

Factor XI Inhibition in Stroke Prevention

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Disclosures

- Consultant: Alnylam, Anthos, Bayer, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Bristol Myers Squibb, Daiichi-Sankyo, Ionis, Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Novartis, Pfizer, Regeneron, Servier
- Research support/PI: Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Canadian Fund for Innovation
- Advisory Board: Alnylam, Anthos, Bayer, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Bristol Myers Squibb, Daiichi-Sankyo, Ionis, Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Novartis, Pfizer, Regeneron, Servier

My talk will include off-label discussion

Anticoagulation Therapy Through the Years

Why Do We Need New Targets?



High rates of major and clinically relevant nonmajor bleeding (4% to 20%) in Phase 3 and observational studies in the AF population²⁻⁴



The ultimate goal of anticoagulant therapy is to attenuate thrombosis without increasing the risk of bleeding

DTI, direct thrombin inhibitor; IV, intravenous.

1. Fredenburgh JC, Weitz JI. et al. J Thromb Haemost. 2021;19:20-29; 2. Franco L, et al. Blood Transfus. 2018 Jul;16(4):387-391. 3. Ruff CT, et al. Lancet. 2014;383:955-962; 4. Carnicelli AP, et al; Circulation. 2022;145:242-255.

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Prior Bleeding History or Perceived Bleeding Risk Leads to . . .



UNDERUSE OF ANTICOAGULANTS

for stroke prevention in AF patients



INAPPROPRIATE USE

of low-dose DOAC regimens

. . . unprotected patients

A considerable proportion of at-risk patients are not receiving recommended anticoagulation treatment^{1,2}

In a meta-analysis of patients with elevated stroke risk¹



were not treated



were undertreated

Across ORBIT-AF II and GARFIELD registries (N = 62,872),



one-third

of high-risk patients with a $\text{CHA}_2\text{DS}_2\text{-VASc} \geq 2$ did not receive recommended OAC therapy²

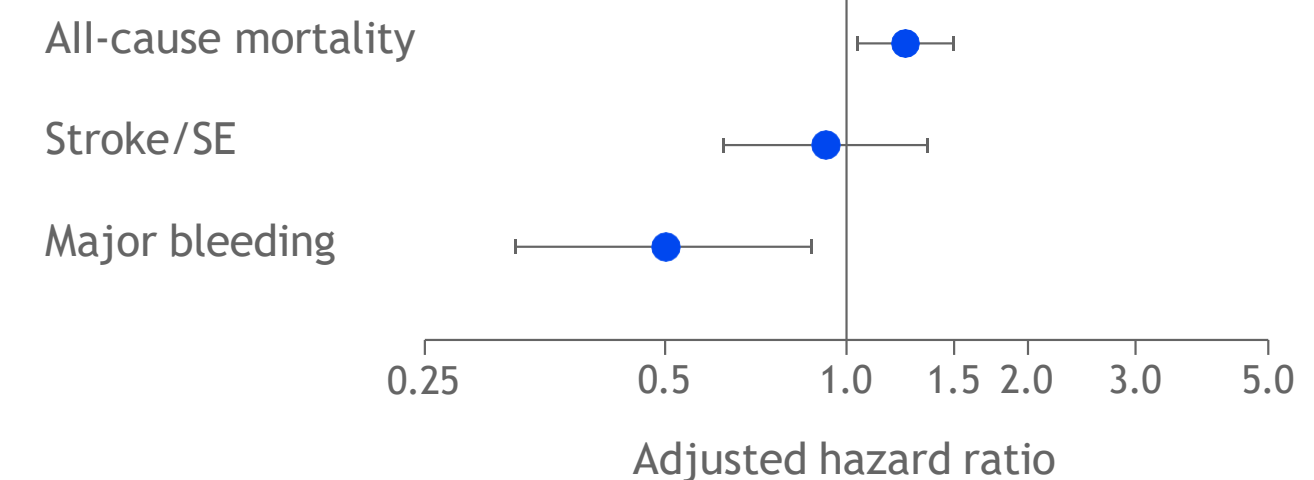
In ORBIT-AF I, patients without OAC had higher rates of^{2,3}

Death

Stroke, non-CNS embolisms

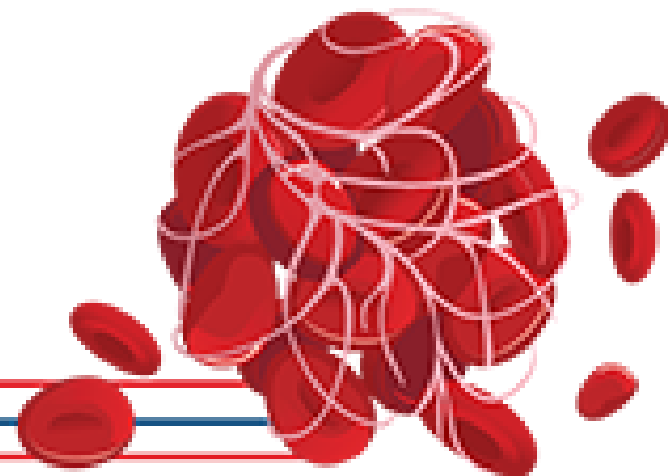
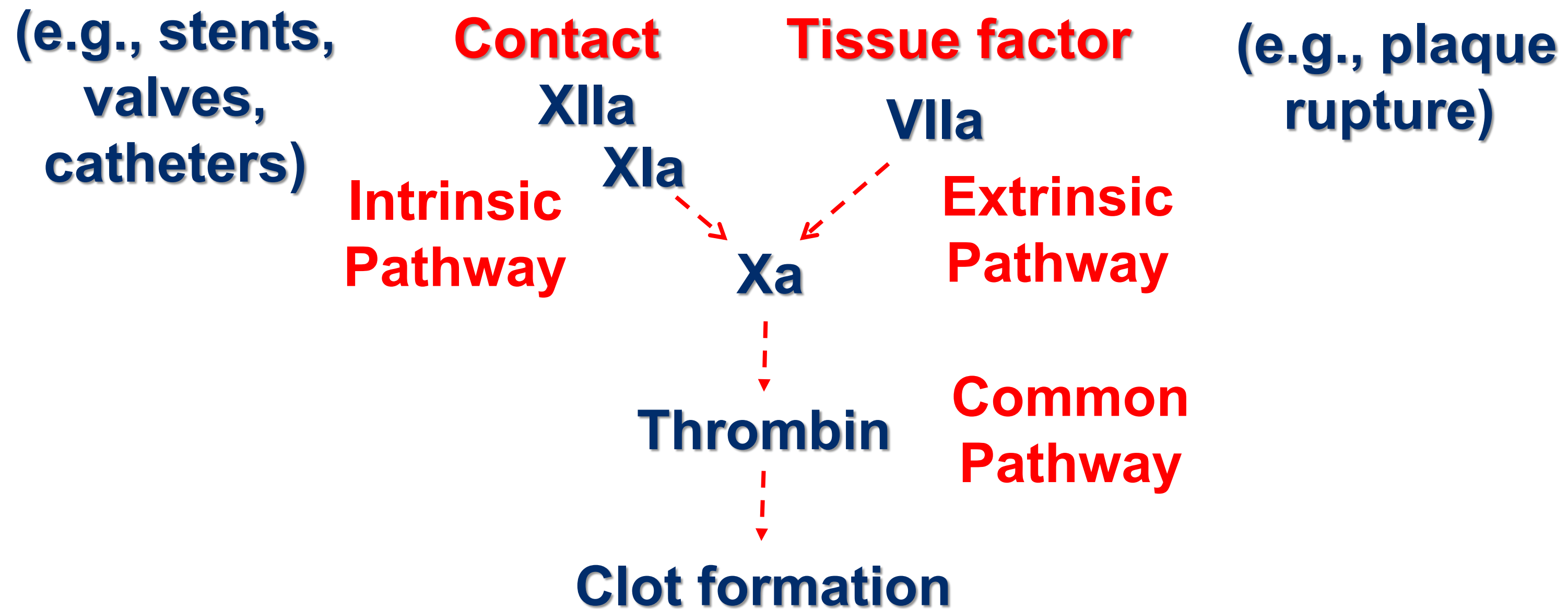
Transient ischemic attacks

Relevant findings were also seen in GARFIELD among patients with nonrecommended low dosing⁴

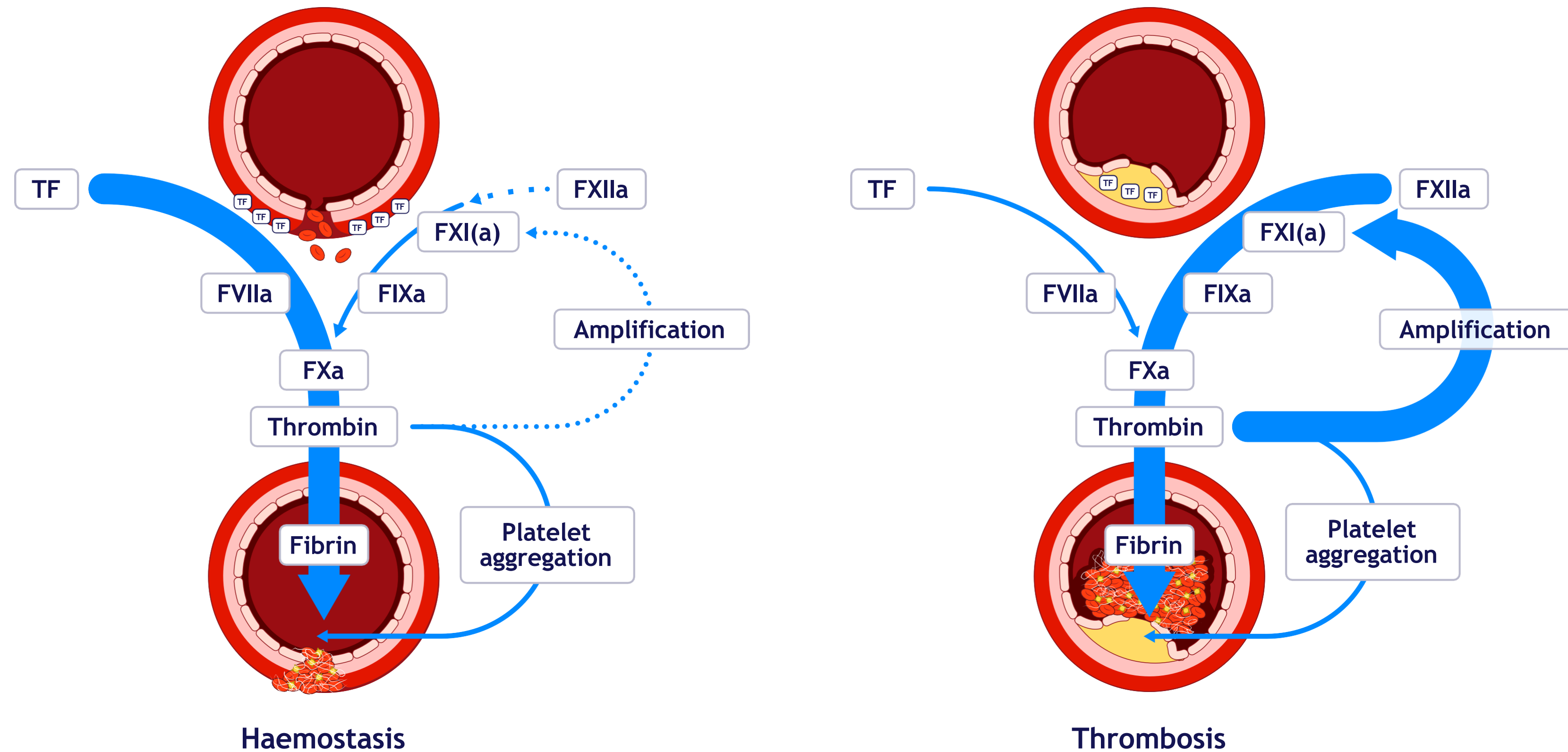


Adapted from *J Am Coll Cardiol*.⁴

Triggers of Coagulation Activation



Pathological thrombosis and physiological haemostasis are linked through the common pathway¹⁻⁴

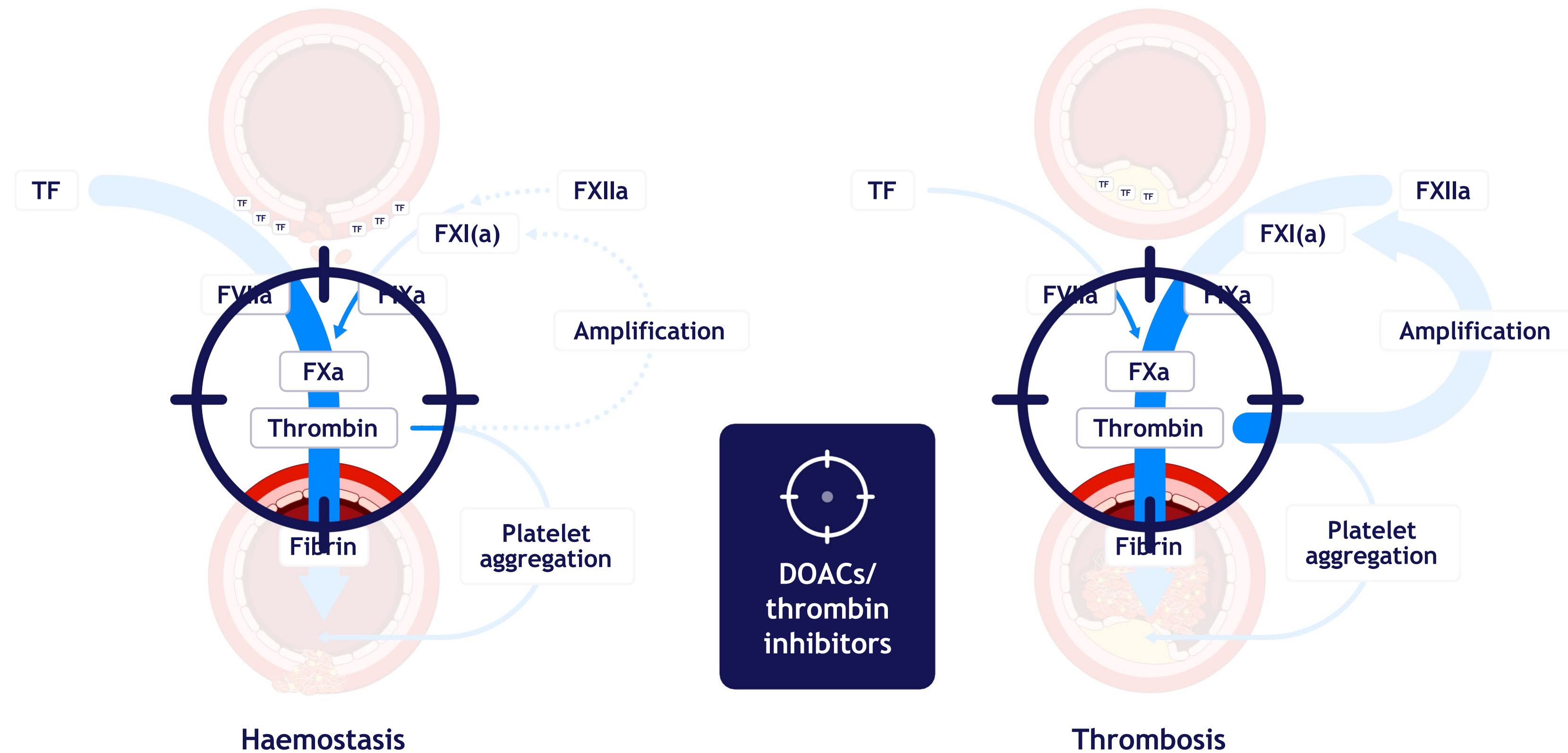


Adapted with permission from *Hämostaseologie*.¹

1. Fredenburg JC, Weitz JI. *Hämostaseologie*. 2021;41:104-110. 2. Greco A et al. *Circulation*. 2023;147:897-913. 3. Harrington J et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2023;81:771-779. 4. Coughlin SR. *Nature*. 2000;407:258-264.

FXI(a) INHIBITORS ARE INVESTIGATIONAL AGENTS WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPROVED FOR USE, AND THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF THESE INVESTIGATIONAL AGENTS HAVE NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED

Current anticoagulants target factors mainly within the common pathway¹⁻⁴

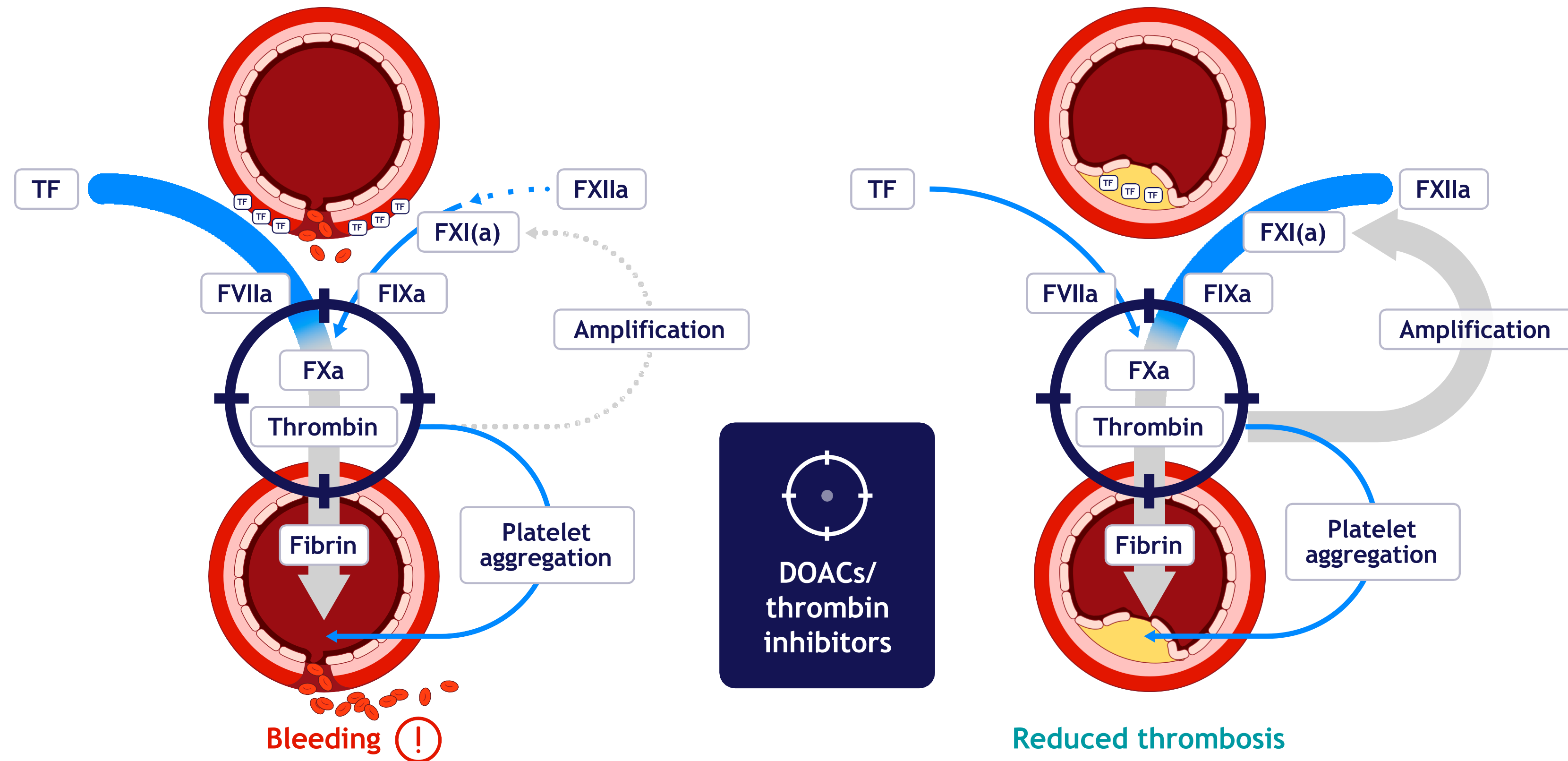


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While these anticoagulants prevent pathological thrombosis, they also inhibit the ability to form clots and stop bleeding¹⁻⁵

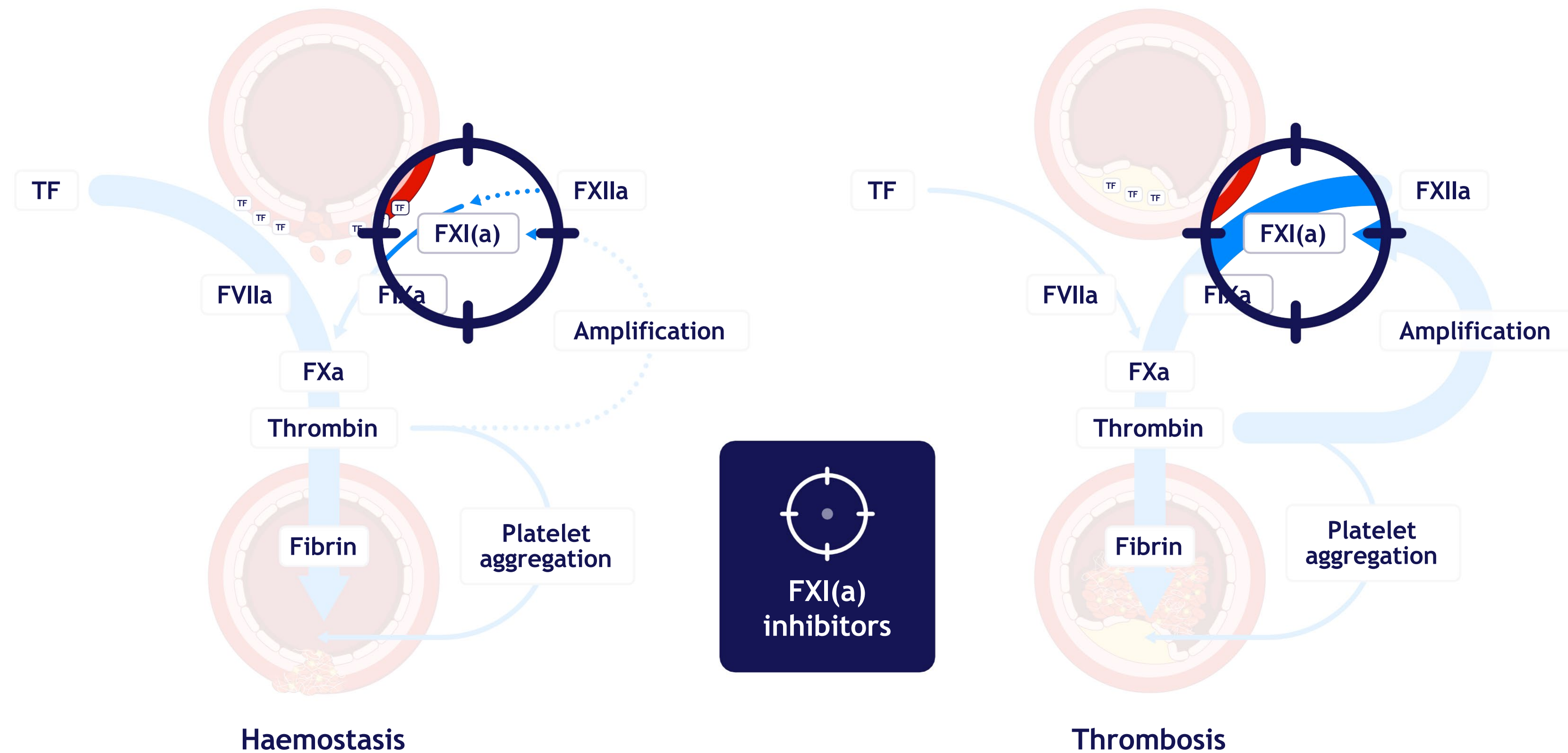


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Can targeting factor XI(a) uncouple thrombosis from haemostasis and thereby potentially reduce the risk of bleeding?¹⁻⁹

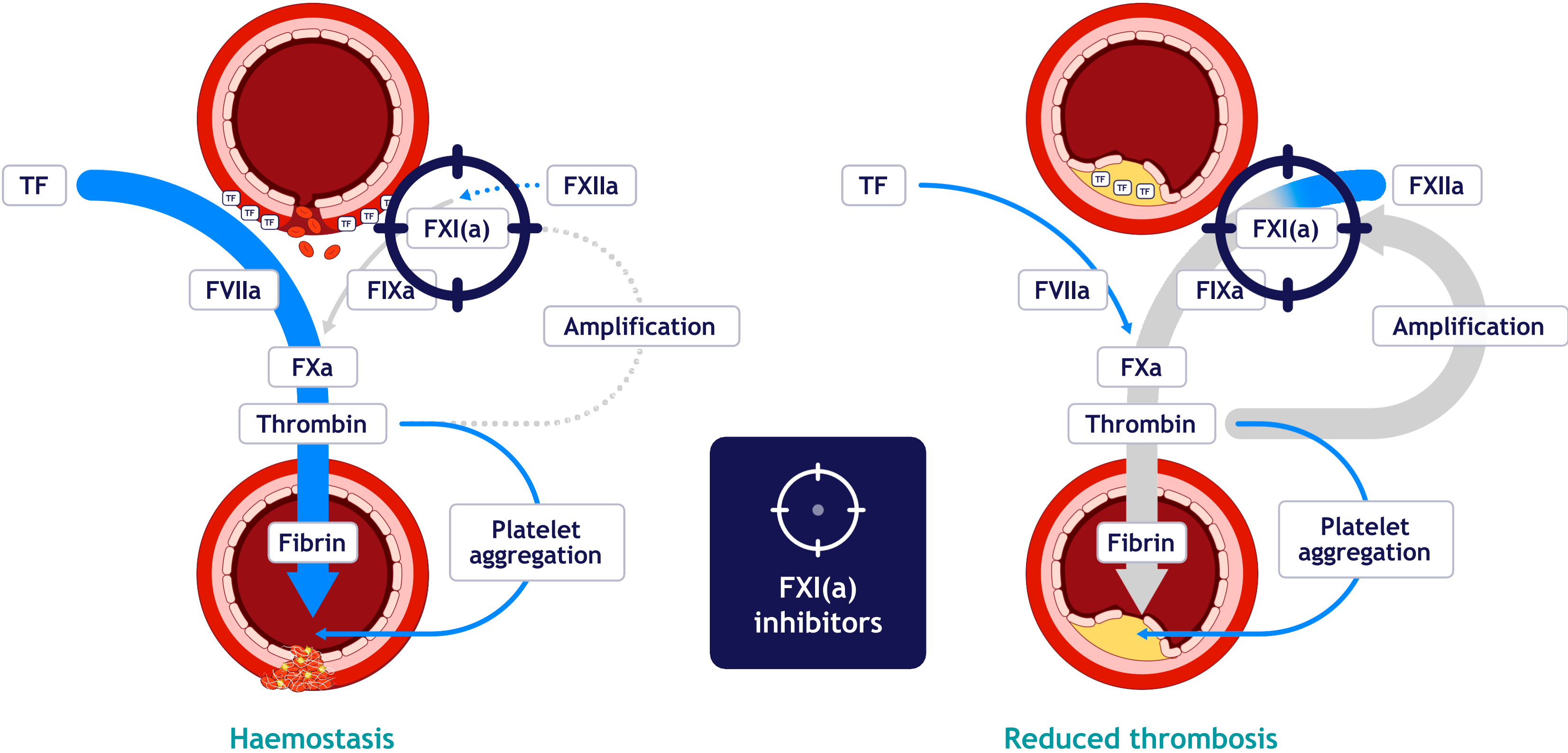


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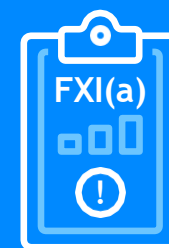
Published evidence suggests that factor XI is essential for thrombosis but mostly dispensable for haemostasis

Human genetic deficiency



Individuals with severe congenital FXI deficiency have a reduced risk of thrombosis and rarely experience spontaneous bleeding¹⁻³

Genetic epidemiology



Large cohort studies show that risk of thrombosis is 2-fold higher in individuals with high FXI(a) levels compared with those with normal levels, and 43%-74% lower in those with reduced FXI levels^{4,5}

Animal studies

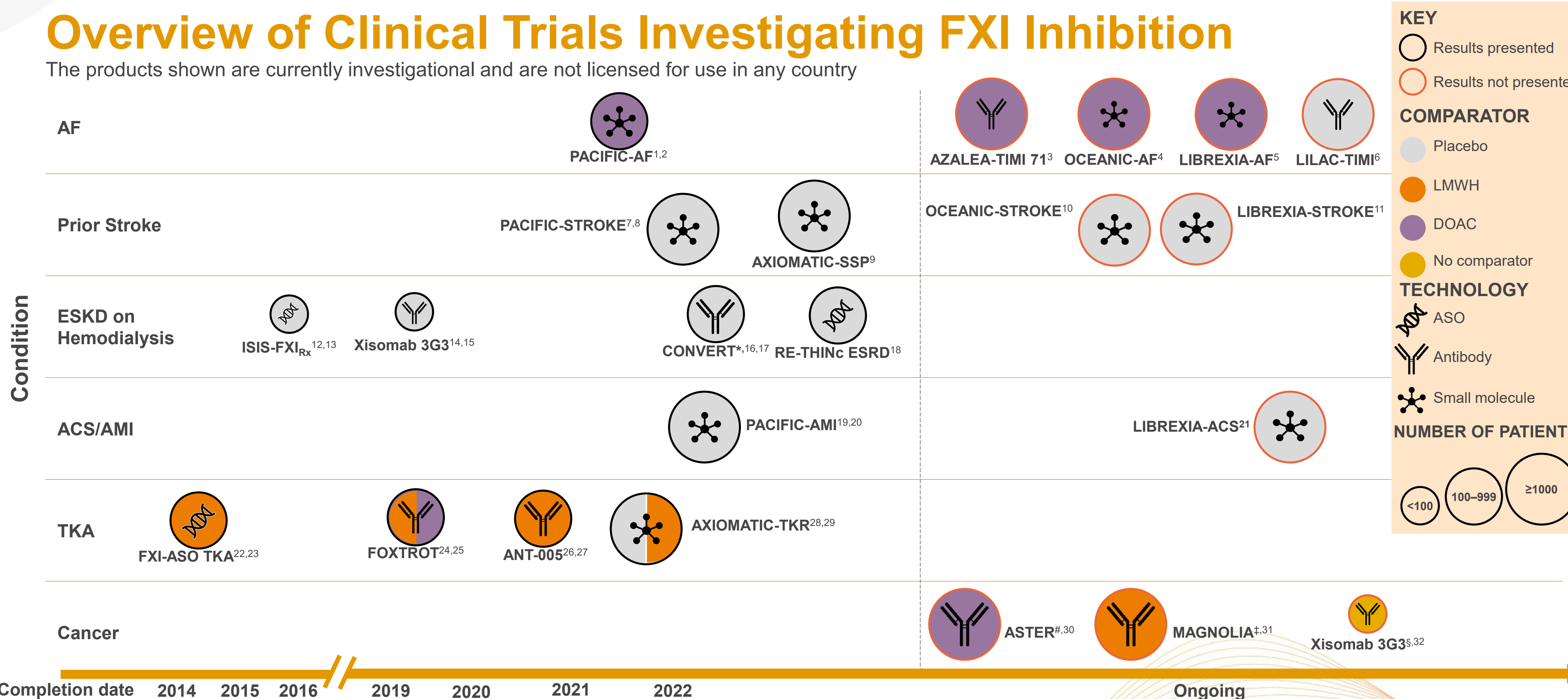


FXI inhibition attenuates thrombosis in murine, rabbit, and primate models with no increase in bleeding^{6,7}

1. Asselta R et al. *Blood*. 2017;130:e1-e6. 2. Salomon O et al. *Blood*. 2008;111:4113-4117. 3. Salomon O et al. *Thromb Haemost*. 2011;105:269-273. 4. Meijers J et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2000;342:696-701. 5. Preis M et al. *Blood*. 2017;129:1210-1215. 6. Gailani D, Gruber A. *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol*. 2016;36:1316-22. 7. Woodruff RS et al. *J Thromb Thrombolysis*. 2011;32:9-20.




Overview of Clinical Trials Investigating FXI Inhibition

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*Osocimab. †Patients with CAT currently receiving or having received anticancer therapy in the last 6 months. ‡Patients with GI or GU cancer and CAT receiving LMWH for ≥6 months. §Patients with cancer receiving chemotherapy. ACS, acute coronary syndrome; AF, atrial fibrillation; AMI, acute myocardial infarction; ASO, antisense oligonucleotide; CAT, cancer-associated thrombosis; DOAC, direct oral anticoagulant; ESKD, end-stage kidney disease; FXI, Factor XI; GI, gastrointestinal; GU, genitourinary; LMWH, low molecular weight heparin; TKA, total knee arthroplasty. 1. Bayer. 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04218266>. 2. Piccini JP *et al. Lancet* 2022;399:1383–1390. 3. Anthos Therapeutics, Inc. 2022. <https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04755283>. 4. Bayer. 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT05643573>. 5. Bristol Myers Squibb. 2023. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT05757869>. 6. Anthos Therapeutics, Inc. 2023. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT05712200>. 7. Bayer. 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04304508>. 8. Shoamanesh A *et al. Lancet* 2022;400:997–1007. 9. Bristol-Myers Squibb. 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03766581>. 10. Bayer. 2023. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT05686070>. 11. Janssen Research & Development, LLC. 2023. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT05702034>. 12. Ionis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 2016. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02553889>. 13. Walsh M *et al. Kidney Int Rep* 2021;7:200–209. 14. Aronora, Inc. 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03612856>. 15. Lorentz U *et al. Blood* 2021;138:2173–2184. 16. Winkelmayer W. ERA. Milan, Italy, 15–18 June 2023, Presentation 499140. <https://era-apps.m-anage.com/era23/en-GB/pag/presentation/499140>. 17. Bayer. 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04523220>. 18. Bayer. 2023. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04534114>. 19. Bayer. 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04304534>. 20. Rao SV *et al. Circulation* 2022;146:1196–1206. 21. Janssen Research & Development, LLC. 2023 <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT05754957>. 22. Ionis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 2014. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01713361>. 23. Büller HR *et al. N Engl J Med* 2015;372:232–240. 24. Bayer. 2020. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03276143>. 25. Weitz JI *et al. JAMA* 2020;323:130–139. 26. Anthos Therapeutics, Inc. 2022. <https://www.clinicaltrialsregister.eu/ctr-search/search?query=ANT-005>. 27. Verhamme P *et al. N Engl J Med* 2021;385:609–617. 28. Janssen Research & Development, LLC. 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03891524>. 29. Weitz JI *et al. N Engl J Med* 2021;385:2161–2172. 30. Anthos Therapeutics, Inc. 2023. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT05171075>. 31. Anthos Therapeutics, Inc. 2023. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT05171075>. 32. OHSU Knight Cancer Institute. 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04465760> [all links accessed August 2023].

Factor XI(a) inhibitors with completed Phase 2 trials¹⁻⁹

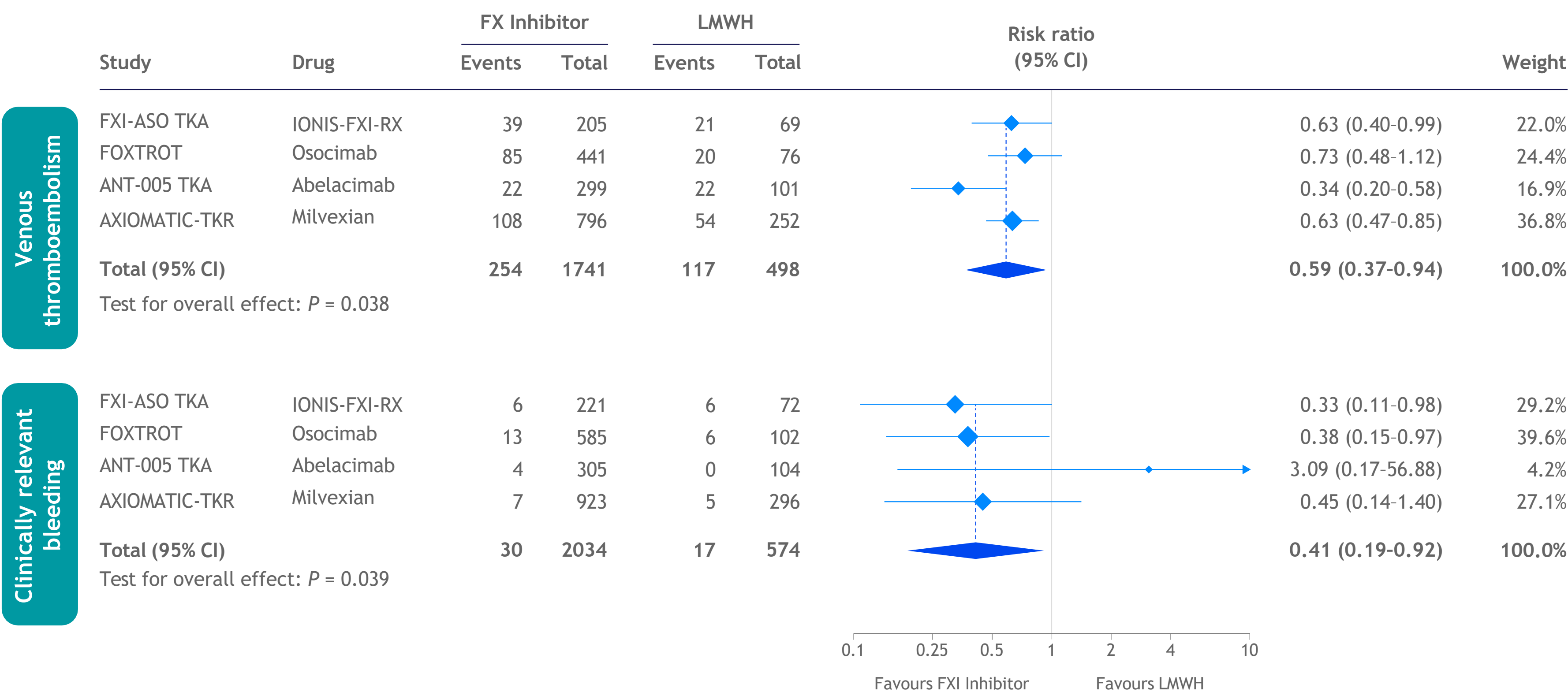
Class	 Antisense oligonucleotide		 Monoclonal antibody				 Small molecule		
Inhibitor	Fesomersen	IONIS-FXIRx	Abelacimab	Gruticibart	Osocimab	REGN9933	Asundexian	Milvexian	SHR2285
Mechanism of action	FXI synthesis inhibition	FXI mRNA degradation	FXI and FXIa inhibition	FXI activation inhibition by Factor XIIa	FXIa inhibition	FXI inhibition	FXIa inhibition	FXIa inhibition	FXIa inhibition
Route	SC	SC	IV, SC	IV	IV, SC	IV	PO	PO	PO
Phase 2 indication	ESRD	TKA, ESRD	TKA, AF ^a	ESRD	TKA, ESRD	TKA	AF, stroke, AMI	TKA, stroke	TKA
Phase 2 doses	40, 80, 120 mg	200, 300 mg	30, 75, 150 mg	0.25, 0.5 mg/kg	0.3, 0.6, 1.2, 1.8 mg/kg	Not reported	10, 20, 50 mg	25, 50, 100, 200 mg BID; 25, 50, 200 mg QD	Not reported
Half-life	20 d	≈ 2 wk	20-30 d	11-121 h	30-44 d	Not reported	14-21 h	11-18 h	≈ 13 h
Renal clearance	No	Some	No	No	No	No	Some	Some	Yes
Drug-drug interactions	No	No	No	No	No	No	Possible	Possible	Possible

^aAZALEA-TIMI 71, the Phase 2 study of abelacimab in AF, was terminated before study completion.⁹

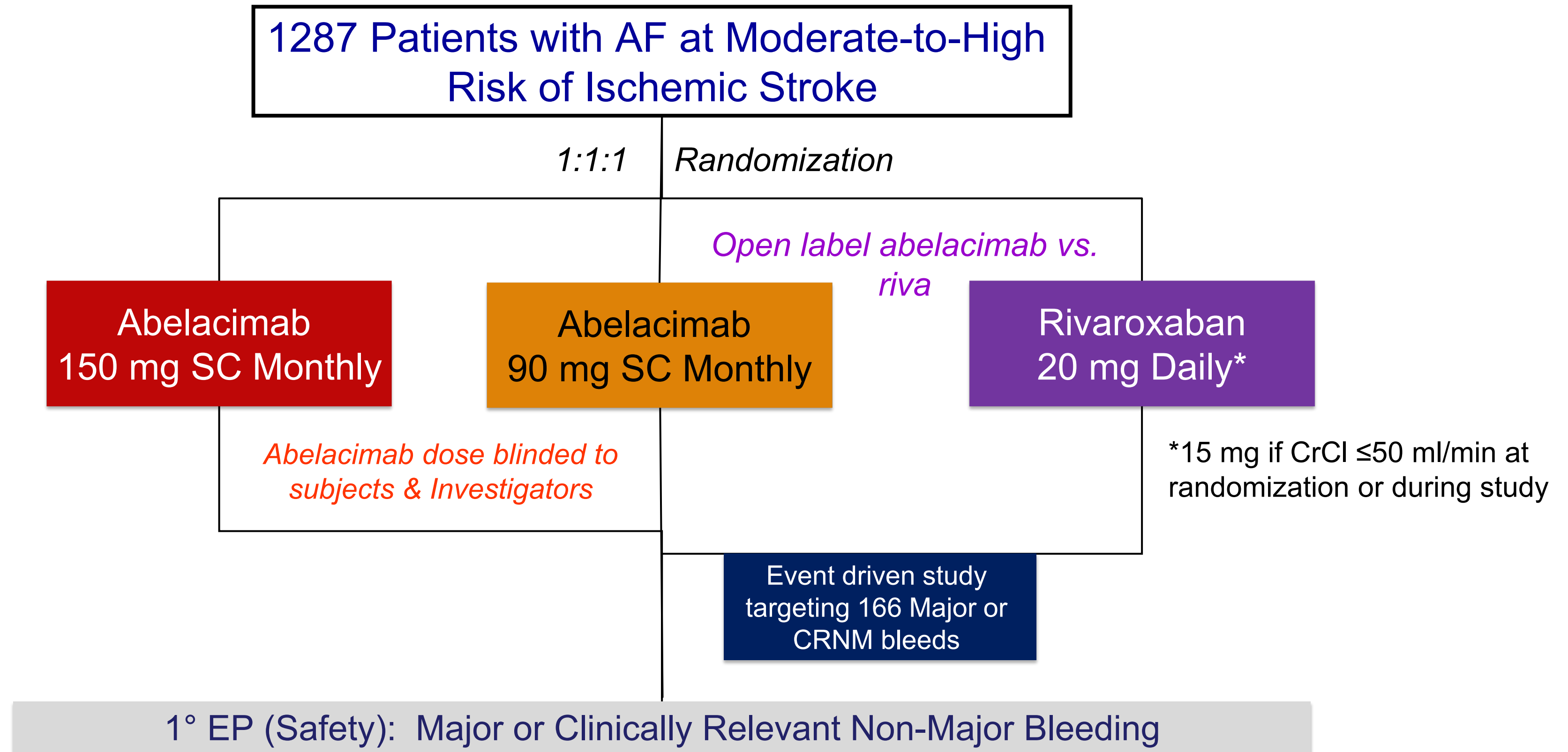
1. Greco A et al. *Circulation*. 2023;147:897-913. 2. Fredenburgh JC, Weitz JI. *Hemostaseologia*. 2021;41:104-110. 3. Fredenburgh JC, Weitz JI. *J Thromb Haemost*. 2023;21:1692-1702. 4. Engelen MM et al. *Thromb Update*. 2024;15:100171. 5. Campello E et al. *J Clin Med*. 2022;11:6314. 6. Weitz JI et al. *Nature Med*. 2024;30:435-442. 7. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT05618808. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT05618808>. Accessed August 2024. 8. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT05203705. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT05203705>. Accessed August 2024. 9. Healio. <https://www.healio.com/news/cardiology/20230918/abelacimab-trial-for-af-stopped-early-due-to-overwhelming-reduction-in-bleeding>. Published September 2023. Accessed June 2024.

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Meta-analysis of Phase 2 studies comparing factor XI(a) inhibitors with enoxaparin in total knee arthroplasty



AZALEA Trial



An Academic Research Organization of
Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School

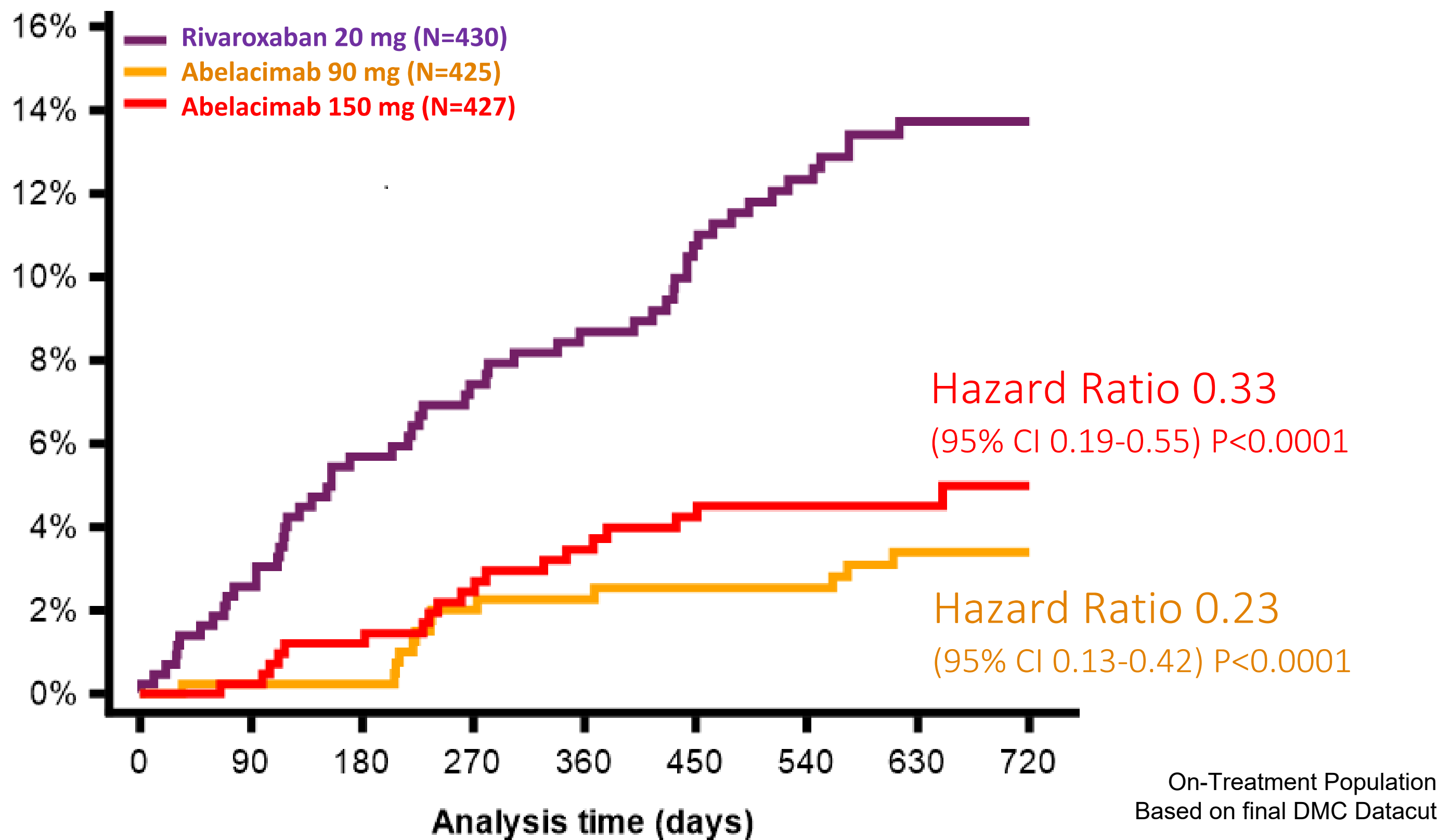
Abelacimab is an investigational agent and is not approved for any indication in any country

ANT-ABL-Med-Global-GEN-030-13Nov23-EXT-NonCD



Primary Endpoint

Major or Clinically Relevant Non-major Bleeding



An Academic Center at risk:
Brigham and women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School

Abelacimab is an investigational agent and is not approved for any indication in any country

ANT-ABL-Med-Global-GEN-030-13Nov23-EXT-NonCD



Asundexian: PACIFIC Phase 2 Clinical Trial Program

PACIFIC AF

Atrial fibrillation¹

- Asundexian 20 mg, 50 mg QD
- Apixaban 5 mg BID
- Aspirin (≤ 100 mg) was permitted

Primary endpoint: composite of major or clinically relevant non-major bleeding

755 patients with AF randomized

Asundexian 20 mg and 50 mg once daily doses resulted in:

- ✓ Lower rates of bleeding compared with standard dosing of apixaban
- ✓ Near-complete FXIa inhibition

PACIFIC AMI

Acute myocardial infarction²

- Asundexian 10 mg, 20 mg, 50 mg QD
- Placebo
- + DAPT

Safety outcome: composite of BARC 2, 3, or 5 bleeding

Efficacy outcome: composite of cardiovascular death, MI, stroke, or stent thrombosis

1601 patients with recent MI randomized

Results for all pooled asundexian doses vs placebo. When added to aspirin and a P2Y12 inhibitor, treatment with asundexian resulted in:

- ✓ Dose-dependent, near-complete inhibition of FXIa activity
- ✓ No significant increase in bleeding
- ✓ Low rate of ischemic events

PACIFIC STROKE

Non-cardioembolic ischemic stroke³

- Asundexian 10 mg, 20 mg, 50 mg QD
- Placebo
- + background antiplatelet therapy

Primary endpoints: dose-response effect on composite of covert brain infarcts and recurrent symptomatic ischemic stroke; major or CRNMB

1880 patients with AIS randomized

- ✓ No reduction of the composite of covert brain infarction or ischemic stroke
- ✓ No increase of the composite of major or CRNMB compared with placebo
- ✓ 50 mg once daily reduced recurrent symptomatic ischemic stroke and TIAs, particularly among those with atherosclerosis (exploratory, post-hoc)

Asundexian was well tolerated in all 3 trials: 50 mg resulted in > 90% factor XI(a) inhibition

AIS, acute, non-cardioembolic ischemic stroke; BARC, Bleeding Academic Research Consortium; BID, twice daily; CRNMB, clinically relevant non-major bleeding; DAPT, dual antiplatelet therapy; TIA, transient ischemic attack; QD, daily.

1. Piccini JP, et al. Lancet. 2022;399:1383-1390; 2. Rao SV, et al. Circulation. 2022;146:1196-1206; 3. Shoamanesh A, et al. Lancet. 2022;400:997-1007.

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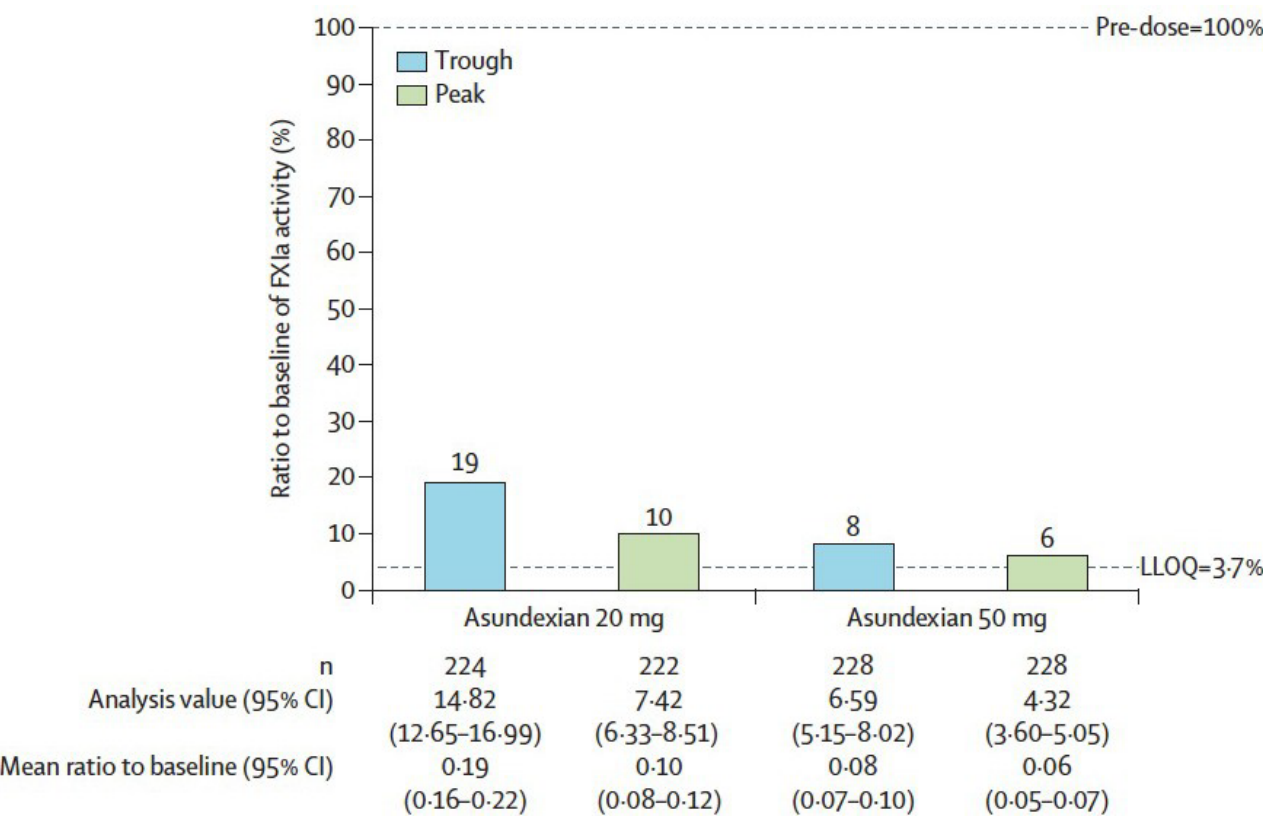
PACIFIC-AF: Phase 2 Study in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation

Safety of the oral factor Xla inhibitor asundexian compared with apixaban in patients with atrial fibrillation (PACIFIC-AF): a multicentre, randomised, double-blind, double-dummy, dose-finding phase 2 study

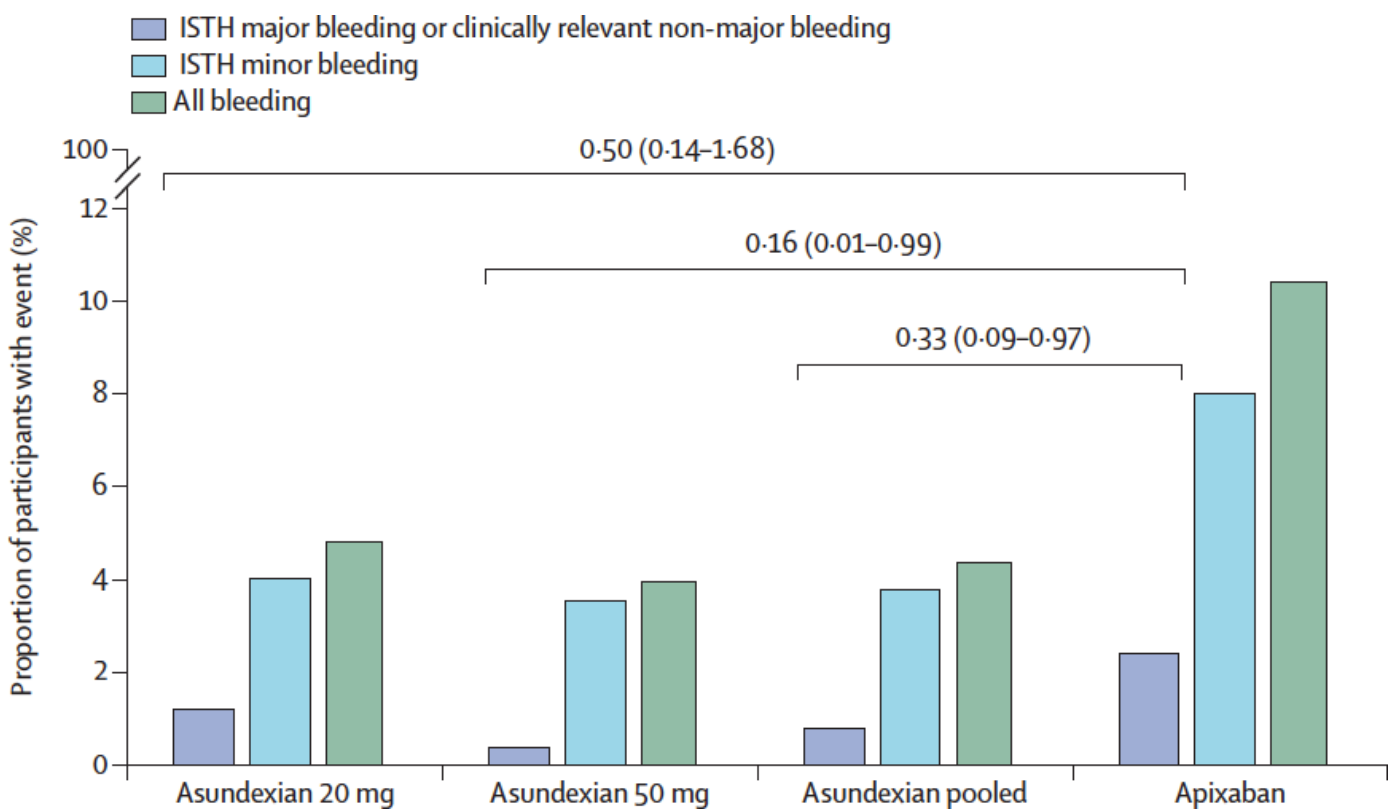


Jonathan P Piccini, Valeria Caso, Stuart J Connolly, Keith A A Fox, Jonas Oldgren, W Schuyler Jones, Diana A Gorog, Václav Durdil, Thomas Viethen, Christoph Neumann, Hardi Mundl, Manesh R Patel, on behalf of the PACIFIC-AF Investigators*

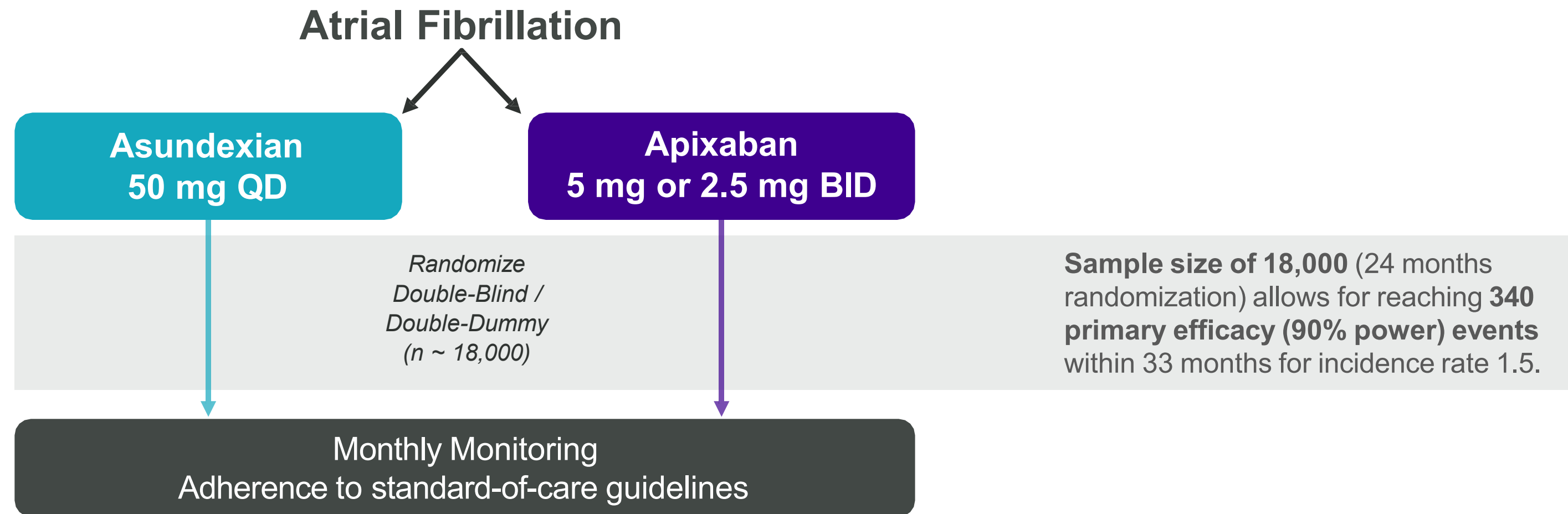
FXIa Activity — Inhibition Data



Primary Safety Outcome (ISTH bleeding classification)



OCEANIC-AF Study Design

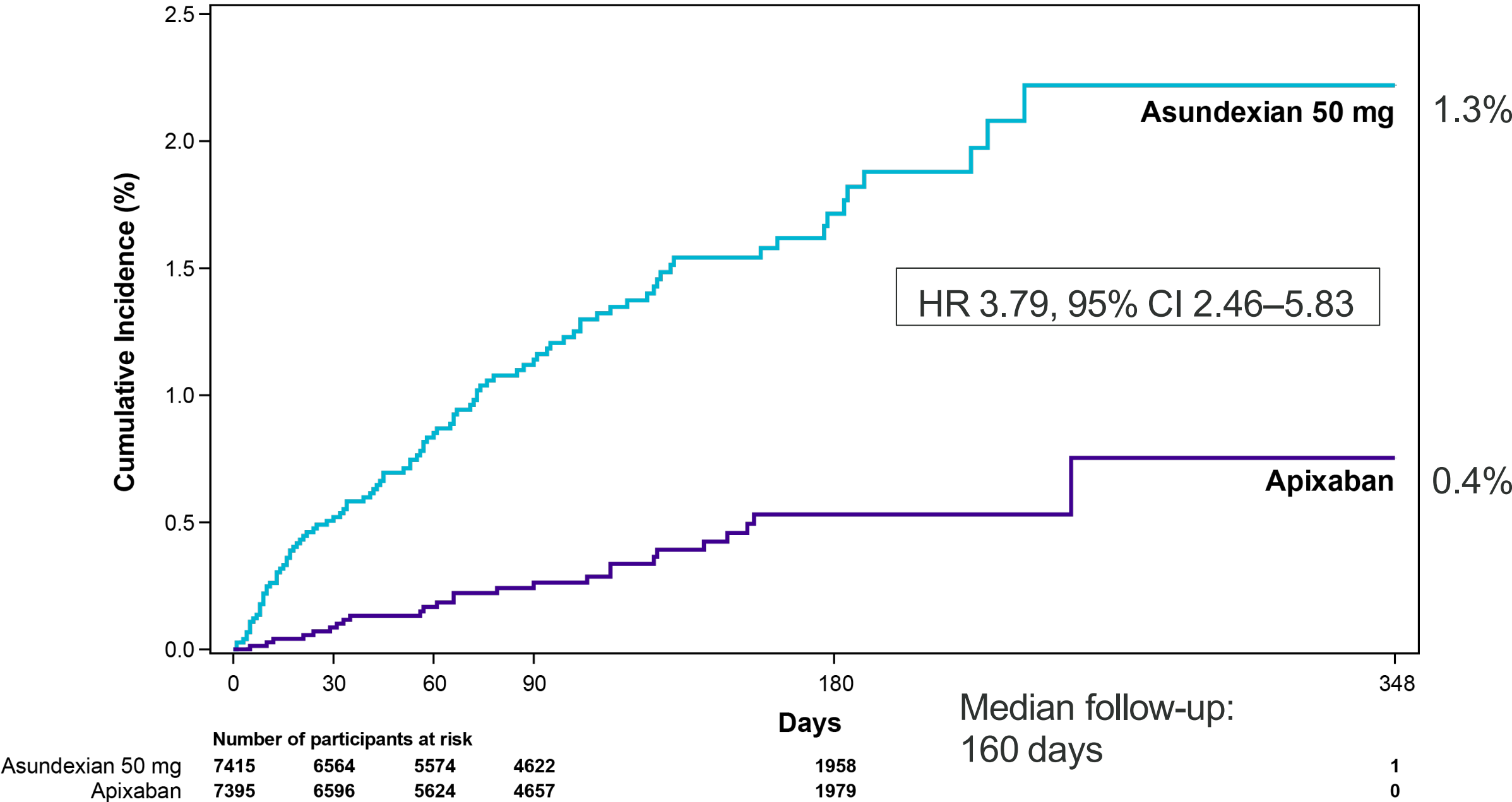


Primary Efficacy Endpoint: Stroke or Systemic Embolism

Primary Safety Endpoint: ISTH Major Bleeding

Primary Net Clinical Benefit Endpoint: Stroke or Systemic Embolism and ISTH Major Bleeding

Cumulative Event Rate for the Primary Efficacy Endpoint

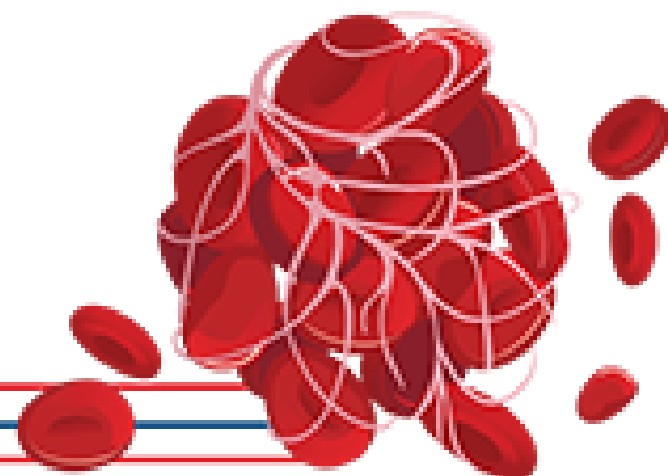


OCEANIC-AF: Inferior Efficacy or Low Dosing?

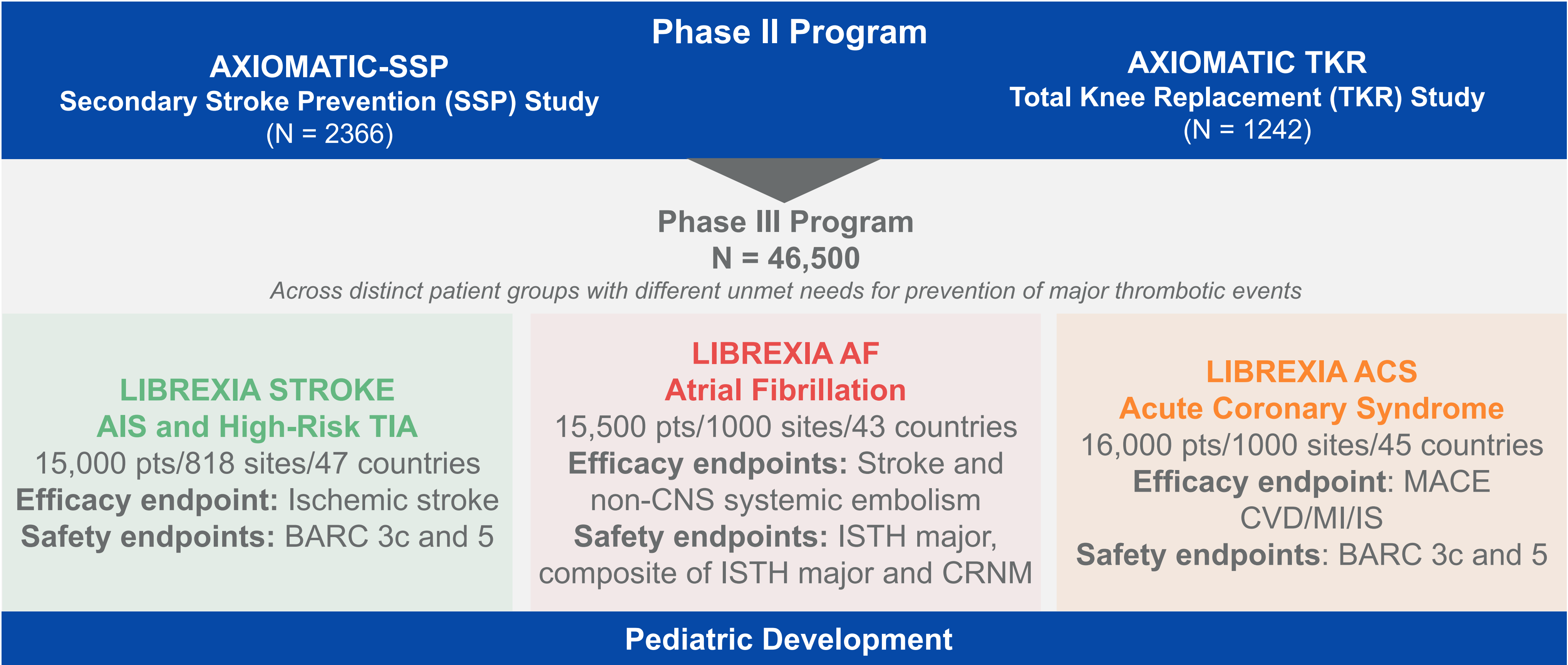
Inferior efficacy due to?

- **Class effect**
 - FXI may not contribute to thrombosis in AF
 - However, trials of other FXI/FXIa inhibitors, including for AF, continuing after recent reviews by IDMC
- **Specific characteristics of asundexian**
 - Dose
 - Reduced FXIa activity by 94% (peak) and 92% (trough) using a non-standard assay—not clear how this correlates with the aPTT
 - Less inhibition of thrombin generation with asundexian than with milvexian at concentrations achieved in the phase III AF trials (Vassart, Thromb Res 2024)
 - PK/PD
 - Ki for FXIa
 - Asundexian 1.0 nM (Heitmeier, JTH 2022)
 - Milvexian 0.1 nM (Dilger, J Med Chem, 2022)

aPTT, activated partial thromboplastin time; Piccini JP, et al. *N Engl J Med*. Published online September 1, 2024.



Milvexian Development Program

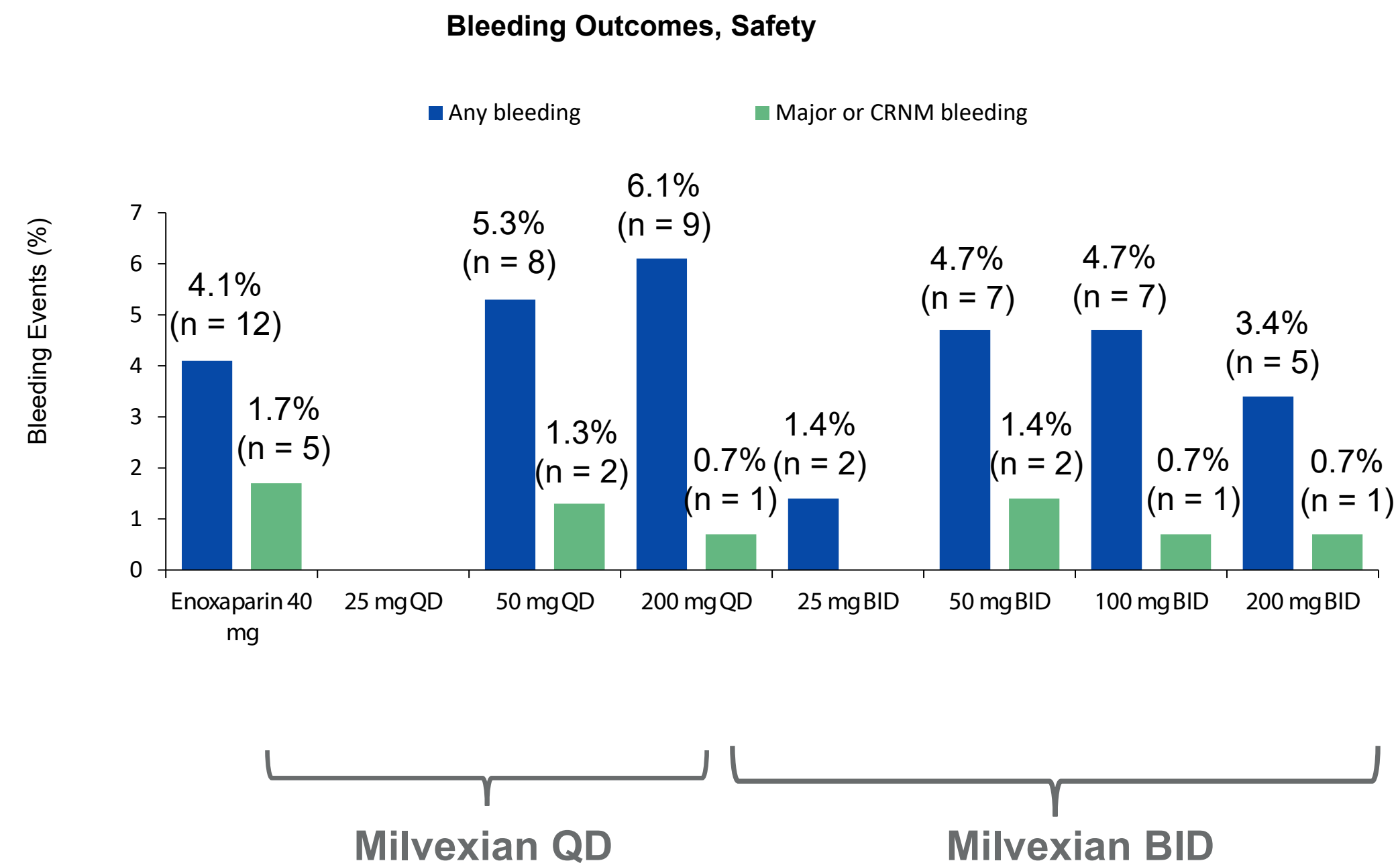
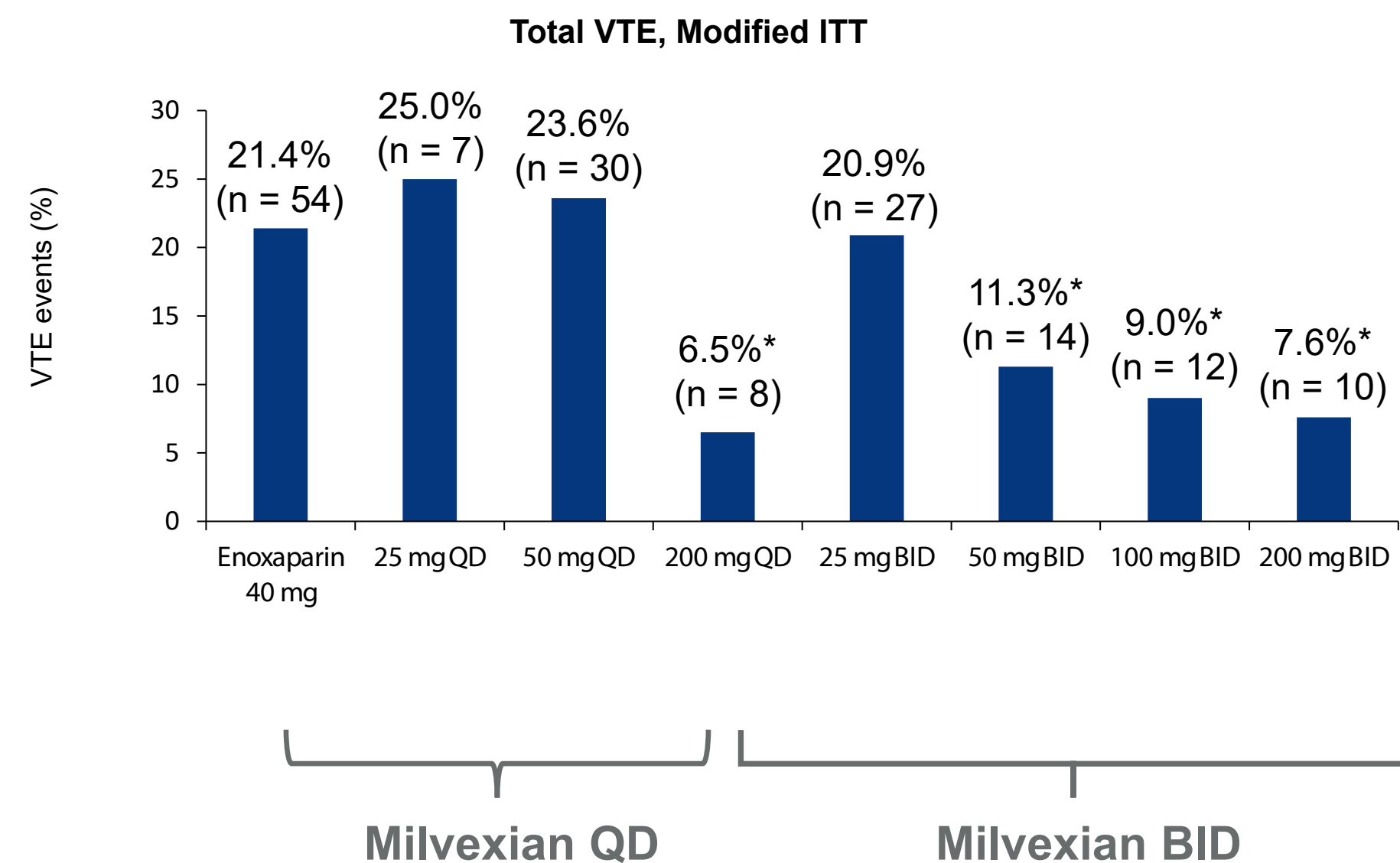


ACS, acute coronary syndrome; BARC, Bleeding Academic Research Consortium; CNS, central nervous system; CRNM, clinically relevant non-major; CVD, cardiovascular disease; ISTH, International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis; MACE, major adverse cardiovascular event.
ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT05702034; NCT05757869; NCT05754957.

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Milvexian TKR Phase 2 Key Efficacy and Safety Results

- Milvexian significantly reduced VTE events in a dose-dependent manner
- No meaningful relationship between milvexian dose and bleeding events
- No major bleeding was observed



* $P < .01$

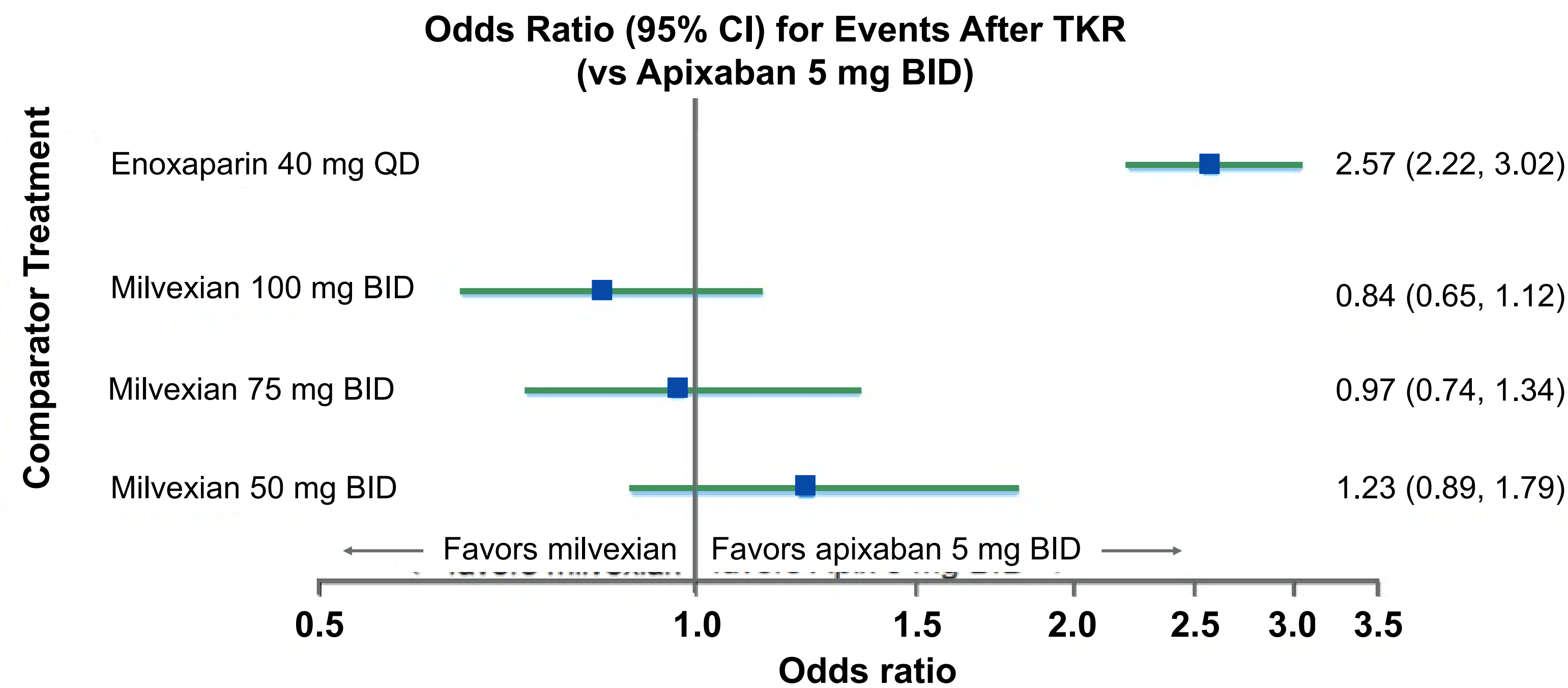
BID, twice daily; ITT, intent-to-treat; QD, once daily.

Weitz JI et al. N Engl J Med. 2021;385:2161-2172.

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Model-Based Meta-Analysis of Anticipated VTE Outcomes for Milvexian vs Apixaban

The median VTE odds ratio showed a dose-dependent response favoring milvexian (investigational) over apixaban for doses ≥ 75 mg BID^a



^aResults should be interpreted with caution due to high variability in results and model limitations.

Zhou W, et al. Presented at: ISTH 2024 Congress; June 22-26, 2024; Bangkok, Thailand.




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Dose Selection for Phase 3 LIBREXIA-AF and OCEANIC-AF Trials

	LIBREXIA-AF ^{1,2} (milvexian)	OCEANIC-AF ^{3,4} (asundexian)
Phase 2 dose range	16-fold	5-fold
Phase 2 background study	AXIOMATIC TKR	PACIFIC AF
Phase 2 evidence	Dose response in TKR	Safety outcomes in AF
Basis for dose selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Clinical event data■ Clinical assay: aPTT<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Meta-analysis	In vitro FXIa target engagement assay
Dose chosen from Phase 2	Middle dose 100 mg BID	Highest studied 50 mg QD

aPTT, activated partial thromboplastin time.
Courtesy of Carolyn Lam, MBBS, PhD.
1. Weitz JI, et al. N Engl J Med. 2021;385:2161-2172; 2. ClinicalTrials.gov.NCT05757869; 3. Piccini JP, et al. Lancet. 2022;399:1383-1390; 4. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT05643573.

Phase 3 trials of factor XI(a) inhibitors¹⁻⁷

Inhibitor	 Abelacimab			 Asundexian		 Milvexian		
Trial name	LILAC-TIMI 76	ASTER	MAGNOLIA	OCEANIC-AF (Terminated)	OCEANIC-STROKE	LIBREXIA-AF	LIBREXIA-STROKE	LIBREXIA-ACS
Indication	AF	Cancer-associated VTE	Cancer-associated VTE (GI/GU)	AF	Secondary stroke prevention	AF	Secondary stroke prevention	ACS
Comparator	Placebo	Apixaban	Dalteparin	Apixaban	Placebo	Apixaban	Placebo	Placebo
N	≈ 1900	≈ 1655	≈ 1020	≈ 15,000	12,300	≈ 17,500	≈ 15,000	≈ 16,000
Dosing	150 mg SC	150 mg SC	150 mg SC	50 mg QD	50 mg QD	100 mg PO BID	25 mg PO BID	25 mg PO BID

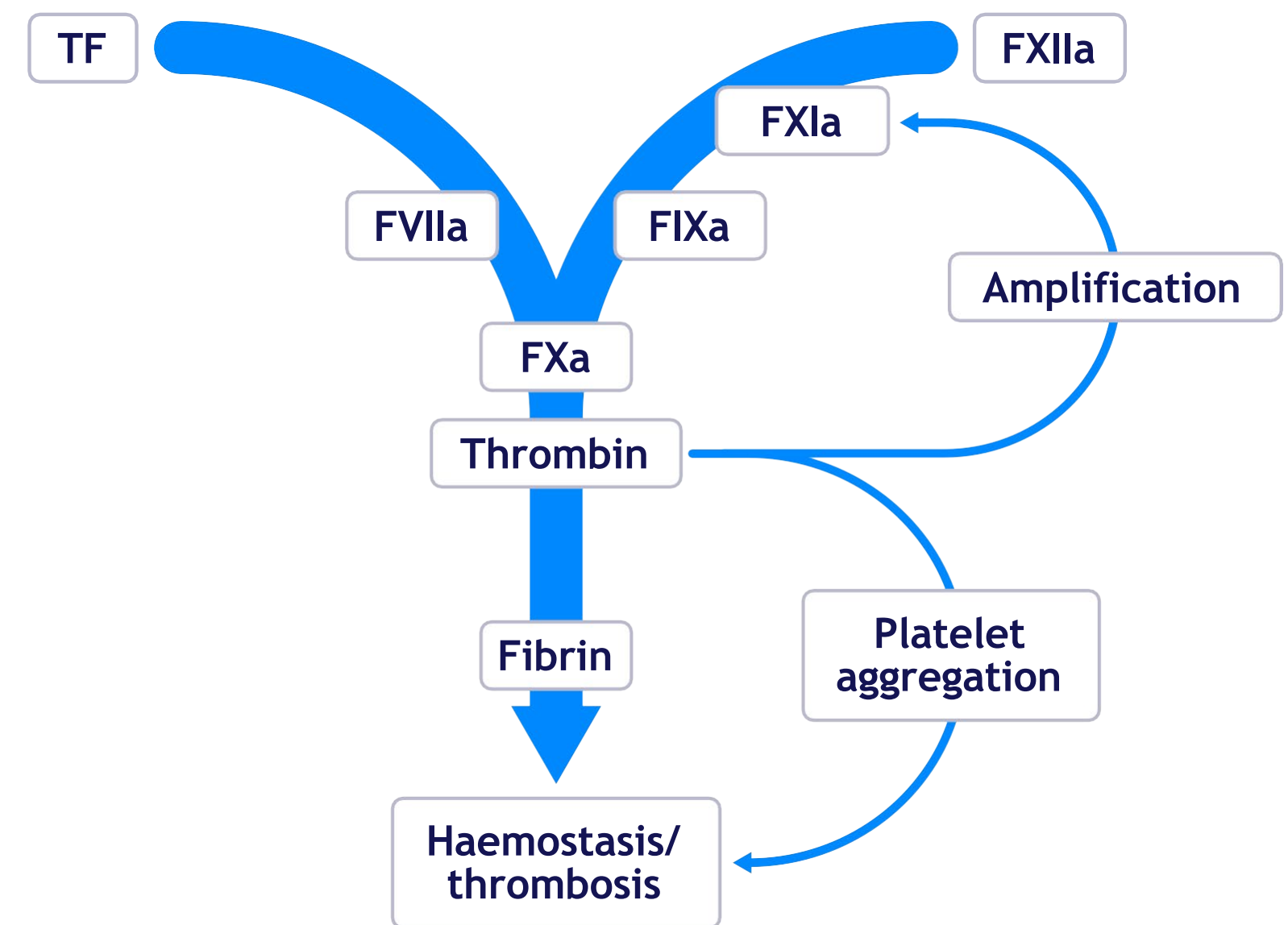
Adapted from *J Thromb Haemost*.¹

1. Fredenburgh JC et al. *J Thromb Haemost*. 2023;21:1692-1702. 2. Shoamanesh A et al. Presented at 10th European Stroke Organisation Conference; May 15-17, 2024; Basel, Switzerland. Abstract P2296. 3. Presume J et al. *Cardiol Ther*. 2024;13:1-16. 4. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT05757869. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT05757869>. Accessed July 2024. 5. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT05702034. <http://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT05702034>. Accessed July 2024. 6. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT05754957. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT05754957>. Accessed July 2024. 7. Bayer Press Release. <https://www.bayer.com/media/en-us/oceanic-af-study-stopped-early-due-to-lack-of-efficacy/>. Released September 2023. Accessed August 2024.

FXI(a) INHIBITORS ARE INVESTIGATIONAL AGENTS WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPROVED FOR USE, AND THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF THESE INVESTIGATIONAL AGENTS HAVE NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED

Conclusions

- Targeting FXI(a) has the potential to reduce the burden of thromboembolic cardiovascular diseases while preserving haemostasis¹⁻⁵
- Phase 3 trial data are needed to establish the benefit-risk profiles of FXI(a) inhibitors⁶



Adapted with permission from *Hämostaseologie*.¹

1. Fredenburg JC, Weitz JI. *Hämostaseologie*. 2021;41:104-110. 2. Harrington J et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2023;81:771-779. 3. Greco A et al. *Circulation*. 2023;147:897-913. 4. Ali AE, Becker RC. *J Thromb Thrombolysis*. 2024. [Epub ahead of print]. doi:10.1007/s11239-024-02972-5. 5. Galli M et al. *Eur Heart J*. 2023;44:Suppl 2. 6. Fredenburgh JC et al. *J Thromb Haemost*. 2023;21:1692-1702.