#### Ticagrelor: Sponsor Presentation Plan

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AstraZeneca

Rationale for Ticagrelor Development

and the PLATO Trial

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**Director Uppsala Clinical Research Center** 

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PLATO: Design and Results

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Ticagrelor Safety Profile

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VP Statistics and Chief Statistician

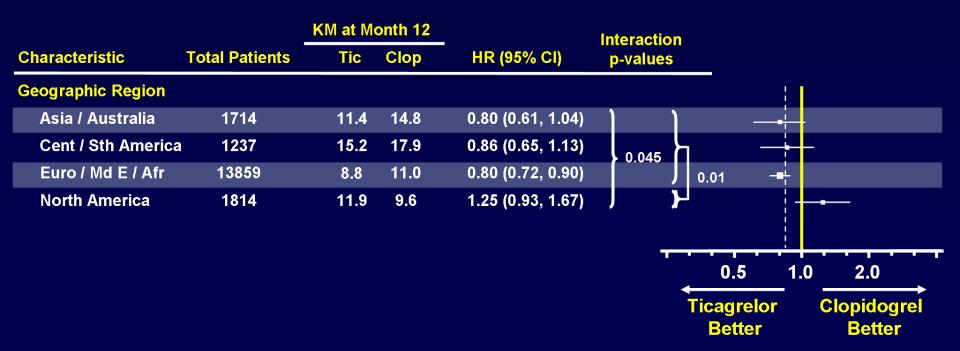
AstraZeneca

**Benefit and Risk of Ticagrelor** 

Robert A Harrington, MD

# PLATO: Ticagrelor Effect Apparently Inconsistent Across Geographic Regions

- 31 pre-specified subgroup tests conducted for consistency
- No α-level adjustment for multiplicity
- Indication of qualitatively different outcomes by region
- Results in NA appear to be driven by US: HR 1.27 (0.92, 1.75)



#### PLATO: These Data Give Rise to a Critical Question

Does this statistical finding represent a real difference in the efficacy of ticagrelor relative to clopidogrel across geographic regions, or is it rather a chance finding, possibly due to the high number of subgroups analyzed?

#### PLATO: Possible Explanations for the US Observation

- 1. Systematic issues in trial conduct at US sites
- Play of chance
- 3. Difference between US and Non-US populations in important baseline characteristics or aspects of clinical management

#### 1. PLATO: Do Systematic Issues in Trial Conduct at US Sites Explain the US Observation?

- No evidence of systematic issues in conduct
- Mislabeled drug product ruled out:
  - Batch numbers, randomization codes, IVRS data checked
  - PK samples showed ticagrelor patients received ticagrelor
- Conduct at US sites investigated
  - Interviews with site personnel disclosed no quality issues
  - US had smaller study centers, but no quality issues

## 2. PLATO: Could the US Observation Be Due to Play of Chance?

- Yes
  - Chance alone cannot be ruled out as the explanation for the US result
- Observed treatment-by-region interaction is of marginal statistical significance
  - One of 31 descriptive interaction tests
  - In the absence adjustment for multiplicity,
    the likelihood of spurious, chance findings is increased
  - Adjustment for multiplicity would render the interaction p=NS
- Switching of just one event in the NA cohort from ticagrelor to clopidogrel would render the regional interaction p=NS

# 3. PLATO: Are There Imbalances in Baseline Characteristics or Clinical Management That Might Explain the US vs Non-US Regional Interaction?

#### Factors evaluated in exploratory analyses

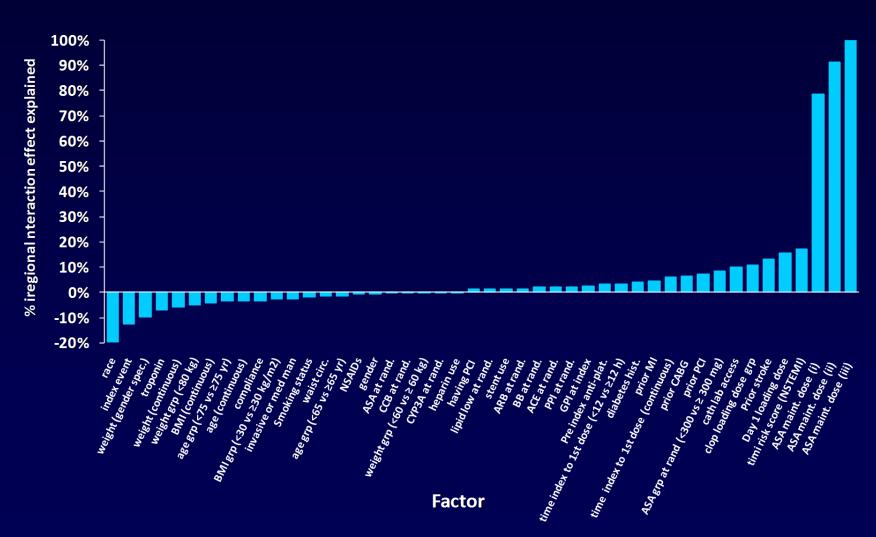
- Race
- Index event
- Weight#
- Troponin
- BMI#
- Age #
- Compliance
- ASA at rand.
- Invasive or med man
- Smoking status
- Waist circumference
- ACE at rand.

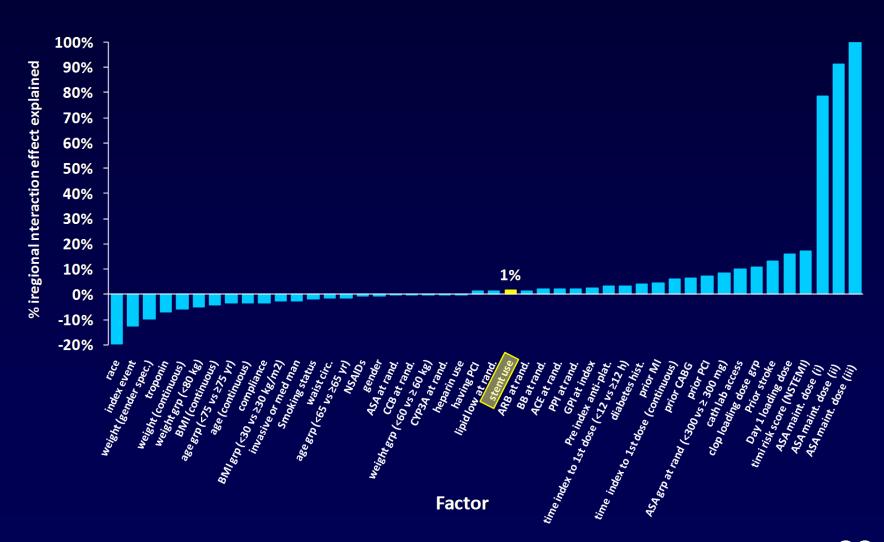
- NSAID at rand.
- Gender
- CCB at rand.
- Time index to 1st dose#
- CYP3A at rand.
- Heparin use
- PCI < 24h of rand.
- Lipid low at rand.
- Stent use
- ARB at rand.
- BB at rand.
- PPI at rand.

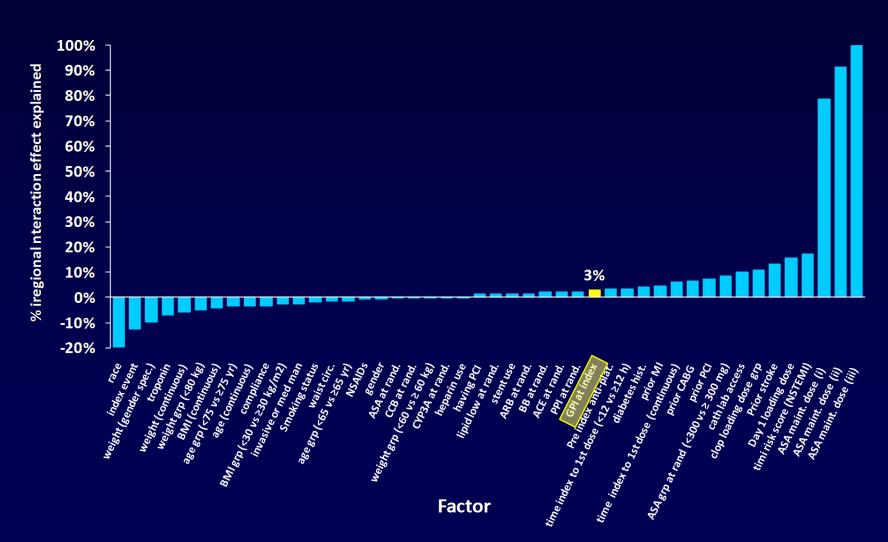
- GPI at rand.
- Pre index anti-plat.
- Diabetes hist.
- Prior MI
- Prior CABG
- Prior PCI
- Cath lab access
- Clop loading dose
- TIMI risk score
- ASA loading dose
- ASA maintenance dose #
- # Some factors defined in different ways, e.g age: <65 vs ≥ 65 and age <75 vs ≥ 75.
- ASA dose defined for patients who had (i) at least 5 days or (ii) at least 2 days of ASA; and (iii) as agreed with FDA, for patients with at least 1 maintenance dose to avoid the biasing influence of high ASA loading dose.
- ASA loading dose considered separately.

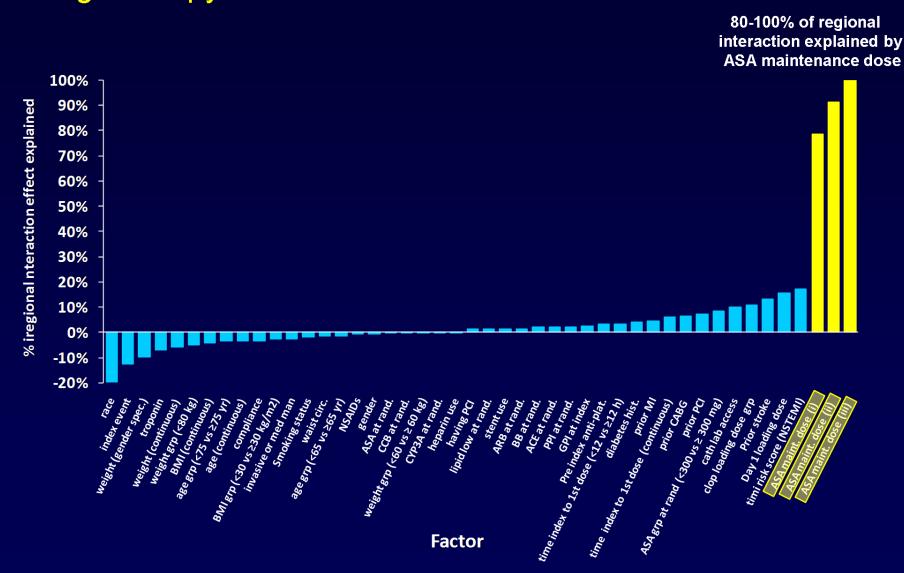
#### PLATO: What Kind of Factors or Patient Characteristics Might Explain the US vs Non-US Result?

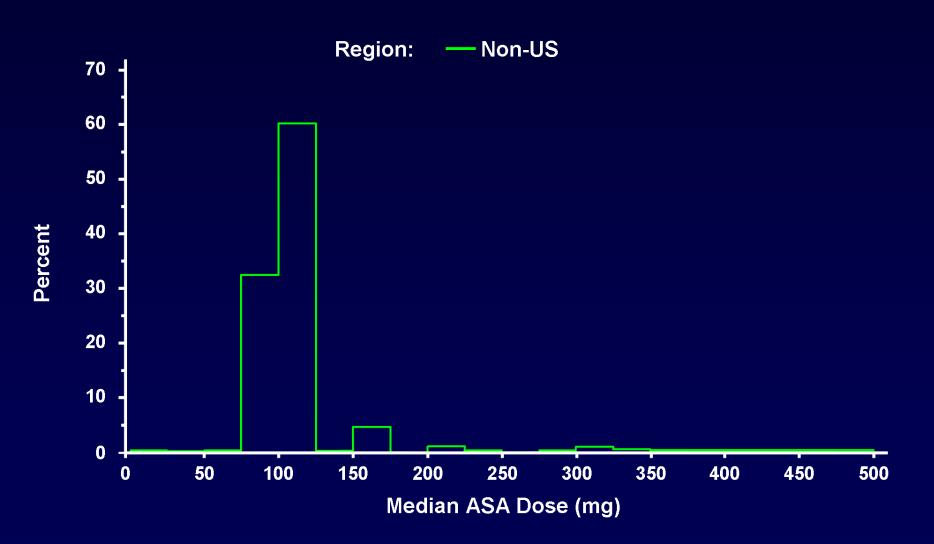
- To explain a meaningful fraction of the US/Non-US interaction, a factor is needed that simultaneously:
  - (i) has a strong qualitative interaction with randomized treatment for the primary endpoint <u>and</u>
  - (ii) is strongly imbalanced between US and Non-US settings
- Weakly imbalanced prognostic factors will likely not be sufficient to explain the US result
- Visual inspection for imbalances of clinical concern needs to be supported by an objective and statistically rigorous analysis of the data

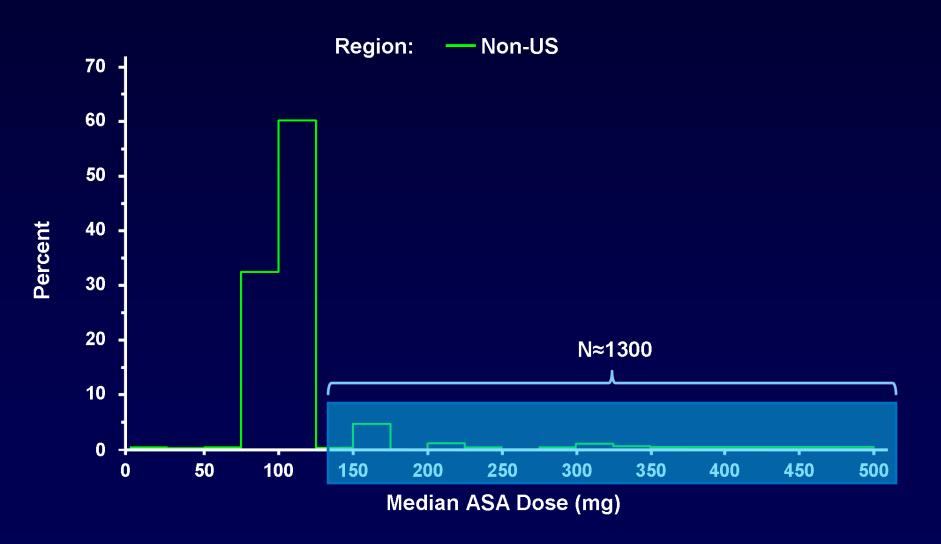


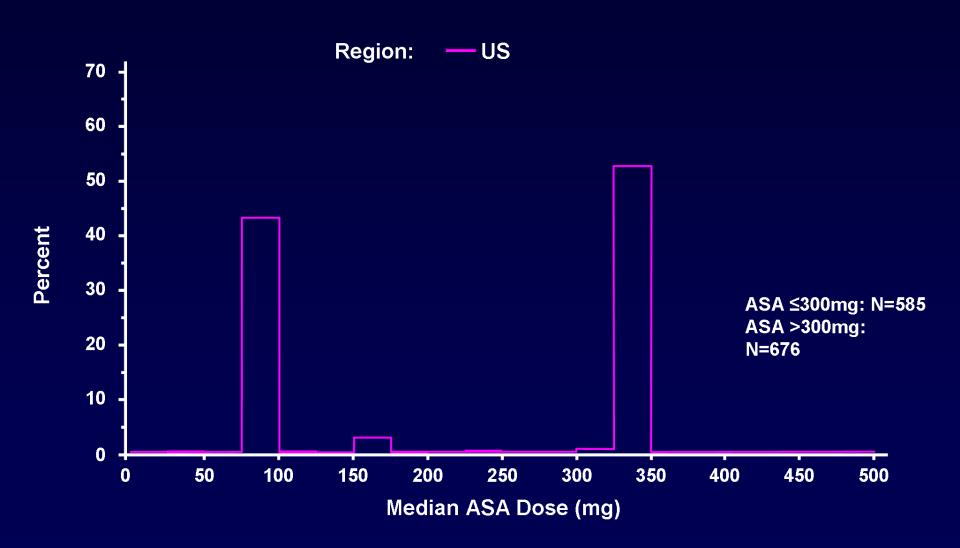


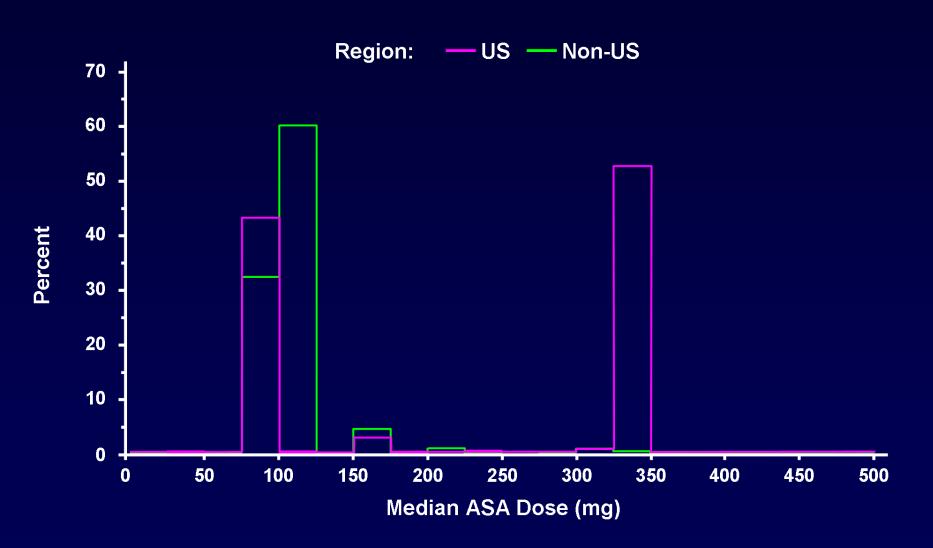




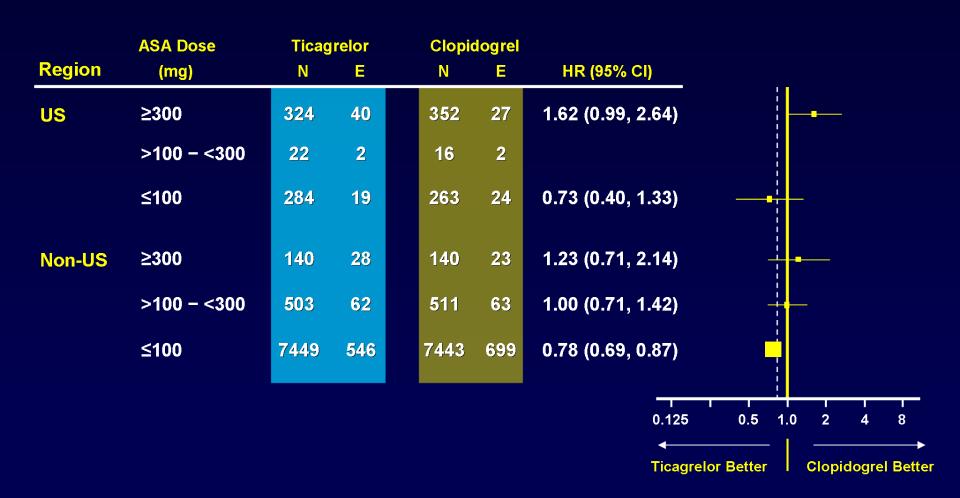




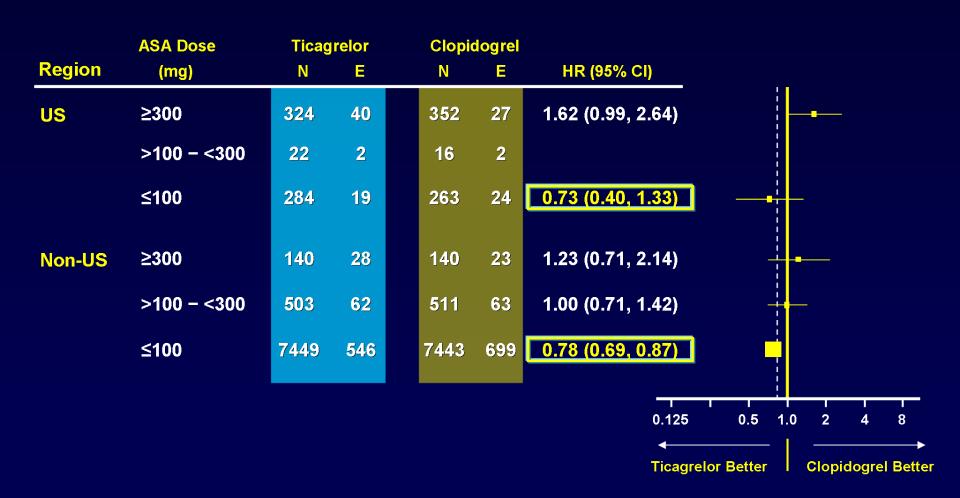




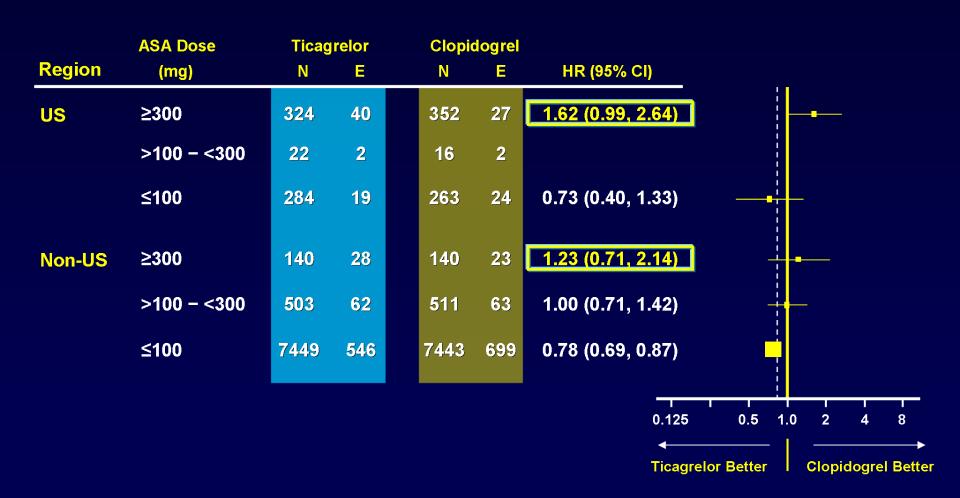
### PLATO: Similar Pattern of Treatment Effects in Relation to ASA Maintenance Dose in US and Non-US



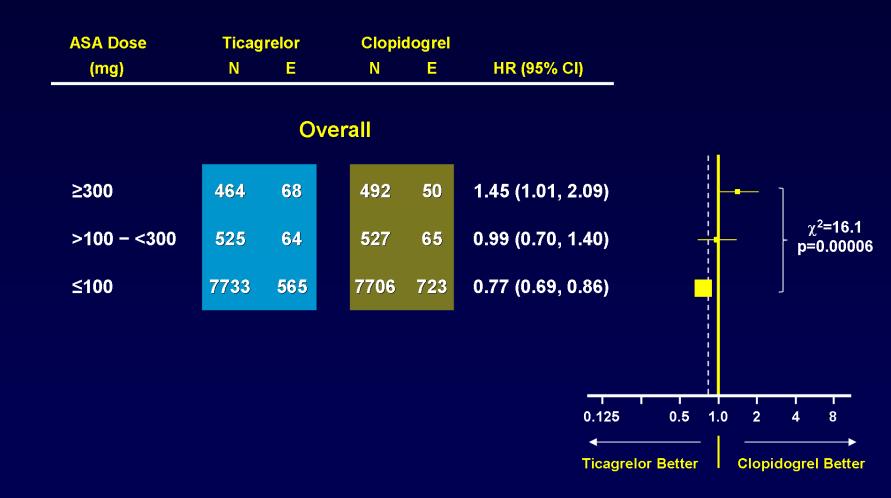
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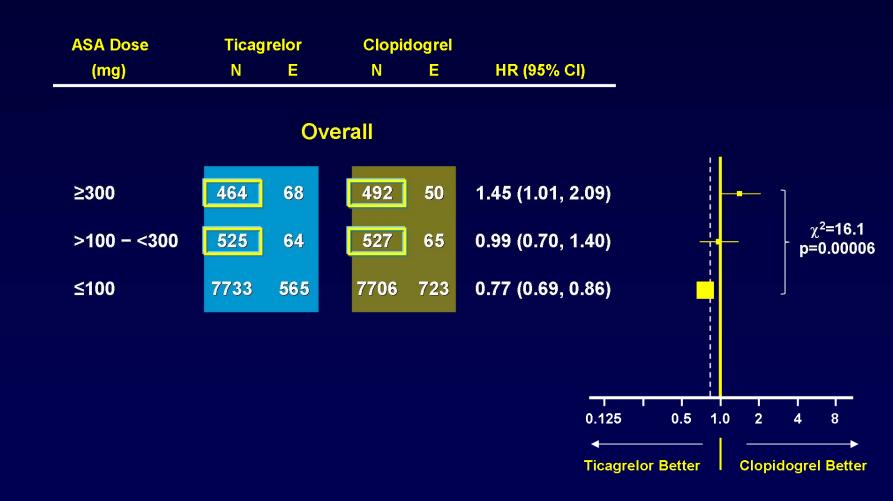
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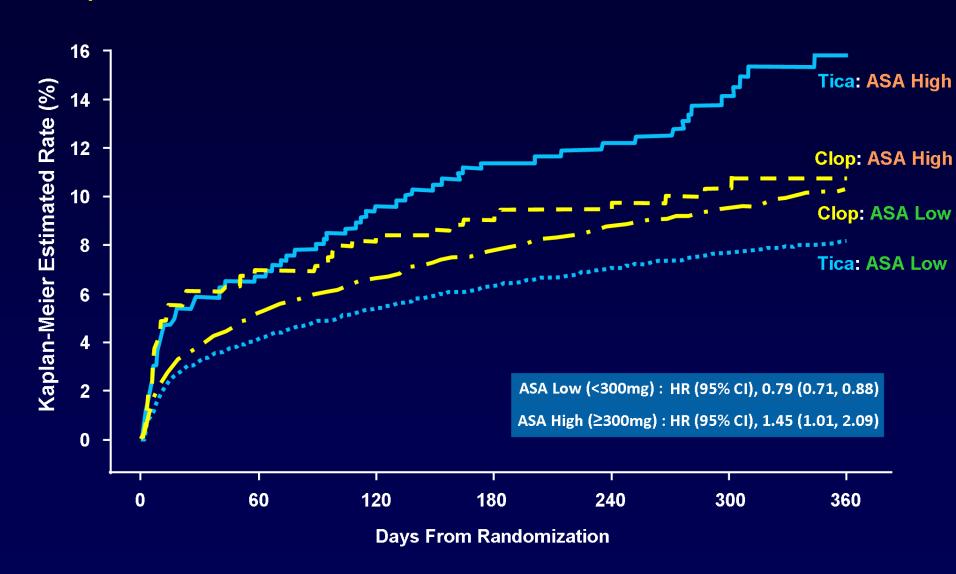
#### PLATO: The Regional Interaction is Explained by an Interaction with ASA Maintenance Dose



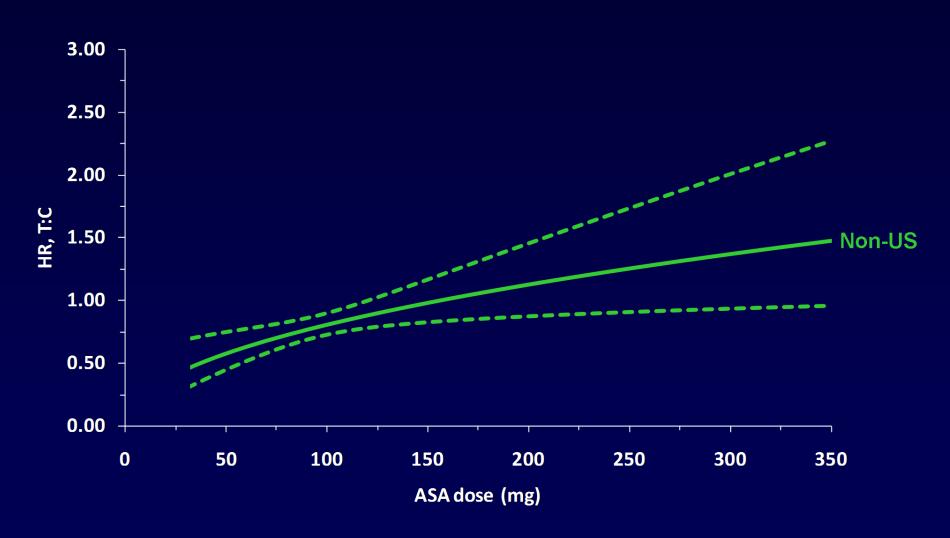
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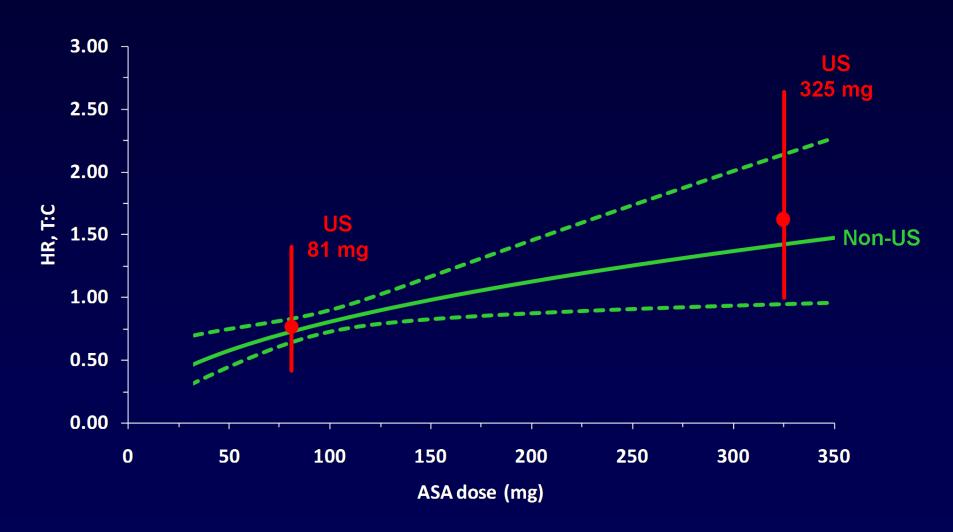
# PLATO: The Treatment Effect is Strongly Dependent on ASA Maintenance Dose



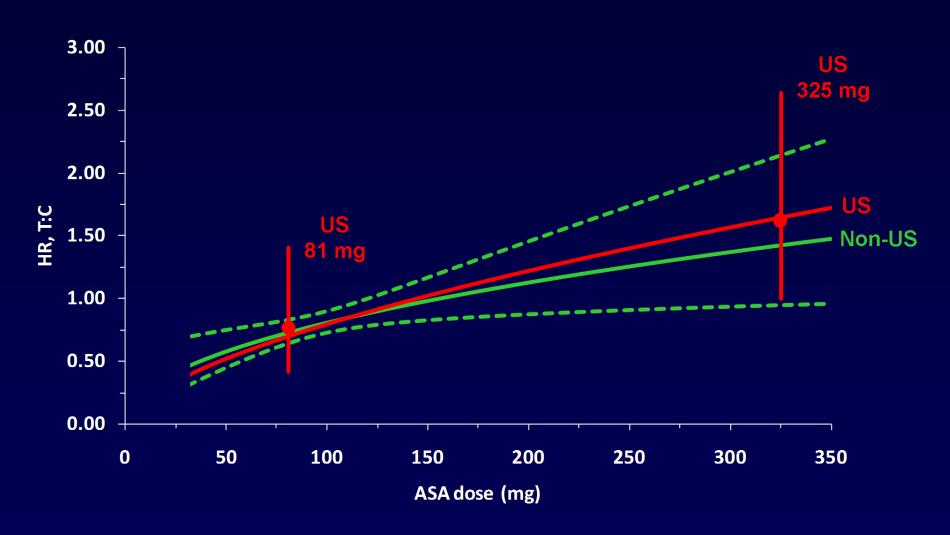
# The Relationship Between ASA Maintenance Dose and Treatment Effect is seen in Non-US patients



## And This Closely Reflects That Seen In US Patients



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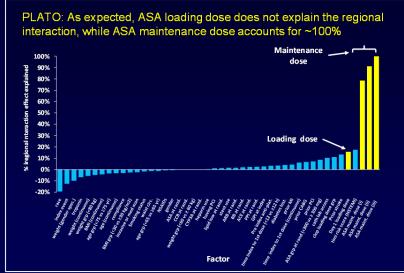


### PLATO: How Robust is the Relationship Between ASA Maintenance Dose and Treatment Effect?

- 1. Does it rely on a small number of Non-US patients taking high dose ASA?
- Interaction with ASA dose is profound, χ²=16.1, p=0.00006
- ~1,300 Non-US patients <u>plus</u> ~700 US patients with
  >100mg ASA
- Significant relationship persists even if higher ASA doses removed

#### PLATO: How Robust is the Relationship Between ASA Maintenance Dose and Treatment Effect?

- 2. What is the influence of the initial ASA loading dose?
- Distinct aspect of patient management considered separately from the outset
- Loading dose high in both US and Non-US – little likelihood to explain the regional interaction
- Maintenance dose differs between US and Non-US
- Duration of maintenance dose varies between patients



Correct to examine loading and maintenance doses separately

#### PLATO: How Robust is the Relationship Between ASA Maintenance Dose and Treatment Effect?

- 3. Do multiplicity issues take away the ASA interaction?
- Analyses are exploratory
- At p=0.00006, strength of ASA x treatment interaction would comfortably beat the most stringent of multiplicity adjustments

## PLATO US Observation: Summary of Statistical Evaluation

- PLATO met its primary endpoint, demonstrating ticagrelor has superior efficacy to clopidogrel in the treatment of patients with ACS
- A qualitative regional interaction was observed, driven by a difference between the US and Non-US regions
- Issues related to trial conduct have been ruled out
- Chance cannot be entirely ruled out as explanation
- Extensive evaluation of the data revealed ASA maintenance dose was strongly imbalanced across US and Non-US regions, and statistically accounted for 100% of the observed interaction
- Data suggest the regional interaction is, in fact, an interaction with ASA maintenance dose
- When ticagrelor is administered with low-dose ASA, a positive treatment effect is seen in both US and Non-US regions CC-104