Benefit:Risk Assessment

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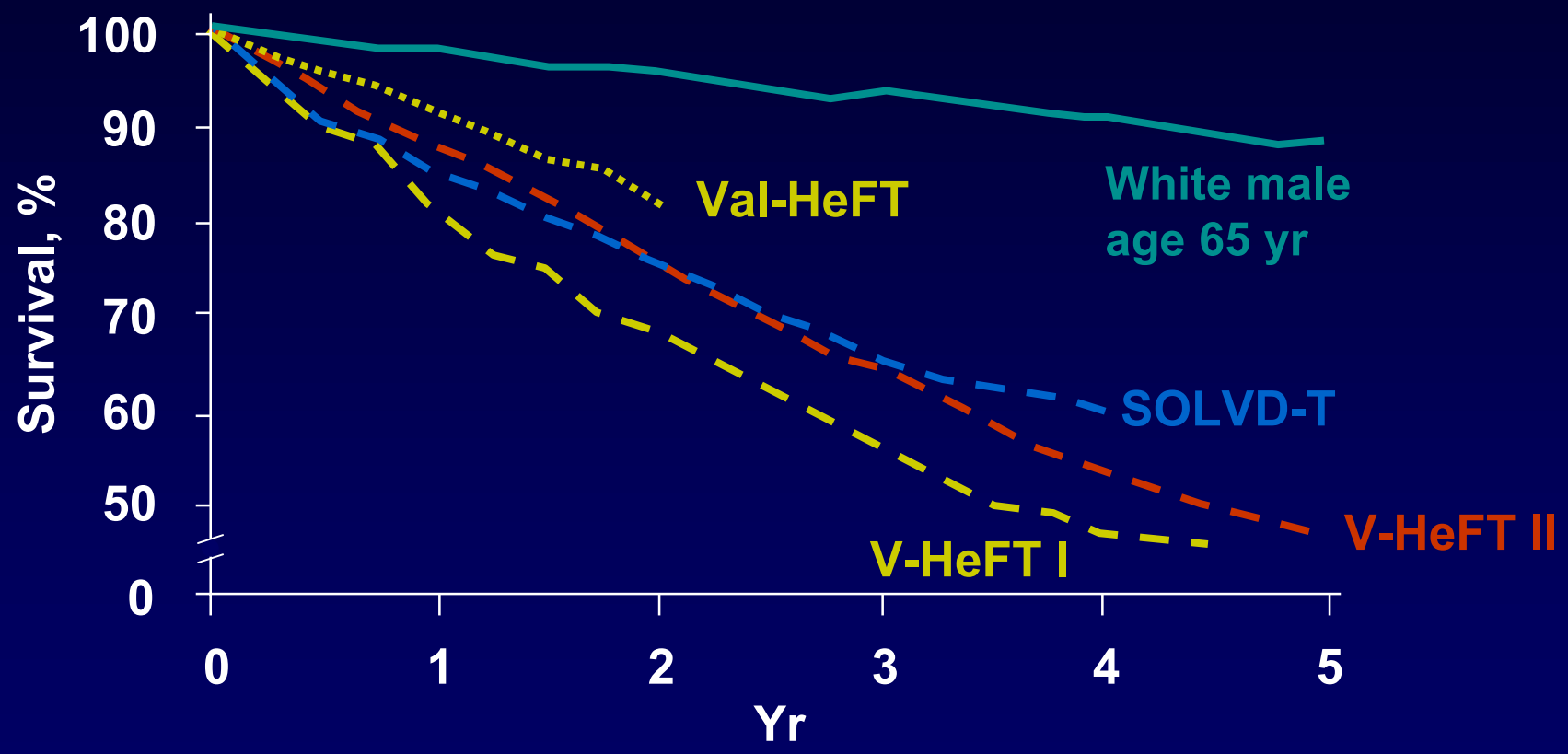
Placebo Mortality Rates in Val-HeFT Relative to Select Major Heart Failure Trials



National Vital Statistics Report, 1999; Data on file, Novartis Pharmaceuticals;
SOLVD Investigators, *N Engl J Med,* 1991;325:293-302;
Cohn JN, et al, *N Engl J Med,* 1986;12:1547-1552.

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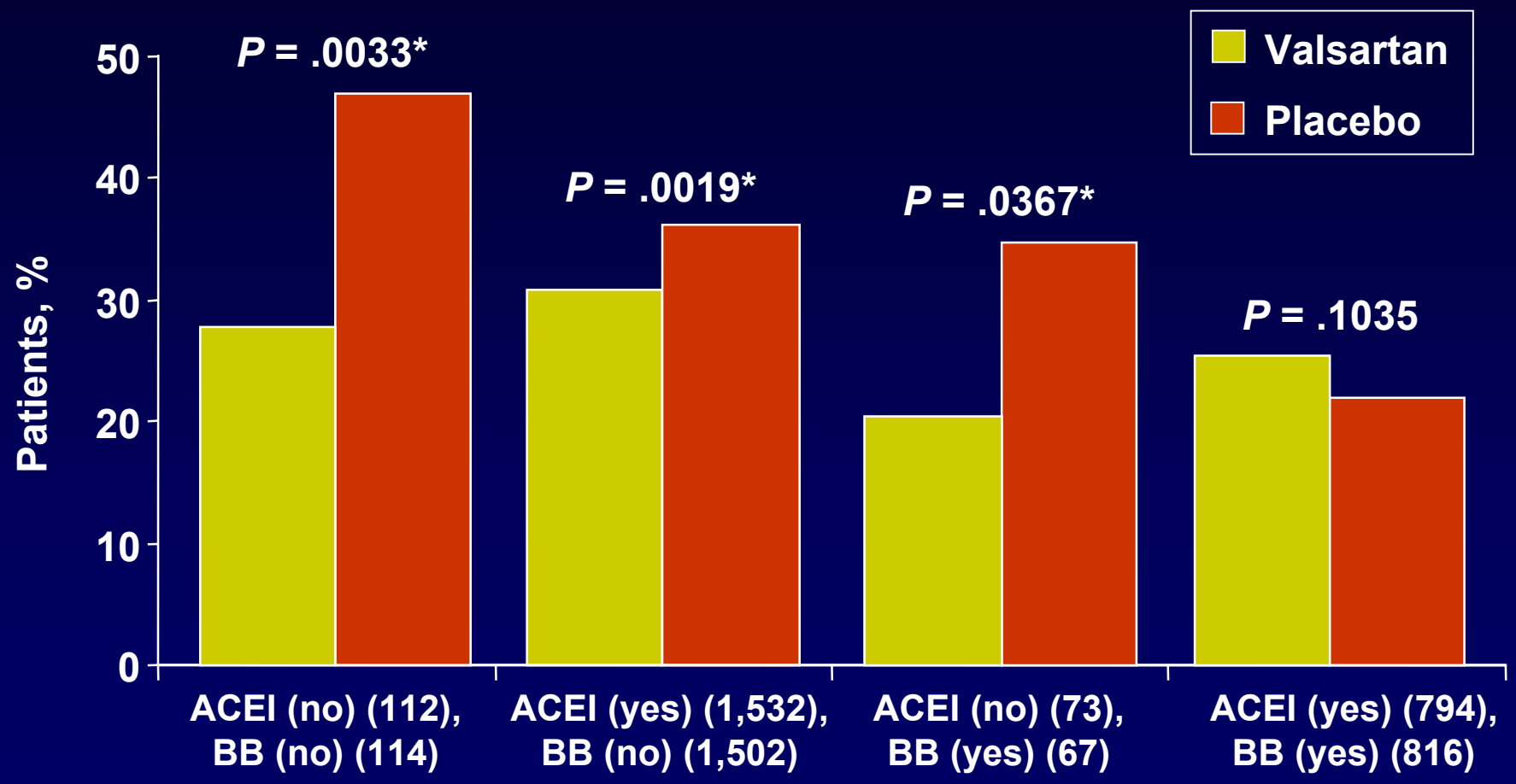
Impact of Heart Failure on US Public Health

- Prevalence 5 million
- New cases 500,000 per year
- 91% survive each year
  - Reduced QoL
  - Recurrent hospitalizations
  - Office visits
  - Cost of health care

Morbidity by ACE Inhibitor/Beta-blocker Subgroups



*Statistically significant at $P < .05$.

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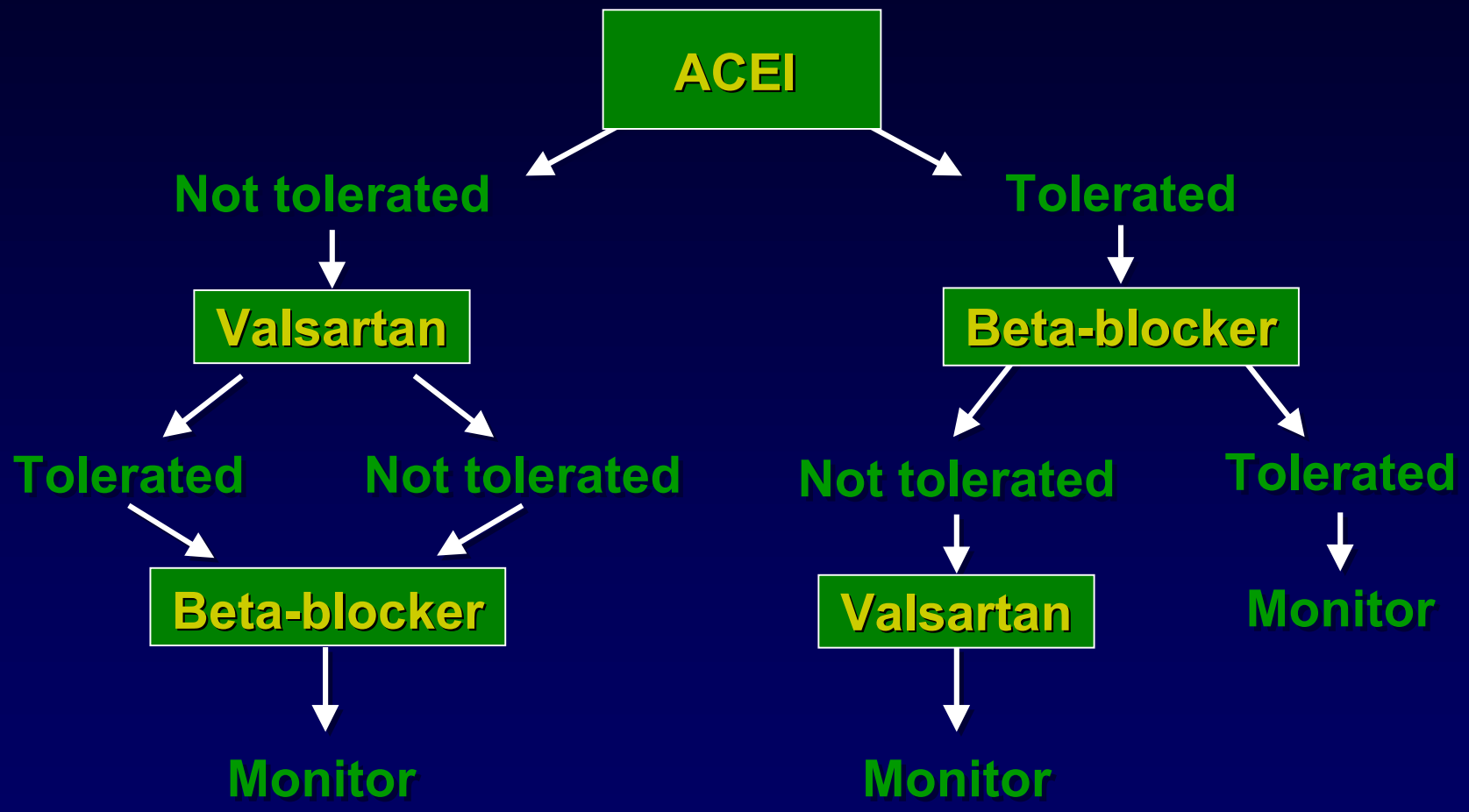
Current Therapy of Heart Failure

- Estimated drug usage
  - ACEI 50 – 75%
  - Beta-blocker 10 – 25%

Why Are More Patients Not Being Treated With ACEI and Beta-blockers?

- Physician education
- Patient compliance
- Perceived drug intolerance
  - Cough (ACEI)
  - Renal function (ACEI)
  - Hypotension
  - Bradycardia
  - Side effects
  - Comorbidity
  - Need for drug titration

Diuretic ± Digoxin