

# Presenter Disclosure Information

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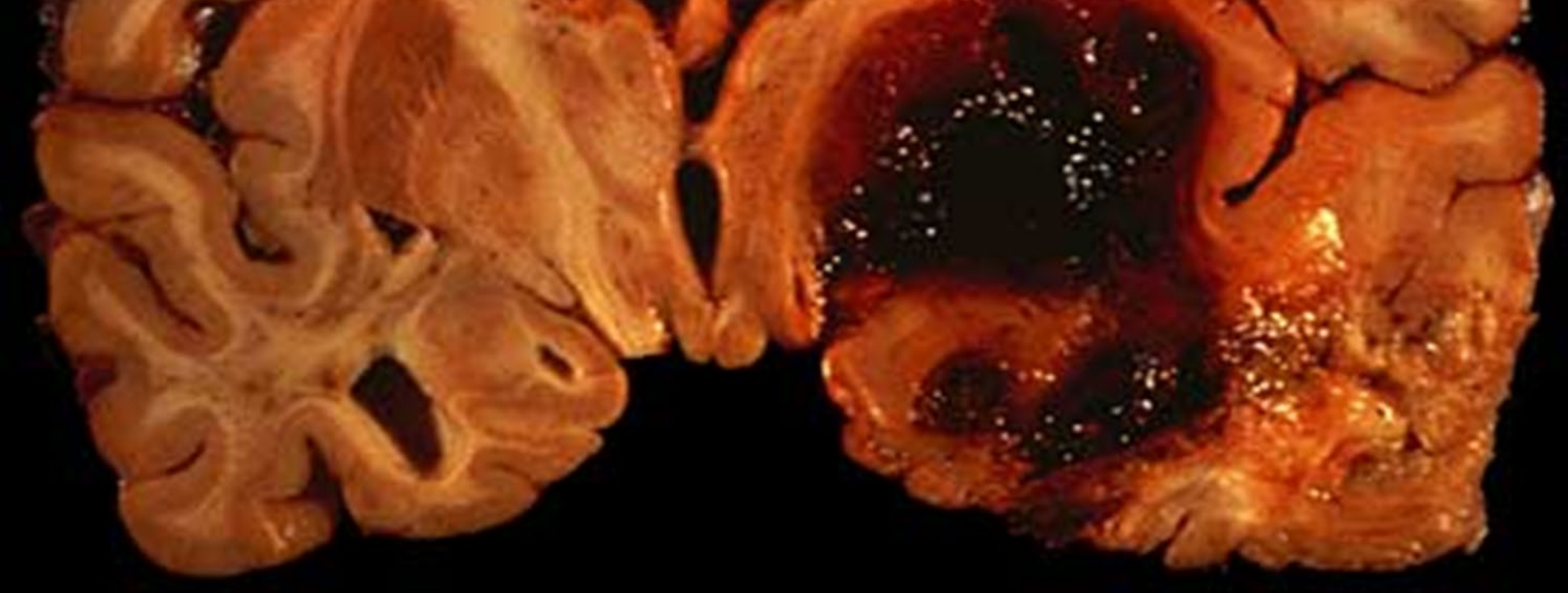
The Spot Sign and Tranexamic Acid on Preventing ICH Growth – Australasia Trial (STOP-AUST): A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Trial

## **FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE:**

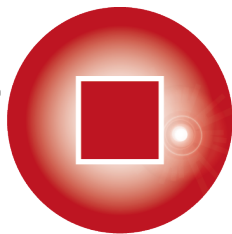
Supported by grants from the Australian Government National Health and Medical Research Council (1081718, 1013612, and 1113352), and The Royal Melbourne Hospital Foundation.

## **UNLABELED/UNAPPROVED USES DISCLOSURE:**

Intravenous tranexamic acid for intracerebral hemorrhage



# STOP-AUST



The Spot sign and Tranexamic acid On Preventing ICH growth  
- AUstralia Trial



Australian Government  
National Health and Medical Research Council



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MELBOURNE**



The Royal  
Melbourne Hospital

Atte Meretoja (Principal Investigator, Medical Coordinator)

Geoffrey Donnan (Principal Investigator, Co-chair of Executive Committee)

Stephen Davis (Principal Investigator, Co-chair of Executive Committee)

# Background


- Intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH) affects approximately 2 million people in the world every year.
- Mortality after ICH is ~40% in the first 30 days.
- Much of the global burden is in low- and middle-income countries.
- Compared to ischemic stroke, treatments for ICH are extremely limited

# Background

- Early hematoma growth after ICH is a strong predictor of mortality and poor outcome.
- Hemostatic therapies may attenuate ICH growth and improve outcome
- rFVIIa (80mg/kg within 4 hours of onset) led to reduced hematoma growth compared to placebo (Mayer et al, NEJM, 2008)
  - Did not translate to improved outcomes
  - Associated with increased thromboembolic events
  - May be prohibitively expensive in many settings
- In a metanalysis of the SPOTLIGHT and STOP-IT trials, rFVIIa in spot-sign positive ICH patients did not significantly reduce ICH growth (although growth was small in both groups) (Gladstone et al, JAMA Neurology, 2019)

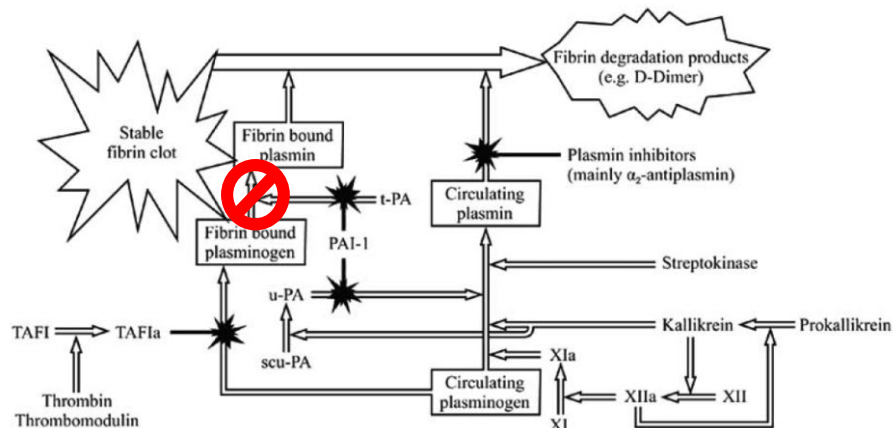
# Tranexamic Acid – An Antifibrinolytic

## A reversible direct inhibitor of plasminogen lysine binding sites

- Prevents the activation of plasmin and degradation of fibrin = “antithrombolysis”
  - Excreted unchanged in urine with 90% clearance in 24h
  - Crosses the blood-brain barrier
  - Has no relevant interactions
  - Inexpensive and used for decades
  - Excellent safety profile in phase 3 trials
- Current Vascular Pharmacology, 2006, Vol. 4, No. 1*
- 
- The diagram shows a horizontal blood vessel. Inside the vessel, there is a jagged, irregular shape representing a thrombus. To the right of the thrombus, there is a horizontal line with an arrow pointing to the right, labeled 'Fibrin'. Two vertical arrows point upwards towards the vessel, one before the thrombus and one after it.

Current Vascular Pharmacology, 2006, Vol. 4, No. 1

Meretoja and Tatlisumak



# Tranexamic Acid in ICH

## Tranexamic acid for hyperacute primary IntraCerebral Haemorrhage (TICH-2): an international randomised, placebo-controlled, phase 3 superiority trial

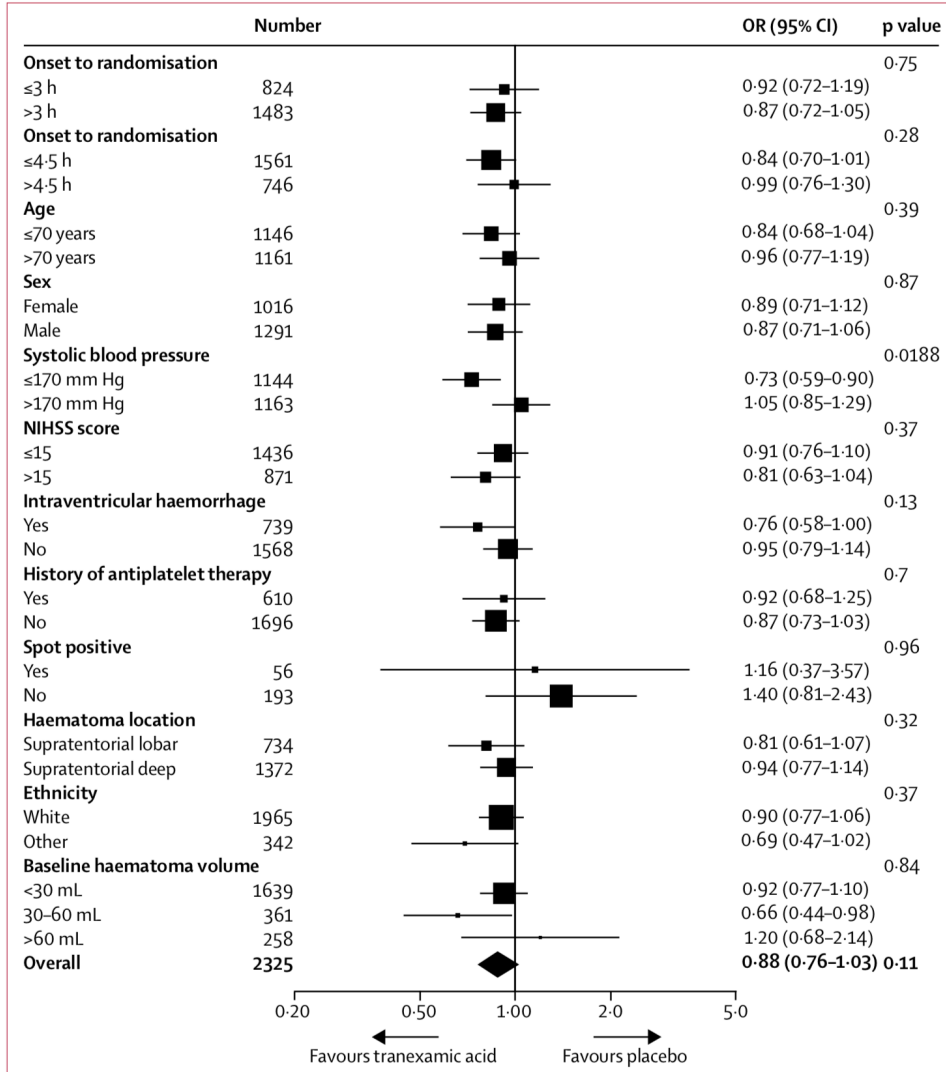
*Nikola Sprigg, Katie Flaherty, Jason P Appleton, Rustam Al-Shahi Salman, Daniel Berezcki, Maia Beridze, Hanne Christensen, Alfonso Ciccone, Ronan Collins, Anna Czlankowska, Robert A Dineen, Lelia Duley, Juan Jose Egea-Guerrero, Timothy J England, Kailash Krishnan, Ann Charlotte Laska, Zhe Kang Law, Serefnur Ozturk, Stuart J Pocock, Ian Roberts, Thompson G Robinson, Christine Roffe, David Seiffge, Polly Scutt, Jegan Thanabalan, David Werring, David Whynes, Philip M Bath, for the TICH-2 Investigators\**



2018

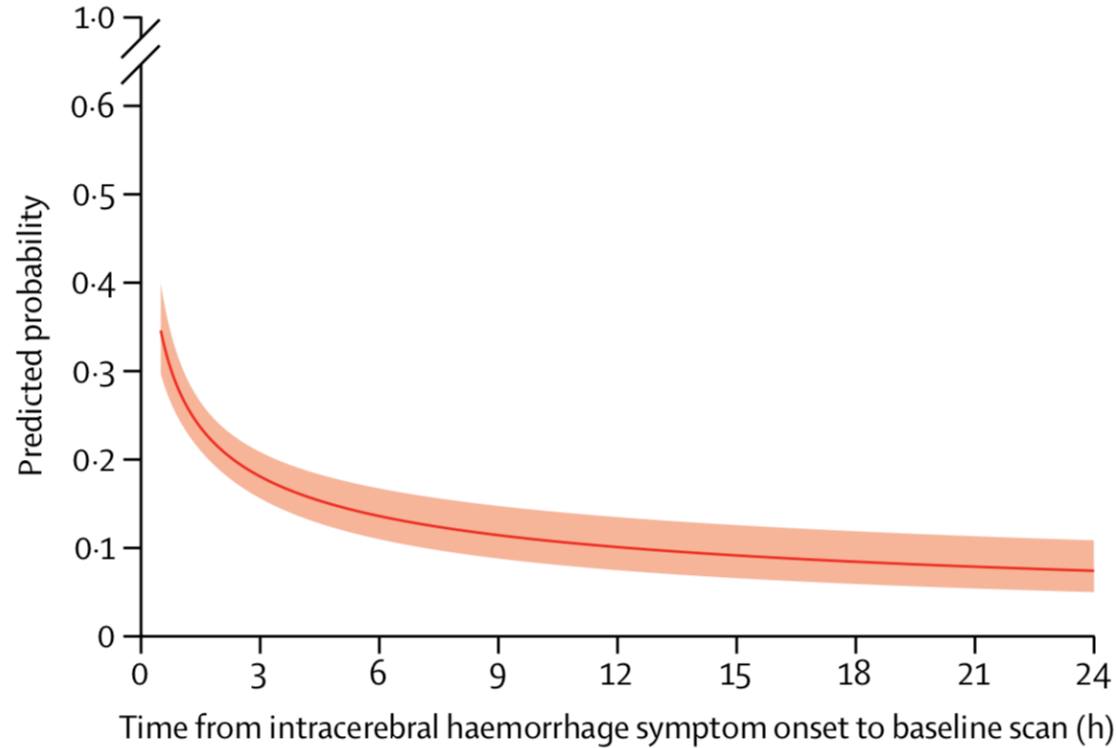
n=2325

Up to 8 hours from onset



Reduced hematoma growth 25% vs 29% (p=0.03)

Reduced absolute growth ~1.4mL (p=0.04)

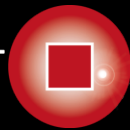


ICH growth occurs early



# STOP AUST Synopsis

STOP-AUST



The Spot sign and Tranexamic acid On Preventing ICH growth – AUStralasia Trial  
ClinicalTrials.gov NCT01702636

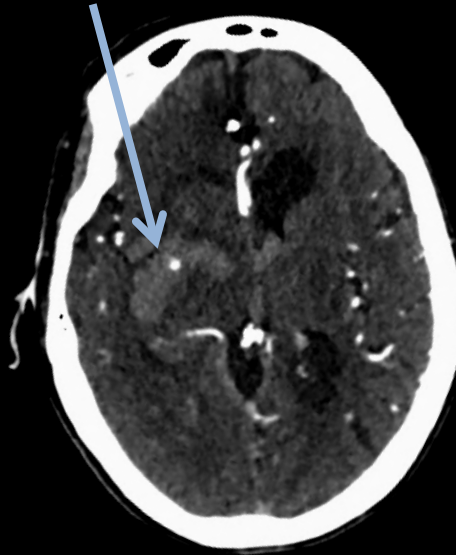
<b>Design:</b>	Phase II investigator-initiated randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of tranexamic acid in spot sign positive patients within 4½ h of ICH
<b>No. of Subjects and Centres:</b>	Maximum adaptive sample size 150 – <u>Final Sample Size 100</u> , from 13 centres in Australia, Taiwan, and Finland
<b>Recruitment Period:</b>	March 2013 to August 2019
<b>Primary Hypothesis:</b>	ICH patients with CTA “spot sign” will have lower rates of hematoma growth when treated with intravenous tranexamic acid within 4½ hours of stroke onset compared to placebo.
<b>Primary Outcome:</b>	ICH growth by 24±3 h as defined by either >33% or >6 mL increase from baseline, adjusted for baseline ICH volume
<b>Secondary Outcomes:</b>	Absolute ICH growth by 24±3 h, mRS at 3 months, Major Thromboembolic Events (MI, Ischemic stroke, PE), Death

## CTA Spot Sign – A marker of risk for hematoma expansion

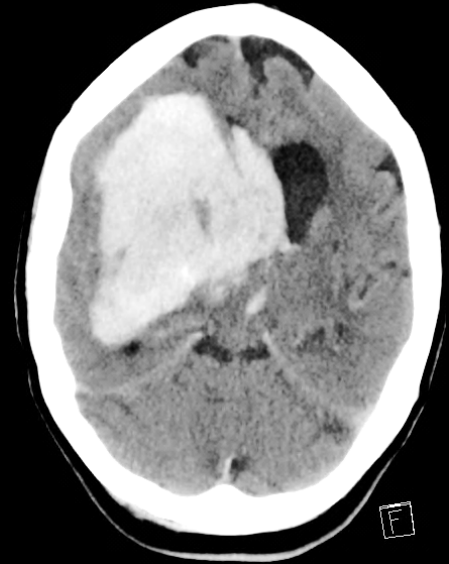
Baseline CT  
ICH volume 35 mL



Baseline CT angiography  
spot-sign



2hr CT  
ICH volume 150 mL



**SPOT SIGN** on CTA

**FAST TREATMENT POSSIBLE** within 1 hour of CT and 4½ hours of symptom onset

**MAIN EXCLUSIONS:**

1. History of thrombotic events within the previous 12 months
2. Anticoagulation use within the last 2 weeks
3. Aetiology of ICH known or suspected to be secondary to trauma, tumour, AVM, aneurysm, venous thrombosis, ischaemia, thrombolysis or infection
4. Volume of ICH >70 mL as measured by the ABC/2 method
5. Brainstem ICH
6. GCS <8
7. Planned surgery for ICH

**INFORMED CONSENT**

**R**

**TRANEXAMIC ACID**

1g IV over 10 min  
followed by  
1g IV over 8 hour

**NORMAL SALINE**

1g IV over 10 min  
followed by  
1g IV over 8 hour

24±3 hours: Non-contrast **CT BRAIN, ECG, NIHSS**

90±7 days: **NIHSS, mRS**

# Baseline Demographics

	TXA (n=50)	Placebo (n=50)
Age, median (IQR)	72.5 (55.0-78.0)	71.0 (58.0-79.0)
Female, n (%)	15 (30.0)	23 (46.0)
NIHSS, median (IQR)	14 (8-19)	12 (8-17)
GCS, median (IQR)	14 (11-15)	14.5 (13-15)
Premorbid mRS, n (%)		
0	37 (74.0)	41 (82.0)
1	3 (6.0)	6 (12.0)
2	1 (2.0)	2 (4.0)
3	3 (6.0)	0 (0)
4	6 (12.0)	1 (2.0)
Admission Glucose, mean (SD)	8.4 (5.3)	7.3 (2.9)
Admission Systolic BP, mean (SD)	168 (25)	173 (25)
Admission Diastolic BP, mean (SD)	91 (20)	90 (17)
Admission Antiplatelet Therapy, n (%)	16 (32.0)	12 (24.0)
Admission Statin Therapy, n (%)	14 (28.0)	16 (32.0)

# Imaging and Operational Characteristics

	TXA (n=50)	Placebo (n=50)
ICH Volume, median (IQR)	13.8 (7.8 – 32.0)	15.6 (7.9 – 33.4)
ICH Location, n(%)		
Cerebellar	1 (2.0)	0 (0)
Hemispheric Cortical	15 (30.0)	15 (30.0)
Hemispheric Deep	34 (68.0)	35 (70.0)
Intraventricular Hemorrhage, n (%)	13 (26.0)	9 (18.0)
SMASH-U		
Amyloid Angiopathy	12 (24.0)	14 (28.0)
Hypertension	23 (46.0)	23 (46.0)
Undetermined	15 (30.0)	13 (26.0)
<b>TIME METRICS</b>		
Onset to Imaging, median (IQR)	98.5 (66– 153)	88 (69 – 142)
Imaging to Treatment, median (IQR)	50.5 (40– 62)	52 (43-73)
Onset to Treatment, median (IQR)	156 (114 – 225)	150 (121 – 195)

# Primary Outcome

	TXA	Placebo	Effect Size	p
ICH Growth (33% or 6mL)	22/50 (44%)	26/50 (52%)	aOR 0.72 (0.32 – 1.59)*	0.41

\*Adjusted for baseline ICH volume

# Secondary Outcomes

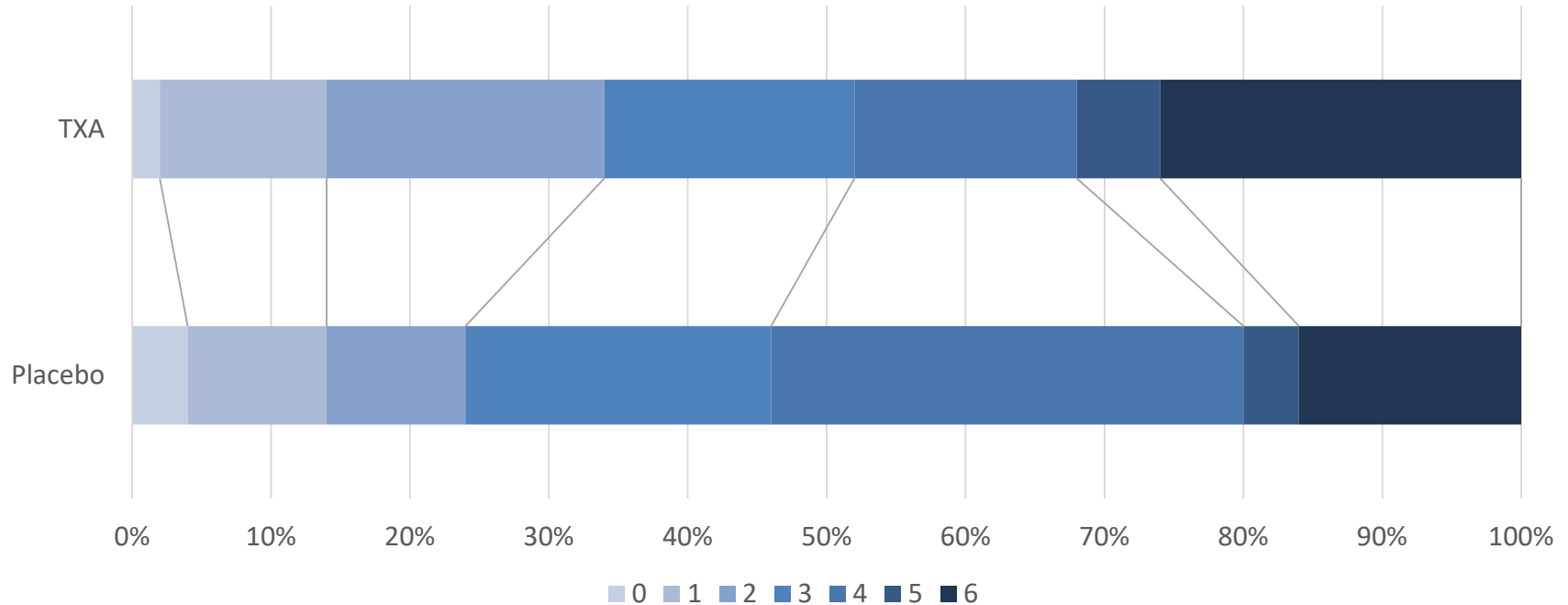
	TXA	Placebo	Effect Size	p
Absolute Growth, median (IQR)*	1.9 (0.2 – 9.5)	3.4 (0.0 – 16.0)	Adj median difference -1.8 (-5.2 – 1.5)	0.28
Absolute IVH Growth, median (IQR)+	0.0 (0.0 – 0.0)	0.0 (0 – 0.6)	Adj median difference 0 (-0.04 – 0.04)	>0.99
mRS 0-3 or return to baseline, n(%) %	28 (56.0)	23 (46.0)	aOR 1.64 (0.63 – 4.24)	0.31
mRS 0-4 or return to baseline, n(%) %	34 (68.0)	40 (80.0)	aOR 0.33 (0.09 – 1.23)	0.099

\* Adjusted for baseline ICH volume

+ Adjusted for baseline IVH volume

% Adjusted for age and baseline ICH volume

### 3 Month Ordinal mRS



GenOR = 1.01 (0.63 – 1.61), p=0.97

Stratified by age $\geq$ 70 and volume $\geq$ 30mL

*Assumption free analysis*

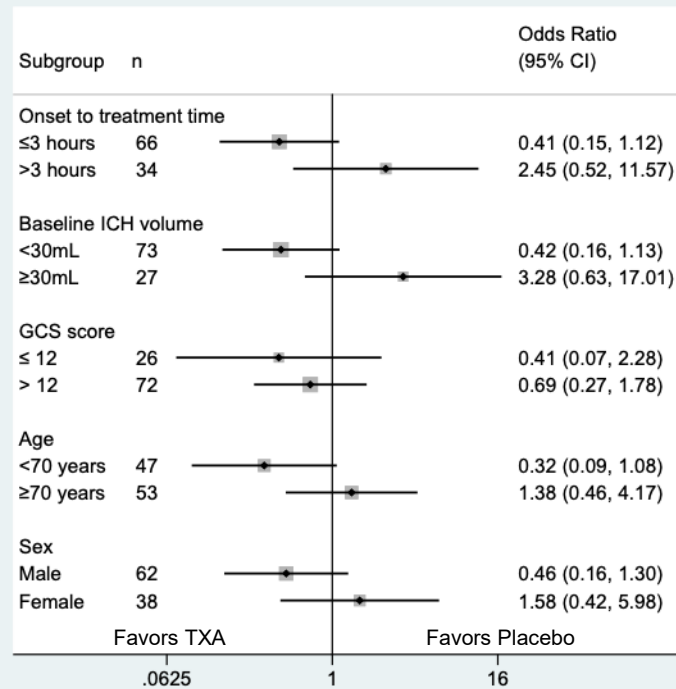


# Safety

	TXA	Placebo	Effect Size	p
Major Thromboembolic Events	1 (2.0)	2 (4.0)	OR 0.49 (0.04 – 5.58)	0.57
Death*	13 (26.0)	8 (16.0)	aOR 2.38 (0.66 – 8.67)	0.19

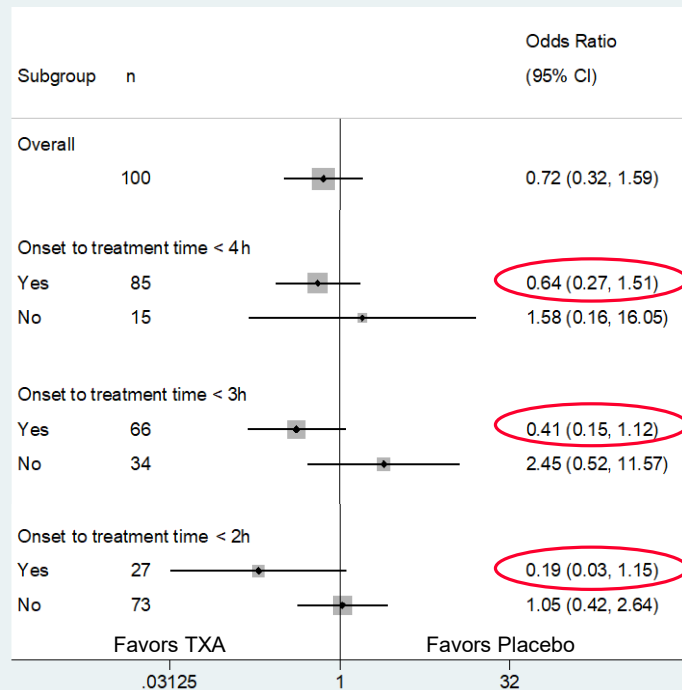
\* Adjusted for age and baseline ICH volume

# Subgroups



NOTE: Weighting is by sample size

# Subgroups by time epoch



NOTE: Weighting is by sample size

# Limitations

- Small sample size
- Results are trends which require replication

# Conclusions

- TXA treatment led to a non-statistically significant reduction in ICH growth, both in binary and absolute terms.
- The overall prevalence of ICH growth (48%) was higher in this <4.5h spot-sign selected trial compared to TICH-2 (27%).
- Tranexamic acid is safe in primary ICH
- The trends towards greater effect in the  $\leq 3$ hr and  $\leq 2$ hr warrant further exploration of tranexamic acid therapy in the ultra-early time window (STOP-MSU *clinicaltrials.gov* NCT03385928)

## Site Investigators

**Royal Melbourne Hospital** – Prof Stephen Davis\*, Prof Geoffrey Donnan\*, Prof Bruce Campbell, Prof Peter Mitchell, Prof Bernard Yan, Prof Mark Parsons

**Helsinki University Hospital** – Dr Marjaana Tiainen, Prof Turgut Tatlisumak, A/Prof Atte Meretoja<sup>+</sup>

**National Taiwan University Hospital** – A/Prof Jiann-Shing Jeng

**Royal Adelaide Hospital** – Prof Timothy Kleinig

**John Hunter Hospital** – Prof Neil Spratt

**Austin Hospital** – Prof Vincent Thijs

**Western Health** – Prof Tissa Wijeratna

**Princess Alexandra Hospital** – Dr Darshan Shah

**The Alfred Hospital** – Prof Geoffrey Cloud

**Monash Medical Centre** – Prof Thanh Phan, Prof Henry Ma

**China Medical University Hospital** – Prof Chung Hsu, Dr Der-Yang Cho

**Lyell McEwin Hospital** - Dr Andrew Moey

**Eastern Health** – Prof Helen Dewey, Prof Christopher Bladin

## Imaging

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A/Prof Christen Barras  
Prof Richard Aviv  
Mr Gagan Sharma

## Biostatistics

Prof Leonid Churilov

## Co-ordinator

Ms Michele Salleberger

Thank you to all trial nurses, coordinators, patients and families

\*Co-chairs of the trial steering committee    <sup>+</sup>Principal Investigator