

Clinical outcomes of heavily treatment experienced individuals in the OPERA Cohort

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Background

- No single accepted definition of heavily treatment experienced (HTE)
- Prevalence of HTE based on different definitions in the absence of resistance data were previously evaluated in OPERA ^{1,2}
- Few studies have evaluated clinical outcomes of HTE in people living with HIV (PLWH)

Objective

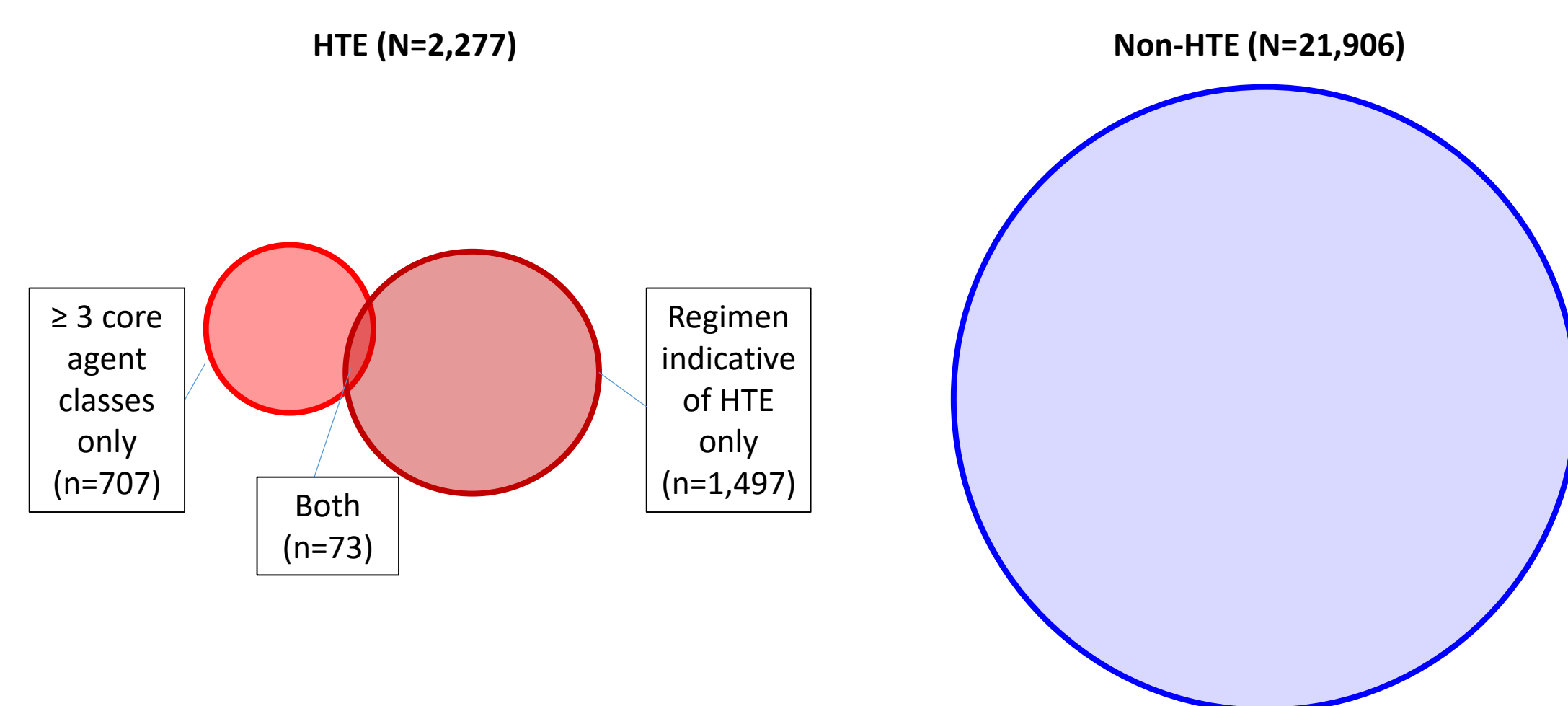
To compare clinical outcomes among heavily treatment-experienced (HTE) people living with HIV (PLWH) and non-HTE, treatment-experienced PLWH in care in the United States.

Methods

Study population

- ART-experienced HIV-1 positive, HIV-2 negative, ≥18 years of age, active in care, prescribed ART as of 31Dec2016
 - HTE:
 - Discontinued core agent from ≥ 3 classes of ART
 - or
 - Prescribed a regimen containing (a) dolutegravir (DTG) twice daily, (b) darunavir (DRV) twice daily, (c) etravirine (ETR), (d) integrase strand transfer inhibitor (INSTI) + protease inhibitor (PI), (e) maraviroc (MVC), or (f) enfuvirtide (ENF)
 - Non-HTE:
 - 1 core agent + 2 NRTIs, not meeting the definition of HTE

Figure 1. HTE and Non-HTE Study Populations



Outcomes

- Virologic suppression: Among viremic PLWH, achieve a VL < 50 copies/mL
- Virologic failure: Among PLWH who suppress, failure to maintain VL < 200 copies/mL
- Immunologic preservation: Among PLWH with CD4 count ≥200 cells/μL, maintenance of CD4 count ≥200 cells/μL
- Regimen discontinuation: Any change to the core agents of the regimen
- Morbidity & mortality: A new AIDS defining illness or death

Statistical analyses

- Baseline pairwise comparison: Pearson Chi-Square test (categorical variables), Fisher's exact test (few events), Wilcoxon Rank Sum test (continuous variables)
- Time to event, comparison of survival distributions: Kaplan-Meier, log-rank tests

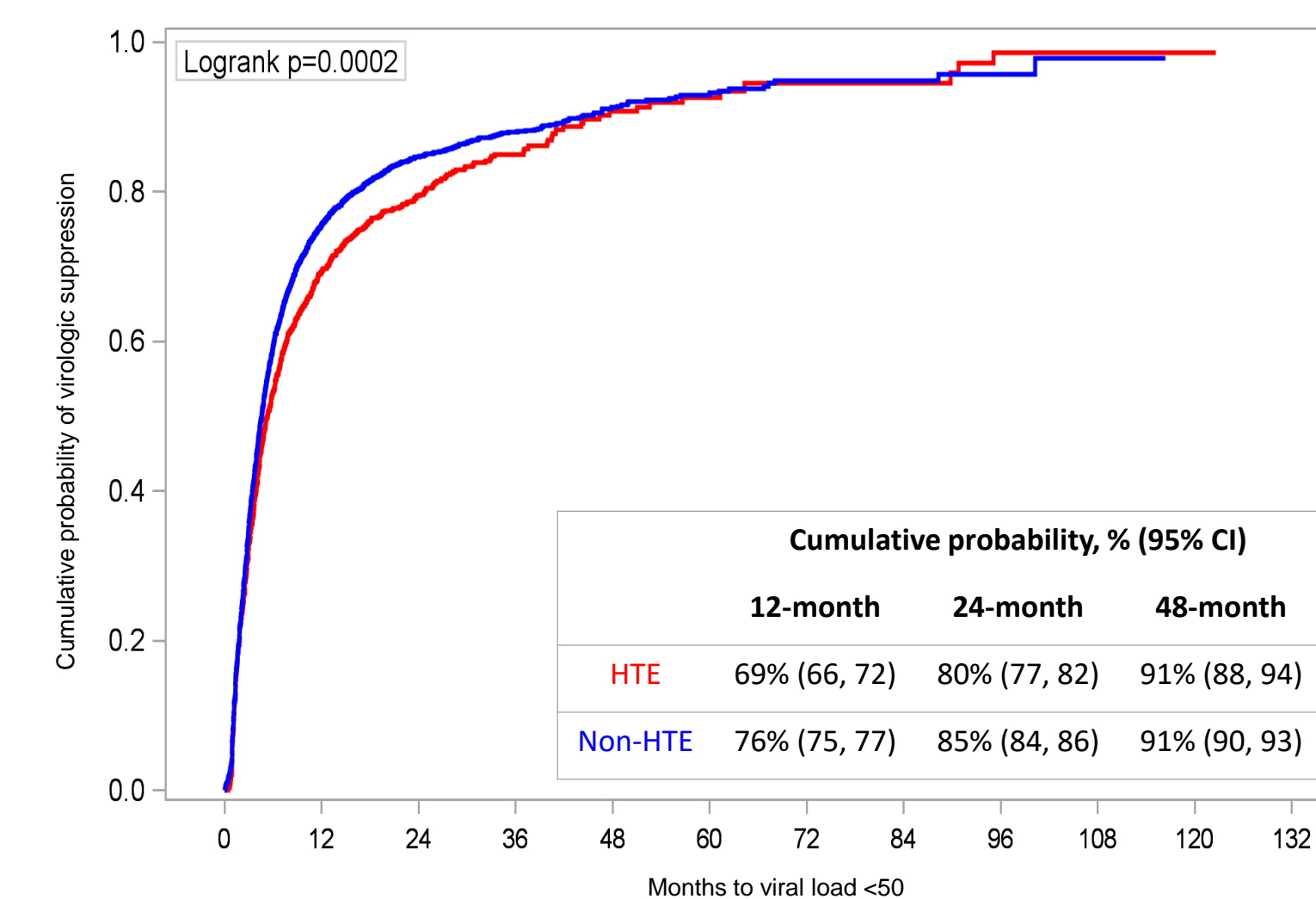
Results

Table 1. Baseline characteristics of HTE and non-HTE PLWH

	HTE Population N=2,277	Non-HTE Population N=21,906	p-value ^c
Age, median (IQR)	50 (42, 56)	44 (33, 52)	<.0001
Female, n (%)	431 (19%)	3615 (17%)	0.0068
Black Race, n (%)	906 (40%)	8612 (39%)	0.0610
Hispanic Ethnicity, n (%)	572 (25%)	5626 (26%)	0.2142
MSM, n (%)	1190 (52%)	12798 (58%)	<.0001
Years since HIV Diagnosis, median (IQR)	15.3 (7.0, 21.8)	7.1 (2.5, 14.5)	<.0001
Viral Load log ¹⁰ copies/mL, median (IQR)	2.0 (1.3, 4.2)	1.3 (1.3, 2.0)	<.0001
CD4 Count cells/μL, median (IQR)	412 (209, 636)	587 (396, 801)	<.0001
AIDS defining events (ADE), n (%)	1221 (54%)	6294 (29%)	<.0001
Any comorbid condition, ^a n (%)	1823 (80%)	15132 (69%)	<.0001
Any concomitant medications, ^b n (%)	1477 (65%)	11071 (51%)	<.0001

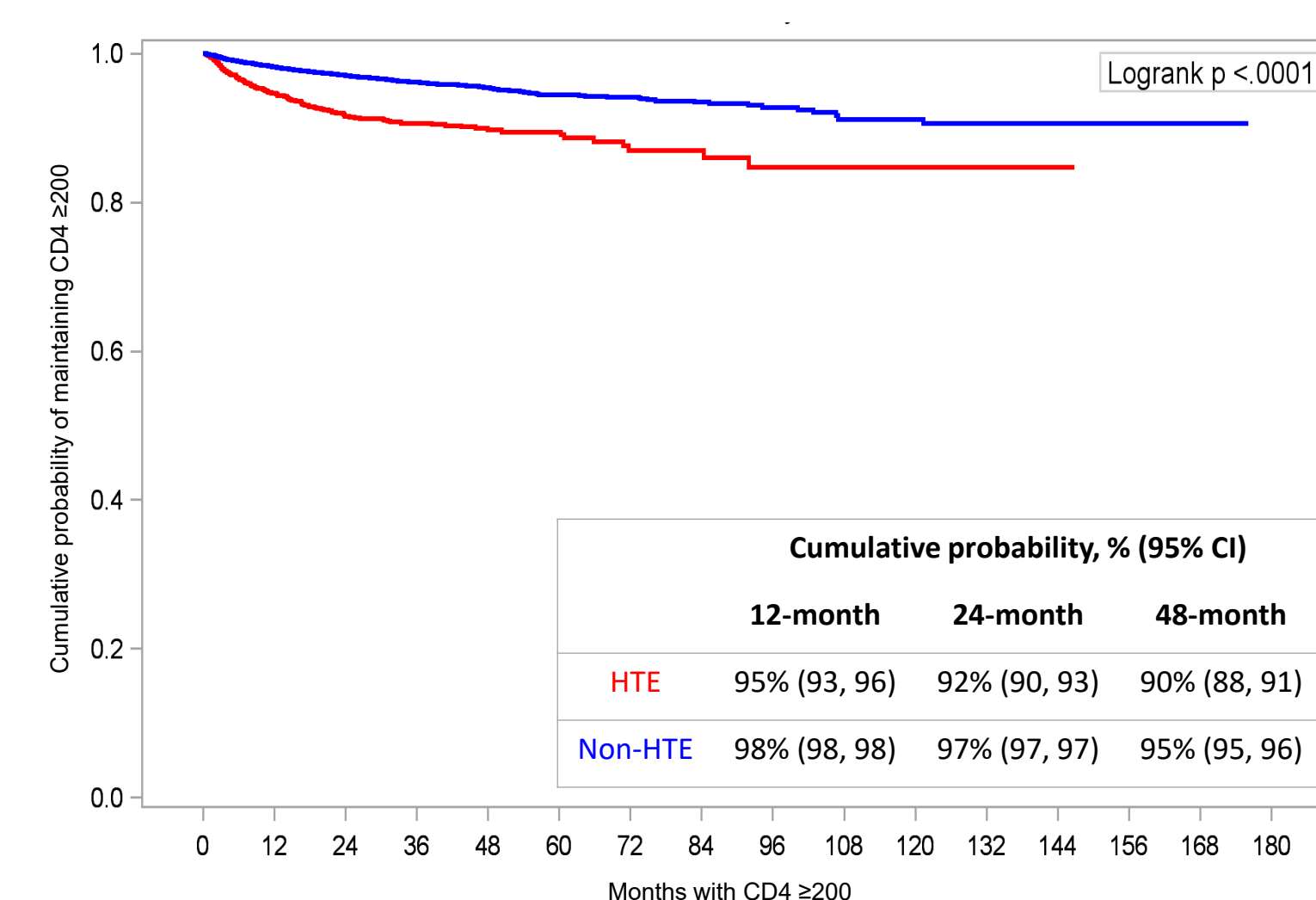
^a Autoimmune disease, cardiovascular disease, invasive cancers, endocrine disorders, mental health disorders, liver diseases, bone disorders, peripheral neuropathy, renal disease, hypertension
^b DAA, antidepressants, NSAIDs, immune modulators, antibiotics, anxiolytics, hypnotics, sedatives, lipid lowering agents, anti-diabetics
^c Caution: Due to large sample size, clinically insignificant differences could be statistically significant for some baseline variables

Figure 2. Cumulative probability of virologic suppression to VL < 50 copies/mL (Among viremic PLWH at baseline)



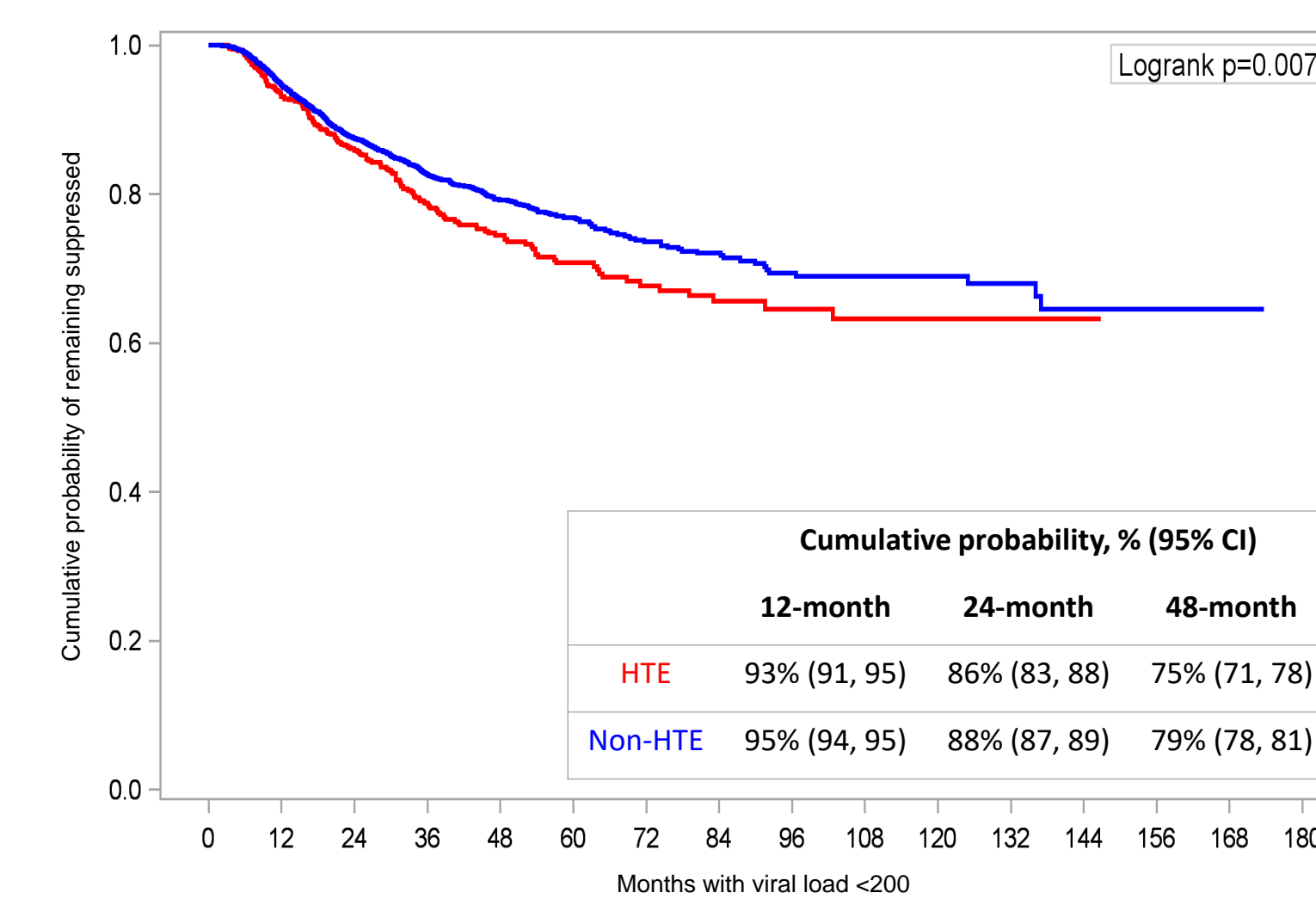
HTE	1042	288	136	44	17	10	4	4	1	1	1	0
Non-HTE	5812	1241	472	110	49	25	13	6	3	1	0	0

Figure 4. Cumulative probability of maintaining CD4 cell count ≥200 cells/μL (Among PLWH with baseline CD4 ≥200)



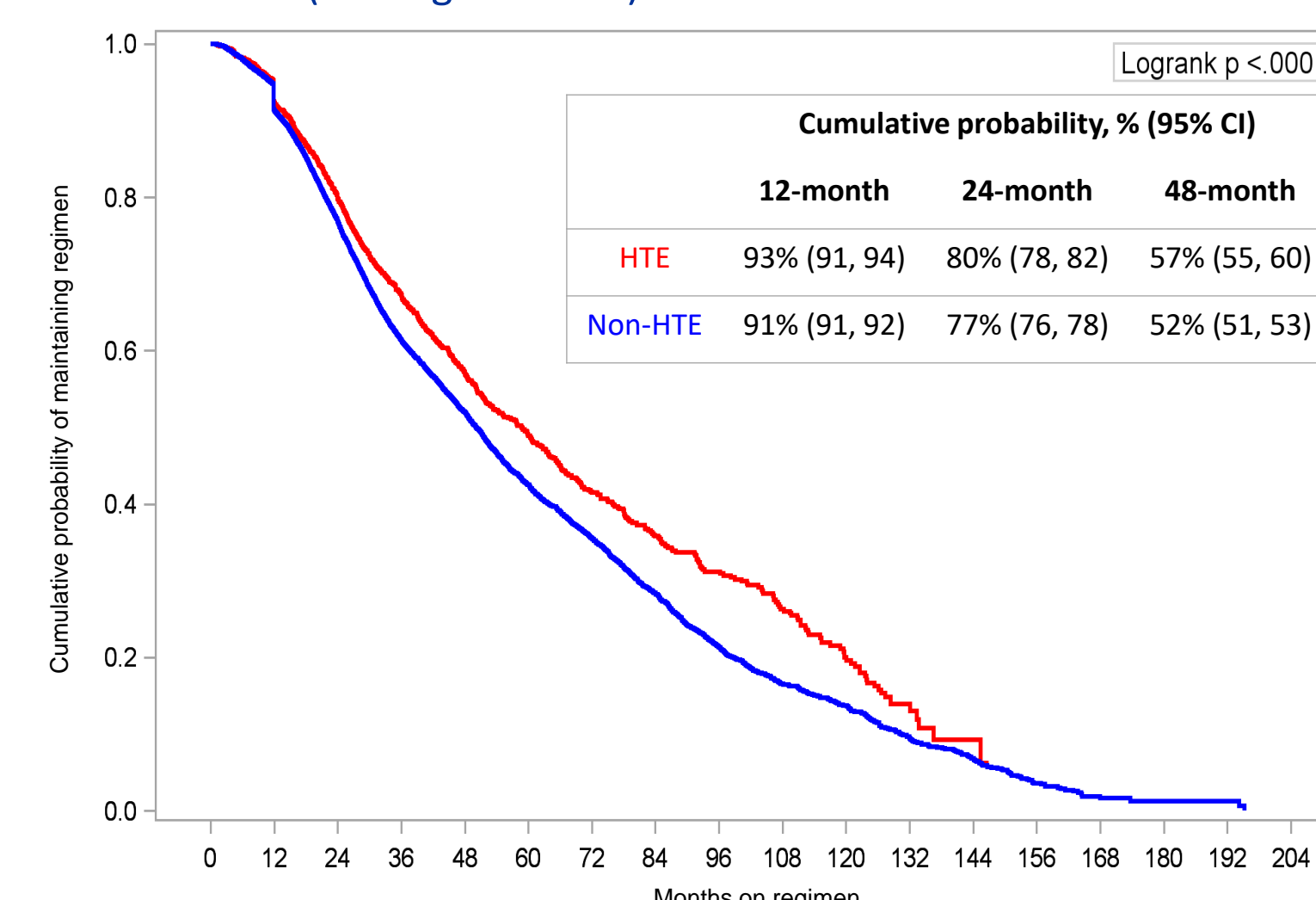
HTE	1435	1265	1047	644	394	232	140	96	55	37	18	6	1	0		
Non-HTE	18002	16397	13051	4800	2605	1414	893	561	311	200	154	85	46	19	6	0

Figure 3. Cumulative probability of remaining virologically suppressed to VL < 200 copies/mL (Among PLWH who achieved suppression)



HTE	788	714	596	379	259	165	113	86	54	36	20	6	3	0		
Non-HTE	4460	4142	3415	1622	928	529	337	235	149	93	78	47	28	14	3	0

Figure 5. Cumulative probability of remaining on the regimen of interest (Among all PLWH)



HTE	2277	2007	1631	985	635	388	262	194	123	91	51	15	3	0			
Non-HTE	21908	19352	15017	5680	3108	1731	1105	722	419	272	206	113	63	27	8	2	0

* HTE = heavily treatment experienced; MSM = men who have sex with men; VL = viral load

- Out of 1,527 HTE PLWH with follow-up VL (viremic: baseline VL ≥50 copies/mL: n=807, suppressed: <50 copies/mL: n=720): 238 (15.6%) had VL ≥200 copies/mL at 12 months
- Out of 15,199 non-HTE PLWH with follow-up VL (viremic: baseline VL ≥50 copies/mL: n=4,297, suppressed: <50 copies/mL: n=10,902): 1,248 (8.2%) had VL ≥200 copies/mL at 12 months; p<0.0001

Table 2. Clinical outcomes in HTE and non-HTE PLWH

	HTE Population N=2,277	Non-HTE Population N=21,906	p-value
New ADEs	108 (5%)	506 (2%)	<.0001
New non-ADE comorbid conditions	1,026 (45%)	7,608 (35%)	<.0001
Deaths	36 (2%)	163 (1%)	<.0001

Discussion

- The HTE population was older, with higher viral loads and lower CD4 counts at baseline than the non-HTE population; the HTE population had also been diagnosed with HIV a significantly longer time before baseline
- While the non-HTE PLWH fared slightly better, HTE PLWH had 80% cumulative probability of suppressing to viral loads < 50 copies/mL and of maintaining their regimen at 24 months
- The HTE population experienced a high burden of AIDS-defining conditions, concomitant medications, and comorbid conditions at baseline; they were also more likely to develop new comorbid conditions and die over follow up than the non-HTE population
- Non-HTE PLWH were more likely to remain virologically suppressed and maintain their CD4 count above 200 cells/μL

Key Findings

HTE PLWH were less likely to maintain their CD4 count above 200 cells/μL or to remain virologically stable, and at greater risk of death than non-HTE PLWH, suggesting additional therapeutic options are needed for this vulnerable population.

References

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