



con il patrocinio di



Associazione Italiana  
Gastroenterologia e  
Endoscopia Digestiva



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**PROGRESSI E NUOVE FRONTIERE IN**  
**GASTROENTEROLOGIA**  
**ED ENDOSCOPIA DIGESTIVA**



**BELLUNO**  
15-16 GIUGNO 2023

# Malattia da reflusso gastro-esofageo

Paolo Usai Satta

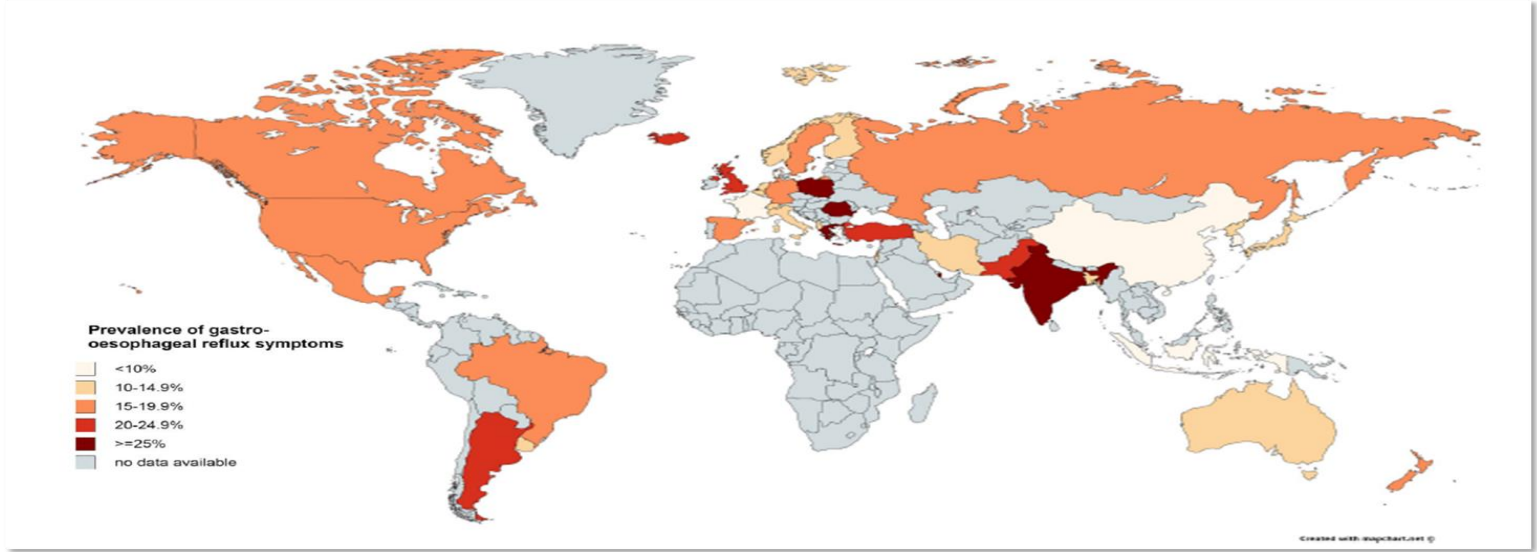
*SC Gastroenterologia, ARNAS G. Brotzu, Cagliari*





# Global Prevalence of GERD

- N=108 studies included in the meta-analysis
- Prevalence varied according to country (from 2.5% in China to 51.2% in Greece)
- In case of weekly heartburn/regurgitation was considered, pooled prevalence was 13.3%
- Risk factors:  $\geq 50$  years, smoking, NSAID/aspirin use and obesity





# GERD: Pathophysiology

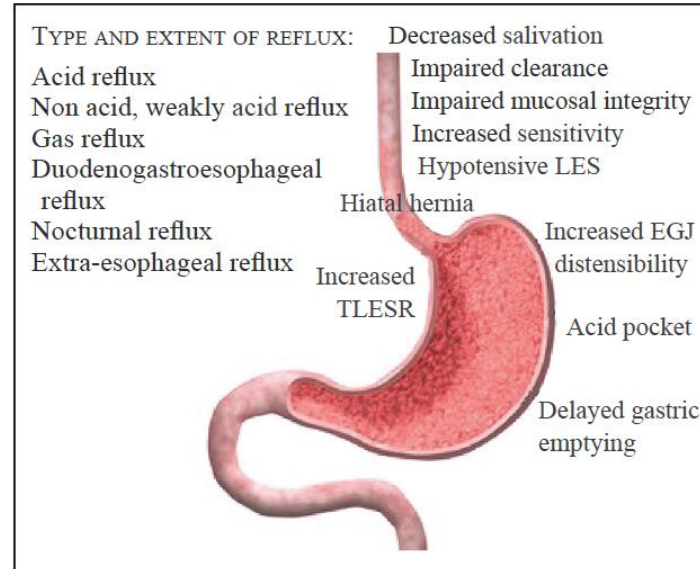







Figure 1.—Overview of pathophysiological factors leading to GERD.



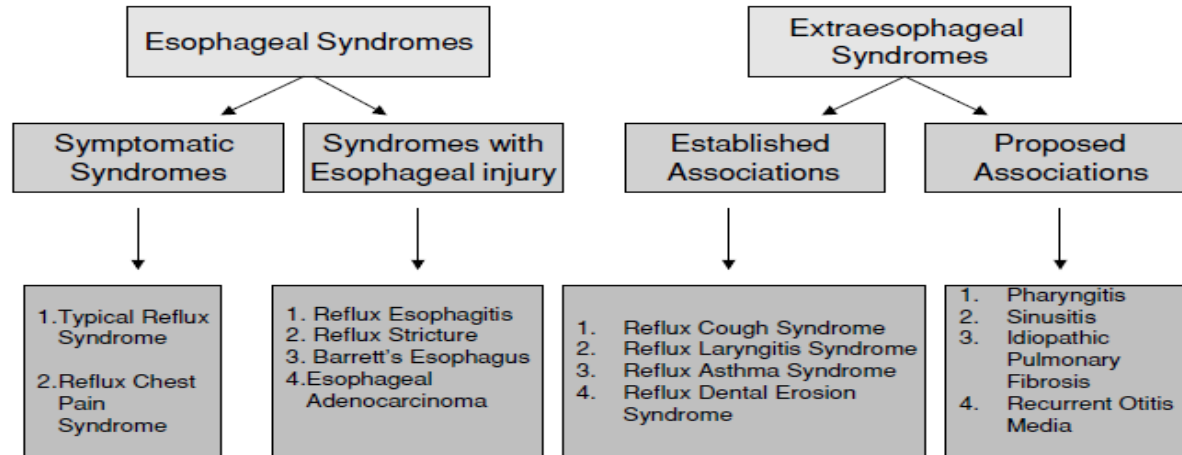
# Fattori di rischio della MRGE

-  Età (> 50 aa)
-  Ernia iatale
-  Sovrappeso e obesità
-  Fumo
-  Farmaci (FANS, etc)



# GERD: Montreal Consensus

**GERD is a condition which develops when the reflux of gastric content causes troublesome symptoms or complications**







**CME**

# ACG Clinical Guideline for the Diagnosis and Management of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease



Philip O. Katz, MD, MACG<sup>1</sup>, Kerry B. Dunbar, MD, PhD<sup>2-3</sup>, Felice H. Schnoll-Sussman, MD, FACG<sup>1</sup>, Katarina B. Greer, MD, MS, FACG<sup>4</sup>, Rena Yadlapati, MD, MSHS<sup>5</sup> and Stuart Jon Spechler, MD, FACG<sup>6-7</sup>

*Am J Gastroenterol* 2022;117:27–56.

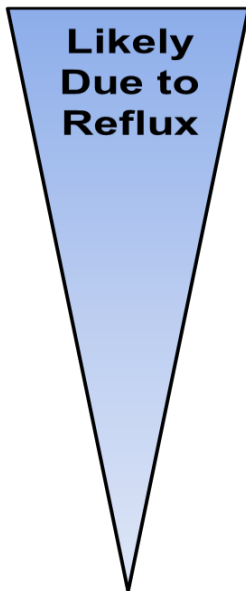
## AGA Clinical Practice Update on the Personalized Approach to the Evaluation and Management of GERD: Expert Review

Rena Yadlapati,\* C. Prakash Gyawali,† and John E. Pandolfino,§ on behalf of the CGIT GERD Consensus Conference Participants

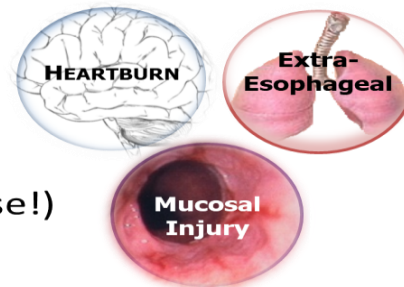
*Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology* 2022;20:984–994



# GERD: CLINICAL SPECTRUM



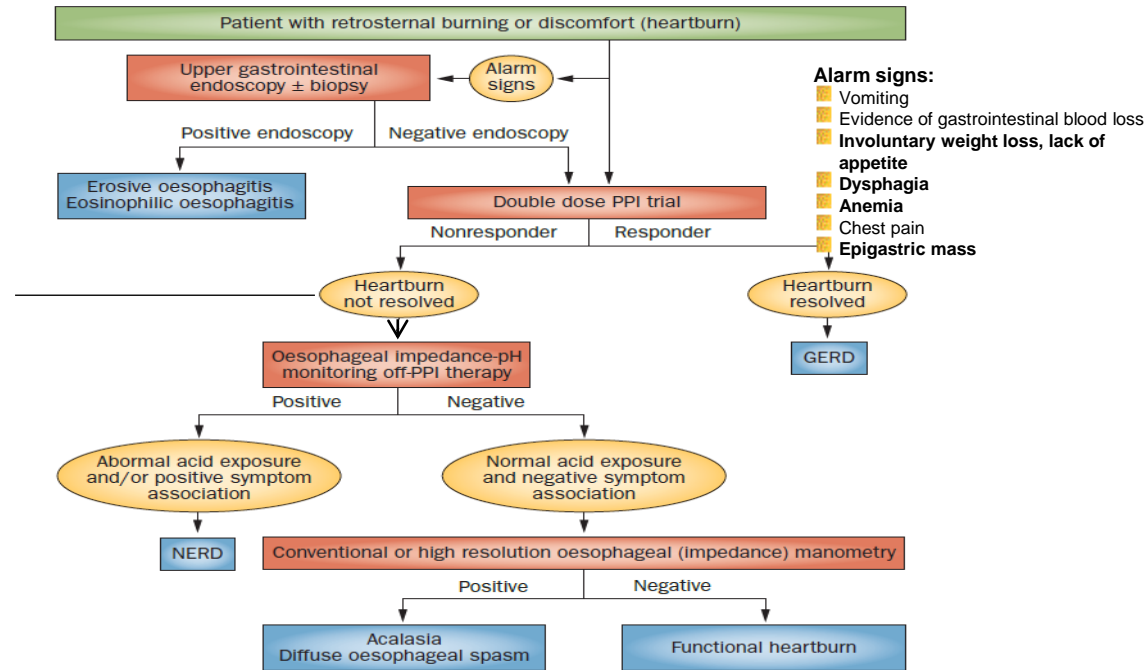
- Heartburn/Burning discomfort
- Regurgitation
- Chest Pain (rule out heart disease!)
- Dysphagia
- Dental erosions
- ENT/Cough/Asthma
- Sleep disturbances
- Dyspeptic symptoms:
  - EPS (epigastric pain and/or burning),
  - PDS (Bloating, Belching, Nausea, Vomiting, Early satiety, post-prandial fullness)



Locke GR 3<sup>rd</sup> et al. Gastroenterology 1997; 112(5):1448-56  
Talley N. Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2004; 20 Suppl 5:27-37  
Bardhan KD et al. Digestion 2004; 69(4):229-37



# GERD: Diagnostic Algorithm



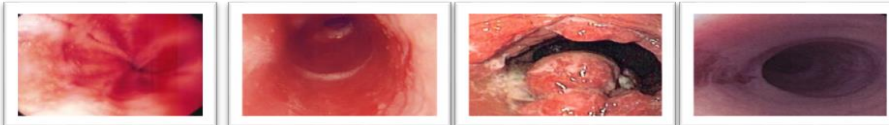




# Why Upper GI Endoscopy?

To investigate and assess:

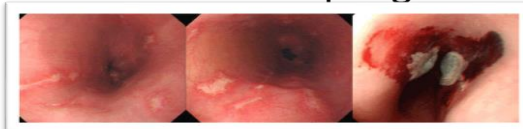
- Esophagitis, Barrett's metaplasia, stricture, neoplasia



- Eosinophilic oesophagitis



- Pill-induced oesophagitis



- Gastric or duodenal ulcer



# E' utile un PPI test?

CME

ACG Clinical Guideline for the Diagnosis and Management of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease

1. For patients with classic GERD symptoms of heartburn and regurgitation who have no alarm symptoms, we recommend an 8-week trial of empiric PPIs once daily before a meal (strong recommendation, moderate level of evidence).
2. We recommend attempting to discontinue the PPIs in patients whose classic GERD symptoms respond to an 8-week empiric trial of PPIs (conditional recommendation, low level of evidence).



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Digestive and Liver Disease 52 (2020) 966-980



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## Digestive and Liver Disease

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/dld](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/dld)



### Review Article

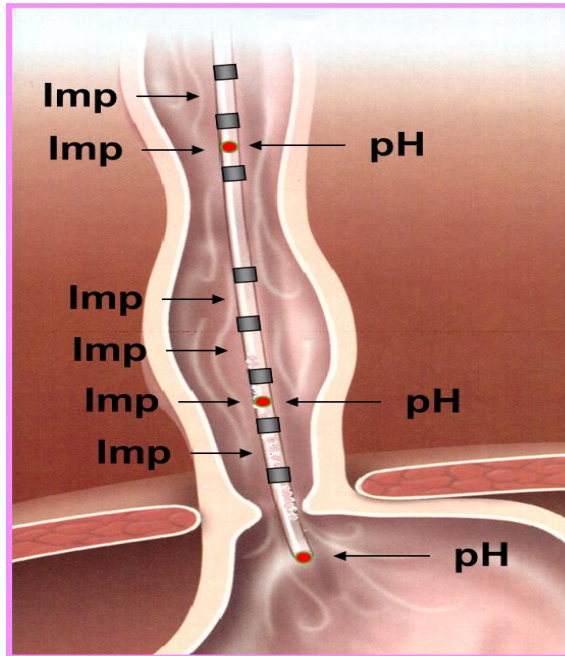
## A SIGE-SINGEM-AIGO technical review on the clinical use of esophageal reflux monitoring<sup>☆</sup>

Edoardo Savarino<sup>a,\*</sup>, Marzio Frazzoni<sup>b</sup>, Elisa Marabotto<sup>c</sup>, Patrizia Zentilin<sup>c</sup>, Paola Iovino<sup>d</sup>, Mario Costantini<sup>e</sup>, Salvatore Tolone<sup>f</sup>, Edda Battaglia<sup>g</sup>, Michele Cicala<sup>h</sup>, Paolo Usai-Satta<sup>i</sup>, Nicola de Bortoli<sup>j</sup>, Roberto Penagini<sup>k,l</sup>, Vincenzo Savarino<sup>c</sup>





# E' utile una pH-impedenziometria?

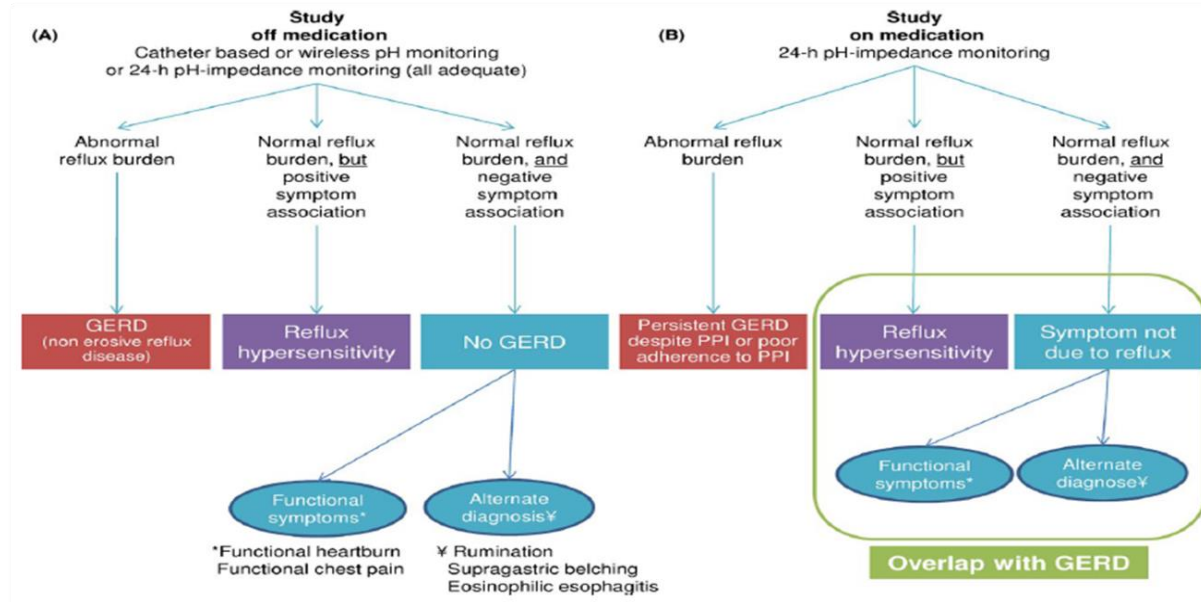


1. Esophageal acid exposure
2. Esophageal non-acid exposure
3. Gastric pH
4. Proximal migration
5. Chemical and bolus clearance
6. Air detection
7. Impedance-Baseline
8. Post-prandial reflux
9. GERD diagnosis ON-PPI therapy
10. Symptom association analysis (Acid and Non-Acid)
  - ◆ Symptom Index
  - ◆ Symptom association Analysis





# E' utile una pH-impedenzometria?





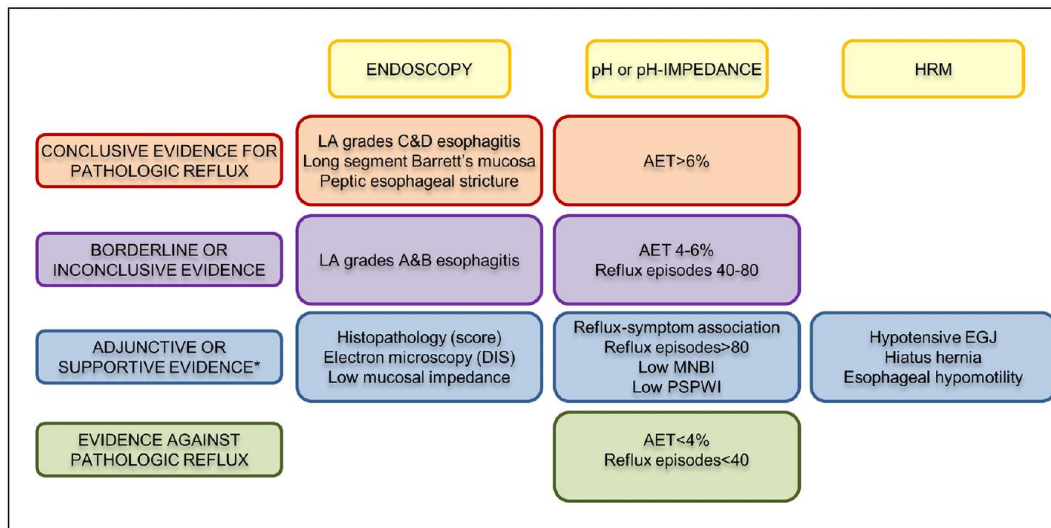


Recent advances in clinical practice



# Modern diagnosis of GERD: the Lyon Consensus

C Prakash Gyawali,<sup>1</sup> Peter J Kahrilas,<sup>2</sup> Edoardo Savarino,<sup>3</sup> Frank Zerbib,<sup>4</sup> Francois Mion,<sup>5,6,7</sup> André J P M Smout,<sup>8</sup> Michael Vaezi,<sup>9</sup> Daniel Sifrim,<sup>10</sup> Mark R Fox,<sup>11,12</sup> Marcelo F Vela,<sup>13</sup> Radu Tutuian,<sup>14</sup> Jan Tack,<sup>15</sup> Albert J Bredenoord,<sup>8</sup> John Pandolfino,<sup>2</sup> Sabine Roman<sup>5,6,7</sup>





## How many cases of laryngopharyngeal reflux suspected by laryngoscopy are gastroesophageal reflux disease-related?

Nicola de Bortoli, Andrea Nacci, Edoardo Savarino, Irene Martinucci, Massimo Bellini, Bruno Fattori, Linda Ceccarelli, Francesco Costa, Maria Gloria Mumolo, Angelo Ricchiuti, Vincenzo Savarino, Stefano Berrettini, Santino Marchi

**Table 4** Correlation between multichannel intraluminal impedance and pH analysis and the reflux finding score/ reflux symptom index analysis

|                            | ERD/NERD     | HE         | No GERD <sup>1</sup> | P value |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------|----------------------|---------|
| AET (%)                    | 7.4 ± 3.2    | 3.5 ± 1.7  | 1.9 ± 0.8            | < 0.05  |
| Reflux number (n)          | 103.2 ± 12.1 | 44.7 ± 6.2 | 35.1 ± 7.4           | < 0.05  |
| Proximal refluxes (mean %) | 31           | 29         | 18                   | < 0.05  |
| Acid refluxes (n)          | 62.5 ± 15.4  | 32.9 ± 5.1 | 19.7 ± 6.2           | < 0.05  |
| Non-acid refluxes (n)      | 40.1 ± 7.6   | 13.1 ± 4.4 | 15.8 ± 4.9           | < 0.05  |
| Gas refluxes (n)           | 11.6 ± 9.7   | 13.1 ± 8.1 | 21.7 ± 15.3          | < 0.05  |
| SAP/SI                     | Positive     | Positive   | Negative             | -       |
| RFS                        | 10.9 ± 3.3   | 9.1 ± 2.7  | 7.6 ± 3.1            | NS      |
| RSI                        | 14.3 ± 5.2   | 16.3 ± 4.7 | 15.8 ± 4.9           | NS      |

**AIM:** To investigate the prevalence of gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) in patients with a laryngoscopic diagnosis of laryngopharyngeal reflux (LPR).

**Table 2** Results of the visual analytic scale

| Symptoms          | Pre-PPI   | Post-PPI  | P value             |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Chest pain        | 7.1 ± 2.4 | 3.3 ± 0.9 | 0.0001 <sup>1</sup> |
| Heartburn         | 8.5 ± 3.2 | 2.3 ± 1.1 | 0.0001 <sup>1</sup> |
| Regurgitation     | 6.8 ± 1.5 | 4.1 ± 1.9 | 0.0001 <sup>1</sup> |
| Epigastric pain   | 5.9 ± 3.6 | 3.7 ± 2.4 | 0.0021              |
| Hoarseness        | 7.4 ± 2.2 | 6.8 ± 2.7 | 0.273               |
| Globus            | 9.3 ± 3.8 | 7.9 ± 3.5 | 0.087               |
| Cough             | 7.9 ± 2.6 | 6.8 ± 2.8 | 0.069               |
| Throat discomfort | 8.1 ± 3.4 | 6.9 ± 2.1 | 0.058               |
| Dysphonia         | 6.5 ± 2.1 | 5.5 ± 3.5 | 0.121               |

**CONCLUSION:** MII-pH analysis confirmed GERD diagnosis in less than 40% of patients with previous diagnosis of LPR, most likely because of the low specificity of the laryngoscopic findings.





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# Terapia MRGE *non eziologica* : PPI



# GUARIGIONE ESOFAGITE SEVERA DOPO IPP

12 Placebo Controlled RCTs

| Trial                       | Dose  | n   | Intention to Treat analysis |          |         |          |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----|-----------------------------|----------|---------|----------|
|                             |       |     | 4 weeks                     |          | 8 weeks |          |
|                             |       |     | Healed                      | % Healed | Healed  | % Healed |
| Castell <i>et al.</i> 1996  | LAN30 | 164 | 111                         | 67.7     | 128     | 78.0     |
|                             | OME20 | 144 | 97                          | 67.4     | 118     | 81.9     |
| Castell <i>et al.</i> 2002  | LAN30 | 646 | 351                         | 54.3     | 461     | 71.4     |
|                             | ESO40 | 640 | 411                         | 64.2     | 534     | 83.4     |
| Fennerty <i>et al.</i> 2005 | LAN30 | 502 | 238                         | 47.4     | 367     | 73.1     |
|                             | ESO40 | 499 | 278                         | 55.7     | 386     | 77.4     |
| Hetzel <i>et al.</i> 1988   | OME20 | 51  | 30                          | 58.8     | 38      | 74.5     |
|                             | OME40 | 52  | 38                          | 73.1     | 41      | 78.8     |
| Howden <i>et al.</i> 2002   | ESO40 | 57  | n/a                         | n/a      | 47      | 82.5     |
|                             | LAN30 | 52  | n/a                         | n/a      | 48      | 92.3     |
| Kahrilas <i>et al.</i> 2000 | ESO40 | 166 | 98                          | 59.0     | 137     | 82.5     |
|                             | OME20 | 182 | 85                          | 46.7     | 135     | 74.2     |
| Labenz <i>et al.</i> 2005   | ESO40 | 374 | 259                         | 69.3     | 327     | 87.4     |
|                             | PAN40 | 395 | 219                         | 55.4     | 324     | 82.0     |
| Mee <i>et al.</i> 1996      | LAN30 | 46  | 18                          | 39.1     | 29      | 63.0     |
|                             | OME20 | 48  | 24                          | 50.0     | 30      | 62.5     |
| Mulder <i>et al.</i> 1996   | LAN30 | 29  | 21                          | 72.4     | 24      | 82.8     |
|                             | OME40 | 37  | 26                          | 70.3     | 32      | 86.5     |
| Richter <i>et al.</i> 2001  | ESO40 | 317 | 216                         | 68.1     | 272     | 85.8     |
|                             | OME20 | 320 | 153                         | 47.8     | 220     | 68.8     |
| Sontag <i>et al.</i> 1992   | OME20 | 52  | n/a                         | n/a      | 35      | 67.3     |
|                             | OME40 | 50  | n/a                         | n/a      | 36      | 72.0     |
| Schmitt <i>et al.</i> 2006  | ESO40 | 189 | 115                         | 60.8     | 167     | 88.4     |
|                             | OME20 | 169 | 81                          | 47.9     | 131     | 77.5     |

ESO40, esomeprazole 40 mg; LAN30, lansoprazole 30 mg; OME20, omeprazole 20 mg; PAN40, pantoprazole 40 mg; n/a, data not available.

60%

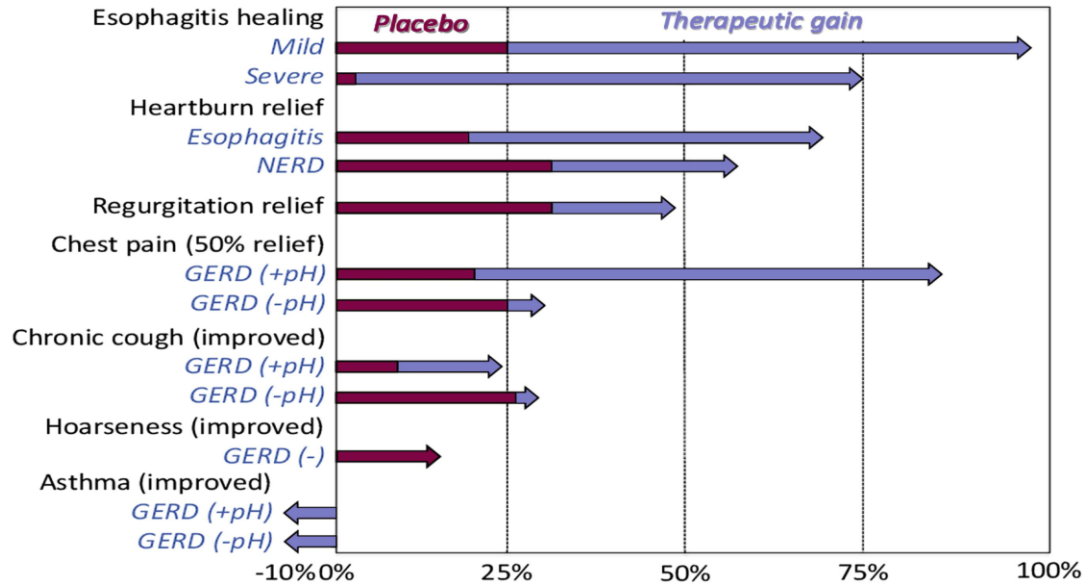
>80%



# Efficacy of PPI in Atypical GERD

## PPI efficacy for potential manifestations of GERD

*Estimates based on available RCT data*







# Terapia di Mantenimento

10. For patients with GERD who require maintenance therapy with PPIs, the PPIs should be administered in the lowest dose that effectively controls GERD symptoms and maintains healing of reflux esophagitis (conditional recommendation, low level of evidence).
11. We recommend against routine addition of medical therapies in PPI nonresponders (conditional recommendation, moderate level of evidence).
12. We recommend maintenance PPI therapy indefinitely or antireflux surgery for patients with LA grade C or D esophagitis (strong recommendation, moderate level of evidence).





## MRGE refrattaria?

**Table 4.** Possible Causes of Refractory Gastroesophageal Reflux Symptoms

---

### Non-GERD

Functional heartburn

Functional dyspepsia

Esophageal motility disorder (eg, achalasia)

Eosinophilic esophagitis

Insufficient acid suppression

Lack of compliance

Improper dosing time

Reduced bioavailability of PPIs

Hypersecretory state (eg, Zollinger-Ellison syndrome)

Weakly acidic or non-acidic reflux

Concomitant functional disorder or psychological comorbidity

Delayed gastric emptying

Reflux hypersensitivity

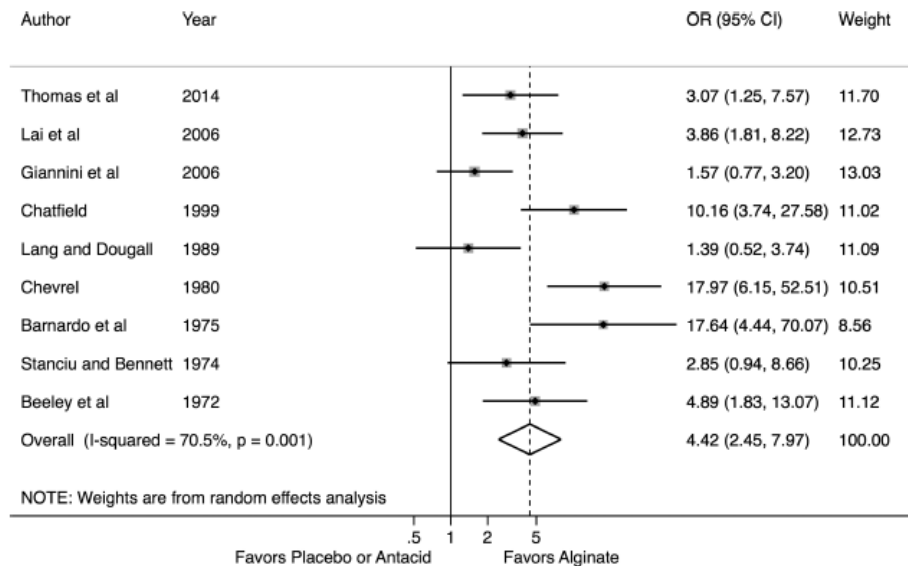


## GERD: alternative approaches

- **Anti H2** (nocturnal breakthrough or PPI allergy)
- **Alginate**
- **Hyaluronic acid**
- **Vonoprazan** (potassium-competitive acid blockers, P-CABs)
- **Baclofen** (GABA agonist)
- **Prokinetics** (mosapride?)
- **Antidepressant** (amitriptiline)
- **Surgery**



## GERD: alginate






## GERD: hyaluronic acid

AP&T Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics

Randomised clinical trial: mucosal protection combined with acid suppression in the treatment of non-erosive reflux disease – efficacy of Esoxx, a hyaluronic acid–chondroitin sulphate based bioadhesive formulation

V. Savarino<sup>a</sup>, F. Pace<sup>†</sup> & C. Scarpignato<sup>‡</sup>  for the Esoxx Study Group<sup>1</sup>

### Conclusion

The synergistic effect of Esoxx with PPI treatment suggests that mucosal protection added to acid suppression could improve symptoms and HRQL in NERD patients.

*Aliment Pharmacol Ther* 2017; 45: 631-642



# GERD: surgery

Pauwels A, et al Gut 2019

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## How to select patients for antireflux surgery? The ICARUS guidelines (international consensus regarding preoperative examinations and clinical characteristics assessment to select adult patients for antireflux surgery)

| Recommendations   | Based on statement(s) |
|---|-----------------------|
| Antireflux surgery can be considered for patients with typical symptoms of heartburn, with a good response to proton pump inhibitors (PPIs).  | 1                     |
| Patients with functional heartburn and patients with eosinophilic oesophagitis are poor candidates for antireflux surgery.  | 4, 6                  |
| Patients with morbid obesity and patients with substance abuse are not excluded from antireflux surgery.  | 9, 11                 |
| Endoscopy (during the last year) is mandatory prior to referral for antireflux surgery. There is no need to wean the patient off PPI for endoscopy.   | 13, 14                |
| Patients with GORD symptoms and a hiatal hernia, Barrett's oesophagus or erosive oesophagitis grade B or higher at endoscopy are good candidates for antireflux surgery.                            | 15, 16b, 18           |
| Patients without erosive oesophagitis are not excluded from antireflux surgery.   | 17                    |
| There is no need to obtain routine biopsies of the distal oesophagus in patients considered for antireflux surgery.   | 19                    |
| A barium X-ray should be obtained in patients with suspicion of a hiatal hernia or short oesophagus when considered for antireflux surgery.   | 20                    |
| Patients with GORD symptoms and a hiatal hernia on X-ray are good candidates for antireflux surgery.  | 21, 22                |
| Patients with GORD symptoms and a para-oesophageal hernia on X-ray are good candidates for antireflux surgery in addition to para-oesophageal hernia repair.  | 23                    |
| A short oesophagus on barium X-ray does not exclude the patient from antireflux surgery.  | 24                    |
| Oesophageal manometry and oesophageal pH monitoring ( $\pm$ impedance) are mandatory prior to referral for antireflux surgery. The latter is preferentially done off PPI and in patients with NERD. | 25, 30, 31            |
| Patients with normal pH-monitoring off PPI are poor candidates for antireflux surgery.  | 32                    |
| Response to baclofen does not enhance patient eligibility for antireflux surgery.   | 35                    |
| There is no need to assess gastric emptying rate in patients considered for antireflux surgery.   | 36, 37                |



## **TAKE HOME MESSAGE**

- **Fisiopatologia complessa e multifattoriale della MRGE**
- **PPI test debole nei sintomi «atipici»**
- **Ph-impedenzometria 24 h attuale gold standard**
- **La laringite posteriore non è sinonimo di reflusso sovra-esofageo (o laringo-faringeo)**
- **PPI cardine di una terapia comunque sintomatica**
- **Intervento chirurgico in casi selezionati e ben studiati**
- **Necessari futuri farmaci che possano modificare la storia naturale della malattia**