A photograph of a modern, multi-story glass building with a prominent glass facade and a large overhanging section, situated on a green lawn under a cloudy sky.

Population based studies on utilisation of **angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEIs)**

Seyed Hamidreza Mahmoudpour
PharmD, PhD candidate

Farmaco-epidemiologie & Klinische Farmacologie



Universiteit Utrecht



A. Patterns of ACEI prescriptions for different indications

B. Continuation of ACEI therapy, in spite of occurrence of angioedema



Background:

The first ACEI (**captopril**) came to the market in 1981

Indications:

- Hypertension
 - heart failure
 - myocardial infarction
 - renal failure and nephropathy (diabetic & non-diabetic)
-
- **The US:** prescribed >150 million times per year since 2006¹
 - **The Netherlands:** ~ 9 million ACEI prescriptions in 2013 ²
 - **The UK:** **Ramipril** first antihypertensive medication in 2013 24 million prescriptions dispensed in community pharmacies ³



1. National Prescription Audit PLUS. IMS.2014. <http://www.imshealth.com> Accessed 1 Dec 2014.2.
2. The drugs and medical devices Information Project (GIP). <https://www.gipdatabank.nl> Accessed 20 April 2015.
3. Croft K. Prescriptions Dispensed in the Community England 2003-13. Prescribing and Primary Care, Health and Social Care Information Centre; 9 July 2014. 110 p. <http://www.hscic.gov.uk> .



A) Patterns of ACEI prescriptions for different indications

➤ Discontinuation of ACEIs:

- Stop because of ADR (19%)
- Stop because of non-ADR reason (13.5%)¹



➤ Switch of ACEIs:

• PHARMO data:

- ✓ 24% of ACEIs starters switched their therapy after 3 years and 75% of them switched to angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs)²

• CPRD data:

- ✓ Longer follow up within hypertensive patients, total ACEIs switchers increased up to more than 40%³

INDICATION

1. Morimoto *et al* :Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice. 2003; 10(4): 499–509
2. Vegter *et al* : American Journal of Management Care. 2011;17(9):609-616
3. Burke *et al* : Journal of Hypertension 2006, 24:1193–1200



Objectives:

The aim of this study is to investigate whether **the pattern of ACE-inhibitors use differ between indications** in terms of **persistence rate, continuation, discontinuation and switching to angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs)**

- ✓ Hypertension
- ✓ Heart failure
- ✓ Myocardial infarction (MI)
- ✓ Renal failure
- ✓ More than one indication
- ✓ Non of the above



Methods: Setting & design

- **Study design:** Retrospective cohort study
- **Setting:** Clinical practice research Datalink (CPRD)
- **Study population:** > 45 years, start ACEIs: Jan 1st 2007 Jan 1st 2014.
- **index date:** First ACEI prescription.
- **Exclusion criteria:** <12 months of prescription history before index date and <6 months after.
- **Follow up duration:** Death, moving out of study, or end date of study (Jan 1st 2014),
- **Indication:** Any time before or 1 year after start of ACEI based on the medical read codes



Methods: Prescription pattern

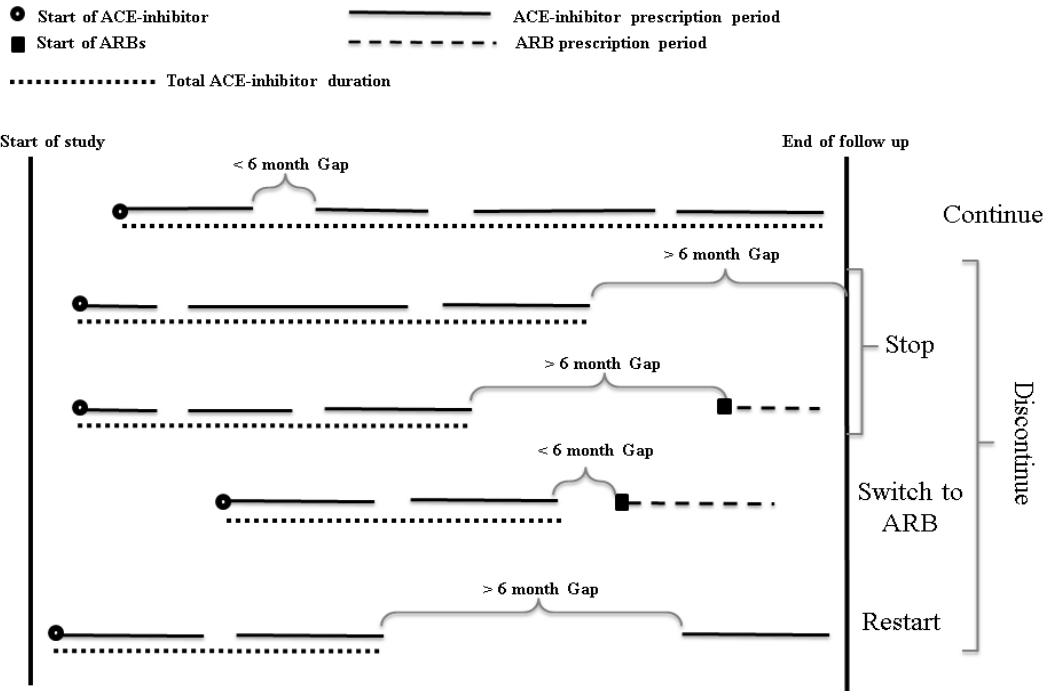
1. Continuation

2. Discontinuation of ACEIs

→ Stop

→ Switch to ARB

→ Restart



- 5-year persistence was calculated using the Kaplan-Meier method.
- Times to discontinuation were compared using the Log-Rank test.



Results:

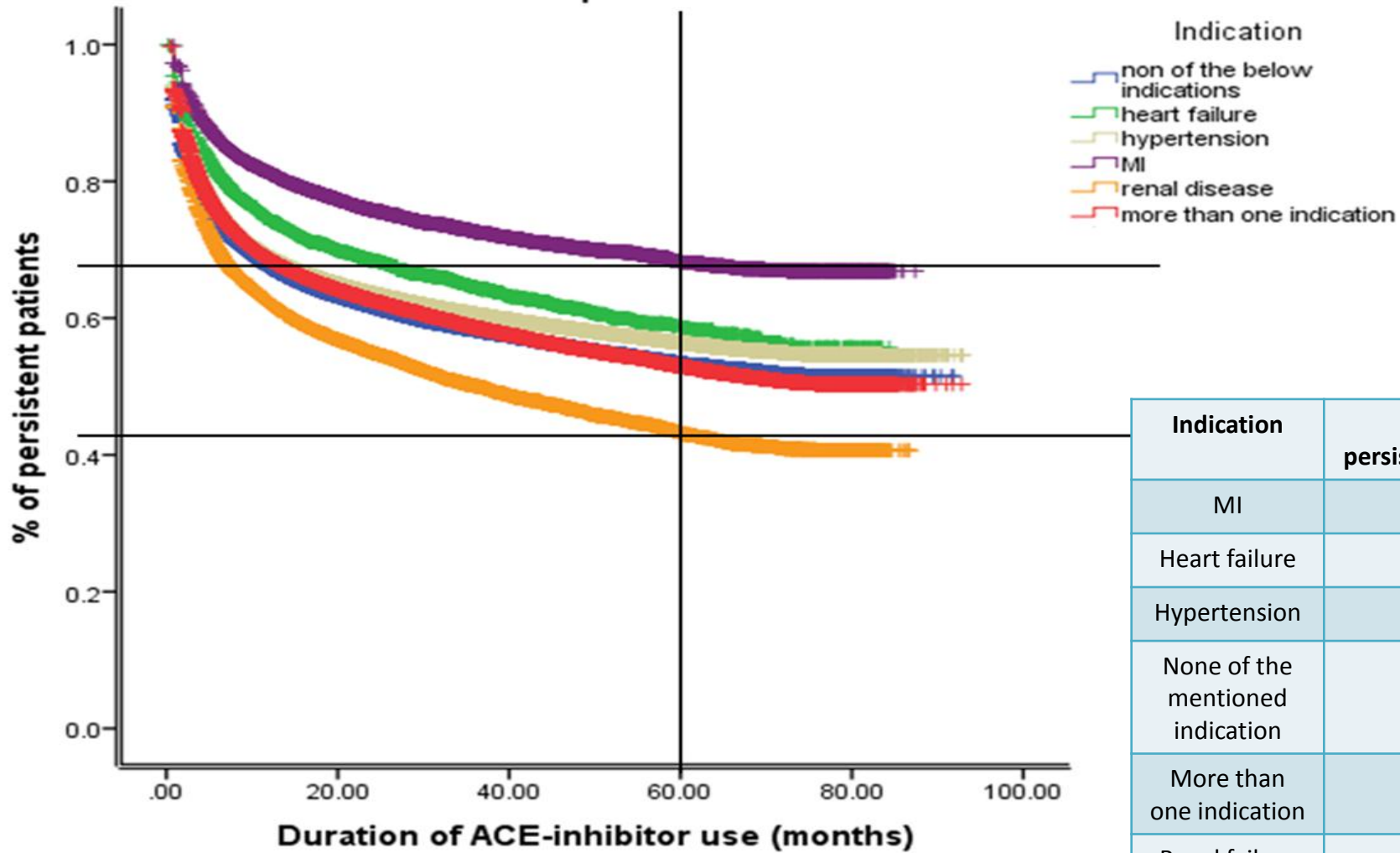
- **Totally 254,002 ACEI starters were included in the study.**

Characteristics	Heart failure 1.5%	Hypertension 57.6%	Myocardial infarction 4.2%	Renal disease 3.7%	More than one indication 17.2%	None of the mentioned indications 15.8%	Total 100%
Mean age ¹ (years)[SD]	72.1[11.8]	62.7[11.0]	64.1[11.1]	72.6[11.0]	73.4[10.8]	64.1[11.5]	65.3 [11.9]
Sex (%male)	60.1%	50.1%	76.2%	43.5%	45.0%	58.0%	51.5%
Mean follow up (months) [SD]	35.2 [20.9]	43.7[22.2]	39.2[21.9]	41.8[22.6]	43.7[23.0]	39.1[21.9]	42.6 [22.4]
Mean ACE-inhibitor duration (months) [SD]	25.0 [21.5]	28.8[25.1]	30.5[23.3]	23.6[23.3]	28.1[25.1]	24.9 [23.2]	27.9 [24.7]
Percentage of death	21.5%	4.2%	7.1%	13.8%	15.4%	7.4%	7.3%



Results:

Kaplan-Meier Curve



Indication	5-year persistence rates
MI	68.2%
Heart failure	58.6%
Hypertension	56.4%
None of the mentioned indication	53.4%
More than one indication	53.0%
Renal failure	43.2%



Results:

Total (N=254,002) 100%	Persistent (N=153,212) 60.3%	
	Non-persistent (N=100,794) 39.7%	Stop(N=45,676) 45.3%
		Switch to ARB (N=37,421) 37.1%
		Restart(N=17,693) 17.6%

indication	Non-persistent (%)
Heart failure (N=3,762)	33.4%
Hypertension (N= 146,275)	39.4%
Myocardial infarction (N= 10,639)	26.4%
Renal failure (N= 9,299)	49.2%
More than one indication (N= 43,753)	41.6%
None of the mentioned indication (N= 40,274)	40.5%

- In total: MI lowest 26.4 & renal failure highest 49.2% probability to discontinue.
- Restart: not different considerably from 15% in heart failure to 18.1% in the non of mentioned group
- Within non-persistent: switching to ARBs ranged from 27.6% in renal disease to 42.2% in MI



Conclusion & Suggestion:

- In total population, **40% stop** ACEI therapy **preventable**¹
 - **37% of them switch to ARBs**
- Different indications —→ different rates of ACEI discontinuation.
- **Renal failure & heart failure** are most likely to discontinue treatment.

1. Mahmoudpour *et al* :International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy. 2015 Jul 10 DOI 10.1007/s11096-015-0159-3



B) Continuation of ACEI therapy, in spite of occurrence of angioedema

- Life-threatening **angioedema**
- incidence \approx 0.2%
- mostly larynx or tongue¹
- Continuing ACEI after angioedema ↑ recurrence risk
- reaction is more severe ²



1. Inman *et al* :Post-marketing surveillance of enalapril. I: Results of prescription-event monitoring. *BMJ*. 1988; 297:826-829.
2. Brown *et al* :Recurrent angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor--associated angioedema. *JAMA* 1997; 278:232-233.



Objectives:

The aim of this study is to evaluate the **discontinuation of ACEI** use after the occurrence of **angioedema** and the probability of a recurrent event

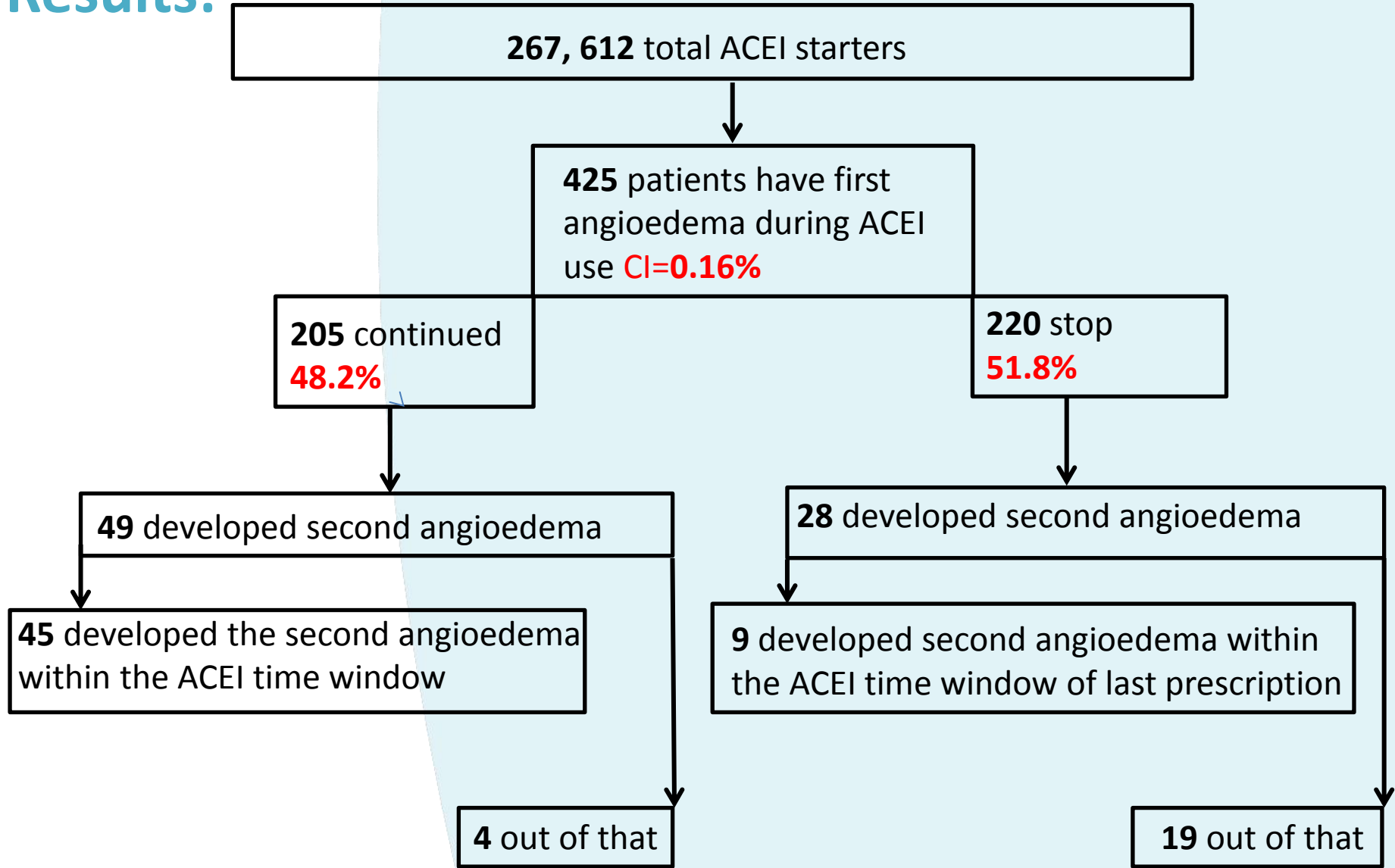


Methods: Setting, Design & Analyses

- **Setting:** Clinical practice research Datalink (CPRD)
- **Prescription duration:** Quantity of medication divided by the number of daily doses extended by 10% for non-adherence.
- **The first ever registered angioedema** during ACEI use time window
- Two angioedema within **7 days** were classified as the same event
- Cumulative incidence (CI) of angioedema
- **Continued ACEI** : Received at least one ACEI prescription after the angioedema event
- Kaplan-Meier curves of the second events

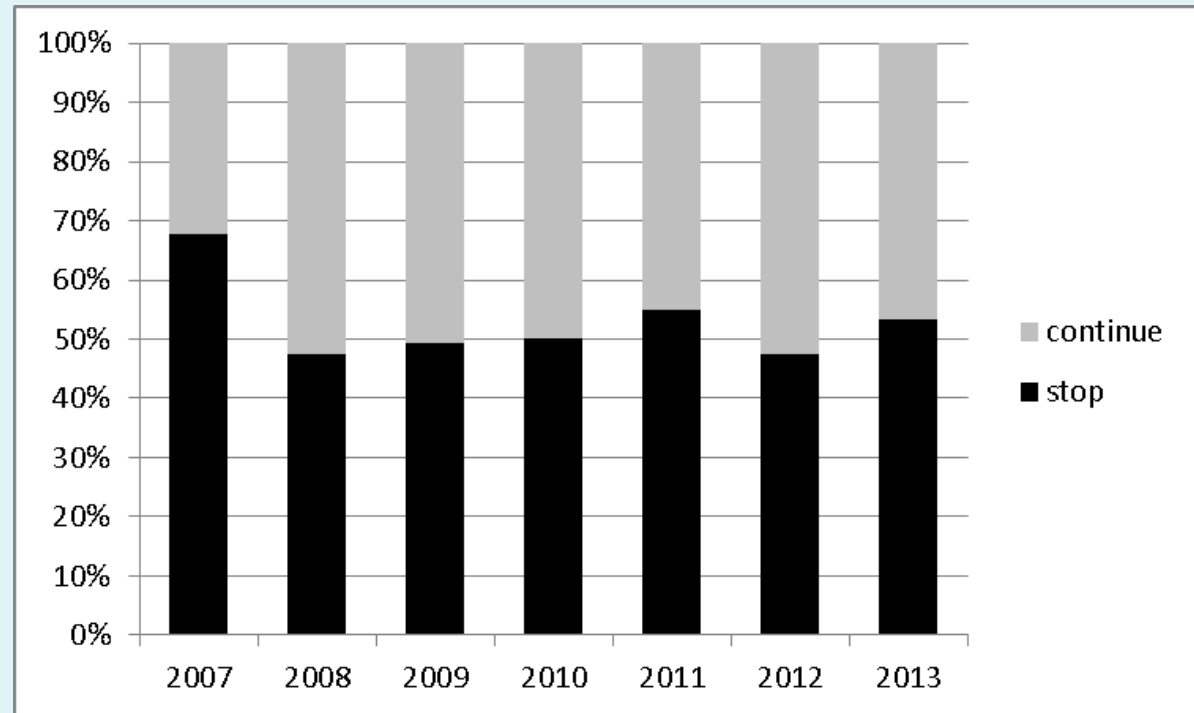


Results:



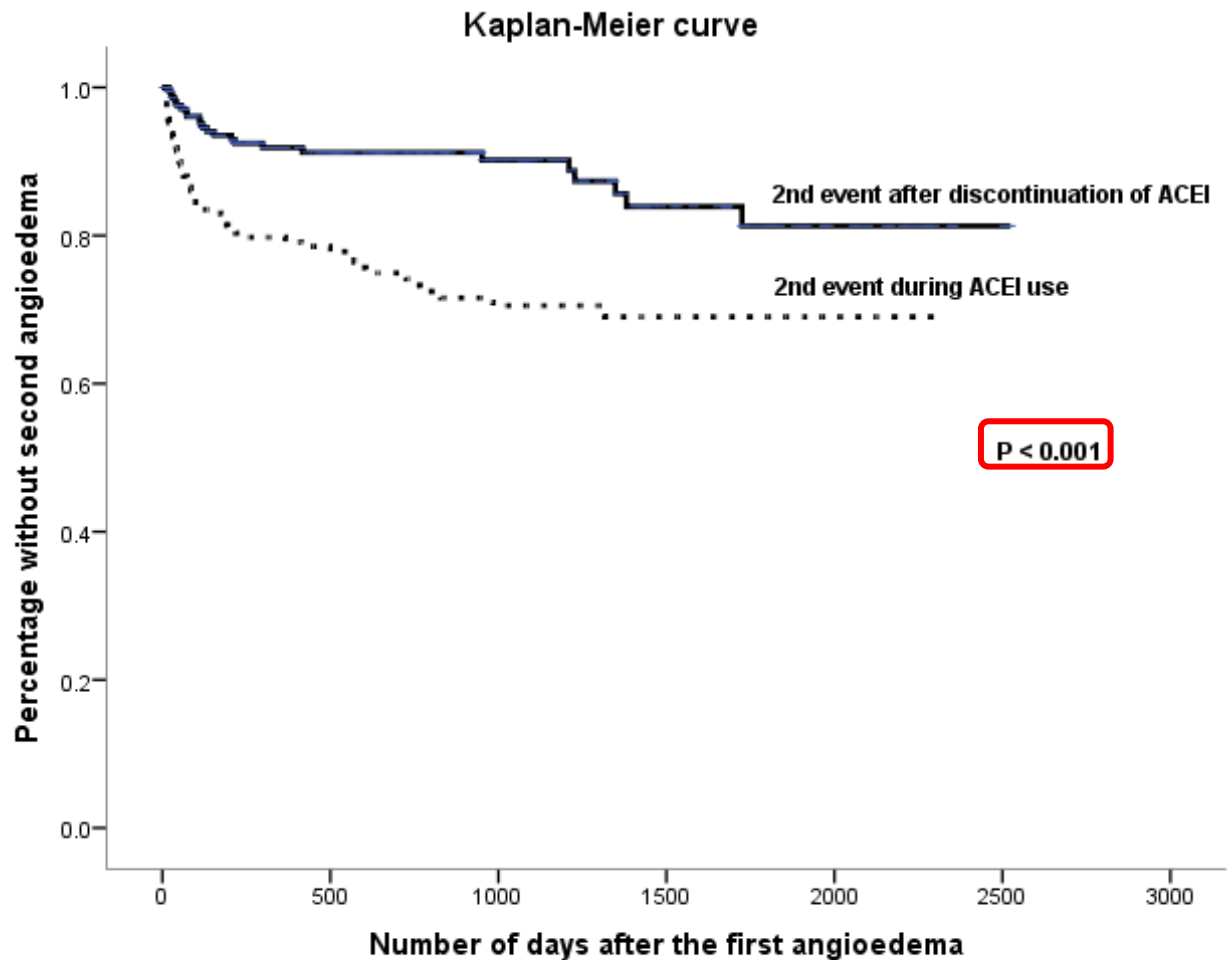
Results:

The yearly percentage of patients who continued ACEI therapy after a first angioedema



Results:

Comparing the rate of second angioedema during and after ACEI exposure



Conclusion & Suggestion:

- Almost **half of ACEI-related angioedema cases**, continue ACEI treatment
- High risk of recurrent angioedema **up to 158 times** higher for continuous users
- This is particularly relevant because recently it has been shown that angioedema itself can potentially harm the heart and coronary arteries^{1 2}

1. Kounis *et al.* The heart and coronary arteries as primary target in severe allergic reactions: Cardiac troponins and the Kounis hypersensitivity-associated acute coronary syndrome. *Int J Cardiol* 2015; 198:83-84.
2. Lippi G *et al.* Cardiac troponin I is increased in patients admitted to the emergency department with severe allergic reactions. A case-control study. *Int J Cardiol* 2015; 194:68-69.



Future plan:

A. Comorbidities/co-medications associated with ACEI switching/angioedema

B. Clinical outcome after switching of ACEI therapy to ARBs



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