



**ImmunoScience Academy**

*Partnering for Education & Optimizing Treatment in ImmunoScience*

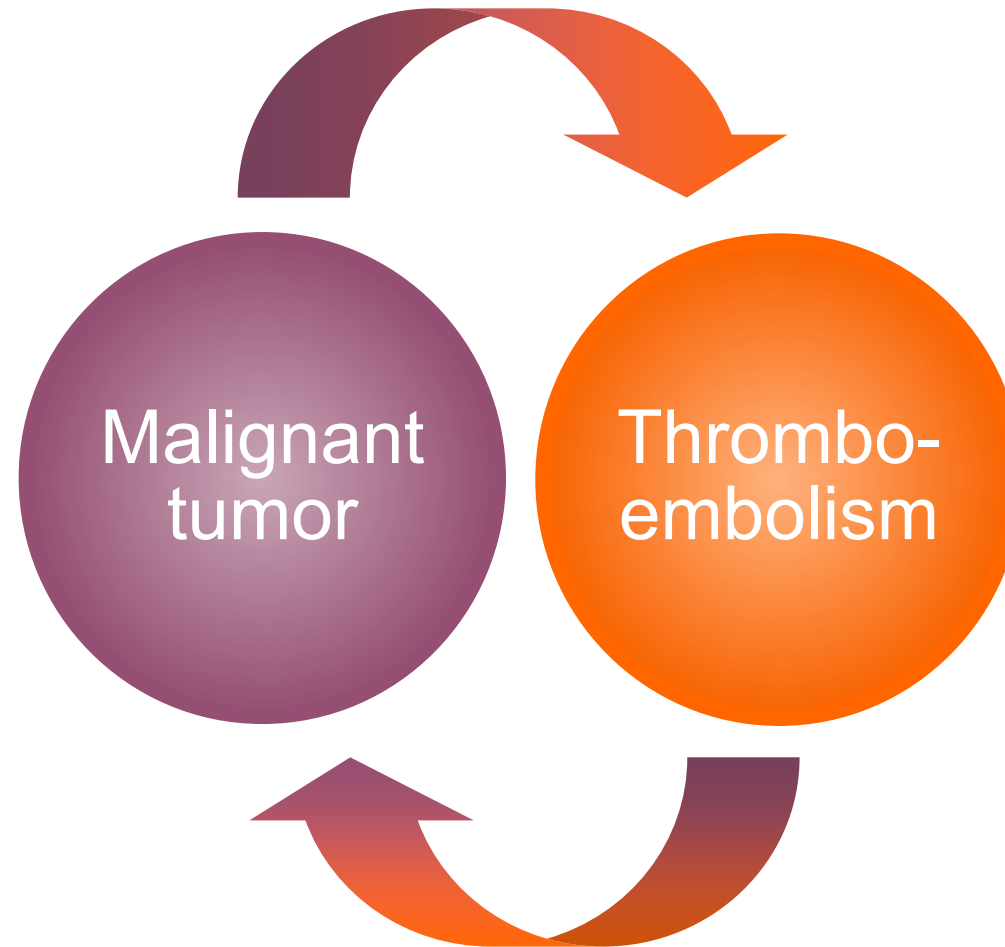
# Treatment of Cancer-Associated Thrombosis

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*Vascular Medicine and Haemostasis  
University Hospital KU Leuven*



# Thrombosis and Cancer

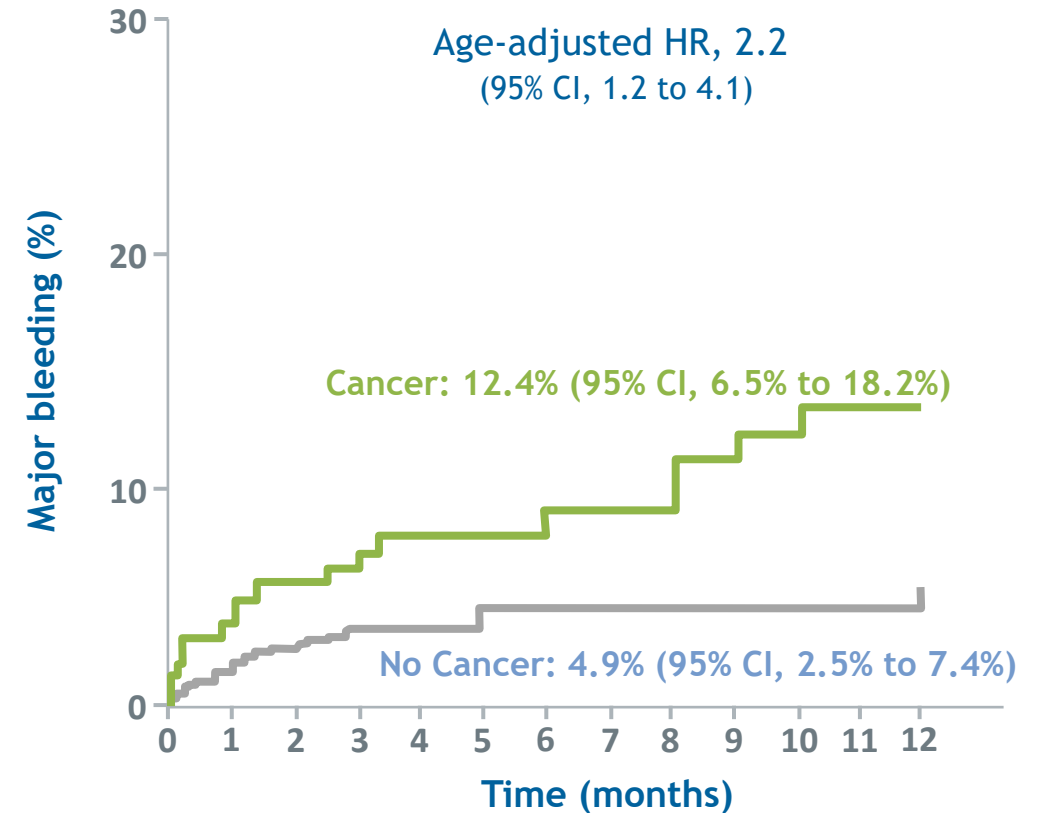
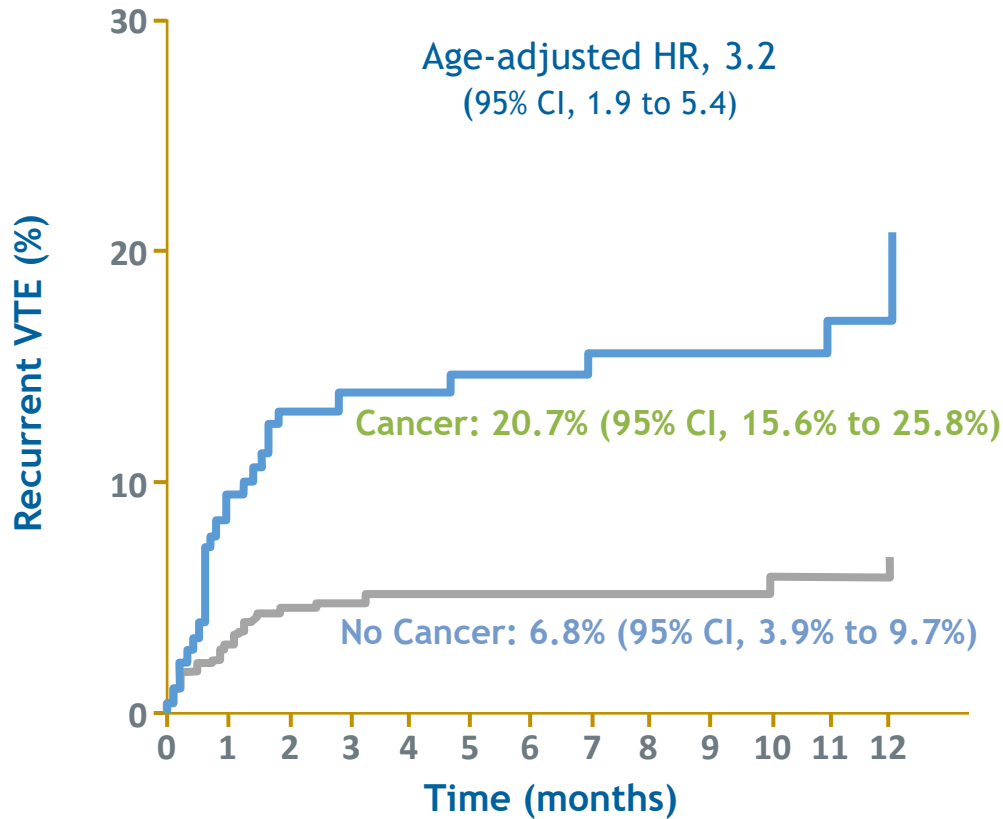


# Cancer-Associated Thrombosis: challenges

- How to treat?
- How to diagnose?
- Impact on the cancer treatment and prognosis
- When to prevent?
- Challenging clinical scenarios

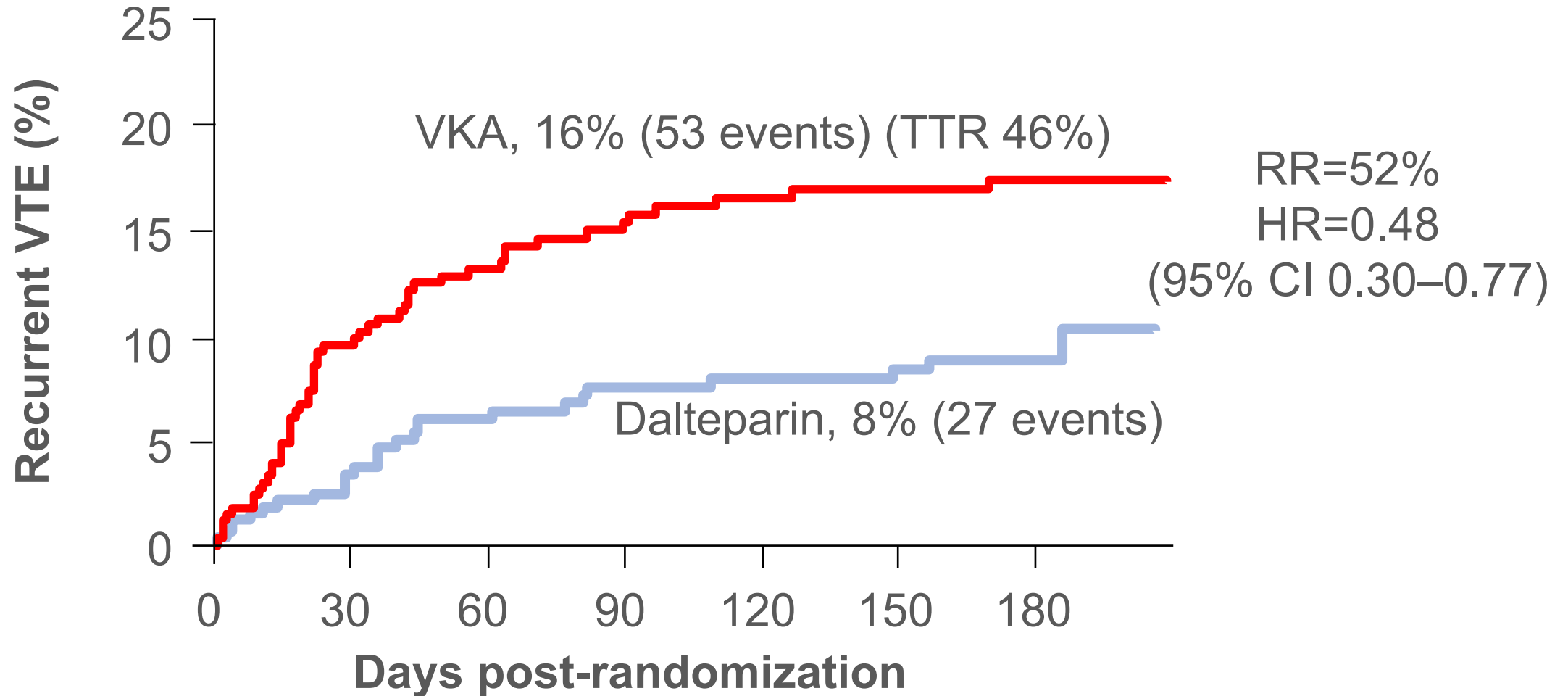


# Recurrent VTE and bleeding during anticoagulation in patients with cancer



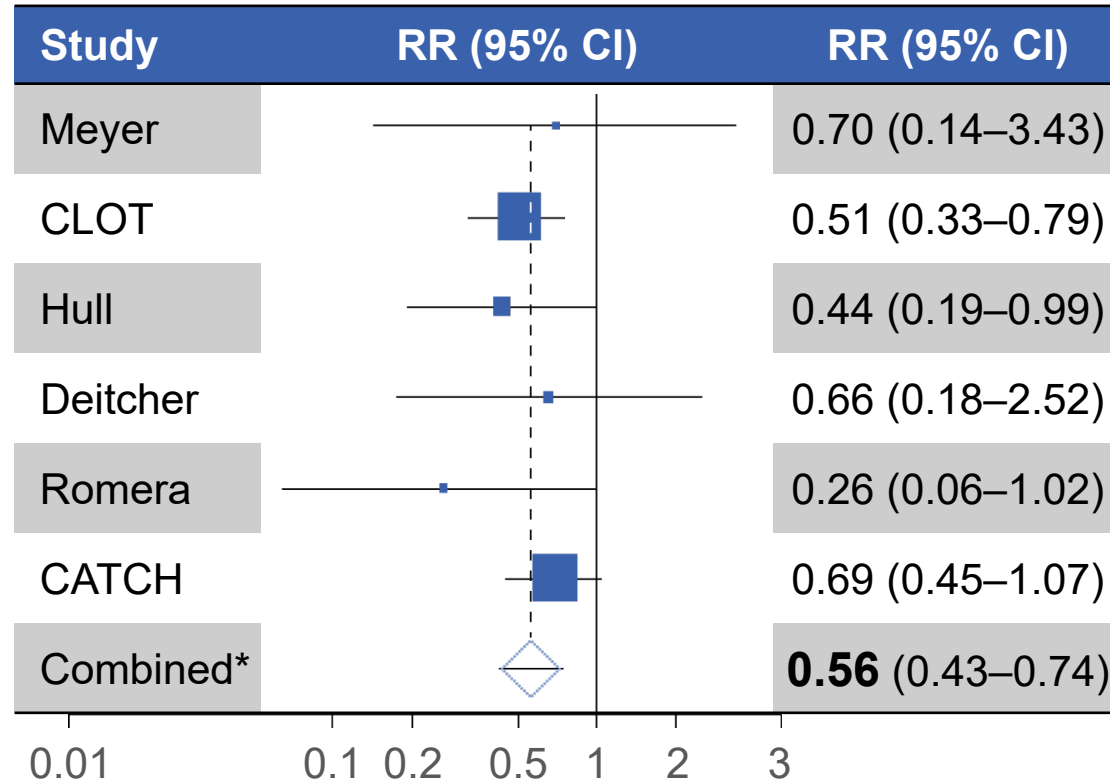
# LMWH: the standard of care

## CLOT-study: A Landmark

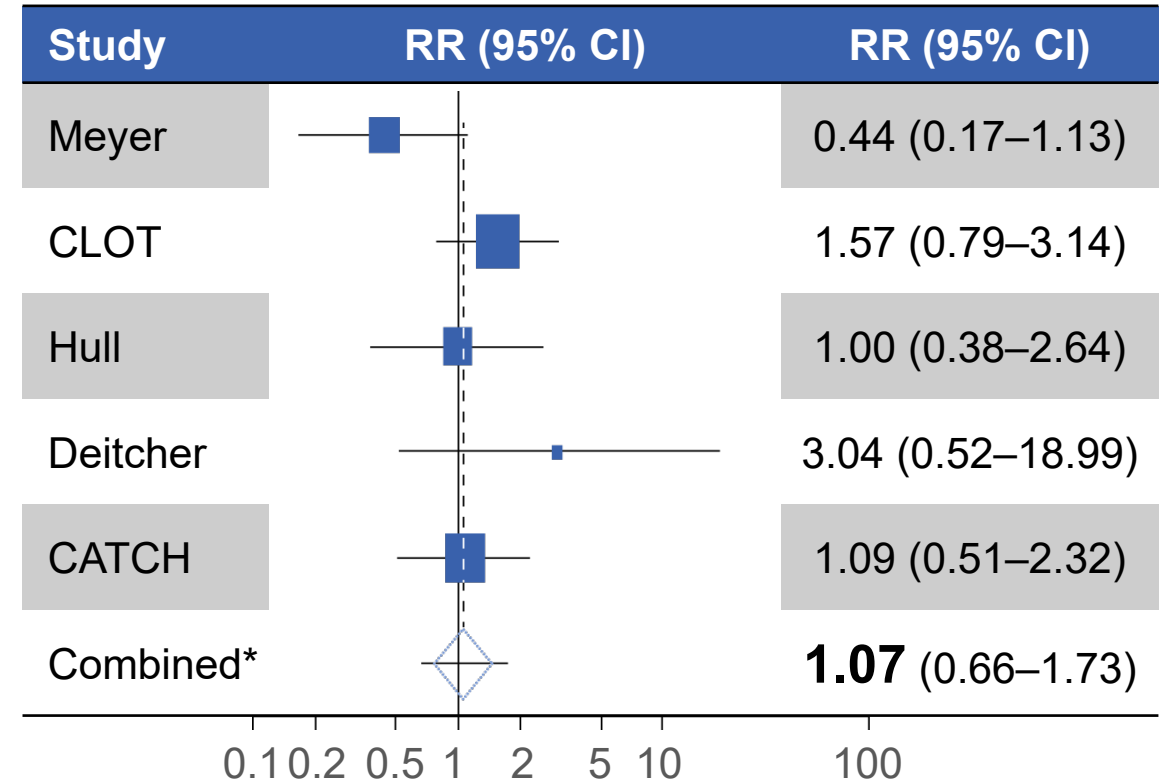


# LMWH versus VKA for Cancer-Associated Thrombosis

## Recurrent VTE

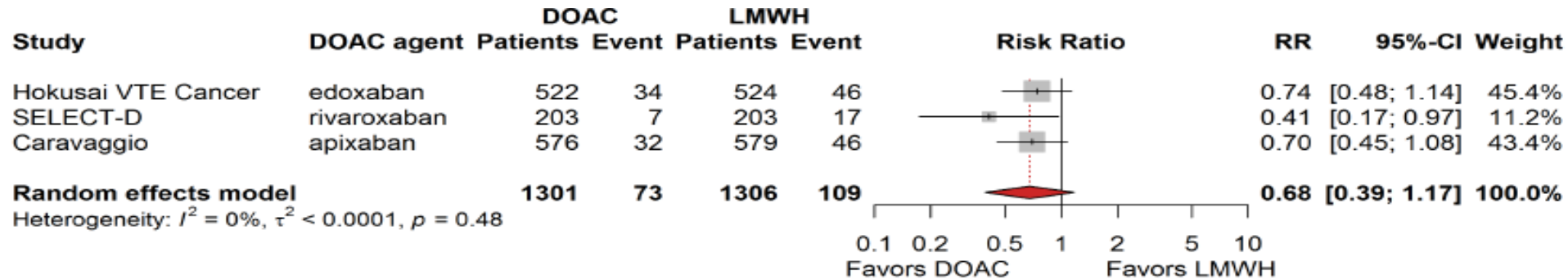


## Major bleeding events

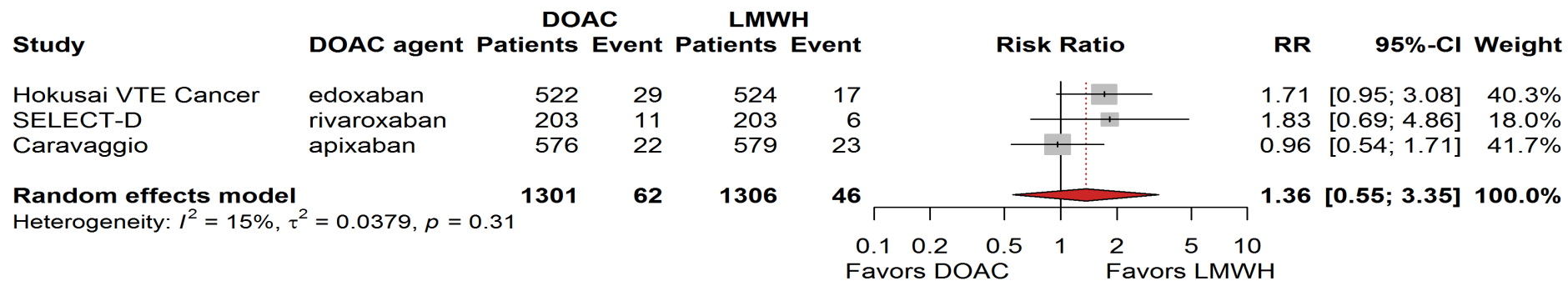


# Main outcomes at 6 months from Hokusai-VTE Cancer, SELECT-D and Caravaggio

## Recurrent VTE

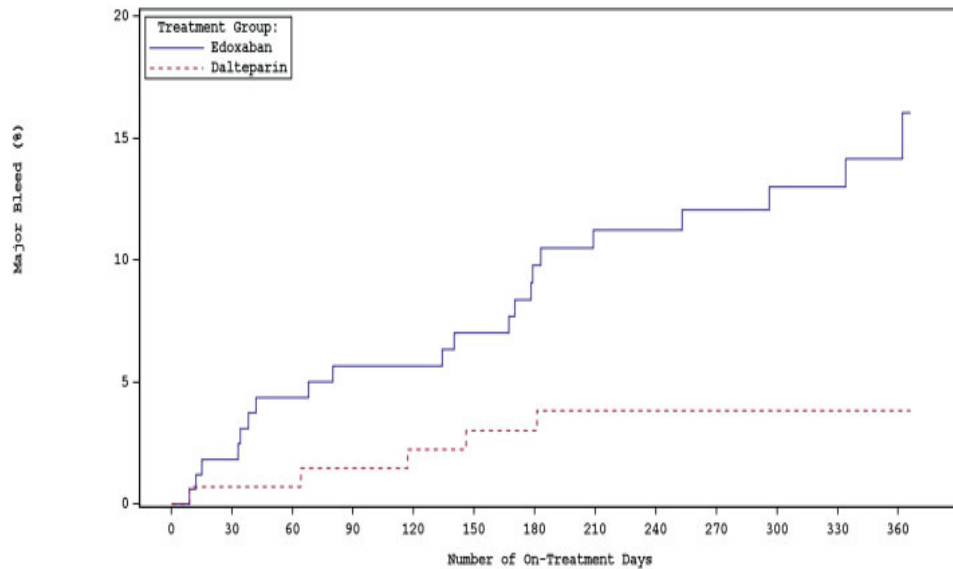


## Major bleeding



# Major bleeding events in patients with Cancer-Associated VTE

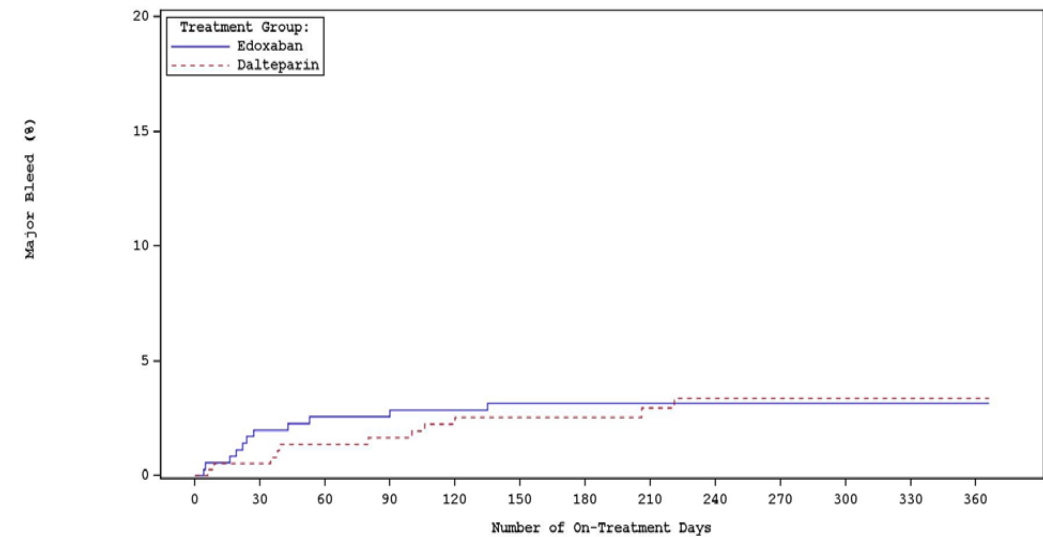
## GI cancers



A

Number at Risk:		0	30	60	90	120	150	180	210	240	270	300	330	360
Edoxaban	165	134	121	108	97	89	79	70	64	59	48	38	28	
Dalteparin	140	123	116	108	94	89	79	67	60	54	48	40	25	

## Non-GI cancers



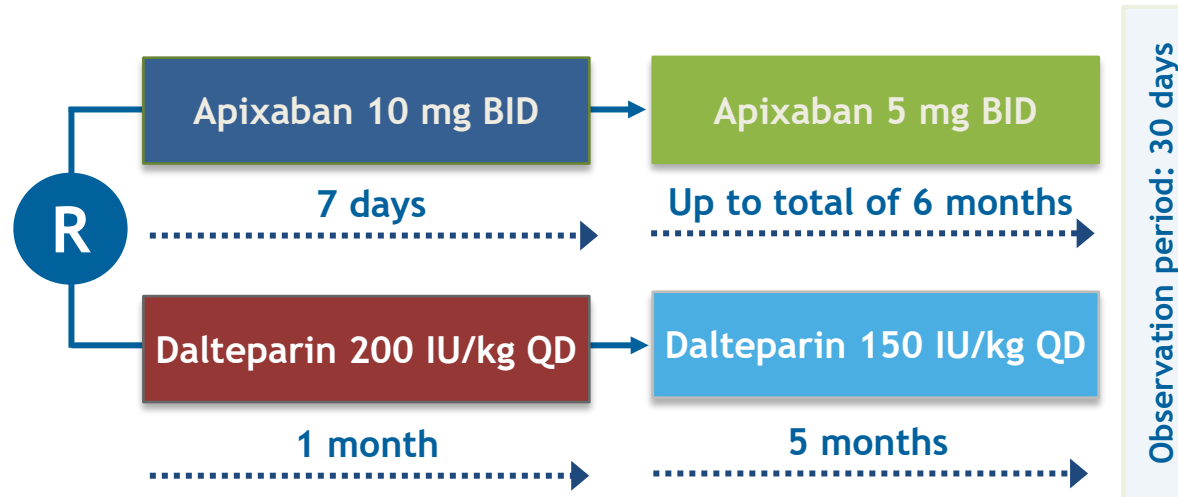
Number at Risk:		0	30	60	90	120	150	180	210	240	270	300	330	360
Edoxaban	357	315	284	271	255	234	220	190	179	171	144	123	88	
Dalteparin	384	347	305	278	254	236	216	151	138	131	108	95	63	

**HR 4.0 (95% CI 1.5–10.6)**  
**p=0.005**





# Caravaggio: apixaban vs. dalteparin in CAT



## Patient Population

- Aged  $\geq 18$  years
- Patients newly diagnosed with DVT or PE
- Any type of cancer (other than basal-cell or squamous-cell carcinoma of the skin, primary brain tumor or known intracerebral metastasis and acute leukemia)

## Primary Outcome

- recurrent VTE

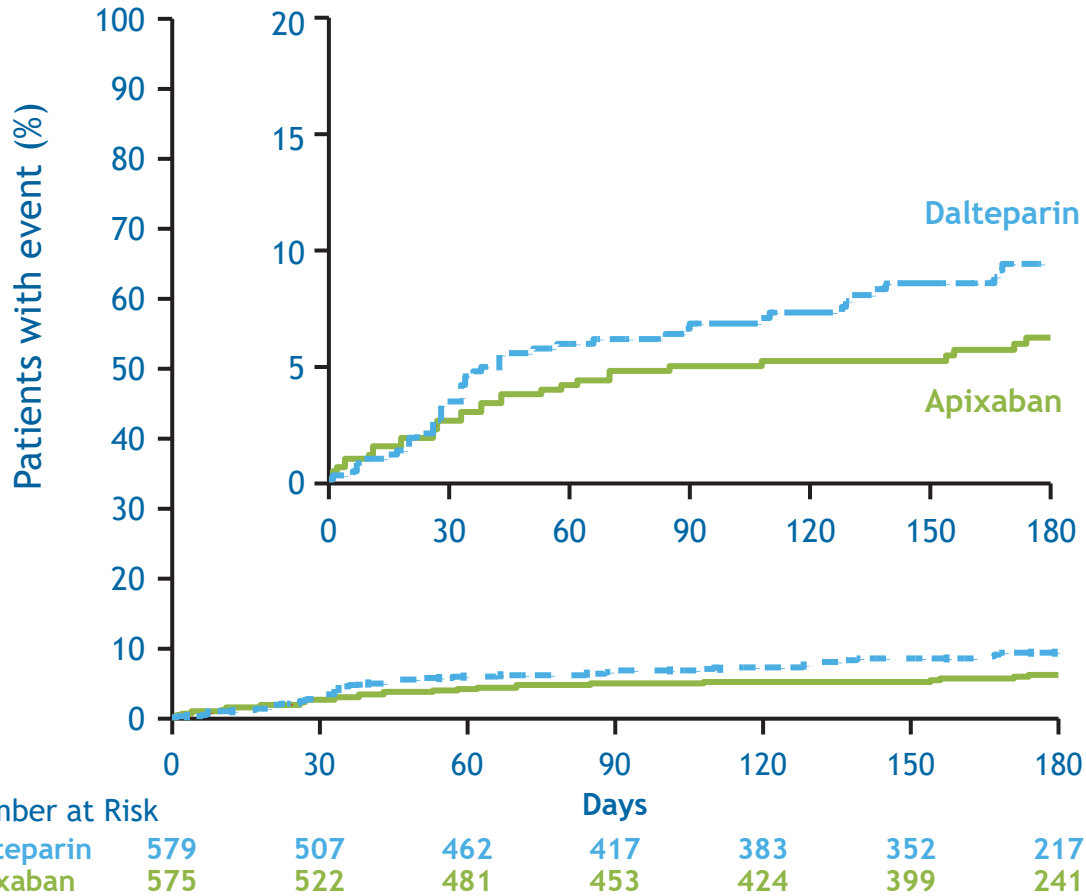
## Principal Safety Outcome

- Major bleeding

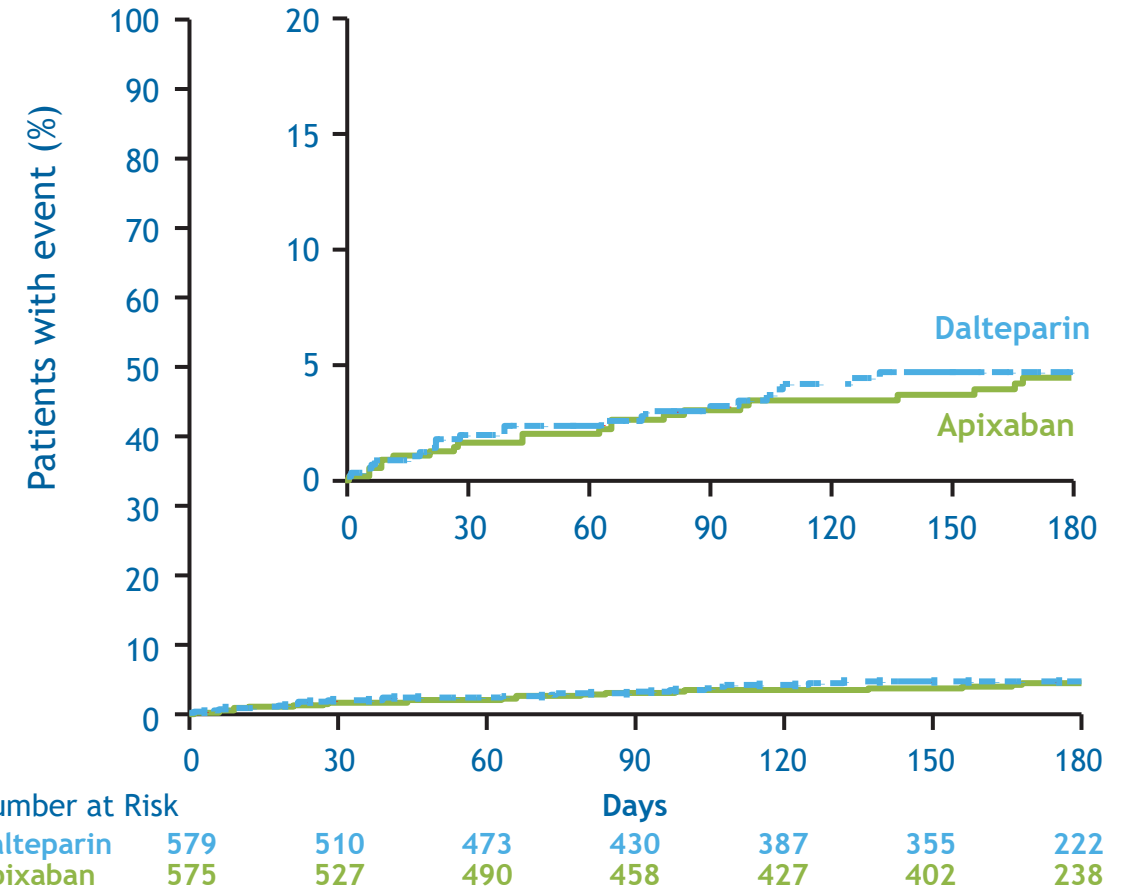


# Caravaggio: recurrent VTE and major bleeding

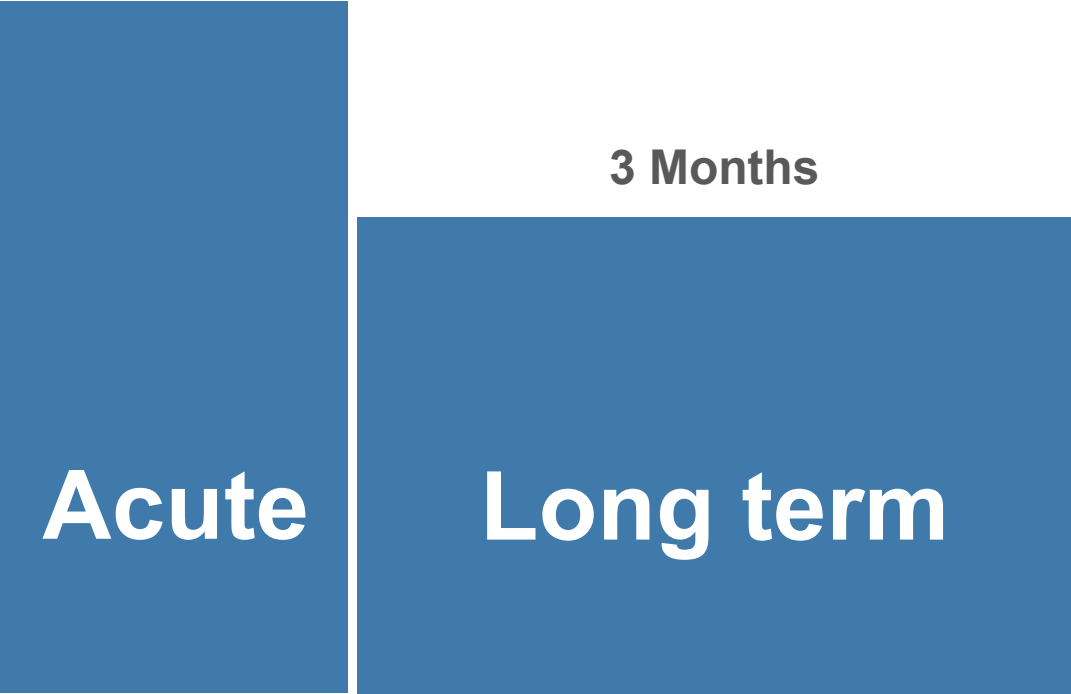
## Recurrent Venous Thromboembolism



## Major Bleeding



# Which patients should receive long-term anticoagulation?



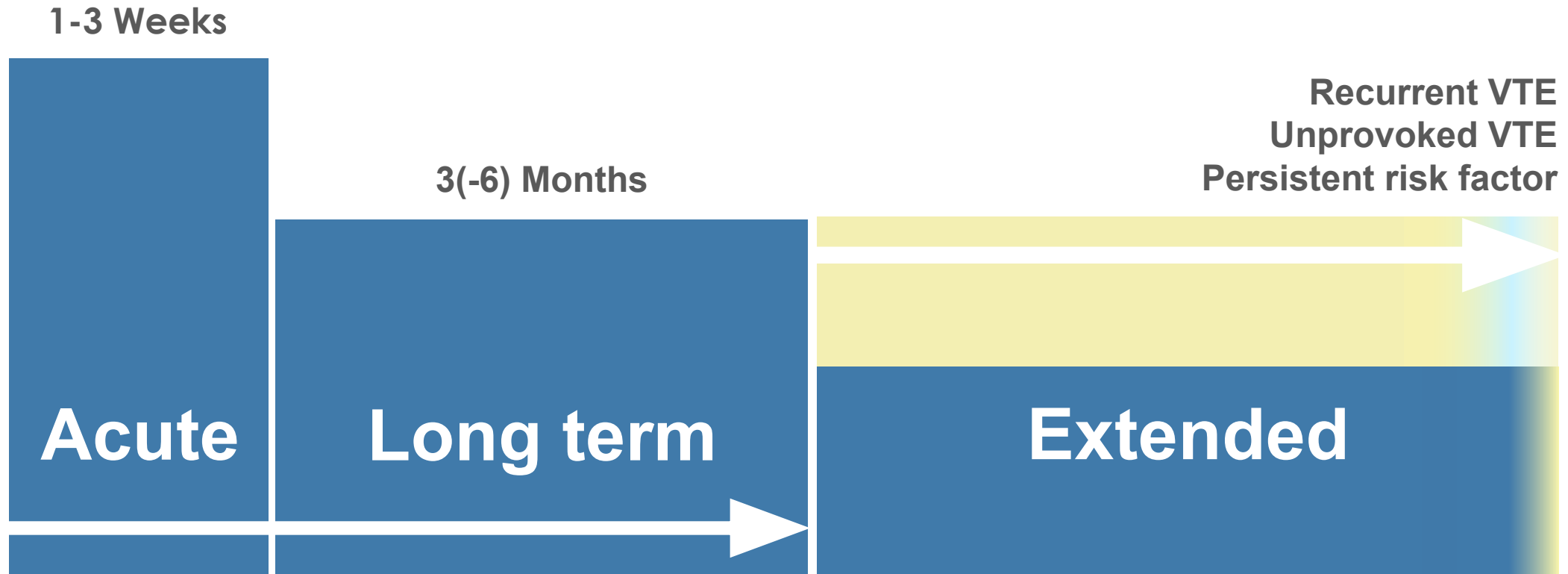
**Treatment**



**Prevention**



# Duration of anticoagulation for VTE

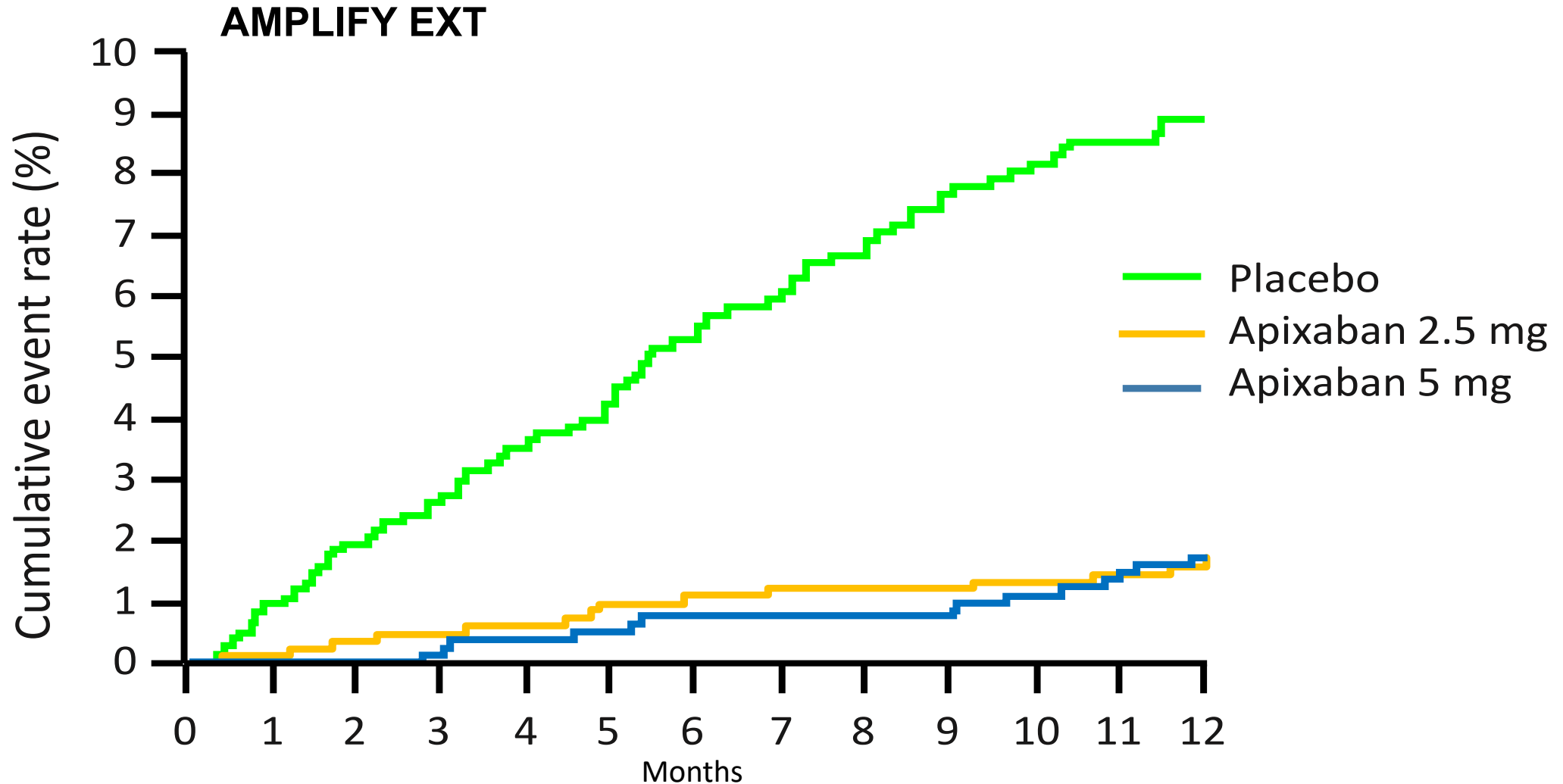


High bleeding risk  
Transient risk factors  
Minimal VTE disease

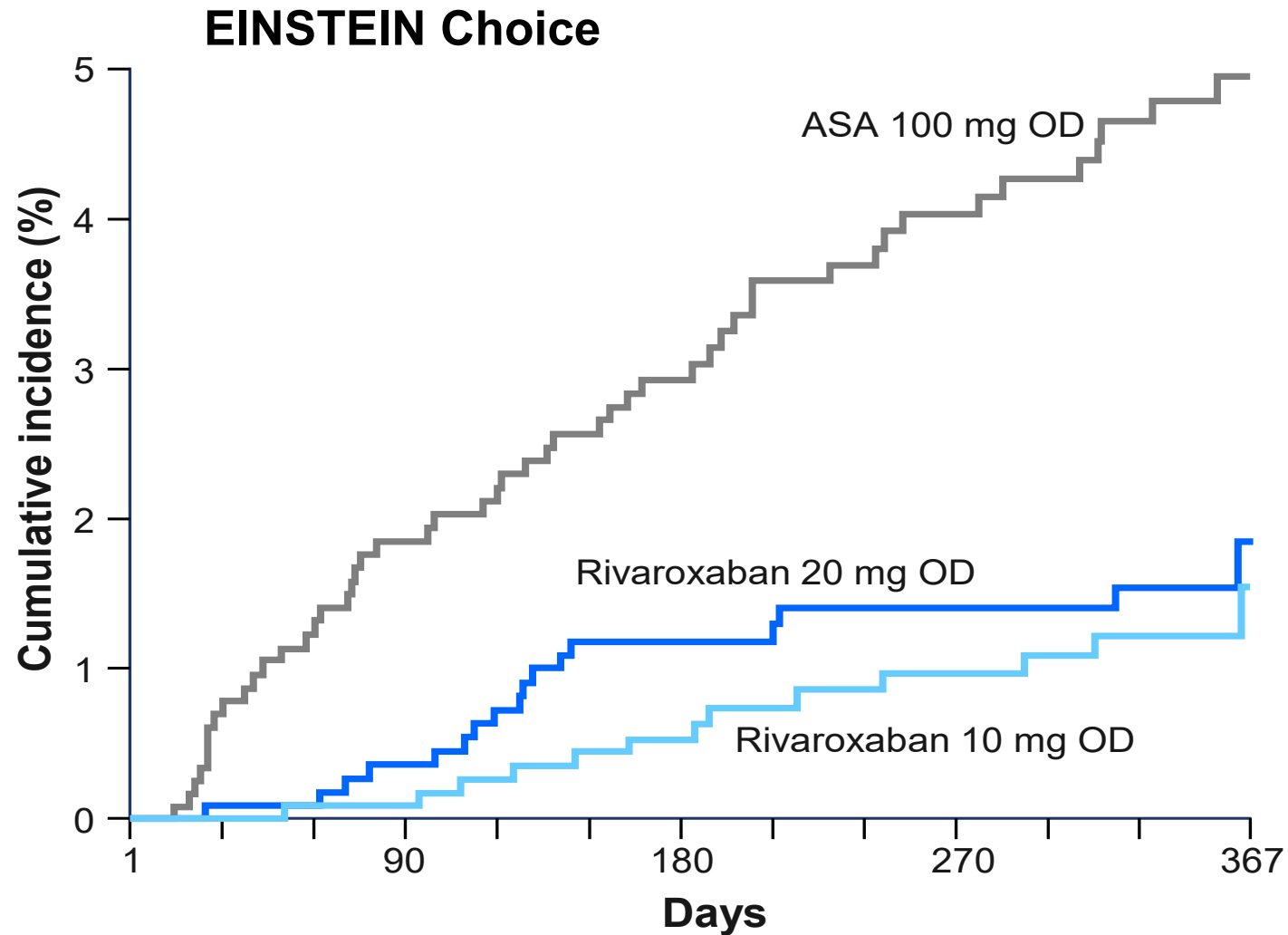
Weitz JI, Prandoni P, Verhamme P.  
TH Open. 2020 Dec 23;4(4)



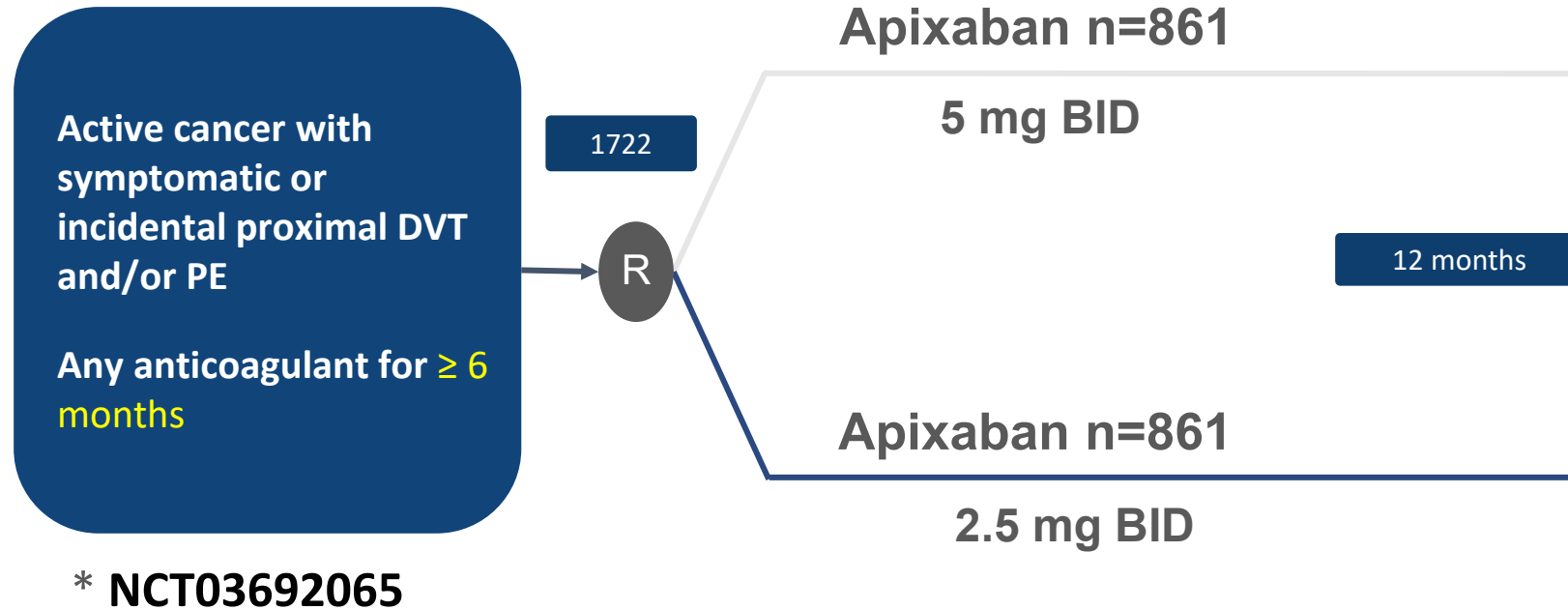
# Reduced dose NOAC for long-term prevention?



# Reduced dose NOAC for long-term prevention?

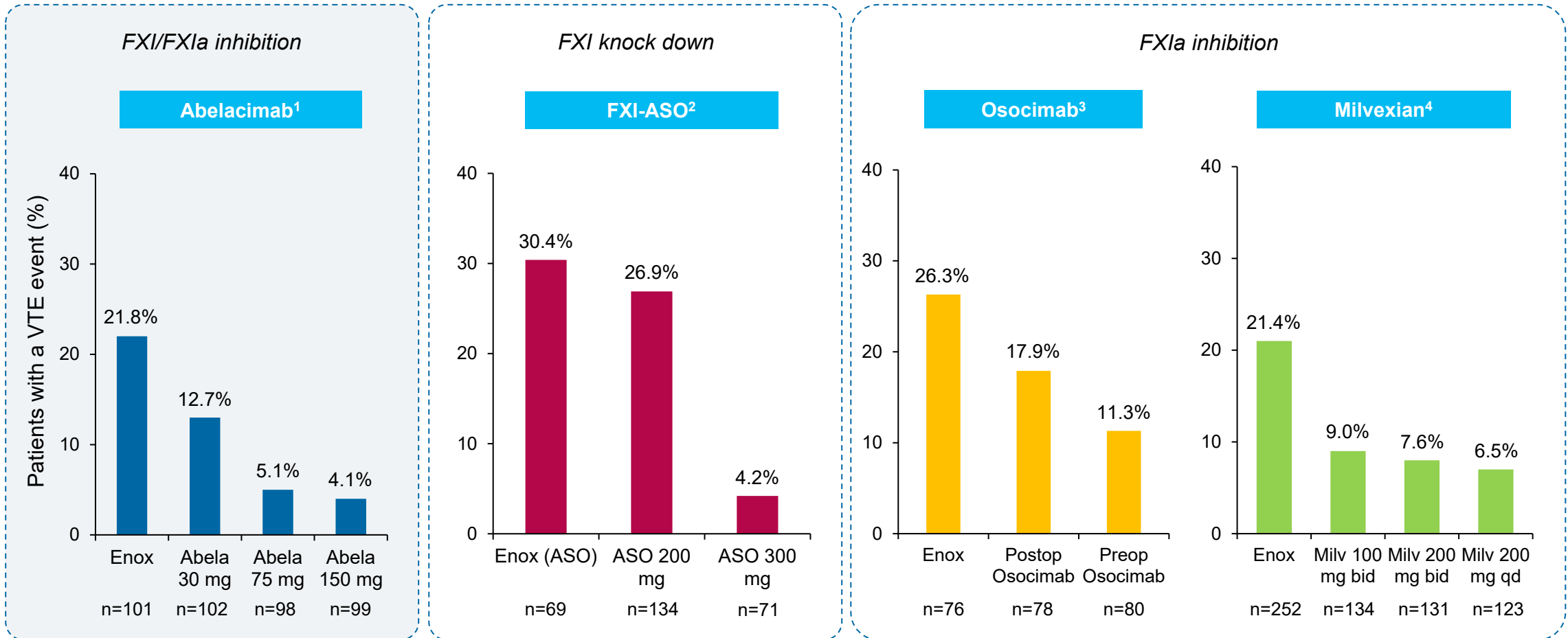


# APICAT Study



# Demonstration of antithrombotic ‘proof-of-concept’ with FXI inhibitors

## Cross-study comparison of FXI agents after major orthopedic surgery



There are no head-to-head randomised clinical trials comparing the products mentioned above. Comparisons cannot be made between individual products based on these data.

\*p<0.05 for superiority

1. Verhamme P et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2021;385(7):609-617; 2. Büller HR et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2015;372(3):232-240; 3. Weitz JI et al. *JAMA.* 2020;323(2):130-139; 4. Weitz JI et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2021;385(23):2161-2172.





# Managing daily challenges

- Low platelets
- Renal function
- Extremes of body weight
- Drug-drug interactions
- Recurrent TE
- Incidental VTE
- Port-a-cath & UE DVT
- Arterial TE
- Management post-bleeding

Optimal dosing?

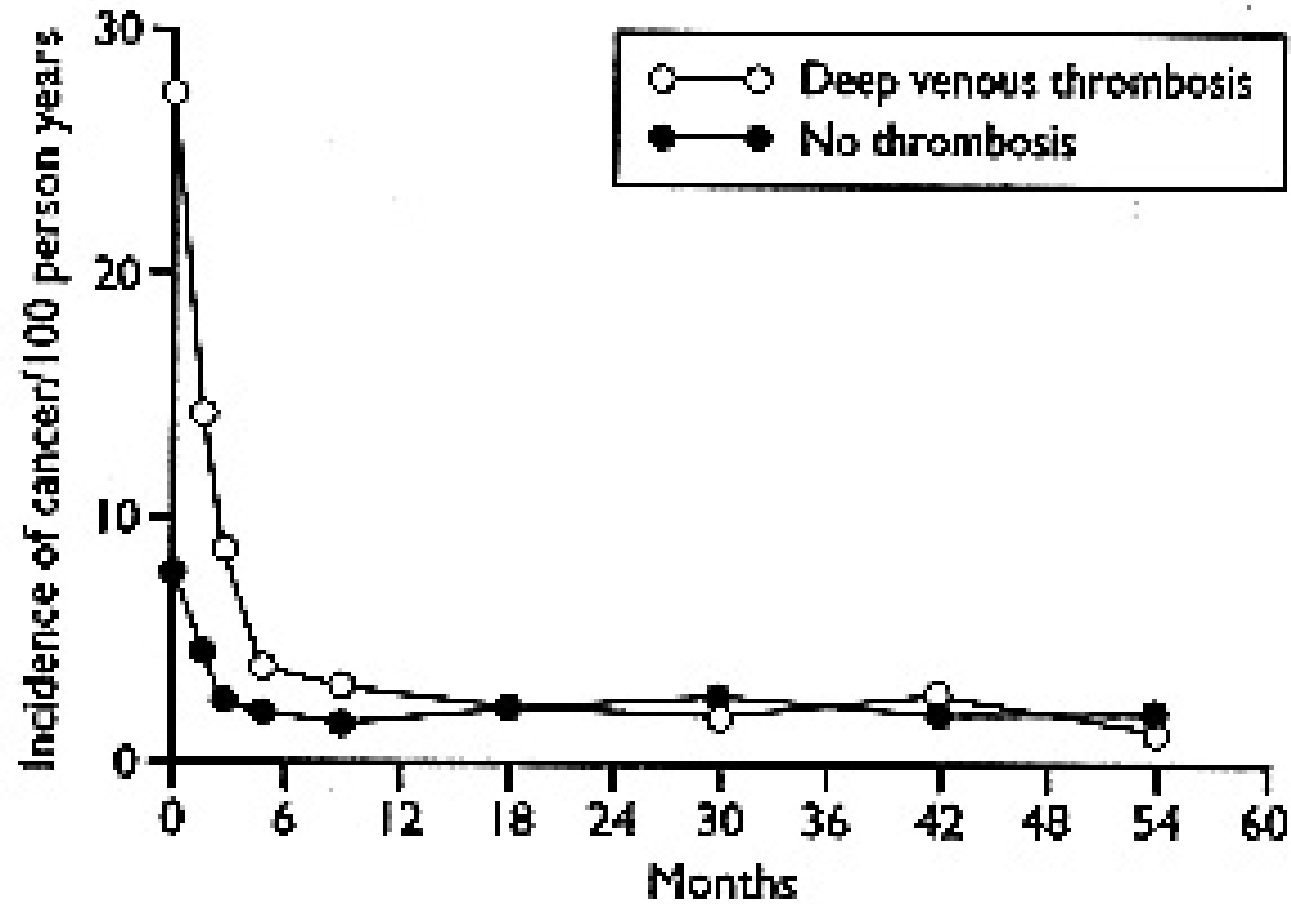


# What is important for patients?

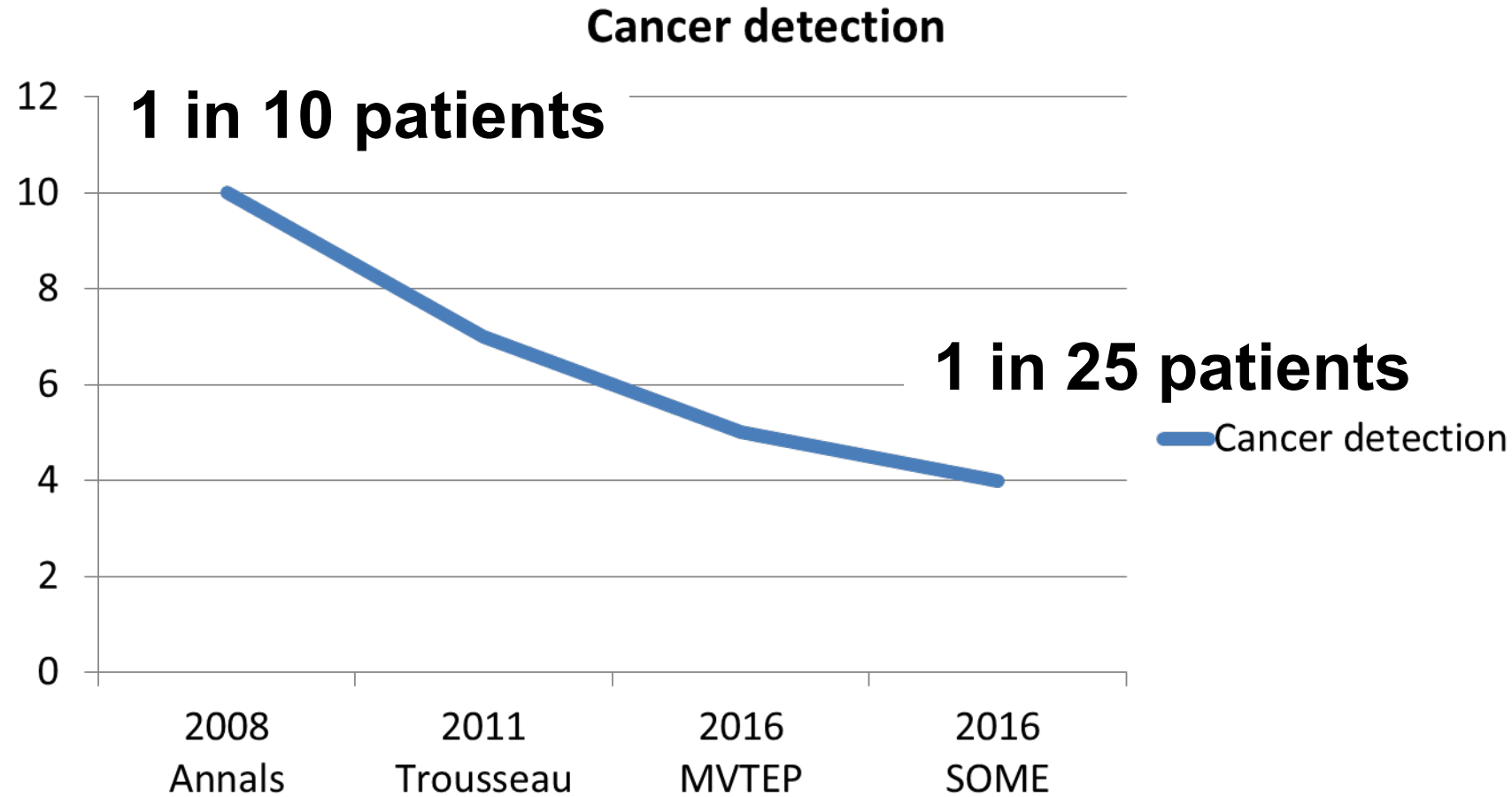
1. No interference with cancer treatment	39%
2. Efficacy / recurrent VTE	24%
3. Major bleeding	19%
4. Route of Administration	13%
5. Monitoring	2%
6. Minor bleeding	2%
7. Frequency of administration	1%



# Incidence of cancer in patients with DVT



# Incidence of occult cancer detection in the different studies



# Occult cancer screening in VTE patients

## Why?

- Earlier detection
  - Curable cancer
  - ↑ survival
  - ↓ morbidity

## Why not?

- Unnecessary invasive procedures
  - “Incidental findings”
- No impact on outcome
- Anxiety
- Costs



# Limited vs. extensive occult cancer screening strategy

**SOMIT**  
**Trousseau**  
**SOME**  
**MTVEP**



# Patients with unprovoked VTE should undergo

- Medical history and physical examination
- Basic laboratory investigations
- Chest X-ray
- Age- and gender- specific cancer screening (i.e., cervical, breast, prostate and colon)



# Treatment of CAT

- No 'One size fits all' approach
- Patient selection is key:
  - Tumor type
  - Bleeding risk/renal function/thrombus burden...
  - Drug-drug interactions
  - Patient preferences

