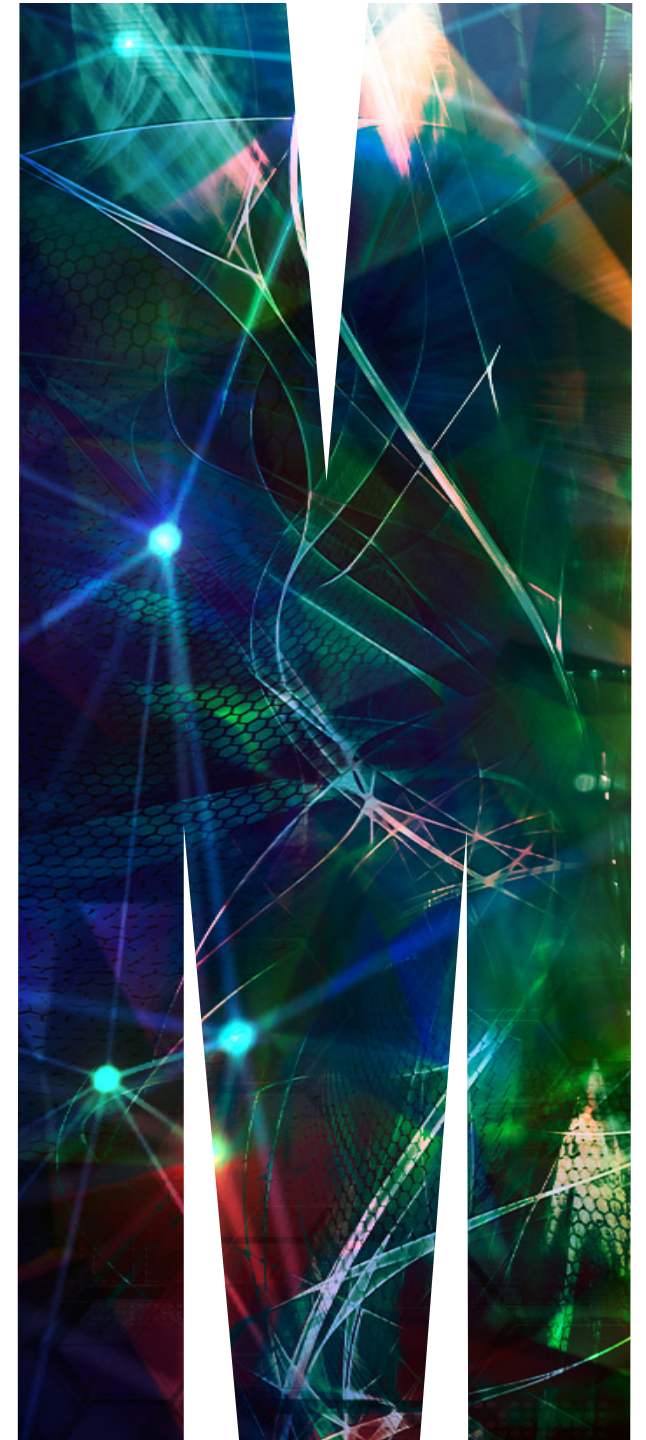


Health Economic Case for Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease

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Policy Evaluation Research (HEPER) Group, Faculty of
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Global Heart Hub, Unite Annual Summit, 8-9th of November,
Barcelona





DISCLOSURE



MEMBER - PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE,
ECONOMICS SUB-COMMITTEE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED
CARE (AUSTRALIA)

Outline

Why Health Economics and how do we make decisions?

The Economic case for FH screening and treatment

Do cholesterol years matter in the FH population?

Current knowledge about Screening Strategies for FH

New initiatives for population genomic screening

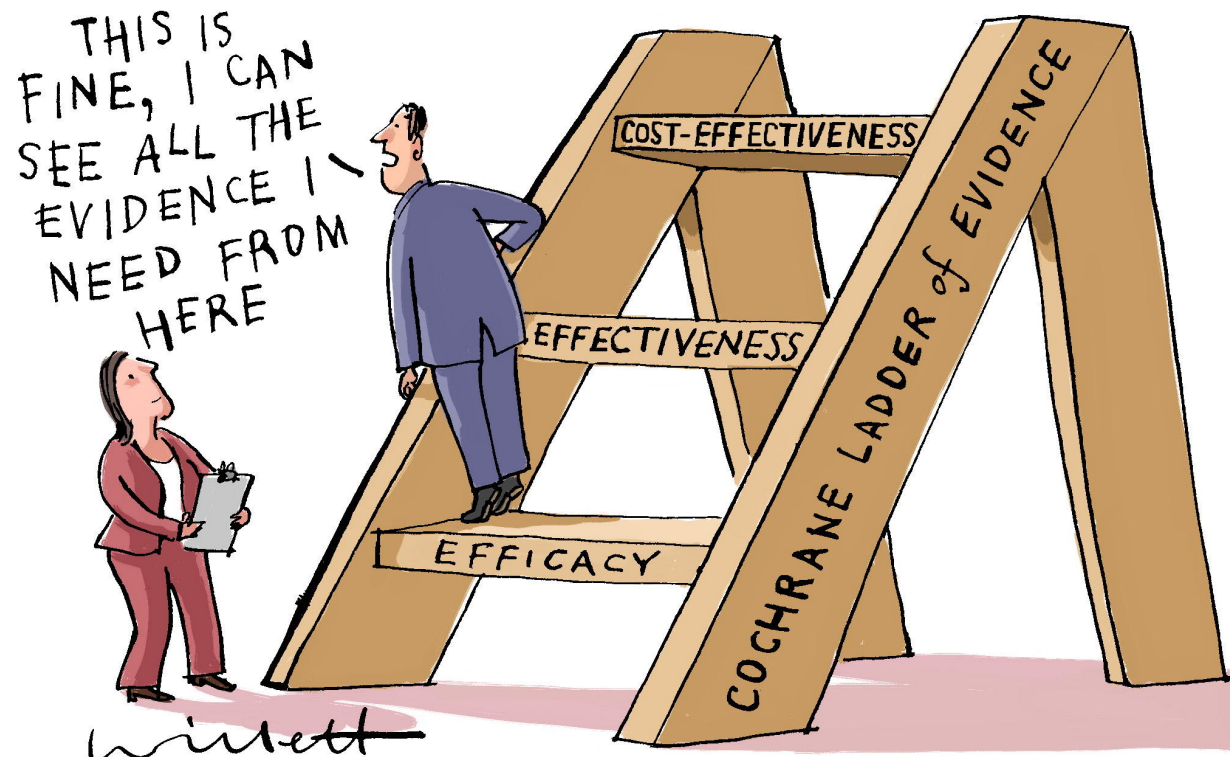
How can we move from reactive to early proactive preventive healthcare in CVD space?

Do the risk factor years matter in the primary prevention of CVD?

What does the future hold for CVD?

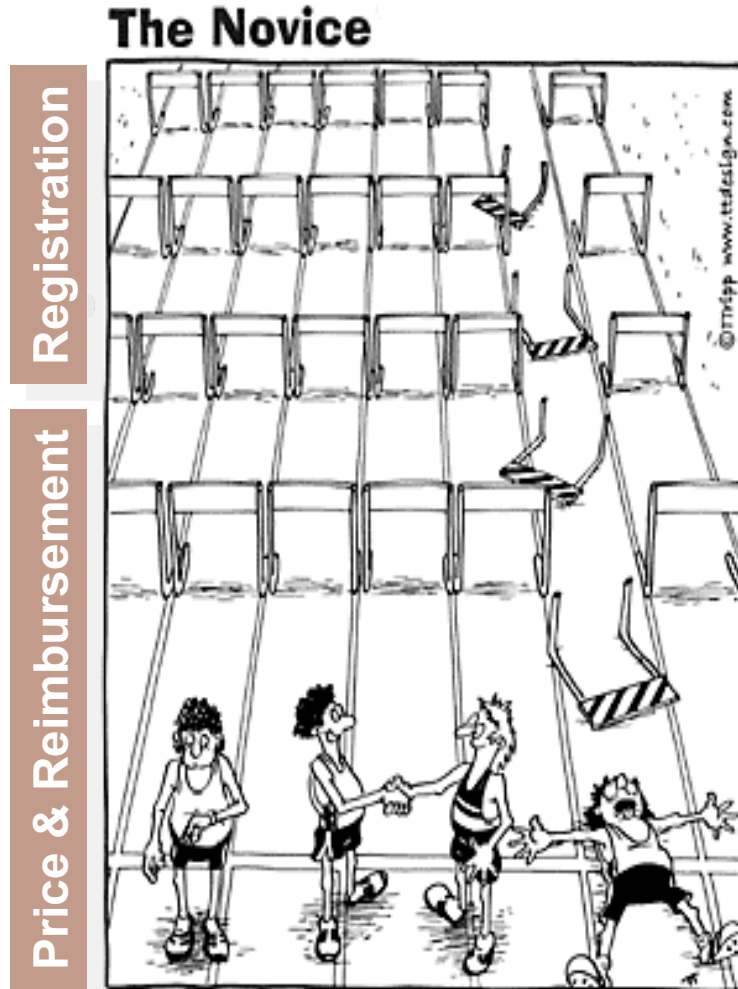
Take home message

Why health economics?



- Not all prevention strategies are effective
- **Choices** and **priorities**, opportunity costs
- Growing gap between what medicine **can do** and what it is **economically feasible** to do
- Importance of health economics

How do we make decisions?



← **Quality / Safety**

Does it work in a controlled environment?

← **Immunogenicity / Efficacy**

← **Effectiveness**

Does it work in those patients where it is meant to work in, compared to the right comparator, and using relevant parameters ?

← **Efficiency (Cost-Effectiveness)**

Is it worth doing it, compared to other things, we could do with the same money?

**+ Affordability
+ Appropriateness?**

What is the budget impact for the payer in a short time horizon? What is the alternative?

And we need to consider the fourth hurdle

The Economic case for FH screening and treatment



Two aspects:

- Identification/Diagnosis
- Management and primary prevention of CVD

Do cholesterol years matter in the FH population?



JAMA Pediatrics | **Original Investigation**

Cost-effectiveness and Return on Investment of a Nationwide Case-Finding Program for Familial Hypercholesterolemia in Children in the Netherlands

Zanfina Ademi, PhD; Richard Norman, PhD; Jing Pang, PhD; Eric Sijbrands, PhD; Gerald F. Watts, DSc; Barbara A. Hutten, PhD; Albert Wiegman, PhD



Cost-effectiveness and Return on Investment of a Nationwide; Case-Finding Program for Familial Hypercholesterolemia in Children in the Netherlands and Australia

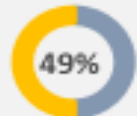
Heterozygous FH in children

- The Dutch FH screening program was implemented to identify people of all ages with FH
- 10 970 children were cascade screened by 2016, of whom 5613 mutation-positive (51.2%)

Early children Aged 10 years



Standard of care
Age 35 years
UNTREATED



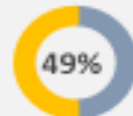
Heterozygous FH in children

- WA, 244 children identified through cascade screening, 148 were genetically screened and 84 were identified as (M+) (56.8%)

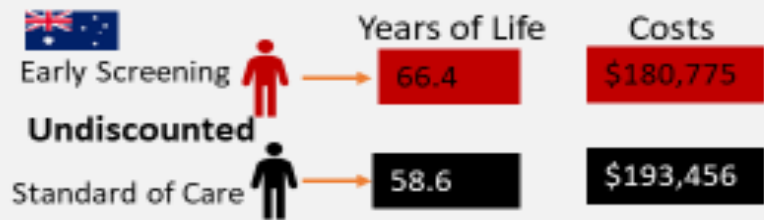
Population children Aged 10 years



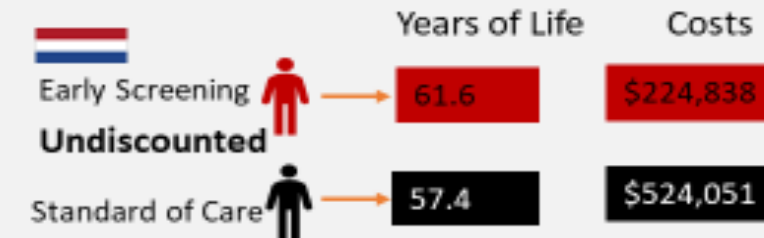
Standard of care
Age 25 years
UNTREATED



Does cholesterol years matter in childhood over a lifetime?



Over a lifetime cascade screening and treatment increases life and decreases disease costs



Over a lifetime cascade screening and treatment is cost-saving in the Netherlands

Every € that the Dutch Ministry of Health invested returned €8.38

Current knowledge about Screening Strategies for Familial Hypercholesterolaemia

- 62 strategies were included in this review

- (95%) adopted a healthcare perspective

- All were set in high-income countries.

- Cascade screening (23 strategies)

- Opportunistic screening (13 strategies)

- Systematic screening (11 strategies)

- Population-wide screening (15 strategies).

- Most of the strategies relied on genetic diagnosis for case ascertainment.

- The most common comparator was no screening

- Few studies compared the proposed strategy vs. current screening strategies or vs. the best next alternative.

- Six studies evaluated screening in children while the remaining were targeted at adults.

Current knowledge about Screening Strategies for Familial Hypercholesterolaemia

- Cascade screening was cost-effective in 78% of the studies: incremental cost-effectiveness ratios [ICERs] cost-saving dominant to 2022 USD 104,877)

- Systematic screening in 80% (ICERs from US\$2,763 to US\$69,969)

- Opportunistic screening in 85% (ICERs from US\$4,959 to US\$41,705)

- Population-wide screening in 60% (ICERs from US\$1,484 to US\$223,240)

- Predictors of outcomes in the sensitivity analysis were the long-term cost of lipid-lowering treatment.



New initiatives for population genomic screening

European Heart Journal



ESC

European Society
of Cardiology

European Heart Journal (2021) 00, 1–13
<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehab770>

CLINICAL RESEARCH

Health care policies and economics

Population genomic screening of young adults for familial hypercholesterolaemia: a cost-effectiveness analysis

Clara Marquina ^{1†}, Paul Lacaze ^{1†}, Jane Tiller ¹, Moeen Riaz ¹,
Amy C. Sturm ², Mark R. Nelson ^{1,3}, Brian A. Ference ⁴, Jing Pang ⁵,
Gerald F. Watts ^{5,6,7}, Stephen J. Nicholls ¹, Sophia Zoungas ¹, Danny Liew ¹,
John McNeil ¹, and Zanfina Ademi ^{1*}

Acknowledgements (FH CEA):

Clara Marquina^{1*} Paul Lacaze^{1*} Jane Tiller¹ Moeen Riaz¹ Amy C Sturm² Mark Nelson¹ Brian Ference⁴



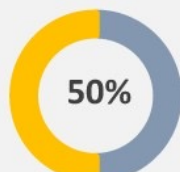
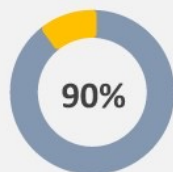
Jing Pang⁴ Gerald Watts^{4,5} Stephen Nicholls¹ Sophia Zoungas¹ Danny Liew¹ John McNeil¹ Zanfina Ademi¹

Population genomic screening of young adults for familial hypercholesterolemia: A cost-effectiveness analysis

Background

- Heterozygous FH 1:250 prevalence
- Patients with HeFH can have 2x the risk of CHD
- Treatment with statins is safe and cost-effective
- Delaying treatment further increases the CHD risk in FH patients

UNDETECTED UNTREATED



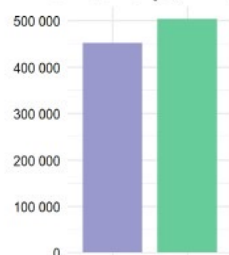
Statin treatment
can reduce the risk
up to 76%

Methods & Results

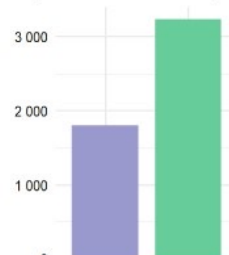
- Life-table model adults aged 18-40 years



Quality Adjusted Life Years (QALYs)



Healthcare costs (AU\$, millions)

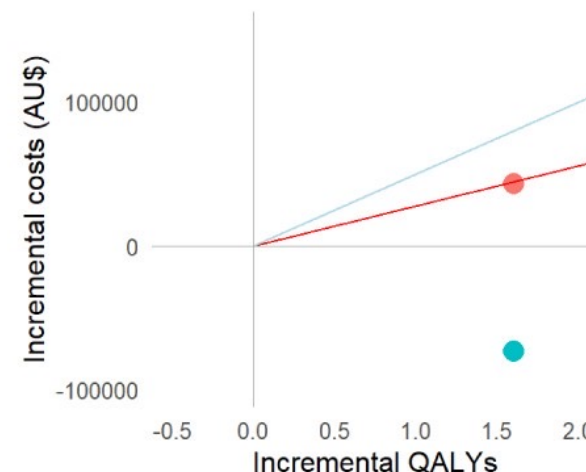


Societal costs (AU\$, millions)



Standard of care Genomic screening

Results



● ICER, Healthcare perspective
● ICER, Societal perspective

Estimated ICERS (cost-adaptation)



US\$40,446



EUR8,918



EUR18,087



EUR8,244



EUR 7,698



EUR14,552



EUR17,786



GBP12,171

Conclusion

With a cost-per-test of AU\$250, population genomic screening for FH could be cost-effective from a healthcare perspective and cost-saving from a societal perspective

New initiatives for population genomic screening

Articles 

- Monash University initiated in 2022 the world-first DNA Screen pilot study, which has almost completed genomic screening for 10,000 young adults aged 18-40 in Australia
- Around 1 in 75 people are at high genetic risk of one of these conditions, but most are unaware - and therefore not getting access to the live-saving interventions



Combined population genomic screening for three high-risk conditions in Australia: a modelling study

Paul Lacaze,^{a,n,*} Clara Marquina,^{b,n} Jane Tiller,^a Adam Brothie,^a Yoon-Jung Kang,^c Melissa Meritt,^c Robert C. Green,^d Gerald F. Watts,^{e,m} Kristen J. Nowak,^{f,g} Ranjit Manchanda,^{h,i} Karen Canfell,^c Paul James,^{j,k,l} Ingrid Winship,^{k,l} John McNeil,^a and Zanfina Ademi^{a,b,**}



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Marquina. Lacaze and Ademi et al . Combined Population Genomic Screening for three high-risk conditions in Australia: a modelling study. *eClinicalMedicine. The Lancet* 2023

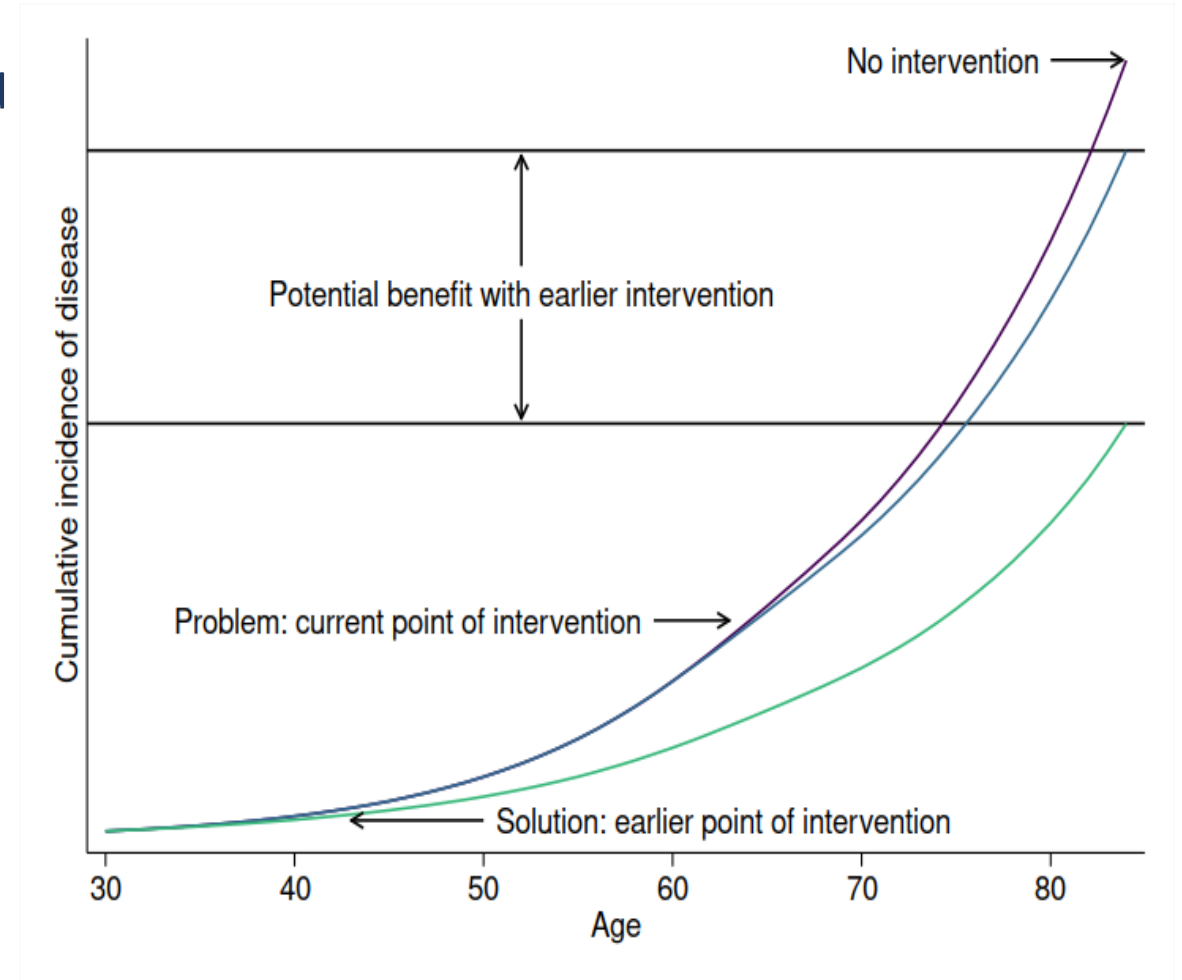
Was the widespread preventive genomic screening for multiple diseases cost-effective from an Australian healthcare perspective?

			Total healthcare costs	Screening costs	QALYs gained	
	Widespread DNA screening	4047 deaths saved 2612 cancer cases 542 CHD cases	\$2.41 billion	\$832 million	31,094	\$23,963
	Status-quo		\$2.33 billion	\$6.9 million		

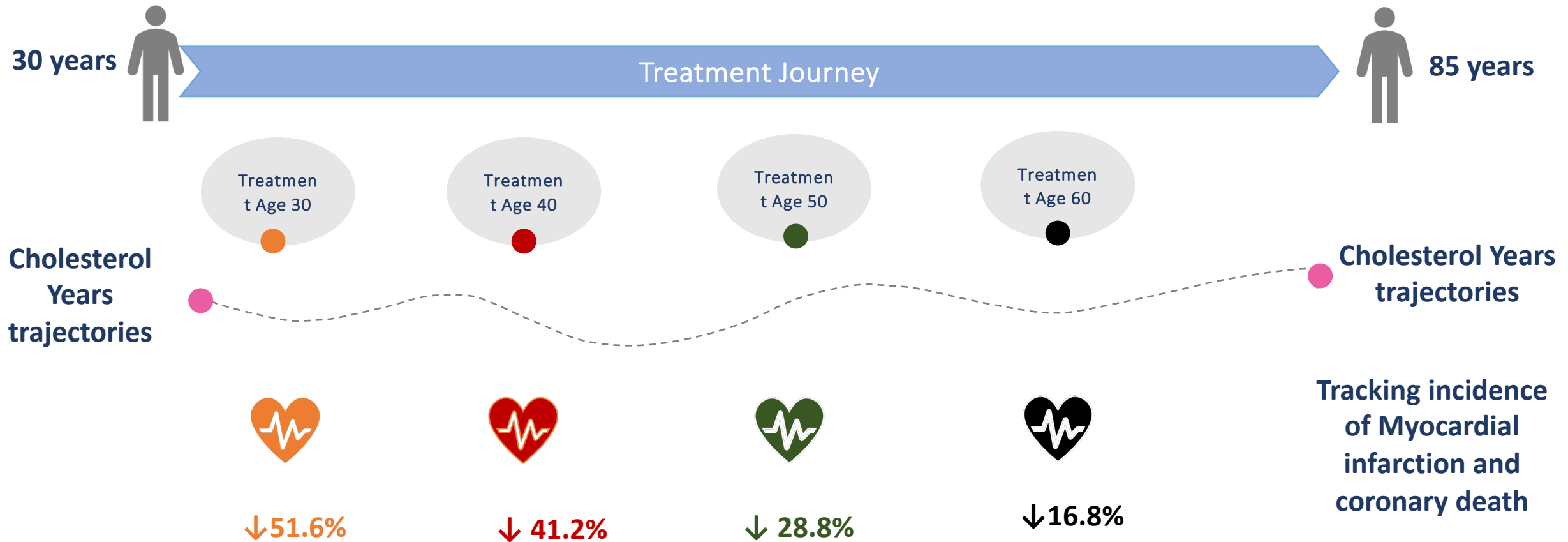
Marquina. Lacaze and Ademi et al . Combined Population Genomic Screening for three high-risk conditions in Australia: a modelling study. *eClinicalMedicine. The Lancet* 2023

How can we move from reactive to early proactive preventive healthcare in CVD space?

- Current prevention approaches are mostly initiated late in the pre-disease trajectory
- Current clinical tools bias decisions toward short-term decision-making.
- Risk scores are influenced by age and sex, while modifiable risk factors have a much smaller impact on the equation.



Do the risk factor years matter in the primary prevention of CVD?

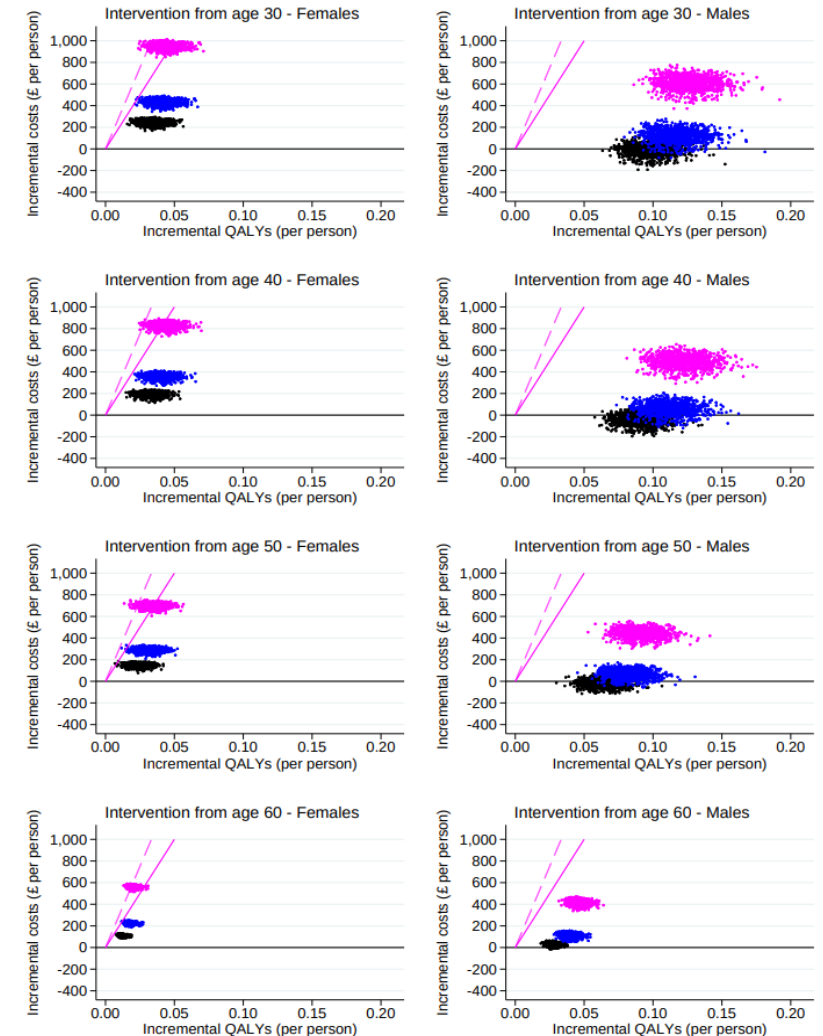


Risk factor years in the primary prevention of CVD. Is it cost-effective approach?

LDL-C lowering interventions from early ages are more cost-effective than late ages.

Cost effectiveness improved with increasing LDL-C and was more cost-effective for male individuals than female individuals (groups with a higher lifetime risk of CHD).

- Low/moderate intensity statins
- High intensity statins
- Low/moderate intensity statins and ezetimibe



What does the future hold for CVD?



Members of the Lp(a) International Task Force

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McGill University Health Centre
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Learn more and
join this global
initiative!

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- Global Initiatives such as LP (a) Task force.
- Generate new evidence about Lp(a) as a major inherited CVD risk factor
- Generate health economic evidence on broader benefits of early screening in LP (a) population
- Improve management of CVD in the population

Take home message



Novel strategies, including population-wide screening, may be cost-effective in combination with cascade screening to raise overall detection



Reconsideration of current approaches to primary prevention of CVD that focus on a 10-year absolute risk and instead focus more on early and sustained lowering of risk factors for people with a higher lifetime risk of CVD. Using risk factor years in the equation.



Global Initiatives such as LP (a) Taskforce. Transform the landscape for CVD prevention



Thank you!

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