



# Novel PARADIGM in carotid revascularization:

Prospective evaluation of All-comer percutaneous carotid revascularization in symptomatic and increased-risk asymptomatic carotid artery stenosis using the CGuard™ Micronet-covered embolic prevention stent system

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# Novel **PARADIGM** in carotid revascularization

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# Potential conflicts of interest

Speaker's name: Piotr Musialek

☒ I have the following potential conflicts of interest to report:

Advisory Board participation: InspireMD, PENUMBRA

Training / Educational Activities for MEDTRONIC

Research support and KoL travel support from ABBOTT

N.B. **PARADIGM** study has been Investigator-Initiated and Investigator-Executed ( **no industry support** )

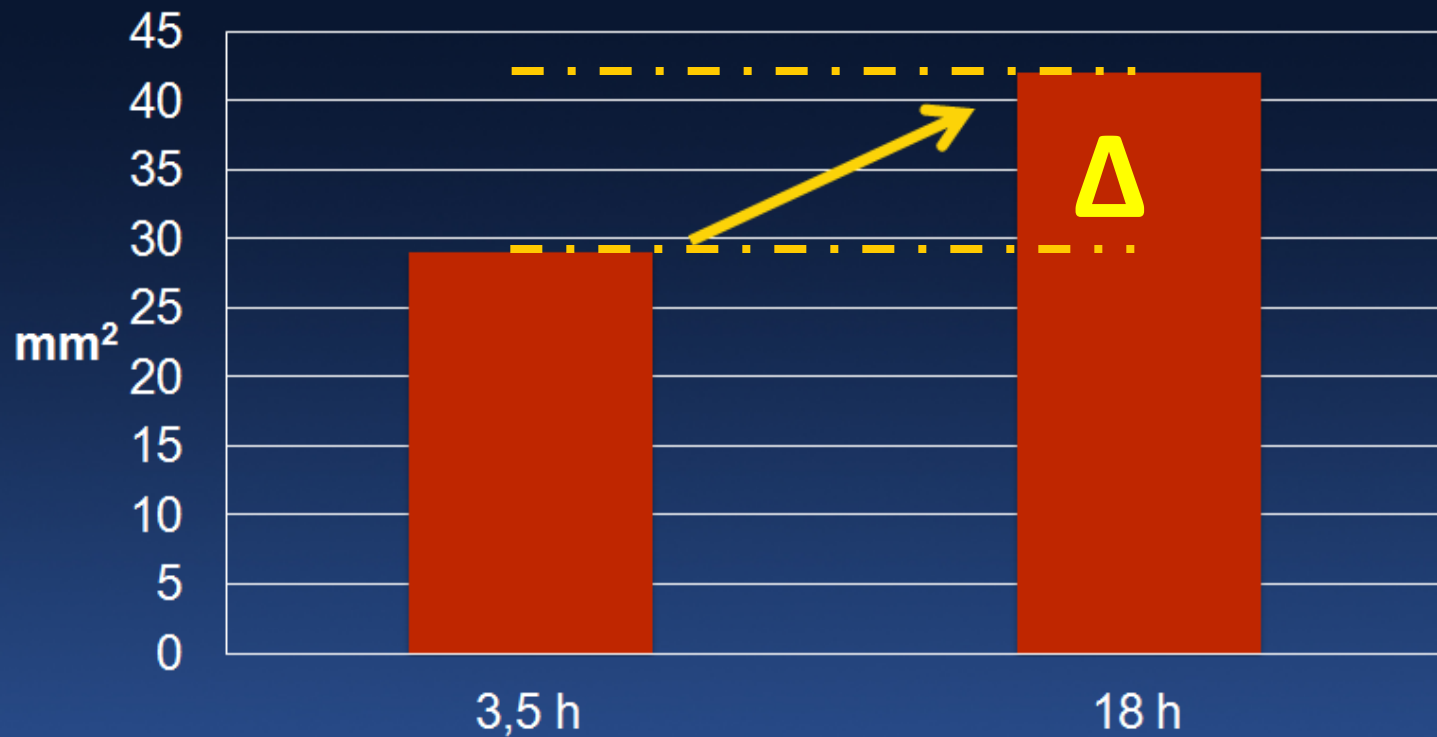


# The NEED

# Post-procedural Embolization with **conventional** carotid stents

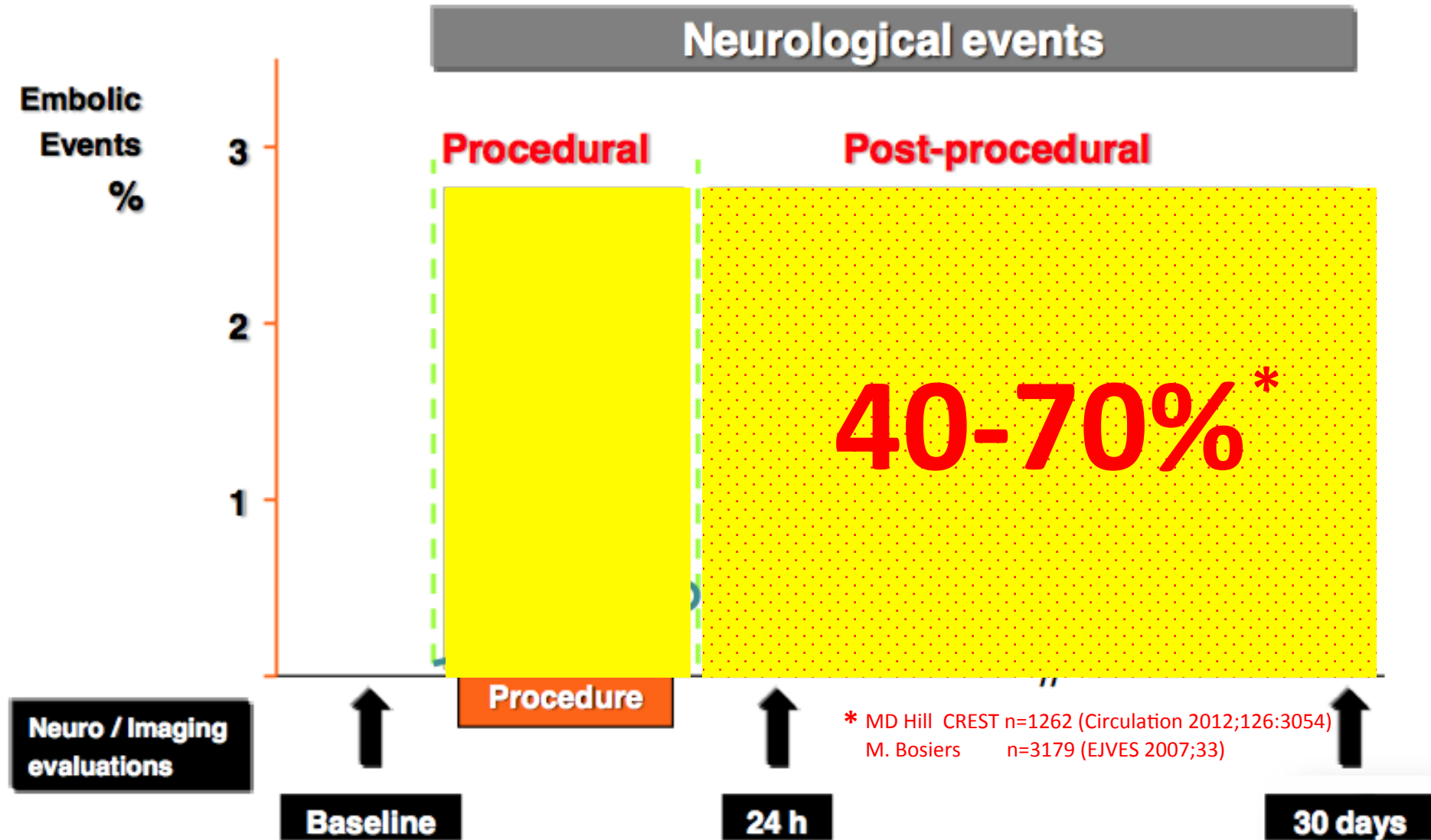
*DW-MRI post CAS*

Mean total lesion area

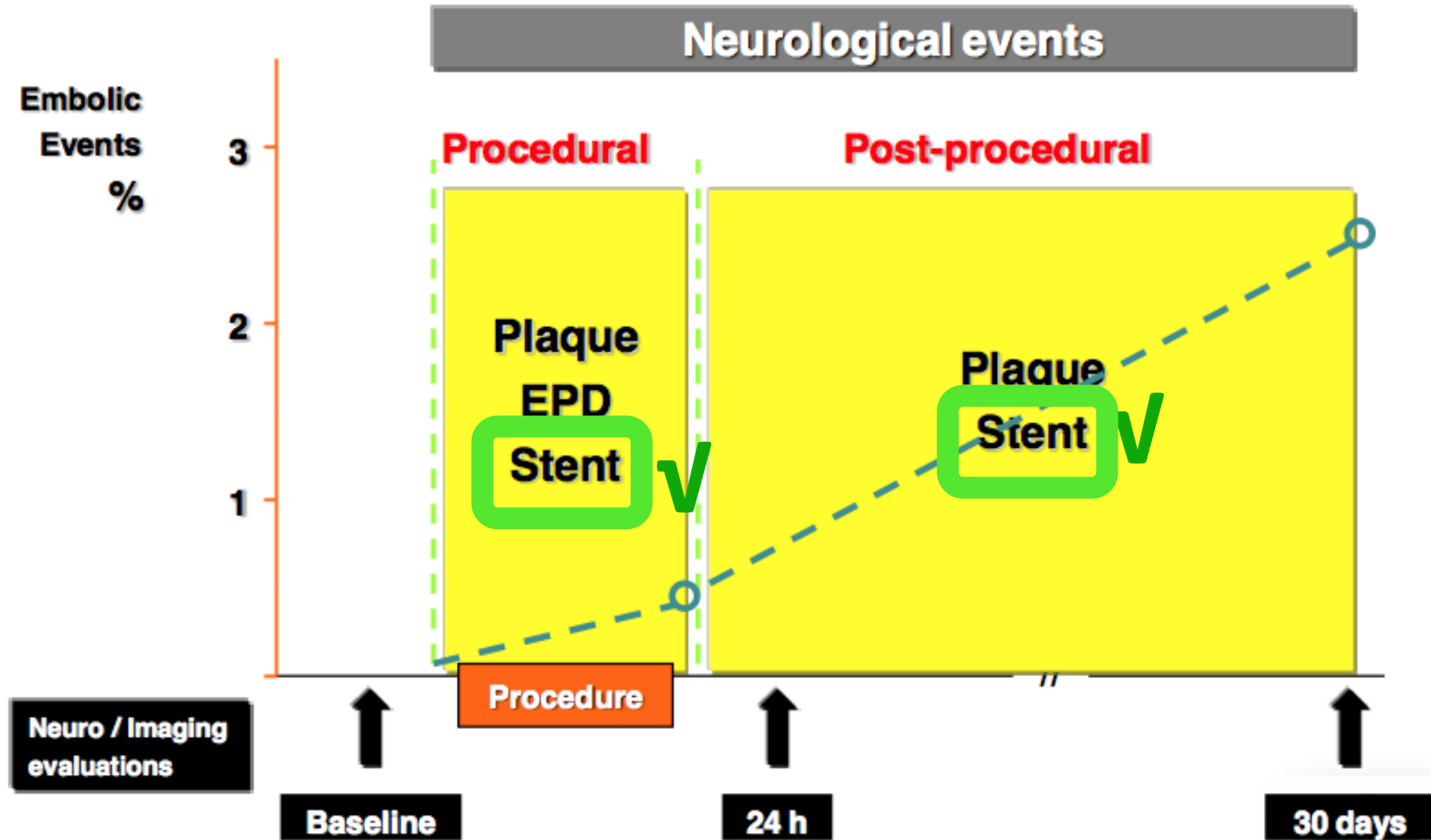


Schofer J et al, JACC Cardiovasc interv 2008

# Timing of neuro-embolic events after CAS



# Timing of neuro-embolic events after CAS



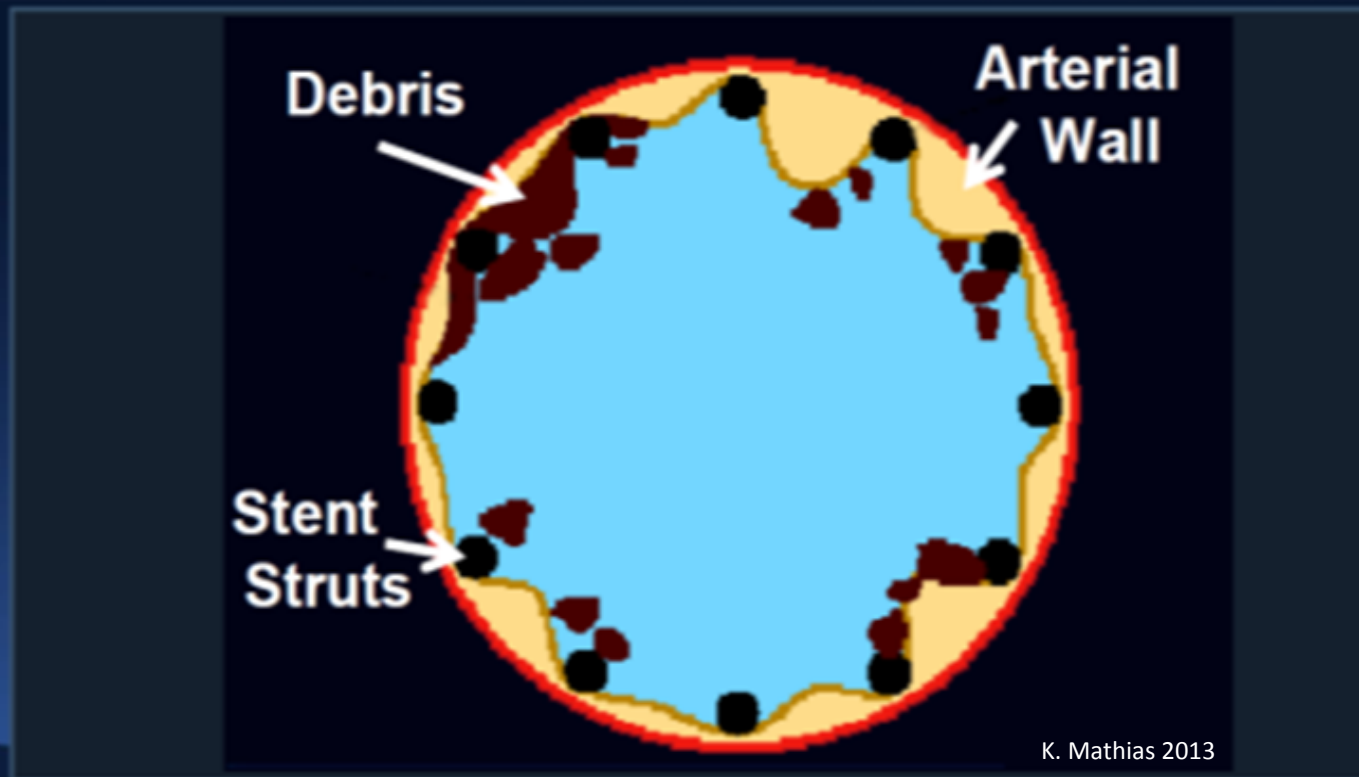
## The NEED

- CEA excludes the plaque
- In CAS, the stent should exclude the plaque too

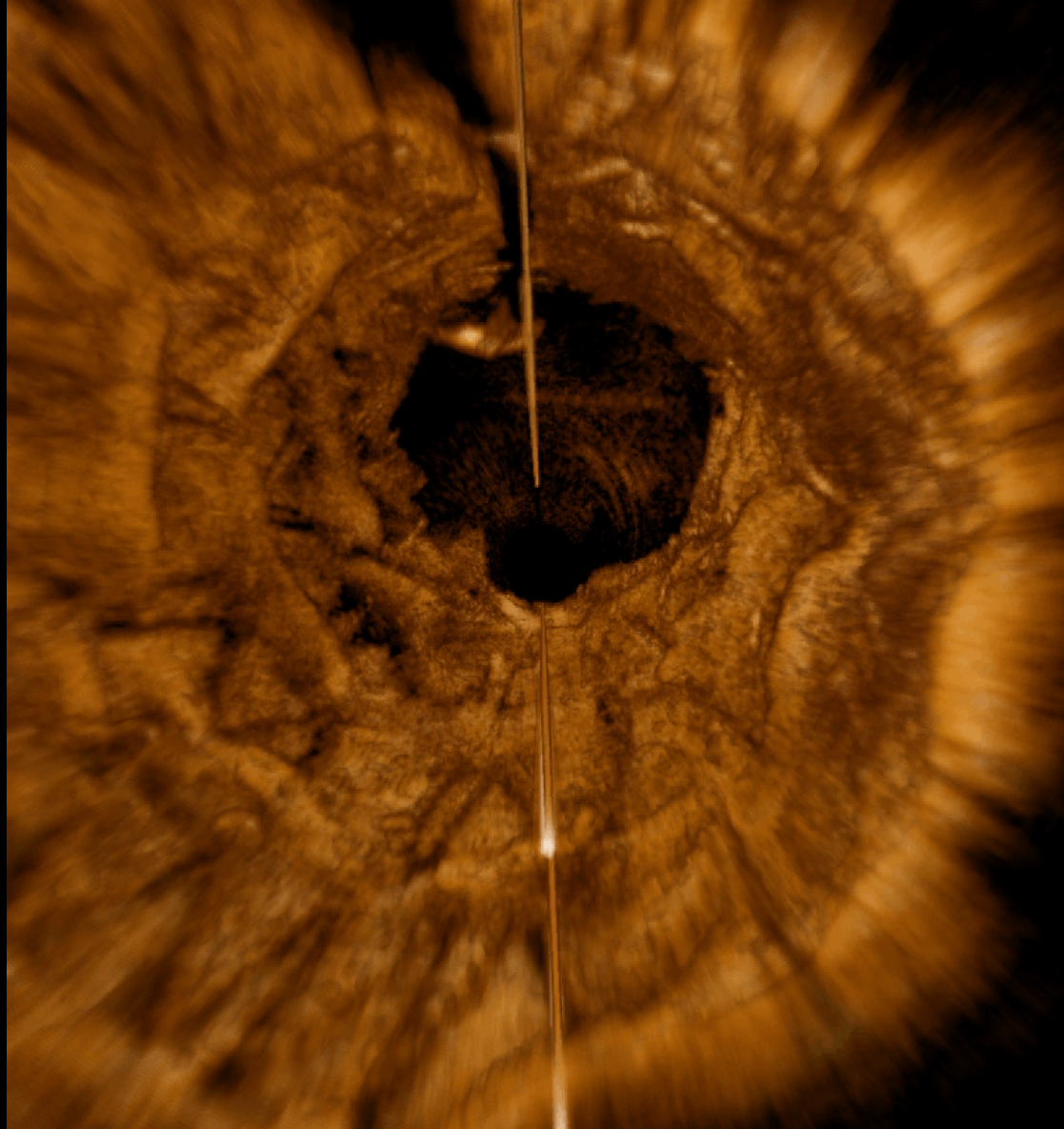


# Conventional Carotid Stent

*Plaque protrusion may lead to early and late distal embolization*



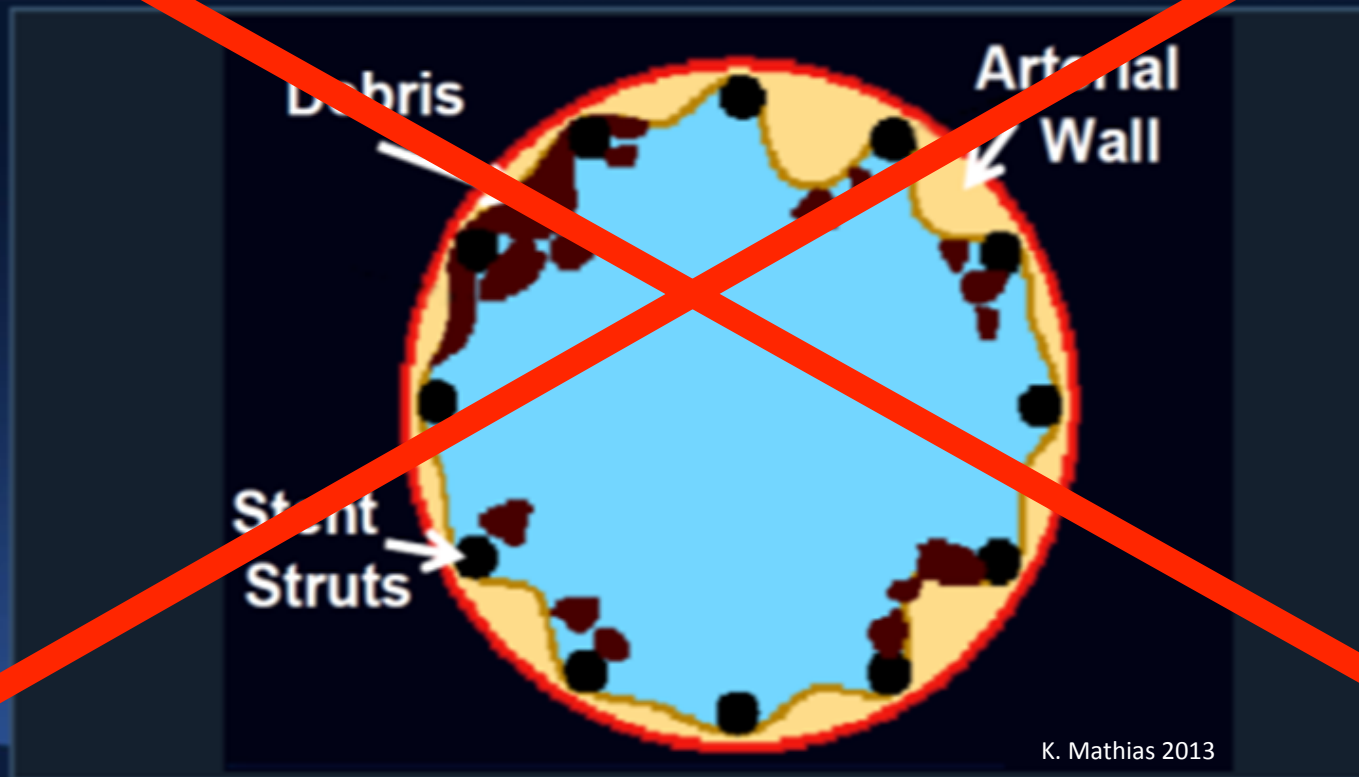
# Conventional Carotid Stent



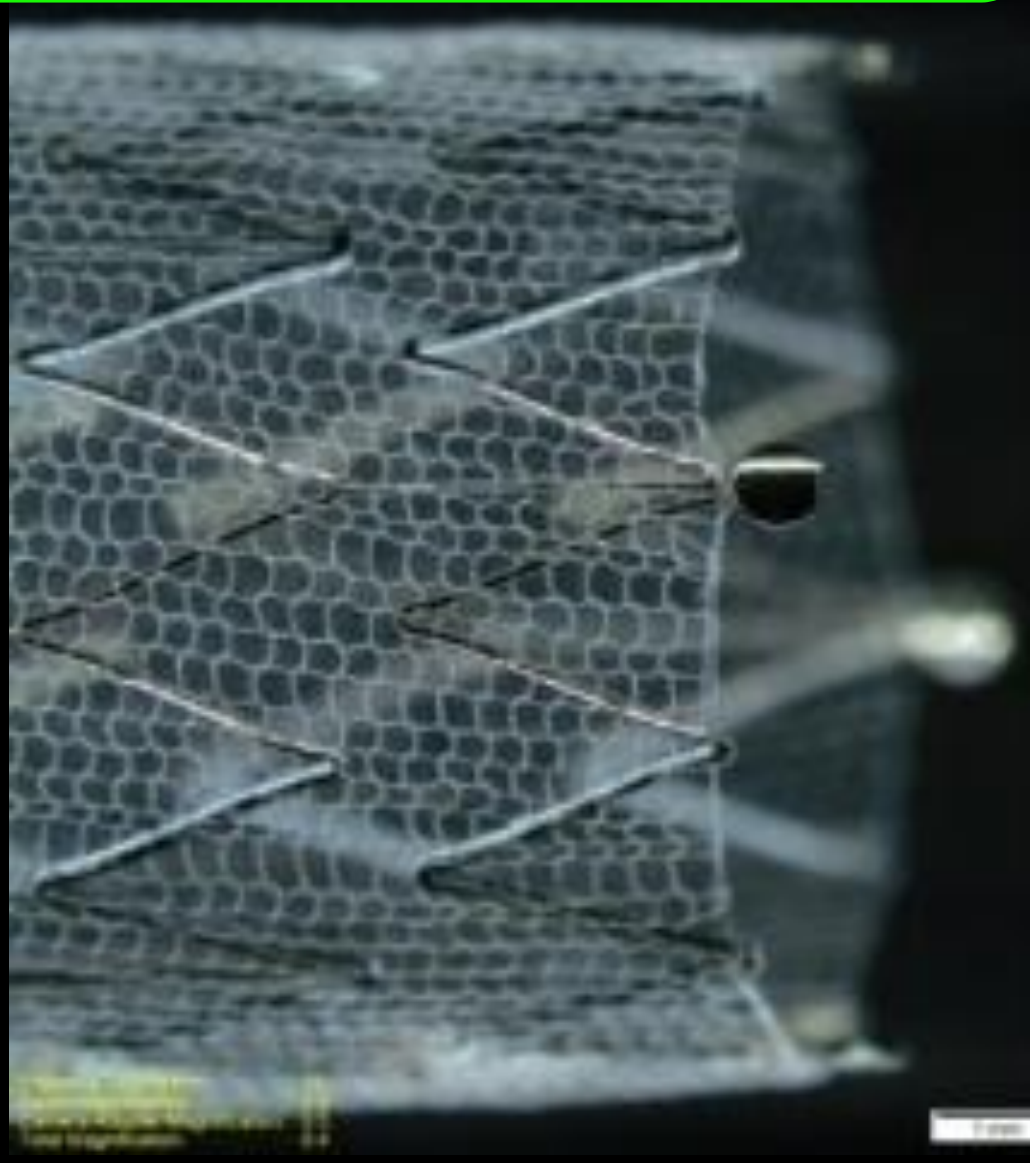
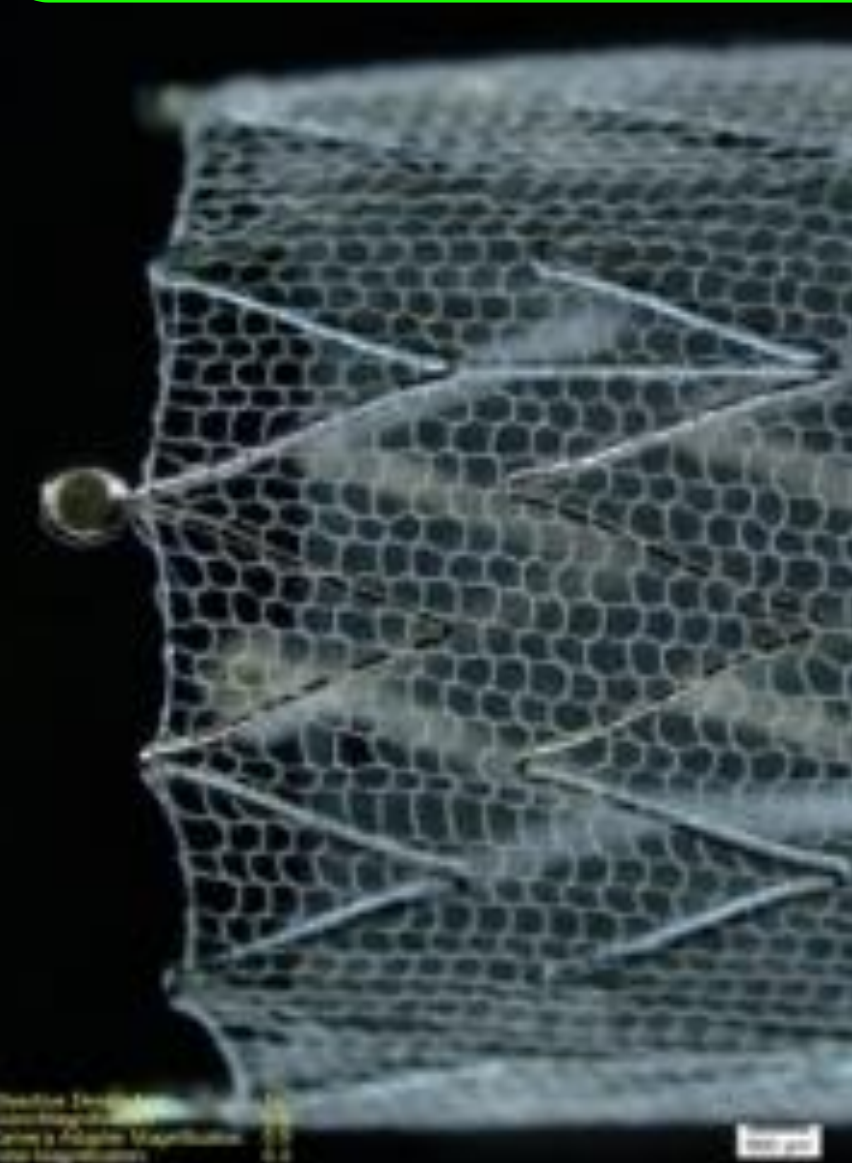
Human Carotid OCT Image Courtesy Dr Juan Rigla, MD PhD  
Perceptual Imaging Lab, University of Barcelona

# Anti - Embolic Carotid Stent

*Plaque protrusion may lead to early and late distal embolization*



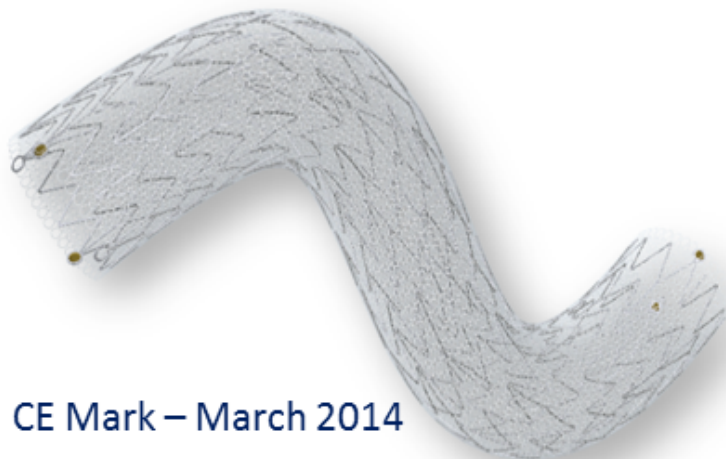
# CGuard™ embolic prevention system



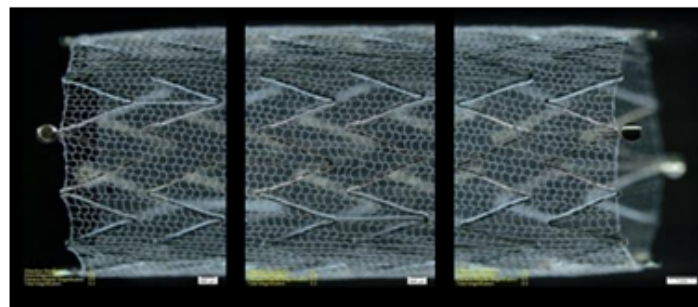


# CGuard™ – Carotid Embolic Prevention System

System specifications	
Stent type	Nitinol – self expanding
Micronet aperture size	150-180 $\mu\text{m}$
Guidewire	0.014"
Sizes	
- Diameter	6-10mm
- Length	20-60mm



CE Mark – March 2014



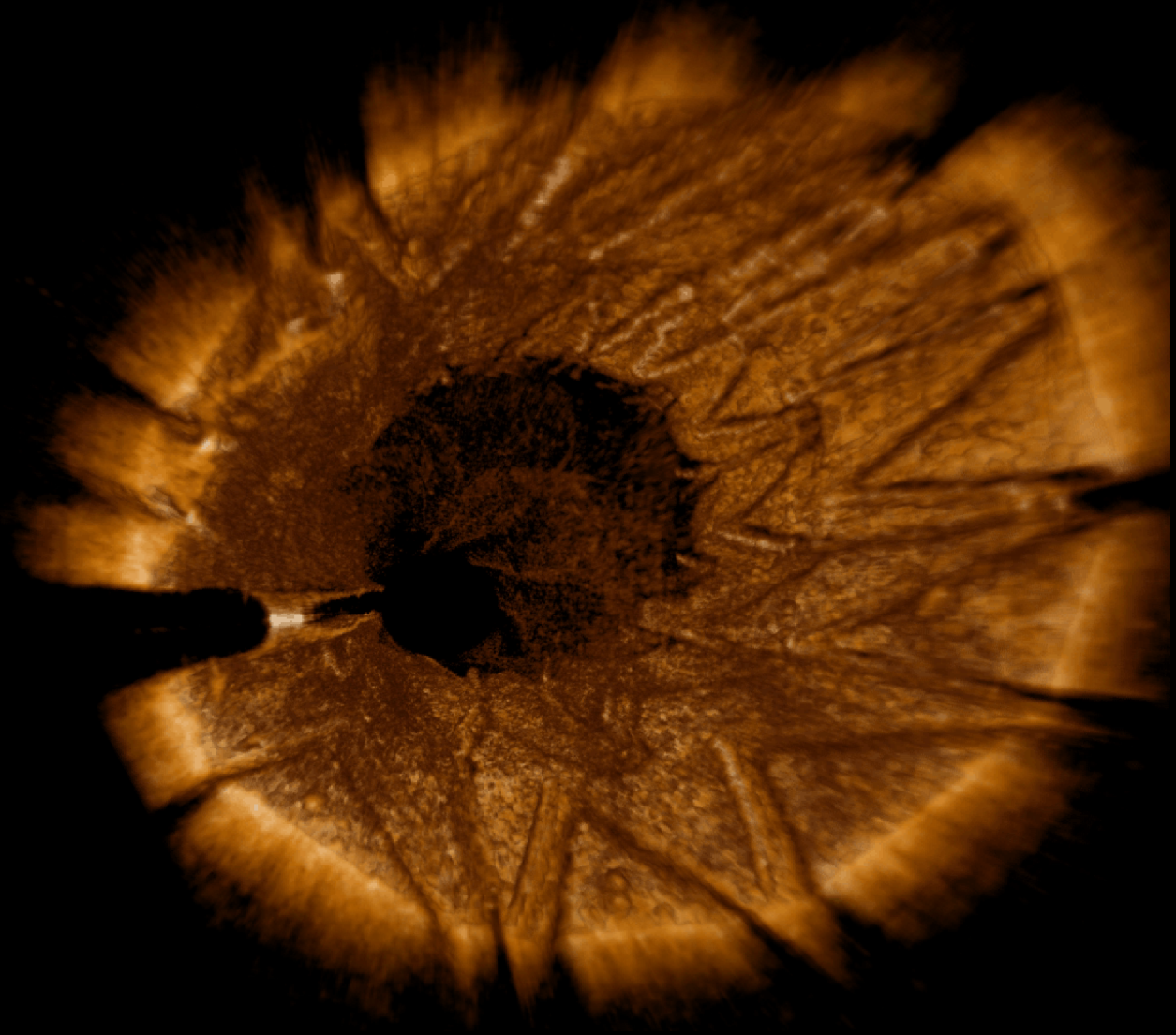
Specific, carotid-dedicated design



Nitinol frame open cell area =  $21.7\text{mm}^2$   
MicroNet cell area  $\approx 0.3\text{mm}^2$

**LARGEST**  
**SMALLEST**

# Anti - Embolic Carotid Stent



# CGuard™ – Carotid Embolic Prevention System

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## Safety & Efficacy EVIDENCE:

- CARENET DW-MRI & pilot clinical
- PARADIGM larger-scale clinical



# A Prospective, Multicenter Study of a Novel Mesh-Covered Carotid Stent

## The CGuard CARENET Trial (Carotid Embolic Protection Using MicroNet)

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Mariusz Trystula, MD,† Zbigniew Siudak, MD,†§ Horst Sievert, MD||

### Per-Protocol DW-MRI cerebral imaging at B/L, 24-48h after CAS, and at 30 days

#### ABSTRACT

**OBJECTIVES** This study sought to evaluate the feasibility of the CGuard Carotid Embolic Protective Stent system—a novel thin strut nitinol stent combined with a polyethylene terephthalate mesh covering designed to prevent embolic events from the target lesion in the treatment of carotid artery lesions in consecutive patients suitable for carotid artery stenting.


**BACKGROUND** The risk of cerebral embolization persists throughout the carotid artery stenting procedure and remains during the stent healing period.

**METHODS** A total of 30 consecutive patients (age  $71.6 \pm 7.6$  years, 63% male) meeting the conventional carotid artery stenting inclusion criteria were enrolled in 4 centers in Germany and Poland.



# CARENET DW-MRI analysis\*

DW-MRI analysis @ 48 hours			
	CARENET (n=27)	PROFI (all) (n=62)	ICSS <sup>†</sup> (n=56)
Incidence of new ipsilateral lesions	37.0%	66.2%	68.0%
<b>Average lesion volume (cm<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>0.039</b>	<b>0.375</b>	-
Maximum lesion volume (cm <sup>3</sup> )	0.415		



**>10-fold reduction  
in cerebral lesion volume**

**\*External Core Lab analysis (US)**

Bijuklic et al. *JACC*, 2012; Bonati et. al, *Lancet Neurol* 2010

† bilateral lesions

J. Schofer, P. Musialek et al. *JACC Interv* 2015;8:1229-34

# CARENET DW-MRI analysis<sup>\*</sup>

All but one peri-procedural ipsilateral lesions

## RESOLVED

### DW-MRI analysis @ 30 days<sup>\*</sup>

Incidence of new ipsilateral lesions	1
Average lesion volume (cm <sup>3</sup> )	0.08 ± 0.00
Permanent lesions at 30 days	1

<sup>\*</sup>External Core Lab analysis (US)

J. Schofer, P. Musialek et al. *JACC Intv* 2015;8:1229-34

Prospective evaluation of All-comer  
percutaneous carotid revascularization in symptomatic and Increased-risk asymptomatic carotid artery stenosis using the CGuard™ Micronet-covered embolic prevention stent system

# The PARADIGM Study



# Objective

- to evaluate feasibility and outcome of routine anti-embolic stent system use in unselected, consecutive patients referred for carotid revascularization ('all-comer' study)

# PARADIGM



## Study questions:

- (1) feasibility of routine use of CGuard MN-EPS in an all-comer carotid stenosis requiring revasc. ?
- (2) CGuard EPS device/procedure acute success rate ?
- (3) safety and 30-day clinical efficacy ?
- (4) proportion of all-comer carotid stenosis patients that can be treated through the endovascular route ?
- (5) feasibility of MN-EPS post-dilatation optimization ("CEA-like" effect of CAS) ?

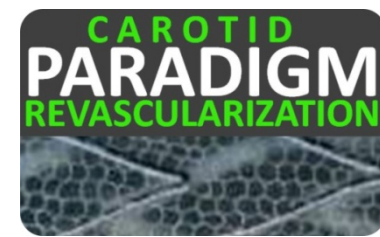
# PARADIGM




## Methods:

- academic cardio-vascular centre
- investigator-initiated study
- not industry-funded
- all-comer inclusion (target = 101 consecutive patients)
- all referrals tracked
- routine consultation and management pathways
- qualitative and quantitative lesion & stent evaluation
- ***investigator-independent* neurological and angiographic evaluation, and external study data verification**

# PARADIGM



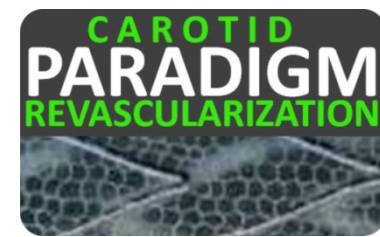
## Methods (cont'd):

- ASYMPTOMATIC patients treated interventionally only if at  **stroke risk**
- established lesion-level increased-risk criteria used:
  - thrombus-containing
  - documented progressive
  - irregular and/or ulcerated
  - contralateral ICA occlusion/stroke
  - asymptomatic ipsilateral brain infarct

AbuRahma A et al. *Ann Surg.* 2003;238:551-562.  
Ballotta E et al. *J Vasc Surg* 2007;45:516-522.  
Kakkos SK et al. (ACSRS) *J Vasc Surg.* 2009;49:902-909.  
Lovett JK et al. *Circulation* 2004;110:2190-97  
Nicolaidis AN et al. *J Vasc Surg* 2010;52:1486-96.  
Taussky P et al. *Neurosurg Focus* 2011;31:6-17.



# PARADIGM



## Methods: The CAS Procedure

- **EPD** use mandatory; EPD selection according to the **‘Tailored CAS’ algorithm\***
- **Liberal postdilatation** accepted in order to maximize potential for **‘endovascular full reconstruction’** (minimizing residual stenosis)

- NB. 1. DWI evidence of effective MicroNet prevention against cerebral embolization (CARENET/PROFI)  
2. Residual stenosis after CAS as independent predictor of in-stent restenosis

Van Laanen J et al. *J Cardiovasc Surg* 2008

Cosottini M et al. *Stroke Res* 2010

Musialek P et al. *J Endovasc Ther* 2010

Wasser K et al. *J Neurol* 2012

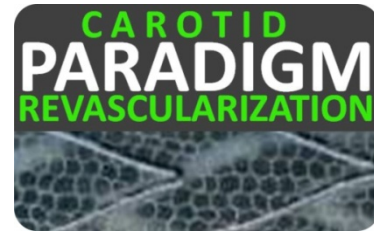
\* Pieniazek P, Musialek P et al. *J Endovasc Ther* 2008;15:249-62.

Cremonesi A et al. *EuroIntervention* 2009;5:589-98.


Pieniazek P, Musialek P et al. *J Endovasc Ther* 2009;16:744-51.



# PARADIGM

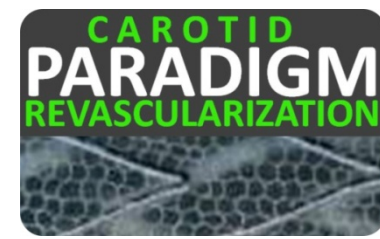


**PARADIGM: investigator – independent**

- external source data verification  **KCRI**  
Excellence in clinical research
- external angiographic analysis 
- external statistical analysis 



# PARADIGM



## Study endpoints:

- **PRIMARY** a composite of **death, stroke (major/minor) and MI** in the peri-procedural period and at 30 days

- **SECONDARY**

- (1) **acute study device success** defined as ability to treat the index carotid lesion using the study device (CGuard MN-EPS) successfully delivered and deployed at the lesion site, obtaining residual diameter stenosis <30% by QA
  - (2) **procedural success** defined as device success in absence of any vascular complication that would require interventional management
  - (3) **in-stent velocities/patency** (Duplex)
  - (4) **long-term clinical efficacy:**  
stroke and stroke-related death
- } - 30 days  
- every 12 months  
up to 5y

# PARADIGM study: referrals flow chart

## 139 carotid stenosis patient referrals



**Neuro Vascular Team**

- Neurologist
- Interventional angiologist
- Vascular surgeon
- Cardiologist

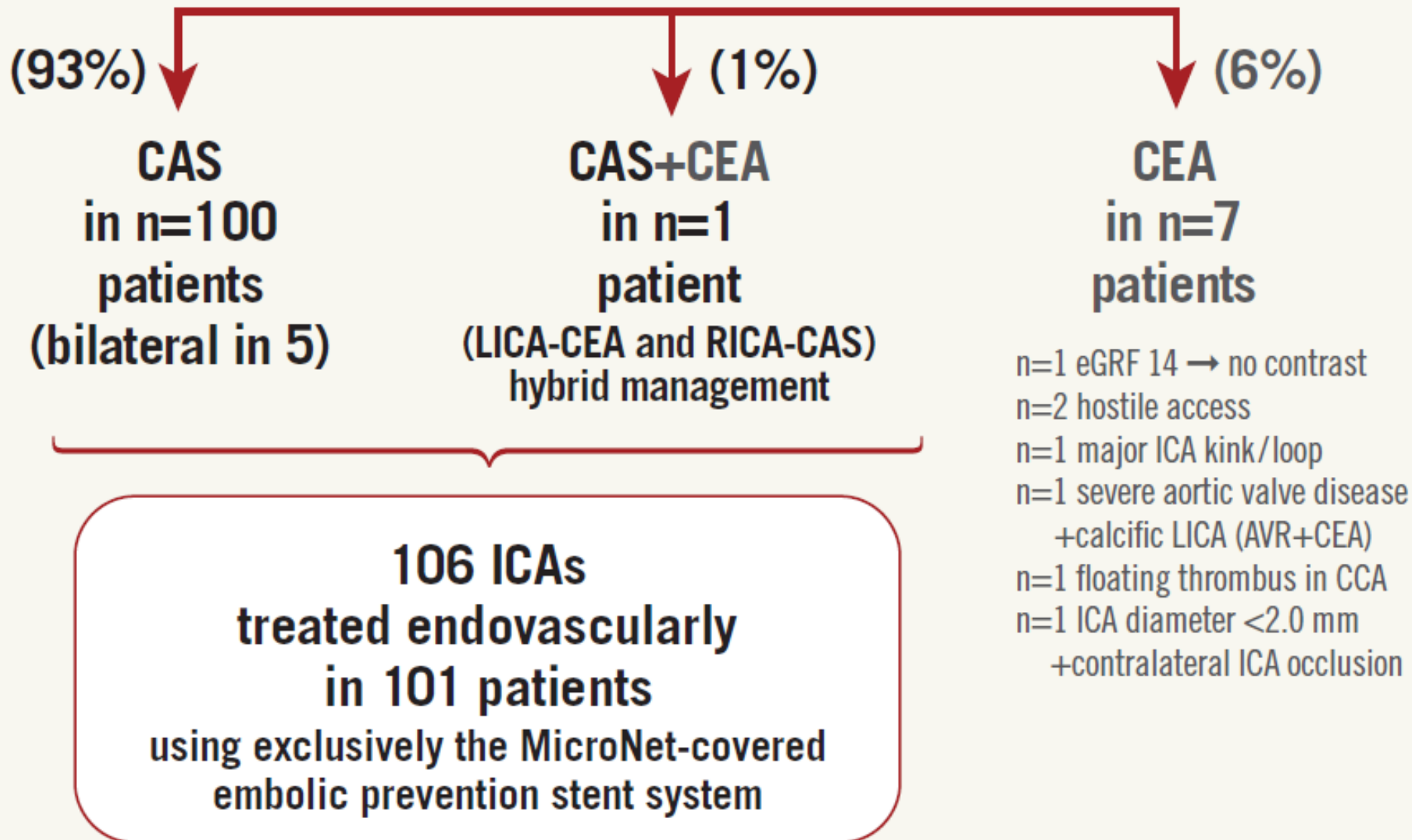
**for carotid  
revascularisation  
108 patients**

**NOT for carotid  
revascularisation  
31 patients**

n=24: increased stroke risk and/or lesion severity criteria not met  
n=2: ICA totally occluded on verification  
n=2: ICA functionally occluded + h/o prior ipsilateral large cerebral infarct with haemorrhagic transformation  
n=1: major post-stroke disability, ICA functionally occluded  
n=1: severe circulatory failure (ICA stenosis asympt.)  
n=1: malignancy with limited life expectancy (ICA stenosis asympt.)

# PARADIGM study: revascularisation flow chart

## 108 patients for carotid revascularisation



# PARADIGM

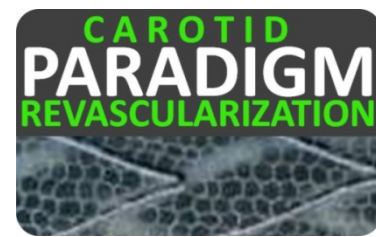
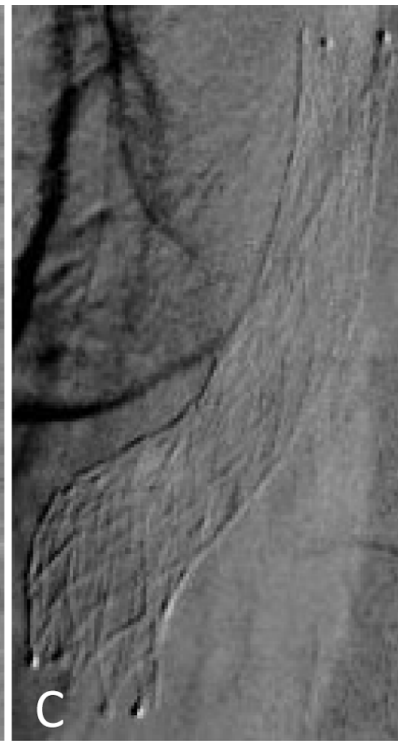
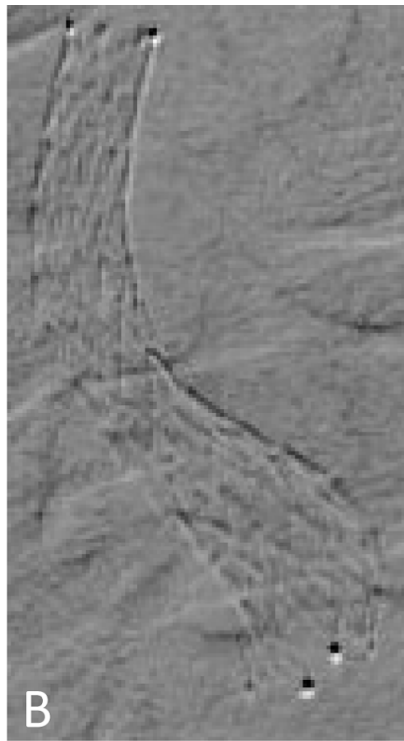
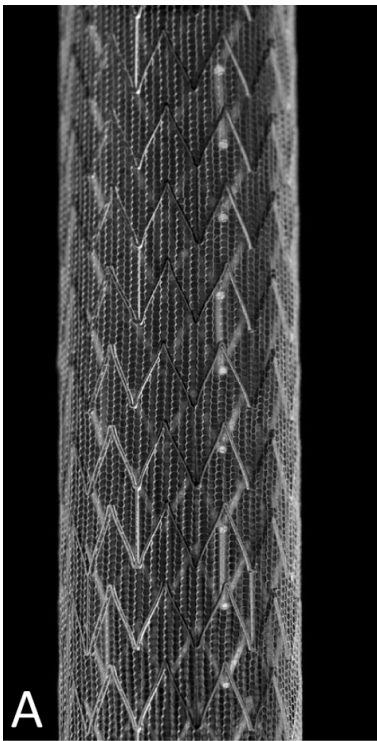


**Table 1. Clinical characteristics of the study patients (n=101).**

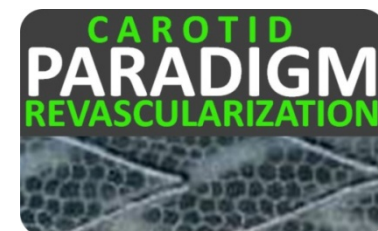
Age, mean±SD (min-max)	69±7 (51-86)
Male, % (n)	70% (71)
Symptomatic, % (n)	55% (55)
Symptomatic ≤14 days, % (n)	22%* (12)
Acutely symptomatic (emergent CAS), % (n)	14%* (9)
Index lesion (CAS), % (n)	
RICA	51% (52)
LICA	49% (49)
RICA+LICA	5% (5)
CAD, % (n)	63% (64)
h/o MI, % (n)	32% (32)
CABG or PCI in the past, % (n)	40% (40)
PCI as bridge to CAS, % (n)	18% (18**)
AFib (h/o or chronic), % (n)	9% (9)
Diabetes, % (n)	41% (41)
h/o neck or chest radiotherapy, % (n)	6% (6)
*proportion of symptomatic patients; **simultaneous (one-stage) PCI+CAS in 4 patients; h/o: history of	



# P A R A D I G M



# PARADIGM



**Table 2. Quantitative lesion characteristics (n=106), NPD type, and CGuard MN-EPS in situ characteristics.**

	All (n=106 lesions)	Symptomatic n=55	Asymptomatic n=51	p-value
<b>Before CAS</b>				
PSV, m/s	3.7±1.2	3.7±1.1	3.7±1.2	0.964
EDV, m/s	1.2±0.5	1.1±0.5	1.2±0.5	0.268
Diameter stenosis % (QA)	83±9	80±9	86±9	0.002
<b>CAS</b>				
EPD type				
Proximal <sup>#</sup>	46% (49)	56% (31)	35% (18)	0.030
Distal <sup>*</sup>	54% (57)	44% (24)	65% (33)	

**ICA reference diameter**  
**4.99 ± 0.36mm** (from 4.27 to 6.02 mm)

**Lesion length**  
**19.9 ± 5.8mm** (from 8.19 to 30.25 mm)

\* **Emboshield** (n=11); **FilterWire** (n=15); **Spider** (n=31)

# **Gore FlowReversal** (n=6) or flow reversal with **MoMa** (n=43);  
(mean flow reversal time was 6min 35s, from 3min 51s to 11min 2s)

Direct (primary) stenting in 9 (8.5%); predilatation in 97 (91.5%) lesions  
Postdil. balloon: ø 4.5mm (n=9); ø 5.0mm (n=55); ø 5.5mm (n=37); ø 6.0mm (n=5)

# PARADIGM



**Table 2.** (cont'd) **CGuard MN-EPS in situ characteristics.**

	All (n=106 lesions)	Symptomatic n=55	Asymptomatic n=51	p-value
After CAS				
Stent length (QA, CoreLab) <sup>§</sup>				N/A
Nominal 30 mm	29.82±0.68	29.83±0.76	29.80±0.59	
(min-max)	(27.83-32.62)	(27.83-32.62)	(28.83-31.89)	
Nominal 40 mm	39.89±0.59	39.80±0.70	39.97±0.51	
(min-max)	(38.88-41.43)	(38.88-41.43)	(39.14-41.01)	
Residual diameter stenosis	6.7±5%	6.1±5%	7.8±5%	0.262
In-stent PSV, m/s	0.68±0.29	0.64±0.26	0.72±0.31	0.121
in-stent EDV, m/s	0.18±0.08	0.16±0.07	0.19±0.08	0.087
<sup>§</sup> In three cases two overlapping stents were used to cover the whole lesion length; these are not included in the in situ stent length evaluation. N/A: not applicable				

=> no foreshortening, no elongation, placement precision



# PARADIGM



- **CAS feasibility using the study-tested MicroNet-covered embolic prevention stent system** **100% CAS** (n= 106)

(ie, no cross-over to other stents or other carotid stent use during the whole study period)

● <b>Device success</b>	<b>99.1%</b>	<b>(n=105)*</b>
● <b>Procedure success</b>	<b>99.1%</b>	<b>(n=105)*</b>
● <b>Transient dopamine infusion</b>	<b>15.1%</b>	<b>(n = 16)</b>
● <b>Debris in EPD</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>(n = 19)</b>
● <b>Vascular plug closure</b>	<b>53.8%</b>	<b>(n = 57)</b>
● <b>Access site complications</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>(n = 0 )</b>

\* in 1 case no stent post-dilatation was performed due to profound bradycardia-asystole, and 46% residual diameter stenosis was left (ie, above the Protocol-defined threshold <30% DS for "device success")

## ECA patency data

6/106 (5.6%) ECAs were occluded on the index side prior to CAS  
 3/100 (3.0%), with severe stenosis prior to CAS, occluded at CAS  
 NO ECA occlusion occurred between CAS and 30 days

} => **no concern**

## Clinical Results (MACNE)

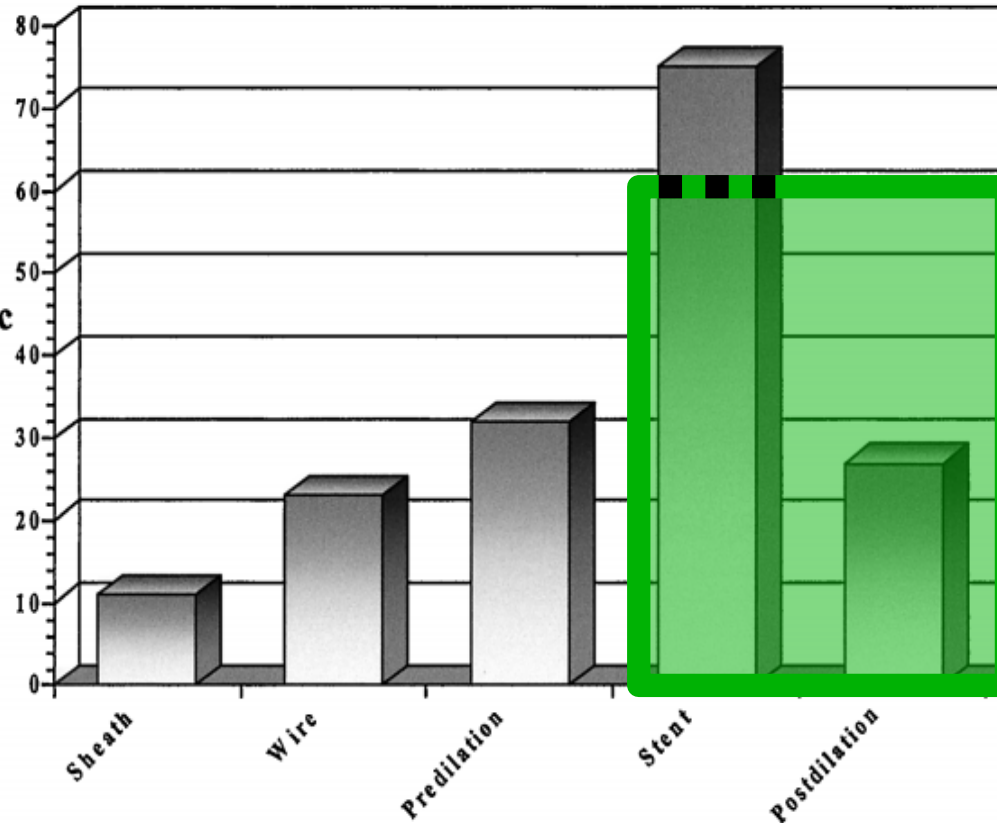
- 0 peri-procedural death/major stroke/MI 0%
  - 1 peri-procedural minor stroke\* 0.9%
  - 0 new clinical events by 30 days 0%
- (100% follow-up, independent neuro evaluation)

\*One patient, with symptomatic RICA stenosis (minor right-hemispheric stroke 2 months prior to CAS), had **hypotonia** and transient, fluctuating cognitive dysfunction at 24-48h after CAS. The patient had additional neurologic evaluation on discharge (day 7) that showed **no change in NIH-SS [3] and no change in modified Rankin scale [1] against 48h (and baseline) evaluation.**

CT scan on day 2 showed no new cerebral lesions but day 6 CT indicated **an extension of the prior lesion in the right hemisphere.**

The event, in **absence of right haemispheric symptoms and in absence of any clinical sequelae**, was CEC–adjudicated as 'minor stroke in relation to CAS'.

Mean  
embolic  
count



*Circulation.* 2001;104:1999-2002

99-100% plaque-protrusion  
associated post-procedural  
neuro events  
can be prevented !

Post-CAS procedure

amenable to elimination  
with MicroNet

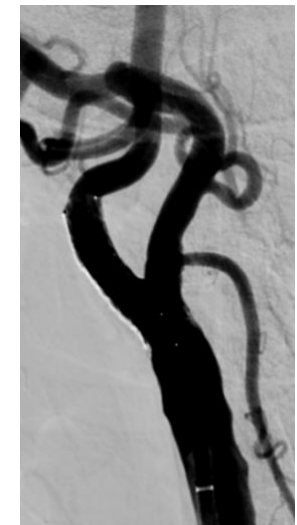
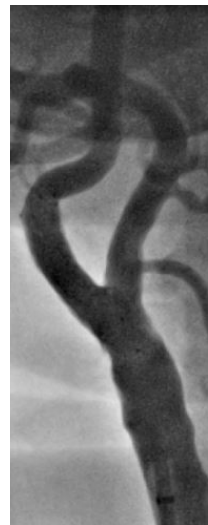
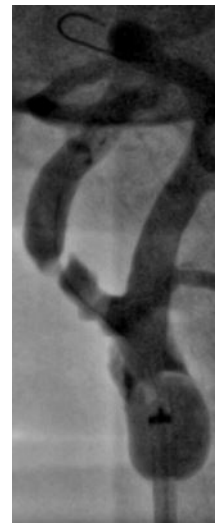
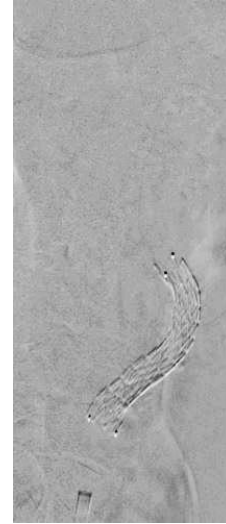
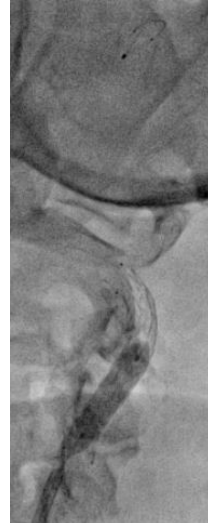
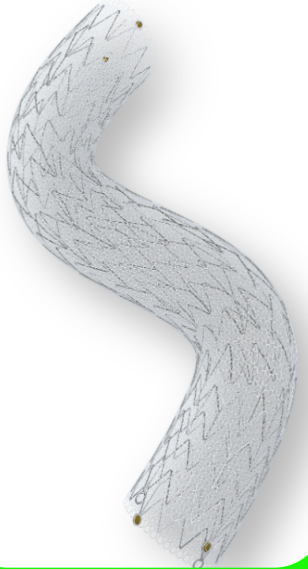
# PARADIGM Strengths



- No exclusion criteria (all-comer, consecutive, incl. stroke-inevolution)
- Asymptomatics revascularised only if at stroke risk
- NeuroVascular Team decision-making
- Independent neurologist evaluation
- 100% follow-up
- Independent source data verification (SDV) / monitoring
- Independent angiographic analysis
- Independent statistical analysis
- External adjudication of clinical events (CEC)

• **Real-life study** • **Controlled study**

# Endovascular **Solution** for All-Corners



Endovascular **Reconstruction** of the Carotid Bifurcation  
Prevention of embolism, High radial force, Conformability



# PARADIGM Conclusion



Using the MicroNet-covered carotid stent technology,  
**ROUTINE ENDOVASCULAR** carotid stenosis revascularization is

- **safe**
- **fully compatible with routine CAS**, including all NPD types
- **effective**
- can be used to treat >90% **all-comers: symptomatic** (incl. stroke-in-evolution) **and** revascularization-requiring **asymptomatics**
- **CEA-like effect**: endovascular reconstruction of diseased carotid segment

# Impact on clinical practice



Using the **MicroNet-covered CGuard stent system** technology,  
**ENDOVASCULAR** carotid stenosis management  
in PRIMARY and SECONDARY Stroke Prevention is

- Viable ✓
- Safe and effective ✓
- Applicable to >90% of all-comer patients ✓
- Applicable to routine clinical practice of CAS ✓







# **Novel PARADIGM in carotid revascularisation: Prospective evaluation of All-comer peRcutaneous cArotiD revascularisation in symptomatic and Increased-risk asymptomatic carotid artery stenosis using CGuard™ Micronet-covered embolic prevention stent system**



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