

17° Meeting



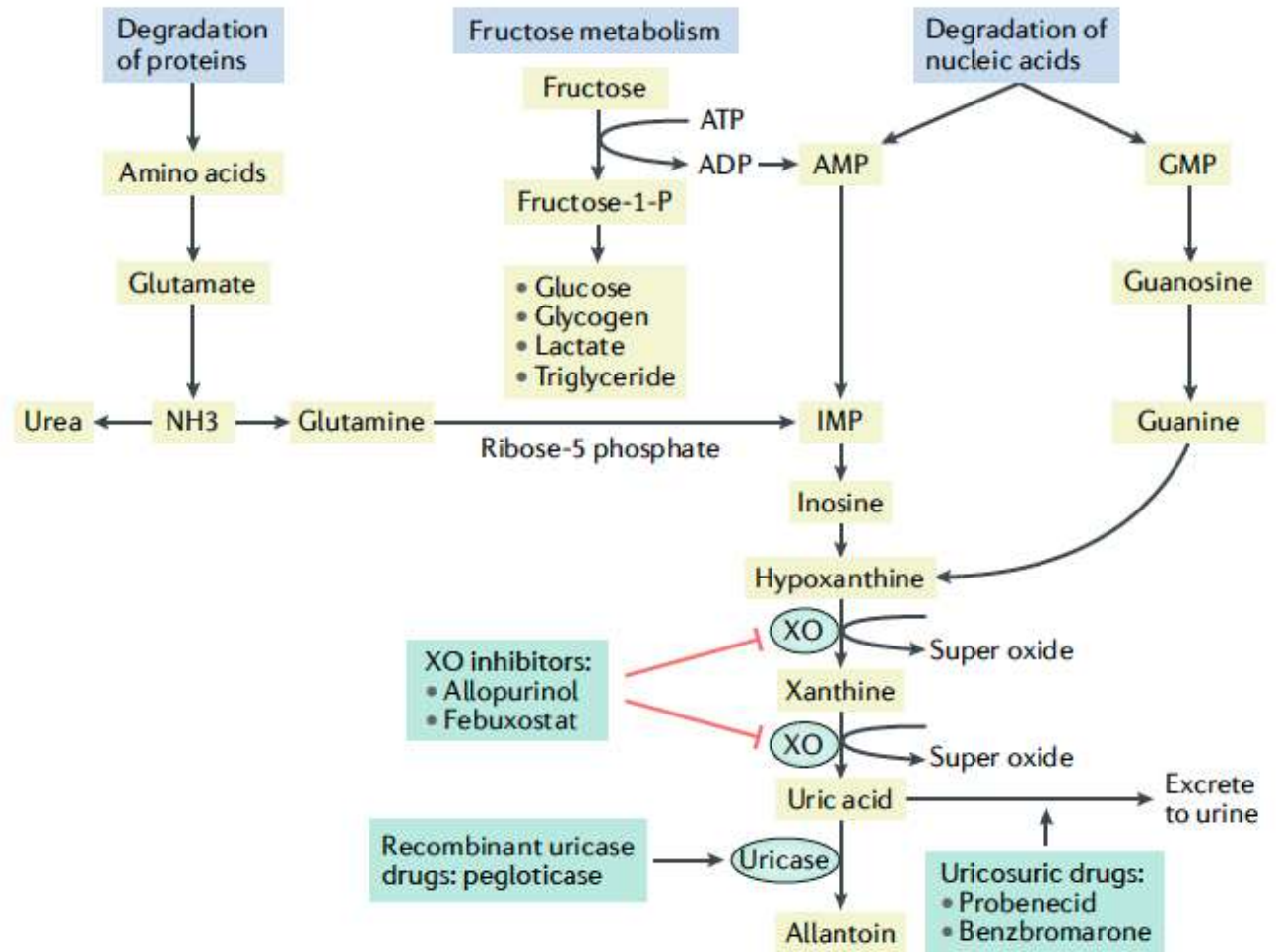
CardioLucca
Heart Brings Heart 2023

Lucca, 22-24 Giugno 2023
Centro Congressi Auditorium San Francesco

Claudio Borghi

L'iperuricemia da
Cenerentola dei fattori di
rischio CV a protagonista di
un opportuno trattamento
precoce ed intensivo

Mechanisms of production of Uric Acid

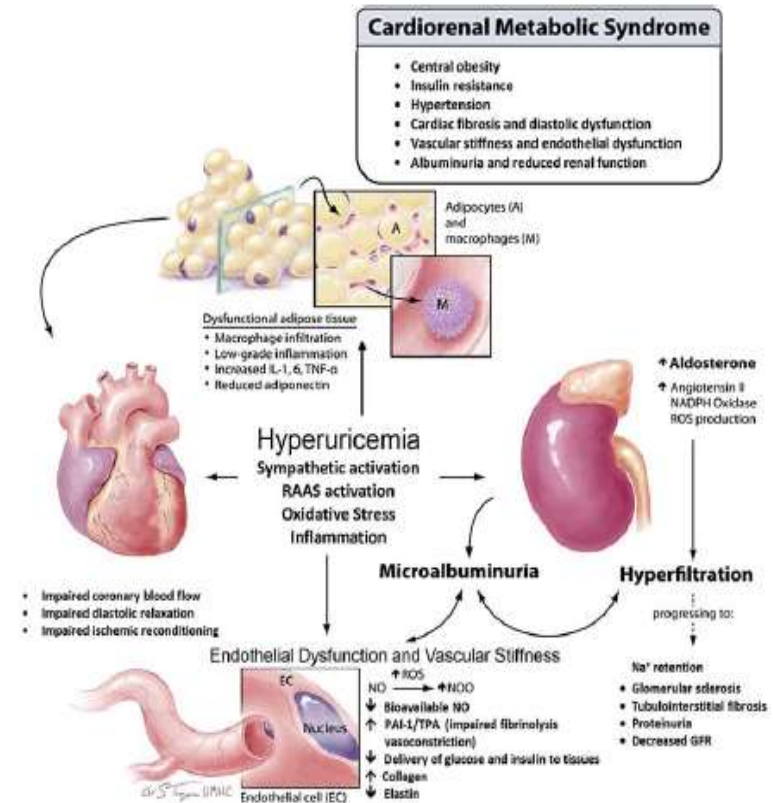


OPINION

The case for uric acid-lowering treatment in patients with hyperuricaemia and CKD

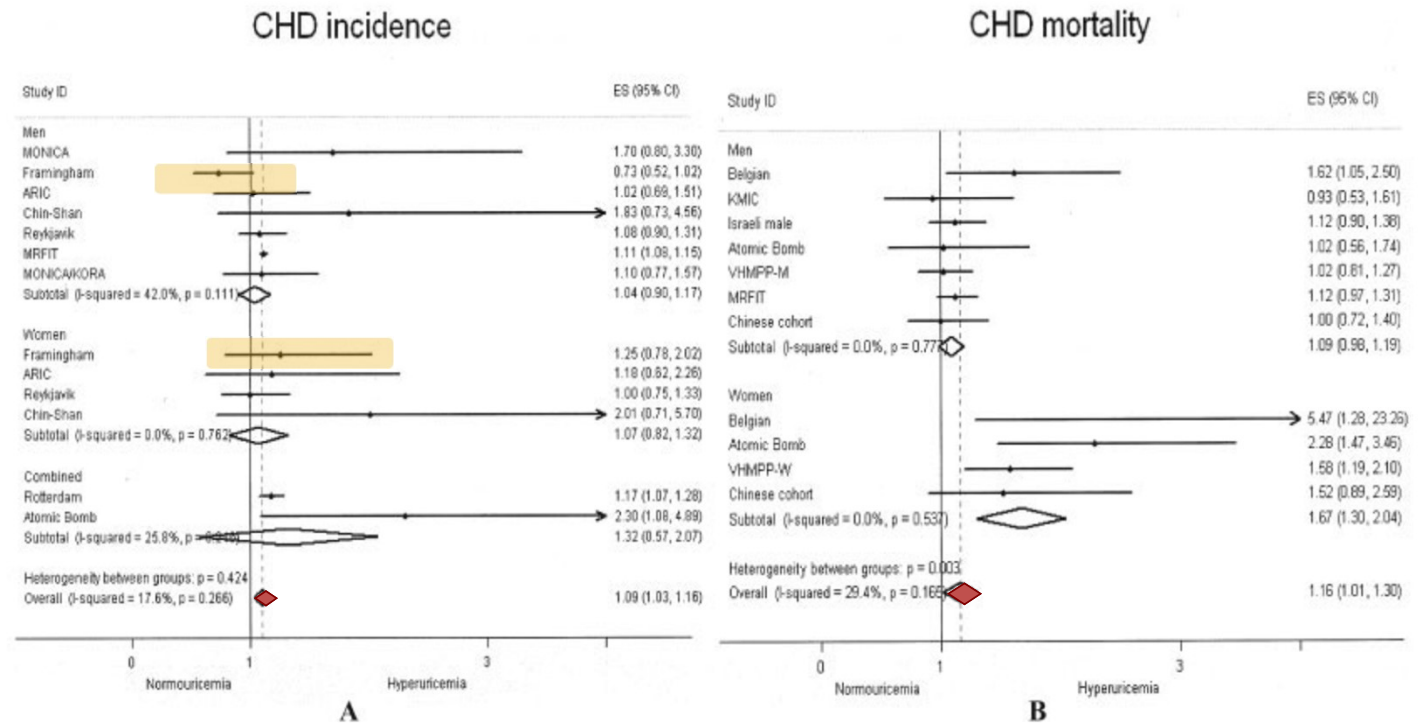
Yuka Sato, Daniel I. Feig, Austin G. Stack, Duk-Hee Kang, Miguel A. Lanasa, A. Ahsan Ejaz, L. Gabriela Sánchez-Lozada, Masanari Kuwabara, Claudio Borghi and Richard J. Johnson

Mechanisms by which elevated uric acid promotes components of the cardio-renal and metabolic syndrome

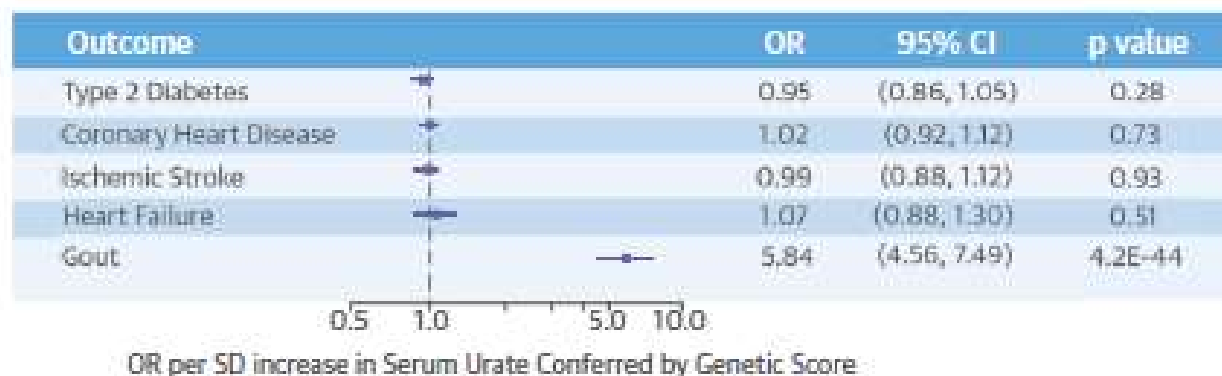


Hyperuricemia and Coronary Heart Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

SEO YOUNG KIM,¹ JAMES P. GUEVARA,² KYOUNG MI KIM,³ HYON K. CHOI,⁴ DANIEL F. HEITJAN,⁵
 AND DANIEL A. ALBERT⁶



Urate genetic score: association of genetically raised urate with cardiometabolic outcomes



Keenan, T. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2016; 67(4):407-16.

A genetic score was created using single nucleotide polymorphisms exclusively associated with serum urate levels. For a 1 SD increase in serum uric acid levels, the odds ratio (OR) of gout conferred by the urate-specific genetic score was 5.84 (95% confidence interval [CI]: 4.56 to 7.49), which was directionally consistent with the observed OR of 2.12 (95% CI: 1.90 to 2.33) for gout in epidemiological studies. However, a 1 SD increase in serum urate due to the genetic score had no relationship with type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, ischemic stroke, or heart failure. SD = 1.427 mg/dl urate.

Keenan T et al, JACC 2016



Clinical Insights

Xanthine oxidase inhibition and cardiovascular protection: Don't shoot in the dark

Giovambattista Desideri^{a,*}, Claudio Borghi^b

^a Department of Life, Health and Environmental Sciences, University of L'Aquila, Via Spennati, Delta 6 Medicina, Coppito, 67100 L'Aquila, Italy

^b Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences, University of Bologna, Italy

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:

Uric acid
Gout
Cardiovascular disease
Xanthine oxidase

Substantial evidence suggests that chronic hyperuricemia is an independent risk factor for hypertension, metabolic syndrome, chronic kidney disease and cardiovascular disease [1,2]. However, whether lowering serum UA can improve cardiovascular and renal outcomes, and what therapeutic mechanism of action could provide more clinical benefits to patients, is still a matter of discussion. Evidence from observational studies suggests possible cardiovascular benefits associated with ULT, in particular for the XO-inhibitors, while the evidence from randomized controlled trials is scarce and somewhat conflicting [2]. These discrepancies could be explained by the existence of different phenotypes across hyperuricemic patients with a non-homogeneous distribution of clinical benefits from ULT.

1. In the beginning there were monosodium urate crystals

The relationship between gout and cardiovascular disease has been supported by epidemiological observations demonstrating a significant increase of the risk of death from cardiovascular disease and coronary artery disease in patients with gout [2,3]. From a pathophysiological point of view this association could be explained by the precipitation of MSU crystals within the vessel wall leading to a chronic vascular [4] and systemic inflammation that characterizes both acute and chronic gout [5]. The observed increase in coronary calcium score described in patients with hyperuricaemia and the asymptomatic joint urate deposition could explain the increased cardiovascular risk in patients with

“symptomless gout” [2].

Thus, a first phenotype of interest might include patients with increased cardiovascular risk related to either overt or subclinical MSU crystal deposition (Fig. 1). In patients with this phenotype, a guideline-based ULT aimed at promoting the dissolution of MSU deposits and at preventing the formation of new accumulations has also the biological possibility to exert a cardiovascular protection by reducing both vascular and systemic inflammation.

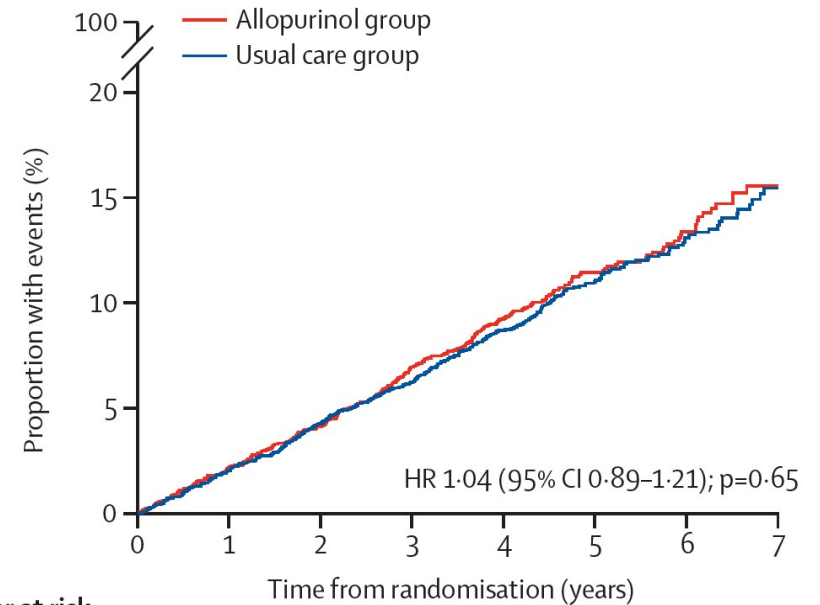
2. Then, was the time for uric acid

The inflammation promoted by the deposition of MSU crystals cannot entirely explain the relationship between UA and cardiovascular disease which is already evident when UA levels are in the normal to high range (5.0–5.5 mg/dL), largely below the precipitation threshold of MSU that occurs at 6.4 mg/dL (aqueous solution, 37 °C, pH 7.4) [6]. From a pathophysiological point of view, UA can modify its biological properties based on the concentrations reached in the biological fluids and the presence of concomitant environmental conditions. In particular, the antioxidant properties described for low serum UA levels can turn into pro-oxidant properties for high-normal serum UA levels [1,2]. Some evidence describes a direct vascular damage caused by UA because of oxidative stress leading to endothelial activation and dysfunction [1, 2].

Thus, at this point we should consider a second phenotype of patients

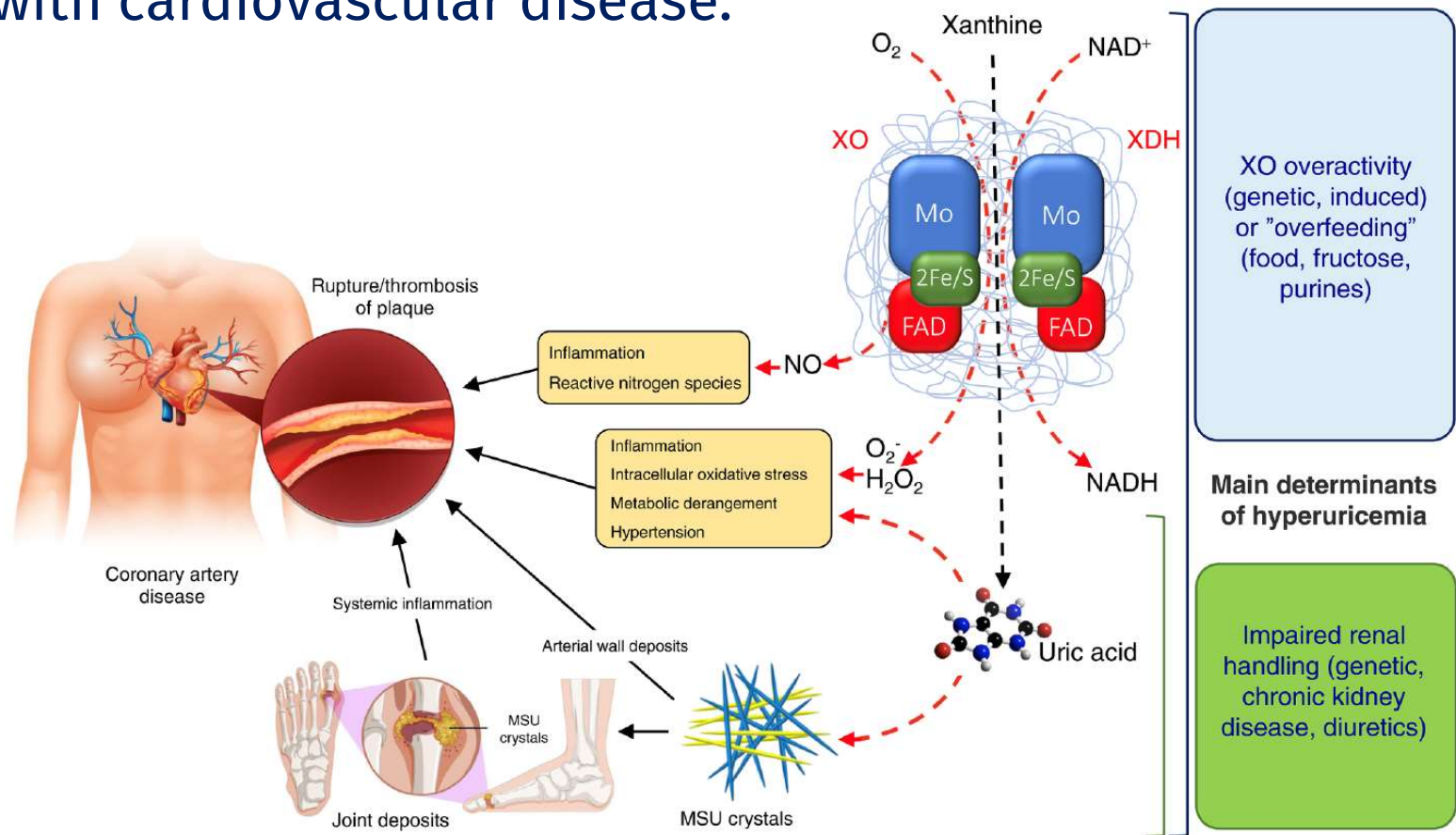
Allopurinol versus usual care in UK patients with ischaemic heart disease (ALL-HEART): a multicentre, prospective, randomised, open-label, blinded-endpoint trial

Isla S Mackenzie, Christopher J Hawkey, Ian Ford, Nicola Greenlaw, Filippo Pigazzani, Amy Rogers, Allan D Struthers, Alan G Begg, Li Wei, Anthony J Avery, Jaspal S Taggar, Andrew Walker, Suzanne L Duce, Rebecca J Barr, Jennifer S Dumbleton, Evelien D Rooke, Jonathan N Townsend, Lewis D Ritchie, Thomas M MacDonald, on behalf of the ALL-HEART Study Group*



| | Time from randomisation (years) | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| Number at risk | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Allopurinol group | 2853 | 2681 | 2556 | 2419 | 2148 | 1140 | 502 | 151 |
| Usual care group | 2868 | 2790 | 2676 | 2579 | 2367 | 1280 | 655 | 210 |

Pathophysiological mechanisms linking uric acid metabolism with cardiovascular disease.



REVIEW

Uric Acid and Hypertension: a Review of Evidence and Future Perspectives for the Management of Cardiovascular Risk

Claudio Borghi, Davide Agnoletti, Arrigo Francesco Giuseppe Cicero, Empar Lurbe, Agostino Virdis

ABSTRACT: Uric acid is the final product of purine metabolism, and its increased serum levels have been directly involved in the pathogenesis and natural history of hypertension. The relationship between elevated uric acid and hypertension has been proven in both animals and humans, and its relevance is already evident in childhood and adolescent population. The mechanism responsible for blood pressure increase in hyperuricemic subjects is implicating both oxidative stress and intracellular urate activity with a primary involvement of XOR (xanthine-oxidoreductase activity). An increase in the relative risk of hypertension has been confirmed by genetic data and by large meta-analyses of epidemiological data. The effects of urate-lowering treatment on blood pressure control in patients with elevated serum uric acid has been investigated in a small number of reliable studies with a large heterogeneity of patient populations and study designs. However, 2 large meta-analyses suggest a significant effect of urate-lowering treatment on blood pressure, thus confirming the significant relationship between high serum urate and blood pressure. The future research should be focused on a more appropriate identification of patients with cardiovascular hyperuricemia by considering the correct cardiovascular threshold of serum urate, the time-course of uricemia fluctuations, and the identification of reliable markers of urate overproduction that could significantly clarify the clinical and therapeutic implications of the interaction between serum uric acid and hypertension.

Key Words: adolescent ■ cardiovascular disease ■ hypertension ■ uric acid ■ xanthine-oxidoreductase

Cardiovascular disease is the most common cause of death across the world.¹ A remarkable proportion of this clinical burden of disease can be prevented by an effective control of cardiovascular risk factors.² Among cardiovascular risk factors, hypertension plays a primary role because of its large prevalence (about 40% of the adult population), its association with other risk factors, and its impact in terms of major cardiovascular events.³

In the last century, a large body of evidence has been published supporting the direct involvement of elevated serum uric acid (SUA) in the pathogenesis and natural history of HTN.

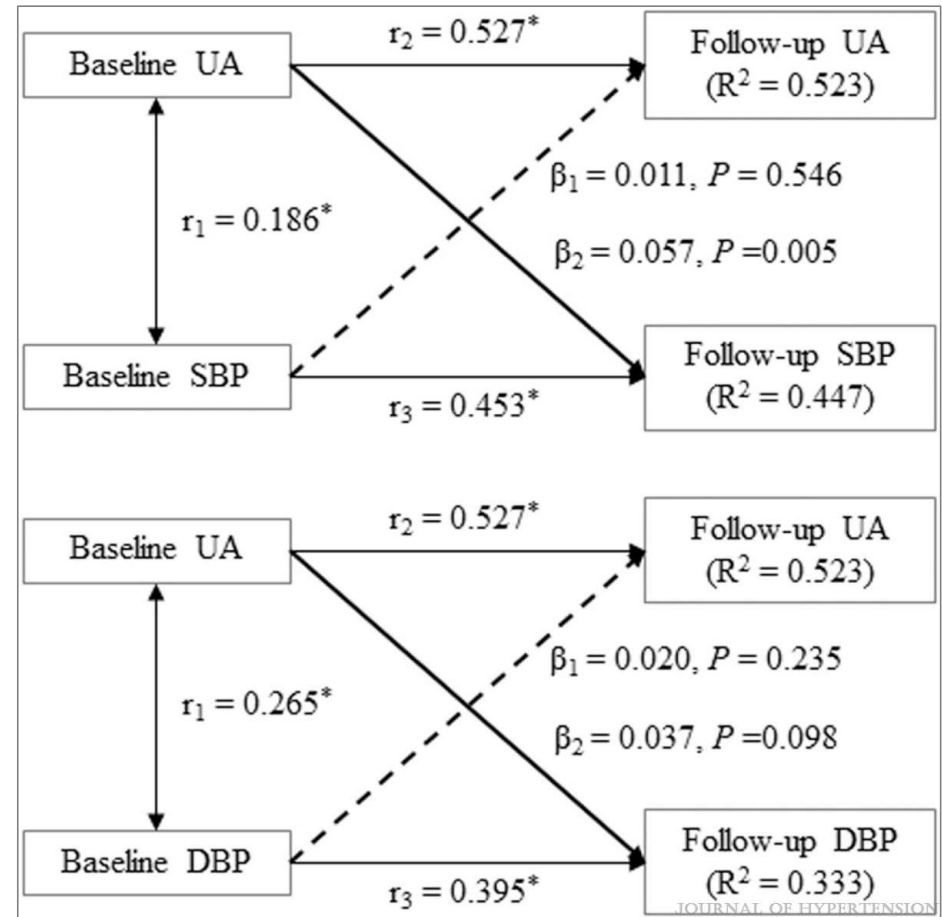
The effect of SUA on blood pressure (BP) control was hypothesized in the 19th century by Frederick Akbar Mahomed who postulated a causal role for elevated SUA.⁴ Since this historical observation, an increasing number of articles have been published reporting a

growing consensus of a close interaction between uric acid and HTN.⁵ Here, we review the current state of the evidence relating SUA and hypertension with the primary goal to discuss both the facts and some of the major controversies that have complicated the interpretation of this challenging topic.

BIOLOGY OF URIC ACID PRODUCTION AND EXCRETION

Uric acid is the final product of the metabolism of purines mainly generated from degradation of amino acids, diet (alcohol or fructose consumption) or DNA and RNA breakdown (tumor lysis syndrome).⁶ SUA increases with age and is usually lower in premenopausal women than in age-matched men. Other factors contribute to increase the levels of SUA as high salt and glucose-rich

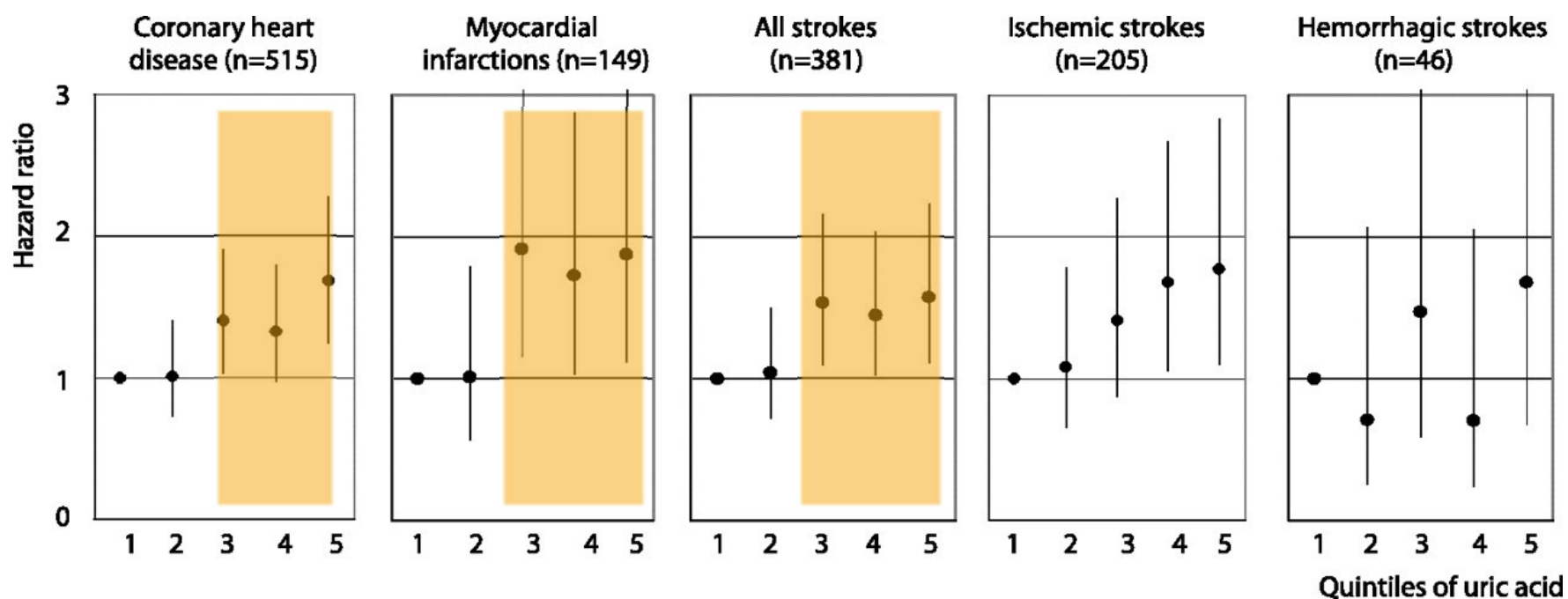
Cross-lagged panel analysis models of serum uric acid, Blood Pressure and urinary albumin/creatinine ratio



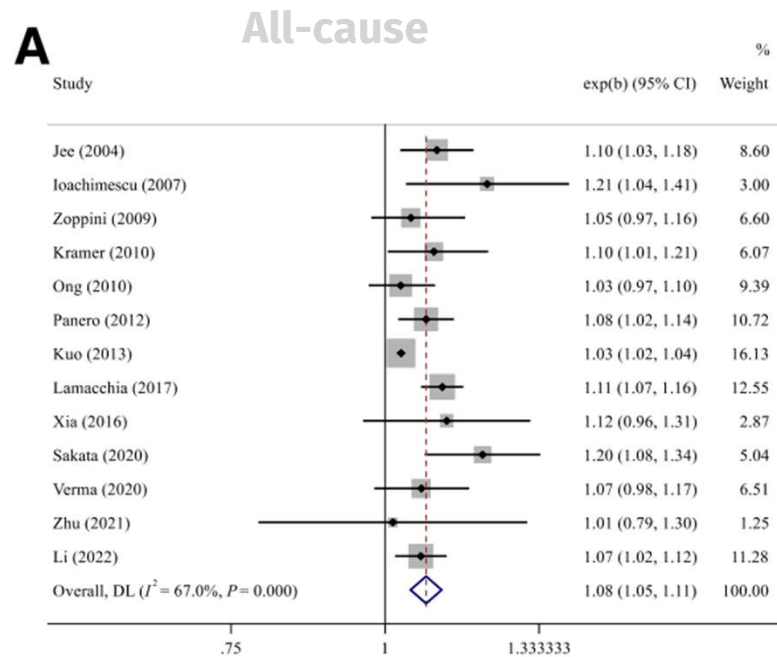
Jiang Y et al, J Hypertension38(4):625-632, 2020.

Correspondence to: Claudio Borghi, Unità Operativa Complessa di Medicina Cardiovascolare, Ospedale S.Orsola-Malpighi, Via Alberoni 15, 40138 Bologna, Italy. Email claudio.borghi@unibo.it
 For Sources of Funding and Disclosures, see page XXX.
 © 2022 American Heart Association, Inc.
 Hypertension is available at www.ahajournals.org/journal/hyp

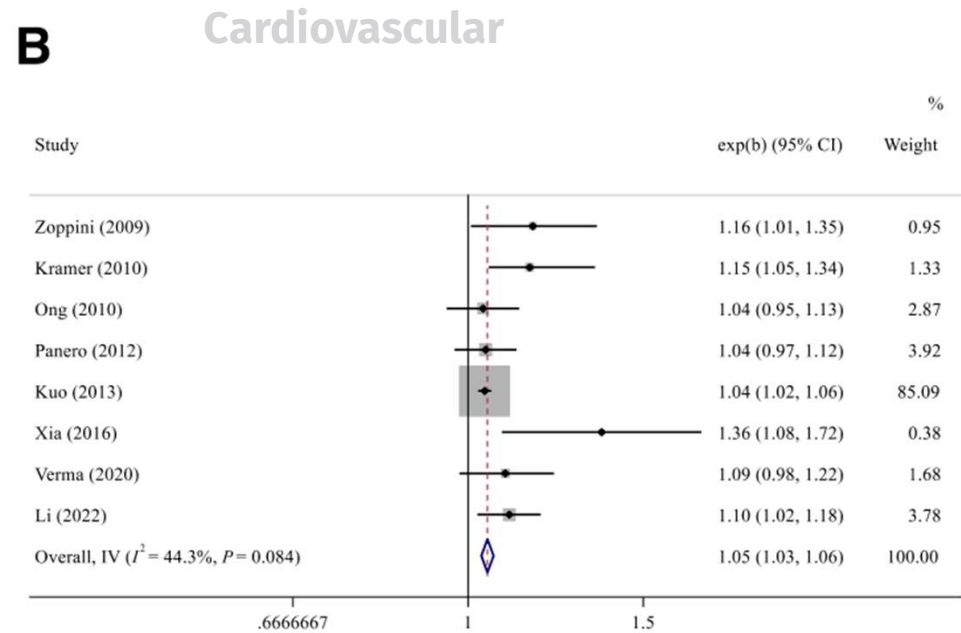
Age and BP-adjusted HR for the associations between serum uric acid and cardiovascular disease: The Rotterdam Study



Forest-plot and metanalysis of SUA and All-cause and CVD mortality in patients with DM (HR per 1 mg/dL)



NOTE: Weights are from random-effects model



RESEARCH

Open Access

Mendelian randomization analysis of 37 clinical factors and coronary artery disease in East Asian and European populations

Kai Wang¹, Xian Shi¹, Ziwei Zhu¹, Xingjie Hao¹, Liangkai Chen², Shanshan Cheng¹, Roger S. Y. Foo^{3,4} and Chaolong Wang^{1*}

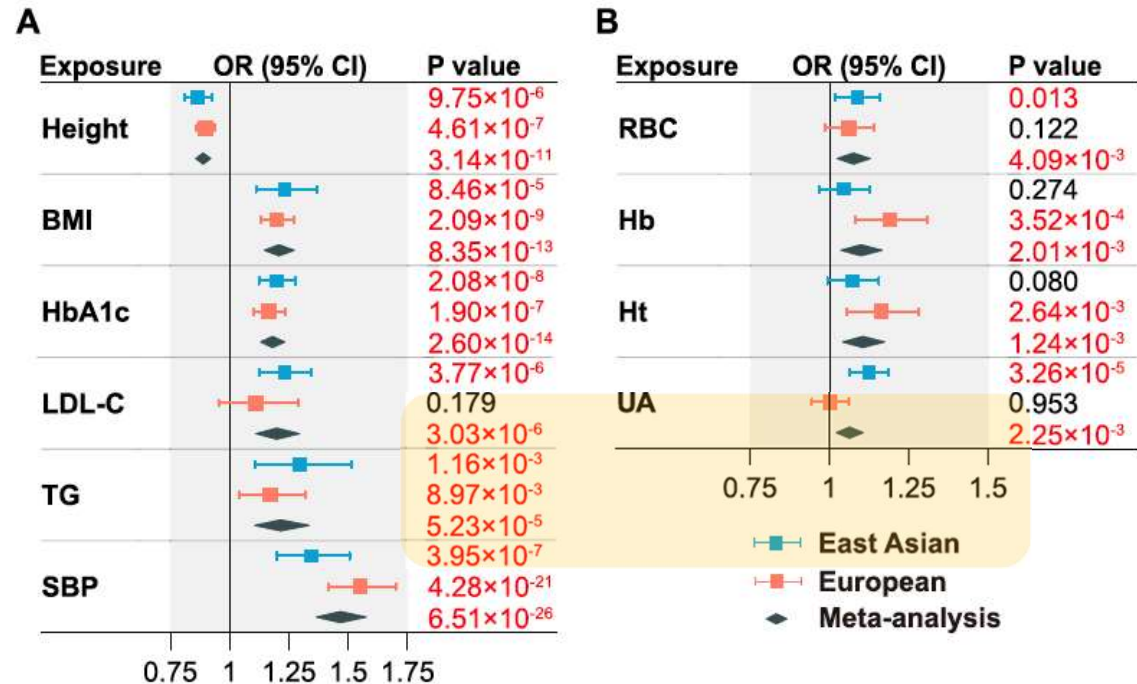


Fig. 5 MVMR analyses of 10 significant clinical factors on CAD. **A** Independent effect estimates by joint analysis of six cardiometabolic factors. **B** Independent effect estimates for each of RBC, Hb, Ht, and UA after adjusting for six cardiometabolic factors in panel **A**. Effect sizes are represented by OR per SD increment in the exposure. The horizontal bars represent 95% CIs. $P < 0.05$ are highlighted in red

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Association of Normal Serum Uric Acid Level and Cardiovascular Disease in People Without Risk Factors for Cardiac Diseases in China

Xue Tian, PhD; Penglan Wang, MD; Shuohua Chen, MD; Yijun Zhang, PhD; Xiaoli Zhang, BS; Qin Xu, PhD; Yanxia Luo, PhD; Shouling Wu, MD; Anxin Wang, PhD

Reclassification and Discrimination Statistics for Cardiovascular Disease by SUA

| | C-statistic | | IDI | | NRI | |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| | Estimate (95% CI), % | P Value | Estimate (95% CI), % | P Value | Estimate (95% CI), % | P Value |
| Cardiovascular disease | | | | | | |
| Framingham score | 0.71 (0.69–0.72) | | Reference | | Reference | |
| Framingham score + SUA | 0.72 (0.71–0.74) | 0.0003 | 0.07 (0.01,0.13) | 0.0198 | 11.78 (5.30–18.25) | 0.0004 |
| Stroke | | | | | | |
| Framingham score | 0.71 (0.69–0.72) | | Reference | | Reference | |
| Framingham score + SUA | 0.72 (0.70–0.73) | 0.0040 | 0.04 (–0.01–0.09) | 0.1408 | 11.10 (4.00–18.21) | 0.0022 |
| Myocardial infarction | | | | | | |
| Framingham score | 0.70 (0.67–0.74) | | Reference | | Reference | |
| Framingham score + SUA | 0.74 (0.70–0.77) | 0.0056 | 0.04 (–0.01–0.09) | 0.1428 | 18.91 (4.24–33.57) | 0.0117 |

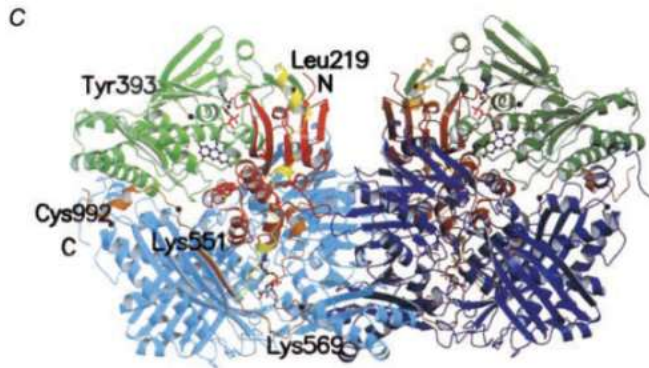
IDI, indicates integrated discrimination improvement; NRI, net reclassification index; and SUA, serum uric acid.



Article

Plasma Xanthine Oxidoreductase Activity Is Associated with a High Risk of Cardiovascular Disease in a General Japanese Population

Yuka Kotozaki ¹, Mamoru Satoh ^{1,2,*}, Kozo Tanno ^{1,3}, Hideki Ohmomo ¹, Ryo Otomo ¹, Fumitaka Tanaka ^{1,4}, Takahito Nasu ^{1,2,5}, Satoru Taguchi ⁵, Hiroto Kikuchi ⁵, Takamasa Kobayashi ⁵, Atsushi Shimizu ^{1,2}, Kiyomi Sakata ^{1,3}, Jiro Hitomi ^{1,6}, Kenji Sobue ⁷ and Makoto Sasaki ^{1,8}



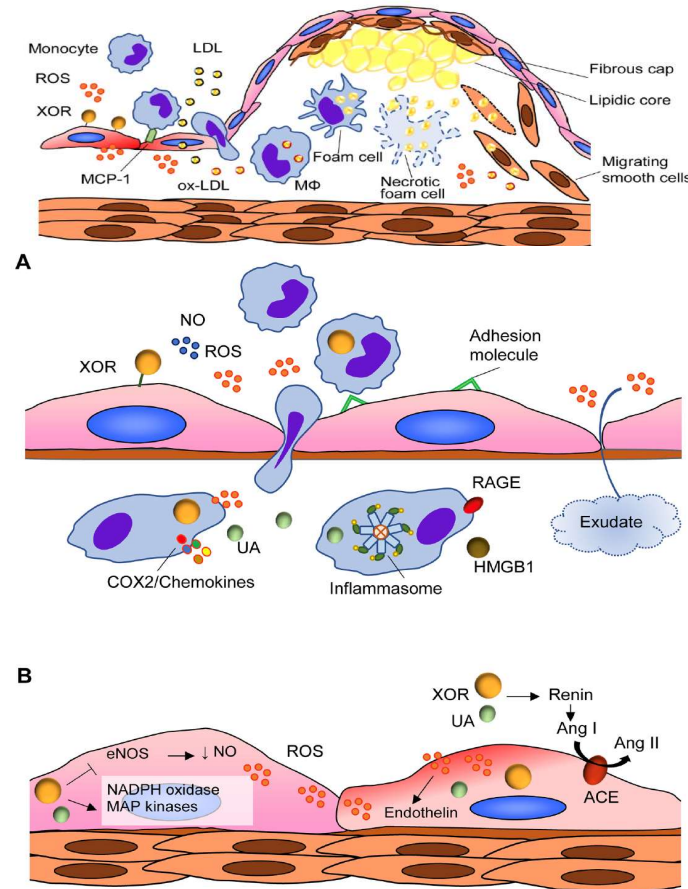
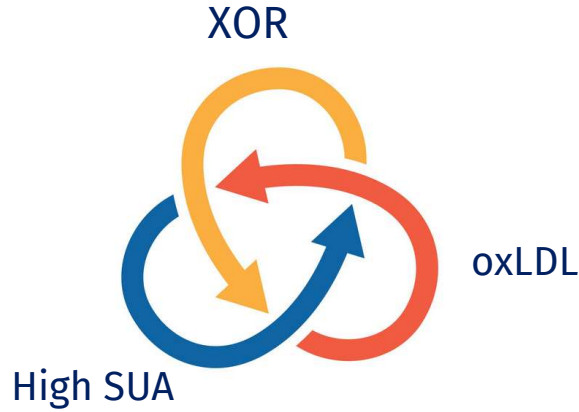
Heart Failure
CKD
Diabetes
Low grade inflammation

Table 6. Multivariate adjusted ORs for the high risk for CVD (FRS ≥ 15) by XOR quartiles.

| XOR Quartiles | OR | 95% CI | <i>p</i> Value |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Q1 | Reference | | |
| Q2 | 1.56 | 0.56–4.35 | 0.396 |
| Q3 | 1.68 | 0.63–4.50 | 0.298 |
| Q4 | 2.93 | 1.16–7.40 | 0.023 |

Statistical significant ($p < 0.05$). OR, Odd ratios; 95% CI, 95% confidence intervals. Covariates: BMI, Log10UA.

XOR,UA and mechanisms of atherosclerosis



Plaque formation

Inflammation

Tissue RAAS Activation

Editorial Commentary

Urate-Lowering Drugs and Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease The Emerging Role of Xanthine Oxidase Inhibition

Claudio Borghi, Giovambattista Desideri

See related article, p xxx

(Hypertension. 2016;67:00-00.
DOI: 10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.115.06531.)
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Hypertension is available at <http://hyper.ahajournals.org>
DOI: 10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.115.06531

Forest plot of randomized controlled trial estimates for change in mean systolic BP in patients receiving urate-lowering therapy or placebo/no treatment.

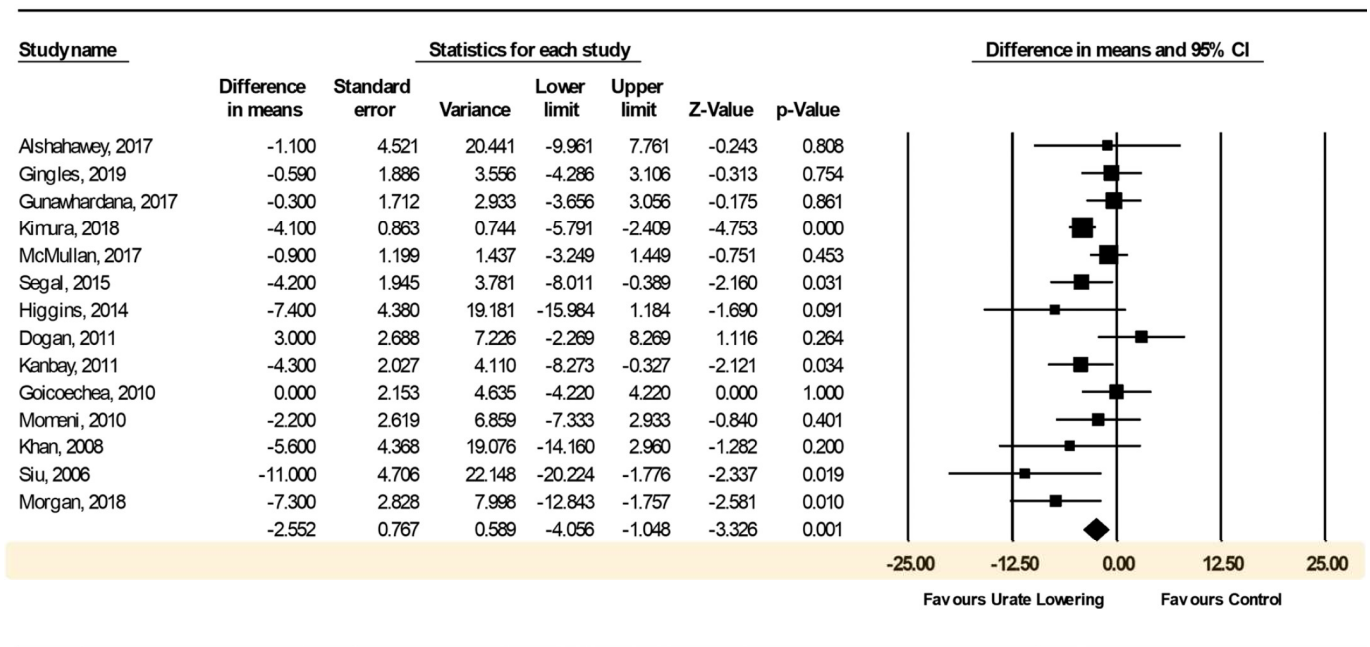
Hypertension

MENDELIAN RANDOMIZATION

Urate, Blood Pressure, and Cardiovascular Disease

Evidence From Mendelian Randomization and Meta-Analysis of Clinical Trials

Dipender Gill, Alan C. Cameron, Stephen Burgess, Xue Li, Daniel J. Doherty, Ville Karhunen, Azmil H. Abdul-Rahim, Martin Taylor-Rowan, Verena Zuber, Philip S. Tsao, Derek Klarin, VA Million Veteran Program, Evangelos Evangelou, Paul Elliott, Scott M. Damrao, Terence J. Quinn, Abbas Dehghan, Evropi Theodoratou, Jesse Dawson, Ioanna Tzoulaki



MENDELIAN RANDOMIZATION



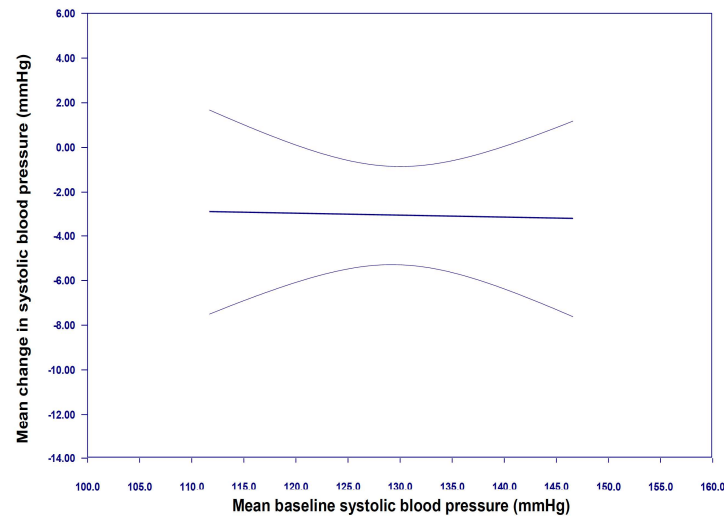
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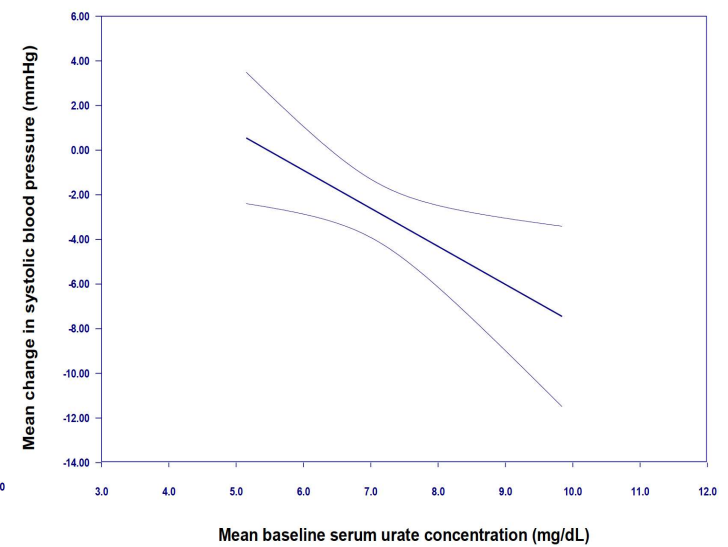
Dipender Gill, Alan C. Cameron, Stephen Burgess, Xue Li, Daniel J. Doherty, Ville Karhunen, Azmil H. Abdul-Rahim, Martin Taylor-Rowan, Verena Zuber, Philip S. Tsao, Derek Klarin, VA Million Veteran Program, Evangelos Evangelou, Paul Elliott, Scott M. Damrauer, Terence J. Quinn, Abbas Dehghan, Evropi Theodoratou, Jesse Dawson, Ioanna Tzoulaki

Meta-regression analysis of the association between changes in systolic BP and baseline BP and Uric acid

Baseline SBP



Baseline SUA



Forest plot of RCT estimates for risk of major adverse cardiovascular events in all patients receiving urate-lowering therapy or placebo/no treatment.

Hypertension

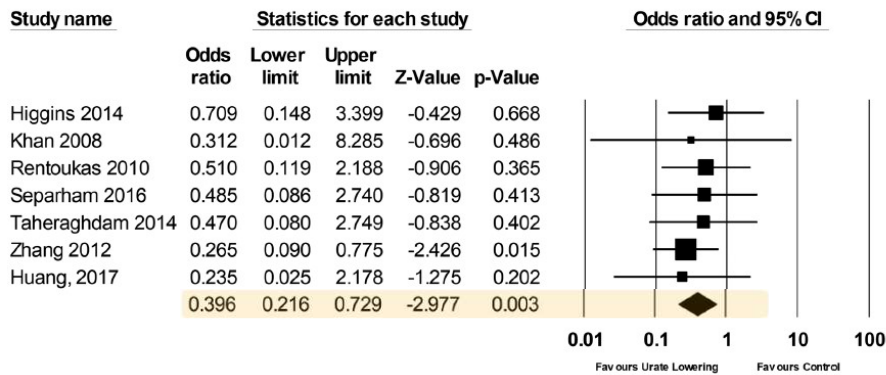
MENDELIAN RANDOMIZATION

Urate, Blood Pressure, and Cardiovascular Disease

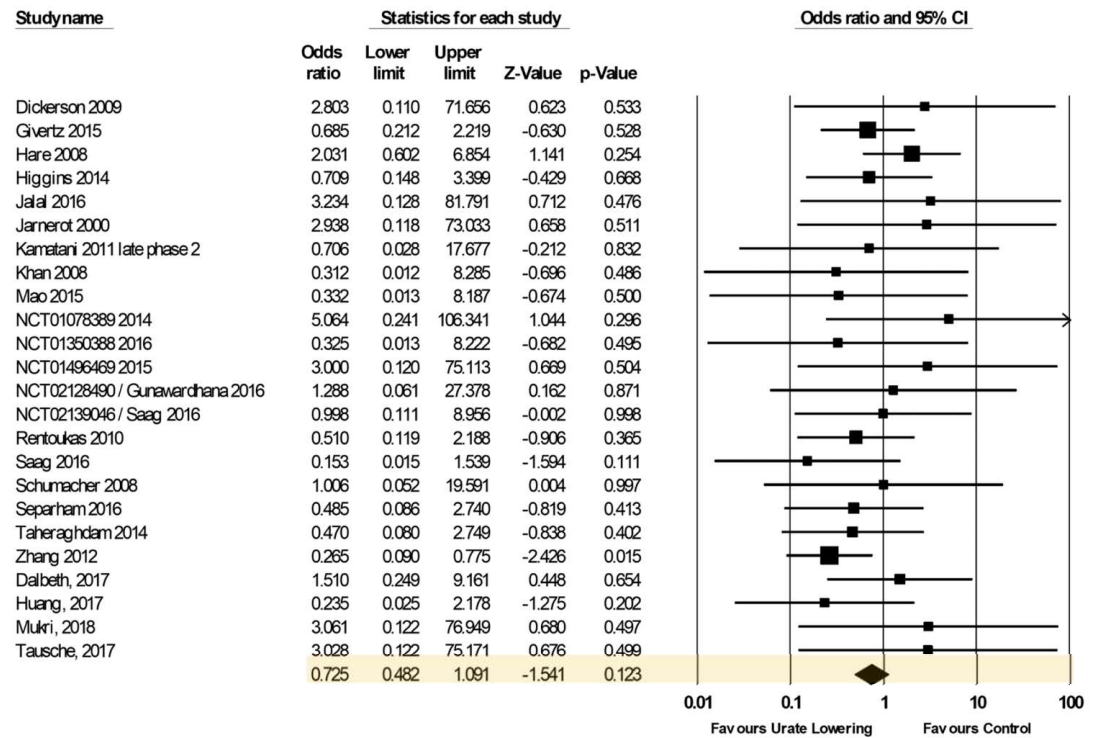
Evidence From Mendelian Randomization and Meta-Analysis of Clinical Trials

Dipender Gill¹; Alan C. Cameron²; Stephen Burgess, Xue Li, Daniel J. Doherty³, Ville Karhunen, Azmil H. Abdul-Rahim⁴, Martin Taylor-Rowan, Verena Zuber, Philip S. Tsao⁵, Derek Klarin⁶, VA Million Veteran Program, Evangelos Evangelou, Paul Elliott, Scott M. Damrauer⁷, Terence J. Quinn⁸, Abbas Dehghan, Evropi Theodoratou,† Jesse Dawson,† Ioanna Tzoulaki^{9,†}

Previous CVD



All studies



The Impact of Urate-Lowering Therapy in Post-Myocardial Infarction Patients: Insights from a Population-Based, Propensity Score-Matched Analysis

Chi-Jung Tai^{1,2,3}, Chin-Chung Wu², Kun-Tai Lee⁴, Tzyy-Guey Tseng¹, Hui-Chun Wang^{2,5,6,7}, Fang-Rong Chang^{2,5,6,7,*} and Yi-Hsin Yang^{8,9,*}

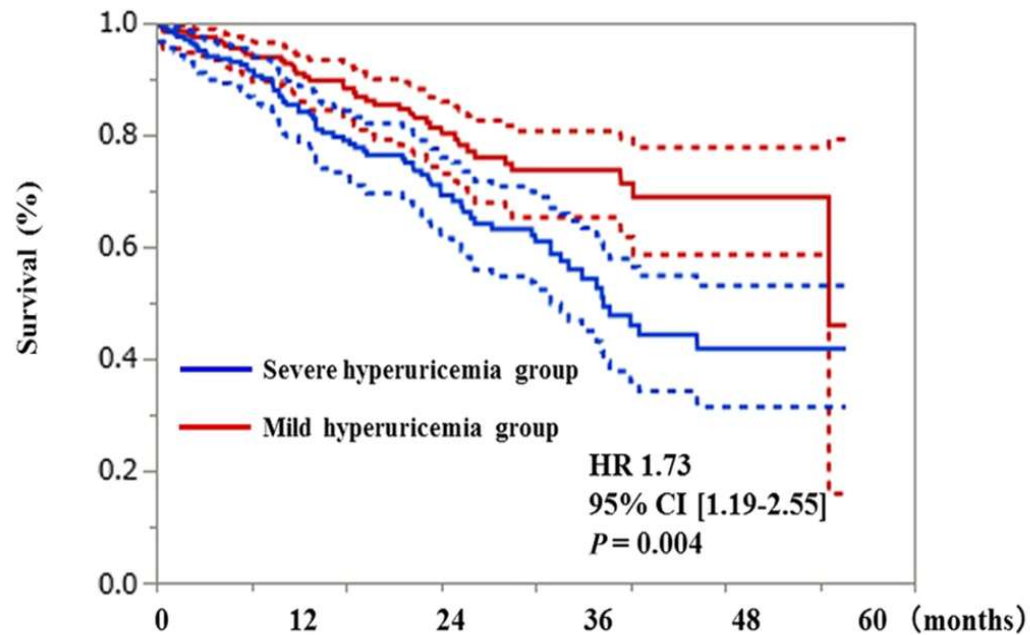
Table 2 Comparison of all-cause mortality and cardiovascular outcomes between patients with and without ULT

| | ULT (+) (n = 963) | ULT (-) (n = 963) | Adjusted HR ^a (95% CI) | P value ^a | Bootstrap adjusted HR (bootstrap 95% CI) ^b |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Primary end points | | | | | |
| All-cause mortality | 86 (8.9%) | 245 (25.4%) | 0.67 (0.51–0.87) | ↓ 0.003* | 0.66 (0.48–0.90) |
| Secondary end points | | | | | |
| Composite CV outcomes ^c | 315 (32.7%) | 376 (39.0%) | 0.90 (0.76–1.08) | 0.26 | 0.90 (0.75–1.10) |
| Recurrent MI with revascularization by PCI or CABG | 138 (14.3%) | 188 (19.5%) | 0.67 (0.53–0.86) | ↓ 0.001* | 0.69 (0.53–0.90) |
| Recurrent MI with revascularization by heparinization | 190 (19.7%) | 245 (25.4%) | 0.79 (0.64–0.97) | 0.02* | 0.81 (0.64–1.01) |
| Heart failure hospitalization | 160 (16.6%) | 157 (16.3%) | 1.25 (0.97–1.60) | 0.09 | 1.40 (1.08–1.83) |
| Stroke hospitalization | 35 (3.6%) | 69 (7.1%) | 0.60 (0.38–0.96) | ↓ 0.03* | 0.58 (0.35–0.95) |
| Cardiac arrhythmias hospitalization ^d | 47 (4.9%) | 68 (7.1%) | 0.86 (0.55–1.34) | 0.51 | 0.91 (0.57–1.51) |

Lowering Uric Acid May Improve Prognosis in Patients With Hyperuricemia and Heart Failure With Preserved Ejection Fraction



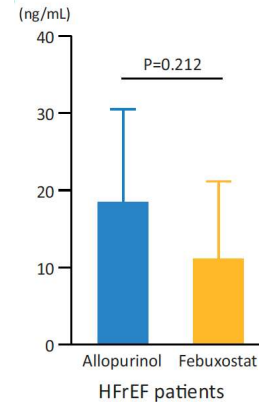
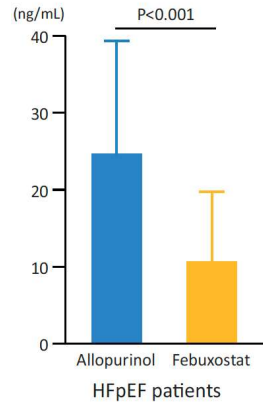
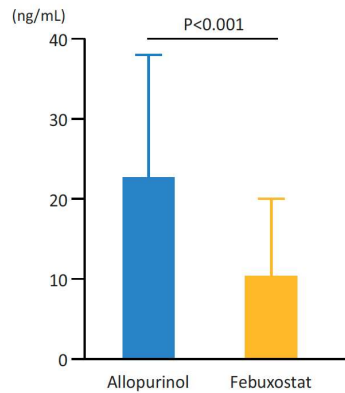
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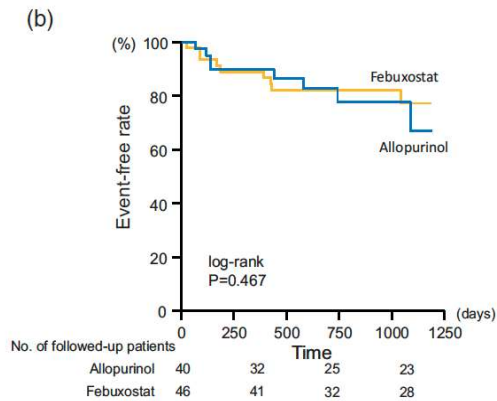
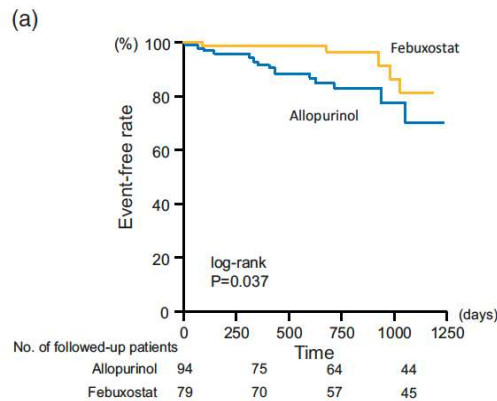
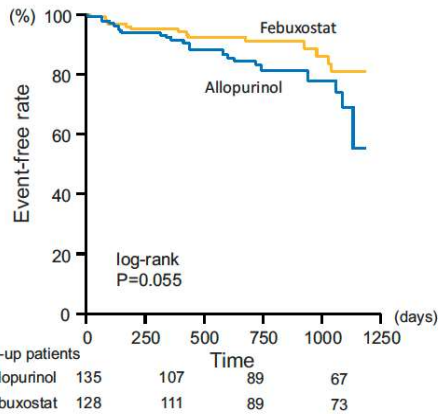
| Number at risk | 0 | 12 | 24 | 36 | 48 | 60 | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|---|---|
| Severe hyperuricemia group | 238 | 181 | 121 | 74 | 58 | 28 | 6 | 4 |
| Mild hyperuricemia group | 226 | 182 | 124 | 82 | 63 | 30 | 5 | 3 |

Sakata Y et al, . Journal of the American Heart Association, 2022 ,

Comparison of urine 8-hydroxy-20-deoxyguanosine (8-OHdG) levels at 3 years between allopurinol and febuxostat



Kaplan–Meier analyses for patients free from hospitalization due to worsening heart failure in the febuxostat and allopurinol groups



Comparison between febuxostat and allopurinol uric acid-lowering therapy in patients with chronic heart failure and hyperuricemia: a multicenter randomized controlled trial

Suzuki S. Journal of International Medical Research 2021

SUA and drug treatment

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Effects of non urate-lowering drugs on SUA in randomized controlled trials in cardiovascular disease

| Drug | Study | Patients | Uric acid (all significant) | Clinical outcome (% mediation) |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Empagliflozin | EMPAREG-OUTCOME | DM2 | -1.04 mg/dL vs Placebo | Reduced MACE (24.6%) |
| Empagliflozin | EMPEROR-RED | HFrEF | -1.11 mg/dL vs Placebo | Reduced-MACE |
| Empagliflozin | EMPEROR-PRES | HFpEF | -0,8 mg/dL vs Placebo | Reduced MACE |
| Dapagliflozin | DAPA-HF | HfrEF | -0.84 mg/dL vs Placebo | Reduced MACE |
| Dapagliflozin | DELIVER | HFpEF | ? | Reduced MACE |
| Sacubitril-Valsartan | PARADIGM-HF | HFrEF | -0.24 mg/dL vs.ACEi | Reduced-MACE |
| Sacubitril-Valsartan | PARAGON-HF | HfpEF | -0.32 mg/dL vs valsartan | Partially improved-MACE |
| Vericiguat | SOCRATES-HF | HFrEF | -6.5 to -10.3% vs Placebo | Reduced-MACE |
| Losartan | LIFE | HTN | -3.6 to -6.6% vs Atenolo | Reduced MACE (29%) |
| Losartan | RENAAL | HTN | -3.2 to-6.8 % vs Placebo | Less decline GFR Reduced MACE |

Serum Uric Acid and CVD: Facts, Evidence and Future targets of research

Urodonal
and GOUT.

MEDICAL OPINION:
Gout, in common with Rheumatism, is caused through excess of uric acid in the blood. Nevertheless, excess of uric acid does not always imply the presence of gout, whereas goutiness invariably points to excess of uric acid.
Gouty subjects should therefore know that they are manufacturing too much uric acid, and should take steps to eliminate the poison as fast as it is formed. For this purpose physicians all over the world (including Prof. Lancereaux, late President of the Paris Académie de Médecine) recommend the use of Urodonal, which is **thirty-seven times more active than lithia**, as a solvent of uric acid, while possessing the additional advantage of being absolutely harmless and not causing injury to the heart, brain, stomach, kidneys, or other organs, even when taken in large and repeated doses.

Price 5/- & 12/- per Bottle.
Prepared at Chatelain's Laboratories, Paris. Obtainable from all Chemists or direct, post free, from the British and Colonial Agents **HEPPELLETS**, Pharmacists, 164, Piccadilly, London, W.1.
Write for explanatory booklets.

Recommended by the Medical Profession in England and Abroad.

A Martyr to Gout.

- Hyperuricemia (H-SUA) is highly prevalent in the population and contributes to the new-onset HBP and cardiovascular morbidity and mortality.
- The risk of persists after adjustment for all confounding RF's and can be prevented by controlling SUA
- The negative impact of H-SUA on BP and CV risk is dependent on some integrated mechanism primarily involving the activity of XO and leading to oxidative stress, and functional vascular damage.
- The negative prognostic effect of H-SUA in patients with HTN and CVD can be improved by ULT particularly in patients with high XO activity (genetic, CAD, HF, CKD, etc)