

# Renal Optimization Strategies Evaluation in Acute Heart Failure (ROSE AHF):

## A Randomized Clinical Trial

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*Horng H Chen MD*  
*on behalf of the*  
*NHLBI Heart Failure Clinical Research Network*



# Background

## *AHF + Renal Dysfunction*

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- Patients with acute heart failure (AHF) and renal dysfunction are at risk for inadequate decongestion and worsening renal function – factors associated with adverse clinical outcomes.

# Background

## *Low dose dopamine*

- Low or “renal” dose dopamine may selectively activate dopamine receptors and promote renal vasodilatation.
- Previous small studies suggest that low dose dopamine (2-5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{min}$ ) may enhance decongestion and preserve renal function during diuretic therapy in AHF.

# Background

## *Low dose nesiritide*



- Nesiritide at recommended dose (2  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  bolus + 0.01  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{min}$  infusion) lowers blood pressure and does not favorably impact renal function or clinical outcomes.
- Previous small studies suggest that low dose nesiritide (0.005  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{min}$  without bolus) may have renal specific actions which enhance decongestion and preserve renal function during diuretic therapy in AHF.

# Hypotheses

## *Novel study design*

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In patients with AHF and renal dysfunction:

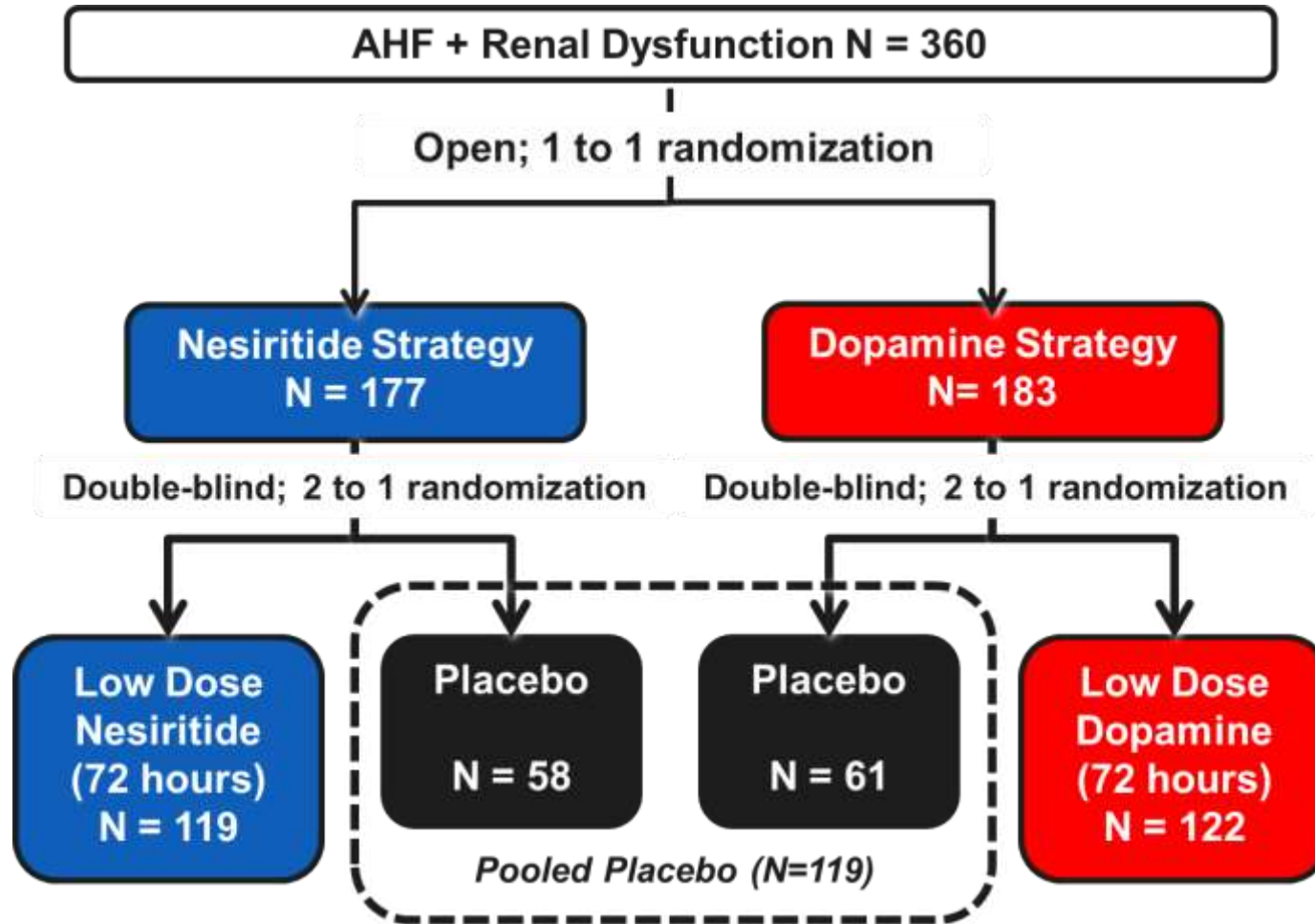
- I. As compared to placebo, the addition of low dose dopamine ( $2 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{min}$ ) to diuretic therapy will enhance decongestion and preserve renal function
- II. As compared to placebo, the addition of low dose nesiritide ( $0.005 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{min}$  without bolus) to diuretic therapy will enhance decongestion and preserve renal function.

# Study Population

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- Diagnosis of AHF:
  - $\geq 1$  symptom (dyspnea, orthopnea, edema)
  - $\geq 1$  sign (rales, edema, ascites, CXR)
- Enrolled within 24 hours of hospital admission
- Estimated GFR of 15 - 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>
  - Modification of diet in renal disease equation

# Study Design



**Standardized Diuretic Dosing For 1<sup>st</sup> 24 hours**

**2.5 x Outpt Furosemide Equivalent in Divided (BID) IV Doses**

# Co-Primary Endpoints

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- **Decongestion Endpoint:** Cumulative urinary volume from randomization through 72 hours
- **Renal Function Endpoint :** Change in serum cystatin-C from randomization to 72 hours



# Secondary Endpoints

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## Decongestion endpoints

- Change in weight: randomization to 72 hrs,
- Change in NT-proBNP: randomization to 72 hrs

## Renal function endpoints

- Change in creatinine: randomization to 72 hrs,
- Cardio-renal syndrome ( $\uparrow$ Cr > 0.3 mg/dL)

## Symptom relief endpoints

- Dyspnea VAS; AUC over 72 hrs

## Clinical endpoints

- Drug tolerance
- Adverse events

# Statistical Methods

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- > 85% power to detect effect ( $p < 0.025$ ) of
  - 72 urine volume of > 1400 ml
  - Change in cystatin C of > 0.3 mg/L
- Treatment comparisons by “intention to treat”
- Multiple imputation for missing data.
- Conservative framework for subgroup interaction testing (interaction p-value  $< 0.01$ )

# Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	All patients (n=360)
Age (years)	70
Male	73%
AHF hsp in past year	67%
Ischemic etiology	58%
Diabetes	56%
EF > 50%	26%

*Median or % shown; No significant between group differences*

# Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	All patients (n=360)
Outpt Furosemide Dose (mg)	80
ACE inhibitor or ARB	50%
Beta-blocker	83%
Systolic BP (mmHg)	114
eGFR (ml/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup> )	44.5
NT-proBNP (pg/ml)	4972

*Median or % shown; No significant between group differences*

# Results

## *Dopamine Strategy*

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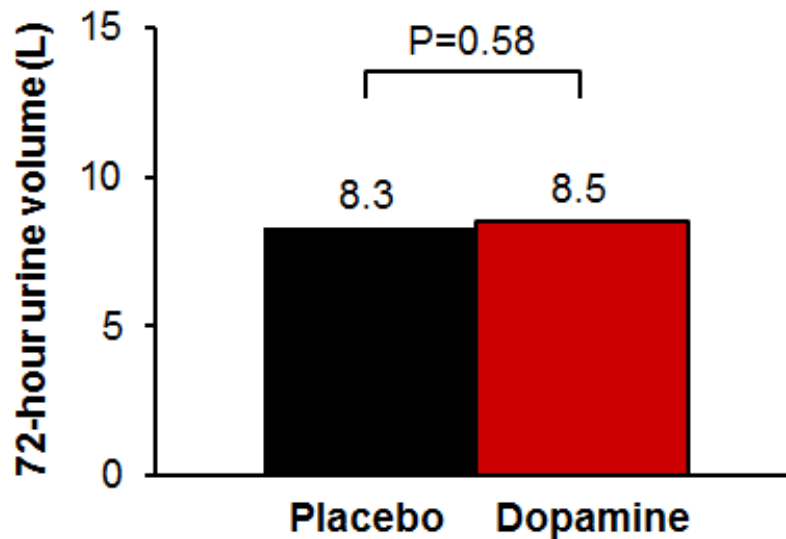
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health



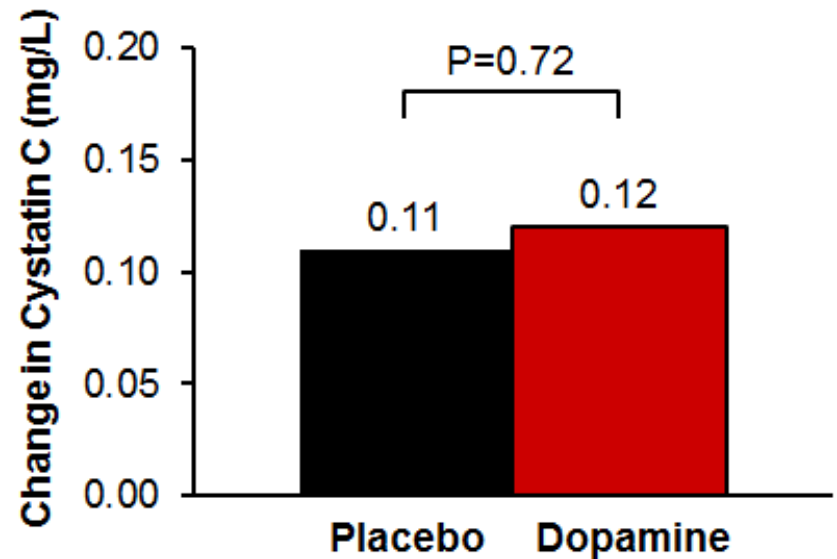
National Heart  
Lung and Blood Institute  
People Science Health

# Low Dose Dopamine: *Co-primary End-points*

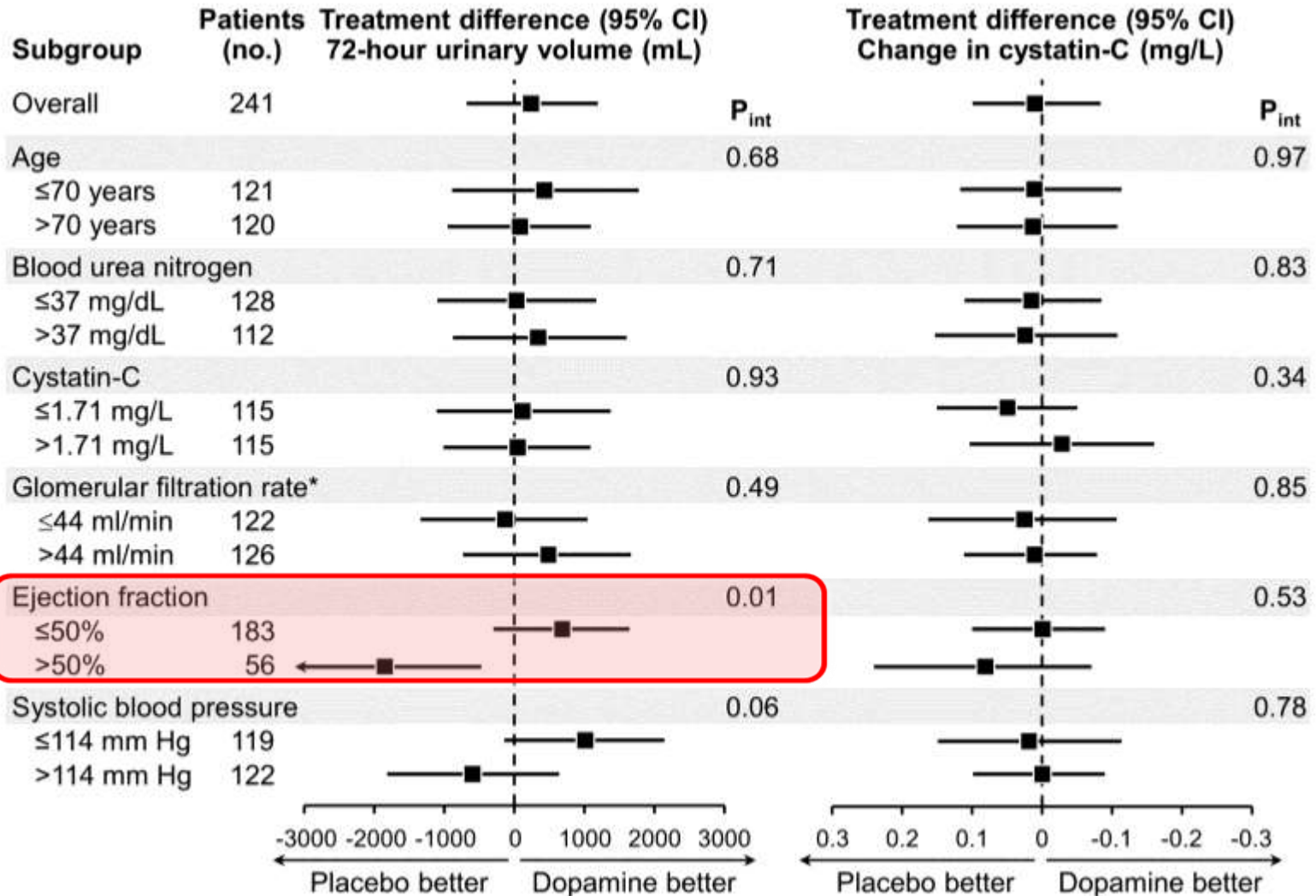
## 72 Hour Urine Volume



## Change in Cystatin-C



# Low Dose Dopamine Sub-group Analysis



# Low Dose Dopamine

## *Secondary Endpoints*



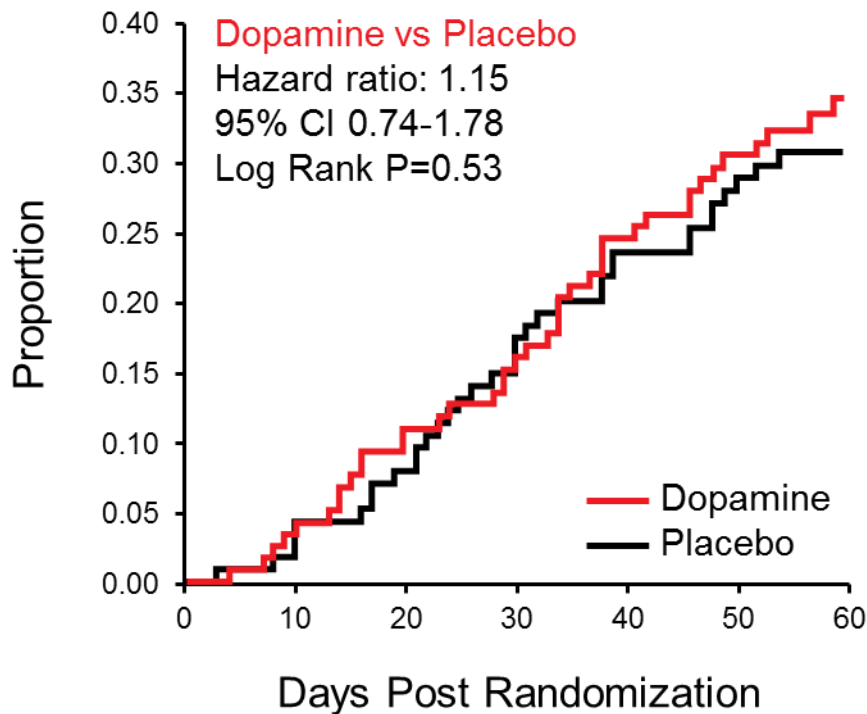
- No significant treatment effect on secondary endpoints reflective of:
  - Decongestion
  - Renal function
  - Symptom relief

Study Drug Tolerance	Dopamine (n=122)	Placebo (N = 119)	P Value
Study drug reduced dose or d/c - Hypotension	0.9%	10.4%	<0.001
Study drug reduced dose or d/c - Tachycardia	7.2%	0.9%	<0.001
Study drug d/c before 72 hrs – Any Cause	23%	25%	0.72

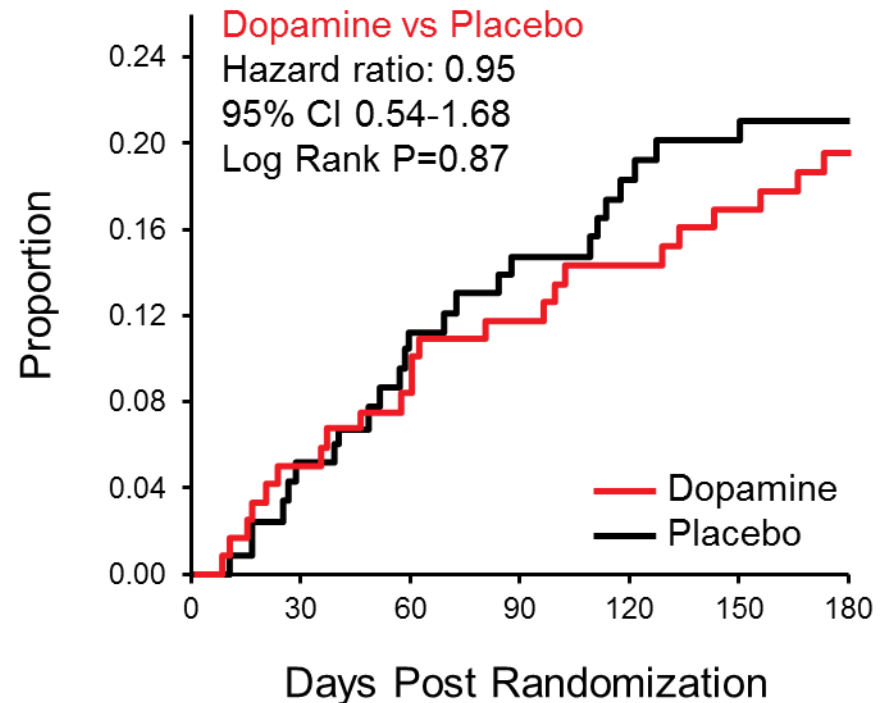


# Low Dose Dopamine *Clinical Outcomes*

## 60 Day Death/ Unscheduled visit/ HF Readmission



## 180 Day Mortality



# Results

## *Nesiritide Strategy*

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**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**  
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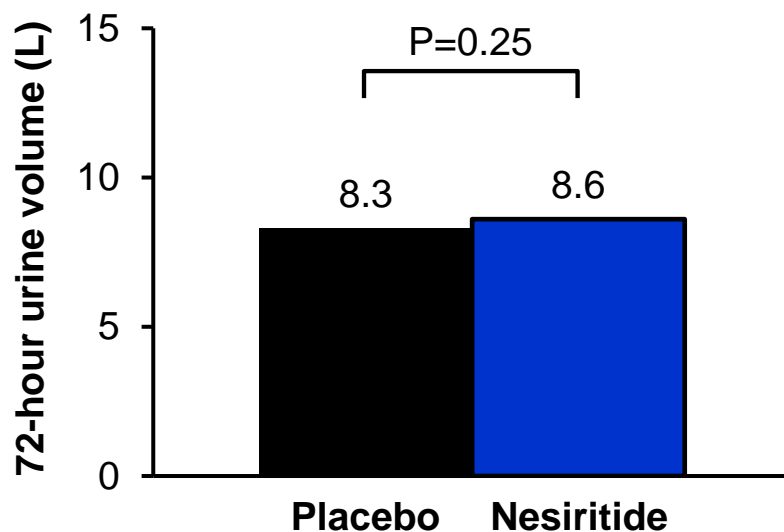


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Lung and Blood Institute**  
People Science Health

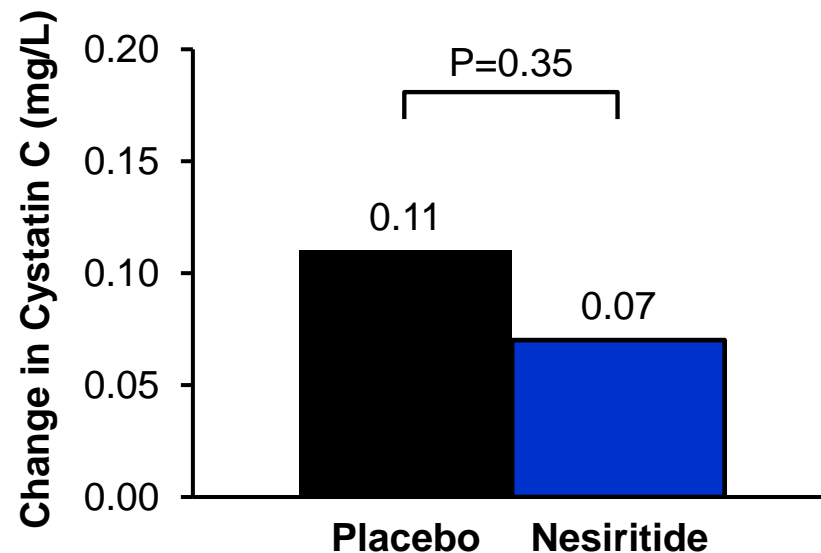
# Low Dose Nesiritide

## Co-primary End-points

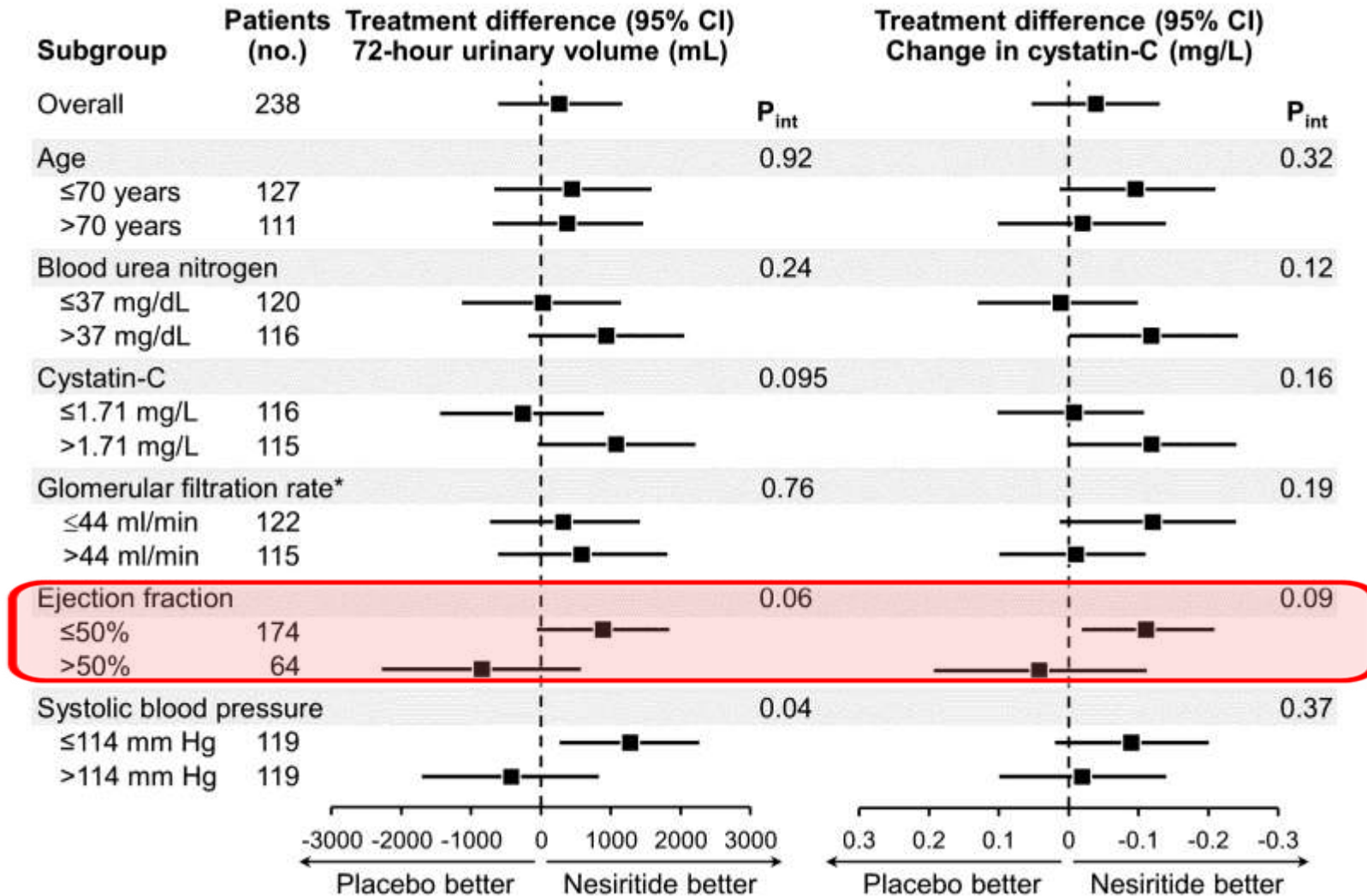
### 72 Hour Urine Volume



### Change in Cystatin-C



# Low Dose Nesiritide Sub-group Analysis



# Low Dose Nesiritide

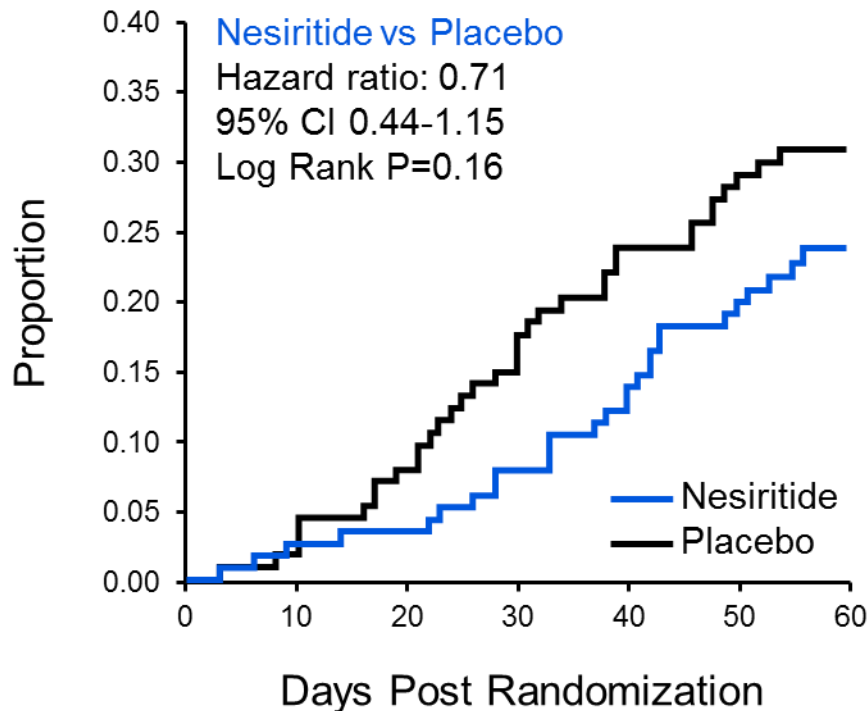
## *Secondary Endpoints*

- No significant treatment effect on secondary endpoints reflective of:
  - Decongestion
  - Renal function
  - Symptom relief

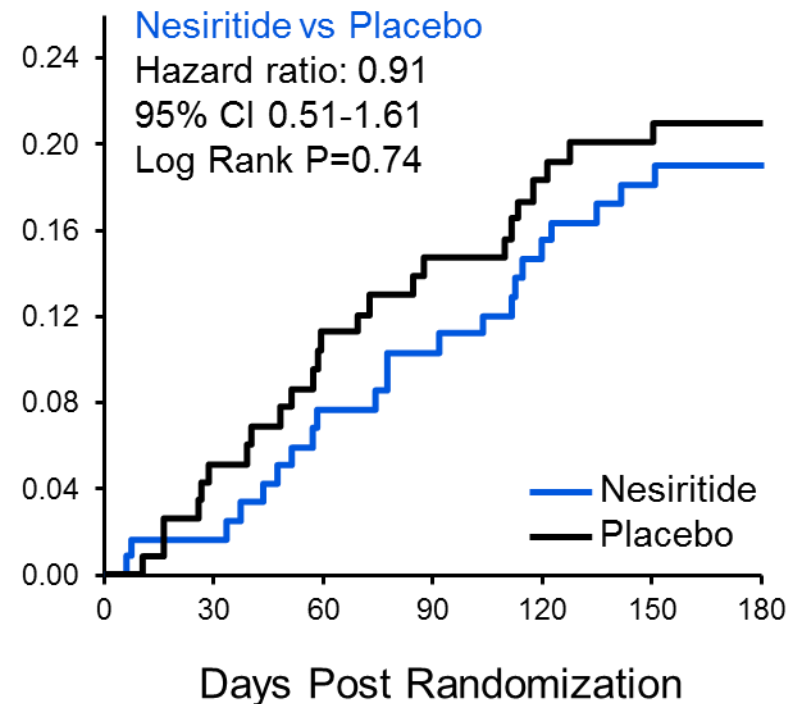
Study Drug Tolerance	Nesiritide (n=119)	Placebo (N = 119)	P Value
Study drug dose reduced or d/c - Hypotension	18.8%	10.4%	0.07
Study drug dose reduced or d/c - Tachycardia	0%	0.9%	0.50
Study drug d/c before 72 hrs – Any Cause	25%	25%	0.94

# Low Dose Nesiritide *Clinical Outcomes*

## 60 Day Death/ Unscheduled visit/ HF Readmission



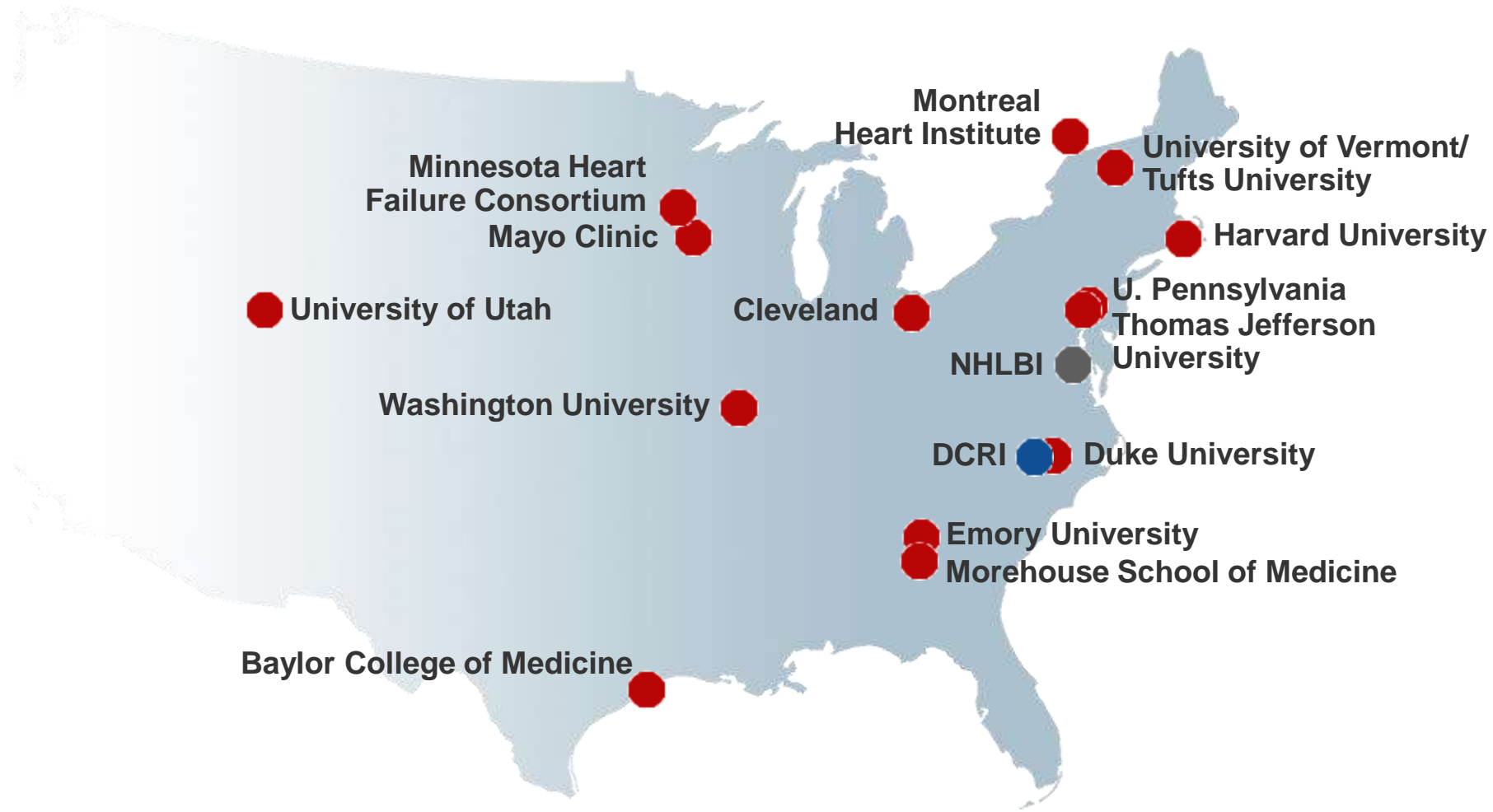
## 180 Day Mortality



# Conclusions

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- In patients with AHF and underlying renal dysfunction, when added to standardized diuretic dosing, neither low dose dopamine, nor low dose nesiritide, enhanced decongestion or improved renal function.
- Future investigations of these or other acute heart failure therapies may need to assess the potential for differential responses in heart failure with preserved versus reduced ejection fraction.





## Research

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## Original Investigation

## Low-Dose Dopamine or Low-Dose Nesiritide in Acute Heart Failure With Renal Dysfunction

### The ROSE Acute Heart Failure Randomized Trial

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Supplemental content at  
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**IMPORTANCE:** Small studies suggest that low-dose dopamine or low-dose nesiritide may enhance decongestion and preserve renal function in patients with acute heart failure and renal dysfunction; however, neither strategy has been rigorously tested.

**OBJECTIVE:** To test the 2 independent hypotheses that, compared with placebo, addition of low-dose dopamine (2 µg/kg/min) or low-dose nesiritide (0.005 µg/kg/min without bolus) to diuretic therapy will enhance decongestion and preserve renal function in patients with acute heart failure and renal dysfunction.

**DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS:** Multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial (Renal Optimization Strategies Evaluation [ROSE]) of 360 hospitalized patients with acute heart failure and renal dysfunction (estimated glomerular filtration rate of 15–60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>), randomized within 24 hours of admission. Enrollment occurred from September 2010 to March 2013 across 26 sites in North America.

**INTERVENTIONS:** Participants were randomized in an open, 1:1 allocation ratio to the dopamine or nesiritide strategy. Within each strategy, participants were randomized in a double-blind, 2:1 ratio to active treatment or placebo. The dopamine (n = 122) and nesiritide (n = 119) groups were independently compared with the pooled placebo group (n = 119).

**MAIN RESULTS AND MEASURES:** Coprimary end points included 72-hour cumulative urine volume (decongestion end point) and the change in serum cystatin C from enrollment to 72 hours (renal function end point).

**RESULTS:** Compared with placebo, low-dose dopamine had no significant effect on 72-hour cumulative urine volume (dopamine, 8524 mL; 95% CI, 7917–9131 vs placebo, 8296 mL; 95% CI, 7762–8830; difference, 229 mL; 95% CI, –74 to 1171 mL; P = .59) or on the change in cystatin C level (dopamine, 0.12 mg/L; 95% CI, 0.06–0.18 vs placebo, 0.11 mg/L; 95% CI, 0.06–0.16; difference, 0.01; 95% CI, –0.08 to 0.10; P = .72). Similarly, low-dose nesiritide had no significant effect on 72-hour cumulative urine volume (nesiritide, 8574 mL; 95% CI, 8054–9134 vs placebo, 8296 mL; 95% CI, 7762–8830; difference, 279 mL; 95% CI, –618 to 1176 mL; P = .49) or on the change in cystatin C level (nesiritide, 0.07 mg/L; 95% CI, 0.01–0.13 vs placebo, 0.11 mg/L; 95% CI, 0.06–0.16; difference, –0.04; 95% CI, –0.13 to 0.05; P = .36). Compared with placebo, there was no effect of low-dose dopamine or nesiritide on secondary end points reflective of decongestion, renal function, or clinical outcomes.

**CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE:** In participants with acute heart failure and renal dysfunction, neither low-dose dopamine nor low-dose nesiritide enhanced decongestion or improved renal function when added to diuretic therapy.

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**Author Affiliations:** Author affiliations are listed at the end of this article.

**Group Information:** A complete list of the NHLBI Heart Failure Clinical Research Network appears in Appendix 1 in the Supplement.

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## HH Chen and coauthors

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