

**ECOCARDIOGRAFIA 2015**

**XVII Congresso Nazionale SIEC**

Hotel Royal Continental

Napoli, 16-18 Aprile 2015

# **Stenosi aortica a basso flusso e a basso gradiente**

**Umberto Conti**

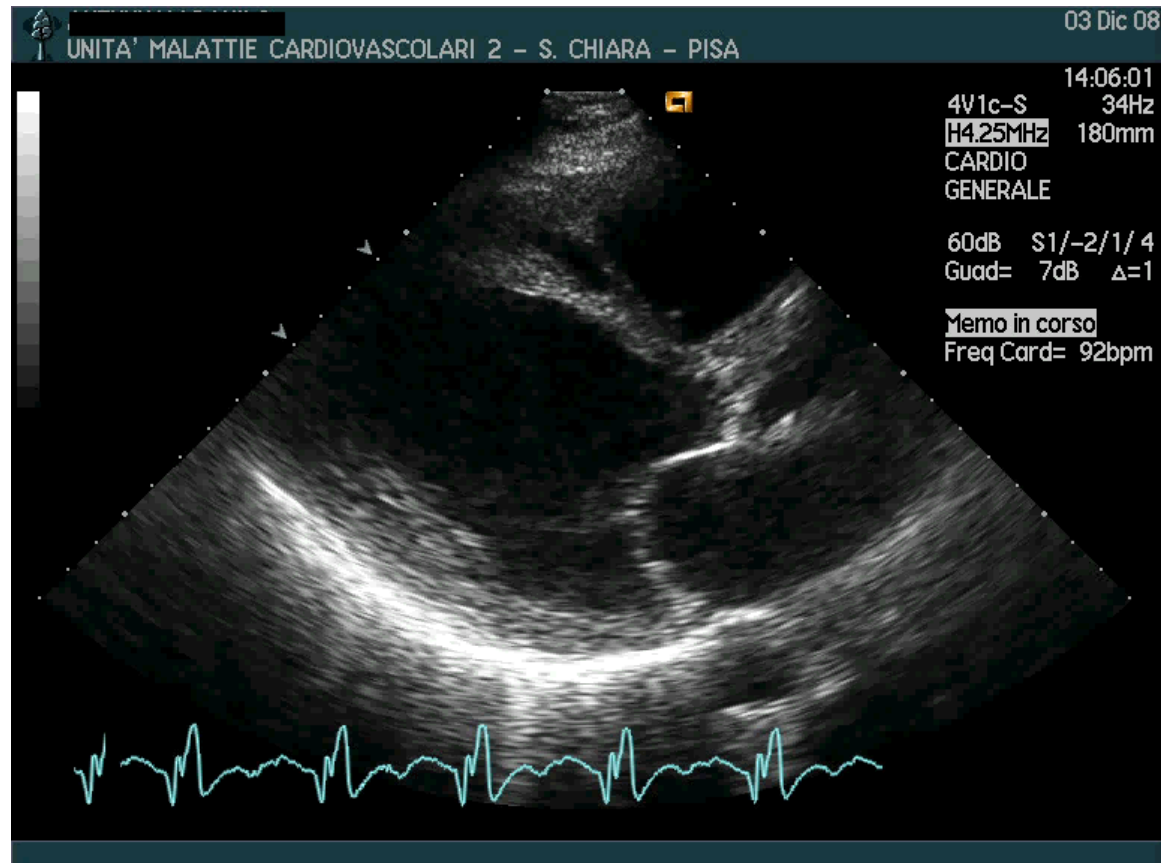
**Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Pisana**

**Dipartimento Cardiotoracico**

**UO Malattie Cardiovascolari I**



**Maschio , 80 aa , storia di CMPD e valvulopatia mitralica . NYHA III**



**FE=25%**

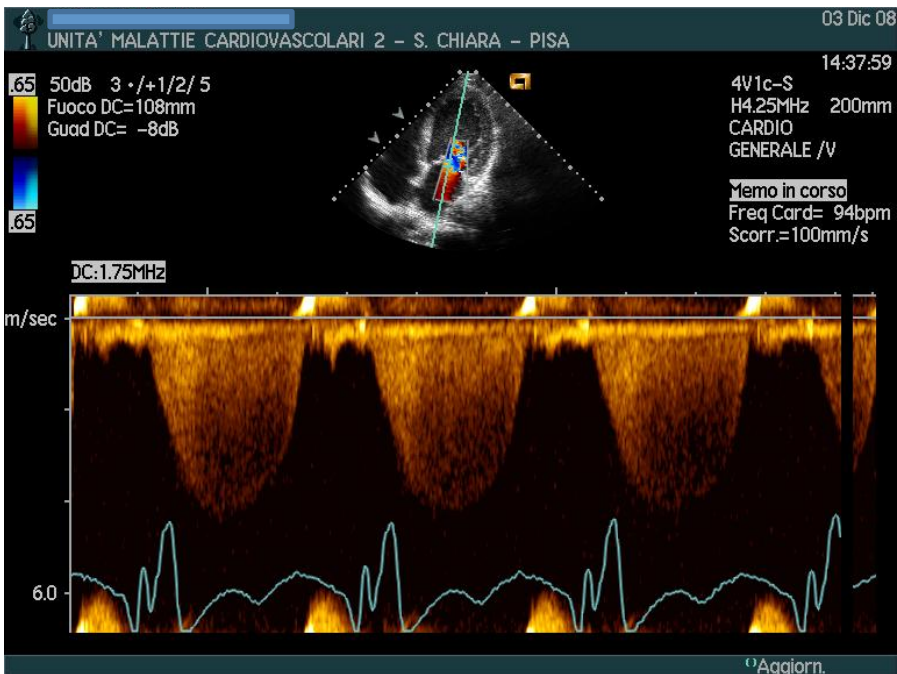
**VTD=227 ml**

**AVA = 1 cm<sup>2</sup>**

**Gradiente Ao max =36 mmHg**

**Gradiente Ao Medio= 20 mmhg**

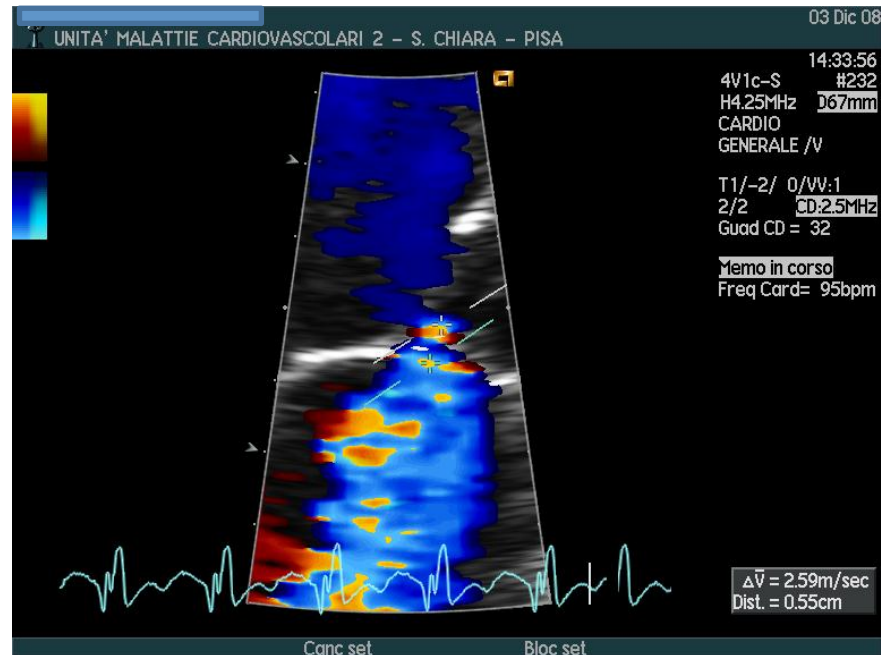
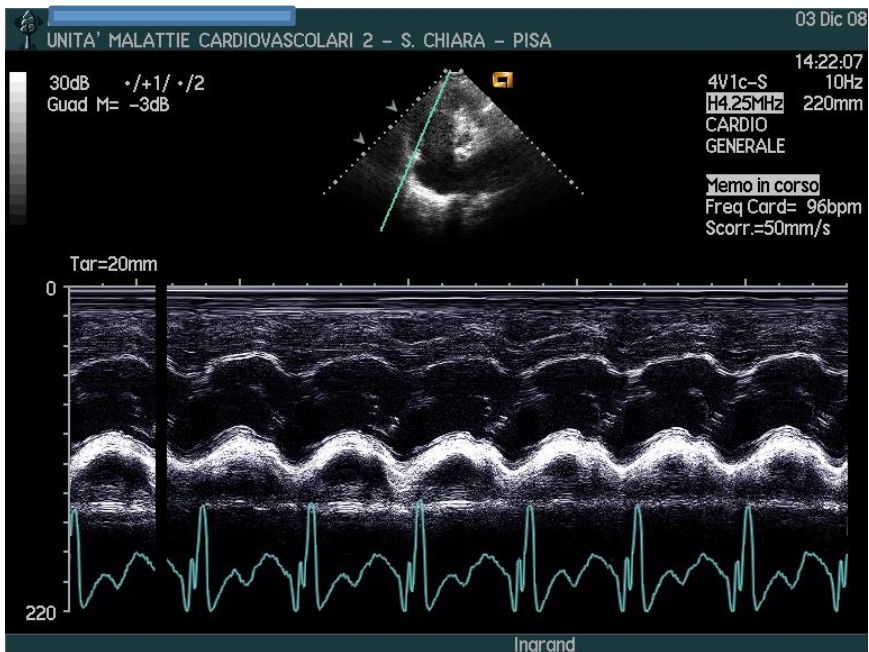




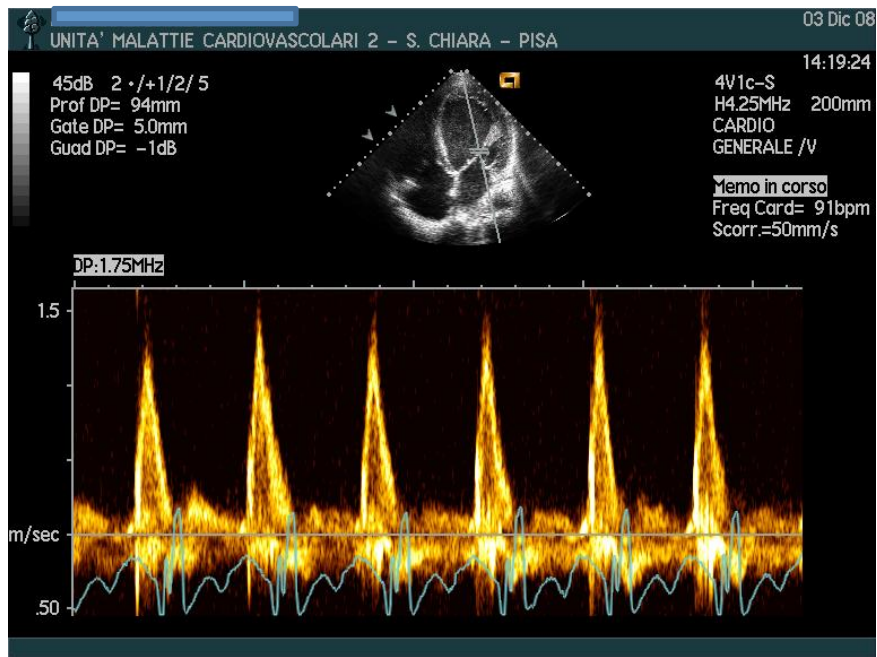
**DP/Dt : 485 mmHg/sec**

**I.M. : VC=6 mm**

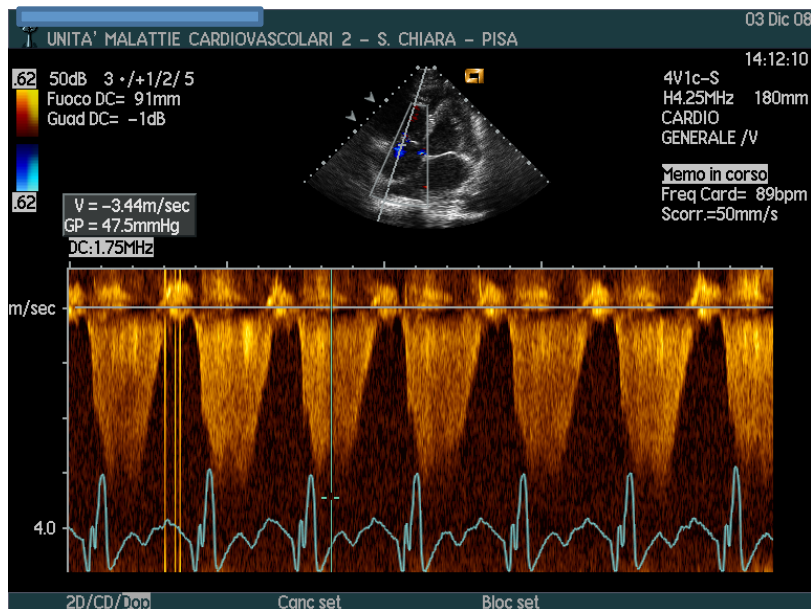
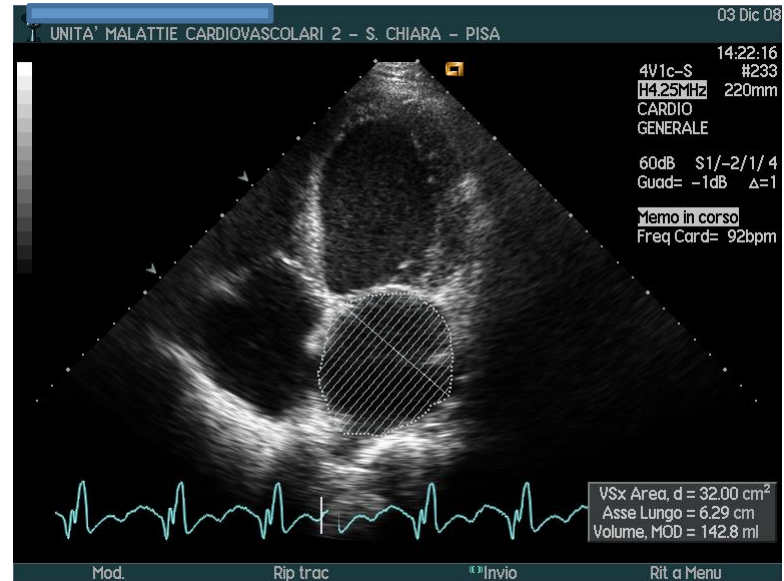
**TAPSE :24**

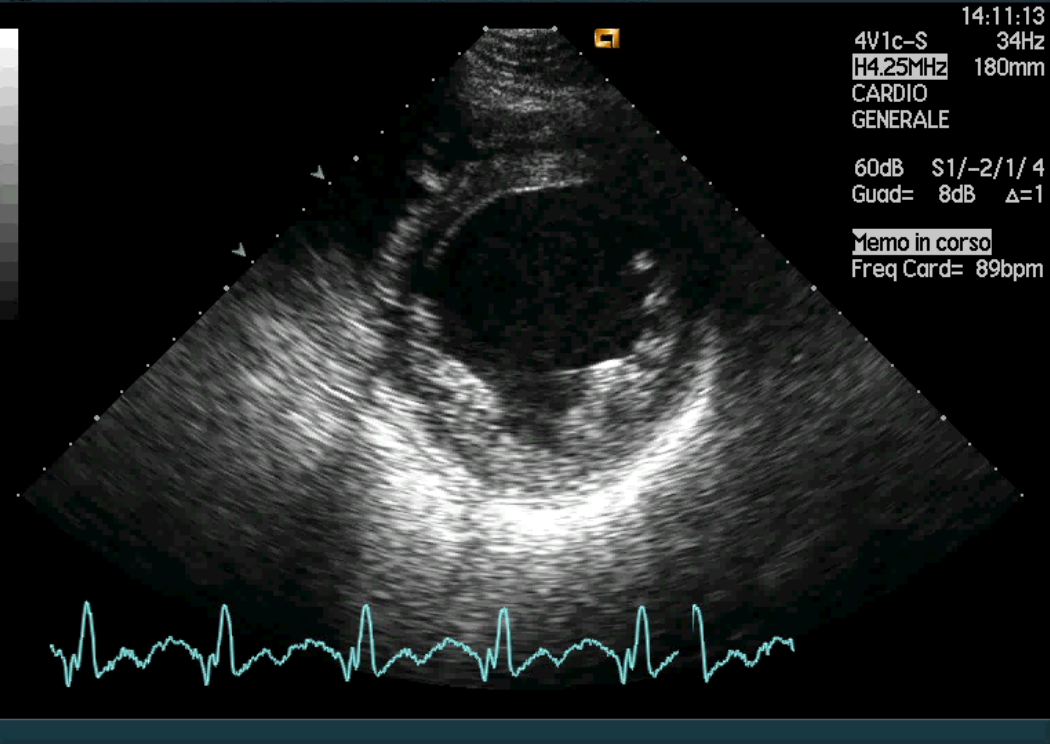






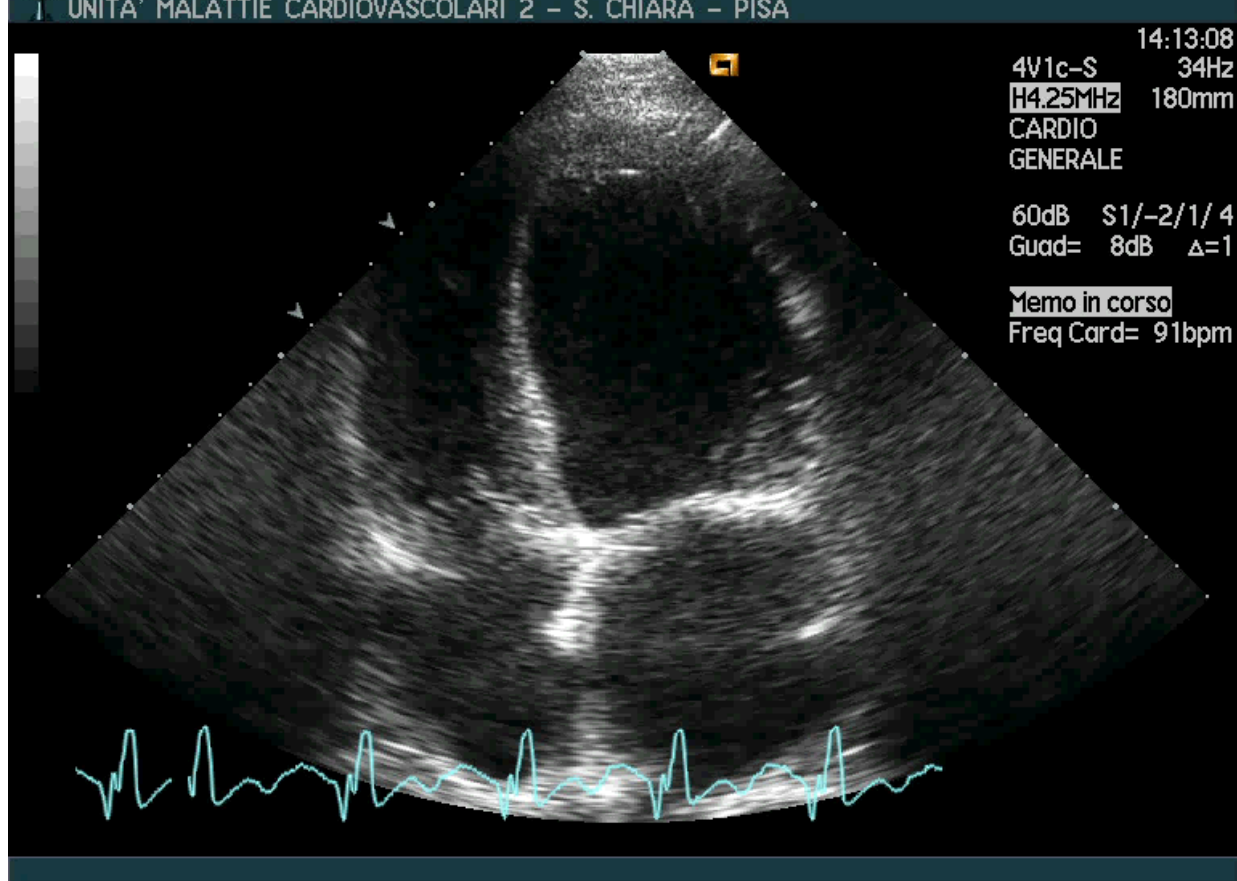
**AS= 142 ml**  
**Flusso mitralico restrittivo**  
**PASP= 57 mmHg**  
**TAPSE = 24 mm**





**ECG: BBs**  
**FC: 89 b/min**

**Impianto di ICD BIV**



**Otto mesi dopo impianto di ICD CRT il Paziente rimane con:**

- Classe funzionale avanzata ( NYHA II,
- Insufficienza mitralica Moderata
- Pressione polmonare aumentata : PASP = 48 mmHg

**Valvulopatia aortica invariata**

# Rivalutazione

**DOBUTAMINA**

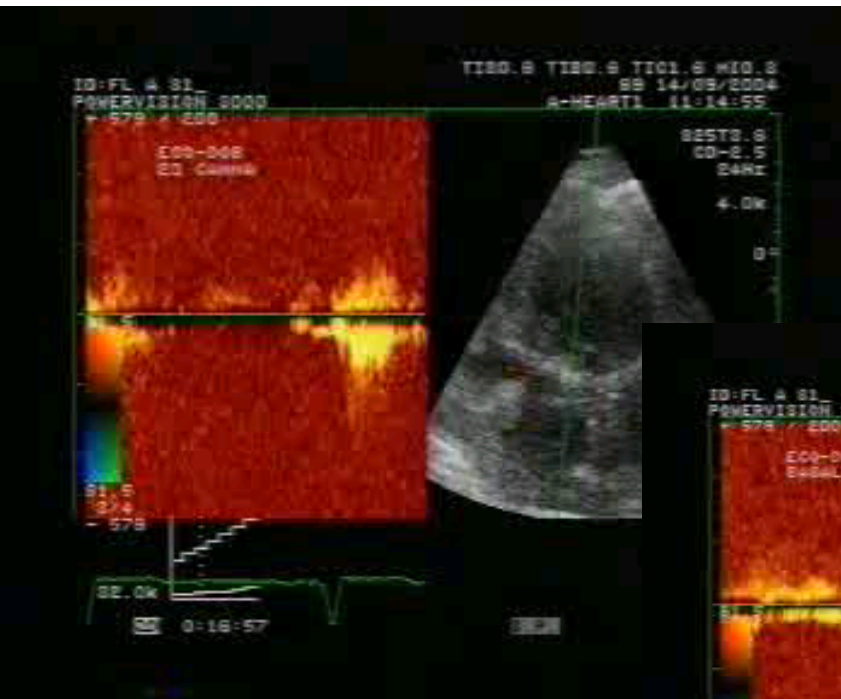
**FE=25% > 30%**

**AVA = 0.9 cm<sup>2</sup>**

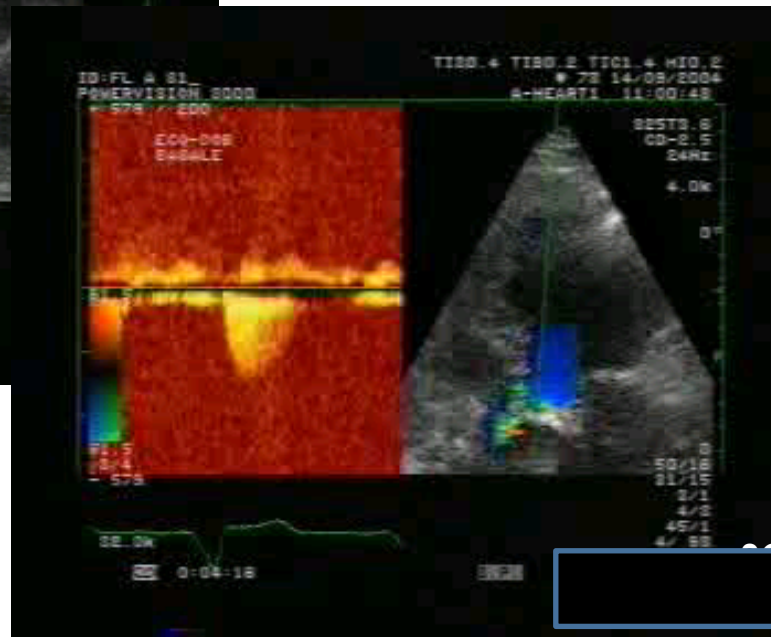
**Gradiente max =48 mmHg**

**Gradiente Medio =26 mmhg**

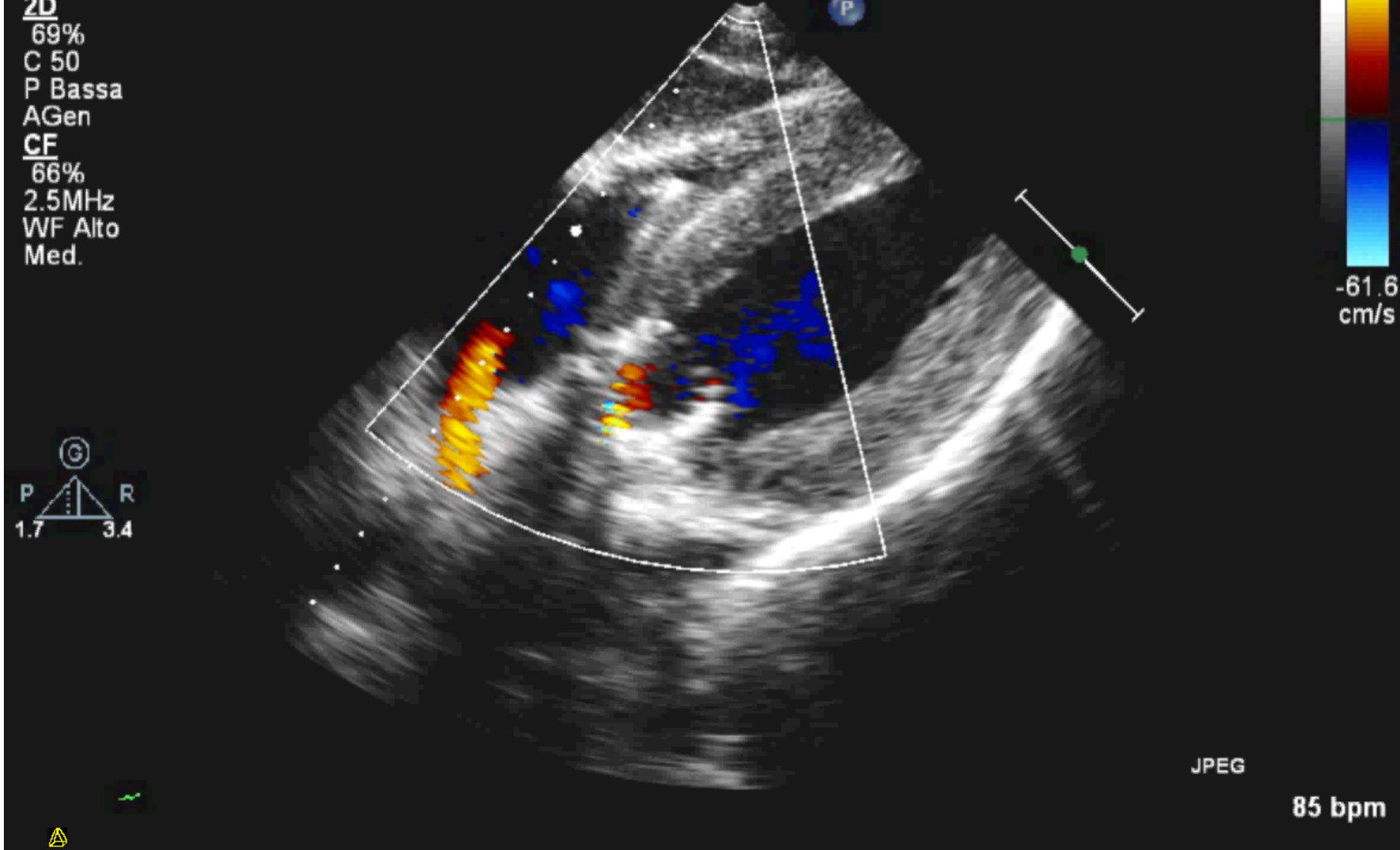
**BASE**



**20 gamma/Kg/min**

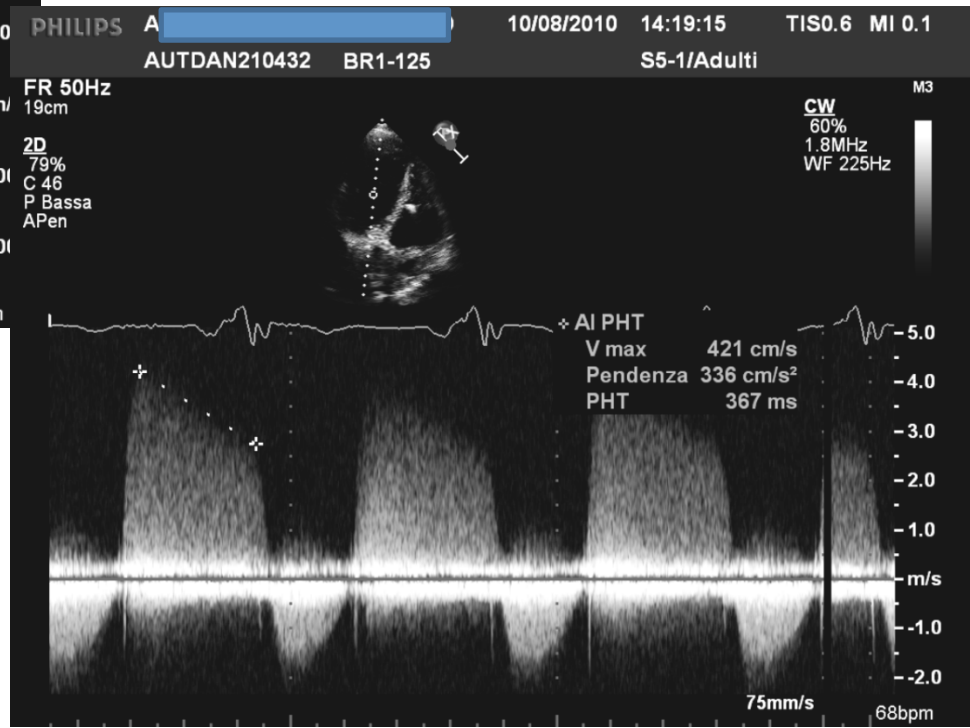
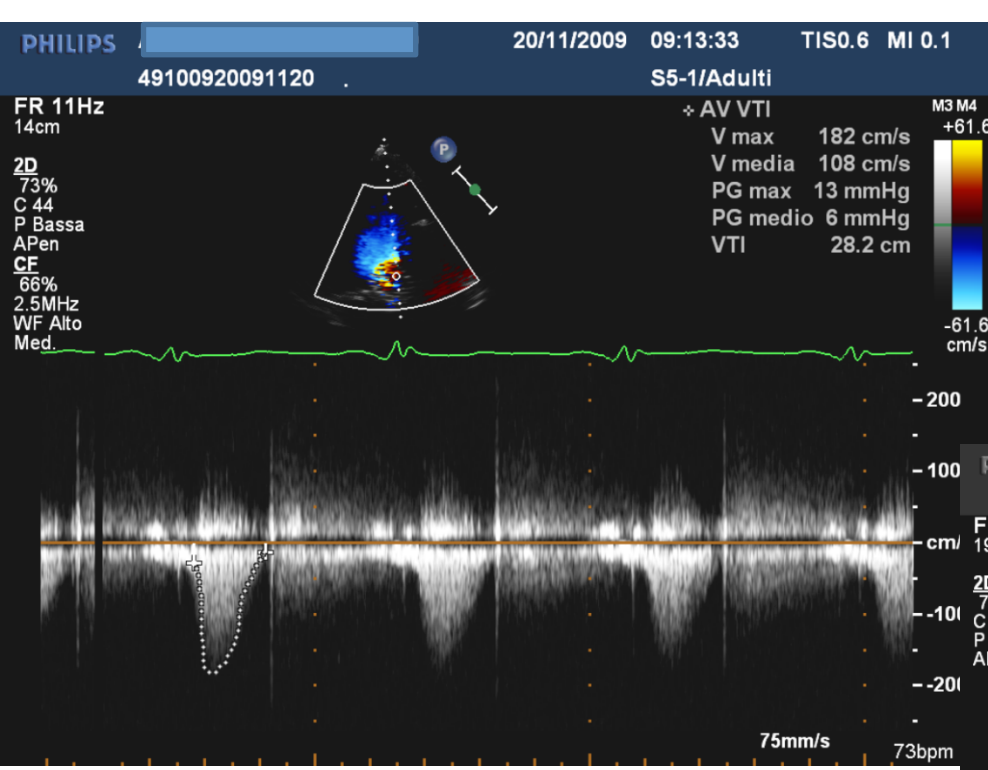


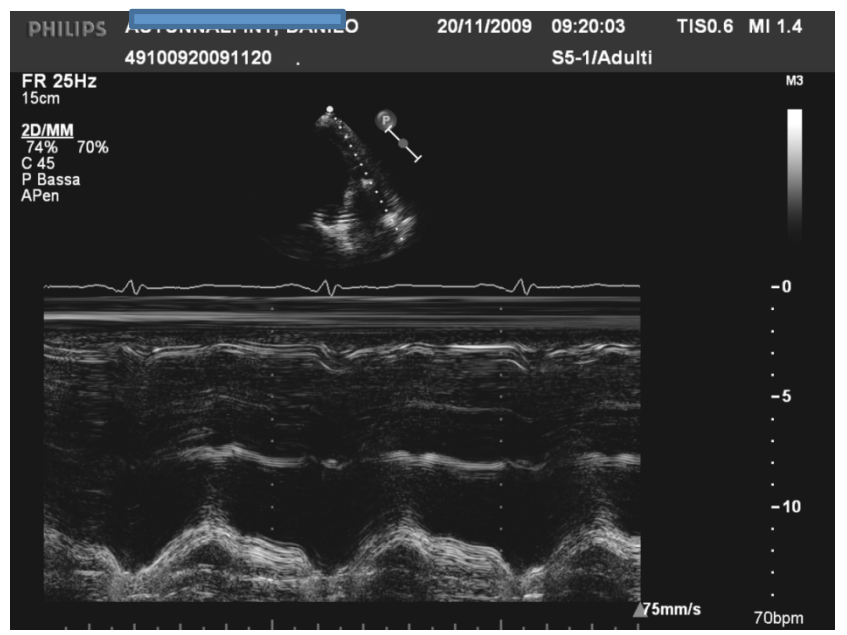
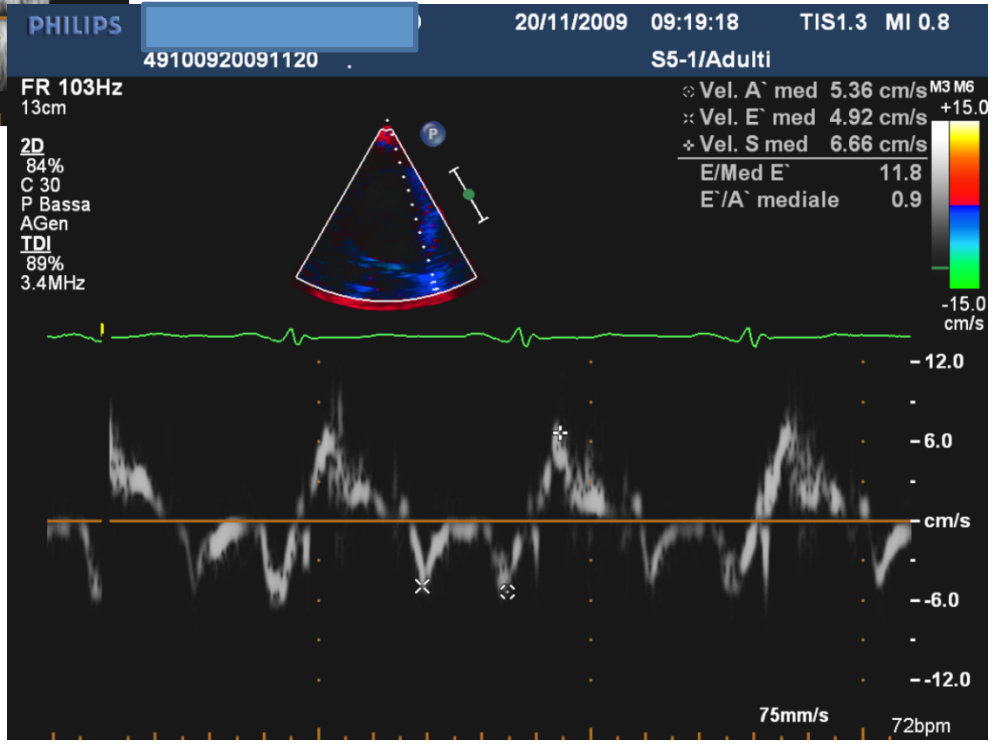
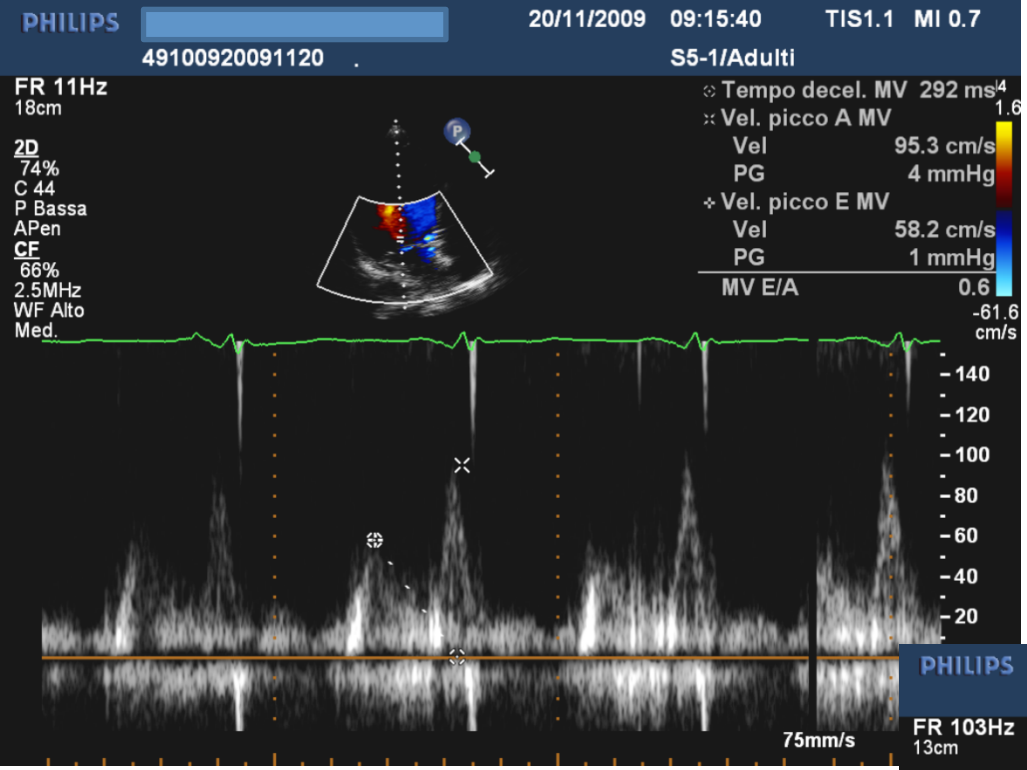




**Novembre 2009**

**Esegue TAVI con residua insufficienza periprotetica aortica di entità lieve – moderata**







**Febbraio 2015 potatura degli ulivi**



## 6. Indications for Aortic Valve Replacement

### Class I

1. AVR is indicated for symptomatic patients with severe AS.\* (*Level of Evidence: B*)
2. AVR is indicated for patients with severe AS\* undergoing coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG). (*Level of Evidence: C*)
3. AVR is indicated for patients with severe AS\* undergoing surgery on the aorta or other heart valves. (*Level of Evidence: C*)
4. AVR is recommended for patients with severe AS\* and LV systolic dysfunction (ejection fraction less than 0.50). (*Level of Evidence: C*)

### Class IIa

AVR is reasonable for patients with moderate AS\* undergoing CABG or surgery on the aorta or other heart valves (see Section X-D). (*Level of Evidence: B*)

### Class IIb

1. AVR may be considered for asymptomatic patients with severe AS\* and abnormal response to exercise (e.g., development of symptoms or asymptomatic hypotension). (*Level of Evidence: C*)
2. AVR may be considered for adults with severe asymptomatic AS\* if there is a high likelihood of rapid progression (age, calcification, and CAD) or if surgery might be delayed at the time of symptom onset. (*Level of Evidence: C*)
3. AVR may be considered in patients undergoing CABG who have mild AS\* when there is evidence, such as moderate to severe valve calcification, that progression may be rapid. (*Level of Evidence: C*)
4. AVR may be considered for asymptomatic patients with extremely severe AS (aortic valve area less than 0.6 cm<sup>2</sup>, mean gradient greater than 60 mm Hg, and jet velocity greater than 5.0 m per second) when the patient's expected operative mortality is 1.0% or less. (*Level of Evidence: C*)

### Class III

AVR is not useful for the prevention of sudden death in asymptomatic patients with AS who have none of

## ACC/AHA 2006 Guidelines for the Management of Patients With Valvular Heart Disease: Executive Summary

### A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines (Writing Committee to Revise the 1998 Guidelines for the Management of Patients With Valvular Heart Disease)

*Developed in Collaboration With the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists  
Endorsed by the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions and the Society of Thoracic Surgeons*

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## 5. Low-Flow/Low-Gradient Aortic Stenosis

### Class IIa

1. **Dobutamine stress echocardiography** is reasonable to evaluate patients with low-flow/low-gradient AS and LV dysfunction. (*Level of Evidence: B*)
2. Cardiac catheterization for hemodynamic measurements with infusion of dobutamine can be useful for evaluation of patients with low-flow/low-gradient AS and LV dysfunction. (*Level of Evidence: C*)

Patients with severe AS and low cardiac output often present with a relatively low transvalvular pressure gradient (i.e., mean gradient less than 30 mm Hg). Such patients can

Table 8. Stages of Valvular AS

Stage	Definition	Valve Anatomy	Valve Hemodynamics	Hemodynamic Consequences	Symptoms
<b>A</b>	<b>At risk of AS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bicuspid aortic valve (or other congenital valve anomaly)</li> <li>Aortic valve sclerosis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aortic <math>V_{max} &lt; 2</math> m/s</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
<b>B</b>	<b>Progressive AS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mild-to-moderate leaflet calcification of a bicuspid or trileaflet valve with some reduction in systolic motion or</li> <li>Rheumatic valve changes with commissural fusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mild AS: Aortic <math>V_{max}</math> 2.0–2.9 m/s or mean <math>\Delta P &lt; 20</math> mm Hg</li> <li>Moderate AS: Aortic <math>V_{max}</math> 3.0–3.9 m/s or mean <math>\Delta P</math> 20–39 mm Hg</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early LV diastolic dysfunction may be present</li> <li>Normal LVEF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
<b>C: Asymptomatic severe AS</b>					
<b>C1</b>	<b>Asymptomatic severe AS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe leaflet calcification or congenital stenosis with severely reduced leaflet opening</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aortic <math>V_{max} \geq 4</math> m/s or mean <math>\Delta P \geq 40</math> mm Hg</li> <li>AVA typically is <math>\leq 1.0</math> cm<sup>2</sup> (or AVAI <math>\leq 0.6</math> cm<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>)</li> <li>Very severe AS is an aortic <math>V_{max} \geq 5</math> m/s or mean <math>\Delta P \geq 60</math> mm Hg</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LV diastolic dysfunction</li> <li>Mild LV hypertrophy</li> <li>Normal LVEF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None: Exercise testing is reasonable to confirm symptom status</li> </ul>
<b>C2</b>	<b>Asymptomatic severe AS with LV dysfunction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe leaflet calcification or congenital stenosis with severely reduced leaflet opening</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aortic <math>V_{max} \geq 4</math> m/s or mean <math>\Delta P \geq 40</math> mm Hg</li> <li>AVA typically <math>\leq 1.0</math> cm<sup>2</sup> (or AVAI <math>\leq 0.6</math> cm<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LVEF <math>&lt; 50\%</math></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
<b>D: Symptomatic severe AS</b>					
<b>D1</b>	<b>Symptomatic severe high-gradient AS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe leaflet calcification or congenital stenosis with severely reduced leaflet opening</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aortic <math>V_{max} \geq 4</math> m/s or mean <math>\Delta P \geq 40</math> mm Hg</li> <li>AVA typically <math>\leq 1.0</math> cm<sup>2</sup> (or AVAI <math>\leq 0.6</math> cm<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>) but may be larger with mixed AS/AR</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LV diastolic dysfunction</li> <li>LV hypertrophy</li> <li>Pulmonary hypertension may be present</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exertional dyspnea or decreased exercise tolerance</li> <li>Exertional angina</li> <li>Exertional syncope or presyncope</li> </ul>
<b>D2</b>	<b>Symptomatic severe low-flow/low-gradient AS with reduced LVEF</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe leaflet calcification with severely reduced leaflet motion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AVA <math>\leq 1.0</math> cm<sup>2</sup> with resting aortic <math>V_{max} &lt; 4</math> m/s or mean <math>\Delta P &lt; 40</math> mm Hg</li> <li>Dobutamine stress echocardiography shows AVA <math>\leq 1.0</math> cm<sup>2</sup> with <math>V_{max} \geq 4</math> m/s at any flow rate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LV diastolic dysfunction</li> <li>LV hypertrophy</li> <li>LVEF <math>&lt; 50\%</math></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HF</li> <li>Angina</li> <li>Syncope or presyncope</li> </ul>
<b>D3</b>	<b>Symptomatic severe low-gradient AS with normal LVEF or paradoxical low-flow severe AS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe leaflet calcification with severely reduced leaflet motion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AVA <math>\leq 1.0</math> cm<sup>2</sup> with aortic <math>V_{max} &lt; 4</math> m/s or mean <math>\Delta P &lt; 40</math> mm Hg</li> <li>Indexed AVA <math>\leq 0.6</math> cm<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>2</sup> and</li> <li>Stroke volume index <math>&lt; 35</math> mL/m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Measured when patient is normotensive (systemic BP <math>&lt; 140</math> mm Hg)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased LV relative wall thickness</li> <li>Small LV chamber with low stroke volume</li> <li>Restrictive diastolic filling</li> <li>LVEF <math>\geq 50\%</math></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HF</li> <li>Angina</li> <li>Syncope or presyncope</li> </ul>

# Indications for aortic valve replacement in symptomatic aortic stenosis

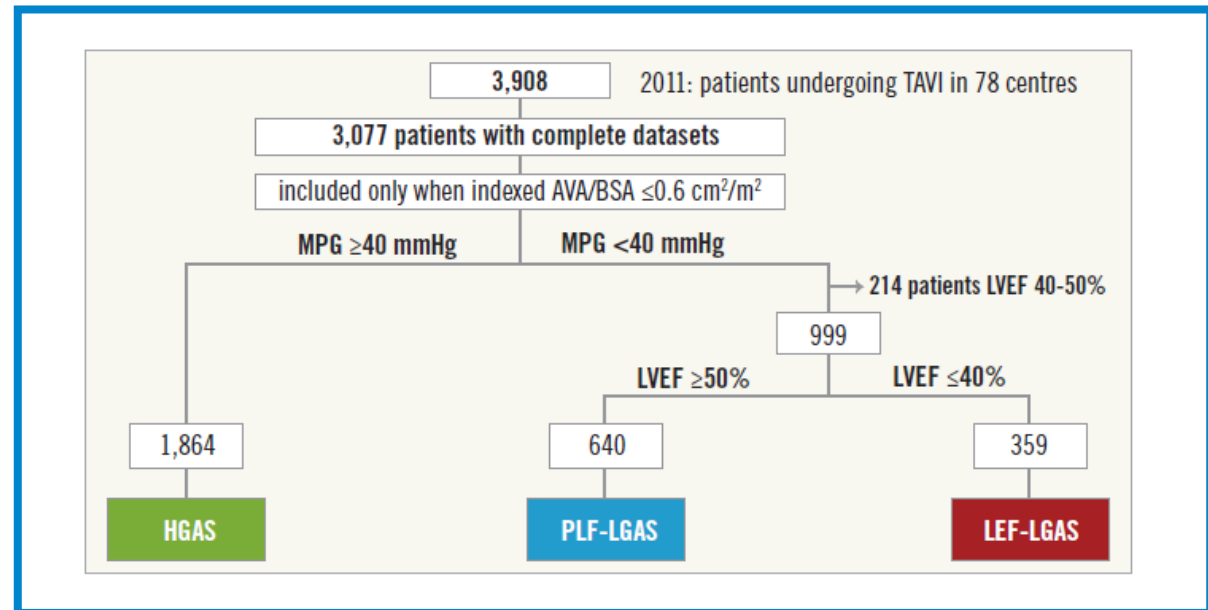
	Class	Level
AVR is indicated in patients with severe AS and any symptoms related to AS.	I	B
AVR is indicated in patients with severe AS undergoing CABG, surgery of the ascending aorta or another valve.	I	C
AVR should be considered in patients with moderate AS undergoing CABG, surgery of the ascending aorta or another valve.	IIa	C
AVR should be considered in high risk patients with severe symptomatic AS who are suitable for TAVI but in whom surgery is favoured by a "heart team" based on the individual risk profile and anatomic suitability.	IIa	B
AVR should be considered in symptomatic patients with low flow, low gradient (< 40 mmHg) AS with normal EF only after careful confirmation of severe AS.	IIa	C
AVR should be considered in symptomatic patients with severe AS, low flow, low gradient with reduced EF, and evidence of flow reserve.	IIa	C
AVR may be considered in symptomatic patients with severe AS low flow, low gradient, and LV dysfunction without flow reserve.	IIb	C

## Paradoxical low-flow, low-gradient AS<sup>†</sup>

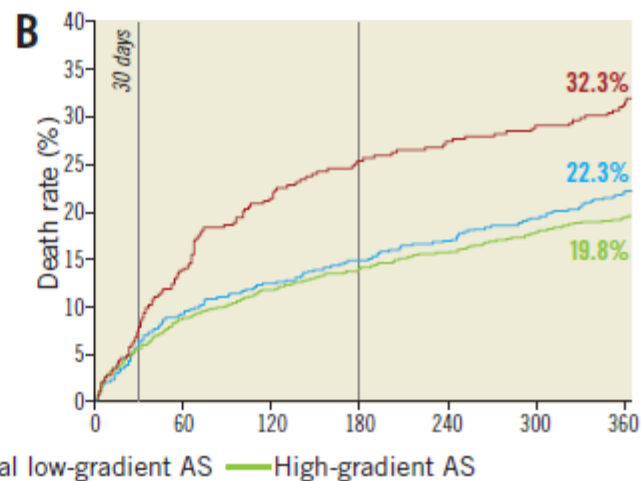
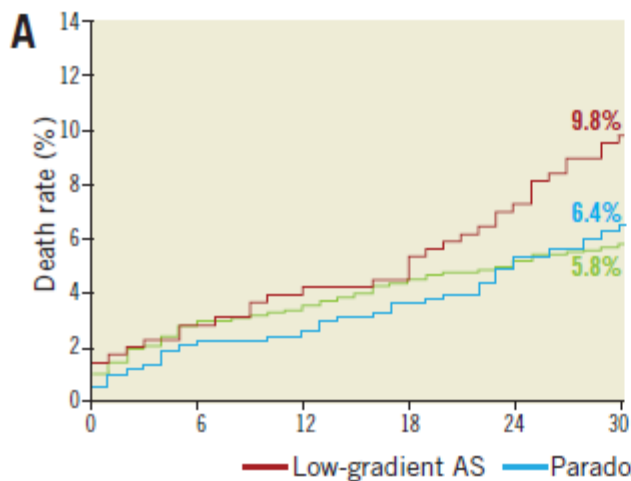
ESC/EACTS 2012	AVR should be considered in symptomatic patients with low-flow, low-gradient (<40 mmHg) AS with normal LVEF only after careful confirmation of severe AS.	IIa	C
ACC/AHA 2014	AVR is reasonable in symptomatic patients who have low-flow, low-gradient severe AS who are normotensive and have an LVEF $\geq$ 50% if clinical, haemodynamic and anatomic data support valve obstruction as the most likely cause of symptoms.	IIa	C

## TAVI for low-flow, low-gradient severe aortic stenosis with preserved or reduced ejection fraction: a subgroup analysis from the German Aortic Valve Registry (GARY)

Alexander Lauten<sup>1\*</sup>, MD; Hans R. Figulla<sup>2</sup>, MD; Helge Möllmann<sup>2</sup>, MD; David Holzhey<sup>3</sup>, MD; Joachim Kötting<sup>4</sup>, MSc; Andreas Beckmann<sup>5</sup>, MD; Christof Veit<sup>4</sup>, MD; Jochen Cremer<sup>6</sup>, MD; Karl-Heinz Kuck<sup>7</sup>, MD; Rüdiger Lange<sup>8</sup>, MD; Ralf Zahn<sup>9</sup>, MD; Stefan Sack<sup>10</sup>, MD; Gerhard Schuler<sup>3</sup>, MD; Thomas Walther<sup>11</sup>, MD; Friedhelm Beyersdorf<sup>12</sup>, MD; Michael Böhm<sup>13</sup>, MD; Gerd Heusch<sup>14</sup>, MD; Thomas Meinertz<sup>15</sup>, MD; Till Neumann<sup>16</sup>, MD; Armin Welz<sup>17</sup>, MD; Friedrich W. Mohr<sup>3</sup>, MD; Christian W. Hamm<sup>2</sup>, MD; on behalf of the GARY Executive Board



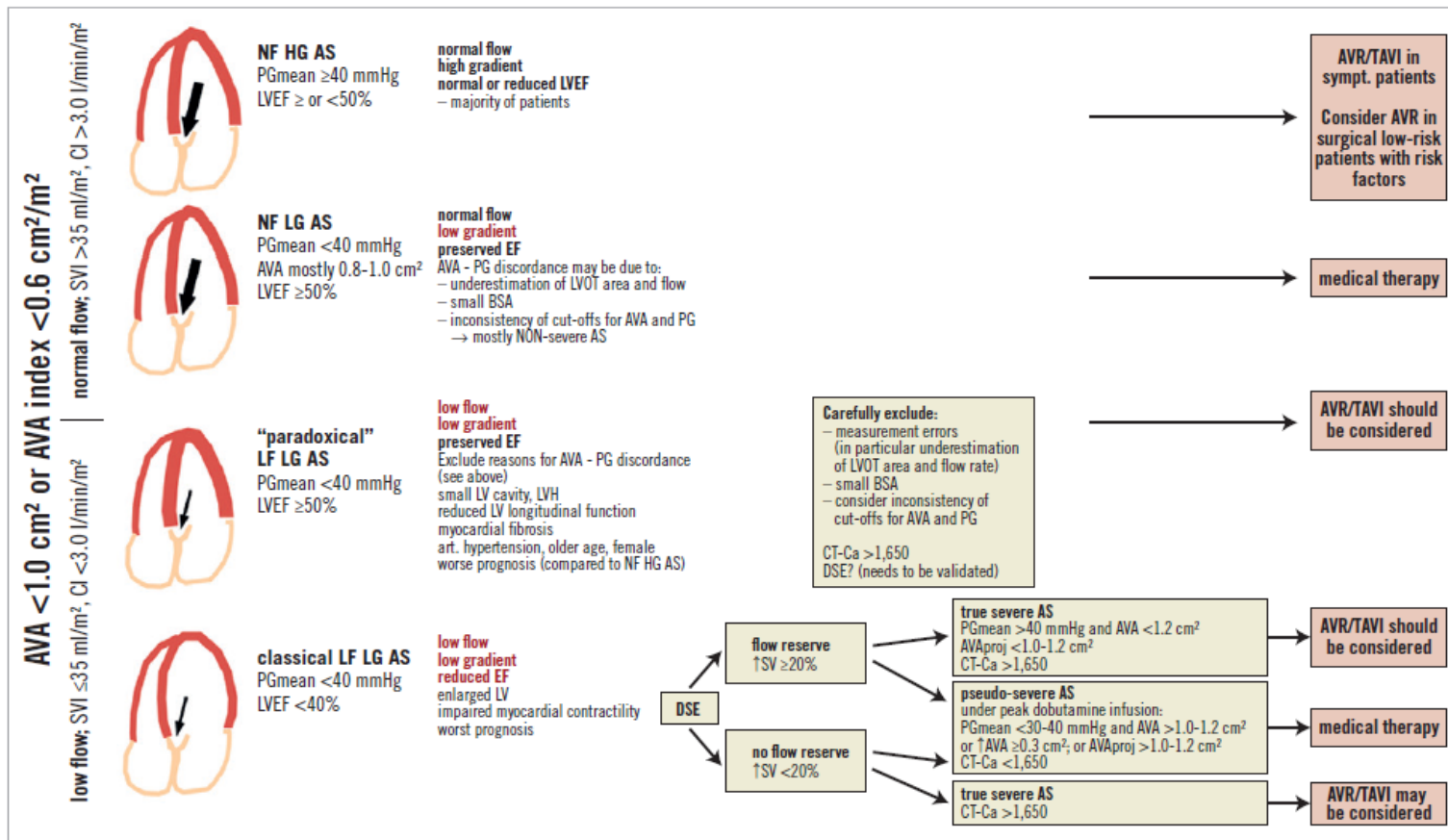




Cum.events	Day 0	Day 30	Day 180	Day 365
Numbers at risk				
Low-gradient AS	5 359	35 322	90 261	113 237
Paradoxical low-gradient AS	3 640	41 596	94 532	140 483
High-gradient AS	18 1,864	108 1,748	259 1,562	359 1,459

Log-rank test $p$ -values (GH: <0.001)	Paradoxical low-gradient AS	High- gradient AS
Low-gradient AS	<0.001	<0.001
Paradoxical low-gradient AS		0.175

**GARY Registry , Eurointerventions, 2014**



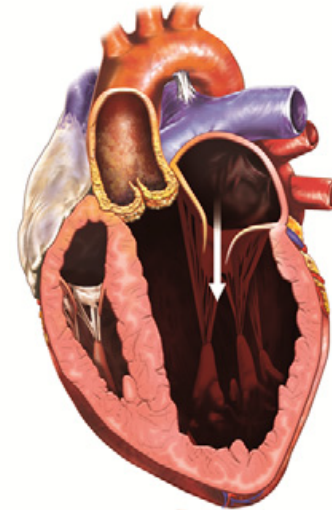
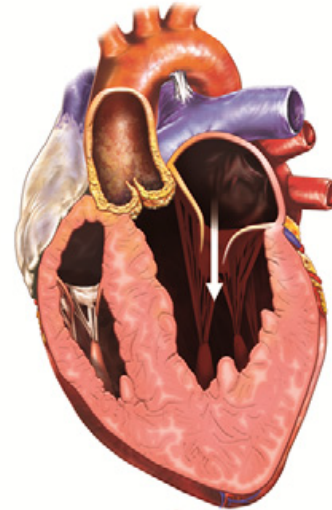
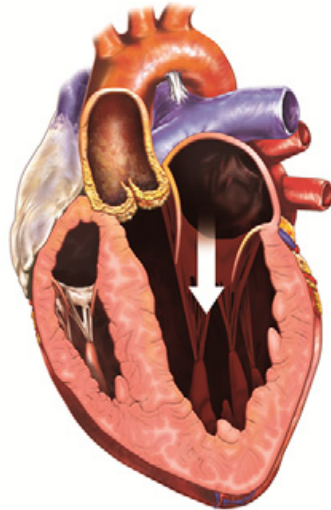
**Figure 1.** Classification of patients with aortic stenosis (AS) and aortic valve area (AVA) < 1.0 cm<sup>2</sup> (AVA index < 0.6 cm<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>) depending on pressure gradient level (low gradient [LG] vs. high gradient [HG]), flow state (normal flow [NF]; low flow [LF]) and left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF). The subgroup of patients with low flow, high gradient was not taken into account due to limited study data. AVAproj: projected aortic valve area; BSA: body surface area; CI: cardiac index; CT-Ca: computed tomography calcium score; DSE: dobutamine stress echocardiography; PG: pressure gradient; LVH: left ventricular hypertrophy; LVOT: left ventricular outflow tract; SVI: stroke volume index

**NORMAL-LVEF  
NORMAL-FLOW,  
HIGH-GRADIENT**

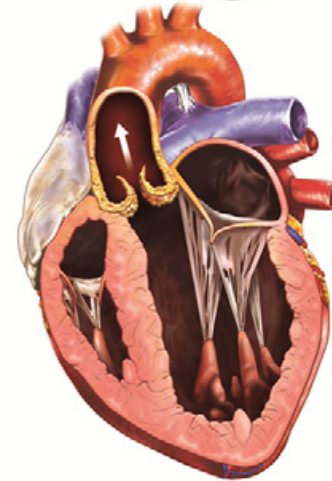
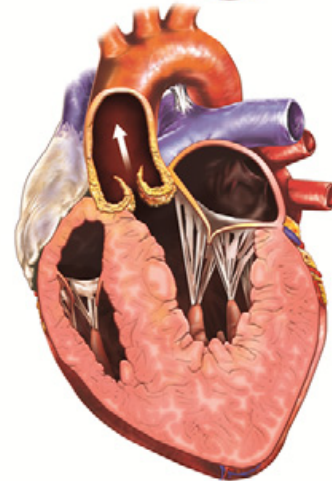
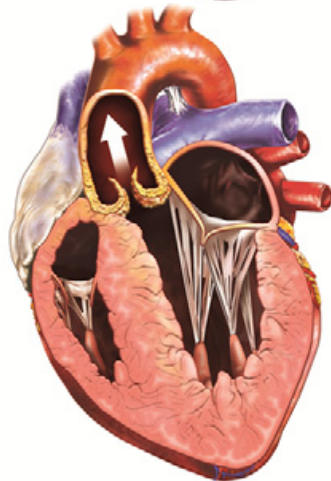
**NORMAL-LVEF  
"PARADOXICAL"  
LOW-FLOW,  
LOW-GRADIENT**

**LOW-LVEF  
"CLASSICAL"  
LOW-FLOW,  
LOW-GRADIENT AS**

**DIASTOLE**



**SYSTOLE**



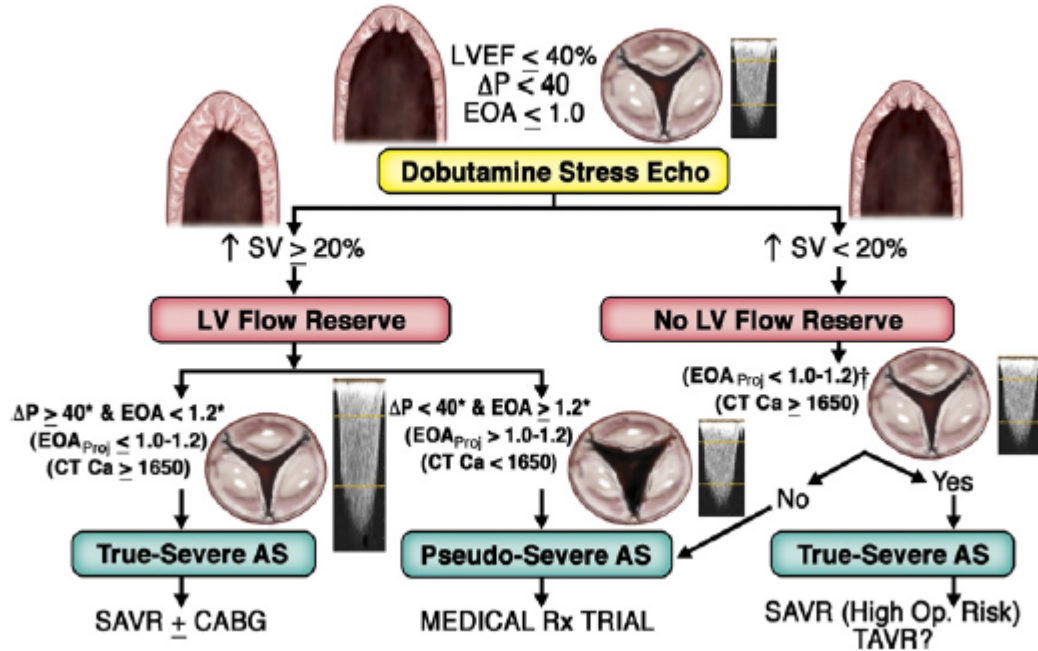
# **STENOSI AORTICA**

## **con disfunzione ventricolare sinistra**

**For such patients I recommend  
hemodynamic manipulation  
in the cath or echo lab  
to help determine which patients  
are more likely to benefit from surgery**

*Carabello, N Engl J Med 2002*





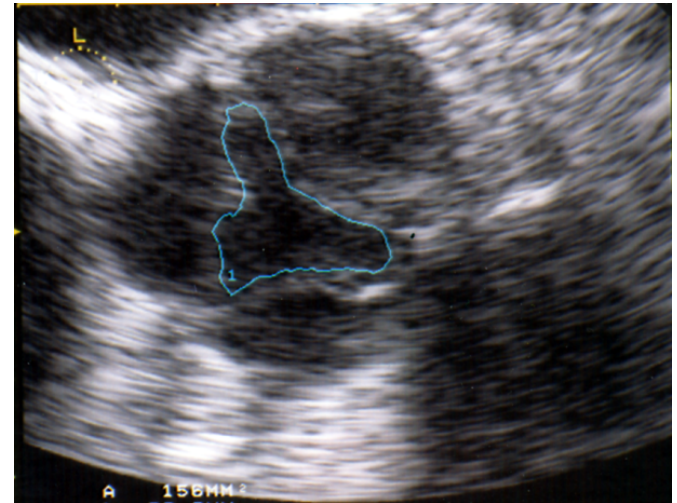
*Pibarot, Dumesnil JACC, 2012*

**Stenosi aortica a basso gradiente e ridotta FE:  
quali altre indagini in assenza di riserva contrattile?**

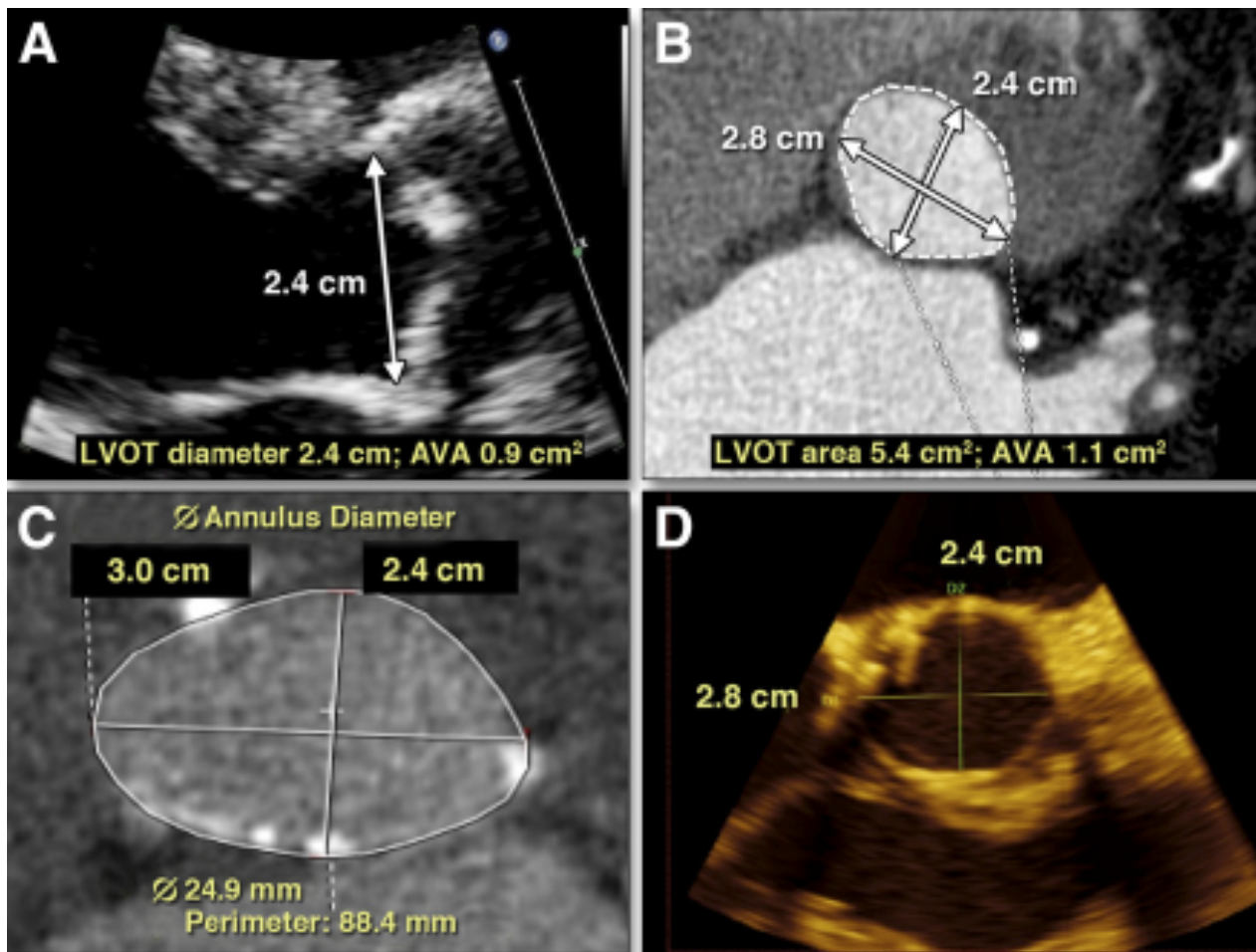
- **Morfologia ecocardiografica della valvola  
( TEE con planimetria )**
- **Calcium score (> 1.651) (multislice CT scan)**
- **Risonanza magnetica (AVA)**

# Area valvolare: gli errori

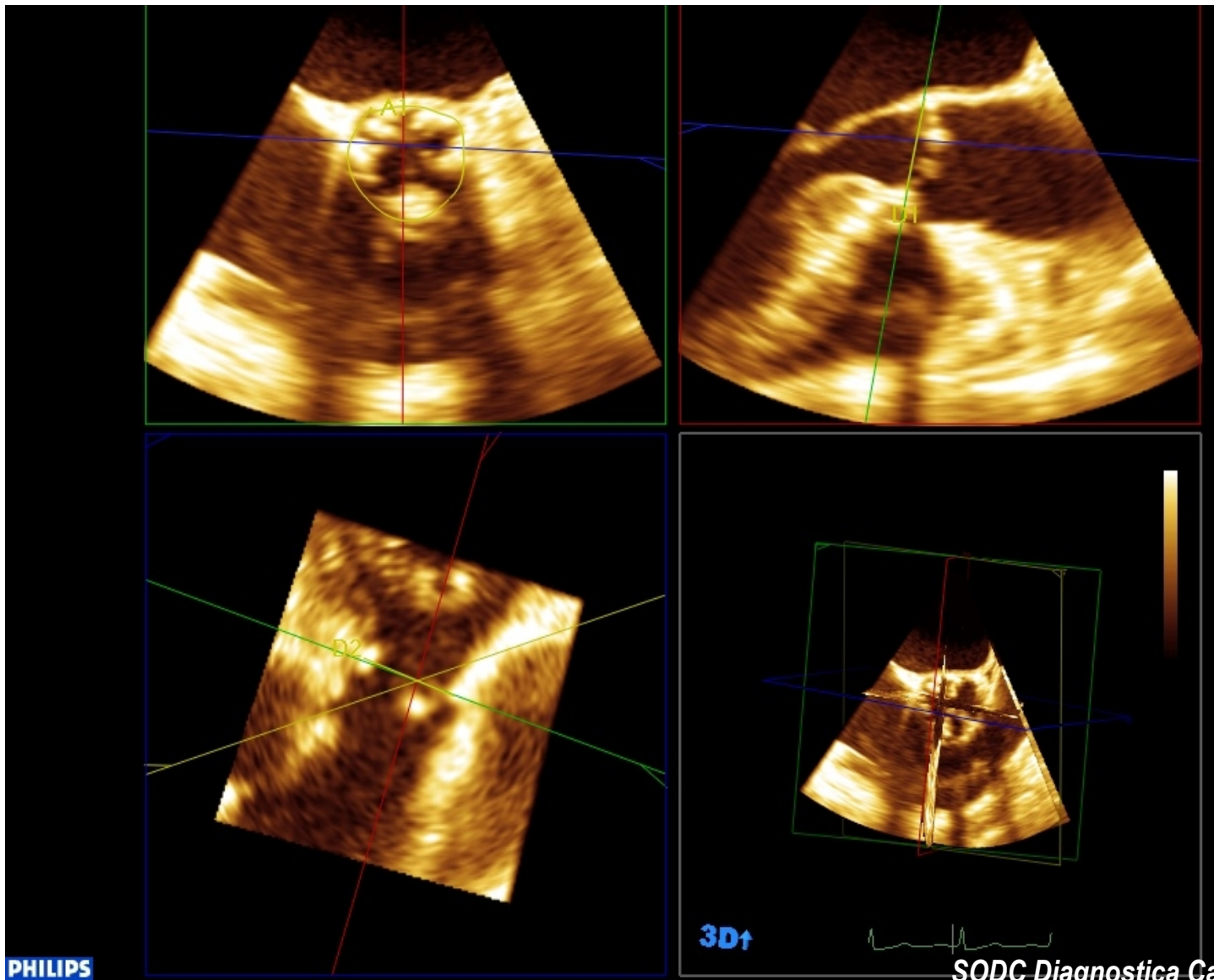
- In sala di cateterismo
  - Termo diluizione
  - Misura del gradiente
- In laboratorio di Eco
  - Area del tratto di efflusso
  - Gittata sistolica
  - TEE con manipolazione emodinamica ( Dob , NtrPr)



# Stenosi Aortica: Valutazione del TEVSn



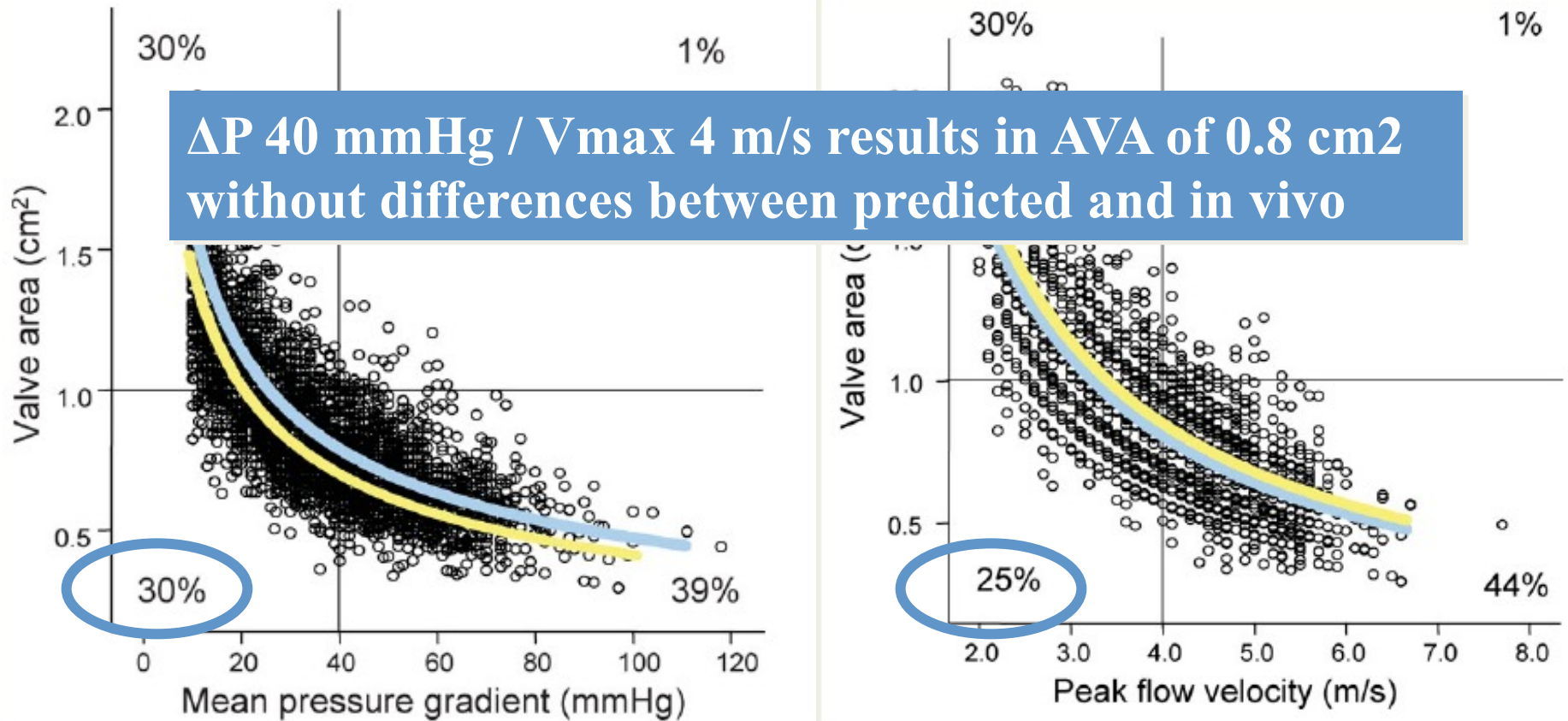
# Stenosi Aortica: Valutazione Eco TE 3D



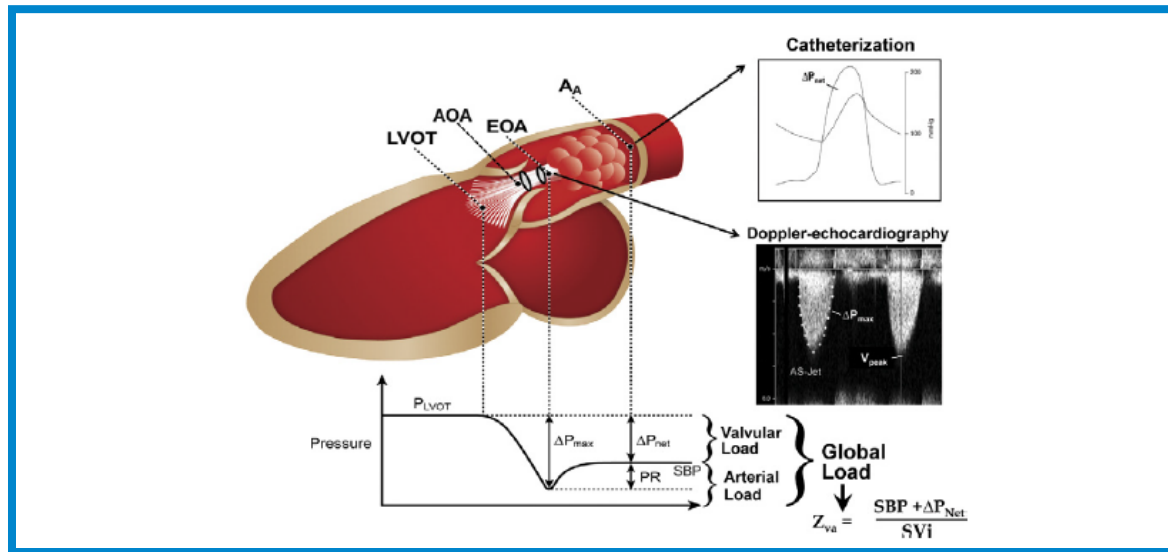


# Inconsistencies of echocardiographic criteria for the grading of aortic valve stenosis

**AVA < 1 cm<sup>2</sup>, V<sub>max</sub> > 4 m/s, ΔP > 40 mmHg**



## Errori di valutazione del Gradiente “Recupero di pressione “



*Pibarot , Dumesnil JACC , 2012*

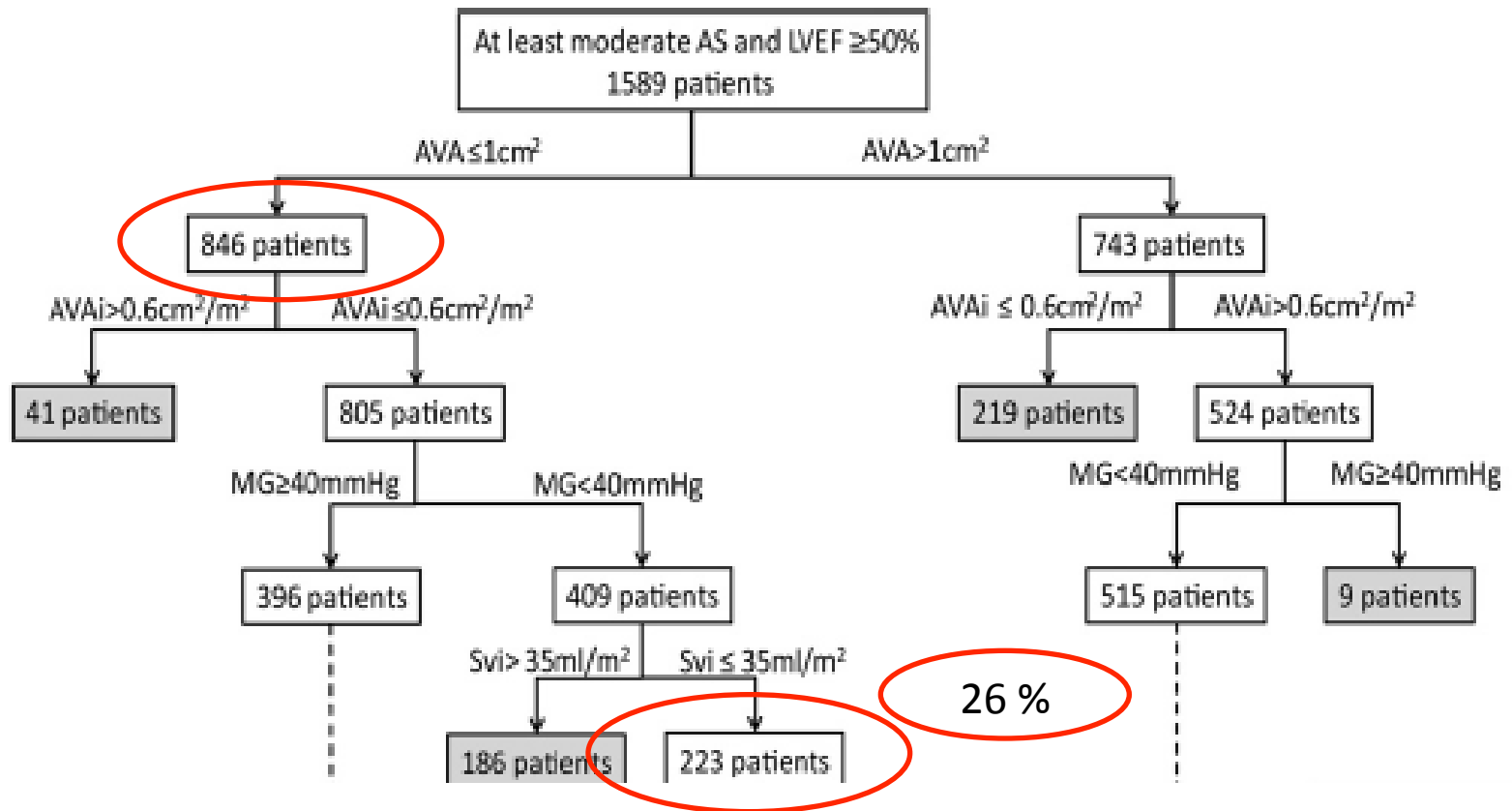
Il recupero di pressione è minore in presenza di alcuni elementi come

- Dilatazione dell'aorta ascendente
- Flusso trans valvolare eccentrico
- Morfologia cupoliforme della stenosi

**A PARITA' DI GRADIENTE SARA' MAGGIORE IL PESO EMODINAMICO**

# Stenosi aortica severa paradossa:

## *Le dimensioni del problema*



Clavel MA et al. JACC 2012

# Paradoxical Low-Flow, Low-Gradient severe aortic stenosis

## Possibili cause

- **Errori di Misura**
  - **Velocità**
  - **Stroke volume**
  - **Area valvolare**
- Taglia corporea piccola ( Indicizzazione)
- Limiti del valore di cut-off per AVA
- Una vera diversa popolazione ?

# Paradoxical Low-Flow, Low-Gradient severe aortic stenosis

## Possibili cause

- **Errori di Misura**
  - Velocità
  - Stroke volume
  - Area valvolare
- **Taglia corporea piccola**
- Limiti del valore di cut-off per AVA
- Una vera diversa popolazione ?



# Paradoxical Low-Flow, Low-Gradient severe aortic stenosis

## Possibili cause

- **Errori di Misura**
  - Velocità
  - Stroke volume
  - Area valvolare
- Taglia corporea piccola
- **Limiti del valore di cut-off per AVA**
- Una vera diversa popolazione ?

# STENOSI AORTICA

## *Quale Area Valvolare ?*

- Area Anatomica (gold standard del passato)
- Area Doppler: inferiore all' area anatomica secondo un coeff. di contrazione variabile in base alla morfologia della stenosi e alla reologia del liquido
- Area sec. Gorlin: inferiore all' area anatomica, ma parzialmente corretta (costante di Gorlin 44.3)
- Area Doppler < Area sec. Gorlin
- Area Doppler = sistematica sottostima

# Paradoxical Low-Flow, Low-Gradient severe aortic stenosis

## Possibili cause

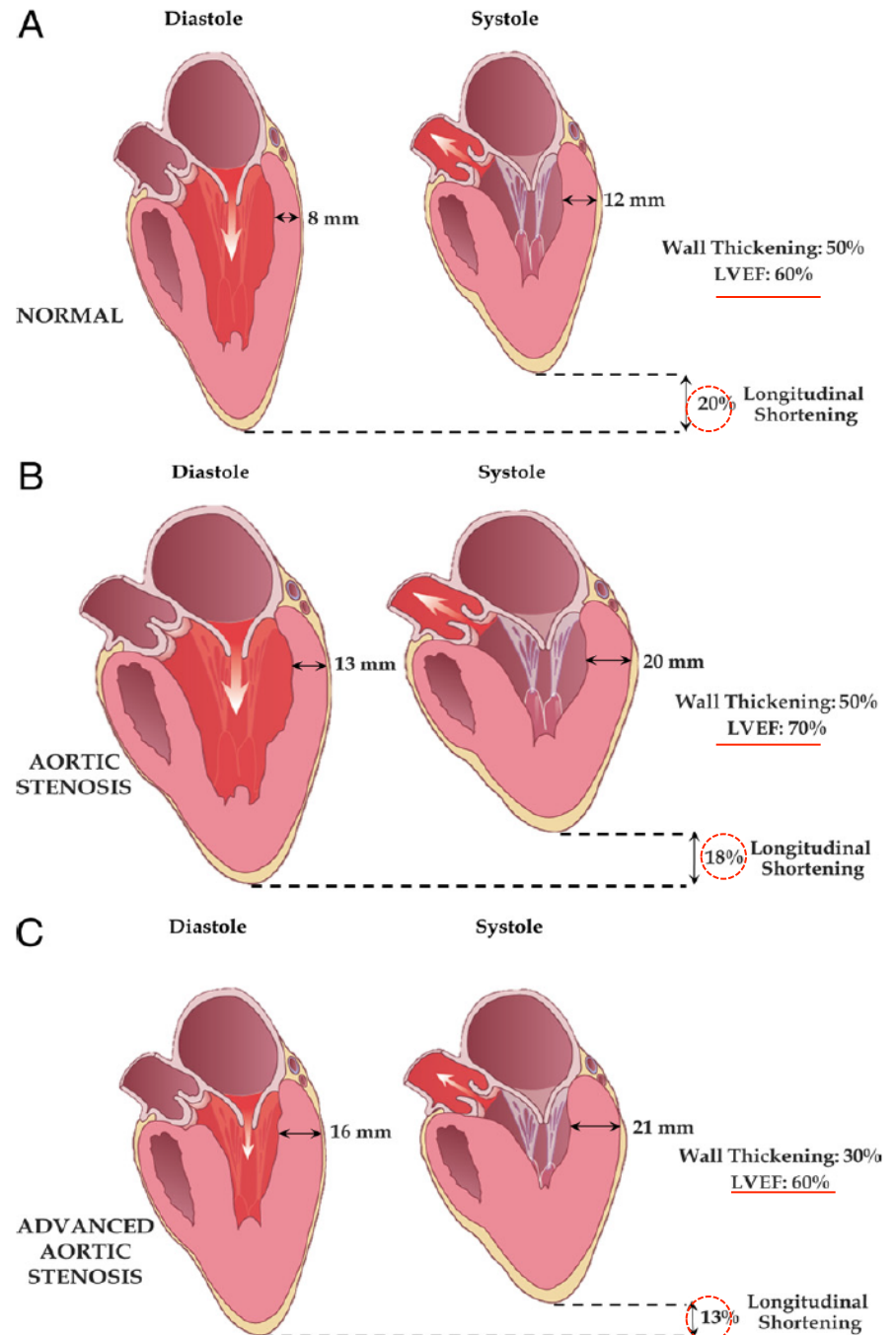
- **Errori di Misura**
  - Velocità
  - Stroke volume
  - Area valvolare
- Taglia corporea piccola
- Limiti del valore di cut-off per AVA
- **Una vera diversa popolazione**

# Paradoxical Low-Flow, Low-Gradient severe aortic stenosis despite preserved Ejection Fraction

Sottogruppo di p con SAO severa ( $AV < 0.6 \text{ cm}^2/\text{m}^2$ ;  $MG < 40 \text{ mmHg}$ ;  $FE > 50\%$ , ) con le seguenti caratteristiche:

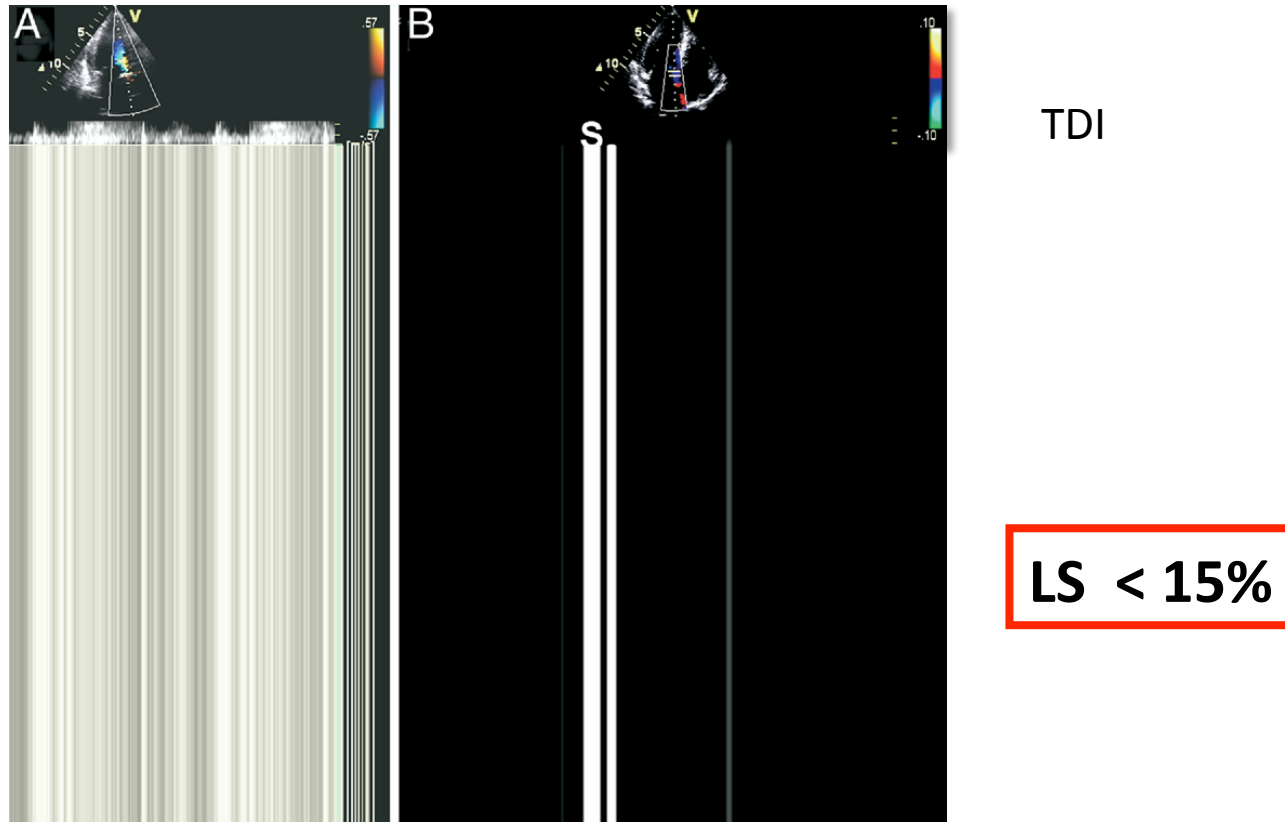
- Età più avanzata
- Sesso prevalentemente femminile
- Maggiore afterload globale del VS
- Più evidente rimodellamento concentrico del VS
- Segni di intrinseca disfunzione miocardica (ridotto mid-wall fractional shortening, ridotto strain longitudinale)
- Fibrillazione atriale , insufficienza / stenosi mitralica
- **Ridotto stroke volume (bassi gradienti) ( $< 35 \text{ ml}/\text{m}^2$ )**

# Superiorità dell'Accorciamento Longitudinale sulla Frazione d'Eiezione del VS per identificare la disfunzione sistolica nella Stenosi Aortica

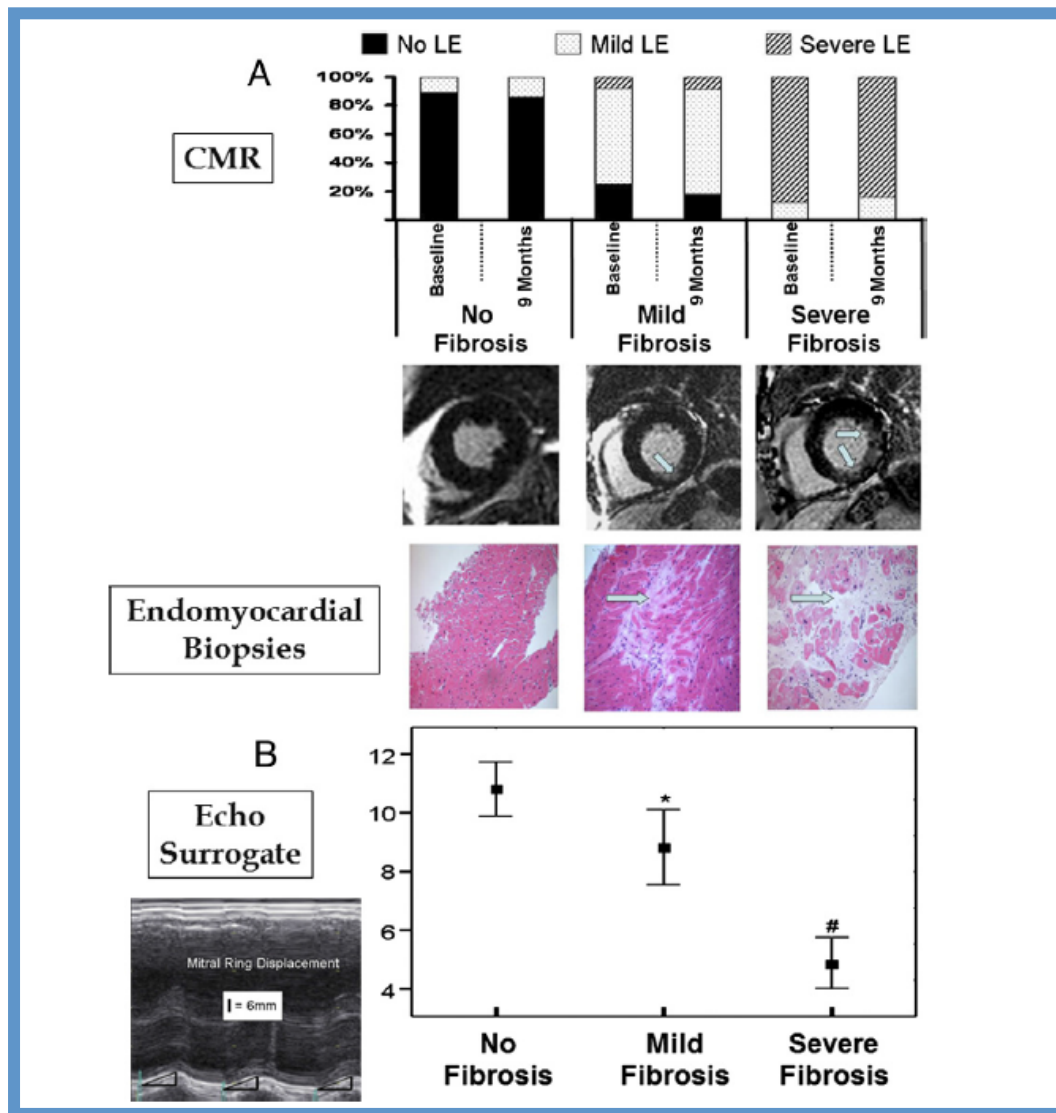




# Longitudinal Left Ventricular Mechanics (Tissue Doppler, Speckle Tracking, Strain) in Asymptomatic Severe Aortic Stenosis



Tissue Doppler and speckle track imaging might be therefore potentially useful in optimizing the timing of AVR before the onset of global LV dysfunction and symptoms in patients with severe AS. However, this requires future investigation



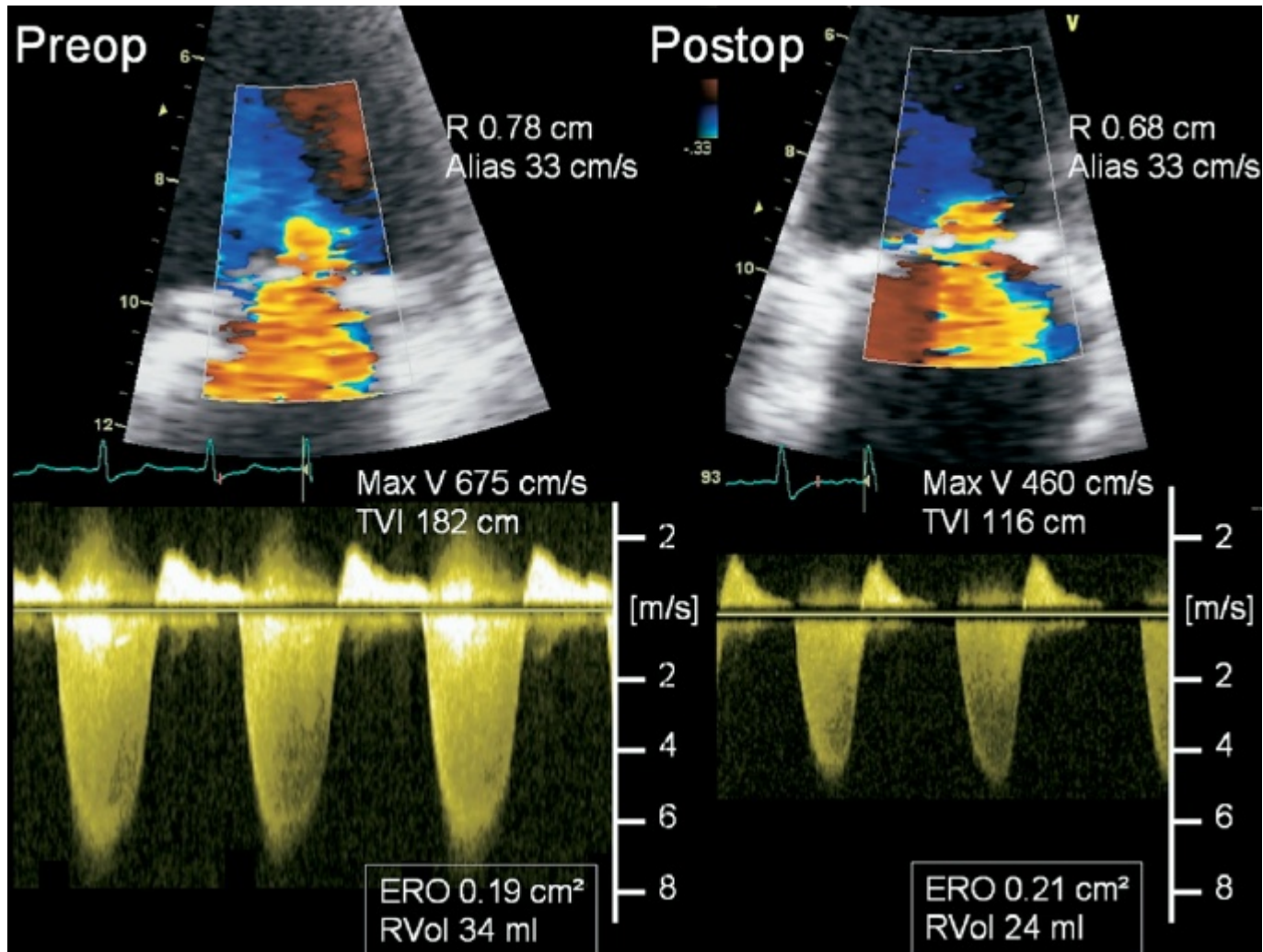
- Impedenza aortica

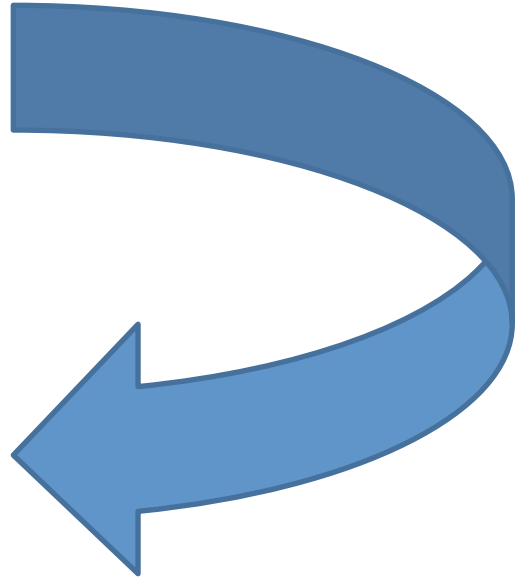
La valutazione dell'impedenza valvolare-arteriosa (ZVA index = gradiente medio+pressione arteriosa sistolica/gettata sistolica indicizzata per la superficie corporea) rappresenta un ulteriore elemento per stimare il peso emodinamico

$$Z_{va} = \frac{SBP + \Delta P_{Net}}{SVi}$$

- Ogni paziente deve avere un controllo attento dei valori pressori con pressione sistolica inferiore a 140 mmhg.
- Raggiunto questo risultato si deve rivalutare attentamente il gradiente transvalvolare ed il CO
- Valori di Zva > 4,5 mmhg/ml/m2 indicano una stenosi aortica significativa

## Severe Aortic stenosis and Moderate Mitral regurgitation









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**GRAZIE !**