

Pharmacology of ischemic heart diseases: angina and infarction

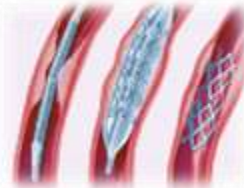
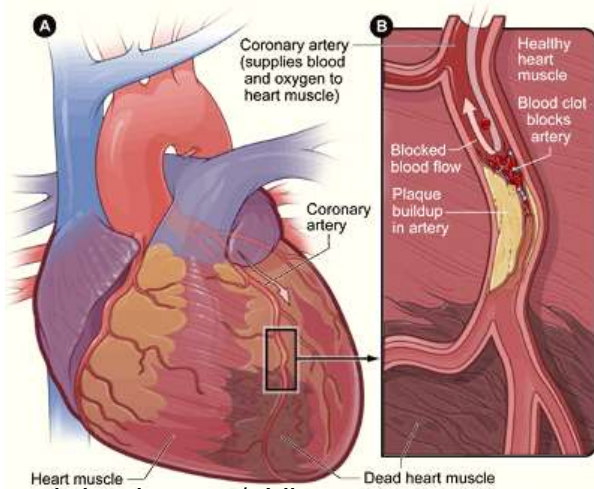
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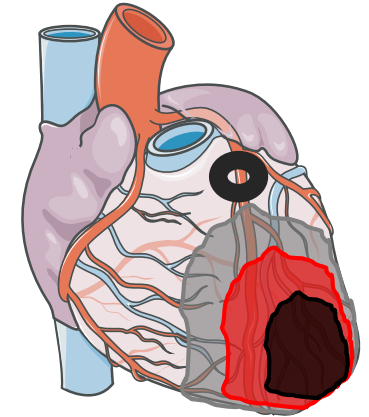
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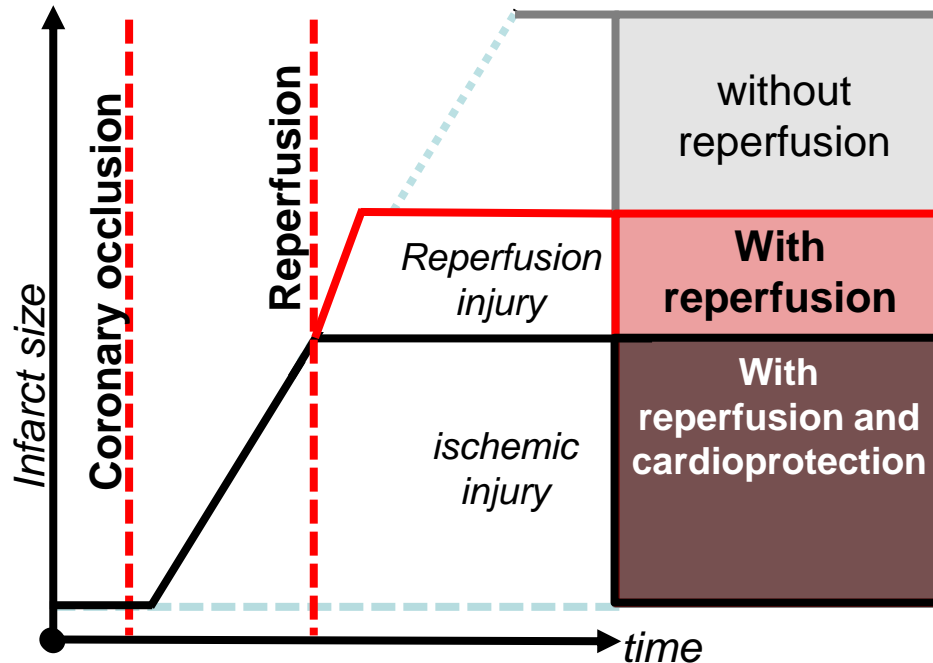
Ischemic area and infarction: importance of reperfusion



Reperfusion
(e.g., balloon angioplasty, stenting, and or fibrinolysis)



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**time = muscle,
muscle = life !**

Mortality after acute myocardial infarction is depending on the final infarct size

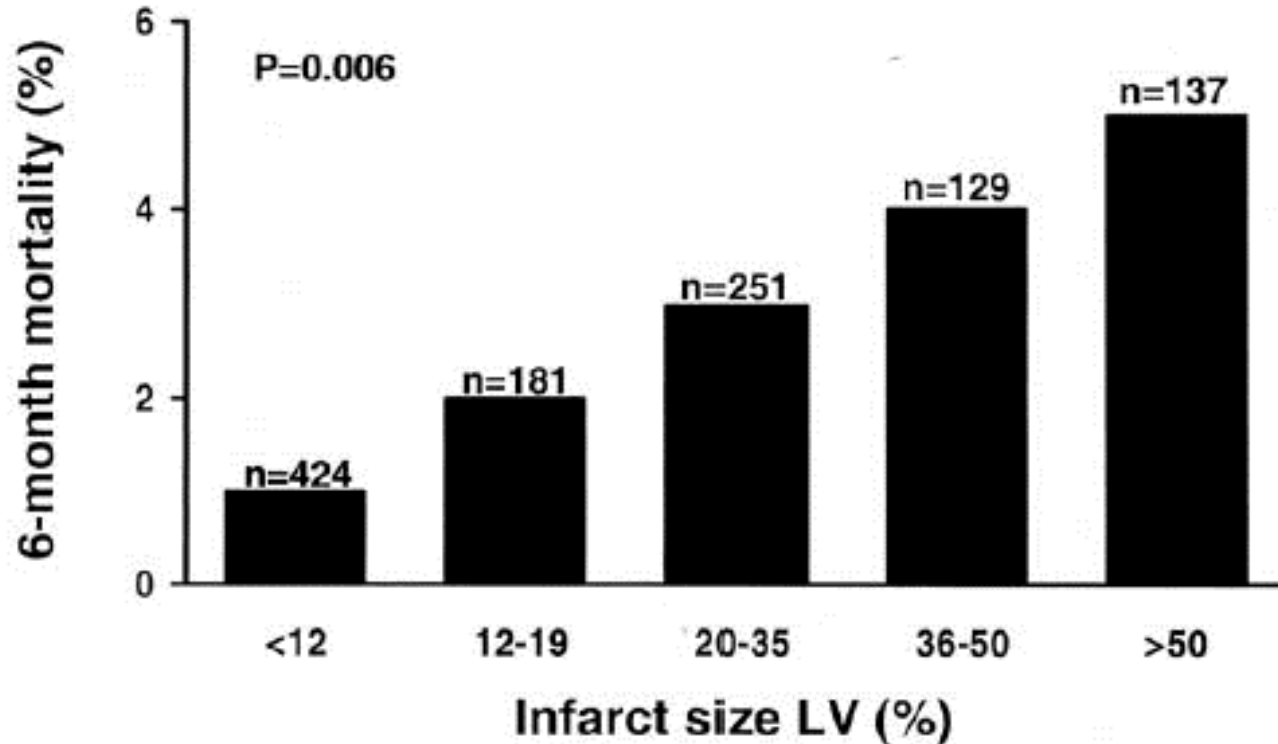
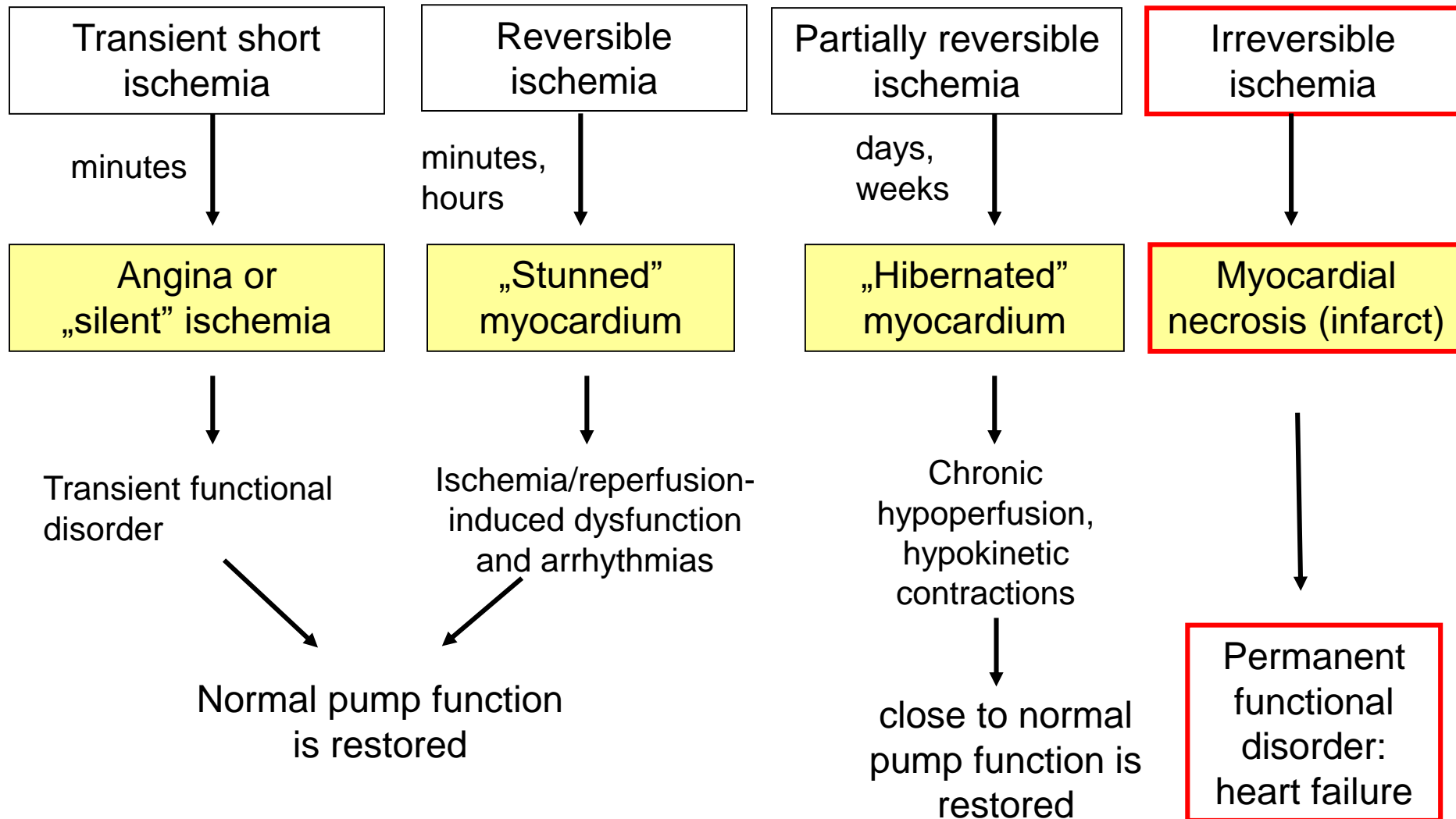


Figure 4. Six-month mortality in 1,122 patients in the Collaborative Organization for RheothRX Evaluation (CORE) trial, according to the

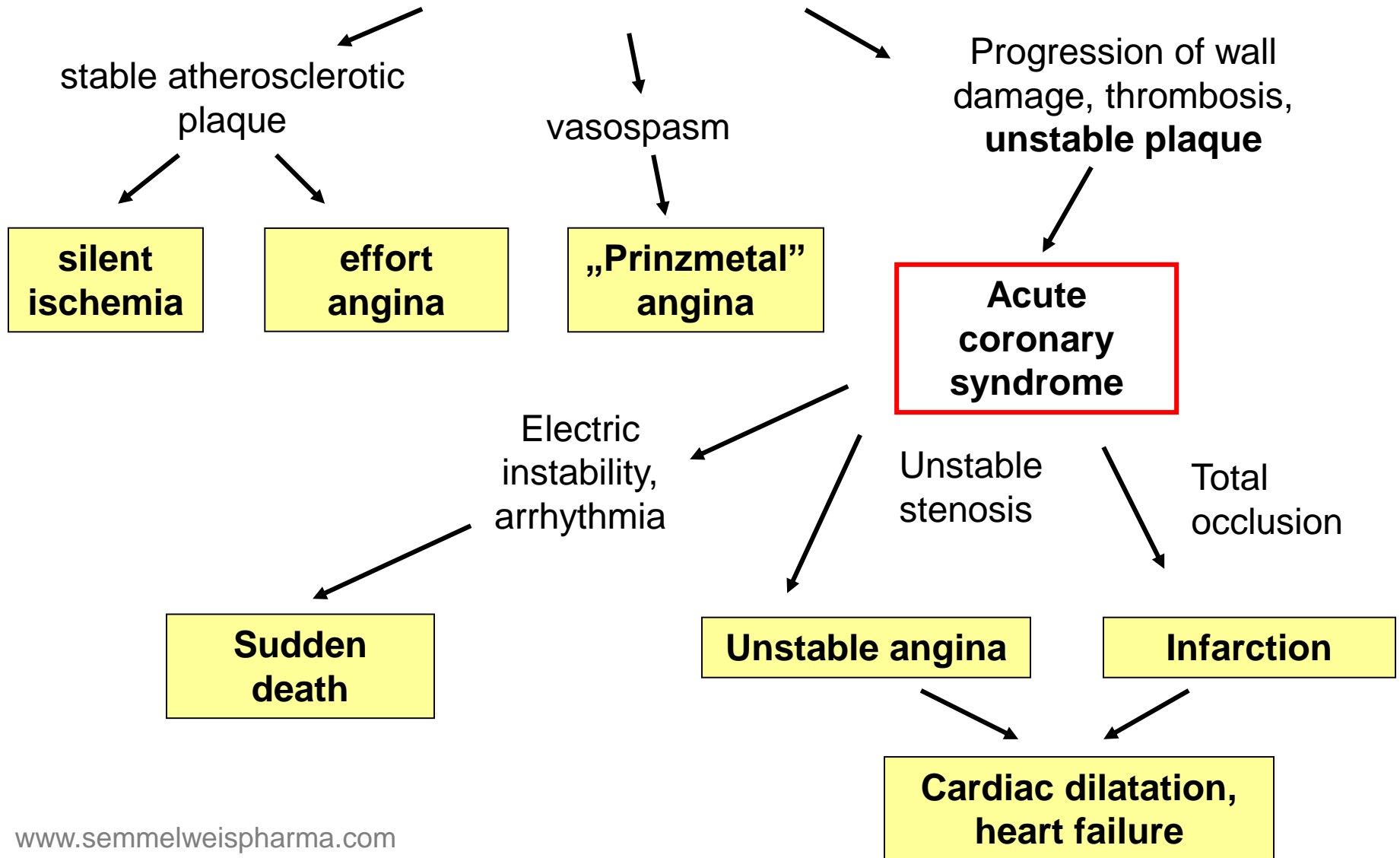
Clinical symptoms of myocardial ischemia with different severity:

1. mechanical dysfunction, 2. arrhythmias, 3. infarction

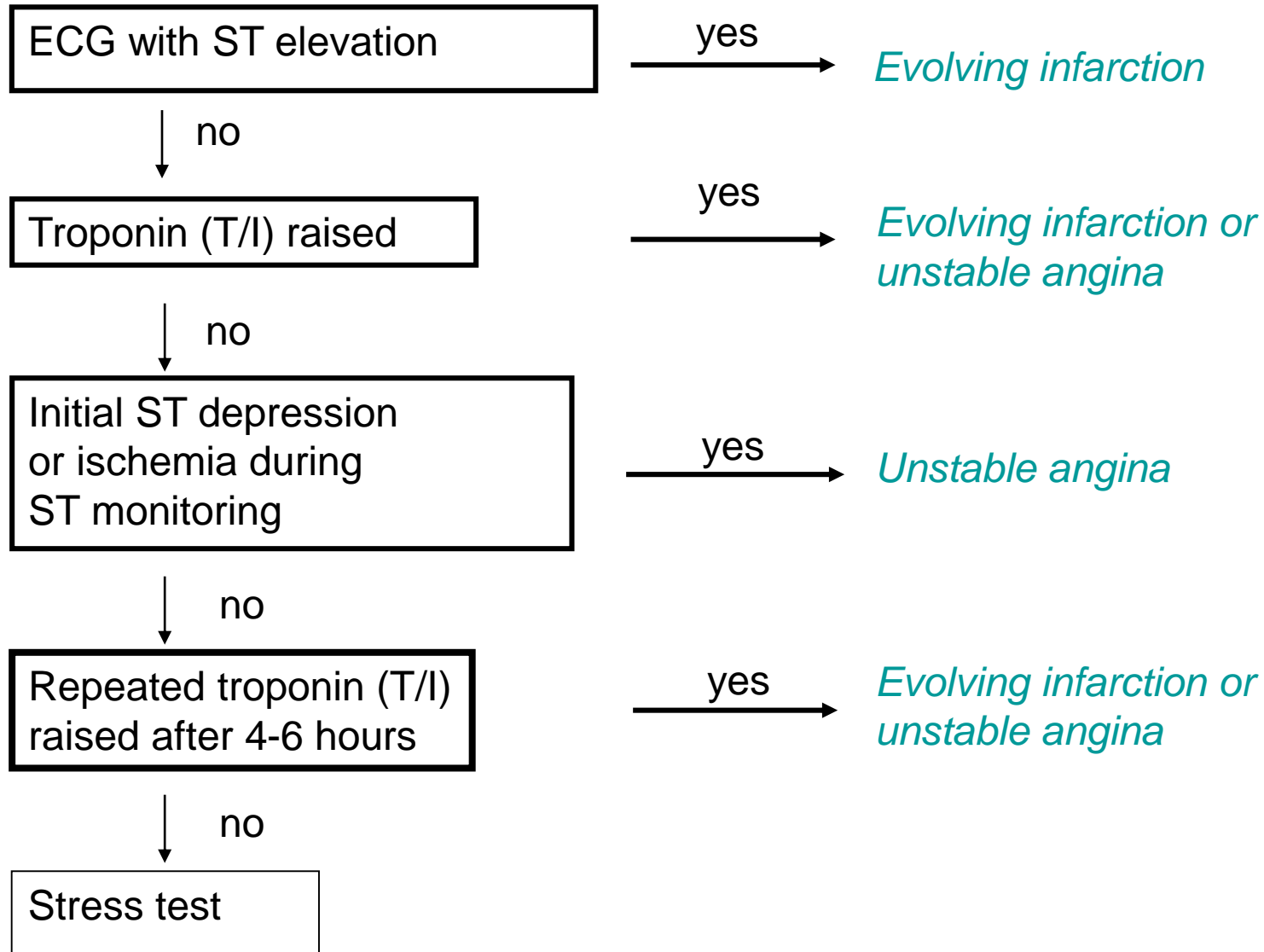


Clinical manifestations of myocardial ischemia

Endothelial dysfunction, damage of the coronary artery wall



Evaluation scheme for chest pain (ECG, biomarkers)



Treatment of ischemic heart disease

Aims:

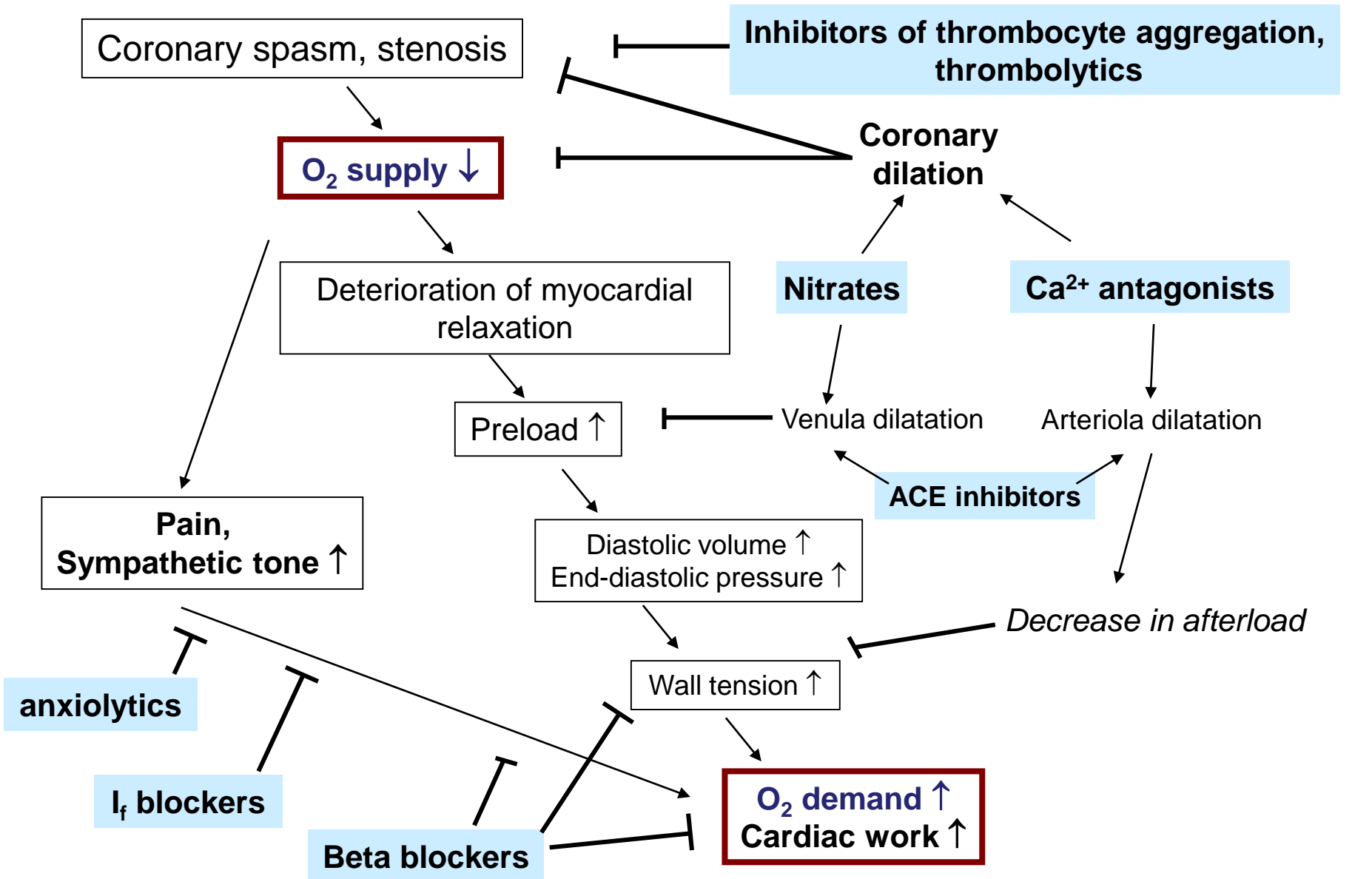
- prevention of mortality induced by infarction, arrhythmias and heart failure
- attenuation of angina pain

Treatment sequence:

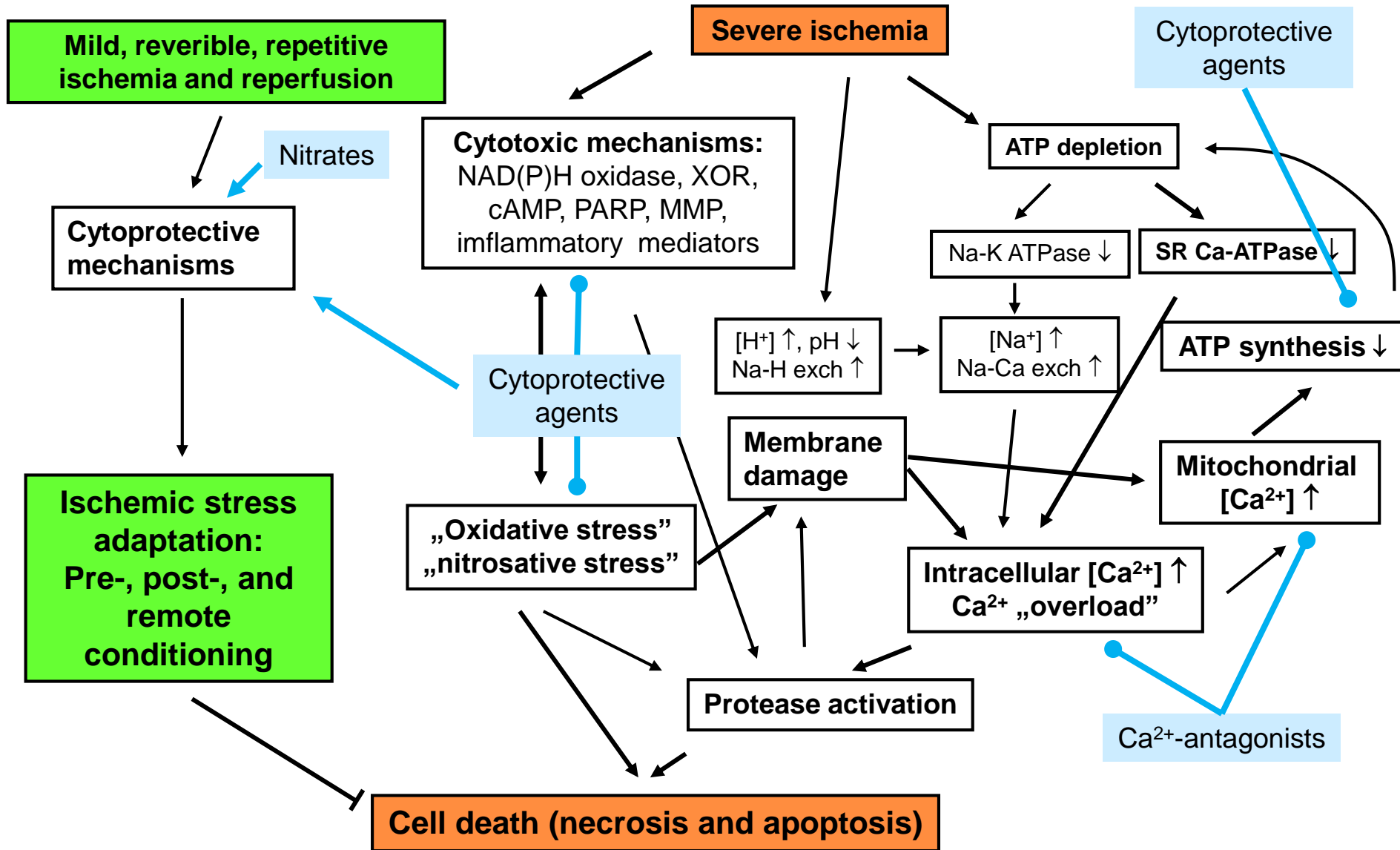
1. non-pharmacological: lifestyle change, elimination of risk factors, diet, dietary supplements
2. pharmacotherapy
3. invasive therapy, revascularization (in AMI or severe cases):
 - percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)
 - revascularization surgery (bypass)
 - immediate intravenous thrombolysis



Pathophysiology of ischemic heart diseases: drug targets



Cellular mechanism of myocardial ischemia: potential targets for cardioprotective drugs



Drug treatment of stable coronary heart disease

Baseline treatment

(life-long to prevent cardiovascular events and death)

Symptomatic treatment (anti-anginal treatment)

Beta-receptor blockers, e.g., bisoprolol, carvedilol

Thrombocyte aggregation inhibitor

Nitrates

Antihyperlipidemic treatment

Calcium channel blocker

ACE inhibitor or
Angiotensin receptor blocker

Trimetazidine
Molsidomine
Ranolazine
Nicorandil
Ivabradine

Drug treatment of stable coronary heart disease

Baseline treatment

(life-long to prevent cardiovascular events and death)

Symptomatic treatment (anti-anginal treatment)

Beta-receptor blockers

Thrombocyte aggregation inhibitor

COX1 inhibitor: aspirin
P2Y12 inhib: clopidogrel, ticagrelor
thrombin inhibitor: dabigatran
GPIIb/IIIa inhibitors: tirofiban

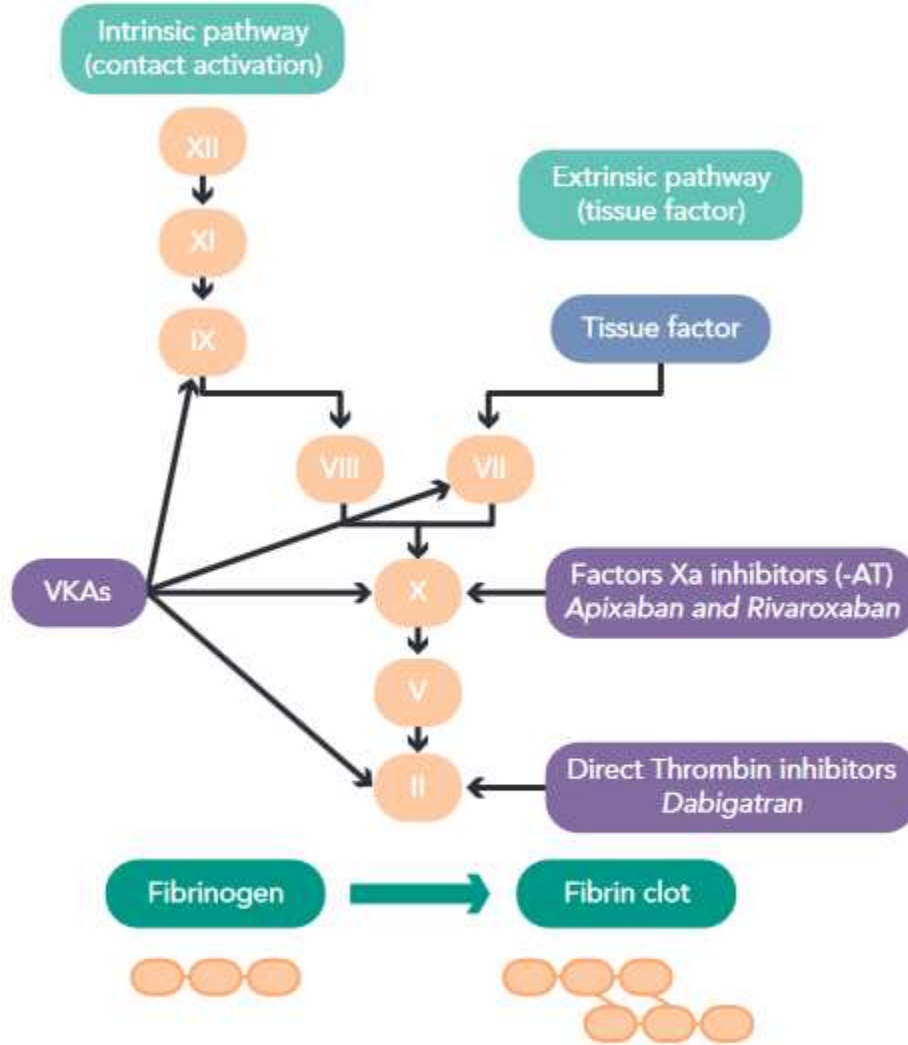
Antihyperlipidemic treatment

ACE inhibitor or
Angiotensin receptor blocker

Nitrates

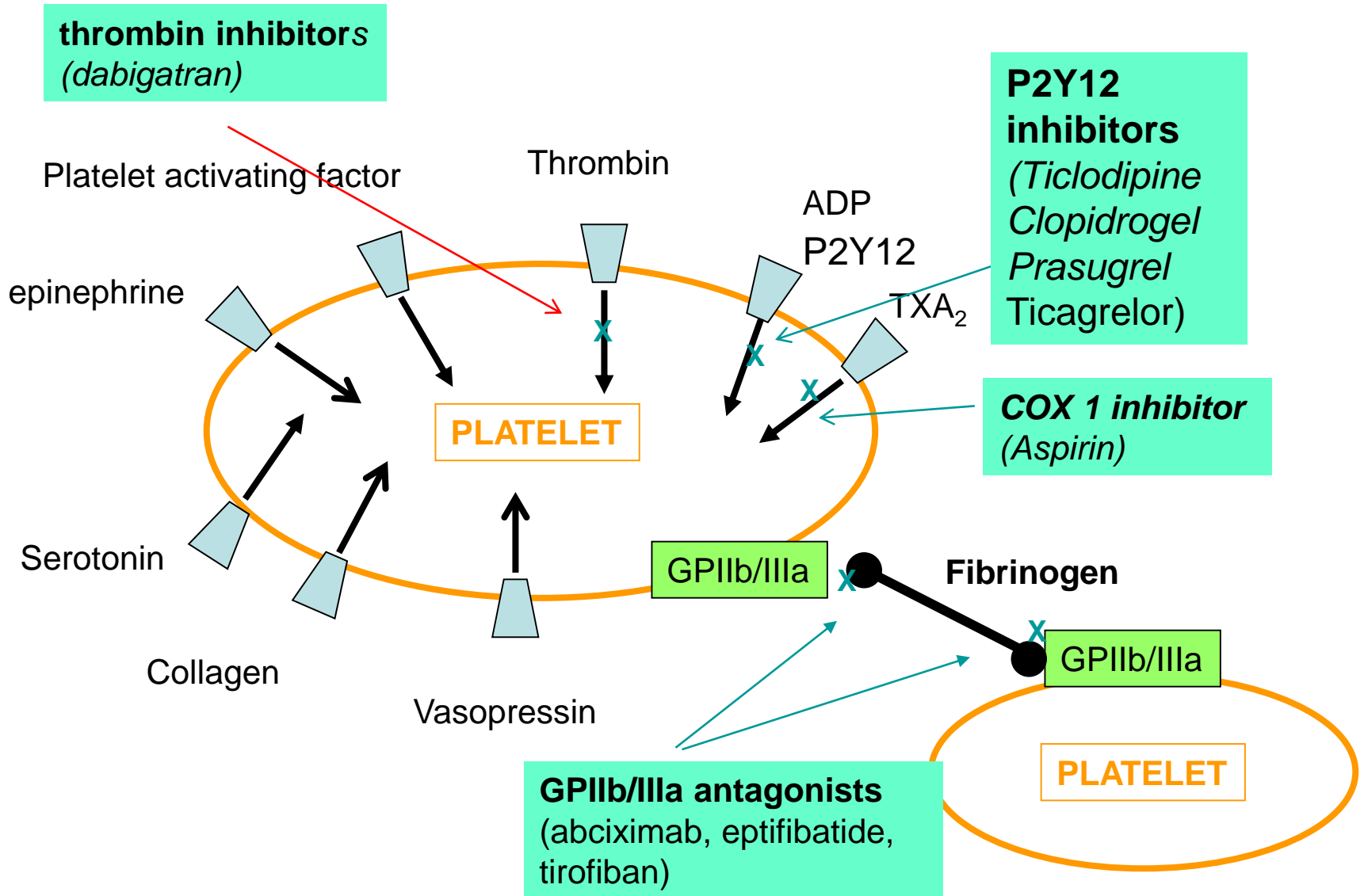
Calcium channel blocker

Trimetazidine
Molsidomine
Ranolazine
Nicorandil
Ivabradine



AT = antithrombin; VKA = vitamin K antagonist.
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Antiplatelet drugs (inhibitors of thrombocyte aggregation)



Drug treatment of stable coronary heart disease

Baseline treatment

(life-long to prevent cardiovascular events and death)

Symptomatic treatment (anti-anginal treatment)

Beta-receptor blockers

Thrombocyte aggregation inhibitor

Nitrates

Antihyperlipidemic treatment

HMGCoA reductase inhibitors: statins
Cholesterol absorp inhib: ezetimibe
triglyceride lowering: fenofibrate
PCSK9 inhibitor: evolocumab
metabolism enhancer: niacin

Calcium channel blocker

ACE inhibitor or
Angiotensin receptor blocker

Trimetazidine
Molsidomine
Ranolazine
Nicorandil
Ivabradine

Prevention of atherosclerosis, antihiperlipidemic drugs

1. Lifestyle changes: regular training

- increased HDL
- amelioration of endothelial dysfunction

2. Diet:

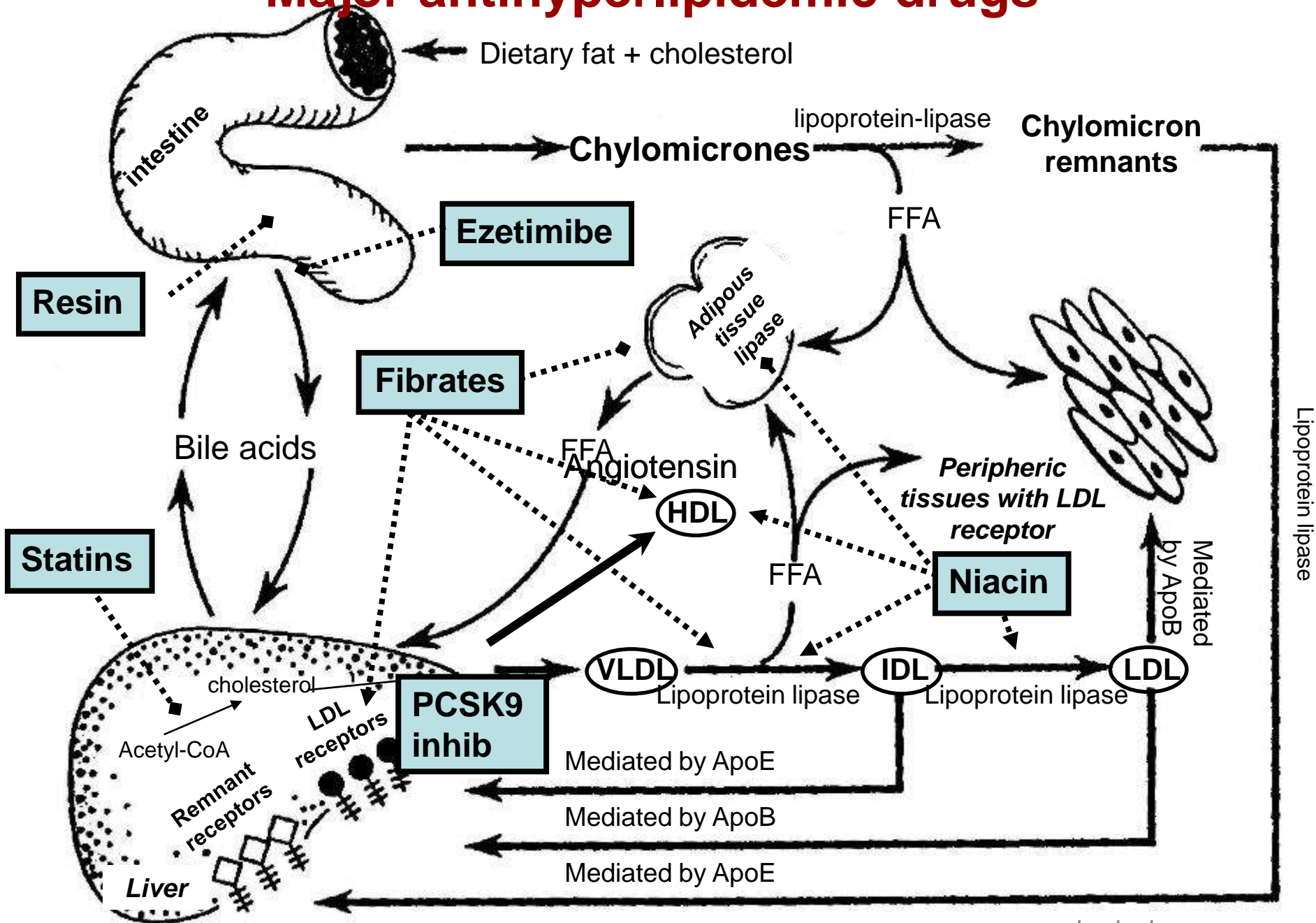
- low saturated fatty acids, low trans fatty acids
- Fish oil (omega-3 fatty acids): decrease triglyceride level
(omega-3 fatty acids are not effective in preventing further heart and stroke in patients who have had a heart attack)
- Moderate consumption of alcohol: increased HDL level (but also increased triglyceride level!)
- Folic acid, B₆- and B₁₂- vitamins: decreased homocysteine level
- Antioxidants (not proven)

3. Estrogen (women – menopausa)

4. Drugs:

- ACE inhibitors: amelioration of endothelial dysfunction
- **Drugs decreasing the lipid levels of the blood**

Major antihyperlipidemic drugs



Statin intolerance and its management

Severe side effects of statins:

- rhabdomyolysis, myopathy
- mostly when taken together with drugs metabolised by CYP3A4 and CYP2C enzymes, e.g. fibrates, macrolides)

Statin „intolerance”

- myalgia,
- increased biomarkers (CK)

Management of statin intolerance:

- change to other statin
- dose reduction
- lose dose statin in combination with ezetimibe
- discontinuation of statins (ezetimibe, PCSK9 inhibitors)

Drug treatment of stable coronary heart disease

Baseline treatment
(life-long to prevent cardiovascular events and death)

Symptomatic treatment
(anti-anginal treatment)

Beta-receptor blockers

Thrombocyte aggregation inhibitor

Antihyperlipidemic treatment

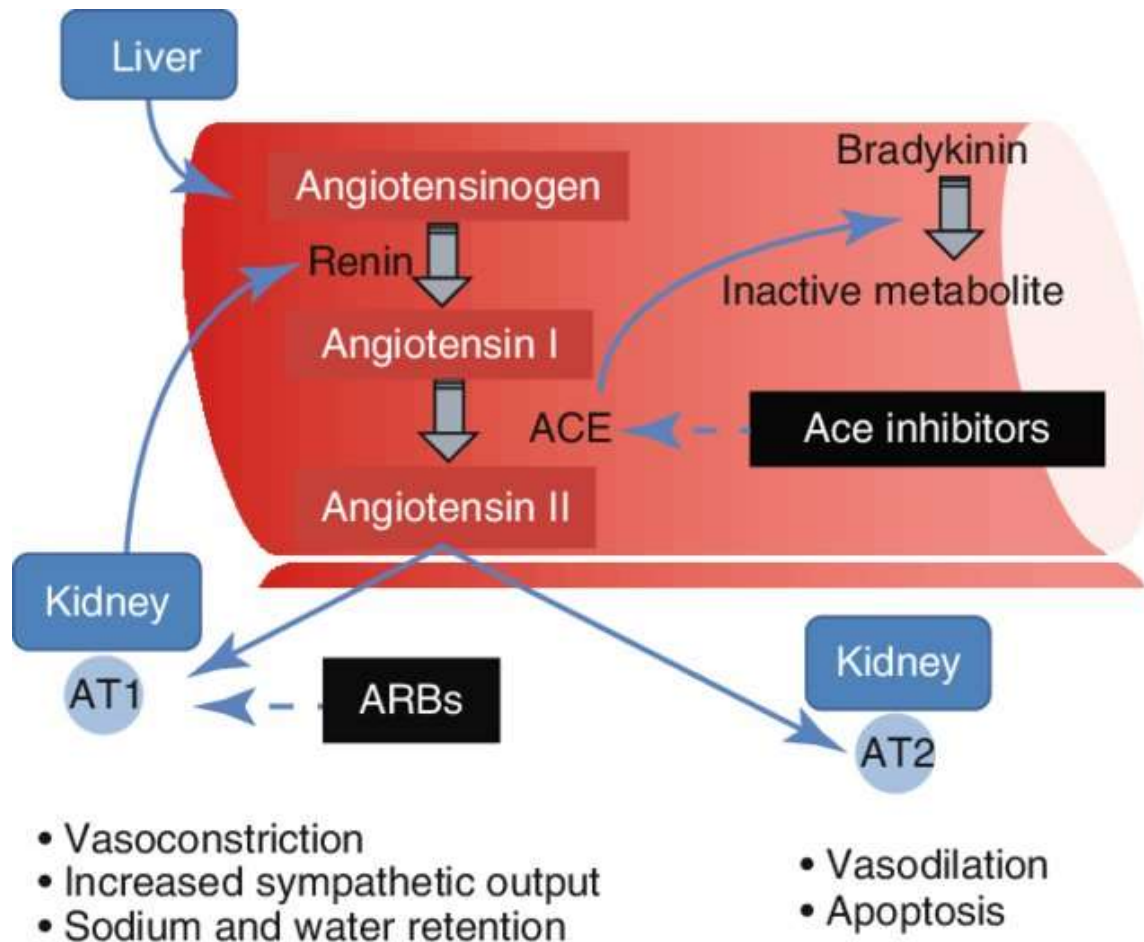
ACE inhibitor or
Angiotensin receptor blocker

ACE inhibitors:
ramipril, perindopril
ARBs:
telmisartan, valsartan

Nitrates

Calcium channel blocker

Trimetazidine
Molsidomine
Ranolazine
Nicorandil
Ivabradine



Drug treatment of stable coronary heart disease

Baseline treatment
(life-long to prevent cardiovascular events and death)

Symptomatic treatment
(anti-anginal treatment)

Beta-receptor blockers

Thrombocyte aggregation inhibitor

Antihyperlipidemic treatment

ACE inhibitor or
Angiotensin receptor blocker

Nitrates

glyceryl trinitrate (nitroglycerine)
isosorbid mononitrate

Calcium channel blocker

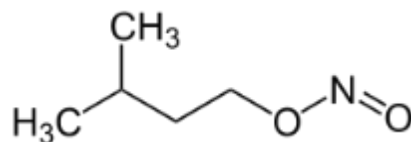
Trimetazidine
Molsidomine
Ranolazine
Nicorandil
Ivabradine

Organic nitrates available for clinical use

Drug

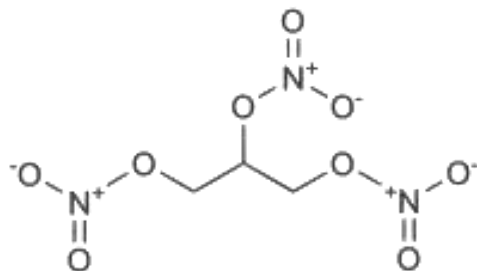
Dosing

Amyl nitrite



inhalation (0.18 or 0.3 mL)

Glyceryl trinitrate



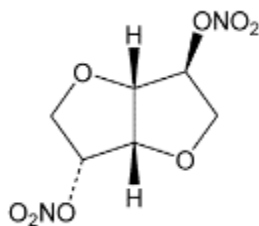
sublingual tablet: 0.5-1 mg

spray, aerosol: 0.4 mg

intravenous: 5-200 μ g/min

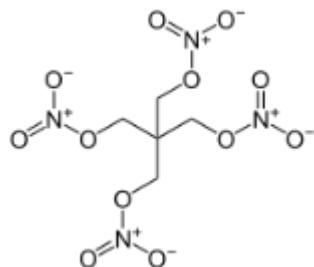
oral, retard tabl, transdermal: 2.5-13 mg

Isosorbide mononitrate,
dinitrate



Tabl. or caps.: 40-100 mg/day

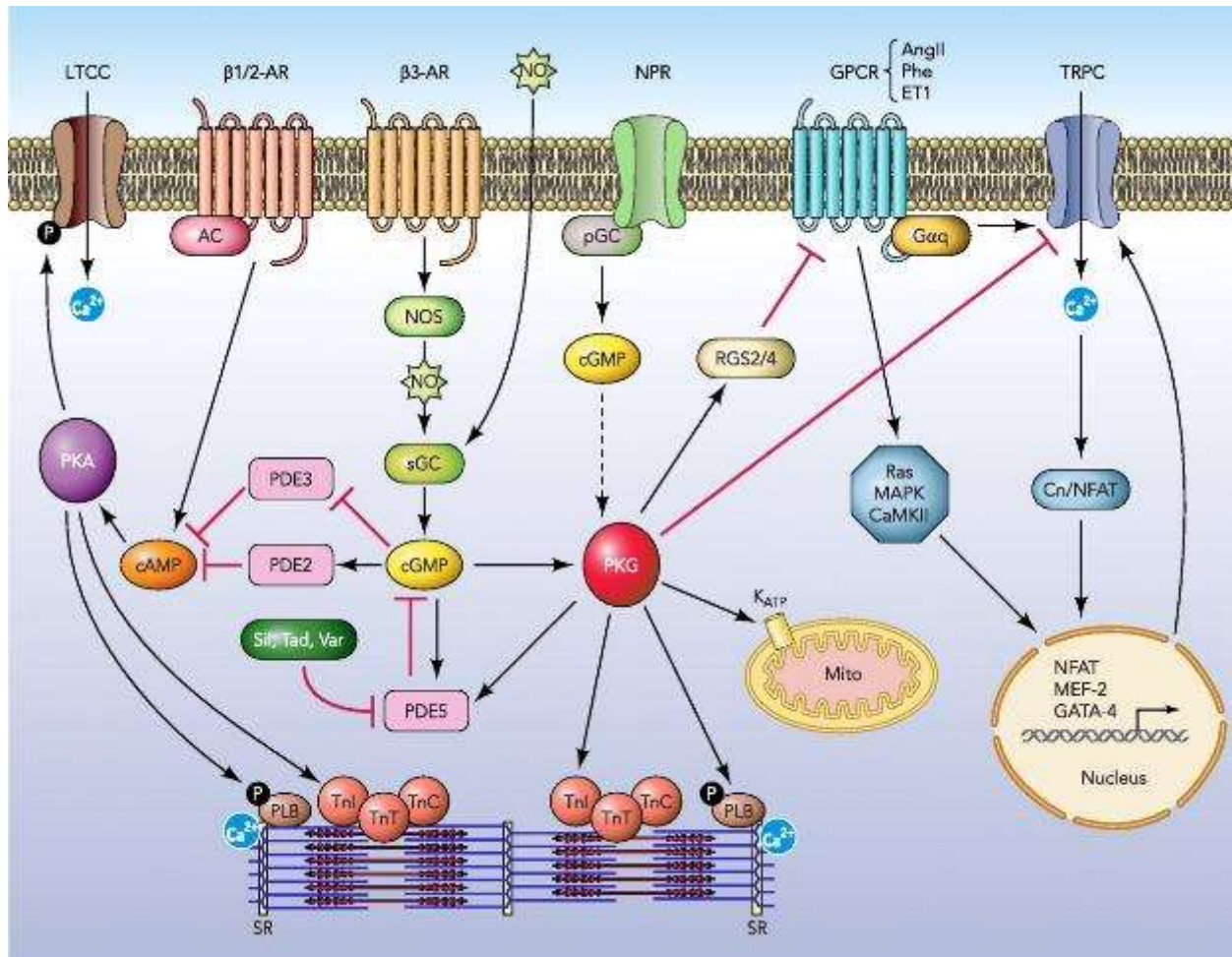
Pentaerythritol
tetranitrate



20-120 mg/day

(for prevention of ischemic attack)

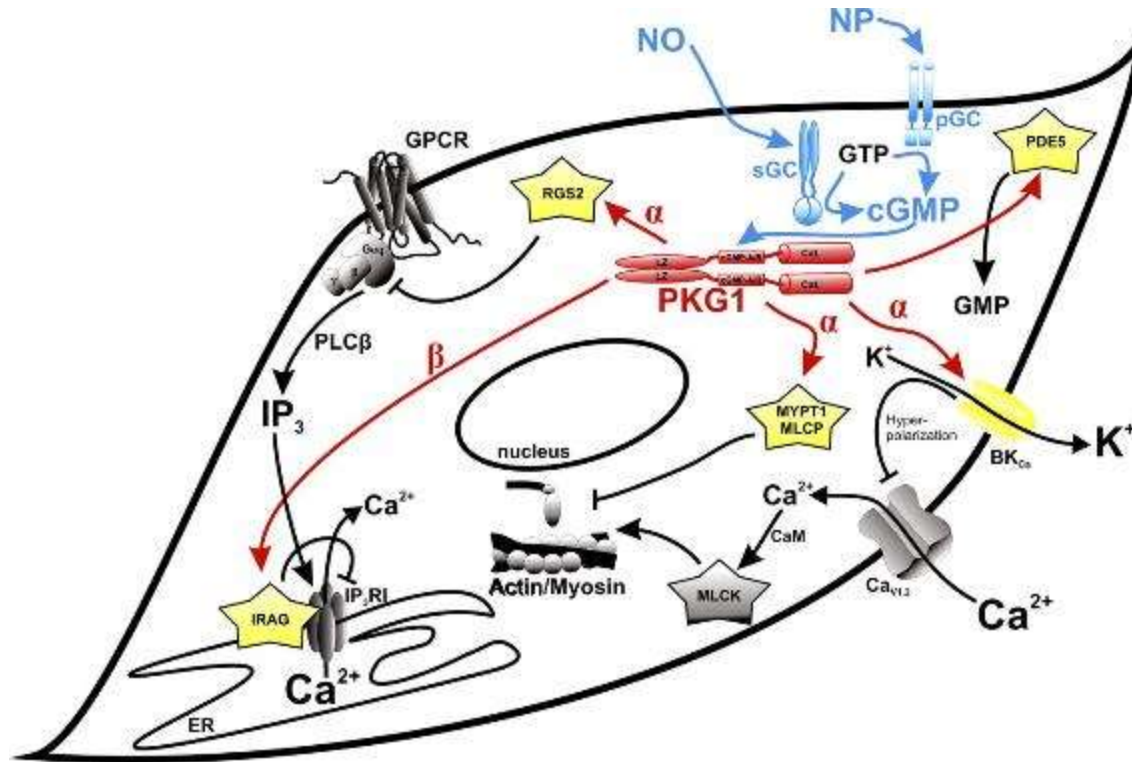
Effect of NO-donor drugs on the myocardium



- decreasing cytosolic and mitochondrial Ca^{2+} -load
- increasing SR Ca^{2+} -uptake
- increasing relaxation
- decreasing heart rate

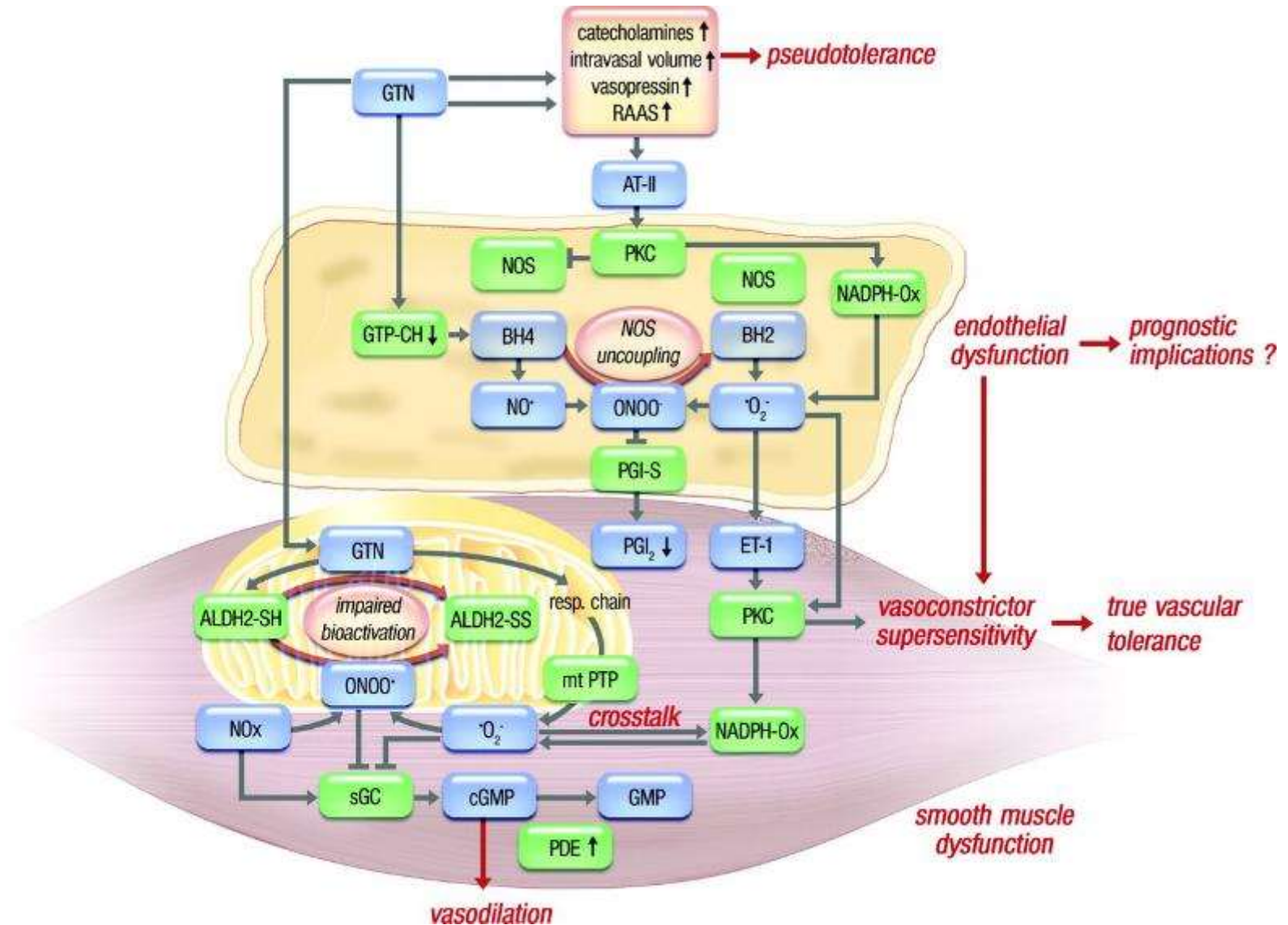
decreased oxygen demand
cytoprotection

Effect of NO-donor drugs on smooth muscle cells



- decreasing cytosolic Ca²⁺-load
 - decreasing contractility
- } vasorelaxation

Molecular mechanisms of nitrate tolerance



Therapy of angina by nitrates: special dosage schedules to avoid nitrate tolerance

PREPARATION

DOSING SCHEDULE

- **Isosorbide dinitrate** 30 mg at 7 am and 1 pm
 - **Isosorbide mononitrate** 20 mg at 8 am and 3 pm
 - **Isosorbide mononitrate** 120-240 mg daily
extended release
 - **Transdermal nitrate patches** 7.5-10 mg/12 hours
patches removed after 12 hours
 - **Phasic release**
nitroglycerine patch 15 mg, most of it is released
in the first 12 h
-

Side-effects of nitrates

Serious side-effects, dose-dependent:

- syncope and hypotension (hypotension may cause cerebral ischemia)
- tachycardia (frequent)
- bradycardia in AMI
- methemoglobinemia (prolonged high dosage)

Other side-effects:

- headache (limit dose frequently)
- facial flushing
- **halitosis (sublingual)**
- **dyscoloration of the oral mucosa**

May increase cardiovascular mortality?

- due to tolerance (oxidative/nitrosative stress)

Contraindications of nitrates

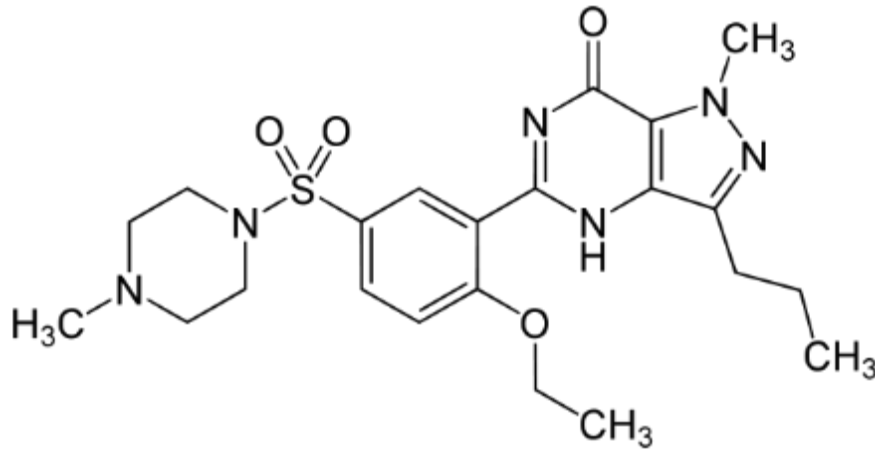
- angina caused by *hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy*: nitrates may increase outflow obstruction (ranolazine)
- *Cardiac tamponade or constrictive pericarditis*: the already compromised diastolic filling may be aggravated by reduced venous return.

PDE5 inhibitors – interaction with NO donors

Sildenafil

Tadalafil

Vardenafil



- selective inhibition of PDE₅ in the corpus cavernosum: relaxation of smooth muscle cells
- **elevation of cGMP level** → interaction with nitrates → blood pressure ↓
- PDE₃ inhibition in the heart → contractility ↑
- PDE₆ in the eye → vision problems
- lengthening cardiac repolarisation, long QT – arrhythmias
- pharmacokinetics: CYP3A4, 2C9: interaction with macrolid antibiotics, grapefruit; pentobarbital, rifampicin

Drug treatment of stable coronary heart disease

Baseline treatment
(life-long to prevent cardiovascular events and death)

Symptomatic treatment
(anti-anginal treatment)

Beta-receptor blockers

Thrombocyte aggregation inhibitor

Nitrates

Antihyperlipidemic treatment

Calcium channel blocker
verapamil, diltiazem

ACE inhibitor or
Angiotensin receptor blocker

Trimetazidine
Molsidomine
Ranolazine
Nicorandil
Ivabradine

Side effects of Ca²⁺-channel blockers

Serious side effects:

- cardiac depression, bradycardia
- AV-block, cardiac arrest, cardiac failure (verapamil)
- arrhythmia (torsade de pointes, long QT)

Minor side effects:

- dizziness, hypotension, headache, flushing,
- palpitation, nausea, constipation, peripheric edema
- coughing, muscular cramps, gingival hypertrophy

May increase mortality?

- aggravation of myocardial ischemia only by some short acting dihydropyridines

Drug treatment of stable coronary heart disease

Baseline treatment

(life-long to prevent cardiovascular events and death)

Symptomatic treatment (anti-anginal treatment)

Beta-receptor blockers

Thrombocyte aggregation inhibitor

Nitrates

Antihyperlipidemic treatment

Calcium channel blocker

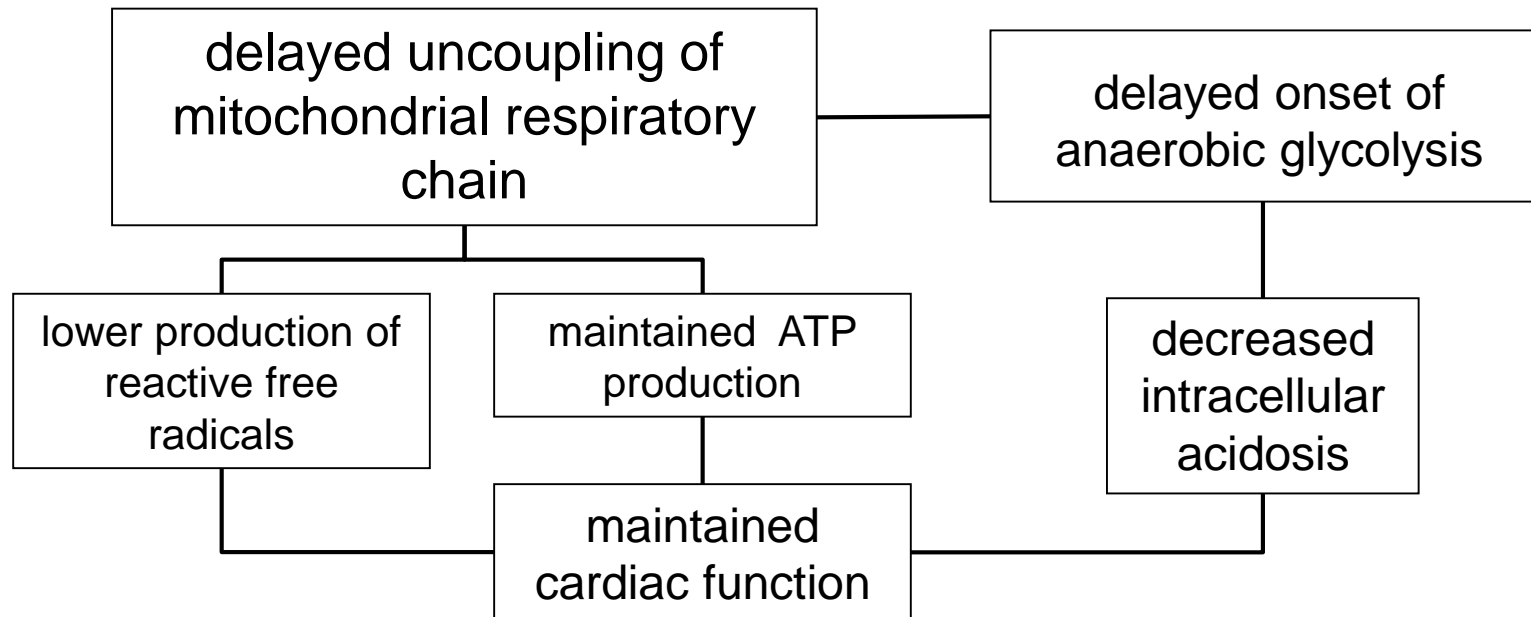
ACE inhibitor or
Angiotensin receptor blocker

Trimetazidine
Ranolazine
Molsidomine
Nicorandil
Ivabradine

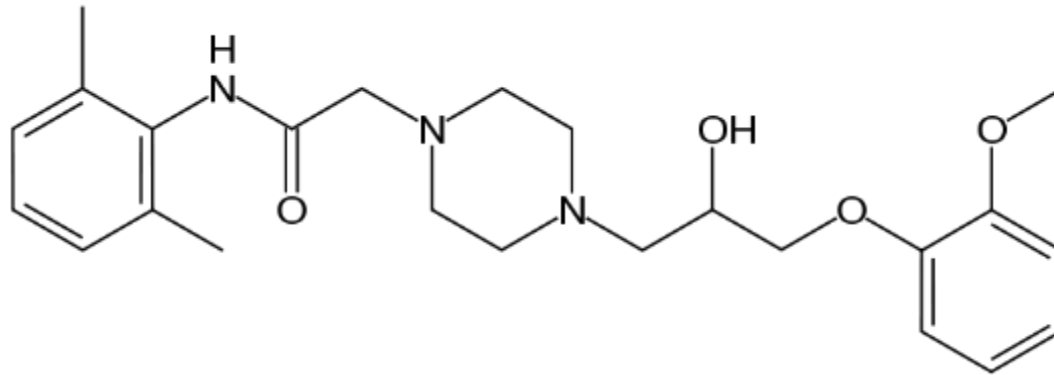
metabolic modulators: trimetazidine

Shifts cardiac metabolism from fatty acid oxidation to glucose oxidation

- increases the oxygen-efficacy of energy metabolism: more ATP/oxygen produced
- adjuvant therapy in stable angina
- no hemodynamic effect
- fast-acting, t.i.d.



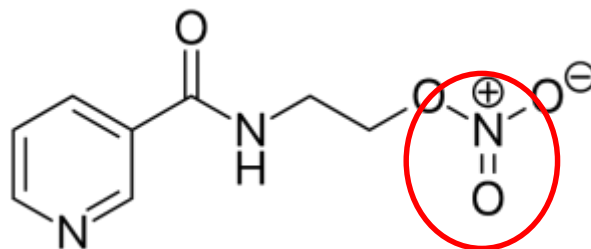
Novel drugs in the treatment of ischemic heart disease: ranolazine



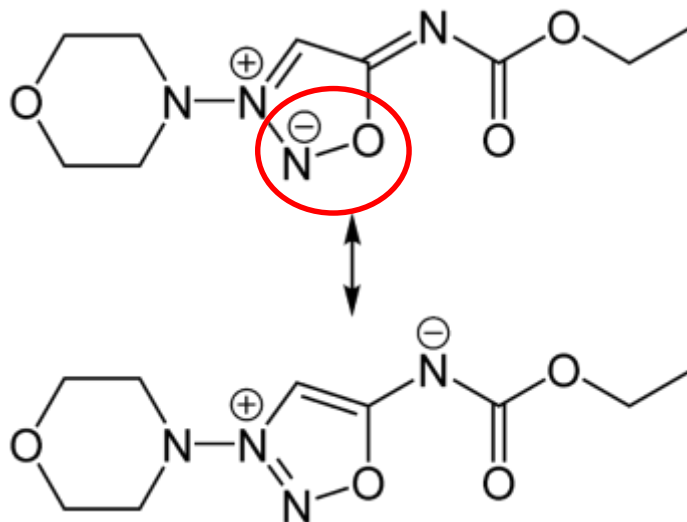
- inhibitor of late sodium channels in myocardial cells
- decreases intracellular Na^+ , activates Na/Ca transporter: decreased intracellular Ca^{2+} -overload
- decreases fatty acid oxidation of the myocardium
- decreases cardiac work, cytoprotective
- indicated in stable angina, obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- CYP3A4 inhibitors: interaction
- Contraindication: decreased hepatic or renal function

Antianginal agents with structure similar to nitrates

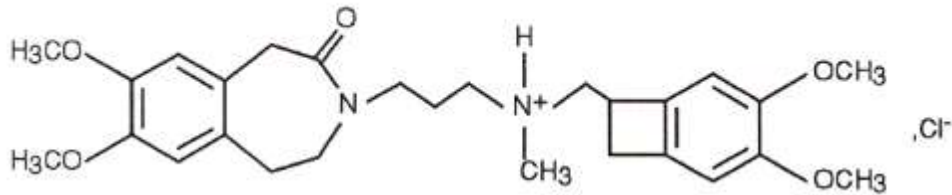
nicorandil



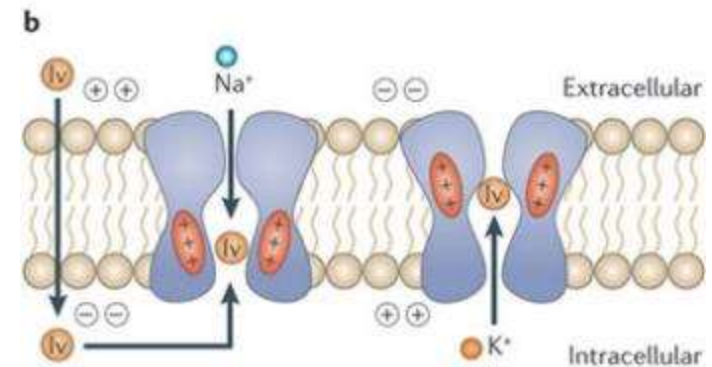
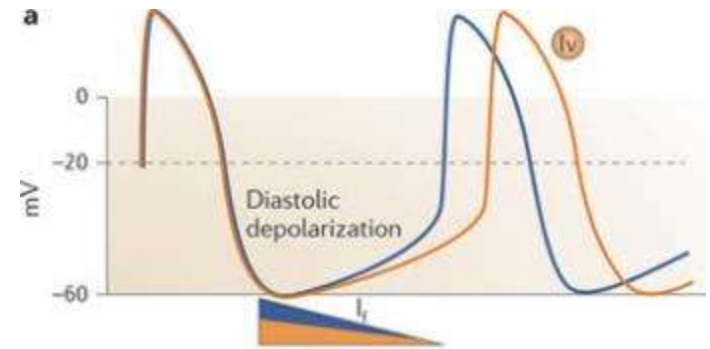
molsidomine



Novel drugs in the treatment of ischemic heart disease: ivabradine

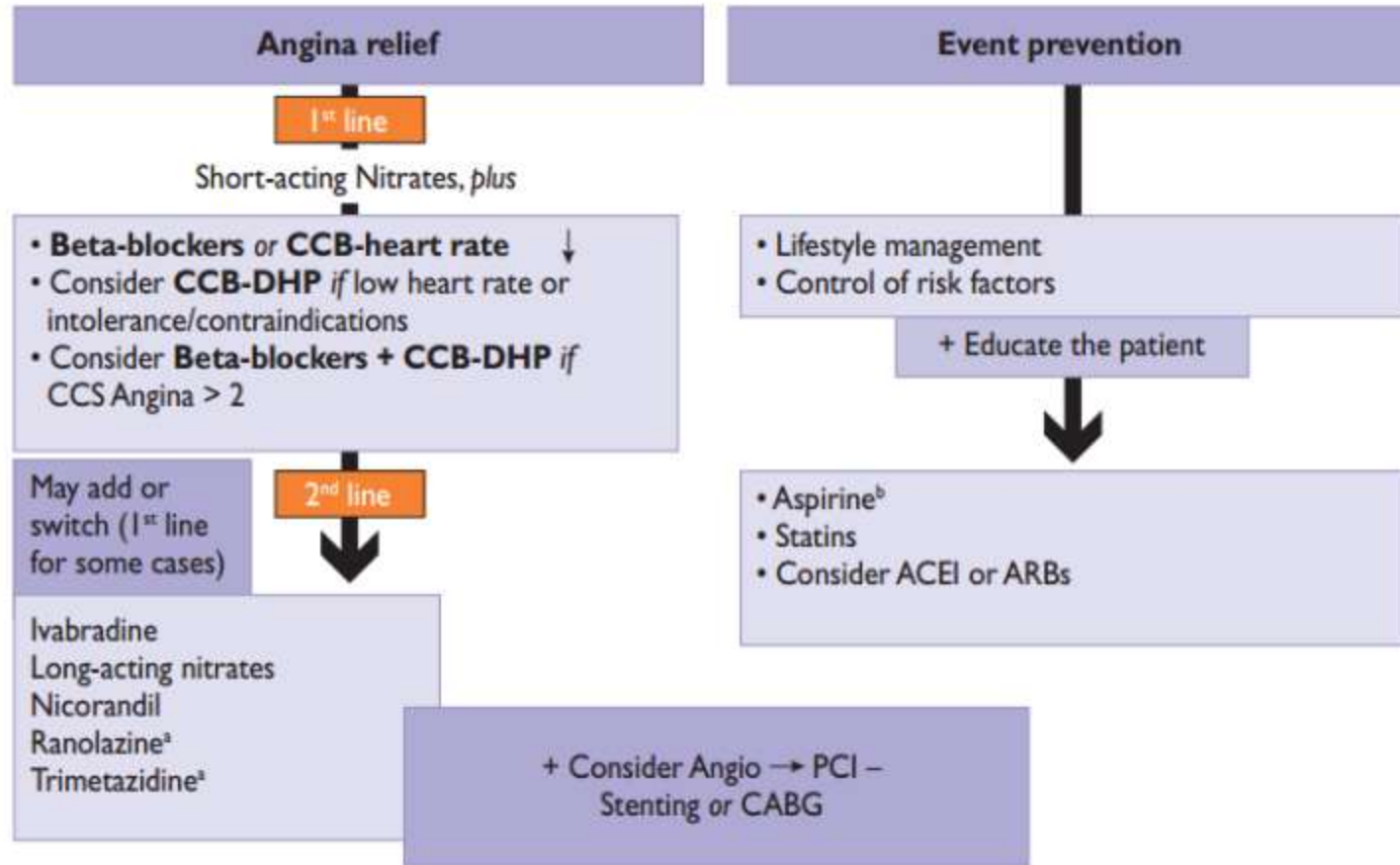


- Decreases the activity of the sinoatrial node by reducing the „pacemaker” I_f current (HCN1-4 channels)
- Decreases heart rate
- No effect on conduction parameters, ventricular repolarization, or contractile force
- Efficacy is similar to that of beta-blockers or calcium antagonists
- in chronic effort angina if HR ≥ 70/min
- contraindication: sick sinus syndrome



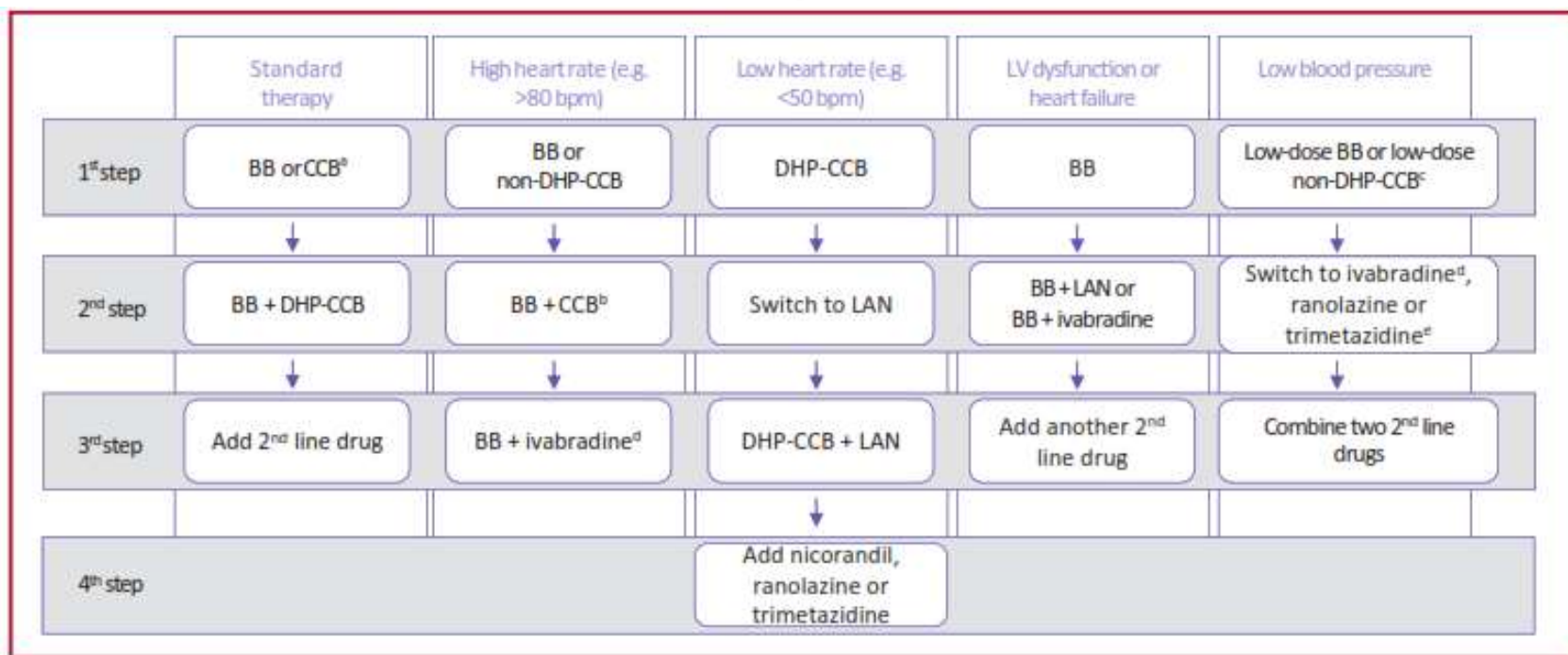
Nature Reviews Drug Discovery 10, 903-914

2013 ESC guidelines on the management of stable coronary artery disease



2019 ESC Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of chronic coronary syndromes

The Task Force for the diagnosis and management of chronic coronary syndromes of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)



2019 ESC Guidelines on the diagnosis and management of chronic coronary syndromes: supplementary data

Supplementary Table 3 Major side effects, contraindications, drug–drug interactions, and precautions of anti-ischaemic drugs

Drug class	Side effects*	Contraindications	DDIs	Precautions
Short- and long-acting nitrates ^{138,143,146}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headache • Flushing • Hypotension • Syncope and postural hypotension • Reflex tachycardia • Methaemoglobinaemia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy • Severe aortic stenosis • PDE5 inhibitors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PDE5 inhibitors (sildenafil or similar drugs) • Alpha-adrenergic blockers • CCBs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow a nitrate-free or nitrate-low interval of about 10–14 h with long-acting nitrates
Beta-blockers ^{h 147,148}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatigue, depression • Bradycardia • Heart block • Decreased inotropism • Bronchospasm • Peripheral vasoconstriction • Postural hypotension • Impotence • Hypoglycaemia/mask hypoglycaemia signs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low heart rate or heart conduction disorder • Cardiogenic shock • Asthma • COPD caution; may use beta₁-selective blockers if fully treated by inhaled steroids and long-acting beta-agonists • Severe peripheral vascular disease • Decompensated heart failure • Vasospastic angina 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart rate-lowering CCBs • Sinus node or atrioventricular conduction depressors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetes • COPD

Continued

Other options in the treatment of ischemic heart disease

1. Vitamins, and vitamin-like substances

- Omega-3 fatty acids, eicosapentaenic acid (EPA), docosahexaenic acid (DHA) —————> **do not** decrease serum triglyceride and formation of atherosclerotic plaques
- Coenzyme Q₁₀ (ubiquinone, **ubidecarenone**): antioxidant, ATP production (in chronic heart failure)
- B₆-, B₁₂-vitamins, folic acid: decrease serum homocysteine level

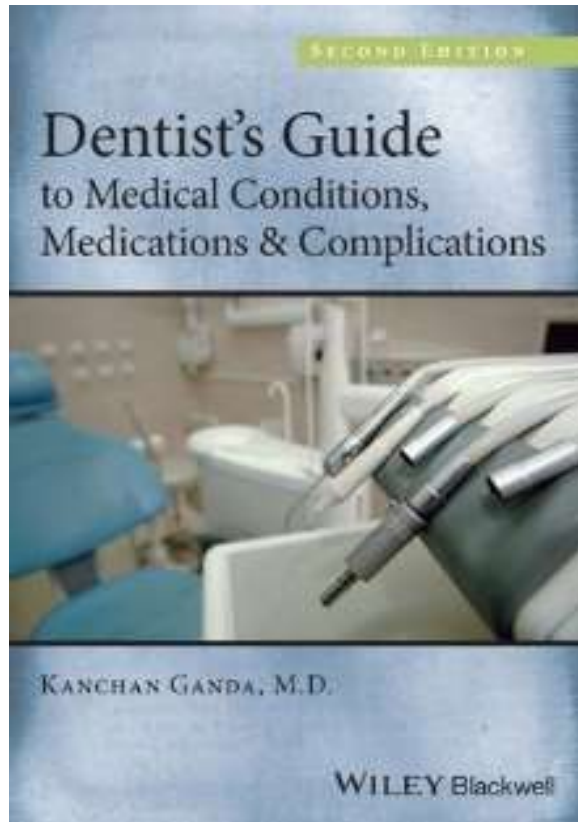
2. „Advanced therapies” (gene- and cell-therapy) - regenerative medicine (under development)

- gene therapy: e.g., NO synthase
- tissue regenerative therapy: e.g., stem cell implantation, exosomes

3. Coronary stents coated with antiproliferative drugs:

- rapamycin, sirolimus, paclitaxel, etc.

Optional literature



[Kanchan Ganda](#)

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patients at high risk for myocardial infarction.

- All glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitors increase the safety of acute PCI.
- Low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) and intravenous unfractionated heparin (UH) are comparable anticoagulants in the treatment of unstable angina.
- LMWH is preferred initially, because anticoagulation activity cannot be measured during PCI.
- Direct thrombin inhibitors are potential alternatives to heparin, particularly in the presence of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia.
- Direct thrombin inhibitors are associated with higher rates of bleeding, but they are slightly better at reducing myocardial infarction when compared to heparin.

Nitrates

Intravenous nitrates may be used in the treatment of ischemic chest pain, symptoms of heart failure, or hypertension, but they are not associated with appreciable long-term clinical benefit.

Acute Angina Attack

Refer to Chapter 9 for a discussion of etiology, clinical features, and management of stable and unstable angina attacks.

Angina Pectoris—Associated Suggested Dental Guidelines

Anesthetics for Stable Angina

Local anesthetics with or without epinephrine can be used. Use maximum 2 carpules of 2% lidocaine (Xylocaine), 0.5% bupivacaine (Marcaine), 4% prilocaine HCL (Citanest Forte), 3% mepivacaine (Carbocaine), 4% prilocaine HCL (Citanest Plain), 4% septocaine (Articaine), or 2% mepivacaine (Carbocaine) with 1:20,000 levonordefrin (NeoCobefrin).

Anesthetics for Unstable Angina

Avoid LAs with epinephrine.

Analgesics and Antibiotics for Angina Pectoris

There are no analgesics or antibiotics contraindicated per se with stable or unstable angina; however, be discreet in prescribing narcotic analgesics in the