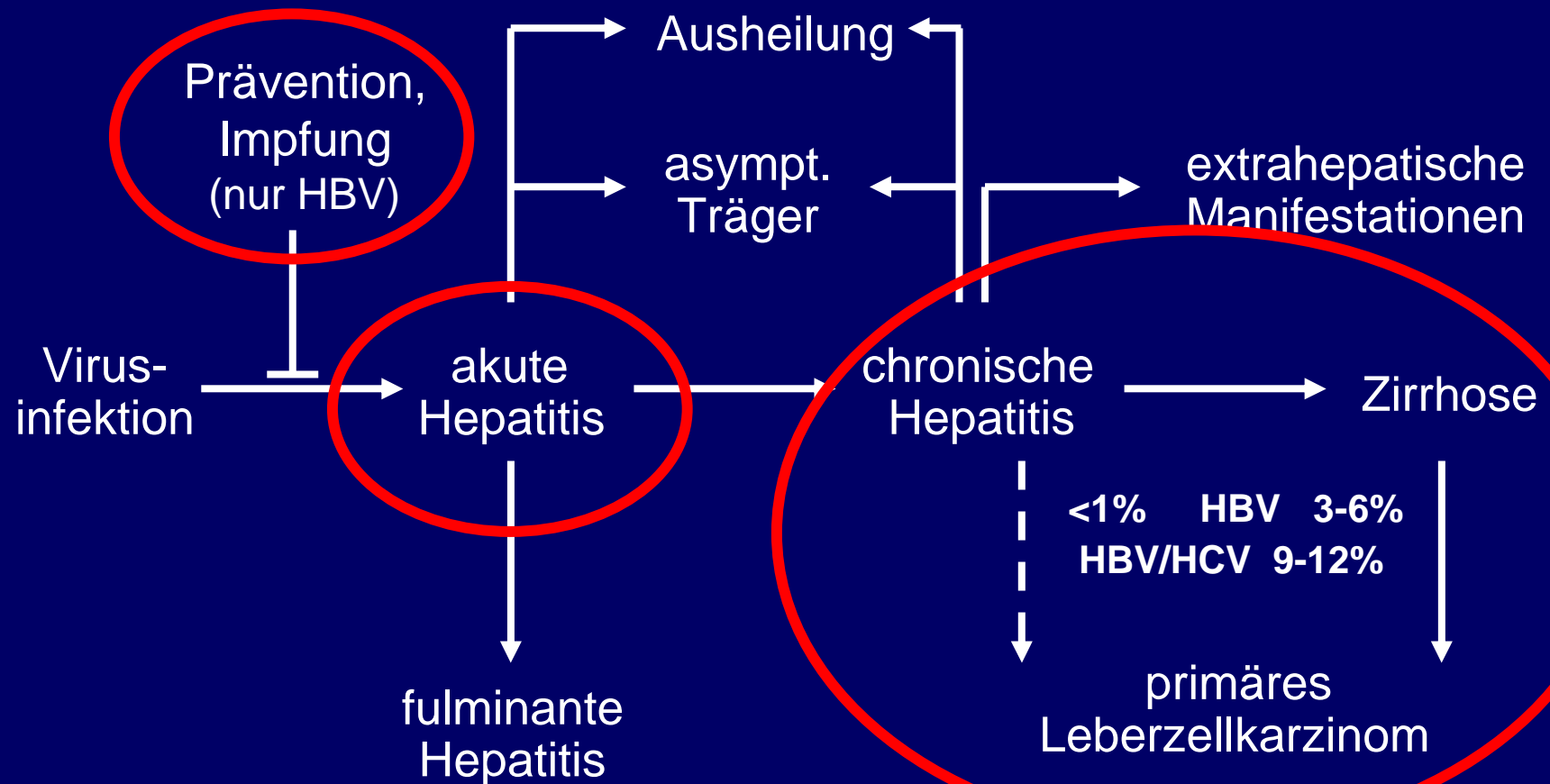


# Aktuelle Therapie chronischer Virushepatitiden

Fortbildungsveranstaltung  
Arbeitskreis AIDS  
Berlin, 2. Dezember 2009

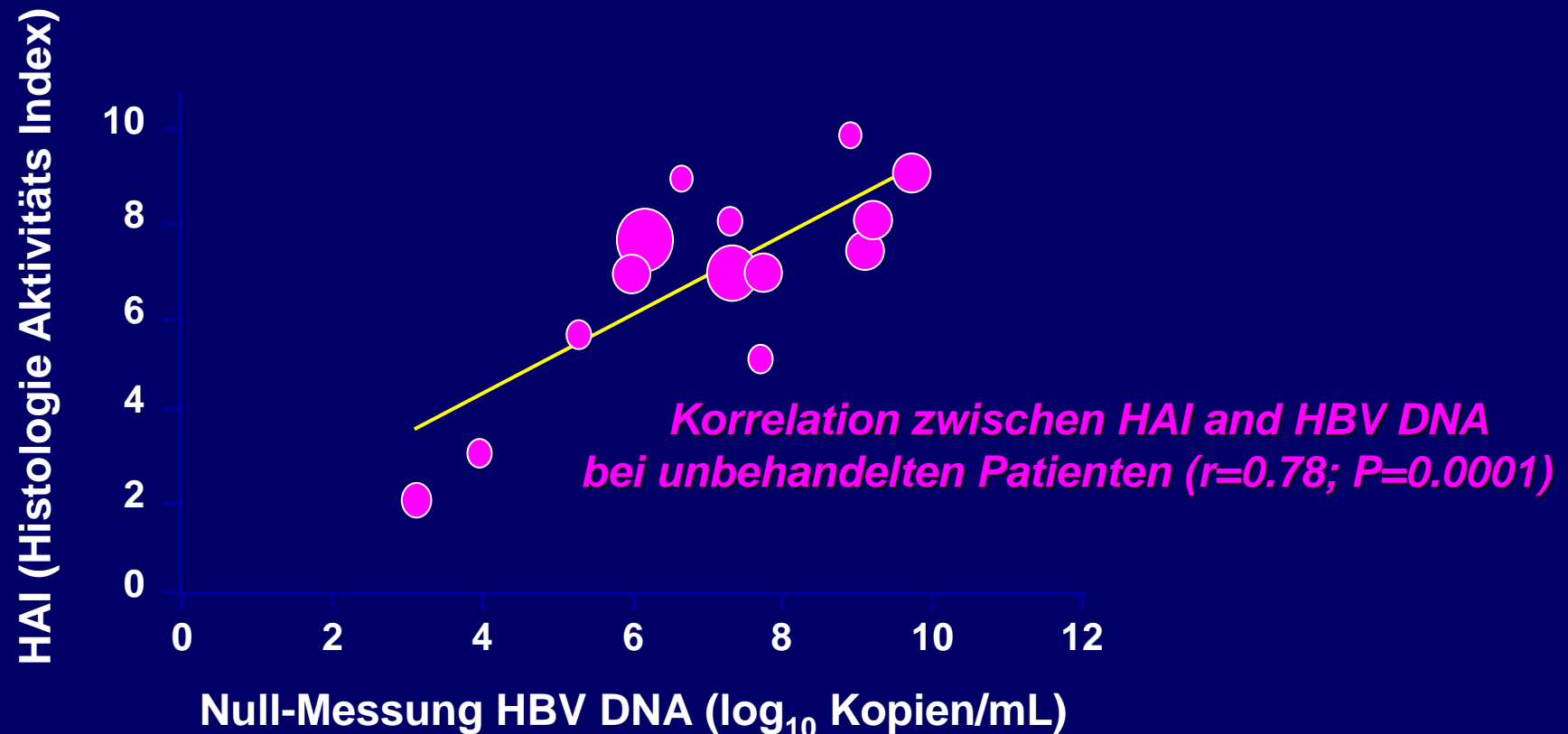
**Stefan Zeuzem**  
Universitätsklinikum  
Frankfurt a.M.

# Klinischer Verlauf chronischer Virushepatitiden

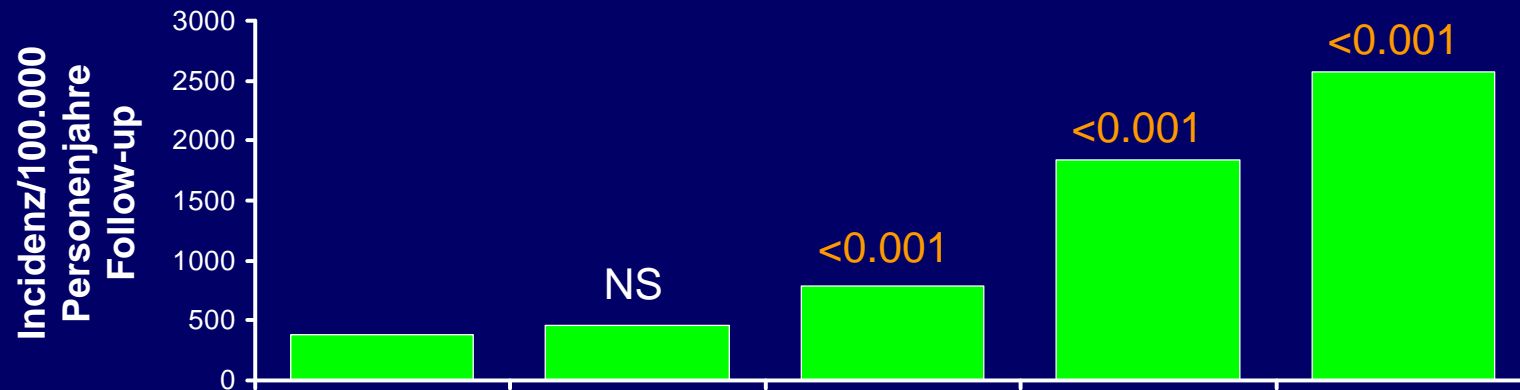


# Baseline Serum HBV DNA Spiegel und histologische “Nekrotische Entzündung”

- 3246 Patienten in 26 Studien zu CHB  
– HBV DNA und Biopsien “gematcht”



# Höhere Ausgangswerte von HBV DNA sind mit einer Progression zur Zirrhose verknüpft

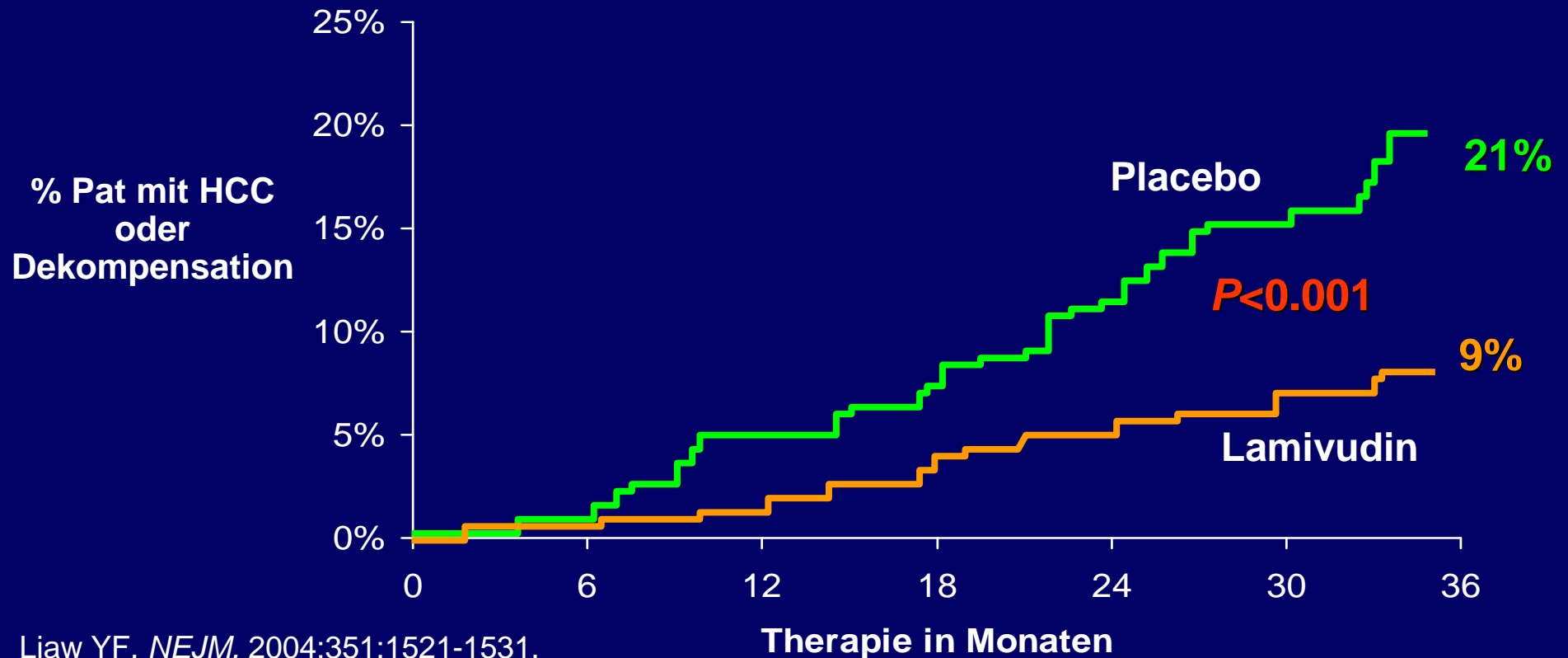


HBV DNA (Kopien/mL)	<300	300–<10 <sup>4</sup>	10 <sup>4</sup> –<10 <sup>5</sup>	10 <sup>5</sup> –<10 <sup>6</sup>	≥10 <sup>6</sup>
Adjust. RR (95% Konfidenz-Intervall)	1,0 (ref)	1,3 (0,9–2,0)	2,2 (1,5–3,3)	5,0 (3,4–7,4)	8,6 (6,2–12,3)
P Wert	–	NS	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001

\*Adjustiert für Geschlecht, Alter, anti-HCV Status, Rauchen, und Alkoholkonsum; NS=nicht signifikant

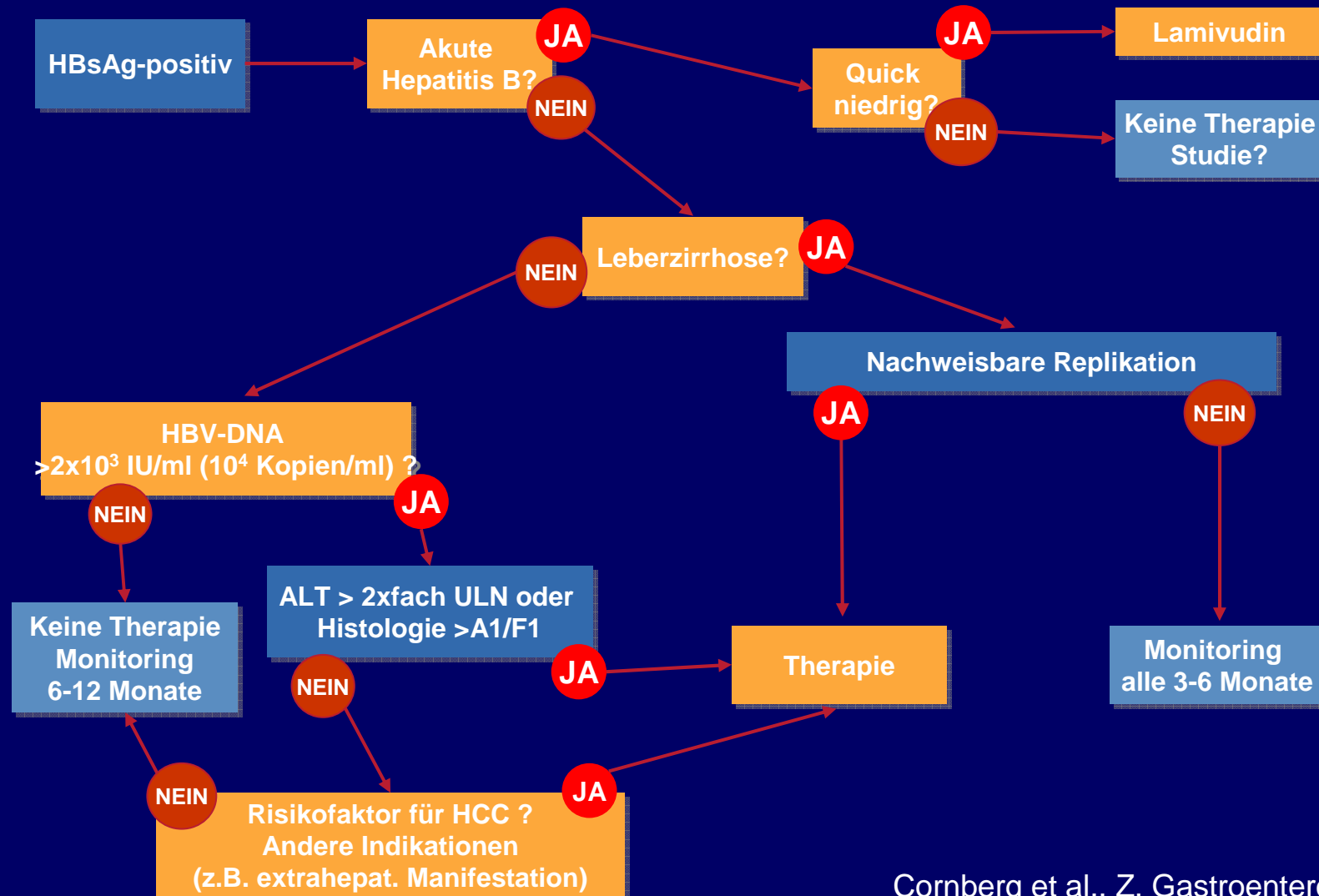
# Virus-Suppression vermindert Komplikationen bei chron. Hepatitis B

- 651 Patienten erhielten Lamivudin vs. Placebo (2:1)
- Mediane f/u = > 36 Monate



**Hepatitis B –  
Wer soll behandelt werden ?**

# S3-Leitlinie – Hepatitis B Diagnose und Therapie

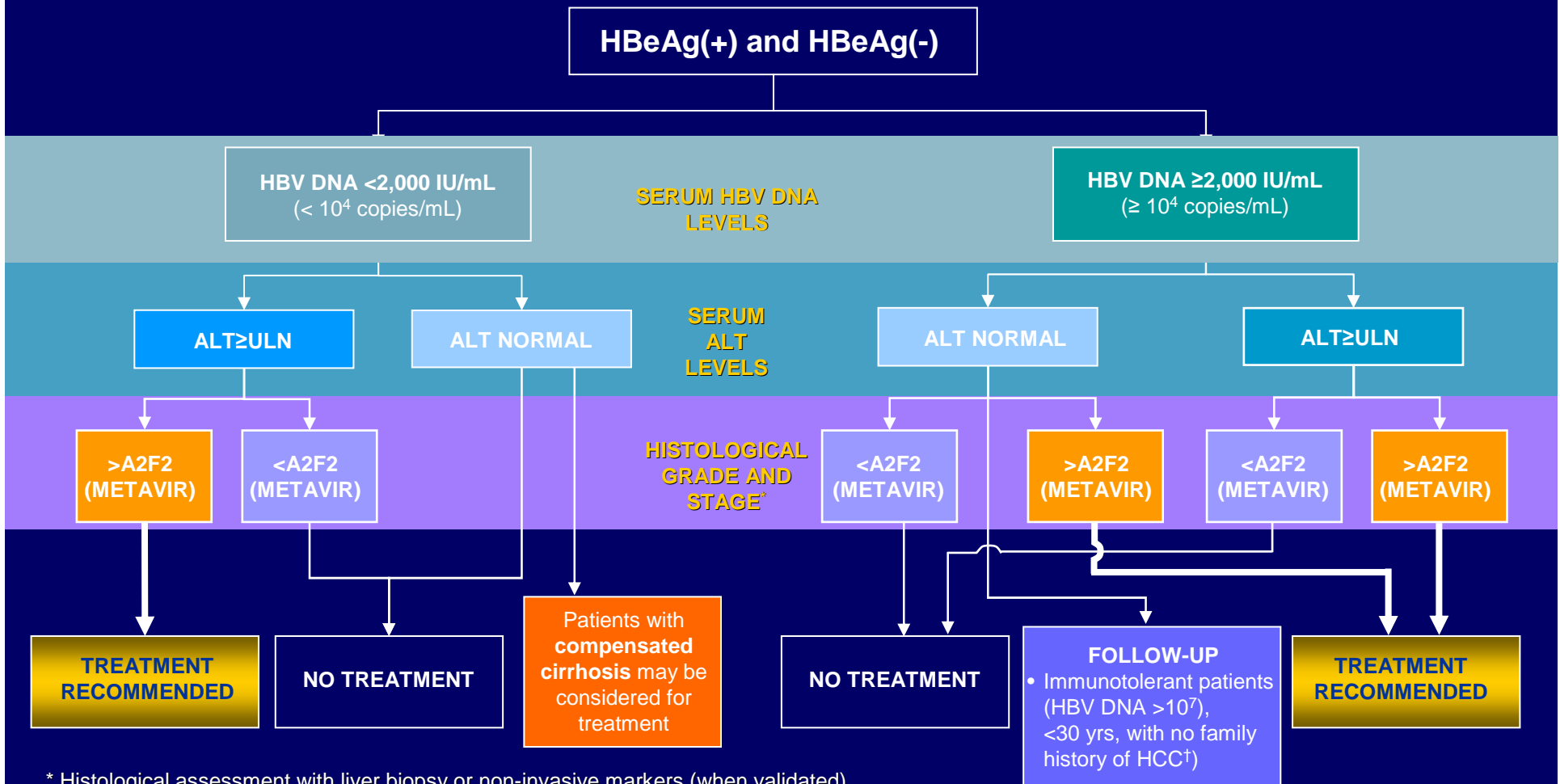


# EASL clinical practice guidelines: Indication for treatment

- The indication for treatment is mainly based on the combination of three criteria:
  - Serum HBV DNA levels
  - Serum ALT levels
  - Histological grade and stage
- Patients should be considered for treatment when:
  - HBV DNA levels are above 2,000 IU/mL
  - And/or the serum ALT levels are above the ULN
  - And/or liver biopsy shows moderate to severe active necroinflammation and/or fibrosis



# Liver biopsy and treatment decisions in the management of HBV infection



\* Histological assessment with liver biopsy or non-invasive markers (when validated).

† Immunotolerant patients >30 or/and family history of HCC and/or suspicion of liver disease require immediate liver biopsy.

Adapted from: EASL Clinical Practice Guidelines Panel. *J Hepatol.* 2009;50:227-42.

**Hepatitis B –  
Wie soll behandelt werden ?**

# Therapie der chronischen Hepatitis B

## Vor- und Nachteile der Medikamente

### (PEG) Interferon-alfa

#### Vorteile

- langjährige Erfahrung
- keine Resistenzentwicklung (Mutanten)
- definierte Therapiedauer

#### Nachteile

- Nebenwirkungsprofil
- keine Option für Patienten mit Leberzirrhose

### Lamivudin/Telbivudin

### Entecavir

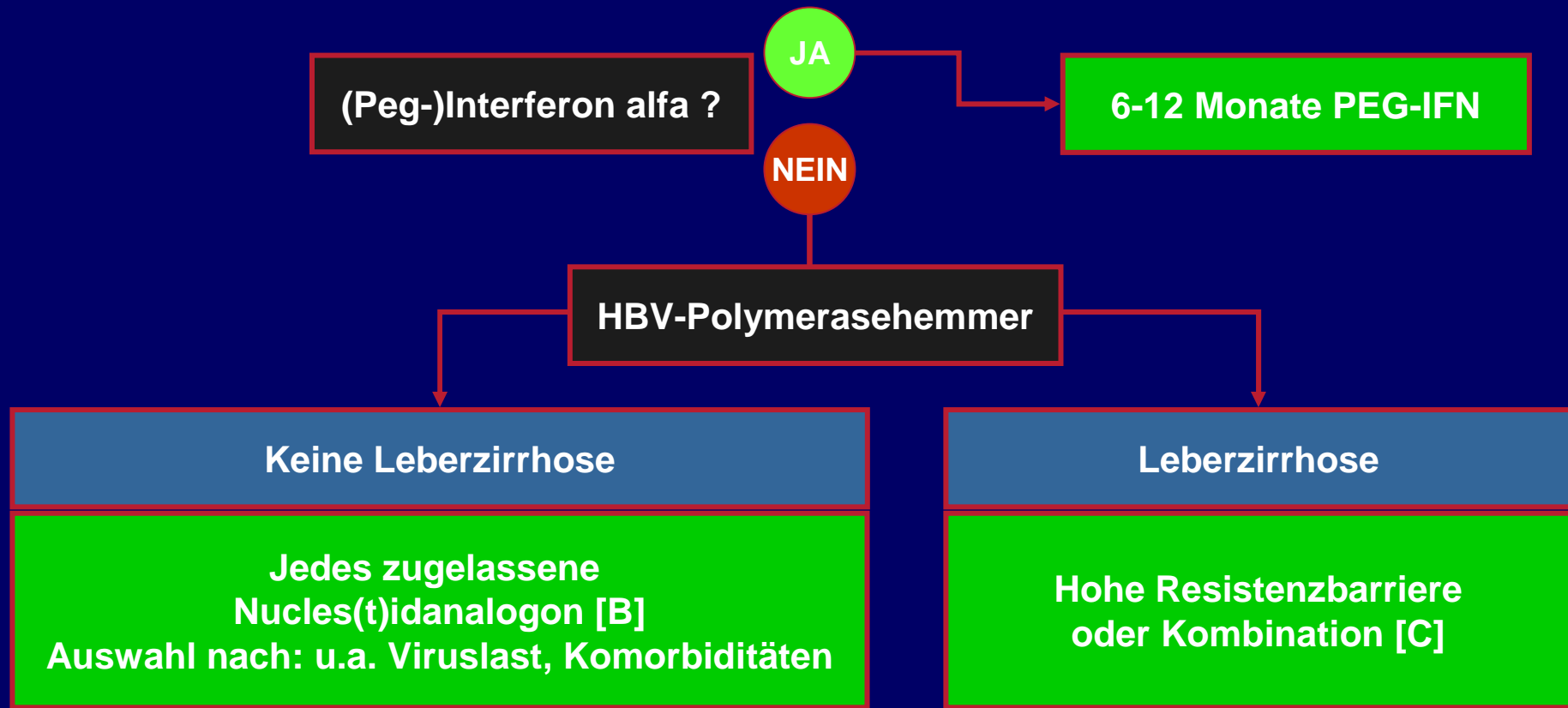
### Adefovir/Tenofovir

#### Vorteile

- orale Verfügbarkeit
- Nebenwirkungsprofil
- Option für Patienten mit Leberzirrhose

#### Nachteile

- Therapiedauer
- Resistenzentwicklung



**Ideal: Hohe Resistenzbarriere  
Hohe antivirale Wirksamkeit**

(Peg-)Interferon alfa ?

JA

6-12 Monate PEG-IFN

NEIN

Keine Leberzirrhose

Jedes zugelassene  
Nucle(t)idanalogen

Auswahl nach: u.a. Viruslast, Komorbiditäten

Leberzirrhose

Hohe Resistenzbarriere  
oder Kombination

Biochemisches und virologisches Ansprechen nach 6 Monaten ?

JA

HBV-DNA  
< 200 IU/ml

oder weiterer Abfall bis 1 J.

Therapie  
weiter

Monitoring  
alle  
3-6 Monate

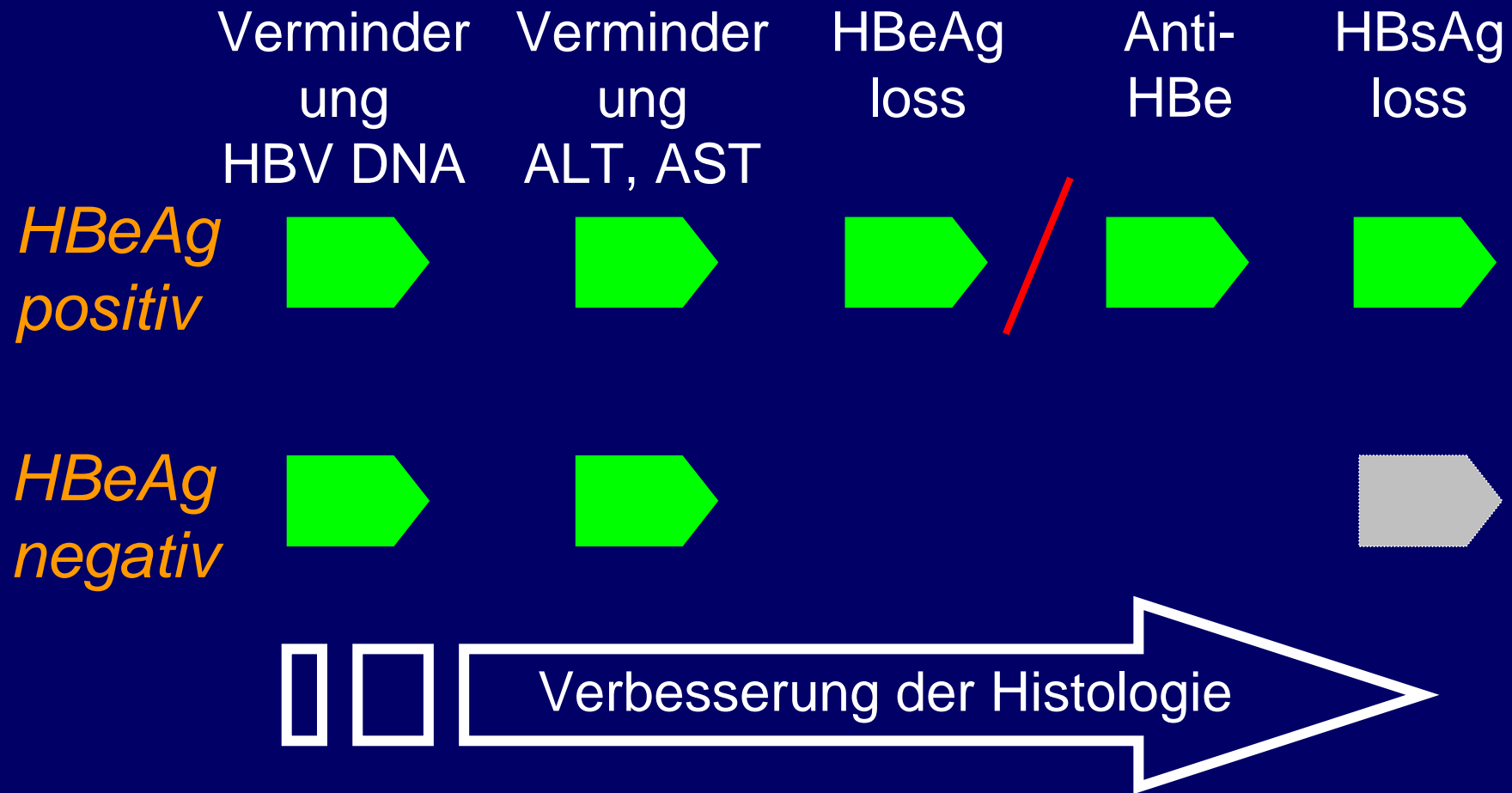
Bei HBV-DNA  
Anstieg  
>1log über Nadir

Anpassung je nach  
Substanz und Biochemie [A]

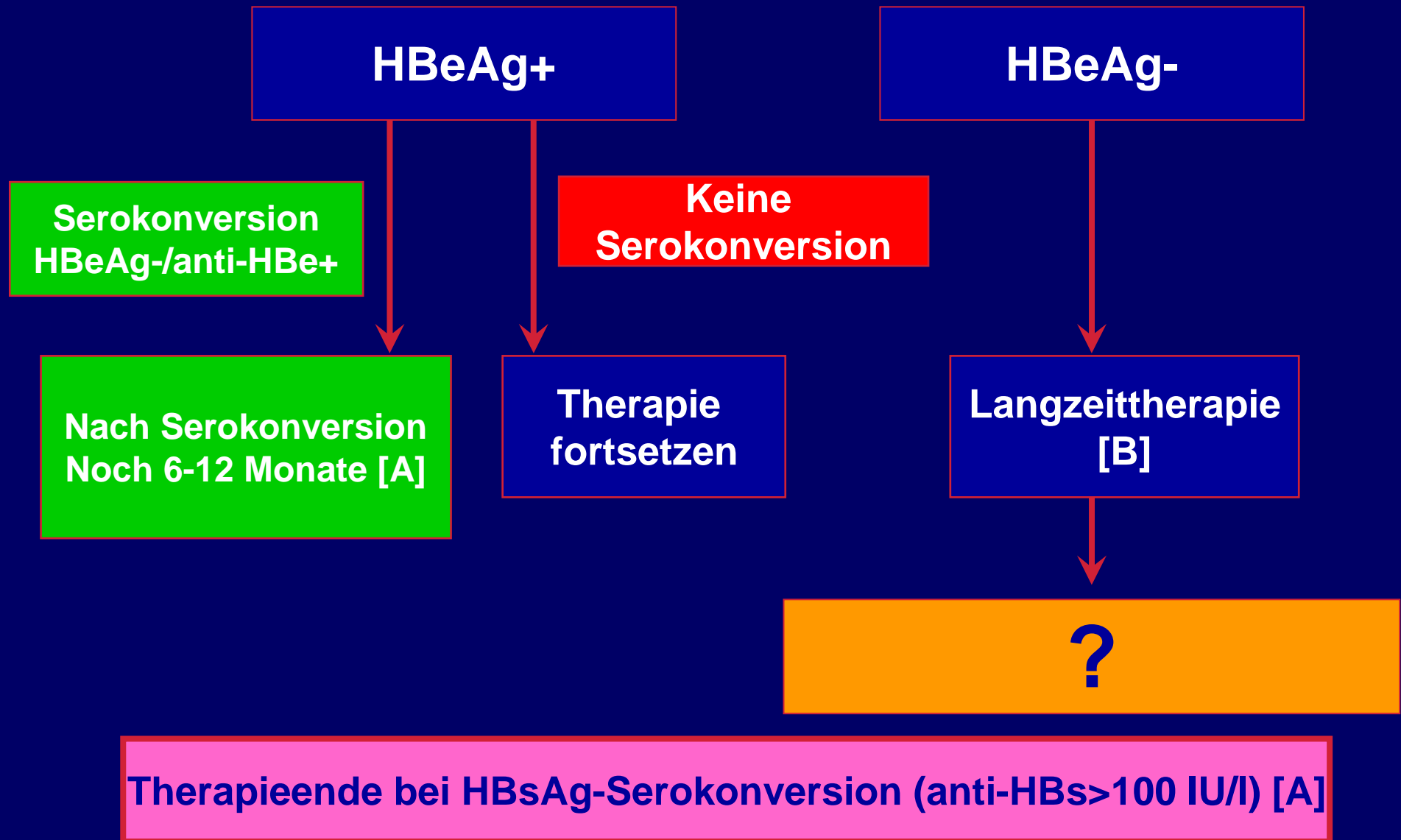
NEIN

HBV-DNA  
> 200 IU/ml

# Endpunkt der Therapie der chronischen Hepatitis B



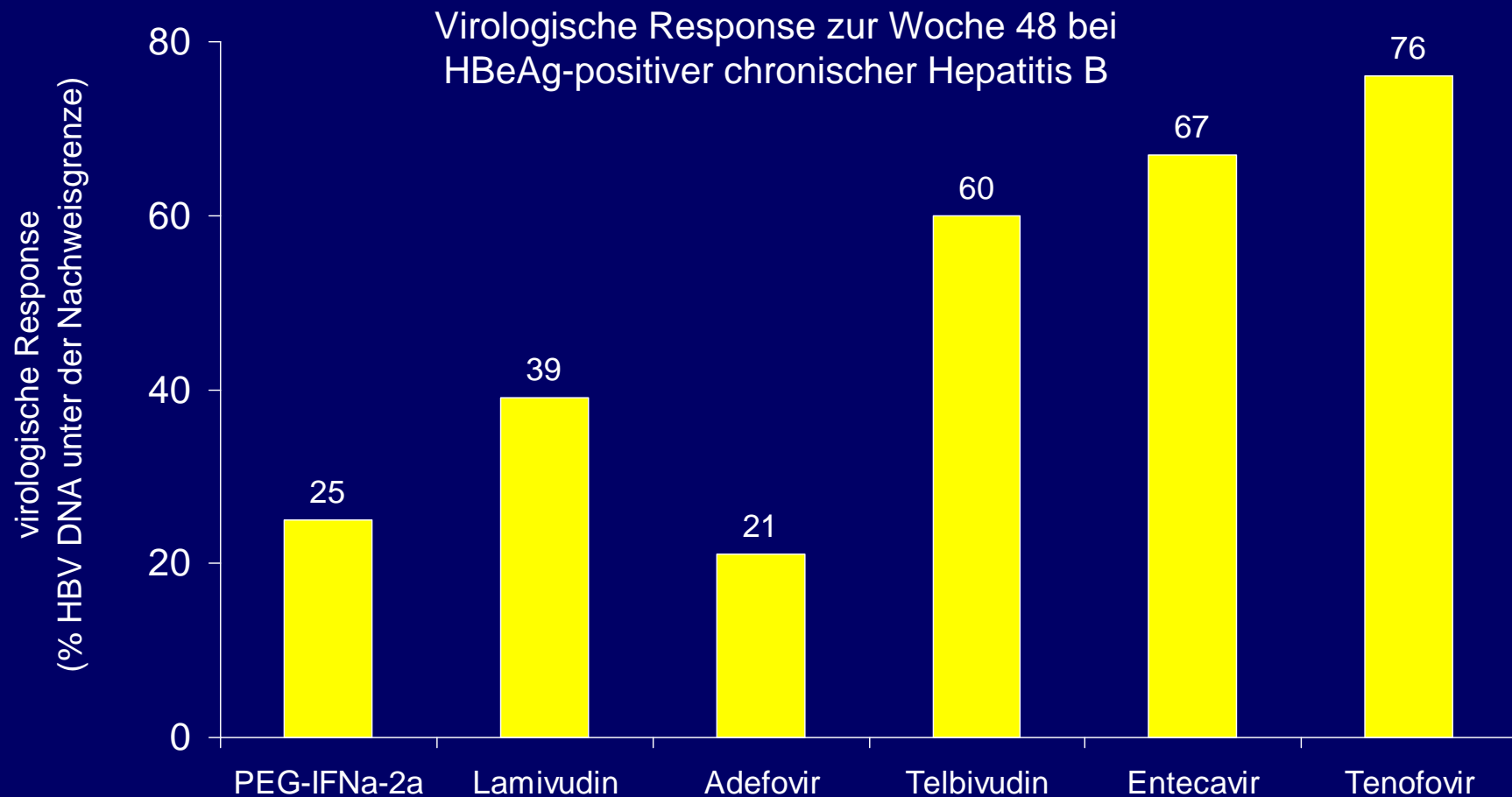
# Wann kann eine Therapie beendet werden?



# **Effektivität der Therapie**



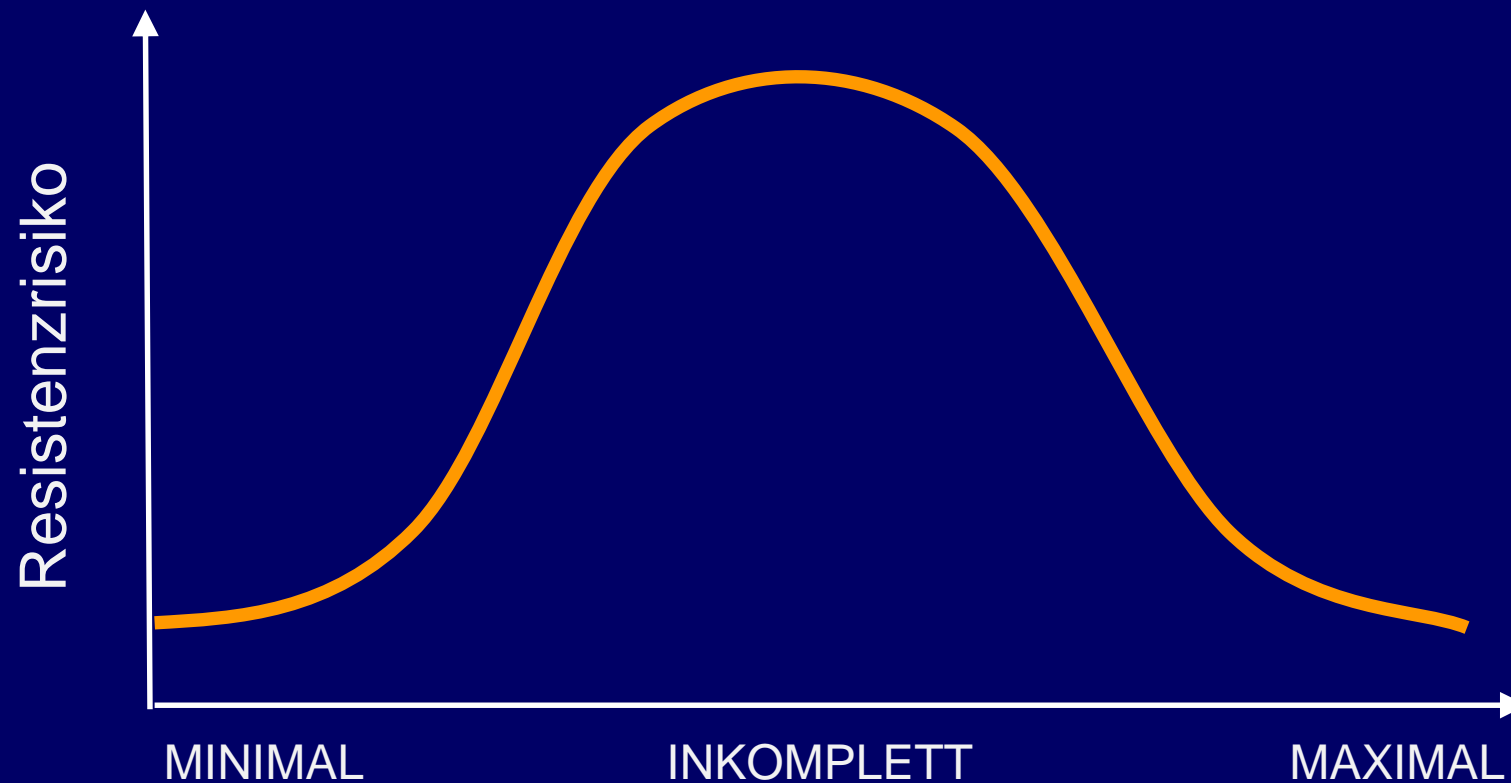
# Effektivität der antiviralen Therapie



keine direkten Vergleichsstudien!

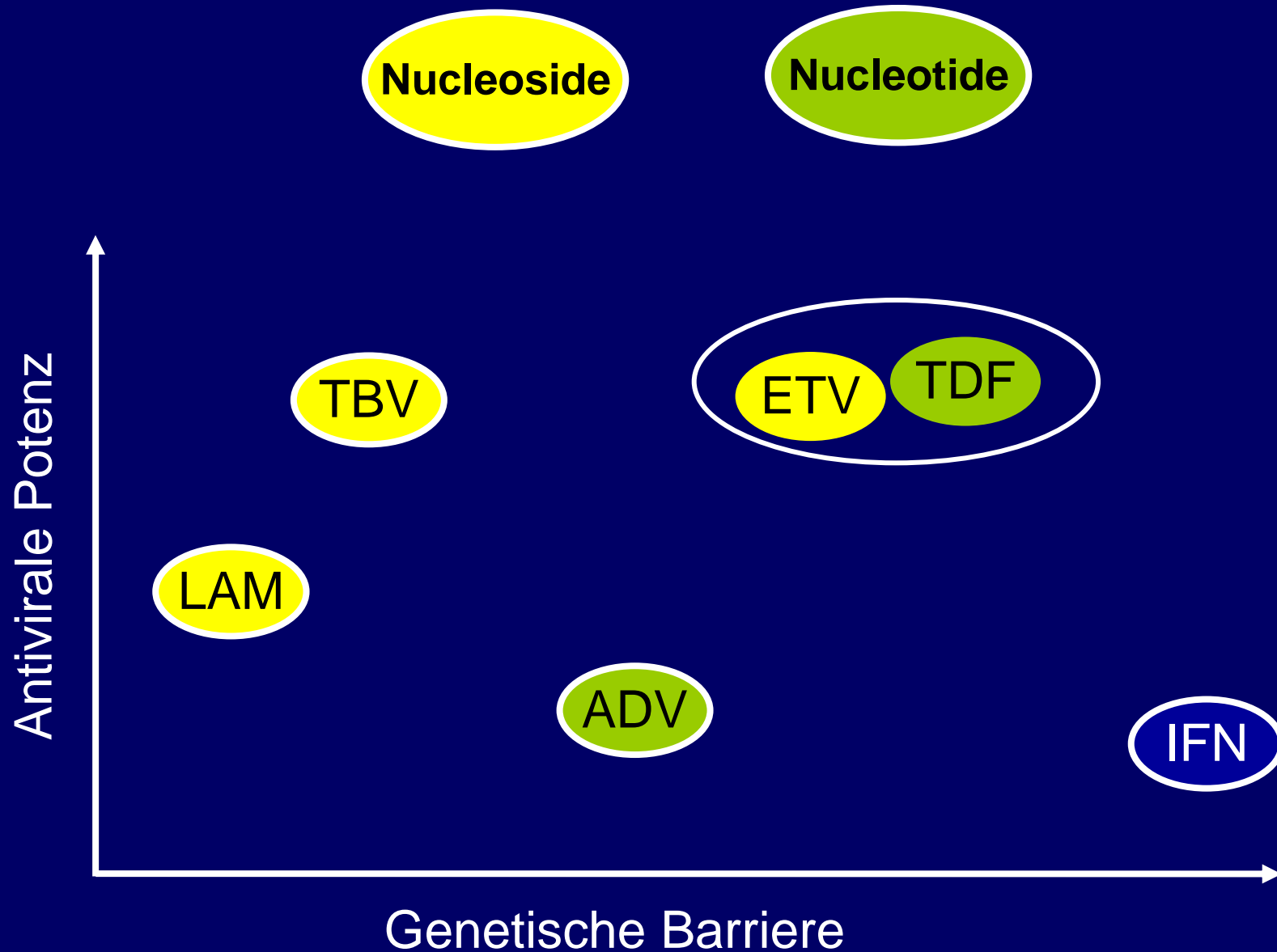
**Effektivität ist nicht alles:  
Resistenzen**

# Risiko der Selektion resistenter Virusvarianten

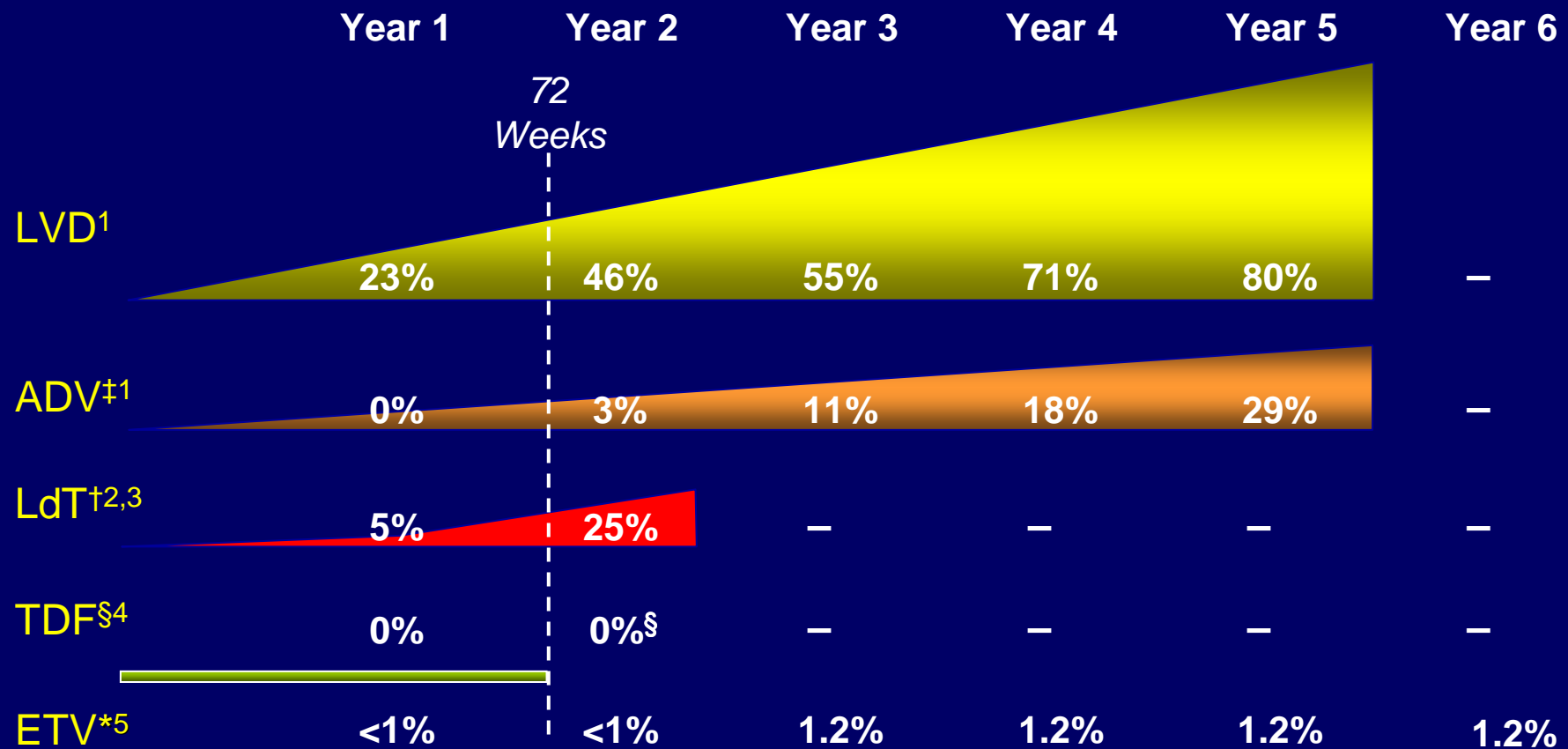


Suppression der viralen Replikation

# Antivirale Potenz und Resistenzbarriere



# Resistance rates through 6 years among nucleos(t)ide-naïve patients

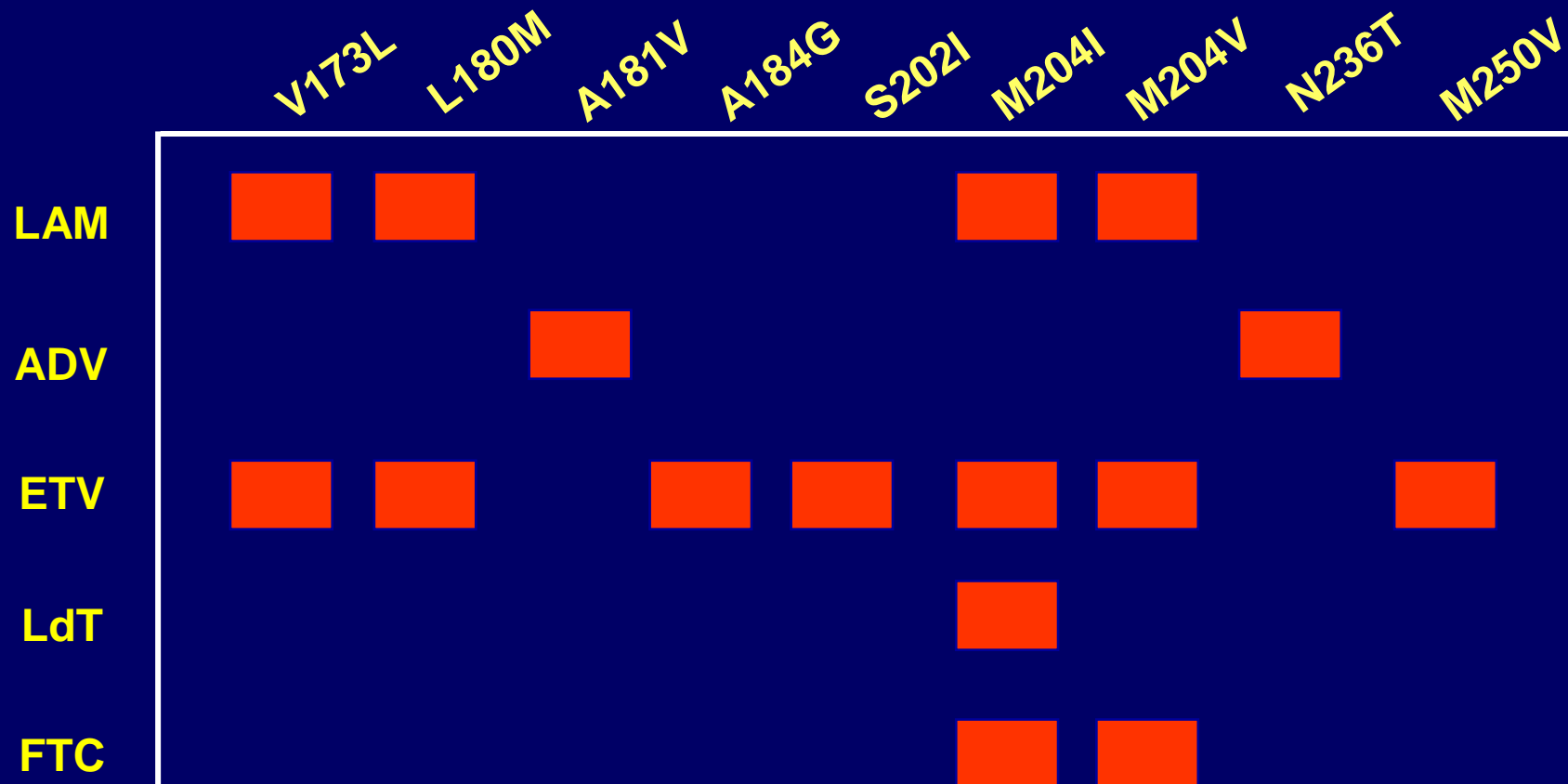


**§ Patients with HBV DNA  $\geq 400$  copies/mL at Week 72 could add FTC to TDF; therefore resistance to TDF monotherapy after 72 weeks cannot be fully ascertained<sup>5,6</sup>** \* Cumulative probabilities of resistance taken; <sup>†</sup> Naïve HBeAg (+); <sup>‡</sup> Naïve HBeAg(-); N/A not available

1. Locamini S. *Hepatol Int.* 2008;2:147-51. 2. Lai CL, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2007;357:2576-8. 3. Liaw YF, et al. *Gastroenterology* 2009;136:486-95. 4. Snow-Lampart A, et al. AASLD Oct 31–Nov 4, 2008, San Francisco, USA. Oral Presentation 977 *Hepatology* 2008;48:745A. 5. Baraclude EU SmPC, February 2009. 6. Tenney et al. EASL April 22–26, 2009, Copenhagen, Denmark, Oral Presentation 1761.

# HBV Polymerase Mutationen unterschieden nach Behandlung

Resistenz Mutationen assoziiert mit Virus-Wiederanstieg bei Patienten unter Behandlung



# Therapie der chron. Hepatitis B

- HBs-Antigen u.a. bei jedem Patienten mit erhöhten Leberwerten, Migranten, vor immunsuppressiver Chemotherapie bestimmen
- Bei HBsAg positiven Patienten anti-HDV bestimmen
- Therapieindikation bei chronischer Hepatitis B (>2.000 IU/mL), Leberzirrhose wenn HBV-DNA nachweisbar
- PEG-IFN alfa bedenken
- Bei der Therapie mit Nukleos(t)idanaloga rechtzeitig die Therapie anpassen → Resistenzen verhindern
- HBV-DNA alle 3 Monate kontrollieren, um rechtzeitig Resistenzen zu erkennen

# Praktische Therapieempfehlungen

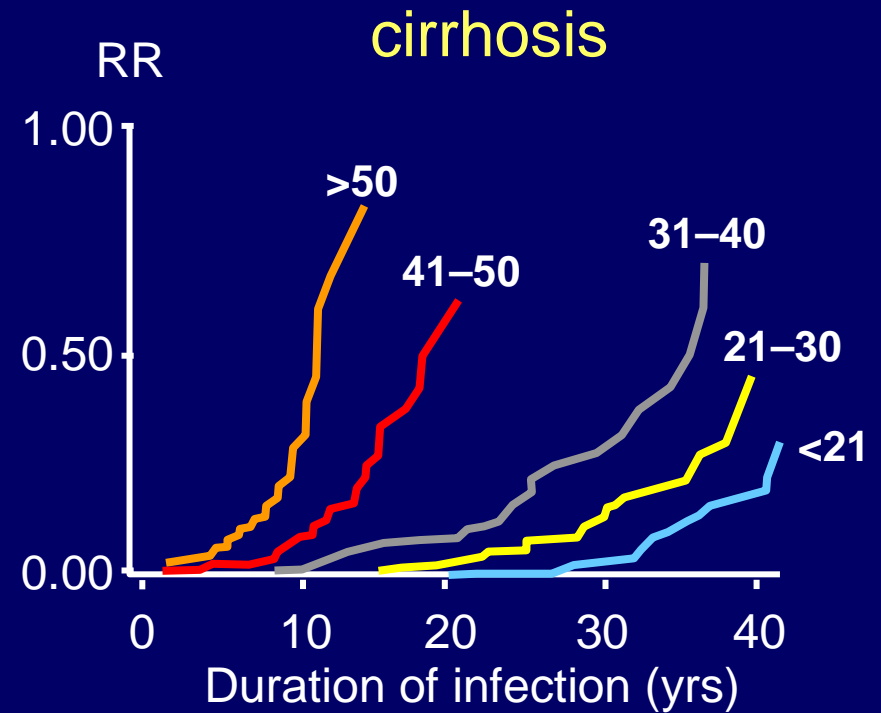
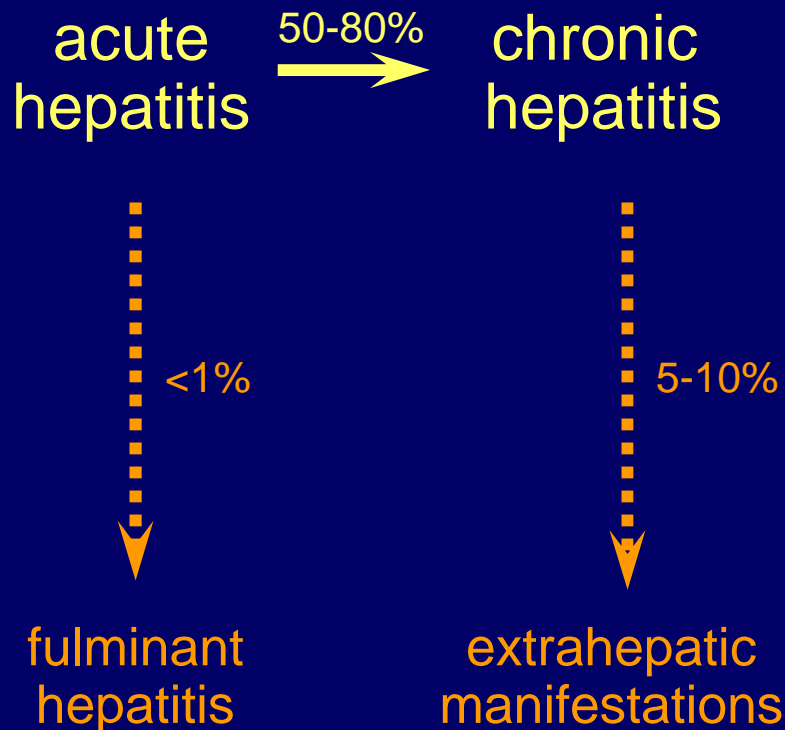
## Chronische Hepatitis B

- HBeAg +: **PEG-IFN** (bei Genotyp A)  
LAM, ADV, **ETV, TBV, TDF**
- HBeAg -: PEG-IFN  
LAM, ADV, **ETV, TBV, TDF**
- Zirrhose & post-Ltx: LAM, ADV, **ETV, TBV, TDF**
- Carrier: keine antivirale Therapie  
präventiv vor Immunsuppr.  
oder Chemotherapie



HCV

# Clinical Course of Hepatitis C Virus Infection



decompensation  
variceal bleeding, etc.  
HCC (2-5% per year)

# Aims of anti-HCV treatment

# Viral eradication (SVR) as treatment aim for patients with hepatitis C

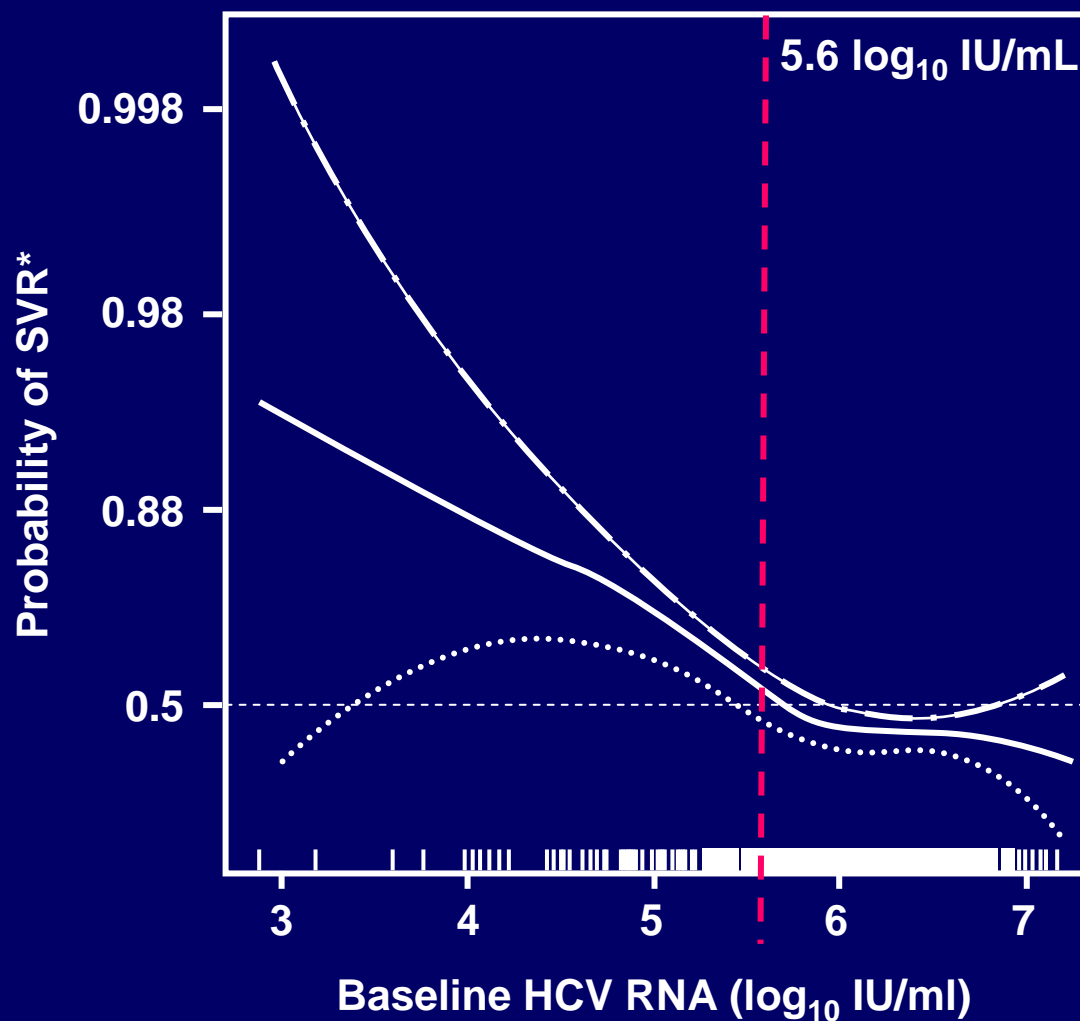
- Acute hepatitis C
  - Prevent chronification
- Chronic hepatitis C
  - Improves HRQoL
  - Prevents progression of disease (cirrhosis, HCC)
  - Is durable (95-100% for > 10 years)
  - Reduces mortality

Baseline parameters  
as predictors for sustained  
virologic response

# Pretreatment Factors Associated with Sustained Virologic Response

- HCV genotype
- Baseline viremia
- $\gamma$ -GT
- Histology
- Insulin resistance
- ALT quotient
- Race
- Age
- Gender
- .....

# Effect of pre-treatment HCV RNA on sustained virologic response rates



\*Logit scale

5.6 log<sub>10</sub> IU/mL ~400 x10<sup>3</sup> IU/mL

Zeuzem et al., AASLD 2007

# Pretreatment Factors Associated with Sustained Virologic Response

- HCV genotype
- Baseline viremia
- $\gamma$ -GT
- Histology
- Insulin resistance
- ALT quotient
- Race
- Age
- Gender
- .....

## Viral genetics

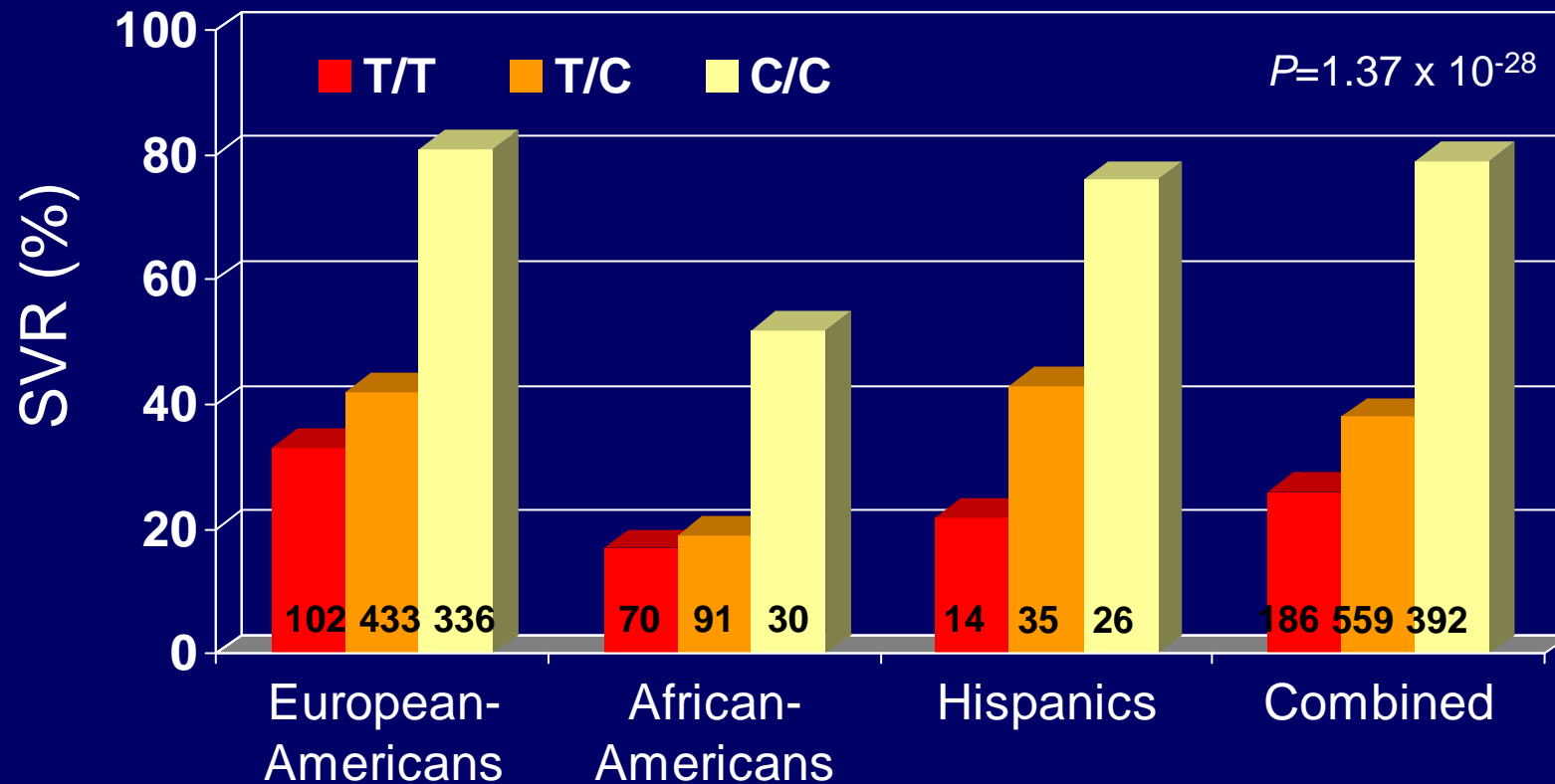
- NS5A (ISDR)
- Resistant mutants (STAT-C)

## Host genetics

- *IL28B* genetic polymorphism

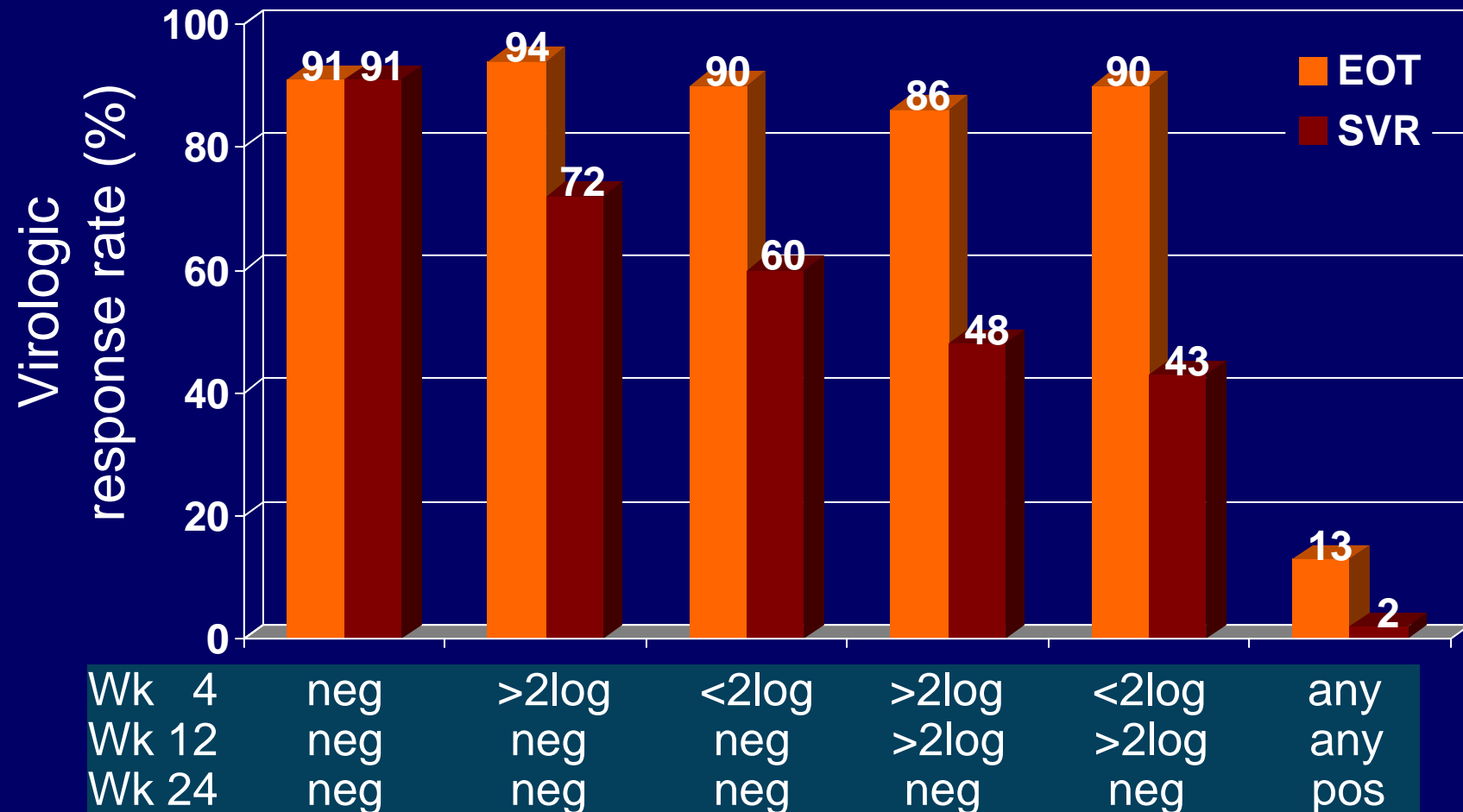


# Genetic variation in *IL28B* (rs12979860) predicts SVR in HCV-1



**Initial viral decline  
as predictor for sustained  
virologic response**

# Predicting virologic response in patients (HCV-1) treated with PEG-IFN alfa-2a + RBV



# Predictive Value of Initial Kinetics is Independent of Baseline Parameters

	Single Variable Analysis		Multi Variable Analysis	
	Odds Ratio	P-value	Odds Ratio	P-value
Gender (Female)	--	NS	--	NS
Age (< 42 years)	2.1	0.001	--	NS
Weight (< 75 kg)	2.1	<0.0001	--	NS
HCV Genotype (2-3)	4.2	<0.0001	--	NS
Baseline VL (< $2 \times 10^6$ )	2.8	<0.0001	2.8	0.003
Early response (RVR)	59.7	<0.0001	38.7	<0.0001

Logistic Regression Predicting Sustained Viral Response

# RVR is an important predictor of SVR

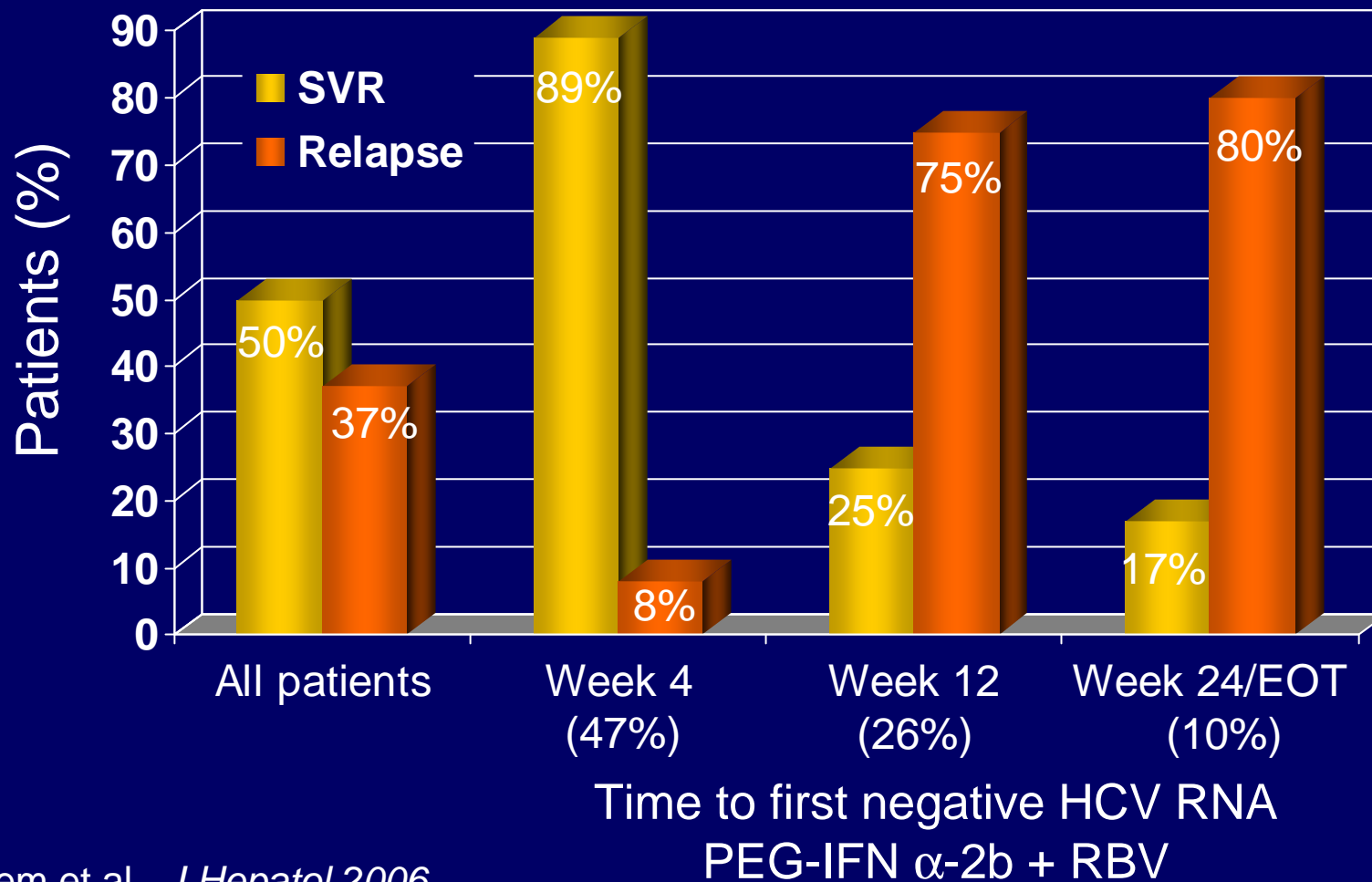
<i>Subanalysis of 3 phase III trials</i>	HCV-1 (N=569)	HCV-2 (N=395)	HCV-3 (N=426)	HCV-4 (N=24)
RVR	16%	71%	60%	36%
cEVR	42%	24%	29%	46%
pEVR	20%	1%	3%	8%
SVR	49%	77%	68%	79%
<b>SVR in patients with RVR</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>100%</b>
SVR in patients with cEVR*	68%	61%	54%	91%
SVR in patients with pEVR**	29%	-	-	-

\* not including RVR; \*\* not including RVR or cEVR

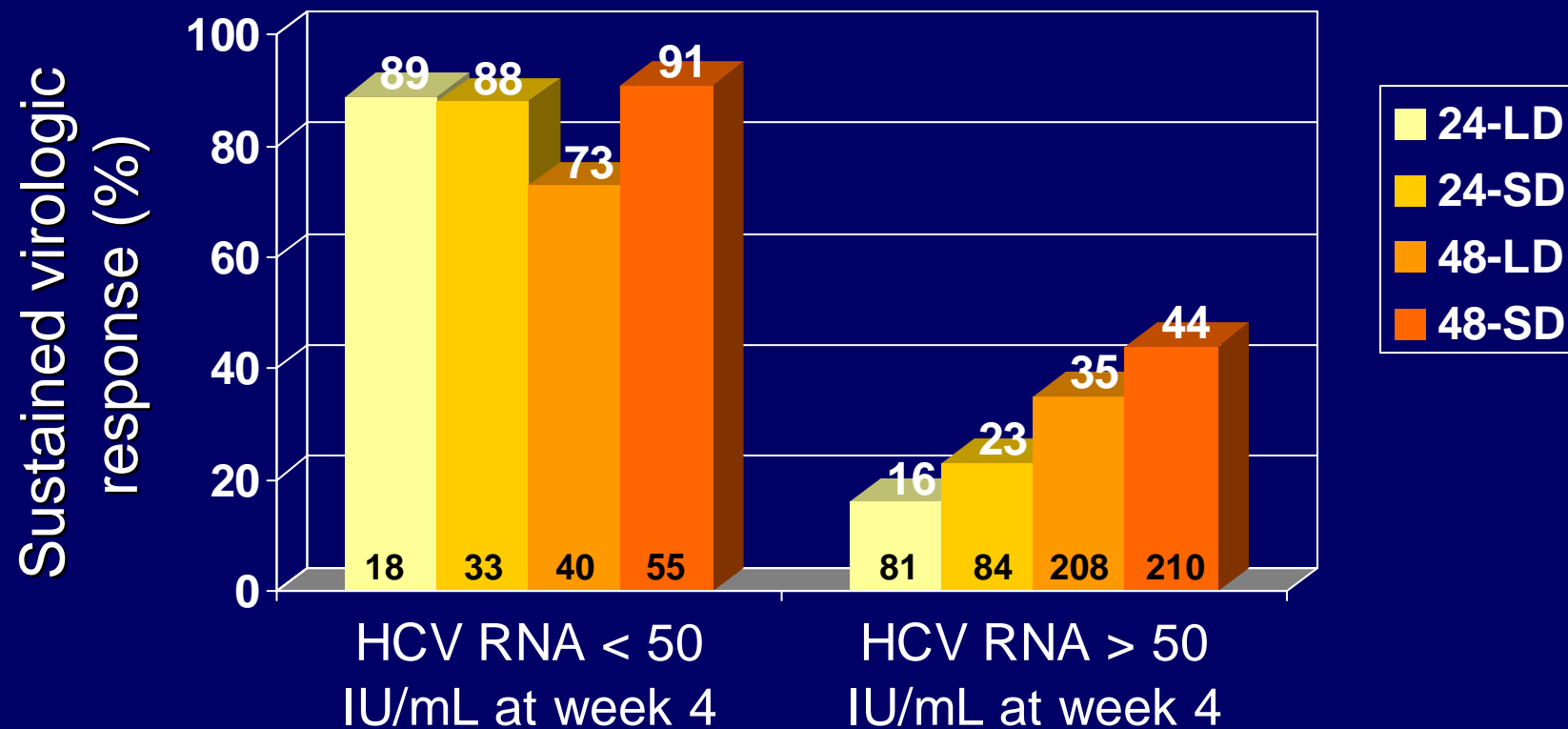
Fried et al., EASL 2008

# Individualization of Treatment

# Virologic response in patients with HCV-1 and HCV RNA < 600,000 IU/mL

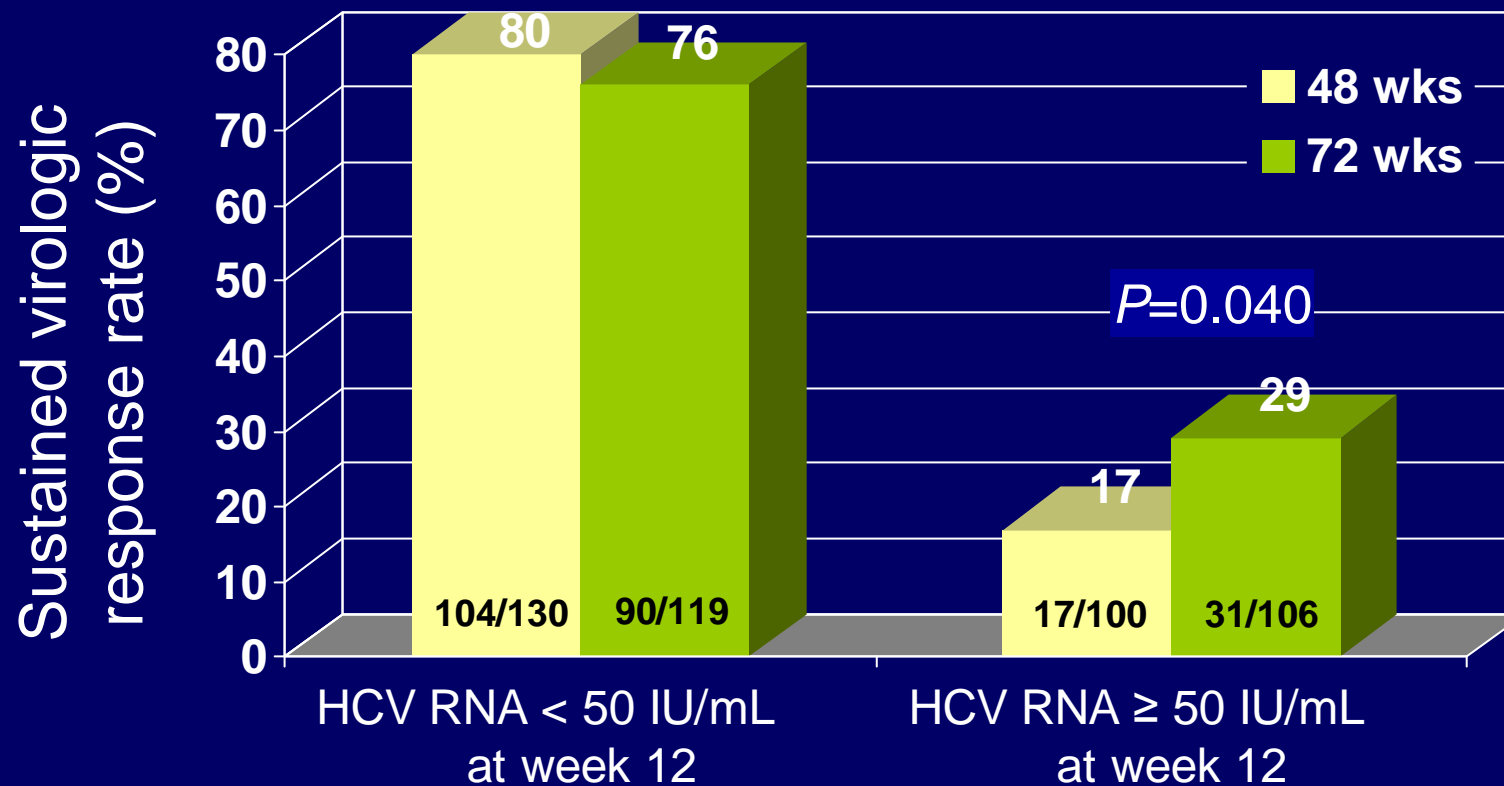


# Early identification of HCV 1 patients responding to 24 wks PEG-IFN alfa-2a/RBV

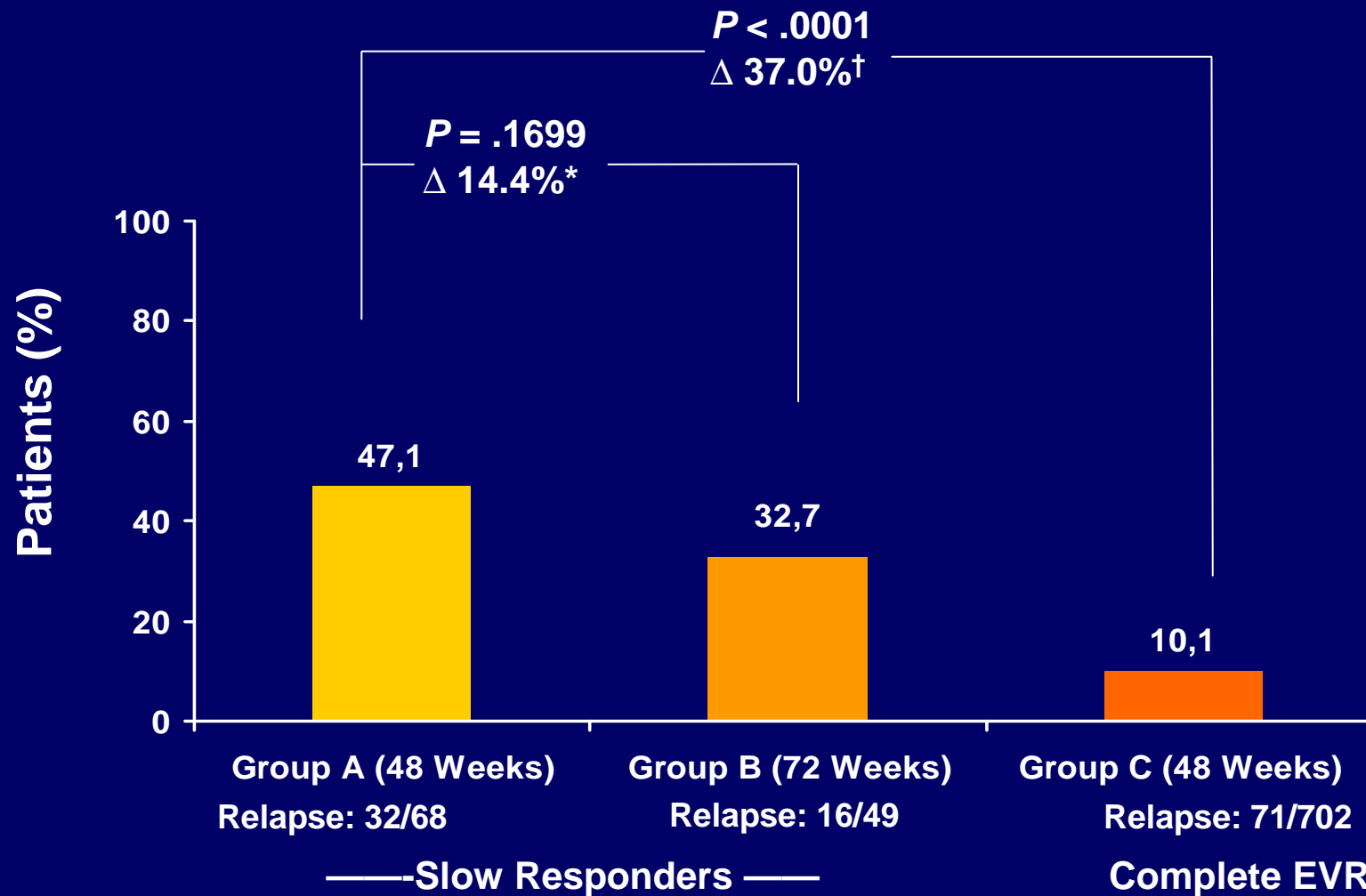




# Extended treatment duration for HCV 1: 48 vs 72 weeks of PEG-IFN alfa-2a + RBV



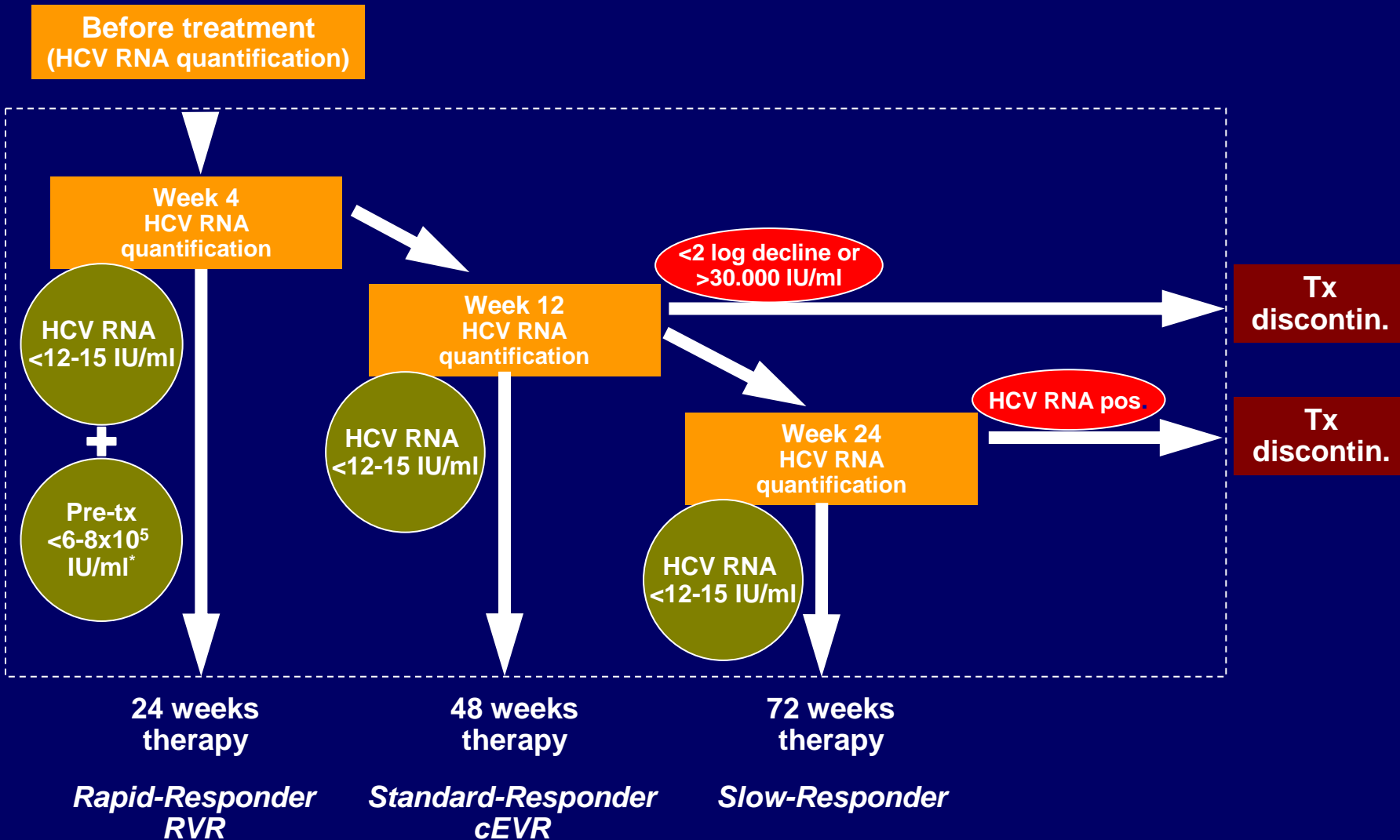
# Relapse rates for 48- and 72-week treatment groups in slow responders (SUCCESS Study)



\*95% CI: -3.3%, 32.1%.

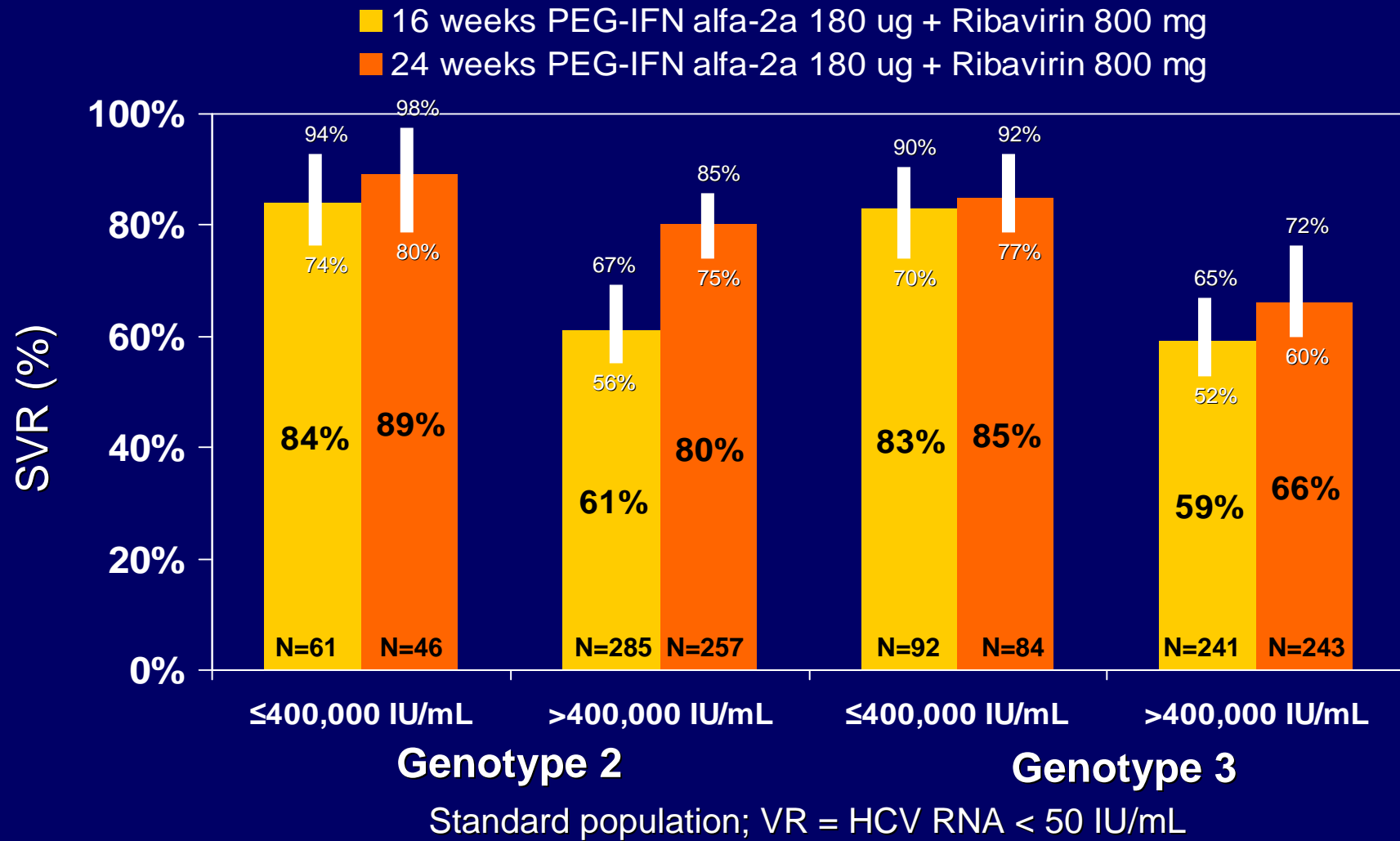
†95% CI: 24.9%, 49.0%.

# Standard treatment for HCV genotype 1/4

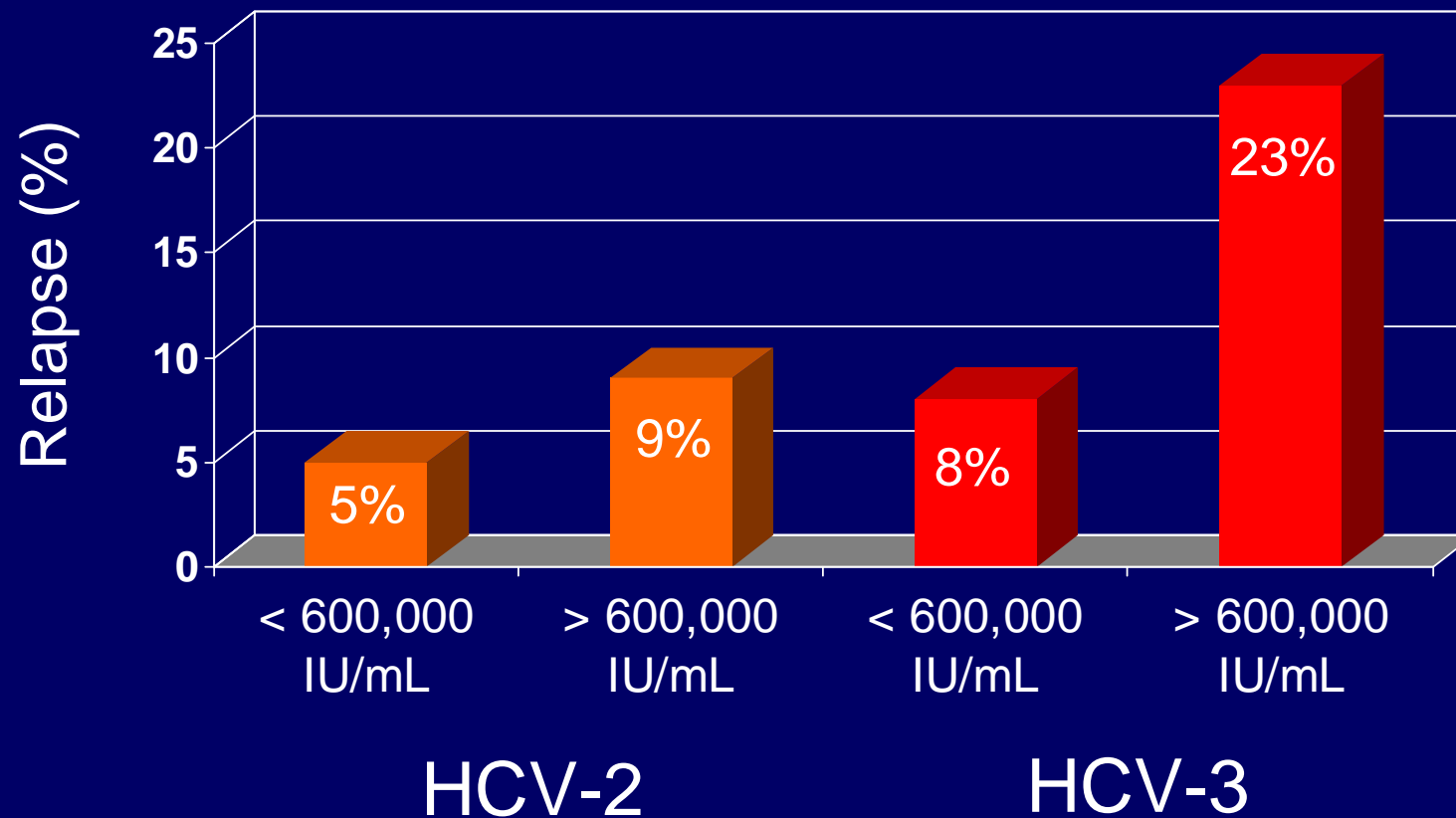


\* No treatment shortening in patients with advanced fibrosis, cirrhosis, metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance, HIV/HCV coinfection, etc. No data for patients with persistently normal ALT levels.

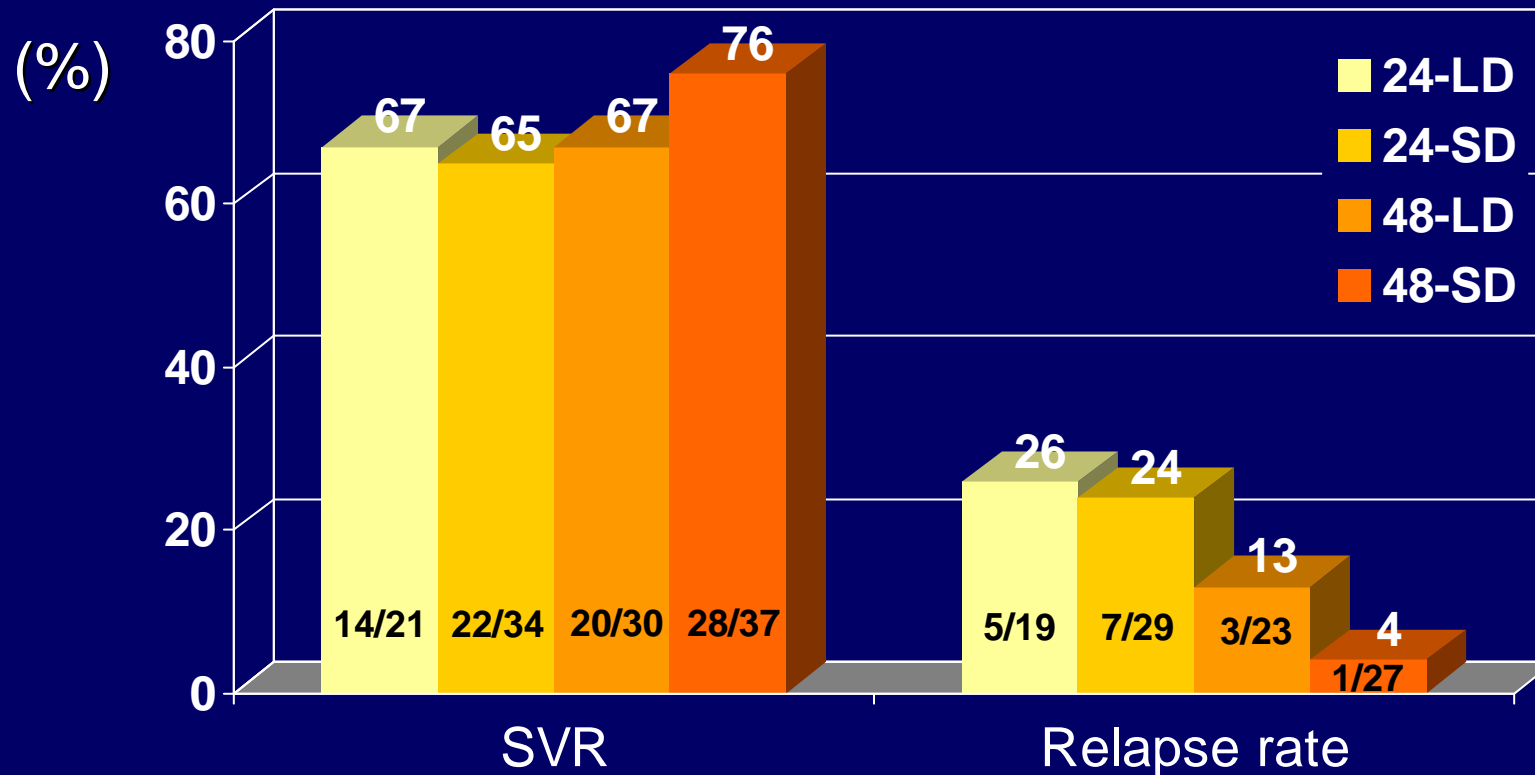
# PEG-IFN alfa-2a + RBV for 16 or 24 weeks in HCV-2 and -3 (ACCELERATE Study)



# Relapse rate by HCV genotype and baseline viral load in patients treated for 24 weeks (Peg-IFN alfa-2b + RBV)



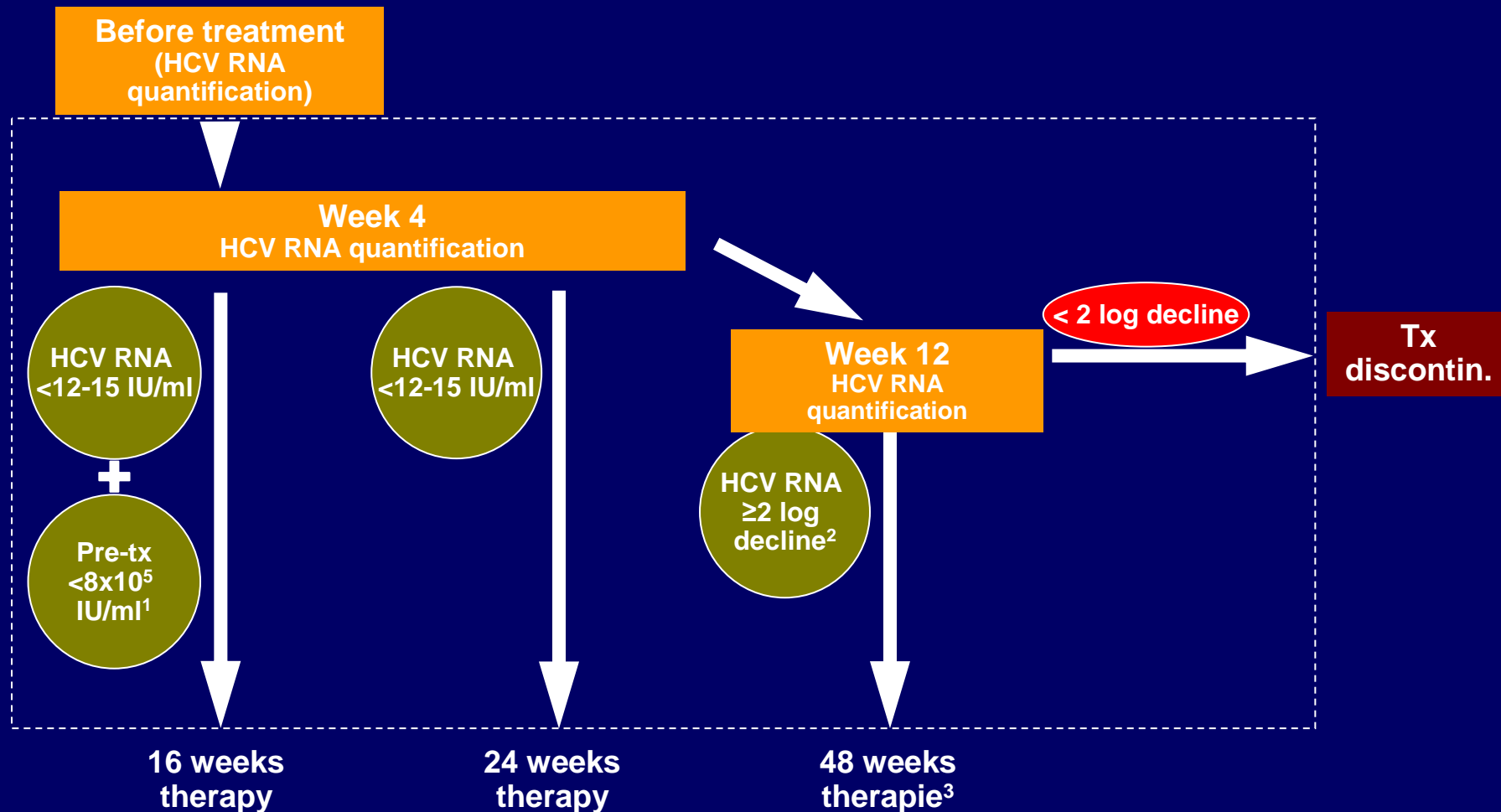
# Response rates in HCV-2 and 3 infected patients without RVR (> 50 IU/mL at wk 4)



Peginterferon alfa-2a 180 µg/wk  
RBV 800 mg/d vs 1000-1200 mg/d

Hadziyannis et al., *Ann Intern Med* 2004  
Fried et al., *N Engl J Med* 2002  
Willems et al., *DDW* 2007

# Standard treatment for HCV genotype 2/3

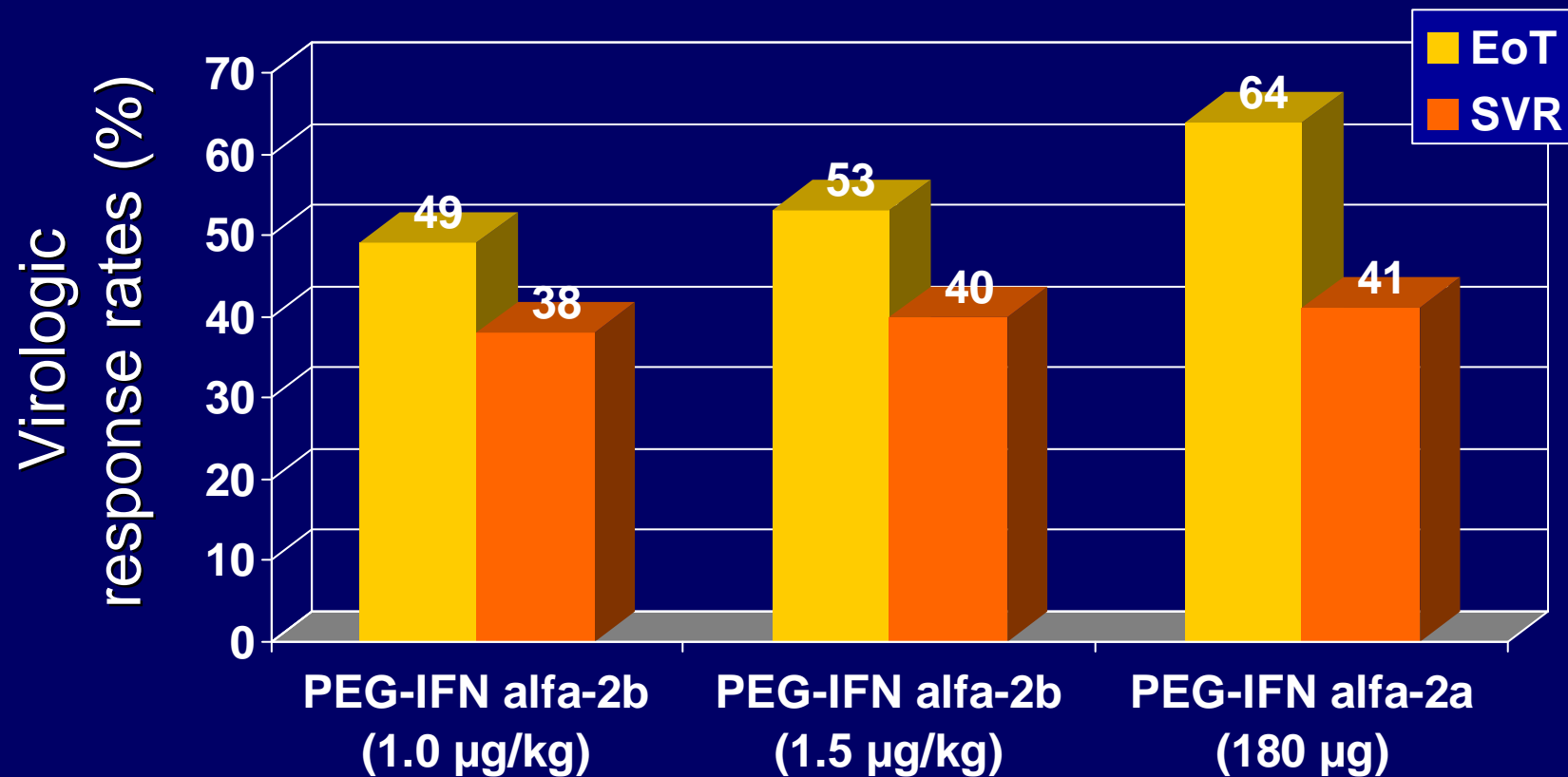


1. No treatment shortening in patients with advanced fibrosis, cirrhosis, metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance, HIV/HCV coinfection, etc. No data for patients with persistently normal ALT levels.
2. Detectable HCV-RNA at week 24: discontinuation of treatment.
3. Treatment duration of 36, 48, 72 weeks in „slow-responders“ is currently investigated in prospective trials.

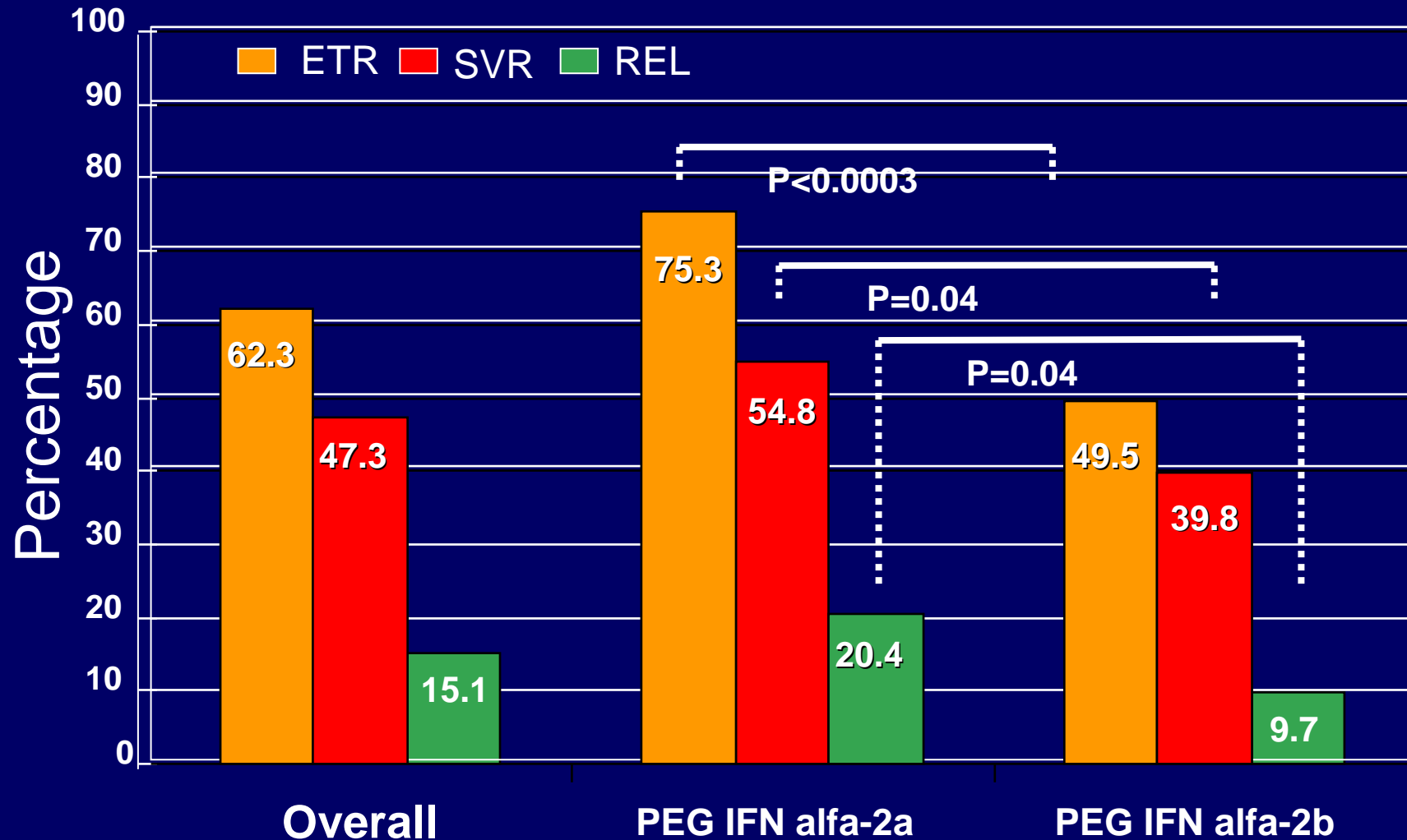
# Comparison between Peginterferon alfa-2a and -2b



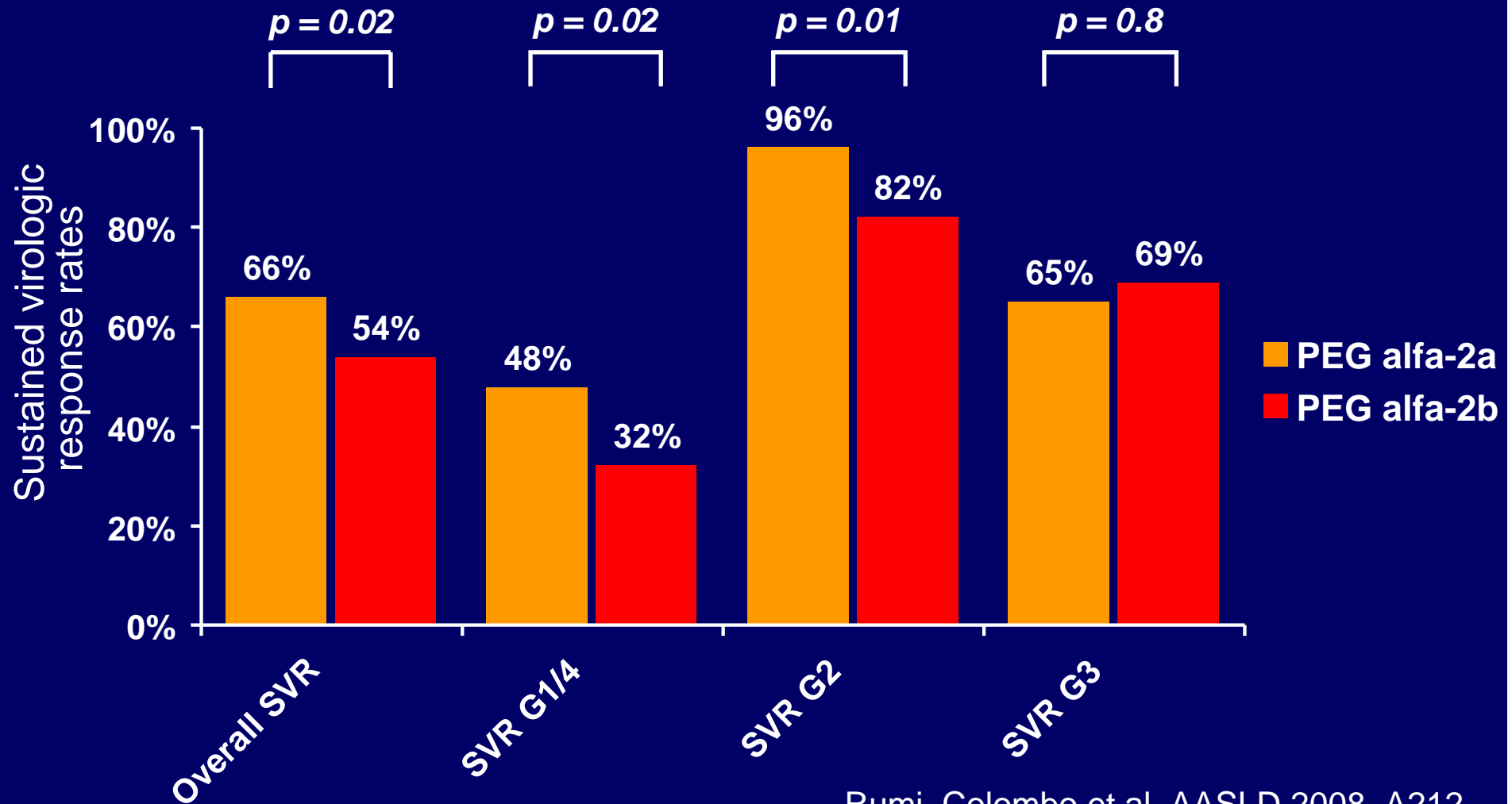
# Individualized Dosing Efficacy vs. Flat Dosing to Assess Optimal Pegylated Interferon Therapy (IDEAL study)



# Virologic response in HCV genotype 1 or 4 infected patients



# Milan Safety Tolerability (MIST) Study



# Treatment decisions in real life

# Case # 1

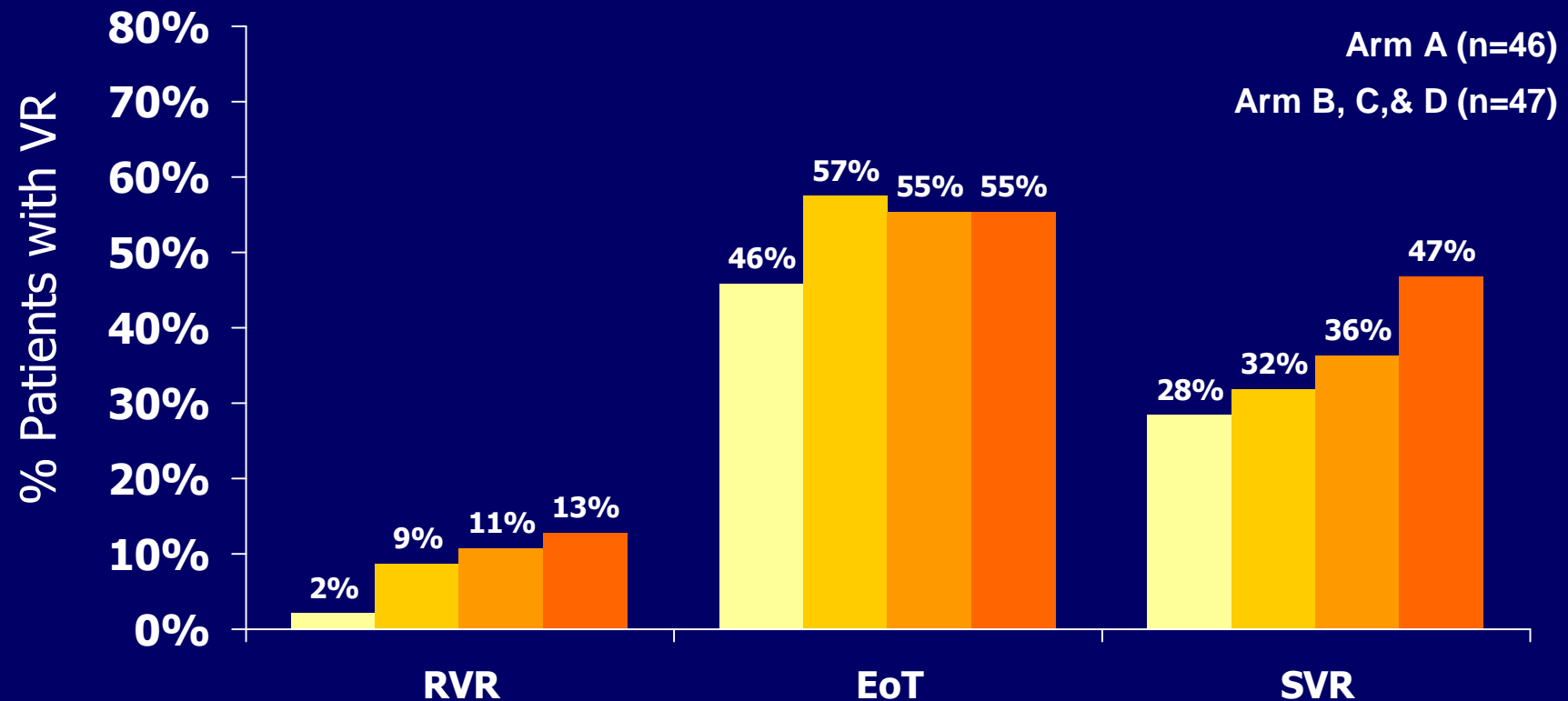
- HCV-1, 1.200.000 IU/mL
- 54 yrs, male, 105 kg
- Impaired glucose tolerance
- Biopsy: A2 F2 S3

# Treatment considerations according to German-Austrian-Swiss Guidelines 2009

- HCV 1, HVL
  - Peginterferon alfa
  - Ribavirin 1200 mg
  - Treatment duration
    - cEVR: 48 weeks
    - pEVR: 72 weeks

# Virologic Response in patients with HCV1, HVL, and > 85 kg

■ PEG-IFN alfa-2a 180 ug + RBV 1200 mg   ■ PEG-IFN alfa-2a 180 ug + RBV 1600 mg  
■ PEG-IFN alfa-2a 270 ug + RBV 1200 mg   ■ PEG-IFN alfa-2a 270 ug + RBV 1600 mg

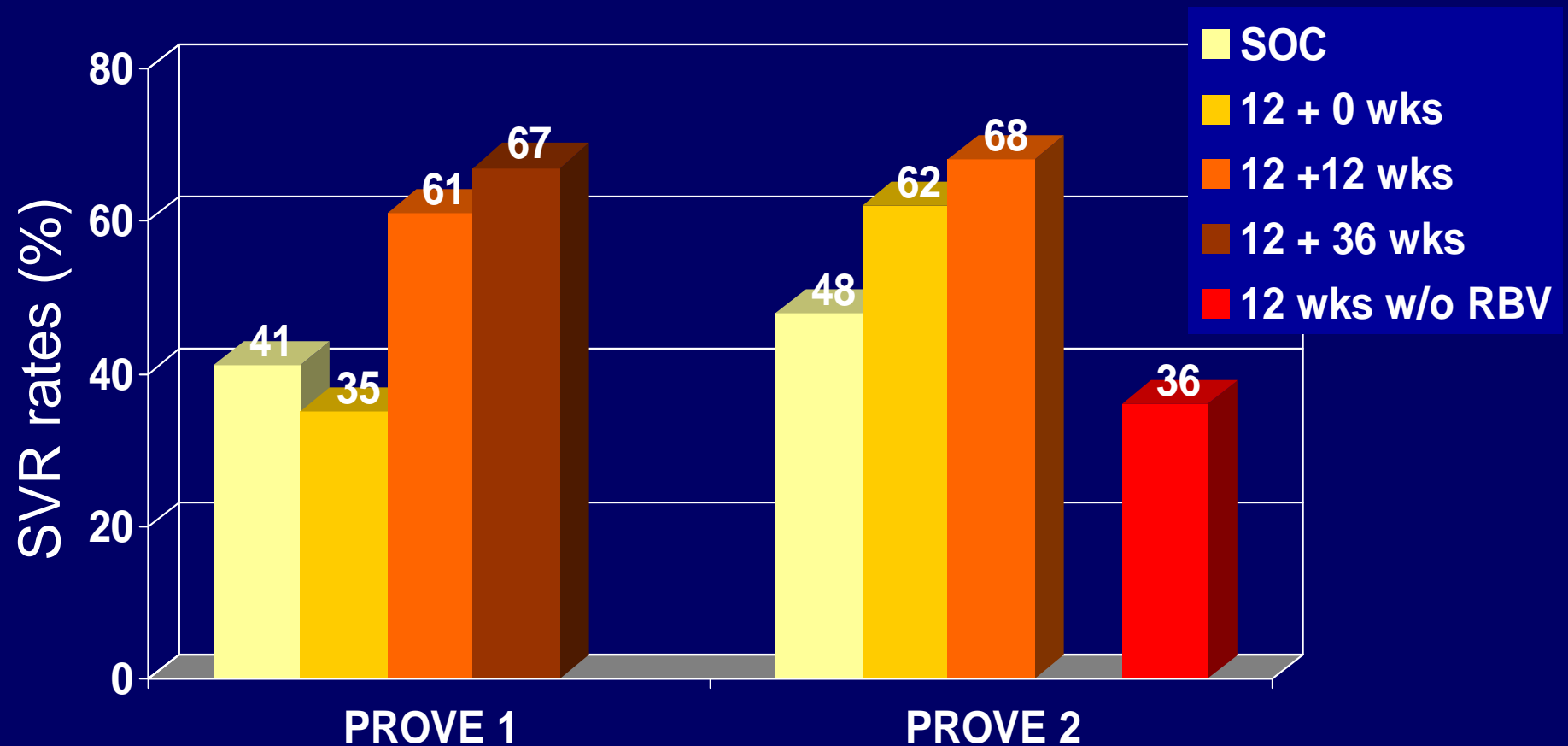


# Personal considerations

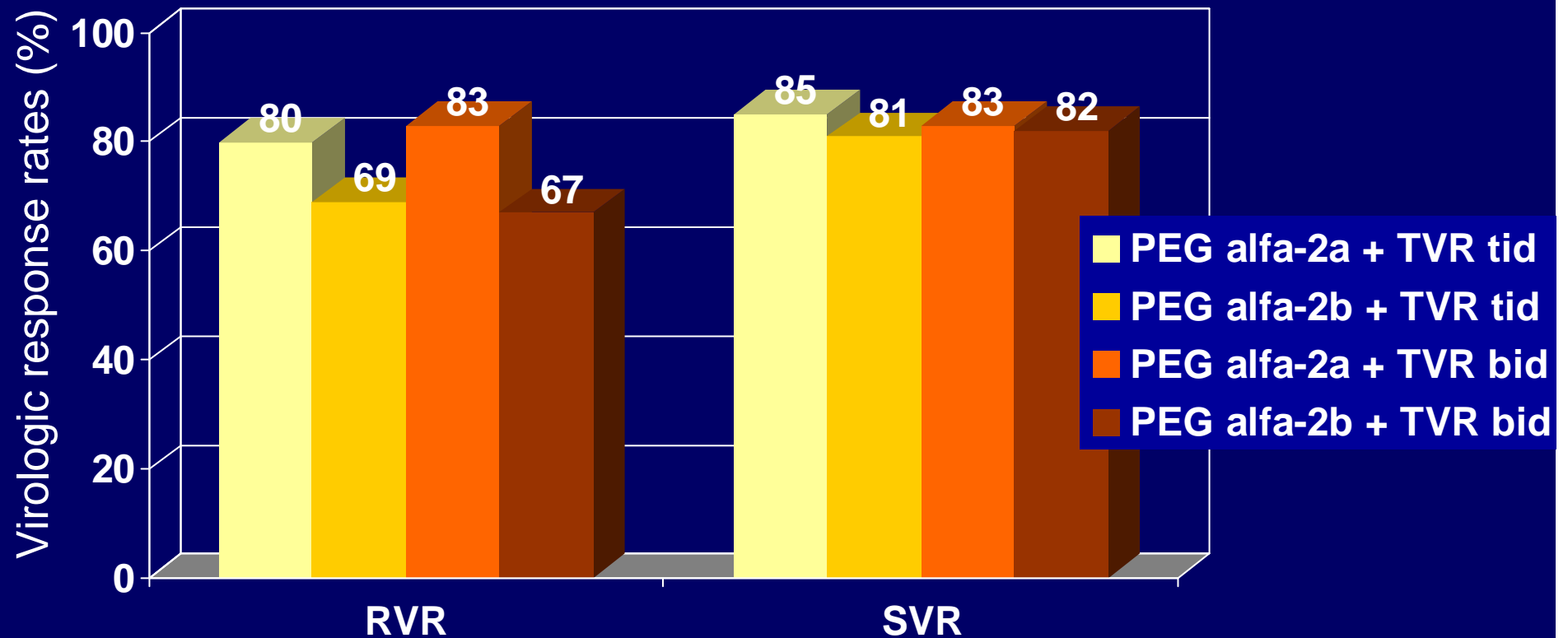
- SVR probability (HCV-1, HVL, > 85 kg) still below 50%
- Comorbidity NASH and HCV
- Reduce weight, improve glycemic control
- Consider treatment with PEG/RBV plus STAT-C (Protease-Inhibitor) 2011/12



# SVR rates with PegIFN, RBV and Telaprevir (PROVE 1 and 2 studies)



# SVR rates in C208



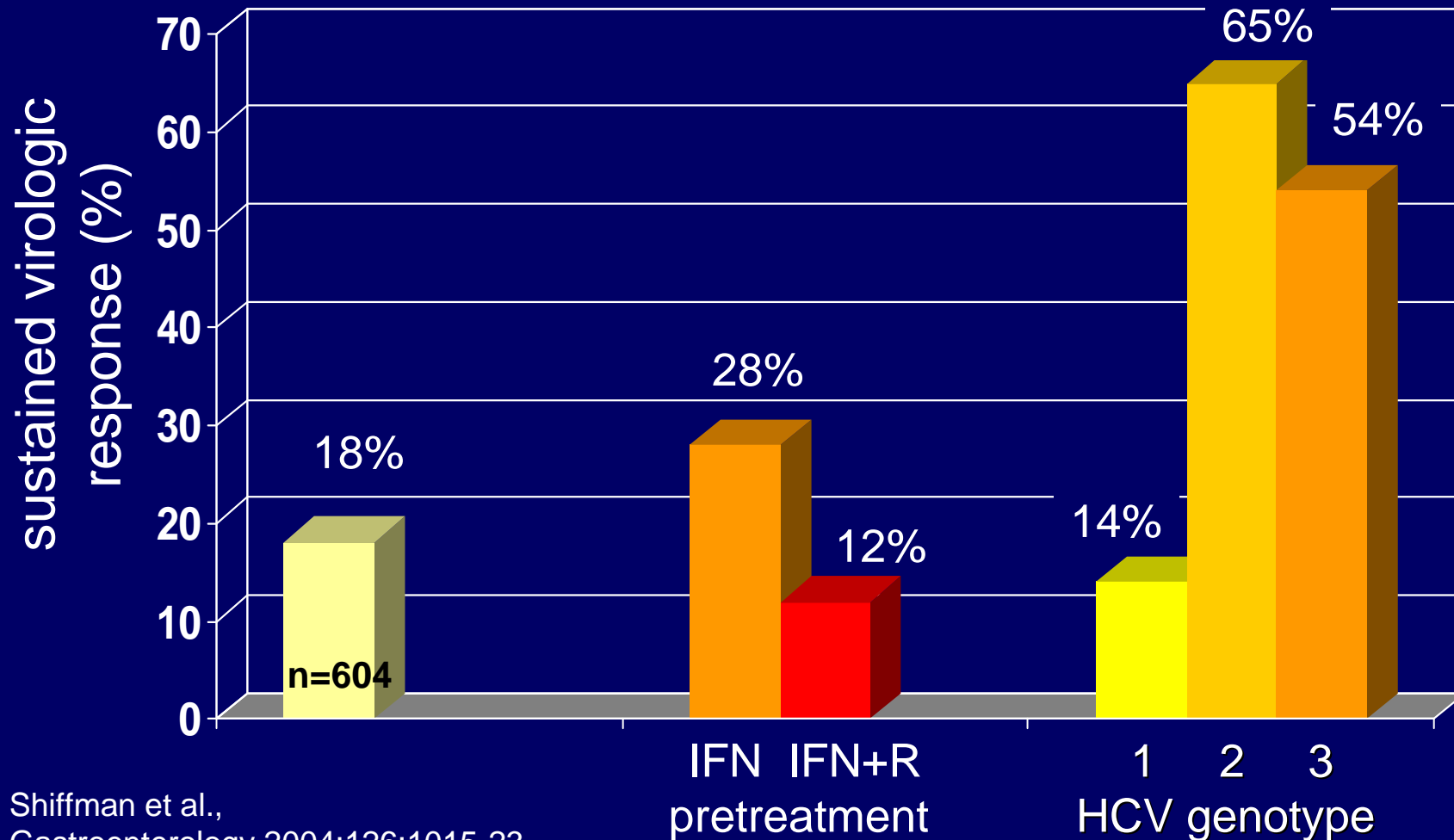
## Case # 2

- HCV-3, 850.000 IU/mL
- 43 yrs, female, 68 kg
- Non-Responder to PegIFN + RBV in standard dose for 24 weeks
- Biopsy refused
- Liver Stiffness by Fibroscan: 8.7 kPa

# Treatment options

- Wait for new anti-HCV drugs
- Retreat with PegIFN and RBV

# PEG-IFN- $\alpha$ 2a + ribavirin for treatment of non-responder patients (HALT-C)



Shiffman et al.,  
Gastroenterology 2004;126:1015-23

# Personal considerations

- Protease inhibitors in phase 3 of clinical development not active in HCV-3
- Nucleosic polymerase inhibitors only in phase 2 trials
- Possibly advanced fibrosis
- Retreatment with PegIFN and RBV
  - Standard dose PegIFN
  - Ribavirin (at least) 1000 mg/day
  - Treatment duration 48 wks

# Conclusions

- HCV genotype and baseline viral load are important pretreatment predictors for SVR
- Best cut-off for BL viral load: 400,000 IU/mL
- Further evaluation of the IL28B genetic polymorphism in HCV-1 and other genotypes
- Initial viral decline (RVR) is the best on-treatment predictor of SVR
- BL viral load and VK help to define duration of therapy and to individualize antiviral strategies
- Potent new drugs in development

