

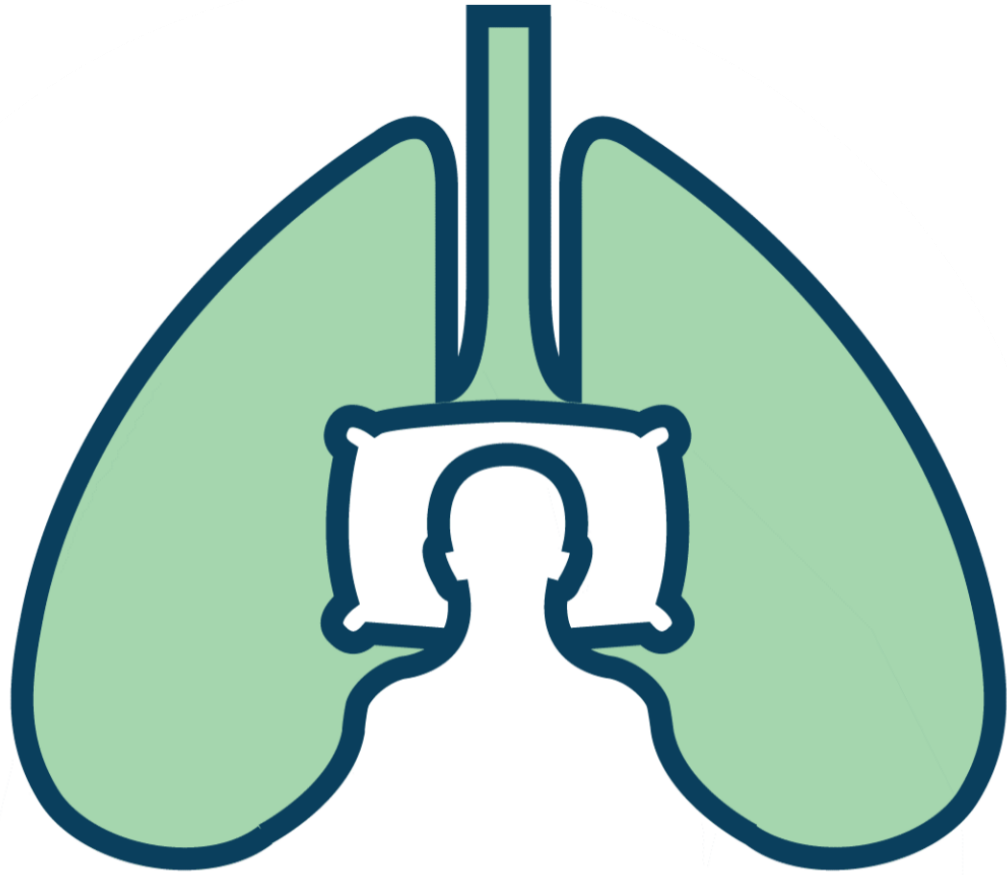


**RSDC**

Respiratory Sleep Disorder

Ali Aminazad MD FRACP FCCP MClInResMeth

ERS meeting Paris  
September 2018



**RSDC**

Respiratory Sleep Disorder ↗

Pulmonary Vascular  
Disease

Asthma

State of the art session

# Pulmonary Vascular Disease

PAH

CTEPH





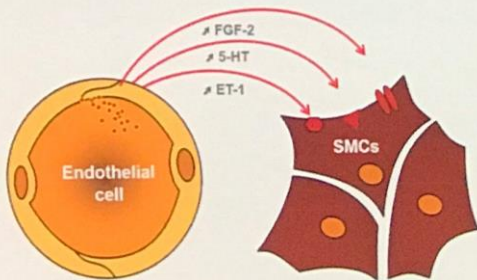
# PAH group 1

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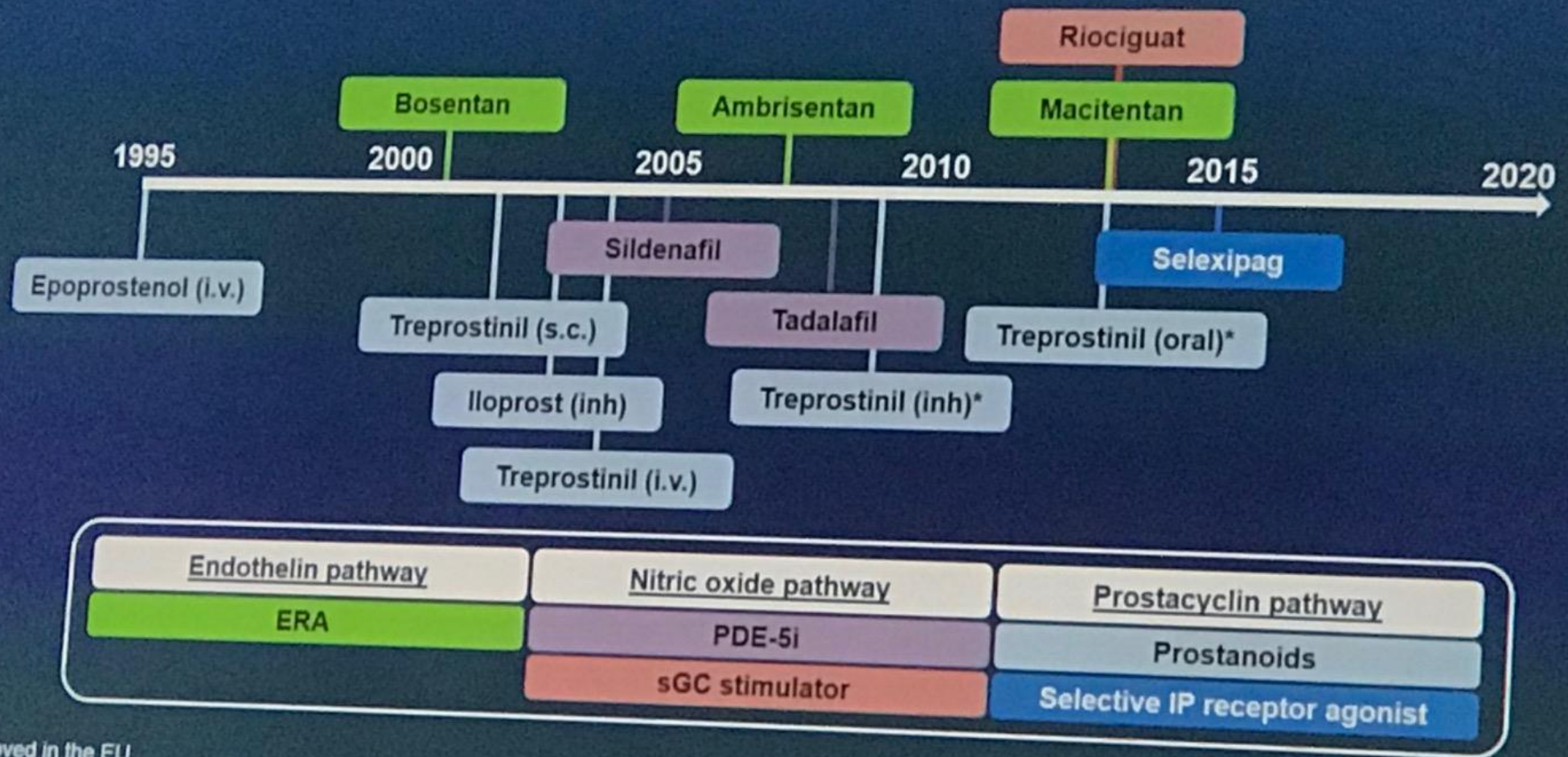
- Chronic precapillary PH, PCWP<15
- 6 per million per year incidence
- 15-50 / million
- 14 drugs are approved
- Lung and heart Tx still very relevant

## Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension : a rare, but not an orphan disease

- Rare: prevalence 15–50/million (incidence 6/million/year)
- Pathophysiology: pulmonary artery endothelial cell dysfunction...
- Drugs: 14 agents approved in the last 20 years (orphan drug status)
- Lung/heart–lung transplantation: if refractory to medical therapy



# The PAH treatment armamentarium has expanded, providing more options targeting the three well-established disease pathways in PAH

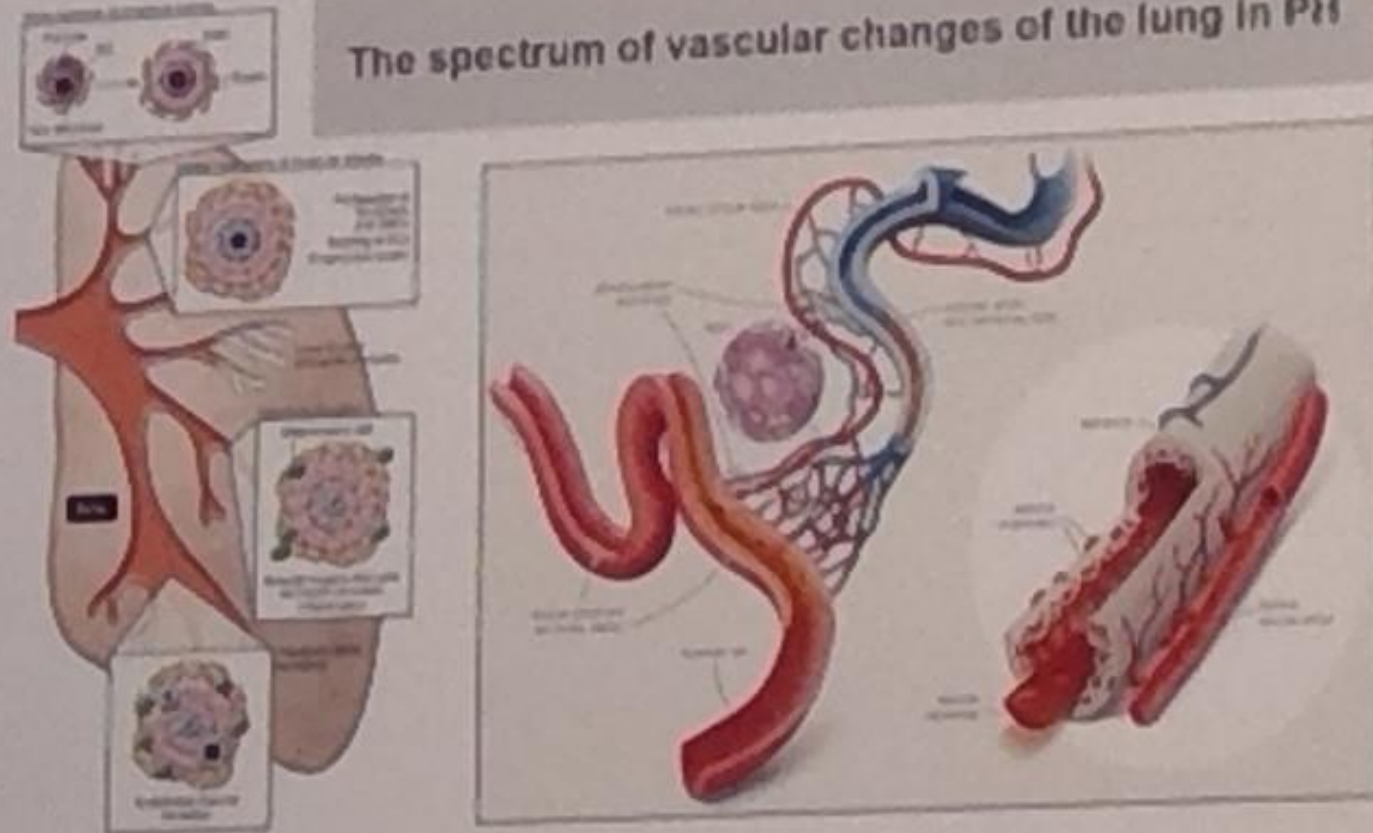


\* Approved in the EU  
 \* Copies that are approved in the USA and/or European Union are included

Gaine S and McLaughlin V. *Eur Respir Rev* 2017; 26:170095.

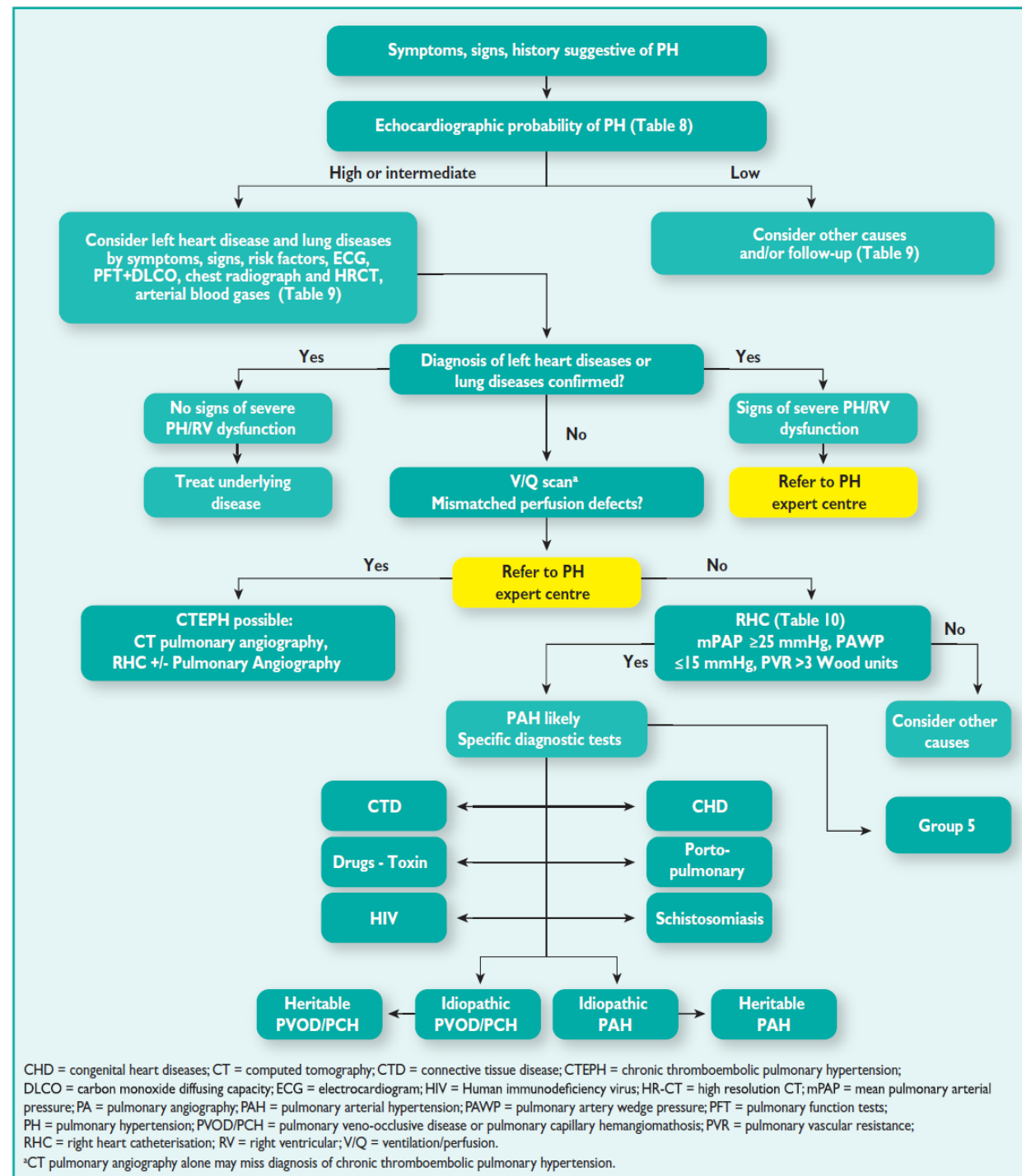
Task Force 1: Pathology and Pathophysiology

The spectrum of vascular changes of the lung in PH



- ERS guidelines 2015
- When the patient becomes symptomatic 70 % of the vessels already involved, so its important to find early

# Diagnosis and Treatment



- Diagnosis is often delayed
- 2.8 years average time between symptoms and diagnosis
- Majority of patients have FC III/IV at the time of diagnosis

Screening is efficacious especially in scleroderma



## Screening can assist in the early detection of high-risk patient populations

**Echocardiographic evaluation** for PAH is recommended in high-risk patients<sup>1,2</sup>:

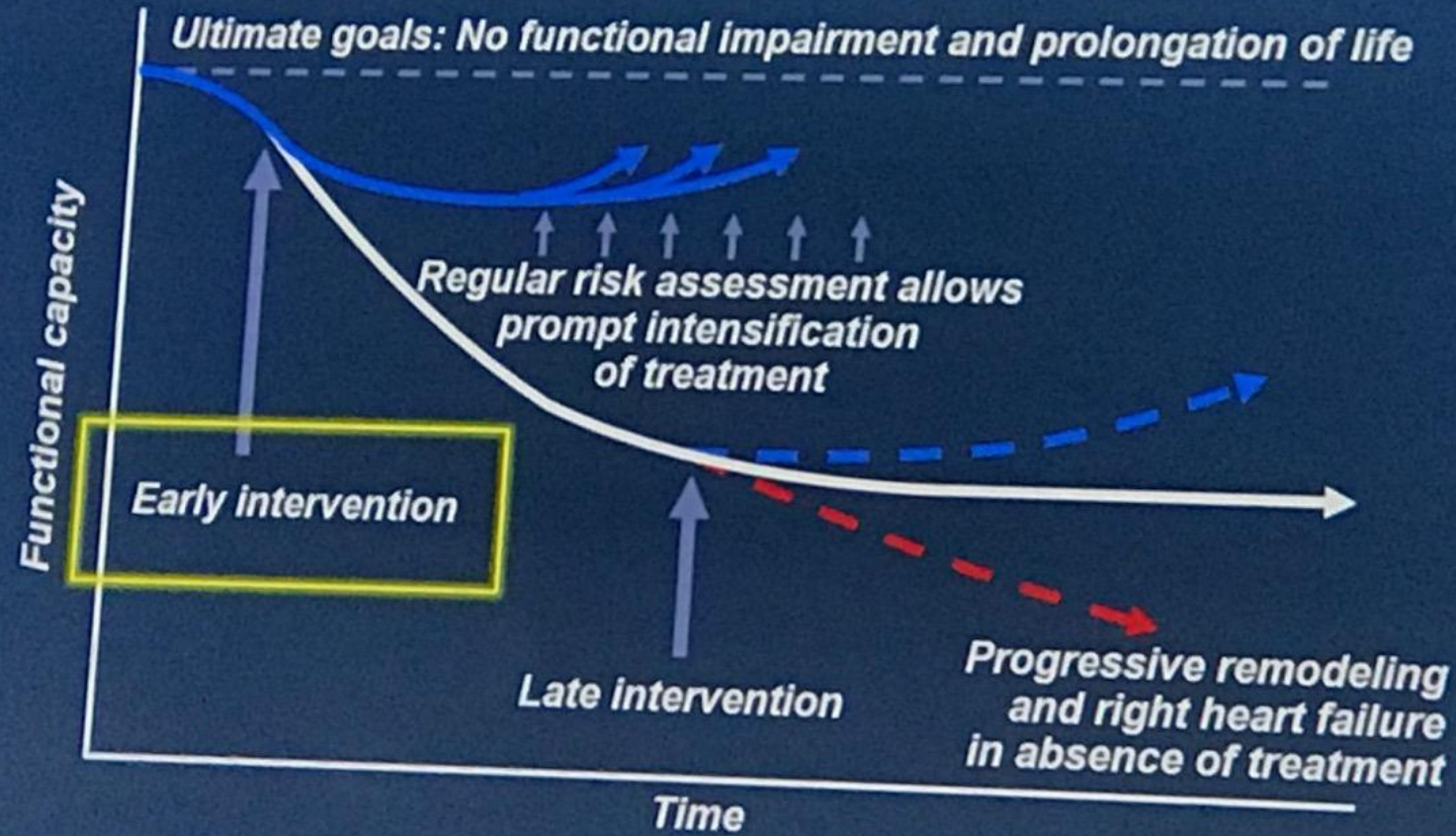
**Asymptomatic:** SSc, liver transplantation candidates; BMPR2 mutation carriers and first degree relatives of HPAH patients; sickle cell disease

✓ Screening allows earlier detection and intervention of PAH-SSc thereby improving long-term outcomes<sup>3</sup>

**Symptomatic:** Portal hypertension, other connective tissue disease, HIV infection

1. Galiè N, et al. *Eur Respir J* 2015; 46:903-75;
2. Galiè N, et al. *Eur Heart J* 2016; 37:67-119.
3. Humbert M, et al. *Arthritis Rheum* 2011; 63:3522-30.

# Early diagnosis and treatment are of paramount importance for improving long-term outcomes



Assessment of risk allows the treatment strategy to be tailored to the individual patient

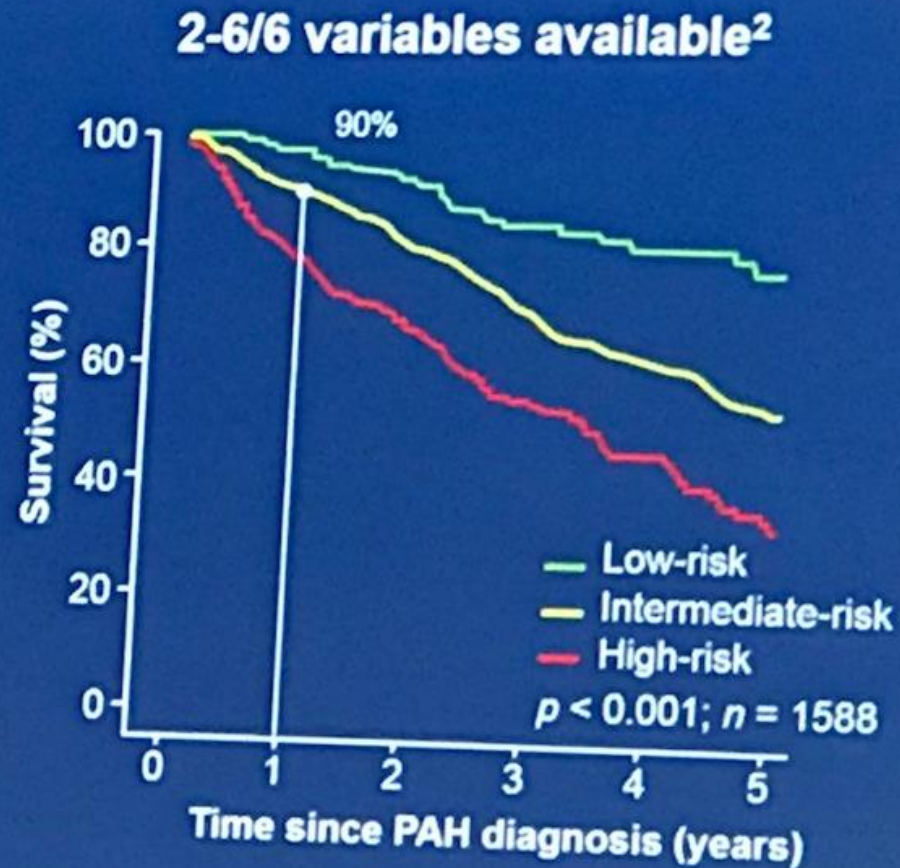
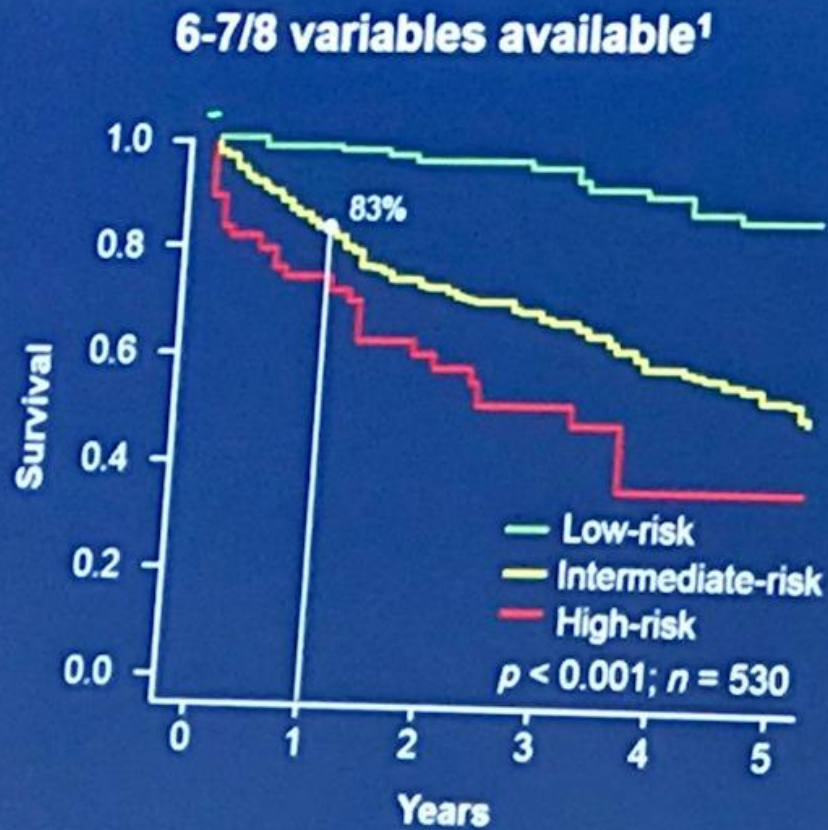
Guidelines recommend regular multi-parameter risk assessment both at diagnosis and follow ups

- Eur Resp J 2015; 46:903-75; Eur Heart J 2016;37:67-119

**Table 13 Risk assessment in pulmonary arterial hypertension**

Determinants of prognosis <sup>a</sup> (estimated 1-year mortality)	Low risk <5%	Intermediate risk 5–10%	High risk >10%
Clinical signs of right heart failure	Absent	Absent	Present
Progression of symptoms	No	Slow	Rapid
Syncope	No	Occasional syncope <sup>b</sup>	Repeated syncope <sup>c</sup>
WHO functional class	I, II	III	IV
6MWD	>440 m	165–440 m	<165 m
Cardiopulmonary exercise testing	Peak VO <sub>2</sub> >15 ml/min/kg (>65% pred.) VE/VCO <sub>2</sub> slope <36	Peak VO <sub>2</sub> 11–15 ml/min/kg (35–65% pred.) VE/VCO <sub>2</sub> slope 36–44.9	Peak VO <sub>2</sub> <11 ml/min/kg (<35% pred.) VE/VCO <sub>2</sub> slope ≥45
NT-proBNP plasma levels	BNP <50 ng/l NT-proBNP <300 ng/l	BNP 50–300 ng/l NT-proBNP 300–1400 ng/l	BNP >300 ng/l NT-proBNP >1400 ng/l
Imaging (echocardiography, CMR imaging)	RA area <18 cm <sup>2</sup> No pericardial effusion	RA area 18–26 cm <sup>2</sup> No or minimal, pericardial effusion	RA area >26 cm <sup>2</sup> Pericardial effusion
Haemodynamics	RAP <8 mmHg CI ≥2.5 l/min/m <sup>2</sup> SvO <sub>2</sub> >65%	RAP 8–14 mmHg CI 2.0–2.4 l/min/m <sup>2</sup> SvO <sub>2</sub> 60–65%	RAP >14 mmHg CI <2.0 l/min/m <sup>2</sup> SvO <sub>2</sub> <60%

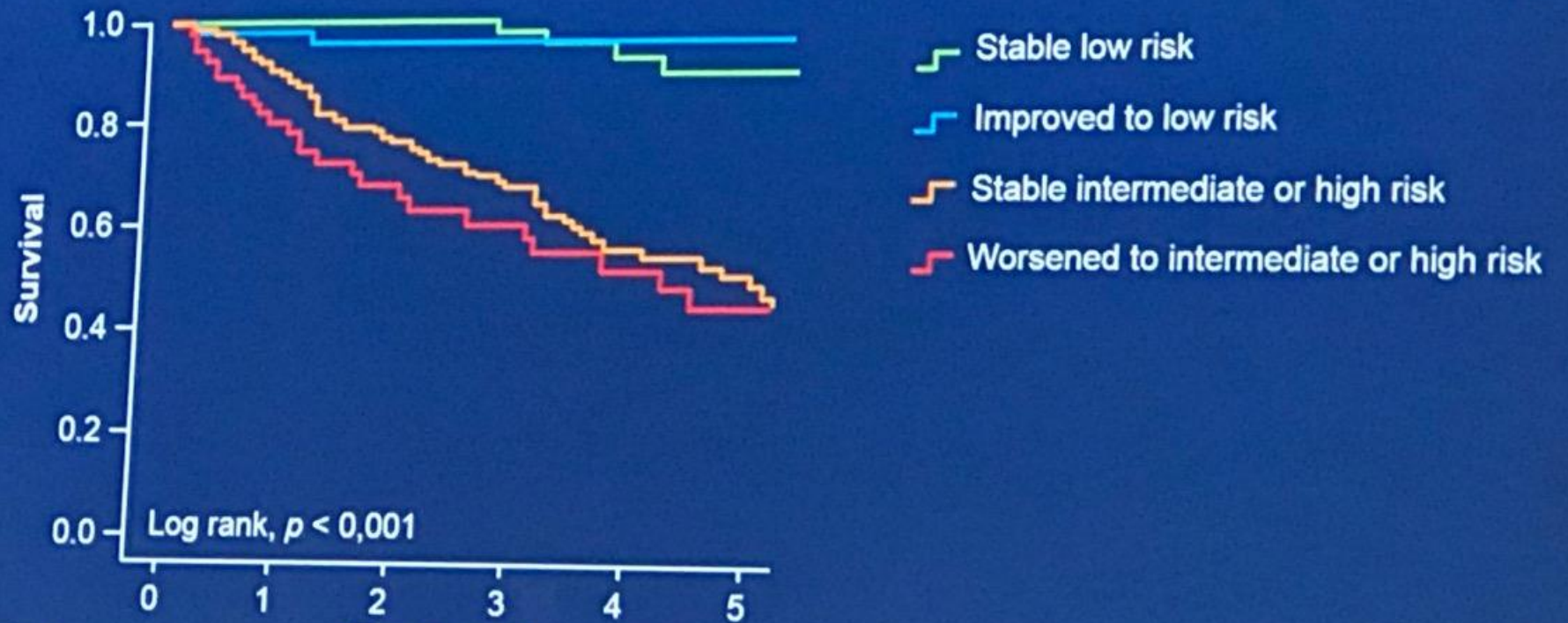
# One-year survival from diagnosis



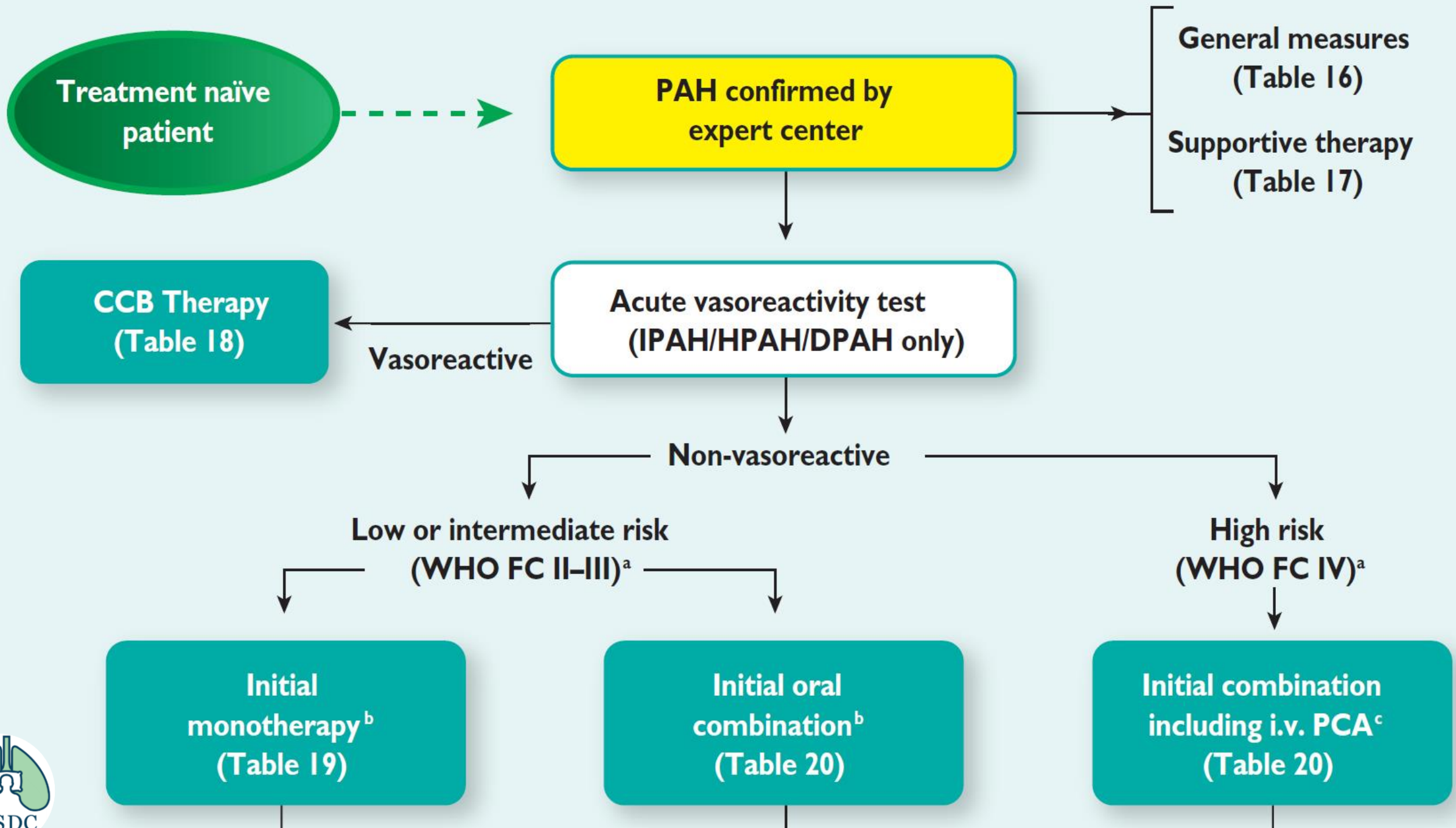
1. Kylhammar D, et al. *Eur Heart J* 2017; ehx257;
2. Hoeper MM, et al. *Eur Respir J* 2017; 50:1700740.

# SPAHR: Obtaining a low-risk status at 1 year is associated with a good prognosis irrespective of the risk status at baseline

Follow-up risk assessment (within a year of diagnosis)

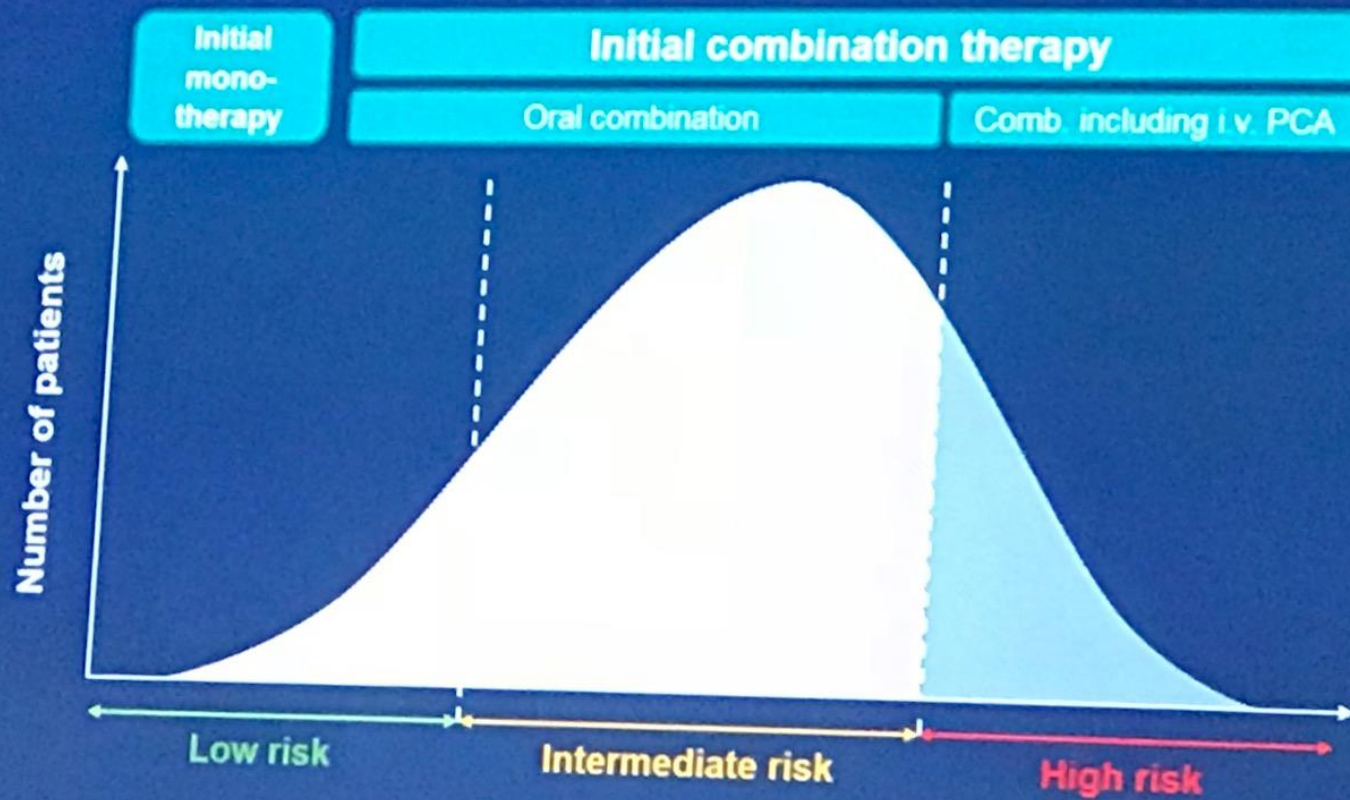


Patients at risk, $n$	Time (years)					
	0	1	2	3	4	5
Stable low risk	57	50	44	37	28	21
Improved to low risk	54	46	36	28	20	12
Stable intermediate or high risk	213	163	108	69	41	26
Worsened to intermediate or high risk	59	41	28	21	15	11



Combination therapy is now the standard of care in the majority of PAH patients

### Typical initial management of PAH in the current era



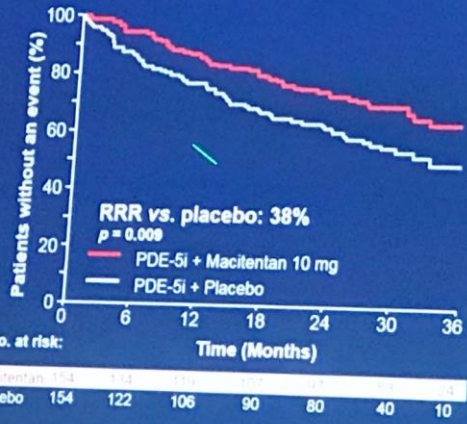
A, prostacyclin analogs

Galiè N, et al. *Eur Respir J* 2015; 46:903-75;  
Galiè N, et al. *Eur Heart J* 2016; 37:67-119;  
Gaine S and McLaughlin V. *Eur Respir Rev* 2017; 26:170095.

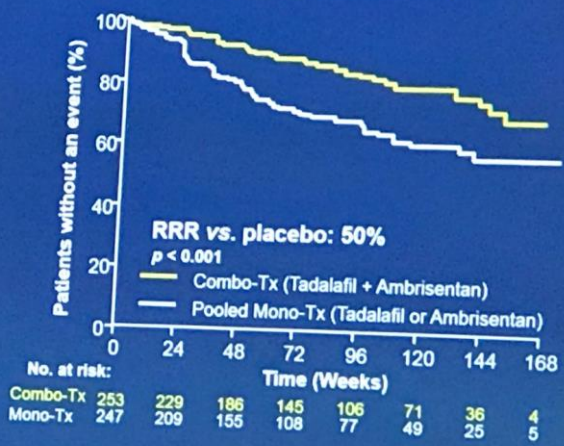


Patients receiving double oral combination therapy with an ERA and a PDE-5i have improved long-term outcomes

**Sequential combination therapy**  
**SERAPHIN study<sup>1</sup>**  
(pretreated patients only – 63%)



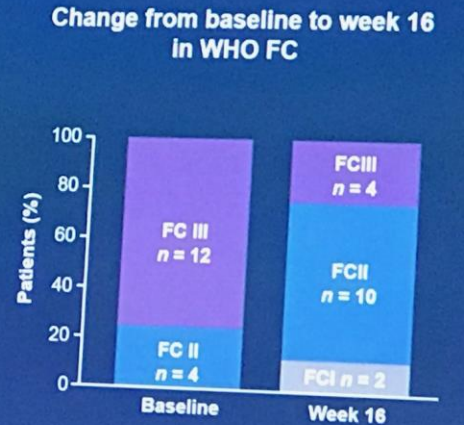
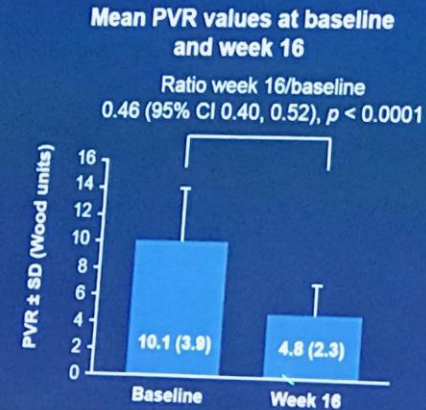
**Initial combination therapy**  
**AMBITION study<sup>2</sup>**  
(all patients treatment-naïve)



1. Pulido T, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2013; 369:809-18; 2. Gallè N, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2015; 373:834-44.

**OPTIMA: Combination therapy with macitentan and tadalafil led to improvements in cardiopulmonary hemodynamics and WHO FC**

OPTIMA (NCT02968901) is an ongoing study evaluating the efficacy, safety and tolerability of initial combination therapy with macitentan and tadalafil in newly diagnosed patients with PAH



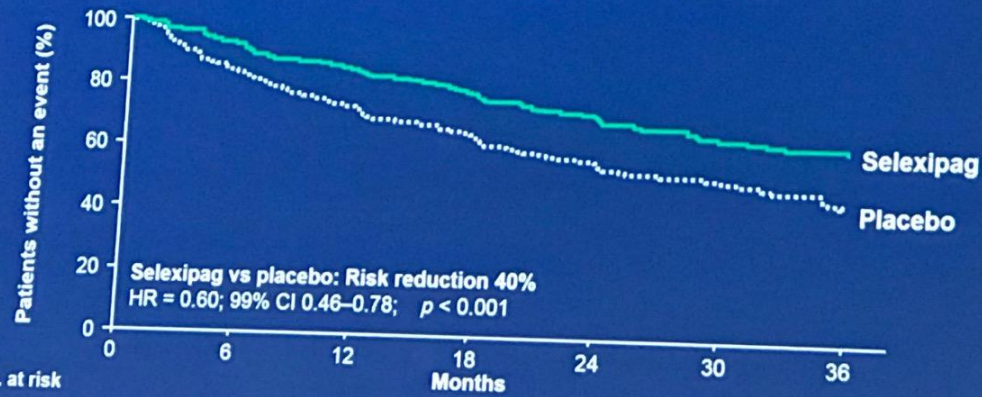
Mean (SD) are shown  
CI, confidence interval; PVR, pulmonary vascular resistance; SD, Standard deviation;  
WHO FC, World Health Organization functional class

Sitbon O, et al. *ATS* 2017; Poster A2297.

- Irrespective of what combination used the effect is similar in combination therapy
- Triple therapy tried in severe patients the impressive result was on haemodynamics which persisted over a long time
- Triton is a study to compare triple vs dual therapy in treatment naïve patients

**GRIPHON: Selexipag reduced the risk of a morbidity or mortality event\* by 40%**

80% of patients were on background PAH therapy



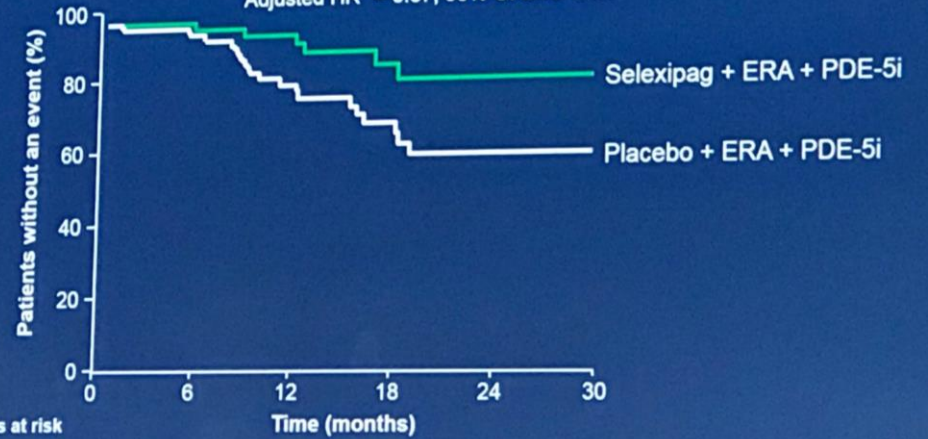
ITT population, \*Composite endpoint

Sitbon O, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2015; 373:2522-33

**Sequential triple combination therapy: FC II patients have better outcomes than FC II patients on double combination therapy**

GRIPHON

Selexipag vs placebo: Risk reduction 63%  
 Adjusted HR\* = 0.37; 95% CI 0.15–0.95



\*HR adjusted for baseline 6MWD

Coghlan JG, et al. *Am J Cardiovasc Drugs* 2018; 18:37-47.



## What is the impact of clinical worsening for patients? *Evidence from SERAPHIN and GRIPHON*

- The two pivotal trials, SERAPHIN with macitentan ( $n = 742$ ) and GRIPHON with selexipag ( $n = 1156$ ), are the largest randomized controlled trials in PAH<sup>1,2</sup>
- The primary endpoint in each study was a composite of first morbidity or mortality event, occurring on the assigned treatment
- In both trials, all patients were followed for all-cause mortality up to the end of the study
- The landmark method<sup>3,4</sup> was utilized to evaluate the association between morbidity events and long-term mortality

1. Pulido T, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2013; 369:809-18;

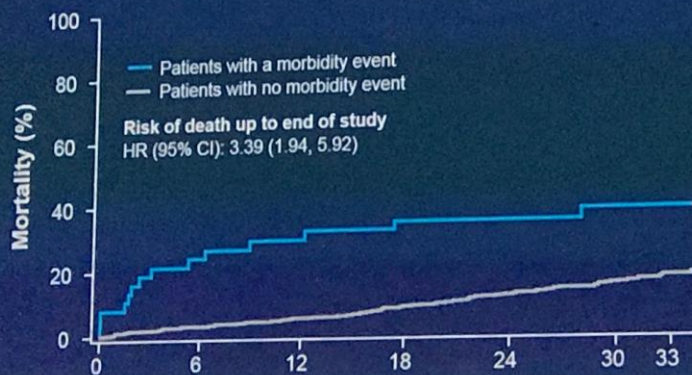
2. Sitbon O, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2015; 373:2522-33;

3. Dafni U. *Circ Cardiovasc Qual Outcomes* 2011; 4:363-71;

4. Anderson JR, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 1983; 1:710-9.

## SERAPHIN: Patients who experience morbidity events have an increased risk of death

### Landmark analyses from SERAPHIN



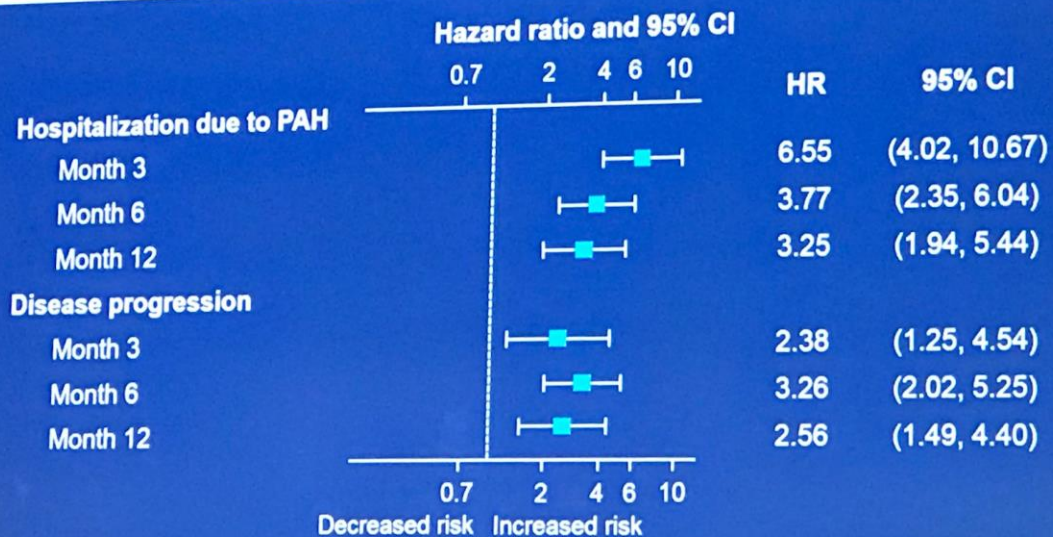
Risk of death up to EOS increased  $\geq 3$  fold for patients who experienced a morbidity event prior to Month 3 landmark, compared with those who did not

No. at risk:	0	6	12	18	24	30	33
— 38	29	27	25	23	13	8	
— 682	654	636	611	496	241	151	

Median follow-up: 20 months

McLaughlin V, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018; 71:752-63.

## GRIPHON: Hospitalization and disease progression were associated with increased risk of death irrespective of landmark timepoint



McLaughlin V, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018; 71:752-63.

## Summary

- A wealth of data on effective management and treatment strategies for PAH is available
- Aiming to achieve and maintain a low-risk profile is a key treatment goal in PAH
- It is essential to perform repeated multi-parameter risk assessments in patients at baseline and follow-up
- Morbidity events are associated with an increased risk of death, therefore treatment strategies that delay disease progression are essential
- GRIPHON is the first long-term RCT to provide evidence that the addition of a third drug is both efficacious and safe

## Beyond double combination therapy in PAH: Initial triple combination therapy - A single center experience

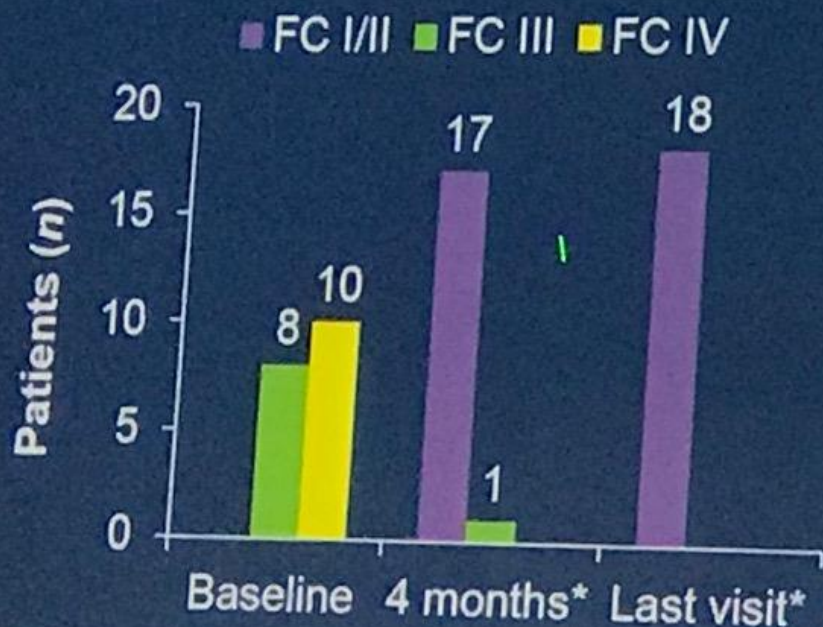
- **Initial triple combination therapy:**  
i.v. epoprostenol + bosentan + sildenafil
- 19 treatment-naïve incident patients with idiopathic ( $n = 9$ ) or heritable ( $n = 10$ ) PAH
- Mean age  $39 \pm 14$  years (18 – 63)
- NYHA FC III ( $n = 8$ ) or IV ( $n = 11$ )
- Severe hemodynamics:  $CI < 2.0$  L/min/m<sup>2</sup> or  $PVR > 1000$  dyn·s·cm<sup>-5</sup>

One patient was not included in the month 4 assessment due to an emergency lung transplant in month 3

Sitbon O, et al. *Eur Respir J* 2014; 43:1691-7.

## Initial triple combination therapy in severe PAH: Treatment benefit on FC and hemodynamics

Prospective, observational analysis of idiopathic or heritable PAH patients ( $n = 18$ ) treated with triple initial combination therapy (epoprostenol, bosentan and sildenafil)<sup>1,†</sup>



	Baseline	4 months	Last visit (32 ± 19 months)
RAP (mmHg)	11.9 ± 5.2	4.9 ± 4.9*	5.2 ± 3.5*
mPAP (mmHg)	65.8 ± 13.7	45.7 ± 14.0*	44.4 ± 13.4*
CI (l/min/m <sup>2</sup> )	1.66 ± 0.35	3.49 ± 0.69*	3.64 ± 0.65*
PVR (d.s.cm <sup>-5</sup> )	1718 ± 627	564 ± 260*	492 ± 209*
SvO <sub>2</sub> (%)	51.0 ± 8.5	69.7 ± 5.2*	72.2 ± 4.0*

\* $p < 0.01$  versus baseline; †Current guidelines state that this initial drug combination should be considered in patients with PAH in FC III-IV<sup>2,3</sup>. For specific product-related information please consult your local summary of product characteristics.

1. Sitbon O, et al. *Eur Respir J* 2014; 43:1691-7;
2. Galie N, et al. *Eur Respir J* 2015; 46:903-75;
3. Galie N, et al. *Eur Heart J* 2016; 37:67-119

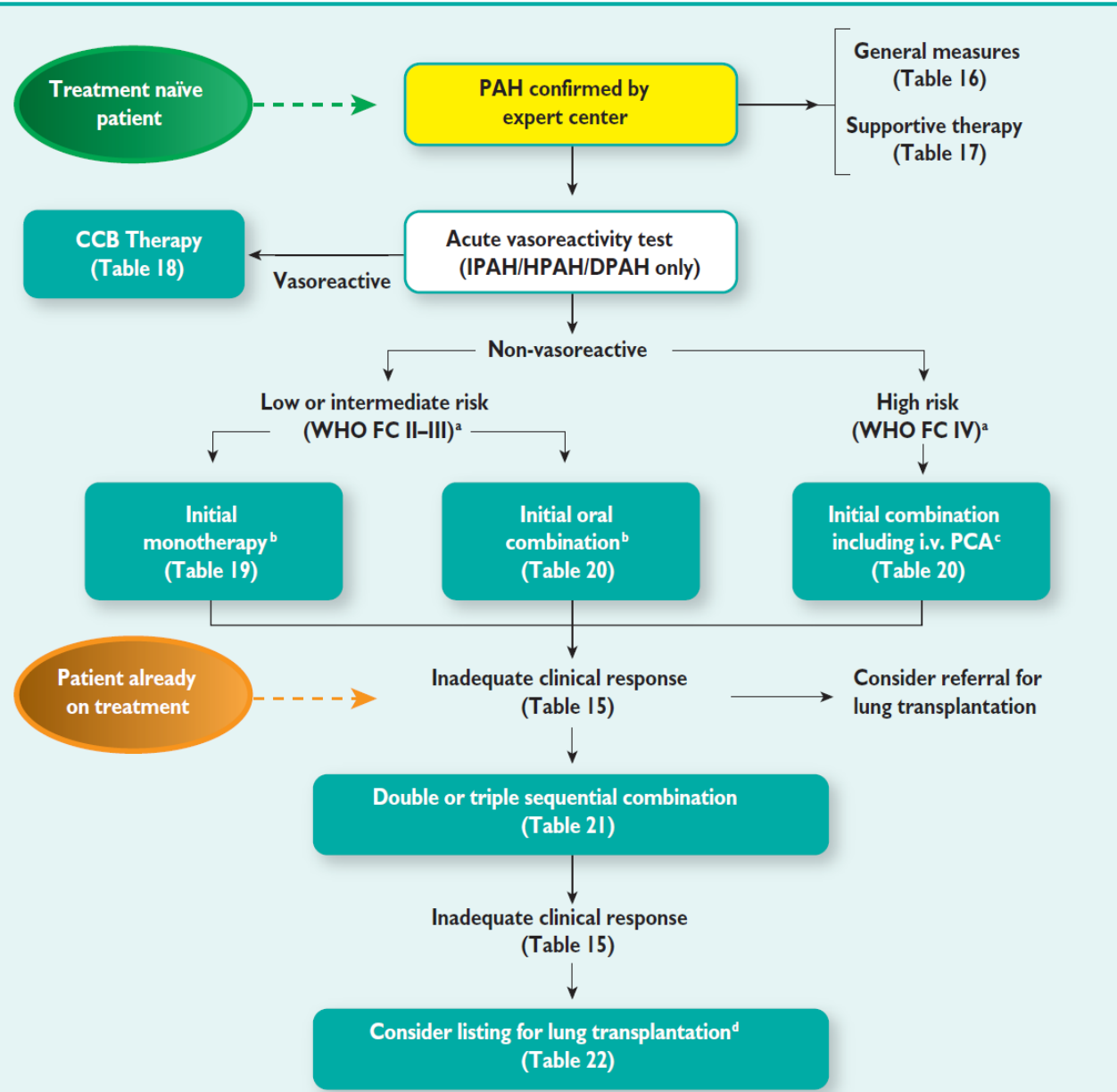


## TRITON: Initial triple combination therapy with selexipag, macitentan and tadalafil in PAH patients

- **TRITON:** A multi-center, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase IIIb study
- **Objectives:**
  - To compare the efficacy and safety of an initial triple oral treatment regimen (macitentan, tadalafil, selexipag) versus an initial double oral treatment regimen (macitentan, tadalafil, placebo) in newly diagnosed, treatment-naïve PAH patients
- **Primary endpoint:** Change in PVR from baseline to week 26 as measured by RHC
- **Secondary endpoints:** HD variables,  $\Delta$ 6MWD, FC

## Conclusions

- Early diagnosis and detection of worsening are key for the initiation of early treatment and timely intensification of therapy
- Risk assessment at diagnosis (and follow-up) is essential to determine treatment strategy
- Initial double combination therapy may not be sufficient in controlling disease progression, and initial or sequential triple therapy may be required
- TRITON is underway to determine the efficacy and safety of initial triple oral combination therapy in treatment naïve patients
- By working together, patients and physicians can ensure that they achieve the best outcomes



CCB = calcium channel blockers; DPAH = drug-induced PAH; HPAH = heritable PAH; IPAH = idiopathic PAH; i.v. = intravenous; PAH = pulmonary arterial hypertension; PCA = prostacyclin analogues; WHO-FC = World Health Organization functional class.

<sup>a</sup>Some WHO-FC III patients may be considered high risk (see Table 13).

<sup>b</sup>Initial combination with ambrisentan plus tadalafil has proven to be superior to initial monotherapy with ambrisentan or tadalafil in delaying clinical failure.

<sup>c</sup>Intravenous epoprostenol should be prioritised as it has reduced the 3 months rate for mortality in high risk PAH patients also as monotherapy.

<sup>d</sup>Consider also balloon atrial septostomy.



CTEPH

Chronic Thromboembolic Pulmonary Hypertension

# CTEPH diagnosis

- mPAP > 25
- PCWP < 15
- VQ positive with any burden disease
- Treated with anticoagulant for >3 months
- The issue is that they can be diagnosed as acute PE
- The incidence after acute PE is: 3%, is rare but under diagnosed
- New or worsened dyspnoea after PE

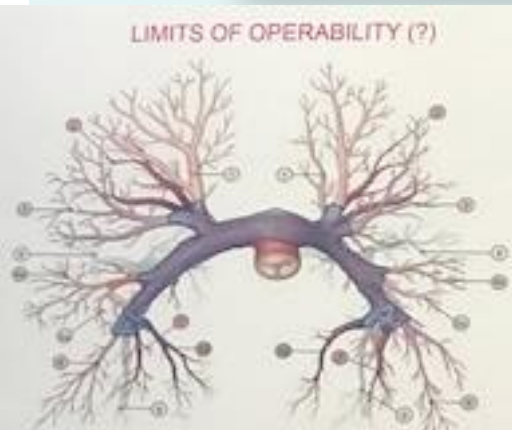
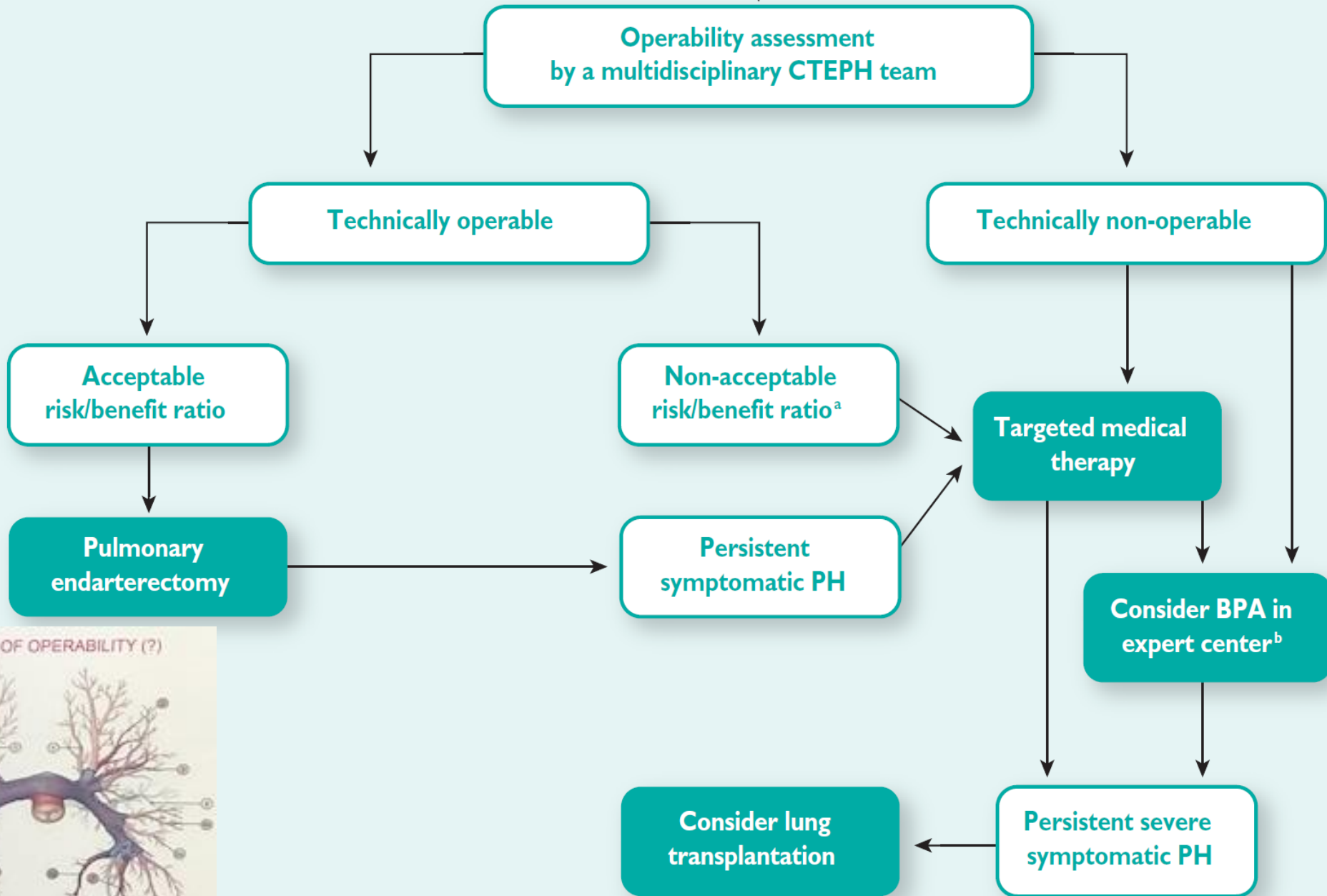
# Predictors of CTEPH after acute PE

## **At the time of index PE:**

Massive and Recurrent PE  
Unprovoked PE  
Symptoms present > 2 weeks before presentation

## **In the follow up of acute PE:**

New or worsened dyspnoea  
Splenectomy  
Chronic inflammatory disorder  
Non-O blood group



BPA = balloon pulmonary angioplasty; CTEPH = chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension; PH = pulmonary hypertension.

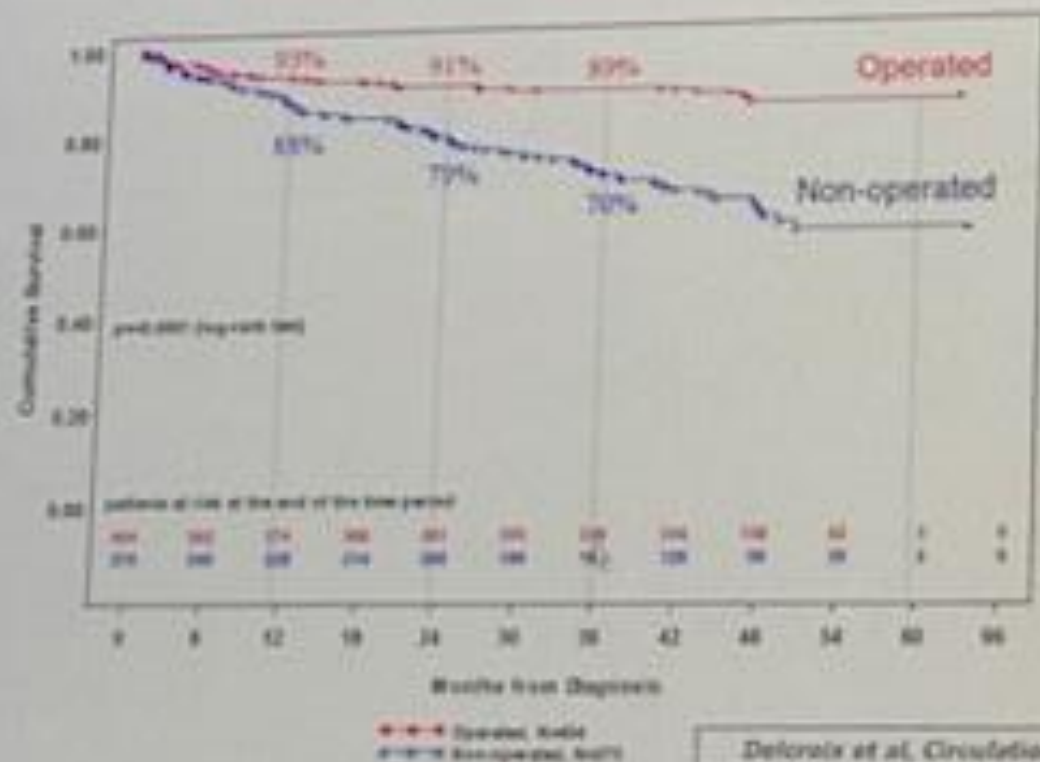
<sup>a</sup>Technically operable patients with non-acceptable risk/benefit ratio can be considered also for BPA.

<sup>b</sup>In some centers medical therapy and BPA are initiated concurrently.

## PEA INHOSPITAL MORTALITY

- PEACOG study, 74 patients 1.4%
  - Vuytsteke et al Lancet 2011;378:1379
- UCSD, last 500 patients 2.2%
  - Madani et al Ann Thor Surg 2012;94:97
- European prospective registry 4.7%
  - Mayer et al J Thorac Cardiovasc Res 2011;141:702

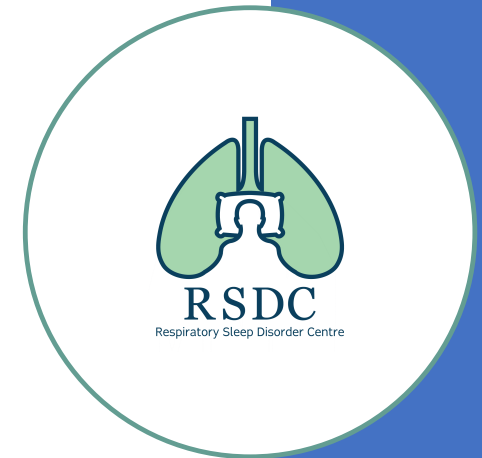
## KM SURVIVAL ESTIMATES: OPERATED AND NON-OPERATED





- We can find 3 times cases than what we already now
- We have more haemoptysis is CTEPH than IPH
- 60% reduction in PVR after endarterectomy
- Surgery increase survival
- Macitentan and Riociguat improved 6MWD

# Asthma



# What is the most important cell in Asthma?

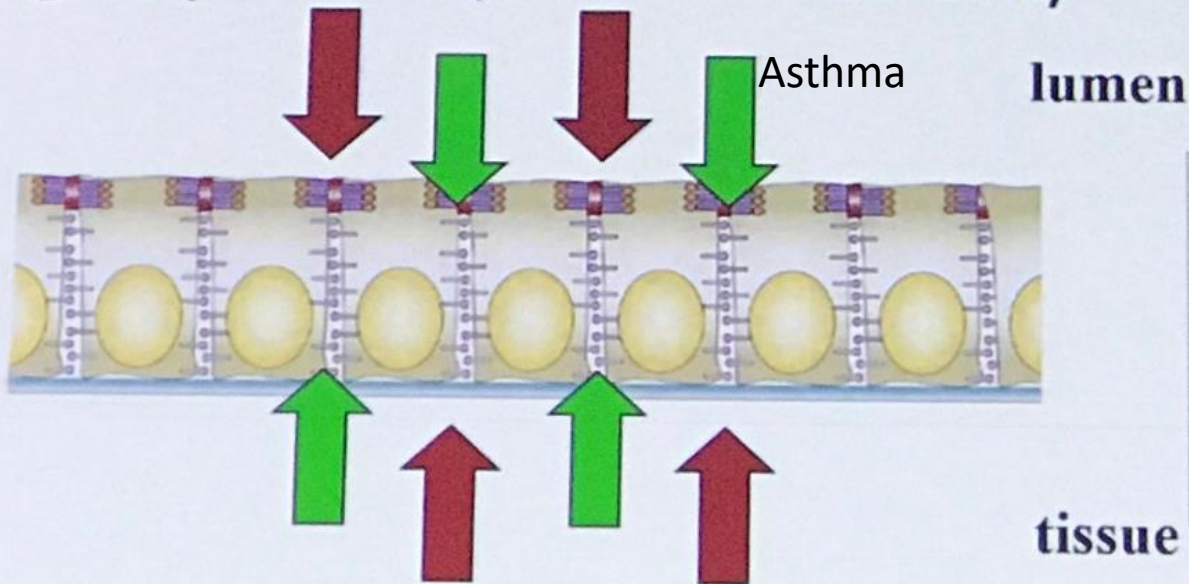
Epithelial barrier is defective in asthma

The role of Tight Junctions (TJ)

Asthma

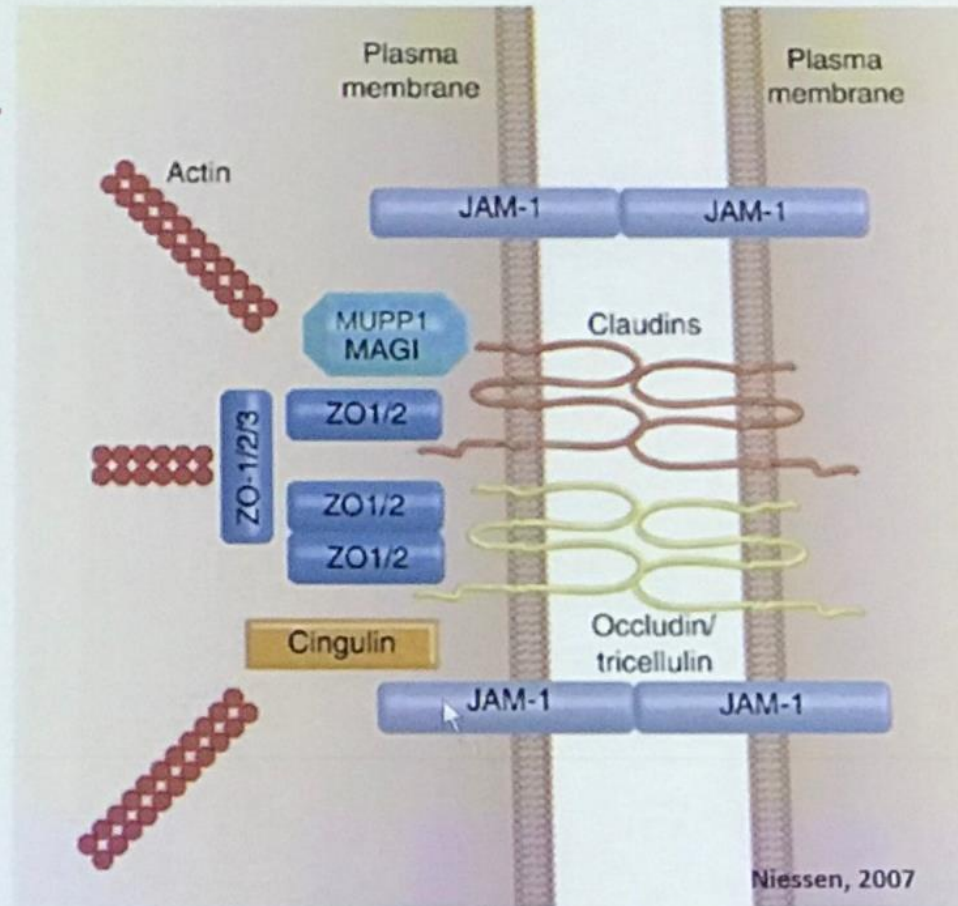
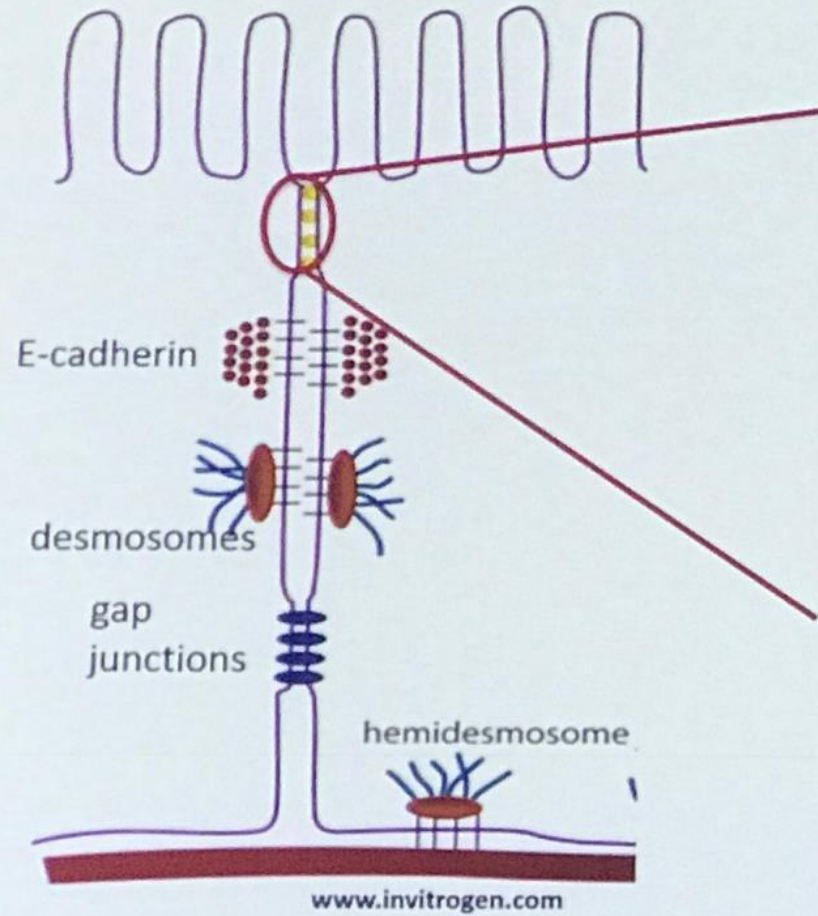
# Functions

- Closed tight junctions: preventive and protective against environment
- Open tight junctions: to drain inflammation, but allow allergen, pollutant, toxin accessibility

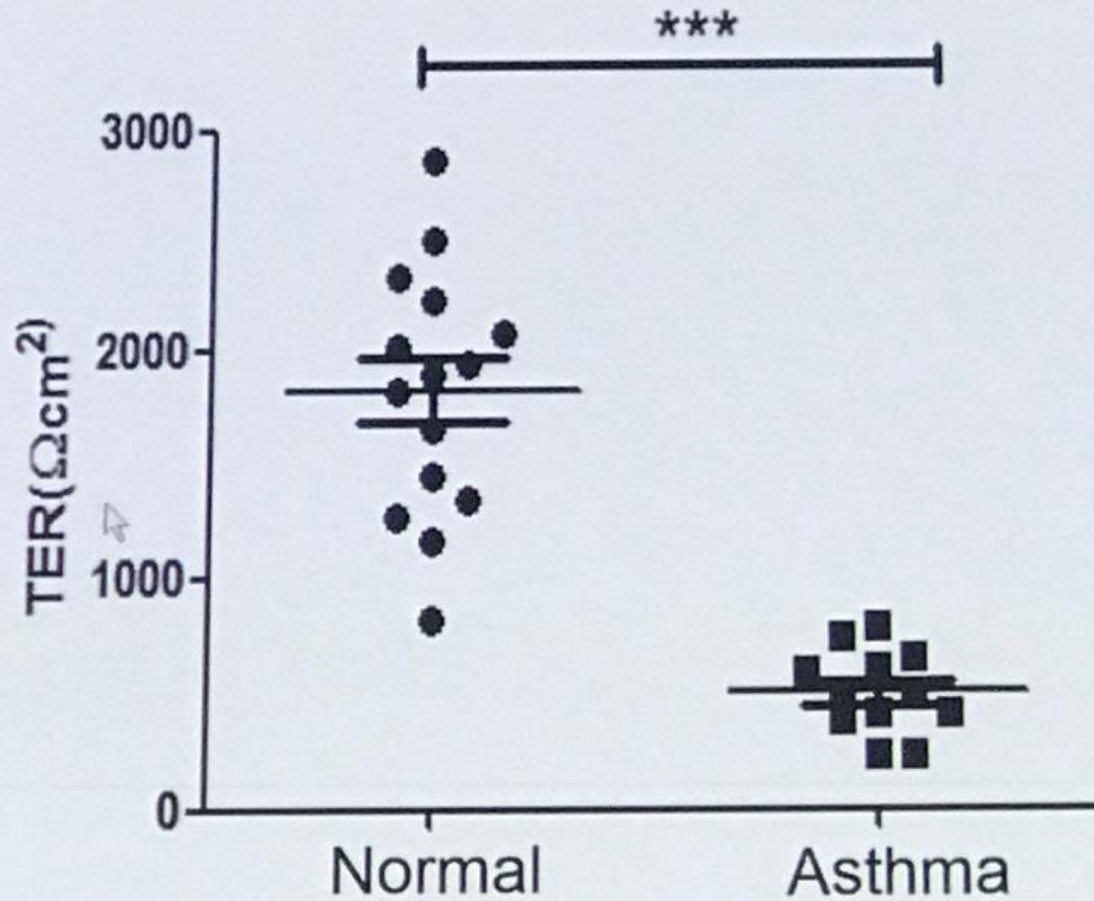


- TJs PROTEINS:
- 3-membrane domains
    - occludin
    - claudins (24 proteins)
    - tricellulin (novel - between 3 neighbouring cells)
  - 1-membrane domain
    - JAMs – junction adherent proteins

# Tight Junctions – Seal of the Epithelium



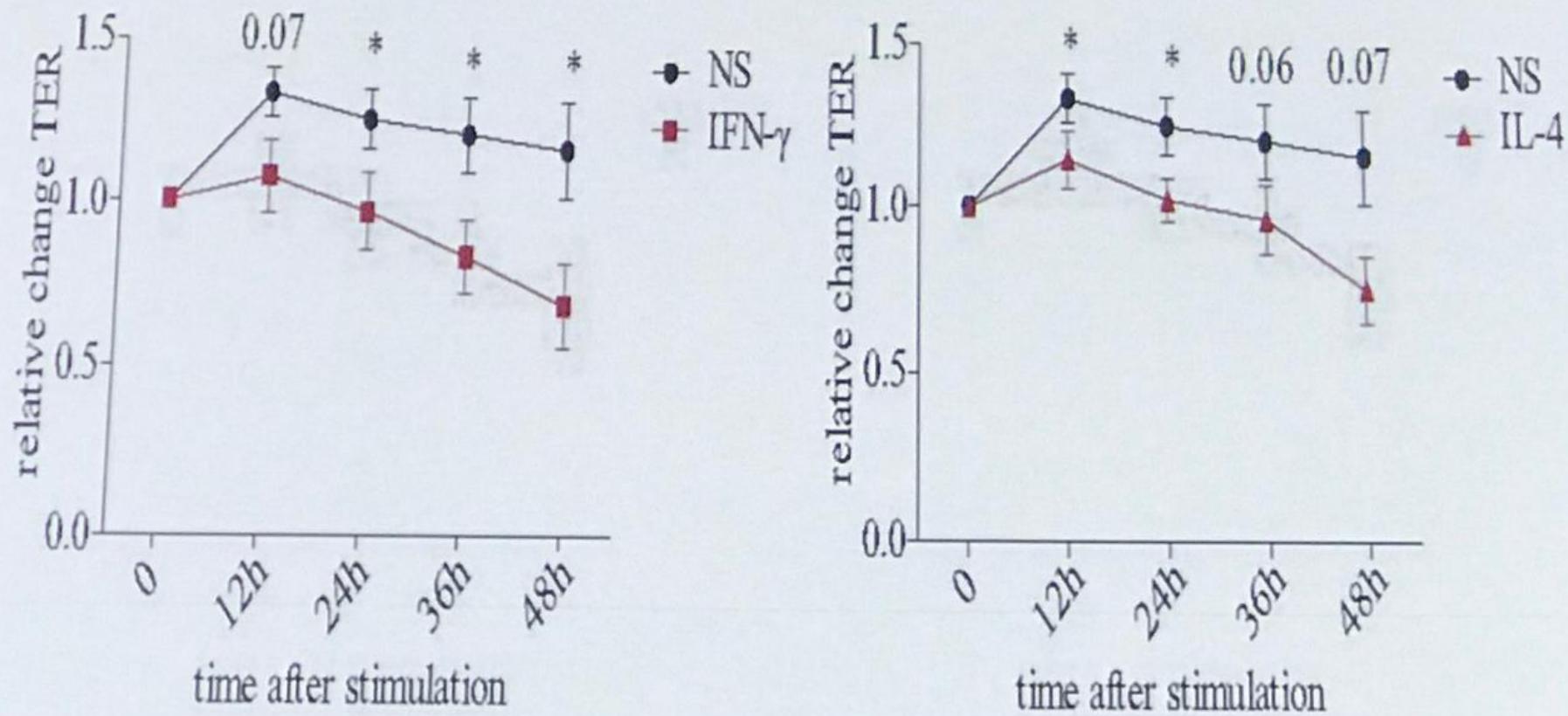
# Bronchial Epithelial Leakiness in Asthma



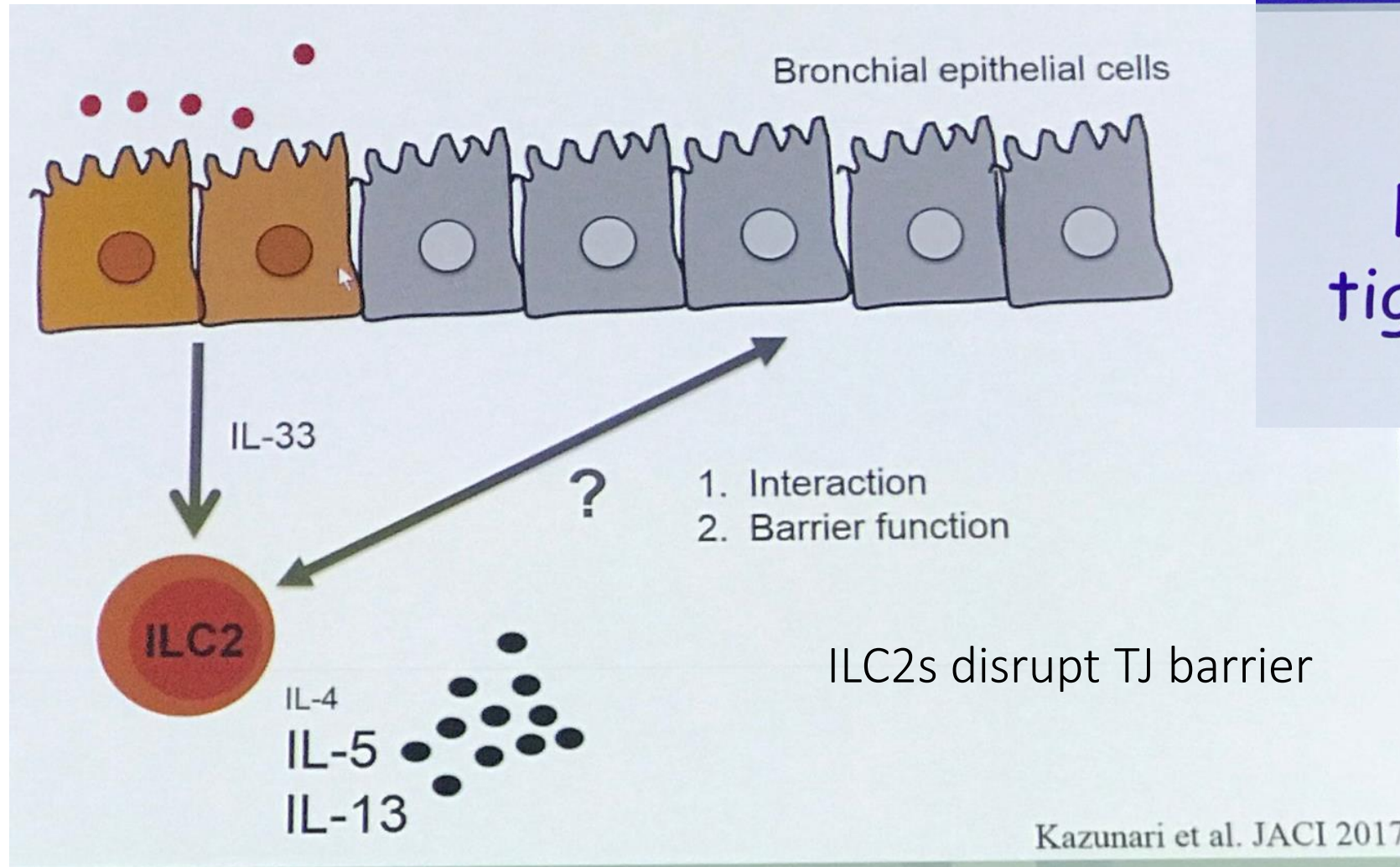
Leaky  
asthmatic epithelial  
barrier  
even after 3  
passages

Wawrzyniak et al. 2017

# A IL-4 and IFN- $\gamma$ open TJs



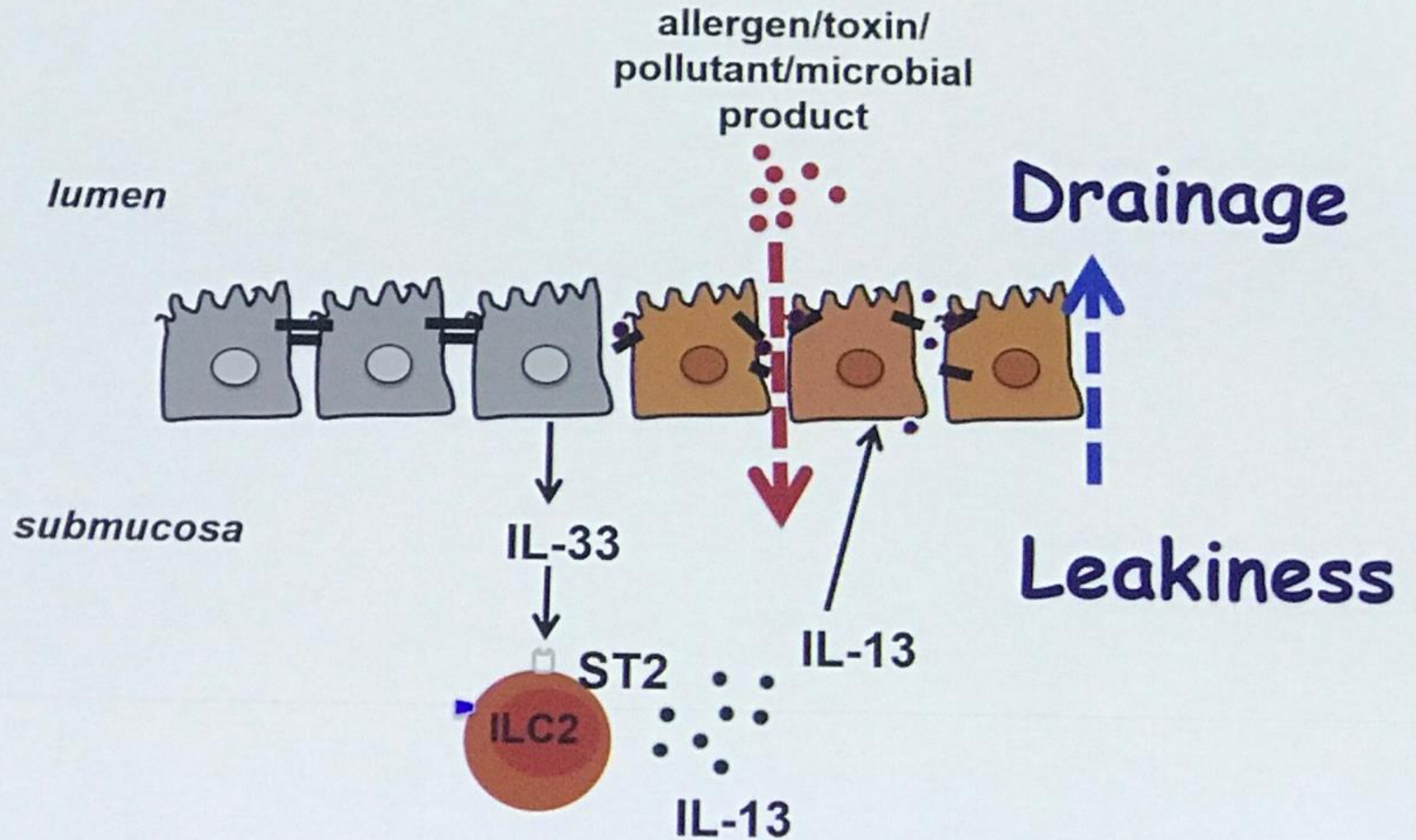
# ILC2 and IL-13 in bronchial epithelial tight junction barrier leakiness



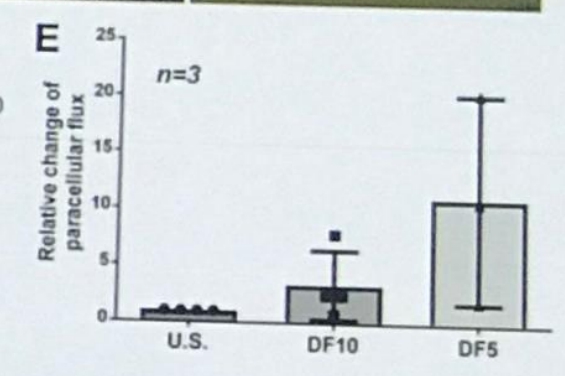
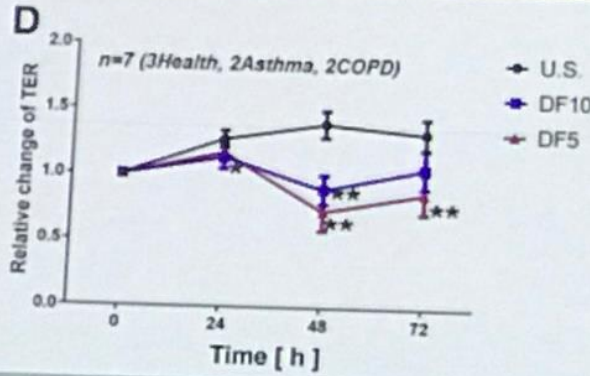
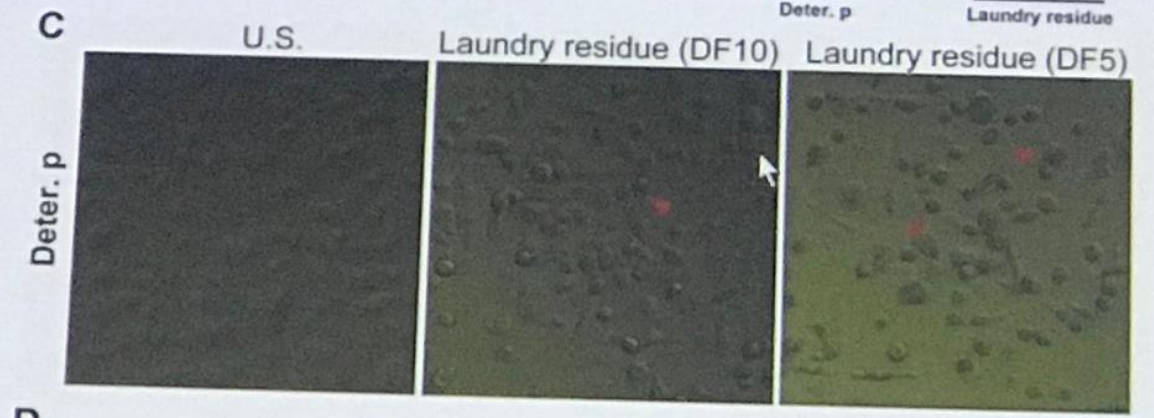
Treg cells kindly open tight junctions



# ILC2s disrupt bronchial epithelial TJ barrier via IL-13



# Detergent residue disrupts epithelial barrier integrity



Wilcoxon matched pairs test, \*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.01.

FIG 3.

# Conclusions:

Detergents kill cells in 1:10'000 dilutions  
and open TJ barrier in 1:100'000, 1:1000000 doses.

Rinse residue is still toxic at 1:10 or more dilutions.

RNAseq: In non cytotoxic concentrations: they directly attack  
epithelial barrier molecules  
affect cell adhesion, lipid metabolism, oxidative stress and  
apoptosis

Methylome: Detergents are not too active in methylation of genes in  
short time, long-term exposure should be studied

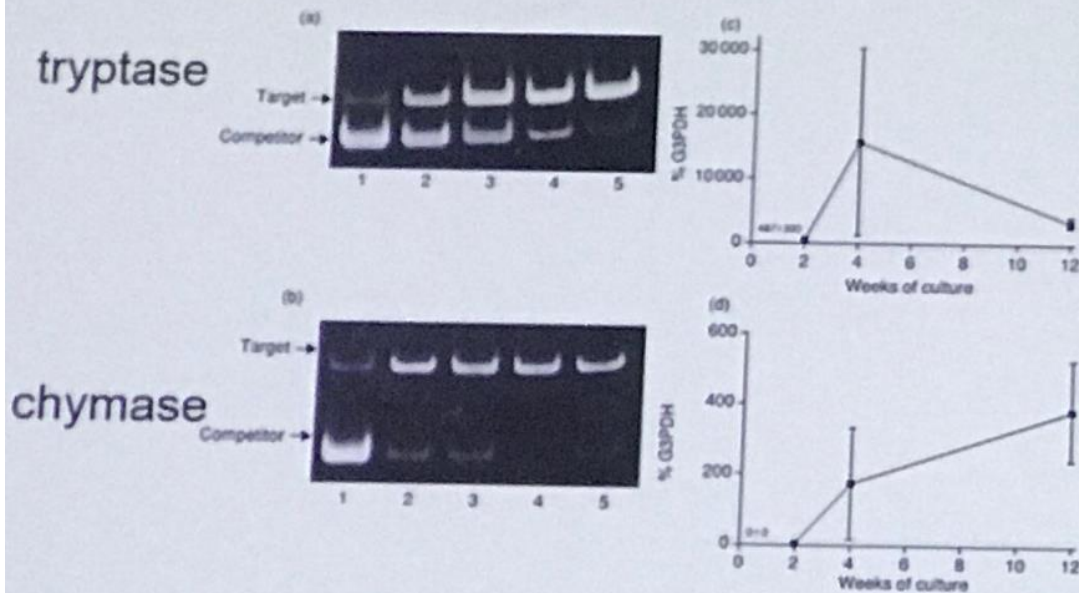
ATAC seq: increased TSS in open chromatin, to be analysed

# Mast Cells

- There are different phenotypes of mast cells
- In the lung we have MCT

Characterization of 'adult-type' mast cells derived from human bone marrow CD34<sup>+</sup> cells cultured in the presence of stem cell factor and interleukin-6. Interleukin-4 is not required for constitutive expression of CD54, FcεRIα and chymase, and CD13 expression is reduced during differentiation

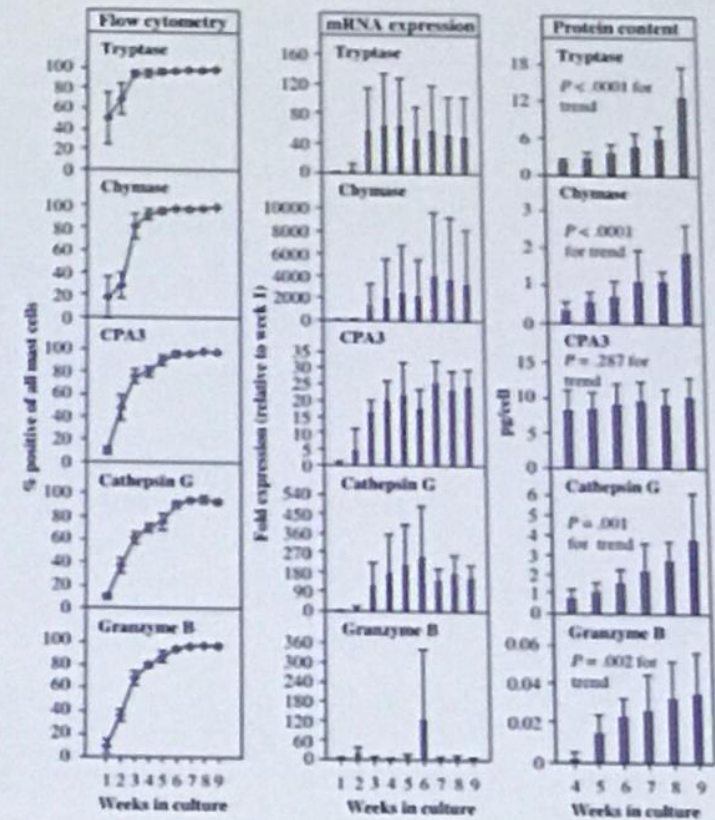
Y. Shimizu, K. Sakai\*, T. Miura†, T. Narita‡, H. Tsukagoshi, Y. Satoh§, S. Ishikawa§, Y. Morishita§, S. Takai¶, M. Miyazaki¶, M. Mori, H. Saito\*\*\*, H. Xia†† and L. B. Schwartz††



Shimizu Y et al (2002), CEA v32, p872

## Human mast cells arise from a common circulating progenitor

Katariina Maaninka, BSc, Jani Lappalainen, MSc, and Petri T. Kovanen, MD, PhD Helsinki, Finland

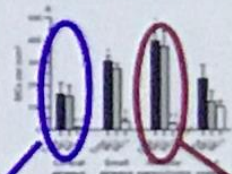


Maaninka K et al (2013); JACI v132:p463-9

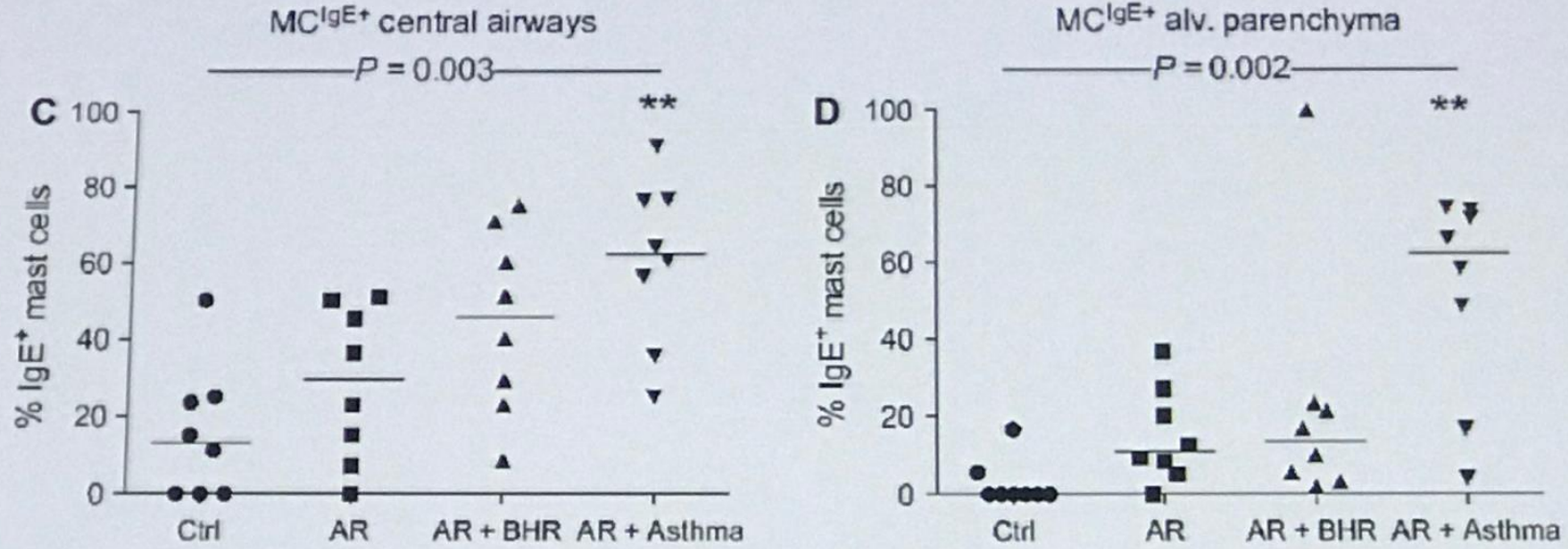
An alternative hypothesis to having local factors differentiate mast cells into either  $MC_T$  or  $MC_{TC}$  is that  $MC_T$  are younger than  $MC_{TC}$   
In other words,

In the lung we predominantly have  $MC_T$  because there is a high turnover of MC, that rarely live long enough to express appreciable amounts of Chymase

In connective tissue, we have predominantly  $MC_{TC}$  because there is a lower turnover of MC, that live long enough to express measureable amounts of Chymase

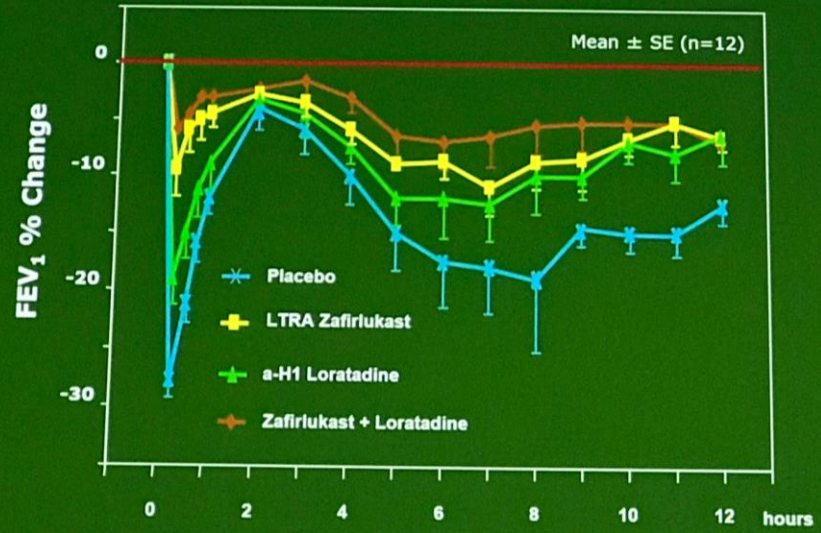


## ASTHMATICS PATIENTS HAVE MORE IGE+ MAST CELLS THAN NORMAL SUBJECTS



Andersson et al, Allergy 2011;61; 1590

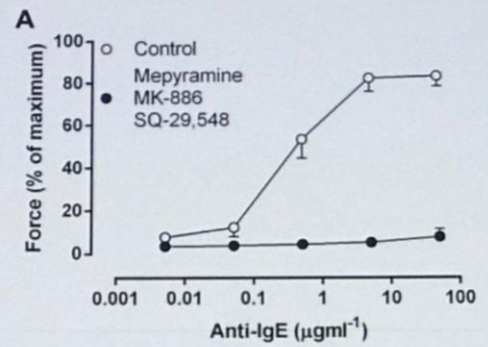
### Allergen-induced airway obstruction in subjects with asthma



Roquet A, Dahlén B, Kumlin M et al AJRCCM 155:1856-1863, 1997.

### Prostaglandin E<sub>2</sub> inhibits mast cell-dependent bronchoconstriction in human small airways through the E prostanoid subtype 2 receptor

Jesper Säfholm, PhD,\* Martijn L. Manson, PharmD,\* Johan Bood, MD,\* Ingrid Delin, BSc,\* Ann-Charlotte Orre, MD,\* Per Bergman, MD, PhD,\*\* Mamdouh Al-Ameri, MD,\* Sven-Erik Dahlén, MD, PhD,\*\* and Mikael Adner, PhD\*\*  
 Stockholm, Sweden



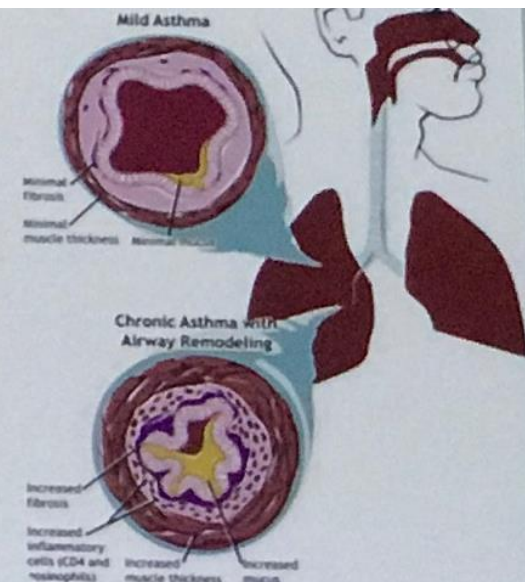
Säfholm J et al, 2015, JACI v 136, p 1232





# CONCLUSIONS

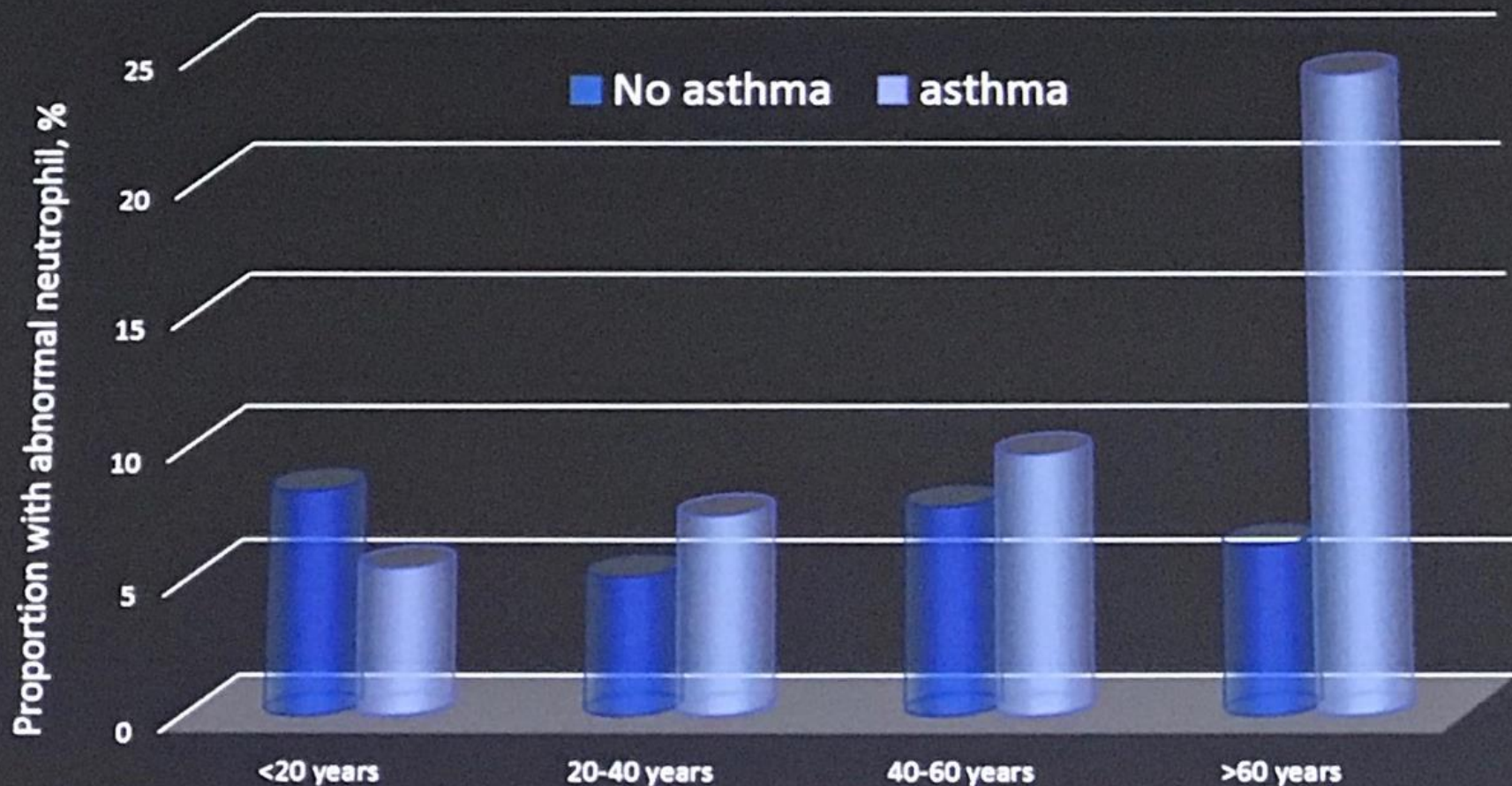
- Mast cells play a pivotal role in asthma and bronchconstriction
- MC histamine and lipid mediators (PGD<sub>2</sub>, Cys LT) are direct inducers of brochhoconstriction
- IgE mediated activation induces synthesis of these mediators
- The composition of IgE defines the response of the mast cell;
  - Absolute and specific concentration of IgE determine reactivity and sensitivity
  - Compexity of IgE increases reactivity
  - IgE affinity shapes the immediate and the late response of human mast cells



# Asthma and Neutrophils

Most abundant WBC in mammals- essential to life

# What is the impact of age?....



Brooks CR *et al* *Respirology*. 2013 Jul;18(5):857-65

# Neutrophilic Asthma

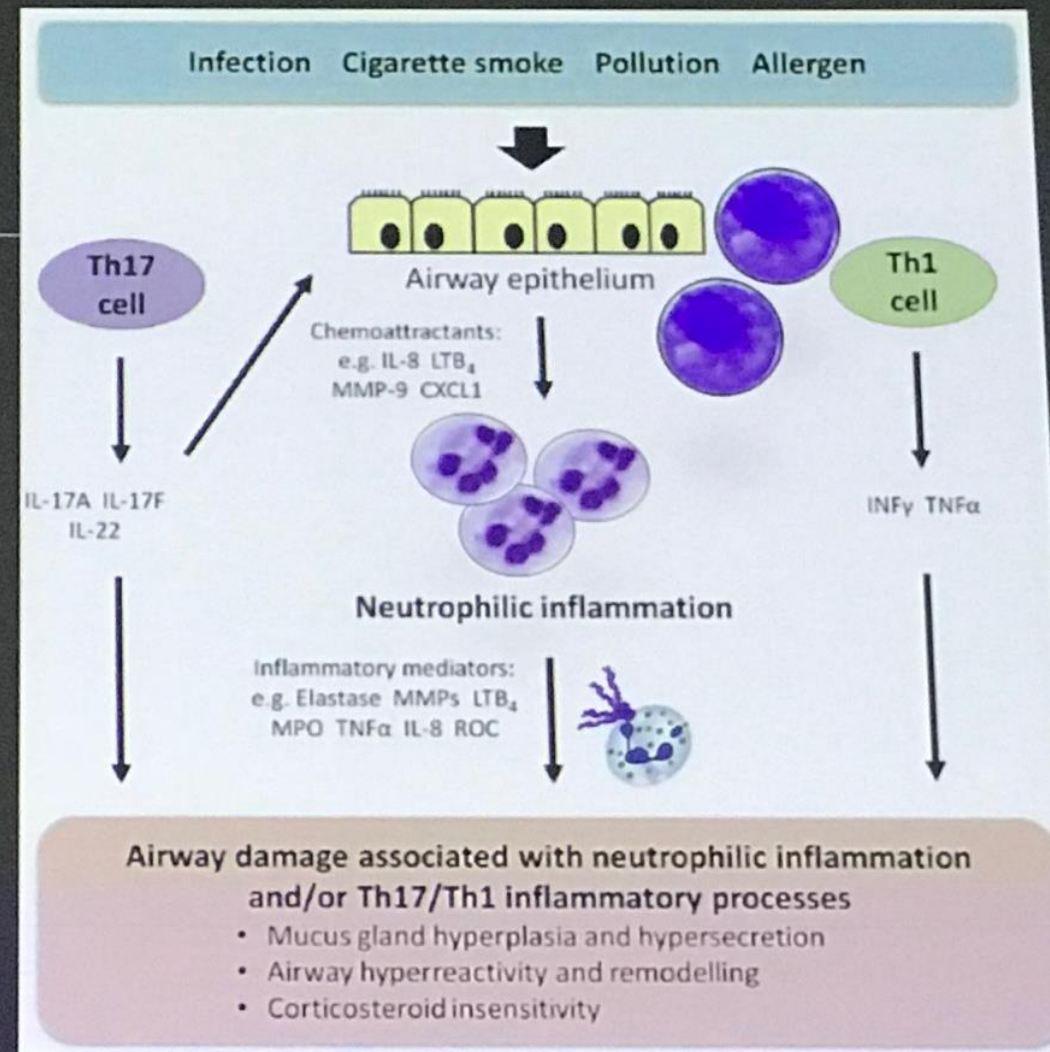
- 15-20% of stable asthma
- Older, AHR – but less severe
- Higher rates of rhinosinusitis and reflux

## Increased

- IL-8, NE, 8-isoprostane, IL-1 $\beta$
- TLR2/4, eDNA
- Colonisation (most often *H. Influenzae*) + endotoxin

## Reduced

- Macrophage efferocytosis
- Microbial diversity
- Galectin-3



from NC Thomson Ther Adv Respir Dis. 2016 Jun;10(3):211-34

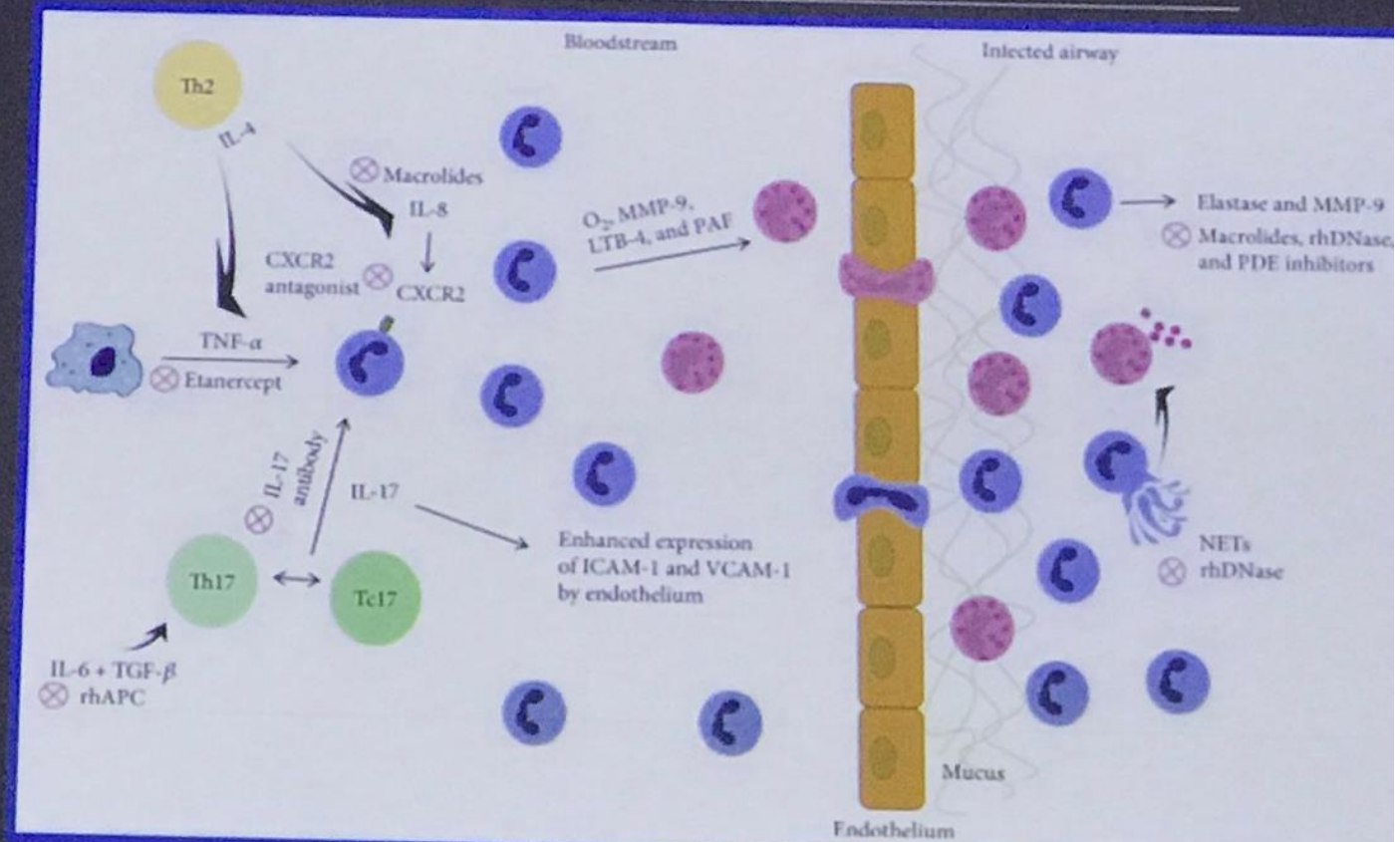
# Therapeutic targets

## What do we want to target?

- Neutrophil function
- Neutrophil activation
- Neutrophil migration

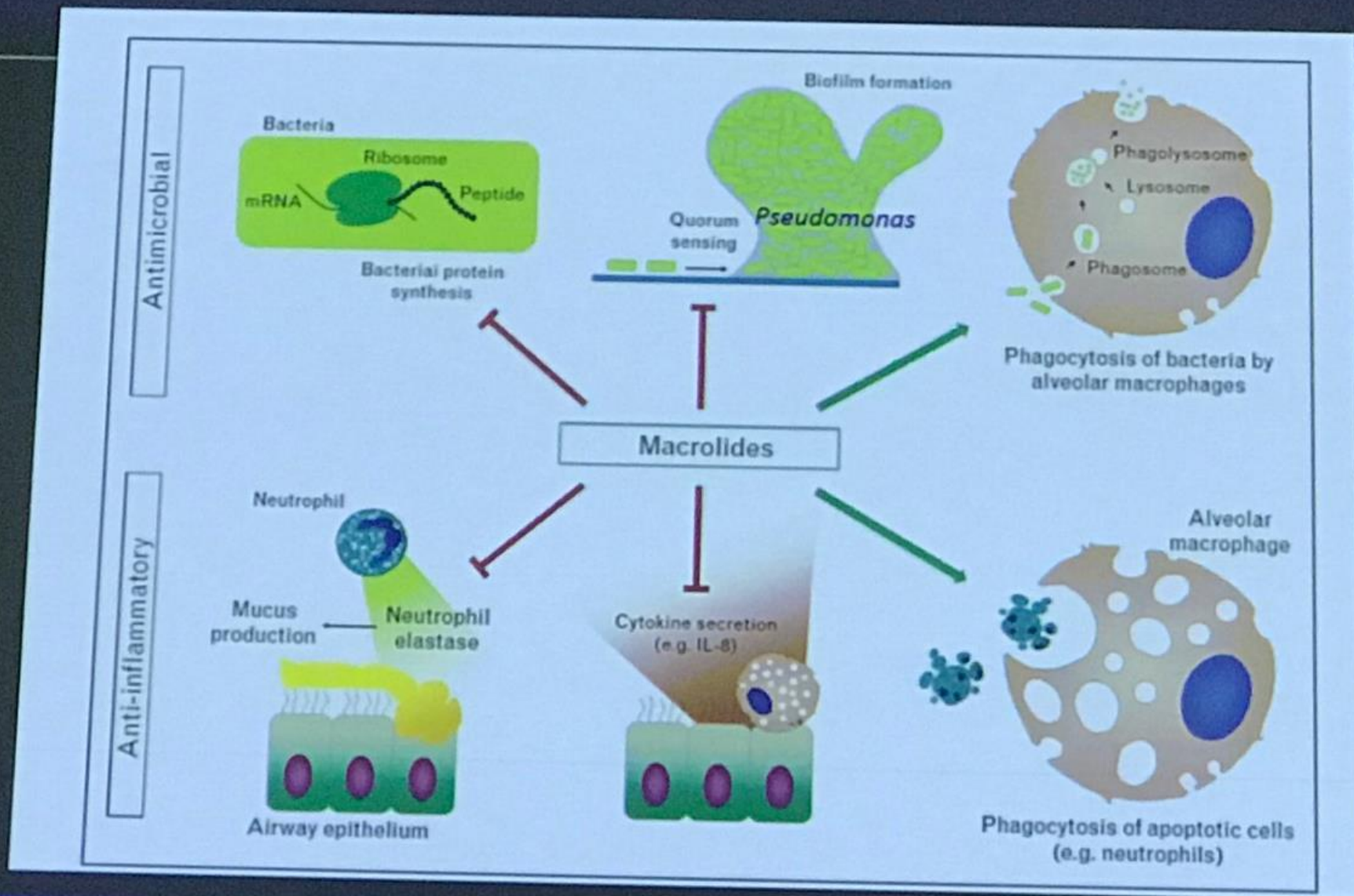
## Where should we target?

- Circulation
- Airways

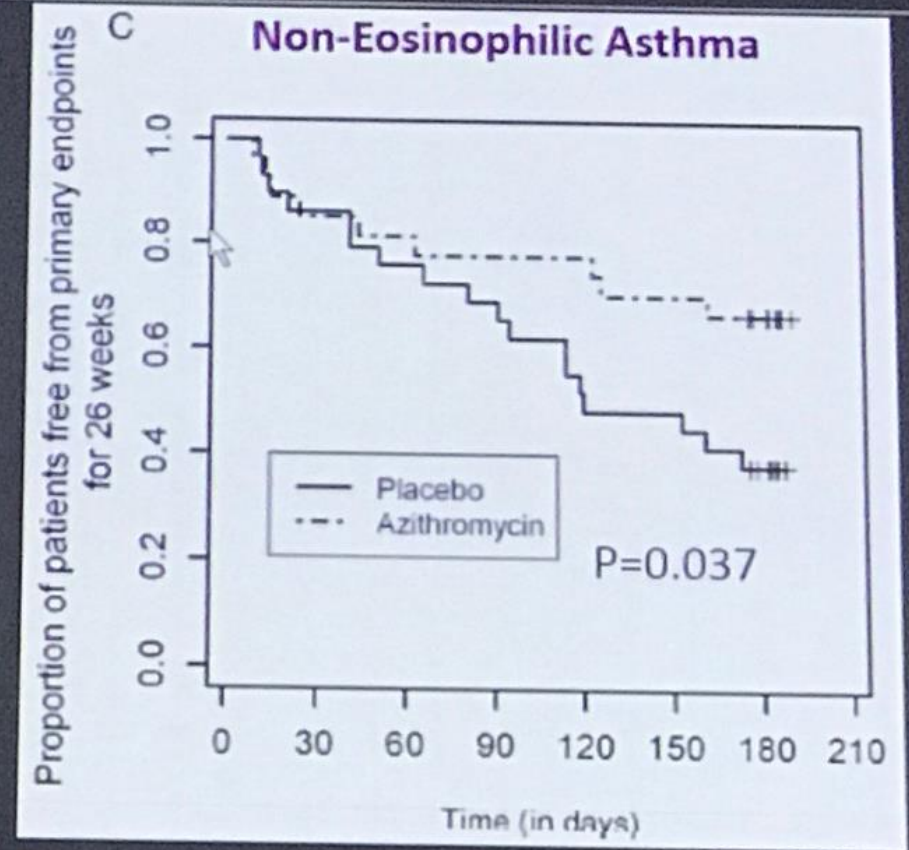
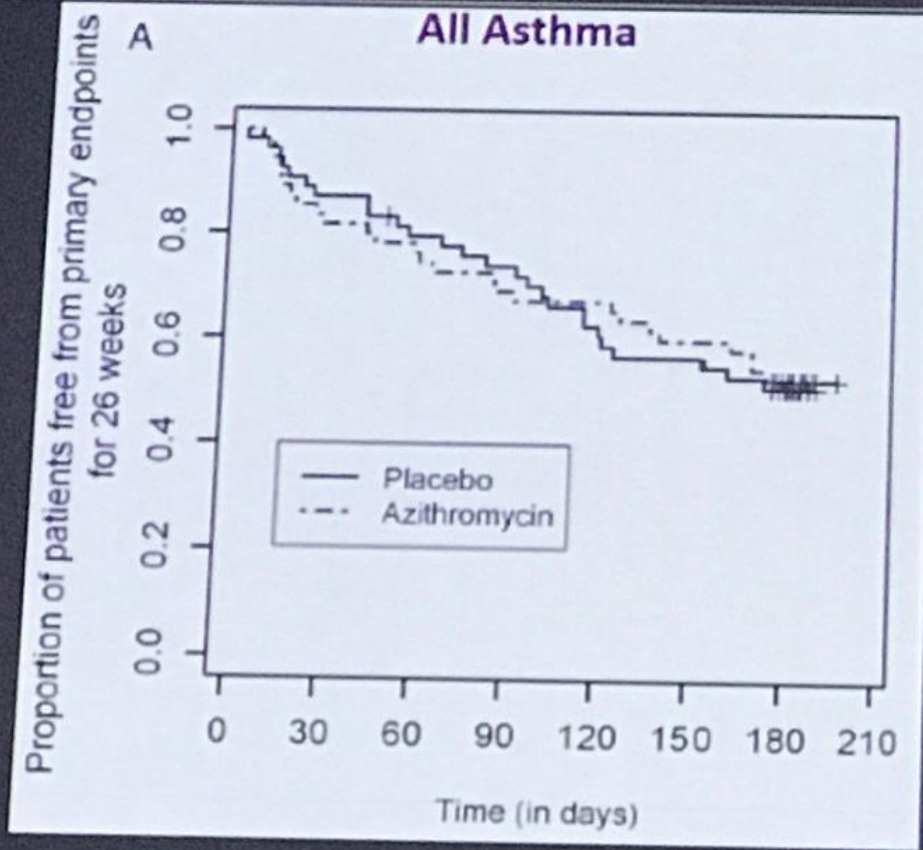


Han Gao *et al.* J Immunol Res. 2017;2017:3743048. doi: 10.1155/2017/3743048.

# Effects of Macrolide Antibiotics

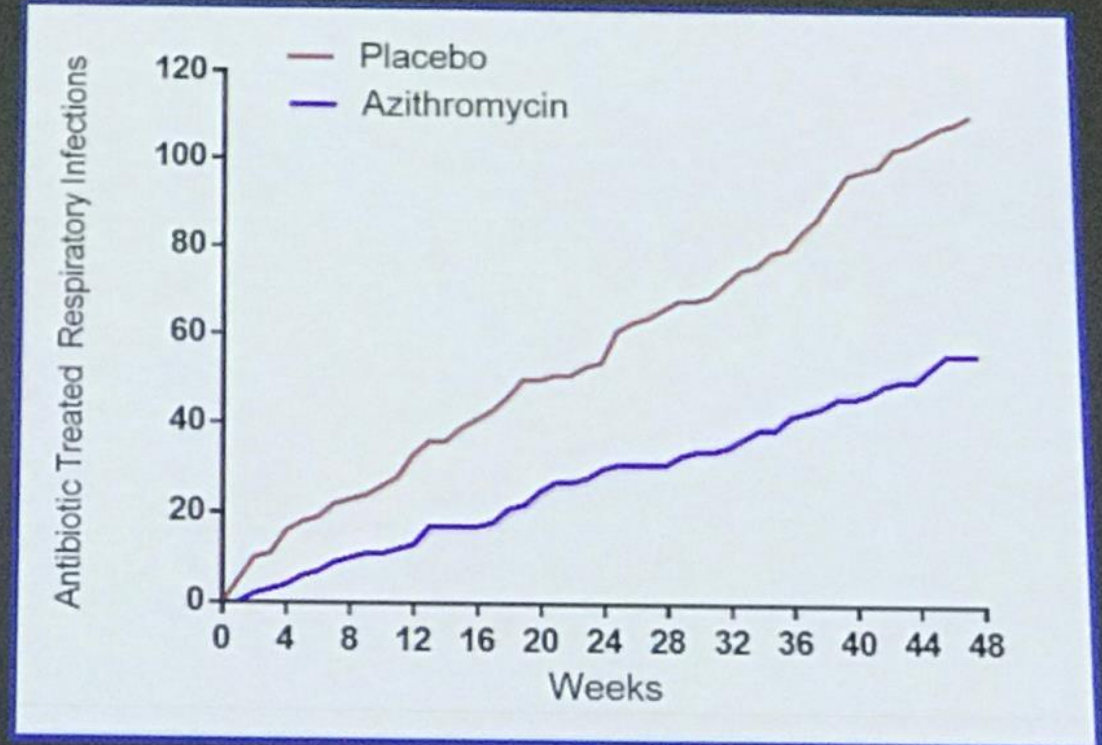
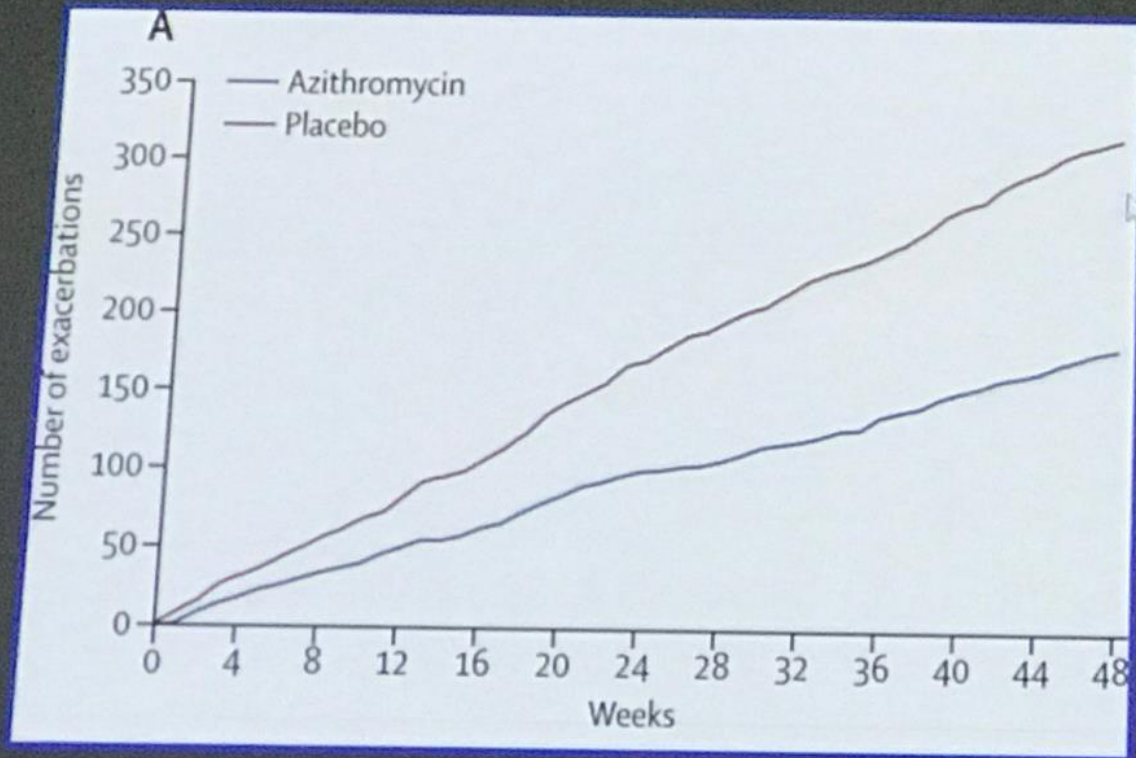


# AZISAST: Add-on Azithromycin



Brusselle *et al.* Thorax. 2013

# Azithromycin Treatment Reduces Asthma Attacks





# Summary

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**Neutrophils are essential defenders of the airways**

**In asthma they are increased in a sub-group of adults with stable asthma and also during asthma attacks**

**No current treatments that target neutrophilic inflammation specifically**

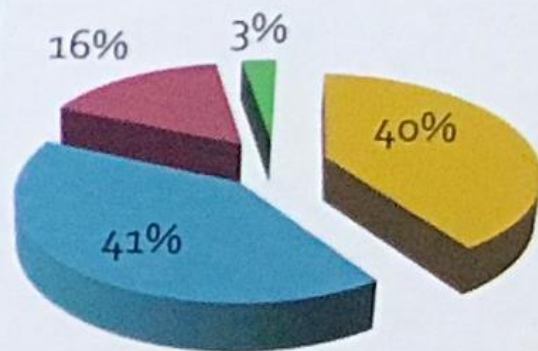
- **Due to our poor understanding of neutrophil function in asthma**
- **Treatments that eliminate neutrophils are not the answer**
- **Need to understand neutrophils and their functional role in the airways further**

# Eosinophilic phenotype

- Is the most common phenotype
- Day to day control
- Exacerbations
- Lung function decline

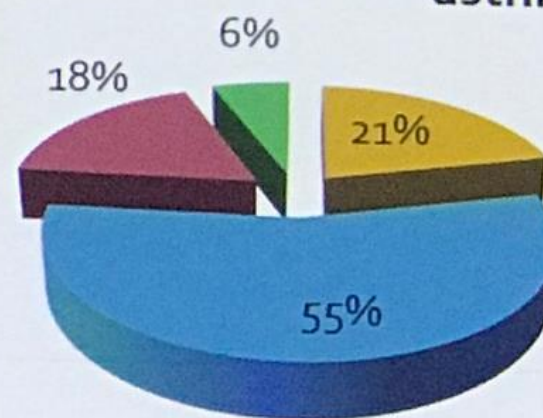
# Eosinophilic asthma phenotype : the most frequent

Inflammatory phenotype in an  
unselected population of asthmatics



Inflammatory phenotype in severe  
asthma

N= 163, BSAR



- Pauci
- Eosino
- Neutro
- Mixed

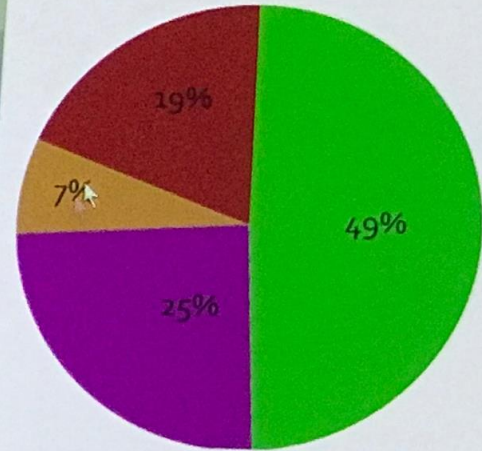
Schleich, Respir Med 2014  
Schleich F, BMC Pulm Med 2013

# A new classification of asthma eosinophilic inflammatory phenotype

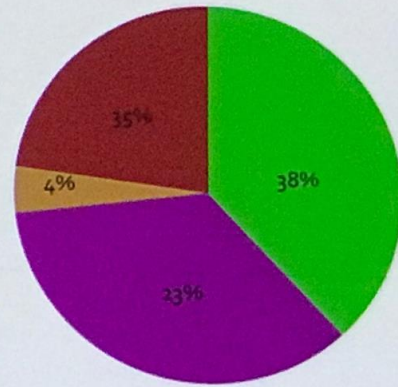
Distribution of Eosinophilic Trait in Asthma (N=508)  
Blood (B) vs Sputum (S)

- Low B Low S
- Low B High S
- High B Low S
- High B High S

Blood Threshold 400/ $\mu$ l  
Sputum Threshold 3%



Unselected population  
N=508

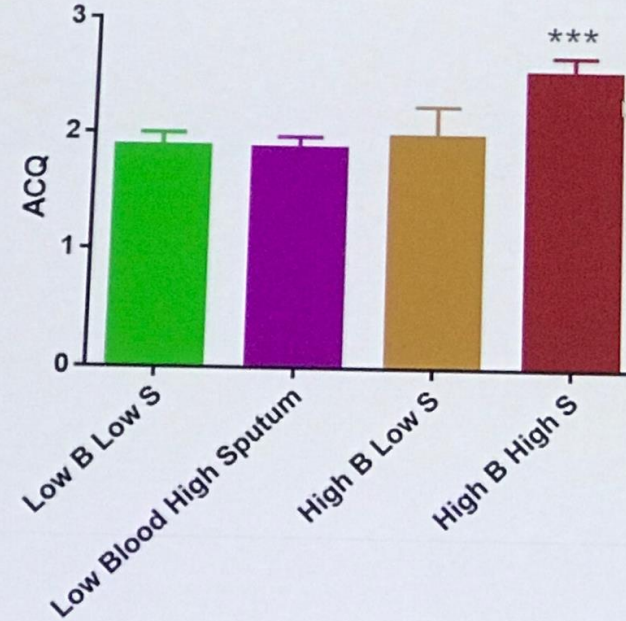


Severe asthma, BSAR  
N= 83

14

Schleich F et al ERJ 2014, Schleich F Respir Med 2014

# Eosinophilic inflammation and Asthma control (N=508)

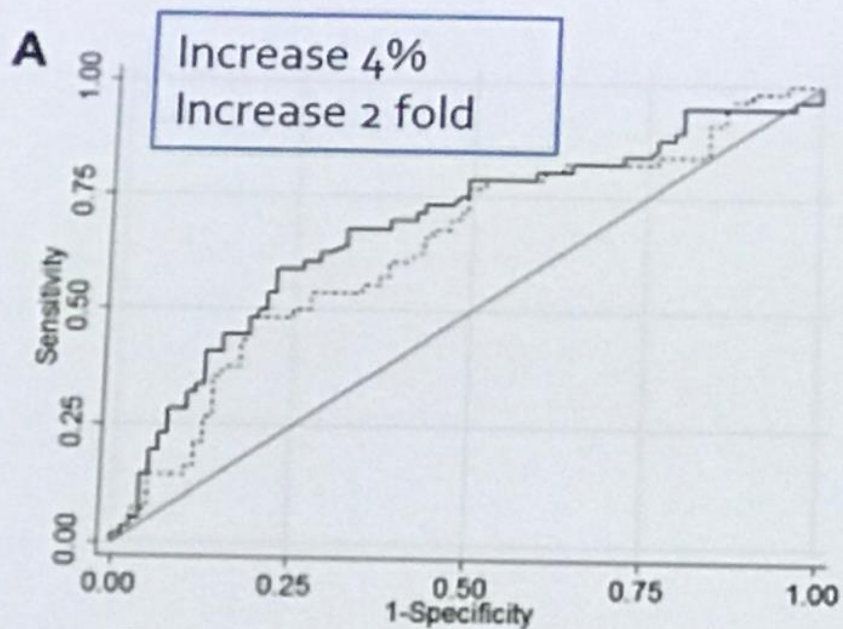


- Low B Low S
- Low Blood High Sputum
- High B Low S
- High B High S

\*  $p < 0.05$  Compared to Low Low

Schleich F et al ERJ 2014

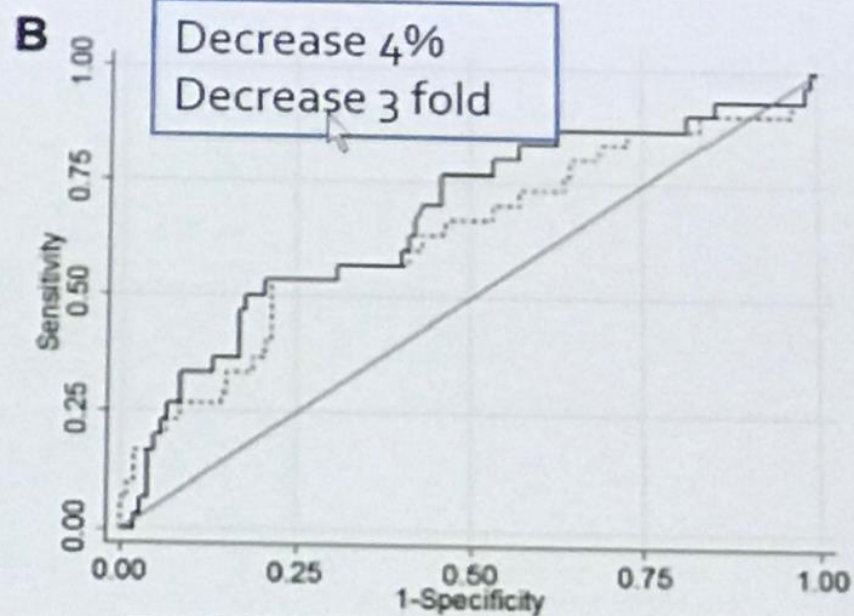
# Fluctuation in sputum eosinophilia associates with significant change in asthma control



Decrease in sputum eosinophils expressed as:

- Absolute difference - ROC area: 0.69
- ..... Fold change difference - ROC area: 0.65
- Reference

Increase in ACQ > 0.5



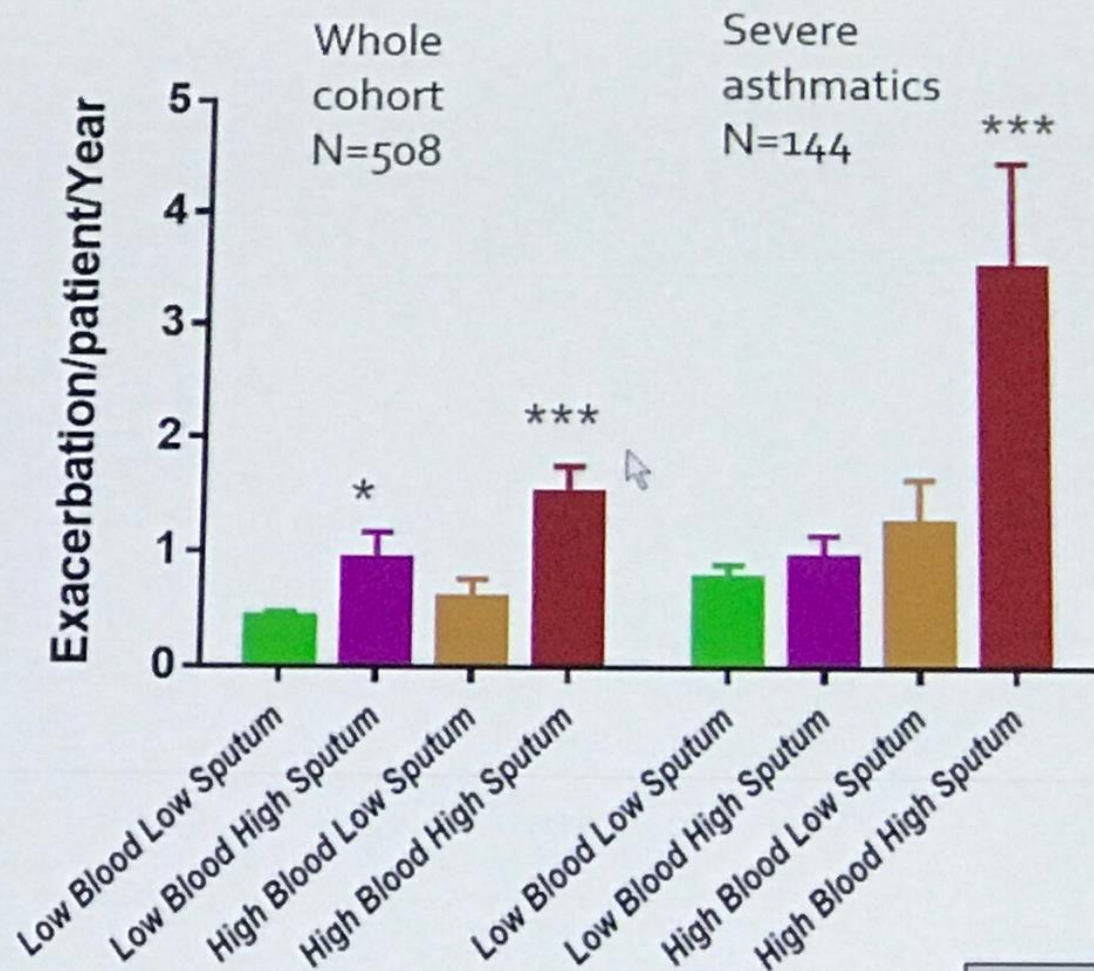
Increase in sputum eosinophils expressed as:

- Absolute difference - ROC area: 0.67
- ..... Fold change difference - ROC area: 0.63
- Reference

Decrease in ACQ > 0.5

# Exacerbations

## Eosinophilic inflammation and exacerbation rate



\* p < 0.05 Compared to Low Low

Schleich F et al ERJ 2014

# Link between eosinophils and bronchial hyperresponsiveness

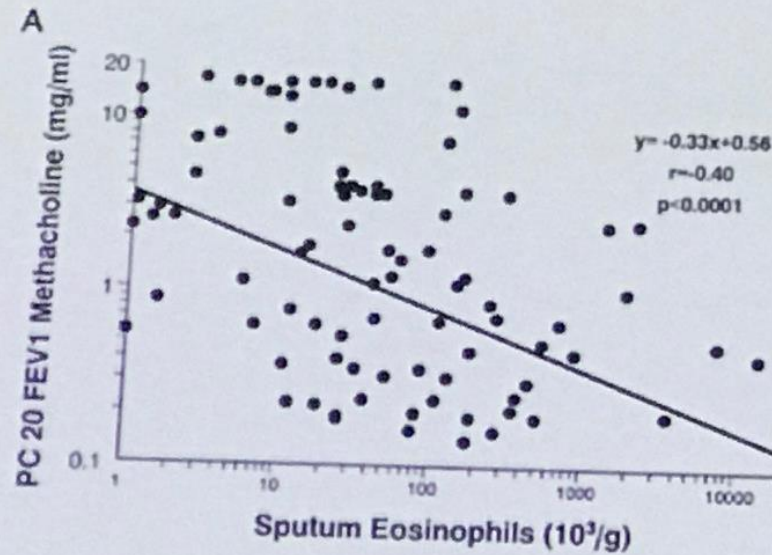
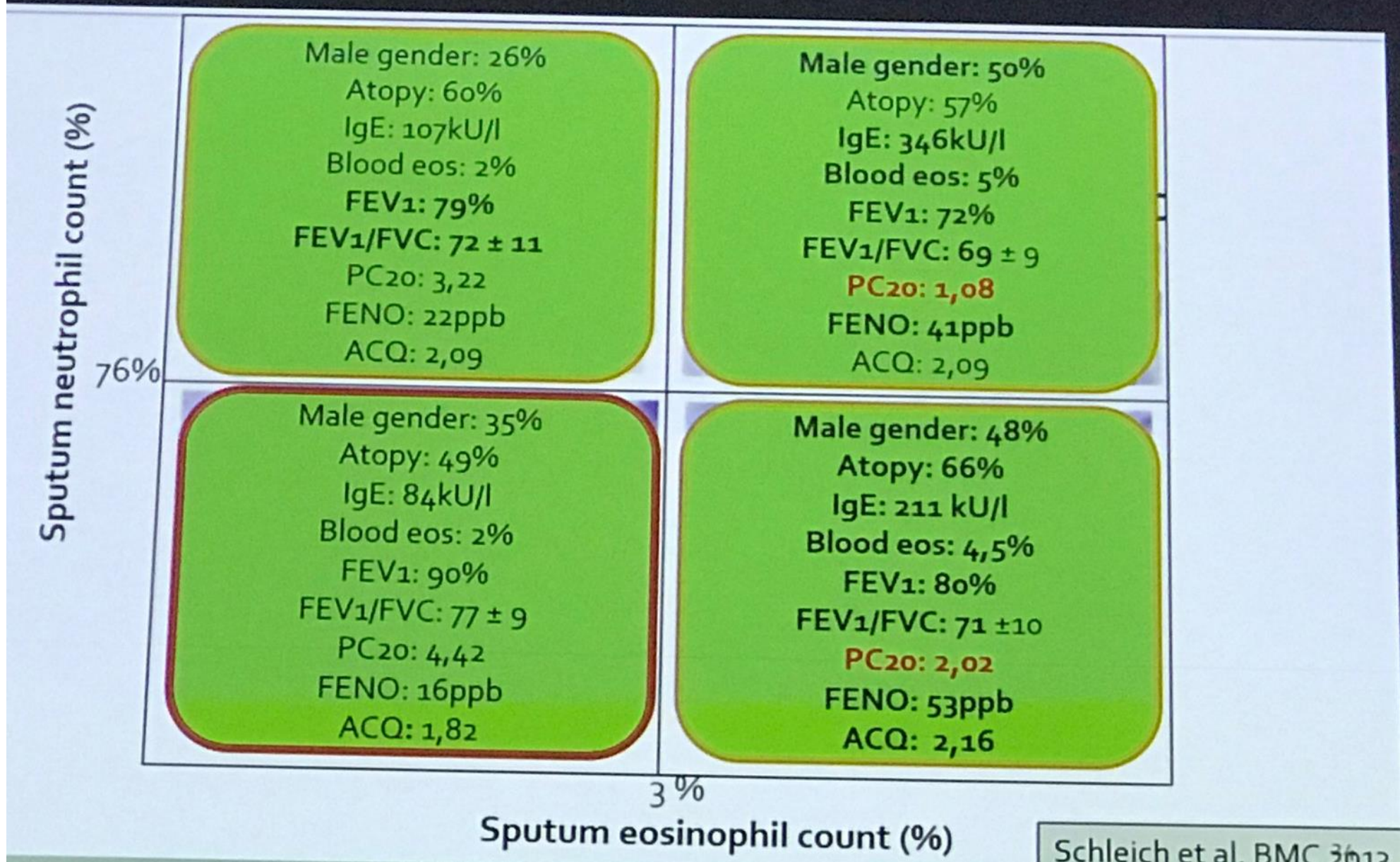


Table 3. Multiple regression analysis of the relationship between methacholine bronchial responsiveness and sputum cytology and baseline lung calibre in the asthma group

	PC <sub>20</sub> methacholine	
	Global variance $R^2$	Partial regression coefficient $\beta$ (SE) $P$ value
Macrophages	0.29	0.08 (0.14) 0.58
Lymphocytes		-0.10 (0.08) 0.23
Neutrophils		0.28 (0.10) 0.006
Eosinophils		-0.20 (0.06) 0.001
Epithelial cells		-0.03 (0.09) 0.71
FEV <sub>1</sub>		0.02 (0.008) 0.007

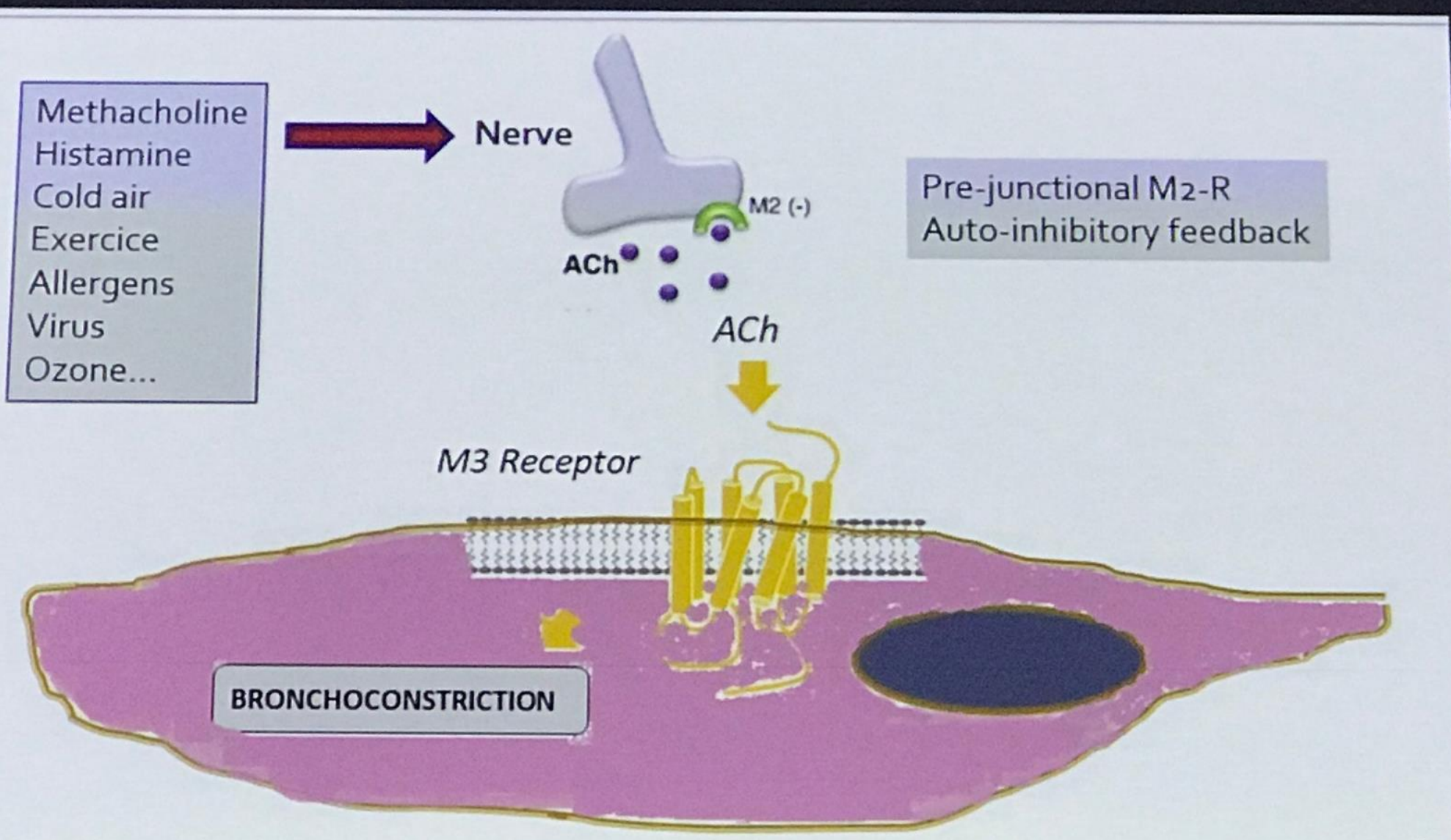
PC<sub>20</sub>M is the dependent variable. Cell absolute counts and FEV<sub>1</sub> % predicted are the independent variables.  
 SE, standard error.

# Eosinophilic asthma

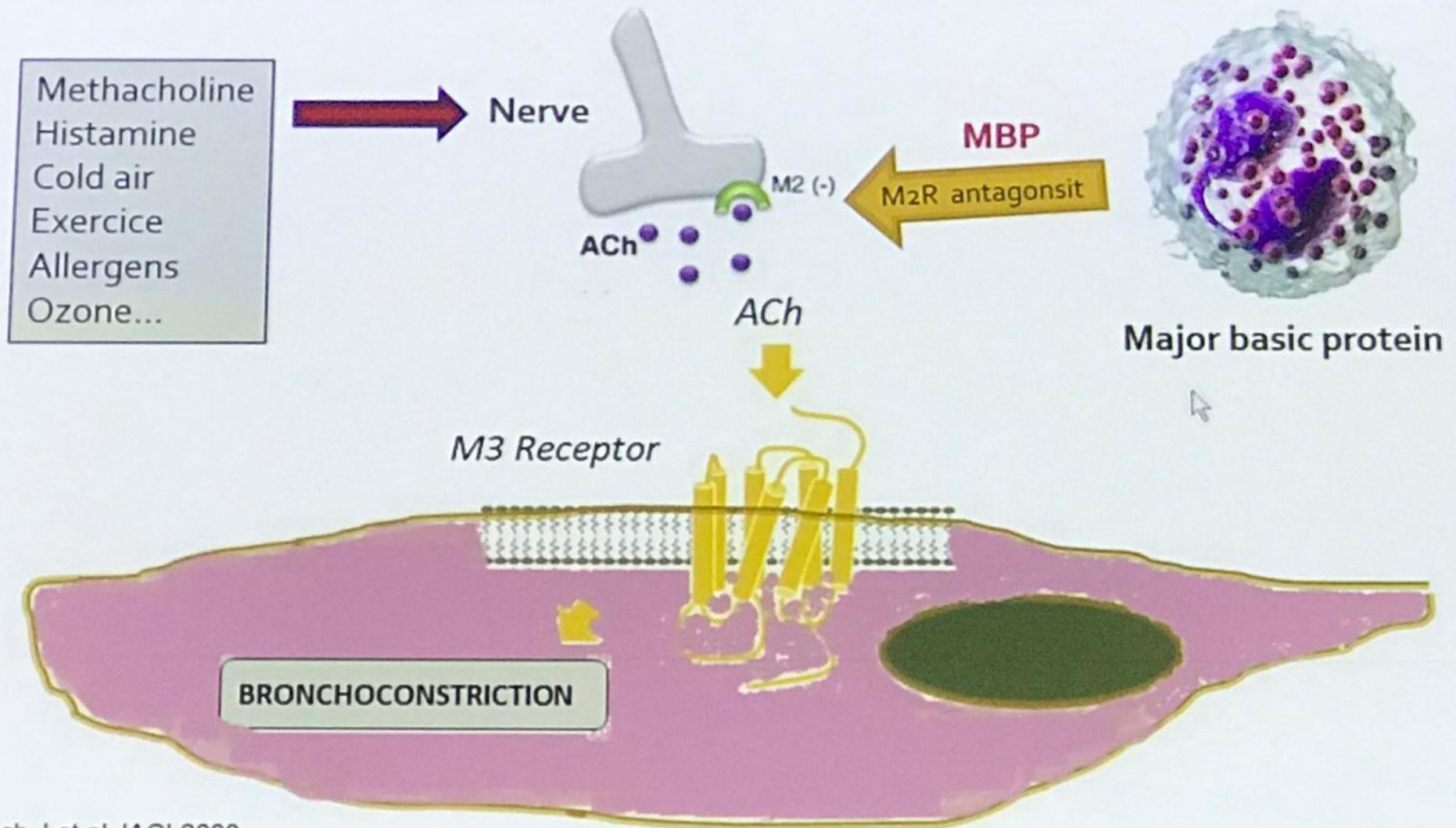




# Nerves - bronchoconstriction

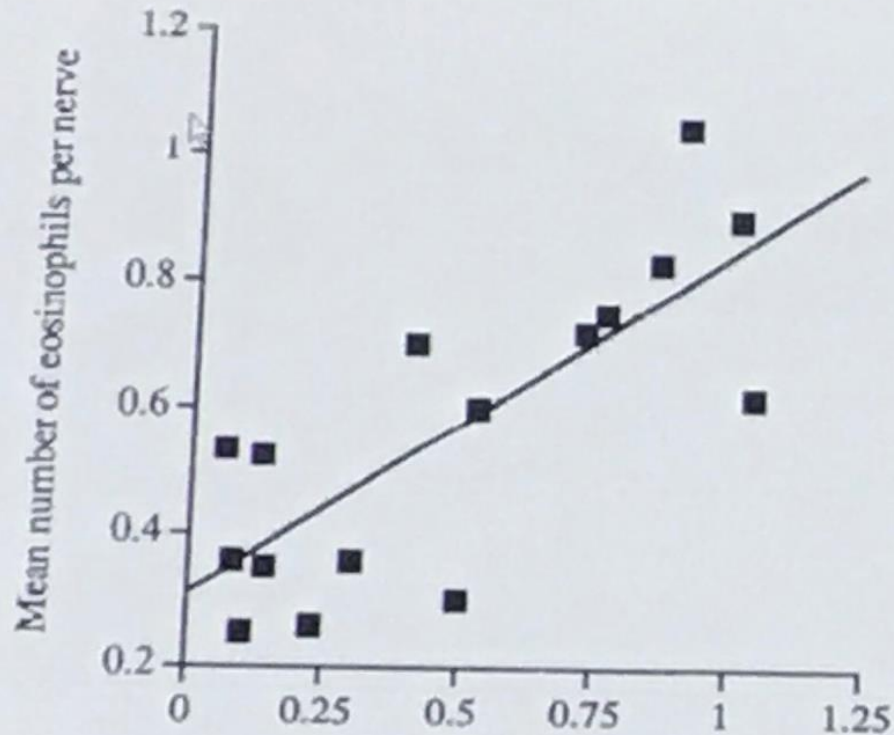


# Nerves – eosinophils interaction



Gleich J et al JACI 2000

# Nerves – eosinophils interaction



Loss of M2 R function is associated with increased eosinophils around the nerves.

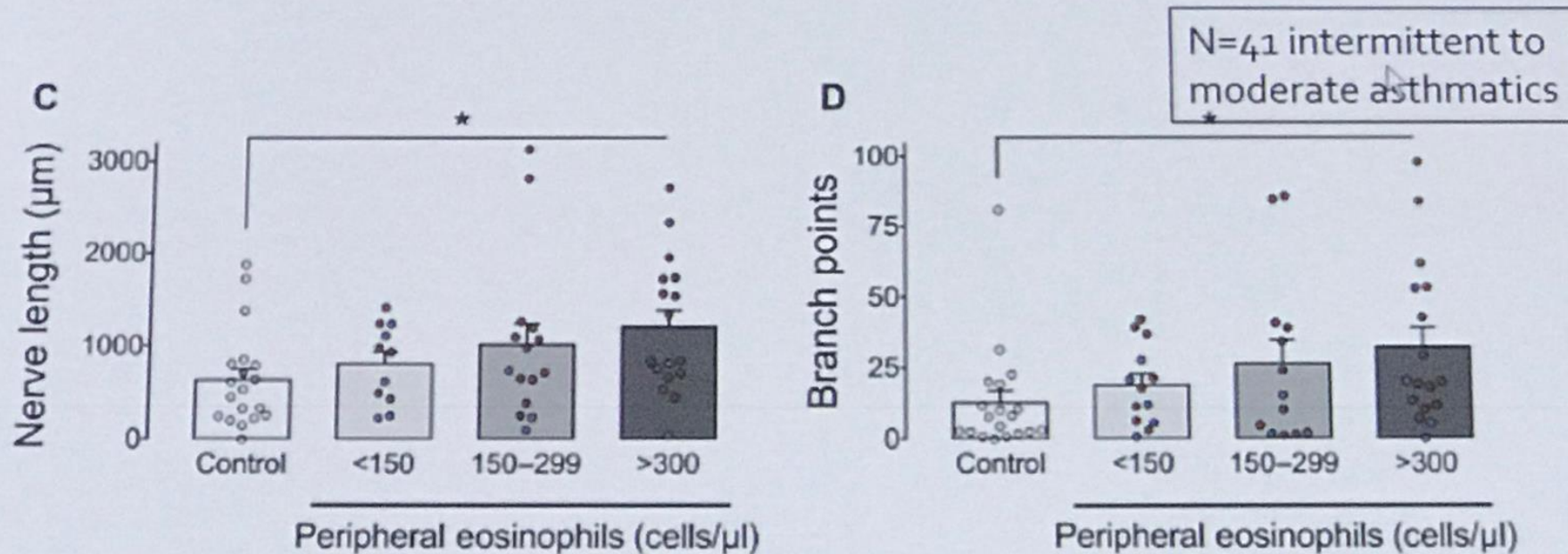
Parasympathetic and sensory nerves recruit eosinophils by releasing eotaxin-1 after antigen challenge.

Bronchoconstriction after 100µg/kg pilocarpine  
Bronchoconstriction before pilocarpine

Costello, Am J Physiol 1997

# Airway epithelial sensory nerves undergo remodeling in Eos asthma

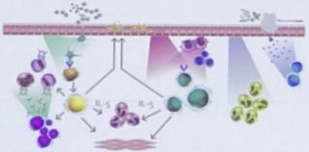
- Immunofluorescence and 3D nerve modeling in biopsies
- Blood eos  $\geq 300/\text{mm}^3$ : longer airway nerves



Drake Transl Med 2018

## IL5 - eosinophils

- IL-5 is an essential cytokine in eosinophil development, as it promotes terminal differentiation, growth and survival, as well as the activation of eosinophils



Adapted from Brusselle G, et al. Ann Am Thorac Soc. 2014;11:532-538.

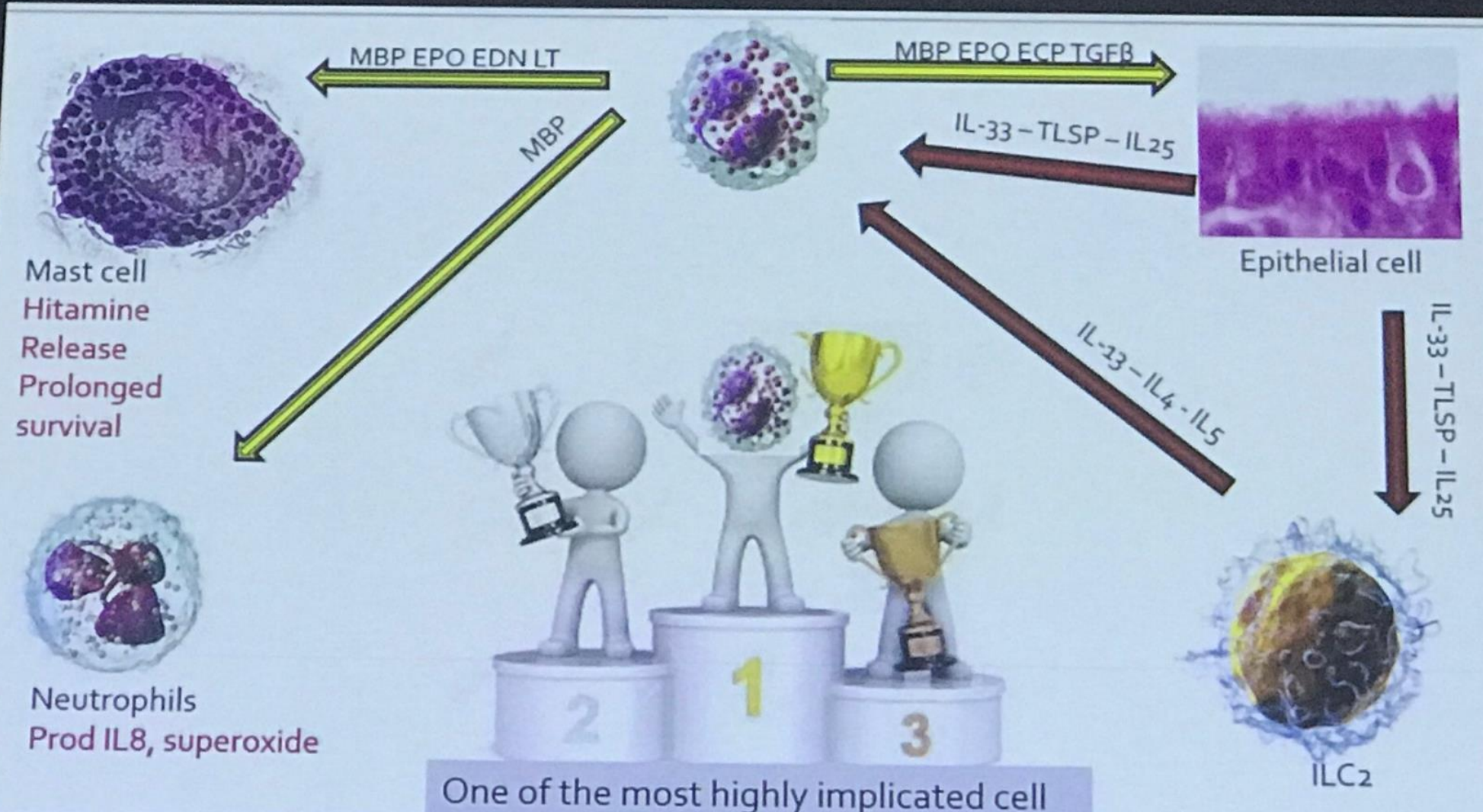
# Targeting eosinophils

- **Glucocorticoids (ICS – OCS):** eosinophil apoptosis
- **Anti-IL5 (Mepolizumab – Reslizumab):** ↓ eos production – recruitment – activation - survival
- **Anti-IL5Rα (Benralizumab):** + cytotoxicity (NK)

Role of eosinophils	Treatment	Treatment effect
Asthma control	Anti-IL5, Anti-IL5R	↑ <b>Asthma control</b> (3,5,8,9,10,11)
Exacerbations	Anti-IL5, Anti-IL5R	↓ <b>Exacerbations</b> (1,2,3,5,6,7,11,12)
Quality of life	Anti-IL5, Anti-IL5R	↑ <b>quality of life</b> (3,5,9,11,12)
Accelerated lung function decline	Anti-IL5, Anti-IL5R	↑ <b>Lung function</b> (1,2,3,5,6,8,9,10,11)
Bronchospasm	Anti-IL5, Anti-IL5R Anti-CCR3 ? Anti-ICAM1 ?	↓ bronchoconstriction Prevent eos binding to nerves?

(1) FitzGerald Lancet 2016. (2) SIROCCO (3) Ortega NEJM 2014 MENZA (4) SIRIUS (5) Nair NEJM 2017 (6) Brusselle Pulm Pharmacol Ther 2017 (7) Pavord Lancet 2012; (8) Ortega et al Lancet Respir Med 2016 (9) Bjermer Chest 2016 (10) Corren Chest 2016 (11) Castro, AJRCCM 2011 (12) Chupp Lancet Respir Med 2017 (MUSCA)

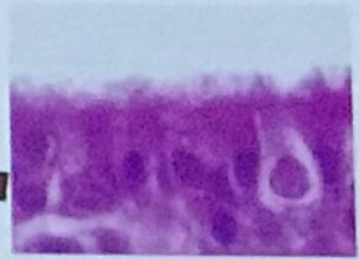
# Conclusion



Mast cell  
Histamine  
Release  
Prolonged  
survival



Neutrophils  
Prod IL8, superoxide



Epithelial cell



ILC2

Airway eosinophilia is likely to be determined by different mechanisms including mast cells, epithelial cells...