

# THE EFFECT OF EVEROLIMUS IN PATIENTS WITH RENAL ANGIOMYOLIPOMA ASSOCIATED WITH TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS COMPLEX

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## INTRODUCTION

- Tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) is a genetic disorder caused by TSC1/TSC2 mutations, which trigger mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) activation and undercontrolled cellular proliferation<sup>1</sup>. The disease is characterized by growth of non-malignant tumours, including renal angiomyolipomas (AML) in up to 80% of patients<sup>2</sup>.
- Renal AML are tumours whose progressive enlargement may increase the risk of haemorrhages and encroach renal parenchyma<sup>3</sup>. Preserving kidney function and preventing haemorrhages are therefore the main goals of AML treatment, which has mainly included surgical procedures or embolization.
- The mTOR inhibitor everolimus has arisen as a non-surgical treatment alternative for TSC-related renal AMLs. Its administration over the EXIST-2 trial supported everolimus efficacy for these tumours<sup>4,5</sup>, with a manageable safety profile consistent with previous reports on other TSC populations<sup>6,7</sup>. This positive benefit/risk balance was the basis for requesting the European Medicines Agency's authorization for this indication.

## OBJECTIVE

- We conducted this trial to provide further knowledge on the effect of everolimus in patients with TSC-related renal AMLs under real practise conditions.

## RESULTS

### Patient characteristics

- Between May 2013 and May 2014, 19 patients were included (Table 1).

Table 1. Baseline patient characteristics (N=19)

Characteristics	Value
Median age, years (IQR)	38.0 (29.0-43.0)
Gender, n (%)	
Female	13 (68.4)
Male	6 (31.6)
Race, n (%)	
White	19 (100)
Median volume of renal AML lesions, ml (IQR)	260.0 (127.8-322.2)
Median volume of right kidney, ml (IQR)	278.0 (184.8-809.6)*
Median volume of left kidney, ml (IQR)	275.5 (173.4-402.4)*

Abbreviations: AML, angiomyolipoma; IQR, interquartile range.  
\*N=18, as one patient had previously undergone nephrectomy.

### Study treatment administration

- Everolimus was administered for a median of 6.6 (5.3-10.9) months (Table 2).

Table 2. Everolimus administration (N=19)

Characteristics	Value
Median everolimus exposure, months (IQR)	6.6 (5.3-10.9)
Dose of 10 mg/day over the whole study, n (%)	11 (57.9)
Dose reduction/interruption due to adverse events, n (%)	8 (42.1)
Treatment discontinuation, n (%)	0 (0.0)

Abbreviations: IQR, interquartile range.

### Efficacy

- Nine (47.4%) patients showed radiologic response of renal AML, after a median of 3.3 (3.0-6.2) months from everolimus initiation; none progressed (Figure 3).

## CONCLUSIONS

- The study findings support the efficacy of everolimus in reducing TSC-related renal AML lesions and overall kidney volumes, with evident benefits just a few months after starting the treatment.
- These benefits were accompanied by a manageable safety profile that did not raise new safety concerns.
- Everolimus may therefore contribute to improve the management of TSC-related renal AML in clinical practice.

## METHODS

### Study design

- This was a Spanish, open-label, single-arm, phase IIIb, expanded access trial.

### Patient population

- The study included adult patients with TSC-related renal AML (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Main selection criteria

Main inclusion criteria	Main exclusion criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients aged ≥18 years</li> <li>At least one renal AML of ≥3 cm in its longest diameter as per CT or MRI</li> <li>Definite diagnosis of TSC according to the modified Gomez criteria*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AML requiring surgery</li> <li>AML-related bleeding/embolisation within the previous 6 months</li> <li>Prior heart attack, angina pectoris, hemorrhagic stroke related to atherosclerosis, impaired lung functioning, organ transplantation, or surgery within the previous 2 months</li> <li>Presence of the following conditions: significant haematological/hepatic abnormality, serum creatinine &gt;1.5 times the ULN, haemorrhagic diathesis, treatment with vitamin K antagonist, uncontrolled hyperlipidaemia/diabetes, uncontrolled/severe disease, or on-going/active infection (except for hepatitis B/C virus)</li> </ul>

Abbreviations: AML, angiomyolipoma; CT, computed tomography; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; TSC, tuberous sclerosis complex; ULN, upper limit of normal. \*Roach et al. J Child Neurol. 1998;13:624-8; Hyman et Whittemore. Arch Neurol. 2000;57:662-5.

### Study treatment and assessments

- Everolimus was initiated at 10 mg once daily, adjusted on the basis of safety findings, and prolonged until disease progression, unacceptable toxicity, patient's death/withdrawal, or one year after first patient enrolment (Figure 2).

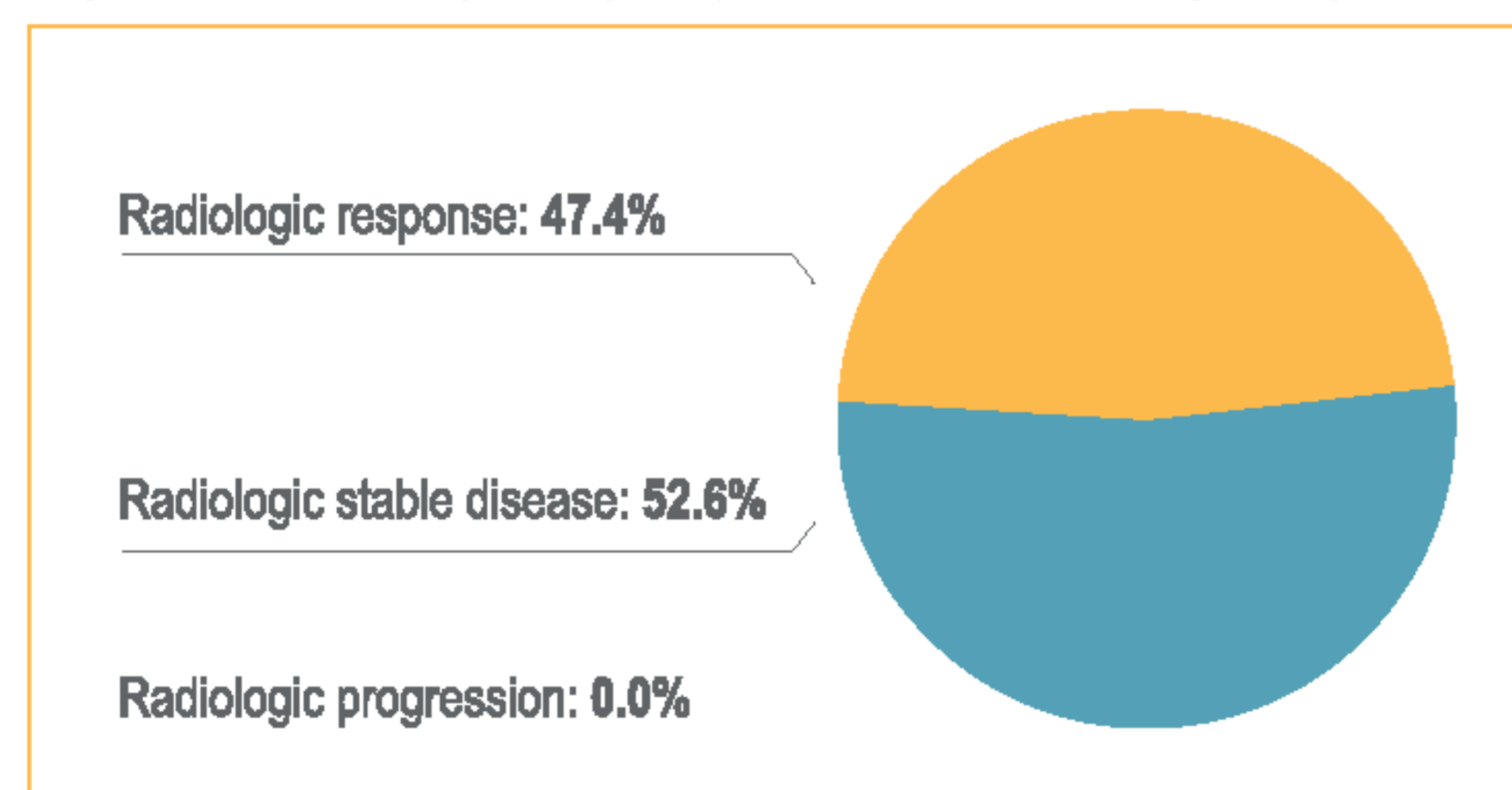
Figure 2. Study flow chart

Screening/baseline assessments (≤21 days pre-treatment)	Everolimus administration (until disease progression, unacceptable toxicity, patient's death/withdrawal, or one year after first patient enrolment)	Post-treatment safety follow-up (28 days post-treatment)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informed consent</li> <li>Selection criteria</li> <li>Demographics</li> <li>Medical history</li> <li>Comorbidities</li> <li>Clinical examination</li> <li>Laboratory analyses</li> <li>Kidney CT/MRI</li> <li>Concomitant medication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study treatment administration</li> <li>Clinical examination</li> <li>Laboratory analyses</li> <li>Kidney CT/MRI (months 3, 6, 12/end of treatment)</li> <li>Concomitant medication</li> <li>Adverse events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concomitant medication</li> <li>Adverse events</li> </ul>

Abbreviations: CT, computed tomography; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging.

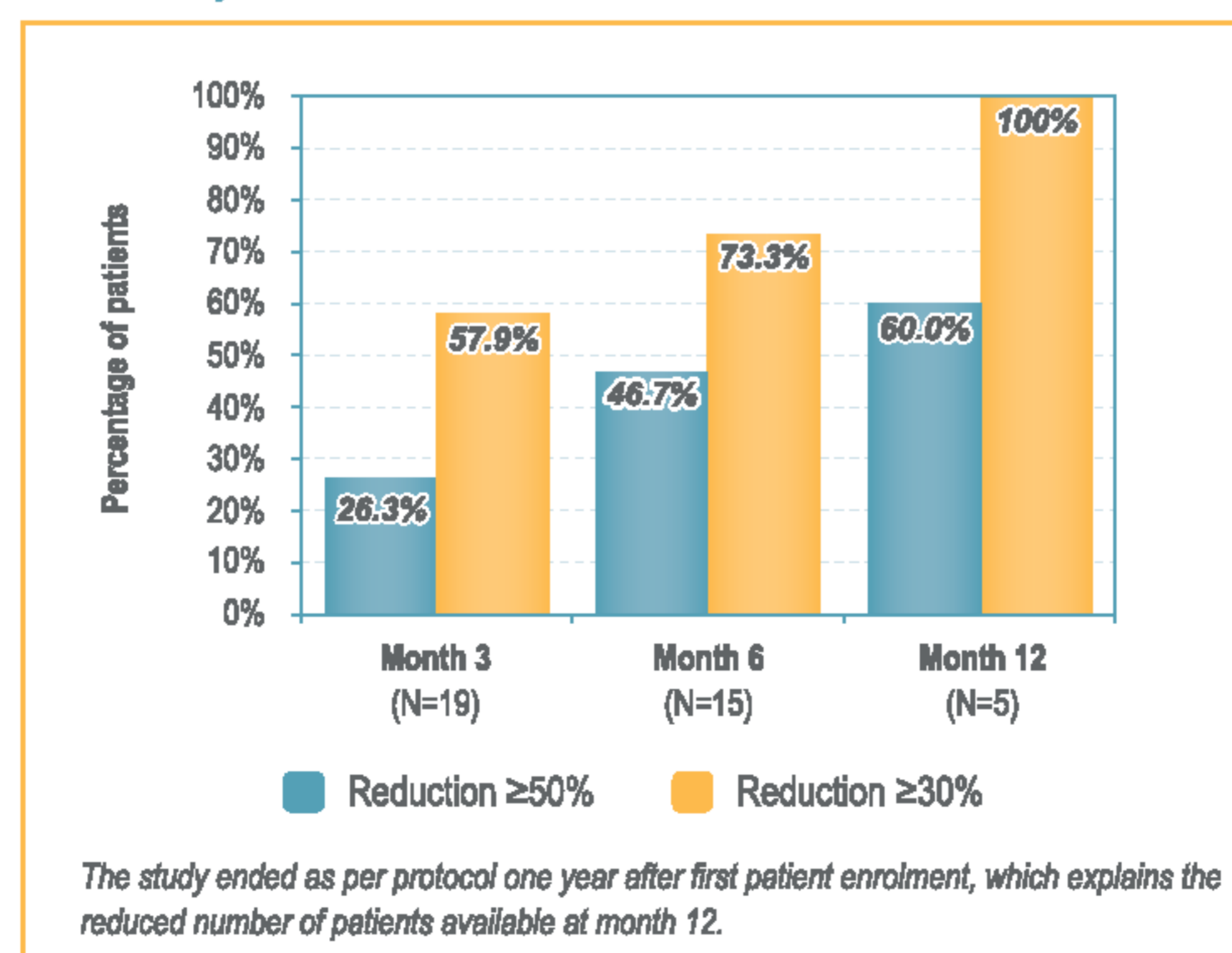
- Radiologic AML response was assessed on CT/MRI scans at months 3, 6, and 12/end of treatment:
  - Radiologic response:** ≥50% reduction in the sum of volumes of AML target lesions, confirmed in a second scan (approximately 12 weeks later), and absence of new lesions ≥1cm, kidney volume increase >20%, and AML-related grade ≥2 bleeding or need for embolisation/surgery.
  - Radiologic progression:** ≥25% increase in the sum of volumes of AML target lesions and/or ≥20% increase in the volume of either kidney, new lesions ≥1cm, and/or AML-related grade ≥2 bleeding or need for embolisation/surgery.

Figure 3. Radiologic angiomyolipoma response (N=19)



- AML reduction from baseline ≥30% was observed in 11 (57.9%) patients and ≥50% in 9 (47.4%) patients. Reductions in each study visit are summarized in Figure 4.

Figure 4. Reductions in renal angiomyolipoma volume in each study visit

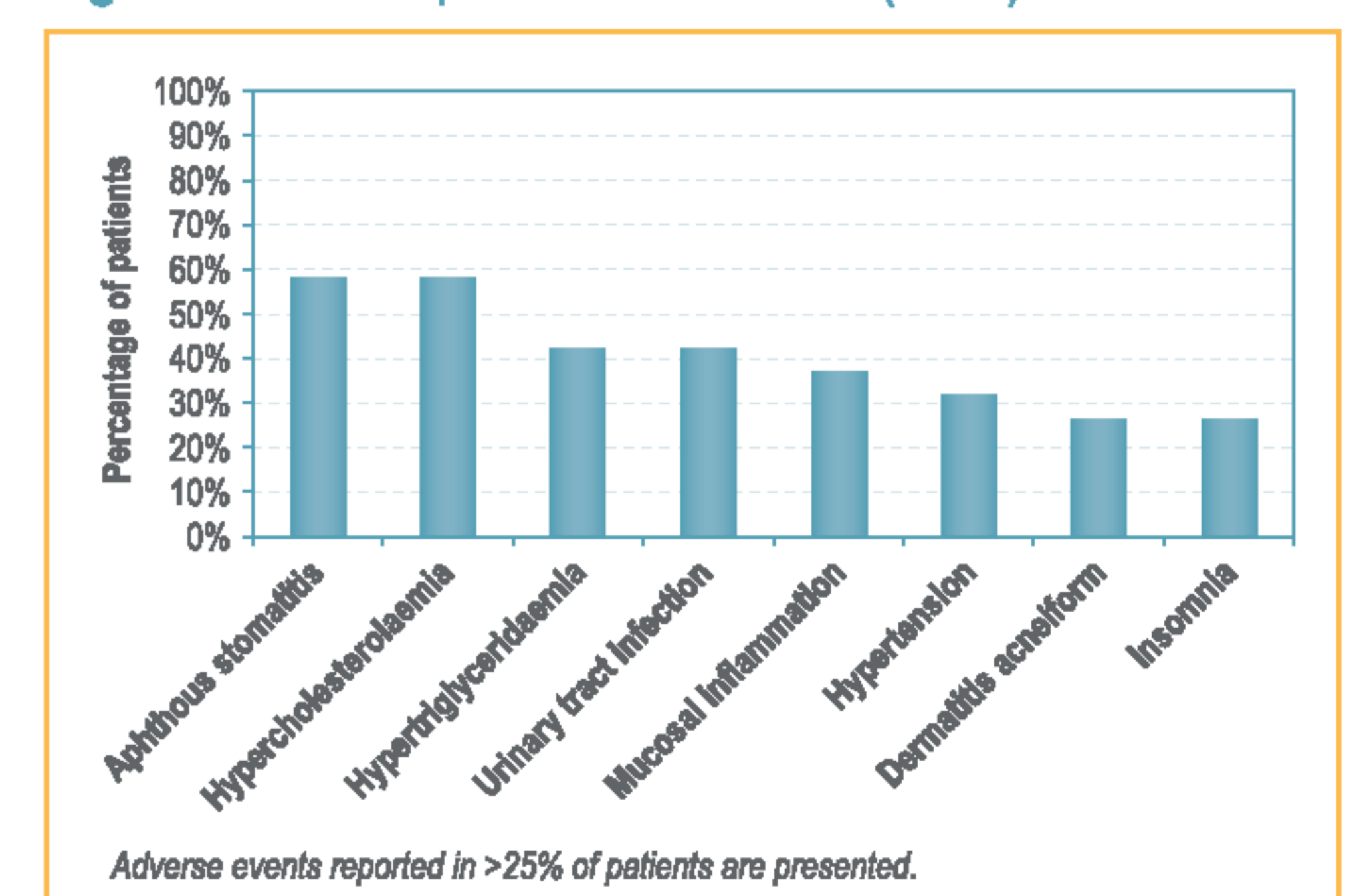


- Right and left kidney volumes decreased in 17 (94.4%) and 14 (87.5%) patients, respectively.

### Safety

- Adverse events most frequently included aphthous stomatitis, hypercholesterolaemia, hypertriglyceridaemia, and urinary tract infection (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Most frequent adverse events (N=19)



- Four (21.1%) patients showed grade 3 adverse events; none reached grade 4 (Table 3).
- Only one adverse event was serious: pneumonia.

Table 3. Grade 3/4 adverse events (N=19)

Adverse events	n (%)
<b>Grade 3 adverse events</b>	4 (21.1)
Hypertriglyceridaemia	2 (10.5)
Transaminases increased	1 (5.3)
Hypertension	1 (5.3)
Mucosal inflammation	1 (5.3)
<b>Grade 4 adverse events</b>	0 (0.0)

### References

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