

# Turning Science into Real Life

## Roflumilast in Clinical Practice



Roland Buhl  
Pulmonary Department  
Mainz University Hospital

# Therapy at each stage of COPD

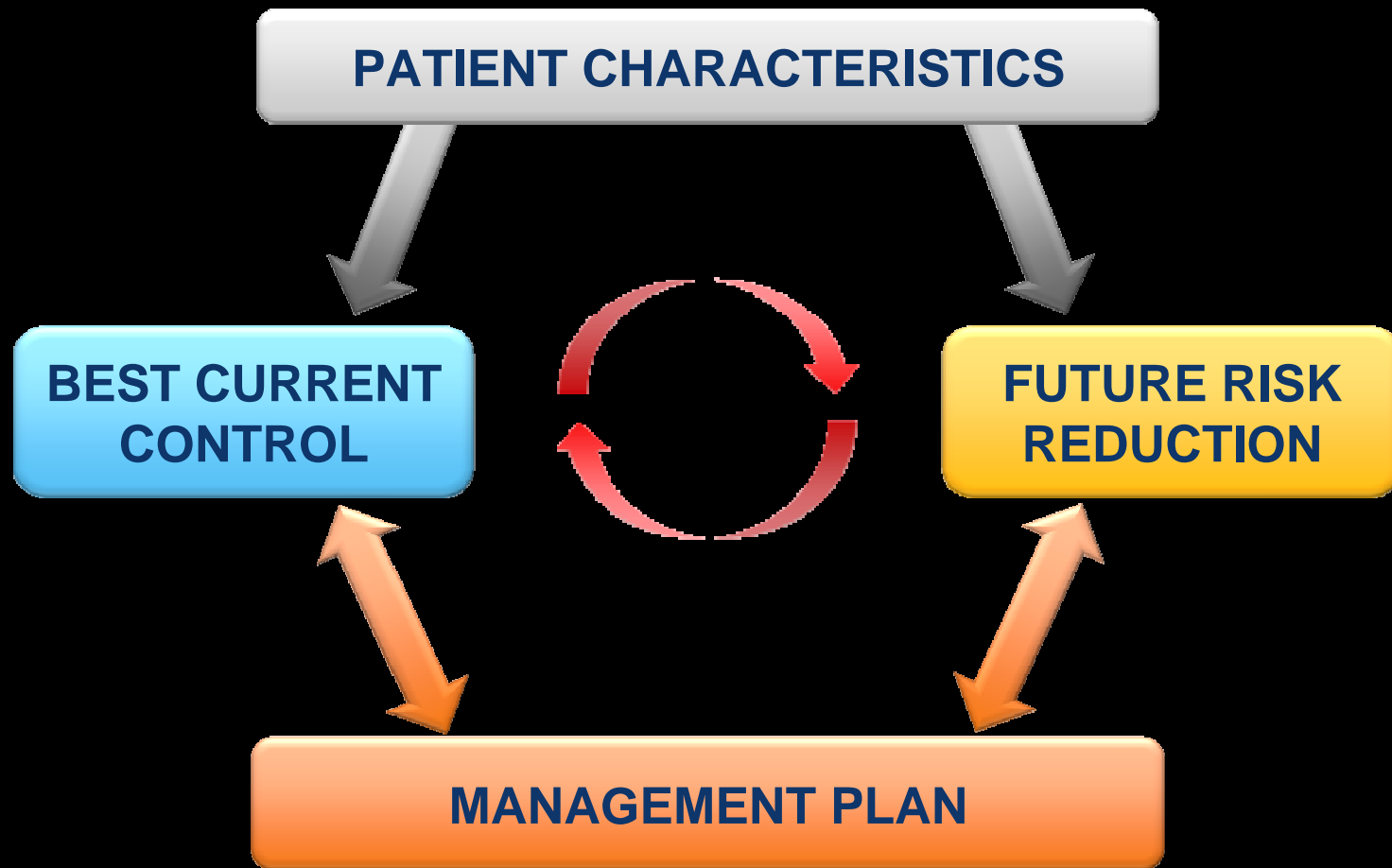
I: Mild	II: Moderate	III: Severe	IV: Very severe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub> ≥ 80% pred.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li> <li>• 50% ≤ FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 80% pred.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li> <li>• 30% ≤ FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 50% pred.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 30% pred. or FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 50% plus chronic respiratory failure</li> </ul>
Active reduction of risk factor(s); influenza vaccination			
<b>Add</b> Short-acting bronchodilator (when needed)			
<b>Add</b> Regular treatment with one or more long-acting bronchodilators (when needed)			
<b>Add</b> Rehabilitation			
<b>Add</b> Inhaled glucocorticosteroids if repeated exacerbations			
<b>Add</b> Long-term O <sub>2</sub> if chronic resp. failure <i>Consider</i> surgical treatments			

# Guideline goals for successful COPD management



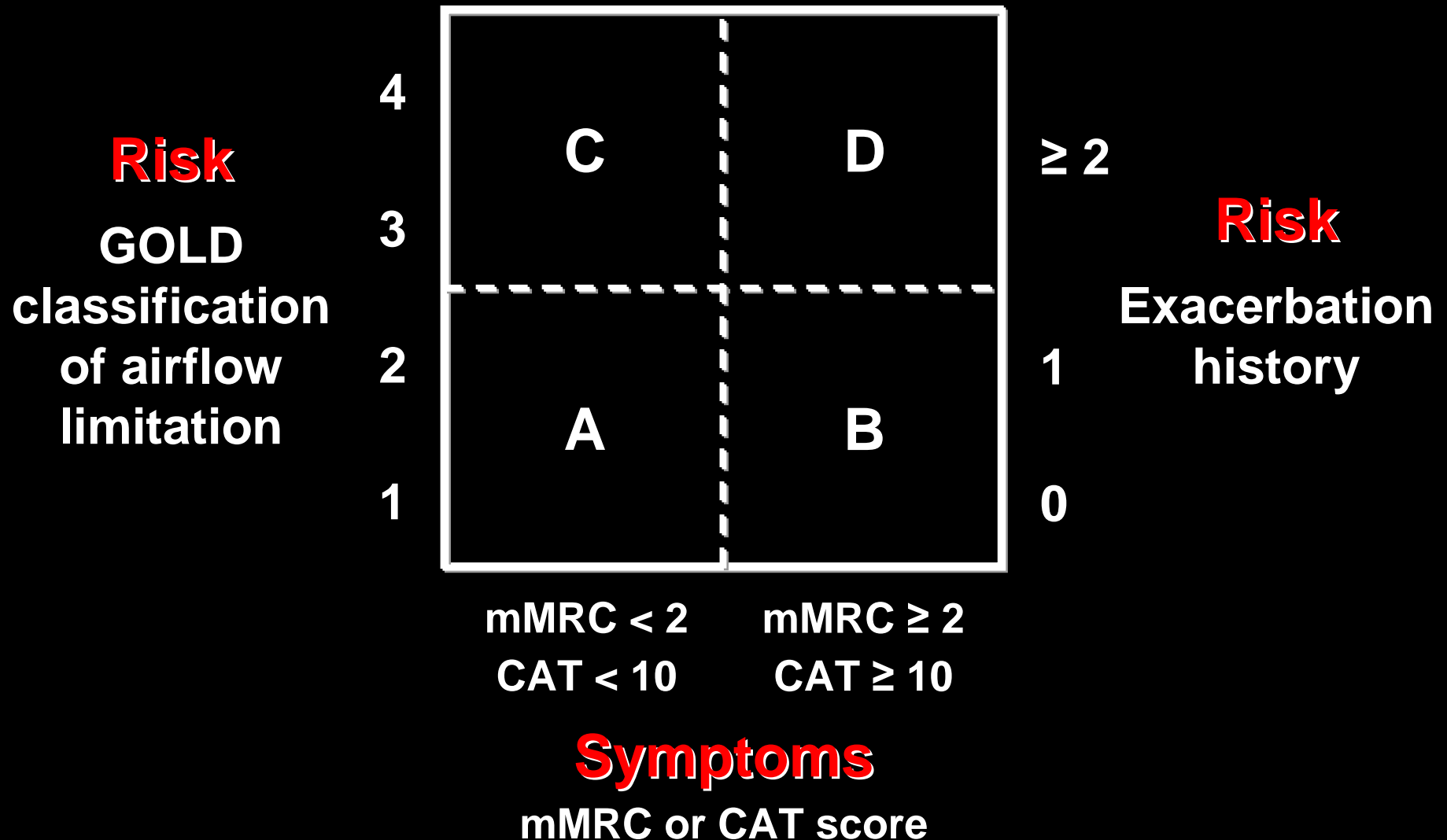
- Relieve symptoms
- Improve exercise tolerance
- Improve health status
- Prevent disease progression
- Prevent and treat complications
- Prevent and treat exacerbations
- Reduce mortality

# A new perspective on 'optimal care' for patients with COPD



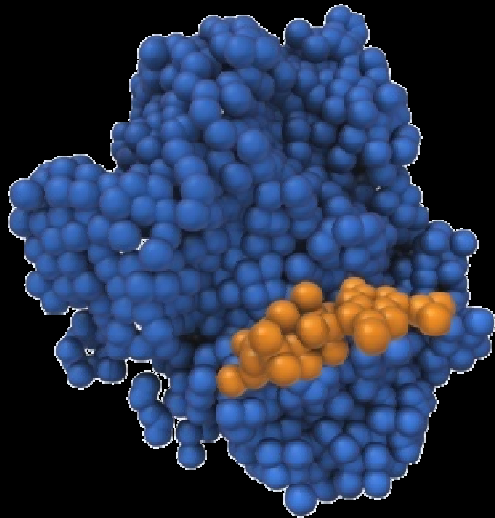
# The new GOLD COPD Guidelines

## Symptoms, spirometry and future risk



# Roflumilast in clinical practice

- ▶ Which patients will benefit the most ?



**PDE4 inhibition**

# Reduction of exacerbations by roflumilast

## Defining different subsets of COPD patients

Pooled analysis  
2686 COPD patients

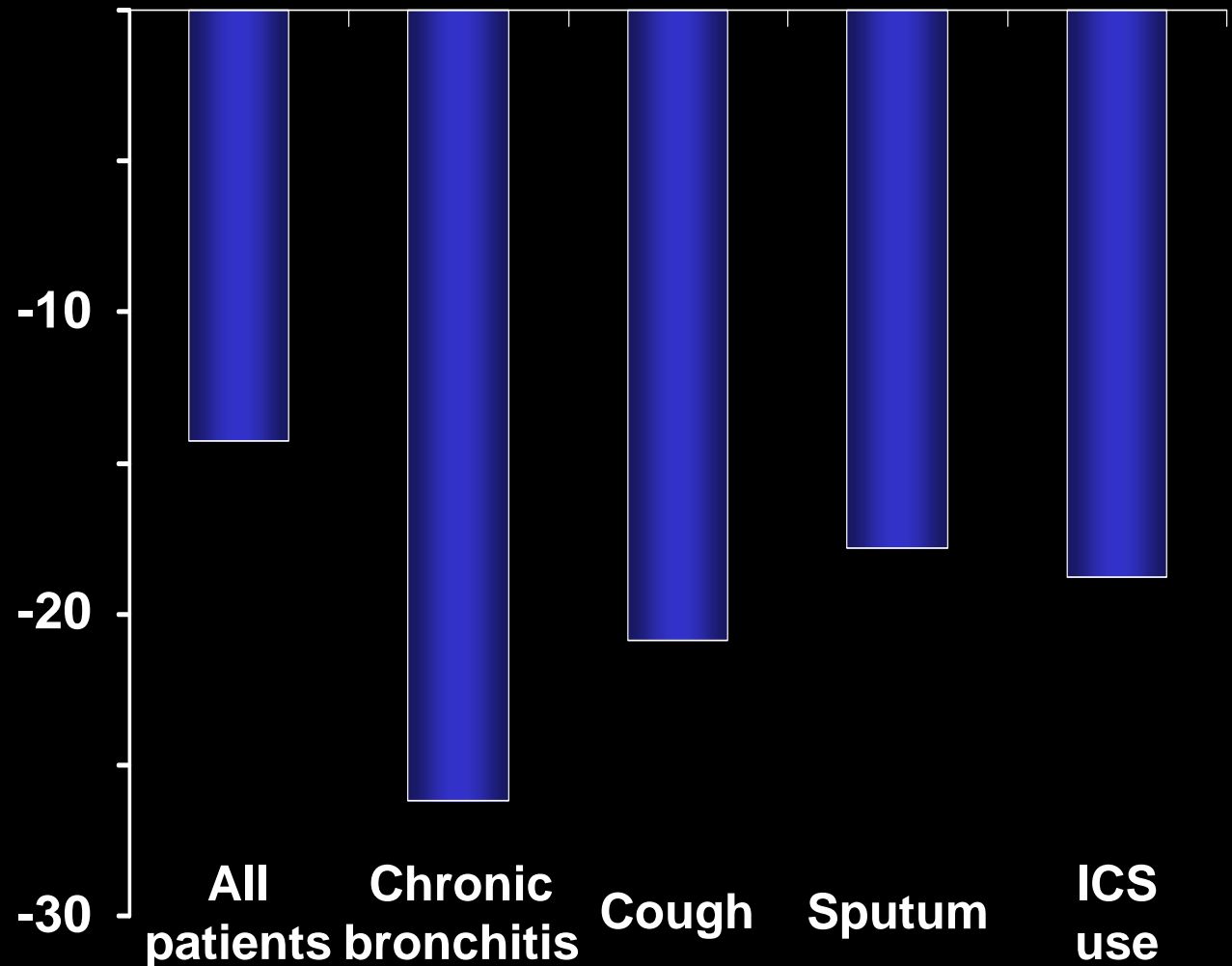
- Roflumilast 500 µg / day
- Placebo

1 year

- Exacerbations

Rennard, et al.  
Respir Res 2011

Reduction of exacerbations



# The roflumilast phenotype

Roflumilast is indicated for maintenance treatment



- of severe COPD  
(FEV<sub>1</sub> post-BD < 50% pred.)
  - with chronic bronchitis
  - and frequent exacerbations

# Roflumilast in clinical practice

## Clinical benefits

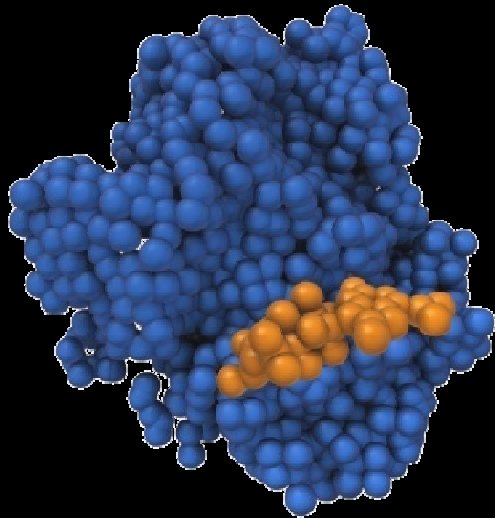
- In patients with severe COPD with chronic bronchitis and frequent exacerbations
  - prevention of exacerbations



Treatment with a PDE4 inhibitor was associated with a reduced likelihood of COPD exacerbation (OR 0.78; 95% CI 0.72 to 0.85)

# Roflumilast in clinical practice

- ▶ Which patients will benefit the most ?



**PDE4 inhibition**

- ▶ When to prescribe roflumilast ?

# ECLIPSE: Frequent exacerbators are a distinct phenotype

Can be identified based on patient recall of previous events

GOLD stage	Exacerbation rate in year 1 (no. / patient)	% of patients who were 'frequent exacerbators'
II	0.85	22
III	1.34	33
IV	2.00	47

- Ask your patients for any exacerbation (flare-up) treated with antibiotics and/or oral steroids in previous year
- Ask your patients about any hospitalizations due to exacerbations in previous year

If your patient answers **YES** to any of these 2 questions the risk is **5.72 times higher** that this patient will experience 2 or more exacerbations within the next year, compared with the patient who answers **NO** (p<0.001)

Hurst, et al. N Engl J Med  
363:1128-1138, 2010

# The roflumilast patient population

I: Mild	II: Moderate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li><li>• FEV<sub>1</sub> ≥ 80% pred.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li><li>• 50% ≤ FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 80% pred.</li></ul>

Active reduction of risk factor(s); influenza

**Add** Short-acting bronchodilator (with

**Add** Regular treatment with  
long-acting bronchodilator

**Add** Rehabilitation

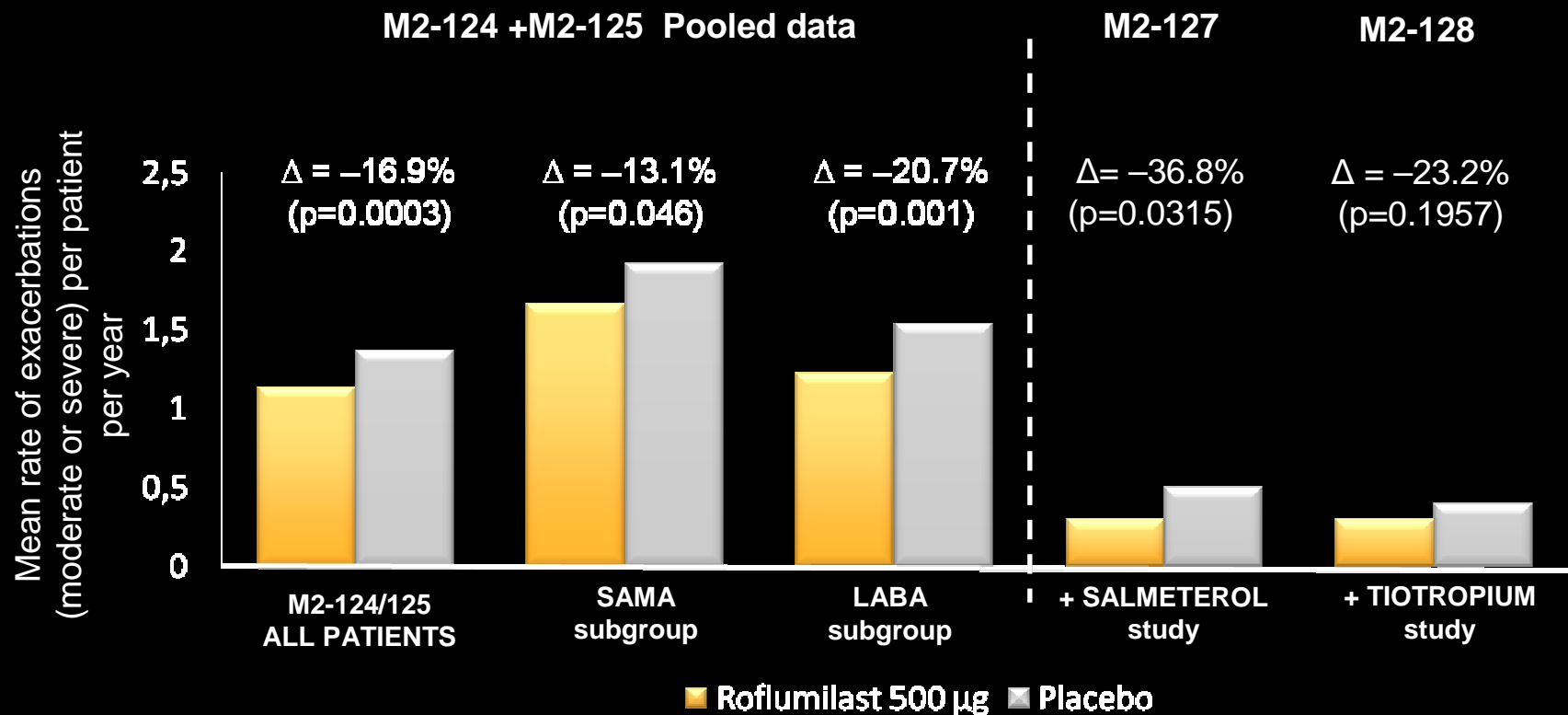
**Add**

# COPD severity, baseline therapy and exacerbation frequency

GOLD stage	% Patients on long-acting bronchodilators	% Patients on inhaled corticosteroids	Exacerbation rate in year 1 (no./patient)	% of patients who were 'Frequent exacerbators'
II	67	60	0.85	22
III	83	80	1.34	33
IV	86	86	2.00	47

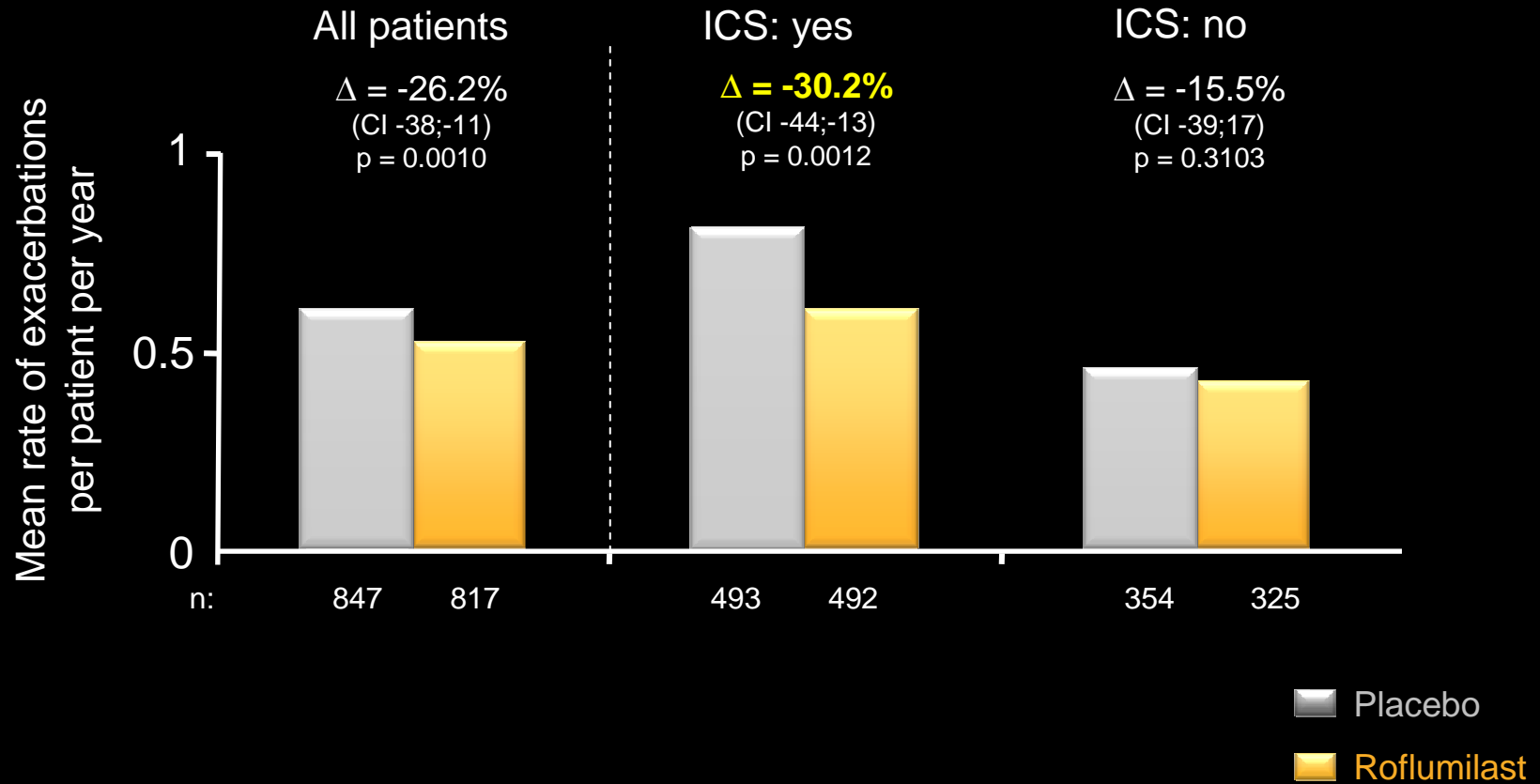
Hurst, et al. N Engl J Med  
363:1128-1138, 2010

# Roflumilast reduced exacerbations when added to bronchodilators



# Roflumilast reduced exacerbation rate when added to ICS

M2-111 and M2-112 pooled post hoc analysis of sub-group with chronic bronchitis +/- ICS



# Roflumilast in clinical practice

## Co-medication

Roflumilast <i>plus</i>	Effects
LABAs	• additive
Tiotropium	• additive
ICS	• potentially additive
Theophylline	• not recommended • short-term during exacerbations unproblematic
SABAs, ipratropium	• rescue medication in clinical trials

# Roflumilast in clinical practice

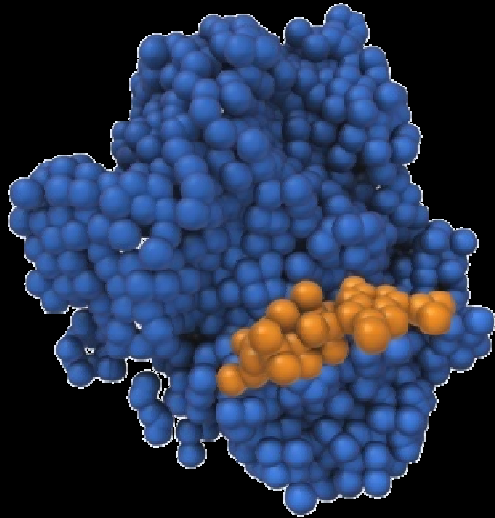
## Clinical benefits



- In patients with severe COPD with chronic bronchitis and frequent exacerbations
  - prevention of exacerbations
- Add-on to bronchodilatory maintenance treatment with additive effects

# Roflumilast in clinical practice

- ▶ Which patients will benefit the most ?



**PDE4 inhibition**

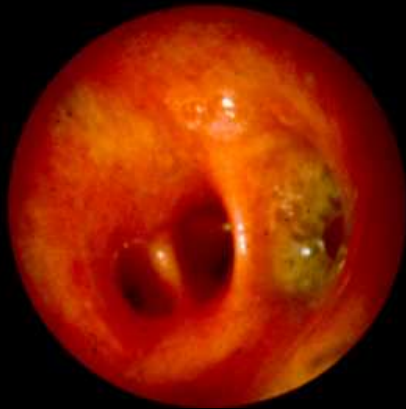
- ▶ When to prescribe roflumilast ?

- ▶ The patient perspective

# What are the risks associated with chronic cough and sputum?



- COPD patients with cough and sputum are more likely to have
  - Respiratory infections
  - Increased airway inflammation
  - Frequent exacerbations
  - Steeper decline in FEV<sub>1</sub>
  - Increased risk of mortality



Burgel PR, Nesme-Meyer P, Chanez P, et al. *Chest* **2009**;135:975-982

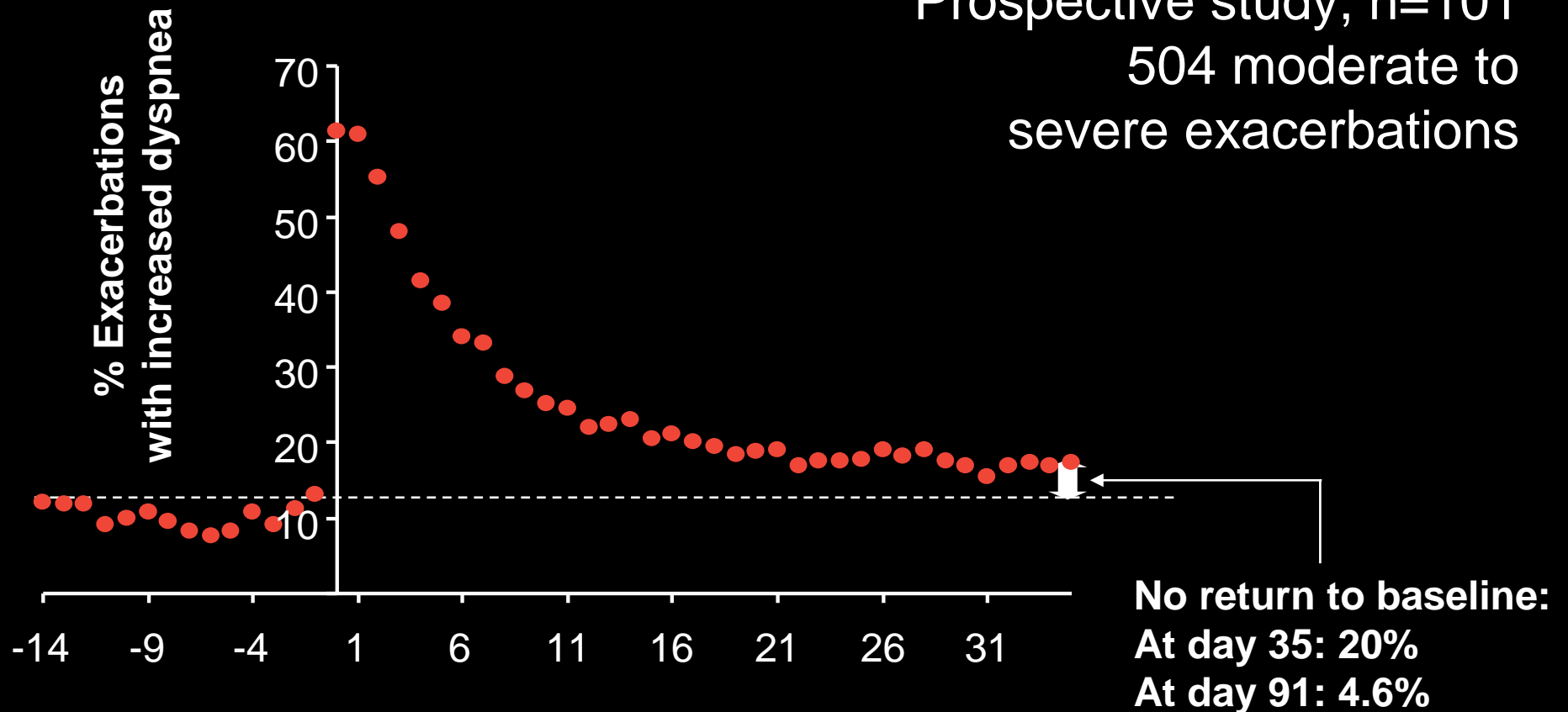
Saetta M, Baraldo S, Corbino L, et al. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* **1999**;160:711-717. Guerra S, Sherrill DL, Venker C, et al. *Thorax* **2009**;64:894-900

Vestbo J, Prescott E, Lange P, et al. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* **1996**;153:1530-1535. Lundbäck B et al. *J COPD* **2009**;6:263-271

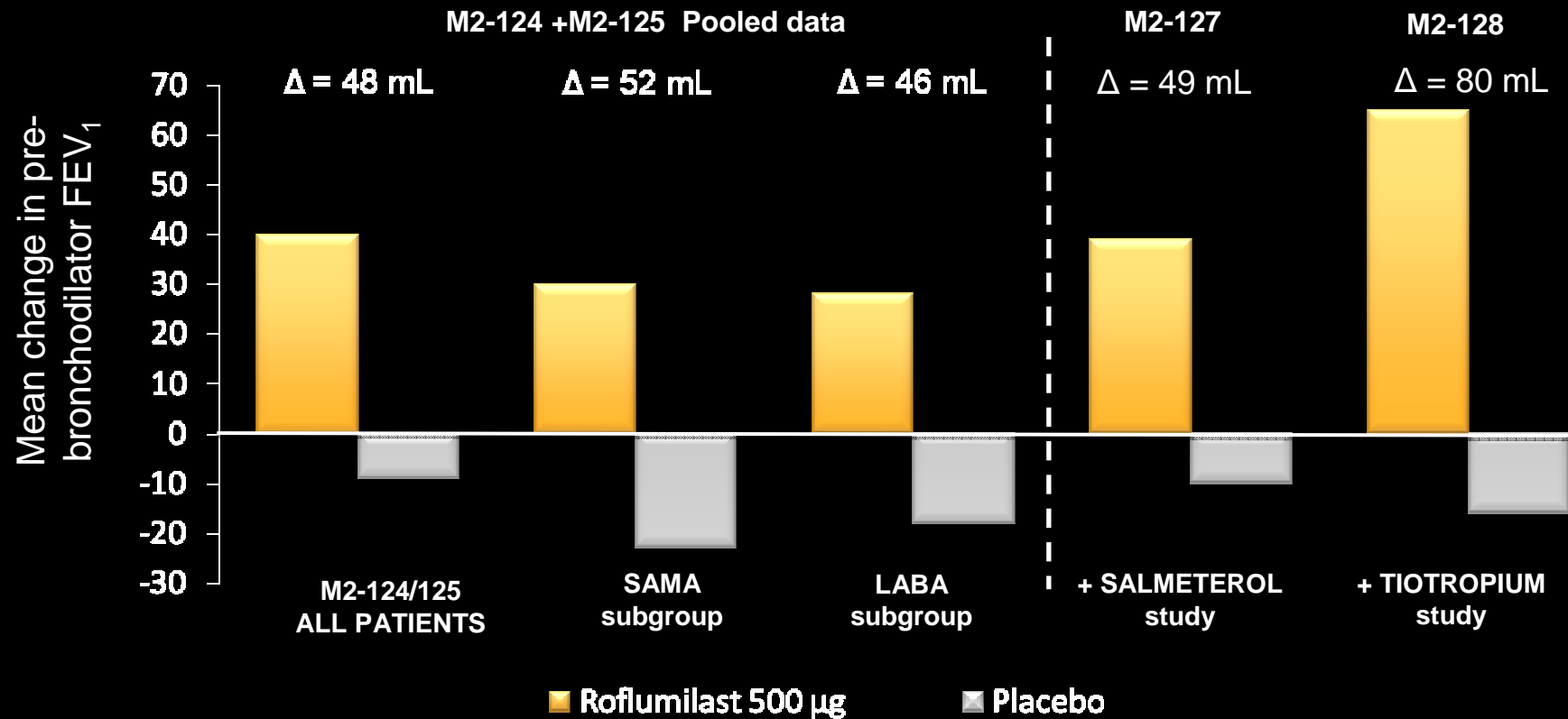
# Prolonged recovery of symptoms after a COPD exacerbation

## Dyspnea

Prospective study, n=101  
504 moderate to  
severe exacerbations



# Roflumilast improved lung function when added to bronchodilators



All p<0.0001

# Roflumilast in clinical practice

## Clinical benefits

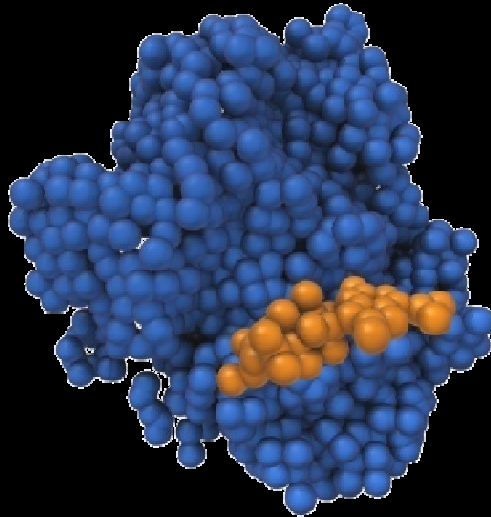


- In patients with severe COPD with chronic bronchitis and frequent exacerbations
  - prevention of exacerbations
  - improvement of lung function
- Add-on to

Treatment with a PDE4 inhibitor was associated with a significant improvement in FEV1 (45.59 mL; 95% CI 39.15 to 52.03), regardless of COPD severity or concomitant COPD treatment

# Roflumilast in clinical practice

- ▶ Which patients will benefit the most ?



PDE4 inhibition

- ▶ When to prescribe roflumilast ?

- ▶ The patient perspective

- ▶ Roflumilast on target

# Therapy at each stage of COPD

I: Mild	II: Moderate	III: Severe	IV: Very severe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub> ≥ 80% pred.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li> <li>• 50% ≤ FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 80% pred.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li> <li>• 30% ≤ FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 50% pred.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 0.70</li> <li>• FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 30% pred. or FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 50% pred. and chronic bronchitis</li> </ul>

Active reduction of risk factors

**Add**

Short-acting beta<sub>2</sub>-agonists

**Phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitors:** In patients with Stage III: Severe COPD or Stage IV: Very Severe COPD and a history of exacerbations and chronic bronchitis, the phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor, roflumilast, reduces exacerbations treated with oral glucocorticosteroids. These effects are also seen when roflumilast is added to long-acting bronchodilators; there are no comparison studies with inhaled glucocorticosteroids.

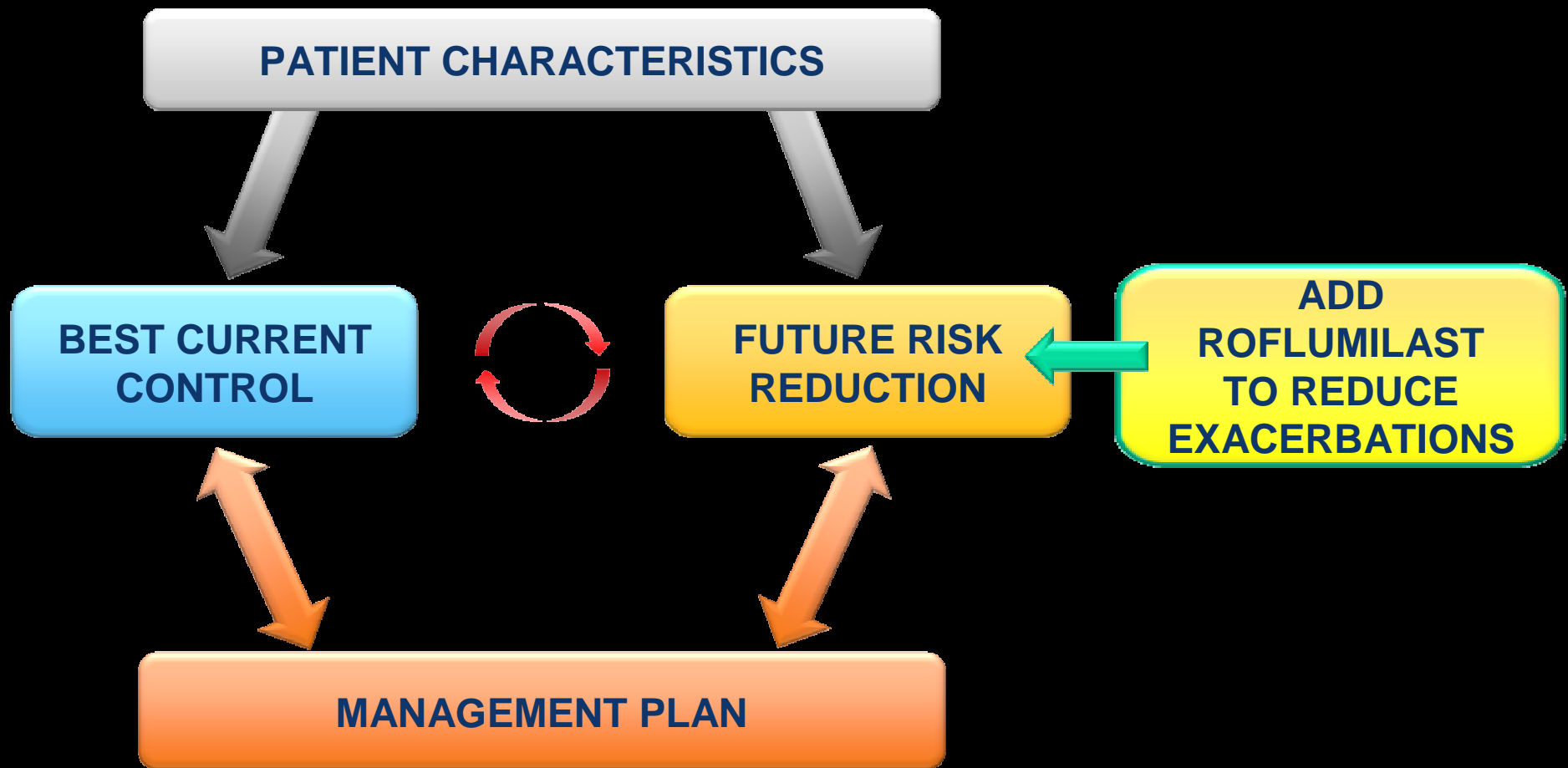
**Add**

Inhaled glucocorticosteroids if repeated exacerbations

**Add**

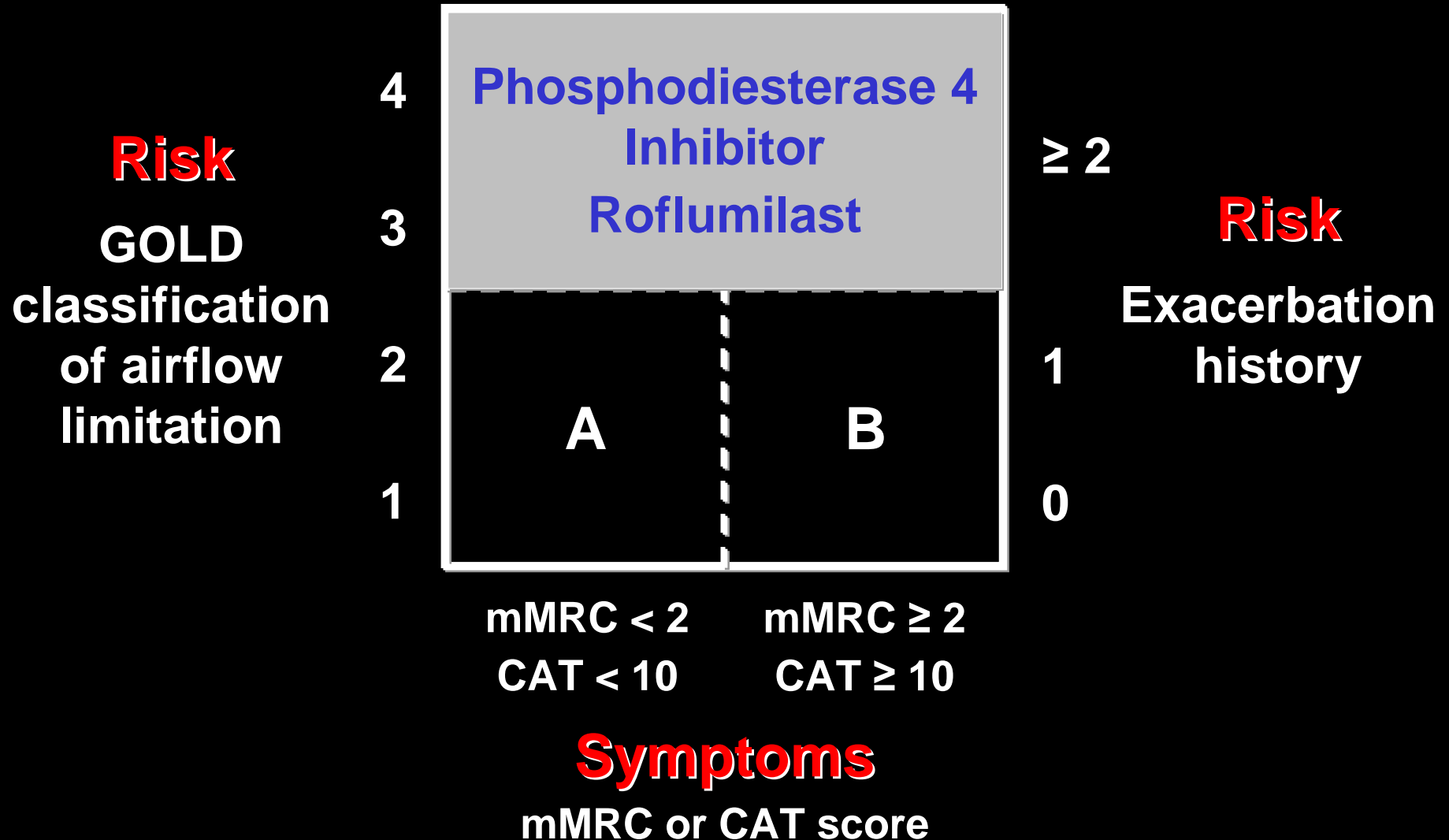
Long-term O<sub>2</sub> if chronic resp. failure  
 Consider surgical treatments

# A new perspective on 'optimal care' for patients with COPD



# The new GOLD COPD Guidelines

## Symptoms, spirometry and future risk



# Roflumilast in clinical practice

- Recommended dose 500 µg / day orally
- Once daily dosing
  - at any time of the day
  - but always at the same time of the day
  - independent of meals



# Dosing frequency and adherence in COPD

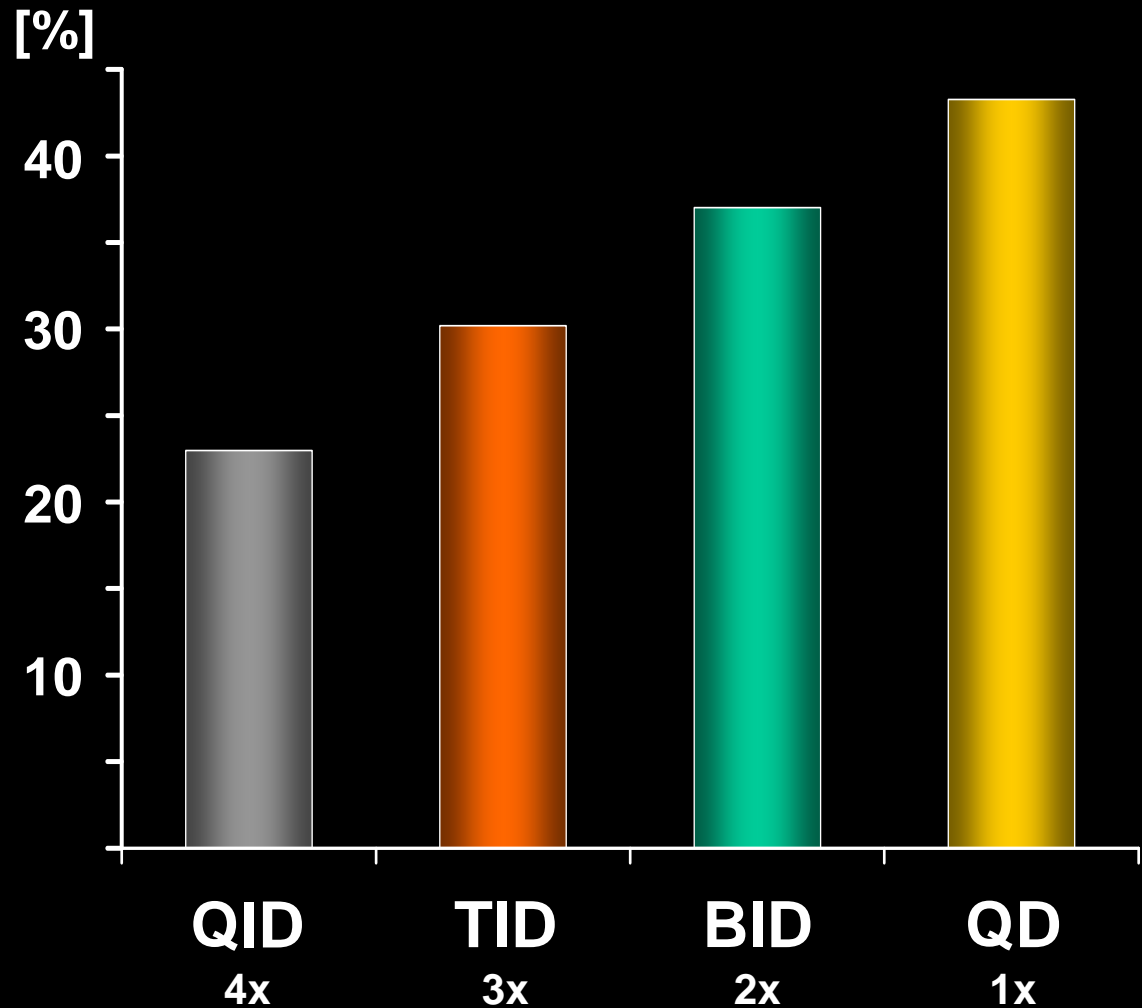
55 076 COPD patients  
1999 - 2006

- Dosing frequency of first COPD drug claim after diagnosis

12 months

Proportion of days covered

Days covered



# Roflumilast in clinical practice

- Recommended dose 500 µg / day orally
- Once daily dosing
  - at any time of the day
  - but always at the same time of the day
  - independent of meals
- No dose adaptation in elderly patients, smokers, and renal insufficiency
- Contraindicated in patients with moderate and severe liver dysfunction



# Incidence of AEs ( $\geq 2.5\%$ )\*

Independent of investigator causality assessments (1/2)

	M2-124		M2-125	
	Roflumilast 500 $\mu$ g (n=769)	Placebo (n=755)	Roflumilast 500 $\mu$ g (n=778)	Placebo (n=790)
<b>COPD</b>	<b>9.1 %</b>	<b>10.9 %</b>	<b>11.2 %</b>	<b>15.4 %</b>
<b>Diarrhoea</b>	<b>8.2 %</b>	<b>3.4 %</b>	<b>8.6 %</b>	<b>2.9 %</b>
<b>Weight decrease</b>	<b>12.0 %</b>	<b>3.2 %</b>	<b>8.4 %</b>	<b>2.5 %</b>
<b>Nasopharyngitis</b>	<b>7.4 %</b>	<b>6.6 %</b>	<b>4.5 %</b>	<b>5.9 %</b>
<b>Upper Respiratory Tract Infection</b>	<b>2.1 %</b>	<b>2.8 %</b>	<b>4.2 %</b>	<b>4.8 %</b>
<b>Headache</b>	<b>3.4 %</b>	<b>2.3 %</b>	<b>3.2 %</b>	<b>1.0 %</b>
<b>Pneumonia</b>	<b>2.2 %</b>	<b>2.0 %</b>	<b>3.2 %</b>	<b>2.0 %</b>

\*descending order of M2-125

Calverley et al., Lancet 2009;374:685–694

# Incidence of AEs ( $\geq 2.5\%$ )\*

Independent of investigator causality assessments (2/2)

	M2-124		M2-125	
	Roflumilast 500 $\mu$ g (n=769)	Placebo (n=755)	Roflumilast 500 $\mu$ g (n=778)	Placebo (n=790)
Back Pain	3.5 %	2.9 %	3.0 %	1.6 %
Bronchitis	4.6 %	5.3 %	2.7 %	3.0 %
Nausea	5.3 %	2.0 %	2.7 %	1.9 %
Hypertension	2.6 %	3.7 %	2.3 %	2.5 %
Insomnia	2.5 %	1.1 %	2.3 %	1.5 %
Decreased Appetite	2.7 %	0.3 %	1.9 %	0.6 %
Influenza	3.5 %	2.4 %	1.5 %	2.5 %

\*descending order of M2-125

Calverley et al., Lancet 2009;374:685–694

# Roflumilast in clinical practice



- Recommended dose 500 µg / day orally
- Once daily dosing
  - at any time of the day
  - but always at the same time of the day
  - independent of meals
- No dose adaptation in elderly patients, smokers, and renal insufficiency
- Contraindicated in patients with moderate and severe liver dysfunction
- Roflumilast is not a bronchodilator
  - no immediate onset of action

# Roflumilast in clinical practice



- Inhibition of COPD-specific inflammatory processes
- In patients with severe and very severe COPD, chronic bronchitis and frequent exacerbations
  - improvement of lung function
  - prevention of exacerbations
- Effects additive to bronchodilators