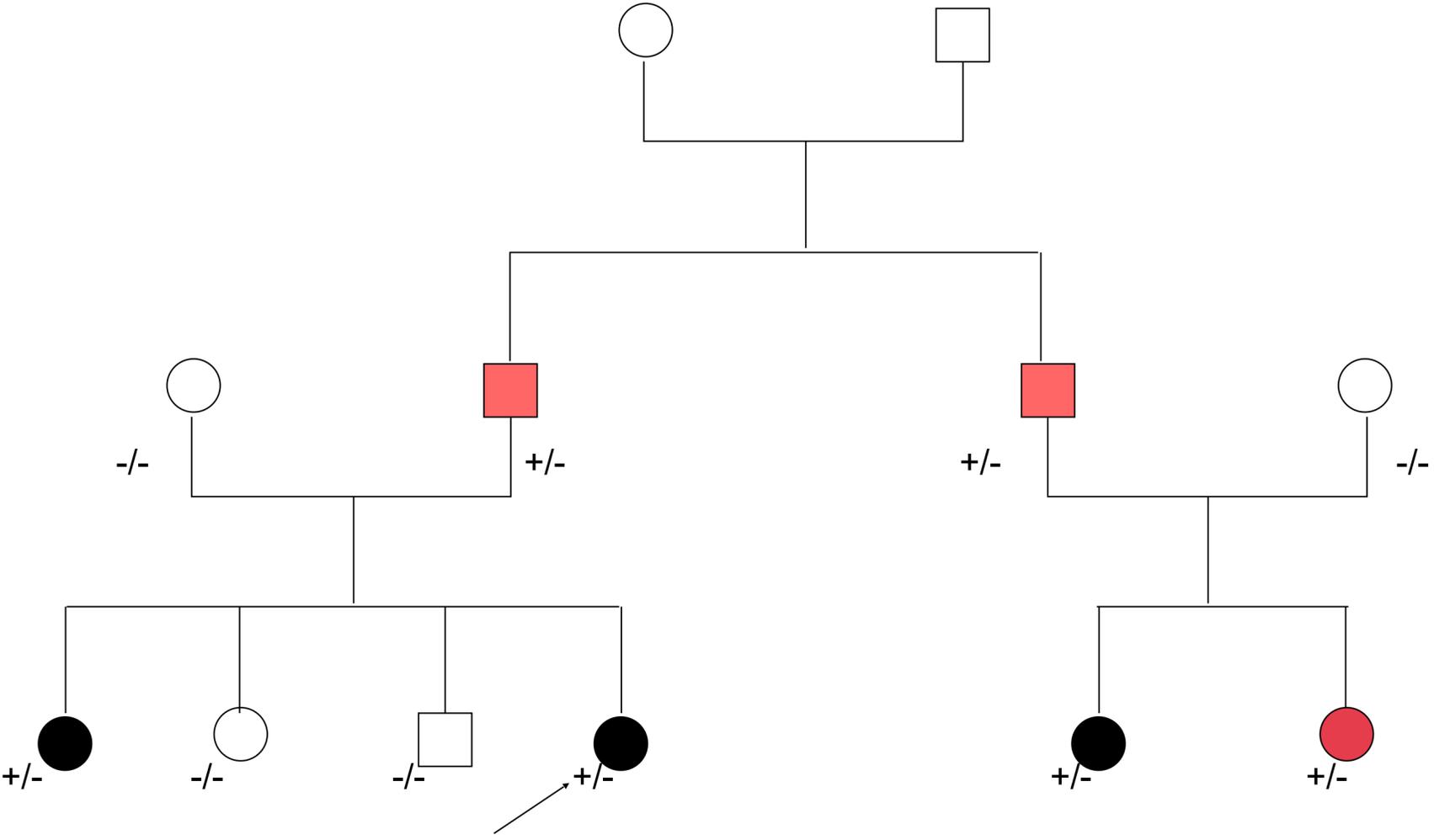
- Down syndrome:
  - comorbid condition in pediatric PAH 13%<sup>1</sup>

- Noonan syndrome

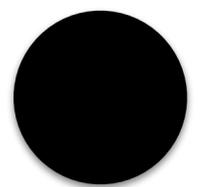
- *BMPR2* mutations in CHD<sup>2</sup>

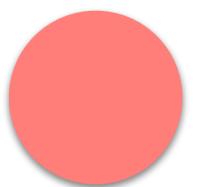
24 mutations were identified, accounting for 22 of the 294 patients with CHD-PVD (7.5%) and 2 of the 161 CHD patients without PVD (1.2%,  $P=0.004$ )

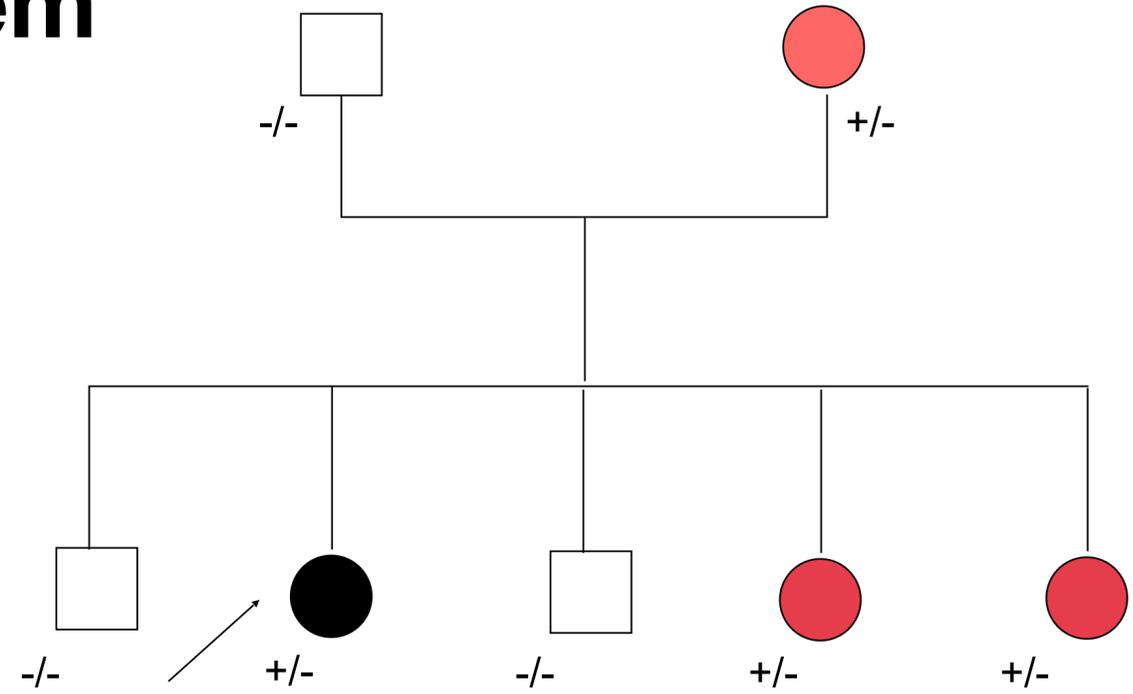
# Genetic counseling : the penetrance problem



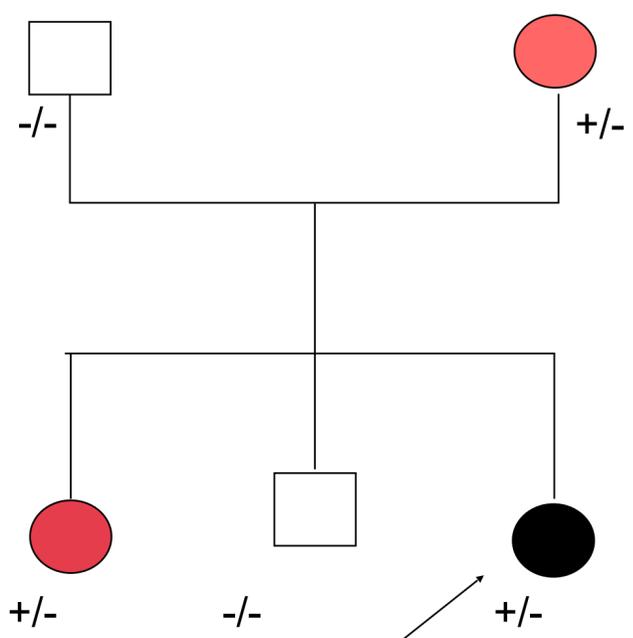
TBX4 c.1119C>G, p.Tyr373\*

 PAH+mutation

 No PAH + mutation



TBX4 c.231G>A, p.Trp77\*



TBX4 c.781C>T, p.Arg261\*

# Classification of pediatric PH

## **3 Main topics**

1-Neonatal pulmonary hypertension

2-Developmental lung disorders and PH

3-Congenital heart diseases and PH/PAH

# Pathogenesis of PPHN

## PRENATAL FACTORS

- Maternal NSAID, SSRI use;
- Premature closure of the DA
- C-section delivery
- Post-term (> 41 weeks)
- Large for gestational age
- Abnormal placenta
- Altered lung development
- Cardiovascular abnormalities

## POSTNATAL FACTORS

- Hyperoxia/oxidative stress
- Ventilator Induced Injury
- Asphyxia
- Inflammation/Infection

### *Injury to the Developing Lung Circulation*

Impaired Vasoreactivity

Decreased Angiogenesis

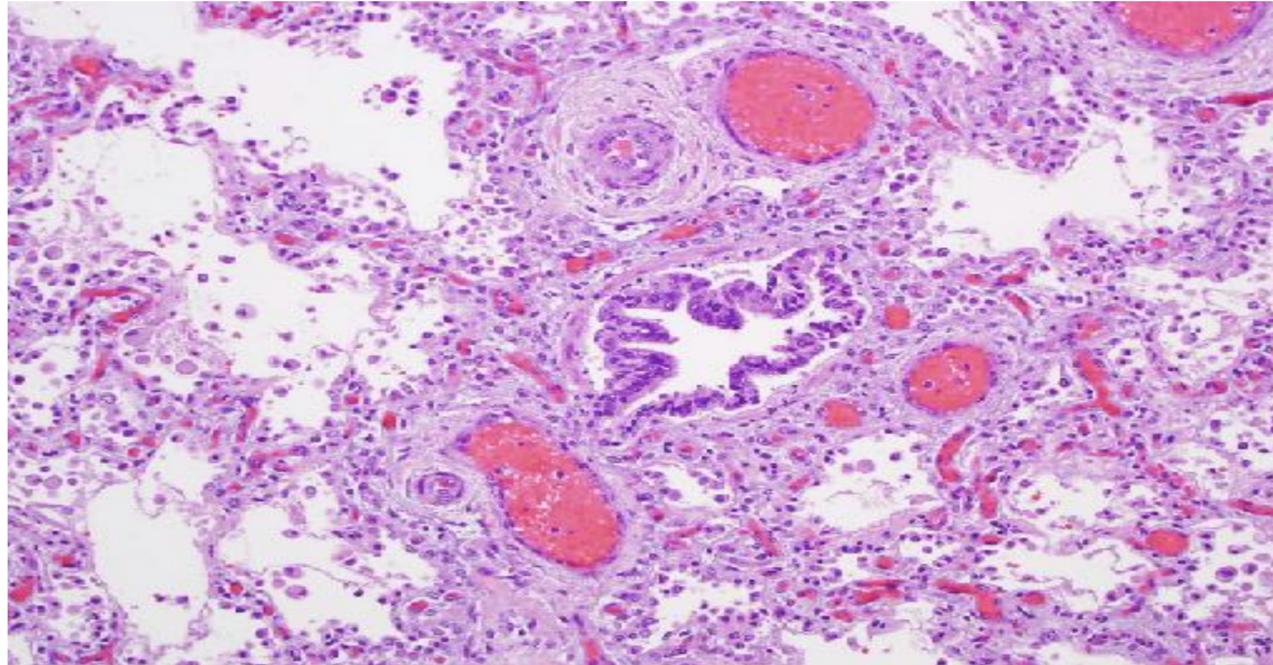
Altered Vascular Structure

### Persistent Pulmonary Hypertension of the Newborn

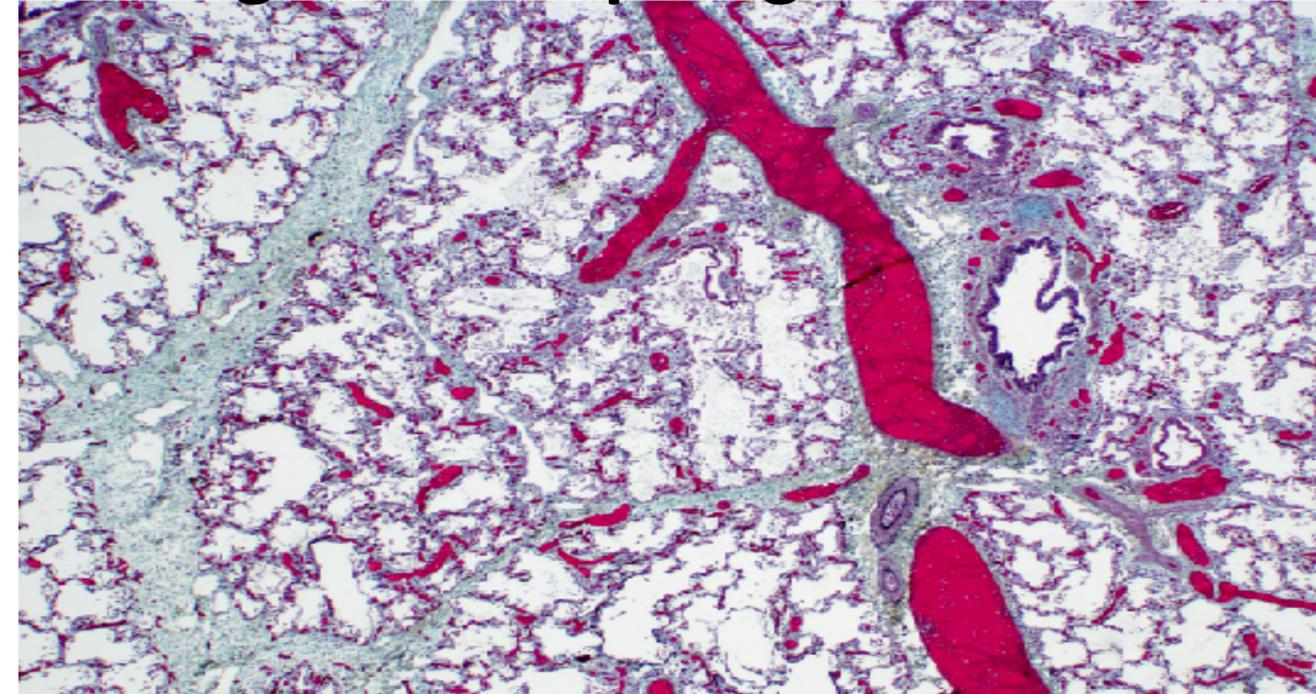
- Failure to decrease PVR at birth
- Extra-pulmonary shunting across DA, PFO
- Severe hypoxemia, Respiratory Failure

# Pulmonary Vascular Disease in Developmental Lung Disorders

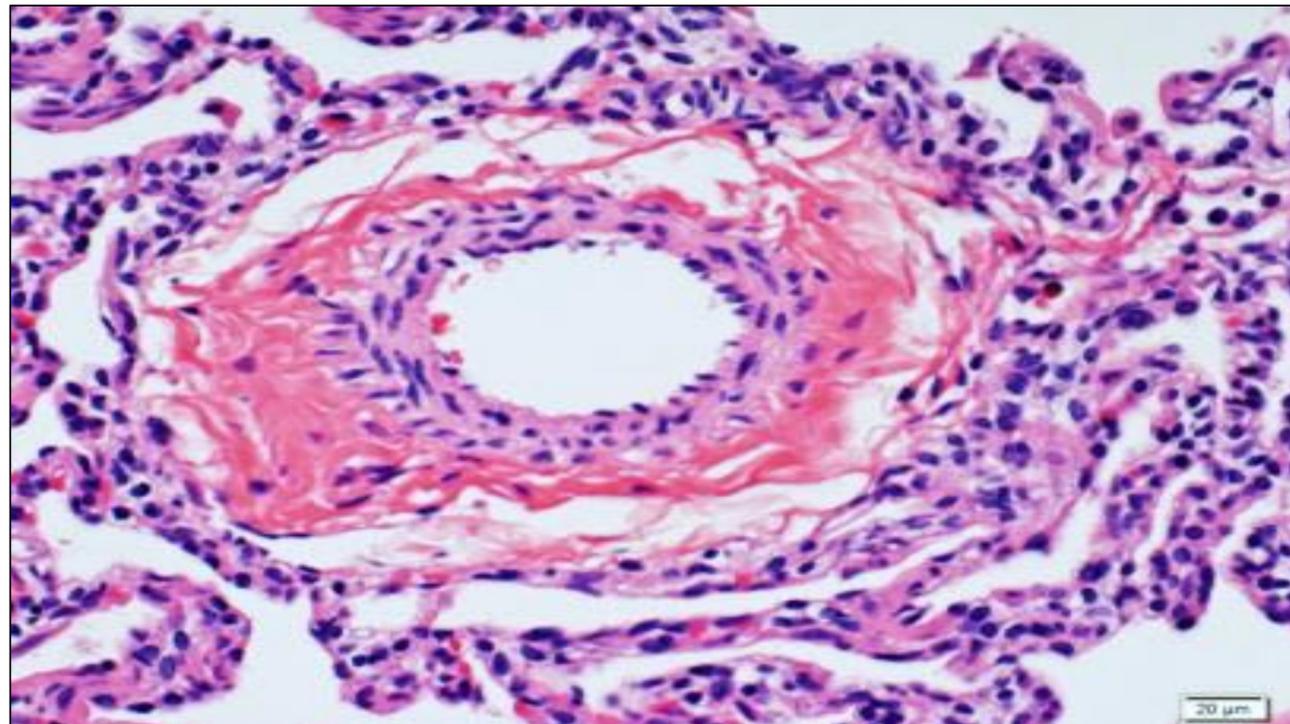
## Alveolar Capillary Dysplasia



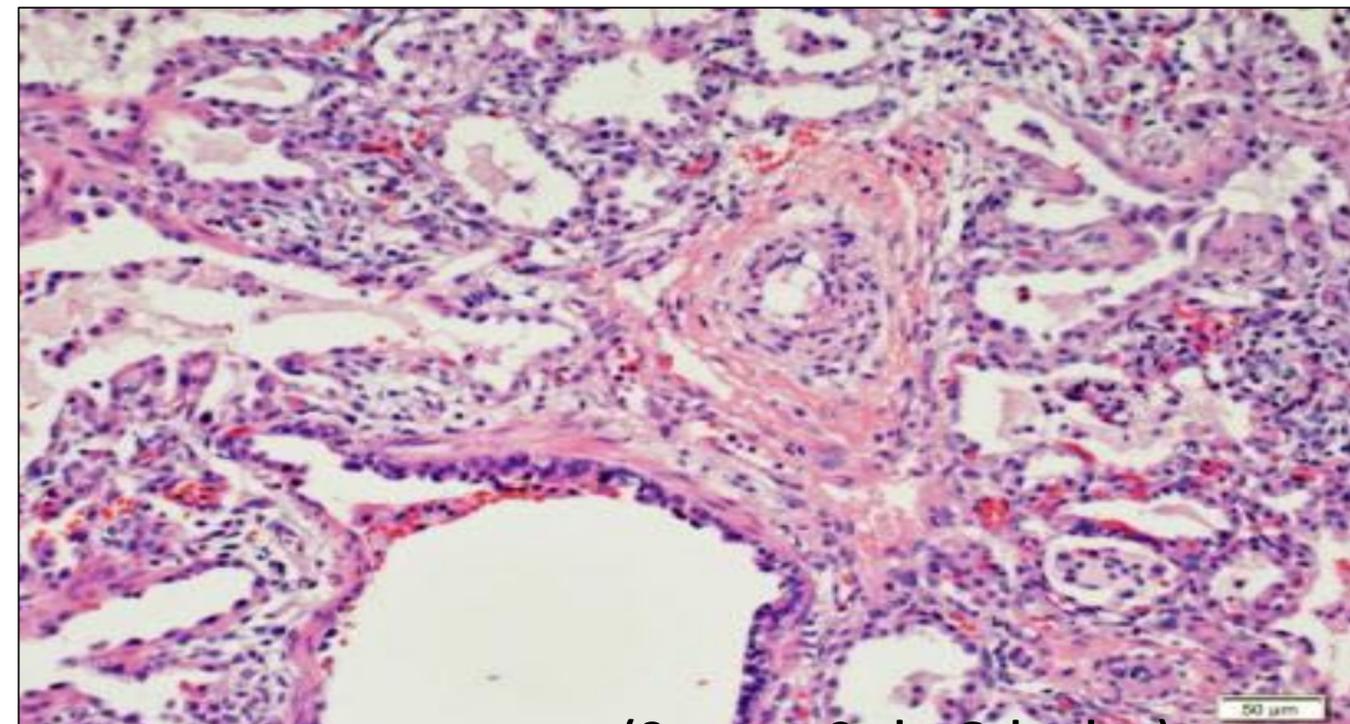
## Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia



## Pulmonary Interstitial Glycogenosis

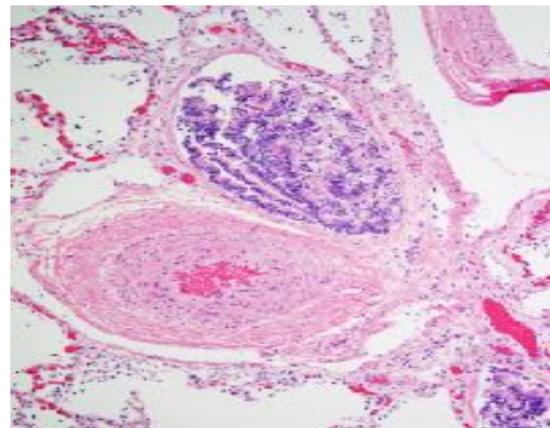
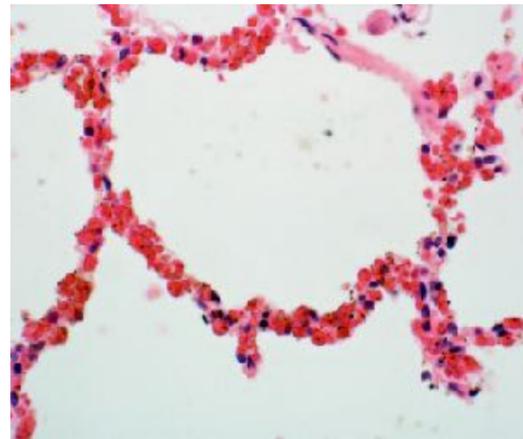
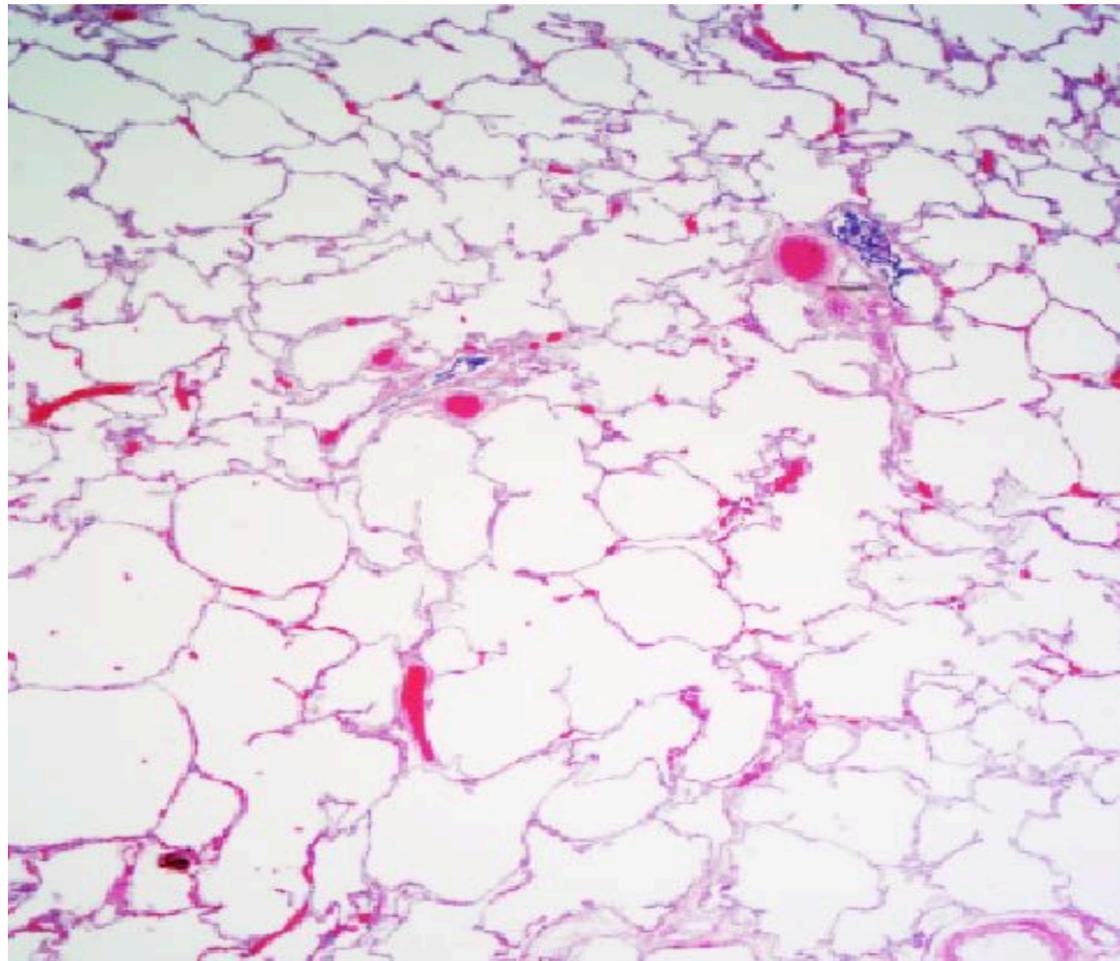


## Surfactant Protein B Deficiency



(Courtesy Csaba Galambos)

# PH in Down syndrome/trisomy 21 is a developmental lung disorder



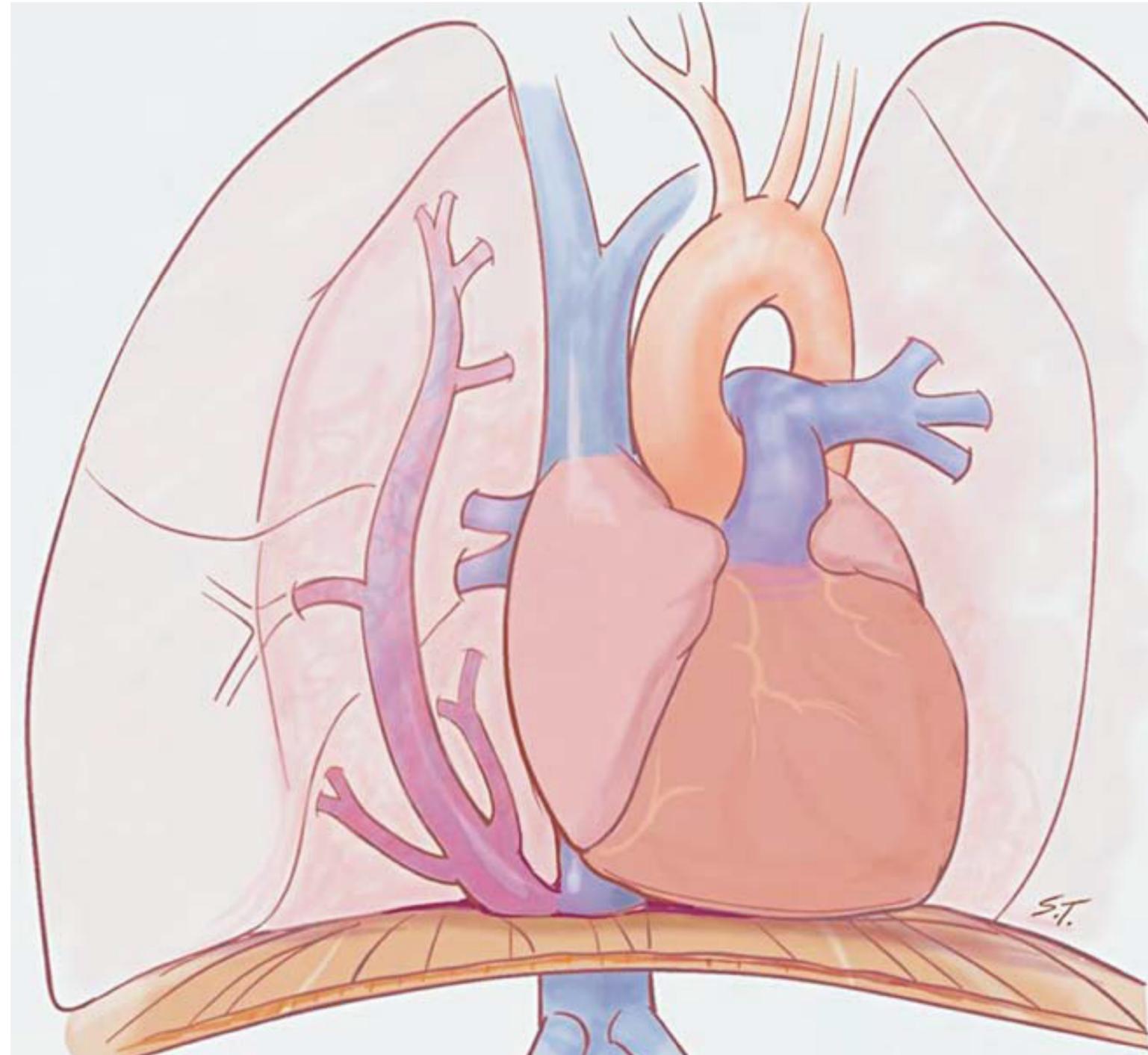
- PPHN more frequent in Down syndrome
- APAH-CHD has an earlier onset in DS

# Multifactorial pulmonary hypertension in children

Lung disease

Post-capillary PH

Systemic supply  
to the lung

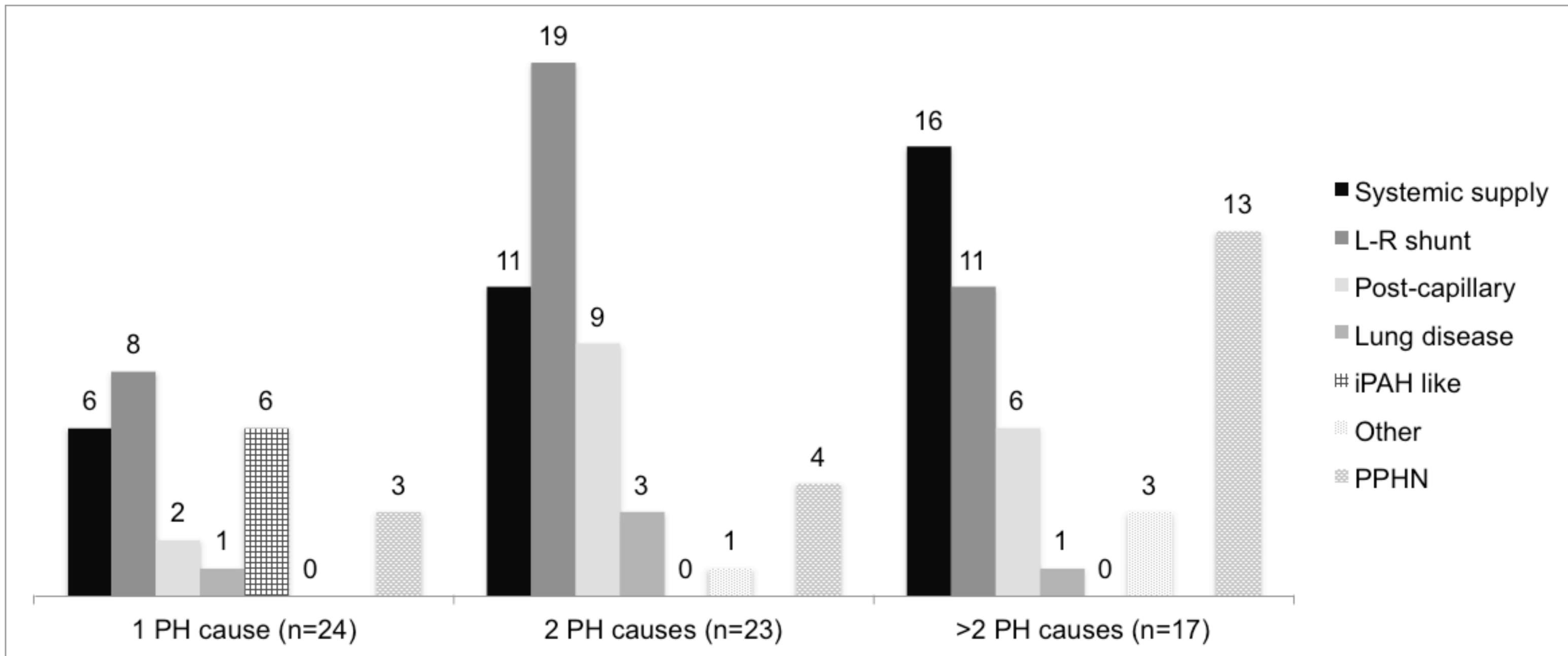


Pulmonary vascular  
disease  
/maladaptation

Left-to right shunt  
/CHD

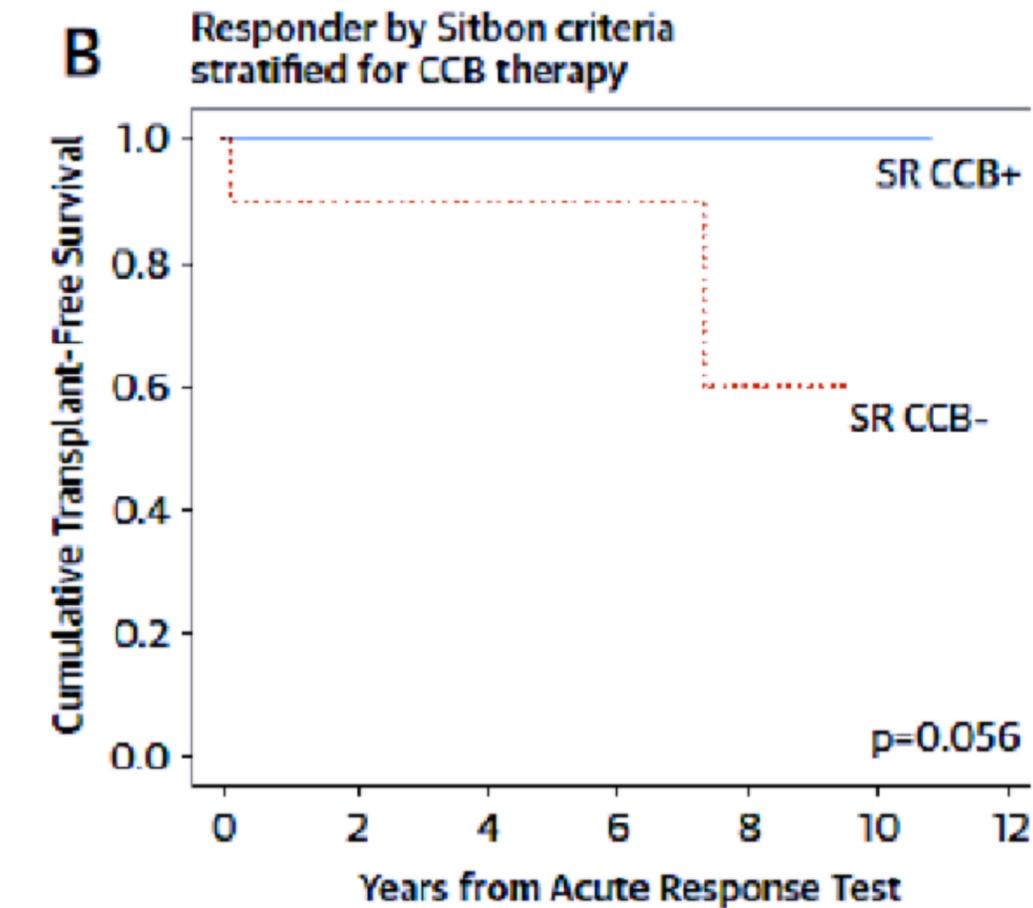
Scimitar syndrome

# Multifactorial pulmonary hypertension in scimitar syndrome



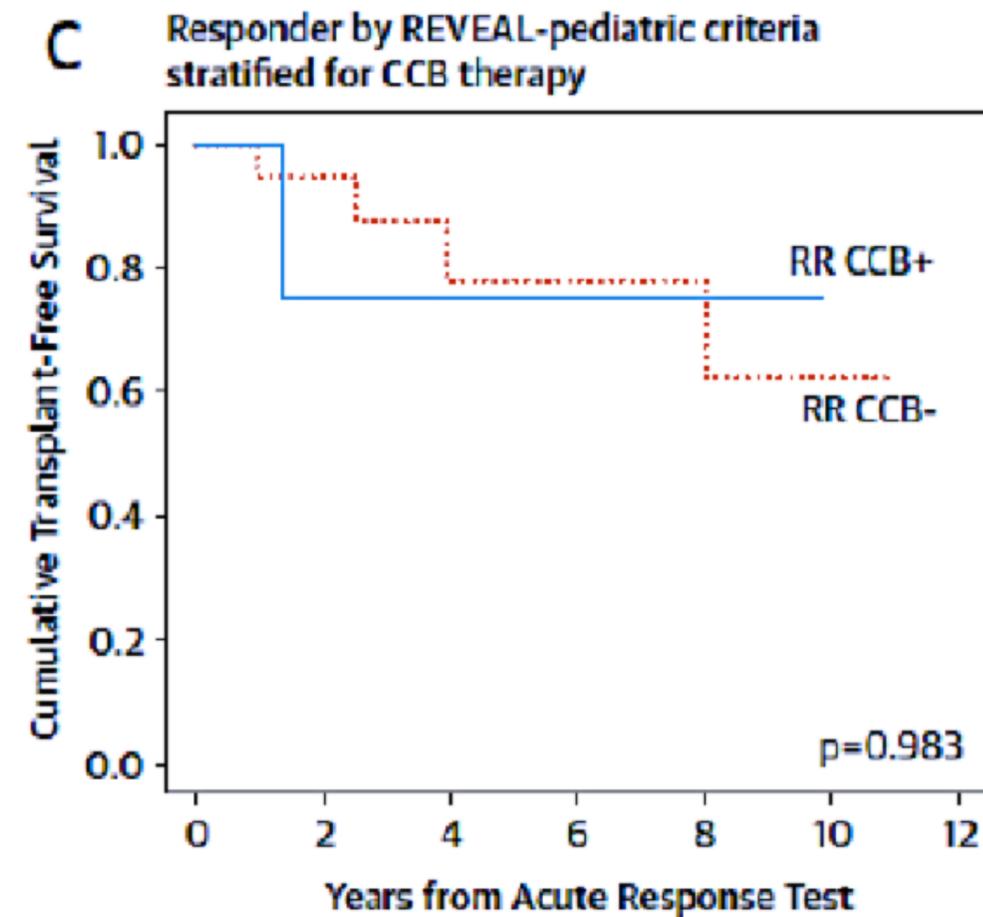
# Treatment of pediatric PAH/PH and current challenges

1. AVT responders should receive Calcium channel blockers



Number of cases:

SR CCB+	20	15	11	7	4	3
SR CCB-	10	7	5	3	1	



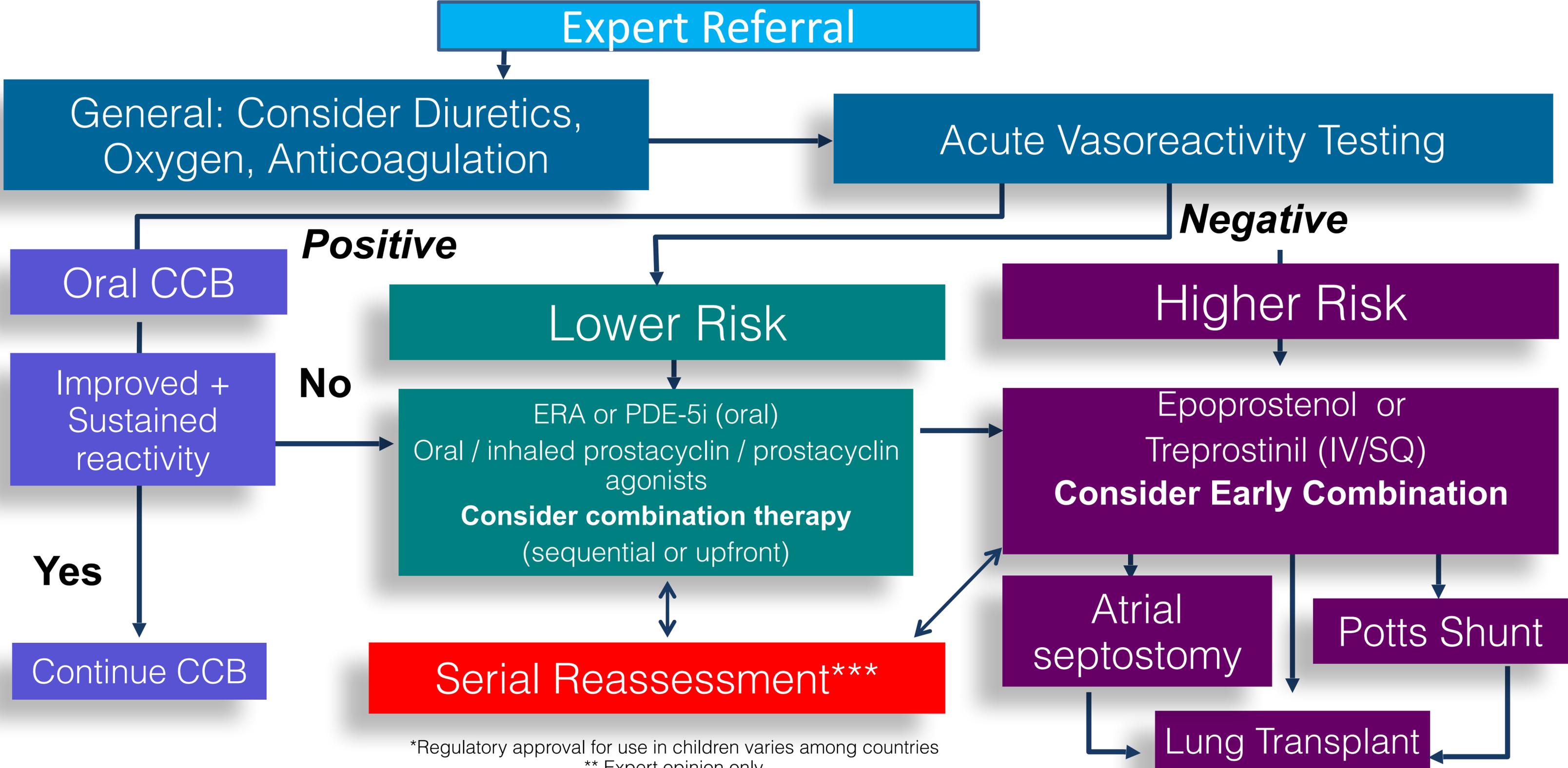
Number of cases:

RR CCB+	4	3	2	2	2	
RR CCB-	23	15	8	6	3	1

# Low and high risk pediatric patients with PAH

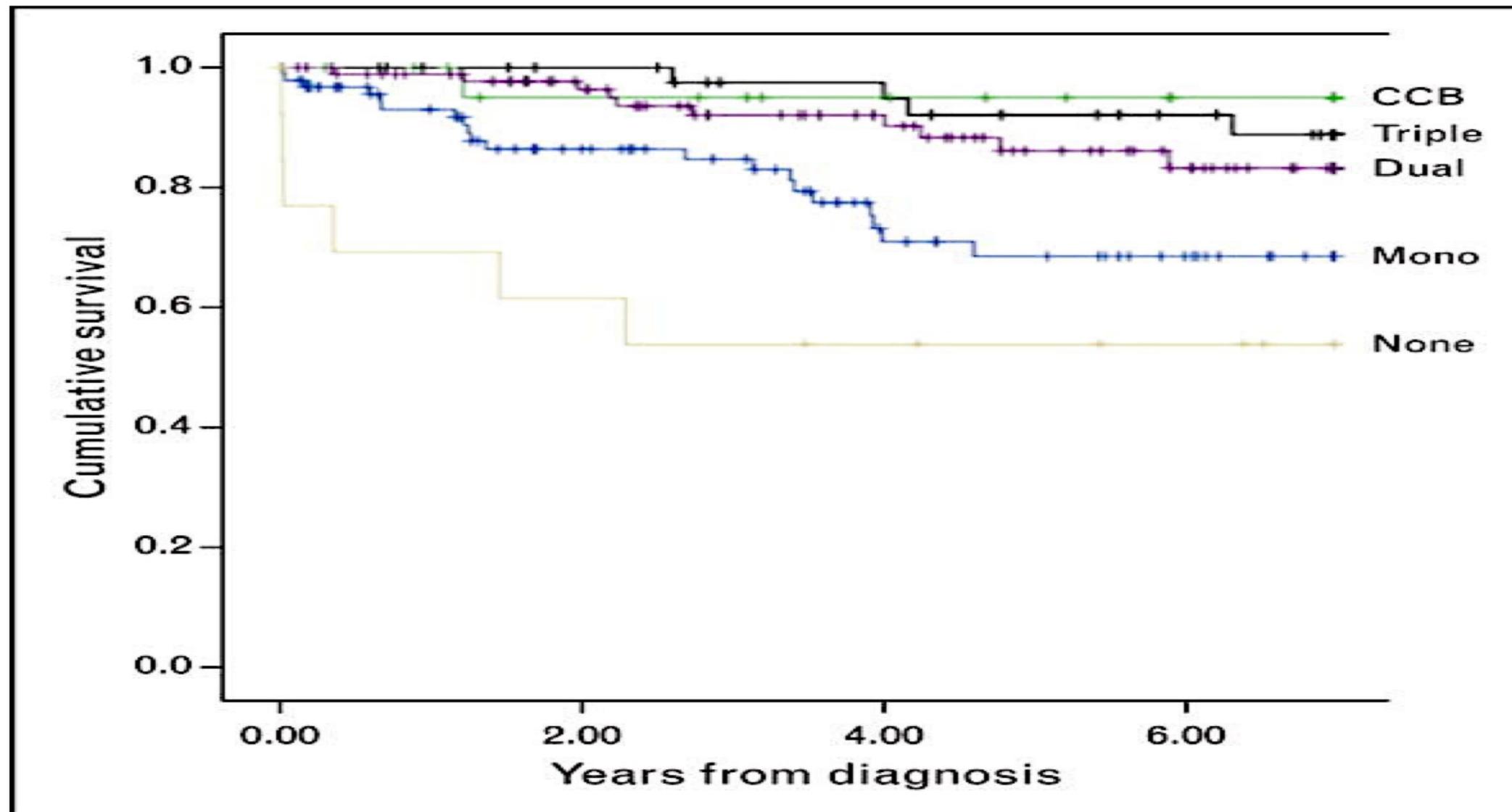
LOWER RISK	DETERMINANTS OF RISK	HIGHER RISK
No	Clinical evidence of RV failure	Yes
No	Progression of Symptoms	Yes
> 350 meters	6MWT (>7 yrs old)	< 350 meters
	Growth	Failure to thrive
I,II	WHO Functional Class	III,IV
Minimally elevated	BNP / NTproBNP	Significantly elevated Rising level
	Echocardiography	RA / RV Enlargement Reduced LV size Increased RV/LV Ratio Reduced TAPSE Low RV FAC Pericardial Effusion
Systemic CI > 3.0 L/min/m <sup>2</sup> Systemic venous saturation >65% + Acute Vasoreactivity	Hemodynamics	Systemic CI < 2.5 L/min/m <sup>2</sup> RAP > 10mmHg PVRI > 20 WU*m <sup>2</sup> Systemic venous saturation < 60% PACi <0.85

# Pediatric IPAH/HPAH Treatment algorithm WSPH 2018



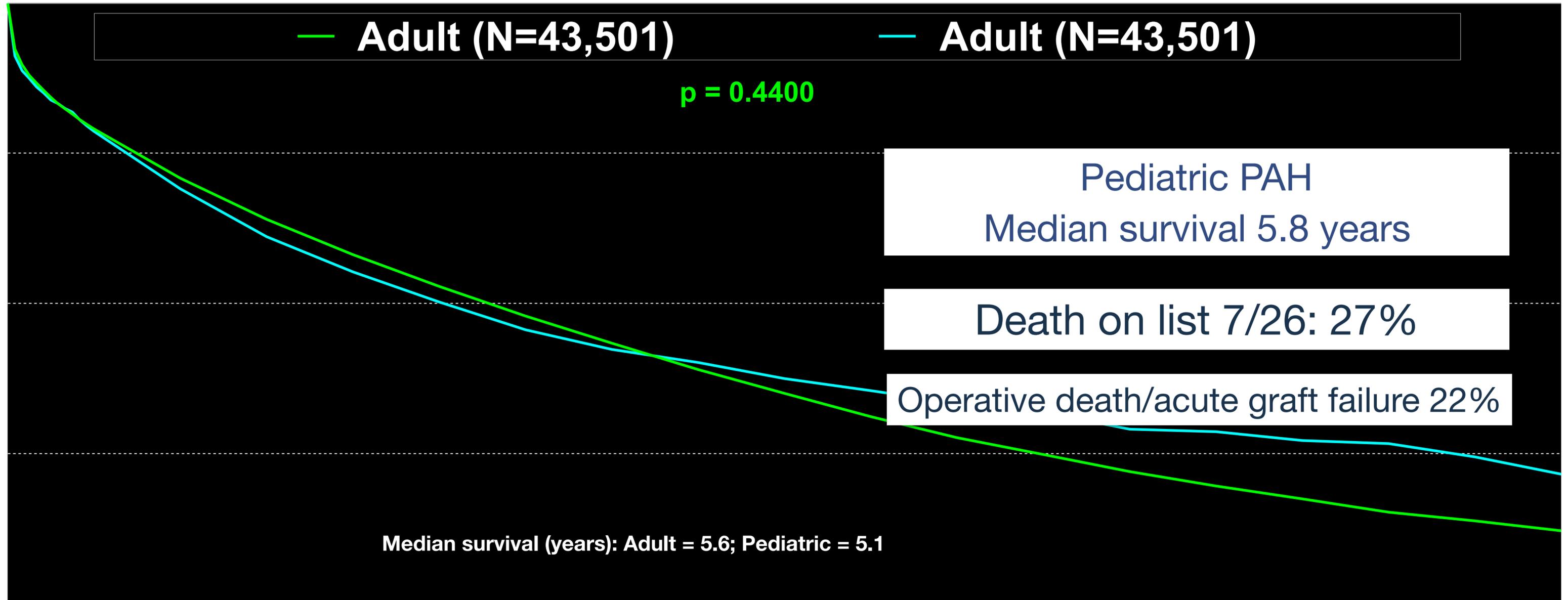
\*Regulatory approval for use in children varies among countries  
 \*\* Expert opinion only  
 \*\*\* Deterioration or not meeting treatment goals

# Limited evidence in RCT for this algorithm but convincing registries data

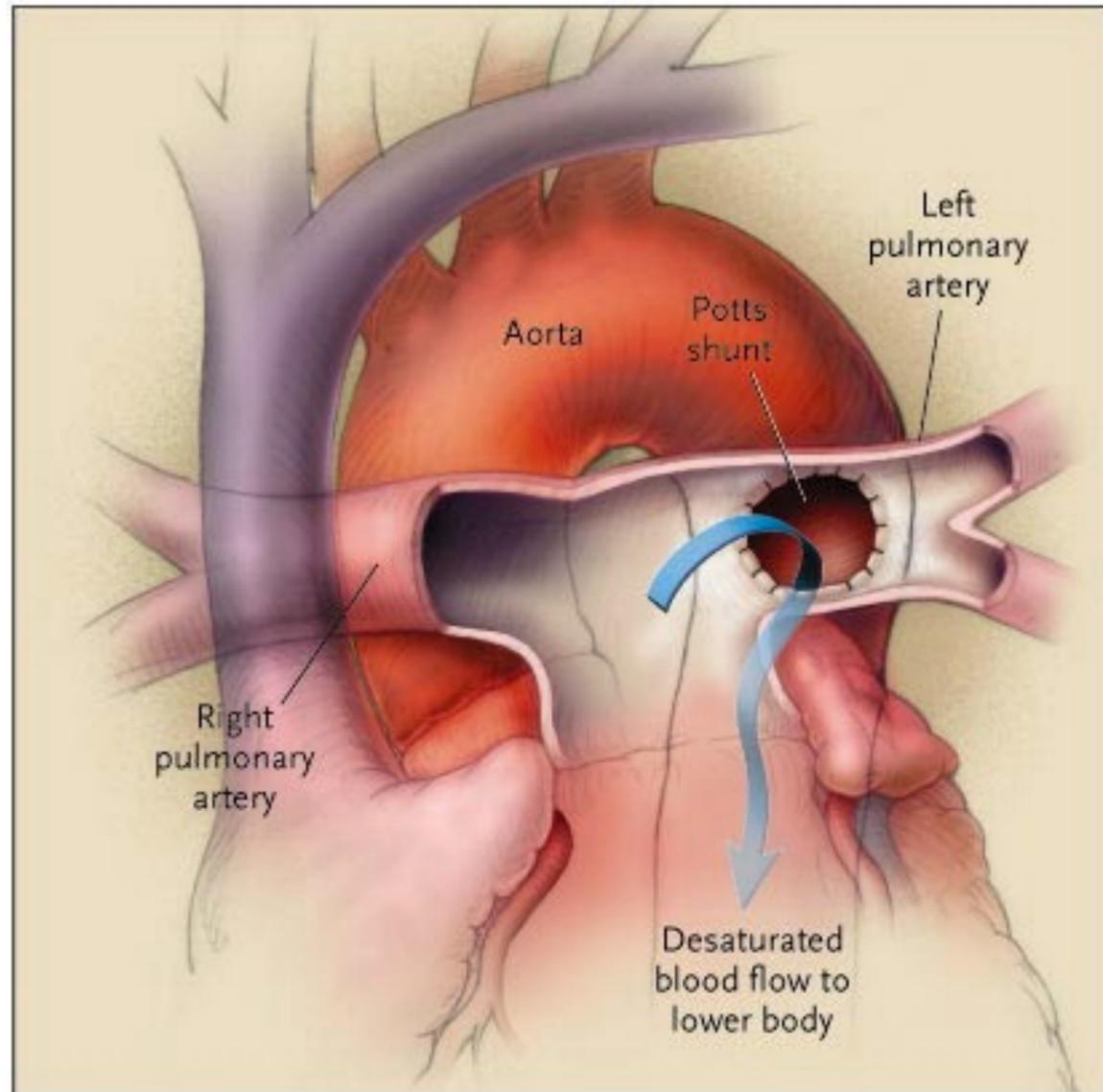


# Lung transplantation in children

(Lung Transplantations: january 1990 – june 2012)



# Potts shunt in pediatric PAH



- Good long term responders
- Still high risk procedure
- Need to further define indications/contraindications
- Registry data from PePH association

## Predictor of outcome

- 1-is measured at baseline
- 2-its initial value predicts « hard » outcomes (death, transplantation)

## Therapeutic target

- 1-baseline values correlate with outcome
- 2-is in the pathway of the disease
- 3-treatment induces changes in the surrogate value
- 4-changes in the surrogate value modifies outcome

## Therapeutic trial endpoint

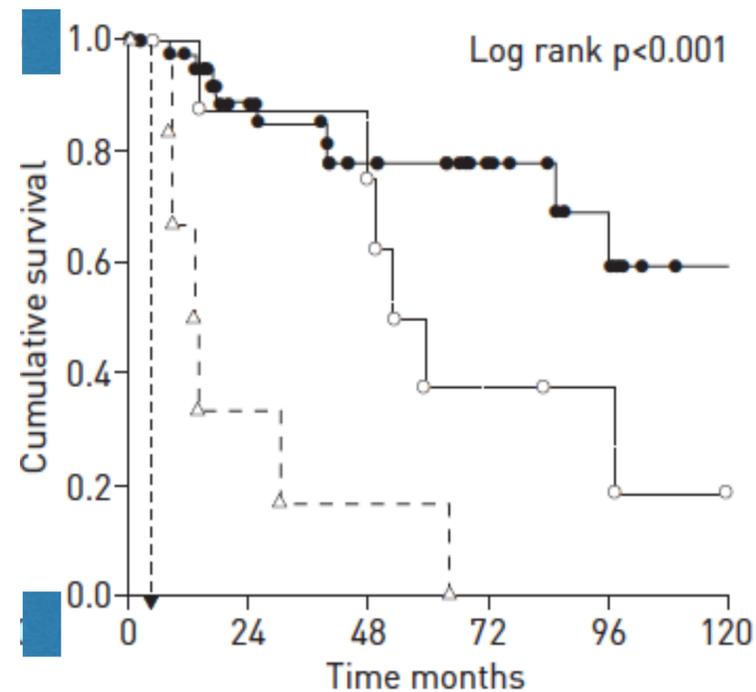
- 1-Measure of how the patient behaves, feels, survives
- 2-Measuring the endpoint should do no/limited harm

**What is the path to demonstrate efficacy of a new compound in pediatric PAH ?**



# Treatment Goals in Pediatric PAH

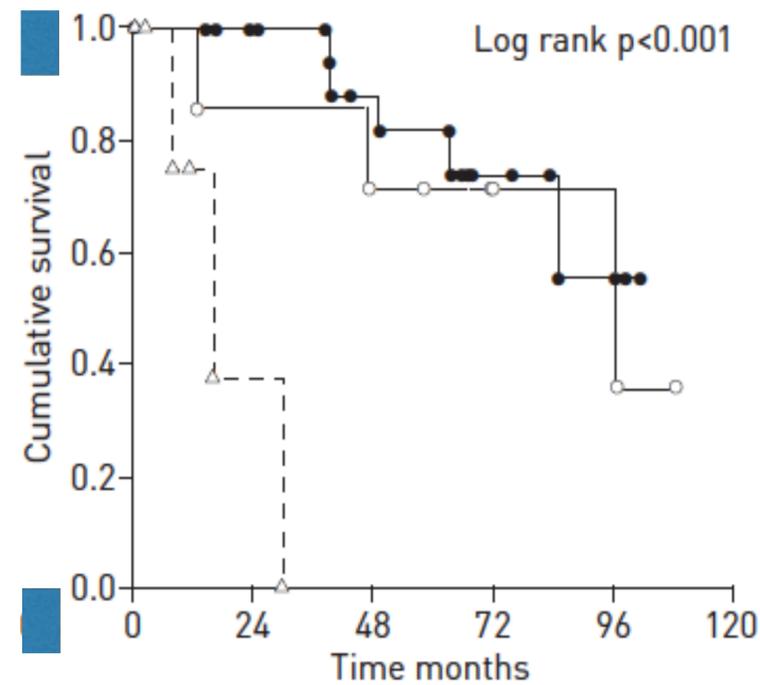
## WHO-FC



Patients at risk n					
0	24	48	72	96	120
39	26	20	12	7	2
9	7	6	3	2	0
1	0	0	0	0	0
6	2	1	0	0	0

- WHO-FC I-III at both baseline and after treatment initiation
- WHO-FC IV at baseline, improved to I-III after treatment initiation
- ▼ WHO-FC I-III at baseline, deteriorated to IV after treatment initiation
- △ WHO-FC IV at both baseline and after treatment initiation

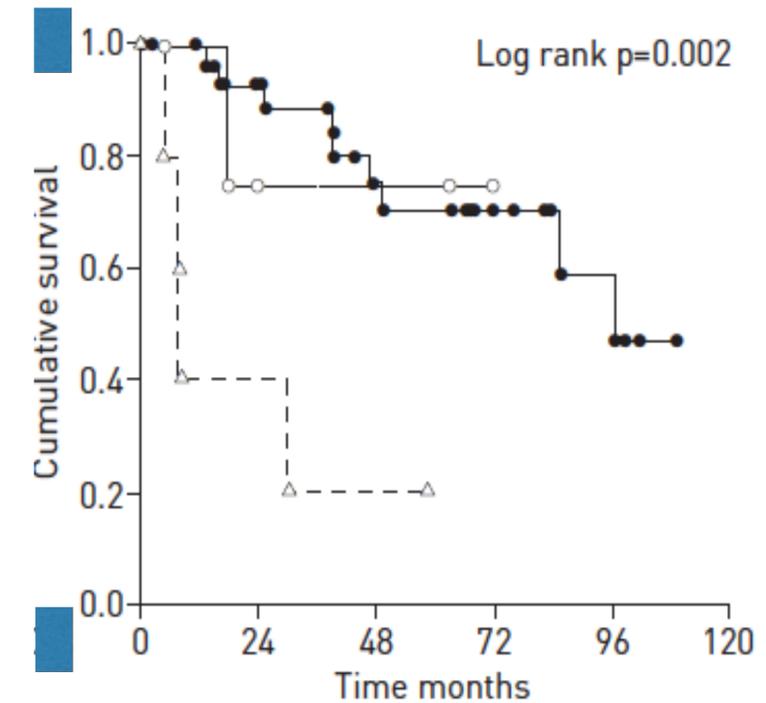
## NT-pro-BNP



Patients at risk n					
0	24	48	72	96	120
24	19	14	6	3	0
7	6	5	2	2	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
5	1	0	0	0	0

- NT-proBNP  $\leq 1200$  ng·L<sup>-1</sup> at both baseline and after treatment initiation
- NT-proBNP  $> 1200$  ng·L<sup>-1</sup> at baseline, improved to  $< 1200$  ng·L<sup>-1</sup> after treatment
- ▼ NT-proBNP  $\leq 1200$  ng·L<sup>-1</sup> at baseline, deteriorated to  $< 1200$  ng·L<sup>-1</sup> treatment initiation
- △ NT-proBNP  $> 1200$  ng·L<sup>-1</sup> at both baseline and after treatment initiation

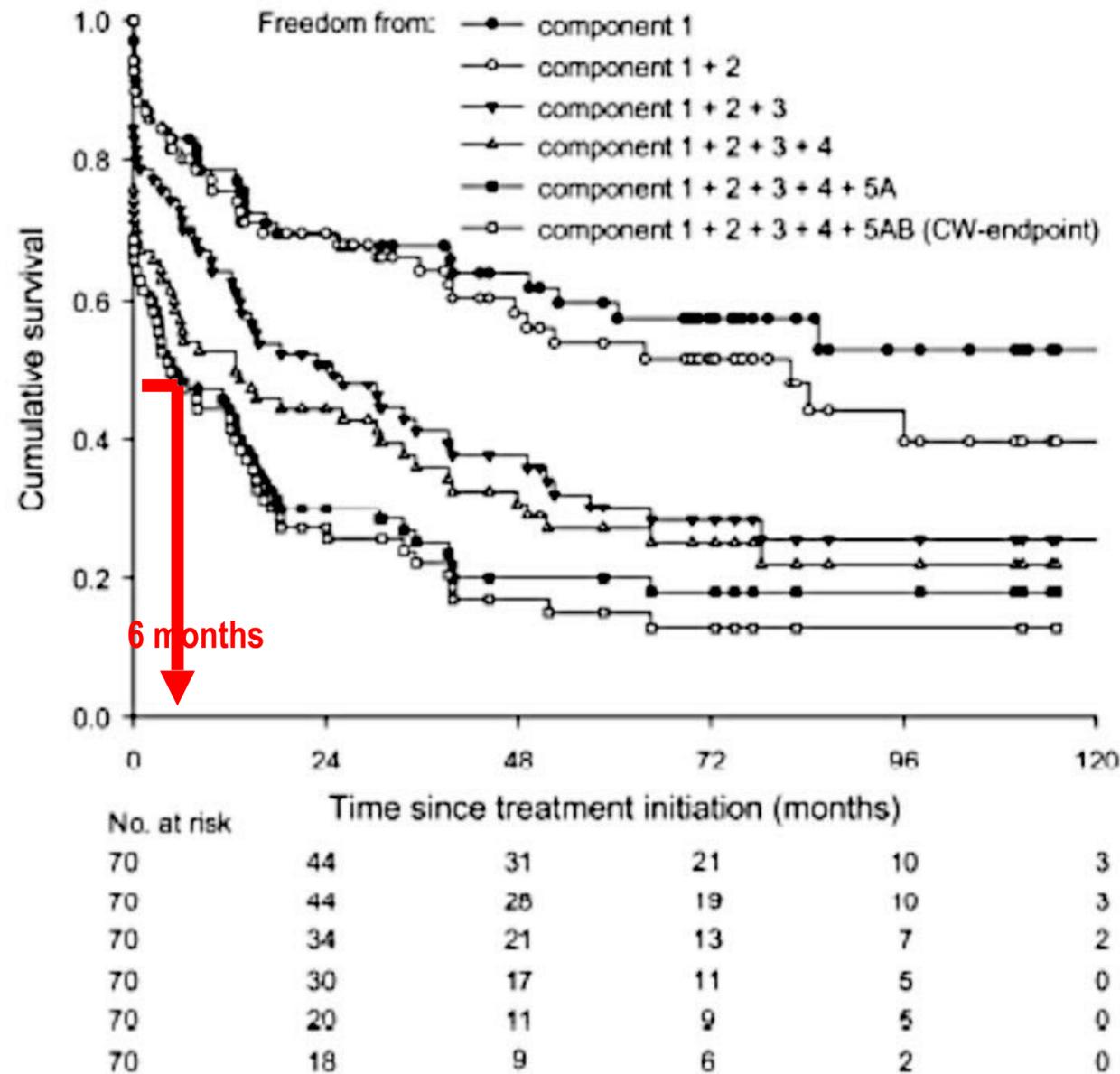
## TAPSE



Patients at risk n					
0	24	48	72	96	120
31	23	16	9	5	0
5	2	2	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
5	2	1	0	0	0

- TAPSE  $\geq 12$  mm at both baseline and after treatment initiation
- TAPSE  $< 12$  mm at baseline, improved to  $> 12$  mm after treatment initiation
- ▼ TAPSE  $\geq 12$  mm at baseline, deteriorated to  $< 12$  mm after treatment initiation
- △ TAPSE  $< 12$  at both baseline and after treatment initiation

# Clinical worsening as composite study endpoint in pediatric PAH



Event-free survival of 6 endpoint combinations  
Only the first occurrence of endpoint components are incorporated as events

**Component 1** = death

**Component 2** = lung-transplantation

**Component 3** = non-elective PAH-related hospitalization

**Component 4** = initiation of intravenous prostanoid

**Component 5A** = functional deterioration (defined as worsening of WHO-FC only)

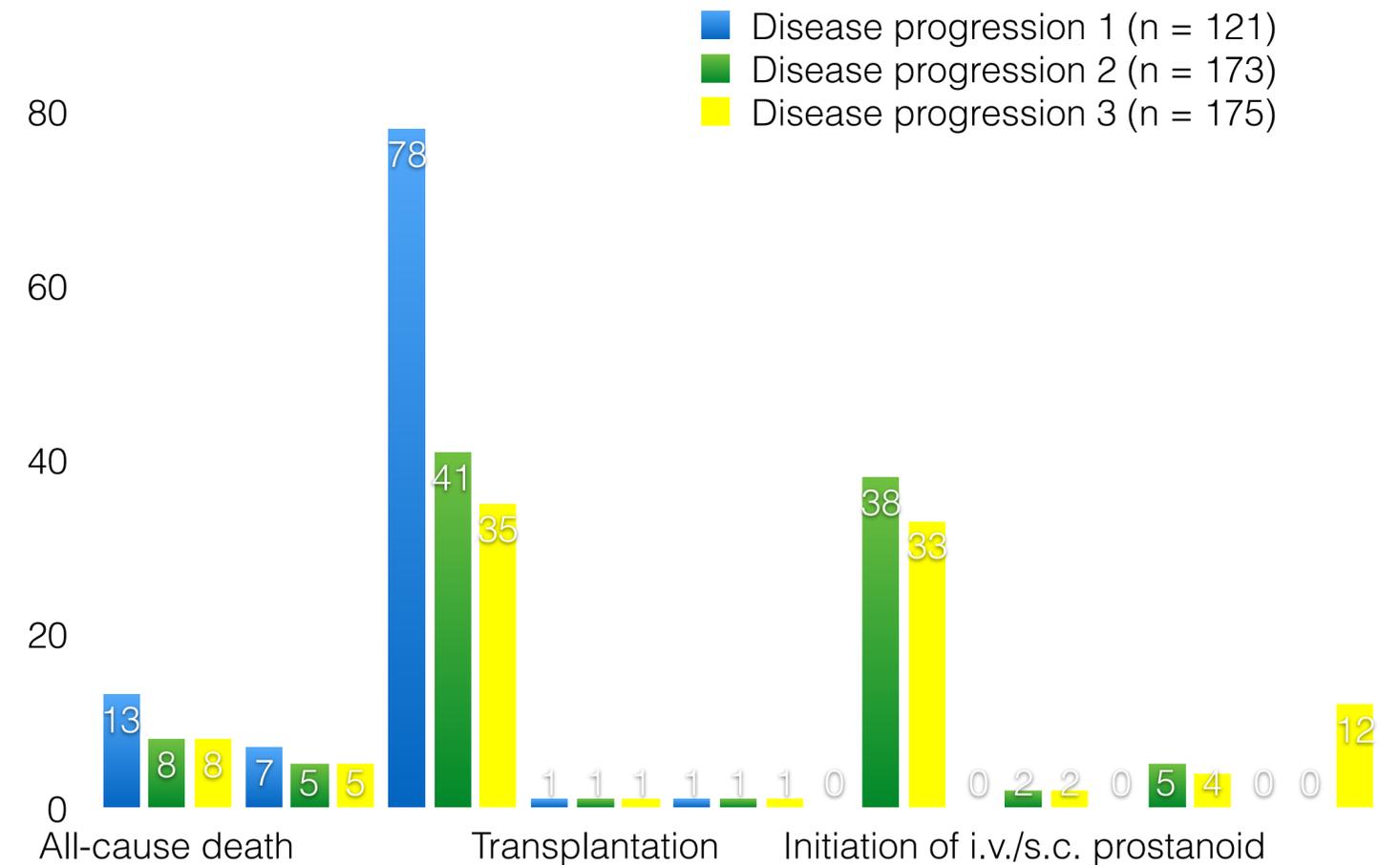
**Component 5AB** = functional deterioration (defined as worsening of WHO FC

and/or  $\geq 15\%$  decrease in 6-MWD)

**CW-endpoint** = Full composite clinical worsening endpoint consisting of death, lung-transplantation, non-elective PAH related hospitalization, initiation of intravenous prostanoids and functional deterioration.

# Disease progression composite outcomes and the first occurring events within these outcomes

	Disease progression 1	Disease progression 2 (n = 173)	Disease progression 3
<b>Number of</b>	121	173	175
<b>Person-years</b>	524.7	396.5	377.6
<b>Rate (95% CI)</b>	23.1 (19.3, 27.6)	43.6 (37.6, 50.6)	46.3 (40.0, 53.7)
	Death (all-cause)	Death (all-cause)	Death (all-cause)
	PAH related	PAH related	PAH related
	Lung transplantation	Lung transplantation	Lung transplantation
	Atrial septostomy	Atrial septostomy	Atrial septostomy
		WHO FC deterioration†	WHO FC deterioration†
		Initiation of i.v. / s.c. prostanoids	Initiation of i.v. / s.c. prostanoids
		Syncope	Syncope
			PAH worsening



Association for Paediatric pulmonary hypertension

\*Increased right heart failure, haemoptysis; †Increase  $\geq 1$  WHO FC

# Designing RCT in pediatrics

- Common approach among regulators (requirements for approval)
- Consensus on acceptable clinical endpoints (physicians/regulators)
- Use of targeted PAH therapy that does not have established benefit should not cause lack of equipoise
- Extrapolation opportunities: adult PAH -> pediatric PAH
- Novel trial design / analysis: composite with ranked analysis
- Potential clinically meaningful endpoints: TTCW, PROs, Functional Activity measurements (WHO-FC, 6MWD, Accelerometry)
- Potential surrogates : NT-pro-BNP; Not invasive hemodynamics (risk); Imaging biomarkers

# Conclusions

- Approval and development of PAH treatment in children : drugs, strategies
- Identification of a genetic profile slightly different from that of adults
- Registry data have grown substantially and inform for future trial design
- Pediatric specific trials are ongoing but new concepts should be developed to succeed
- A growing number of children transition to adult centers and this should be anticipated