



Associazione Italiana Aritmologia e Cardioritmo

CORSI TEORICO-PRATICI
Sleep Apnea 2020

Aritmie ventricolari e apnee notturne



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Ospedale
Maggiore

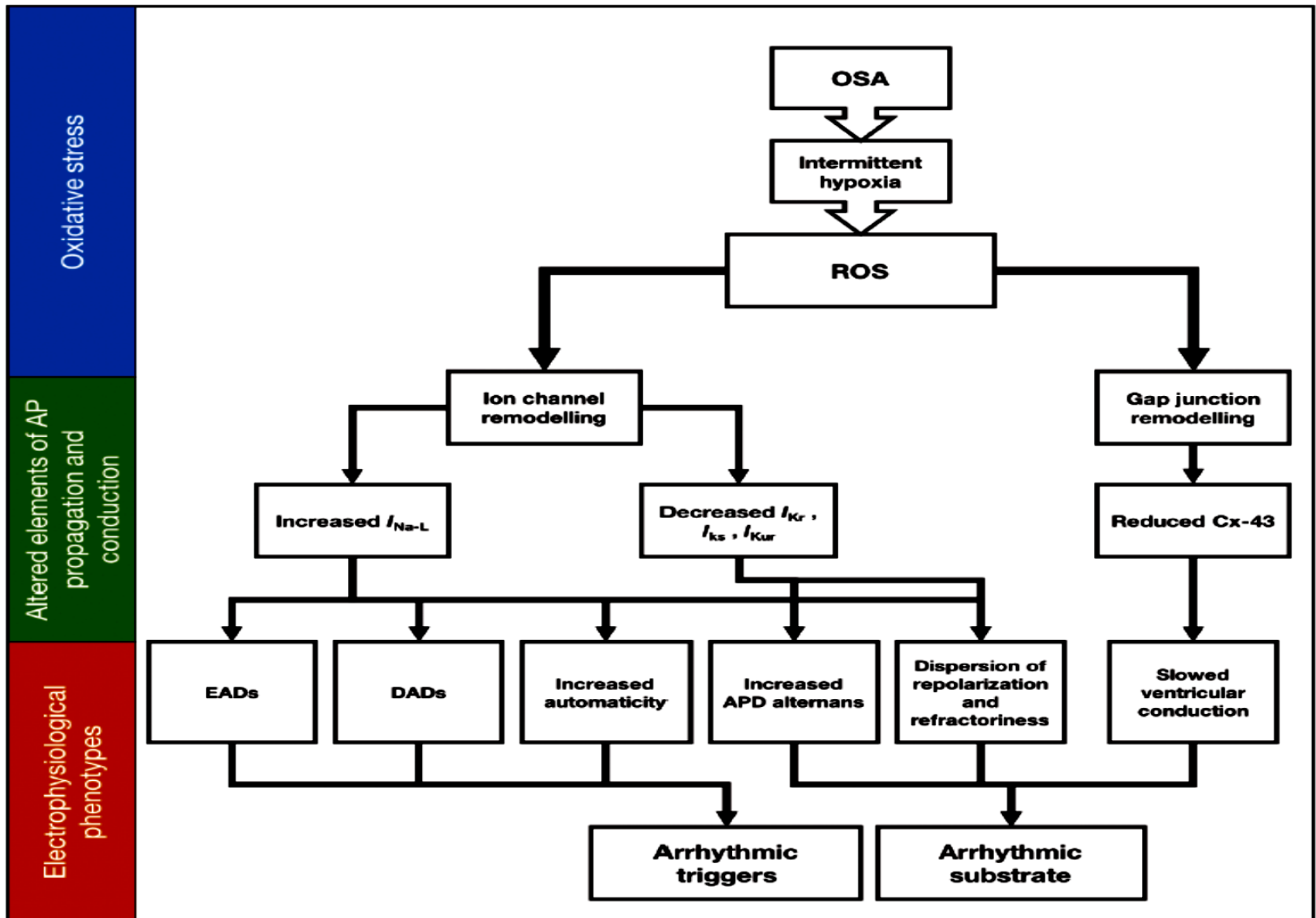


Regione
Lombardia

ASST Crema

Sistema Socio Sanitario

Development of arrhythmic triggers and arrhythmic substrate due to reactive oxygen species (ROS) generation because of oxidative stress



Obstructive Sleep Apnea and the Risk of Sudden Cardiac Death

A Longitudinal Study of 10,701 Adults

10,701 consecutive adults undergoing their first diagnostic polysomnogram between July 1987 and July 2003. During an average follow-up of 5.3 years, 142 pts had resuscitated or fatal SCD (annual rate 0.27%). In multivariate analysis, independent risk factors for SCD were age, hypertension, CAD, cardiomyopathy or heart failure, ventricular ectopy or NSVT, and lowest nocturnal O₂sat (per 10% decrease, hazard ratio [HR]: 1.14; p=0.029)

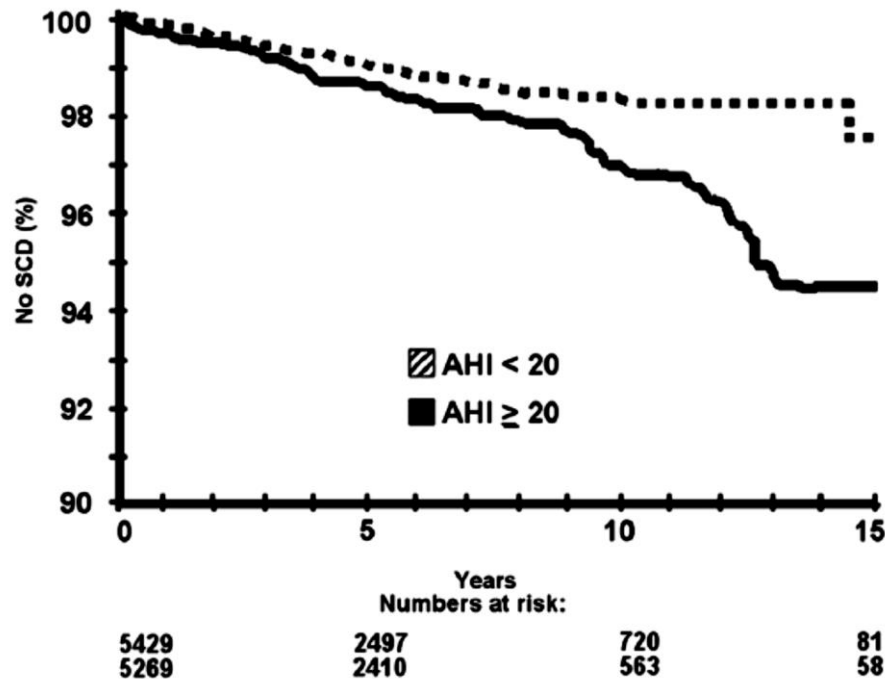


Figure 1 Survival Based on AHI

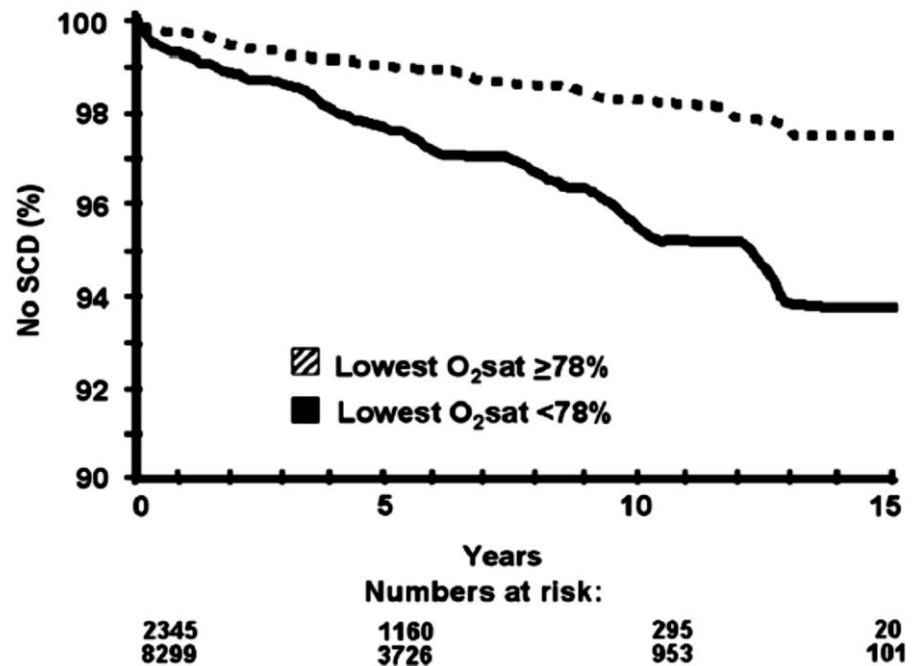
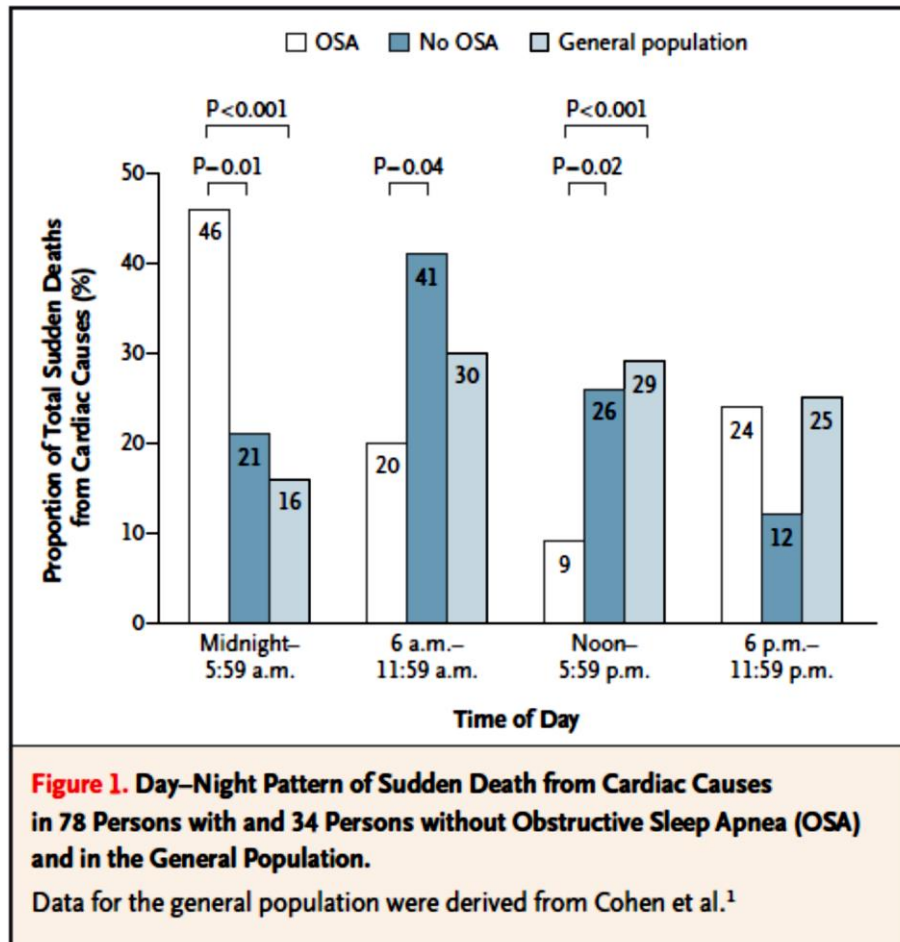


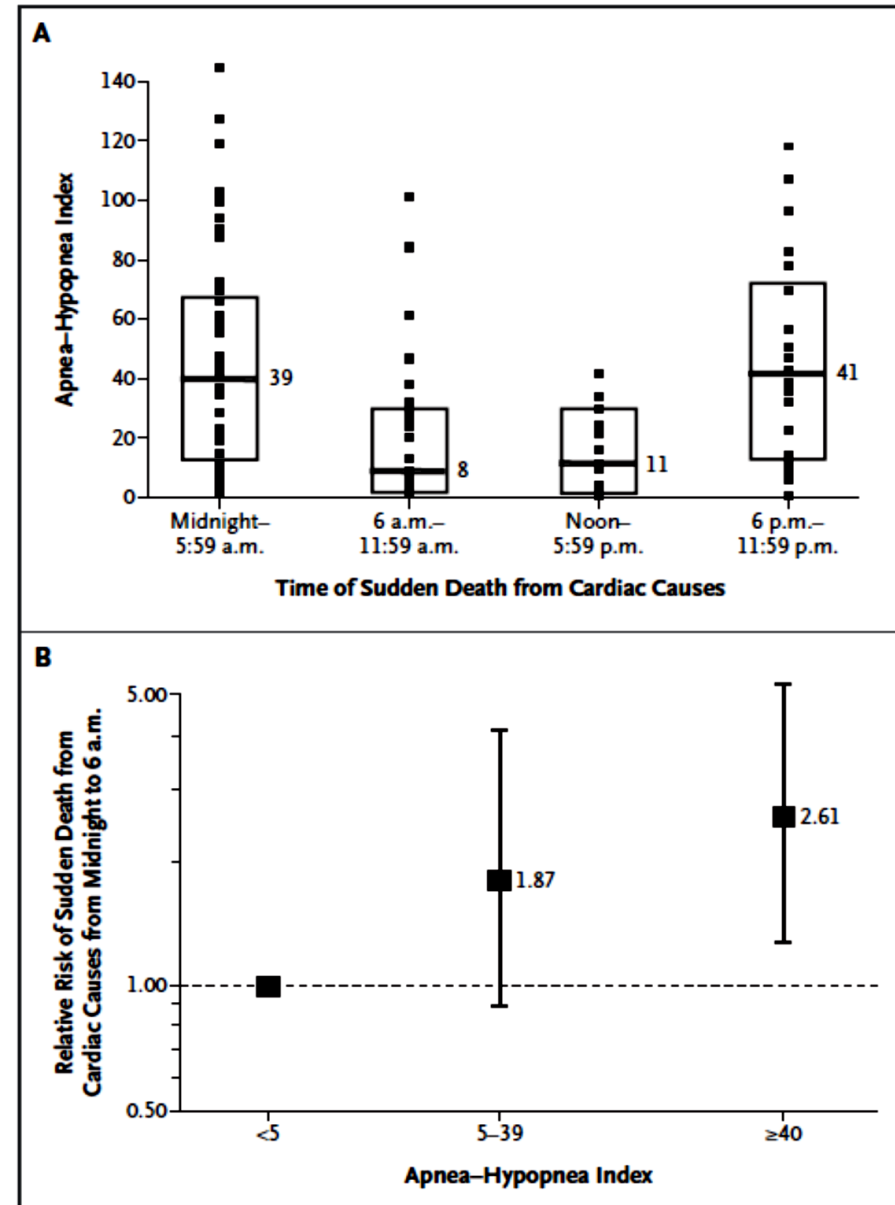
Figure 2 Survival Based on O₂sat

Day–Night Pattern of Sudden Death in Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Polysomnograms and the death certificates of 112 Minnesota residents who had undergone polysomnography and died suddenly from cardiac causes between July 1987 and July 2003



Gami AS et al., N Engl J Med 2005; 352: 1206-14



Is obstructive sleep apnea associated with VT?

A retrospective study from the National Inpatient Sample

Data from the national inpatient sample (NIS) 2012 to 2014, were reviewed. Discharges associated with OSA were identified as the target population using the relevant ICD-9-CM codes. Of 18 013 878 health encounters, 943 978 subjects (5.24%) had a diagnosis of OSA.

VT and VF were more prevalent among patients with OSA compared to those without a diagnosis of OSA (2.24% vs 1.16%; $P < 0.001$ and 0.3% vs 0.2%; $P < 0.001$, respectively).

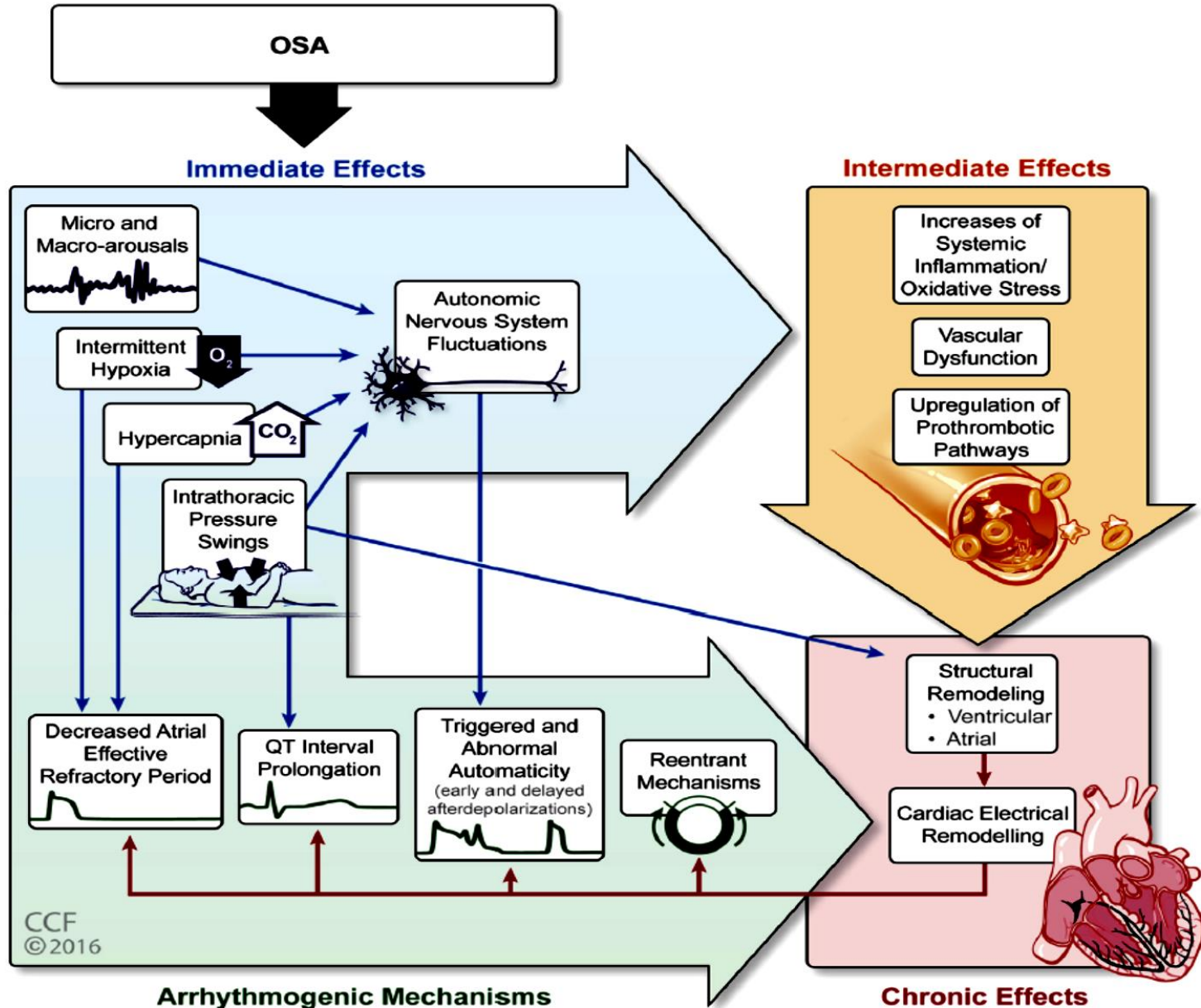
TABLE 2 Independent predictors of ventricular tachycardia in subjects with obstructive sleep apnea

Variables	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P-value
Age	1.012	1.011–1.012	< 0.001
Male gender	1.98	1.96–1.99	< 0.001
Obstructive sleep apnea	1.22	1.20–1.24	< 0.001
Diabetes mellitus	0.80	0.80–0.81	< 0.001
Hypertension	1.04	1.03–1.05	< 0.001
Acute kidney injury	1.42	1.41–1.46	< 0.001
Obesity	1.10	1.08–1.11	< 0.001
Acute coronary syndrome	3.12	3.08–3.16	< 0.001
Coronary artery disease	1.71	1.70–1.73	< 0.001
Heart failure	2.71	2.68–2.75	< 0.001
Diastolic heart failure	2.10	2.07–2.14	< 0.001
Systolic heart failure	6.30	6.22–6.38	< 0.001
Hyperlipidemia	1.14	1.13–1.16	< 0.001
Tobacco smoking	1.07	1.06–1.08	< 0.001
Charlson-Deyo index	1.019	1.017–1.022	< 0.001

TABLE 3 Independent predictors of ventricular fibrillation in subjects with obstructive sleep apnea

Variables	Odds ratio	95% confidence interval	P-value
Age	0.996	0.996–0.997	< 0.001
Male gender	2.02	1.99–2.08	< 0.001
Obstructive sleep apnea	1.02	0.98–1.07	0.27
Diabetes mellitus	0.79	0.77–0.81	< 0.001
Hypertension	0.91	0.89–0.93	< 0.001
Acute kidney injury	2.16	2.11–2.22	< 0.001
Obesity	1.12	1.08–1.16	< 0.001
Acute coronary syndrome	12.35	12.05–12.65	< 0.001
Coronary artery disease	1.86	1.81–1.91	< 0.001
Heart failure	2.47	2.39–2.55	< 0.001
Diastolic heart failure	0.99	0.94–1.05	0.78
Systolic heart failure	3.27	3.17–3.37	< 0.001
Hyperlipidemia	0.97	0.95–1.00	0.03
Tobacco smoking	0.99	0.97–1.01	0.24
Charlson-Deyo index	0.98	0.97–0.98	< 0.001

Arrhythmogenic mechanisms of OSA in HF patients



Arrhythmogenic mechanisms of OSA in HF patients

Stimulus

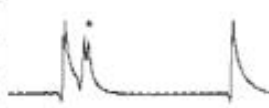
Electrophysiological phenotypes

Arrhythmogenic triggers

Triggered activity

EADs

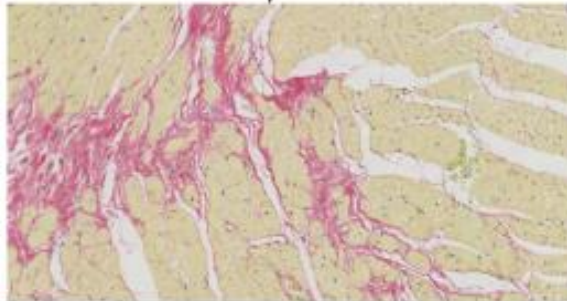
DADs



Increased automaticity

Enhanced
pacemaker

Ectopic
pacemaker



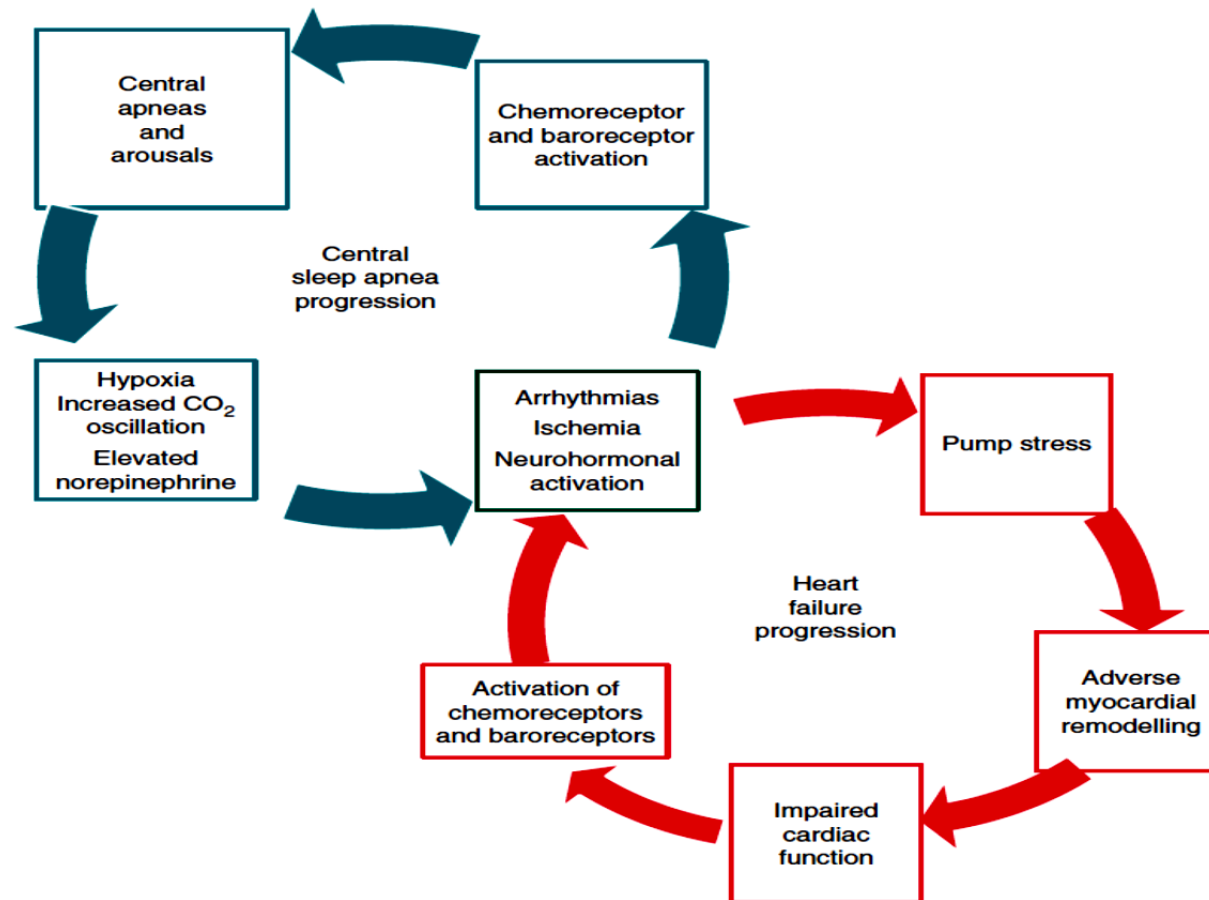
An arrhythmogenic substrate

Re-entrant arrhythmia



- Atrial fibrillation
- Ventricular tachycardia
- Ventricular fibrillation

Pathophysiology and relationship between HF, CSA and ventricular arrhythmias

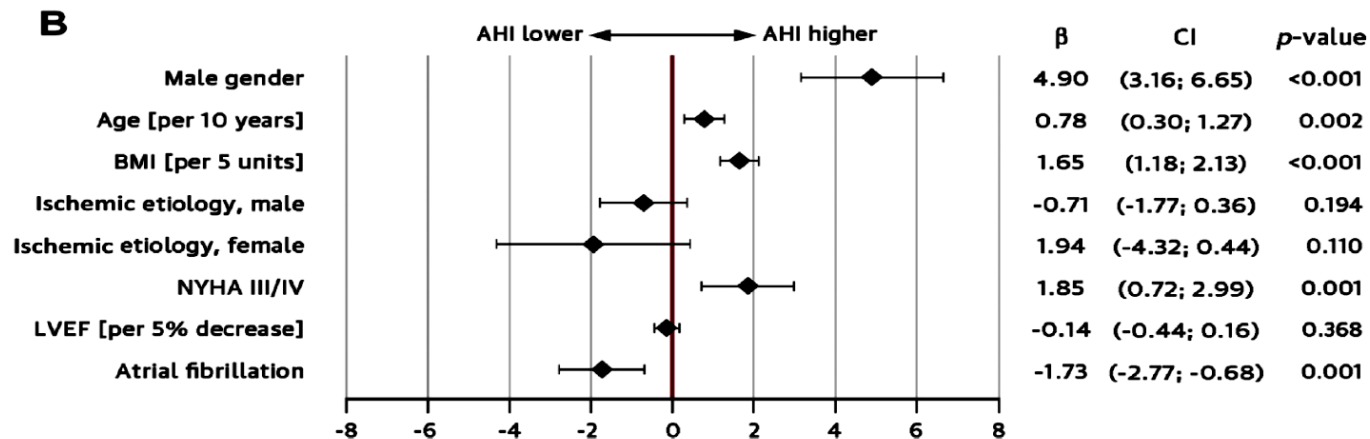
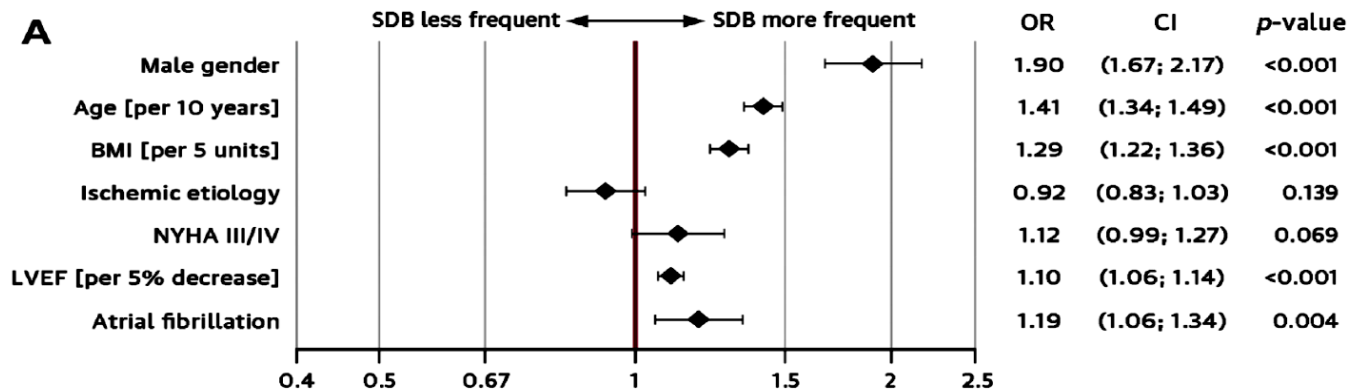


Each episode of central apnoea and arousal results in hypoxia, norepinephrine, and wide oscillations in carbon dioxide. Hypoxia results in cardiac ischaemia, plaque rupture, and dementia. Elevated norepinephrine causes atrial and ventricular arrhythmias and activates the renin-angiotensin system resulting in sodium retention and neurohormonal activation. Neurohormonal activation and ischaemia further activate central and peripheral chemoreceptors and baroreceptors further destabilizing breathing and triggering CSA. In addition to CSA, feeding back to continue the CSA cycle, ischaemia, and neurohormonal activation causes additional pump stress leading to adverse myocardial remodelling. With adverse remodelling, cardiac function is further impaired and worsens the downward progression of HF.

Prevalence and Predictors of Sleep-Disordered Breathing in Pts With Stable Chronic HF

The SchlaHF Registry

Data from 6,876 pts. The prevalence of moderate-to-severe SDB was 46%, with a sex difference: 36% in women (n=1,448) versus 49% in men (n=5,428). Prevalence of SDB rose with increasing age.

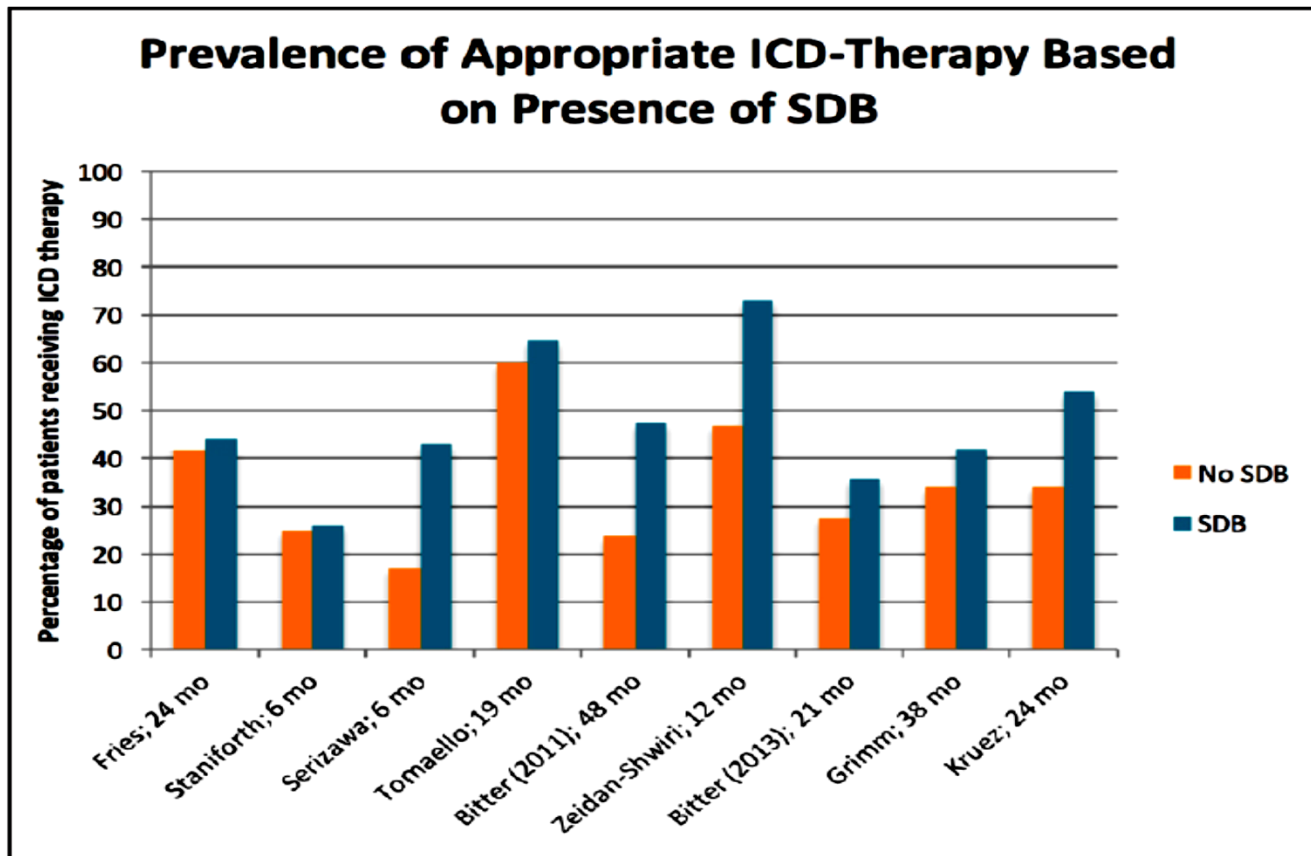


Predictors of Sleep-Disordered Breathing and Apnea-Hypopnea Index (AHI ≥ 15 /h)

Effect of Sleep-Disordered Breathing on Appropriate ICD Therapy in Pts With HF

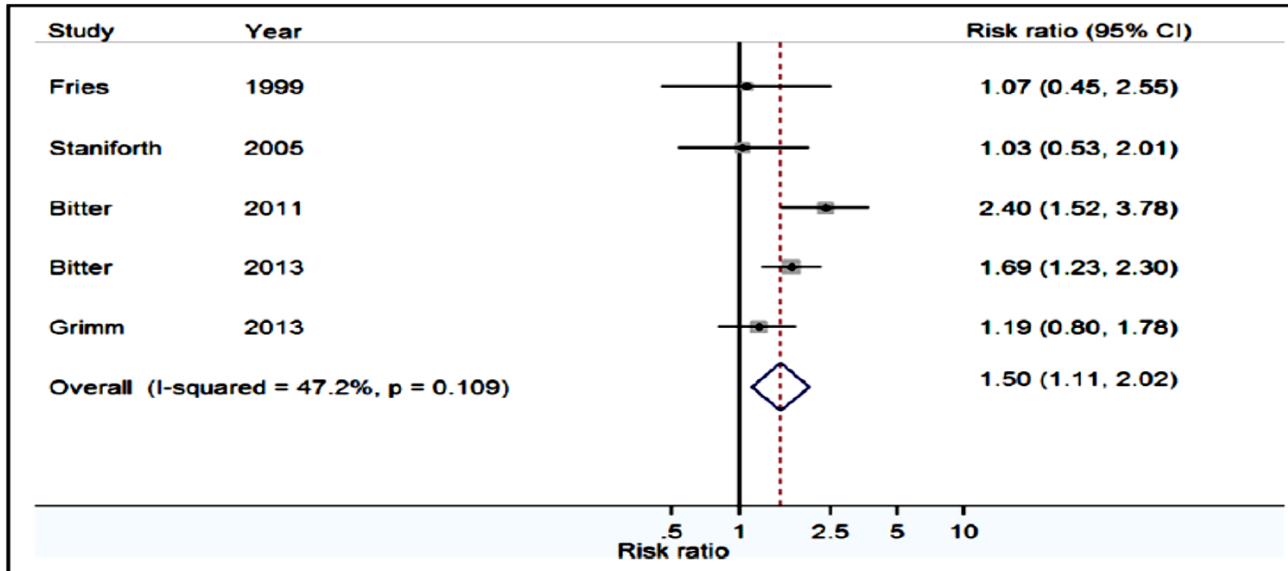
A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Nine prospective cohort studies (n=1274) were included in this analysis. SDB was present in 52% of the participants. SDB was associated with a 55% higher risk of appropriate ICD therapies (45% versus 28%; risk ratio, 1.55; 95% confidence interval, 1.32–1.83).

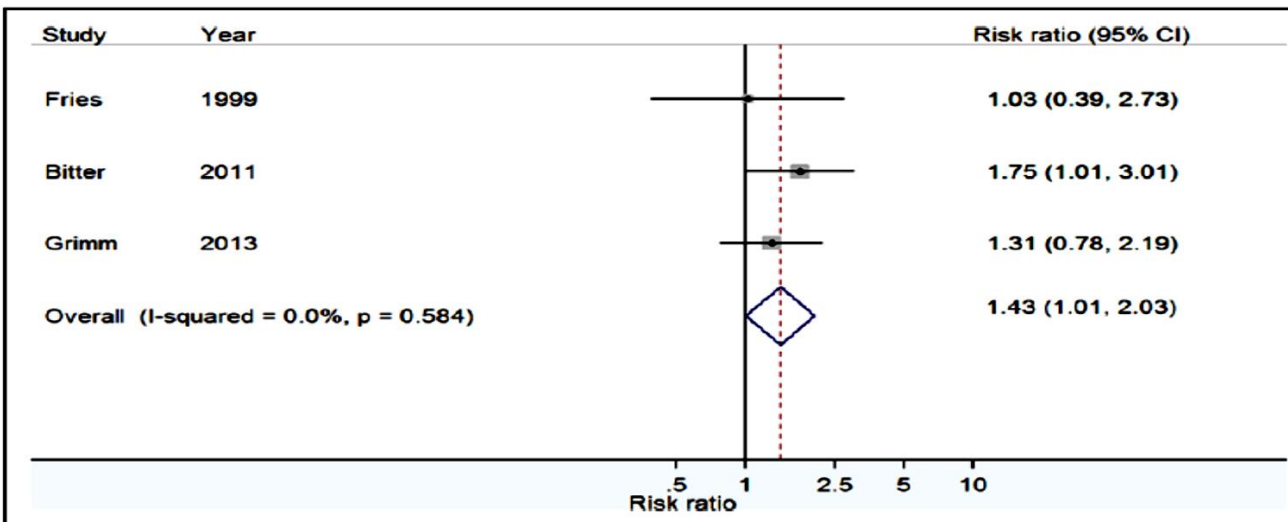


Effect of Sleep-Disordered Breathing on Appropriate ICD Therapy in Pts With HF

A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis



Risk of ICD therapy in pts with central sleep apnea (CSA) vs those without CSA

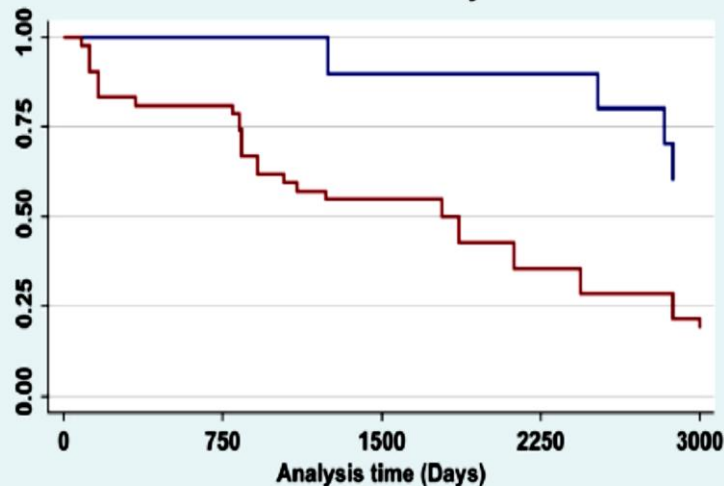


Risk of ICD therapy in pts with obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) vs those without OSA

Role of obstructive sleep apnea on the response to CRT and all-cause mortality

Out of 548 consecutive patients who received a CRT-D (mean age 65.6 ± 13 years; 216 (39%) women; mean follow-up period 76.6 ± 17 months), a total of 180 patients (33%) had OSA. Study participants were categorized to have mild, moderate, and severe OSA if they had an AHI between 5 and 15, between 15 and 30, and >30 events/h of sleep.

Kaplan-Meier survival estimates
All-cause mortality

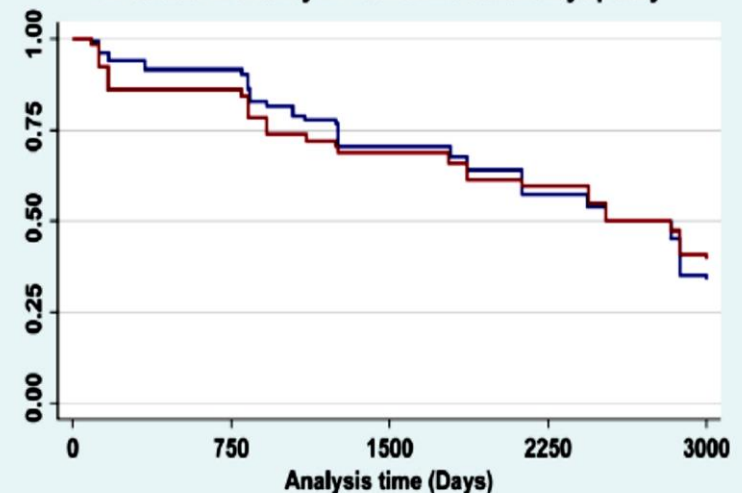


	Number at risk at study initiation	Number at risk at 750 days	Number at risk at 1500 days	Number at risk at 2250 days	Number at risk at 3000 days
No OSA	368	315	287	252	221
OSA	180	144	101	77	49

— No OSA — OSA

Log rank
P < 0.001

Kaplan-Meier survival estimates
All-cause mortality in ischemic cardiomyopathy



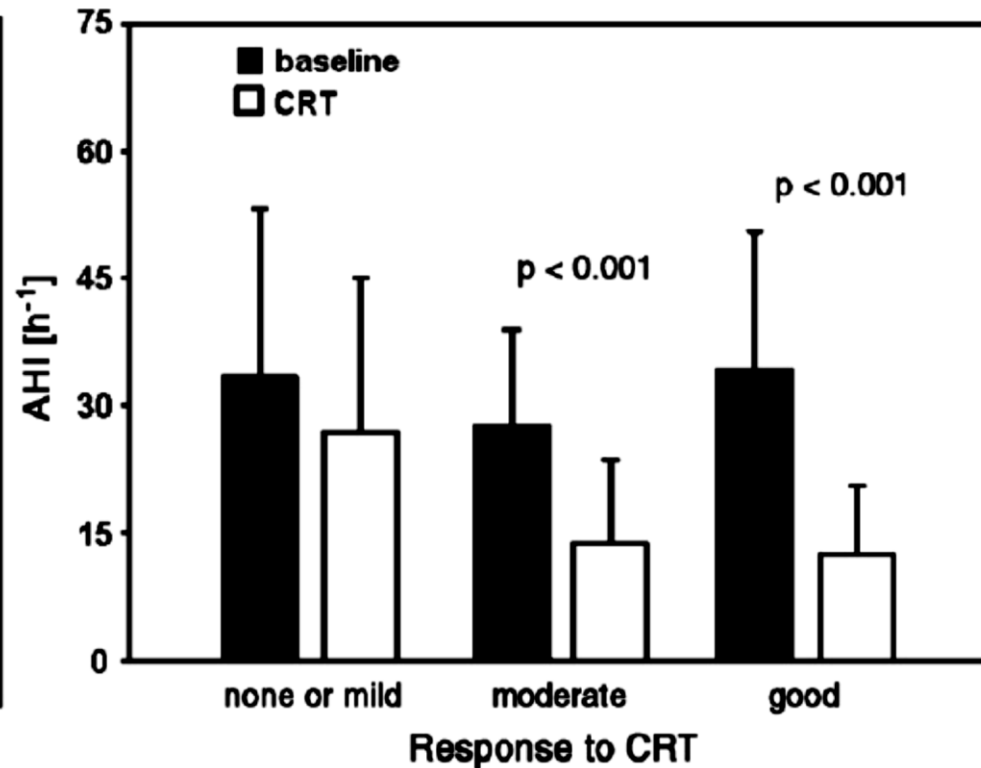
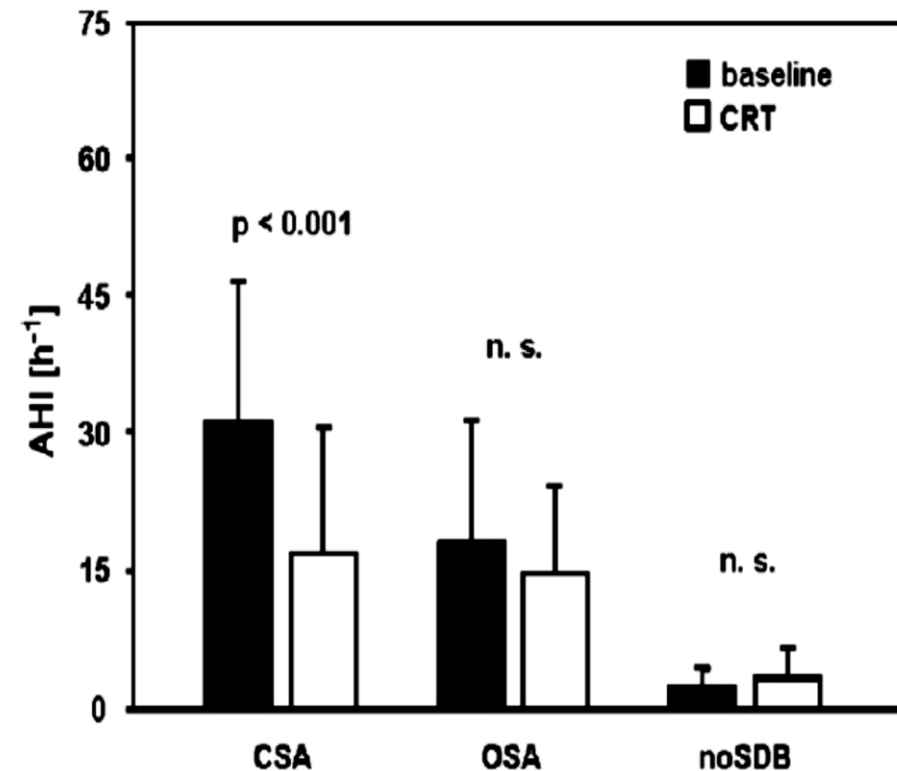
	Number at risk at study initiation	Number at risk at 750 days	Number at risk at 1500 days	Number at risk at 2250 days	Number at risk at 3000 days
No OSA	120	103	76	53	27
OSA	104	85	51	38	20

— No OSA — OSA

Log rank
P = 0.339

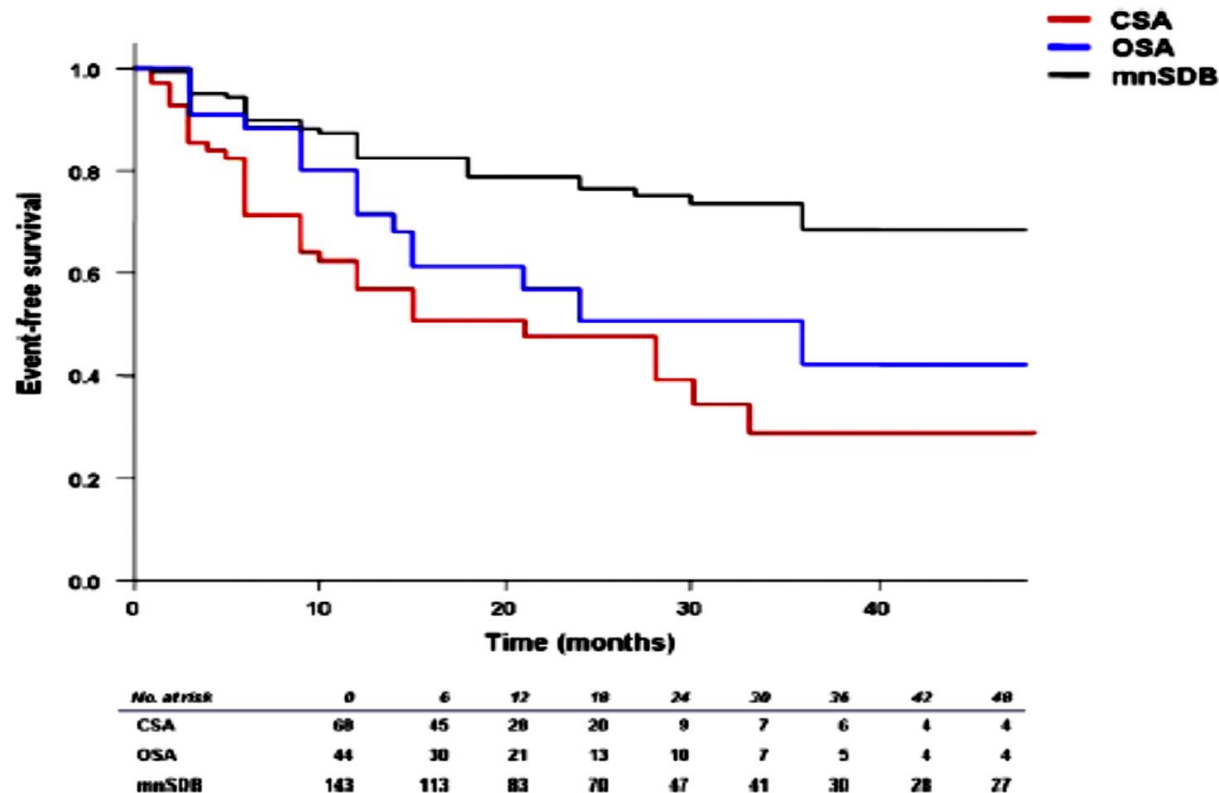
Influence of CRT on different types of sleep disordered breathing

Seventy-seven patients with HF (19 females; 62.6 ± 10 years); central sleep apnoea (CSA) was documented in 36 (47%), obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA) in 26 (34%), and no SDB in 15 (19%) patients. CRT improved clinical and haemodynamic parameters. SDB parameters improved in CSA patients only



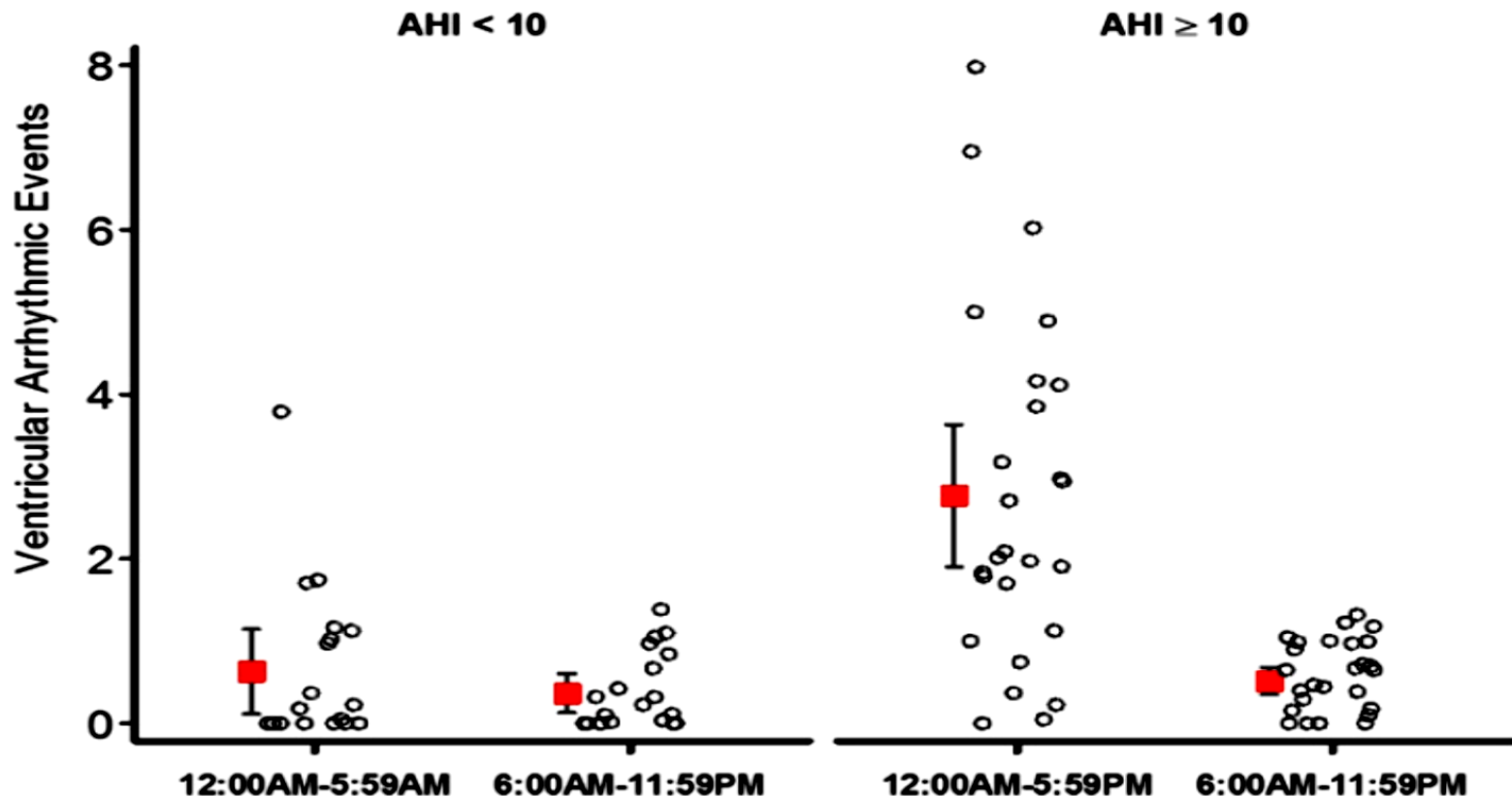
Cheyne–Stokes respiration and obstructive sleep apnoea are independent risk factors for malignant VAs requiring appropriate ICD therapies in HF pts

283 pts [170 with mild or no sleep disordered breathing (mnSDB) and 113 pts declined ventilation therapy] were included into this study. During follow-up (48 months), data on appropriately monitored VAs as well as appropriate ICD therapies were obtained from 255 of these pts (90.1%).



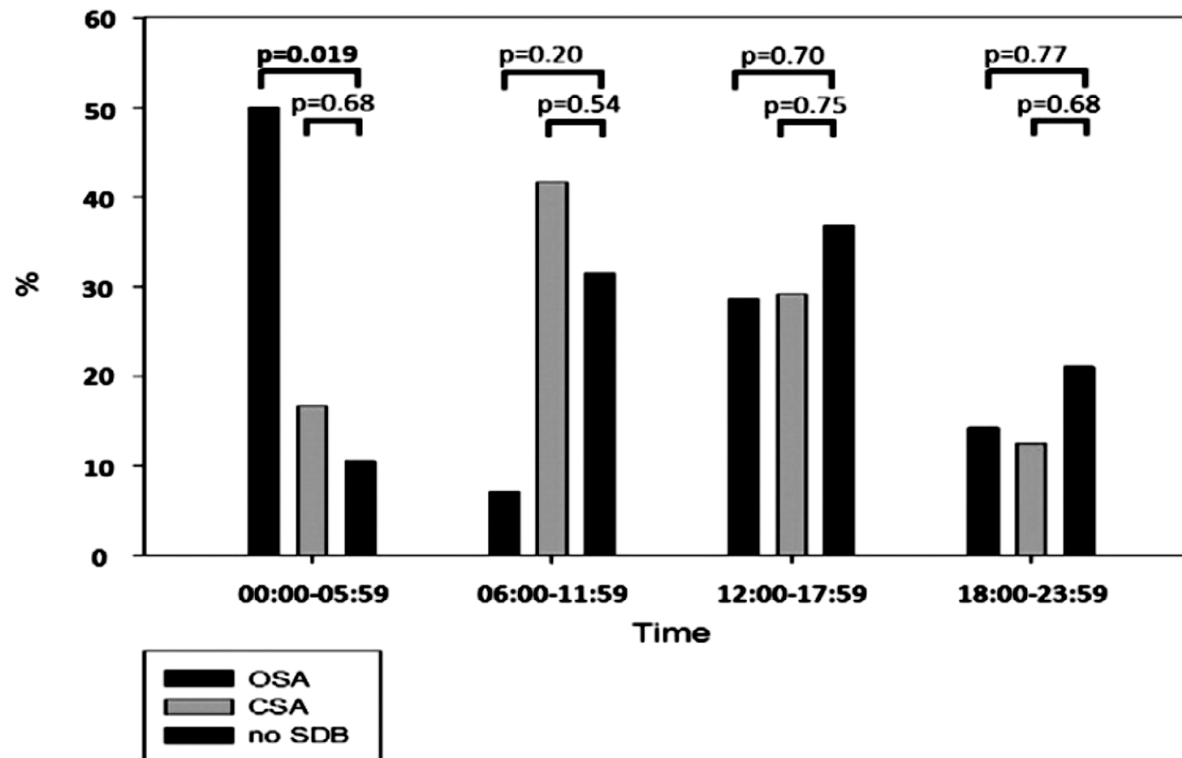
Circadian pattern of life-threatening VA in pts with sleep-disordered breathing and ICDs

45 pts with an ICD. SDB was defined as an apnea-hypopnea index (AHI) >10 events/hour based on an overnight sleep study. SDB was present in 26 (57.8%) pts. Appropriate ICD therapies were higher among patients with SDB (73% vs 47%, $p = .02$). Logistic regression identified SDB as a predictor of appropriate ICD therapy (OR 4.4, 95% CI 1.4 –15.3, $p = .01$).



Circadian variation of ICD shocks in pts with chronic HF: the impact of Cheyne- Stokes respiration and obstructive sleep apnea

A total number of 216 patients with reduced LVEF and chronically implanted CRT-D



Frequency distribution of appropriate ICD shocks for the four six-hour intervals for pts with OSA (apnea–hypopnea index (AHI) ≥ 10 /h, N 50% obstructive events), CSA with Cheyne–Stokes respiration (AHI ≥ 10 /h, N 50% central events), and no SDB

Central sleep apnoea and inflammation are independently associated with arrhythmia in HF pts

178 pts (age 70±1 years) admitted to the hospital for worsening HF. Obstructive sleep apnoea was excluded and pts were dichotomized based on the median value of the central apnoea index (CAI) of 7.5/h. The CAI and C-reactive protein were independently associated with NSVT during both daytime (1.22, 95%CI 1.00–6.92; and 5.82, 2.58–56.1, respectively) and night-time periods (3.57, 95% CI 1.06–13.1; and 10.7, 3.30–44.4, respectively).

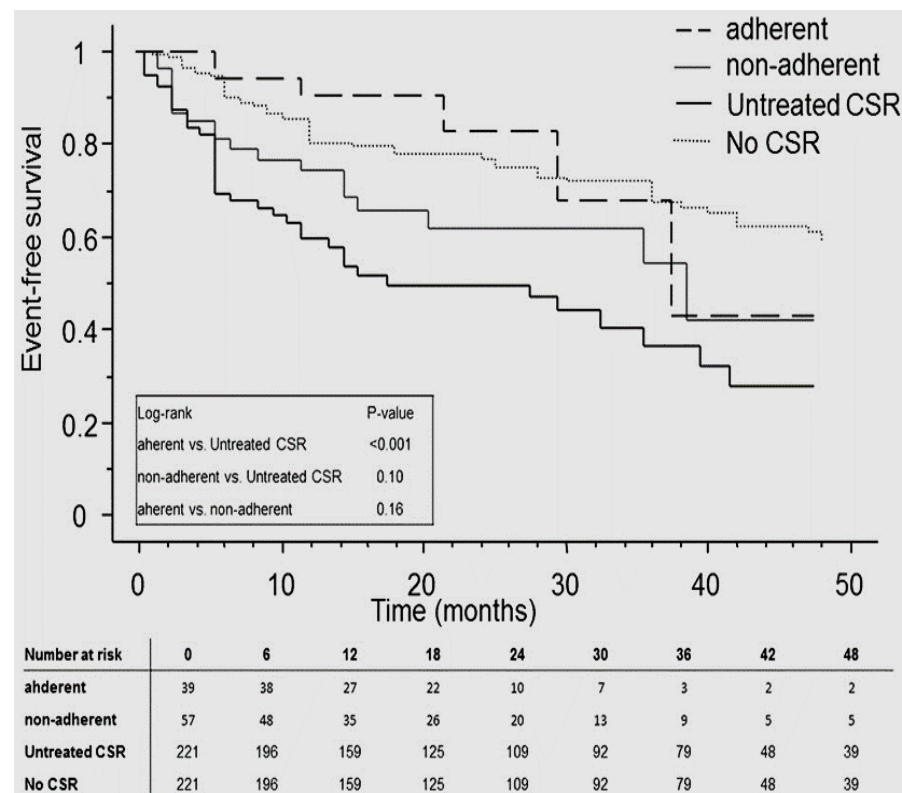
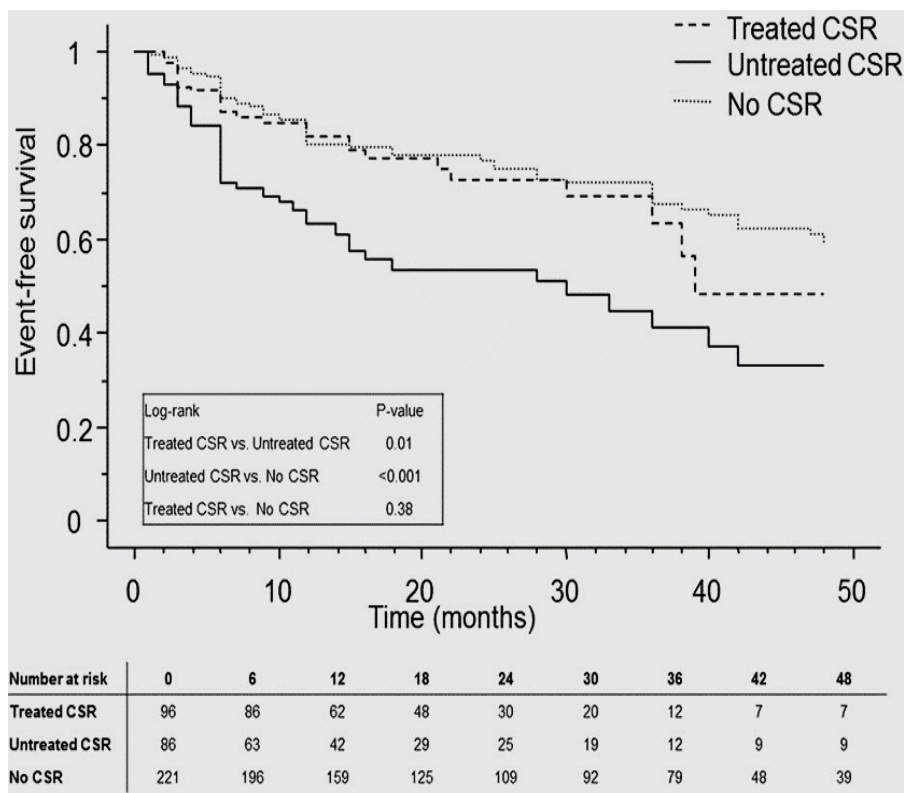
Table 3 Multivariate logistic regression analysis

	CAI (OR, 95% CI)	CRP (OR, 95% CI)
Atrial fibrillation	1.03 (1.01–2.51)*	1.38 (0.63–3.10)
Sinus pause		
Daytime	1.09 (0.32–3.73)	2.01 (0.66–23.2)
Night-time	1.12 (1.08–1.35)*	2.96 (0.98–48.8)
VE		
Isolated		
Daytime	1.35 (0.30–6.43)	3.18 (0.80–15.6)
Night-time	3.61 (1.00–15.8)*	2.74 (0.93–9.41)
NSVT		
Daytime	1.22 (1.00–6.92)*	5.82 (2.58–56.1)*
Night-time	3.57 (1.06–13.1)*	10.7 (3.30–44.4)**

* p<0.05 ** p<0.01

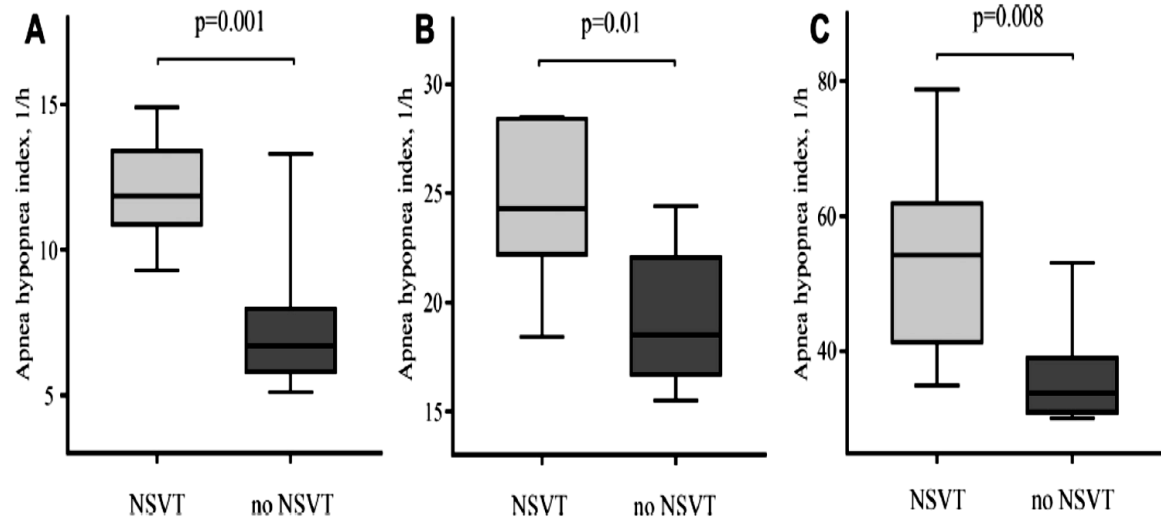
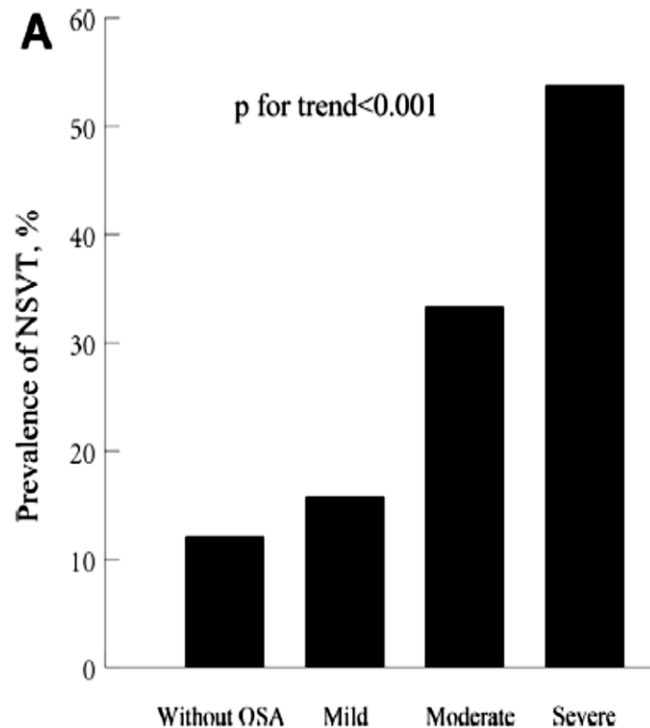
Treatment of Cheyne-Stokes Respiration Reduces Arrhythmic Events in Chronic HF

403 pts with CHF (LVEF $\leq 45\%$, NYHA-class ≥ 2) and implanted ICD; 221 had mild or no CSR (apnea-hypopnea index [AHI] $<15/h$), and 182 had moderate to severe CSR (AHI $>15/h$). Latter ones were offered therapy with adaptive servoventilation (ASV), which 96 patients accepted and 86 rejected.



Obstructive sleep apnea is associated with NSVT in pts with hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy

Of 130 pts, 72 (55%) were diagnosed with OSA, including 38 with mild, 21 with moderate, and 13 with severe OSA, and 27 pts (21%) had NSVT. Mild OSA, moderate OSA, and severe OSA were defined as $AHI > 5$ events/h, $AHI \geq 15$ events/h, and $AHI \geq 30$ events/h, respectively



The value of AHI according to the presence of NSVT among the different OSA groups: (A) mild OSA, (B) moderate OSA, and (C) severe OSA.

Sleep-Disordered Breathing in Patients With the Brugada Syndrome

Twenty patients were included (50 ± 15 years old, 75% men). Despite their normal BMI (24.7 ± 2.7 kg/m²), 45% had sleep-disordered breathing (SDB), with a mean apnea-hypopnea index of 17.2 ± 14 events/hour. In patients with a high risk of arrhythmias, 5 (63%) had SDB. Spontaneous ST-segment changes occurred in 2 patients. Most ST-segment changes were observed during rapid eye movement sleep (31%) or within 1 minute of arousals (44%). Regarding respiratory events, 25 (56%) of ST-segment changes were related to occurrence of apnea or hypopnea.

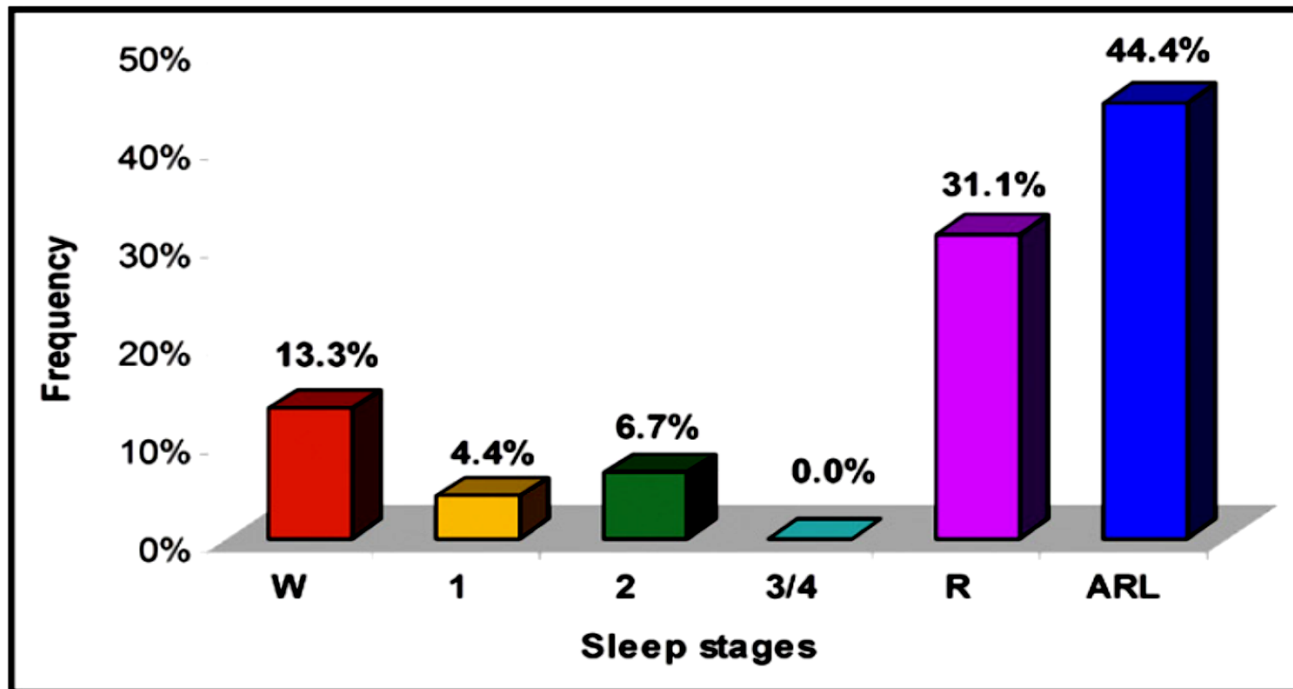


Figure 2. Distribution of ST-segment changes in 2 patients according to changes in sleep stages. 1 = stage 1; 2 = stage 2; 3/4 = stage 3 and 4; ARL = arousals; R = REM; W = wakefulness.

Conclusions

- A substantial body of evidence exists that support a link between the sleep disorder breathing and cardiac arrhythmias
- There are many mechanisms leading to arrhythmogenesis in HF and OSA, such as metabolic derangement, remodeling, inflammation, and autonomic imbalance. These mechanisms lead to the generation of arrhythmic triggers and substrates, resulting in ventricular arrhythmias that cause significant morbidity and mortality.
- In heart failure patients, OSA and CSA are both independently associated with a shorter event-free survival period until first monitored ventricular arrhythmia or appropriate ICD therapy occurs
- Whether adequate therapy of SDB is accompanied by a superior event-free survival needs to be determined

