

# **Optimal Therapy of HCV Transplant Patients With Direct Antiviral Agents**

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# Current Situation of LT for Viral Hepatitis in Europe

Without HCC

INDICATIONS

With HCC

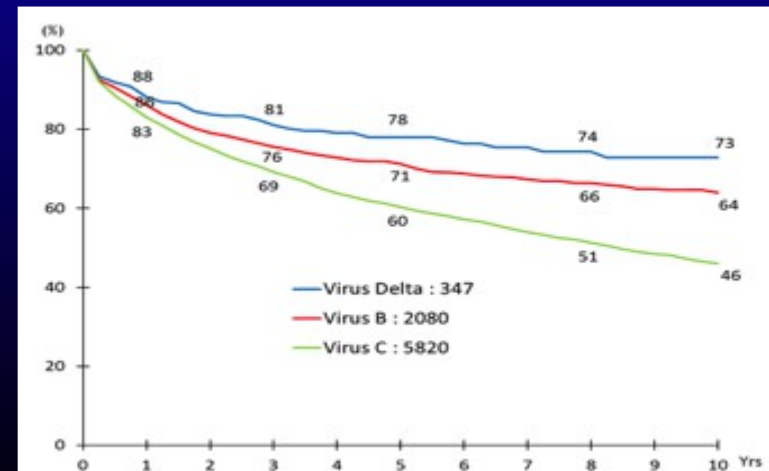
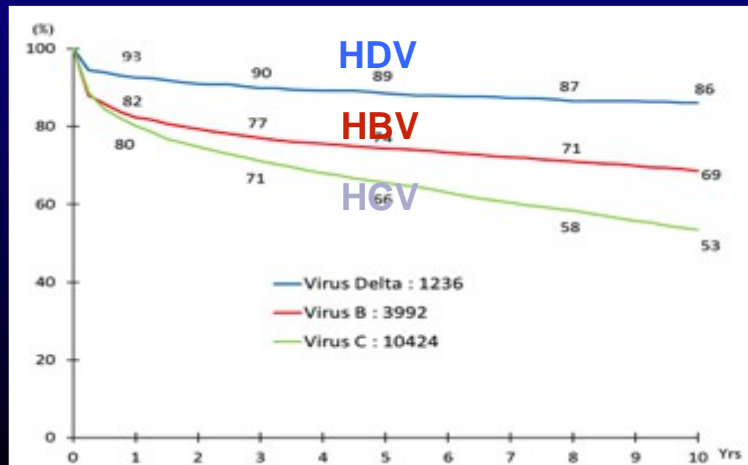


HCV

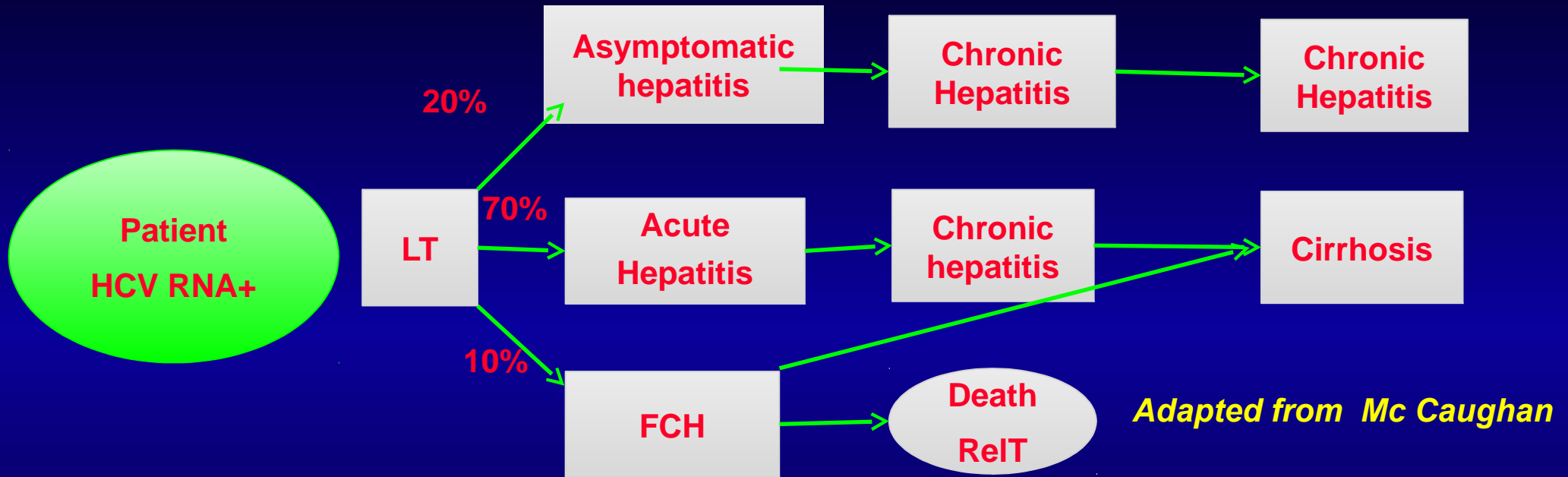
HBV

HDV

## SURVIVAL



# HCV Recurrence: a Main issue



- **HCV recurrence**

- Poor outcome, accounting for 2/3 of graft lost
- Five years post-LT, 30% of LT patients have a cirrhosis on the graft
- First cause of mortality

# Impact of SVR on Survival in Transplant HCV +ve Patients

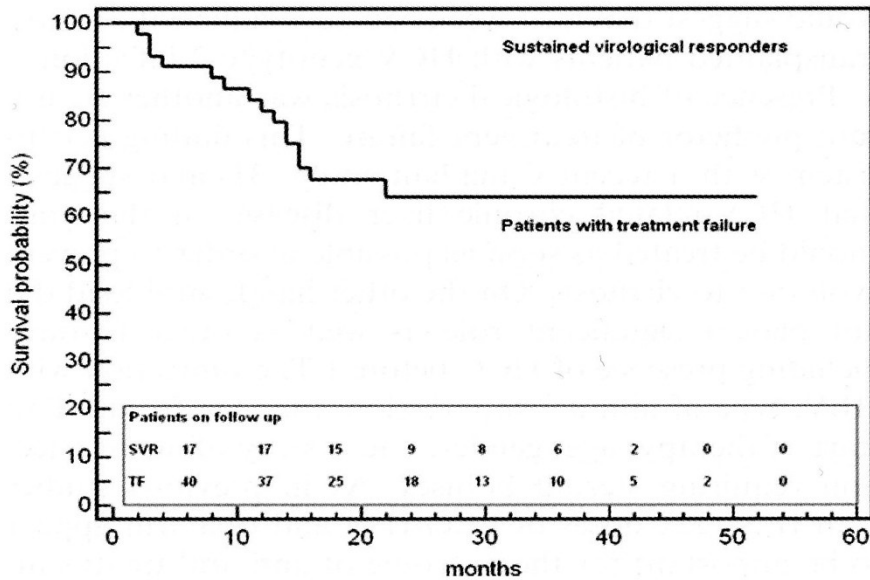
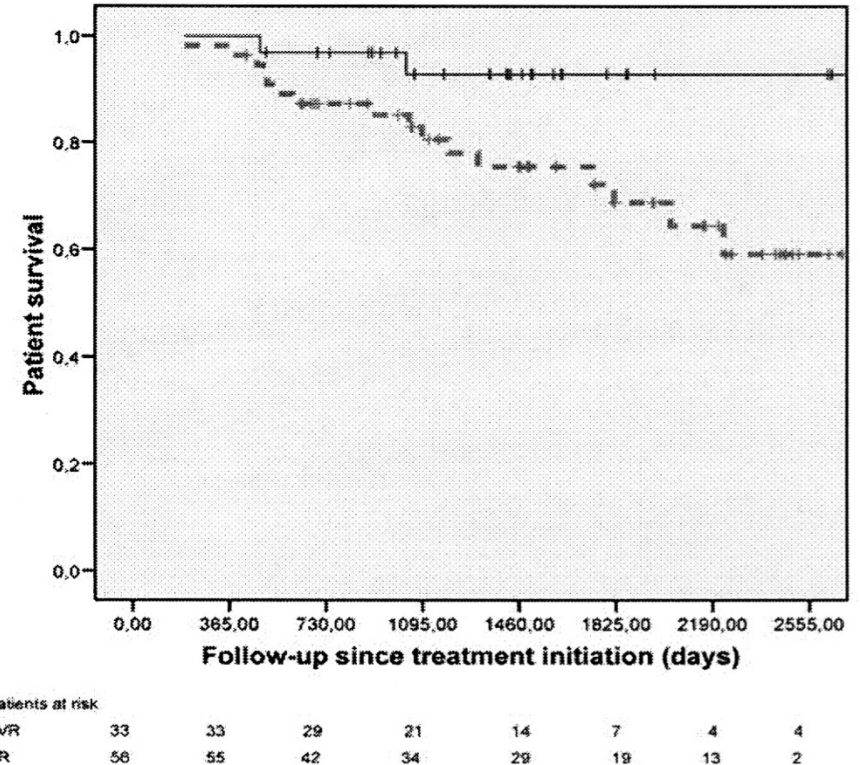


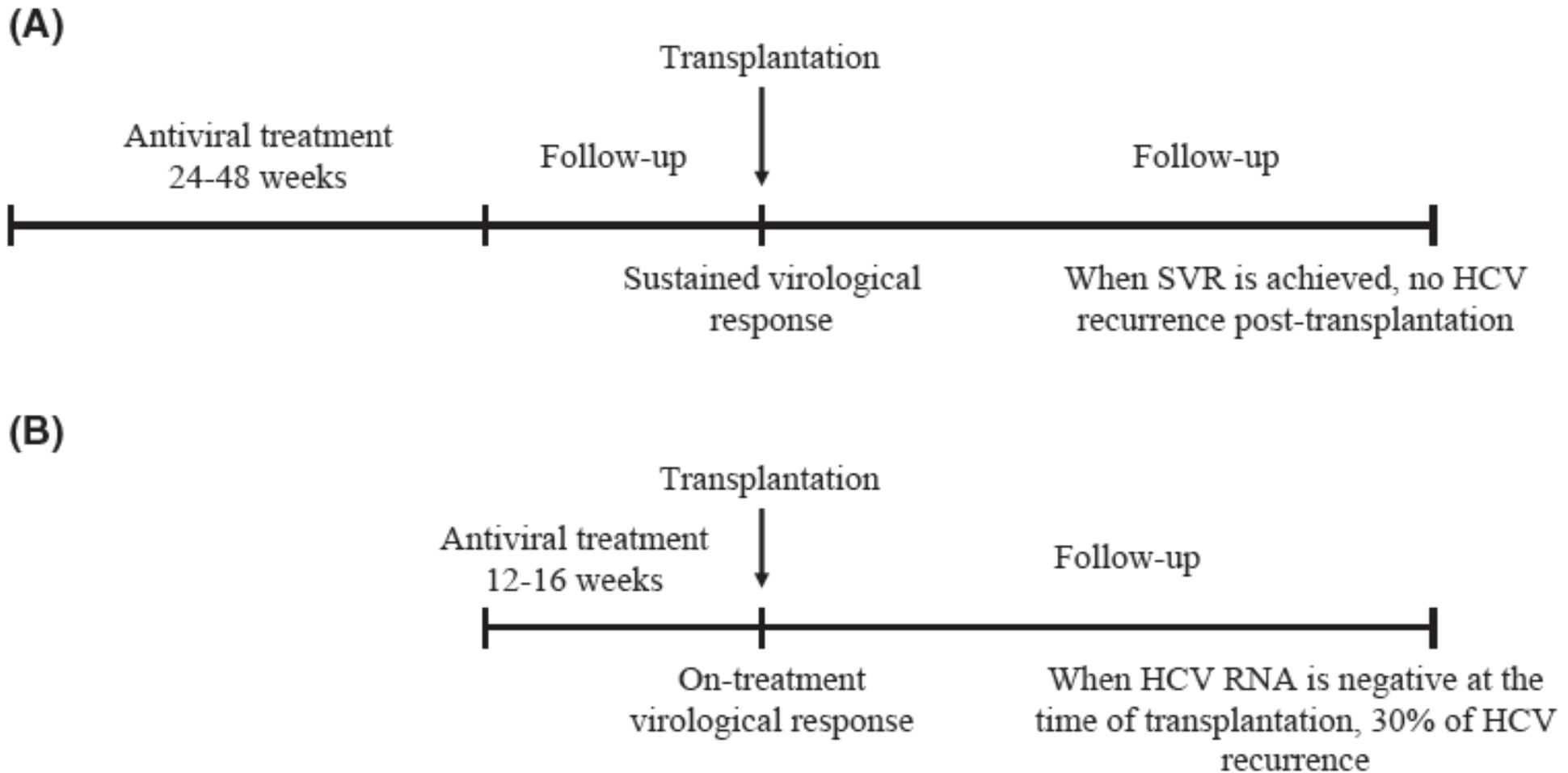
Fig. 1. Kaplan–Meier survival analysis starting at the end of treatment. Patients with SVR showed a significantly lower mortality compared to patients with treatment failure ( $\chi^2 = 6.9$ ;  $P < 0.01$ ; Log rank test). At the bottom: number of patients who have reached the different time points of follow up.

*Piciotto J Hepatol 2007*

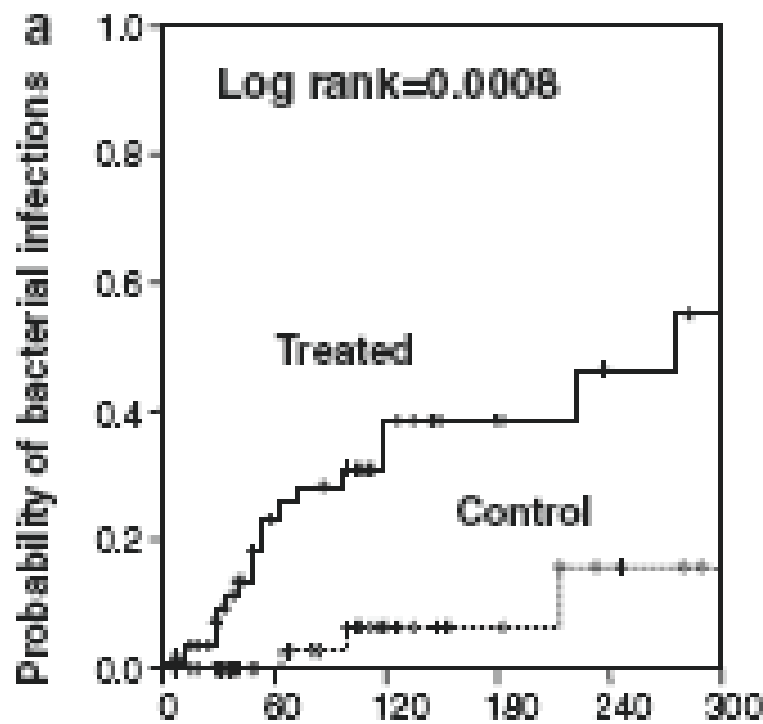


*Berenguer M AJT 2008*

# Antiviral Treatment Before Transplantation

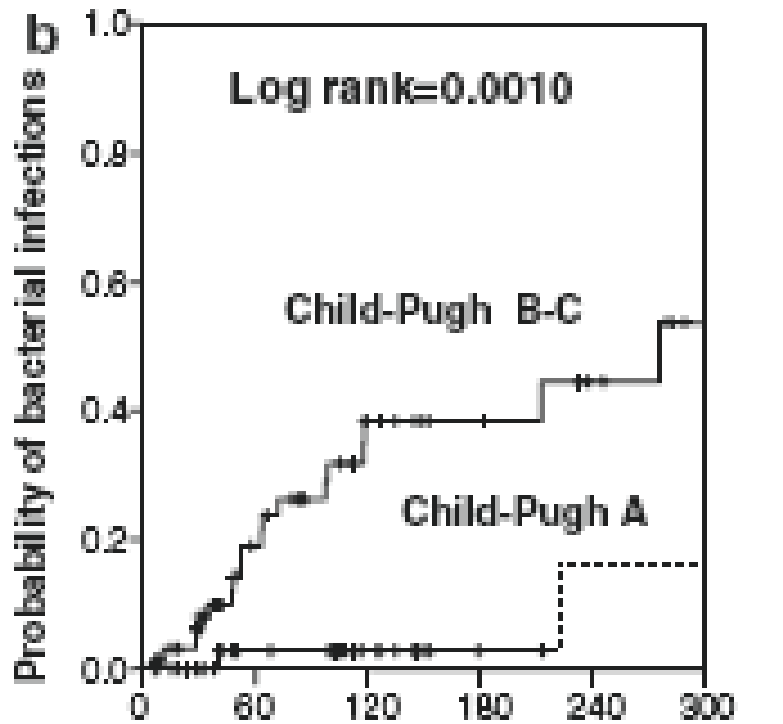


# Antiviral Treatment with IFN in Cirrhotic Patients Waiting for Liver Transplantation, High Risk of Sepsis



Patients at risk

Treated	51	30	16	9	6	4
Control	51	34	18	11	7	4



Patients at risk

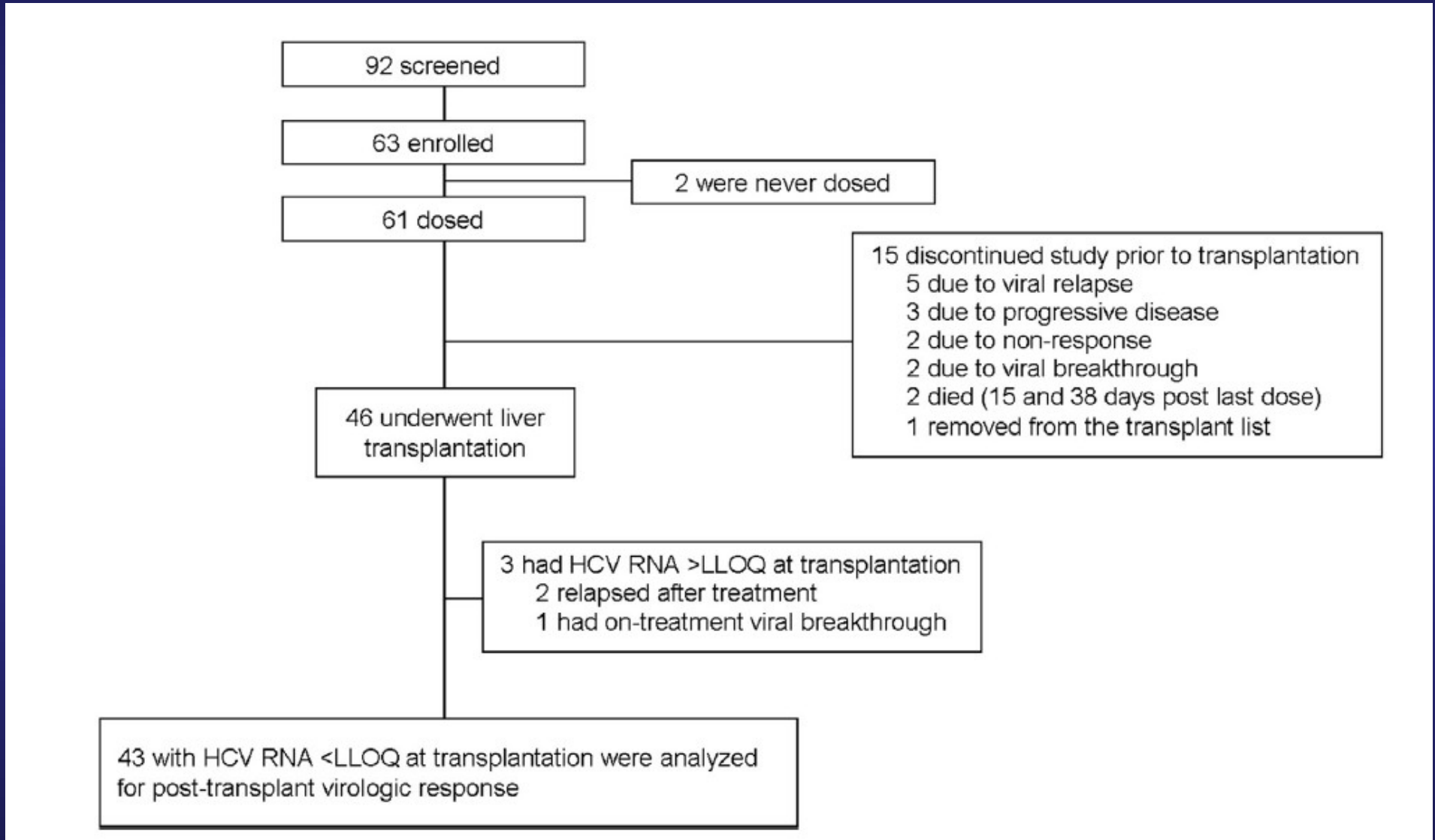
CP B-C	57	34	17	12	7	2
CP A	45	30	17	8	6	6

# Risk Factors of Death and Severe infections in cirrhotics on Triple therapy with Boceprevir or Telaprevir The Cupic Study

**Table 4. Risk of occurrence of death or severe complications according to serum albumin level and platelet count during the first 16 weeks of therapy.\***

Factors	Platelet count >100,000/mm <sup>3</sup>	Platelet count ≤100,000/mm <sup>3</sup>
Serum albumin		
≥35 g/L	3.4% (10/298)	4.3% (3/69)
<35 g/L	7.1% (2/28)	44.1% (15/34)

# Sofosbuvir + Riba in Patients with HCC on the waiting List





# Sofosbuvir + Riba in Patients with HCC on the Waiting List

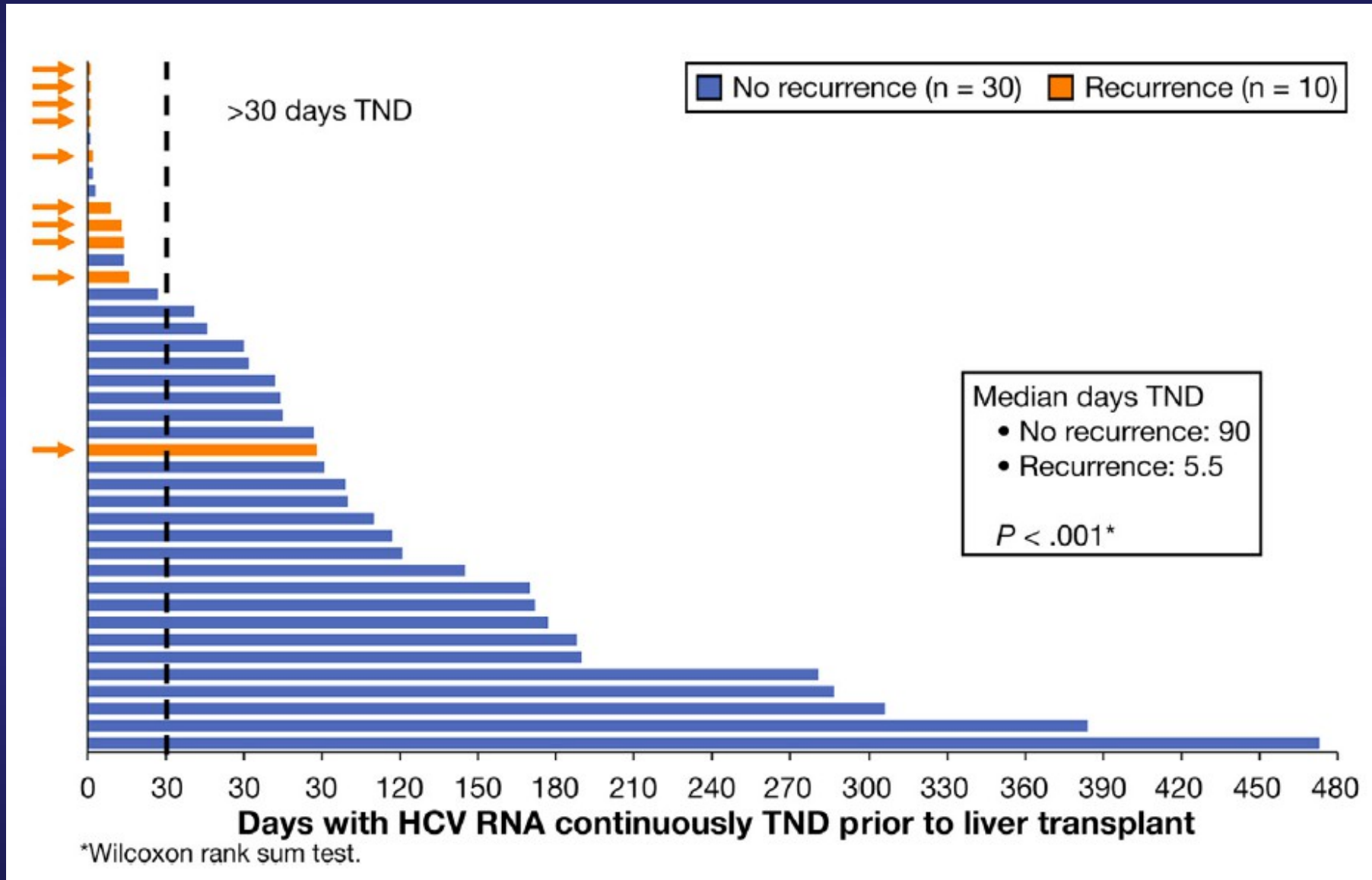
## Post-Transplant SVR in those HCV RNA Negative at LT

**Table 2.** Post-Transplant Virologic Response by Visit for Patients With HCV-RNA Level Less Than the LLOQ at the Last Measurement Before Liver Transplantation

	Sofosbuvir- ribavirin for $\geq 12$ weeks (N = 32)	Sofosbuvir- ribavirin for any duration (N = 43)
Post-transplant week 1		
<LLOQ, n/N (%)	28 (88%)	37 (86%)
90% CI	74%–96%	74%–94%
Post-transplant week 2		
<LLOQ, n/N (%)	26 (81%)	35 (81%)
90% CI	66%–92%	69%–90%
Post-transplant week 4		
<LLOQ, n/N (%)	24 (75%)	31 (72%)
90% CI	59%–87%	59%–83%
Post-transplant week 8		
<LLOQ, n/N (%)	24 (75%)	31 (72%)
90% CI	59%–87%	59%–83%
Post-transplant week 12		
<LLOQ, n/N (%)	24 (75%)	30 (70%)
90% CI	59%–87%	56%–81%

# Sofosbuvir + Riba in Patients on the Waiting List

## Recurrence Related to the Duration of HCV Indetectability Pre-LT



# DAA PK in Cirrhotics

**Table 3. Pharmacokinetics (change in AUC) of DAAs in hepatic impairment (graded according to CTP score) and recommendation.**

Drug	CTP A (5-6 points)	CTP B (7-9 points)	CTP C (≥10 points)
Sofosbuvir [38,108]	NR	NPD	NPD
Simeprevir [109] <sup>†</sup>	NR	NR	AUC x 3
Daclatasvir [110, 111] <sup>‡</sup>	NR	NR	NR
Asunaprevir [112]	NR	AUC x 9.8	AUC x 32
Ledipasvir [113]	NR	NR	NR
ABT-450/r [114] <sup>§</sup>	NR	NR	AUC x 11
Dasabuvir [114]	NR	NR	NR
Ombitasvir [114]	NR	NR	NR
MK-8742 [103]	NR	NR	NPD
MK-5172 [103]	NR	NR	NPD

NR, dose adjustment not required; NPD, no pharmacokinetic data or studies

# SOLAR-1: LDV/SOF + RBV in Decompensated Cirrhosis

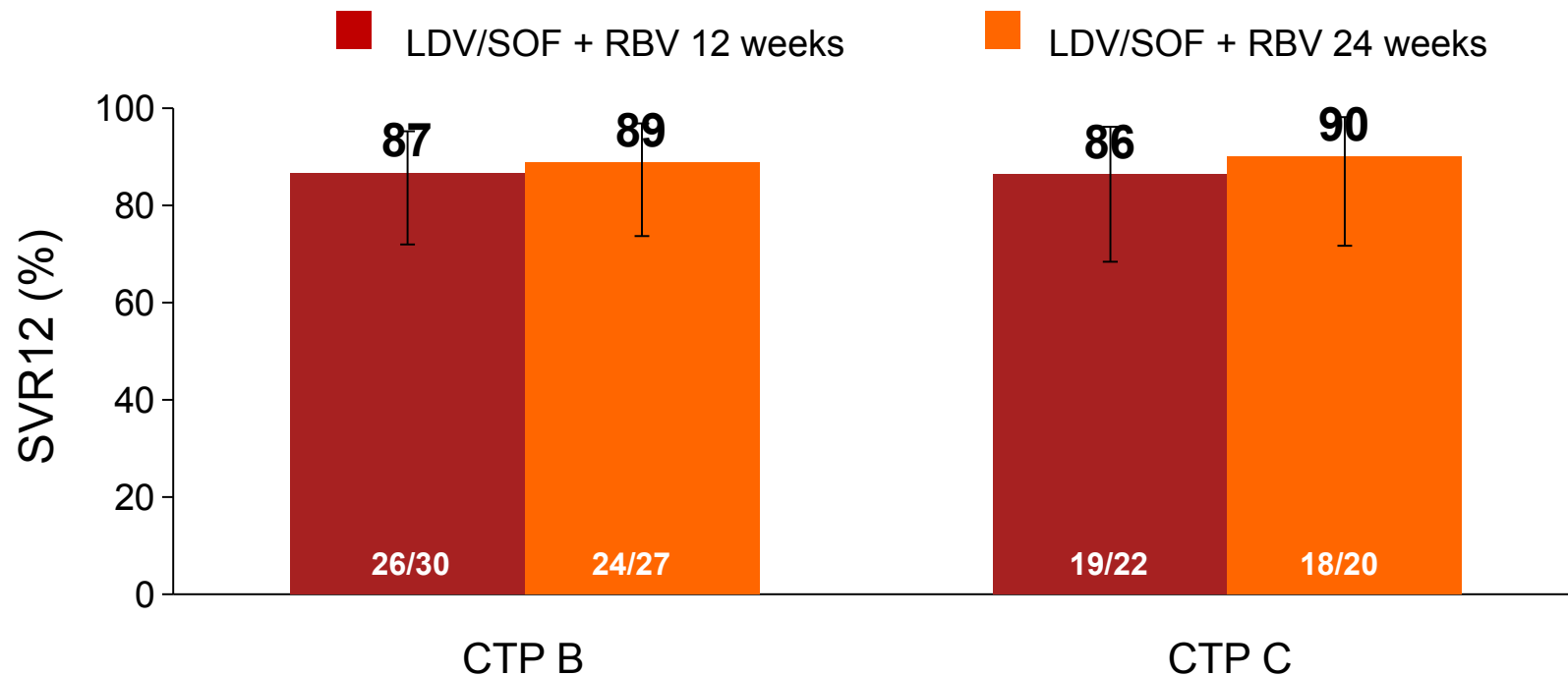


108 patients randomised 1:1 to 12 or 24 weeks of treatment  
GT 1 or 4 treatment-naïve or -experienced patients with decompensated cirrhosis (CTP class B [7–9] or C [score 10–12]\*)  
Broad inclusion criteria

- No history of major organ transplant, including liver
- No hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)
- Total bilirubin  $\leq 10$  mg/dL, Hb  $\geq 10$  g/dL
- CrCl  $\geq 40$  mL/min, platelets  $> 30,000$ /mm<sup>3</sup>

# SOLAR-1: LDV/SOF + RBV in Decompensated Cirrhosis

Prospective, multicentre study of 12 or 24 weeks of LDV/SOF + RBV in TN and TE HCV GT 1 and 4 patients with CTP B (N=59) or CTP C (N=49) clinically decompensated cirrhosis

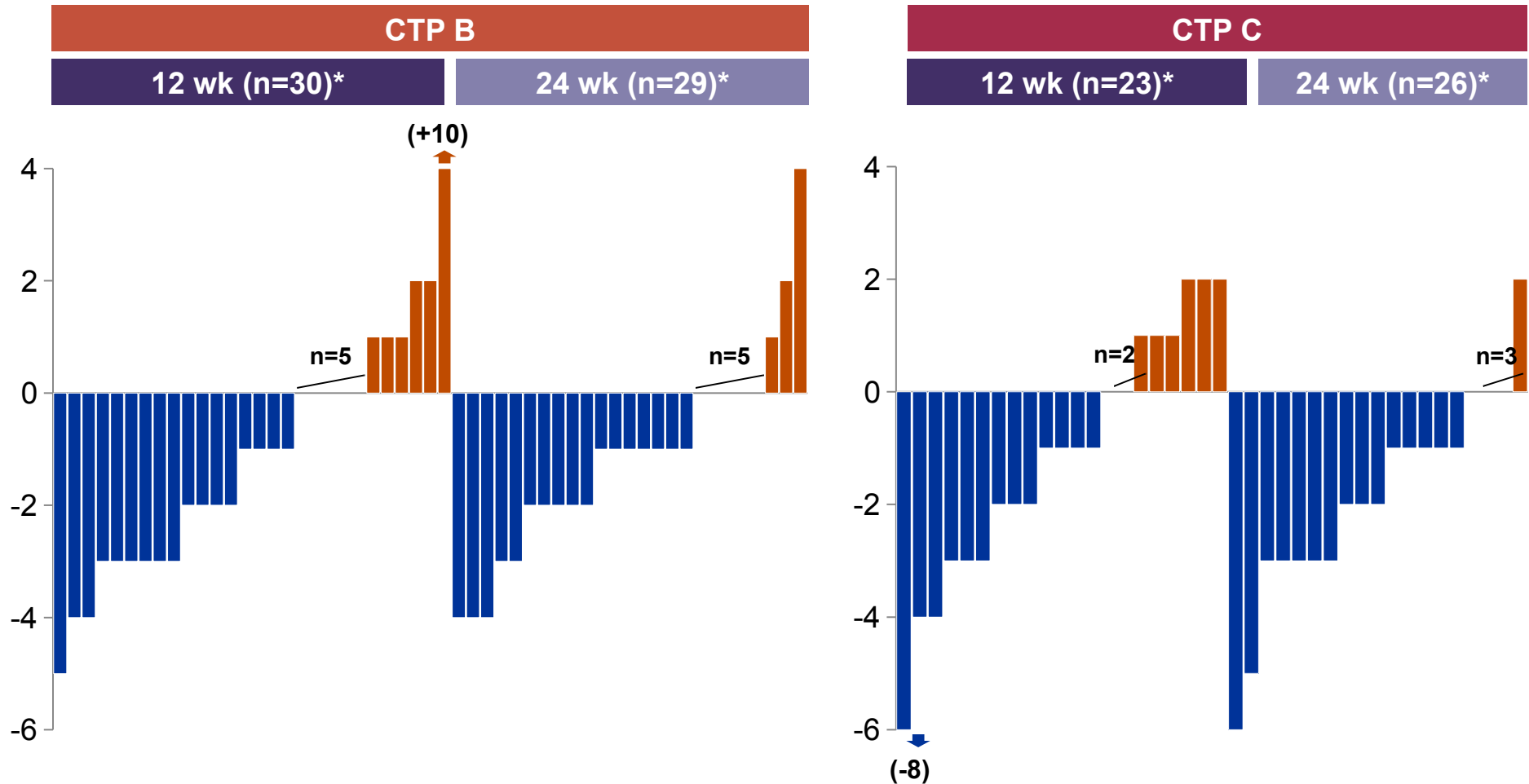


**SVR rates were similar with 12 or 24 weeks of LDV/SOF + RBV**

Virological response was associated with improvements in bilirubin, albumin, MELD and CTP scores in both CTP class B and C patients

LDV/SOF + RBV for 12 weeks is not an EMA-recommended treatment regimen;  
Error bars represent 90% confidence intervals;  
TE: treatment-experienced patients; TN: treatment-naïve patients; CTP: Child-Turcotte-Pugh score; MELD: Model for End-Stage Liver Disease score; N: number of patients; n: number of patients with SVR12.

# SOLAR-1: LDV/SOF + RBV in decompensated cirrhosis: Change in MELD from BL to Week 4



LDV/SOF + RBV for 12 weeks is not an EMA-recommended treatment regimen  
 \*Missing FU-4: n=2 CTP B 12 wk; n=4 CTP B 24 wk; n=2 CTP C 12 wk;  
 n=7 CTP C 24 wk. Table S2, Section 4.1.1, ASLID 2014, pOral #239.

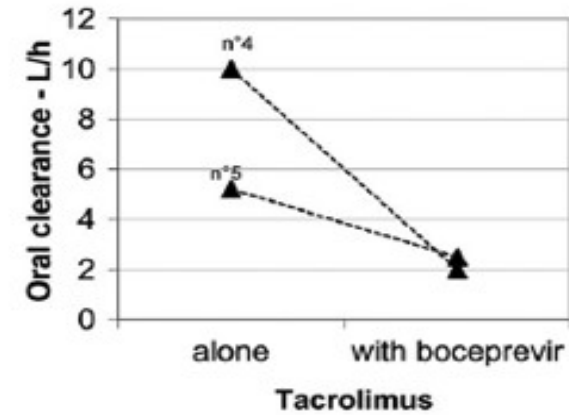
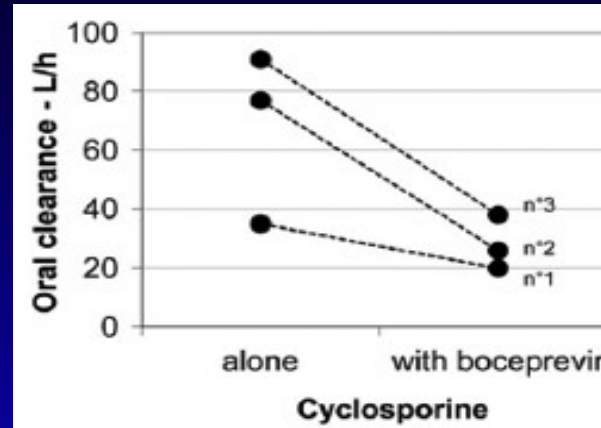
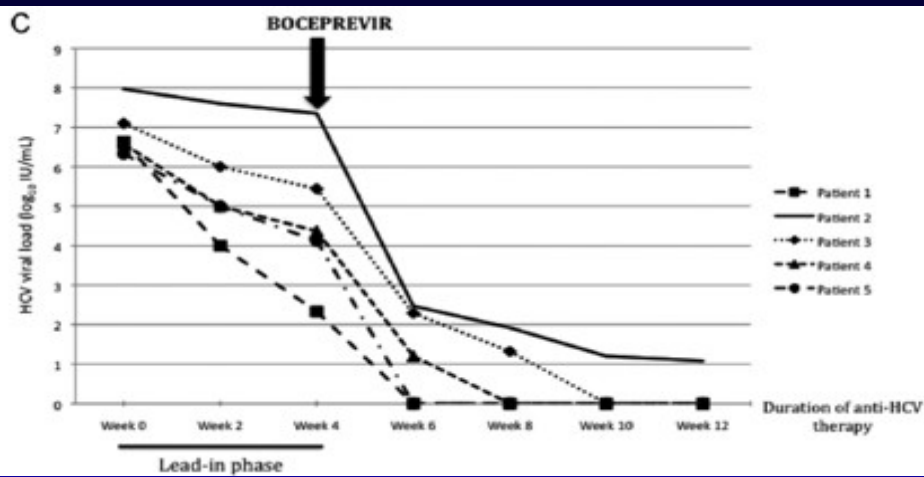
# HCV Treatment after LT

## Standard of Care Until 2012

- Antiviral treatment with Peg-IFN+RBV
  - Treatment done at the stage of chronic hepatitis
  - Peg-IFN +RBV = standard of care:
    - Overall SVR: 30%;
    - SVR G1: 25- 30%, SVR G3: 50% (Berenguer *J Hepatol* 2008, Calmus *J Hepatol* 2012)
    - EPO in 40% of patients
    - Poor tolerance of treatment when F3-F4 (*Carrion Gastro* 2007, *Roche LT* 2008): 30% of premature discontinuation

# First Generation Protease inhibitors in HCV Recurrence

## Boceprevir and Telaprevir



*Coilly AAC 2012*

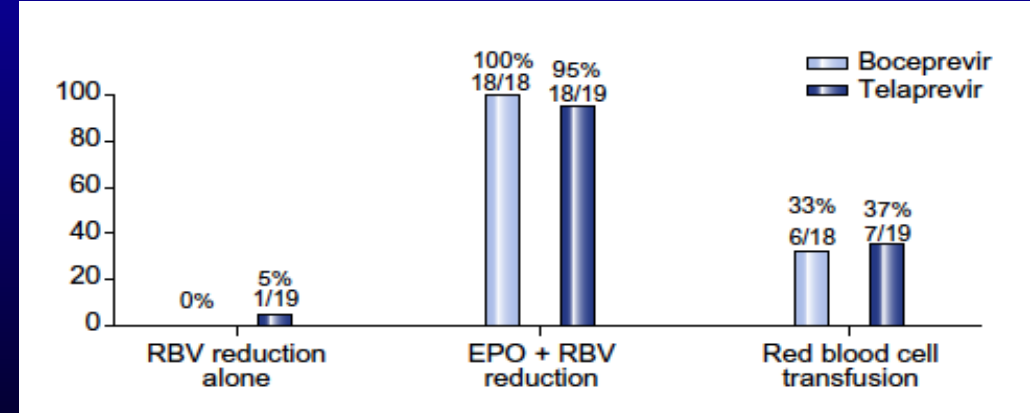
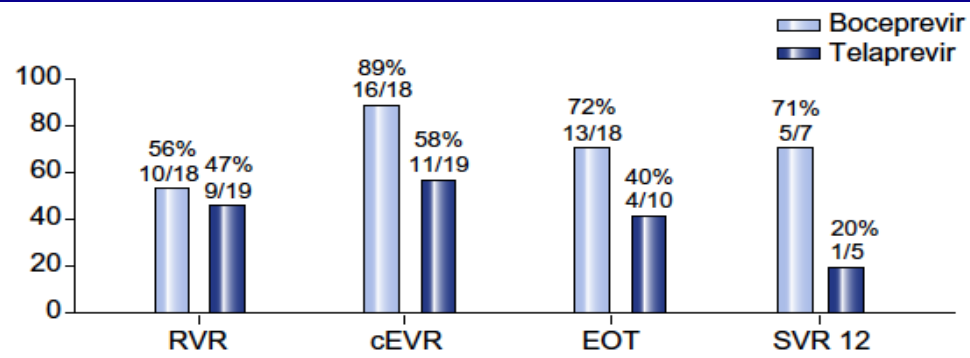


Fig. 2. Virological responses during triple therapy after liver transplantation.

*Coilly J Hepatol 2014*



# Triple Therapy with Telaprevir or Boceprevir The Crush Study

## JOURNAL OF HEPATOLOGY

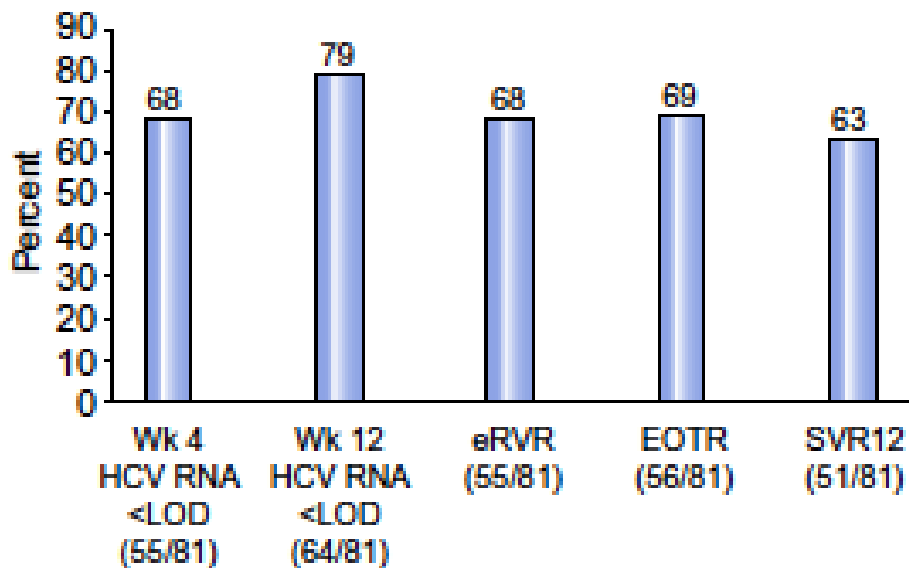


Fig. 1. Early (week 4 and 12), end of treatment and 12 week sustained virologic response with protease inhibitor-based triple therapy are depicted.

### Tolerance

Anemia < 10 : 78%

Blood Transfusion: 57%

EPO: 81%

GCSF: 41%

Creat  $\uparrow$  0.5 mg/l : 38%

Rash: 11%

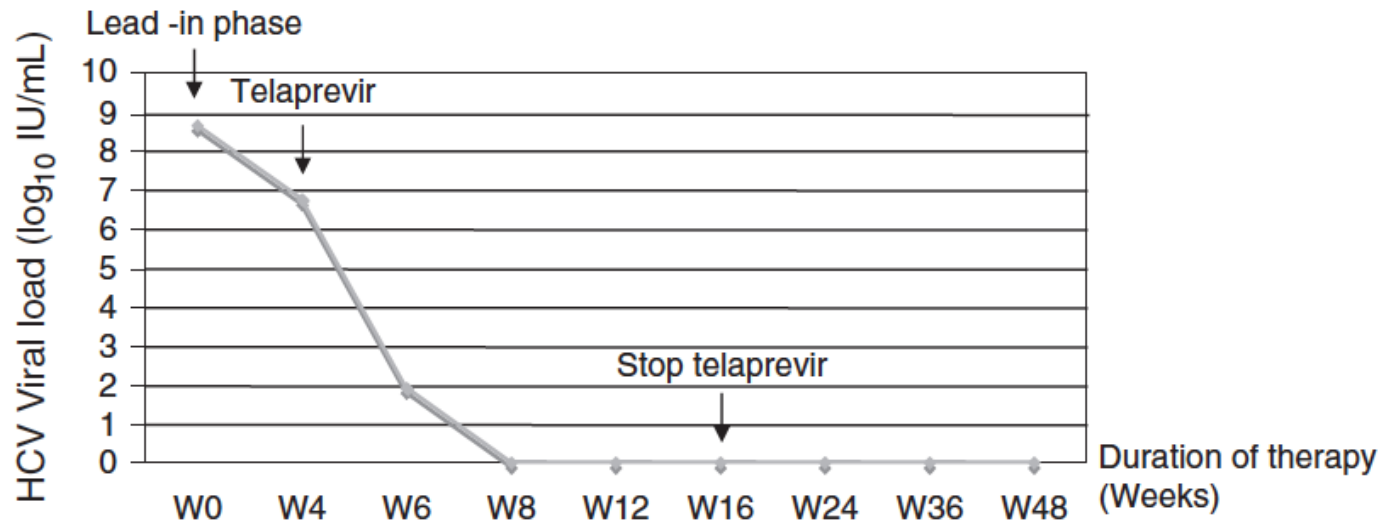
Hospitalizations for infection: 11%

Discontinuation: 15%

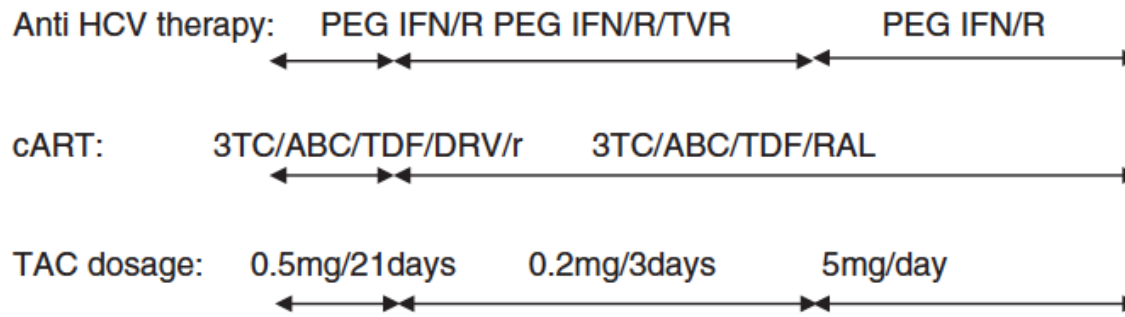
Deaths : 9%

# Triple Antiviral Therapy with Telaprevir in HIV-HCV Liver Transplant Recipients

(a)

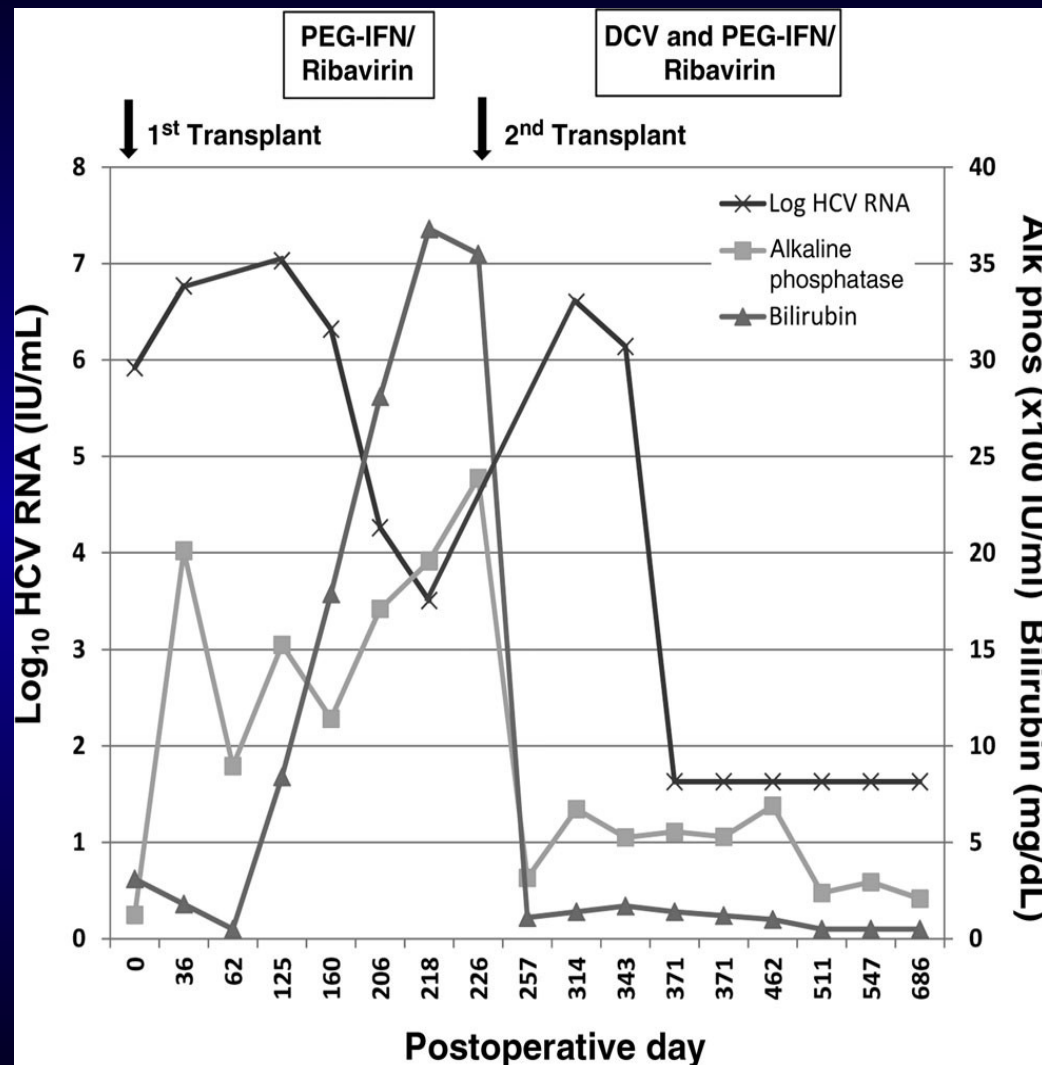


(b)

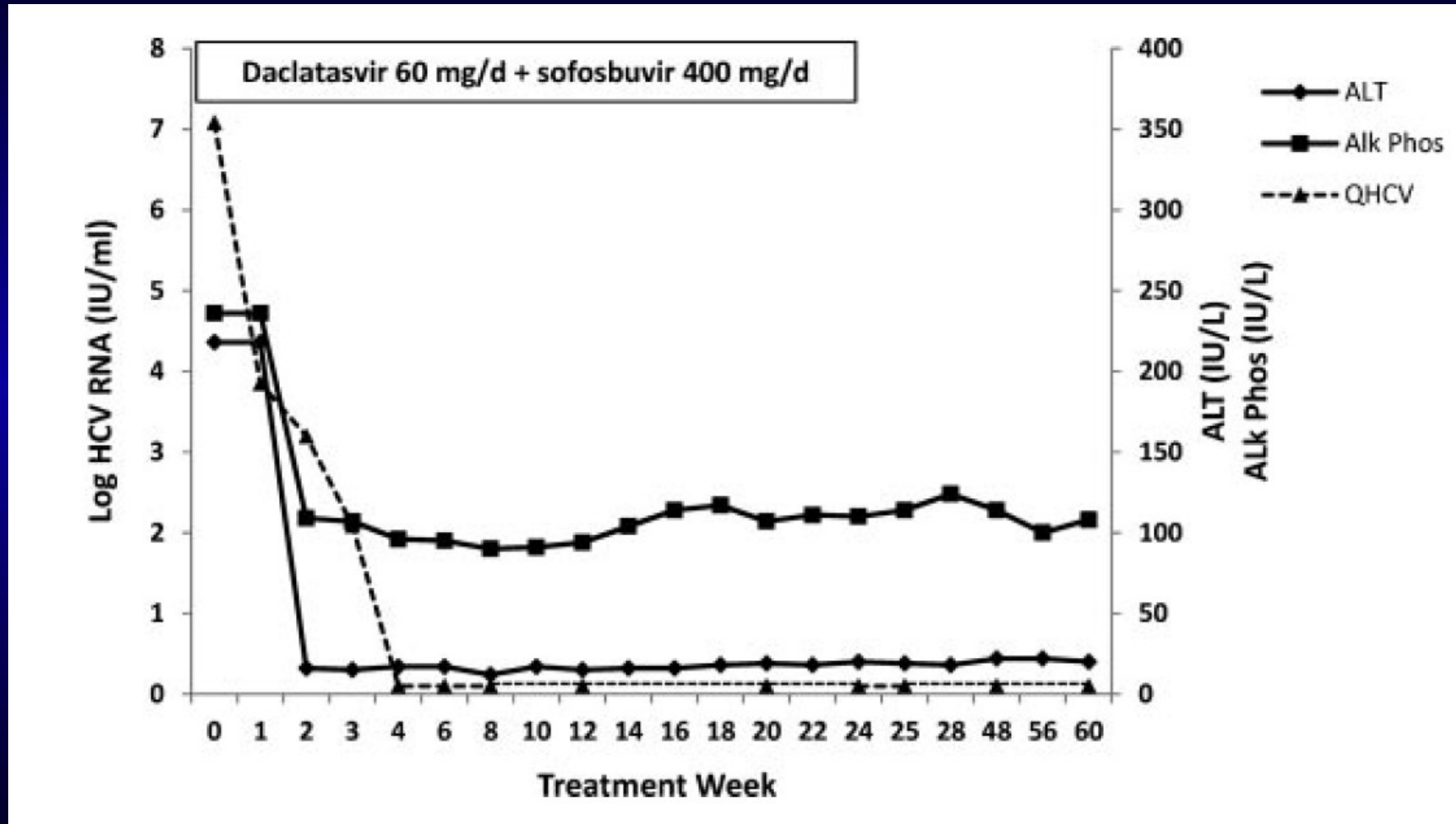


# The Advent of Second Generation DAAs After Liver Transplantation

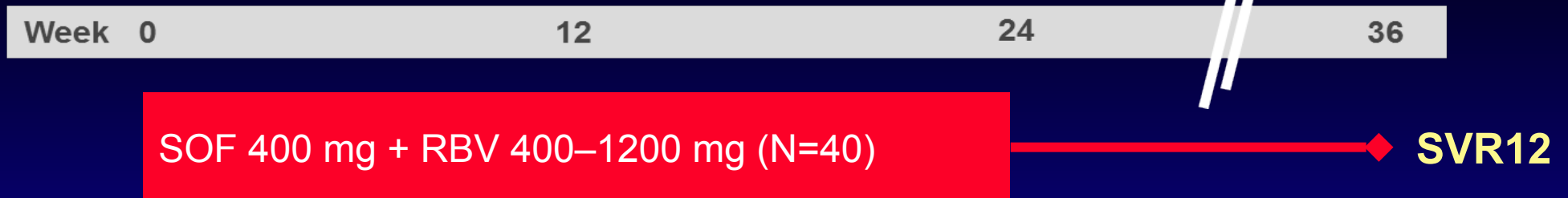
# PegIFN +RBV+Daclatasvir for FCH after LT



# Sofosbuvir+Daclatasvir for FCH after LT



# Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin After Transplantation

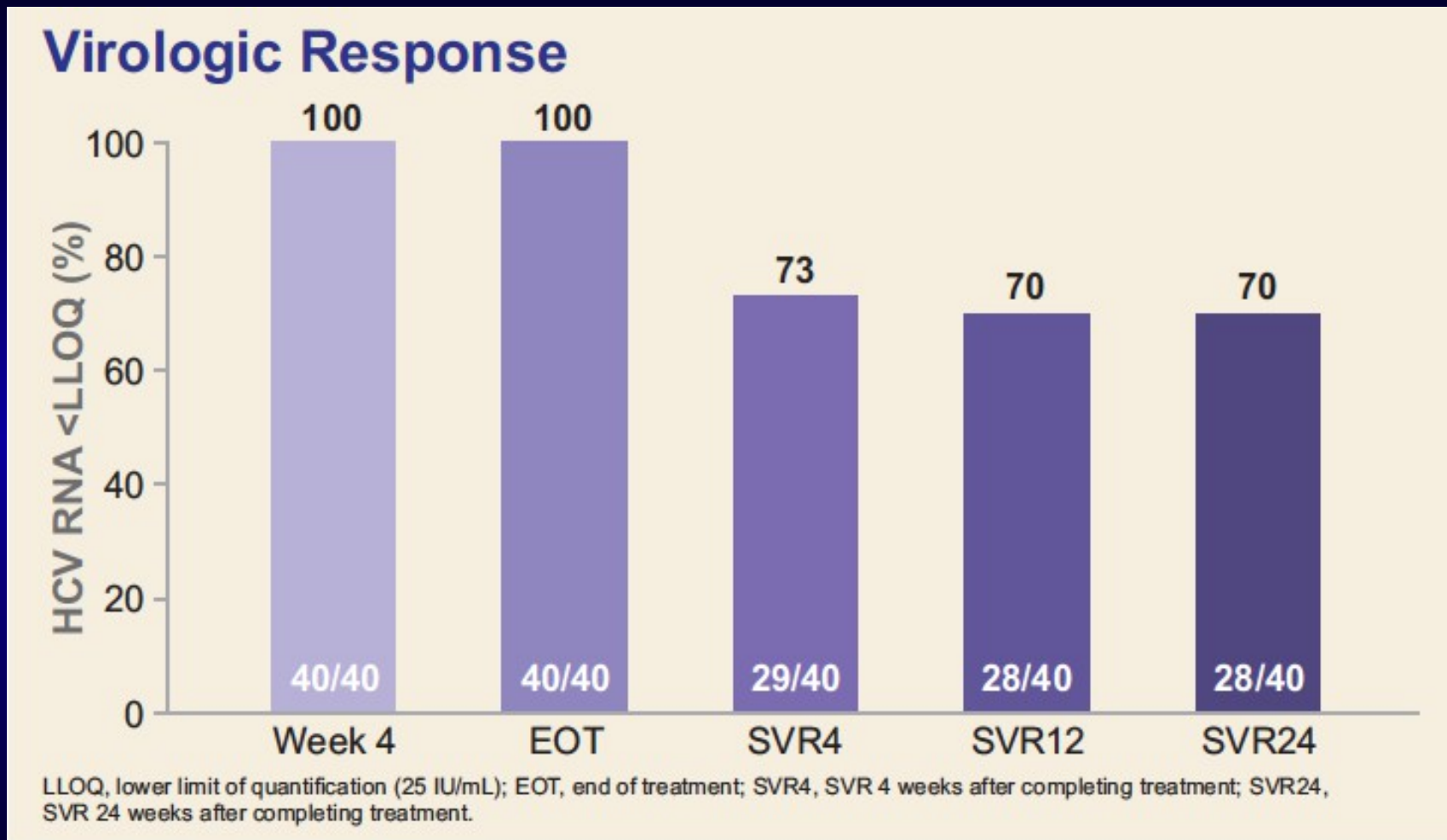


- Patients with recurrent HCV post-liver transplant
  - Liver transplant  $\geq 6$  and  $\leq 150$  months prior to enrollment
  - Any HCV genotype
  - Naïve or treatment-experienced
  - CTP  $\leq 7$  and MELD  $\leq 17$
- Low, ascending-dose RBV regimen starting at 400 mg/day, escalated based on hemoglobin levels

# Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin After Transplantation

	SOF + RBV (N=40)
Male, n (%)	31 (78)
Median age, y (range)	59 (49-75)
White, n (%)	34 (85)
BMI <30 kg/m <sup>2</sup> , n (%)	30 (75)
Mean HCV RNA log <sub>10</sub> IU/mL (range)	6.55 (4.49-7.59)
Genotype, n (%)	
1a	22 (55)
1b	11 (28)
2	0
3	6 (15)
4	1 (3)
IL28B, n (%)	
CC	13 (33)
CT	16 (40)
TT	11 (28)
Metavir-equivalent fibrosis stage, n (%)	
None or minimal (F0)	1 (3)
Portal Fibrosis (F1-F2)	14 (35)
Bridging Fibrosis (F3)	9 (23)
Cirrhosis (F4)	16 (40)
Prior HCV Treatment, n (%)	Yes 35 (88)
Median years since liver transplantation (range)	4.3 (1.02-10.6)

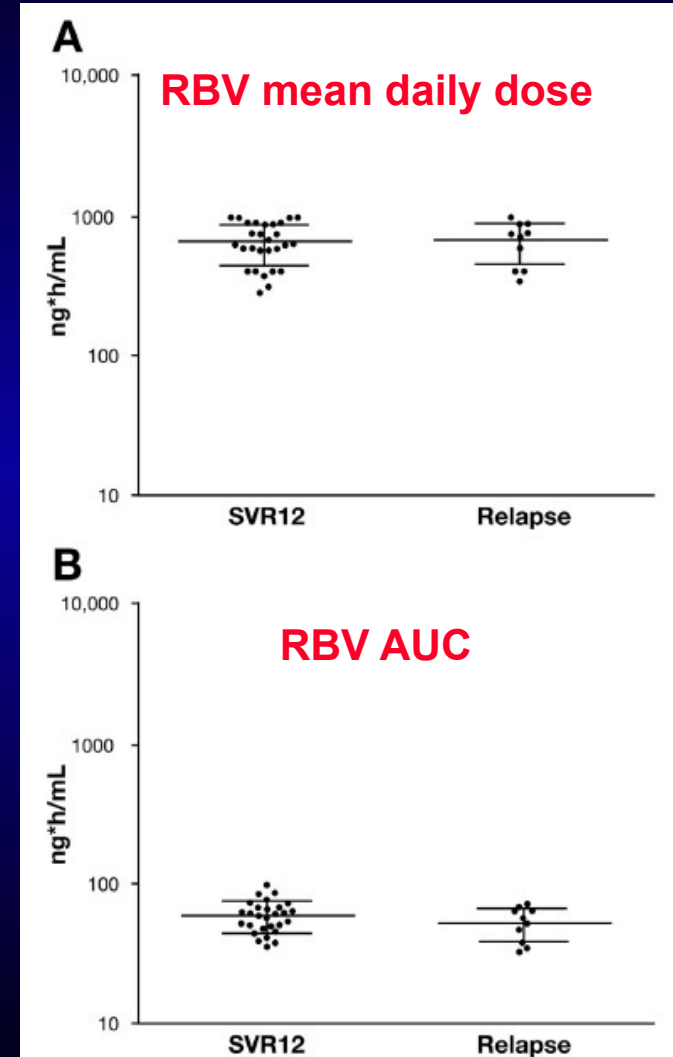
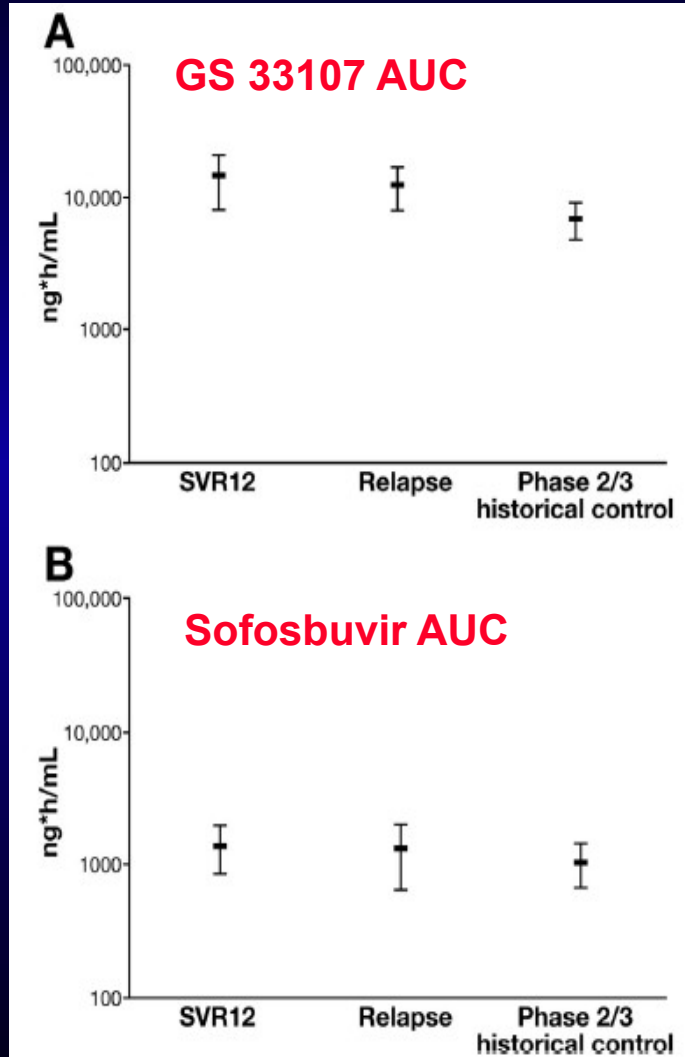
# Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin After Transplantation



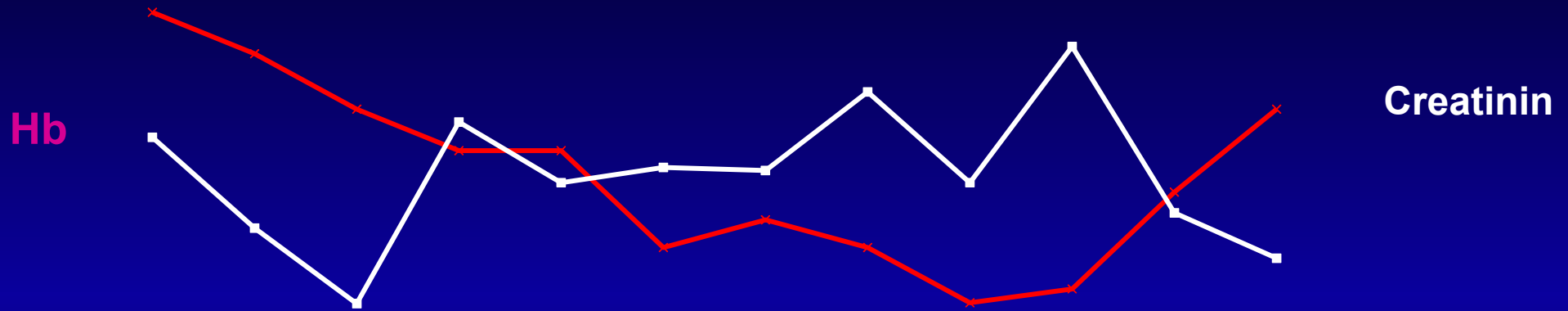


# Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin in Liver Transplant Patients

## Diff culty to identify Relapsers

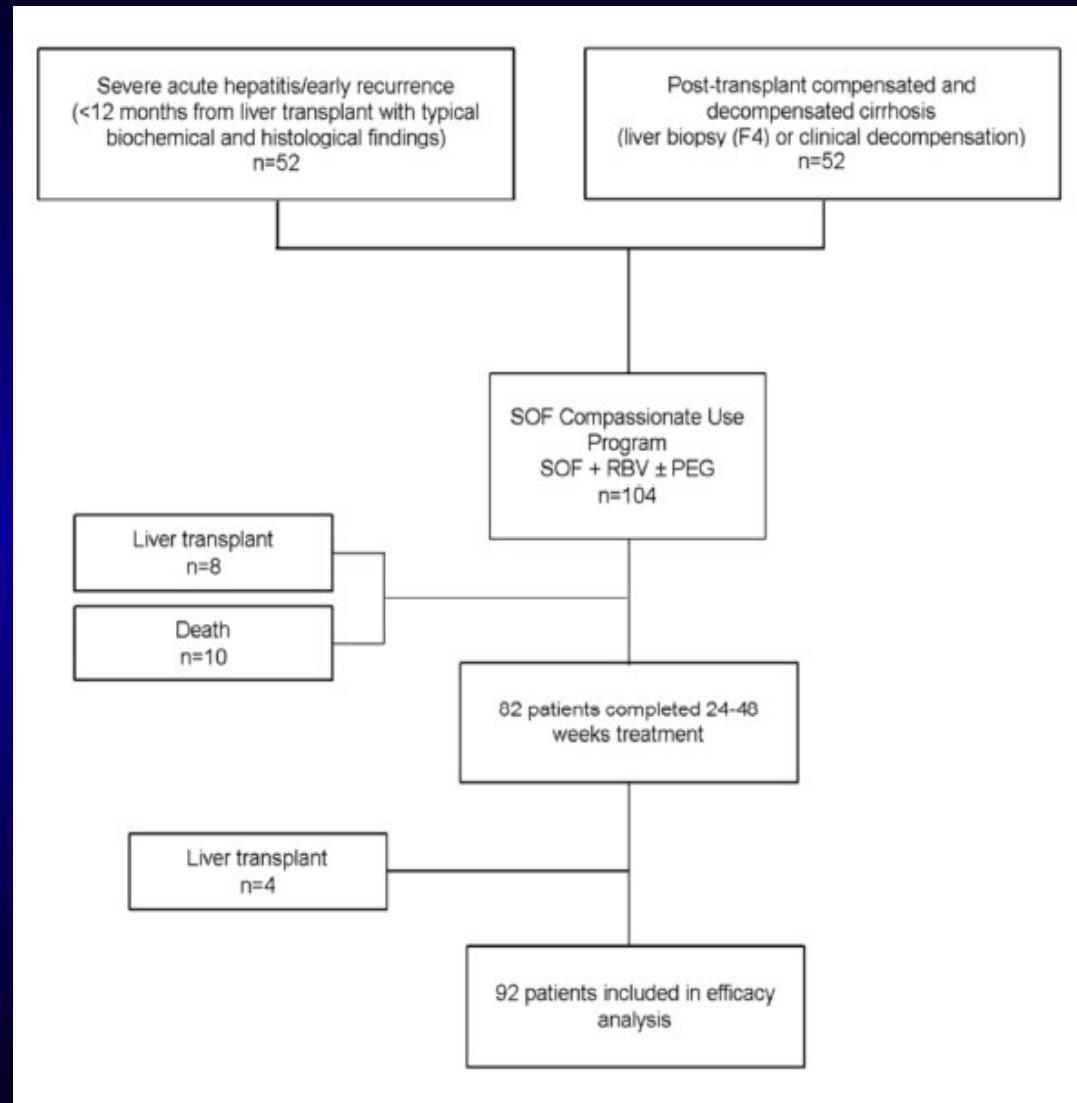


# Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin After Transplantation Tolerance



SAE: 15%, SAE leading to discontinuation: 5%, fatigue 30%,  
Hb < 10g:/dl: 33%; Hb < 8g: 3%, 20% Received EPO

# Compassionate Use Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin ± PegIFN in Liver Transplant Patients



# Compassionate Use Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin ± PegIFN in Liver Transplant Patients

	Overall (N=104)	Acute hepatitis and early severe recurrence (N=52)	Compensated and decompensated cirrhosis (N=52)
Age, years (IQR)	55 (51-60)	54 (50-60)	56 (51-64)
Male, n (%)	76 (73)	39 (75)	37 (71)
Genotype, n (%)			
1a	36 (35)	22 (42)	14 (27)
1b	49 (47)	23 (44)	26 (50)
2	1 (1)	1 (2)	0
3	7 (7)	1 (2)	6 (12)
4	7 (7)	5 (10)	2 (4)
>1	4 (4)	0	4 (8)
HCV RNA, log <sub>10</sub> IU/mL (IQR)	6.2 (5.3-7.0)	6.7 (5.5-7.5)	5.8 (5.1-6.4)
Months from OLT (IQR) <sup>1</sup>	16.8 (18-54)	8.4 (4.8-12.7)	53.1 (33.1-92.1)
Bilirubin, mg/dL median (IQR)	3.1 (1.3-9.7)	4.7 (1.5-19.2)	1.9 (1.2-4.8)
Albumin, g/dL median (IQR)	3.1 (2.7-3.5)	3.1 (2.6-3.6)	3.1 (2.7-3.5)
INR median (IQR)	1.3 (1.1-1.6)	1.2 (1.0-1.5)	1.4 (1.2-1.6)
Platelet count × 10 <sup>3</sup> /mL median (IQR)	75 (52-119)	91 (59.3-134.5)	69 (50.3-99.3)
ALT, U/L median (IQR)	71.0 (39.3-167.0)	102.0 (38.5-200.8)	60.0 (39.5-101.3)
AST, U/L median (IQR)	124.5 (70.8-210.5)	145.5 (93.5-339)	101.0 (62.3-180.0)
ALP, U/L median (IQR)	164.0 (117.5-263.3)	190.0 (124.5)	148.0 (362.5)
GGT, U/L median (IQR)	144.0 (64.0-426.5)	383.0 (121.0-915.5)	112.7 (45-148.0)
Hemoglobin, g/dL median (IQR)	10.9 (9.6-12.5)	10.9 (9.4-12.2)	11.0 (9.8-12.9)
Creatinine, mg/dL median (IQR)	1.1 (0.9-1.4)	1.1 (0.9-1.4)	1.2 (0.9-1.4)
CPT (IQR)	8 (7-10)	N/A	8.0 (7-10)
MELD (IQR)	15 (11-21)	16 (10-22)	14 (11-19)
Antiviral regimens used			
SOF + RBV alone, n/N (%)	80/104 (77)	36/52 (69)	44/52 (85)
SOF + RBV + PEG, n/N (%)	24/104 (23)	16/52 (31)	8/52 (15)

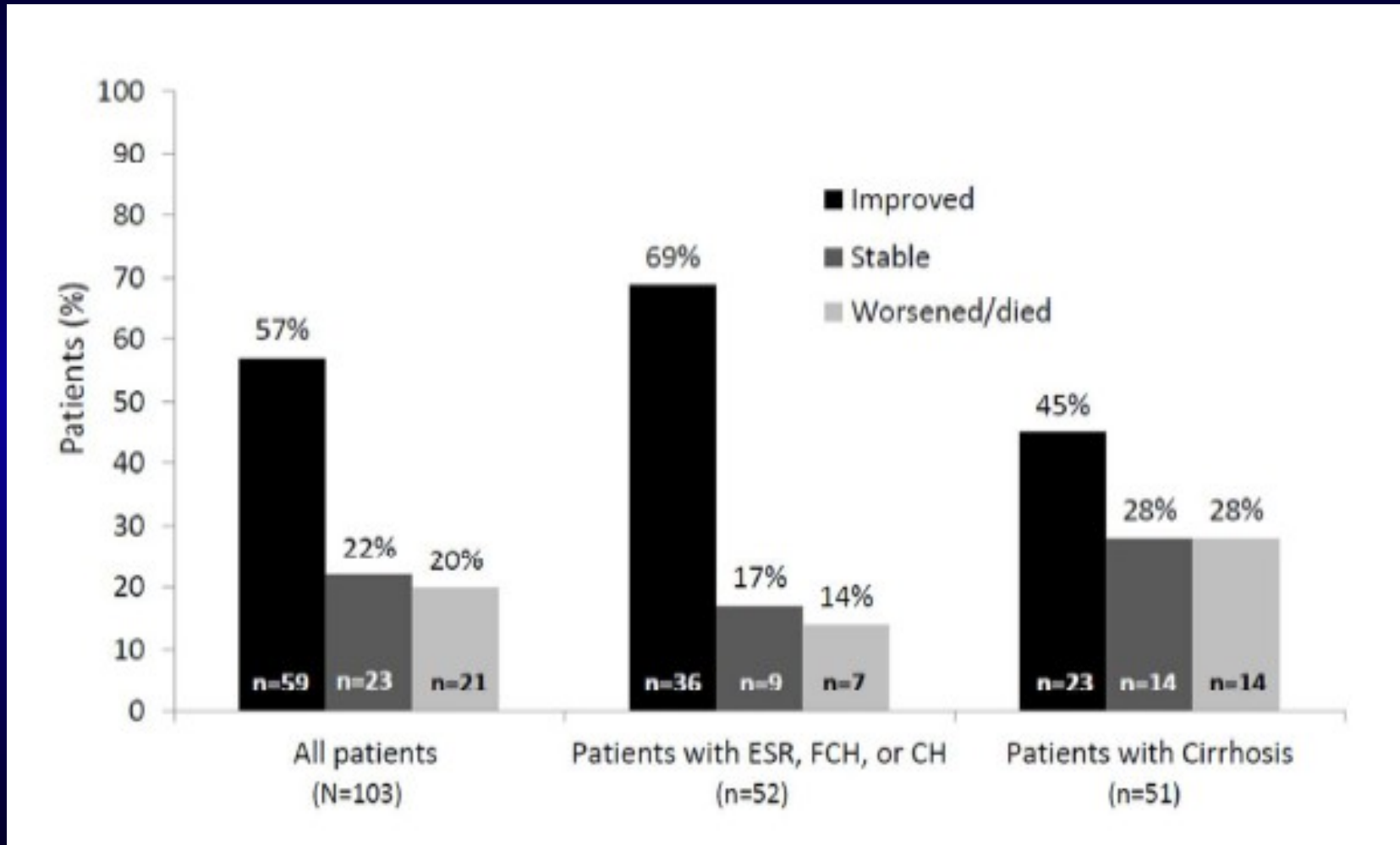
*X Forns  
Hepatology  
in press 2015*

# Compassionate Use Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin ± PegIFN in Transplant Patients: Virologic Response

**Table 2. Response (HCV RNA <25 IU/mL) during and after treatment**

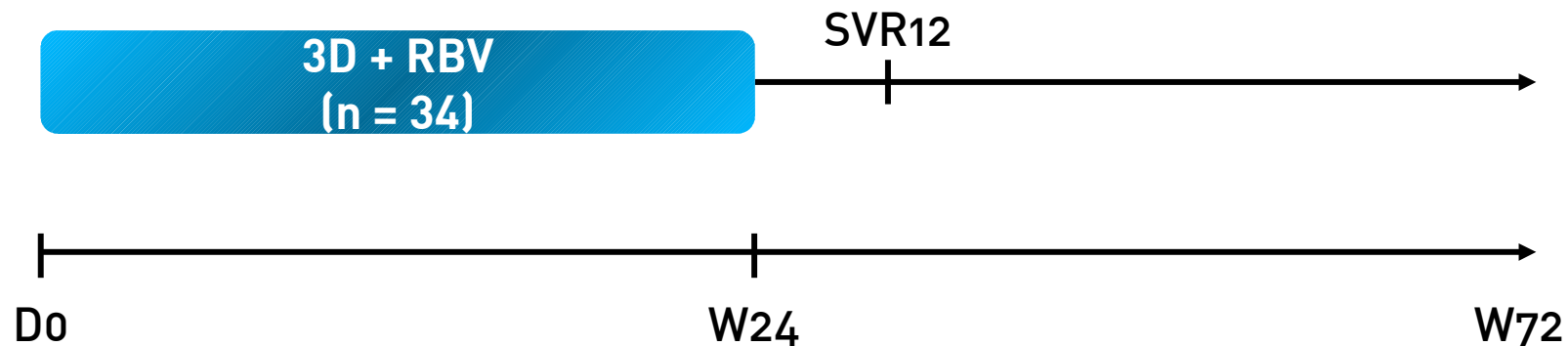
	Overall (N=104)	Acute hepatitis and early severe recurrence (N=52)	Compensated and decompensated cirrhosis (N=52)
During treatment, % (n/n) %*			
At week 4	56/104 (54%)	24/52 (46%)	33/51 (65%)
At week 12	82/104 (79%)	42/50 (84%)	40/49 (82%)
At week 24	76/96 (73%)	38/48 (79%)	38/47 (81%)
In post-treatment follow-up, n (%)			
At week 4 (SVR4)	62/93 (67%)	38/48 (79%)	24/46 (52%)
At week 12 (SVR12)	54/92 <sup>†</sup> (59%)	35/48 <sup>†</sup> (73%)	19/44 <sup>†</sup> (43%)
Virologic failure			
On-treatment failure	0	0	0
Relapse	19/92 (21%)	4/48 (8%)	15/44 (34%)
Lost to follow-up	2/92 (2%)	2/48 (4%)	0
Discontinuation due to SAE	3/92 (3%)	1/48 (2%)	2/44 (5%)
Discontinuation due to non-adherence	1/92 (1%)	0	1/44 (2%)
Death	13/92 (14%)	6/48 (13%)	7/44 (16%)

# Compassionate Use Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin ± PegIFN in Transplant Patients: Virologic Response: Clinical Outcome



# ABT450/Ritonavir/Ombitasvir + Dasabuvir + RBV in LT Recipients with Recurrent HCV GT 1

- Phase II Study on efficacy and tolerance of ABT-450/r/ombitasvir 150 mg/100mg/25 mg/d + dasabuvir 250 mg x 2/d in patients with HCV reinfection post-LT
- Patients G1, fibrosis  $\leq$  F2 at Liver biopsy, no prior PEG/RBV after LT
- Dosing RBV free for the investigator
- CNI adaptation
  - Tacrolimus 0.5 mg/week or 0.2 mg/3 days
  - Ciclosporine 1/5 of initial daily dosing once a day



# ABT450/Ritonavir/Ombitasvir + Dasabuvir + RBV in LT Recipients with Recurrent HCV GT 1

**Table 2.** Response during and after Treatment.

Outcome	Patients with Outcome	
	no.	% (95% CI)
HCV RNA <25 IU/ml		
During treatment period		
At wk 4	34	100 (90–100)
At wk 24	34	100 (90–100)
After end of treatment		
At wk 4	33	97 (85–100)
At wk 12	33	97 (85–100)
At wk 24	33	97 (85–100)
Virologic failure during treatment	0	0 (0–10)
Relapse*	1	3 (0–15)



# ABT450/Ritonavir/Ombitasvir + Dasabuvir + RBV in LT Recipients with Recurrent HCV GT 1

## Anemia

n (%)	3D + RBV (n = 34)
8-10 g/dl	8 (23,5)
6,5-8 g/dl	1 (2,9)
EPO	5 (14,7)

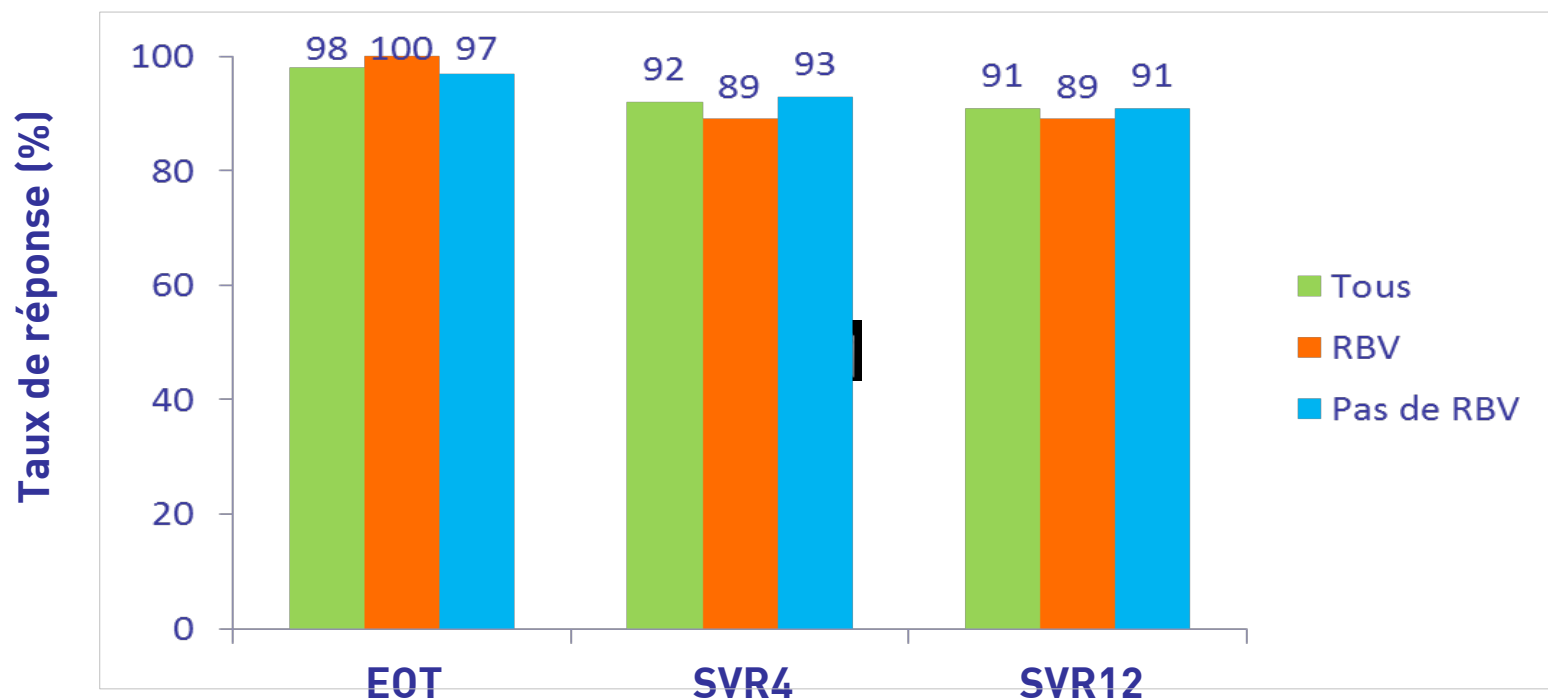
## Dosing of RBV

n (%)	J0 (n = 34)	Fin TTT (n = 34)
400 mg/d	3 (9)	4 (12)
600-800 mg/d	19 (56)	25 (73)
1 000-1 200 mg/d	12 (35)	5 (15)

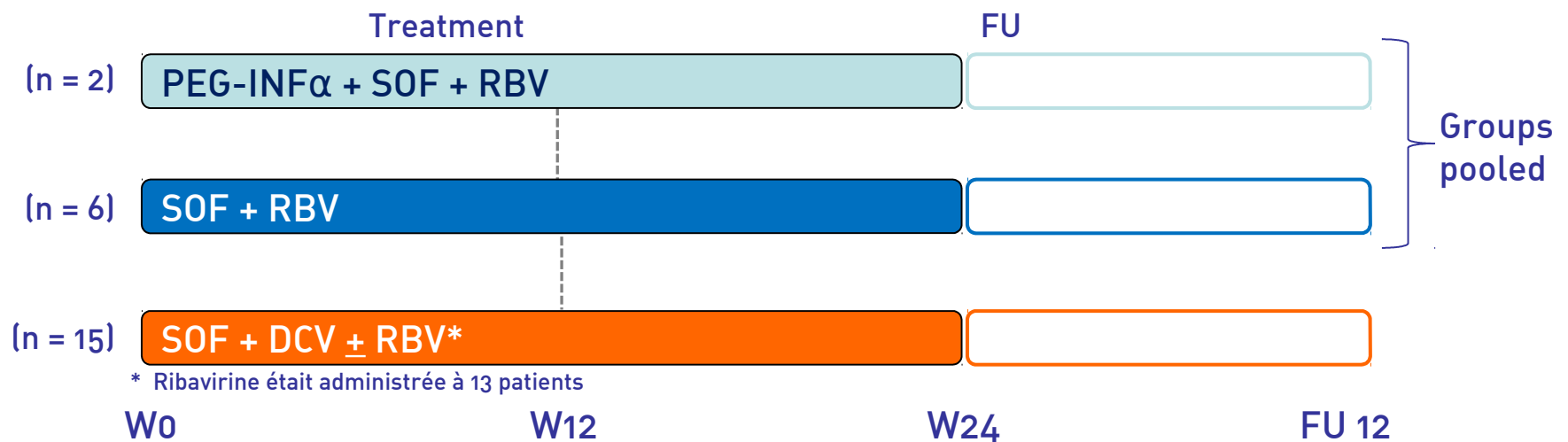
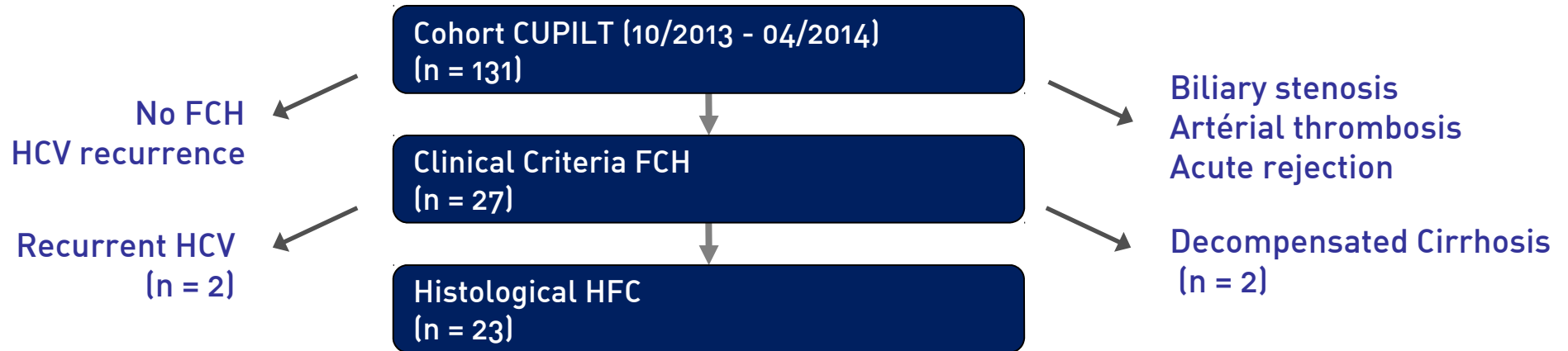
- 1 premature discontinuation for Rash (rash, anxiety)
- No rejection
- 4 patients Tac though level  $\uparrow$  15 mg/ml (15,7-34)  $\rightarrow$   
 $\uparrow$  réversible of créatinin in 2 patients

- Multicenter study, 109 transplant patients with histologically proven recurrent HCV.
- Delay post-LT : 29 months (median). Median FU : 23 weeks
- Cholestatic recurrence: 11 % ; METAVIR F3-F4 : 29 %

## Virologic Response ITT



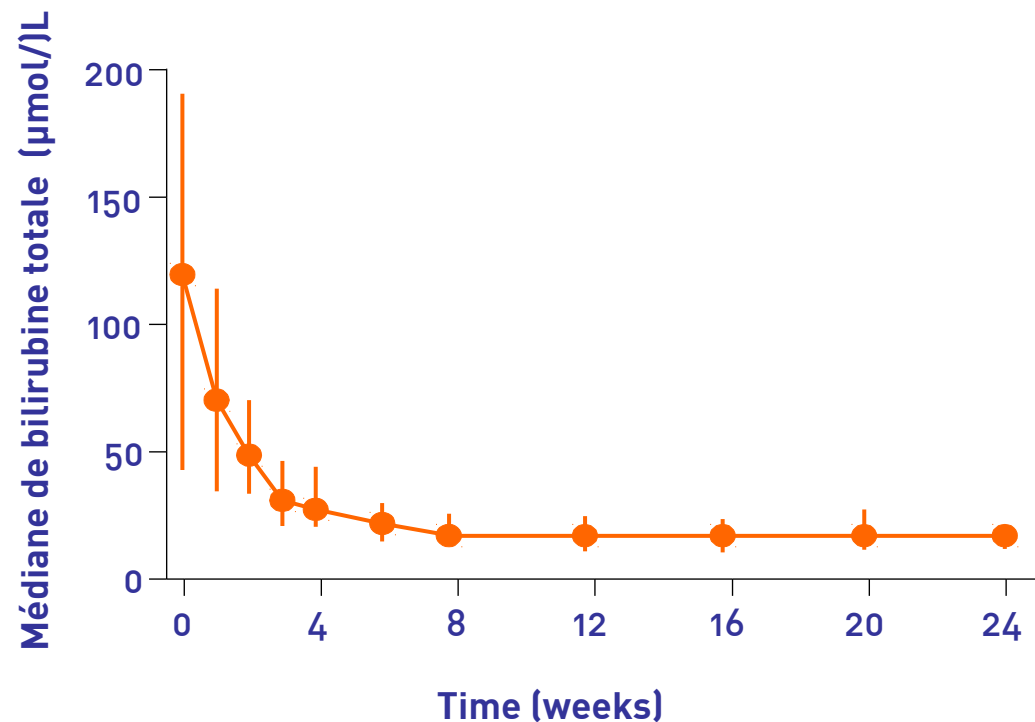
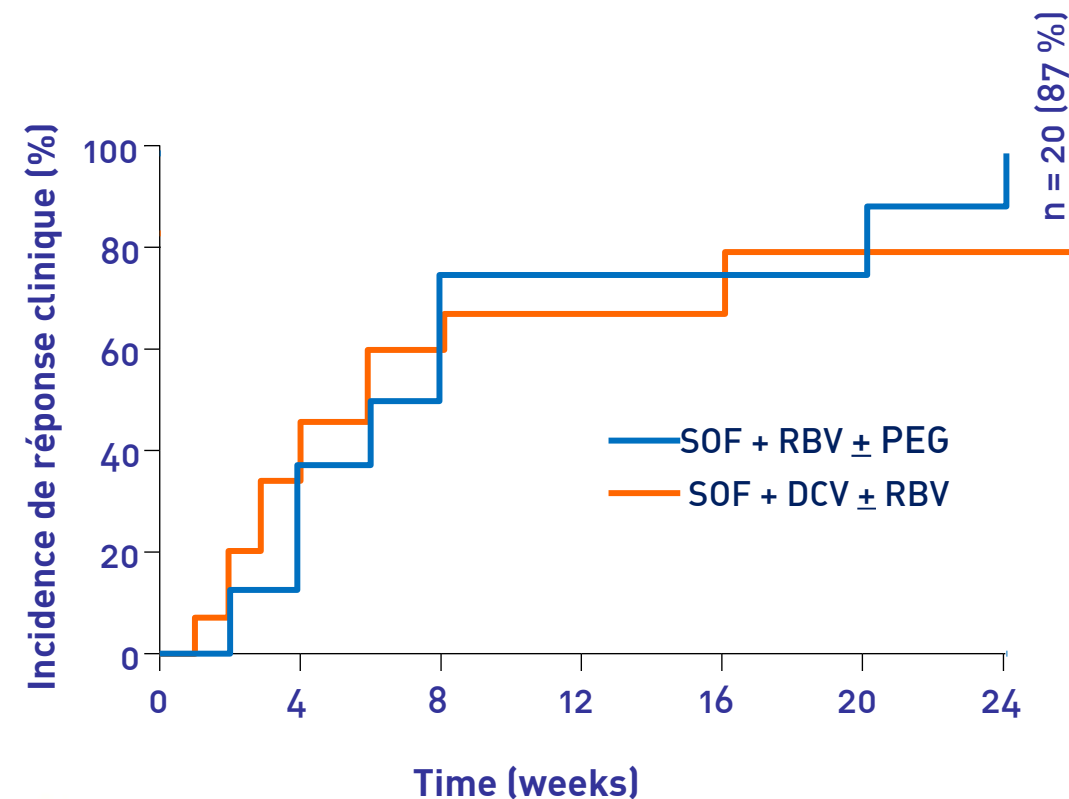
- Prospective multicenter French cohort Study



\* Ribavirine était administrée à 13 patients

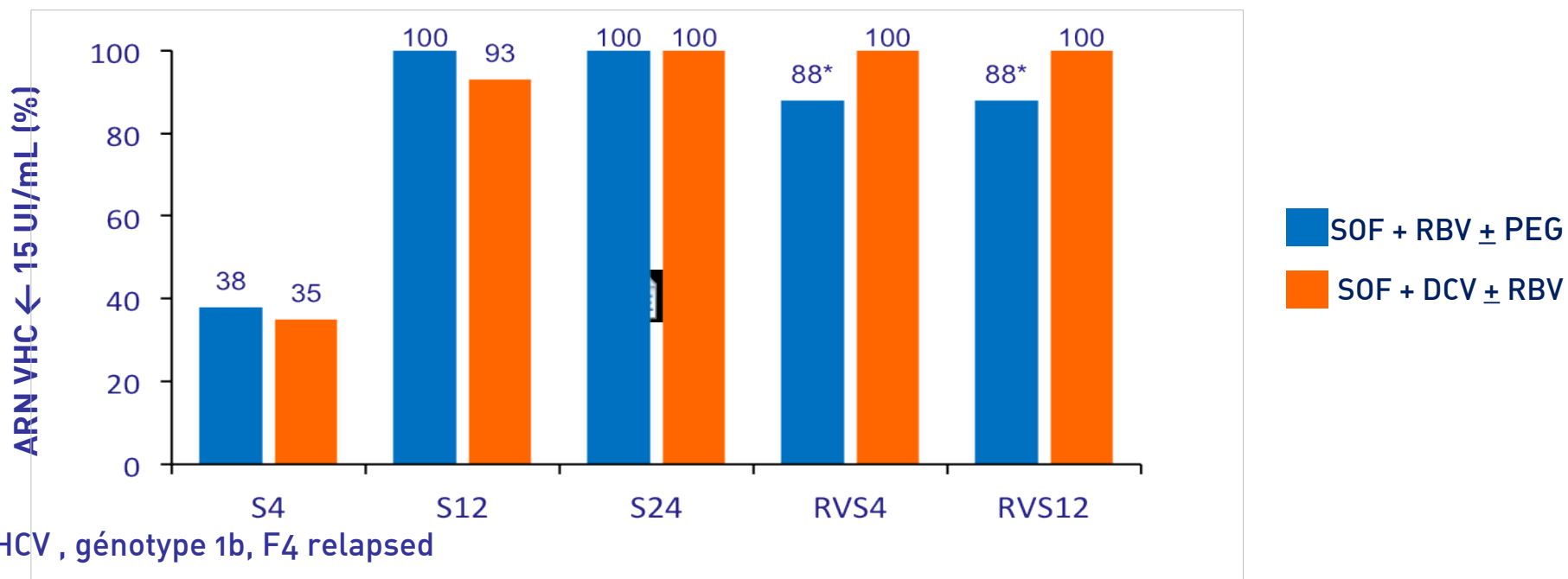
## Clinical response 24\*

## Evolution of Bilirubin at 24 weeks



Survival without retransplantation, total bilirubine ↓ 34 mmol/l, absence of ascites and no encephalopathy

## Virologic Response According to Treatment

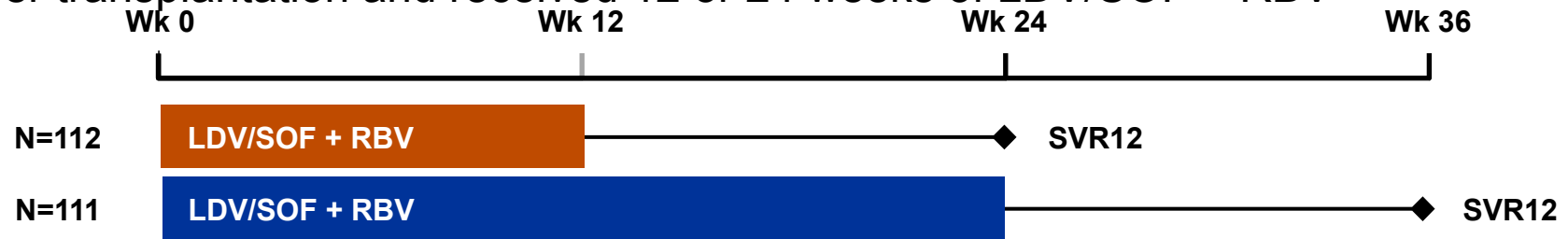


- Tolerance

- SAE : 12 (52 %)
- Anaemia grade 3-4 : 6/26 %)
- Infection : 7 (30 %)
- Neutropenia grade 3-4 : 3 (13 %)
- Renal failure : 1

# LDV/SOF + RBV for treatment of HCV in patients with post-transplant recurrence

Prospective, multicentre study in TN and TE GT 1 and 4 patients, who were post-liver transplantation and received 12 or 24 weeks of LDV/SOF + RBV



223 patients randomised 1:1 to 12 or 24 weeks of treatment

- ≥3 months from liver transplant
- No hepatocellular carcinoma

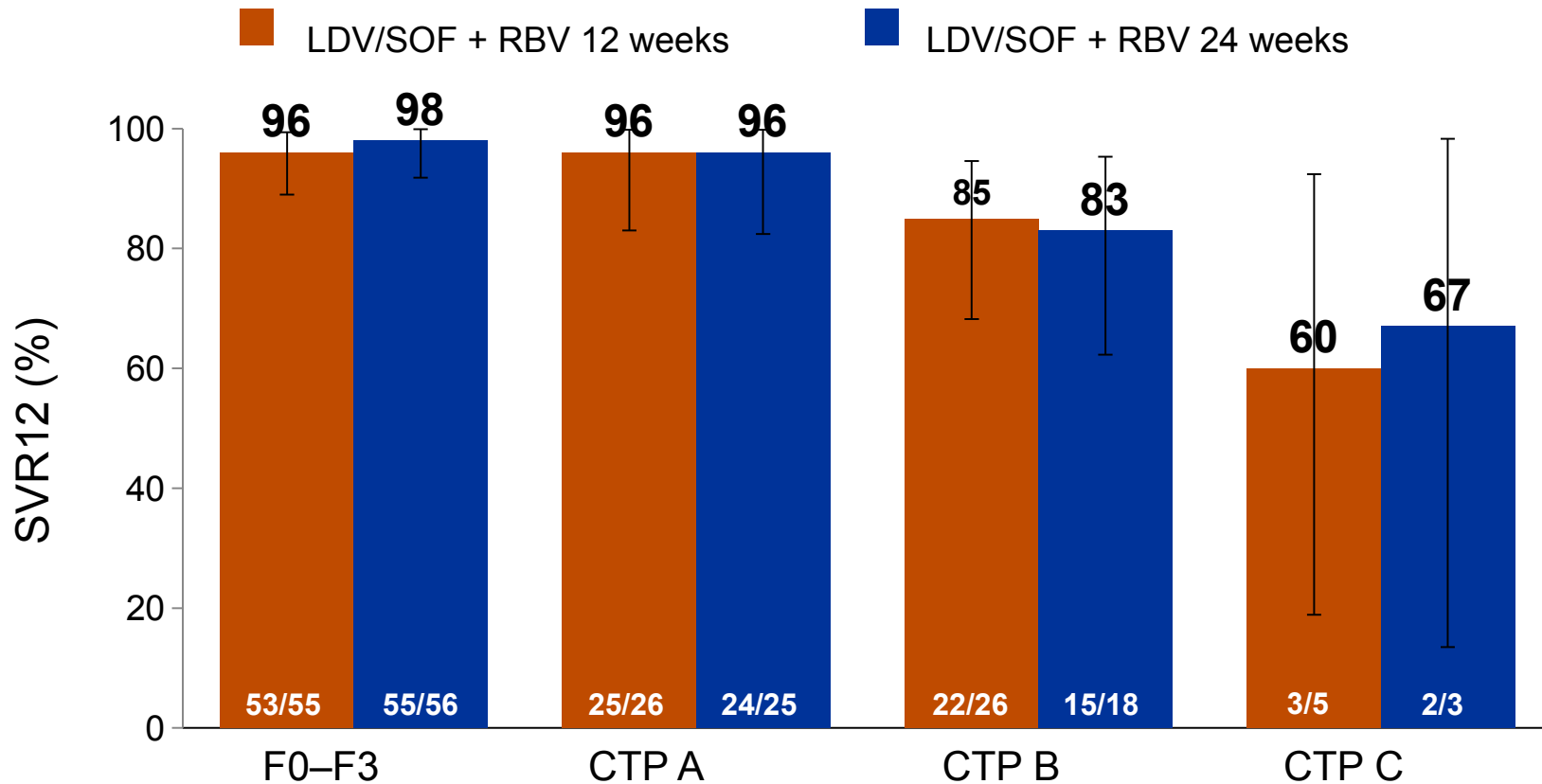
Stratified at screening: F0–F3, CTP A, B, C  
Broad inclusion criteria:

- Total bilirubin ≤10 mg/dL, Hb ≥10 g/dL
- CrCl ≥40 mL/min, platelets > 30,000

RBV dosing

- F0–F3 and CTP A cirrhosis: weight-based (<75 kg = 1000 mg; ≥75 kg = 1200 mg)
- CTP B and C cirrhosis: dose escalation, 600–1200 mg/d

# LDV/SOF + RBV in Post-Transplant Recurrence



**SVR rates were similar with 12 or 24 weeks of LDV/SOF + RBV**

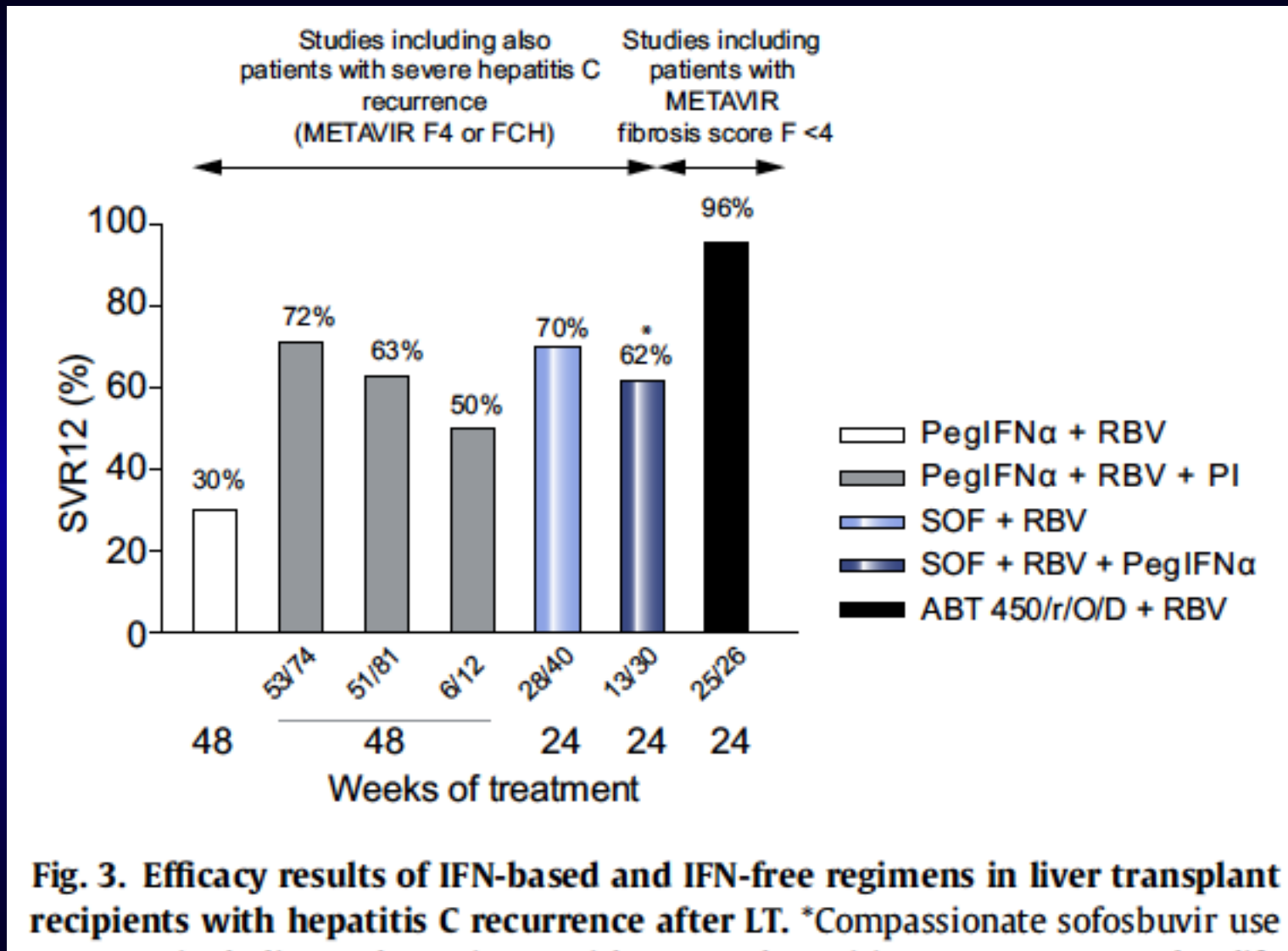
# DAA Interactions with CNI (Tacrolimus and Cyclosporine)

Table 4. Drug-drug interactions between DAAs and calcineurin inhibitors.

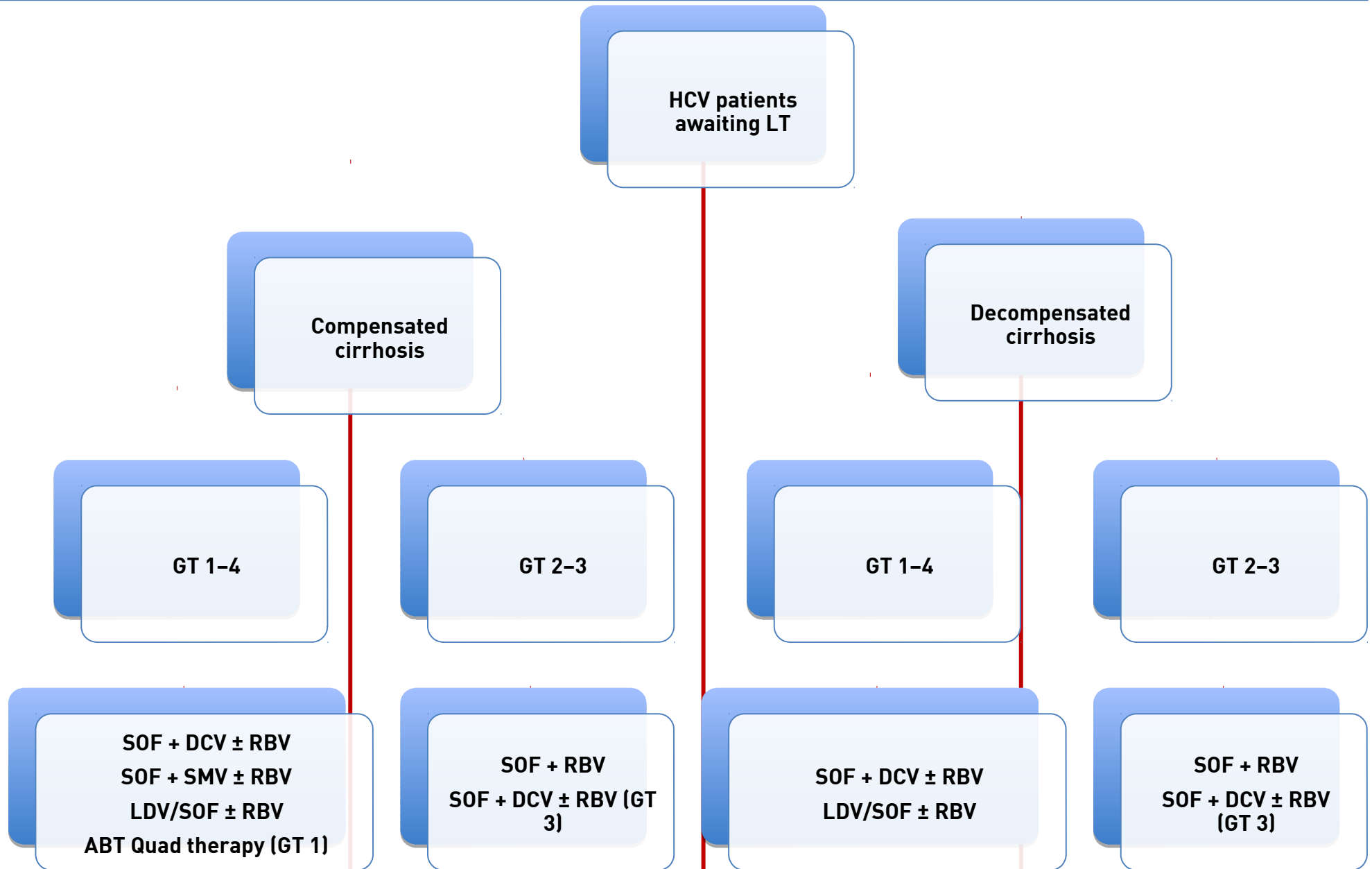
DAA	Cyclosporine		Tacrolimus	
	Healthy volunteers	Dose adjustment	Healthy volunteers	Dose adjustment
Boceprevir [115, 116]*	AUC ↑ 2.7 fold	↓ 2 fold	AUC ↑ 17 fold	↓ 5 fold
Telaprevir [77, 117]*	AUC ↑ 4.6 fold	↓ 4 fold	AUC ↑ 70 fold	↓ 35 fold
ABT450/r [86]	AUC ↑ 5.8 fold	↓ 5 fold	AUC ↑ 58 fold	↓ 100 fold
Simeprevir [118]§	AUC ↑ 19%	Under investigation	AUC ↓ 17%	Not necessary
Sofosbuvir [119]*	No change	Not necessary	No change	Not necessary
Daclatasvir [120]	No change	Not necessary	No change	Not necessary



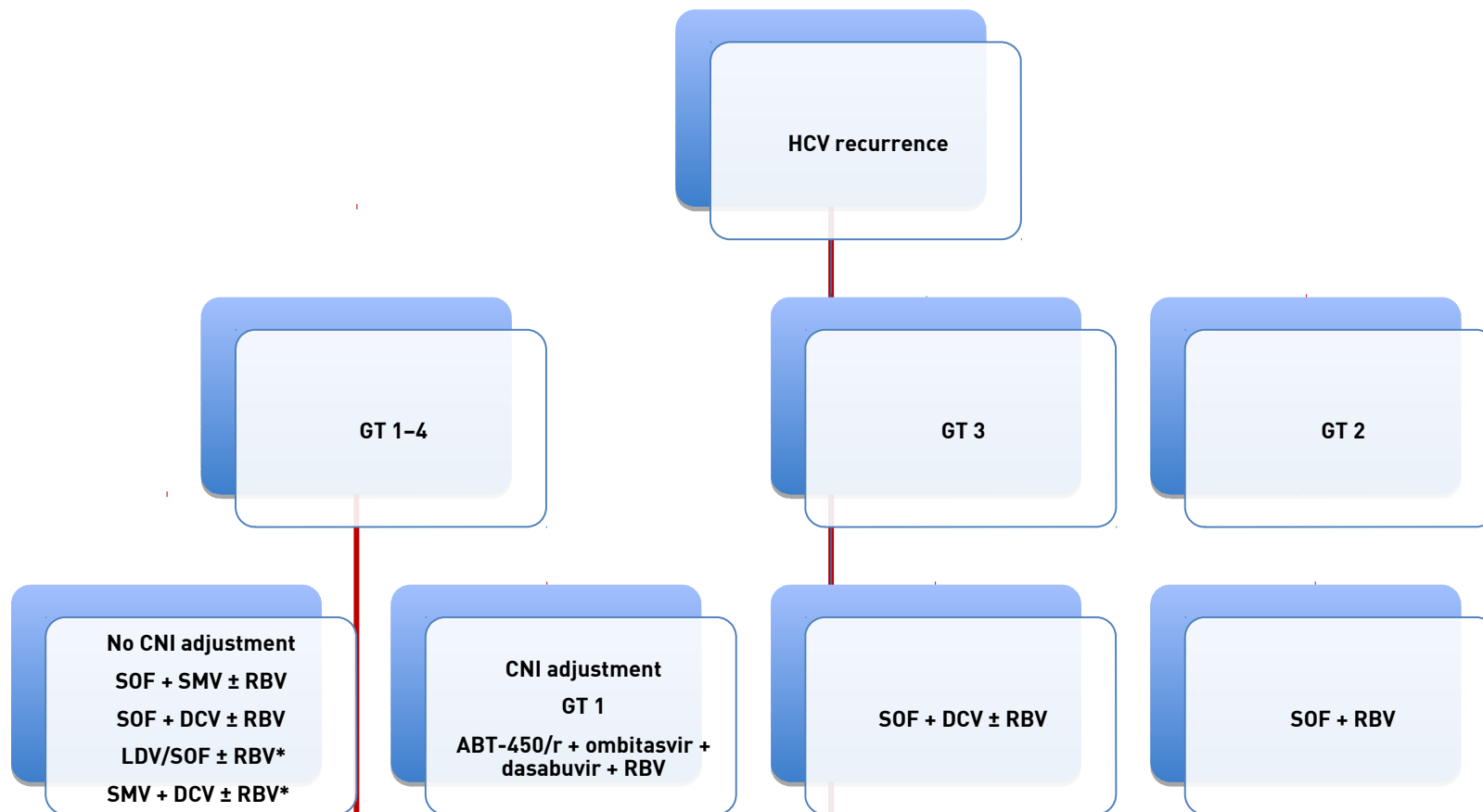
# SVR with DAA in LT Patients



**Figure 1: Alternative strategies to treat HCV infection in patients on a waiting list in 2014-2015**



**Figure 2: Alternative strategies to treat HCV recurrence after liver transplantation in 2014-2015**



# CONCLUSION

- **The Field of Liver Transplantation In HCV Patients is moving dramatically with IFN-free regimen**
- **Some questions are open:**
  - **Treat before or after Transplantation?**
  - **Remove patients from the waiting list?**
  - **Which combination?**
  - **Duration of treatment ? Use of RBV?**
  - **How to avoid relapse? Risk of liver failure in case of relapse?**
- **The survival after transplantation for HCV infection will improve**



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