



# GI BLEEDING

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# DISCLOSURES

- Mahana Therapeutics, Advisor

# INITIAL EVALUATION: LOCALIZING SOURCE OF BLEED

## UPPER GI BLEEDING

- Hematemesis
- Coffee ground emesis
- Melena (50-100 cc blood)
- Hematochezia (5%)

## LOWER GI BLEEDING

- Hematochezia
- Maroon stools
- Melena

Melena LR 25  
Coffee grounds LR 10  
BUN/Cr >30 LR 7.5

~~FOBT~~  
~~NG Aspiration~~



## PRE-ENDOSCOPIC RISK ASSESMENT

Rockall (0-7)	Glasgow-Blatchford (0-23)	AIMS 65 (0-5)
HR SBP Age Comorbidities	BUN Hgb SBP HR Melena Syncope Hepatic Disease Cardiac failure	Albumin <3.0 INR > 1.5 Mental status altered Systolic BP <90 65+ years old
Death	Transfusion, hemostatic therapy, death	Death

## GOAL OF RISK ASSESSMENT MODELS

- Identify **low risk** patients with high sensitivity
  - Ex: GBS 0-I Sensitivity 99% ; Specificity 27-40% (most hospitalized will not die or need intervention)
- 2021 ACG guidelines: **discharge** with outpatient follow up for risk assessment model showing  $\leq 1\%$  mortality

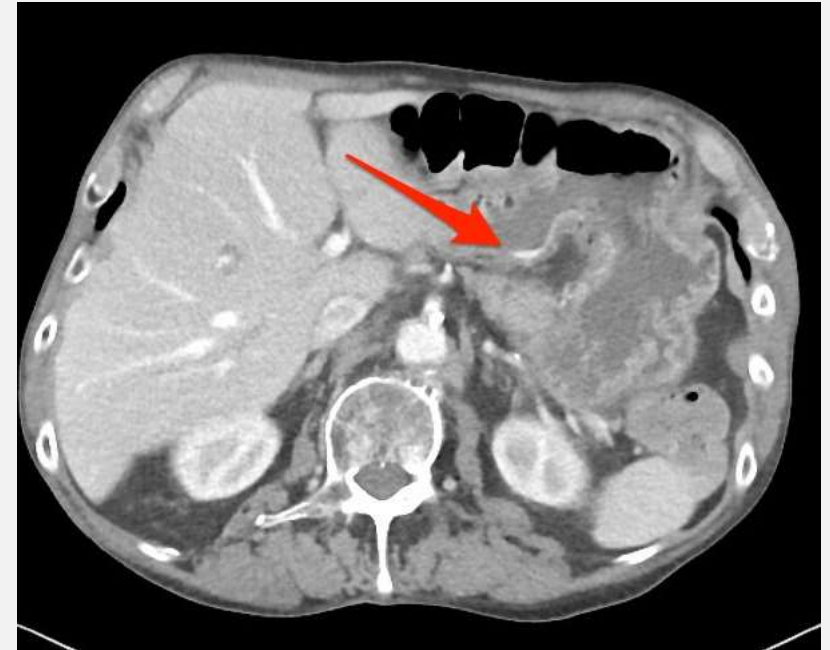
## CAUSES OF MORTALITY IN PATIENTS WITH PEPTIC ULCER BLEEDING

- Prospective cohort study 9,375 patients with peptic ulcer disease
  - Overall Mortality rate 6.2%
  - **Majority (80.3%) do not directly die of bleeding**
    - Terminal malignancy (34%)
    - Multi-organ failure (24%)
    - Pulmonary disease (24%)
    - Cardiac disease (14%)

# MASSIVE BLEEDING

- Should be at a center with IR, GI, Surgery
  - → activate multidisciplinary team
- Consider CTA for localization, angiography
- Consider emergency devices:
  - Esophageal balloon tamponade (Sengstaken-Blakemore Tube, Minnesota Tube)

Don't miss diagnoses: aortoenteric fistula, splenic artery pseudoaneurysm



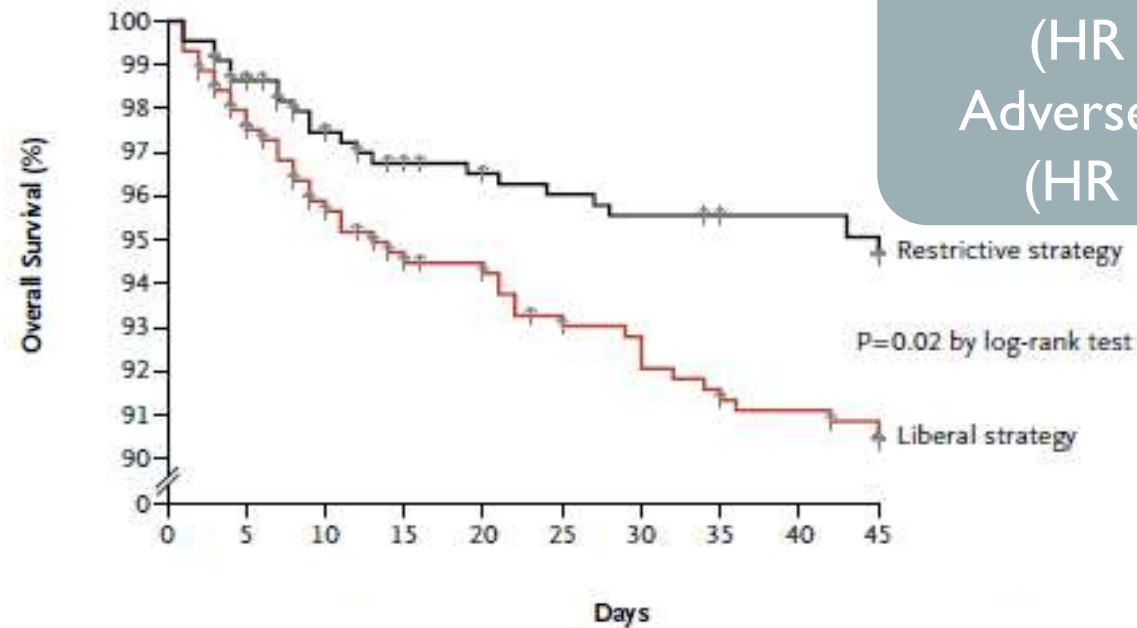
## EARLY INTENSIVE RESUSCITATION REDUCES MORTALITY IN GI BLEEDS

	Observation (n=36)	Intensive Resuscitation (n=36)	P value
Normal hemodynamics	260 min	111 min	.002
Normal HCT (28)	243 min	188 min	.03
Endoscopic intervention	765 min	861 min	
Days in hospital	7.2	5.8	.06
Units blood given	2.5	2.6	.22
Myocardial infarction	5	2	.04
Mortality	4	1	.04



# SIGNIFICANT MORTALITY BENEFIT OF RESTRICTIVE TRANSFUSION STRATEGY IN UGIB

A Survival, According to Transfusion Strategy



No. at Risk

Restrictive strategy

Liberal strategy

444	429	412	404	401	399	397	395	394	392
445	428	407	397	393	386	383	378	375	372

Further Bleeding: 10% vs 16%  
(HR = 0.62; 0.43-0.91)  
Adverse Events: 40% vs 48%  
(HR = 0.73; 0.56-0.95)

## RESUSCITATION SUMMARY

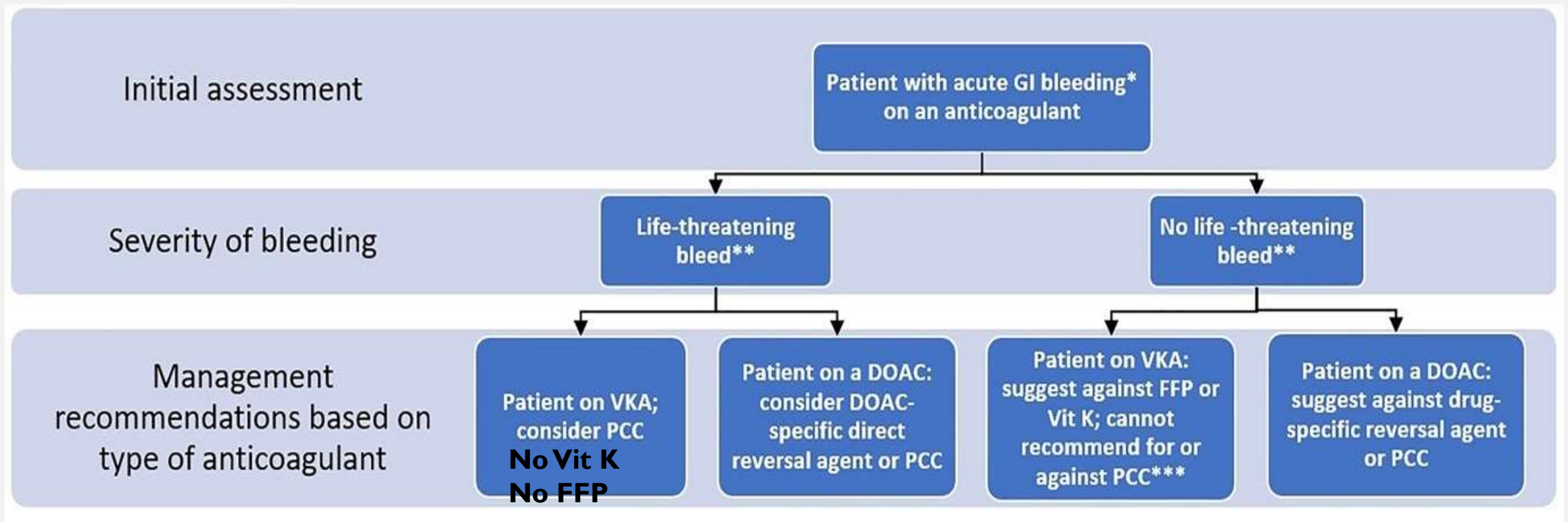
- Early correction of hemodynamics and hematocrit
  - Crystalloid
  - Blood transfusion parameters
    - All patients Hgb < 7 g/dL
    - Pre-existing CV disease Hgb < 8 g/dL
    - Acute Coronary Syndrome Hgb < 8g/dL
      - Based on RCT with anemia (not specific to GIB) and acute MI – noninferior in CV events for 8 vs 10g/dL: 11% vs 14%
    - Hypotensive with active bleeding – do not need to wait for Hgb to drop < 7
  - Platelets for < 50K/uL with active bleeding



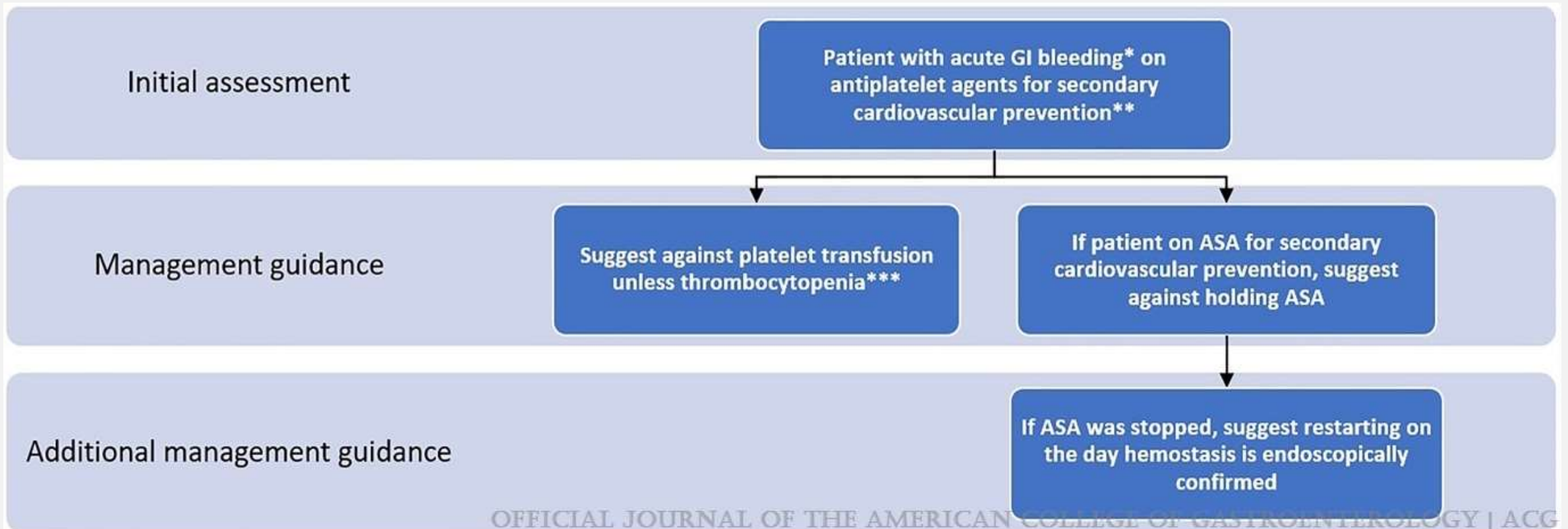
*Ducrocq G et al. JAMA 2021*

*Laine L et al. AJG 2021*

# REVERSAL OF ANTICOAGULATION



# MANAGEMENT OF ASPIRIN



## PRE-ENDOSCOPY MEDICATIONS: PPI

- IV PPI (ie. Pantoprazole): 80 mg bolus + 8 mg/hr drip OR 40mg IV q 12
  - Rationale: suppress acid, facilitate clot formation and stabilization
  - Duration: 48-72hrs; at least until EGD, then based on findings
  - Evidence: “downstages” high risk endoscopic lesions but not shown to reduce surgery, or mortality rates



An endoscopic image showing a large, reddish, lobulated polypoid lesion in the colon. The lesion is situated on the mucosal wall and has a prominent, fringed appearance. The surrounding mucosa is visible, showing some vascular patterns and minor inflammation. The overall scene is illuminated by the endoscopic light, creating a warm, reddish-orange hue.

WHAT DO WE SEE HERE?

## PRE-ENDOSCOPY MEDICATIONS: PROKINETIC AGENT

- Erythromycin 250mg Infusion 30-90min prior to EGD
  - Reduced need for repeat EGD (OR 0.51; 95% CI: 0.34-0.77,  $P<0.01$ ), LOS (MD -1.75; 95% CI: -2.43 to -1.06,  $P<0.01$ ) BUT NOT other outcomes ie surgery, or # of PRBC needed
  - Need to 1<sup>st</sup> assess QTC/cardiac risk
- Alternative? Metoclopramide (Reglan) 10mg IV

## PREENDOSCOPY MEDICAL MANAGEMENT: VARICES SUSPECTED

- Intravenous PPI
- Octreotide drip (50 mcg IV bolus, 50 mcg/hr)
- Antibiotics in patients with cirrhosis and ANY GI bleeding cause:  
reduces hospital-associated infections, all cause mortality, re-bleeding,  
length of stay



## HOW DO WE RECONCILE THE GI BLEED PARADOX?

- Pros of early endoscopy? Low risk pts (normal VS, no severe comorbidities) often low risk findings (40%) → d/c home
- HOWEVER 80-90% of bleeding stops with medical management
- Cons of early endoscopy (<12hr)? NO change in re-bleeding rate, LOS, surgery, mortality

***...but also is it a Friday?***

Current guidelines for EGD:

- Suspected variceal bleeding
- Other

**<12 hrs**

**<24 hrs**

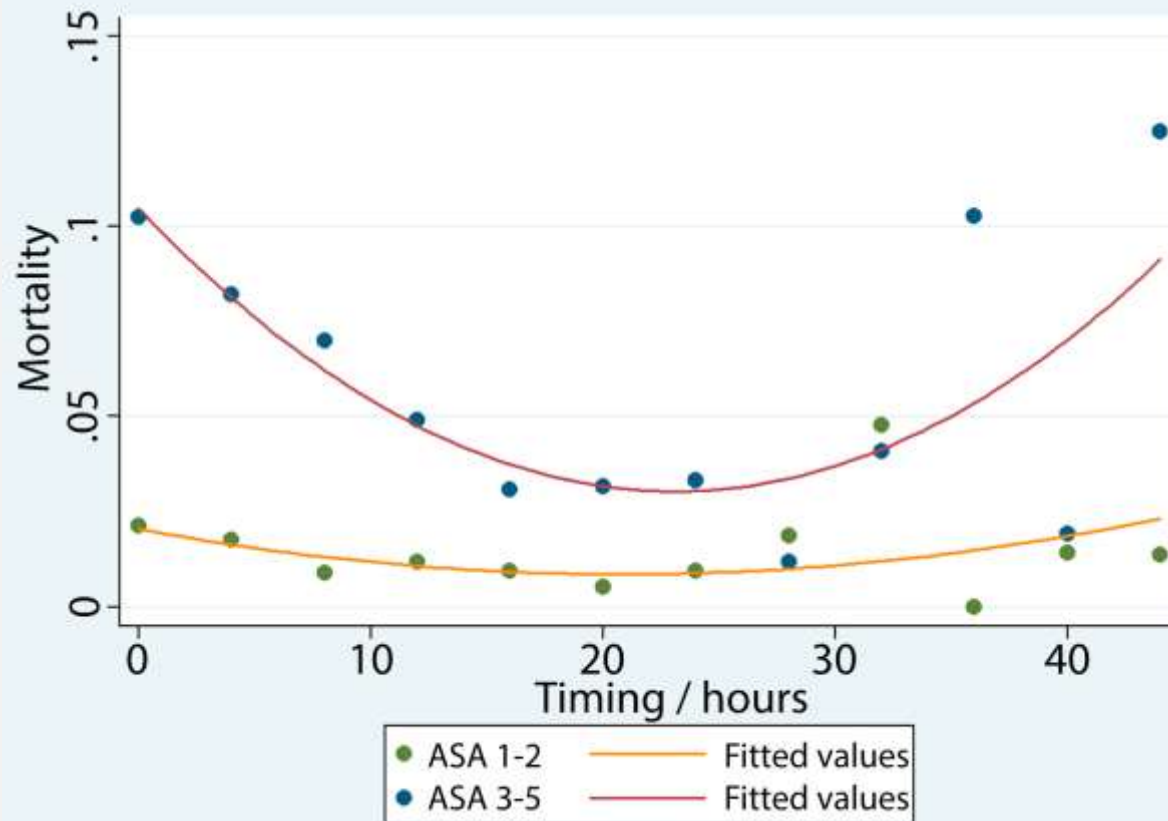
Cooper GS et al. *Gastrointest Endosc* 1999

Laine L et al. *AJG* 2021

Lin HJ et al. *J Clin Gastroenterol* 1996



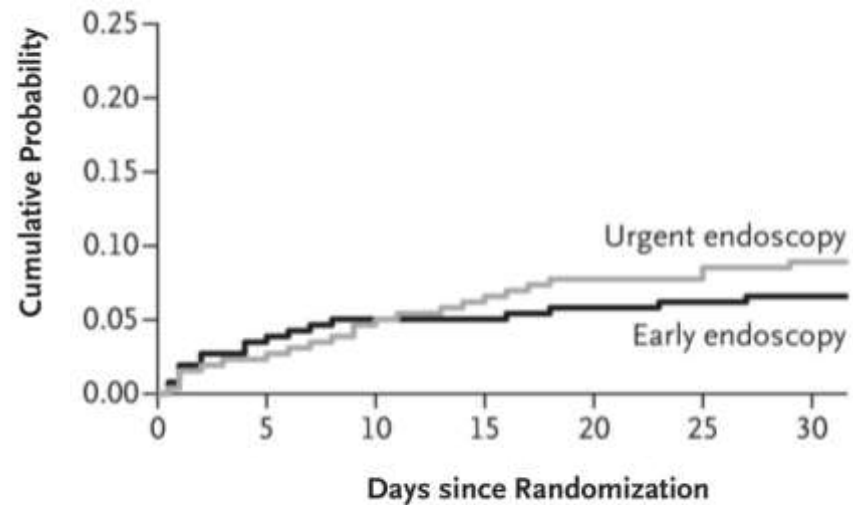
# TIMING OF ENDOSCOPY AND MORTALITY



Procedural sedation may cause cardiovascular compromise in an under-resuscitated patient

# URGENT EGD (WITHIN 6H) DOES NOT IMPROVE MORTALITY OR REBLEEDING

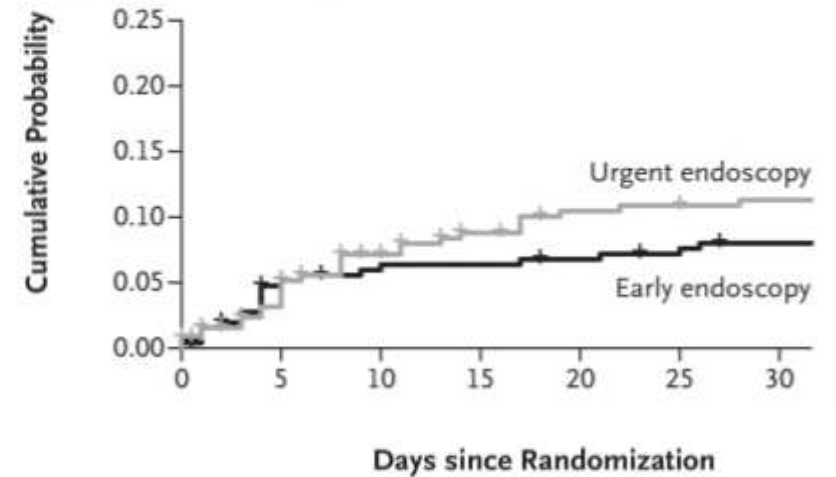
**A** Cumulative Probability of Death



**No. at Risk**

Urgent endoscopy	258	252	246	242	238	238	235
Early endoscopy	258	249	245	245	243	242	241

**B** Cumulative Probability of Further Bleeding



**No. at Risk**

Urgent endoscopy	258	243	228	220	214	213	210
Early endoscopy	258	237	231	230	228	226	223

**IF YOU COULD SHARE THE FUN  
STUFF NOW..**

**THAT'D BE GREAT...**

memegenerator.net

## DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS OF UPPER GIB

Cause	Prevalence
Peptic ulcer disease (PUD)	33.9%
Esophageal and gastric varices	32.8%
Erosive esophagitis	8.1%
Mallory-Weiss tear	6.4%
Erosion	5.1%
Tumor	5.1%
Esophageal ulcer	2.1%
Portal hypertensive gastropathy (PHG)	1.0%
Dieulafoy, Cameron Lesion	1.6%

80%



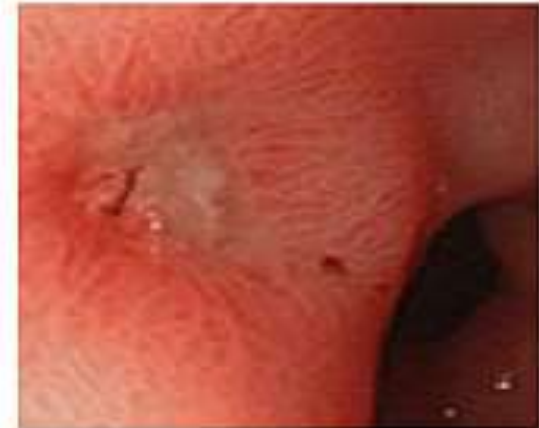
# Ulcer Classification



**Forrest Ia**  
Arterial spurting



**Forrest Ib**  
Oozing from ulcer base  
10-27%



**Forrest IIa**  
Visible vessel  
50%



**Forrest IIb**  
Adherent clot



**Forrest IIc**  
Black spots  
<8%



**Forrest III**  
Clean ulcer base  
<5%

Require  
endoscopic  
therapy

High Risk Ulcers  
Continued/Rebleeding Rate: 85-100%

Low Risk Ulcers  
Continued/Rebleeding Rate: 30-35%

# MANAGEMENT OF BLEEDING VARICES

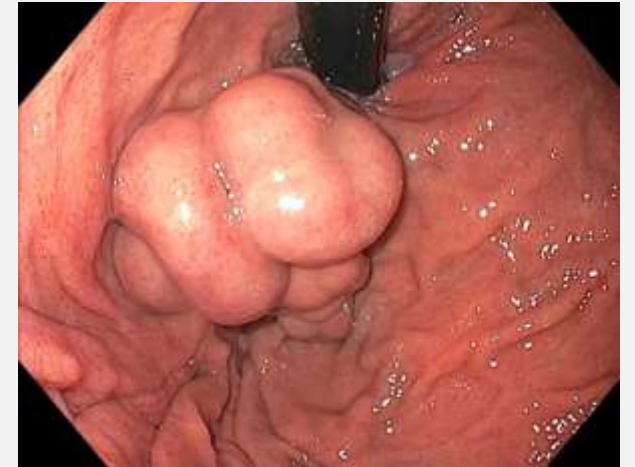
- Esophageal

- Endoscopic banding
- Sclerotherapy
- Esophageal stent (temp)
- TIPS

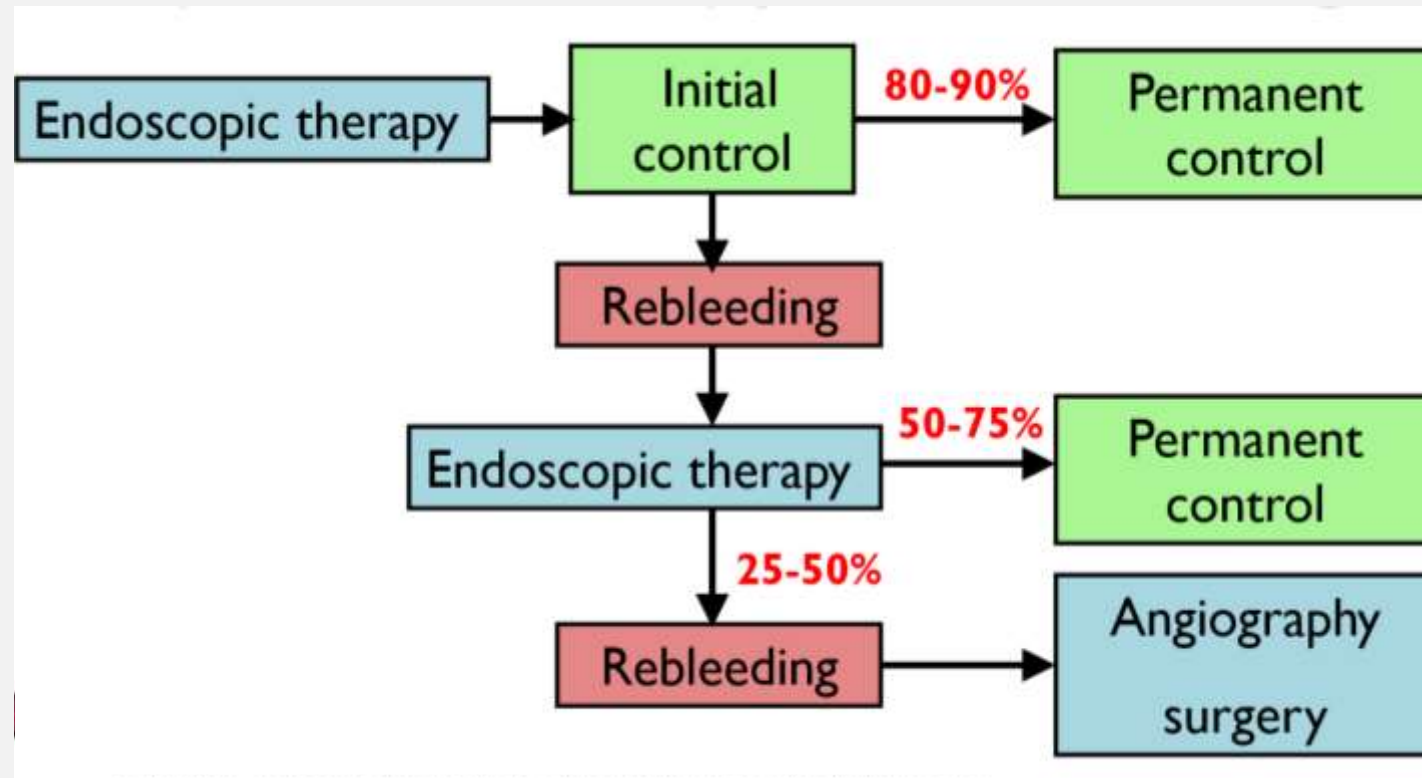


- Gastric

- Endoscopic banding
- Cyanoacrylate (isolated GOV)
- TIPS, BRTO



## REPEAT ENDOSCOPY FOR RE-BLEEDING





## POST-ENDOSCOPY NONVARICEAL UGIB MANAGEMENT

- Low Risk Endoscopic Findings
  - E.g. clean-based ulcer, nonbleeding Mallory-Weiss tear, erosions
  - Start diet promptly
  - Discharge if stable VS and Hgb
- High Risk Endoscopic Findings
  - E.g. ulcer with bleeding stigmata, varices, neoplasm, Dieulafoy
  - Remains admitted

## POST-ENDOSCOPY PEPTIC ULCER MANAGEMENT

- High risk ulcers (required endoscopic therapy): **PPI IV x 72 hrs**
  - Reduces 30 day rebleeding rate vs placebo (6.7% vs. 22.5%)
  - Recommend to discharge on 2 weeks of BID PPI
    - Limited data to support BID vs daily beyond this
- Check H. pylori status
- Gastric ulcers: consider repeat EGD in 4-6 weeks r/o malignancy

*Laine L et al. AJG 2021*

*Lau JYW et al. NEJM 2000*

*Wong C et al. Arch Intern Med 2010*

## POST-ENDOSCOPIC VARICEAL LIGATION MANAGEMENT

- Continue IV Vasoactive agent for 2-5 days
- Continue antibiotic prophylaxis for 5-7 days
- Consider stopping PPI if no indication vs 10 day max
- 2ndary prevention:
  - Repeat EGD 2-4 weeks retreatment
  - Start NSBB once stabilized and titrate to HR goal 50-60
- High risk for rebleed consider TIPS

## POST-PROCEDURE ASPIRIN MANAGEMENT

- If cardiovascular disease on aspirin 81mg:  
**restart same day hemostasis achieved**
  - Increased risk of rebleeding (10% vs. 5%) but decreased 30 day **mortality** (1.3% vs. 13%)



# LOWER GI BLEEDING

- Diverticulosis (42%)
- Ischemia
- Anorectal (Hemorrhoids, Anal Fissures, Rectal Ulcers, Rectal Varices, Prolapse)
- Neoplasia (Polyps and cancer)
- Angiodysplasia
- Post polypectomy (up to 2 weeks after; 0-13%)
- IBD
- Radiation Colitis
- Other Colitis (infectious, C. diff)
- *Small Bowel/UGIB: 3-13% ; Unidentified Cause (6-23%)*



## TRIAGING LOWER GI BLEEDING

- ~80% LGIBs resolve spontaneously  
→ ~30% will rebleed
- Oakland Score good for predicting low risk LGIB for adverse outcomes
  - $\leq 8$  = 95% probability of safe discharge

Age, years	<40 0	40-69 +1	$\geq 70$ +2
Sex	Female 0		Male +1
Previous lower GI bleeding admission	No 0		Yes +1
<a href="#">DRE</a> findings	No blood 0		Blood +1
Heart rate, bpm	<70 0		
	70-89		+1
	90-109		+2
	$\geq 110$		+3
Systolic blood pressure, mmHg	50-89		+5
	90-119		+4
	120-129		+3
	130-159		+2
	$\geq 160$		0
Hemoglobin, g/L (g/dL)	36-69 (3.6-6.9)		+22
	70-89 (7-8.9)		+17
	90-109 (9-10.9)		+13
	110-129 (11-12.9)		+8
	130-159 (13-15.9)		+4
	$\geq 160$ (16)		0
<b>Result:</b>			

## WHO'S A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR CTA?

**Those with risk factors for positive exam** (and intact kidneys):

- Hypotension and tachycardia
- Requiring  $> 3$  PRBC / day
- Antiplatelet or anticoagulant agents
- Recent surgical or endoscopic intervention
- Hematochezia within 4 hours of the exam

Bleeding required:  
0.3-0.5mL/min  
Sensitivity ~90%

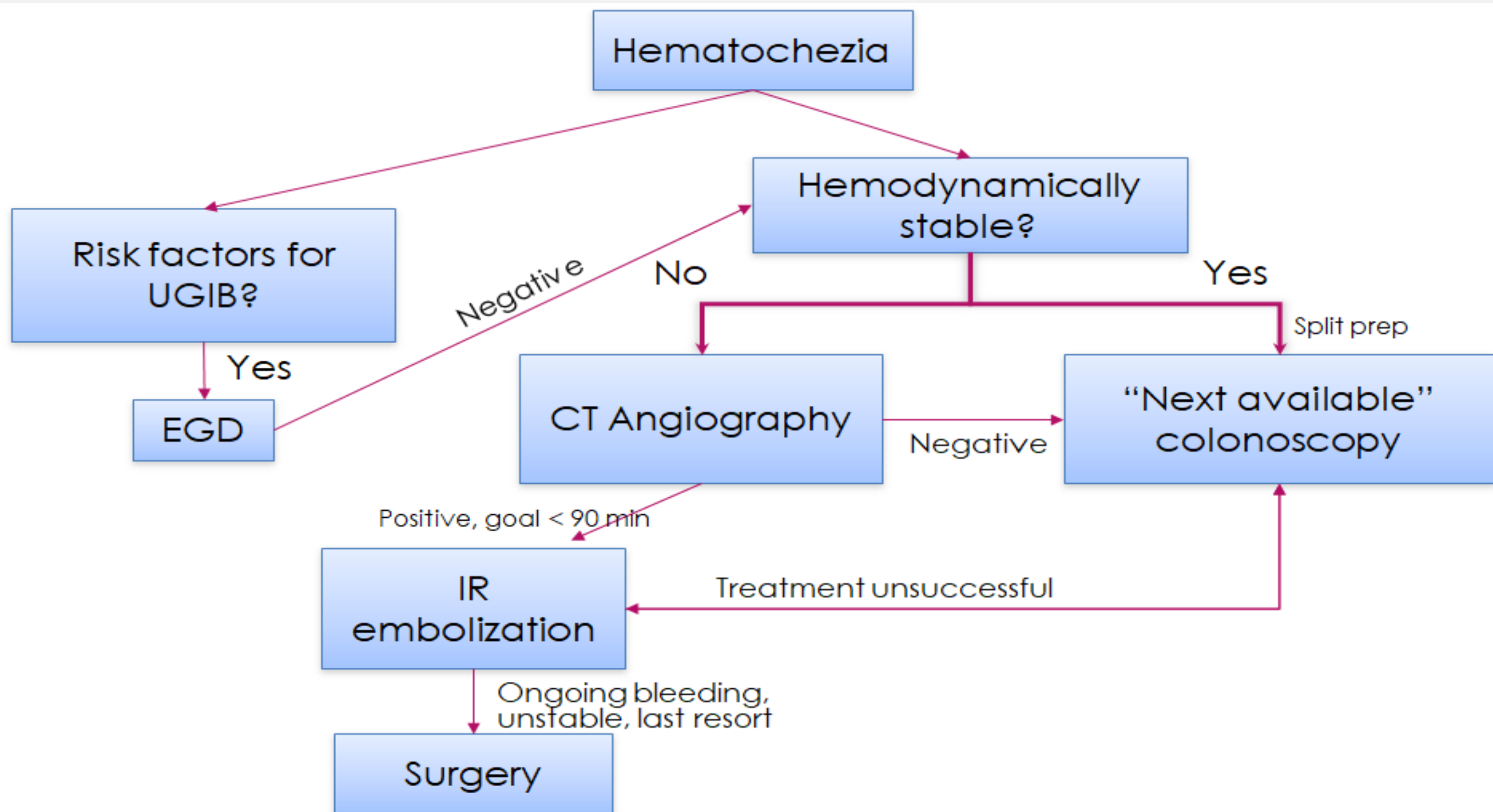
*Snelling S et al. Ann R Coll Surg Engl 2022  
Smith RS et al. J Med Imaging Radiat Oncol 2021  
Strate L & Gralnek I, AJG 2016*



## TIMING OF COLONOSCOPY IN LGIB

- Urgent (<24hr) vs elective colonoscopy (>24hr):  
did not affect rate of bleeding, mortality, diagnostic yield, or any primary hemostatic intervention (endoscopic, surgical, or IR)
- E.g. RCT 159 pts randomized colonoscopy < 24 hr vs 24-96 hrs:  
**only 1.4%** reduction in rebleeding with urgent colonoscopy





THANK YOU!

And remember,

“All bleeding stops eventually”

- House of God

QUESTIONS?

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