

**6<sup>th</sup> AME National Meeting**

Italian Association of Clinical Endocrinologists



**3<sup>rd</sup> Joint Meeting with AACE**

American Association of Clinical Endocrinologist



**An Update in the Treatment of Acromegaly  
The role of GH and IGF-I in Diagnosis and Cure Criteria**

**Diego Ferone**



*Department of Endocrinological & Metabolic Sciences  
University of Genova*



# Diagnosis of acromegaly

## Anamnesis and clinical evaluation

- ✓ Retrospective evaluation (photos)
- ✓ Clinical picture
- ✓ Co-morbidities

## Biochemistry

- ✓ Basal GH (?)
- ✓ GH during Oral glucose load (OGTT)
- ✓ Insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-I)
- ✓ Study of the residual pituitary function

## Imaging

- ✓ Radiology (MRI)
- ✓ Visual perimetry



# Criteria for diagnosis and disease control in acromegly

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## CONSENSUS

### Criteria for Cure of Acromegaly: A Consensus Statement\*†

ANDREA GIUSTINA, ARIEL BARKAN, FELIPE F. CASANUEVA,  
FRANCO CAVAGNINI, LAWRENCE FROHMAN, KEN HO, JOHANNES VELDHUIS,  
JOHN WASS, KLAUS VON WERDER, AND SHLOMO MELMED

– GH

#### TABLE 1. Acromegaly biochemical diagnosis

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Random GH  $<0.4 \mu\text{g/L}$  and normal IGF-I

Excludes acromegaly

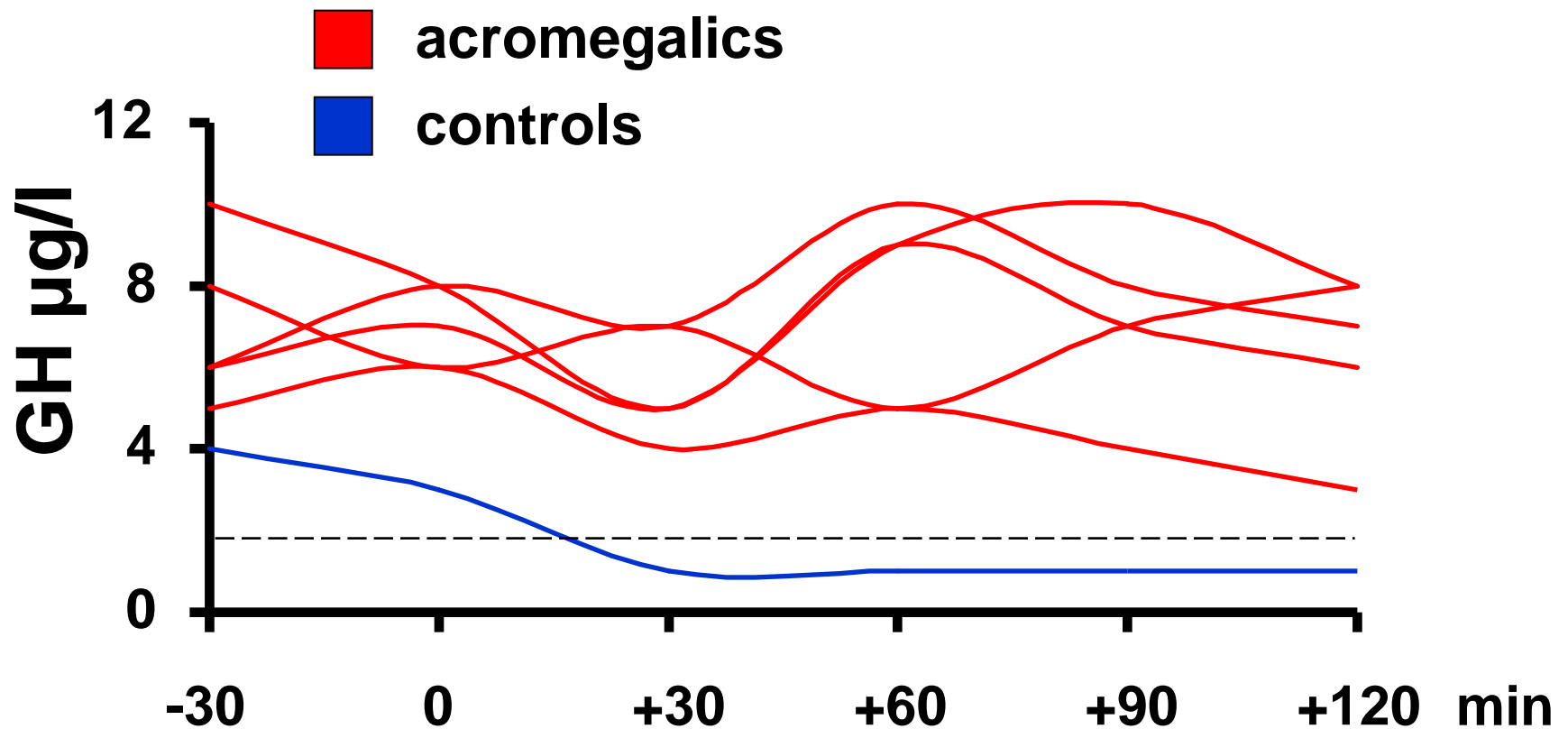
GH nadir during OGTT  $<1 \mu\text{g/L}$  and normal IGF-I

Excludes acromegaly

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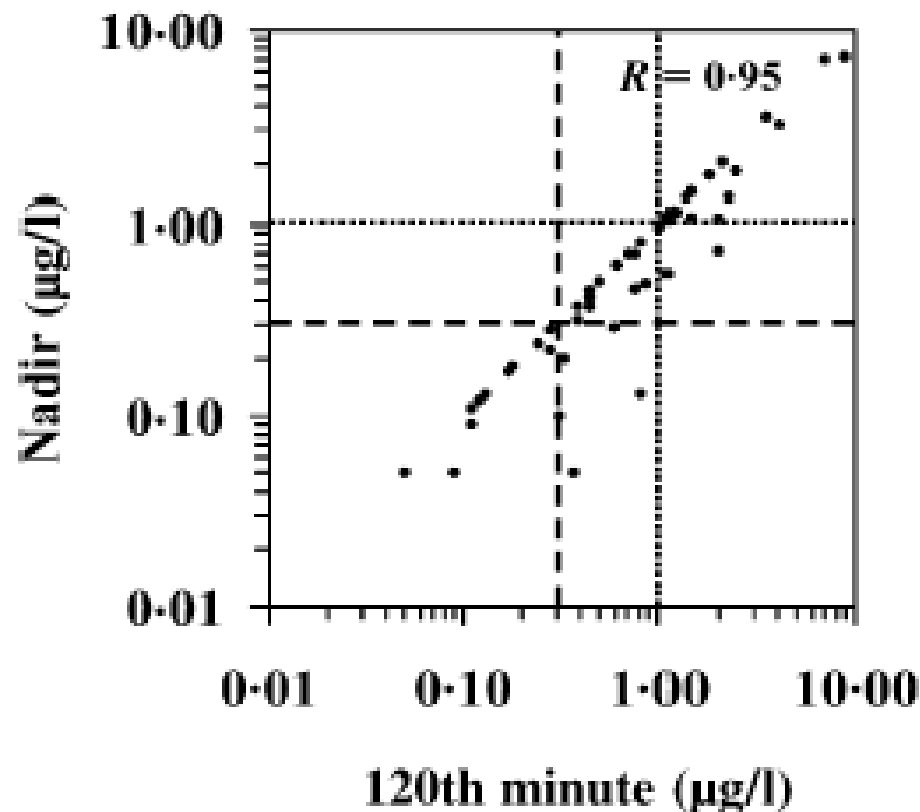
# GH levels during OGTT in acromegalic patients and controls



# Assessment of disease activity in acromegaly by means of a single blood sample: comparison of the 120th minute postglucose value with spontaneous GH secretion and with the IGF system

Clinical Endocrinology (2004) 61, 138–144

Francesco Minuto<sup>\*†</sup>, Eugenia Resmini<sup>\*</sup>,  
Mara Boschetti<sup>\*</sup>, Marica Arvigo<sup>\*†</sup>, Maria Pia Sormani<sup>‡</sup>,  
Massimo Giusti<sup>\*†</sup>, Diego Ferone<sup>\*†</sup> and  
Antonina Barreca<sup>\*†</sup>

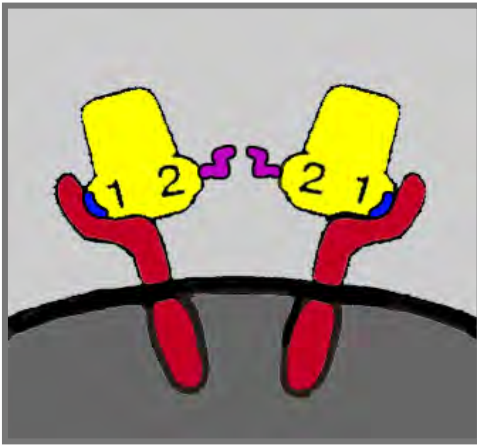


# Altered GH levels during OGTT

- ▶ **Acromegaly**
- ▶ **Adolescents**
- ▶ **Laron syndrome**
- ▶ **Diabetes mellitus**
- ▶ **Liver diseases**
- ▶ **Kidney failure**
- ▶ **Malnutrition**



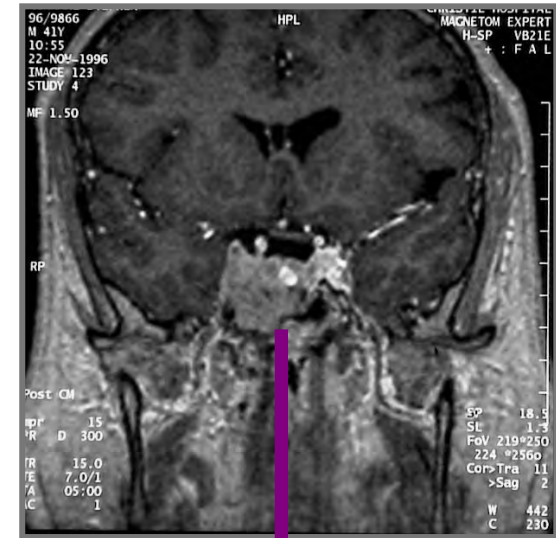
# Pegvisomant



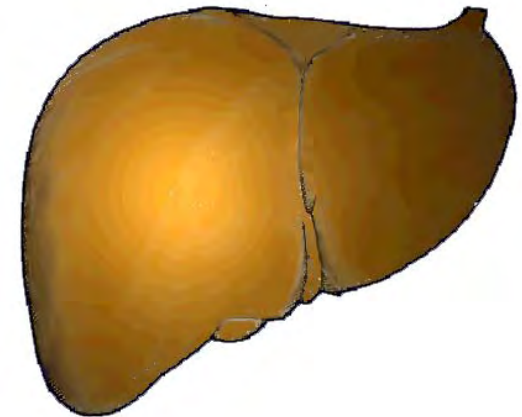
- 191 amino acid GH analogue
- 9 amino acid substitutions
- 4-5 PEG moieties
- molecular weight 42-46000 D
- half-life >70 hours
- subcutaneous administration

**Goal of therapy - to lower IGF-I into the age-related reference range**

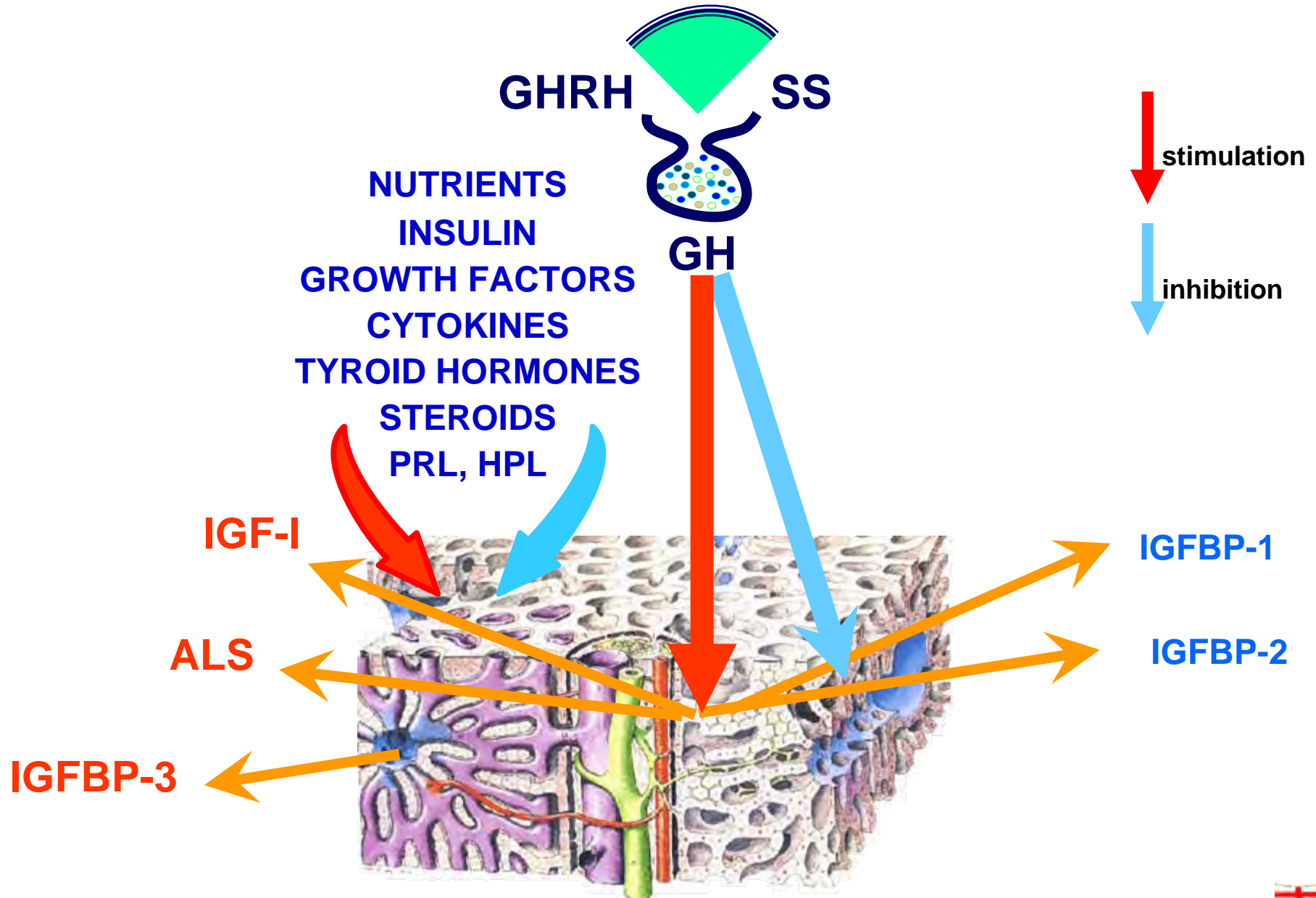
**Serum GH cannot be used as a disease marker**



**GH**

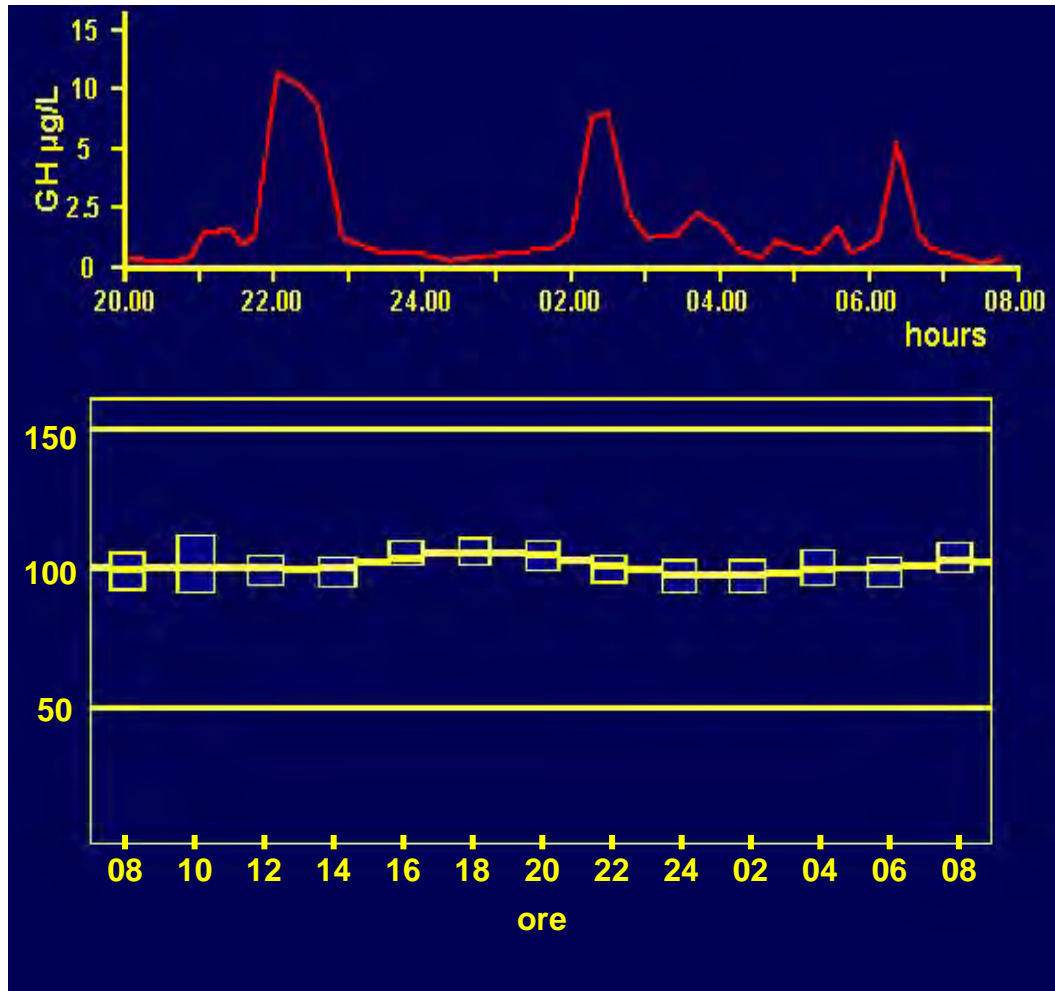


# GH-IGF-IGFBP AXIS





# 150 kDa complex subunits as diagnostic parameters



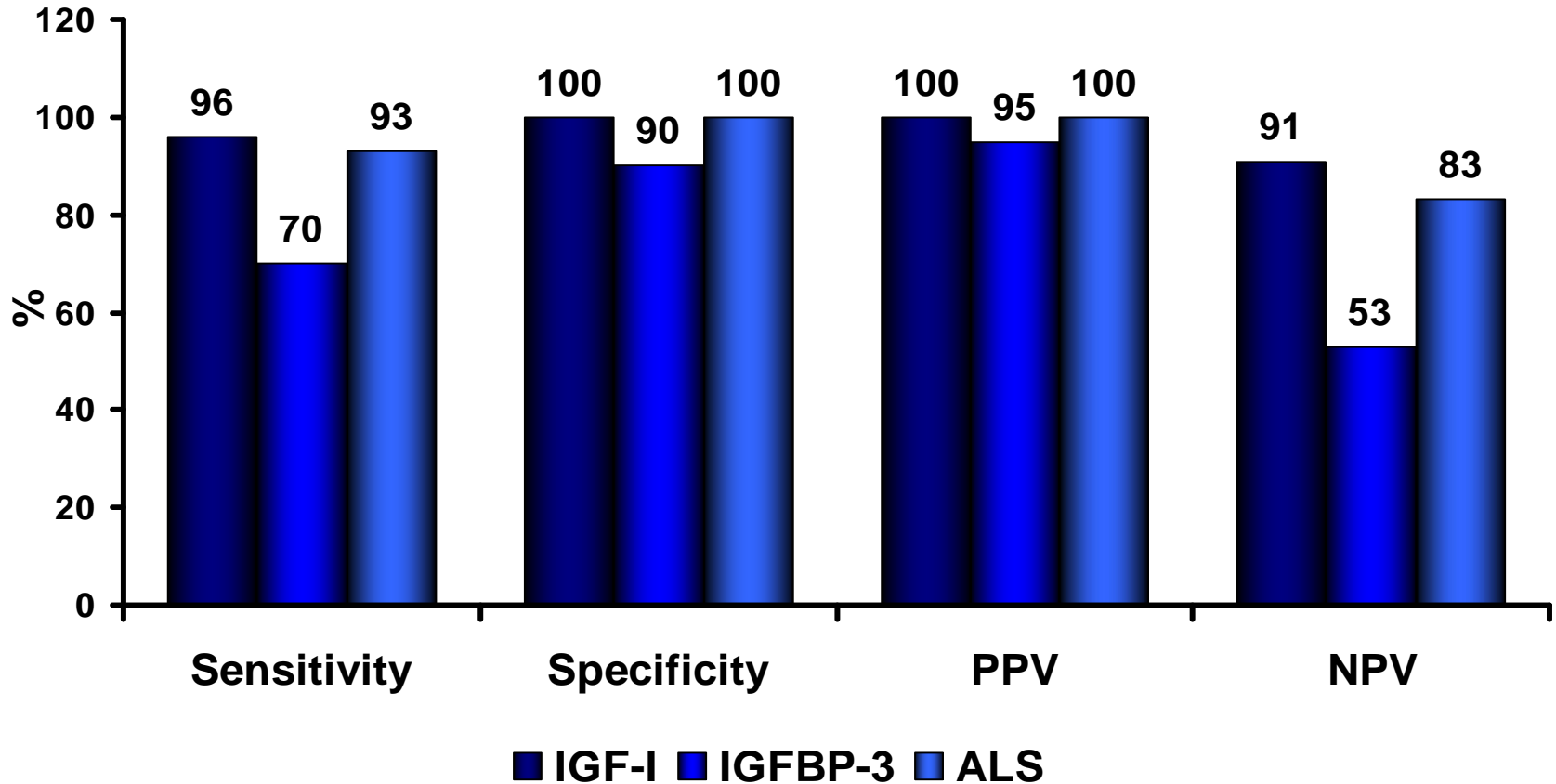
- Stable circulating concentrations
- Reproduction of the integrated GH secretion
- High circulating levels



# Diagnostic Value of the Acid-Labile Subunit in Acromegaly: Evaluation in Comparison with Insulin-Like Growth Factor (IGF) I, and IGF-Binding Protein-1, -2, and -3\*

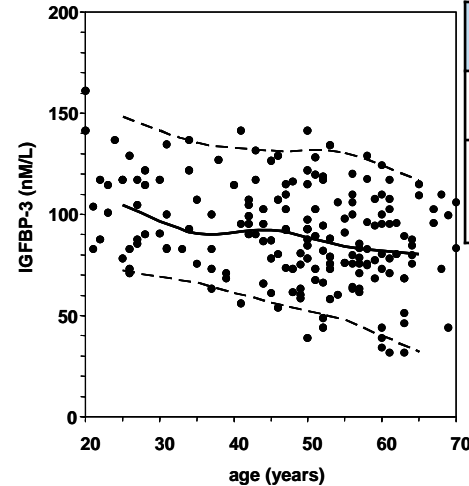
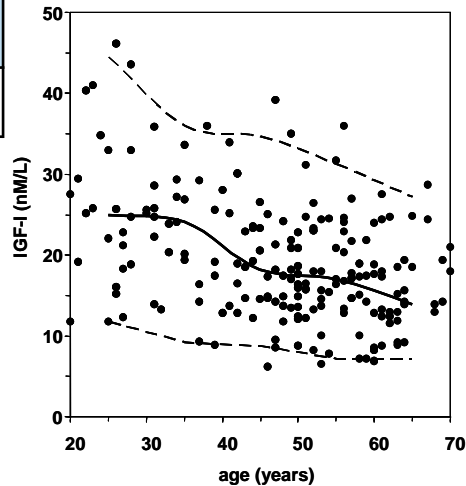
The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism  
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M. AROSIO, S. GARRONE, P. BRUZZI, G. FAGLIA, F. MINUTO, AND A. BARRECA



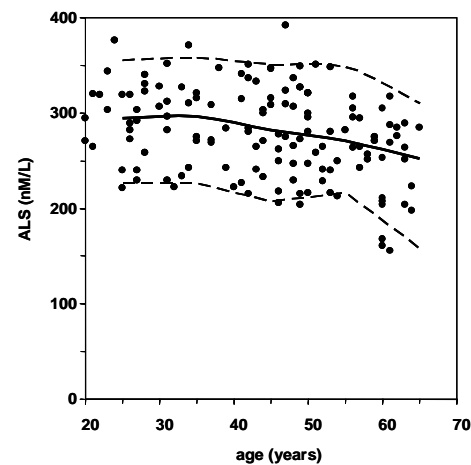
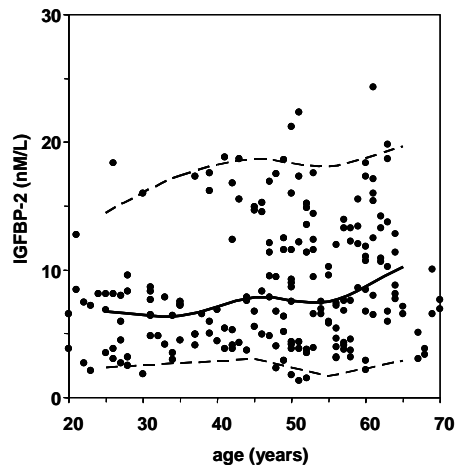
# Aging changes of the IGF system components

IGF-I	20-40y	50-70 y	$\delta$ %
Mean	24.24	16.85	-30.5
SEM	1.23	0.60	



IGBP-3	20-40y	50-70 y	$\delta$ %
Mean	101	85	-15.5
SEM	4	2	

IGFBP-2	20-40y	50-70 y	$\delta$ %
Mean	6.96	9.35	34.3
SEM	0.57	0.50	



ALS	20-40y	50-70 y	$\delta$ %
Mean	293	261	-10.8
SEM	6	6	



# Potential pitfalls of IGF system parameters

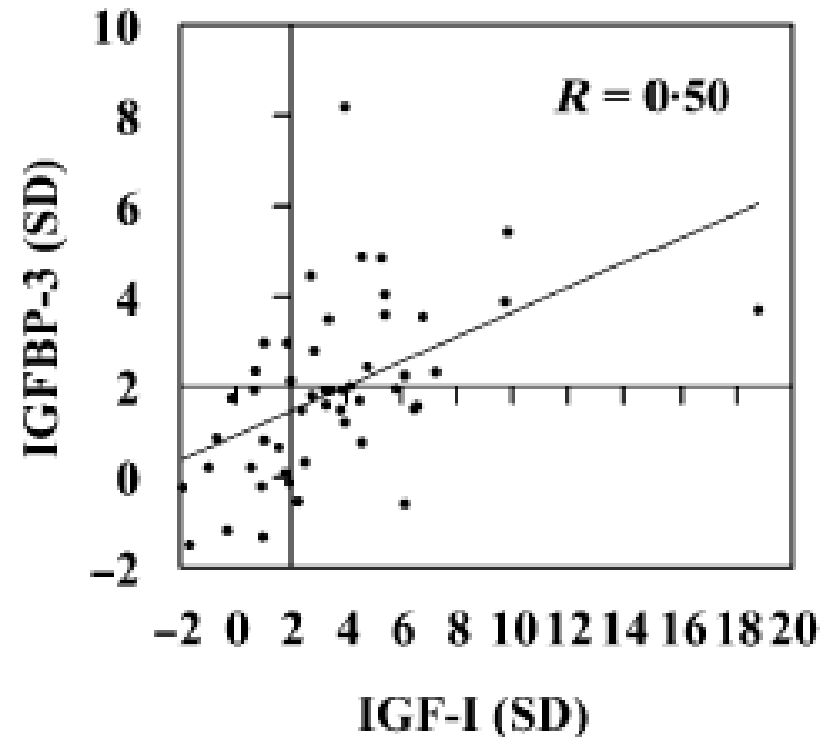
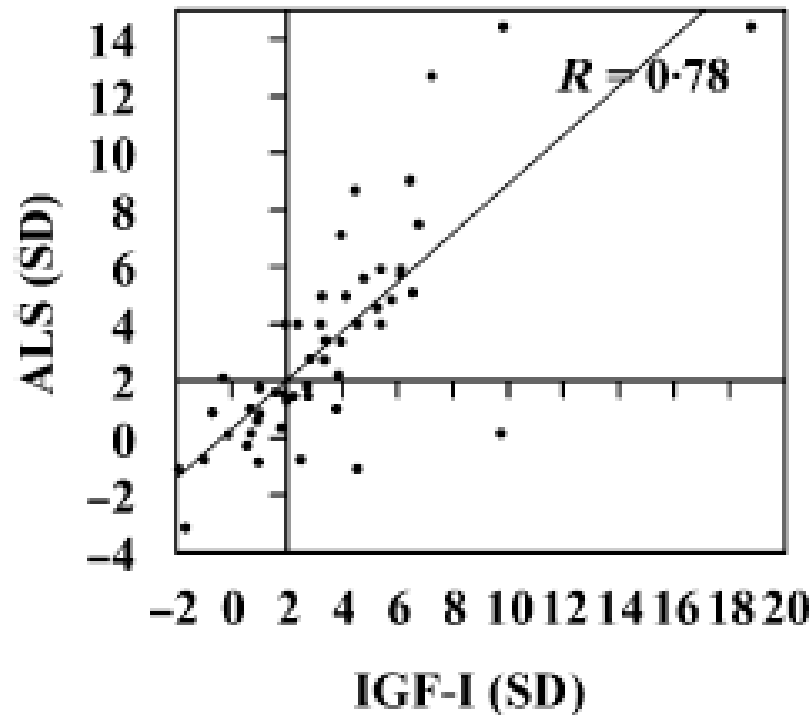
LIMITES	IGF-I	IGFBP-3	ALS
Methodology	++++	-	-
Age	+++	+++	+
Malnutrition	+++	+++	++
Sepsis	+++	+++	+++++
Diabetes	++	++	?
Hypothyroidism	++	++	+
Kidney failure	++	++	?



# Assessment of disease activity in acromegaly by means of a single blood sample: comparison of the 120th minute postglucose value with spontaneous GH secretion and with the IGF system

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Massimo Giusti<sup>\*†</sup>, Diego Ferone<sup>\*†</sup> and  
Antonina Barreca<sup>\*†</sup>



# **GH and IGF-I discrepancies**

**Dimaraki *et al.* JCEM 2002:**

Subjects with normal GH high IGF-I

**Freda *et al.* JCEM 1998:**

Subjects with high GH normal IGF-I



# Concordance between IGF system parameters and GH after glucose load in acromegly

	OGTT 120 < 1
IGF-I <2 SDS	52
ALS <2 SDS	62
IGFBP-3 <2 SDS	56



# Concordance between IGF system parameters and spontaneous GH secretion in acromegaly

	Mean conc. GH < 2.5	Minim. conc. GH < 0.3
IGF-I <2 SDS	56	68
ALS <2 SDS	62	70
IGFBP-3 <2 SDS	60	60





# Assessment of disease activity in acromegaly by means of a single blood sample: comparison of the 120th minute postglucose value with spontaneous GH secretion and with the IGF system

Francesco Minuto<sup>\*†</sup>, Eugenia Resmini<sup>\*</sup>,  
 Mara Boschetti<sup>\*</sup>, Marica Arvigo<sup>\*†</sup>, Maria Pia Sormani<sup>‡</sup>,  
 Massimo Giusti<sup>\*†</sup>, Diego Ferone<sup>\*†</sup> and  
 Antonina Barreca<sup>\*†</sup>

**If 2 parameters of IGF system are normal, then 91% GH daycurve and 73% OGTT are normal**

	Mean GH day curve				OGTT 120 <sup>th</sup> minute			
	< 2.5	> 2.5	< 1	> 1	< 1	> 1	< 0.3	> 0.3
<b>2 normal IGF system parameters</b>	20	2	12	10	15	7	7	15



# Assessment of disease activity in acromegaly by means of a single blood sample: comparison of the 120th minute postglucose value with spontaneous GH secretion and with the IGF system

Francesco Minuto<sup>\*†</sup>, Eugenia Resmini<sup>\*</sup>,  
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 Antonina Barreca<sup>\*†</sup>

**If post glucose GH is <1 and IGF is normal, then other parameters are useless**

	Mean GH day curve				ALS		IGFBP-3	
	< 2.5	> 2.5	< 1	> 1	nl	hi	nl	hi
<b>GH and IGF</b>	11	0	10	1	11	0	9	2



# Cure criteria for acromegaly

(post-glucose GH and IGF-I)

<b>GH and IGF-I elevated</b>	<b>Active or uncontrolled disease</b>
<b>GH and IGF-I normal</b>	<b>Inactive or controlled disease</b>
<b>GH normal and IGF-I elevated GH elevated and IGF-I normal</b>	<b>Partially controlled disease</b>
<b>GH normal and IGF-I low</b>	<b>Overcontrolled disease or hypopituitarism</b>



# CONCLUSIONS

- If post-glucose GH is  $< 1$  and IGF-I is normal then no further biochemical assessment is required
- The 120<sup>th</sup> minute post glucose GH value can replace the nadir
- Among GH-dependent factors, IGF-I is the most reliable parameter, ALS close next



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American Association of Clinical Endocrinologist

*Eugenia Resmini*

*Mara Boschetti*

*Manuela Albertelli*

*Federico Bianchi*

*Alberto Rebora*

*Massimo Giusti*

*Francesco Minuto*

*Department of Endocrinology & Metabolism*

*University of Genova*



**Thanks for the attention!**

# An Update in the Treatment of Acromegaly

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## The Role of Diagnostic Procedures in Complications

Pietro Maffei,  
Clinica Medica 3<sup>^</sup>, University Hospital, Padua, Italy

# A Medical Mystery Which Twin is the Patient ?

2655 responses: 64% correctly diagnosed acromegaly



# Guidelines & Consensus (Acromegaly)

- 2006 CIM – Canadian Guidelines
- 2005 EJE - Pituitary Society & ENEA (Seville)
- 2004 JCEM – GHRS & Pituitary Society
- 2004 End Pract – AACE (US Guidelines)
- 2003 JEI – Pituitary Society & ENEA (Versailles)
- 2002 JCEM – Treatment Consensus Workshop (Montecarlo)
- 2002 Gut – St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, UK
- 2001 GH & IGF Res. – Scandinavian Guidelines
- 2000 JCEM – Expert panel (Cortina)
- 1998 JCEM – US Guidelines (Four Centers)
- 1994 AJM – Consensus Development Panel



# Guidelines & Consensus (General population)

## Specifically Mentioned by Acromegaly Guidelines:

- American Cancer Society guidelines
- NIH Clinical Practice guidelines for high BP
- NCEP, ATP III – High Blood Cholesterol in Adult
- CDC – Recommended Adult Immunization schedule

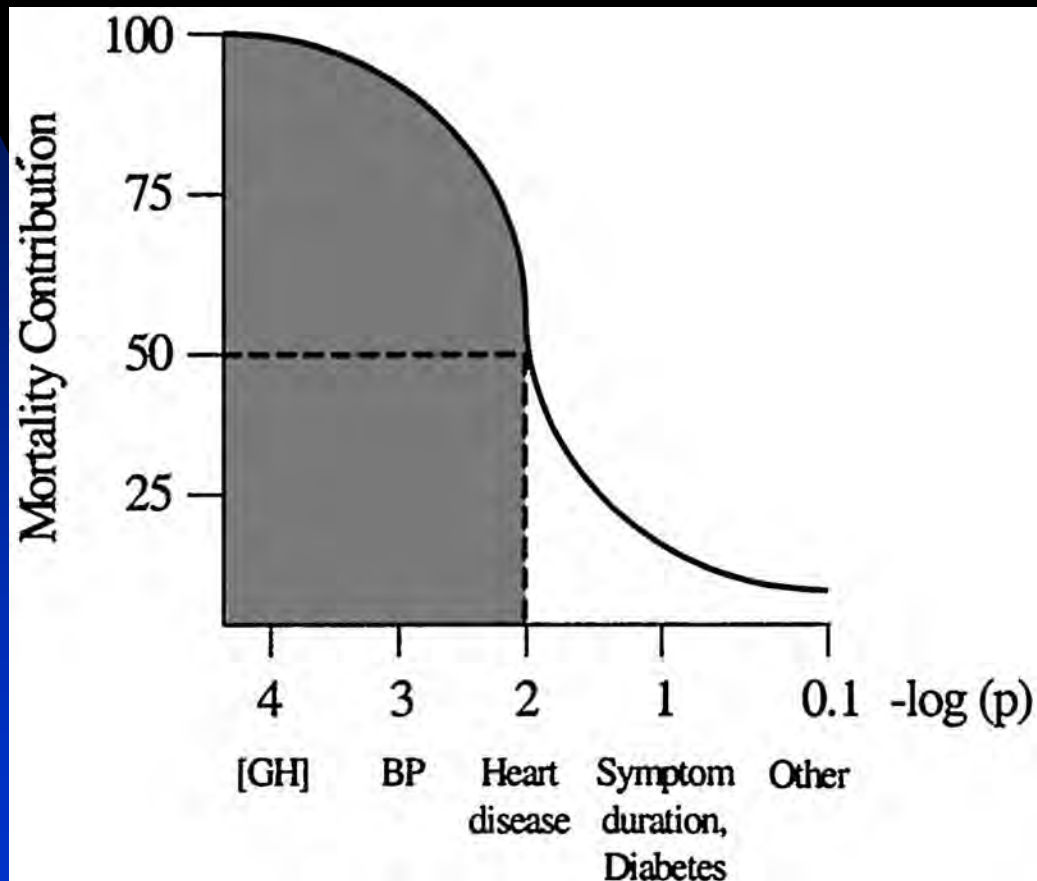
## Other Guidelines:

- WHO and ADA (Diabetes)
- IDF, Clinical Guidelines Task Force (Type 2 diabetes)

# Guidelines & Complications

	GH-IGF Diag/Ther	Surg Ther	Med Ther	Rad Ther	Complic
ENEA+PS, Seville, EJE '05	√	√	√	√	√
GHR+PS, JCEM '04	√	√	√	√	√
AACE, '04	√	√	√	√	√
ENEA+PS, Versailles, JEI '03					√
Montecarlo, JCEM '02		√	√	√	√
Cortina, JCEM '00	√	√	√	√	√
JCEM '98	√	√	√	√	√

# The main problem: Mortality

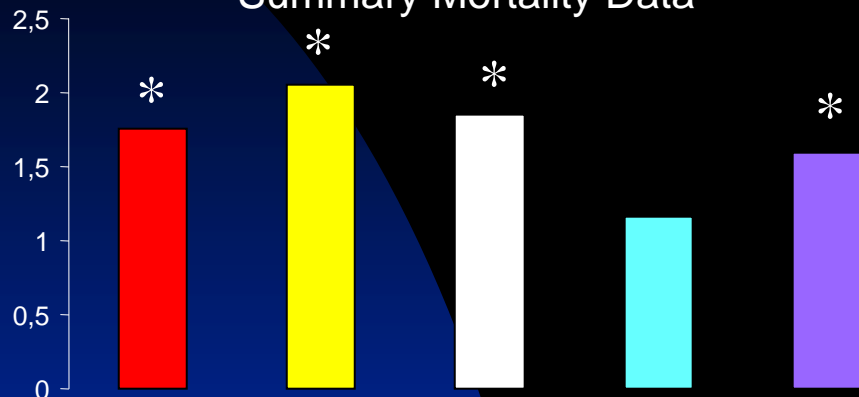


# Mortality and Cancer Incidence in Acromegaly: a Retrospective Cohort Study

1362 patients (UK) - 19.323 yrs follow-up

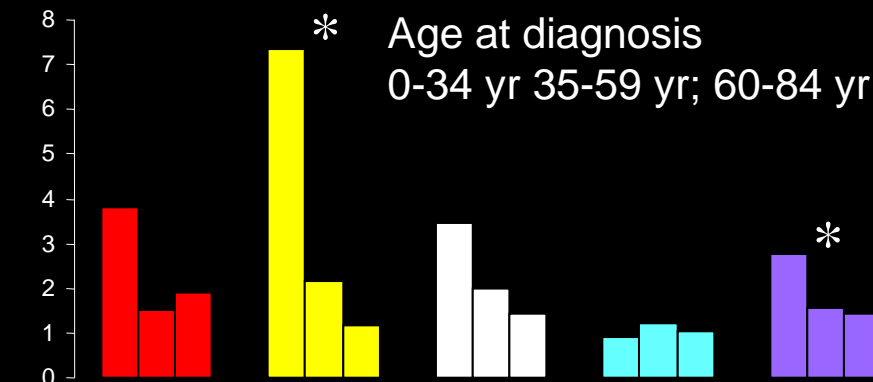
SMR

Summary Mortality Data



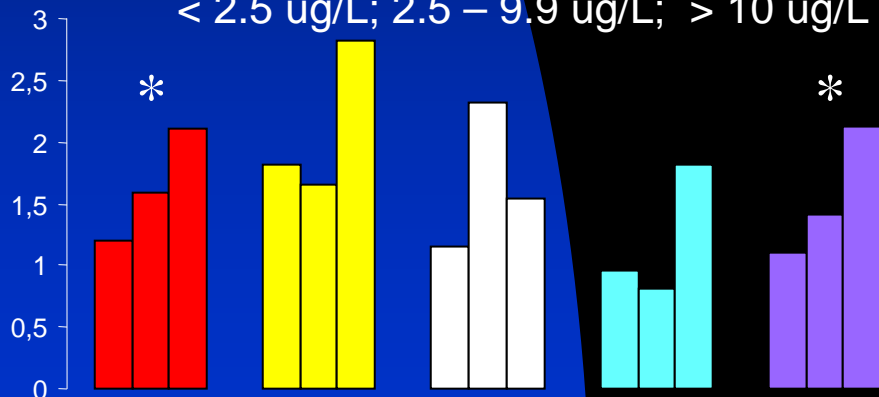
SMR

Age at diagnosis  
0-34 yr 35-59 yr; 60-84 yr



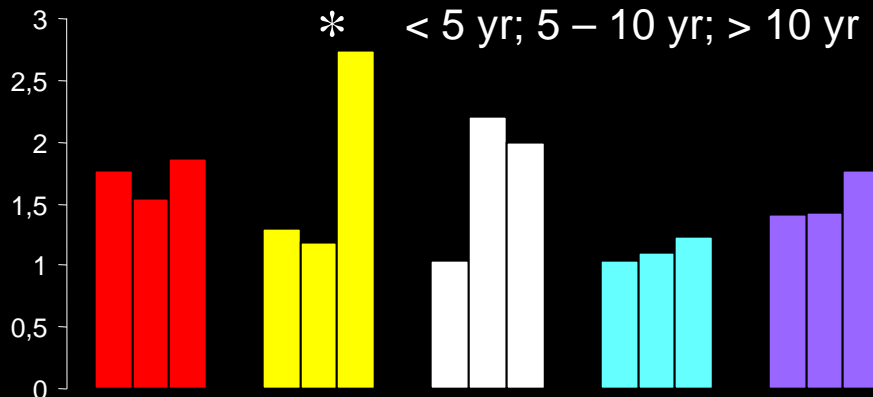
SMR

Post-treatment GH levels  
< 2.5 ug/L; 2.5 – 9.9 ug/L; > 10 ug/L



SMR

Duration of disease  
< 5 yr; 5 – 10 yr; > 10 yr



Cardiovascular  
Cerebrovascular

Respiratory  
Malignant

Overall

Adapted from Orme et al, JCEM, 1998

# Complications & Comorbidities

- Disease-related symptoms
- Skeletal and dental manifestation
- Soft tissue and skin changes
- **Cardiovascular disease & Hypertension**
- **Metabolic disorders**
- **Cancer**
- **Respiratory disorders**
- Genitourinary comorbidities
- Adverse events of surgery, RT, medical therapy
- Hypopituitarism
- Goitre, thyroid nodule
- Reproductive disorders & Pregnancy
- Neuropsychological complications

# Skeletal Manifestations Assessment

AACE + ENEA & PS\*

At diagnosis

Long-term follow-up

Bone densitometry  
(if hypogonadism)\*

Every 2-3 years\*

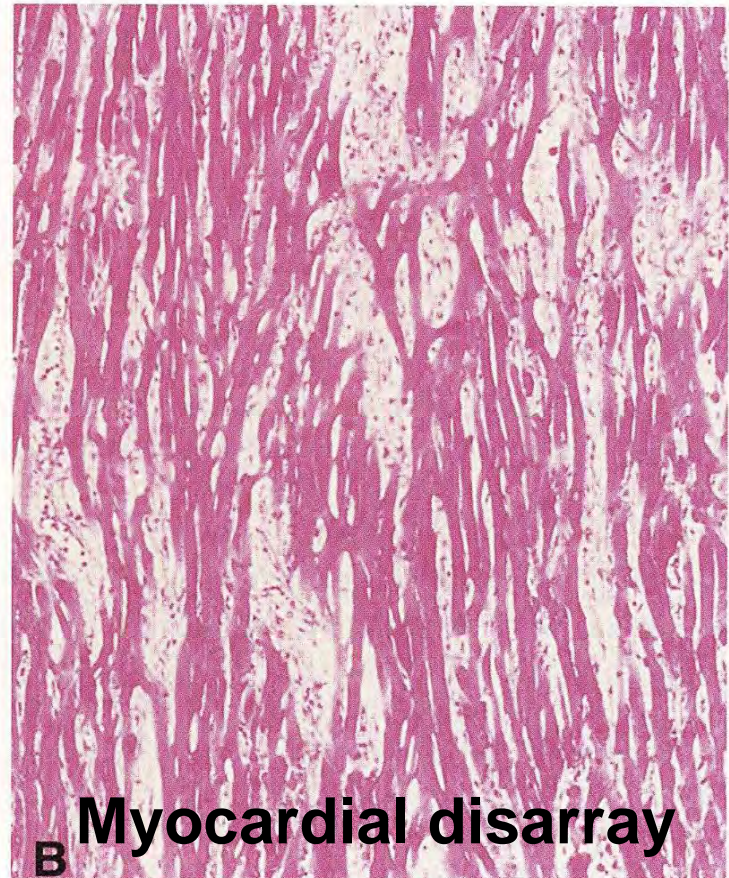
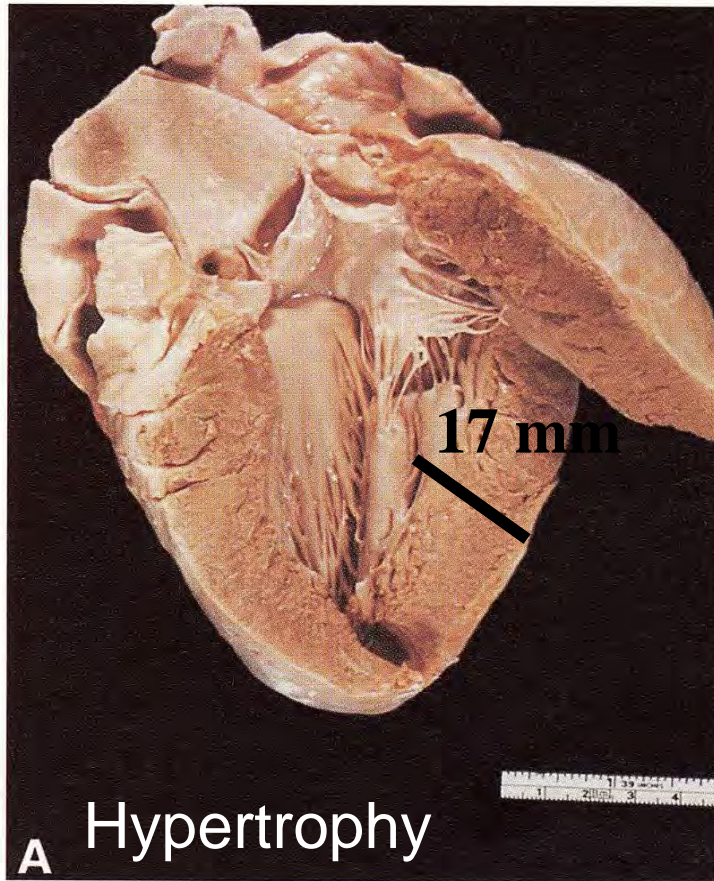
Calcium levels

When persistent hypercalcemia consider (AACE):

Primary Hyperparathyroidism  
MEN 1

# Cardiovascular disorders

## Time is muscle !!

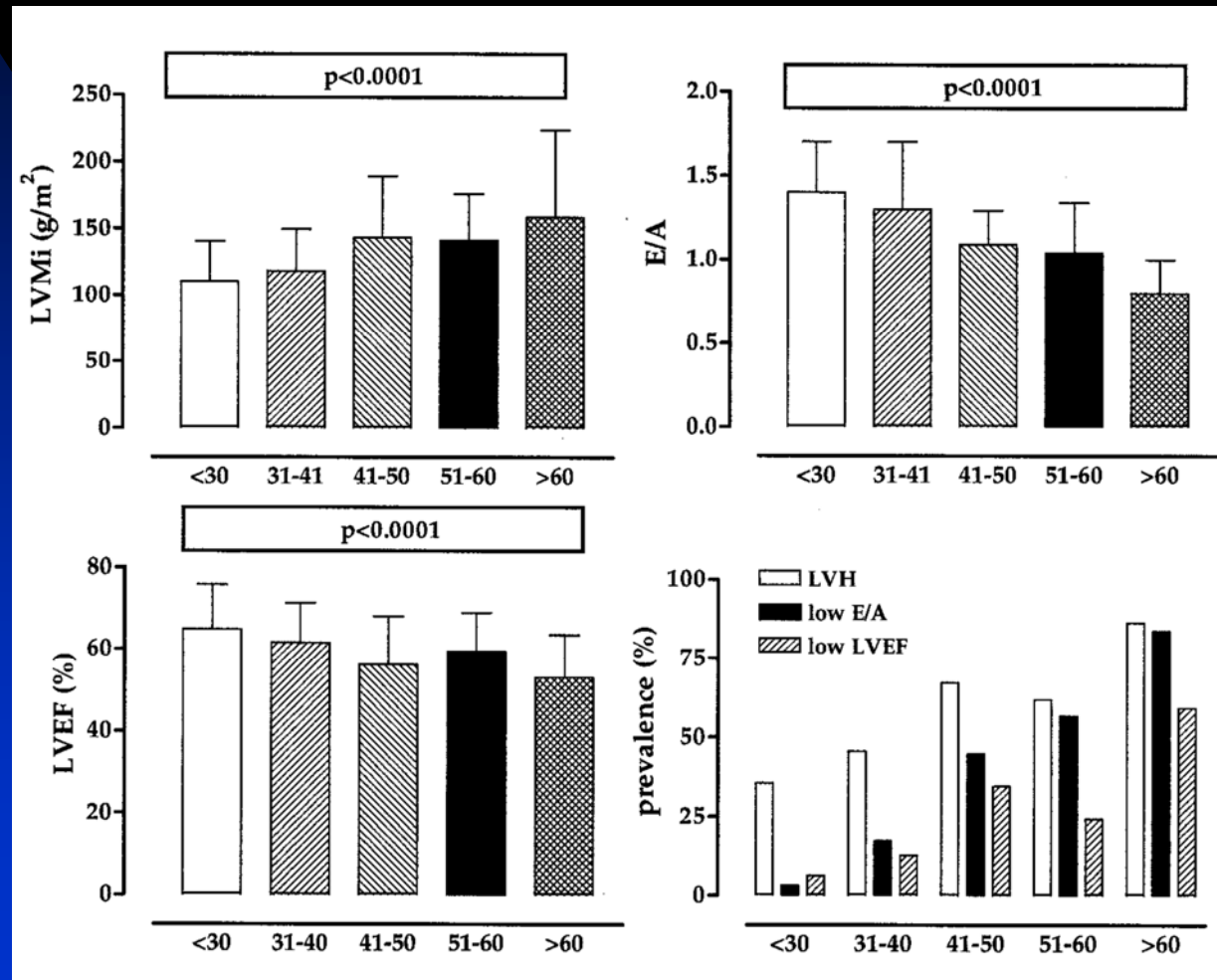


# Cardiovascular disorders: Problems

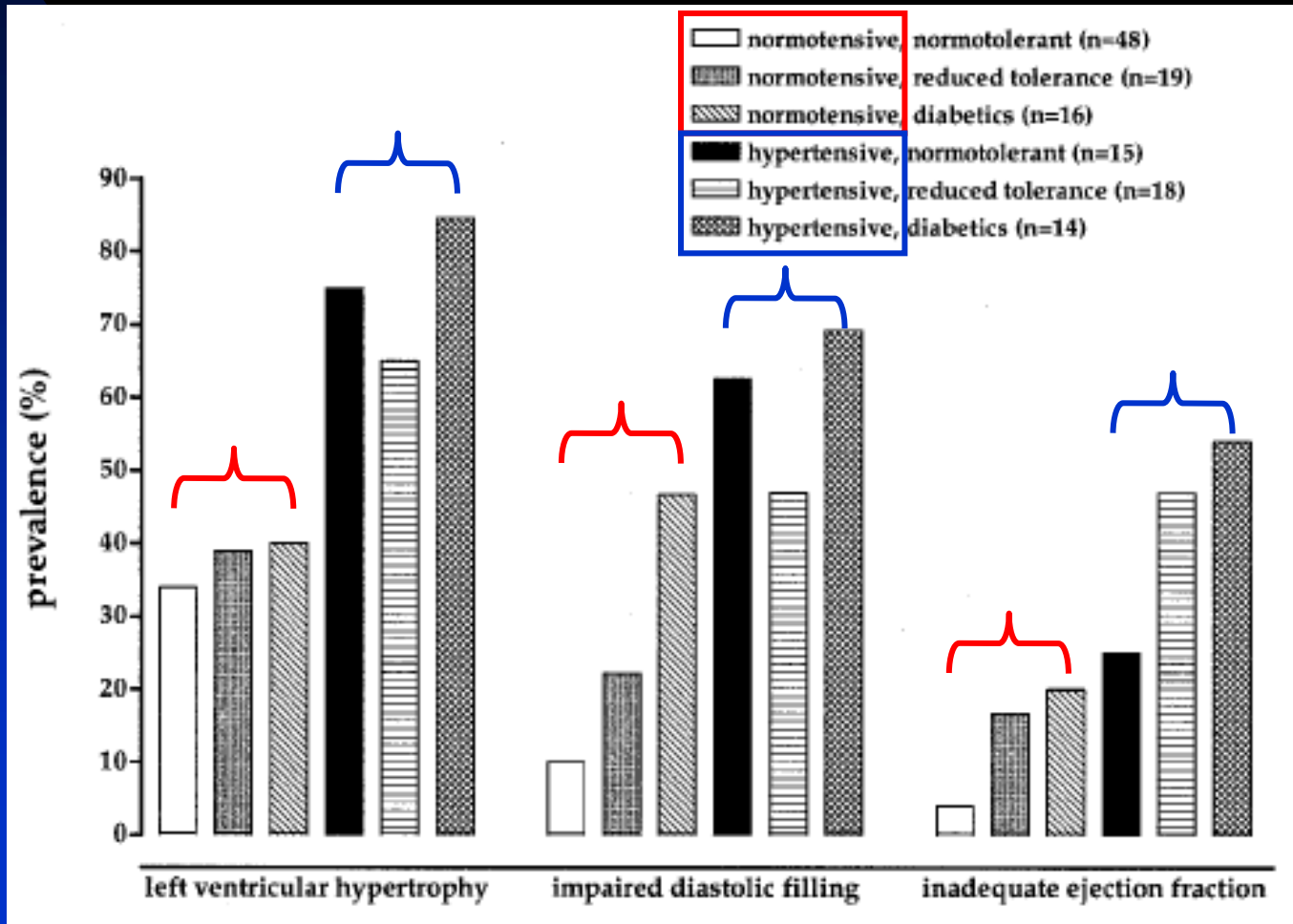
- Hypertension
- Left ventricular hypertrophy
- Impaired systolic and diastolic function
- Cardiac failure
- Arrhythmias
- Conduction abnormalities
- Valvular heart disease
- Sudden death ?
- Ischemic heart disease ?
- Peripheral vascular disease ?
- Cerebrovascular disease ?



# Aging and Echocardiographic Parameters (200 patients)



# Effect of Hypertension and Diabetes on Echocardiographic Parameters (130 patients)



# Assessment of Cardiovascular Complications at Diagnosis and Follow-up

## At diagnosis

## Long term follow-up

Echocardiography

Annually

Electrocardiogram

Annually

Exercise ECG

If angina is present

BP monitoring

Annually (or in case of change of treatment)

Echodoppler of Carotid

As indicated by clinical features

AACE: Limited information is available about the role of screening cardiac stress tests or echocardiography in patients with acromegly

# ACC/AHA/ASE Guideline Update for the Clinical Application of Echocardiography Screening

## Recommendations for Echocardiography to Screen for the Presence of Cardiovascular Disease

### Class I

1. Patients with a family history of genetically transmitted cardiovascular disease.
2. Potential donors for cardiac transplantation.
3. Patients with phenotypic features of Marfan syndrome or related connective tissue diseases.
4. Baseline and re-evaluations of patients undergoing chemotherapy with cardiotoxic agents.
5. First-degree relatives (parents, siblings, children) of patients with unexplained dilated cardiomyopathy in whom no etiology has been identified.

### Class IIb

Patients with systemic disease that may affect the heart.

### Class III

1. The general population.
2. Routine screening echocardiogram for participation in competitive sports in patients with normal cardiovascular history, ECG, and examination.

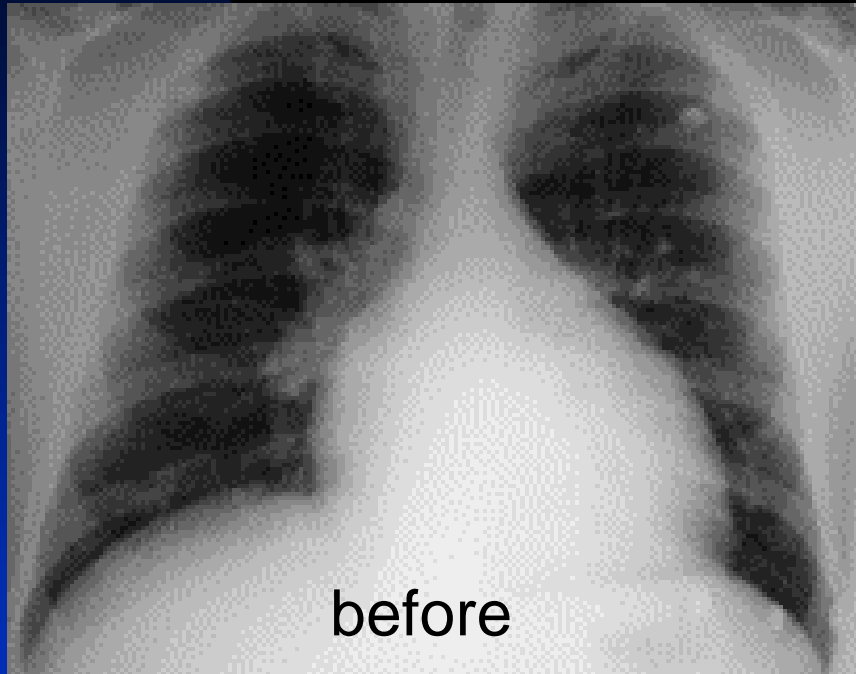
# ACC/AHA/ASE Guideline Update for the Clinical Application of Echocardiography

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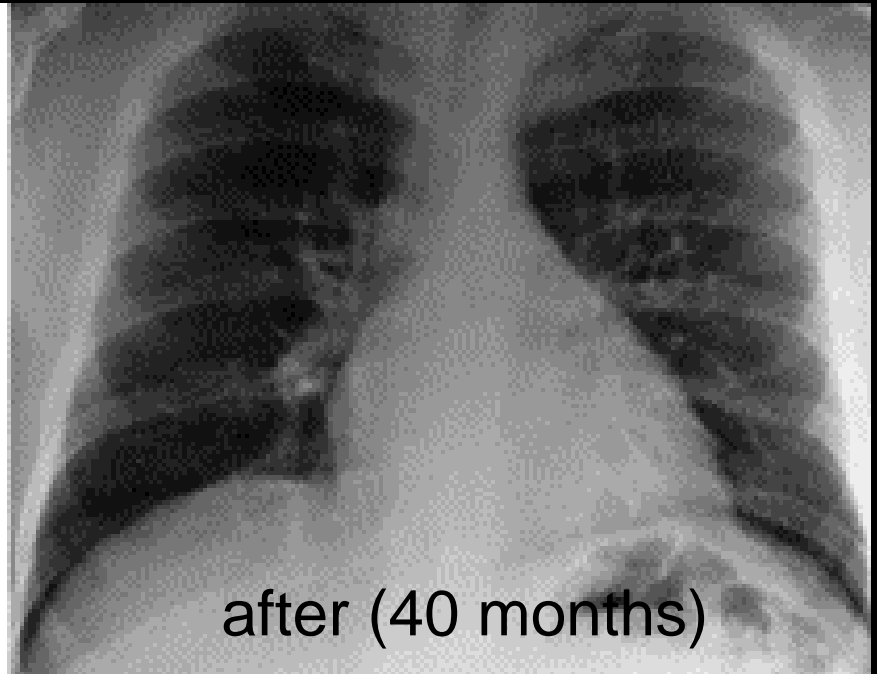
## Class I or IIa in the following:

- Heart murmur (stenosis, regurgitation, MV prolapse)
- Dyspnea, edema, cardiomyopathy
- Hypertension
- Neurological events
- Arrhythmias and palpitation

# When head rules heart

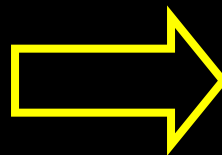


before



after (40 months)

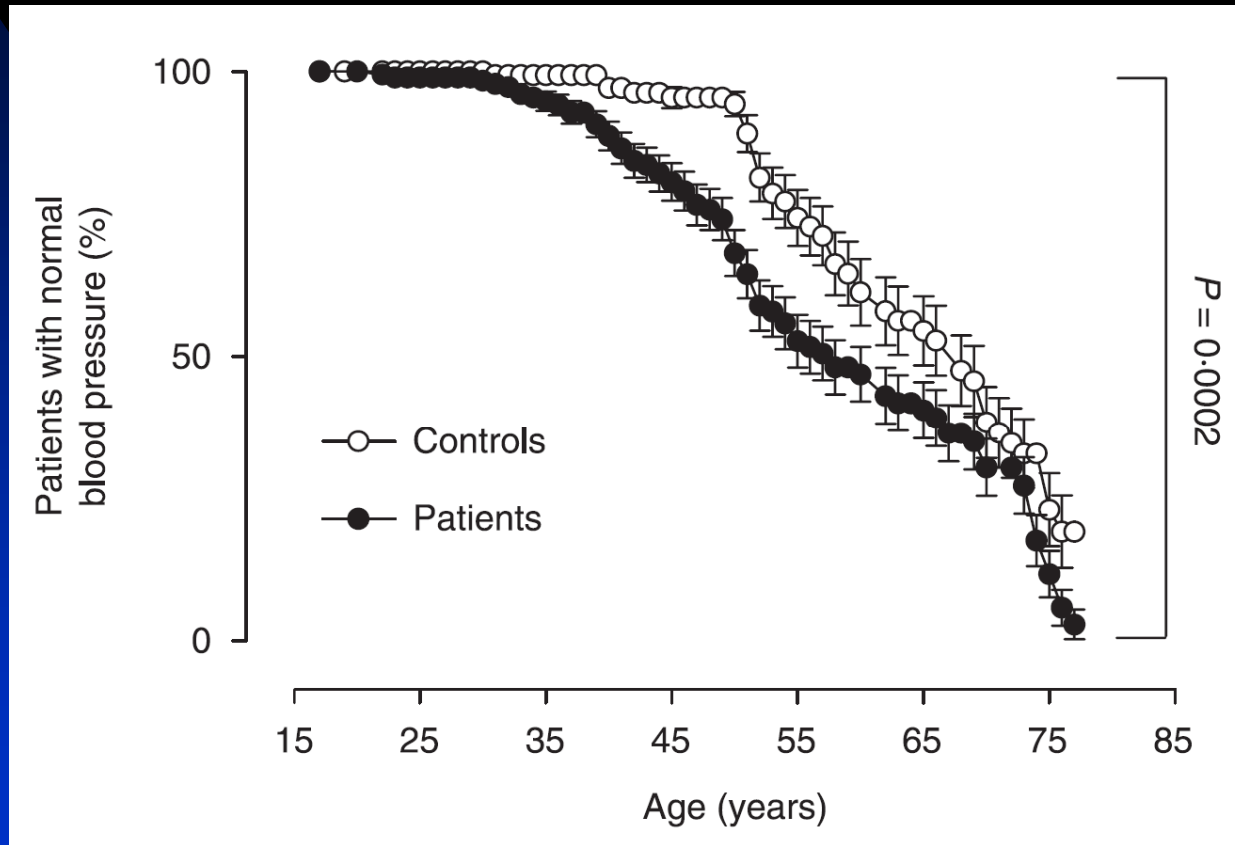
July 2000  
40 yr; dyspnea  
LVED 90 mm (hypokinetic)  
IGF-I 1214 ug/L  
BP 100/60; HR 90



2000-2002: octreotide  
February 2002: Surg. Therapy  
April 2003: LVED 60 mm  
IGF-I: 195 ug/L

# Hypertension in Acromegaly: Prevalence and Determinants

(200 patients)



Independent predictors of hypertension:  
Age and glucose

# 7th Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure (JNC7)

BP Classification	SBP		DBP
Normal	< 120	and	< 80
Prehypertension	120-139	or	80-89
Stage 1	140-159	or	90-99
Stage 2	≥160	or	≤100

AACE guidelines: target < 130/80



# 7th Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure (JNC7)

## Follow-up and Monitoring

- Patients should return for follow-up and adjustment of medication until the BP goal is reached
- More frequent visits for Stage 2 hypertension or with complicating comorbidit conditions
- Serum potassium and creatinine 1-2 times per year
- After BP at goal and stable, follow-up visits at 3 to 6 months intervals
- Comorbidities and the need of laboratory tests influence the frequence of visits

# Global Guideline for Type 2 Diabetes

## International Diabetes Federation

### ➤ Glucose control levels:

HbA1c < 6.5%\*

before meals glucose < 6.0 mmol/L (110 mg/dl)

1-2h after meals glucose < 8.0 mmol/L (145 mg/dl)

raise targets for people on insulin or sulfonylurea

### ➤ Clinical monitoring:

HbA1c every 2-6 months (depending on stability, therapy)

### ➤ Blood pressure control:

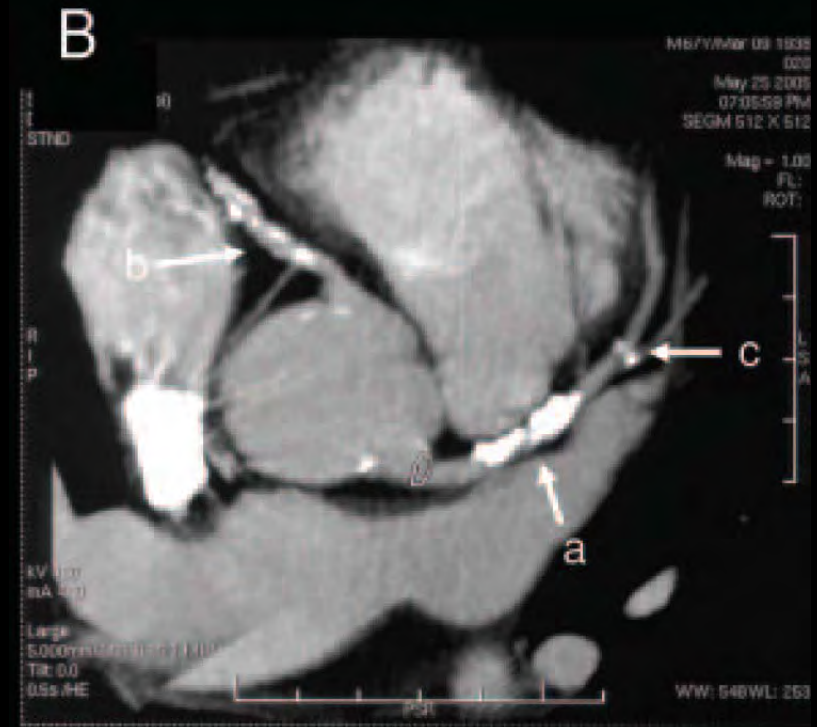
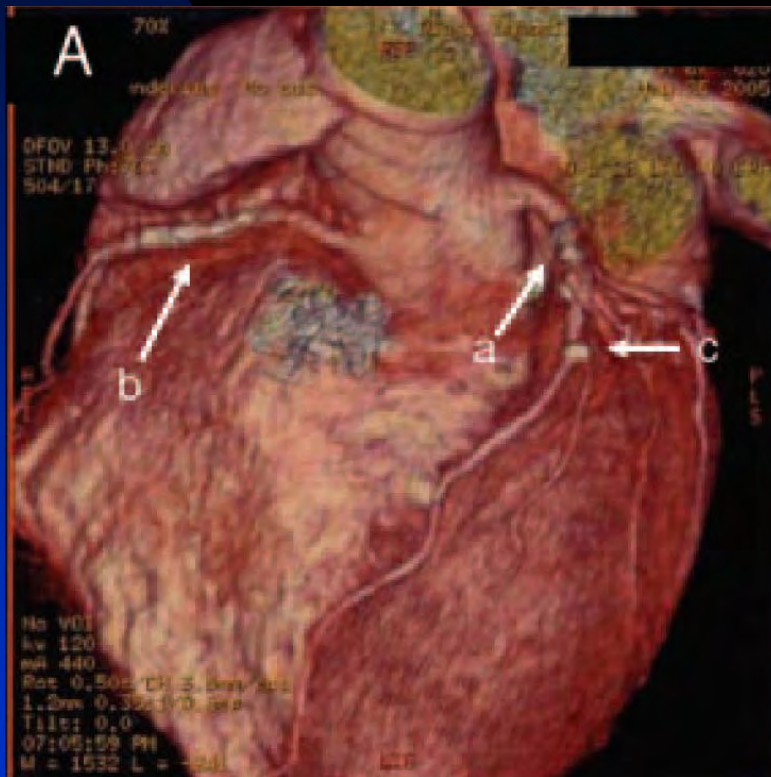
measure annually, every routine clinic visit

target below 130/80\* mmHg (140/80 in some people)

(\* same as AACE Guidelines)

*IDF Clinical Guidelines Task Force, 2005*

# Coronary Calcification Detected by Computed Tomography (34 patients)



Coronary calcium increased with:  
Hypertension  $P < 0.002$   
Diabetes  $P < 0.05$

# NCEP-ATP III

## Classification of Total and LDL Cholesterol

	Total	LDL	TG
Optimal		<100	
Desiderable	<200	100-129	<150
Borderline High	200-239	130-159	150-199
High	>240	160-189	200-499
Very High		>190	>500

Low HDL < 40

High HDL > 60

# NCEP ATP III

## Follow-up when LDL Levels are Below Goal Levels

Risk Level	LDL Goal (mg/dL)	LDL Level Observed (mg/dL)	Repeat Lipoprotein Analysis
CHD or CHD risk equivalents	<100	<100	<1 year
2+ risk factors	<130	<130	≤2 years
0–1 risk factor	<160	130–159	≤2 years
0–1 risk factor	<160	<130	≤5 years

RF: age, family history of CHD, current smoking, hypertension, low HDL

# Sleep Apnoea and Tongue Volume (14 patients)



# Respiratory disorders: Problems

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- Obstructive pulmonary disease
- Higher risk of pulmonary infections
- Sleep apnea (obstructive, central, mixed)
- Impaired airflow transit
- Nocturnal snoring

# Respiratory disorders: Assessment

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- History and **examination**
- **Chest X-Ray**
- Sleep questionnaires
- Overnight oximetry (AAcE: screening test)
- Polysomnography



# Respiratory disorders:

## Assessment

### AACE + ENEA & PS

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#### At diagnosis

Sleep assessment  
Influenza vaccine  
Pneumococcal vacc.  
Smoking cessation

#### Long-term follow-up

Annually (if altered at diagnosis)  
Annually  
One time (and > 65 yr)

# Cancer: Problems

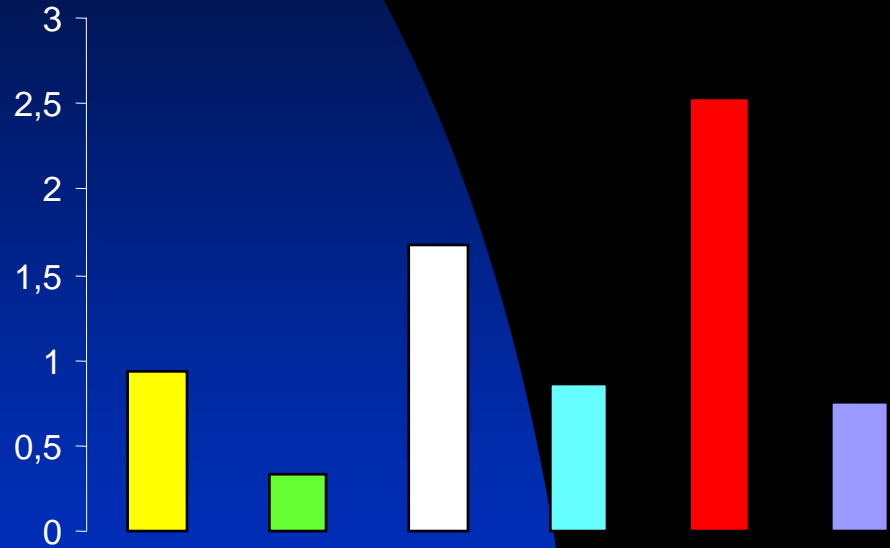
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- Colon: polyps, cancer ?
- Breast cancer ?
- Prostate cancer ?
- Intracranial neoplasms ?
- Thyroid cancer ?

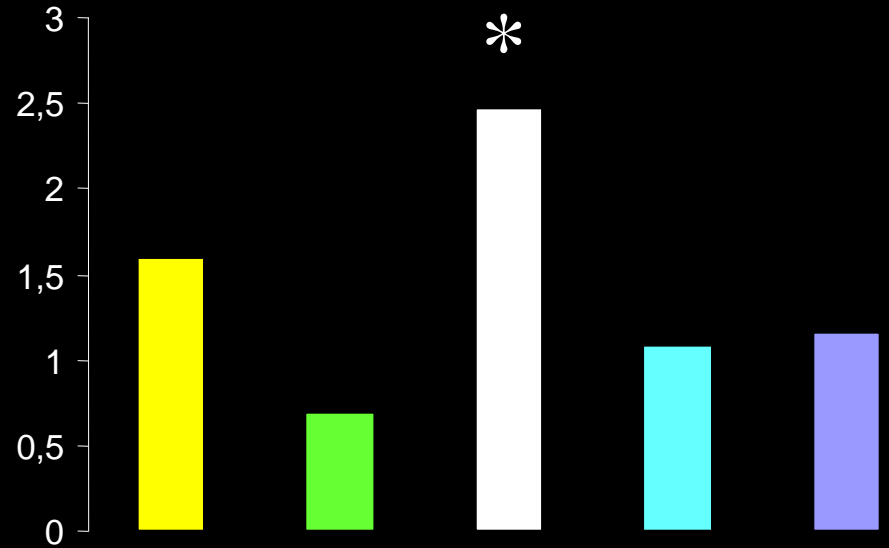
# Summary of Cancer Incidence and Mortality Data

1362 patients (UK) - 19.323 yrs follow-up

SIR



SMR



Female breast

Bronchus

Colon

Rectum

Thyroid

All malignant

*Adapted from Orme et al, JCEM, 1998*

# Colon polyps: Assessment

St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, UK

- Total colonoscopy
- Screening: start at age 40
- Every 3 yr if adenoma or ↑ IGF
- Every 5 yr if hyperplastic polip or negative

# Colonoscopy Assessment

	1st screening	Follow-up (negative)	Follow-up (positive)	Not specified
Cortina 2000	At diagnosis			
London 2002	40 yr	5 yr	3 yr	
Versailles 2002				3-5 yr
ENEA+PS 2003	At diagnosis	2-3 yr		
AACE 2004	At diagnosis	5 yr*	Am Cancer Society*	
GHR+PS 2004	50 yr			

\* Like increased risk patients

# American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Cancer

## Colorectal: average-risk, asymptomatic

Population	Test or Procedure	Frequency (starting age 50)
Men and women, Age 50+	Fecal occult blood test (FOBT) and flexible sigmoidoscopy	Annual FOBT + Sigmoidoscopy every 5 yr
	Flexible sigmoidoscopy	Every 5 yr
	FOBT	Annual
	Colonoscopy	Every 10 yr
	Double contrast barium enema (DCBE)	Every 5 yr

# Colonoscopy Surveillance after Polypectomy

## Consensus Update by the US Multi-Society Task Force On Colorectal Cancer and the American Cancer Society

- Rectal hyperplastic polyps \* 10 yr
- 1 or 2 < 1 cm tubular adenoma 5-10 yr  
(low grade dysplasia)
- 3-10 adenomas 3 yr  
Adenoma > 1cm  
Villous features  
High-grade dysplasia
- 10 adenoma < 3 yr

\* patients with small hyperplastic polyps should be considered to have normal colonoscopies

# Colonoscopy Surveillance after Cancer

## Consensus Update by the US Multi-Society Task Force On Colorectal Cancer and the American Cancer Society

---

- Colon and rectal cancer 1 yr
- If normal after 1 yr 3 yr
- If normal after 3 yr 5 yr



# American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Cancer

## Breast and Prostate: average-risk, asymptomatic

Population	Test or Procedure	Frequency
<b>BREAST</b>		
Women, Age 20+	Breast self-examination	Monthly, starting age 20
	Clinical breast examination	Every 3 yr, age 20-39
		Annual, starting at age 40*
	Mammography	Annual, starting at age 40
<b>PROSTATE</b>		
Men, age 50+	Digital rectal examination (DRE) and PSA	PSA and DRE annually starting at age 50 for men who have a life expectancy of at least 10 years

# Monitoring of Men Receiving Testosterone Therapy

## Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guidelines

- **Baseline Digital Rectal Examination (DRE) + PSA:**
  - 3 months
- **Urological Consultation if:**
  - PSA > 4.0 ng/ml
  - PSA increase > 1.4 ng/ml after 12 months of treatment
  - PSA velocity > 0.4 ng/ml/yr (1st PSA after 6 m; tot 2yr)
  - DRE abnormalities
  - Symptom score > 19
- **Hematocrit:**
  - Baseline → 3m → annually
  - Cutoff < 54%

# Systematic approach to complications

## Conclusion

---

Consider the following:

- Signs and Symptoms
- Check comorbidities → follow-up
- Age, age at diagnosis, duration of disease
- GH & IGF-I
- Adenoma volume
- Gender & Fertility
- Therapy

# Acknowledgements

## Clinica Medica 3<sup>^</sup>

G. Federspil  
N. Sicolo  
R. Vettor  
F. Fallo  
C. Martini  
E. De Carlo  
R. Mioni  
C. Pagano  
M. Rossato  
C. Menegazzo  
M. Barban  
M. Carli

## Laboratorio

G. Milan  
C. Pillon  
C. Centobene  
S. Leandri

## Infermieri

L. La Serra  
L. Rizzato  
A.M. Baldan

Scale 1 (Physical, 8 items)

- Item 1 My legs feel weak
- Item 3 I get depressed
- Item 9 I have problems carrying out my usual activities
- Item 13 The illness affects my performance at work or in my usual tasks
- Item 14 My joints ache
- Item 15 I am usually tired
- Item 19 I feel like a sick person
- Item 22 I feel weak

Scale 2 (Psychological, 14 items)

Subscale 2·1 (Appearance, 7 items)

- Item 2 I feel ugly
- Item 4 I look awful in photographs
- Item 7 I look different in the mirror
- Item 11 Some parts of my body (nose, feet, hands, ... ) are too big
- Item 12 I have problems doing things with my hands, e.g. sewing or handling tools
- Item 16 I snore at night
- Item 17 It is hard for me to articulate words due to the size of my tongue

Subscale 2·2 (Personal relations, 7 items)

- Item 5 I avoid going out very much with friends because of my appearance
- Item 6 I try to avoid socializing
- Item 8 I feel rejected by people because of my illness
- Item 10 People stare at me because of my appearance
- Item 18 I have problems with sexual relationships
- Item 20 The physical changes produced by my illness govern my life
- Item 21 I have little sexual appetite

# Surgical Therapy: Incidence of Complications

- Mortality < 0.5 %
- Major complications 1.5 %
  - Cerebrospinal fluid leak
  - meningitis
  - ischemic stroke
  - vascular injury
  - intracranial hemorrhage
  - new cranial nerve palsy
  - visual loss
- Minor complications 6.5 %
  - sinus disease
  - septal perforation
  - epistaxis
  - wound infections
  - hematomas

# American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Cancer

## Colorectal: increased-risk, asymptomatic

Risk Category	Age to begin	Test	Comment
People with a single, small (< 1 cm) adenoma	3-6 years after the initial polypectomy	Colonoscopy*	If the exam is normal, the patient can thereafter be screened as per average-risk guidelines.
People with a large (1 cm +) adenoma, multiple adenomas, or adenomas with high-grade dysplasia or villous change	Within 3 years after the initial polypectomy	Colonoscopy*	If normal, repeat examination in 3 years; If normal then, the patient can thereafter be screened as per average-risk guidelines.
Personal history of curative-intent resection of colorectal cancer	Within 1 year after cancer resection	Colonoscopy*	If normal, repeat examination in 3 years; If normal then, repeat examination every 5 years.
Either colorectal cancer or adenomatous polyps, in any first-degree relative before age 60, or in two or more first-degree relatives at any age (if not a hereditary syndrome)	Age 40, or 10 years before the youngest case in the immediate family	Colonoscopy*	Every 5-10 years. Colorectal cancer in relatives more distant than first-degree does not increase risk substantially above the average-risk group.

Double contrast barium enema (DCBE) or the combination of DCBE with flexible sigmoidoscopy are acceptable alternatives

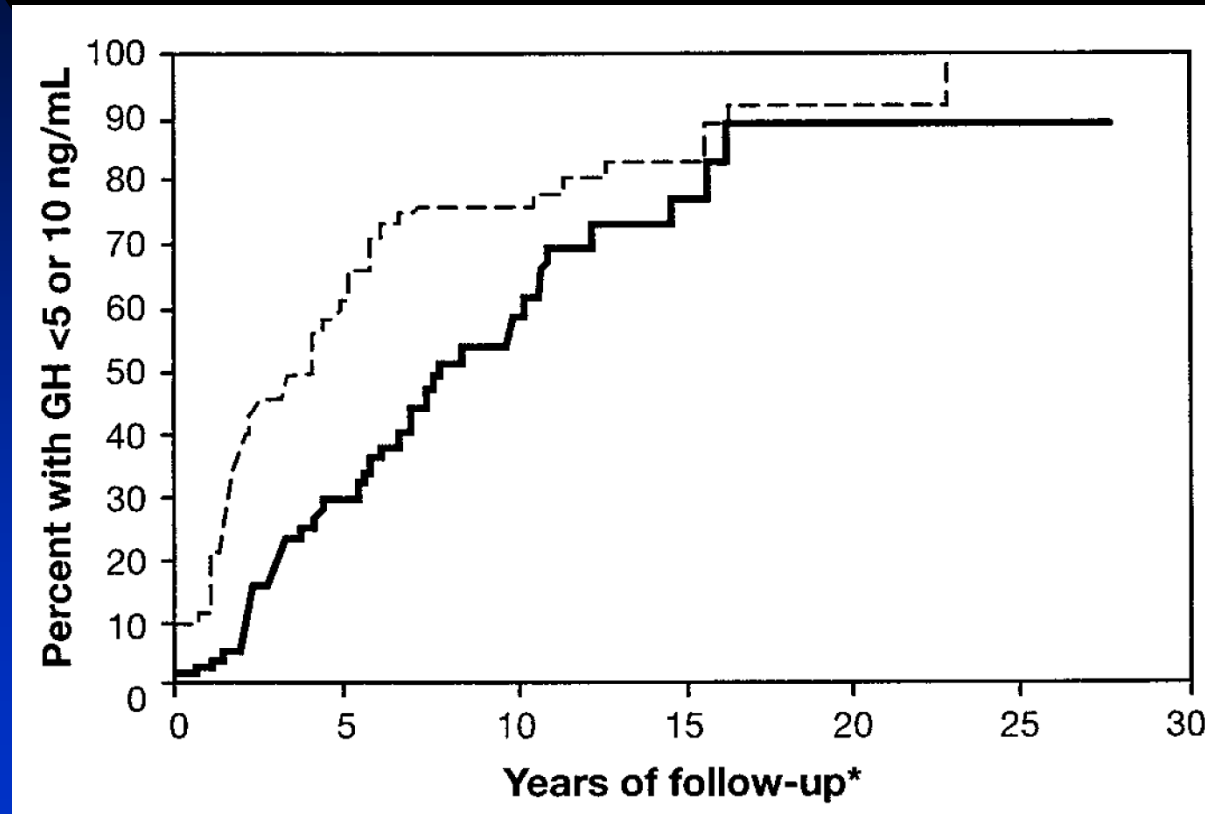
# Disease-Related Symptoms

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- Headache
- Visual field loss
- Cranial nerve palsies
- Hypopituitarism
- Hyperprolactinemia



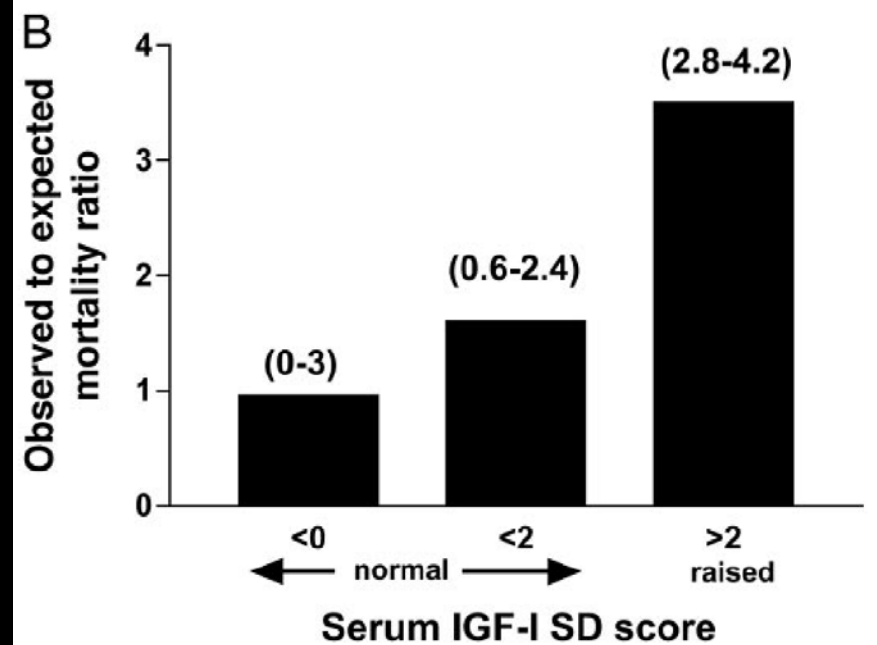
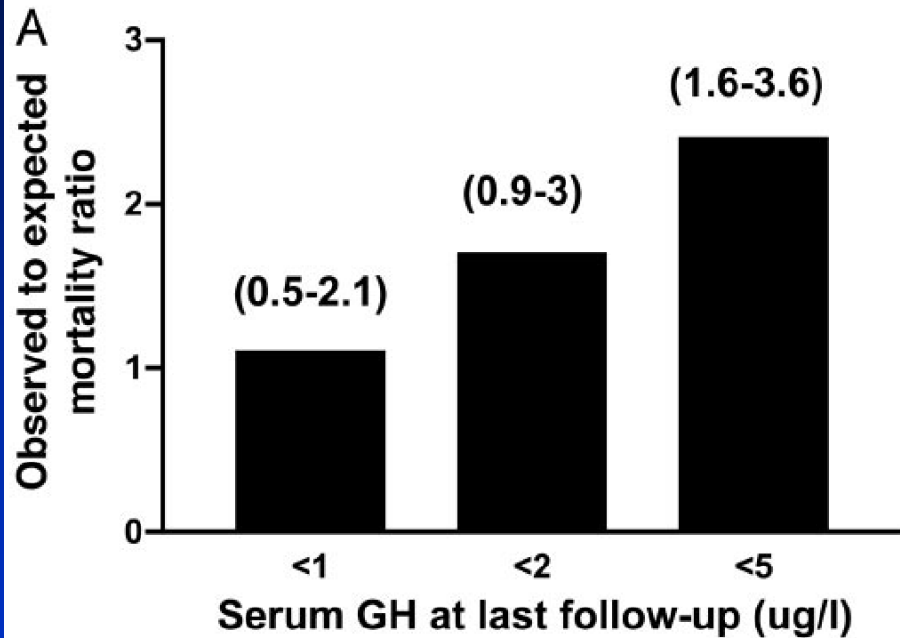
# Radiation Therapy



87 75 54 37 15 7 patients

# Factors Influencing Mortality in Acromegaly

208 patients (New Zealand), 1964-2000, follow-up 13 yrs, 72 died



# 7th Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure (JNC7)

## Laboratory tests

### ➤ Routine tests:

ECG

Urinalysis

Blood glucose and hematocrit

Serum potassium, creatinine (or GFR), and calcium

Lipid profile, that includes HDL, LDL and tryglicerides

### ➤ Optional tests:

Urinary albumin excretion or albumin/creatinine ratio

➤ More extensive testing for identifiable causes is not generally indicated unless BP control is not achieved

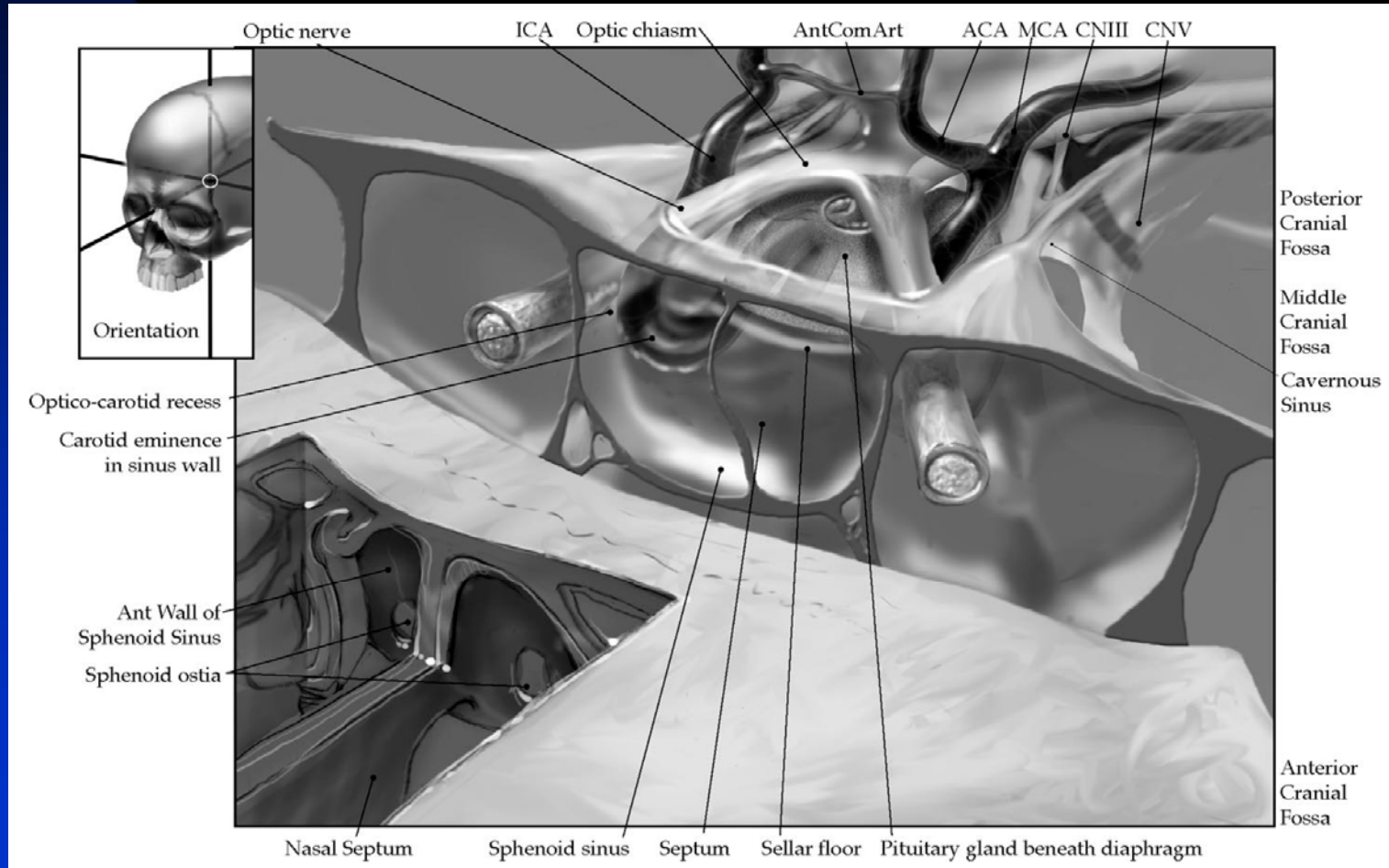
# Global Guideline for Type 2 Diabetes

## International Diabetes Federation

### ➤ Screening and diagnosis:

- Target high-risk people
- Fasting glucose: 5.6-7.0 mmol/L (100-126 mg/dl)
- OGTT for diagnosis
- Random glucose: 5.6-11.1 mmol/L (100-200 mg/dl) → Repeat fasting or OGTT
- Diagnosis by WHO 1999 criteria

# Perioperative Management of Patients Undergoing Transsphenoidal Pituitary Surgery



**THE ROLE OF SURGERY**

**Domenico Billeci**

Department of Neurosurgery of  
Treviso

University of Padova

**VERONA October 27,2006**

## GOALS OF OPERATIVE INTERVENTION

### **AACE Guidelines for Acromegaly 2004**

1. Normalization of GH secretion and IGF-I levels
2. Elimination of mass effect and reversal of associated neurologic problems
3. Alleviation of comorbidities associated with active acromegaly
4. Preservation of pituitary function and restoration of any endocrine deficits caused by the tumour
5. Prevention of recurrence of the tumour
6. Procurement of tissue for pathologic and scientific analysis

## PREDICTORS OF SURGERY OUTCOME IN ACROMEGALY

- **High basal GH and IGF-1 concentrations before surgery**
- **Tumour size**
  - **Intracavernous extension (MRI)**
  - **Dural invasion (intraoperative evaluation)**
  - **Tumour hardness**
- **Tumour morphology**
- **Mixed tumours (GH-PRL)**
- **Age at diagnosis**
- **SSA (pre)treatment**
- **Skill and experience of the surgeon**



## Preoperative GH value

- It is difficult to identify GH threshold values that will predict postoperative results!

30 ng/ml (Abosh et al.)

50 ng/ml (Ahmed et al.)

**GH > 50ng/ml is predictive for a poor outcome (cure rate 25%)**

# AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

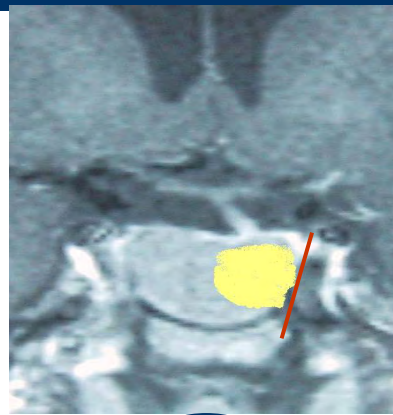
## TUMOUR SIZE

## INTRACAVERNOUS EXTENSION (ICE)



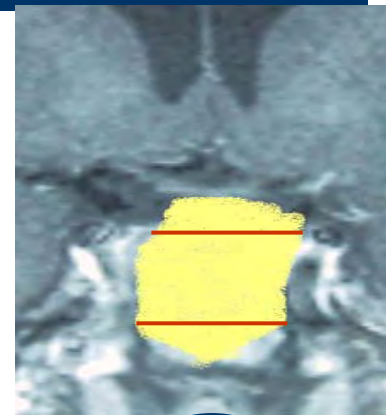
**A**

Microadenoma



**B**

Enclosed  
Macroadenoma



**C**

Infra-Suprasellar extension

### CURE RATE

**A**

**B**

70-90%

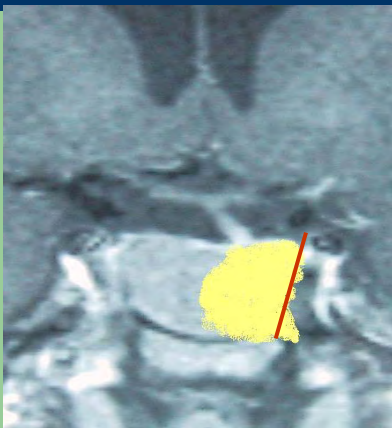
**C**

Depends on hardness/dural invasion

# AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

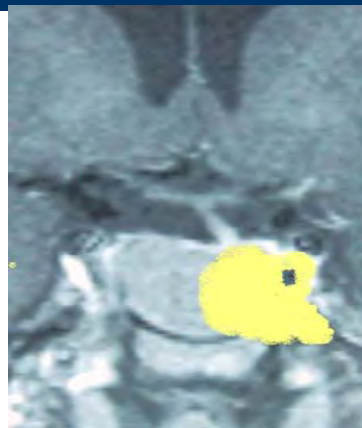
## TUMOUR SIZE

## INTRACAVERNOUS EXTENSION (ICE)



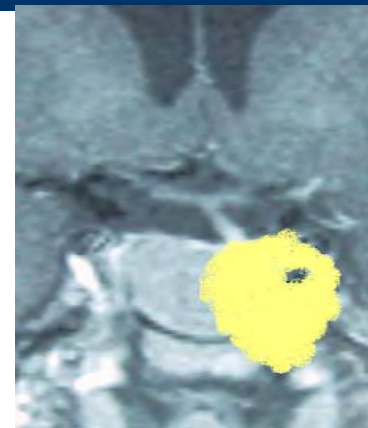
**D1**

ICE without invasion



**D2**

Cavernous sinus  
invasion



**D3**

Massive invasion

### Cure rate

**D1**

50-60%

**D2**

**D3**

< 40%

## TUMOUR MORPHOLOGY

- **Sparsely granulated GH-cell adenomas** which exhibit “**dot-like cytokeratin staining**” are more invasive, with suprasellar extension and less responsive to pharmacological effect than densely granulated adenomas with a perinuclear, fibrillary cytokeratin pattern
- **Anti Ki-67 monoclonal antibody (MIB-1)** correlates with dural and cavernous sinus invasiveness

# AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

## PREDICTORS OF SURGERY OUTCOME IN ACROMEGALY

Sparsely granulated GH-cells adenoma, dot-like cytokeratine pattern and mixed GH-PRL tumour **correlate** with young age, high GH value and larger tumour size **(ICE)** and have been associated with poorer outcomes.

## **AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY**

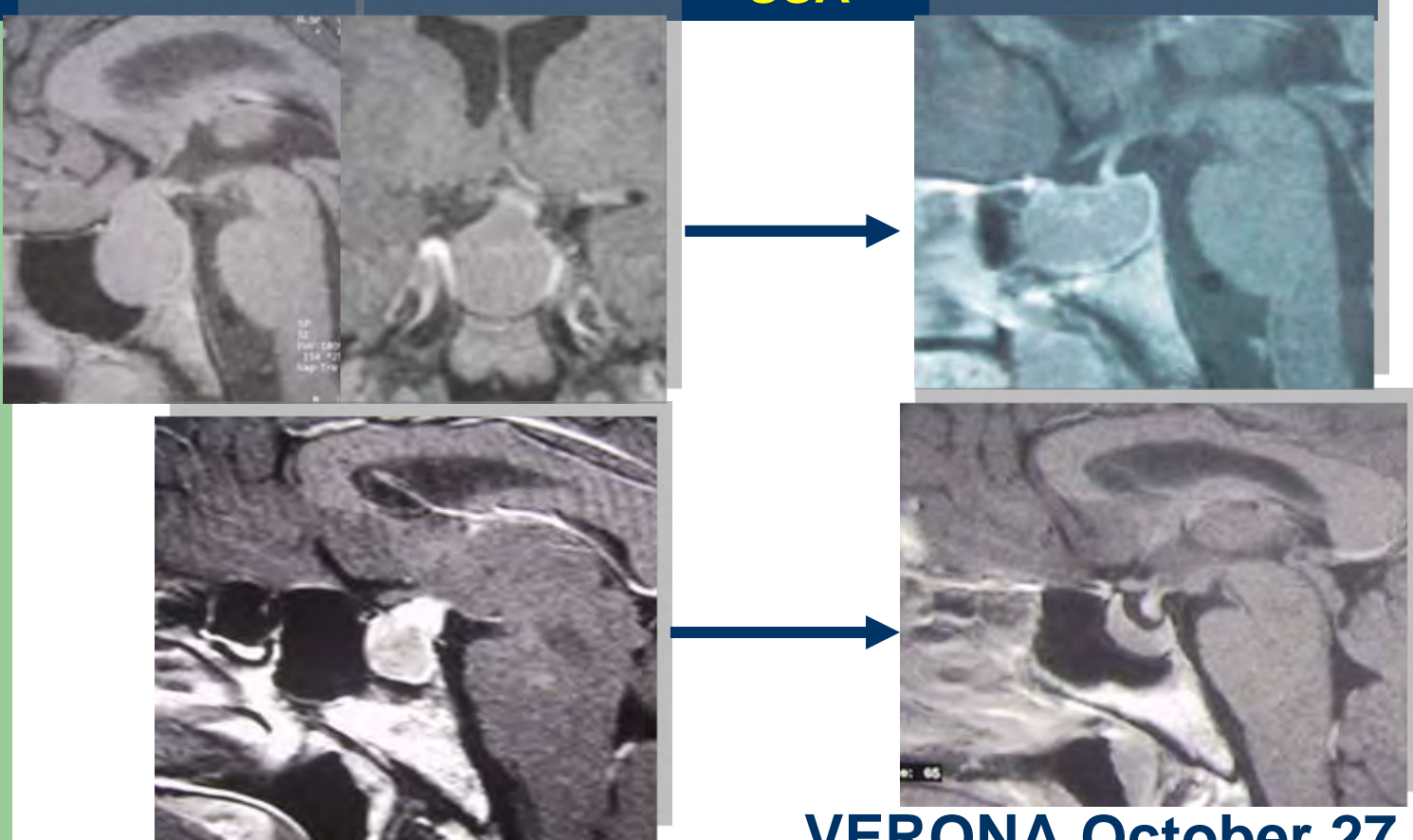
### **AIMS OF PREOPERATIVE SSA SHORT TERM ADMINISTRATION**

- **Shrinkage of the tumour**
- **Clinical and biochemical improvement**
- **More soft or fluid adenoma**

# AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

## Significant Shrinkage ( $\Rightarrow$ 30%) around 50%

SSA



VERONA October 27, 2006

## AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

# Presurgical use of SSA improves surgical results especially in macroadenomas

*“....only a controlled, randomized, and blinded study may give the ultimate answer to this question.”*

(M.Losa et al J.Neurosurg. 2006)



## PROGNOSTIC FACTORS

### AACE Guidelines for Acromegaly 2004

1. Tumour size
2. GH level before surgical treatment
3. Experience of the surgeon and the surgical team:
  - Prior experience with more than 100 pituitary operations
  - An ongoing experience with more than 20 pituitary cases per year
  - Involvement in a team approach with colleagues from other specialities, especially endocrinology, neuropathology and radiation oncology.  
(neuroradiology)

# EXPERIENCE OF THE SURGEON

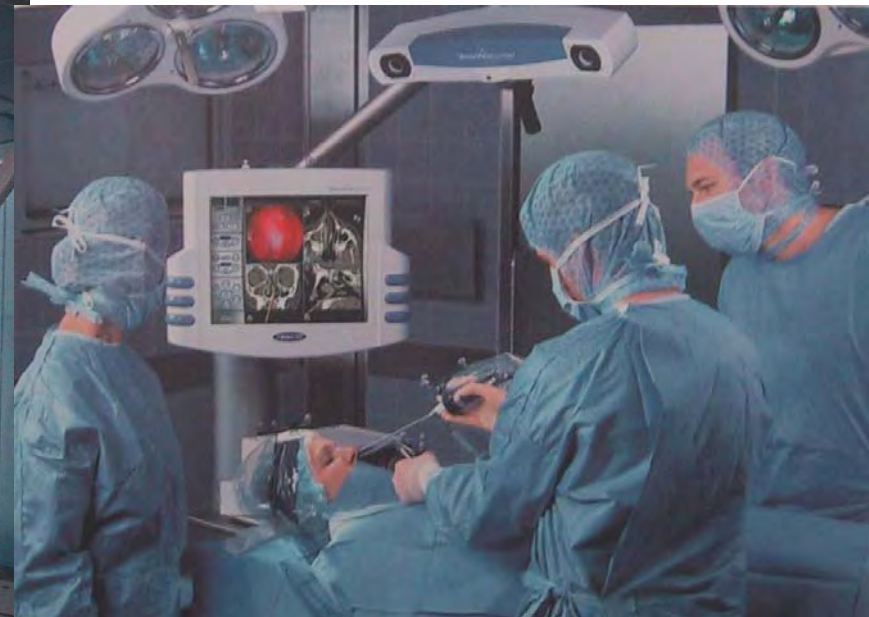
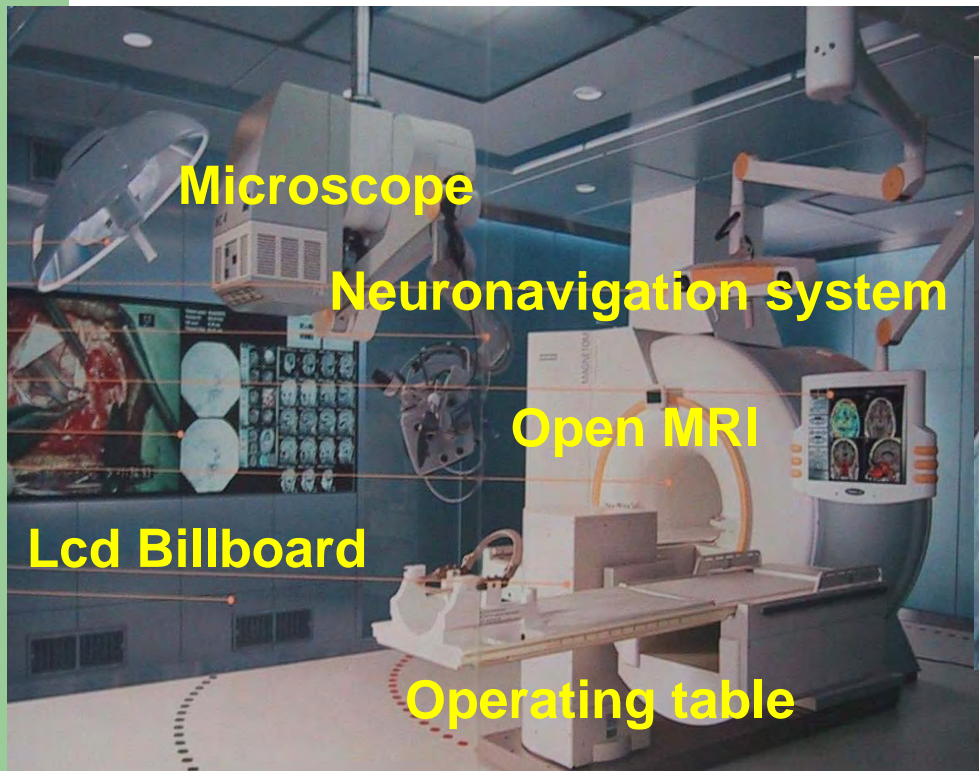
- The outcome of surgery for acromegaly: the need for a specialist pituitary surgeon for all types of growth hormone(GH) secreting adenoma (**Lisset CA.; Clin. Endocr. 1998**)
- Outcome of surgery for acromegaly; the experience of a dedicated pituitary surgeon(**N.J.L. Gittoes;J Med. 1999**)
- Outcome of transsphenoidal surgery for acromegaly and its relationship to surgical experience.(**Wass JA; Clin. Endocr.1999**)
- Outcome of surgery for acromegaly performed by different surgeons: importance of surgical experience (**Erturk E.; Pituitary 2005**)

## Technical Advances Imaging Quality and Surgical Equipment

- **High resolution Magnetic Resonance Imaging**
- **Minimally invasive procedures (Endoscopic technique)**
- **Image guidance and navigation**
- **Intraoperative MRI**

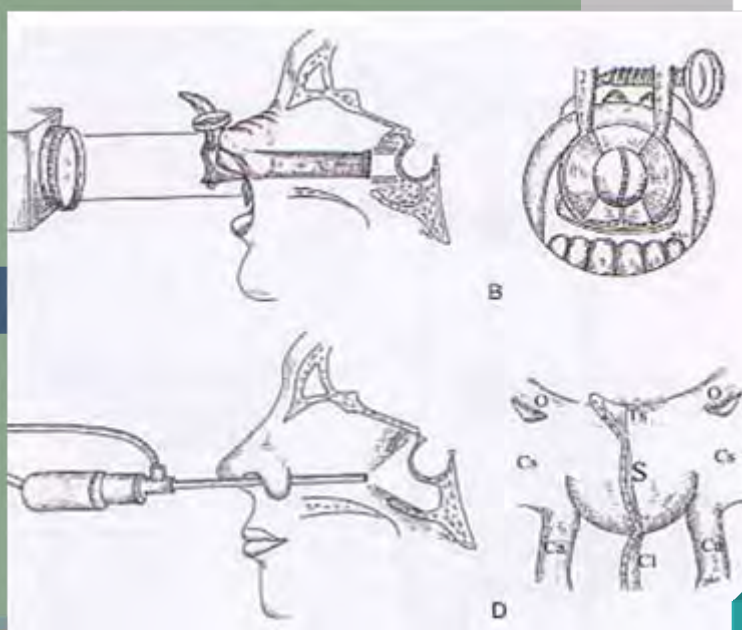
# AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

## Technical Advances Imaging Quality and Surgical Equipment



VERONA October 27,2006

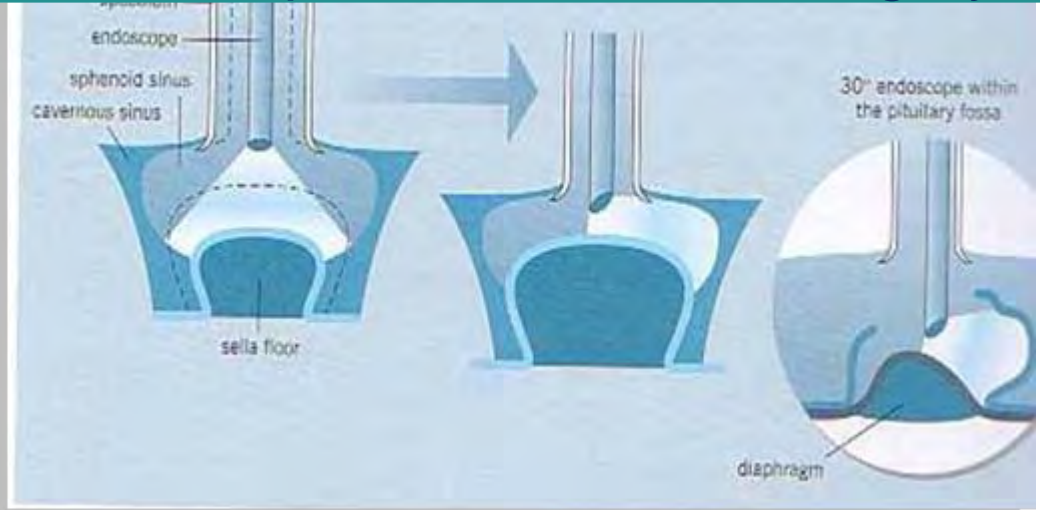
# SURGICAL APPROACHES



Microsurgery

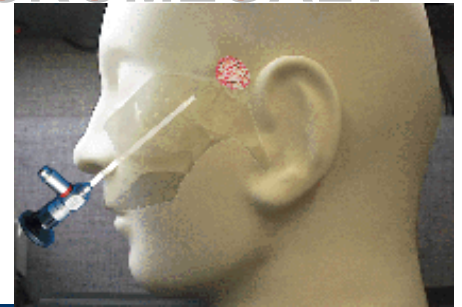
Endoscopic technique

Endoscope-assisted microsurgery



# AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

## Endoscopic Endonasal Transsphenoidal Surgery Minimally invasive technique



- Approach through a single nostril
- Excellent vision of surgical field
- Better debulking of tumour specially in macroadenomas
- Easier access in recurrent lesions
- Nasal buffering not required

VERONA October 27,2006

## Endoscopic Endonasal Transsphenoidal Surgery

- Absence of nasal bleeding
- No need of long bed rest
- No patient indisposition
- No need of long hospital stay (3 days)
- No mortality and Low morbidity
- No cases of infection
- No nasal complications

## AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

# Debulking of invasive macroadenomas improves hormonal control by SSA

***Gross total resection or debulking of pituitary adenomas improves hormonal control of acromegaly by somatostatin analogs***

P. Petrossian et al. European Journal Of Endocrinology 2005

***Partial surgical removal of growth hormone-secreting pituitary tumors enhances the response to somatostatin analogs in acromegaly***

Colao A. et al. J. Clin. Endocrinol. Metab. 2006

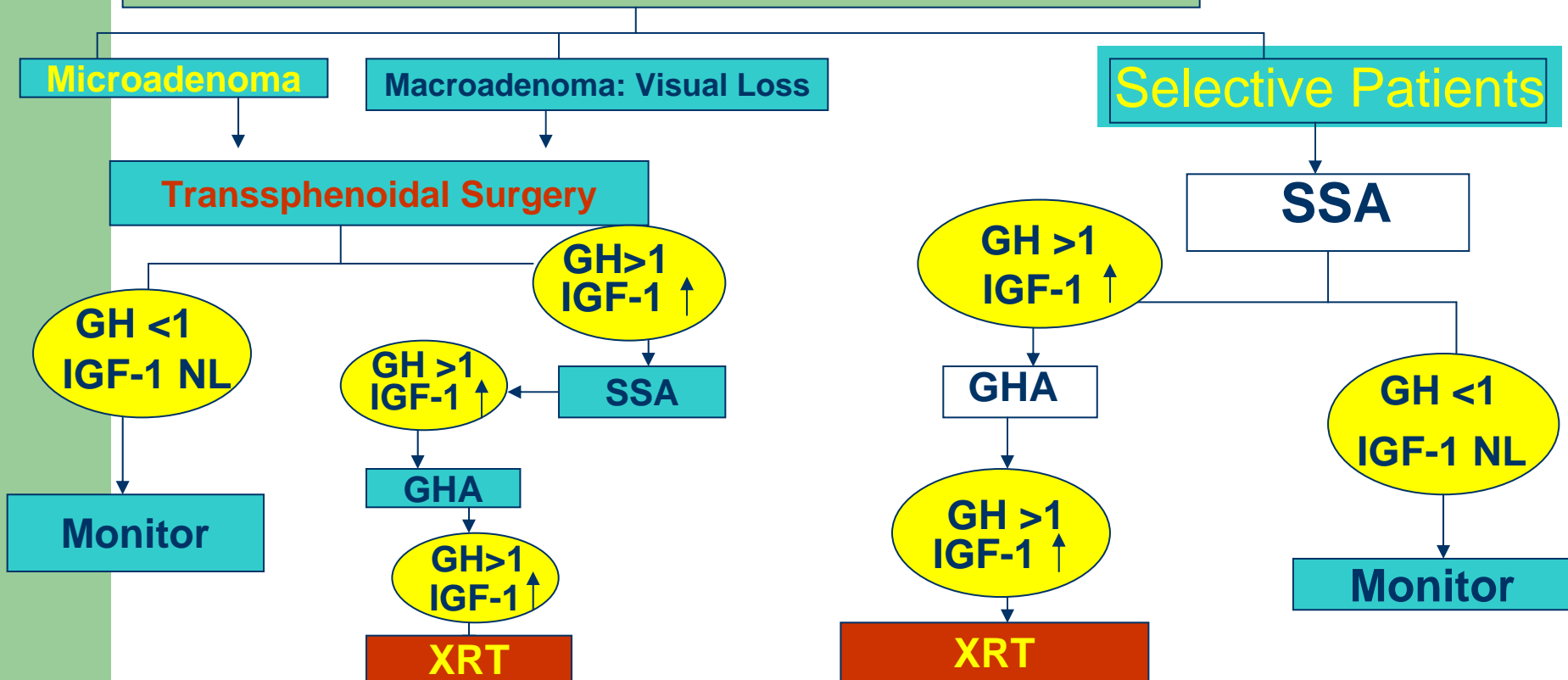


# AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

## Recommended scheme for management of GH-producing pituitary adenomas

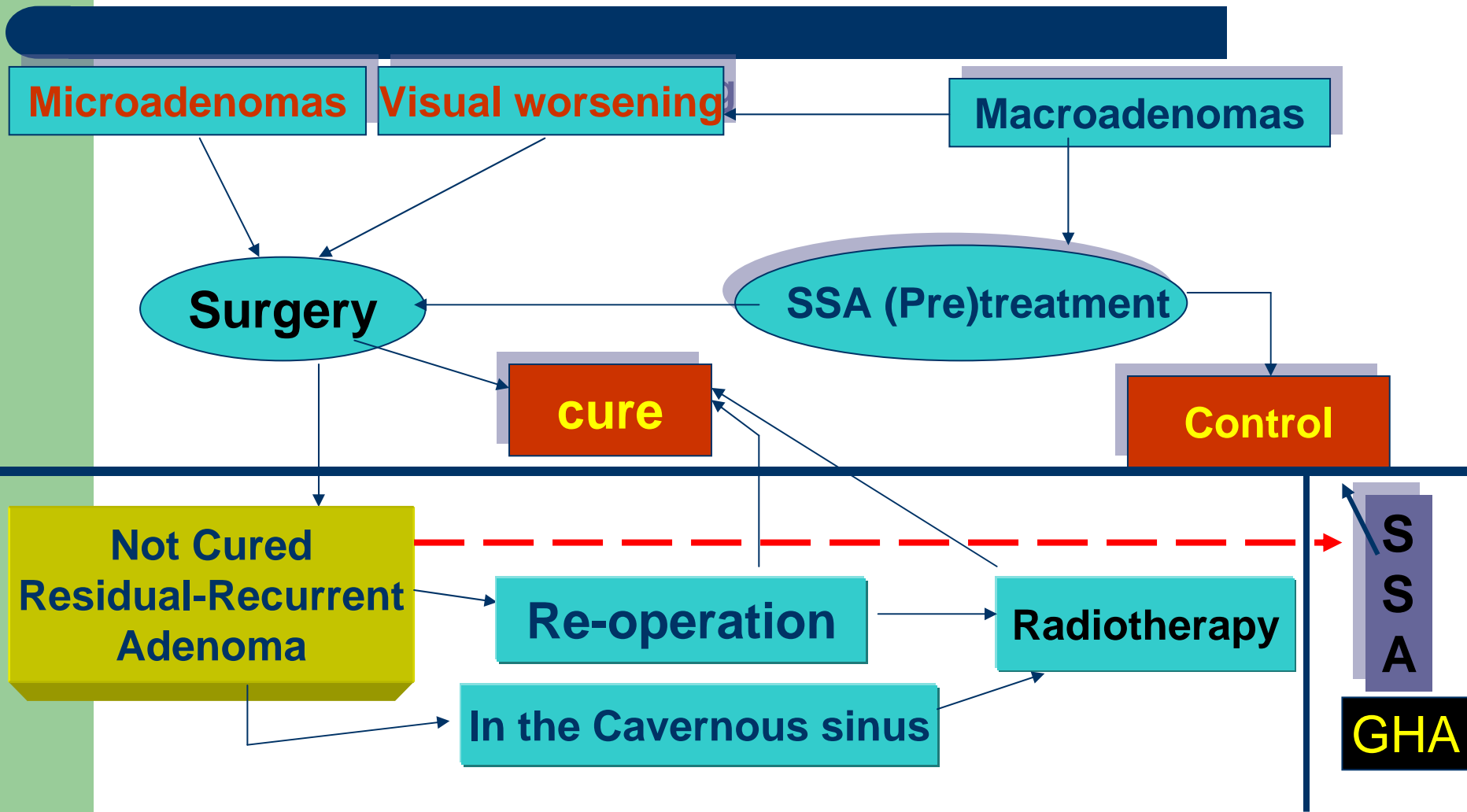
### AACE Guidelines for Acromegaly 2004

#### GH-PRODUCING PITUITARY ADENOMA



# AN UPDATE IN THE TREATMENT OF ACROMEGALY

## Multimodal Therapy for Acromegaly





**6<sup>th</sup> AME Italian Meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> Joint Meeting with AACE  
October 27-29, 2006**



**Update in Clinical Endocrinology  
Pre Congress Symposia  
An update in the treatment of acromegaly**

# ***The role of medical treatments***

**Renato Cozzi**

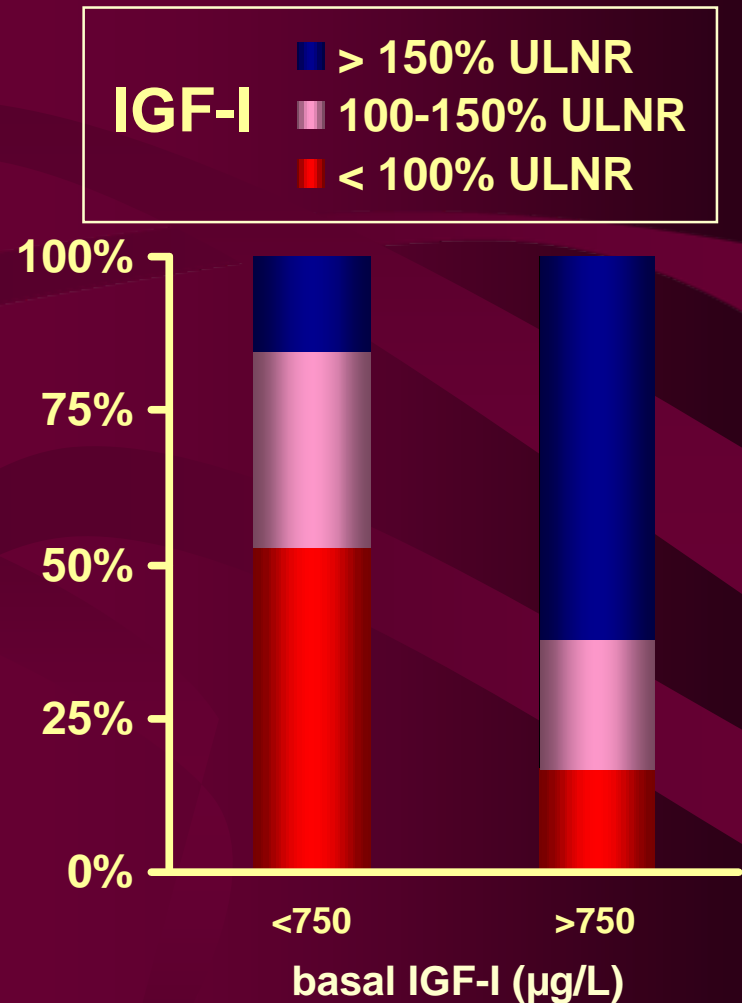
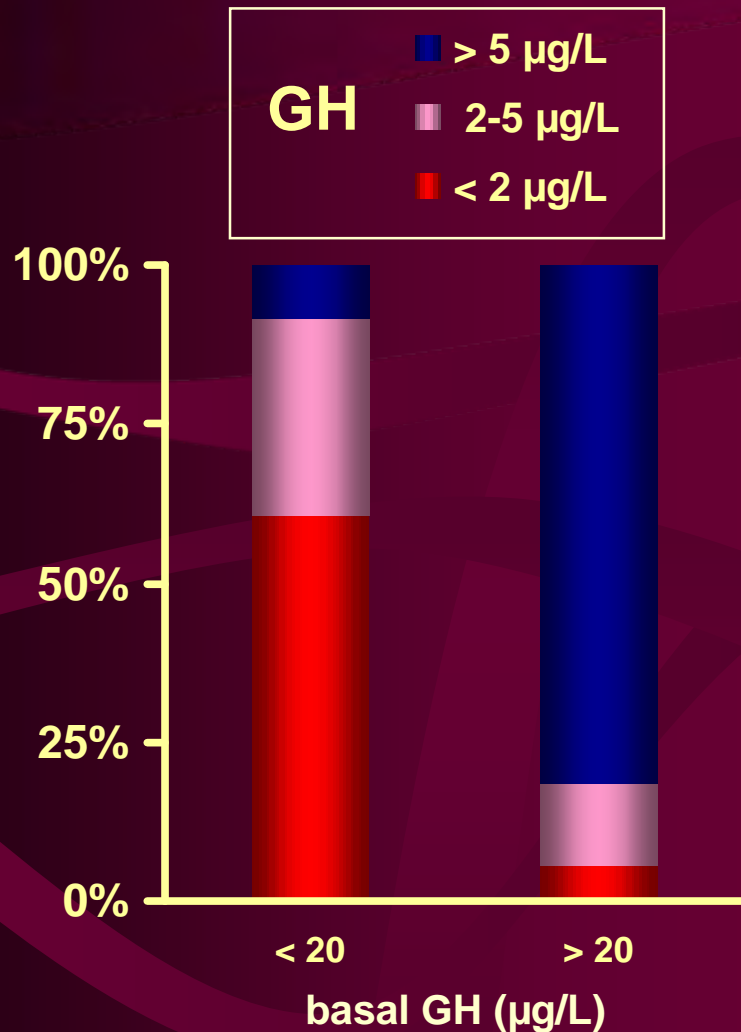
**S.C. Endocrinologia Ospedale Niguarda Milano**

# *Medical treatments*

- Dopamine agonists
- Somatostatin analogs
- Pegvisomant

# Cabergoline

(1-3.5 mg/week)



# *Indications for cabergoline*

- Who* mild disease, both mixed GH/PRL and pure GH secretion; intolerance to SA
- When* adjuvant/primary
- How long* long-lasting, safe

# *Medical treatments*

- Dopamine agonists
- Somatostatin analogs
- Pegvisomant

# *SA work at different levels*

## Central and peripheral actions of somatostatin on the growth hormone–IGF-I axis

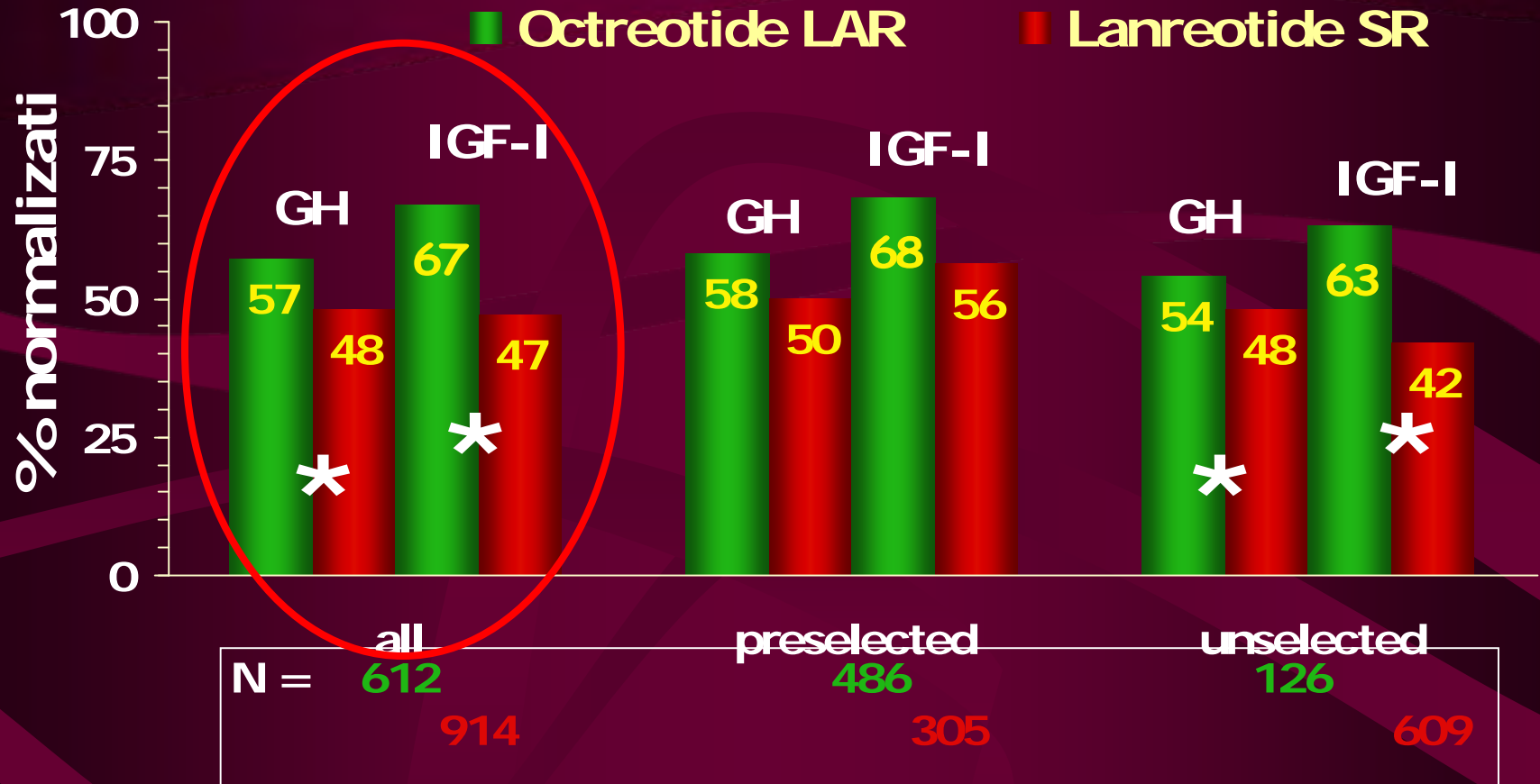
Robert D. Murray,<sup>1</sup> Kiwon Kim,<sup>1</sup> Song-Guang Ren,<sup>1</sup> Marjorie Chelly,<sup>2</sup>  
Yutaka Umehara,<sup>2</sup> and Shlomo Melmed<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Medicine and <sup>2</sup>Department of Surgery, Cedars Sinai Research Institute, UCLA School of Medicine, Los Angeles, California, USA.

The Journal of Clinical Investigation <http://www.jci.org> Volume 114 Number 3 August 2004



# Meta-analysis on the efficacy of SA



# ***Clinical context***

- **Comorbidities**
- **Increased surgical risk**
- **Intubation may be difficult**

# ***Somatostatin analogs improve comorbidities***

## **Is the Acromegalic Cardiomyopathy Reversible? Effect of 5-Year Normalization of Growth Hormone and Insulin-Like Growth Factor I Levels on Cardiac Performance\***

ANNAMARIA COLAO, ALBERTO CUOCOLO, PAOLO MARZULLO,  
EMANUELE NICOLAI, DIEGO FERONE, ANNA MARIA DELLA MORTE,  
ROSARIO PIVONELLO, MARCO SALVATORE, AND GAETANO LOMBARDI

European Journal of Endocrinology (2004) 151 309–315

ISSN 0804-4643

CLINICAL STUDY

## **Effects of octreotide on sleep apnoea and tongue volume (magnetic resonance imaging) in patients with acromegaly**

B L Herrmann, T E Wessendorf<sup>1</sup>, W Ajaj<sup>2</sup>, S Kahlke, H Teschler<sup>1</sup> and K Mann

# Neurosurgery

Invasiveness of adenoma and high GH levels are independent and additive negative predictors of surgical outcome (90 patients)

basal GH (µg/L)	micro	intrasellar macro	invasive macro	<b>Total (micro &amp; macro)</b>
< 10	10/12 (83%)	5/5 (100%)	3/4 (75%)	<b>18/21 (86%)</b>
10-25	9/10 (90%)	6/10 (60%)	1/4 (25%)	<b>16/24 (67%)</b>
> 25	4/7 (57%)	16/21 (76%)	3/17 (18%)	<b>23/45 (51%)</b>
Total	23/29 (79%)	27/36 (75%)	7/25 (28%)	<b>57/90 (63%)</b>

# *Main surgical series*

## Surgery by microscopy by transnasal route

<b>Series</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>total % cure</b>	<b>micro % cure</b>	<b>macro % cure</b>
Ross, 1988	153	56	nd	nd
Falbush, 1992	222	57	72	49
Davis, 1993	174	52	nd	nd
Swearingen, 1998	162	57	91	48
Gittoes, 1999	160	64	86	52
Laws, 2000	117	67	87	50
Beauregard, 2003	103	52	82	60
Falbush, 2006	506	57	75	50

***Do somatostatin analogues  
enhance the role of surgery?***

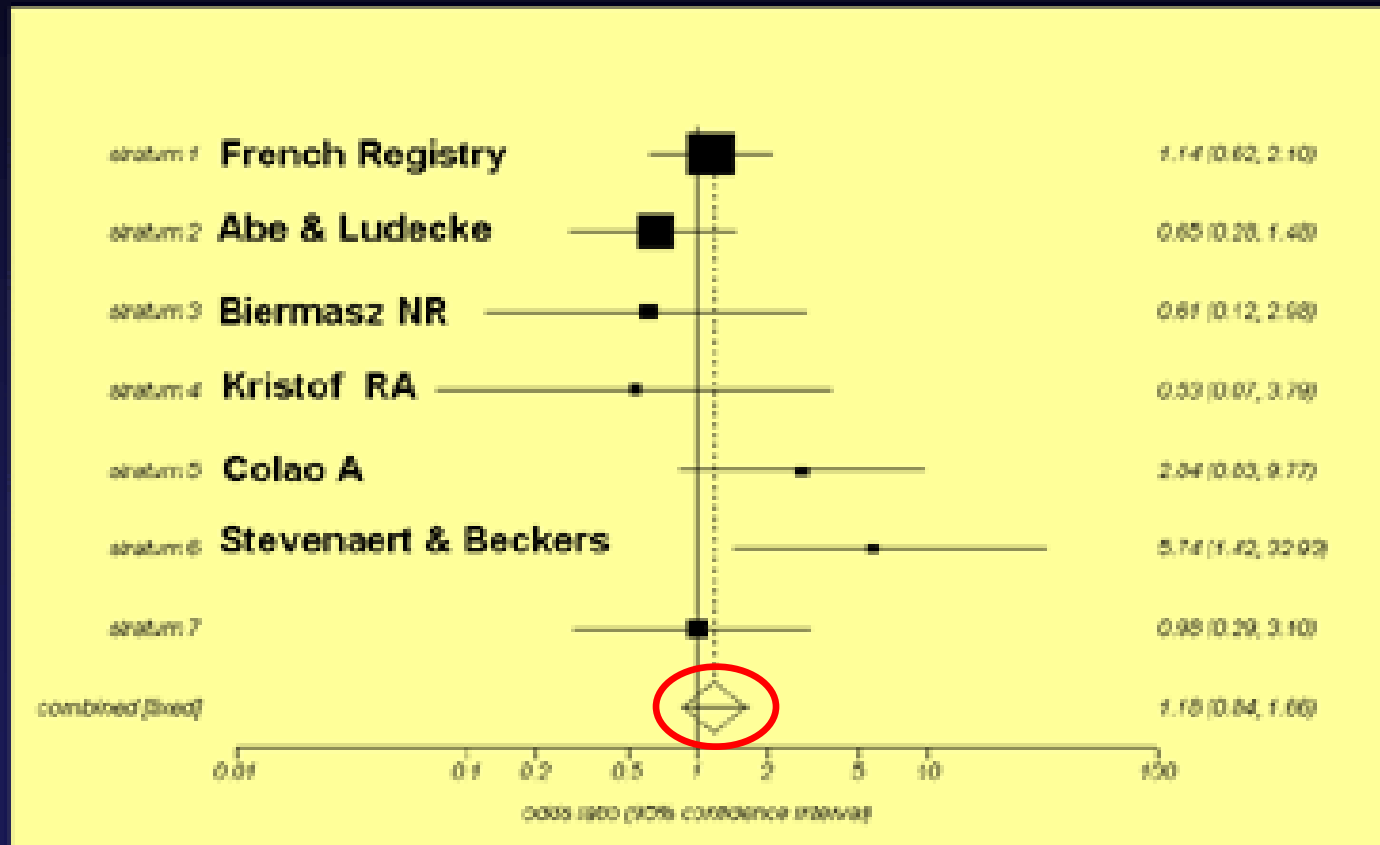
***or***

***does surgery enhance the role  
of somatostatin analogues***

# Pre-surgical treatment on remission rate

## Odds Ratio Plot (Fixed Effects)

Mantel-Haenszel chi-square = 0.7341;  $P = .3916$



# ***Results of s.c. octreotide pre-surgical treatment***

## **Significant improvement of clinical parameters:**

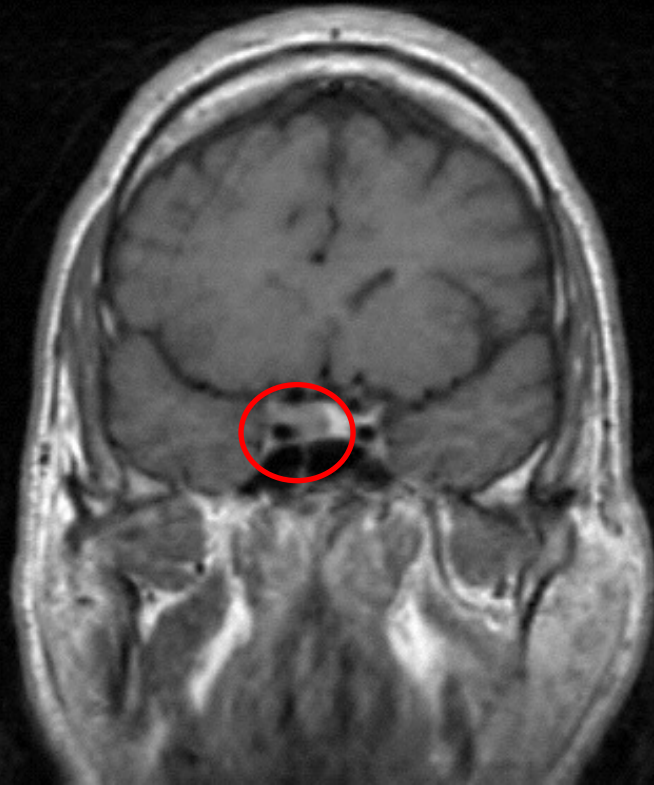
- Arrhythmic events and blood pressure
- Glucose and lipids homeostasis
- Tumor mass shrinkage
- Anesthesiological procedures / surgical outcome

## **Significant reduction of:**

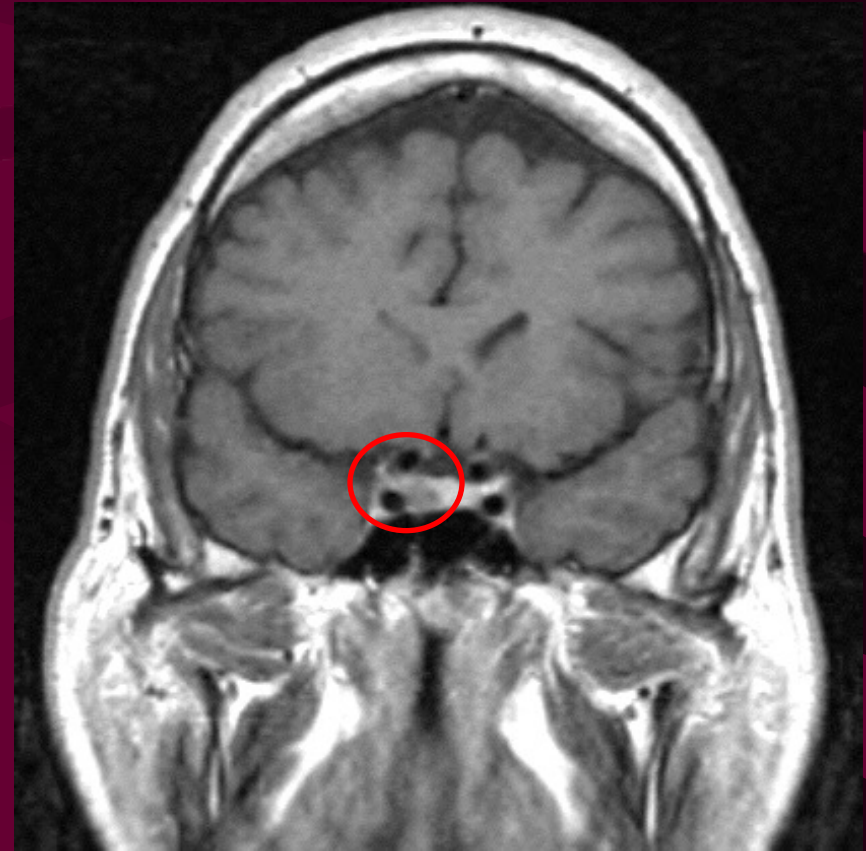
- Hospitalization time



***Does the pretreatment lead to a different classification of the tumour ?***

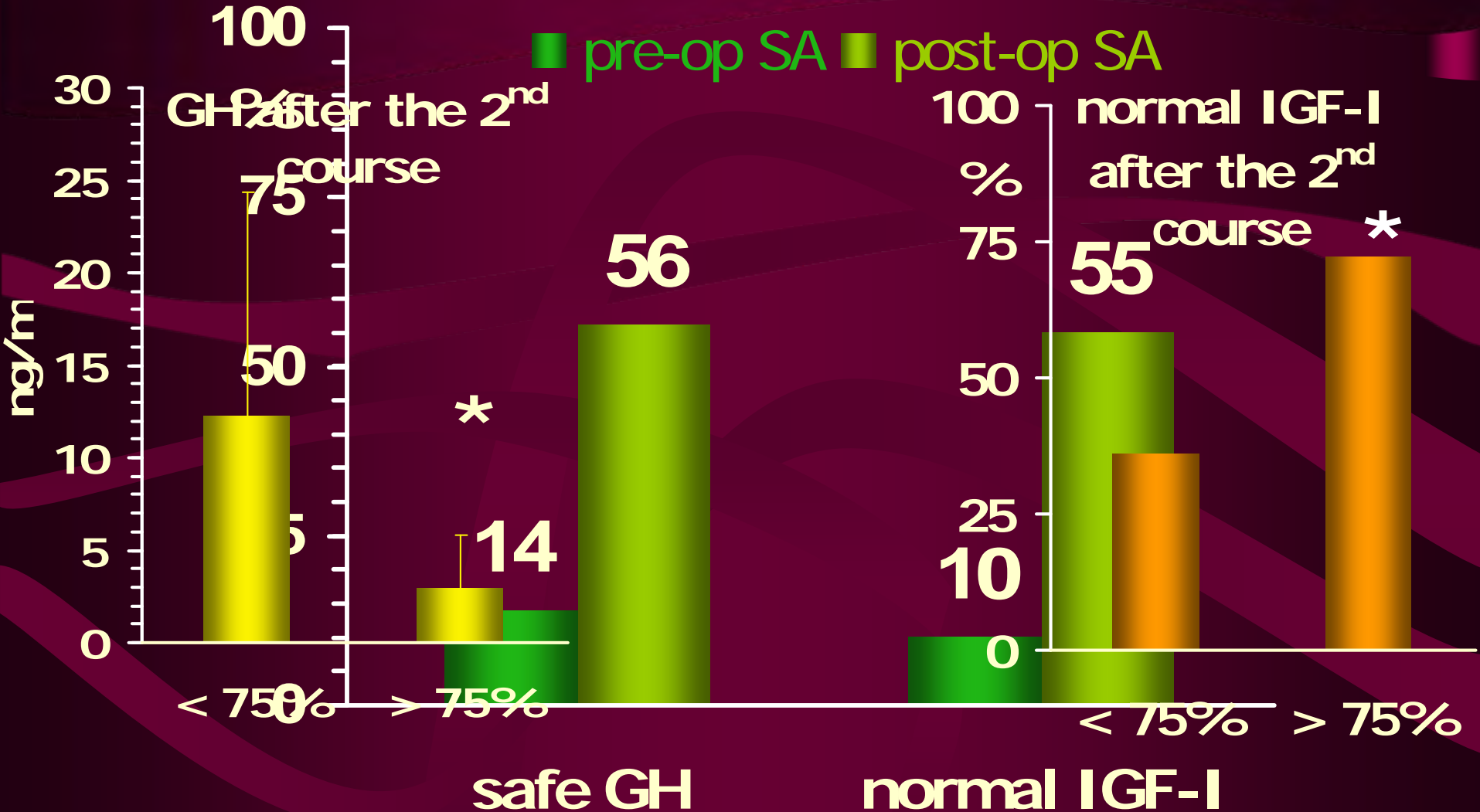


**basal**

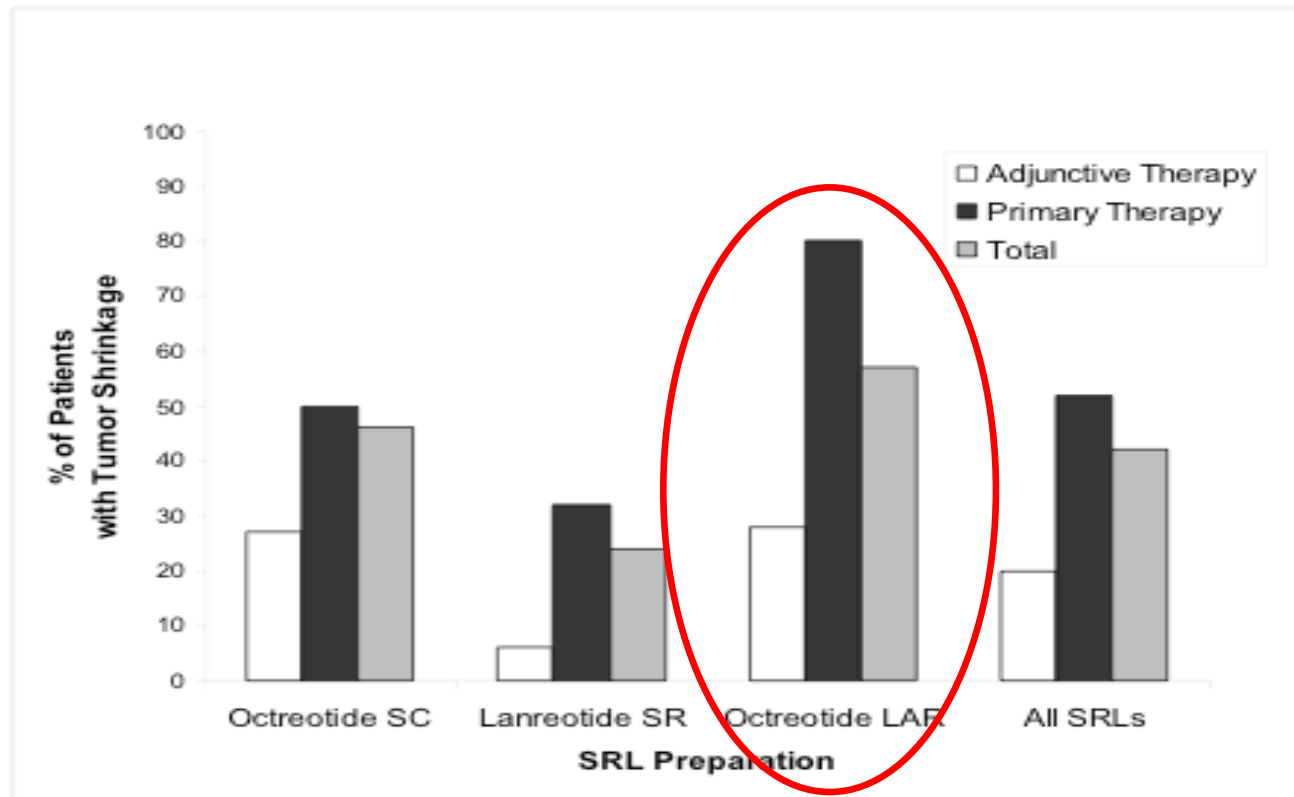


**on treatment**

# Surgical debulking



# *Somastostatin analogs and tumour shrinkage*



# Primary Treatment of Acromegaly with Octreotide LAR: A Long-Term (Up to Nine Years) Prospective Study of Its Efficacy in the Control of Disease Activity and Tumor Shrinkage

Renato Cozzi, Marcella Montini, Roberto Attanasio, Mascia Albizzi, Giovanni Lasio, Sandro Lodrini, Paola Doneda, Liana Cortesi, and Giorgio Pagani

*Divisions of Endocrinology (R.C., R.A.) and Neuroradiology (P.D.), Ospedale Niguarda, I-20162 Milan, Italy; Department of Neurosurgery (G.L., S.L.), Neurological Institute Carlo Besta, I-20133 Milan, Italy; and Division of Endocrinology (R.A., M.M., M.A., L.C., G.P.), Ospedali Riuniti, I-24100 Bergamo, Italy*

**Context:** Neurosurgery is regarded as the first-line treatment of acromegaly. Because of its low cure rate in macro and invasive adenoma, the role of primary medical treatment is debated.

**Objectives:** Our objective was to evaluate primary pharmacological treatment in acromegaly.

**Design and Setting:** We conducted an open prospective study at two Italian tertiary level centers.

**Patients:** We studied 67 consecutive patients (36 women; age, 54.9  $\pm$  14.2 yr; 72% bearing macroadenoma).

**Intervention:** Individually tailored octreotide LAR (OCLAR) was administered.

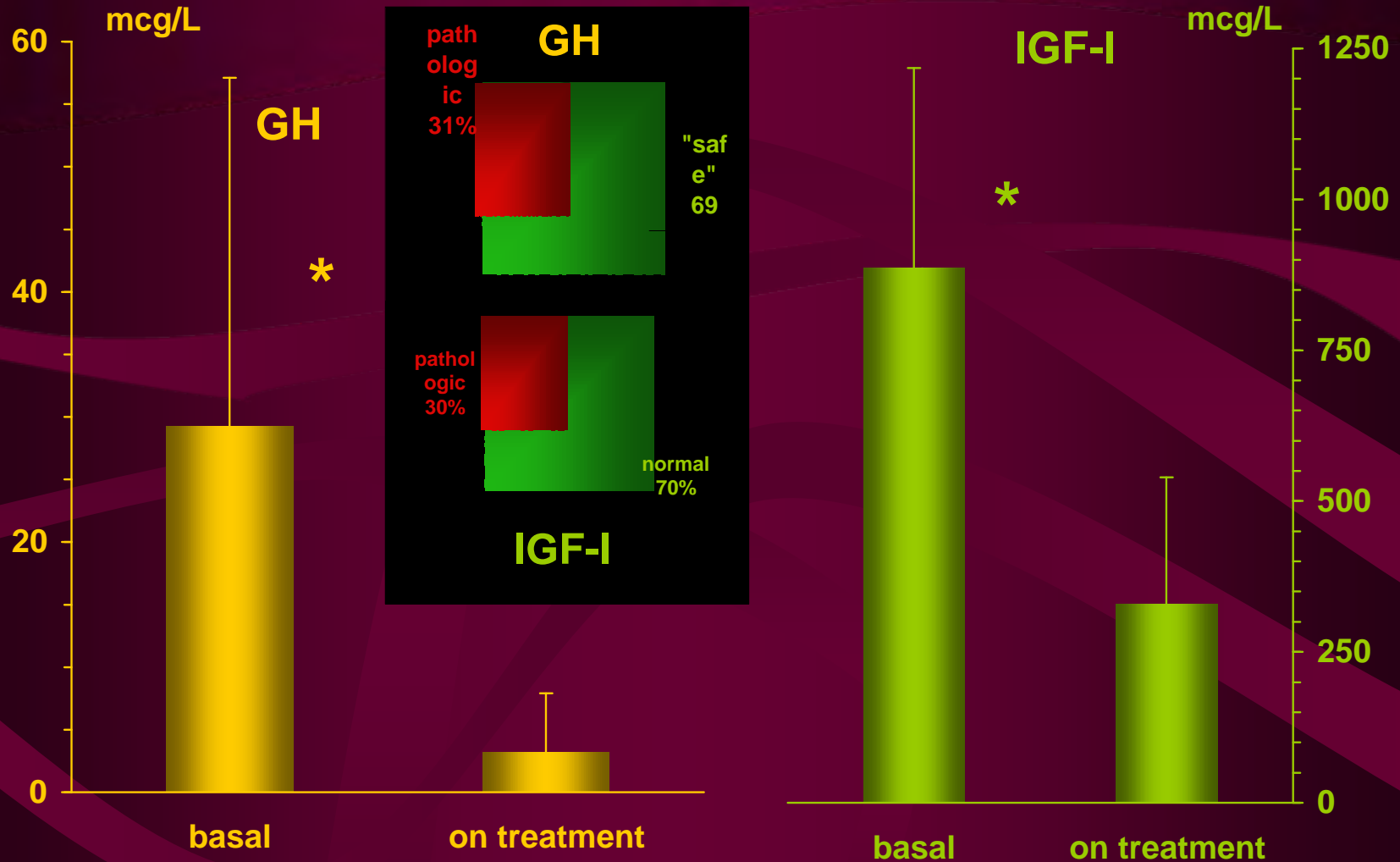
**Main Outcome Measures:** Outcomes included safe GH (<2.5  $\mu$ g/liter), normal age-matched IGF-I levels, and tumor shrinkage.

**Results:** After a median follow-up of 48 months (range, 6–108

months), safe GH levels and normal age-matched IGF-I values were obtained by 68.7 and 70.1% of patients, respectively. Hormonal endpoints were achieved regardless of basal levels, and early results were predictive of outcome. Tumor shrank in 82.1% of patients by  $62 \pm 31\%$  (range, 0–100%), decreasing from  $2101 \pm 2912$  to  $1010 \pm 2196$  mm<sup>3</sup> ( $P < 0.0001$ ). The higher the basal GH values and the greater the GH/IGF-I changes on treatment, the greater the tumor shrinkage. Tumor disappeared in three patients and was progressively reduced to empty sella in five patients; apparent magnetic resonance imaging cavernous sinus invasion disappeared in three. In males, testosterone increased, restoring eugonadism in 64% of hypogonadal patients.

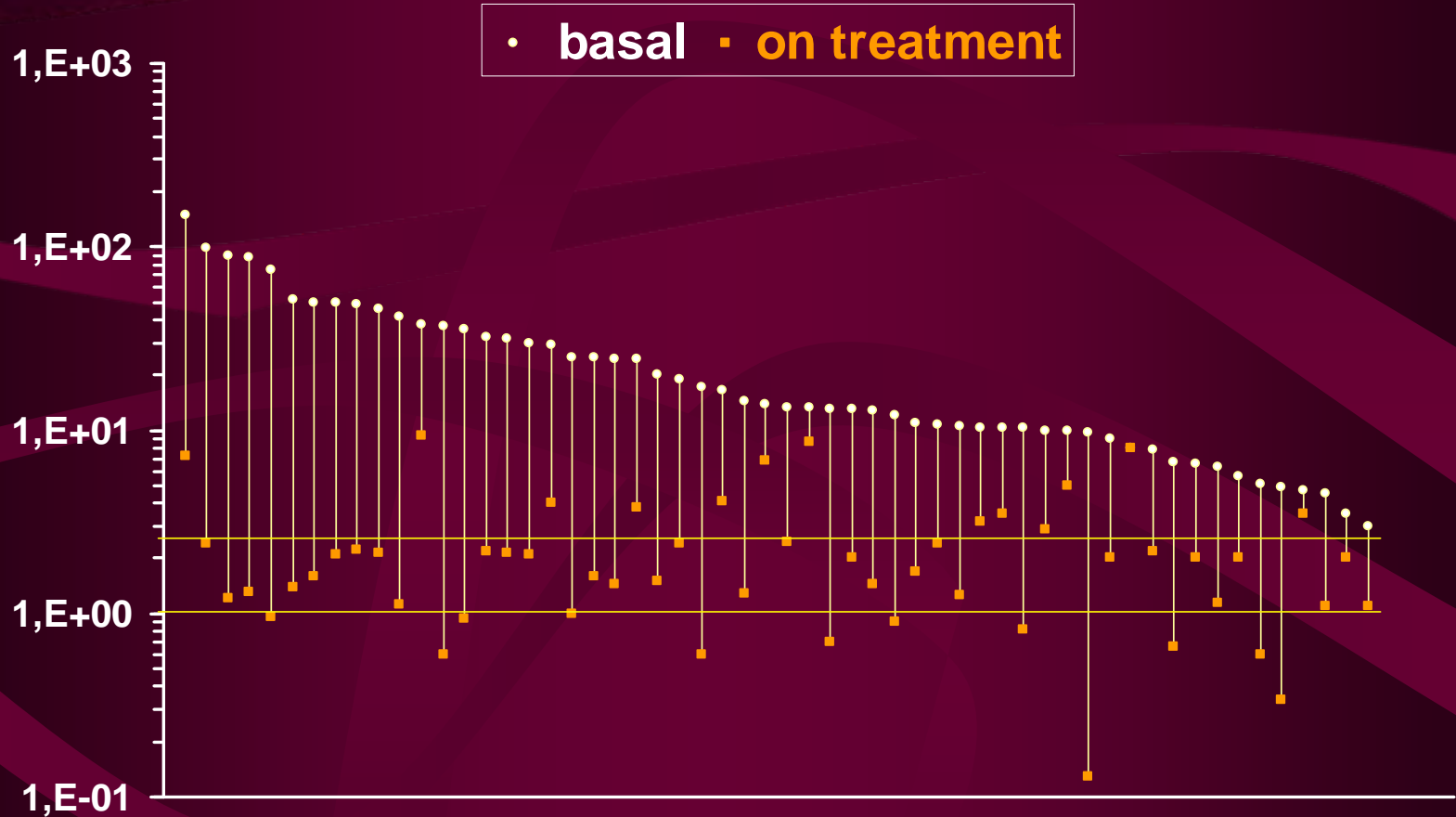
**Conclusions:** The efficacy on GH/IGF-I levels in unselected patients and the outstanding volumetric control indicate that treatment with OCLAR may be the first therapeutic approach to all acromegalic patients not amenable to surgical cure. Tumor shrinkage might also encourage the evaluation of primary OCLAR adoption in patients with initial visual field defects. (*J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 91: 0000–0000, 2006)

# Primary Treatment with Octreotide LAR

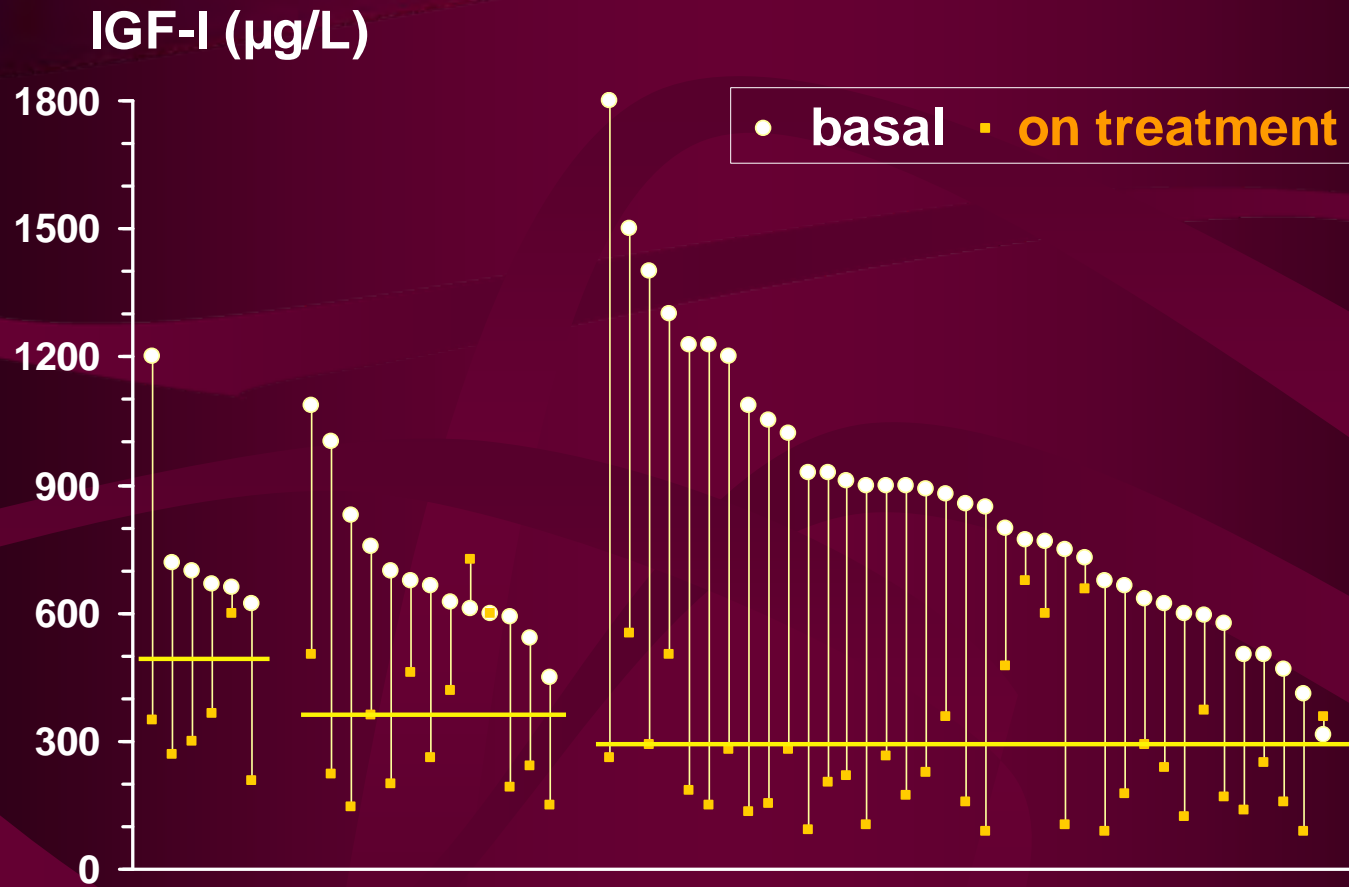


# Safe GH

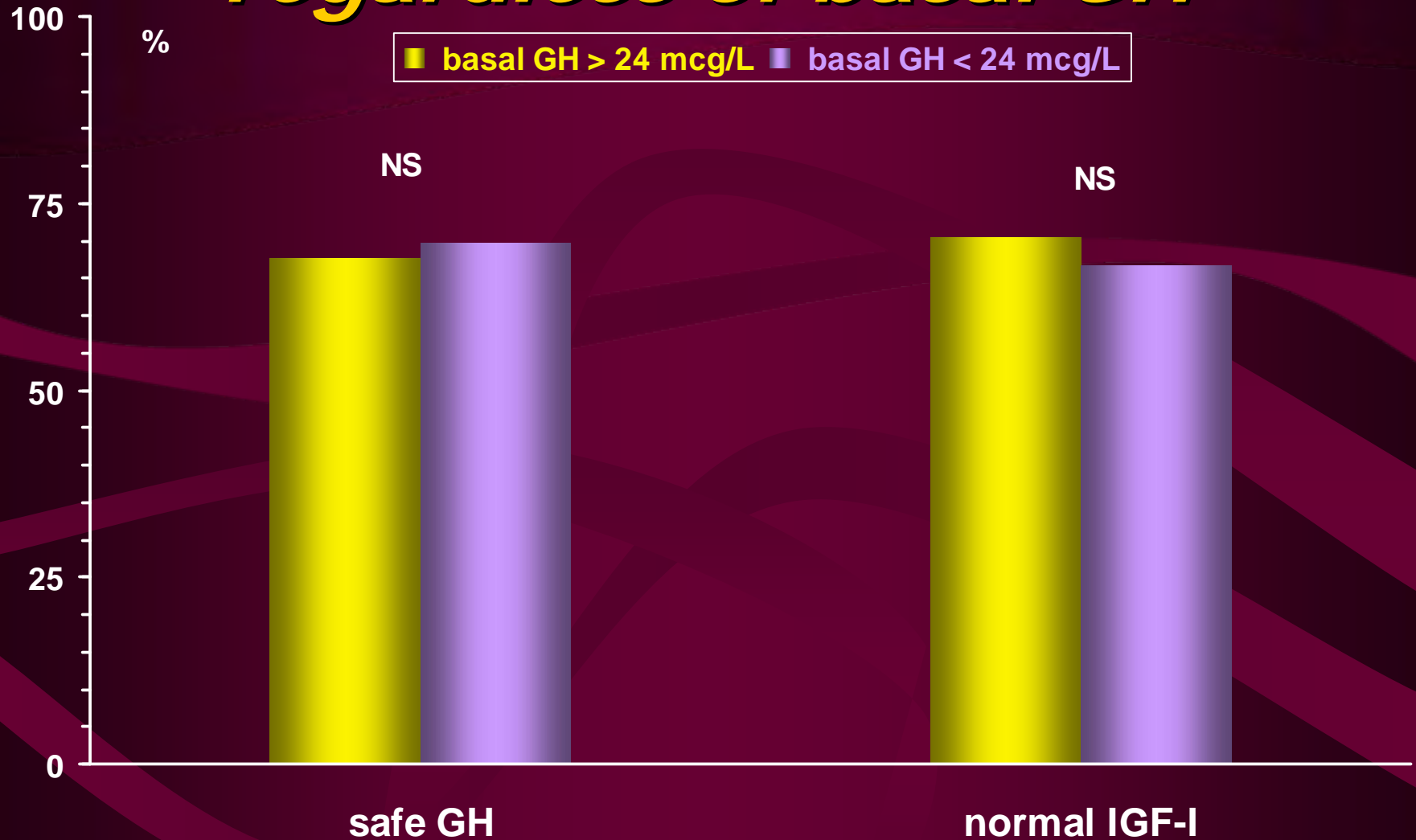
GH ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )



# *normal IGF-I*

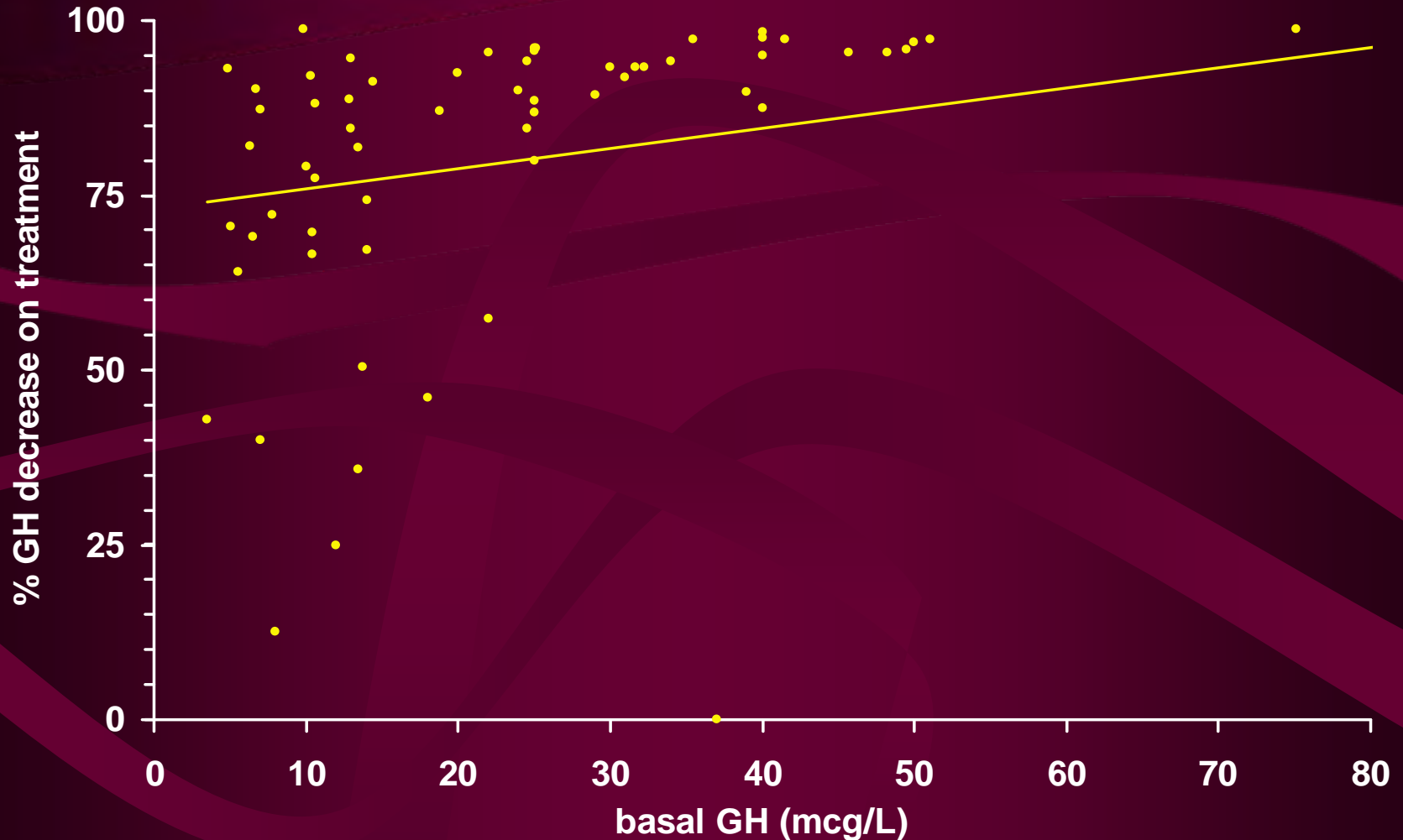


# *Hormonal normalization regardless of basal GH*

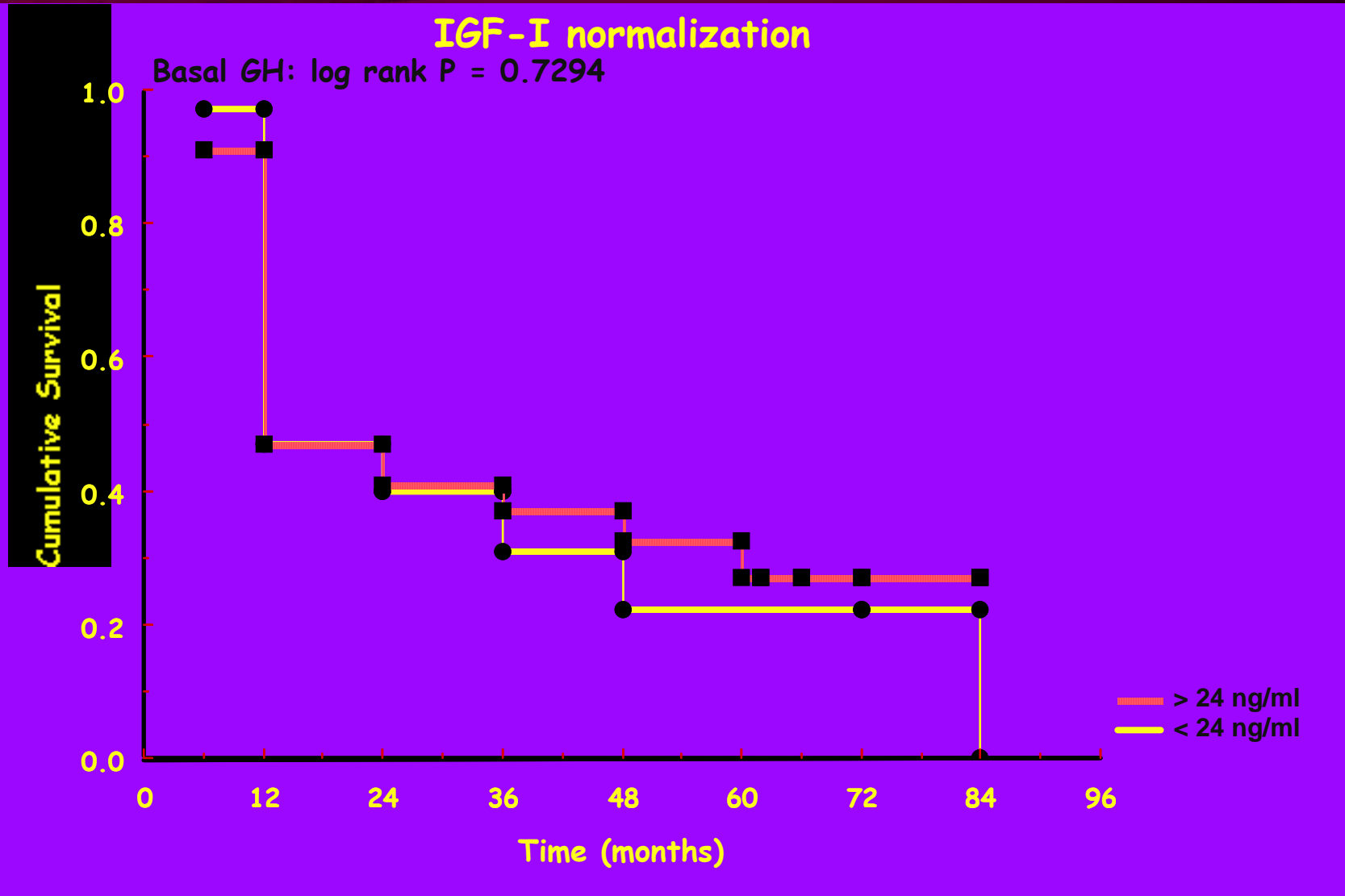




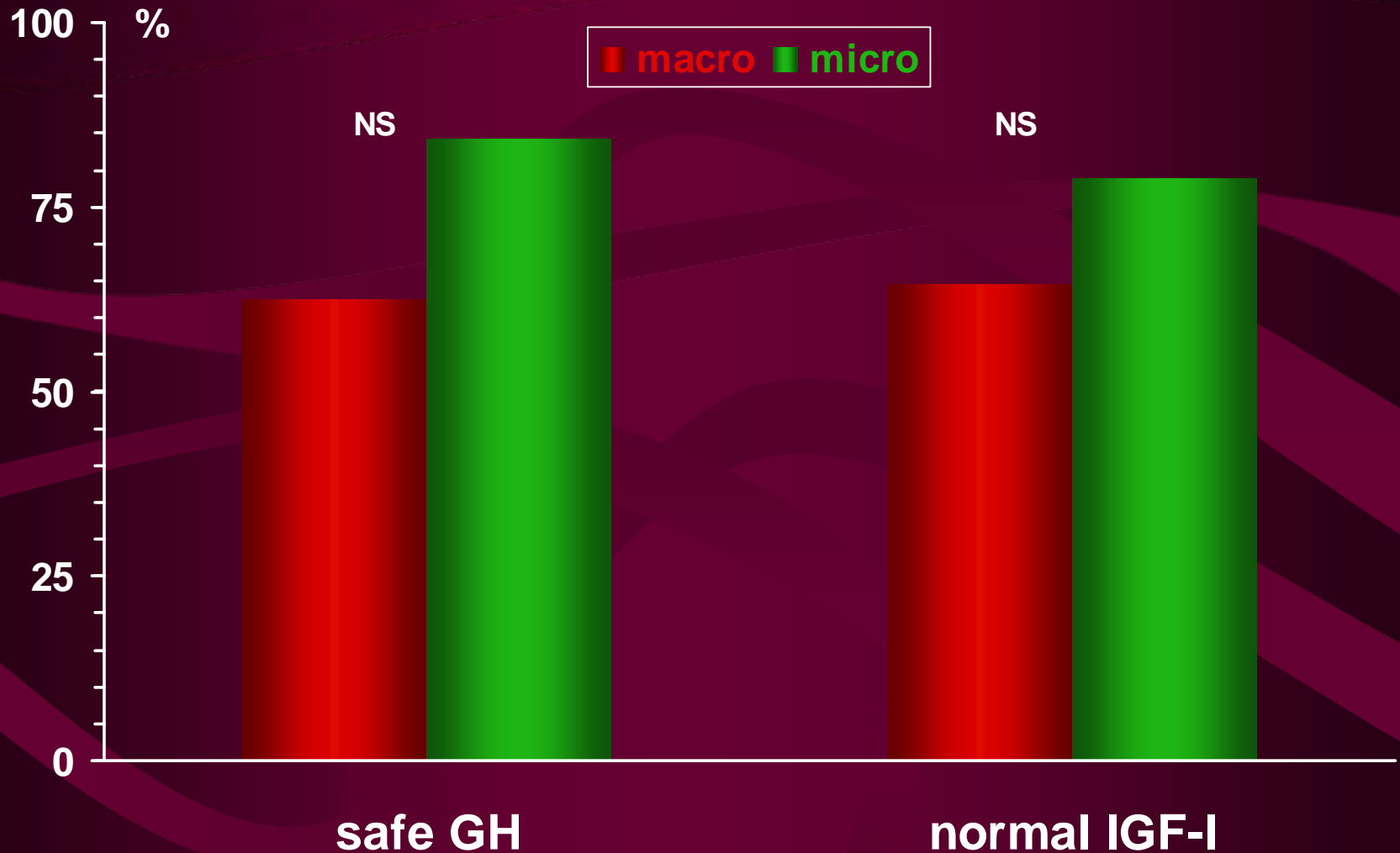
# *Positive relation between basal GH levels and GH suppression on treatment*



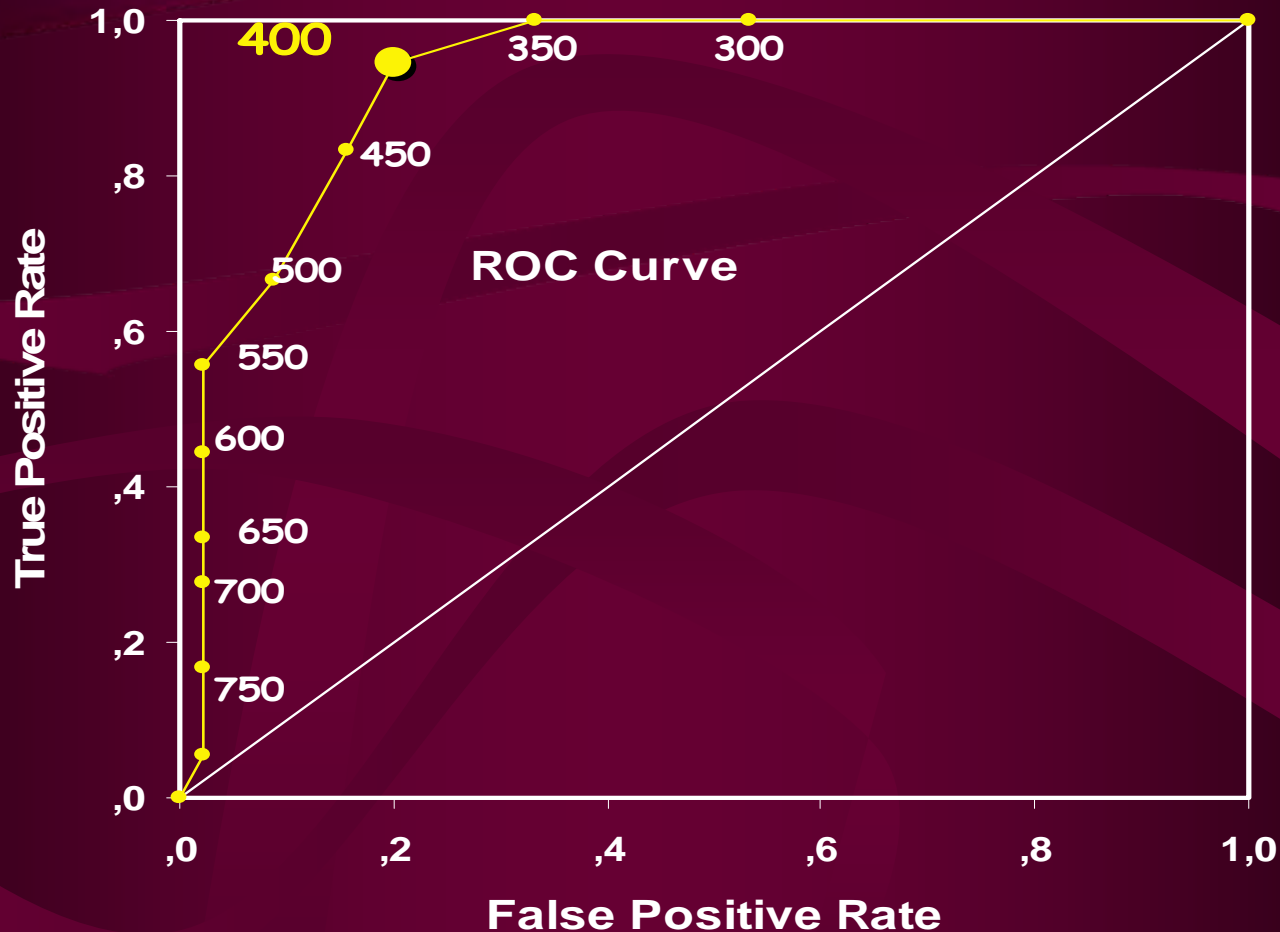
# Time course of IGF-I normalization



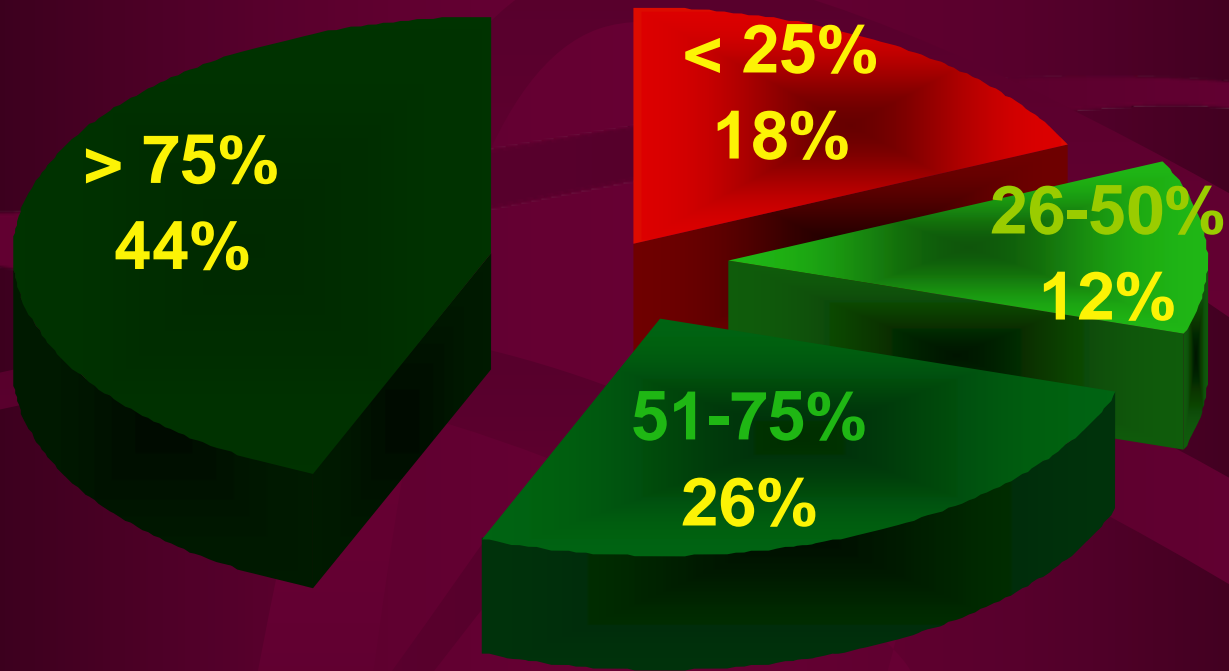
# *Hormonal normalization and adenoma size*



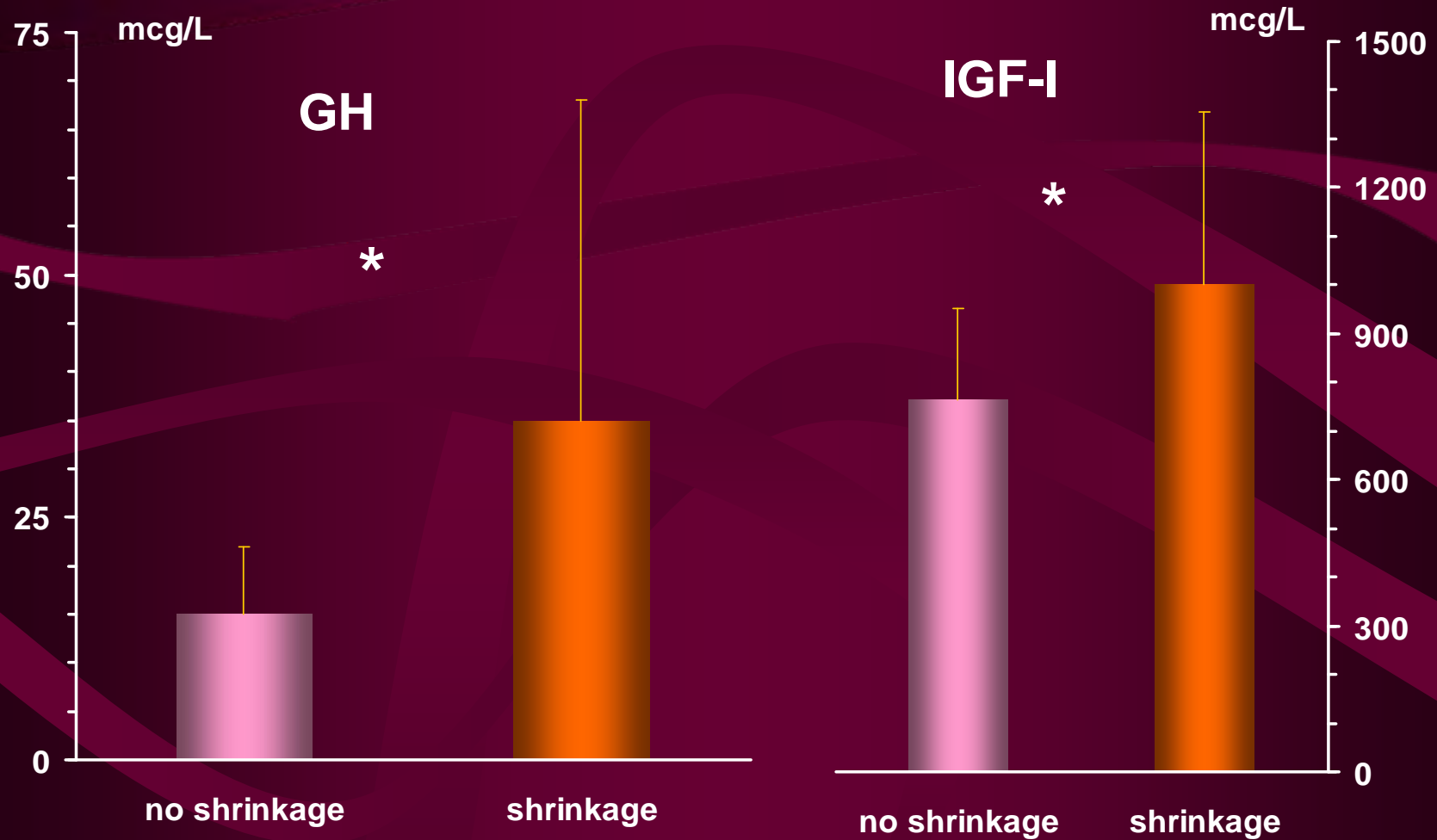
# *12 m IGF-I value predicts its normalization*



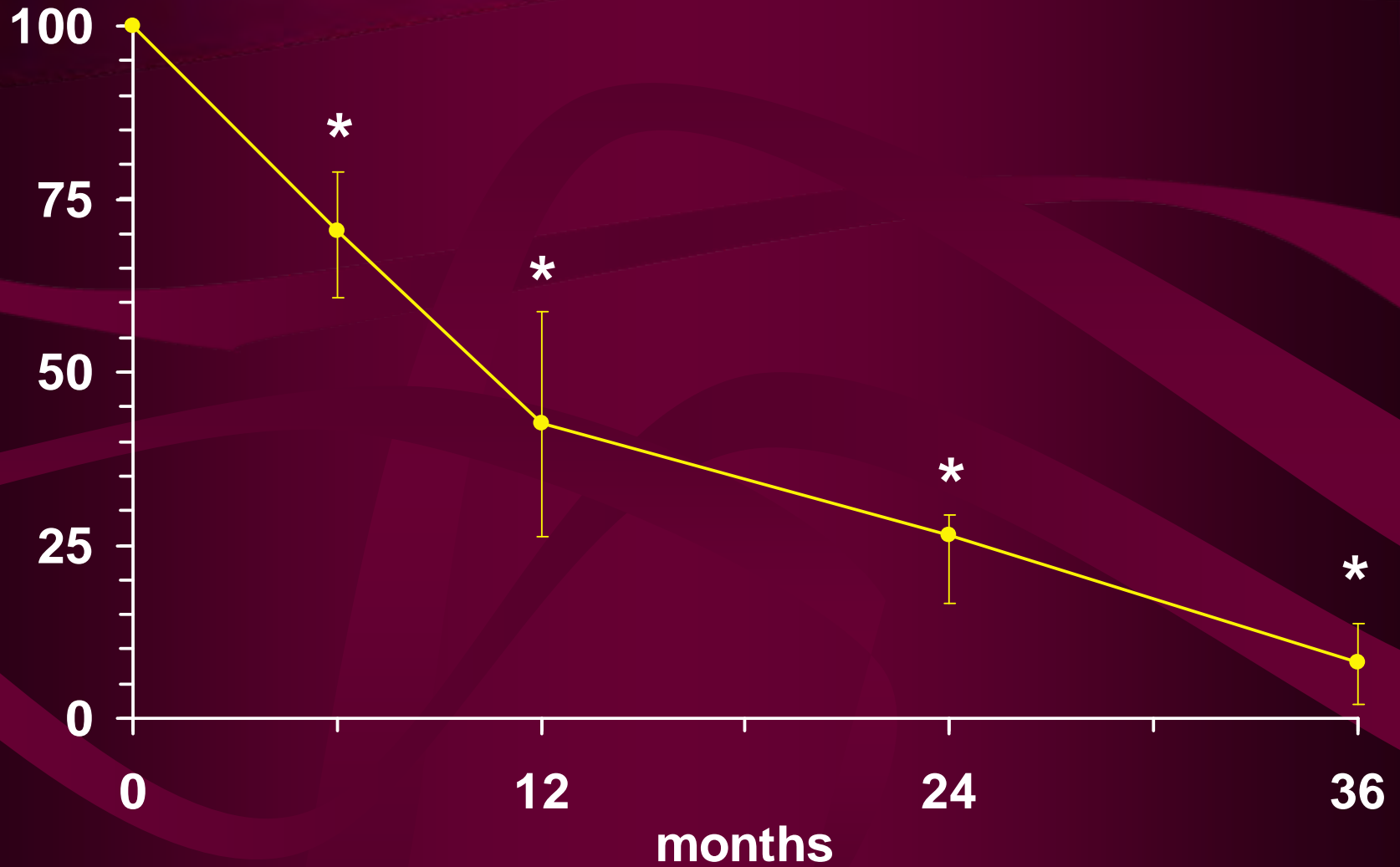
# *The tumor shrinks irrespective of its aspect*



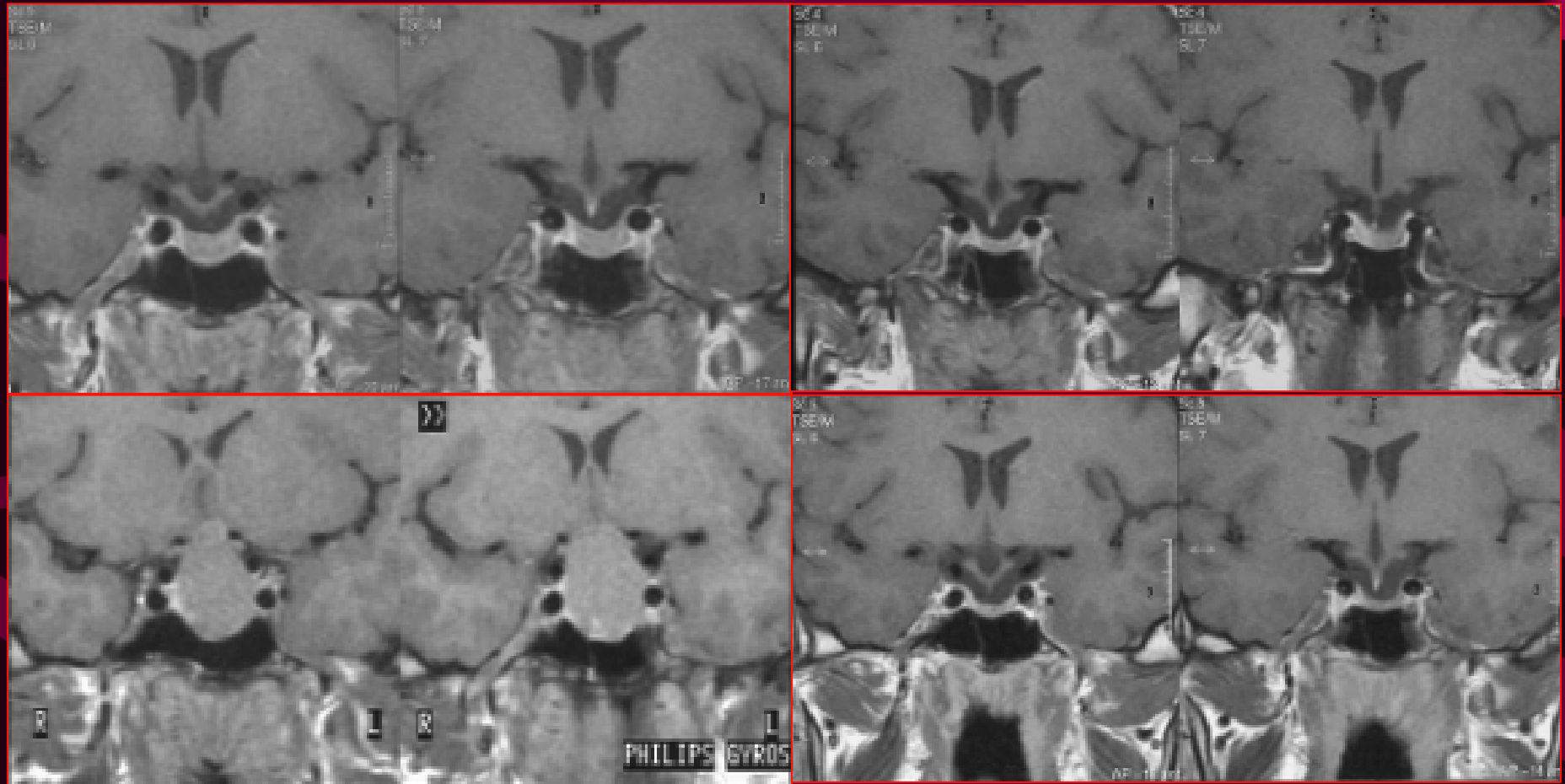
# *The higher GH/IGF-I levels, the better the chance of tumor shrinkage*



# *Progressive tumor shrinkage*



# *Octreotide LAR: tumor shrinkage*





# *Indications for somatostatin analogs*

- ❑ ***Who*** virtually all patients with active disease (warning in diabetics)
- ❑ ***When*** both primary (the only treatment in selected cases; the first-line treatment) and adjuvant (persistent disease, after debulking > 75%)
- ❑ ***How long*** long-lasting, safe

# *Medical treatments*

- Dopamine agonists
- Somatostatin analogs
- Pegvisomant

# *Mechanism of action of Pegvisomant*



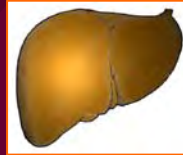
Pegvisomant works regardless of somatostatin receptors on the adenoma



GH



Pegvisomant



it blocks GH action at the level of the peripheral receptor



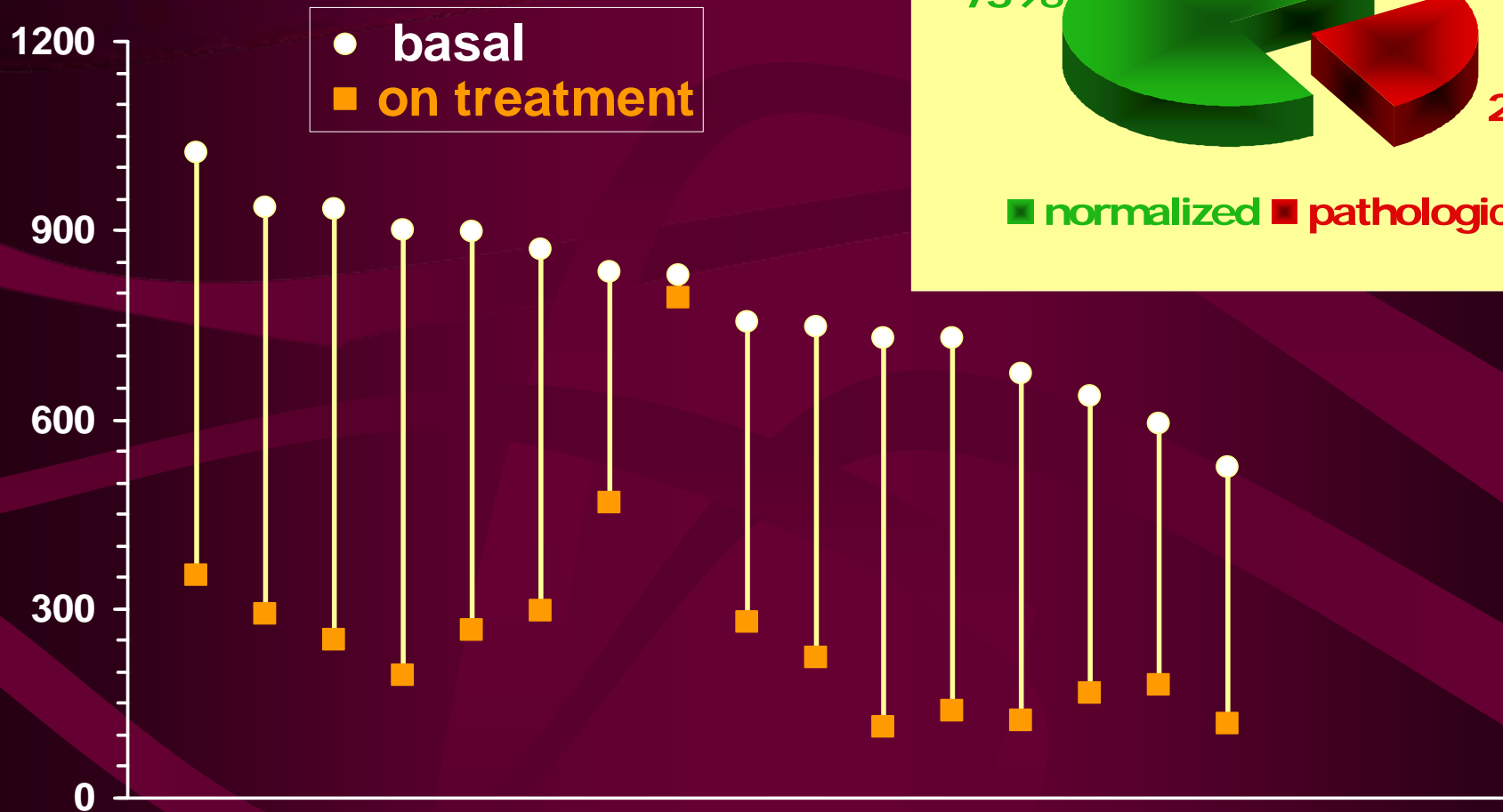
IGF-I

normalization

only IGF-I must be monitored

# Pegvisomant treatment

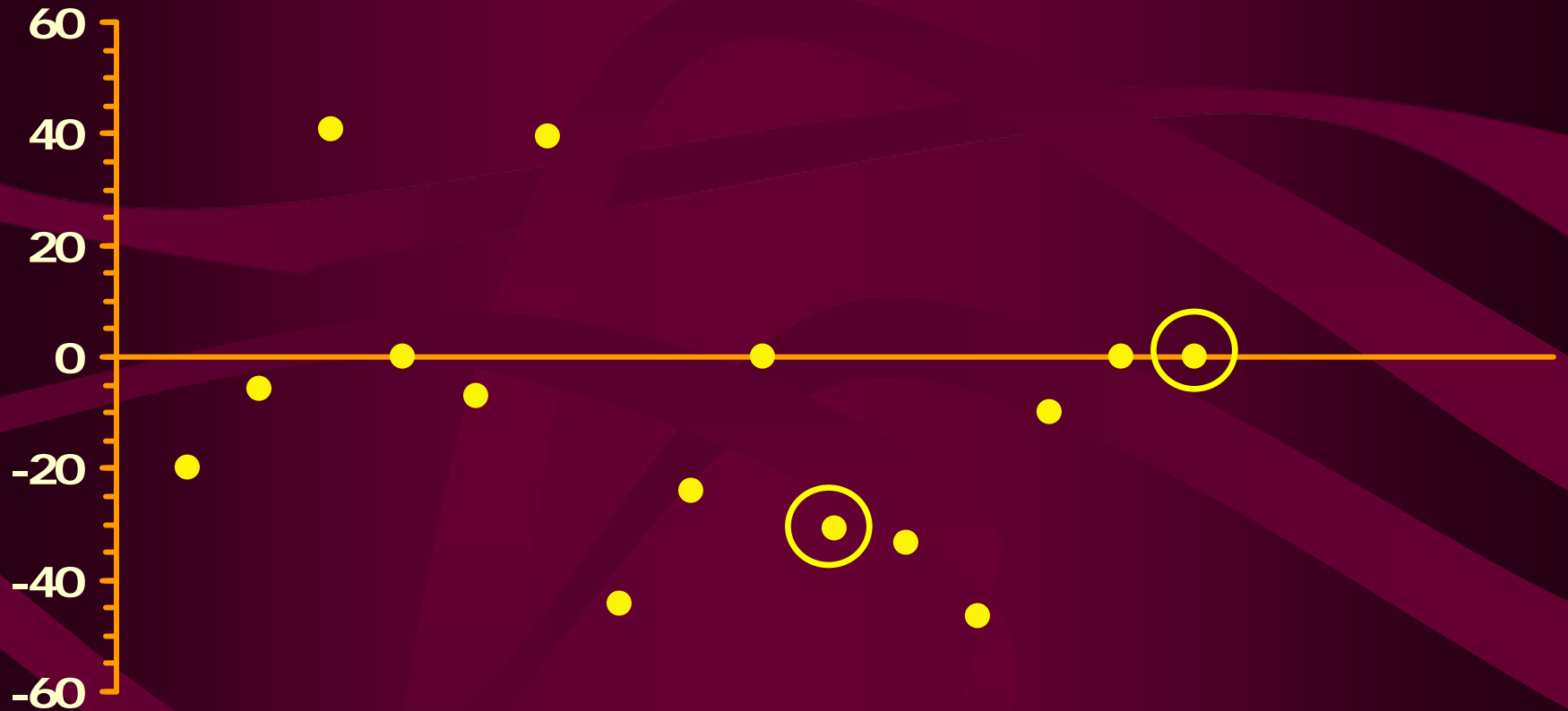
IGF-I ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )



*Modified from Colao et al, Eur J Endocrinol 2006*

# *Pegvisomant treatment*

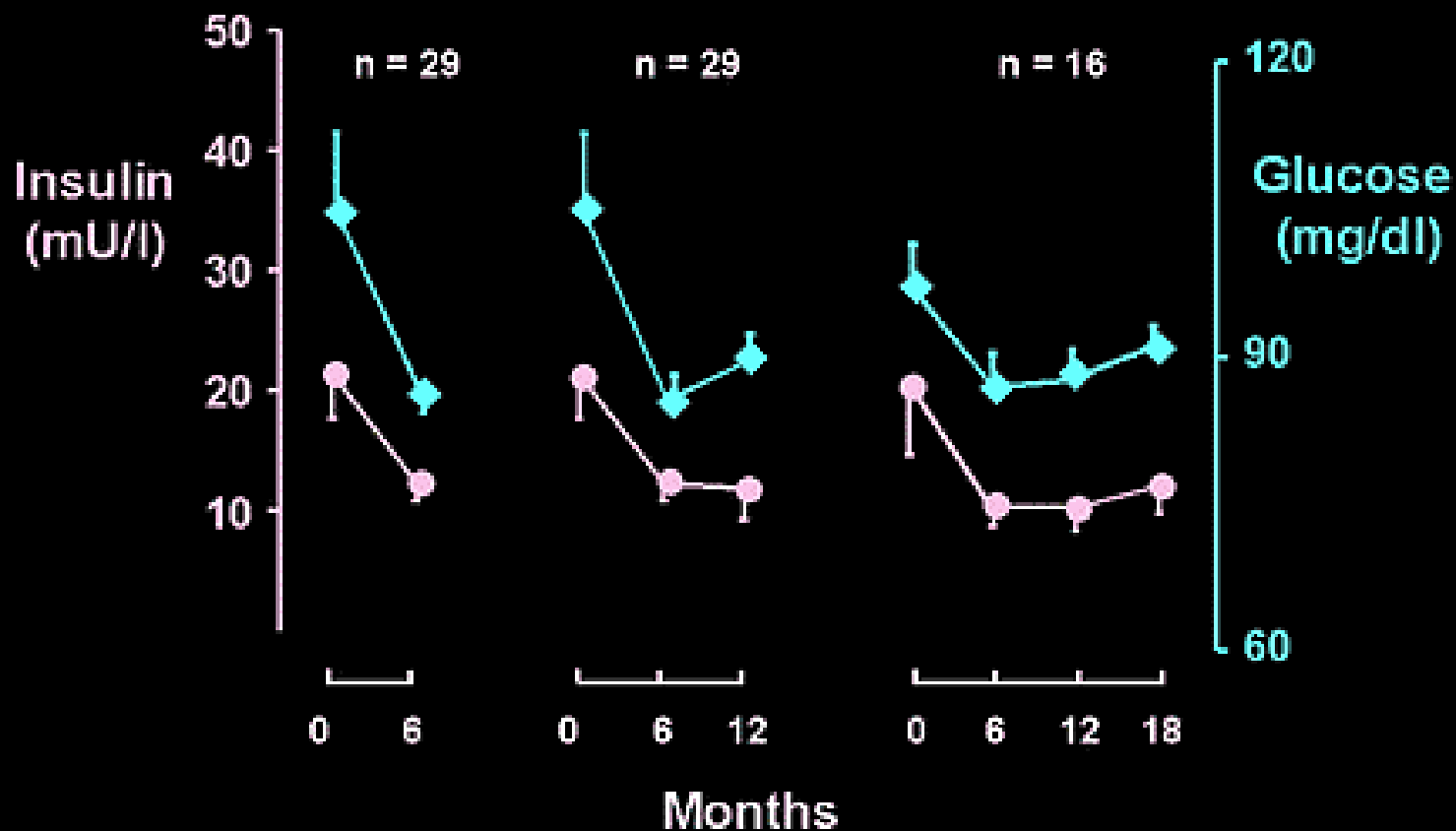
Percent volume change on treatment



*Modified from Colao et al, Eur J Endocrinol 2006*

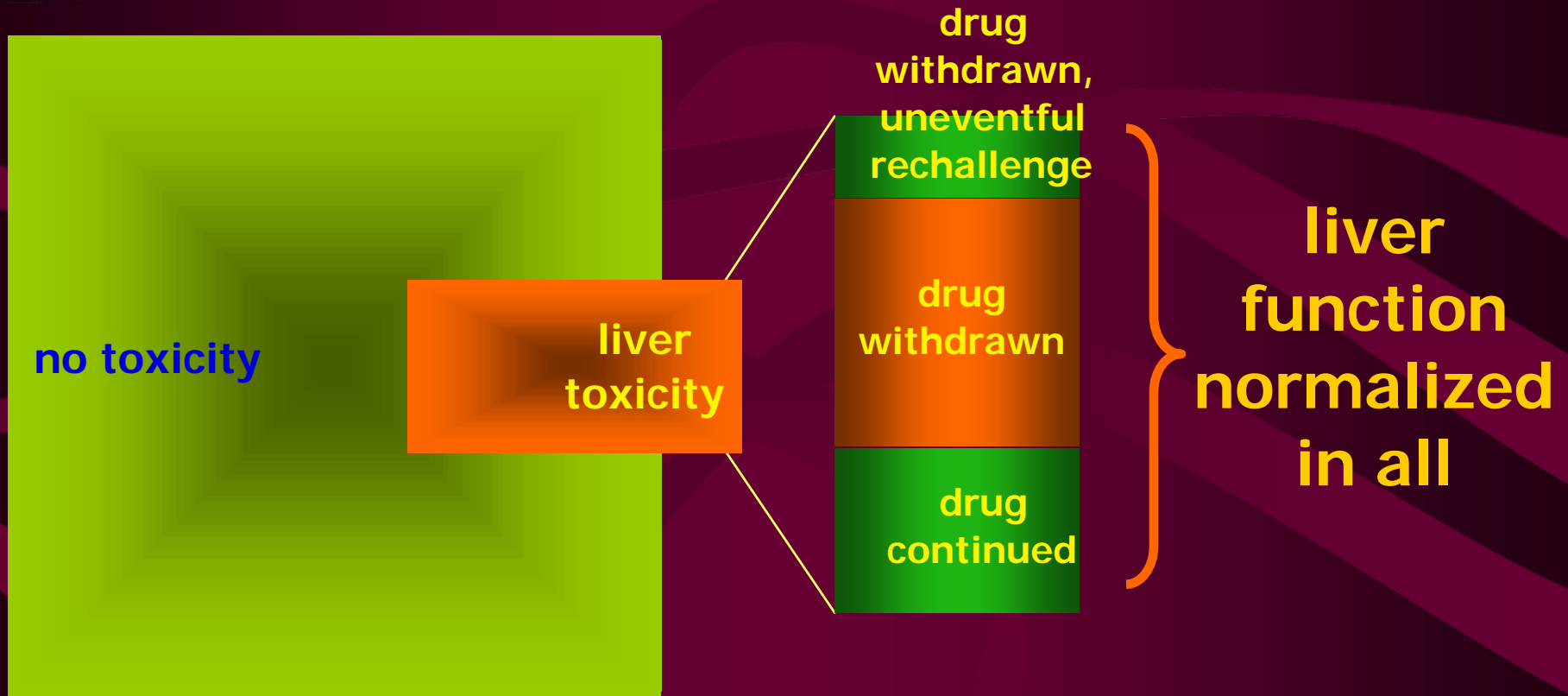


## Mean fasting insulin and glucose after 6, 12 and 18 months therapy with pegvisomant



# *Liver toxicity*

multicentric German study (n = 142)





# *Indications for pegvisomant*

- *Who* active disease after surgery  
/radiotherapy in pts resistant to SA;  
diabetic acromegalics
- *When* adjuvant
- *How long* more data are needed

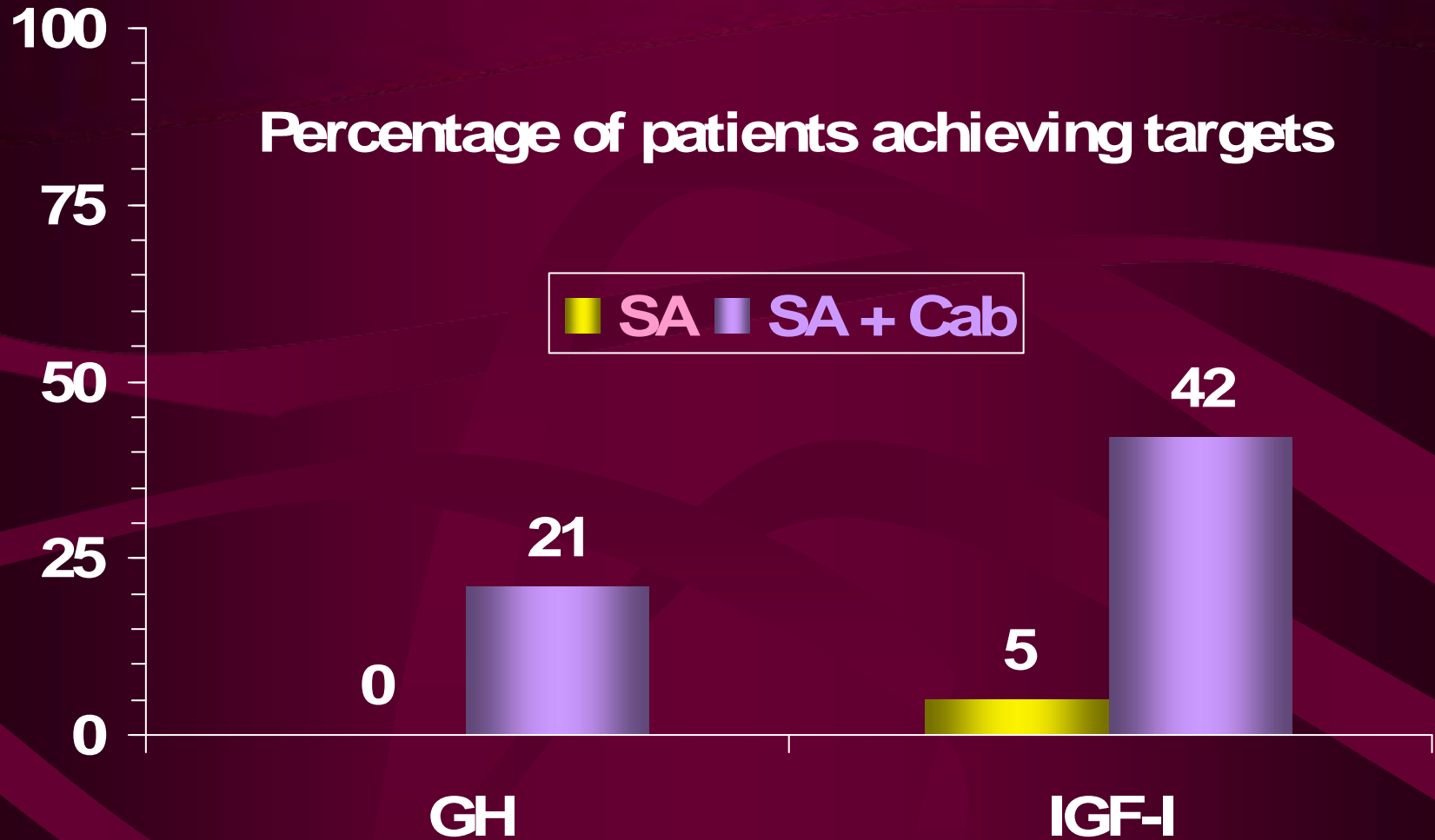
# ***Medical treatments***

- Dopamine agonists

## **Combined treatments**

- Somatostatin analogs
- Pegvisomant

# *octreotide + cabergoline*



# Pegvisomant + octreotide

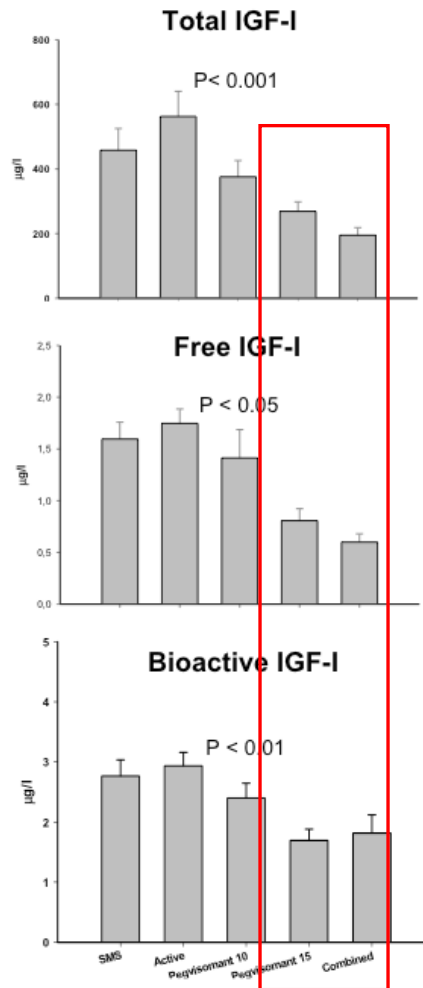
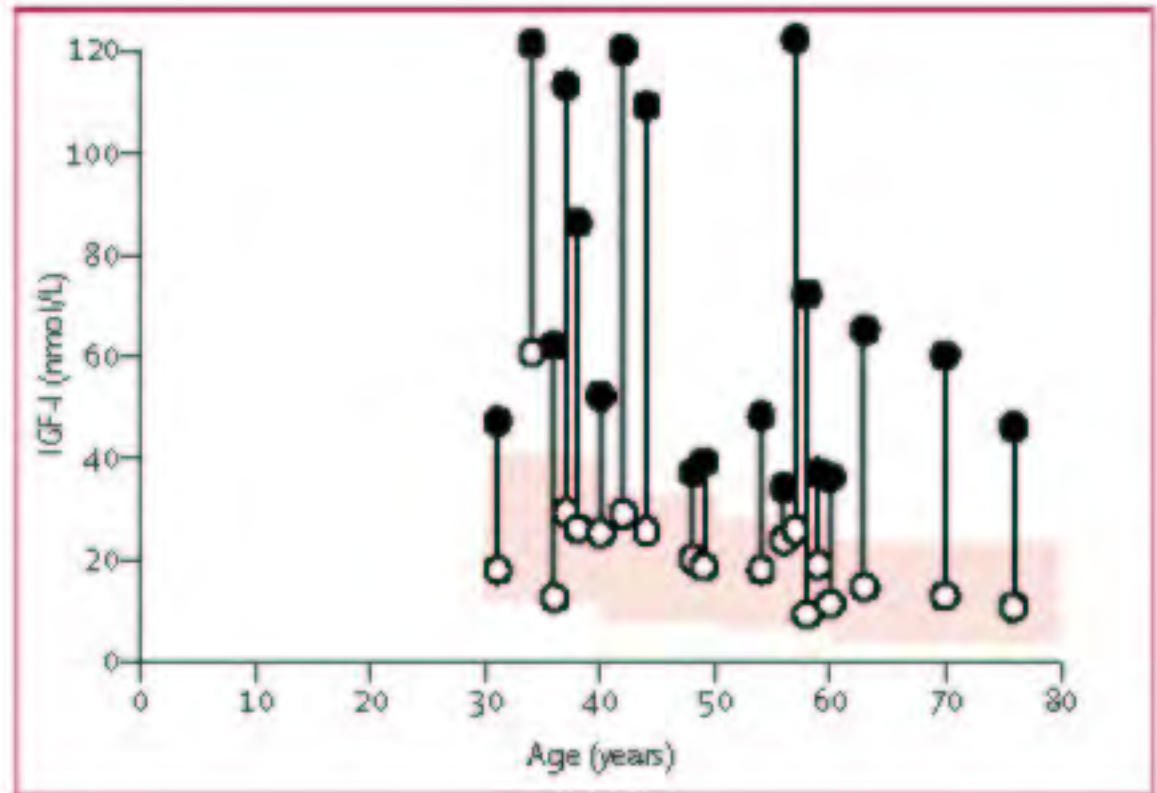


Figure 1

# Weekly Peg + monthly OC

- 26 pts (completed 12 weeks)
- 42 weeks
- Peg dose escalated to achieve normalization
- Final Peg dose (median 60)
- No tumor growth
- Mild increase in liver enzymes in 38%



# ***The role of medical treatments***

## ***PRIMARY***

- Pts not amenable of surgical cure:
- poor clinical conditions
- hormonal and MRI negative determinants
- Refusal of surgery
- Desire of preservation of fertility

## ***ADJUVANT***

- Persistent disease after surgery/rx-therapy

Divisione di Endocrinologia,  
Ospedali Riuniti, Bergamo

***Thanks to***

***Roberto  
Attanasio***

Divisione di Neurochirurgia,  
Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta, Milano

***Thanks for your  
attention***





6th AME Congress  
Verona, October 27-29, 2006

**6<sup>th</sup> AME National Meeting**

Italian Association of Clinical Endocrinologists

**3<sup>rd</sup> Joint Meeting with AACE**

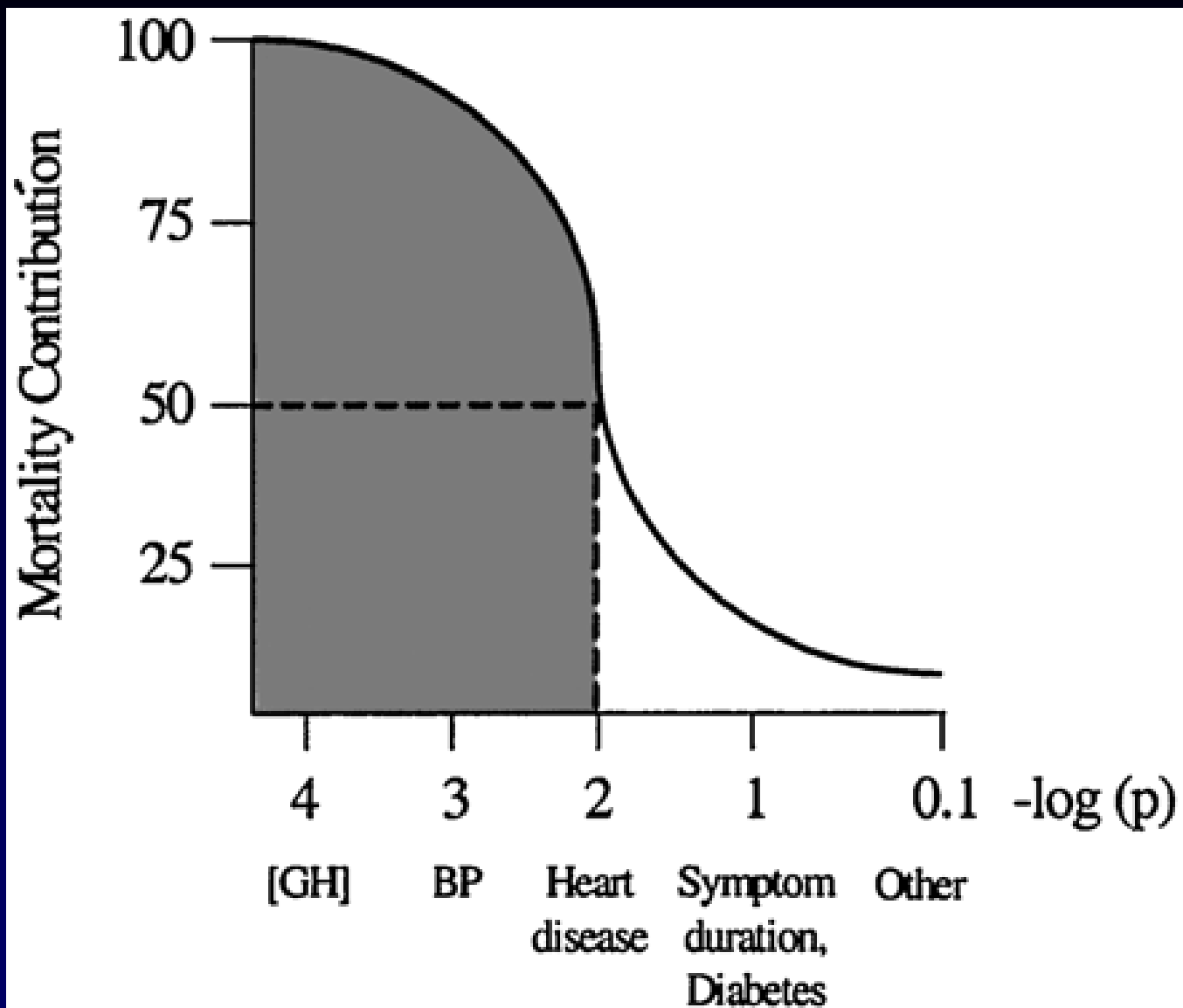
American Association of Clinical Endocrinologist

# Reversal of systemic complications of acromegaly



Gaetano Lombardi

*Dipartimento di Endocrinologia ed Oncologia Molecolare e Clinica,  
Università "Federico II" di Napoli*



Melmed S *JCE&M* 2001; 96: 2929-2934

# Acromegaly: Mortality

<u>Survival determinants</u>	<i>P</i>
Last GH	< 0.0001
Hypertension	< 0.02
Cardiac disease	< 0.03
Diabetes	< 0.03
Symptom duration	< 0.04

## Causes of death

Cardiovascular	60%
Respiratory	25%
Malignancy	15%

*Derived from* Wright 1969; Alexander 1980; Nabarro 1987; Bengtsson 1988; Bates 1993; Etxabe 1993; Rajasoorya 1994; Swearingen 1998; Abosch 1998; Freda 1998; Holdaway 2003;  
GES Barcelona 2003

# To normalize mortality:

- ① Suppress GH levels  $<1-2.5 \mu\text{g/liter}$
- ② Normalize IGF-I levels for age and gender
- ③ No radiotherapy
- ④ Absence of hypertension and/or cardiac disease at diagnosis

# Reversal of systemic complications of acromegaly

- The cardiovascular system
- The respiratory system
- The osteo-skeletal system
- The oncological risk

hyperkinetic syndrome

*metabolic  
abnormalities*

*arrhythmias*

myocardial hypertrophy

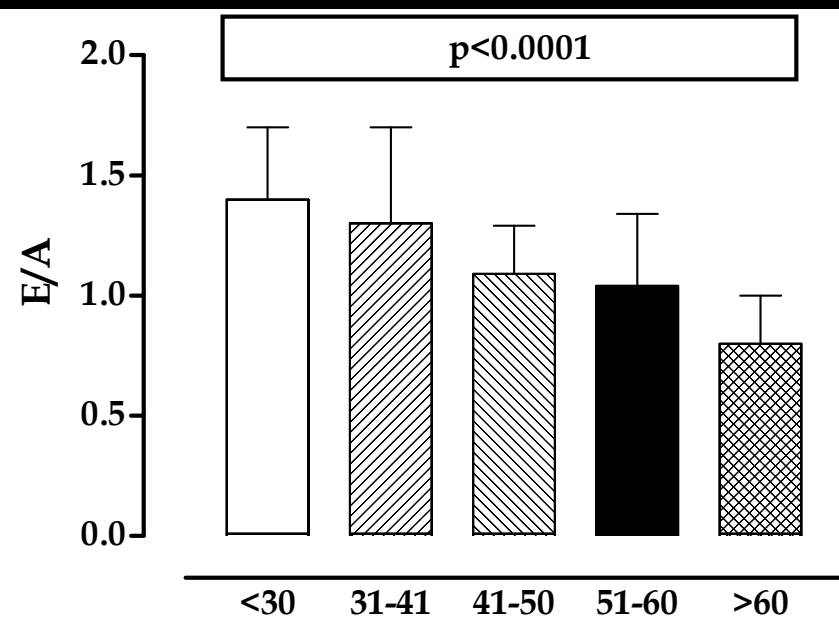
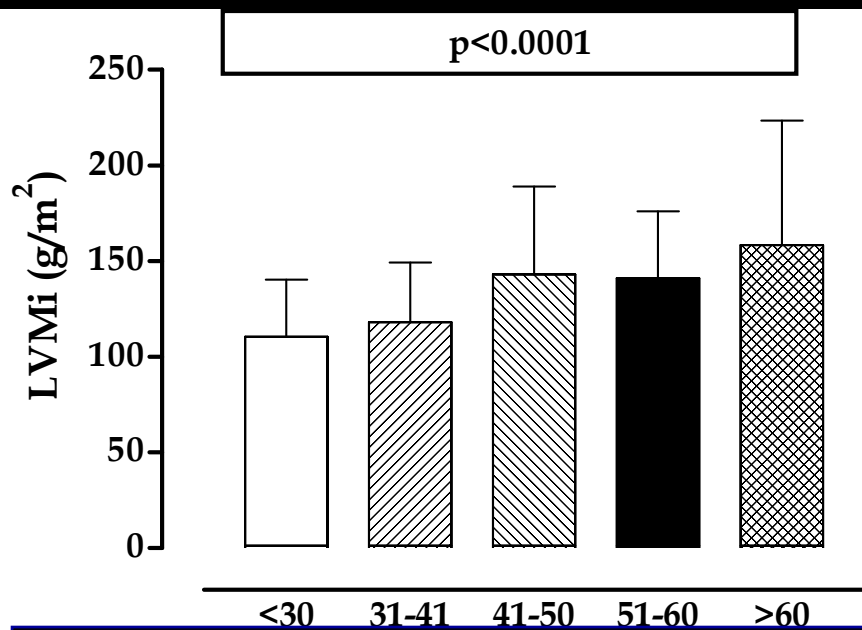
*vascular  
complications*

*ventilatory  
dysfunction*

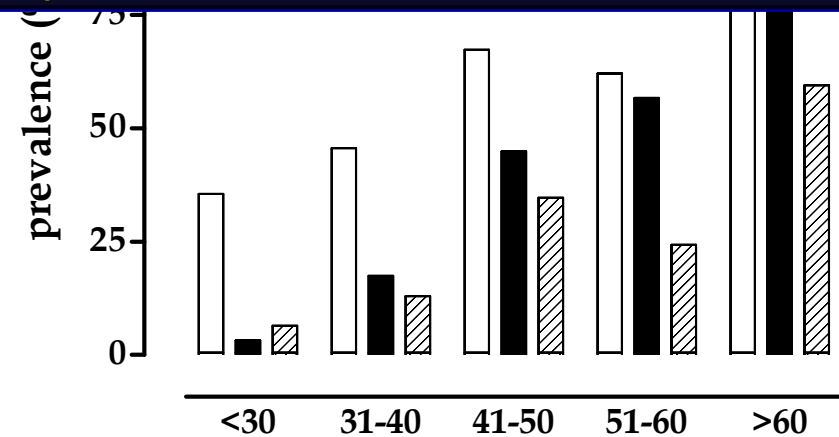
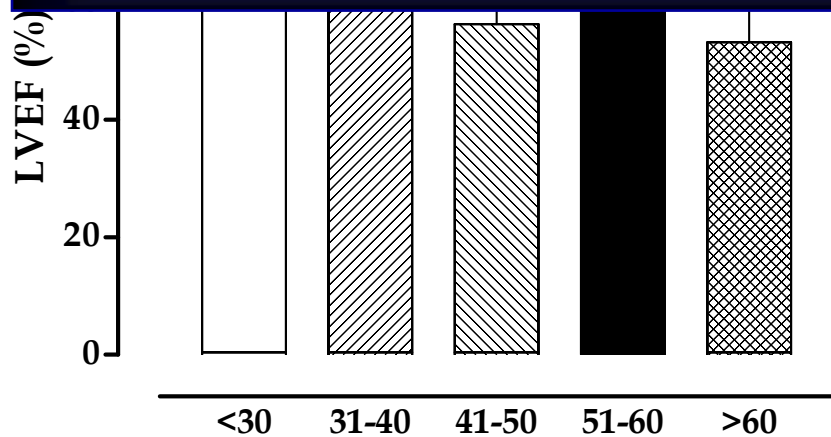
diastolic dysfunction

systolic dysfunction

heart failure



## Survey study by echocardiography in 200 patients with acromegaly



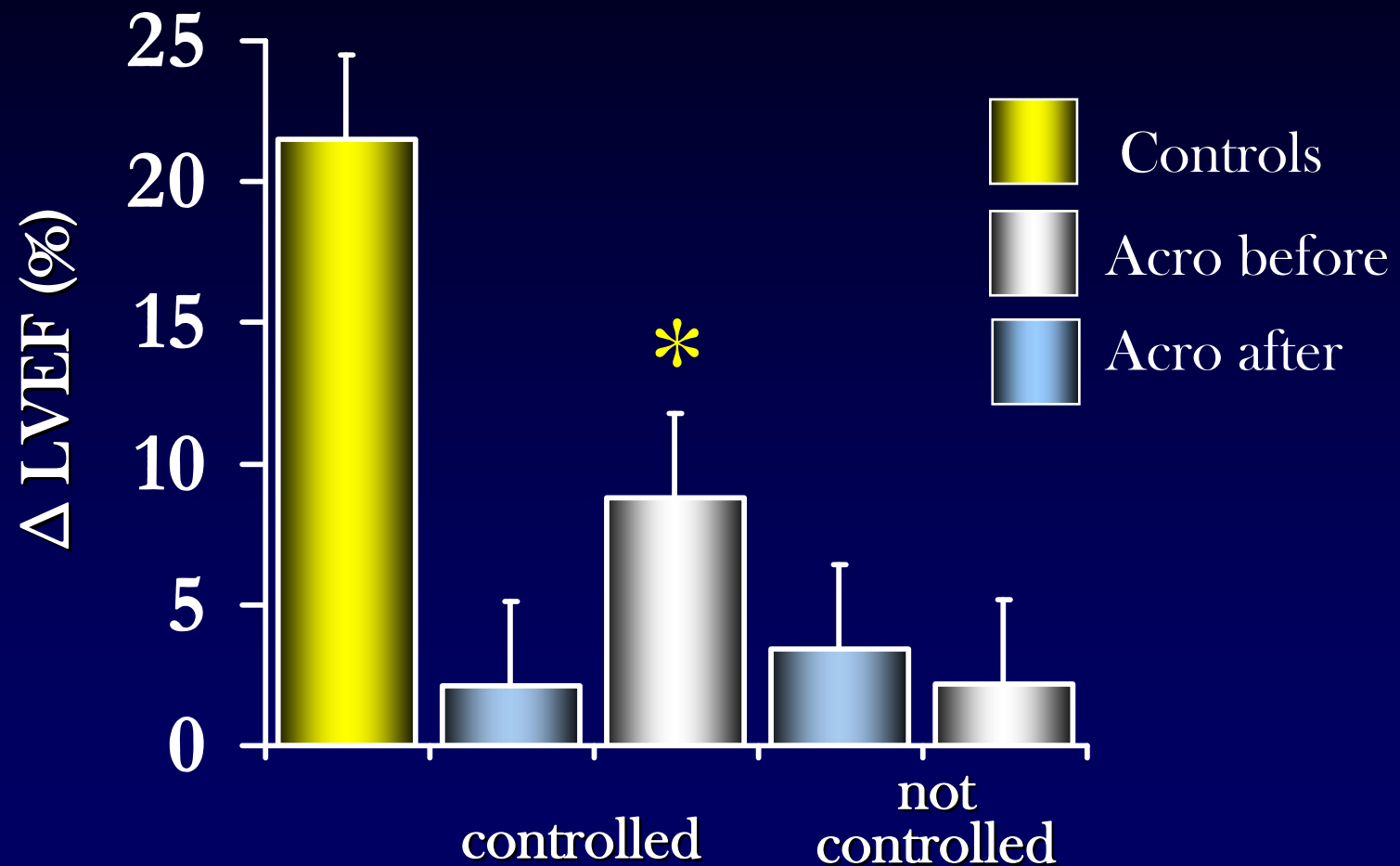
# Control of acromegaly by SSA vs. cardiac diseases



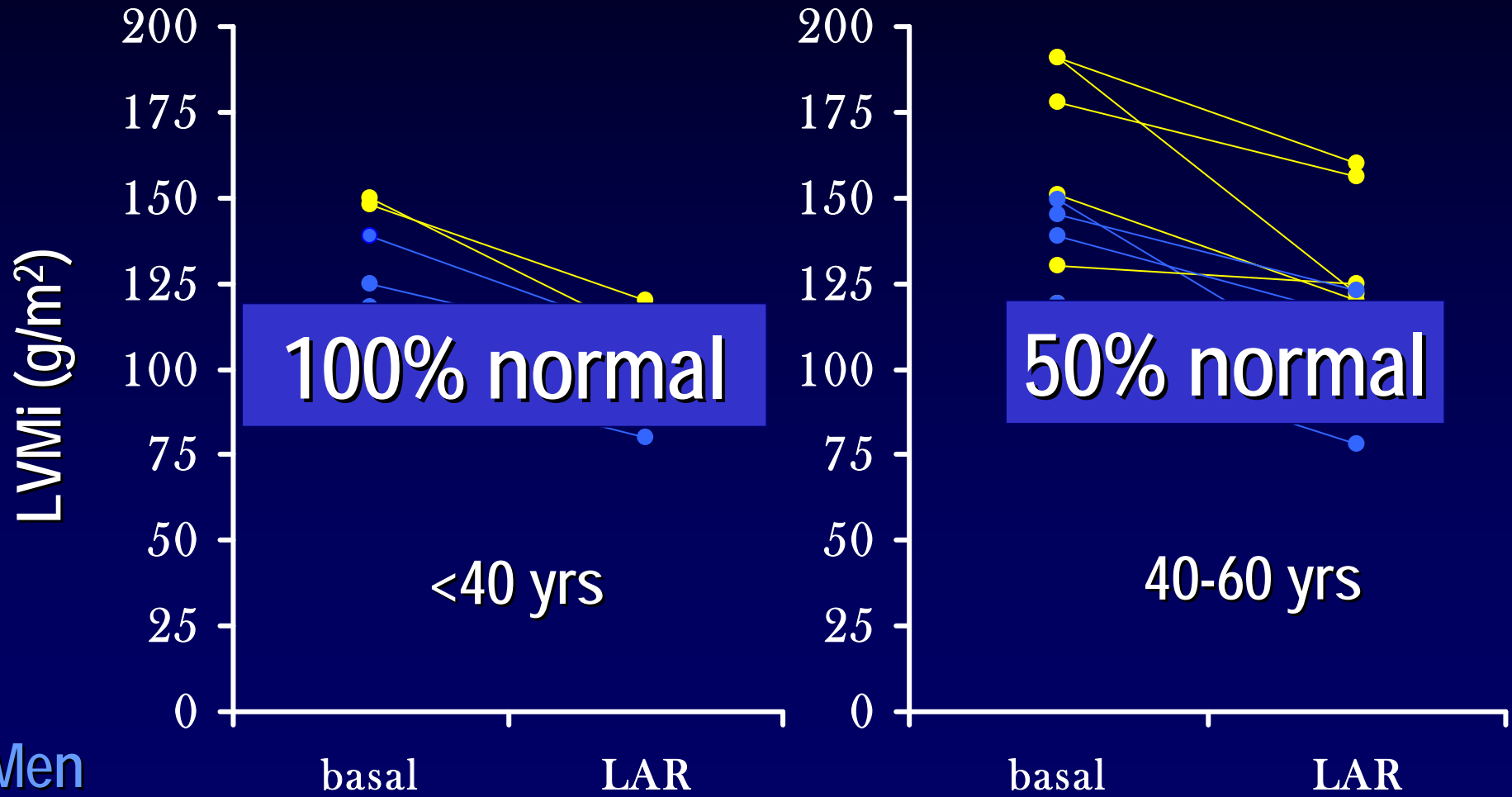
Author	n.		LVM	DF	SF
Thuesen, 1989	9	OCT	↓	n.d.	n.d.
Pereira, 1991	5	OCT	↓	↑	n.d.
Lim, 1992	16	OCT	↓	n.d.	n.d.
Merola, 1993	11	OCT	↓	↑	Unchanged
Tokgözoglu, 1994	6	OCT	↓	n.d.	Unchanged
Colao, 1999	30	OCT	n.d.	Unchanged	↑
Baldelli, 1999	13	LAN	↓	↑	Unchanged
Hradec, 1999	13	LAN	↓	Unchanged	Unchanged
Colao, 2000	15	LAR	↓	Unchanged	↑
Colao, 2002	25	LAR	↓	Unchanged	↑



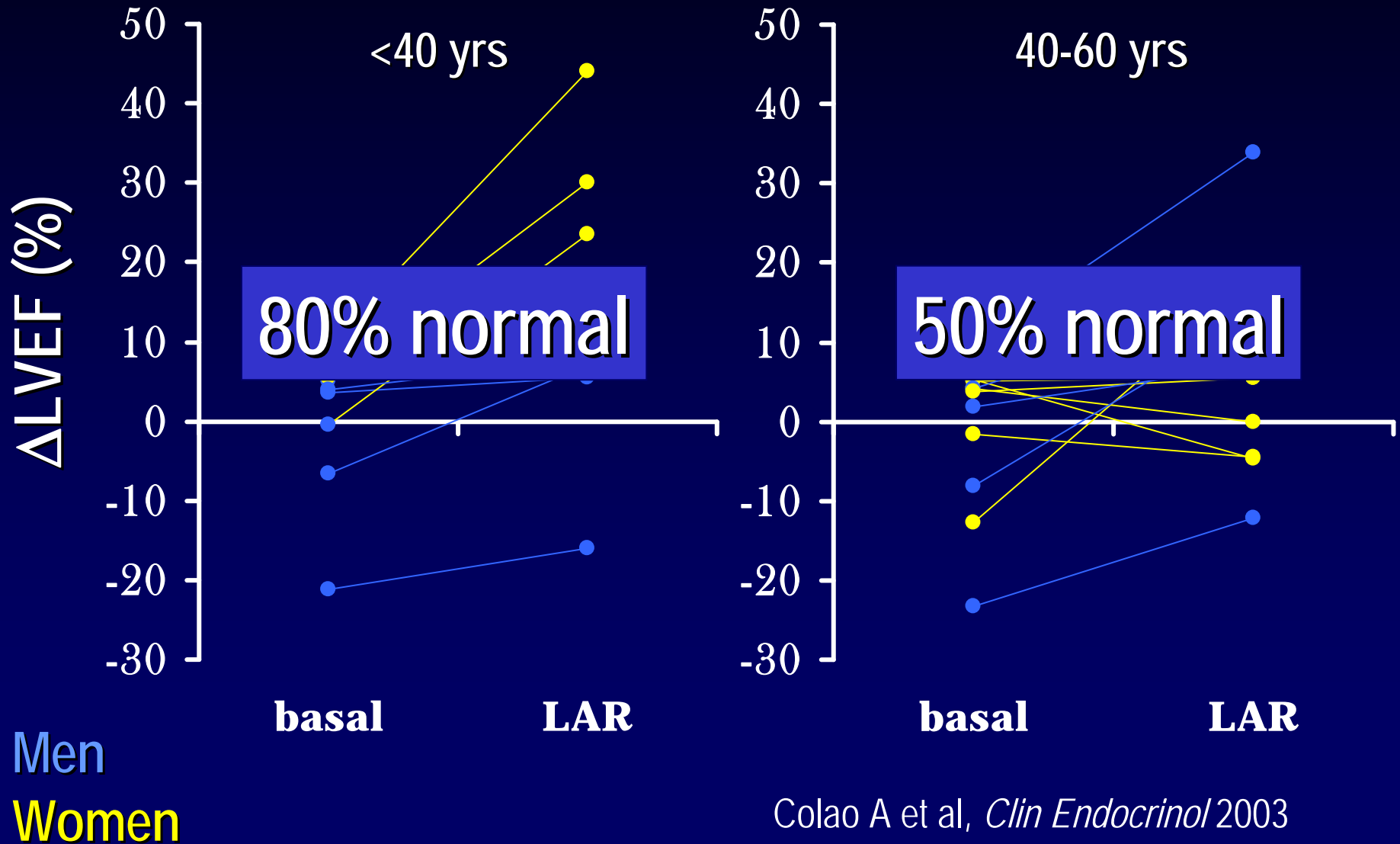
# Control of acromegaly by SSA vs. cardiac diseases



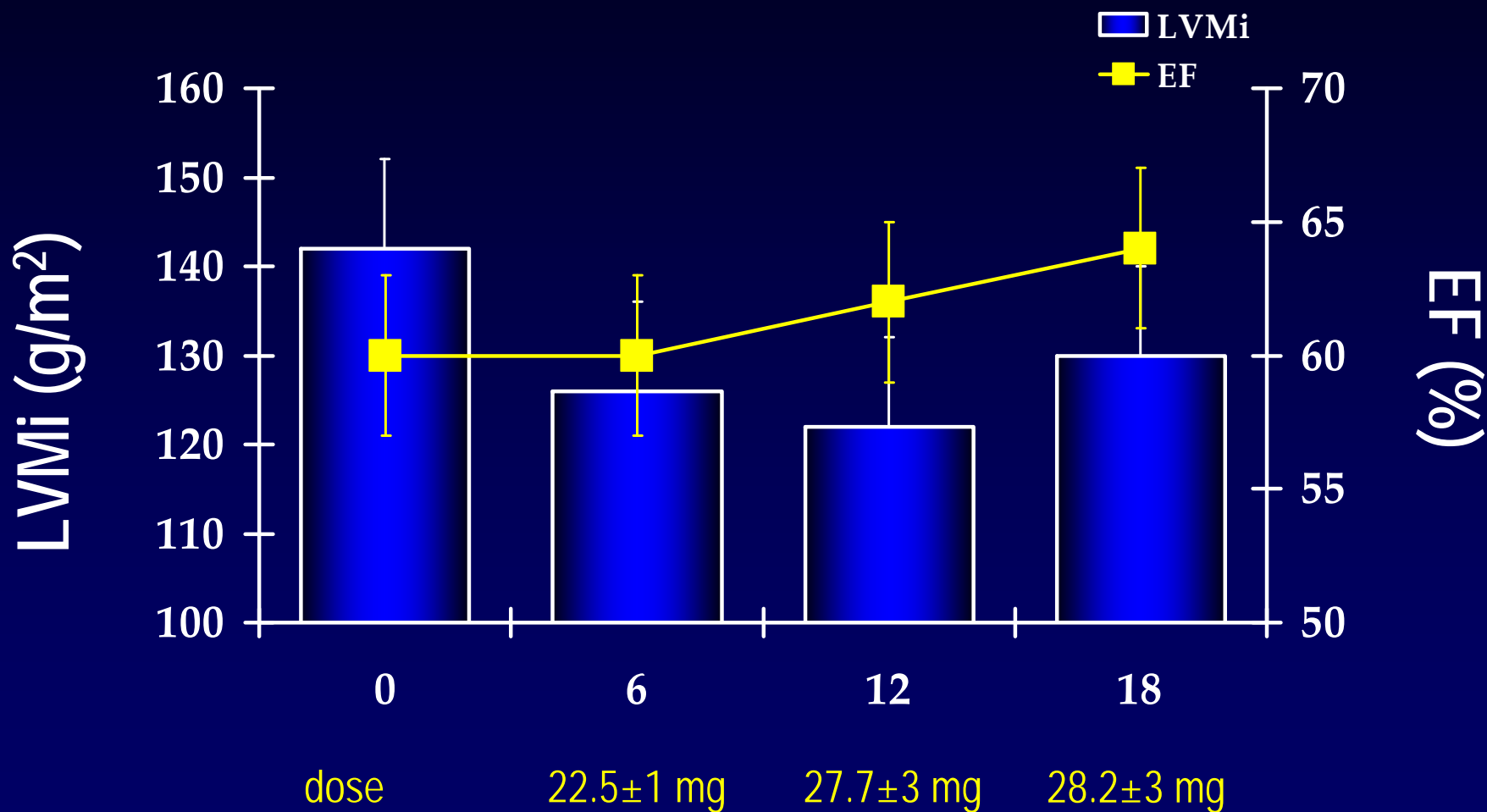
# Control of acromegaly by SSA vs. age & cardiac diseases



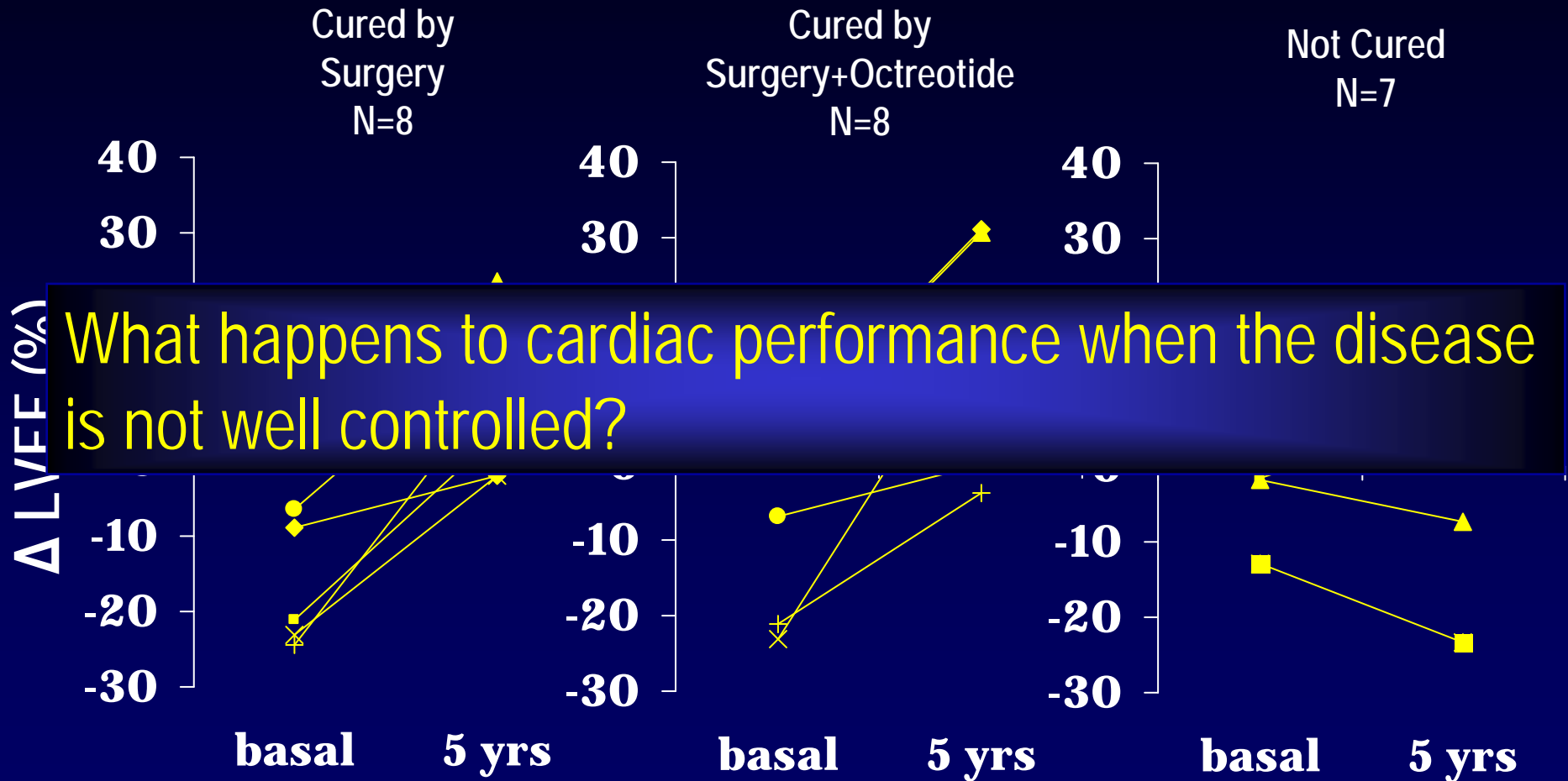
# Control of acromegaly by SSA vs. age & cardiac diseases



# Control of acromegaly by pegvisomant in 12 SSA-resistant patients

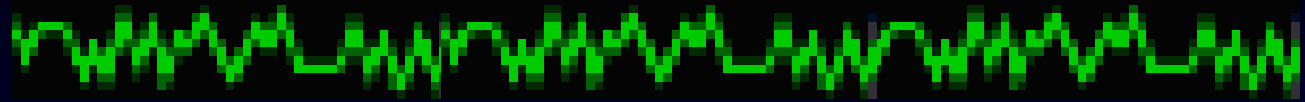


# Cardiac performance on effort before and 5 yrs after treatment in acromegaly

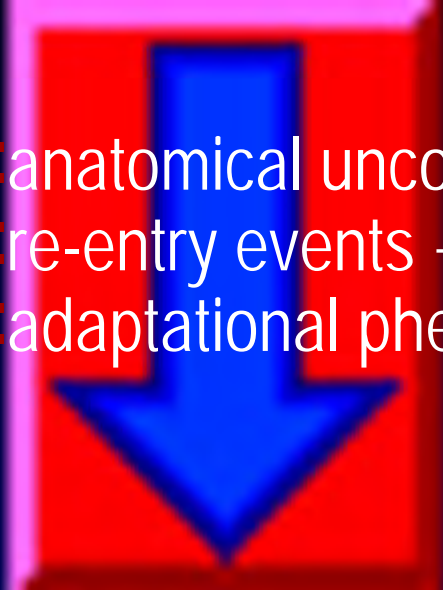


# Arrhythmias

## causes



- ✘ anatomical uncoupling of cardiomyocytes
- ✘ re-entry events + zig-zag propagation of transverse waveform
- ✘ adaptational phenotypic changes in membrane proteins



## events

atrial-ventricular ectopic beats  
paroxysmal atrial fibrillation  
paroxysmal ventricular tachyarrhythmia  
paroxysmal supraventricular tachyarrhythmia  
sick sinus syndrome  
bundle branch block

# Italian Study Group on Lanreotide

- ➔ Mean 24 hour heart rate decreased from  $71.5 \pm 20$  to  $66.5 \pm 11$  beats/min ( $p < 0.05$ )
- ➔ Supra-ventricular premature beats ( $>50/24$  hours) were found in 16.6% of patients and showed scarce variation
- ➔ Ventricular premature beats ( $>50/24$  hours) were found in 33.3% of the patients before treatment and in 16.5 % after treatment with lanreotide 60-90 mg/mo for 6 mos

# Cardiac Valve Disease

Degenerative aortic disease with regurgitation

Mitral stenosis & regurgitation




Mitral and aortic dilatation

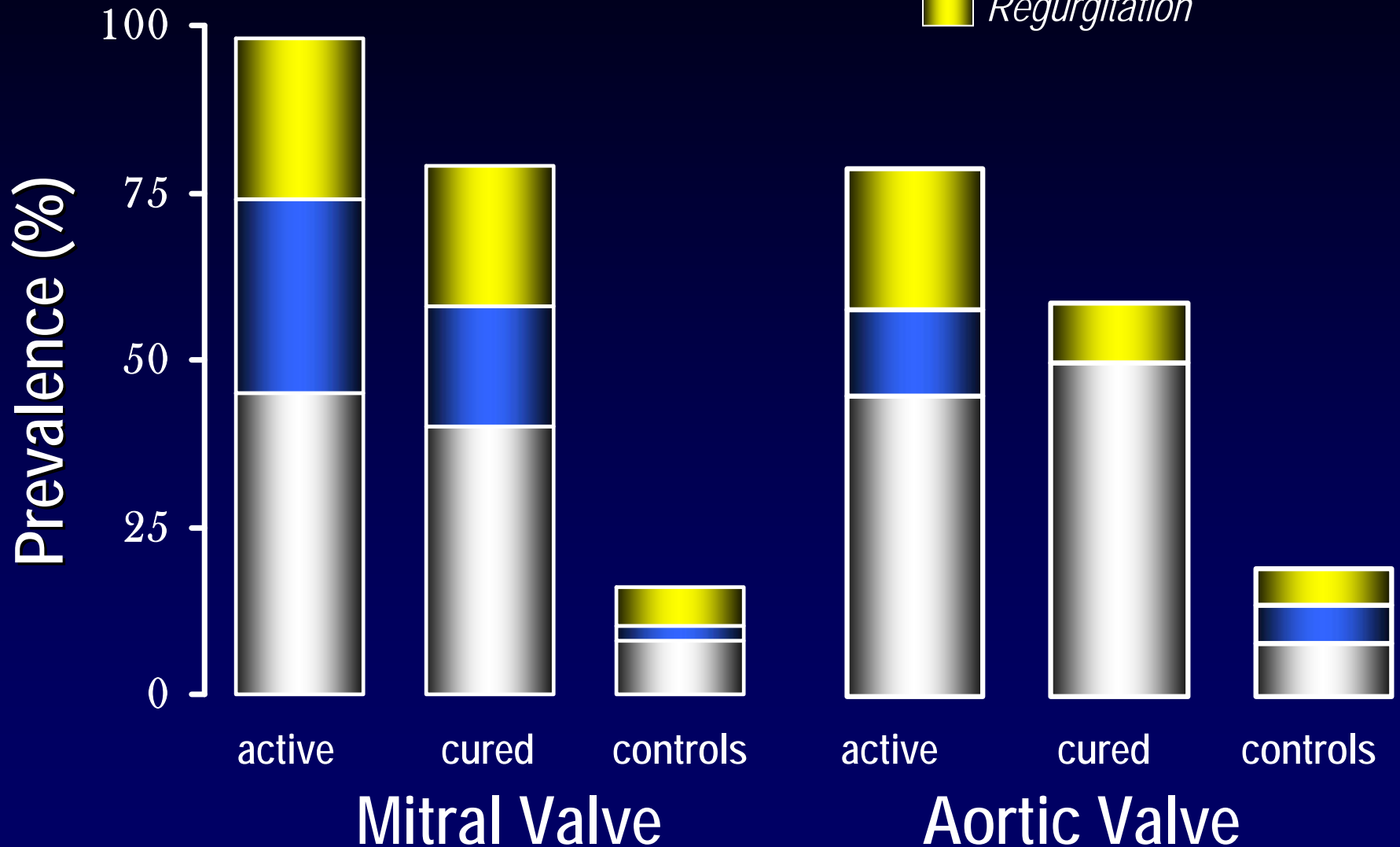
“Frail” annulus and mucopolisaccaridic deposit on valve leaflets

Calcified stenosis of the aortic valve by endocarditis

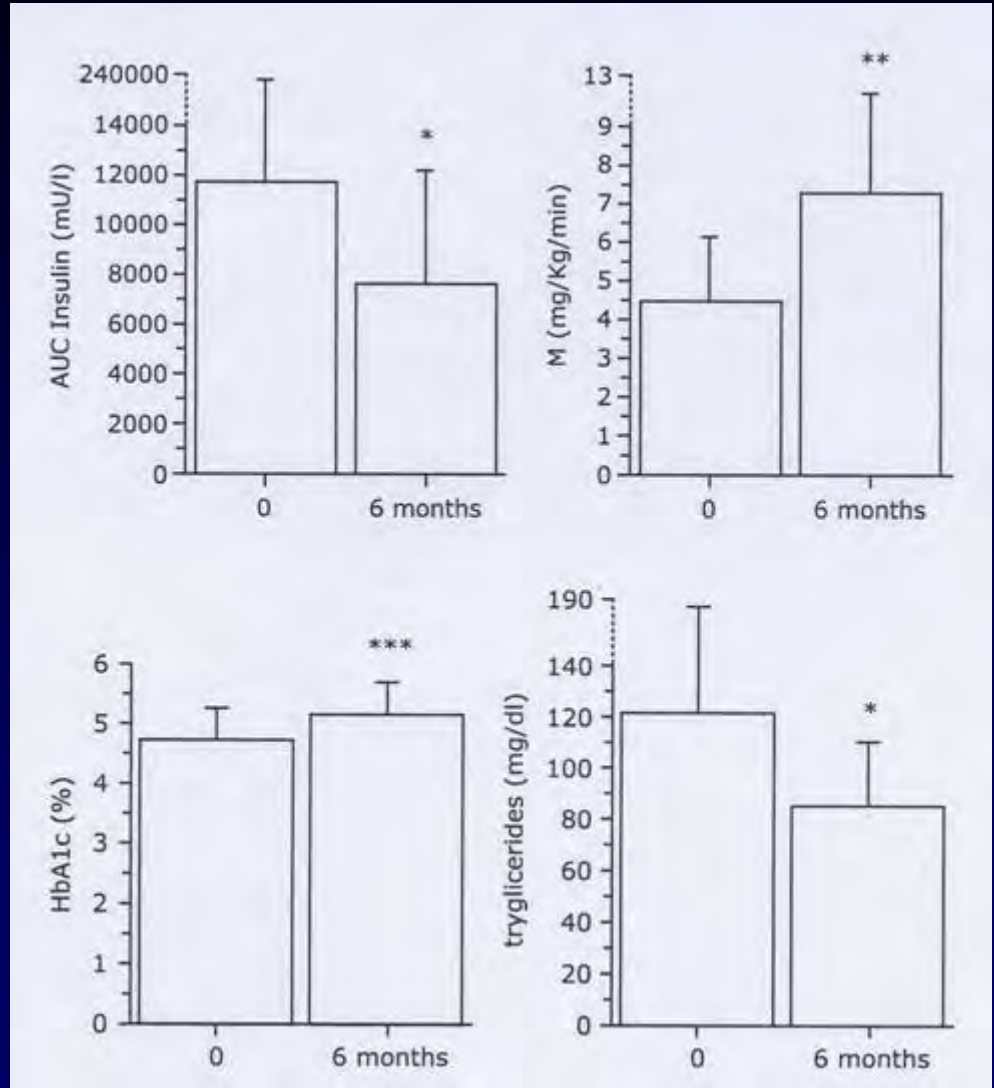
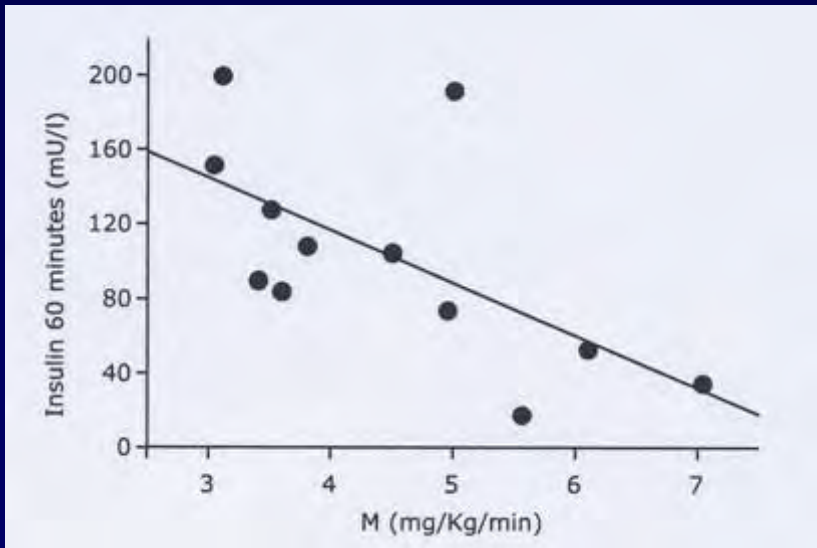
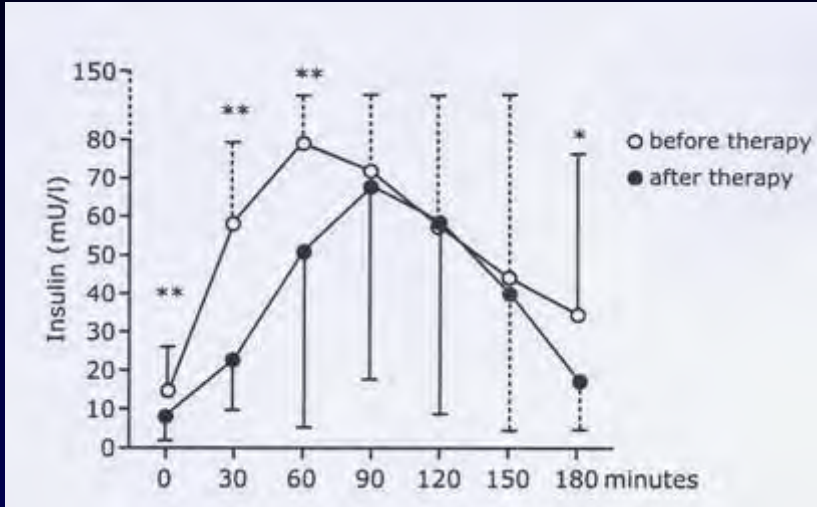


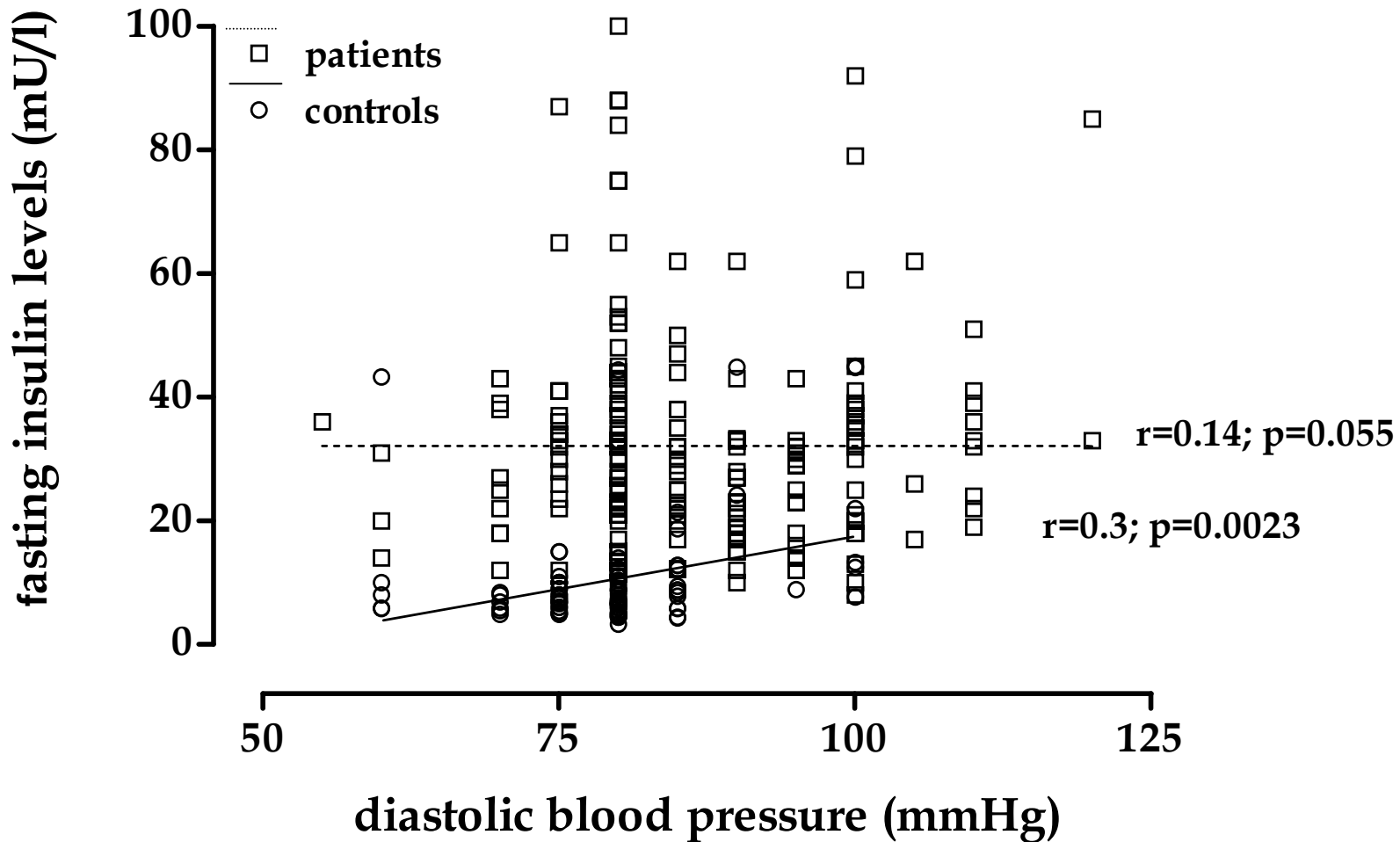
# Cardiac Valve Disease

-  *Fibrosis or fibrosclerosis*
-  *Thickening or calcifications*
-  *Regurgitation*



# Glucose Homeostasis





## CLINICAL STUDY

## Efficacy of 12-month treatment with the GH receptor antagonist pegvisomant in patients with acromegaly resistant to long-term, high-dose somatostatin analog treatment: effect on IGF-I levels, tumor mass, hypertension and glucose tolerance

Annamaria Colao, Rosario Pivonello, Renata S Auremma, Maria Cristina De Martino, Martin Bidlingmaier<sup>1</sup>, Francesco Briganti<sup>2</sup>, Fabio Tortora<sup>2</sup>, Pia Burman<sup>3</sup>, Ione A Kourides<sup>3</sup>, Christian J Strasburger<sup>4</sup> and Gaetano Lombardi

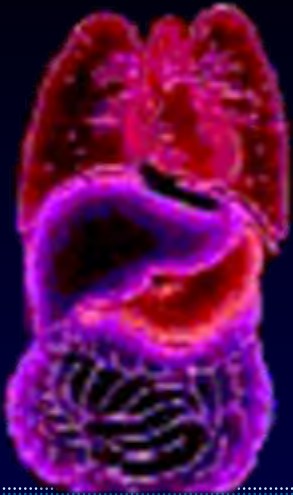
**Table 2** Effect of pegvisomant treatment on clinical, biochemical and endocrine findings. Data are shown as mean±s.d. and *P* values refer to Wilcoxon matched *t*-test. The two patients noncompliant with treatment (nos 9 and 14 described in Table 1) were excluded from the calculation.

	Before	After	<i>P</i>
Weight (kg)	83.5±15.0	85.7±13.6	0.055
Serum GH levels (μg/l)	22.9±24.0	34.5±40.4	0.29
Serum IGF-I levels (μg/l)	775.1±141.4	237.8±106.7	<0.0001
Tumor volume (mm <sup>3</sup> )	1198±1234	1196±1351	0.37
Ring size (mm)	12.7±2.2	12.2±2.3	0.78
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)	133.9±16.2	129.6±10.1	0.13
Diastolic blood pressure (mmHg)	87.1±13.6	86.2±7.1	0.70
Heart rate (bpm)	72.8±7.6	76.8±7.9	0.14
Total cholesterol levels (mmol/l)	5.3±1.0	5.5±0.8	0.43
HDL-cholesterol levels (mmol/l)	1.2±0.3	1.5±0.2	0.0017
Total/HDL-cholesterol ratio	4.5±1.0	3.7±0.6	0.0012
Triglyceride levels (mmol/l)	1.5±0.9	1.5±0.7	0.86
Glucose levels (mmol/l)	5.6±1.2	4.4±1.4	0.0012
HbA1c levels (%)	5.3±0.7	5.3±0.5	0.24
Insulin levels (mU/l)	12.4±6.7	8.1±3.0	0.0023
HOMA index	3.4±2.1	1.9±1.0	0.0017
Fibrinogen levels (mg/dl)	342.1±75.2	361.6±63.6	0.58
AST levels (U/l)	19.4±8.6	22.9±15.1	0.64
ALT levels (U/l)	18.6±14.0	40.1±61.2	0.017
Albumin levels (g/dl)	3.8±0.4	4.4±0.3	0.0002

# Reversal of systemic complications of acromegaly

- The cardiovascular system
- The respiratory system
- The osteo-skeletal system
- The oncological risk

# Respiratory disorders



## Sleep apnea

### Central/obstructive

- macroglossia
- thickened soft palate
- thickened hypopharynx
- laryngeal cartilage hypertrophy
- thickened vocal cords
- reduced motility of vocal cords

## Pulmonary function

total lung capacity  
residual volume  
residual capacity of  
nitrogen

inspiratory pressure  
expiratory pressure

TABLE 4. Morphological and functional alteration of upper and lower respiratory airways, thoracic cage, and lungs in patients with acromegaly

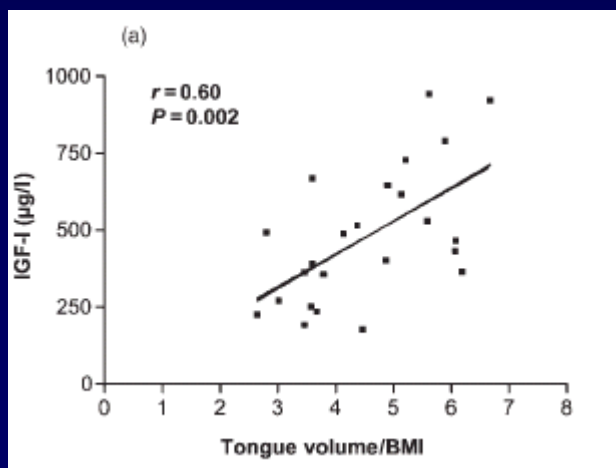
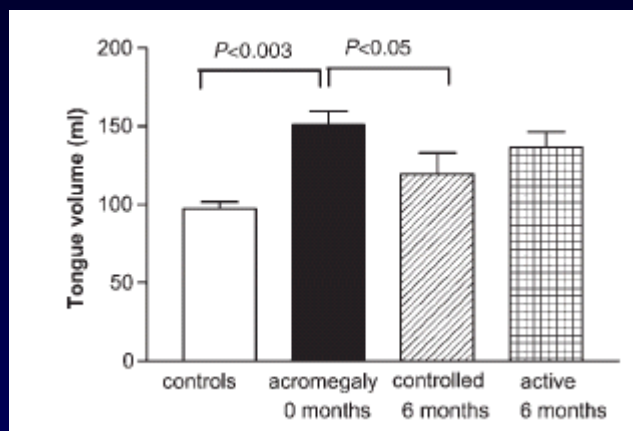
Site	Pathological findings	Clinical disorder
Craniofacial region and upper respiratory tract		
Soft tissues and muscles	Macroglossia (283) Swelling/lengthening of the soft palate (266, 267, 273–275, 277)	Impaired airflow transit
	Swelling/collapse of the pharyngeal walls (277)	Obstructive sleep apnea
Bones	Thickening of true and false vocal cords (275, 278) Overgrowth of mandible, maxilla and ioid (266, 267, 273, 277)	Nocturnal snoring Fragmented sleep
	Mandible protrusion (266, 267, 273, 277)	Daytime somnolence
Organs	Dorsocaudal rotation of the mandible (273) Thyroid overgrowth (283, 374, 375) Submandibular salivary gland hyperplasia (276)	Morning sleepiness Morning headache
Neck/thoracic cage and lower respiratory tract		
Soft tissues and muscles	Small airway narrowing (253–255)	Impaired airflow transit
Cartilages and bones	Derangement of respiratory muscles (286, 287) Enlargement/elongation of vertebral bodies (283) Thickened intervertebral discs of the neck (283) Thinned intervertebral discs of the thorax (283) Thoracic spine kyphoscoliosis (283)	Stiffened rib cage Impaired breathing movements Respiratory muscle impairment Short inspiratory time
Organs	Elongation and divergence of the ribs (283, 285) Lung overgrowth (253–255, 288) Increased lung volume (253–255) Increased lung compliance (253–255)	Emphysema Bronchiectasis

# Improvement of sleep apnea in 14 pts after LAR 6 mos

	<b>Basal</b>	<b>LAR</b>	<b>P</b>
Sleep efficiency	86.1±13.3	83.8±9.7	NS
Stage 1 sleep (%)	27.7±12	11.6±4.3	0.02
Stage 2 sleep (%)	51.6±18.6	63.9±10.4	NS
Stage 3-4 sleep (%)	8.4±8.1	7.7±6.1	NS
Stage REM sleep (%)	11.8±7.7	16.6±5.7	NS
Apnea/Hypopnea index	29.4±22.6	13.4±11.1	0.03
Obstructive Apnea index	15.3±13.3	3.9±5	0.01
Mixed Apnea index	4.9±8	2.6±4.6	NS
Central Apnea index	3±5.8	1.1±2.1	NS
Snoring episodes	486±239	165±170	0.05
Total time snoring (min)	95.6±30.6	46.6±48.7	0.06



## CLINICAL STUDY

**Effects of octreotide on sleep apnoea and tongue volume (magnetic resonance imaging) in patients with acromegaly**B L Herrmann, T E Wessendorf<sup>1</sup>, W Ajaj<sup>2</sup>, S Kahlke, H Teschler<sup>1</sup> and K Mann

Patients: 14 newly diagnosed patients with active acromegaly

Methods: Tongue volume and signal intensity by MRI and sleep apnoea by polysomnography before and after 6 months of treatment Sandostatin LAR (10–30mg every 4 weeks i.m.)

Results: After treatment with octreotide, IGF-I was normalised in 50%. In controlled patients, tongue volume significantly decreased in comparison to uncontrolled. The BMI-adjusted tongue volume correlated with IGF-I levels.

# Reversal of systemic complications of acromegaly

- The cardiovascular system
- The respiratory system
- The osteo-skeletal system
- The oncological risk

# The skeletal complications



- Symptoms or signs referable to joints occur in 53-76%
- The appendicular skeleton is involved in up to 74%
- The delay between estimated onset of acromegaly and appearance of joint disease is about 10 yrs
- No correlation between duration of acromegaly and presence or severity of arthropathy
- Predisposition towards osteoporosis (*Bell, 1967*)
- Bone mass decreased (*Diamond, 1989; Ezzat 1993*), normal (*Ho, 1992; Kotzmann, 1993; Lesse, 1998*), increased (*Seeman, 1982; Hubush, 1993*)

- ☀ 54 patients (18-67 aa)
- ☀ Axial arthropathy in 51.9%
- ☀ Spinal mobility reduced in 56%
- ☀ Thoracic cage involvement in 11%
- ☀ Alteration of spinal profile in 69%
- ☀ DISH features in 21%



Dysphagia, directly due to calcification close to the area of normal oesophageal fixation, in 13% of patients

Arthropathic vs. Non-artropatic groups:  
 basal insulin  $p=0.04$

	Vs	R	P
DD	Height of the vertebral body	0.63	0.001
	Height of intervertebral space	0.45	0.02
	Insulin levels	-0.33	0.01



# Acromegalic Arthropathy

local IGF-I production  
proteoglycan synthesis  
glycosaminoglycan synthesis  
cell replication

GH/IGF-I excess

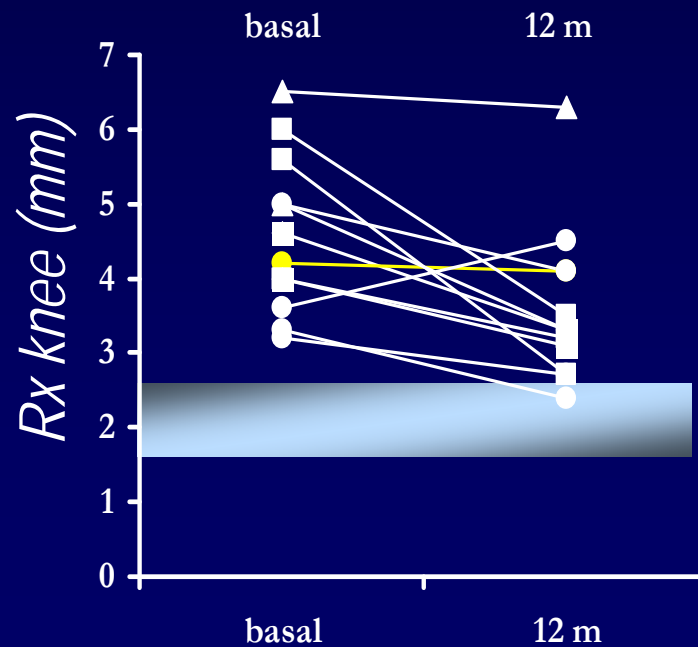
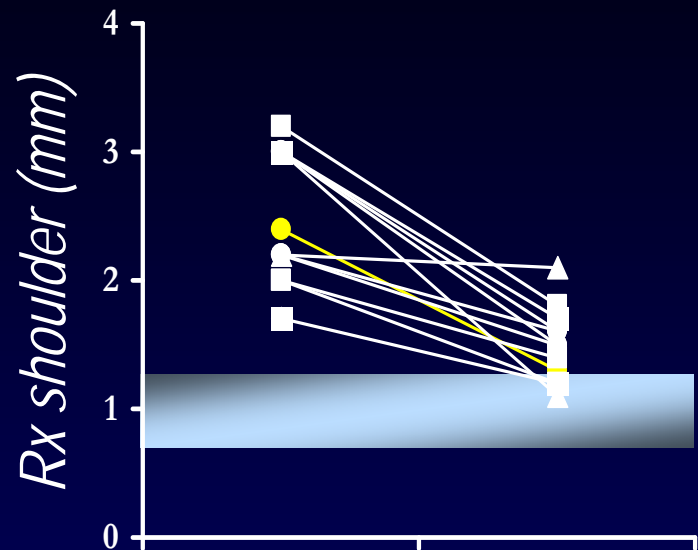
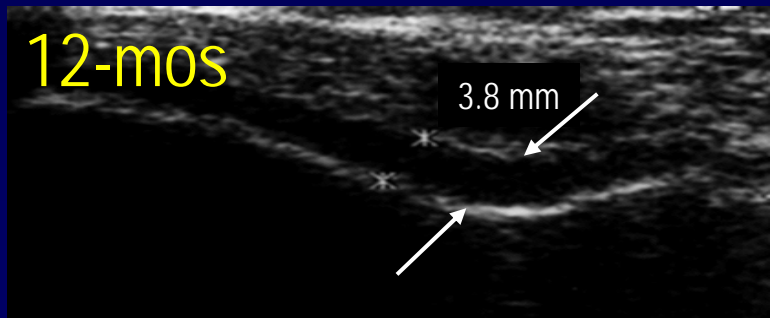
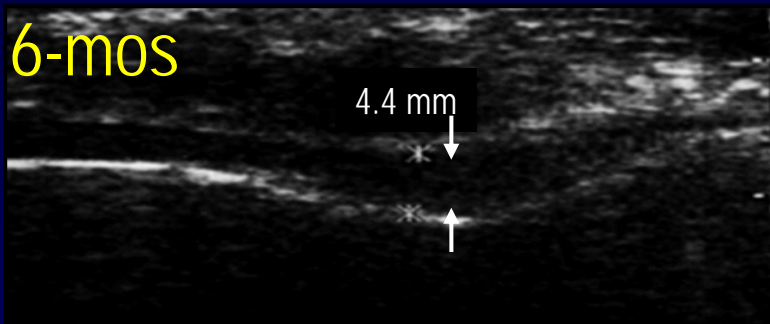
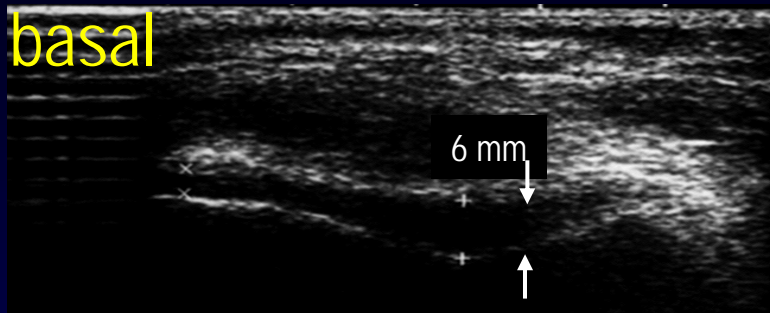
*cartilage changes*

articular widening  
soft tissues hypertrophy  
cartilage ulcers  
subchondral cysts  
articular thickening

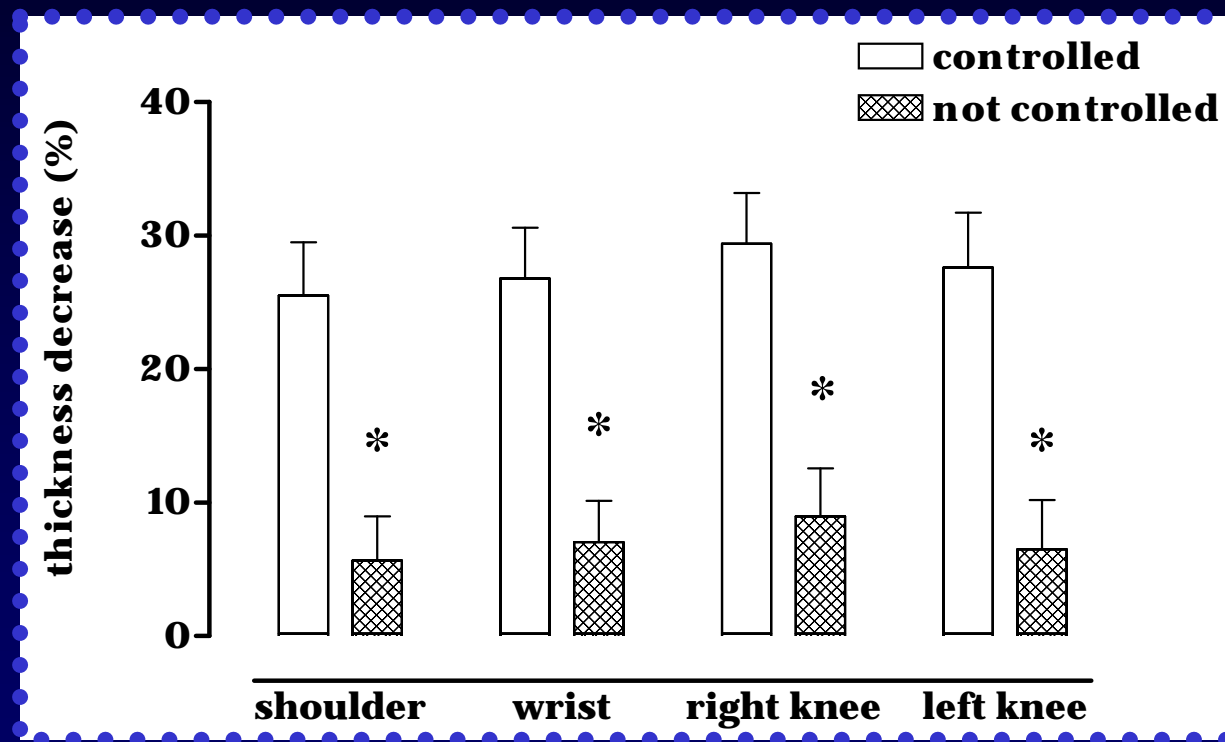
articular narrowing

degenerative osteoarthritis

# Treatment with SSA reduces the thickness of articular cartilage



Decrease in the thickness of articular cartilage after Octreotide-LAR is greater in controlled than in non-controlled patients



# Increased Prevalence of Radiological Spinal Deformities in Active Acromegaly: A Cross-Sectional Study in Postmenopausal Women

Bonadonna S et al. J Bone Min Res 2005;20:1837-1844

36 postmenopausal acromegalic Pts (15 with active and 21 with controlled disease) vs. 36 nonacromegalic postmenopausal women, matched for age, (selected among Pts consulting the Bone Center ).

## Conclusion:

"This cross-sectional study shows that high numbers of postmenopausal women with acromegaly develop vertebral fractures in relation to the activity of disease. Furthermore, our study shows that, in patients with active acromegaly, vertebral fractures occur even in the presence of normal BMD, whereas in patients with controlled acromegaly, vertebral fractures are always accompanied by a pathological BMD"

11.7% of women whose fractures were associated with active disease had a normal T score ( $> -1.0$  SD), whereas osteopenia and osteoporosis were found only in 33.3% and 25.0% of them, respectively.

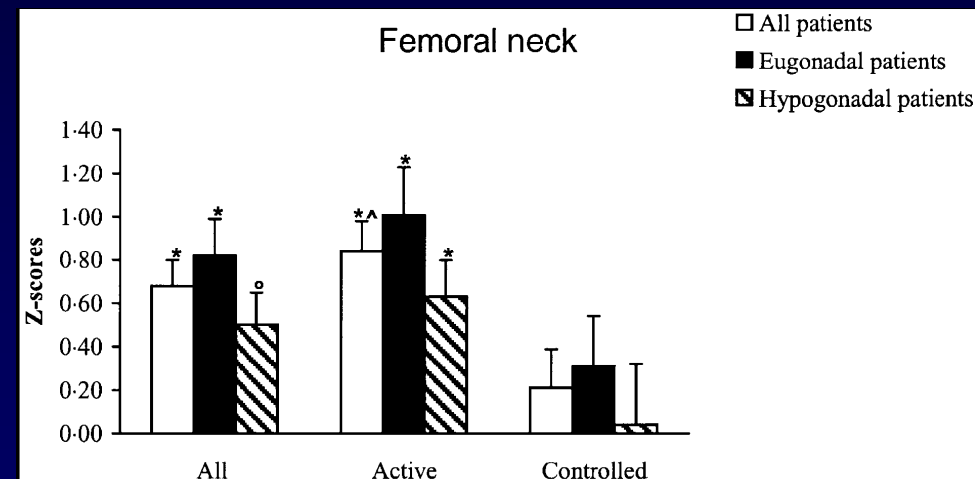
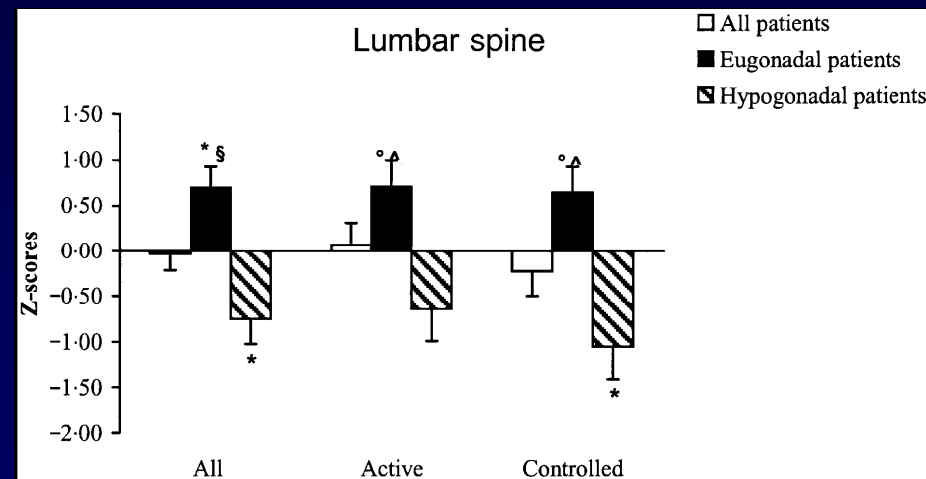


# Bone mineral density in acromegaly: the effect of gender, disease activity and gonadal status

Alfredo Scillitani\*, Claudia Battista\*, Iacopo Chiodini\*\*\*\*, Vincenzo Carnevale\*, Saverio Fusilli\*, Enrica Ciccarelli†, Massimo Terzolo‡, Giuseppe Oppizzi§, Maura Arosio¶, Maurizio Gasperi\*\*, Giorgio Arnaldi††, Annamaria Colao‡‡, Roberto Baldelli§§, Maria Rosaria Ghiggi\*¶¶, Daniela Gaià†, Carolina Di Somma††, Vincenzo Trischitta\* and Antonio Liuzzi†††

Clinical Endocrinology (2003) 58, 725–731

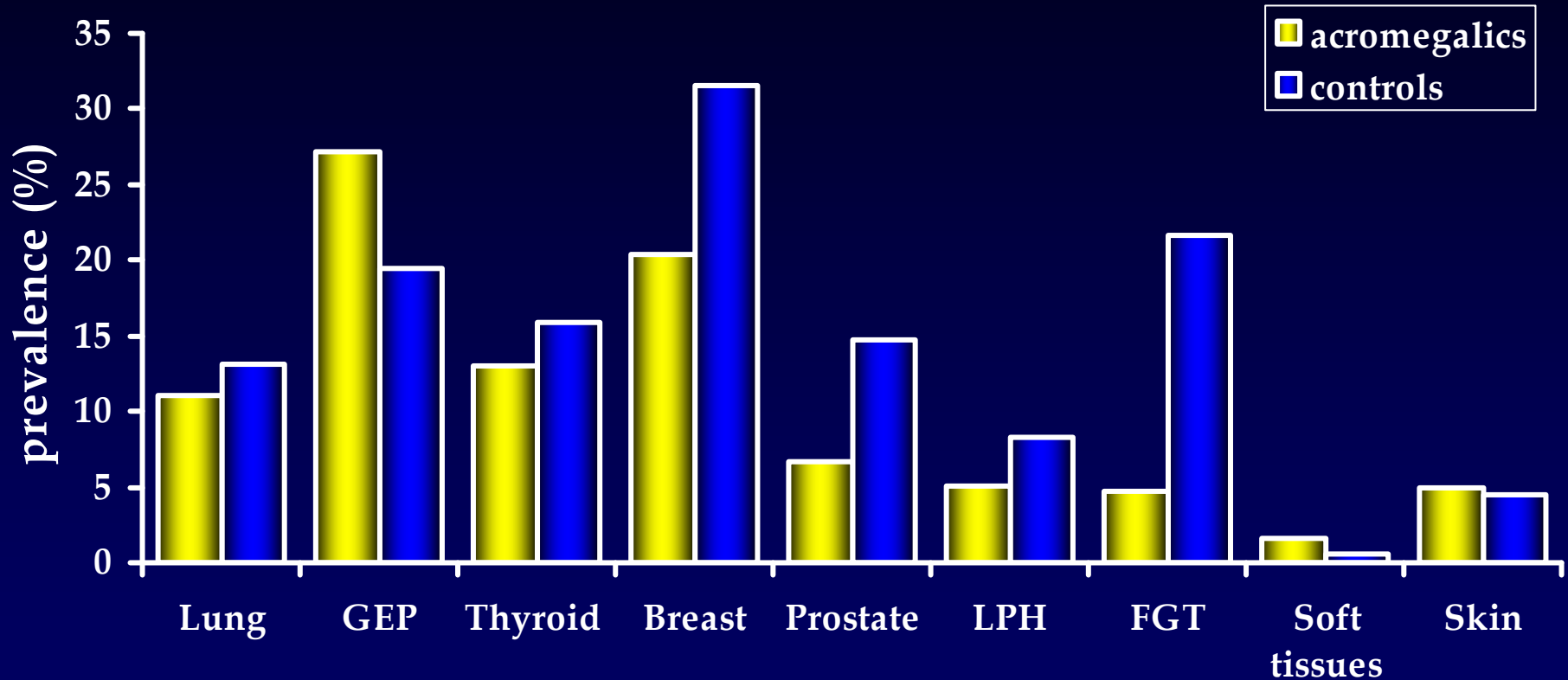
152 acromegalic patients (99 F aged 26–72 yrs, 53 M aged 21–75 yrs), 107 active and 45 controlled. 85 Pts eugonadal status, 67 hypogonadal



# Reversal of systemic complications of acromegaly

- The cardiovascular system
- The respiratory system
- The osteo-skeletal system
- The oncological risk

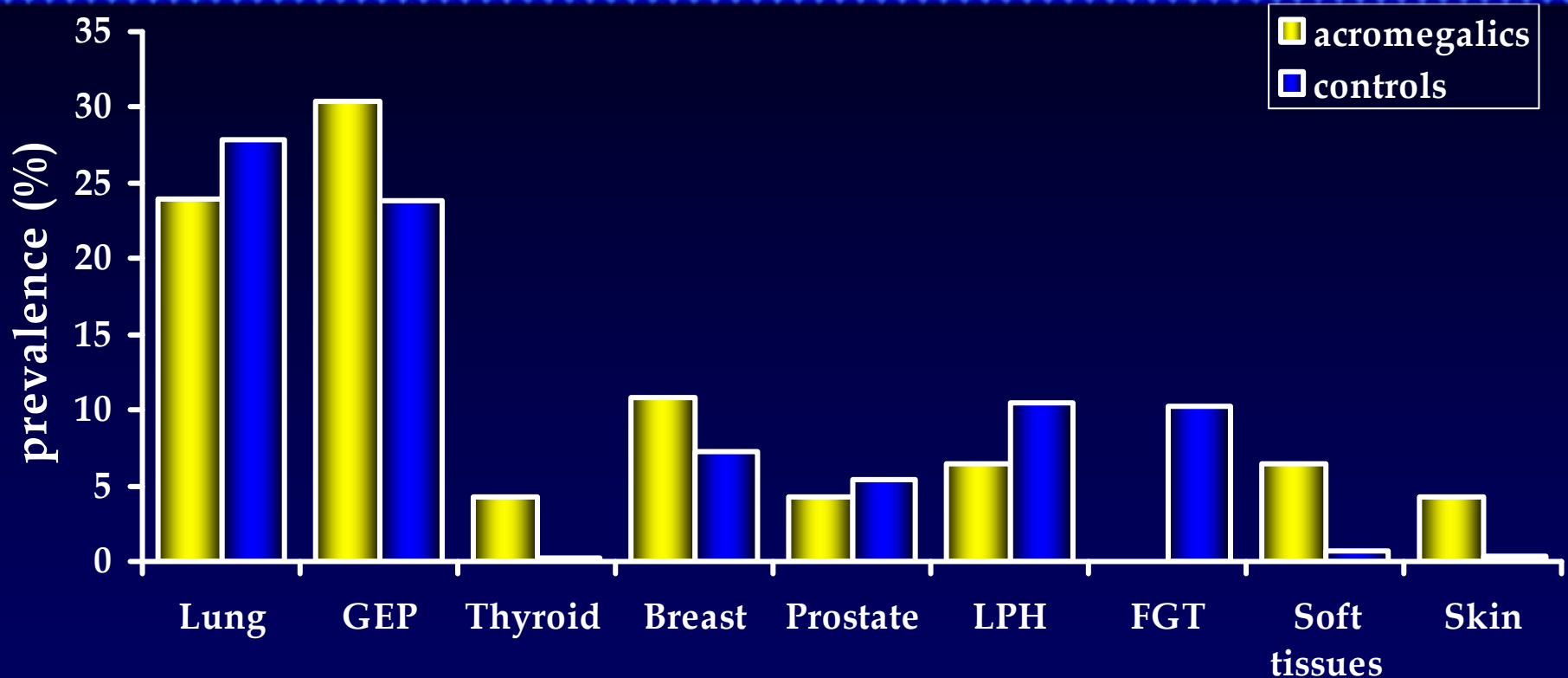
# Prevalence of cancer compared to epidemiological data



Colao A et al. *Endocr Rev* 2004

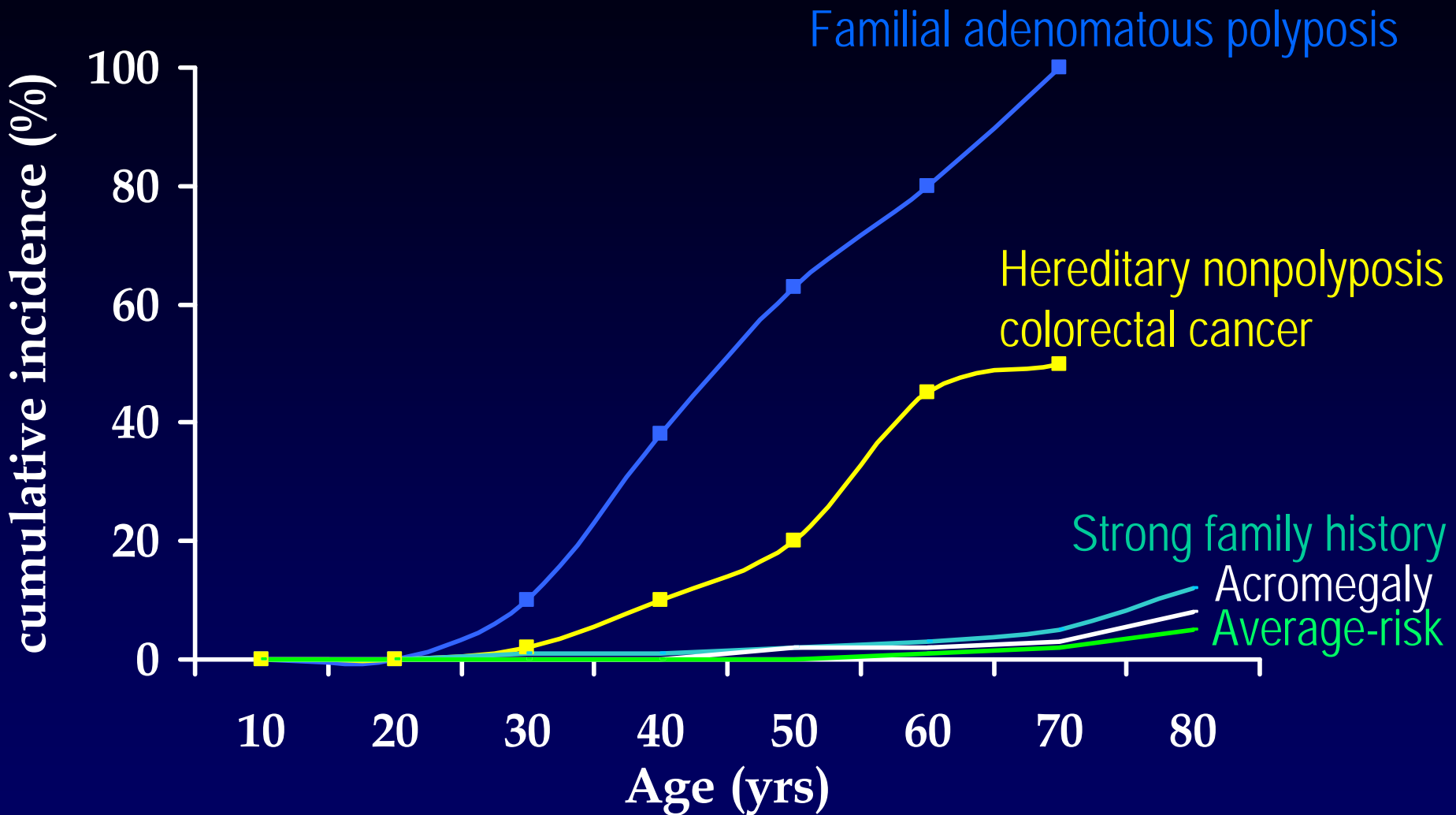
Comparative prevalence is 2002 estimates in U.S. population based on rates collected in 1978-1998 (American Cancer Society Atlanta, Georgia, 2002; published in NCI SEER Program 1979-1998, available at: <http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1973-1999/overview.pdf>).

# Mortality from cancer compared to epidemiological data



Colao A et al. *Endocr Rev* 2004

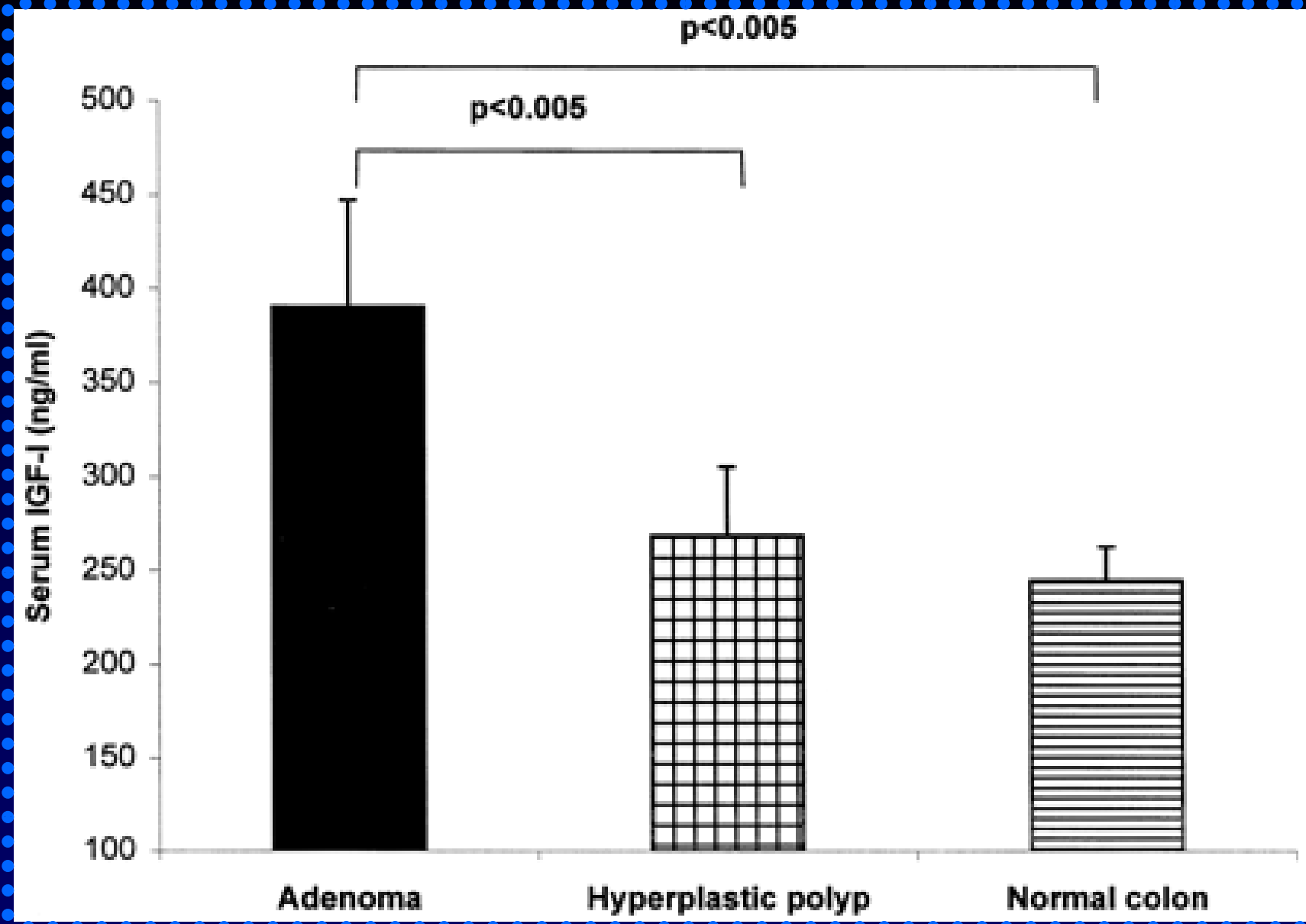
Mortality rates are 2002 estimates in U.S. population based on rates collected in 1978-1998 (American Cancer Society Atlanta, Georgia, 2002; published in NCI SEER Program 1979-1998, available at: <http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1973-1999/overview.pdf>).



# Factors pro colonic polyps

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- Patients' age above 50 years
- Disease duration longer than 10 years
- Number of skin tags  $\geq 3$
- Male gender
- Family history of colonic cancer



# Colonoscopic Screening and Follow-Up in Patients with Acromegaly: A Multicenter Study in Italy

Massimo Terzolo, Giuseppe Reimondo, Maurizio Gasperi, Renato Cozzi, Rosario Pivonello, Giovanni Vitale, Alfredo Scillitani, Roberto Attanasio, Elisabetta Cecconi, Fulvia Daffara, Ezio Gaia, Ennio Martino, Gaetano Lombardi, Alberto Angeli, and Annamaria Colao

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**TABLE 2.** Colonoscopic findings according to the most advanced lesion

Finding	Patients	Controls	<i>P</i>
No polyp	125 (53.2) <sup>α</sup>	175 (75.1)	0.0001
Hyperplastic polyp	45 (19.1)	22 (9.4)	0.003
Adenoma	55 (23.4)	34 (14.6)	0.001
Cancer	10 (4.3)	2 (0.9)	0.036

<sup>α</sup> Number (percentage).

**TABLE 4.** Association of age with colon neoplasia

Age (yr)	Patients	Controls	<i>P</i>
<40	11/57 (19.3) <sup>c</sup>	2/45 (4.4)	0.035
40-49	14/56 (25.0)	6/62 (9.6)	0.047
50-59	23/74 (31.1)	15/75 (20.0)	NS
≥60	17/48 (35.4)	13/51 (25.4)	NS

- 1 The risk of colonic neoplasia was higher for younger Pts with acromegaly vs. age-matched controls;
- 2 Pts with acromegaly with or without colonic neoplasia had similar IGF-I levels or duration of disease;
- 3 Neoplastic recurrence was found in 16.5% of Pts who underwent follow-up.



# Identification of Acromegalic Patients at Risk of Developing Colonic Adenomas

Fausto Bogazzi, Chiara Cosci, Chiara Sardella, Aurelio Costa, Luca Manetti, Maurizio Gasperi, Giuseppe Rossi, Luigi Bartalena, and Enio Martino

The first colonoscopy helps to identify acromegalic patients at high risk of developing colonic adenomas. If colonic adenomas are not present initially, it is unlikely that they develop thereafter, independently of metabolic control of acromegaly. Conversely, new lesions are frequent (and often multiple) in patients who already have colonic adenomas at baseline, particularly if acromegalic disease is poorly controlled by treatment.

# Conclusion-1

- ▶ Biventricular hypertrophy with diastolic and/or systolic dysfunction is associated with acromegaly
- ▶ The acromegalic cardiomyopathy is improved by the control of GH & IGF-I excess
- ▶ Reversal of cardiac abnormalities is more likely to occur in young patients with short disease duration
- ▶ Sleep apnea significantly improve after treatment in analogy with the cardiomyopathy

# Conclusion-2

- ▶ Decrease in thickening of articular cartilages is observed in patients controlled after treatment with somatostatin analogues
- ▶ Skeletal changes are hardly reversed and thus bony consequences are the most important negative factor of QoL
- ▶ Decrease of IGF-I is associated with a lower rate of development of colonic lesions
- ▶ No data are available for other cancer types

*Dept of Molecular & Clinical Endocrinology and Oncology*

A Colao, A Ciccarelli, C Di Somma, A Faggiano, M Filippella, F  
Orio, R Pivonello, L Tauchmanova, G Vitale, G Lombardi

*Dept of Pathology* ML del Basso de Caro

*Dept of Neuroradiology* F Briganti, S Cirillo, F Di Salle

*Dept of Neurosurgery* P Cappabianca, LM Cavallo, E de Divitiis,

*Dept of Morphological & Functional Sciences,*

A Cuocolo, M, Klain, M Salvatore

*Dept of Internal Medicine 1*

D Bonaduce, L Spinelli, M Petretta

*Dept of Clinical and Experimental Medicine*

O de Divitiis, M Galderisi, R Scarpa

*Dept of Pediatrics* M Salerno



“Federico II” University of Naples