

# New trends and priorities in anaemia management 2017 update

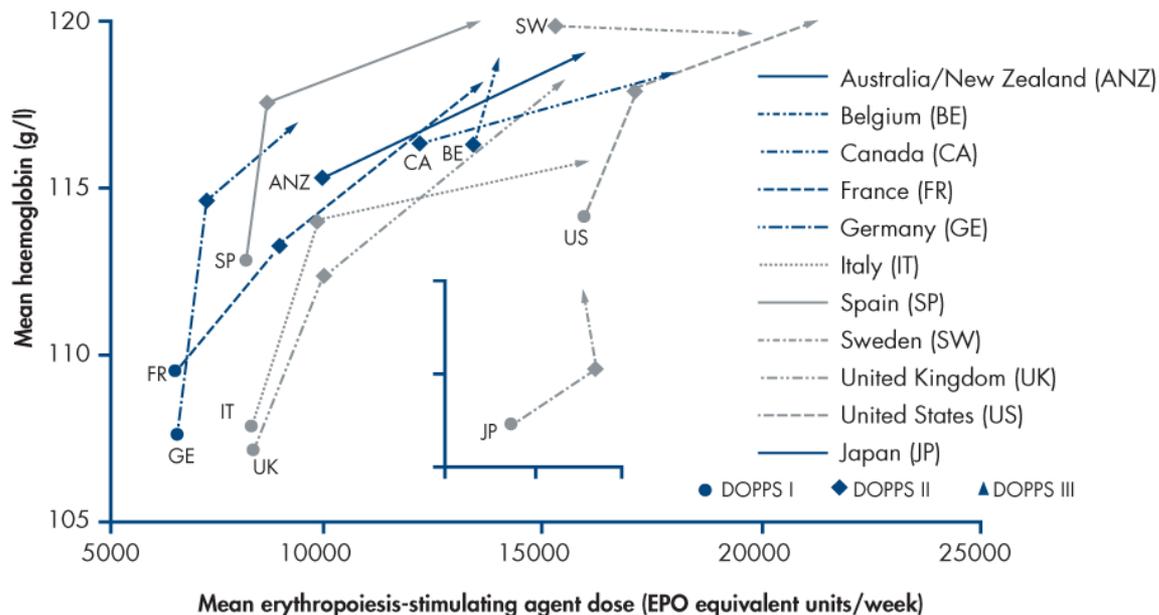
David Goldsmith, London, UK





# ESA doses in patients with CKD have increased

DOPPS I (1996-2001) to DOPPS III (2005-2008)



## 2006-2010 : A testing period for ESAs

### Time to Reconsider Evidence for Anaemia Treatment (TREAT) = Essential Safety Arguments (ESA)

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#### In-Depth Review

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### 2009: A Requiem for rHuEPOs—But Should We Nail Down the Coffin in 2010?

NDT Advance Access published September 17, 2010

Nephrol Dial Transplant (2010) 1 of 4  
doi: 10.1093/ndt/gfq577

*Editorial Review*

#### **Extraordinary popular delusions and the madness of crowds: puncturing the epoetin bubble—lessons for the future**

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d Goldsmith

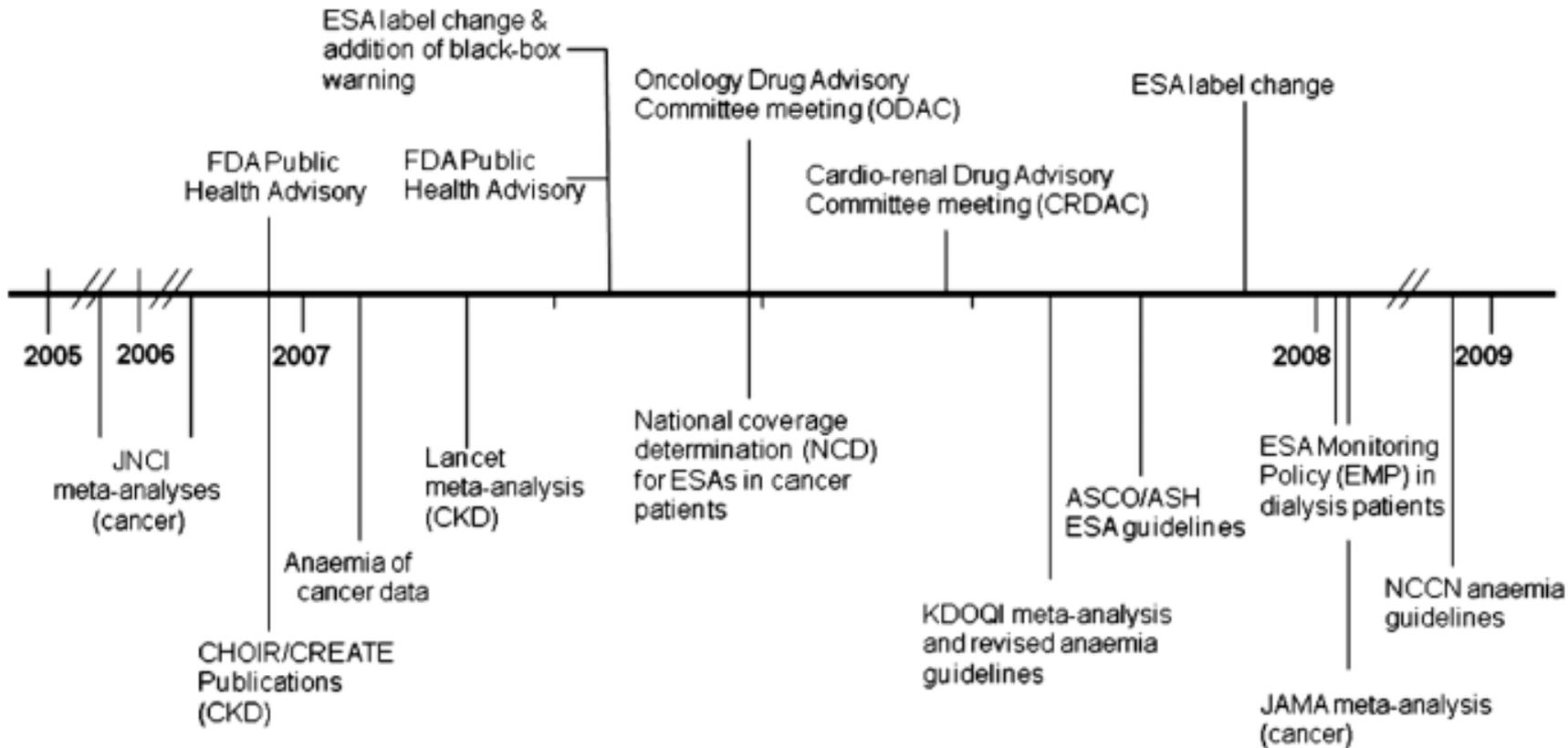
Department, Guy's Hospital, King's Health Partners, London, United Kingdom

*Clin J Am Soc Nephrol* 5: 929–935, 2010. doi: 10.2215/CJN.09131209

# Sign of the Times...

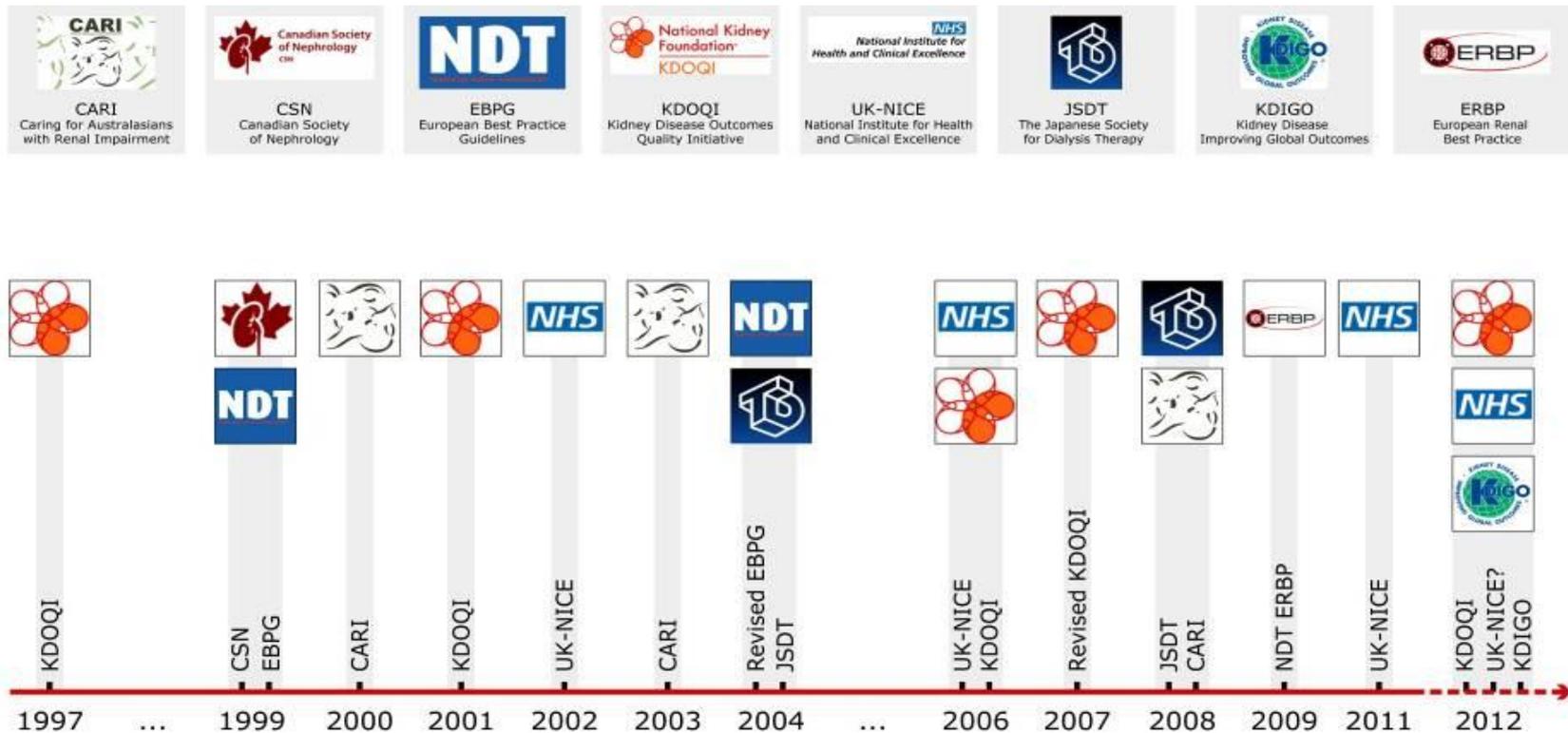


# Caution emerges in the renal community....

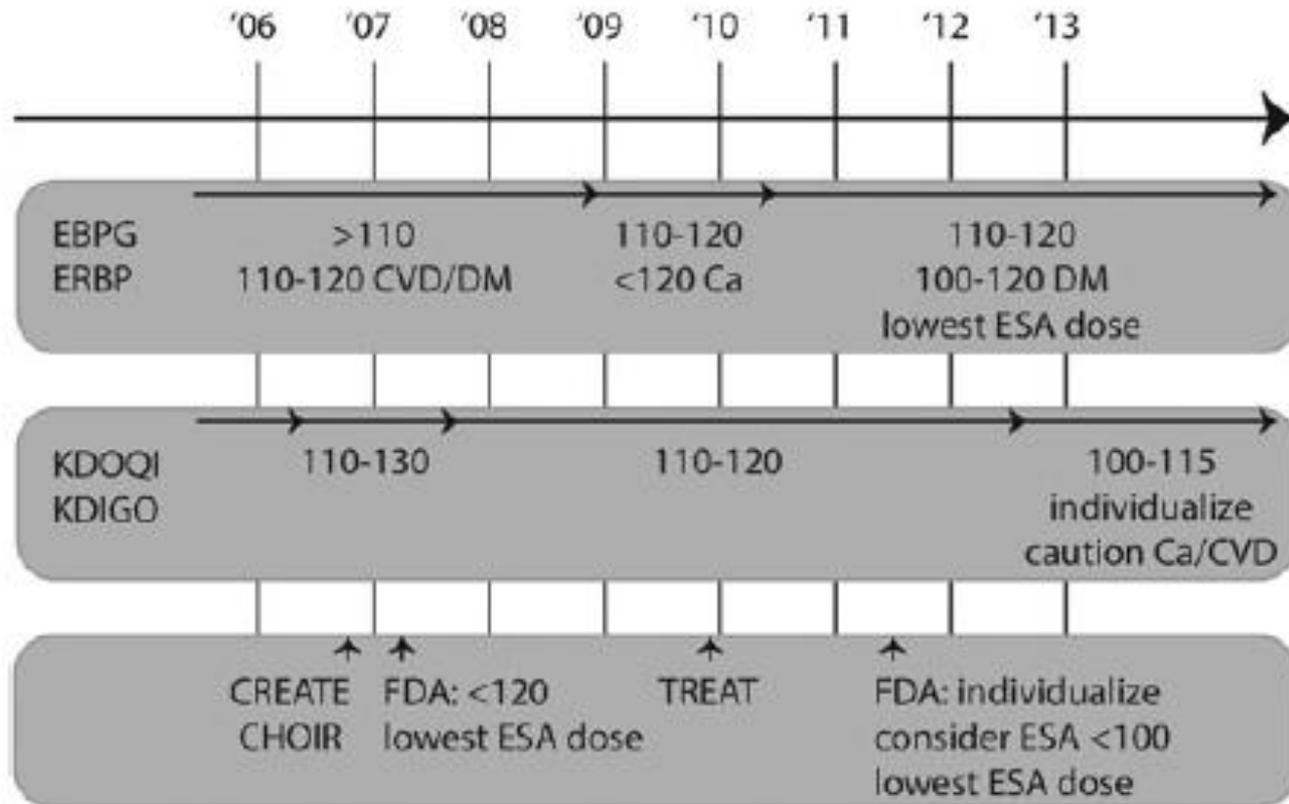


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# Renal anaemia management guidelines

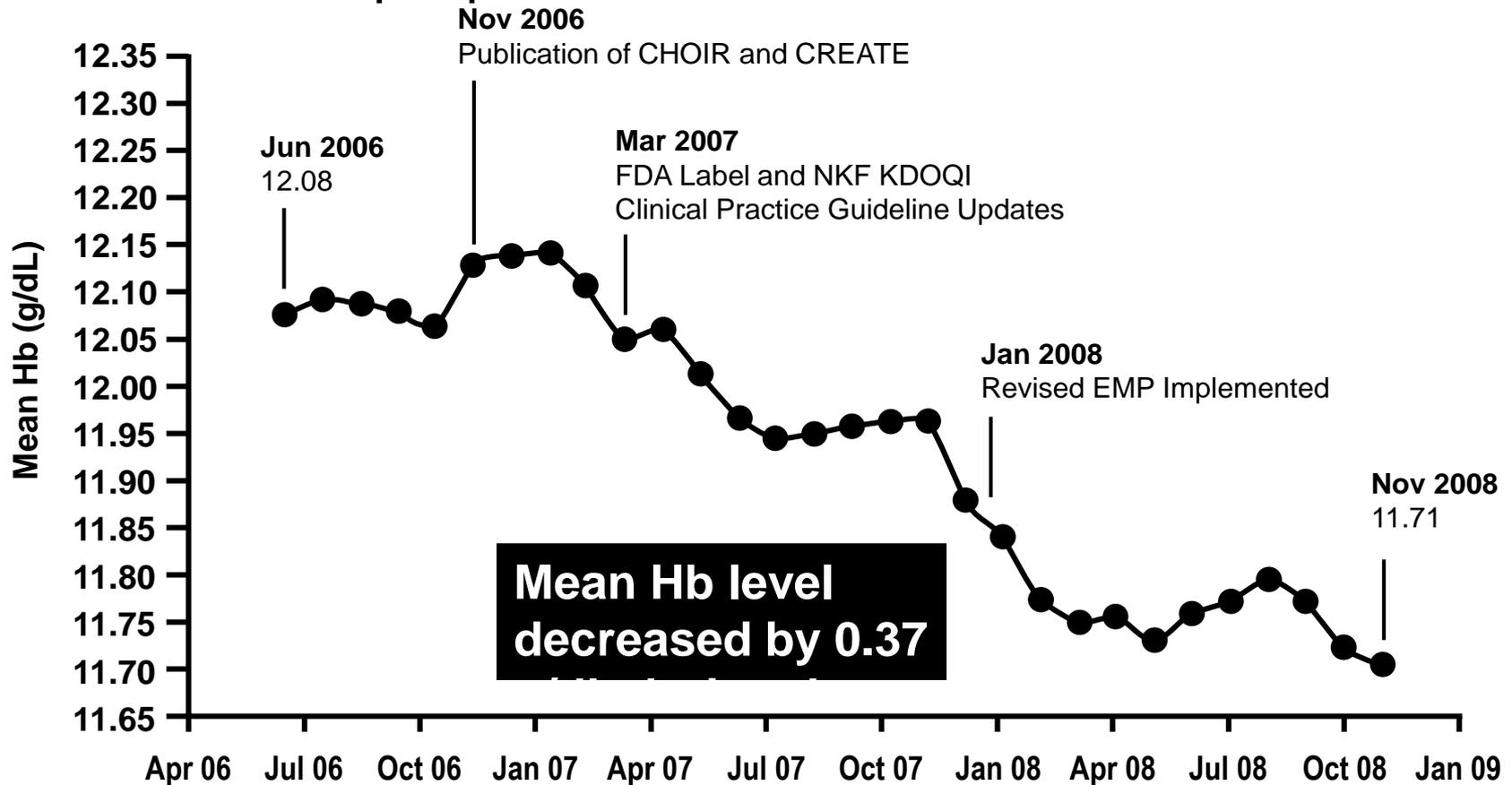


# Trials, and Guidelines, for Hb 2006-2014



# Decrease in Hb levels since 2006

- Retrospective observational study using patient-level data from ~87% of dialysis centres in the US (2006-2008): ~743 000 unique patients



*Original Article*

# Trends in haemoglobin, erythropoietin-stimulating agents and iron use in Swedish chronic kidney disease patients between 2008 and 2013

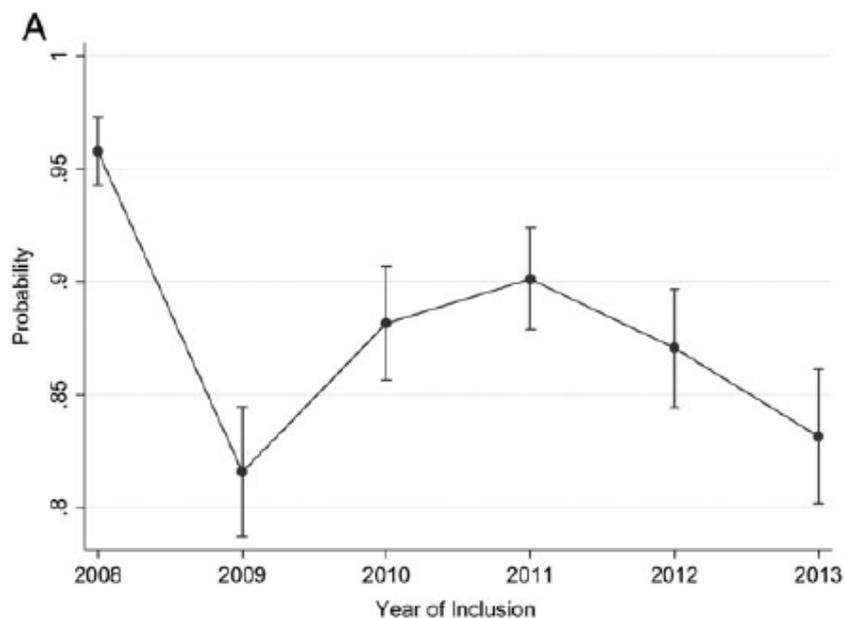
Marie Evans<sup>1,2</sup>, Marit M. Suttorp<sup>3</sup>, Rino Bellocco<sup>4,5</sup>, Tiny Hoekstra<sup>3</sup>, Abdul R. Qureshi<sup>1</sup>, Friedo W. Dekker<sup>3</sup> and Juan-Jesus Carrero<sup>1,6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Clinical Science, Intervention and Technology (CLINTEC), Division of Renal Medicine, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden, <sup>2</sup>Swedish Renal Registry, Jönköping, Sweden, <sup>3</sup>Department of Clinical Epidemiology, Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC), Leiden, The Netherlands, <sup>4</sup>Department of Statistics and Quantitative Methods, University of Milano-Bicocca, Milano, Italy, <sup>5</sup>Department of Medical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden and <sup>6</sup>Center for Molecular Medicine, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

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Table 2. Trends in the use of ESA in a referred CKD-ND population during the period 2008–13

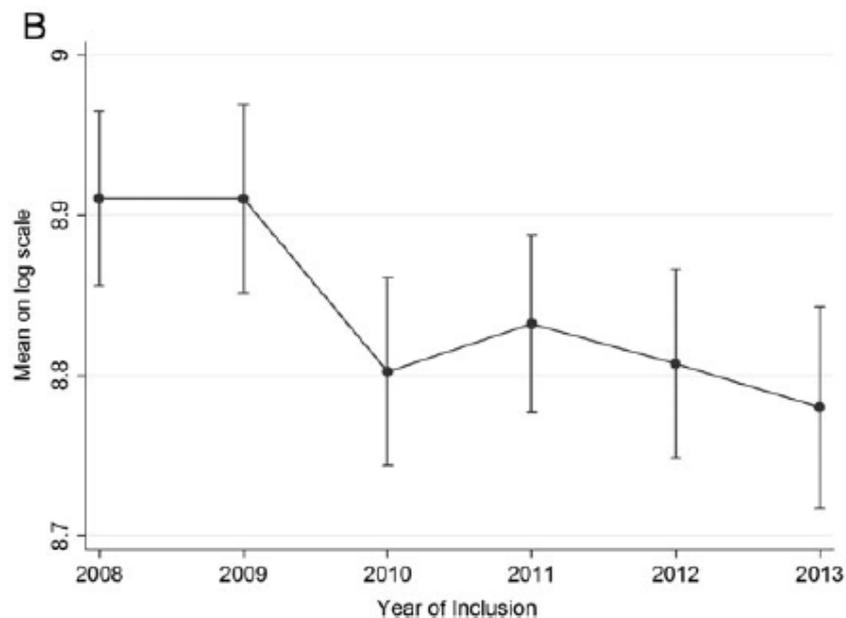
	2008–09
	Adj. RR
ESA use <sup>a</sup>	Ref.
ESA dose <sup>a</sup>	Ref.



95% CI	P-value
0.81; 0.96	0.003
0.87; 1.04	
95% CI	P-value
-0.03; 0.12	0.16
-0.11; 0.05	

Table 6. Trends in the use of ESA

	2008–09
	Adj. RR
ESA use <sup>a</sup>	Ref.
ESA dose <sup>a</sup>	Ref.



95% CI	P-value
0.92; 0.97	<0.01
0.92; 0.98	
95% CI	P-value
-0.15; -0.04	<0.01
-0.08; 0.03	

**Table 7. Trends in haemoglobin levels in stable incident HD patients during the period 2008–13**

	2008–09	2010–11	95% CI	2012–13	95% CI	P-value
	Adj. coeff.	Adj. coeff.		Adj. coeff.		
<b>Haemoglobin<sup>a</sup></b>						
ESA users	Ref.	-1.29 Ref.	-2.33; -0.25	-1.72 -0.44	-2.81; -0.64 -1.51; 0.64	<0.01
ESA non-users	Ref.	-0.47 Ref.	-3.91; 2.96	0.09 0.57	-3.18; 3.36 -2.69; 3.82	0.94
		Adj. RR	95% CI	Adj. RR	95% CI	P-value
<b>Hb &gt;120 g/L<sup>a</sup></b>						
ESA users	Ref.	0.88 Ref.	0.80; 0.97	0.89 1.01	0.81; 0.99 0.91; 1.12	<0.02

Adj., adjusted; coeff., coefficient; haemoglobin: to convert g/L to mg/dL multiply by 0.1.

<sup>a</sup>Model adjusted for age, sex, primary renal disease, BMI, use of iron, type of access, use of haemodiafiltration, CRP, p-albumin and standard Kt/V.

**Table 8. Trends in the use of iron medication and ferritin levels in stable incident HD patients 2008–13**

	2008–09	2010–11	95% CI	2012–13	95% CI	P-value
	Adj. RR	Adj. RR		Adj. RR		
<b>Iron medication</b>						
ESA users <sup>a</sup>	Ref.	1.04 Ref.	0.99; 1.09	1.05 1.01	1.00; 1.10 0.96; 1.06	0.05
ESA non-users <sup>a,b</sup>	Ref.	1.40 Ref.	1.11; 1.77	1.42 1.02	1.14; 1.77 0.85; 1.22	<0.01
		Adj. coeff. <sup>c</sup>	95% CI	Adj. coeff. <sup>c</sup>	95% CI	P-value
<b>Ferritin (µg/L)</b>						
ESA users and non-users <sup>a</sup>	Ref.	0.05 Ref.	-0.03; 0.13	-0.06 -0.11	-0.14; 0.02 -0.19; -0.03	0.18

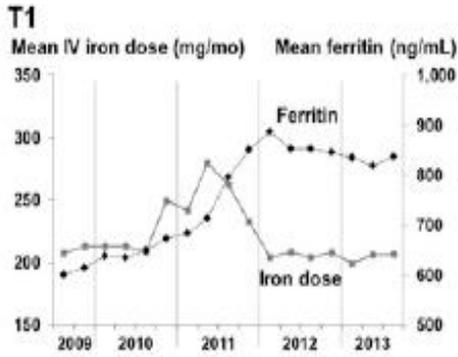
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# Understanding the Recent Increase in Ferritin Levels in United States Dialysis Patients: Potential Impact of Changes in Intravenous Iron and Erythropoiesis-Stimulating Agent Dosing

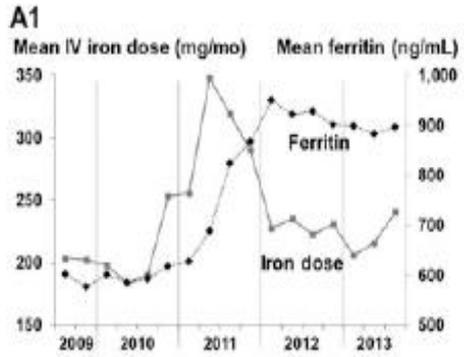
*Angelo Karaboyas,\* Jarcy Zee,\* Hal Morgenstem,\*<sup>†‡</sup> Jacqueline G. Nolen,<sup>§</sup> Raymond Hakim,<sup>||</sup> Kamyar Kalantar-Zadeh,<sup>¶</sup> Philip Zager,\*\* Ronald L. Pisoni,\* Friedrich K. Port,\* and Bruce M. Robinson\*<sup>†‡</sup>*

\*Arbor Research Collaborative for Health, Ann Arbor,

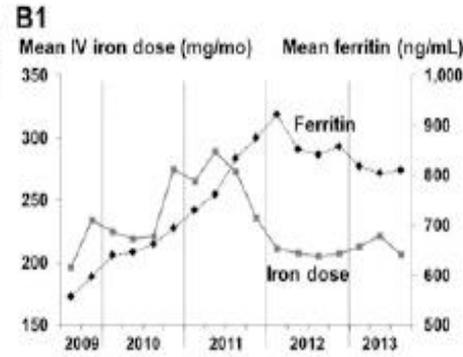
**All patients**



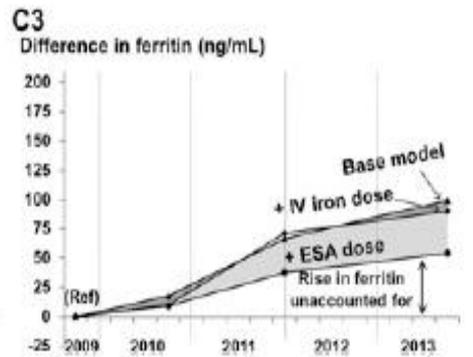
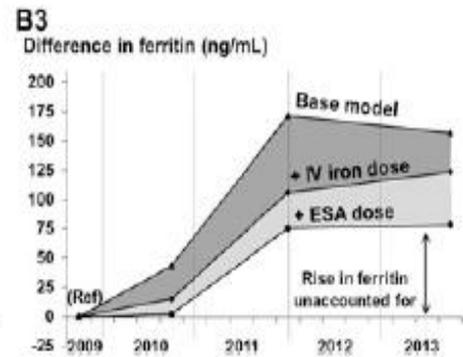
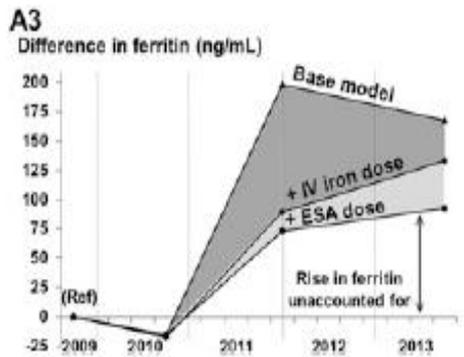
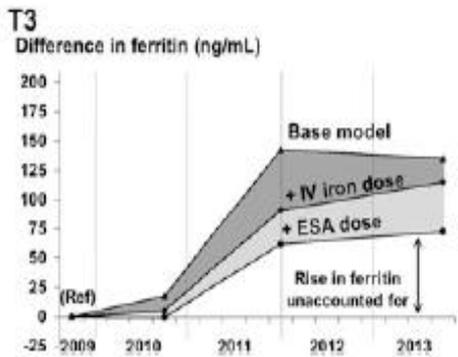
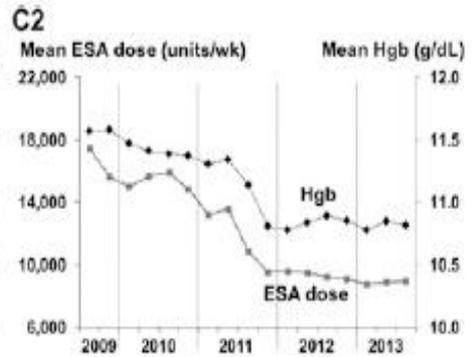
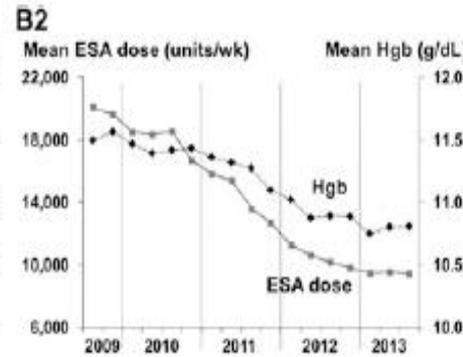
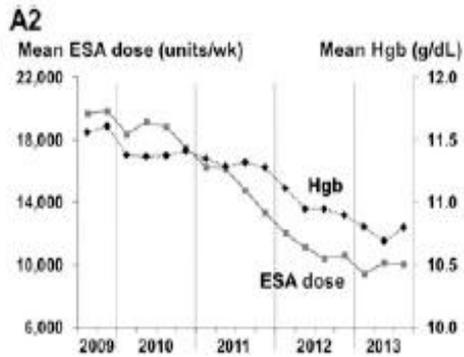
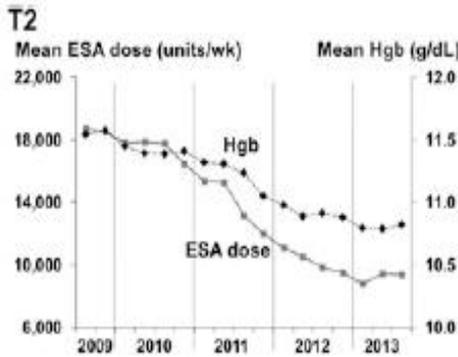
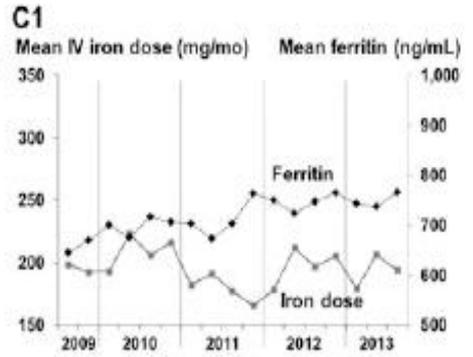
**Group A: Facility mean IV iron dose increased >50 mg/mo from 2010 to 2011**



**Group B: Facility mean IV iron dose increased <50 mg/mo from 2010 to 2011**



**Group C: Facility mean IV iron dose decreased from 2010 to 2011**



# Patient characteristics trends

Table 2. Trends in patient characteristics in United States dialysis patients

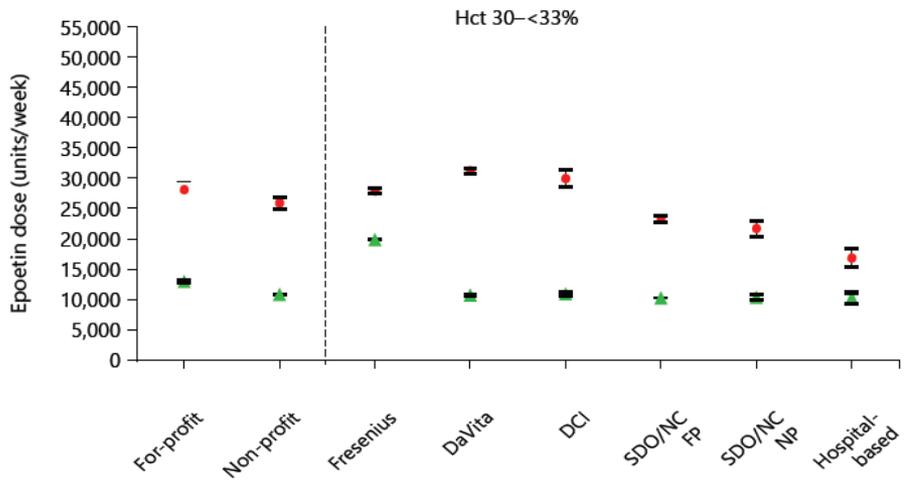
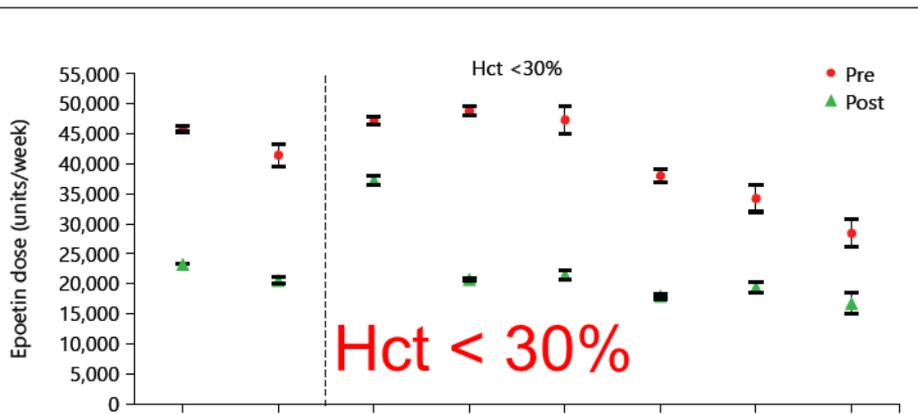
Patient Characteristic	August 2010	August 2011	August 2012	August 2013
Age (yr)	63 (52, 73)	63 (52, 73)	63 (52, 73)	63 (53, 73)
Vintage (yr)	2.7 (1.1, 5.1)	2.8 (1.2, 5.5)	2.9 (1.3, 5.7)	2.9 (1.3, 5.7)
Vintage <90 d (%)	5.2	4.1	4.8	4.9
Men (%)	56	55	56	56
Black race (%)	32	33	37	34
Body mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	27.0 (22.9, 32.2)	27.3 (23.3, 32.1)	27.5 (23.4, 32.3)	27.2 (23.5, 32.4)
Diabetes (%)	64	63	61	62
Systolic BP (mmHg)	148 (131, 163)	147 (131, 163)	148 (132, 165)	146 (130, 163)
Treatment time (min)	212 (195, 240)	212 (195, 240)	215 (196, 240)	215 (199, 241)
Single pool Kt/V	1.56 (1.41, 1.72)	1.58 (1.43, 1.75)	1.62 (1.47, 1.78)	1.60 (1.44, 1.77)
Serum phosphorus (mg/dl)	4.9 (4.1, 6.0)	4.9 (4.1, 5.9)	4.8 (3.9, 5.8)	4.8 (4.0, 5.8)
Serum parathyroid hormone (pg/ml)	247 (163, 379)	307 (192, 488)	311 (196, 501)	322 (198, 496)
Serum albumin (g/dl)	3.84 (3.57, 4.06)	3.85 (3.59, 4.07)	3.89 (3.61, 4.10)	3.90 (3.69, 4.17)
Transfusions (%) <sup>a</sup>	2.5	3.1	3.3	–
Catheter use (%)	18	19	16	16

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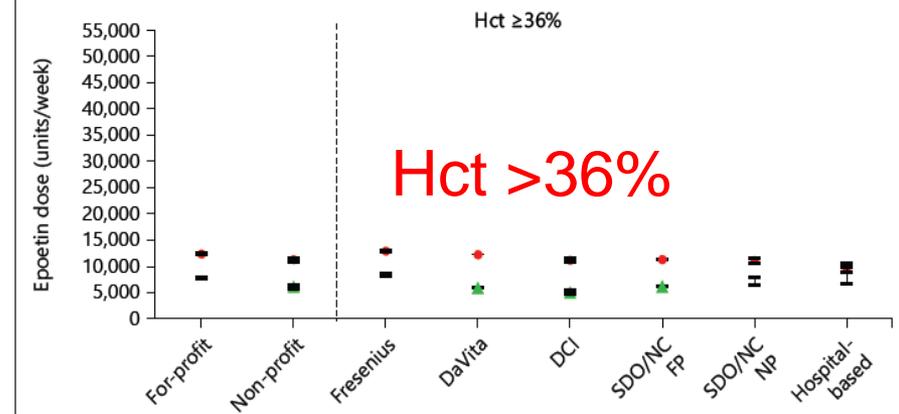
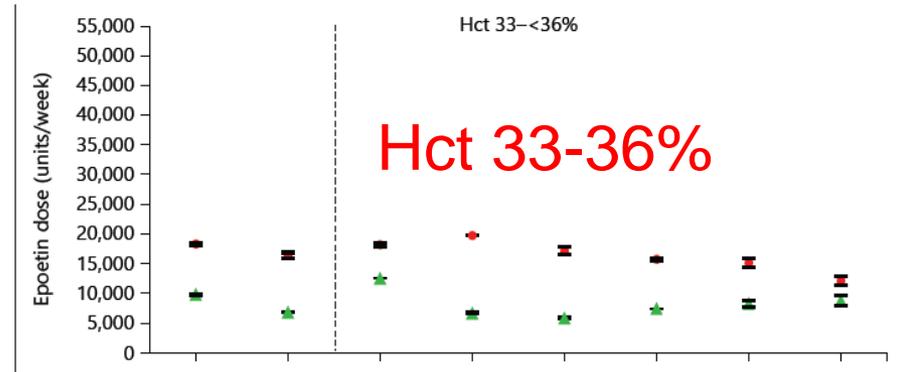
# Major Declines in Epoetin Dosing after Prospective Payment System Based on Dialysis Facility Organizational Status

Mae Thamer<sup>a</sup> Yi Zhang<sup>a</sup> James Kaufman<sup>b</sup> Onkar Kshirsagar<sup>a</sup> Dennis Cotter<sup>a</sup>  
Miguel A. Hernán<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Medical Technology and Practice Patterns Institute, Bethesda, Md., <sup>b</sup>Department of Medicine and Research Service, VA NY Harbor Healthcare System and New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y., and <sup>c</sup>Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology, Boston, Mass., USA



**Hct 30-33%**



# The times and tides of Hb levels (g/dL)

13

7...8

9...11



1997

2004

2011

2017

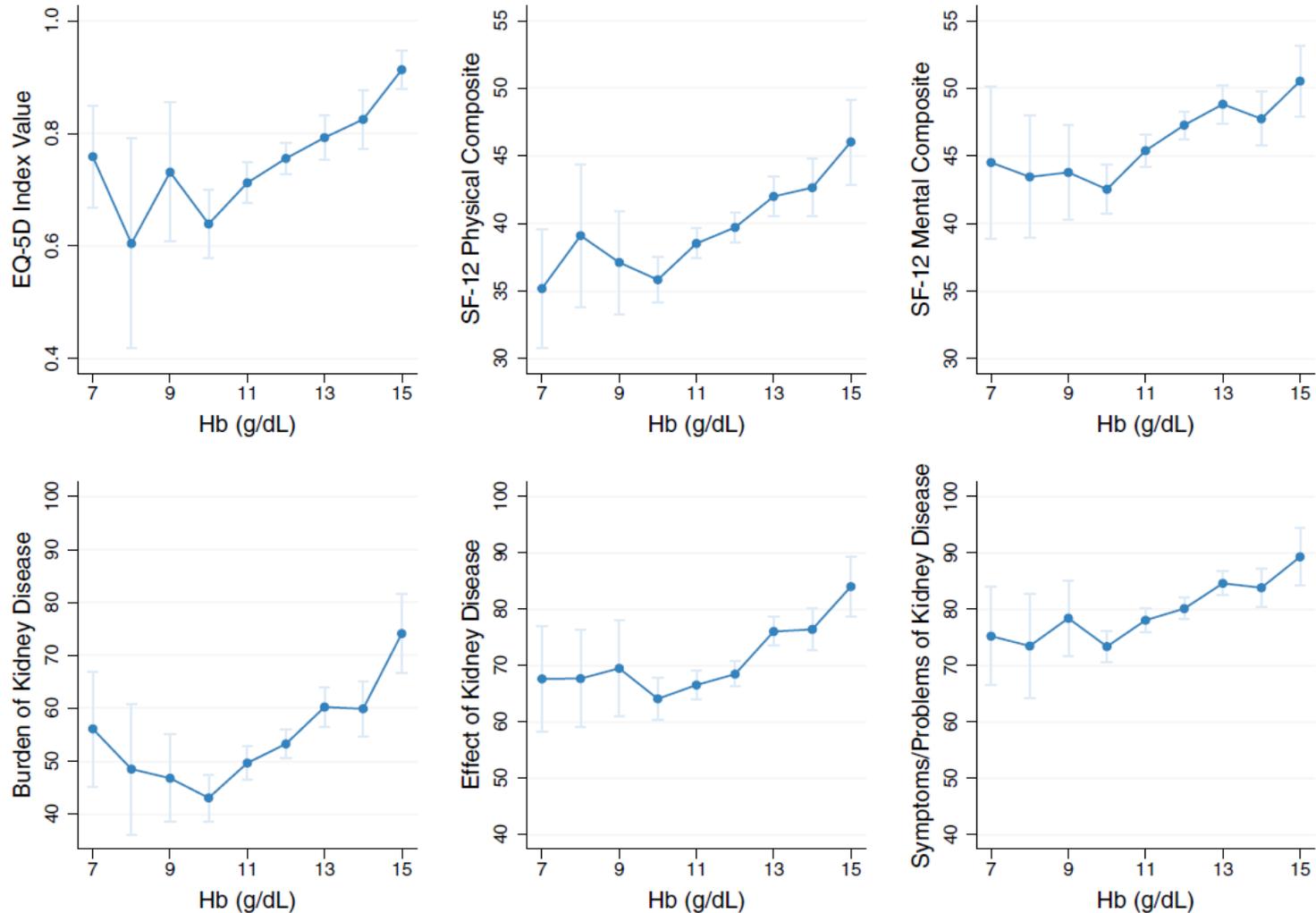
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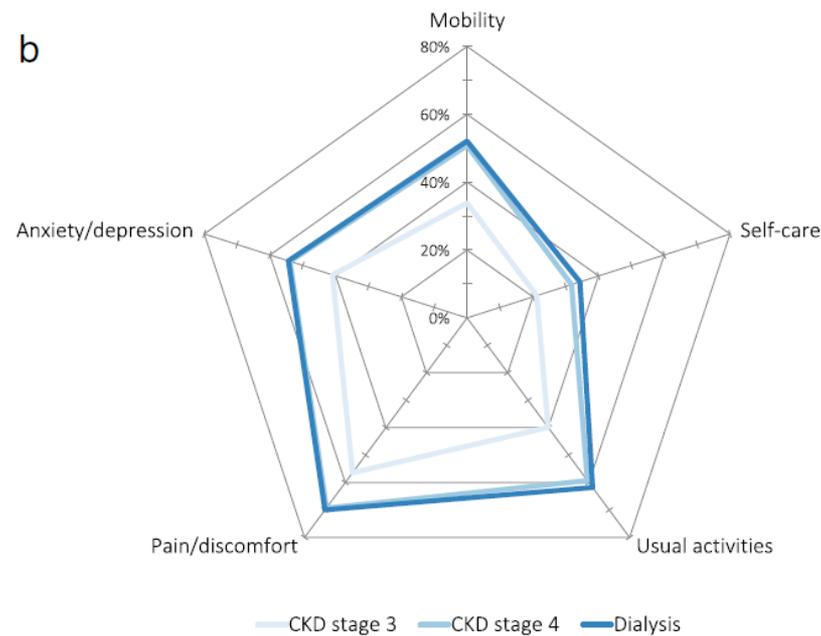
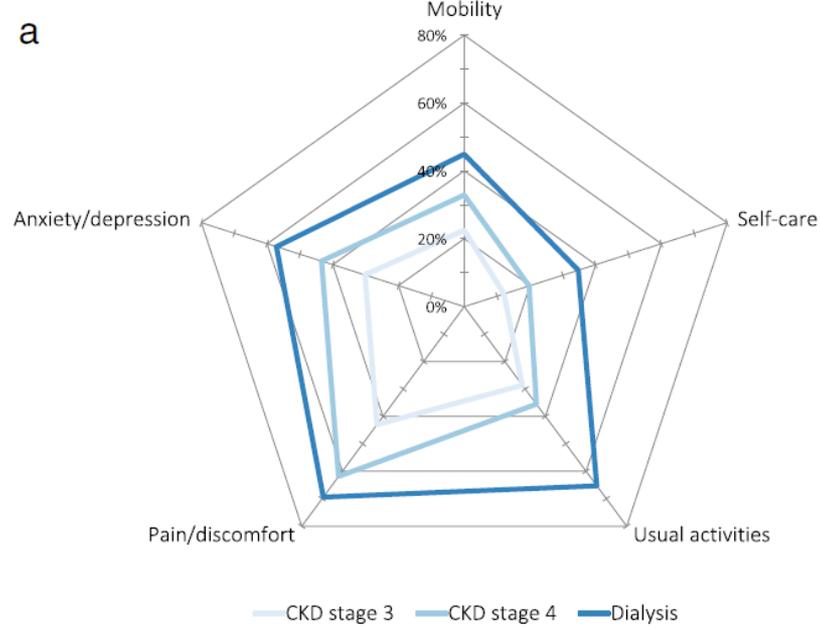


# Cross-sectional survey in CKD patients across Europe describing the association between quality of life and anaemia

Daniel Eriksson<sup>1†</sup>, David Goldsmith<sup>2†</sup>, Siguroli Teitsson<sup>1</sup>, James Jackson<sup>3</sup> and Floortje van Nooten<sup>4\*</sup>



**Fig. 1** HRQoL measures by serum haemoglobin level. Significant but modest Spearman's correlation coefficients between HRQoL measures and Hb (range 0.19–0.23; all  $P$ -values  $< 0.0001$ ). Hb levels recorded on the x-axis represent the midpoint of the Hb range (e.g. 7 g/dL refers to levels  $6.5 \leq \text{Hb} < 7.5$  g/dL). Vertical lines represent the 95 % confidence interval around the mean. EQ-5D,  $n = 1147$ ; SF-12,  $n = 1086$ ; burden of kidney disease,  $n = 1169$ ; effect of kidney disease,  $n = 1149$ ; symptoms of/problems with kidney disease,  $n = 1140$ . Hb, haemoglobin; SF-12, 12-Item Short Form Health Survey; HRQoL, health-related quality of life



**Fig. 2** Proportion of patients reporting problems for the five EQ-5D dimensions by stages of chronic kidney disease. **a** Non-anaemic patients and **b** anaemic patients. CKD, chronic kidney disease

**Table 5** Health-related quality of life scores by erythropoiesis stimulating agent/supplemental iron use in patients with CKD stages 3 and 4 and those on dialysis

Subscales of the KDQOL-36	No ESA/supplemental iron use Mean (SD)	ESA and/or supplemental iron use Mean (SD)	<i>P</i> -value
Symptoms/problems list	83.5 (17.1)	77.1 (17.6)	<0.0001
Effect of Kidney Disease	76.9 (19.0)	64.5 (21.0)	<0.0001
Burden of Kidney Disease	61.5 (25.8)	46.9 (25.8)	<0.0001
SF-12 physical composite summary	42.4 (10.1)	37.6 (9.5)	<0.0001
CKD stage 3	44.6 (9.3)	40.8 (9.9)	0.0019
CKD stage 4	40.5 (10.3)	36.9 (8.9)	0.0007
Dialysis	39.0 (10.4)	37.1 (9.7)	0.1441
SF-12 mental composite summary	47.9 (9.3)	45.4 (10.1)	<0.0001
CKD stage 3	49.7 (8.6)	46.9 (10.0)	0.0206
CKD stage 4	46.9 (9.4)	44.9 (9.8)	0.0653
Dialysis	44.3 (10.0)	45.3 (10.3)	0.4347

*Abbreviations:* CKD chronic kidney disease, ESA erythropoiesis stimulating agent, KDQOL-36 Kidney Disease Quality of Life Instrument, SD standard deviation, SF-12 12-Item Short Form Health Survey

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**Saudi Journal  
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**Original Article**

**Gulf Cooperation Council-Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns  
Study: An Overview of Anemia Management Trends at the Regional  
and Country Specific Levels in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries**

Characteristic	Country						Overall
	Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	UAE	
Facility characteristics							
Facilities (n)	1	4	4	2	21	9	41
Facility size, median (IQR)	287 (287,287)	164 (130,198)	103 (70,203)	167 (65,268)	57 (37,85)	144 (48,193)	142 (71,296)
Sample patients (n)	25	116	89	58	419	220	927
Demographics							
Age, years	51.0 (54.7)	55.5 (38.5)	51.4 (40.3)	61.6 (33.1)	50.9 (32.3)	54.5 (33.0)	53.2 (35.4)
Male (%)	56	54	52	61	55	61	56
Arab National (%)	100	84	97	49	83	57	77
Years on dialysis	2.92 (1.08, 3.85)	1.82 (1.03, 3.66)	3.52 (1.09, 5.87)	2.48 (1.18, 4.51)	2.71 (0.77, 7.24)	2.55 (1.21, 4.82)	2.55 (0.93, 5.01)
Body mass index, (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	27.2 (24.6)	28.9 (17.9)	23.9(19.2)	26.7 (16.0)	25.7(13.6)	26.4(13.2)	26.3 (15.2)
Labs							
Hb (g/dL)	10.4 (5.5)	11.1 (3.3)	10.7 (4.4)	11.1 (3.3)	10.9 (3.1)	10.7 (3.5)	10.9 (3.4)
Ferritin (ng/ml)	383 (70,735)	438 (218,752)	304 (148,580)	397 (295,602)	388 (180,547)	449 (208,702)	390 (179,621)
Transferrin saturation (%)	16.2 (25.9)	26.4 (27.7)	28.2 (42.2)	30.7 (32.1)	30.0 (28.9)	27.2 (27.0)	28.4 (29.9)
Medications prescribed (%)							
ESAs	100	87	94	97	80	91	88
Intravenous iron	68	68	61	73	38	55	53
Oral iron	4	10	6	0	37	14	20
Medications details							
ESAs type (%)							
Epoetin	76	0	100	64	52	43	50
Darbepoetin	16	98	0	24	45	56	47
Pegylated epoetin beta	8	2	0	12	3	1	3
Subcutaneous ESA use (%)	0	4	0	0	15	2	6
Epoetin dose equivalent (units/week)	12000 (3500, 15,000)	8000 (4800, 12,000)	8667 (7333, 12,000)	10000 (4000, 16,000)	8000 (5333, 12,000)	9333 (5333, 14,000)	8667 (5333, 13,333)
Intravenous iron type (%)							
Sucrose only	6	60	100	100	47	64	0.617
Gluconate only	0	0	0	0	3	0	1
Dextran only	35	0	0	0	11	19	11
Other	59	40	0	0	39	17	27

HD: Hemodialysis, Hb: Hemoglobin, ESAs: Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents

### Hemoglobin (g/dL)

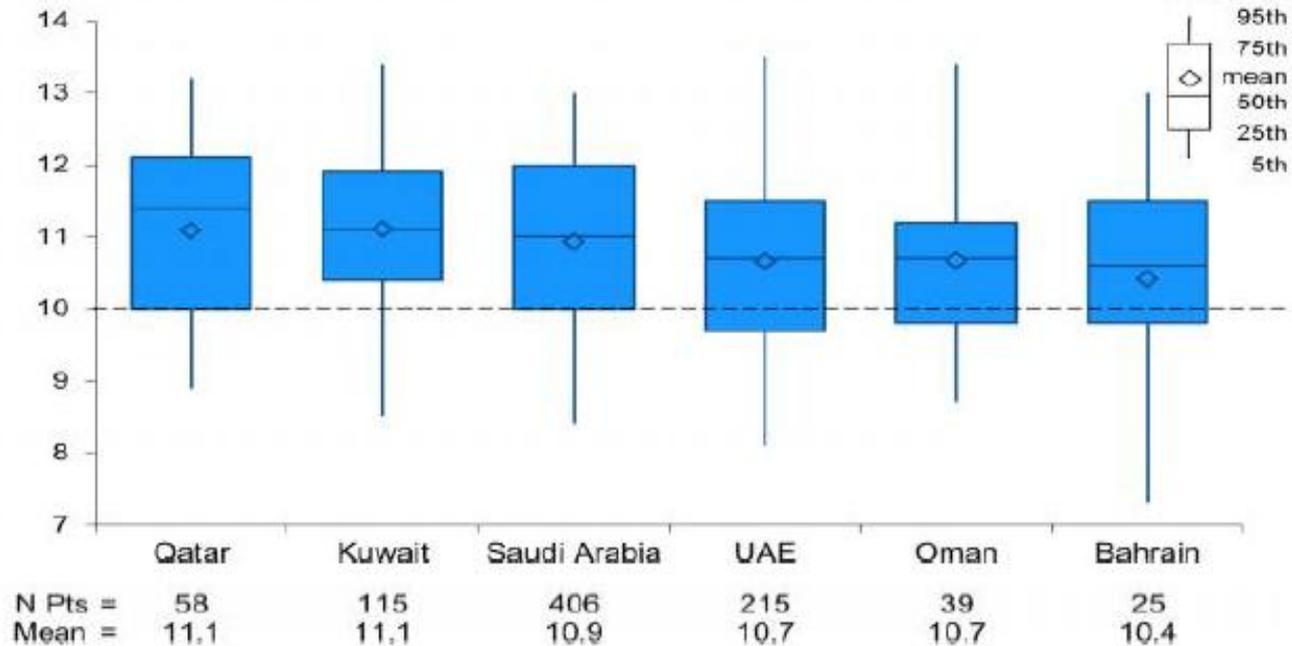


Figure 3. Achieved hemoglobin level distribution by country for the Gulf Cooperation Council-Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study hemodialysis population (2012, 2013). Some variability in Hb levels was evident between GCC countries, with the highest mean Hb level of 11.1 g/dL observed in Kuwait and Qatar.

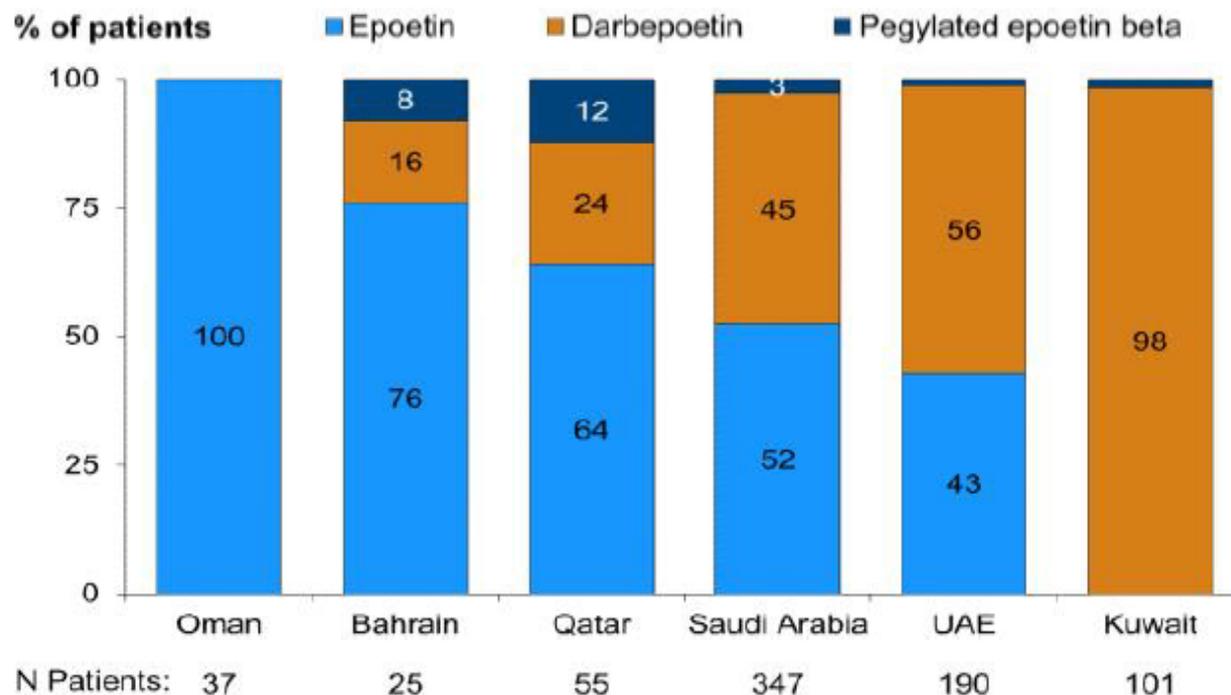


Figure 4. Type of erythropoiesis stimulating agents prescribed by country for the Gulf Cooperation Council-Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study hemodialysis population (2012, 2013), among patients with an active ESA prescription at any time during the month of enrollment into DOPPS. Significant variability was observed in ESA type being used across GCC countries. Epoetin was predominantly used in Oman, Bahrain, and Qatar whereas darbepoetin was predominant in Kuwait. An almost even split in the use of epoetin and darbepoetin was seen in the UAE and Saudi Arabia.

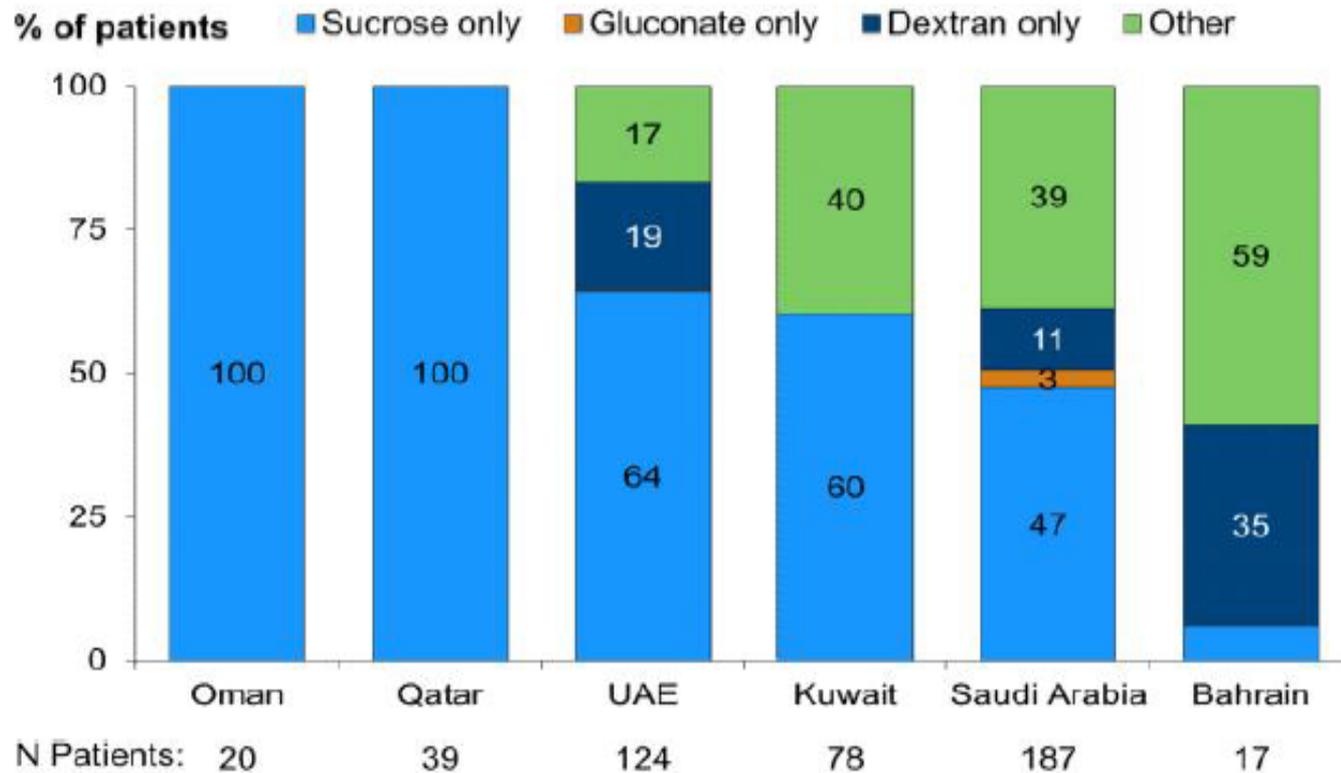


Figure 5. Intravenous iron formulation prescribed by country for the Gulf Cooperation Council- Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study hemodialysis population (2012, 2013), among patients with an active i.v. iron prescription any time during the month of enrollment into DOPPS. A wide variation was observed in the use of i.v. iron agents among GCC countries. Iron sucrose was the only formulation used in Oman and Qatar and also the predominant one in UAE, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. In Bahrain, its use constituted only 6%, with 35% using dextran, and the remaining being on the other non-sucrose, non-gluconate forms of i.v. iron.

# Ferritin

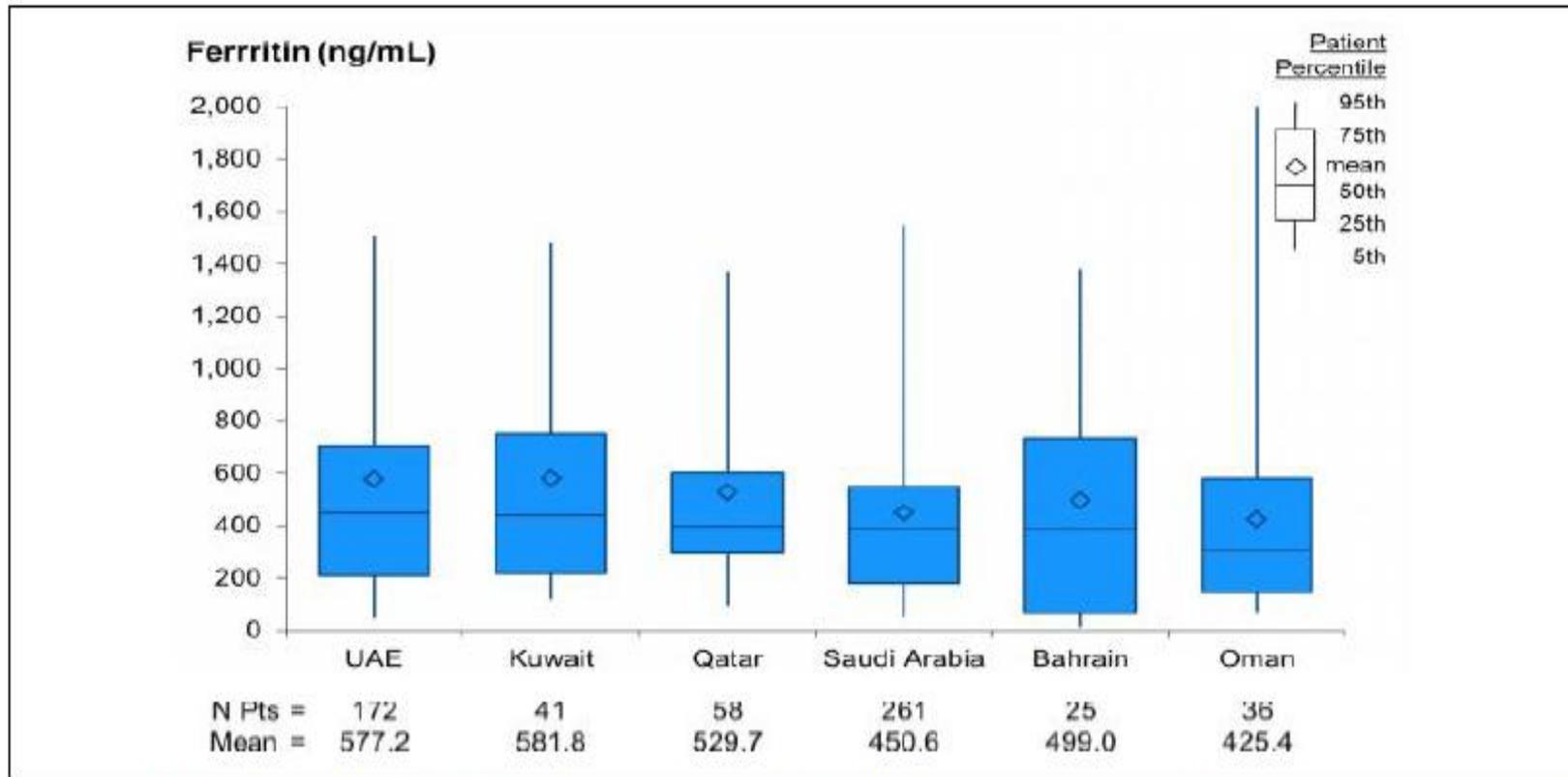


Figure 6. Ferritin level distribution by country for the Gulf Cooperation Council-Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study hemodialysis population (2012, 2013). Median serum ferritin levels were consistently  $>200$  ng/mL across all GCC countries with highest levels seen in the UAE and Kuwait. The lowest median ferritin level was observed in Oman at 304 ng/mL.

# TSAT

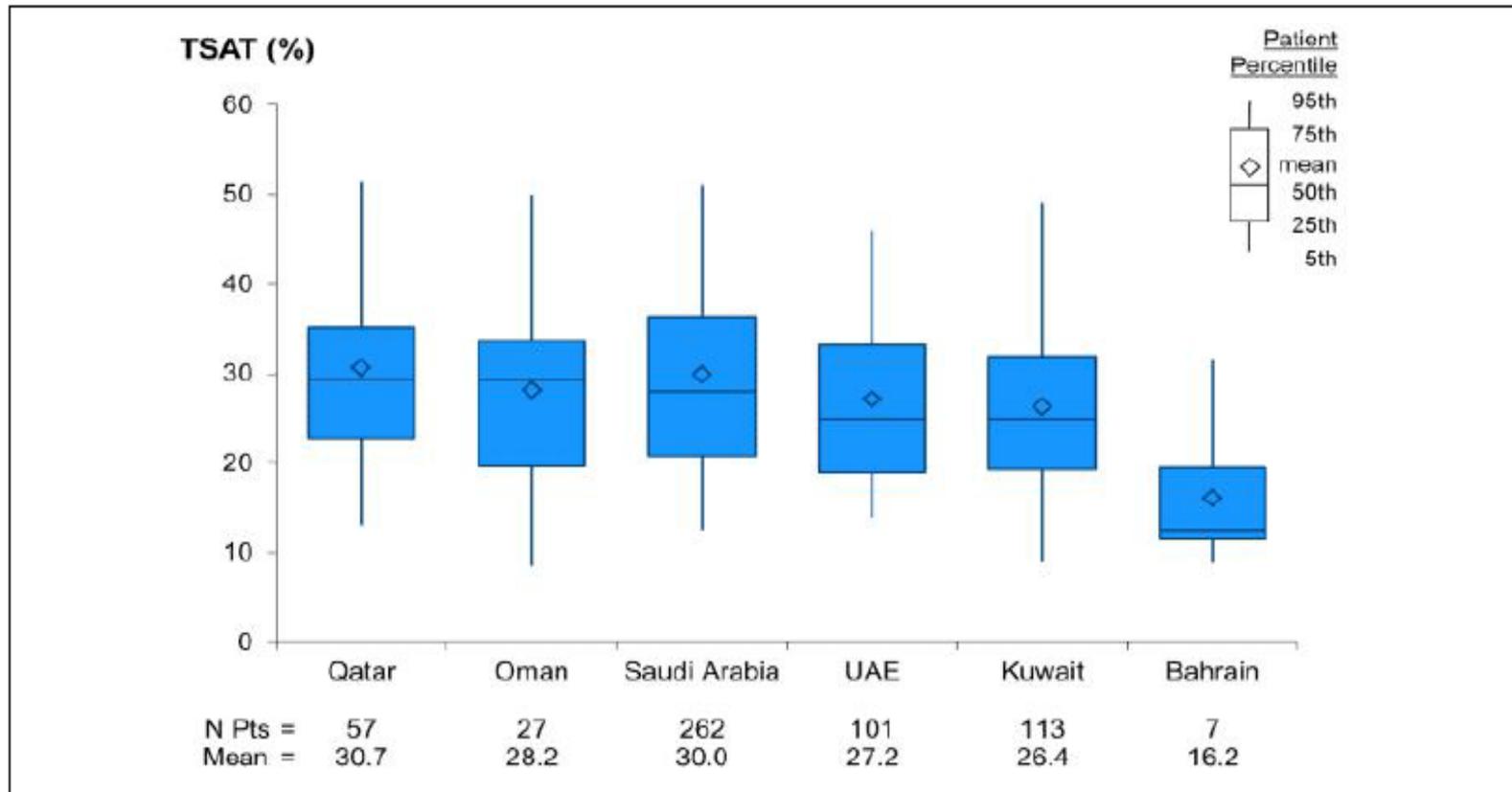


Figure 7. Transferrin saturation (TSAT) level distribution by country for the Gulf Cooperation Council-Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study hemodialysis population (2012, 2013). Some variability was observed in the mean TSAT percentage across GCC countries with highest levels seen in Qatar and Saudi Arabia (30.7% and 30%, respectively) and lowest in Bahrain at 16.2%.

# Transfusion rates, mid 2000s

- A retrospective study was conducted of patients with CKD and chronic anemia from 2002 through 2007 in the Veterans Administration Healthcare System. Included patients had stage 3 CKD or higher and anemia (one or more hemoglobin [Hb] levels <11 g/dl or received anemia therapy [erythropoiesis-stimulating agents [ESAs], iron, or both]).

# Transfusion rates, mid 2000s

- Among 97,636 patients with CKD and anemia, there were 68,556 transfusion events (61 events per 100 person-years), 86.6% of which occurred in inpatient settings.
- At all Hb levels, transfusion events were highest during periods of no ESA treatment and increased with declining Hb levels.
  - Between an Hb of 10.0 and 10.9 g/dl, the transfusion rate was 2.0% for those who received an ESA, iron, or both and **22% for those who received no treatment**;
  - at an Hb level of 7.0 to 7.9 g/dl, the transfusion rate was **10 to 12% for treated and 58% for untreated patients.**

# Dialysis Practice snapshots

## USA free-standing and chain dialysis units

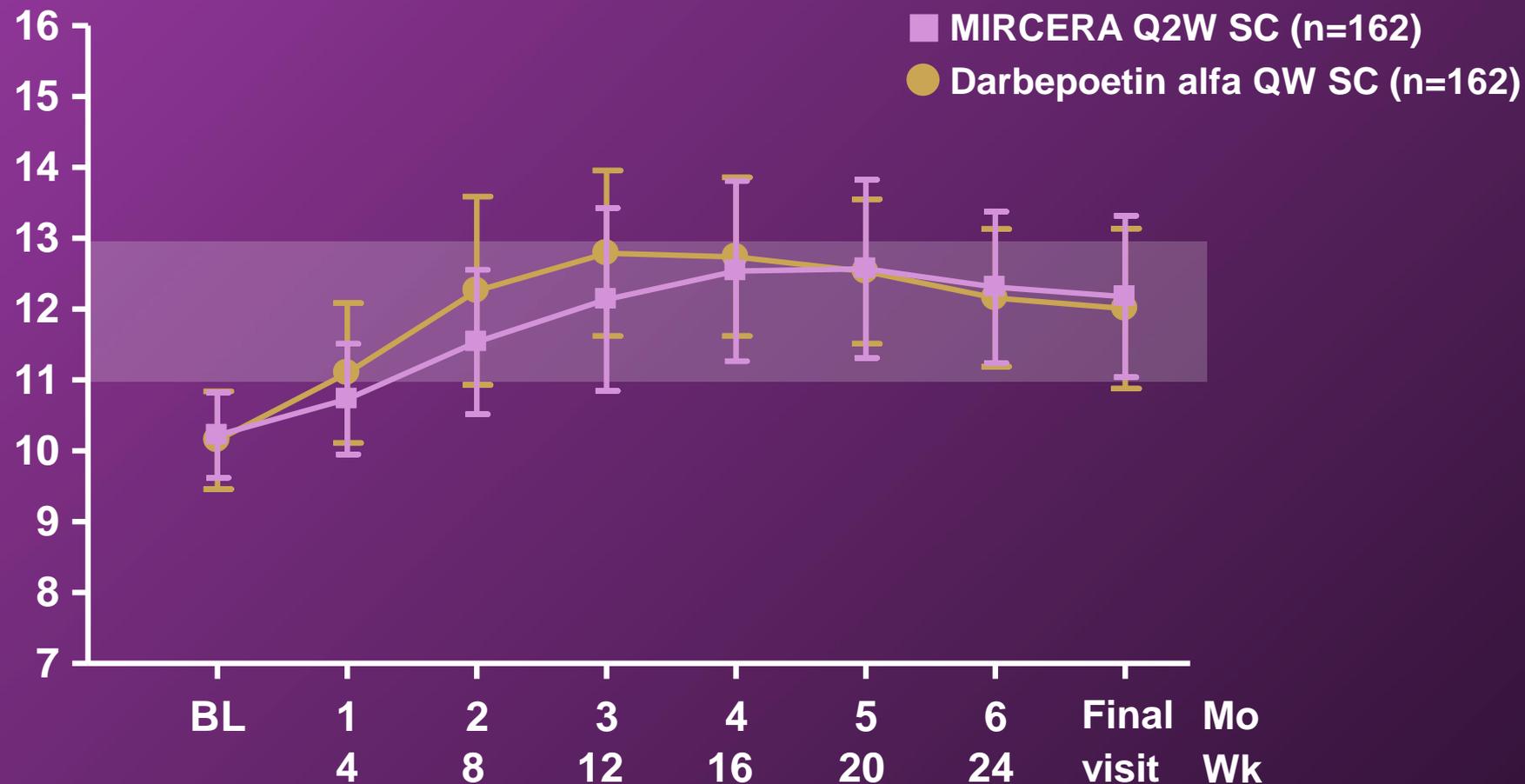
- Percentages of patients with haemoglobin levels  $<10$  g/dL increased every year from 2007 (6%) to 2011 (~11%). Epoetin alfa doses, iron doses, and transfusion rates changed in 2011.
- Median monthly epoetin alfa and iron doses decreased 25% and 43.8%, respectively, and monthly transfusion rates increased from 2.8% to 3.2% in 2011, a 14.3% increase, starting in 2010-11.
- Patients in facilities with the highest prevalence of haemoglobin levels  $<10$  g/dL over 3 months were at ~30% elevated risk of receiving RBC transfusions within the next 3 months (relative risk, 1.28; 95% CI, 1.22-1.34).

# What we want....

- Stable regulatory, product, and safety environment
  - No new shocks, or changes
- Predictable efficacy
- Tolerability, safety, proven ability
- Minimisation of both symptoms and rbc transfusions
- Aiming for **Hb 10 – 12 g/dL** using iron (sensibly) first, then adding a **long-acting ESA** preferentially
  - Pegylated Epoetin-Beta, or Darbepoetin

# SC MIRCERA Provides a Smooth and Steady Rise in Hb Level

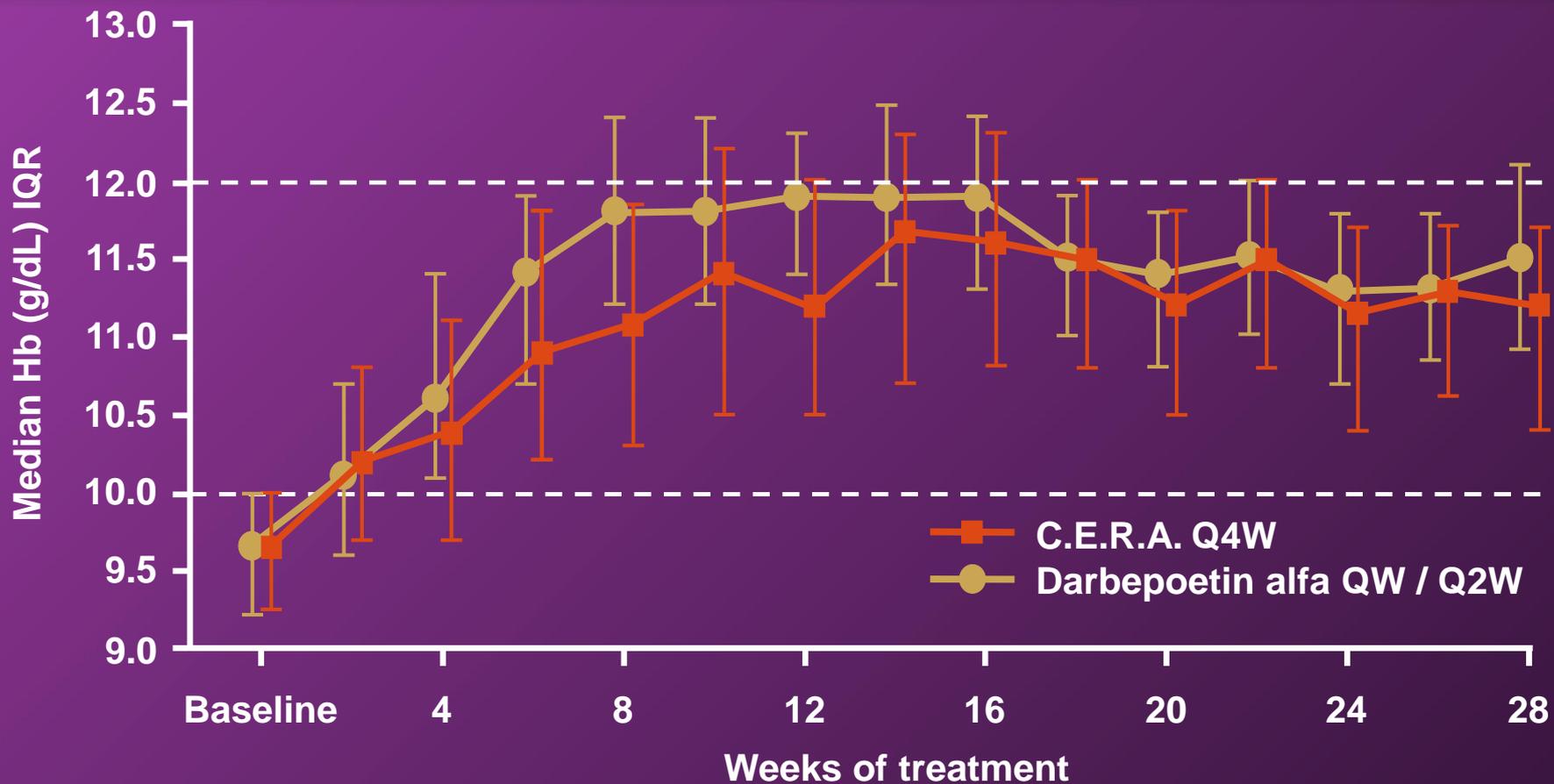
Mean (SD) Hb (g/dL)



ITT populations

Macdougall et al. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol.* 2008;3:337-347

# C.E.R.A. Q4W offers a smooth and steady rise in Hb levels compared with darbepoetin alfa QW / Q2W

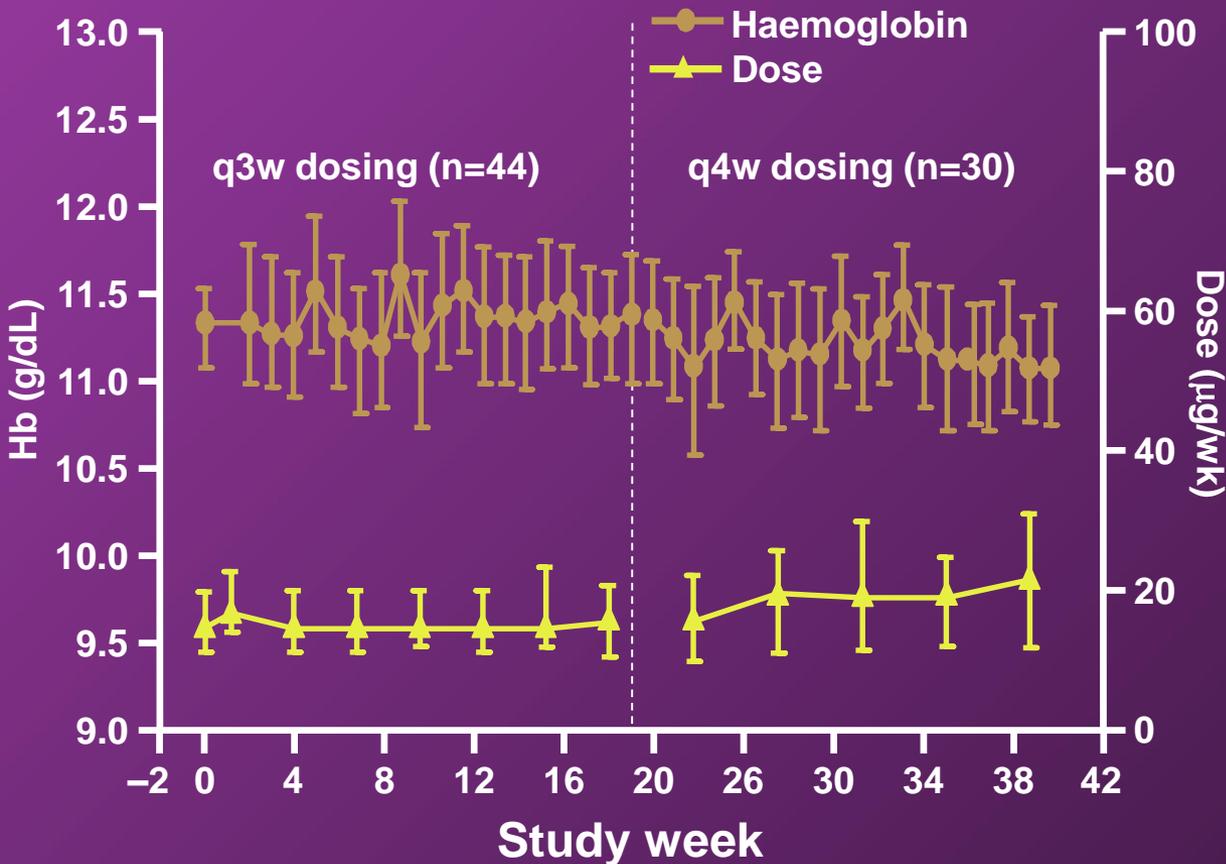


■	n= 153	149	148	149	144	142	140	139
●	n= 154	148	147	145	145	140	140	136

# Time to Hb response was more controlled with C.E.R.A. than with darbepoetin alfa

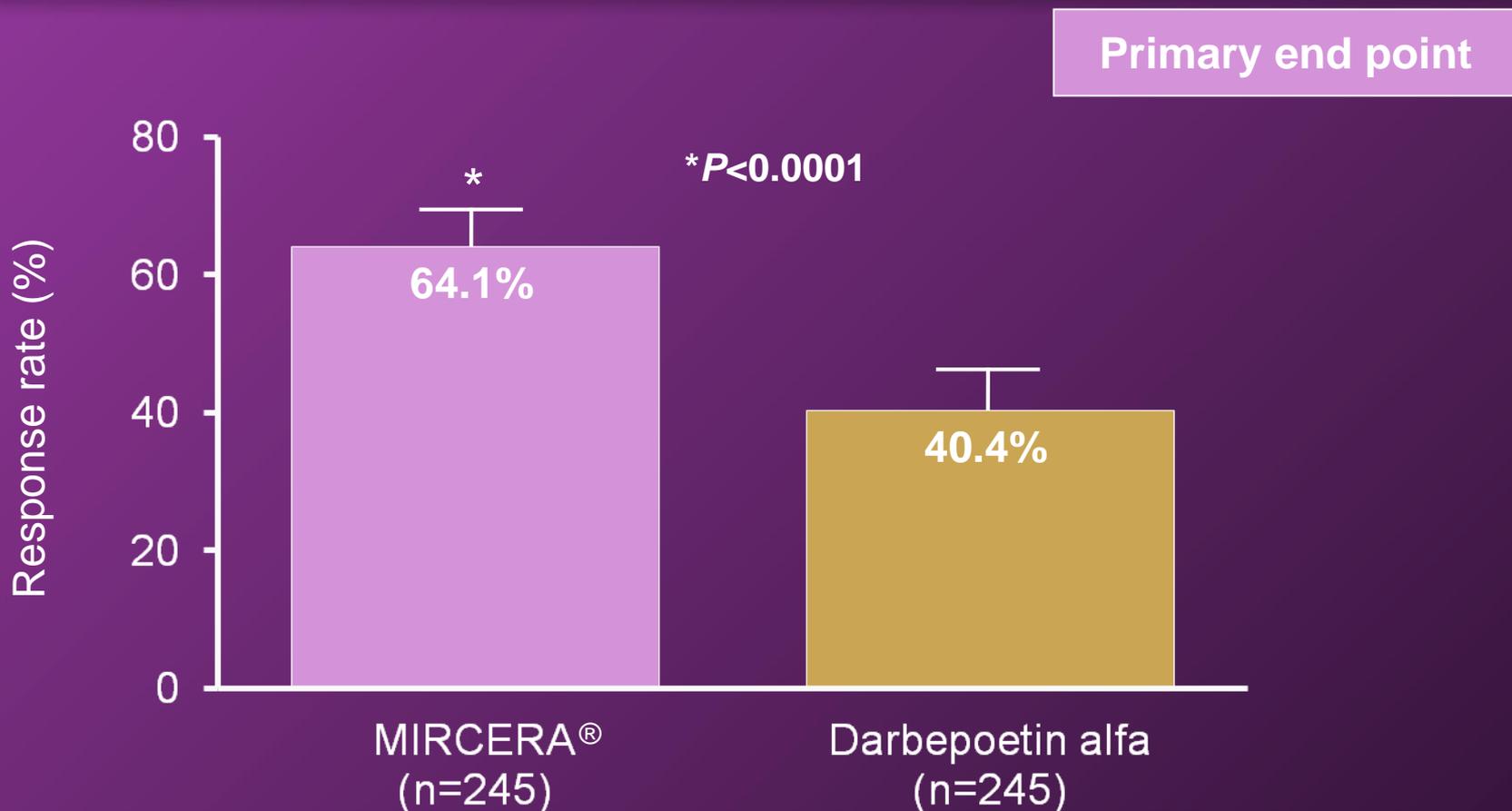
	<b>C.E.R.A. Q4W (n=153)</b>	<b>Darbepoetin alfa QW / Q2W (n=154)</b>
<b>Responders, n (%)</b>	<b>144 (94.1)</b>	<b>144 (93.5)</b>
<b>Median time to response, days</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>95% CI</b>	<b>37; 43</b>	<b>29; 41</b>
<b>IQR</b>	<b>28; 57</b>	<b>22; 43</b>

# Limited evidence of efficacy in HD patients for once-monthly darbepoetin alfa



- Patients on darbepoetin alfa q2w converted to q3w dosing and, if Hb stable (10–13 g/dL), to q4w dosing
- **Limited conversion to q4w dosing:**  
Of 54 patients entering the study, 36 patients were converted to q4w dosing
- **Limited maintenance on q4w dosing:**  
Of 36 patients converting to q4w dosing, 30 patients maintained Hb >10 g/dL over 20 weeks

# Once-monthly MIRCERA® exhibited a superior response rate compared with once-monthly darbepoetin alfa



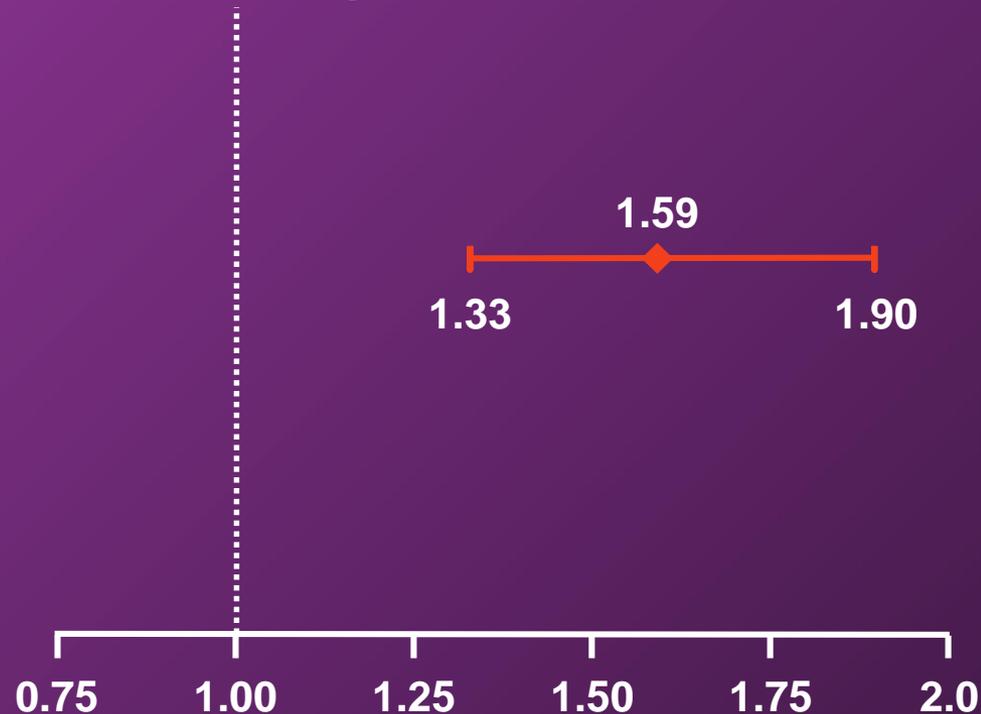
CI, confidence interval

Dosing once a month is not indicated for darbepoetin alfa in dialysis, except in Switzerland

# Once-monthly MIRCERA® shows a 59% higher likelihood of response compared with once-monthly darbepoetin alfa

Primary end point

Superiority limit:  
MIRCERA® vs darbepoetin alfa

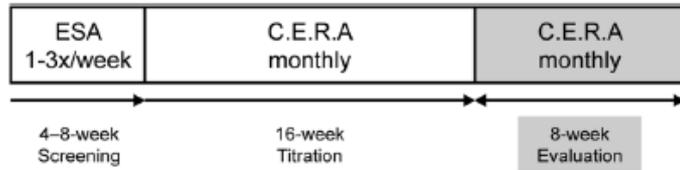


Relative risk of response at evaluation for  
MIRCERA® vs darbepoetin alfa

# Once-Monthly Continuous Erythropoietin Receptor Activator (C.E.R.A.) in Patients with Hemodialysis-Dependent Chronic Kidney Disease: Pooled Data from Phase III Trials

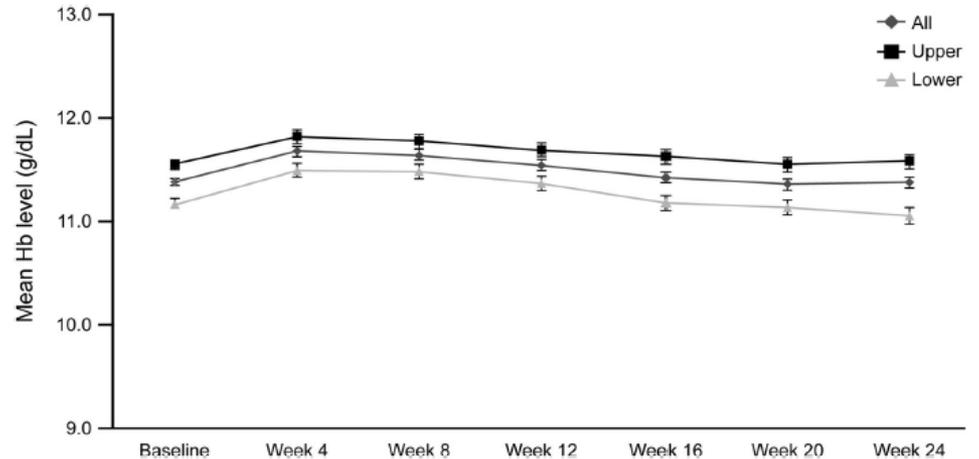
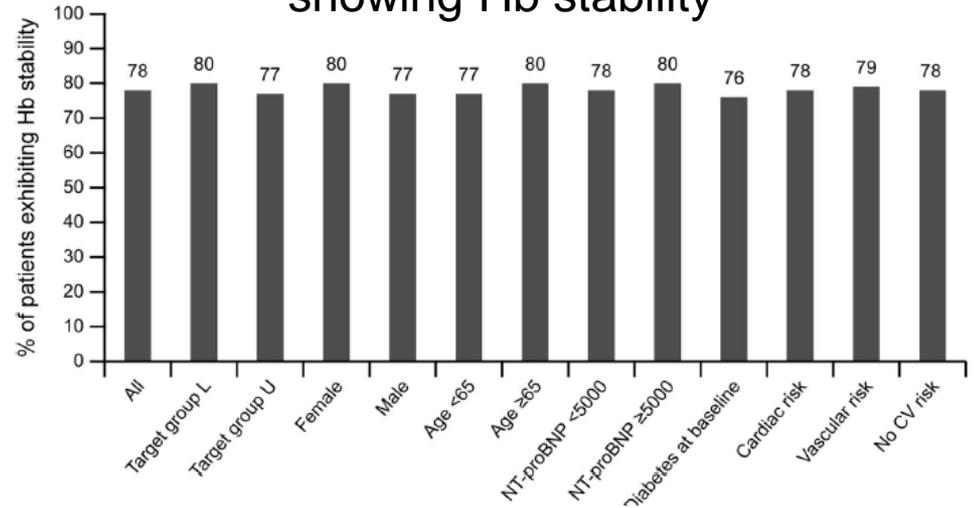
Francesco Locatelli · Gabriel Choukroun · Matt Truman ·  
Alfons Wigganhauser · Danilo Fliser

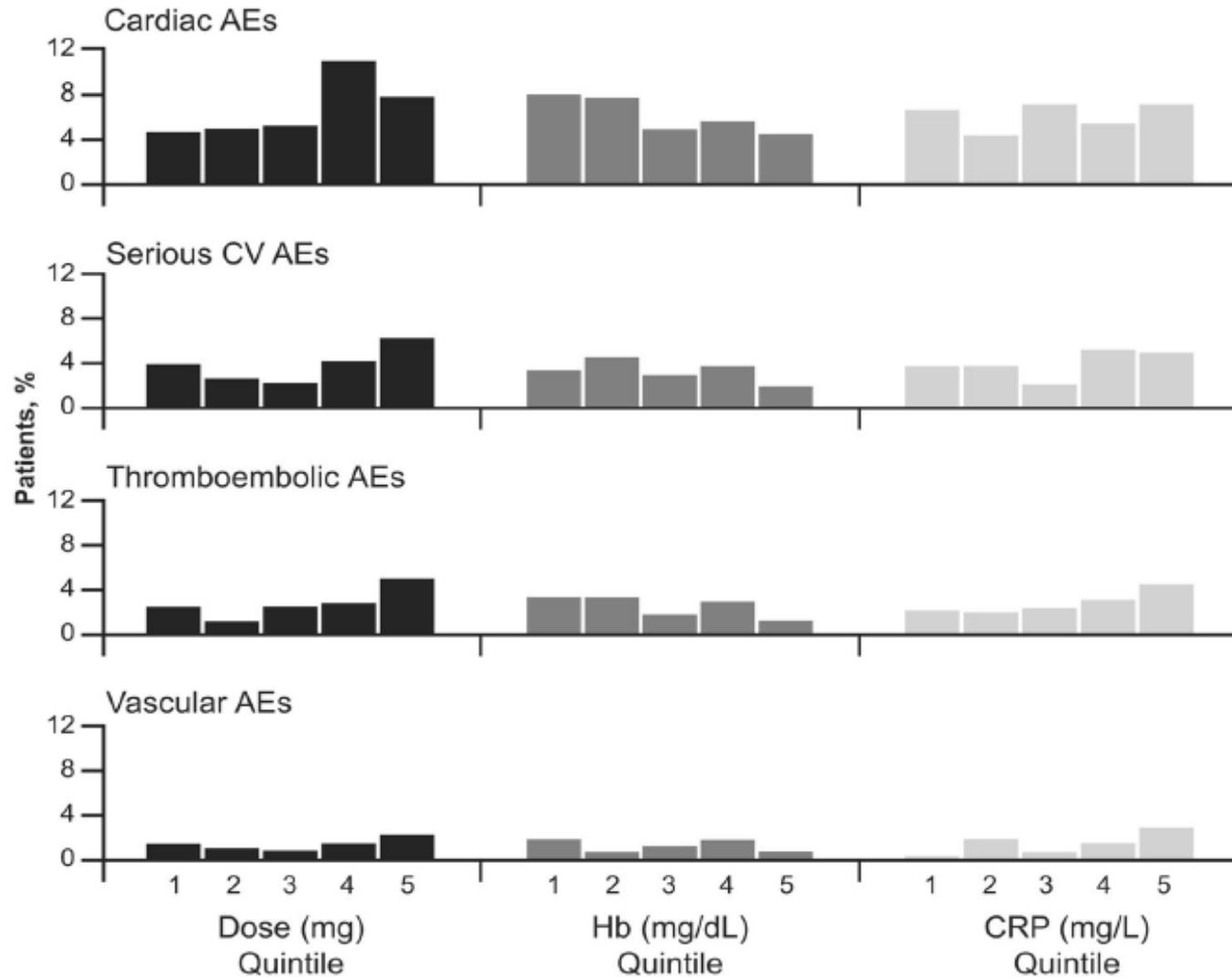
*ClinicalTrials.gov identifiers:* NCT00413894/  
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NCT00882713/NCT00550680/NCT00576303/  
NCT00660023/NCT00717821/NCT00642850/  
NCT00605293/NCT00661505/NCT00699348.  
*Funding:* F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Basel,  
Switzerland.



**Fig. 1** Common study design. In all 13 studies, enrolled patients entered a 4- to 8-week screening period followed by a 16-week C.E.R.A. dose-titration period, and an 8-week evaluation period. C.E.R.A. continuous erythropoietin receptor activator, ESA erythropoiesis-stimulating agents

## Proportion of patients showing Hb stability





Quintiles	1	2	3	4	5
<b>C.E.R.A dose (mg)</b>	<70	70–110	110–125	125–185	>185
<b>Hb (g/dL)</b>	<10.65	10.65–11.2	11.2–11.7	11.7–12.25	>12.25
<b>CRP (mg/L)</b>	<2.26	2.26–4.14	4.14–7.21	7.21–14	>14

New things....

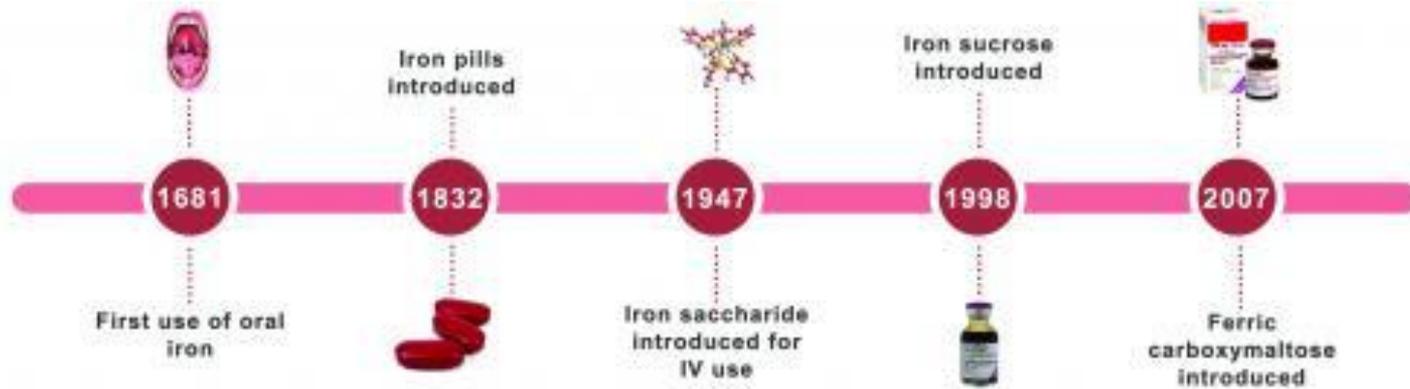
# Prominent cause of ESA resistance

- Old “defunct” allografts – smouldering rejection and inflammation
  - (ongoing) HLA sensitisation
  - Anaemia
  - Extirpation versus continued IS

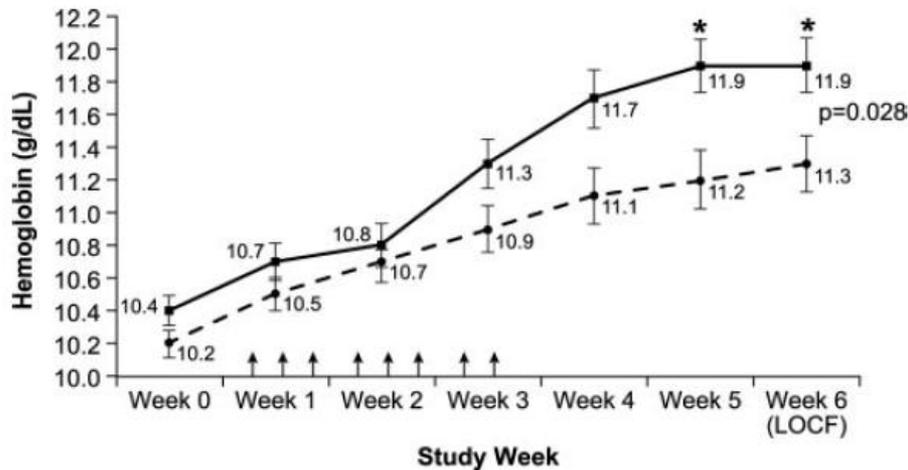
# Iron – the time and tides

- According to DOPPS serum ferritin levels have progressively increased in recent years in the USA, with nearly 40% of the HD population having ferritin levels >800 ng/mL [20]. The increase in mean IV iron dose (from 210 mg/month in 2009–10 to a peak of 280 mg/month in 2011, then back to 200 mg/month in 2013) combined with lower ESA doses accounted for 46% of the increase in ferritin over time.
- Something similar has happen in the EU too
- High ferritin levels have been related to poor survival in both non-dialysis and dialysis patients, but the ferritin levels at which mortality risk increases is still matter of debate. As for iron therapy, observational studies have the confounding bias that serum ferritin is also a marker of inflammation, and thus of comorbidity.

# The iron saga



*J Am Soc Nephrol* 18: 975–984, 2007. doi: 10.1681/ASN.2006091034



Iron bound to transferrin in the plasma, to ferritin in storage sites, or to metalloproteins and enzymes in tissues, is kept in a safe and catalytically inactive state.

Improperly liganded ferrous iron reacts with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, generated by mitochondria and inflammatory cells. This leads to formation of hydroxyl radical (•OH), which is the most reactive and cytotoxic free radical known ( $H_2O_2 + Fe^{2+} \rightarrow \bullet OH + OH^- + Fe^{3+}$ ), and conversion of Fe<sup>2+</sup> to ferric iron (Fe<sup>3+</sup>).

Fe<sup>3+</sup> is then transformed back to Fe<sup>2+</sup> by superoxide (Fe<sup>3+</sup> + O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> = Fe<sup>2+</sup> + O<sub>2</sub>), which is produced by mitochondria leading to sustained production of •OH which causes cytotoxicity and tissue damage

DRIVE study forcing more IV iron (and ESA) into TSAT < 25 and ferritin 500-1200 patients

# Iron usage in CKD

- PIVOTAL – a ground-breaking trial of worldwide importance in CKD
- Two different IV iron regimes (“high”) and (“low”) targeting different ferritin concentrations
- Safety and efficacy end-points
- 2 years, 2100 patients (now all recruited)
  - Probably reporting 2018-2019

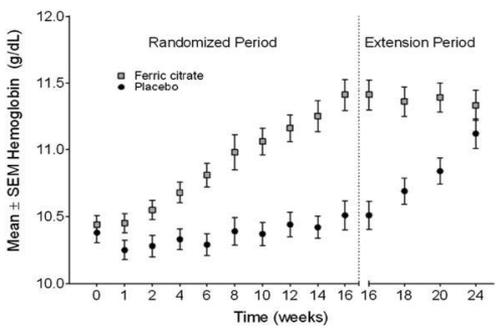
# Ferric Citrate

January 12, 2017,  
 doi: 10.1681/ASN.2016101053  
 JASN January 12, 2017  
 ASN.2016101053

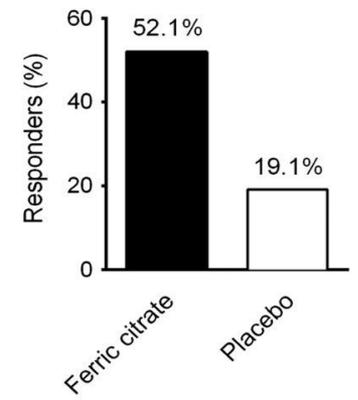
Fishbane et al.

Iron deficient CKD (non dialysis)

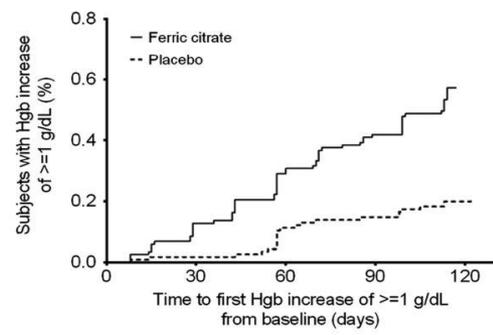
**A Hemoglobin**



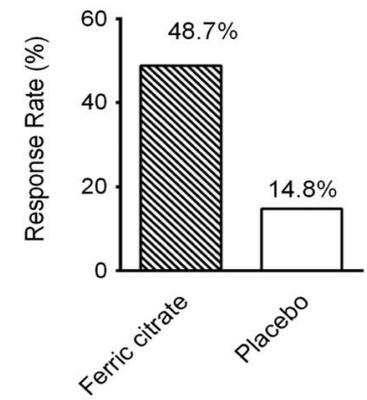
**B Percent responders achieving  $\geq$  1g/dL Rise in Hemoglobin**



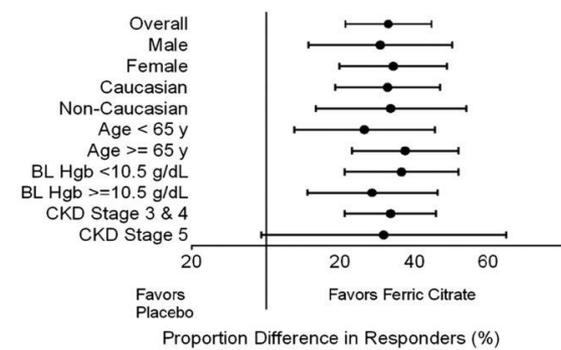
**C Time to first response of  $\geq$  1g/dL Hemoglobin rise**



**D Sustained effect of >0.75 g/dL over any 4 week period**



**E Proportion Difference in Responders**



# Conclusions

In conclusion, the confluence of new financial incentives bundling epoetin payments and mounting scientific evidence linking higher epoetin doses to adverse outcomes culminated in fewer hemodialysis patients receiving epoetin therapy, lower epoetin doses administered and lower target hematocrit levels across nearly all dialysis providers in the first year after PPS. The effects of these changes in anemia management on mortality and quality of life among the dialysis population are uncertain and will require careful future assessment.

But we can't just wait for symptoms to become bad, and we can't just let Hb drift down to where LVH a risk, and transfusions become necessary

**“out of the frying pan and into the fire”**



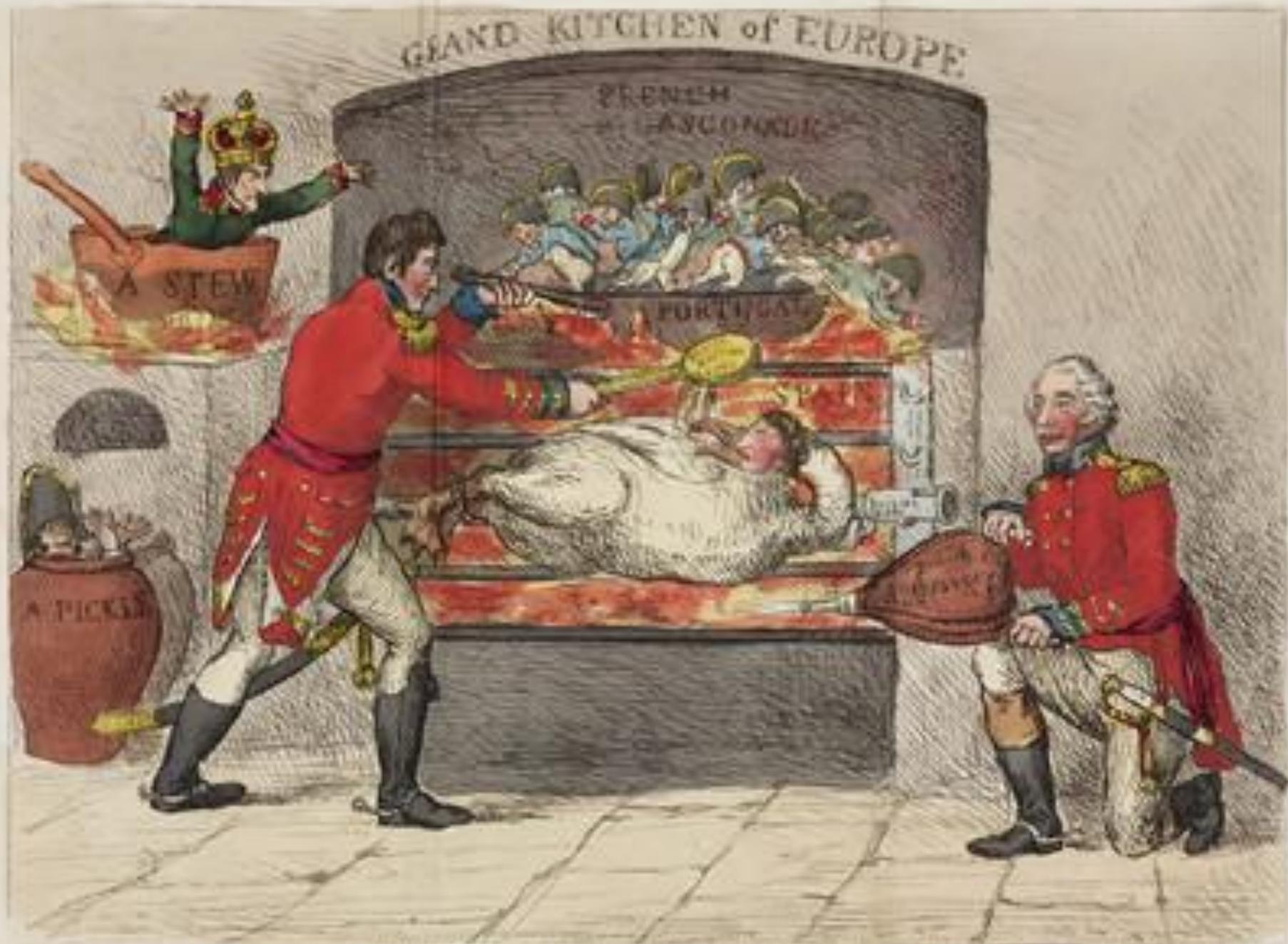
FIRE  
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BRITISH COOKERY or "Dish of the Frying Pan on the Fire"