

New York State Medicaid Prescriber Education Program

HbA_{1C} target goals and
monitoring

Treating type 2 diabetes mellitus



Key messages

- 1) Metformin should be used as a first-line medication in almost every patient with type 2 diabetes.
- 2) DPP-4 inhibitors and GLP-1 agonists should not be used first-line in patients with type 2 diabetes because metformin, sulfonylureas, and insulin are more efficacious.
- 3) **HbA_{1c} goals should be individualized for each patient with type 2 diabetes: less than 7% for most patients and less than 8% for specific high-risk subgroups.**
- 4) **Patients with type 2 diabetes should have an HbA_{1c} test every three to six months.**



Current guideline recommendations for HbA_{1c} and plasma glucose goals

Parameter	ADA	AACE
HbA_{1c}	<7%	<6.5%
Pre-prandial glucose	70-130 mg/dL	<110 mg/dL
Postprandial glucose	<180 mg/dL	<140 mg/dL

▶ Statement by an American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists/American College of Endocrinology consensus panel on type 2 diabetes mellitus: an algorithm for glycemic control, *Endocr Pract.* 2009;15(6) 540-559.
Standards of medical care in diabetes - 2011. *Diabetes Care.* 2011;34(S1):S11-S61.

Intensive vs. standard treatment

Trial	Results
ACCORD	Greater rates of cardiovascular and all-cause mortality with intensive blood glucose lowering (mean A1C 6.4%) compared to standard treatment (mean A1C 7.5%). ACCORD ended early after 3.5 yrs due to ↑ deaths in intensive-therapy group.
ADVANCE	No significant differences in major macrovascular events or all-cause mortality between intensive-treatment (mean A1C 6.5%) and standard-treatment (mean A1C 7.3%).
UKPDS 33	There was no difference in diabetes-related or all-cause mortality in the intensive-treatment group (mean A1C 7%) compared to the standard group (mean A1C 7.9%).

- ▶ No significant benefit in cardiovascular outcomes when targeting an intense A1C goal
- ▶ However, there were significant increases in adverse side effects in the intensive groups

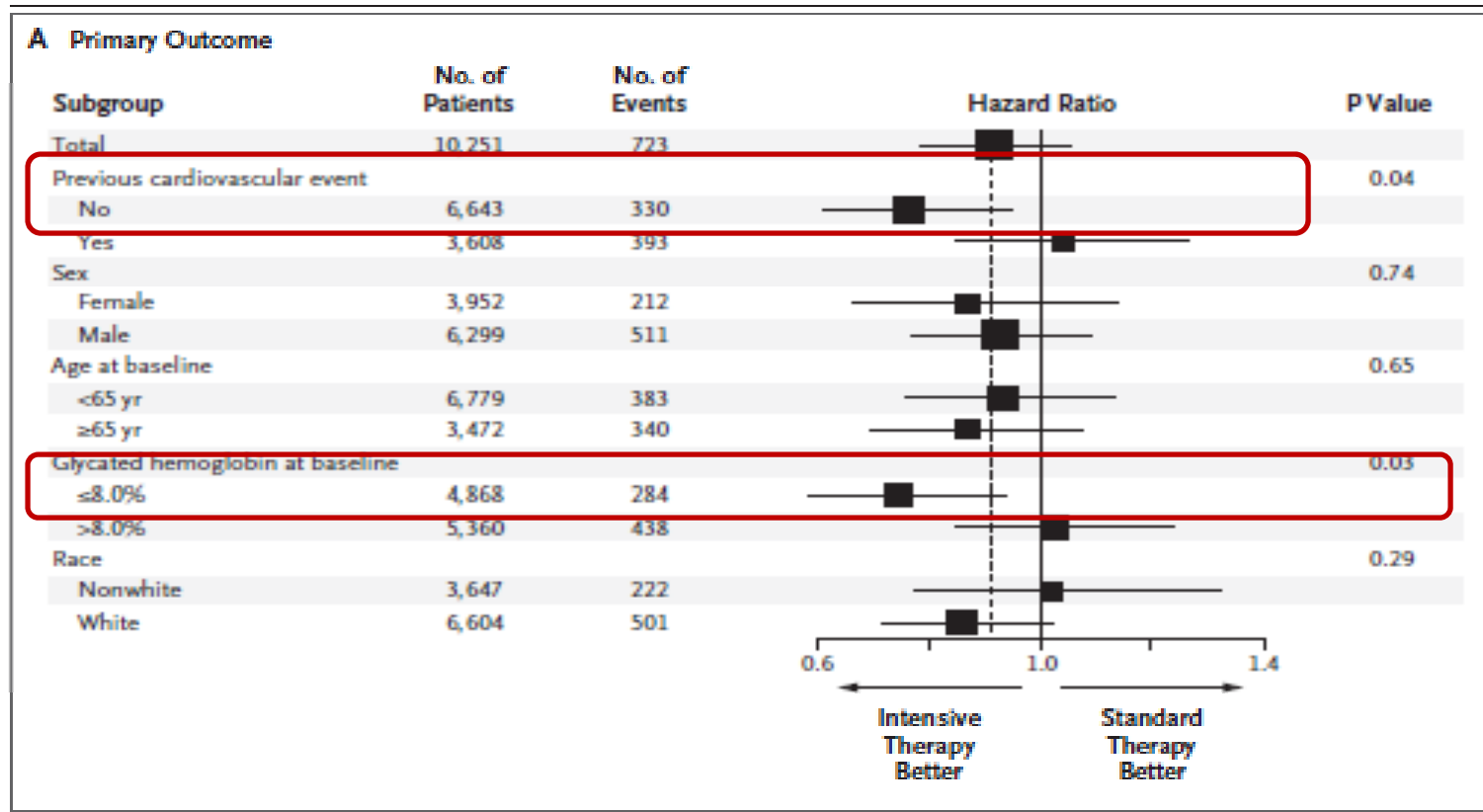
▶ UK Prospective Diabetes Study (UKPDS) Group. *Lancet*. Sep 12 1998;352(9131):837-53.

Effects of intensive glucose lowering in type 2 diabetes. *N Engl J Med*. Jun 12 2008;358(24):2545-59.

Intensive blood glucose control and vascular outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes. *N Engl J Med*. Jun 12 2008;358(24):2560-72.

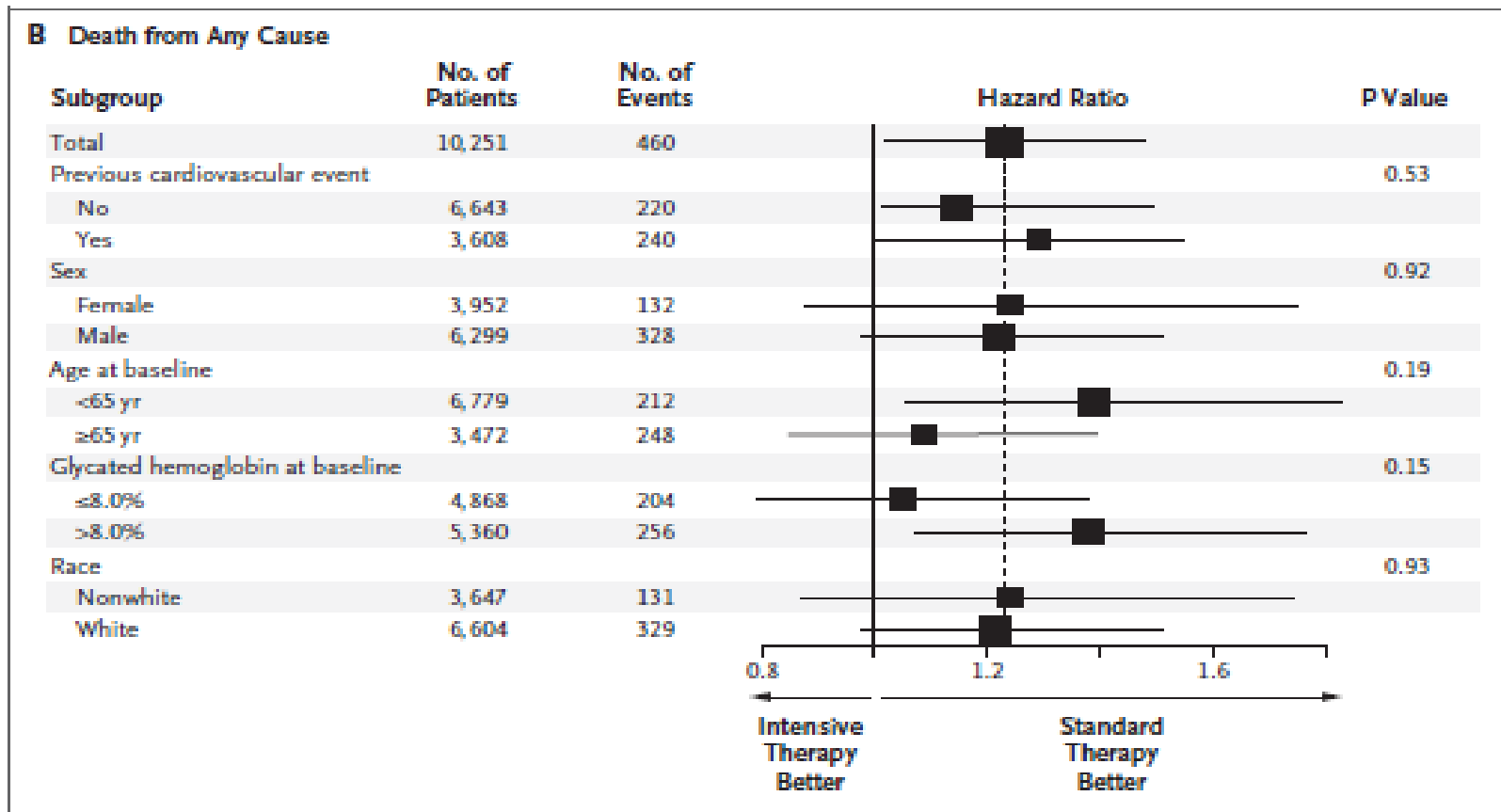
HbA_{1C} goal of <8% for specific high-risk subgroups

- ▶ ACCORD: Subgroup analysis (Primary Outcome)
 - ▶ No ↓ risk of cardiovascular events with intensive therapy
 - ▶ Potential benefit of intensive therapy in those with HbA_{1C} ≤8%



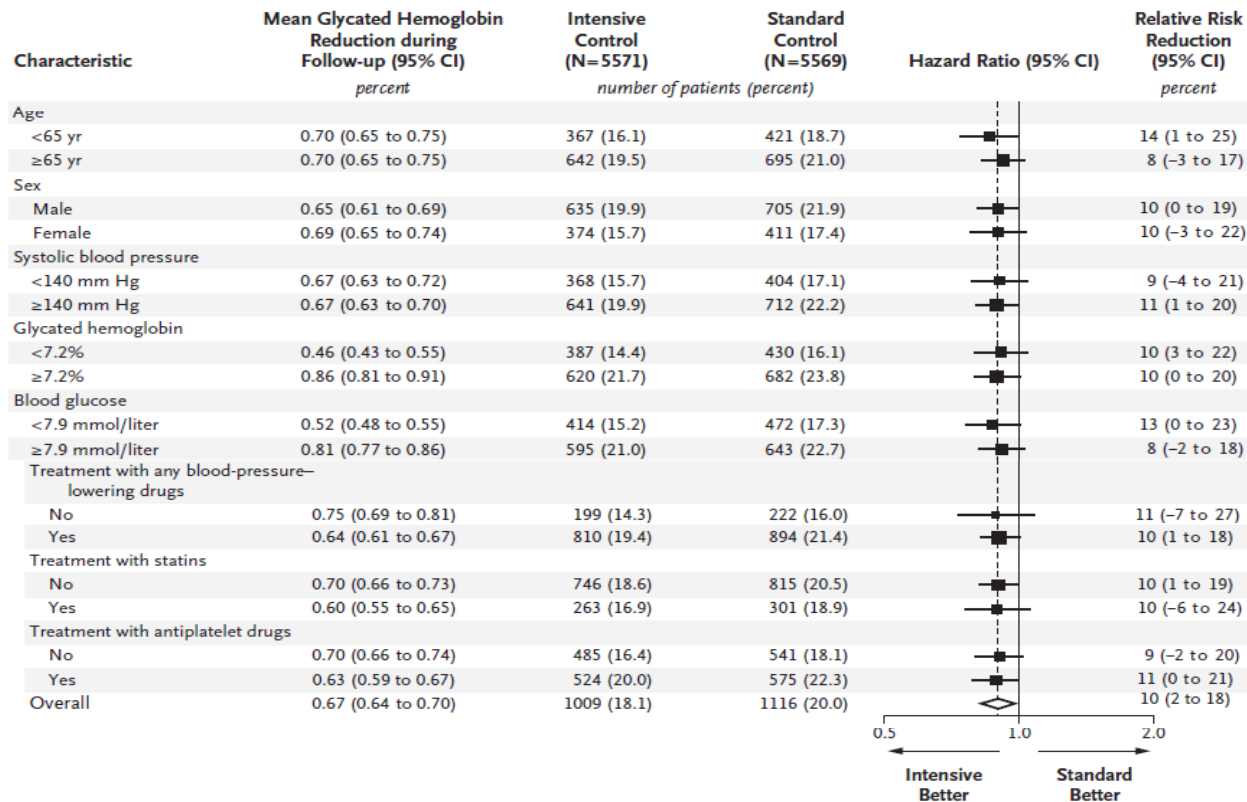
HbA_{1C} goal of <8% for specific high-risk subgroups

- ▶ ACCORD Subgroup analysis (Secondary Outcome)
 - ▶ Death from any cause: no benefit for intensive therapy



HbA_{1C} goal of <8% for specific high-risk subgroups

- ▶ ADVANCE: Subgroup Analysis:
 - ▶ No advantage of intensive glucose control: age, sex, SBP, HbA_{1C}, treatment w/BP drugs, statins, or antiplatelet agents

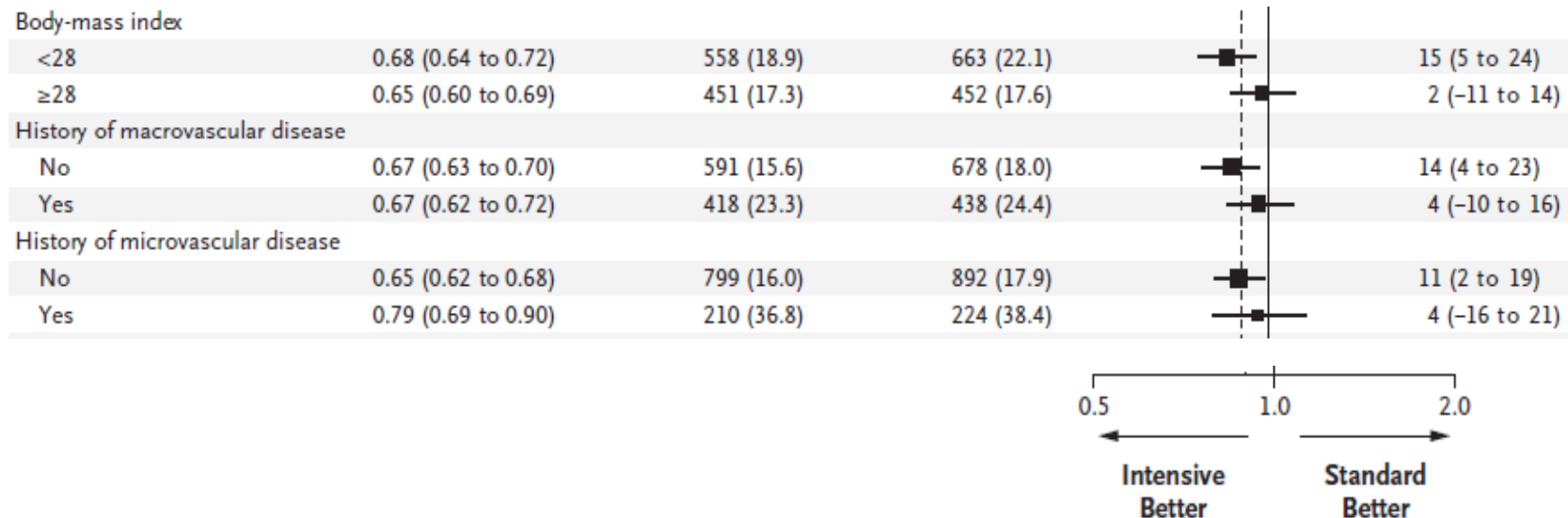


Intensive blood glucose control and vascular outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes. *N Engl J Med.* Jun 12 2008;358(24):2560-72

HbA_{1C} goal of <8% for specific high-risk subgroups

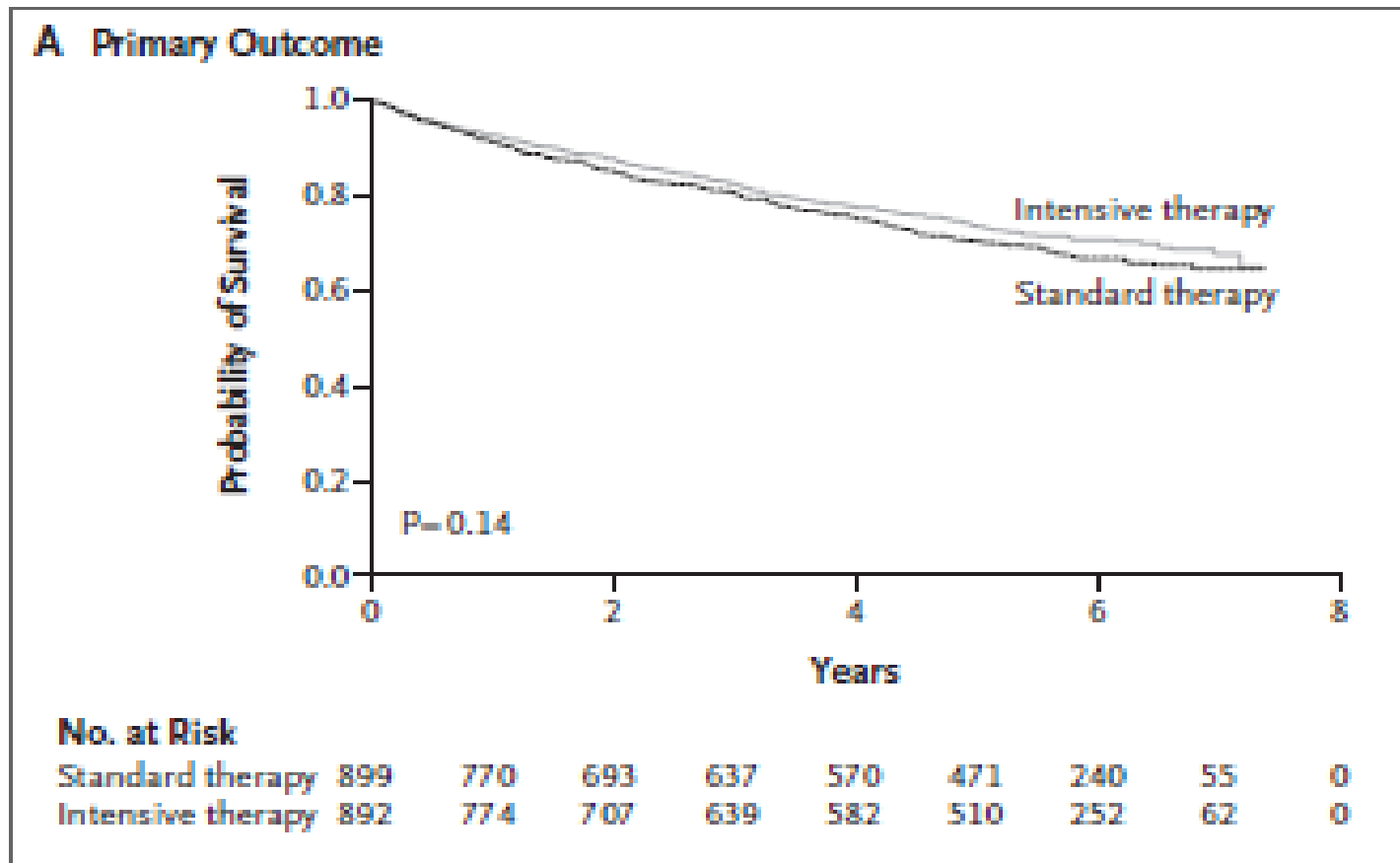
▶ ADVANCE: Subgroup Analysis

- ▶ Small advantage of intensive glucose control was seen in patients with:
 - ▶ BMI <28
 - ▶ No history of macrovascular disease
 - ▶ No history of microvascular disease



HbA_{1C} goal of <8% for specific high-risk subgroups

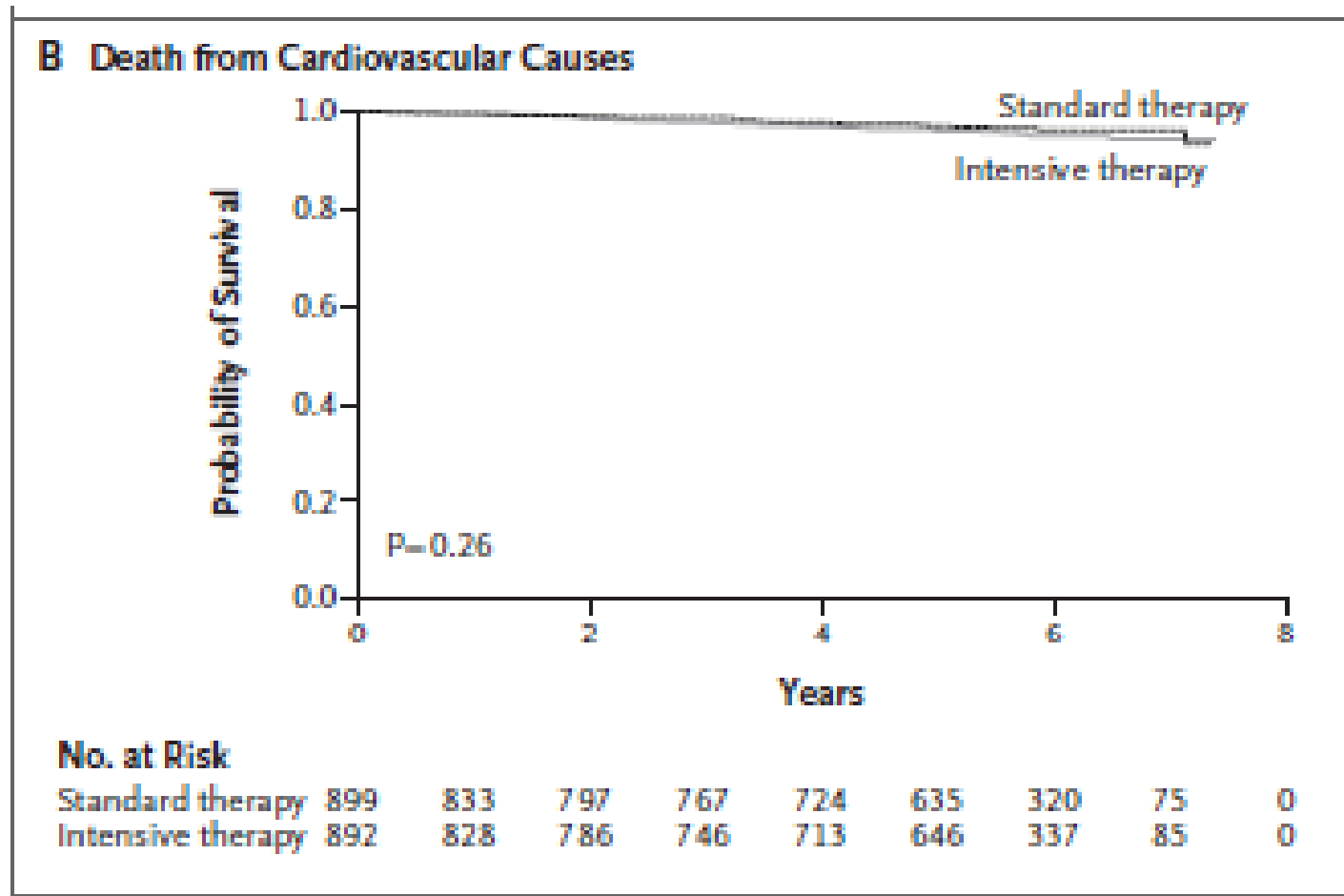
- ▶ VADT: Intensive therapy did not ↓ time to first CV event



▶ Glucose control and vascular complications in veterans with type 2 diabetes. N Engl J Med. 2009;360:129-39.

HbA_{1C} goal of <8% for specific high-risk subgroups

- ▶ VADT: Intensive therapy did not ↓ risk of CV death



▶ Glucose control and vascular complications in veterans with type 2 diabetes. N Engl J Med. 2009;360:129-39.

HbA_{1C} goal of <8% for specific high-risk subgroups

- ▶ Risks of intense glucose control may outweigh benefits
 - ▶ Frail, older adults
 - ▶ Limited life expectancy
 - ▶ Advanced microvascular or macrovascular disease
 - ▶ History of severe hypoglycemia
 - ▶ Extensive comorbid conditions
 - ▶ Long history of DM in whom general goal difficult to achieve

▶ Standards of medical care in diabetes - 2011. Diabetes Care. 2011;34(S1):S11-S61.

▶ Guidelines for improving the care of the older person with diabetes mellitus. JAGS. 2003;51:S265-S280.

HbA_{1c} monitoring

- ▶ **Every 3 months**
 - ▶ After any medication changes or adjustments
 - ▶ In patients not meeting glycemic goals

- ▶ **Every 6 months**
 - ▶ In patients meeting treatment goals
 - ▶ In patients with stable glycemic control

Summary

- ▶ HbA_{1C} goals should be:
 - ▶ <7% for most patients
 - ▶ <8% for specific high-risk subgroups
- ▶ Patients with type 2 diabetes should have an HbA_{1C} test every three to six months
 - ▶ Based on changes to therapy and glycemic control

