



**AVC  
Normandie**

**7<sup>ème</sup> journée régionale médicale  
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# Prévention des risques thrombotiques après une hémorragie cérébrale

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# Intracerebral haemorrhage (ICH)

- Pejorative long-term prognostic
- ICH survivors are at risk of
  - Recurrent ICH: 1- 7%/y
  - Ischaemic stroke (IS): 1- 4%/y
- Risks vary among ICH subgroups
- How to optimize secondary prevention after ICH ?
  - Balance between risk of recurrent ICH and ischemic events



# Risks of vascular events after ICH vary by ICH location

## Pooled analyses of 2 population-based studies

674 1<sup>st</sup> ever ICHs (47% lobar ICH)

Mean age: 75y

32% Hx of occlusive vascular disease (no  $\neq$  between lobar and non-lobar ICH)

1553 patient-years of follow-up

**In lobar vs. non-lobar ICH:**

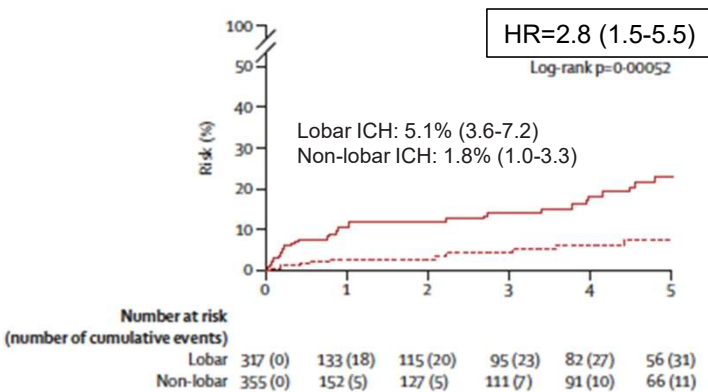
**-Increased risk of recurrent ICH (X2.8)**

**-Similar risk of IS**

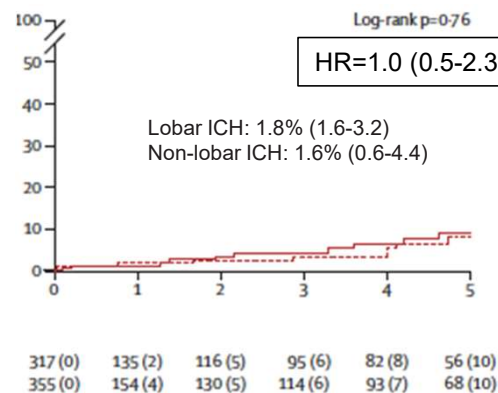
**-Similar risk of vascular events**

**But inevitable biases due to observational studies**

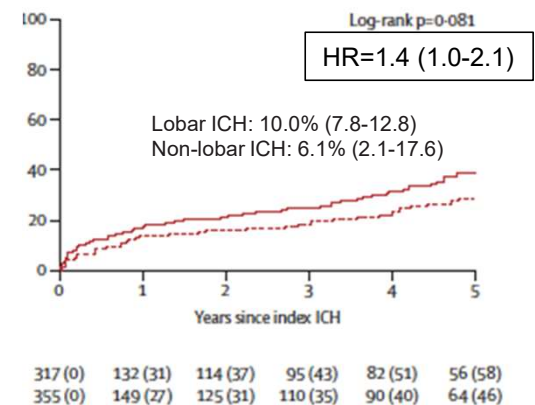
## Annual rate of recurrent intracerebral haemorrhage



## Ischaemic stroke (IS)



## Vascular events: stroke (any type), MI or vascular death



# Whether to re-start antiplatelet therapy after ICH ? the RESTART trial



**ICH on antithrombotics (antiplatelet or anticoagulant) for (primary or secondary) prevention**  
**Randomisation 1:1 (Re)Start monotherapy antiplatelet vs. Avoid antiplatelet**

Adjustment for age and ICH location

537 ICHs (62% lobar ICH)  
 2 y median follow-up  
 Hx of atherosclerotic disease: 71% in both arms  
 Hx of AF: 23% and 31%  
 No Hx of atherosclerotic disease or AF: 5% and 3%

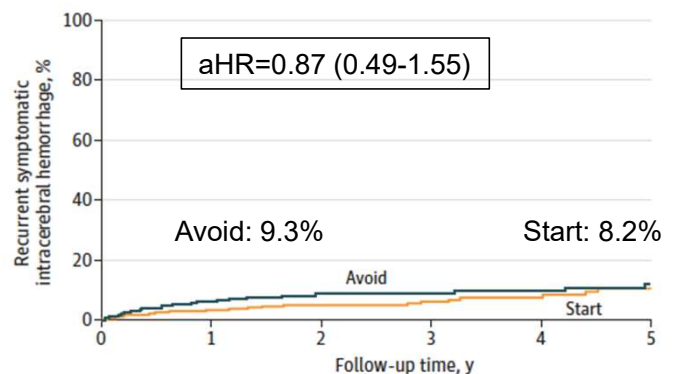
### Major occlusive vascular events

IS, MI, mesenteric ischemia, peripheral arterial occlusion, DVT/PE  
 Avoid: 21.3% vs. Start: 19.8%

aHR=1.09 (0.75-1.59)

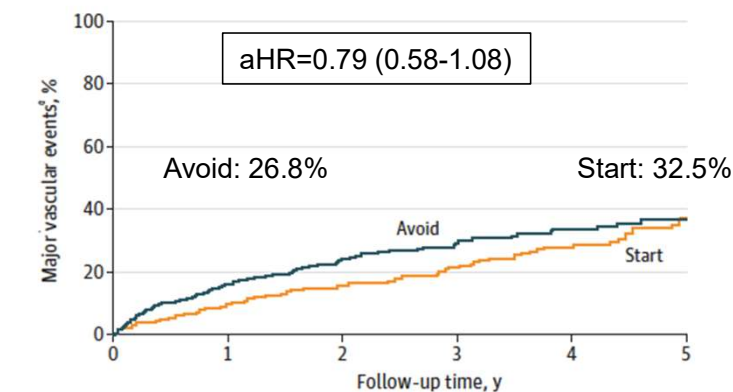
Lack of power: inclusion of 537/720 (75%) patients of the sample size target

### Recurrent symptomatic ICH



No. at risk (No. of cumulative events)						
Avoid	268 (0)	233 (17)	205 (23)	159 (23)	99 (24)	67 (25)
Start	268 (0)	239 (9)	211 (13)	161 (15)	111 (17)	65 (21)

### Major vascular events: MI, stroke (any type) or vascular death



No. at risk (No. of cumulative events)						
Avoid	268 (0)	216 (43)	183 (63)	136 (74)	82 (81)	55 (84)
Start	268 (0)	230 (24)	198 (39)	145 (52)	93 (62)	54 (71)

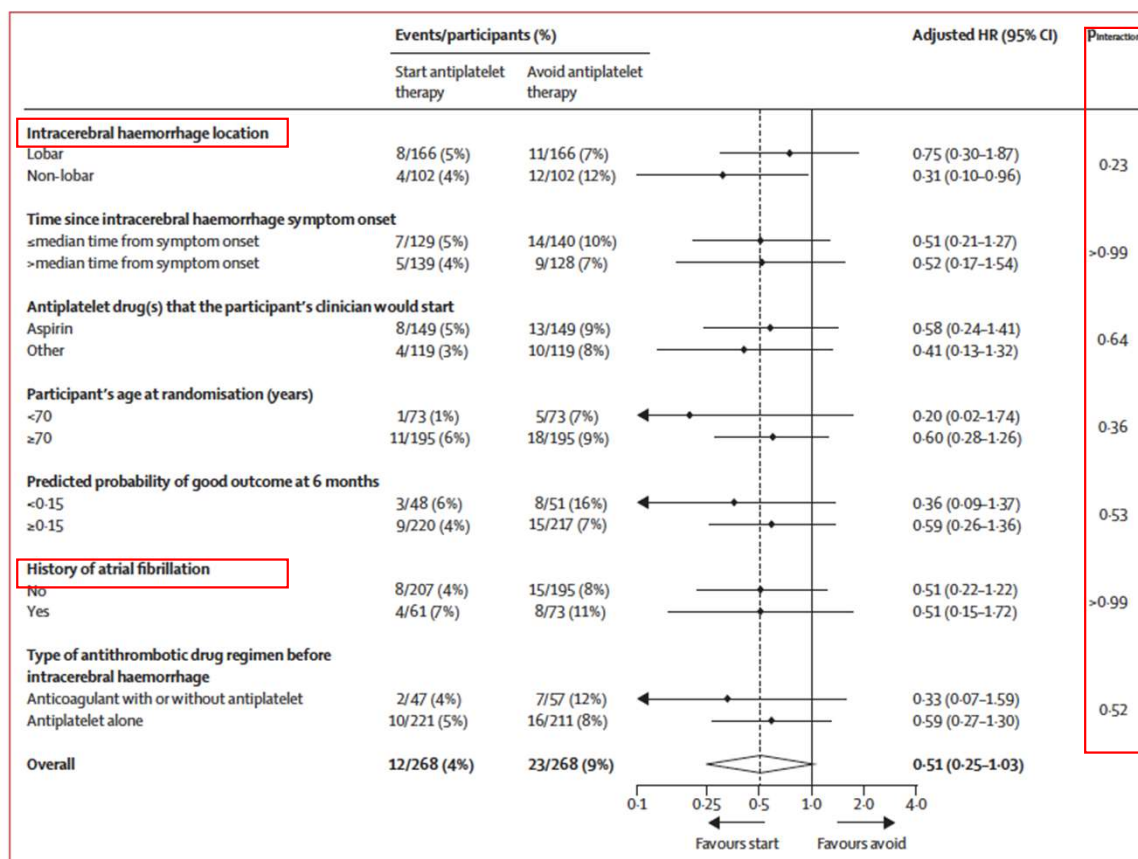
# Whether to re-start antiplatelet therapy after ICH ?

## the RESTART trial



No interaction by subgroups for the risk of rec ICH

### Subgroup analyses of the risk of first recurrent symptomatic ICH

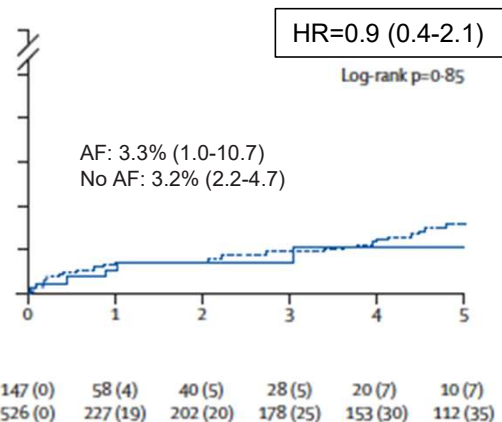


# Risks of recurrent vascular events after ICH by history of AF

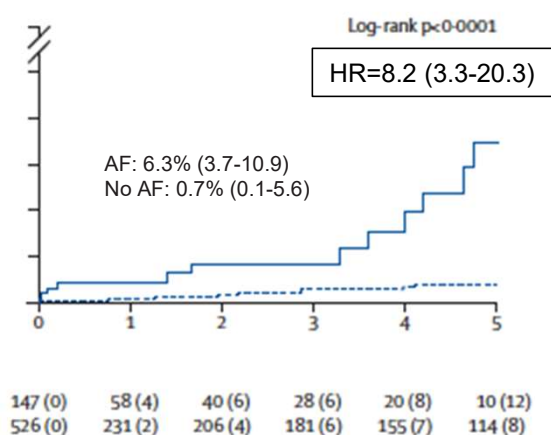
**Pooled analyses of 2 population-based studies**  
 674 1<sup>st</sup> ever ICHs (47% lobar ICH)  
 Mean age: 75y  
 22% Hx of AF (no  $\neq$  between lobar and non-lobar ICH)  
 1553 patient-years of follow-up

**ICH patients with AF:**  
 -No difference in risk of rec ICH,  
 -Increased risk of IS and vascular events

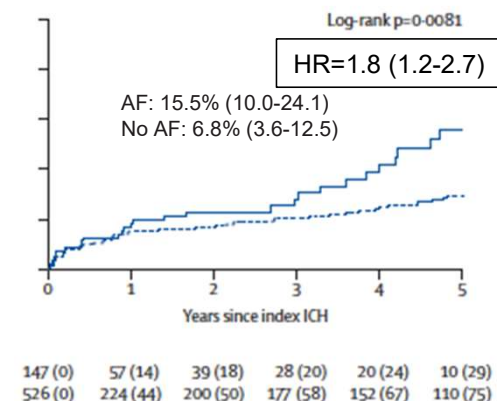
**Annual rate of recurrent intracerebral haemorrhage**



**Ischaemic stroke**



**Vascular events: stroke (any type), MI or vascular death**



**Only in lobar ICH without AF: risk of rec ICH > IS**

**AF patients: risk of rec ICH, IS and vascular events is high in lobar and non-lobar ICH**

# Risk of recurrent stroke with VKA-anticoagulation for AF after intracranial haemorrhage (ICrH)

## Meta-analysis of observational studies

2,452 ICHs with AF

Resumption of VKA vs. No VKA (antiplatelets or no antithrombotics)

Mean age: 76 y

41% female

### Annual rate of rec ICrH

VKA: 4.6 (3.1–6.6)

No VKA: 4.0 (3.2–5.0)

**In ICH patients with AF, VKA is associated with:**

**-60% risk reduction in IS**

**-No increased risk in rec ICrH**

**But biases due to observational data**

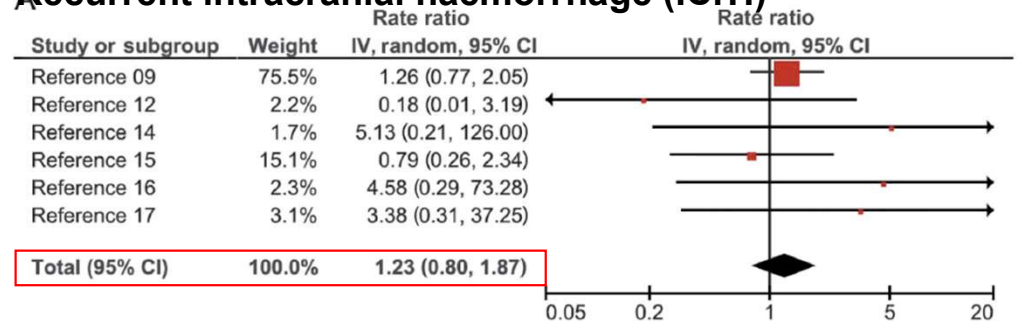
*Physicians might not resume VKA in pts deemed to be at increased risk of rec ICH*

### Annual rate of IS

VKA: 3.2 (2.0–4.9)

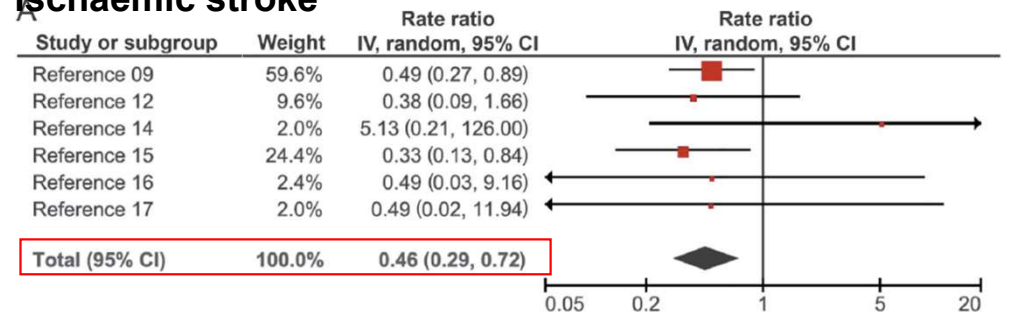
No VKA: 7.3 (6.2–8.5)

## Recurrent intracranial haemorrhage (ICrH)



Heterogeneity: Tau<sup>2</sup> = 0.00; Chi<sup>2</sup> = 4.67, df = 5 ( $p = 0.46$ ); I<sup>2</sup> = 0%  
 Test for overall effect: Z = 0.94 ( $p = 0.35$ )

## Ischaemic stroke



Heterogeneity: Tau<sup>2</sup> = 0.00; Chi<sup>2</sup> = 2.77, df = 5 ( $p = 0.74$ ); I<sup>2</sup> = 0%  
 Test for overall effect: Z = 3.37 ( $p = 0.0008$ )

# Likelihood of resumption of VKA for AF after ICH

Meta-analysis of 3 prospective multicenter registries  
941 ICHs on VKA at the time of ICH  
with Hx of AF

Resumption of VKA vs. No VKA (antiplatelets or no antithrombotics)

Mean age: 72 y

39% female

**Likelihood of resuming VKA after ICH:**

**-Higher CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASC scores**

**-Non lobar ICH**

Characteristics of Participants by Anticoagulation Resumption Status.

Variable	OAT Resumption	No OAT Resumption	p
No. of Individuals	262	679	-
Age (mean, SD) <sup>*</sup>	71.5 (8.9)	72.6 (9.4)	0.17
Sex (female)	97 (37)	258 (38)	0.85
CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VASC score <sup>†</sup>	5 (5 – 6)	4 (4 – 6)	<b>0.012</b>
ICH Location			<b>0.003</b>
- Lobar	81 (31)	311 (46)	
- Non-lobar	181 (69)	368 (54)	
ICH Volume (median, IQR) <sup>‡</sup>	10.8 (3.4 – 24.4)	11.9 (4.3 – 26.4)	0.081
Discharge mRS (median, IQR) <sup>‡</sup>	3 (3 – 4)	3 (3 – 4)	0.25
Antiplatelet Agents	20 (8)	378 (56)	< 0.001



# VKA resumption for AF after high-risk intracerebral haemorrhage (ICH): lobar ICH and CAA

**IPD meta-analysis of METRACE, MGH, ERICH registries**  
 Incident ICHs with AF on VKA at the time of ICH  
**633 nonlobar ICHs and 379 lobar ICHs**  
 Median follow-up of 48.6 months  
 Propensity score matching using GCS, ICH volume, IVH, discharge mRS, CHA2DS2-VASc score, and HAS-BLED score

MRI data available for 190/379 (50%) lobar ICH  
 Possible (n=136) and probable CAA (n=54)  
 Modified Boston criteria 2010

Among lobar ICH survivors  
 VKA resumption: long-term better functional outcome, decreased mortality and stroke recurrence

Among possible and probable CAA-ICH survivors  
 VKA resumption: long-term decreased mortality  
*But lower mRS at discharge for lobar ICH who started VKA*

Outcome <sup>a</sup>	All ICH			Nonlobar ICH			Lobar ICH		
	HR	95% CI	p	HR	95% CI	p	HR	95% CI	p
Mortality	0.32	0.15–0.66	0.002 <sup>b</sup>	0.30	0.10–0.91	0.035 <sup>b</sup>	0.33	0.12–0.87	0.026 <sup>b</sup>
Favorable outcome, mRS = 0–3	3.99	1.76–9.05	0.001 <sup>b</sup>	4.10	1.24–13.57	0.022 <sup>b</sup>	3.89	1.26–11.98	0.019 <sup>b</sup>
All-cause stroke	0.50	0.32–0.79	0.003 <sup>b</sup>	0.49	0.26–0.93	0.031 <sup>b</sup>	0.51	0.26–0.99	0.047 <sup>b</sup>
Recurrent ICH	1.10	0.96–1.26	0.20	1.10	0.94–1.28	0.23	1.21	0.86–1.70	0.27
Ischemic stroke	0.46	0.28–0.75	0.002 <sup>b</sup>	0.44	0.22–0.90	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.48	0.25–0.94	0.032 <sup>b</sup>

Outcome <sup>a</sup>	Possible CAA			Probable CAA		
	HR	95% CI	p	HR	95% CI	p
Mortality	0.27	0.08–0.86	0.028 <sup>b</sup>	0.30	0.10–0.92	0.037 <sup>b</sup>
Favorable outcome, mRS 0–3	3.40	1.22–9.46	0.020 <sup>b</sup>	3.11	1.08–8.97	0.038 <sup>b</sup>

# Anticoagulation for AF in ICH patients

- 1/5 of ICH patients have AF (either previously known or newly diagnosed)
- In ICH patients with AF, observational studies suggested
  - No increase in risk of rec ICH
  - Increased risk of IS and vascular events
- But limitations of observational data
  - Selection biases
  - Confounding
- Uncertainties remain about the benefit of resuming anticoagulant after ICH in AF patients

# Whether to re-start anticoagulation after ICH in AF patients ?

## RCTs of oral anticoagulation for AF in ICH survivors

Trial	Stroke	Intervention vs. comparator	n	Status	Contact
APACHE-AF	ICH	Apixaban vs. no OAC	101	Closed	Klijjn/vd Worp
NASPAF-ICH	ICH	NOAC vs. AP	30	Closed	Shoamanesh/Hart
SoSTART	ICrH	OAC vs. no OAC	203	Closed	Al-Shahi Salman
STATICH	ICH	OAC vs. no OAC	47/250	Open	Wyller/Rønning
A <sub>3</sub> ICH	ICH	Apixaban vs. LAAO vs. no AT	48/300	Open	Cordonnier
PRESTIGE-AF	ICH	NOAC vs. no OAC	50/654	Open	Veltkamp
ASPIRE	ICH	Apixaban vs. aspirin	28/700	Open	Sheth/Kamel
ENRICH-AF	ICrH	Edoxaban vs. no OAC	104/1200	Open	Shoamanesh

ICH: intracerebral haemorrhage




ICrH: intracranial haemorrhage, including intracerebral haemorrhage (ICH), intraventricular haemorrhage, subarachnoid haemorrhage, or subdural haemorrhage

AP: antiplatelet therapy

AT: antithrombotic therapy

Data on June 2021

# Effects of long-term anticoagulant for AF after intracranial haemorrhage: Individual participant data meta-analysis of RCTs (COCROACH)

RCT	Participants	Intervention (start OAC)	Comparator (avoid OAC)	Ratio	Primary outcome	Follow- up
 <b>SO START?</b> Start or Stop Anticoagulants Randomised Trial	ICrH >24h after onset, age >17y, AF, CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VASc score ≥2 (n=201)	NOAC or vitamin K antagonist (n=100)	Antiplatelet agents or no antithrombotic agents (n=101)	1:1	Recurrent symptomatic ICH	≥12m
 <b>APACHE-AF</b>	Anticoagulant-associated ICH 7-90d after onset, age >17y, AF, mRS<5, CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VASc score ≥2 (n=101)	Apixaban (n=50)	Antiplatelet agent or no antithrombotic agents (n=51)	1:1	Vascular death or non-fatal stroke	≥6m
 <b>NASPAF-ICH</b>	ICH >14d after onset, age >44y, AF indicating OAC by CHADS <sub>65</sub> score (n=30)	NOAC (n=21)	Aspirin (n=9)	2:1	Recurrent stroke	≥6m

# Effects of long-term anticoagulant for AF after intracranial haemorrhage: Individual participant data meta-analysis of RCTs (COCROACH)

## Results: frequencies of outcomes

	Start OAC (n=150)	Avoid OAC (n=152)
<b>Primary outcome</b>		
Symptomatic non-fatal stroke or cardiovascular death	25 (16.7%)	35 (23.0%)
<b>Secondary outcomes</b>		
<b>Major ischaemic events</b>	9 (6.0%)	32 (21.1%)
Ischaemic stroke	9 (6.0%)	25 (16.4%)
Systemic arterial embolism	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Pulmonary embolism	0 (0%)	4 (2.6%)
Myocardial infarction	0 (0%)	4 (2.6%)
<b>Major haemorrhagic events</b>	14 (9.3%)	7 (4.6%)
Intracranial haemorrhage	12 (8.0%)	5 (3.3%)
Extracranial haemorrhage	2 (1.3%)	2 (1.3%)
<b>Death of any cause</b>	31 (20.7%)	22 (14.5%)
Vascular death	13 (8.7%)	9 (5.9%)
Death of any other cause	18 (12.0%)	13 (8.6%)

Outcome: stroke (any type) i.e. ischaemic or haemorrhagic stroke

## Effect of start vs avoid OAC on outcomes

### Symptomatic non-fatal stroke or cardiovascular death

APACHE-AF	1.07 (95%CI 0.49-2.34)
SoSTART	0.54 (95%CI 0.27-1.09)
Pooled (I <sup>2</sup> =37%)	0.73 (95%CI 0.43-1.24)

### Major ischaemic events

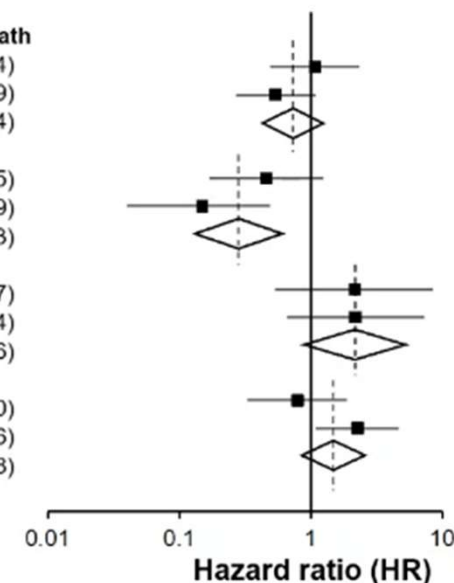
APACHE-AF	0.46 (95%CI 0.17-1.25)
SoSTART	0.15 (95%CI 0.04-0.49)
Pooled (I <sup>2</sup> =51%)	0.29 (95%CI 0.13-0.63)

### Major haemorrhagic events

APACHE-AF	2.14 (95%CI 0.53-8.57)
SoSTART	2.18 (95%CI 0.66-7.24)
Pooled (I <sup>2</sup> =0%)	2.16 (95%CI 0.87-5.36)

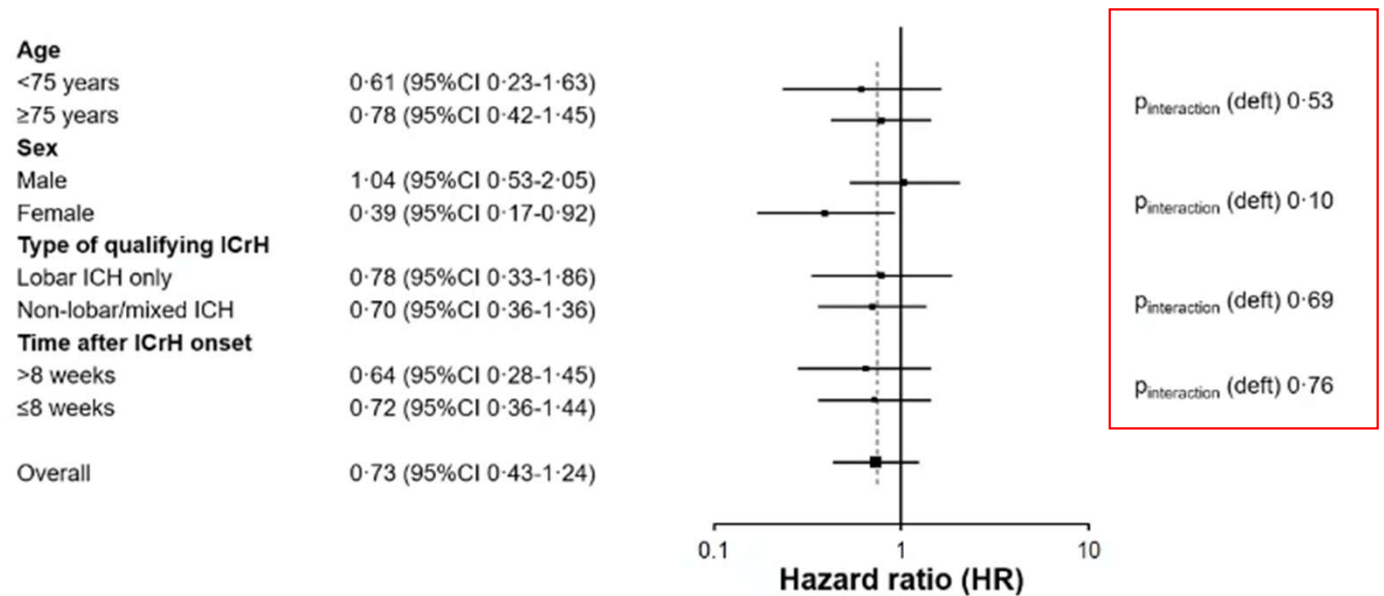
### Death of any cause

APACHE-AF	0.79 (95%CI 0.33-1.90)
SoSTART	2.26 (95%CI 1.09-4.66)
Pooled (I <sup>2</sup> =70%)	1.47 (95%CI 0.84-2.58)








# Effects of long-term anticoagulant for AF after intracranial haemorrhage: Individual participant data meta-analysis of RCTs (COCROACH)

**Effect of start vs avoid OAC on outcomes on stroke or cardiovascular death in subgroups**



# Pilot trials showed the need of phase III trials

Ongoing RCTs: various interventions and controls

	RCT	Stroke	Intervention vs. comparator	Recruited / target	Contact
	STATICH	ICH	OAC vs <u>no OAC</u>	57 / 250	Rønning/Sandset
	A <sub>3</sub> ICH	ICH	Apixaban vs LAAO vs <u>no antithrombotic therapy</u>	60 / 300	Cordonnier
	PRESTIGE-AF	ICH	NOAC vs <u>no OAC</u>	125 / 654	Veltkamp
	ASPIRE	ICH	Apixaban vs <u>aspirin</u>	84 / 700	Sheth/Kamel
	ENRICH-AF	ICrH	Edoxaban vs <u>no OAC</u>	330 / 1,200	Shoamanesh

Recruitment data on 2<sup>nd</sup>

# Should high-risk ICH patients undergo LAAO rather than oral anticoagulation (OAC) ?

- ICH patients were excluded from the RCTs of LAAO vs. OAC !
- Data on LAAO in ICH are only observational and limited
- Most of the RCT of LAAO vs. OAC used VKA as controls
- After LAAO, patients must take long-term antiplatelet therapy (and temporarily dual antiplatelet)



## 3 non-inferiority trials have compared LAAO vs. oral anticoagulation for non valvular AF

	<b>PROTECT AF</b>	<b>PREVAIL</b>	<b>PRAGUE-17</b>
<b>Main inclusion criteria</b>	Non v AF with CHADS2 score $\geq$ 1	Non v AF with CHADS2 score $\geq$ 2	Non v AF with Hx of bleeding, or cardioembolic events, or CHA2DS2-VASc score $\geq$ 3, and HAS-BLED score $\geq$ 2
<b>Country</b>	USA and Europe.	USA	Czech Republic
<b>LAAO device</b>	WATCHMAN device	WATCHMAN device	Amulet (25%) or Watchman (75%)
<b>After LAACO regimen</b>	Warfarin for 45d, Then clopidogrel + aspirin for 6 months, Then aspirin alone indefinitely	Warfarin and aspirin for 45 days, If complete closure of the LAA on the 45-day TEE, clopidogrel + aspirin for 6-months, Then aspirin alone indefinitely  If no complete closure of the LAA on the 45-day TEE, warfarin and aspirin for 6months When seal is adequate, aspirin alone indefinitely	Aspirin + clopidogrel for 3 months, Then aspirin alone indefinitely
<b>Oral anticoagulation</b>	VKA (INR 2-3)	VKA (INR 2-3)	DOAC (Apixaban 95%)

# IPD meta-analysis of the PROTECT AF and PREVAIL non-inferiority trials: LAAO vs. VKA for non valvular AF

No ICH pt included

LAAO: procedural complications rate  
-8.7% in PROTECT AF  
-4.2% in PREVAIL

Non-inferiority margin: 1.75 as the upper bound for the HR

Primary outcome: (ischemic or hemorrhagic) stroke or TIA; 2) systemic embolism; or 3) cardiovascular death

**TABLE 4 5-Year Patient-Level Meta-Analysis of PROTECT AF and PREVAIL (2:1 Randomization)**

	Device Group (n = 732)		Control Group (n = 382)		Hazard Ratio (95% Confidence Interval)	p Value
	No. of Events	Rate (per 100 PY)	No. of Events	Rate (per 100 PY)		
Efficacy: stroke/SE/CV death	79/2,856.0	2.8%	50/1,472.8	3.4%	0.82 (0.58-1.17)	0.27
All stroke or SE	49/2,849.4	1.7%	27/1,472.9	1.8%	0.96 (0.60-1.54)	0.87
Ischemic stroke or SE	45/2,850.2	1.6%	14/1,479.1	0.95%	1.71 (0.94-3.11)	0.08
Hemorrhagic stroke	5/2,954.8	0.17%	13/1,499.0	0.87%	0.20 (0.07-0.56)	0.0022
Ischemic stroke or SE >7 days	37/2,862.1	1.3%	14/1,479.1	0.95%	1.40 (0.76-2.59)	0.28
Disabling stroke	13/2,943.0	0.44%	15/1,493.8	1.0%	0.45 (0.21-0.94)	0.03
Nondisabling stroke	31/2,879.1	1.1%	12/1,484.3	0.81%	1.38 (0.71-2.68)	0.35
CV/unexplained death	39/2,960.5	1.3%	33/1,505.2	2.2%	0.59 (0.37-0.94)	0.027
All-cause death	106/2,961.6	3.6%	73/1,505.2	4.9%	0.73 (0.54-0.98)	0.035
Major bleeding, all	85/2,748.4	3.1%	50/1,414.7	3.5%	0.91 (0.64-1.29)	0.60
Major bleeding, non-procedure-related	48/2,853.6	1.7%	51/1,411.3	3.6%	0.48 (0.32-0.71)	0.0003

# The non-inferiority PRAGUE-17 trial LAAO vs. DOAC for non valvular AF

ICH pt included ?

LAAO: procedural complications rate  
2.6/an

Non inferiority margin: 1.469 as the upper bound for the HR

Primary outcome: (1) ischemic or haemorrhagic stroke or TIA; 2) systemic embolism; 3) clinically significant bleeding; 4) cardiovascular death; or 5) a significant peri-procedural or device-related complications.

**TABLE 3** Incidence of Composite Primary Endpoint and its Components in the Presence of Competing Risk (Noncardiovascular Death for Primary Endpoint and Cardiovascular Death, All-Cause Death for Other Endpoints) in the Intention-to-Treat Populations

	DOAC (n = 201)			LAAC (n = 201)			Subdistribution Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	p Value	p Value for Noninferiority
	No. of Patients With Event	No. Events	Event Rate/Yr	No. of Patients With Event	No. Events	Event Rate/Yr			
Primary endpoint	41	47	13.42	35	38	10.99	0.84 (0.53-1.31)	0.44	0.004
Cardiovascular death	15	15	4.28	11	11	3.18	0.75 (0.34-1.62)		
All stroke/TIA	9	9	2.57	9	9	2.60	1.00 (0.40-2.51)		
Ischemic stroke/TIA	8	8	2.28	9	9	2.60	1.13 (0.44-2.93)		
Systemic embolism	1	1	0.29	0	0	0.00	–		
Procedure/device related complications	–	–	–	9	9	2.60	–		
ISTH major/nonmajor bleeding	22	26	7.42	18	19	5.50	0.81 (0.44-1.52)		
ISTH major/nonmajor bleeding not related to device	22	26	7.42	12	13	3.76	0.53 (0.26-1.06)		

No difference in all cause mortality: 4.9% vs 4.3% (HR=0.88, 95%CI 0.48-1.63)

# In ICH survivors with indication of antithrombotic therapy

- Feasibility of trials comparing antithrombotic strategies
- Need of further large RCTs in ICH survivors
  - With atherosclerotic disease comparing starting and avoid antiplatelet therapy
  - With AF comparing starting or avoiding anticoagulation or LAAO
- Subgroup analysis
  - ICH aetiology, in particular CAA
  - BP control
  - Burden of small vessel disease
  - Additional atherosclerotic disease



- **Inclusion criteria:**

- ICH from 15 days to 12 months
- Non valvular AF
- CHADVASC score  $\geq 3$  in women and  $\geq 2$  in men
- mRS  $\leq 4$

- **Exclusion criteria:**

- ICH due to trauma or vascular malformation
- Absolute need for antiplatelet therapy

Randomisation:

DOAC vs no anticoagulation (antiplatelet therapy and preventive anticoagulation are permitted)

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# Ongoing RCTs of stroke prevention for AF after ICH: LAAO vs. medical therapy

- **STROKECLOSE Trial**

- LAAO vs. medical therapy (VKA, non-VKA OAC, antiplatelet therapy or no antithrombotic therapy)
- ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03463317

- **A3ICH Trial**

- LAAO vs. apixaban vs. no antithrombotic therapy
- ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03243175

# Apixaban vs. avoid anticoagulation after intracerebral haemorrhage (ICH) in patients with AF: the APACHE-AF trial



## Pilot phase II trial

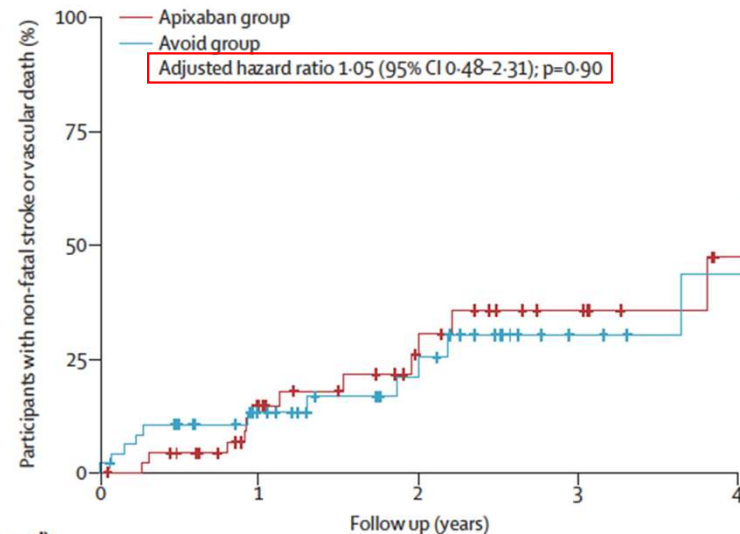
**Randomisation 1:1 Apixaban 5mg twice daily vs. No anticoagulation** (any antiplatelet or no antithrombotic)

101 ICHs on anticoagulation at the time of ICH (14% lobar ICH)

With AF and CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASC ≥2

2 y median follow-up

**Primary outcome: non-fatal stroke (IS, rec ICH or subarachnoid haemorrhage) or vascular death**



Annual rates

**Avoid anticoagulant: 11.9% (6.2-20.8)**

**Apixaban: 12.6% (6.7-21.5)**

	0	1	2	3	4
<b>Patients at risk (censored)</b>					
Apixaban group	50 (0)	34 (10)	22 (19)	13 (26)	6 (32)
Avoid group	51 (0)	35 (10)	23 (20)	10 (31)	7 (33)
<b>Cumulative number of events</b>					
Apixaban group	0	6	9	11	12
Avoid group	0	6	8	10	11



# Non-vitamin K Oral Anticoagulants in Intracerebral Hemorrhage (ICH) survivors with AF: the NASPAF-ICH trial



## Feasibility phase II trial

30 ICHs

With AF and CHADS<sub>2</sub> ≥1

Median follow-up: 15.3 months (range 10.8 months–2.8 years)

Blood pressure target <130/80 mm Hg

**Randomisation 2:1 NOAC (n=21) vs. aspirin 81 mg daily (n=9)**

Among NOAC: 76% received apixaban and 24% received dabigatran

Primary feasibility outcome: recruitment rate

Primary efficacy outcome: any stroke (*i.e.* IS or recurrent ICH)

65 patient-years of follow-up

Primary outcome:

-NOAC: 0/21

-Aspirin: 1/9 (11.1%) =1 major systemic haemorrhage



# Start or Stop Anticoagulants for AF after spontaneous intracranial haemorrhage: the SoSTART trial

## **Pilot non-inferiority trial**

203 ICrHs not due to an underlying macrovascular cause

- 187/203 (92%) ICH (36% lobar ICH and 64% non-lobar ICH)

With AF and CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASC  $\geq 2$

Median follow-up of 1.2 years

**Randomisation 1:1 Start OAC** (NOAC or warfarin) **or avoid oral anticoagulation** (antiplatelet or no antithrombotic)

Non-inferiority trial: 12% non-inferiority margin (aHR=3.2), 1-sided p=0.025 and power=90%

Planned sample size of 190 participants

# Start or Stop Anticoagulants for AF after spontaneous intracranial haemorrhage: the SoSTART trial



A pilot-phase **non-inferiority trial**

**Randomisation 1:1 Start OAC** (NOAC or warfarin) **or avoid oral anticoagulation** (antiplatelet or no antithrombotic)

With AF and CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASC ≥2

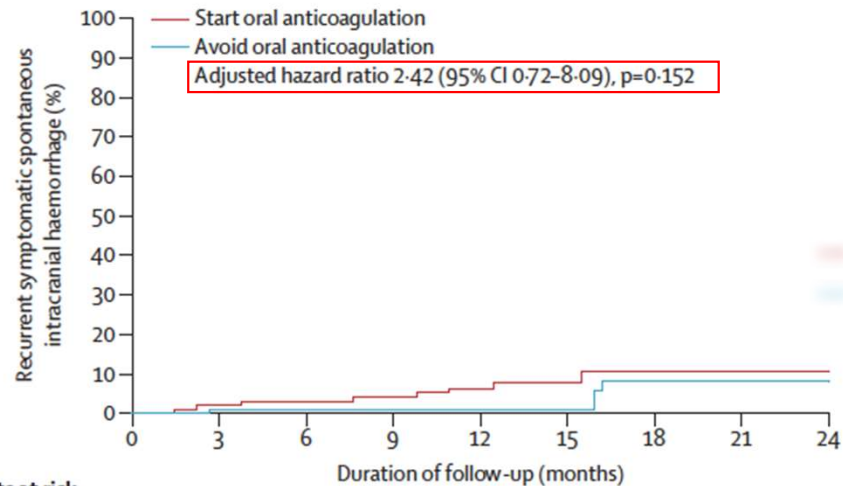
Non-inferiority trial: 12% non-inferiority margin (aHR=3.2), 1-sided p=0.025 and power=90%

Planned sample size of 190 participants

203 ICrHs: 187/203 (92%) ICH (36% lobar ICH and 64% non-lobar ICH)

## Primary outcome: recurrent symptomatic intracranial haemorrhage

96% adherence to allocated treatment  
Average systolic BP=130mmHg  
**99% NOAC in the anticoagulant arm**  
Median follow-up of 1.2 years



Non-inferiority was not met

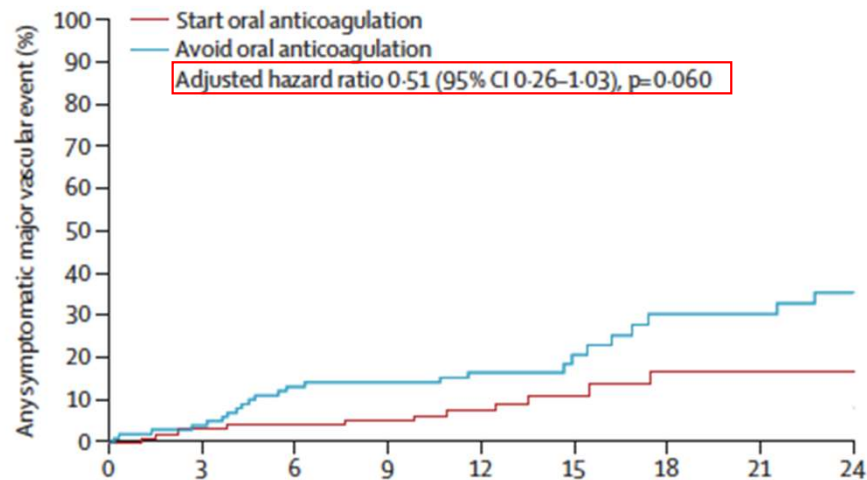
Start: n=8/101 (8%)  
Avoid: n=4/102 (4%)

	Patients at risk (number censored)								
	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
Start oral anticoagulation	101 (1)	95 (4)	90 (8)	88 (9)	65 (30)	35 (59)	26 (67)	25 (68)	14 (79)
Avoid oral anticoagulation	102 (0)	97 (4)	96 (5)	96 (5)	69 (32)	45 (56)	35 (63)	34 (64)	19 (79)
<b>Cumulative number of events</b>									
Start oral anticoagulation	0	2	3	4	6	7	8	8	8
Avoid oral anticoagulation	0	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4

# Start or Stop Anticoagulants for AF after spontaneous intracranial haemorrhage: the SoSTART trial



Secondary outcome: any symptomatic major vascular event (MI, symptomatic intracranial haemorrhage, IS, symptomatic DVT)



Avoid: n=24/101 (24%)  
 Start: n=11/101 (12%)

Patients at risk (number censored)		0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
Start oral anticoagulation	101 (1)	94 (4)	89 (8)	87 (9)	65 (29)	34 (58)	25 (65)	24 (66)	14 (76)	
Avoid oral anticoagulation	102 (0)	94 (4)	85 (4)	84 (4)	59 (27)	36 (48)	27 (53)	27 (53)	16 (62)	
Cumulative number of events										
Start oral anticoagulation		0	3	4	5	7	9	11	11	11
Avoid oral anticoagulation		0	4	13	14	16	18	22	22	24