

# Any 1 Care (A1c) about Clinical Outcomes?

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# Simplifying Diabetes Management

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# Making sense of diabetes



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CLINICAL SPOTLIGHT | GENERAL MEDICINE

 PRACTICE CHANGING

January 16, 2020

## Sulfonylureas for Patients with Type 2 Diabetes: Still an Option

**Reasoning:** They lower glucose cheaply and probably not increasing cardiovascular disease

# Stories matter, ... what about evidence?



Extra Beats



Reduced 85%

RCT of 1455 Patients x 10 months

On Placebo 3% Died

On Treatment 8% Died

We Killed one in every 21 people going to the CCU for our help.

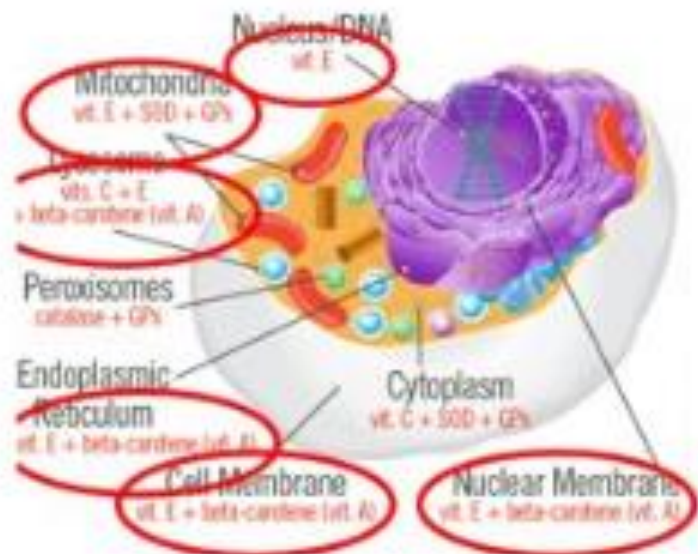
With the Best Intention & a Great Story



# Antioxidant: Story

VIN

## Oxidative Stress



## Antioxidants

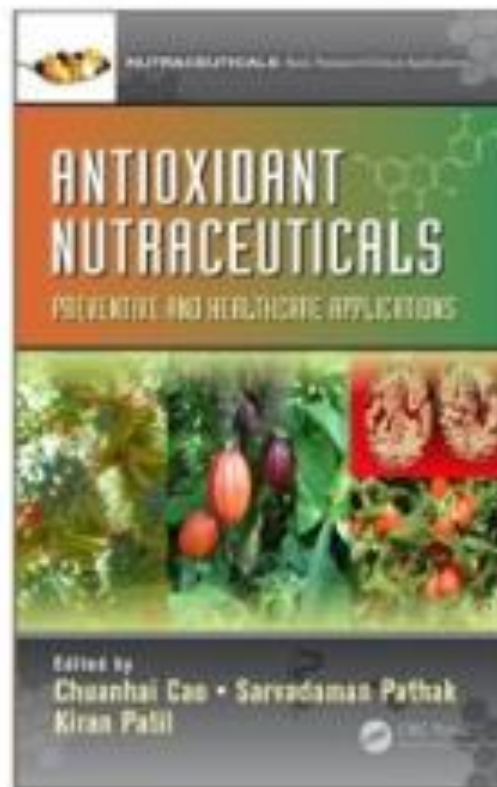
We just need more  
Vitamin A & E !

78 Randomized Trials  
Studied 296,707

We killed 1 in every  
~200 people x3.5 yrs

[https://www.inpro.ca/wp-content/uploads/tools-for-practice/1478716169\\_2016updatedfp10antioxidants.pdf](https://www.inpro.ca/wp-content/uploads/tools-for-practice/1478716169_2016updatedfp10antioxidants.pdf)

How much evidence  
does it take to slay a  
great theory?



# What do Patients Feel or Worry about?

- They might say they are worried about their cholesterol, sugar or maybe A1c”
- For the most part, we had to teach them to fear these.



We have to start distinguishing,....

### **What we measure,...**

- Sugar
- Microalbuminuria
- Lipids
- Blood pressure
- Monofilament
- Diabetic Retinopathy

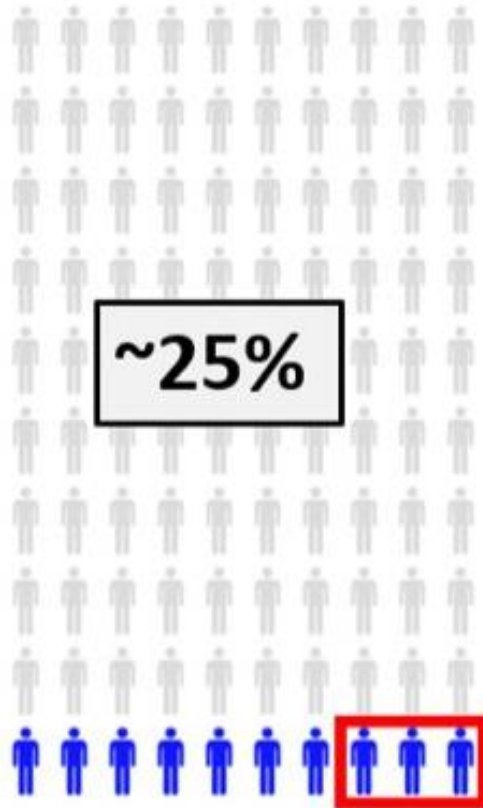
### **What Matters to Patients**

- Survival
- Quality of Life
- Heart Disease & Stroke
- Sensation/Pain
- Vision
- Avoiding Renal Outcomes

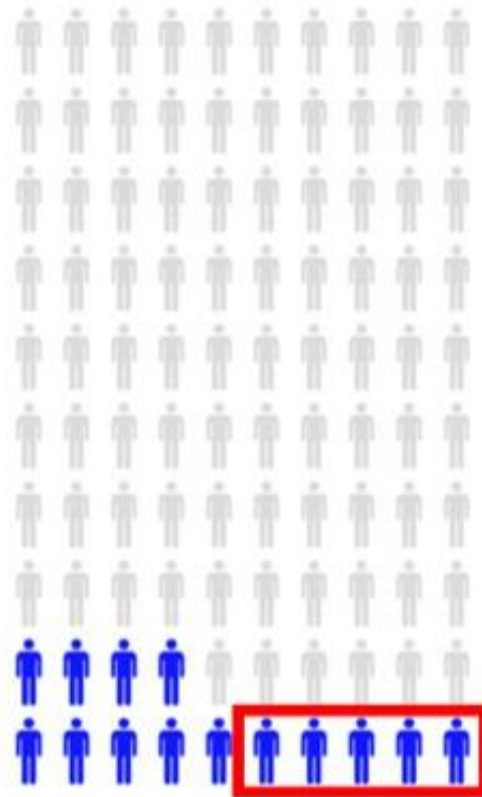
# What are the bad things that happen?

Average: ~75 y.o. & ~40% male, what happens over 5 years

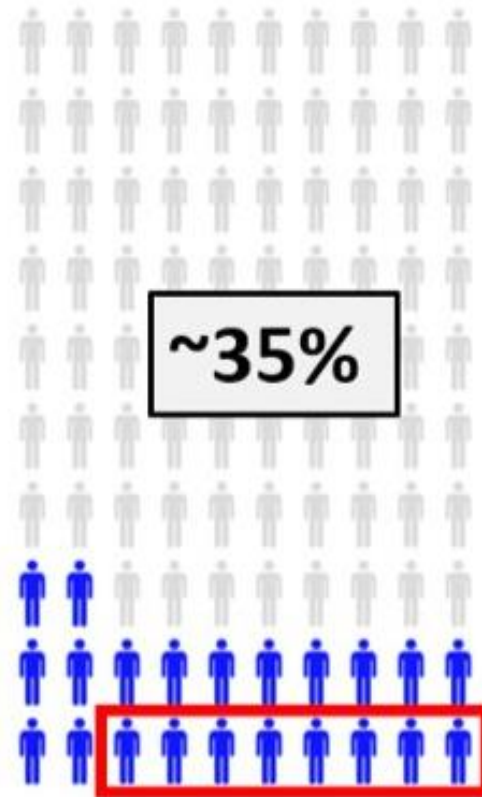
People without Diabetes



People with Diabetes <10yrs



People with Diabetes ≥10yrs



- The worst to happen is debatable
  - Death vs very low Quality of Life
- Death is bad and the final outcome

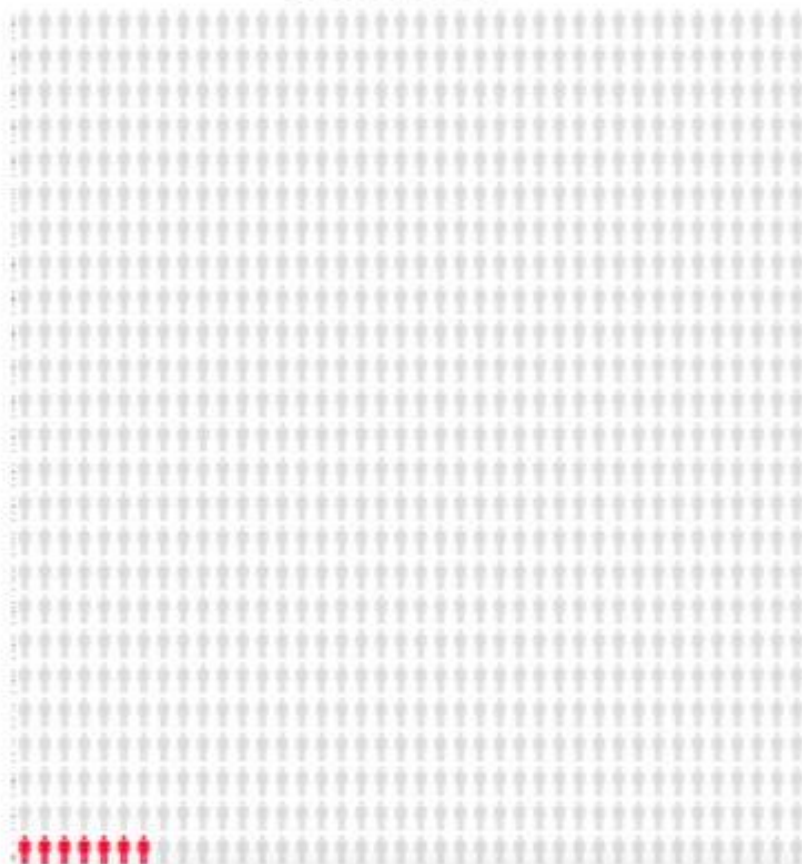


# What about the other bad things that happen?

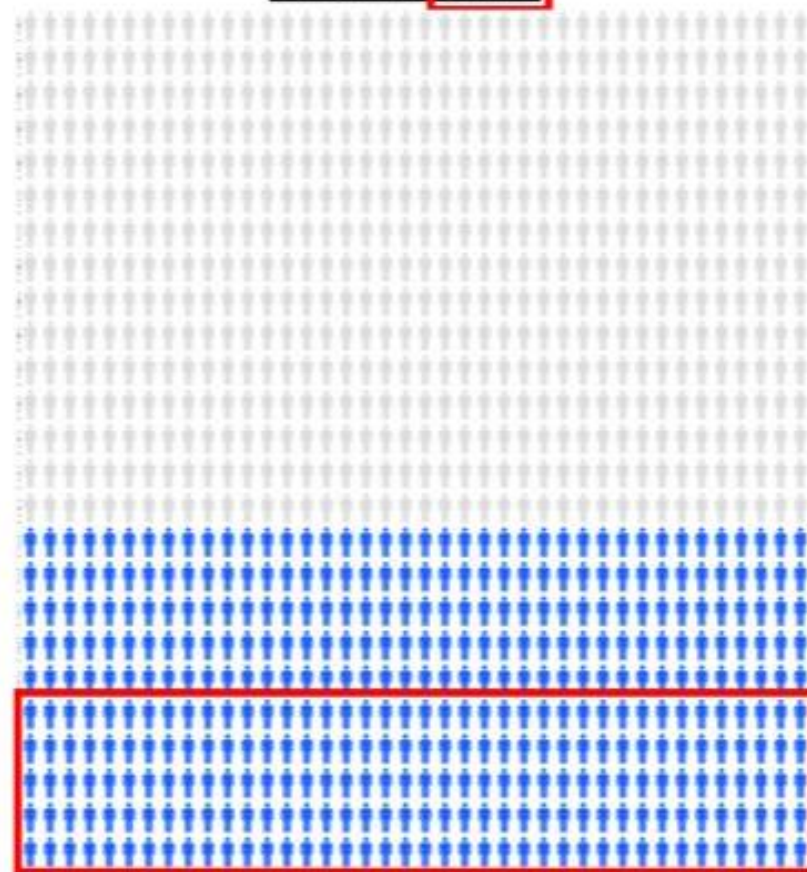
**1000 People with Diabetes x 10 yrs,**

- **50% with micro or macroalbuminuria,**
- **At 7 yrs, how many need dialysis & how many die**

Dialysis



Death **CVD**



## What about the other bad things that happen? (2)

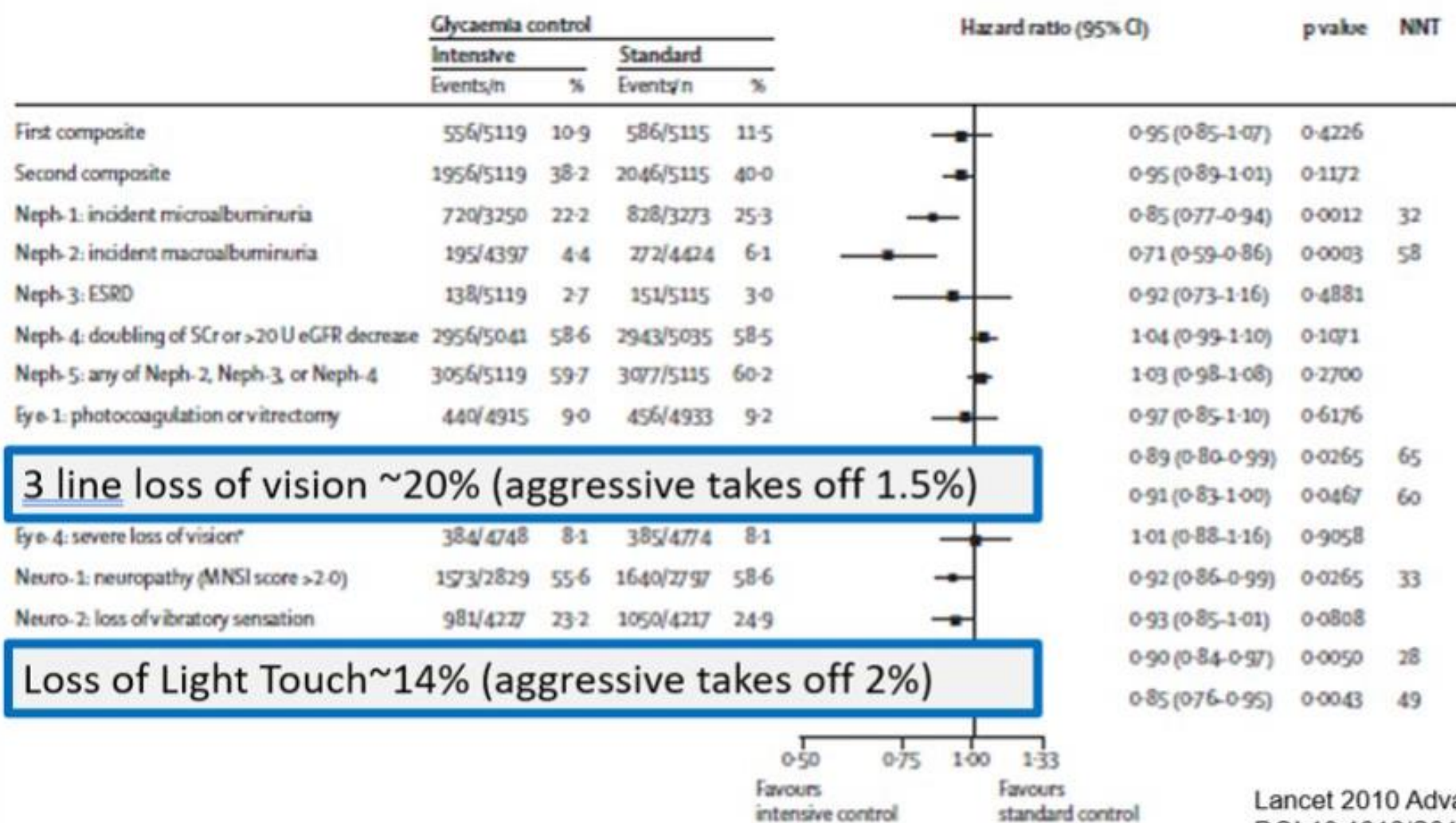
	Death	MI	Stroke	Renal failure (dialysis + Cr>250)
<b>Early Diabetes (UKPDS 10 Year)</b>	18%	14%	5%	0.6%
<b>Later (66) Diabetes (Advance 10 Year)</b>	20%	6.5%	8.7%	0.7%

What about Amputation varies more with baseline risk (& definition):

- All ( $\geq$  toes) can be  $\sim 12\%$  x10 yrs in very high risk (with 44% hard CVD)

N Engl J Med 2019;380:2295-306.

# Other clinical outcomes that are not so good.



# Bottom-Line: What are the Patient Oriented Outcomes of Diabetes and Can we Influence them?

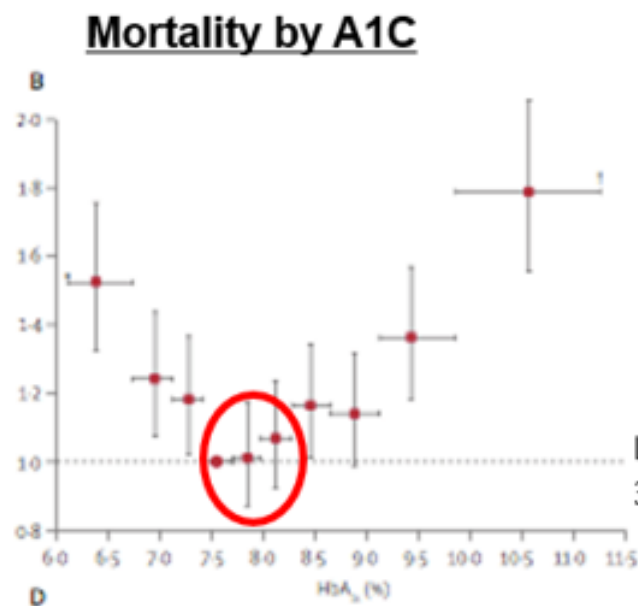
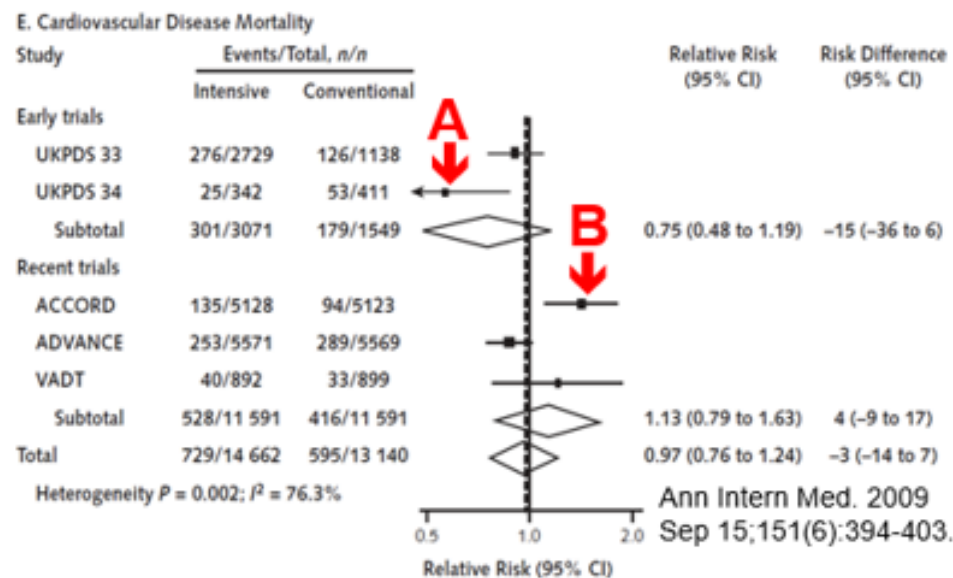
## Outcomes

- Macrovascular Complications
  - Heart Disease
  - Stroke
- Microvascular
  - Vision
  - Sensory
  - Renal disease

## Can we influence them

- Yes:
  - Requires comprehensive approach.
  - Has to balance Quality of Life
  - More to follow

# Can we do it with aggressive A1c management?

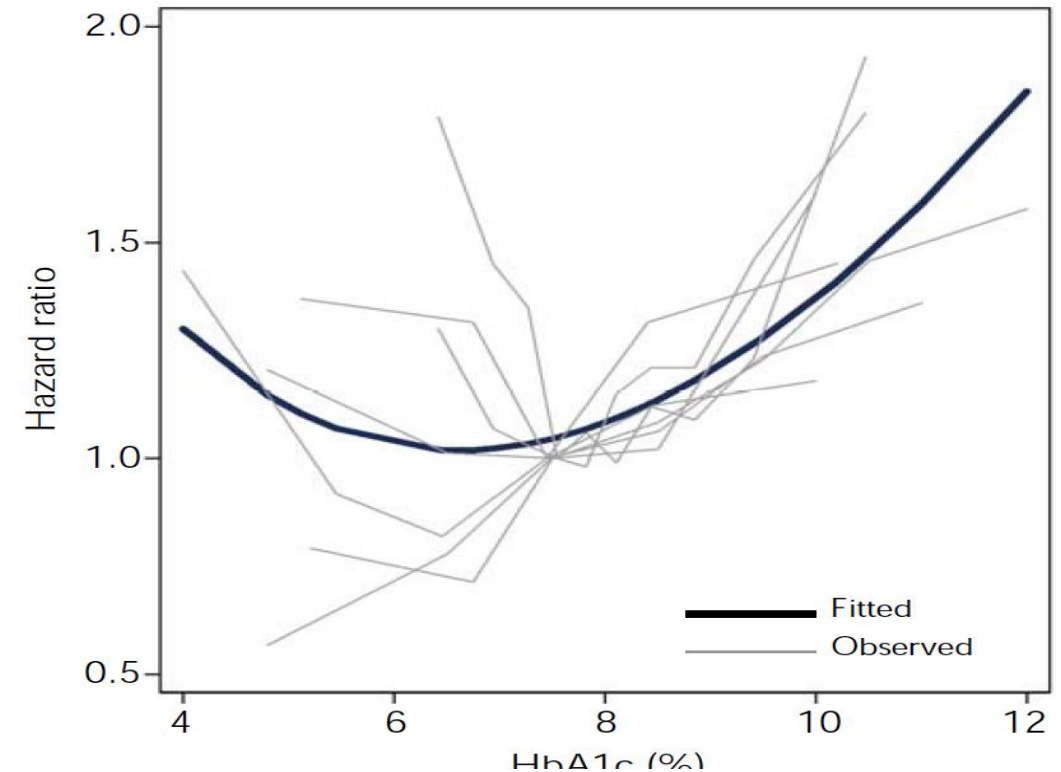


<u>Long-term Care Admission</u>	<b>A1C Range</b>	<b>Absolute Risk of Long-term care</b>
80 yo, 67% female Requiring assistance (from insulin to no meds)	<7%	62%
	7.0-7.9%	58%
	8.0-8.9%	51%
	≥9.0%	56%

(J Am Geriatr Soc 60:1215-21)

# More J-Shaped Curves with A1c

- 6 studies with 7 cohorts examining A1c & survival
  - 147,424 participants followed for 2.4 – 10 years.
- With 7.5% baseline, for every 1% A1c
  - Lower, RR Increases 10%
  - Higher, RR Increases 4%
- **Bottom-Line:** No real change, ~7-7.5 likely best for longevity.



## Quality of Life for outcomes in Diabetes?

- Quality of Life in Diabetes

<b>Event</b>	<b>QOL Utility</b>
Mild Stroke	0.70
Angina	0.64
Diabetic Neuropathy	0.66

## Quality of Life for outcomes in Diabetes? (2)

- Quality of Life in Diabetes

<b>Event</b>	<b>QOL Utility</b>
Mild Stroke	0.70
Angina	0.64
Diabetic Neuropathy	0.66
Comprehensive Diabetes Care	0.64

ACCORD, looking specifically at intense sugar control found mixed results on QoL for diferent outcomes but overall, no effect. (Diabetes Care 2011;34:807-12.



Sometimes  
it can feel  
discouraging



# Managing Diabetes

STENO: Small RCT (160 pts x13 years)

- All DM + microalbuminuria (Danish, white)

	Treatment	Control	NNT
Mortality	30%	50%	5
Mean CVD events	2	3.3	
≥1 CVD events	31%	60%	4
Treating Retinopathy	18%	34%	7
Dialysis	1%	7.5%	16

- Tried again: 3057 patients, early DM (age 60) – better by  $\leq 1\%$  any outcome
  - Less risk and most control group also “aggressively” managed

# Adjunctive Therapies

# Can Lifestyle work in Diabetes?

- RCT 98 Danish DM x5yrs, age 55, 52% male, x1 yr
- Outcome: Intense lifestyle vs standard, similar A1c
  - Reduced DM meds: 74% vs 26%, NNT 3, (Stop NNT 3)
  - Weight: 10% reduced 31% vs 3%, NNT 4 (5% NNT 3)
  - Harms : Mild Hypoglycemia (13% vs 0%),
    - MSK injury (22% vs 0%)
- **Bottom-Line:** Works, 56% vs 15% can actual stop meds plus weight loss. MSK injuries more common.

# Can Diabetes be Cured,... Maybe

- RCT of 298 primary care patients: DM <6yrs, no insulin, 7.6%.
  - Diet ~840 kcal/day for 3 months (+ 2 optional) then slow re-intro.
- Results :
  - 1 yr: lost  $\geq 15\text{kg}$  = 0 vs 24% (NNT 5), DM remission 4% vs 46% (NNT 3)
    - If Weight loss >15, then 86%
  - Similar but not quite as good the following year.
  - QoL: 6-10 (out of 100) better.
- **Bottom-Line:** Surprise, weight loss can resolve Diabetes.



Counterweight  
Plus

# What if patients help themselves?

## **The Best NNTs from the Best Treatments**

Smoking: NNT for death in high risk = 11

Activity: NNT for any CVD in high risk = 6

Diet (Mediterranean): NNT for CVD in high risk = 12

# Is there Better Living through Pharmaceuticals?

# Statins (until they're in the water),...

- 18 RCTs (56,934 patients) – age 57 and 60% male.
  - CVD: RR 0.75 (0.70-0.81). 9% vs 12%, NNT 35
  - Mortality: 4.4% vs 5.2%, NNT 132
  - Others find similar
- **Bottom-Line:** Statins reduce CVD from around 12% to 9%, and slight reduces mortality, over around 4 years.



## Primary Prevention: ASA in DM

- 3 RCTs focusing on ASA in Diabetics.
  - 2,500 DM pts, 4.4 yrs: No diff in CVD<sup>1</sup>
  - 1270 DM pts, 6.7 yrs: No Difference in CVD<sup>2</sup>
  - 15480 DM pts, 7.4 yrs: CVD: 8.5% v 9.6% but bleeds up 4.1% v 3.2%
- **Bottom-Line:** Little benefit, if any, seems balanced by the increase in bleeding.

# Hypertension

- Regardless of target, Hypertension is the most important risk factor in DM
  - No renal disease: Thiazide, ACE/ARB, Ca+ blocker

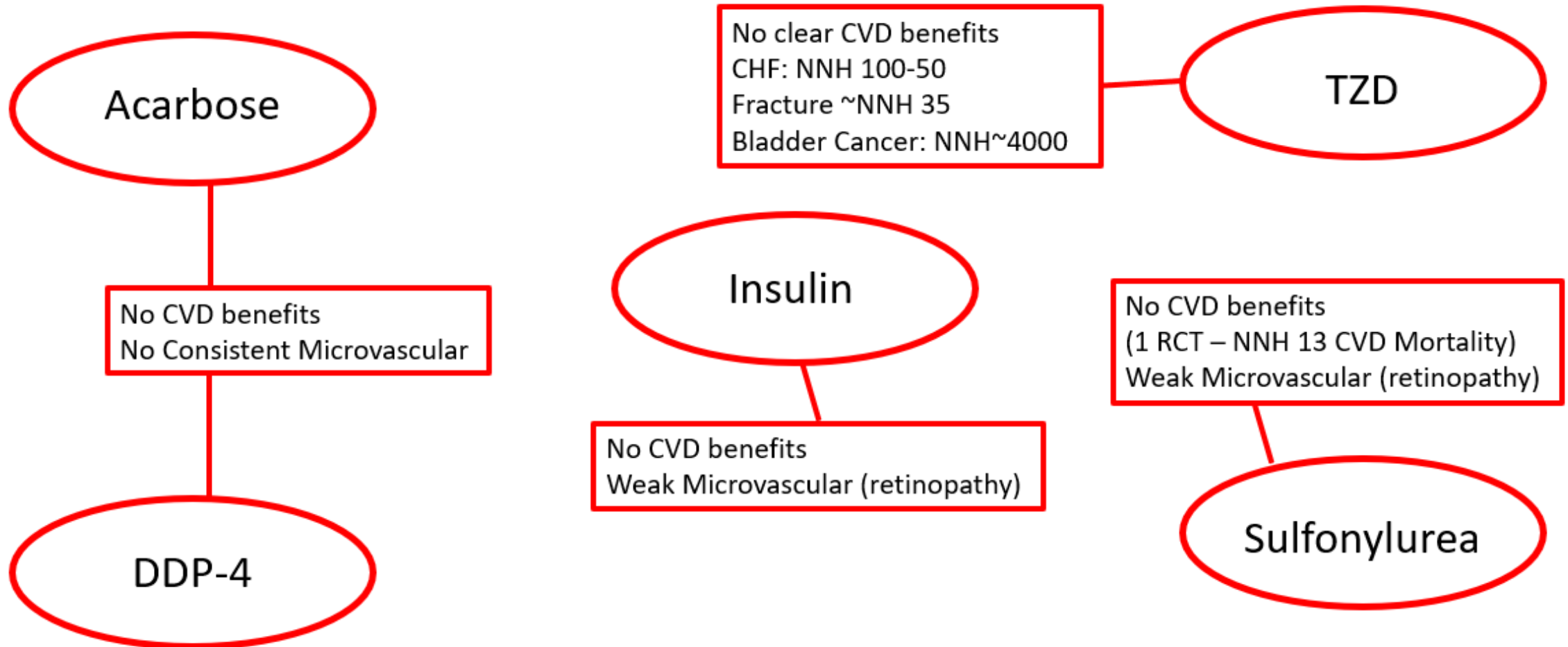
## Relative risk reductions with different DM interventions<sup>2</sup>

	<b>BP</b>	<b>Lipid</b>	<b>Sugar</b>	<b>ASA</b>
CVD	~ 50%	~25%	~ 15%	Unclear?
Mortality	16%	8%	variable	ns

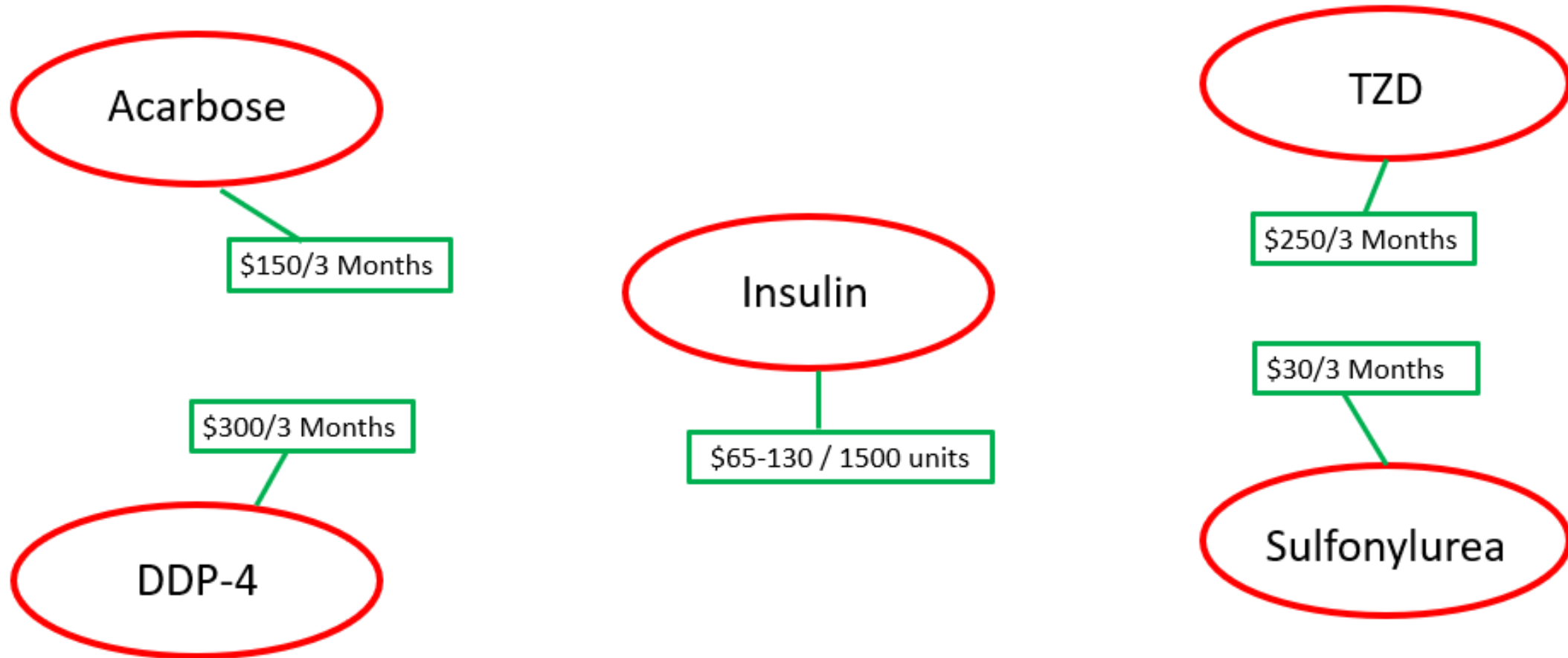
1) Diabetes Care 2010; 33(1): S11-61 2) Ann Intern Med. 2008;148:846-854. Lancet 2009;373:1765-72. Lancet 2008; 371: 117-25. Ann Intern Med. 2003;138:587-592. Diabetes research and clinical practice 2016;120: 31-39. 3) JAMA Intern Med. 2017;177:920-9.

# Glucose Drugs

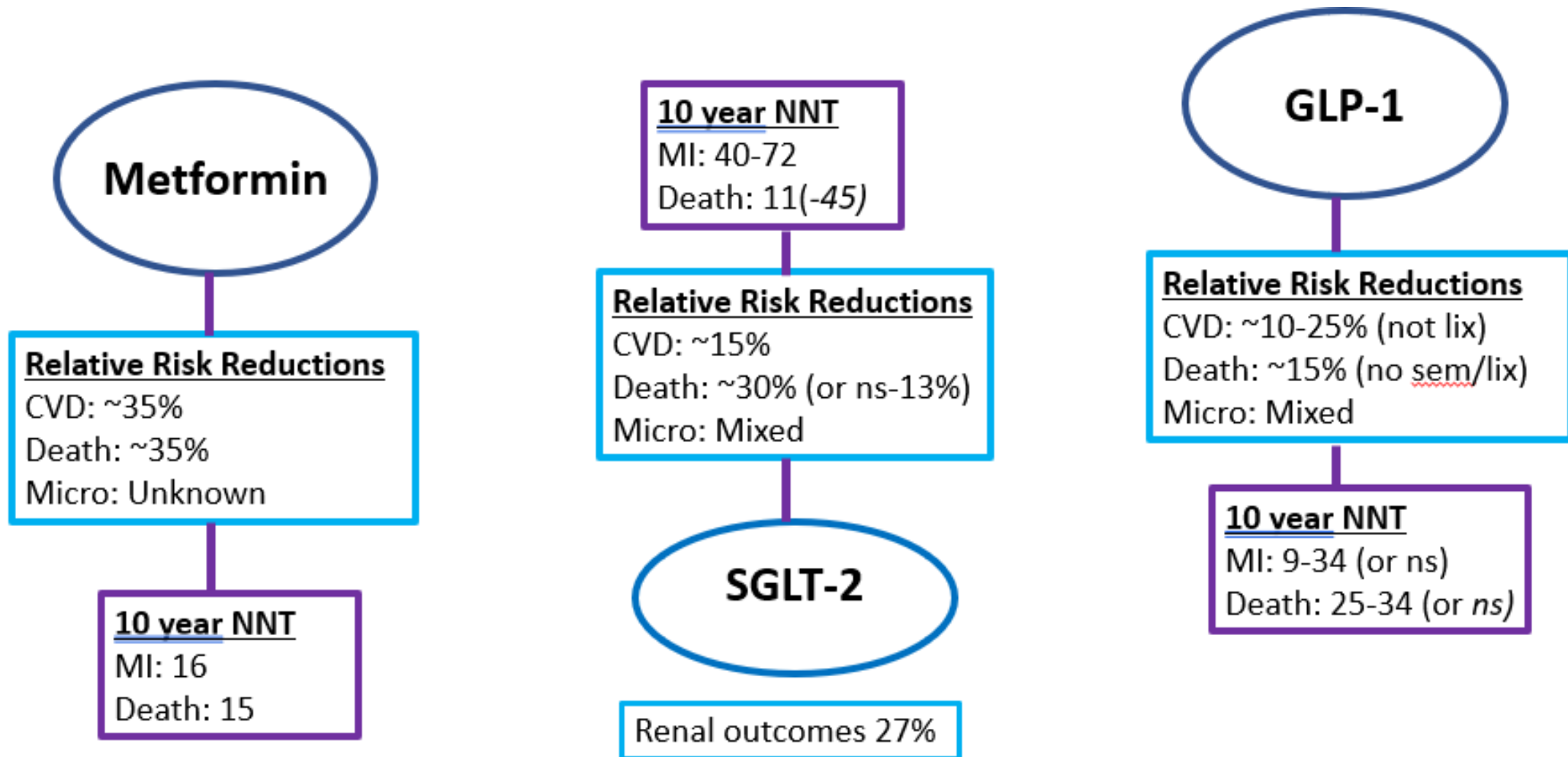
# Drugs that change glucose but NOT hard outcomes.



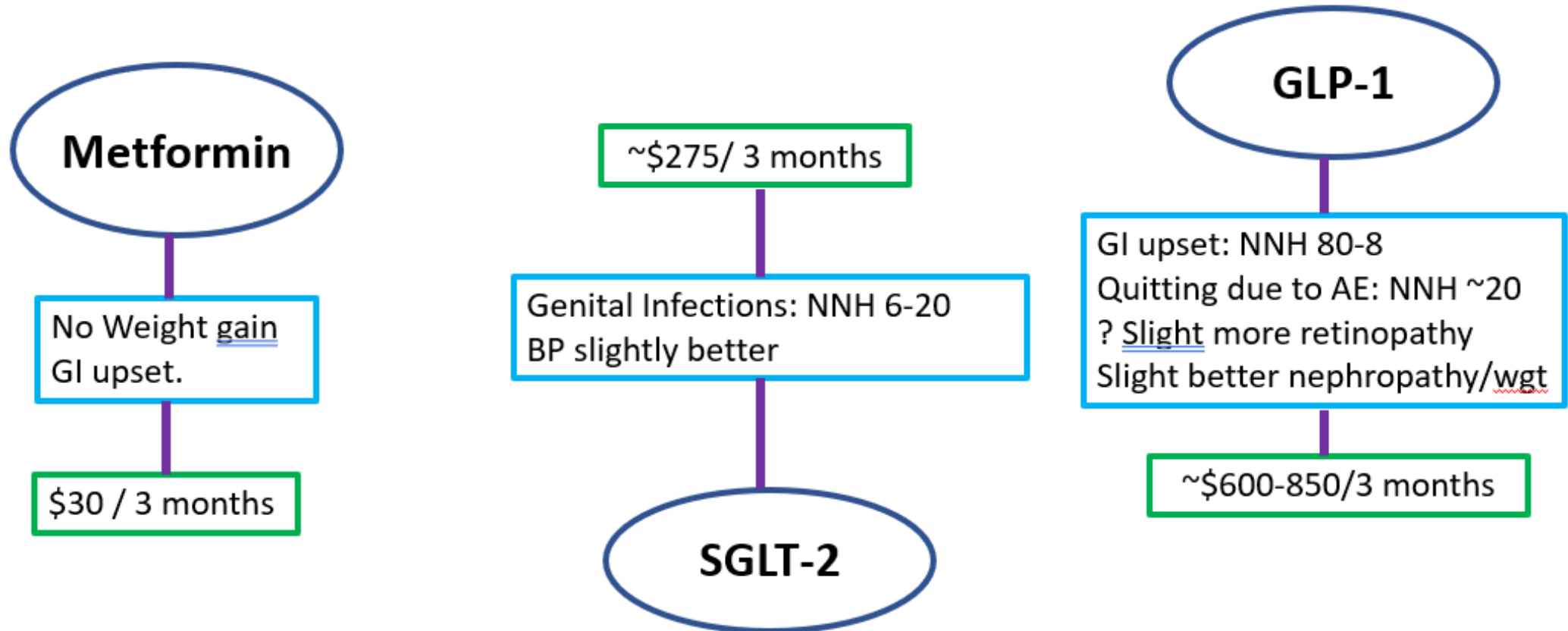
# Drugs that change glucose but NOT hard outcomes



# Glucose drugs that work: data



# Glucose drugs that work: practical



So, how do we pick,...



# Summary of Glucose Medications

Note: Many Variables here. Example - microvascular hard to prove if looking at Patient Oriented Outcomes.

	<b>CVD</b>	<b>Death</b>	<b>Micro-vascular*</b>	<b>Positive/negative</b>	<b>Drug with Best RCT result</b>
Metformin	Reduced*	Reduced*	Unclear	+ nil weight	Metformin
Sulfonylurea	No	No	Reduced*	- Possible CVD/death	None
Acarbose	No	No	No	None	None
Insulin	No	No	Reduced*	- SQ, wgt gain	None
TZD	No	No	Unclear	- Fracture/bladder Ca	None
DPP-4	No	No	No*	None	None
SGLT2	Reduced	Reduced	Mixed <sup>1</sup>	+ oral, - genital infections	Empagliflozin
GLP-1	Reduced	Reduced	Mixed <sup>2</sup>	+ Weight loss, - SQ	Liraglutide

Footnotes: \*Probably; 1) Worse amputation in one; 2) Worse retinopathy

# Summary of Glucose Medications, continued

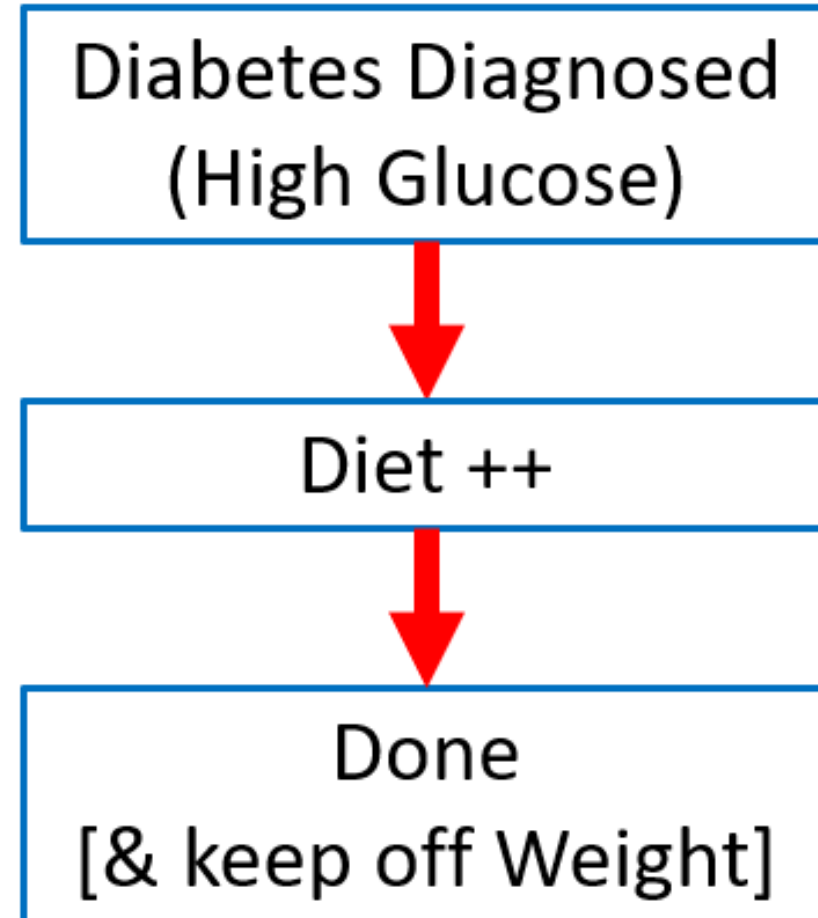
Note: Many Variables here. Example - microvascular hard to prove if looking at Patient Oriented Outcomes.

	CVD	Death	Micro-vascular*	Positive/negative	Drug with Best RCT result
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Sulfonylurea	No	No	Reduced*	- Possible CVD/death	None
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<b>GLP-1</b>	<b>Reduced</b>	<b>Reduced</b>	<b>Mixed<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>+ Weight loss, - SQ</b>	<b>Liraglutide</b>

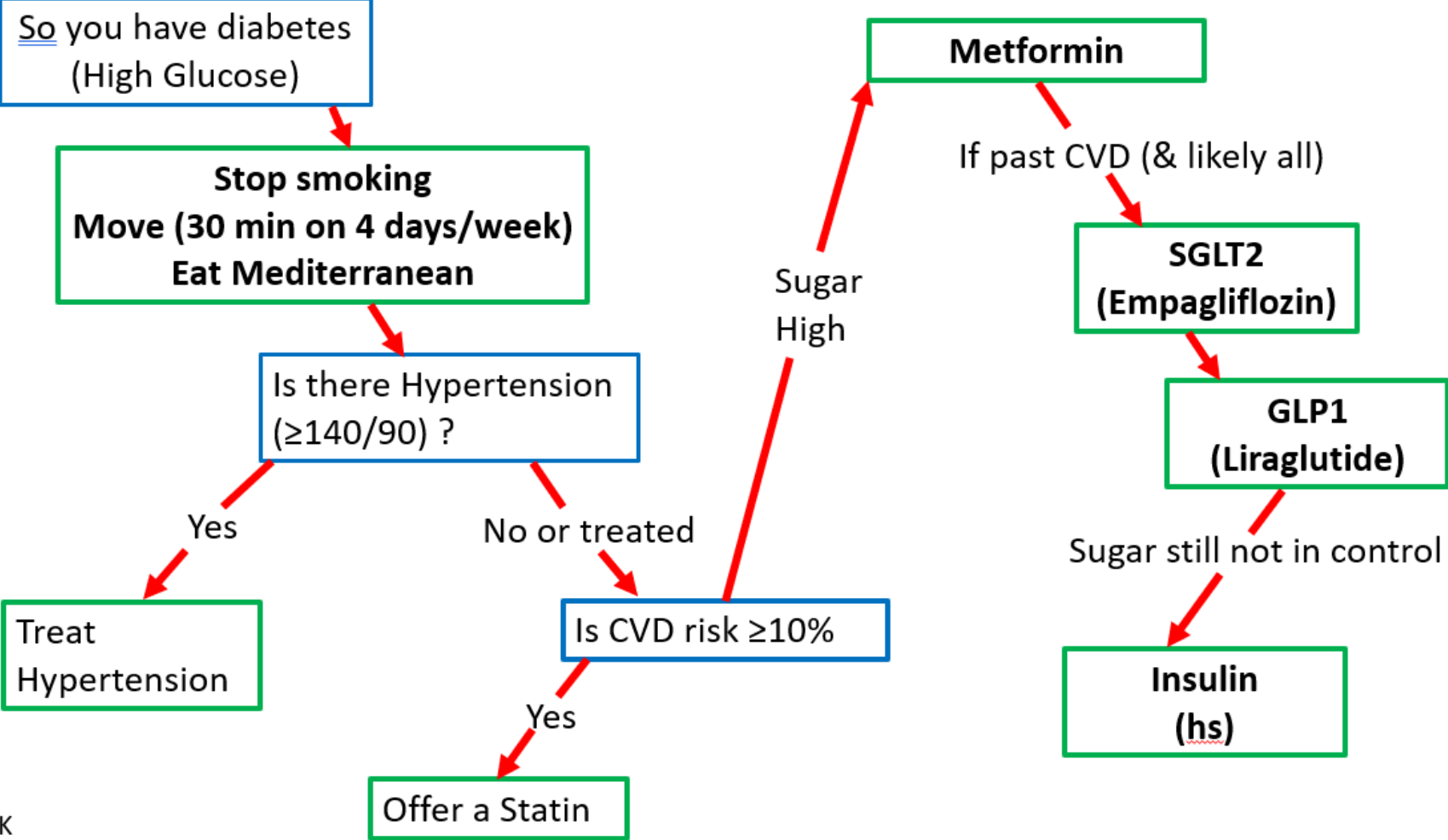
Footnotes: \*Probably; 1) Worse amputation in one; 2) Worse retinopathy

# Time for PEER suggested Diabetes Algorithm

# Best Diabetes Algorithm



# Diabetes Algorithm, continued



# Last Thoughts