

# **Introduction**

**Prof. Dr. Dr. Stephan von Gunten**  
**MD PhD MME**

**Lecture series: Clinical Immunology**







**Research opportunities for students:**

- M.Sc.
- Ph.D.
- M.D./Ph.D.
- Postdoctoral fellowships

[www.pki.unibe.ch](http://www.pki.unibe.ch)

Patients

Clinical Pharmacology

Preparing & dispensing drugs

Pharmacy

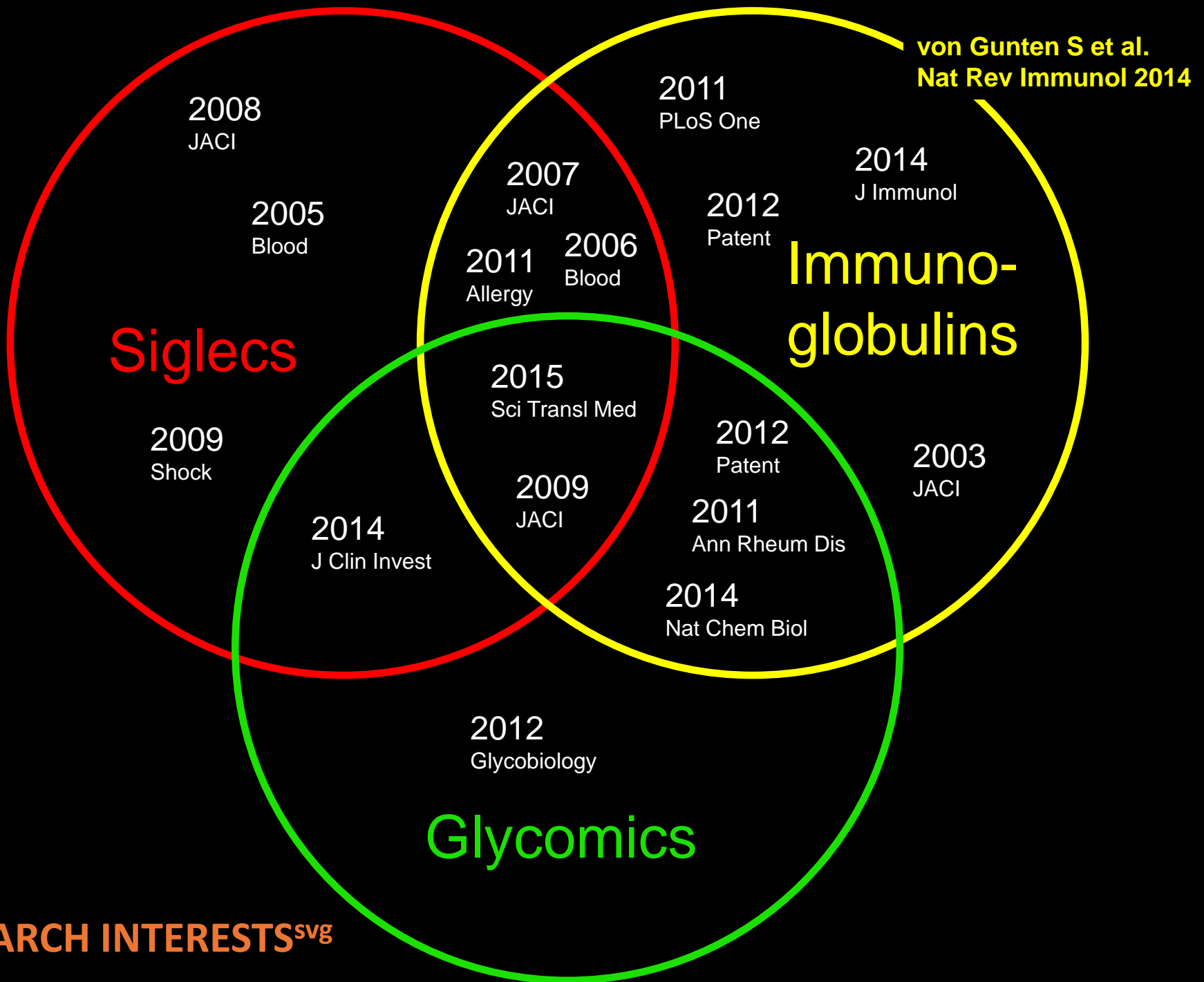
Toxicology

Mechanisms & discovery novel drug targets

Experimental Pharmacology



Immunopharmacology



# Why do we need Clinical Immunology?

Immunologic mechanisms play a **key role** in the pathogenesis of practically all human diseases

Clinical Immunology **translates** progress made in Experimental Immunology into medicine

The translation concerns **pathogenesis, diagnostics, and therapy**

Clinical Immunology represents an **interdisciplinary** medical discipline, which interacts with and supports multiple other medical disciplines

## **Suggested textbook**

**English:**

**Abbas AK, Lichtman AH, and Pillai S:**

**Cellular and Molecular Immunology**

**Latest edition**

**SAUNDERS Elsevier**

# **Handouts and exam**

**Handouts: [www.pki.unibe.ch](http://www.pki.unibe.ch)**

**Exam: [www.pki.unibe.ch](http://www.pki.unibe.ch)**

June 6, 2019, 17.00-18.00 pm,

Ort: Hörsaal UG113 im Chemiegebäude, Freiestrasse 3



# Institute of Pharmacology

Studies Research Continuing Education Services About Us

## Courses

Lectures in Clinical Immunology at the phil-nat. faculty

Human medicine

Dentistry

Studienprogramme

Student Support

## Lectures in Clinical Immunology at the phil-nat. faculty

### 4540-FS2018-0: Selected topics in Clinical Immunology

Lecturers Bern Immunology Club (BIC); Coordination: Prof. Dr. S. von Gunten

Type Lecture, 2h / week, 3 ECTS

Semester Master Spring semester, on Thursdays, 4.15 - 6 p.m.

Place Institute of Cell Biology, Baltzerstr. 4, lecture room C161

miscellaneous The preconditions to visit this lectures are:

- participation in classes Immunology I and II of the Bachelor course or an equivalent education
- an Immunology textbook, we recommend Abbas AK, Lichtman AH und Pillai S: Cellular and Molecular Immunology, 8th Edition
- course preparation according to topic (reading respective chapters, download and study of lecture print-outs)
- knowledge of English language

Exam: June 7, 2018, 17.00-18.00 pm, Ort: Hörsaal UG113 im Chemiegebäude, Freiestrasse 3

# **Possible classification of defective immune systems**

## **Immunodeficiency**

- congenital
- acquired
- innate
- adaptive
- infectious
- non-infectious
- cellular
- humoral
- organ-restricted
- systemic
- iatrogenic
- Non-iatrogenic

## **Hyperreactivity**

- autoimmunity
- allergy
- innate
- adaptive
- infectious
- non-infectious
- cellular
- humoral
- organ-restricted
- systemic
- iatrogenic
- Non-iatrogenic

# **Important diagnostic tools of a Clinical Immunologist**

**Immunoassay (sera, body fluids, cell supernatants)**

**Immunohistochemistry (biopsies)**

**Flow cytometry (blood cells)**

**Additional lab tests (PCR, proliferation, cytotoxicity, etc.)**

**Functional tests (skin, nose, lung, gut)**

Patients

Clinical Pharmacology

Preparing & dispensing drugs

Pharmacy

Toxicology

Mechanisms & discovery novel drug targets

Experimental Pharmacology



Immunopharmacology

## Allgemeine Informationen Von Psoriasis betroffene Körperteile

### Arten der Psoriasis

#### Therapie

- Therapeutische Strategien
- Topische Behandlungen
- Lichttherapien
- Systemische Behandlungen
- Methotrexat
- Retinoide
- Cyclosporin
- Fumarate
- Kortikosteroide
- Biologics

#### Kombinationstherapien

#### Langzeittherapie

#### Therapie "problematischer" Hautbereiche

- Andere Behandlungsformen
- Behandlungsresistente Psoriasis

#### Pflege

#### Kinder und Jugendliche

#### Schwangerschaft

#### Soziale Aspekte

#### Vorbereitung auf den Sommer

#### Fragen an den Arzt

#### Umgang mit Psoriasis im alltäglichen Leben

#### Forschung

## Biologics

„[Biologische Substanzen](#)“ (Biologics, Biologika, Biologicals) werden mittels gentechnischer Verfahren (biotechnologisch) hergestellt. Im Gegensatz zu traditionellen systemischen Therapien, die das ganze Immunsystem beeinflussen, wie Methotrexat und Cyclosporin, wirken Biologics sehr gezielt und stellen möglicherweise eine sicherere Behandlungsform dar. Da diese Präparate noch verhältnismäßig neu sind, ist die Sicherheit einschließlich der Langzeitsicherheit noch nicht ausreichend untersucht.

Biologics wirken auf T-Lymphozyten, die hauptsächlich für die Entzündung bei der Psoriasis verantwortlich sind. Einige Biologics hemmen die Aktivierung der T-Lymphozyten. Andere verhindern die Produktion der Substanzen, die von ihnen freigegeben werden. Eine weitere Gruppe verringert die Zahl T-Lymphozyten.

Die Behandlung wird gewöhnlich gut vertragen. Je nach Wirkungsweise und Art der Anwendung (Injektionen, Infusionen) kann es zu unterschiedlichen Nebenwirkungen kommen, wie allergische Reaktionen oder örtliche Reaktionen an der Einstichstelle (Blutungen, Blutergüsse, Rötung, Juckreiz, Schmerzen oder Schwellungen). Da durch die Biologics bestimmte Reaktionen des Immunsystems unterdrückt werden, ist auch das Infektionsrisiko erhöht. Wenn Sie mit einem solchen Medikament behandelt werden, ist es daher wichtig, dass Sie auf mögliche Anzeichen einer Infektion, wie Fieber, Husten oder andere grippeähnliche Beschwerden achten und Ihren Arzt darüber informieren.

Biologics sind Fusionsproteine, rekombinante Proteine oder monoklonale Antikörper. Da die Herstellung sehr aufwändig ist, sind die Präparate im Vergleich zu herkömmlichen Medikamenten sehr teuer. Sie bleiben daher in der Regel Patienten mit schweren Formen der Psoriasis und Psoriasis-Arthritis vorbehalten, die auf andere systemische Medikamente oder eine PUVA-Therapie nicht ansprechen bzw. wenn diese Therapieformen nicht angewendet werden können.

### Etanercept

Dieses chimäre Protein hemmt den Tumornekrosefaktor TNF-alpha. Dadurch lassen sich die Entzündungsprozesse stoppen, die zur Entstehung der psoriatischen Hautveränderungen führen.

Etanercept wird zweimal wöchentlich unter die Haut (subkutan) gespritzt und kann auch vom Patienten selbst verabreicht werden. Das Medikament ist sowohl zur Therapie der Schuppenflechte als auch bei Psoriasis-Arthritis sowie bei Morbus Bechterew (eine chronisch entzündliche rheumatische Erkrankung mit Schmerzen und Versteifung von Gelenken) zugelassen.

Biotechnology

Targeted  
therapy

Safe (?)

T cells (?)



## DRUG TRIALS

# Violent Reaction to Monoclonal Antibody Therapy Remains a Mystery



## Anti-CD28 mAb (TGN1412) Trial

The worst affected volunteers were **kept alive with mechanical life support** and large doses of steroids to reduce inflammation.

Marshall E, Science 2006

**Roulette.** Six healthy volunteers injected with a test drug had to be rushed into critical care at Northwick Park Hospital; two others injected with a placebo weren't affected.

# **Cytokine storm induced by anti-CD28 antibody**

**March 13, 2006, London, UK :**

**8 healthy male volunteers participated in a placebo-controlled phase 1 study using an anti-CD28 monoclonal antibody (TGN1412, TeGenero)**

**6 received verum and developed a severe systemic inflammatory response syndrome**

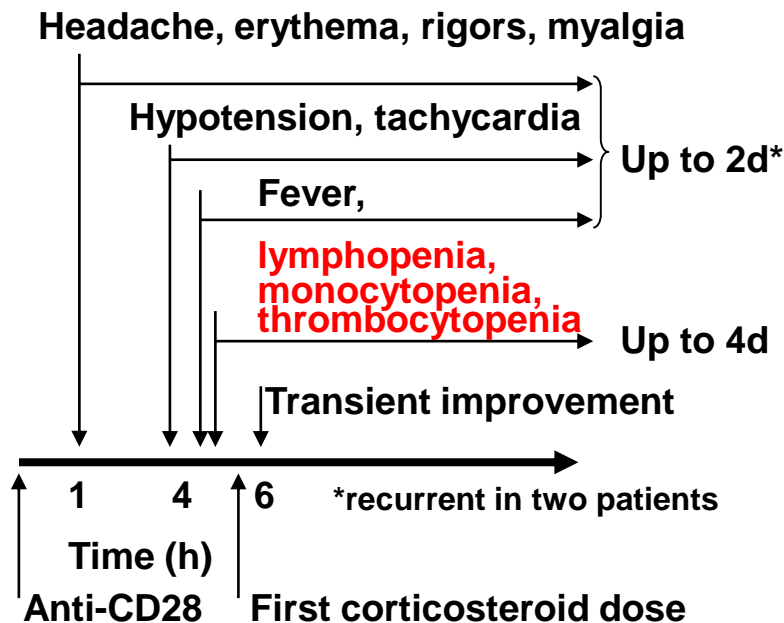
**2 received placebo – no effect**

**Report about clinical and pathological findings during the first 30 days after the infusion**

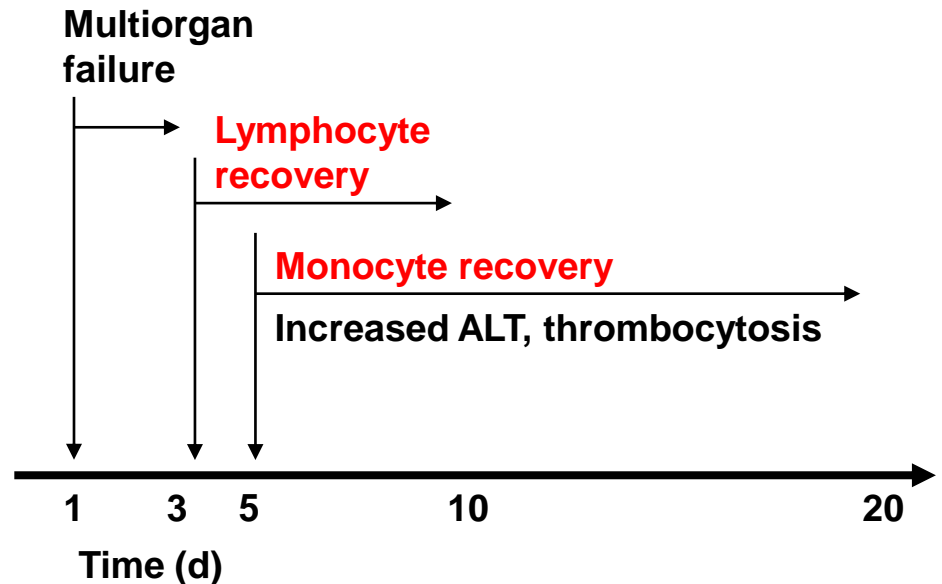
## Symptoms

# Cytokine storm induced by anti-CD28 antibody

## Clinical Investigation Unit



## Intensive Care Unit (authors)



Phase 1: Cytokine storm



Phase 2: Reactive

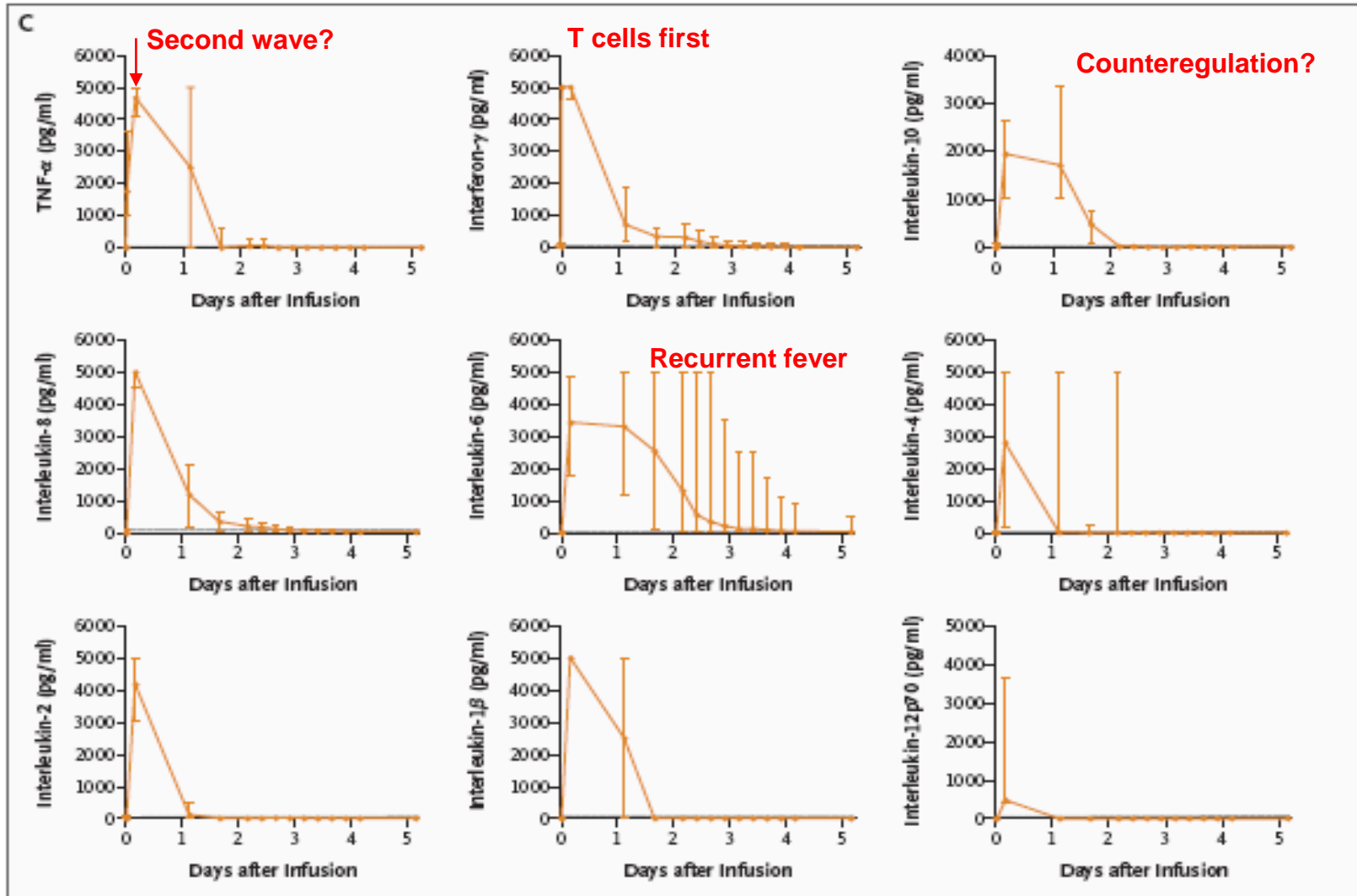


Phase 3: Recovery



Phase 4: Steady state

# Cytokine storm induced by anti-CD28 antibody



# Clinical trials in the area of biologics

Biologics are highly efficient drugs, but can be **dangerous** from the beginning

Detailed **knowledge** of the immune system is required

Early clinical trials are usually **supervised by clinical pharmacologists**

Involvement of a **clinical immunologist** seems to be advisable

Do we need a clinical **immunopharmacologist**?



## **Do we need clinical immunopharmacologists?**

**« Pharmacologists usually forget that Immunology also deals with receptors, agonists, antagonists, second messenger systems, and genetic variations (for instance, most Pharmacology text books devote 10 times more space to the pharmacology of the autonomic nervous system compared with the immune system)»**

**«Many diseases are caused by abnormalities in the immune system, therefore many new drugs acting on immune cells are used»**

**«Therefore, this imbalance, although understandable on historical grounds, causes problems and does not prepare clinical pharmacologists for the future»**

**-«We need clinical pharmacologists to manage the translational interface required for these novel therapeutic interventions»**

DRUG TRIALS

# Violent Reaction to Monoclonal Antibody Therapy Remains a Mystery



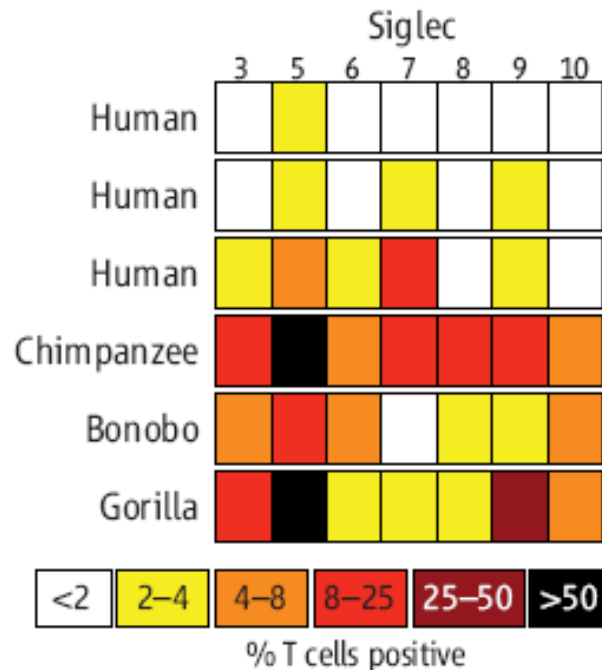
“TGN1412 and analogous antibodies bind to the CD28 receptor on T cells, triggering a powerful expansion of cells dominated by regulatory T cells.

Even at “horrific” doses in **rats and mice**,... regulatory cells dominated, giving credence to the view that these cells’ damping effect would swamp out the more harmful effects of conventional T cells, also activated by TGN1412. The **monkey** study supported this confidence,”

Marshall E, Science 2006

## IMMUNOLOGY

# Differences in Immune Cell “Brakes” May Explain Chimp-Human Split on AIDS



**Disease dodger?** Higher levels of Siglecs expressed by ape T cells may explain why they do not suffer many common ailments that plague humans.

“When it comes to the immune system, be careful about predicting whether a primate model will predict human responses.” (Ajit Varki)

“The new insights on Siglecs may also help avoid tragedies like the one that recently occurred in a U.K. drug trial.”

Cohen J, Science 2006

# ANIMAL MODELS

## BENEFITS/ACHIEVEMENTS:

- *In vivo* (physiological setting)
- History of revolutionary findings
- Disease pathogenesis
- Drug safety
- Advantage publication/funding



## CHALLENGES:

- Non-human
- Traditions, glorification
- Artificial, partial aspects of disease
- Accidents (over-/misinterpretations)
- Labor-intensive experimentation
- High costs
- Ethical concerns
- Intellectual challenges (species, model)

NEED FOR A SCIENTIFIC AND PUBLIC DISCOURSE

# ANIMAL MODELS: SKILLS

- Study design (science, ethics, costs)
- Confounding variables (species differences, model, strains)
- Update methodological approach
- Identification of model weaknesses and development of alternatives
- Avoidance of mis- or overinterpretations in translation to humans (drug safety, textbooks)
- Attitude (objective/critical, avoid glorification [*in vivo* but non-human])
- Communication with peers and public



# DISEASE MODELS

## Evolutionary relationship

Max.



Individual patient

Patient cohorts (clinical studies)

Primates

Dogs

Cats

Rodents

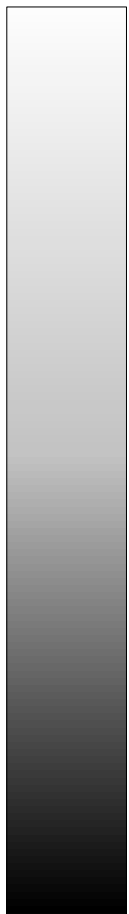
Fishes

Drosophila

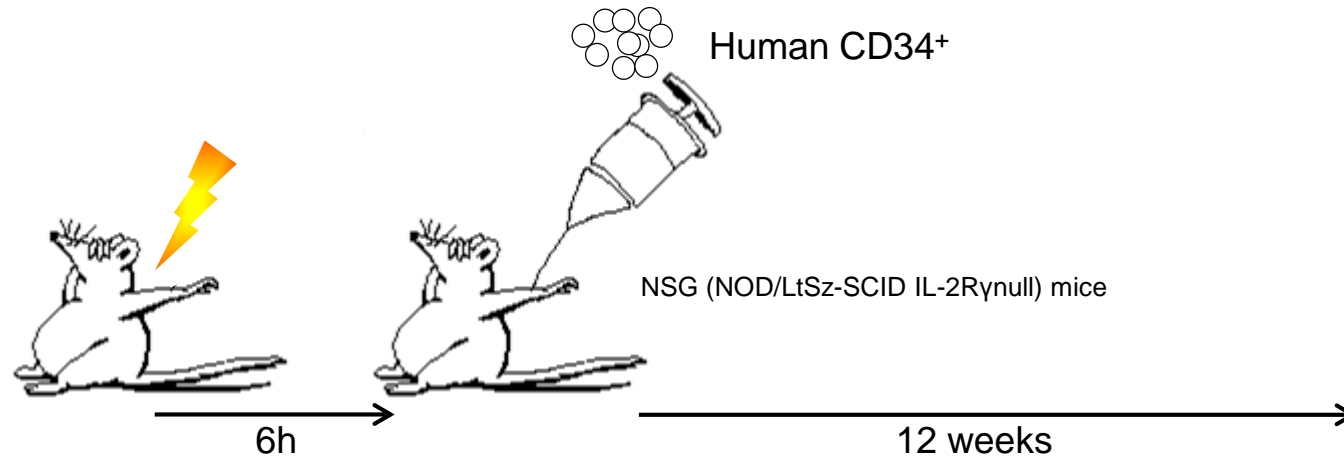
Humanized  
mice

## Ethical concerns

Max.



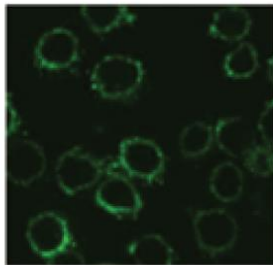
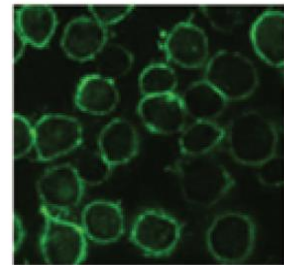
# IN VIVO EXPERIMENTS USING MICE WITH A HUMAN NK CELL COMPARTMENT



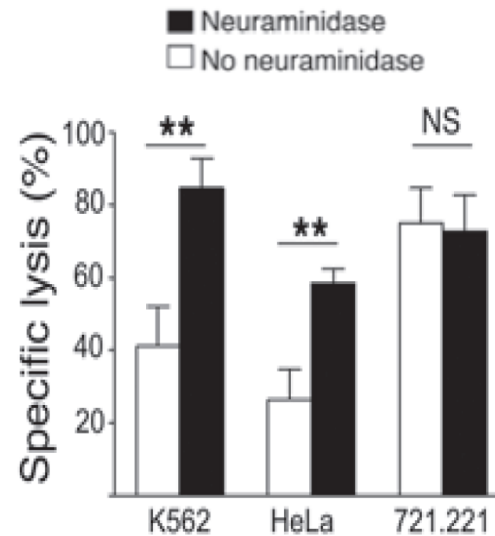
Reconstitution of human immune system components was checked:  
**human Siglec-7, BUT NOT Siglec-9 on NK cells**

Siglec-7L

Siglec-9L



neuraminidase  
 No  
 Neuraminidase

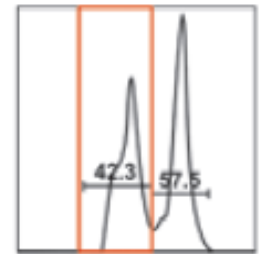
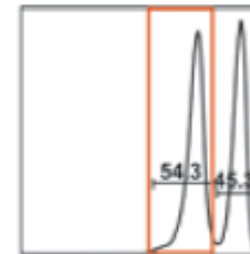


Pre-transfer

Post-transfer

HeLa

No.1



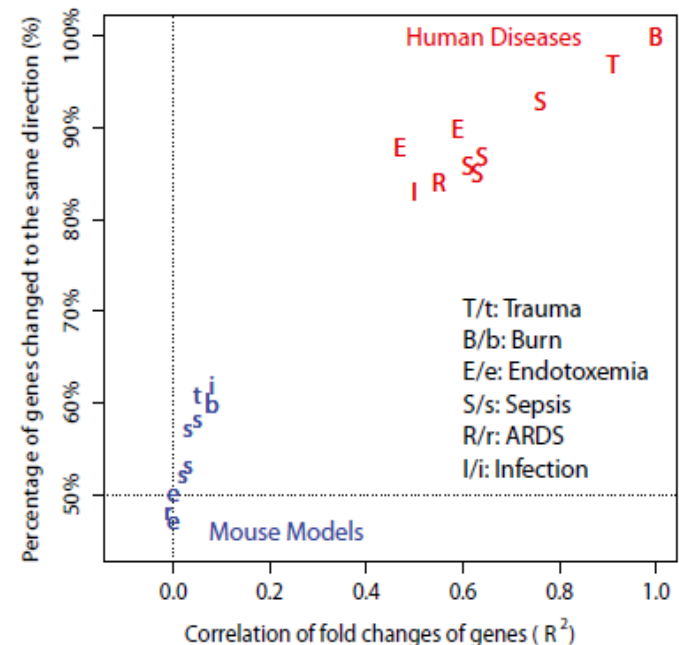
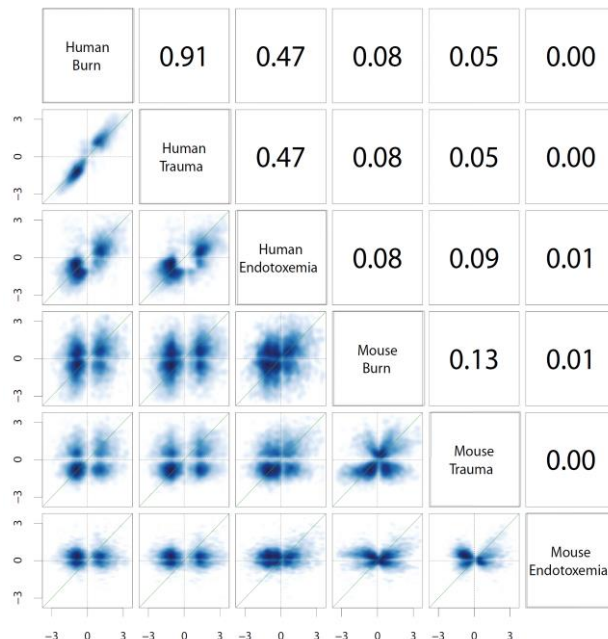
2013

SPNAS PNAS

# Genomic responses in mouse models poorly mimic human inflammatory diseases

Junhee Seok<sup>a,1</sup>, H. Shaw Warren<sup>b,1</sup>, Alex G. Cuenca<sup>c,1</sup>, Michael N. Mindrinos<sup>a</sup>, Henry V. Baker<sup>c</sup>, Weihong Xu<sup>a</sup>, Daniel R. Richards<sup>d</sup>, Grace P. McDonald-Smith<sup>e</sup>, Hong Gao<sup>a</sup>, Laura Hennessey<sup>f</sup>, Celeste C. Finnerty<sup>g</sup>, Cecilia M. López<sup>c</sup>, Shari Honari<sup>f</sup>, Ernest E. Moore<sup>h</sup>, Joseph P. Minei<sup>i</sup>, Joseph Cuschieri<sup>j</sup>, Paul E. Bankey<sup>k</sup>, Jeffrey L. Johnson<sup>h</sup>, Jason Sperry<sup>l</sup>, Avery B. Nathens<sup>m</sup>, Timothy R. Billiar<sup>l</sup>, Michael A. West<sup>n</sup>, Marc G. Jeschke<sup>o</sup>, Matthew B. Klein<sup>j</sup>, Richard L. Gamelli<sup>p</sup>, Nicole S. Gibran<sup>j</sup>, Bernard H. Brownstein<sup>q</sup>, Carol Miller-Graziano<sup>k</sup>, Steve E. Calvano<sup>r</sup>, Philip H. Mason<sup>e</sup>, J. Perren Cobb<sup>s</sup>, Laurence G. Rahme<sup>t</sup>, Stephen F. Lowry<sup>r,2</sup>, Ronald V. Maier<sup>j</sup>, Lyle L. Moldawer<sup>c</sup>, David N. Herndon<sup>g</sup>, Ronald W. Davis<sup>a,3</sup>, Wenzhong Xiao<sup>a,t,3</sup>, Ronald G. Tompkins<sup>t,3</sup>, and the Inflammation and Host Response to Injury, Large Scale Collaborative Research Program<sup>4</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Stanford Genome Technology Center, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA 94305; Departments of <sup>b</sup>Pediatrics and Medicine, <sup>c</sup>Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, and <sup>d</sup>Surgery, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02114; <sup>e</sup>Department of Surgery, University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville, FL 32610; <sup>f</sup>Ingenuity Inc., Redwood City, CA 94063; <sup>g</sup>Department of Surgery, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA 02114; <sup>h</sup>Department of Surgery, Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, WA 98195; <sup>i</sup>Shriners Hospitals for Children and Department of Surgery, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX 77550-1220; <sup>j</sup>Department of Surgery, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Denver, CO 80045; <sup>k</sup>Department of Surgery, Parkland Memorial Hospital, University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX 75390; <sup>l</sup>Department of Surgery, Harborview Medical Center, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA 98195; <sup>m</sup>Department of Surgery, University of Rochester School of Medicine, Rochester, NY 14642; <sup>n</sup>Department of Surgery, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Presbyterian University Hospital, University of Pittsburgh, PA 15213; <sup>o</sup>Department of Surgery, St. Michael's Hospital, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada M5B 1W8; <sup>p</sup>Department of Surgery, San Francisco General Hospital, University of California, San Francisco, CA 94143; <sup>q</sup>Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada M4N 3M5; <sup>r</sup>Department of Surgery, Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University, Chicago, IL 60153; <sup>s</sup>Department of Anesthesiology, Washington University, School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO 63110; and <sup>t</sup>Department of Surgery, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, NJ 08903



Murphy K, Travers P, Walport M, Janeway C. 2012. *Janeway's Immunobiology*. New York: Garland Science:

“Responses to several TI-2 antigens are made prominently by B-1 cells (also known as CD5 B cells), which comprise an autonomously replicating subpopulation of nonconventional B cells”

“... controversy regarding whether B1 cells exist at all in Homo sapiens,....”

Griffin DO, J Exp Med 2011

“To B1... or not to B1: that really is still the question!”

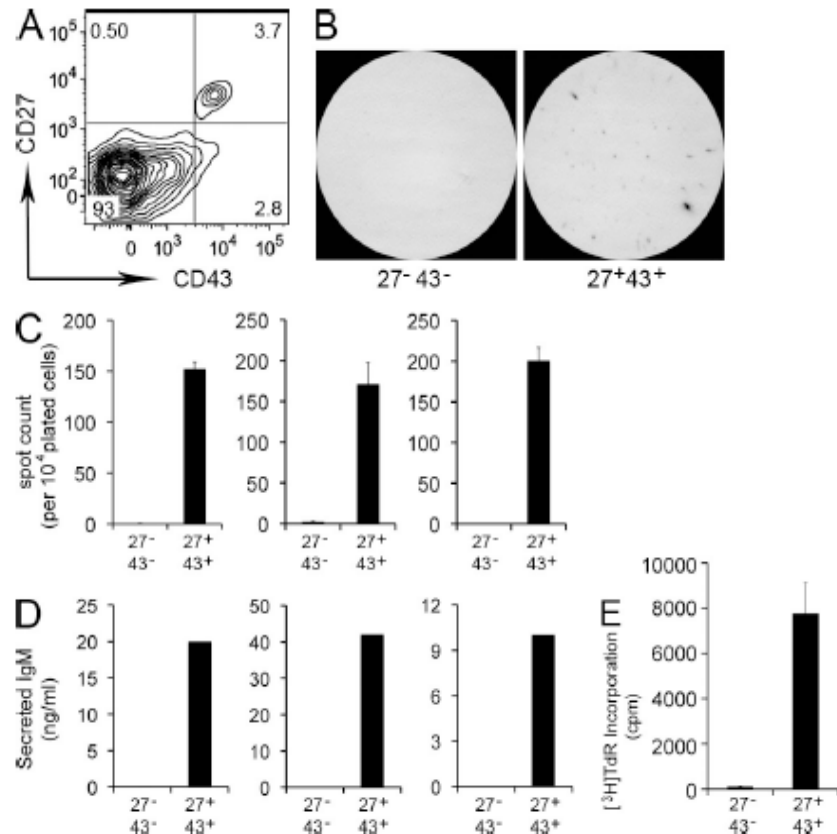
Tangye SG, Blood 2013

# Human B1 cells in umbilical cord and adult peripheral blood express the novel phenotype CD20<sup>+</sup>CD27<sup>+</sup>CD43<sup>+</sup>CD70<sup>-</sup>

Daniel O. Griffin,<sup>1,2</sup> Nichol E. Holodick,<sup>2</sup> and Thomas L. Rothstein<sup>2,3,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Elmzei Graduate School of Molecular Medicine and <sup>2</sup>Center and for Oncology and Cell Biology, the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research, Manhasset, NY 11030

<sup>3</sup>Department of Medicine and <sup>4</sup>Department of Molecular Medicine, Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine, Manhasset, NY 11030



J Exp Med 2011

J Exp Med. 2011 Dec 19;208(13):2563-4. doi: 10.1084/jem.20112232.

## A human equivalent of mouse B-1 cells?

Descatoire M, Weill JC, Reynaud CA, Weller S.

J Exp Med. 2011 Dec 19;208(13):2565-6. doi: 10.1084/jem.20112203.

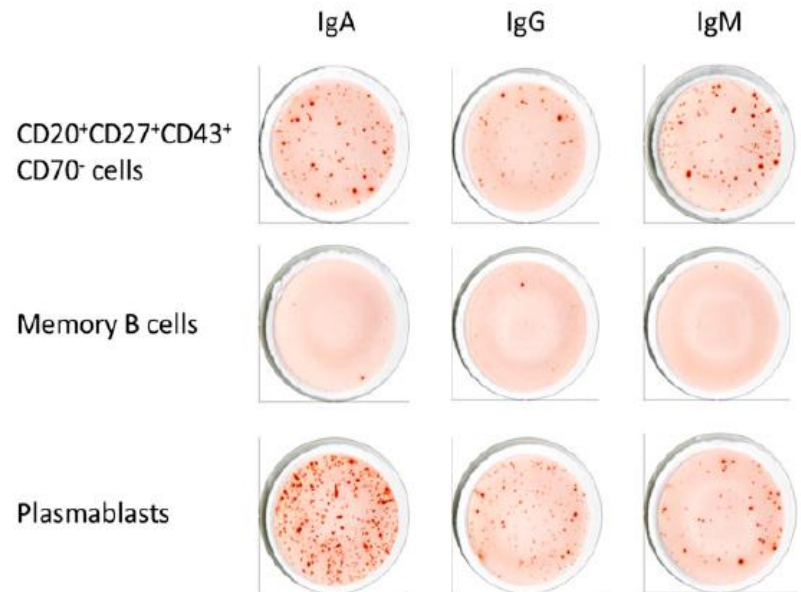
## The nature of circulating CD27<sup>+</sup>CD43<sup>+</sup> B cells.

Perez-Andres M, Grosserichter-Wagener C, Teodosio C, van Dongen JJ

## IMMUNOBIOLOGY

## Characterization of proposed human B-1 cells reveals pre-plasmablast phenotype

Kris Covens,<sup>1,2</sup> Bert Verbinen,<sup>1,3</sup> Nick Geukens,<sup>1</sup> Isabelle Meyts,<sup>4</sup> Frans Schuit,<sup>5</sup> Leentje Van and Xavier Bossu<sup>1,3</sup>



Blood 2013



## IVIg pluripotency and the concept of Fc-sialylation: challenges to the scientist.

**von Gunten S**, Shoenfeld Y, Blank M, Branch DR, Vassilev T, Käsermann F, Bayry J, Kaveri S, Simon HU.

Nat Rev Immunol. 2014 May;14(5):349. doi: 10.1038/nri3401-c1.

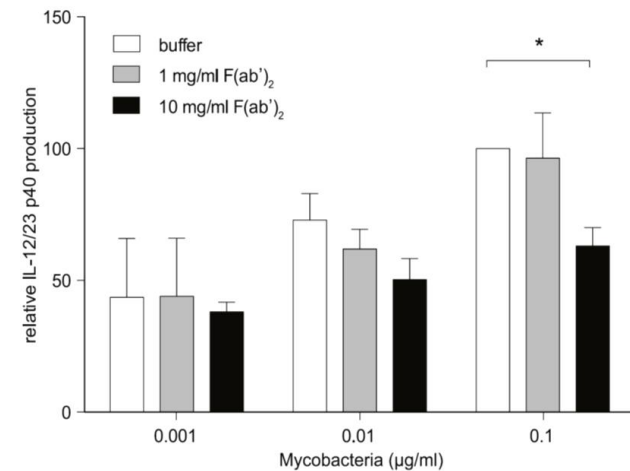
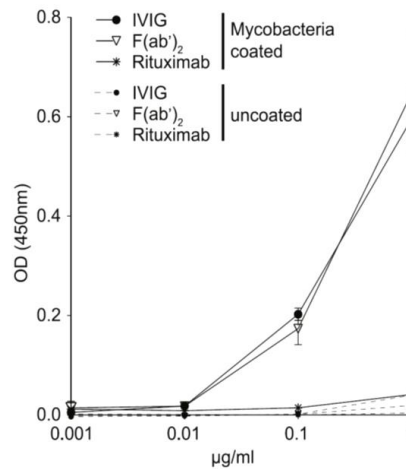
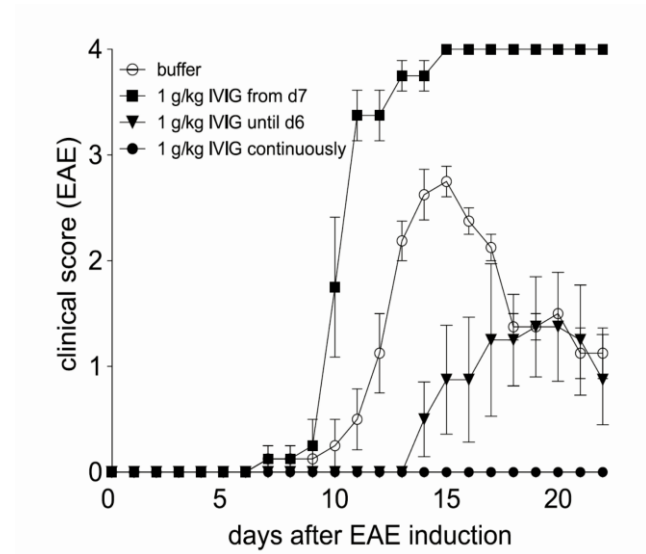
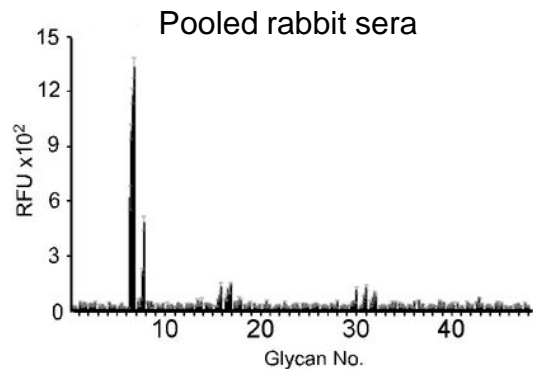
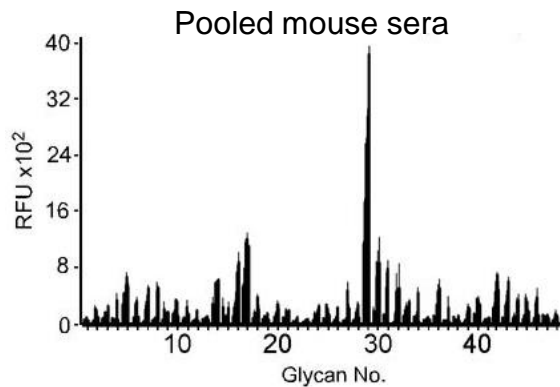
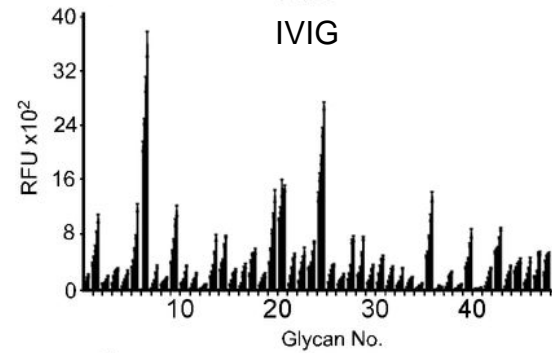
PMID: 24762829

Replacement Therapy	Immunomodulatory Therapy
<p><b>FDA-Approved</b></p> <p><i>Primary immunodeficiencies (PID):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Common variable immunodeficiency disorders</li> <li>Congenital agammaglobulinemia and hypoglobulinemia</li> <li>Severe combined immunodeficiencies (SCID)</li> <li>Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome</li> </ul> <p><i>Secondary immunodeficiencies (SID):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After immunosuppression in solid organ transplantation</li> <li>Allogeneic bone marrow transplantation</li> <li>Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL)</li> <li>Congenital / Pediatric HIV infection</li> </ul> <p><b>Off-Label Uses</b></p> <p><i>Secondary immunodeficiencies (SID), associated with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anti-CD20 therapy</li> <li>Chemotherapy</li> <li>Hemolytic anemia</li> <li>Rheumatoid arthritis</li> <li>Sjögren's syndrome</li> <li>Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)</li> <li>Low-grade non-Hodgkin's lymphoma</li> <li>Multiple myeloma</li> </ul>	<p><b>FDA-Approved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy (CIDP)</li> <li>Immune thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP)</li> <li>Kawasaki disease</li> <li>Multifocal motor neuropathy (MMN)</li> <li>Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS)</li> </ul> <p><b>Off-Label Uses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anti-Factor VIII autoimmune disease</li> <li>Anti-phospholipid syndrome</li> <li>Autoimmune blistering disease</li> <li>Autoimmune hemolytic anemia</li> <li>Autoimmune neutropenia</li> <li>Birdshot retinopathy</li> <li>Cytomegalovirus infection</li> <li>Dermatomyositis</li> <li>Epidermolysis bullosa acquisita</li> <li>Fetal hemolytic disease</li> <li>Fetal neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia (FNAIT)</li> <li>Graft-versus-host disease</li> <li>HIV-associated thrombocytopenia</li> <li>Inclusion body myositis</li> <li>Lambert-Eaton myasthenic syndrome</li> <li>Mucous membrane (cicatrical) pemphigoid</li> <li>Multiple sclerosis</li> <li>Myasthenia gravis (MG)</li> <li>Necrotizing fasciitis</li> <li>Neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia</li> <li>Opsoclonus myoclonus syndrome (OMS)</li> <li>Pemphigus foliaceus</li> <li>Pemphigus vulgaris</li> <li>Polymyositis</li> <li>Polyradiculoneuropathy</li> <li>Refractory dermatomyositis</li> <li>Refractory polymyositis</li> <li>Relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS)</li> <li>Rheumatoid arthritis</li> <li>Sepsis syndrome</li> <li>Severe anemia associated with parvovirus B19</li> <li>Severe dermatomyositis</li> <li>Severe polymyositis</li> <li>Steroid-dependent atopic dermatitis</li> <li>Stiff Person syndrome (SPS)</li> <li>Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)</li> <li>Systemic vasculitis</li> <li>Toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN)</li> <li>Vasculitis syndrome</li> </ul>

**CLINICAL USE OF INTRAVENOUS IMMUNOGLOBULINS (IVIg)**

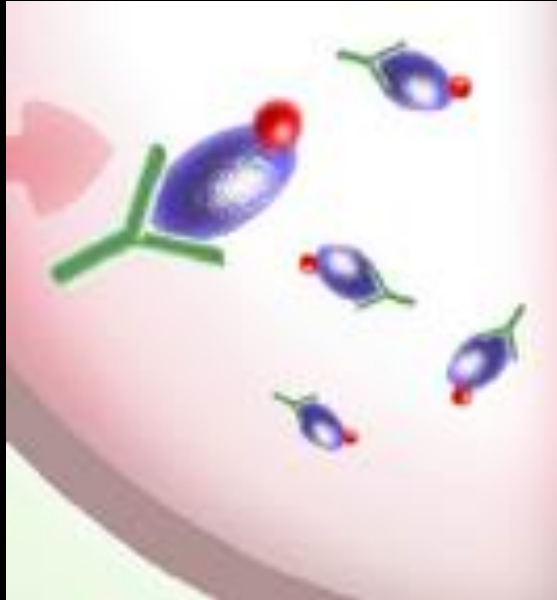
# SPECIES DIFFERENCES!

Experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE): B6 mice immunized with MOG<sub>35-55</sub> peptide emulsified in complete Freund's adjuvant (CFA)



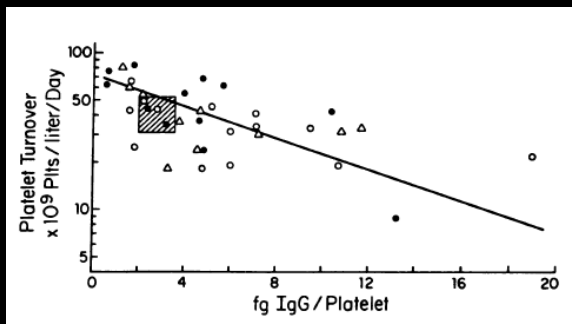
# Immune thrombocytopenia (ITP): mechanisms

1950: Self-experiment Dr. W. Harrington



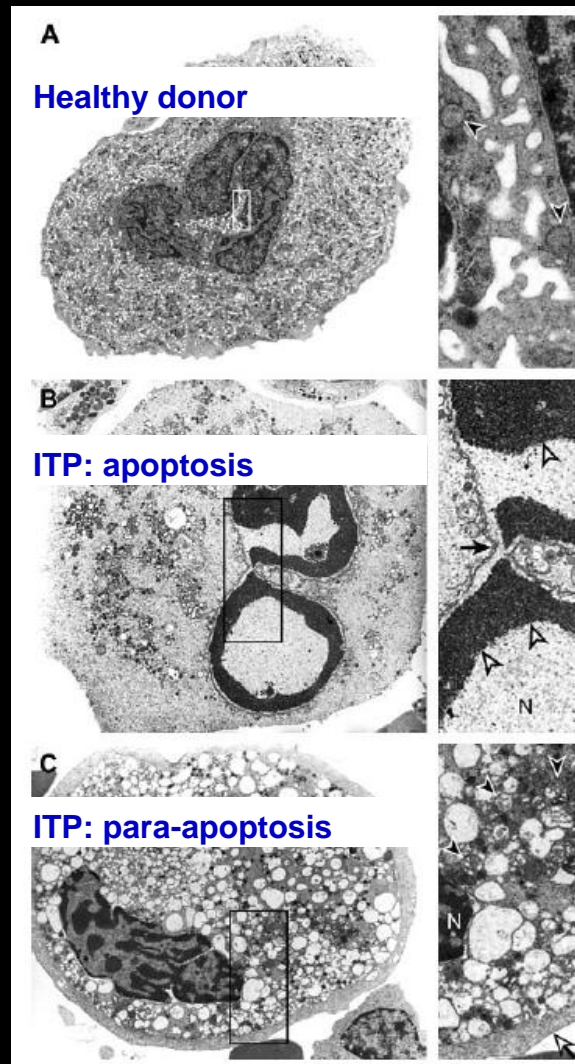
Kinetic experiments

-> platelet **generation** problem



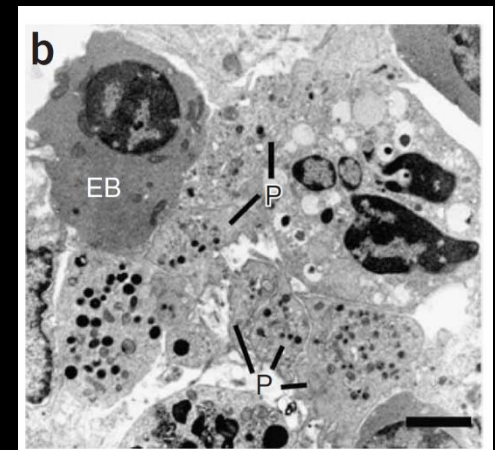
Ballem PJ et al. J Clin Invest. 1987

Megakaryocyte death



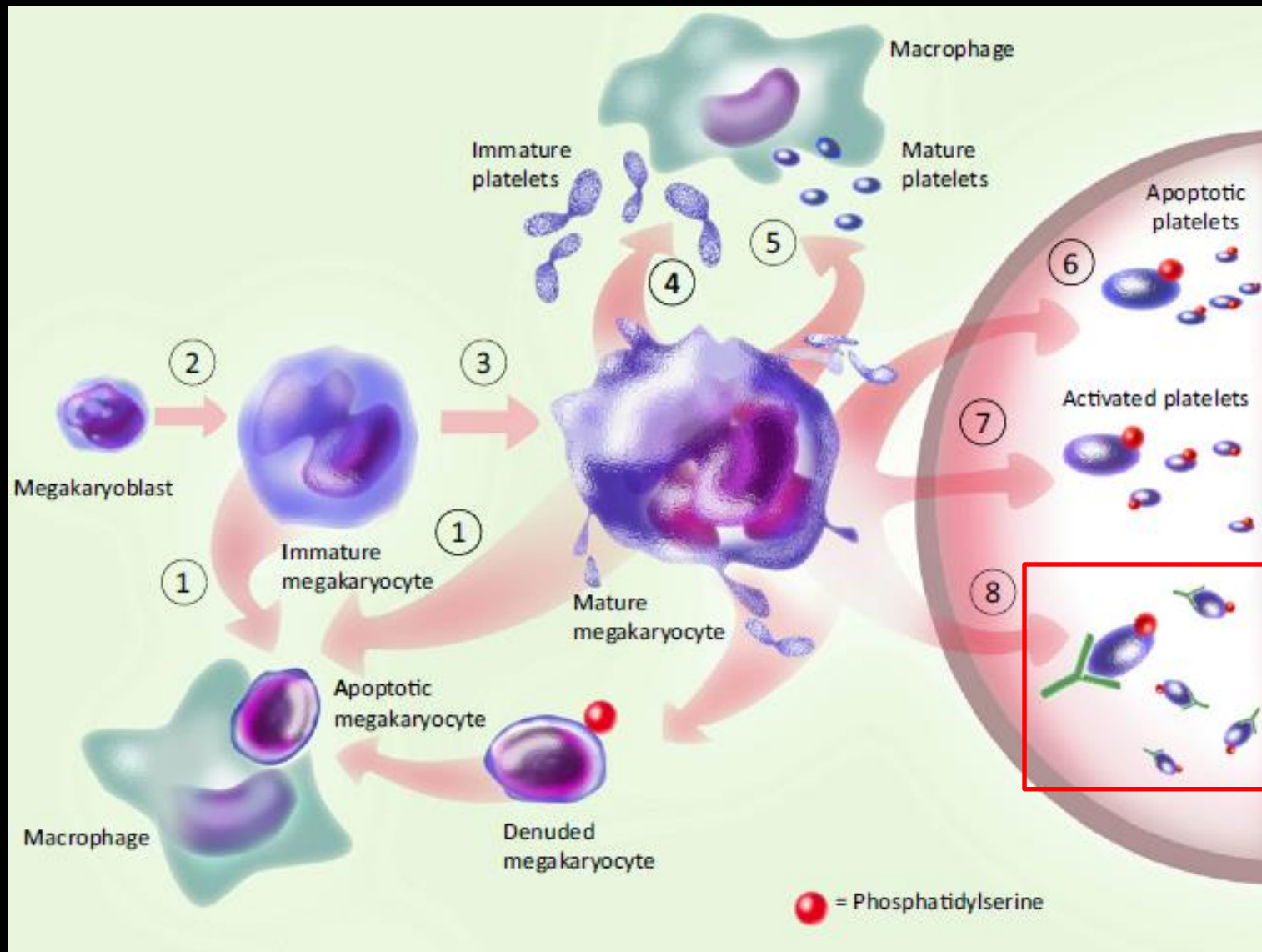
Houwerzijl EJ, Blood. 2004

Ineffective megakaryopoiesis



Morison IM, Nat Genet. 2008

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Current  
models of ITP

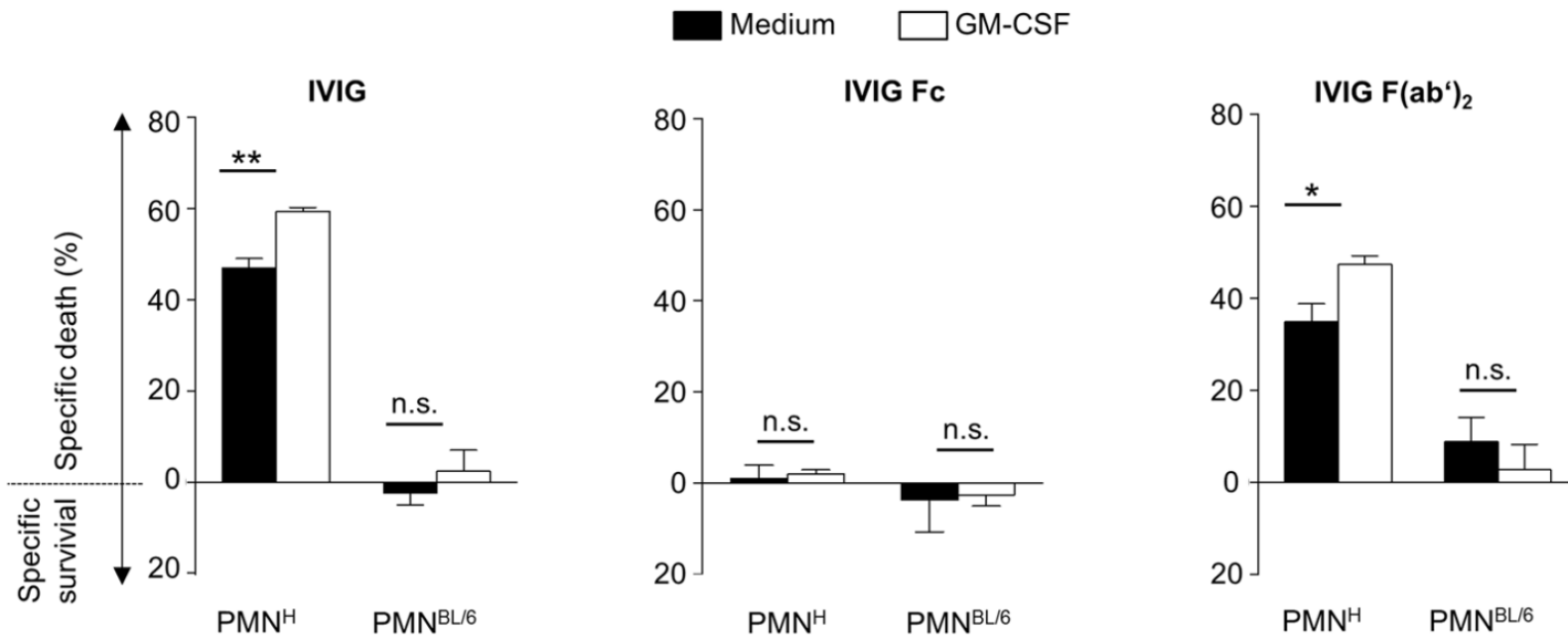
von Gunten S, Semin Hematol modified

IVIg pluripotency and the concept of Fc-sialylation: challenges to the scientist.

**von Gunten S**, Shoenfeld Y, Blank M, Branch DR, Vassilev T, Käsermann F, Bayry J, Kaveri S, Simon HU.

Nat Rev Immunol. 2014 May;14(5):349. doi: 10.1038/nri3401-c1.

PMID: 24762829



Schneider C et al. Sci Rep 2016