MULTICENTER TRIALS IN TTM

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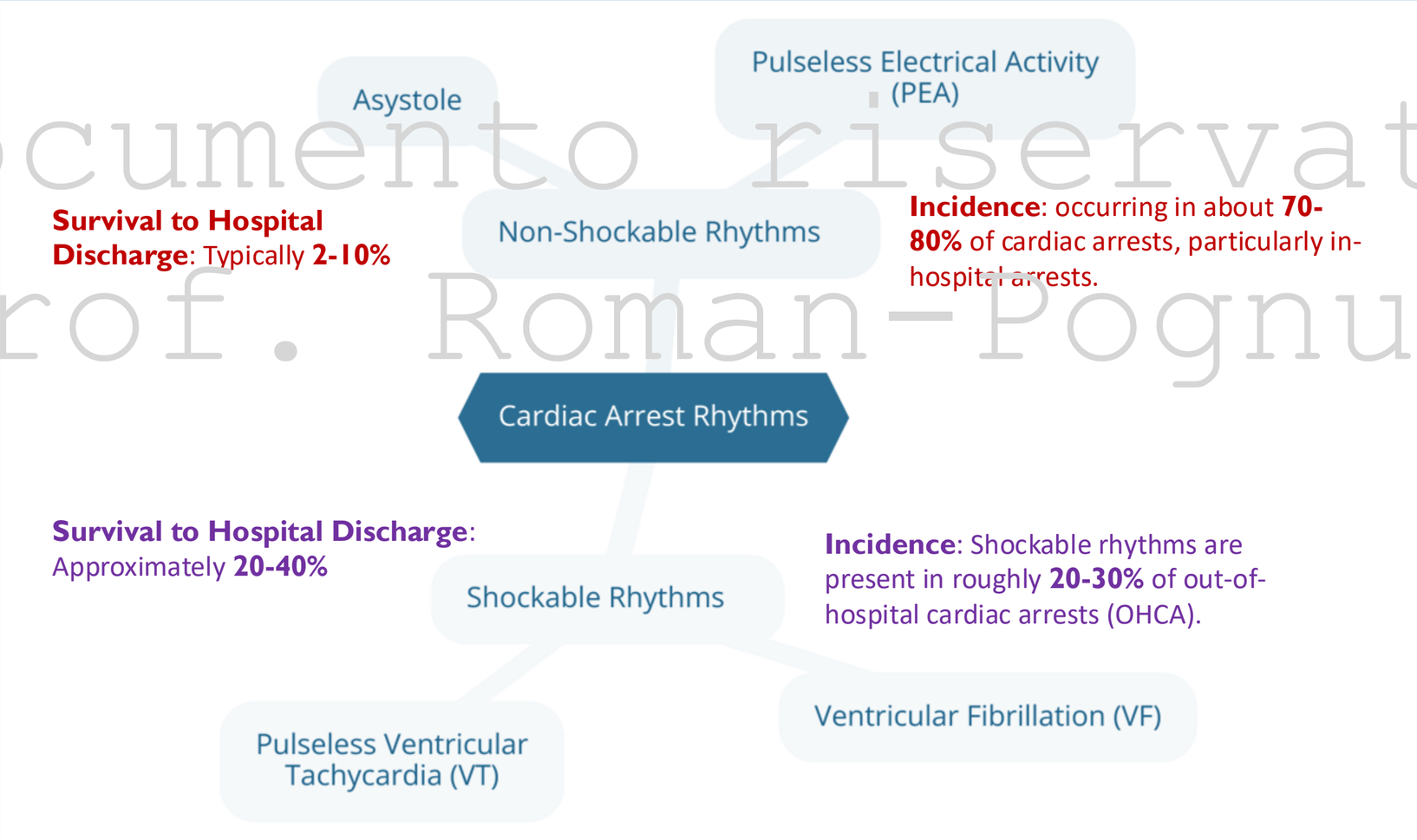
CARDIAC ARREST RHYTHMS



DEFINITION

- **Definition**
  Cardiac arrest is the sudden cessation of heart function, resulting in the loss of blood flow to the body.
- **Characteristics**:
  - Loss of consciousness
  - Absence of pulse
  - Lack of breathing or abnormal gasping
- **Distinction**:
  Cardiac arrest differs from a heart attack (myocardial infarction), which is due to blocked blood flow, whereas cardiac arrest is an electrical malfunction.

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF CARDIAC ARREST

- **Underlying Mechanism**:
  - Disruption in the electrical system of the heart, leading to abnormal heart rhythms.
- **Types of Dysfunction**:
  - **Shockable rhythms** (ventricular fibrillation, pulseless ventricular tachycardia)
  - **Non-shockable rhythms** (asystole, pulseless electrical activity)
- **Effects on Body**:
  - No circulation → Cellular hypoxia → Rapid cell death, particularly in the brain and heart
- **Time Sensitivity**:
  - Brain damage can occur within 4-6 minutes; irreversible damage within 10 minutes if untreated.

CAUSES OF CARDIAC ARREST

- **Shockable Rhythms**:
  - **Ventricular Fibrillation (VF)**: Chaotic, irregular electrical activity
  - **Pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia (VT)**: Fast, ineffective contraction rhythm
  - **Causes**: Often linked to ischemic heart disease, electrolyte imbalances, drugs, and cardiomyopathy.
- **Non-Shockable Rhythms**:
  - **Asystole**: Complete lack of electrical activity ("flatline")
  - **Pulseless Electrical Activity (PEA)**: Electrical impulses present, but no effective contraction
  - **Causes**: Severe hypoxia, acidosis, hypovolemia, tension pneumothorax, or trauma.

5H'S AND 5T'S

- **5 H's**

1. **Hypoxia -** Insufficient oxygen levels in the blood, preventing effective tissue oxygenation.
2. **Hypovolemia -** Loss of blood or fluid volume, often from trauma or dehydration.
3. **Hydrogen ions (Acidosis) -** pH imbalance, often metabolic or respiratory acidosis.
4. **Hyperkalemia / Hypokalemia -** Abnormal potassium levels affecting cardiac function.
5. **Hypothermia -** Low body temperature that slows metabolic and cardiac function.

5H'S AND 5T'S

- **5 T's**

1. **Tension pneumothorax -** Collapsed lung due to trapped air in the chest cavity, causing pressure on the heart.
2. **Tamponade (cardiac)** - Fluid accumulation in the pericardium, compressing the heart and impeding function.
3. **Toxins -** Poisoning from drugs or chemicals that interfere with heart rhythm.
4. **Thrombosis (pulmonary) -** Pulmonary embolism blocking blood flow in the lungs.
5. **Thrombosis (coronary) -** Myocardial infarction from blocked coronary arteries, leading to cardiac arrest.

TREATMENT OF CARDIAC ARREST

- **Immediate Steps**:
  - **Bystander CPR**: Emphasis on chest compressions and rapid intervention
  - **Defibrillation**: For shockable rhythms (VF/VT), ideally within 3-5 minutes of collapse
- **Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)**:
  - Airway management, IV access, medication administration (e.g., epinephrine)
  - Continuous monitoring and pulse checks
  - Targeted temperature management post-ROSC (Return of Spontaneous Circulation)
- **Post-Resuscitation Care**:
  - Neurological assessment, stabilization, and intensive care monitoring

PROGNOSIS AND OUTCOMES

- **Factors Influencing Prognosis**:
  - Time to CPR and defibrillation
  - Initial rhythm (shockable rhythms have better outcomes)
  - Underlying health and cause of arrest
- **Neurological Outcomes**:
  - Rapid ROSC and temperature management critical for brain health
  - Many survivors of IHCA experience favorable neurological recovery

ACLS PROTOCOL AFTER CARDIAC ARREST

- **Maintain Airway and Breathing:**
  - Use advanced airway if needed (endotracheal intubation).
  - Provide 100% oxygen initially, then adjust to keep oxygen saturation >94%.
  - Continuous waveform capnography to confirm and monitor placement.
- **Optimize Circulation:**
  - Monitor blood pressure; target a systolic BP ≥90 mmHg.
  - Administer IV fluids and vasopressors (e.g., norepinephrine or epinephrine) as needed.

- **Monitor for Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)**
- **Confirm ROSC**:
  - Pulse and blood pressure present
  - Abrupt increase in end-tidal CO_2 ($EtCO_2$)
  - Spike in arterial pressure if an arterial line is in place
- **Targeted Temperature Management (TTM)**
- **Temperature Goal**:
  - Maintain a core temperature between 32-36°C for 24 hours.
  - Helps reduce brain injury risk and improve neurological outcomes.

CONTINUOUS MONITORING AND SUPPORT

- **Hemodynamic Support**:
  - Keep MAP (mean arterial pressure) >65 mmHg to ensure adequate organ perfusion.
- **Glucose Control**:
  - Maintain blood glucose levels between 140-180 mg/dL.
- **Assess Reversible Causes**:
  - Re-evaluate **5H and 5T** causes to prevent recurrence.

A CLOSER LOOK

Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA)

- Global incidence: ~55 per 100,000 person-years
- Survival to discharge: ~8.8% | 1-year survival: ~7.7%
- Key factors for better survival: Bystander CPR, EMS-witnessed arrest

In-Hospital Cardiac Arrest (IHCA)

- Incidence: 1-1.5 per 1,000 admissions
- ROSC in ~53% | Discharge survival: ~23.6%
- Favorable neurological outcome in ~83% of survivors

Regional Variations

- **Europe**: Third leading cause of death; ongoing cross-country analysis
- **United States**: ~326,000 OHCA and 209,000 IHCA cases annually
- **China**: Incidence of sudden cardiac death at 41.8 per 100,000
- **South India**: Incidence at 39.7 per 100,000

European Sudden Cardiac Arrest network: towards Prevention, Education and New Effective Treatments (ESCAPE-NET): A major European Horizon 2020 project focused on cardiac arrest

Hanno L Tan, Nikolaos Dagres, Bernd W Böttiger, Peter J Schwartz ✉, ESCAPE-NET Investigators Author Notes

European Heart Journal, Volume 39, Issue 2, 07 January 2018, Pages 86–88,
https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehx758

GLOBAL DISPARITIES

- Survival and incidence vary by healthcare infrastructure, socioeconomic factors, bystander CPR availability, and access to defibrillators
- Higher incidence and lower survival rates in economically deprived areas

Higher Survival Rates:

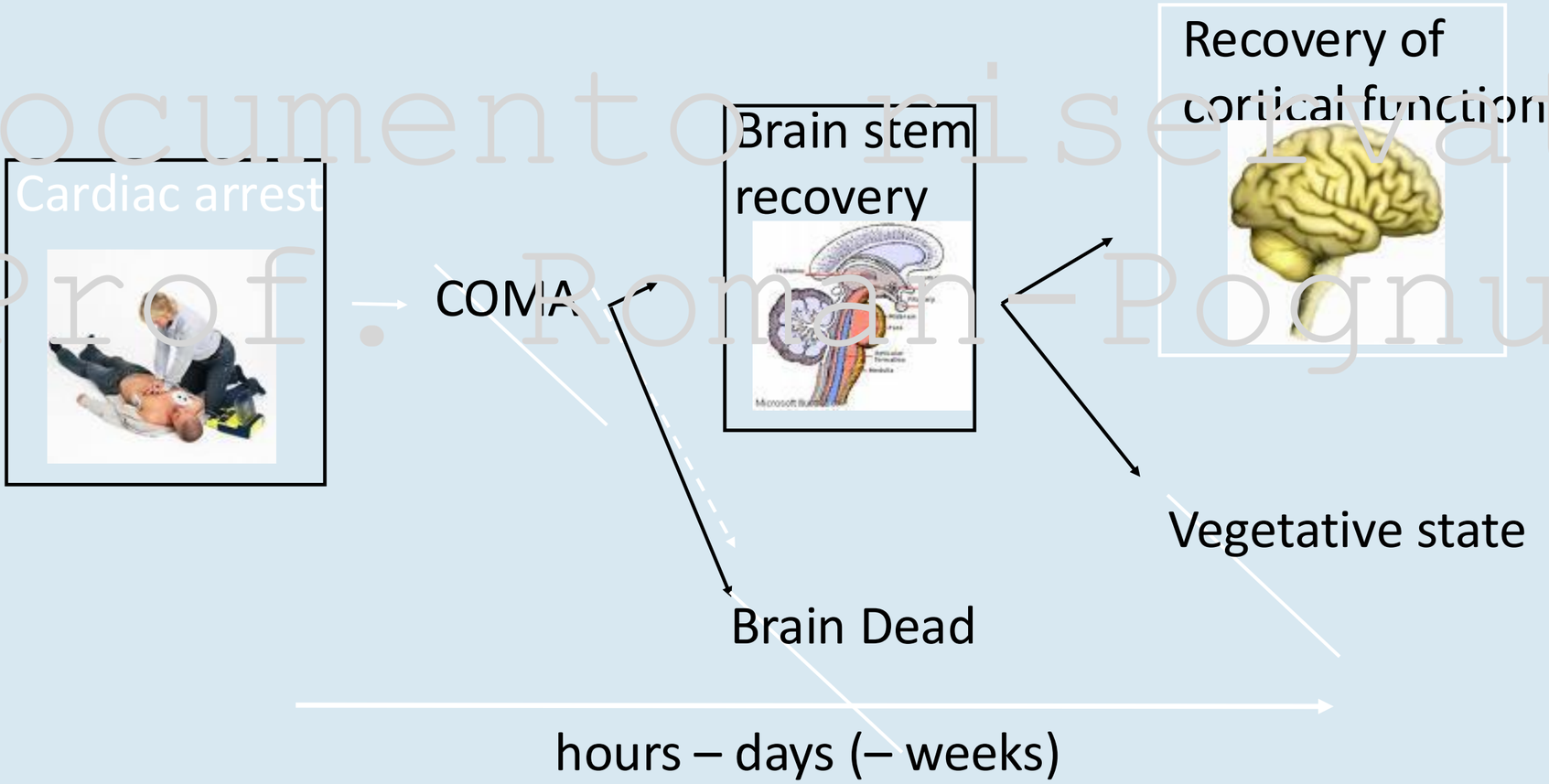
- **Norway:** Reports a survival rate of approximately 25% for out-of-hospital cardiac arrests (OHCA).
- **Netherlands:** Achieves a survival rate of around 21% for OHCA.

Lower Survival Rates:

- **Spain:** Records a survival rate of about 6% for OHCA.
- **Italy:** Exhibits a survival rate of approximately 5% for OHCA.

NATURAL COURSE OF NEUROLOGICAL RECOVERY FOLLOWING CARDIAC ARREST

PATIL KD ET AL. CIRC RES. 2015 JUN 5;116(12):2041-9



THE CHAIN OF SURVIVAL

American Heart Association (AHA) in the early 1990s.
It was based on the work of **Mary M. Newman**

Co-Founder, President & CEO

Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

THE PIONEERS

Pioneering Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)

In the 1950s, Safar collaborated with James Elam

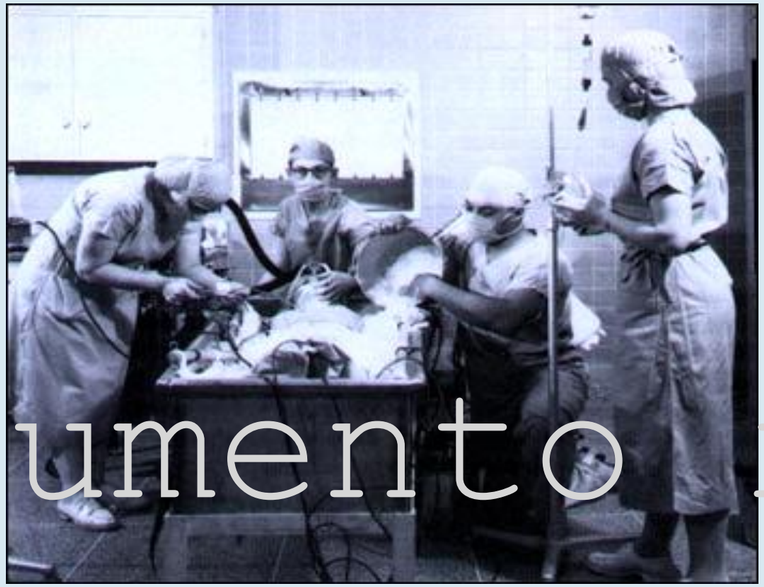
- mouth-to-mouth resuscitation
- combined with external chest compressions
- the establishment of the ABCs (Airway, Breathing, Circulation

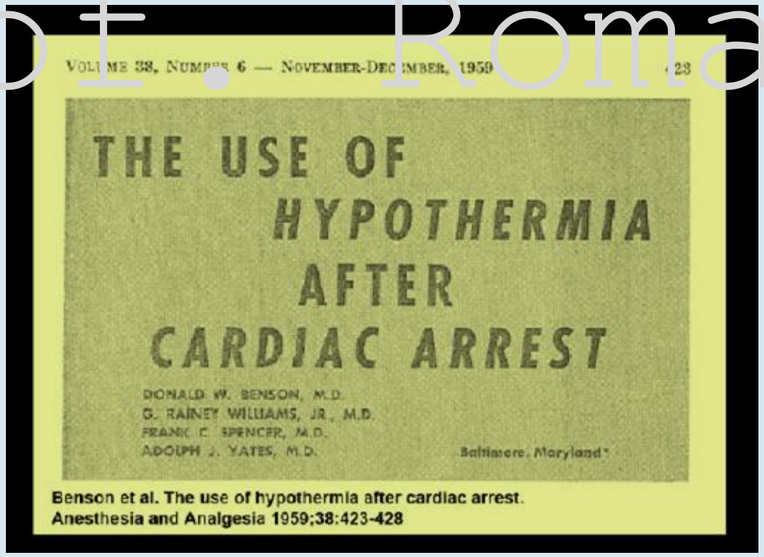
This protocol became the foundation of modern CPR

Advancements in Critical Care

- Create one of the first intensive care units in the USA
- Establish paramedic emergency services.

Background





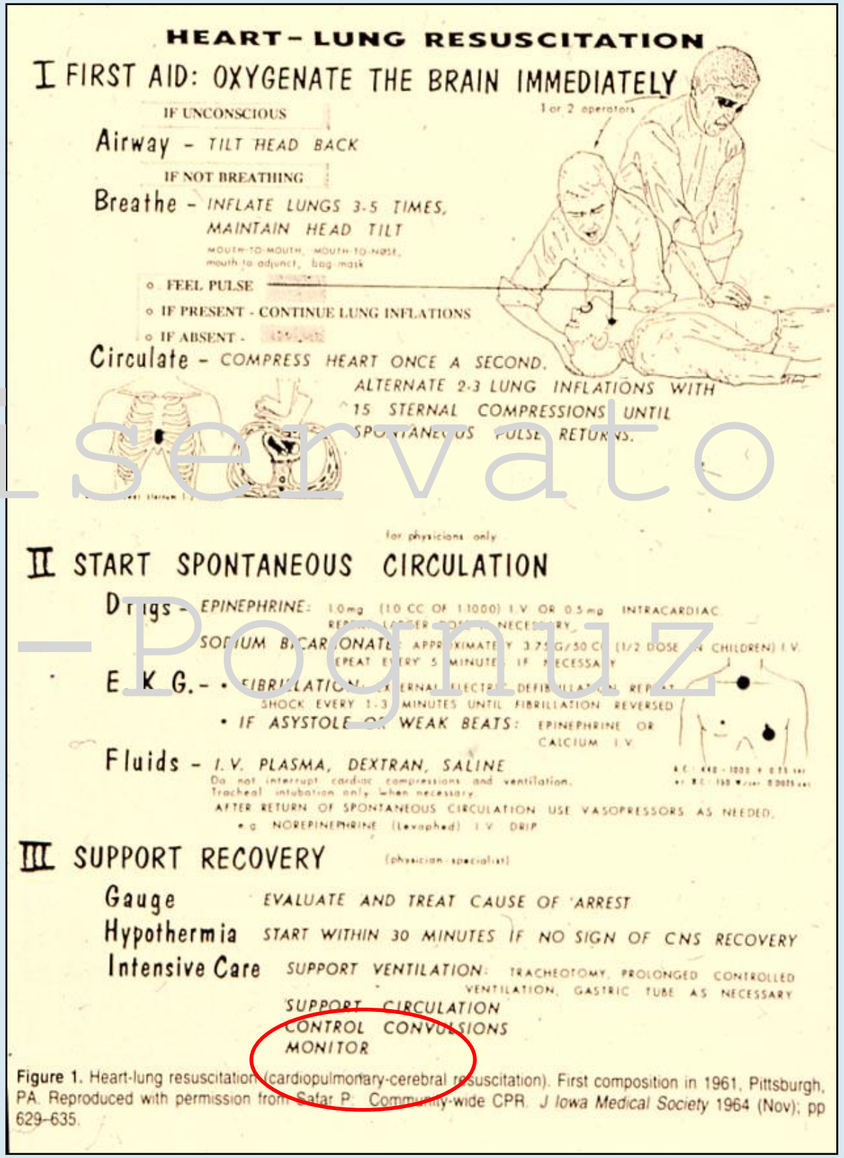
VOLUME 38, NUMBER 6 — NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1959 423

THE USE OF HYPOTHERMIA AFTER CARDIAC ARREST

RONALD W. BENSON, M.D.
G. RAINEY WILLIAMS, JR., M.D.
FRANK C. SPENCER, M.D.
ADOLPH J. YATES, M.D.

Baltimore, Maryland*

Benson et al. The use of hypothermia after cardiac arrest. Anesthesia and Analgesia 1959;38:423-428



HEART-LUNG RESUSCITATION

I FIRST AID: OXYGENATE THE BRAIN IMMEDIATELY

IF UNCONSCIOUS

Airway - TILT HEAD BACK

IF NOT BREATHING

Breathe - INFLATE LUNGS 3-5 TIMES, MAINTAIN HEAD TILT

MOUTH-TO-MOUTH, MOUTH-TO-NOSE, mouth to adjunct, bag-mask

- FEEL PULSE
- IF PRESENT - CONTINUE LUNG INFLATIONS
- IF ABSENT -

Circulate - COMPRESS HEART ONCE A SECOND. ALTERNATE 2-3 LUNG INFLATIONS WITH 15 STERNAL COMPRESSIONS UNTIL SPONTANEOUS PULSE RETURNS.

1 or 2 operators

for physicians only

II START SPONTANEOUS CIRCULATION

Drugs - EPINEPHRINE: 1.0 mg (10 CC OF 1:1000) I.V. OR 0.5 mg INTRACARDIAC REPEAT EVERY 5 MINUTES IF NECESSARY.

SODIUM BICARBONATE: APPROXIMATELY 3.75 G/50 CC (1/2 DOSE IN CHILDREN) I.V. REPEAT EVERY 5 MINUTES IF NECESSARY

E K G. - • FIBRILLATION: EXTERNAL ELECTRIC DEFIBRILLATION, REPEAT SHOCK EVERY 1-3 MINUTES UNTIL FIBRILLATION REVERSED

• IF ASYSTOLE OR WEAK BEATS: EPINEPHRINE OR CALCIUM I.V.

Fluids - I.V. PLASMA, DEXTRAN, SALINE

Do not interrupt cardiac compressions and ventilation. Tracheal intubation only when necessary.

AFTER RETURN OF SPONTANEOUS CIRCULATION USE VASOPRESSORS AS NEEDED.

e.g. NOREPINEPHRINE (Levophed) I.V. DRIP

III SUPPORT RECOVERY (physician specialist)

Gauge EVALUATE AND TREAT CAUSE OF ARREST

Hypothermia START WITHIN 30 MINUTES IF NO SIGN OF CNS RECOVERY

Intensive Care SUPPORT VENTILATION: TRACHEOTOMY, PROLONGED CONTROLLED VENTILATION, GASTRIC TUBE AS NECESSARY

SUPPORT CIRCULATION

CONTROL CONVULSIONS

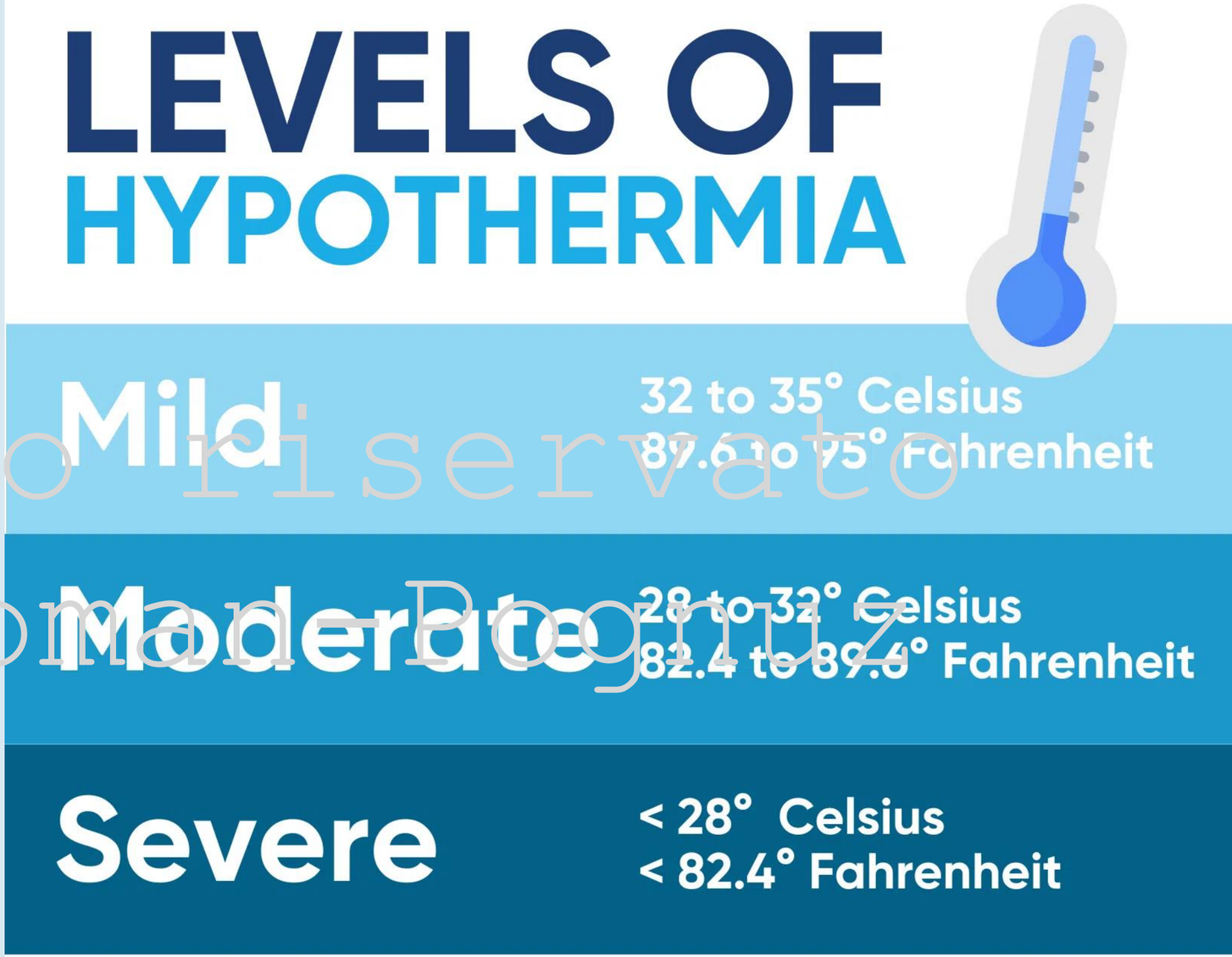
MONITOR

Figure 1. Heart-lung resuscitation (cardiopulmonary-cerebral resuscitation). First composition in 1961, Pittsburgh, PA. Reproduced with permission from Safar P. Community-wide CPR. *J Iowa Medical Society* 1964 (Nov); pp 629–635.

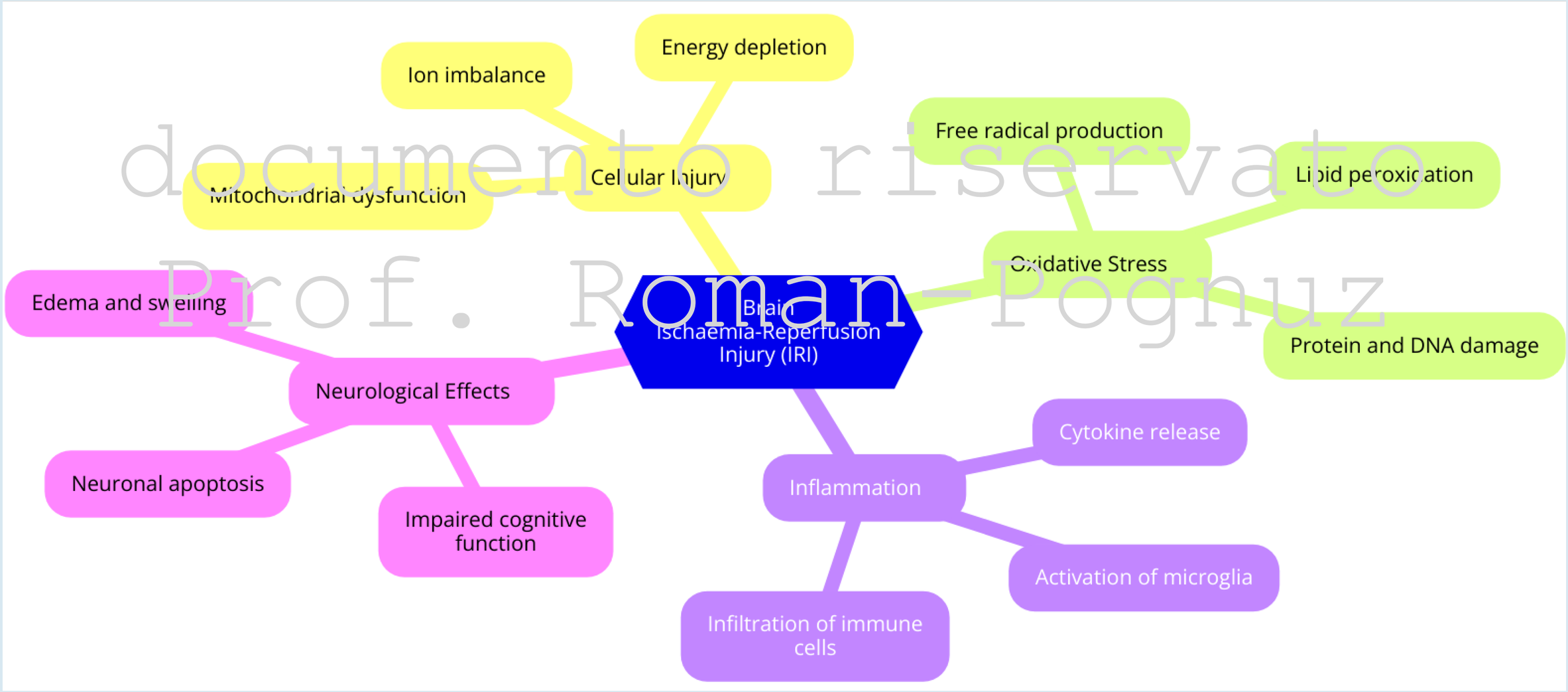
THE CURRENT CHALLENGES OF CARDIAC ARREST

Out of hospital and Post cardiac arrest management

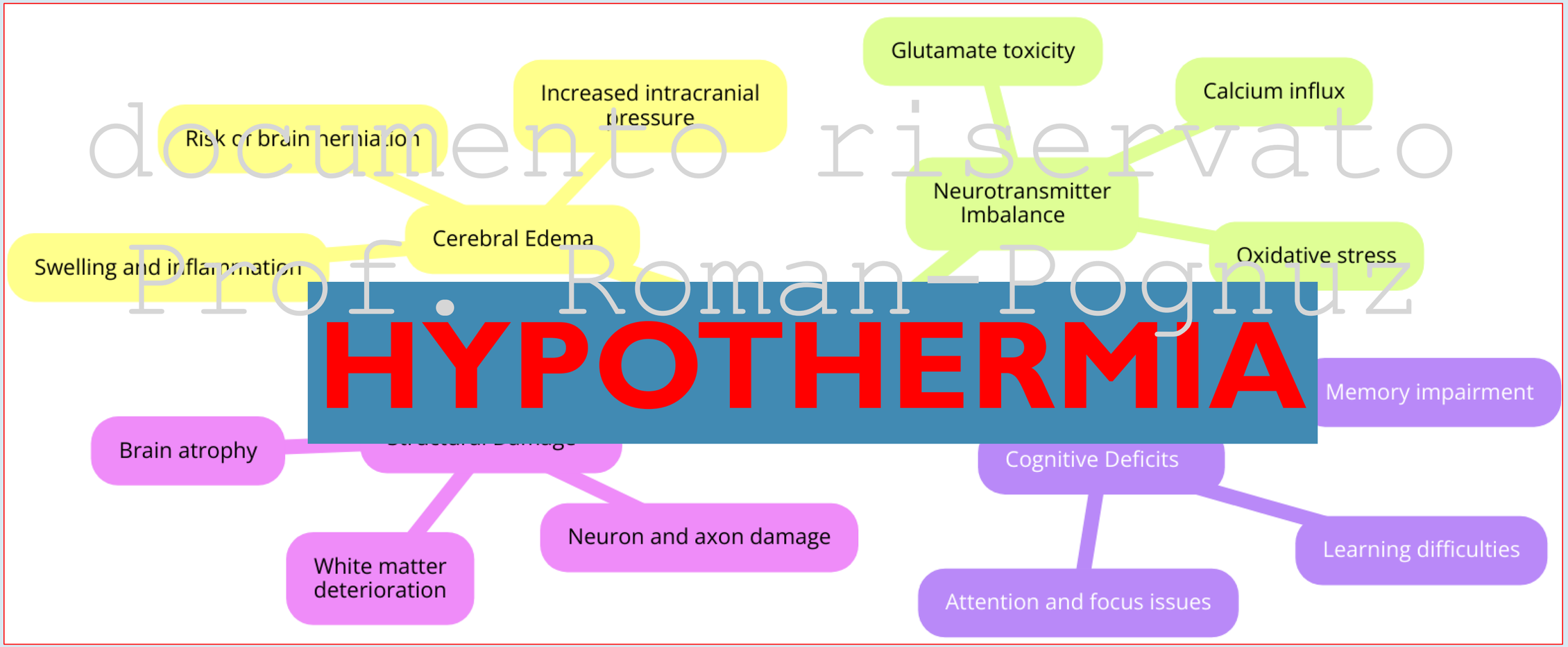
MILD HYPOTHERMIA IN OHCA PATIENTS



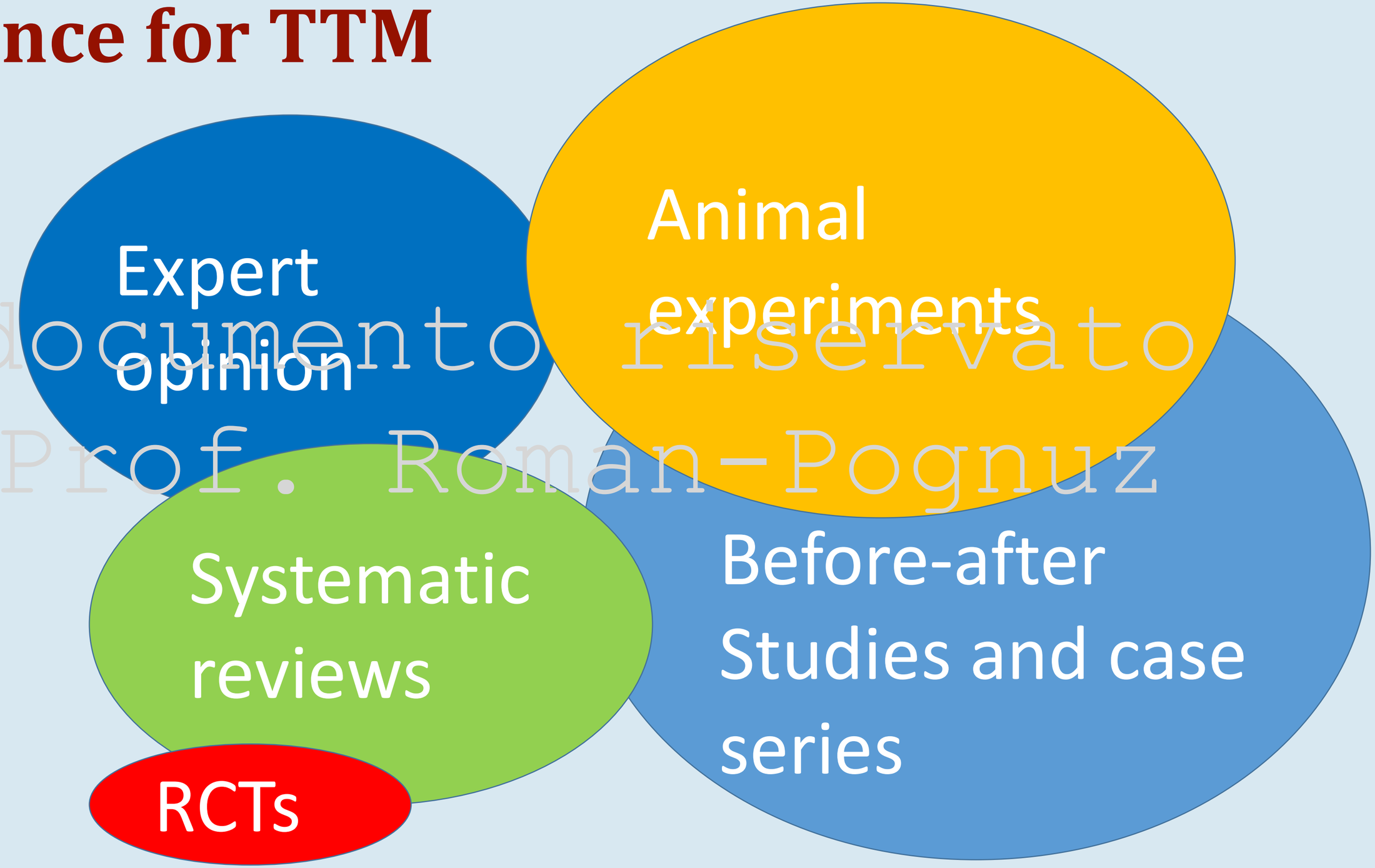
ISCHAEMIA-REPERFUSION SYNDROME



POST ANOXIC BRAIN INJURY



Evidence for TTM



BACKGROUND

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Treatment of Comatose Survivors of Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest with Induced Hypothermia

Stephen A. Bernard, M.B., B.S., Timothy W. Gray, M.B., B.S., Michael D. Buist, M.B., B.S., Bruce M. Jones, M.B., B.S., William Silvester, M.B., B.S., Geoff Gutteridge, M.B., B.S., and Karen Smith, B.Sc.

N Engl J Med 2002; 346:557-563 | February 21, 2002

Mild Therapeutic Hypothermia to Improve the Neurologic Outcome after Cardiac Arrest

The Hypothermia after Cardiac Arrest Study Group

N Engl J Med 2002; 346:549-556 | February 21, 2002

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Treatment of Comatose Survivors of Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest with Induced Hypothermia

Authors: Stephen A. Bernard, M.B., B.S., Timothy W. Gray, M.B., B.S., Michael D. Buist, M.B., B.S., Bruce M. Jones, M.B., B.S., William Silvester, M.B., B.S., Geoff Gutteridge, M.B., B.S., and Karen Smith, B.Sc. Author Info & Affiliations

Published February 21, 2002 | N Engl J Med 2002;346:557-563 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa003289 | VOL. 346 NO. 8

- Quasi-randomised, odd and even days
- 84 eligible patients, 77 included
- Unscheduled interim analysis after 62 patients
- All rythms included
- Unusual outcome measure: *survival to hospital discharge with sufficiently good neurologic function to be discharged to home or to a rehabilitation facility.*
- Uneven groups (43 vs 34 patients)
- Temperature in control group (37.1 -37.3 °C)

TABLE 5. OUTCOME OF PATIENTS AT DISCHARGE FROM THE HOSPITAL.

OUTCOME*	HYPOTHERMIA (N=43)	NORMOTHERMIA (N=34)
	number of patients	
Normal or minimal disability (able to care for self, discharged directly to home)	15	7
Moderate disability (discharged to a rehabilitation facility)	6	2
Severe disability, awake but completely dependent (discharged to a long-term nursing facility)	0	1
Severe disability, unconscious (discharged to a long-term nursing facility)	0	1
Death	22	23

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

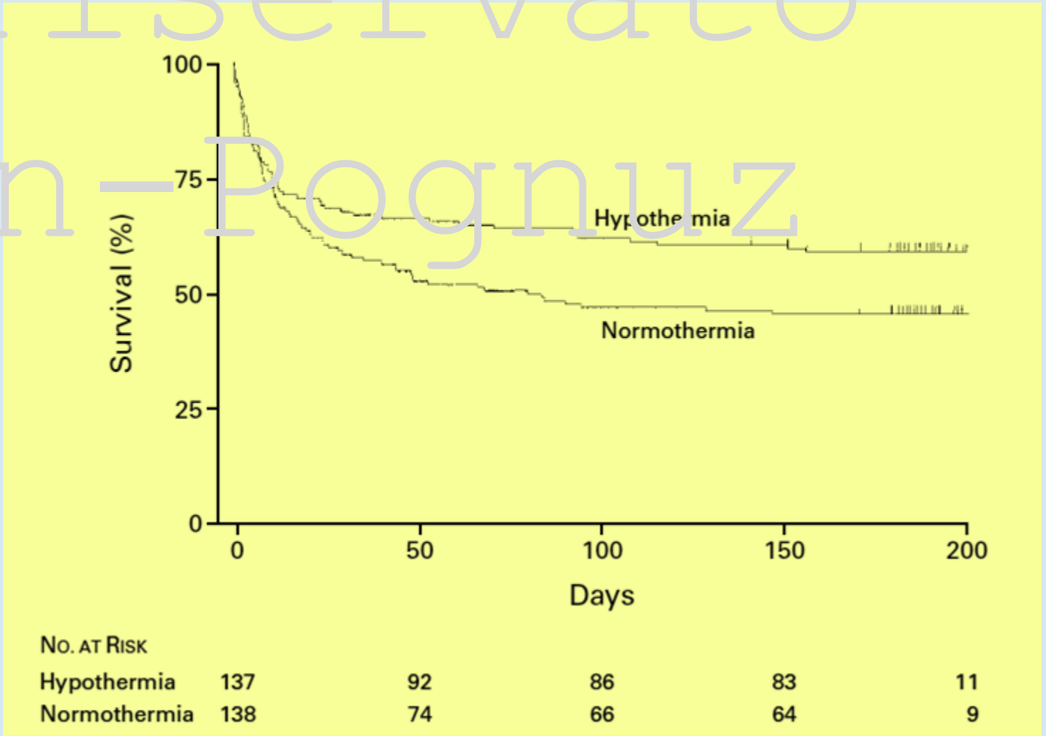
Mild Therapeutic Hypothermia to Improve the Neurologic Outcome after Cardiac Arrest

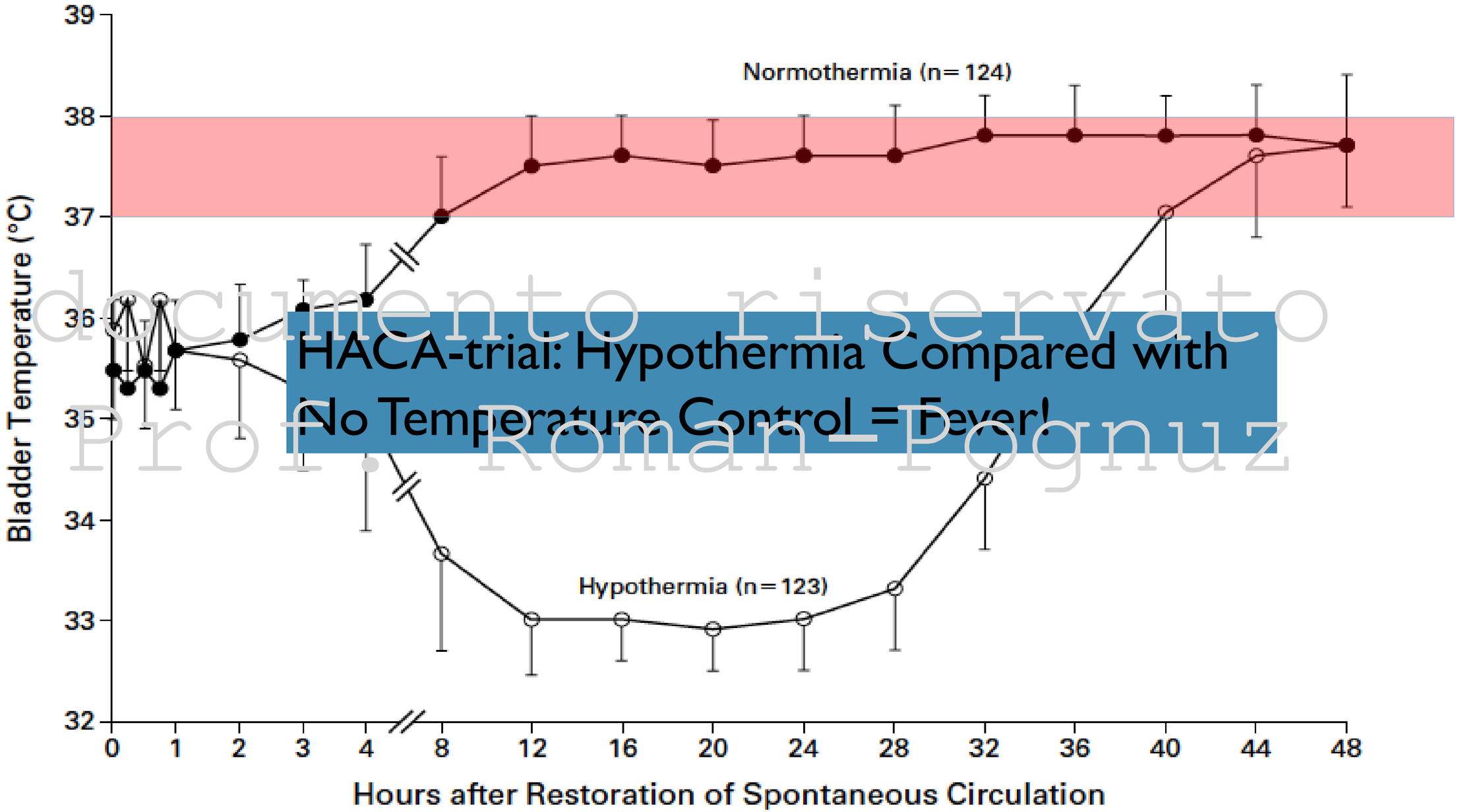
This article has been corrected. VIEW THE CORRECTION

Author: The Hypothermia after Cardiac Arrest Study Group* Author Info & Affiliations

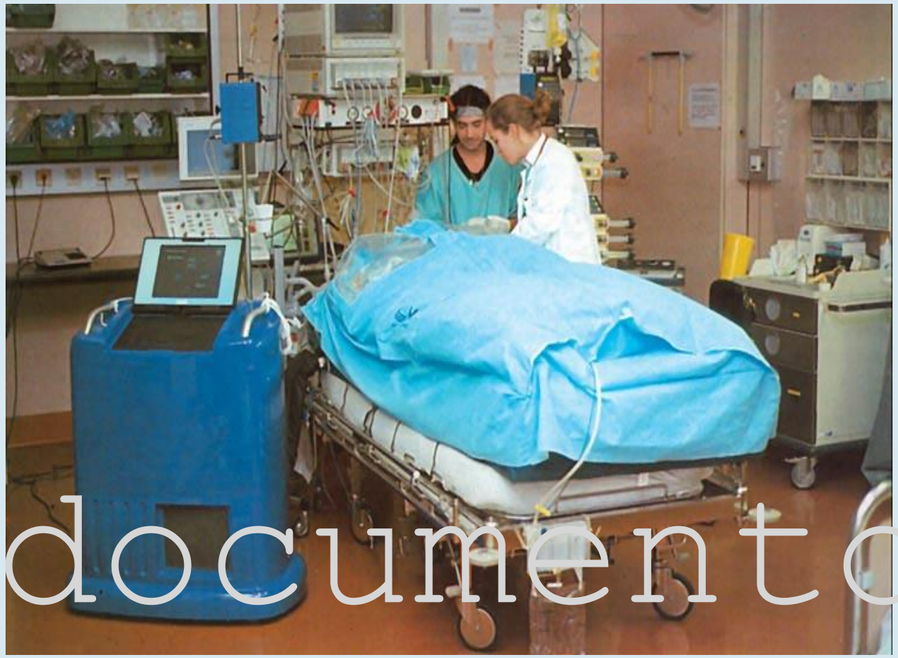
Published February 21, 2002 | N Engl J Med 2002;346:549-556 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa012689 | VOL. 346 NO. 8

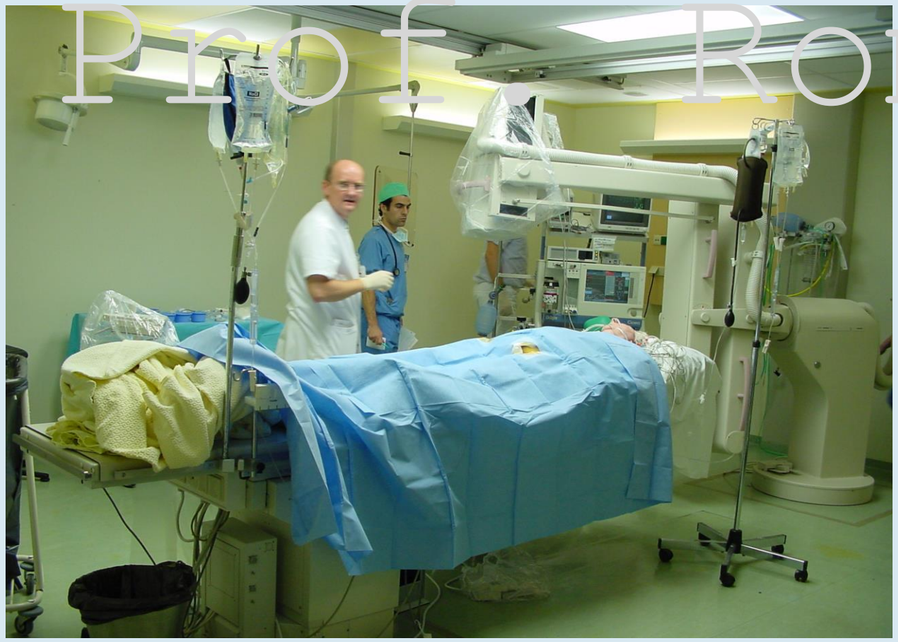
- ✓ Less risk of bias/systematic errors!
- ✓ Patients after ventricular fibrillation
- ✓ Included only 8 % of patients with ROSC





HACA-trial: Hypothermia Compared with No Temperature Control = Fever!





ILCOR Recommandations

ELSEVIER

Resuscitation 57 (2003) 231–235

RESUSCITATION

www.elsevier.com/locate/resuscitation

Therapeutic hypothermia after cardiac arrest. An advisory statement by the Advanced Life Support Task Force of the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation☆

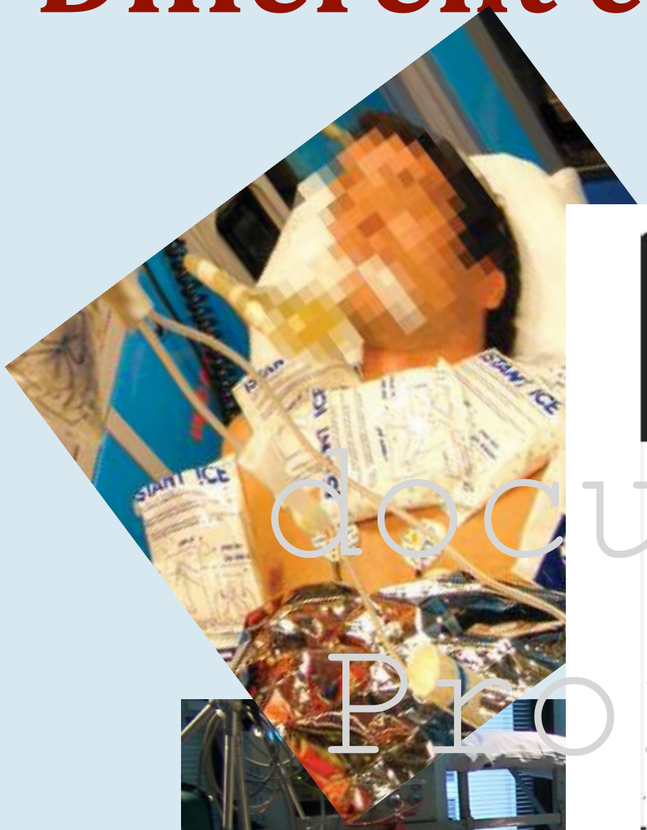
Jerry P. Nolan [a,*], Peter T. Morley [b], Terry L. Vanden Hoek [c], Robert W. Hickey [d,1], ALS Task Force [2]

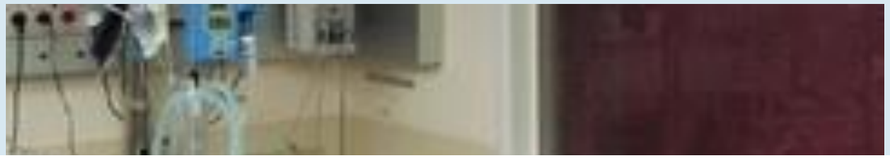
ILCOR Recommendations

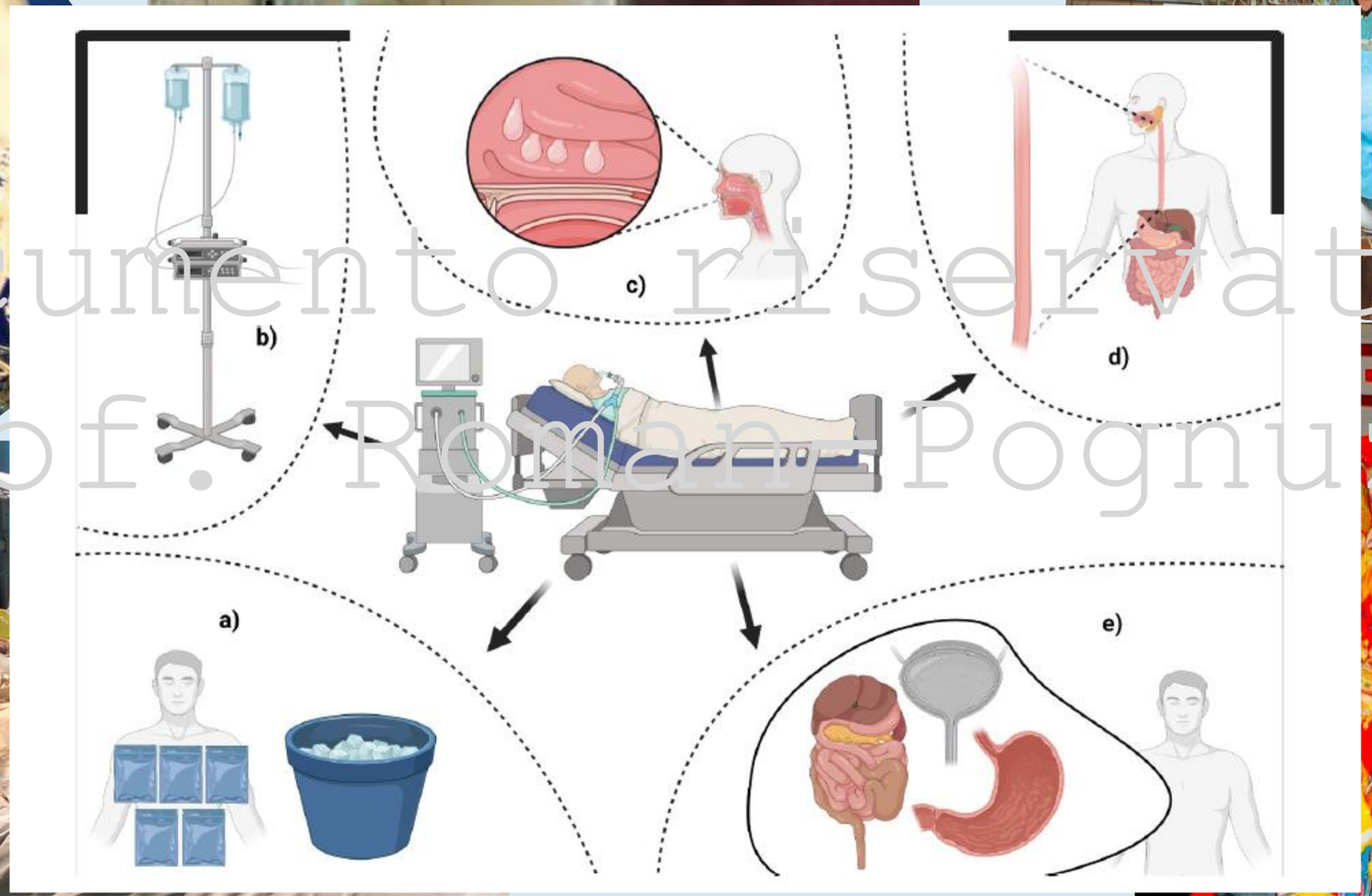
On the basis of the published evidence to date, the Advanced Life Support (ALS) Task Force of the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) made the following recommendations in October 2002:

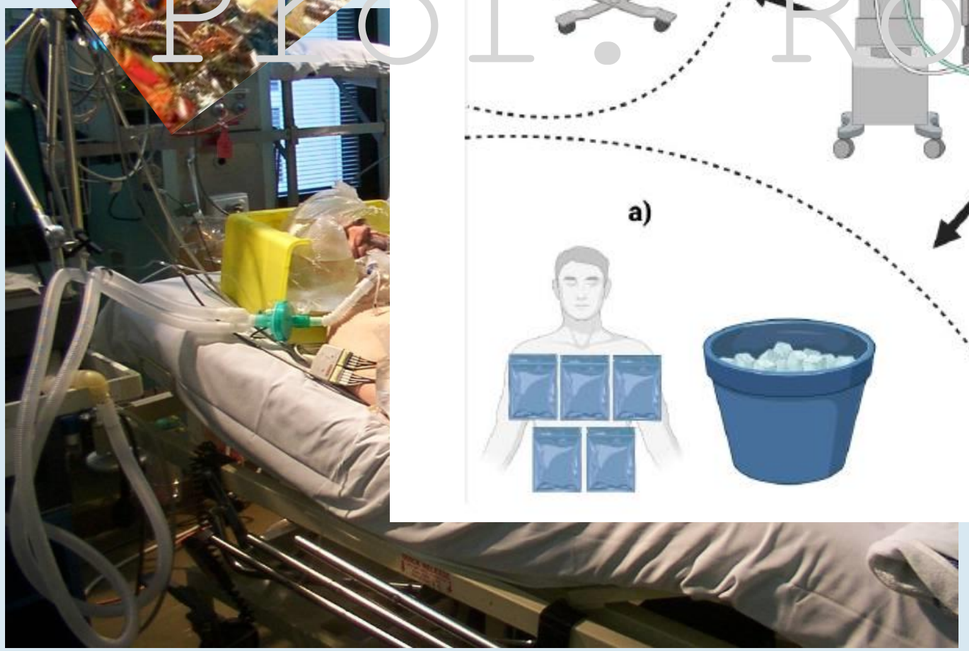
- Unconscious adult patients with spontaneous circulation after out-of-hospital cardiac arrest should be cooled to 32°C to 34°C for 12 to 24 hours when the initial rhythm was ventricular fibrillation (VF).
- Such cooling may also be beneficial for other rhythms or in-hospital cardiac arrest.

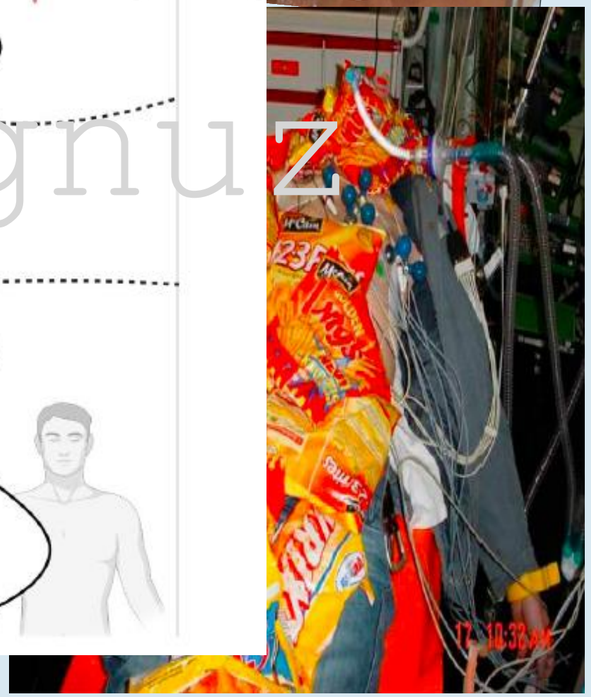
Different cooling techniques … too many ?





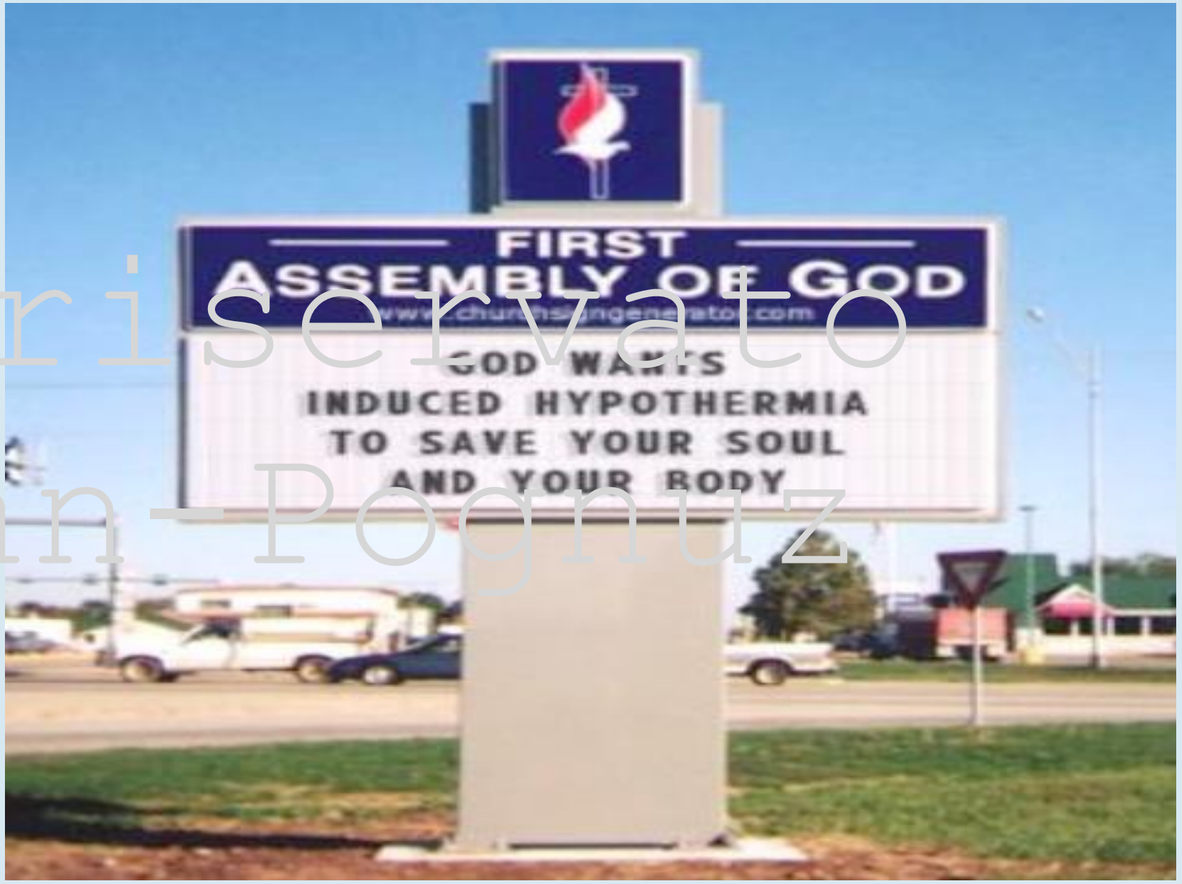


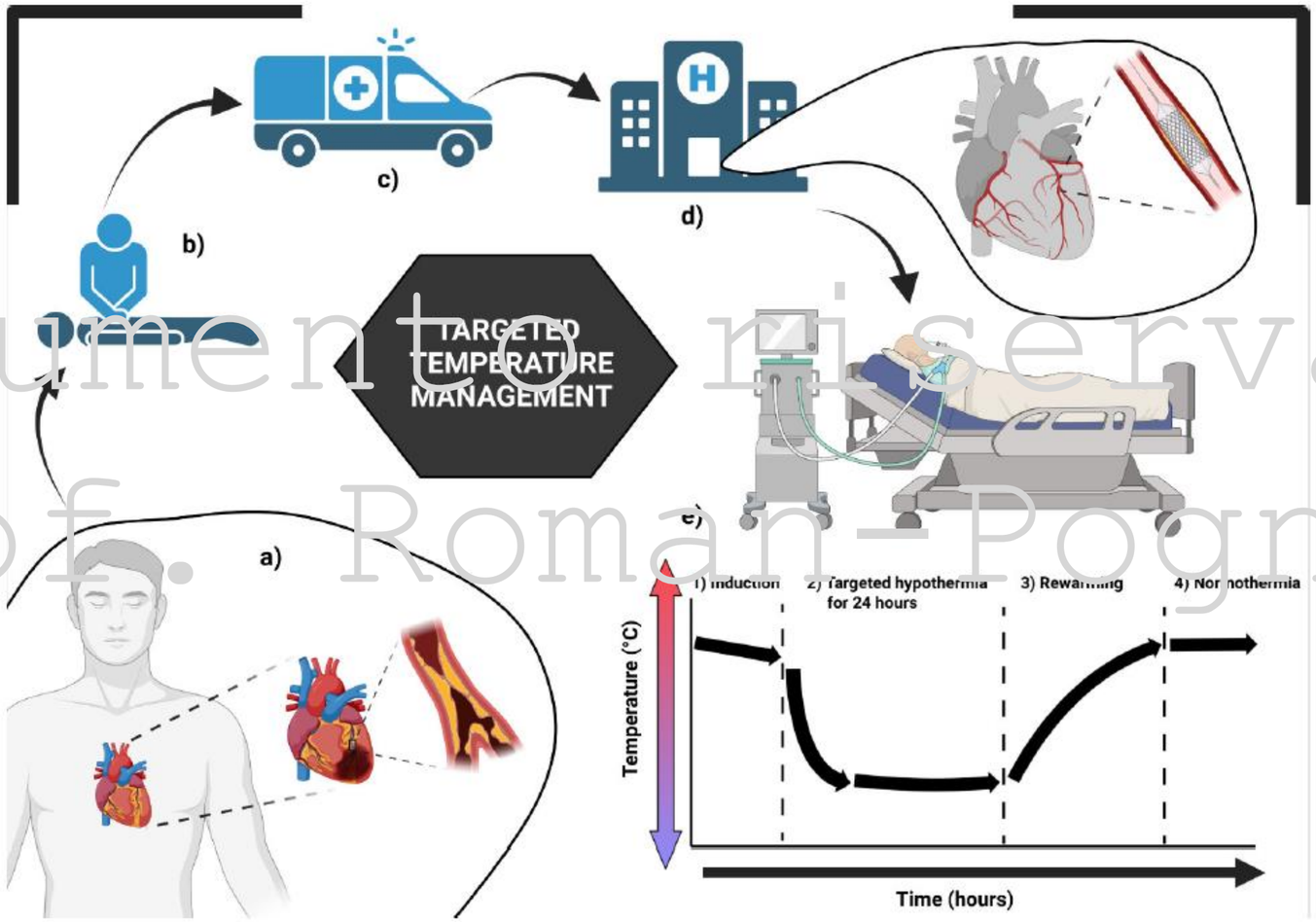




Markota A et al. Signa Vitae. 2022.doi:10.22514/sv.2021.227

It went viral





INCREASED RISK OF:

- Infection
- Arrhythmia
- Hemodinamic failure
- Seizures
- Major bleeding
- Delayed weaning

A Meta-Analysis

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

International Journal of Cardiology

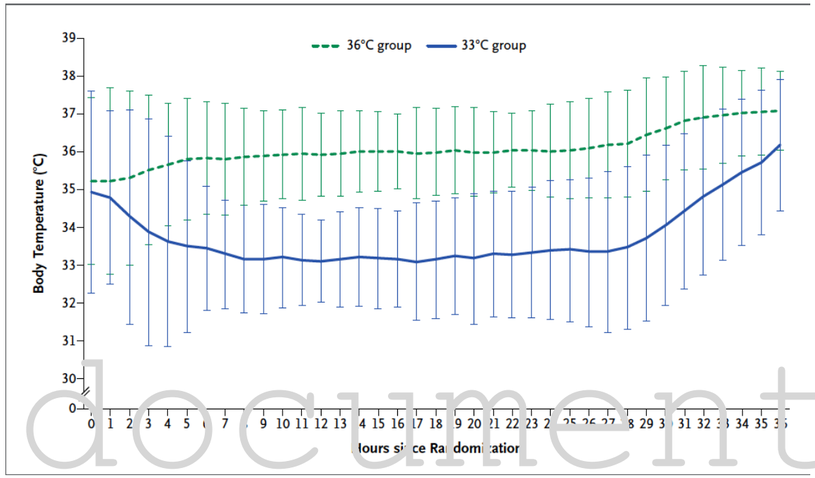
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijcard

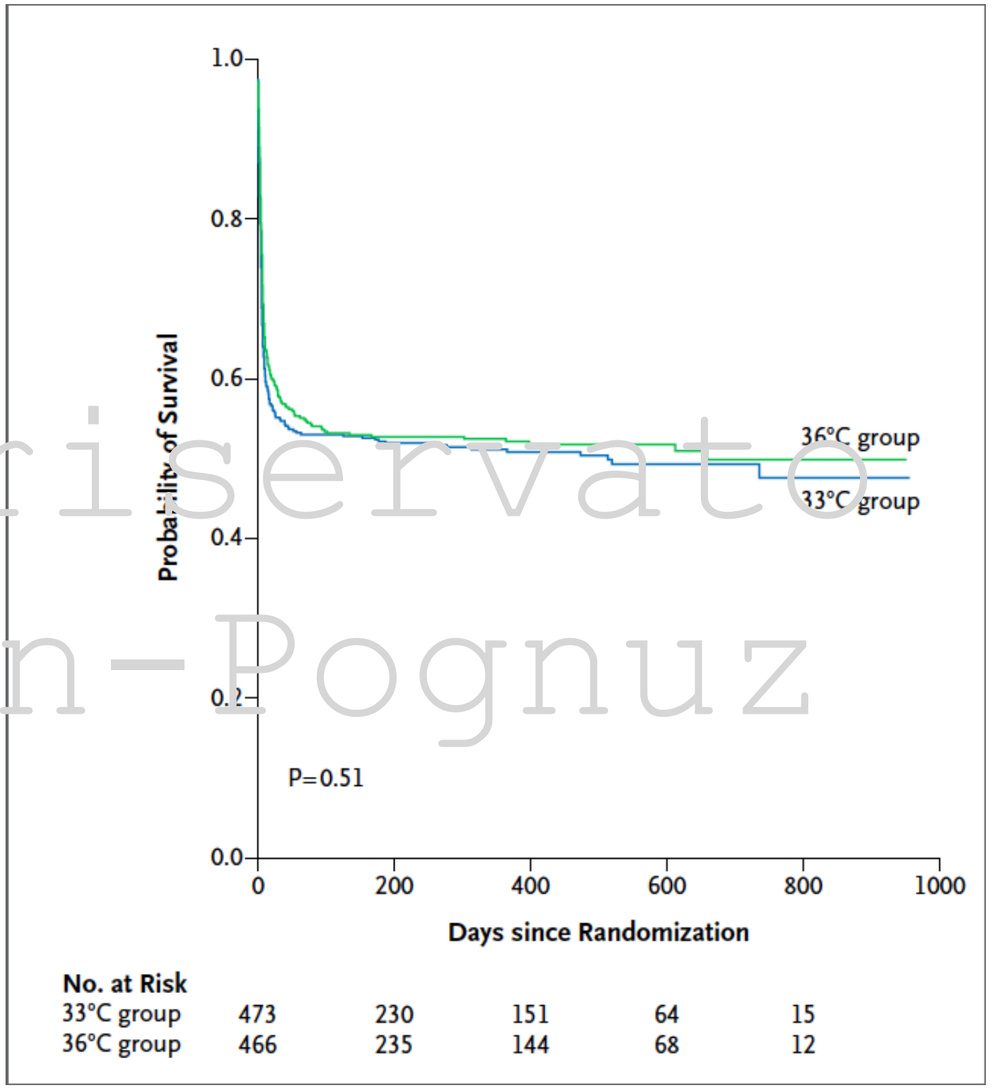
Earlier trials

- Possible risk of systematic errors
- Possible risk of being underpowered
- Investigated a selected group

Neurological outcome
Intensive care
Critical care

relative risk (RR) for death was 0.84 (95% confidence interval (CI) 0.70 to 1.01) and for poor neurological outcome 0.78 (95% CI 0.64 to 0.95). For the two trials with least risk of bias the RR for death was 0.92 (95% CI 0.56 to 1.51) and for poor neurological outcome 0.92 (95% confidence interval 0.56 to 1.50). TSA indicated lack of firm evidence for a beneficial effect. The substantial risk of bias and concerns with directness rated





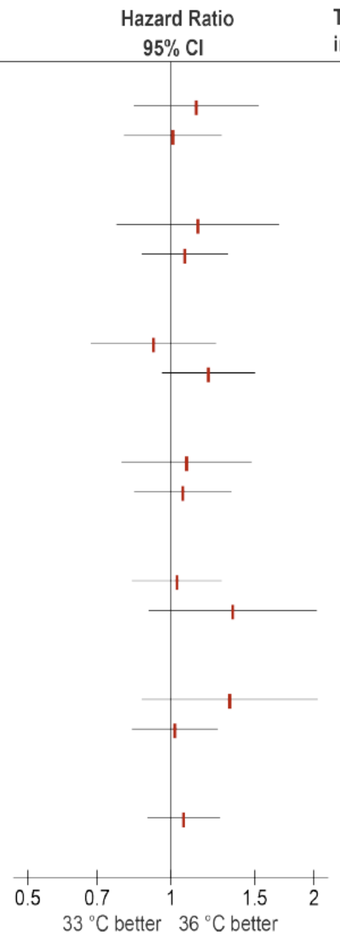
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

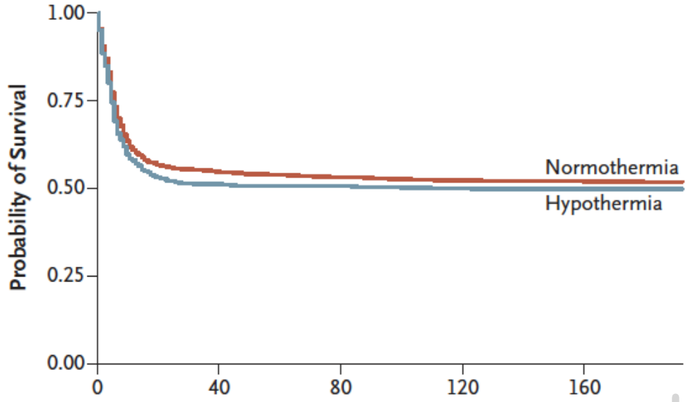
Targeted Temperature Management at 33°C versus 36°C after Cardiac Arrest

Authors: Niklas Nielsen, M.D., Ph.D., Jørn Wetterslev, M.D., Ph.D., Tobias Cronberg, M.D., Ph.D., David Erlinge, M.D., Ph.D., Yvan Gasche, M.D., Christian Hassager, M.D., D.M.Sci., Janneke Horn, M.D., Ph.D., +26, for the TTM Trial Investigators* Author Info & Affiliations

Published December 5, 2013 | N Engl J Med 2013;369:2197-2206 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1310519

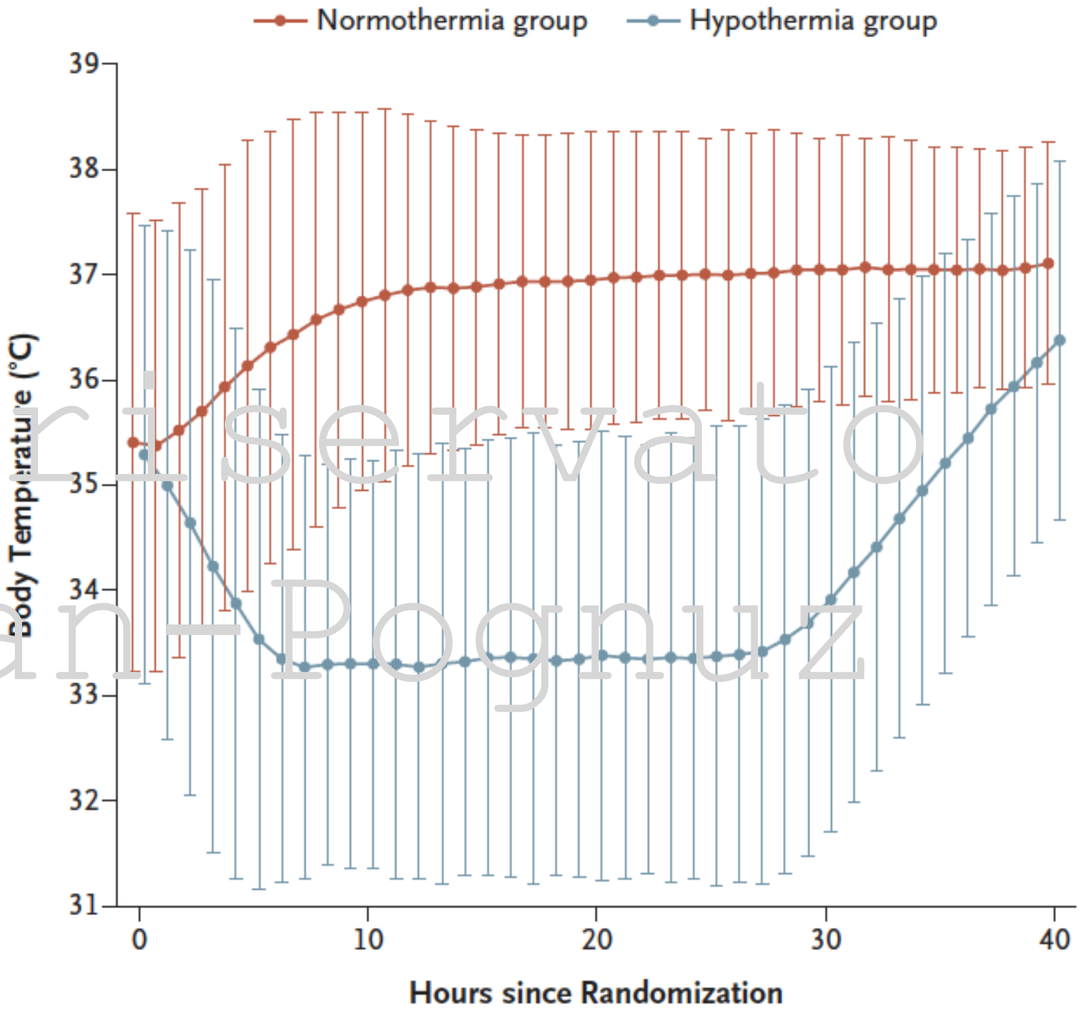
Subgroup	Target 33 °C No. of events/Total	Target 36 °C no. of patients	Hazard Ratio 95% CI	Test of interaction
Age				P = 0.52
Less than or equal to 65 years	91/238	85/250	1.13 [0.84, 1.53]	
More than 65 years	144/235	140/216	1.01 [0.80, 1.28]	
Gender				P = 0.75
Female	47/80	55/98	1.14 [0.77, 1.69]	
Male	188/393	170/368	1.07 [0.87, 1.32]	
Time from cardiac arrest to ROSC				P = 0.20
Less than or equal to 25 min	79/243	86/241	0.92 [0.68, 1.24]	
More than 25 min	156/230	138/224	1.20 [0.96, 1.50]	
Initial rhythm				P = 0.92
Non-shockable	82/98	74/88	1.08 [0.79, 1.48]	
Shockable	153/375	150/377	1.06 [0.84, 1.34]	
Shock at admission				P = 0.17
Not present	183/402	180/398	1.03 [0.83, 1.28]	
Present	52/70	44/67	1.35 [0.90, 2.03]	
Site category				P = 0.19
Two largest sites	50/110	40/108	1.33 [0.87, 2.03]	
Sites except two largest	185/363	185/358	1.02 [0.83, 1.25]	
TTM-Trial				
All patients	235/473	225/466	1.06 [0.89, 1.28]	





No. at Risk

Normothermia	925	506	491	484	480
Hypothermia	925	474	468	462	461



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

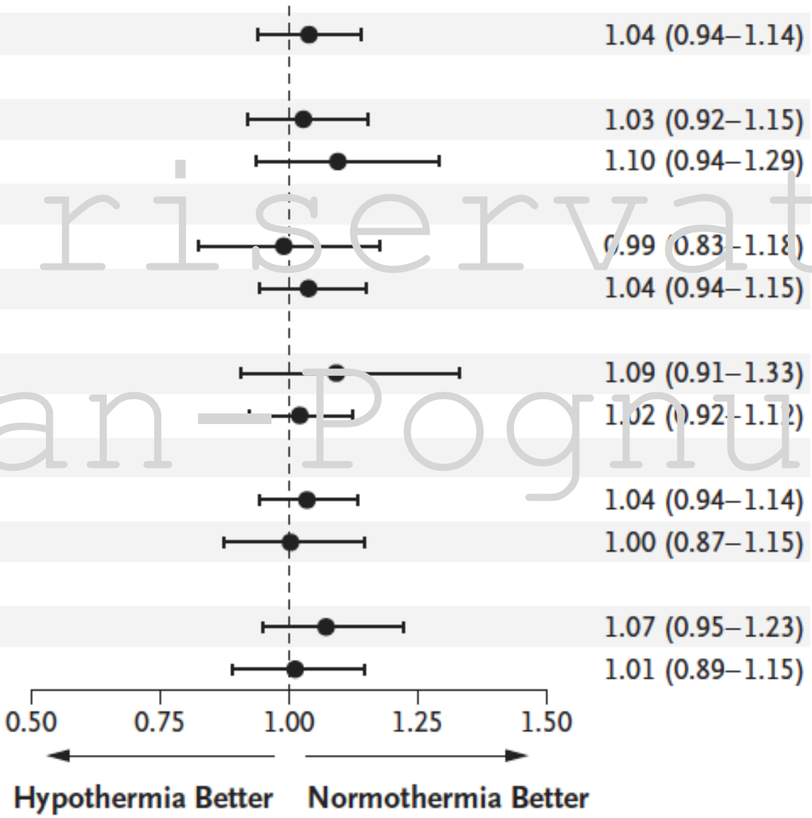
Hypothermia versus Normothermia after Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest

Authors: Josef Dankiewicz, M.D., Ph.D., Tobias Cronberg, M.D., Ph.D., Gisela Lilja, O.T., Ph.D., Janus C. Jakobsen, M.D., Ph.D., Helena Levin, M.Sc., Susann Ullén, Ph.D., Christian Rylander, M.D., Ph.D., +57, for the TTM2 Trial Investigators* Author Info & Affiliations

Published June 16, 2021 | **N Engl J Med 2021;384:2283-2294** | **DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2100591** | **VOL. 384 NO. 24**

A Death at 6 Months

Subgroup	Hypothermia	Normothermia	Relative Risk of Death (95% CI)
	no. of patients		
All patients	925	925	1.04 (0.94–1.14)
Sex			
Male	738	729	1.03 (0.92–1.15)
Female	187	196	1.10 (0.94–1.29)
Age			
<65 yr	421	457	0.99 (0.83–1.18)
≥65 yr	504	468	1.04 (0.94–1.15)
Time to ROSC from cardiac arrest			
<25 min	419	416	1.09 (0.91–1.33)
≥25 min	506	509	1.02 (0.92–1.12)
Initial rhythm			
Nonshockable	259	231	1.04 (0.94–1.14)
Shockable	666	694	1.00 (0.87–1.15)
Shock on admission			
Not present	665	651	1.07 (0.95–1.23)
Present	260	274	1.01 (0.89–1.15)



TTM1 + TTM2

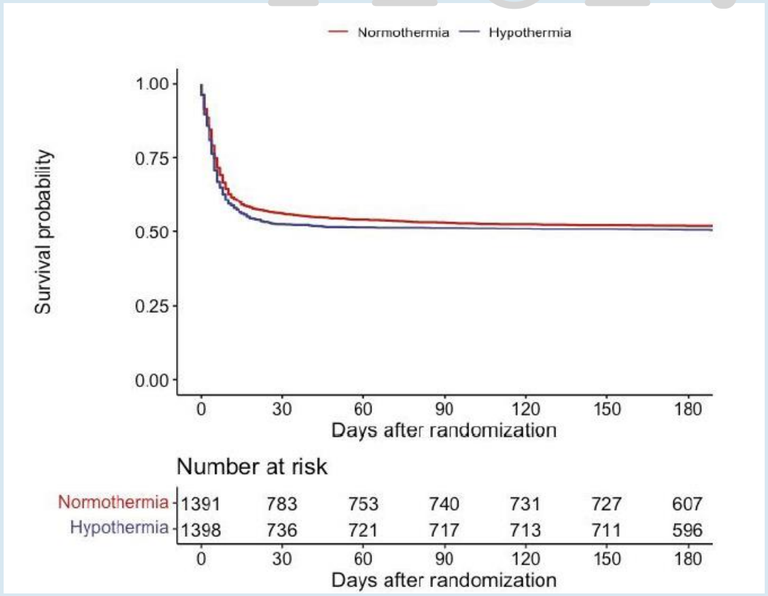
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Hypothermic versus Normothermic Temperature Control after Cardiac Arrest

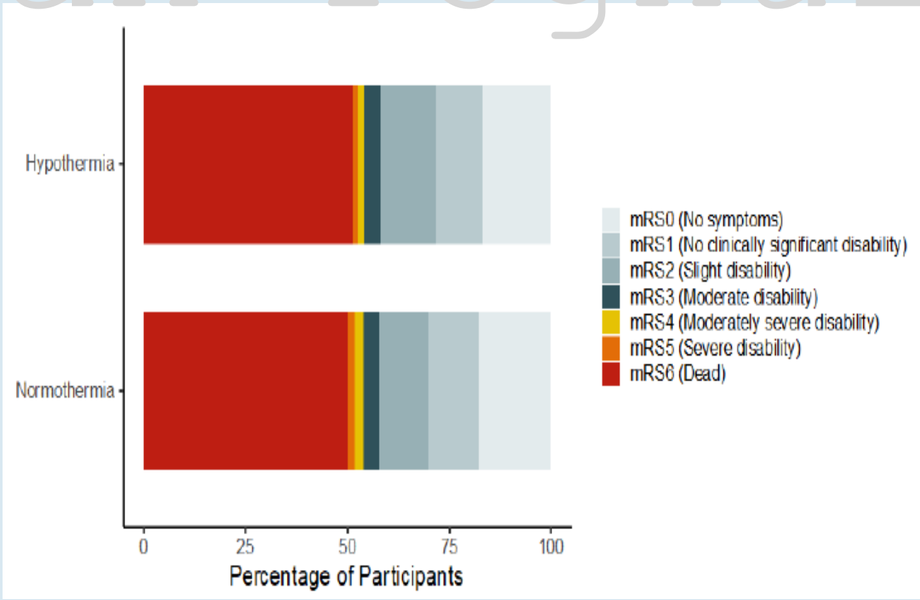
Authors: Johan Holgersson, M.D., Martin Abild Stengaard Meyer, M.D., Josef Dankiewicz, M.D., Ph.D., Gisela Lilja, O.T., Ph.D., Susann Ullén, Ph.D., Christian Hassager, M.D., D.M.Sc., Tobias Cronberg, M.D., Ph.D., +37, and Janus Christian Jakobsen, M.D., Ph.D. Author Info & Affiliations

Published June 15, 2022 | NEJM Evid 2022;1(11) | DOI: 10.1056/EVIDoa2200137 | VOL. 1 NO. 11

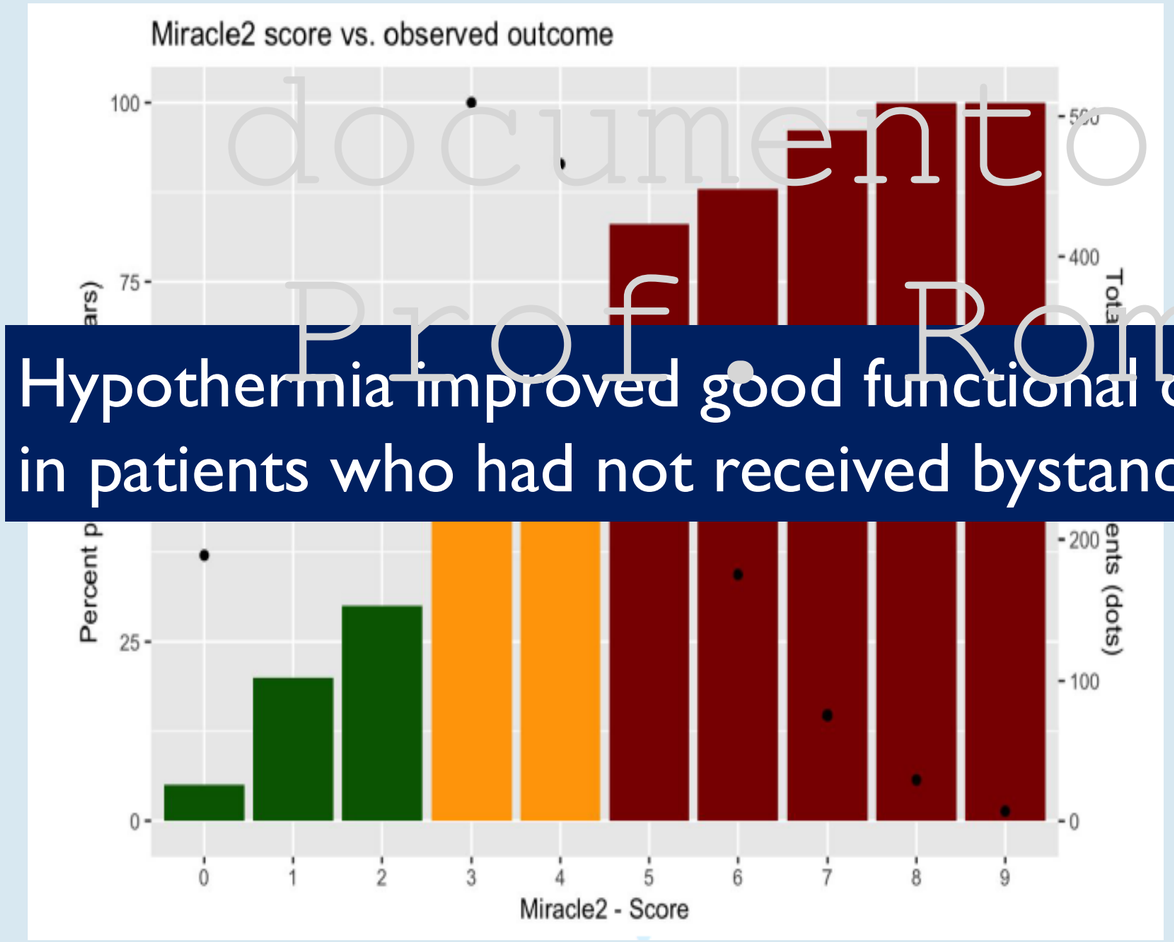
Effects on survival



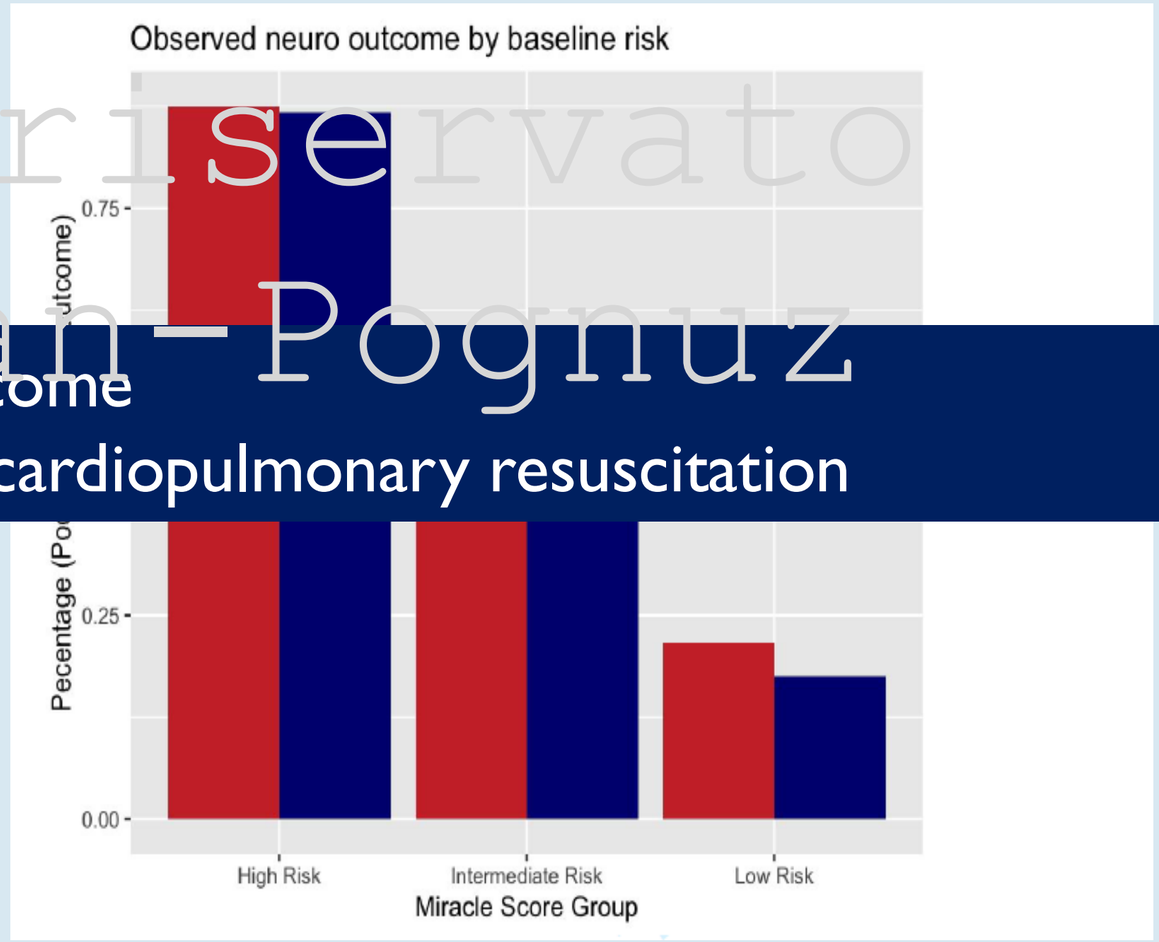
mRS at 180 d



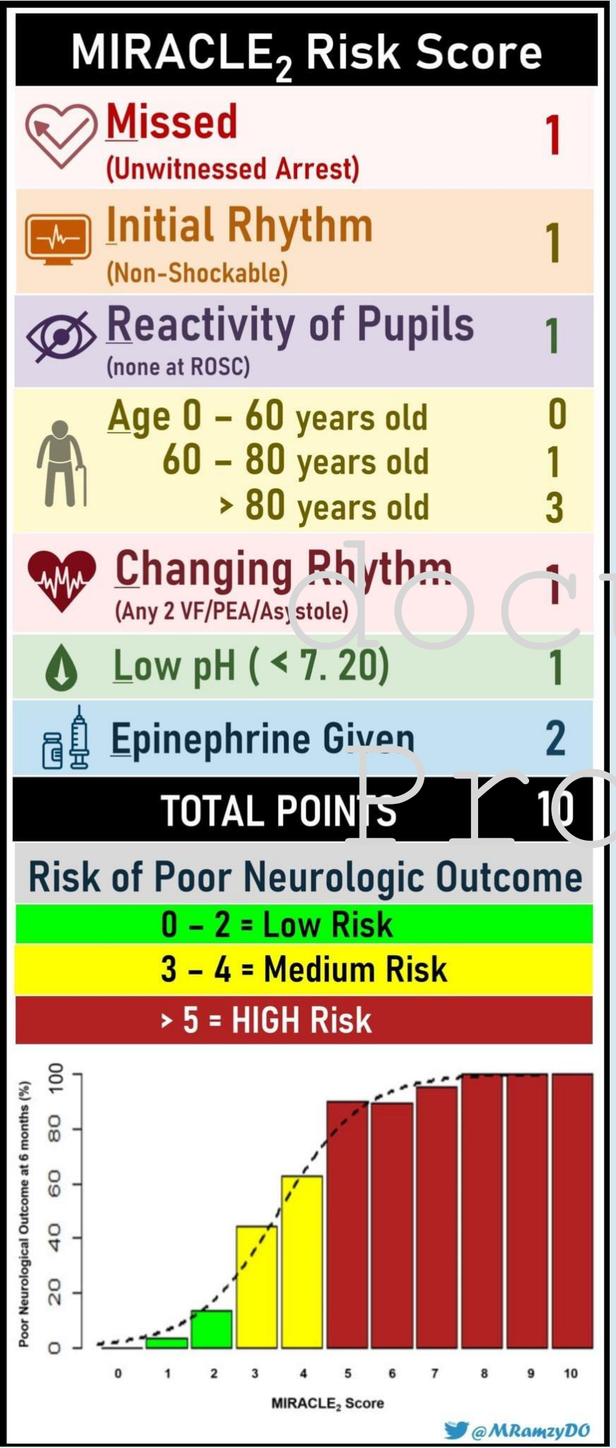
Severity & survival



TTM & survival



Hypothermia improved good functional outcome
in patients who had not received bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation



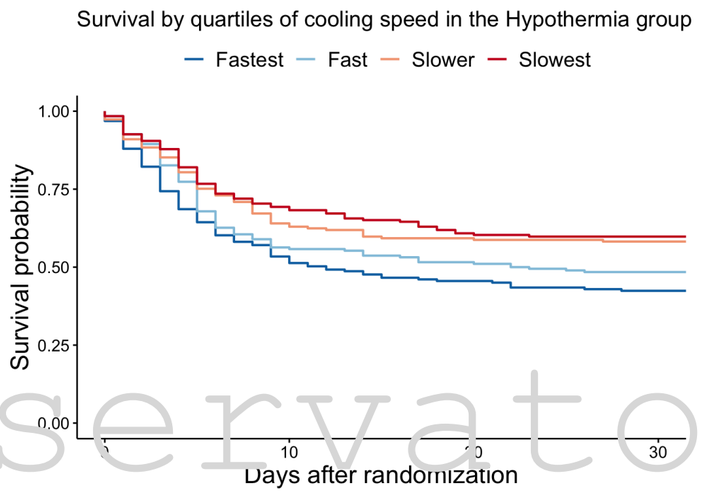
Seven predictor variables resulting in a final score ranging from 0 to 10 were used in the final model and it was named MIRACLE$_2$

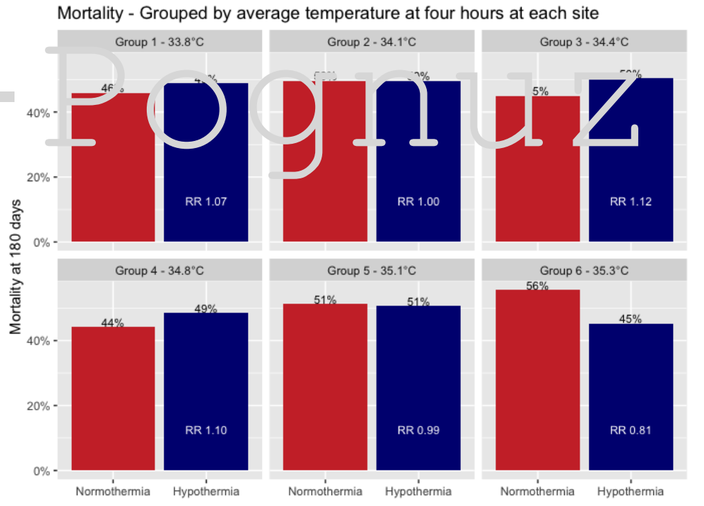
SPEED OF COOLING

RESEARCH Open Access

Speed of cooling after cardiac arrest in relation to the intervention effect: a sub-study from the TTM2-trial

Rupert F. G. Simpson[1,2], Josef Dankiewicz[3], Grigoris V. Karamasis[1,2], Paolo Pelosi[4,5], Matthias Haenggi[6], Paul J. Young[7,8,9], Janus Christian Jakobsen[11,12], Jonathan Bannard-Smith[13,14], Pedro D. Wendel-Garcia[15], Fabio Silvio Taccone[16], Per Nordberg[17,18], Matt P. Wise[19], Anders M. Grejs[20], Gisela Lilja[21], Roy Bjørkholt Olsen[22], Alain Cariou[23], Jean Baptiste Lascarrou[24], Manoj Saxena[25,2], Jan Hovdenes[27], Matthew Thomas[28], Hans Friberg[29], Joan R. Davies[1,2], Niklas Nielsen[30] and Thomas R. Keeble[31]





What TTM 1 & TTM2 trials did show ?

- Strictly controlled TTM regiments (32 °C vs 36 °C & 33 °C vs 36.5-37.7 °C) do not give different results

- Target temperature management works and it is necessary (with data available)

- The importance of avoiding fever in cardiac arrest

Limitations of TTM 1 & TTM 2 trials

- OHCA patients (generazibility to in hospital?)

- High patients' heterogeneity
  - ✓ shockable and non-shockable rhythms
  - ✓ no age limit

- Very short no-flow time and a large number of bystander-initiated resuscitation (implying a limited brain injury)

COMMENTARY Open Access

Targeted temperature management and cardiac arrest after the TTM-2 study

Fabio Silvio Taccone[1*], Jean-Baptiste Lascarrou[2] and Markus B. Skrifvars[3]

All the randomized studies on TTM after cardiac arrest are not entirely comparable !

	Bernard et al. [1]	HACA group [2]	Nielsen et al. [7]	Dankiewicz et al. [5]	Lascarrou et al. [4]
Design	Single-Centre	Multicentric	Multicentric	Multicentric	Multicentric
N (HT group)	79 (43)**	275 (138)*	939 (473)	1861 (930)	584 (284)
Age, years	67 (49–89)	59 (49–67)	64 ± 12	64 ± 13	67 (57–76)
Male gender	58%	77%	83%	80%	65%
OHCA	100%	100%	100%	100%	74%
B					
S					
T					
C					
Shock on Admission	NR	49*	15%	28%	56%
STEMI on Admission	NR	NR	40%	41%	16%
Lactate, mmol/L	8.3 (2.2–14.9)	NR	6.7 ± 4.5	5.9 ± 4.4	5.8 (3.2–9.0)
Outcome Assessment	Hospital Discharge	6 months	6 months	6 months	3 months
Mortality, %*	51%	41%	50%	50%	81%
UO Assessment Scale	CPC 3–5	CPC 3–5	CPC 3–5	mRS 4–6	CPC 3–5
UO, %	51	45	54	55	90
Prognostication Rules	Absent	Absent	Present	Present	Present
Generalisability/Bias	Low/high	Low/high	High/low	High/low	High/moderate

A Systematic Review & Meta-Analysis

Journal of *Clinical Medicine*

MDPI

Review

Targeted Temperature Management after Cardiac Arrest: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis with Trial Sequential Analysis

Filippo Sanfilippo [1,*,†], Luigi La Via [1,2,†], Bruno Lanzafame [1,2], Veronica Dezio [1,2], Diana Busalacchi [2], Antonio Messina [3,4], Giuseppe Ristagno [5], Paolo Pelosi [6,7] and Marinella Astuto [1,2]

1 Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, "Policlinico-Vittorio Emanuele" University Hospital, 95123 Catania, Italy; luigilavia[illegible]@gmail.com (L.L.V.); lanzab[illegible]@gmail.com (B.L.);
2 School of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, University Hospital "G. Rodolico", University of Catania, 95123 Catania, Italy; diana.busalacchi@gmail.com
3 Department of Biomedical Sciences, Humanitas University, Via Rita Levi Montalcini 4, 20090 Milan, Italy; mess81rc@gmail.com
4 IRCCS Humanitas Research Hospital, 20089 Milan, Italy

PICOS CRITERIA	
Population	Patients experiencing CA both in and out-of-hospital, independently from the initially detected rhythm (shockable or not), with TTM performed after hospital arrival
Intervention	TTM with temperature range set at 32–34 °C
Comparison	TTM with either actively controlled or uncontrolled normothermia
Outcome(s)	Survival and neurological outcome at longest follow-up (primary); adverse effects (secondary)
Study design	Randomized controlled trial only

CA: cardiac arrest; TTM: target temperature management.

- **Effects on survival & neurologic outcome**

➢ **TTM (Temperature range of 32-34 °C)**

➢ **Controls:**

- "actively" controlled (avoiding fever)
- "uncontrolled" normothermia (may hesitate in hyperthermia/fever)

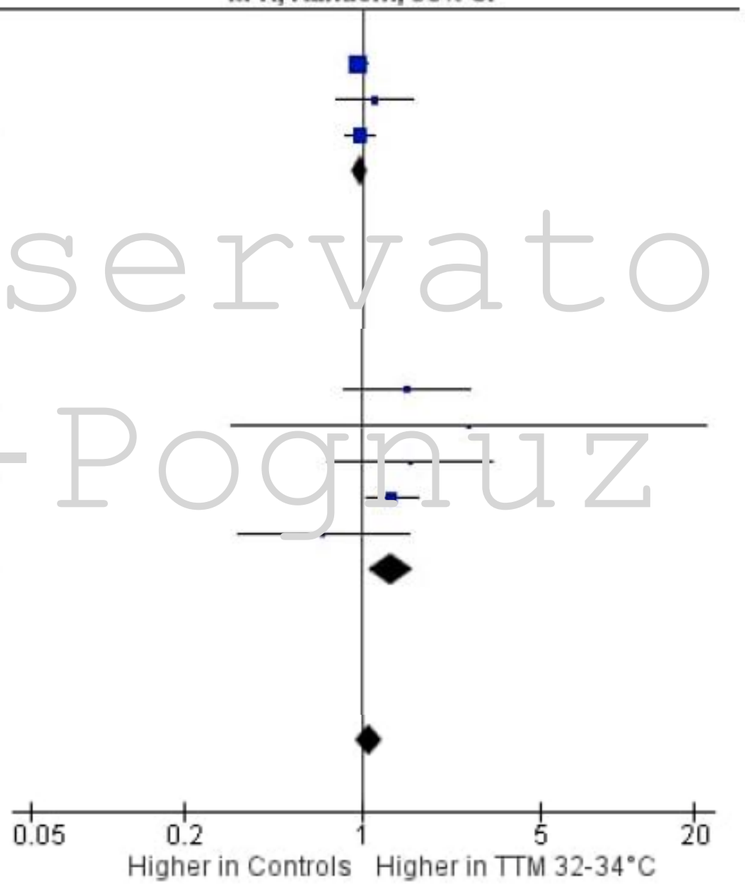
- **Serious adverse events**

Sanfilippo F et al. J. Clin. Med. 2021, 10, 3943

First Author Year	Location of Arrest	First Rhythm Detected	Treatment in the Intervention Group Treatment in the Control Group	Longest Follow Up GNO Assessment
Dankiewicz 2021 *N* = 1861	OHCA	Shockable 74% Non-shockable 26%	TTM (surface/ iv, 33 °C, 28 h) + active RW (12 h) Normothermia (≤37.5 °C + surface/iv if ≥37.8 °C)	6-months mRS
Nielsen 2013 *N* = 939	OHCA	Shockable 80% Non-shockable 20%	TTM (any method, 33 °C, 28 h) + active RW (8 h) TTM (any method, 36 °C, 28 h) + active RW (2 h)	6-months—End trial CPC—mRS
Lascarrou 2019 *N* = 548	Mixed (73% OHCA)	Non-shockable 100%	TTM (any method, 33 °C, 24 h) + active RW (8–16 h, 36 °C, 24 h) TTM (any method, 37 °C, 48 h)	90-days CPC
Holzer 2002 *N* = 136	OHCA	Shockable 96% Other 4%	TTM (mattress, 32–34 °C, 24 h) + passive RW Normothermia (no target)	6-months CPC
Bernard 2002 *N* = 77	OHCA	Shockable 100%	TTM (ice-packs, 33 °C, 12 h) + active RW (6 h) Normothermia (37 °C)	Hospital discharge Home/short term rehab
Hachimi-idrissi 2005 *N* = 61	OHCA	Non-shockable 54% Shockable 46%	TTM (Helmet, 33 °C, brief *) + passive RW Normothermia (37 °C) TTM (mattress, 33 °C, 24 h) + passive RW Normothermia (37 °C)	6-months CPC
Laurent 2005 * *N* = 42	OHCA	Shockable 74% Non-shockable 26%	TTM (HF + ice-packs, 32 °C, 24 h) + passive RW Normothermia + HF 8 h (37 °C)	6-months CPC
Hachimi-idrissi 2001 *N* = 30	OHCA	Non-shockable 100%	TTM (Helmet, 34 °C, brief *) + passive RW Normothermia + treatment of fever (38 °C)	2-weeks CPC

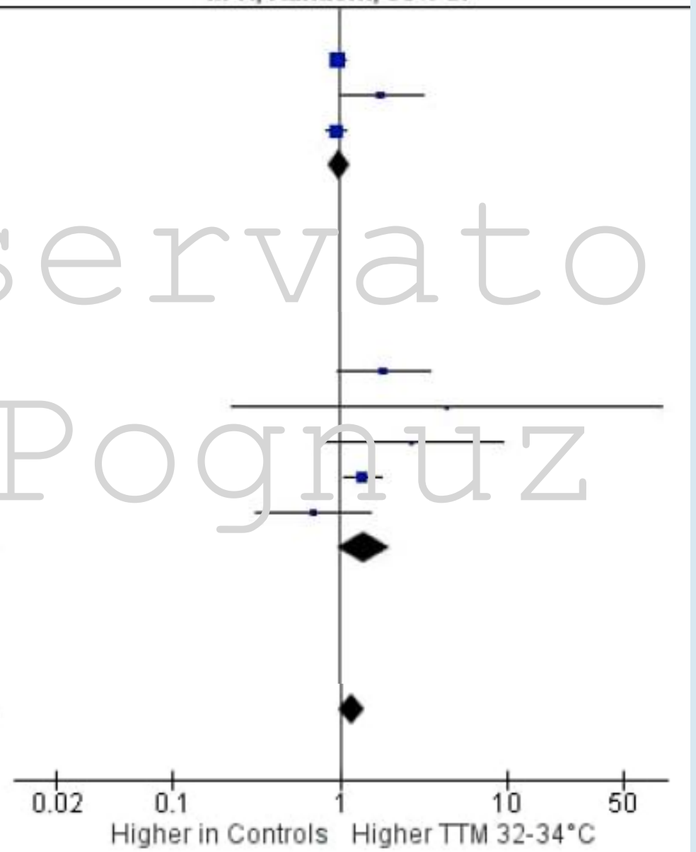
Effects on survival

Study or Subgroup	TTM 32-34°C Events	Total	Controls Events	Total	Weight	Risk Ratio M-H, Random, 95% CI
1.1.1 Actively controlled normothermia						
Dankiewicz, New Engl J Med 2021	460	925	479	925	34.8%	0.96 [0.88, 1.05]
Lascarrou, New Engl J Med 2019	53	284	50	297	9.5%	1.11 [0.78, 1.57]
Nielsen, New Engl J Med 2013	238	473	241	466	29.5%	0.97 [0.86, 1.10]
Subtotal (95% CI)		**1682**		**1688**	**73.8%**	**0.97 [0.90, 1.04]**
Total events	751		770			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 0.82, df = 2 (P = 0.73); I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.83 (P = 0.41)						
1.1.2 Passively controlled normothermia						
Bernard, New Engl J Med 2002	21	43	11	34	4.1%	1.51 [0.85, 2.68]
Hachimi-Idrissi, Resuscitation 2001	3	16	1	14	0.3%	2.63 [0.31, 22.46]
Hachimi-Idrissi, Resuscitation 2005	12	30	8	31	2.6%	1.55 [0.74, 3.25]
Holzer, New Engl J Med 2002	31	137	62	139	16.9%	1.32 [1.04, 1.66]
Laurent, JACC 2005	7	22	9	20	2.3%	0.71 [0.32, 1.54]
Subtotal (95% CI)		**248**		**237**	**26.2%**	**1.31 [1.07, 1.59]**
Total events	124		91			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 3.24, df = 4 (P = 0.52); I² = 0%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.65 (P = 0.008)						
Total (95% CI)		**1930**		**1925**	**100.0%**	**1.06 [0.94, 1.20]**
Total events	875		861			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.01; Chi² = 11.58, df = 7 (P = 0.12); I² = 40%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.92 (P = 0.36)						
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 7.71, df = 1 (P = 0.005), I² = 87.0%						



Effects on neurologic outcome

Study or Subgroup	TTM 32-34°C Events	Total	TTM 36°C or SoC Events	Total	Weight	Risk Ratio M-H, Random, 95% CI
1.2.1 Actively controlled normothermia						
Dankiewicz, New Engl J Med 2021	393	881	387	866	29.8%	1.00 [0.90, 1.11]
Lascarrou, New Engl J Med 2019	29	284	17	297	7.9%	1.78 [1.00, 3.17]
Nielsen, New Engl J Med 2013	218	469	222	464	28.0%	0.97 [0.85, 1.11]
Subtotal (95% CI)		**1634**		**1627**	**65.7%**	**1.02 [0.88, 1.18]**
Total events	640		626			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.01; Chi² = 4.10, df = 2 (P = 0.13); I² = 51%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.27 (P = 0.79)						
1.2.2 Passively controlled normothermia						
Bernard, New Engl J Med 2002	21	43	9	34	6.7%	1.84 [0.97, 3.49]
Hachimi-Idrissi, Resuscitation 2001	2	16	0	14	0.4%	4.41 [0.23, 84.79]
Hachimi-Idrissi, Resuscitation 2005	8	30	3	31	2.1%	2.76 [0.81, 9.41]
Holzer, New Engl J Med 2002	75	136	54	137	20.2%	1.40 [1.08, 1.81]
Laurent, JACC 2005	7	22	9	20	4.8%	0.71 [0.32, 1.54]
Subtotal (95% CI)		**247**		**236**	**34.3%**	**1.42 [0.99, 2.04]**
Total events	113		75			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.05; Chi² = 5.46, df = 4 (P = 0.24); I² = 27%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.93 (P = 0.05)						
Total (95% CI)		**1881**		**1863**	**100.0%**	**1.17 [0.97, 1.41]**
Total events	753		701			
Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.03; Chi² = 17.55, df = 7 (P = 0.01); I² = 60%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.66 (P = 0.10)						
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 2.87, df = 1 (P = 0.09), I² = 65.1%						

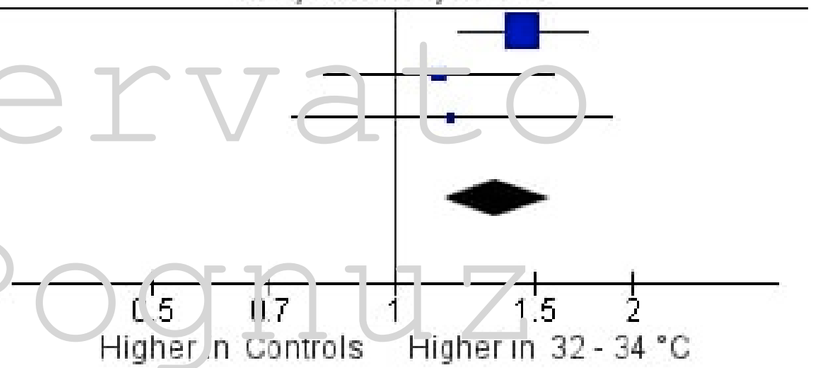


Adverse events

Arrhythmias

Study or Subgroup	TTM 32 - 34 °C Events	Total	TTM Controls Events	Total	Weight	Risk Ratio M-H, Random, 95% CI
Dankiewicz, New Engl J Med 2021	222	927	152	921	67.6%	1.45 [1.21, 1.75]
Holzer, New Engl J Med 2002	49	136	44	136	21.2%	1.11 [0.82, 1.50]
Lascarrou, New Engl J Med 2019	35	284	31	297	11.2%	1.18 [0.76, 1.86]
Total (95% CI)		**1346**		**1356**	**100.0%**	**1.35 [1.16, 1.57]**
Total events	306		227			

Heterogeneity: Tau² = 0.00; Chi² = 1.94, df = 2 (P = 0.38); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.83 (P = 0.0001)



No differences in the incidence of:

✓ bleeding (RR 1.10 (95%CI 0.83, 1.44))

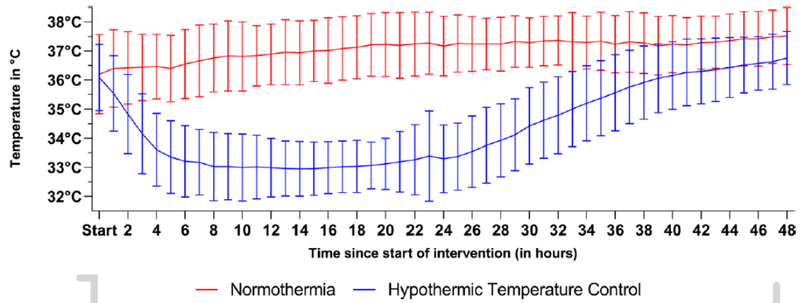
✓ pneumonia (RR 1.11 (95%CI 0.96, 1.29))

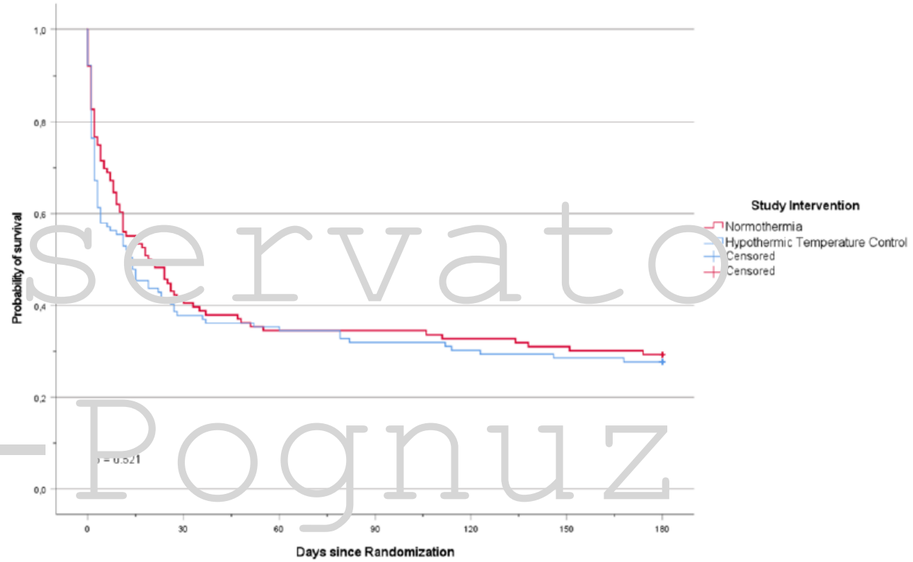
CONCLUSIONS

- In CA survivors admitted to hospital, the implementation of TTM with a target temperature of 32 - 34 °C:
  - ✓ does not improve survival nor neurological outcome
  - ✓ it increases the risk of arrhythmias

- For survival, robust evidence and no more studies are needed.
- For neurological outcome current evidence is not robust enough - thus new research is needed.

- Approaching temperature management with“uncontrolled” normothermia may be associated with worse outcomes and this should not be considered an option nowadays.





Patients at risk

Days	0	30	60	90	120	150	180
Hypothermic Temperature Control	120	45	32	38	36	34	33
Normothermia	118	48	40	40	38	36	34

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

Temperature Control After In-Hospital Cardiac Arrest: A Randomized Clinical Trial

Sebastian Wolfrum, MD*; Kevin Roedl, MD*; Alexia Hanebutte, MD; Rüdiger Pfeifer, MD; Volkhard Kurowski, MD; Reimer Riessen, MD; Anne Daubmann, MSc; Stephan Braune, MD; Gerold Söffker, MD; Eric Bibiza-Freiwald, MSc; Karl Wegscheider, PhD; Heribert Schunkert, MD; Holger Thiele, MD*; Stefan Kluge, MD*; for the Hypothermia After In-Hospital Cardiac Arrest Study Group

The STEPCARE trial

The STEPCARE trial is an international, multicenter, parallel group, noncommercial, randomized, factorial, superiority trial to include 3100 patients

1. Continuous sedation for 36 h or minimal sedation (SEDCARE)
2. Fever management with or without a TTM device for 72 h (TEMPCARE)
3. A mean arterial pressure target of > 85mmHg or > 65mmHg for 36 hours (MAPCARE)

Follow-up will be performed at 30 days and 6 months after cardiac arrest including mortality, functional outcome and quality of life

1. Detailed cognitive outcome with focus on patients and caregivers
2. Prognostication to identify and validate early and accurate instruments and algorithm
3. Biobank with blood samples at 0, 24, 48, and 72 hours after the cardiac arrest

APPROCCIO DIAGNOSTICO AL PAZIENTE CON ROSC

Prof. Erik Roman-Pognuz MD PhD

UCO Anestesia, Rianimazione e terapia antalgica

Università degli studi di Trieste

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

IRC Italian Resuscitation Council

Congresso Nazionale IRC PADOVA LE NUOVE LINEE GUIDA DELLA RIANIMAZIONE CARDIOPOLMONARE

BEYOND THE PULSE

Post-Cardiac Arrest Syndrome (PCAS): the real challenge begins.

Timing is Critical

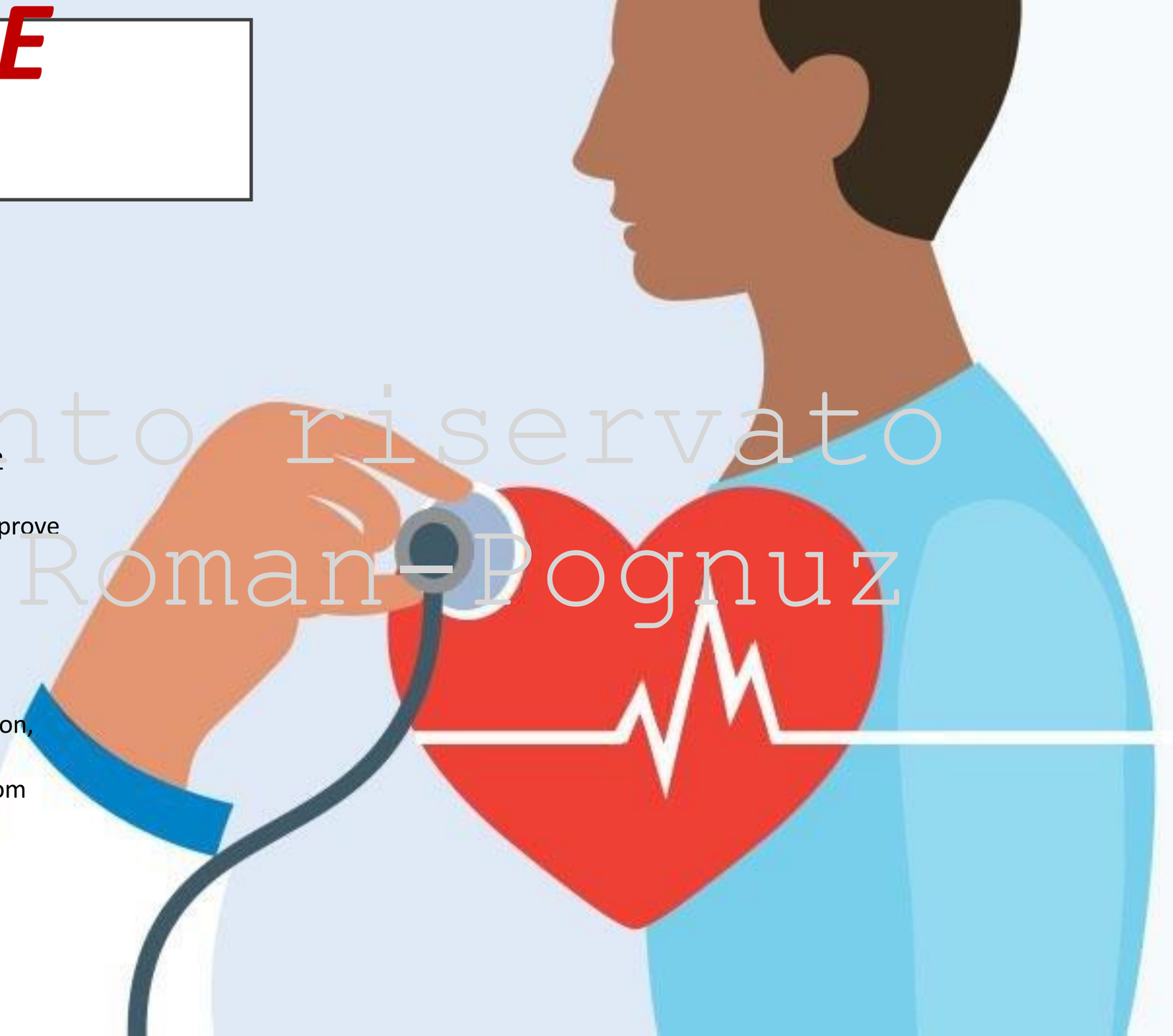
- Most deaths after ROSC occur within the first 72 hours.
- Early interventions can reduce mortality and improve neurological recovery.

Up to 80% ROSC reach the ICU comatose, unstable, and diagnostically uncertain.

Goals of Post-ROSC Diagnostic Strategy

- Identify reversible causes (e.g., coronary occlusion, PE)
- Detect complications (e.g., traumatic injuries from CPR)
- Stratify prognosis (especially neurological)
- Guide appropriate therapy and ICU care

Survival depends on **identifying the cause**

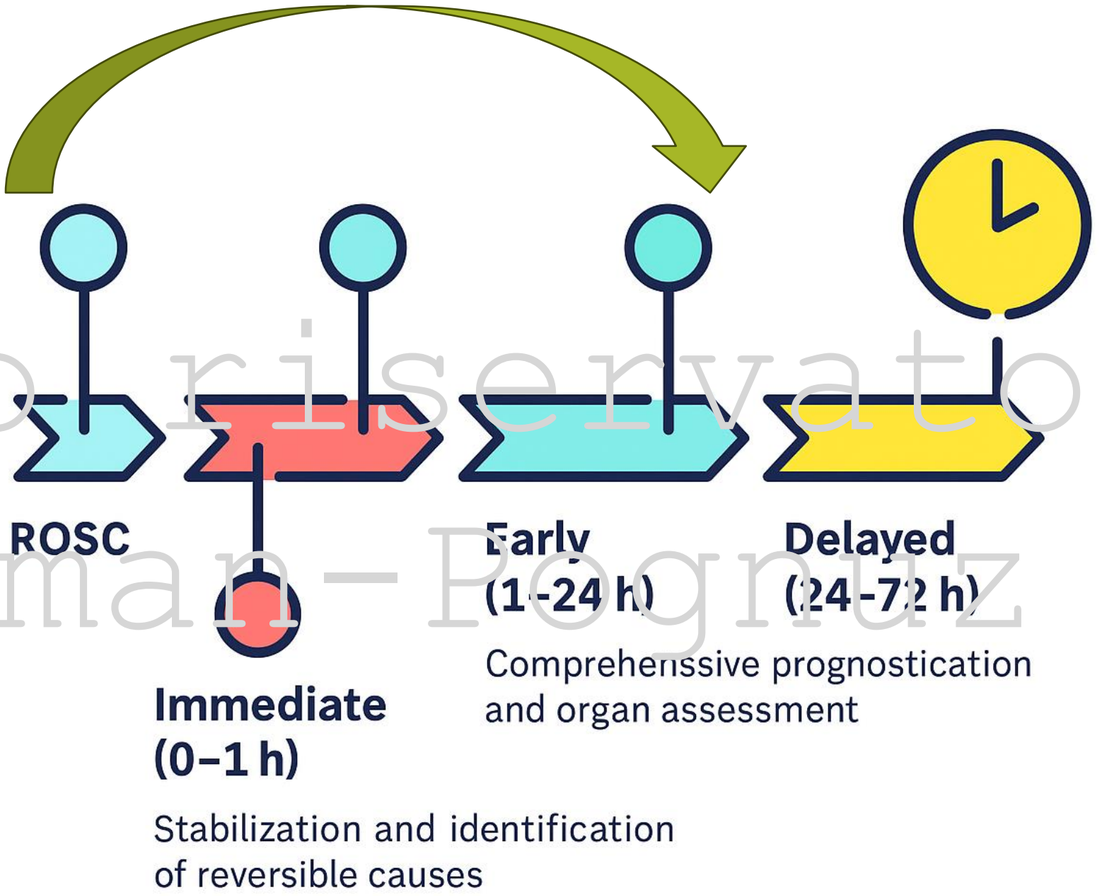


DIAGNOSING LIFE AFTER ROSC

The diagnostic mission:

A time-sensitive, layered approach:

- Immediate (0–1 h): Stabilize, detect reversible causes.
- Early (1–24 h): Define etiology and organ injury.
- Delayed (≥24–72 h): Assess neurological potential and outcome.



POST RESUSCITATION CARE
KEY MESSAGES

GUIDELINES 2025
EUROPEAN RESUSCITATION COUNCIL©

After ROSC use ABCDE approach

- Insert an advanced airway (tracheal intubation when skills available)
- As soon as SpO_2 can be measured reliably or arterial blood gas values are obtained, titrate the inspired oxygen to achieve an arterial oxygen saturation of 94-98%, and ventilate lungs to achieve normocapnia
- Aim for a systolic blood pressure ≥ 100 mmHg or a mean arterial pressure ≥ 60–65 mmHg

Perform functional assessments of physical and non-physical impairments before discharge to identify rehabilitation needs and refer to early rehabilitation if indicated

Prioritise immediate coronary angiography for patients with clear ST-elevation on the ECG or other high suspicion of coronary occlusion (e.g. haemodynamic and/or electrical instability)

Use a multimodal strategy including clinical examination, electrophysiology, biomarkers, and imaging to predict good or poor neurological outcome

Actively prevent fever by targeting a temperature ≤ 37.5 °C for patients who remain comatose after ROSC from cardiac arrest

POST-CARDIAC ARREST SYNDROME: MECHANISMS OF INJURY

No-flow phase:

- Cessation of CBF→ halted aerobic metabolism
- ATP depletion → failure of Na^+/K^+ pumps → intracellular Ca^{2+} accumulation
- Neuronal electrical silence and structural vulnerability

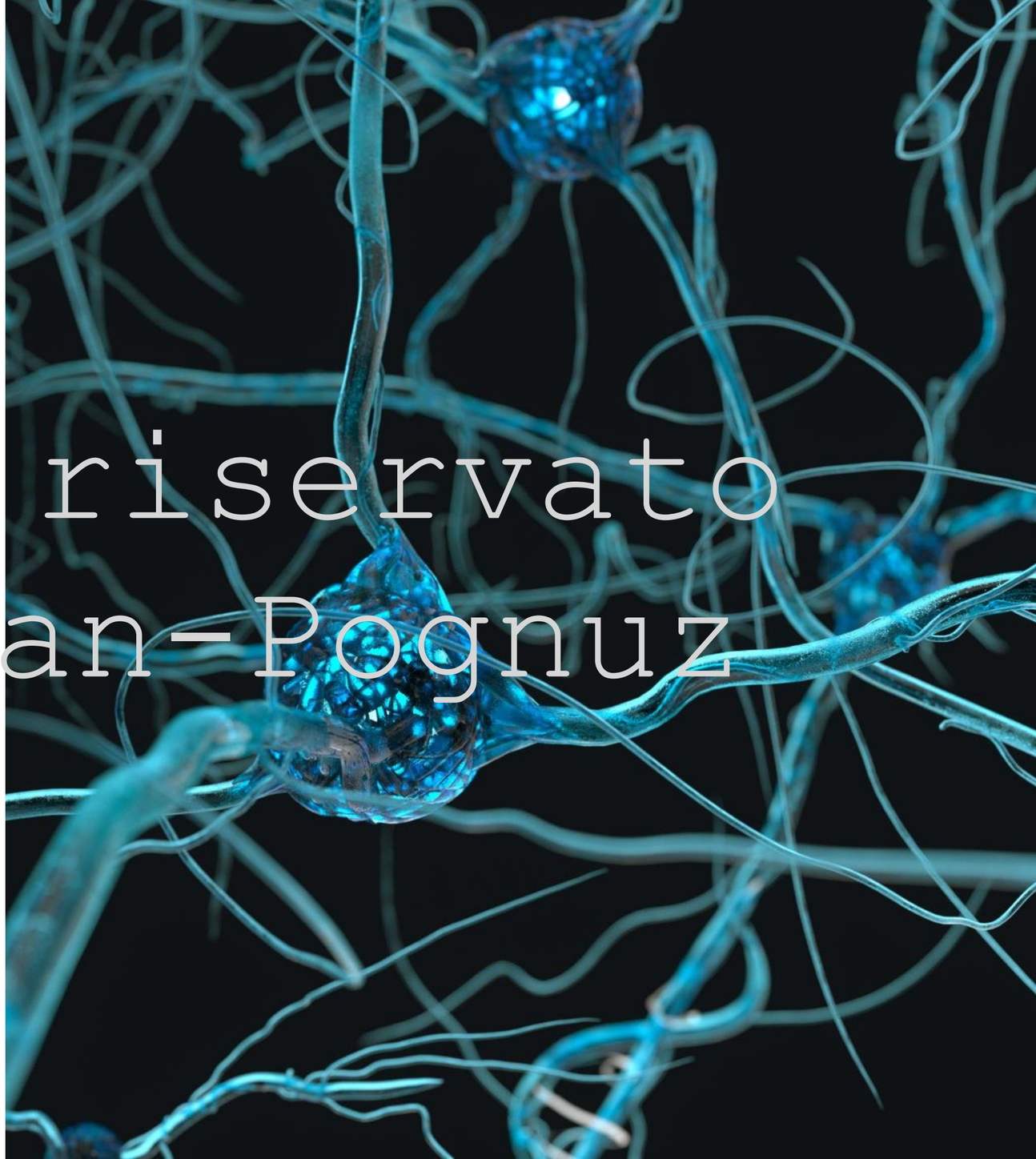
Reperfusion phase:

- Restoration of CBF triggers glutamate release → protease/phospholipase activation
- Further Ca^{2+} overload and mitochondrial dysfunction → secondary neuronal injury

Systemic response:

- Activation of **inflammatory and coagulative cascades** → cytokine release
- Exacerbation of **multiorgan failure** and **secondary brain injury** (due to hypotension, blood-gas or glycaemic derangements, fever, seizures, cerebral oedema)

Severity linked to:



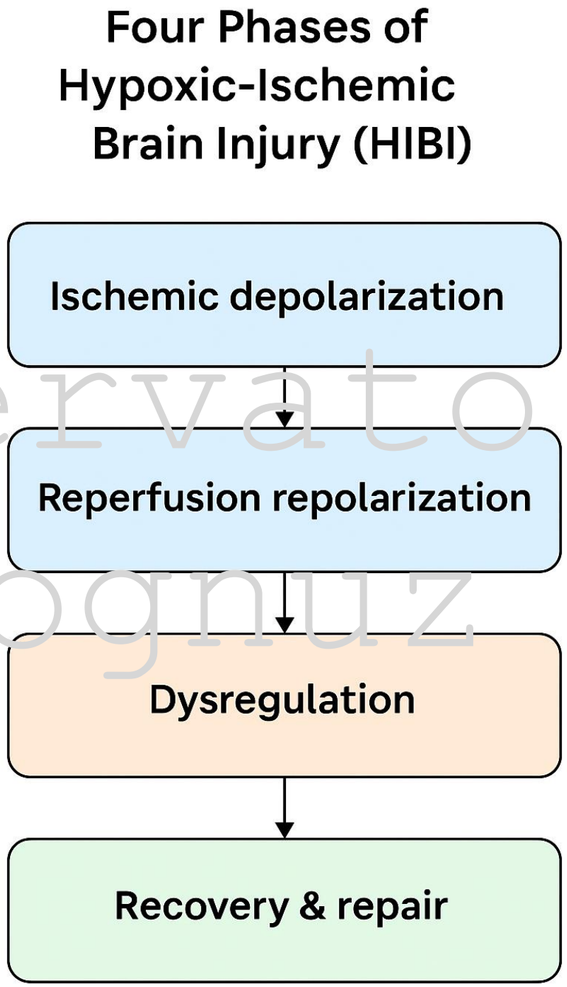
CLINICAL PHASES AND MANAGEMENT FOCUS

Post-resuscitation management goals:

1. Mitigate **HIBI severity** → the leading cause of in-hospital death after arrest
2. Optimize systemic and cerebral homeostasis (hemodynamics, oxygenation, temperature, glucose)
3. Prevent secondary injury

Therapeutic research:

1. Many pharmacologic agents tested, none show convincing benefit (so far..)
2. **Withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment (WLST)** following poor-outcome prognostication accounts for most late deaths



AETIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AFTER ROSC: CARDIAC VS. EXTRA-CARDIAC CAUSES

Epidemiology

- *Cardiac origin* (predominantly ischaemic) = most common cause of OHCA.
- *Extracardiac causes* ~ **1/3 of OHCAs**, requiring prompt identification by **TTE and early CT imaging**

Rationale for early multimodal imaging

- Transthoracic echocardiography → rapid assessment of global function and tamponade.
- Dual-phase contrast-enhanced CT (pulmonary + venous) → **identifies both cause and complications** (e.g. CPR-related trauma, PE, haemorrhage).

Sonneville (2021)	Diagnostic strategy after ROSC	Broad work-up including CT & echo to reveal hidden causes
Hubert (2020)	Whole-body CT in early ROSC	CT improves early detection of non-cardiac & CPR-related complications
Grimaldi (2019)	Non-shockable OHCA outcomes	Non-cardiac causes common in non-shockable rhythms; early CT imaging is critical for accurate prognosis and treatment planning

Extra-cardiac causes

- **Respiratory**: acute hypoxic failure, massive PE.
- **Neurological**: intracranial haemorrhage, ischaemic stroke (thromboembolic).
- **Vascular**: aortic dissection, major vessel rupture.
- **Metabolic / toxic**: less frequent, but should be screened if initial evaluation is inconclusive.

Note: Neurological causes strongly predict poor neurological outcome–justifying early brain imaging.

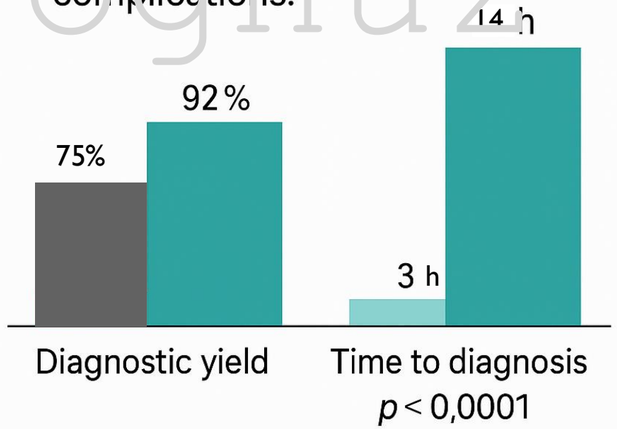
WHOLE-BODY CT STRATEGY AND INTEGRATION WITH CORONARY ANGIOGRAPHY

1. **CT to detect complications of resuscitation**
2. **Guideline evolution (ERC-ESICM 2021 → 2025):**
   - 2021: Consider **CT brain and CT pulmonary angiography** when no evident cardiac cause.
   - 2025: Recommend **immediate whole-body CT** (head, neck, chest, abdomen, pelvis, ± CT coronary angiography) when **no clear ST-elevation** on ECG.
3. **Diagnostic algorithm (expert synthesis):**
   - **ST-elevation present → immediate coronary angiography.**
   - **No ST-elevation / unclear aetiology → whole-body CT first** to identify treatable non-cardiac causes (e.g. PE, ICH, dissection).
   - **CT-guided triage** to targeted coronary or other interventions.

Supporting evidence:

Prospective pre/post analysis (standard care vs. systematic CT within 6 h):

- Diagnostic yield: 92 % vs. 75 %, $p < 0.001$.
- Time to diagnosis: 3 h vs. 14 h, $p < 0.0001$
- No increase in contrast-induced nephropathy or transport complications.



AIRWAY STRATEGY IN THE POST–CARDIAC ARREST PATIENT

Timing of tracheal intubation:

- May occur **before, during, or after (most cases)** depending on clinical context

Rationale for airway control post-ROSC:

- Ensures **controlled oxygenation and ventilation**.
- **Prevents aspiration** of gastric contents.
- Enables **precise control** of interventions affecting neurological recovery:
  - Temperature management
  - Seizure control
  - Sedation and neuroprotection

DRUG-ASSISTED INTUBATION AFTER ROSC

Author	Citation	Study Focus
Sunde, K., et al.	*Airway management and sedation after cardiac arrest.* **Resuscitation**, 2022; **172**: 45–54.	Evaluated post–cardiac arrest airway and sedation strategies, focusing on induction and maintenance drugs.

Hemodynamic considerations:

- Avoid induction hypotension in post-ROSC instability to protect cerebral perfusion.

Induction strategy:

- No single drug combination proven superior.
- Recommended approach:
  - **Low-dose sedative** (e.g., etomidate, ketamine, or low-dose propofol in stable patients).
  - **Analgesic** (e.g., fentanyl or remifentanil) to blunt sympathetic surge.
  - **Rapid-onset neuromuscular blocking agent** (e.g., rocuronium or suxamethonium).

Post-intubation management:

- **Capnographic confirmation (sustained $ETCO_2$ waveform)**
- **Protective ventilation** (normocapnia, normoxia)

Author	Citation	Study Focus	Key Findings / Relevance
Nolan, J.P., et al.	*Oxygenation and Ventilation After Cardiac Arrest.* **Resuscitation**, 2025; in press.	Comprehensive ILCOR systematic review and CoSTR on oxygenation and ventilation management after ROSC.	Recommends initial **FiO_2 100%**, then titration to **SpO_2 94–98% / PaO_2 75–100 mmHg** once reliable measurement available; avoid both **hypoxemia** and **hyperoxemia**.
López-de-Sá, E., et al.	**Resuscitation**, 2024; **189**: 109812.	Meta-analysis of RCTs comparing different oxygen and CO_2 targets in post–cardiac arrest patients.	Confirms **no clear survival benefit** for liberal or restrictive oxygenation; supports maintaining **normoxia and normocapnia**.
Eastwood, G.M., et al.	*(ICU-ROX Trial).* **N Engl J Med**, 2019; **382**: 989–001.	Large RCT (n=16,500) assessing SpO_2 90% vs usual care (≈96%).	No difference in 90-day mortality, including post–cardiac arrest subgroup; supports **normoxia as a state**.
Sjoding, M.W., et al.	**N Engl J Med**, 2020; **383**: 2477–2478.	Investigated accuracy of pulse oximetry in relation to skin pigmentation.	Found that **pulse oximeters overestimate SpO_2** in individuals with darker skin tones, risking unrecognized hypoxemia; supports caution in post-ROSC oxygen titration.

OXYGEN TARGETS FOLLOWING CARDIAC ARREST (ILCOR & ERC/ESICM 2025)

Initial: Use **FiO_2 100%** until reliable PaO_2/SpO_2 available (prehospital + in-hospital)

Avoid: Hypoxemia (strong) and hyperoxemia (weak) once values measurable.

Targets: SpO_2 **94–98%**, PaO_2 **75–100 mmHg (10–13 kPa)** → *normoxia*

Caution: Pulse oximetry may **overestimate SpO_2** in darker skin tones

	Study / Setting	Design & Target Comparison	Key Findings
1	EXACT Trial (JAMA 2022)	Prehospital RCT — *SpO_2 90–94% vs 98–100%*	More desaturation events in lower-target group → early restriction potentially harmful.
2	BOX Trial (NEJM 2022)	Hospital RCT — *PaO_2 68–75 mmHg vs 98–113 mmHg*	No mortality difference; supports normoxia as safe.
3	UK-ROX Trial (JAMA 2025)	Multicenter RCT, 16,500 ventilated ICU pts (1,502 with HIBI)	No difference in 90-day mortality between SpO_2 90% vs usual care.
4	TTM2 Secondary Analyses (Resuscitation 2025; Crit Care 2022)	Observational secondary analysis	Early hyperoxia (PaO_2 > 245 mmHg) associated with worse neurological outcomes.

CLINICAL EVIDENCE BASE AND PRACTICE INTEGRATION

indications:

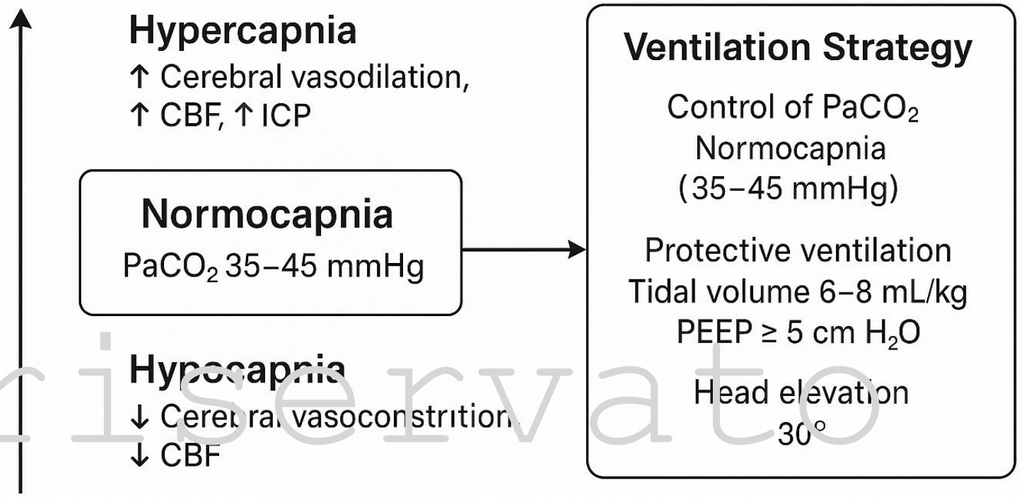
- Maintain **FiO_2 1.0** until ABG confirms normoxia → then titrate to **SpO_2 94–98%**.
- **Tracheal intubation** and **controlled mechanical ventilation** usually required for 24–72 h post-ROSC.
- **Exception:** Fully awake patient → oxygen mask or NIV, same SpO_2 target range.

VENTILATION STRATEGY IN POST–CARDIAC ARREST CARE

Pathophysiological rationale:

- After ROSC → **mixed metabolic + respiratory acidosis** due to hypoventilation and tissue hypoperfusion
- RCTs show **no outcome difference** between *normocapnia (35–45 mmHg)* and *mild hypercapnia (50–55 mmHg)*
- **End-tidal CO_2 ($EtCO_2$)** values may not reliably reflect $PaCO_2$ → confirm by **arterial blood gas** when feasible.
- During **hypothermia**, $PaCO_2$ measurement and correction are complex; use a **consistent local approach** (temperature-corrected or not)

Ventilation After Cardiac Arrest



Author	Citation	Study Focus	Key Findings
Sekhon, M S., et al.	.Cri: Ca.e, 201 ; **22(1)**: 212.	De.cri es the me.hani.ms o hypercapnia an hypocapni following cardiac arrest.	High ights hat **hy percapni** commonly occurs post- ROSC due t hypov ntilation and tissue ypoperfusio , leading to ixed acidosis.
Robba, C., et al.	**Resuscitation**, 2019; **143**: 24–30.	Observational study assessing $PaCO_2$ effects on CBF and outcomes post-cardiac arrest.	Demonstrates that both **hypocapnia** and **hypercapnia** can worsen outcomes by disrupting cerebral autoregulation and perfusion.
Eastwood, G.M., et al.	**JAMA**, 2023; **329(1)**: 47–57.	Large RCT comparing $PaCO_2$ 50–55 mmHg vs 35–45 mmHg post-ROSC.	Found **no difference** in survival or neurological outcomes; supports **normocapnia ($PaCO_2$ 35–45 mmHg)**as safe standard.
Düsterhöft, C., et al.	**Resuscitation**, 2018; **131**: 43–50.	Evaluates impact of temperature correction on $PaCO_2$ values during hypothermia.	Shows that **$PaCO_2$ measurement varies with temperature correction**; risk of unrecognized **hypocapnia** in cooled patients.
Wahlster, S., et al.	**Neurocrit Care**, 2017; **27(1)**: 104–113.	Compares α-stat vs pH-stat correction in temperature-managed patients.	Both methods acceptable if used **consistently**; guidelines recommend maintaining a **standardized institutional approach**.

VENTILATORY MANAGEMENT AND LUNG PROTECTION AFTER CARDIAC ARREST

Protective ventilation

- **Tidal volume:** 6–8 mL/kg predicted body weight.
- **PEEP ≥ 5 cm H_2O.**
- **Head elevation:** 30° to reduce aspiration and intracranial pressure.

Author	Citation	Study Focus	Key Findings / Relevance
Robba, C., et al.	**Resuscitation**, 2018; **133**: 167–173.	Prospective physiological study evaluating the impact of head elevation on cerebral and respiratory parameters in post-cardiac arrest patients.	**Head-up position (30°)** reduces risk of aspiration pneumonia and may **lower intracranial pressure (ICP)** without compromising oxygenation — supports guideline recommendation for nursing at 30° elevation.

EARLY CORONARY ANGIOGRAPHY: WHEN AND FOR WHOM?

- Acute coronary syndrome (ACS) remains the most frequent cause of OHCA with ROSC [21,74]
- Immediate PCI for culprit lesion → **associated** with improved survival & neurological outcome (observational)

Practical approach:

- **ST-elevation or shock/instability → immediate PCI.**
- **Stable, comatose, no ST-elevation → whole-body CT first, delayed PCI.**

With ST-elevation (STEMI/LBBB):

- 80 % have acute coronary lesion (75)
- Strong evidence from non-arrest STEMI supports immediate cath lab access + PCI
- 2023 ESC & ERC-ESICM: Primary PCI strategy recommended in ROSC patients with persistent ST-elevation or equivalents (32)
- Repeat ECG on arrival –

Without ST-elevation (NSTEMI or non-diagnostic ECG):

- Coronary occlusion possible, but less common
- Major RCTs (COACT, TOMAHAWK, EMERGEPEARL, COUPE) → no benefit from routine immediate angiography vs delayed strategy (32-87)
- Meta-analysis of 5 RCTs (n>1,000) → confirmed no survival or neurological benefit

Author	Citation	Study Focus	Key Findings
Dragancea, I., et al.	**Resuscitation**, 2015; **93**: 145–152.	Investigated early predictors of poor neurological outcome after cardiac arrest.	Demonstrated that **early prognostication is unreliable** within the first hours post-ROSC; supports delaying prognostic decisions until multimodal evaluation.
Sandroni, C., et al.	**Intensive Care Med**, 2020; **46(9)**: 1803–1851.	Comprehensive review of prognostic tools after cardiac arrest.	Identified most reliable predictors (absent pupillary reflexes, bilaterally absent N20 SSEP, unreactive EEG, NSE > 60 µg/L); reinforced the need for a **multimodal approach**.
Nielsen, N., et al.	**Resuscitation**, 2024; **190**: 109936.	Secondary analysis of TTM2 examining multimodal prognostication performance.	Confirmed that **no single test is sufficient**; combining **neurological exam, EEG, biomarkers, and imaging** improves accuracy; emphasized avoiding premature withdrawal of care.

ASSESSING AND GUIDING CIRCULATION IN POST–CARDIAC ARREST PATIENTS

Interpretation:

- Myocardial depression and vasoplegia frequent; reversible in most cases.
- Combine **hemodynamic and metabolic endpoints** (MAP, $ScvO_2$, lactate)

Assessing and Guiding Circulation in Post-Cardiac Arrest Patients

Post-arrest myocardial dysfunction:

- Seen in 40–60% of patients; transient over 24–48 h
- Use echocardiography for early detection and serial evaluation
- Low cardiac index not independently predictive of poor outcome if lactate clears (98–99)

Recommended monitoring tools:

- Continuous ECG + invasive arterial pressure
- Echocardiography (TTE or TEE)
- Consider PA catheter or advanced CO monitoring if shock persists (95–97)

MAINTAINING PERFUSION AND AUTOREGULATION AFTER CARDIAC ARREST

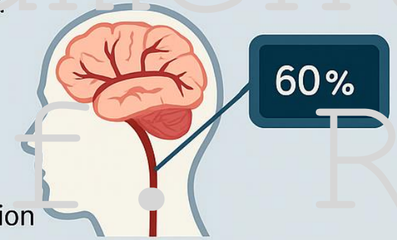
Mean arterial pressure (MAP):

- Target MAP > 60–65 mmHg (ERC–ESICM 2025, ILCOR 2024)[103].
- Higher MAP (>70–75 mmHg) → no survival or renal benefit in RCTs, but no excess risk either.

Consider higher target in:

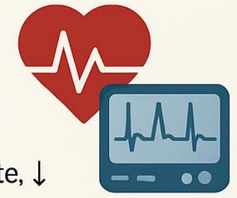
- Chronic hypertension
- Persistent hypoperfusion (oliguria, high lactate)
- Impaired cerebral autoregulation
- Cerebral oximetry (rSO_2) or ICP/$PbtO_2$ monitoring may help individualize MAP[108–110]

› Avoid hypotension; ensure adequate oxygen delivery despite bradycardia



Heart rate:

- Bradycardia (30–40 bpm) common during temperature control — benign or protective [117–119]
- Treat only if signs of hypoperfusion (↑ lactate, ↓ urine)



Author	Citation	Study Focus	Key Findings
Kjaergaard, J., et al.	*(BOX Trial).* **N Engl J Med,** 2022; **387(19):** 1727–1738.	Randomized 789 post–cardiac arrest patients to **MAP 63 mmHg vs 77 mmHg** for 36 h after ROSC.	No difference in **mortality, neurological outcome, or kidney injury** between groups; higher MAP associated with increased vasopressor use. Supports **target MAP >60–65 mmHg** as safe and sufficient (ILCOR 2024, ERC–ESICM 2025).

Author	Citation	Study Focus	Key Findings
Lee, J.K., et al.	**Crit Care Med,** 2019; **47(7):** 964–972.	Investigated cerebral autoregulation and individualized MAP targets after cardiac arrest using **NIRS-derived cerebral oximetry (rSO_2).**	Found that impaired autoregulation is common post-ROSC; **optimal MAP (where autoregulation preserved) varied widely between patients (≈85–100 mmHg).** Suggests that **rSO_2 monitoring can help tailor MAP targets** to reduce secondary brain injury.

JUDICIOUS AND TARGETED FLUID THERAPY

First Author	Citation	Study Focus	Key Findings / Relevance
Laurent	**Circulation**, 2002.	Characterized hemodynamic phases post-ROSC.	Early **cardiogenic shock** followed by **distributive/hypovolemic phase** from systemic inflammation; supports tailored, phase-specific resuscitation.
Kämäräinen	**JAMA**, 2014.	Rapid prehospital cold saline infusion after ROSC.	**Increased pulmonary edema and rearrest**; no neurological benefit → avoid large cold boluses.
Semler / Van Regenmortel	*SMART Trial*, **N Engl J Med**, 2018; *ESICM Fluid Therapy Guidelines*, **Intensive Care Med**, 2023.	Compared balanced crystalloids vs saline.	Balanced crystalloids → **lower renal complications**; ESICM recommends them as standard, except **use saline for TBI**.
Coca	*Cohort studies in* **Resuscitation**, **Crit Care Med**, **Intensive Care Med**, 2010–2019.	Incidence and outcomes of **acute kidney injury (AKI)** post-cardiac arrest.	**AKI in 34–52%** of survivors; most mild but linked to **higher mortality and ICU stay**.
Redfors	*Observational and interventional studies*, 2015–2022.	MAP, fluid balance, and renal outcomes after cardiac arrest.	**Low MAP (<70 mHg)** increases AKI risk; **liberal fluids do not prevent AKI** → advocate **controlled, goal-directed resuscitation**.

- **Initial phase:** often **cardiogenic shock** → later **distributive/hypovolemic** from systemic inflammation
- **Avoid** rapid infusion of large cold volumes post-ROSC — **harmful** in prehospital setting
- **Use crystalloids** guided by clinical/echo assessment:
  - Balanced crystalloids or **NaCl 0.9%** acceptable.
  - *Balanced solutions* → lower mortality in critically ill; **but avoid in TBI** (risk ↑ mortality)
  - **Monitor response:** ↑ MAP, urine output > 0.5 mL/kg/h, ↓ lactate
- **AKI common (34–52%)**, yet liberal fluids **don't prevent it**

VASOPRESSOR STRATEGY AFTER ROSC

Noradrenaline = *preferred first-line* vasopressor

→ Use adrenaline only if noradrenaline unavailable (small boluses or dilute infusion 8–40 µg/mL).

Clinical note:

→Randomized trials (BOX, NEURO-PROTECT) show higher noradrenaline doses well tolerated, **no increase in arrhythmias**

Category	Details
RCT	**Pansiritanachot et al., Resusc Plus 2024** → No survival difference between noradrenaline and adrenaline (90% mortality both arms).
Observational data	**Normand 2024, Bougouin 2022, Vende[illegible] 2024** → Adrenaline linked to increased mortality and re-arrest risk.
Dopamine vs Noradrenaline	**Li 2020** → Higher mortality with dopamine combination compared with noradrenaline alone.
Consensus & Guidelines	**Gamper 2016 (Cochrane); Henry 2021 (AHA); Ibáñez 2018 (ESC STEMI); McDonagh 2021 (Heart Failure); Evans 2021 (Surviving Sepsis)** → All recommend **noradrenaline as first-line vasopressor.**
Safety	**Yerke 2024; Christensen 2024** → Peripheral administration of **dilute noradrenaline** is safe until central access established.

MANAGING MYOCARDIAL DYSFUNCTION AND LOW CARDIAC OUTPUT

Echo role: *Essential tool* → differentiates **cardiogenic vs non-cardiac shock**, guides titration:

Inotropes:

- **Dobutamine** → most established to improve cardiac index
  - Use *after optimizing MAP* with fluids and vasopressors.
  - In cardiogenic shock → helps offset vasoconstriction, ↓ afterload.
- **Dopamine (≤10 µg/kg/min)** used adjunctively in BOX trial for high-MAP group

Evidence summary:

- **No neurological benefit** (NEURO-PROTECT) but **no myocardial harm**
- **ESC guidelines (2023)**: consider inotropes if **SBP < 90 mmHg** with hypoperfusion despite fluids/vasopressors

MECHANICAL CIRCULATORY SUPPORT (MCS) AFTER ROSC

Consider for **refractory shock** unresponsive to fluids + vasopressors

Devices: **IABP, Impella / LV assist, VA-ECMO (ECPR)**.

- **ILCOR – ERC–ESICM 2025:**
  - *Weak recommendation against* routine MCS use post-ROSC (low certainty).
  - *May consider selectively* for **STEMI + short arrest + intact neurological potential** (GCS >8).
  - Requires **expert center, close monitoring**, and awareness of bleeding/vascular risks.

Category	Findings
Evidence base	14 RCTs (mostly cardiogenic shock, not pure cardiac arrest).
Overall outcomes	No **survival advantage** at 30 days to 1 year compared with standard care.
Adverse effects	Increased incidence of **major bleeding** and **vascular complications** 【165–178】.
Meta-analysis (9 RCTs)	No difference in **6-month mortality** overall. **Potential benefit** in **STEMI-related cardiogenic shock** with **preserved neurological function** and **short arrest duration (<10 min)** 【179】.
Recommendations (ILCOR / ERC–ESICM 2025)	- **Against routine MCS use** after ROSC (weak recommendation, low certainty). - **Consider selectively** for **STEMI, GCS >8**, and **short downtime** in **expert centers**. - **Monitor closely** for bleeding and vascular complications.

STEROIDS IN POST–CARDIAC ARREST CARE: EVIDENCE SUMMARY

Meta-Analysis & Recommendations

- **ILCOR individual-patient meta-analysis (n = 869)**
  - ↑ ROSC rates with steroids
  - No difference in **survival to discharge** or **favourable neurological recovery**
  - No difference in **HRQoL at 90 days (EQ-5D-5L)**
- **CORTICA (2024)** confirmed **no benefit** of low-dose steroids.

Study	Population / Intervention	Findings	Outcome
Mentzelopoulos et al., 2009 (NEJM) 【156】	IHCA; methylprednisolone + vasopressin + adrenaline during arrest → hydrocortisone post-ROSC	↑ Survival to discharge: 19% vs 4% (*RR 4.87; 95% CI 1.17–13.79*)	Benefit
Mentzelopoulos et al., 2013 (JAMA) 【155】	IHCA; same triple regimen + hydrocortisone post-ROSC	↑ Survival w/ good neuro outcome: 13.9% vs 5.1% (*RR 2.94; 95% CI 1.18–6.50*)	Benefit
Andersen et al., 2021 (JAMA) 【157】	IHCA; hydrocortisone *after* ROSC only	No benefit on survival or neuro outcome	Neutral
CORTICA Trial, 2024 (Crit Care Med) 【159】	IHCA; low-dose steroids vs placebo (n = 184)	No improvement in hemodynamics, end-organ failure-free days, or functional outcomes	Neutral

ILCOR 2025 / ERC–ESICM Recommendation:

Weak recommendation *against* routine use of **vasopressin + corticosteroids** during or after IHCA.

- **Certainty:** Low–moderate.

Ongoing trials:

- **VAST-A (NCT05139849), HYVAPRESS (NCT04591990), DANOCHA (NCT05895838)** may clarify role in IHCA and OHCA.

POST-ROSC ARRHYTHMIAS: EVIDENCE AND CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS

Aspect	Description
Incidence & Mechanisms	Recurrent arrhythmias common after ROSC; due to **myocardial ischemia**, **post-arrest myocardial dysfunction**, electrolyte imbalance, catecholamine surge, and structural heart disease【136,180】.
Atrial Fibrillation (AF)	- Occurs in **15% on day 1** and **11% on day 2** post-OHCA【182】. - Associated with **higher mortality** (mainly cardiovascular and multiorgan failure). - Early new-onset AF (first 2 weeks) → ↑ risk of **stroke** and **mortality**【183】.
Ventricular Arrhythmias (VF/VT)	- **Recurrence ≈ 10%** within first 24 h post-PCI in OHCA with VF/pulseless VT【184】. - **16.2%** recurrence days 1–3 under both 33 °C and 36 °C temperature control【185】. - Recurrence often signals **unrecognized reversible causes** (e.g., hypoxia, hypo/hyper-K^+, acidosis, PE, coronary occlusion)【186】.
Pathophysiology of Refractory Arrhythmias	Complex interplay of **myocardial substrate**, **arrhythmia triggers**, and **autonomic imbalance**; management requires sequential assessment (severity → triggers → substrate → hemodynamic impact → risk stratification)【187】.
Management	- Follow **ERC ALS 2025** algorithms【181】. - For **electrical storm:** consider **deep sedation**, **stellate ganglion block**, **MCS**, or **urgent catheter ablation** if refractory【188】. - **Prophylactic antiarrhythmics** not recommended; reserve for recurrent VF/VT.
Long-term prevention	Many survivors require **ICD implantation** for secondary prevention of sudden cardiac death【189】.

IMPLANTABLE CARDIOVERTER-DEFIBRILLATOR (ICD) THERAPY

Category	Guideline Highlights & Evidence
Device role	ICD prevents lethal arrhythmias by automatic defibrillation/pacing【189】.
Indications (ESC 2022–2023)	**Primary prevention:** cardiomyopathies, inherited arrhythmic syndromes, congenital or primary electrical disorders【190–191】. **Secondary prevention:** survivors of VF or unstable VT after reversible causes excluded.
Evidence	Meta-analysis of 3 early RCTs → **28% reduction in mortality** (HR 0.72, 95% CI 0.60–0.87; p = 0.0006) and **50% reduction in arrhythmic deaths** (HR 0.50, 95% CI 0.37–0.67)【192–195】.
ESC recommendations	- Implant ICD for **documented VF/VT** without reversible cause (Class I). - If temporarily unsuitable for implantation, use **wearable cardioverter-defibrillator (WCD)** as a bridge【109,189】.
Key principle	**Careful patient selection** is essential—benefit greatest in survivors with expected long-term survival and irreversible arrhythmic substrate.

First Author	Citation	Study Focus	Key Findings / Relevance
Moss	*(MADIT Trial)*. **N Engl J Med**, 1996; **335(26)**: 1933–1940.	Randomized post-MI patients with ventricular arrhythmias to ICD vs conventional therapy.	**ICD reduced all-cause mortality by ~54%**; landmark trial establishing ICD as life-saving in secondary prevention.
Bardy	*(SCD-HeFT Trial)*. **N Engl J Med**, 2005; **352(3)**: 225–237.	Compared ICD, amiodarone, and placebo in patients with heart failure and low EF.	**ICD lowered mortality by 23%** vs placebo; confirmed survival benefit across ischemic and non-ischemic cardiomyopathy, reinforcing ICD as standard in high-risk patients.

First Author	Citation	Study Focus	Key Findings
Zishiri	*the VEST Trial*. **N Engl J Med**, 2018; **379(13)**: 1205–1215.	Randomized 2,302 post-MI patients with LVEF ≤35% to wearable cardioverter-defibrillator (WCD) vs standard therapy.	WCD use **did not significantly reduce sudden death**, but decreased total arrhythmic deaths in compliant patients; supports **temporary use as a bridge** until ICD candidacy is established.
Priori	**Eur Heart J**, 2022; **43(40)**: 3997–4126.	Comprehensive ESC guidance on ICD and arrhythmia prevention strategies.	Recommends **ICD implantation** for documented VF/unstable VT **after reversible causes excluded** (Class I).**WCD** may be used as **temporary protection** in patients awaiting ICD or with transient contraindications.

NEW OR CHANGED

1. **Diagnosis of cause/complications .** Shift from “angiography first” to **CT first (whole-body CT incl. head/neck/chest/abdomen/pelvis)** unless there’s **clear ST-elevation**, in which case angiography still takes priority.
2. **Airway & oxygenation :** Core advice retained; **new note on pulse-oximetry inaccuracies in darker skin tones**.
3. **Ventilation :** Normocapnia still recommended; **added caution in hypothermic patients** to avoid hypocapnia.
4. **Coronary reperfusion:** From routinely considering immediate cath in high-likelihood cases → **may delay cath** when OHCA **without ST-elevation** and clinical context doesn’t suggest acute occlusion.
5. **Hemodynamic management:** From “emphasize MAP ≥65 with urine/lactate goals” → **explicit MAP target of 60–65 mmHg**.
6. **Post-ROSC arrhythmias : New section** covering **recurrent/refractory arrhythmias**.
7. **General ICU care :** Recommendations maintained; **greater emphasis** on **short-acting sedatives** for neuro checks and **discouraging routine neuromuscular blockers** (unless ARDS).

ESICM Post-Resuscitation Care Guidelines (2021 vs 2025).

Topic	2021 Guidelines	2025 Guidelines
	Suggested coronary angiography first in patients with myocardial ischemia. CT brain and chest scan were considered if coronary angiography did not find causative lesions.	Coronary angiography remains first if ST-elevation is present; otherwise, whole-body CT scan (including head, neck, chest, abdomen, pelvis, and CT pulmonary angiography) takes priority.
	mmendation to start with 100 % oxygen diately after ROSC, then titrate to 94–98 % SpO_2 0–13 kPa (75–100 mmHg).	Maintains recommendation and adds explicit guidance highlighting inaccuracies in pulse oximetry in patients with darker skin tones.
	ded normocapnia ($PaCO_2$ 4.7–6.0 kPa (35–	Maintains recommendation with additional caution in patients with hypothermia, noting risk of hypocapnia.
vision	ry angiography strongly considered in OHC elevation if high likelihood of coronary occlusion.	Suggests delaying cardiac catheterisation if clinical context does not clearly indicate a high likelihood of acute coronary occlusion in OHCA patients without ST-elevation.
	rgeting MAP >65 mmHg guided by adequate urine output and lactate normalization.	Specifies MAP target of >60–65 mmHg.
	Not included in any detail	Section added on recurrent and refractory arrhythmias post-ROSC
gement	Recommended EEG monitoring.	Explicitly states patients with myoclonus but benign EEG backgrounds should undergo wake-up trials days after arrest.
	Recommended targeted temperature management at 32–36 °C for at least 24 h and fever avoidance (>37.7 °C) for at least 72 h post-ROSC.	Preferred terminology is temperature control. Recommends actively preventing fever ≤37.5 °C for at least 72 h post-ROSC.
t	Recommended prophylactic stress ulcer prophylaxis and thromboembolism prophylaxis.	Maintains previous recommendations. Emphasises using short-acting sedatives to facilitate neurological assessment, discourages routine neuromuscular blocking drugs unless severe acute respiratory distress syndrome.
tication	Emphasised multimodal neurological assessment at ≥72 h.	Maintains recommendation with specified indicators of favourable neurological outcome and suggested timing for brain CT and SSEP recording added to the algorithm.
and	Recommended functional assessment before discharge and follow-up within 3 months post discharge including screening of cognitive, emotional problems and fatigue. Brain injury and cardiac rehabilitation when indicated.	Maintains recommendations and adds structured guidance on rehabilitation in the ICU including early mobilisation, delirium management, ICU diaries, and to address physical limitations during follow-up. Stronger focus on the involvement of co-survivors.
	commended considering organ donation post-resuscitation.	Maintains recommendation and adds recommendations for cardiac arrest registries to report organ donation activities.
	Not included.	New recommendations for comprehensive diagnostic work-up (including genetic testing, cardiac MRI, sodium channel blocker tests, exercise testing) and emphasises long-term follow-up.

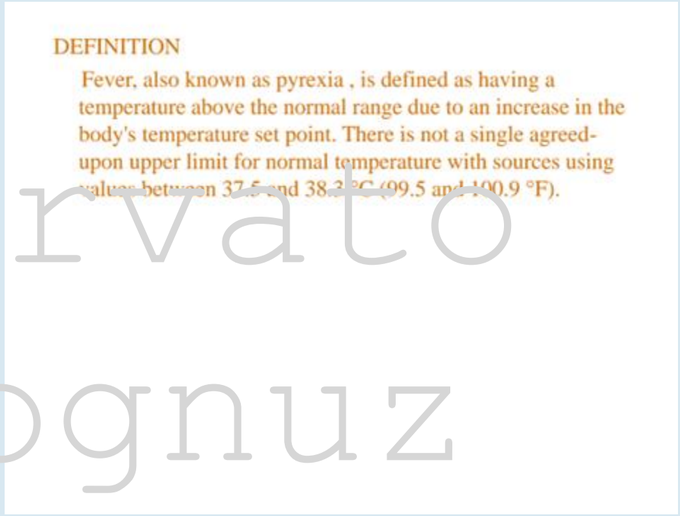
NEUROPROTEZIONE: IMPLICAZIONI CLINICHE DELL'IPERTERMIA, EVIDENZE SCIENTIFICHE SPERIMENTALI E CLINICHE

Learning outcome

- Definition of fever
- What is normothermia?
- Mechanism of cellular damage
- Fever in injured brain
- Recommendations
- Neuro-protection after cardiac arrest
- Limitation and a sneak peek of future

What’s fever?

Carl Reinhold August Wunderlich's Study (1868) - Wunderlich's large-scale study in the 19th century established **37°C (98.6°F)** as the average normal body temperature, a standard that has been widely referenced since. However, the study’s methodology and tools have been re-evaluated in modern contexts.


DEFINITION

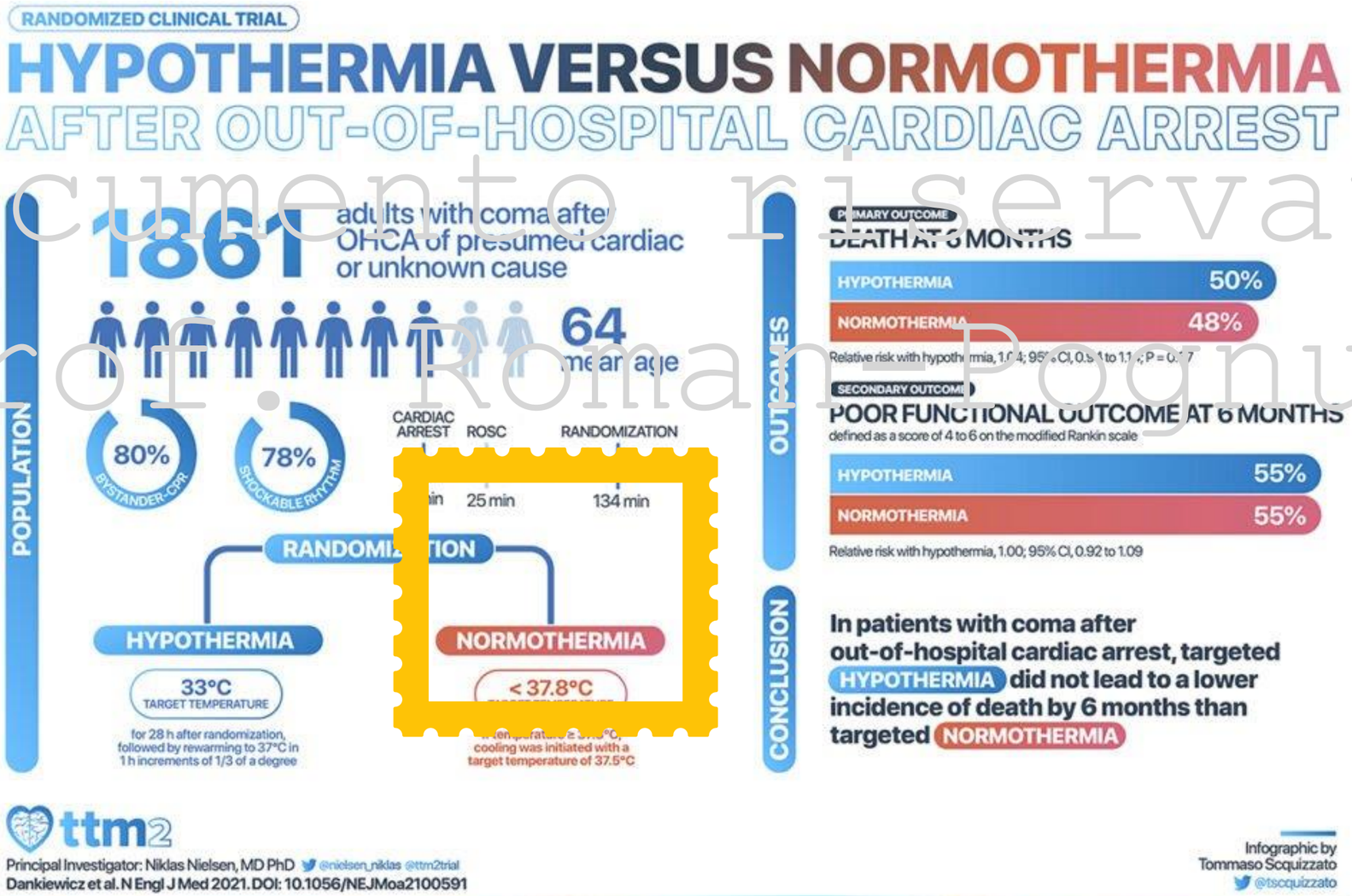
Fever, also known as pyrexia , is defined as having a temperature above the normal range due to an increase in the body's temperature set point. There is not a single agreed-upon upper limit for normal temperature with sources using

Recent Studies - More recent studies suggest that the average body temperature might be slightly lower than 37°C:

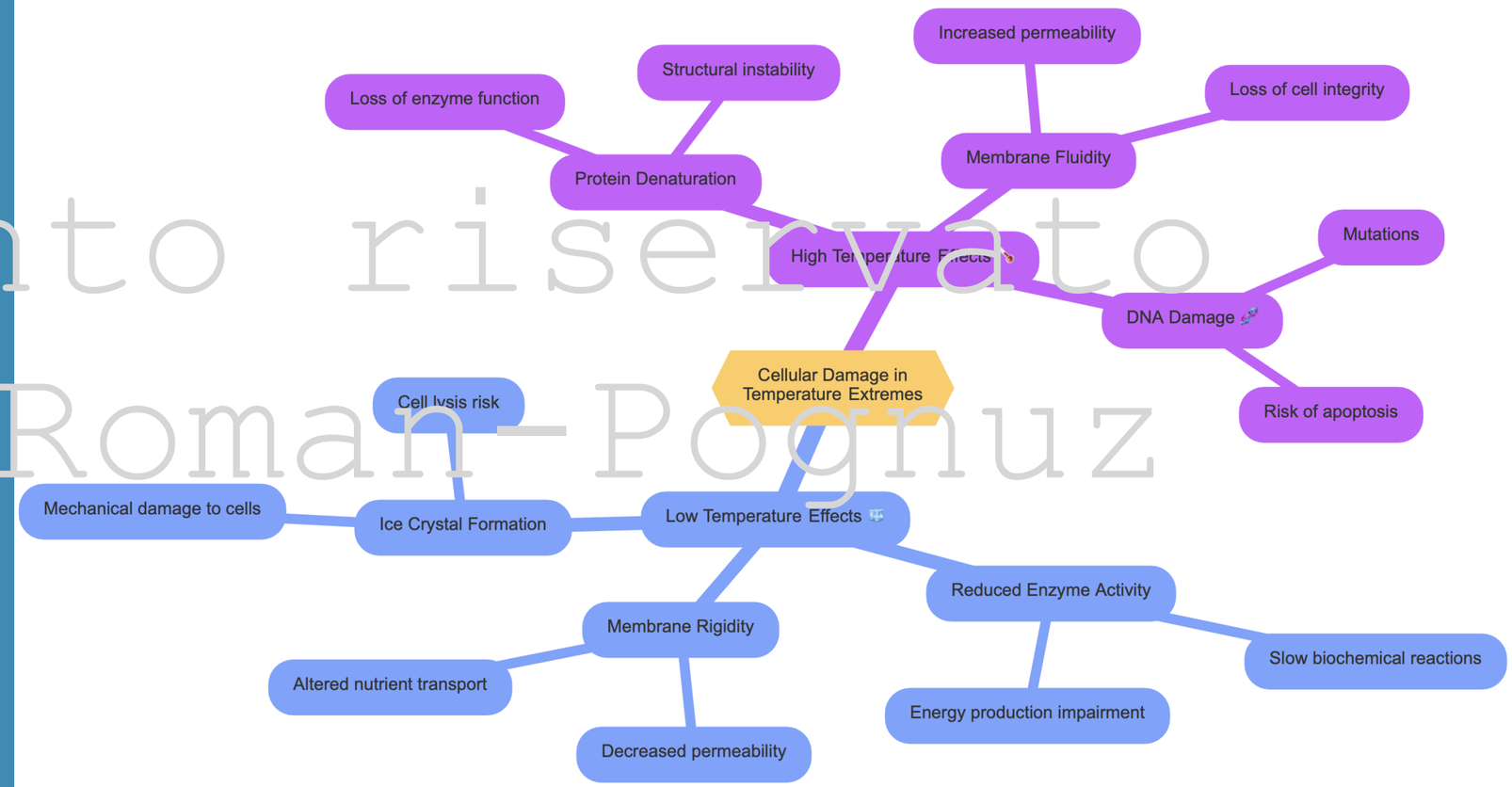
•**Mackowiak et al. (1992)**: In a study published in *JAMA*, Mackowiak and colleagues found that the average oral temperature is closer to **36.8°C (98.2°F)** and varies across individuals.

•**Protsiv et al. (2020)**: A study in *eLife* analyzed historical and contemporary temperature data and found a trend suggesting that the average human body temperature has decreased over the last century, now closer to **36.6°C (97.9°F)**.

What's normothermia?



WHY CAN WE GET MUCH COOLER THAN WE GET HOT?



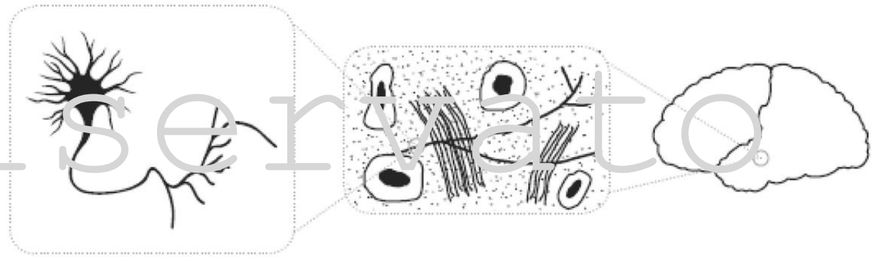
MECHANISM OF CEREBRAL DAMAGE

Mechanisms of Injury

Excitotoxicity: Hyperthermia promotes release of excitatory neurotransmitters, leading to cellular damage.

Oxidative Stress: Elevated temperatures increase reactive oxygen species, causing neuronal injury.

Inflammatory Response: Hyperthermia triggers neuroinflammation, worsening cognitive outcomes.

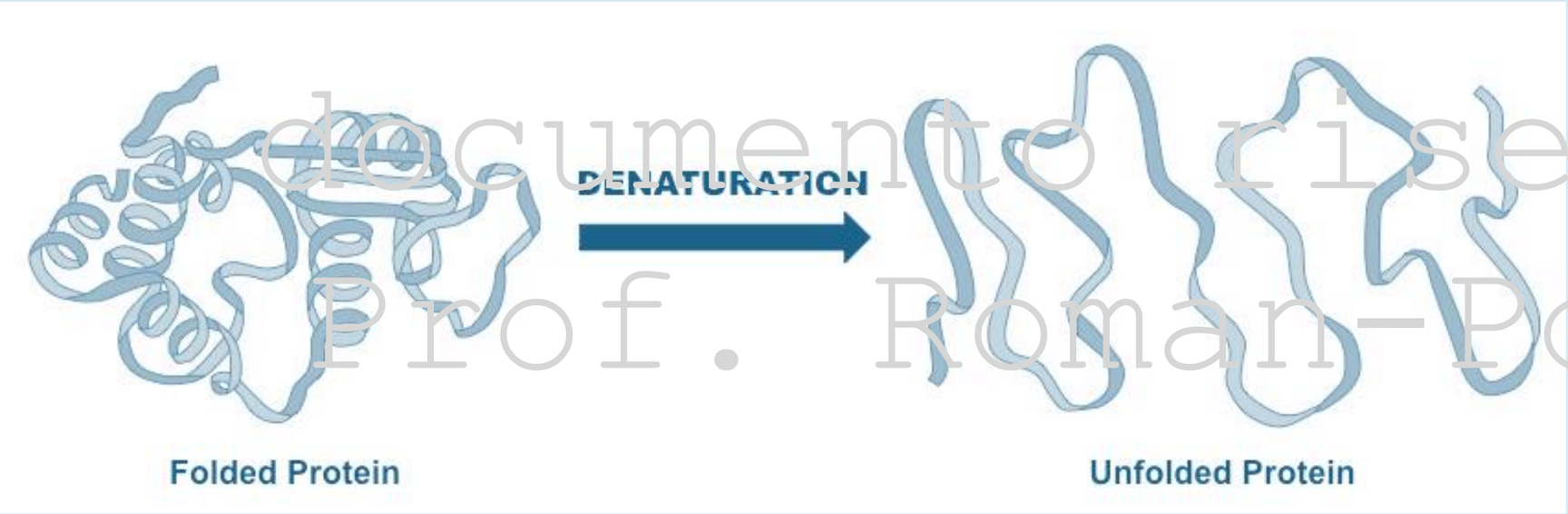


Cellular effects:
- membrane, mitochondrial and DNA damage
- stimulation of excitotoxic mechanisms
- protein denaturation

Local effects:
- ischaemia
- haemorrhage
- infarction
- inflammatory changes
- oedema

Systemic effects:
- changes in cerebral blood flow
- endotoxaemia
- bacterial translocation

Cellular effects of hyperthermia



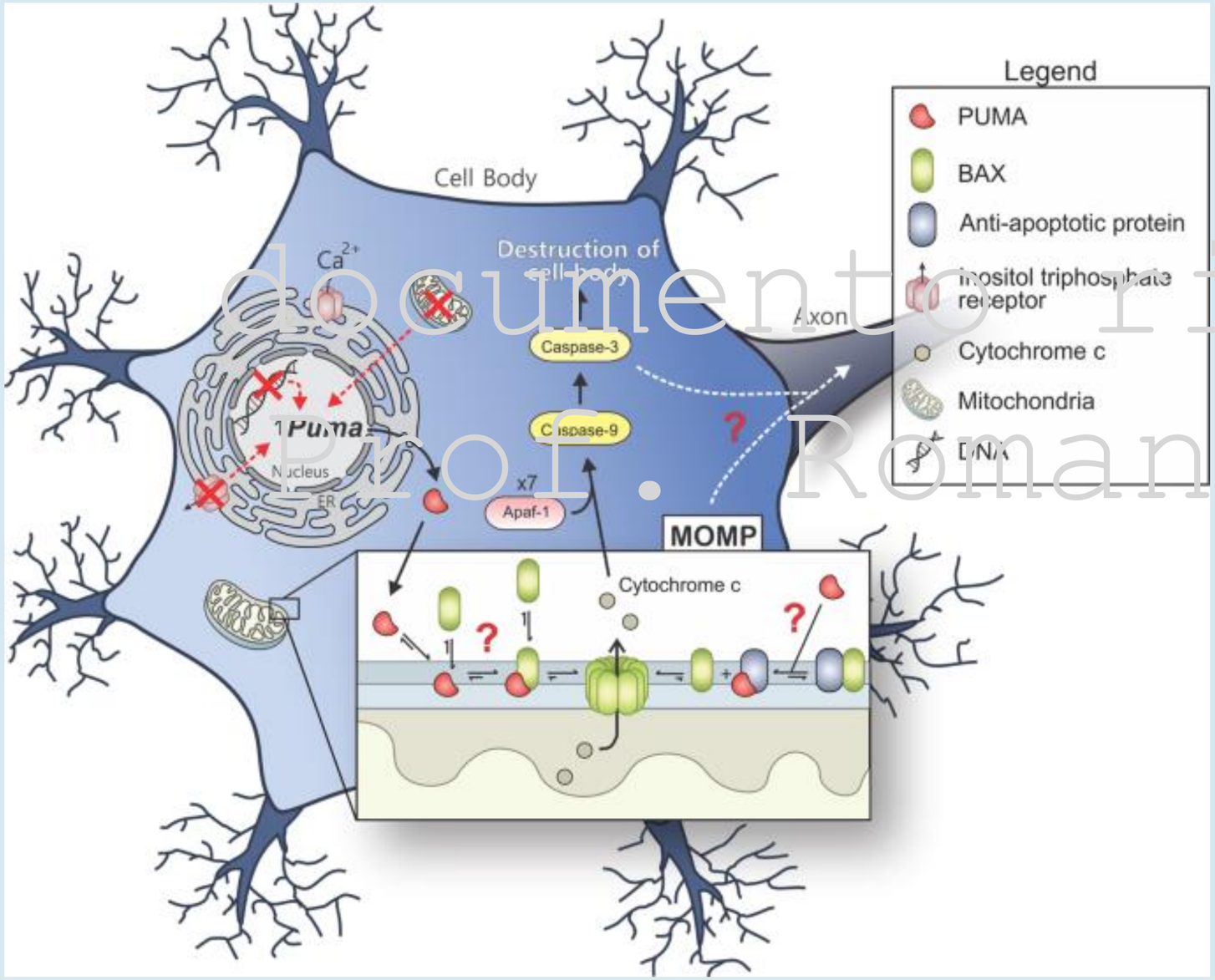
Cellular denaturing

↑ ionic flux
mitocondrial dysfunction

>40°C Aggregates

HT potentiates damage caused by toxic insults like hypoxia and ischaemia

Neuronal death



Caspase

Apoptosi

Cell death ↑ glutamate e glycine

Heat shock proteins

AD, SM, TBI

Fever in injured brain

Clinical paper

Post-hypothermia fever is associated with increased mortality after out-of-hospital cardiac arrest☆

John Bro-Jeppesen[a,*], Christian Hassager[a], Michael Wanscher[b], Helle Søholm[a], Jakob H. Thomsen[a], Freddy K. Lippert[c], Jacob E. Møller[a], Lars Køber[a], Jesper Kjaergaard[a]

Similar PFC vs No fever

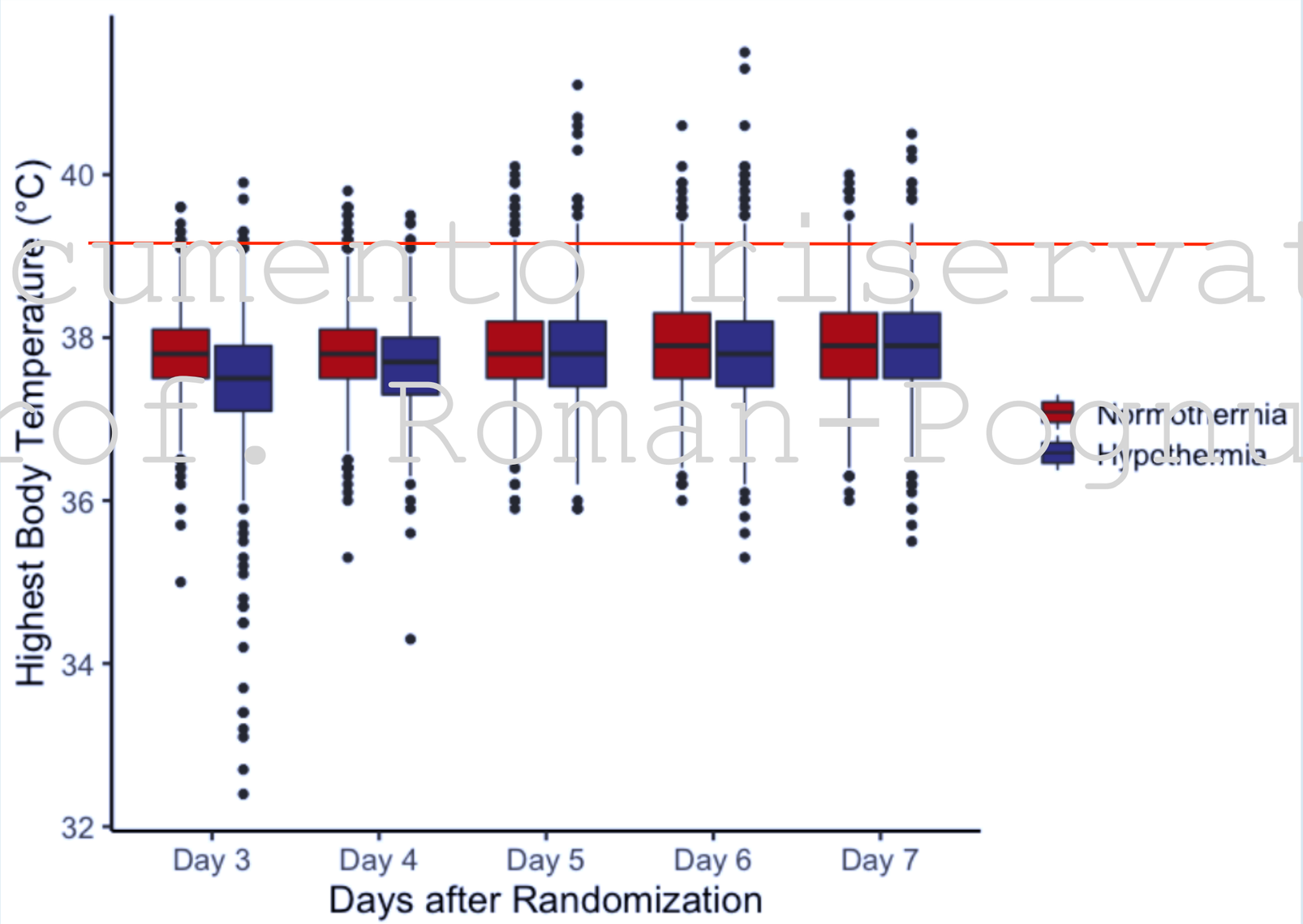
>39°C for >7h

Marker or secondary injury?

Should we actively treat or prevent PCF?

Protocols include a post cooling TH period..
is this improving the neurological outcome?

TTM2 trial fever



ERC-ESICM Recommendations

We **recommend** continuous monitoring of core temperature in patients who remain comatose

LOW

We **recommend** actively preventing fever (defined as a temperature > 37.7°C) in post-cardiac arrest patients who remain comatose.

GOOD PRACTICE

We **recommend** actively preventing fever for at least 72 hours in post-cardiac arrest patients who remain comatose.

GOOD PRACTICE

this is insufficient, by using a cooling device with a target temperature of 37.5°C.

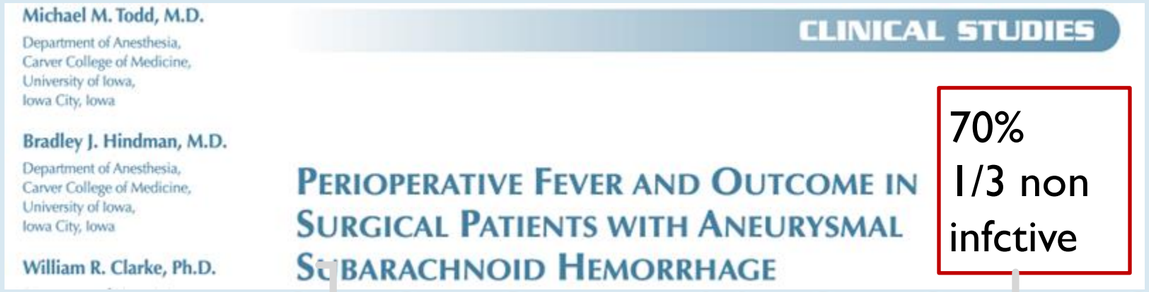
GOOD PRACTICE

There is currently insufficient evidence to recommend for or against temperature control at 32-36°C in sub-populations of cardiac arrest patients or using early cooling, and future research may help elucidate this. We **recommend not** actively rewarming comatose patients with mild hypothermia after ROSC to achieve normothermia.

MODERATE

We **recommend not** using prehospital cooling with rapid infusion of large volumes of cold IV fluid immediately after ROSC.

Hyperthermia after brain damage



Michael M. Todd, M.D.
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CLINICAL STUDIES

PERIOPERATIVE FEVER AND OUTCOME IN SURGICAL PATIENTS WITH ANEURYSMAL SUBARACHNOID HEMORRHAGE

70%
1/3 non infctive

Stroke
Volume 26, Issue 11, November 1995; Pages 2041-2043
https://doi.org/10.1161/01.STR.26.11.2040

American Heart Association.

ARTICLE

Fever in Acute Stroke Worsens Prognosis

A Prospective Study

Incidence

•Hyperthermia is common post-brain injury, occurring in **up to 50%** of patients.

•Often arises within the **first 72 hours** after the injury.

Risk for Mortality

•**Hyperthermia (≥ 38°C)** is associated with a **significantly increased mortality risk**.

•**20-30% rise in mortality** in hyperthermic brain-injured patients versus normothermic.

Neurocognitive disorders

> Intensive Care Med. 2009 Aug;35(8):1454-8. doi: 10.1007/s00134-009-1500-x. Epub 2009 Apr 29.

Early organ dysfunction course, cooling time and outcome in classic heatstroke

Sebastian Pease [1], Lila Bouadma, Nathalie Kermarrec, Frédérique Schortgen, Bernard Régnier,

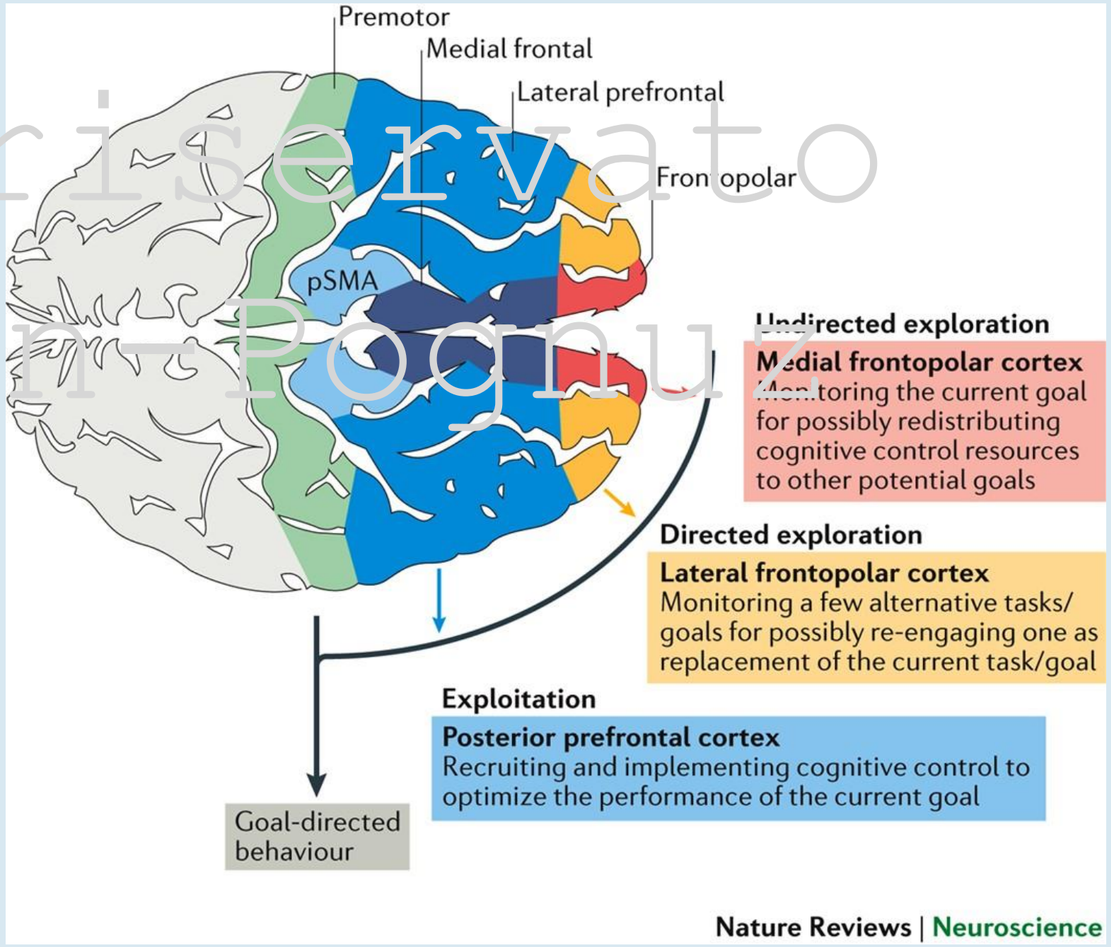
Controlled Clinical Trial > Int J Hyperthermia. 2012;28(7):621-6. doi: 10.3109/02656736.2012.705217. Epub 2012 Sep 4.

Hyperthermia impairs the executive function using the Attention Network Test

Gang Sun [1], Xiao Yang, Qingjun Jiang, Kai Liu, Bo Li, Li Li, Lun Zhao, Min Li

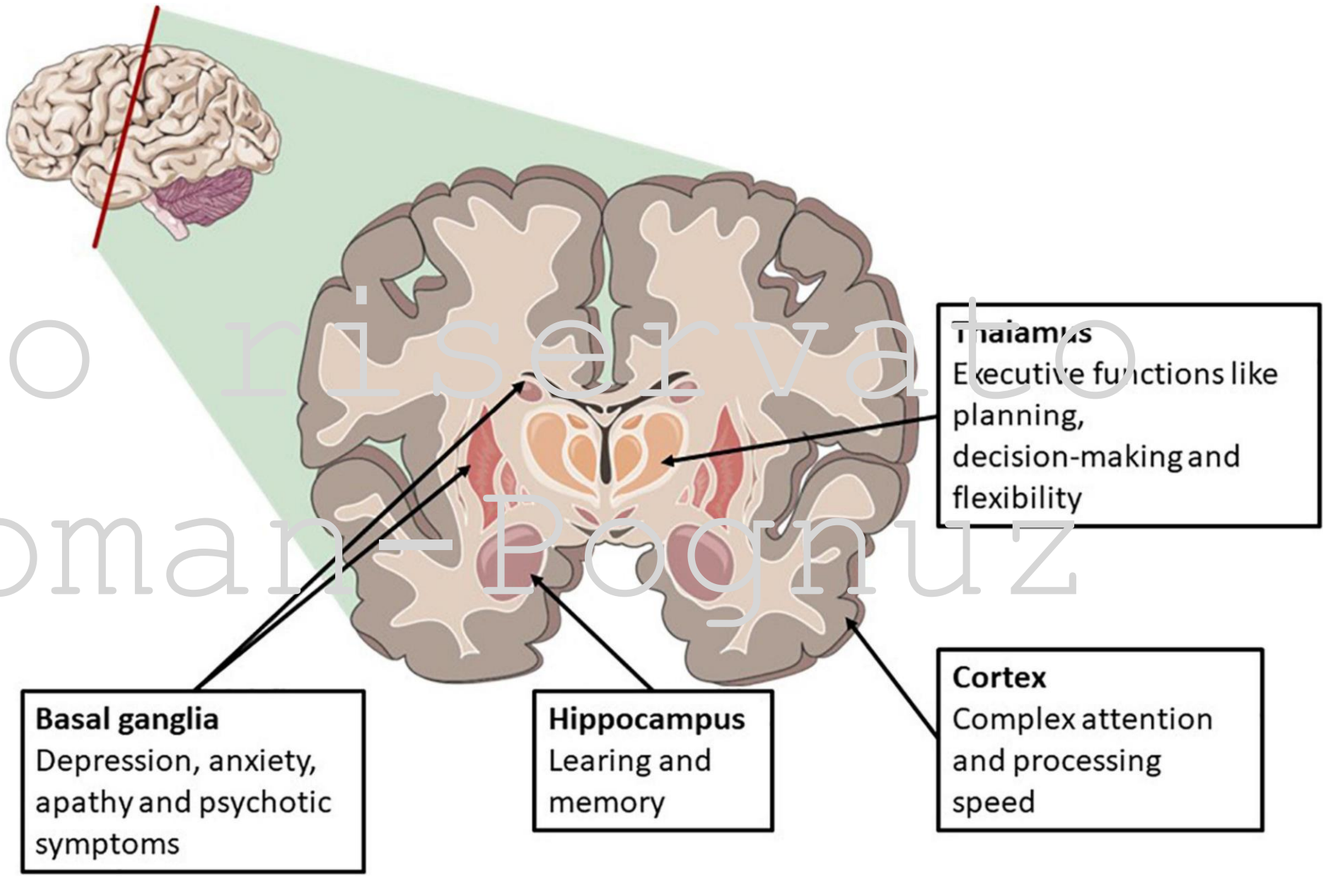
Common Neurocognitive Disorders

- **Memory Impairment**: Difficulty with short-term memory retention and recall.
- **Attention Deficits**: Reduced ability to sustain attention and concentrate.
- **Executive Dysfunction**: Impairments in planning, organizing, and problem-solving.
- **Language Difficulties**: Challenges in word-finding, fluency, and comprehension.
- **Emotional Dysregulation**: Increased irritability, mood swings, or depression.



NEURO COGNITIVE DISORDERS

- Limbic system: ~~memory and~~ learning ability
- Prefrontal cortex: executive functions
- Intraparietal sulcus: processing and memory



Systemic effects of Hyperthermia

> Neuroscience. 2009 Jul 7;161(3):926-39. doi: 10.1016/j.neuroscience.2009.04.004. Epub 2009 Apr 9.

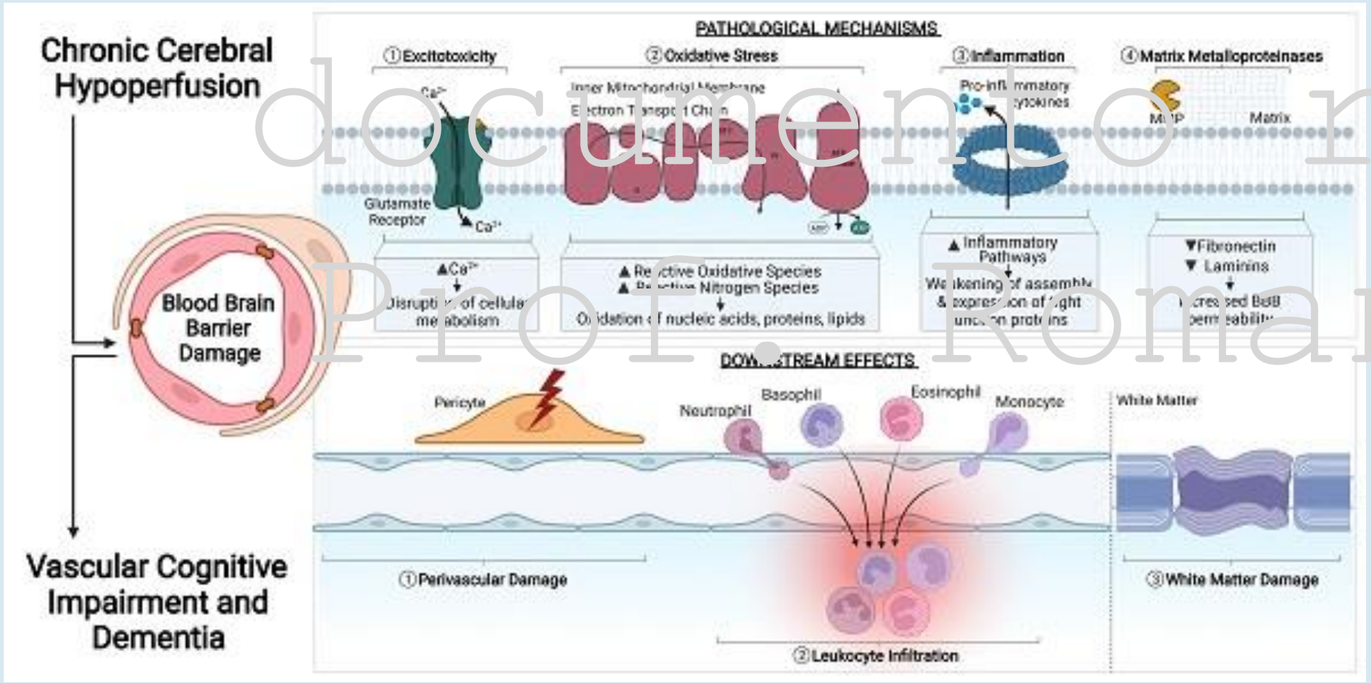
Permeability of the blood–brain barrier depends on brain temperature

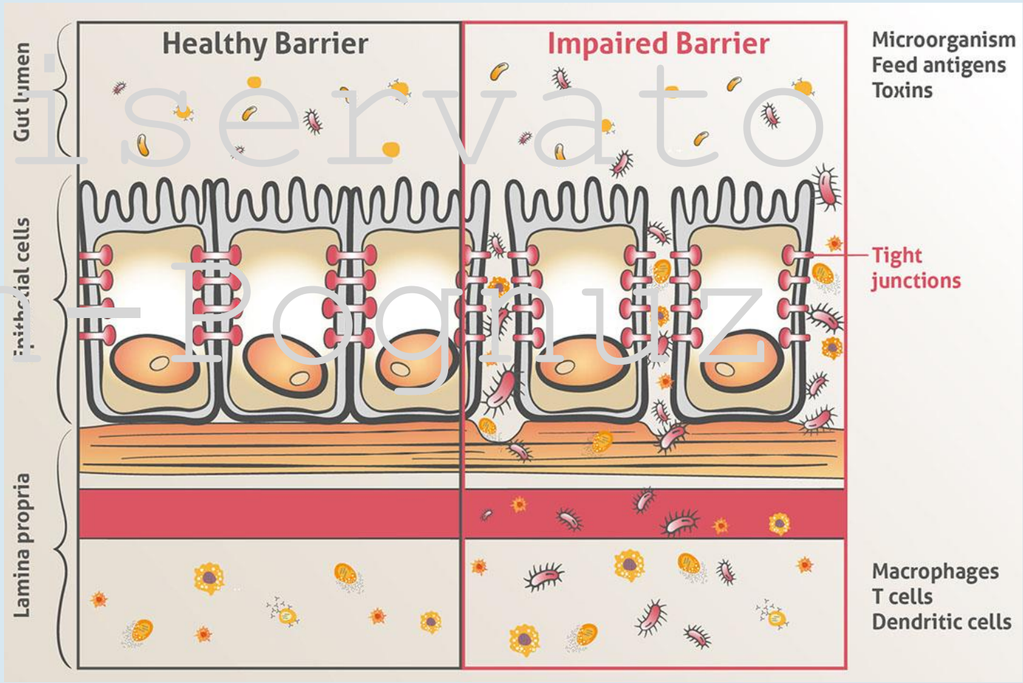
E A Kiyatkin [1], H S Sharma

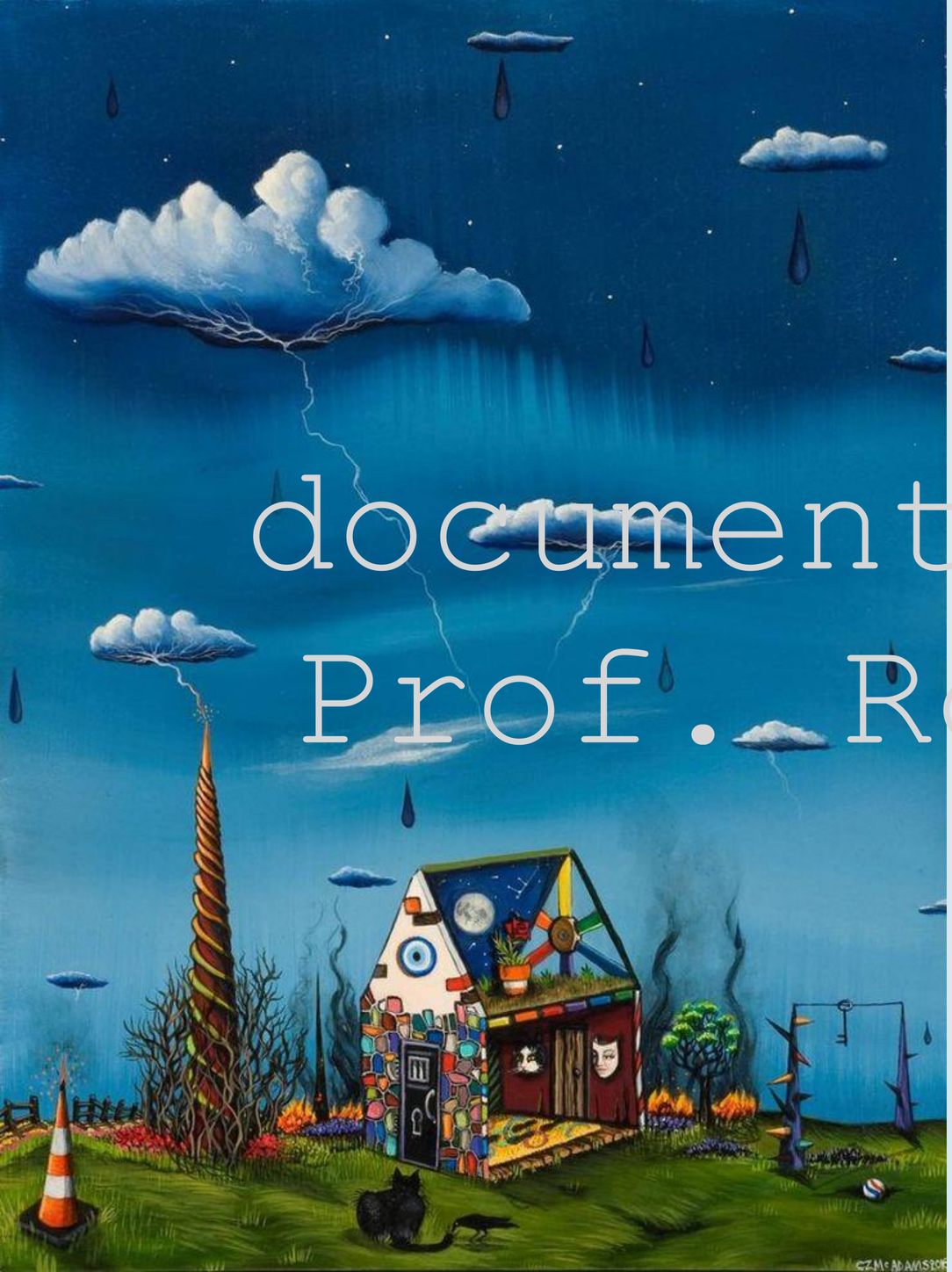
Review > Prog Brain Res. 2007;162:153-69. doi: 10.1016/S0079-6123(06)62009-8.

Cerebral pathophysiology and clinical neurology of hyperthermia in humans

Olaf L Cremer [1], Cor J Kalkman







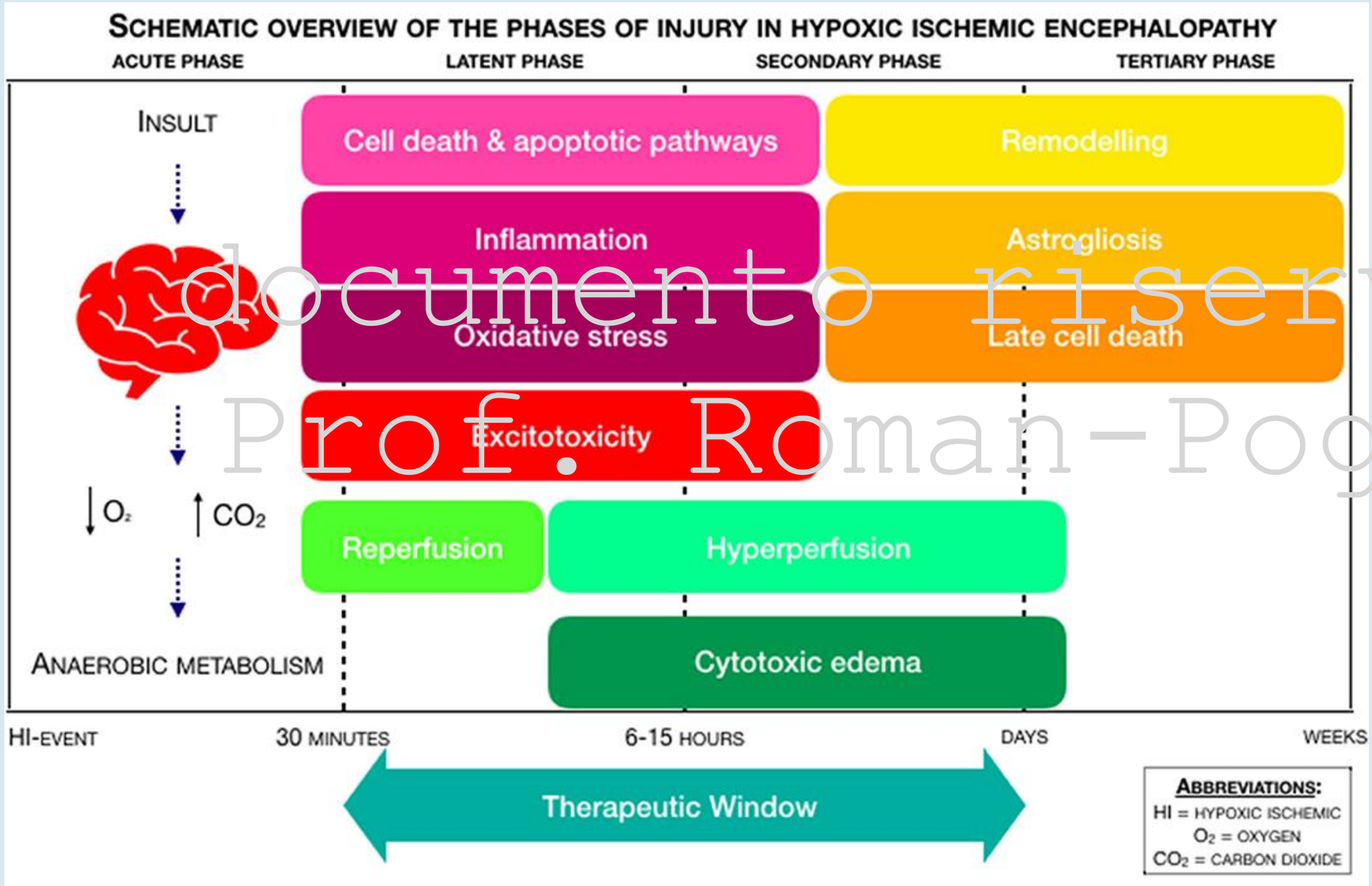
What if outcome is unclear?

conservative vs pessimistic

Learning outcome

1. Pathophysiology of brain injury
2. Treatment of BI
3. Targeted temperature management (TTM)
4. Neuroprotective agents
5. Outcomes
6. Awakening from coma
7. Neuroprognostication
   - Bias in neuroprognostication
   - Clinical examination
   - Blood biomarkers
   - Neurophysiology
   - Imaging
8. Recap

Pathophysiology of brain injury



primary injury

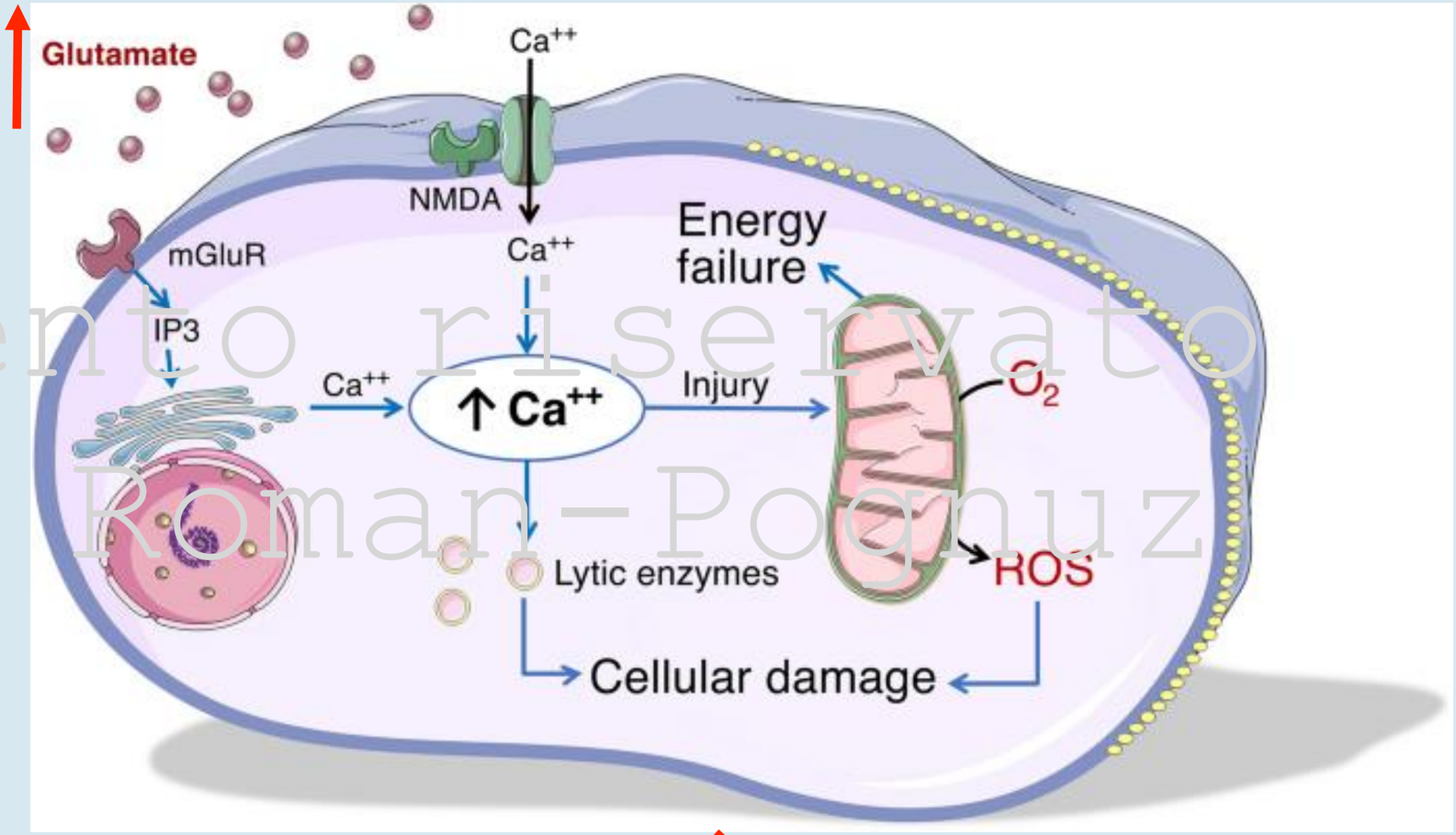
Brain
receives 15-20% CO
viability depends on
oxygen and glucose

CBF stop

consciousness 4- 10 s
EEG 10-30 s isoelectric

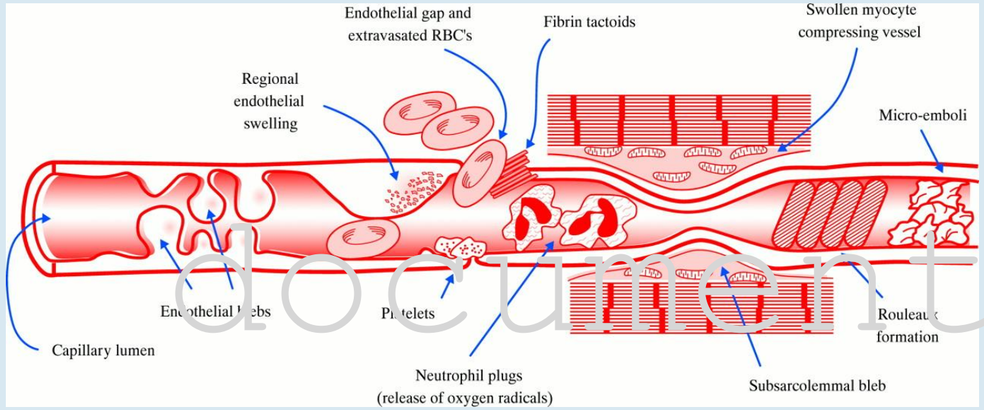
Pathophysiology of brain injury

primary injury



secondary injury

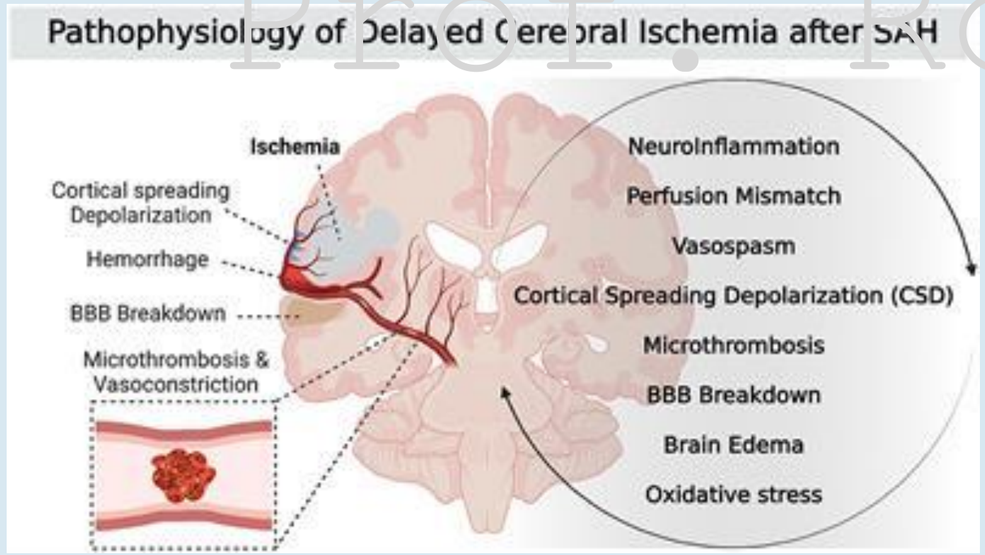
Pathophysiology of brain injury



No reflow phenomenon

Cerebral disregulation

Delayed hypoperfusion

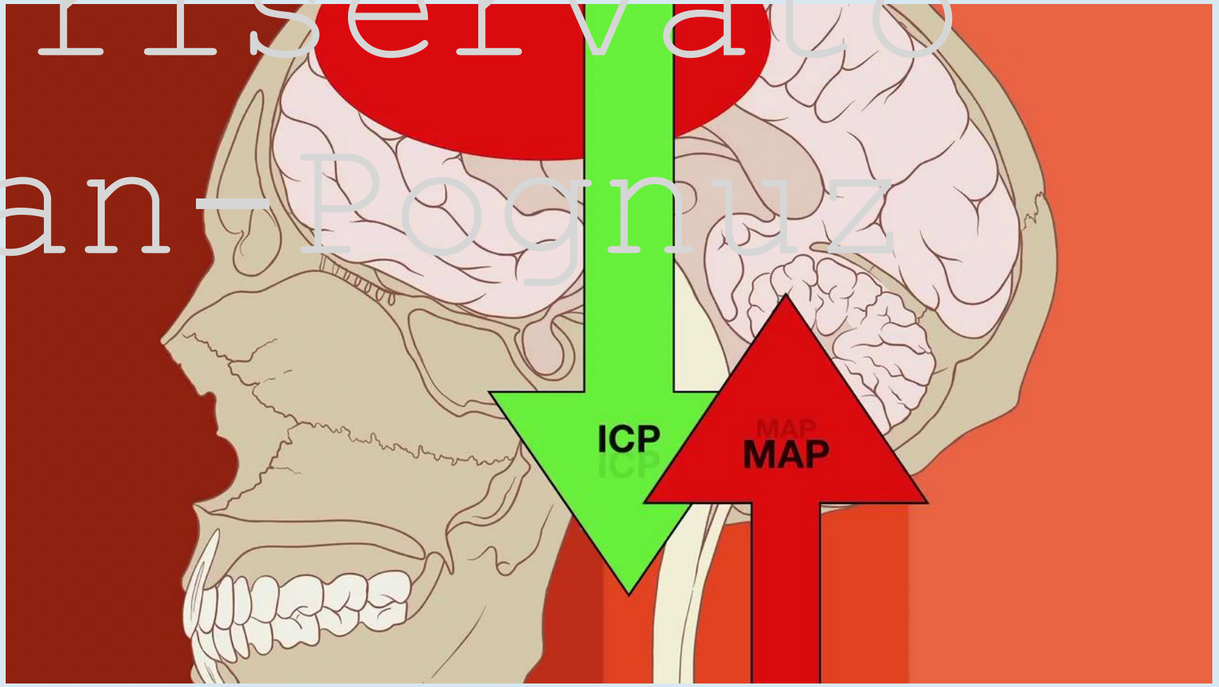


Relationship Between CBF and CPP

•**Cerebral Blood Flow (CBF)** refers to the blood volume passing through 100g of brain tissue per minute. Adequate CBF is essential to supply the brain with oxygen and nutrients.

•**Cerebral Perfusion Pressure (CPP)** is the pressure driving blood flow to the brain, calculated as:

$$CPP = MAP - ICP$$



Relationship Between CBF and CPP

Key Points of the Relationship

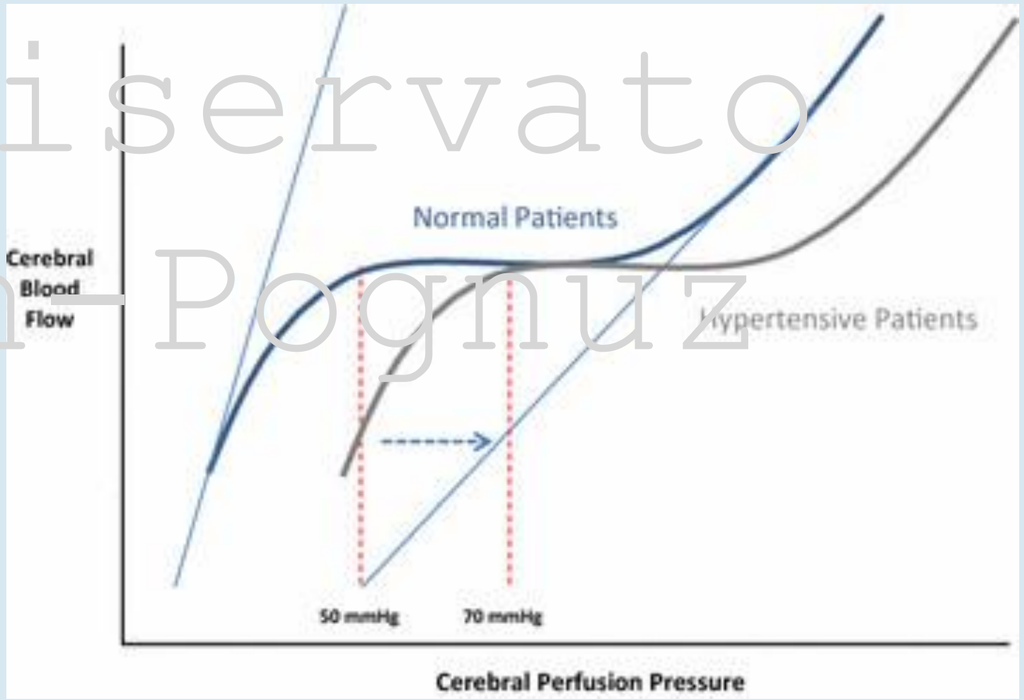
1.Direct Influence: CPP directly influences CBF. When CPP falls too low, CBF decreases, risking ischemia, while high CPP may lead to hyperemia and potentially raise ICP.

2.Autoregulation:

1. **Autoregulation** is the brain's ability to maintain consistent CBF despite changes in CPP, usually within a CPP range of **50-150 mmHg**.
2. Outside this range, autoregulation fails, and CBF becomes linearly dependent on CPP:
    1. **Low CPP (<50 mmHg)** can cause hypoperfusion, risking ischemia.
    2. **High CPP (>150 mmHg)** may overwhelm autoregulatory mechanisms, increasing ICP and the risk of edema.

3.Conditions Affecting CBF and CPP:

1. **Brain injury** can disrupt autoregulation, making CBF highly dependent on CPP.
2. **Hyperthermia, hypotension, or elevated ICP** can reduce CPP, compromising CBF and increasing the risk of ischemic damage.



Awakening from coma

Delayed awakening after cardiac arrest: prevalence and risk factors in the Parisian registry

Marine Paul, Wulfran Bougouin, Guillaume Geri, Florence Dumas, Benoit Champigneulle, Stéphane Legriel, Julien Charpentier, Jean-Paul Mira, Claudio Sandroni & Alain Cariou

Intensive Care Medicine **42**, 1128–1136 (2016) | Cite this article

70% within 48h

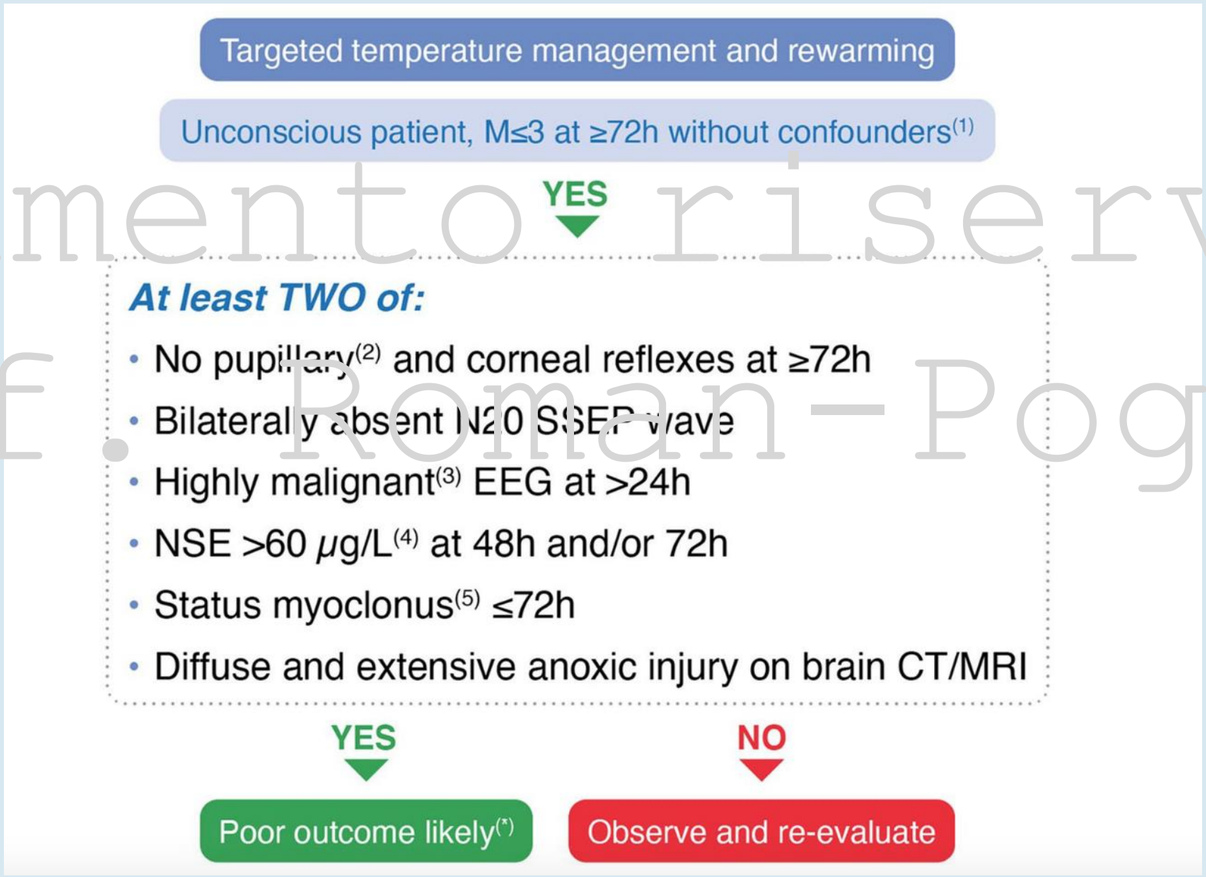
latest 25 days after

Late awakening (>5 gg) associated to severe neurological disability

Late Awakening in Survivors of Postanoxic Coma: Early Neurophysiologic Predictors and Association With ICU and Long-Term Neurologic Recovery

Rey, Arnaud MD[1]; Rossetti, Andrea O. MD[2]; Miroz, John-Paul RN[1]; Eckert, Philippe MD[1]; Oddo, Mauro MD[1]

Neuroprognostication



Bias in prognostication

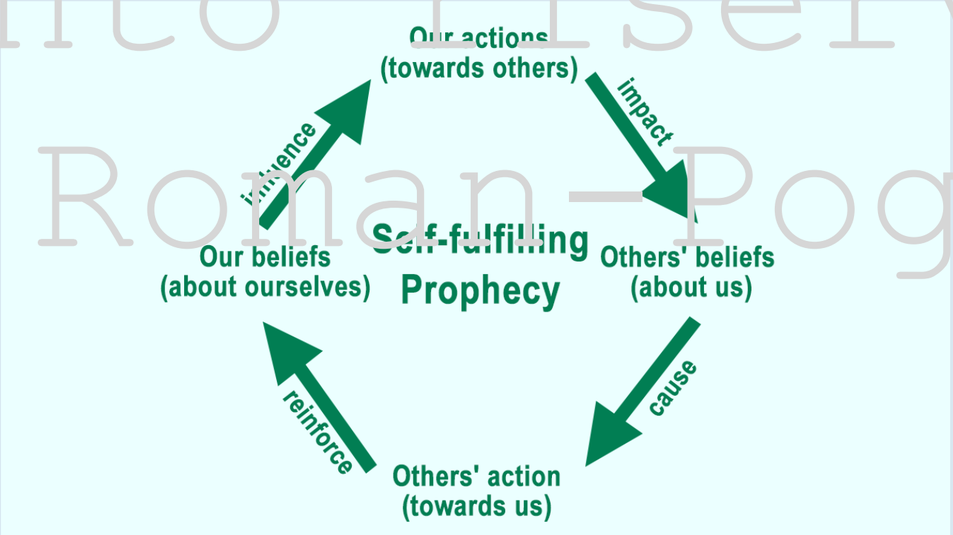
False positive rate (FPR) should be zero
(high accuracy)
Narrow confidence intervals
(high precision)

Self fulfilling prophecy

Blinding test results

Investigate prognostication in countries where WLST is not performed

Sedation



A patient's health outcome can sometimes align with the expectations and beliefs of their care team, influencing the recovery process.

Predictors of Neurological Outcome After Cardiac Arrest

1. Initial Rhythm

•**Shockable Rhythms** (e.g., Ventricular Fibrillation or Ventricular Tachycardia): Higher chance of favorable neurological outcomes.
•**Non-shockable Rhythms** (e.g., Asystole or Pulseless Electrical Activity): Associated with poorer outcomes.

2. Time to Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)

•**Shorter Duration to ROSC**: Linked to better neurological recovery.
•**Longer Duration (>20 minutes)**: Associated with higher risk of poor neurological outcomes.

3. Duration and Quality of CPR

•**Short, Effective CPR**: High-quality CPR, with minimal interruptions, improves cerebral perfusion and outcome.
•**Prolonged CPR (>30 minutes)**: Generally indicates a poorer prognosis.

Predictors of Neurological Outcome After Cardiac Arrest

4. Post-Cardiac Arrest Hypothermia Management

•**Therapeutic Hypothermia** (Targeted Temperature Management): Cooling to 32-36°C has shown to improve neurological outcomes by reducing brain injury.

5. Neurological Examination at 72 Hours

•**Pupillary Reaction**: Non-reactive pupils at 72 hours post-arrest is a strong indicator of poor outcome.
•**Motor Response**: Lack of motor response or absent brainstem reflexes can signal worse outcomes.

6. Biomarkers

•**Serum Neuron-Specific Enolase (NSE)**: Elevated levels are associated with greater brain injury and poorer prognosis.
•**S100B Protein**: Another marker that, when elevated, can indicate worse neurological outcomes.

7. EEG Patterns

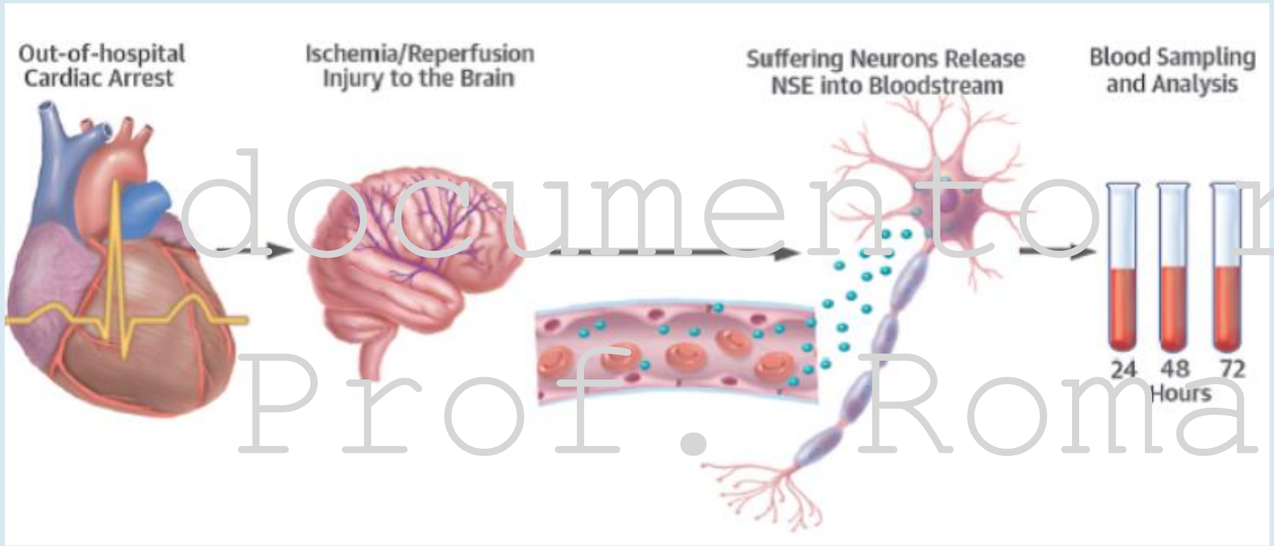
•**Early EEG after ROSC**: Patterns such as burst suppression or status epilepticus are associated with poor neurological recovery.
•**Continuous and Normal EEG Patterns**: More favorable for recovery.

Predictors of neurological outcome

Clinical examination

motor response	response to pain (GCS-M≤3) at≥72 h after ROSC
ocular reflexes	At≥72 h after ROSC, bilaterally absent pupillary or corneal reflexes
myoclonus	early (<48 h), a generalised distribution, a synchronous stereotyped pattern, and prolonged (>30 min) duration

Predictors of neurological outcome

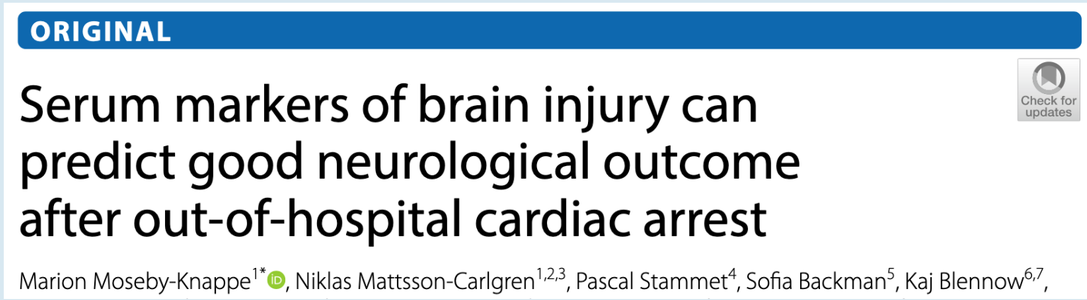


NSE

NSE-levels increase and peak at 48–72

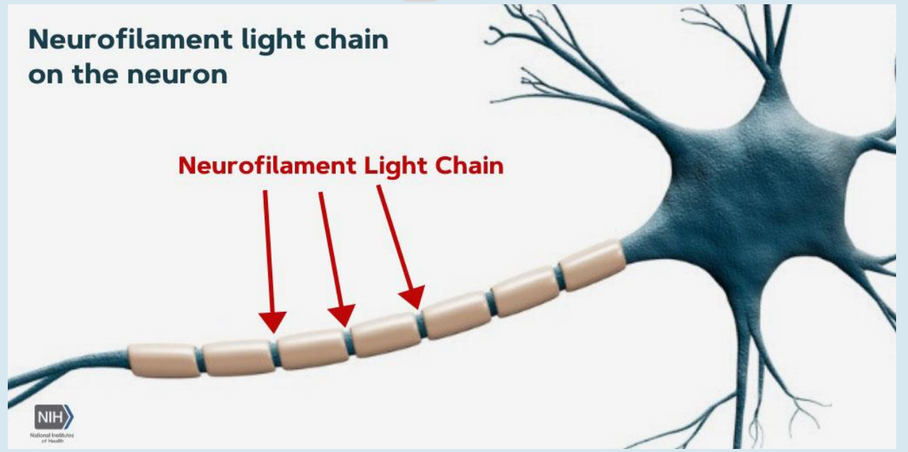
cut-off for reliable prediction of poor outcome is 60 mg L^{-1} at 48–72 h

levels <17 mg L^{-1} predict good outcome


ORIGINAL

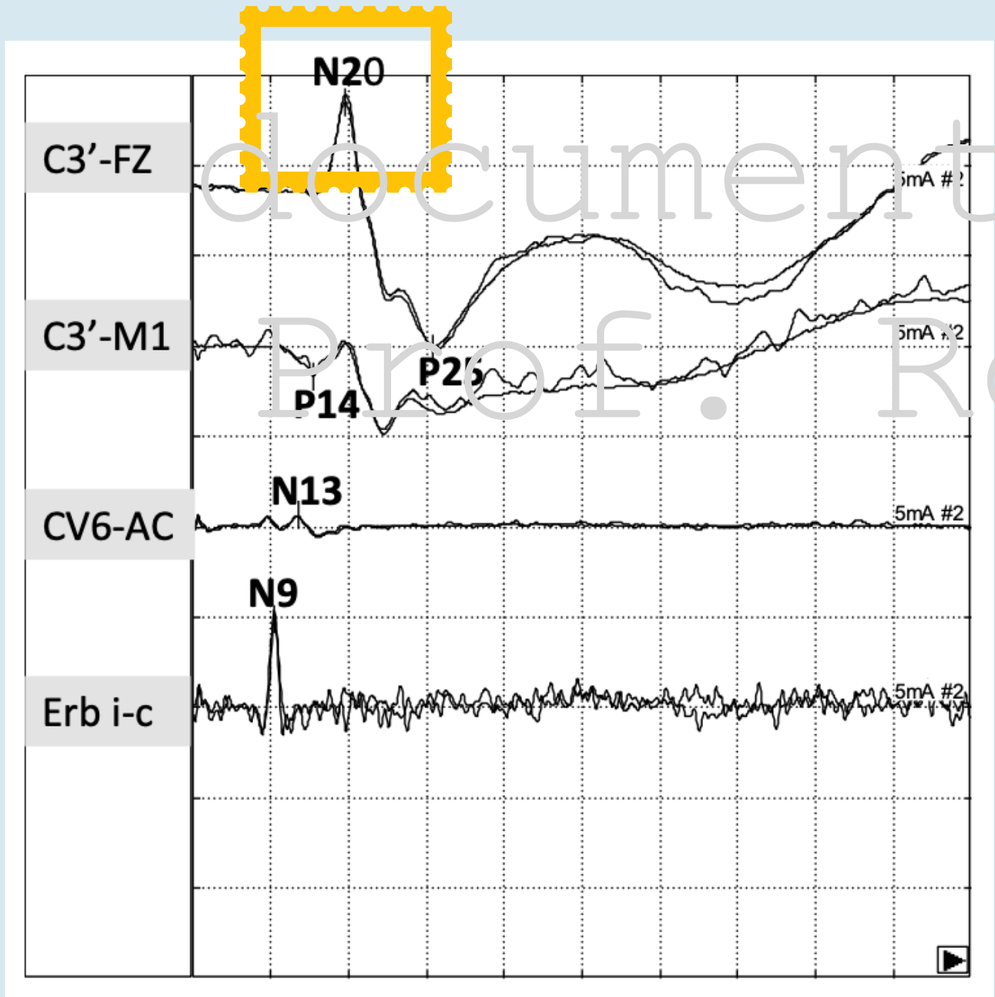
Serum markers of brain injury can predict good neurological outcome after out-of-hospital cardiac arrest

Marion Moseby-Knappe[1*], Niklas Mattsson-Carlgren[1,2,3], Pascal Stammet[4], Sofia Backman[5], Kaj Blennow[6,7],



Predictors of neurological outcome

activation of primary sensory cortex



Key SSEP Waves

1.N9 Wave (Peripheral Response)

1. **Location**: Brachial plexus (near the shoulder, recorded from the arm).
2. **Meaning**: Indicates intact peripheral nerve conduction from the stimulation site to the brachial plexus.
3. **Interpretation**: Absence of the N9 wave suggests an issue with peripheral nerves.

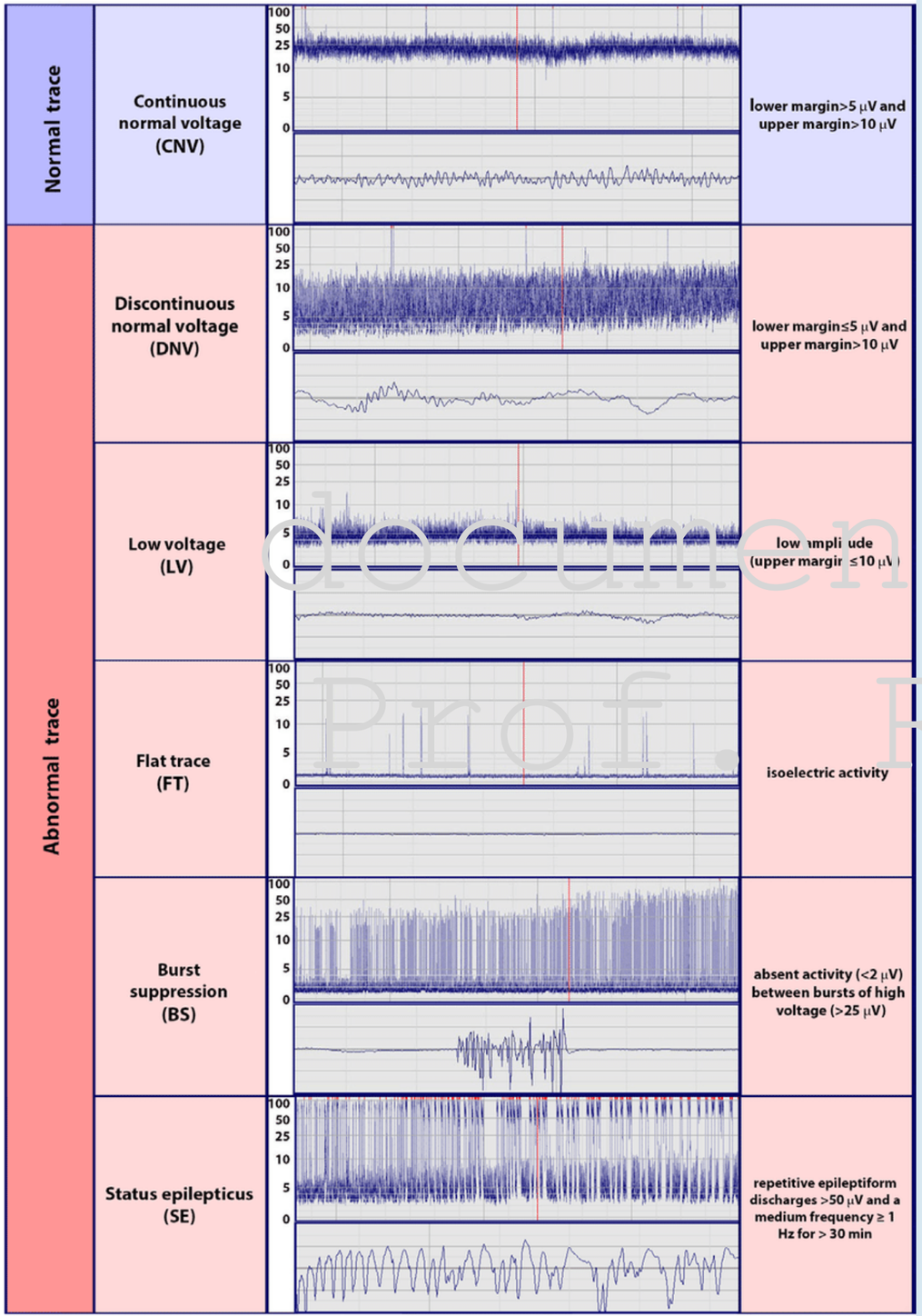
2.N13 Wave (Cervical Response)

1. **Location**: Cervical spiral cord (neck region).
2. **Meaning**: Reflects conduction from the brachial plexus to the cervical spinal cord.
3. **Interpretation**: Absence or delay in N13 suggests issues within the cervical spine or spinal cord pathways.

3.N20 Wave (Cortical Response)

1. **Location**: Somatosensory cortex (top of the head, recorded from the scalp).
2. **Meaning**: This is the most important wave in SSEP for brain assessment. It represents the cortical response to sensory input and reflects intact sensory conduction to the brain.
3. **Interpretation**:
    1. **Present N20 Wave**: Suggests functional sensory pathways to the brain, generally associated with a better prognosis in comatose patients.
    2. **Absent N20 Wave**: Strongly predicts poor neurological outcome after events like cardiac arrest, as it indicates a lack of cortical response to sensory input.

Electrophysiology



American Clinical Neurophysiology Society's Standardized Critical Care EEG Terminology: 2021 Version

Lawrence J. Hirsch,* Michael W.K. Fong,† Markus Leitinger,‡ Suzette M. LaRoche,§ Sandor Beniczky,||

Background EEG Patterns

- **Continuous EEG**: Generally associated with a better prognosis if the background is continuous and reactive.
- **Discontinuous or Burst-Suppression Patterns**: Often indicate a poorer prognosis, especially if they persist without improvement.
- **Suppression**: Background EEG with very low amplitude (<10 μV) or isoelectric tracing indicates severe brain injury and poor prognosis.

Reactivity and Responsiveness

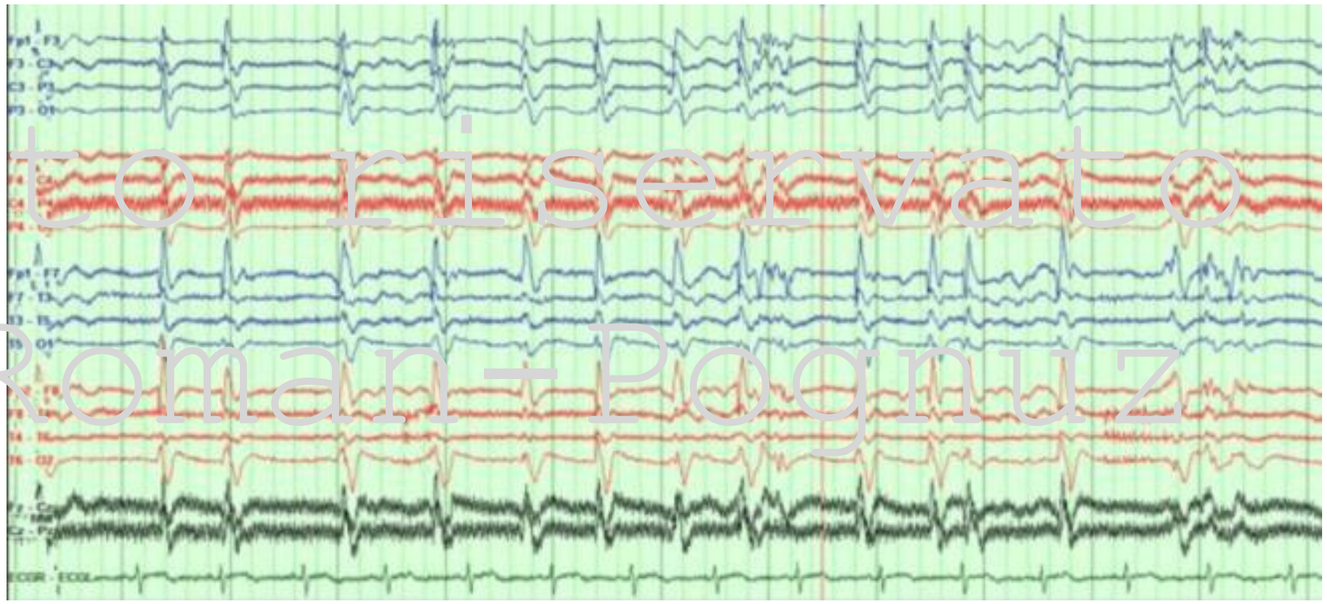
- **Reactivity**: The EEG's response to external stimuli (such as noise or touch).
  - **Prognostic Value**: EEG that shows reactivity to stimuli is a positive prognostic indicator. Non-reactive EEG suggests severe brain dysfunction and is associated with poor outcomes.

Summary of Prognostic Indicators by ACNS 2021

- **Good Prognosis**: Continuous, reactive EEG without burst suppression or epileptiform activity.
- **Poor Prognosis**: Suppressed, isoelectric EEG, burst suppression without improvement, or persistent unresponsive status epilepticus.

EPILEPTIFORM PATTERNS

- **Generalized Periodic Discharges (GPDs)**:
  - **Prognostic Value**: GPDs, especially if combined with a suppressed or burst-suppression background, are associated with poor prognosis. Their presence is often indicative of widespread cortical damage.
- **Status Epilepticus**:
  - **Pattern**: Continuous seizure activity or EEG patterns meeting status epilepticus criteria.
  - **Prognostic Value**: Prolonged, unresponsive status epilepticus is strongly associated with poor outcomes, although short-lived, treatable seizures may not necessarily predict a negative outcome.



PREDICTING NEUROLOGICAL OUTCOME AFTER CARDIAC ARREST: ROLE OF NEUROIMAGING

Key Imaging Modalities

CT Scan

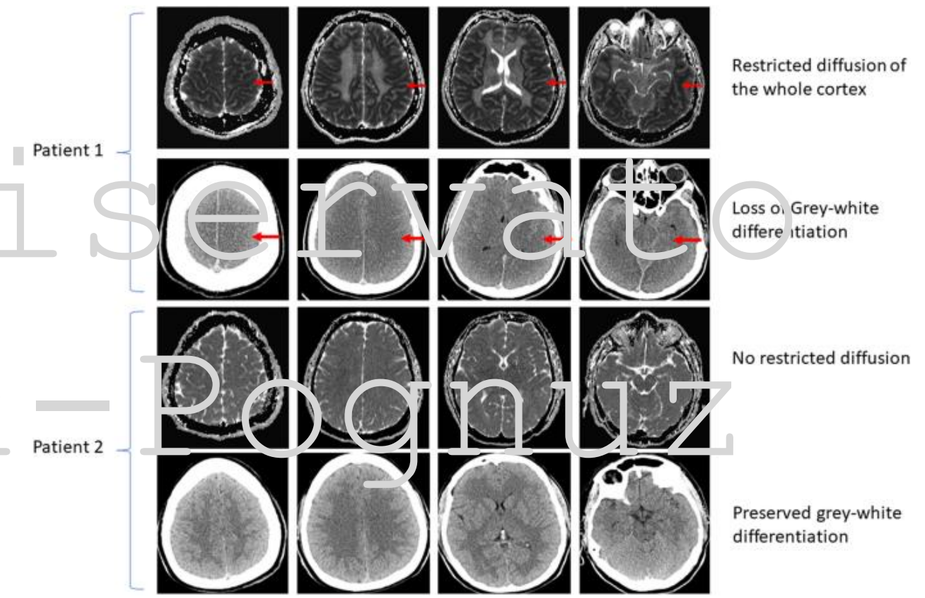
Cerebral Edema: Severe brain swelling and loss of gray-white differentiation are associated with poor outcomes.

Early Hypodensities: Visible hypodense areas indicate significant injury and a likely poor prognosis.

MRI (Diffusion-Weighted Imaging - DWI)

Hypoxic-Ischemic Injury: Presence of diffuse restricted diffusion areas, especially in the cortex, basal ganglia, or cerebellum, strongly predicts poor outcomes.

Early DWI Changes: DWI is highly sensitive and specific for early ischemic changes post-arrest, aiding in rapid assessment.



ROLE OF GWR IN PROGNOSTICATION

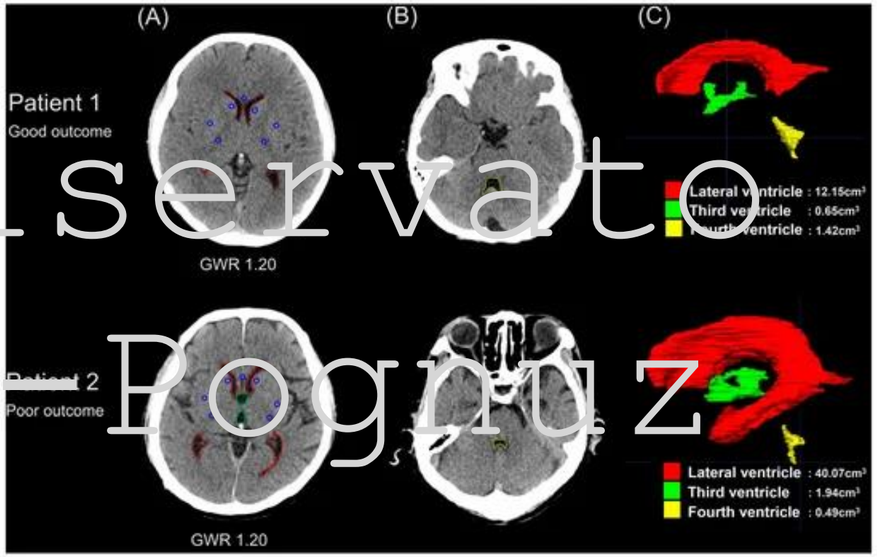
Normal GWR: Gray matter (higher density) typically appears brighter than white matter on a CT scan.

Decreased GWR: After cardiac arrest, hypoxic brain injury can cause cerebral edema, leading to a loss of distinction between gray and white matter due to decreased gray matter density.

Predictive Value:

Low GWR (<1.2) is associated with poor neurological outcomes, often indicating severe brain injury and a high likelihood of non-recovery.

High GWR is generally more favorable, indicating less edema and higher potential for neurological recovery.



Recap

1. Primary (ischaemic) and secondary (reperfusion) injury occur sequentially during cardiac arrest, resuscitation, and the acute post-resuscitation phase.
2. TTM is a strategy to achieve and maintain a specified body temperature, typically from 33 to 37.5 °C.
3. Difficult to define the optimal timing, dosing (temperature level) and duration of treatment.
4. Neuroprognostication: clinical, electrophysiology, biomarkers and imaging
5. Clinical: motor response, ocular reflexes and myoclonus
6. Biomarkers: NSE is standard practice while NFL is most reliable biomarker but still needs confirmation
7. EEG is complex and prone to subjectivity. Recently ACNS standardize the interpretation.
8. Still no definite consensus on the optimal timing of imaging. Generally TC as a first step than MRI.
9. Predicting good neurological outcome is challenging, needs more investigation.

PUPILLOMETRIA, VEDIAMOCI CHIARO.
COME UTILIZZARLA.
A PLACE IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

- **Erik Roman-Pognuz MD, PhD**
- Department of Medical Science - University

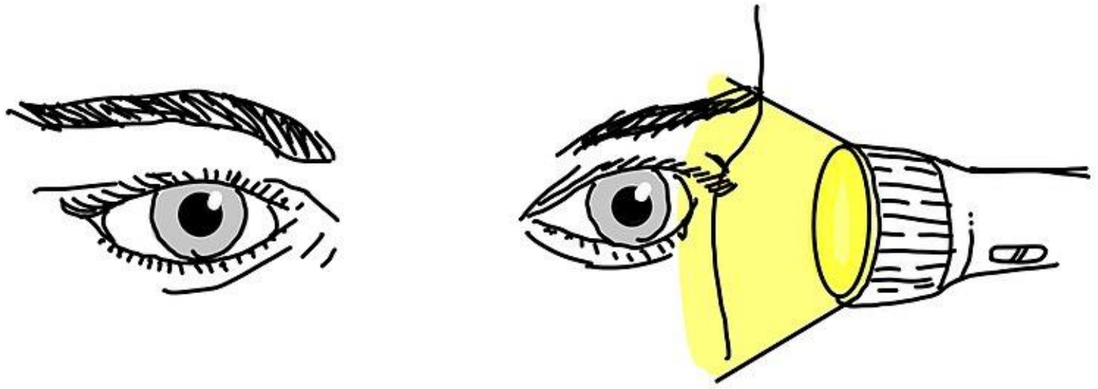
EARNING OUTCOMES

- Anatomy of the pupillary light reflex. What are we assessing?
- Why we do assess pupils?
- Standard vs automated
- Clinical use of automated pupillometry
- Prognostication of patient prognosis
- Pupillometry in anesthesia
- Limitation and a sneak peek of future

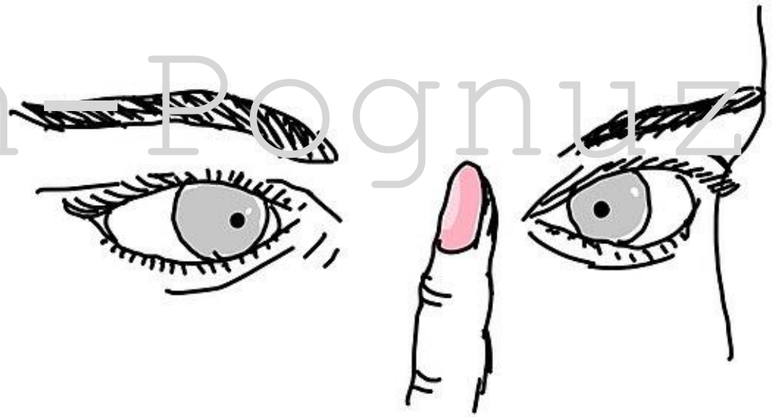
who’s first?

Sir Robertson, Douglas Argyll

(Edimb 1837 - Gondal, India, 1909)

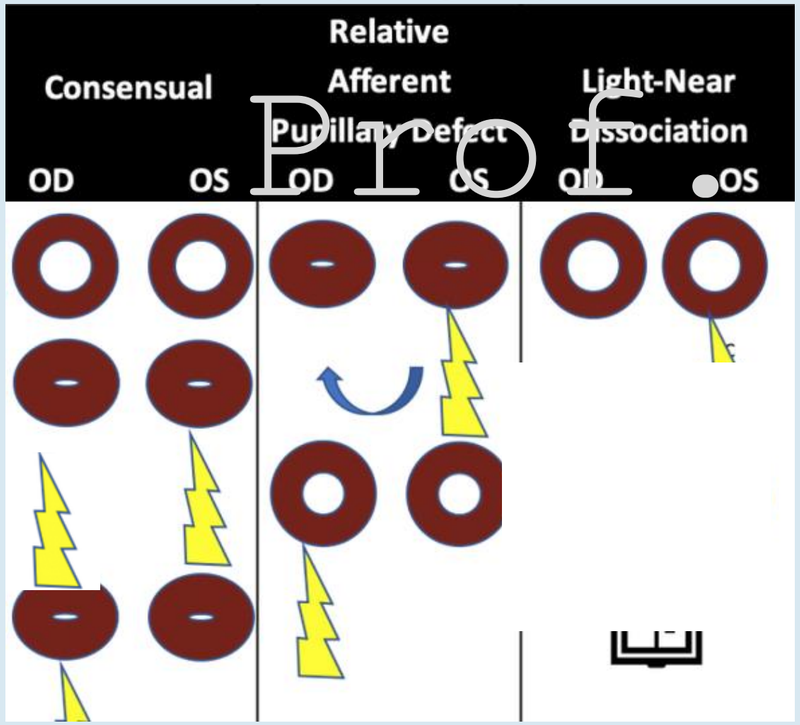


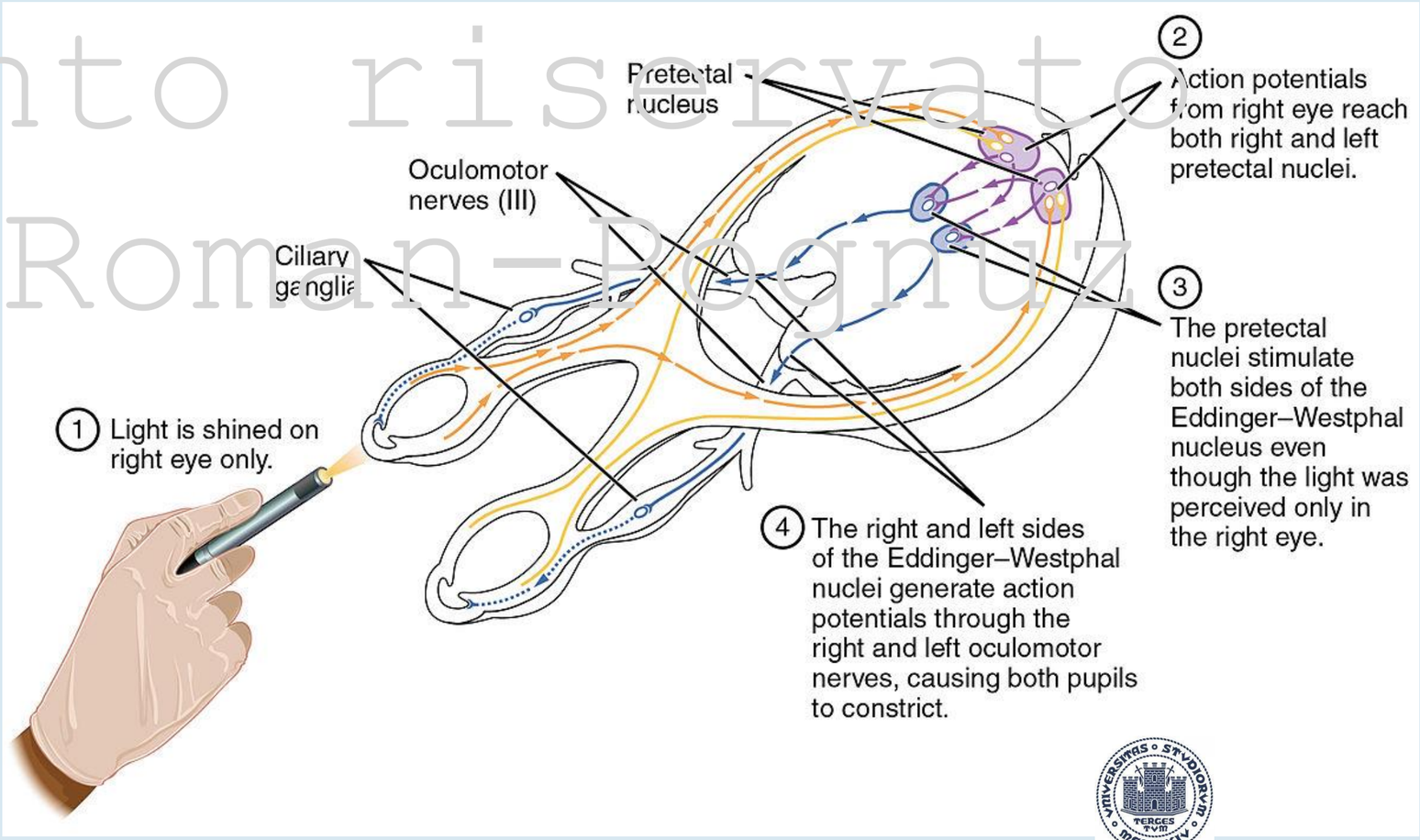
Pupils DO **NOT** constrict when exposed to bright light. (“light reflex”)



Pupils DO constrict on a near object. (“accommodation reflex”)

WHAT ARE WE ASSESSING?

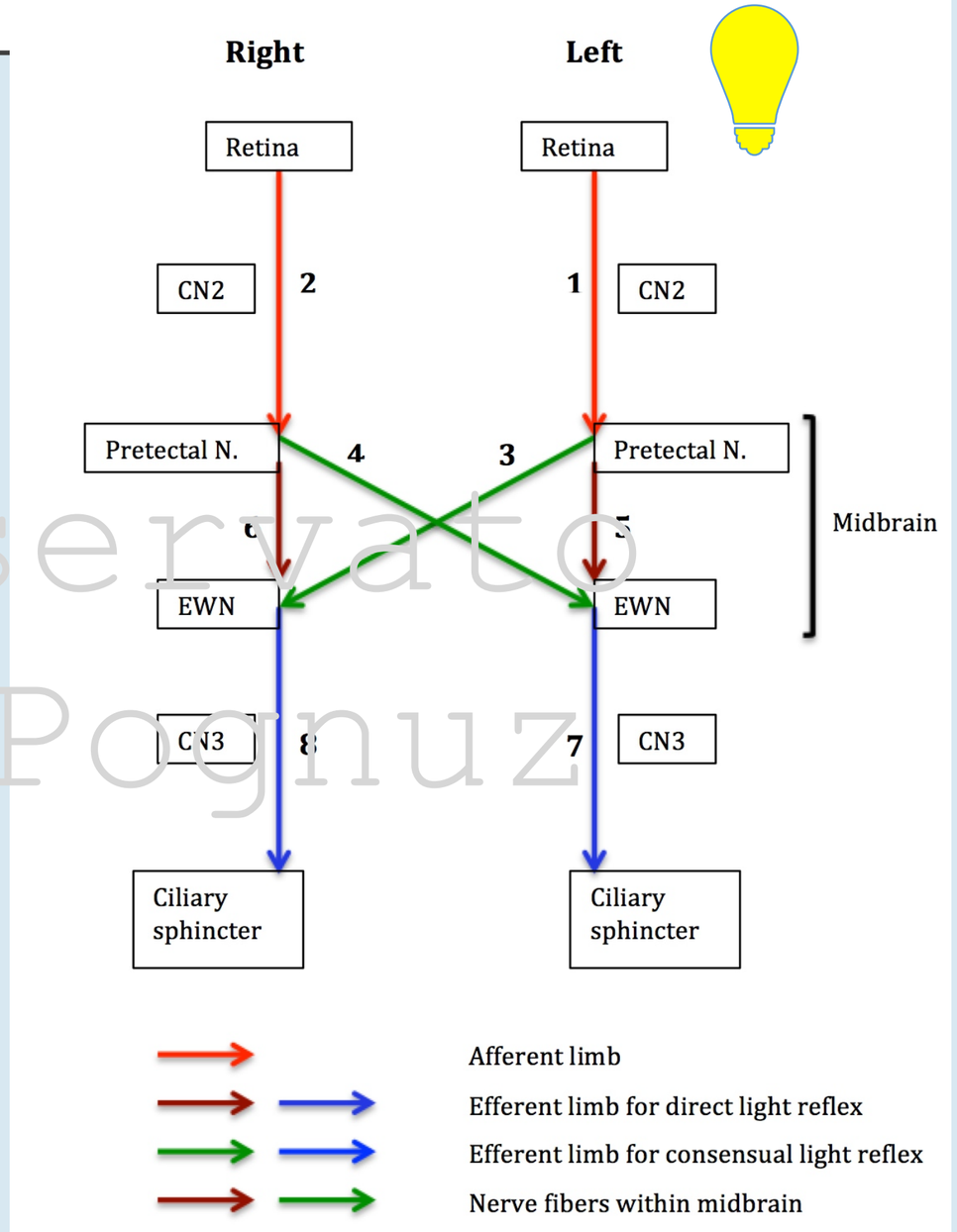




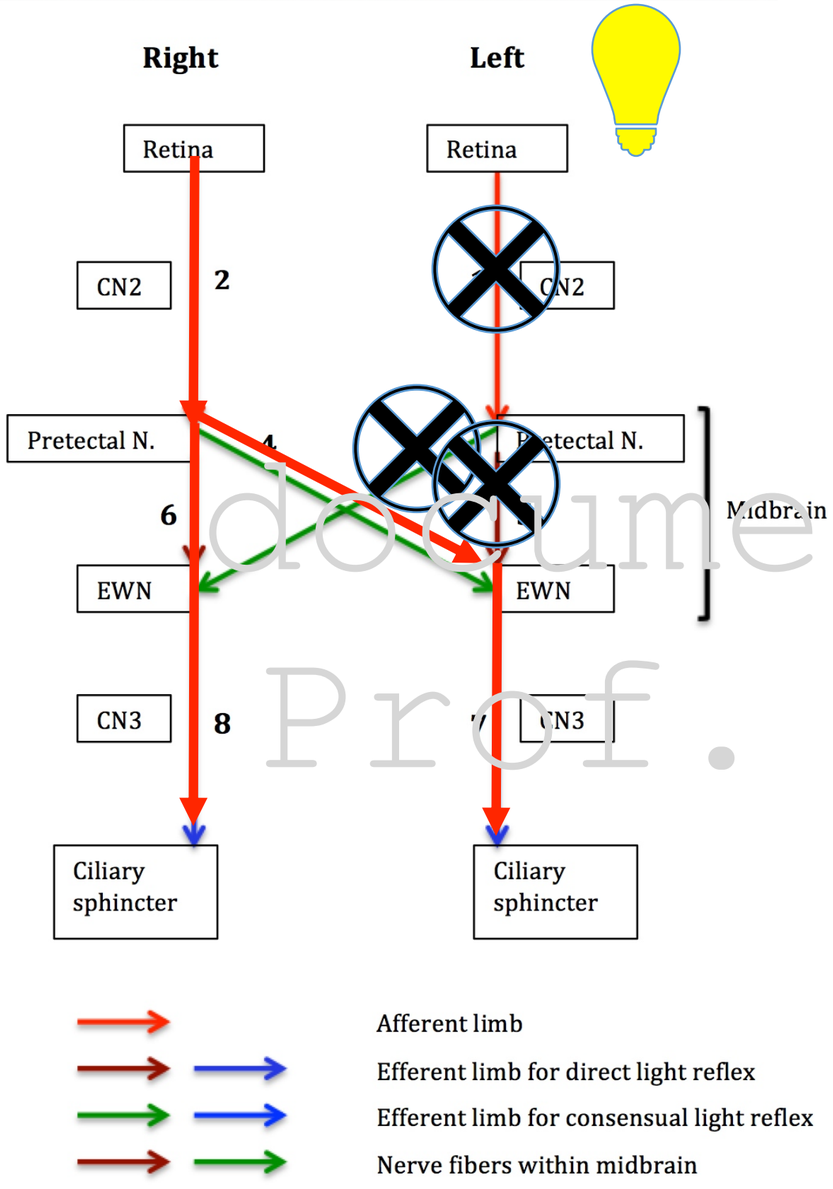
- Left direct light reflex involves neural segments 1, 5, and 7.
- Left consensual light reflex involves neural segments 2, 4, and 7.
- Right direct light reflex involves neural segments 2, 6, and 8.
- Right consensual light reflex involves neural segments 1, 3, and 8.

Diagnostic tool for sensory and motor function for the eye and brain stem

Schematic diagram of pupillary light reflex neural pathway:



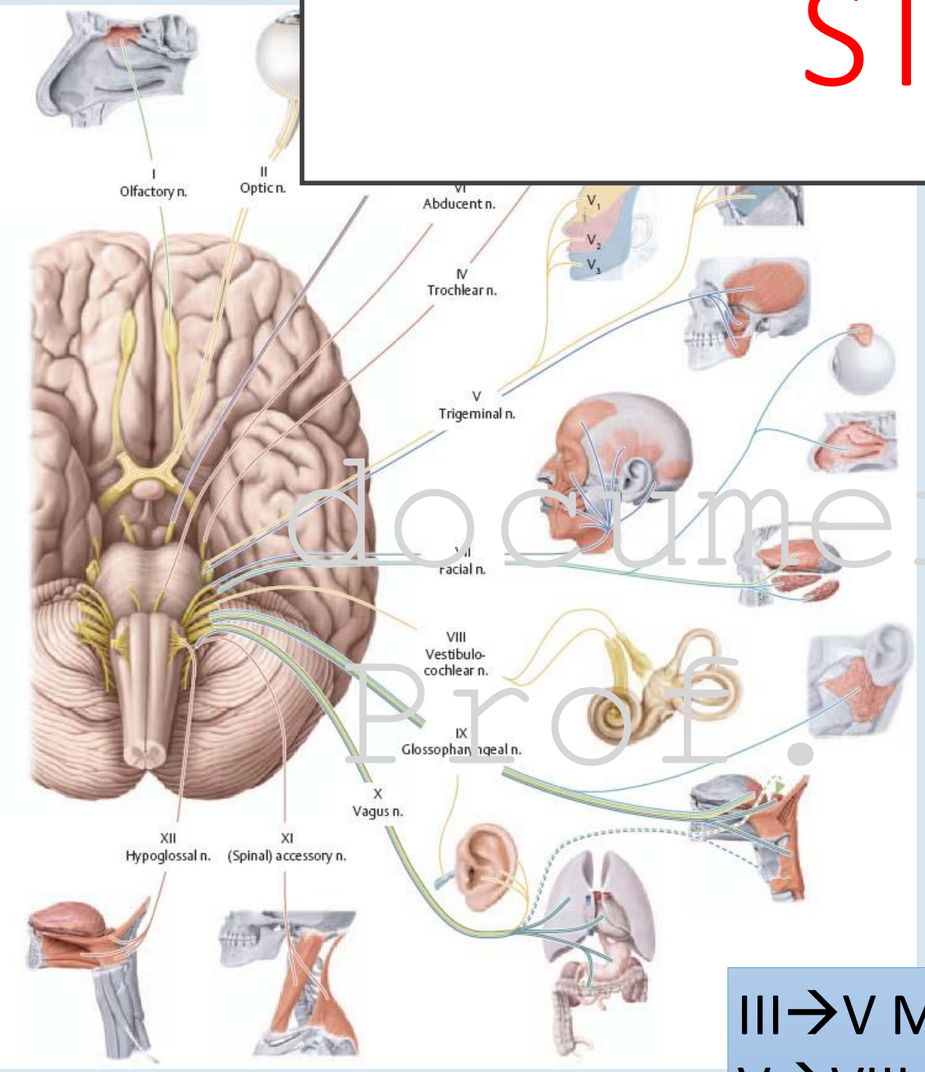
Schematic diagram of pupillary light reflex neural pathway:



LESION LOCATION EXAMPLE

- Right direct reflex is normal
- Left consensual reflex is normal

STANDARD VS AUTOMATED

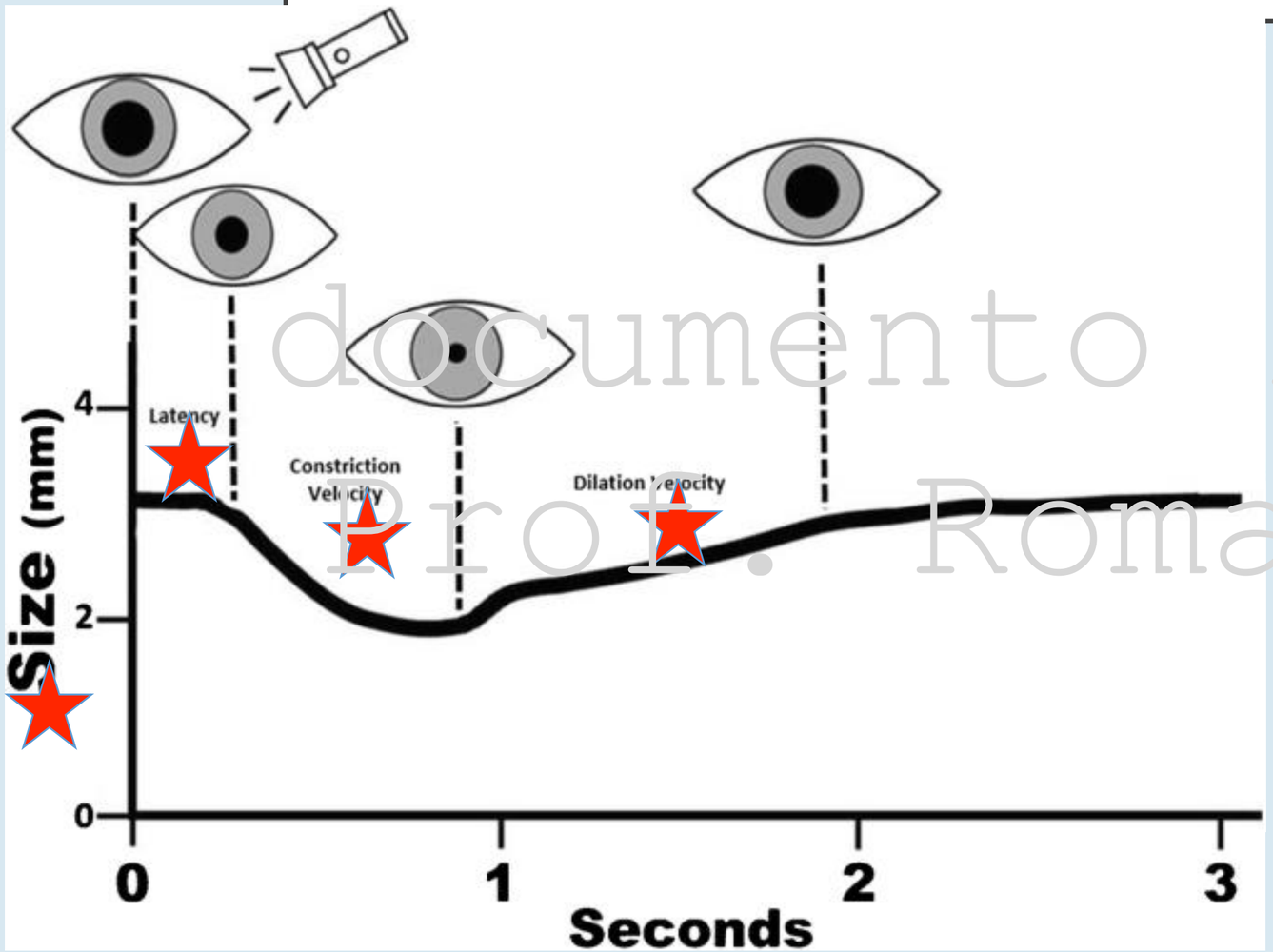


III→V Midbrain
V→VIII Pons
V, VII→XII Medulla

Pros easy and inexpensive
Cons qualitative, Inter examiner variabilit
and lack of reliability

Pros standardise the intensity, distance from the eye and duration of stimulus.Displays a quantitative and reproducible measures.
Cons cost

AUTOMATED PUPILLOMETRY TECHNIQUE



Infrared visible light source coupled with a camera

A infrared light measure the pupil baseline

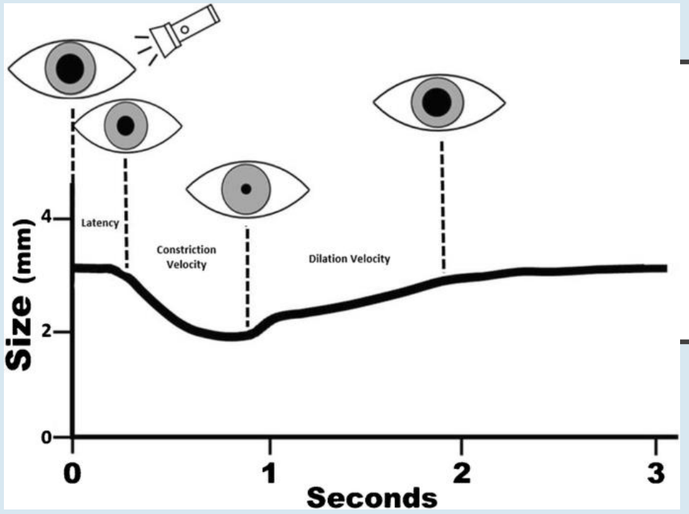
After 3'' a visible light delivered

The pupillary response recorded with camera

Other parameters

- pupillogram
- data trending

Non invasive neuromonitoring bedside tool



AUTOMATED PUPILLOMETRY TECHNIQUE

Pupillary function	Pupillometry derived variable
Pupil constriction to light stimulation	• Size (mm) • Asymmetry (mm) • Constriction change to light stimulation (% PLR) • Latency (sec) • Constriction velocity (mm/s) • Dilation velocity (mm/s) • Neurologic Pupillary Index: NPi*, a computed value derived from a mathematic algorithm including several of the above variables
Pupil dilation to painful stimulation	• Pupillary reflex dilation: PRD (%)** • Pupillary Pain Index: PPI**

*Calculated only by the Neuroptics® NPi-200 pupillometer; **available only on the NeuroLight-Algiscan® pupillometer.

Measured Value*	Assessment
3.0 – 4.9	Normal/"Brisk"
< 3.0	Abnormal/"Sluggish"
0	Non-Reactive, Immeasurable, or Atypical Response

DEVICES

Neurolight Algiscan

No comparable data on available devices
Possible that Information with both devices is not the same

No comparable studies that examine accuracy

cubical nerve stimulator (10-60 mA)

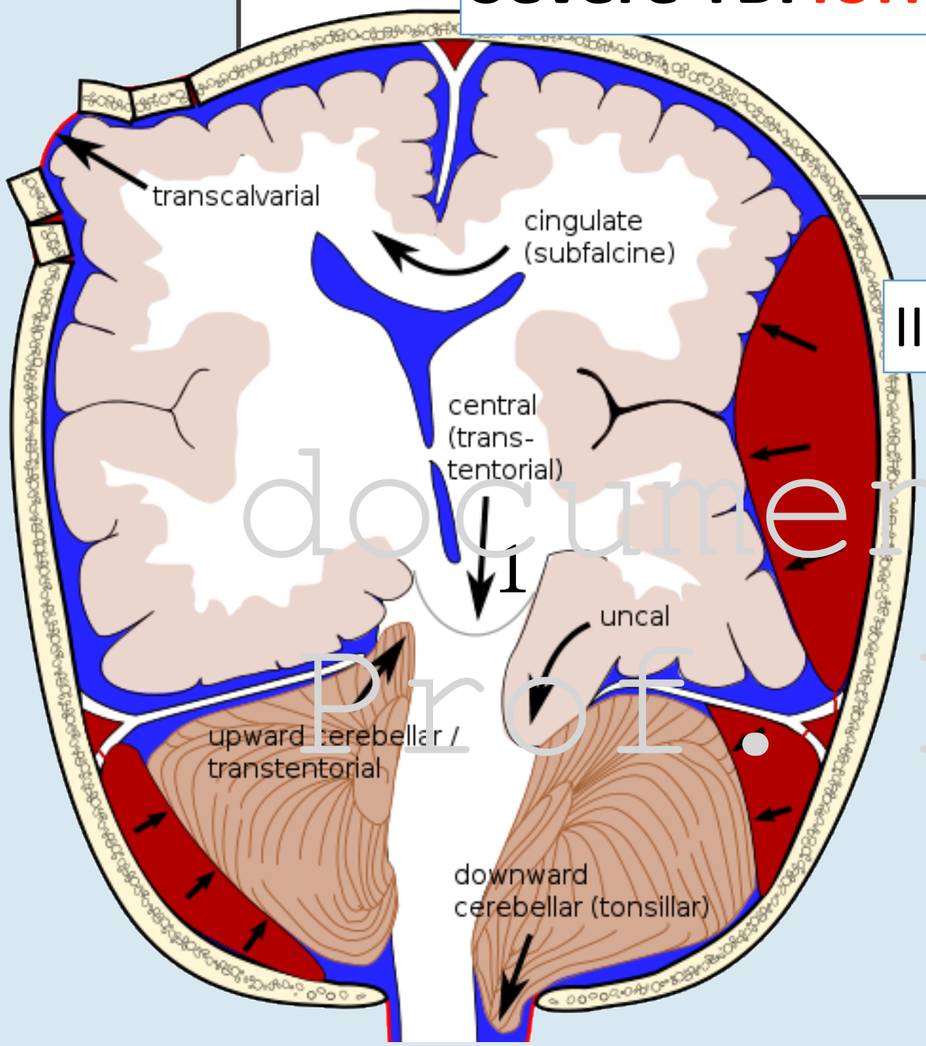
- PRD
- PPI

NPi index
algorithm derived value
NPi>= 3 normal reactivity

Neuroptics NPi

CLINICAL USE OF AP
NEUROLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Severe TBI ICTH may cause **TTH (1)**



III oculomotor compression or distortion of midbrain

Automated Pupillometry and Detection of Clinical Transtentorial Brain Herniation: A Case Series

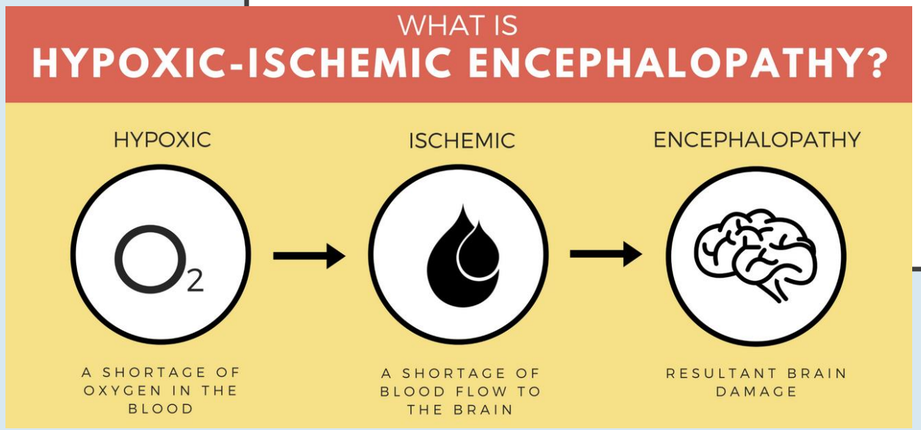
Alexander Papangelou, MD; Elizabeth K. Zink, MS, RN†; Wan-Tsu W. Chang, MD‡§;*

Quantitative pupillometry for the monitoring of intracranial hypertension in patients with severe traumatic brain injury

Fritz-Patrick Jahns[1], John Paul Miroz[2], Mahmoud Messerer[3], Roy T. Daniel[3], Fabio Silvio Taccone[4],

Check for updates

In comatose with BI deterioration of AP parameters (
may predict ICHT and suggest investigation or treatm



CLINICAL USE OF AP
NEUROLOGICAL PROGNOSTICATION

HIBI after CA

Clinical paper Resuscitation 83 (2012) 1223–1228

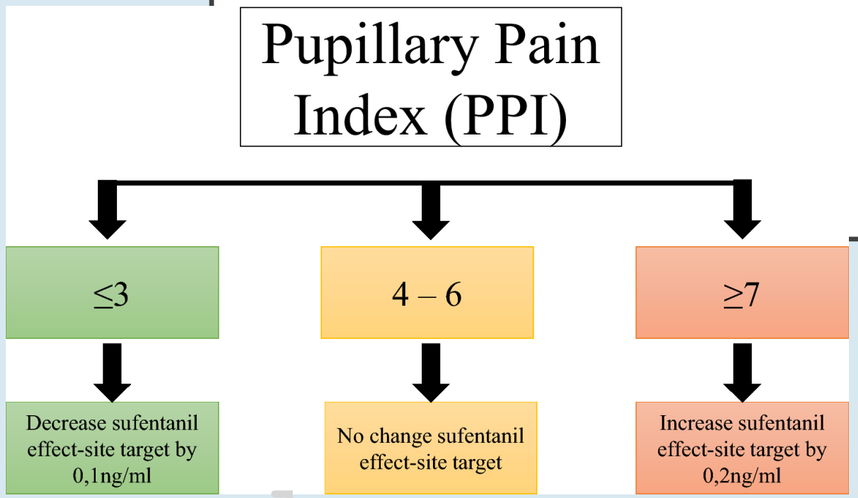
Infrared pupillometry to detect the light reflex during cardiopulmonary

BMJ Open

Outcome Prognostication of Acute Brain Injury using the Neurological Pupil Index (ORANGE) study: protocol for a prospective, observational, multicentre, international cohort study

Mauro Oddo,[1,2] Fabio Taccone,[3] Stefania Galimberti,[4,5] Paola Rebora,[4,6]

CLINICAL USE OF AP
MONITORING ANALGESIA



Perioperative Medicine | August 2017

Pupillometry-guided Intraoperative Remifentanil Administration *versus* Standard Practice Influences Opioid Use: A Randomized Study FREE

Nada Sabourdin, M.D.; Jérôme Barrois, M.D.; Nicolas Louvet, M.D.; Agnès Rigouzzo, M.D.;

Objective Assessment of the Immediate Postoperative Analgesia Using Pupillary Reflex Measurement

A Prospective and Observational Study

Mourad Aissou, M.D.,* Aurelie Snauwaert, M.D.,† Claire Dupuis, M.D.,† Arthur Atchabahian, M.D.

CRITICAL CARE, TRAUMA, AND RESUSCITATION: BRIEF REPORT

The Relevance of Pupillometry for Evaluation of Analgesia Before Noxious Procedures in the Intensive Care Unit

Lukaszewicz, Anne-Claire MD, PhD; Dereu, Domitille MD; Gayat, Etienne MD, PhD; Payen, Didier MD, PhD

- like s-PLR requires afferent and efferent pathways are intact
- inter individual variability in pupil size and reactivity
- anesthetic and opioids that affect s-PLR may alter AP (NPi unaffected)
- AP requires equipments and consumables, unsuitable for low resource setti

Original Research Article

Pupillometry via smartphone for low-resource settings

Davide Piaggio [a], Georgy Namm [a], Paolo Melillo [b], Francesca Simonelli [b], Ernesto Iadanza [c],