



**Antibiotics in IBD:
The good, ~~the bad and the ugly~~**

Dr Smita Halder

Case 2: 39M patient

- UC dx 2013, PSC dx in 2015.
- Recurrent flares of his UC and PSC over past few years
- Compliant with 5 ASAs for UC and ursodeoxycholic acid for PSC
- 4 week history of jaundice and RUQ pain
- Researching potential Rx for PSC : read about the use of vancomycin
- He remembers being on this for C difficile earlier in the year
- Asks if the infection has led to his liver issues??



What would you say to him?

Vancomycin in C Difficile



**Mild diarrhea
to severe
colitis**

**Oral and
Intravenous
Forms**

**First-Line
Treatment**

Dosing

**High fecal
concentration**

**Risk of
Resistance**

Fidaxomicin

**Combination
Therapy**



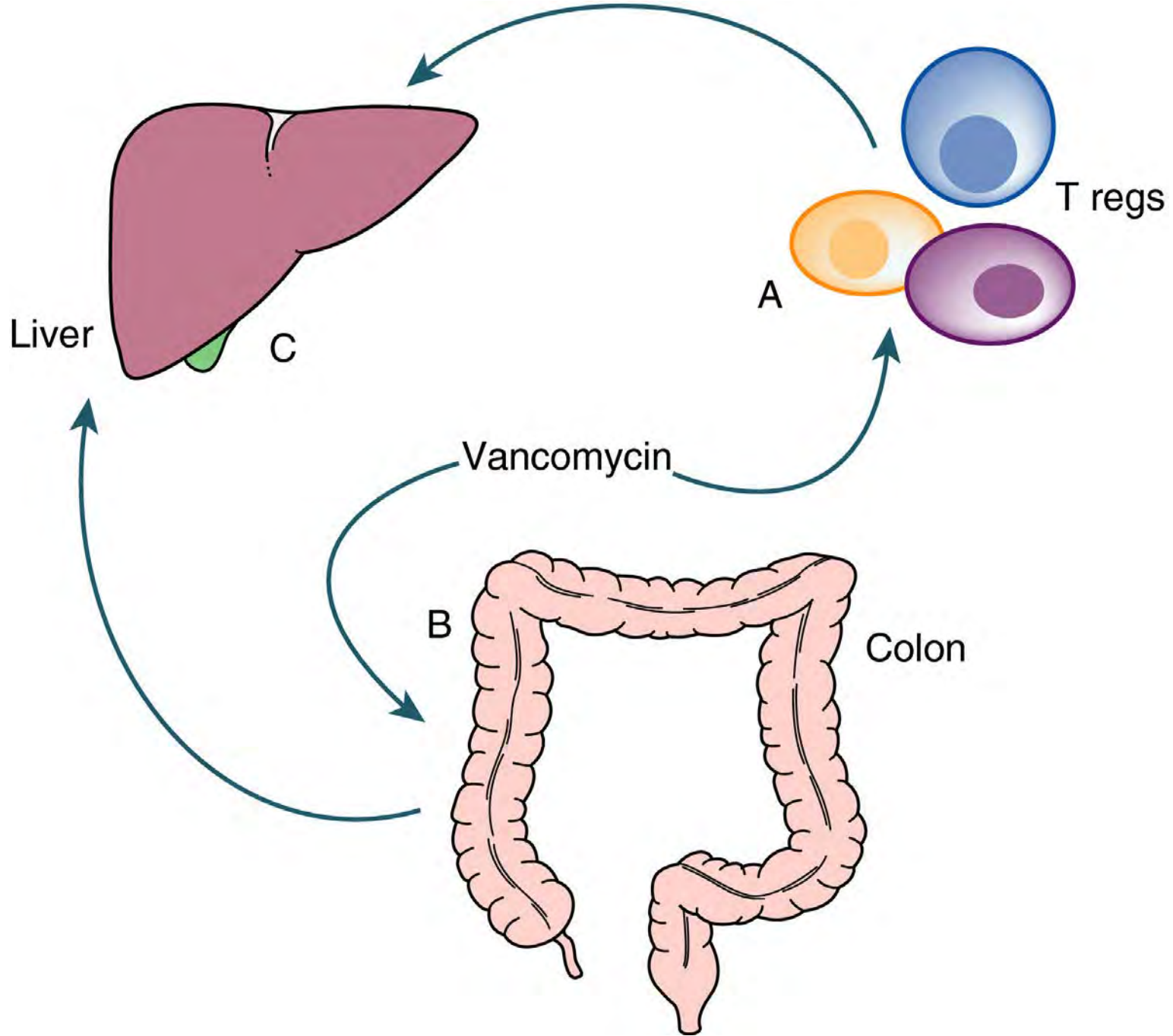
Vancomycin in PSC

Hypothesis

Gut microbiome and bacterial translocation from the gut leads to PSC

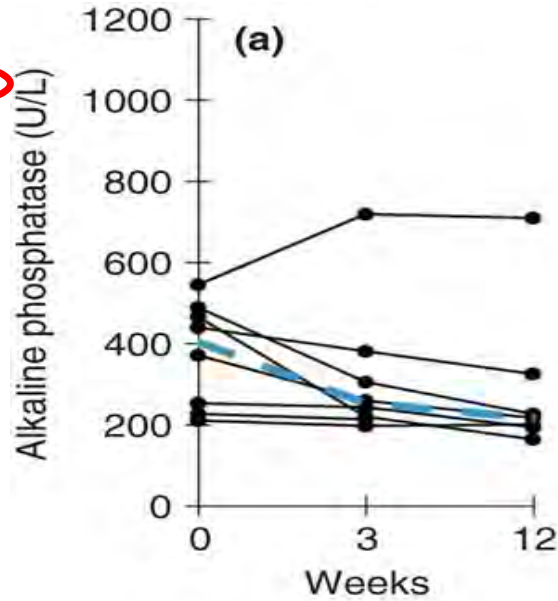
Mechanism of action

Vancomycin *may* influence the composition of the gut microbiota and reduce the inflammation associated with PSC

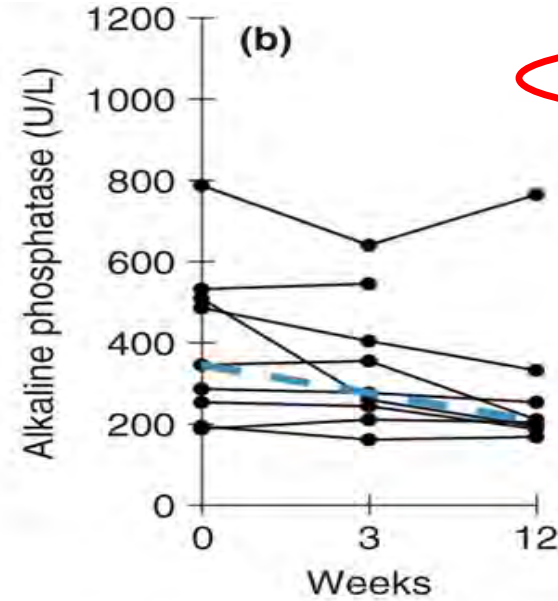


Mayo Clinic RCT: vancomycin or metronidazole in patients with PSC- a pilot study

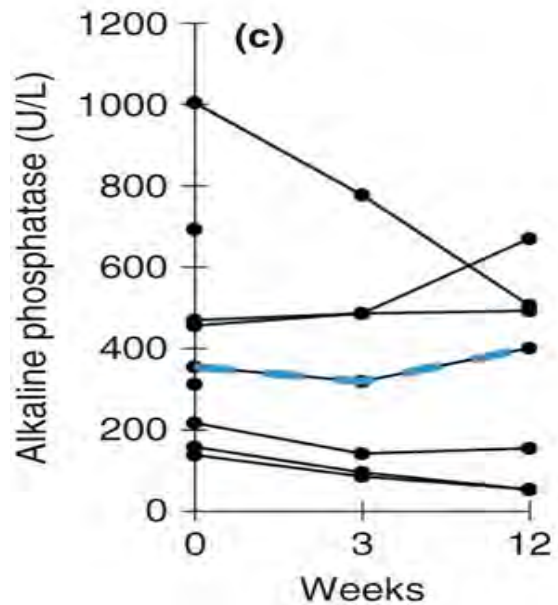
Low dose Vanc



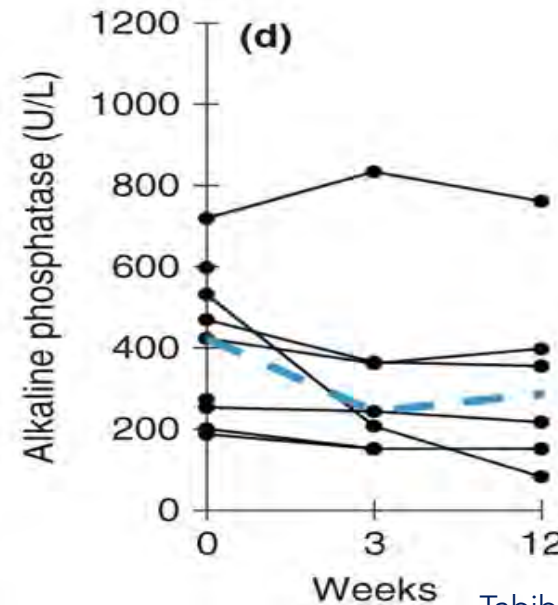
High dose Vanc



Low dose Metro



High dose Metro

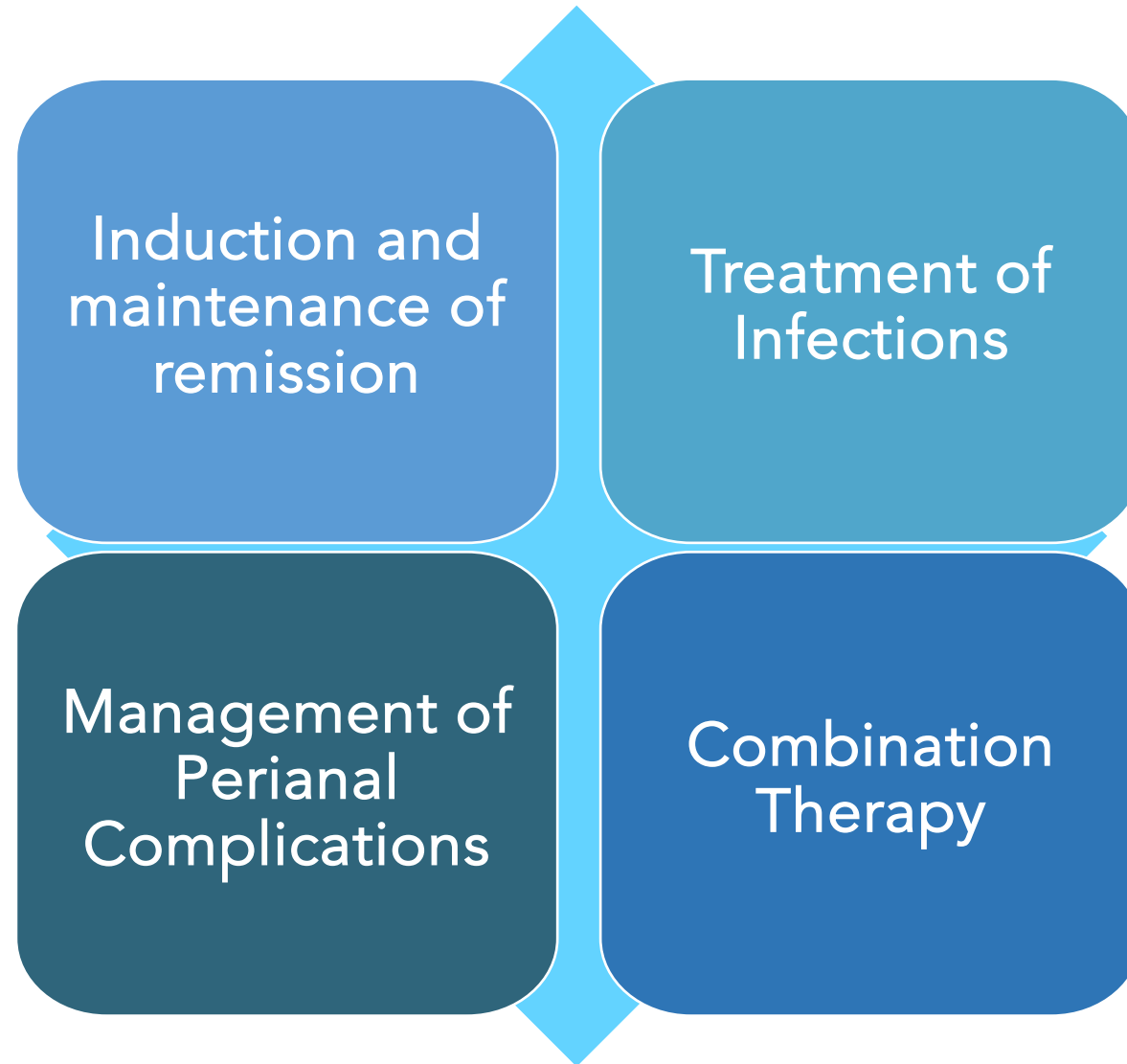


Vancomycin in IBD



- Role of gut bacteria and dysbiosis in the pathogenesis of IBD.
- Case report
Rahman et al. Clin J Gastroenterol 2021 Feb;14(1):159-164.
- 51 M pt with UC/ PSC and post transplant.
- Intractable UC symptoms despite Vedo, switched to Remicade and steroids
- Vancomycin 125mg bid eventually led to remission

Crohn's and Antibiotics



RCTs

Use of antibiotics in patients with Crohn's disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis

- 15 RCTs
- Pooled effect of RR 1.33, 95% CI (1.17-1.51, $p < 0.00001$)

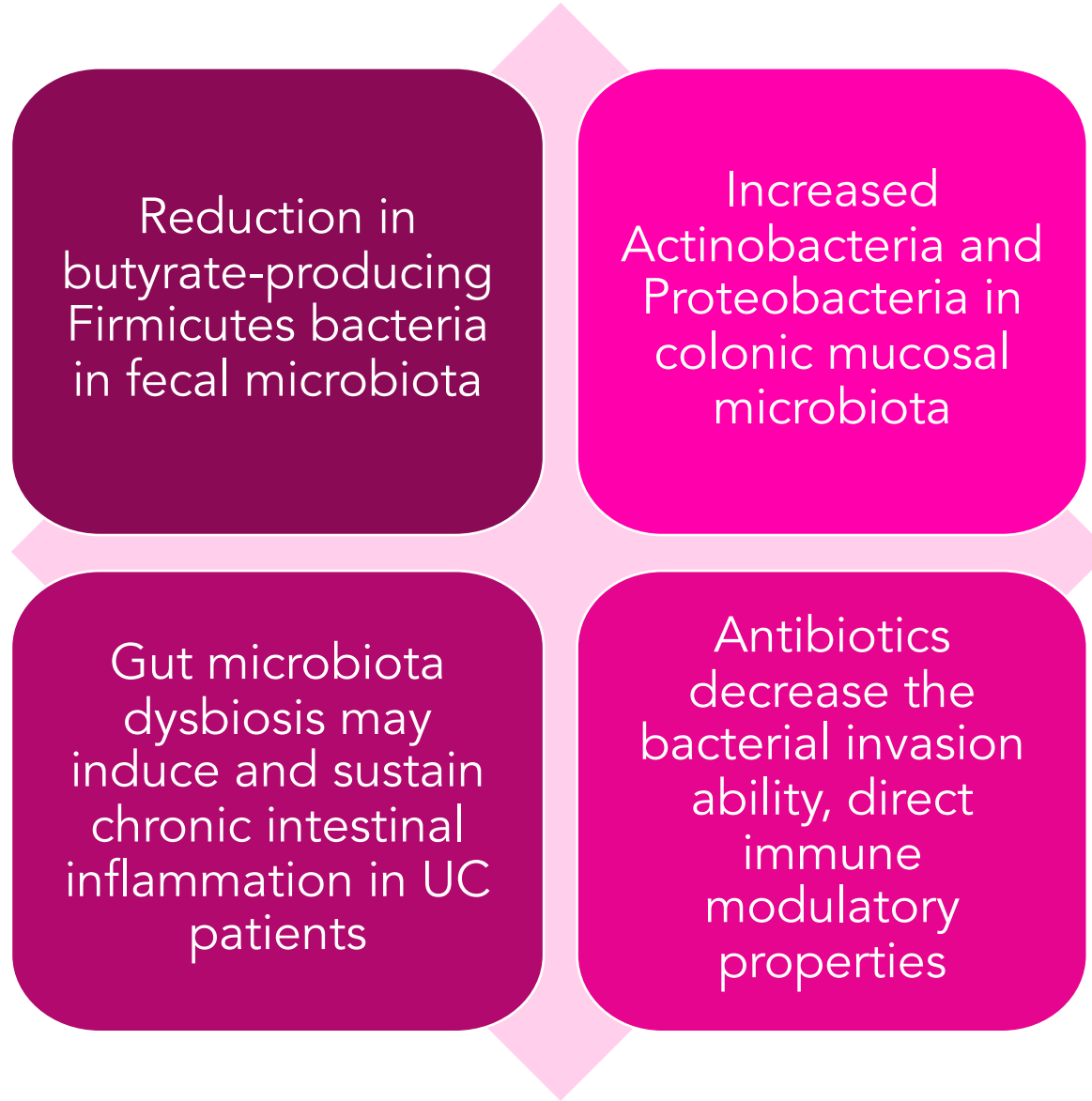
Jie Wen Su. J Dig Dis 2015;16(2):58-66

Antibiotics for induction and maintenance of remission in Crohn's disease

- 13 RCTs
- Failure to achieve remission RR 0.86, 95% CI (0.76-0.98)

Townsend et al. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2019(2): CD012730

UC and Antibiotics



Meta-Analysis of 12 RCTs: UC & Abx

01 Methods:

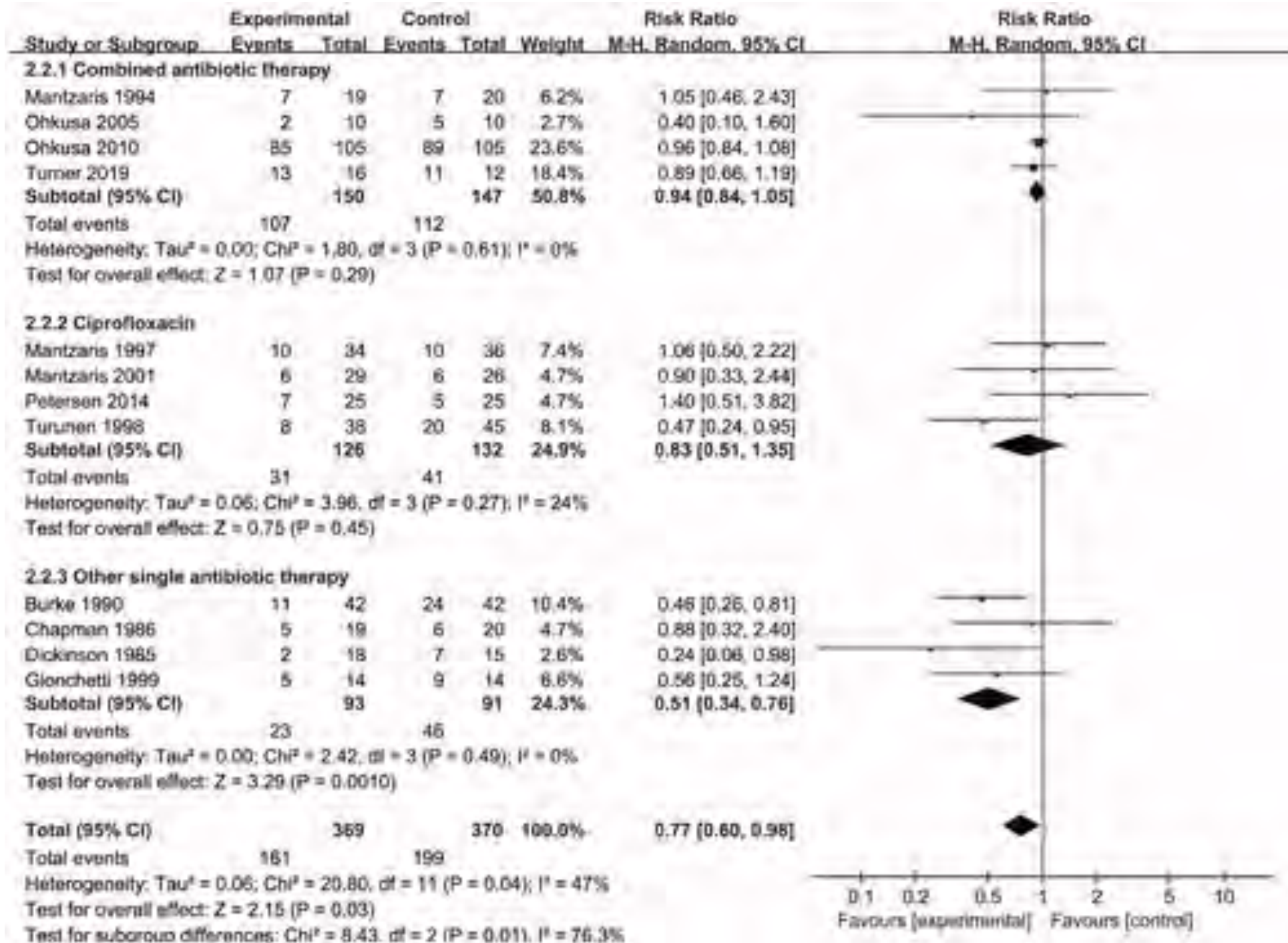
Compared antibiotic therapy with placebo or no intervention

02 Antibiotics:

Ciprofloxacin
Amoxicillin
Tetracycline
Flagyl
Tobramycin
Vancomycin
Rifaximin

03 Outcome:

Proportion of patients who failed to achieve remission RR 0.77; 95% CI (0.60-0.98), p 0.03



Role of Antibiotics in UC

- Not typically considered first-line Rx
- May be considered in specific situations, eg. infections or complications
 - Pouchitis
- Metronidazole and ciprofloxacin are commonest ones

