

Complete vs. Culprit-Only Revascularization in Older Patients with MI with or without ST-segment elevation

A FIRE trial sub-analysis

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On behalf of the FIRE investigators

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Background

- **Complete revascularization is the recommended strategy in patients with STEMI with multivessel disease**
- **No dedicated trial has compared complete revascularization with culprit-only PCI in NSTEMI patients**
- **The FIRE trial enrolled 1445 patients aged ≥ 75 years with MI and multivessel disease. The trial included both STEMI and NSTEMI patients**

Research question



To investigate the consistency of risks and benefits of complete revascularization based on coronary physiology over a culprit-only revascularization strategy with respect to the initial clinical presentation (STEMI vs. NSTEMI)



Organization

3 countries: Italy, Spain, Poland

34 centers

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Executive Committee: Javier Escaned, Dariusz Dudek, Raul Moreno, Matteo Tebaldi, Emanuele Barbato

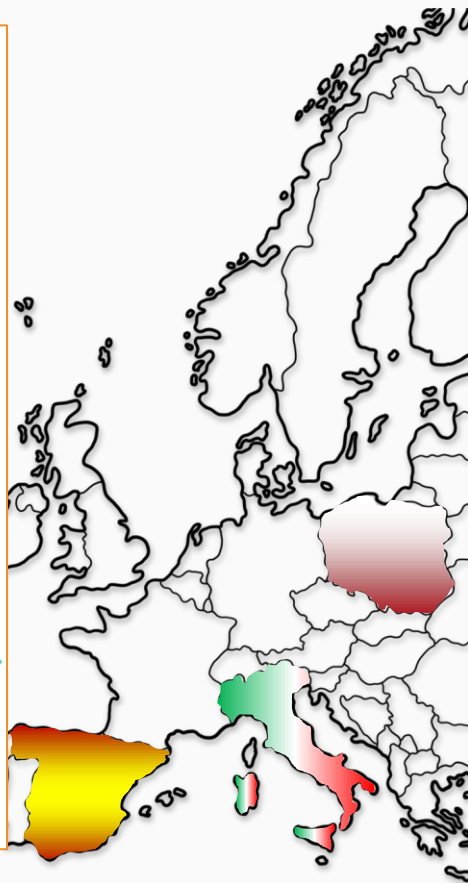


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Investigator-driven trial



Università
degli Studi
di Ferrara

Contributors



Design



All comers, prospective, randomized, multicenter, open-label trial with blinded adjudicated evaluation of outcomes (PROBE).

Pts ≥ 75 ys hospitalized for MI (STE or NSTEMI) with indication to invasive management

Multivessel disease at coronary artery angiography

Culprit lesion clearly identifiable and successfully treated

R

**Physiology-guided Complete
Revascularization**

Culprit-only Revascularization

**STEMI
n=253**

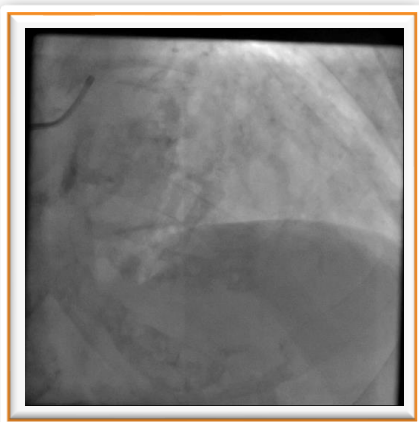
**NSTEMI
n=467**

**STEMI
n=256**

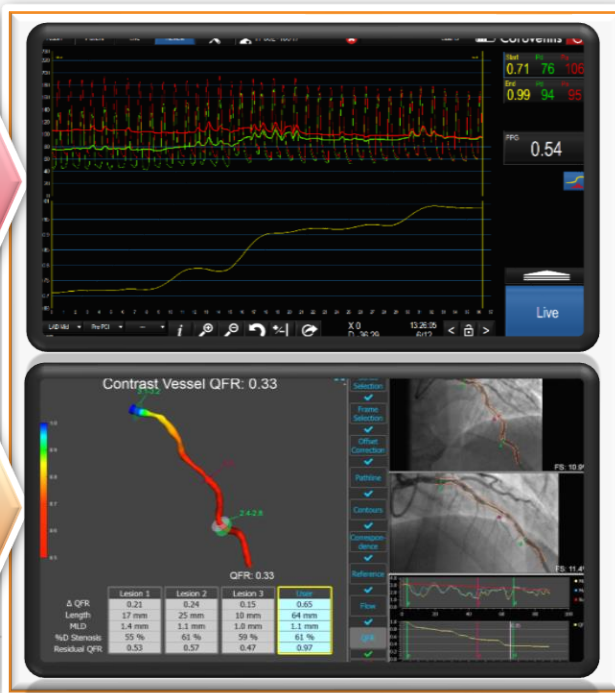
**NSTEMI
n=469**

Coronary Physiology & Stents

- Non-culprit lesions were assessed with either wire-based FFR, resting index or angiography-derived FFR
- Flow-limiting lesions (FFR \leq 0.80, resting \leq 0.89) had to be revascularized with biodegradable-polymer sirolimus ultra-thin stent(s)



OR



SIROLIMUS DRUG (A)

BIODEGRADABLE POLYMERS (C)

TETRINUM PLATFORM (B)

Supraflex Cruz

Endpoints



Primary

Death, any MI, any stroke, or ID-revascularization

Key secondary

Cardiovascular death or MI

Safety

CA-AKI, stroke, or BARC type 3-5 bleeding



Baseline Characteristics



Characteristic	STEMI (N=509)	NSTEMI (N=936)	P
Age (IQR) – yr	81.2±5	80.8±4	0.164
Female sex	212 (42)	316 (38)	0.003
Comorbidities			
Hypertension	399 (78)	786 (84)	0.010
Diabetes	125 (24)	338 (36)	<0.001
Prior MI	43 (8)	177 (19)	<0.001
eGFR<60 ml/min	221 (43)	441 (47)	0.196
PAD	69 (13)	180 (19)	0.007
LVEF	46.1±10	50.8±11	<0.001
Killip class ≥2	164 (32)	248 (26)	0.011

Characteristic	STEMI (n=509)	NSTEMI (n=936)	p
Culprit vessel			
Left main	12 (2)	64 (7)	<0.001
LAD artery	222 (44)	437 (47)	
LCx artery	75 (15)	194 (21)	
RCA	195 (38)	218 (23)	
RI artery	5 (1)	23 (2)	
Physiological assessment			
Wire-based index	155 (30)	296 (32)	0.913
QFR	86 (17)	163 (17)	

NSTEMI patients were more complex in terms of clinical and procedural characteristics



Baseline Characteristics

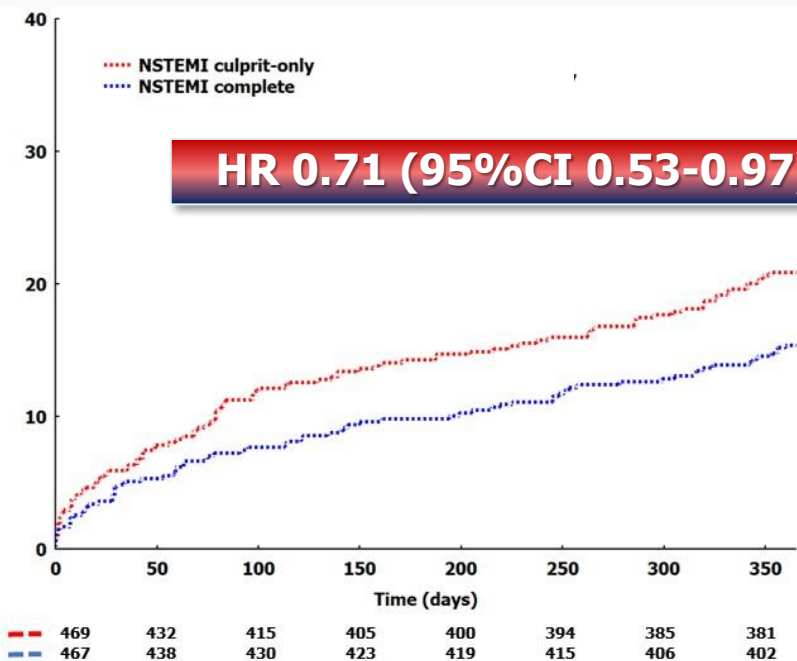
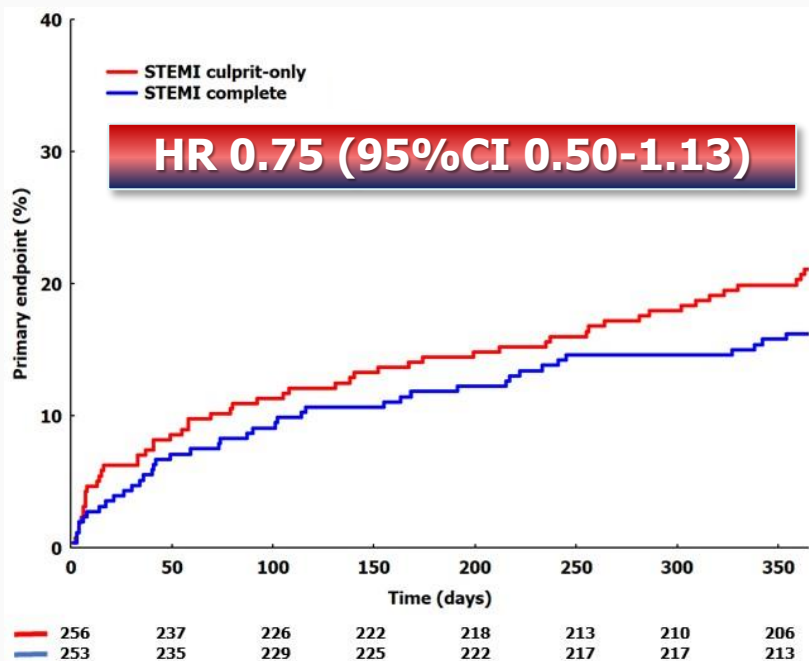


Characteristic	NSTEMI		p
	Culprit Only (n=469)	Physio-guided Complete (n=467)	
Age (IQR) – yr	80.8±4	80.8±4	0.864
Female sex	158 (34)	158 (34)	0.982
Comorbidities			
Hypertension	387 (82)	399 (85)	0.258
Diabetes	168 (36)	170 (36)	0.906
Prior MI	94 (20)	83 (18)	0.421
eGFR<60 ml/min	216 (46)	225 (48)	0.558
PAD	93 (20)	87 (18)	0.701
LVEF	50.4±11	51.2±10	0.246
Killip class ≥2	126 (27)	122 (26)	0.901

Characteristic	NSTEMI		p
	Culprit Only (n=469)	Physio-guided Complete (n=467)	
Culprit vessel			
Left main	36 (8)	28 (6)	0.644
LAD artery	222 (47)	215 (46)	
LCx artery	97 (21)	97 (21)	
RCA	105 (22)	113 (24)	
RI artery	9 (2)	14 (3)	
Physiological assessment			
Wire-based index	/	296	NA
QFR	/	163	

Primary endpoint

All-cause death, any MI, stroke, or ID-revascularization

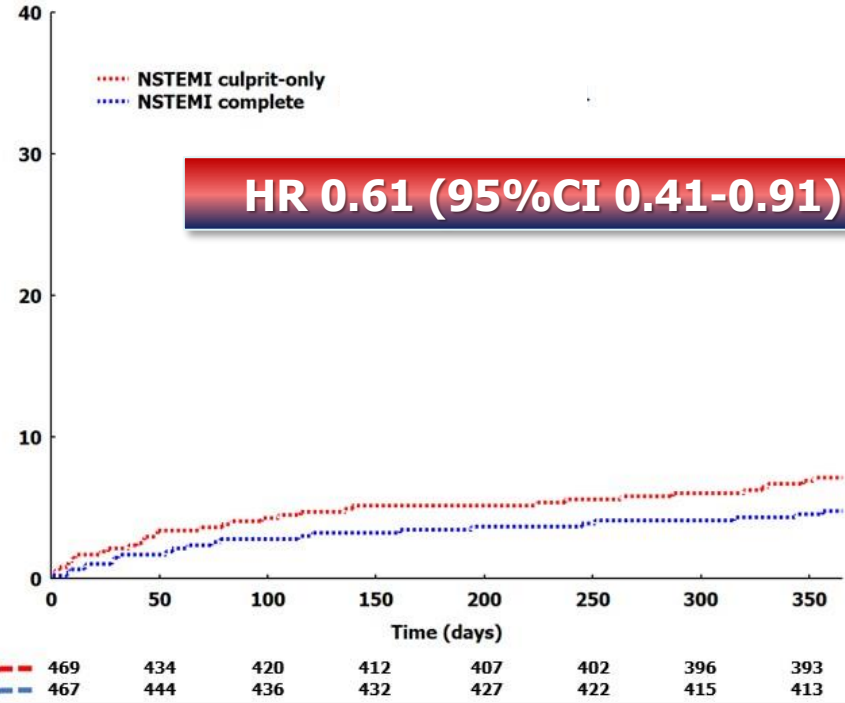
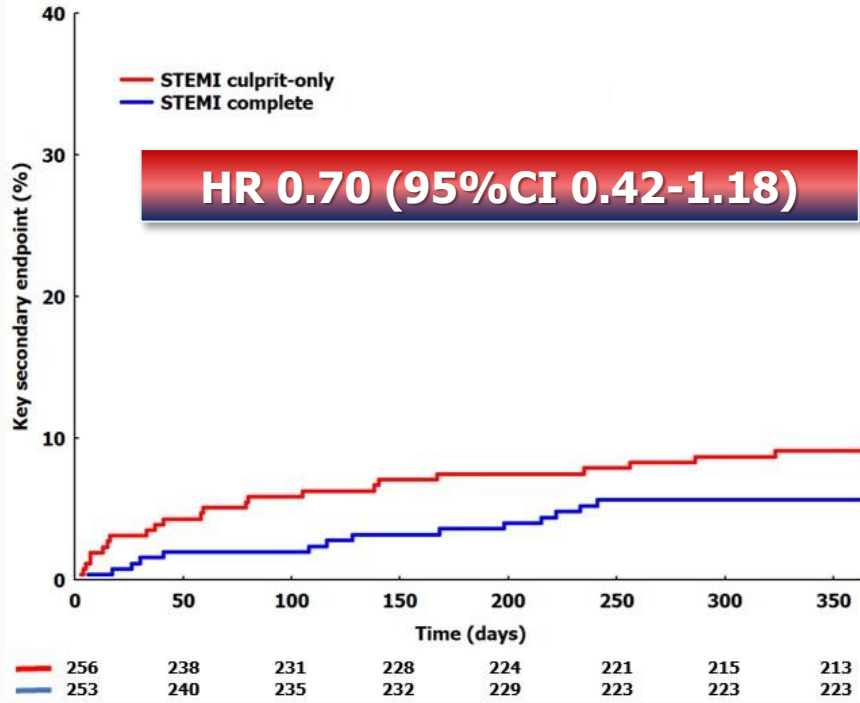


p for interaction 0.846

■ Culprit-only
■ Physio-guided Complete

Key secondary endpoint

CV death or MI



p for interaction 0.526

■ Culprit-only
■ Physio-guided Complete

Safety and Secondary Endpoints



Outcome	STEMI (n=509)		NSTEMI (n=936)		p for interaction
	Culprit only (n=256)	Physio-guided complete (n=253)	Culprit only (n=469)	Physio-guided complete (n=467)	
Death	0.65 [0.38-1.09]		0.73 [0.49-1.09]		0.72
CV Death	0.60 [0.31-1.16]		0.66 [0.39-1.13]		0.82
Myocardial infarction	0.93 [0.41-2.10]		0.57 [0.31-1.05]		0.35
Stroke	1.02 [0.14-7.20]		2.69 [0.72-10.14]		0.42
ID revascularization	0.89 [0.43-1.81]		0.46 [0.24-0.88]		0.18
Stent thrombosis	1.01 [0.21-8.32]		1.23 [0.35-6.44]		0.97
BARC 3-5 bleeding	1.15 [0.44-2.96]		0.80 [0.42-1.55]		0.55

Limitations



- **Need to clearly identify culprit lesion**
- **Angio-guided complete revascularization may solve the culprit identification issue, but it is associated with overtreatment**
- **In NSTEMI patients the integration of physiology and imaging tools could be the best solution**
- **COMPLETE-2 trial is comparing physio vs angio-guided complete revascularization including also NSTEMI patients**

Conclusions

- **In older MI patients, physiology-guided complete revascularization strategy provided consistent benefits across the entire spectrum of MI**
- **In the presence of a clearly identifiable culprit lesion, physiology-guided complete revascularization should be pursued in both older STEMI and NSTEMI patients**

Complete vs Culprit-Only Revascularization in Older Patients With Myocardial Infarction With or Without ST-Segment Elevation

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND The effectiveness of complete revascularization is well established in patients with ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), but it is less investigated in those with non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI).

OBJECTIVES This study aimed to assess whether complete revascularization, compared with culprit-only revascularization, was associated with consistent outcomes in older patients with STEMI and NSTEMI.

METHODS In the FIRE (Functional Assessment in Elderly MI Patients with Multivessel Disease) trial, 1,445 older patients with myocardial infarction (MI) were randomized to culprit-only or physiology-guided complete revascularization, stratified by STEMI (n = 256 culprit-only vs n = 253 complete) and NSTEMI (n = 469 culprit-only vs n = 467 complete). The primary outcome comprised a composite of death, MI, stroke, or revascularization at 1 year. The key secondary outcome included a composite of cardiovascular death or MI at 1 year.

RESULTS In the overall study population, physiology-guided complete revascularization reduced both primary and key secondary outcomes. The primary outcome occurred in 54 (21.1%) STEMI patients randomized to culprit-only vs 41 (16.2%) STEMI patients of the complete group (HR: 0.75; 95% CI: 0.50-1.13) and in 98 (20.9%) NSTEMI patients randomized to culprit-only vs 72 (15.4%) NSTEMI patients of the complete group (HR: 0.71; 95% CI: 0.53-0.97), with negative interaction testing (P for interaction, 0.846). Similarly, no signal of heterogeneity with respect to the initial clinical presentation was observed for the key secondary endpoint (P for interaction, 0.654).

CONCLUSIONS Physiology-guided complete revascularization, compared with culprit-only revascularization, provided consistent benefit across the whole spectrum of patients with MI. (FIRE [Functional Assessment in Elderly MI Patients With Multivessel Disease], NCT03772743) (JACC. 2024; ■■■) © 2024 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation.

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