

# Organizing Networks For Stroke Management

Marc Ribo



Vall d'Hebron  
Hospital

Stroke Unit.  
Neurology Dpt.  
Hospital Universitari  
Vall d'Hebron. Barcelona.



# In the Era of Thrombectomy, Let Us Also Protect the Majority of Patients With Stroke Who Only Require Medical Treatment!

Enrique C. Leira, MD, MS; Sean I. Savitz, MD

*Stroke*. 2018;49

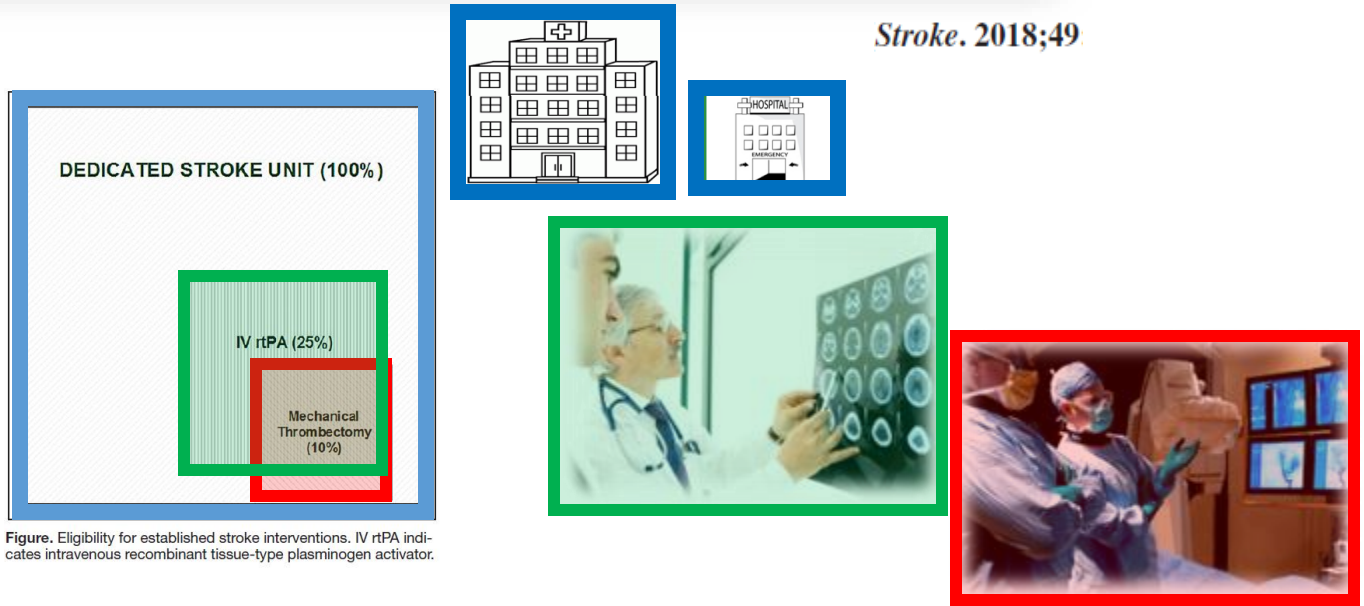
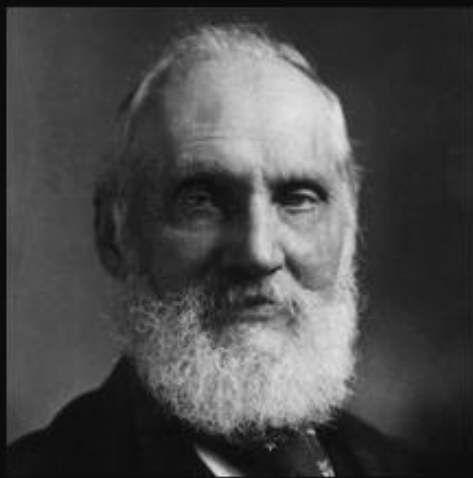


Figure. Eligibility for established stroke interventions. IV rtPA indicates intravenous recombinant tissue-type plasminogen activator.

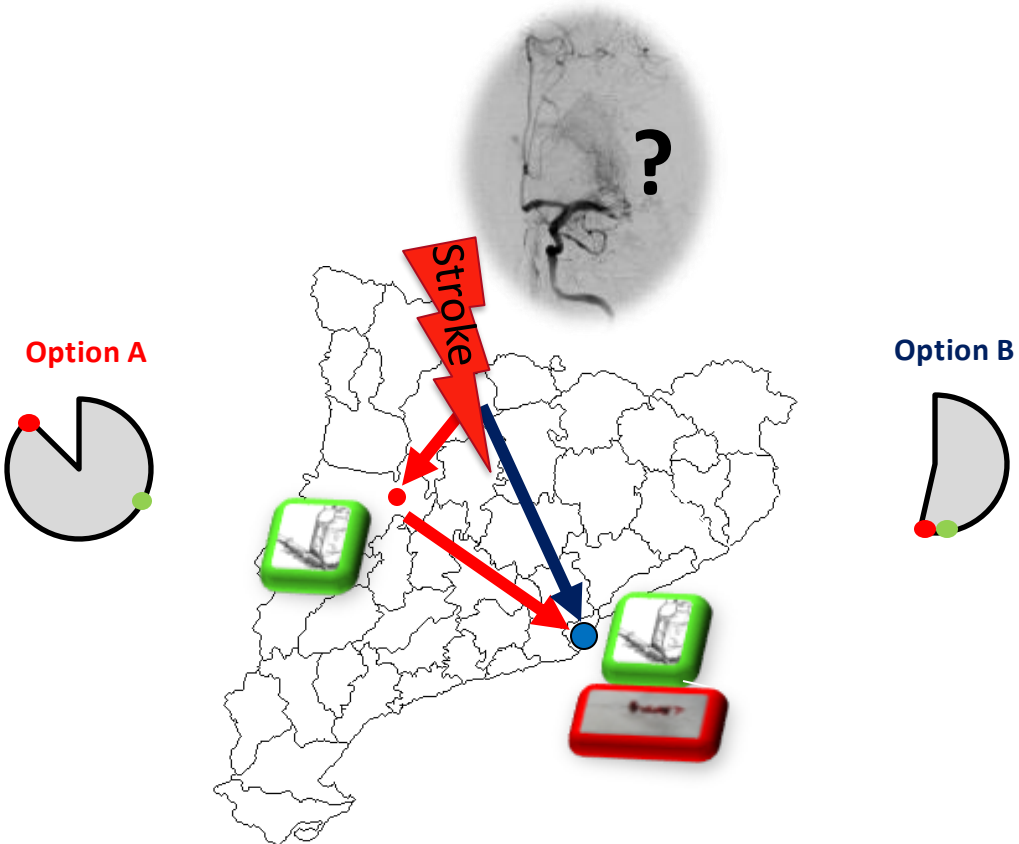


If you can not measure it, you  
can not improve it.

~ Lord Kelvin



# Mothership Vs Drip&Ship

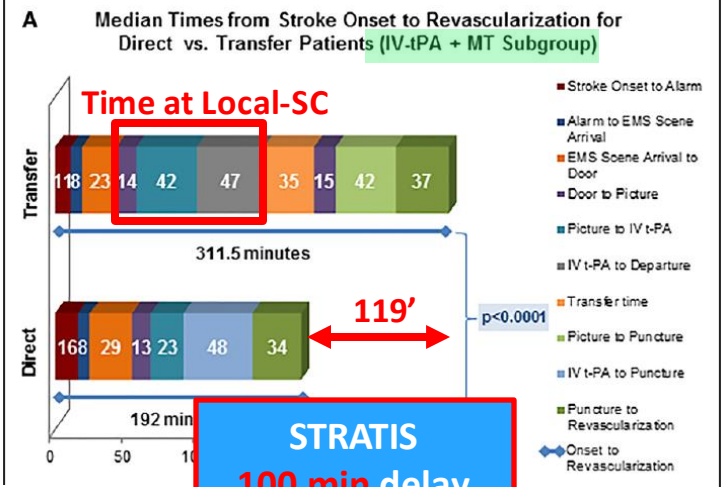
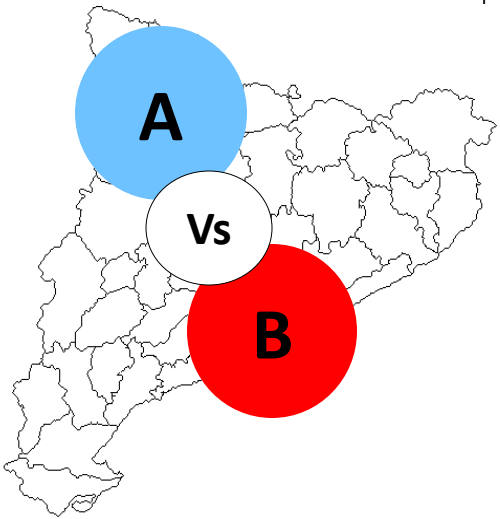
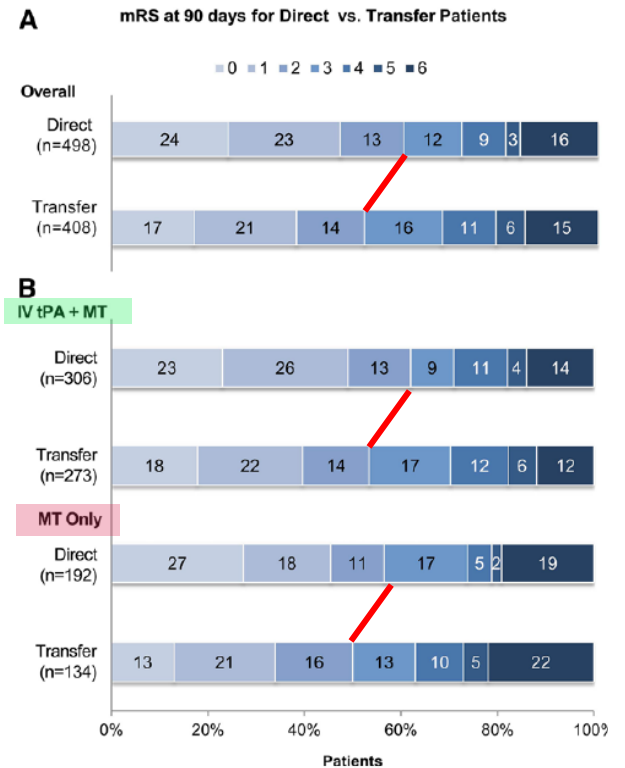




Interhospital Transfer Before Thrombectomy Is Associated With Delayed Treatment and Worse Outcome in the STRATIS Registry (Systematic Evaluation of Patients Treated With Neurothrombectomy Devices for Acute Ischemic Stroke)

Editorial, see p 2322

Michael T. Froehler, MD, PhD



**STRATIS**  
100 min delay if Drip&Ship

# Access to Endovascular Treatment in Remote Areas

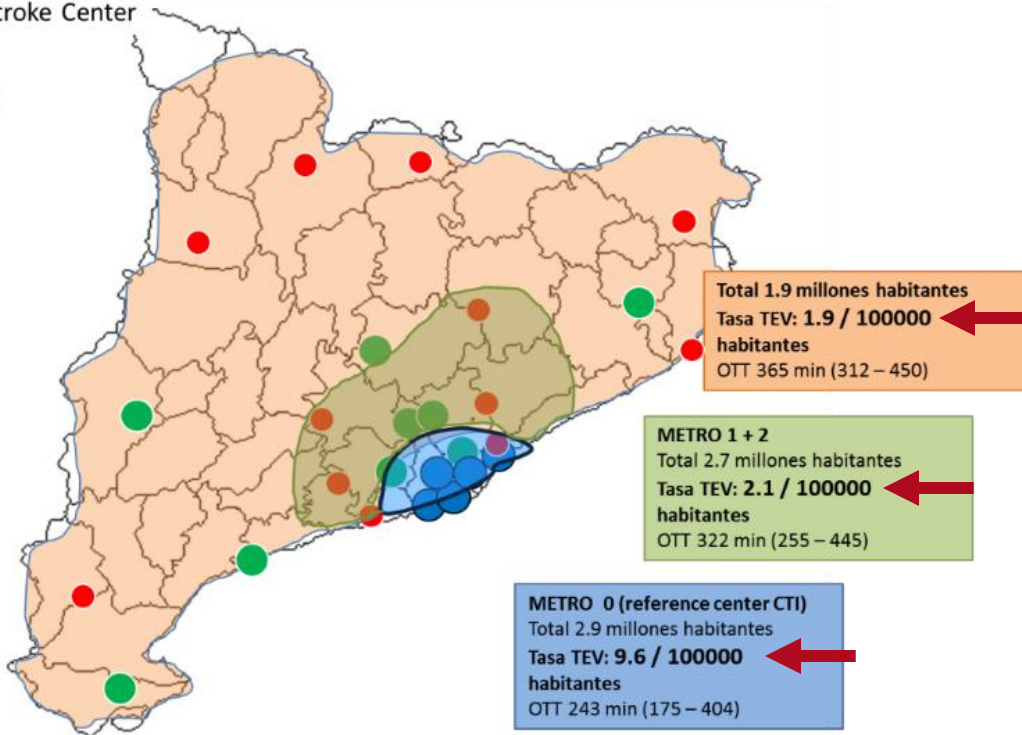
## Analysis of the Reperfusion Treatment Registry of Catalonia

Natalia Pérez de la Ossa, PhD; Sònia Abilleira, PhD; Laura Dorado, PhD; Xavier Urrea, PhD;  
Marc Ribó, PhD; Pere Cardona, PhD; Eva Giral, MD; Joan Martí-Fàbregas, PhD;  
Francisco Purroy, PhD; Joaquín Serena, PhD; David Cánovas, MD; Moisés Garcés, MD;  
Jurek Krupinski, PhD; Anna Pellisé, MD; Júlia Saura, MD; Carlos Molina, PhD;  
Antoni Dávalos, PhD; Miquel Gallofré, PhD; on behalf of the Catalan Stroke Code

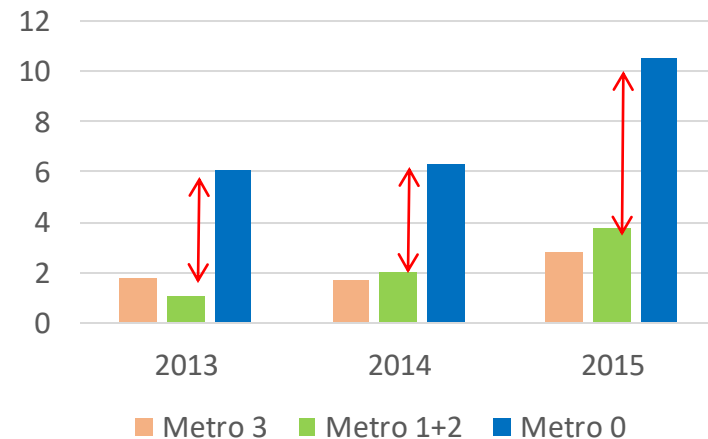
Stroke, 2016;47:1381-1384.



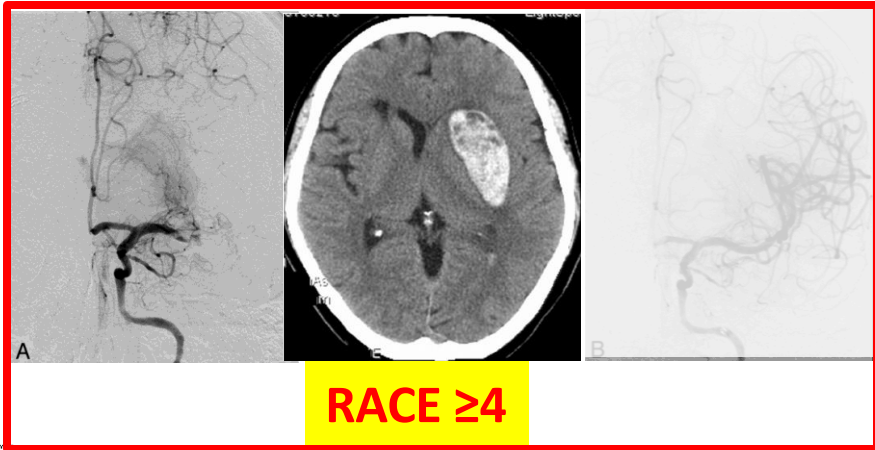
- Tele-Stroke Center
- CPI
- Ev-SC



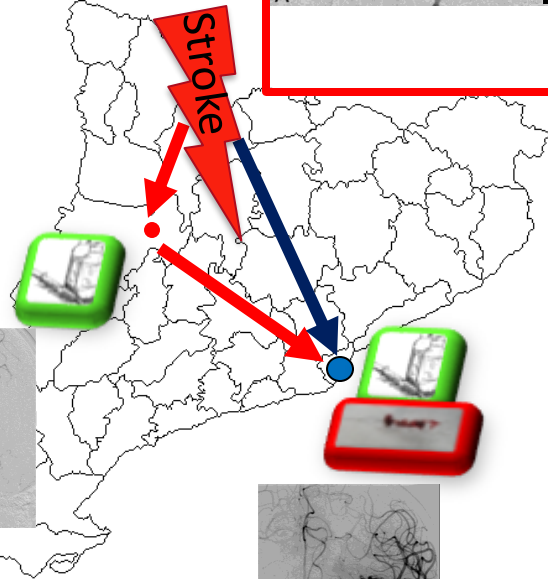
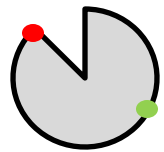
### EVT rate / 100.000 hab



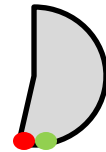
# Equipoise



Option A

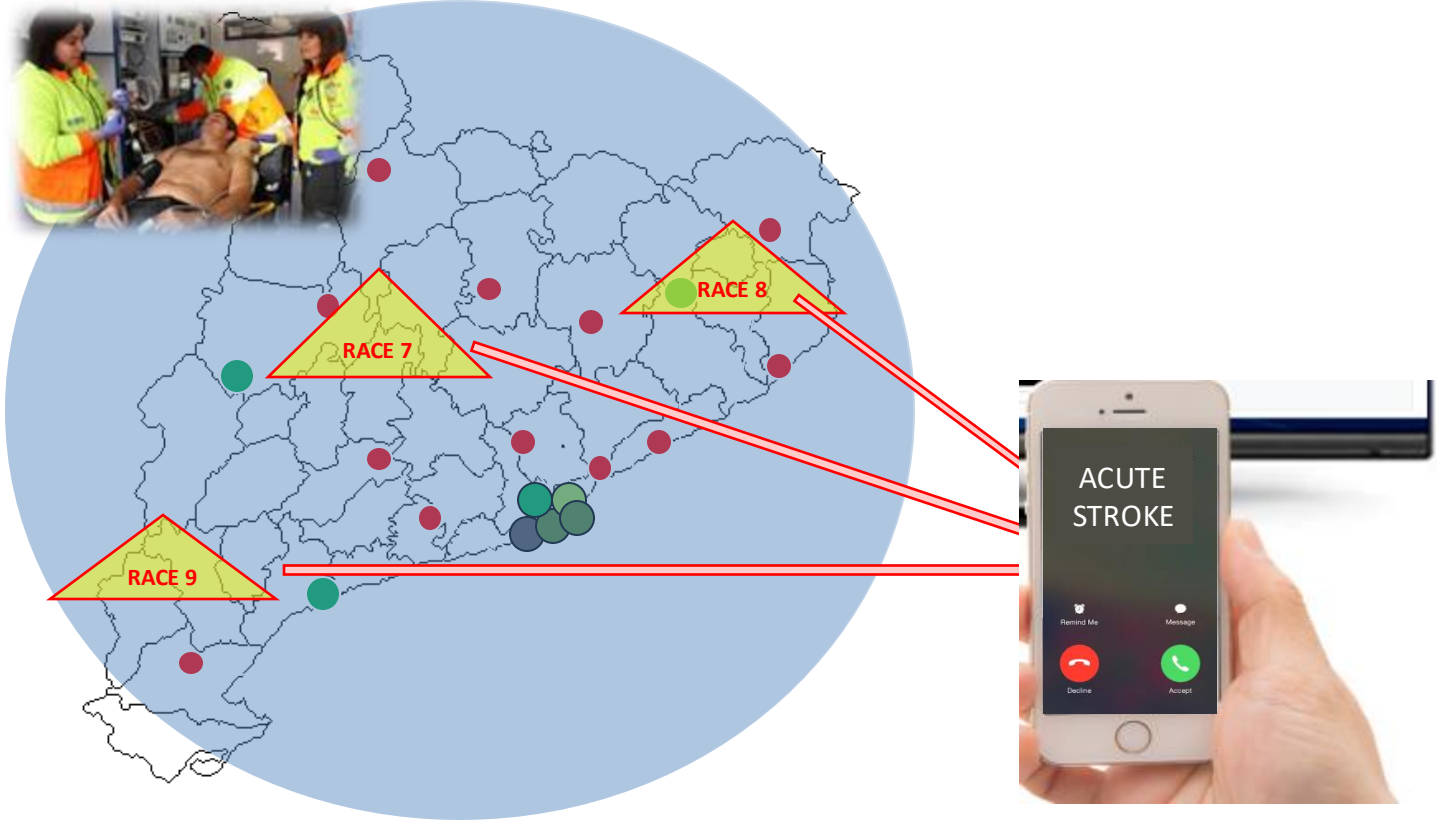


Option B



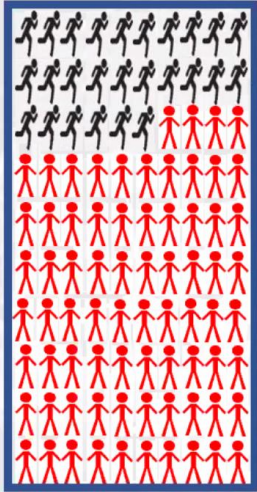
## PREHOSPITAL STROKE SEVERITY Scales



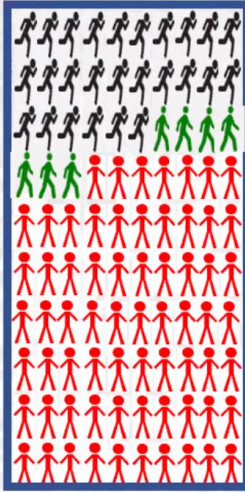




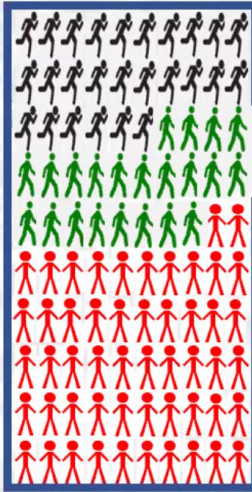
No thrombolytic  
treatment



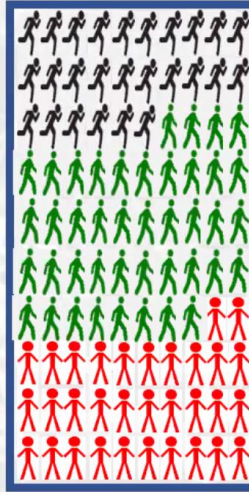
Iv-tPA 3h to 4,5h  
(NNT=14\*)



Iv-tPA 1h to 1,5h  
(NNT=4,5\*)



Iv-tPA <1h  
(NNT=2,4#)



\*Based on pooled analysis  
of tPA-RCTs (Lees K et al.  
Lancet 2010)

#Based on results of pre-and  
in-hospital tPA in stroke  
registry (Kunz et al.  
Circulation 2018)

- ✓ Standard 12 foot ambulance
- ✓ Portable CT scanner
- ✓ Point-of-care laboratory
- ✓ Tele-radiology & neurology
- ✓ VN, RN, CT tech, Medic

## Houston Mobile Stroke Unit— First in U.S. 2014



## Promote preHosp Alert

### Useful information to be provided by EMS

- Age / gender / baseline disability status
- Time from onset / onset unknown
- GCS (if altered)
- Prehospital severity scale
- Relevant past medical history
- Anticoagulation / recent surgery / contraindications for tPA
- Blood pressure
- Glycemia

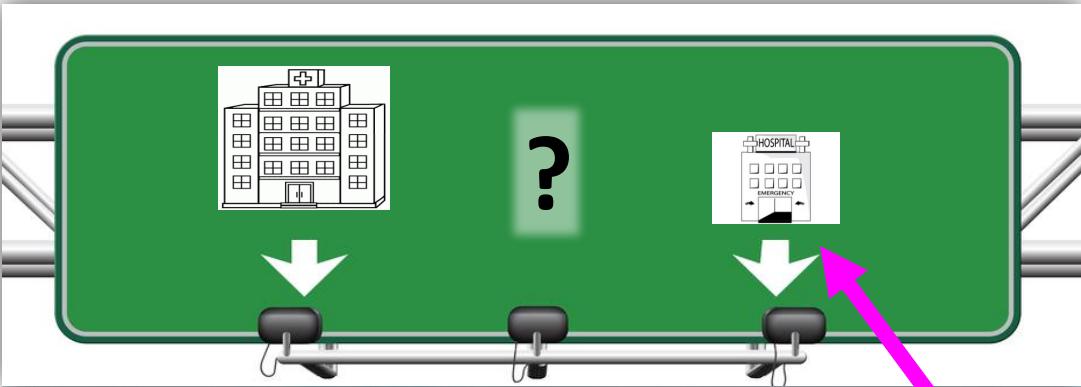
**ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL**

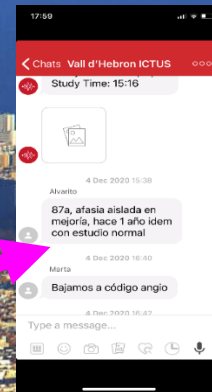
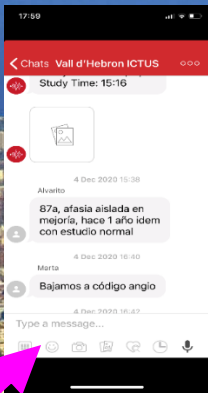


### Evaluate / update

Structured information to receiving team  
Transportation means  
Specific in-route treatment protocols for stroke

GPS - Apps - chats  
Mobile video conference



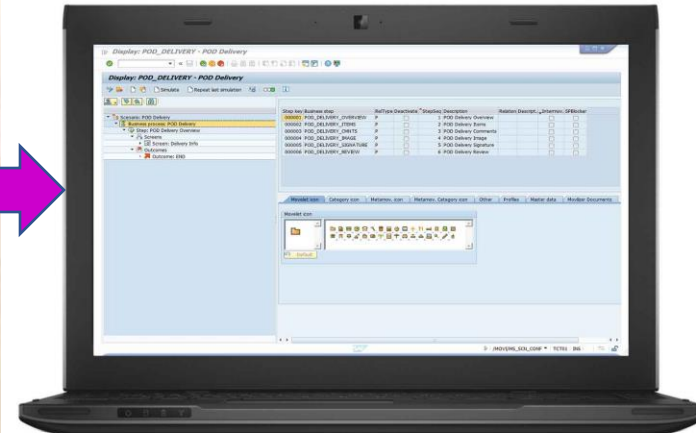


de  
rola

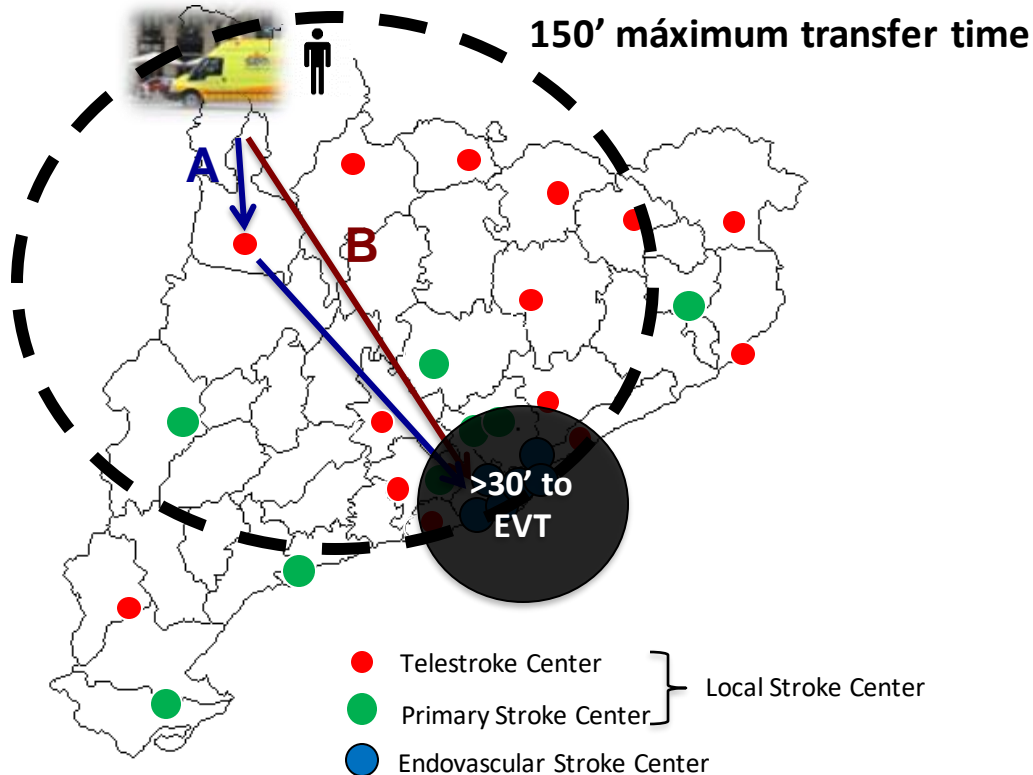


# Pre-admit/register patient before arrival

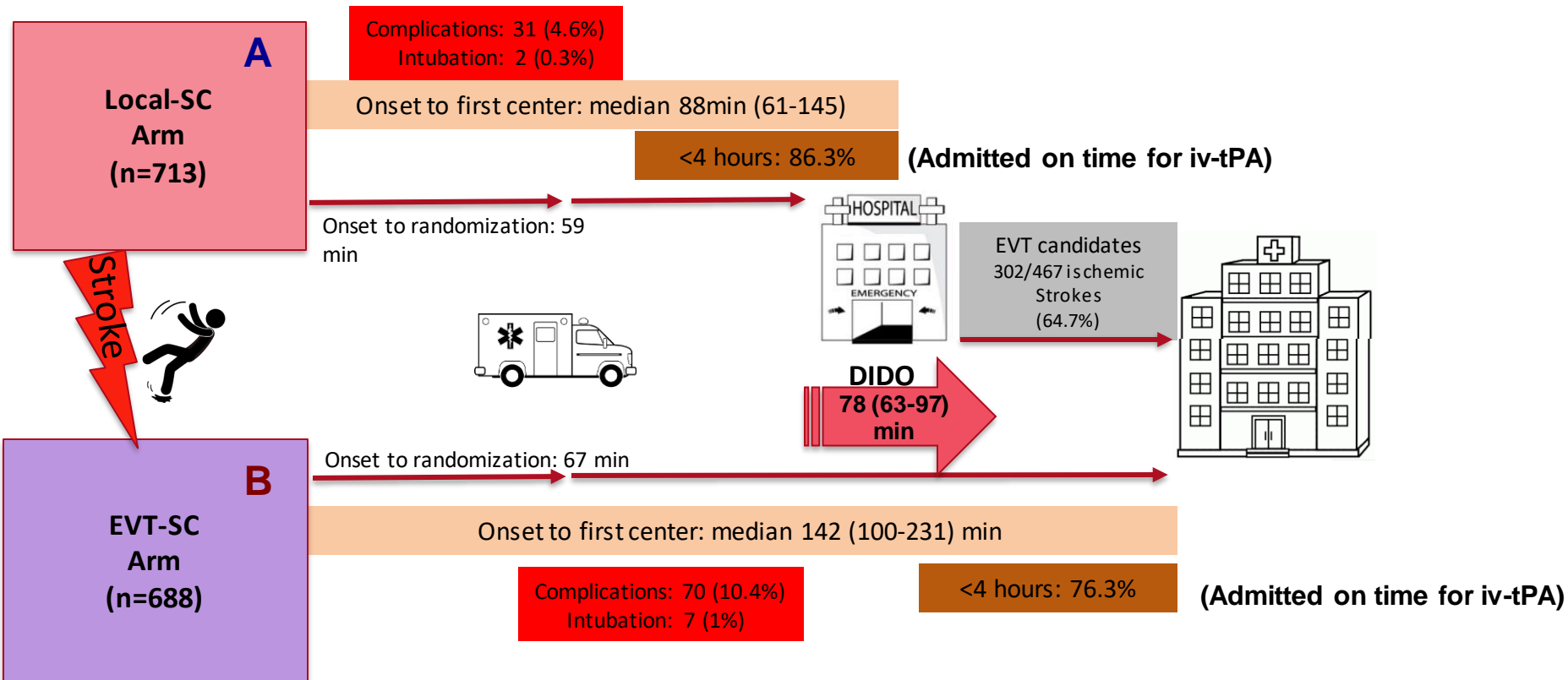
- Patient registration
- Request necessary procedures in the system before arrival: CT / Blood test ...



# Network characteristics and aplicability elsewhere



Total sample: 1401 patients  
(949 ischemic stroke – target population)  
Recruited over 3 years





# The power of prehospital scales

Diagnostic at first hospital

Median NIHSS: 17 (11-21)

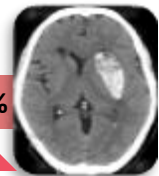
All included patients



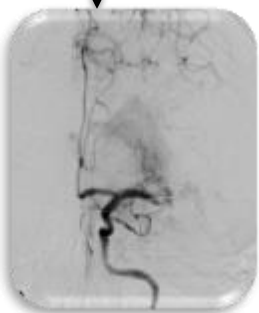
Ischemic Stroke 67.7%

		All allocated intervention	
		Local-SC	EVT-SC
<b>Initial diagnostic (ITT population)</b>	n	690	679
Ischemic Stroke	n (%)	450 ( 65.2%)	470 ( 69.2%)
TIA	n (%)	17 ( 2.5%)	12 ( 1.8%)
ICH	n (%)	165 ( 23.9%)	137 ( 20.2%)
SAH	n (%)	8 ( 1.2%)	4 ( 0.6%)
Mimic	n (%)	50 ( 7.2%)	56 ( 8.2%)
Missing	n	0	0

Hemorrhagic Stroke 25.5%



All included patients: confirmed LVO+ 46%  
All ischemic patients: confirmed LVO+ 67%



Large Vessel Occlusion		Local-SC	EVT-SC
Total	n	467	482
<b>LVO +</b>	<b>n (%)</b>	<b>303 (64.9%)</b>	<b>333 (69.1%)</b>
LVO -	n (%)	116 (24.8%)	137 (28.4%)
Not evaluated	n (%)	48 (10.3%)	12 (2.5%)
Missing	n	0	0



# Results. Acces to reperfusion treatments



## Proportion of patients receiving iv-tPA or EVT (modified ITT population)

	Allocated intervention		p value
	Local-SC (n=467)	EVT-SC (n=482)	
<b>Patients receiving iv-tPA</b>	282 (60.4%)	229 (47.5%)	<0.001
<b>Patients receiving EVT</b>	184 (40.9%)	235 (50.0%)	0.003
EVT (EVTp)	57 (12.7%)	113 (24.0%)	
Both (iv-tPA + EVT)	127 (28.2%)	122 (26.0%)	

## Time from symptom onset to iv-tPA administration and groin puncture (modified ITT population)

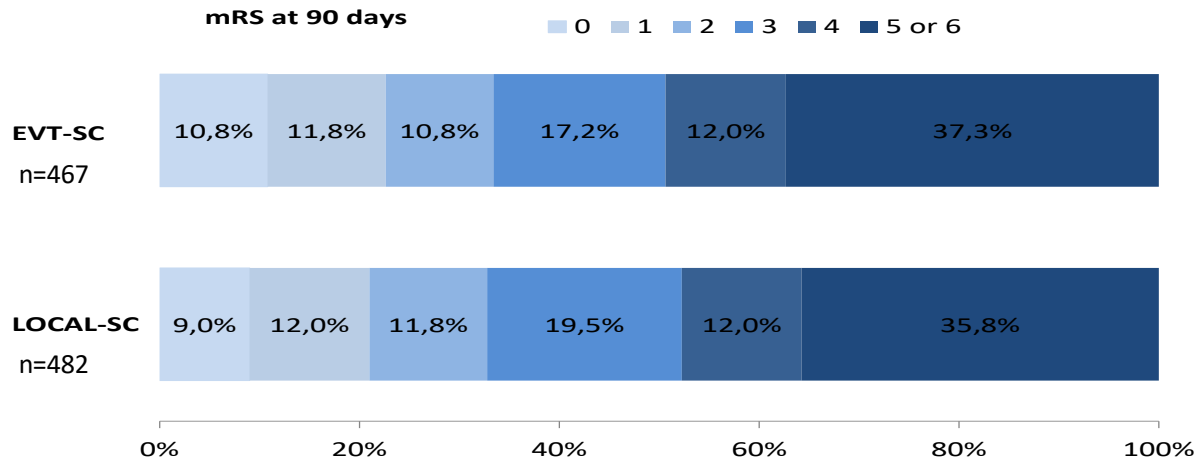
	Allocation intervention		p value
	Local-SC n=282	EVT-SC n=229	
<b>iv-tPA (alone or followed by EVT)</b>			
Time from symptom onset to iv-tPA (min)*	120 (89, 168)	155 (120, 195)	<0.001
Door to needle (min)*	33 (25, 48)	30 (22, 40)	NS
<b>EVT (with or without previous iv-tPA)</b>			
Time from symptom onset to groin puncture (min)*	270 (215, 347.5)	214 (172, 230)	<0.001
Door to groin (min)*	43.0 (32.0, 59.0)	71.5 (49.5, 97.5)	<0.001

\*median (Q1,Q3)

# Results: Outcome. Effect on disability.



Primary efficacy outcome: mRS at 90 days in the mITT (ischemic stroke patients)

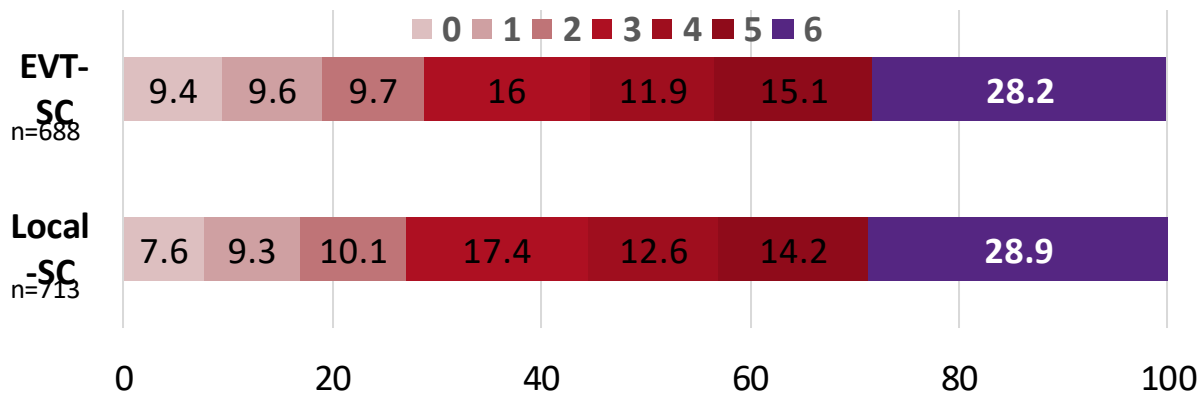


	OR (EVT vs. Local)	IC95%
Odds ratio <sup>1</sup> adjusted	1.029	0.818, 1.295
Odds ratio unadjusted	0.990	0.789, 1.243

# Results: Outcome. Safety



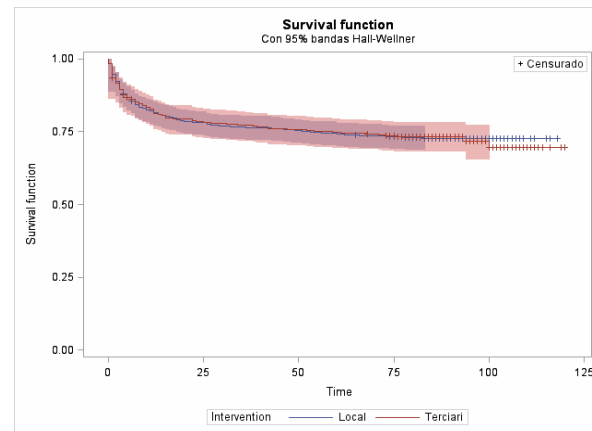
## Safety outcome: Mortality in ALL patients



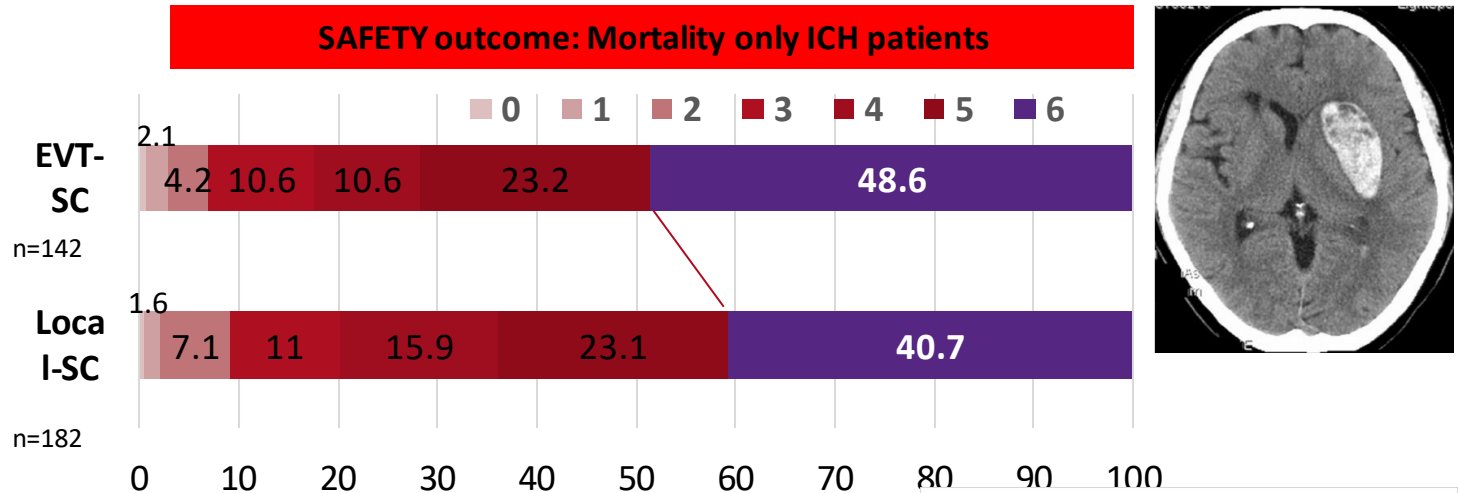
	Hazard Ratio (EVT vs. Local)	IC 95%
<b>Adjusted<sup>1</sup> Hazard Ratio</b>	<b>0.965</b>	0.787 - 1.183
<b>Hazard Ratio</b>	<b>0.995</b>	0.812 - 1.220

Death at 90 days (all patients)

<sup>1</sup> Adjusted for stratified factors, age and RACE



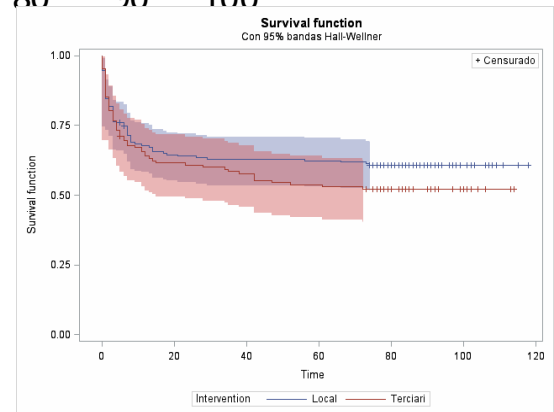
# Results: Outcome. ICH Safety concerns



		Hazard Ratio (EVT vs. Local)	IC 95%
Adjusted <sup>1</sup>	Hazard Ratio	<b>1.216</b>	0.864 - 1.709
	Hazard Ratio	<b>1.301</b>	0.929 - 1.820

Death at 90 days (hemorrhagic stroke patients)

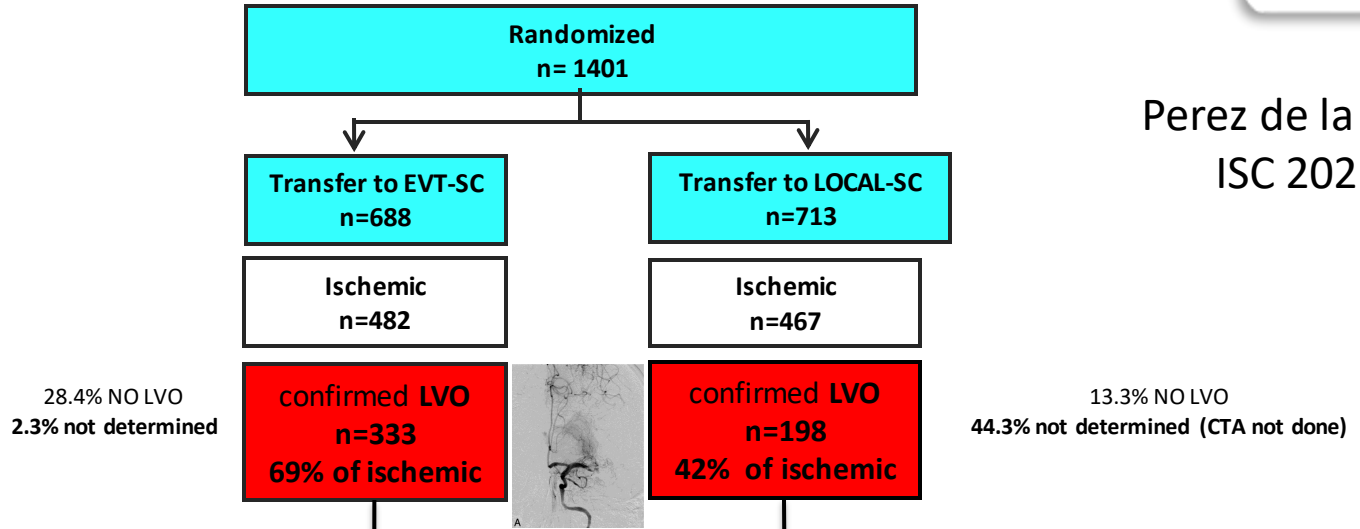
<sup>1</sup> Adjusted for stratified factors, age and RACE



# The power of iv.tPA



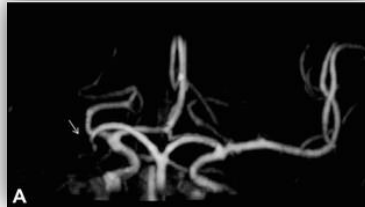
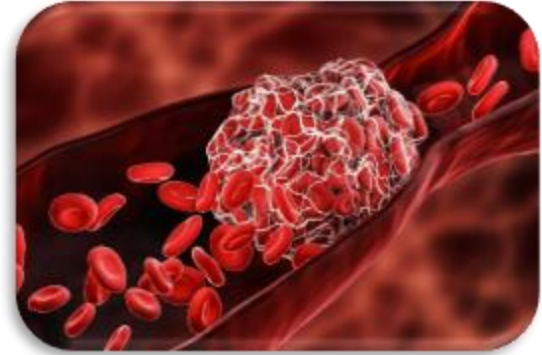
Perez de la Ossa  
ISC 2021



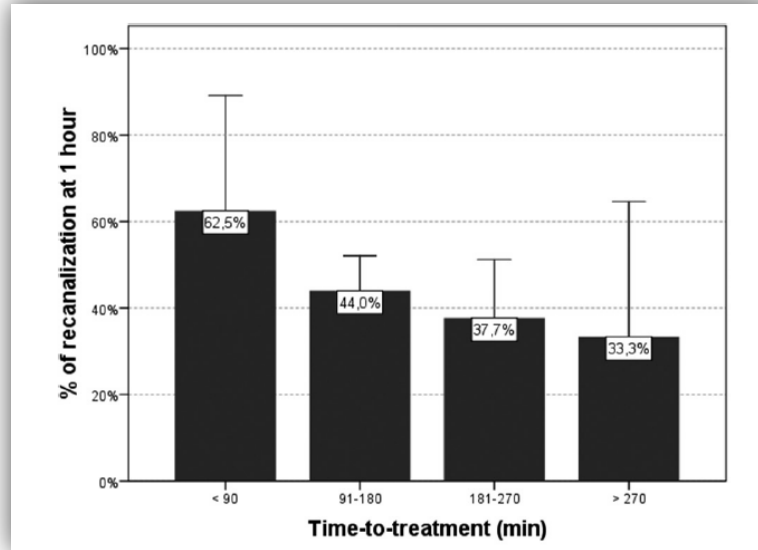
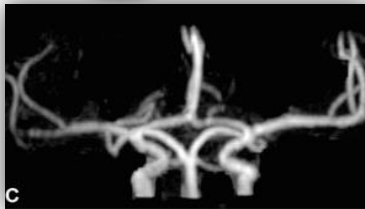
# Impact of Time to Treatment on Tissue-Type Plasminogen Activator–Induced Recanalization in Acute Ischemic Stroke

Marian Muchada, MD; David Rodriguez-Luna, MD, PhD; Jorge Pagola, MD, PhD;  
Alan Flores, MD; Estela Sanjuan, RN; Pilar Meler, RN; Sandra Boned, MD;  
Jose Alvarez-Sabin, MD, PhD; Marc Ribo, MD, PhD; Carlos A. Molina, MD, PhD;  
Marta Rubiera, MD, PhD

*Stroke*. 2014;45:2734-2738.



iv-tPA + 1 hour

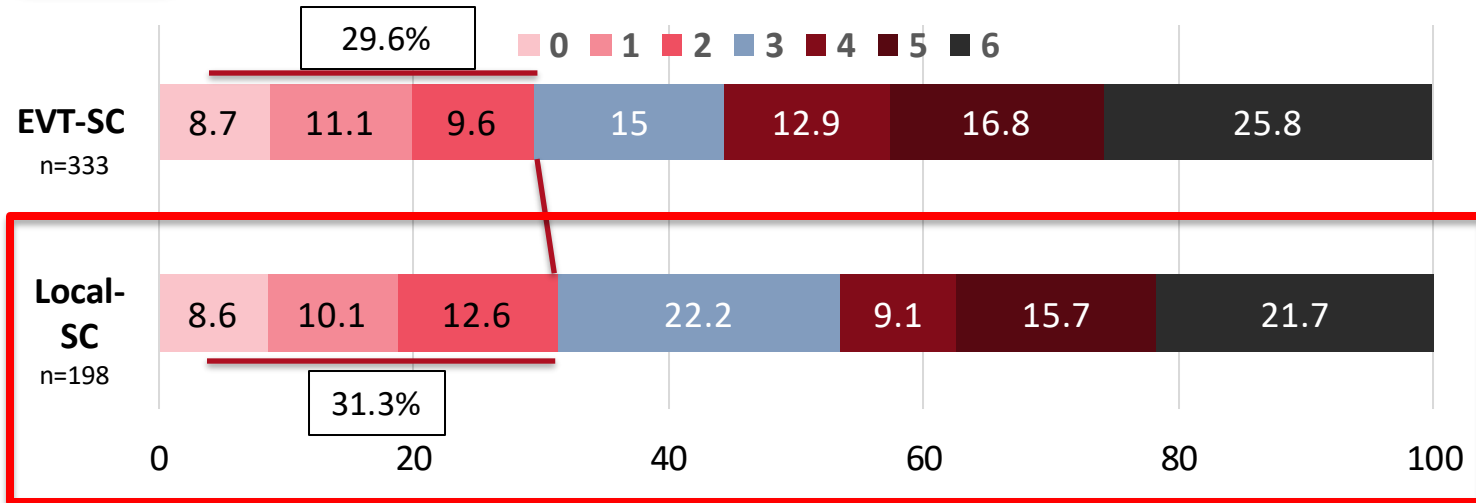




# Confirmed LVO patients



Patients with confirmed LVO at the 1st center



Adjusted OR 1.225 (IC 95% 0.887 - 1.690)

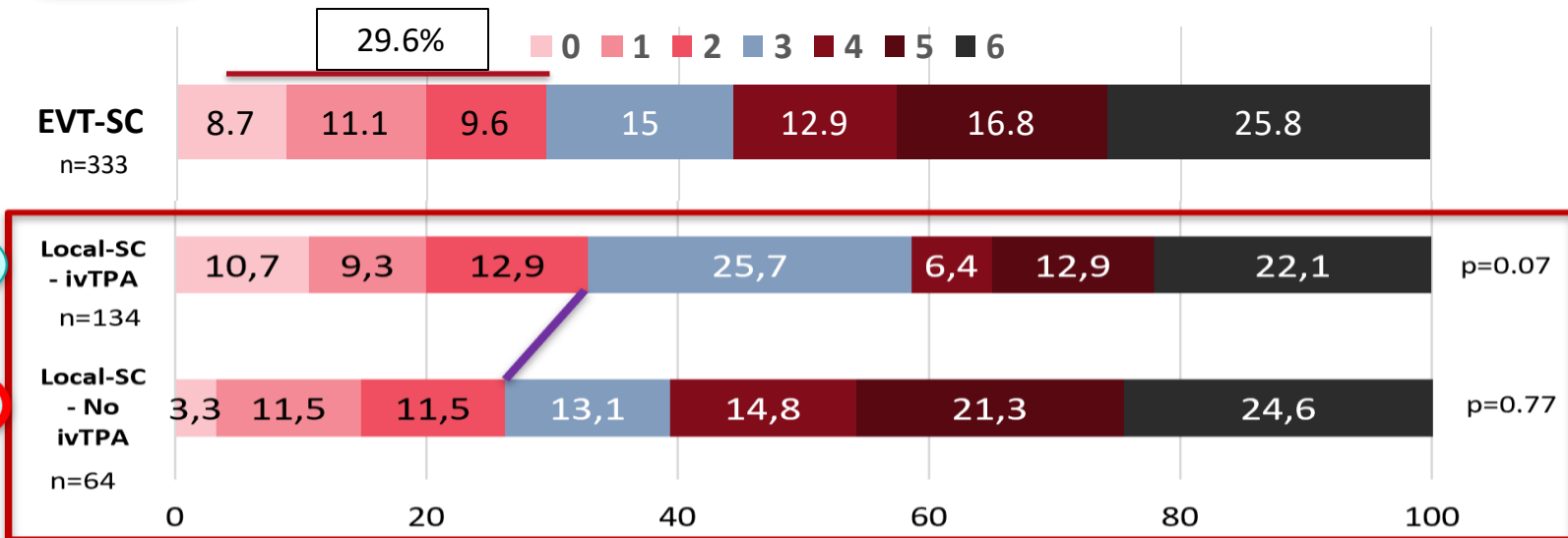
Adjusted for stratified factors, age and RACE



# Confirmed LVO patients

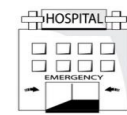
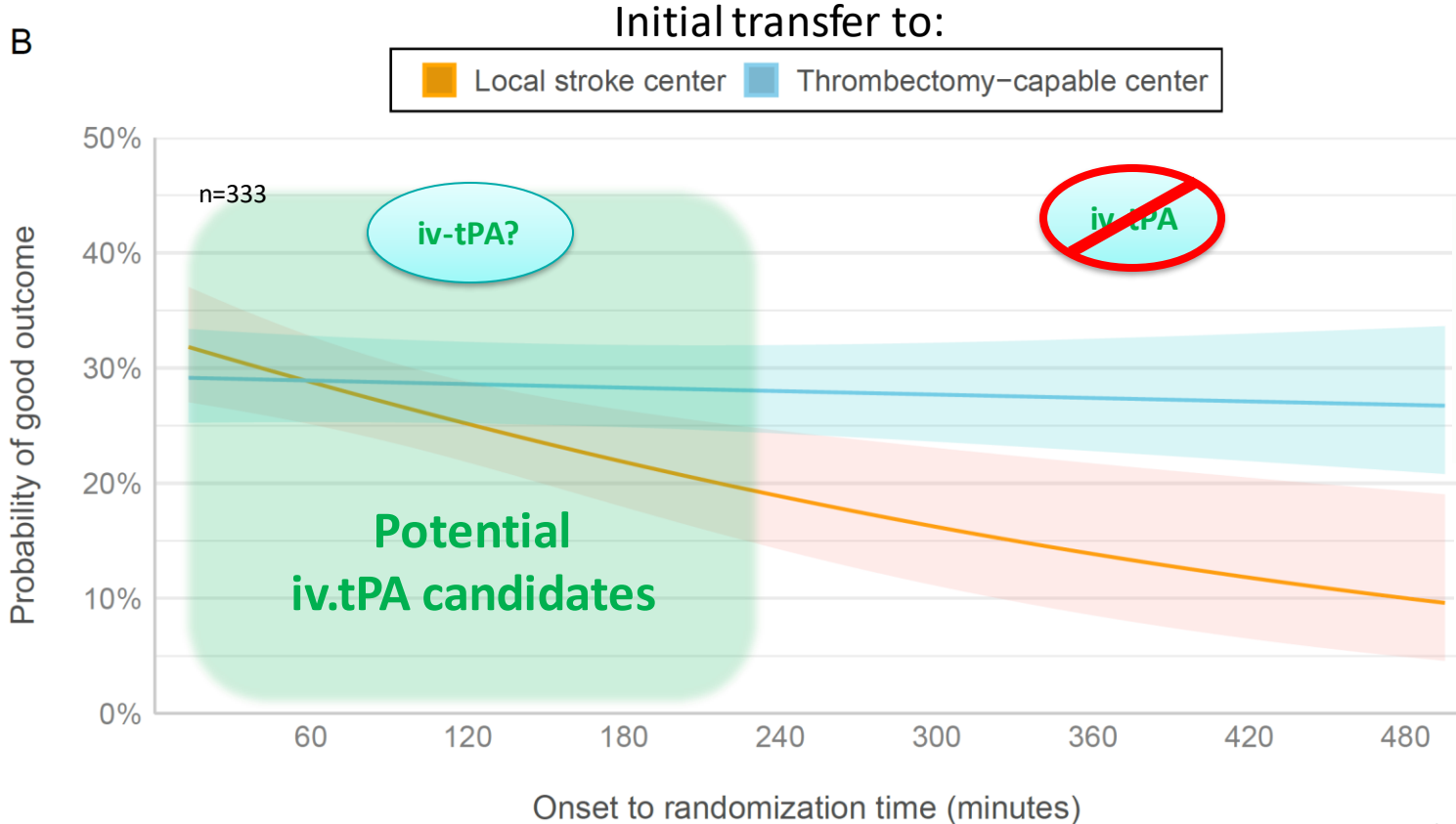


Patients with confirmed LVO at the 1st center





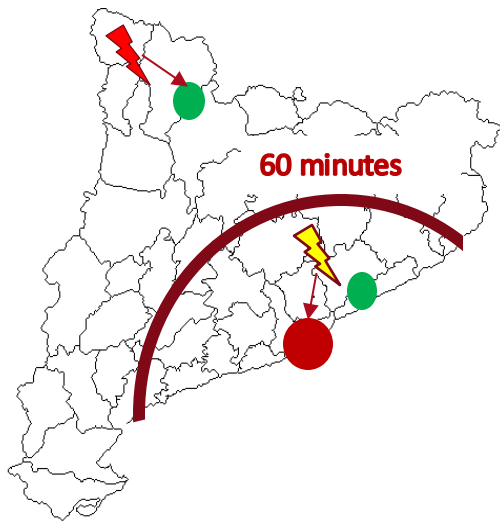
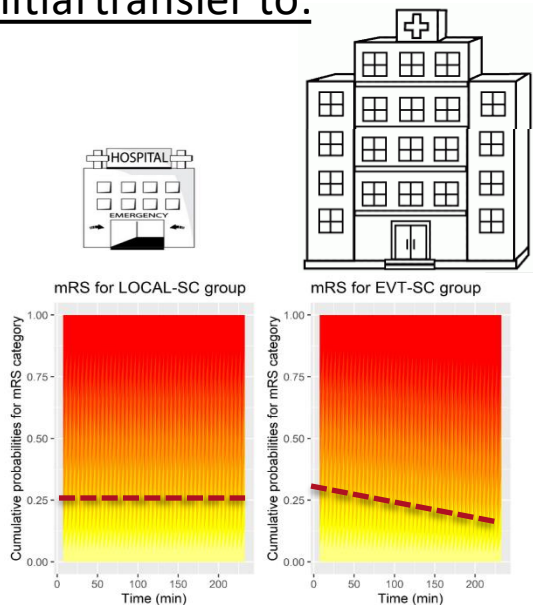
# Influence of time on initial transfer decision



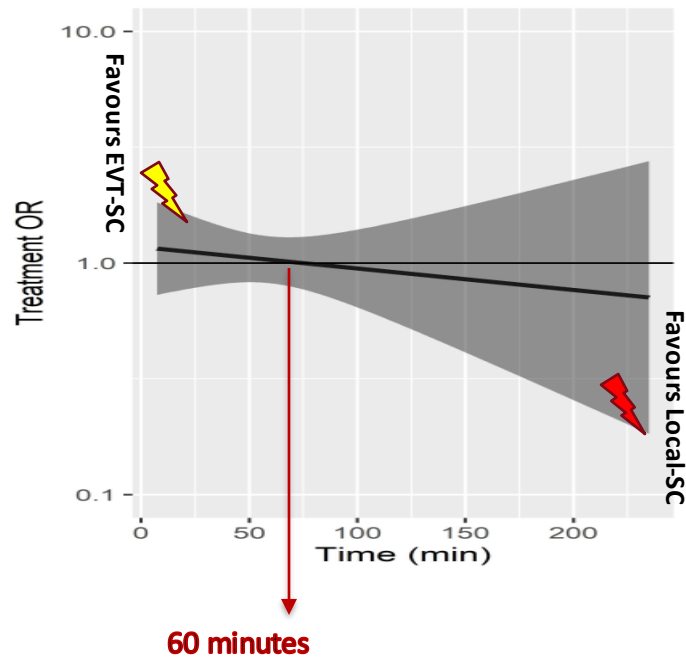
# Impact of Initial relative Transfer time



## Initial transfer to:



## Odds ratio according to Transfer time to EVT from initial location

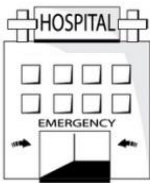


## Estimated Transfer time to EVT from initial location



Adjusted by age and RACE scale

# Influence of efficient multilevel coordination



**STRATIS**  
**100'**

Patients treated with EVT

**DIDO**  
**78 (63-97)**  
**min**

	Transfer to Local-SC n=184	Direct transfer to EVT-SC n=235
NIHSS baseline	19 (15, 21)	18 (14, 21)
TICI 2b-3	83.2%	85.9%
Transfer time to 1rst center	21 (13, 32)	61 (35, 86)
Door to needle (iv-tPA)	33 (25, 48)	30 (22, 40)
DIDO	78 (63, 97)	NA
Door to EVT access	43 (32, 59)	71 (49, 97)
<b>Onset to EVT access</b>	<b>270 (215, 347)</b>	<b>214 (172, 230)</b>

*Time in minutes: median (IQR)*

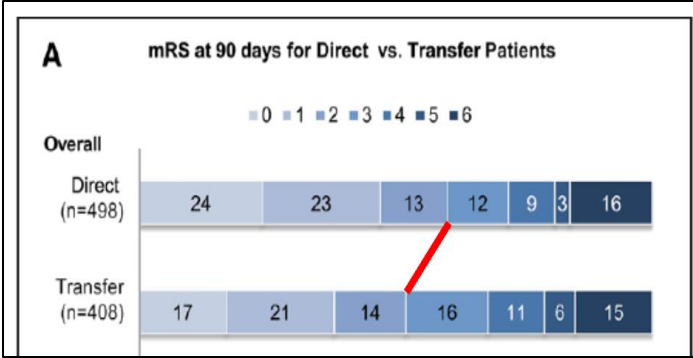
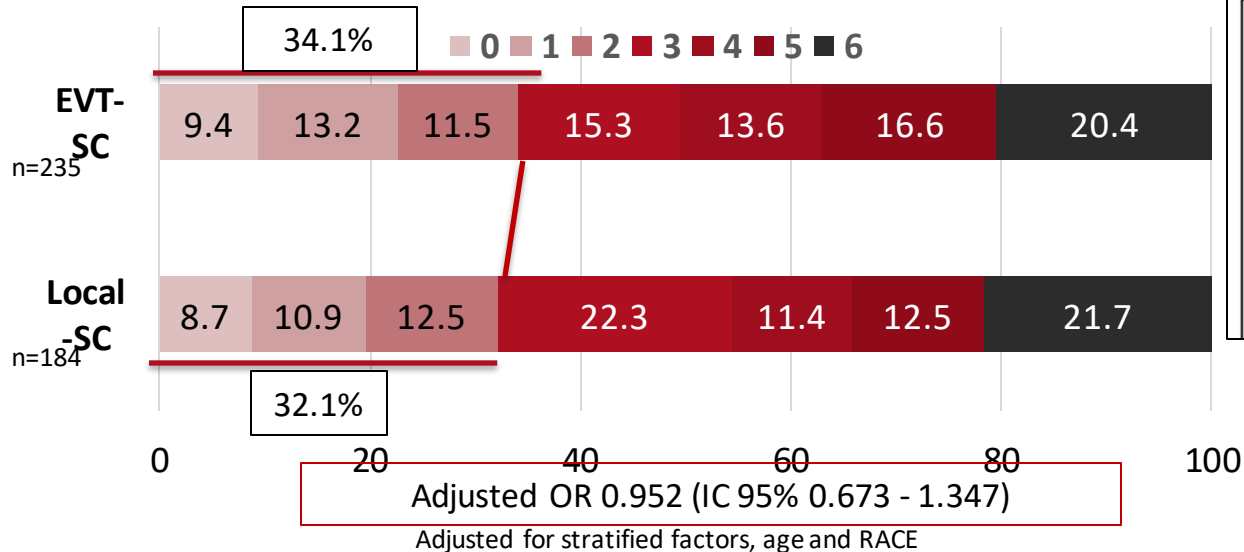
**RACECAT**  
**56'**

# Influence of efficient multilevel coordination

Patients treated with EVT

**RACECAT**  
56'

**STRATIS**  
100'

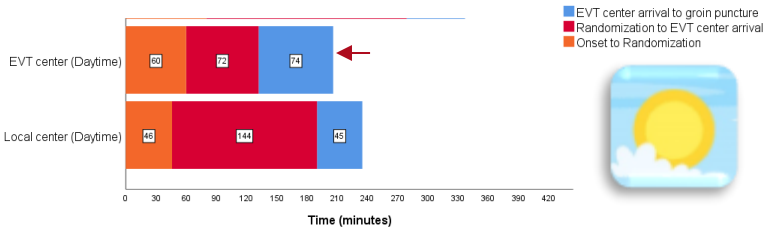


# Efficient coordination: impact of Day / Night

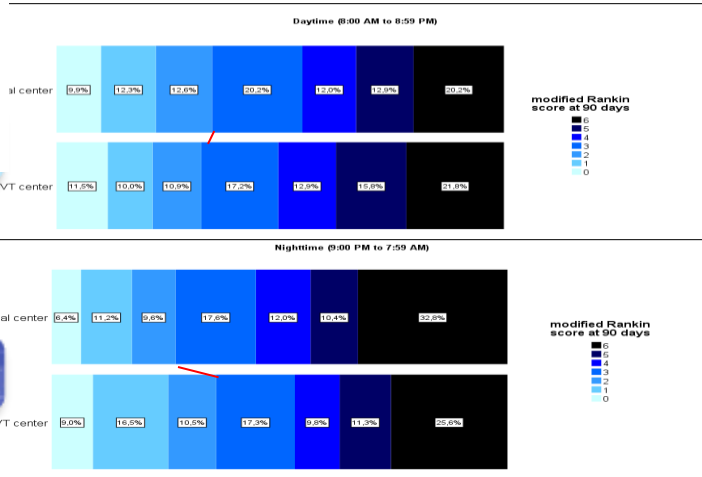
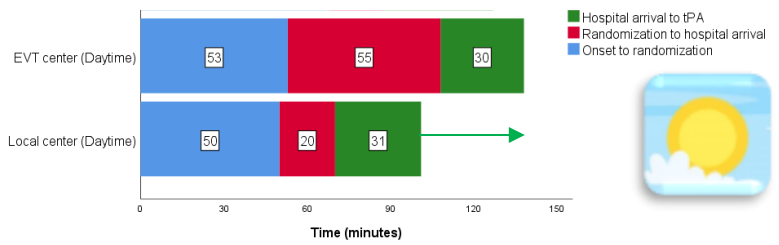
García-Tornel ESOC 2021



**EVT**

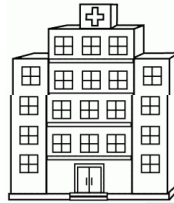
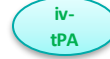
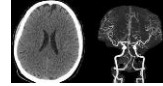


**iv-tPA**



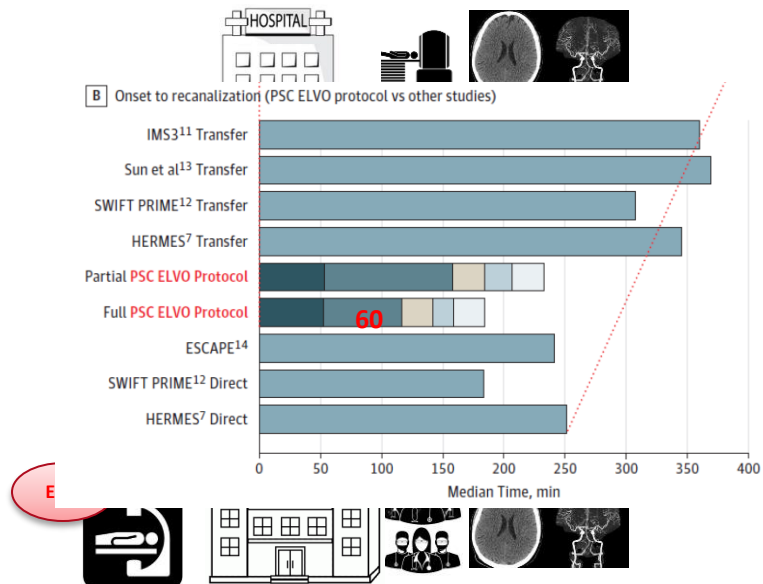
# Association of a Primary Stroke Center Protocol for Suspected Stroke by Large-Vessel Occlusion With Efficiency of Care and Patient Outcomes

Ryan A. McTaggart, MD; Shadi Yaghi, MD; Shawna M. Cutting, MD, MS; Morgan Hemendinger; Grayson L. Baird, PhD; Richard A. Haas, MD; Karen L. Furie, MD, MPH; Mahesh V. Jayaraman, MD



# Association of a Primary Stroke Center Protocol for Suspected Stroke by Large-Vessel Occlusion With Efficiency of Care and Patient Outcomes

Ryan A. McTaggart, MD; Shadi Yaghi, MD; Shawna M. Cutting, MD, MS; Morgan Hemendinger; Grayson L. Baird, PhD; Richard A. Haas, MD; Karen L. Furie, MD, MPH; Mahesh V. Jayaraman, MD



## Ambulance waiting and associated work flow improvement strategies: a pilot study to improve door-in-door-out time for thrombectomy patients in a primary stroke center

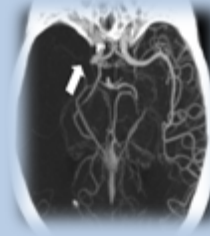
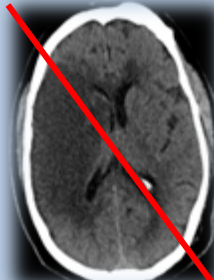
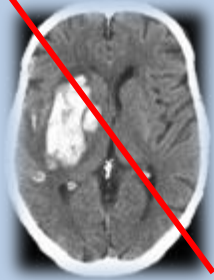
Eva Gaynor,<sup>1</sup> Emma Griffin,<sup>2,3</sup> John Thornton,<sup>2</sup> Jack Alderson,<sup>2</sup> Mary Martin,<sup>4</sup> Anne O'Driscoll,<sup>4</sup> Patricia Daly,<sup>4</sup> Cathal O'Donnell,<sup>5</sup> Ronan Conroy,<sup>6</sup> Paul O'Brien<sup>4</sup>

**Table 2** Comparison of pre-trial and trial periods for thrombectomy patients

	DIDO (min)			
	N	25%	50% (median)	75%
Pre-trial	19	77	96	133
Trial	27	39	45	57
			p<0.0001	



# DOOR TO PUNCTURE TIME

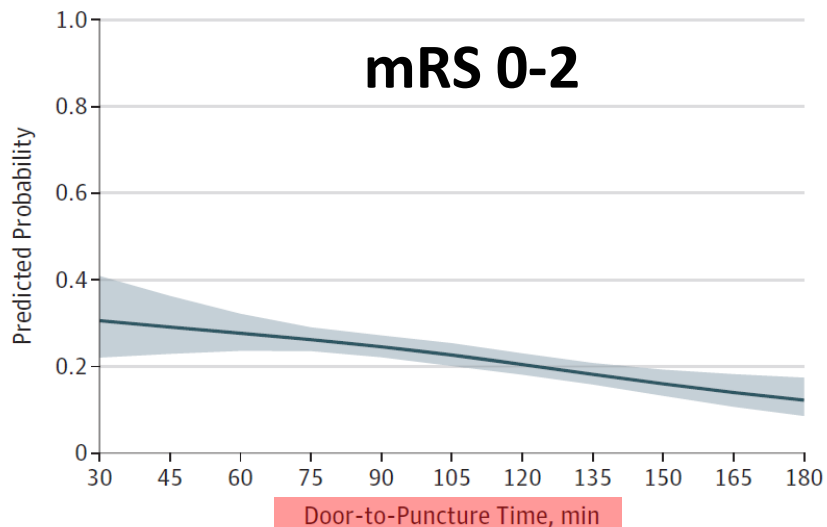


JAMA | Original Investigation

# Association Between Time to Treatment With Endovascular Reperfusion Therapy and Outcomes in Patients With Acute Ischemic Stroke Treated in Clinical Practice

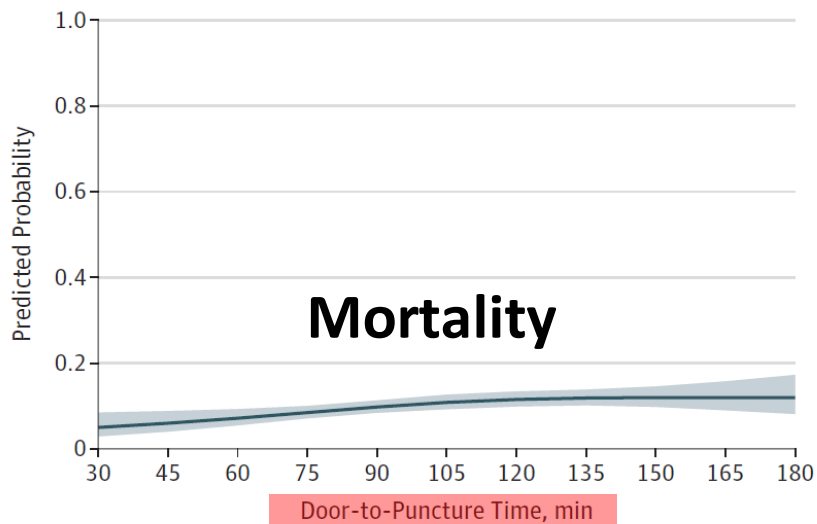
Reza Jahan, MD; Jeffrey L. Saver, MD; Lee H. Schwamm, MD; Gregg C. Fonarow, MD; Li Liang, PhD; Roland A. Matsouaka, PhD; Ying Xian, MD; DaJuanicia N. Holmes, MS; Eric D. Peterson, MD; Dileep Yavagal, MD; Eric E. Smith, MD, MPH

**C** Discharge (modified Rankin Scale [mRS], 0-2) by time from emergency department arrival to arterial puncture



No. of events	1	19	64	117	125	80	68	48	35	21	7
No. of patients	11	85	229	400	401	379	323	253	171	107	42

**E** Mortality by time from emergency department arrival to arterial puncture



No. of events	1	11	23	45	64	59	63	44	29	18	10
No. of patients	17	123	283	498	505	467	413	316	227	143	59

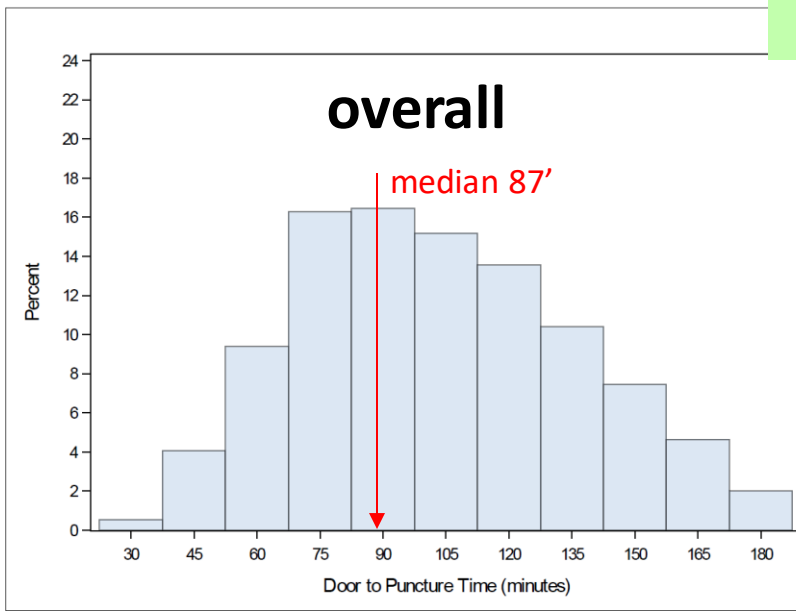
# Association Between Time to Treatment With Endovascular Reperfusion Therapy and Outcomes in Patients With Acute Ischemic Stroke Treated in Clinical Practice

Reza Jahan, MD; Jeffrey L. Saver, MD; Lee H. Schwamm, MD; Gregg C. Fonarow, MD; Li Liang, PhD; Roland A. Matsouaka, PhD; Ying Xian, MD; DaJuanicia N. Holmes, MS; Eric D. Peterson, MD; Dileep Yavagal, MD; Eric E. Smith, MD, MPH

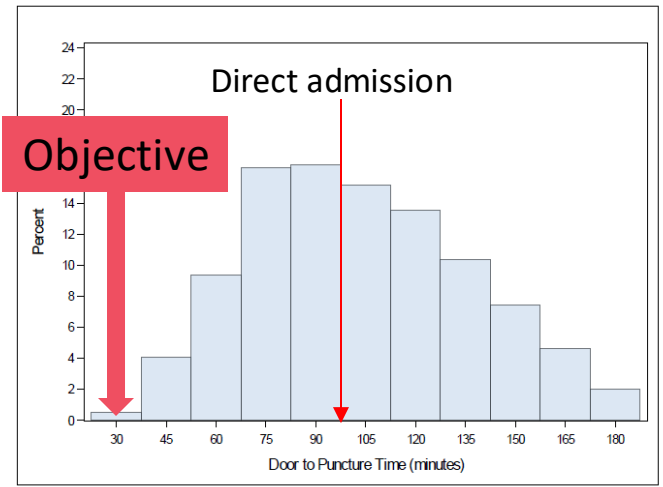
6756 patients

Median on:  
Median do:

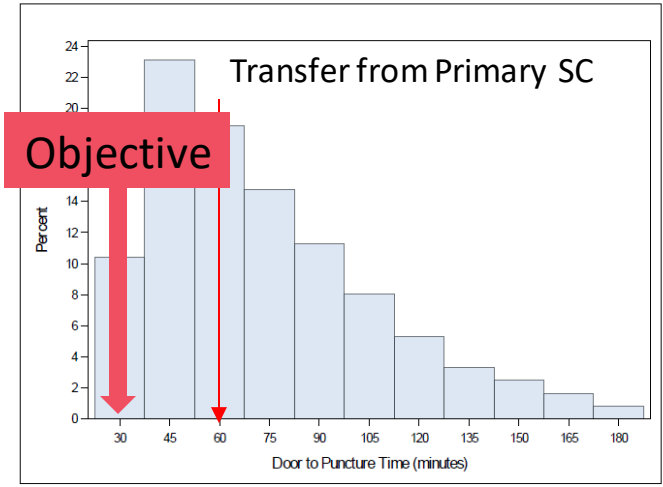
B



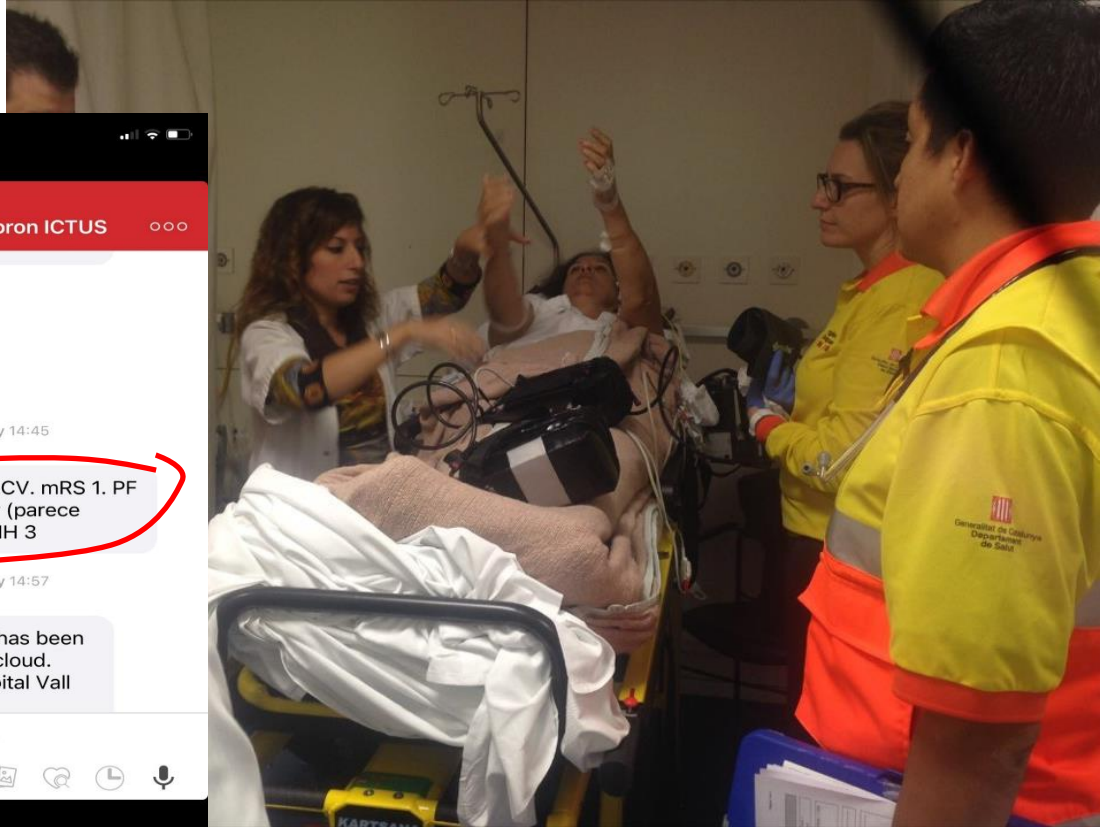
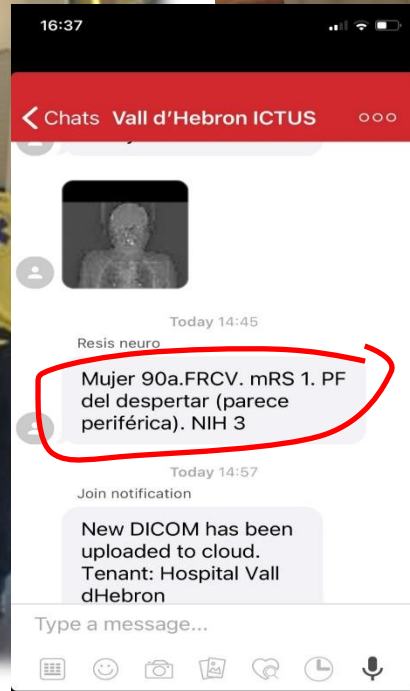
A



B



# SCREENING on Arrival: NIHSS + neuro assessment



Prom

< Chats Vall d'Hebron ICTU

uploaded to cloud.  
Tenant: Hospital Vall d'Hebron  
Patient Id: \*\*\*\*1850  
Type: CT  
Region: HEAD  
Study Date: 2020/12/3  
Study Time: 14:23

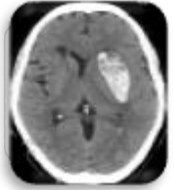


31 Dec 2020 14:43

Bolus 14:42

< Chats Vall d'Hebron ICTUS

New DICOM has been uploaded to cloud.  
Tenant: Hospital Vall d'Hebron  
Patient Id: \*\*\*\*5584  
Type: CT  
Region: HEAD  
Study Date: 2020/12/08  
Study Time: 11:36



8 Dec 2020 11:47

Urapidil 11:45 inicio

Type a message...

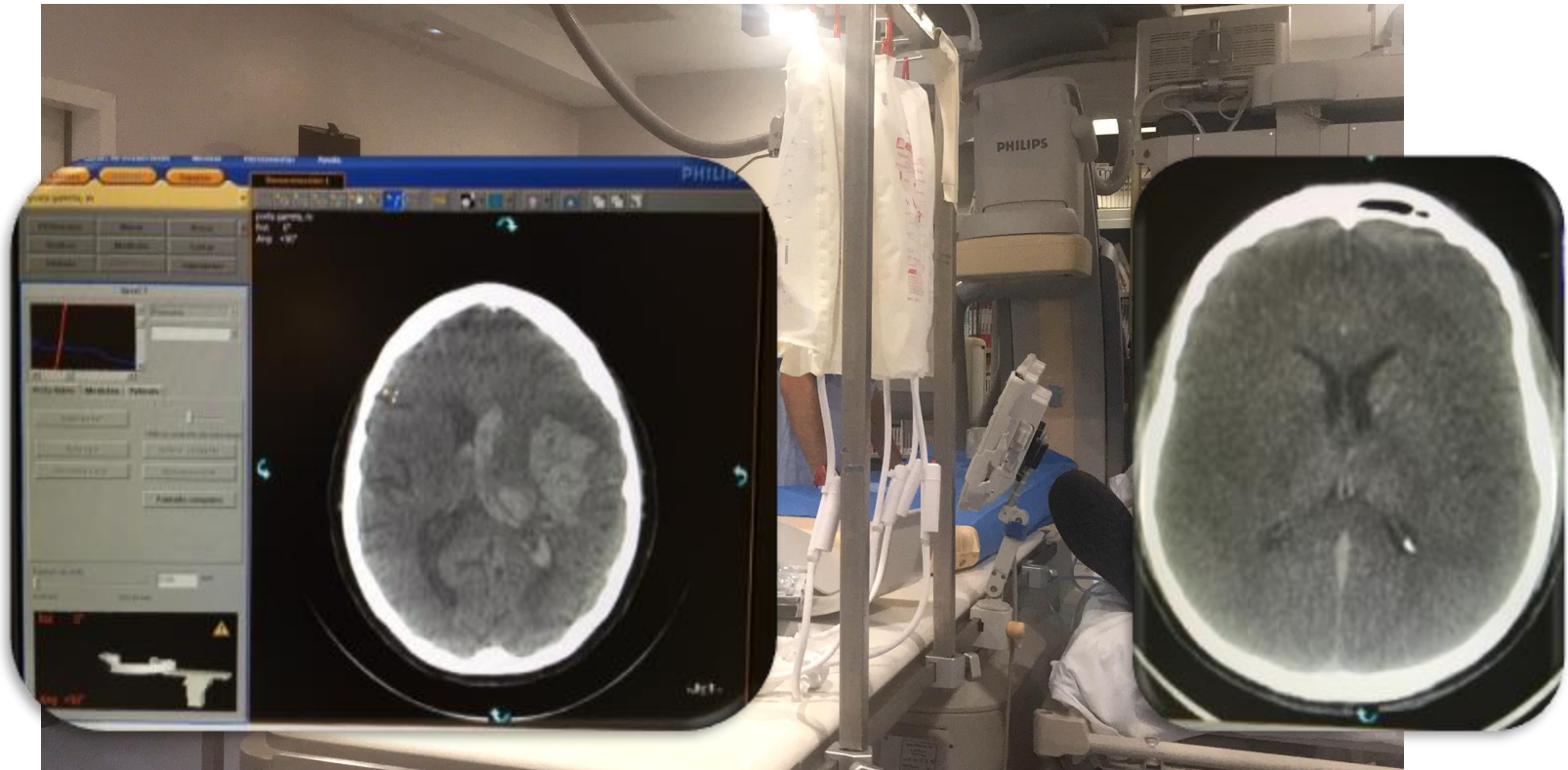
Type a message...

iv-tPA bolus in CT

ER



# DIRECT TRANSFER TO ANGIO-SUITE



0

1

2

3

4

5 min

# Direct to Angiography vs Repeated Imaging Approaches in Transferred Patients Undergoing Endovascular Thrombectomy

Amrou Sarraj, MD; Nitin Goyal, MD; Michael Chen, MD; James C. Grotta, MD; Spiros Blackburn, MD; Manuel Requena, MD; Haris Kamal, MD; Michael G. Abraham, MD; Lucas Eljovich, MD; Mark Dannenbaum, MD; Osman Mir, MD; Wondwossen G. Tekle, MD; Deep Pujara, MBBS, MPH; Faris Shaker, MBChB; Chunyan Cai, PhD; Laith Maali, MD; Yazan Radaideh, MD; Sujan Teegala Reddy, MD; Kaushik Niranjan Parsha, MD; Bader Alenzi, MD; Mohammad Ammar Abdulrazzak, MD; Jonathan Greco, DO; Daniel Hoit, MD; Sheryl B. Martin-Schild, MD; Sarah Song, MD, MPH; Clark Sitton, MD; Georgios K. Tsivgoulis, MD; Andrei V. Alexandrov, MD; Adam S. Arthur, MD, MPH; Arthur L. Day, MD; Ameer E. Hassan, DO; Marc Ribo, MD

Figure 1. Distribution of the 90-Day Modified Rankin Scale Score (mRS) in the Different Treatment Approach Groups at the Endovascular Thrombectomy (EVT) Center

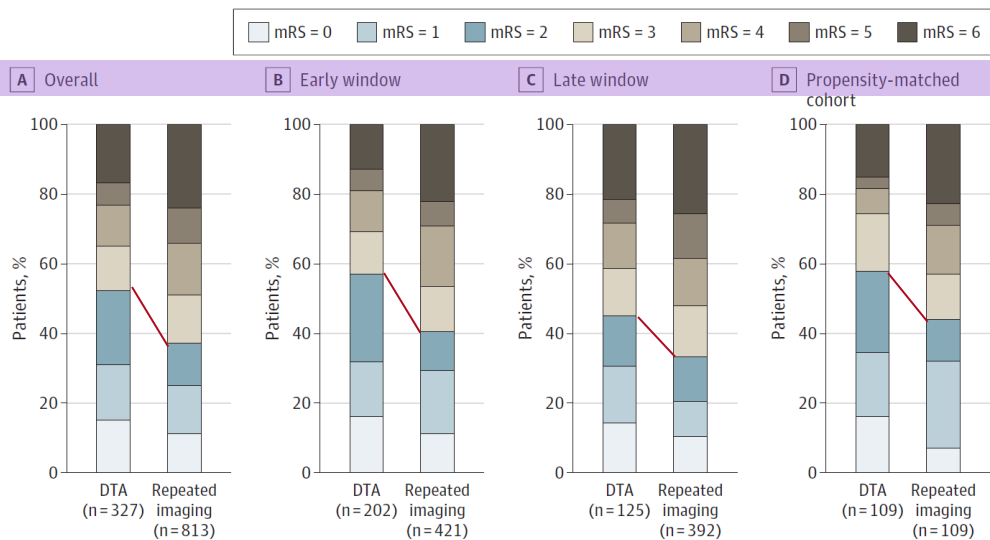
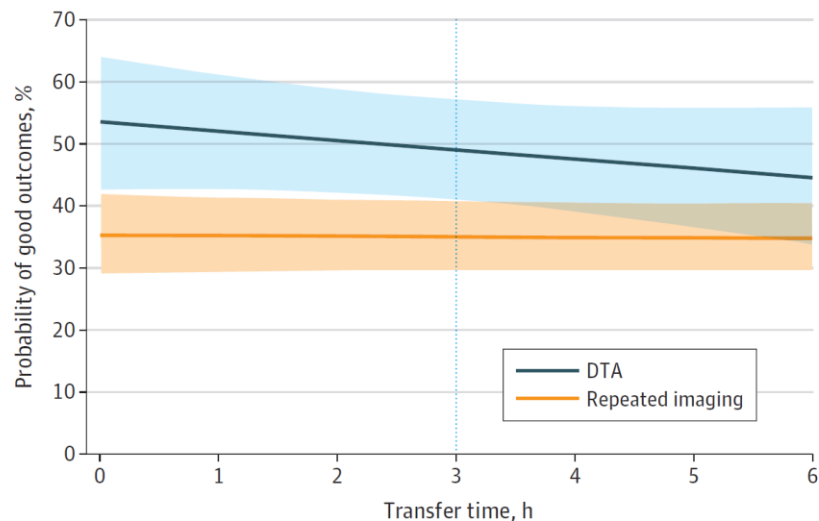


Figure 2. Probability of 3-Month Functional Independence After Endovascular Thrombectomy



# Direct to Angiography Suite Without Stopping for Computed Tomography Imaging for Patients With Acute Stroke

## A Randomized Clinical Trial

Manuel Requena, PhD; Marta Olivé-Gadea, MD; Marian Muchada, PhD; David Hernández, MD; Marta Rubiera, PhD; Sandra Boned, PhD; Carlos Piñana, MD; Matías Deck, MD; Álvaro García-Tornel, MD; Humberto Díaz-Silva, MD; Noelia Rodríguez-Villatoro, PhD; Jesús Juega, MD; David Rodríguez-Luna, PhD; Jorge Pagola, PhD; Carlos Molina, PhD; Alejandro Tomasello, MD; Marc Ribo, MD, PhD

### JAMA Neurology

#### RCT: Direct to Angiography Suite Without Stopping for Computed Tomography Imaging in Acute Stroke

##### POPULATION

96 Men, 78 Women



Adults with suspected large vessel occlusion (LVO) stroke within 6 h of symptom onset

Mean age, 73.4 y (range, 19-95 y)

##### INTERVENTION

147 Patients randomized and analyzed



##### 74 Direct transfer to angiography suite (DTAS)

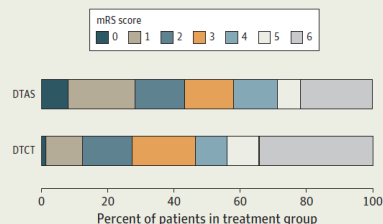
Direct transfer to angiography suite for diagnosis of LVO using flat-panel computed tomography (CT) and angiogram

##### 73 Direct transfer to CT scan (DTCT)

Direct transfer to CT scan for usual imaging protocols, including CT and CT angiography

##### FINDINGS

DTAS significantly improved functional independence for adults with acute ischemic stroke compared with DTCT for usual imaging protocols



**Adjusted odds ratio for 1-point improvement of mRS score:**

2.2 (95% CI, 1.22-4.08)

##### SETTINGS / LOCATIONS



1 Stroke center in Barcelona, Spain

##### PRIMARY OUTCOME

Functional independence, as measured by distribution of the 7-category modified Rankin Scale (mRS) score (range, 0 [no symptoms] to 6 [death]) at 90 d after stroke in patients with confirmed LVO

Table 3. Workflow and Procedural Characteristics of the Modified Intention-to-Treat Population<sup>a</sup>

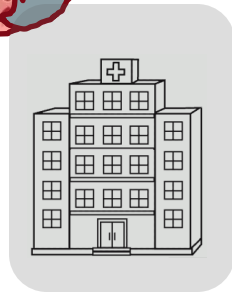
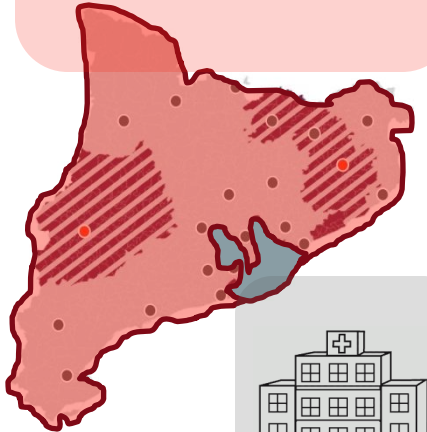
Characteristic	Patients, No. (%)		P value
	DTAS (n = 74)	DTCT (n = 73)	
Patients receiving EVT			
Door-to-puncture time, median (IQR), min	18 (15-24)	42 (35-51)	<.001
No. of passes, median (IQR)	2 (1-3)	2 (1-3)	.22
Onset-to-reperfusion time, mean (SD), min	290.5 (141.7)	326.9 (122.2)	.32
Door-to-reperfusion time, median (IQR), min	57 (43-77)	84 (63-117)	<.001



# Impact of collective motivation on a populational level

## Key Performance Indicators in Catalan Centers 2016-2020

RACECAT



### RESULTS LSC performance

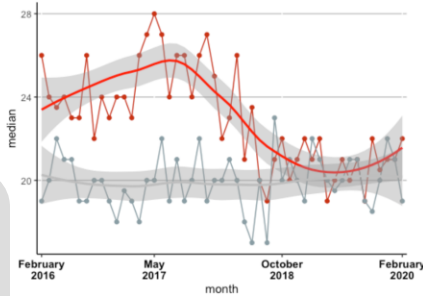
Door in to Door out



RACECAT

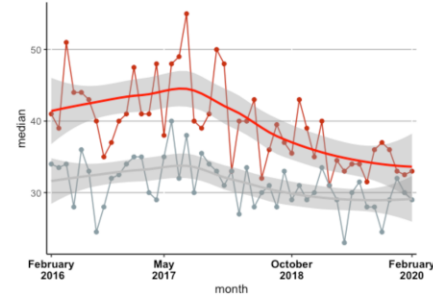
CENTER  
— LSC  
— CSC

Door to image (minutes)



RACECAT

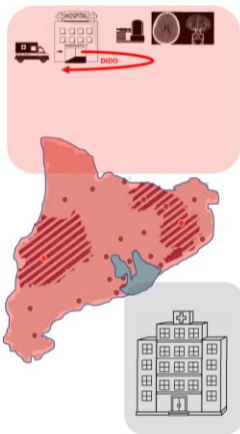
Door to needle (minutes)



RACECAT

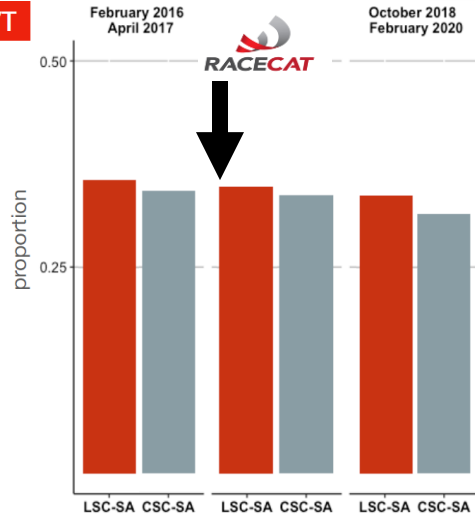
P1: 42(31-60) — P1: 41(29-58) — P3:35(25-50) (p <0.001)

# Impact of collective motivation on a populational level



iv-  
tPA

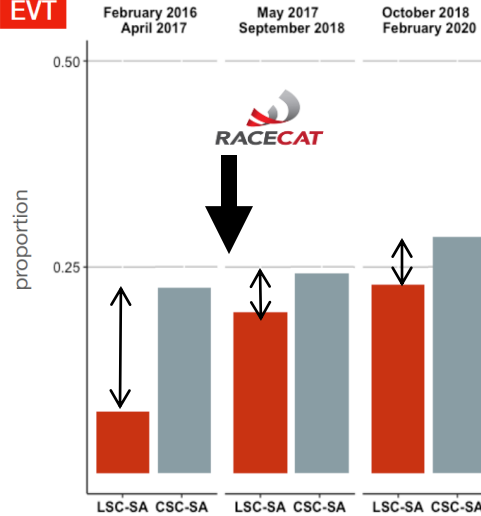
IVT



P1: 33.9% — P2: 34.5% — P3: 33.7% ( $p = 0.84$ )

EVT

EVT

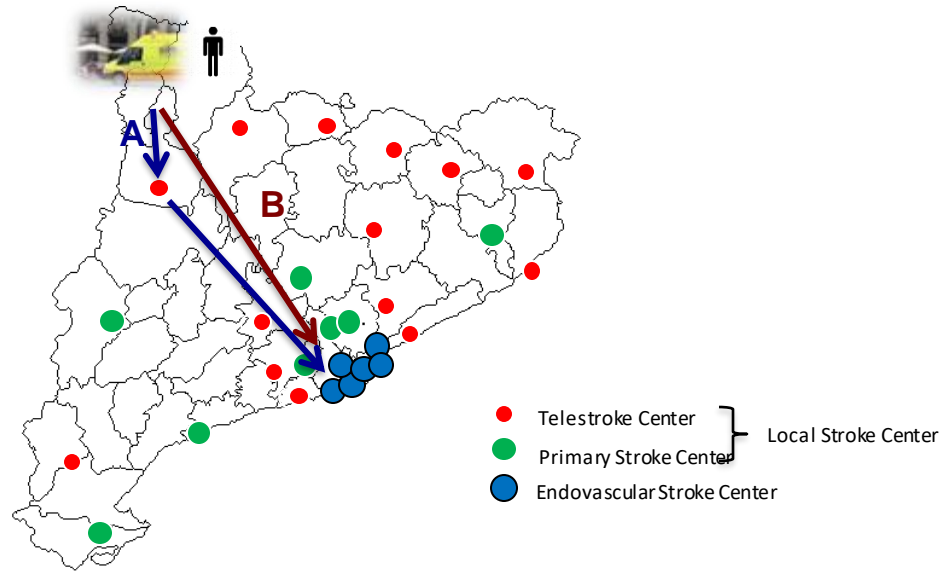


P1: 7.5% — P2: 19.2% — P3: 22.5% ( $p < 0.001$ )

## Conclusion

- The RACECAT trial paralleled a significant improvement in key indicators:
  - EVT rate increased by 57% for AIS activated in LSC service areas

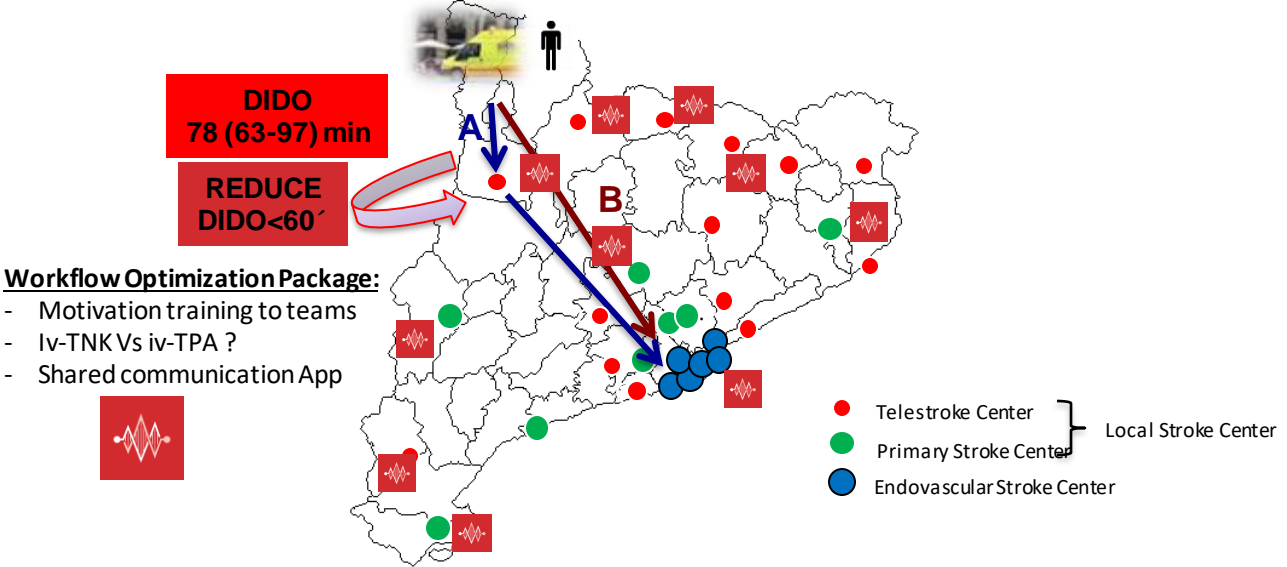
# Future regional organizational options



Predominant adoption of a Mothership model might lead to loose expertise and motivation at local-SC with no overall proven clinical benefit.

# TEAM work, shared objectives

## Predominant Drip&Ship



# The key to success is efficient 24/7 coordination

