



# Preemptive AAA Sac embolization - Do we need it and does the embolic agent matter?

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Harvard Medical School

Critical Issues in Aortic Endografting, 22/03/24

# Disclosures

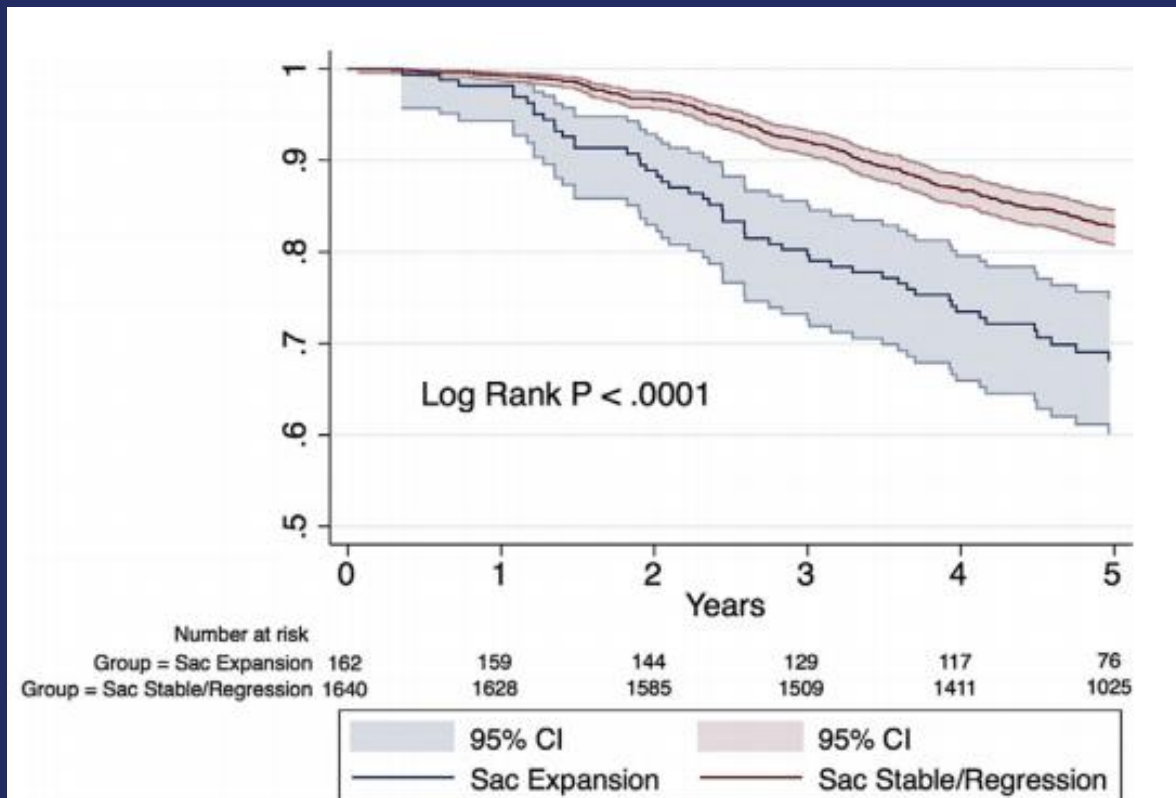
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- National Principal Investigator, AAA-SHAPE Pivotal Trial
- Financial: No personal income

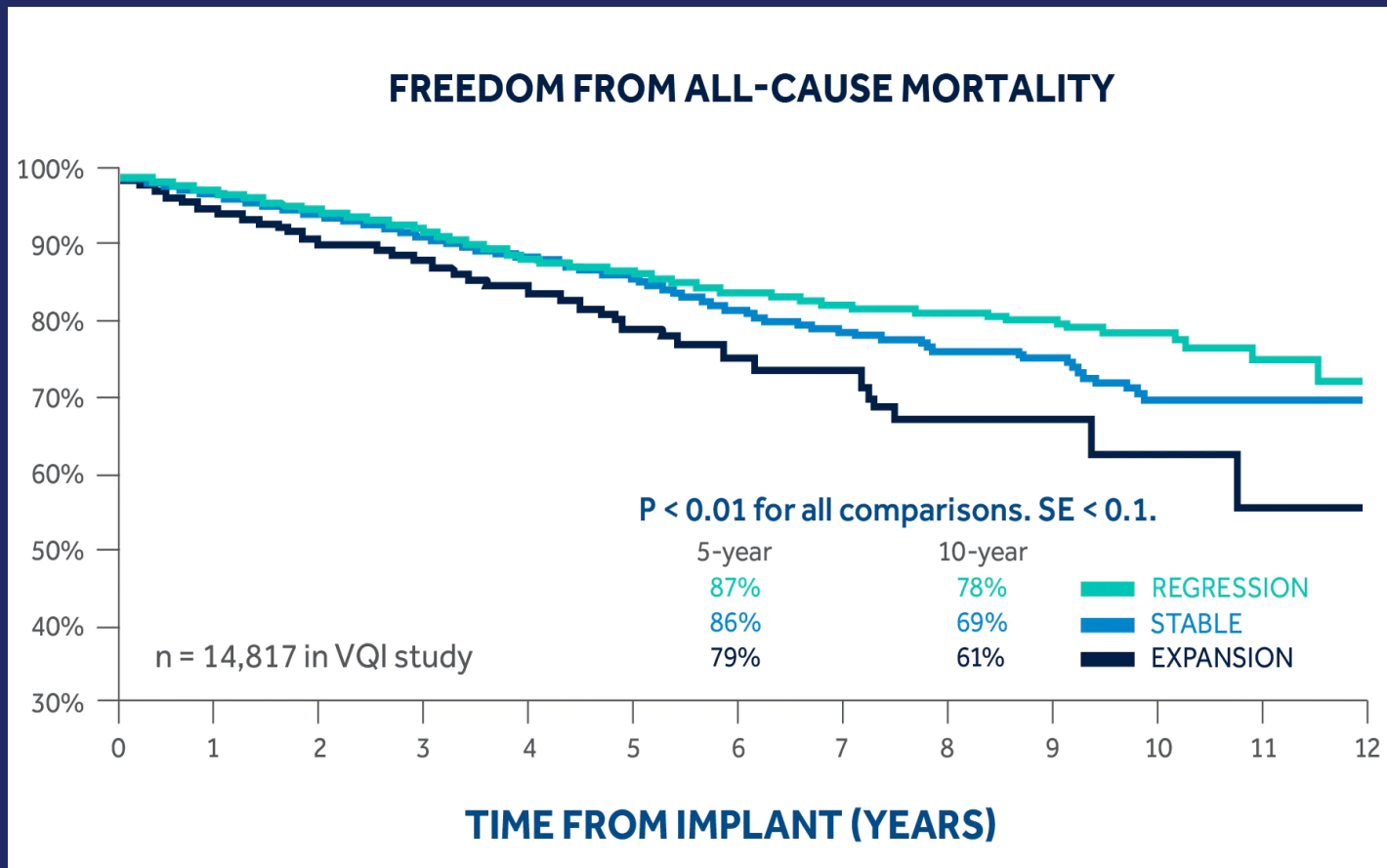
# AAA sac failure to regress post-EVAR: a significant unmet need

All patients (N=2,437) undergoing EVAR, VSGNE 2003 - 2011

Sac expansion ( $\geq 5$  mm) at 1 year was independently associated with late mortality, regardless of the presence or absence of endoleak.



# AAA sac failure to regress post-EVAR: a significant unmet need



40%  
Regress

Survival  
87% at 5y  
78% at 10y

35%  
Stable

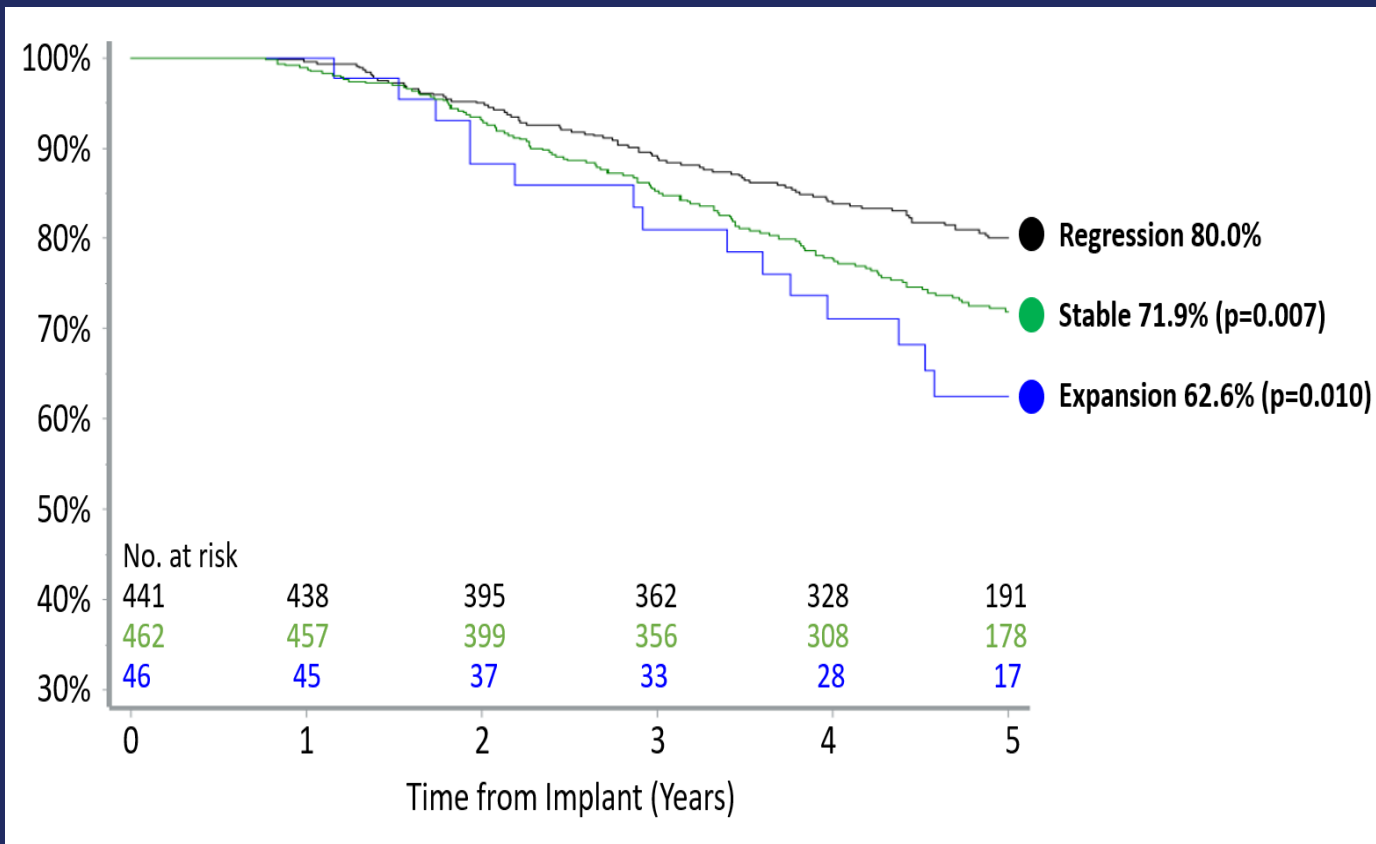
Survival  
86% at 5y  
69% at 10y

25%  
Expand

Survival  
79% at 5y  
61% at 10y



# AAA sac failure to regress post-EVAR: ENGAGE Registry



- Sac expansion (>5 mm) and stable sac at 1 year were independently associated with late mortality

All patients (N=949) with 30-day and 1-year imaging following EVAR, 2009 - 2011





**SVS | VQI**  
VASCULAR QUALITY INITIATIVE



N=16,102 intact EVAR

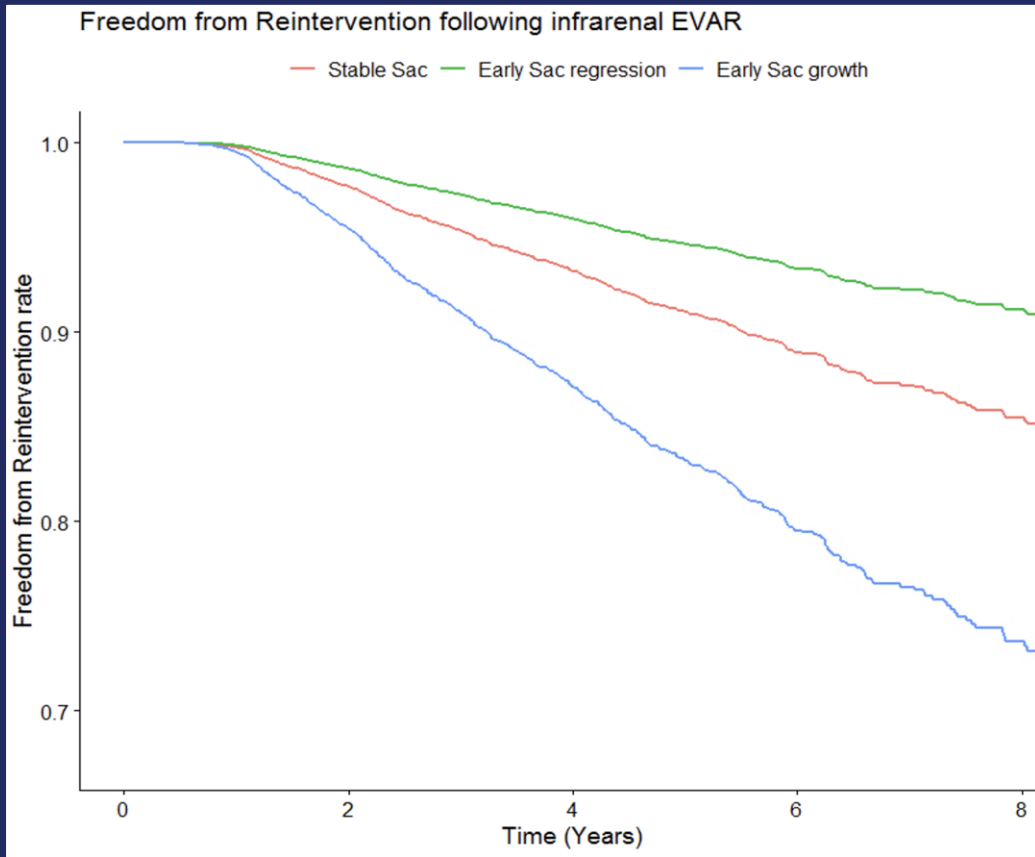
Outcomes: Late rupture,  
Re-Intervention, Survival

Categorized by  
Diameter change at one-year  
imaging:

<b>Sac Regression (<math>\geq 5\text{mm}</math>)</b>	<b>49%</b>
<b>Stable Sac (<math>&lt; 5\text{mm}</math>)</b>	<b>44%</b>
<b>Sac Expansion (<math>\geq 5\text{mm}</math>)</b>	<b>6.7%</b>



# 8-Year Reintervention



Sac Regression HR: 0.58 [95%CI: 0.50-0.68],  $p < .001$

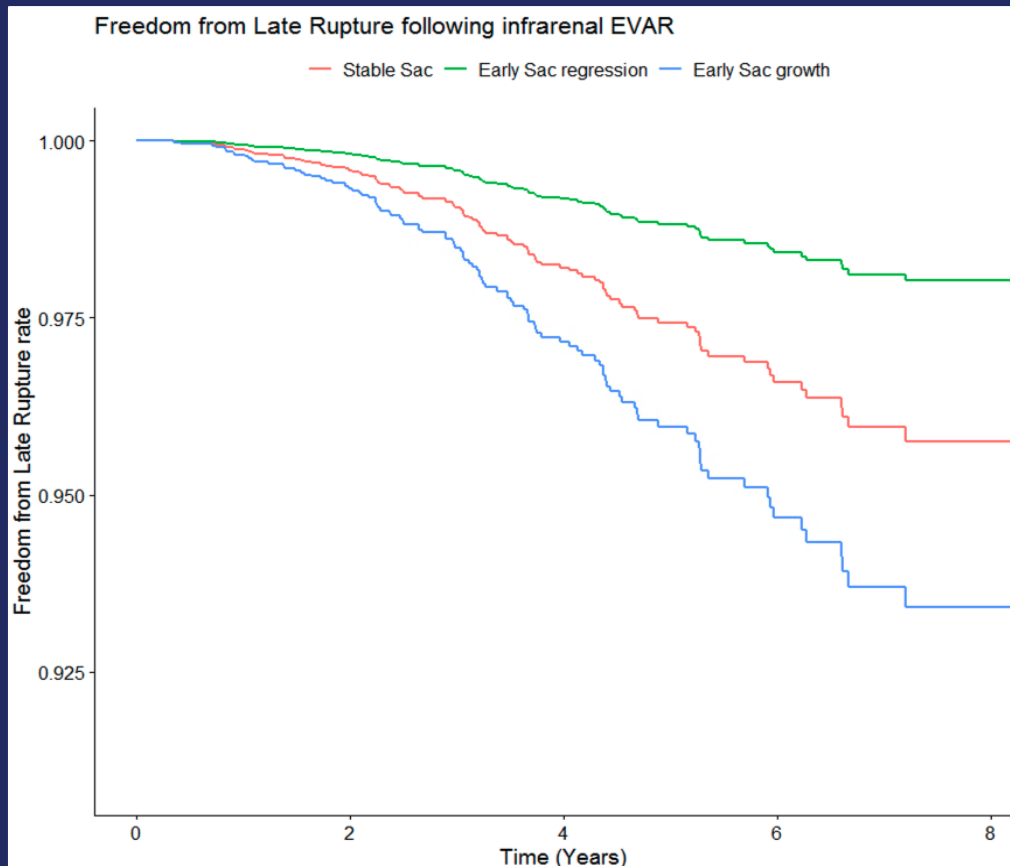
Ref: Stable Sac

Sac Expansion HR: 1.98 [95%CI: 1.57-2.51],  $p < .001$





# 8-Year Rupture



Sac Regression HR: 0.45 [95%CI: 0.29-0.69],  $p < .001$

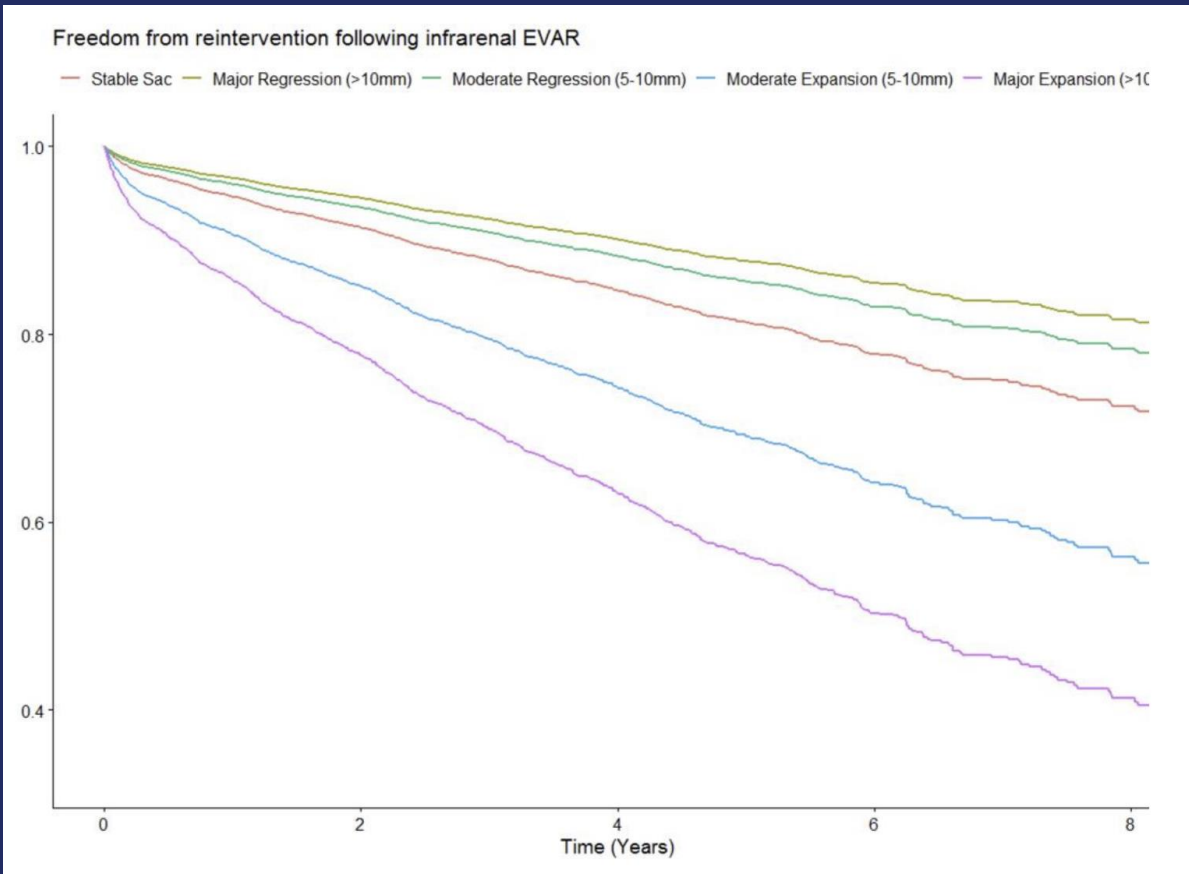
Ref: Stable Sac

Sac Expansion HR: 1.61 [95%CI: 0.88-2.96],  $p = .12$



# Following Sub-stratification...

## Reintervention-Free Survival following Infrarenal EVAR



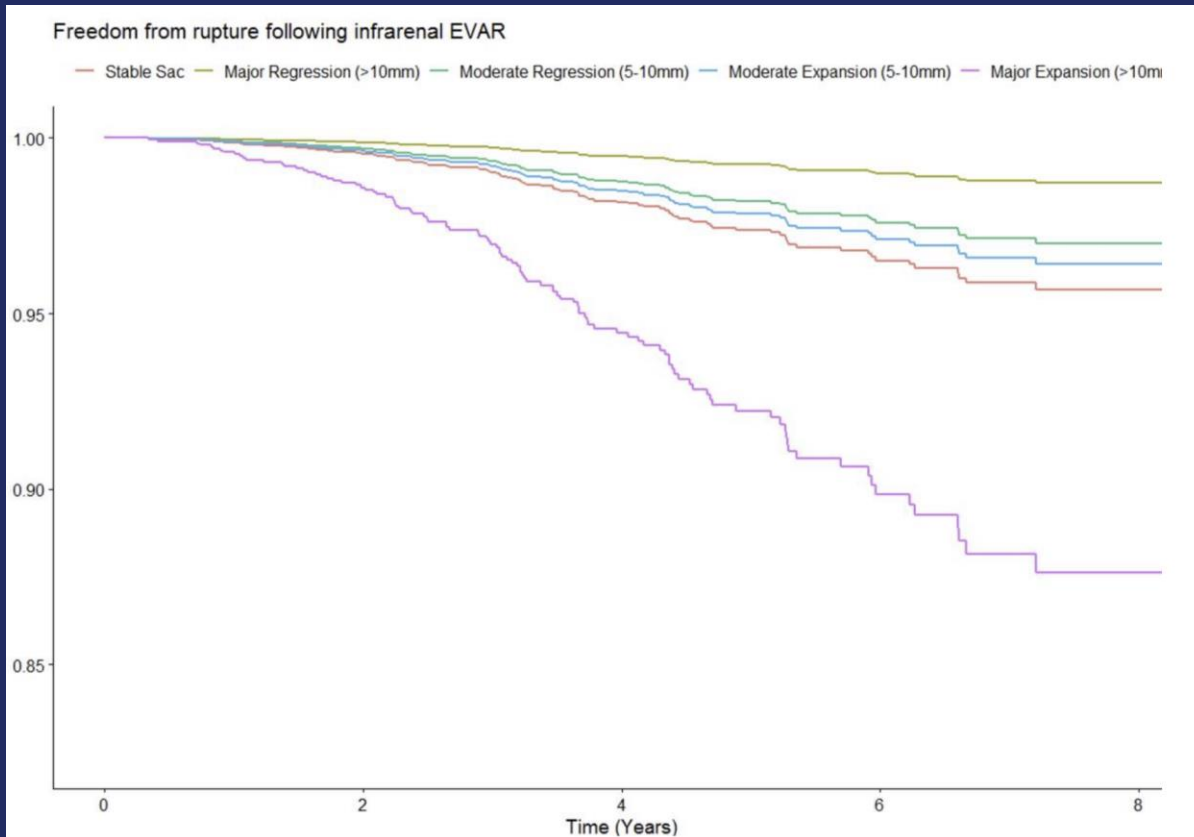
## The amount of regression matters

8-year Reintervention	Hazard Ratio (HR)	95% CI	P-value
Ref: Stable Sac	-	-	-
<b>Major Regression (&gt;10mm)</b>	<b>0.62</b>	<b>0.53-0.73</b>	<b>&lt;.001</b>
<b>Moderate Regression (5-10mm)</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>0.64-0.86</b>	<b>&lt;.001</b>
<b>Moderate Growth (5-10mm)</b>	<b>1.79</b>	<b>1.43-2.24</b>	<b>&lt;.001</b>
<b>Major Growth (&gt;10mm)</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>2.11-3.74</b>	<b>&lt;.001</b>



# Following Sub-stratification...

## Rupture-Free Survival following Infrarenal EVAR



# The amount of regression matters

8-year Rupture	Hazard Ratio (HR)	95% CI	P-value
<u>Ref: Stable Sac</u>	-	-	-
<b>Major Regression (&gt;10mm)</b>	<b>0.28</b>	<b>0.15-0.50</b>	<b>&lt;.001</b>
Moderate Regression (5-10mm)	0.68	0.42-1.09	.11
Moderate Expansion (5-10mm)	0.82	0.33-2.05	.67
<b>Major Expansion (&gt;10mm)</b>	<b>3.25</b>	<b>1.51-6.98</b>	<b>.003</b>

# Failure to Regress Risk Factors

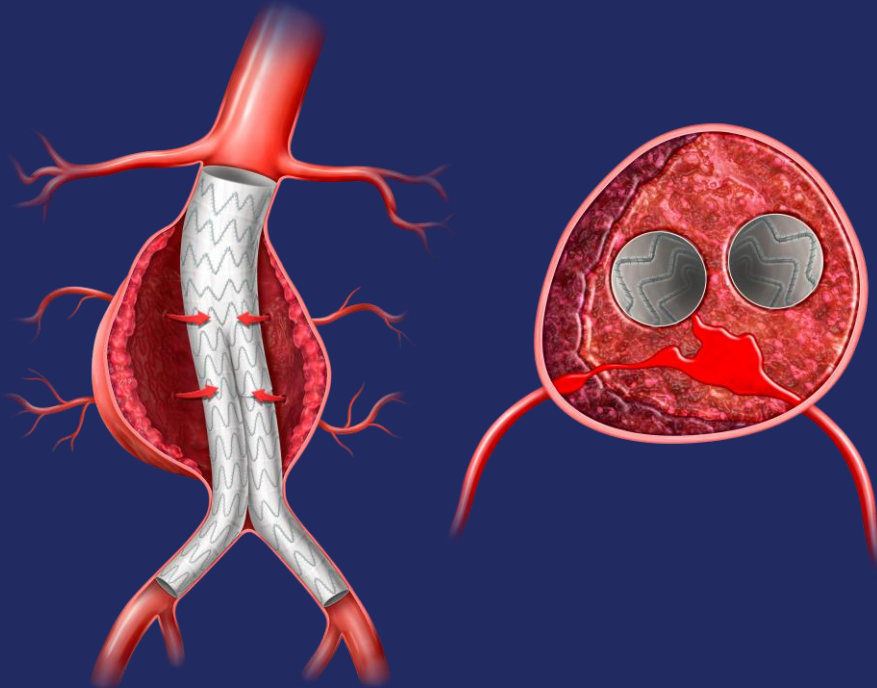
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- Medical history and CV risk factors
- Aneurysm morphology
  - Preoperative diameter
  - Neck characteristics
  - Thrombus characteristics
- Endograft design
- Endoleak
  - Type I/III
  - Type II

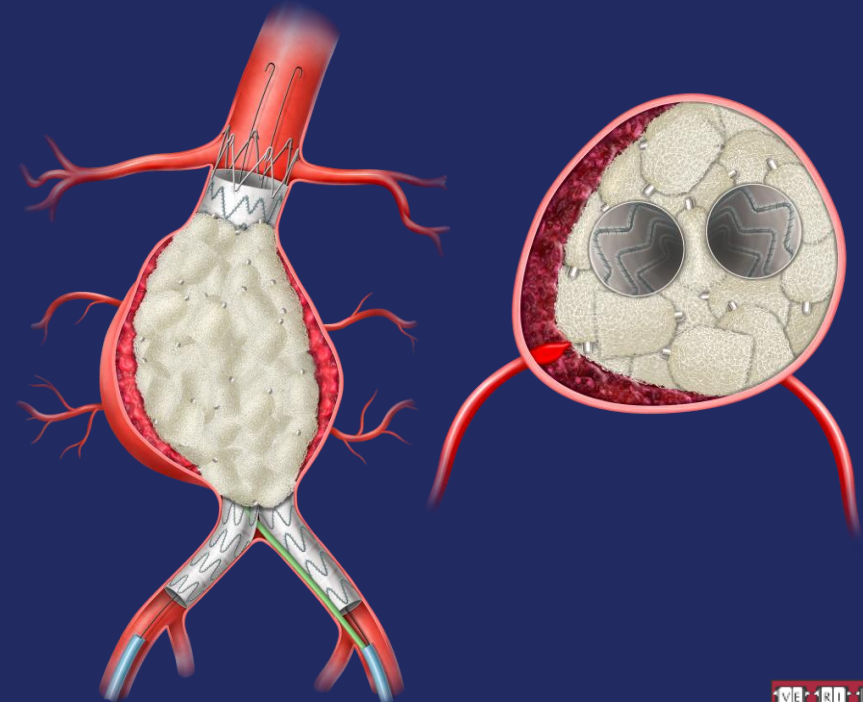


# Preemptive AAA Sac embolization - Do we need it?

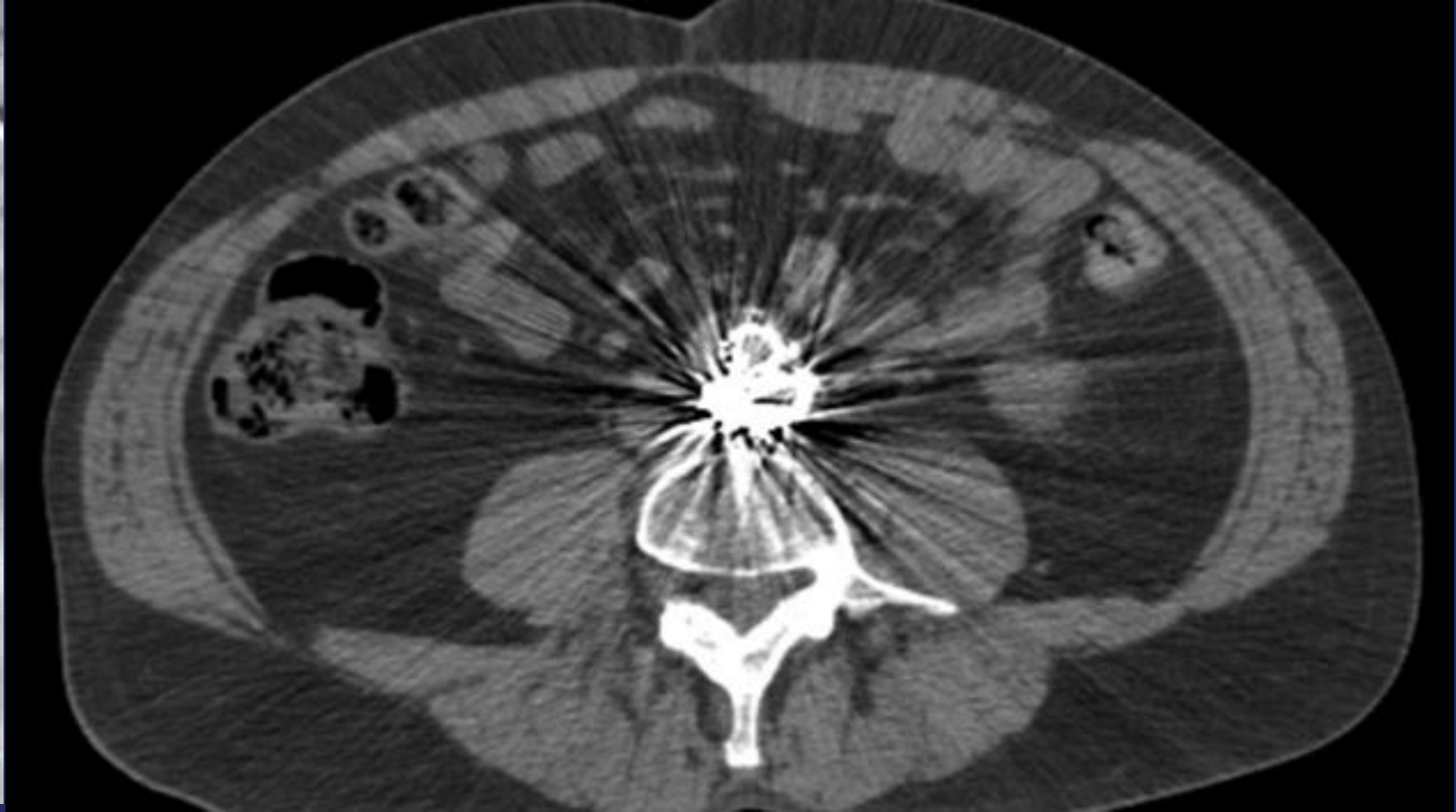
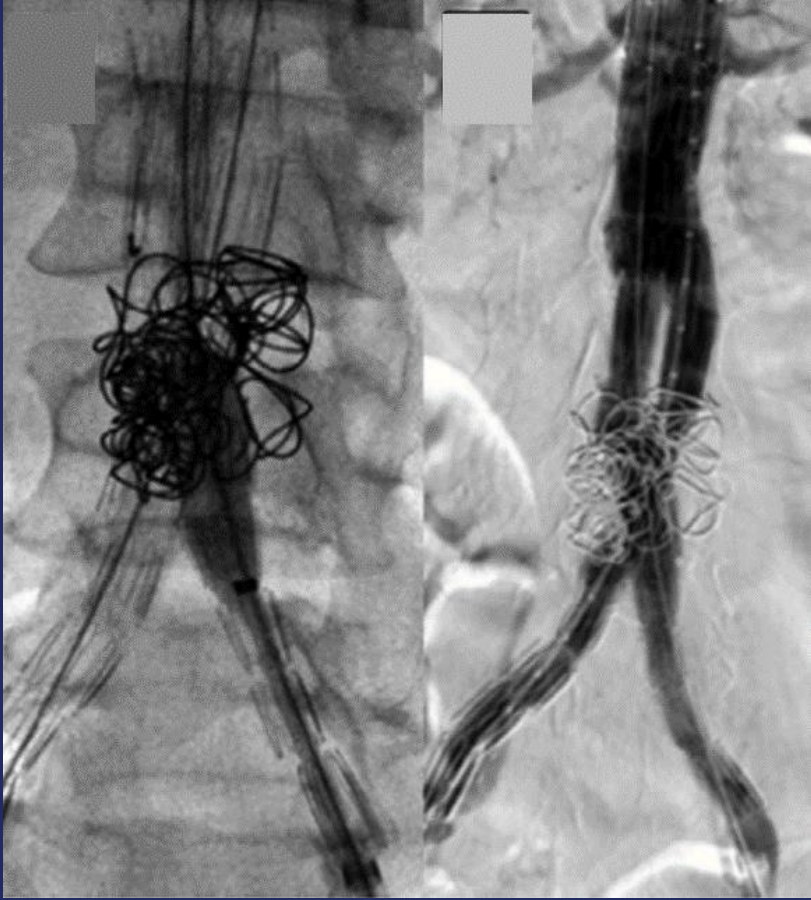
**EVAR**  
excludes the sac



**EVAR + Shape Memory Polymer**  
intended to manage the sac

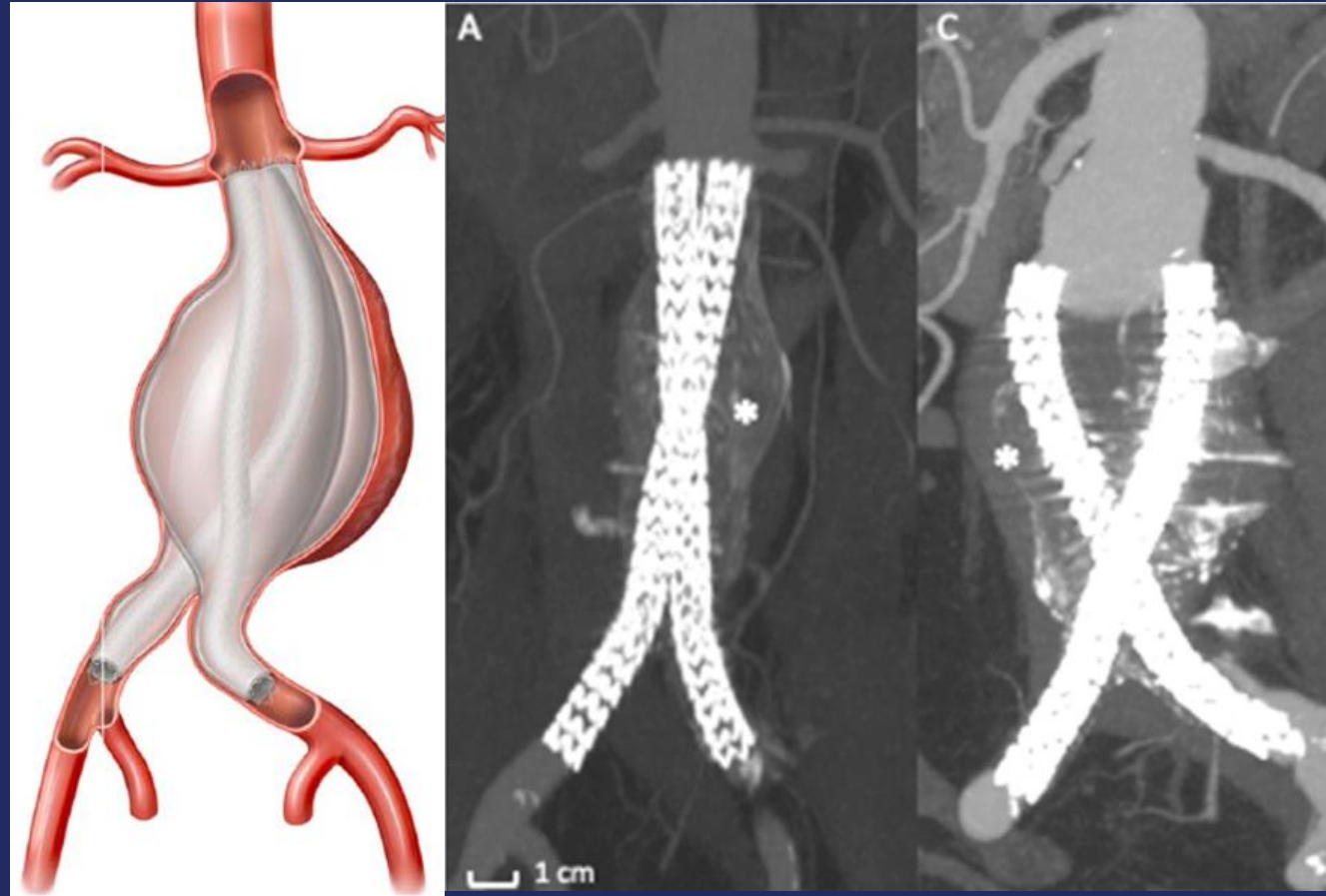


# Preemptive Coil Embolization



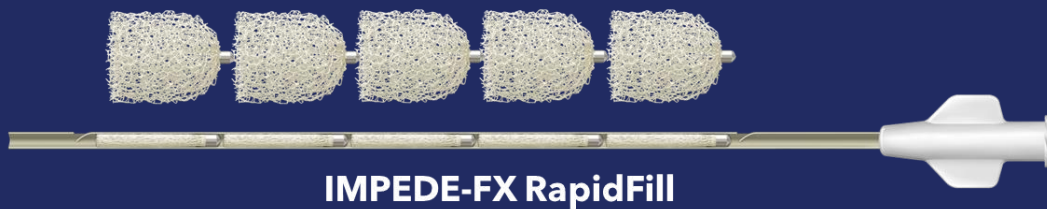
# Endovascular Aneurysm Sealing (EVAS) with Nellix

- Flexible cobalt chromium stent grafts
- Integrated polymer-filled endobags
- Low profile; Simple to deploy
- EVAS Clinical Trials
  - Low type 2 endoleak rate
  - **Early signals of lower all cause mortality**
  - Mid-term device failures
    - Type 1 endoleak with migration
    - Sac expansion
    - Secondary AAA rupture



# Preemptive Sac Management with Shape Memory Polymer - Goals

- High volume filling of AAA sac
  - Compliant material, low radial force
- Stable clot formation and thrombosis
- Improve imaging visibility
- Increase rate of sac regression
- Reduce reintervention for T2 endoleak
- Avoid chronic inflammation



IMPEDE-FX RapidFill



Investigational. Not available for sale in the U.S.



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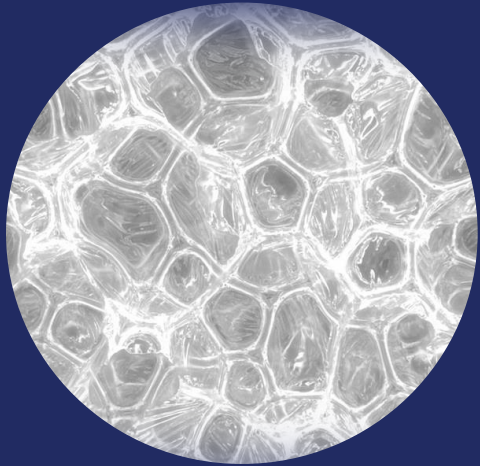


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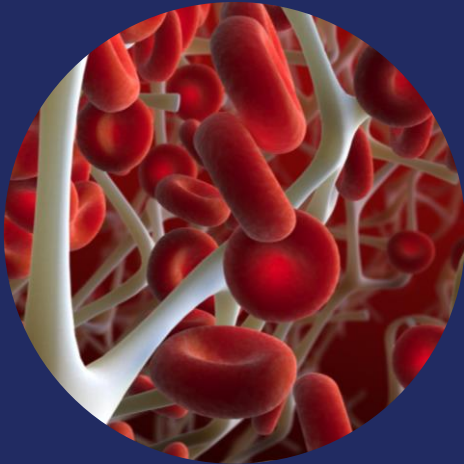


# Shape Memory Polymer

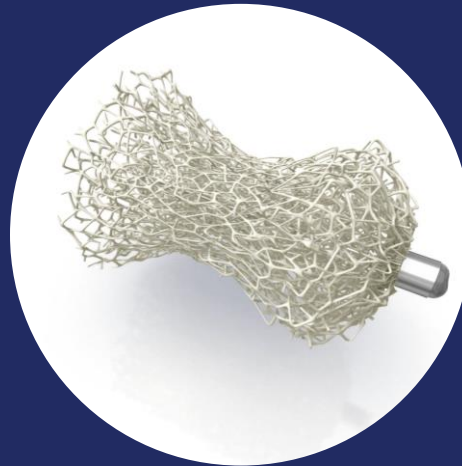
**Porous,  
polyurethane foam**



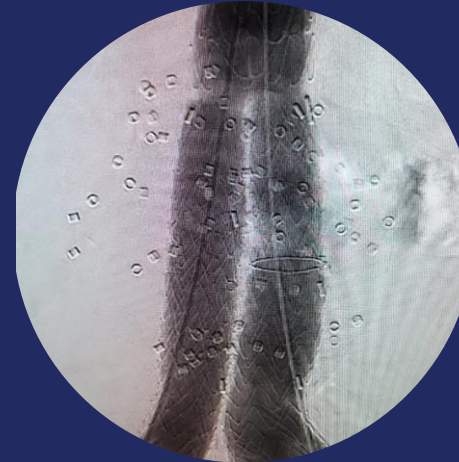
**Open scaffold  
Stable clot formation**



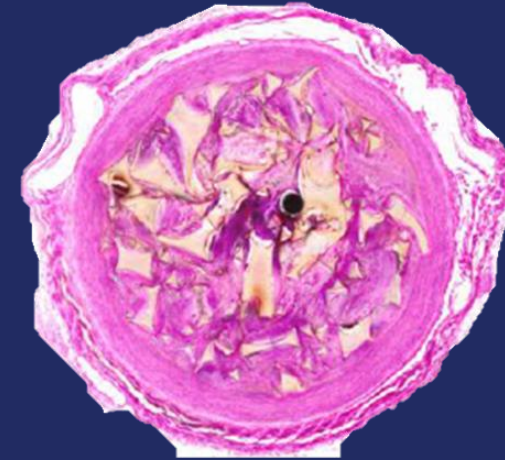
**Soft  
Conformable**



**Radiolucent  
material**



**Cellular growth  
Tissue infiltration<sup>‡</sup>**



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<sup>‡</sup> Pre-clinical data: Jessen SL, Friedemann MC, Ginn-Hedman AM, et al. ACS Biomater Sci Eng 2020 6 2588–2599



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# AAA-SHAPE Early Feasibility Studies

- Prospective, multicenter
  - New Zealand, 2 centers (NCT04227054)
  - The Netherlands, 3 centers (NCT04751578)
- 35 patients
- Primary outcomes: Technical success, 30d MAE
- Secondary outcomes (through 5 years)
  - MAEs, SAEs
  - Endoleak, sac diameter/volume, AAA-related secondary intervention, conversion to open repair

## AAA-SHAPE NZ

Andrew Holden, Andrew Hill  
*Auckland City Hospital, Auckland*

Manar Khashram

*Waikato District Health Board, Hamilton*



## AAA-SHAPE NLD

Michel Reijnen

*Rijnstate Hospital, Arnhem*

Jan Heyligers

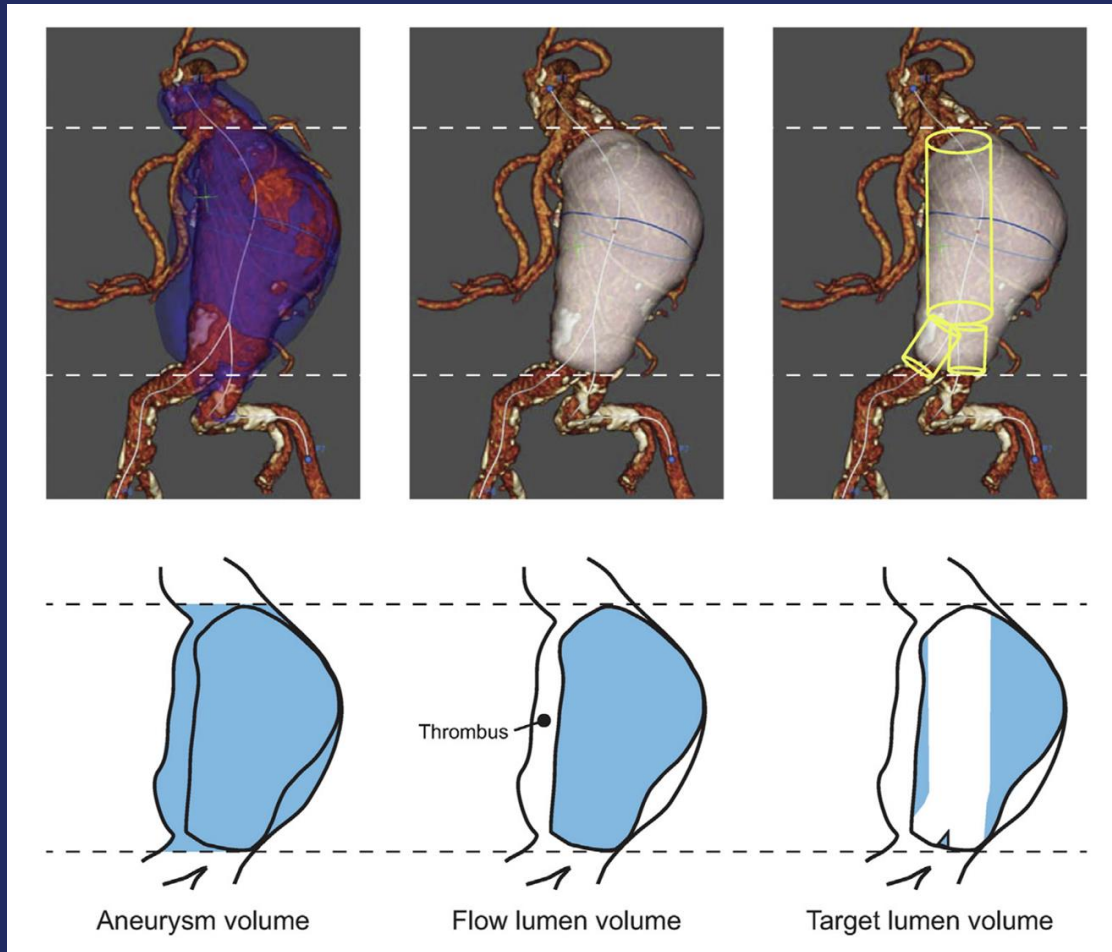
*St. Elisabeth Hospital, Tilburg*

Arno Wiersema

*Dijklander Hospital, Hoorn*



# Pre-procedure Volume Estimations



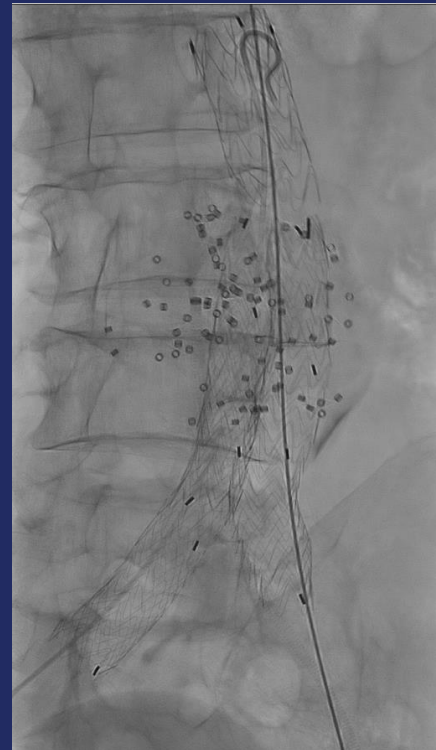
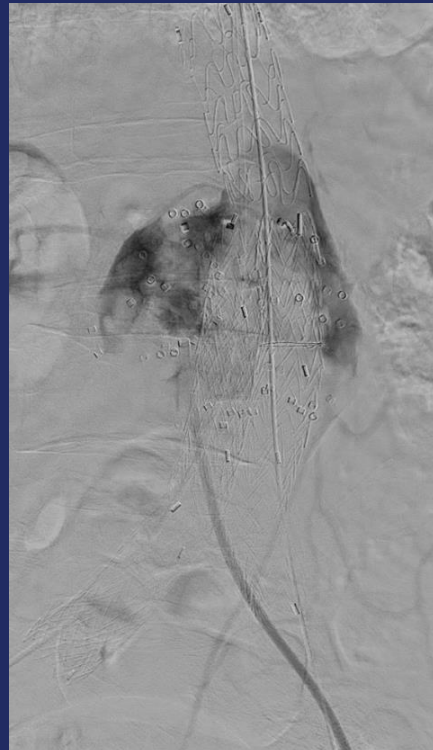
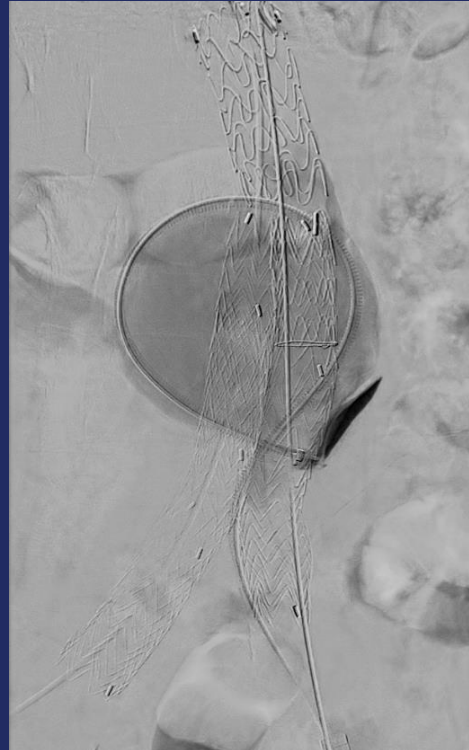
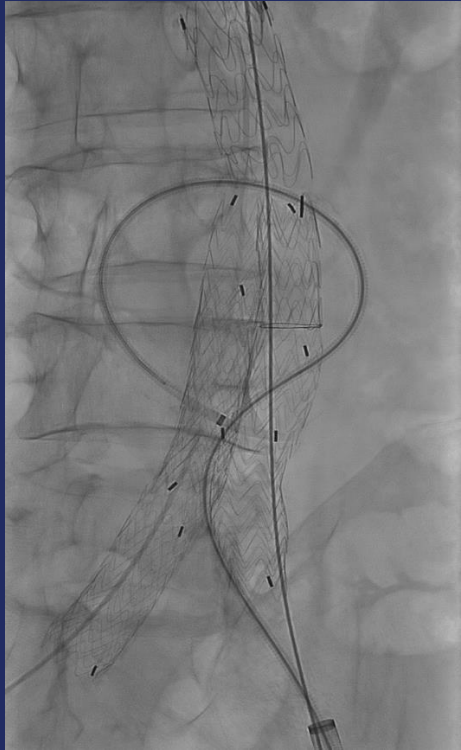
Estimated Number of IMPEDE-FX  
RapidFills =

$$\left( \frac{\text{Target Lumen Volume}}{6.25} \right) \times 1.5$$

Each IMPEDE-FX RapidFill contains  
**6.25 mL** embolic material



# Case Example



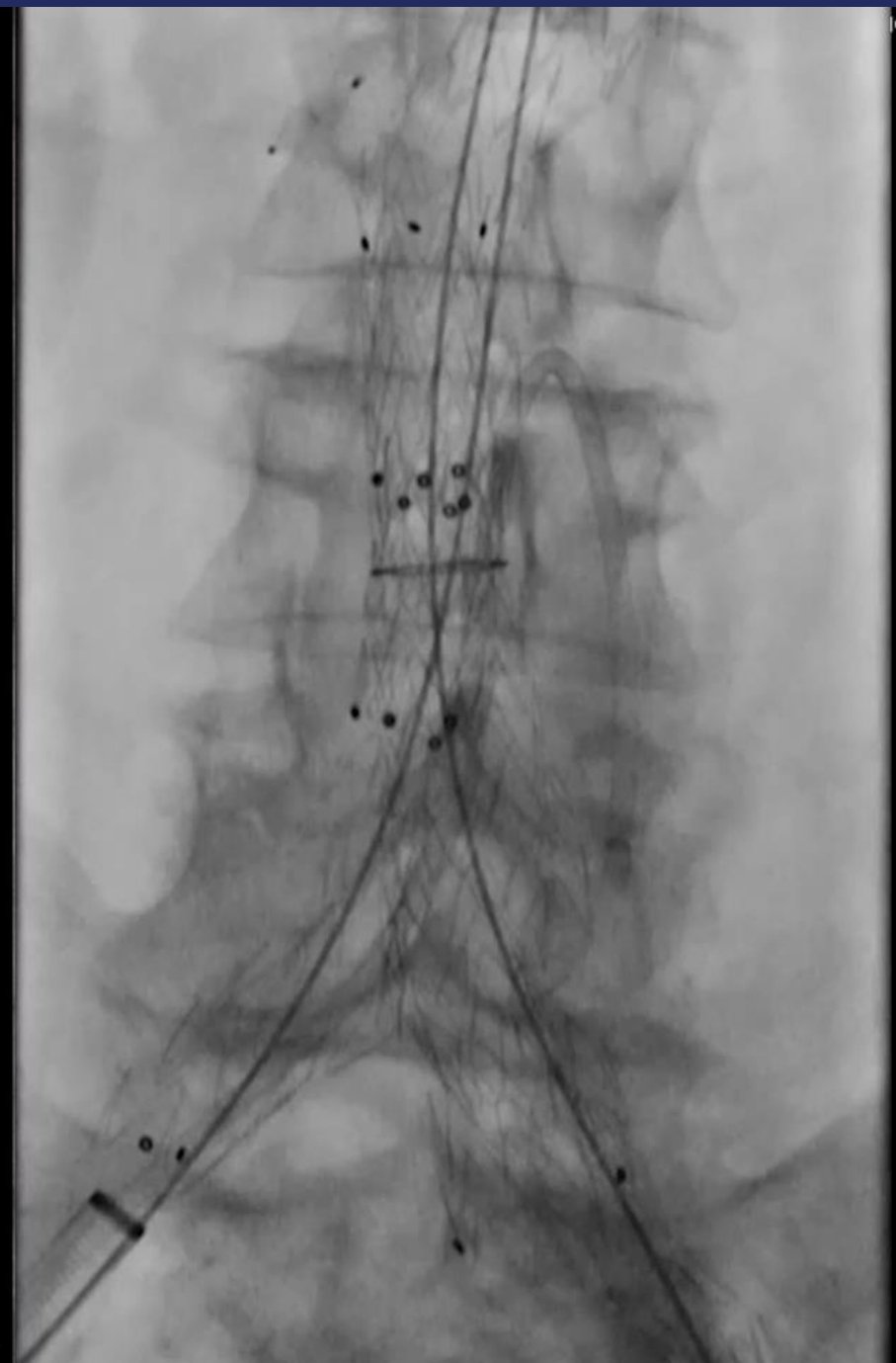


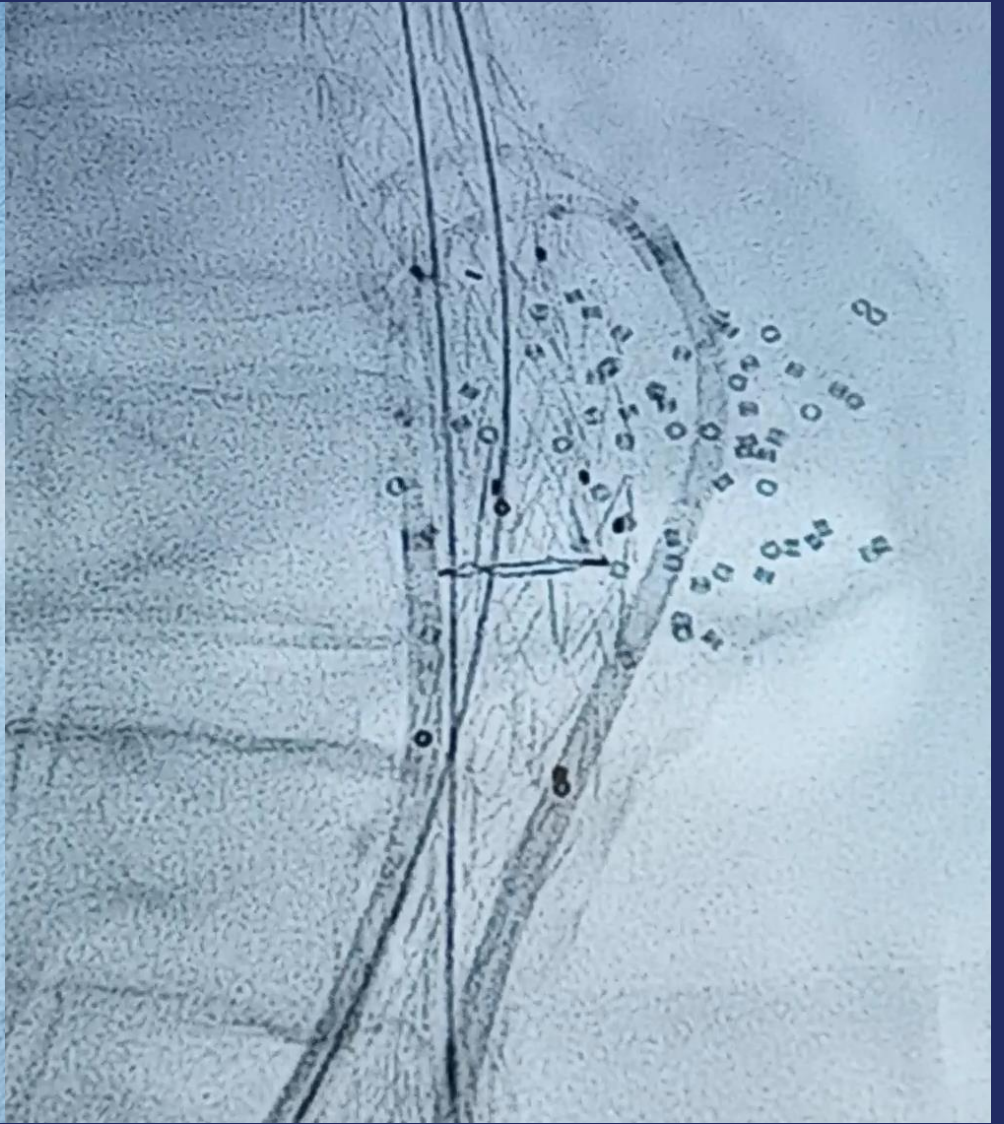
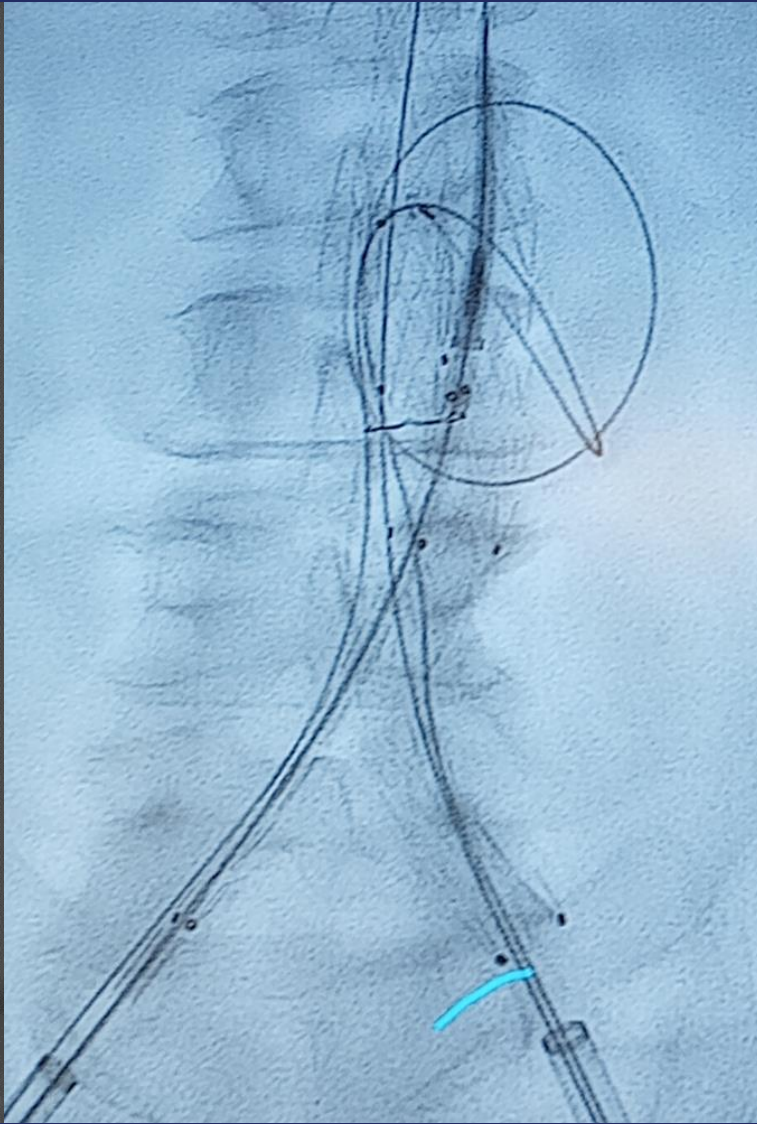
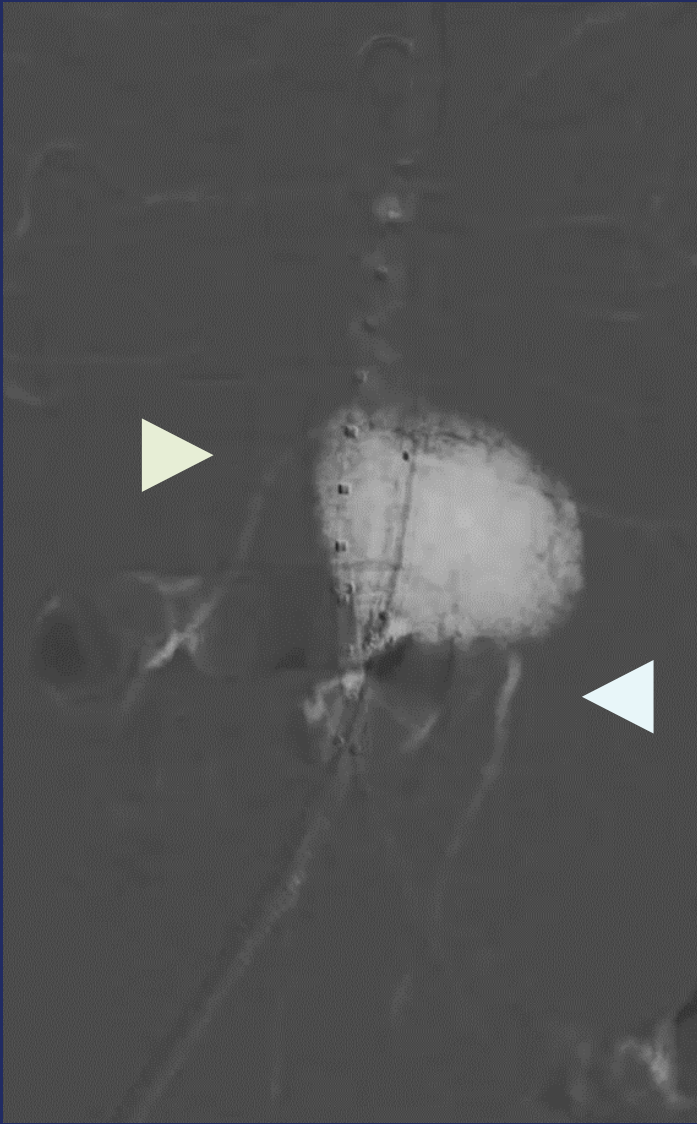
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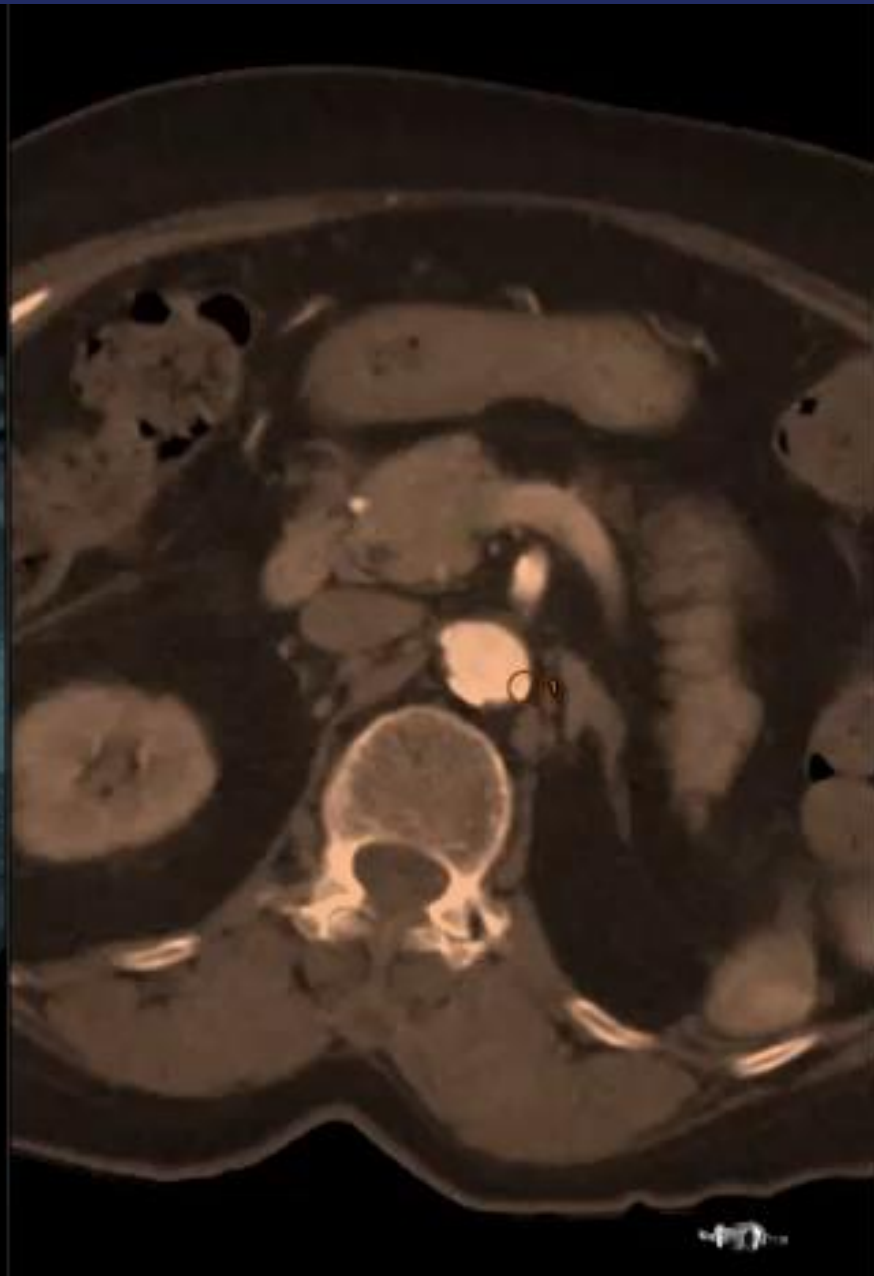
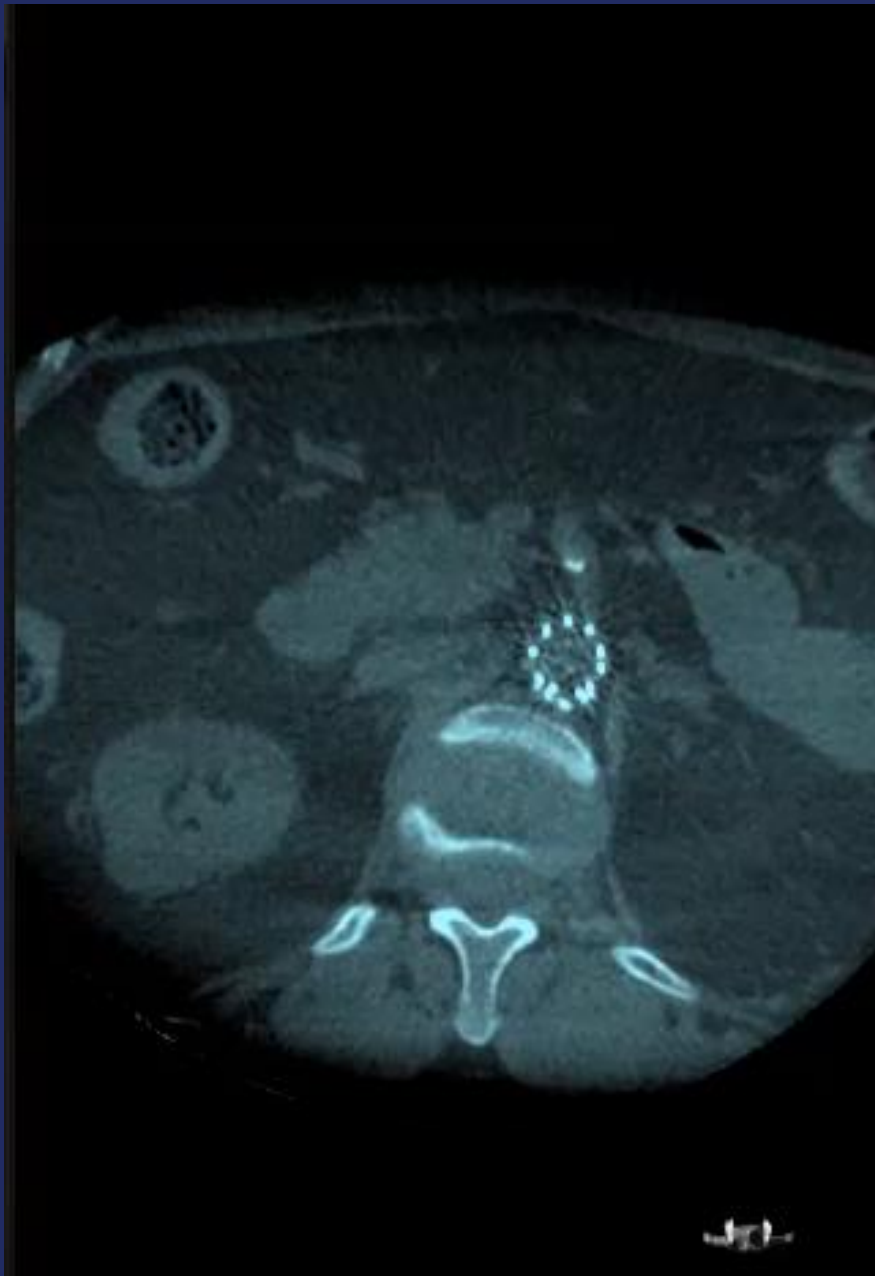




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# Demographics, Aneurysm Characteristics (N=34)

Age, years	75.5 ± 7.3
Male sex, n (%)	29 (85.3%)
ASA Grade, n (%)	
I	0 (0%)
II	6 (17.6%)
III	27 (79.4%)
IV	1 (2.9%)

Aneurysm Diameter, mm	60.8 (57.8 to 63.9)
Aneurysm Volume, mL	181.4 (150.7 to 212.1)
Thrombus Volume, mL	83.2 (56.3 to 110.1)
Thrombus Volume, %	41.7 (35.5 to 47.8)
Blood Lumen Volume, mL	98.2 (88.4 to 108.1)
Patent IMA ≥3 mm, n (%)	10 (29.4%)
Patent Renal Accessory Arteries, n (%)	5 (14.3%)
Patent Lumbar Arteries ≥1, n (%)	31 (91.2%)

Data presented as mean ± standard deviation or 95% confidence interval for continuous variables unless stated otherwise or number (%) for categorical variables.

\*One subject was excluded from analysis due to pre-existing inflammatory aneurysm.

Holden A, Hill A, Khashram M, et al. J Vasc Surg Cases Innov Tech. 2023 Jun 12;9(3):101241.





# Procedure Data (N=34)

Endografts, n (%)		Target Lumen Volume, mL (Blood Lumen Vol – Endograft Vol)	56.3 (46.9 to 65.8)
Medtronic Endurant II/IIIs	17 (50)	Technical Success	100%
Gore Excluder	12 (35.3)	IMPEDE-FX RapidFill Devices	11 (7 to 15)
Gore Excluder Conformable	5 (14.7)	Shape Memory Polymer Volume / Target Lumen Volume Ratio	1.4 ± 0.3
Sac Management Approach, n (%)	34	Additional Procedure Time, min	27 ± 14
Ipsilateral	20 (58.8)	Additional Radiation Time, min	135 seconds (n=6)
Contralateral	14 (41.2)		

Data presented as mean ± standard deviation or 95% confidence interval for continuous variables unless stated otherwise or number (%) for categorical variables.

One subject was excluded from analysis due to pre-existing inflammatory aneurysm.



# Adverse Events through 1y

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- No device- or procedure-related MAEs
  - Procedural blood loss >1000mL, od (Femoral access, resolved without sequelae)
  - CHF, 177d: death
  - COVID-19, 185d, death
- Four device/study procedure-related SAEs
  - Arrhythmia, 1d
  - Post implantation syndrome, 1d
  - Constipation, 2d
  - Abdominal pain, 5d



# Adverse Events through 1y

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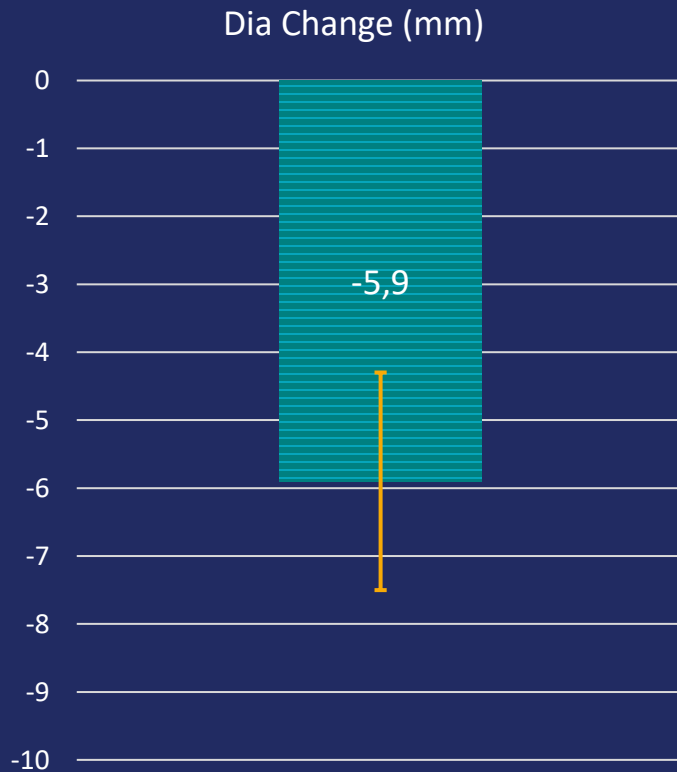
- Four AAA-related reinterventions for:
  - EVAR limb stenosis
  - EVAR limb occlusion
  - Partial coverage LRA with EVAR graft
  - Type 1a endoleak
- One AAA perforation (iatrogenic)
  - Guidewire perforated AAA during index procedure; no clinical sequelae, sac decrease
- No conversion to open repair through 1y
  - Conversion for Type 2 endoleak with expansion at 2y



# Sac Changes at 1y Compared to 30d Baseline (Core Lab)

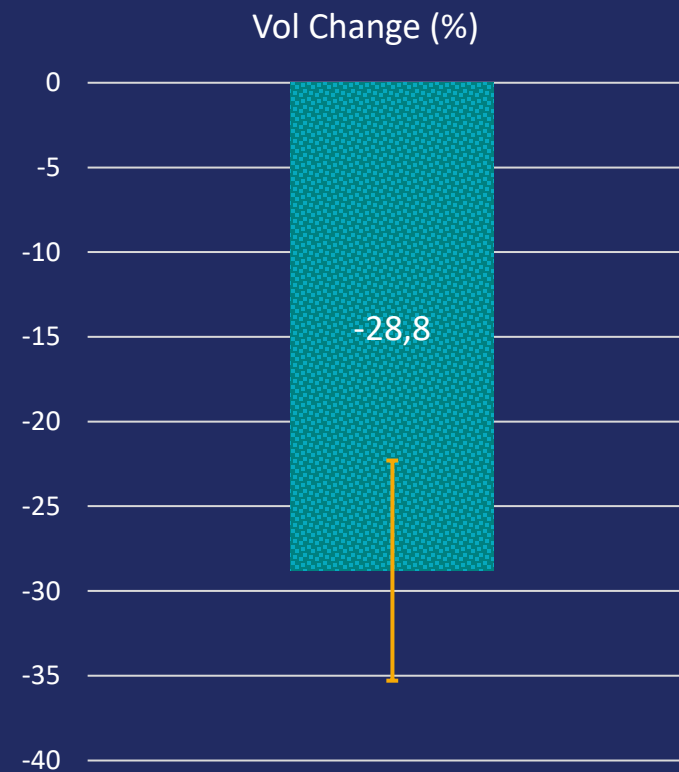
**-6 mm mean diameter change at 1y**

95% CI, -7.5 to -4.4 mm,  $P < .001$

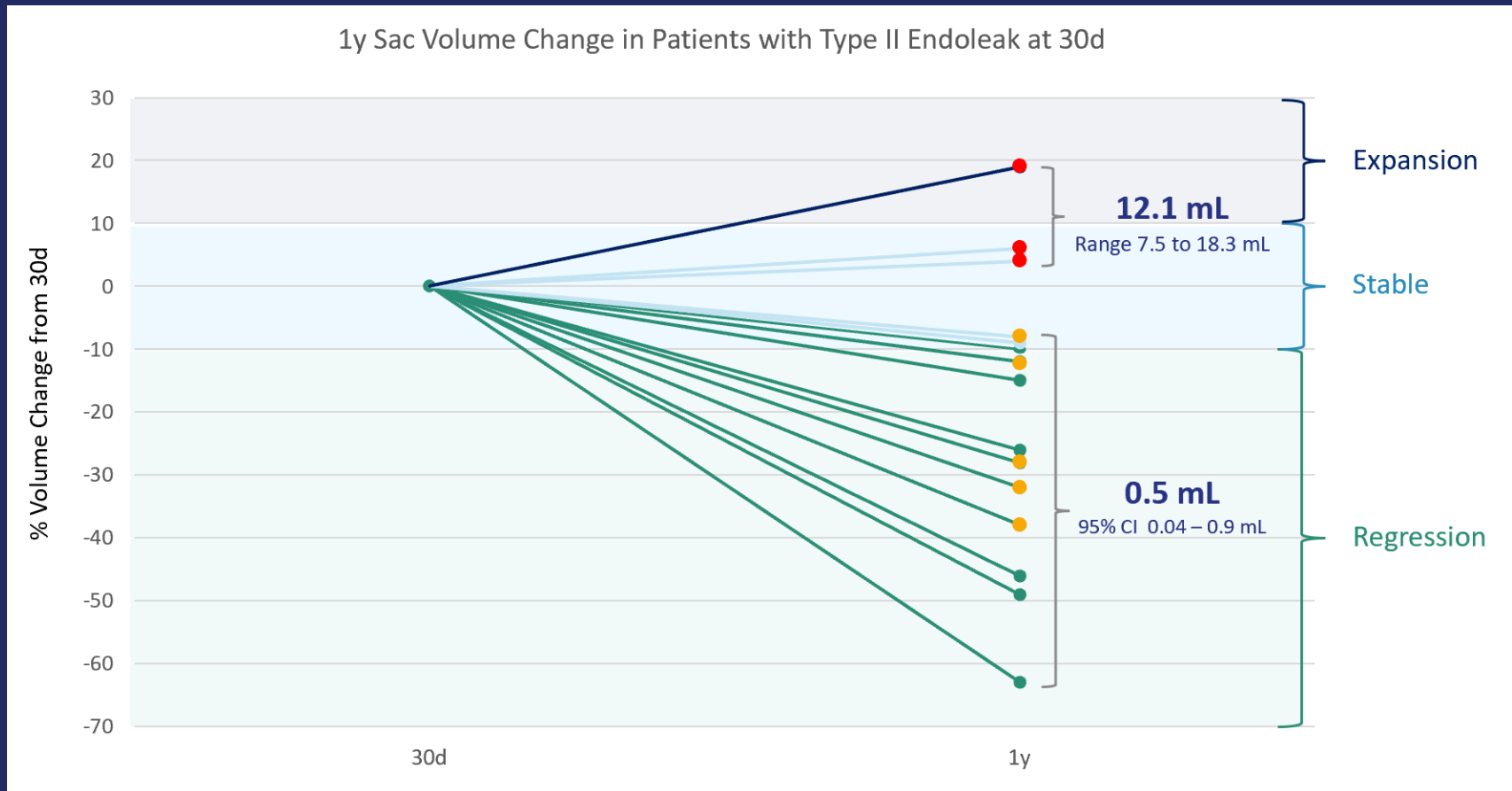


**-29% mean volume change at 1y**

95% CI, -35.3 to -22.4,  $P < .001$



# Sac Changes at 1y in Presence of 30d Type 2 Endoleak (Core Lab)

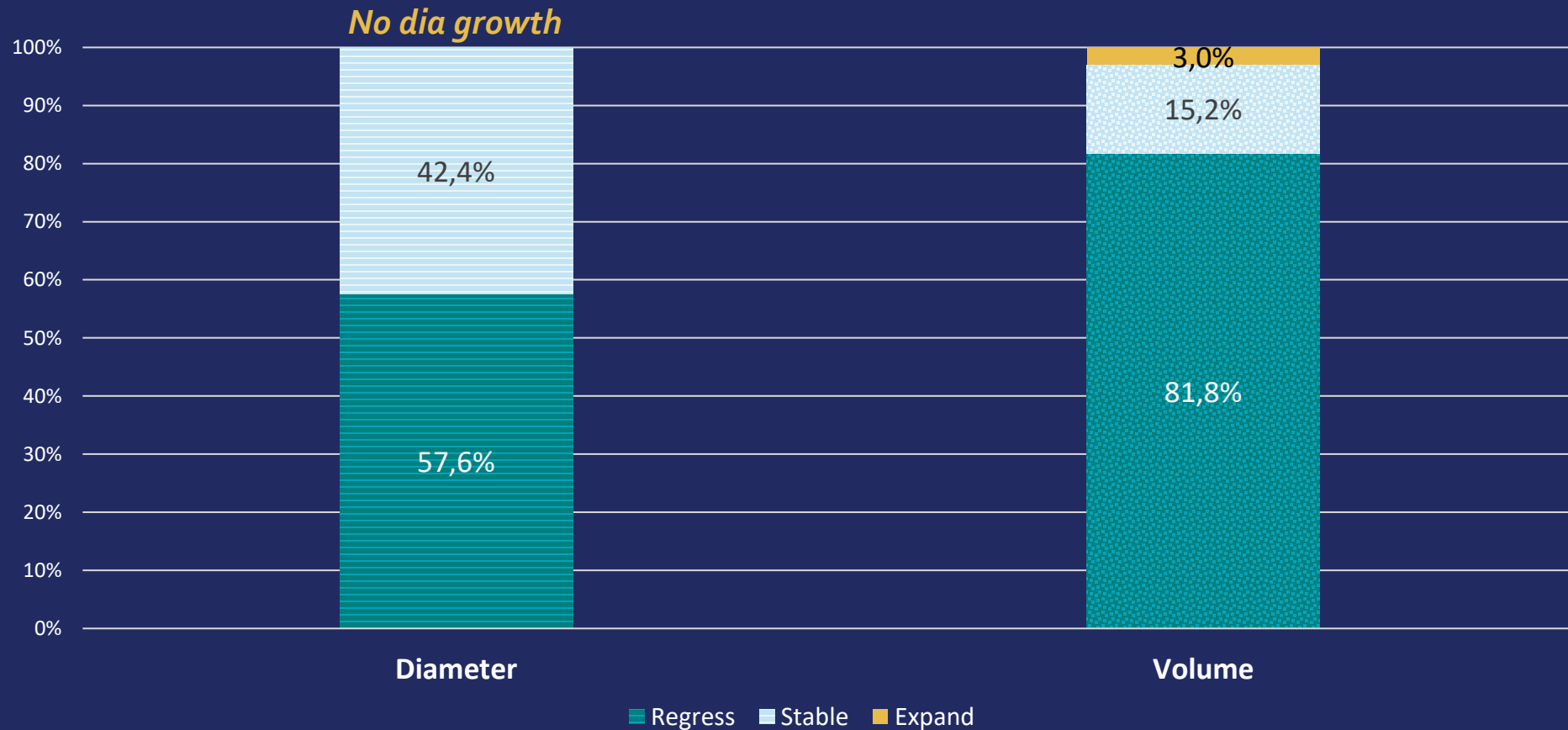


- Persistent EL, High Vol\*
- Persistent EL, Low Vol\*
- Resolved EL

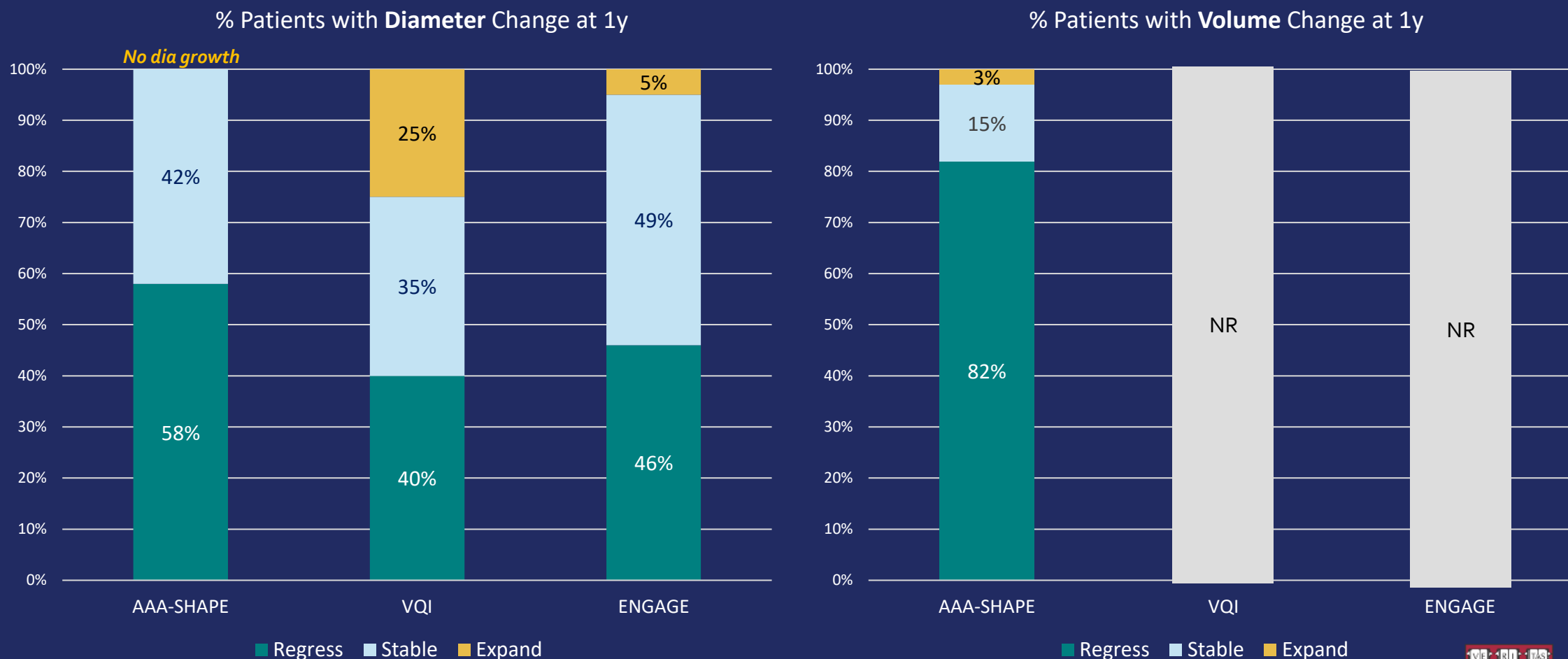
\*Categorized according to EL volume  $\geq 2.4$  mL and  $< 2.4$  mL. Based on a cutoff derived from published analysis of need for reinterventions for T<sub>2</sub> EL



# % Patients, Sac Change at One Year (Compared to 30d Baseline)

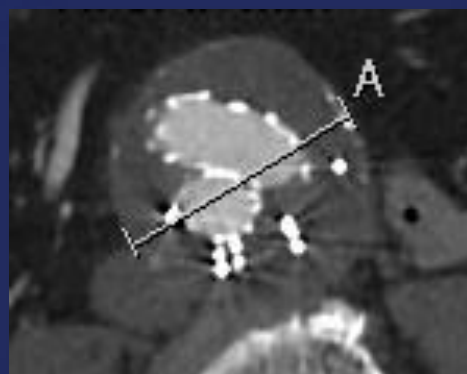


# % Patients, Sac Change at One Year Compared to Standard EVAR



# % Sac Volume Change Compared to EVAR +/- Preemptive Coil Embo

	AAA-SHAPE	Randomized Controlled Trial	
		EVAR + COIL EMBO*	VS STANDARD EVAR*
Patients (n)	33	52	55
Population Treated	68% at risk of T2 EL	All patients at risk of T2 EL	All patients at risk of T2 EL
% volume regression, 6m	<b>-18%</b> (-24% to -11%), P<.001	<b>-7.5% ± 11%</b> , P=.02	<b>-1.7% ± 15%</b> , P=.02
% volume regression, 1y	<b>-29%</b> (-35% to -22%), P<.001	<b>-14% ± 17%</b> , P=.02	<b>-2.0% ± 27%</b> , P=.02





# AAA↑SHAPE

Abdominal **A**ortic **A**neurysm **S**ac **H**ealing **a**nd **P**revention of **E**xpansion

## Randomized Controlled Pivotal Trial

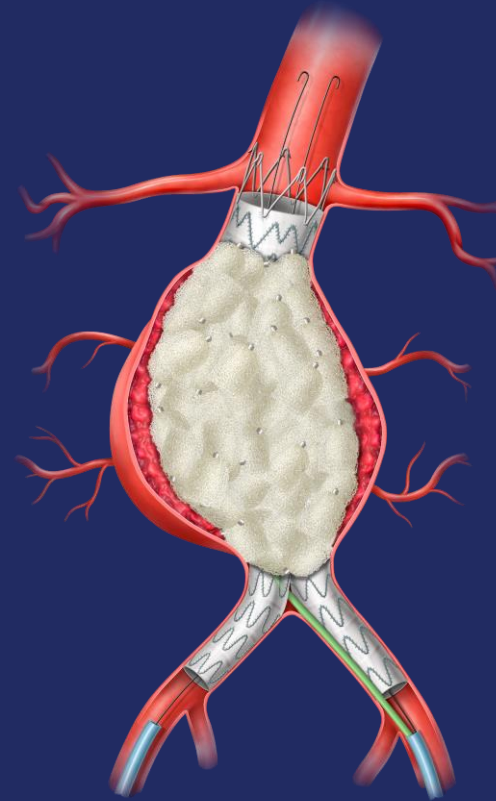
180 total subjects

Up to 50 sites (40 in US; 10 in EU/NZ)

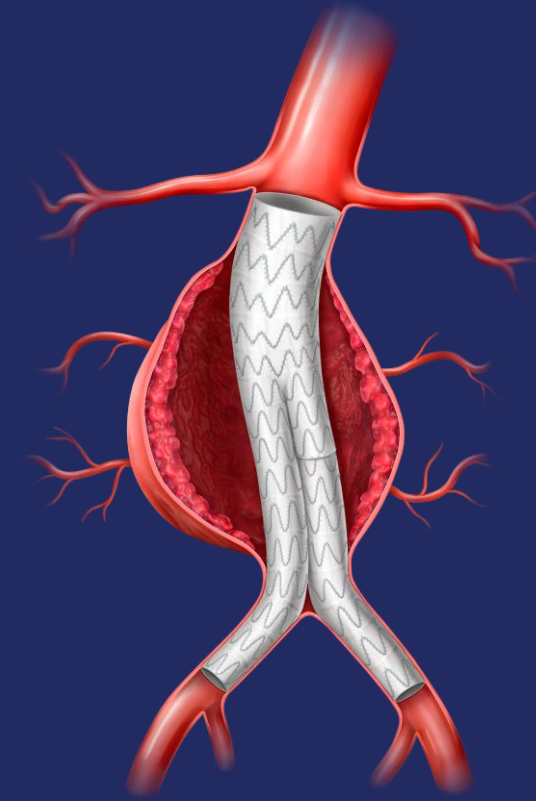
Follow-up through 5y

## Primary Efficacy Endpoint

*% patients with  $\geq 10\%$  sac volume reduction at 1y  
and no AAA-related intervention through 1y*



EVAR plus  
IMPEDE-FX RapidFill



Standard  
EVAR

vs



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Thank You