



**FULCRUM-VT Investor Event**

**Dr. Atul Verma • Dr. William Stevenson • Dr. Matthew Hakimi**

**April 27, 2026**

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# 26

## Heart Rhythm

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# EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY OF ULTRA-LOW TEMPERATURE ABLATION OF VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA IN PATIENTS WITH STRUCTURAL HEART DISEASE: OUTCOMES OF THE PIVOTAL **FULCRUM-VT TRIAL**

Atul Verma, MD, McGill University Health Centre  
*on behalf of FULCRUM-VT investigators*

*THANK YOU TO ALL CO-INVESTIGATORS!*

April 26, 2026

# DISCLOSURES

## Dr. Atul Verma

### Research Grants

Bayer, Biotronik, Biosense Webster,  
Medtronic, Abbott, Cardiofocus

### Advisory Board

Cardiofocus, Adagio Medical, Lilly,  
Biosense Webster, Kardium, Medtronic,  
Medlumics, Abbott, Volta Medical

### Clinical trials

Biosense Webster, Adagio Medical,  
Cardiofocus, Medtronic, Abbott

## Dr. William Stevenson

### Honoraria

Abbott, Biotronik, Boston Scientific,  
Johnson & Johnson, Medtronic

### Research Support

Adagio Medical, Varian, Medtronic,  
Thermedical

# MOTIVATION

- RF lesions – insufficient depth for effective endocardial-only ablations in the ventricle
- Safe application of PFA to achieve deeper lesions in the ventricle is an open question
- Lack of universal approach (and approved devices) for ablations in both the ICM and NICM patients

# ULTA SYSTEM DESIGN



- Console + 9 Fr bi-deflectable catheter
- 15 mm long ablation element, -120 C
- 8 electrodes for EGM, EAM, pacing
- No irrigation

## PURPOSE-BUILT FOR ENDOCARDIAL VENTRICULAR ABLATIONS

### ABLATION PROTOCOL (freeze – thaw - freeze cycle)

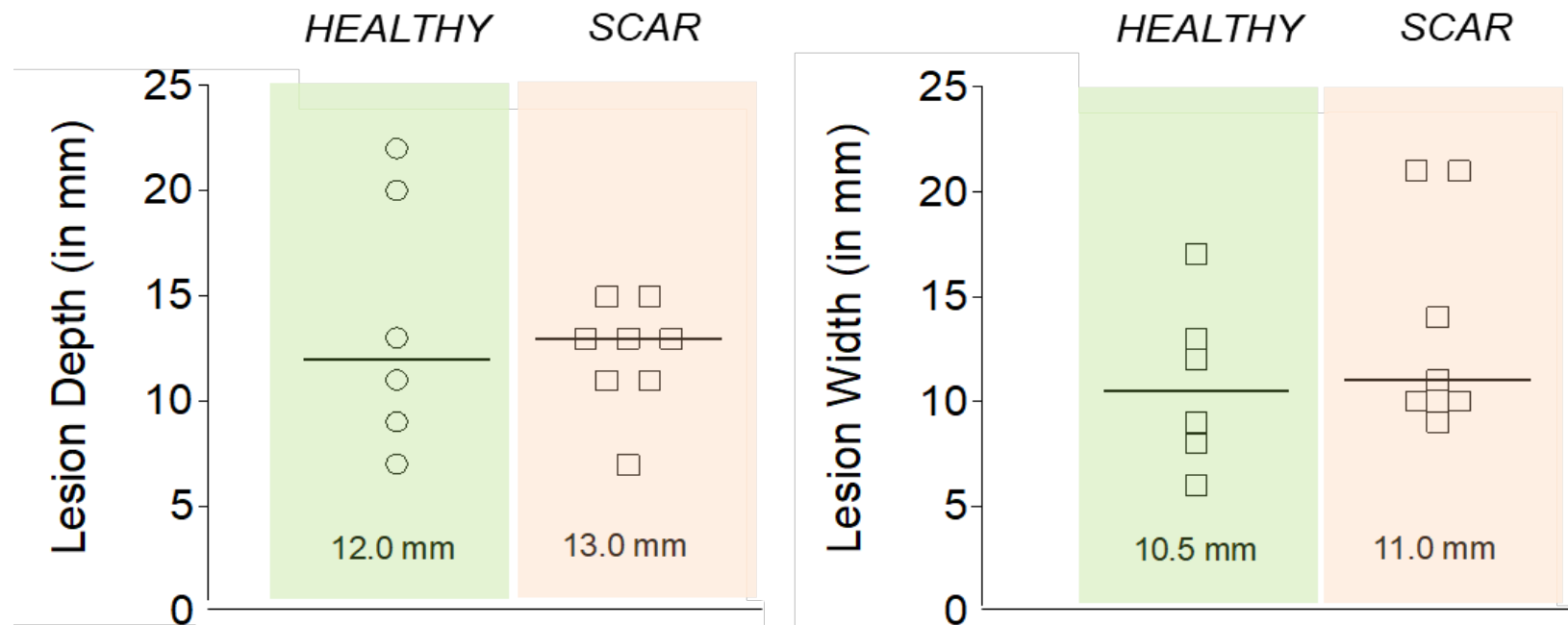
Freeze Duration (sec)	Lesion Depth Range (mm) <sup>1</sup>
30	< 4
60	4-6
120	7-9
180	≥ 10

<sup>1</sup> Adagio Medical, Inc. MKT-086 Rev B. Data on file

# ULTRA-LOW TEMPERATURE ABLATION

Ablative power to produce large footprint, depth-controlled endocardial lesions  $\geq 10$  mm, unaffected by the presence of the scar

## PRE-CLINICAL LESIONS

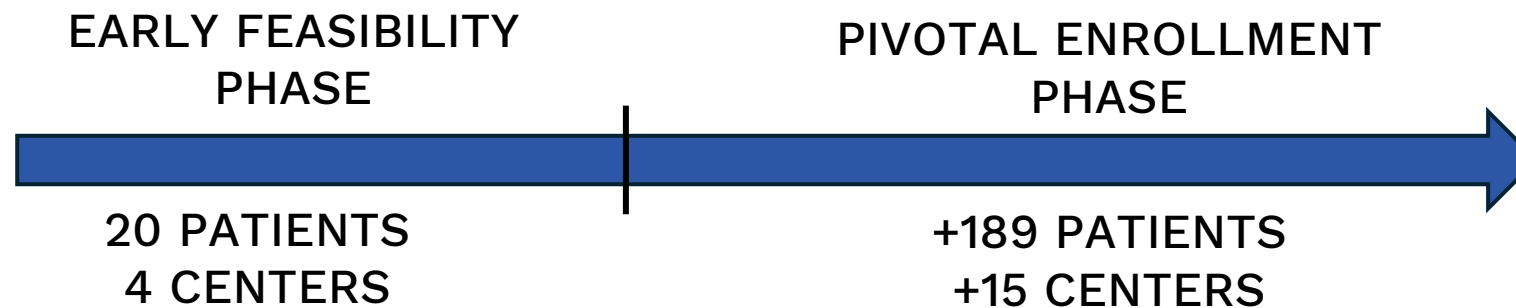


Dewland T, et al. Ultra-low temperature cryoablation versus ultra-low temperature cryoablation combined with pulsed field ablation in a swine ventricular infarct model. JACC EP 2026

# FULCRUM-VT TRIAL DESIGN

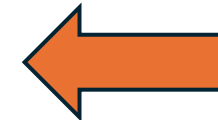
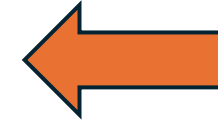
Study Design	Patient Population	Primary Endpoints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Single arm</li><li>• 209 patients</li><li>• 19 sites</li><li>• <b>Endocardial access only</b> (ablation or mapping)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <math>20\% \leq \text{LVEF} \leq 50\%</math></li><li>• <b>ICM</b></li><li>• <b>NICM</b>, incl. ARVC</li><li>• <math>\leq 1</math> prior VT ablation in last 2 years</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Protocol-defined Major Adverse Events (MAEs) 0-7 days</li><li>• Acute non-inducibility of VTs targeted for ablation</li><li>• Freedom from sustained VT or appropriate ICD intervention without AAD escalation</li></ul>

## THE FIRST IDE TRIAL OF A PURPOSE-BUILT VT ABLATION CATHETER



# PATIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

	All patients	ITT Cohort*
Number of Patients	209	157
Age	68 ± 11 y.o.	69 ± 10 y.o.
Male Sex	92.8%	94.3%
BMI	30 ± 6	30 ± 6
Cardiomyopathy		
ICM	64.1%	65.6%
NICM	30.1%	28.0%
both ICM and NICM	5.7%	6.4%
LVEF	35% ± 10%	35% ± 10%
≤ 30%	38.3%	36.3%
31-40%	33.0%	35.0%
41-50%	23.9%	24.8%
>50%	4.8%	3.8%
Congestive Heart Failure	75.6%	78.3%
History of AADs	90.4%	91.7%
Amiodarone	69.4%	71.3%

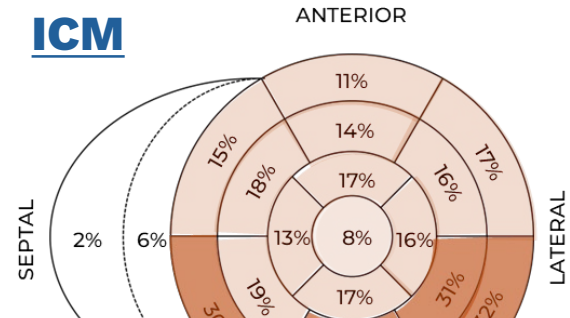
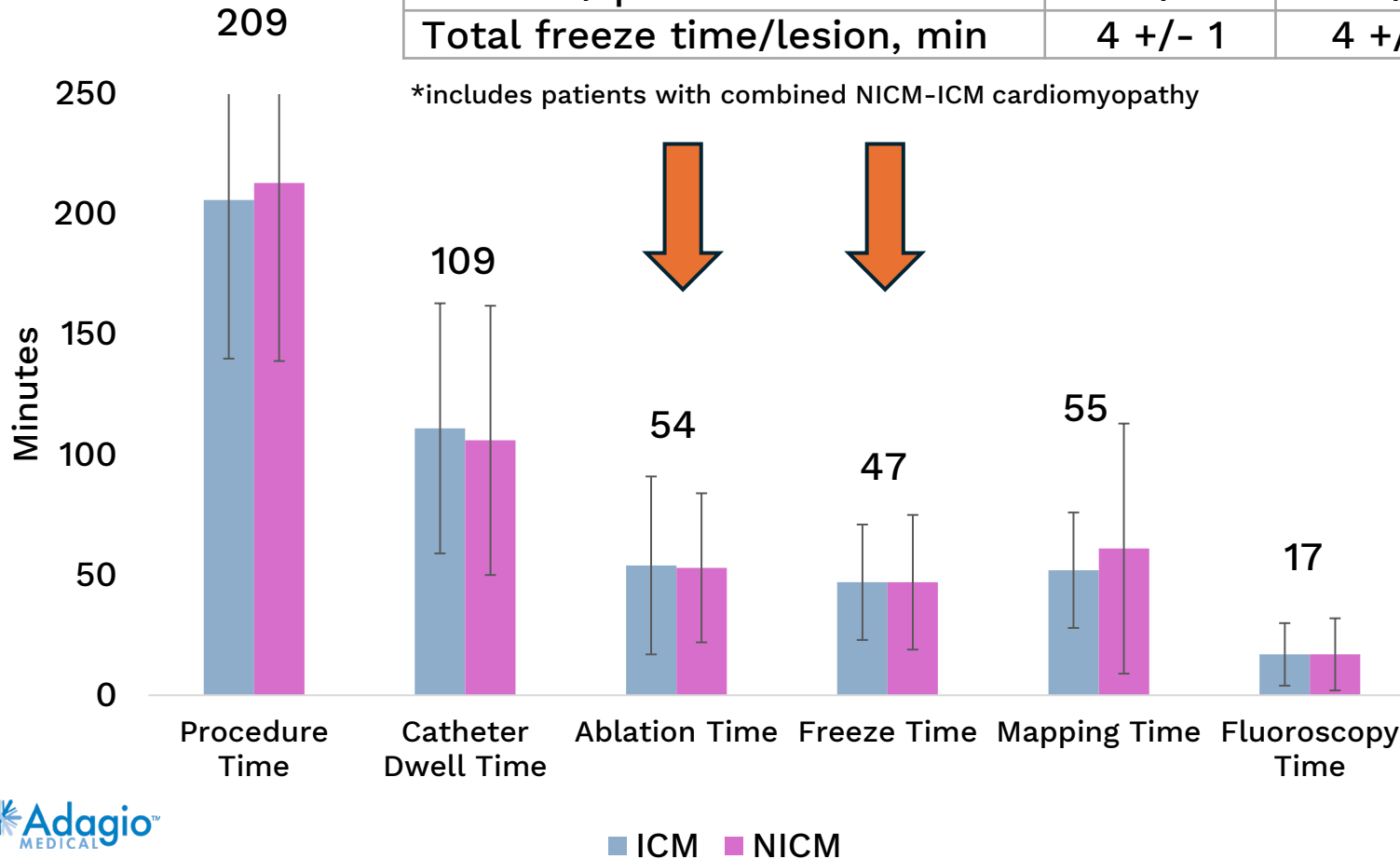


\*Intention to Treat (ITT) Cohort excluded Early Feasibility Study (EFS) and Roll-in patients

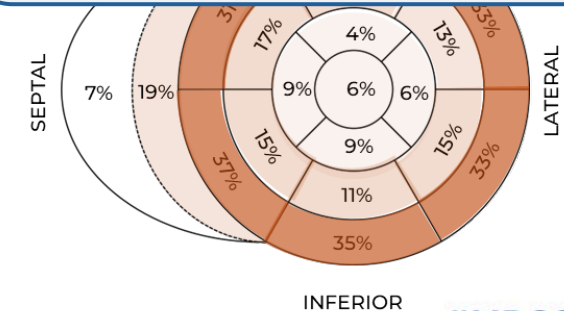
# PROCEDURAL DETAIL

	ICM n=103	NICM* n=54
Lesions / patient	12 +/- 6	11 +/- 7
Total freeze time/lesion, min	4 +/- 1	4 +/- 1

\*includes patients with combined NICM-ICM cardiomyopathy



**NO ABLATION-INDUCED VF OR MEANINGFUL EFFECT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF ICD CANS, PACING OR DEFIBRILLATION LEADS**



# PRIMARY SAFETY

- **Primary Safety Endpoint: 2.4% (5/209)**
  - 2 (1.0%) device-related events
- 8% (17/209) rate of non-device, procedure-related events

## MAJOR ADVERSE EVENTS

EVENT DESCRIPTION	# PATIENTS
Death	1 (0.5%)
Cardiac perforation/tamponade	2 (1.0%)
Cerebral infarct or systemic embolism	1 (0.5%)
Major bleeding requiring transfusion	1 (0.5%)

## OTHER PROCEDURE-RELATED SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENTS\*

EVENT DESCRIPTION	# EVENTS
Access site complications	2
Fluid overload (HF)	1
PEA arrest	1
Cardiogenic shock	4
Infection/sepsis	1
Pericardial effusion	2
Cardiac perforation	1
Respiratory Failure	4
Hemoptysis	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>17 (16 pts.)</b>

\* None of these events was adjudicated as definitely or probably device-related

# ACUTE EFFECTIVENESS

• Primary Acute Effectiveness: **98.0%**  
**(296/302)**

No VT induction after pre-ablation PES

157 patients

24 patients

Post-ablation PES not performed

133 patients

11 patients

122 patients  
302 Target VTs

6

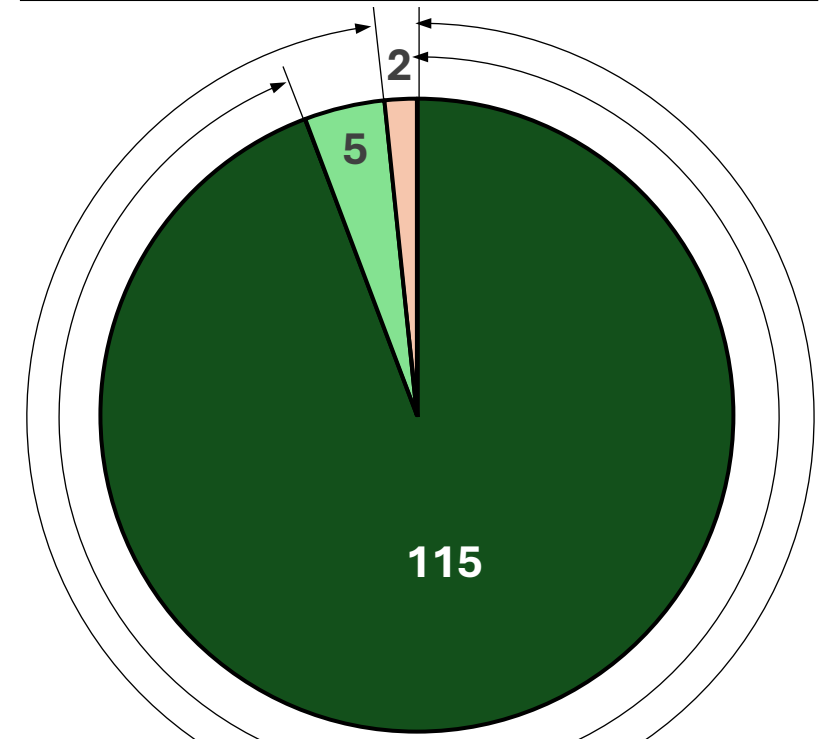
Re-Inducible

296

Non-Inducible

Post-ablation PES

## PATIENT-LEVEL ACUTE SUCCESS



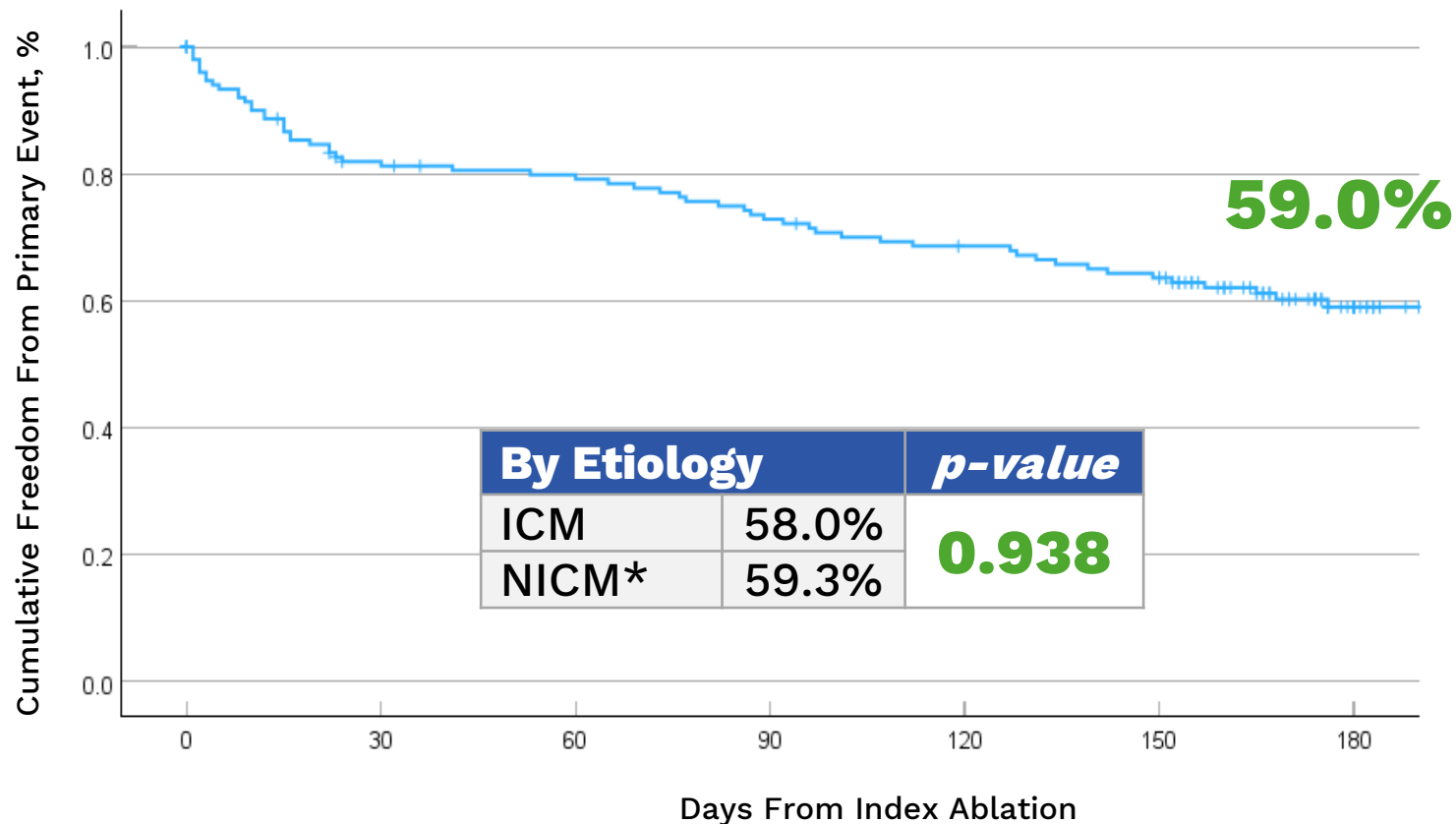
**94.3%** - Full Success

**98.4%** - Clinical Success

- No VTs reinduced in post-ablation PES
- Non-clinical VTs after post-ablation PES
- Clinical VTs in post-ablation PES

# PRIMARY CHRONIC EFFECTIVENESS

## KAPLAN-MEIER FREEDOM FROM ANY VT RECURRENCE OR AAD ESCALATION



### PRIMARY EVENTS, BY TYPE

Number of Events	n=58
ICD Therapy (ATP or Shock)	54
<i>ATP Only</i>	32
<i>ICD Shock</i>	22
Monitoring Zone VT > 30 sec	3
AAD Escalation	1

ATP=anti-tachycardia pacing

**PRIMARY EFFECTIVENESS**

**PERFORMANCE**

**GOAL**

**MET**

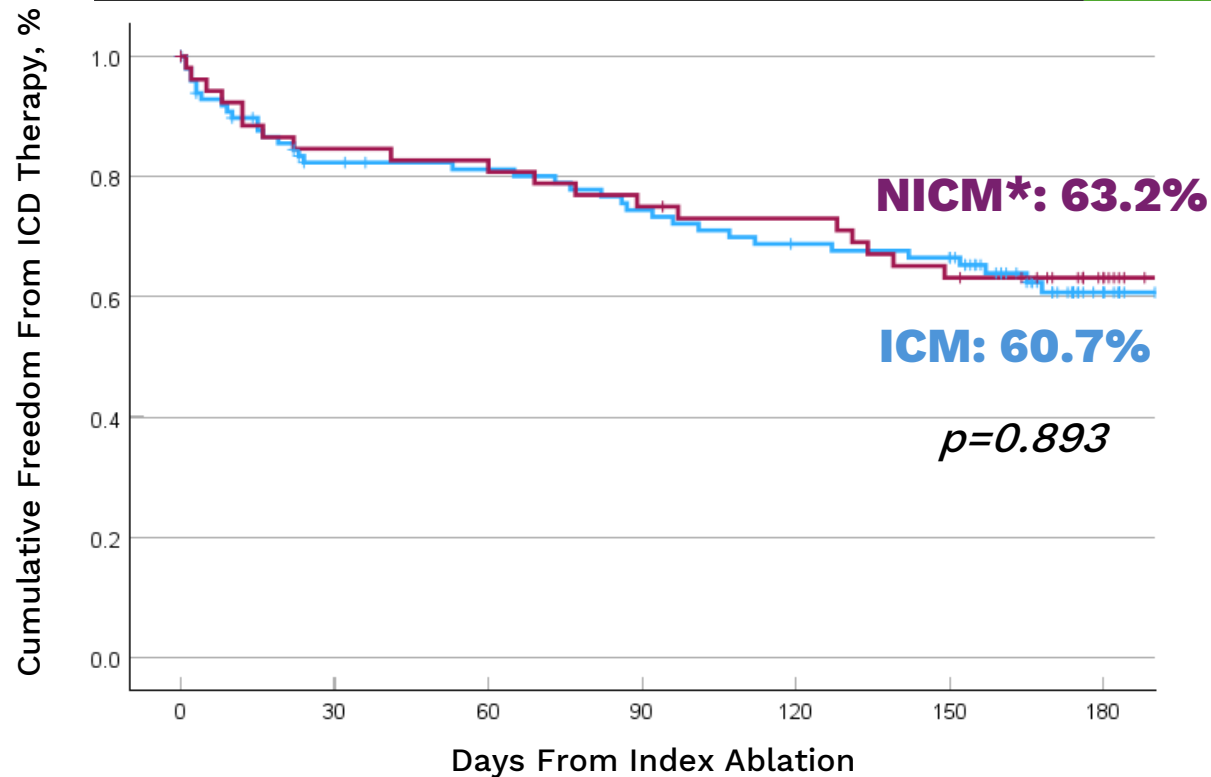


#HRS2026

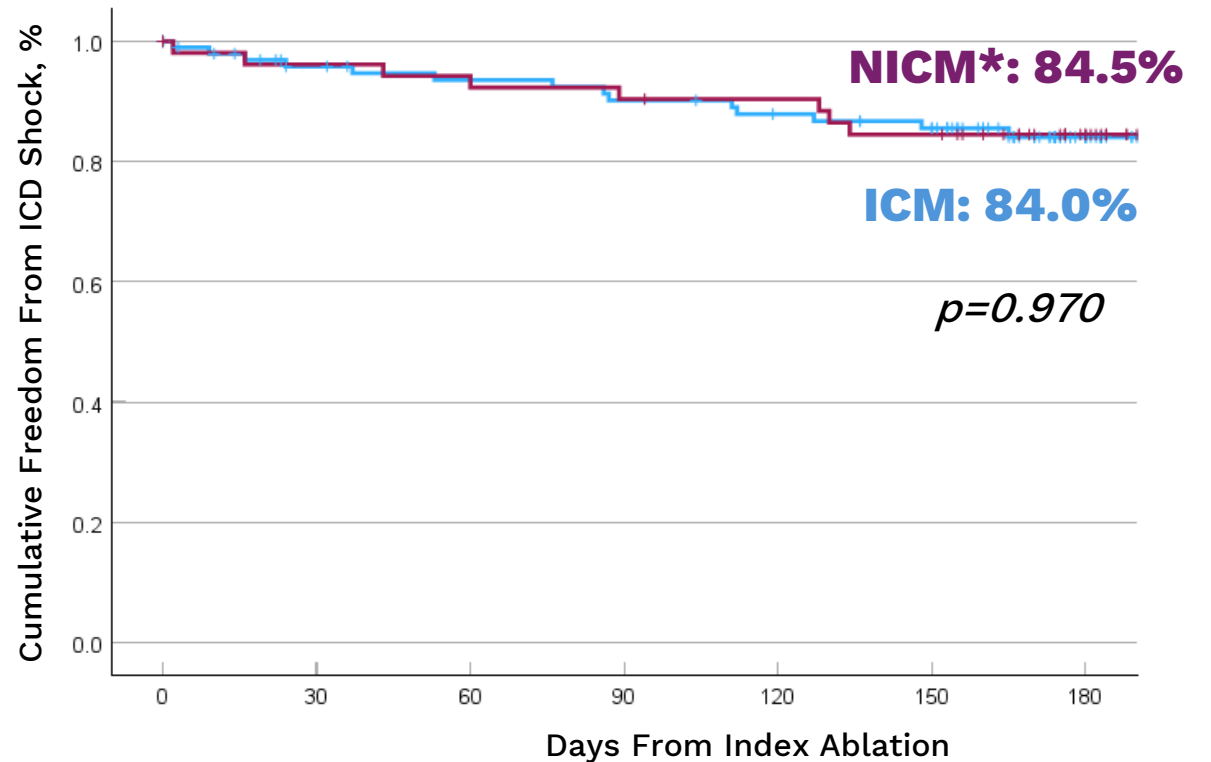
# EFFECTIVENESS BY ETIOLOGY

**IDENTICAL EFFECTIVENESS** for both ICM and NICM patients

**K-M FREEDOM FROM ANY ICD THERAPY: 61.8%**

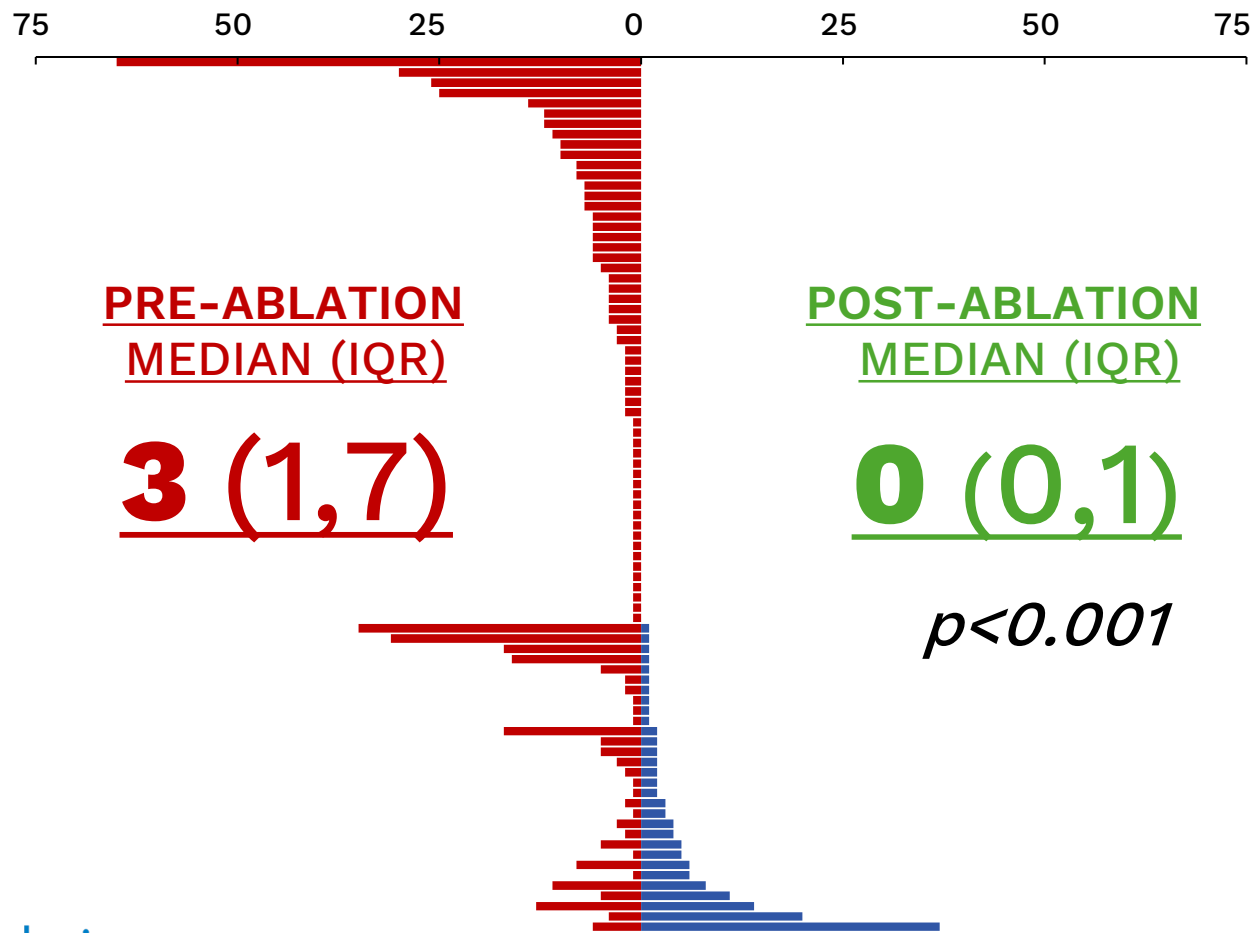


**K-M FREEDOM FROM ICD SHOCK: 84.3%**

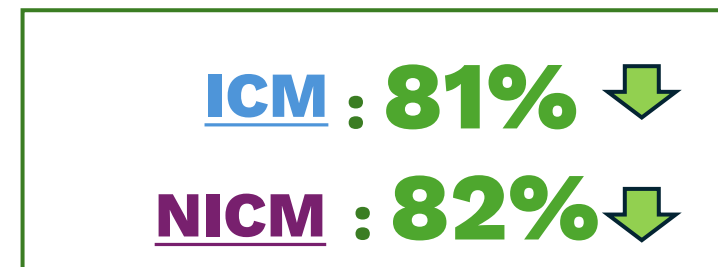


# REDUCTION IN VT BURDEN

## VT BURDEN PRE- AND POST-ABLATION\*

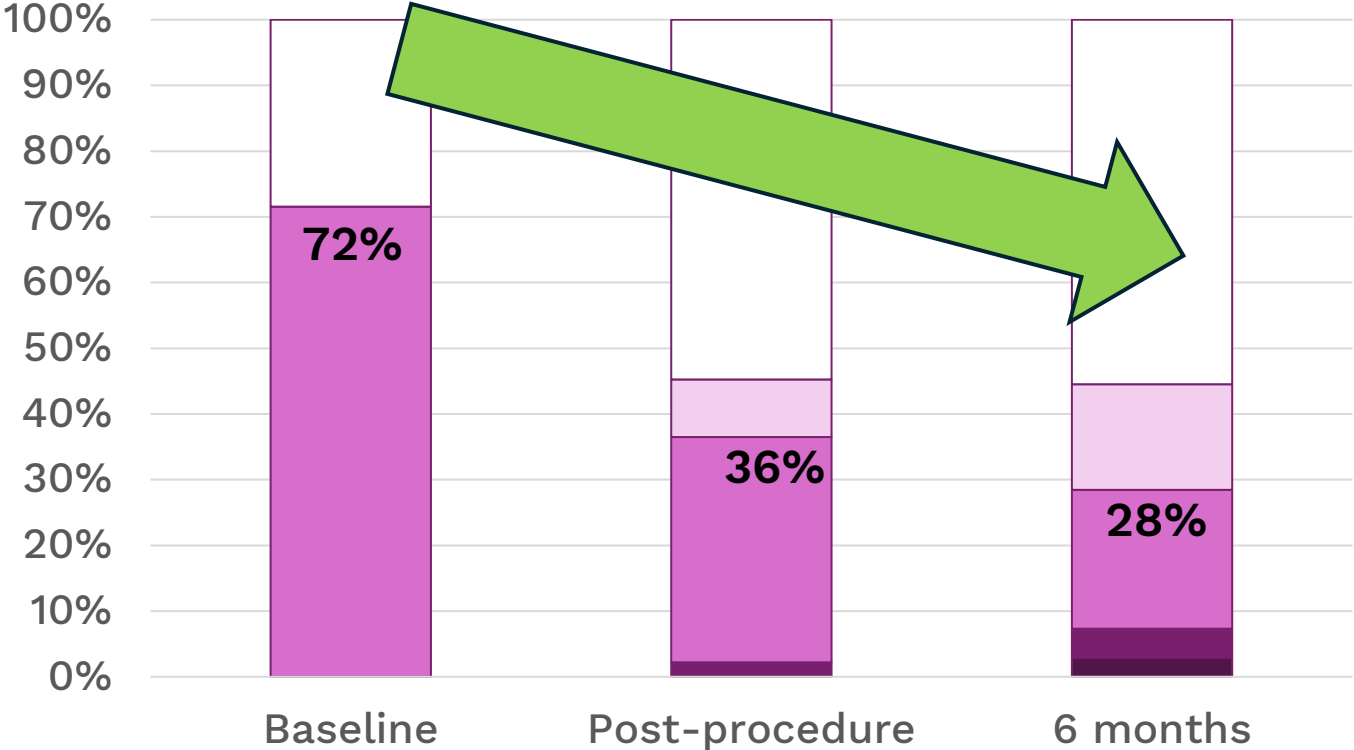


## PATIENTS WITH ICD SHOCK\* POST-ABLATION



# REDUCTION IN AAD USE

## AMIODARONE USE\*



## AT 6 MO

• **72%** of patients are free or on reduced dose of amiodarone

• **60%** relative reduction in amiodarone use

■ New Rx      ■ Dose Increase      ■ Baseline Dose  
■ Dose Decrease      □ No Rx

\* 137 patients in study through 6 months follow-up

# 30-DAY RE-ADMISSIONS

	Literature Reported <sup>1,2</sup>	FULCRUM-VT
VT	7-8%	<b>1.9%</b> (3/154)
HF	2-3%	<b>1.3%</b> (2/154)
All-cause	14-19%	<b>8.4%</b> (13/154)

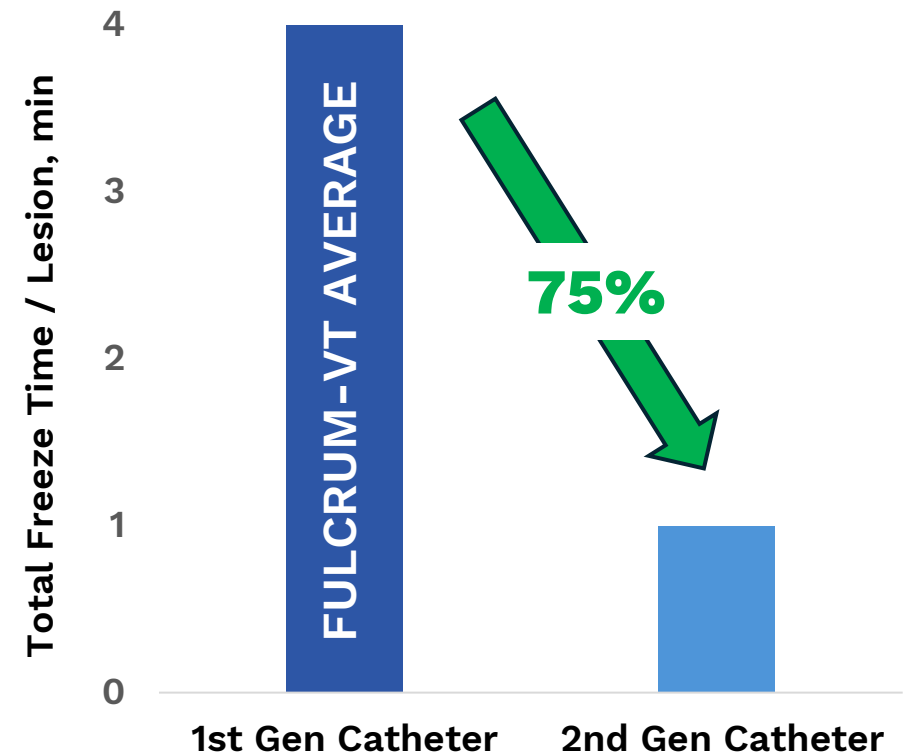
# FULCRUM-VT EXPANSION TRIAL

***NOW ENROLLING***

## **2<sup>nd</sup> vs 1<sup>st</sup> GENERATION OF ULTA CATHETER**

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Gen</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Gen</b>
Sheath compatibility	9 Fr	8.5 Fr
Shaft stiffness profile	Uniform	Variable
Bi-directional deflection	F/F	D/F
Ablation element length	15 mm	12 mm
Number of electrodes	8	6
# of freezes per lesion	2	1

## **FREEZE TIME PER LESION REDUCTION\***



# CONCLUSIONS

## THE FIRST IDE FOR PURPOSE-BUILT VENTRICULAR CATHETER

- **Endocardial ablation** only, **one-third** non-ischemic CM
- **2.4%** primary safety event rate
- **59%** freedom from ANY VT recurrence or AAD escalation
- **84%** freedom from ICD shock
- **Equivalent outcomes** in ischemic and non-ischemic CM
- **Median burden 3 → 0** pre- to post-ablation
- **72%** free from or on reduced dose of amiodarone
- Objective standards to compare VT outcome trials



# Q & A

