# Reducing Thromboembolic Risk in Atrial Fibrillation : **"The** Watchman **Experience**"



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- Case Study
- ➢ Epidemiology
- Risk Assessment
- Oral Anticoagulation
- Non Pharmacologic Strategies



- ➤ Case Study
- ➢ Epidemiology
- Risk Assessment CHA2DS2Vasc /HASBLED
- Oral Anticoagulation
- Non Pharmacologic Strategies



- ► Case Study
- Epidemiology
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- ➤ Case Study
- ➢ Epidemiology
- Risk Assessment
- Oral Anticoagulation
- ➢ Non Pharmacologic Strategies −
  - Watchman the Left Atrial Appendage Occluder



## Case :

- 80 yo female with h/o asymptomatic permanent atrial fibrillation – CHA2DS2VAsc- 4 (age,gender,HTN). Therapeutic trials with warfarin and one target specific oral anticoagulant led to multiple hospitalizations secondary to GI bleed. Work up did not identify a correctable source. HASBLED -3
- > Exam notable for irregular heart rate in the 70-80 's
- Meds Warfarin



## Case :

### **Dillema : What Would You Do Next ?**

- A. Discontinue warfarin and start ASA
- B. Discontinue warfarin and start clopidogrel
- C. Try another target specific oral anti-coagulant
- D. Consult your nearest friendly neigborhood electrophysiologist or structural heart disease specialist for a Left atrial appendage occluder ie The Watchman



## AF is a Growing Problem Associated with Greater Morbidity and Mortality



- Higher stroke risk for older patients and those with prior stroke or TIA
- 15-20% of all strokes are AF-related
- AF results in greater disability compared to non-AF-related stroke
- High mortality and stroke recurrence rate



to AS, or the Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2013 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association. Circulation. 2013; 127: e6-e245 Interest DR. Altra Stroke Management: Present and Future, Seminars in Neurology 2010;30:528–536.



Connection Between Non-Valvular AF-Related Stroke and the Left Atrial Appendage

#### **AF Creates Environment for Thrombus Formation in Left Atrium**

- Stasis-related LA thrombus is a predictor of TIA<sup>1</sup> and ischemic stroke<sup>2</sup>.
- In non-valvular AF, >90% of stroke-causing clots that come from the left atrium are formed in the LAA<sup>3</sup>.





Colondard of al. Am Heart J. (2003) Colonan et al. John Soc Echocardiogr (1999) Deckeheer JL. Odell JA*ndonals of Thoracic Surg (*1996) 2014 ACC/AHA/HRS Treatment Guidelines Recommend OAC for Stroke Risk

#### **AHA/ACC/HRS Practice Guideline**

#### 2014 AHA/ACC/HRS Guideline for the Management of Patients With Atrial Fibrillation

#### A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines and the Heart Rhythm Society

Developed in Collaboration With the Society of Thoracic Surgeons

CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> VASc Score	Recommendation
0	No anticoagulant
1	Aspirin (81-325 mg daily) or warfarin (INR 2-3)
≥2	<b>Oral anticoagulants are recommended</b> (warfarin (INR 2-3), dabigatran, rivaroxaban or apixaban



January, CT. et al. 2014 AHA/ACC/HRS Guideline for the Management of Patients With Atrial Fibrillation. JACC. 2014; doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2014.03.022

## Stroke Risks Compound Over Time

CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> - VASc* Score	Annual % Stroke Risk	HAS-BLED** Score	Annual % Bleed Risk	10-Year Bleeding Risk (%)***
0	0	0	0.9	8.6
1	1.3	1	3.4	29.2
2	2.2	2	4.1	34.2
3	3.2	3	5.8	45.0
4	4.0	4	8.9	60.6
5	6.7	5	9.1	61.5
HIA ALLA / ACC APPRS Guidelines	$\smile$		ORLANDOIHEALTH	

\* Lip. JACC (2011)

Assumes constant risk despite increming age and bleeding risk is independent from bleeding risk in previous years

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Oral Anticoagulation is Standard of Care, but Not Prescribed for All NCDR Pinnacle Registry: >400,000 Outpatients w AF

> <50% of Patients with AF at Highest Risk of Stroke were Prescribed an OAC



1. Hsu, J et al. JAMA Cardiol. Published online March 16, 2016. doi:10.1001/jamacardio.2015.0374

#### Despite NOAC Adoption and Ability to Switch NOACs, Adherence to Anticoagulation Remains a Challenge

#### ~30% of NOAC patients stop taking any drug at 2 years



## NOAC FDA Approval Studies Demonstrated High Discontinuation Rates at ~2 Years

Treatment	Study Drug Discontinuation Rate	<b>Major Bleeding</b> (rate/year)	Non Major Bleeding (rate/year)
Rivaroxaban <sup>1</sup>	24%	3.6%	11.8%
Apixaban <sup>2</sup>	25%	2.1%	18%
<b>Dabigatran<sup>3</sup></b> (150 mg)	21%	3.3%	16.4%
<b>Edoxaban⁴</b> (60 mg / 30 mg)	33 % / 34%	2.8% / 1.6%	14.5%
Warfarin <sup>1-4</sup>	17 – 28%	3.1 – 3.6%	16-25%



Connolly, S. NEJM 2009; 361:1139-1151 – 2 yrs follow-up (Corrected) <sup>2</sup>Patel, M. NEJM 2011; 365:883-891 – 1.9 yrs follow-up, ITT Connolly, C. NEJM 2011, 305-981-992 – 1.8 yrs follow-up, 4Giugliano, R. NEJM 2013; 369(22): 2093-2104 – 2.8 yrs follow-up.

#### **Evidence of Low Adherence Rates**





#### Effect of Adherence to Oral Anticoagulants on Risk of Stroke and Major Bleeding Among Patients With Atrial Fibrillation

Xiaoxi Yao, PhD; Neena S. Abraham, MD, MSCE; G. Caleb Alexander, MD, MS; William Crown, PhD; Victor M. Montori, MD, MSc; Lindsey R. Sangaralingham, MPH; Bernard J. Gersh, MB, ChB, DPhil, FRCP; Nilay D. Shah, PhD; Peter A. Noseworthy, MD

AHA 65,000 AF pts >50% NOAC pts and 60% warfarin pts where non-adherent at 1 year

- Circ 45,000 AF pts
- >50% discontinued OAC by 1 year...
   73% by 2.25 years



Nov 2016

Treatment and Persistence With Oral Anticoagulants Among Newly Diagnosed Patients With Non-Valvular Atrial Fibrillation in a Commercially Insured and Medicare Advantage Population

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Rahul Jain, Jessica Franchino-Elder, An-Chen Fu, Cheng Wang, Stephen Sander, Hiangkiat Tan, Elizabeth Kraft, Vincent Willey

#### JAMA | Original Investigation

Association of Preceding Antithrombotic Treatment With Acute Ischemic Stroke Severity and In-Hospital Outcomes Among Patients With Atrial Fibrillation

Ying Xian, MD, PhD; Emily C. O'Brien, PhD; Li Liang, PhD; Haolin Xu, MS; Lee H. Schwamm, MD; Gregg C. Fonarow, MD; Deepak L. Bhatt, MD, MPH; Eric E. Smith, MD, MPH; DaiWai M. Olson, PhD, RN; Lesley Maisch, BA; Deidre Hannah, MSN, RN; Brianna Lindholm, BA; Barbara L. Lytle, MS; Michael J. Pencina, PhD; Adrian F. Hernandez, MD, MHS; Eric D. Peterson, MD, MPH

#### Mar 2017

- JAMA 95,000 postischemic stroke pts
- 83.5% were not receiving therapeutic OAC before stroke

## Introducing the WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> LAAC Device

A **first-of-its-kind**, **proven alternative** to long-term warfarin therapy for stroke risk reduction in patients with non-valvular AF

Most studied LAAC therapy, only one proven with long-term data from randomized trials and multi-center registries

A safe alternative to long-term warfarin therapy which offers comparable stroke risk reduction and enables patients to stop taking warfarin







# Transseptal Cross: Posterior and Inferior





Pigtail Catheter Used to Navigate into the LAA



#### Patient Selection Considerations WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> IFU and CMS Coverage

### **Patient Selection Considerations**

#### **FDA Indication**

- The WATCHMAN Device is indicated to reduce the risk of thromboembolism from the left atrial appendage in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation who:
  - Are at increased risk for stroke and systemic embolism based on CHADS<sub>2</sub> or CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc scores and are recommended for anticoagulation therapy;
  - Are deemed by their physicians to be suitable for warfarin; and
  - Have an appropriate rationale to seek a nonpharmacologic alternative to warfarin, taking into account the safety and effectiveness of the device compared to warfarin

# CHADS2 score ≥2 or a CHA2DS2-VASc score ≥3

**CMS** Coverage

- Patients must be suitable for short-term warfarin, but deemed unable to take long-term oral anticoagulation
- Documented evidence of a formal shared decision interaction between the patient and an independent, non-interventional physician



#### LAA Anatomy / Assessment Morphology

#### Wind Sock:

An anatomy in which one dominant lobe of sufficient length is the primary structure



#### **Chicken Wing:**

An anatomy whose main feature is a sharp bend in the dominant lobe of the LAA at some distance from the perceived LAA ostium



#### Broccoli:

An anatomy whose main feature is an LAA that has limited overall length with more complex internal characteristics



## ■ WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> LAAC Closure Device



• Available sizes: 21, 24, 27, 30, 33 mm diameter

#### Intra-LAA design

• Avoids contact with left atrial wall to help prevent complications

#### **Nitinol Frame**

- Conforms to unique anatomy of the LAA to reduce embolization risk
- 10 active fixation anchors designed to engage tissue for stability

#### **Proximal Face**

- Minimizes surface area facing the left atrium to reduce post-implant thrombus formation
- 160 micron membrane PET cap designed to block emboli and promote healing

#### Warfarin Cessation

- 92% after 45 days, >99% after 12 months<sup>1</sup>
- 95% implant success rate<sup>1</sup>





Anchors

1. Holmes, DR et al. JACC 2014, Vol. 64, No. 1

## WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> Left Atrial Appendage Closure (LAAC) Device Procedure

- One-time implant that does not need to be replaced
- Performed in a cardiac cath lab/EP suite, does not need hybrid OR
- Performed by a Heart Team
  - IC/EP or IC&EP, TEE, General Anesthesia, Surgical Back- up, WATCHMAN Clinical Specialist
- Transfemoral Access: Catheter advanced to the LAA via the femoral vein (Does not require open heart surgery)
- General anesthesia\*
- 1 hour procedure\*
- 1-2 day hospital stay\*



\* Typical to patient treatment in U.S. clinical trials

## Device Release Criteria – Position

#### Device should be at or just distal to the LAA ostium









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### Device Release Criteria - Size





### **Device Compression Table**

#### 8 - 20% of original device size selected

Device Size (uncompressed diameter)	<b>Maximum (20%)</b> Compression Measured Diameter*	<b>Minimum (8%)</b> Compression Measured Diameter*
21	16.8 mm	19.3 mm
24	19.2 mm	22.1 mm
27	21.6 mm	24.8 mm
30	24.0 mm	27.6 mm
33	26.4 mm	30.4 mm

\*Measure in-situ device diameter at <u>approximate</u> TEE angles of 0, 45, 90 and 135 degrees to accurately assess device compression

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hal device limited to investigational use only under US 1 PBART INST

"threaded insert" must be visible when measuring on echo to ensure device was measured at widest cross-section in all angles

## Device Release Criteria – Anchor

Pass or Fail Test



 To test stability, gently retract deployment knob and let go, observe device returns to original position

#### Deployment Knob



Hemostasis Valve

- 2. If the device moves to where position is no longer acceptable or the compression is no longer sufficient, the device should be recaptured
- 3. Test stability more than once if device stability is questionable



## ■ WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> Device Endothelialization



Canine Model - 30 Day



Canine Model - 45 Day



Human Pathology – 9 Months Post-implant (Non-device related death)

Images on file at Boston Scientific Corporation. Results in animal models may not necessarily be indicative of clinical outcomes.

## WATCHMAN Clinical Data Clinical Study Overview



WATCHMAN Clinical Leadership More than 2,400 patients and nearly 6,000 patientyears of follow-up



Not US indication

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WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> - Most Studied LAAC Device Only one proven with long-term data from randomized trials and multi-center registries

Key Trials	Ν	Highlights
PROTECT AF <sup>1</sup> (2005-2008)	707	Prospective, randomized 2:1, non-inferiority trial of LAA closure vs. warfarin.
CAP <sup>2</sup> (2008-2010)	566	Prospective registry allowing continued access to the WATCHMAN Device and gain further information prior to PMA approval.
PREVAIL <sup>3</sup> (2010-2012)	407	Prospective, randomized 2:1, non-inferiority trial to collect additional information on the WATCHMAN Device.
CAP2 (2012-2014)	579	Prospective registry allowing continued access to the WATCHMAN Device prior to PMA approval.
EWOLUTION (2013-2015) <sup>4*</sup>	1025	Prospective registry allowing all patients receiving a WATCHMAN Device at participating centers in Europe, Middle East and Russia
Total patients	>3,000	~7,000 Patient-Years of Follow-up

\* Majority of patients enrolled could not take anticoagulation and therefore *contraindicated* in the US per current labeling.

Reddy, et al. JAWA, 2014 ;312(19): 1988-1998.
 Reddy VY et al. Circulation 2011; 123:417-424.
 Holmes et al., JACC 2014, 4(1): 1-11.
 4Boersma, L. V. A., et al. CCI (2015); 88(3): 460-465.



# Majority of patients in the trial were at a moderate to high bleeding risk



AHA/ACC/HRS Guidelines (2014); Holmes, DR et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2015;65(24):2614-2623.

# WATCHMAN Clinical Data Efficacy – Stroke Risk Reduction



## PROTECT AF/PREVAIL Meta-Analysis: WATCHMAN Comparable to Warfarin

	HR	p-value
Efficacy	0.79	0.22
All stroke or SE	1.02	0.94
Ischemic stroke or SE	1.95	0.05
Hemorrhagic stroke	0.22	0.004
Ischemic stroke or SE >7 days	1.56	0.21
CV/unexplained death	0.48	0.006
All-cause death	0.73	0.07
Major bleed, all	1.00	0.98
Major bleeding, non procedure-related	0.51	0.002
Favors WATCHMAN $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ Favors wa	rfarin	
0.01 0.1 1	10	
olmes, DR et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2015;65(24):2614-2623. Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	T INSTITUTE	

WATCHMAN Disabling Stroke Reduction Superior to Warfarin in PROTECT AF

	Event Rate (per 100 pt-yrs)			Posterior Probabilities, %	
PROTECT AF	WATCHMAN N=463	<b>Warfarin</b> N=244	Rate Ratio (95% Crl)	Non- Inferiority	Superiority
Stroke (all)	1.5	2.2	<b>0.68</b> (0.42, 1.37)	>99	83
Disabling	0.5	1.2	<b>0.37</b> (0.15, 1.00)	>99	98
Non-disabling	1.0	1.0	<b>1.05</b> (0.54, 2.80)	89	34

Disabling stroke defined as Modified Rankin Score 3-6

# 63% reduction in disabling/fatal strokes with WATCHMAN





# WATCHMAN Clinical Data Efficacy – Bleeding Reduction



## Bleeding Risks Compound Over Time

CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> - VASc* Score	Annual % Stroke Risk	HAS-BLED** Score	Annual % Bleed Risk	10-Year Bleeding Risk (%)***
0	0	0	0.9	8.6
1	1.3	1	3.4	29.2
2	2.2	2	4.1	34.2
3	3.2	3	5.8	45.0
4	4.0	4	8.9	60.6
5	6.7	5	9.1	61.5
014 AHA / ACC / URS Guidelines .ip. JACC (2011) Assumes constant risk de auto-true	the age and bleeding risk is inde	nendent from bleeding risk in previous years	ORLANDO HEALTH HEART INSTITUTE	

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Bleeding Outcomes after Left Atrial Appendage Closure Compared with Long-term Warfarin

#### Freedom of Major Bleeding Over 3 Adjunctive Pharmacotherapy Intervals



# WATCHMAN Clinical Data

#### **Procedural Success and Safety**



## WATCHMAN Implant Procedure



The performance and timing of TEE to re-evaluate the LAA seal is left to physician discretion. Typical to patient treatment in U.S. clinical trials



#### Patient Risk Factors Across Trials

Characteristic	PROTECT AF N=707	<b>CAP</b> N=566	<b>PREVAIL</b> N=407	<b>CAP2</b> N=579	p-value
CHADS <sub>2</sub> Score	<b>2.2</b> ± <b>1.2</b>	2.5 ± 1.2	<b>2.6</b> ± <b>1.0</b>	<b>2.7</b> ± <b>1.1</b>	<0.0001
CHADS <sub>2</sub> Risk Factor	ors (% of Pa	atients)			
CHF	26.9	23.3	19.1	27.1	0.004
Hypertension	89.8	91.4	88.8	92.5	0.15
Age ≥ 75	43.1	53.6	51.8	59.7	<0.001
Diabetes	26.2	32.4	24.9	33.7	0.001
Stroke/TIA	18.5	27.8	30.4	29.0	<0.0001
CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VASc	3.5 ± 1.6	3.9 ± 1.5	4.0 ± 1.2	4.5 ± 1.3	<0.0001



ource: FDA Oct 2014 Panel Sponsor Presentation.

not intended to suggest head-to-head comparisons of the separate trials or the therapies under study.

WATCHMAN enables patients to discontinue taking long-term OAC

#### 92% of patients were able to discontinue warfarin after 45 days, with 99% able to discontinue after 1 year<sup>3</sup>



45 Days

1 Year

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#### Warfarin Cessation with WATCHMAN

Study*	45-day	12-month
PROTECT AF <sup>1</sup>	87%	>93%
CAP <sup>2</sup>	96%	>96%
PREVAIL <sup>3</sup>	92%	>99%
		ORLANDO HEALTH

1. Reddy, VY et al. Circulation. 2011;123:417-424. 2 WATCHMAN FDA Panel Sponsor Presentation. Oct 2014. 3 Holmes, DR et al. JACC 2014; 64(1):1-12.

#### 72% Major Bleeding Reduction Long Term Post-ImpaInt



\*if leak >5mm, patients remained on warfarin + ASA until seal documented, skipping the clopidogrel + ASA pharmacotherapy

	LA (n=	AC 732)	Long-terr (n=	Rate	P	
	Bleeding Rate (n events / N at risk)	Event Rate per 100 pt-yrs (n events / N at risk)	Bleeding Rate (n events/N at risk)	Event Rate per 100 pt-yrs (n events / N at risk)	Ratio	value
Overall	10.8 (79/732)	3.5 (79/2268)	11.3 (43/382)	3.6 (43/1187)	0.96	0.84
Post Procedure	5.9 (40/682)	1.8 (40/2255)	11.3 (43/381)	3.6 (43/1180)	0.49	0.001
Destination	3.2 (19/601)	1.0 (19/1958	9.7 (35/360)	3.5 (35/1004)	0.28	<0.001

Overall period defined as after randomization to the end of follow-up; post-procedural period as >7 days after randomization to the end of follow-up; destination therapy period as beyond 180 days post-randomization, when patients assigned to LAA closure were eligible to receive aspirin along the structure of the end of the structure of the stru

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#### Price, M. J., V. Y. Reddy, et al. JACC. CV Interv 2015; 8(15): 1925-1932

**Favorable Procedural Safety Profile:** All Device and/or Procedure-related Serious Adverse Events within 7 Days



1 Boersma, LVA.et al. EHJ 2016; 37(5), 2465

#### Favorable Procedural Safety Profile: Major Procedural Complications Across WATCHMAN Studies

	PROTECT- AF	PREVAIL	САР	CAP2	EWOLUTION	Post-FDA Approval	Aggregate Data
Pericardial Tamponade	20 (4.3%)	5 (1.9%)	8 (1.4%)	11 (1.9%)	3 (0.29%)	39 (1.02%)	86 (1.28%)
Treated with pericardiocentesis	13 (2.8%)	4 (1.5%)	7 (1.2%)	n/a	2 (0.20%)	24 (0.63%)	
Treated surgically	7 (1.5%)	1 (0.4%)	1 (0.2%)	n/a	1 (0.10%)	12 (0.31%)	
Resulted in death	0	0	0	0	0	3 (0.78%)	
Pericardial effusion – no intervention	4 (0.9%)	0	5 (0.9%)	3 (0.5%)	4 (0.39%)	11 (0.29%)	27 (0.40%)
Procedure-related stroke	5 (1.15%)	1 (0.37%)	0	2 (0.35%)	1 (0.10%)	3 (0.078%)	12 (0.18%)
Device embolization	3 (0.6%)	2 (0.7%)	1 (0.2%)	0	2 (0.20%)	9 (0.24%)	17 (0.25%)
Removed percutaneously	1	0	0	0	1	3	29%
Removed surgically	2	2	1	0	1	6	71%
Death							
Procedure-related mortality	0	0	0	0	1 (0.1%)	3 (0.078%)	4 (0.06%)
Additional mortality within 7 days	0	0	0	1 (0.17%)	3 (0.29%)	1 (0.026%)	5 (0.07%)

The EWOLUTION Registry is a European prospective registry which reflects CE Mark indications for use which differ from the FDA indications for use.

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#### Ischemic Stroke Rate Aligns with Expected Rate Based on Risk Score PROTECT AF 5 Yrs / PREVAIL 3 Yrs



## WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> Device Reduces Ischemic Stroke Over No Therapy



#### WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> Clinical Leadership

- The WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> LAAC Device is the most studied LAAC device and the only one proven with long-term data from randomized trials or multi-center registries
  - Five studies, >2400 patients, nearly 6000 patient-years of follow-up
- WATCHMAN is a safe alternative to long-term warfarin therapy which offers comparable stroke risk reduction and enables patients to stop taking warfarin<sup>1,2</sup>
  - 95% implant success rate<sup>3</sup>
  - >92% warfarin cessation after 45 days, >99% after 1 year<sup>1</sup>
- WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> therapy demonstrated comparable stroke risk reduction and statistically superior reductions in major non-procedure related bleeding and cardiovascular death compared to warfarin<sup>2,4</sup>:
  - 52% reduction in cardiovascular death (p= 0.006)<sup>2</sup>
    - Largely driven by 78% reduction in hemorrhagic stroke<sup>2</sup>
  - 72% reduction in major non-procedure related bleeding >6 months post-procedure (p<0.001)<sup>4</sup>

 Holmes, DR et al. JACC 2014; Vol. 64, No. 1.
 2. Holmes, DR et al. JACC 2015; Vol. 65, No. 2.
 3. Reddy VY, Holmes DR, et al. JACC 2016; Article in press.

 4. Price, M. J., V. Y. Roody, et al. JACC: CV Interv 2015; 8(15): 1925-1932
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# WATCHMAN Clinical Data

#### **Future Patient Populations**



\* Data presented is in patients primarily contraindicated for LAAC with WATCHMAN in the United States.

# **ASAP-TOO (NCT02928497):**

### Overview

Study Objective	Evaluate LAA Closure with WATCHMAN in NVAF patients deemed not suitable for oral anti-coagulation therapy		
Study Design	Prospective, multi-center Randomized 2:1 (Watchman vs Control) Considering Group Sequential Design		
Primary Endpoint	Effectiveness Endpoint Time to first occurrence of ischemic stroke or systemic embolism Safety Endpoint 7-day rate of all-cause death, ischemic stroke, systemic embolism, or device- or procedure- related events requiring open cardiac surgery or major endovascular intervention		
Patient Population	888		
Number of Sites	100 global sites		
Follow-up*	<ul> <li>45 Day with TEE</li> <li>6,18 month phone visit</li> <li>12 month with TEE</li> <li>Bi-annually for years 2-5</li> </ul>		



• Brain imaging required at baseline if prior stroke or TIA Holmes et al. AHJ 2017; in press

#### ASAP-TOO Device Group Medication Therapy

Visit Interval	Aspirin	Clopidogrel*
Discharge through 3-month visit	Yes, suggested dose: 75- 100mg	Yes Suggested dose: 75mg
3-month visit through 12- month visit	Yes, suggested dose: 75- 100mg	No, unless other indication
Following the 12-month visit	No, unless other indication	No, unless other indication

\*\*Patients are allowed to be on dual antiplatelet therapy (outside of the protocol required 3months period) if indicated due to a condition

Holmes et al. AHJ 2017; In Press



#### WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> Therapy Candidates

#### What type of LAAC candidates are you referring today?





ACC, HRS, SCAI Consensus Memo to CMS Contraindications to Long-Term Warfarin Therapy

#### **WATCHMAN is Not Just for Those at Risk of Bleeding**

The CMS NCD for LAAC (20.34) indicates that patients must have "A suitability for shortterm warfarin but deemed unable to take long-term oral anticoagulation...."

Although not part of the NCD, the professional societies (HRS/ACC/SCAI) recommended the list below to CMS during the public comment period, to describe the population they view as contraindicated to long-term anticoagulation.

#### Appendix A

Contraindications to Anticoagulation

- 1. History of intracranial bleeding (intracerebral or subdural) where benefits of LAAC outweigh risks
- 2. History of spontaneous bleeding other than intracranial (e.g. retroperitoneal bleeding)
- 3. Documented poor compliance with anticoagulant therapy
- 4. Inability or significant difficulty with maintaining patients in therapeutic anticoagulation range
- 5. Intolerance of warfarin and NOACs
- 6. High risk of recurrent falls
- 7. Cognitive impairment
- 8. Severe renal failure
- 9. Occupation related high bleeding risk
- 10. Need for prolonged dual antiplatelet therapy
- 11. Increased bleeding risk not reflected by the HAS-BLED score (e.g. thrombocytopenia, cancer, or risk of tumor associated bleeding in case of systemic anticoagulation)
- 12. Other situations for which anticoagulation is inappropriate

WATCHMAN is the most studied LAAC Device with Long-term Clinical Data

Results				
Safety	WATCHMAN procedure is safe	<b>95%</b> implant success; <b>~4%</b> complication rates <sup>1</sup>		
Primary Efficacy	WATCHMAN <b>comparable</b> to warfarin	21% reduction in events $(p=0.22)^3$		
All-Stroke	WATCHMAN <b>comparable</b> to warfarin	<b>63%</b> reduction in disabling strokes (Ps=>99%) <sup>2</sup> ; <b>78%</b> reduction in hemorrhagic strokes (p=0.004) <sup>3</sup>		
CV / Unexp death	WATCHMAN <b>superior</b> to warfarin	<b>52%</b> reduction in events $(p=0.006)^3$		
Major Bleeding	WATCHMAN <b>comparable</b> to warfarin; <b>superior</b> to warfarin <b>post-procedure</b>	<ul> <li>52% reduction post-procedure (p=0.002);</li> <li>72% reduction after 6-months (p=0.001)<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>		
Warfarin	WATCHMAN allows the <b>majority</b> of patients to <b>discontinue warfarin</b>	<ul> <li>92% of patients discontinue after 45-days;</li> <li>99% of patients discontinue after 1 year<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>		





#### Safe, Effective, Stop Taking Warfarin Once and Done

# The WATCHMAN<sup>™</sup> Device is a safe alternative to long-term warfarin therapy, offers comparable stroke risk reduction and enables patients to stop taking warfarin.



SAFE



**EFFECTIVE** 

- 95% implant success rate
- Complication rate similar to ablation therapy
- WATCHMAN reduces the risk of stroke as effectively as warfarin
- 52% reduction in cardiovascular/ unexplained death



#### PATIENTS CAN STOP TAKING WARFARIN

- 92% were able to stop taking warfarin after 45 days
- 99% were able to stop taking warfarin at 1 year





