

Multi-morbidity at the coal face

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The next 15 minutes.....

- What confronts the clinician?
- What are the problems with current systems of care?
- What can we do?

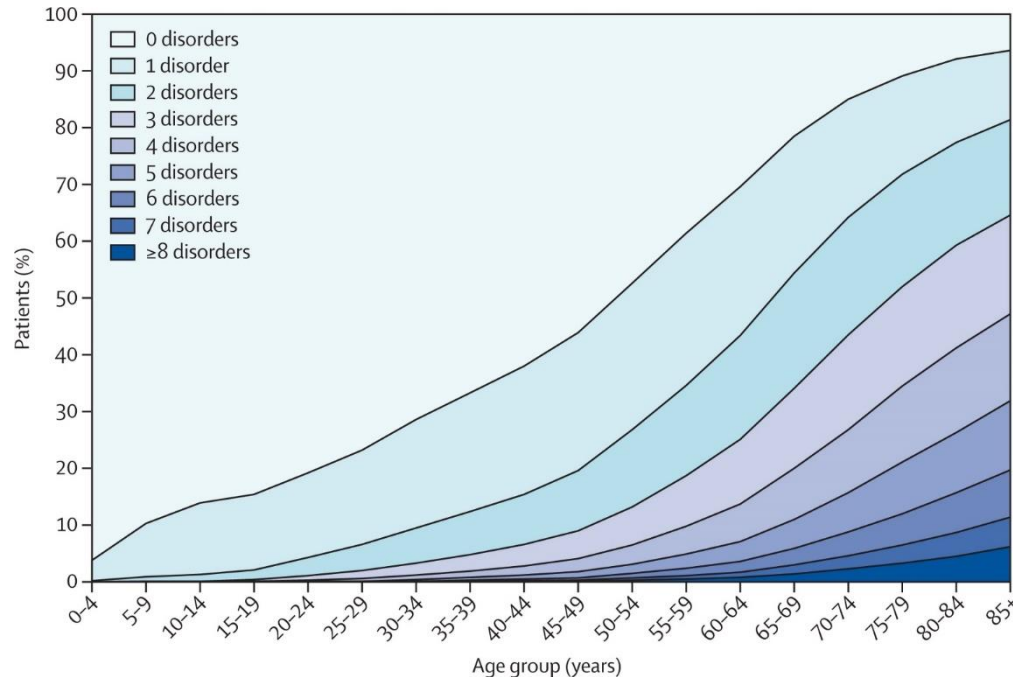


The current environment



- Challenging environment
- Rising demand 3-4%/year
- Demographic shift
- Increasing complexity
- Rising public expectations
- Target driven
- Financial constraints
- Scrutiny/peer review
- Workforce shortages

Prevalence of multi-morbidity in UK population



- Most people with a long-term disorder are multimorbid
- Strong association between age and multimorbidity
- **More than half with multimorbidity are <65**
- Mental health disorders more prevalent with increasing numbers of physical disorders



What confronts the clinician?

- Complexity
 - Physical
 - Psychological
 - Emotional
 - Social
- Frailty
- Polypharmacy
- Uncertainty
- Time pressures

Mary 81yr old lady with fatigue and difficulty mobilising

Moderate/Severe LVSD, previous CABG

Hypertension

CKD

AF

COPD

Osteoarthritis

Osteoporosis-previous # femur

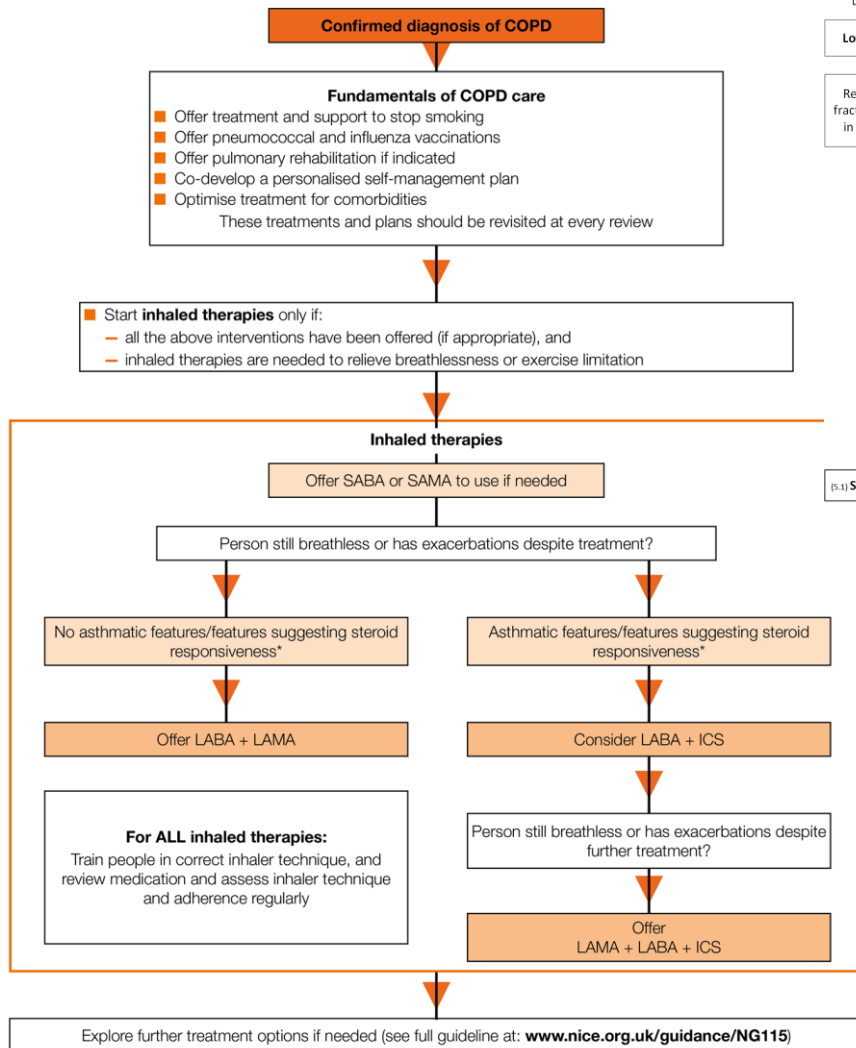
Previous lumpectomy -Breast cancer

CKD

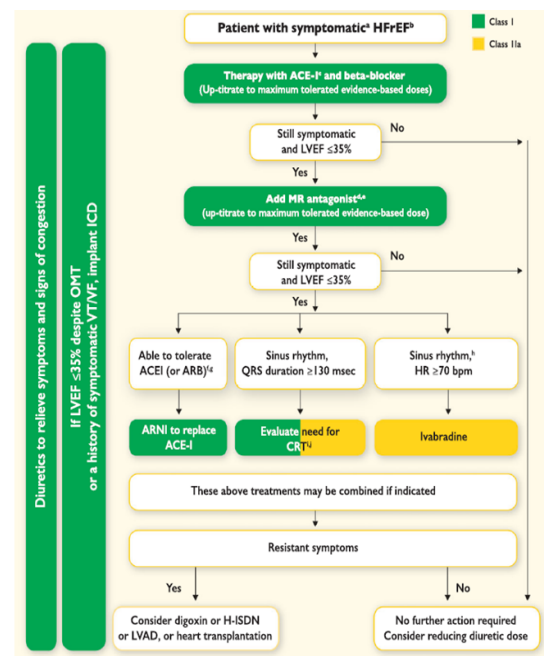
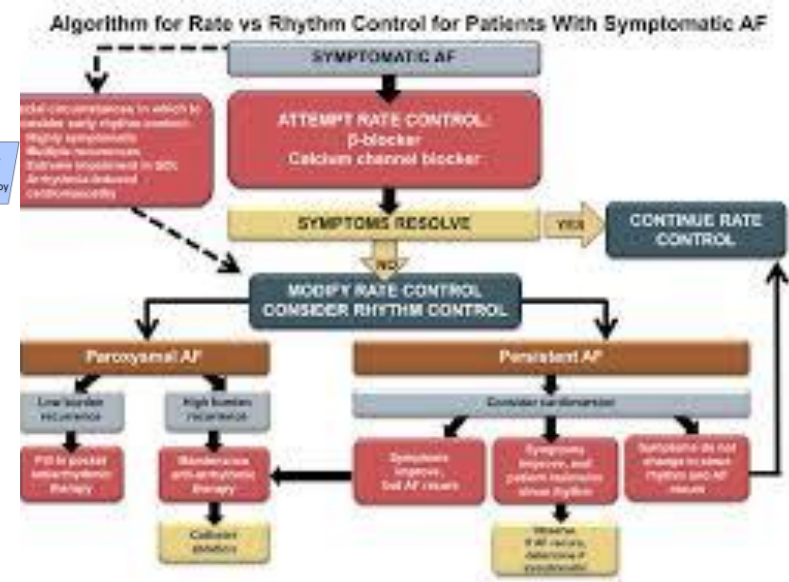
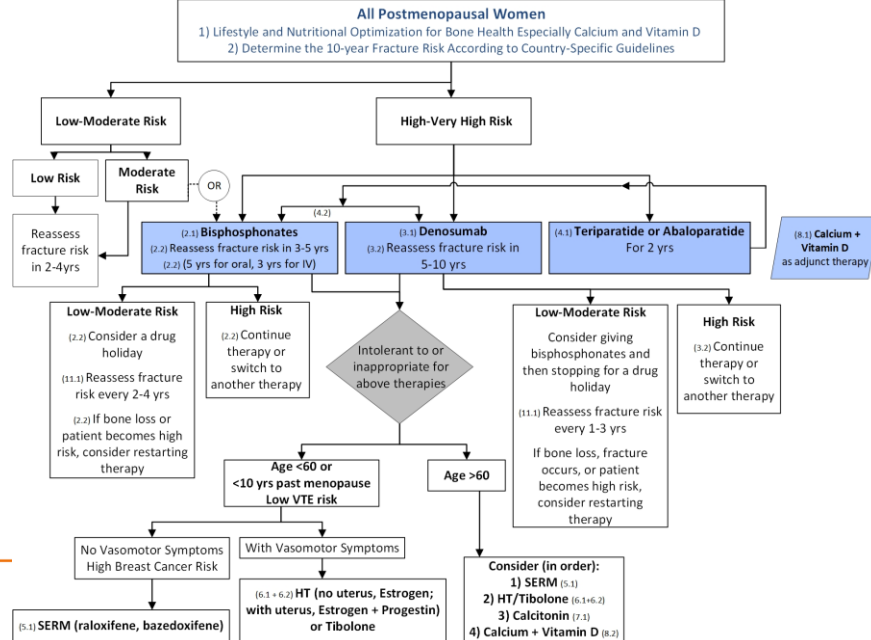
Cataracts

Hypothyroidism

This is a summary of the recommendations on non-pharmacological management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and use of inhaled therapies in people over 16. The guideline also covers diagnosis and other areas of management (see www.nice.org.uk/guidance/NG115)



*Asthmatic features/features suggesting steroid responsiveness in this context include any previous secure diagnosis of asthma or atopy, a higher blood eosinophil count, substantial variation in FEV₁ over time (at least 400 ml) or substantial diurnal variation in peak expiratory flow (at least 20%).



STAGE	1	2	3	4	5
eGFR mls/min	≥ 90 + albuminuria or haematuria	60 - 89 + albuminuria or haematuria	30 - 59	15 – 29	<15
Tests	Annual U+E (including eGFR) Annual urine ACR			As before but now 6 monthly.	Check U&E 3 monthly
Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat BP to a target of < 130/80 (threshold to treat is 140/90) • ACEi or ARB if urine ACR ≥ 30 in non-diabetic or ACR >3 in diabetes • Statin if CVD risk ≥20% over 10 years • Aspirin 75mg (if no contraindication) • Advise lifestyle changes as appropriate 				
Referral	Fall in eGFR by >15% per year Rise in serum creatinine >20% per year ± Urine ACR ≥ 100 ± Systolic BP ≥ 160 (despite treatment with multiple agents)			Discussion with or referral to renal unit is usual.	Usually automatic (Unless not for active treatment based co- morbidity)

Multi-morbidity and disease specific guidelines

- Guidelines developed from evidence
- Typically multi-morbidity and advanced frailty are exclusion criteria for trials
- Patients with multi-morbidity have multiple single disease guidelines applied
- Targets become drivers to comply
- HCP wish to “do the right thing”
- Defensive practice



“Evidence-based guidelines developed for people with single diseases should not necessarily be extrapolated to the management of patients with multiple conditions, given the possibility that this may result in over-treatment and over-complex medication regimes”.

Mary-on excellent evidence based therapy

Drug history:

- Enalapril 10mg bd
- Bisoprolol 5mg bd
- Spironolactone 25mg
- Frusemide 40mg bd
- Isosorbide mononitrate 20 mg bd
- Aspirin 75mg
- Clopidogrel 75mg
- Simvastatin 40mg
- Ca Vit D 2 tablets
- Alendronic acid 70mg/week
- Thyroxine 50mcg
- Letrozole 2.5 mg

So what's the problem ?

Heart failure is no longer the main problem

- Frailty
- Postural hypotension
- Deteriorating renal function
- Under-replaced with Thyroxine
- Polypharmacy
- Muscle wasting and deconditioning
- Poor function
- Low mood
- Hearing impairment
- Socially isolated

Frailty

- 10% of people >65yrs
- 25-50% of people >85yrs

A distinctive health state related to the ageing process in which multiple body systems gradually lose their built in reserves

Patients at risk of adverse outcomes such as dramatic changes in physical and mental well-being after an apparently minor event such as an infection or new medication

Frailty associated with adverse outcomes

- Prolonged hospital stays
- Hospital associated harms
 - Delirium
 - Equipment related
 - Reduce mobility
 - Falls
 - Pressure ulcers
 - Poor advanced care planning
 - Medication related
 - Death
- Discharge to care home

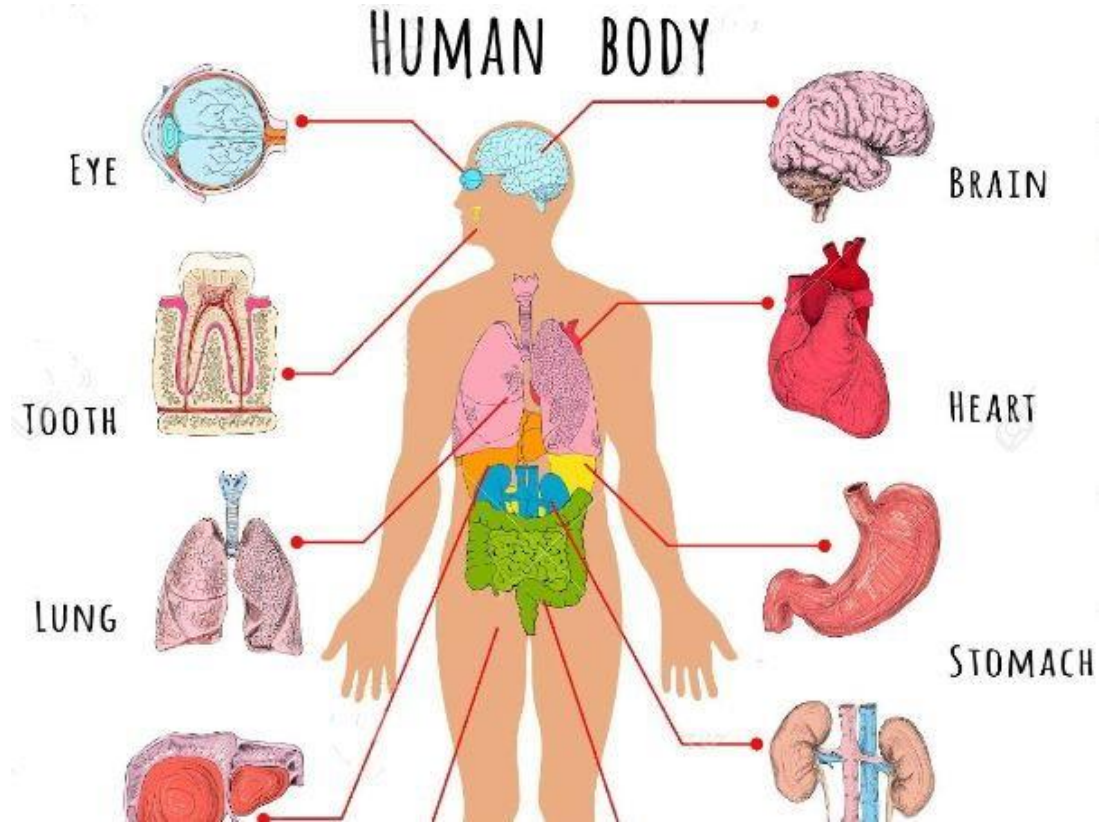
Polypharmacy

- ?An inevitability of multi morbidity management?
- Mean number of drugs of heart failure patient on discharge is 9
- Changes in pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
- High risk of adverse drug interactions and drug to drug interactions/hospitalisations
- Burden for patient
- Economic impact



What are the problems with the current system of care?

- Single organ/disease services
- Multiple clinics and appointments
- Duration of appointments
- Competing priorities



Competing priorities?

- Achieving a balance
- The opportunities for discussion
- The need to compromise
- The correct care setting/ownership
 - Community
 - Outpatient clinic
 - In patient care



What are the problems with the current system of care

- Training
- Interface between primary and secondary care
- Interface with social care
- What matters to me?



What can we do?

- Healthcare strategy and policy must incorporate multi morbidity
- Education and training of HCP
 - Shape of Training
- Generalist v specialist
- Healthcare teams
- Design/configuration of services
- Integration of services with supporting digital strategy

The NHS Long Term Plan



What else?



Better evidence needed across a broad range of areas

- “Real world” patients
- Epidemiology
- Trends and patterns
- Burden: health, social, economic
- Mechanisms of disease clustering
- Patient preferences and priorities
- Prevention
- Current patterns of care
- New approaches to management

What else?

- Priorities for the individual
- Shared decision making



Choosing Wisely
UK

Summary

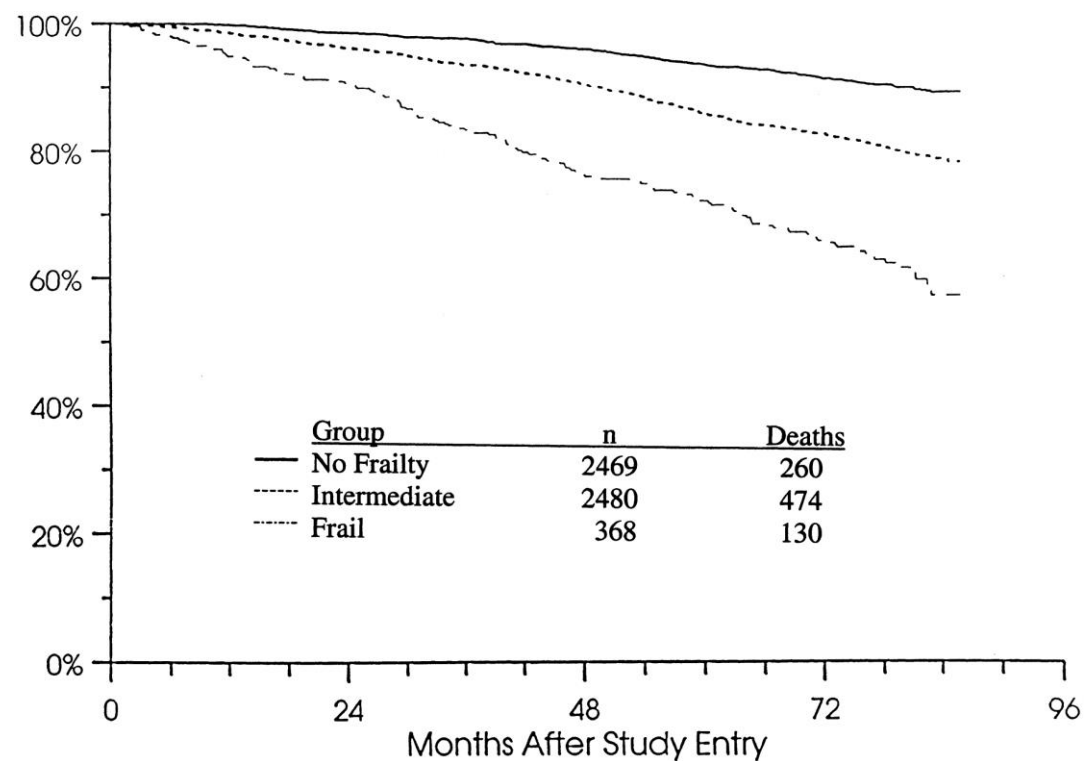
- Multi morbidity is becoming the norm
- Everything we do must reflect that
 - Research
 - Education
 - Policy
 - Service design

"The **good physician** treats the disease;
the great physician treats the patient who has the disease."

-William Osler



Survival curve estimates (unadjusted) over 72 months of follow-up by frailty status at baseline: Frail (3 or more criteria present); Intermediate (1 or 2 criteria present); Not frail (0 criteria present).



Linda P. Fried et al. J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 2001;56:M146-M157

The Gerontological Society of America

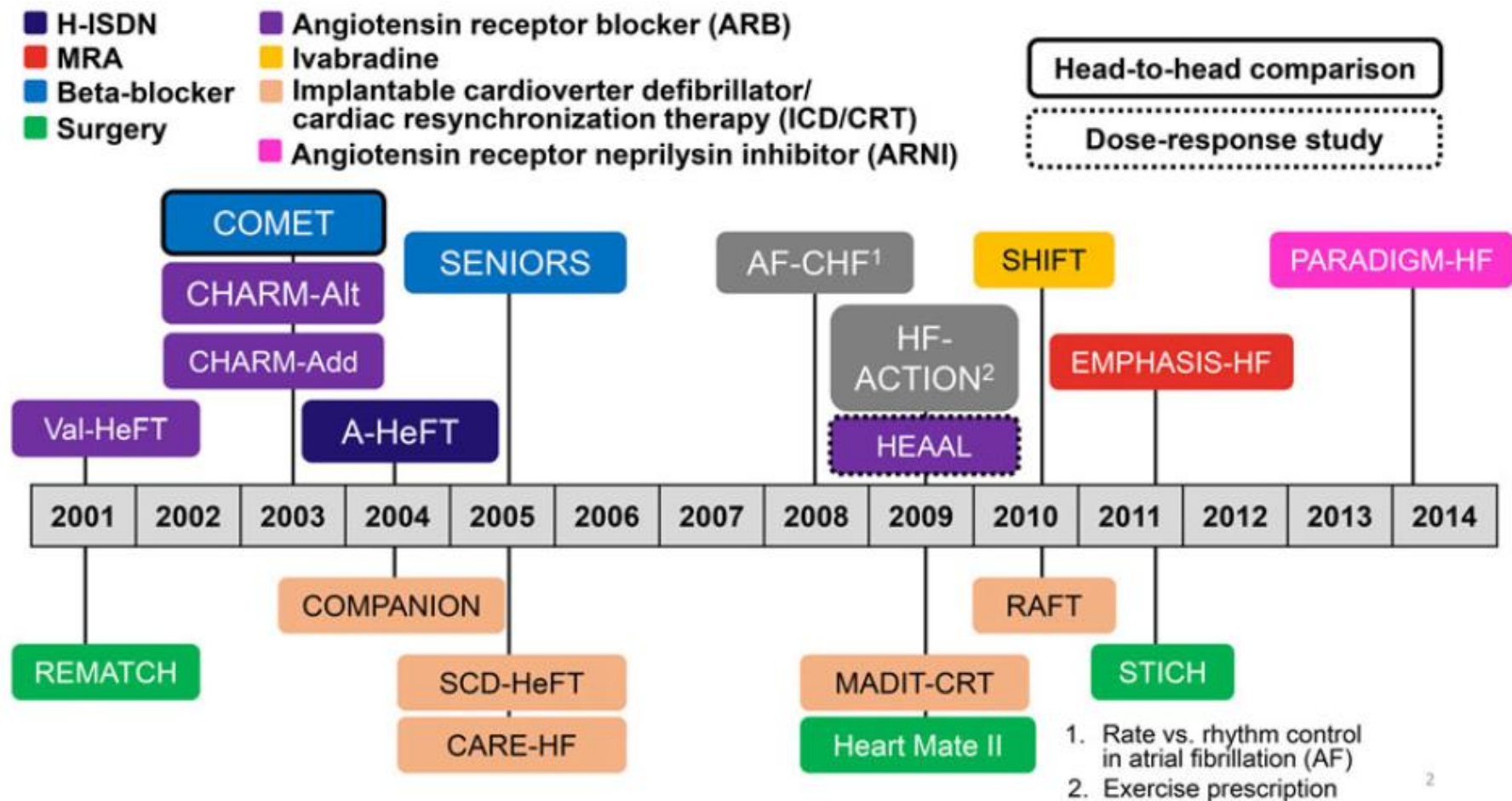
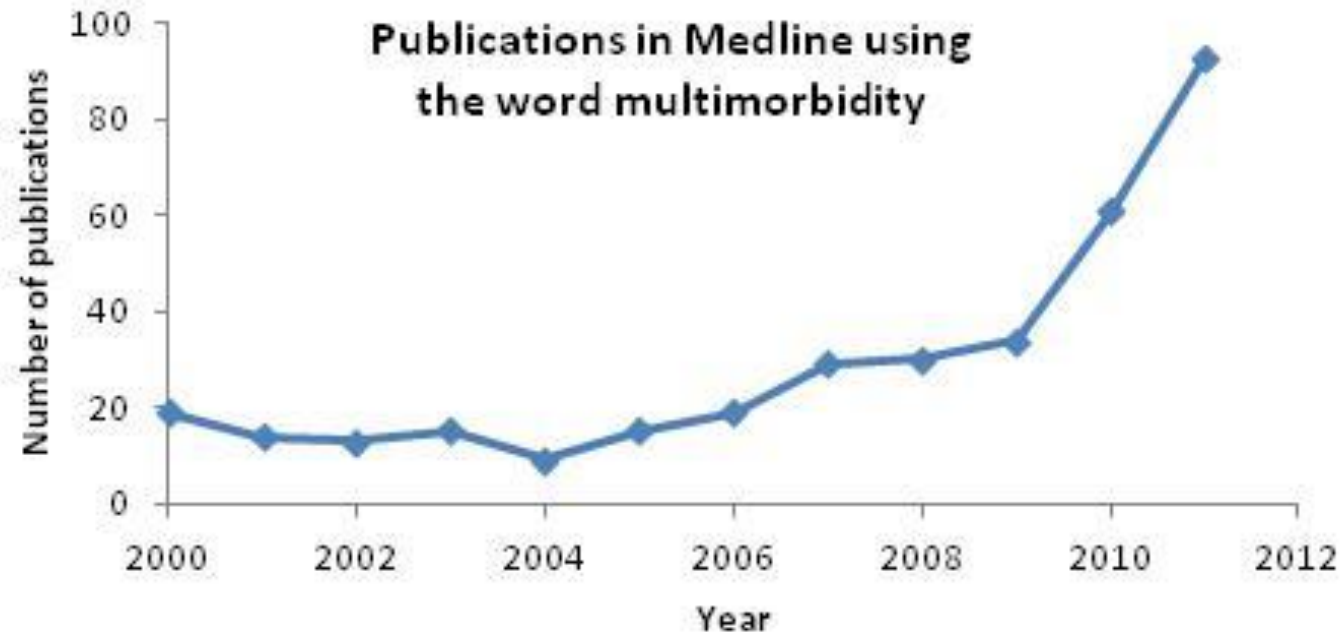


Figure 2 Heart failure-reduced ejection fraction: thirty years of progress - positive drug, device and other trials 2001–2014.



Definition: Multimorbidity is the presence of 2 or more long term health conditions