

Outpatient Treatment With the SARS-CoV-2–Neutralizing Antibody Combination AZD7442 (Tixagevimab/Cilgavimab) for Preventing COVID-19 Hospitalizations in the Phase 3 TACKLE Trial

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Introduction

- AZD7442 comprises two human, extended-half-life neutralizing antibodies (tixagevimab/cilgavimab) that bind to distinct epitopes on the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein receptor-binding domain.¹
- Outpatient treatment with AZD7442 in adults with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 significantly reduced progression to severe disease or death through Day 29 and was well tolerated in the Phase 3 TACKLE study primary analysis (**NCT04723394**).²
- AZD7442 administered earlier in the disease course led to more favorable outcomes (88.0% and 50.5% reduction in severe disease or death when dosed ≤ 3 and ≤ 7 days after symptom onset, respectively) and has the potential to prevent COVID-19 hospitalizations and reduce hospital burden.²

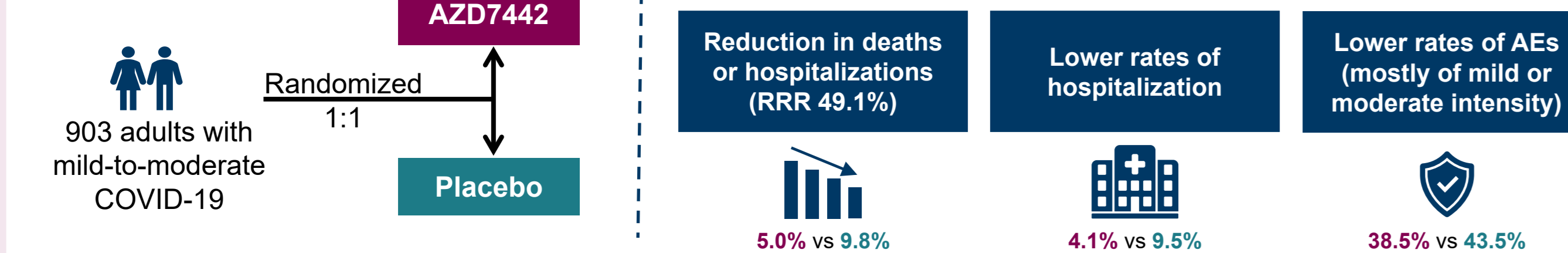
Objective

- We report key secondary efficacy results with longer term safety data from TACKLE over 6 months.

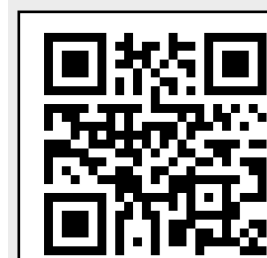
Conclusions

- A single 600-mg intramuscular dose of AZD7442 given within 7 days of symptom onset in outpatients with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 provided statistically significant protection against death from any cause or hospitalization for COVID-19 complications or sequelae through 6 months.
- AZD7442 was well tolerated through 6 months, with no new safety signals arising compared with the primary analysis.
- Overall, these data further support the administration of AZD7442 in an outpatient treatment setting to reduce hospitalization and hospital burden associated with COVID-19.

Graphical summary



Supplementary Content



Poster and video slides

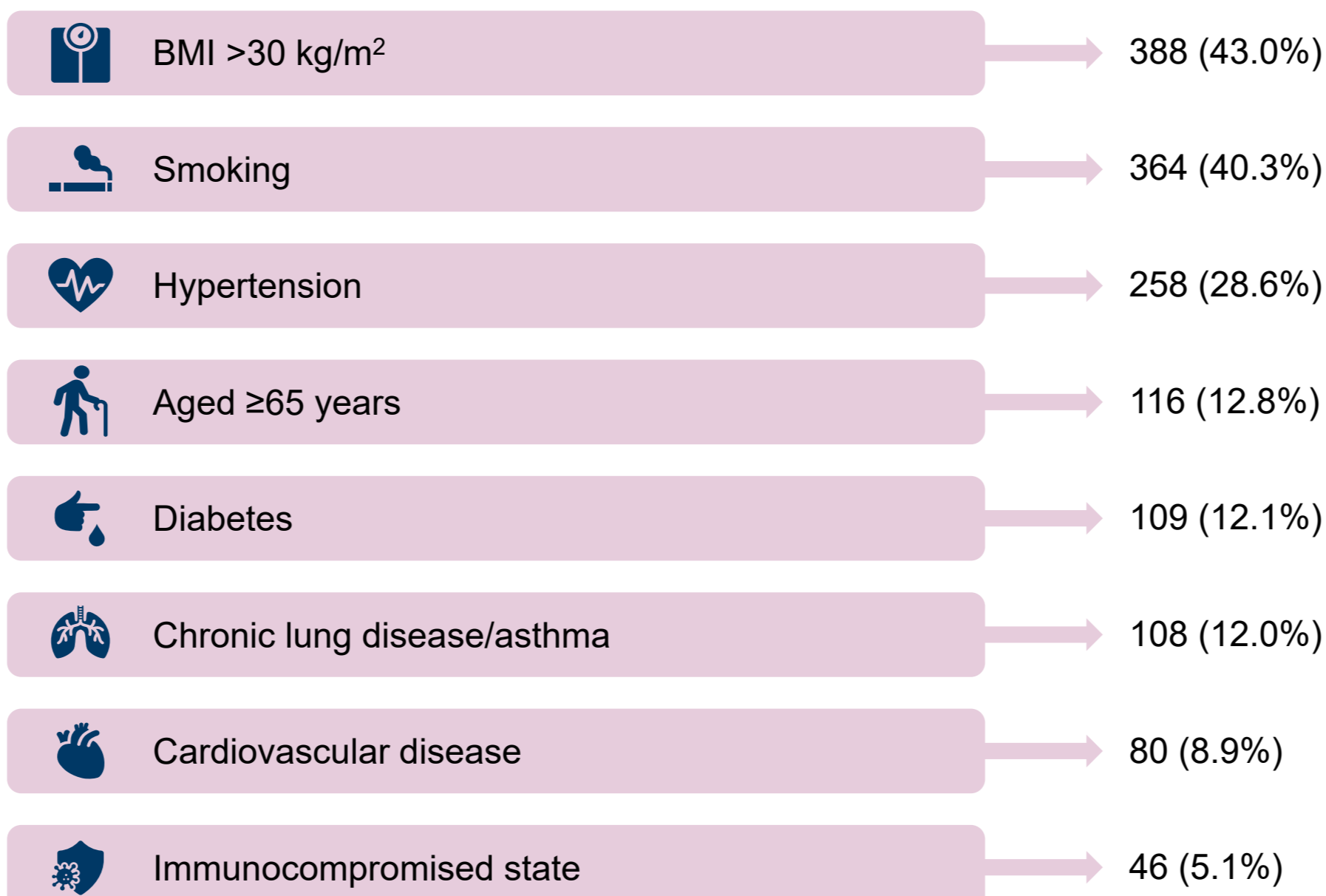
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Results and interpretation

- In TACKLE, 88.7% of participants were at high risk of progression to severe COVID-19 (**Figure 1**).
- Baseline clinical characteristics were similar between the AZD7442 and placebo groups (**Table 1**).

Figure 1. Risk factors for severe COVID-19*



*These comorbidities are considered risk factors for severe COVID-19. BMI, body mass index.

Table 1. Baseline characteristics

Characteristic	AZD7442 (n=452)	Placebo (n=451)
Age, years, mean (SD)	46.3 (15.4)	45.9 (15.0)
Sex, female, n (%)	239 (52.9)	216 (47.9)
Hispanic/Latino ethnicity, n (%)	230 (50.9)	238 (52.8)
Race, n (%)		
White	285 (63.1)	274 (60.8)
American Indian/Alaska Native	100 (22.1)	115 (25.5)
Asian	30 (6.6)	21 (4.7)
Black or African American	16 (3.5)	20 (4.4)
Not reported	21 (4.6)	21 (4.7)
BMI, kg/m ² , mean (SD)	28.9 (5.5)	29.2 (6.6)
Time from symptom onset to randomization, days, mean (SD)	4.9 (1.6)	5.0 (1.6)

BMI, body mass index; SD, standard deviation.

Methods

- TACKLE was a Phase 3 outpatient treatment study in adults with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 who were randomized 1:1 and dosed ≤ 7 days from symptom onset with a single 600-mg AZD7442 dose (300 mg of each antibody; n=452) or placebo (n=451; **Figure 5**).²
- Key secondary endpoint was analyzed using Cochran–Mantel–Haenszel test stratified by time from symptom onset (≤ 5 vs > 5 days) and risk of progression to severe COVID-19 (high vs low).

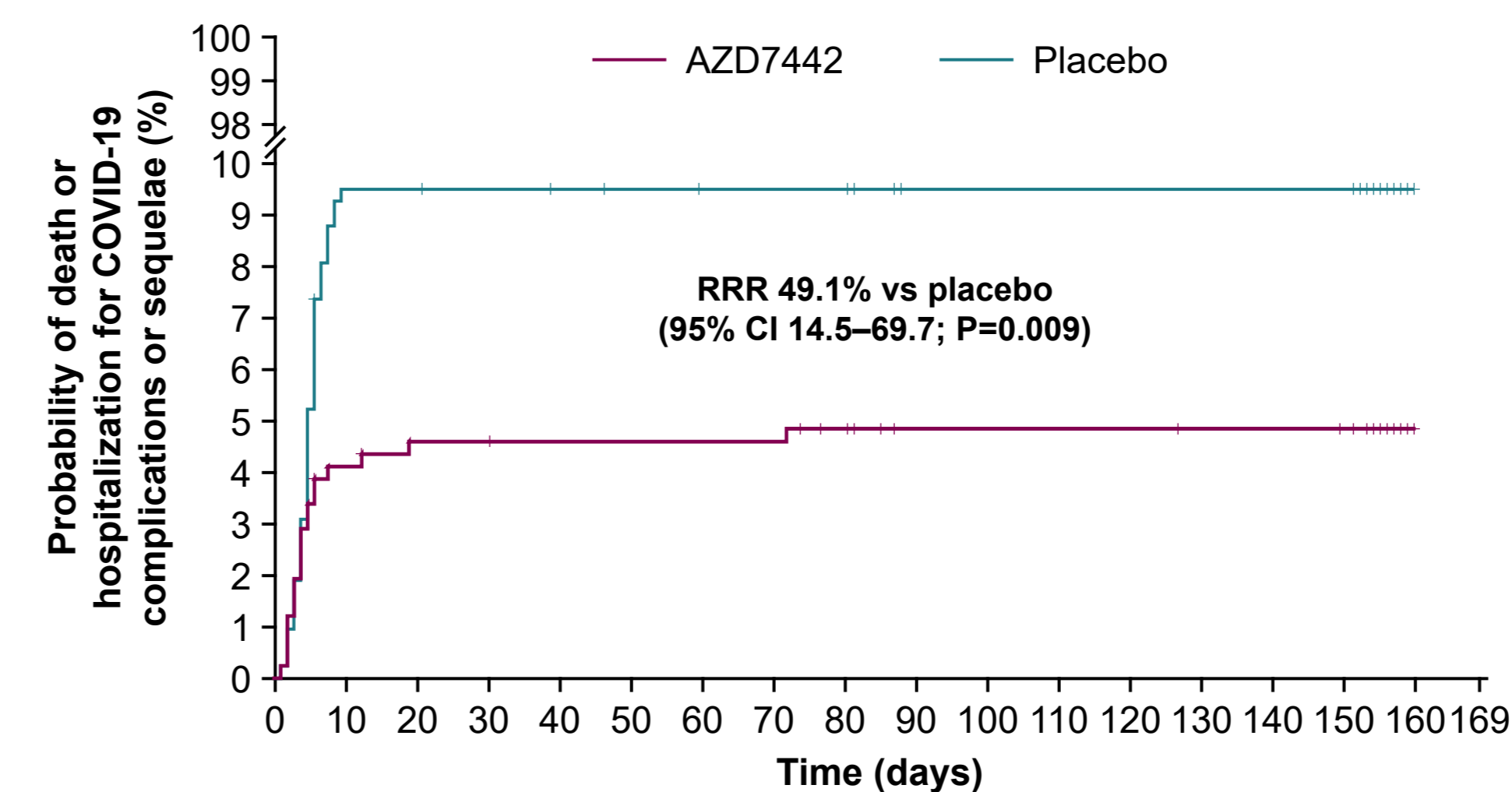
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Efficacy

- AZD7442 treatment significantly reduced the incidence of death from any cause or hospitalization for COVID-19 complications or sequelae. These occurred in 20 (5.0%) and 40 (9.8%) participants receiving AZD7442 and placebo, respectively (**Figure 2**).
 - Relative risk reduction (RRR) was 58.6% (95% CI 27.6–76.4; P=0.001) among baseline seronegative participants, excluding unblinded participants for vaccine considerations, through Day 169.
 - A sensitivity analysis excluding unblinded participants showed 20 (6.8%) and 40 (13.7%) events in the AZD7442 and placebo groups, respectively; RRR was 50.7% versus placebo (95% CI 17.5–70.5; P=0.006).
- Reductions in all hospitalization types were observed with AZD7442 (**Figure 3**).

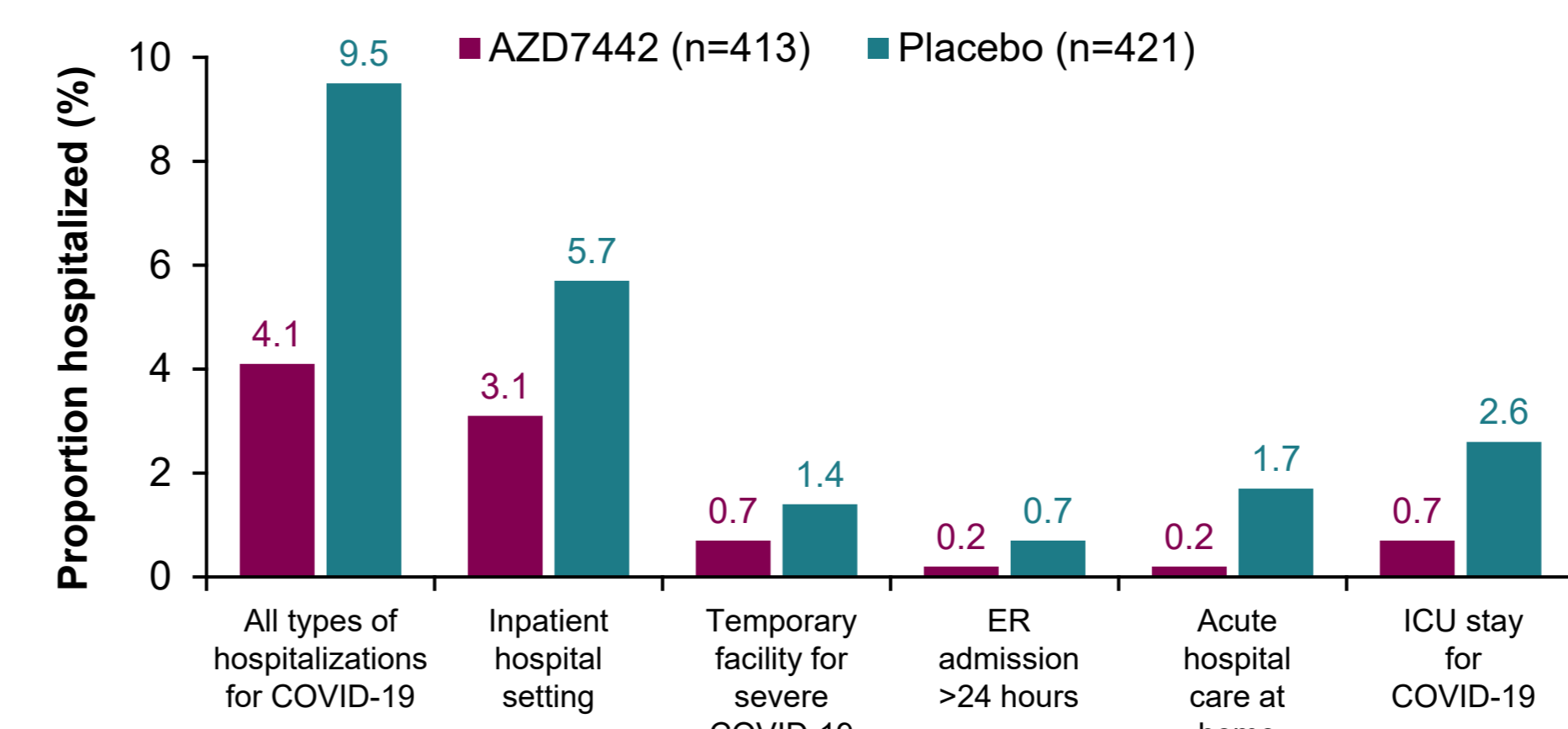
Figure 2. Probability of death or hospitalization for COVID-19 complications or sequelae through Day 169



No. at risk:
 AZD7442 413 395 392 392 391 391 391 391 389 385 384 384 384 384 383 383 381 0
 Placebo 421 380 380 379 379 376 376 375 375 373 371 371 371 371 371 371 369 0

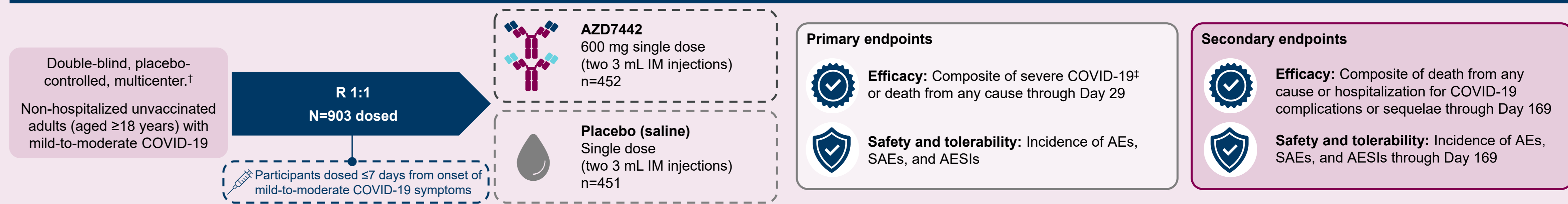
CI, confidence interval; RRR, relative risk reduction.

Figure 3. Hospitalizations through Day 169



ER, emergency room; ICU, intensive care unit.

Figure 5. TACKLE study design^{2,*}



*NCT04723394; [†]Conducted across 95 sites in the US, Latin America, Europe, and Japan; [‡]Severe COVID-19 was defined as a minimum of either pneumonia (fever, cough, tachypnea, or dyspnea, and lung infiltrates) or hypoxemia (oxygen saturation <90% in room air and/or severe respiratory distress), plus a WHO Clinical Progression Scale score of ≥ 5 . AE, adverse event; AESI, adverse event of special interest; IM, intramuscular; R, randomized; SAE, serious adverse event; WHO, World Health Organization.

Disclosures

F.D. Richard Hobbs reports funding from AstraZeneca to cover meeting attendances and operationalization of TACKLE in the UK as UK principal investigator. He has received funding from UK Research and Innovation/National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) for national urgent public health COVID-19 trials, and as director of the NIHR Applied Research Collaboration, Oxford Thames Valley, and investigator of the Oxford Biomedical Research Centre and NIHR MedTech. Hugh Montgomery has received consultation fees from AstraZeneca and is supported by the UK NIHR's Comprehensive Biomedical Research Centre at University College London Hospitals. He has consulted for Millfield Medical Ltd. on the development of a new continuous positive airway pressure machine. Francisco Padilla has received personal fees and grants from Angen, AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, Ferrer, Kowa, Medix, Merck, Merck Sharp and Dohme, Novartis, Pfizer, Sanofi, Senvier, and Silenus. Kenneth Kim has received research grants for the conduct of the TACKLE trial; reports funding from Regeneron, Eli Lilly, Merck, Pfizer, and Adagio; and serves as a speaker for Regeneron. Jesus Abraham Simón Campos reports serving on advisory boards for Pfizer and Eli Lilly, and serving on advisory boards and as a speaker for AstraZeneca and Roche. Douglas Arbetter, Kelly W. Padilla, Venkatesh Pilla Reddy, Seth Seegobin, Katie Streicher, Rolando M. Viani, Gavin C.K.W. Koh, and Mark T. Esser are employees of, and hold or may hold stock in, AstraZeneca.

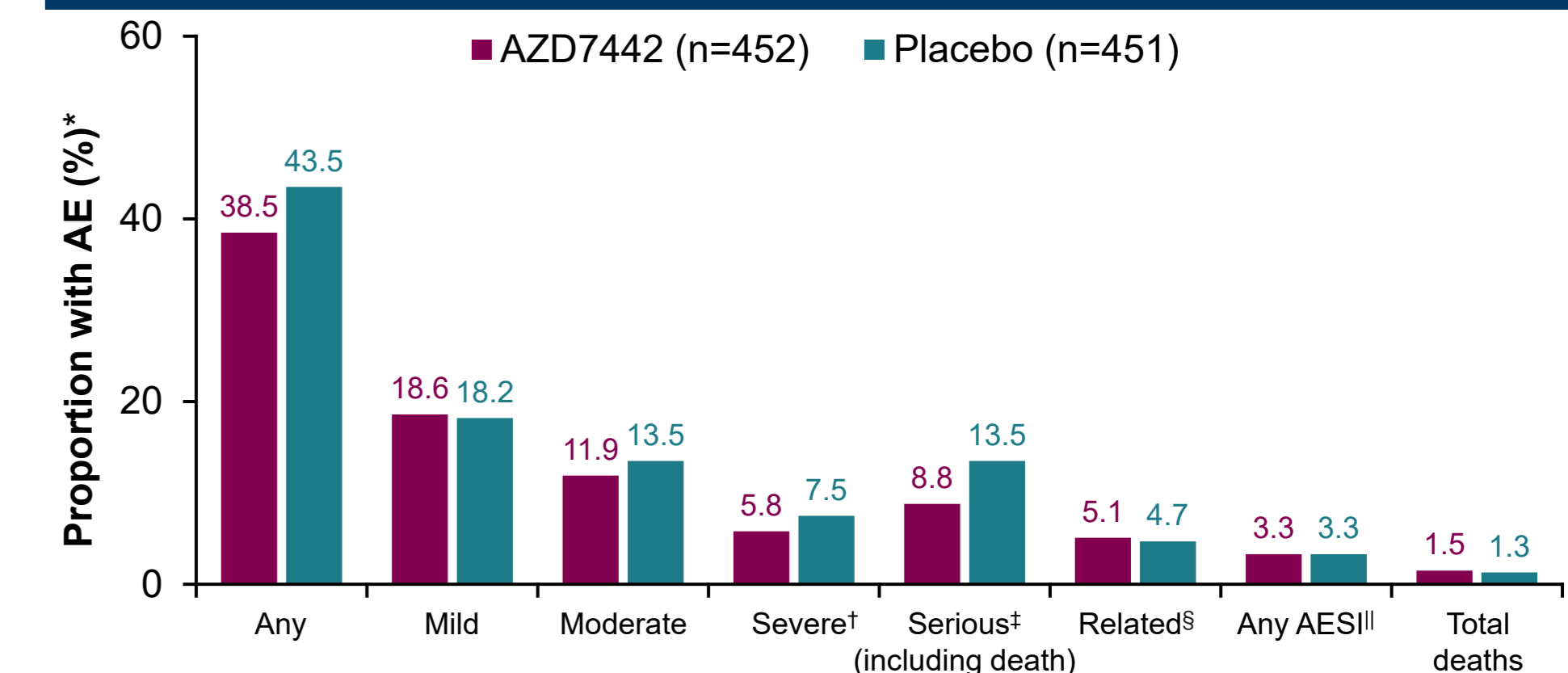
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Safety and tolerability

- Median (range) safety follow-up in this analysis was 170 (1–330) days in the AZD7442 group and 170 (1–326) days in the placebo group.
- Most adverse events (AEs) were mild or moderate in severity (**Figure 4**). The proportion of serious AEs was 8.8% with AZD7442 versus 13.5% with placebo.
- The most common AE in both groups was COVID-19 pneumonia (**Table 2**).
- There were 7 (1.5%) deaths in the AZD7442 group and 6 (1.3%) in the placebo group.
 - Investigators reported 3 (0.7%) COVID-19–related deaths in the AZD7442 group versus 6 (1.3%) in the placebo group.

Figure 4. Reported AEs through at least Day 169



*Each participant is counted only once (based on maximum reported intensity) within treatment groups; [†]Severity is a measure of intensity. [‡]Includes events leading to death, hospitalization or disability, life-threatening events, or that require medical intervention to prevent these outcomes. [§]Possibly related to study intervention according to the investigator (no deaths or SAEs were considered related); ^{||}Includes anaphylaxis, hypersensitivities, injection site pain, injection site erythema, and injection site discomfort. AE, adverse event; AESI, adverse event of special interest.

Table 2. Most common AEs through at least Day 169

Participants, n (%)	AZD7442 (n=452)	Placebo (n=451)
Any AE	174 (38.5)	163 (43.5)
Most common AEs		
COVID-19 pneumonia	26 (5.8)	49 (10.9)
Diarrhea	8 (1.8)	5 (1.1)
Injection site pain	8 (1.8)	11 (2.4)
Type 2 diabetes mellitus	8 (1.8)	5 (1.1)
COVID-19*	7 (1.5)	15 (3.3)
Vaccination complication	7 (1.5)	9 (2.0)
Headache	7 (1.5)	4 (0.9)
Diabetes mellitus inadequate control	7 (1.5)	4 (0.9)

*COVID-19 events likely resulting from reinfections after resolution of initial COVID-19. AE, adverse event.

Limitations

- Only ~10% of the study population was Asian or Black/African American, even though COVID-19 has been shown to disproportionately affect these populations.³
- The TACKLE study excluded people who had received a COVID-19 vaccine, and there was a low proportion of immunocompromised individuals and older adults.