

# Optimization of the use of Advagraf™ in kidney transplants

Daniel Serón  
Nephrology Department  
Hospital Vall d'Hebron  
Barcelona

ADV vs PGF de novo

Therapeutic monitoring

TAC metabolism

Compliance

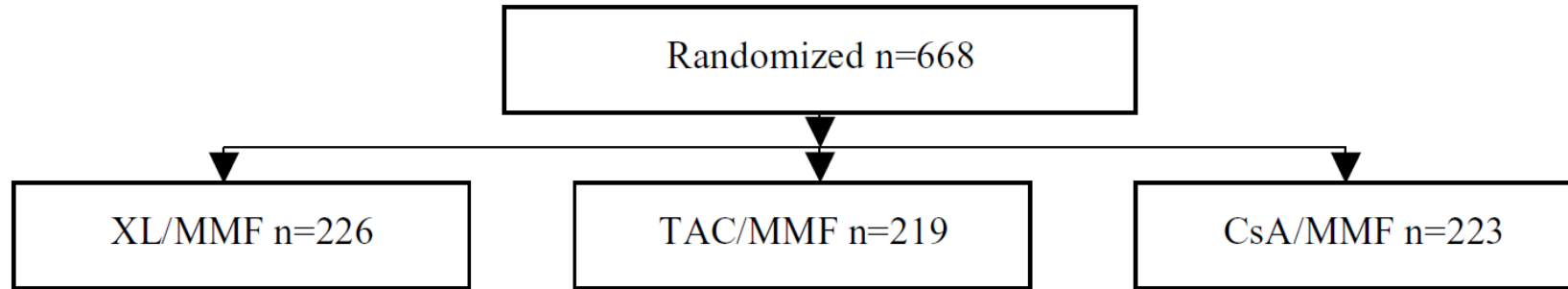
ADV vs PGF de novo

Therapeutic monitoring

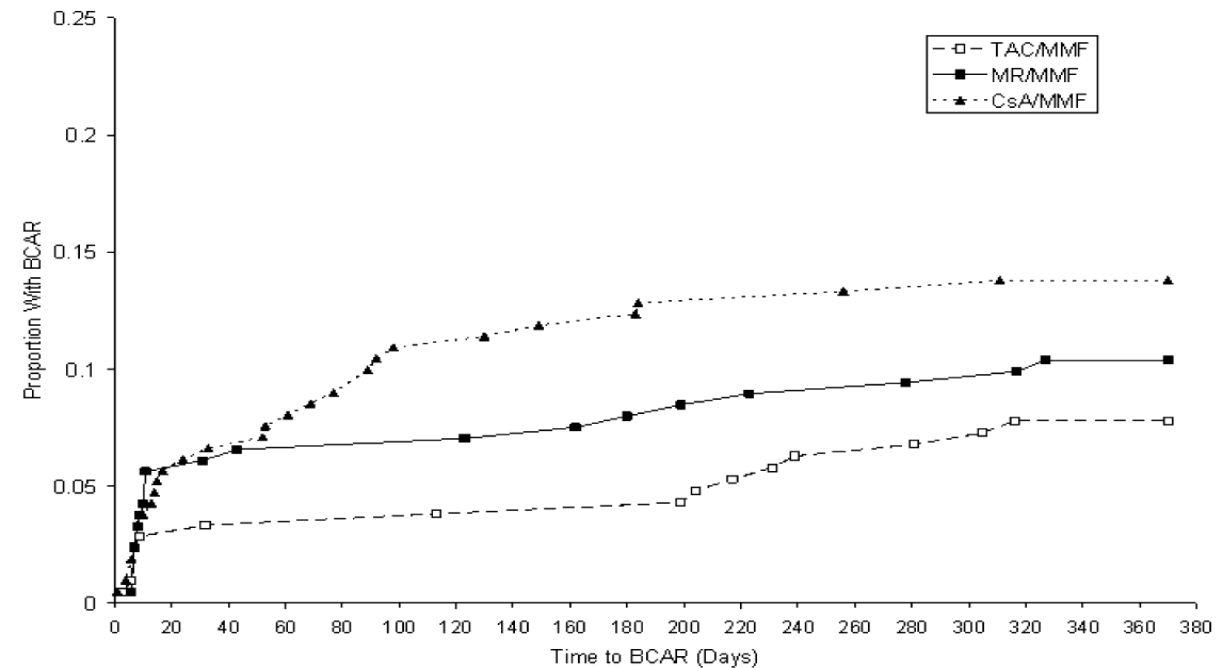
TAC metabolism

Compliance

# ADV, PGF, CsA



	XL/MMF (n = 214)	TAC/MMF (n = 212)	CsA/MMF (n = 212)
Patient survival <sup>1</sup>	98.6%	95.7%	97.6%
Kaplan–Meier estimate difference <sup>2</sup>	1.0%	–1.9%	
95% confidence interval	–1.6%, 3.6%	–5.3%, 1.5%	
Graft survival	96.7%	92.9%	95.7%
Death or graft failure	7	15 <sup>1</sup>	9 <sup>1</sup>
Kaplan–Meier estimate difference <sup>2</sup>	1.0%	–2.9%	
95% confidence interval	–2.7%, 4.6%	–7.3%, 1.6%	



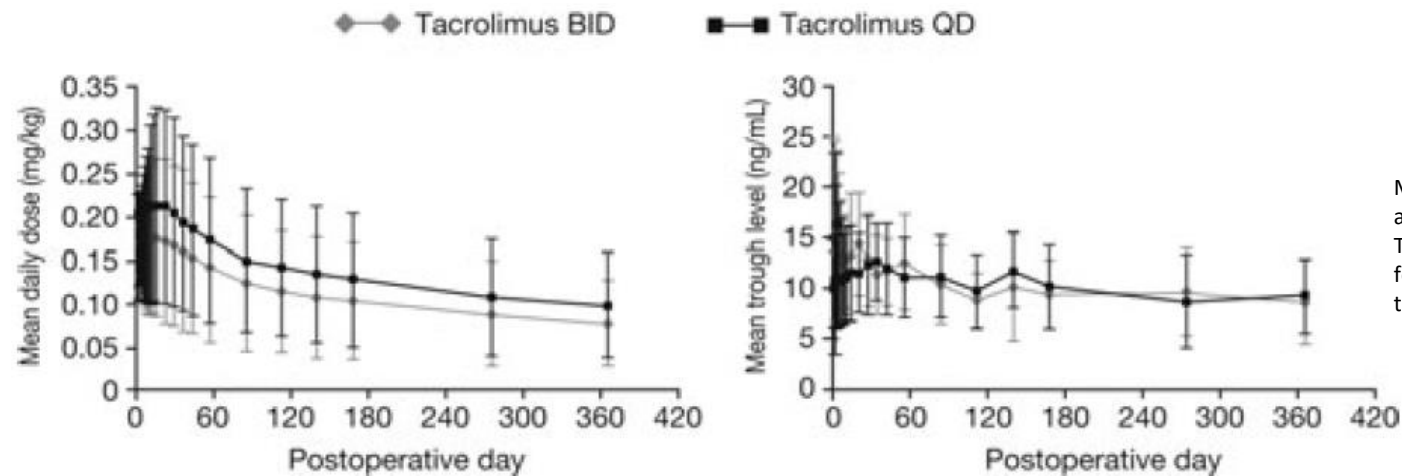
Treatment groups were compared for day 365 data using the log-rank test censoring patients at the time of the last follow-up. MMF = mycophenolate mofetil; XL = tacrolimus extended-release formulation; TAC = tacrolimus twice-a-day formulation; CsA = cyclosporine microemulsion.

Kaplan–Meier estimate of time to occurrence of first biopsy-confirmed acute rejection. XL: tacrolimus extended-release formulation; TAC = tacrolimus twice-a-day formulation; CsA = cyclosporine microemulsion; MMF = mycophenolate mofetil; BCAR = biopsy confirmed acute rejection. Kaplan–Meier plot of BCAR censored at time of last follow-up.

# TAC once daily vs twice daily in de novo KT without induction

phase III double blind, double dummy, n=667

	Overall population	
	Tacrolimus BID (n = 336)	Tacrolimus QD (n = 331)
Primary endpoint		
Local BPAR over 24 weeks		
Event rate for BPAR	14.9%	18.6%
p-Value <sup>†</sup>	0.245	
Treatment difference (Tacrolimus QD minus Tacrolimus BID)	3.8%	
95% CI	-2.1%, 9.6%	
Secondary BPAR endpoints		
Central BPAR over 24 weeks <sup>#</sup>		
Event rate for BPAR (signs & symptoms)	14.5%	18.5%
p-Value <sup>†</sup>	0.197	



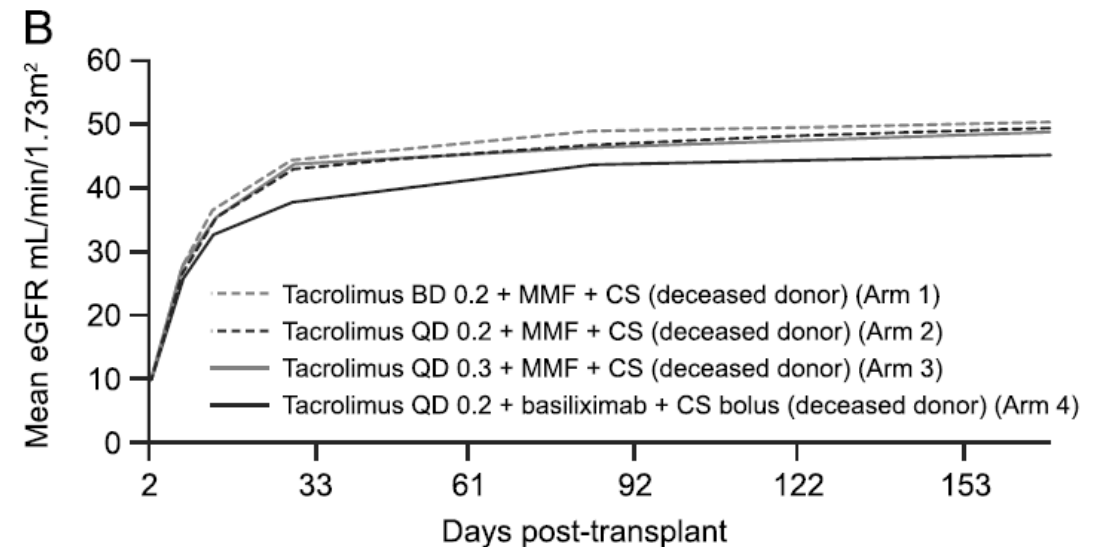
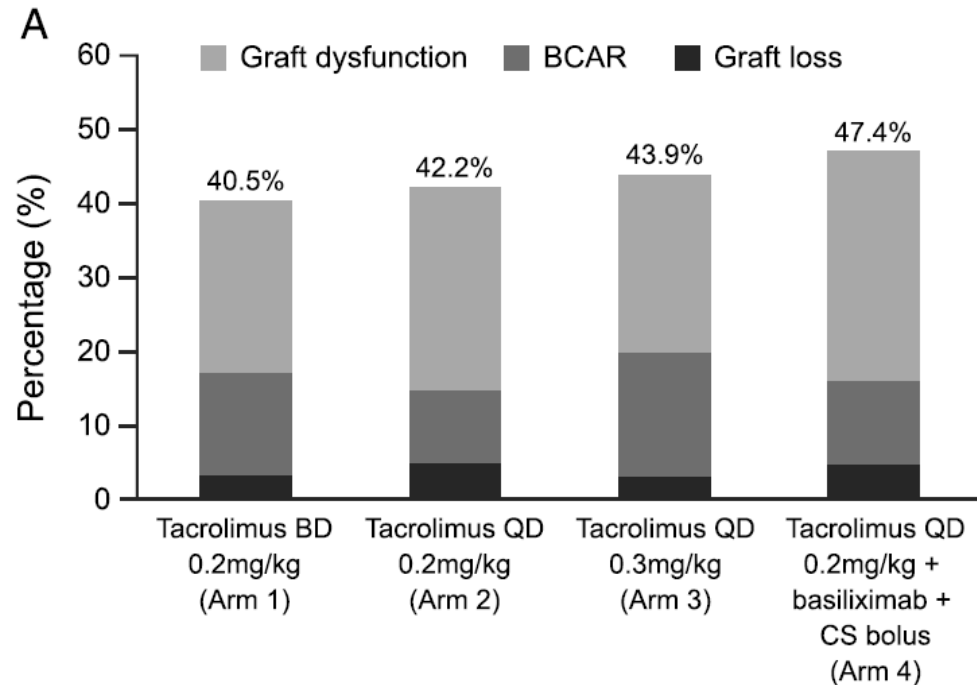
Mean daily tacrolimus dose and trough levels (per-protocol set). Tacrolimus BID = twice-daily tacrolimus formulation; Tacrolimus QD = once-daily tacrolimus formulation.

# Osaka trial TAC BID vs QD

**TABLE 1.** Patient and donor demographics and transplantation information (FAS)

Arm 1	Arm 2	Arm 3	Arm 4
Tac BD 0.2 mg/kg/day (n=309)	Tac QD 0.2 mg/kg/day (n=302)	Tac QD 0.3 mg/kg/day (n=304)	Tac QD 0.2 mg/kg/day+ Bas (n=283)

Patient and donor demographics and transplantation information (FAS)



Primary endpoint: (A) efficacy failure rates (PPS). Data represent the first event for each patient. BCAR, biopsy-confirmed acute rejection; CS, corticosteroid; FAS, full analysis set; PPS, per protocol set.

(B) time course of eGFR in patients who received a kidney from a deceased donor (FAS). Bas, basiliximab; CS, corticosteroid; MMF, mycophenolate mofetil; Tac, tacrolimus.

# Comparison of ADV to PGR in the novo KT

Study	Immunosuppression	Patient Survival	Graft Survival	BPAR (%)
Silva HT Jr et al. [7] Phase III trial n = 638	Advagraf®	1 year 98.6%	1 year 96.7%	1 year 22%
	Prograf®	95.7%	92.9%	16%
	Neoral® + MMF/steroids/basiliximab	97.6%	95.7%	29%
Krämer et al. [11] Phase III trial n = 667	Advagraf®	24 weeks 96.9%	24 weeks 91.5%	24 weeks 20.4%
	Prograf® + MMF/steroids/no induction	97.5%	92.8 %	15.8%
Albano et al. [10] Phase IV trial n = 1198	Advagraf® 0.2 mg/kg/d	24 weeks 97.3%	24 weeks 90.4%	24 weeks 10.3%
	Advagraf® 0.3 mg/kg/d	98%	94.1%	16.1%
	Prograf® 0.2 mg/kg/d + MMF/steroids	97.7%	93.4%	13.6%
	Advagraf® 0.2 mg/kg/d + basiliximab/MMF	98.9%	91.8%	12.7%

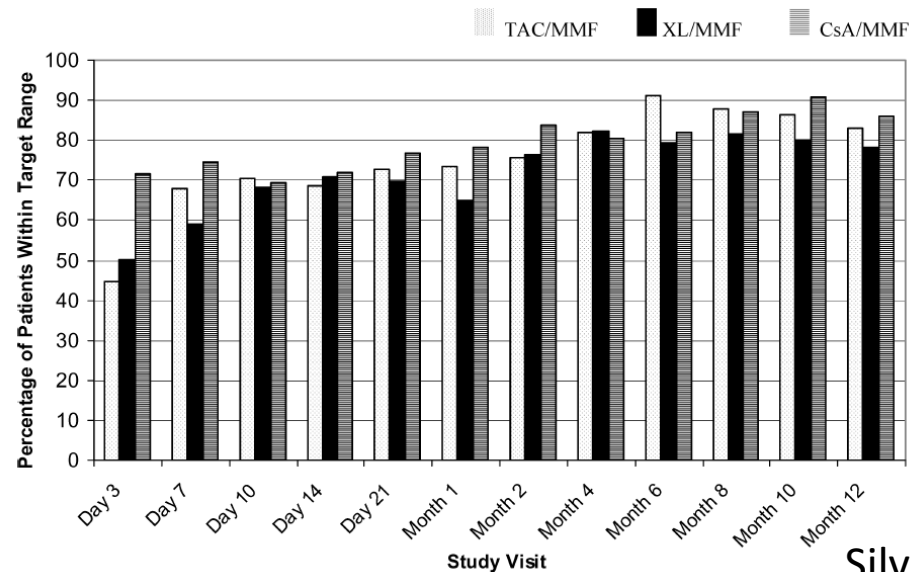
# Target TAC levels above and below target

7-16 ng/ml 0-3m

5-15 ng/ml >3m

	Above target		Below target		Mean trough concentration (ng/mL)	
	XL/MMF	TAC/MMF	XL/MMF	TAC/MMF	XL/MMF	TAC/MMF
Day 3	n = 36 19.0%	n = 47 27.3%	n = 58 30.7%	n = 48 27.9%	n = 189 11.28	n = 172 12.99
Month 2	n = 10 5.5%	n = 11 6.7%	n = 33 18.2%	n = 29 17.6%	n = 181 10.15	n = 165 10.06
Month 4	n = 13 7.5%	n = 7 4.6%	n = 18 10.3%	n = 20 13.2%	n = 174 9.02	n = 151 8.80

Tacrolimus whole blood trough concentrations by visit



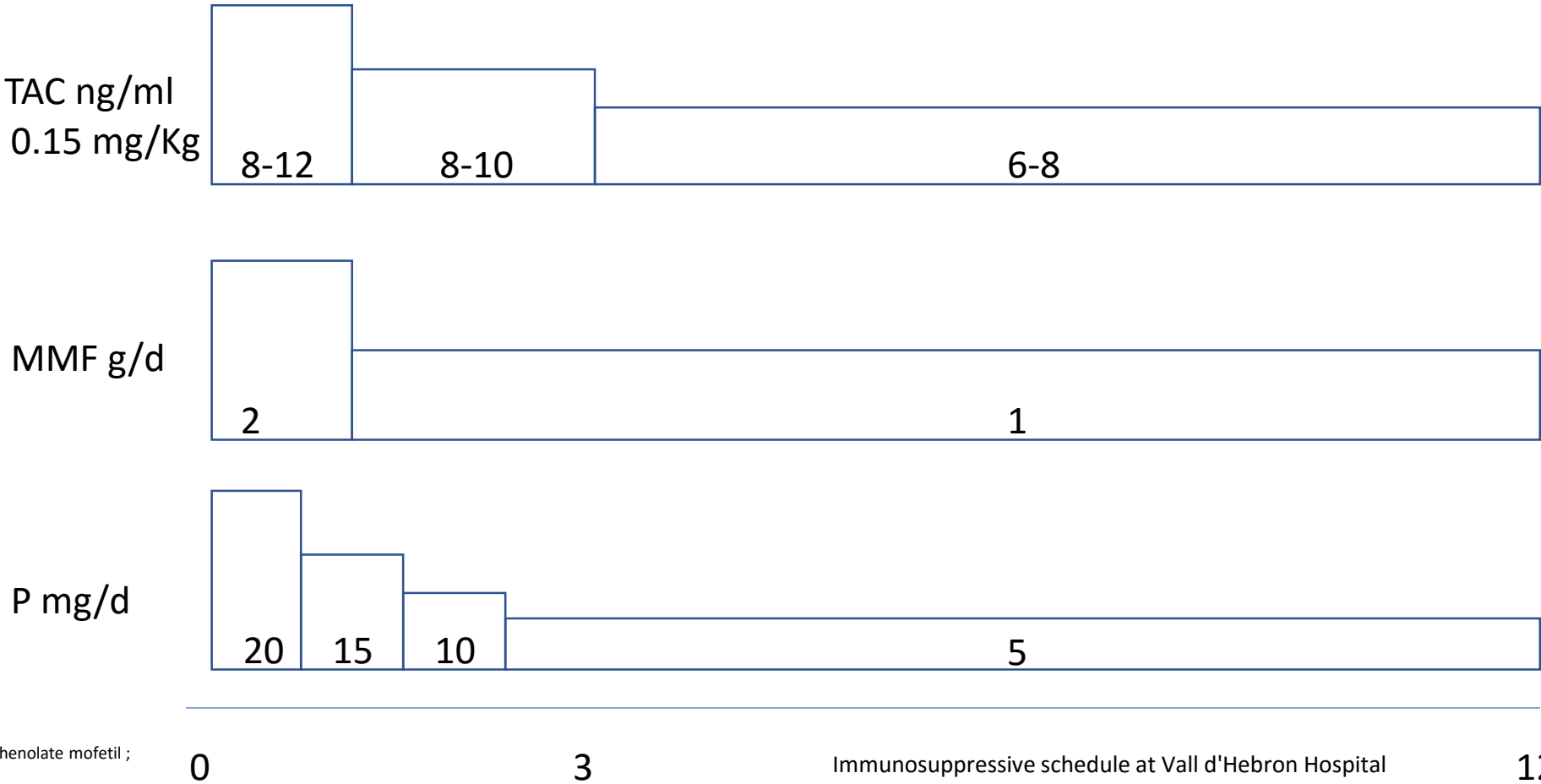
Percentage of patients within the target study drug trough concentration range by visit. XL: tacrolimus extended-release formulation; TAC = tacrolimus twice-a-day formulation; CsA = cyclosporine microemulsion; MMF = mycophenolate mofetil



# Immunosuppression at Vall d'Hebron

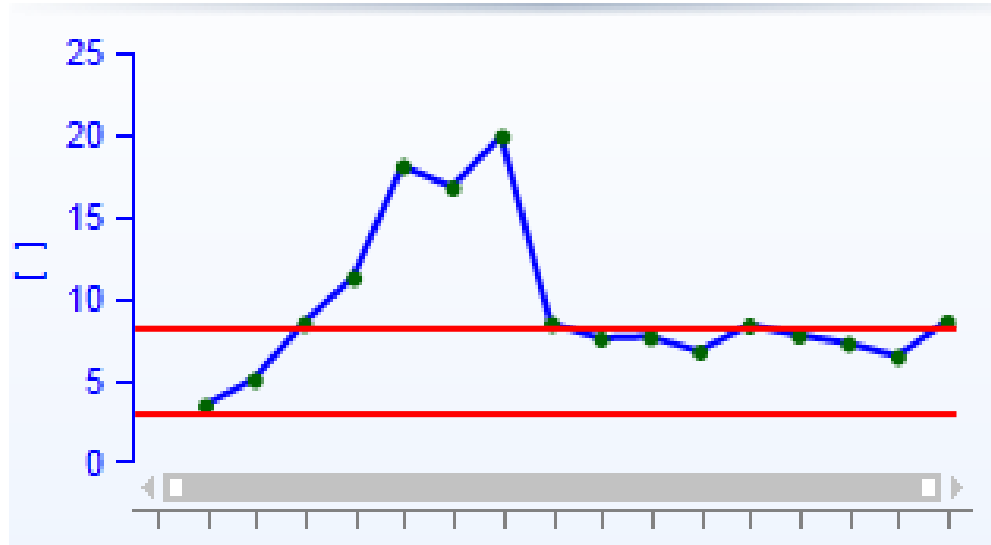
High risk : Thymoglobulin 1.25 mg/kg day 0 and 1 mg/kg days 1, 3, 5, 7

Low risk : Basiliximab 20 ng days 0

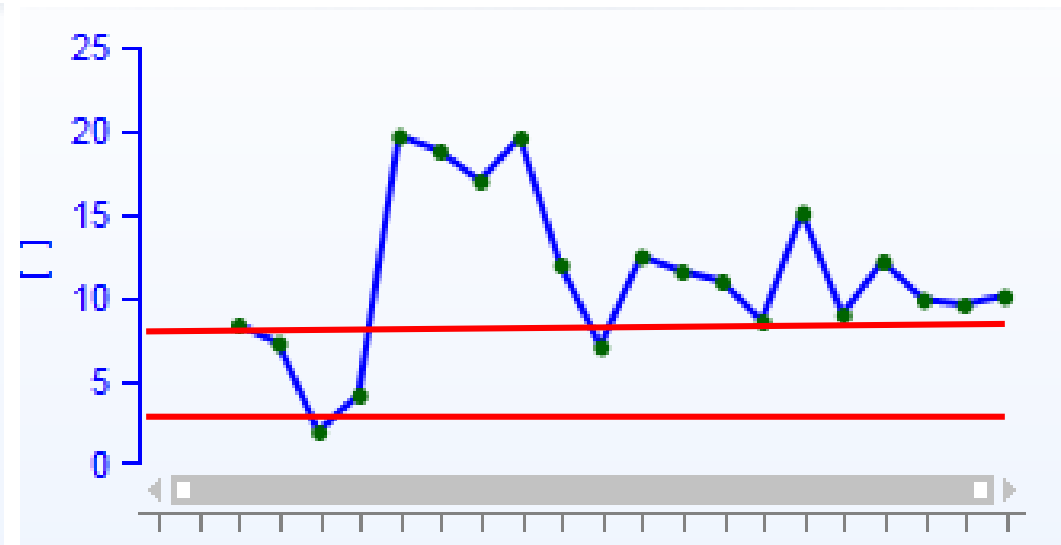


TAC: Tacrolimus; MMF: Mycophenolate mofetil ; P:prednisolone

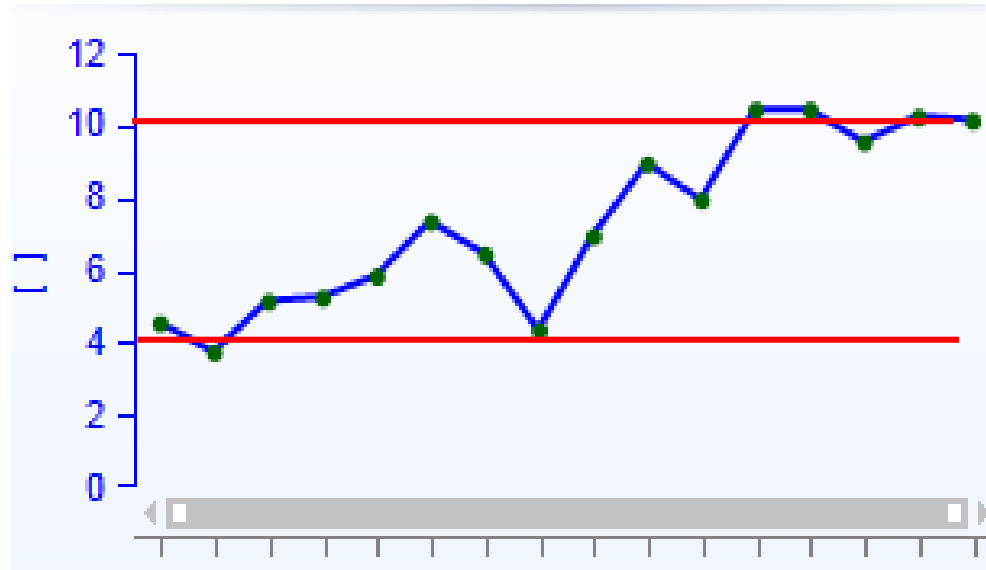
EMR 28/7/2016-15/1/2018



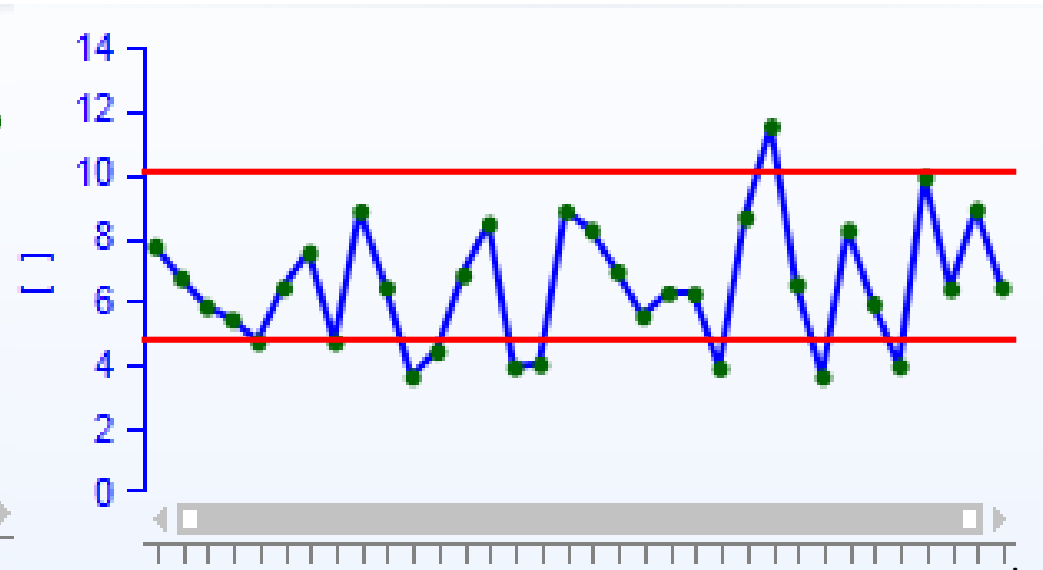
FO 23/3/2016-22/1/2018



DVN 28/9/2011-13/4/2018



MBG 27/6/2014-5/8/2020



## Time to reach the steady state

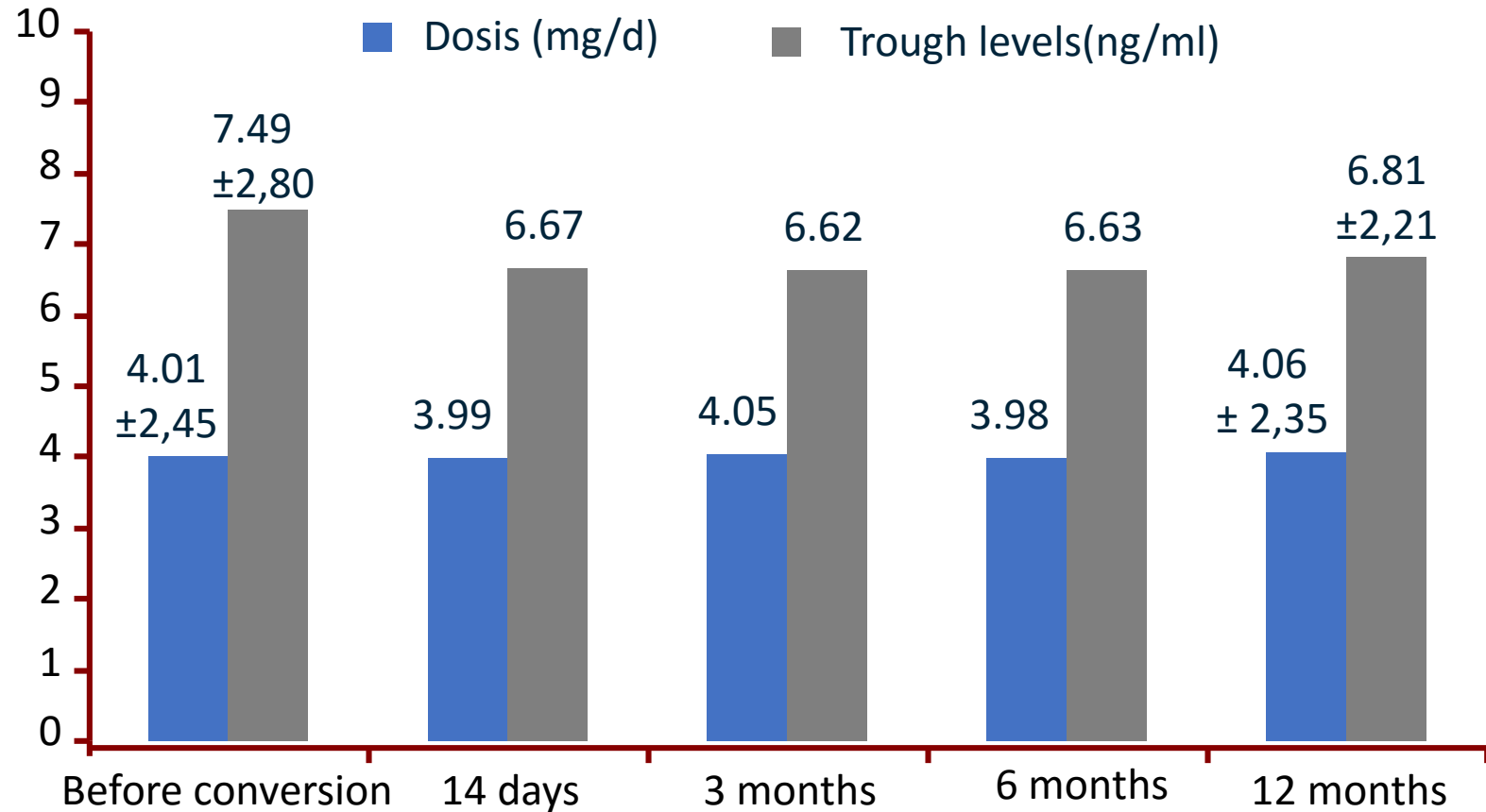
	<b>ADV (n=106)</b>	<b>PGF (n=95)</b>	<b>p</b>
Time to steady State <sup>1</sup> (days)	9.2±1.1	8.1±4.7	0.49
Dose Adjustments to reach steady State	1.2±1.7 (0-8)	1.7±1.5 (0-7)	0.03
Dose to attain the steady State (mg/d)	7.2±2.4 (1-17)	7.0±2.7 (2-17)	0.69

1:Time to steady State : 1st attainment of consecutive trough levels between 5-10 ng/ml

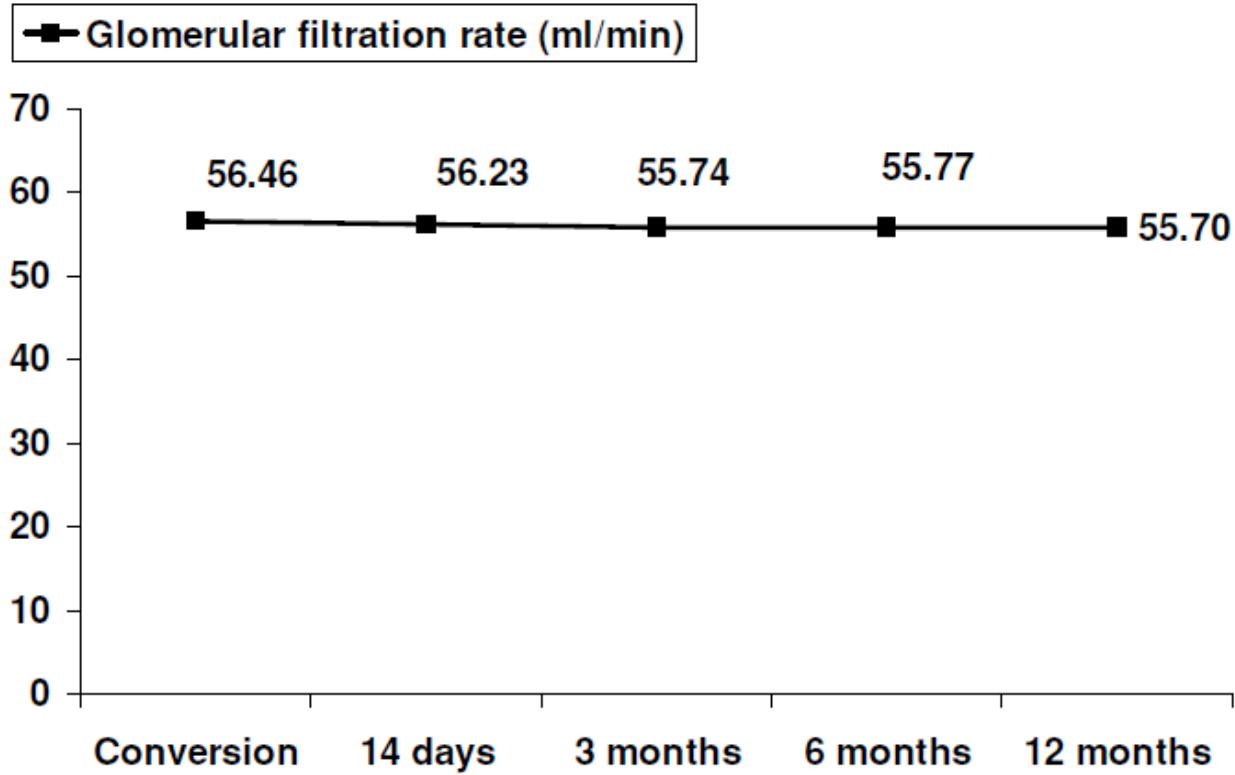
# Evolution study (n=1832)

Conversion TAC twice to once daily: 1.0 to 1.0 or 1.1 to 1.1 if through levels > 6 ng/ml at 4.9 ±4.0 years after transplant

Dose variability at 12 m : +1,24% p<0.001  
Levels variability at 12 m : -9,1% p<0.0001



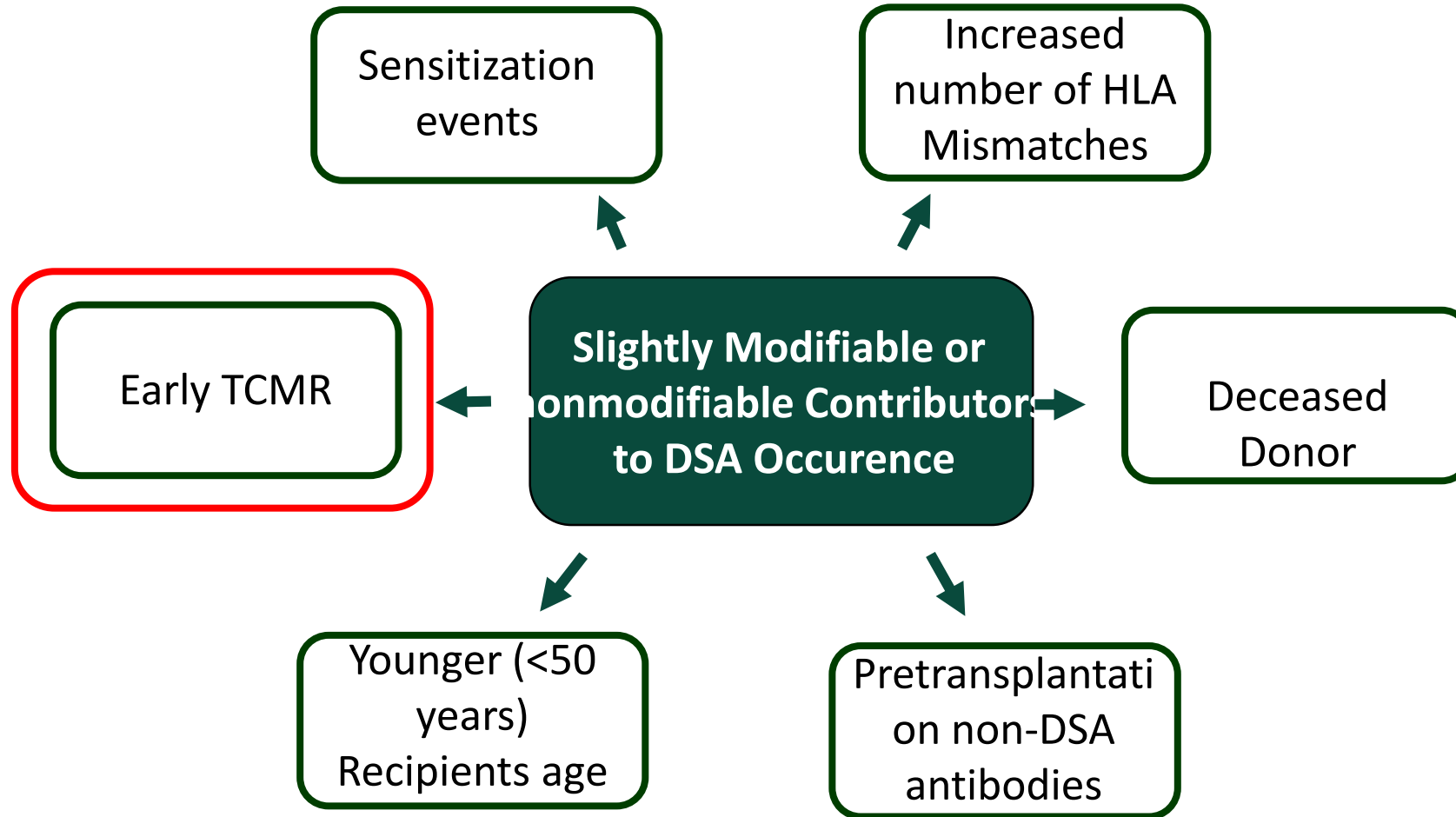
# Evolution of e-GFR after conversion



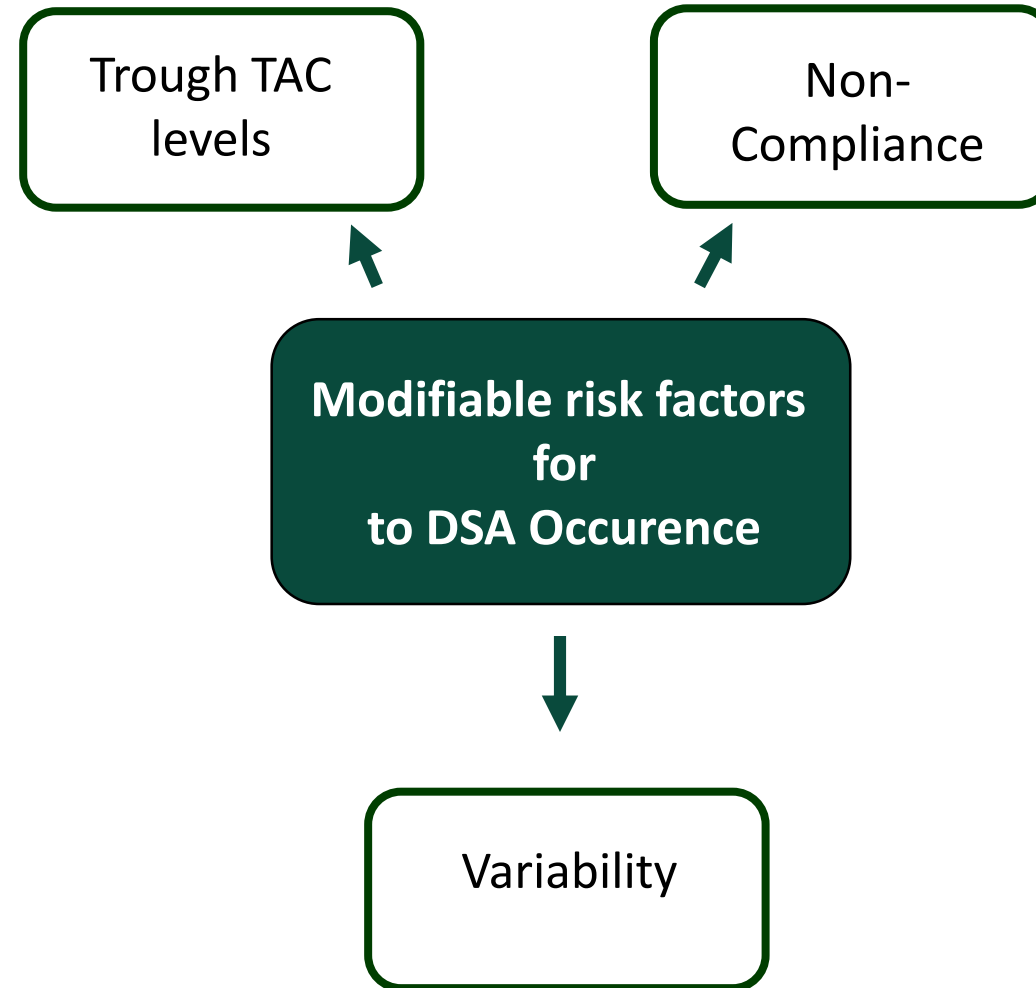
# Practical Recommendations for Long-term Management of Modifiable Risks in Kidney and Liver Transplant Recipients: A Guidance Report and Clinical Checklist by the Consensus on Managing Modifiable Risk in Transplantation (COMMIT) Group

James M. Neuberger, MD, FRCP,<sup>1</sup> Wolf O. Bechstein, MD, PhD,<sup>2</sup> Dirk R.J. Kuypers, MD, PhD,<sup>3</sup> Patrizia Burra, MD, PhD,<sup>4</sup> Franco Citterio, MD, FEBS,<sup>5</sup> Sabina De Geest, PhD, RN,<sup>6,7</sup> Christophe Duvoux, MD, PhD,<sup>8</sup> Alan G. Jardine, MD, FRCP,<sup>9</sup> Nassim Kamar, MD, PhD,<sup>10</sup> Bernhard K. Krämer, MD,<sup>11</sup> Herold J. Metselaar, MD, PhD,<sup>12</sup> Frederik Nevens, MD, PhD,<sup>13</sup> Jacques Pirenne, MD, MSc, PhD,<sup>14</sup> Manuel L. Rodríguez-Perálvarez, MD, PhD,<sup>15</sup> Didier Samuel, MD, PhD,<sup>16</sup> Stefan Schneeberger, MD,<sup>17</sup> Daniel Serón, MD, PhD,<sup>18</sup> Pavel Trunečka, MD, PhD,<sup>19</sup> Giuseppe Tisone, MD,<sup>20</sup> and Teun van Gelder, MD, PhD<sup>21</sup>

# Slightly Modifiable or nonmodifiable Contributors to DSA Occurrence



# Modifiable risk factors for dnDSA





ADV vs PGF de novo

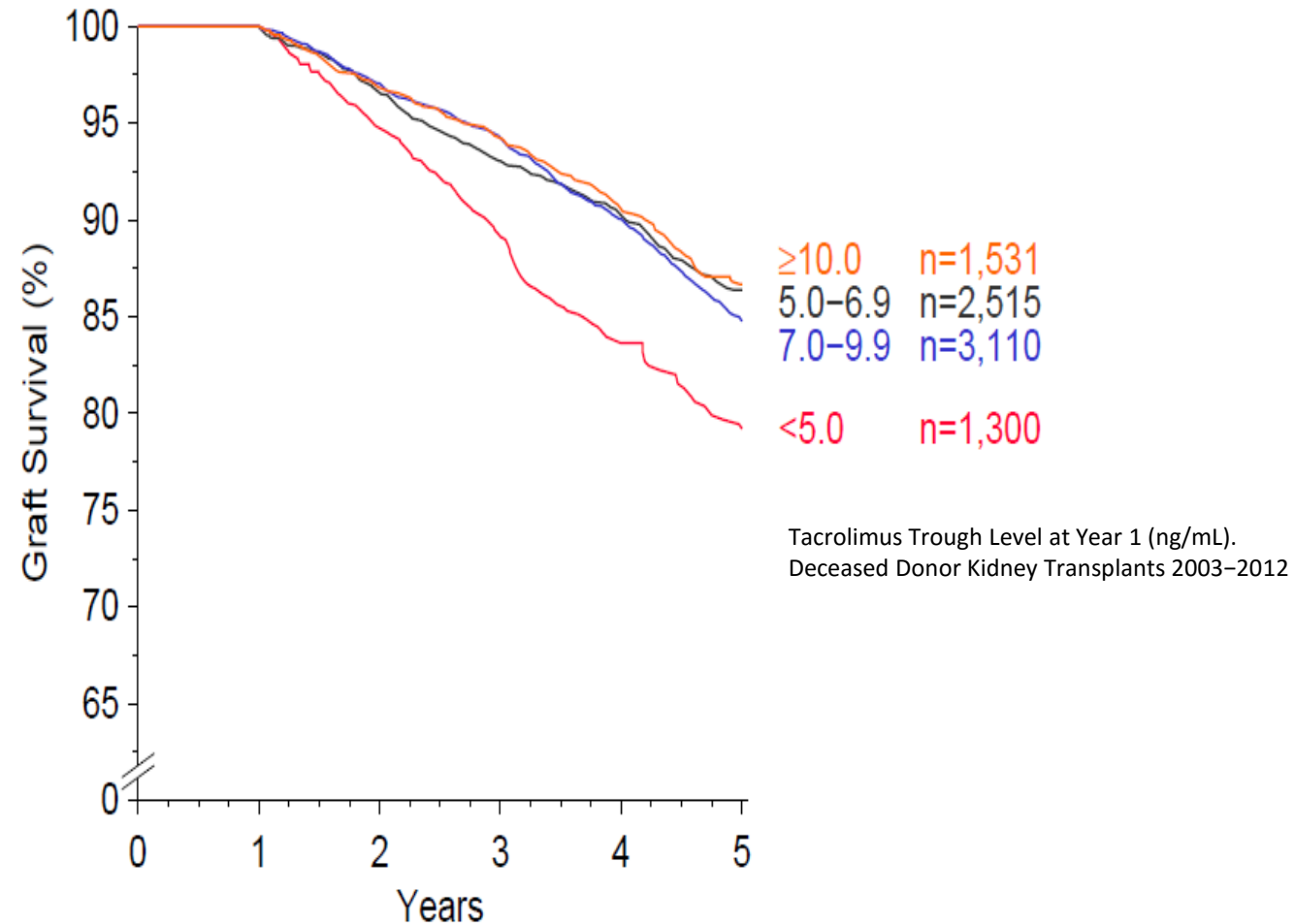
Therapeutic monitoring

TAC metabolism

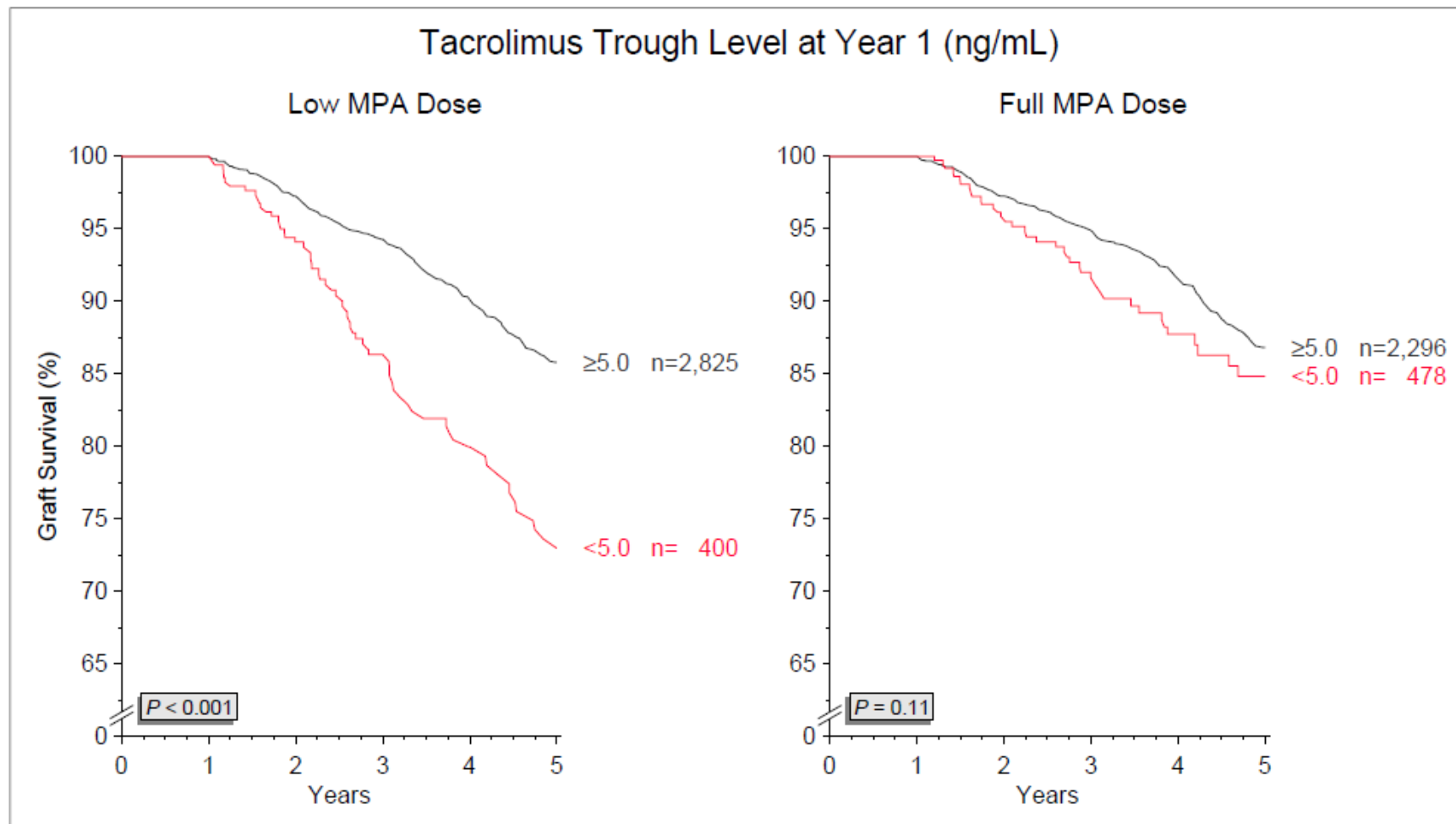
Compliance

# Low TAC trough levels and risk of graft failure

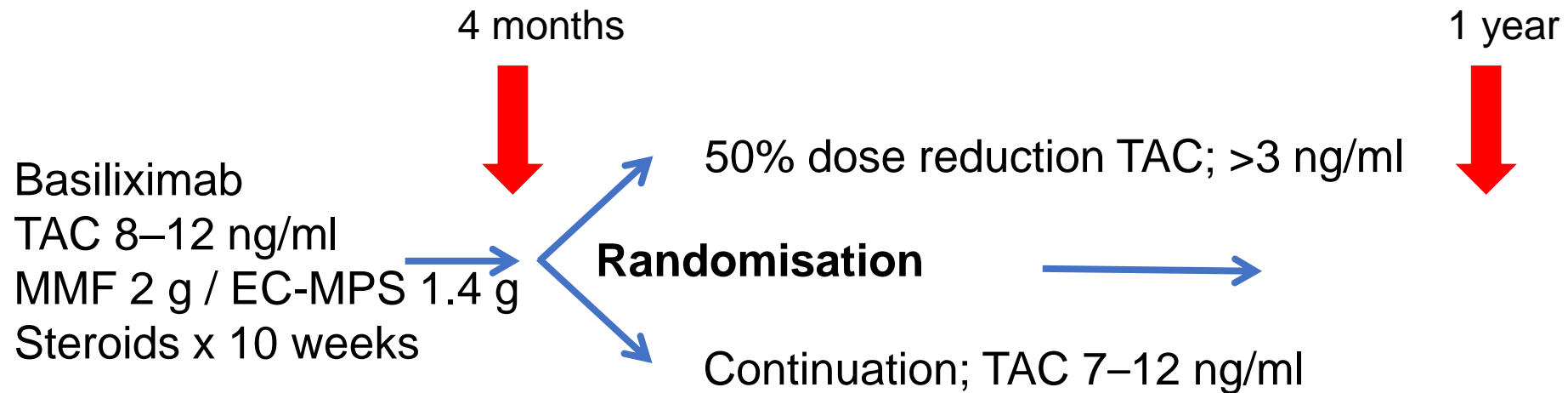
Kidney graft survival (serum creatinine <260 $\mu$ mol/L);



# Low exposure of TAC and survival in patients according to MMF dose $\geq 1.5$ g/d



# Reduced vs standard prolonged-release tacrolimus: Prospective randomised trial in low-risk steroid-free patients

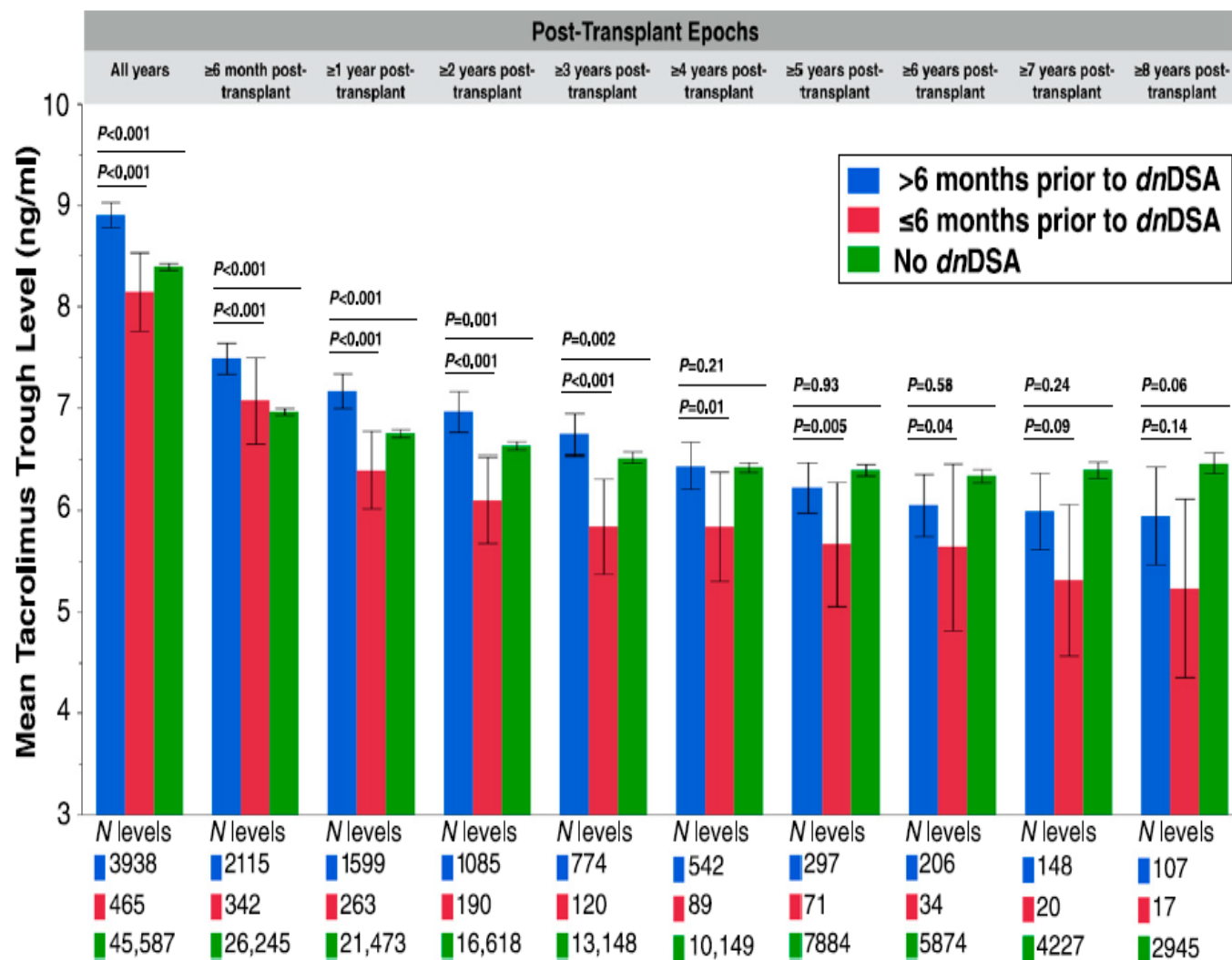


**PS:** The initial doses of MMF and EC-MPS were 2000 and 1440 mg/day, respectively.

# Reduced vs standard QD TAC:increased risk of BPAR, inflammation and *de novo* DSAs

	Low TAC (87)	Standard TAC (99)	p-value
TAC level at 6 m (ng/ml)	5.3 ± 1.7	8.4 ± 2.1	<0.0001
TAC level at 12 m (ng/ml)	5.6 ± 2.0	7.4 ± 2.0	<0.0001
BPAR	10	3	0.016
Protocol biopsy at 1 year			
i > 0 (%)	21.4	8.8	0.047
t > 0 (%)	19.6	8.7	0.076
i+t	1.14 ± 1.21	0.72 ± 1.01	0.038
dnDSAs	6	0	0.008

# Mean trough levels 6 months before dnDSA

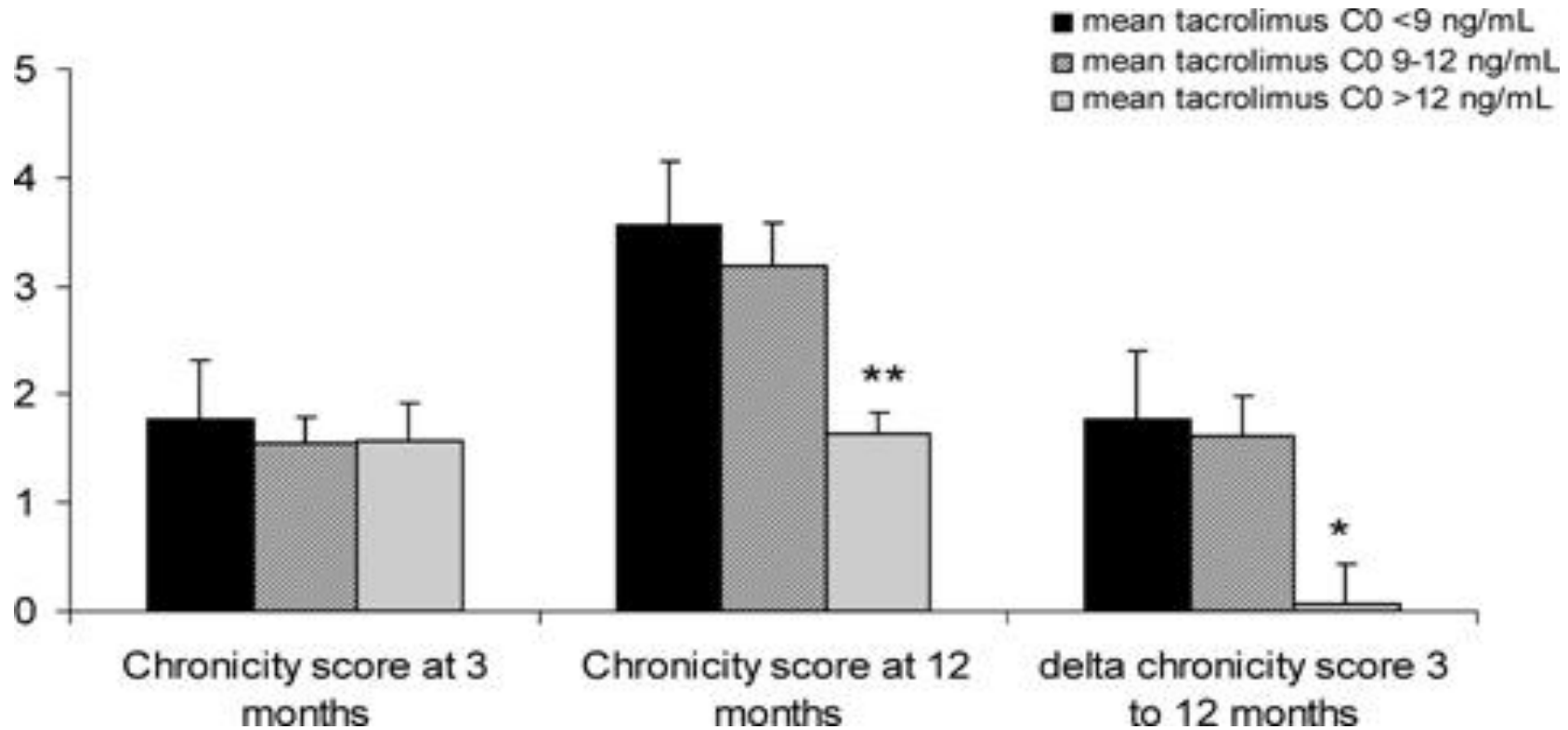


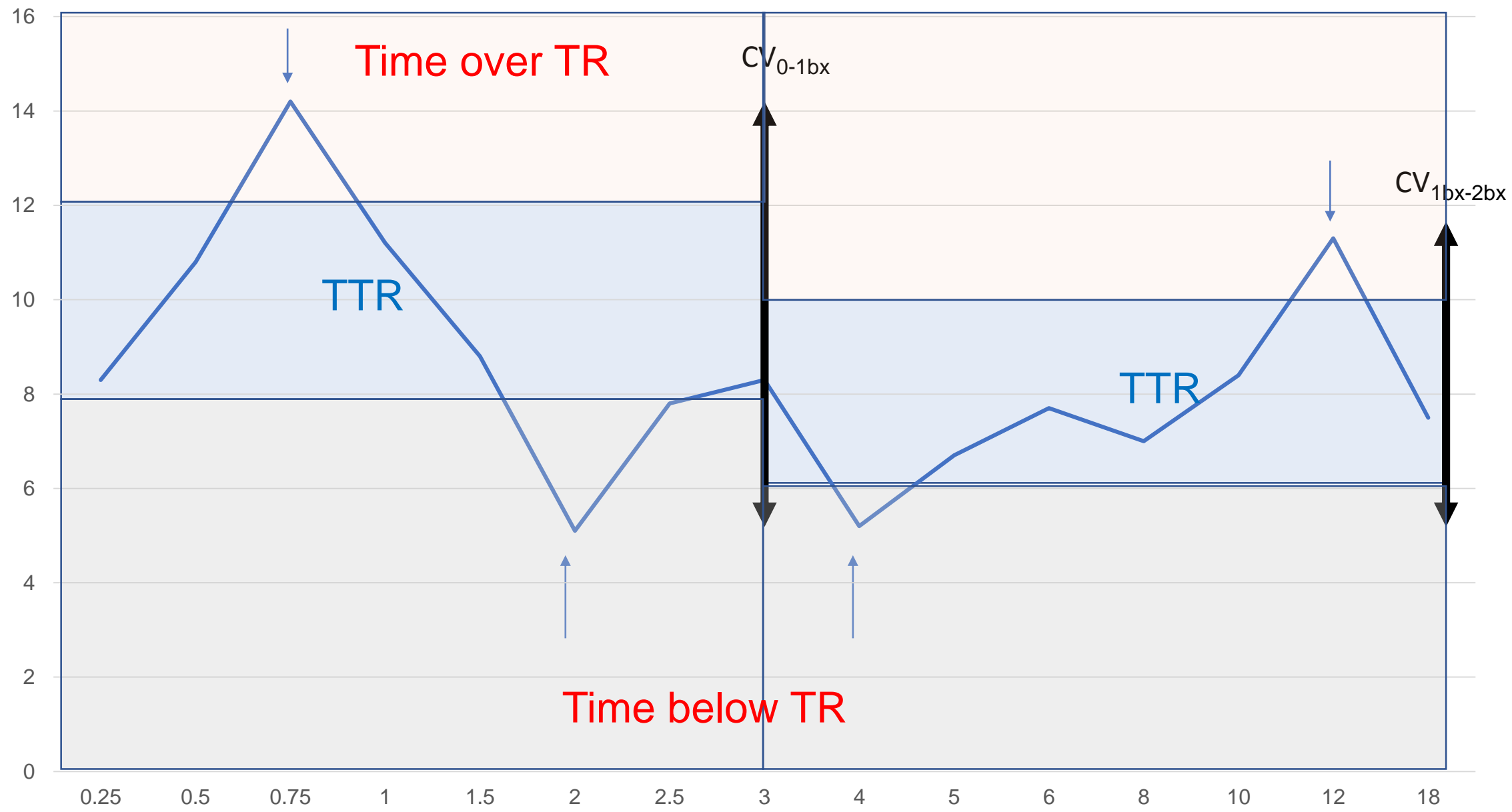
Wiebe C et al. J Am Soc Nephrol 2017 ; 28: 3353

In recipients who developed dnDSA, mean tacrolimus trough levels dropped significantly in the 6 months prior to dnDSA onset compared with their earlier trough levels. Mean tacrolimus levels in the six months prior to dnDSA onset were compared to all previous levels within distinct time epochs to show the consistency of association irrespective of the timing of dnDSA onset. Tacrolimus levels within the No dnDSA group are included for reference. Values represent the mean tacrolimus trough levels and their 95% confidence intervals.

# Tac Exposure and Evolution of Histology in the First Year After Transplantation

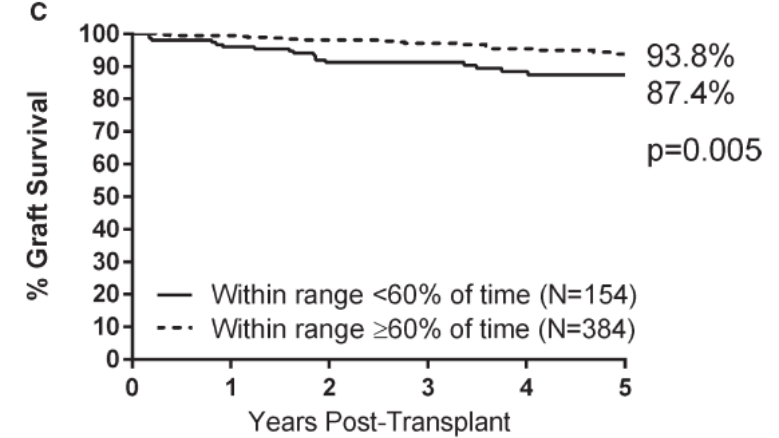
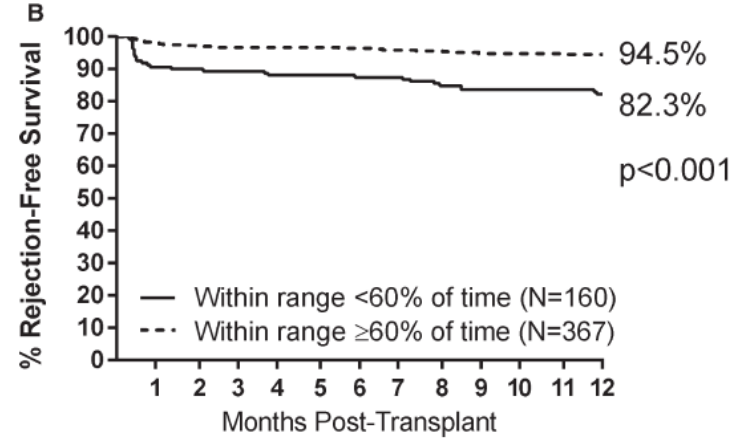
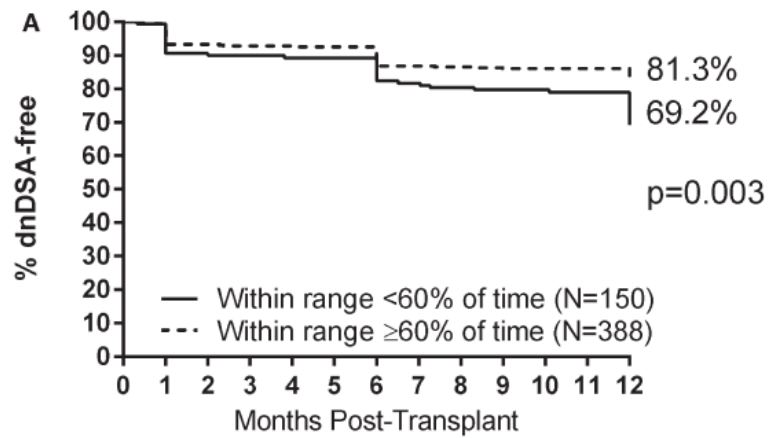
(n=61 pairs of biopsies)







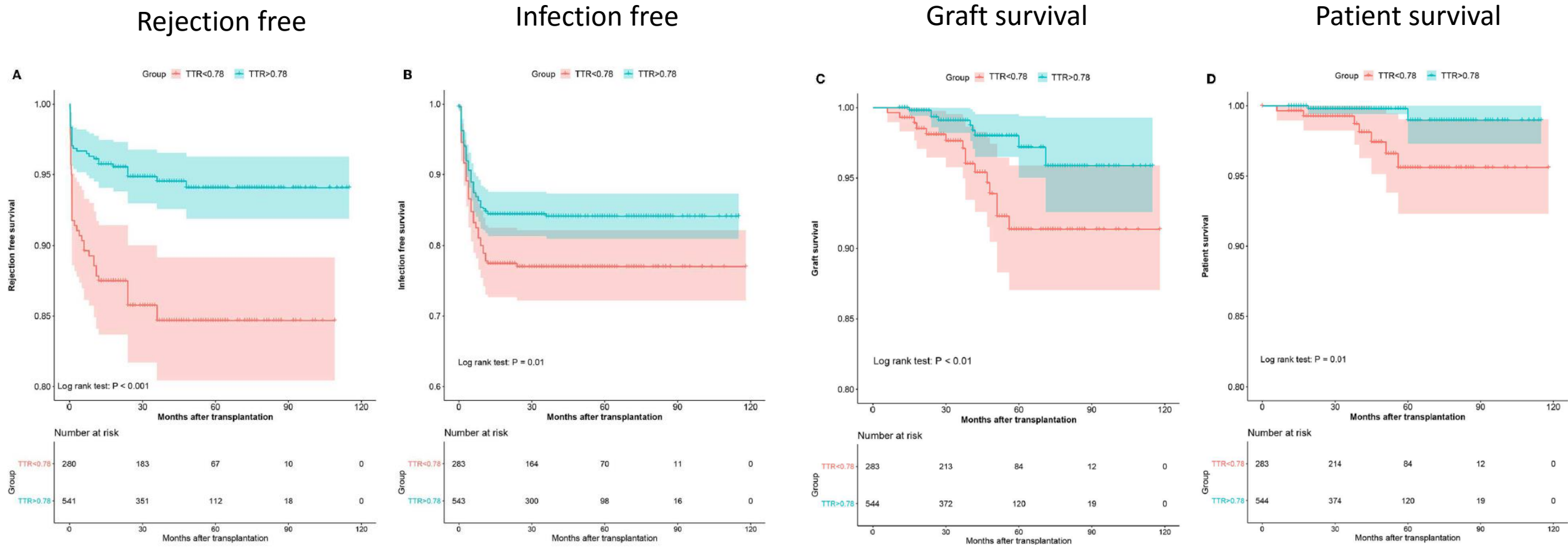
# Mean TAC levels and time under the therapeutic range (5-10 ng/ml) < 60% during ther 1<sup>st</sup> year



Kaplan-Meier plot for TTR <60% compared to TTR ≥60% and (A) percent dnDSA-free survival by 12 months, (B) percent acute rejection-free survival by 12 months, and (C) percent death-censored graft loss by 5 years

# ↑ TTR in the 1st year predicts better outcomes in living donor KT

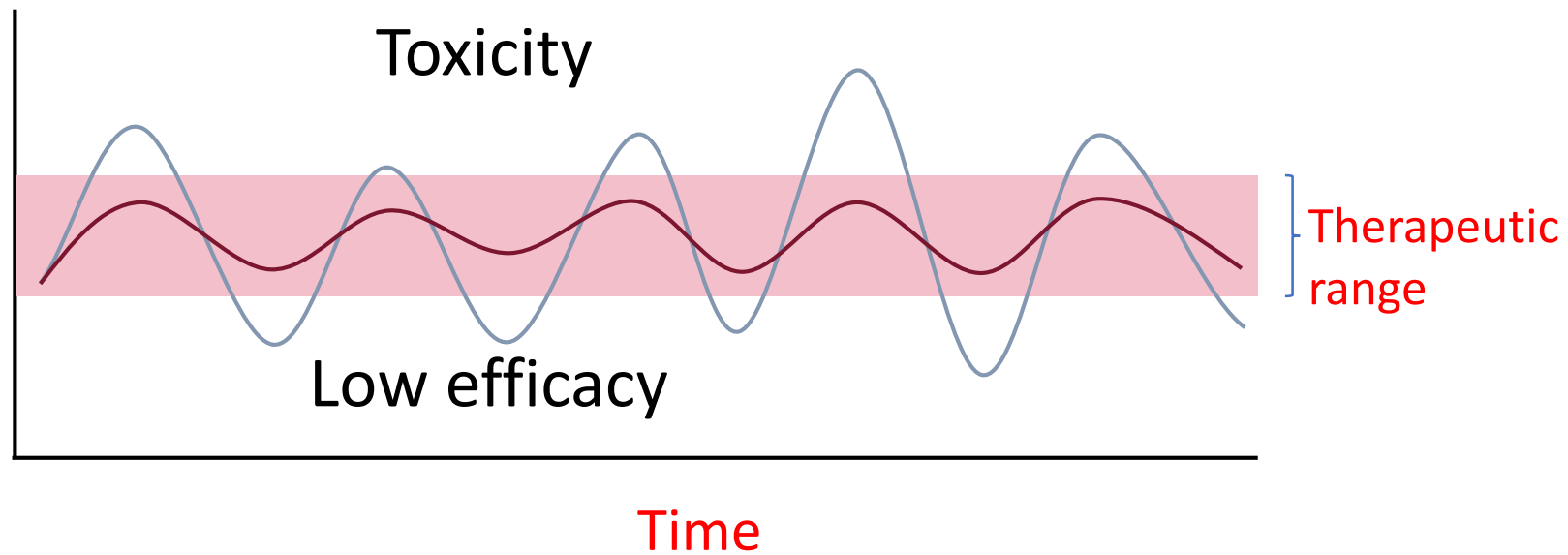
TTR 5-10 ug/ml 0-3 m and 4-8 ug/ml 4-12 m, TTR < 78%



TTR: Time in Therapeutic Range ; KT: Kidney transplantation

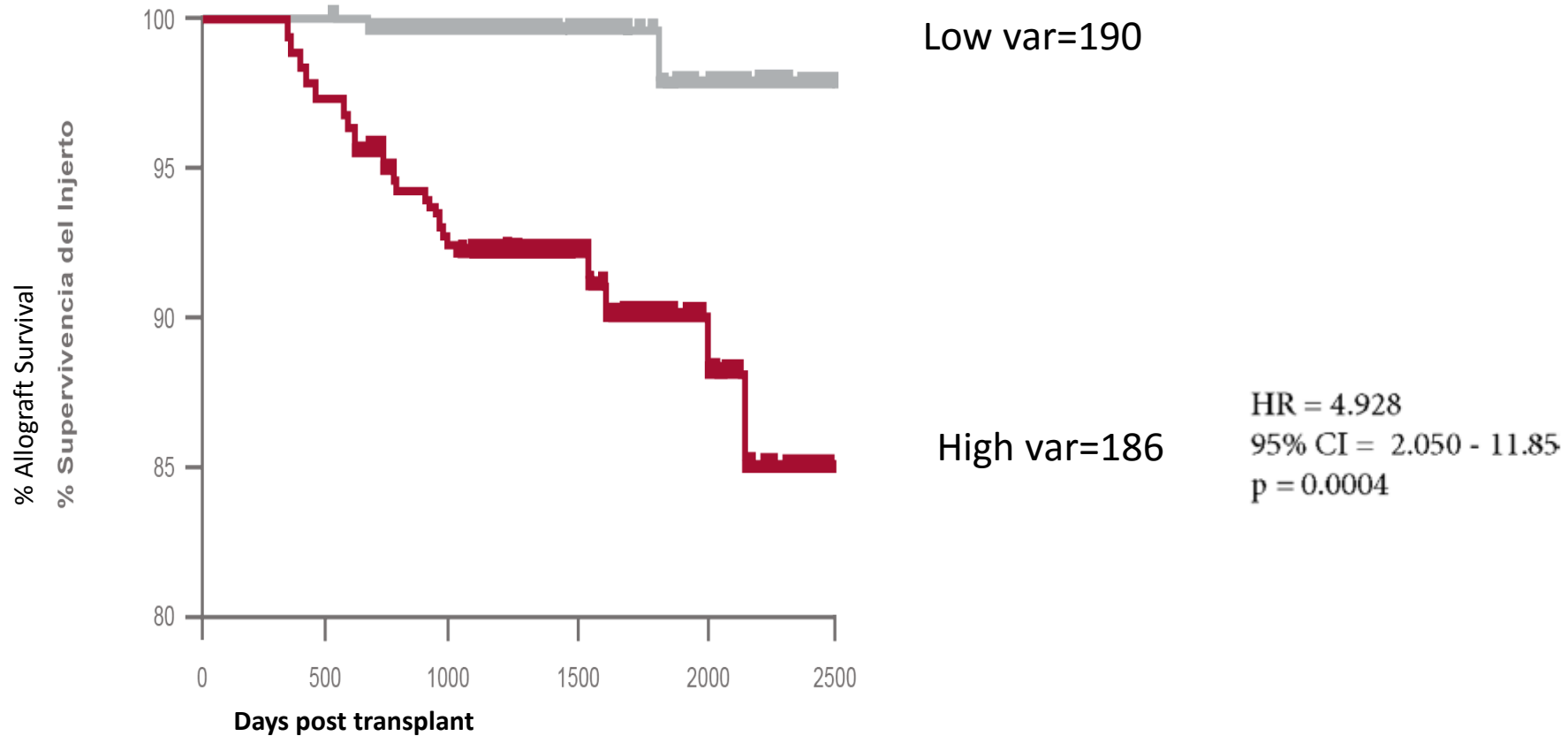
# Variability of TAC trough levels between visits

Trough levels



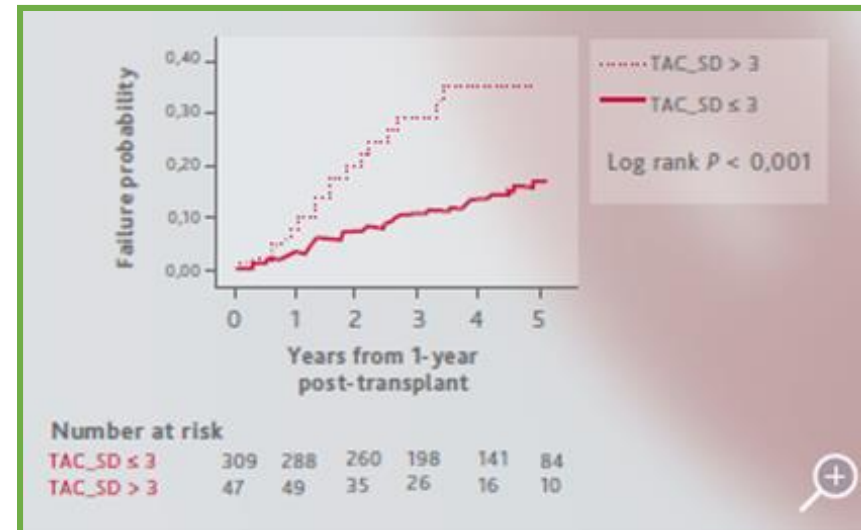
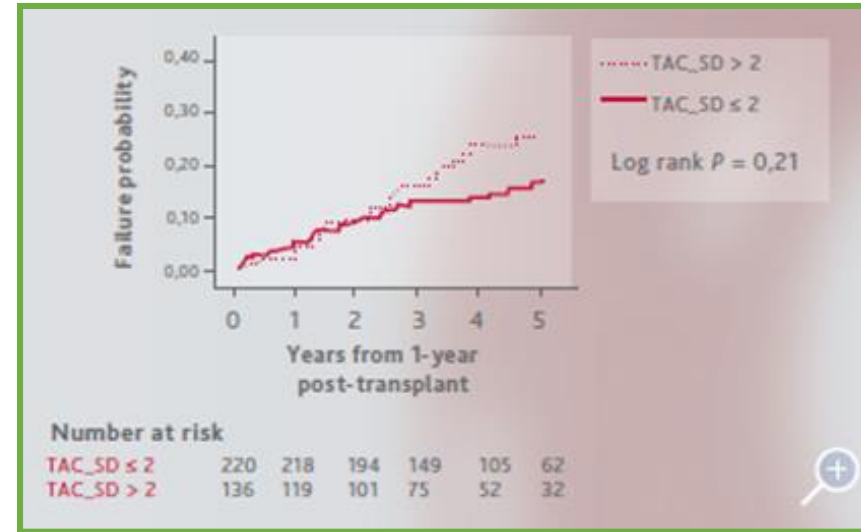
# Death censored graft survival & TAC var

N=376



Allograft survival is significantly worse in the high variability group. HR, hazard ratio; CI, confidence interval.

# TAC var and outcome: (late acute rejection, TG, graft failure and death with function (n=318)

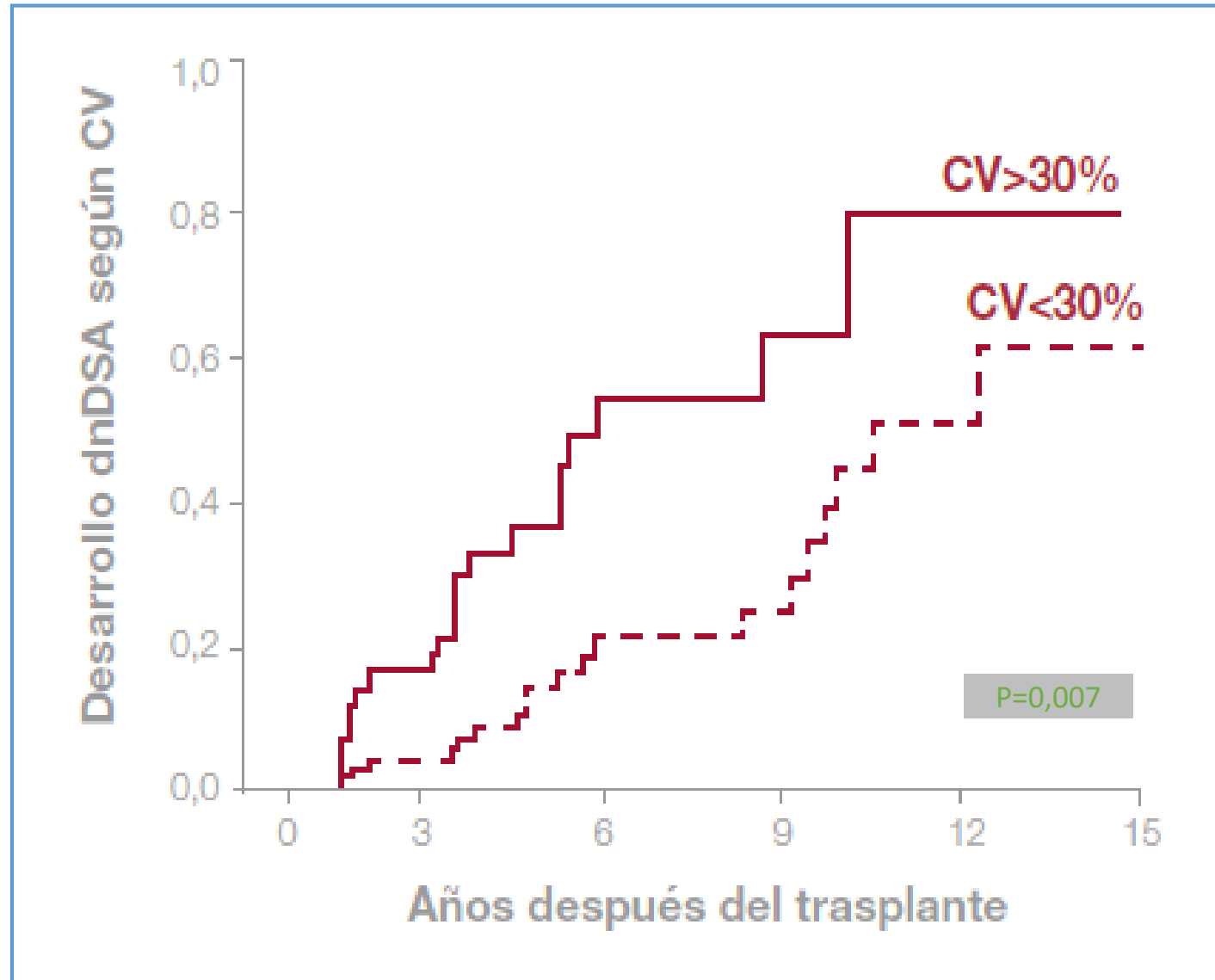


TAC: Tacrolimus;  
TG: or transplant glomerulopathy

Extended Kaplan–Meier failure curves at different levels of tacrolimus blood level standard deviation (TacSD) for the composite end point (late acute rejection, or transplant glomerulopathy, and total graft loss) and secondary composite end point (death with function excluded).

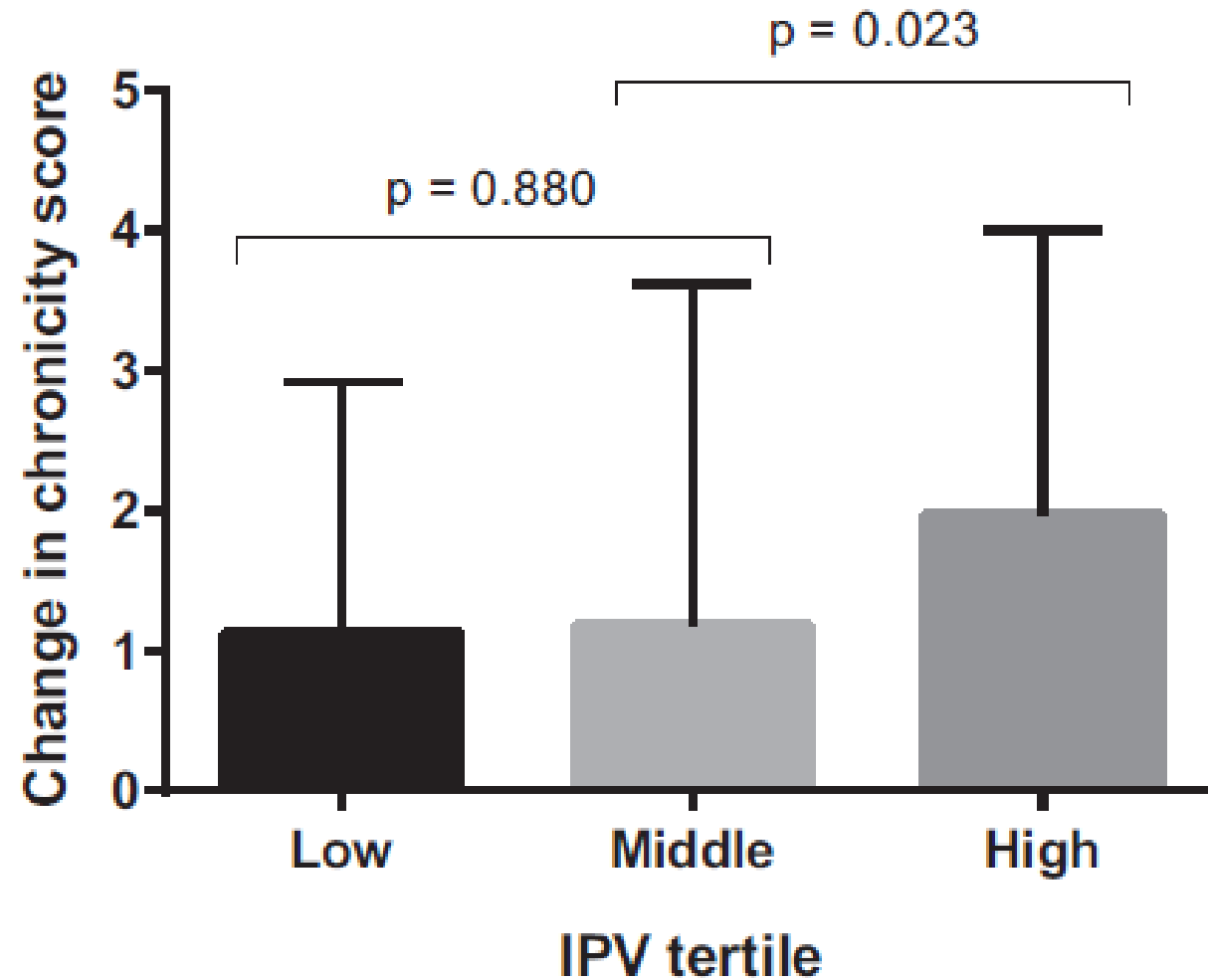
# Variabilidad de tacrolimus y *de novo* DSA

N=310, CV 4-12m, renal allograft survival > 1y



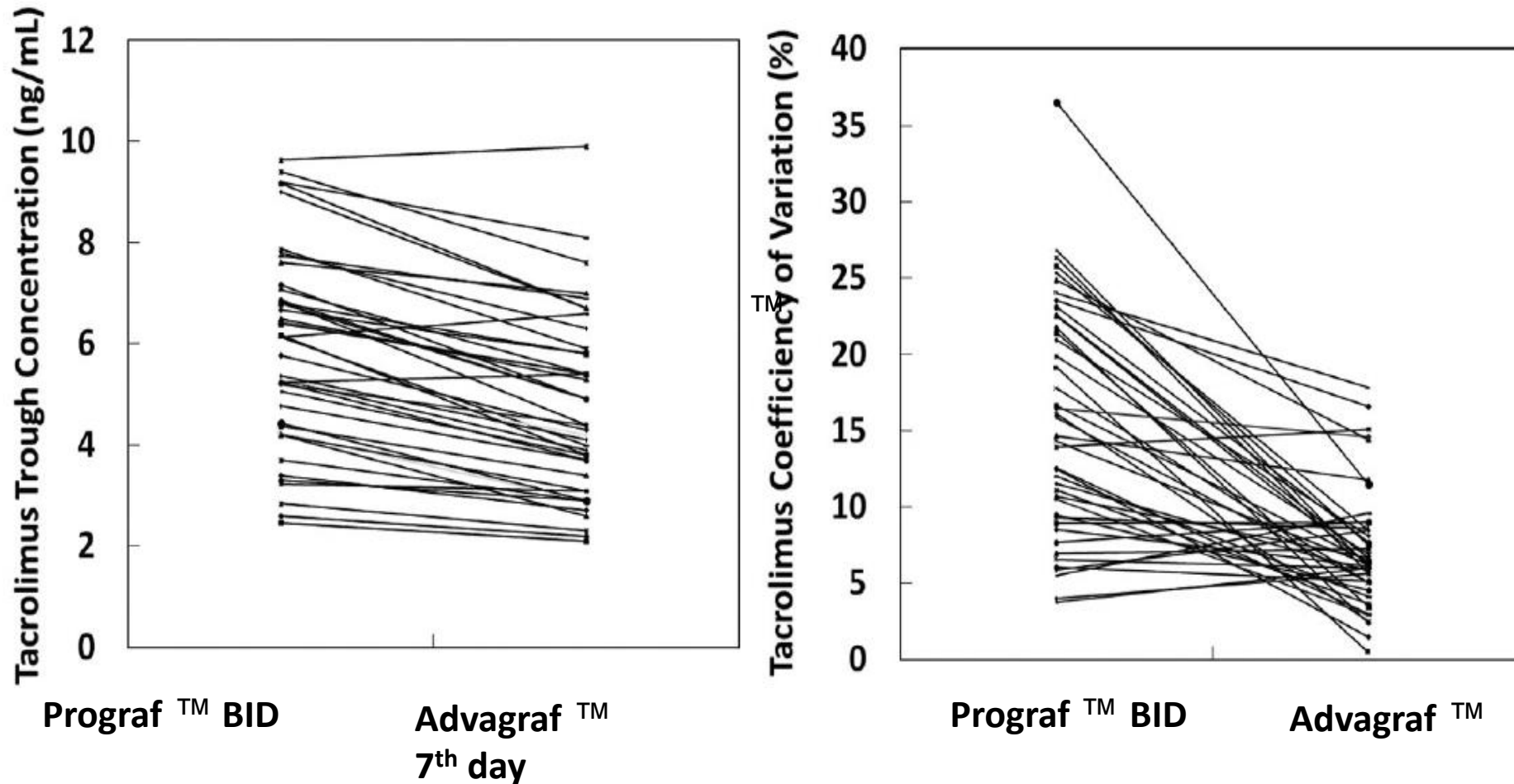
# Chronicity score between 3 and 24 months and variability between 6 and 12 m

Chronicity score : ci+ct+ah+cv+cg; n=220 patients



# Converting from Prograf™ BID to Advagraf™ reduces IPV

Follow up= 6.3 ± 4.8 years, (N=129)

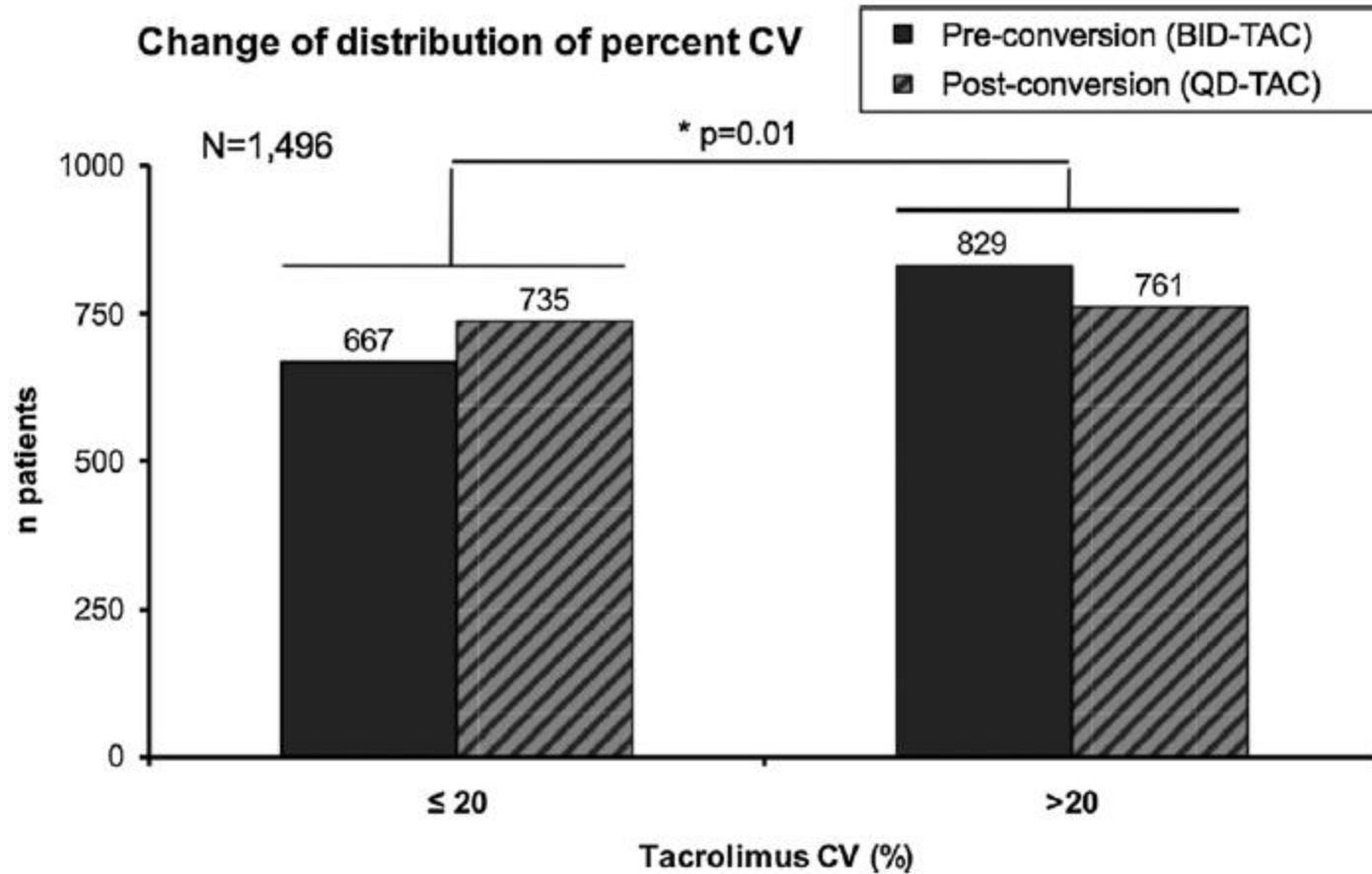




# CV before and after conversion from QD to BID-TAC

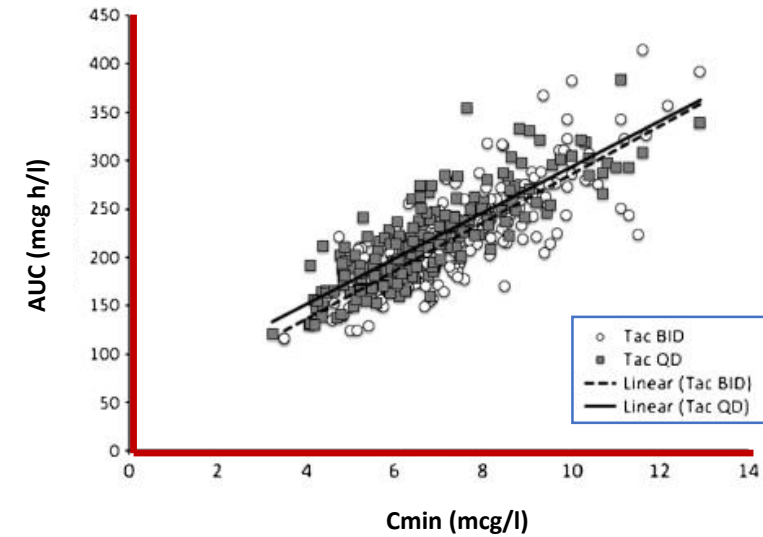
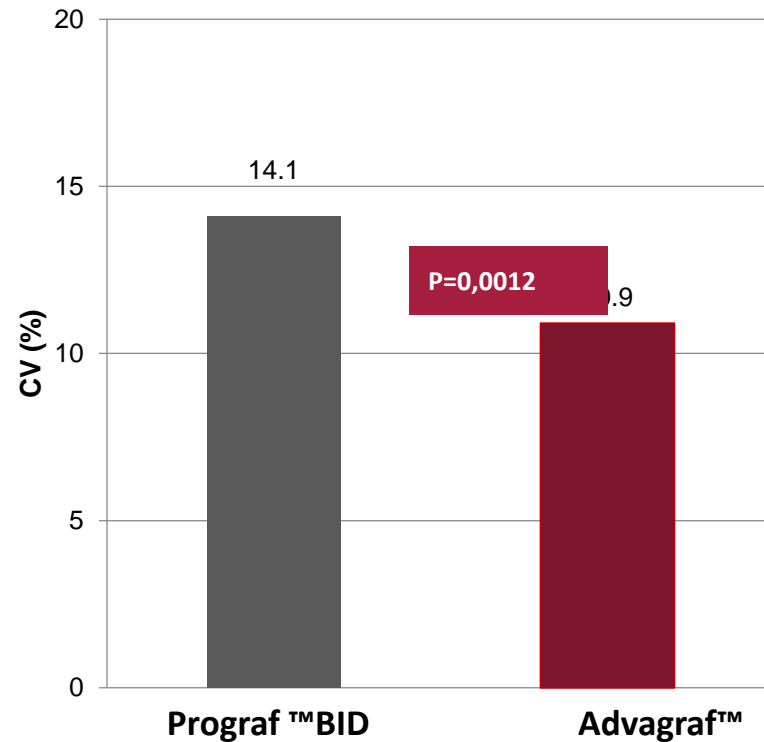
% with CV > 20%

n=1798

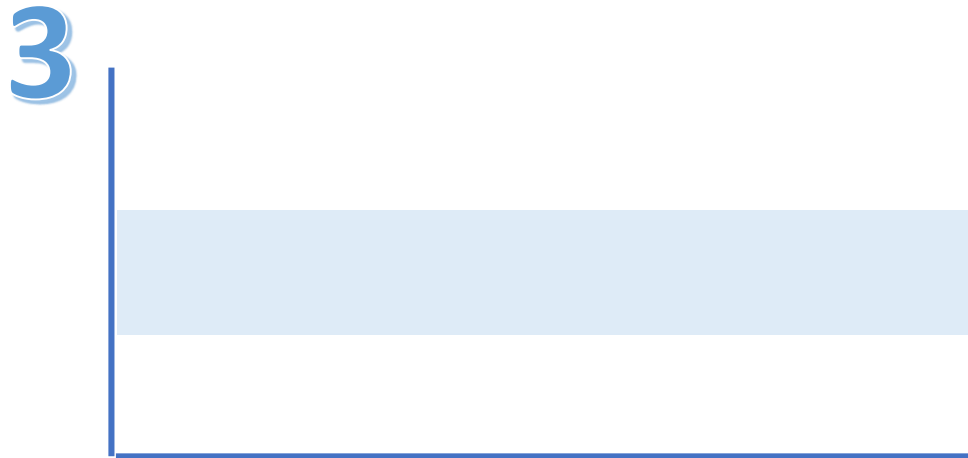
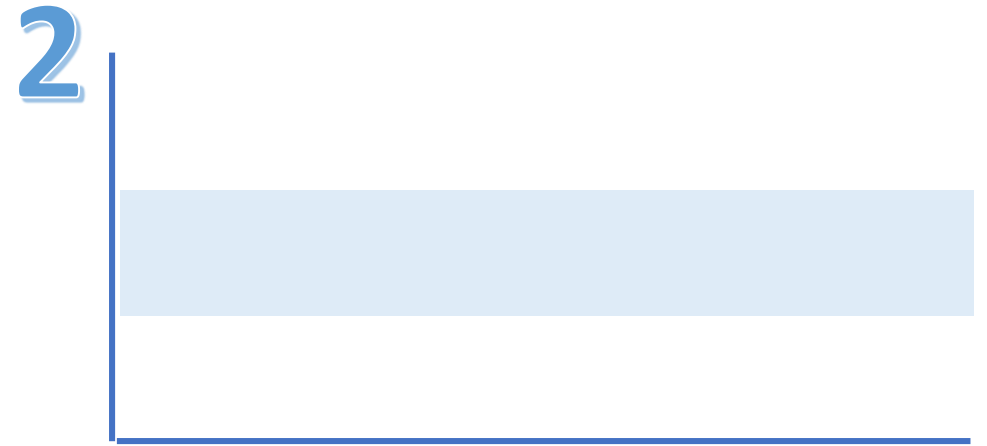
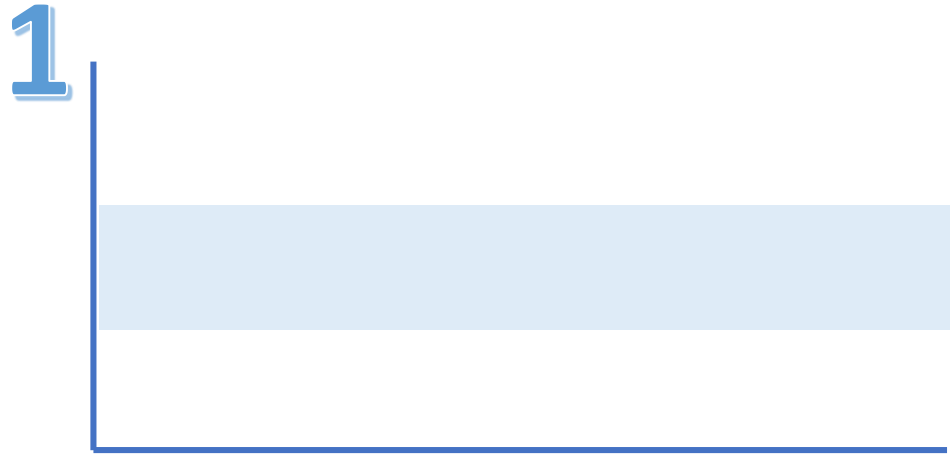


# AUC var after Conversion to prolonged TAC release

(n=40 patients, 5 AUC pre and 5 AUC post conversión)



# Same coefficient of variation different TTR and mean



What is more determinant of outcome,

CV or TTR?

# Correlation between CV and TTR at 4 and 18 m

## 4m

	CV-TAC
TTR	<b>-0.476</b> <0.001
Above TR	0.293 0.006
Below TR	0.338 0.002

## 18m

	CV-TAC
TTR	<b>-0.149</b> 0.178
Above TR	0.111 0.318
Below TR	0.229 0.037

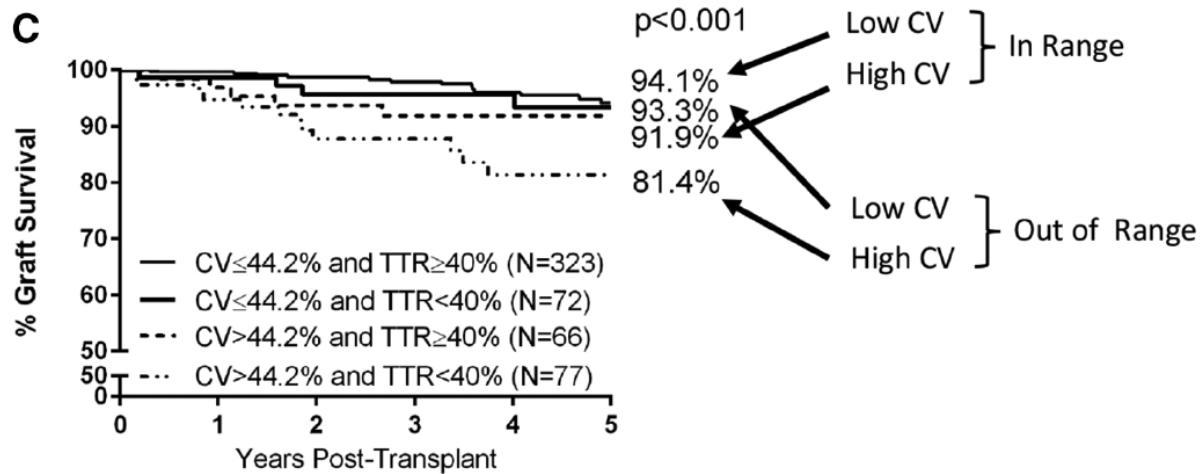
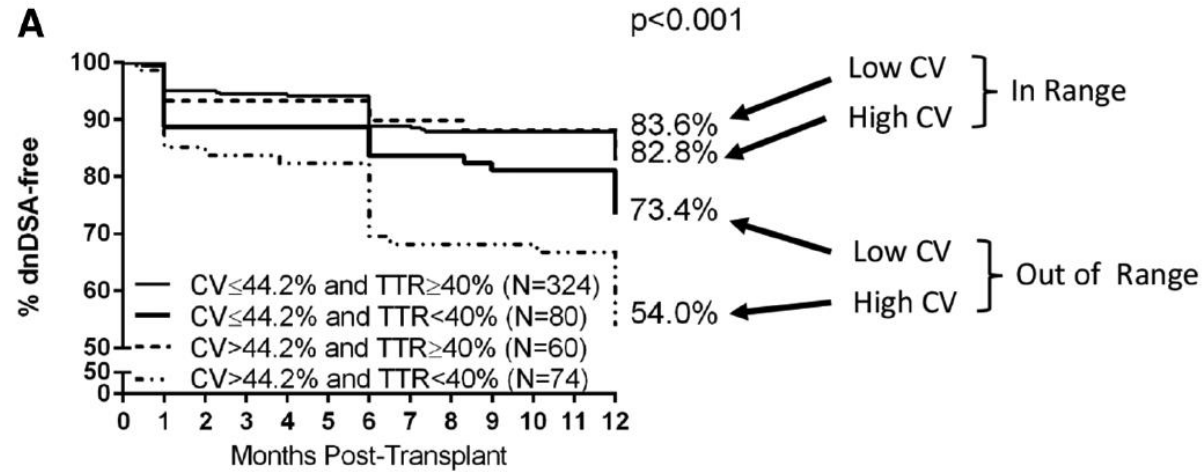
# Poor outcome in patients with high CV is due to low TTR

n=538, follow up 4.1 y

(CV and TTR calculated during the first y of follow up)

	<b>Covariate</b>	<b>Estimate (95% CI)</b>	<b>P</b>
dnDSA	TTR	OR = 0.98 (0.97-0.99)	<b>0.002</b>
	CV	OR = 1.01 (0.99-1.02)	0.268
Acute rejection <sup>b</sup>	TTR	HR = 0.97 (0.96-0.98)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
	CV	HR = 1.00 (0.98-1.02)	0.981
Death-censored graft loss	TTR	HR = 0.99 (0.97-1.00)	0.090
	CV	HR = 1.03 (1.01-1.05)	<b>0.003</b>

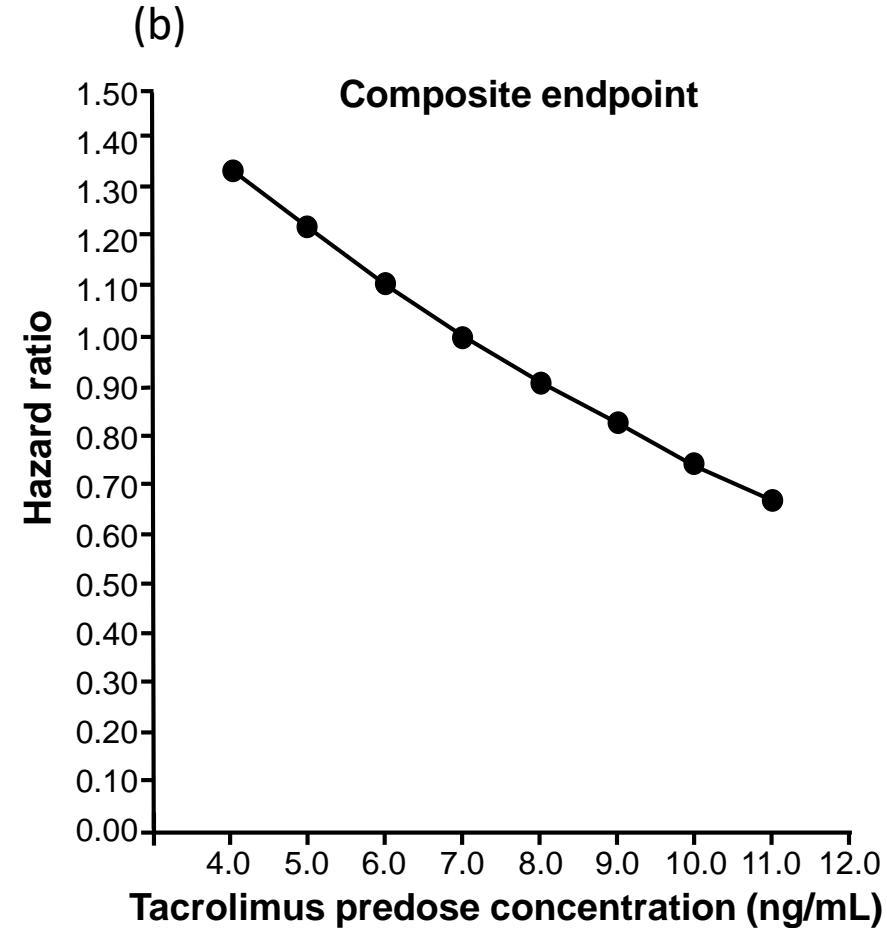
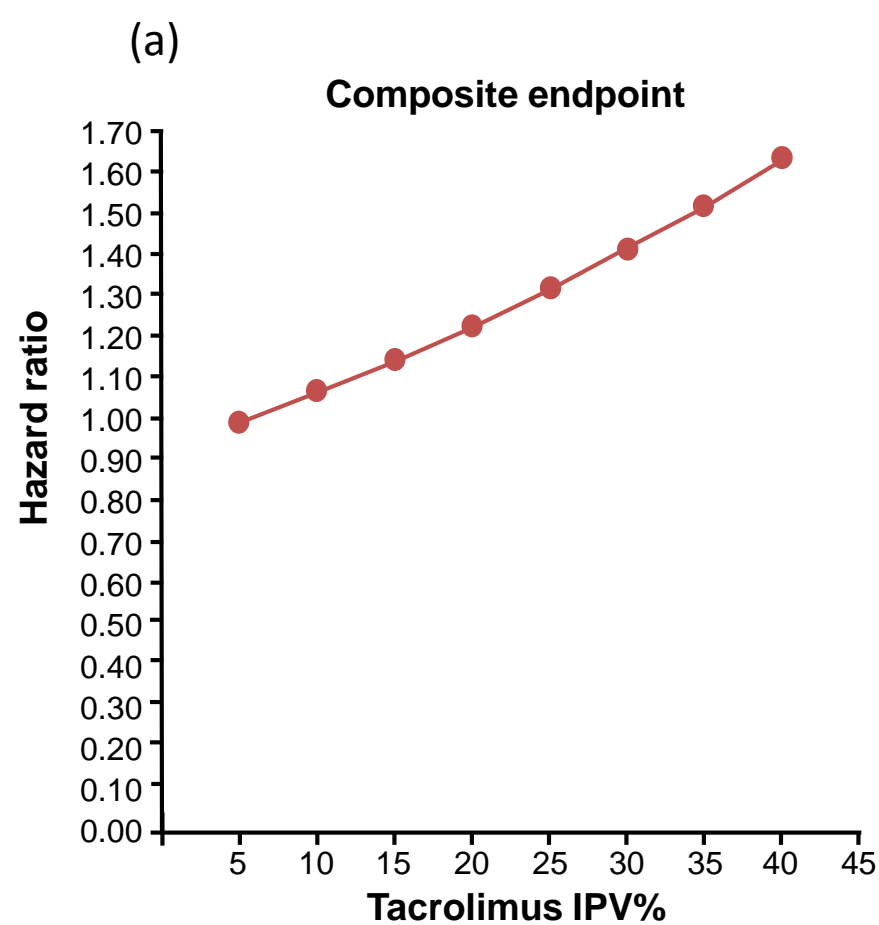
# High CV and Low TTR



# High IPV is associated with worse long-term outcomes

Composite endpoint: Late biopsy-proven acute rejection, transplant glomerulopathy or doubling of serum creatinine, graft failure

808 renal transplant recipients transplanted between 2000 and 2010



IPV: intra patients variability

Calculated hazard ratios of the composite end point with increasing Tac IPV (a) and decreasing Tac predose concentrations (b).

Shuker N et al. *Transpl Int* 2016;29:1158–1167.

ADV vs PGF de novo

Therapeutic monitoring

**TAC metabolism**

Compliance



# TAC metabolism rate

N=248 patients Basiliximab+TAC+MMF+P

$$\begin{aligned} C/D \text{ ratio (ng/mL} \cdot \text{1/mg)} \\ = \frac{\text{blood Tac trough level (ng/mL)}}{\text{daily Tac dose (mg)}} \end{aligned}$$



C/D ratio 1, 2, 3, 6, 12, 24 m

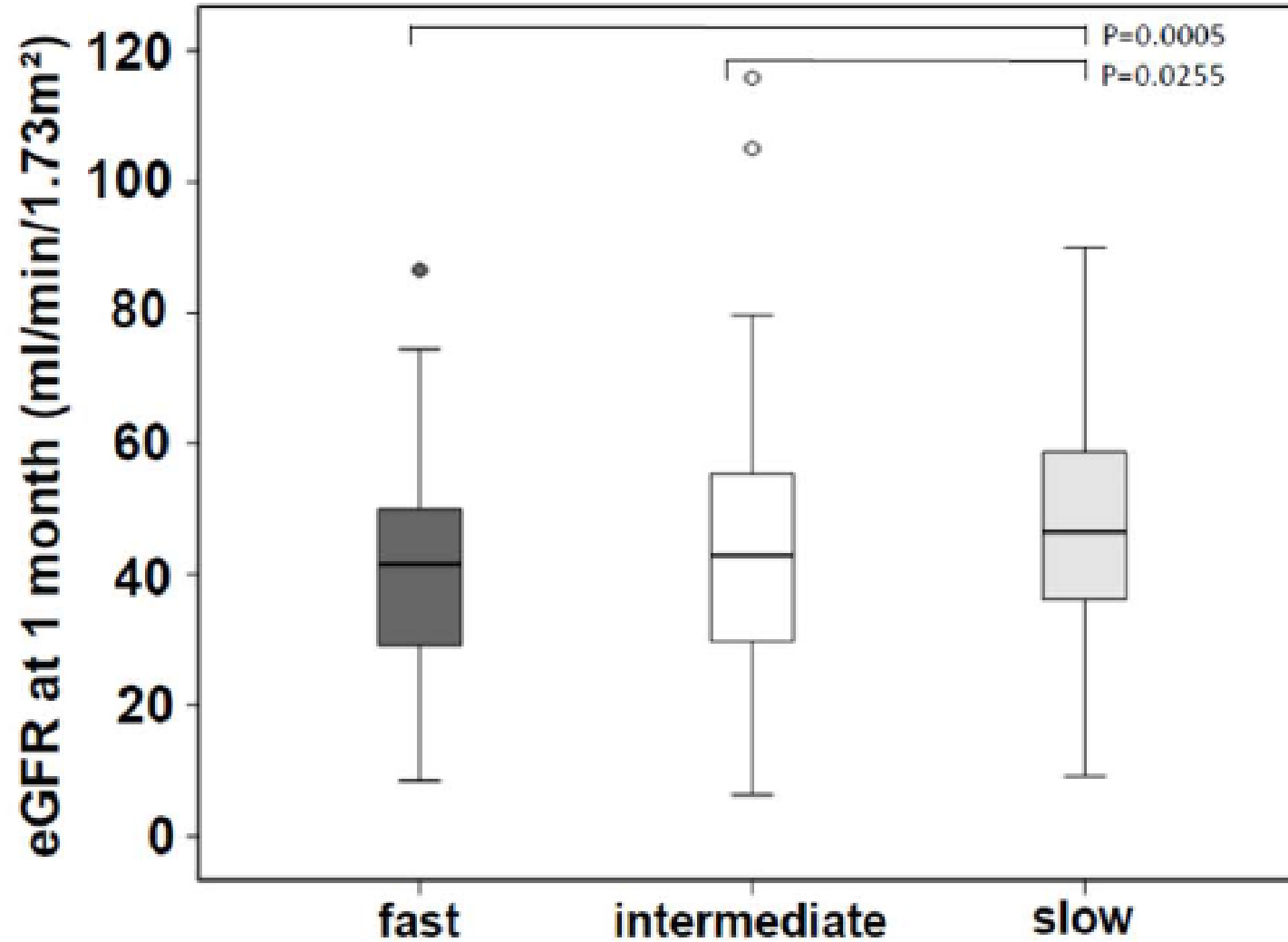
Fast

Intermediate

Low

# e GFR and C/D ratio

eGFR value comparison between the three metabolism groups



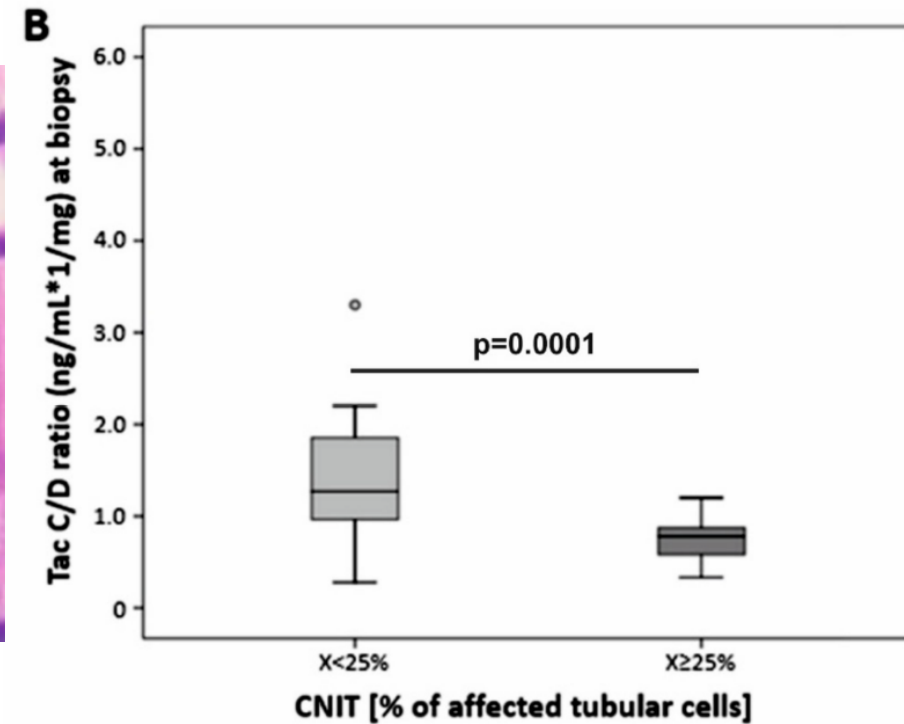
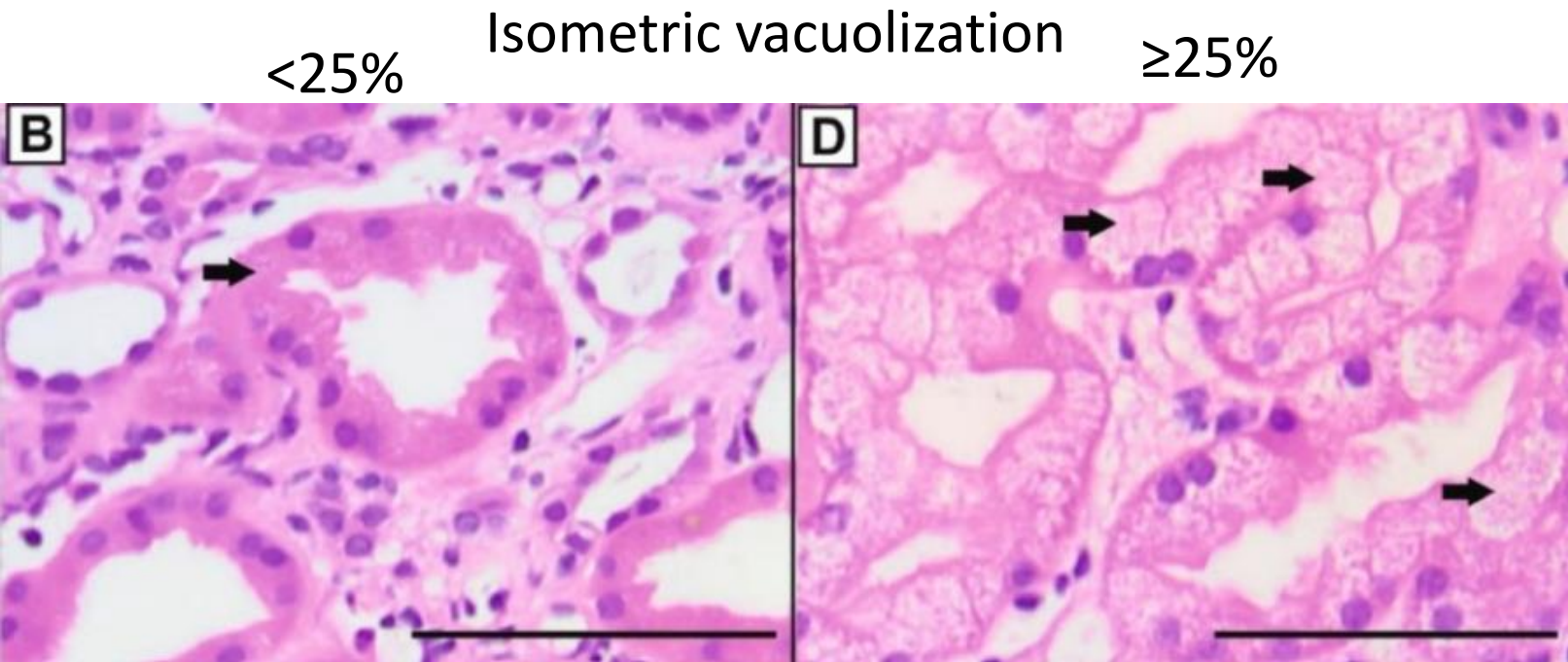
# Out come and C/D ratio

Antibodies, HLA MM, DGF, infections and biopsy results

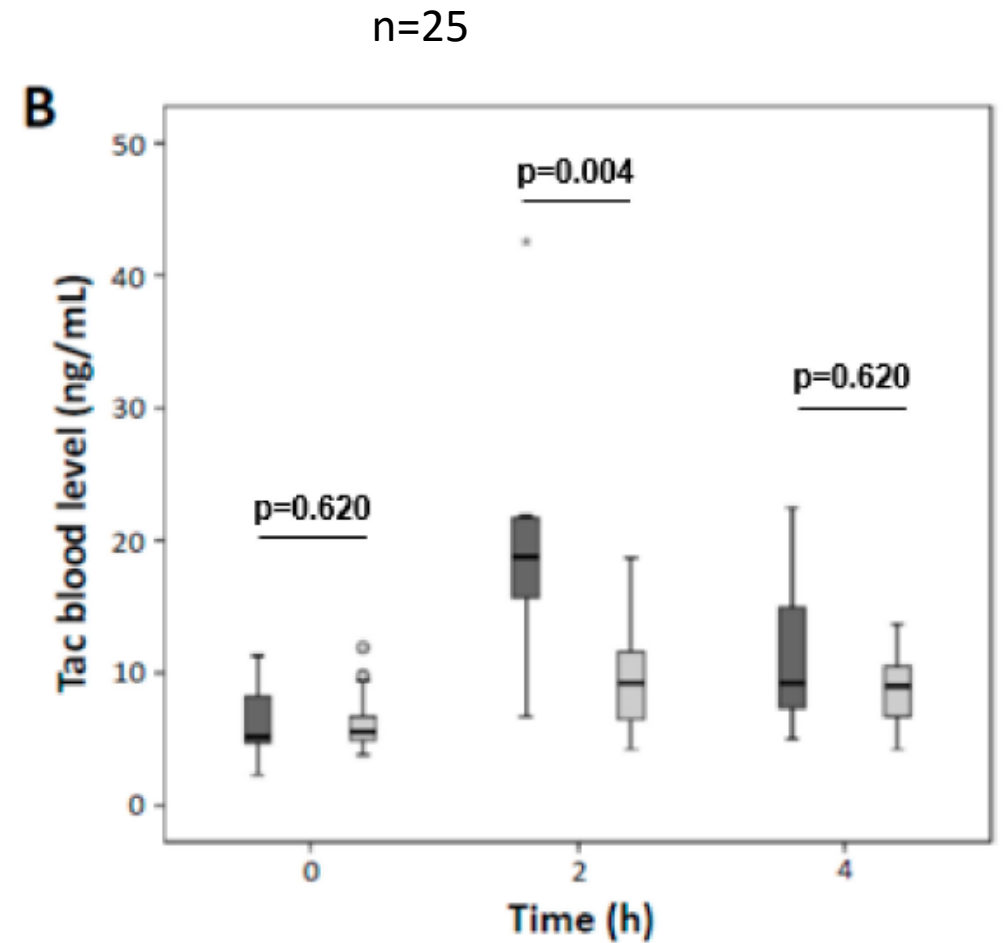
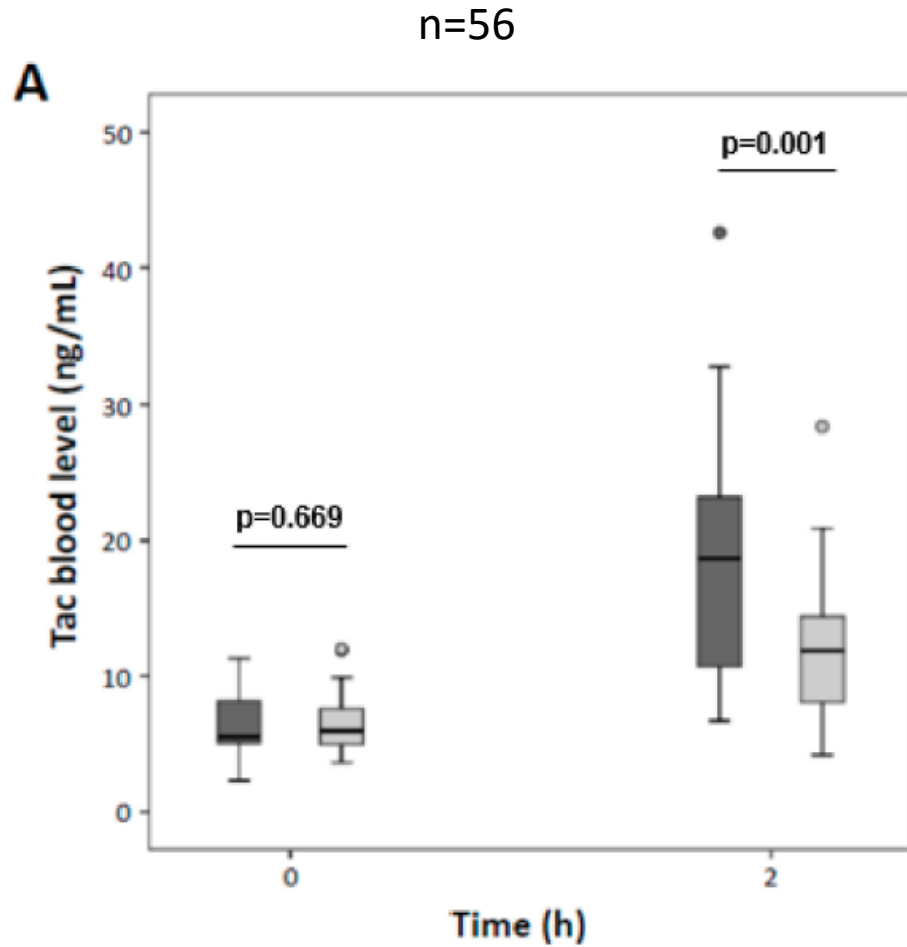
	fast metabolizers	interm. metabolizers	slow metabolizers	P-value
	(n = 122)	(n = 91)	(n = 82)	
PRA (>20%)	2 (2%)	3 (3%)	2 (2%)	-
HLA MM				
no HLA MM	15 (12%)	13 (14%)	10 (12%)	
1-3 HLA MM	67 (55%)	45 (50%)	50 (61%)	0.651
4-6 HLA MM	40 (33%)	33 (36%)	22 (27%)	
DGF	25 (21%)	15 (17%)	11 (13%)	0.434
CMV				
CMV high risk	30 (25%)	16 (18%)	20 (24%)	
CMV interm. risk	77 (63%)	61 (69%)	51 (62%)	0.784
CMV low risk	15 (12%)	12 (13%)	11 (13%)	
CMV infection	15 (12%)	11 (12%)	5 (6%)	0.292
BK viremia	8 (7%)	7 (8%)	1 (1%)	0.11
biopsy results				
indication biopsies	53 (43%)	30 (33%)	18 (22%)	0.006
TMR	2 (2%)	4 (4%)	1 (1%)	-
AMR	5 (4%)	3 (3%)	0	-
CNI-nephrotoxicity	13 (11%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	0.015
BK nephropathy	5 (4%)	0	0	0.024
others	28 (23%)	21 (23%)	15 (18%)	-

# Isometric vacuolization and C/D ratio

N= 55 consecutive biopsies



# C2 in patients with high and low C/D ratio (< 1.05) n=55



# High TAC clearance and progression of IFTA

n= 504 pts

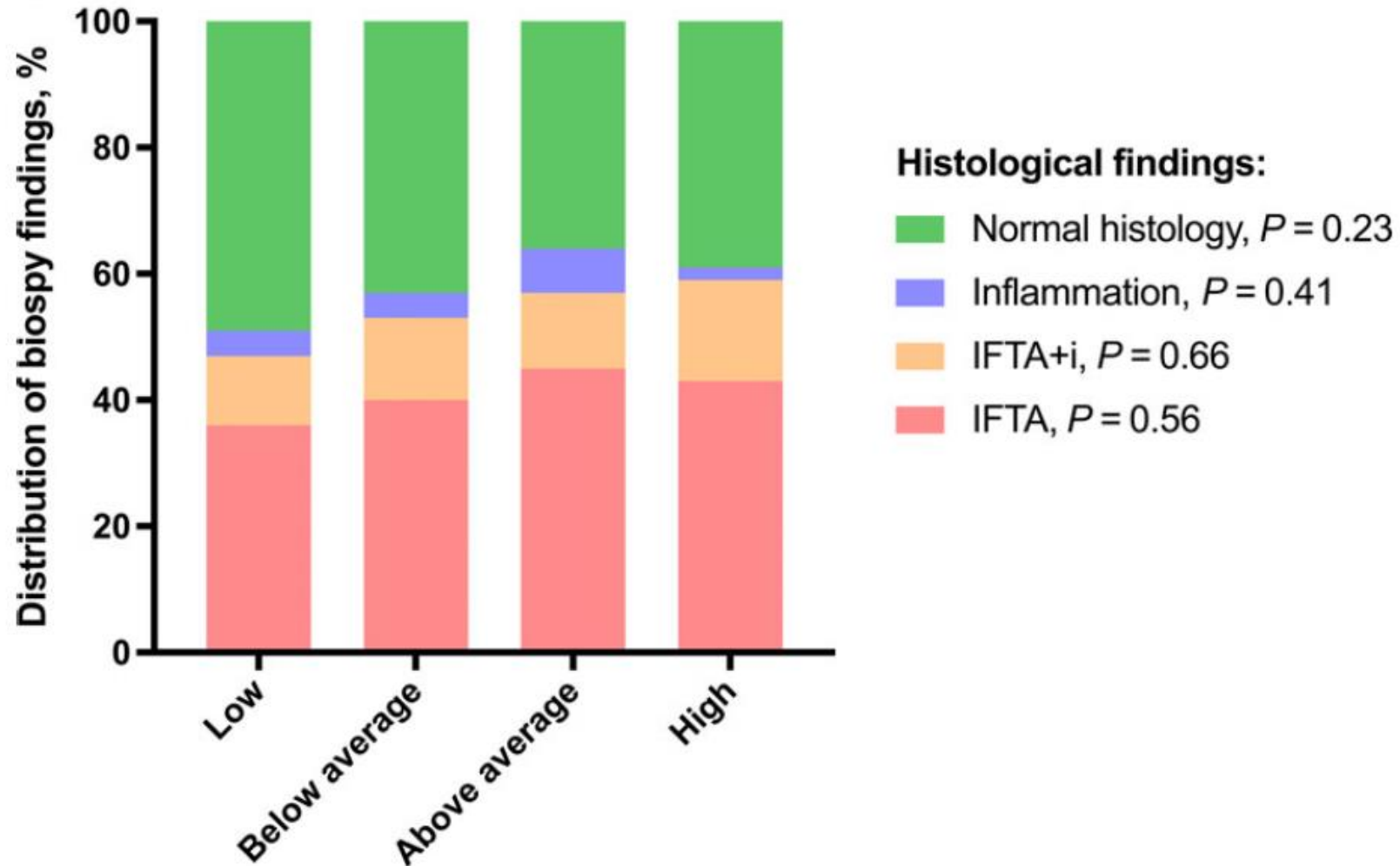
Basiliximab+TAC+MMF+P

C/D ratio classified into quartiles

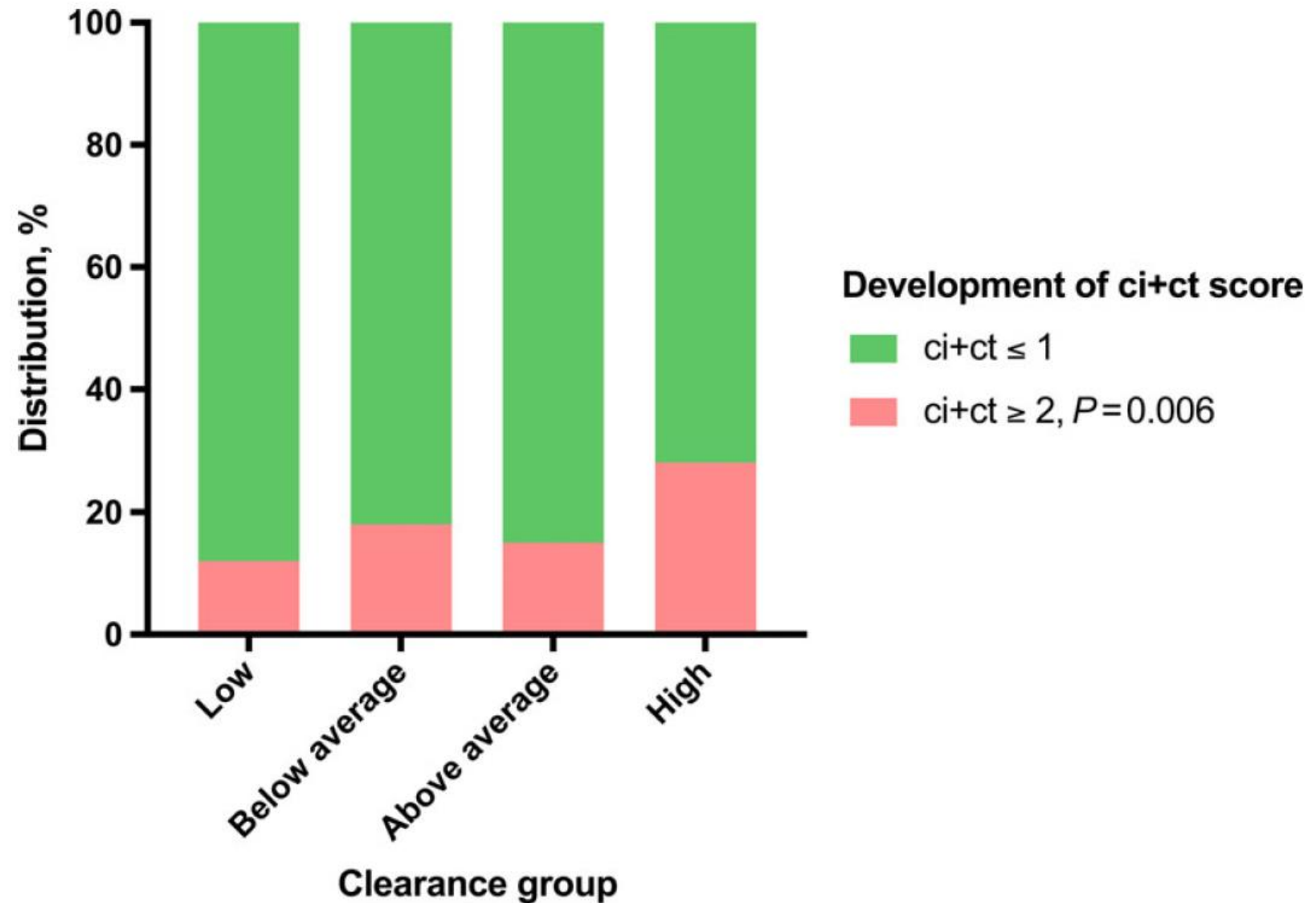


# High TAC clearance and progression of IFTA

## Basal biopsy at 7 weeks



# High TAC clearance and progression of IFTA





# Therapeutic drug monitoring at 4 and 18 months

## N=85

Variable	First biopsy	Second biopsy	p-value
Time of biopsy (months)	4.2 ± 1.9	17.3 ± 3.6	n.a.
Tacrolimus dose (mg/day)	6.6 ± 3.9	4.9 ± 3.1	<b>0.001</b>
TAC-C <sub>0</sub> (ng/mL)	9.6 ± 2.4	8.5 ± 2.3	<b>0.002</b>
CV of TAC-C <sub>0</sub> (%)	31 ± 13	20 ± 14	<b>0.001</b>
Time in TR (%)	55 ± 24	70 ± 25	<b>0.001</b>
Time above TR (%)	35 ± 25	26 ± 29	0.066
Time below TR (%)	10 ± 13	4 ± 11	<b>0.004</b>
C/D (ng/mL/mg)	2.00 ± 1.42	2.19 ± 1.02	0.119

Clinical data at the time of the first and second surveillance biopsies of the studied cohort

# Inflammation at early and late BX

Variable	No inflammation (n=66)	Inflammation (n=19)	p-value
<b>First biopsy</b>			
TAC-C <sub>0</sub> (ng/mL)	10.0 ± 2.4	8.3 ± 2.2	<b>0.007</b>
<b>Second Biopsy</b>			
Time below TR (%)	3 ± 10	12 ± 15	<b>0.005</b>

# Progression of fibrosis

Variable	No IFTA progression	IFTA progression	p
Mean C/D (ng/mL/mg)	2.3 ± 1.3	1.7 ± 0.7	<b>0.019</b>

ADV vs PGF de novo

Therapeutic monitoring

TAC metabolism

**Compliance**

# Morisky scale yes (0) and no (1)

## MMAS-4 Medication-taking Adherence Scale (MMAS, four-item scale)

Do you ever forget to take your medicine?

Are you careless at times about taking your medicine?

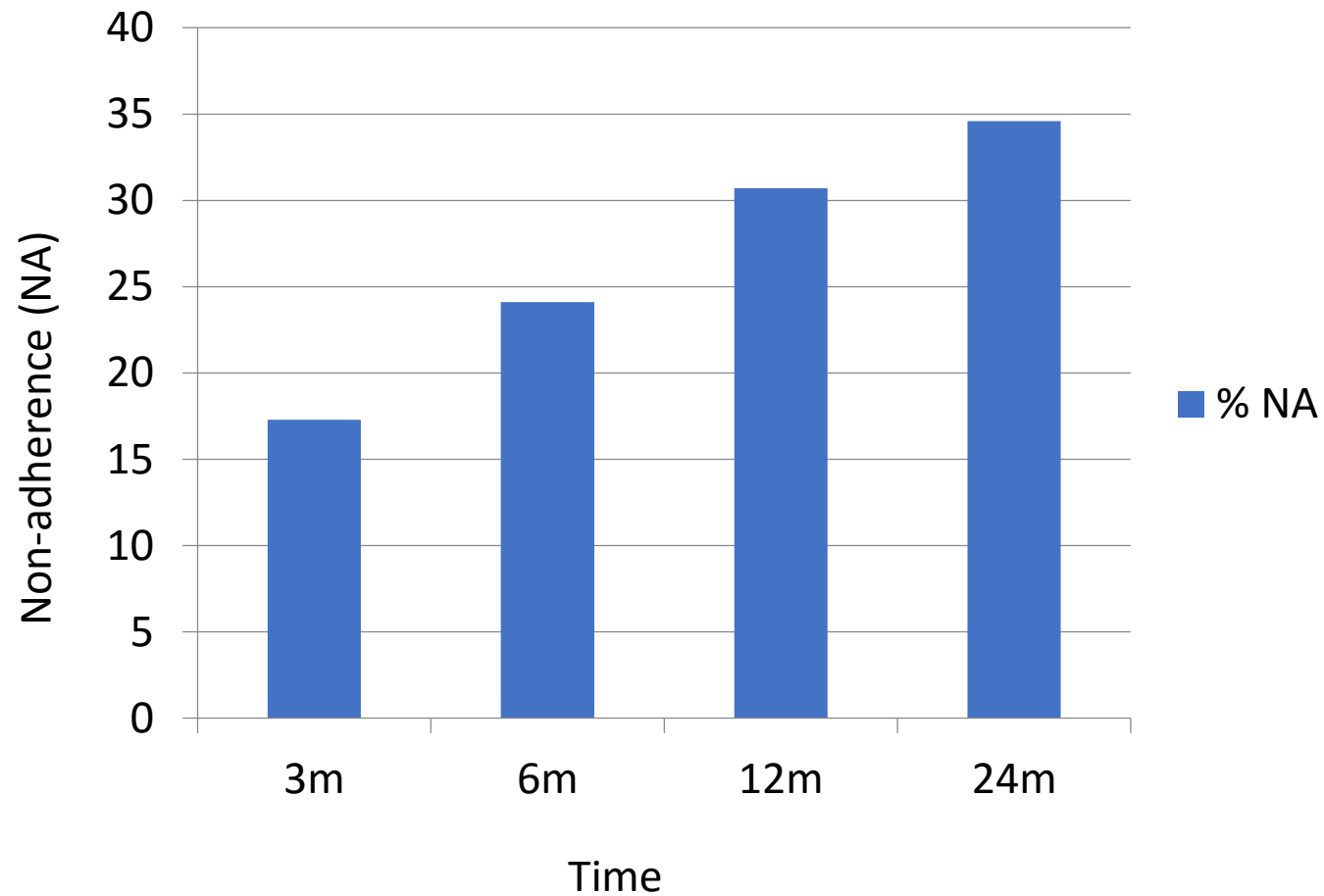
Sometimes when you feel worse when you take the medicine, do you stop taking it?

When you feel better do you sometimes stop taking your medicine?

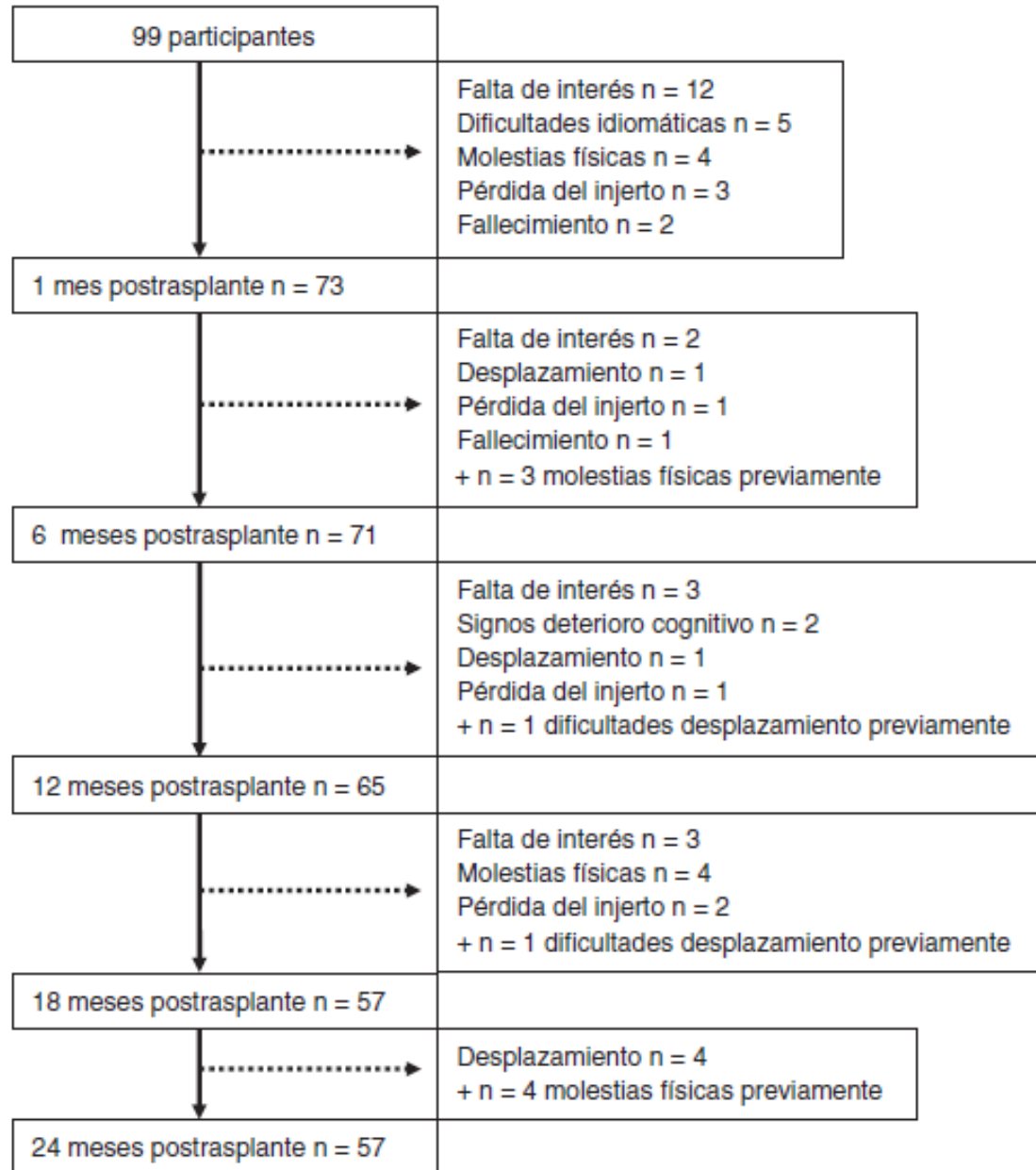
Adherence	MMAS-4 Score
High Adherence	0
Medium Adherence	1-2
Low Adherence	3-4

# Prevalence of non-adherence

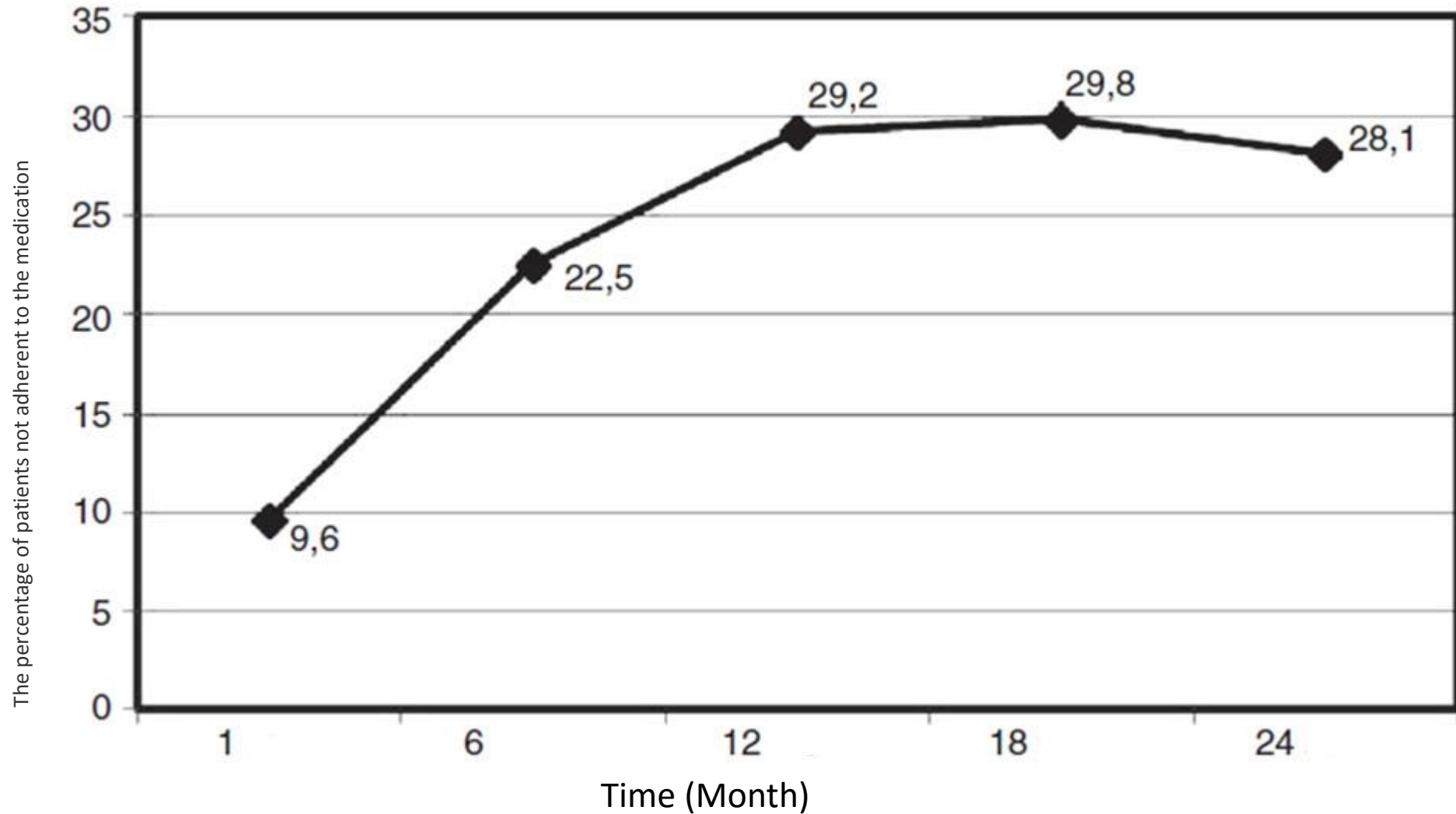
N=312 pts. : Morisky scale > 0



# Adherence to treatment



# Non compliance: SMAQ questionnaire

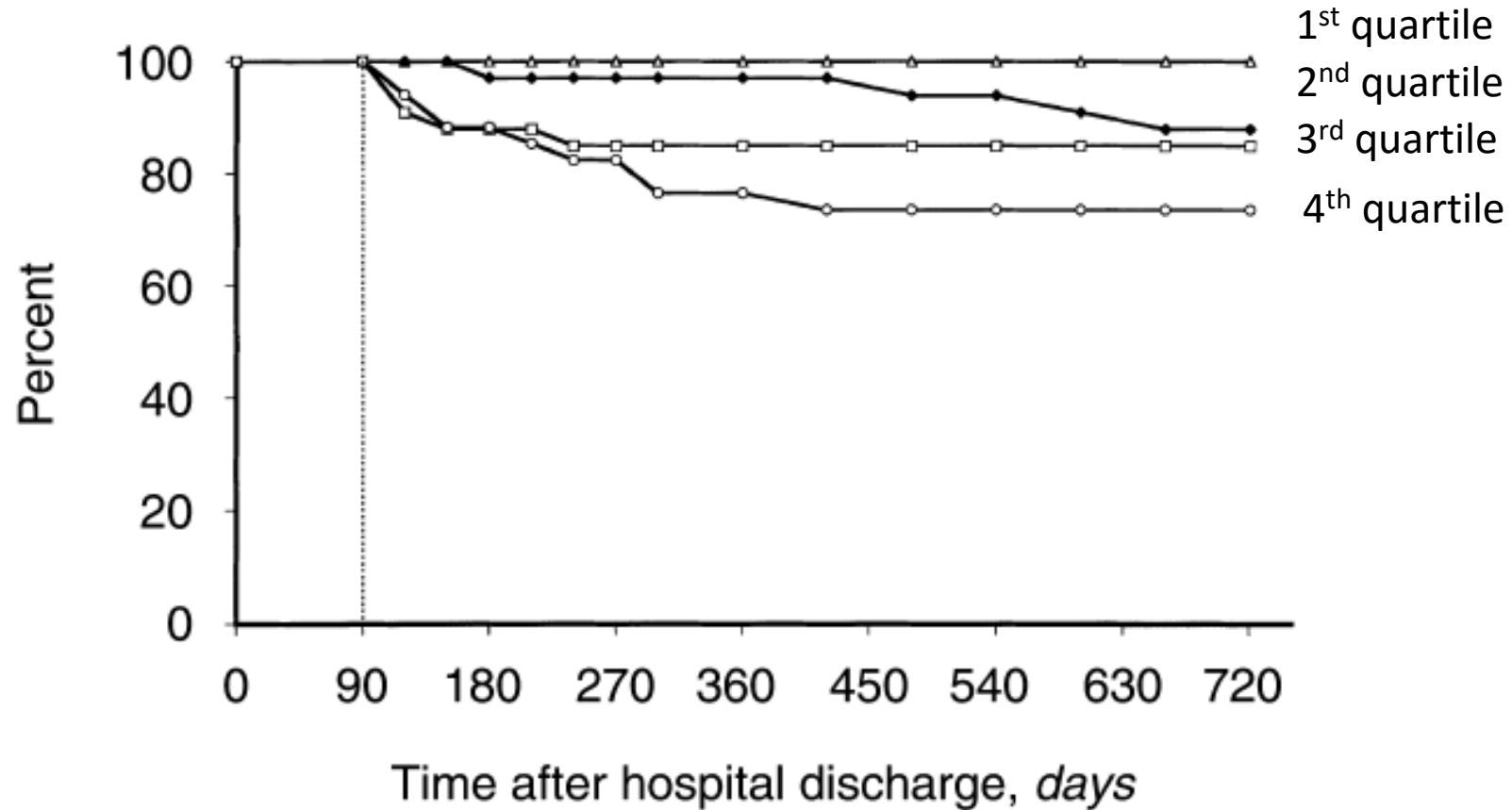




# Electronic monitoring of no-compliance

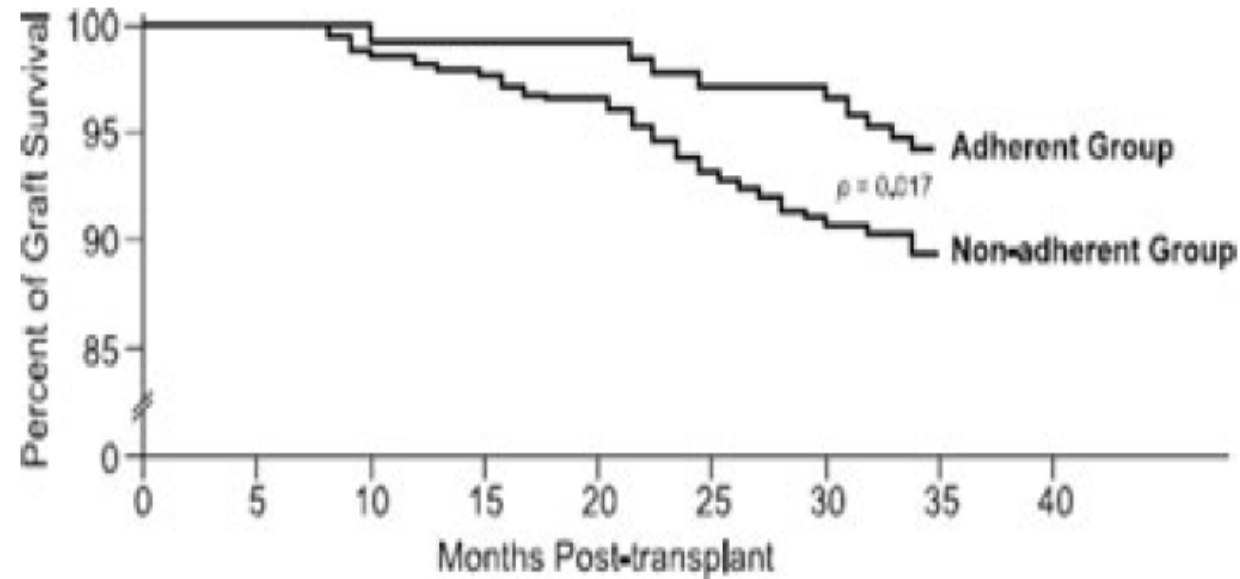
180 AZA treated pts classified according to quartiles of compliance and AR

Rejection free survival after 90 days of TX



# Non adherence and graft survival

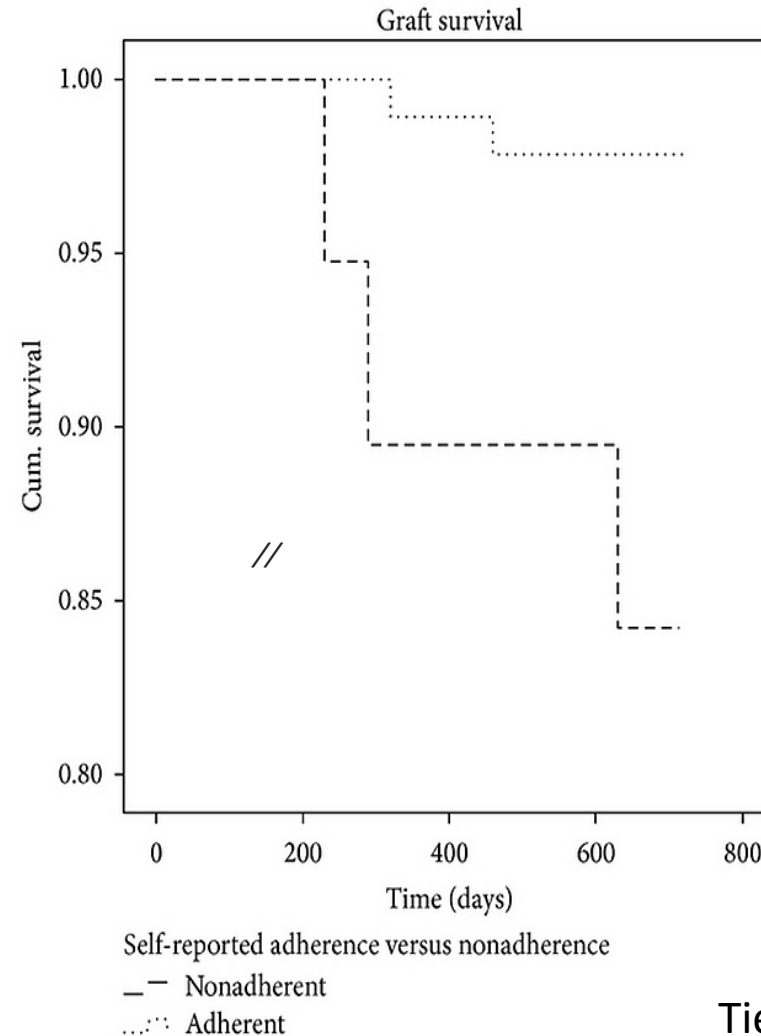
n=877 (medication / possession ratio)



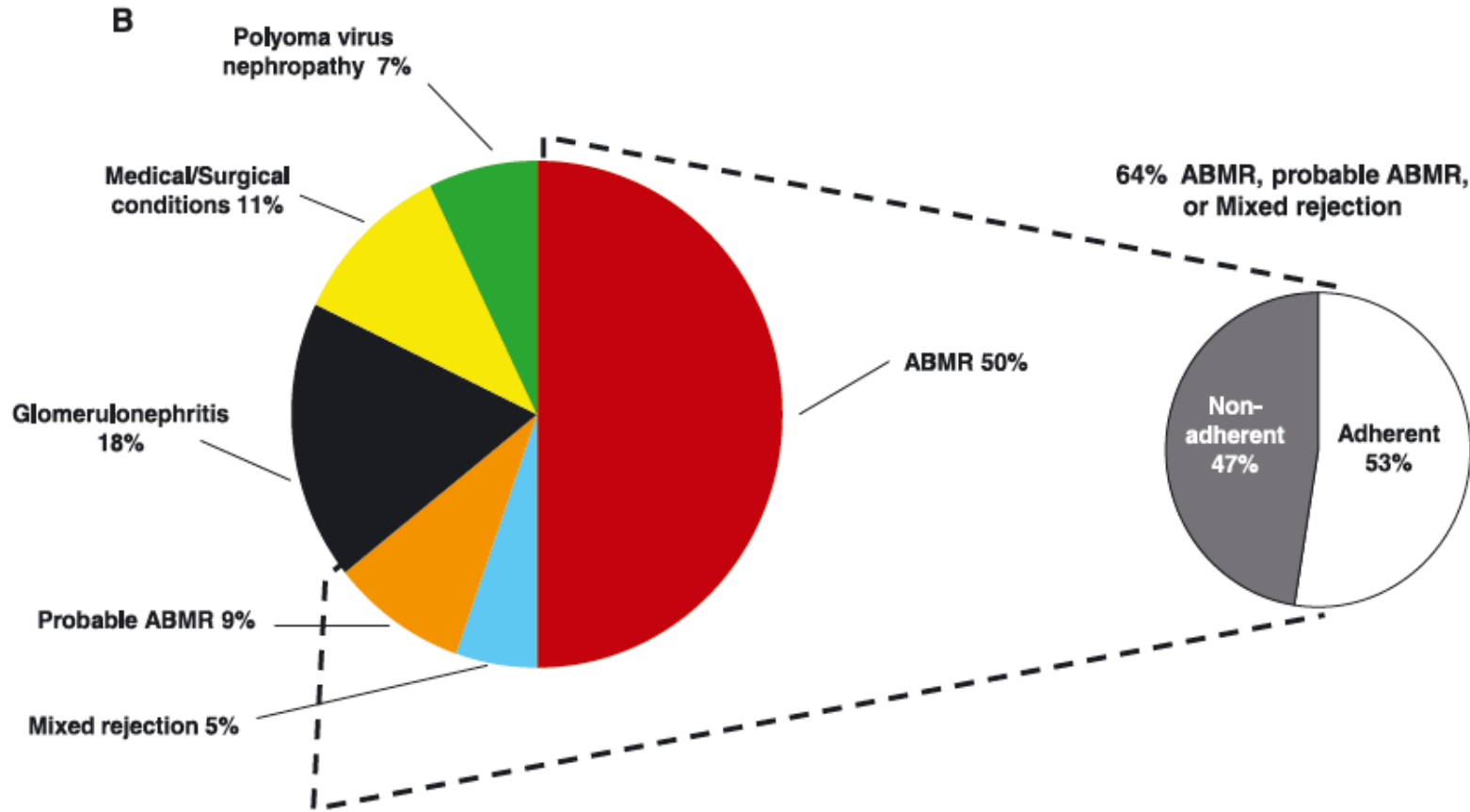
Kaplan–Meier estimates of graft survival in the adherent and nonadherent groups during the 36-month post transplant period.

# Non-adherence is associated with poor graft survival in kidney transplantation

Kaplan-Meier graft survival. The non-adherent group consisted of 19 patients (3 graft failures) and the adherent group consisted of 94 patients (2 graft failures)



# Cause of graft failure and non adherence



# Factors associated with non-adherence

## Socio-economic factors

financial difficulties / lack of transportation

## Health organization barriers

limited amount of time/patient, staff rotation

## Disease related factors

depression and anxiety

## Therapy related factors

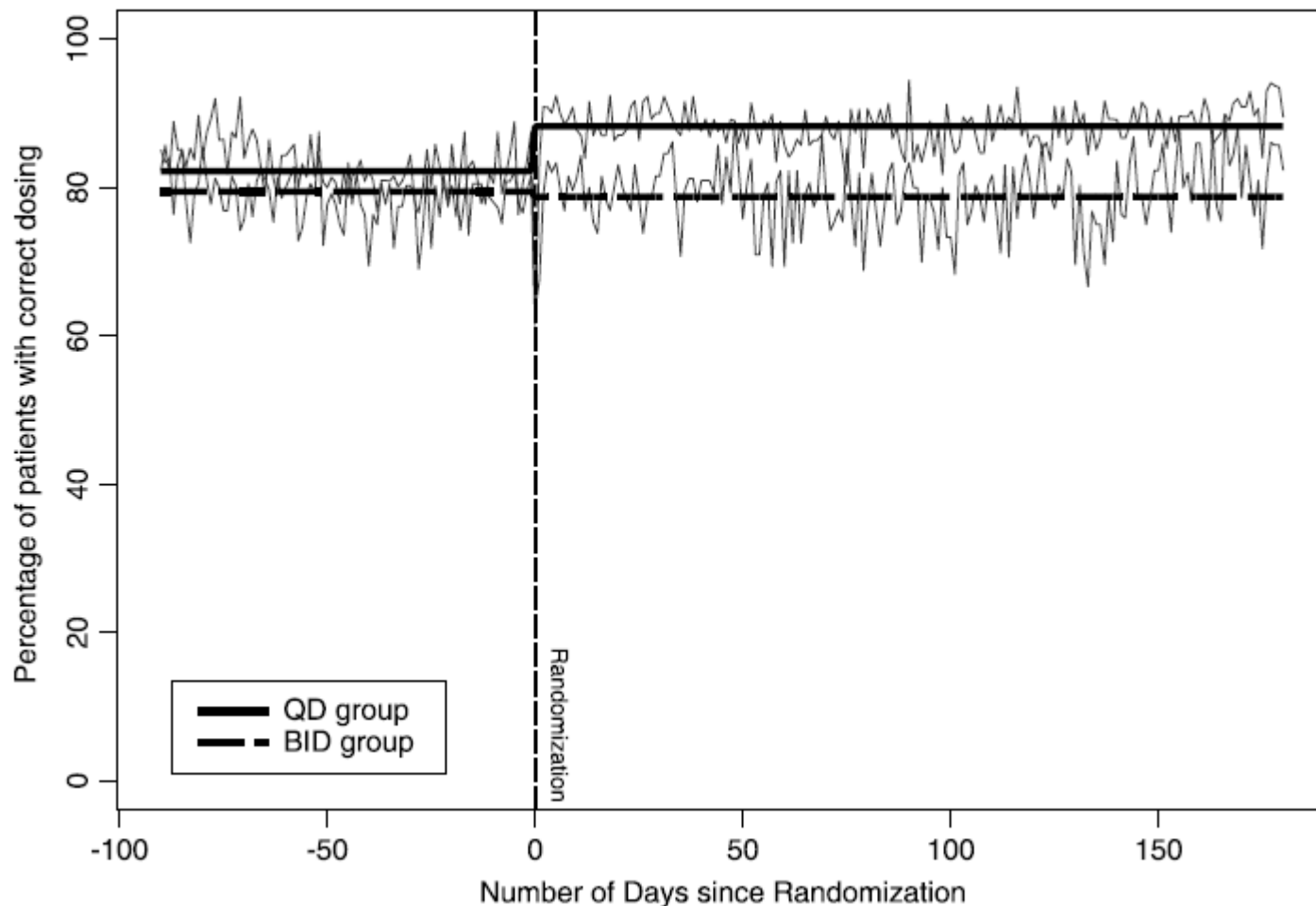
side effects of drugs, complex dose regimens

## Patient related factors

communication barriers, health attitudes

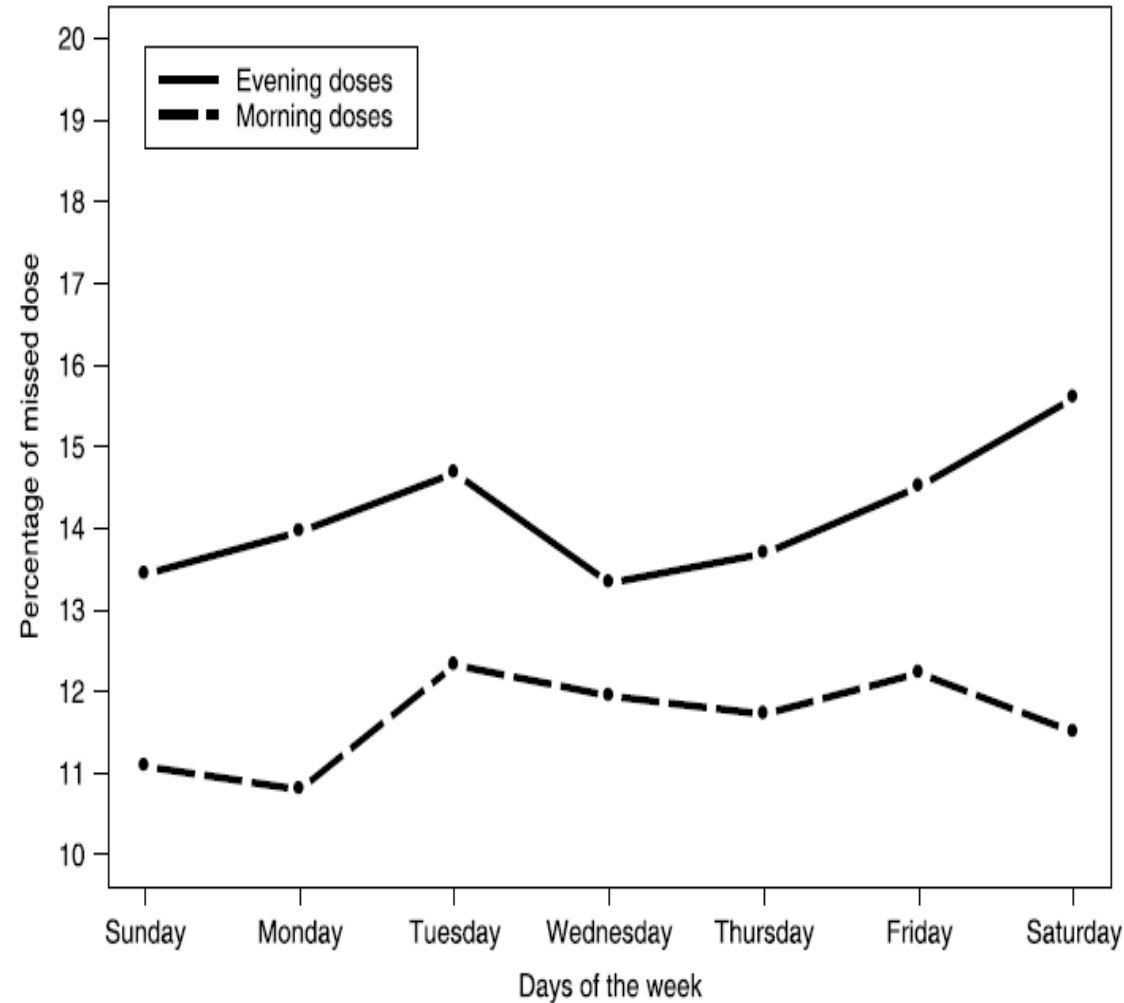
health beliefs and literacy

# Improvements in correct dosing after conversion from TAC to ADV (n=219 pts) ADMIRAD study



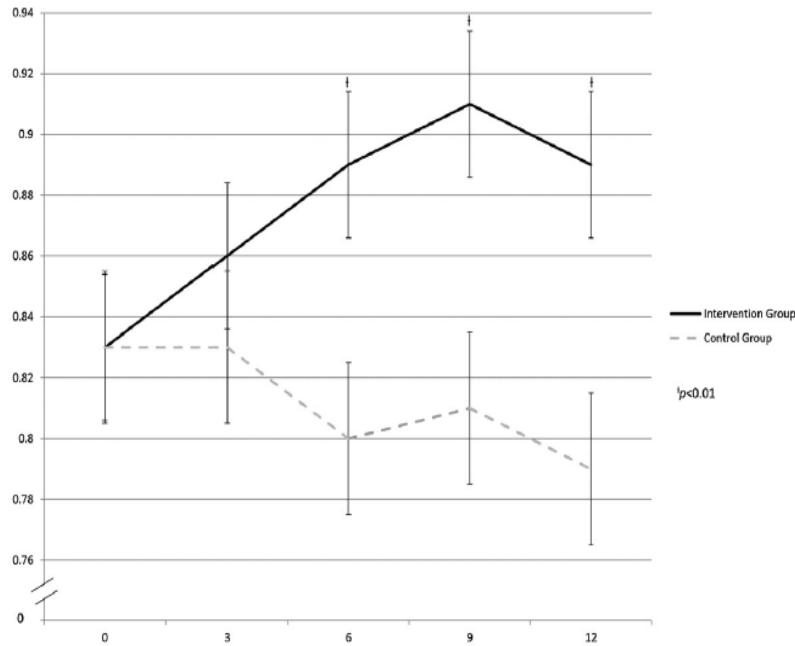
The implementation of each dosing regimen represented by the day-to-day

# Percentage of missed doses by days of the week and morning/evening doses for tacrolimus BID

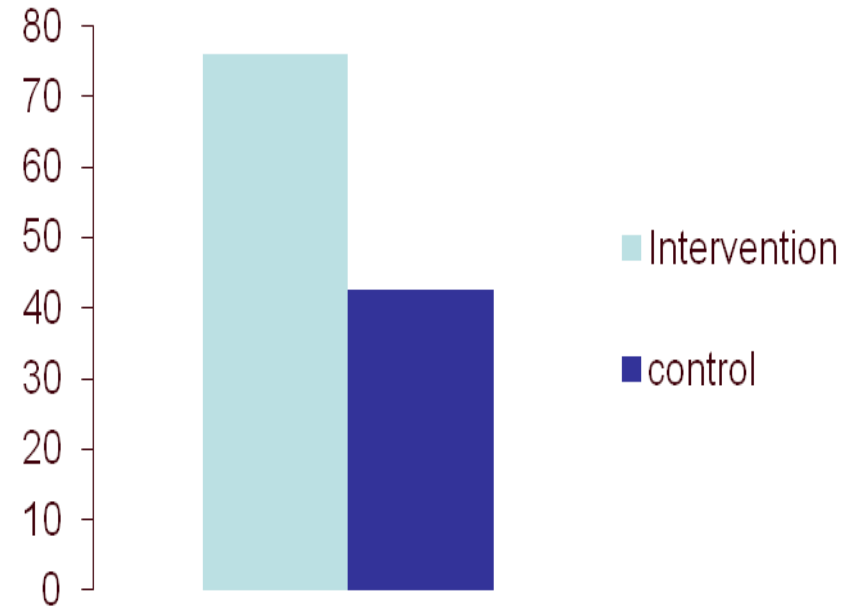


# Prospective randomized study: adherence contract vs conventional follow up

Adherence (pharmacy refill records)



Probability (%) NOT to be hospitalized



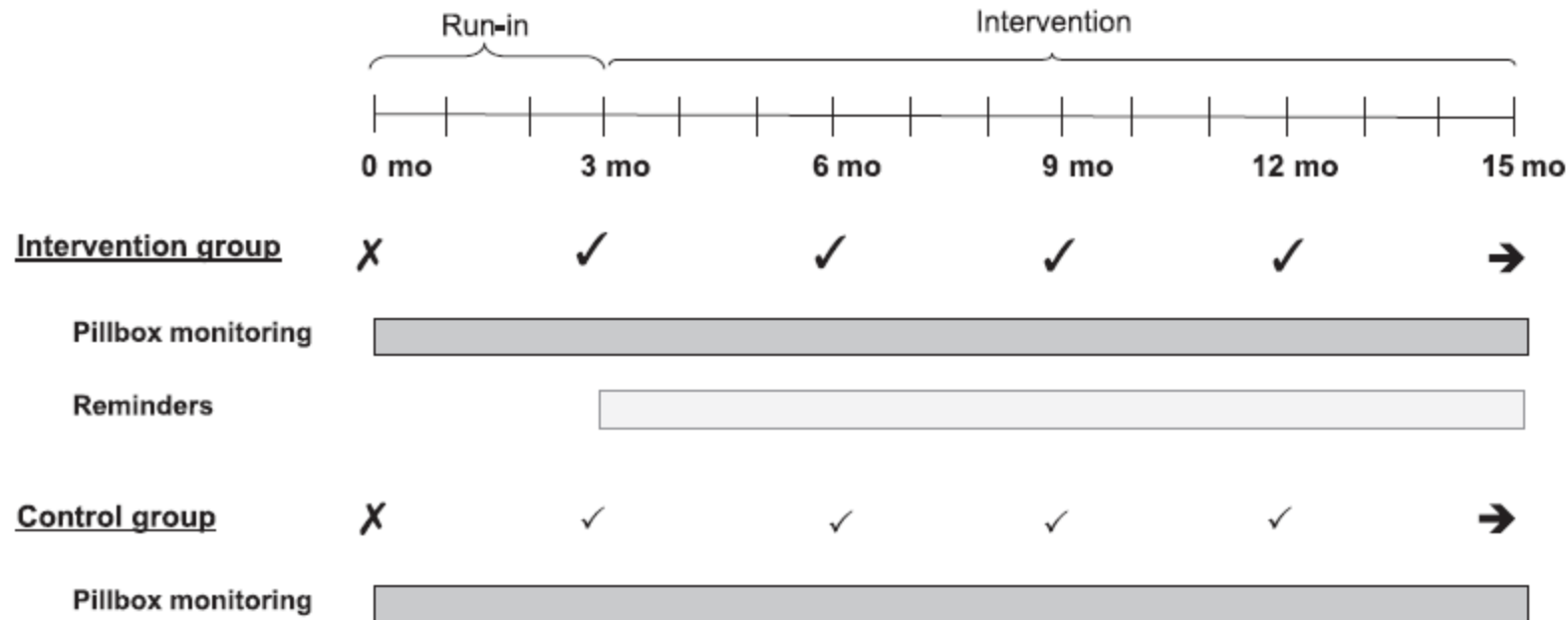
Immunosuppressant therapy (IST) adherence rates in the intervention group compared to the control group.



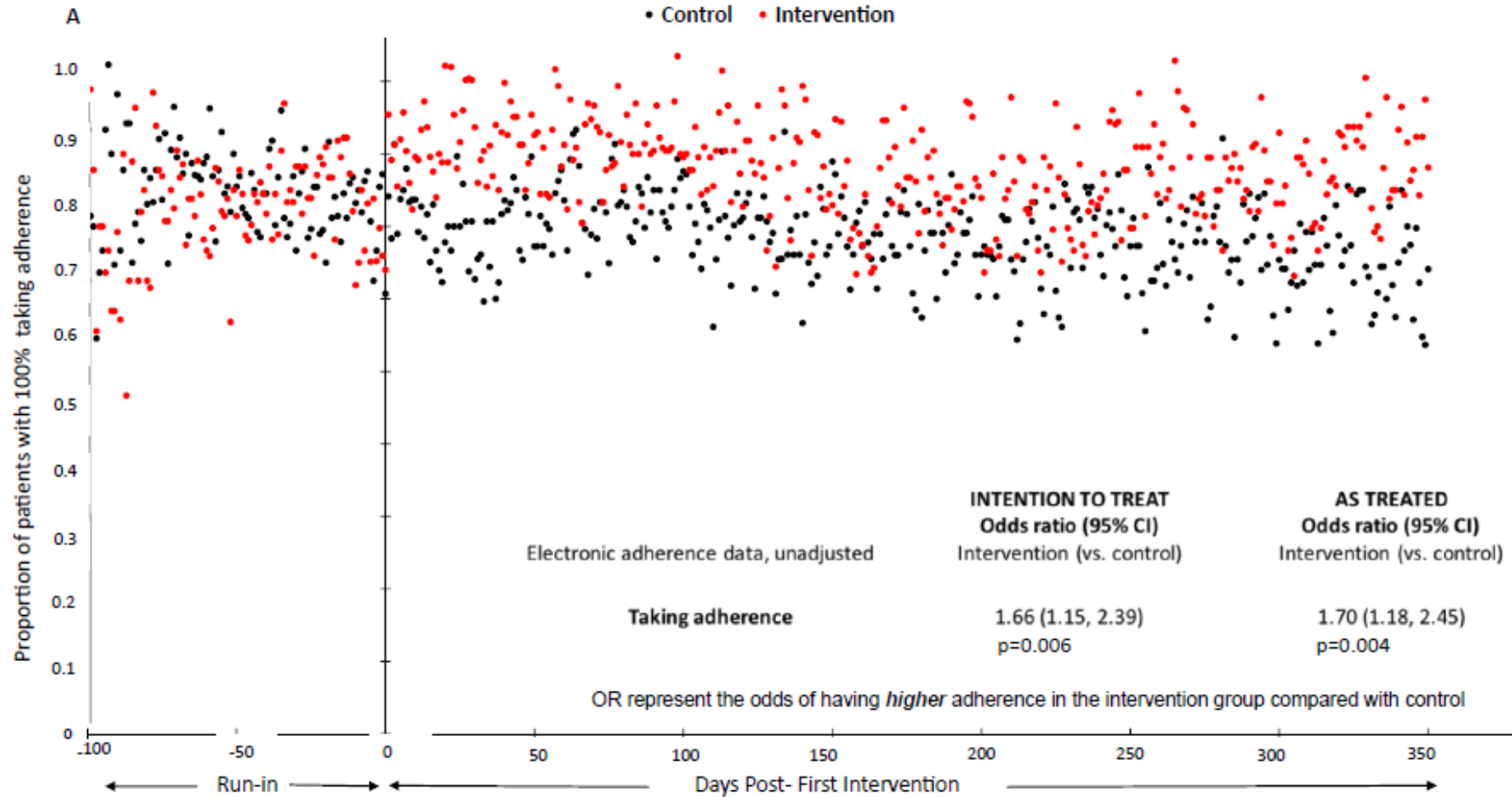
# Randomized trial of a multicomponent intervention to promote medication adherence

The Teen Adherence in Kidney Transplant Effectiveness of intervention trial  
(TAKE IT)

Intervention 81, control 88



# Taking adherence



# Conclusions

ADV de novo same efficacy as PGF de novo

TAC levels should be  $> 5$  ng/ml if the patient is taking MMF2g/d

TAC levels should be  $> 7$  ng/ml if the patient is taking MMF 1g/d

High VAR and time below TR is associated with poorer outcome

High C/D is associated with nephrotoxicity

Non-adherence decreases after slow-release TAC conversion and multicompetent intervention

- For full prescribing information of Prograf™ and Advagraf™ please refer to Astellas medical representative.
  - Adverse events should be reported. Please report adverse events to
    - [pv@apint-ne.com](mailto:pv@apint-ne.com) or [safety@behestan-mfg.com](mailto:safety@behestan-mfg.com)
    - [Phone number is: +982186056520](tel:+982186056520)
- Advagraf Caps all strength- SmPC- IR- en- Mar 2020
- Prograf Caps all strength-SmPC-IR-en-Sep 2019