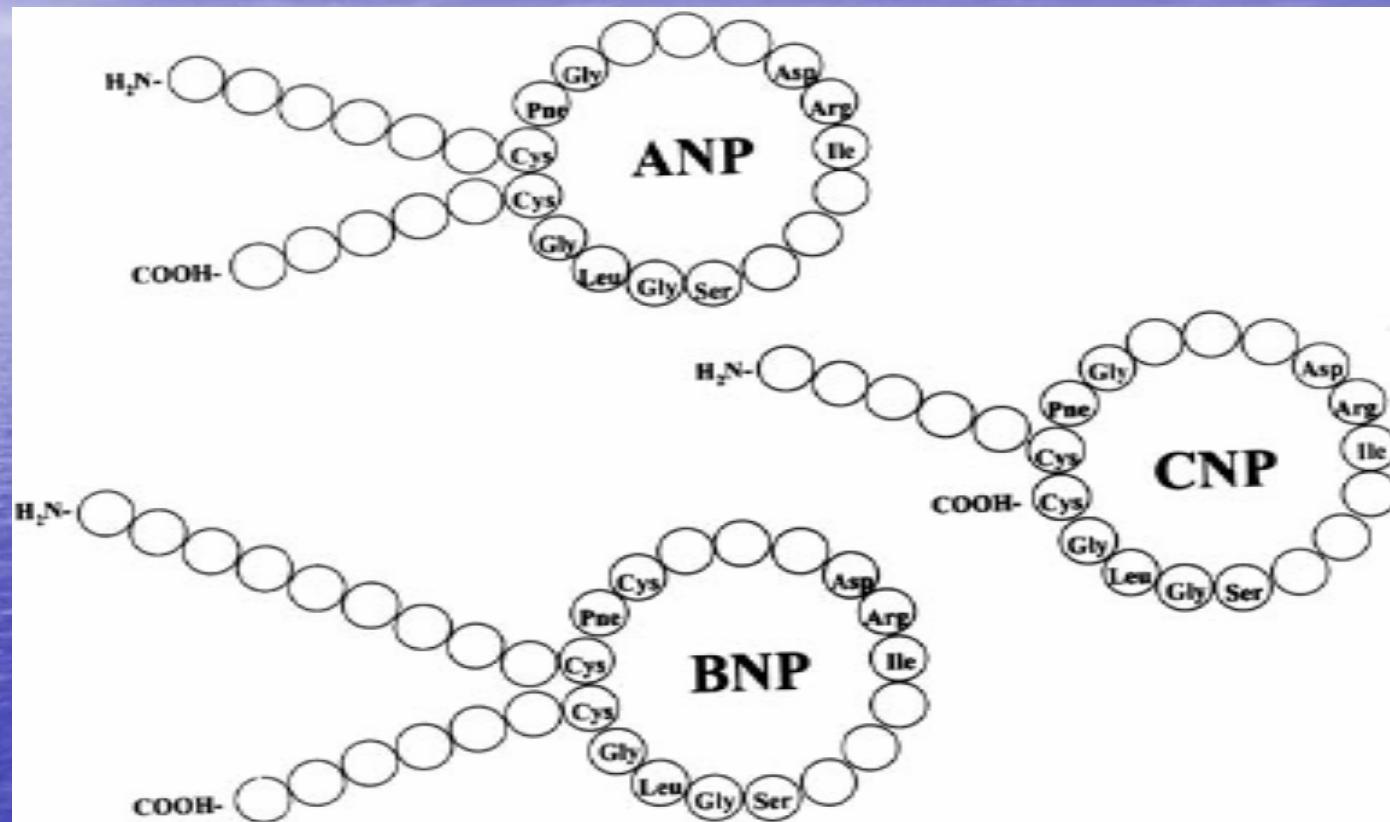
The background of the image is a wide-angle photograph of a calm sea meeting a clear blue sky at the horizon. The water is a deep, vibrant blue, with very slight ripples across its surface. The sky above is a lighter shade of blue, with wispy, white clouds scattered across it.

# Brain Natriuretic Peptide

## Structures of natriuretic peptide family

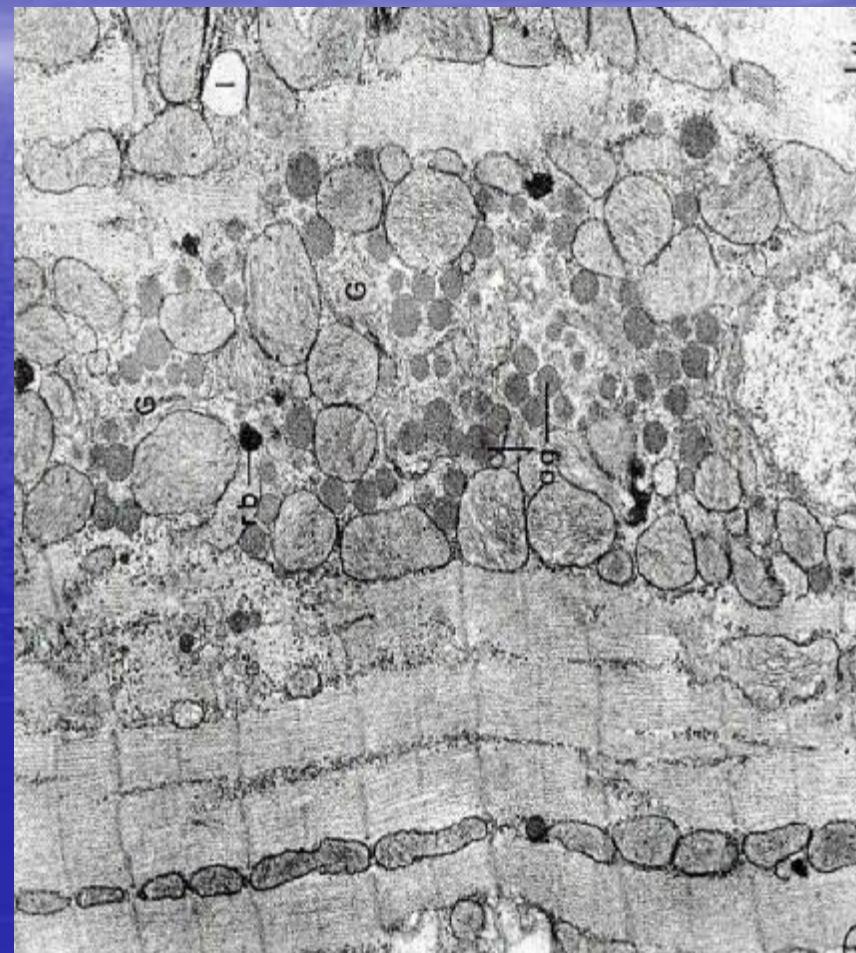


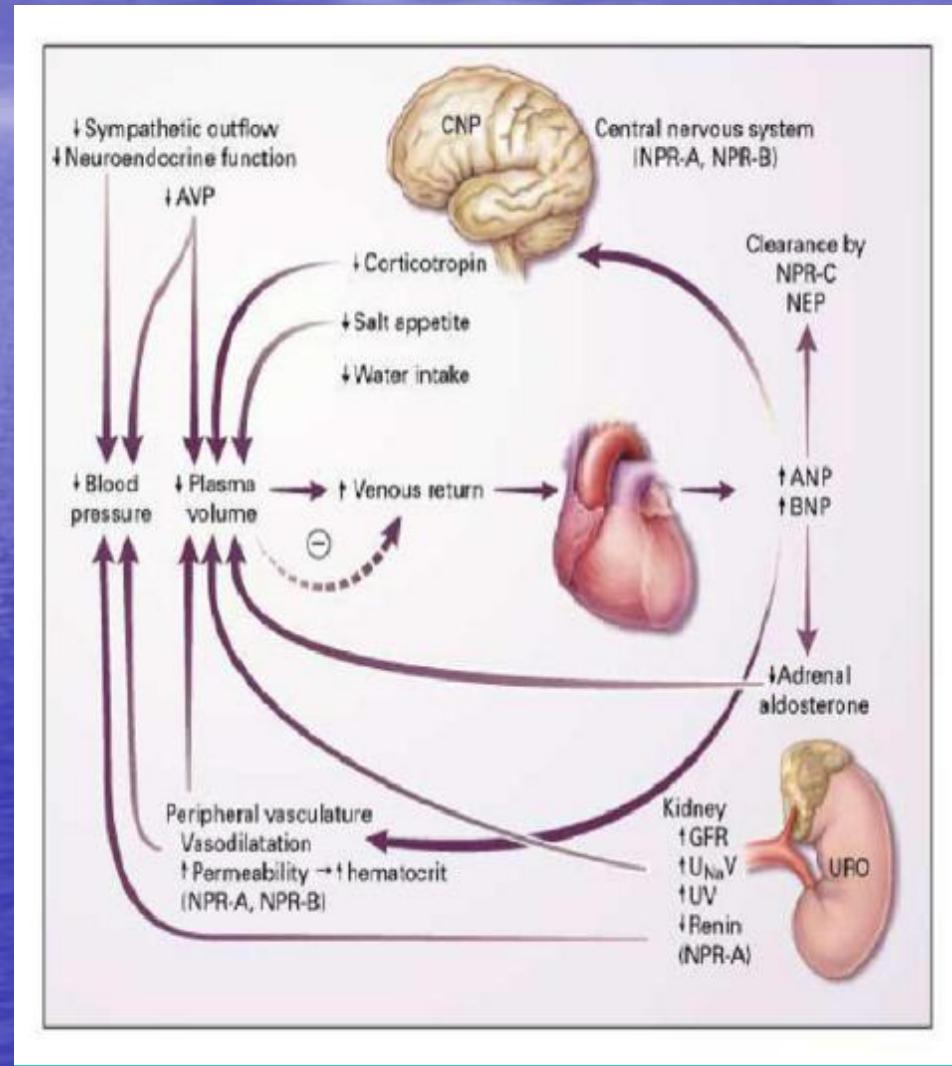
*Stein Am Heart J 1998;135*

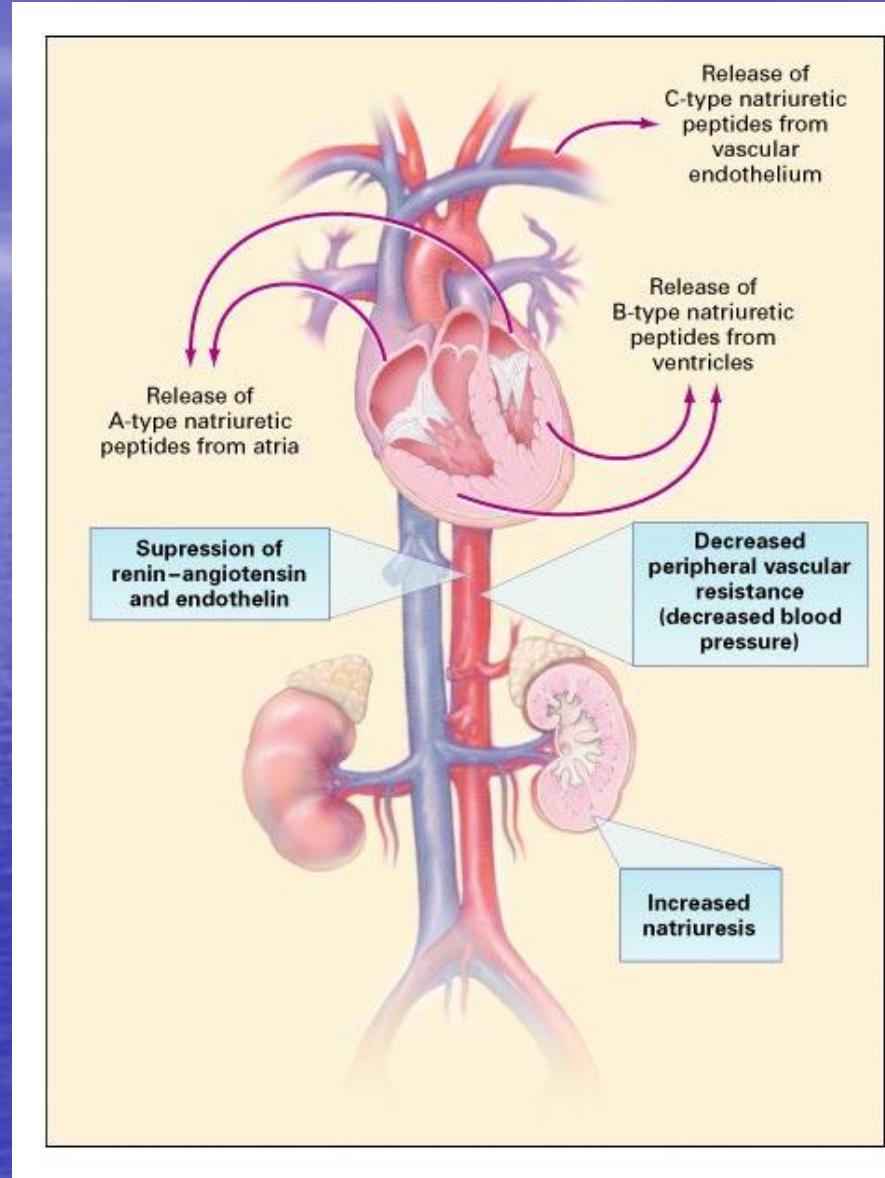
**Secretory granules discovered in the  
atria-Kisch (1956)-Jamieson and  
Palade(1964)**

**Infusion of extracts of atrial tissue  
increased natriuresis and diuresis-  
deBold, et al (1981)**

**BNP was characterized by amino acid  
sequence and DNA clones(Sudoh, et al.  
1988 and Seilhamer, et al. 1989).**







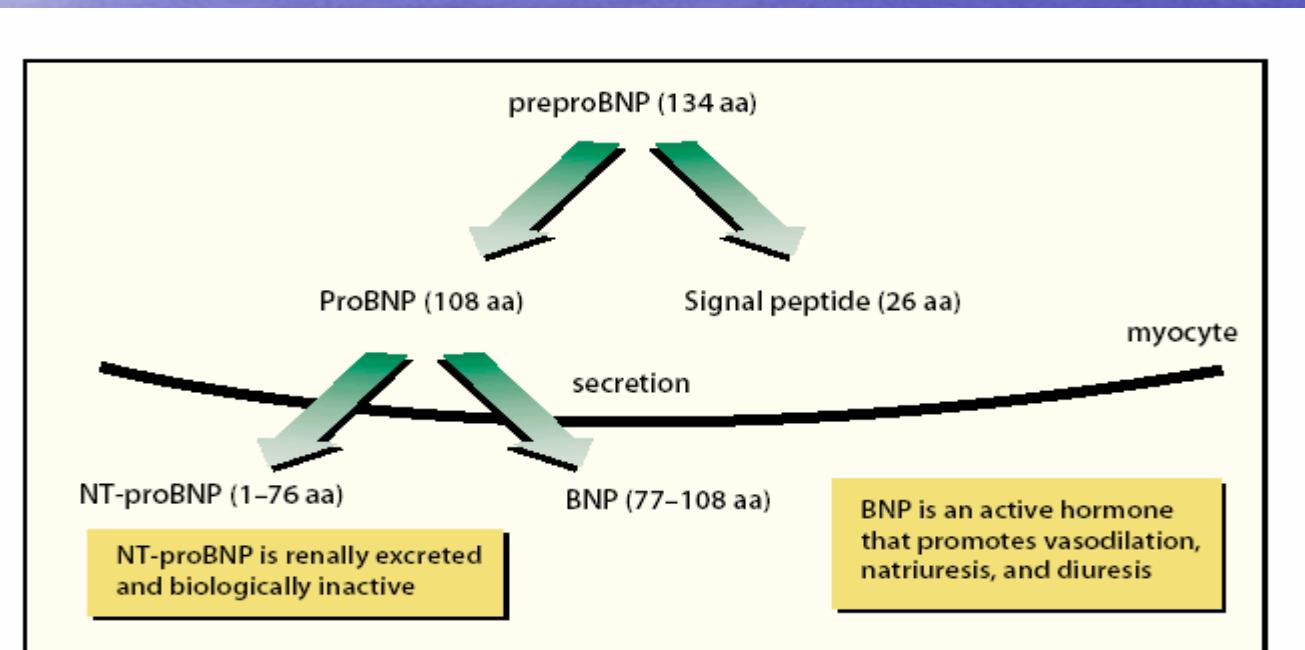


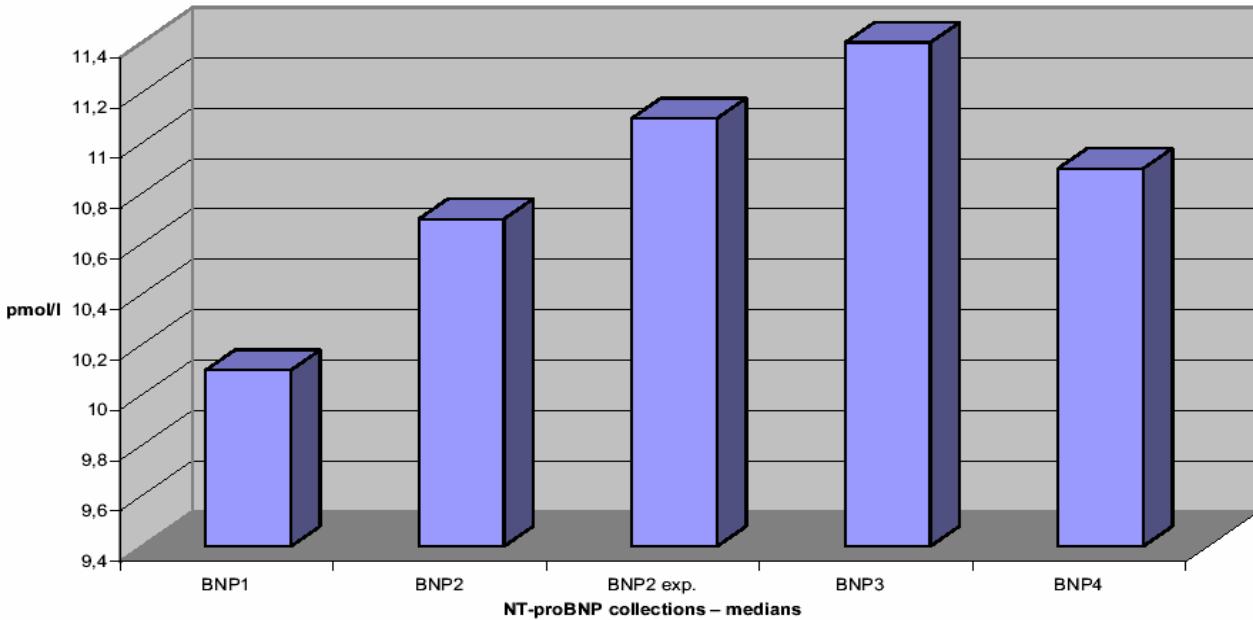
Figure 1. The cardiac natriuretic peptide family. BNP, B-type natriuretic peptide; NT, N-terminal; aa, amino acid.

**Table 1**  
**Key Distinguishing Features of the Ventricular Natriuretic Peptides**

Characteristic	BNP	NT-proBNP
Components	BNP molecule	NT fragment (1–76) NT-proBNP (1–108)
Molecular weight	3.5 kd	8.5 kd
Hormonally active	Yes	No, inactive peptide
Genesis	Cleavage from NT-proBNP	Release from ventricular myocytes
Half-life	20 minutes	120 minutes
Clearance mechanism	Neutral endopeptidase clearance receptors	Renal clearance
Increases with normal aging	+	++++
Correlation with estimated glomerular filtration rate	-0.20	-0.60
Approved cutoff(s) for CHF diagnosis	100 pg/mL	Age < 75 years: 125 pg/mL Age ≥ 75 years: 450 pg/mL
Approved for assessment of CHF severity	Yes	No
Approved for prognosis in ACS	Yes	No
Prospective ED studies completed	Yes	No
Community screening studies completed	Yes	Yes
Available at the point of care	Yes	No
No. studies completed	1370	39
Date of entry on U.S. market	November 2000	December 2002

BNP, B-type natriuretic peptide; NT, N-terminal; CHF, congestive heart failure; ACS, acute coronary syndromes; ED, emergency department.

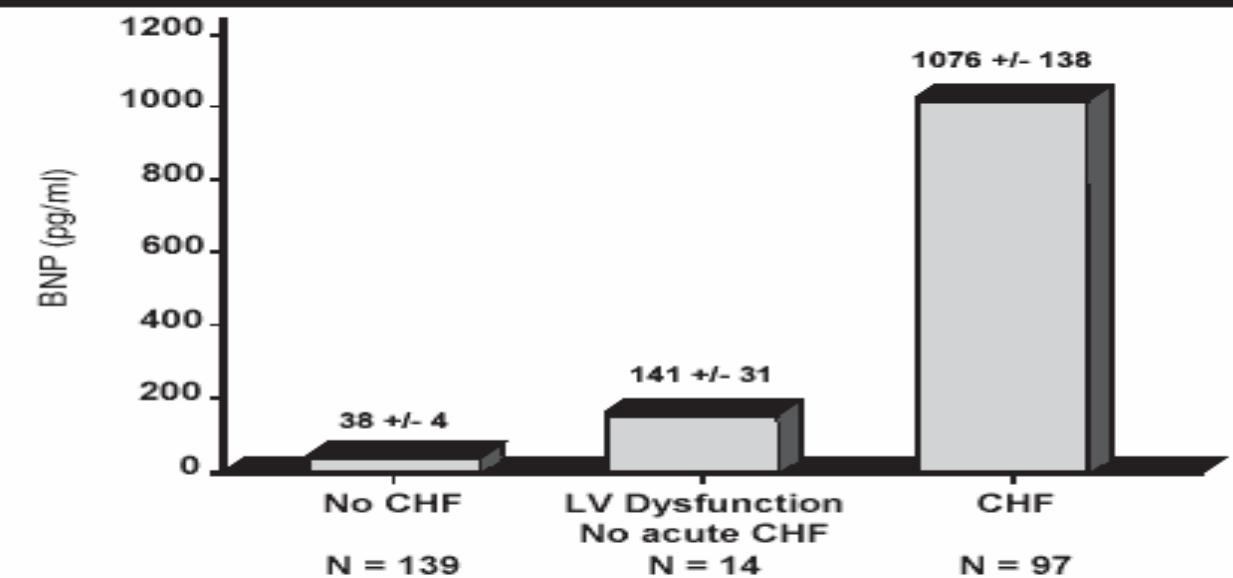
- Age
- Sex
- Exercise
- Drugs



**Fig. 1.** NT-pro BNP concentrations before and after exercise.

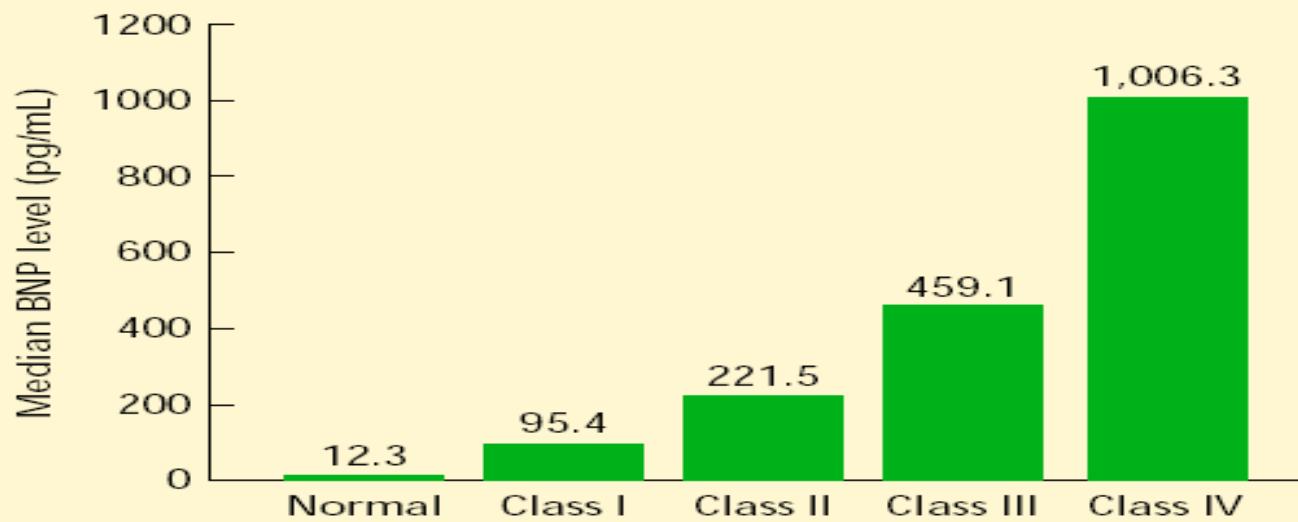
- BNP1      immediately before the test
- BNP2      at peak exercise
- BNP3      0 min after exercise
- BNP4      60 min after exercise
- BNP2 exp. expected value according to changed plasma volume (0 min after exercise)

**Figure 2. BNP Levels In Patients with CHF and Symptomatic LV Dysfunction**



Reprinted with permission from: Dao Q, Krishnaswamy P, Kazanegra R, et al. Utility of B-type natriuretic peptide in the diagnosis of congestive heart failure in an urgent-care setting. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2001;37:379-385

**BNP levels increase  
with severity of heart failure**



**FIGURE 1.** Brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) levels in normal subjects and in patients with heart failure.

DATA FROM BIOSITE PACKAGE INSERT

# BNP levels correlate with Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction

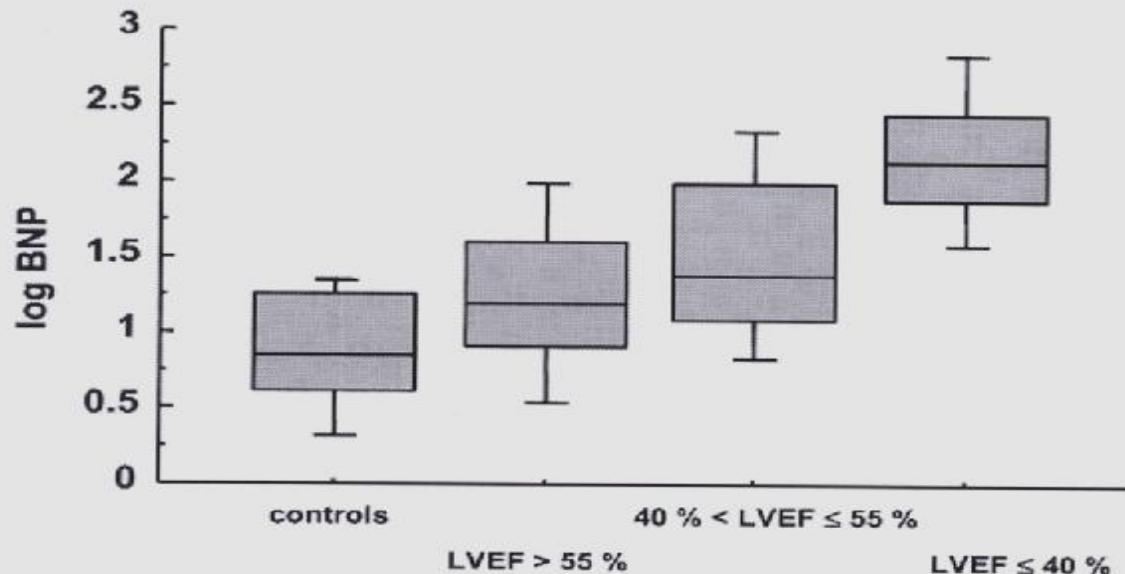
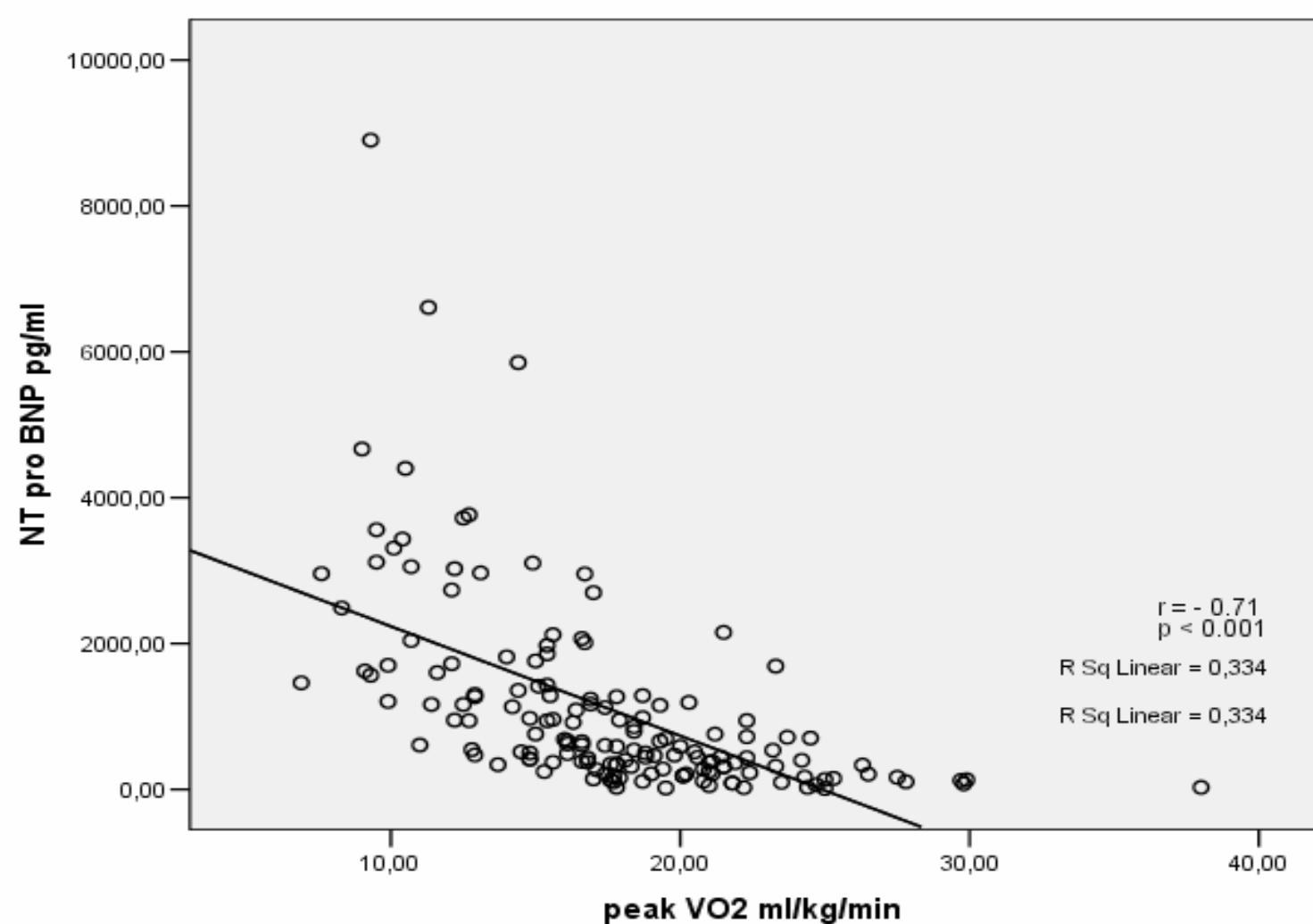


Fig. 1. BNP concentrations in control and patient groups. Boxes are median and IQRs, vertical lines are ranges of concentrations.

**Patients with LVEF greater than 55% had lower BNP levels than those with LVEF less than 40%**



Συσχετισμός του NT proBNP με τη μέγιστη κατανάλωση οξυγόνου



# DIAGNOSTIC TOOL

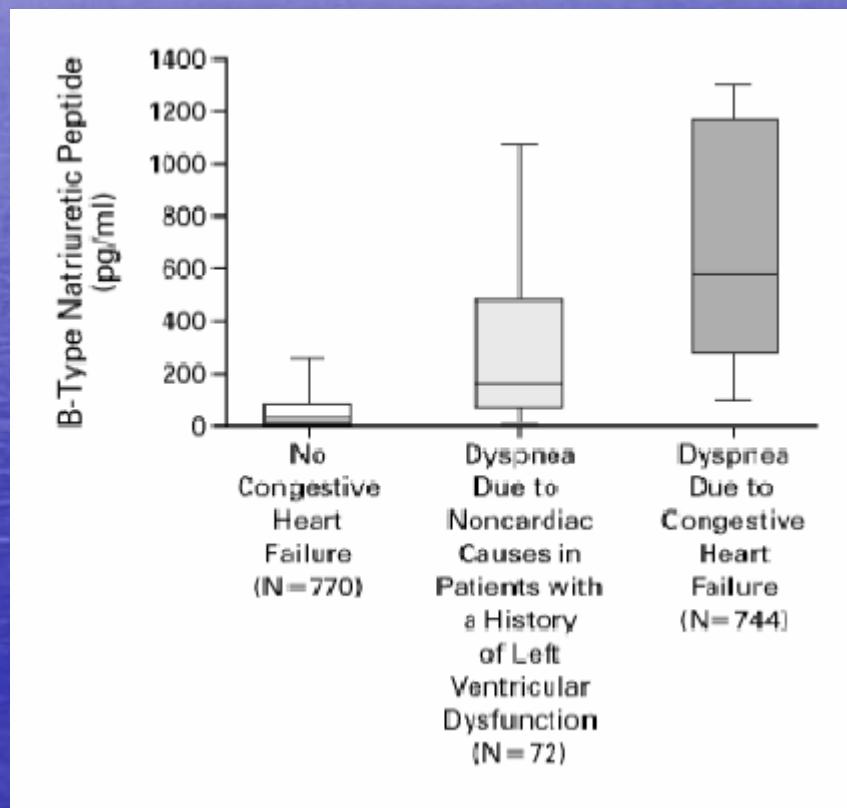
## Difficulty in the ER diagnosis of CHF

- Signs and symptoms of CHF –non-specific
- ECG, CXR often not helpful
- ECHO-gold standard but:
- Costly
- Pt is unable to hold still due to dyspnea
- “Poor window”

*Maisel AS et al. NEJM 2002;347:161-167*

- Prospective study on 1586 pts in ER with acute dyspnea
- ER Physicians blinded to BNP results assessed the probability of CHF as the cause of dyspnea on a scale of 0-100
- Patients divided in 3 groups:
  - No CHF
  - Dyspnea due to noncardiac cause with hx of CHF
  - Dyspnea due to CHF
- Subsequently 2 cardiologists reviewed medical records during the hospitalization (CXR, ECHO, MUGA etc.)

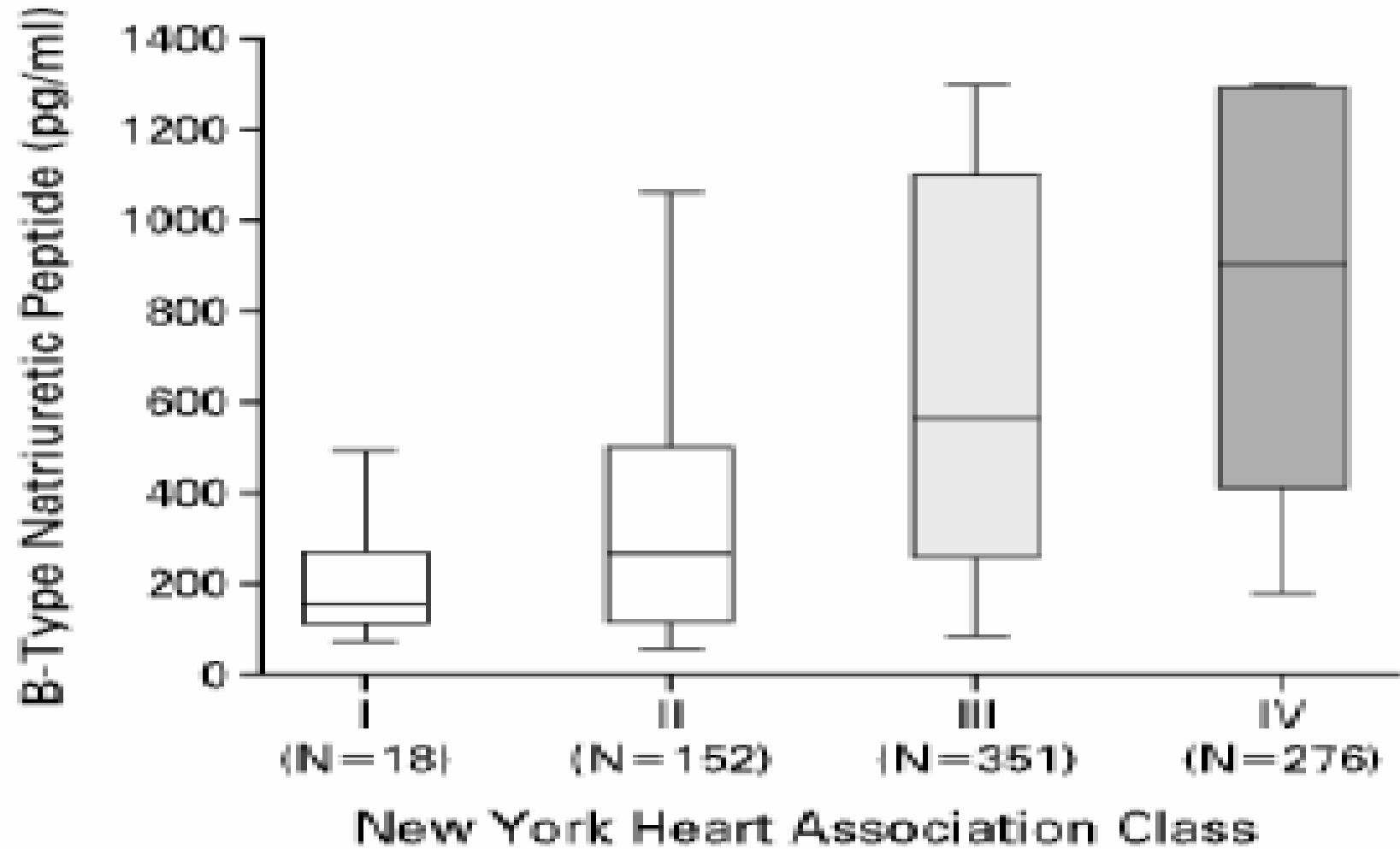
## Median level of BNP measured in the ER



# Results

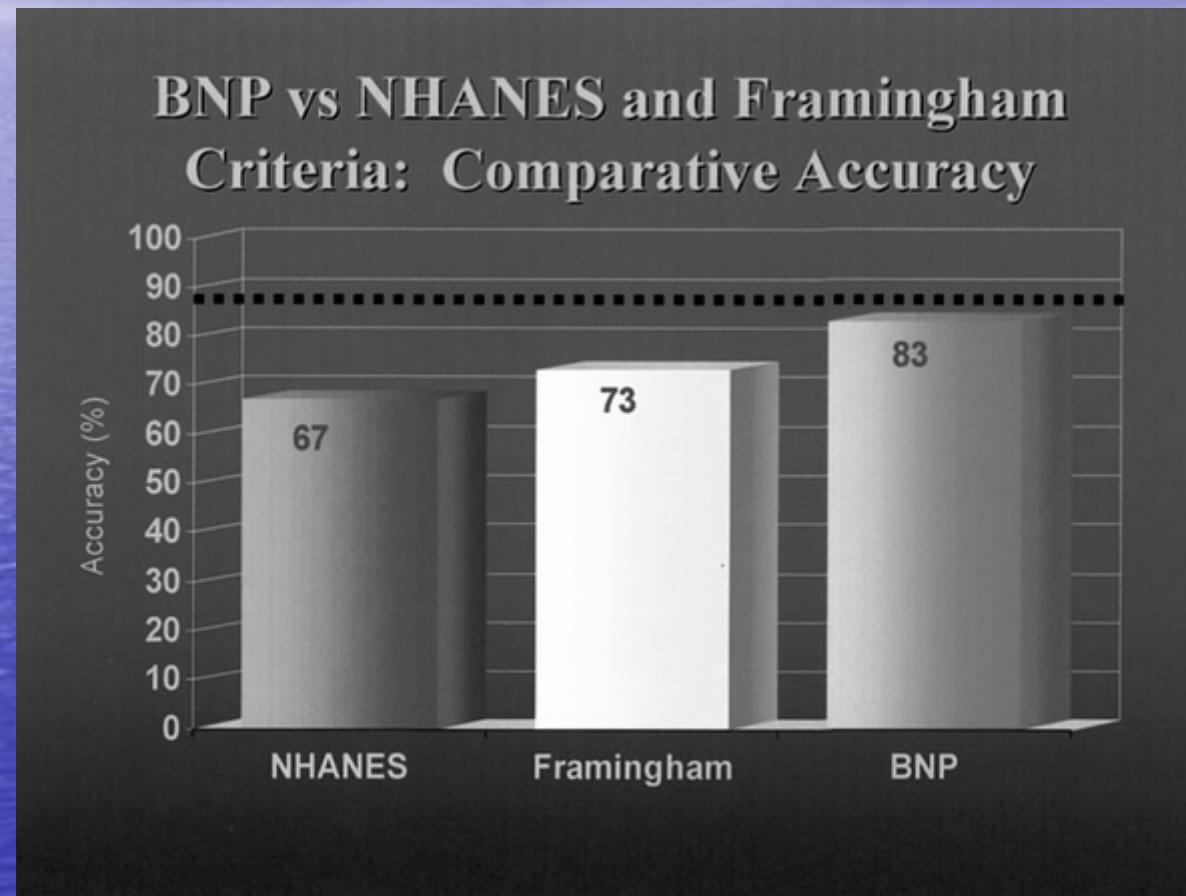
- CHF → BNP  $675 \pm 450$  pg/ml
- No CHF but hx of CHF →  $346 \pm 390$  pg/ml
- No CHF → BNP  $110 \pm 225$  pg/ml

## BNP values in relation to NYHA class

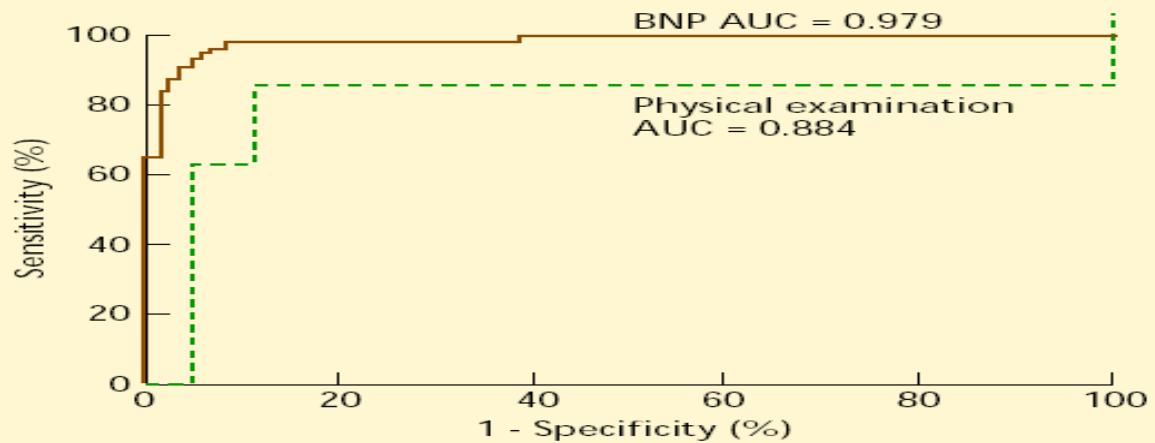


- BNP level was the single most accurate predictor of the presence or absence of CHF
- BNP cut-off of 100 pg/ml was more accurate (83%) than the Framingham criteria (73%)

Accuracy of a single BNP level ( $>100$  pg/mL) in diagnosing CHF compared with established criteria of NHANES and Framingham.



### **BNP levels beat physical examination in diagnosing heart failure**



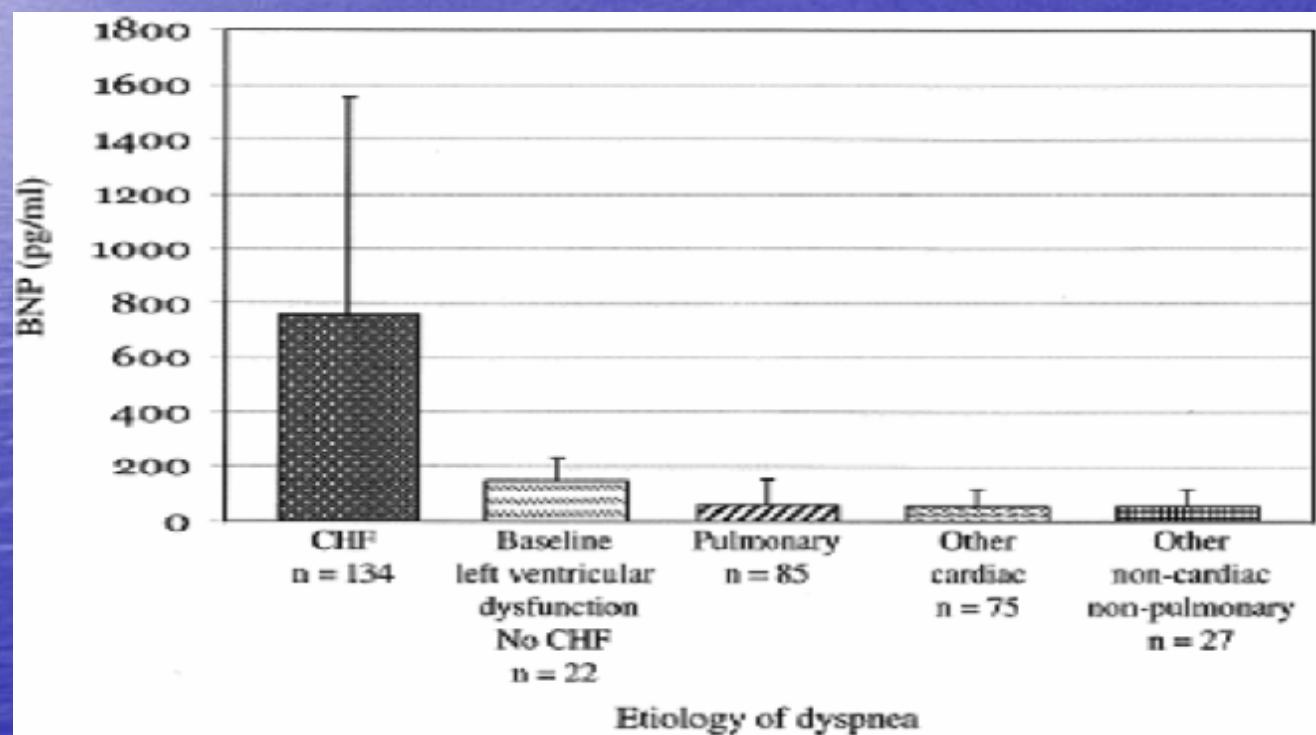
**FIGURE 2.** Receiver operating characteristic curves for the accuracy of elevated brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) levels and physical examination in the emergency department in 250 patients with suspected heart failure. AUC, area under the curve; the larger the AUC, the better the test.

FROM DAO Q, KRISHNASWAMY P, KAZANEGRA R, ET AL. UTILITY OF B-TYPE NATRIURETIC PEPTIDE IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE IN AN URGENT-CARE SETTING. J AM COLL CARDIOL 2001; 37:379–385.

## Cardiac vs Pulmonary Causes of Dyspnea

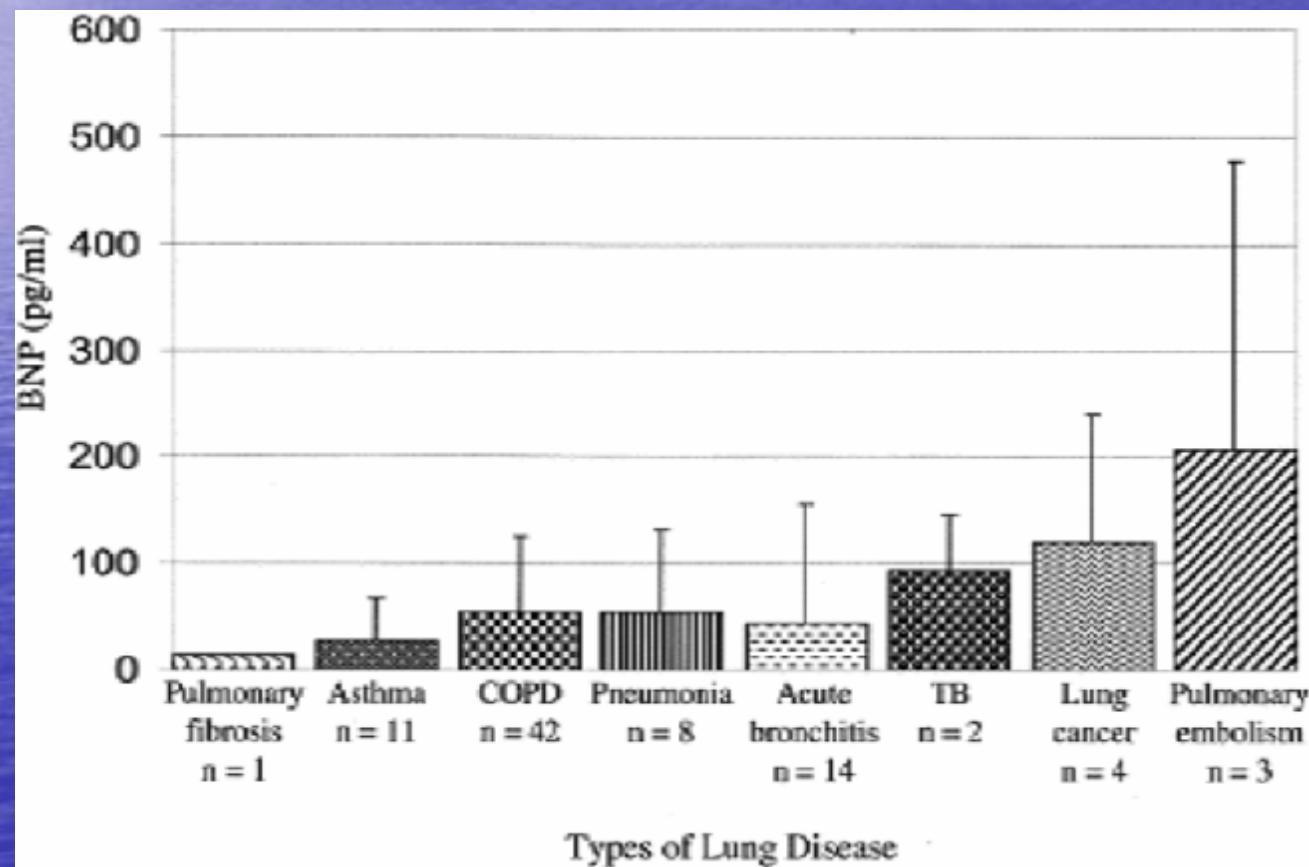
How accurate is BNP in differentiating  
between these two important clinical  
entities?

# CHF vs. COPD



Morrison JACC 2002;39:202-209

## Types of Lung Disease and BNP



Morrison JACC 2002;39:202-209

# CHF vs. COPD

Confounding factors:

- Cor pulmonale
- Pneumonia leading to CHF exacerbation
- Acute RV failure due to PE



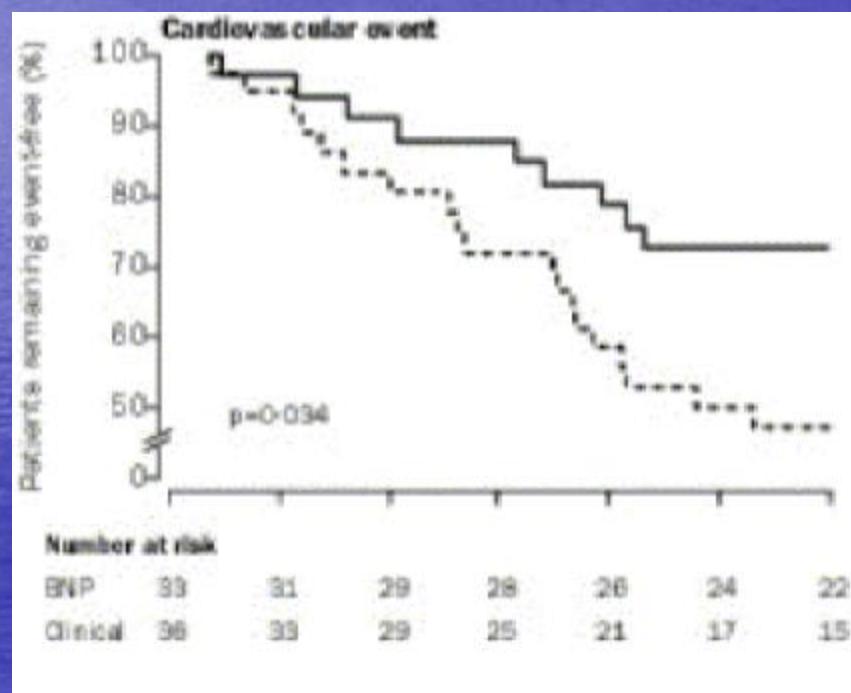
PPV of BNP decreases



# BNP for therapeutic monitoring of CHF patients

*Troughton et al. Lancet 2000;355:1126-1130*

- 69 pts with EF < 40% and NYHA II-IV CHF
- Randomized to Rx guided by BNP or clinical assessment
- 6-month f/u
- End-point: total CV event (CV death or first readmission for CHF)



- Fewer total CV events (death, admission, HF decompensation) in BNP group (19 vs. 54, p=0.02)
- At 6 mo, 27 % of BNP pts and 53% of the clinical group had experienced a first CV event (p=0.034)

# **Plasma Brain Natriuretic Peptide-Guided Therapy to Improve Outcome in Heart Failure**

## **The STARS-BNP Multicenter Study**

**Objectives:** The aim of this multicenter study was to evaluate the prognostic impact of a therapeutic strategy using BNP levels.

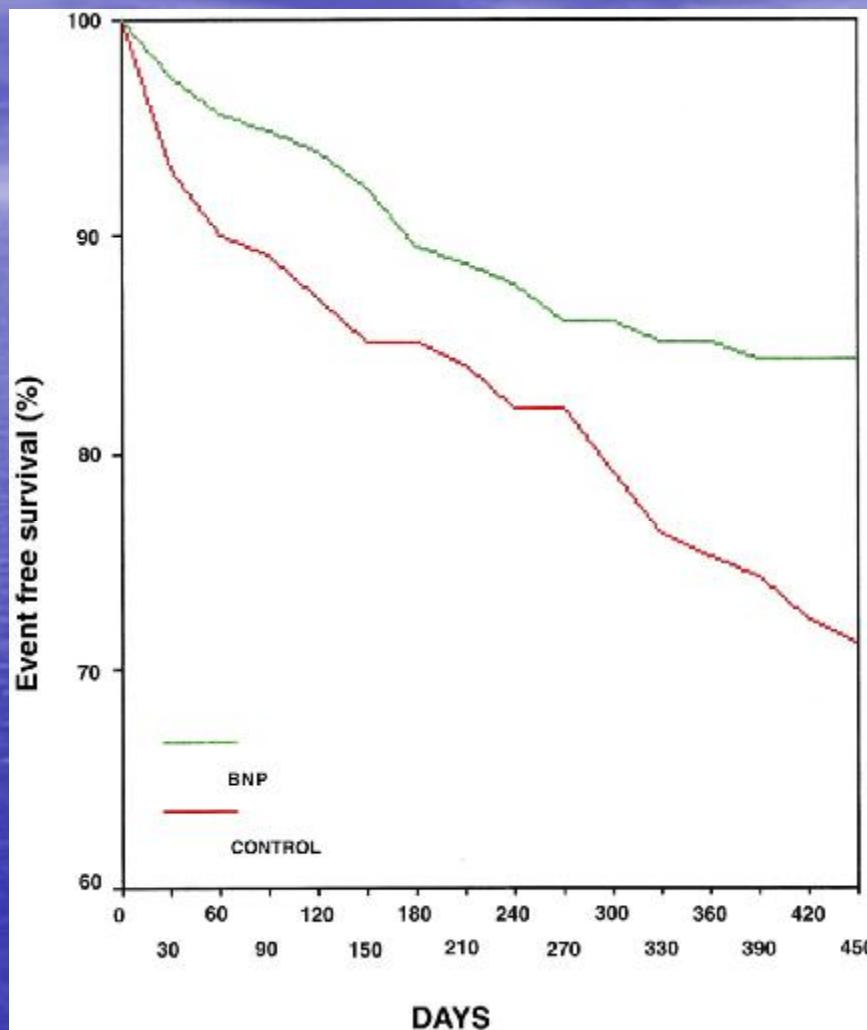
**Methods:** 220 NYHA II to III patients considered optimally treated with ACEIs, BBs, and diuretics were randomized to either current guidelines (clinical group) or a goal of decreasing BNP plasma levels <100 pg/ml (BNP group). Outpatient visits were scheduled every month for 3 months, then every 3 months. The primary combined end point was CHF-related death or hospital stay for CHF.

**Results:** Both groups were similar for baseline clinical and biological characteristics. LV EF was slightly lower in the BNP group than in the clinical group ( $29.9 \pm 7.7\%$  vs.  $31.8 \pm 8.4\%$ ,  $p = 0.05$ ). At the end of the first 3 months, all types of drugs were changed more frequently in the BNP group. Mean dosages of ACEIs and beta-blockers were significantly higher in the BNP group ( $p < 0.05$ ), whereas the mean increase in furosemide dosage was similar in both groups. During follow-up (median 15 months), significantly fewer patients reached the combined end point in the BNP group (24% vs. 52%,  $p < 0.001$ ).

**Conclusions:** In optimally treated CHF patients, a BNP-guided strategy reduced the risk of CHF-related death or hospital stay for CHF. The result was mainly obtained through an increase in ACEI and beta-blocker dosages.

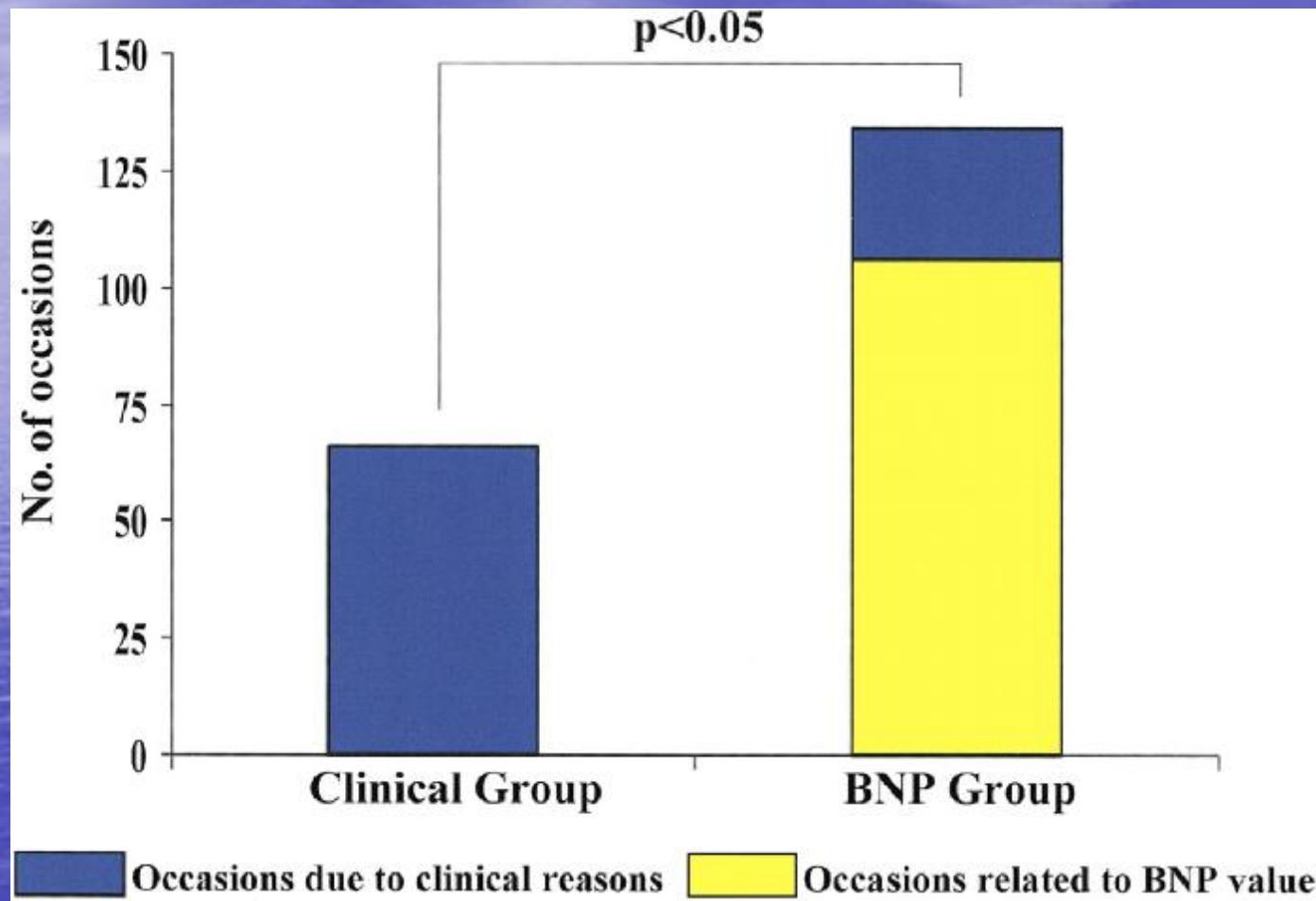
**J Am Coll Cardiol, 2007; 49:1733-1739**

## Event-Free (Hospital Stay for Heart Failure or Death Related to Heart Failure) Survival in the 2 Groups



Jourdain, P. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2007;49:1733-1739

## Number of Changes in Medical Therapy During the First 3 Months



Jourdain, P. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2007;49:1733-1739

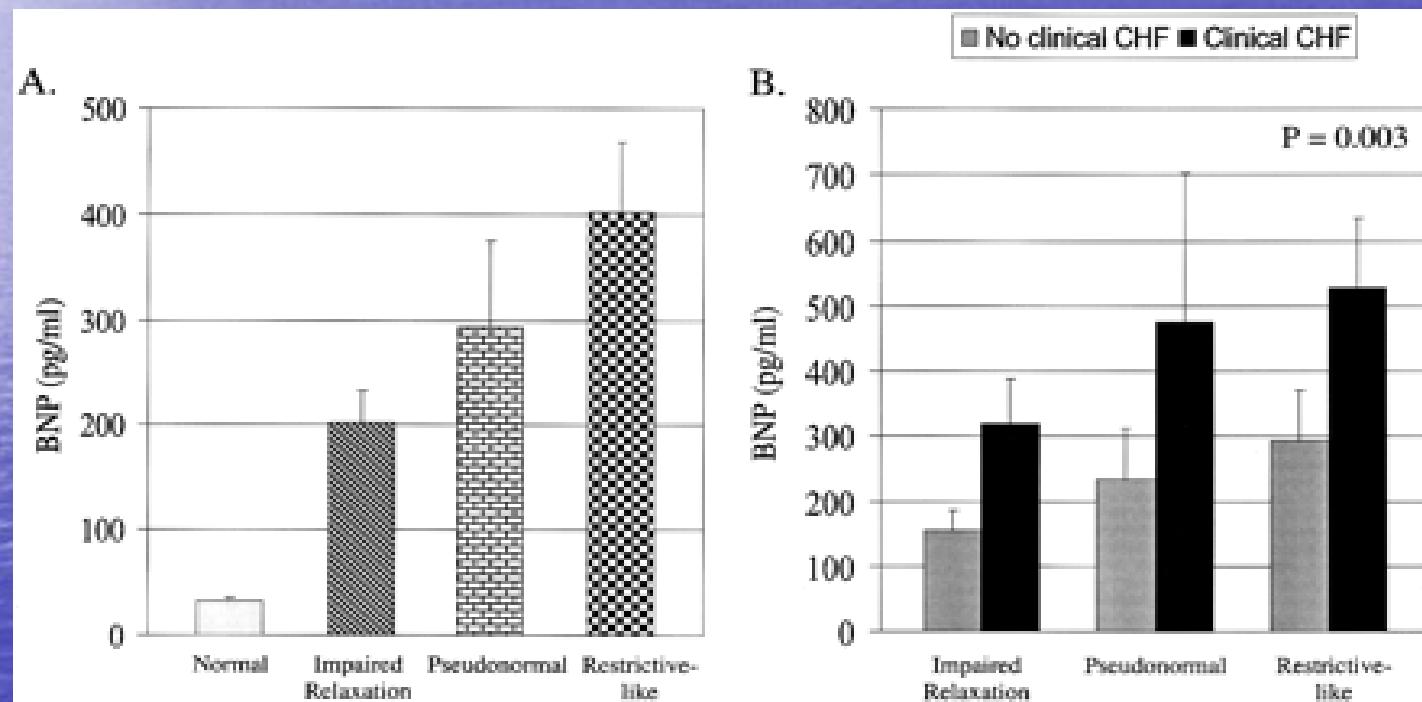


# BNP in Diastolic Heart Failure

*Lubien et al. Circ.2002;105:595-601*

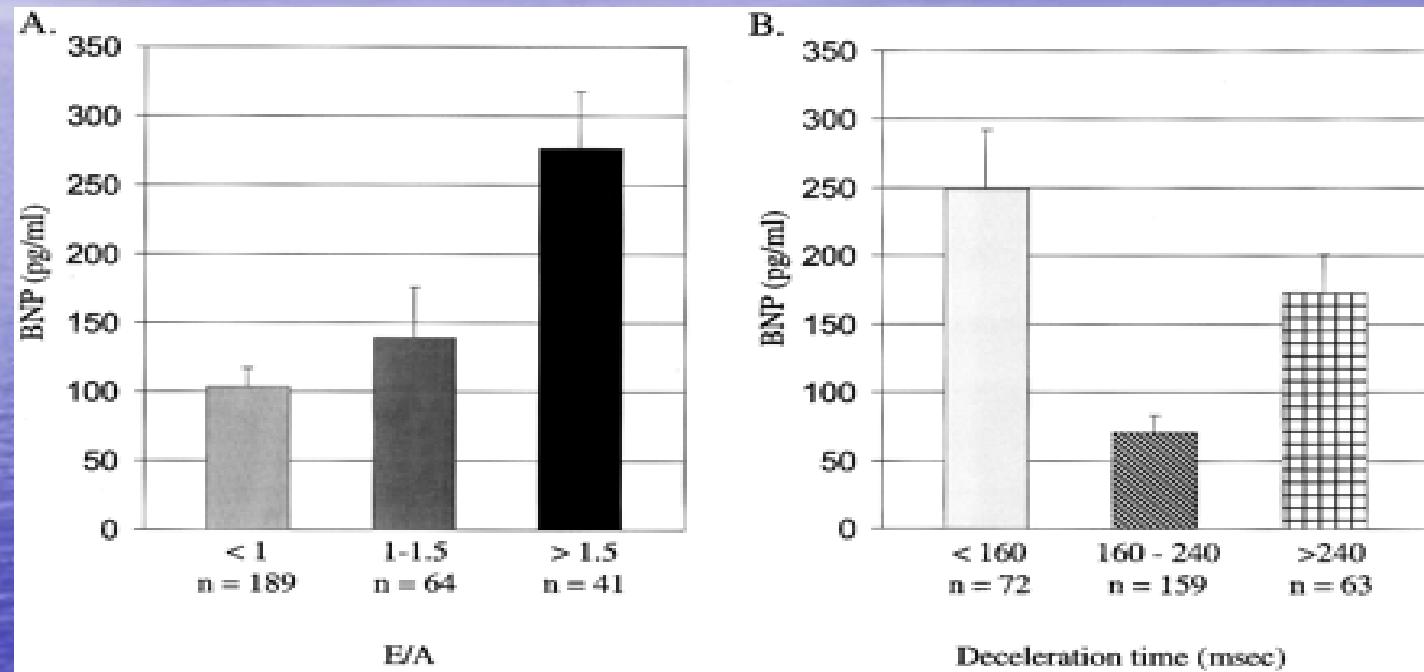
- 294 pts referred for ECHO to evaluate. LVEF
- EF < 50% excluded
- Pt classification:
  - Normal
  - Impaired relaxation
  - Pseudonormal
  - Restrictive like filling

# BNP and diastolic HF



A, Mean  $\pm$  SEM for normal BNP values vs impaired relaxation, pseudonormal, and restrictivelike filling patterns. Each abnormal group was different from normal group by post hoc Tukey tests ( $P < 0.001$ ). B, Comparison of 3 diastolic filling patterns subdivided by whether patients had symptoms. Values are mean  $\pm$  SEM. Subgroups of diastolic dysfunction patients with clinical CHF overall had higher BNP levels than those without symptoms.  $P < 0.05$  by post hoc Tukey test .

# Doppler measurements and BNP



BNP levels expressed as reflection of E/A ratios and DTs. Values are mean $\pm$ SEM. BNP levels were highest in patients with E/A ratios >1.5 ( $227\pm61$  pg/mL) and in those patients with DTs of <160 ms ( $249\pm43$  pg/mL). In patients with normal E/A ratio (1 to 1.5), BNP levels were  $139\pm65$  pg/mL. However, when this group was separated by DTs, those with normal DTs (160 to 240 ms) had mean BNP levels of only  $77\pm34$  pg/mL.

## Detecting Diastolic Heart Failure by BNP

BNP of 62 pg/ml:

- sensitivity 85%
- specificity 83%
- accuracy 84%

# BNP and DRUGS

- Diuretics
- B-blockers
- Ace Inhibitors
- ARBS
- Digitalis
- Calcium Channel Blockers





**BNP a helpful tool for hospital  
discharge**

When should we discharge a pt after CHF exacerbation?

End-point of our hospital treatment:?

- Symptomatic improvement
- Cardiac function tests do not correlate well with symptomatic changes

In-hospital mortality and readmission rates are extremely high

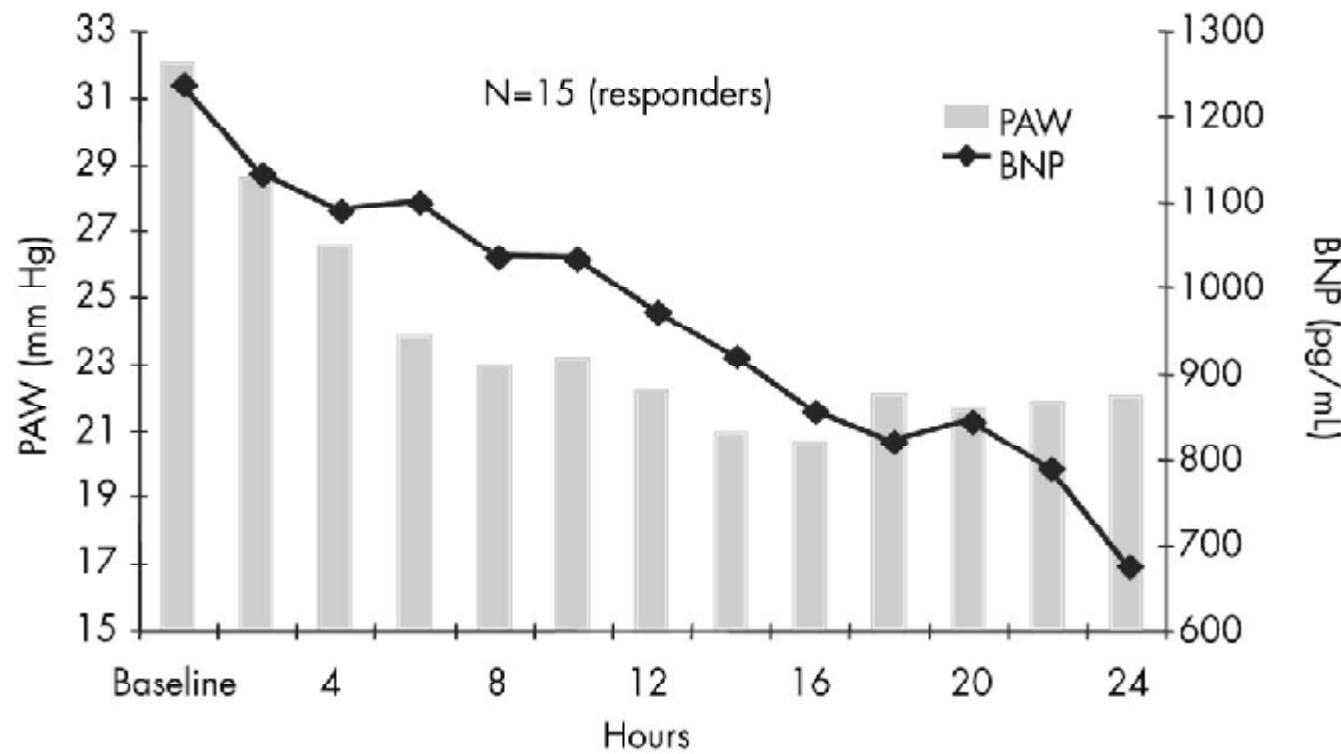
Most patients are discharged when they feel better

## BNP correlates with falling wedge pressure

Kazanegra et al. J Cardiac Fail 2001;7:21-29

- Pilot study:

- 22 pts with decompensated CHF
- Hemodynamic monitoring with Swan-Ganz catheter
- All pts in NYHA IV
- Starting wedge pressure > 20 mmHg
- Attempt made to decrease wedge pressure (<20 ) in 24 hours
- BNP levels recorded at baseline an q2-4 h x 24-48h



Relationship of B-type natriuretic peptide (BNP) levels and pulmonary artery wedge(PAW) pressure in patientswith volume-overloaded congestive heart failure. Reprinted from *Journal of Cardiac Failure*, 7, KazanegraR, Cheng V, Garcia A, et al., A rapid test for B-type natriuretic peptide correlates with falling wedge pressures in patients treated for decompensatedheart failure: a pilot study, 21-29, C.

## 15 responders in 24h:

- –wedge pressure ↓by 51%
- –BNP dropped by 55%
- –average fall of BNP/hour:  $33 \pm 5\text{pg/ml}$
- –When wedge pressure was kept low, the BNP fell an additional 37% in the next 24h

- Significant correlation between percent change in wedge pressure from baseline in hour and the percent change of BNP per hour
- $R = 0.73$   $P < 0.05$

## Can BNP predict outcome ?

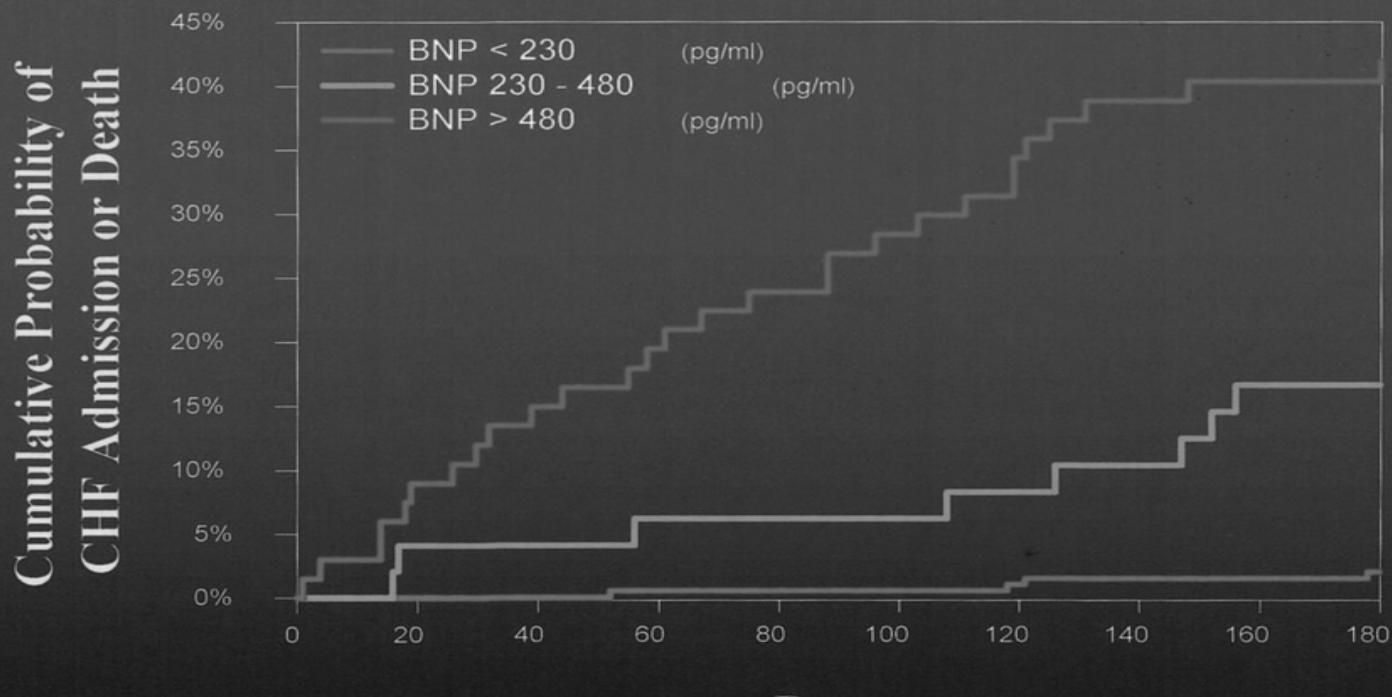
- 13 end-points (4 death, 9 readmission)
- BNP increased (mean ↑233 pg/ml; P< .001)
- In pts without end-points BNP decreased (mean ↓215 pg/ml)

## Can BNP predict outcome ?

- 13 end-points (4 death, 9 readmission)
- BNP increased (mean ↑233 pg/ml; P< .001)
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# BNP Concentration for the Prediction of Clinical Events

## Probability of CHF Admission or Death for BNP Groups



Maisel A, et al. Annals of Emergency Medicine 2001

Reverse Kaplan-Meir plot showing cumulative risk of any hospitalization or death from CHF, stratified by BNP levels at the time of initial visit to the emergency department. Higher BNP levels are associated with progressively worse prognosis. Patients with BNP levels >480 pg/mL had a 6-month cumulative probability of CHF admission or death of 42%. Patients with BNP levels <230 pg/mL only had a 2% chance of such an event.