

Prognostic value of vitamin D level for all-cause mortality, and association with inflammatory markers in HIV-infected persons

Results from the EuroSIDA Cohort Study

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M BICKEL⁷, C LEEN⁸, O KIRK⁹, JD LUNDGREN⁹, A MOCROFT²,
On behalf of EuroSIDA in EuroCOORD

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Vitamin D Insufficiency / Deficiency

- **Assessed through measurement of 25OHD**
 - Insufficiency: < 30 ng/ml (75 nmol/l)
 - Deficiency: < 20 ng/ml (50 nmol/l)
 - Severe deficiency: <10 ng/ml (25 nmol/l)
- **Associated with morbidity:**
 - Osteopenia, cancer, autoimmune diseases, infections (TB), CV disease, neurocognitive disorders, frailty ...
 - Inflammation
- **Associated with mortality in:**
 - Elderly, renal insufficiency, heart transplant, high CV risk, diabetes ...
 - HIV infection (both ARV-treated and untreated)

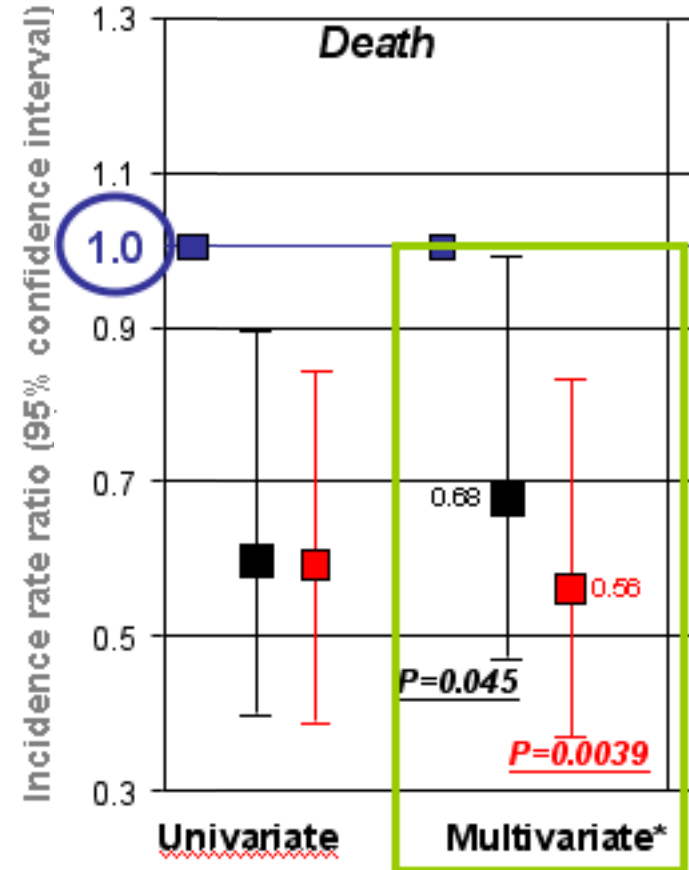
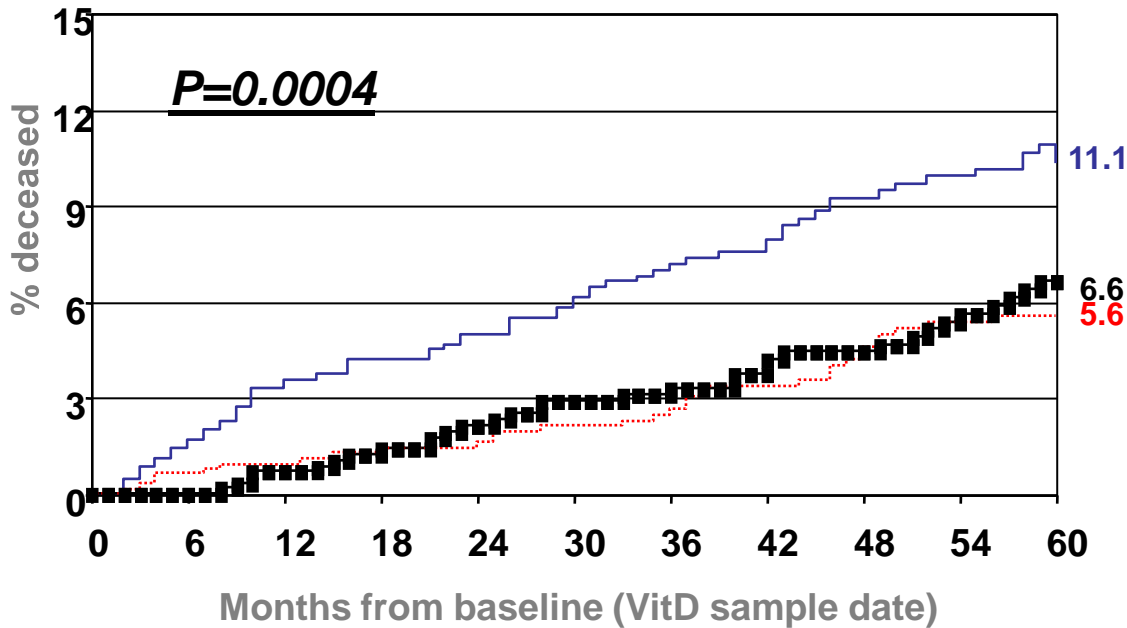
Previous EuroSIDA study: progression to and incidence rate ratios of death

25-hydroxyvitamin D tertiles (ng/ml)

Low (<12)

Medium (12-20)

High (>20)



*Adjusted for baseline values of gender, ethnic origin, HIV risk group, region of Europe, HBsAg and HCV antibody status, prior AIDS, exposure to antiretrovirals, age, CD4 count, CD4 nadir, HIV-RNA viral load, date of baseline sample, season of sample and date of recruitment to EuroSIDA

Objectives

- **To assess the prognostic value of 25OHD severe deficiency for events, in a longitudinal study**
- **To assess the association between 25OHD level and immunological/inflammatory markers, known to be prognostic of HIV disease evolution**

Methods

- Prospective 1-1 case control nested study
 - Cases and controls for
 - AIDS (n=50 pairs), non-AIDS (n=63), death (n=42) events
 - Selected from the 1985 participants in previous study
 - Matched on age, gender, region, study entry date, baseline CD4 & VL
- Measurements
 - 25OHD, hsIL-6, hsCRP, sCD14 in stored plasma
 - at study entry (baseline), time of event (or latest sample available for controls) and at midpoint of follow-up (if available)
- Time from 1st to last samples: 44.6 (IQR: 22.7-72.3) months
- Time from last sample to event: 3.1 (IQR: 1.4-6.4) months

Statistical analyses

- Associations between 25OHD levels and outcomes
 - Conditional logistic regression
- Associations between changes in markers and outcomes
 - Average absolute change per year (ACPY) and average % change per year (ACPY%) calculated between consecutive measurements of 25OHD, hsCRP, hsIL-6 and sCD14.
 - Conditional logistic regression investigated associations between changes in markers and outcomes.
- Associations between 25OHD level and hsCRP / hsIL-6 / sCD14 concentrations, and CD4 count
 - Mixed models with random intercepts

Baseline characteristics of cases and controls for AIDS, non-AIDS and death events.

	AIDS events		non-AIDS events		Deaths	
	Controls	Cases	Controls	Cases	Controls	Cases
<i>Number of patients</i>	50	50	63	63	42	42
	N (%)					
25OHD <10 ng/mL	9 (18)	16 (32)	14 (22)	16 (25)	9 (21)	10 (24)
Male	43 (86)	43 (86)	60 (95)	60(95)	40 (98)	40 (98)
White	44 (88)	42 (84)	44 (70)	56 (89)	36 (88)	37 (90)
Risk group						
Homosexual	23 (46)	23 (46)	39 (62)	39 (62)	22 (54)	23 (56)
Heterosexual	11 (22)	11 (22)	12 (19)	13 (21)	8 (20)	7 (17)
IDU	11 (22)	11 (22)	8 (13)	7 (11)	7 (17)	6 (15)
HBV +	6 (12)	3 (6)	2 (3)	4 (6)	4 (10)	3 (7)
HCV +	14 (28)	11 (22)	8 (13)	11 (17)	6 (15)	8 (20)
	Median (IQR)					
Age (years)	38 (33,44)	39 (34,46)	40 (37,46)	44 (39,48)	41 (36,49)	42 (38,51)
CD4 (cells/mm³)	270 (129,400)	251 (101,390)	279 (185,486)	321 (173,500)	293 (180,402)	234 (141,404)
Log₁₀ HIV RNA /ml	2.70 (2.49,4.10)	3.04 (1.96,4.46)	2.48 (1.69,4.21)	2.63 (1.69,4.25)	2.70 (1.69,3.70)	2.74 (1.69,4.06)

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Baseline and latest levels of biomarkers in cases and controls

	AIDS events			non-AIDS events			Deaths		
	Controls	Cases	<i>P</i>	Controls	Cases	<i>P</i>	Controls	Cases	<i>P</i>
<i>N. of patients</i>	50	50		63	63		42	42	
	Median (IQR)								
25OHD (ng/ml)									
baseline	17 (12,26)	13 (9,24)	0.07	15 (10,21)	16 (9,26)	0.22	19 (12,27)	17 (10,24)	0.28
latest	17 (11,22)	13 (10,23)	0.65	18 (11,24)	21 (11,28)	0.29	19 (12,28)	12 (8,17)	0.03
hsIL-6 (pg/ml)									
baseline	1.7 (1.0, 2.8)	2.0 (1.4,4.2)	0.10	1.9 (1.0,3.6)	2.2 (1.4,3.4)	0.62	2.0 (1.1,2.8)	3.2 (2.6,4.7)	0.01
latest	1.6 (0.9,3,5)	3.0 (1.5,6.4)	0.01	1.6 (1.0,3.2)	2.4 (1.5,4.2)	0.02	2.1 (1.5,3.9)	6.7 (3.0,14.7)	<0.01
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sCD14 (ng/ml)									
baseline	1226 (922,1586)	1241 (1077,1526)	0.59	1329 (1056,1531)	1296 (971,1507)	0.96	1158 (882,1674)	1301 (1080,1517)	0.80
latest	1695 (1433,2324)	2170 (1860, 2617)	<0.01	2128 (1647,2505)	2132 (1634,2471)	0.38	1980 (1477,2373)	2507 (1954,2876)	<0.01

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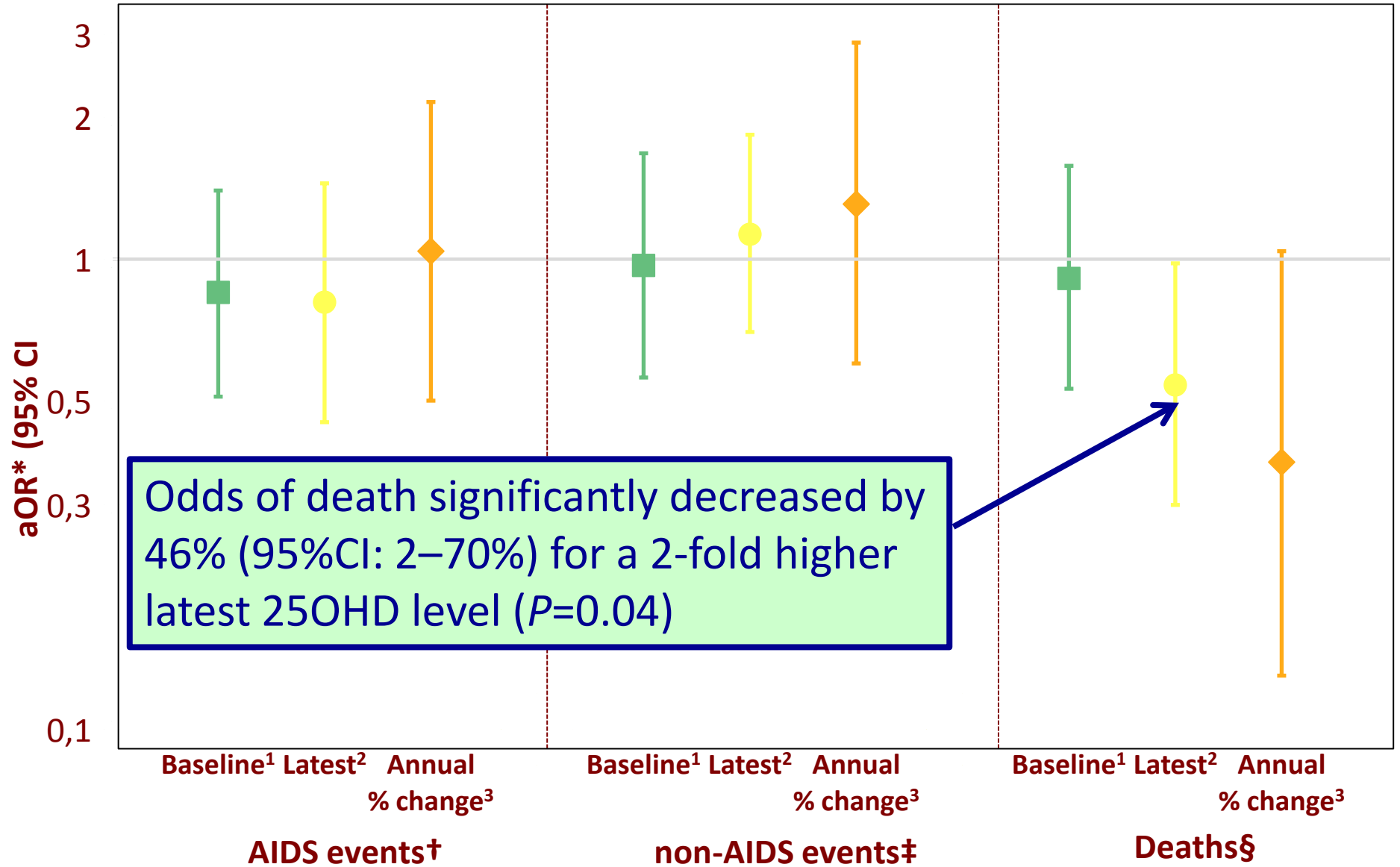
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hsIL-6 (pg/ml)									
baseline	1.7 (1.0, 2.8)	2.0 (1.4,4.2)	0.10	1.9 (1.0,3.6)	2.2 (1.4,3.4)	0.62	2.0 (1.1,2.8)	3.2 (2.6,4.7)	0.01
latest	1.6 (0.9,3,5)	3.0 (1.5,6.4)	0.01	1.6 (1.0,3.2)	2.4 (1.5,4.2)	0.02	2.1 (1.5,3.9)	6.7 (3.0,14.7)	<0.01
hsCRP (mg/ml)									
baseline	1.1 (0.6,3.5)	2.5 (1.1,4.7)	0.09	2.8 (1.0,4.9)	2.0 (1.1,4.6)	0.56	1.6 (0.8,4.8)	3.1 (2.0,8.7)	0.01
latest	1.7 (0.4,4.6)	2.9 (0.7,12.9)	<0.01	2.0 (0.7,3.9)	2.5 (1.2,5.7)	0.47	2.1 (0.9,4.3)	8.7 (3.3,30.0)	<0.01
sCD14 (ng/ml)									
baseline	1226 (922,1586)	1241 (1077,1526)	0.59	1329 (1056,1531)	1296 (971,1507)	0.96	1158 (882,1674)	1301 (1080,1517)	0.80
latest	1695 (1433,2324)	2170 (1860, 2617)	<0.01	2128 (1647,2505)	2132 (1634,2471)	0.38	1980 (1477,2373)	2507 (1954,2876)	<0.01

Baseline and latest levels of biomarkers in cases and controls

	AIDS events			non-AIDS events			Deaths		
	Controls	Cases	<i>P</i>	Controls	Cases	<i>P</i>	Controls	Cases	<i>P</i>
<i>N. of patients</i>	50	50		63	63		42	42	
	Median (IQR)								
25OHD (ng/ml)									
baseline	17 (12,26)	13 (9,24)	0.07	15 (10,21)	16 (9,26)	0.22	19 (12,27)	17 (10,24)	0.28
latest	17 (11,22)	13 (10,23)	0.65	18 (11,24)	21 (11,28)	0.29	19 (12,28)	12 (8,17)	0.03
hsIL-6 (pg/ml)									
baseline	1.7 (1.0, 2.8)	2.0 (1.4,4.2)	0.10	1.9 (1.0,3.6)	2.2 (1.4,3.4)	0.62	2.0 (1.1,2.8)	3.2 (2.6,4.7)	0.01
latest	1.6 (0.9,3,5)	3.0 (1.5,6.4)	0.01	1.6 (1.0,3.2)	2.4 (1.5,4.2)	0.02	2.1 (1.5,3.9)	6.7 (3.0,14.7)	<0.01
hsCRP (mg/ml)									
baseline	1.1 (0.6,3.5)	2.5 (1.1,4.7)	0.09	2.8 (1.0,4.9)	2.0 (1.1,4.6)	0.56	1.6 (0.8,4.8)	3.1 (2.0,8.7)	0.01
latest	1.7 (0.4,4.6)	2.9 (0.7,12.9)	<0.01	2.0 (0.7,3.9)	2.5 (1.2,5.7)	0.47	2.1 (0.9,4.3)	8.7 (3.3,30.0)	<0.01
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latest	1695 (1433,2324)	2170 (1860, 2617)	<0.01	2128 (1647,2505)	2132 (1634,2471)	0.38	1980 (1477,2373)	2507 (1954,2876)	<0.01

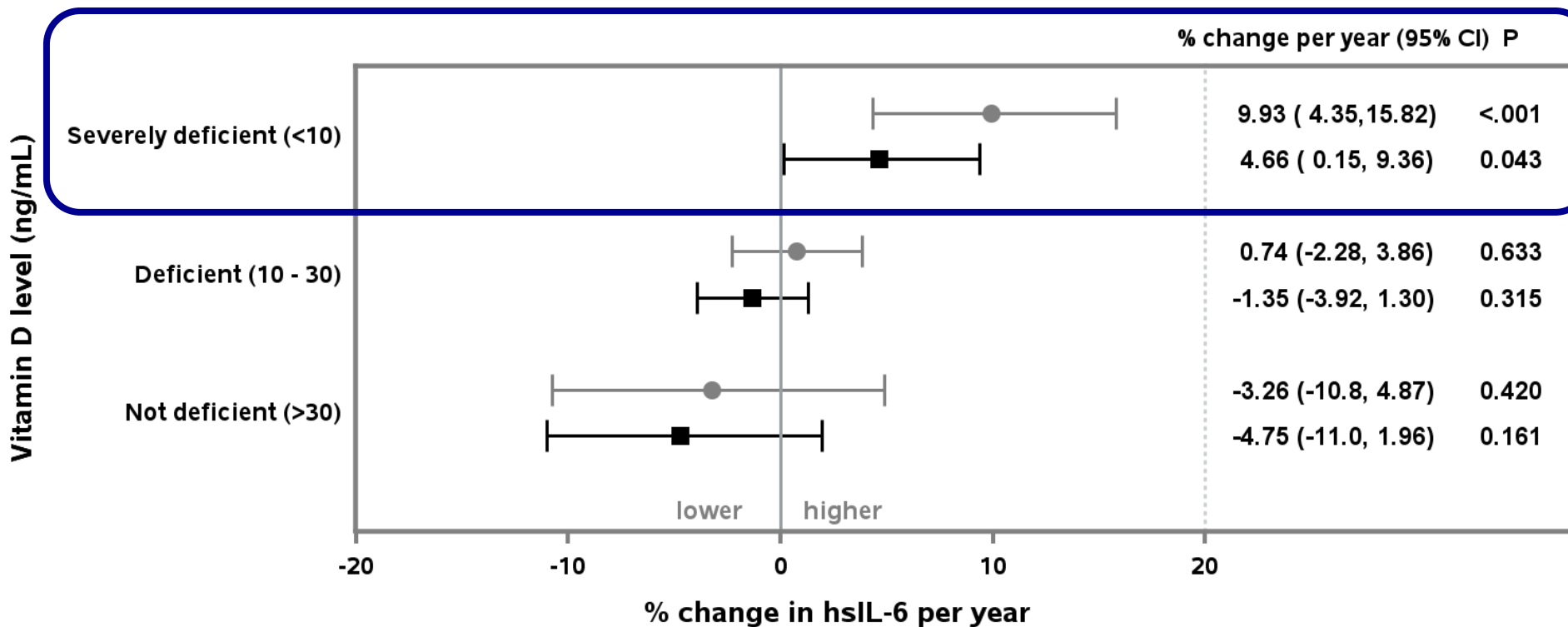
Adjusted odds ratios (95% CI) of AIDS, non- AIDS and death events for a two-fold higher baseline, latest and annual % change from baseline 25OHD level



*Models adjusted for baseline season, prior AIDS and ethnicity

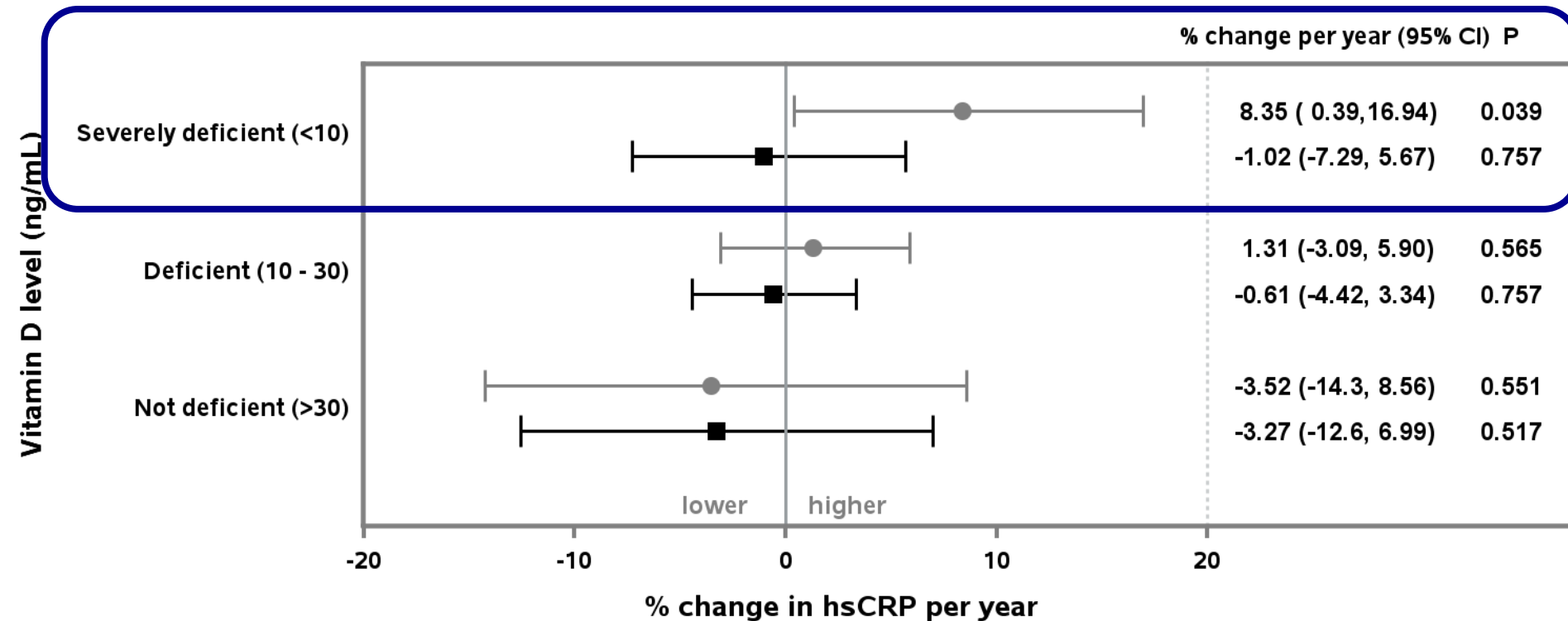
Matched pairs: †N1 =50, N2 = 44, N3=48; ‡N1 =63, N2 = 61, N3=62; §N1 =41, N2 = 38, N3=41

Percentage Change in **hsIL-6**, hsCRP, sCD14 and CD4 per year according to current 25OHD deficiency category



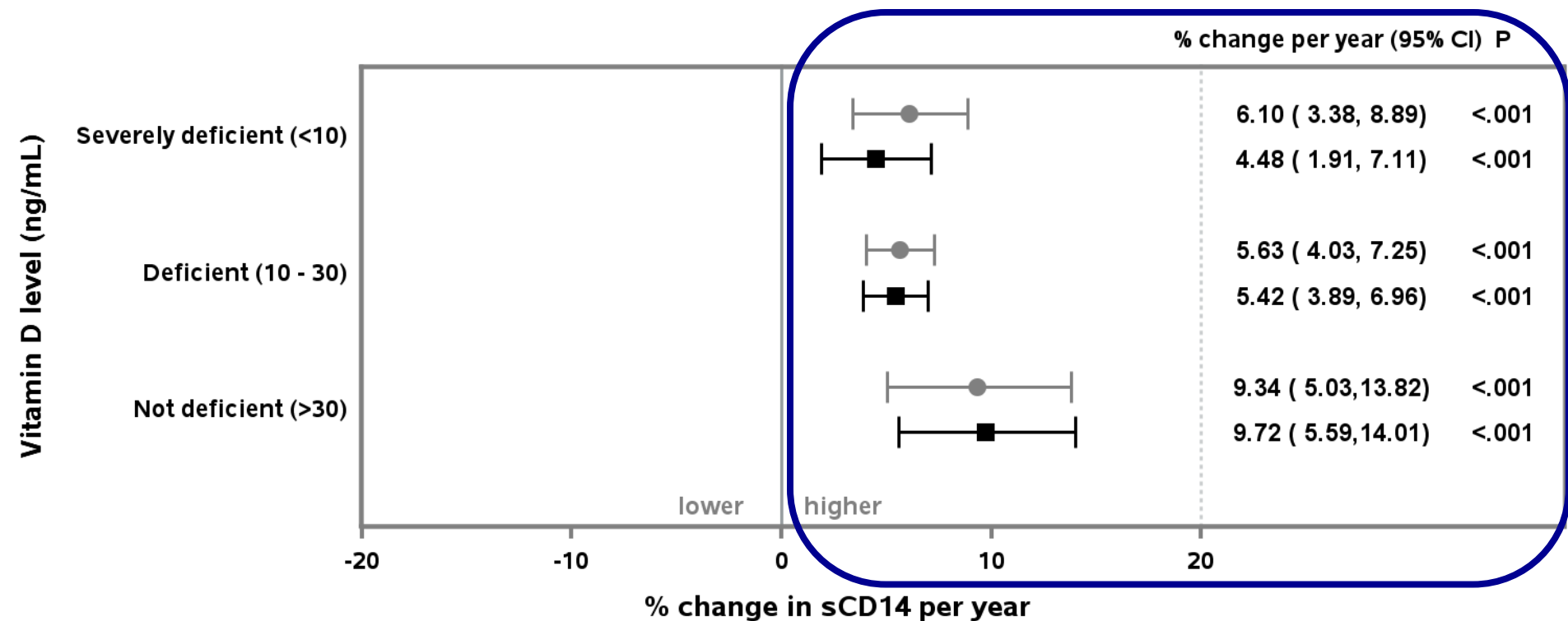
- Mixed model adjusted for season, gender, age, region, ethnicity, baseline CD4, HIV RNA & treatment, HCV & HBV, prior AIDS
- Mixed model further adjusted for current \log_2 hsCRP, sCD14 and CD4

Percentage Change in hsIL-6, hsCRP, sCD14 and CD4 per year according to current 25OHD deficiency category



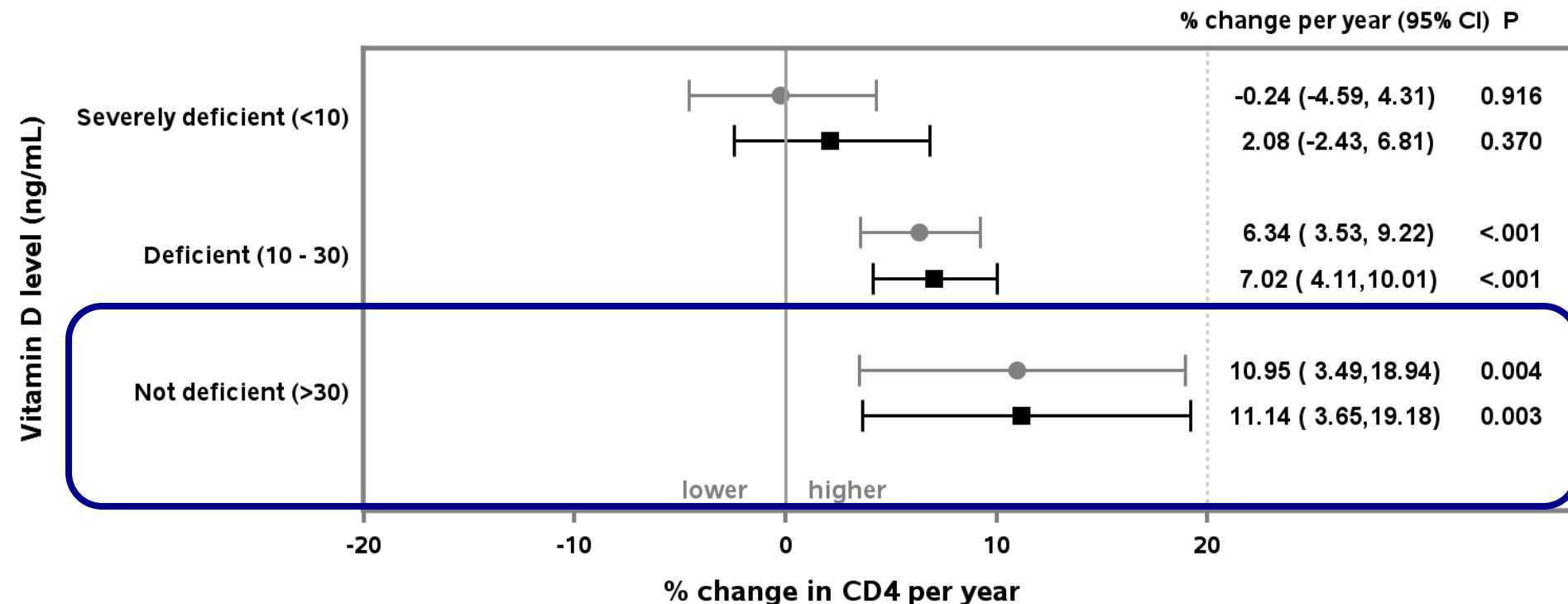
- Mixed model adjusted for season, gender, age, region, ethnicity, baseline CD4, HIV RNA & treatment, HCV & HBV, prior AIDS
- Mixed model further adjusted for current \log_2 hsIL-6, sCD14 and CD4

Percentage Change in hsIL-6, hsCRP, sCD14 and CD4 per year according to current 25OHD deficiency category



- Mixed model adjusted for season, gender, age, region, ethnicity, baseline CD4, HIV RNA & treatment, HCV & HBV, prior AIDS
- Mixed model further adjusted for current \log_2 hsIL-6, hsCRP, and CD4

Percentage Change in hsIL-6, hsCRP, sCD14 and **CD4** per year according to current 25OHD deficiency category



- Mixed model adjusted for season, gender, age, region, ethnicity, baseline CD4, HIV RNA & treatment, HCV & HBV, prior AIDS
- Mixed model further adjusted for current log₂ hsIL-6, hsCRP, and sCD14

Conclusion and Discussion (1)

- Current 25OHD level (3 months to event) was associated with death, but not with AIDS or non-AIDS events.
- Earlier 25OHD levels failed to predict death, suggesting the association diminishes with time.
- Current 25OHD < 10 ng/ml was significantly associated with increasing hsIL-6 over time.
- CD4 count increased only when current 25OHD was > 30 ng/ml

Conclusion and Discussion (2)

- Severe vitamin D deficiency may represent a modifiable risk factor for increased inflammation and immune activation.
- Reverse causality cannot be excluded.
- Studies examining the effects of vitamin D supplementation on inflammation and immune activation markers are warranted.

Acknowledgements

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Change in other markers and events

- Significant association between ACPY in hsCRP and death
 - aOR for a 1 unit increase : 1.33 (95%CI:1.03,1.72)
 - P=0.03 after adjustment (including on other markers)
- Doubling ACPY% of hsCRP associated with increased odds of death
 - 2.76 (95%CI:1.06,7.16) –fold increase
 - P=0.04 after adjustment
- No significant association in ACPY or ACPY% of any marker with AIDS- or non-AIDS-defining events