



GRAND ROUNDS:  
**SGLT2 INHIBITORS**

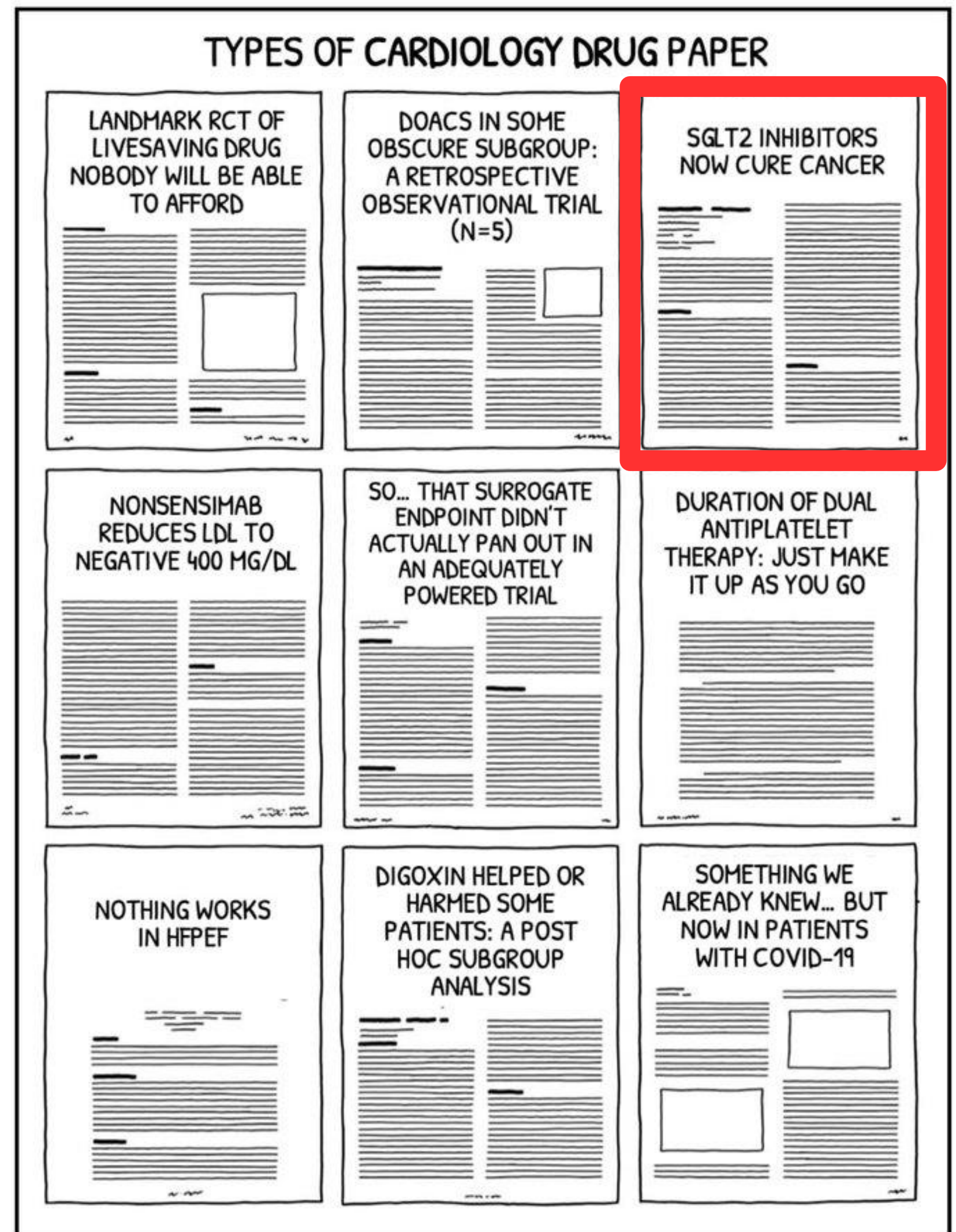
Vivian Cheng, PharmD  
Nicole Gordon, MD

Valley Medical Center  
August 16, 2023

# learning **OBJECTIVES**

- 01** SUMMARIZE LANDMARK TRIALS OF SGLT2I IN T2DM, CVD, HF, CKD
- 02** APPLY GUIDELINE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SGLT2I USE IN DM, CVD, HF, AND CKD
- 03** RISK STRATIFY AND COUNSEL ON ADVERSE EFFECTS OF SGLT2I
- 04** IDENTIFY STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE SGLT2I RISKS
- 05** APPLY EVIDENCE AND CLINICAL JUDGEMENT IN PRESCRIBING SGLT2IS IN VARIOUS CLINICAL SETTINGS

# sglt2i IN THE NEWS



# mechanism of **ACTION**

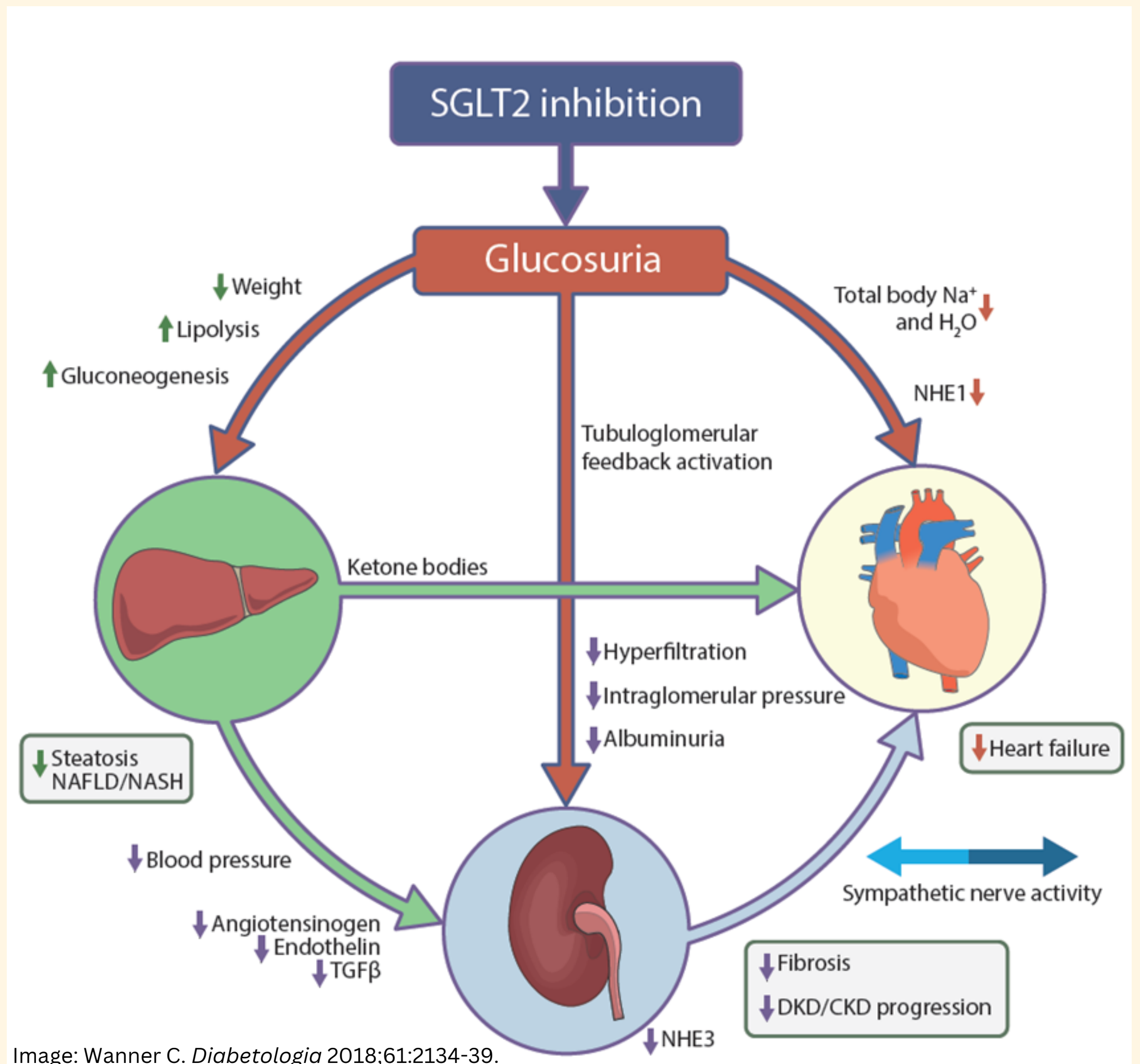


Image: Wanner C. *Diabetologia* 2018;61:2134-39.

# patient **CASE**

**60 y/o M with a PMH of HTN, CAD s/p PCI (3 yrs ago), gallstone pancreatitis, and type II DM. His A1C is 8.5%.**

**How would you optimize their DM management?**

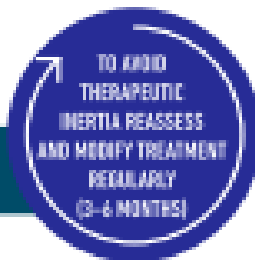
- 1) GLP-1 RA**
- 2) Sulfonylurea**
- 3) TZD**
- 4) SGLT2i**
- 5) No additional medications**

## **Current medications:**

- Metformin 1000mg BID
- Lisinopril 20mg Daily
- Atorvastatin 40mg Daily



# USE OF GLUCOSE-LOWERING MEDICATIONS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF TYPE 2 DIABETES



HEALTHY LIFESTYLE BEHAVIORS; DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT (DSMES); SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH (SDOH)

Goal: Cardiorenal Risk Reduction in High-Risk Patients with Type 2 Diabetes (in addition to comprehensive CV risk management)\*

Goal: Achievement and Maintenance of Glycemic and Weight Management Goals

**+ASCVD<sup>†</sup>**  
 Defined differently across CVOTs but all included individuals with established CVD (e.g., MI, stroke, any revascularization procedure). Variably included: conditions such as transient ischemic attack, unstable angina, amputation, symptomatic or asymptomatic coronary artery disease.

**+Indicators of high risk**  
 While definitions vary, most comprise ≥55 years of age with two or more additional risk factors (including obesity, hypertension, smoking, dyslipidemia, or albuminuria)

**+HF**  
 Current or prior symptoms of HF with documented HFrEF or HFpEF

**+CKD**  
 eGFR <60 mL/min per 1.73 m<sup>2</sup> OR albuminuria (ACR ≥3.0 mg/mmol [30 mg/g]). These measurements may vary over time; thus, a repeat measure is required to document CKD.

**+ASCVD/Indicators of High Risk**

GLP-1 RA<sup>‡</sup> with proven CVD benefit **EITHER/OR** SGLT2i<sup>§</sup> with proven CVD benefit

If A1C above target

- For patients on a GLP-1 RA, consider adding SGLT2i with proven CVD benefit or vice versa
- TZD<sup>^</sup>

**+HF**  
 SGLT2i<sup>§</sup> with proven HF benefit in this population

**+CKD (on maximally tolerated dose of ACEi/ARB)**

**PREFERABLY**

SGLT2i<sup>§</sup> with primary evidence of reducing CKD progression

Use SGLT2i in people with an eGFR ≥20 mL/min per 1.73 m<sup>2</sup>; once initiated should be continued until initiation of dialysis or transplantation

OR

GLP-1 RA with proven CVD benefit if SGLT2i not tolerated or contraindicated

If A1C above target, for patients on SGLT2i, consider incorporating a GLP-1 RA or vice versa

**Glycemic Management: Choose approaches that provide the efficacy to achieve goals:**

Metformin OR Agent(s) including COMBINATION therapy that provide adequate EFFICACY to achieve and maintain treatment goals

Consider avoidance of hypoglycemia a priority in high-risk individuals

In general, higher efficacy approaches have greater likelihood of achieving glycemic goals

Efficacy for glucose lowering

**Very High:**  
 Dulaglutide (high dose), Semaglutide, Tirzepatide

**Insulin**  
 Combination Oral, Combination Injectable (GLP-1 RA/Insulin)

**High:**  
 GLP-1 RA (not listed above), Metformin, SGLT2i, Sulfonylurea, TZD

**Intermediate:**  
 DPP-4i

**Achievement and Maintenance of Weight Management Goals:**

Set individualized weight management goals

General lifestyle advice: medical nutrition therapy/eating patterns/physical activity

Intensive evidence-based structured weight management program

Consider medication for weight loss

Consider metabolic surgery

When choosing glucose-lowering therapies:  
 Consider regimen with high-to-very-high dual glucose and weight efficacy

Efficacy for weight loss

**Very High:**  
 Semaglutide, Tirzepatide

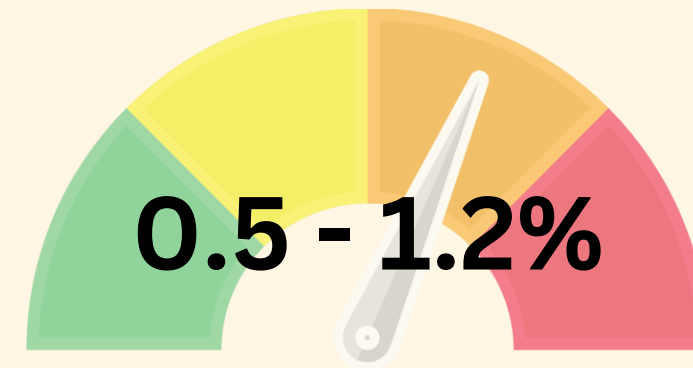
**High:**  
 Dulaglutide, Liraglutide

**Intermediate:**  
 GLP-1 RA (not listed above), SGLT2i

**Neutral:**  
 DPP-4i, Metformin

# type 2 DIABETES

- Primarily lowers fasting > post-prandial sugars
- 5 SGLT2i approved in the US for T2DM:
  - empagliflozin (Jardiance)
  - dapagliflozin (Farxiga)
  - canagliflozin (Invokana)
  - ertugliflozin (Steglatro)
  - bexagliflozin (Brenzavvy)



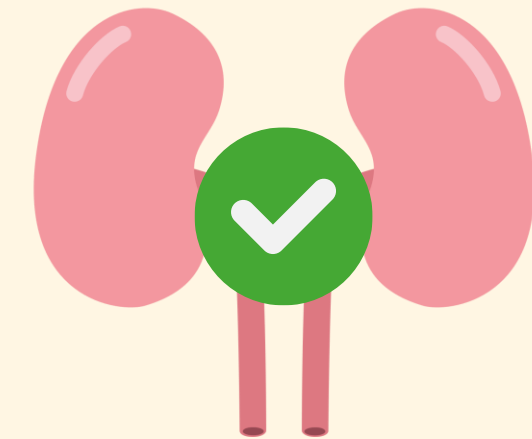
**A1c Reduction Potential**



**Hypoglycemia Risk**



**ASCVD & HF Benefit**



**CKD Benefit**



**Weight Loss Potential**

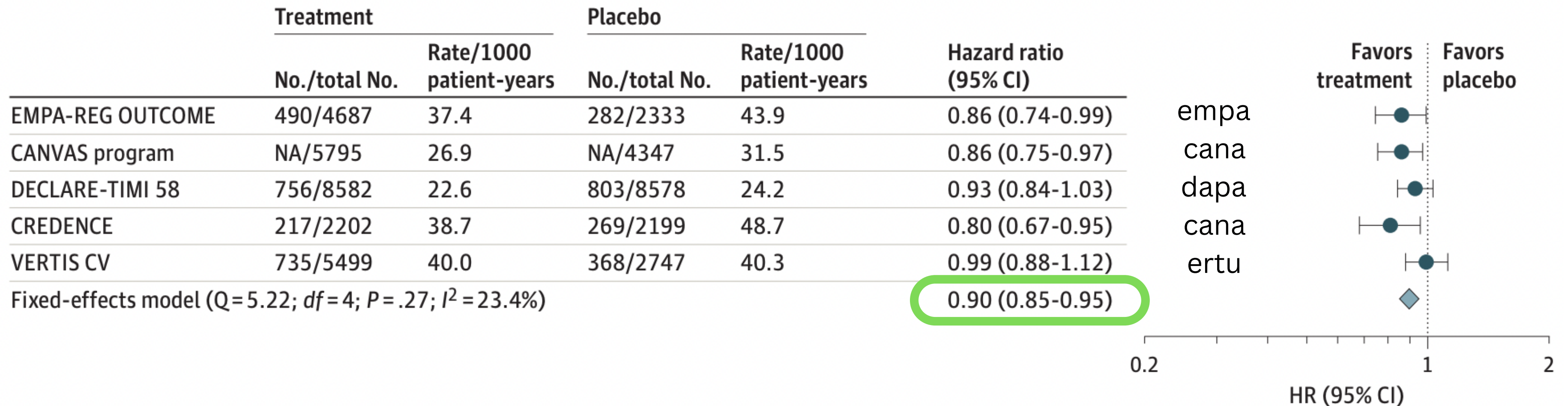


**Cost**

# CVOT DATA

Pooled data for composite 3-point Major Adverse Cardiovascular Event (MACE): MI, stroke, CV death

## A Overall MACEs





# cvot DATA

Only **empagliflozin** and **canagliflozin** have FDA approvals for reducing risk of **MACE (both)** and **CV death (empa)**

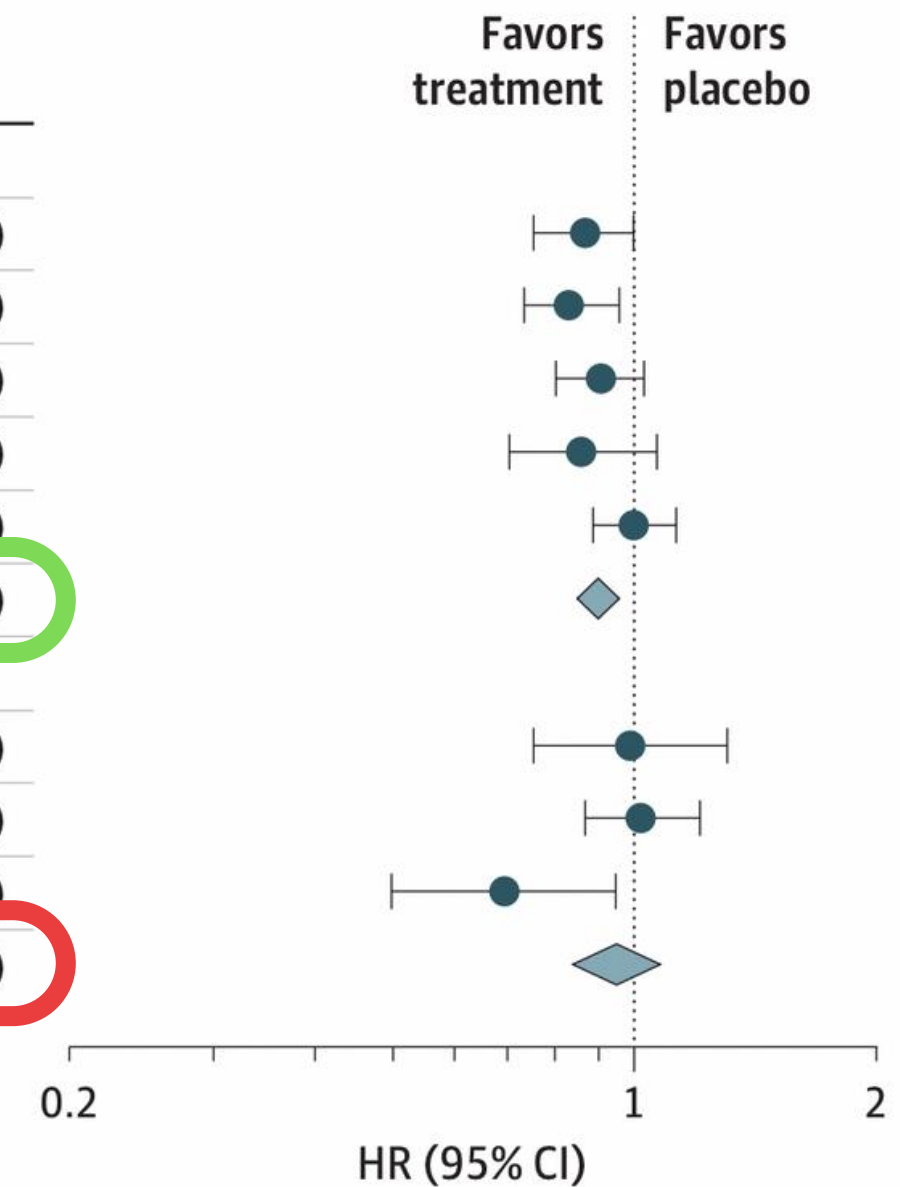
	EMPA-REG OUTCOME (2015)	CANVAS Program (2017)	DECLARE-TIMI (2018)
<b>Intervention</b>	empa vs placebo	cana vs placebo	dapa vs placebo
<b>Population</b>	T2DM + ASCVD	T2DM + ASCVD, or >2 risk factors	T2DM + ASCVD or risk factors
<b>Primary Outcome HR (95% CI)</b>	3-point MACE 0.86 (0.74 - 0.99)	3-point MACE 0.86 (0.75 - 0.97)	3 pt MACE 0.93 (0.84 - 1.03)
			CV death/HF hosp 0.83 (0.73-0.95)

# cvot DATA

MACE benefit is greater in patients with **pre-existing ASCVD**

**B** MACEs by ASCVD status

	Treatment		Placebo		Hazard ratio (95% CI)
	No./total No.	Rate/1000 patient-years	No./total No.	Rate/1000 patient-years	
<b>Patients with ASCVD</b>					
EMPA-REG OUTCOME	490/4687	37.4	282/2333	43.9	0.86 (0.74-0.99)
CANVAS program	NA/3756	34.1	NA/2900	41.3	0.82 (0.72-0.95)
DECLARE-TIMI 58	483/3474	36.8	537/3500	41.0	0.90 (0.79-1.02)
CREDENCE	155/1113	55.6	178/1107	65.0	0.85 (0.69-1.06)
VERTIS CV	735/5499	40.0	368/2747	40.3	0.99 (0.88-1.12)
Fixed-effects model (Q= 4.53; df= 4; P= .34; I <sup>2</sup> = 11.8%)					<b>0.89 (0.84-0.95)</b>
<b>Patients without ASCVD</b>					
CANVAS program	NA/2039	15.8	NA/1447	15.5	0.98 (0.74-1.30)
DECLARE-TIMI 58	273/5108	13.4	266/5078	13.3	1.01 (0.86-1.20)
CREDENCE	62/1089	22.0	91/1092	32.7	0.68 (0.49-0.94)
Fixed-effects model (Q= 4.59; df= 2; P= .10; I <sup>2</sup> = 56.5%)					<b>0.94 (0.83-1.07)</b>



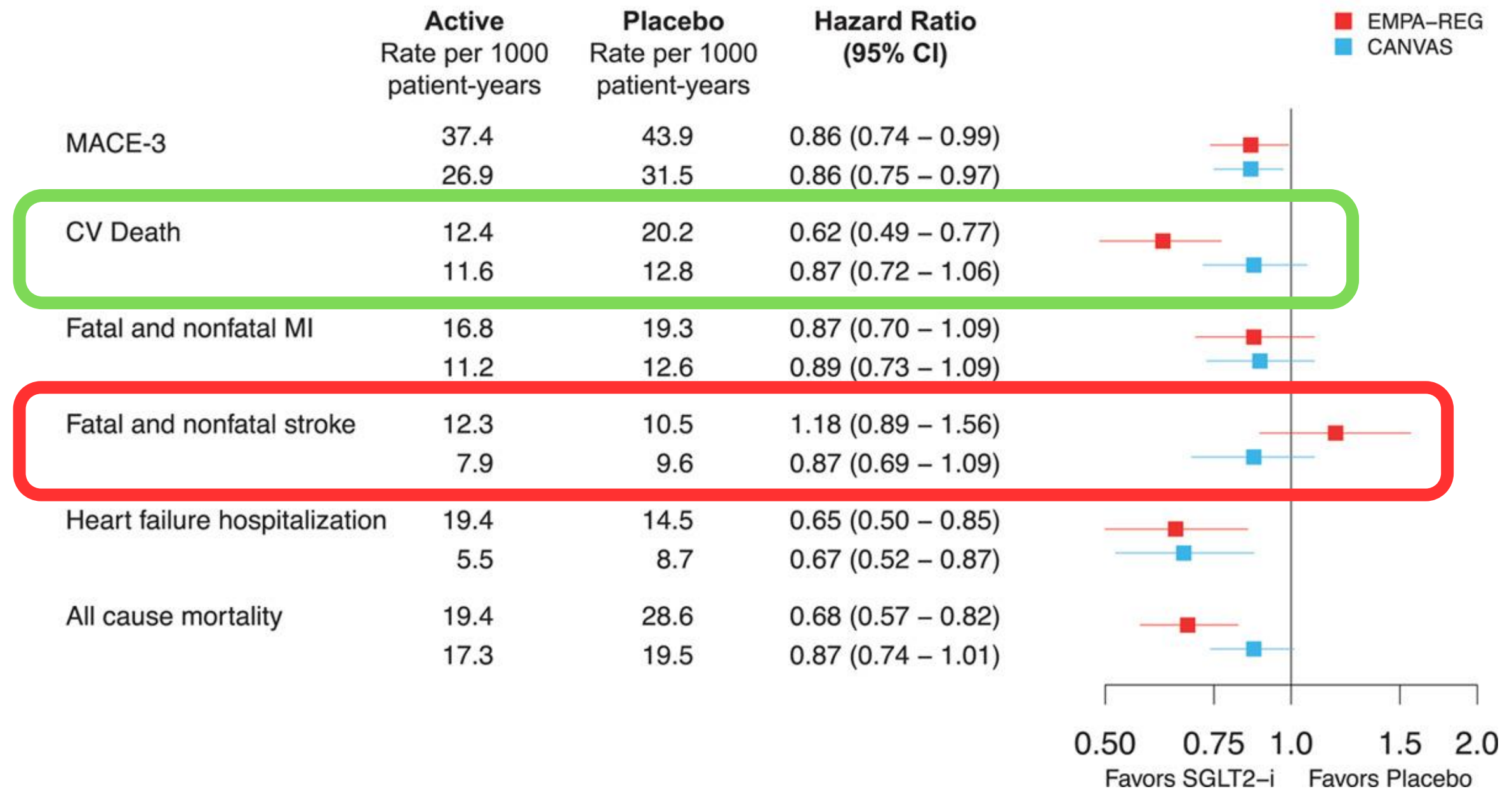
# cvot DATA

EMPA-REG OUTCOME only  
enrolled patients with ASCVD

**MACE outcome driven primarily  
by reduction in CV death**

No benefit in fatal and nonfatal  
stroke

## B Summary of key cardiovascular outcomes



# patient **CASE**

**60 y/o M with a PMH of HTN, CAD s/p PCI (3 y ago), gallstone pancreatitis, and type II DM. His A1C is 8.5%.**

**How would you optimize their DM management?**

- 1) GLP-1 RA**
- 2) Sulfonylurea**
- 3) TZD**
- 4) SGLT2i**
- 5) No additional medications**

## **Current medications:**

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**How would you optimize their DM management?**

- 1) **GLP-1 RA** \_\_\_\_\_ also lowers ASCVD risk, but relatively contraindicated due to hx of gallstone pancreatitis
- 2) **Sulfonylurea**
- 3) **TZD**
- 4) **SGLT2i**
- 5) **No additional medications**



# patient **CASE**

**60 y/o M with a PMH of HTN, CAD s/p PCI (3 y ago), gallstone pancreatitis, and type II DM. His A1C is 6.5%.**

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take home  
**POINTS**

**Empagliflozin, canagliflozin  
reduce risk of 3-point MACE**

Benefit is greater for secondary ASCVD prevention

**Empagliflozin reduces risk of CV  
death and all-cause mortality**

**These SGLT2is are recommended  
regardless of A1c to reduce CV risk**

# patient **CASE**

**60 y/o M with a pmhx of CKD stage 3 with microalbuminuria and type II DM. His A1C is 8.5%.**

**How would you optimize their DM management?**

- 1) GLP-1 RA**
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- 5) No additional medications**

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# KDIGO 2022

**Recommendation 1.3.1: We recommend treating patients with type 2 diabetes (T2D), CKD, and an eGFR  $\geq 20$  ml/min per  $1.73 \text{ m}^2$  with an SGLT2i (1A).**

SGLT2i have safety and benefit in CKD patients, **even for those without T2DM**



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Choice of SGLT2i should prioritize agents with **documented kidney or CV benefits**

It is reasonable to **withhold SGLT2i during times of prolonged fasting, surgery, or critical medical illness** (greater risk for ketosis)

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Choice of SGLT2i should prioritize agents with **documented kidney or CV benefits**

A **reversible decrease in eGFR** when starting SGLT2i may occur and is generally **not an indication to discontinue therapy**

It is reasonable to **withhold SGLT2i during times of prolonged fasting, surgery, or critical medical illness** (greater risk for ketosis)

Reasonable to **continue SGLT2i even if eGFR falls  $< 20 \text{ mL/min/1.73m}^2$** , unless not tolerated or kidney replacement therapy started

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SGLT2i have safety and benefit in CKD patients, **even for those without T2DM**

Choice of SGLT2i should prioritize agents with **documented kidney or CV benefits**

A **reversible decrease in eGFR** when starting SGLT2i may occur and is generally **not an indication to discontinue therapy**

If a patient is at risk for hypovolemia, **consider decreasing thiazide or loop diuretic dosages** before starting SGLT2i

It is reasonable to **withhold SGLT2i during times of prolonged fasting, surgery, or critical medical illness** (greater risk for ketosis)

Reasonable to **continue SGLT2i even if eGFR falls  $< 20 \text{ mL/min/1.73m}^2$** , unless not tolerated or kidney replacement therapy started

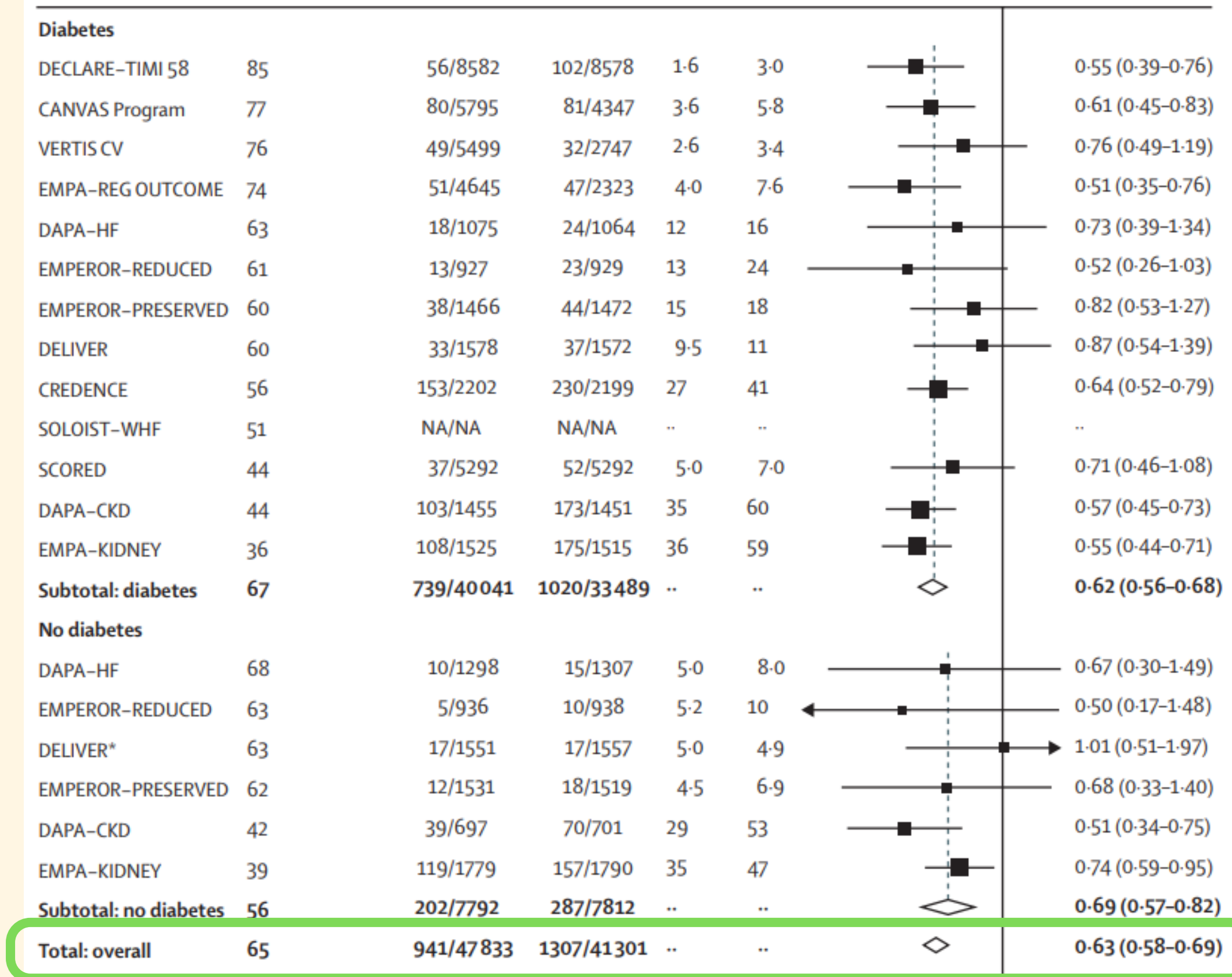
Recommendations to use SGLT2i do not apply to kidney transplant recipients

# ckd DATA

SGLT2i users had a **37% risk reduction in CKD progression**, regardless of DM status

Benefits appear greater in patients with higher albuminuria (EMPA-KIDNEY)

## CKD Progression



Trend across trials sorted by eGFR:  
 Diabetes p=0.87;  
 No diabetes p=0.86;  
 Heterogeneity by diabetes status: p=0.31

0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00 1.50  
 Favours SGLT2 inhibitor Favours placebo

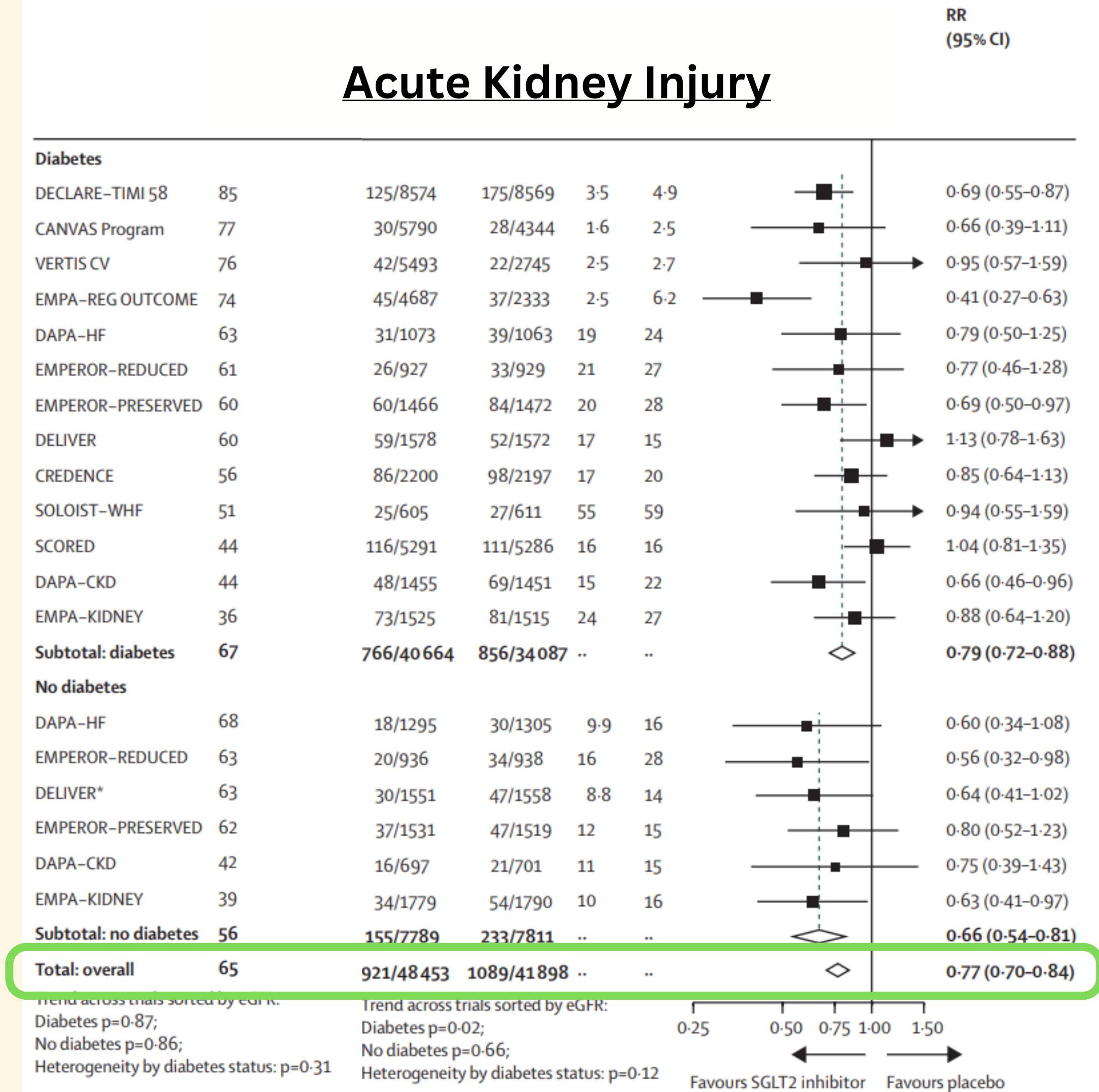


# ckd DATA

SGLT2i users had a **23% risk reduction in AKI**, regardless of DM status

None of the large trials found increased risk for AKI

## Acute Kidney Injury

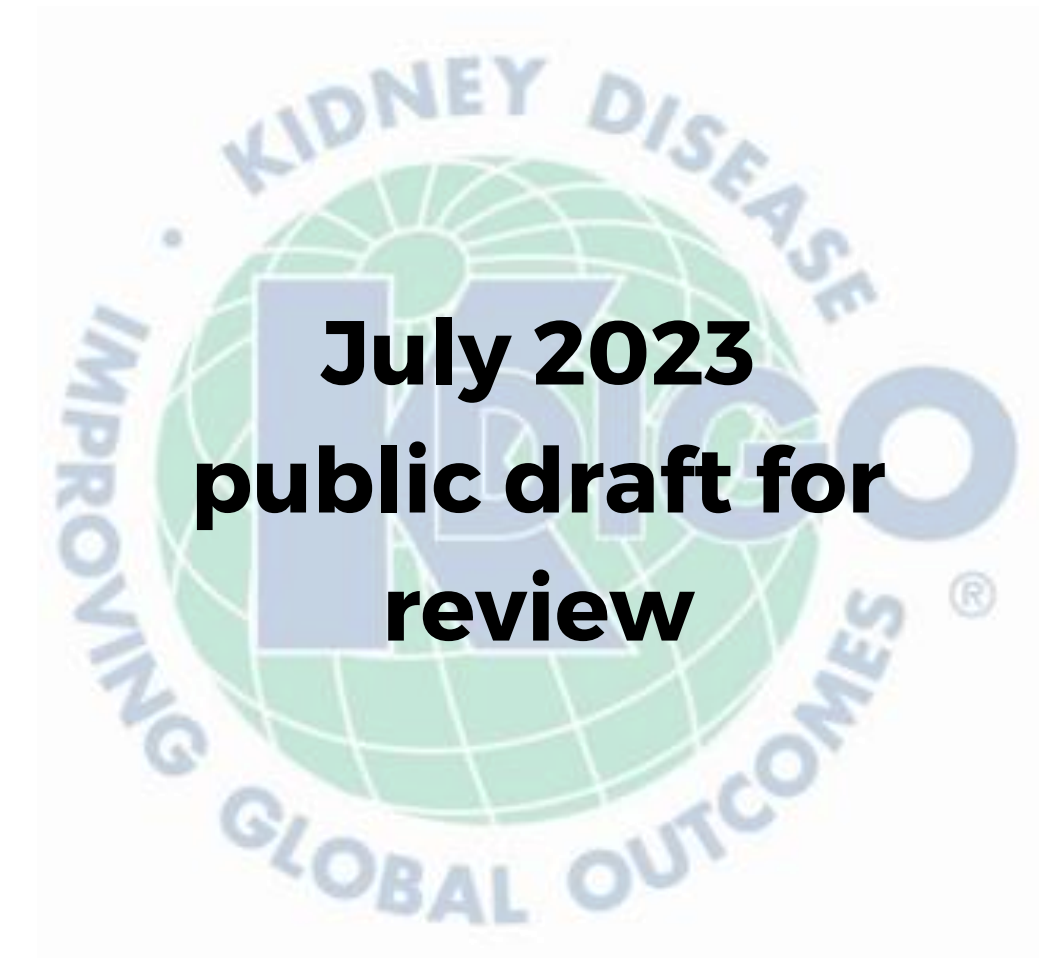




# KDIGO 2023

**Recommendation 3.6.2: We recommend treating adults with CKD and heart failure or eGFR  $\geq 20$  ml/min per 1.73 m<sup>2</sup> with urine albumin-to-creatinine ratio (ACR)  $\geq 200$  mg/g with an SGLT2i (1A).**

**Recommendation 3.6.3: We suggest treating adults with eGFR  $\geq 20$  to 45 ml/min per 1.73 m<sup>2</sup> with urine ACR  $< 200$  mg/g with an SGLT2i (2B).**



"This recommendation places **high value** on the **large relative reductions in risk for kidney disease progression** in a series of large, placebo controlled RCTs"

"This recommendation places **high value** on **demonstrable net absolute benefits versus absolute harms** in people with CKD (particularly in those without DM at very low risk of ketoacidosis"

"This recommendation places **moderate value** on the benefits of SGLT2i on risk of AKI, CV death, hospitalization for HF and MI, risk of hospitalization from any cause"

# patient **CASE**

**60 y/o M with a pmhx of CKD stage 3 with microalbuminuria and type II DM. His A1C is 8.5%.**

**How would you optimize their DM management?**

- 1) GLP-1 RA**
- 2) Sulfonylurea**
- 3) TZD**
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- 5) No additional medications**

## **Current medications:**

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- Lisinopril 20mg Daily
- Atorvastatin 40mg Daily

# patient **CASE**

60 y/o M with a pmhx of **CKD stage 3 with microalbuminuria** and **type II DM**. His A1C is 8.5%.

**How would you optimize their DM management?**

- 1) GLP-1 RA
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- 3) TZD
- 4) **SGLT2i**
- 5) No additional medications

## **Current medications:**

- Metformin 1000mg BID
- Lisinopril 20mg Daily
- Atorvastatin 40mg Daily

# take home **POINTS**

**Empa, cana, and dapa reduce kidney disease progression\***

\*benefit may be greater in those with more albuminuria

**These SGLT2i are recommended in CKD regardless of T2DM status**

**Reversible drop in eGFR may occur; generally can continue SGLT2i**

**KDIGO 2023 CKD Guideline coming soon**

# patient **CASE**

**67 y/o F with a pmhx of HFpEF from uncontrolled HTN. She presents to clinic for follow up of her HF.**

**Current medications:**

Spironolactone 25mg daily

Chlorthalidone 25mg daily

Lasix 40mg daily

**VS:** Normal

**PE:** Euvolemic

**Labs:** BMP normal except eGFR 40

**How would you optimize their HF management?**



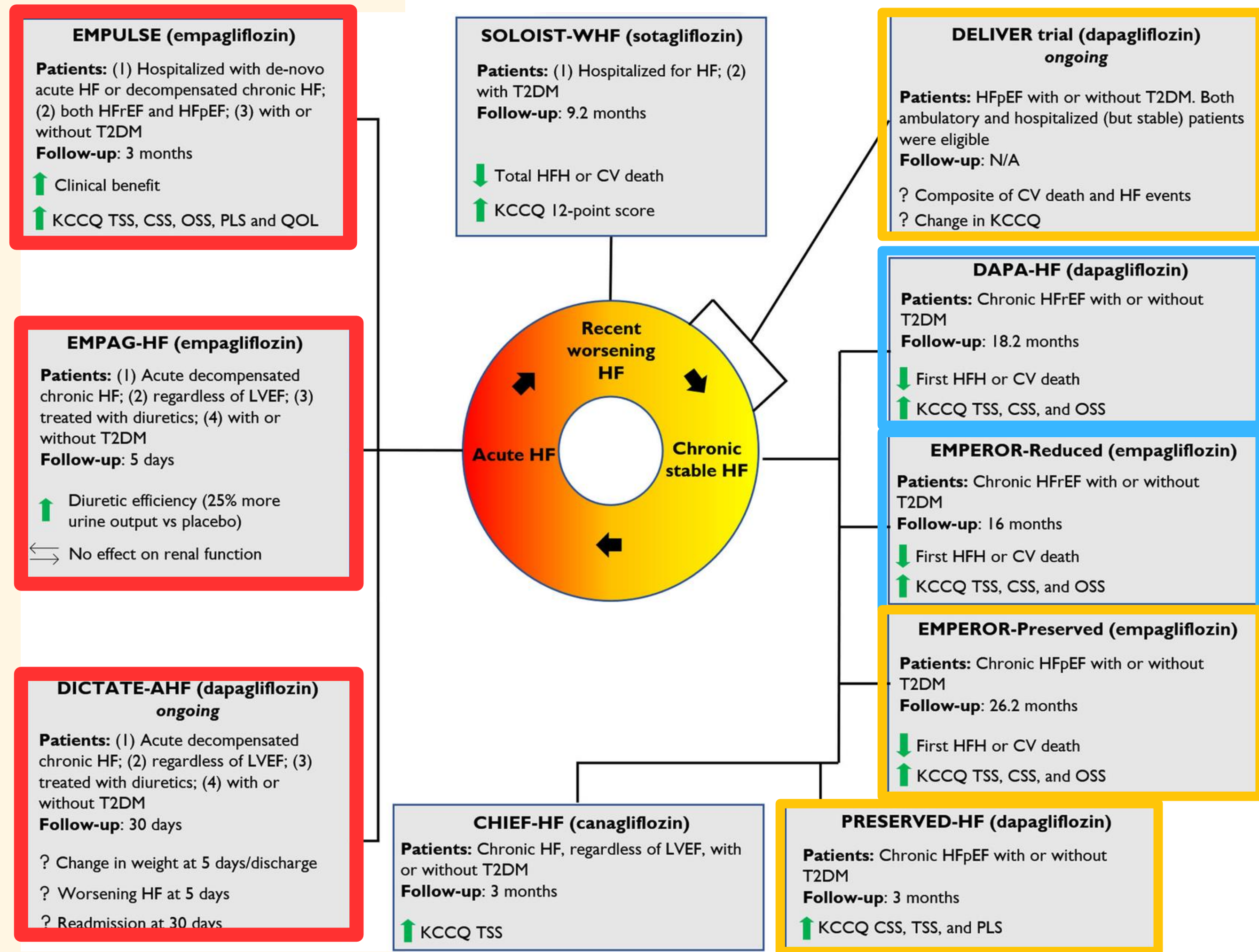
# heart FAILURE

SGLT2i have been studied across the HF spectrum

HFrEF trials

HFpEF trials

ADHF trials





# HFrEF

LVEF  $\leq$ 40%

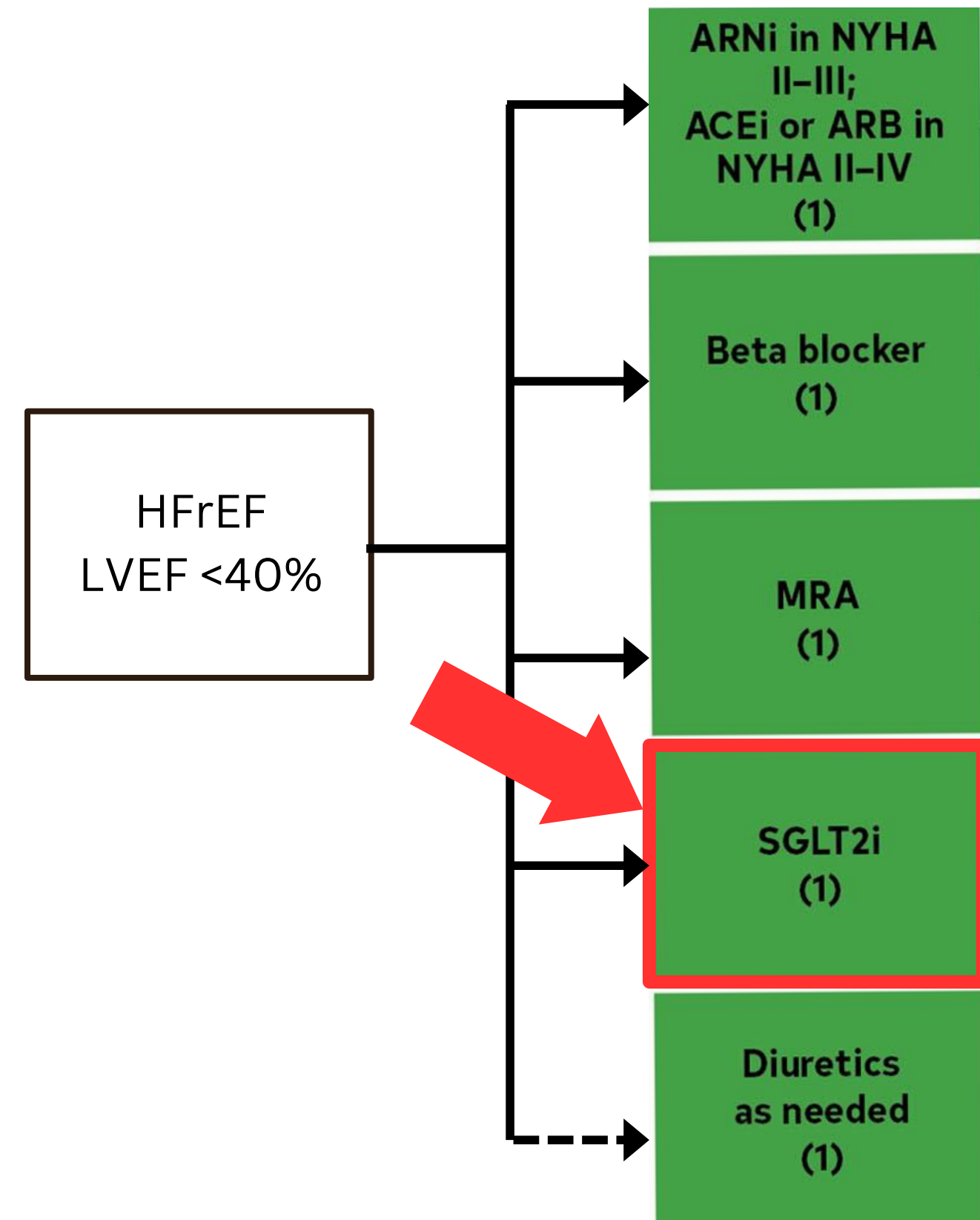
Data based on DAPA-HF (**dapa**; 2019) and  
EMPEROR-REDUCED (**empa**; 2020)

Dapa and empa reduce risk of **CV death** and **HF hospitalizations** by **25%**

Benefit primarily driven by **HF hospitalization reduction**

Benefit similar regardless of T2DM status

## Treatment of HFrEF



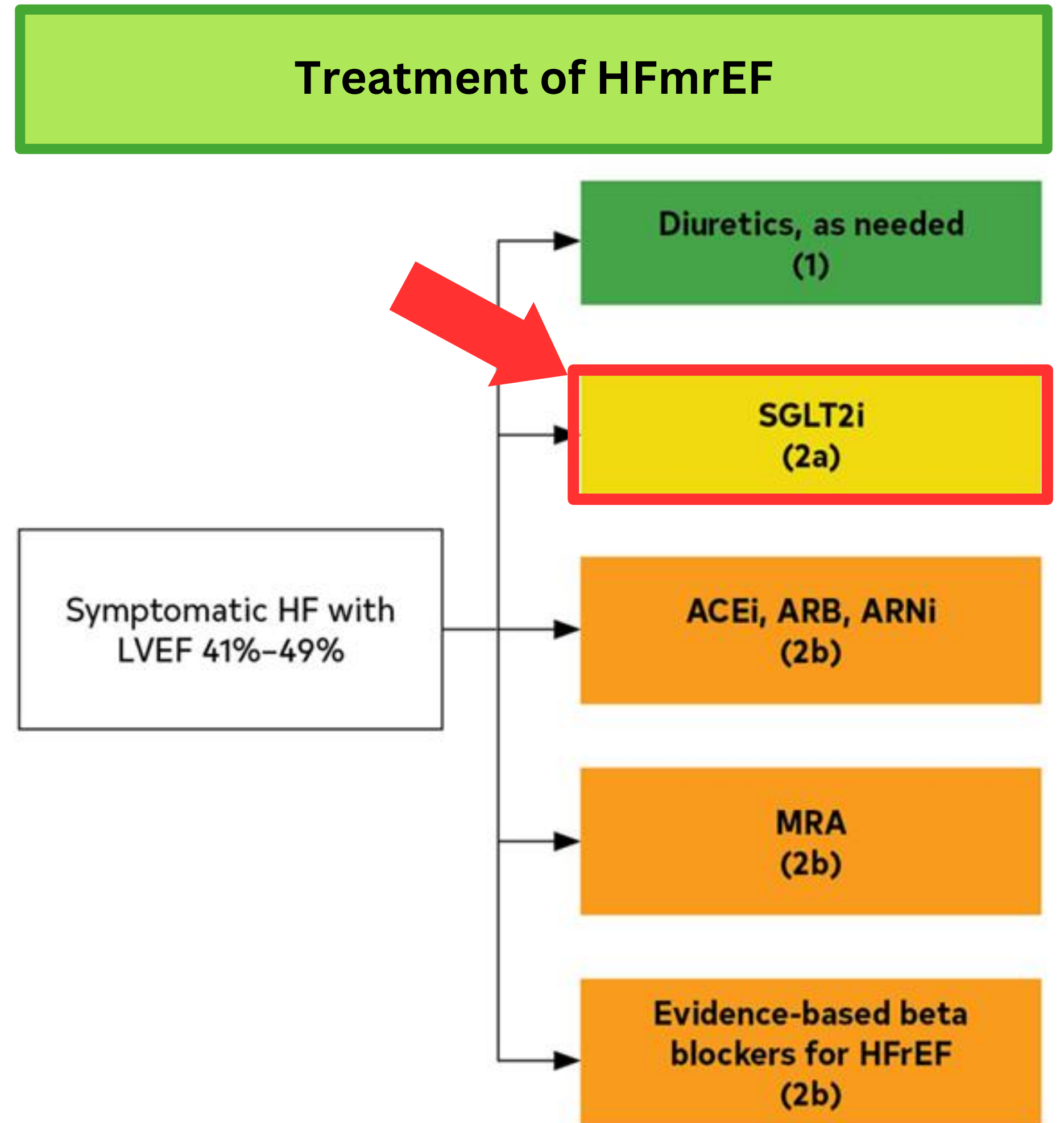
# HFmrEF

LVEF 41-49%

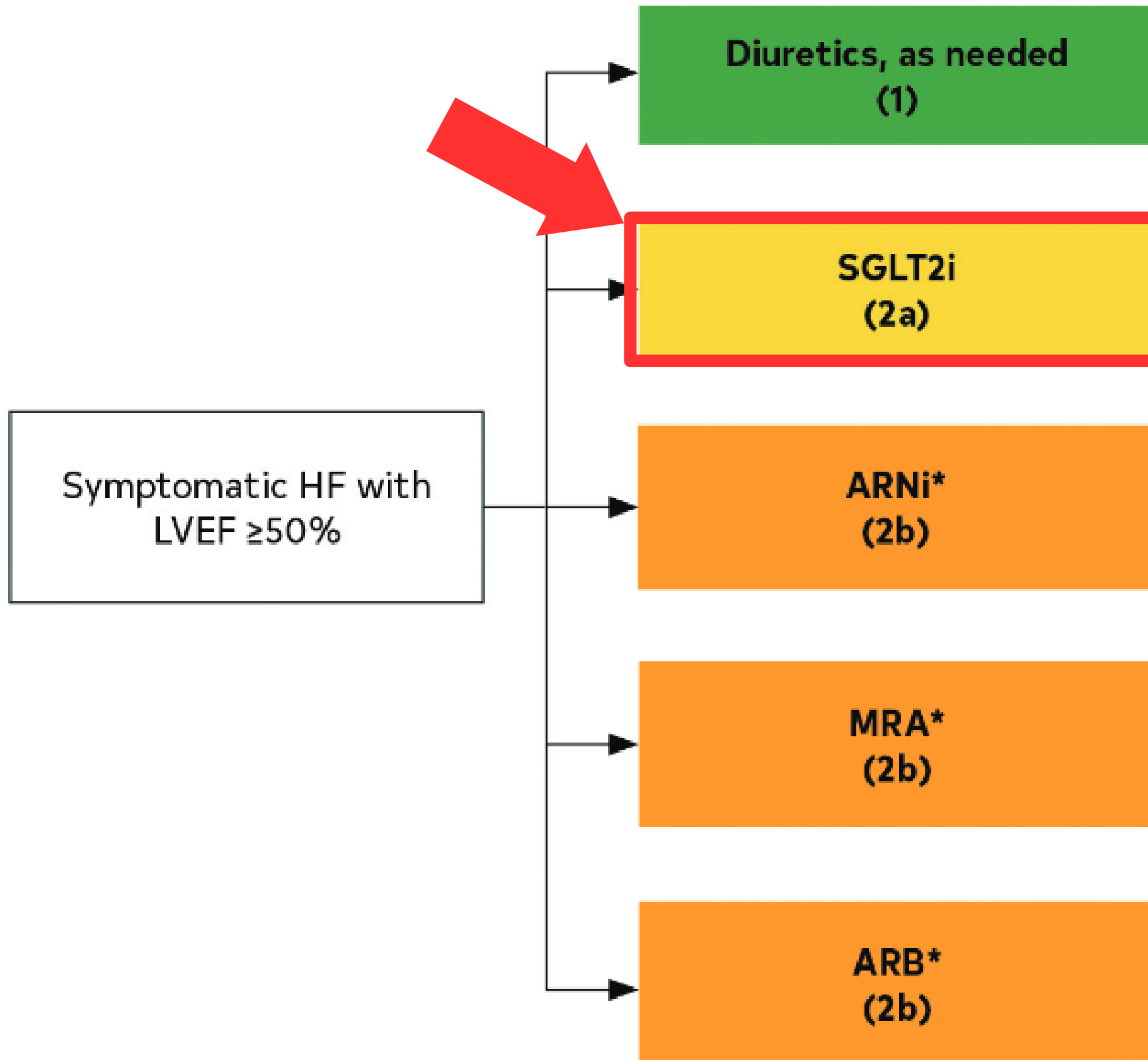
No prospective RCTs exclusively in HFmrEF

Data based on subgroup/post-hoc analyses of EMPEROR-Preserved trial (**empa** in HFpEF)

**Largest benefit (CV death, HF hospitalizations) among patients with HFmrEF**  
(vs LVEF 50-60%,  $\geq 60\%$ )



## Treatment of HFpEF



# HFpEF

LVEF  $\geq$  50%

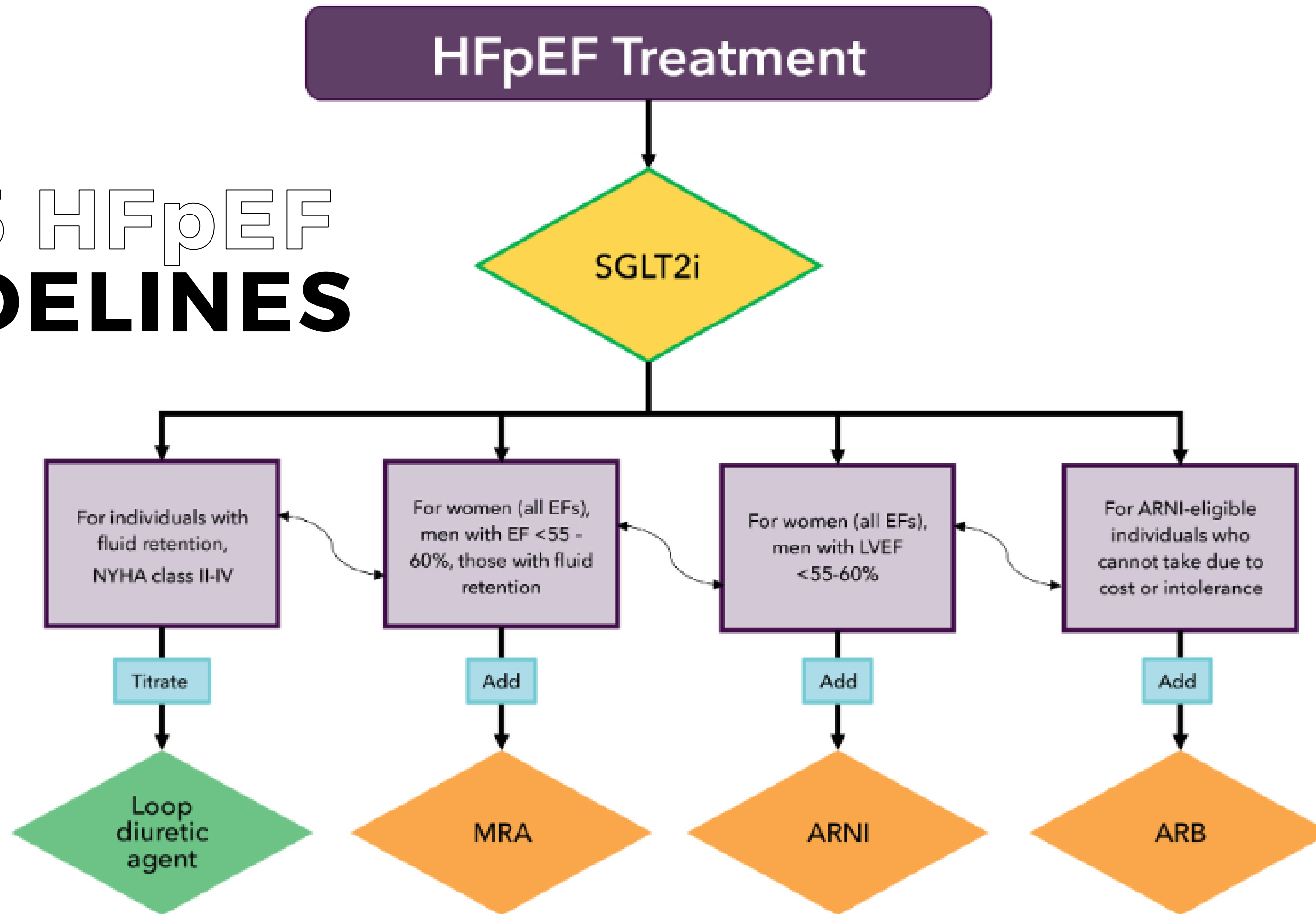
Data based on EMPEROR-Preserved (**empa**; 2020) and DELIVER (**dapa**; 2022)

Empa and dapa reduce risk of **CV death** and **HF hospitalizations** by **20%**

Benefit primarily driven by **HF hospitalization reduction**

Benefit similar regardless of T2DM status

# 2023 HFpEF GUIDELINES



# patient **CASE**

**67 y/o F with a pmhx of HFpEF from uncontrolled HTN. She presents to clinic for follow up of her HF.**

**How would you optimize their HF management?**

- 1) Add ARNI**
- 2) Increase Lasix**
- 3) Add SGLT2i**
- 4) Add ARB**

## **Current medications:**

Spirolactone 25mg daily  
Chlorthalidone 25mg daily  
Lasix 40mg daily

# patient **CASE**

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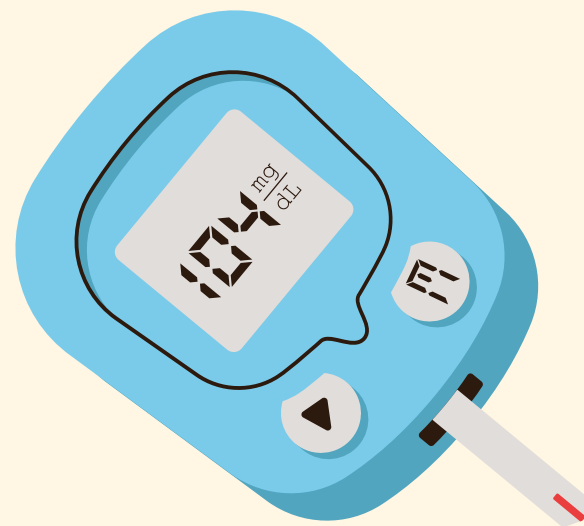
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# take home **POINTS**

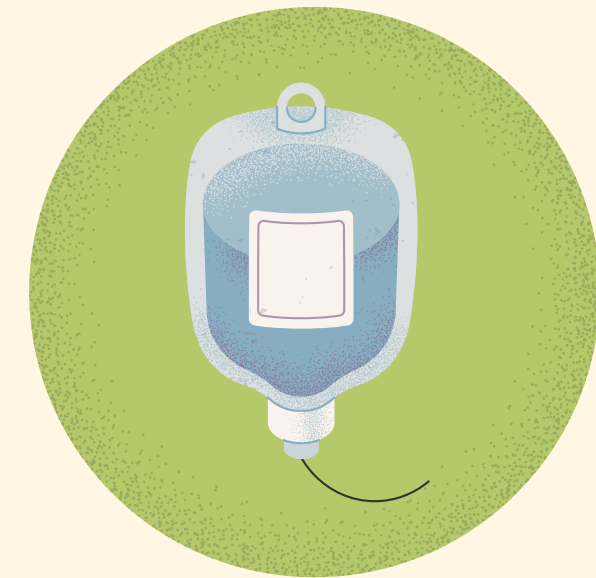
SGLT2i (empa, dapa) are mainstay of therapy in HF regardless of:



**Diabetes**



**LVEF**



**HF status\***

\*except cardiogenic shock

# audience **QUESTION**

**67 y/o with pmhx of HFpEF. You plan to start an SGLT2i to optimize HF management.**

**Which of the following side effects would you counsel on?**

- 1) Increased risk of genital mycotic infections**
- 2) Increased risk of UTIs**
- 3) Increased risk of amputations**
- 4) Euglycemic DKA**

# urinary tract **INFECTIONS**

Multiple systematic reviews show **no increased risk for UTI with SGLT2i**

**SGLT2i do increase risk for genital infections**

Urinary Tract Infections	
	Relative Risk (95% CI)
SGTL2i vs control	1.05 (0.98 - 1.12)
Subgroup by individual SGLT2i (interaction p=0.03)	
canagliflozin	1.13 (0.97 - 1.33)
dapagliflozin	1.34 (1.11 - 1.63)
empagliflozin	1.00 (0.93 - 1.08)

Genital Infections	
	Relative Risk (95% CI)
SGTL2i vs control	3.30 (2.74 - 3.99)
Subgroup by individual SGLT2i (interaction p=.04)	
canagliflozin	1.13 (0.97 - 1.33)
dapagliflozin	1.34 (1.11 - 1.63)
empagliflozin	1.00 (0.93 - 1.08)

# urinary tract INFECTIONS

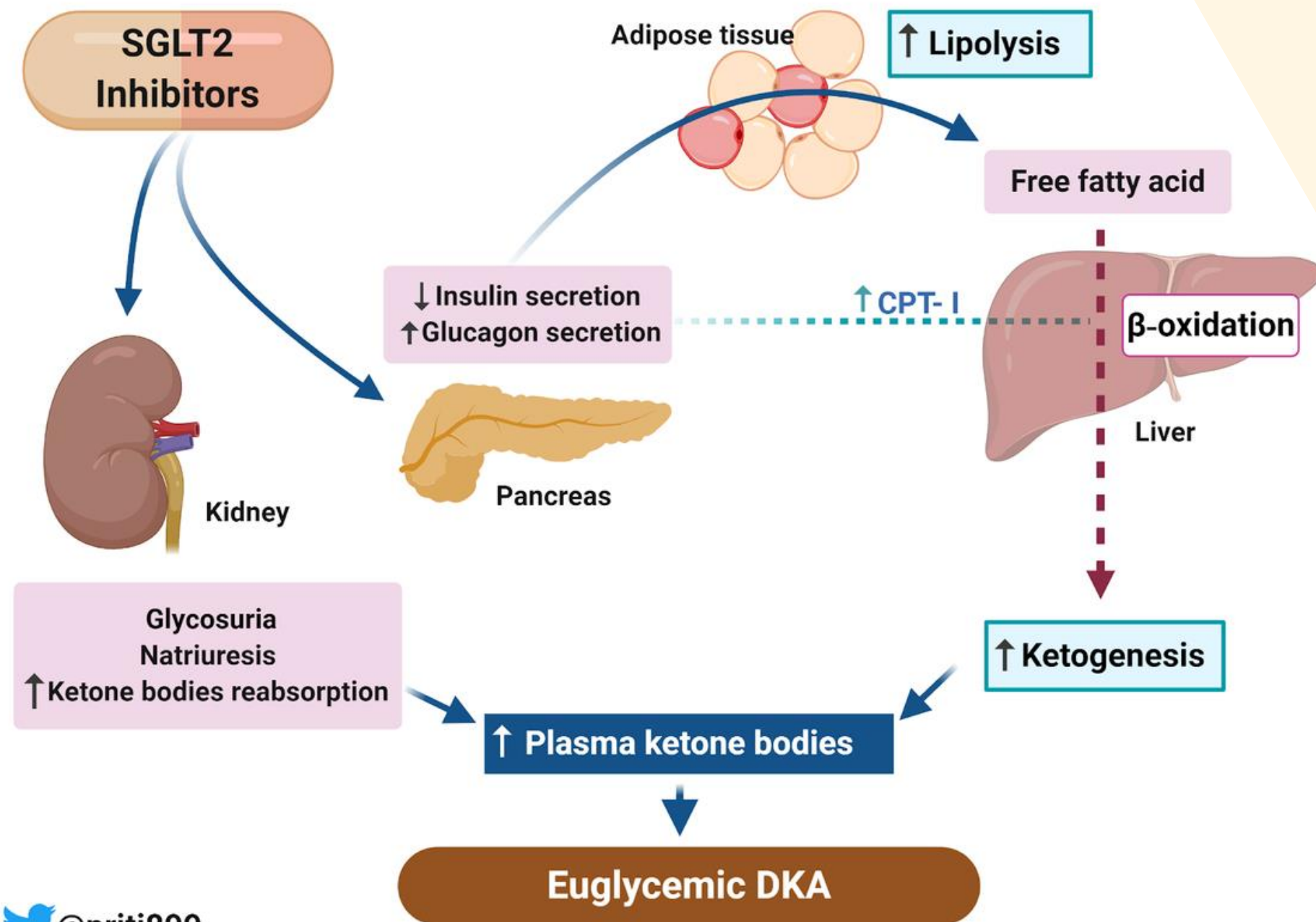
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SGLT2i **do** increase risk for **genital infections**

Genital Infections	
	Relative Risk (95% CI)
SGTL2i vs control	3.30 (2.74 - 3.99)
Subgroup by individual SGLT2i (interaction p=.03)	
canagliflozin	4.45 (3.49 - 5.67)
dapagliflozin	3.22 (1.95 - 5.32)
empagliflozin	3.14 (2.29 - 4.30)

# euglycemic DKA



## 01

### Epidemiology

- 50% cases associated with precipitating event
- Low documented rates for T2DM (~0.1%)
- **Median time after SGLT2i initiation: 2 weeks**

## 02

### Mechanism

- ↓ blood glucose
- ↓ insulin, ↑ glucagon → lipolysis
- **volume depletion** → lipolysis and ketogenesis
- SGLT2i may ↓ urinary ketone excretion

## 03

### Risk Factors

- Reduced PO intake
- Acute illness
- ↓ insulin dose
- Use in T1DM, LADA

# RISK MITIGATION

## Sick Day Protocol

- temporarily **hold SGLT2i**
- keep drinking and eating, if possible
- **check BG, blood ketone** levels more often
- seek medical help early

## Perioperative Care

- hold SGLT2i day of day-stay procedures
- **limit fasting** to minimum required
- **hold SGLT2i  $\geq 2$  days before procedure** requiring hospital stay and/or bowel prep
- **check BG, ketone levels** on admission
- **restart SGLT2i when eating/drinking normally**



empagliflozin (JARDIANCE) tablet 10 mg ✓ Accept ✗ Cancel

Order Instructions: NOTE: empagliflozin should be HELD and not given in patients with metabolically stressful events (surgery, severe infections, stroke, MI) or hypovolemia due to risks of DKA.  
- Initiation of empagliflozin is restricted to patients with HFrEF (EF <40%) with or without type 2 diabetes or initiation post new stroke for patients also with type 2 diabetes. Outpatient insurance authorization must be initiated prior to initiating therapy.

**!** Is patient undergoing metabolically stressful event (e.g. surgery, severe infections, stroke, MI) or hypovolemia?  
Yes No

**!** Are you initiating therapy for a heart failure with reduced ejection fraction patient with EF < 40% OR for new post-stroke patient with type 2 diabetes?  
Yes No

empagliflozin (JARDIANCE) tablet 10 mg ✓ Accept ✗ Cancel

Order Instructions: NOTE: empagliflozin should be HELD and not given in patients with metabolically stressful events (surgery, severe infections, stroke, MI) or hypovolemia due to risks of DKA.  
- Initiation of empagliflozin is restricted to patients with HFrEF (EF <40%) with or without type 2 diabetes or initiation post new stroke for patients also with type 2 diabetes. Outpatient insurance authorization must be initiated prior to initiating therapy.

Is patient undergoing metabolically stressful event (e.g. surgery, severe infections, stroke, MI) or hypovolemia?  
Yes No

**!** AVOID USE: Empagliflozin should be HELD and not given in patients with metabolically stressful events (surgery, severe infections, stroke, MI) or hypovolemia due to risks of DKA.

# other rare **SIDE EFFECTS**

Higher rates of amputations, fracture reported in CANVAS (canagliflozin), however **not observed in other RCTs**

Multiple systematic reviews found **no increased risk** for hypovolemia, lower limb amputations, and bone fracture vs placebo

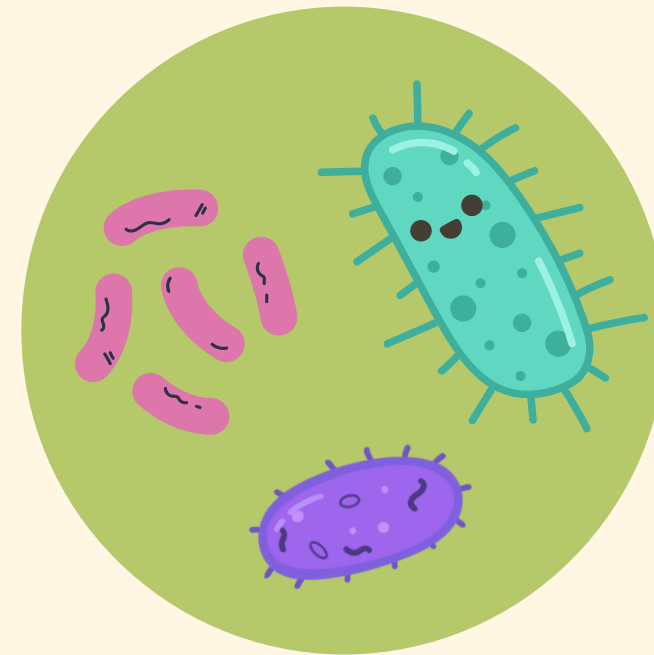
Benefits generally outweigh these rare, potential risks



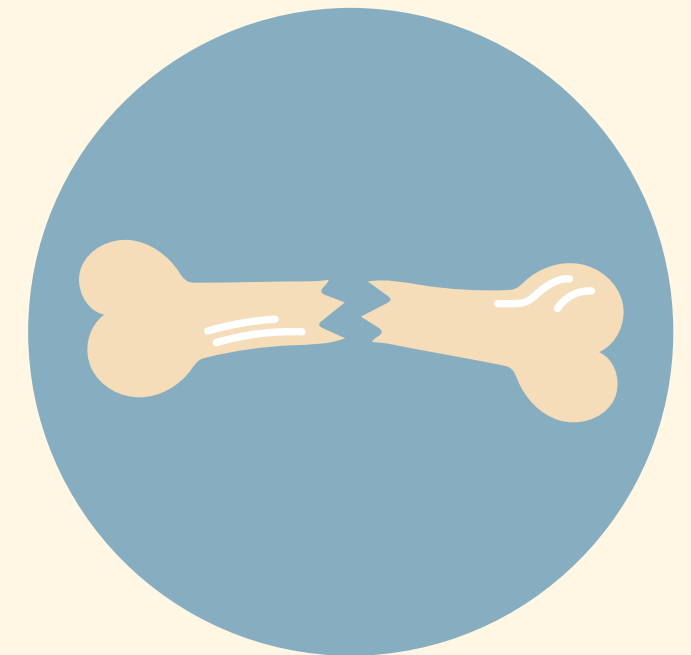
**Hypovolemia**



**Amputations**



**Fournier's Gangrene**



**Fracture**

D'Andrea E. *JAMA Intern Med* 2023;183(3):242-54.

Vukadinovic D. *Eur J Heart Fail* 2022;24:1625-32.

Donnan JR. *BMJ Open* 2019;9:e022577.

# audience **QUESTION**

**67 y/o with pmhx of HFpEF. You plan to start an SGLT2 to optimize HF management.**

**Which of the following side effects would you counsel on?**

- 1) Increased risk of genital mycotic infections**
- 2) Increased risk of UTIs**
- 3) Increased risk of amputations**
- 4) Euglycemic DKA**



# audience QUESTION

**67 y/o with pmhx of HFpEF. You plan to start an SGLT2i to optimize HF management.**

**Which of the following side effects would you counsel on?**

- 1) Increased risk of genital mycotic infections**
- 2) Increased risk of UTIs**
- 3) Increased risk of amputations**
- 4) Euglycemic DKA**

# sglt2i **SUMMARY**

		ASCVD	HF	CKD
<b>Efficacy</b>				
<b>SGLT2i</b>	<b>empa (Jardiance)</b>			
	<b>cana (Invokana)</b>			
	<b>dapa (Farxiga)</b>			
<b>Current Guideline Recommendations</b>				

# sglt2i **SUMMARY**

		ASCVD	HF	CKD
<b>Efficacy</b>		↓ 3-pt MACE		
<b>SGLT2i</b>	<b>empa (Jardiance)</b>	✓		
	<b>cana (Invokana)</b>	✓		
	<b>dapa (Farxiga)</b>			
<b>Current Guideline Recommendations</b>		First line in T2DM + ASCVD, <u>regardless of A1c</u>		



# sglt2i **SUMMARY**

		ASCVD	HF	CKD
<b>Efficacy</b>		↓ 3-pt MACE	↓ HF hospitalization and CV mortality	
<b>SGLT2i</b>	<b>empa (Jardiance)</b>	✓	✓	
	<b>cana (Invokana)</b>	✓		
	<b>dapa (Farxiga)</b>		✓	
<b>Current Guideline Recommendations</b>		First line in T2DM + ASCVD, <u>regardless of A1c</u>	HFrEF: <u>1A</u>	
			HFpEF: <u>2A</u>	

# sglt2i **SUMMARY**

		ASCVD	HF	CKD
<b>Efficacy</b>		↓ 3-pt MACE	↓ HF hospitalization and CV mortality	↓ CKD progression and AKI
<b>SGLT2i</b>	<b>empa (Jardiance)</b>	✓	✓	✓
	<b>cana (Invokana)</b>	✓		✓
	<b>dapa (Farxiga)</b>		✓	✓
<b>Current Guideline Recommendations</b>		First line in T2DM + ASCVD, <u>regardless of A1c</u>	HFrEF: <u>1A</u> HFpEF: <u>2A</u>	CKD (GFR >20) + T2DM: <u>1A</u>

thank  
**YOU!**

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