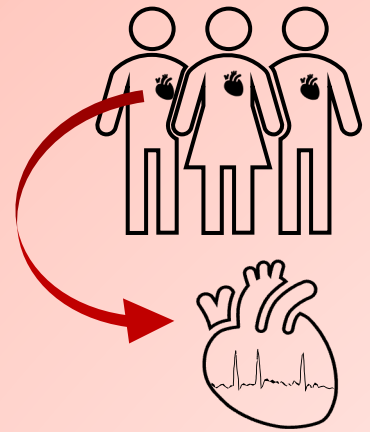
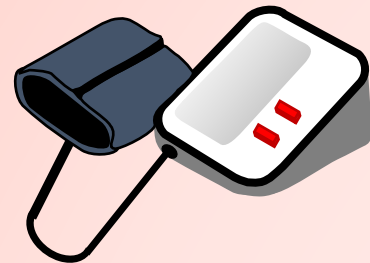


BLOOD PRESSURE, BRAIN LESIONS AND COGNITIVE DECLINE IN PATIENTS WITH ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

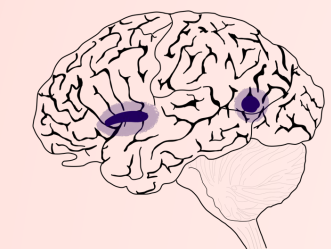
BASELINE



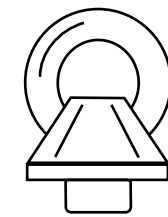
- 1213 patients with AF
- Mean age 71 years
- 74% male



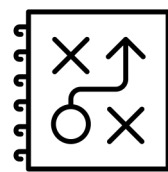
- Mean BP 135/79 mmHg
- History of hypertension 68%
- Antihypertensive therapy 97%



- Ischemic lesions 35%
- White Matter Lesions 99%
- Microbleeds 20%



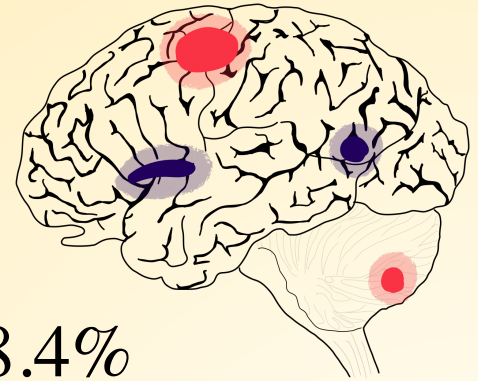
Standardized brain MRI
At baseline and after 2 years



Standardized cognitive testing
Yearly

NEW BRAIN LESIONS

- Follow-up time: 2 years
- New Ischemic lesions 5.4%
- New White Matter Lesions 18.4%
- New Microbleeds 11.5%



No evidence for an association between BP and new brain lesions after 2 years

COGNITIVE DECLINE

- Median Follow-up time: 6 years



BP was not consistently associated with cognitive decline

AF = Atrial Fibrillation

BP = Blood Pressure

MRI = Magnetic Resonance Imaging