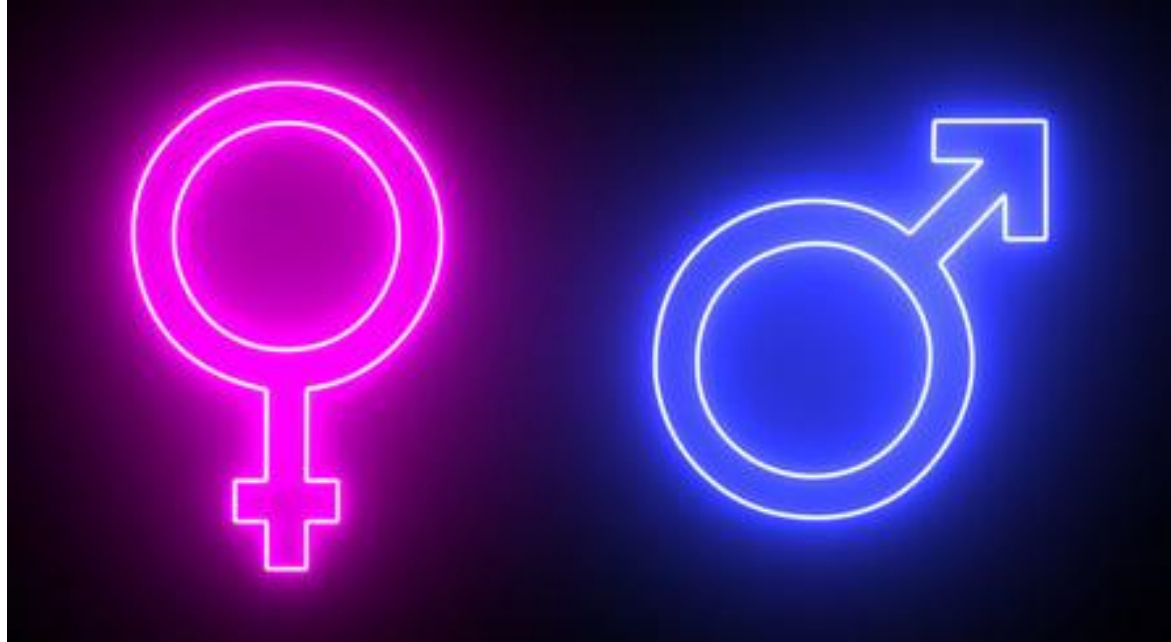




GENDERSENSITIEVE GEZONDHEIDSZORG : WETENSCHAP, WAARHEID ... OF WEERAL WOKE?

Dr. Berlinde von Kemp

15/05/2025



WELL
BEHAVED
WOMEN
SELDOM
MAKE
HISTORY.

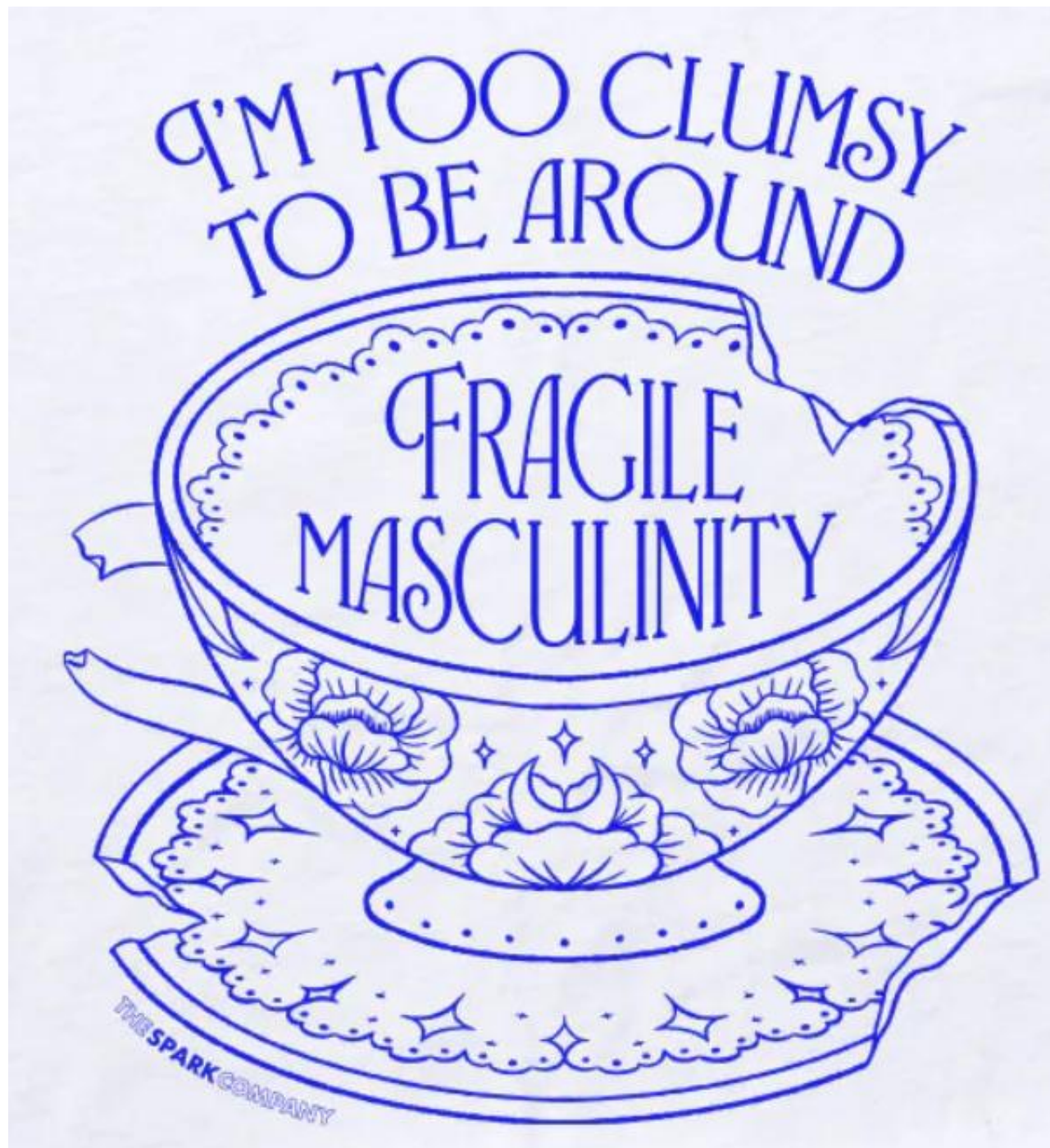
LAUREL THATCHER ULRICH



WOMEN SELDOM MAKE HISTORY.

WELL
BEHAVED
WOMEN
SELDOM
MAKE
HISTORY.

LAUREL THATCHER ULRICH





Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions

EDITORIAL

Understudied, Under-Recognized, Underdiagnosed, and Undertreated: Sex-Based Disparities in Cardiovascular Medicine

Sonya N. Burgess , PhD, MBChB

●●● GESLACHT EN GENDER IN GENEESKUNDE – BACK TO THE FUTURE?

1. 'Understudied' – de thalidomide-tragedie
2. 'Underdiagnosed & undertreated' – ook vandaag nog : hoezo?
3. 'Underrecognized' – maar niet voor lang meer
4. Is dit woke? Of is de context ziek ?
5. Take home messages

Ik ben cardioloog



DISCLAIMER

Ik ben cis-vrouw (AFAB), zij/haar



GEEN
GENDERSENSITIEVE ZORG

ZONDER
GENDER-EGALE ZORG



WOMEN'S HEALTH REPORT

BELGIUM, 2024

HEALTH
INFORMATION

000 UNDERSTUDIED?

sex disparities cardiovascular disease

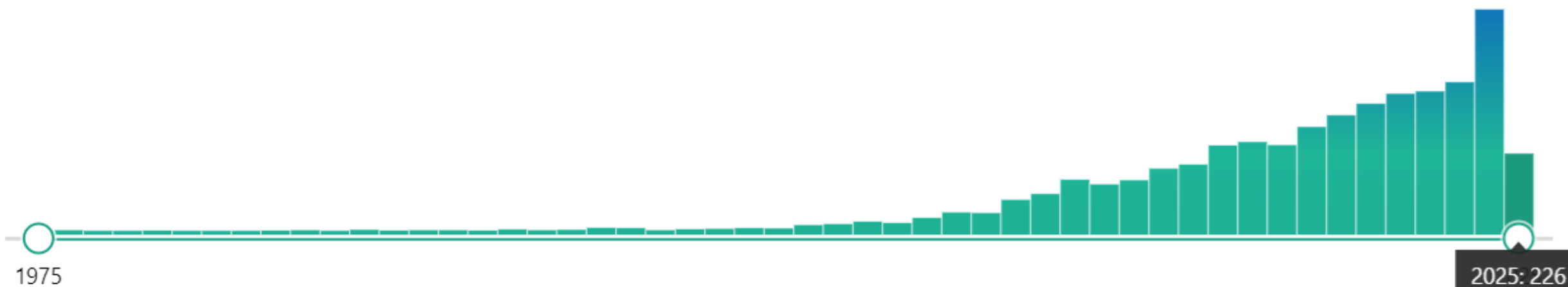


Search

RESULTS BY YEAR

4,516 results

Page 1 of 452



UNDERSTUDIED?



National Library of Medicine
National Center for Biotechnology Information



sex disparities cardiovascular disease

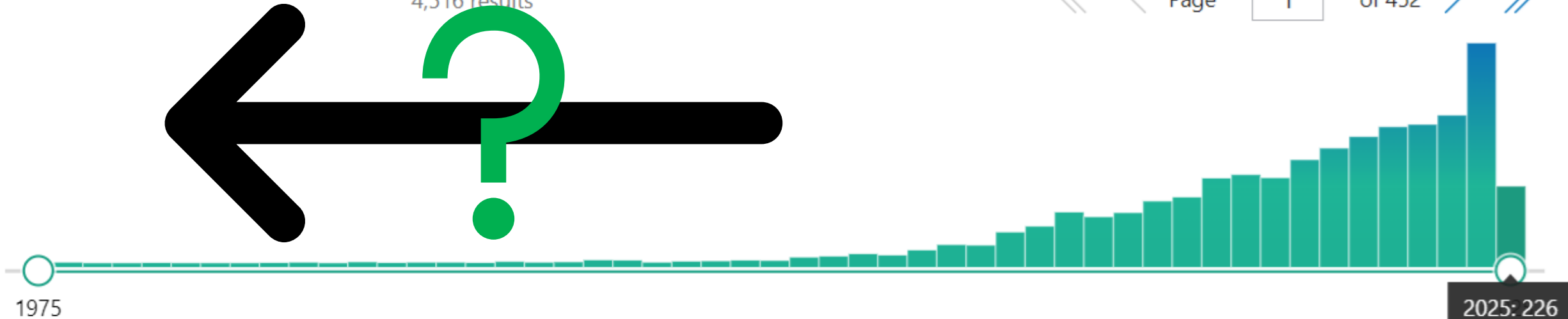


Search

RESULTS BY YEAR

4,516 results

Page 1 of 452



DE THALIDOMIDE TRAGEDIE



DE THALIDOMIDE TRAGEDIE



DE THALIDOMIDE TRAGEDIE



1962

dr. Frances
Oldham - Kelsey



●●● DE THALIDOMIDE TRAGEDIE

1977

DE THALIDOMIDE TRAGEDIE

1977

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

All women of childbearing age were banned from participating in clinical trials from 1977-1993



1986

1986

NIH enacts the
Inclusion of
Women and
Minorities in
Clinical
Research
policy

1993

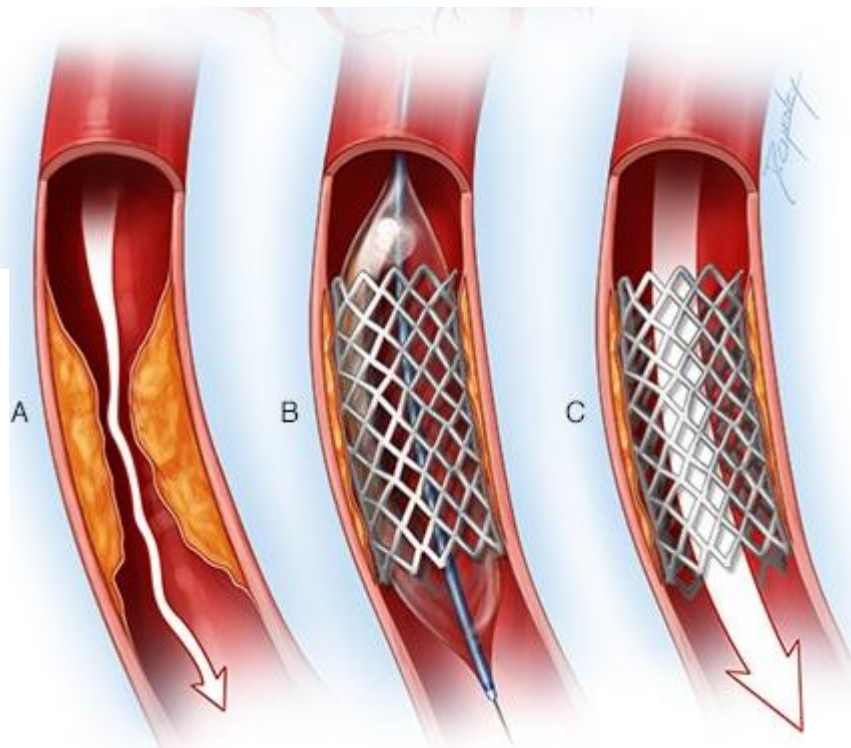
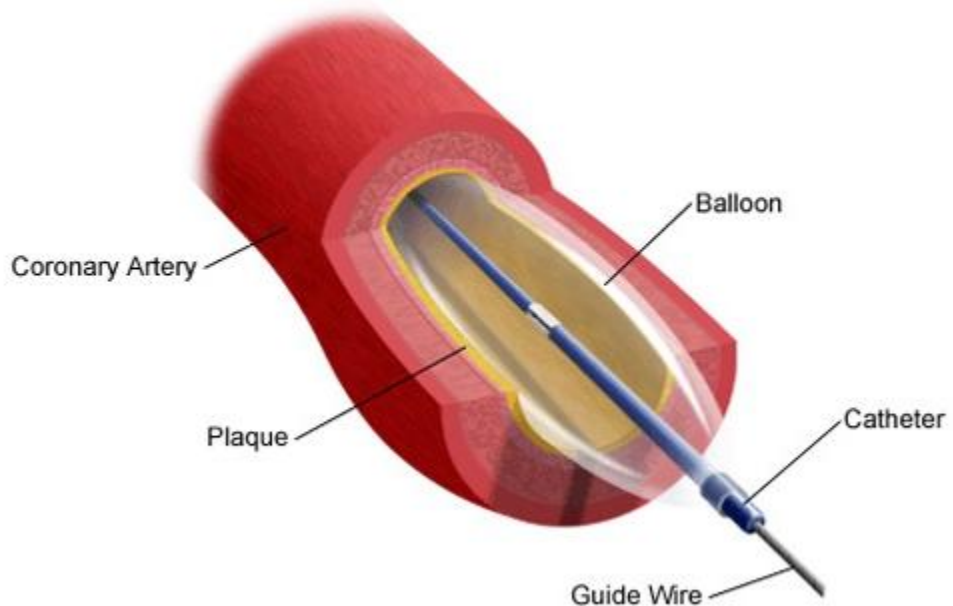
WHAT HAPPENED IN 1993?

On June 10, 1993,
Congress passed the
NIH Revitalization
Act, requiring the
inclusion of women
in clinical research
for the *first* time.

2023 marks 30 years since the passing of
this law — but we're still decades behind.

ANDROCENTRISME?

Inflation of Balloon Inside a Coronary Artery



1977-1993



●●● WAT DOODT WIE?

BELGIË : 2022 = 116 380 overlijdens

CA + CVD : +/- 50%

‘mannen sterven aan hart- en vaatziekten, vrouwen aan borstkanker’



	Hart- en vaatziekten		Tumoren	
	Aantal	%	Aantal	%
België	27.466	23,6%	27.422	23,6%

<https://statbel.fgov.be/nl/themas/bevolking/sterfte-en-levensverwachting/doodsoorzaken#figures>

●●● WAT DOODT WIE?

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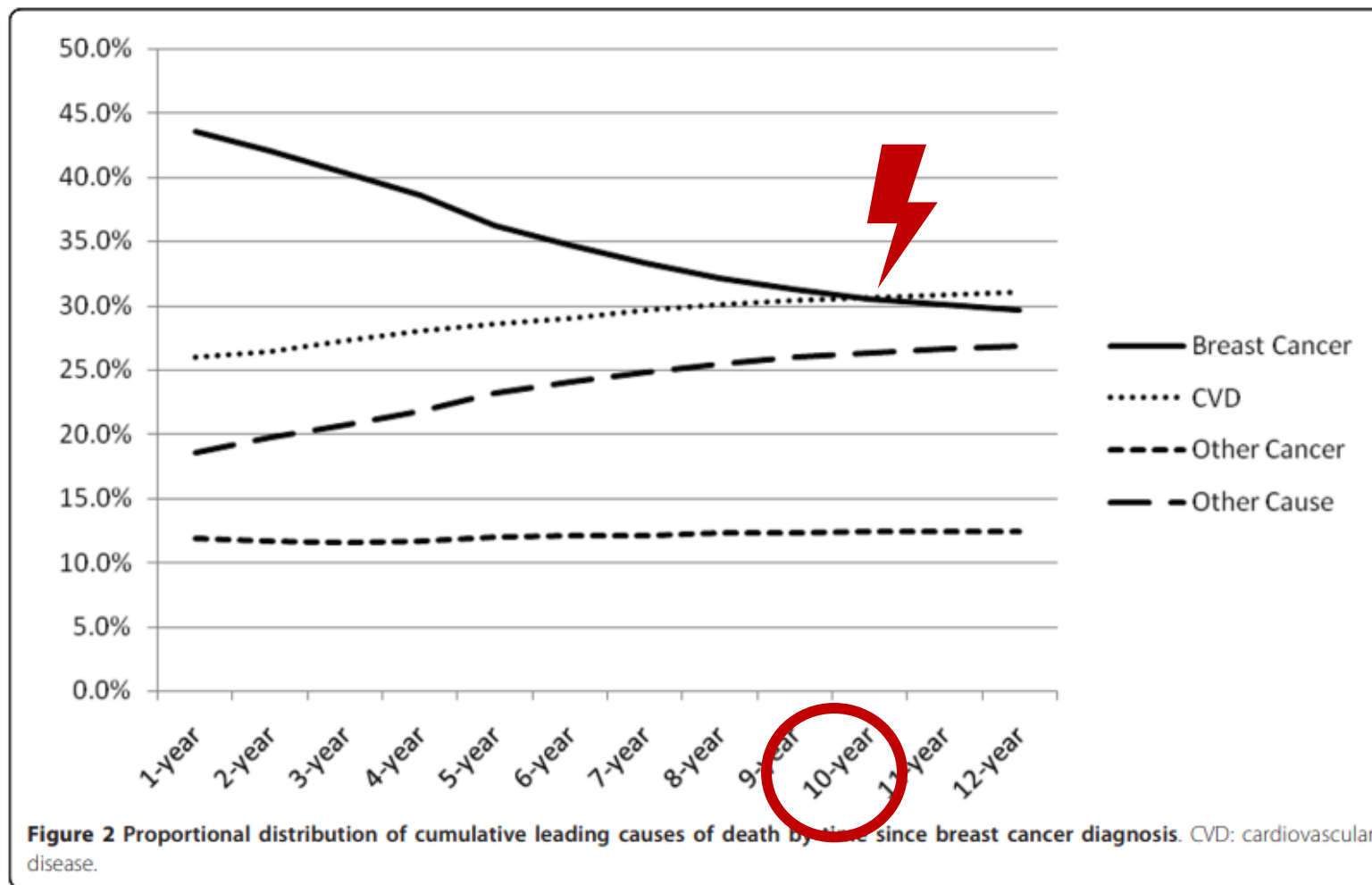


	Hart- en vaatziekten		Tumoren	
	Aantal	%	Aantal	%
België	27.466	23,6%	27.422	23,6%

ECHT?

<https://statbel.fgov.be/nl/themas/bevolking/sterfte-en-levensverwachting/doodsoorzaken#figures>

000 NIET DUS.



Patnaik et al. Breast Cancer Res 2011

●●● WAT DOODT WIE?

BELGIË : 2022 = 116 380 overlijdens

Hart & vaatziekten : 27 466 (23,6%)

♀

14 812

53,9%

♂

12 654

46,1%



<https://statbel.fgov.be/nl/themas/bevolking/sterfte-en-levensverwachting/doodsoorzaken#figures>

●●● UNDERDIAGNOSED & UNDERTREATED... OOK VANDAAG NOG

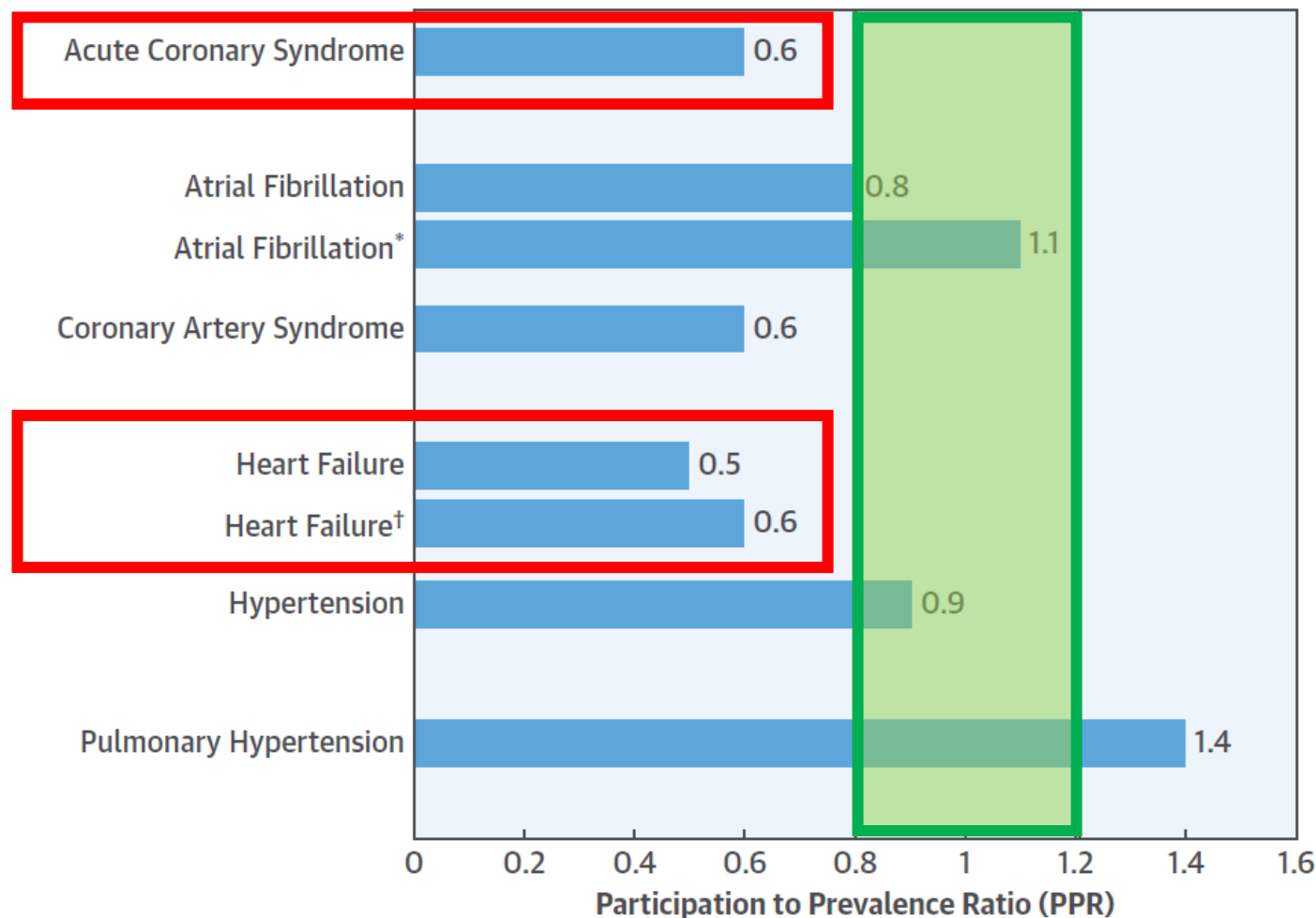
PPR :

Participation to prevalence ratio

$\frac{\% \text{ vrouwelijke patiënten in studie}}{\% \text{ vrouwelijke patiënten in 'real world'}}$

... voor ziektebeeld X

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION Participation of Women of CVD Clinical Trial:
Prevalence-Corrected Estimate



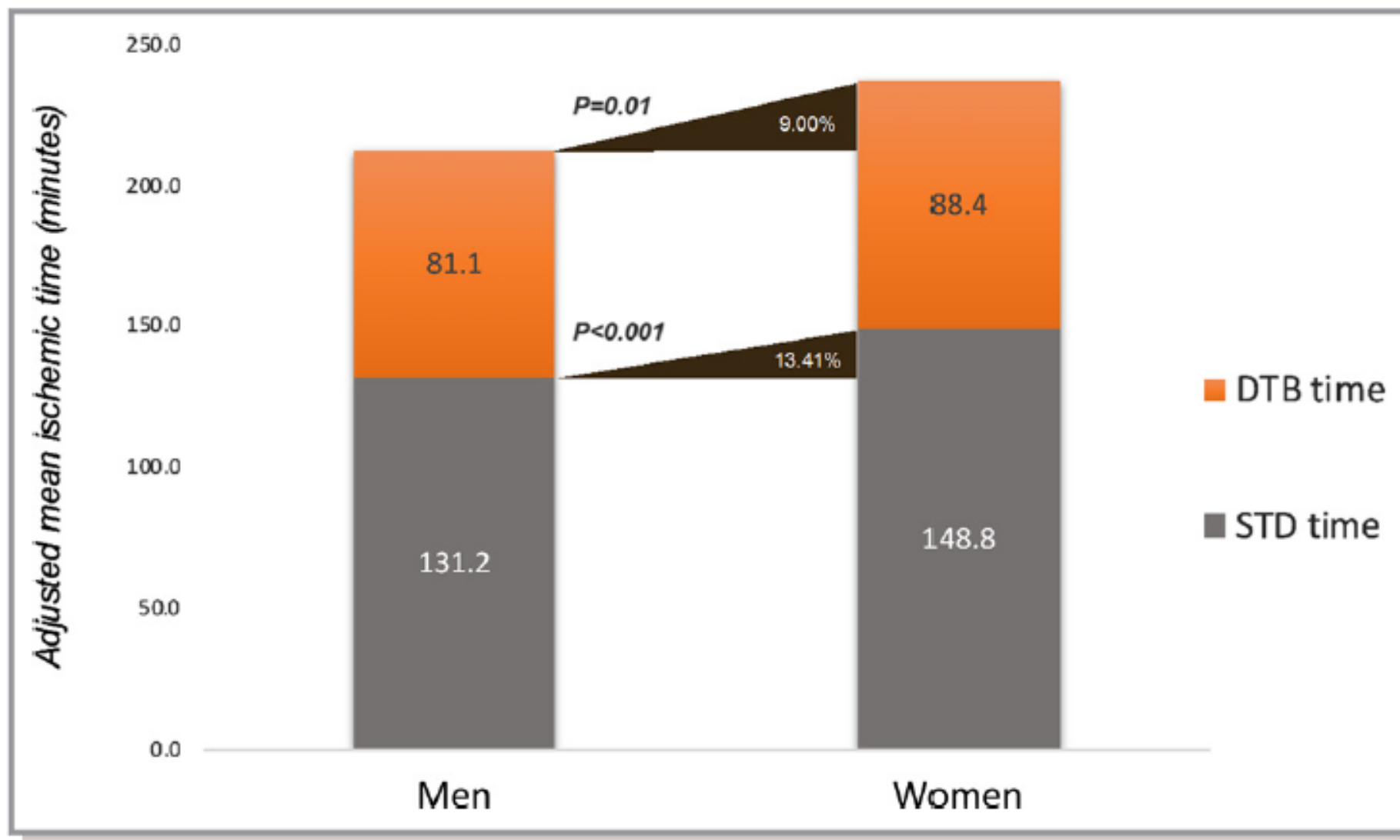
●●● UNDERDIAGNOSED & UNDERTREATED... OOK VANDAAG NOG

Gender Disparities in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Non-ST-Segment Elevation Acute Coronary Syndromes

OBJECTIVES	We hypothesized that significant disparities in gender exist in the management of patients with non-ST-segment elevation (NSTEMI) acute coronary syndromes (ACS).
BACKGROUND	Gender-related differences in the diagnosis and treatment of ACS have important healthcare implications. No large-scale examination of these disparities has been completed since the publication of the revised American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association guidelines for management of patients with NSTEMI ACS.
METHODS	Using data from the CRUSADE (Can Rapid Risk Stratification of Unstable Angina Patients Suppress Adverse Outcomes with Early Implementation of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Guidelines) National Quality Improvement Initiative, we examined differences of gender in treatment and outcomes among patients with NSTEMI ACS.
RESULTS	Women (41% of 35,875 patients) were older (median age 73 vs. 65 years) and more often had diabetes and hypertension. Women were less likely to receive acute heparin, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, and glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitors and less commonly received aspirin, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, and statins at discharge. The use of cardiac catheterization and revascularization was higher in men, but among patients with significant coronary disease, percutaneous coronary intervention was performed in a similar proportion of women and men. Women were at higher risk for unadjusted in-hospital death (5.6% vs. 4.3%), reinfarction (1.6% vs. 0.5%), heart failure (12.1% vs. 8.8%), stroke (1.1% vs. 0.8%), and red blood cell transfusion (17.2% vs. 13.2%), but after adjustment, only transfusion remained significantly higher in women.
CONCLUSIONS	Despite presenting with higher risk characteristics and having higher in-hospital risk, women with NSTEMI ACS are treated less aggressively than men. (J Am Coll Cardiol 2005;45: 832-7) © 2005 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation

Blomkalns et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2005

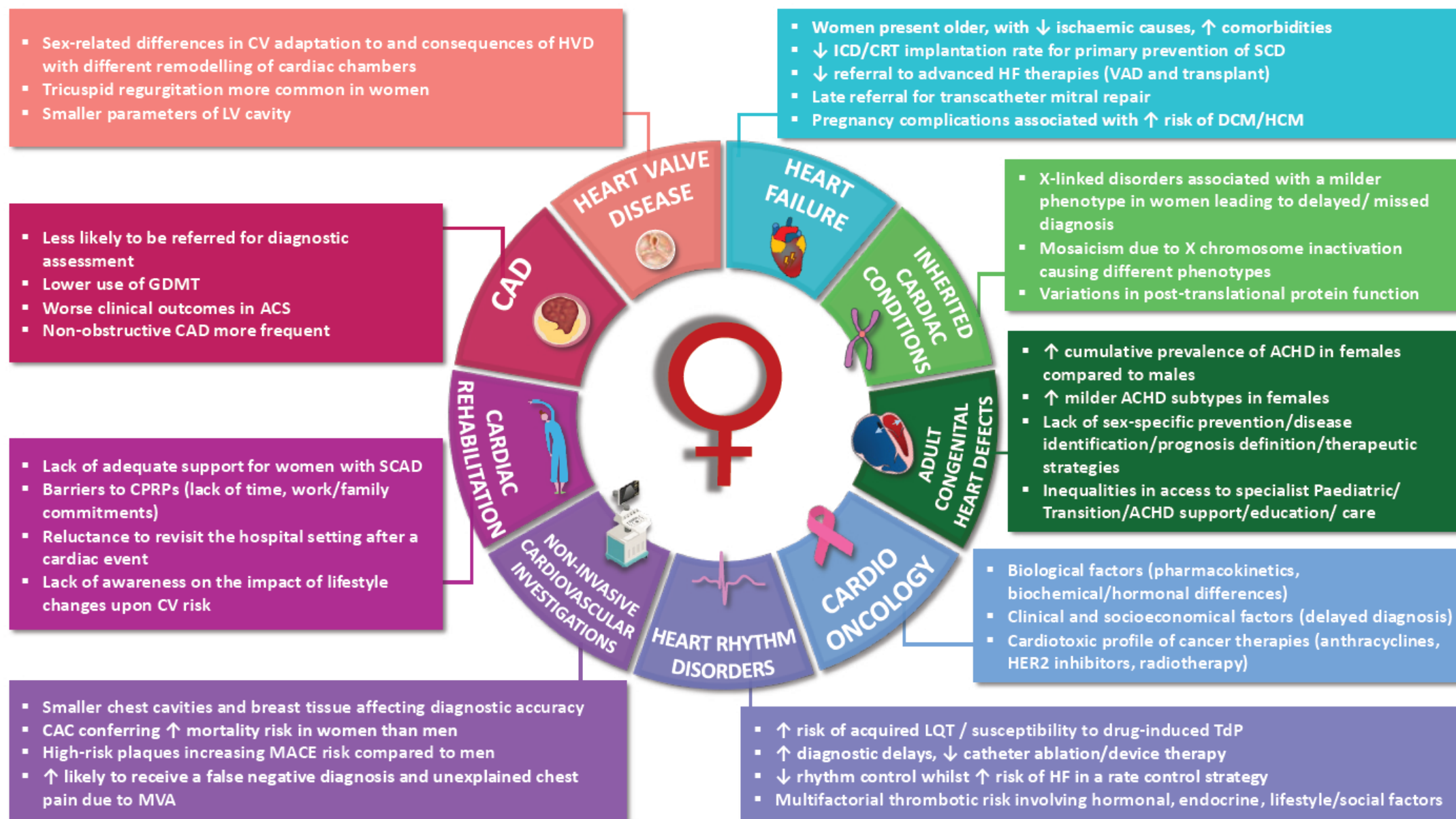
UNDERDIAGNOSED & UNDERTREATED... OOK VANDAAG NOG





UNDERDIAGNOSED & UNDERTREATED... OOK VANDAAG NOG

Tayal et al. Heart 2024



●●● UNDERDIAGNOSED & UNDERTREATED... OOK VANDAAG NOG

Hartinfarct bij vrouwen : lagere overlevingskans!

30-d sterfte +/- 50% hoger

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| > Symptomen worden vaker 'gemist' | ♀ > ♂ 'niet uw hart' : 53% vs. 37% |
| > Tijd tot diagnose (ECG op spoedgevallen) | ♀ > ♂ +/- 30min langer |
| > Kans op interventionele behandeling (stent) | ♀ < ♂ 58% minder (coro: 47%) |
| > Tijd tot stentplaatsing | ♀ > ♂ |
| > Kans op volledige revascularisatie | ♀ < ♂ |
| > Kans op volledig verdwijnen van de klachten | ♀ < ♂ |
| > Kans op optimale medische therapie na infarct | ♀ < ♂ 15-25% minder (statine : 50%) |
| > Kans op participatie aan revalidatie na infarct | ♀ < ♂ 25% minder |
| > Kans op optimale preventie | ♀ < ♂ 170% meer complicaties @6m |
| > Kans op bereiken preventie-targets | ♀ < ♂ |

Kans op reanimatie ?

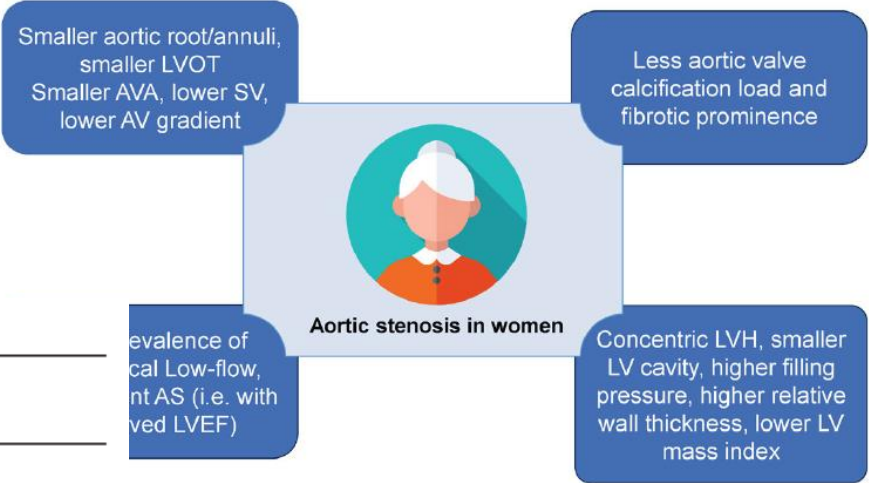
●●● UNDERDIAGNOSED & UNDERTREATED... OOK VANDAAG NOG

Sex-related disparities in aortic stenosis from disease awareness to treatment: a state-of-the-art review

Clare Appleby¹, Sabine Bleiziffer², Peter Bramlage³, Victoria Delgado⁴, Helene Eltchaninoff⁵, Catherine Gebhard⁶, Christian Hengstenberg⁷, Jana Kurucova⁸, Philipp Marx⁹, Tanja K. Rudolph¹⁰, Wojtek Wojakowski¹¹

Table 2 Summary of sex-related disparities in AS and treatment outcomes

Characteristics/ treatment outcomes	Women	Men
Outcomes of TAVR	• Lower in-hospital and 30-day mortality • Increased risk of vascular complications, bleeding, blood transfusion • Increased risk of stroke • Less paravalvular regurgitation • Less chance of prosthesis under sizing • Decreased 1- or 2-year mortality • Higher long-term survival benefit	• Increased in-hospital and 30-day mortality • Decreased risk of vascular complications, bleeding, blood transfusion • Decreased risk of stroke • High paravalvular regurgitation • Increased chance of prosthesis under sizing • Increased 1- or 2-year mortality • Less long-term survival benefit
Outcomes of SAVR	• Increased in-hospital and 30-day mortality • Increased risk of vascular complications, bleeding, blood transfusion • Increased risk of stroke • Increased risk of renal or HF • Increased prosthesis-patient mismatch	• Decreased in-hospital and 30-day mortality • Increased risk of vascular complications, bleeding, blood transfusion • Decreased risk of stroke • Decreased risk of renal or HF • Decreased prosthesis-patient mismatch



Appleby et al. J Thorac Dis2024
Appleby et al. J Thorac Dis2024

●●● UNDERDIAGNOSED & UNDERTREATED... OOK VANDAAG NOG

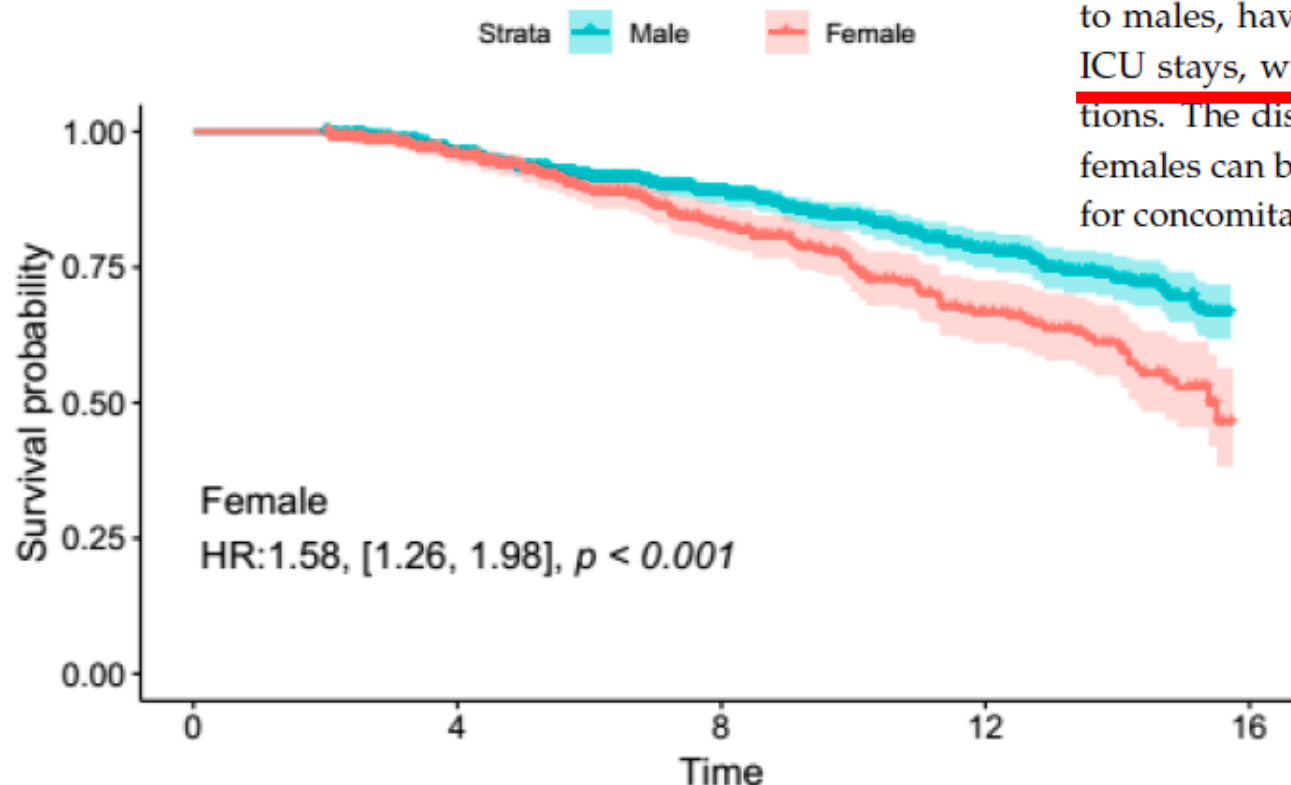
Systematic Review

Real World Sex Differences in Patients Undergoing Ascending Aortic Aneurysm Surgery—A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Reconstructed Time-to-Event Data

Mohammed Al-Tawil ^{1,*} , Alexander Geragotellis ² , Ahmad Alroobi ³, Wafaa A. Sulaiman ³, Nour Ghaben ³, Heba T. Salim ³, Christine Friedrich ³

6. Conclusions

Our data identifies that females undergoing ascending aortic surgery, as compared to males, have significantly greater 30-day mortality, longer hospital stays, and longer ICU stays, with non-significant differences noted in post-operative systemic complications. The disparities in preoperative age and the timing of surgery between males and females can be potentially explained by differences in comorbidity profiles and the need for concomitant surgery.



●●● UNDERDIAGNOSED & UNDERTREATED... OOK VANDAAG NOG

Sex Differences in Outcomes After Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting

Soham Gupta, BA^{*}, Briana Lui, BS^{*}, Xiaoyue Ma, MS[†],
Maria Walline, MD[‡], Natalia S. Ivascu, MD[§],
Robert S. White, MD, MS^{§,1}

Risk-adjusted Outcomes by Sex for CABG Surgery Patients

Outcomes	aOR of Female v Male (95% CI)
In-hospital mortality	1.32 (1.25-1.40)
30-day readmission	1.24 (1.21-1.28)
90-day readmission	1.25 (1.22-1.28)

WAAR LOOPT HET MIS?

Traditional risk factors



High blood pressure



High cholesterol



Diabetes



Unhealthy diet



Physical inactivity



Obesity



Drinking too much alcohol



Vaping or tobacco use

WAAR LOOPT HET MIS?

Traditional risk factors



High blood pressure



High cholesterol



Diabetes



Unhealthy diet



Physical inactivity



Obesity



Drinking too much alcohol



Vaping or tobacco use

Women-specific risk factors



Early or late first period



Polycystic ovary syndrome



Pregnancy complications*



Early menopause



Autoimmune diseases**



Depression**



Hormone treatments



Some cancer treatments

*Including high blood pressure in pregnancy, preeclampsia, gestational diabetes.

**These conditions affect women more commonly than men.

●●● WAAR LOOPT HET MIS?

A systematic review of disparities in the medical management of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease in females ☆

A B S T R A C T

Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) is the leading cause of death in the United States and worldwide. Medical management of known modifiable risk factors, such as dyslipidemia, hypertension, and diabetes, is a key aspect to its treatment. Unfortunately, there are substantial sex-based differences in the treatment of ASCVD that result in poor medical management and worse clinical outcomes. The objective of this systematic review was to summarize known disparities in the medical management of ASCVD in females. We included prior studies with specific sex- and sex-based analyses regarding the medical treatment of the following three major disease entities within ASCVD: cerebrovascular disease, coronary artery disease, and peripheral artery disease. A total of 43 articles met inclusion criteria. In our analysis, we found that females were less likely to receive appropriate treatment of dyslipidemia or be prescribed antithrombotic medications. However, treatment differences for diabetes and hypertension by sex were not as clearly represented in the included studies. In addition to rectifying these disparities in the medical management of ASCVD, this systematic review highlights the need to address larger issues, such as underrepresentation of females in clinical trials, decreased access to care, and underdiagnosis of ASCVD to improve overall care for females.

●●● WAAR LOOPT HET MIS?

Ander klachtenpatroon : ‘atypisch’ – impliciete ‘bias’

Andere (bijkomende) CV risicofactoren

Systematische risico-onderschatting

Late verwijzing (‘zieker voor zelfde symptomen’)

Pathobiologische mechanismen?

Numerieke cut-offs voor interventies?

●●● ... MAAR NU STAAN WE ER TENMINSTE AL BIJ STIL

Vrouw als studie-subject & participant

... MAAR NU STAAN WE ER TENMINSTE AL BIJ STIL

Vrouw als studie-subject & participant



Vrouw als arts

Vrouw als wetenschapper

Vrouw als leidersfiguur

●●● UNDERRECOGNIZED – MAAR NIET VOOR LANG MEER



ESC

European Society
of Cardiology

European Heart Journal (2024) **45**, 1505–1511

<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehae121>

STATE OF THE ART REVIEW

Ischaemic heart disease

Patient–physician sex concordance and outcomes in cardiovascular disease: a systematic review

Lamia Harik ¹, Ko Yamamoto², Takeshi Kimura ², Lisa Q. Rong³,
Birgit Vogel ⁴, Roxana Mehran ⁴, C. Noel Bairey-Merz⁵, and Mario Gaudino ^{1*}

UNDERRECOGNIZED – MAAR NIET VOOR LANG MEER

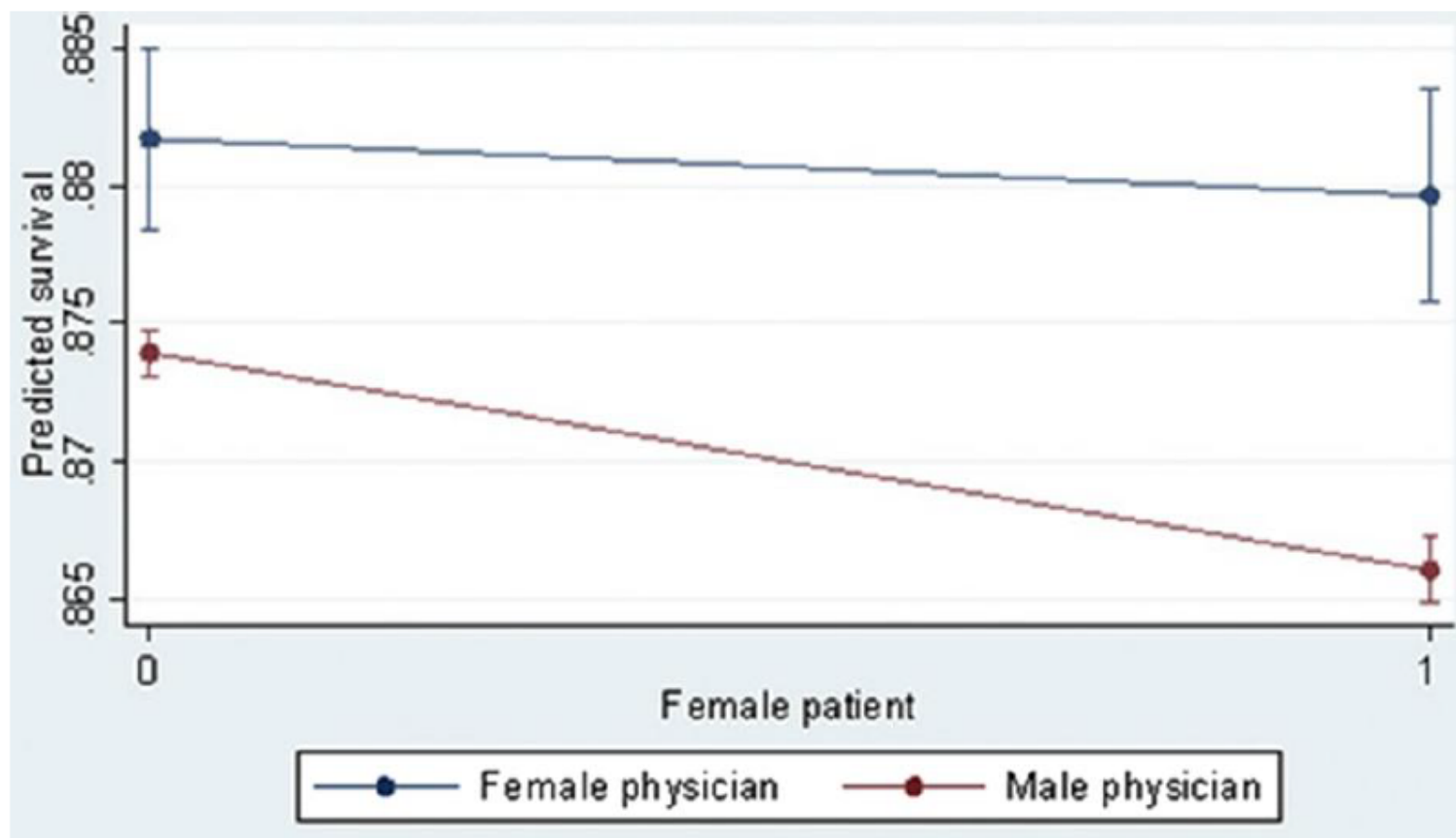


Figure 1 Sex concordance and predicted probability of patient survival with 90% confidence intervals. Estimates include controls and hospital quarter fixed effects. Covariates held at sample means. Reproduced with permission from Greenwood *et al.*¹²

000 UNDERRECOGNIZED – MAAR NIET VOOR LANG MEER

Table 1 Stratified analysis according to patient sex to examine the association of patient and surgeon sex concordance on adverse post-operative outcomes, using multivariable generalized estimating equation regression models, with clustering based on procedure fee code

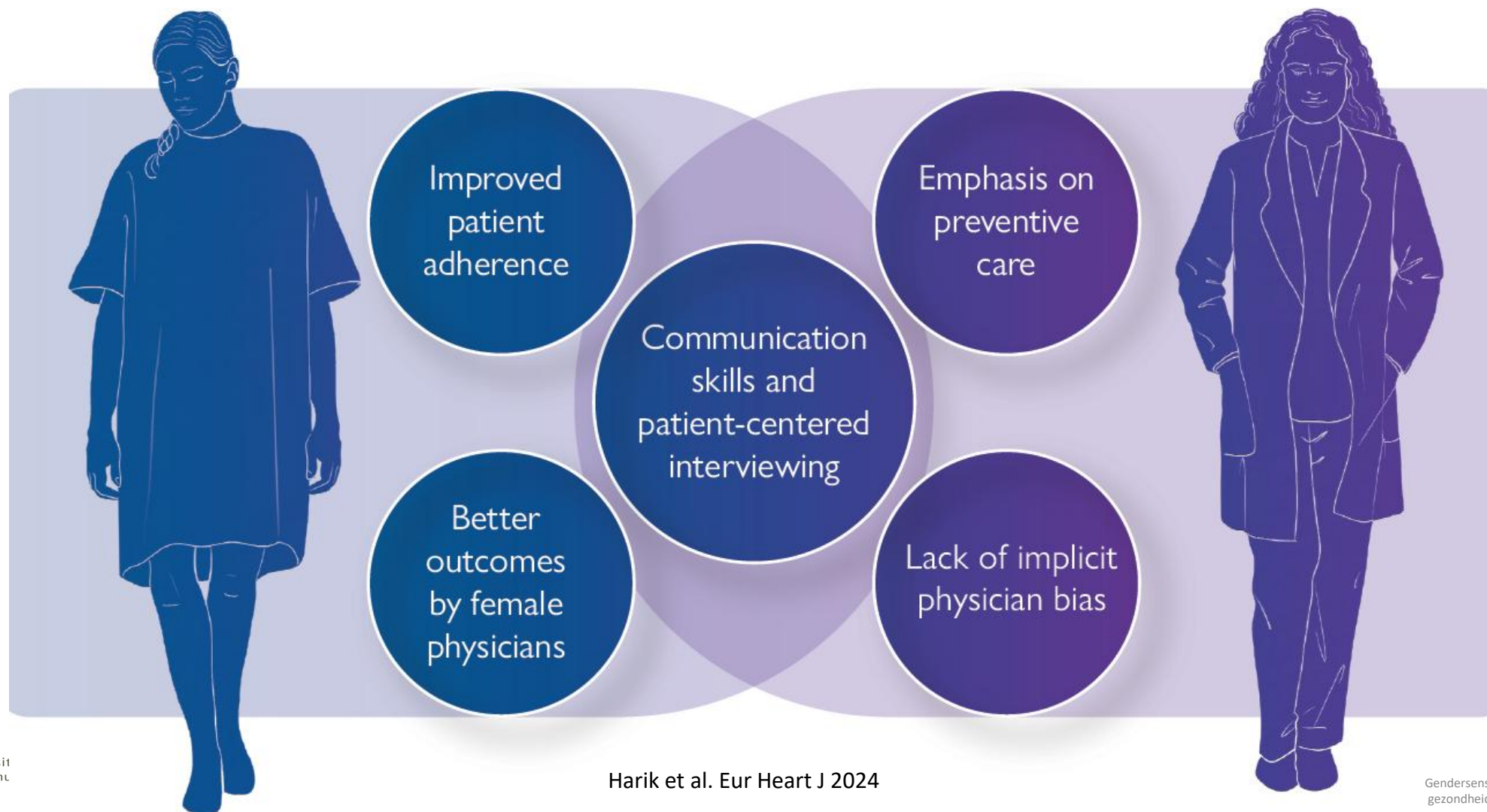
Surgeon–patient sex pair	Composite endpoint	aOR (95% CI) ^a			
		Death	Readmissions	Complications	Length of stay, aRR (95% CI)
Among male patients					
Male physician (concordant)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)
Female physician (discordant)	0.99 (0.95–1.03)	0.87 (0.78–0.97)	0.94 (0.88–1.00)	1.02 (0.98–1.06)	1.02 (0.96–1.08)
Among female patients					
Female physician (concordant)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)
Male physicians (discordant)	1.15 (1.10–1.20)	1.32 (1.14–1.54)	1.11 (1.04–1.19)	1.16 (1.11–1.22)	1.20 (1.11–1.30)
P value for test for heterogeneity	.004	.003	.01	.02	.01





000 UNDERRECOGNIZED – MAAR NIET VOOR LANG MEER

Female patient-physician sex concordance and cardiovascular outcomes



●●● UNDERRECOGNIZED – MAAR NIET VOOR LANG MEER

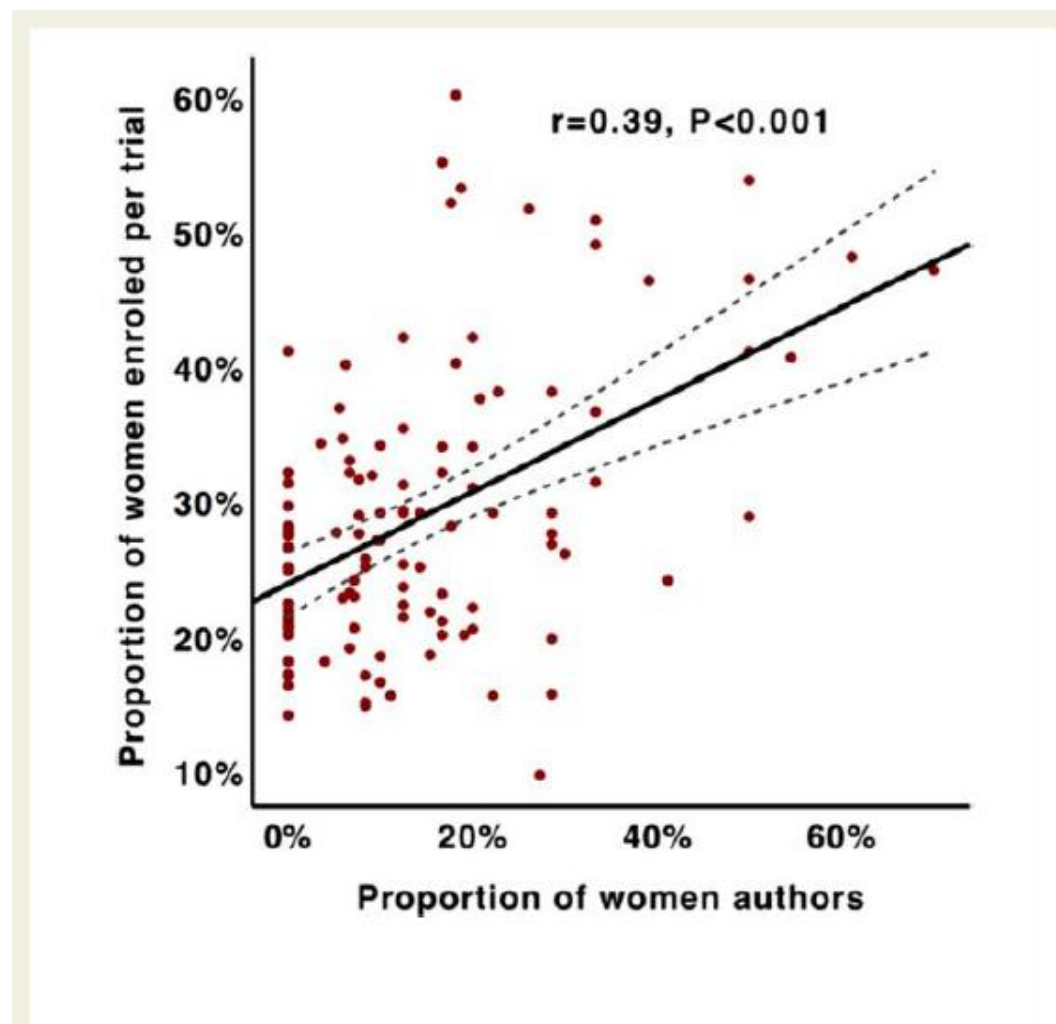
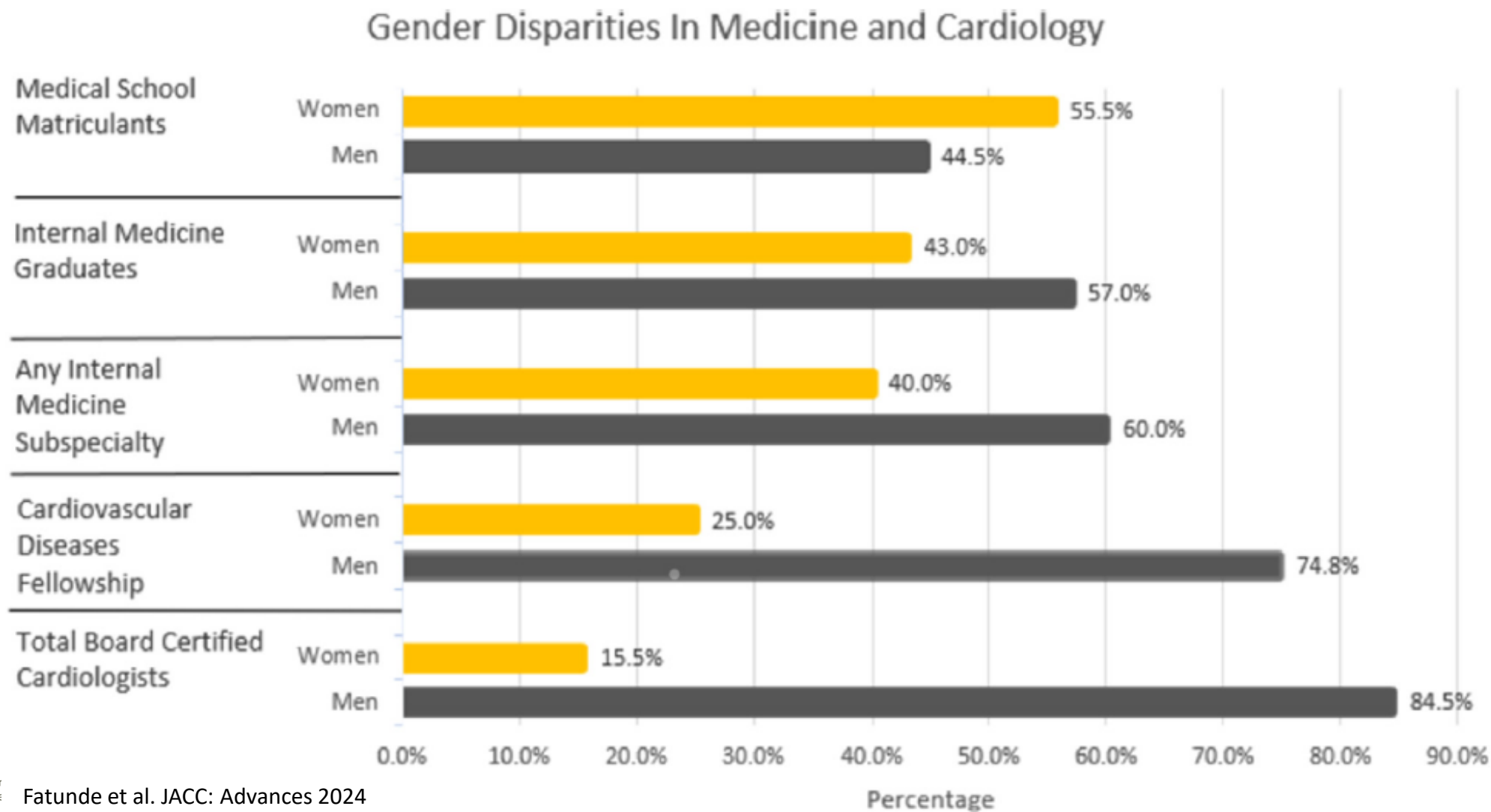


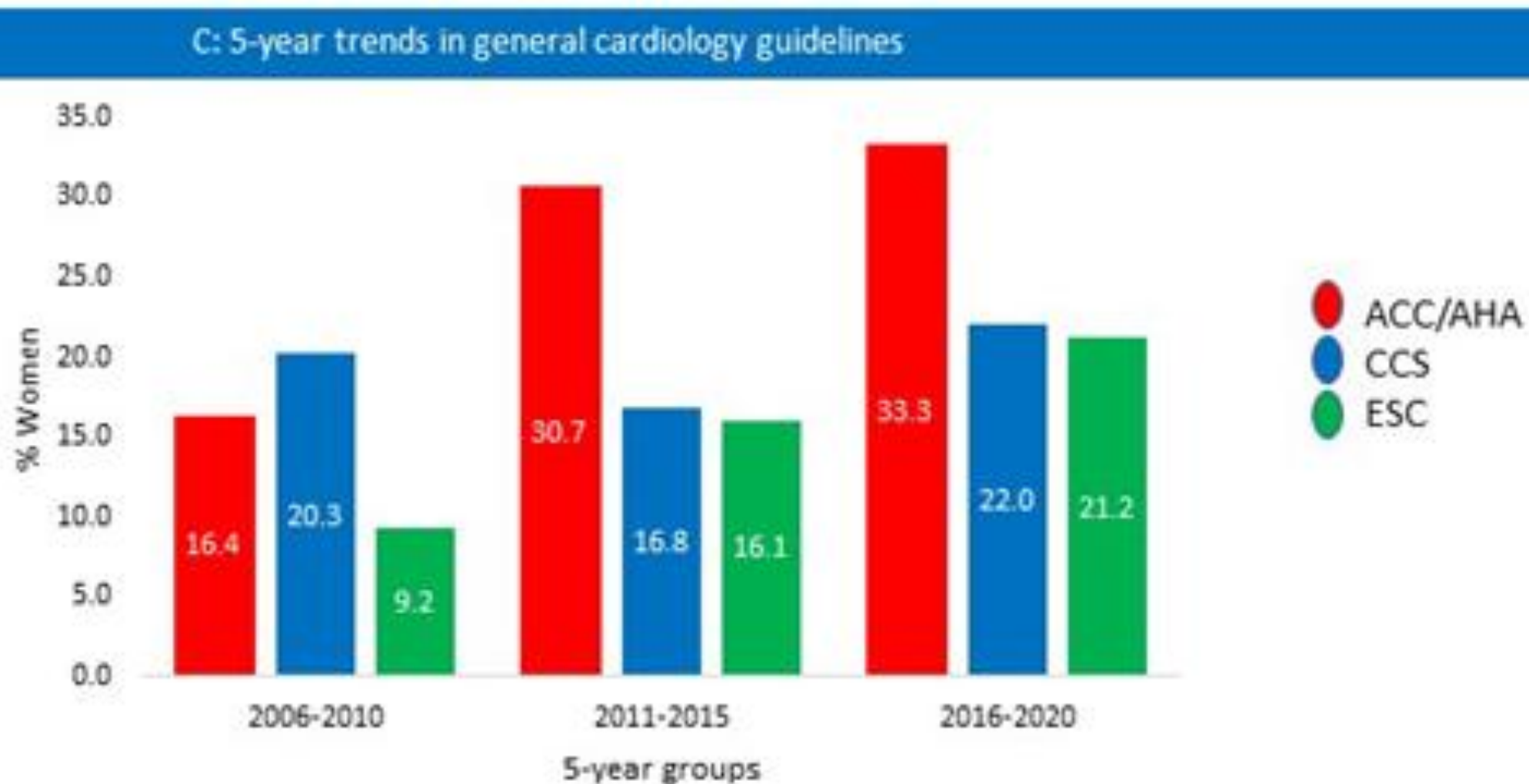
Figure 2 Association between female authors and enrolment of female participants per heart failure trial. Reproduced with permission from Reza et al.⁴³

●●● UNDERRECOGNIZED – MAAR NIET VOOR LANG MEER

FIGURE 1 The Trends From Different Stages of Medical Education and Cardiology Practice Above



●●● UNDERRECOGNIZED – MAAR NIET VOOR LANG MEER



000 VROUWELIJK LEIDERSCHAP



●●● GESLACHT & GENDER... WHAT'S IN A NAME?

GESLACHT : biologische kenmerken

= chromosomen, hormoon levels,
aangeboren seksuele anatomie

= gewoonlijk BINAIR: M / V

(‘assigned male / female at birth’) (AMAB/AFAB)

GENDER : sociale constructie

= gedragingen, expressies & identiteit

= NON-BINAIR

= NIET STATISCH

→ ‘genderfluiditeit’



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●●● ALLESBEHALVE VANZELFSPREKEND !

Afghanistan's Taliban Ban Medical Training for Women

Closing One of the Last Loopholes for Female Education

UK Supreme Court rules legal definition of a woman is based on biological sex

🕒 16 April 2025



000 MAAR WEL EEN UITDAGING.



1/2



Vind-ik-l...

insensitieve
gezondheidszorg

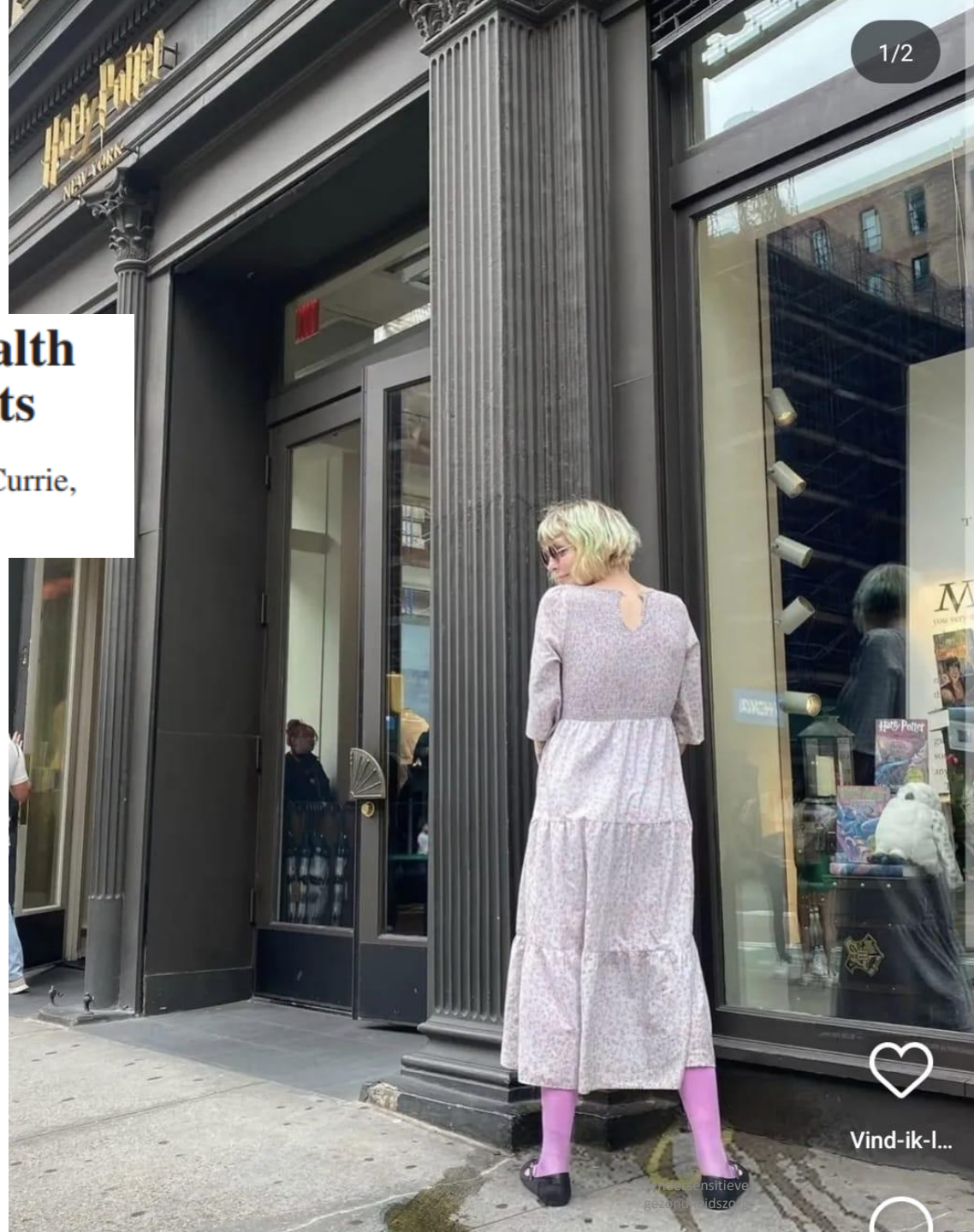
MAAR WEL EEN UITDAGING.

Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy, Vascular Health and Cardiovascular Disease in Transgender Adults

Paul J. Connelly, E. Marie Freel, Colin Perry, John Ewan, Rhian M. Touyz, Gemma Currie, Christian Delles



Connelly et al. Hypertension 2019



000 MAAR WEL EEN UITDAGING.

Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy, Vascular Health and Cardiovascular Disease in Transgender Adults

Paul J. Connelly, E. Marie Freel, Colin Perry, John Ewan, Rhian M. Touyz, Gemma Currie, Christian Delles

Cis-gender : genderidentiteit = geboortegeslacht

Trans-gender : genderidentiteit $\neq$ geboortegeslacht

Trans-man : gender M (hij/zijn), AFAB

Trans-vrouw : gender V (zij/haar), AMAB

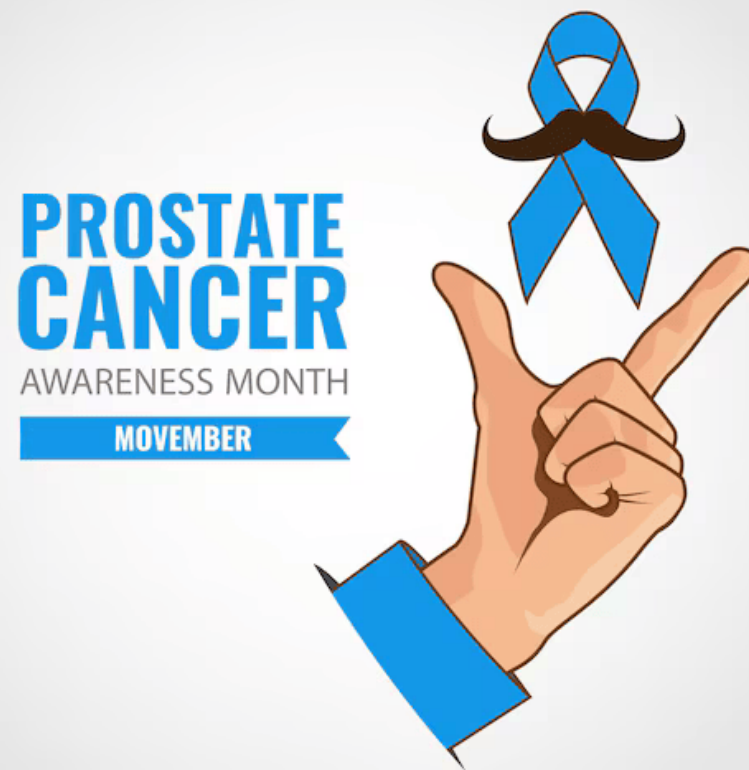
+ impact genderdysforie



MAAR WEL EEN UITDAGING.

Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy, Vascular Health and Cardiovascular Disease in Transgender Adults

Paul J. Connelly, E. Marie Freel, Colin Perry, John Ewan, Rhian M. Touyz, Gemma Currie, Christian Delles



Cardiovascular disease in transgender people: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Abstract

Objective: Hormone therapy in transgender people might be associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD). We aimed to investigate whether the risk of CVD is increased in transgender people compared with people of the same birth sex.

Design and methods: PubMed, Cochrane, Embase, and Google Scholar were searched until July 2022. Studies evaluating cardiovascular events in transgender women or men were included. Primary outcomes were stroke, myocardial infarction (MI), and venous thromboembolism (VTE). The risk for transgender women versus cisgender men and for transgender men versus cisgender women was analysed through random-effects meta-analysis.

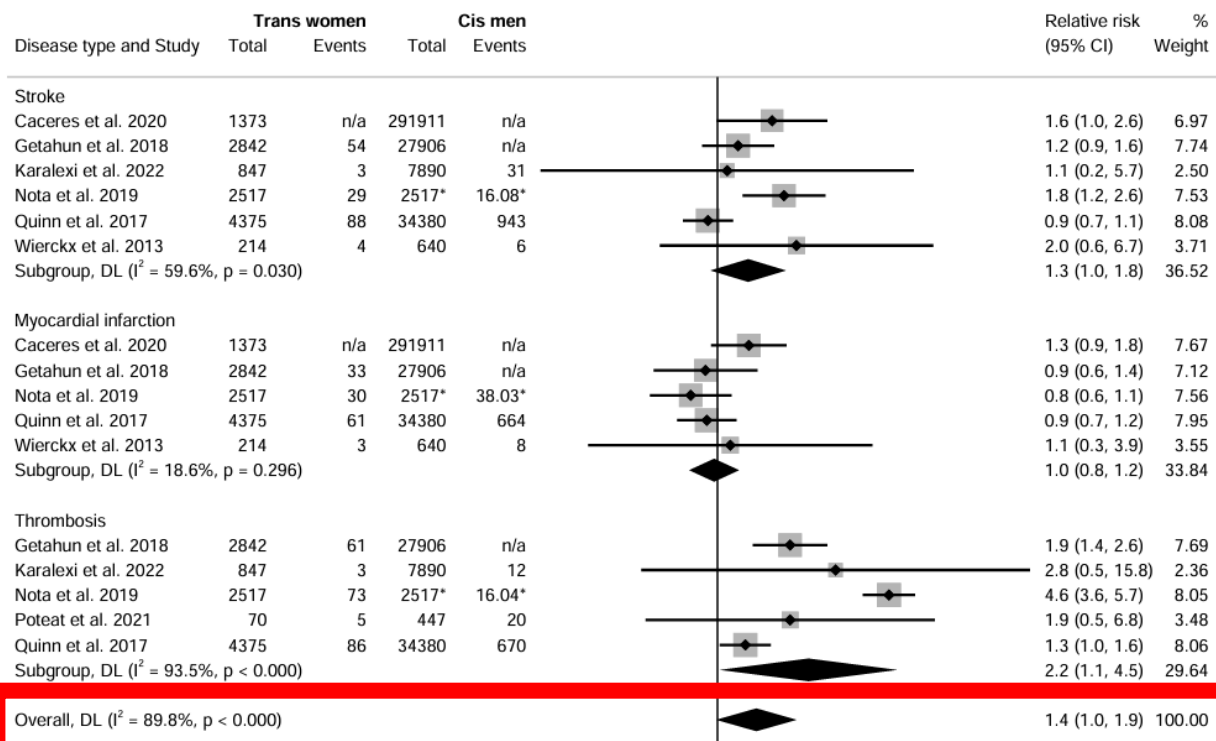
Results: Twenty-two studies involving 19 893 transgender women, 14 840 transgender men, 371 547 cisgender men, and 434 700 cisgender women were included. The meta-analysis included 10 studies (79% of transgender women and 76% of transgender men). In transgender women, incidence of stroke was 1.8%, which is 1.3 (95% confidence interval [CI], 1.0-1.8) times higher than in cisgender men. Incidence of MI was 1.2%, with a pooled relative risk of 1.0 (95% CI, 0.8-1.2). Venous thromboembolism incidence was 1.6%, which is 2.2 (95% CI, 1.1-4.5) times higher. Stroke occurred in 0.8% of transgender men, which is 1.3 (95% CI, 1.0-1.6) times higher compared with cisgender women. Incidence of MI was 0.6%, with a pooled relative risk of 1.7 (95% CI, 0.8-3.6). For VTE, this was 0.7%, being 1.4 (95% CI, 1.0-2.0) times higher.

Conclusions: Transgender people have a 40% higher risk of CVD compared with cisgender people of the same birth sex. This emphasizes the importance of cardiovascular risk management. Future studies should assess the potential influence of socio-economic and lifestyle factors.



MAAR WEL EEN UITDAGING.

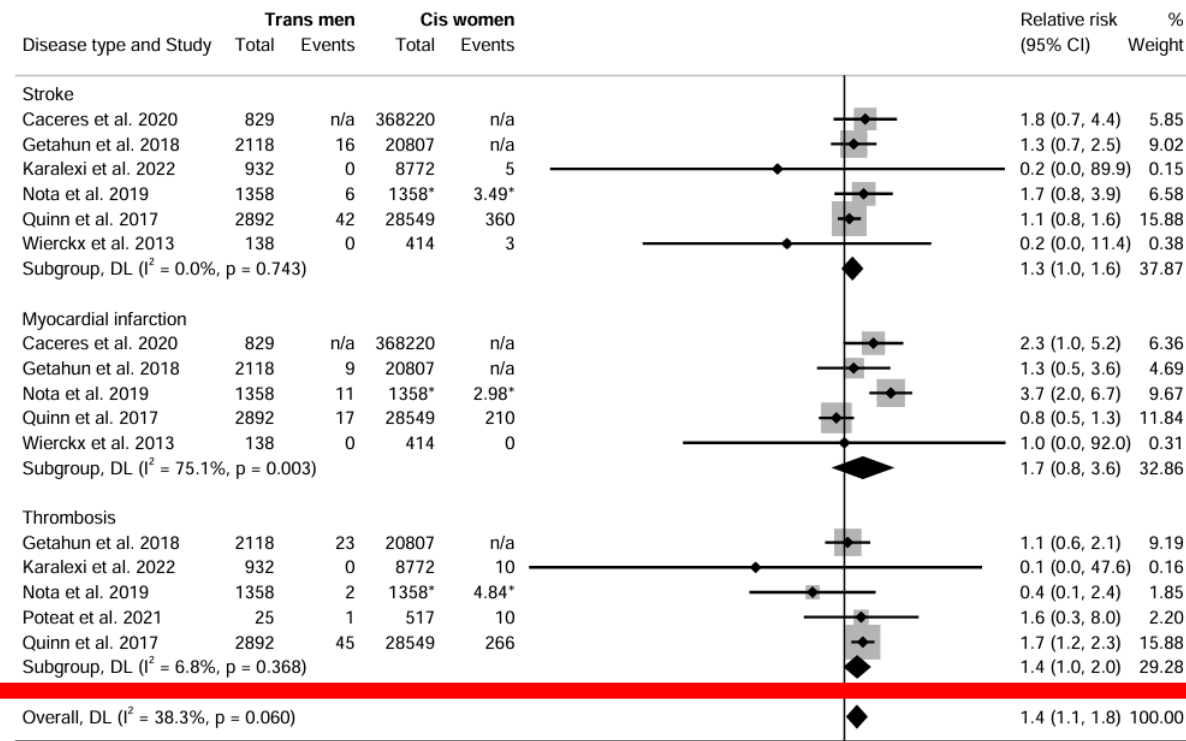
Trans women



NOTE: Weights are from random-effects model

Figure 2. Forest plot of stroke, myocardial infarction, and thrombosis in trans women. *Expected events based on general population risk. CI, confidence interval; n/a, not available.

Trans men



NOTE: Weights are from random-effects model

Figure 3. Forest plot of stroke, myocardial infarction, and thrombosis in trans men. *Expected events based on general population risk. CI, confidence interval; n/a, not available.

●●● TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- **Understudied** : denk aan thalidomide
- **Underdiagnosed & undertreated** : begin bij risicofactoren. Alle risicofactoren.
- **Underrecognized** : onderrepresentatie in studies, groeimarge voor wetenschappers
- Uitdagingen in de nabije toekomst : gendergeneeskunde
- ... maar is het politiek klimaat hier klaar voor?

●●● TAKE HOME MESSAGES

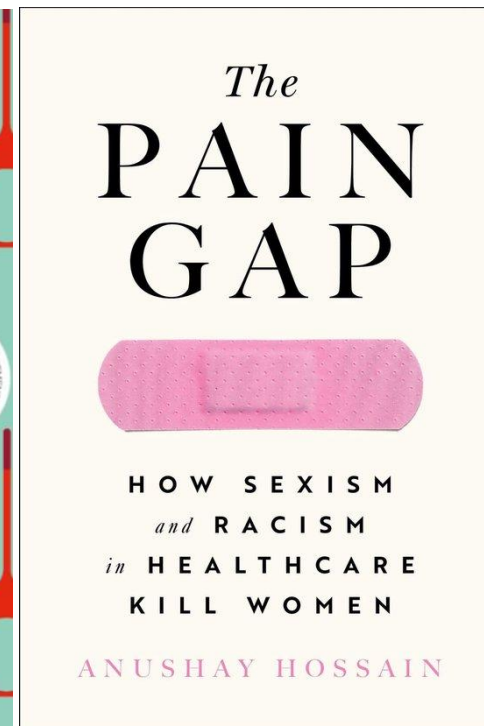
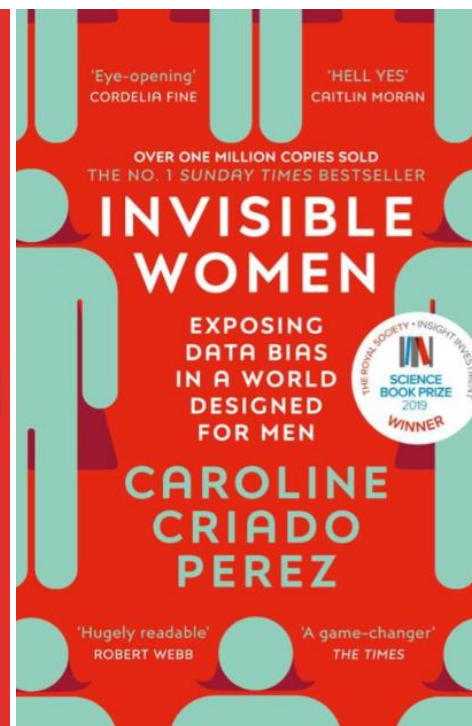
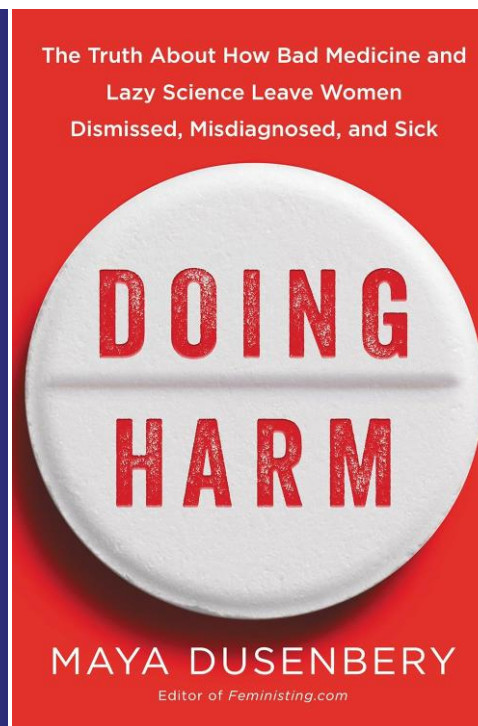
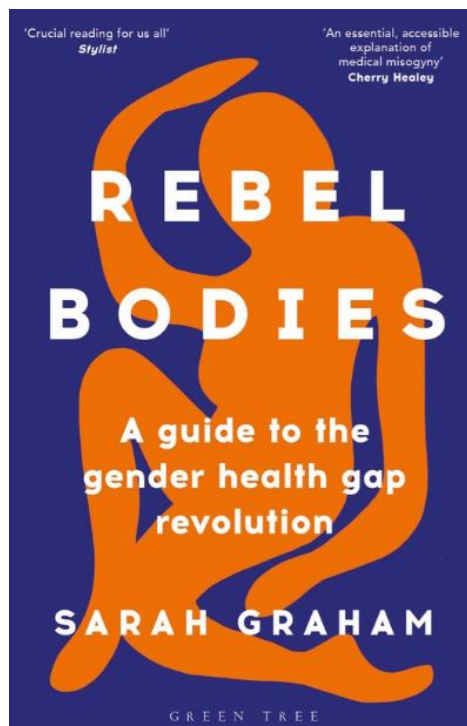
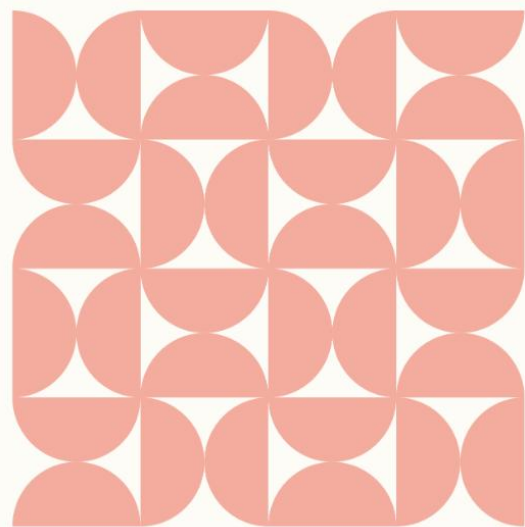
- **Understudied** : denk aan thalidomide
- **Underdiagnosed & undertreated** : begin bij risicofactoren. Alle risicofactoren.
- **Underrecognized** : onderrepresentatie in studies, groeimarge voor wetenschappers
- Uitdagingen in de nabije toekomst : gendergeneeskunde
- ... maar is het politiek klimaat hier klaar voor?
- Tijd voor vrouwelijk leiderschap in de geneeskunde

000 MORE?

Bieke Purnelle

De geknevelde vrouw

Hoe macht en moraal het vrouwenlichaam bepalen



rebelle
VROUWEN* DIE HUN WERELD VERANDEREN





DANKUWEL

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