

Management and treatment of glomerular diseases: Highlights of the 2020 KDIGO guideline

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Recommendations

(GRADE-Approach*)

Grade	Implications		
	Patients	Clinicians	Policy
Level 1 “We recommend”	Most people in your situation would want the recommended course of action and only a small proportion would not.	Most patients should receive the recommended course of action.	The recommendation can be evaluated as a candidate for developing a policy or a performance measure.
Level 2 “We suggest”	The majority of people in your situation would want the recommended course of action, but many would not.	Different choices will be appropriate for different patients. Each patient needs help to arrive at a management decision consistent with her or his values and preferences.	The recommendation is likely to require substantial debate and involvement of stakeholders before policy can be determined.

Grade	Quality of evidence	Meaning
A	High	We are confident that the true effect lies close to that of the estimate of the effect.
B	Moderate	The true effect is likely to be close to the estimate of the effect, but there is a possibility that it is substantially different.
C	Low	The true effect may be substantially different from the estimate of the effect.
D	Very low	The estimate of effect is very uncertain, and often will be far from the truth.

* Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation

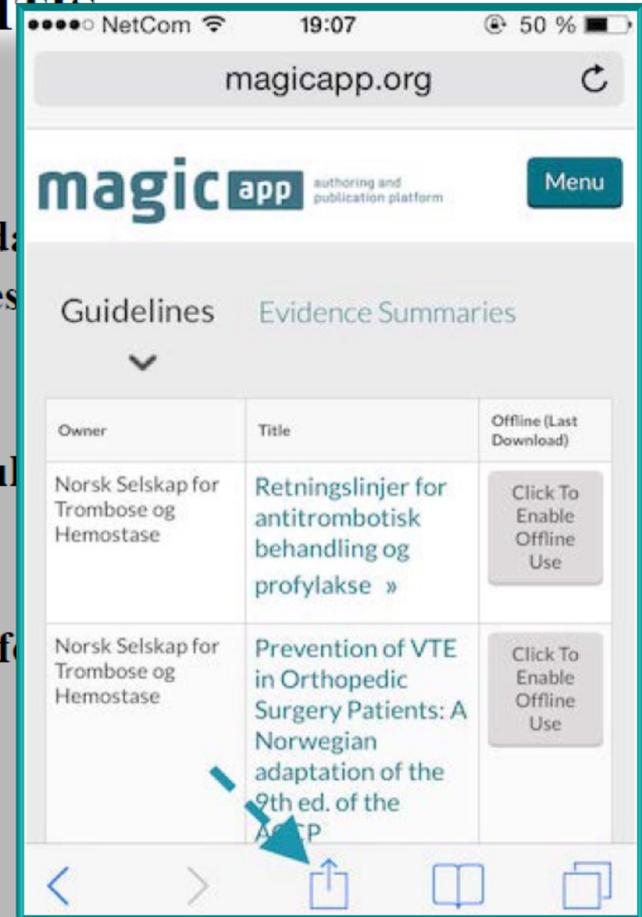
CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF GLOMERULONEPHRITIS

1.1. Kidney biopsy

Practice Point 1.1.1. The kidney biopsy is the “gold standard” for diagnosis of glomerular diseases. However, under some circumstances a kidney biopsy is not necessary without a kidney biopsy confirmation of diagnosis.

Practice Point 1.1.2. The evaluation of kidney tissue should be sufficient to determine the adequacy.

Practice Point 1.1.3. Repeat kidney biopsy should be performed if it potentially alter the therapeutic plan.

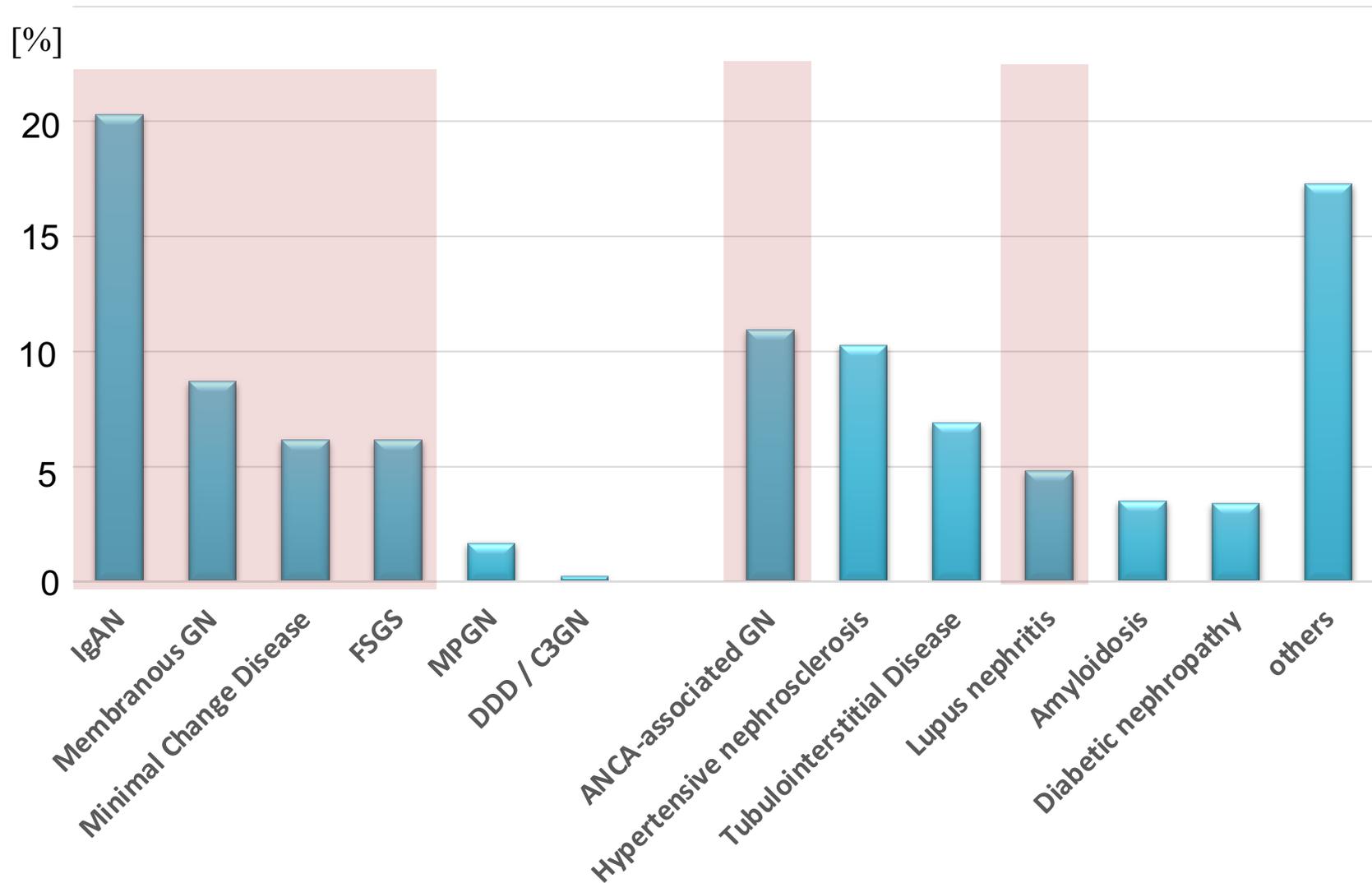


CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF GLOMERULONEPHRITIS

60 written pages.....

	Summary of Recommendation Statements and Practice Points.....
1.1.1	Chapter 1. General Principles for the Management of Glomerulonephritis.....
Prac	Chapter 2. Immunoglobulin A Nephropathy/Immunoglobulin A Vasculitis.....
glom	Chapter 3. Primary Membranous Nephropathy.....
with	Chapter 4. Nephrotic Syndrome in Children.....
	Chapter 5. Minimal Change Disease in Adults.....
Prac	Chapter 6. Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis in Adults.....
adeq	Chapter 7. Infection-Related Glomerulonephritis.....
Prac	Chapter 8. Complement-Associated Glomerulonephritis.....
poten	Chapter 9. Anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (ANCA)-Associated Vasculitis.....
	Chapter 10. Lupus Nephritis.....
	Chapter 11. Anti-Glomerular Basement Membrane Antibody Glomerulonephritis.....

Glomerulonephritis-Types encountered in Europe



Kidney biopsy diagnoses in 2243 adult patients undergoing native kidney biopsy at the Division of Nephrology, Aachen University Hospital between 1990 and 2013.

2.2. Prognosis Practice Point 2.2.1. Considerations for the prognostication of primary IgAN:

- **Clinical and histologic data at the time of biopsy can be used to risk assess the patient using the International IgAN Prediction Tool available at QxMD.**
- **The International IgAN Prediction Tool cannot be used to determine the likely impact of any particular treatment regimen.**
- **There are no validated *prognostic* serum or urine biomarkers for IgAN.**

Research

JAMA Internal Medicine | [Original Investigation](#)

Evaluating a New International Risk-Prediction Tool in IgA Nephropathy

Sean J. Barbour, MD, MSc; Rosanna Coppo, MD, FERA; Hong Zhang, MD, PhD; Zhi-Hong Liu, MD;
Yusuke Suzuki, MD, PhD; Keiichi Matsuzaki, MD, PhD; Ritsuko Katafuchi, MD, PhD; Lee Er, MSc;
Gabriela Espino-Hernandez, MSc; S. Joseph Kim, MD, PhD; Heather N. Reich, MD, PhD; John Feehally, FRCP;
Daniel C. Cattran, MD, FRCPC; for the International IgA Nephropathy Network

Practice Point 2.3.1. Considerations for treatment of all patients with IgAN

- The primary focus of management should be optimized supportive care.
- Assess cardiovascular risk and commence appropriate interventions as necessary.
- Give lifestyle advice including information on dietary sodium restriction, smoking cessation, weight control, and exercise as appropriate.

Level 1 Recommendations

- Control blood pressure (sitting systol. BP in the 120s)
- ACEI or ARB therapy (uptitrate + maybe combine)
- Avoid dihydropyridine type calciumchannel-blockers
- Control protein intake

ALL

Level 2 Recommendations

- Restrict NaCl- and fluid-intake, diuretics
- Non-dihydropyridine type calciumchannel-blockers
- Control all components of the metabolic syndrome
- Aldosterone antagonist, β -blocker
- Stop smoking
- Low evidence: NaHCO_3 therapy, independent of metabolic acidosis

As many
measures
as possible

Recommendation 2.3.2.

We recommend that all patients with proteinuria >0.5 g/24h, irrespective of whether they have hypertension, are treated with either an ACEi or ARB (1B).

Recommendation 2.3.3.

We suggest that patients who remain at high risk of progressive CKD despite maximal supportive care are considered for a six-month course of corticosteroid therapy.

The important risk of treatment-emergent toxicity must be discussed with patients, particularly those who have an eGFR below 50 ml/min/1.73 m² (2B).

Use extreme caution or avoided entirely if:

eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73 m²*

Diabetes

Obesity (BMI > 30 kg/m²) **

Latent infections (e.g. hepatitis, TB)

Secondary disease (e.g. cirrhosis)

Active peptic ulceration

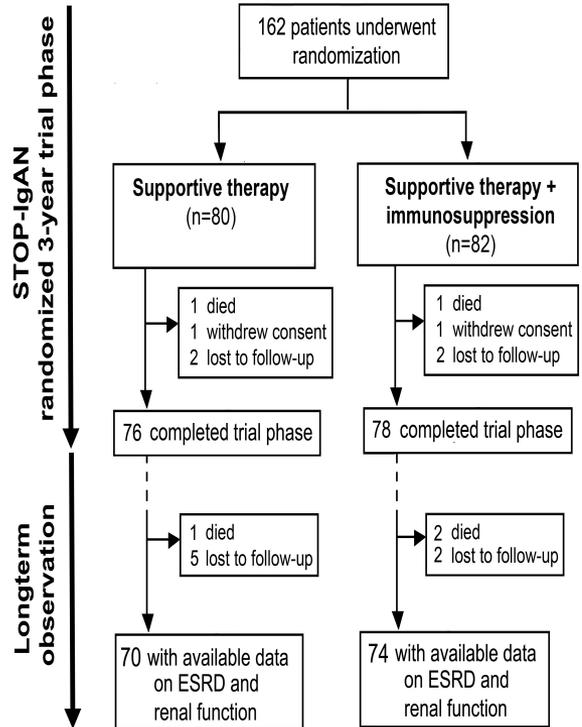
Uncontrolled psychiatric illness



STOP-IgAN trial: Long-term Renal Outcomes

92% with longterm follow-up (median 7.4 yrs)

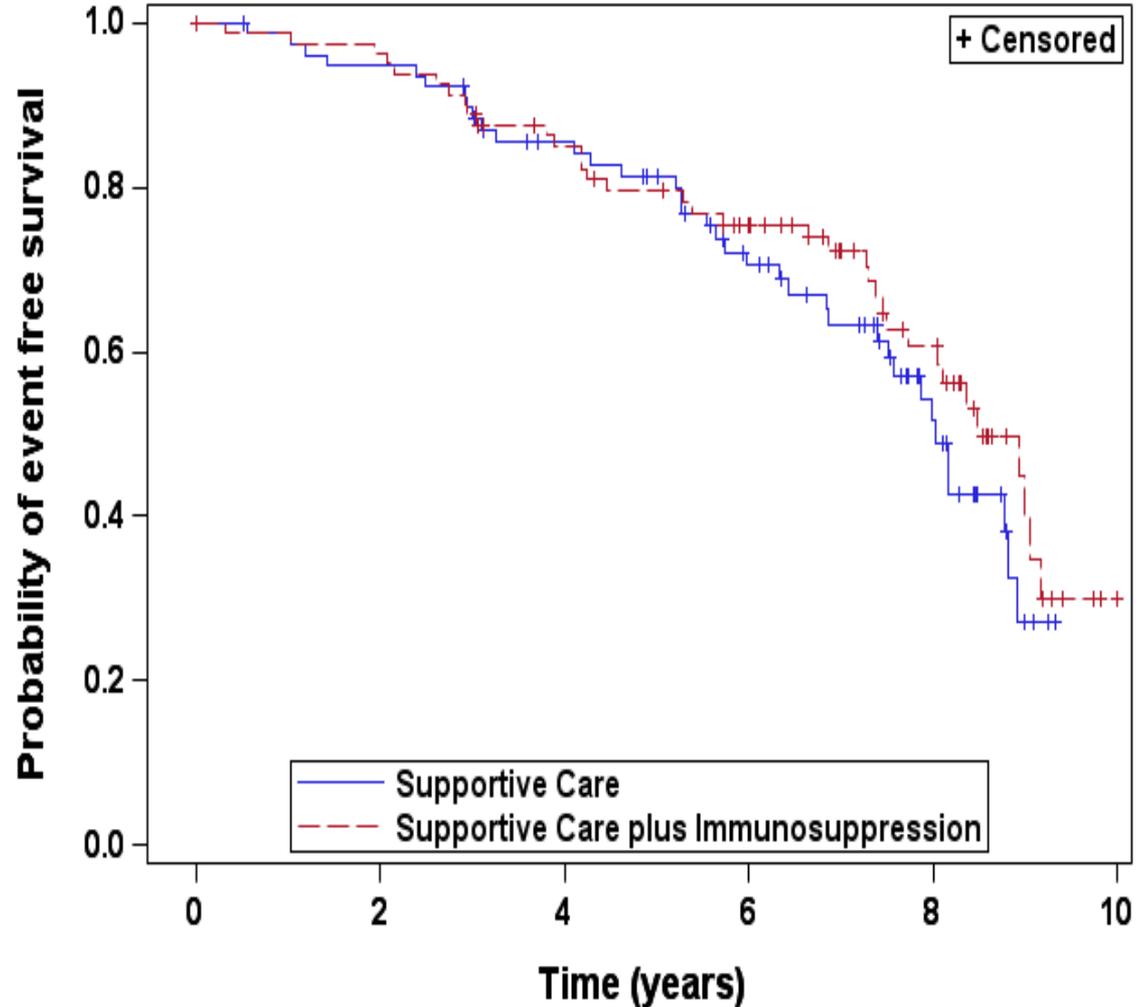
Long-term endpoint (death, ESRD or eGFR-loss >40%)



Pts. with available EP information (i.e. death, ESRD and eGFR-loss >40%) at end of longterm observation

72 (90.0%)

77 (93.9%)



Membranous nephropathy

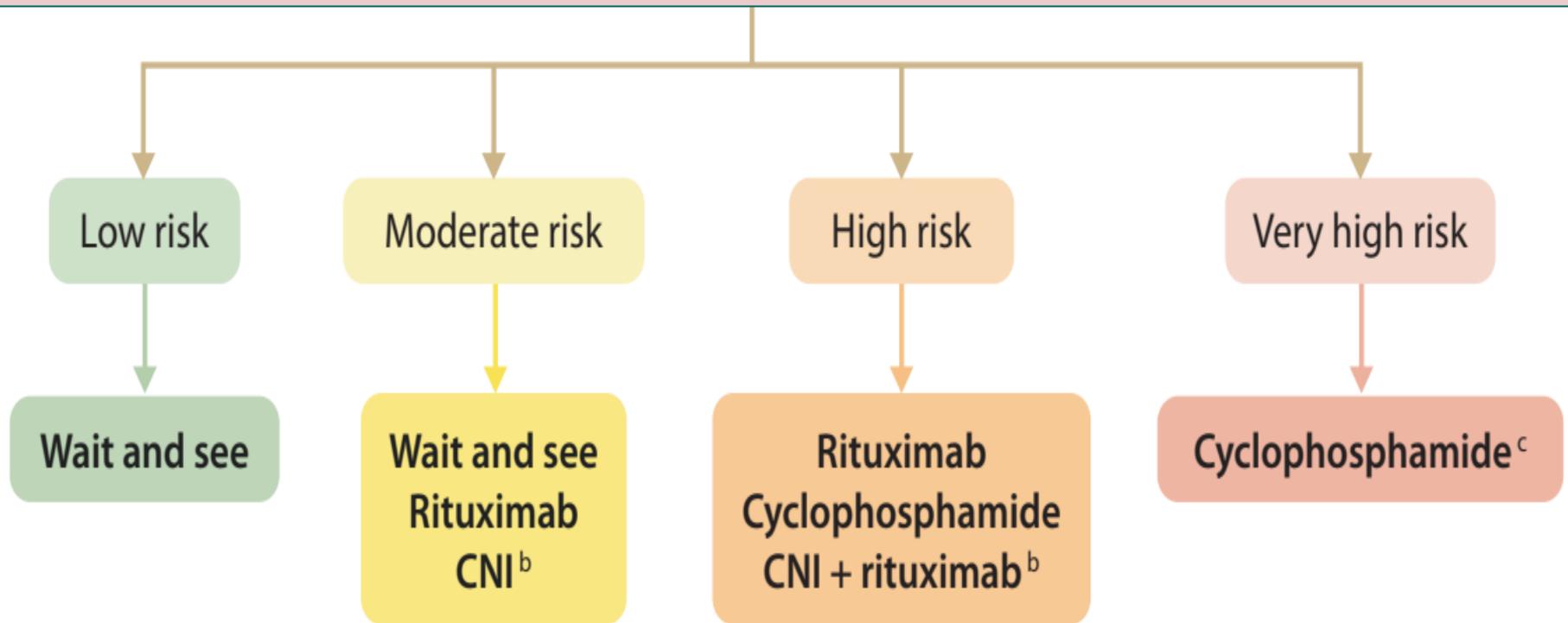
Practice Point 3.2.1. In patients with MN, use clinical and laboratory criteria to assess the risk of progressive loss of kidney function

Low risk	Moderate risk	High risk	Very high risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal eGFR, proteinuria < 3.5 g/day and/or serum albumin > 30 g/L 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal eGFR, proteinuria > 4 g/day and no decrease > 50% after 6 months of conservative therapy with ACE/ARB • PLA2Rab < 50 RU/ml^b • Mild LMW proteinuria • Selectivity index < 0.15 • U IgG < 250 mg/day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eGFR < 60 ml/min/1.73 m² ^a • Proteinuria > 8 g/day for > 6 months • PLA2Rab > 150RU/ml^b • High LMW proteinuria • U IgG > 250 mg/day • Selectivity index > 0.20 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life-threatening nephrotic syndrome • Rapid deterioration of kidney function not otherwise explained • High LMW proteinuria in two urine samples collected with interval of 6–12 months

Membranous nephropathy

Recommendation 3.3.1.

For patients with MN and at least one risk factor for disease progression, we recommend using rituximab, or cyclophosphamide and steroids for six months, or tacrolimus-based therapy for at least six months, with the choice of treatment depending on the risk estimate (1B).



MENTOR: Rituximab vs. CyA in membranous GN

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Rituximab or Cyclosporine in the Treatment of Membranous Nephropathy

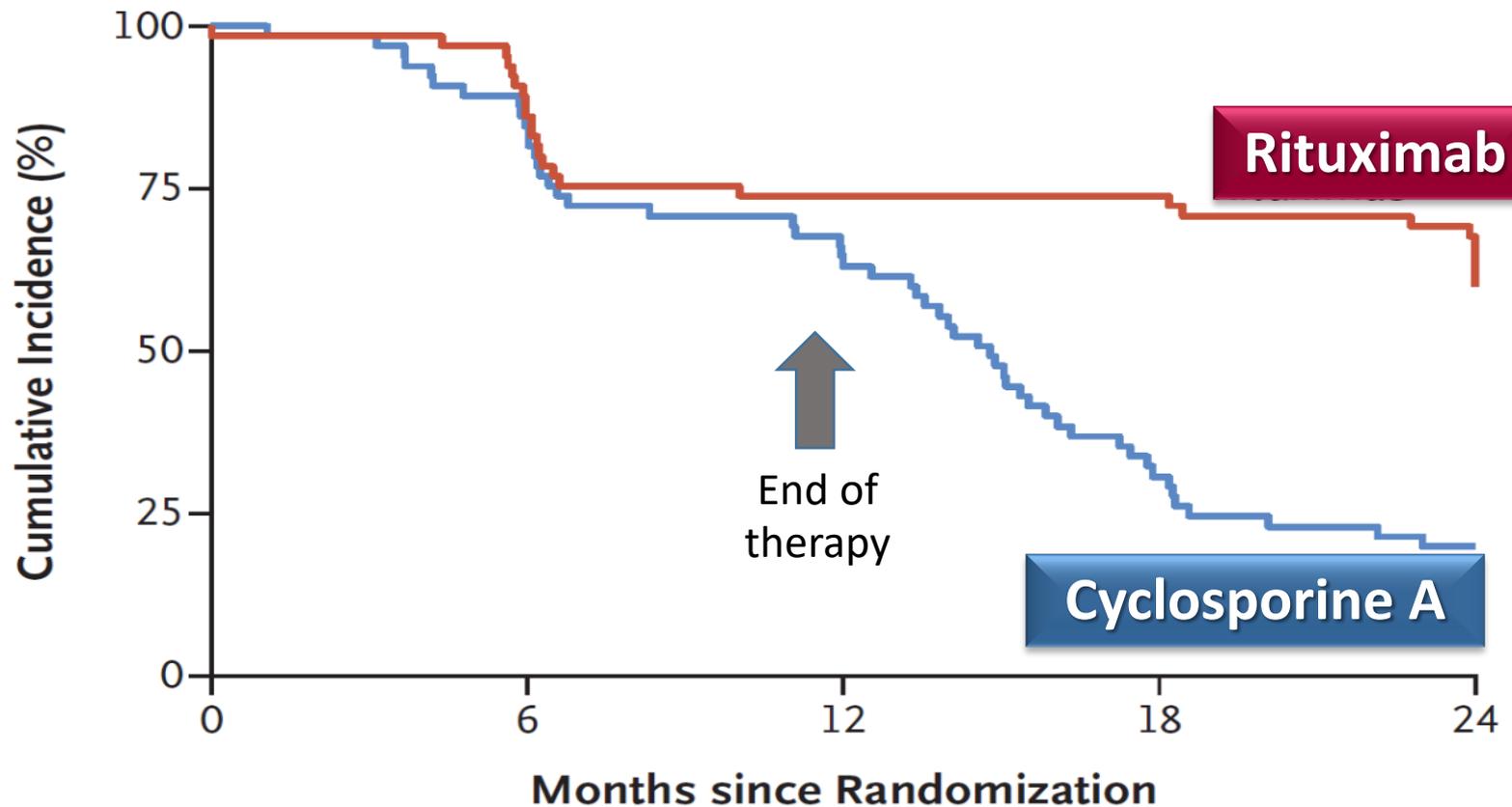
1 g on d1+d14

F.C. Fervenza, G.B. Appel, S.J. Barbour, B.H. Rovin, R.A. Lafayette, N. Aslam, J.A. Jefferson, P.E. Gipson, D.V. Rizk, J.R. Sedor, J.F. Simon, E.T. McCarthy, P. Brenchley, S. Sethi, C. Avila-Casado, H. Beanlands, J.C. Lieske, D. Philibert, T. Li, L.F. Thomas, D.F. Green, L.A. Juncos, L. Beara-Lasic, S.S. Blumenthal, A.N. Sussman, S.B. Erickson, M. Hladunewich, P.A. Canetta, L.A. Hebert, N. Leung, J. Radhakrishnan, H.N. Reich, S.V. Parikh, D.S. Gipson, D.K. Lee, B.R. da Costa, P. Jüni, and D.C. Cattran, for the MENTOR Investigators

N Engl J Med 2019;381:36-46.

MENTOR: Rituximab vs. CyA in membranous GN

Partial or full remission at 24 months

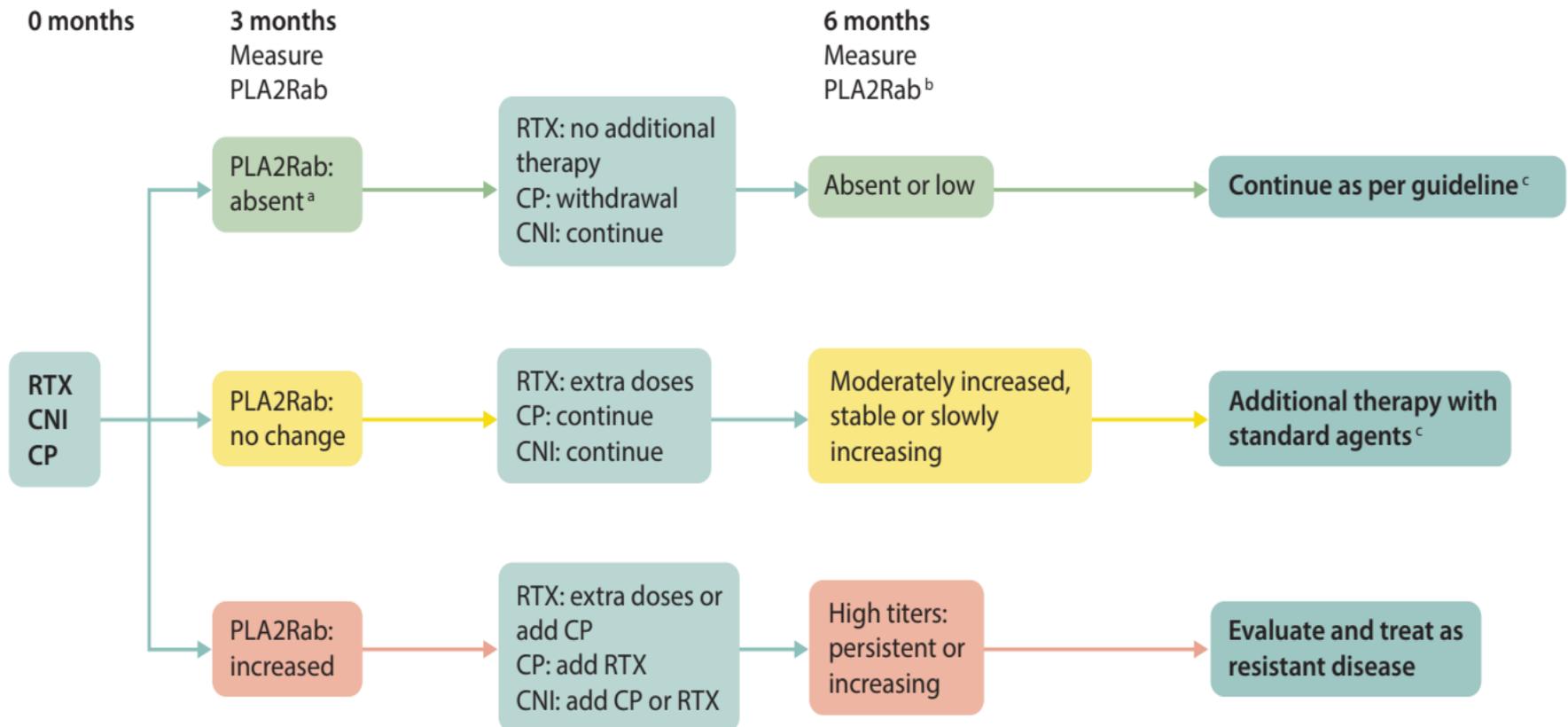


No. at Risk

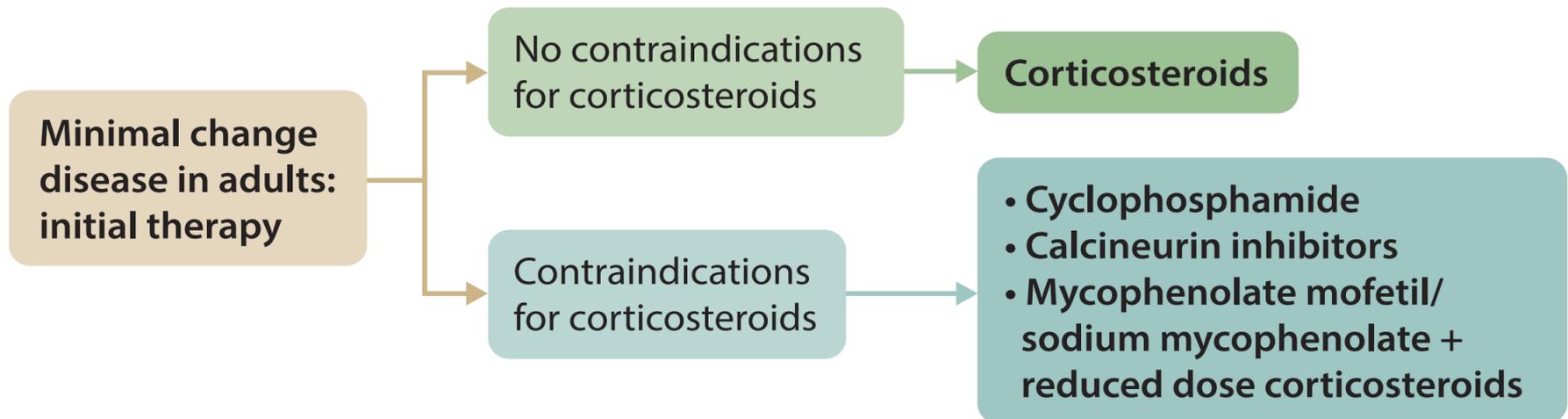
Rituximab	65	59	48	48	44
Cyclosporine	65	56	42	20	13

Membranous nephropathy

Practice Point 3.3.3. Longitudinal monitoring of PLA2Rab levels at three and six months after start of therapy may be useful for evaluating treatment response in patients with membranous nephropathy, and can be used to guide adjustments to therapy



Recommendation 5.3.1. We recommend high dose oral corticosteroids for initial treatment of MCD (1C).

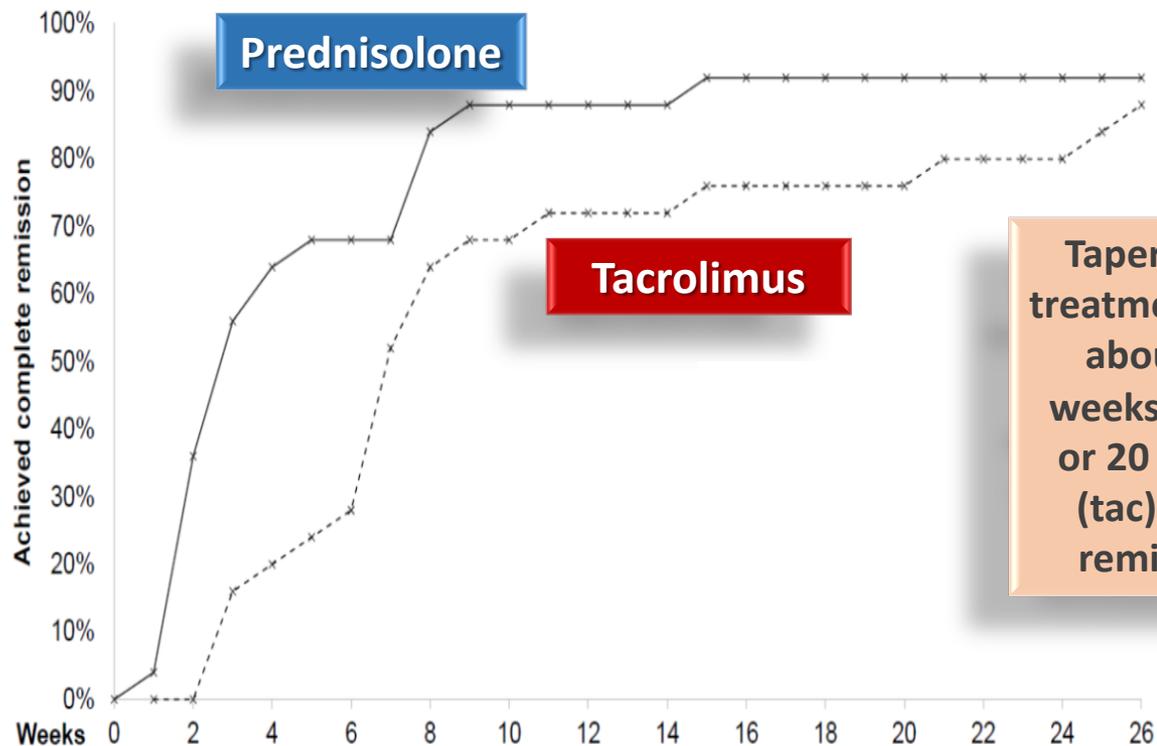


Recommendation 5.3.1.1. We suggest cyclophosphamide, rituximab, calcineurin inhibitors, or mycophenolic acid analogs (MPAA) for the treatment of frequently-relapsing/corticosteroid-dependent MCD as compared to prednisone alone or to no treatment (1C).

Minimal Change

Tacrolimus versus corticosteroid monotherapy for adult minimal change nephropathy

British multicenter trial, median eGFR about 100 ml/min, median proteinuria about 7 g/d
Tacrolimus 0.05 mg/kg twice daily (N=25) vs. prednisolone starting at 1 mg/kg/d (N=25)



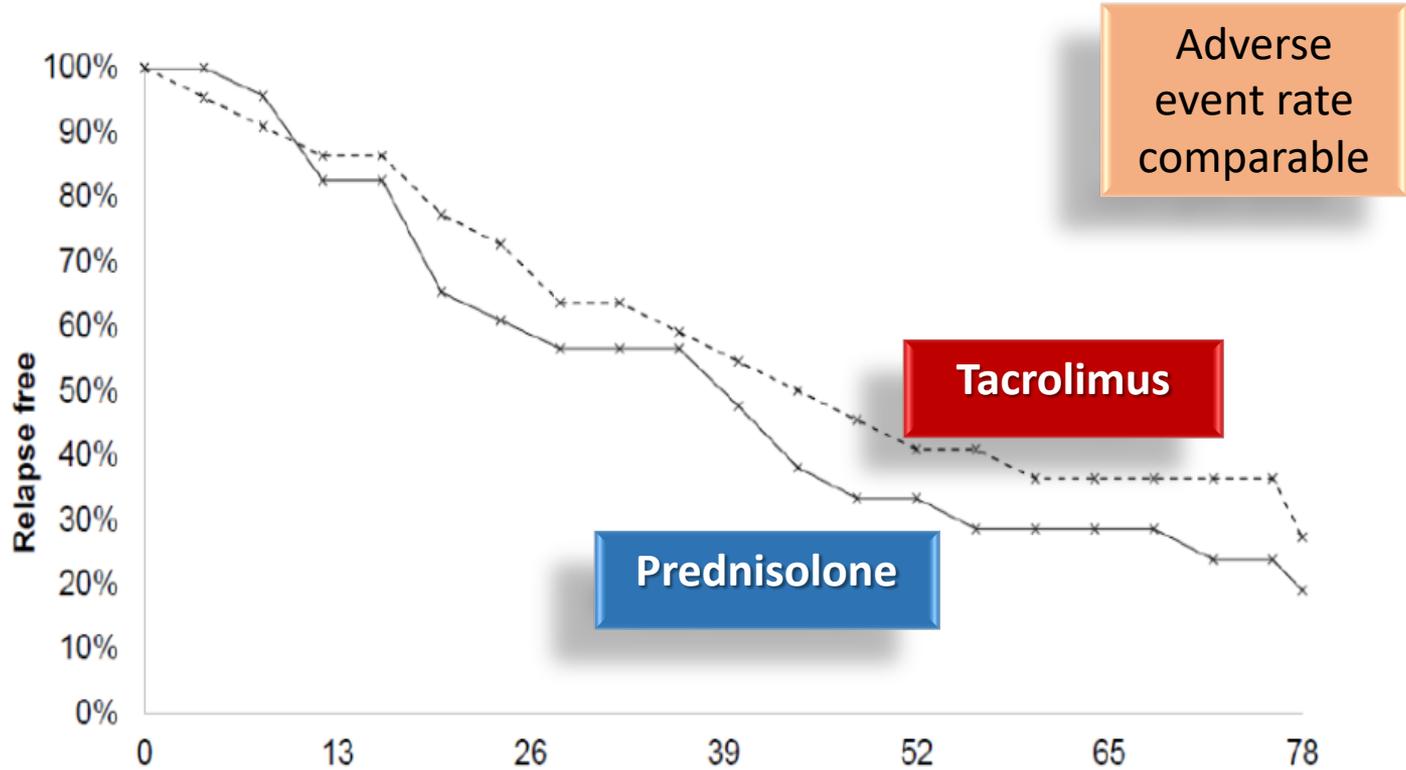
Primary end point:
Achievement of
complete remission
at week 8

Tapering of
treatment over
about 12
weeks (pred)
or 20 weeks
(tac) after
remission

Minimal Change

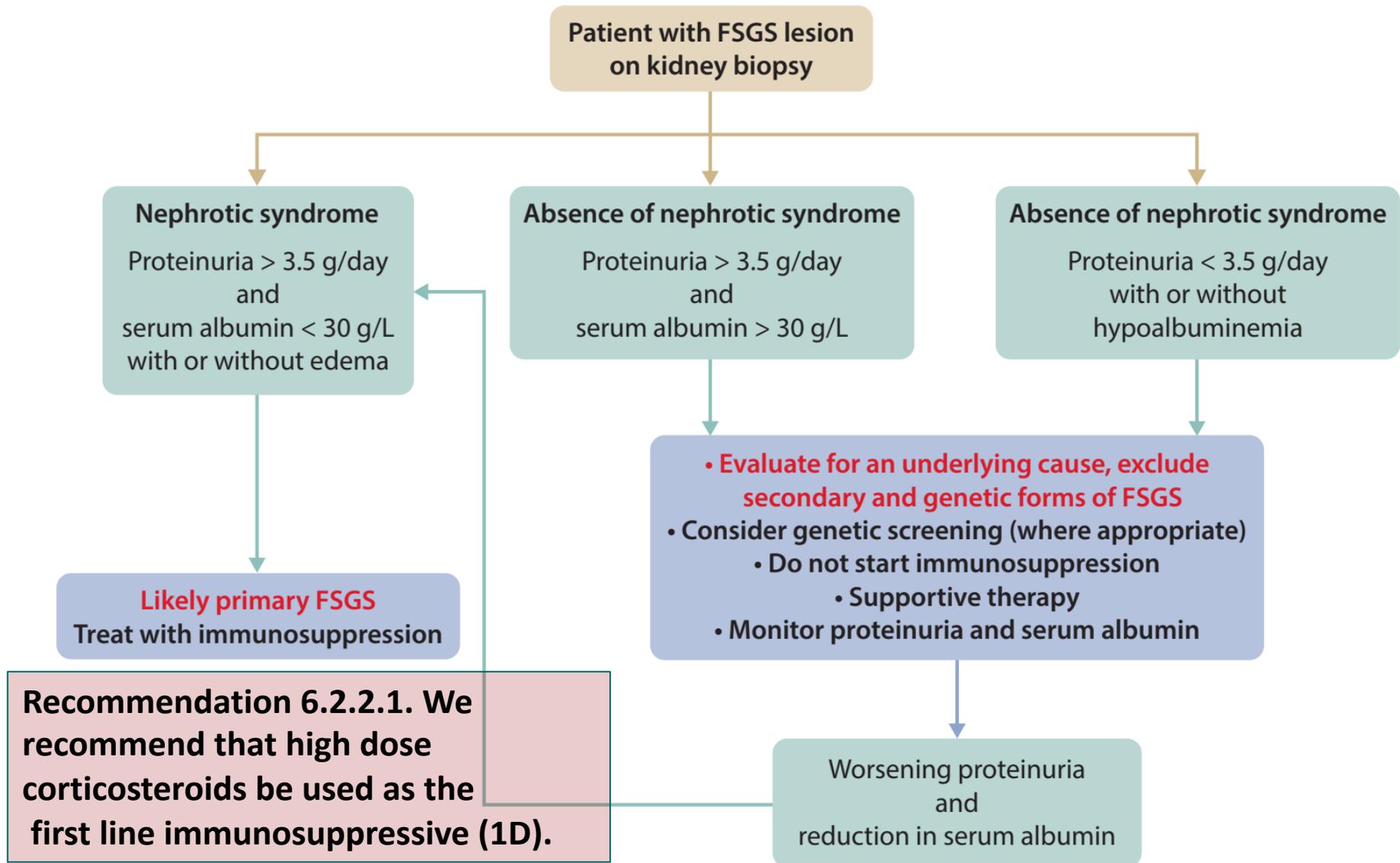
Tacrolimus versus corticosteroid monotherapy for adult minimal change nephropathy

**Secondary end point:
Relapse rate in those who achieved full remission**



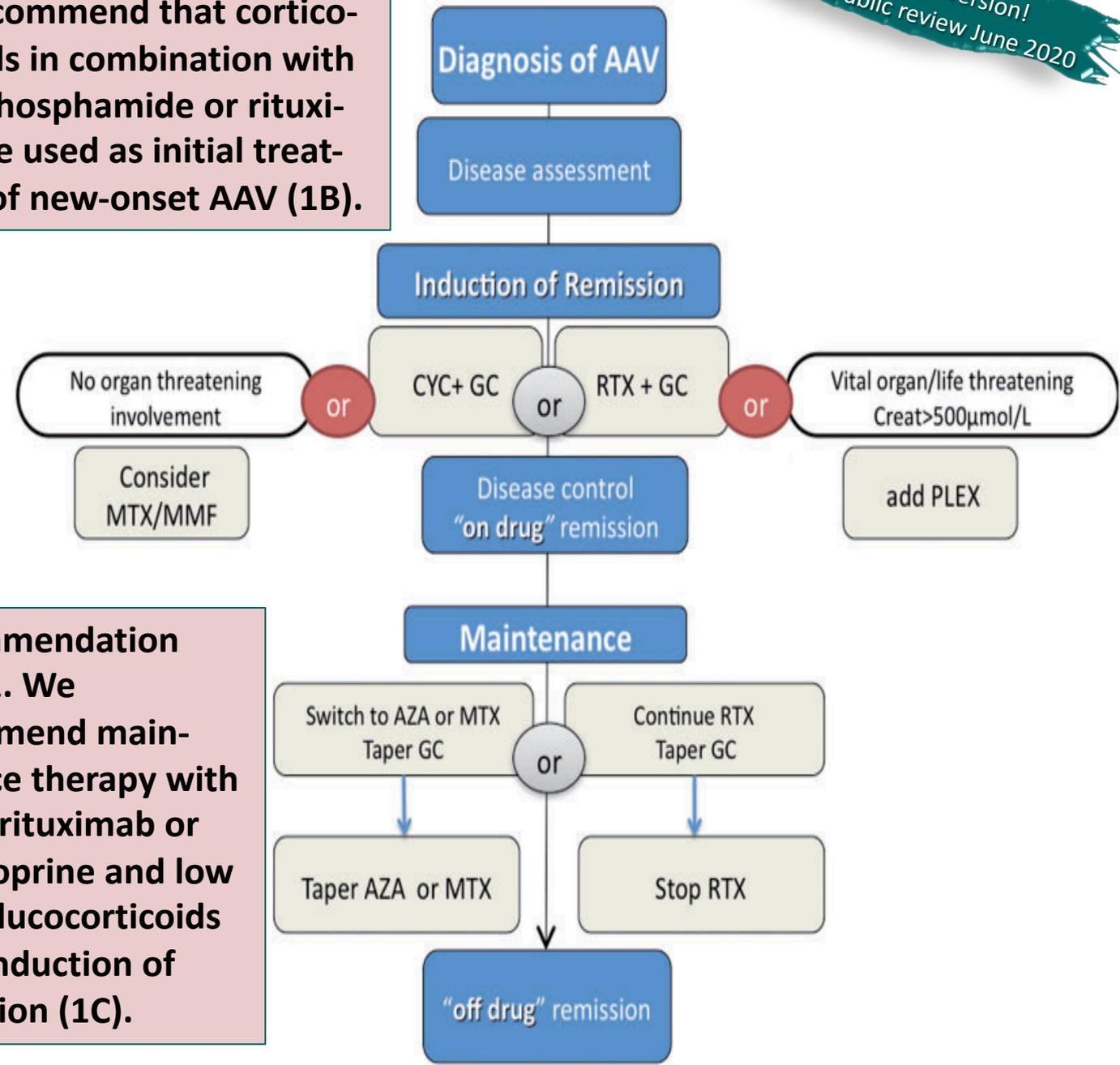
	Weeks from complete remission				
Weeks from complete remission	0	12	26	52	78
Prednisolone (number followed-up)	22 (23)	18 (23)	13 (23)	7 (21)	4 (21)
Tacrolimus (number followed-up)	22 (22)	19 (22)	15 (22)	9 (22)	6 (22)

FSGS in adults



Recommendation 9.3.1.
We recommend that corticosteroids in combination with cyclophosphamide or rituximab be used as initial treatment of new-onset AAV (1B).

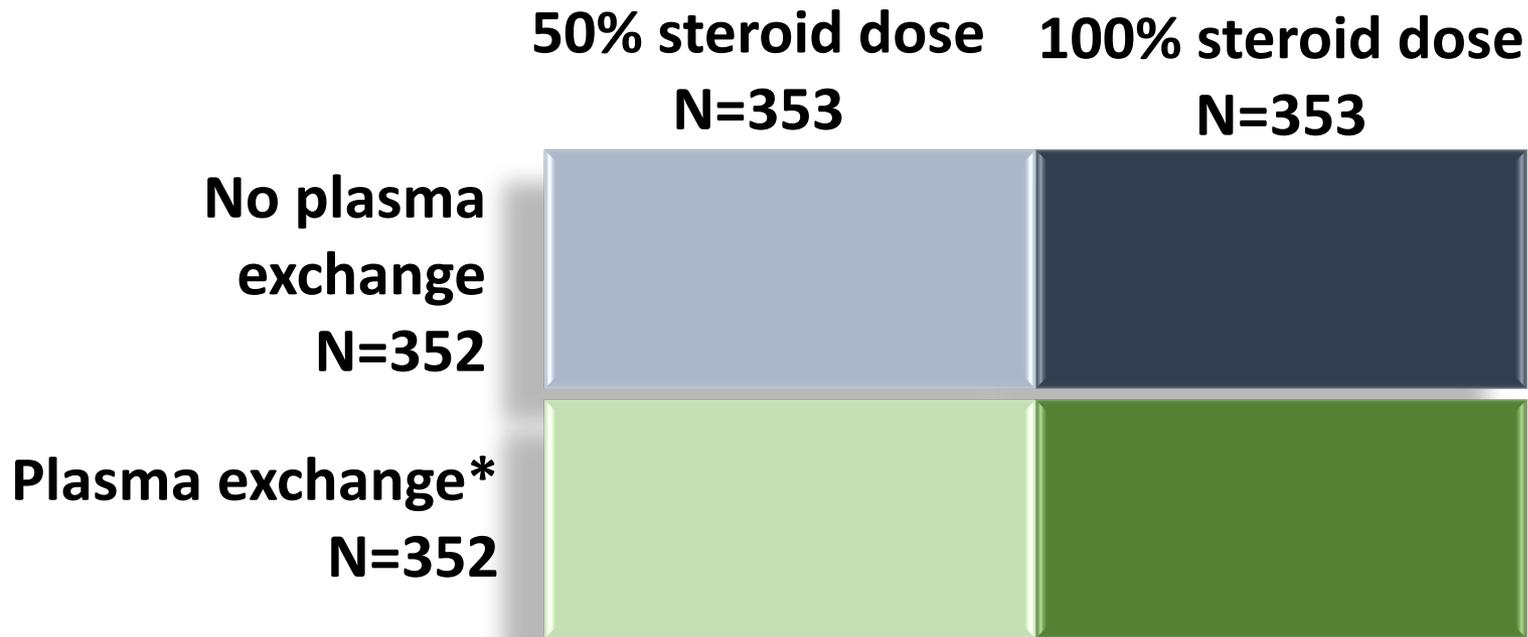
ANCA vasculitis



Recommendation 9.3.1.1. We recommend maintenance therapy with either rituximab or azathioprine and low dose glucocorticoids after induction of remission (1C).

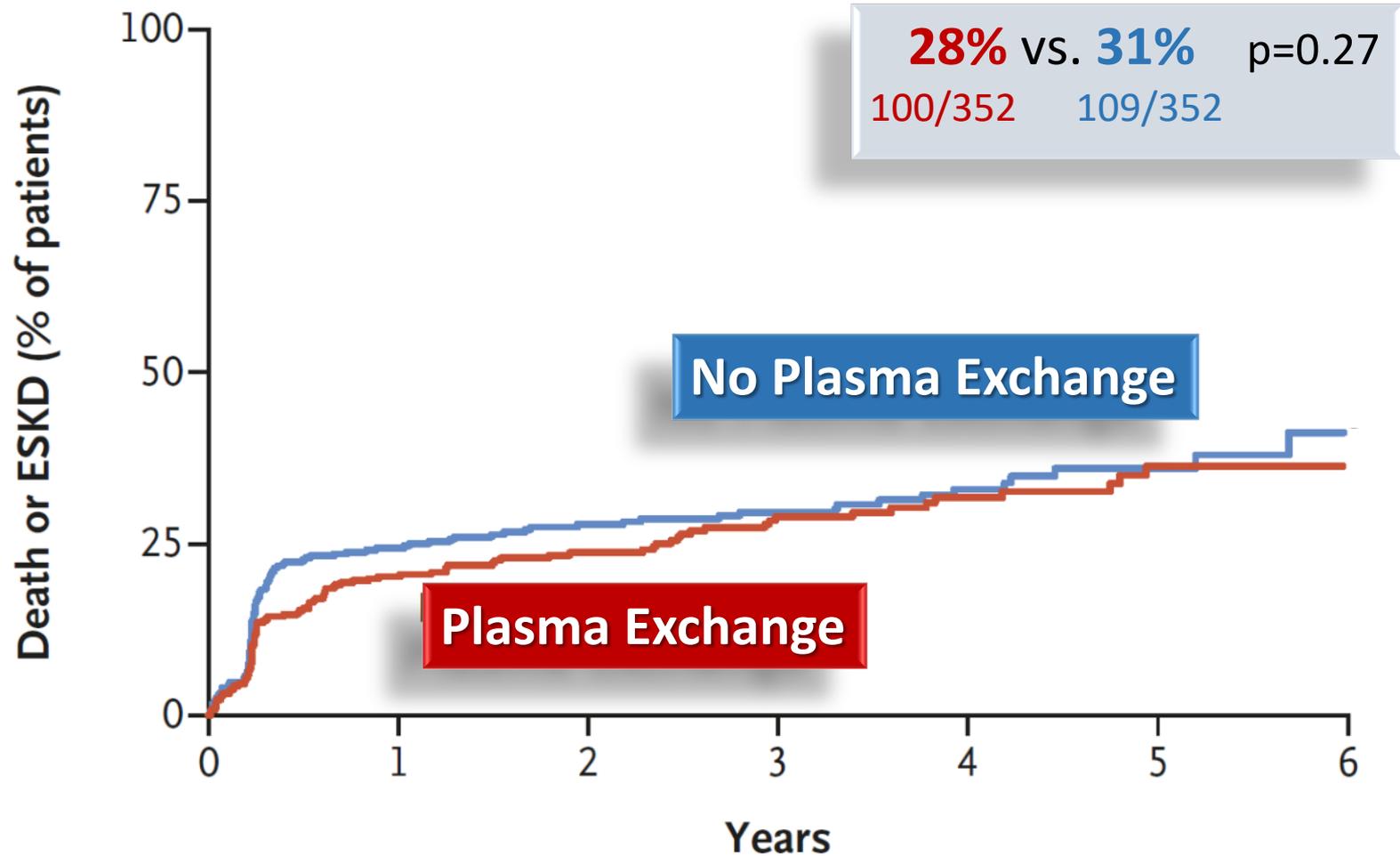
Pexivas: Plasmapheresis in severe ANCA vasculitis

- 704 patients
- 18% pulmonary hemorrhage, 9% severe
- Median s-creatinine 327 $\mu\text{mol/l}$, 20% dialysis dependent

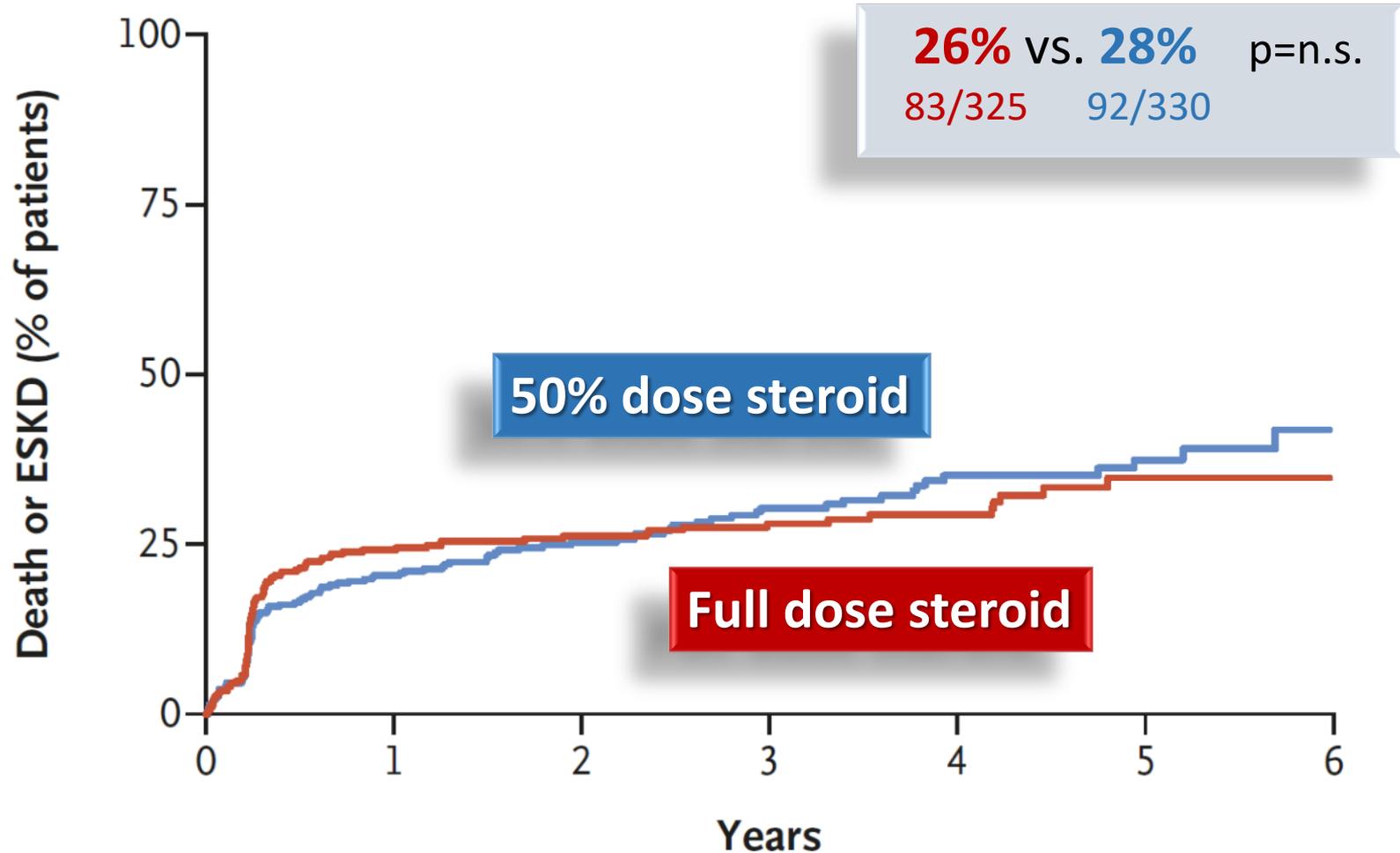


* 60 ml albumin/kg body weight
7x during 14 days after randomization

Pexivas: Plasmapheresis in severe ANCA vasculitis



Pexivas: Plasmapheresis in severe ANCA vasculitis



Pexivas: Plasmapheresis in severe ANCA vasculitis

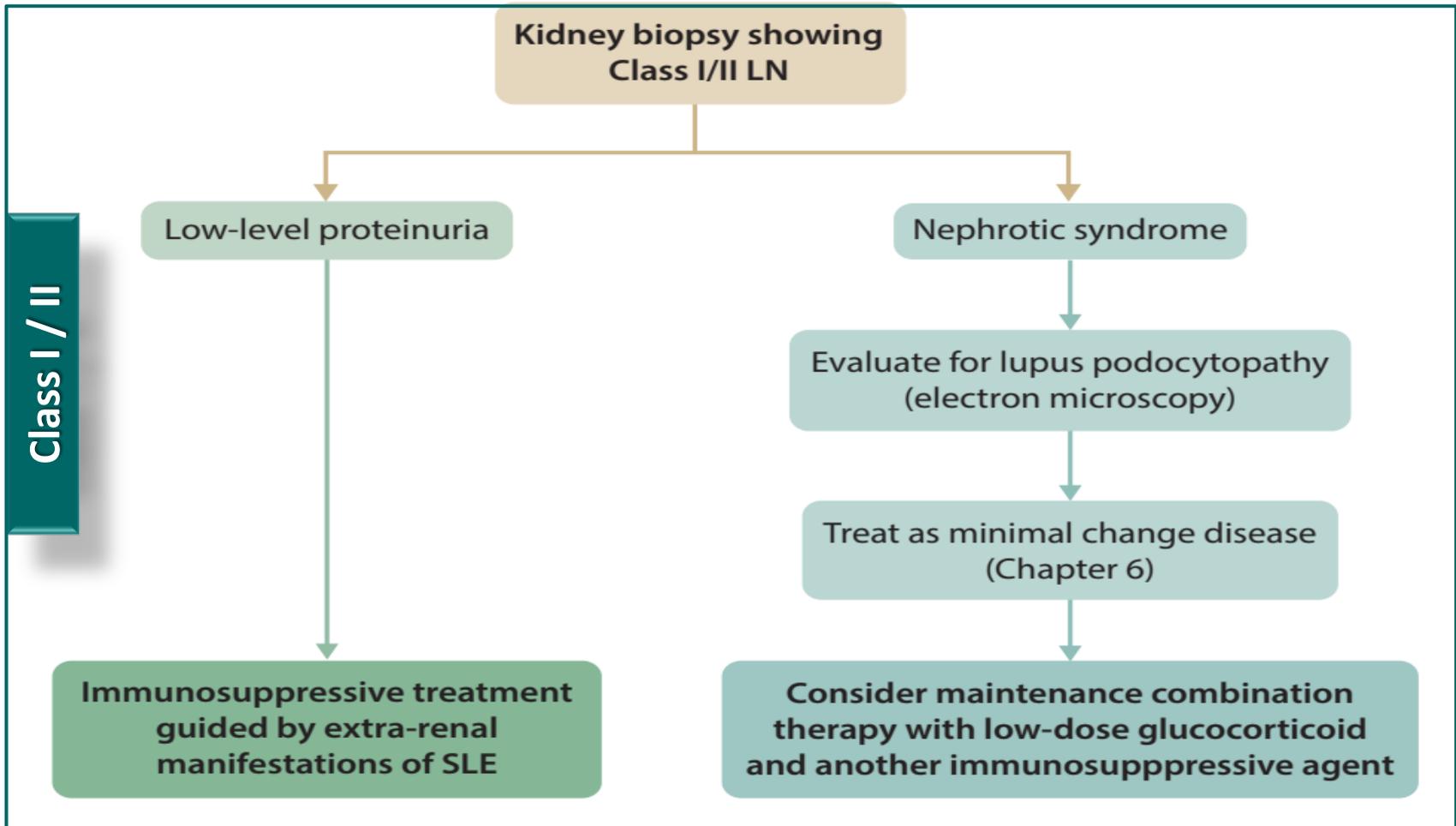
Secondary Outcome	Plasma Exchange vs. No Plasma Exchange	Reduced-Dose vs. Standard-Dose Glucocorticoid Regimen
	<i>effect size (95% CI)</i>	
Death from any cause	0.87 (0.58–1.29)	0.78 (0.53–1.17)
End-stage kidney disease	0.81 (0.57–1.13)	0.96 (0.68–1.34)
Sustained remission	1.01 (0.89–1.15)	1.04 (0.92–1.19)
Serious adverse events	1.21 (0.96–1.52)	0.95 (0.75–1.20)
Serious infections at 1 year	1.16 (0.87–1.56)	0.69 (0.52–0.93)

ANCA vasculitis

Week	“Reduced-corticosteroid dose” in PEXIVAS trial		
	<50 kg	50-75 kg	>75 kg
1	50	60	75
2	25	30	40
3-4	20	25	30
5-6	15	20	25
7-8	12.5	15	20
9-10	10	12.5	15
11-12	7.5	10	12.5
13-14	6	7.5	10
15-16	5	5	7.5
17-18	5	5	7.5
19-20	5	5	5
21-22	5	5	5
23-52	5	5	5
>52	Investigators’ Local Practice		

Lupus nephritis

Recommendation 10.2.1.1. We recommend that patients with LN be treated with hydroxychloroquine or an equivalent antimalarial unless contraindicated (1C).



Lupus nephritis

Class III or IV

Recommendation 10.2.3.1.1. We recommend that patients with active Class III or IV LN, with or without a membranous component, be treated initially with corticosteroids plus either low dose i.v. cyclophosphamide or MPAA (1B).

Recommendation 10.2.3.2.1. We recommend that after completion of initial therapy patients should be placed on MPAA for maintenance (1B).

Class V

