



# ECPR

**Daniel Rob, Jan Bělohlávek  
and others from Prague OHCA team**

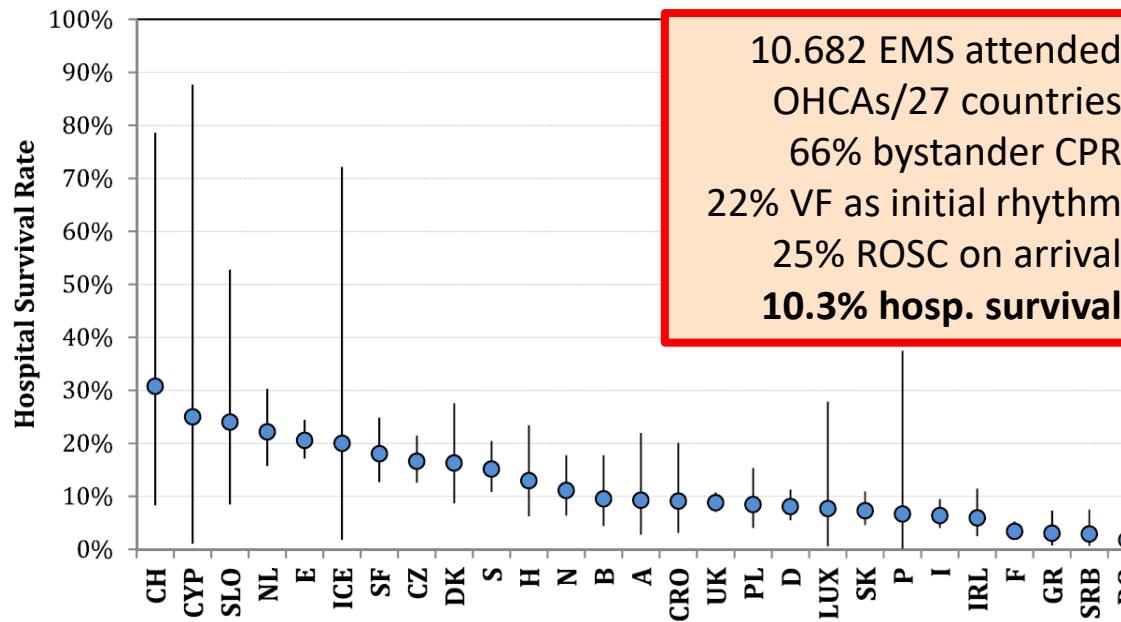
**Complex Cardiovascular Center  
General University Hospital in Prague  
Czech Republic**



# Disclosures

- Lecture fees or honoraria from Abiomed and Resuscitec
- ICU advisory board of Abiomed

# Why do we need ECPR ?



Abbreviations for countries names are explained in Table 1.

**Fig. 4.** Percentage survival in cases with CPR attempted (discharged from hospital alive or alive at least 30 days after event). The vertical lines represent the 95% confidence intervals. The graph includes 6414 patients from 27 countries (range 4 – 1218). The overall rate is 10.3%. Abbreviations for countries names are explained in Table 1.

# RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TIME-TO-ROSC AND SURVIVAL IN OUT-OF-HOSPITAL CARDIAC ARREST ECPR CANDIDATES: WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO CONSIDER TRANSPORT TO HOSPITAL?

Brian Grunau, Joshua Reynolds, Frank Scheuermeyer, Robert Stenstrom, Dion Stub,  
Sarah Pennington, Sheldon Cheskes, Krishnan Ramanathan, Jim Christenson

**50 and 90% survivors reached ROSC in 8th and 24th minute**

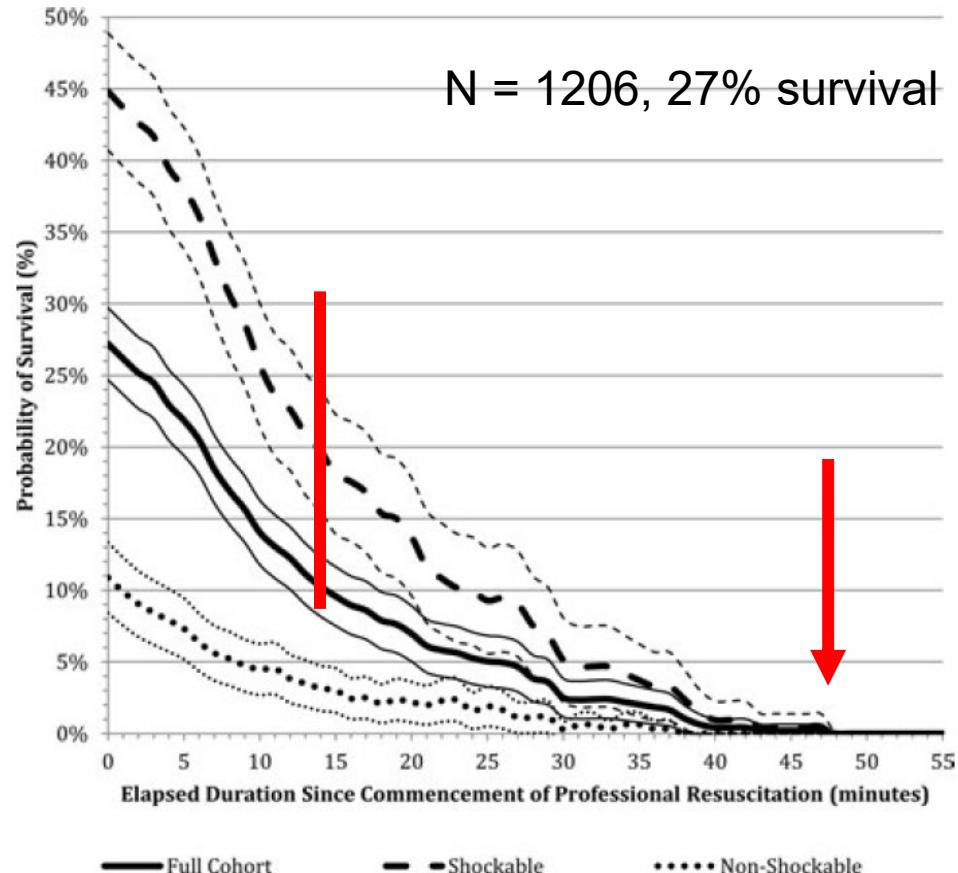
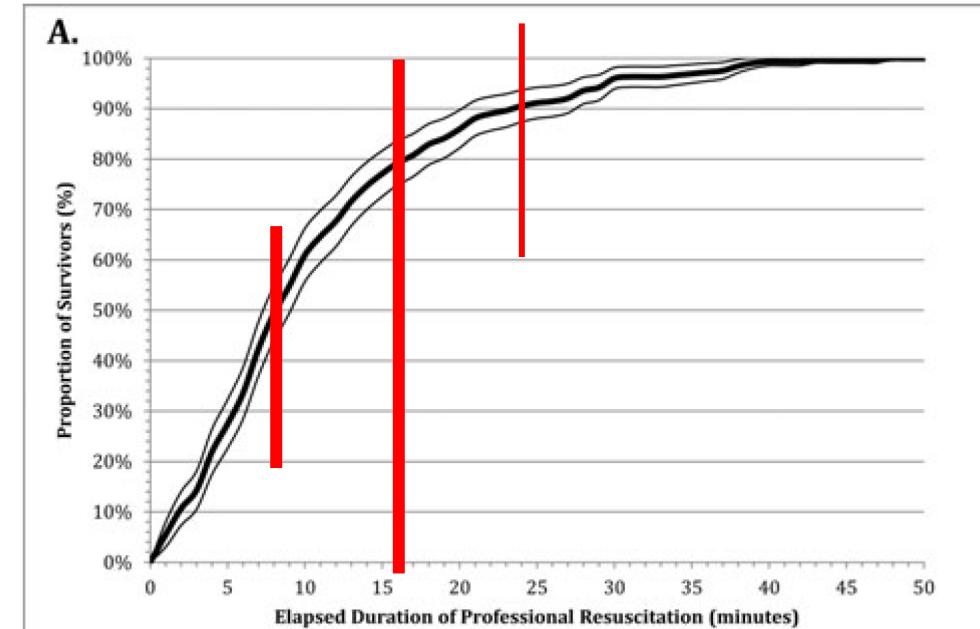


FIGURE 3. Probability of survival among pulseless patients, at increasing durations of time since commencement of resuscitation (with 95% CI).

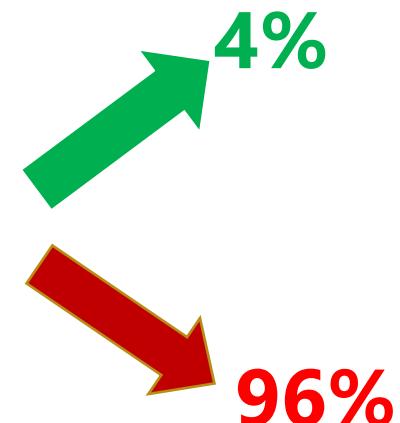


Percent of survivors who reached ROSC  
**Minute 16 is a breaking moment**



# What is the natural course of refractory OHCA ?

- Patients without prehospital return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) bear a grave prognosis.



- Wampler, D. A., Collett, L., Manifold, C. A., Velasquez, C., & McMullan, J. T. (2012). Cardiac arrest survival is rare without prehospital return of spontaneous circulation. *Prehospital Emergency Care*, 16(4), 451-455.
- I.R. Drennan, S. Lin, D.E. Sidalk, et al. Survival rates in out-of-hospital cardiac arrest patients transported without prehospital return of spontaneous circulation: an observational cohort study. *Resuscitation*, 85 (2014), pp. 1488-1493



# ECPR works

- 31y old male, cigarettes smoker
- Sudden collapse tram station - **10:50 AM - witnessed**
- 112 call time **10:53**
- TANR - **10:54 –bystander CPR**
- EMS arrival **11:00 (7 min)**, initial rhythm **VFIB**
- ACLS per guidelines, 3 shocks, 300mg amiodarone, 1mg adrenalin iv., OTI – **call to our center 11:12**

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for managing emergency calls. At the top, it displays the number of messages (31), the text "Avízo RV KQZ (3... 4 členové"), and icons for a clipboard, video, and phone.

Below this, a message indicates: "Byl/a jste přidán/a do chatu." (You have been added to the chat).

The main area contains a card for a patient named ZZS HMP:

- Warning icon: Avízo ZZS HMP – RV 31
- Date and time: 02.12.2022 11:12:51
- Gender: ♂ MUŽ 30
- Condition: KPR

Below the patient card, there is information about the rhythm and resuscitation:

- VSTUPNÍ RYTMUS: VF / VT
- ROSC: Kontinuální KPR

Further down, another card provides travel information:

- ČAS DOJEZDU: ± 15 min.
- Time: 11:14

A map shows the route from the patient's location to the hospital, with labels for "Žitná", "Demínka", "Anglická", "Italská", "VINOHRA", "gin's Rotunda", "El Sunrise", "I. P. Pavlova", and "mapbox". The location "Jugoslávská, Praha, CZ" is also mentioned at the bottom right.



# Hospital arrival

- **11:27** – very fast transport – **15 min**  
+ 3 more defibrillations
- Ongoing **VFIB**, no intermittent ROSC
- **11:37 - VA ECMO started – 10 min**
- **Time from collapse to ECMO = 47 min**
- Ongoing VFIB – defibrillation not successful

I.D. pacienta			
Příjmení pacienta			
Jméno pacienta			
Typ vzorku			
T	Arteriální		
	37,0 °C		
Hodnoty krevních plynů			
pH	6,782		
pCO2	9,13	kPa	
pO2	21,7	kPa	
Hodnoty oximetrie			
ctHb	137	g/L	
sO2	96,1	%	
FMetHb	0,8	%	
Hodnoty elektrolytů			
cK+	2,3	mmol/L	
? cNa+	144	mmol/L	
cCa2+	1,23	mmol/L	
cCl-	108	mmol/L	
Hodnoty metabolitů			
cGlu	12,4	mmol/L	
? cLac	16	mmol/L	
Acidobasický status			
cHCO3-(P,st),c	7,6	mmol/L	
cBase(B),c	-25,4	mmol/L	
cHCO3-(P),c	10,2	mmol/L	
ctCO2(B),c	25,2	Vol%	
Baro.	99,3	kPa	



# 21:07 (10hours since collapse)

- Early signs of awakening despite propofol + sufentanyl
- Fast rewarming to 36.5 degrees
- Patient obeying verbal commands, stable on VA ECMO

\* With patient consent



# ICU course

- Day 2 LVEF 20%
- Day 3 LV improvement (LVEF 30%)
- Day 5 ECMO decannulation

\* With patient consent



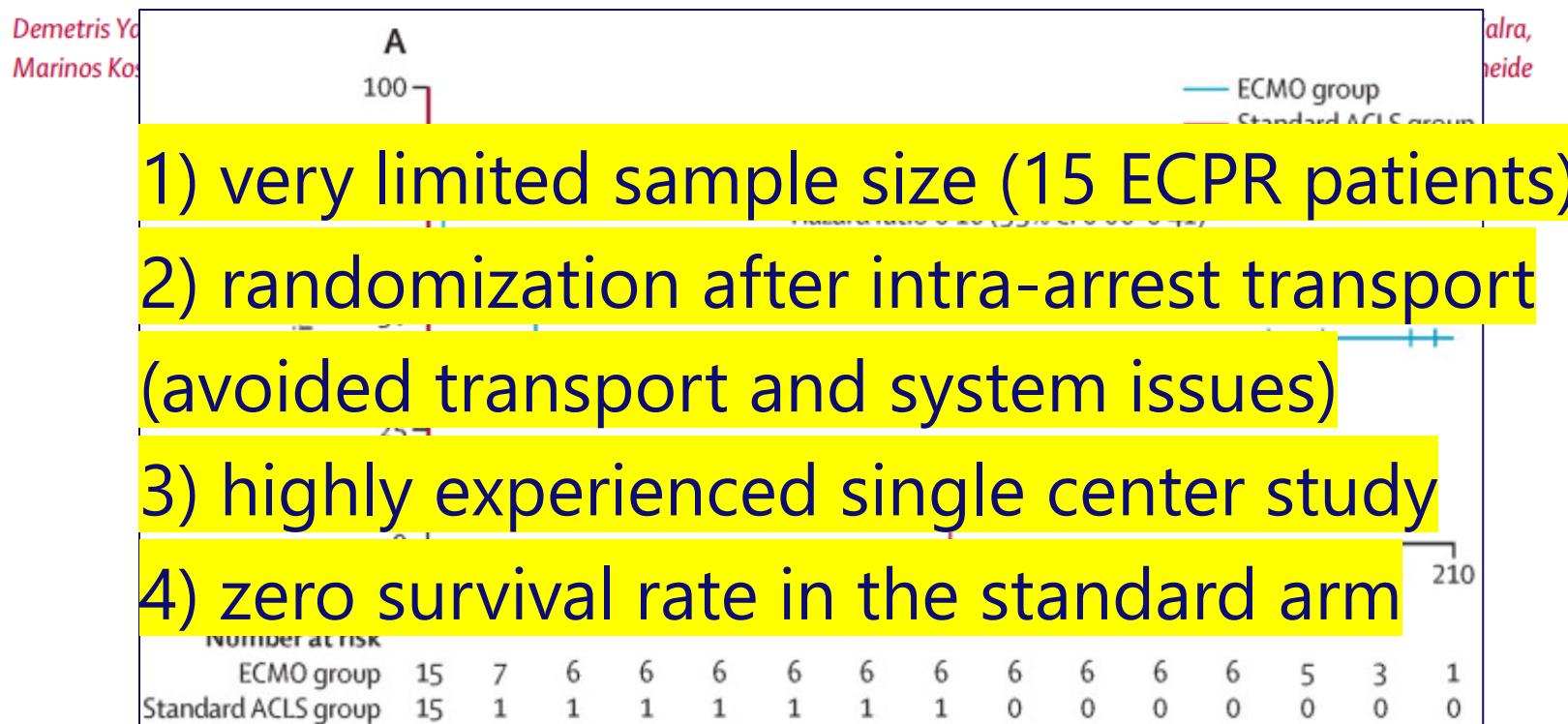


# Follow-up

- Day 10 - discharged home – echocardiography
- 6 months FU - NYHA I, working, +10kg after smoking cessation

# ECPR works

Advanced reperfusion strategies for patients with out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and refractory ventricular fibrillation (ARREST): a phase 2, single centre, open-label, randomised controlled trial





# IHCA – ECPR works

**Table 1 Notable published studies of ECPR**

Type of study	No. of subjects	Outcome measurement	Results <sup>a</sup>
<b>IHCA</b>			
Chen [14]	Propensity-score matched analysis	46 matched pairs	ECPR vs CPR 30.4% vs 15.2%; HR 0.51, [0.35–0.74], $p < 0.0001^b$
Shin [15]	Propensity-score matched analysis	60 matched pairs	ECPR vs CPR 20% vs 5%; HR = 0.53, [0.36–0.80] $p = 0.002$
Ouweneel [37]	Meta-analysis of matched pairs analyses	195 matched pairs	ECPR vs CPR 23% vs 9.7%, RR 0.85, <sup>c</sup> ARR 13%, [7–20%], $p = 0.0001$
<b>IHCA and OHCA with in-hospital ECPR</b>			
Lunz [40]	Multicenter retrospective study	IHCA: 165 OHCA: 258	IHCA vs OHCA 34.2% vs 9%; RR 0.72, <sup>c</sup> $p < 0.01$

Abrams D, Bělohlávek J, Combes A et al. *Intensive Care Medicine* 2021



# It is not about the ECMO... Prague OHCA trial design



ECPR

## Randomization



Inclusion criteria	Exclusion criteria
Age ≥18 and ≤65 years	OHCA of presumed non-cardiac cause
Witnessed OHCA of presumed cardiac cause	Unwitnessed collapse
Minimum of 5 minutes of ACLS performed by emergency medical service team without sustained ROSC	Suspected or confirmed pregnancy
Unconsciousness <sup>1</sup>	ROSC within 5 minutes of ACLS performed by EMS team
ECLS team and ICU bed capacity in cardiac center available	Conscious patient

## Invasive arm

Intraarrest transport



## Standard arm

ACLS on site

NO ROSC

ROSC

ROSC

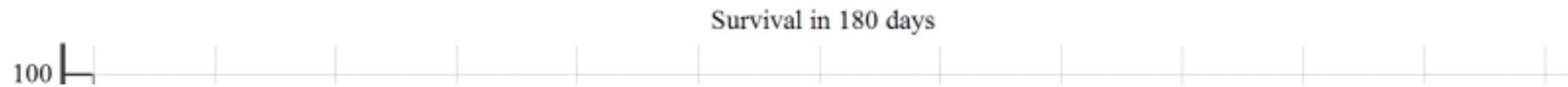
Pronounced dead

OHCA CENTER





# Is ECPR system superior compared to CCPR?



Factor	Hazard ratio	95% CI	P value
Sex (female)	0.89	0.6–1.3	0.55
Age (per year)	1.02	1.01–1.03	<b>0.008</b>
Initial rhythm (PEA/Asystole)	2.19	1.59–3.0	< 0.001
Prehospital ROSC (yes)	0.10	0.06–0.16	< 0.001
Collapse to EMS arrival (per minute)	1.02	0.99–1.05	0.22
CPR time (per minute)	1.01	1.01–1.02	< 0.001
Place of cardiac arrest (public)	1.01	0.72–1.42	0.95
Successful PCI (yes)	0.77	0.52–1.12	0.18
<b>ECPR (yes)</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.14–0.31</b>	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>

Number at risk	Time (days), all patients observed to death or 180 days												
Group: Invasive	124	57	52	48	45	43	42	42	41	41	41	40	39
Group: Standard	132	44	43	42	40	39	35	33	32	31	31	31	31

Belohlavek, J., Smalcová, J., Rob, D., Franek, O., Smid, O., Pokorna, M., ... & Prague OHCA Study Group. (2022). *JAMA*, 327(8), 737-747.

Rob, D., Smalcová, J., Smid, O., Kral, A., Kovarník, T., Zemanek, D., ... & Belohlavek, J. (2022). *Critical Care*, 26(1), 1-9.

Rob, D., Komárek, A., Šmalcová, J., & Bělohlávek, J. (2023). *Chest*.

# Intraarrest transport, extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and early invasive management in refractory out-of-hospital cardiac arrest: an individual patient data pooled analysis of two randomised trials



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## Summary

**Background** Refractory out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) treated with standard advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) has poor outcomes. Transport to hospital followed by in-hospital extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation (ECPR) initiation may improve outcomes. We performed a pooled individual patient data analysis of two randomised controlled trials evaluating ECPR based approach in OHCA.

eClinicalMedicine

2023;59: 101988

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eclinm.2023.101988>

# Pooled ARREST and Prague OHCA analysis

## Survival with CPC 1 or 2 at 180 days

**Panel A.** Intention to treat analysis in the whole population of both trials.

Outcomes	Invasive (N = 139)	Standard (N = 147)	Absolute difference (CI), %	P value
<b>Primary outcome</b>				
Survival with minimal or no neurologic impairment at 180 days	45 (32·4 %)	29 (19·7 %)	12·7 (2·5-22·6)	<b>0·015</b>
<b>Secondary outcomes</b>				
Survival with minimal or no neurologic impairment at 30 days	44 (31·7 %)	24 (16·3 %)	15·4 (5·5-25)	<b>0·003</b>
Cardiac recovery at 30 days	60 (43·2 %)	46 (31·3 %)	11·9 (0·7-22·7)	0·05

**Panel B.** Intention to treat analysis in patients presenting with shockable rhythm.

Outcomes	Invasive (N = 87)	Standard (N = 99)	Absolute difference (CI), %	P value
<b>Primary outcome</b>				
Survival with minimal or no neurologic impairment at 180 days	41 (47·1)	28 (28·3)	18·8 (7·6-29·4)	<b>0·01</b>
<b>Secondary outcomes</b>				
Survival with minimal or no neurologic impairment at 30 days	40 (46)	24 (24·2)	21·8 (10·8-32·2)	<b>0·002</b>
Cardiac recovery at 30 days	49 (56·3)	42 (42·4)	13·9 (2·3-25·0)	0·08

NNT = 8

NNT = 5!!!



# Can the results be generalized?

- 1) absence of EMS and hospital protocols and ECPR experience
- 2) prolonged interval from cardiac arrest to ECPR
- 3) different time point of randomization

Hospital arrival

- 4) unplanned post-randomization exclusions

No. of patients

2§

Median interval

NA

Start of arrest to

- 5) low volume centers, low recruitment rate

No. of patients

22

Median interval

NA

Cannulation

- 6) limited sample size (46 ECPR)

No. of patients

44

2§

Median interval

74 (63 to 87)

NA

- 7) many protocol deviations

No. of patients

43

2§

Median duration (IQR) — min

20 (11 to 25)

NA

- 8) early decannulation and withdrawal of care

- 9) low rate of CAG and PCI



# Why are the results so different ?

- Three trials seem comparable at first glance, but
- Different methodology, randomization, I/E criteria, location...

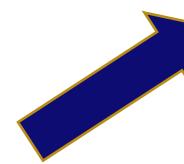
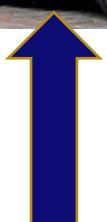
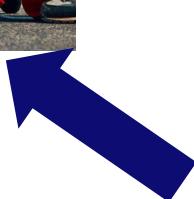
PRAGUE OHCA RANDOMIZATION



ARREST RANDOMIZATION



INCEPTION RANDOMIZATION



# Eligible patients ECPR for OHCA – in hospital cannulation

## Inclusion criteria

- Age ≤ 70 years presumed or known
- Witnessed OHCA
- Bystander CPR
- Presumed cardiac or unknown cause
- An initial documented **shockable rhythm (VF or pulseless VT)**
- **Minimum of 10 min of ACLS without sustained ROSC or at least 3 defibrillations for ongoing VF/pVT**
- Body morphology able to accommodate a mechanical chest compression device
- ECPR team and ICU capacity in the center available
- Estimated **transfer time from scene to the hospital ≤30 mins**
- Eligible for intensive care without restrictions

## Exclusion criteria

- **Age > 70 years**
- **Non-shockable initial rhythm (PEA or asystole)**
- Unwitnessed collapse
- Known limitations in care or a Do not resuscitate (DNR) order
- Known severe disease making 180-day survival unlikely
- Known bleeding diathesis or acute or recent intracranial bleeding
- Obvious or suspected pregnancy
- Conscious patient
- Known pre-arrest severe cognitive dysfunction (cerebral performance category CPC ≥ 3 or mRAS ≥ 4)



# Conclusions

- ECPR is a system of care, not a single procedure
- ECPR works for properly selected refractory CA patients
- ECPR is complex, and success never guaranteed
- Many key questions about ECPR has to be answered
- Great promise of prehospital ECPR and new technologies



# Thank you



We invite you cordially to attend the meeting and share experiences, visions and plans together.

Yours,

Jan Bělohlávek



Marcel van de Poll



Demetris Yannopoulos

