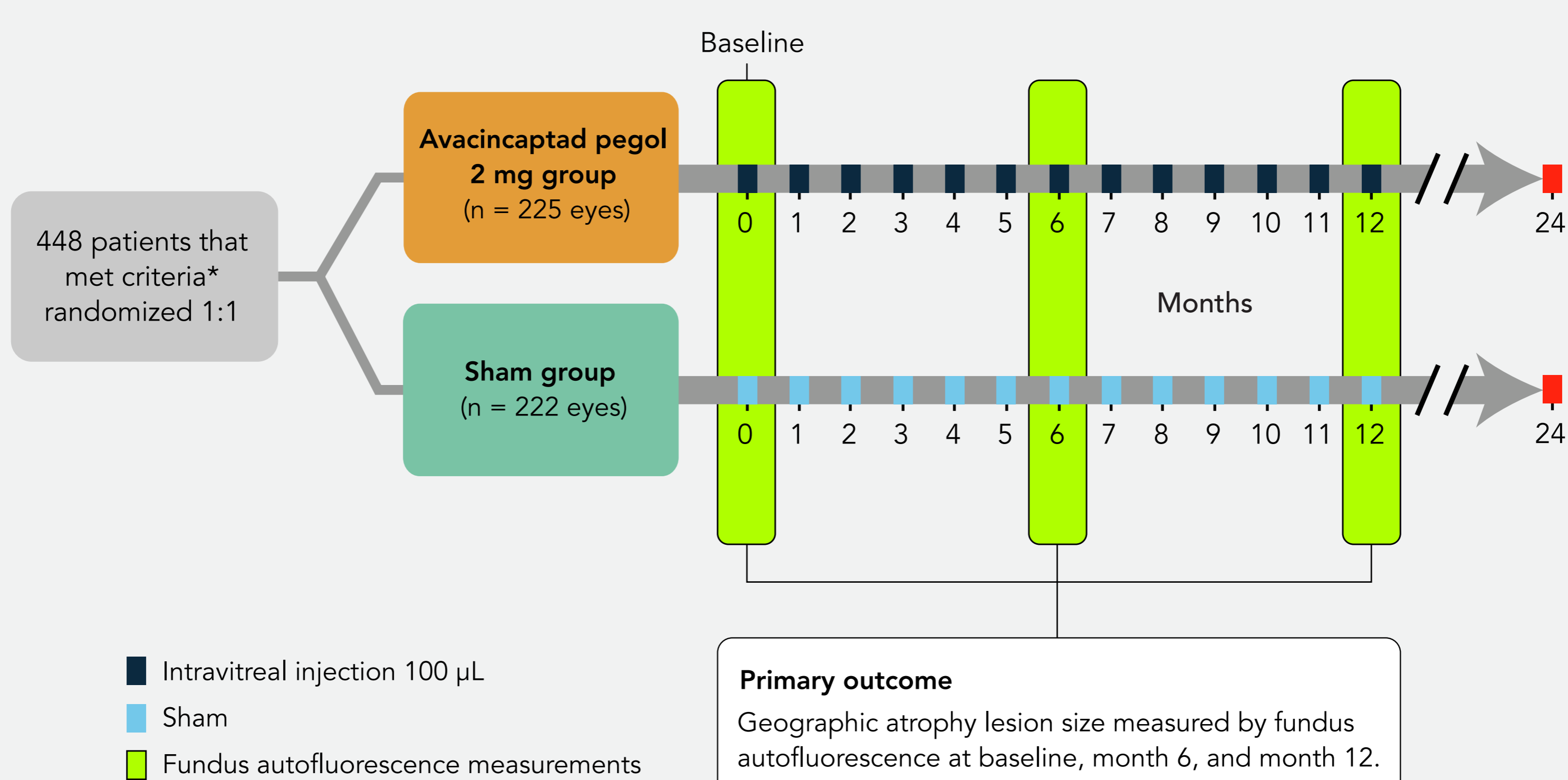


Efficacy and Safety of Avacincaptad Pegol in Patients With Geographic Atrophy (GATHER2): 12-Month Results from a Randomized, Double-Masked, Phase 3 Trial

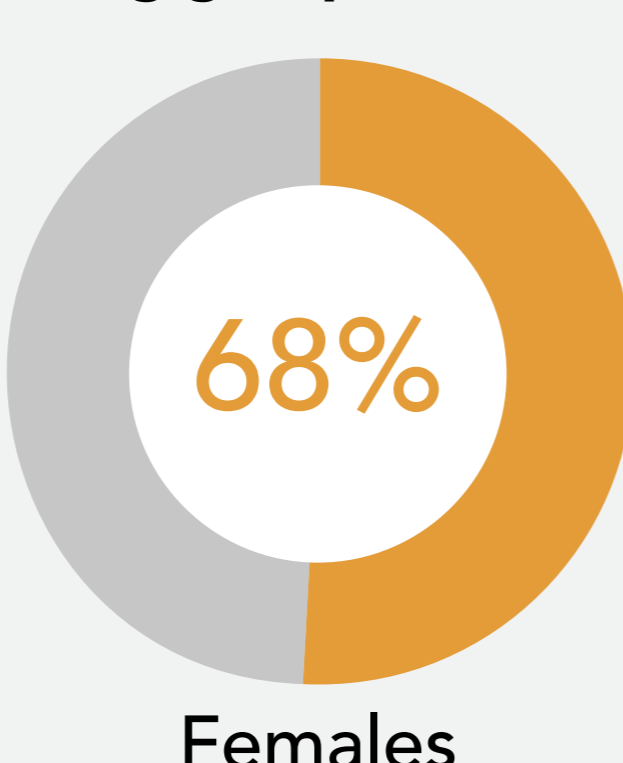
Khanani AM, et al; *Lancet*. 2023;402:1449-1458.
doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01583-0

Geographic atrophy is an advanced form of dry age-related macular degeneration that can lead to irreversible vision loss and high burden of disease. Overactivation of complement cascade-mediated inflammation may impact the pathophysiology of geographic atrophy and has been attributed to age-related macular degeneration. Avacincaptad pegol is a complement C5 inhibitor. This study aimed to assess efficacy and safety of avacincaptad pegol 2 mg in reducing geographic atrophy lesion growth.

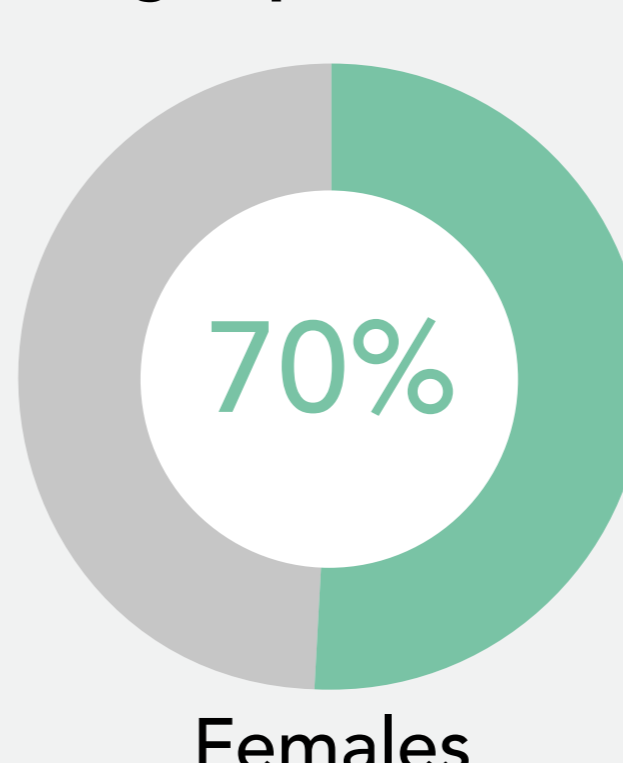
GATHER2 is a randomized, double-masked, sham-controlled, 24-month, phase 3 trial across 205 retina clinics, research hospitals, and academic institutions globally.



Avacincaptad pegol 2 mg group (n= 225)

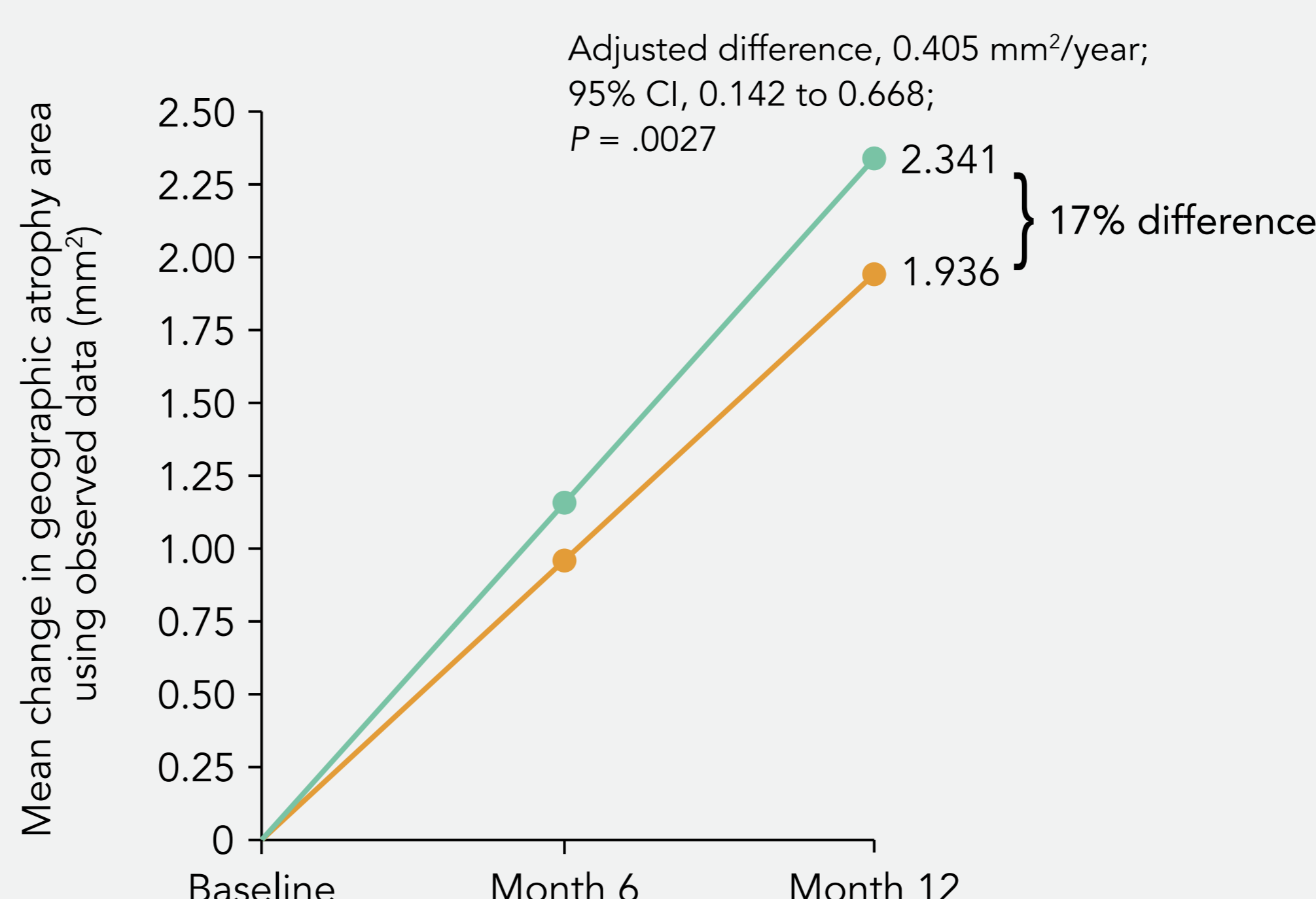
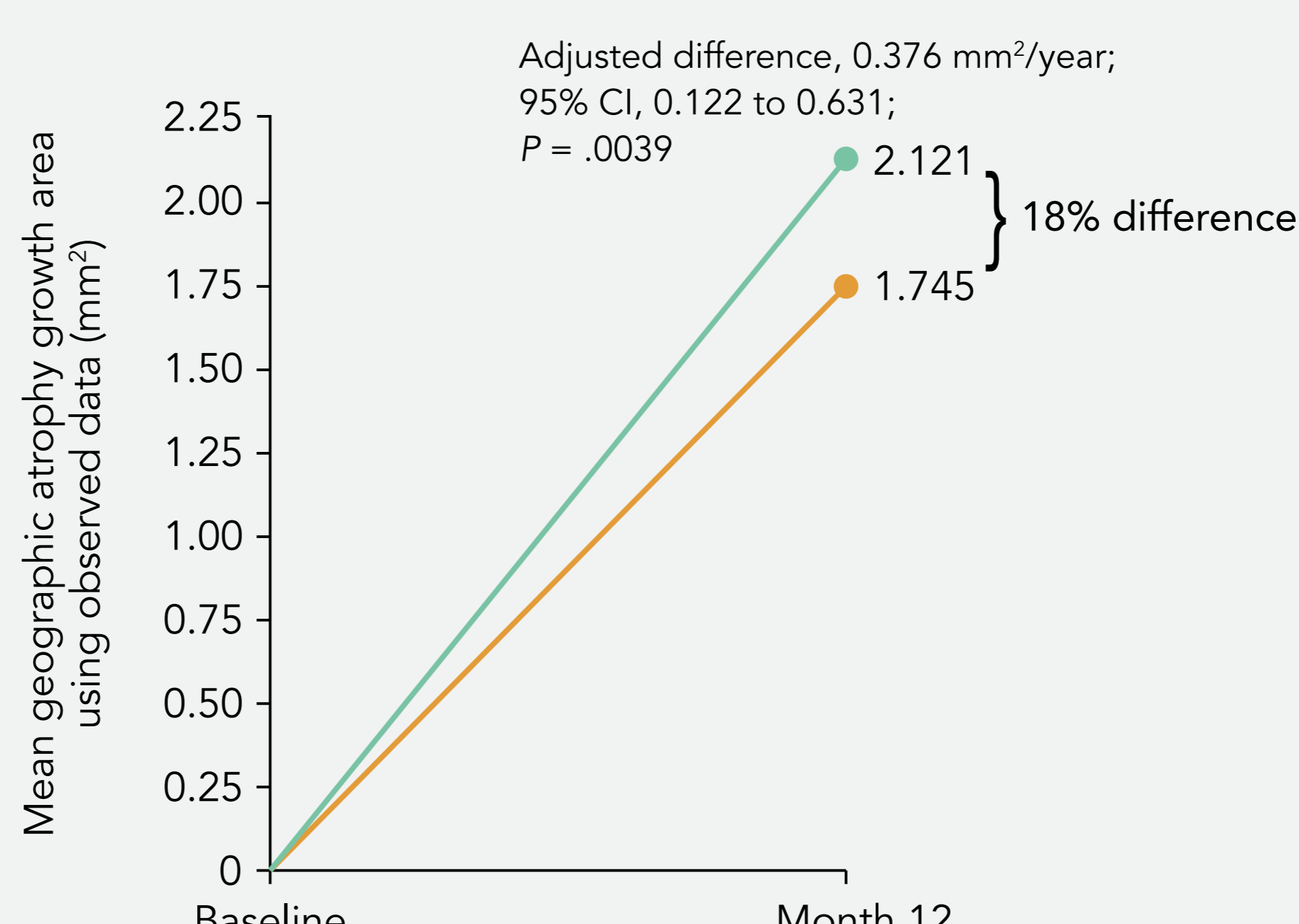
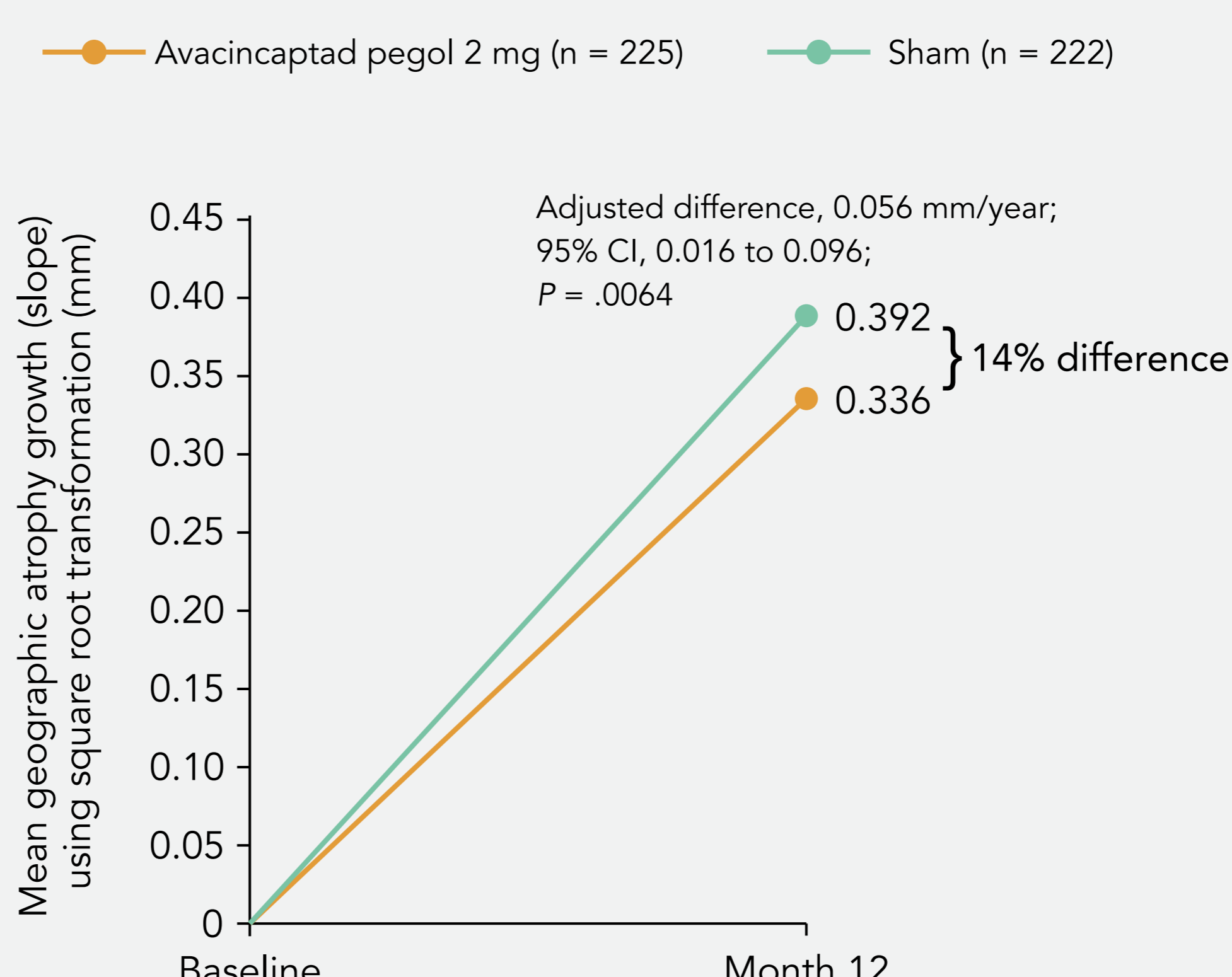


Sham treatment group (n=222)



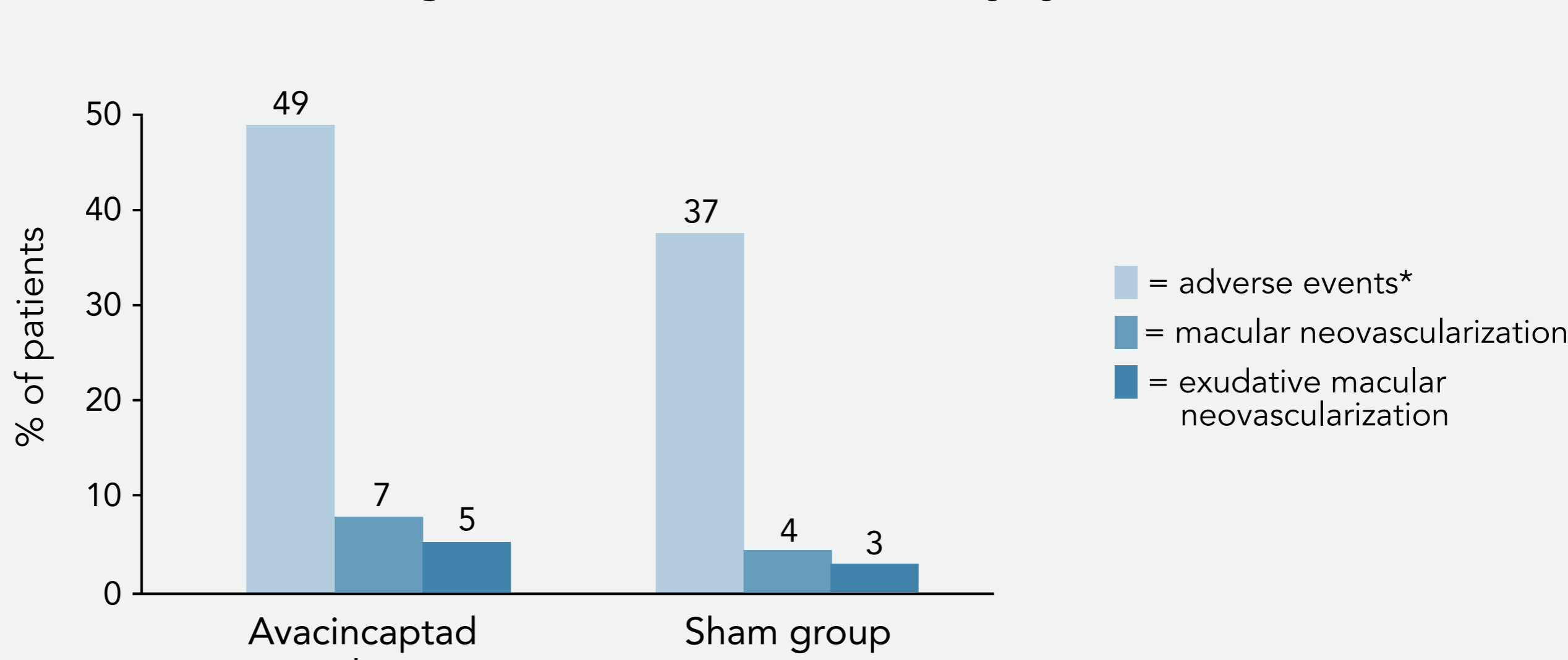
Avacincaptad pegol 2 mg was well tolerated and showed significantly slower geographic atrophy growth over 12 months than sham treatment, regardless of the type of analysis.

Geographic atrophy growth over time at month 12



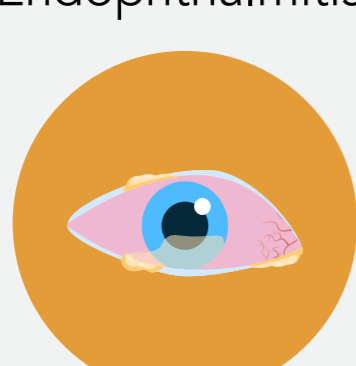
Adverse events between the two treatment groups were similar.

Percentage of patients that experienced ocular treatment-emergent adverse events in the study eye

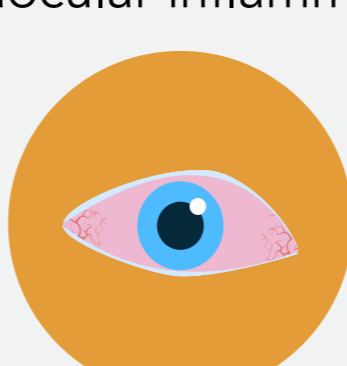


*Including conjunctival hemorrhage, conjunctival hyperemia, punctate keratitis, increased intraocular pressure, macular neovascularization, dry eye, eye pain, vitreous detachment, and cataract

Endophthalmitis



Intraocular inflammation



Ischemic optic neuropathy



There were no endophthalmitis, intraocular inflammation, or ischemic optic neuropathy events over 12 months. To month 12, macular neovascularisation in the study eye occurred in 15 (7%) patients in the avacincaptad pegol 2 mg group and nine (4%) in the sham group, with exudative macular neovascularisation occurring in 11 (5%) in the avacincaptad pegol 2 mg group and seven (3%) in the sham group.

Conclusions

The results of this study support the hypothesis that inhibition of the complement system might slow the progression of geographic atrophy. With the few treatments available for patients with geographic atrophy, avacincaptad pegol has the potential to provide eye care professionals and their patients with a treatment that slows the growth of geographic atrophy lesions. Reducing geographic atrophy lesion growth and slowing progression of disease might help patients maintain their independence, mobility, and quality of life.