



UNICA

UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI CAGLIARI



Università di Cagliari

UNICA IRIS Institutional Research Information System

This is the Author's [*accepted*] manuscript version of the following contribution:

**Redolfi Stefania**

[THE LANCET RESPIRATORY MEDICINE](#)

*Vol. 12 Fascicolo 2, 2024, pagg.153-166*

Adaptive servo-ventilation for sleep-disordered breathing in patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (ADVENT-HF): a multicentre, multinational, parallel-group, open-label, phase 3 randomised controlled trial

**The publisher's version is available at:**

[https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600\(23\)00374-0](https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600(23)00374-0)

**Embargo** 6 months   **Licence** CC BY-NC-ND   **Locations**

- Non-Commercial Repository

**Conditions**

- Publisher copyright and source must be acknowledged
- Must link to publisher version

This full text was downloaded from UNICA IRIS <https://iris.unica.it/>

1 **Randomised Trial of Adaptive Servo-ventilation for Sleep-Disordered Breathing in Heart**  
2 **Failure with Reduced Ejection Fraction**

3  
4 T. Douglas Bradley\*, MD, Alexander G. Logan\*, MD, Geraldo Lorenzi Filho, PhD, R. John Kimoff\*, MD, Joaquin  
5 Durán Cantolla\*, MD, Michael Arzt\*, MD, Stefania Redolfi, PhD, Gianfranco Parati\*, MD, Takatoshi Kasai, PhD,  
6 Mark E. Dunlap\*, MD, Diego Delgado, MD, Shoichiro Yatsu, PhD, Adriana Bertolami, PhD, Rodrigo Pedrosa,  
7 PhD, George Tomlinson\*, PhD, Jose M. Marin\*, MD, Claudio Tantucci\*, MD and John S. Floras\*, DPhil for the  
8 ADVENT-HF Investigators.

9  
10 \* Full professors

11  
12 From University Health Network (T.D.B., AGL, D.D. S.Y. and G.T.) and Mount Sinai Hospital (J.S.F. and A.G.L.)  
13 both in Toronto, Canada, Instituto do Coração do Hospital das Clínicas da FMUSP (G.L.F.) and Instituto Dante  
14 Pazzanese de Cardiologia (AB) both in Sao Paulo, Brazil, McGill University Health Centre (R.J.K.), Montreal,  
15 Canada, Hospital Universitario Txagorritxu (J.D.C.), Vitoria, Spain, Universitaetsklinikum Regensburg (M.A.),  
16 Regensburg, Germany, Groupe Hospitalier Pitié-Salpêtrière (S.R.), Paris, France, IRCCS, Istituto Auxologico  
17 Italiano and University of Milano-Bicocca (G.P.), Milan, Italy, Juntendo University School of Medicine (T.K.),  
18 Tokyo, Japan, MetroHealth Medical Center, Case Western Reserve University (M.E.D.), Cleveland, U.S.A., Pronto  
19 Socorro Cardiologico de Pernambuco (R.P.), Recife, Brazil, Hospital Universitario Miguel Servet (J.M.T.),  
20 Zaragoza, Spain and Ospedale Spedali Civili Di Brescia (C.T.), Brescia, Italy.

21  
22 Address reprint requests to: Dr. T. Douglas Bradley at the Department of Medicine, University Health Network  
23 Toronto General Hospital, Room 9N-943, 200 Elizabeth Street, Toronto, ON, M5G 2C4, Canada, or at  
24 [douglas.bradley@utoronto.ca](mailto:douglas.bradley@utoronto.ca).

56  
57 **ABSTRACT**  
58 **Background:** In patients with heart failure and reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF), sleep disordered breathing (SDB),  
59 comprising obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA) and central sleep apnoea (CSA), is associated with increased morbidity,  
60 mortality and sleep disruption. We hypothesized that treating SDB will improve cardiovascular outcomes.  
61 **Methods:** We conducted a randomised trial of treating OSA and CSA with peak-flow triggered adaptive servo-  
62 ventilation (ASV) in patients with HFrEF. The primary endpoint was the composite of all-cause mortality, first  
63 cardiovascular hospitalisation, new onset atrial fibrillation-flutter, and appropriate cardioverter-defibrillator shock. A  
64 secondary endpoint was all-cause mortality. Pre-specified separate analyses for those with OSA and CSA were also  
65 performed.  
66 **Findings:** The first and last enrolments were September 22, 2010 and March 20, 2021. Enrollments terminated  
67 prematurely due to COVID-19-related restrictions. Follow-up of all patients ended at the latest on June 15, 2021 when  
68 the trial was terminated prematurely due to a recall of the ASV device due to potential disintegration of the motor  
69 sound abating material. Of 731 participants, 375 were randomised to control and 356 to ASV. ASV reduced the  
70 apnoea-hypopnoea index from 43.3±20.5 (mean±SD) to under 5 per hr of sleep throughout the trial with associated  
71 improvements in sleep quality. Over a mean follow-up of 3.6 yr, ASV had no effect on the primary endpoint (Hazard  
72 Ratio [HR], 0.97; 95% Confidence Interval [CI] 0.78-1.20, p=0.77) or all-cause mortality (HR, 0.89; 95% CI, 0.66-  
73 1.21; p=0.47). For patients with OSA the HR for all-cause mortality was 1.00 (95% CI, 0.68-1.46; p=0.98) and for  
74 CSA, 0.74 (95% CI, 0.44-1.23; p=0.25).  
75 **Interpretation:** In patients with HFrEF and SDB, ASV had no effect on the primary endpoint or mortality but  
76 eliminated SDB safely.  
77 **Funding:** Canadian Institutes of Health Research and Philips RS North America LLC.  
78  
79 Word count = 272  
80  
81 Trial registration: [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov): NCT01128816 and [www.controlled-trials.com](http://www.controlled-trials.com): ISRCTN67500535  
82  
83  
84  
85  
86  
87  
88  
89

90 **Research in context**

91  
92 **Evidence before this study**  
93 Sleep-disordered breathing (SDB), comprising obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA) and central sleep apnoea (CSA), is  
94 common and associated with increased morbidity, mortality and poor sleep quality in patients with heart failure with  
95 reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF). However, to date, there is no evidence from randomised trials that treating OSA  
96 or CSA in patients with HFrEF improves morbidity, mortality, overall sleep quality or quality of life, and no large  
97 randomised trial involving patients with HFrEF has assessed the effects of treating OSA on these outcomes. A small  
98 trial involving patients with HFrEF and OSA reported that continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) reduced the  
99 frequency of arousals from sleep but did not improve sleep quality. Regarding CSA, a multi-centre trial showed that  
100 CPAP attenuated but did not abolish CSA, and had no effect on morbidity, mortality or sleep quality. However,  
101 among a subset in whom CPAP did abolish CSA, mortality was lower than in the control group. This led to the  
102 hypothesis that to improve outcomes in those with CSA, abolition of CSA may be a critical therapeutic target.  
103 Adaptive servo-ventilation (ASV) was initially developed specifically to control CSA, but not OSA. Because we  
104 planned to treat both OSA and CSA in this trial, we employed a newer iteration of ASV designed to control both  
105 OSA and CSA by automatically adjusting expiratory and inspiratory positive airway pressures, respectively. Default  
106 pressure settings were also lower than on the initial iteration of ASV. While the present trial was in progress, the  
107 results of a randomised trial involving patients with HFrEF and CSA (SERVE-HF) were published in which the  
108 initial iteration of ASV did control CSA but increased mortality. Based on this finding, the European Society of  
109 Cardiology Guidelines for the treatment of chronic heart failure concluded that in patients with HFrEF, ASV is  
110 contraindicated for therapy of CSA. Consequently, its clinical use for this purpose ceased. Taken together, those  
111 previous trials leave unanswered the question as to whether treating OSA in patients with HFrEF can improve  
112 morbidity, mortality and sleep quality. They also suggest that treatment of CSA using the initial iteration of ASV is  
113 harmful.

114  
115 **Added value of this study**

116 This trial was designed to determine whether treating SDB in patients with HFrEF with an ASV device designed to  
117 eliminate both OSA and CSA, will reduce the composite primary endpoint of all-cause mortality, first cardiovascular  
118 hospitalisation, new onset atrial fibrillation/flutter, and appropriate implanted cardioverter-defibrillator shock.  
119 Secondary endpoints included all-cause mortality, apnoea-hypopnoea index, sleep quality, quality of life and  
120 symptoms. In addition to analyzing the entire cohort, there were pre-specified separate analyses of primary and  
121 secondary outcomes for those with OSA and those with CSA. At the time the SERVE-HF trial results were announced,  
122 our Data and Safety Monitoring Committee examined outcomes data and found no safety signal related to the use of  
123 the newer iteration of ASV in our patients, and recommended continuation of the trial. Later, however, because of  
124 COVID-19-related restrictions and Philips recall of positive pressure devices, the trial was terminated prematurely.  
125 These external events resulted in marked under-recruitment of patients with CSA. A total of 731 patients were  
126 randomized: 533 with OSA and 198 with CSA. Over a mean follow-up of 3.6 yr, we found that ASV had no effect on  
127 the primary endpoint or mortality in the either the entire cohort, or in those with OSA or CSA. Importantly, ASV did  
128 not increase mortality in those with CSA. ASV abolished both OSA and CSA in association with improvements in  
129 sleep quality characterized by a reduction in arousal frequency and a shift from the lighter to the deeper more  
130 restorative stages of sleep in both the OSA and CSA sub-groups. These improvements were accompanied by  
131 improvements in quality of life assessed by the Minnesota Living with Heart Failure Questionnaire, HFrEF symptoms  
132 assessed by New York Heart Association Class and sleepiness as assessed by the Epworth Sleepiness Scale score.

133  
134 **Implications of all the available evidence**

135 ASV had no significant impact on the primary composite endpoint or mortality overall, but was underpowered to  
136 provide a definitive answer for patients with CSA. Importantly, it did not increase mortality in those with either  
137 OSA or CSA, even though the mean duration was one-year longer than the original ASV trial, targeting only  
138 patients with CSA. By abolishing OSA and CSA, ASV induced improvements in sleep quality that were  
139 accompanied by improvements in quality of life and symptoms. Thus, in patients with HFrEF, the ASV device used  
140 herein can control both OSA and CSA safely and can improve sleep quality, health-related quality of life and  
141 symptoms, but not cardiovascular morbidity or mortality.

142  
143  
144  
145

## 146 **INTRODUCTION**

147  
148 Sleep-disordered breathing (SDB), comprising both obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA) and central sleep apnoea  
149 (CSA), affects approximately 50% of patients with heart failure and reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF) <sup>1-3</sup> and is  
150 associated with increased morbidity and mortality<sup>4,5</sup>. To date, no randomised trial has assessed the effect of treating  
151 OSA in patients with HFrEF on such outcomes. For CSA, a multi-centre randomised trial involving 258 participants  
152 with HFrEF showed that treating this condition by continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) did not affect heart  
153 transplant-free survival or the rate of cardiovascular hospitalisations <sup>6</sup>. However, CPAP only attenuated CSA and the  
154 resultant mean residual apnoea-hypopnoea index (AHI) was 19 events per hr. In a post-hoc analysis, the subset of  
155 subjects in whom CPAP reduced the AHI <15 events per hr experienced improved heart transplant-free survival  
156 compared to the control group <sup>7</sup>. This finding stimulated the hypothesis that, morbidity, mortality and quality of life  
157 would improve if CSA in patients with HFrEF could be eliminated by a more effective device.

158  
159 Adaptive servo-ventilation (ASV) was developed specifically to treat CSA more effectively than CPAP. The initial  
160 iteration of ASV was designed to eliminate central events by automatically adjusting inspiratory pressure, but had no  
161 algorithm to automatically adjust expiratory pressure to eliminate obstructive events.<sup>8</sup> Since, in this trial, we planned  
162 to include patients with either OSA or CSA, and since both types of events can co-exist in the same individual we  
163 employed a newer iteration of ASV employing a peak flow algorithm (BiPAP autoSV Advanced, Philips  
164 Respironics) that automatically adjusts inspiratory pressure to control CSA and expiratory pressure to control OSA.  
165 It has been shown to eliminate both CSA and OSA in patients with HFrEF.<sup>9</sup> The Effect of Adaptive Servo-  
166 Ventilation on Survival and Cardiovascular Hospital Admissions in Patients with Heart Failure and Sleep Apnoea  
167 (ADVENT-HF) trial was designed to test the hypothesis that in patients with HFrEF, treatment of co-existing OSA  
168 or CSA by this ASV device would reduce cardiovascular morbidity and mortality, and improve sleep and quality of  
169 life <sup>10</sup>.

## 170 **METHODS:**

171 See reference <sup>10</sup> and Appendix for further details.

### 172 **Trial Design**

173 ADVENT-HF was a multi-centre, multinational, randomised, parallel-group, open-label trial of ASV versus no ASV  
174 involving patients with HFrEF and SDB, with concealed allocation and blinded outcome assessments. A detailed  
175 protocol has been published <sup>10</sup>. The University Health Network (Toronto, Canada) was the trial sponsor. An  
176 Executive Committee (Appendix) at the University Health Network and Sinai Health System in Toronto designed  
177 the trial and the detailed protocol was developed by the Global Coordinating Centre who was primarily responsible  
178 for its conduct, including initiating all trial sites and monitoring them. The trial was conducted at 49 sites in 9  
179 countries in accordance with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki and Good Clinical Practice guidelines and  
180 was approved by all appropriate regulatory authorities and ethics committees at each site. All participants provided  
181 written informed consent prior to participation. A Data Safety and Monitoring Committee (DSMC) was created to  
182 regularly review trial progress and provide recommendations on trial continuance.

### 183 **Participants**

184 Eligible participants were 18 years of age or older with a history of chronic HFrEF with a left ventricular ejection  
185 fraction (LVEF)  $\leq$  45%, stabilized on optimal medical therapy, as per prevailing country-specific society guidelines,  
186 and SDB, defined as an AHI  $\geq$ 15 events per hr. They were stratified as predominantly OSA ( $\geq$ 50% events  
187 obstructive) or CSA ( $>$ 50% of events central). For those with predominantly OSA, those with complaints of  
188 excessive daytime sleepiness or an Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) score of  $>$ 10 <sup>11</sup> were excluded on ethical  
189 grounds, since treating such patients with CPAP improves their alertness and quality of life.<sup>12</sup> For those with  
190 predominantly CSA there was no limit on the ESS score. Other exclusion criteria are listed in the Appendix.

### 191 **Procedures**

#### 192 **Screening**

193 Consenting patients participated in a screening visit to document demographic data, medical history, etiology of  
194 HFrEF, medications, blood pressure and heart rate, stages of HF <sup>13</sup> and New York Heart Association (NYHA) class.  
195 Health-related quality of life was assessed by the Minnesota Living With Heart Failure Questionnaire (MLHFQ), a  
196 sensitive and reliable measure of changes in heart failure status<sup>14,15</sup>, and sleepiness from the ESS score <sup>11</sup>.

202 Echocardiography

203 M-mode and 2-D images were obtained from the standard parasternal and apical windows and submitted to the Core  
204 Echocardiography Laboratory at the Toronto General Hospital for analysis. Biplane Simpson's method<sup>16</sup> was used to  
205 calculate LVEF.

206

207 Polysomnography

208 Participants underwent attended in-laboratory overnight polysomnograms (PSG) three months or less before  
209 randomization. All PSGs were transmitted electronically to the Core Sleep Laboratory at the Toronto Rehabilitation  
210 Institute for subsequent analysis. Scoring of sleep stages and arousals from sleep conformed to standard criteria<sup>17,18</sup>.  
211 Obstructive and central apnoeas and hypopnoeas were defined as previously described<sup>6,10,19</sup>. The oxygen  
212 desaturation index was quantified as the number of dips in SaO<sub>2</sub> of  $\geq 3\%$ /hour of sleep.

213

214 Randomisation and masking

215 Eligible subjects were randomised in a 1:1 ratio to either standard optimal treatment for HFrEF alone or with the  
216 addition of ASV, using an internet-based randomisation system (Randomize.net, Interrand Inc. Ottawa, ON,  
217 Canada) that stratified by study site and sleep apnea type (CSA or OSA) and used permuted blocks of sizes 4 and 6  
218 in random order.<sup>10</sup>

219

220 ASV Titration

221 Participants randomised to peak-flow triggered ASV (BiPAP autoSV Advanced or BiPAP autoSV Advanced  
222 System One, Philips Respironics, Murrysville, PA, USA) had this initiated within 72 h of randomisation during a  
223 second PSG that was transmitted to the Core Sleep Laboratory where the effective pressures were determined. These  
224 were then programmed into subjects' ASV devices at trial sites (Appendix, page 3 and Table A1).

225

226 Follow-up

227 One month after randomisation, subjects underwent a follow-up PSG. For those randomised to ASV, ASV was worn  
228 during the study. Clinical evaluations were performed and MLHFQ, ESS and NYHA class were assessed at one,  
229 three, and six months and every six months thereafter to a maximum of five years (Appendix, Table A2). After five  
230 years, participants underwent an end-of-study evaluation during which the half-yearly assessments were replicated.  
231 For calculating ASV compliance, cumulative hours of use were recorded and averaged at study visits. A value of 0  
232 was recorded from the time of non-initiation or from the time of discontinuation of ASV. Where data were missing  
233 due to missed visits, no data were entered and we did not impute hours of use.

234

235 Endpoints and assessments

236 The primary study endpoint was the cumulative incidence of the composite of all-cause mortality (including death  
237 and death equivalents, i.e., heart transplantation and left ventricular assist device implantation), first CV  
238 hospitalisation, new onset atrial fibrillation/flutter requiring anticoagulation but not hospitalisation, and delivery of  
239 an appropriate ICD shock. Secondary endpoints included in this paper were: 1) cumulative incidence of all-cause  
240 mortality; 2) cumulative incidence of cardiovascular mortality; 3) cumulative incidence of all CV hospitalisations, 4)  
241 changes in AHI and sleep structure, 5) change in NYHA class; 6) change in quality of life assessed by the MLHFQ;  
242 and, 7) change in ESS score. With respect to CV hospitalisations, ICD shocks and new onset atrial  
243 fibrillation/flutter, if one was the first event, it was considered to be a primary endpoint, in which case participants  
244 continued to be followed and any subsequent deaths, CV hospitalisations, or appropriate ICD shocks were  
245 considered secondary endpoints. Heart transplantation and left ventricular assist device implantation were  
246 considered terminal censoring events.

247

248 Statistical analysis

249 We assumed a larger effect size of ASV for OSA than for CSA based on findings from another study involving  
250 patients with OSA<sup>20</sup> and the CANPAP study<sup>6</sup>. We calculated that a sample size of 860 patients with SDB (430 OSA  
251 and 430 CSA) would give rise to 540 primary events and provide 82% power to detect a treatment effect comprising  
252 a hazard-ratio (HR) of 0.75 for OSA and 0.80 for CSA (combined 0.775) in a Cox proportional hazards analysis,  
253 allowing for a dropout rate of 2% per year, a 2% per year crossover rate from treatment to control, a control group  
254 rate of 0.35 events per year, and an overall type I error rate of 0.05<sup>10</sup>. Non-proportionality of hazards for the  
255 treatment effect was checked using plots of Schoenfeld residuals and a test based on weighted residuals.

256

257 The primary intention-to-treat analysis compared the rate of occurrence of the first primary event between the ASV  
258 and control groups using a Cox proportional hazards model, with separate pre-specified analyses according to sleep  
259 apnoea type (OSA and CSA)<sup>10</sup>. Death from any cause was deemed a primary endpoint if it occurred outside the  
260 hospital or during a first hospitalisation. Interim analyses by the Data and Safety Monitoring Committee (DSMC)  
261 were planned to occur after 50% (n=270) and 75% (n=405) of primary events were adjudicated with two-sided  
262 critical p-value thresholds calculated using the O'Brien-Fleming alpha-spending rule.<sup>21</sup> All p-values reported are  
263 nominal, with no correction for multiple testing.

264 The on-treatment analysis of the primary event included eligible subjects compliant with study treatment (ASV),  
265 defined as use of at least 50% of the total sleep time from the baseline PSG per night during the course of the trial.<sup>10</sup>  
266 Regarding the control group, those who did not cross-over to treatment were considered compliant by-definition. In  
267 the ASV group, we calculated average daily use of ASV over time T from randomization and classified those with  
268 values  $\geq 50\%$  of the baseline sleep duration as being compliant. Outcomes from time T onwards were compared  
269 between the control group and compliant patients in the ASV group using the same Cox-model approach as used for  
270 the intention-to-treat analysis. This analysis was repeated with compliance defined over landmark times of 0.5, 1.0, 2  
271 and 3 years.

272 Comparisons of changes in sleep variables from baseline to the one-month follow-up were performed by two-way  
273 repeated measures ANOVA. The MLHFQ and ESS were treated as continuous variables and compared between  
274 groups using a linear mixed effects model that included categorical variables for time and treatment group, an  
275 interaction between time and treatment group and a constraint that the means were equal at baseline. Models also  
276 included a random effect for subject and a first order autocorrelation structure for residuals. For each outcome, a  
277 likelihood ratio test found that a model with a constant post-baseline treatment effect was no worse than a model  
278 with different treatment effects at each time, so results from the simpler models are presented. NYHA class was  
279 compared between groups at each time point using a proportional odds model, adjusting for sleep apnoea type and  
280 baseline NYHA class.

#### 281 **Role of the funding source**

282 The trial was funded jointly by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and, in accordance with its University  
283 Industry Partnership Program, by Philips RS North America LLC, who also provided ASV devices. Neither funding  
284 source participated in the design or conduct of the trial, the collection, analysis, or interpretation of data, the writing  
285 of the manuscript, or the decision to submit its findings for publication.

#### 286 **RESULTS**

287 The first and last enrolments were September 22, 2010 and March 20, 2021. On 13 May, 2015, while ADVENT-HF  
288 was in progress, the sponsor of the Adaptive Servo-Ventilation for Central Sleep Apnea in Systolic Heart Failure  
289 (SERVE-HF) trial<sup>22</sup> issued a Field Safety Notice reporting increased mortality in patients with CSA allocated to  
290 their ASV device and stating that ASV was contraindicated for therapy of patients with HFrEF and predominantly  
291 CSA. Although the ASV device used in ADVENT-HF differed from that used in SERVE-HF, the Executive  
292 Committee immediately suspended ADVENT-HF enrollment pending a review by the DSMC of stratified analyses  
293 of primary and secondary outcomes by sleep apnoea phenotype. The DSMC identified no safety concerns and  
294 recommended continuation of the trial as per protocol. All ethics boards were informed of the review and  
295 recommendations and consent forms were revised accordingly. All enrolled patients were then re-consented.  
296 However, authorities in Germany and France prohibited further recruitment of patients with CSA, and in other  
297 countries referrals of such patients declined. Following completion of the first interim analysis, the DSMC again  
298 recommended continuation of the trial as per protocol. However, the declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic in  
299 March 2020 forced most study sites to prohibit in-person assessments and PSGs. Consequently, the Executive  
300 Committee suspended recruitment in March 2021. Follow-up continued until June 15, 2021, when Philips'  
301 identification of disintegration of motor sound-abatement material triggered a world-wide recall of all their positive  
302 airway pressure devices, including that used in ADVENT-HF, which obliged the trial's termination.

303  
304  
305  
306  
307  
308  
309

Formatted: Font color: Text 1

Formatted: Font color: Text 1

Formatted: Font color: Text 1

310 As shown in Figure 1, 1,127 patients were screened for eligibility of whom 386 were screen failures due either to  
311 LVEF >45% or an AHI <15. Of the initial 741 eligible patients who were randomized, 10 were wrongfully  
312 randomized due to protocol violations (Appendix, page 10). Accordingly, a total of 731 randomized participants  
313 were included in intention-to-treat analysis: 375 allocated to control, and 356 to ASV (Figure 1). Of these, 533  
314 participants (72.8%) had predominantly OSA and 198 (27.2%) had predominantly CSA (Table 1). The very high  
315 percentage of obstructive events in the OSA sub-group (85.6%) and of central events in the CSA sub-group (73.3%),  
316 indicate that both forms of apnoea were present in these participants but that the two sub-groups were widely  
317 separated in terms of their predominant type of SDB.

318  
319 Baseline characteristics of the subjects are provided in Table 1. Participants were predominantly male. Overall,  
320 participants had only mild daytime sleepiness (mean ESS score  $\pm$  SD,  $6.2 \pm 3.4$ ). In general, those with CSA had  
321 shorter total sleep time, more frequent arousals, higher ESS scores, and higher AHI and O<sub>2</sub> desaturation indices than  
322 those with OSA. Cardiovascular and sleep characteristics were similar in those allocated to control or ASV. Of  
323 those included in the intention-to-treat analysis, 656 patients (89.7%) completed the trial.

324  
325 During the trial, 13 (4.5%) patients in the control group, all with OSA, were initiated on CPAP, while 83 (23.0%)  
326 allocated ASV either did not start or discontinued it (22.7% in the OSA and 25.0% in the CSA sub-group). After  
327 imposition of COVID-19-related restrictions, few centres were able to acquire compliance data from the ASV secure  
328 digital cards. Accordingly, hours of use are reported only until February 28, 2020. Overall, cumulative average daily  
329 ASV use for the entire group over the course of the trial ranged between 4.4 h at 1 month to 3.8 h at 5-years.  
330 Corresponding hours of use were between 4.4 and 3.3 for the OSA sub-group and between 4.6 and 4.0 for the CSA  
331 sub-group (Appendix, Table A5). Applied pressures were recorded (Appendix, Table A6). For the entire ASV  
332 cohort, the mean AHI taken from participants' ASV devices ranged between 3.0 and 3.8 events per h over the course  
333 of the trial: for the OSA sub-group, between 2.7 and 3.4, and for the CSA sub-group, between 3.8 and 4.9 events per  
334 h (Appendix, Table A7).

335  
336 For the intention to treat analysis, the mean follow-up time to first primary event or censoring was 2.7 years, and  
337 mean time in the study ending in death or end of follow-up was 3.6 years during which there were 346 primary  
338 events. As displayed in Figure 2, ASV had no significant effect on the primary endpoint for the entire cohort  
339 ( $p=0.67$ , Figure 2A), the OSA ( $p=0.82$ , Figure 2B) or CSA sub-groups ( $p=0.66$ , Figure 2C). The majority of the 346  
340 primary events were cardiovascular hospitalisations and deaths (Appendix, Table A8). There was no significant  
341 interaction between treatment effect of ASV according to OSA or CSA status (1.06; 95% CI, 0.67-1.66;  $p=0.82$ ).  
342 There were no deaths or other serious adverse events attributed to ASV device use.

343  
344 With respect to the on-treatment analysis, for the 13 subjects with OSA who crossed-over to non-trial CPAP  
345 devices, there were no records of dates, or hours of use, so anyone in the control group on CPAP was excluded from  
346 the per protocol analysis. There were no significant differences in the HR of the primary event at any of the four  
347 landmark times between the ASV-compliant subjects and compliant control subjects (Appendix, Table A9).  
348 All primary endpoints and deaths were captured. There were 164 deaths of which 125 were cardiovascular-related  
349 (Appendix, Table A10). ASV had no significant effect on all-cause mortality for the entire cohort ( $p=0.47$ , Figure  
350 3A), nor for those with OSA ( $p=0.98$ , Figure 3B) or CSA ( $p=0.25$ , Figure 3C). Similarly, there were no significant  
351 effects of ASV on cardiovascular mortality for the entire group (HR, 0.96; 95% CI, 0.68-1.36;  $p=0.82$ ), nor for the  
352 OSA (HR, 1.13; 95% CI, 0.72-1.79;  $p=0.59$ ) or CSA sub-groups (HR, 0.75; 95% CI, 0.43-1.32;  $p=0.32$ ). There was  
353 no significant interaction between treatment effect of ASV according to OSA or CSA status (1.35; 95% CI, 0.71-  
354 2.55;  $p=0.36$ ).

355  
356 There were 283 initial cardiovascular hospitalisations. The first-cardiovascular hospitalisation rate was unaffected  
357 by ASV for the entire cohort (HR, 1.06; 95% confidence interval [CI], 0.84-1.33;  $p=0.65$ ), the OSA sub-group (HR,  
358 1.08; 95% CI, 0.82-1.43;  $p=0.60$ ) and the CSA sub-group (HR, 1.02; 95% CI, 0.67-1.56;  $p=0.91$ ).

359  
360 Differences in sleep variables between baseline and one-month are presented in Table 2. Compared to the control  
361 group, the ASV group experienced significant decreases in AHI, oxygen desaturation index, and increases in mean  
362 SaO<sub>2</sub> and lowest SaO<sub>2</sub> ( $p<0.001$  for the entire cohort and  $p<0.001-0.003$  in the OSA and CSA sub-groups), and  
363 significant improvement in sleep quality, with fewer total and respiratory-related arousals, less time spent in N1  
364 sleep, more in N3 and REM sleep ( $p<0.001$  for the entire cohort and  $p<0.001-0.005$  in the OSA and CSA sub-  
365 groups). See Appendix, Table A11 for further details.



366  
367 As displayed in Figure 3, over the entire trial period, compared to the control group, the ASV group experienced  
368 significant improvements in MLHFQ score for the entire cohort (-2.8; 95% CI, -4.5 to -1.2; p=0.0009), the OSA  
369 sub-group (p=0.0280) and the CSA sub-group (p=0.0036). Compared to the control group, the ASV group  
370 experienced significant improvements in ESS scores for the entire cohort (-1.0; 95% CI, 0.6 to 1.3; p<0.0001), the  
371 OSA sub-group (p=0.0001) and the CSA sub-group (p<0.0001).

372  
373 After one and two years, compared to the control group, those randomised to ASV experienced a significant  
374 improvement in NYHA class for the entire group (one-year, p=0.049 and two-years, p=0.012) and at two years in  
375 the CSA sub-group (p=0.040), but not in either year in the OSA sub-group (Appendix, Table A12). Missing values  
376 for MLHFQ, ESS scores and NYHA class were due to either deaths, missed follow-up clinic appointments or  
377 withdrawal from the trial.

378  
379 With respect to pre-specified secondary outcomes not reported herein due to space limitations, it is our intention to  
380 publish these in future manuscripts.<sup>23</sup>

## 381 382 **DISCUSSION**

383  
384 ADVENT-HF is the first trial to address the effects of an ASV device designed to treat both forms of SDB, OSA  
385 and CSA, in patients with HFrEF on morbidity, mortality, sleep quality and quality of life. It is also the largest  
386 randomised trial to test the impact of treating non-sleepy patients with HFrEF and OSA on these endpoints.  
387 ADVENT-HF yielded several observations that have important clinical implications. Foremost, although ASV  
388 eliminated both OSA and CSA over the full five-years of follow-up, it had no significant impact on the primary  
389 endpoint or mortality. This was most apparent in the larger OSA sub-group. However, the effect of treating patients  
390 with CSA on the primary outcome and mortality is less certain because of low recruitment following the publication  
391 of the SERVE-HF trial; only 46% of the pre-specified sample size of CSA patients were recruited. Importantly,  
392 ADVENT-HF found no adverse safety signal overall or in either the OSA or CSA sub-groups. The trial also  
393 demonstrated for the first time that treatment of SDB in HFrEF patients with the newer iteration of ASV improves  
394 sleep quality, health-related quality of life and symptoms overall and in both sub-groups.

395  
396 Separate analyses were performed in those with predominantly OSA and those with predominantly CSA, as pre-  
397 specified. With respect to OSA, our finding that ASV did not affect the primary endpoint or all-cause mortality is  
398 concordant with results of previous trials involving non-sleepy patients with OSA, but without HFrEF, in which  
399 treatment with CPAP had no effect on cardiovascular morbidity and mortality<sup>24,25</sup>. Accordingly, there is no  
400 evidence, to date, that abolition of OSA in non-sleepy individuals with OSA by either CPAP or ASV reduces  
401 cardiovascular morbidity or mortality. Whether such findings also pertain to treatment of patients with HFrEF and  
402 co-existing OSA with excessive daytime sleepiness remains an open question.

403  
404 In the SERVE-HF trial, involving patients with CSA, there was a significant increase in mortality, principally from  
405 sudden death<sup>22</sup> among those allocated to the initial iteration of ASV<sup>22,26</sup>. In ADVENT-HF, no evidence of harm in  
406 treating CSA in patients with HFrEF emerged with a newer iteration of ASV, and in particular, no increase in all-  
407 cause mortality or sudden death (Appendix, Table A8), even though the mean duration of follow-up (3.6 years) was  
408 a year longer than in SERVE-HF. Regrettably, ADVENT-HF cannot answer whether the form of ASV it applied  
409 differs significantly in its impact on mortality, since our study was underpowered to address this outcome.  
410 However, because the ASV-treated group experienced improvement in sleep quality, quality of life, and symptoms  
411 that were not observed in the SERVE-HF trial, differences in the ventilatory properties of the ASV devices used in  
412 these two trials merit discussion.

413  
414 SERVE-HF tested the initial iteration of ASV that was triggered by falls in minute-ventilation during central events  
415 and had relatively high expiratory and pressure support default settings of 5 and 3 cmH<sub>2</sub>O, respectively, so that the  
416 minimum inspiratory pressure applied was 8 cmH<sub>2</sub>O.<sup>19</sup> The newer iteration of ASV employed in ADVENT-HF had  
417 lower default expiratory and pressure support settings of 4 and 0 cmH<sub>2</sub>O, such that the minimum inspiratory  
418 pressure applied would be only 4 cmH<sub>2</sub>O<sup>10,23</sup>. Comparing applied ASV pressures between the two trials at the same  
419 time-points up to 48 months post-randomization<sup>19</sup> reveals that median expiratory pressure in our patients with CSA  
420 was similar, but pressure support was approximately 1.6 cmH<sub>2</sub>O lower (Appendix, Table A6). Furthermore, the  
iteration of ASV used in ADVENT-HF has been shown to generate less minute ventilation overnight than the ASV

421 employed in SERVE-HF.<sup>27</sup> These differences in ventilatory properties could result in a lower tendency to induce  
422 hyperventilation and its adverse consequences, such as respiratory alkalosis, hypokalemia and cardiac arrhythmias in  
423 patients allocated to ASV in ADVENT-HF.<sup>28-30</sup> Additionally, unlike the ASV used in SERVE-HF, the ASV used in  
424 our trial was designed to automatically eliminate obstructive events that frequently co-exist in patients with  
425 predominant CSA, possibly contributing to improvements in sleep quality, quality of life and symptoms in  
426 ADVENT-HF. Other notable differences that might account for such divergent effects on sleep quality and  
427 symptoms between the two trials include initiation of therapy in ADVENT-HF via a nasal mask, centralized  
428 prescription of pressure settings, and differences in patient populations with lower age and NYHA class. Also, in  
429 SERVE-HF, among those randomized to ASV, mortality was higher in those with an LVEF <30% versus those with  
430 an LVEF >30%. However, within the CSA group, we found no difference in mortality in those randomized to ASV  
431 between NYHA classes III and IV versus classes I and II (Appendix, Table A11) nor between those with an LVEF  
432 <30 compared to ≥30%. (Appendix, Figure A1). Taken together these data favour differences in the type of ASV  
433 employed to explain differences in mortality between ADVENT-HF and SERVE-HF among patients with CSA.  
434 While our findings suggest a role for this iteration of ASV to treat CSA, in order to determine unambiguously  
435 whether newer iterations of ASV have a place in reducing cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in patients with  
436 HFrEF, sufficiently-powered future studies will need to take these technical considerations into account.

437 A recent *Lancet* Editorial emphasized that although poor sleep quality has an adverse impact on quality of life in  
438 patients with medical disorders, sleep quality is seldom assessed in clinical trials<sup>31</sup>. In the ADVENT-HF trial,  
439 objective measures of sleep quality were acquired through baseline and follow-up PSGs. A unique finding was that  
440 alleviation of SDB by ASV enhanced sleep quality, with less fragmentation by arousals and a significant shift from  
441 the lighter to the deeper restorative stages of sleep that were similar in both the OSA and CSA sub-groups. These  
442 findings contrast with those of prior randomised trials in which SDB in patients with HFrEF was treated, but did not  
443 improve overall sleep structure.<sup>6,19,32,33</sup> However, follow-up PSGs were only performed one month after  
444 randomization, so that long-term data on sleep structure could not be assessed.

445  
446 Such improvement in sleep structure could alter daytime perceptions of quality of life and alertness. Concordant  
447 with this concept, ASV improved MLHFQ and ESS scores in the overall cohort, and in the OSA and CSA sub-  
448 groups, and NYHA class for the entire group and CSA sub-group. Although improvements in MLHFQ and ESS  
449 scores were small, they were sustained over the five-year duration of trial participation, and were also associated  
450 with improvements in NYHA class and objective improvements sleep structure. Taken together, improvements in all  
451 four of these variables suggest that they were of clinical significance, albeit, modest in degree. Conversely, in other  
452 randomised trials involving patients with HFrEF, treating SDB did not improve quality of life or symptoms.<sup>22,33,34</sup>  
453 Widespread implementation of effective drug and implanted device therapies has reduced HFrEF mortality rates but  
454 increased its prevalence<sup>13</sup>, obliging greater focus on these patients' quality of life. By consolidating sleep and  
455 improving quality of life and symptoms, treatment of SDB by the iteration of ASV employed in ADVENT-HF  
456 contributes to this goal.

457  
458 The ADVENT-HF trial had several unique strengths. With participants recruited from nine countries on four  
459 continents, the present findings likely pertain to the general population with HFrEF and SDB. By including subjects  
460 with predominantly OSA or predominantly CSA, we covered the broad spectrum of SDB, and were able to examine,  
461 *a priori*, outcomes separately in each distinct sub-group. Core laboratory analysis centralized scoring and  
462 interpretation of PSGs ensured high data quality. Our protocol incorporated standard questionnaires enabling  
463 evaluation of ASV's impact on both HFrEF and SDB symptoms. Centralized assessments of ASV titrations and  
464 prescription of pressure settings likely contributed to excellent control of SDB. Only 4.5% of control participants  
465 were initiated on CPAP to treat OSA. It also had some limitations. Adherence to ASV averaged 3.8 h per night over  
466 the course of the trial with 23% of participants who either did not initiate or discontinued it at some point. There was  
467 a marked predominance of male participants. However, previous randomized trials of therapy for SDB in patients  
468 with HFrEF had a similar marked predominance of male participants that reflects the epidemiology of HFrEF and  
469 SDB in this age range.<sup>6,22</sup> Because this was an open label study, subjective assessment of quality of life and  
470 symptoms may have been open to bias in favour of ASV. However, improvements in these subjective measures  
471 among those randomized to ASV were accompanied by objective improvements in sleep structure that likely  
472 contributed to improvements in quality of life and symptoms. Also, due to the cumulative impact of factors  
473 described above, we recruited only 731 of the predicted 860 participants. Thus, ADVENT-HF did not secure the  
474 pre-specified power to detect significant differences in the primary endpoint and all-cause mortality.

475

476 As a consequence of the adverse effects of the initial iteration of ASV on mortality used in the SERVE-HF trial,  
477 current European Society of Cardiology Guidelines for the treatment of chronic heart failure state that patients “with  
478 HFrEF being considered for a sleep-disordered breathing treatment with positive pressure airway mask must  
479 undergo formal sleep study to document the predominant type of sleep apnoea”. Treatment of OSA can be  
480 considered to treat nocturnal hypoxaemia, but when “sleep disordered breathing is caused by CSA, positive airway  
481 pressure masks are contraindicated”<sup>35</sup>. ADVENT-HF treated SDB with a newer iteration of ASV employing a  
482 different ventilation algorithm that did not increase morbidity or mortality nor elicit any adverse safety signal in  
483 either form of SDB. Nevertheless, it did not reduce morbidity or mortality, but did improve objective measures of  
484 sleep quality, as well as health-related quality of life and symptoms. These novel findings argue that there may be a  
485 role for selective application of the ASV treatment strategy employed herein as adjunctive therapy for patients with  
486 HFrEF and SDB, including CSA, to reduce symptom burden. However, as ADVENT-HF was underpowered, it  
487 leaves unanswered the important question whether treating SDB, particularly CSA, with a newer ASV device will  
488 reduce morbidity and mortality in patients with HFrEF.

489  
490 Word Count = 4,718

491 **Contributors**

492 TDB, JSF, AGL and GT designed the trial. TDB, JSF, AGL, GT, RJK, JDC, GLF, MA, SR, GP, TK, MED and DD  
493 served on the Steering Committee who approved the trial protocol and monitored trial progress. GT is the trial  
494 statistician. SY engaged in trial data analysis. TDB wrote the initial draft of the manuscript, while JSF, AGL and GT  
495 helped to edit it. TDB, RJK, JDC, AB, GLF, RP, JMM, and CT made major contributions to trial recruitment. All  
496 authors had access to all trial data, reviewed the final manuscript, approved it and had final responsibility for the  
497 decision to submit it.

498  
499 **Declaration of interests**

500 Partial funding for this trial, as well as ASV devices, were provided by Philips RS North America LLC. These  
501 resources supported the work of all co-authors and trial sites.

502  
503 **Data sharing**

504 Further details on trial data are provided in the Appendix. This was an investigator-initiated trial that was funded by  
505 external grants, and at its inception made no provisions for data sharing with outside parties. The trial sponsor, the  
506 University Health Network (UHN) and the custodian of the trial data, the Lunenfeld Tanenbaum Research Institute  
507 (LTRI), are medical academic institutions. Since the external grants have terminated, neither UHN nor LTRI have  
508 the resources required to enter into data sharing agreements with outside parties to allow access to the raw trial data.

509  
510 **Acknowledgments**

511 The trial sponsor was the University Health Network (Toronto, Canada). An Executive Committee (Appendix 1) at  
512 the University Health Network and Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto designed the trial and was primarily  
513 responsible for its conduct. Event adjudication of source documents was performed blindly by an adverse events  
514 committee. An independent Data and Safety Monitoring Committee monitored un-blinded trial events. The trial was  
515 co-funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (operating grant IS2-95225) and, in accordance with its  
516 University-Industry Partnership Program, by Philips RS North America LLC, who also provided ASV devices.  
517 Neither funding source participated in the design or conduct of the trial, the collection, analysis, or interpretation of  
518 data, the writing of the manuscript, or the decision to submit its findings for publication.

519  
520  
521

522 **References**

523 1. Javaheri S, Parker TJ, Liming JD, et al. Sleep apnea in 81 ambulatory male patients with stable heart  
524 failure. Types and their prevalences, consequences, and presentations. *Circulation* 1998; **97**(21): 2154-9.

525 2. Sin DD, Fitzgerald F, Parker JD, Newton G, Floras JS, Bradley TD. Risk factors for central and obstructive  
526 sleep apnea in 450 men and women with congestive heart failure. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 1999; **160**(4): 1101-6.

527 3. Yumino D, Wang H, Floras JS, et al. Prevalence and physiological predictors of sleep apnea in patients  
528 with heart failure and systolic dysfunction. *J Card Fail* 2009; **15**(4): 279-85.

529 4. Lanfranchi PA, Bagnoli A, Bosimini E, et al. Prognostic value of nocturnal Cheyne-Stokes respiration in  
530 chronic heart failure. *Circulation* 1999; **99**(11): 1435-40.

531 5. Wang H, Parker JD, Newton GE, et al. Influence of obstructive sleep apnea on mortality in patients with  
532 heart failure. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2007; **49**(15): 1625-31.

533 6. Bradley TD, Logan AG, Kimoff RJ, et al. Continuous positive airway pressure for central sleep apnea and  
534 heart failure. *N Engl J Med* 2005; **353**(19): 2025-33.

535 7. Arzt M, Floras JS, Logan AG, et al. Suppression of central sleep apnea by continuous positive airway  
536 pressure and transplant-free survival in heart failure: a post hoc analysis of the Canadian Continuous Positive  
537 Airway Pressure for Patients with Central Sleep Apnea and Heart Failure Trial (CANPAP). *Circulation* 2007;  
538 **115**(25): 3173-80.

539 8. Teschler H, Dohring J, Wang YM, Berthon-Jones M. Adaptive pressure support servo-ventilation: a novel  
540 treatment for Cheyne-Stokes respiration in heart failure. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2001; **164**(4): 614-9.

541 9. Kasai T, Usui Y, Yoshioka T, et al. Effect of flow-triggered adaptive servo-ventilation compared with  
542 continuous positive airway pressure in patients with chronic heart failure with coexisting obstructive sleep apnea and  
543 Cheyne-Stokes respiration. *Circ Heart Fail* 2010; **3**(1): 140-8.

544 10. Lyons OD, Floras JS, Logan AG, et al. Design of the effect of adaptive servo-ventilation on survival and  
545 cardiovascular hospital admissions in patients with heart failure and sleep apnoea: the ADVENT-HF trial. *Eur J*  
546 *Heart Fail* 2017; **19**(4): 579-87.

547 11. Johns MW. A new method for measuring daytime sleepiness: the Epworth sleepiness scale. *Sleep* 1991;  
548 **14**(6): 540-5.

549 12. Engleman HM, Martin SE, Deary IJ, Douglas NJ. Effect of continuous positive airway pressure treatment  
550 on daytime function in sleep apnoea/hypopnoea syndrome. *Lancet* 1994; **343**(8897): 572-5.

551 13. Heidenreich PA, Bozkurt B, Aguilar D, et al. 2022 AHA/ACC/HFSA Guideline for the Management of  
552 Heart Failure: Executive Summary: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association  
553 Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines. *Circulation* 2022; **145**(18): e876-e94.

554 14. Garin O, Herdman M, Vilagut G, et al. Assessing health-related quality of life in patients with heart failure:  
555 a systematic, standardized comparison of available measures. *Heart Fail Rev* 2014; **19**(3): 359-67.

556 15. Rector TS, Cohn JN. Assessment of patient outcome with the Minnesota Living with Heart Failure  
557 questionnaire: reliability and validity during a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of pimobendan.  
558 Pimobendan Multicenter Research Group. *Am Heart J* 1992; **124**(4): 1017-25.

559 16. Weyman A. Principles and Practice of Echocardiography. 2nd edition. 1994.

560 17. Rechtschaffen A, Kales, A. . A manual of standardized terminology, techniques and scoring for sleep  
561 stages of human subjects. 1968. Los Angeles: UCLA Brain Information Service/Brain Research Institute; 1968.

562 18. Redline S, Budhiraja R, Kapur V, et al. The scoring of respiratory events in sleep: reliability and validity. *J*  
563 *Clin Sleep Med* 2007; **3**(2): 169-200.

564 19. Kaneko Y, Floras JS, Usui K, et al. Cardiovascular effects of continuous positive airway pressure in  
565 patients with heart failure and obstructive sleep apnea. *N Engl J Med* 2003; **348**(13): 1233-41.

566 20. Buchner NJ, Sanner BM, Borgel J, Rump LC. Continuous positive airway pressure treatment of mild to  
567 moderate obstructive sleep apnea reduces cardiovascular risk. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2007; **176**(12): 1274-80.

568 21. O'Brien PC, Fleming TR. A multiple testing procedure for clinical trials. *Biometrics* 1979; **35**(3): 549-56.

569 22. Cowie MR, Woehrle H, Wegscheider K, et al. Adaptive Servo-Ventilation for Central Sleep Apnea in  
570 Systolic Heart Failure. *N Engl J Med* 2015; **373**(12): 1095-105.

571 23. Butcher NJ, Monsour A, Mew EJ, et al. Guidelines for Reporting Outcomes in Trial Reports: The  
572 CONSORT-Outcomes 2022 Extension. *JAMA* 2022; **328**(22): 2252-64.

573 24. McEvoy RD, Antic NA, Heeley E, et al. CPAP for Prevention of Cardiovascular Events in Obstructive  
574 Sleep Apnea. *N Engl J Med* 2016; **375**(10): 919-31.

575 25. Sanchez-de-la-Torre M, Sanchez-de-la-Torre A, Bertran S, et al. Effect of obstructive sleep apnoea and its  
576 treatment with continuous positive airway pressure on the prevalence of cardiovascular events in patients with acute  
577 coronary syndrome (ISAACC study): a randomised controlled trial. *Lancet Respir Med* 2020; **8**(4): 359-67.

Field Code Changed

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, 10 pt

578 26. Eulenburg C, Wegscheider K, Woehrle H, et al. Mechanisms underlying increased mortality risk in patients  
579 with heart failure and reduced ejection fraction randomly assigned to adaptive servoventilation in the SERVE-HF  
580 study: results of a secondary multistate modelling analysis. *Lancet Respir Med* 2016; **4**(11): 873-81.

581 27. Knitter J, Bailey OF, Poongkunran C, et al. Comparison of Physiological Performance of Four Adaptive  
582 Servo Ventilation Devices in Patients with Complex Sleep Apnea. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2019; **199**(7): 925-8.

583 28. Bradley TD, Floras JS, Investigators A-H. The SERVE-HF Trial. *Can Respir J* 2015; **22**(6): 313.

584 29. Javaheri S, Shukla R, Wexler L. Association of smoking, sleep apnea, and plasma alkalosis with nocturnal  
585 ventricular arrhythmias in men with systolic heart failure. *Chest* 2012; **141**(6): 1449-56.

586 30. Kulahcioglu S, Baysal PK, Kup A, et al. Bidirectional ventricular tachycardia induced by respiratory  
587 alkalosis mediated hypokalemia in a patient with acute ischemic heart failure. *Pacing Clin Electrophysiol* 2021;  
588 **44**(12): 2115-8.

589 31. The L. Waking up to the importance of sleep. *Lancet* 2022; **400**(10357): 973.

590 32. Hetzenecker A, Escourrou P, Kuna ST, et al. Treatment of sleep apnea in chronic heart failure patients with  
591 auto-servo ventilation improves sleep fragmentation: a randomized controlled trial. *Sleep Med* 2016; **17**: 25-31.

592 33. Servantes DM, Javaheri S, Kravchychyn ACP, et al. Effects of Exercise Training and CPAP in Patients  
593 With Heart Failure and OSA: A Preliminary Study. *Chest* 2018; **154**(4): 808-17.

594 34. Fox H, Bitter T, Sauzet O, Rudolph V, Oldenburg O. Automatic positive airway pressure for obstructive  
595 sleep apnea in heart failure with reduced ejection fraction. *Clin Res Cardiol* 2021; **110**(7): 983-92.

596 35. McDonagh TA, Metra M, Adamo M, et al. 2021 ESC Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of acute  
597 and chronic heart failure. *Eur Heart J* 2021; **42**(36): 3599-726.

598  
599  
600

601 **Figure Legends**

602

603 **Figure 1.** Trial profile. ASV=adaptive servo-ventilation. CPAP=continuous positive airway pressure.

604

605 **Figure 2.** Cumulative probability of event curves for the primary endpoint for: A) all patients (180 events in the  
606 control group versus 166 in the ASV group), B) patients with obstructive sleep apnoea (122 events in the control  
607 group versus 115 in the ASV group) and C) patients with central sleep apnoea (58 events in the control group versus  
608 51 in the ASV group). ASV= adaptive servo-ventilation.

609

610 **Figure 3.** Cumulative probability of event curves for the all-cause mortality for: A) all patients (88 deaths in the  
611 control group versus 76 in the ASV group), B) patients with obstructive sleep apnoea (52 deaths in the control group  
612 versus 51 in the ASV group) and C) patients with central sleep apnoea (36 deaths in the control group versus 25 in  
613 the ASV group). ASV= adaptive servo-ventilation.

614

615 **Figure 4.** Mean differences in Minnesota Living with Heart Failure Questionnaire (MLHFQ) scores between the  
616 adaptive servo-ventilation (ASV) and control groups the for: A) all patients, B) patients with central sleep apnoea  
617 (CSA) and C) patients with obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA). Over the entire trial period (average), compared to the  
618 control group, the ASV group experienced significant improvements in MLHFQ score for the entire cohort (mean  
619 decrease, 2.8; 95% CI, 1.2 - 4.5; p=0.0009), the CSA sub-group (mean decrease, 4.6; 95% CI, 1.5 - 7.7; p= 0.0036)  
620 and the OSA sub-group (mean decrease, 2.2; 95% CI, 0.2 - 4.2; p=0.028). Mean differences in Epworth Sleepiness  
621 (ESS) Scale Scores between the two treatment groups are shown for: D) all patients, E), patients with CSA and F)  
622 patients with OSA. The ASV group experienced significant improvements in ESS scores for the entire cohort (mean  
623 decrease, 1.0; 95% CI, 0.6 - 1.3; p<0.0001), the CSA sub-group (mean decrease, 1.4; 95% CI, 0.8 - 2.1; p<0.0001),  
624 and the OSA sub-group (mean decrease, 0.8; 95% CI, 0.4 - 1.2; p=0.0001).

**Table 1. Characteristics of the patients and heart failure therapy at baseline**

Characteristic	Control			ASV		
	All	OSA	CSA	All	OSA	CSA
n	375	269	106	356	264	92
Age, yr.*	63.6±10.1	62.1±10.0	65.2±10.3	62.7±11.1	60.5±10.5	67.1±11.5
Male sex, no. (%)	327 (87.2)	228 (85.4)	99 (93.4)	318 (89.3)	228 (86.4)	90 (97.8)
Body mass index, kg/m <sup>2</sup> *	30.7±5.6	31.4±5.9	28.7±4.8	30.8±6.1	31.4±6.2	29.1±5.3
HF etiology, no. (%) - Ischemic	201 (53.9)	132 (49.1)	69 (65.1)	190 (53.4)	135 (51.1)	55 (60.4)
- Non-ischemic	172 (45.9)	135 (50.2)	37 (34.9)	164 (46.4)	127 (48.1)	37 (40.2)
New York Heart Association Class, no. I	61 (16.3)	47 (17.5)	14 (13.2)	59 (16.6)	46 (17.4)	13 (14.1)
II	236 (62.9)	167 (62.1)	69 (65.1)	216 (60.7)	165 (62.5)	51 (55.4)
III	70 (18.7)	52 (19.3)	18 (17.0)	78 (21.9)	50 (18.9)	28 (30.4)
IV	8 (2.1)	3 (1.1)	5 (4.7)	3 (0.8)	3 (1.1)	0 (0)
Minnesota Living with Heart Failure	32.5±21.9	32.9±21.8	31.5±22.4	33.1±23.0	33.4±22.6	32.5±24.1
Left ventricular ejection fraction, % *	33.3±7.9	33.8±4.8	32.1±7.9	33.1±7.7	33.6±7.2	31.4±9.1
Systolic blood pressure, mmHg *	118.1±18.4	121.4±19.3	115.9±20.5	117.0±17.4	120.5±18.6	118.3±19.6
Diastolic blood pressure, mmHg *	71.2±11.6	73.7±12.1	70.0±12.7	71.7±11.5	73.2±12.7	71.2±12.3
History of hypertension, no. (%)	247 (65.9)	179 (66.5)	68 (64.2)	257 (72.2)	187 (70.8)	70 (76.1)
Atrial fibrillation or flutter, no. (%)	108 (28.8)	69 (25.7)	39 (36.8)	93 (26.1)	63 (23.9)	30 (32.6)
Medications, n (%)						
ACE/ARB/ARNi	341 (90.9)	248 (92.1)	93 (87.7)	319 (90.6)	243 (92.0)	76 (82.6)
Beta-blockers	352 (93.9)	254 (94.4)	98 (92.5)	339 (95.2)	254 (96.2)	85 (92.4)
MRAs	212 (56.5)	162 (60.2)	50 (47.2)	194 (54.5)	153 (58.0)	41 (44.4)
SGLT2i	44 (11.7)	33 (12.2)	11 (10.3)	36 (10.1)	34 (12.8)	2 (2.2)
Loop diuretics	287 (76.5)	207 (77.4)	80 (75.5)	265 (74.4)	195 (73.9)	70 (76.1)
Cardiac glycosides	57 (15.2)	36 (13.4)	21 (19.8)	54 (15.2)	33 (12.5)	21 (22.8)
Amiodarone	55 (14.7)	39 (14.5)	16 (15.1)	63 (17.7)	46 (17.4)	17 (18.5)
Other antiarrhythmic	7 (1.9)	7 (2.6)	0 (0)	8 (2.2)	7 (2.7)	1 (1.1)
Devices, n (%)						
Pacemaker	69 (18.4)	49 (18.2)	20 (18.9)	67 (18.8)	38 (14.4)	29 (31.5)
CRT	36 (9.6)	24 (8.9)	12 (11.3)	32 (9.0)	22 (8.3)	10 (10.9)
ICD	139 (37.1)	99 (36.8)	40 (37.7)	138 (38.8)	98 (37.1)	40 (43.5)
Epworth Sleepiness Scale score*	6.4±3.3	6.0±2.9	7.4±4.0	6.0±3.5	5.6±3.0	7.2±4.5
Sleep apnoea type, n (%)	375	269 (71.7)	106 (28.3)	356	264 (74.2)	92 (25.8)
Apnoea-hypopnoea index, events/hr*	42.8±20.9	39.7±21.1	50.6±18.3	43.3±20.5	40.7±20.8	50.5±18.1
Obstructive events, %	68.6	85.6	24.8	70.5	85.8	26.7
Central events, %	31.4	14.4	75.2	29.5	14.2	73.3
3% O <sub>2</sub> desaturation index, events/hr*	39.1±22.2	36.4±22.5	45.9±19.8	39.7±21.6	37.8±22.4	45.1±18.2
Mean SaO <sub>2</sub> , %*	93.2±2.6	93.1±2.7	93.5±2.4	93.0±3.4	92.8±3.7	93.5±2.5
Minimum SaO <sub>2</sub> , %*	79.2±10.2	78.9±10.3	80.1±10.0	78.1±11.8	77.8±12.5	78.8±10.2
Arousal index, no. of events/hr*	41.3±22.9	39.8±20.8	47.2±26.7	41.1±19.9	39.8±19.2	44.9±21.3
Total sleep time, hr*	5.1±1.3	5.1±1.3	4.8±1.2	5.2±1.3	5.3±1.3	4.8±1.4
Sleep Efficiency, %	70.1±15.1	71.2±16.5	68.5±14.9	71.2±17.8	73.9±16.9	66.3±19.5
Stage N1, min	42.1±30.1	38.2±26.9	52.0±35.1	43.5±31.7	42.6±32.1	46.0±30.8
Stage N2, min	189.7±57.3	194.5±57.0	177.3±56.4	196.4±61.5	201.5±59.9	181.7±63.7
Stage N3, min	31.4±27.9	34.1±29.2	24.7±22.9	30.1±27.4	32.2±27.2	24.2±27.4
Stage REM, min	40.1±25.2	41.3±25.6	36.9±24.3	40.2±27.7	42.0±28.5	34.8±24.8

\* Mean ± standard deviation. ASV=adaptive servo-ventilation. OSA=obstructive sleep apnoea. CSA=central sleep apnoea. ACE=angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors; ARB, angiotensin II receptor blockers; ARNi, angiotensin receptor/neprilysin inhibitor; MRAs, mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists; SGLT2i, sodium-glucose transport protein 2 inhibitors; CRT, cardiac resynchronization therapy; ICD, implanted cardioverter defibrillator; SaO<sub>2</sub>, arterial oxyhemoglobin

Formatted: Subscript



**Table 2. Polysomnographic variables: changes from baseline at one-month**

Variable	All			OSA			CSA		
	Control n=335	ASV n=318	p	Control n=242	ASV n=234	p	Control n=93	ASV N=84	P
AHI, events/hr sleep	-1.3±17.1	-34.2±20.3	<0.001	-1.6±15.5	-33.5±20.9	<0.001	-0.3±20.9	-36.1±18.7	<0.001
O <sub>2</sub> desaturation index, events/hr sleep	-0.8±17.3	-32.0±21.3	<0.001	-0.6±16.2	-31.2±22.2	<0.001	-1.5±19.9	-34.3±18.6	<0.001
Mean SaO <sub>2</sub> , %	-0.01±1.6	1.5±2.9	<0.001	-0.1±1.7	1.6±3.1	<0.001	0.1±1.6	1.0±2.2	0.003
Min SaO <sub>2</sub> , %	-0.04±7.2	9.8±11.6	<0.001	-0.1±7.1	10.5±12.0	<0.001	0.2±7.5	7.8±10.1	<0.001
TST, min	2.4±71.6	2.3±76.1	0.988	0.4±70.4	-5.7±74.1	0.359	7.6±74.9	24.6±77.4	0.139
Sleep efficiency, %	-0.7±15.4	1.9±15.5	0.338	0.7±15.3	0.6±15.1	0.945	0.8±15.8	5.4±16.2	0.054
N1 sleep, min	0.3±28.9	-17.5±32.8	<0.001	0.8±28.5	-17.1±32.8	<0.001	-0.8±29.9	-18.5±33.0	<0.001
N2 sleep, min	-0.8±57.8	0.3±64.8	0.820	-2.5±56.2	-4.3±61.9	0.739	3.7±61.7	13.2±71.1	0.343
N3 sleep, min	0.8±27.4	10.5±30.4	<0.001	1.1±28.6	10.0±29.6	0.001	0.01±24.0	12.2±32.6	0.005
REM sleep, min	0.3±26.7	8.9±29.6	<0.001	0.1±25.3	7.3±31.0	0.005	0.9±30.1	13.5±25.2	0.003
Total Arousal Index, events/h sleep	-1.3±17.7	-18.0±22.2	<0.001	-1.8±17.5	-17.6±22.6	<0.001	0.2±18.3	-19.3±21.2	<0.001
Respiratory Arousal Index, events/h sleep	-1.4±16.2	-23.9±19.0	<0.001	-2.0±14.7	-23.7±19.1	<0.001	-0.03±19.7	-24.4±18.5	<0.001

Formatted Table

Values are mean±standard deviation. OSA=obstructive sleep apnoea. CSA=central sleep apnoea. ASV=adaptive servo-ventilation. AHI=apnoea-hypopnoea index. SaO<sub>2</sub>=arterial oxyhemoglobin saturation. TST=total sleep time. REM=rapid eye movement.

- Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

**Table 3. On-treatment analysis of the primary event comparing hazard ratios (HR) of adaptive servo-ventilation (ASV)-compliant subjects to compliant control subjects at four landmark times.**

Landmark time (years)	Number in control group	Number in ASV group	HR (95% CI)	P-value
0.5	317	186	0.91 (0.69, 1.19)	0.48
1.0	284	165	0.81 (0.59, 1.11)	0.19
2.0	224	134	0.70 (.45, 1.08)	0.11
3.0	171	114	0.64 (0.46, 1.16)	0.14

Figure 1.

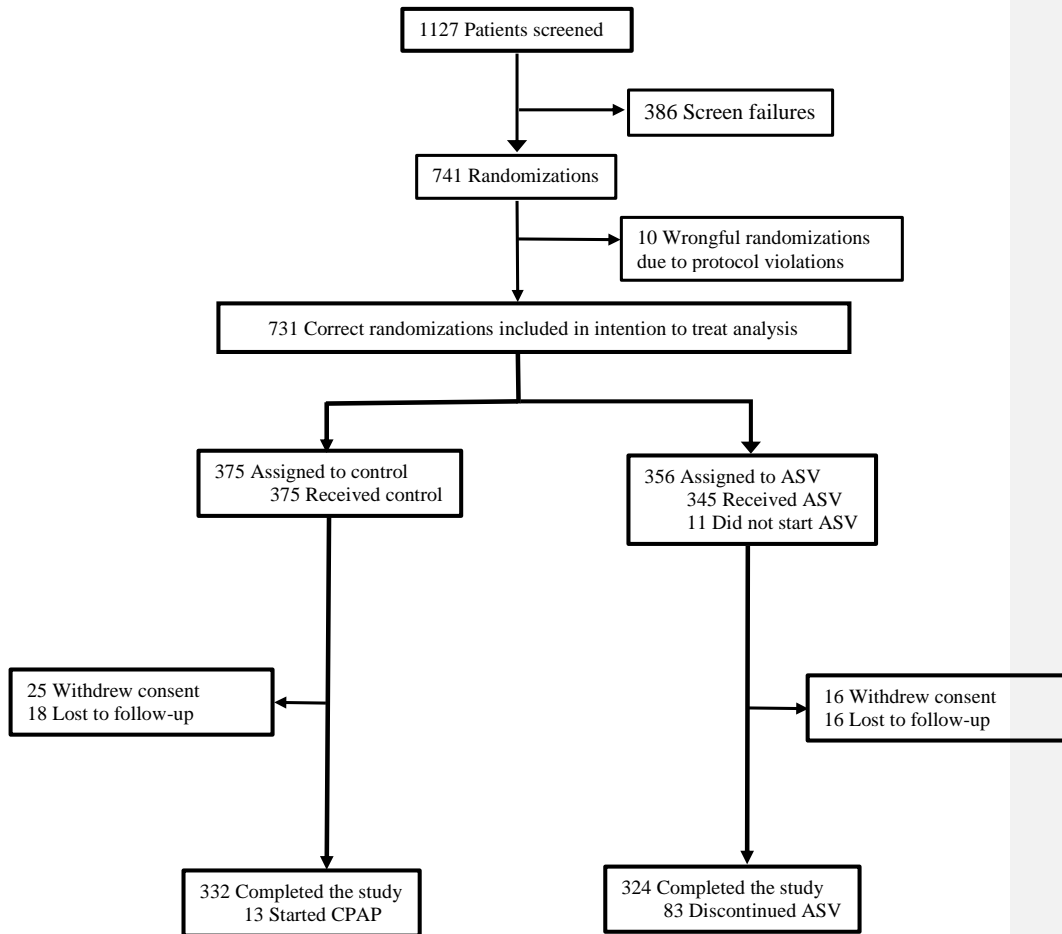
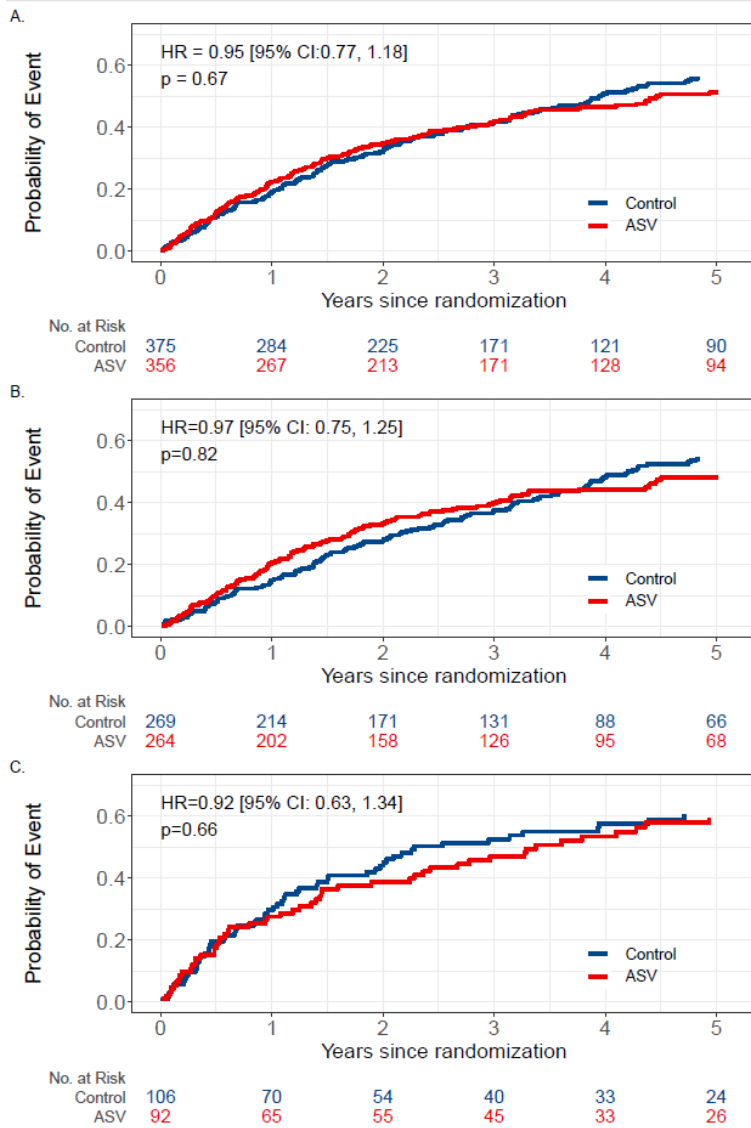
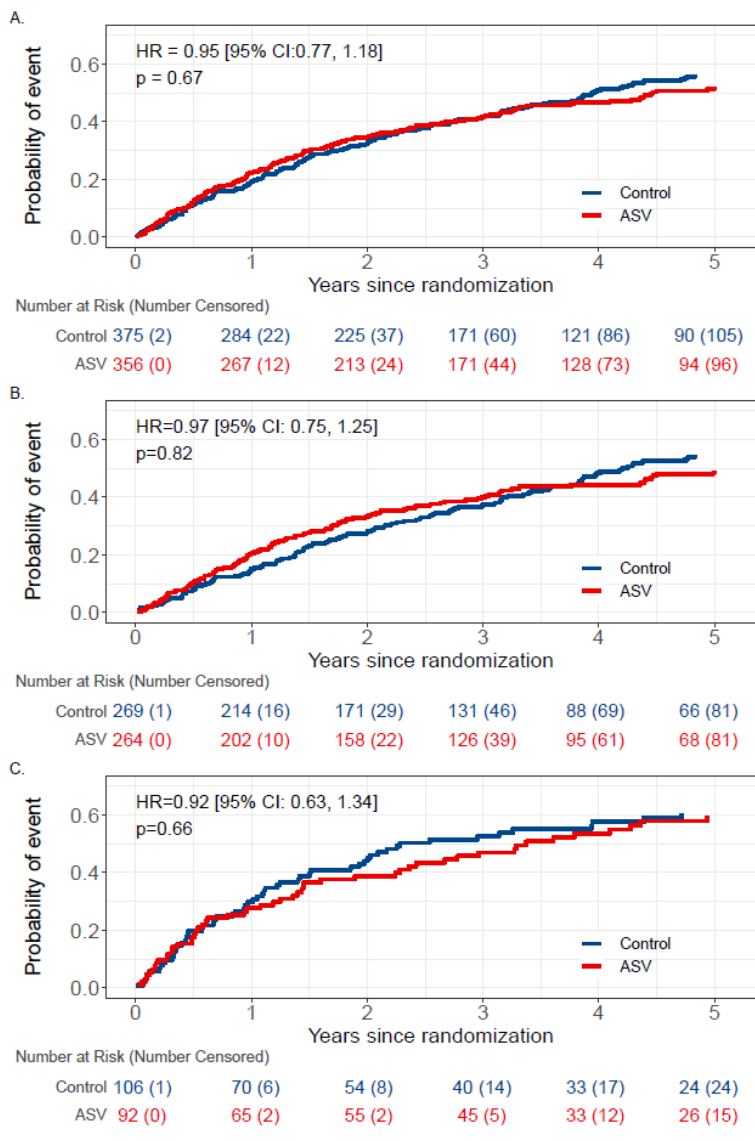
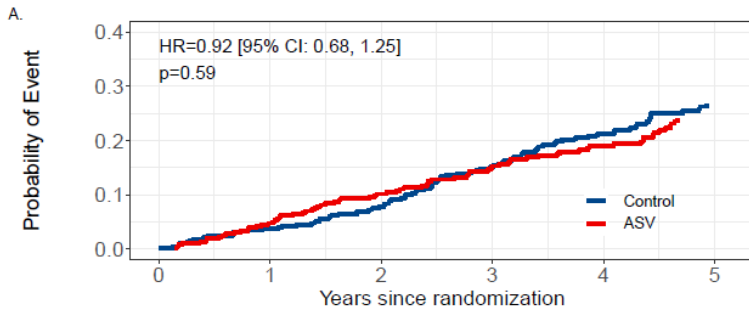


Figure 2.

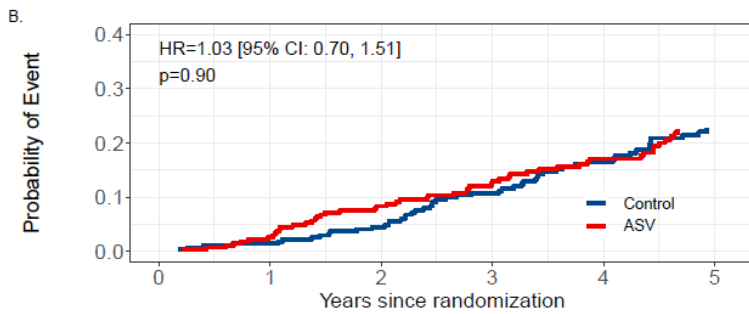




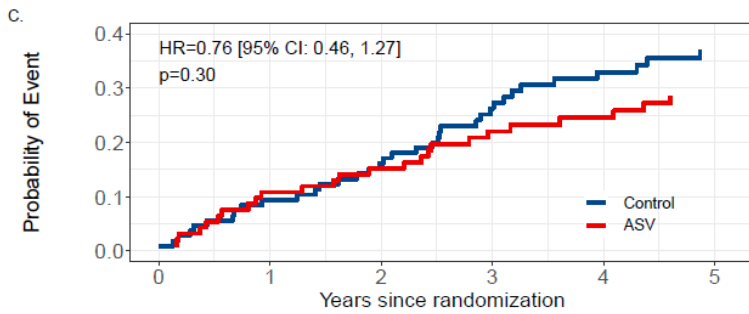
**Figure 3.**



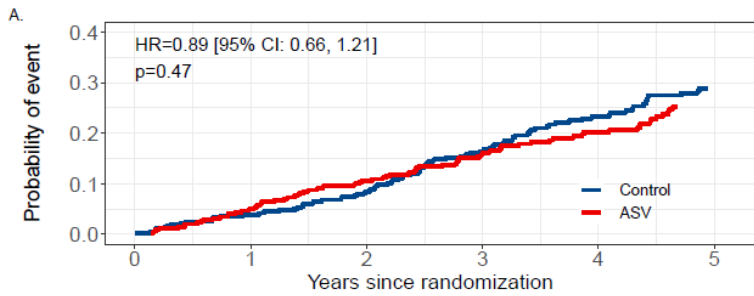
No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5
Control	375	361	335	281	221	170
ASV	356	339	309	268	217	163



No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5
Control	269	265	248	213	165	125
ASV	264	257	231	201	160	114

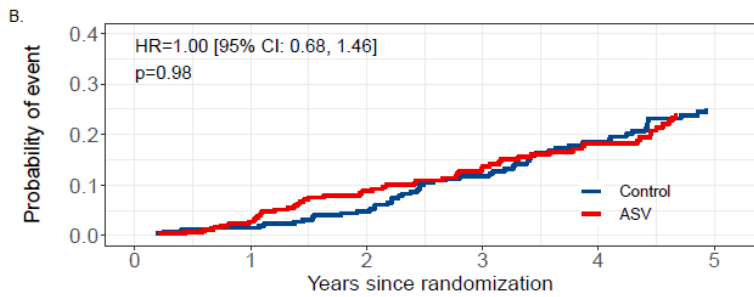


No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5
Control	106	96	87	68	56	45
ASV	92	82	78	67	57	49



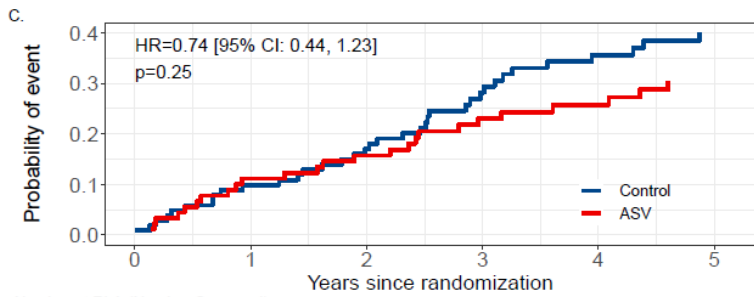
Number at Risk (Number Censored)

Control	375 (2)	339 (22)	306 (42)	248 (72)	191 (110)	151 (136)
ASV	356 (0)	325 (14)	290 (30)	244 (59)	192 (100)	144 (136)



Number at Risk (Number Censored)

Control	269 (1)	249 (16)	225 (34)	188 (53)	143 (85)	113 (104)
ASV	264 (0)	246 (11)	216 (26)	182 (49)	142 (80)	100 (113)



Number at Risk (Number Censored)

Control	106 (1)	90 (6)	81 (8)	60 (19)	48 (25)	38 (32)
ASV	92 (0)	79 (3)	74 (4)	62 (10)	50 (20)	44 (23)

Figure 4.

