

# COVID-19 and Diabetes

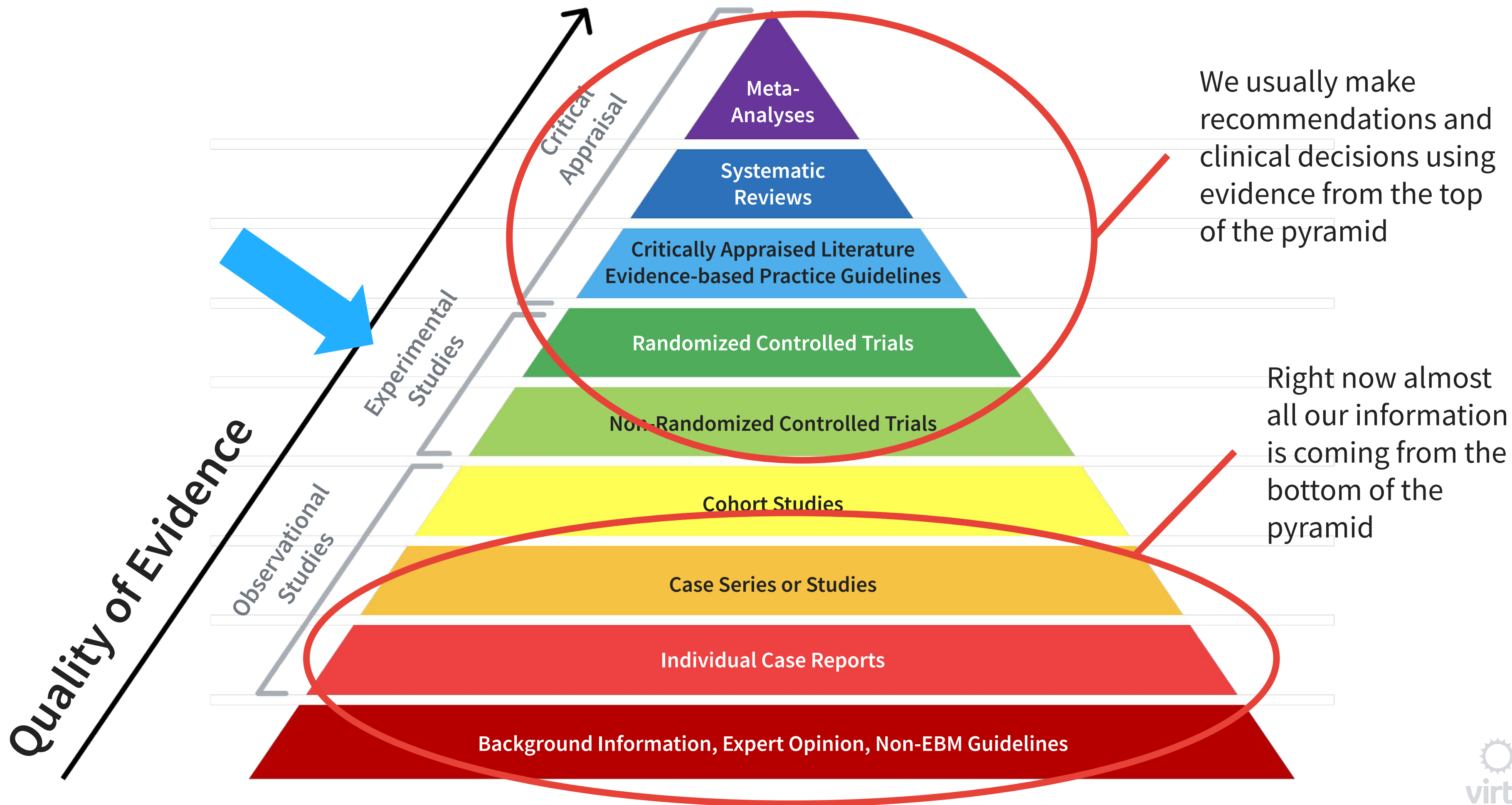
May 13, 2020

# For Today

- Why does it seem so hard to get a straight story when it comes to COVID-19?
- Diabetes as a risk factor for COVID-19
- Obesity as a risk factor for COVID-19
- Glycemic control and COVID-19 outcomes
- What is the story with ACEI/ARBs

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# Prevalence of comorbidities and its effects in patients infected with SARS-CoV-2: a systematic review and meta-analysis

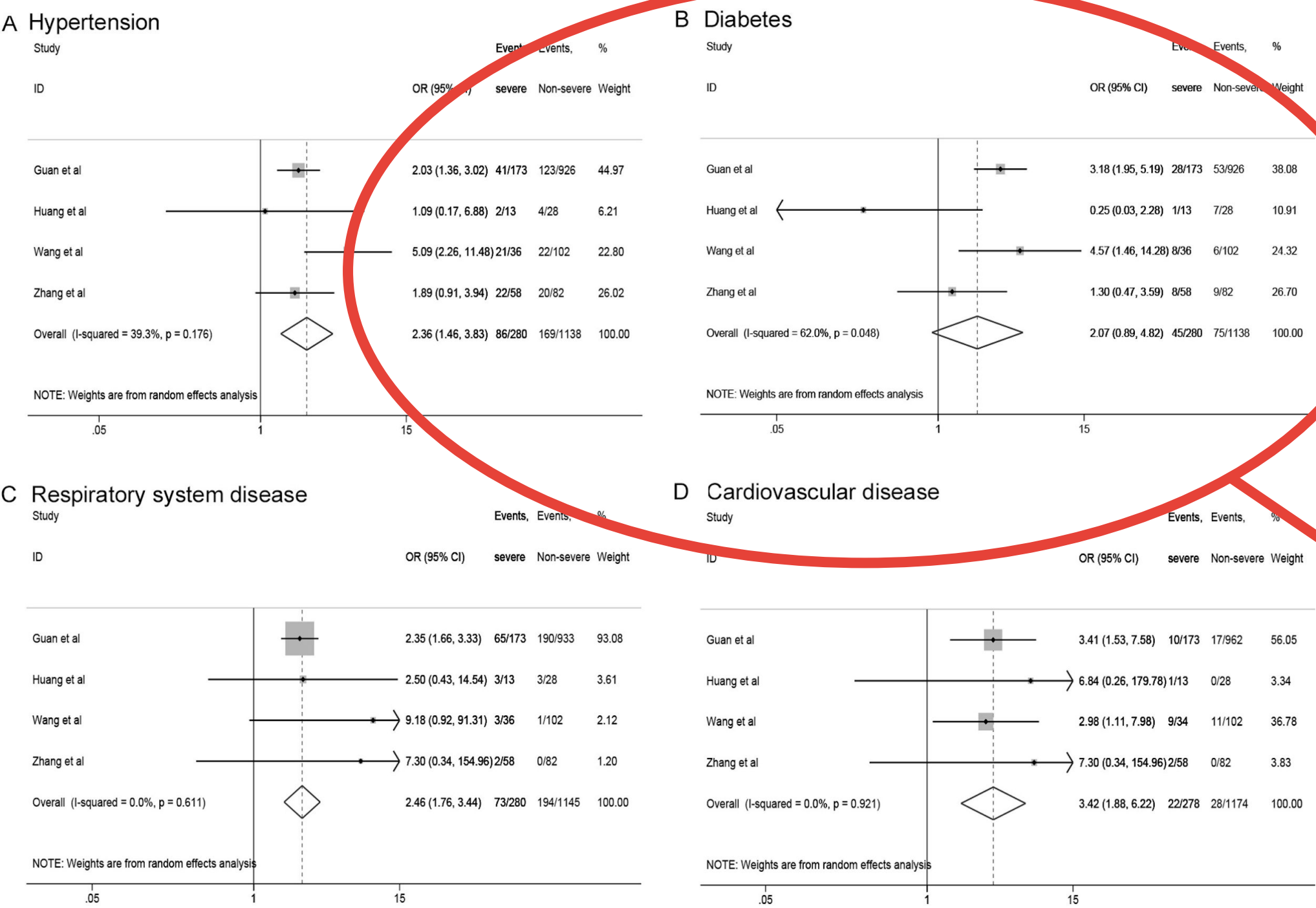
- Studies published from January 1, 2019 to February 25, 2020—all from China
- Diabetes was the 2nd most common comorbidity
- 7 studies met inclusion and exclusion criteria which included 1,576 patients
- Diabetes rates were 9.7% (overall Chinese rates 10.7%)

International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 94, 2020, Pages 91-95, ISSN 1201-9712, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijid.2020.03.017>.





# Prevalence of comorbidities and its effects in patients infected with SARS-CoV-2: a systematic review and meta-analysis



Diabetes

# Factors associated with hospitalization and critical illness among 4,103 patients with COVID-19 disease in New York City

NYU Langone Health: March 1—April 2 with follow up completed on April 7

Total COVID-19 + population **\*\*Preprint\*\***  
(7,719 tested)

- Median age 52
- 50.5% male
- Diabetes—15%  
*(NYC total diabetes rates about 15%)*
- Obesity—26.8%  
*(NYC total obesity rates 22%)*

Total COVID-19 hospitalized population  
(48.7% of total)

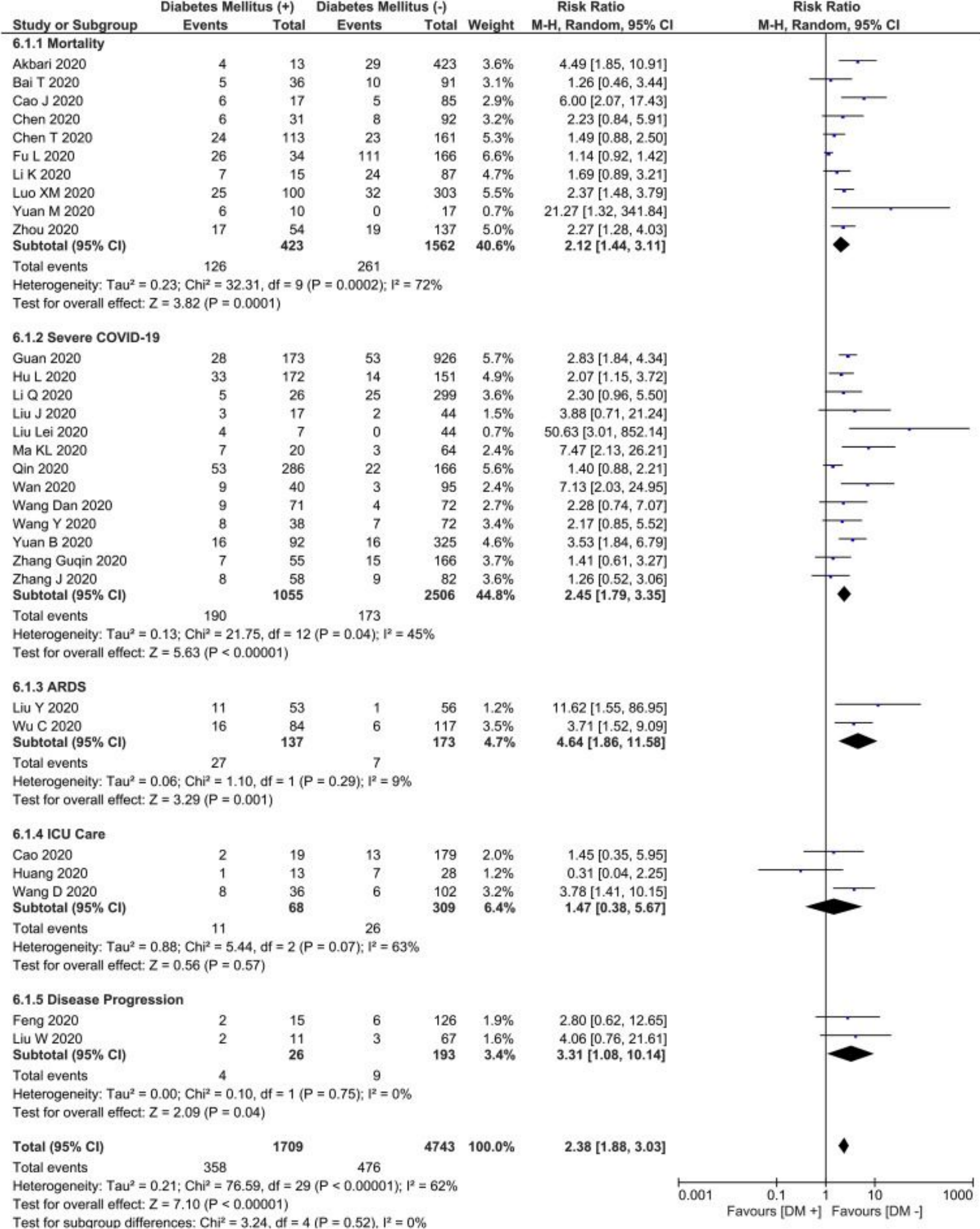
- Median age 62
- 62.6% male
- Diabetes—31.8%
- Obesity—39.8%



# Diabetes mellitus is associated with increased mortality and severity of disease in COVID-19 pneumonia: a systematic review, meta-analysis, and meta-regression

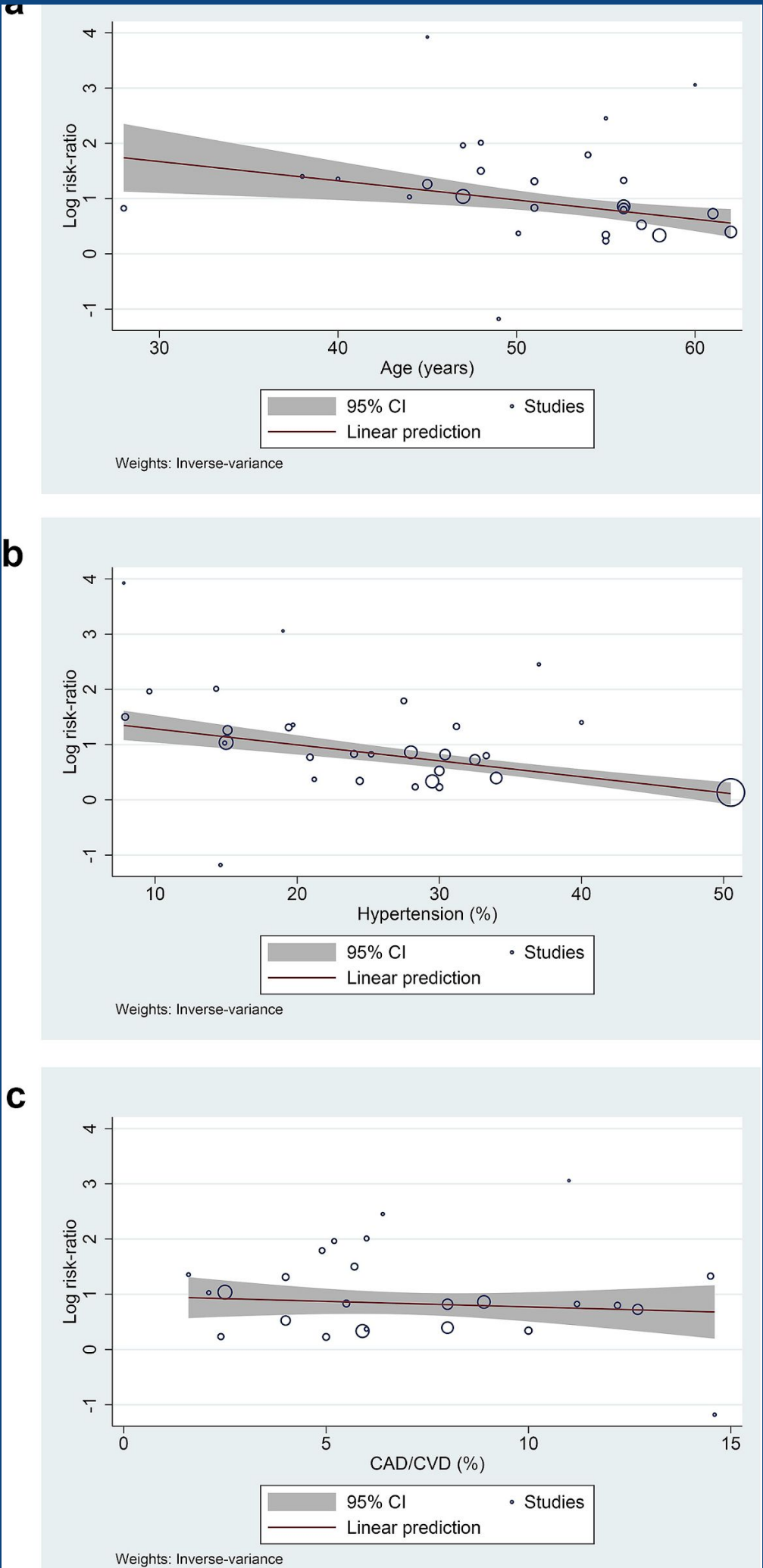
- 6452 patients from 30 studies
- Aim of study is to investigate the association of diabetes with poor outcomes in patients with COVID-19 pneumonia

Diabetes & Metabolic Syndrome: Clinical Research & Reviews, Volume 14, Issue 4, 2020, Pages 395-403, ISSN 1871-4021, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dsx.2020.04.018>.



# Diabetes mellitus is associated with increased mortality and severity of disease in COVID-19 pneumonia: a systematic review, meta-analysis, and meta-regression

**Figure 3.** Bubble-plot for Meta-regression. Meta-regression analysis showed that the association between diabetes mellitus and composite poor outcome was affected by age [A] and hypertension [B], but not by cardiovascular diseases [C].



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# High prevalence of obesity in severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) requiring invasive mechanical ventilation

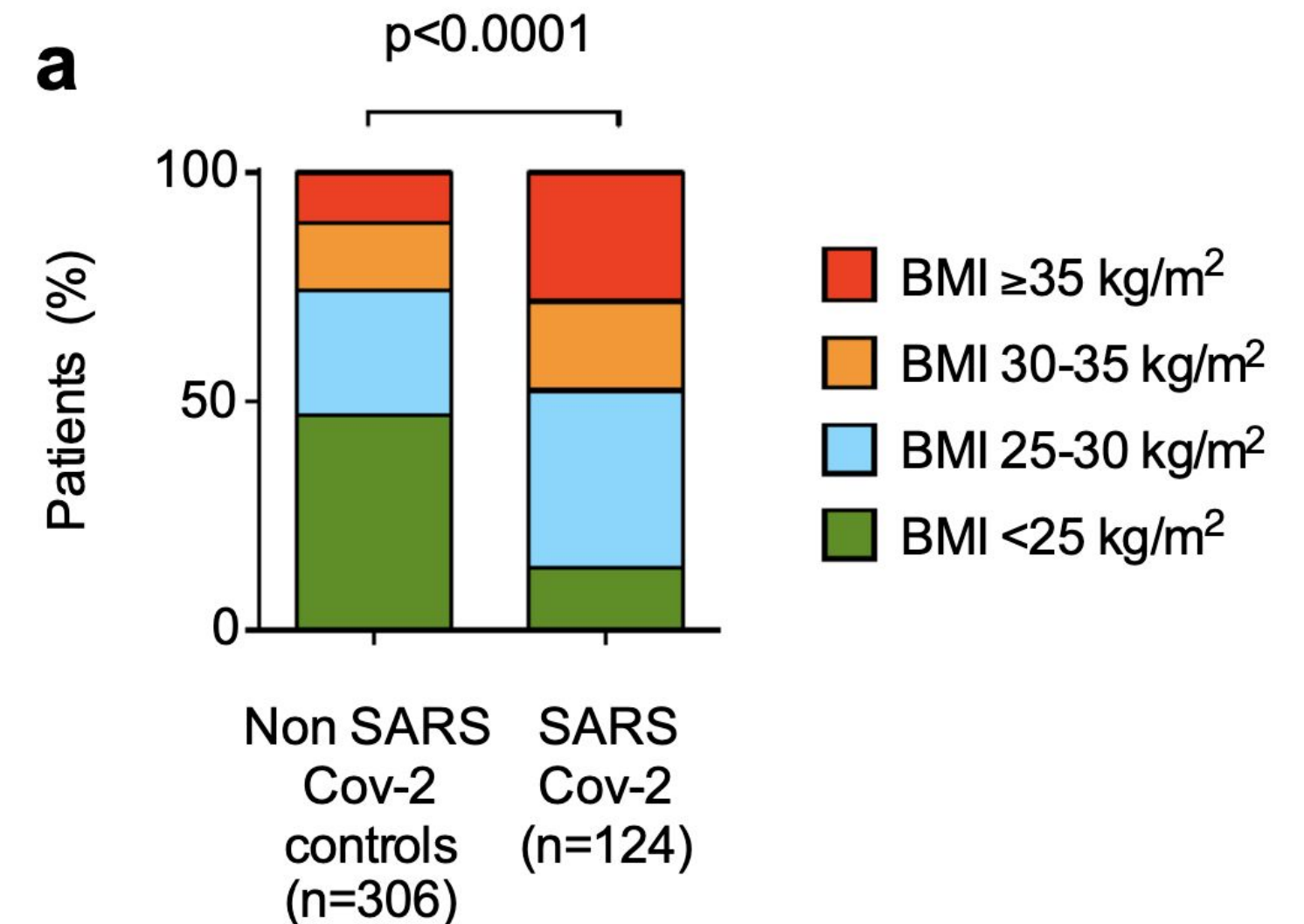


- Single center retrospective cohort study
- Lille, France
- Feb 27–April 5th
- All patients admitted to ICU for COVID-19 were examined
- Primary outcome was need for mechanical ventilation
- 124 patients were admitted to ICU during specified time period
- At time of analysis 48% had been discharged, 15% died and **\*\*the rest remained hospitalized**
- Comparing COVID-19 patients to controls:
- Median BMI 29.6 to 24—significant
- Age and gender were not significantly different

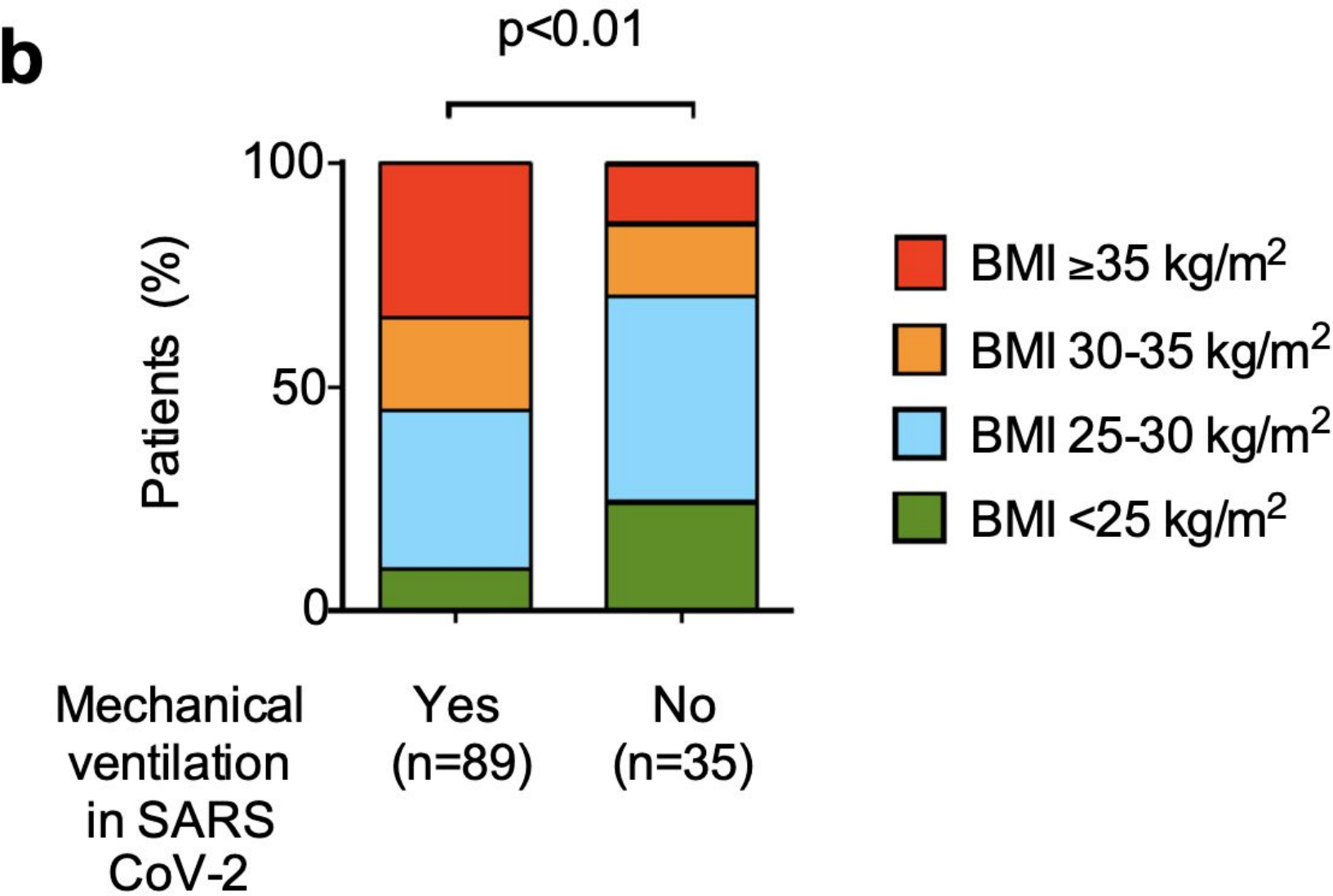


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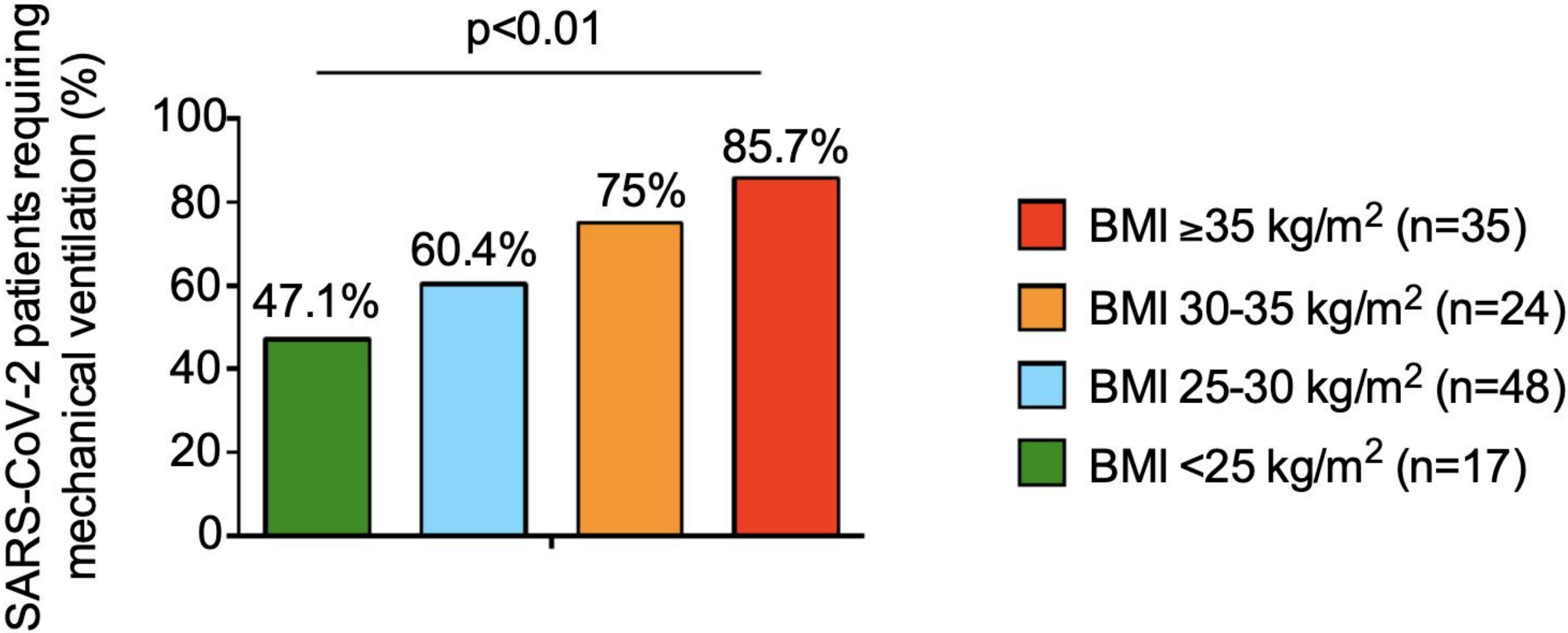
High prevalence of obesity in severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) requiring invasive mechanical ventilation





High prevalence of obesity in severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) requiring invasive mechanical ventilation

C



# Obesity is associated with severe forms of COVID-19



- **Similar to previous study but from Lyon, France**
- 291 consecutive patients admitted to ICU for SARS-CoV-2
- February 27th and April 8th 2020
- In the Lyon community the rate of obesity was 11.3 %
- Lille rate of obesity 28.2%
- Lille mechanical ventilation rate—68.6%
- Lyon mechanical ventilation rate—58.4%

# Obesity in patients younger than 60 years is a risk factor for COVID-19 hospital admission

- Retrospective analysis of BMI stratified by age in COVID-19 positive symptomatic patients who presented to a large academic hospital system in New York City (NYC Langone system)
- March 4th–April 4th

Table 1: Adult patients who tested positive for Covid-19 March 3–April 4, 2020 (N= 3,615)

Age ≥ 60 years	N (%)	Admission to acute (vs discharge from ED)	P-value	N (%)	ICU Admission (vs discharge from ED)	P-value
BMI 30-34	141 (19%)	0.9 (95% CI 0.6-1.2)	0.39	57 (22%)	1.1 (95% CI 0.8-1.7)	0.57
BMI ≥ 35	99 (14%)	0.9 (95% CI 0.6-1.3)	0.59	50 (19%)	1.5 (95% CI 0.9-2.3)	0.10
Age < 60 years						
BMI 30-34	173 (29%)	2.0 (95% 1.6-2.6)	<.0001	39 (23%)	1.8 (95% CI 1.2-2.7)	0.006
BMI ≥ 35	134 (22%)	2.2 (95% CI 1.7-2.9)	<.0001	56 (33%)	3.6 (95% CI 2.5-5.3)	<.0001

Lighter J, Phillips M, Hochman S, et al. Obesity in patients younger than 60 years is a risk factor for COVID-19 hospital admission. Clin Infect Dis 2020





# Obesity in patients younger than 60 years is a risk factor for COVID-19 hospital admission

- BMI 30–34 = 21%, BMI >35 = 16% **Total = 38% obese**
- For patients aged <60 years with a BMI between 30-34:
  - 2.0 times more likely to be admitted to acute care (95% 1.6-2.6,  $p < 0.0001$ )
  - 1.8 times more likely to be admitted to acute critical care (95% CI 1.2-2.7,  $p = 0.006$ )
- For patients aged <60 with a BMI >35
  - 2.2 times more likely to be admitted to acute care (95% CI 1.7-2.9,  $p < .0001$ )
  - 3.6 times more likely to be admitted to acute and critical care (95% CI 2.5-5.3,  $p < .0001$ )

Lighter J, Phillips M, Hochman S, et al. Obesity in patients younger than 60 years is a risk factor for COVID-19 hospital admission. Clin Infect Dis 2020



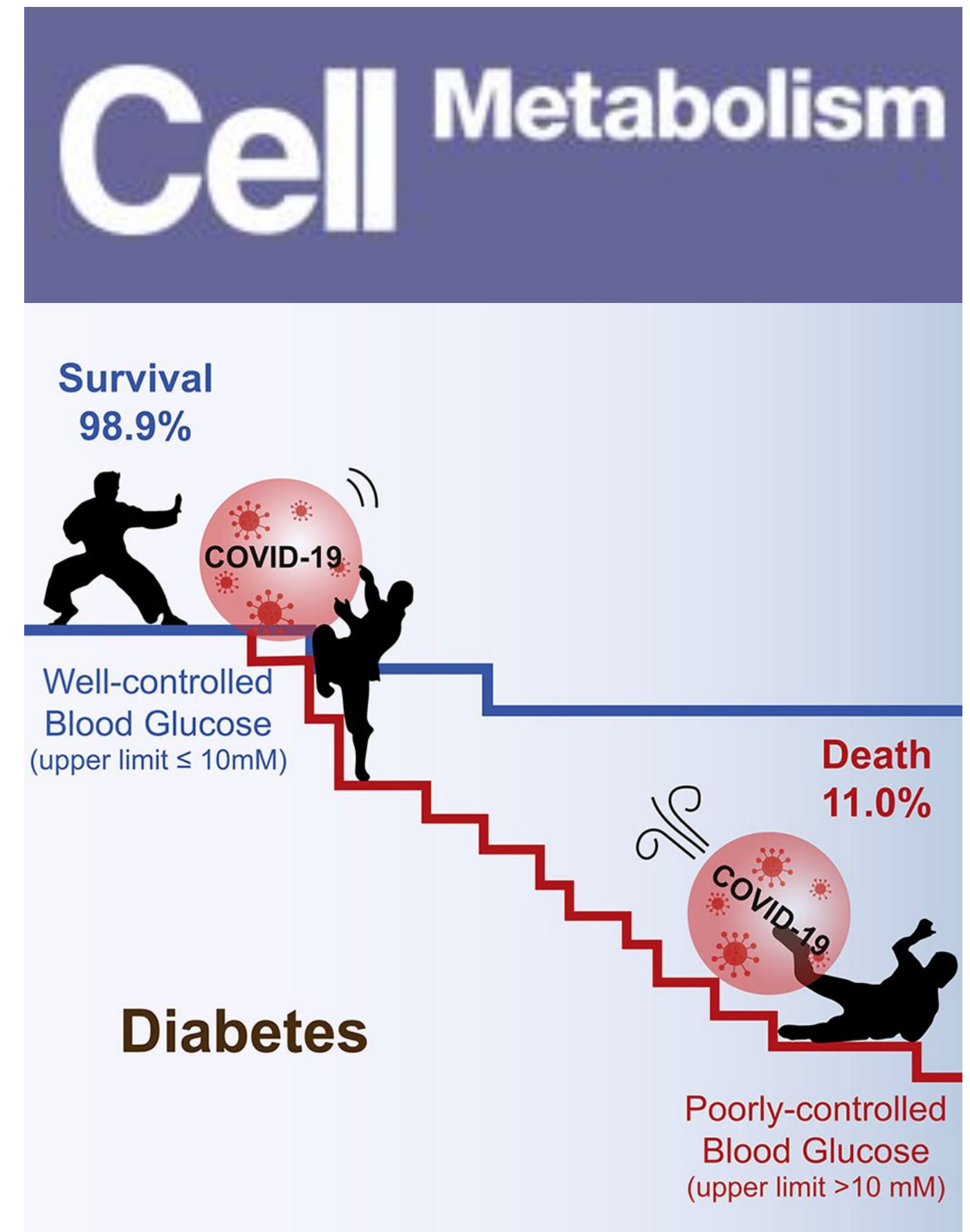
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# Association of Blood Glucose Control and Outcomes in Patients with COVID-19 and Pre-existing Type 2 Diabetes

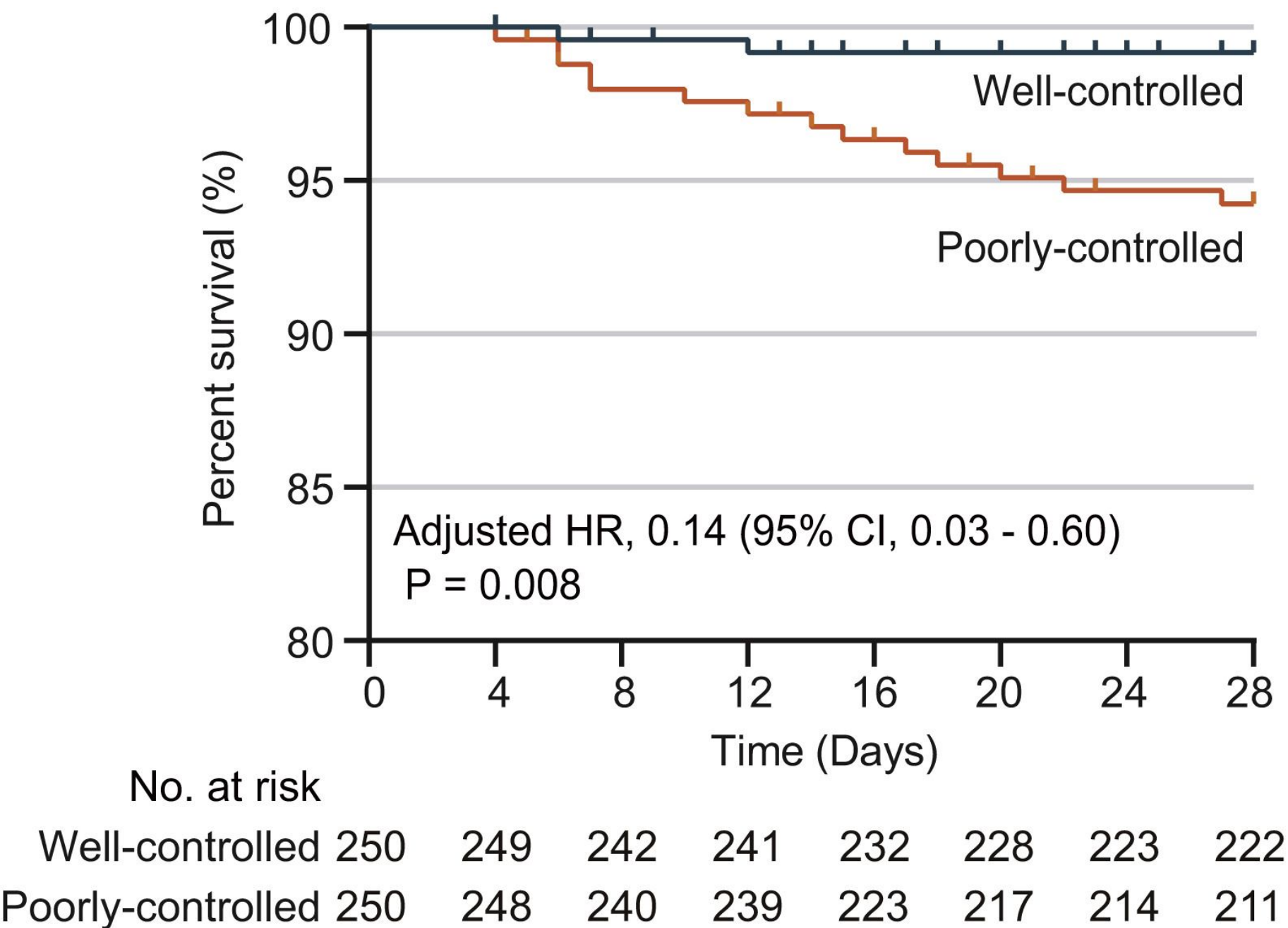
- Retrospective longitudinal, multi-centered study from a cohort of 9,663 confirmed COVID-19 cases enrolled among 19 hospitals in Hubei Province, China
- Initial exclusion left over 7k, of which, 952 had pre-existing diabetes
- Well-controlled BG was defined when glycemic variability ranged from 3.9 to 10.0 mmol/L (70–180 mg/dL). *Total n = 282*
- Poorly-controlled BG was defined when the lowest fasting BG was above or equal 3.9 mmol/L (70 mg/dL) and the highest 2 hPG level exceeded 10.0 mmol/L (180 mg/dL). *Total n = 528*

Cell Metabolism, 2020, ISSN 1550-4131, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cmet.2020.04.021>.





# Association of Blood Glucose Control and Outcomes in Patients with COVID-19 and Pre-existing Type 2 Diabetes



**Figure 3.** Survival Curves of Patients with Well-Controlled BG or Poorly Controlled BG

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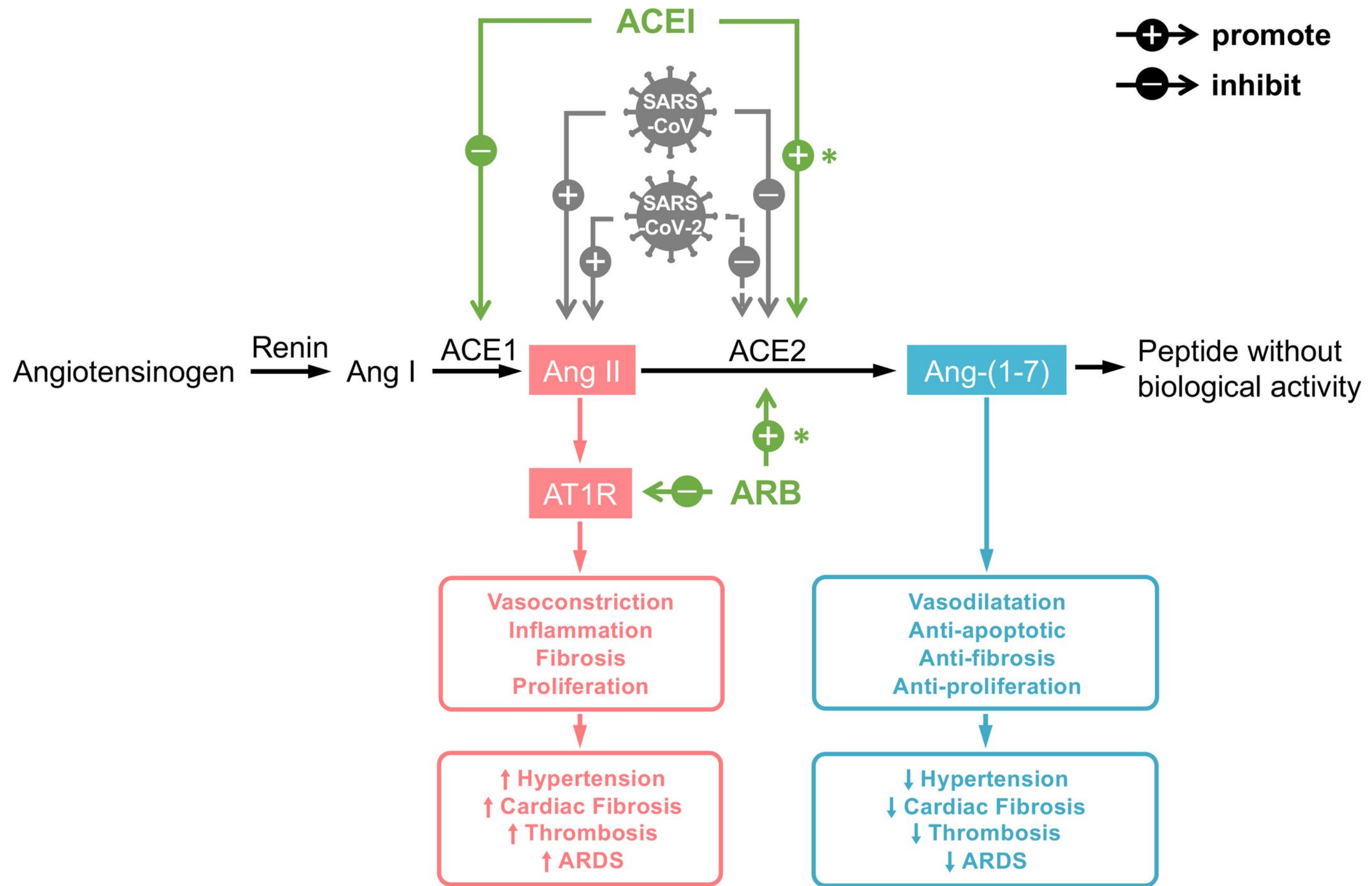
**ACEI or ARB**

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graph TD; A[ACEI or ARB] --> B[Yes]; A --> C[No]; B --- D[?????????]; C --- D;
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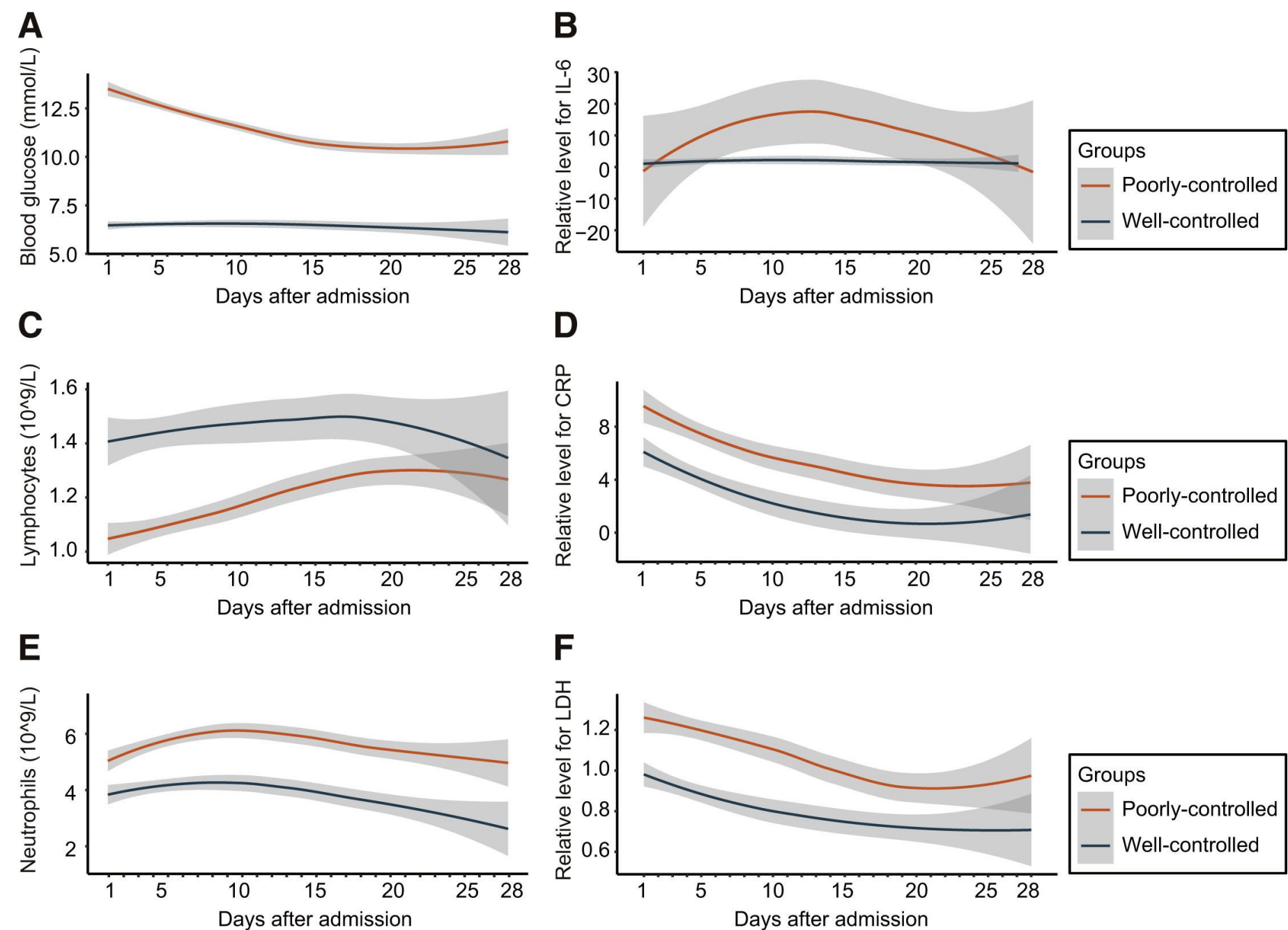
**Yes**

**?????????**

**No**



# Association of Blood Glucose Control and Outcomes in Patients with COVID-19 and Pre-existing Type 2 Diabetes



**Figure 2.** Dynamics of BG, Lymphocytes, Neutrophils, IL-6, CRP, and LDH in Well-Controlled and Poorly Controlled BG Groups during Hospitalization

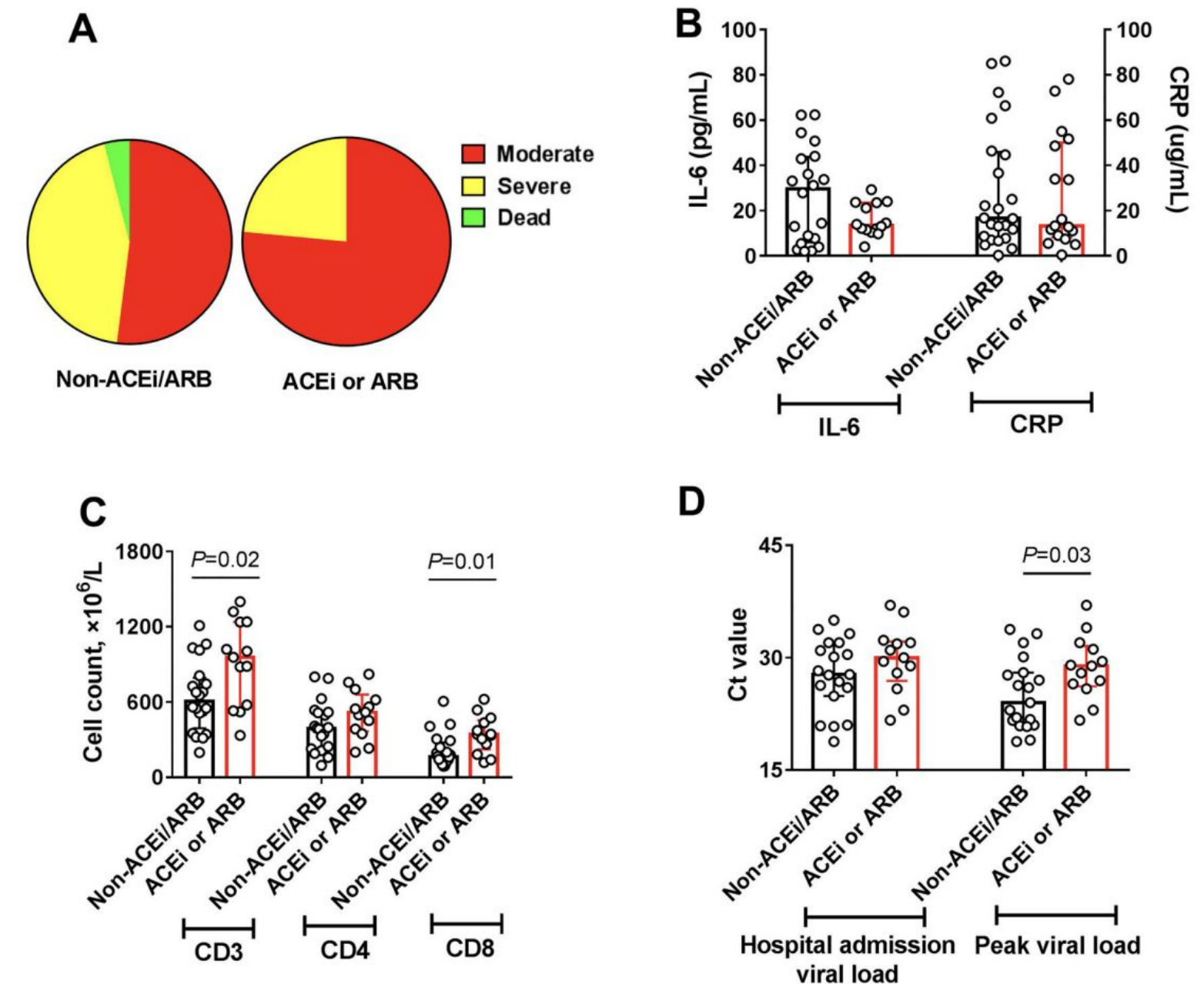
# Renin-angiotensin system inhibitors improve the clinical outcomes of COVID-19 patients with hypertension

- 417 patients admitted to hospital in China
  - 51 patients had hypertension
    - 9 patients were excluded for being on no BP meds
  - 42 Patients included in analysis
    - 17 patients treated with ACEI/ARB (5 with comorbidities)
    - 25 patients with non-ACEI/ARB treatment (8 with comorbidities)
- Similar Baseline characteristics
- Blood pressure of all was controlled with current therapy during hospitalization



# Renin-angiotensin system inhibitors improve the clinical outcomes of COVID-19 patients with hypertension

- ACEI/ARB group—23% categorized as severe and none died
- nonACEI/ARB group 48% categorized into severe subgroups and one patient died
- Not a significant difference



# Anti-hypertensive Angiotensin II receptor blockers associated to mitigation of disease severity in elderly COVID-19 patients

- Medical Records from 3 different hospitals in China reviewed
- 78 patients with COVID-19 pneumonia and hypertension included
  - 40 had mild disease and 38 had severe disease
- No significant difference in disease severity with any hypertension medication in the population overall
- In patients over 65 there was a mildly significant decrease in severe disease in patients on ARBS
- **Not really convincing either way**

**\*\*Preprint\*\***

Table 1. Association between antihypertensive use and disease severity of COVID-19 patients older than 65 years old with hypertension comorbidity

Characteristics		Total patients (n=46)	Severe patients (n=28)	Mild patients (n=18)	Unadjusted			Adjusted		
					OR	95% CI	p value	OR	95% CI	p value
Antihypertensive use, n(%)										
	No use	8 (17.4)	7 (25)	1 (5.6)	ref		ref	ref		ref
	CCB	26 (56.5)	18 (64.3)	8 (44.4)	0.791	0.548-1.141	0.403	0.359	0.036-3.58	0.382
	ARB	10 (21.7)	3 (10.7)	7 (38.9)	0.343	0.128-0.916	0.025	0.250	0.064-0.976	0.046
	ACEI	2 (4.3)	1 (3.6)	1 (5.6)	0.571	0.139-2.342	0.378	—	—	—
	Thiazide	3 (6.5)	0 (0)	3 (16.7)	—	—	—	—	—	—
	BB	7 (15.2)	3 (10.7)	4 (22.2)	0.49	0.2-1.198	0.119	—	—	—

ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker; ACEI, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor; CCB, calcium channel blocker; BB, beta blocker.  
OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval.  
Adjustment was by multivariable logistic regression modeling with sex variable

## **Bottom Line**

Advantage vs Disadvantage still uncertain

Don't change med regimen for  
ACEI/ARB in your patients

# Summary

- Unknown if diabetes or obesity increase the risk of **getting** COVID-19
- Studies are quite consistent that diabetes and obesity increase the risk for poor outcomes with COVID-19
- Mechanisms for increased poor outcomes have yet to be determined but many theories exist and it may be multiple factors
- Glucose control seems to make a difference in outcomes which is not unexpected
- Don't change ACEI or ARB use in your patients due to fears over COVID-19