

Treatment of Cardiomyopathies and Genetics

Douglas Stoller, MD PhD

State of the Heart: 2nd Annual Heart and Vascular Conference

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University of Nebraska
Medical Center



Nebraska
Medicine

Disclosures

I am on the speakers' bureau (nonbranded) for Bristol Myers Squibb.
I have previously served on advisory boards for Bristol Myers Squibb.

I have previously received research support from Amgen.



Objectives

1. Review guideline updates in management of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
2. Describe the mechanism and use of myosin inhibitor therapy in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
3. Explain the basics of genetic testing and family screening and surveillance



Talk Outline

Treatment of Cardiomyopathies

- Medical therapy for Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy
- Myosin inhibitor therapy
 - Obstructive HCM
 - Non-obstructive HCM
- Horizon non-invasive therapy for HCM

Genetics of Cardiomyopathies

- Explain the basics of genetic testing and family screening/surveillance





Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM) Diagnosis

*Left ventricular hypertrophy on cardiac imaging
without secondary cause*

Family Screening



Symptom Alleviation

Lifestyle
Modification



Septal Reduction
Therapy

ASA Myectomy



Shared Decision
Making

SCD Risk Stratification



+



Shared Decision
Making

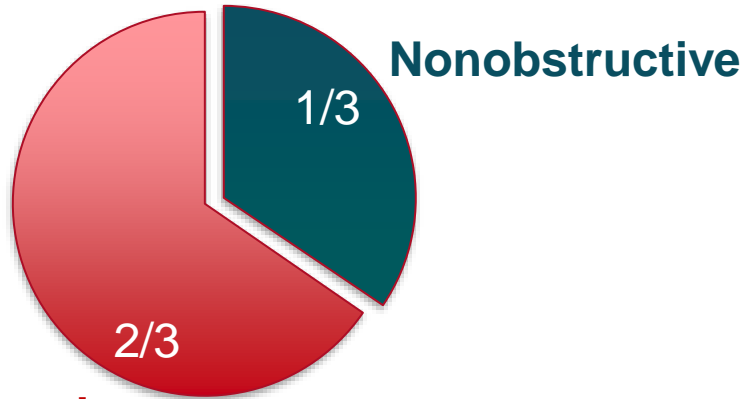


Management of Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy



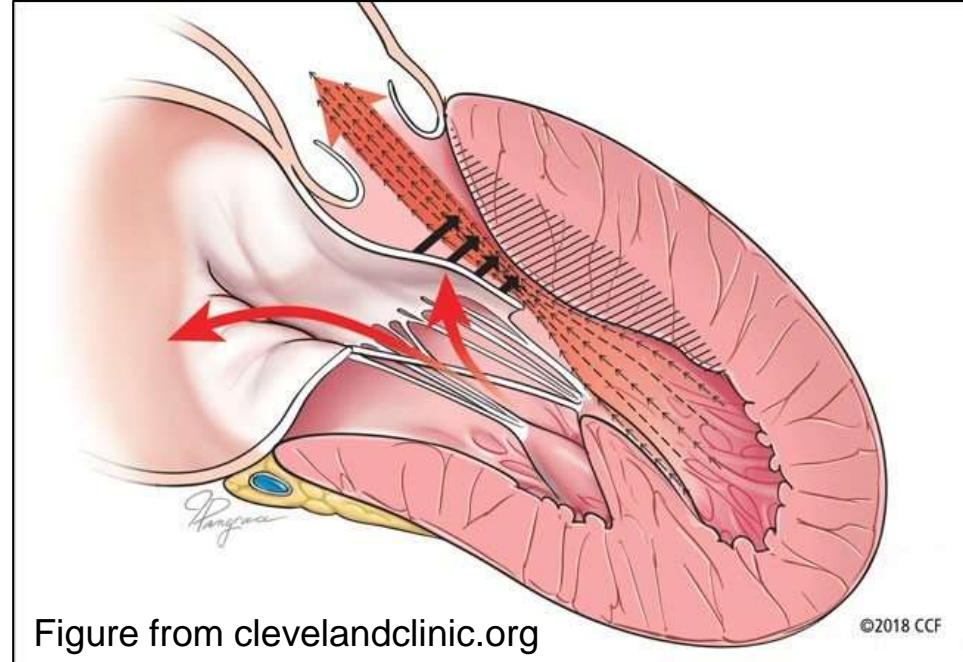
Obstructive vs Nonobstructive

LV outflow tract (LVOT) obstruction = pressure difference between LV and aorta due to myocardial obstruction (not a fixed obstruction)



Obstructive

LVOT gradient >30 mmHg
50:50 rest/provokable



Symptom management overview

OBSTRUCTIVE

NON-OBSTRUCTIVE



Recommendations for Pharmacological Management of Symptomatic Patients With Obstructive HCM

Referenced studies that support the recommendations are summarized in the [Online Data Supplement](#).

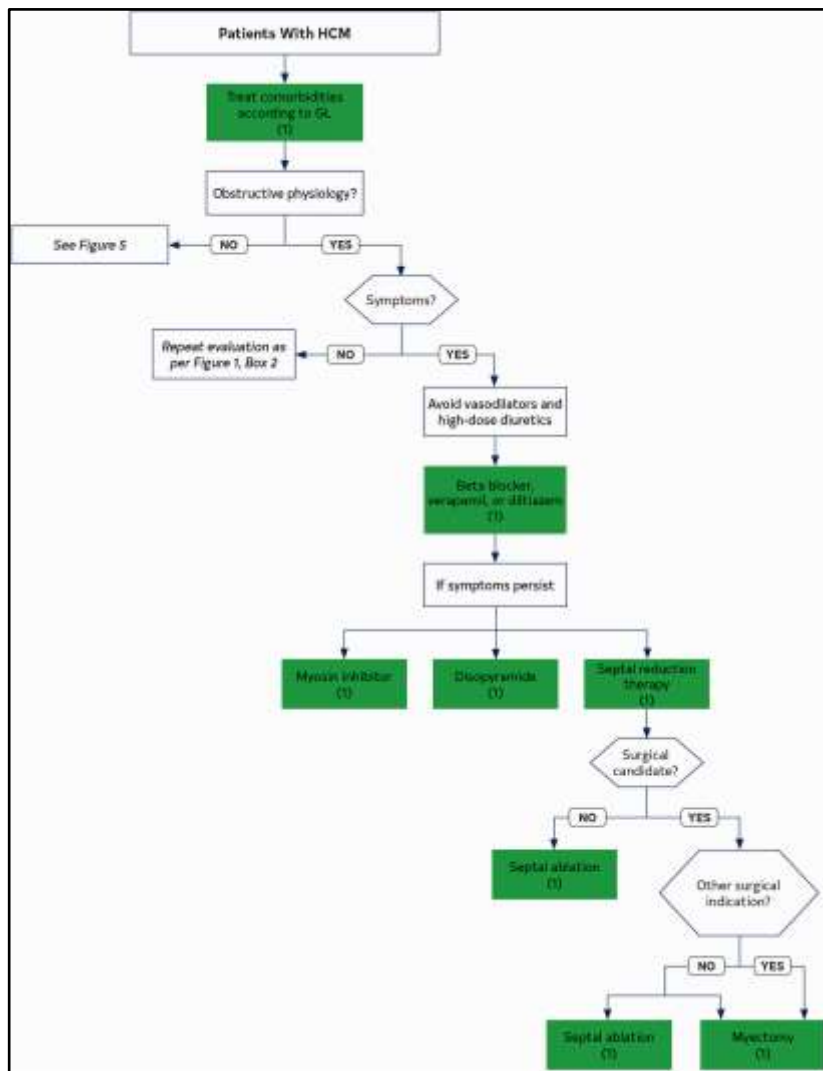
COR	LOE	Recommendations
1	B-NR	1. In patients with obstructive HCM and symptoms* attributable to LVOTO, nonvasodilating beta blockers, titrated to effectiveness or maximally tolerated doses, are recommended. ¹⁻³
1	B-NR†	2. In patients with obstructive HCM and symptoms* attributable to LVOTO, for whom beta blockers are ineffective or not tolerated, substitution with nondihydropyridine calcium channel blockers (eg, verapamil, † diltiazem‡) is recommended. ⁴⁻⁶
	C-LD‡	
1	B-R	3. For patients with obstructive HCM who have persistent symptoms* attributable to LVOTO despite beta blockers or nondihydropyridine calcium channel blockers, adding a myosin inhibitor (adult patients only), or disopyramide (in combination with an atrioventricular nodal blocking agent), or SRT performed at experienced centers,§ is recommended. ⁷⁻¹⁴
1	C-LD	4. For patients with obstructive HCM and acute hypotension who do not respond to fluid administration, intravenous phenylephrine (or other vasoconstrictors without inotropic activity), alone or in combination with beta-blocking drugs, is recommended. ¹⁵

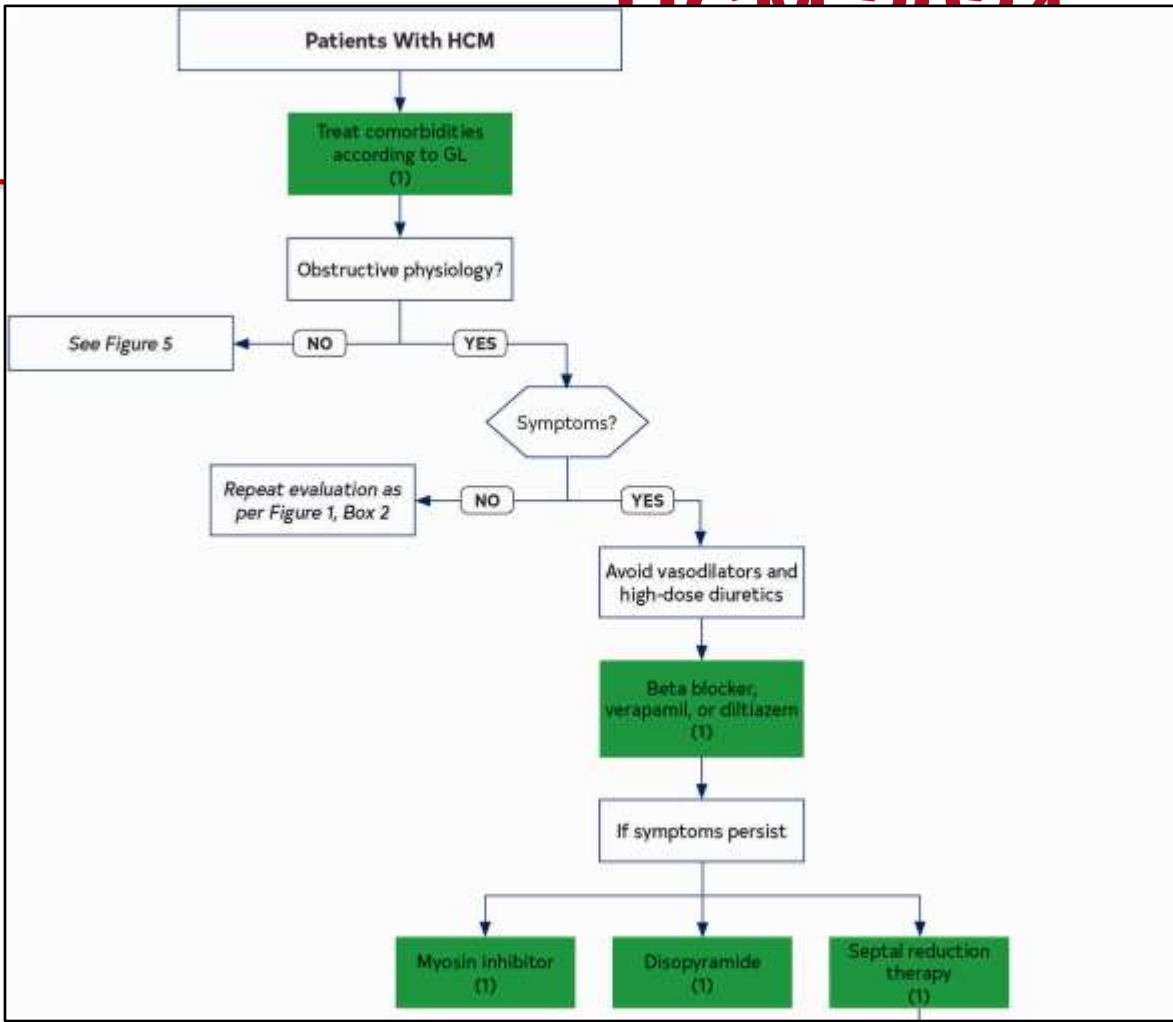
HCM 2024 Guideline update

2b	C-EO	5. For patients with obstructive HCM and persistent dyspnea with clinical evidence of volume overload and high left-sided filling pressures despite other HCM GDMT, cautious use of low-dose oral diuretics may be considered.
2b	C-EO	6. For patients with obstructive HCM, discontinuation of vasodilators (eg, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, angiotensin receptor blockers, dihydropyridine calcium channel blockers) or digoxin may be reasonable because these agents can worsen symptoms caused by dynamic outflow tract obstruction.
3: Harm	C-LD	7. For patients with obstructive HCM and severe dyspnea at rest, hypotension, very high resting gradients (eg, >100 mm Hg), as well as all children <6 weeks of age, verapamil is potentially harmful. ^{4,16}



HCM 2024 Guideline update



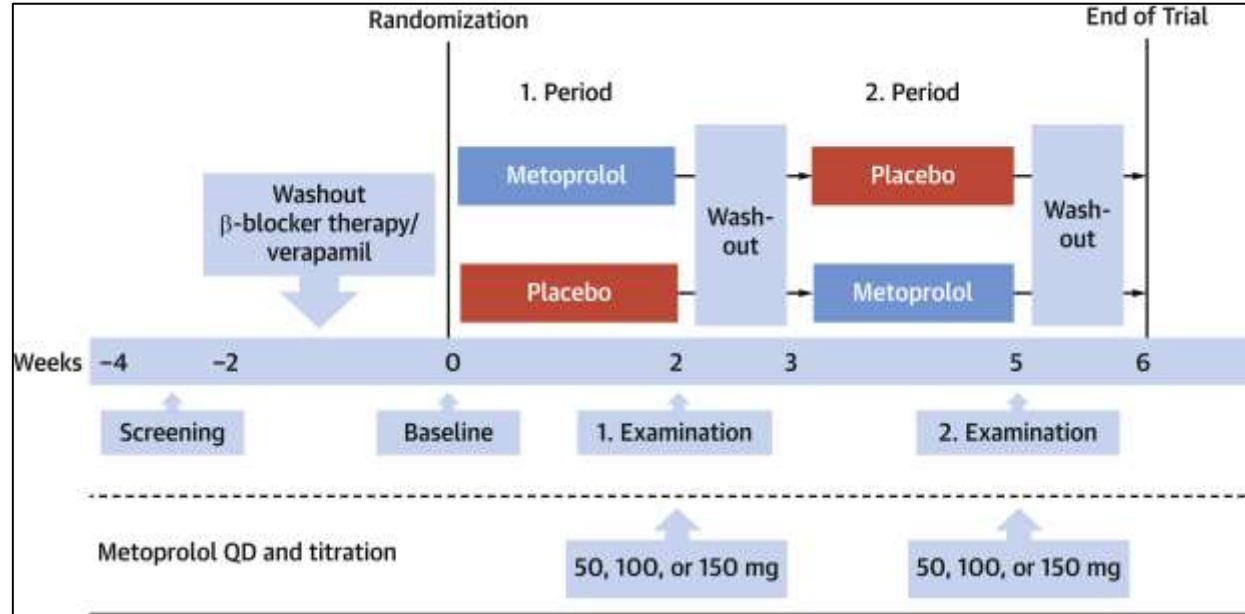


Metoprolol XL in obstructive HCM

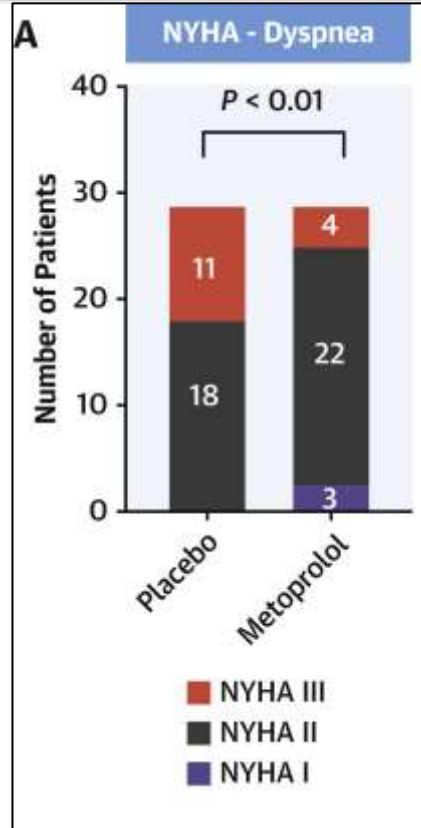
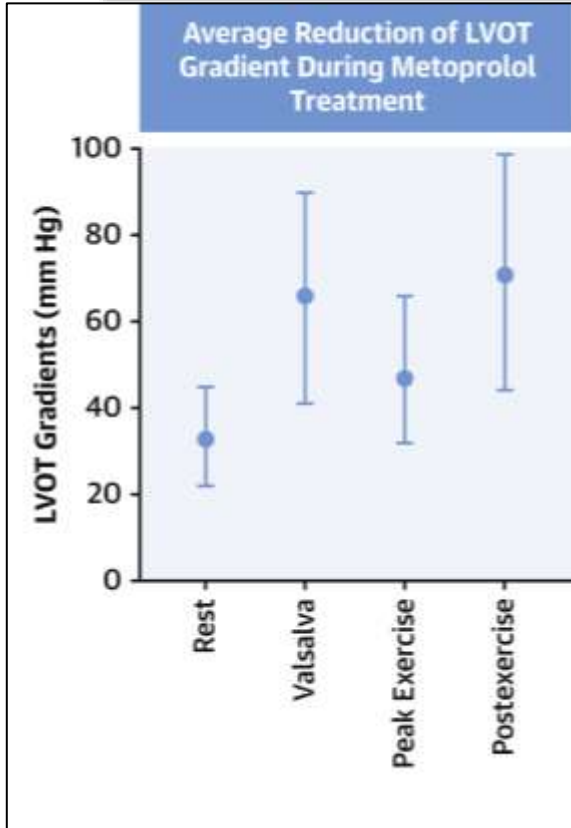
Obstructive HCM
LVOT >30 rest or >50 stress
NYHA II+

N=30

Metoprolol 50-150 mg daily
Treat x14 days



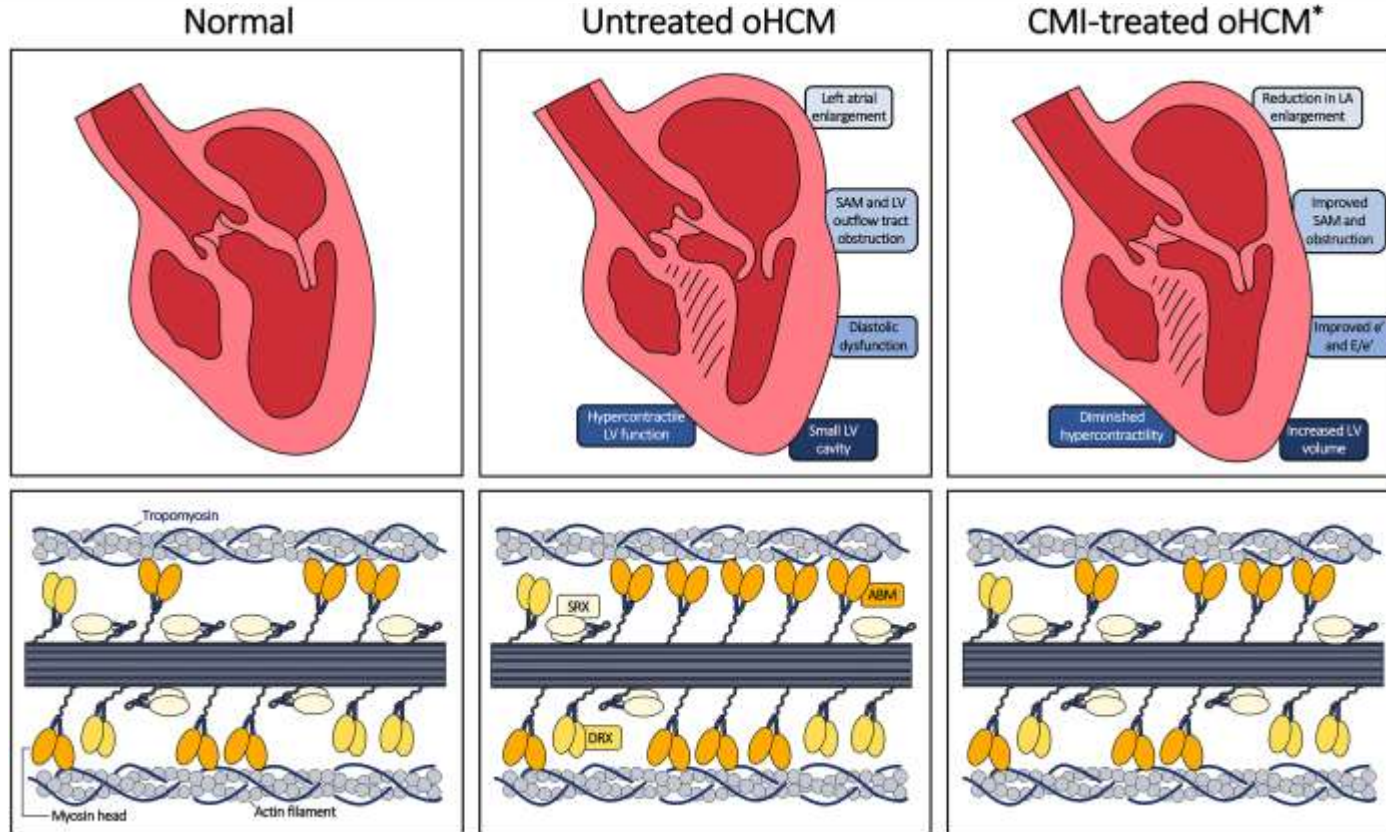
Metoprolol XL in obstructive HCM



Metoprolol XL x14 days →
1. Significant LVOT grad reduction
2. Improved NYHA class



Myosin inhibitors



Ostrominski et al.
JACC-HF 2023



Mavacamten

- Reversible inhibitor of cardiac specific myosin
- FDA approved for treatment of obstructive HCM

- Published clinical trials of mavacamten
 - Obstructive HCM (EXPLORER-HCM (phase 3), Olivotto et al. *Lancet* 2020)
 - Severe obstructive HCM (VALOR-HCM (phase 3), Desai et al. *JACC* 2022)
 - Nonobstructive HCM (MAVERICK-HCM (phase 2), Ho et al. *JACC* 2020)

- Ongoing clinical trials of mavacamten
 - Nonobstructive HCM (ODYSSEY-HCM (phase 3)), closed to enrollment
 - HFpEF (EMBARC-HFpEF (phase 2a)), closed to enrollment



Aficamten

- Reversible inhibitor of cardiac specific myosin
- Published clinical trials of aficamten
 - Obstructive HCM (SEQUOIA-HCM (phase 3), Olivotto et al. *NEJM* 2024)
 - Nonobstructive HCM (FOREST-HCM cohort 4 (phase 2), Masri et al. *JCF* 2024)
- Ongoing clinical trials of aficamten
 - Obstructive HCM, aficamten vs metoprolol (MAPLE-HCM (phase 3)), recruiting
 - Nonobstructive HCM (ACACIA-HCM, (phase 3)), recruiting



EXPLORER-HCM trial

Obstructive HCM

LVOT grad >50, NYHA II-III

Continued on prior medical monotherapy (BB or CCB). No disopyramide.

N=251

Treated for 30 weeks

Primary Endpoint:

1.5+ mL/kg/min increase in peak VO₂
AND NYHA class reduction

OR

3.0+ mL/kg/min increase in peak VO₂

	Mavacamten (n=123)	Control (n=128)	
Primary endpoint	45/123 (37%)	22/128 (17%)	p=0.0005
Peak VO ₂ 1.5+ml/kg/min +NYHA improvement	41/123 (33%)	18/128 (14%)	
Peak VO ₂ 3.0 ml/kg/min	29/123 (24%)	14/128 (11%)	



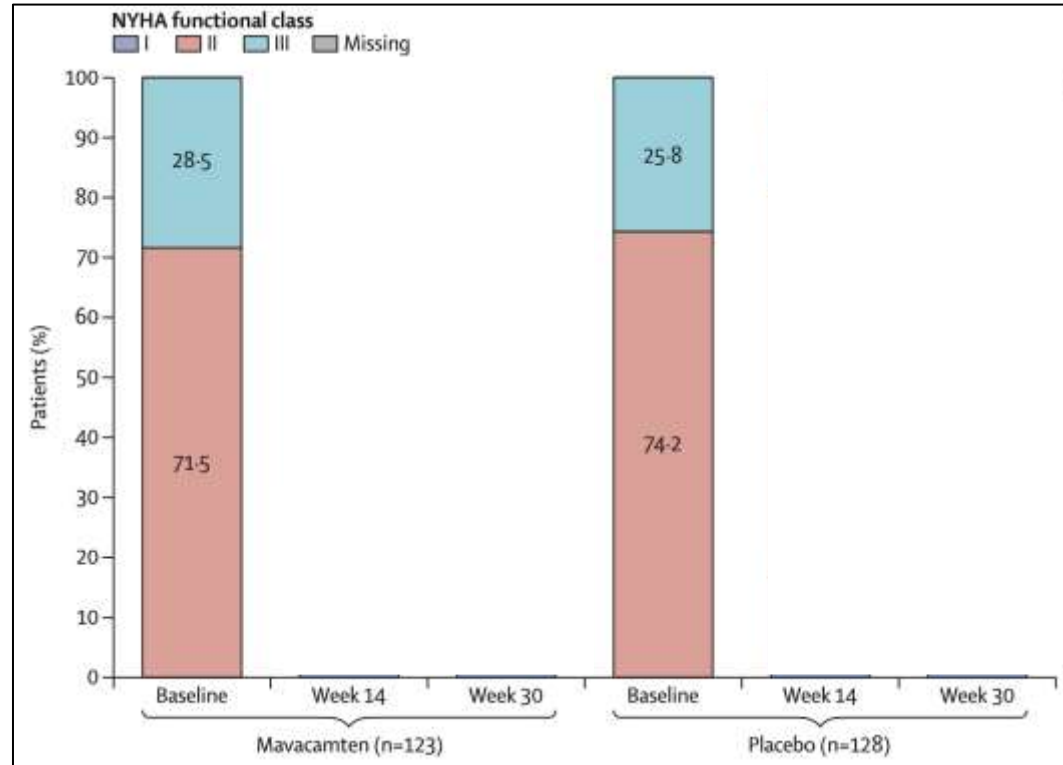
EXPLORER-HCM trial

Obstructive HCM

LVOT grad >50, NYHA II-III

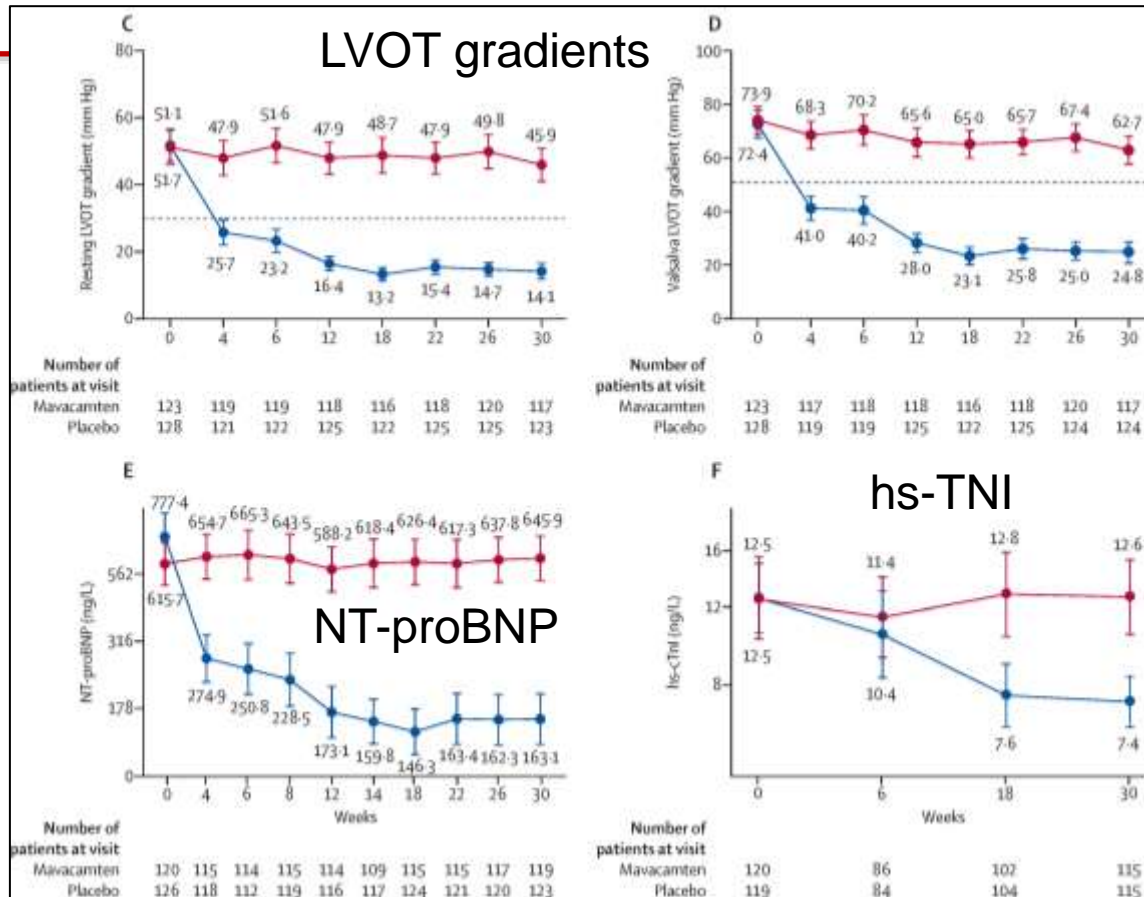
N=251

Impact on NYHA class change:

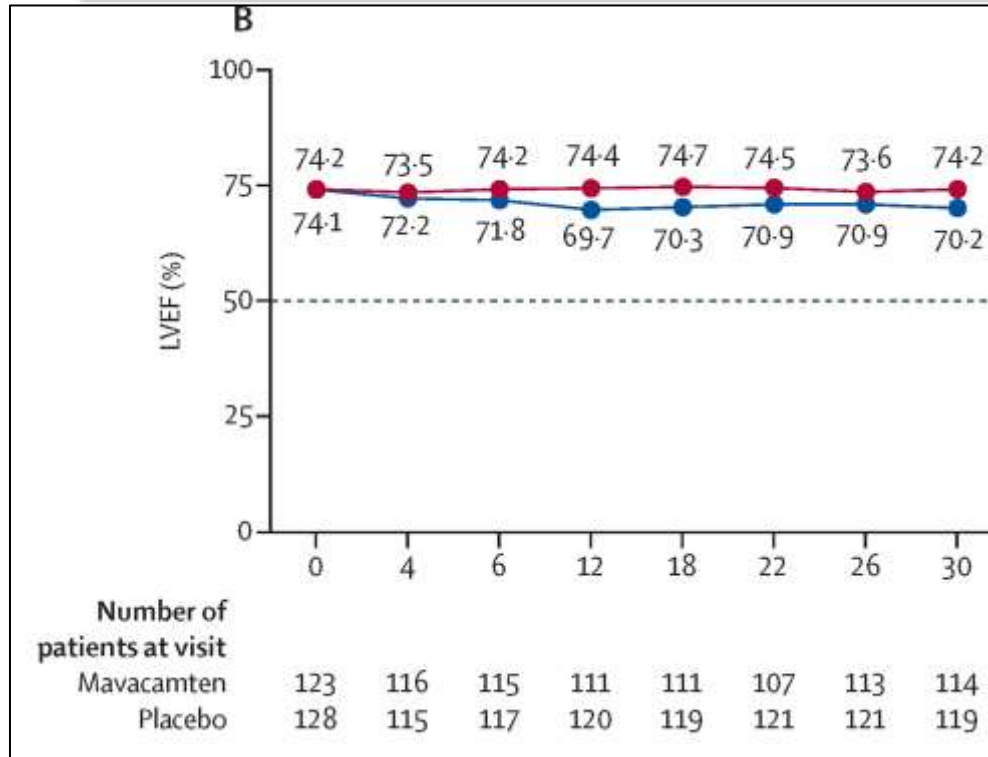


EXPLORER-HCM trial

Obstructive HCM
 LVOT grad >50, NYHA II-III
 N=251



EXPLORER-HCM trial safety events



Obstructive HCM

LVOT grad >50, NYHA II-III

N=251

For mavacamten:

> 7/123 (5.7%) had EF drop requiring adjustment

> 3/123 (2.4%) required drug stop

> All recovered EF after washout

> Side effects >5%: syncope (27%), dizziness (6%)



SEQUOIA-HCM trial

Obstructive HCM

EF 60, LVOT grad >30 rest, >50 valsalva
NYHA II-III

Continued on background medical therapy

N=282

Treated for 24 weeks

Primary Endpoint:

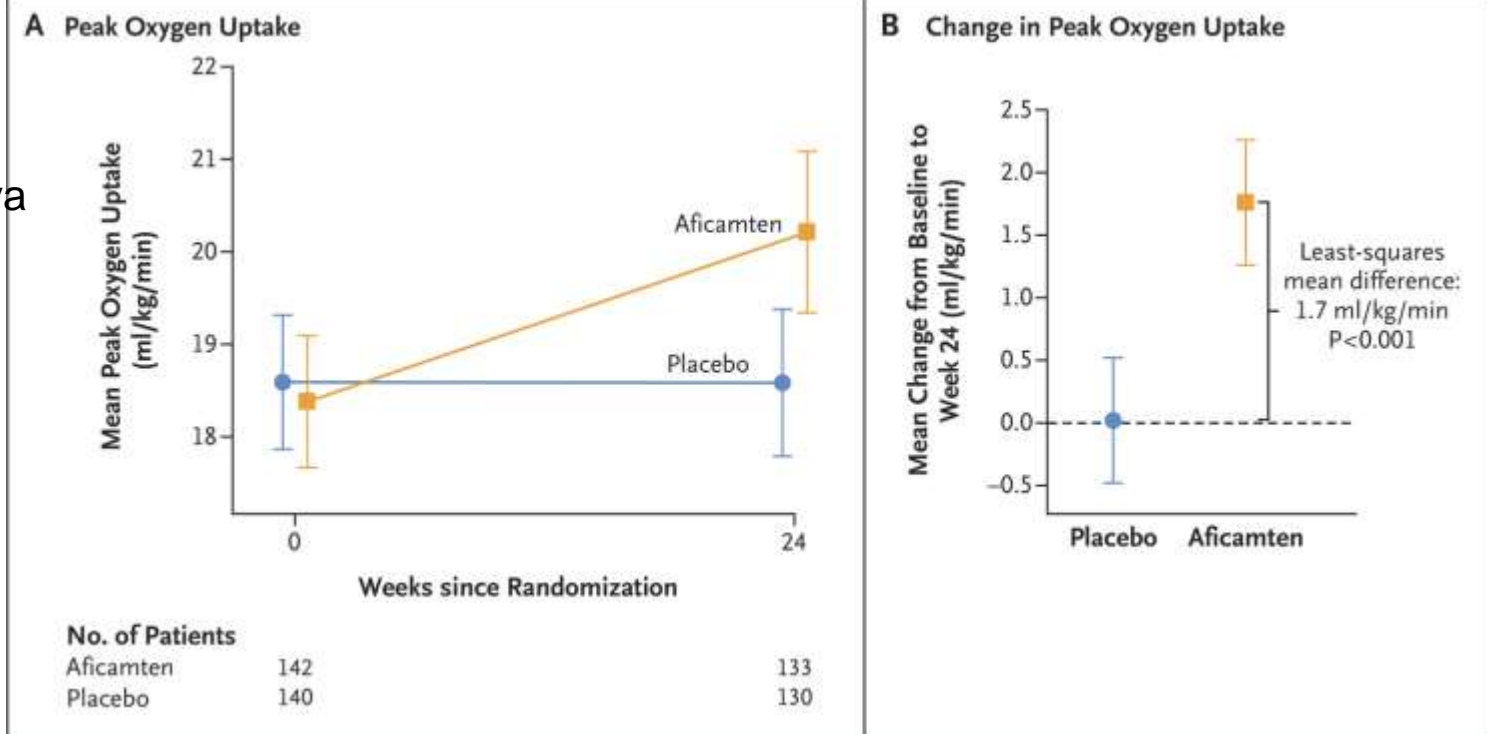
Change in peak VO₂

	Aficamten (n=142)	Control (n=140)	
Change in peak VO ₂	1.7 ml/kg/min	0.0 ml/kg/min	P<0.001



SEQUOIA-HCM trial

Obstructive HCM
EF 60
LVOTg >30 rest
LVOTg >50 Valsalva
NYHA II-III



Mavacamten and Aficamten have similar clinical impact

	Mavacamten	Aficamten
Change in VO2 (ml/kg/min)	1.4	1.7
LVOT gradient (mmHg)	-47	-48
Change in KCCQ score	13.6	11
Reduction of 1 NYHA class (%)	65	59
EF <50% (incidence)	5.7%	3.6%
	FDA approved	Quicker titration
		Fewer drug-drug interactions



VALOR-HCM trial

Obstructive HCM

Severe sx (NYHA III/IV or II+syncope

Maximal med therapy

LVOT grad >50, LVEF >60

REFERRED for septal reduction therapy

N=112

Primary Endpoint:

Decision to proceed with SRT or guideline eligible at week 16

	Mavacamten (n=56)	Control (n=56)	
Primary endpoint	10/56 (18%)	43/56 (77%)	P<0.001
Proceeded with SRT	2/56 (4%)	2/56 (4%)	
Guideline eligible for SRT	8/56 (14%)	39/56 (70%)	



Myosin Inhibitors – Do's and Don'ts

CONTRAINDICATED: LVEF <55%

Prescribing providers must complete REMS certification and documentation. Provide echo monitoring minimum of q3 months.

Be mindful of drug-drug interactions



HCM and NONobstructive HCM

Recommendations for Management of Patients With Nonobstructive HCM With Preserved EF

Referenced studies that support the recommendations are summarized in the [Online Data Supplement](#).

COR	LOE	Recommendations
1	C-LD	1. In patients with nonobstructive HCM with preserved EF and symptoms of exertional angina or dyspnea, beta blockers or nondihydropyridine calcium channel blockers are recommended. ¹⁻⁶
2a	C-EO	2. In patients with nonobstructive HCM with preserved EF, it is reasonable to add oral diuretics when exertional dyspnea persists despite the use of beta blockers or nondihydropyridine calcium channel blockers.

2b	C-LD	3. In patients with nonobstructive HCM with preserved EF, the usefulness of angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and angiotensin receptor blockers in the treatment of symptoms (angina and dyspnea) is not well established. ⁶
2b	C-LD	4. In highly selected patients with apical HCM with severe dyspnea or angina (NYHA functional class III or class IV) despite maximal medical therapy, and with preserved EF and small LV cavity size (LV end-diastolic volume <50 mL/m ² and LV stroke volume <30 mL/m ²), apical myectomy by experienced surgeons at comprehensive centers may be considered to reduce symptoms. ⁷
2b	C-EO	5. In asymptomatic patients with nonobstructive HCM, the benefit of beta blockers or calcium channel blockers is not well established.
2b	B-R	6. For younger (eg, ≤45 years of age) patients with nonobstructive HCM due to a pathogenic or likely pathogenic cardiac sarcomere genetic variant, and a mild phenotype,* valsartan may be beneficial to slow adverse cardiac remodeling. ⁸

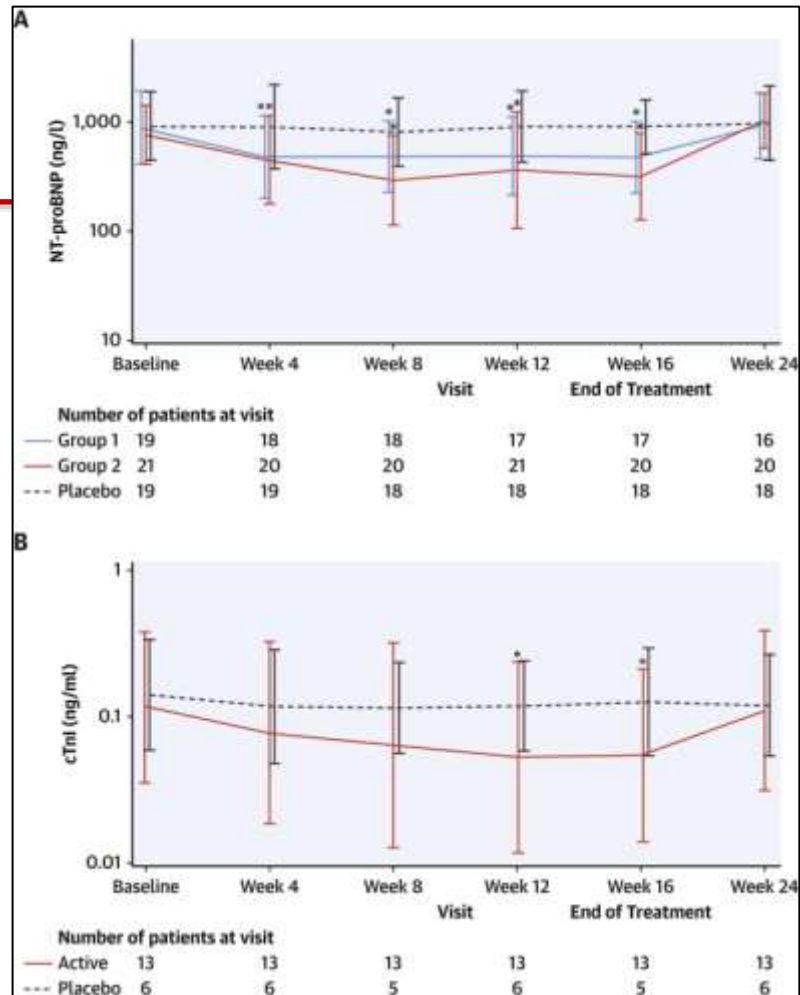
MAVERICK-HCM trial

Mavacamten in Nonobstructive HCM

N=59

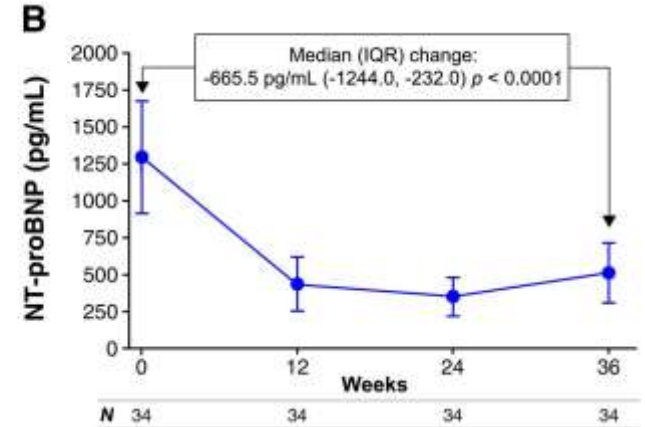
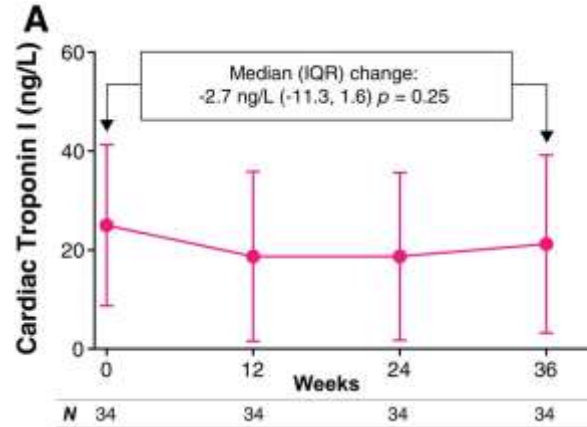
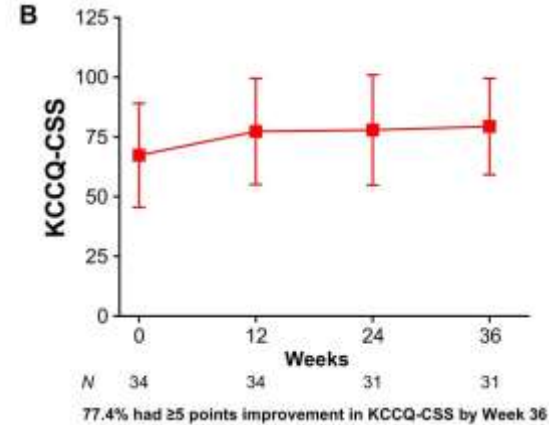
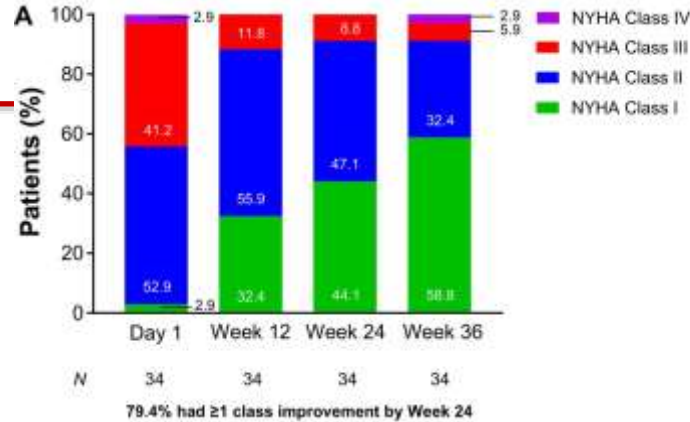
EF >55% and NTproBNP >300

Treated patients exhibited a reversible drop in cardiac troponin and NT-proBNP



FOREST-HCM

Aficamten
 Nonobstructive HCM
 N=34
 EF >55%

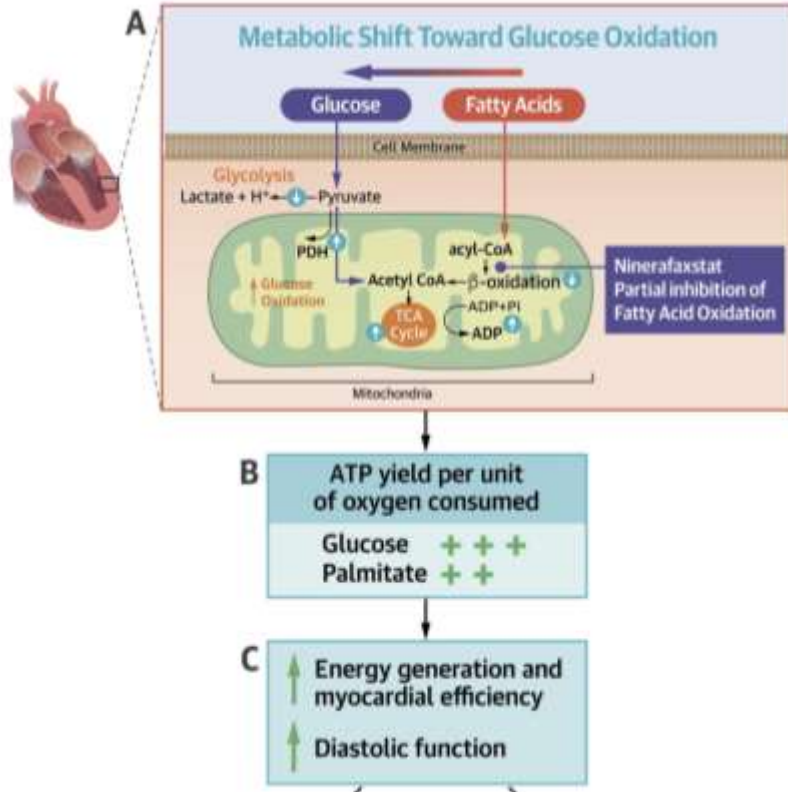


Phase 3 trials: myosin inhibitor in nonobstructive HCM

ODYSSEY-HCM	ACACIA-HCM
Mavacamten	Aficamten
EF >60, LVOT <50 Valsalva, NYHA II-III, (+) biomarkers	
48 weeks	36 weeks
Change in KCCQ Change in peak VO2	Change in KCCQ
Ongoing, closed to enrollment	Recruiting



Ninerafaxstat for Nonobstructive HCM



Ninerafaxstat

- Inhibits FA oxidation
- Shifts metabolism FA > glucose oxidation (less O₂ per ATP unit)
- Enhances cardiac efficiency by increasing recoupling of glucose oxidation and greater energy generation.



Ninerafaxstat for Nonobstructive HCM

Nonobstructive HCM

N=67

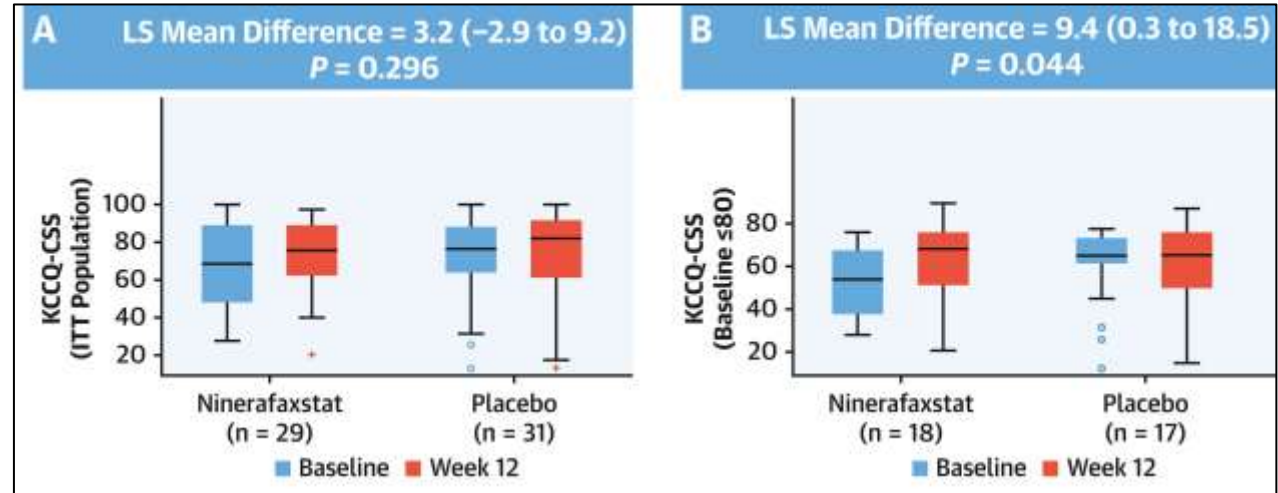
EF >50%, LVOT grad <30

Ninerafaxstat vs placebo

12 weeks

Primary endpoint was safety

Secondary endpoints
assessed exercise capacity,
biomarkers



No impact on BNP, hs-troponin



GENETIC TESTING



Genetic testing options

Gene Panel tests

- Sequencing of genes (5-100 genes for cardiac) known to cause the disease
- Coverage and depth enriched for genes of interest (often 100x depth)

Exome sequencing

- Sequencing focused on the exome (coding regions, splicing sites)
- Lower sequencing coverage and depth

Whole genome sequencing

- Sequencing of the entire genome
- Most expensive and time consuming
- Lowest sequence coverage and depth

POORLY DETECTED BY NGS

Gene duplications
Insertion/Deletions

Interpreting results of genetic testing

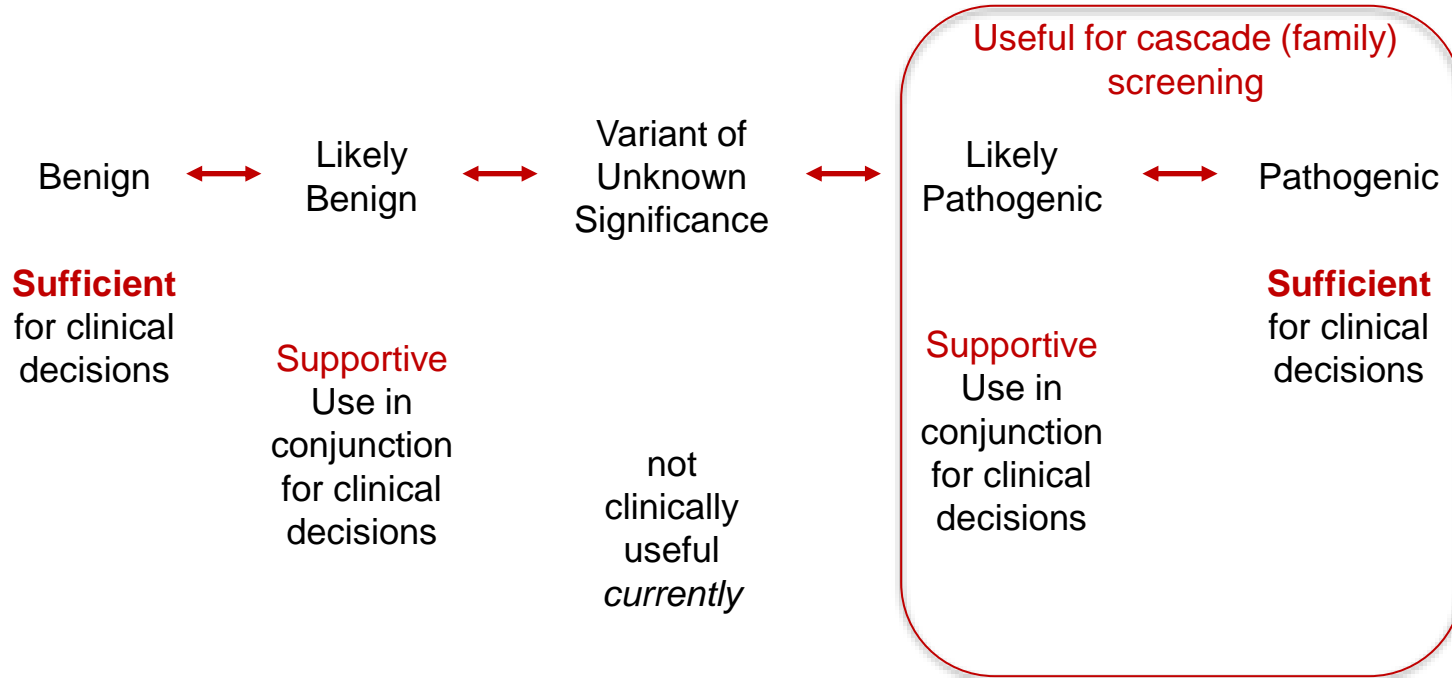


Table 1. Detection Rates and Clinical Utility of Diagnostic Genetic Testing for Selected Inherited Cardiovascular Diseases

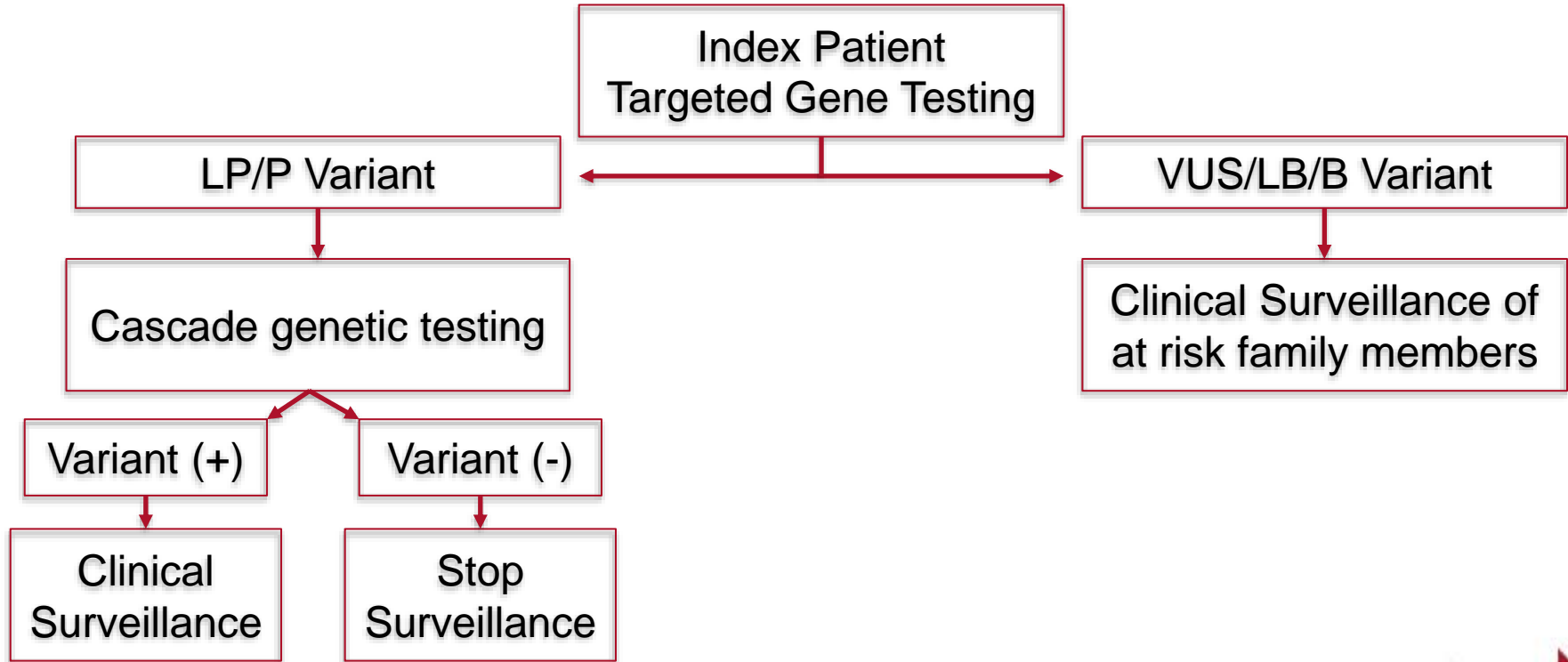
Condition	Major Genes or Gene Families Analyzed ^a	Detection Rate, % ^b	Utility of Genetic Testing		
			Diagnostic Criterion	Effect on Proband Management	Predictive Genetic Testing
Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy	Sarcomere genes	30 to >60	NA	+ ^c	Yes
Dilated cardiomyopathy	Sarcomere and cytoskeleton genes (including <i>TTN</i>)	30-40	NA	NA	Yes
	<i>LMNA</i>	<5 to 10	Yes	++ ^d	Yes
Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy	Desmosomal genes	~ 60	Yes	+	Yes
Long QT syndrome	Transmembrane ion channel genes	50-75	Yes	++	Yes
Catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia	<i>RYR2</i> , <i>CASQ2</i> , <i>TRDN</i> , and <i>CALM1</i>	50-55	Yes	++	Yes
Brugada syndrome	<i>SCN5A</i>	20-25	NA	+	Yes
Marfan syndrome	<i>FBN1</i>	>90	Yes	++	Yes
Loeys-Dietz syndrome	<i>TGFBR1/2</i> , <i>SMAD3</i> , and <i>TGFB2/3</i>	70-90	Yes	++	Yes
Familial thoracic aortic aneurysms and dissections	<i>ACTA2</i> , <i>MYH11</i> , and <i>MYLK</i>	20-25	NA	++	Yes
Vascular Ehlers Danlos syndrome	<i>COL3A1</i>	~ 95	Yes	++	Yes
Familial hypercholesterolemia	<i>LDLR</i> , <i>APOB</i> , <i>PCSK9</i> , and <i>LDLRAP1</i>	60-80	Yes	++	Yes

Clinical Utility of Cardiac Genetic Testing

Cirino et al. *JAMA Card* 2020



How to: cascade genetic testing



Take-Home points

- Myosin inhibitors significantly reduce symptom burden in obstructive HCM. Ongoing clinical monitoring is required while on therapy.
- Clinical trials investigating myosin inhibitor therapy in nonobstructive HCM are ongoing.
- Expect clinical trials assessing benefit of myosin inhibitors in HFpEF.
- Time will tell if improved cardiac metabolism is a viable therapeutic target.
- Genetic testing is a valuable tool for family screening.



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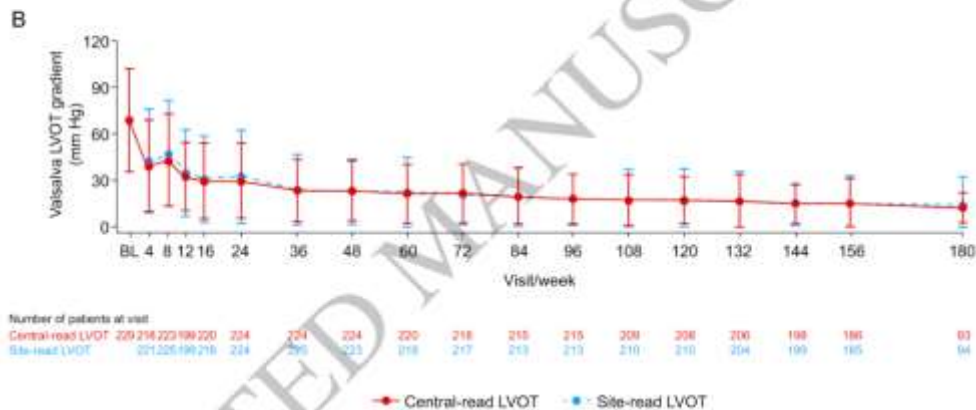
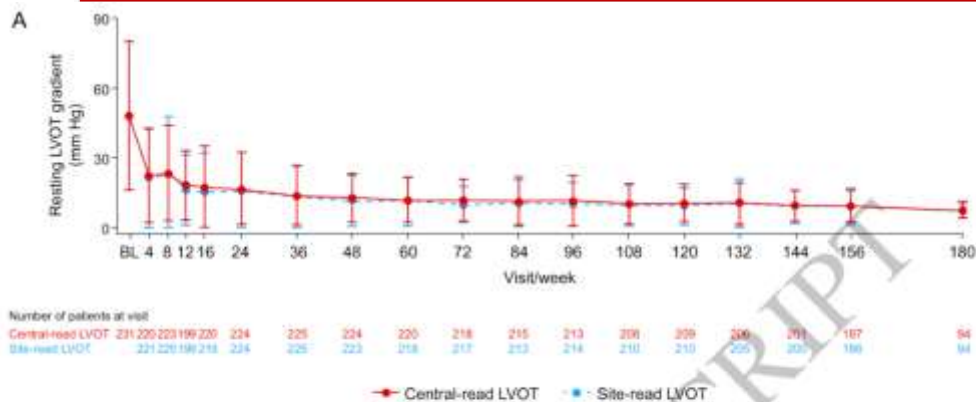


Mavacamten drug-drug interactions

- Metabolized by **CYP2C19 (74%)**, CYP3A4 (18%) and CYP2C9.

	Inhibitor (↑ exposure)	Inducer (↓ exposure)
2C19	Contraindicated for moderate or strong Down-adjust dose for weak	
	Mod/Strong: PPIs Weak: omeprazole	Mod/Strong: rifampin Weak:
3A4	Contraindicated for strong Down-adjust dose for moderate	
	Strong: ketoconazole, HIV meds Mod: verapamil, diltiazem, grapefruit juice	Strong: rifampin, phenytoin Mod: St Johns wort

Longterm followup for mavacamten



Extension of EXPLORER-HCM trial
Open label

N=231

Median followup 3.2 yrs

Mavacamten 5 mg > titration

Sustained clinical improvement

20/231 (8.7%) had incident EF<50%
at some point



SEQUOIA-HCM

Obstructive HCM

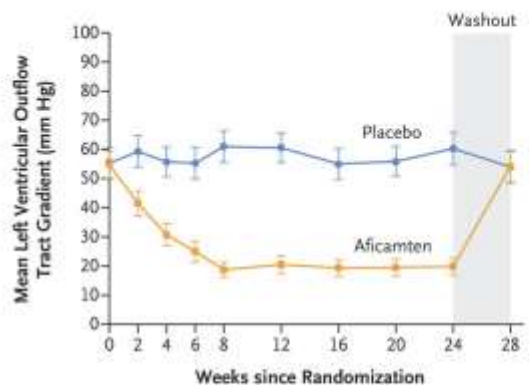
EF 60

LVOTg >30 rest

LVOTg >50 Valsalva

NYHA II-III

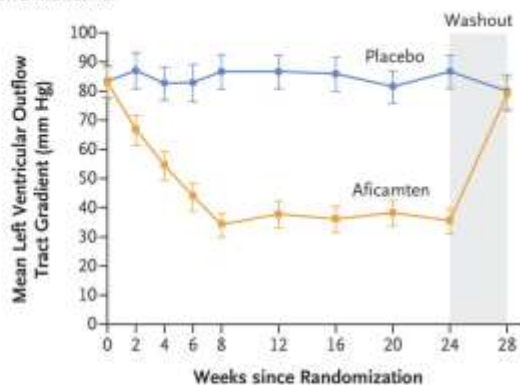
A Change in Peak Resting Left Ventricular Outflow Tract Gradient



No. of Patients

Aficamten	142	142	141	140	140	140	139	139	139	138
Placebo	140	140	140	139	138	138	136	137	137	135

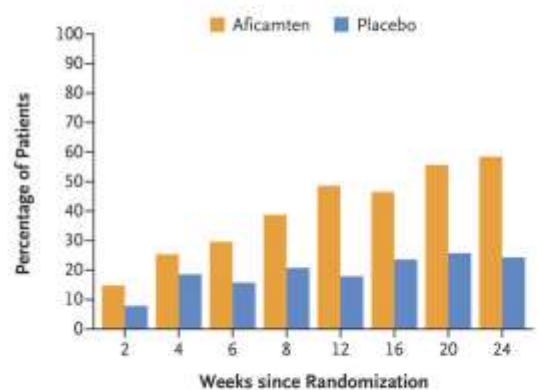
B Change in Peak Left Ventricular Outflow Tract Gradients after Valsalva Maneuver



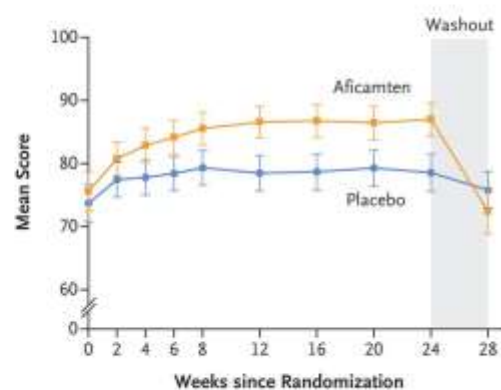
No. of Patients

Aficamten	142	142	141	140	140	140	139	139	139	138
Placebo	140	140	140	139	138	138	136	137	137	135

C Patients with Improvement of at Least One NYHA Functional Class



D Change in KCCQ-CSS



No. of Patients

Aficamten	142	142	141	140	140	140	139	139	139	138
Placebo	140	140	138	137	137	136	136	137	137	136

Mavacamten monitoring

