



Novel Approaches for Cardiac Recovery Following Ischemic Injury

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Disclosures

None



Education Need/Practice Gap

Acute myocardial infarction initiates multiple inflammatory and reparatory pathways that predict the damage and cardiac recovery after injury. The prognostic and therapeutic implications of these therapies are poorly understood. Novel therapeutic targets for these phenomena are being tested in clinical studies.



Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this learning activity, you will be able to:

1. Review local and systemic changes following cardiac ischemic injury leading to heart failure and ischemic cardiomyopathy.
2. Describe emerging translational therapies targeting inflammation in patients with ischemic heart disease.
3. Discuss novel myocardial regenerative therapies for ischemic heart disease.



Expected Outcome

Understand the landscape of novel therapies for ischemic heart disease.

Ischemic Cardiomyopathy

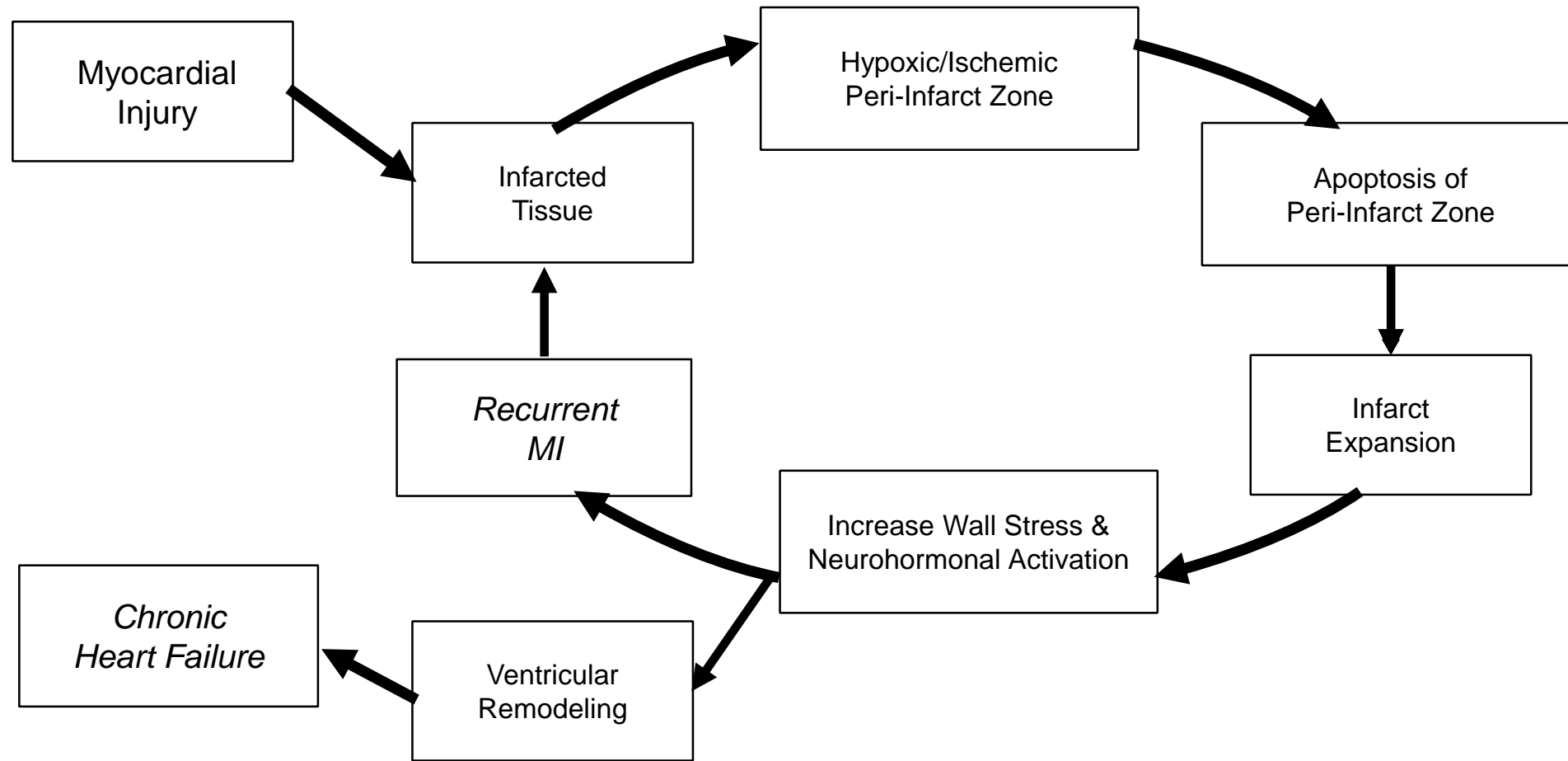
- Cardiovascular disease remains the leading cause of mortality in the United States and world-wide
- With the aging population, ischemic cardiomyopathy is increasing in prevalence and adding more expenses to the health care system
- Heart failure is the leading cause of hospitalization in persons older than 65 years
- Available treatments are predominantly symptomatic with no available approved regenerative therapy



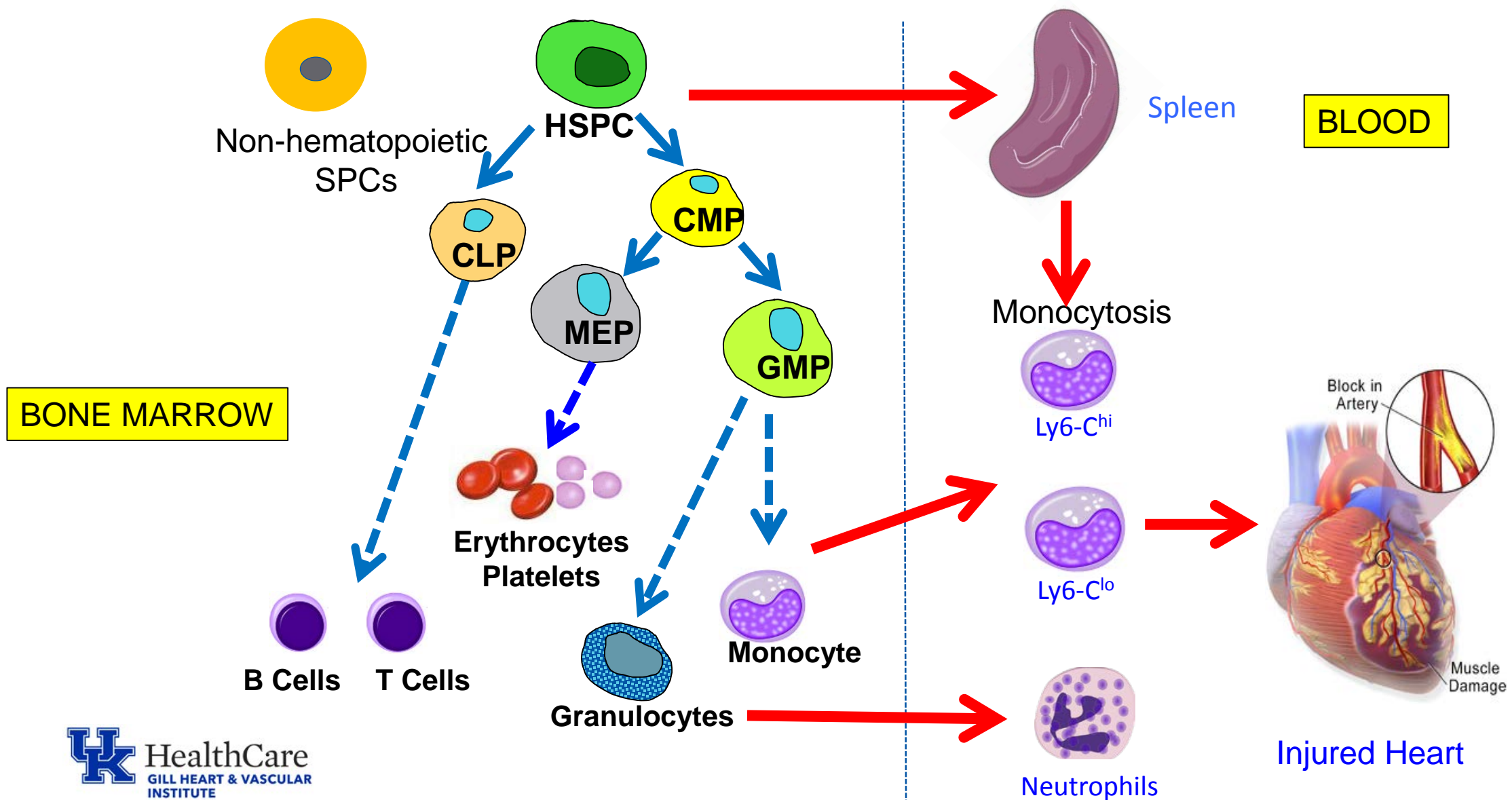
Hospital Discharges for Heart Failure

Circulat

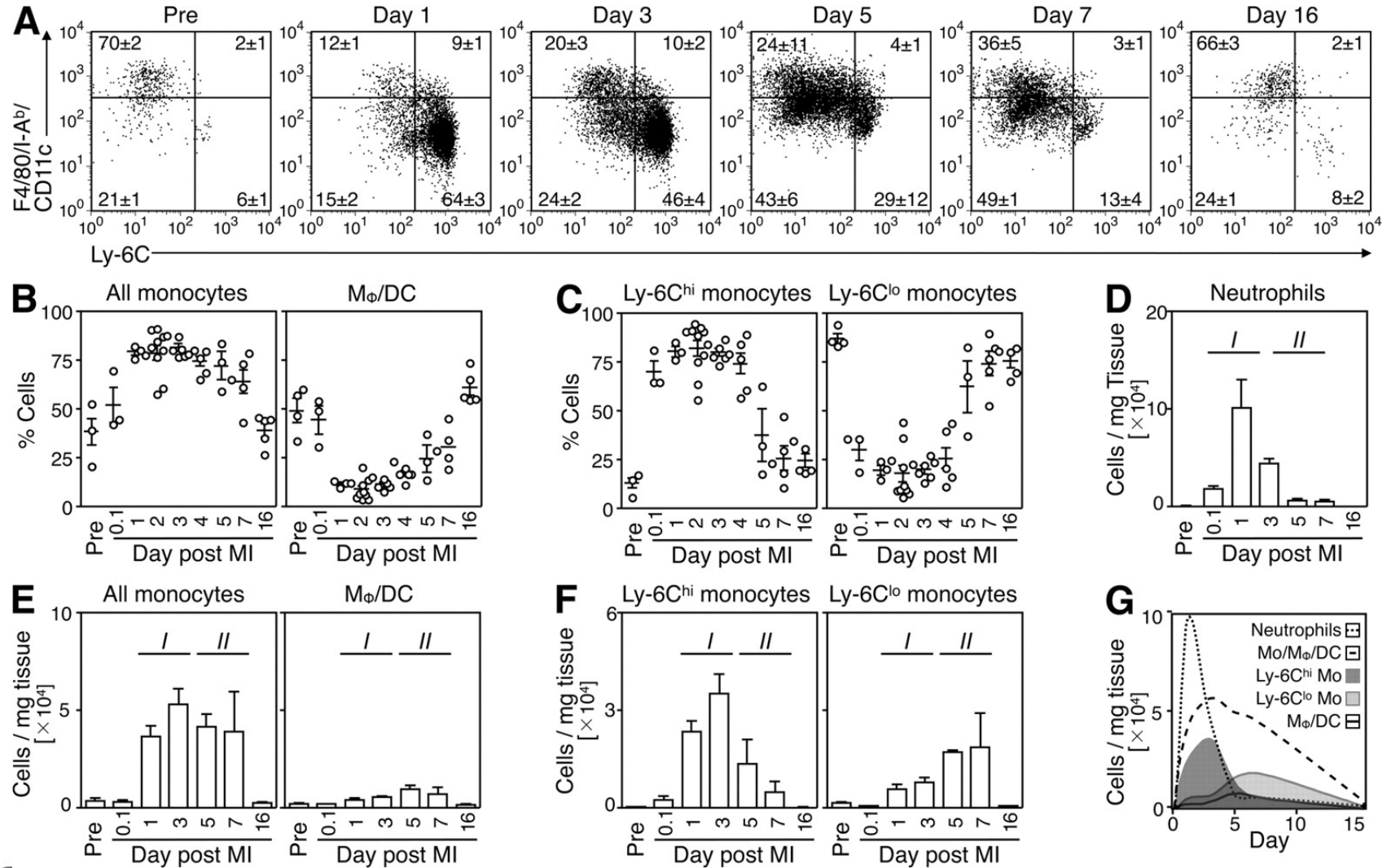
Post-MI cycle of risk: driven by infarct size, infarct expansion & remodeling



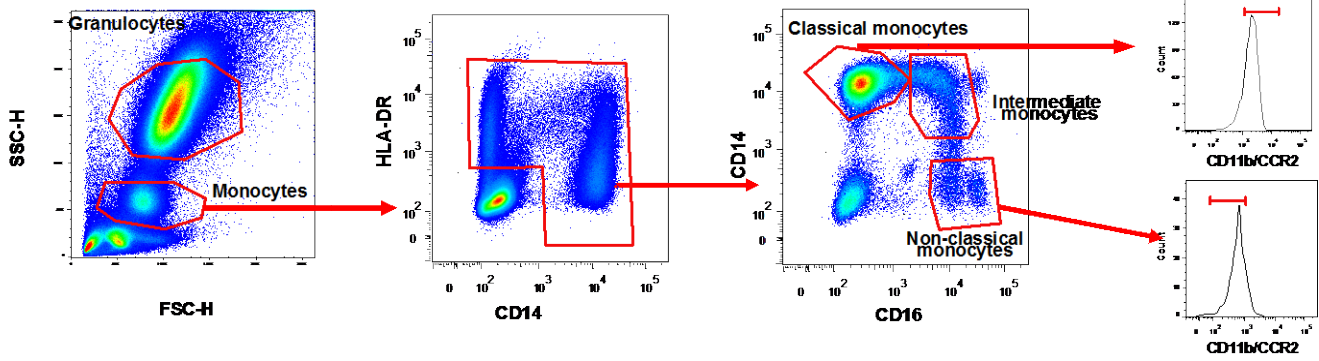
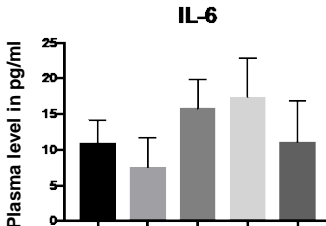
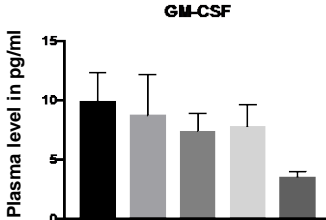
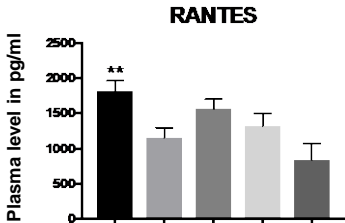
BM response after acute myocardial ischemia



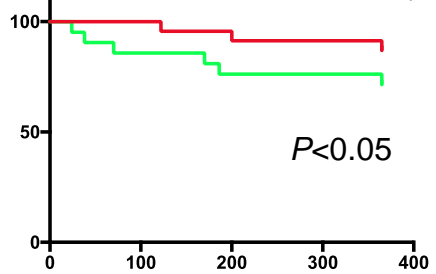
The healing myocardium sequentially mobilizes two monocyte populations with divergent and complimentary functions



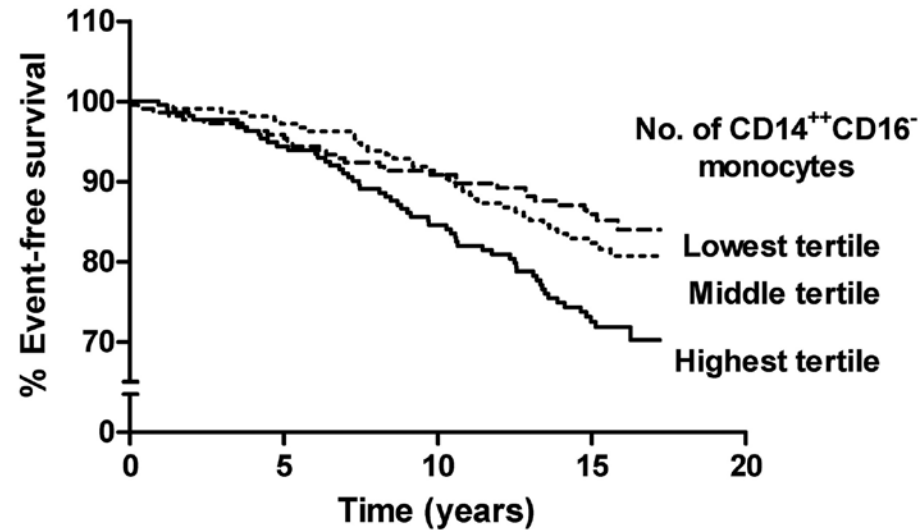
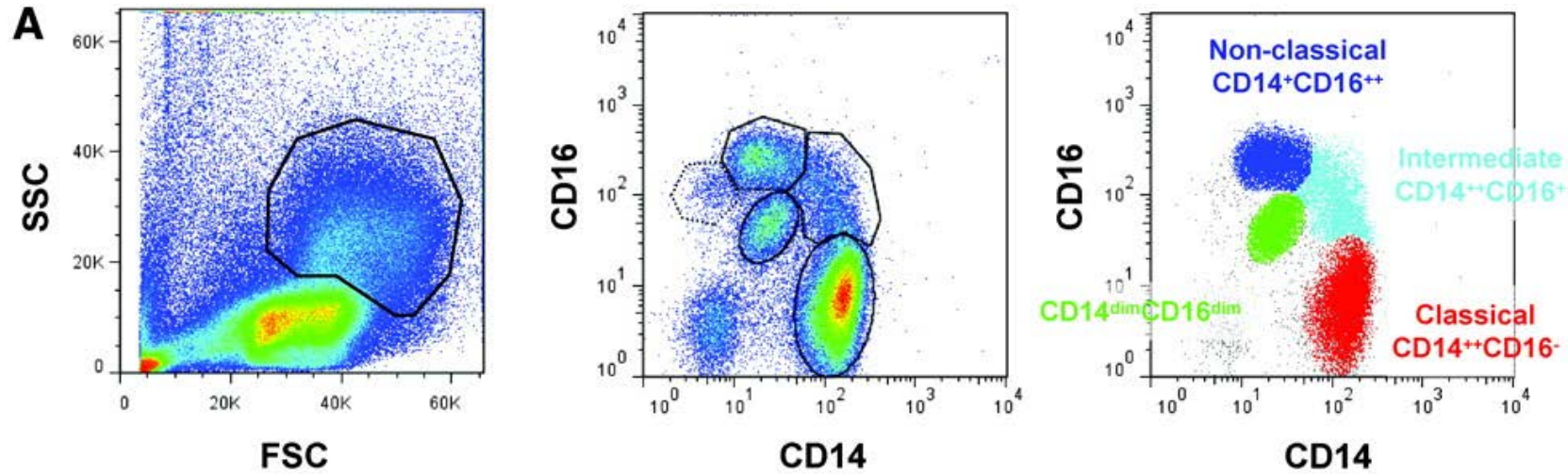
Elevated inflammatory cells post-MI predict cardiac damage and cardiovascular outcomes



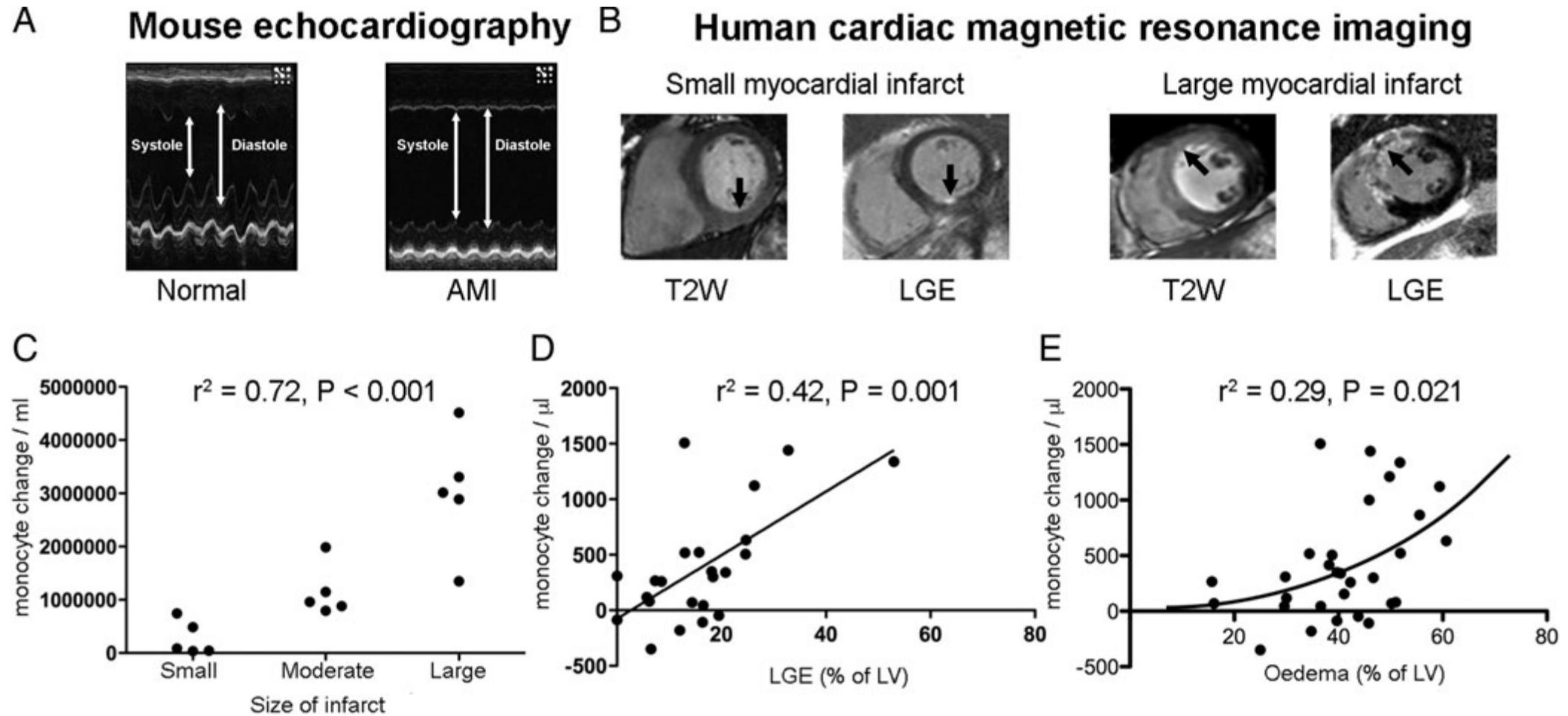
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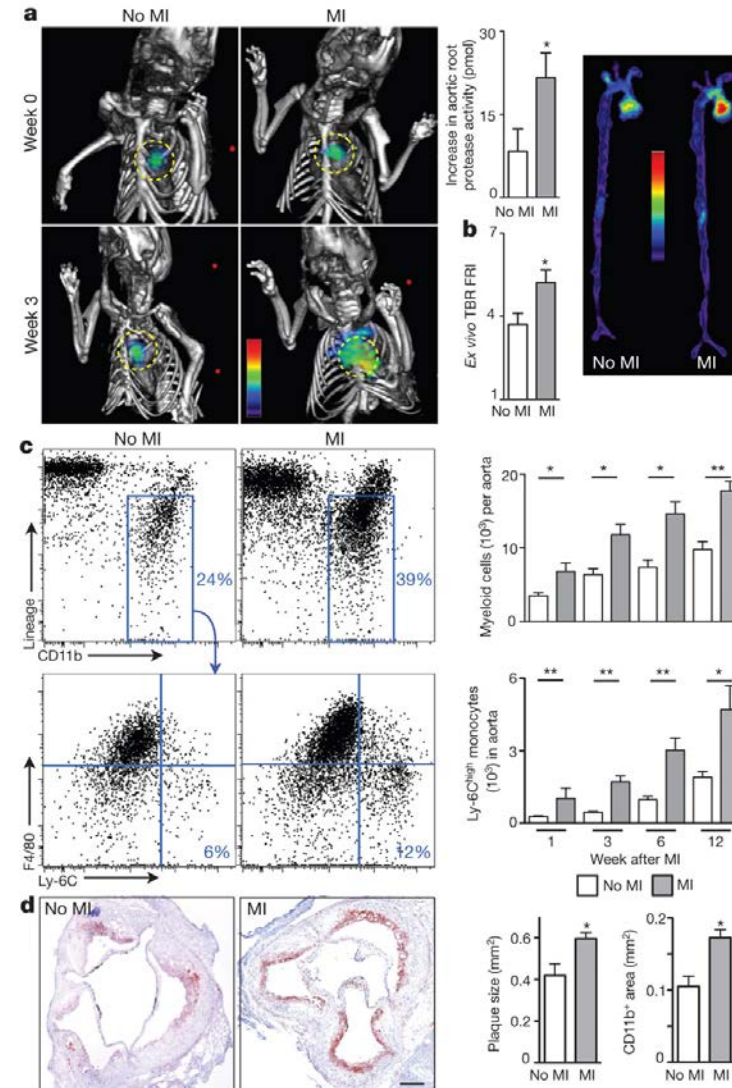
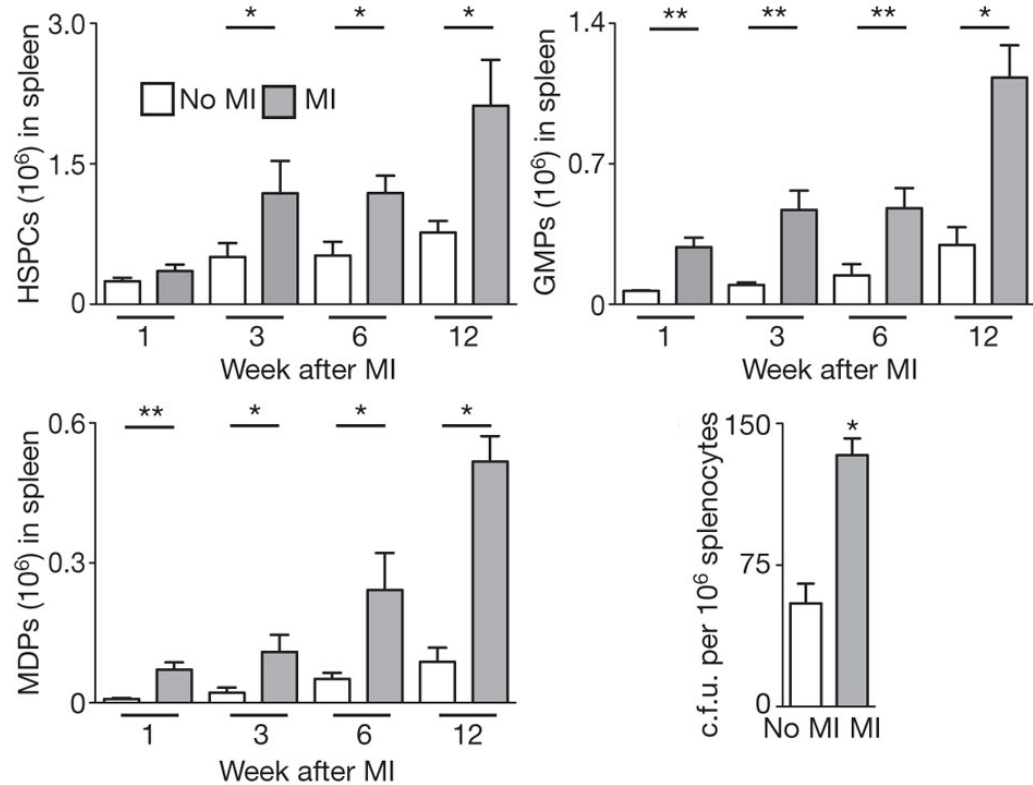
Elevated CD14⁺⁺CD16⁺ (inflammatory) monocytes predict cardiovascular outcomes



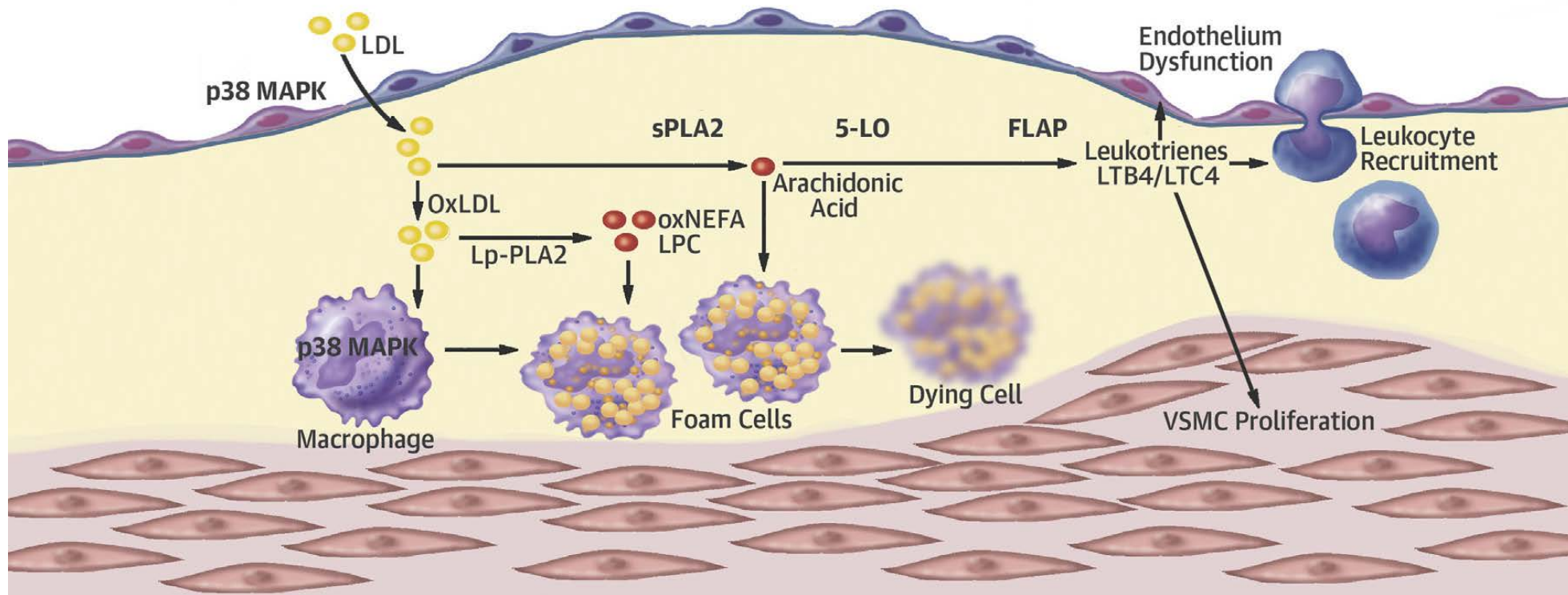
Acute myocardial infarction activates monocyto- sis which increases cardiac damage



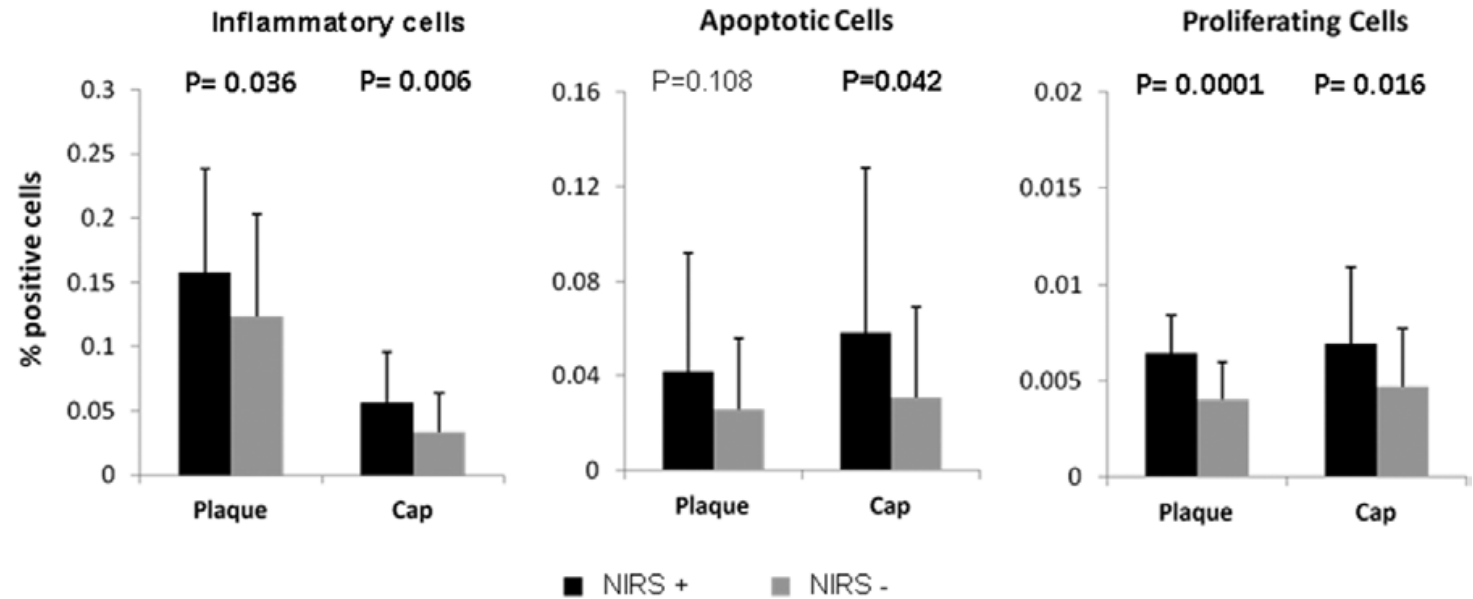
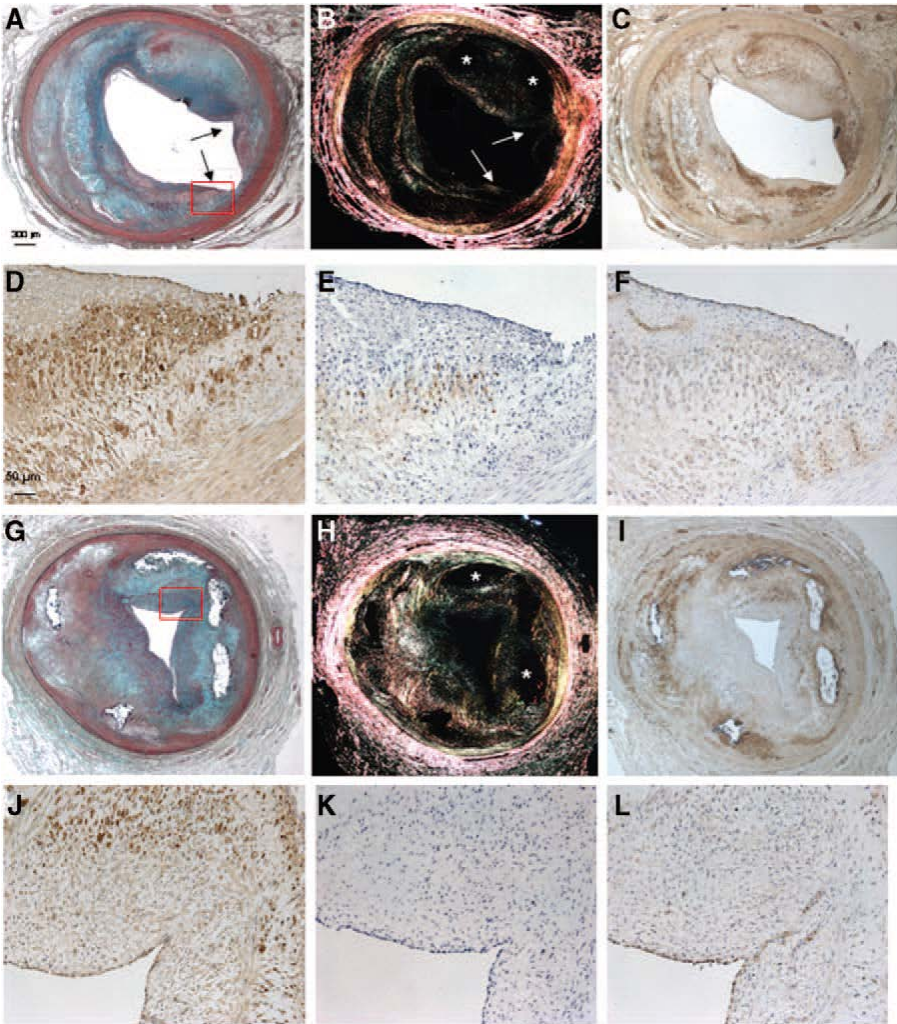
Myocardial infarction accelerates atherosclerosis



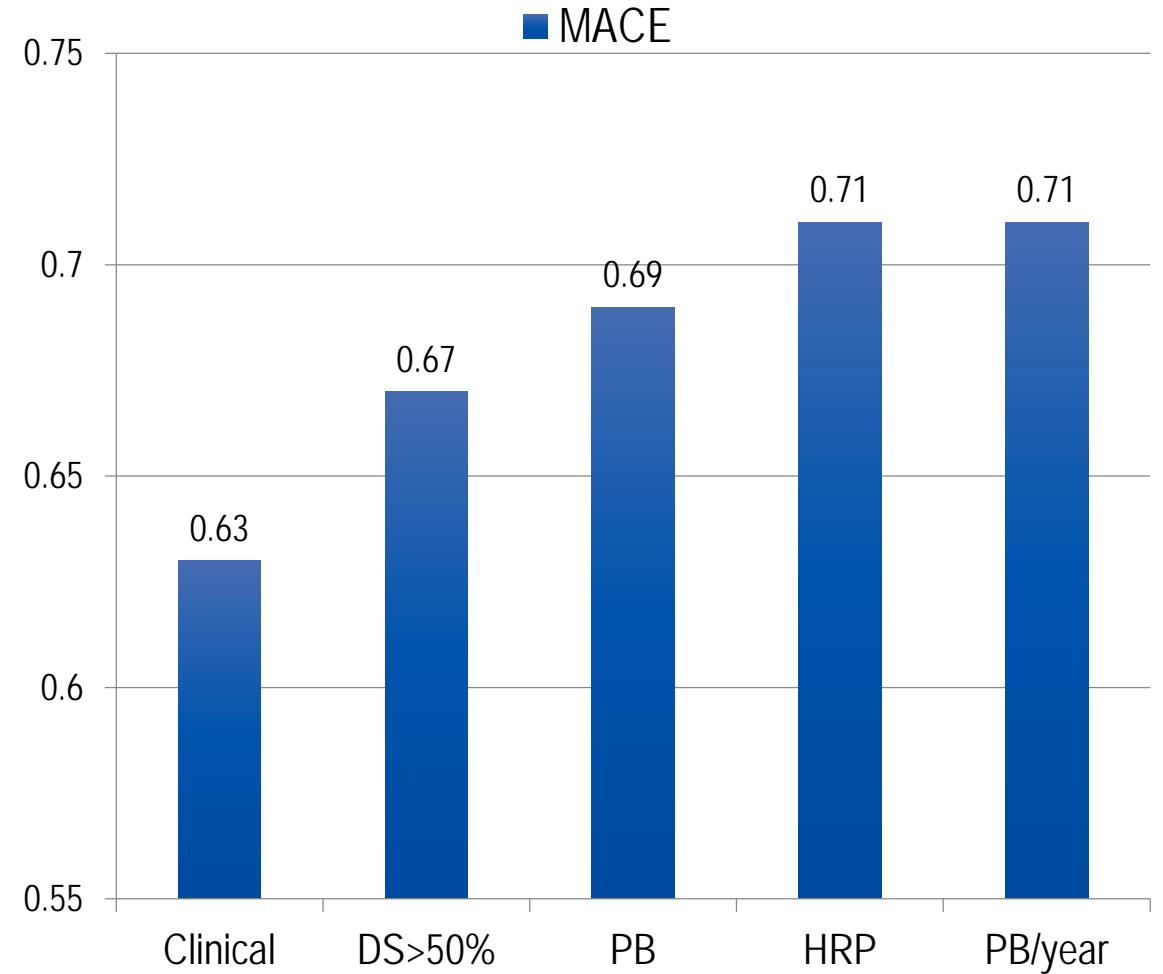
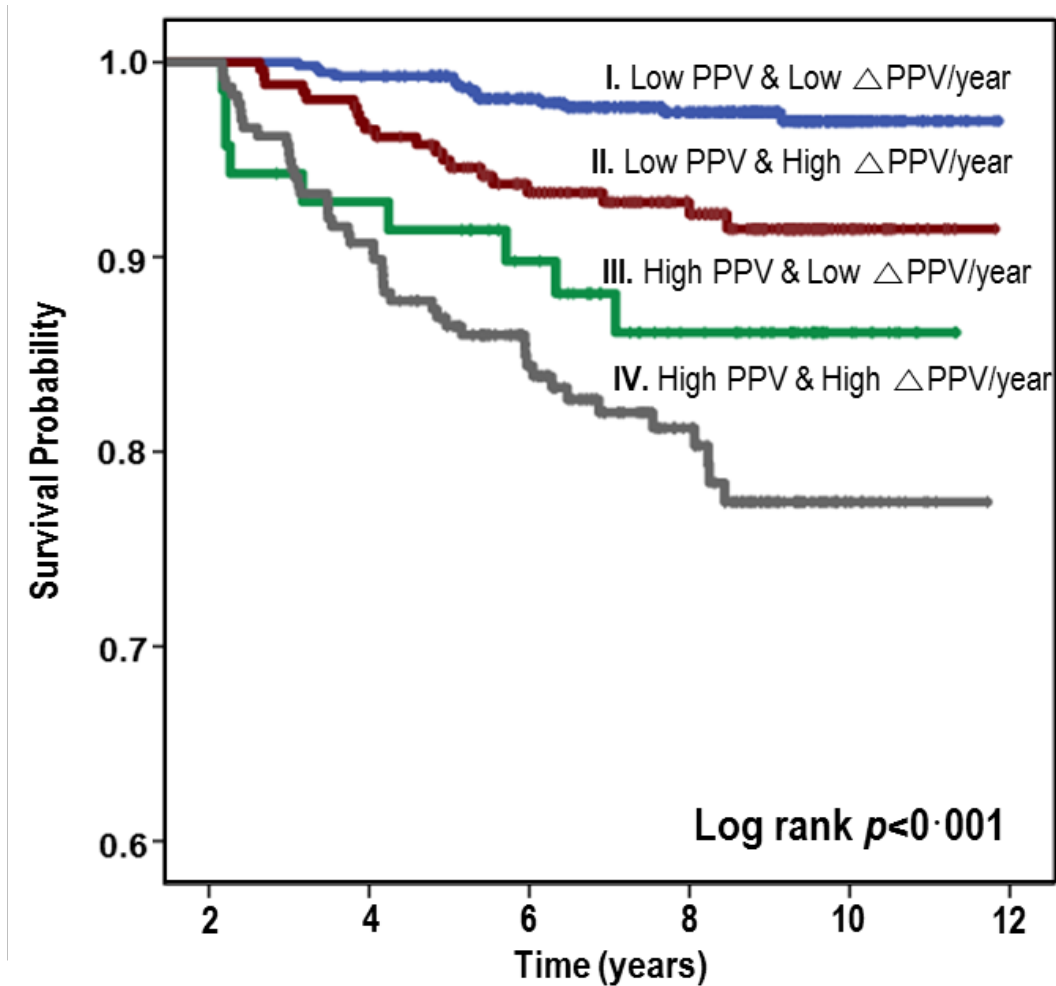
Systemic inflammation in CAD patients



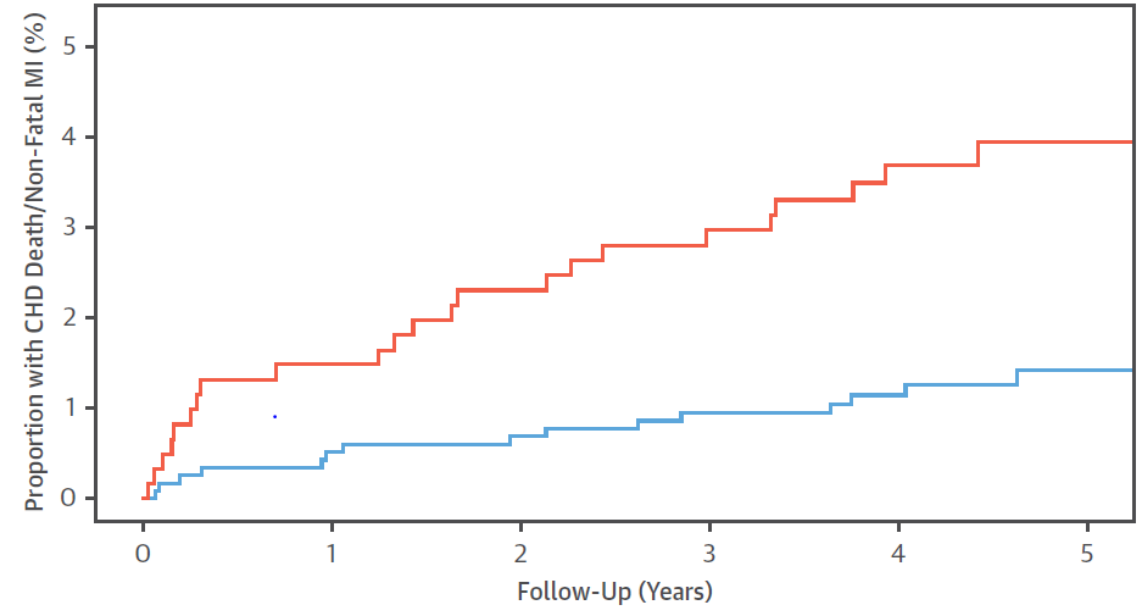
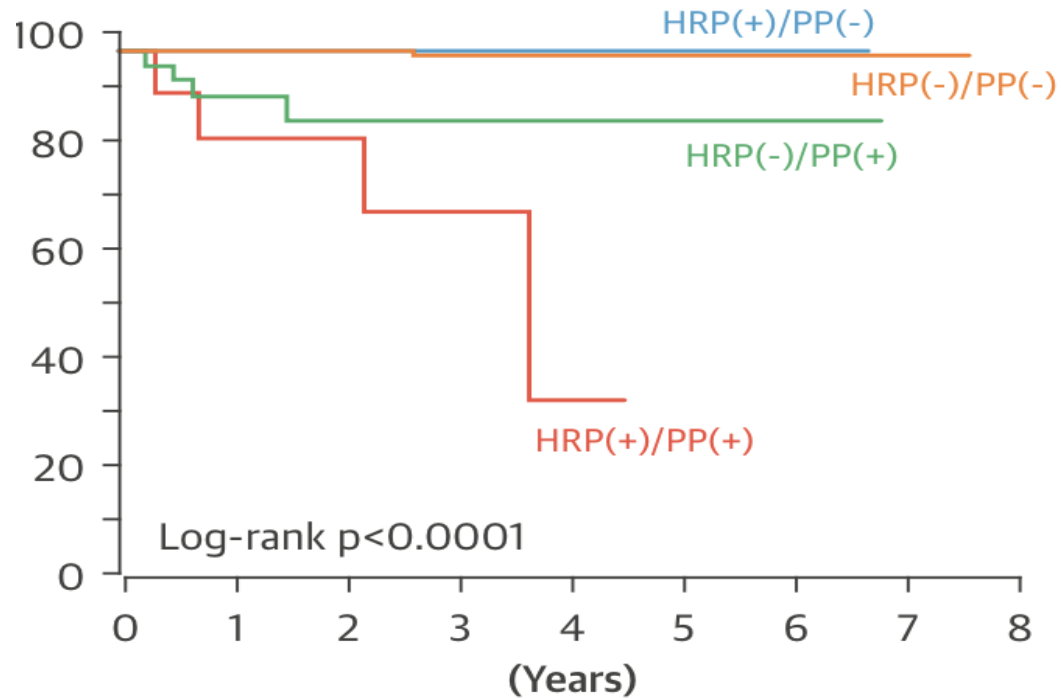
Inflammatory cells correlate with plaque progression



Coronary Atherosclerosis (PARADIGM): What predicts MACE?



Plaque progression and morphology are key predictors of adverse cardiac events

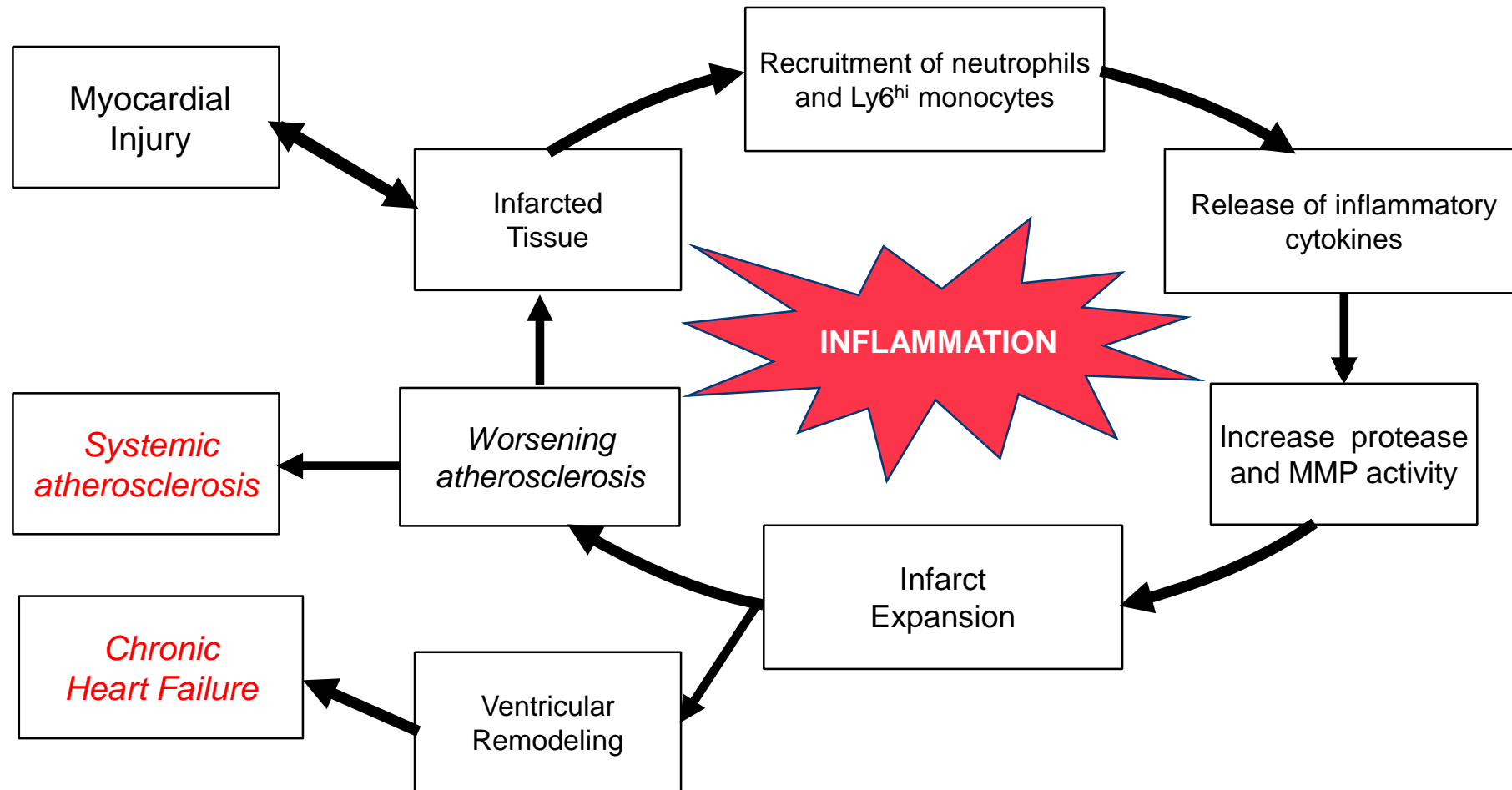


Adverse plaque present

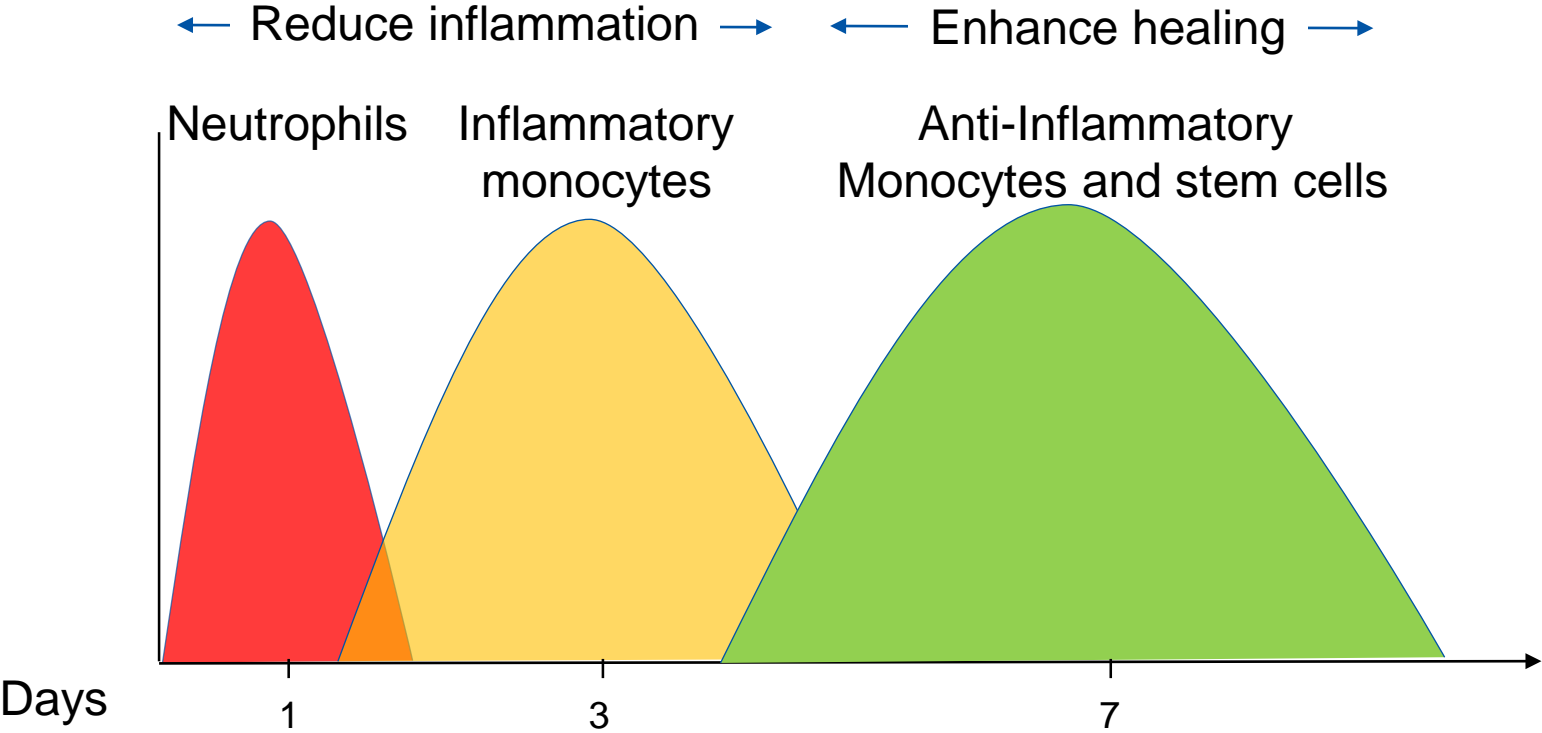
| | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| No | 1,161 (100) | 1,153 (99) | 1,146 (99) | 1,141 (98) | 886 (76) | 488 (42) |
| Yes | 608 (100) | 598 (98) | 590 (97) | 582 (96) | 467 (77) | 255 (42) |

Adverse Plaque Present — No — Yes

Post-MI Cycle of Risk: Driven by the immune response

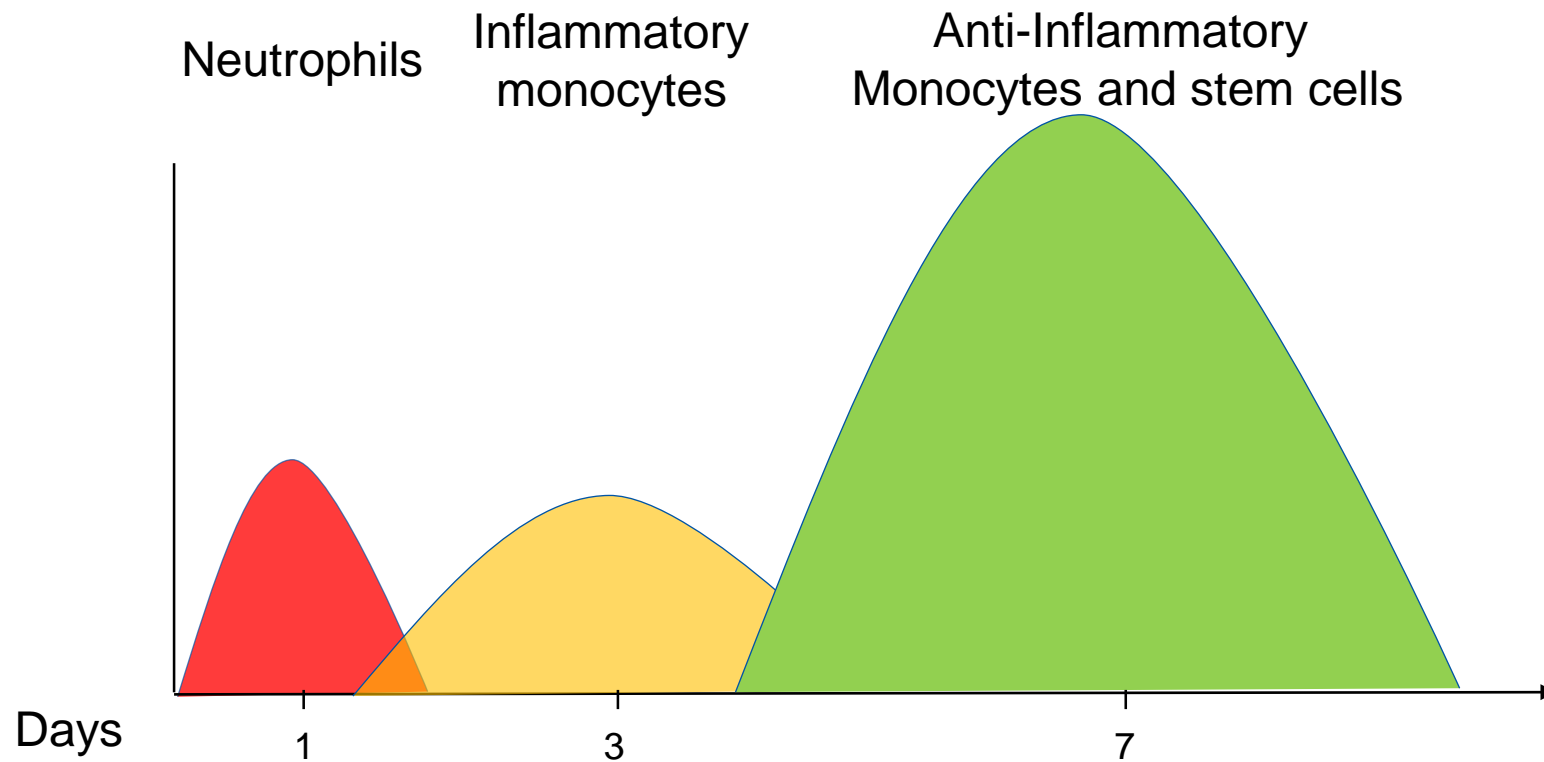


Bone marrow cells in the heart following myocardial infarction



| | Neutrophils | Inflammatory monocytes | Anti-inflammatory monocytes and stem cells |
|------|--|---|--|
| Pros | Clean up of damaged tissue/cells | Release of proteolytic enzymes and phagocytosis | Initiate the healing process leading to collagen deposition and angiogenesis |
| Cons | Exacerbated inflammation can lead to infarct expansion | Infarct expansion and initiates atherosclerosis | Limited number of cells with limited healing |

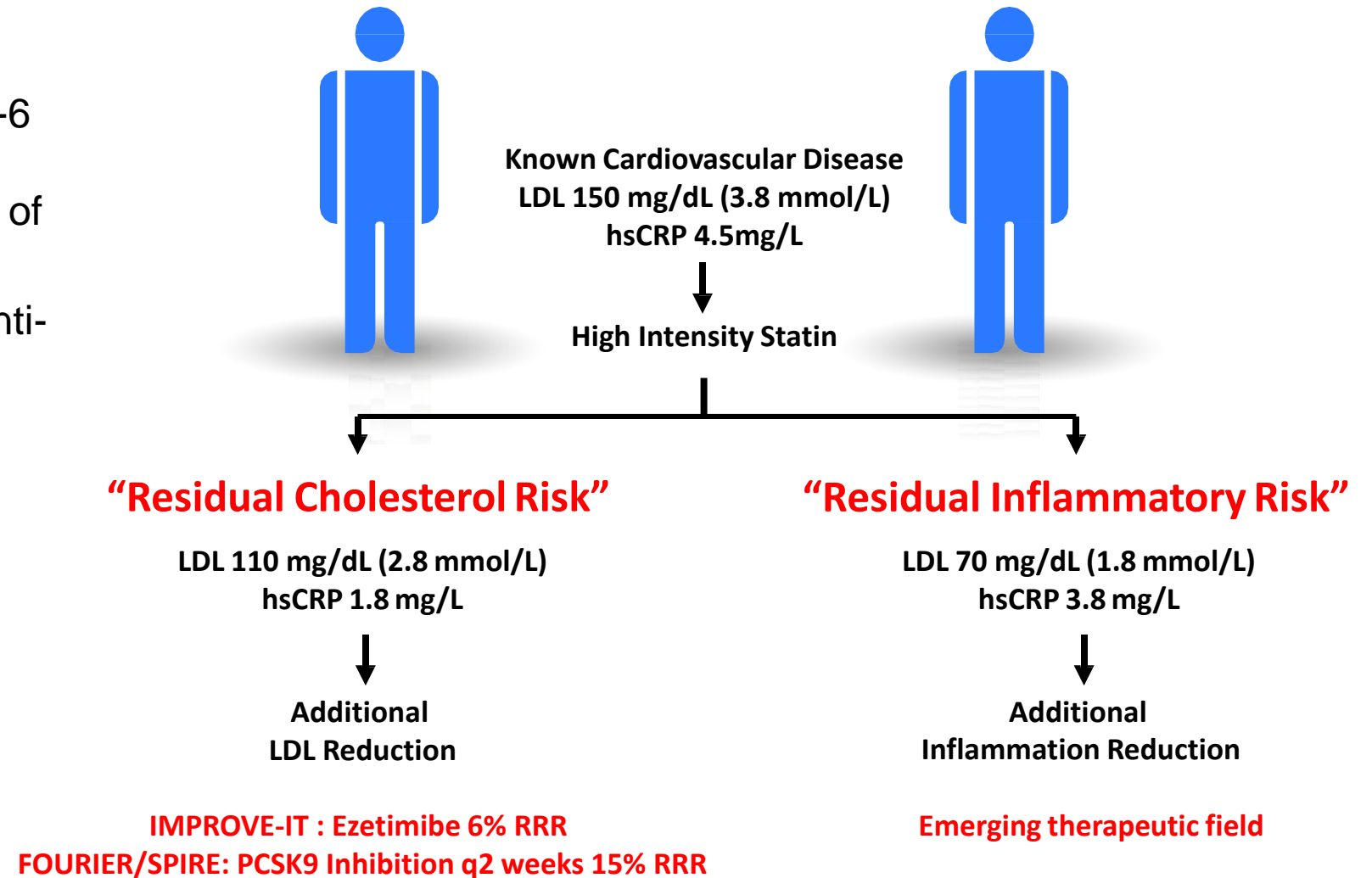
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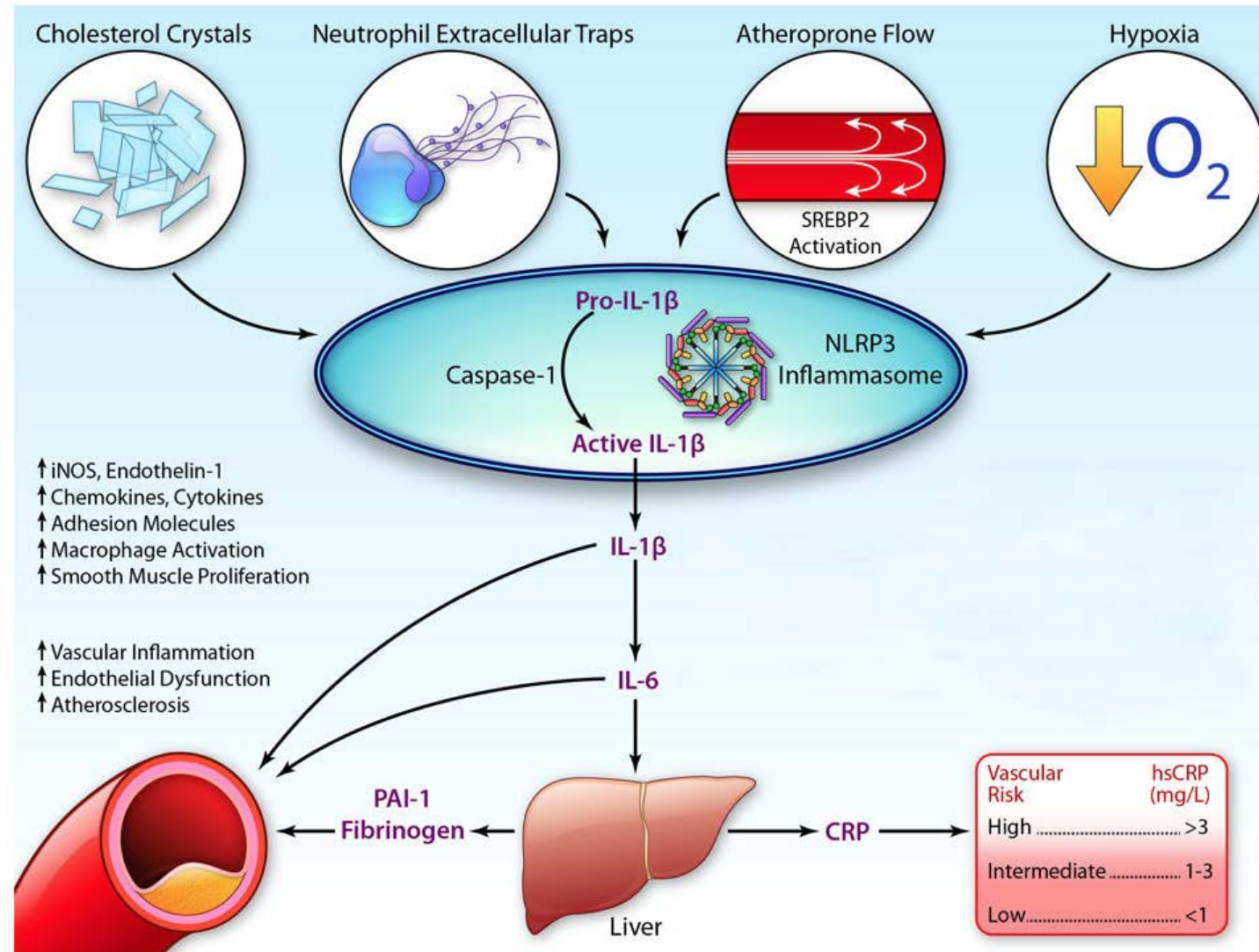
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Residual Inflammatory Risk

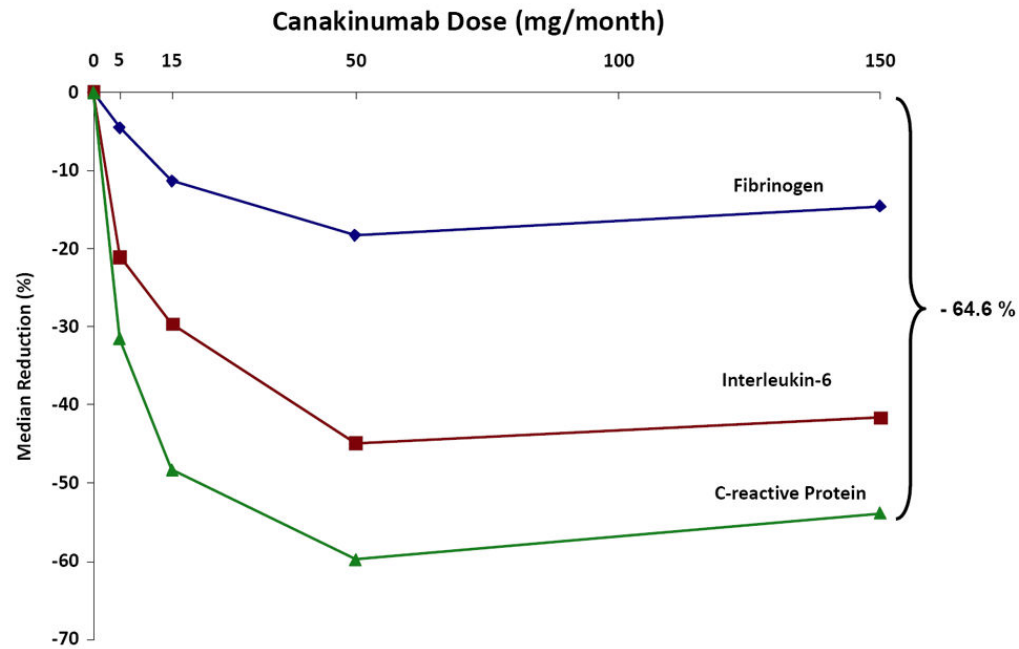
- Plasma levels of inflammatory biomarkers including hsCRP and IL-6 robustly predict first and recurrent cardiovascular events, independent of lipid levels.
- Statins are both lipid lowering and anti-inflammatory, and the greatest benefits of statin therapy accrue to those who not only lower LDL, but who also lower hsCRP.
- In primary prevention, the JUPITER trial demonstrated that those with elevated hsCRP but low levels of LDL markedly benefit from statin therapy.



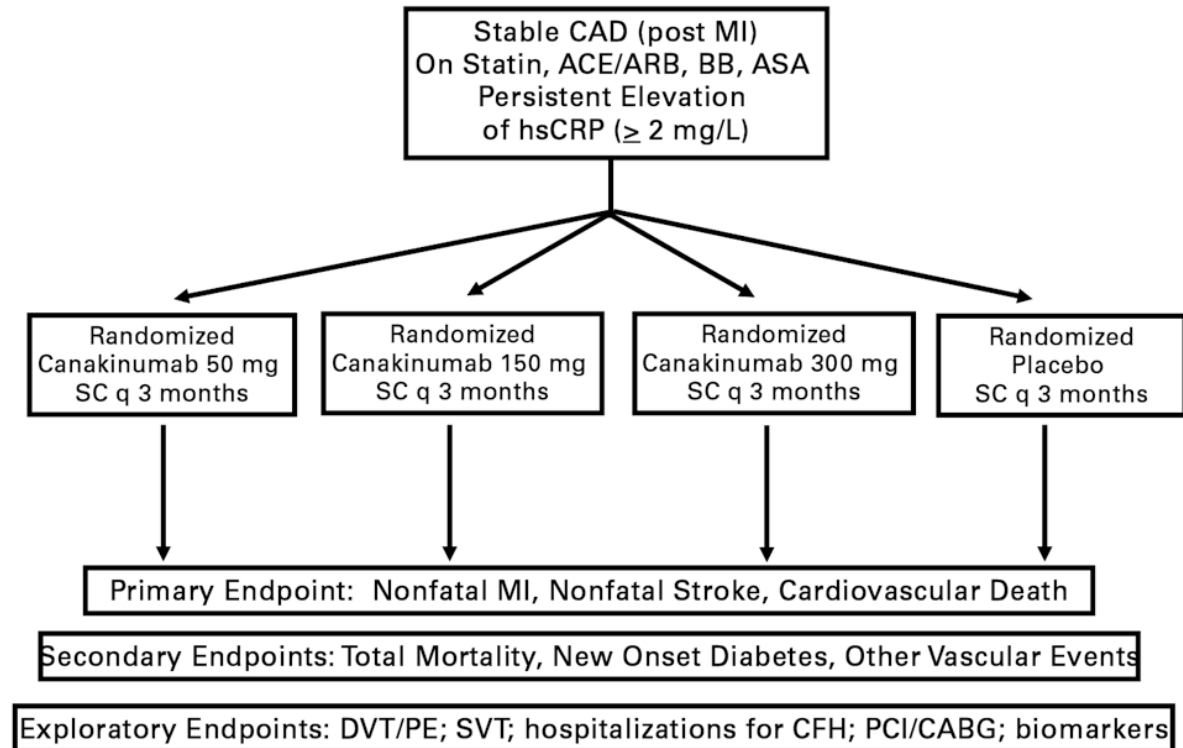
Targeting upstream signaling molecules to enhance atheroprotection



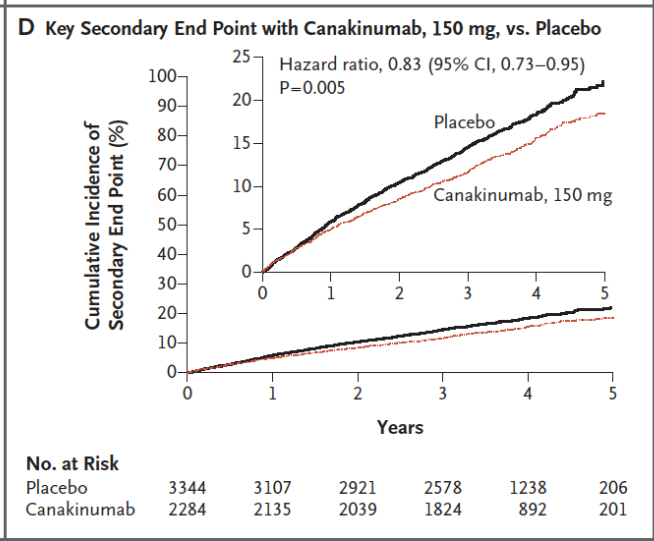
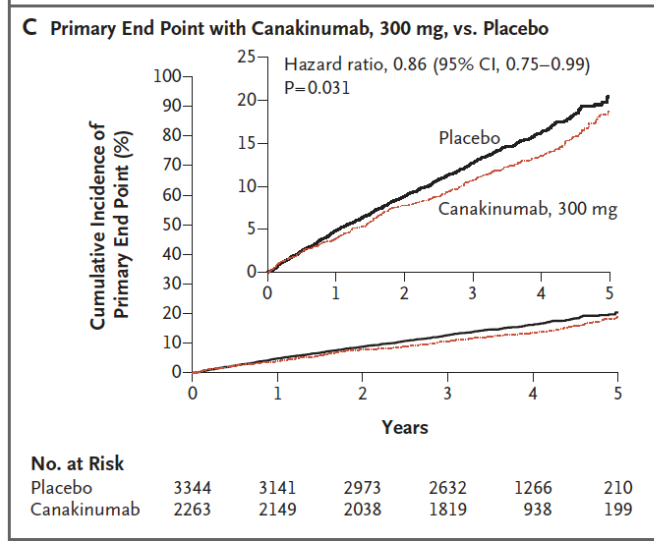
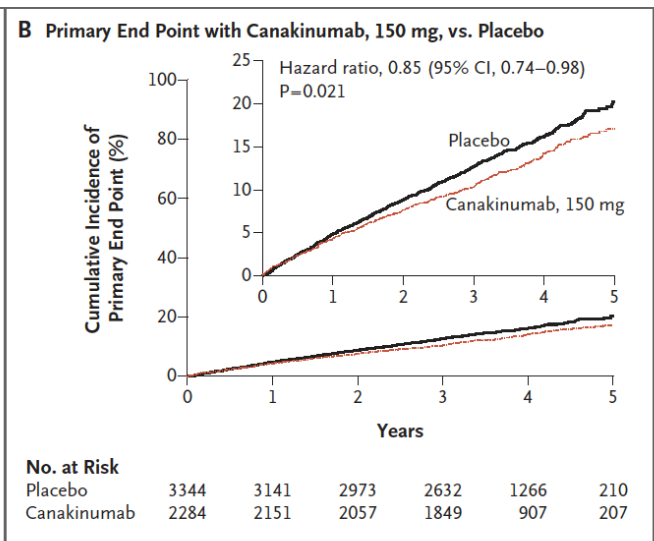
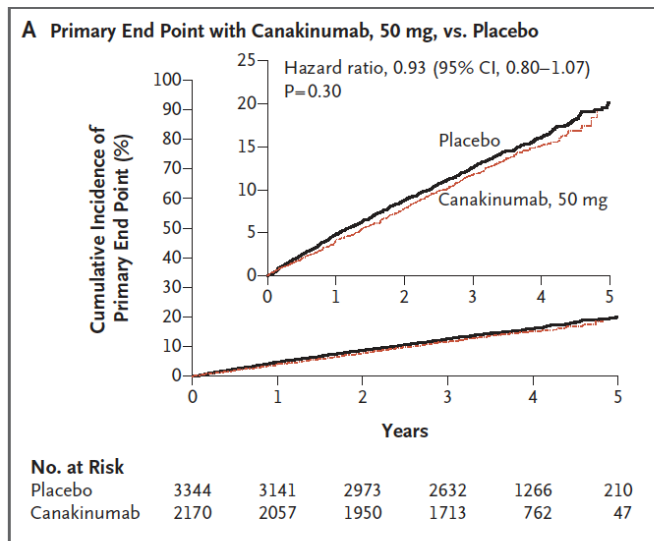
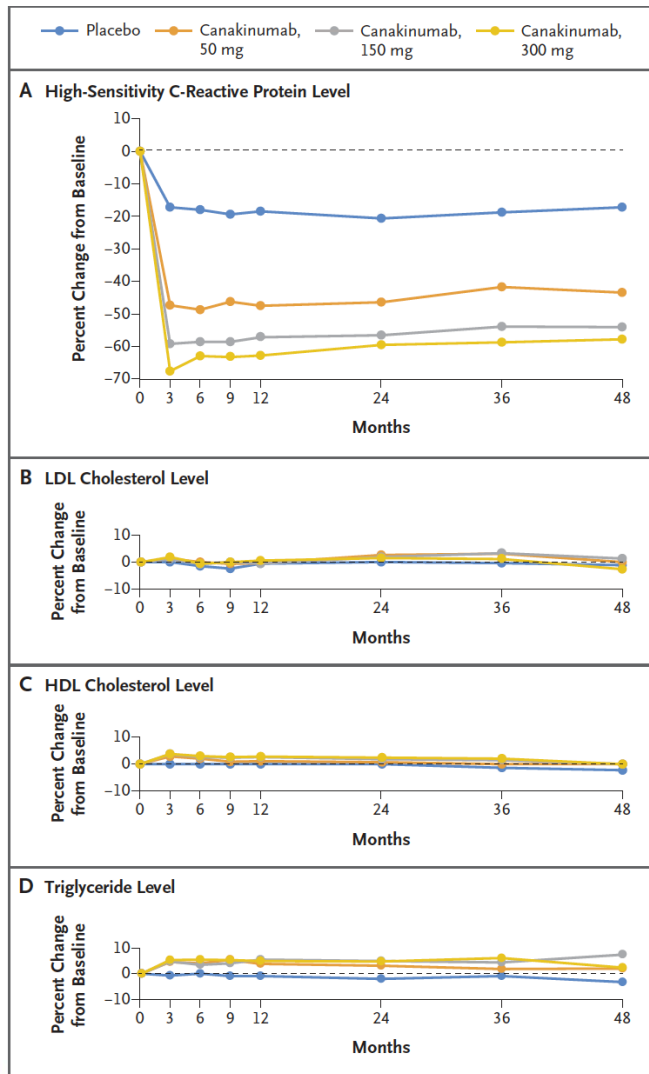
Anti-inflammatory Therapy with Canakinumab for Atherosclerotic Disease



Canakinumab Anti-inflammatory Thrombosis Outcomes Study (CANTOS)

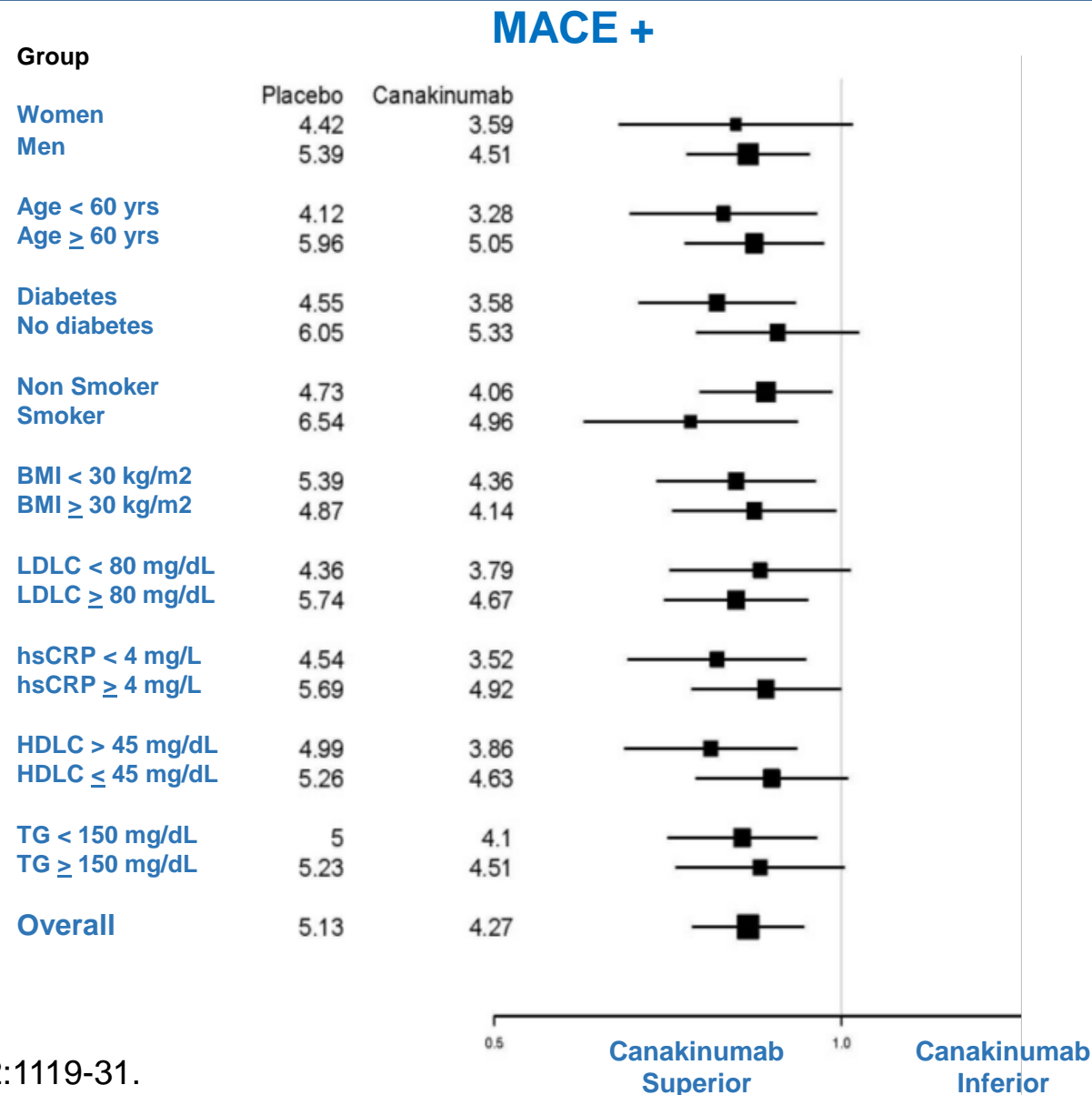


Modulating inflammation improves outcomes in CAD patients



CANTOS: Consistency of HRs across endpoints and study

| Endpoint | Placebo (N=3347) | Canakinumab SC q 3 months | | | P-trend |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------|
| | | 50 mg (N=2170) | 150 mg (N=2284) | 300 mg (N=2263) | |
| Primary | 1.00 | 0.93 | 0.85 | 0.86 | 0.020 |
| Secondary | 1.00 | 0.90 | 0.83 | 0.83 | 0.002 |
| Myocardial Infarction | 1.00 | 0.94 | 0.76 | 0.84 | 0.028 |
| Urgent Revascularization | 1.00 | 0.70 | 0.64 | 0.58 | 0.005 |
| Any Coronary Revascularization | 1.00 | 0.72 | 0.68 | 0.70 | <0.001 |
| Stroke | 1.00 | 1.01 | 0.98 | 0.80 | 0.17 |
| Cardiac Arrest | 1.00 | 0.72 | 0.63 | 0.46 | 0.035 |
| CV Death | 1.00 | 0.89 | 0.90 | 0.94 | 0.62 |
| All Cause Mortality | 1.00 | 0.94 | 0.92 | 0.94 | 0.39 |



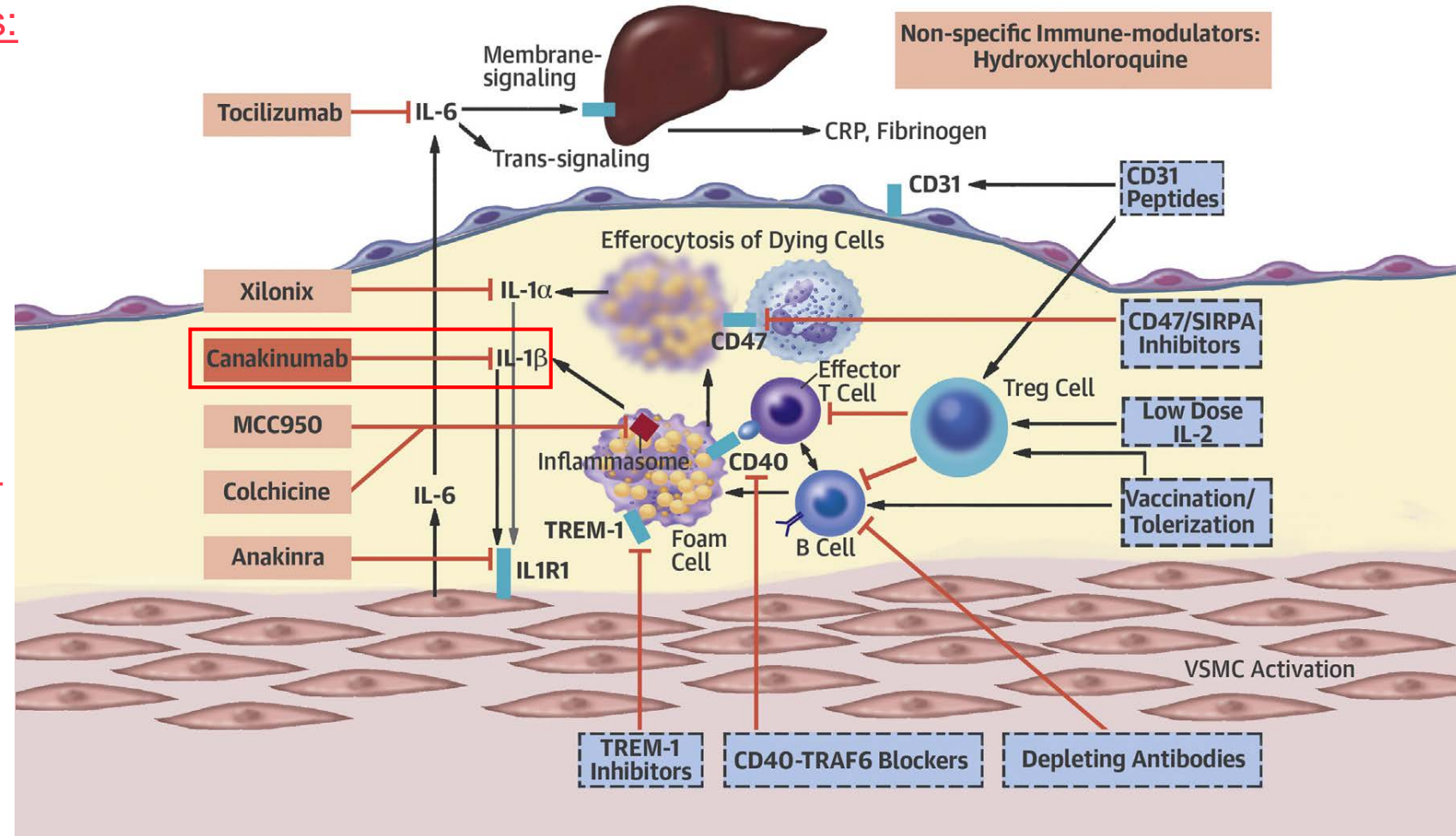
Targeting inflammation in CAD patients

Off target anti-inflammatory therapies:

1. Statins
2. ACEI and ARB
3. BB
4. Aspirin
5. Proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 (PCSK9) antibodies

Current and future specific therapies:

1. IL-1 β blockade
2. Targeting NLRP3
3. Targeting IL6
4. Colchicine
5. IL-1 α blockade



Targeting inflammation in CAD patients

TABLE 2 Therapies Currently in Clinical Trials, Their Pathways and Potential Pros and Cons for Their Future Development and Progress

| Drug Name | Pathway | Trial Reference— Patient Population— Primary Trial Endpoint | Pro | Con |
|--------------------|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Colchicine | NLRP3 inflammasome inhibitor | NCT01709981 —undergoing coronary angiography— IL6 level NCT02594111 —undergoing coronary angioplasty—Peri-procedural MI (troponin) NCT02551094 —acute MI- composite of major cardiovascular events NCT01906749 —ACS—composite of major cardiovascular events | Licensed small-molecule drug. Has reduced a composite endpoint of CV events in a small randomized, observer-blinded trial | Significant side effects, especially gastrointestinal |
| MCC950 | NLRP3 inflammasome inhibitor | N/A | Small molecule and specific inhibitor of NLRP3. Positive results in preclinical models | More specific inhibitors being developed |
| Anakinra | IL-1 receptor antagonist | NCT01950299 —STEMI patients—CRP levels | Early phase studies show decrease in inflammation in the short-term | Rebound effect of CRP and IL-6 on stopping of unknown significance. Genetic studies of <i>IL1RN</i> (encoding IL-1Ra) are not supportive |
| Xilonix | Anti-IL-1 α antibody | Sayed El et al. (88)—patients needing percutaneous revascularization— composite of major cardiovascular events | May target senescence and necrosis-dependent inflammation. Well tolerated | Did not decrease CRP and limited clinical data available |
| Tocilizumab | Anti-IL-6R antibody | NCT03004703 —STEMI—myocardial salvage on MRI | Licensed drug Supportive genetic studies | Non-specific blocker of both membrane and trans IL-6 signaling. Alteration of lipid parameters |
| Hydroxychloroquine | Multiple | NCT02874287 —CAD—change in CRP NCT02648464 —NSTEMI—composite of major cardiovascular events | Licensed small-molecule drug. Supportive retrospective epidemiological data | Long-term inhibition of TLR7 and TLR9 may be detrimental |
| IL-2 (low-dose) | Treg cells expansion | Zhao et al. (114)—ACS—patient safety and vascular inflammation on ¹⁸ F-FDG/PET | Licensed drug, effective in other human inflammatory disease models. Supportive preclinical data | More selective Treg promoters being developed |

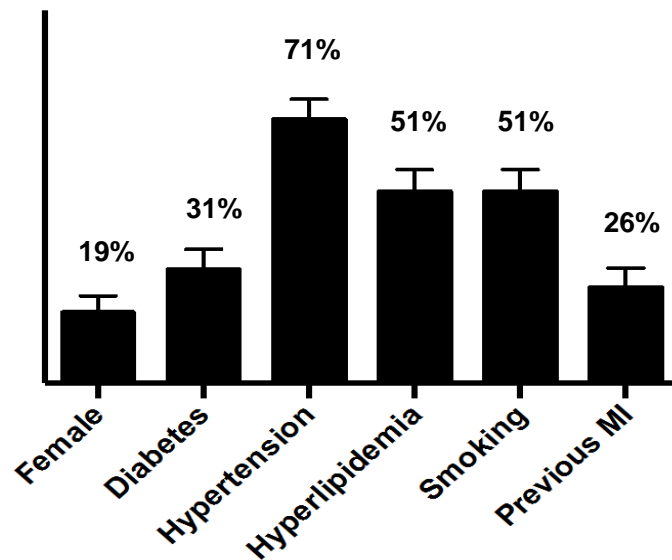
ACS = acute coronary syndrome; CAD = coronary artery disease; CRP = C-reactive protein; FDG-PET/CT = fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography/computed tomography; IL = interleukin; MI = myocardial infarction; NSTEMI = non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; STEMI = ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; Treg = regulatory T cells; TLR = toll like receptors.



Bone marrow derived stem cells and cardiac recovery

Stem cell mobilization in STEMI patients

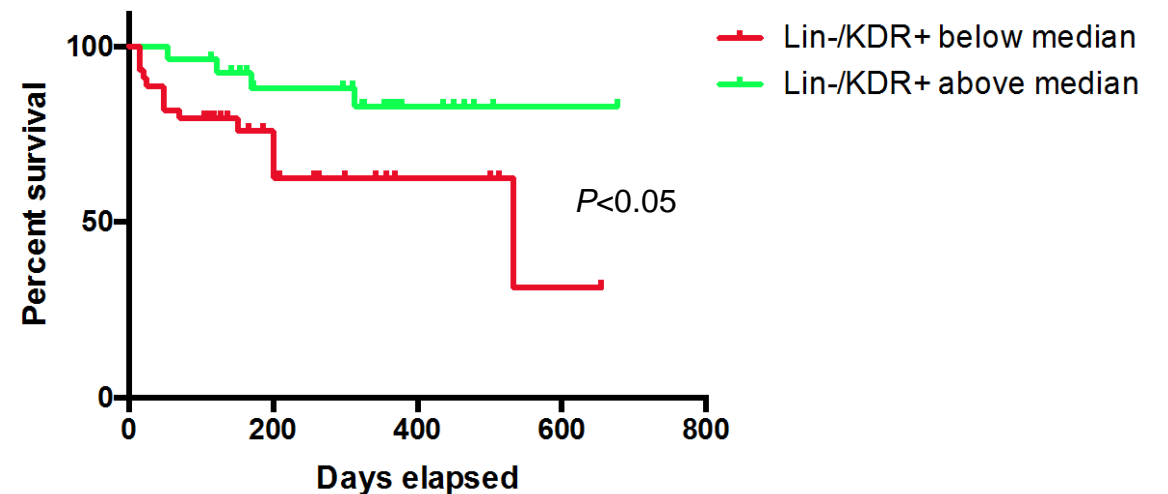
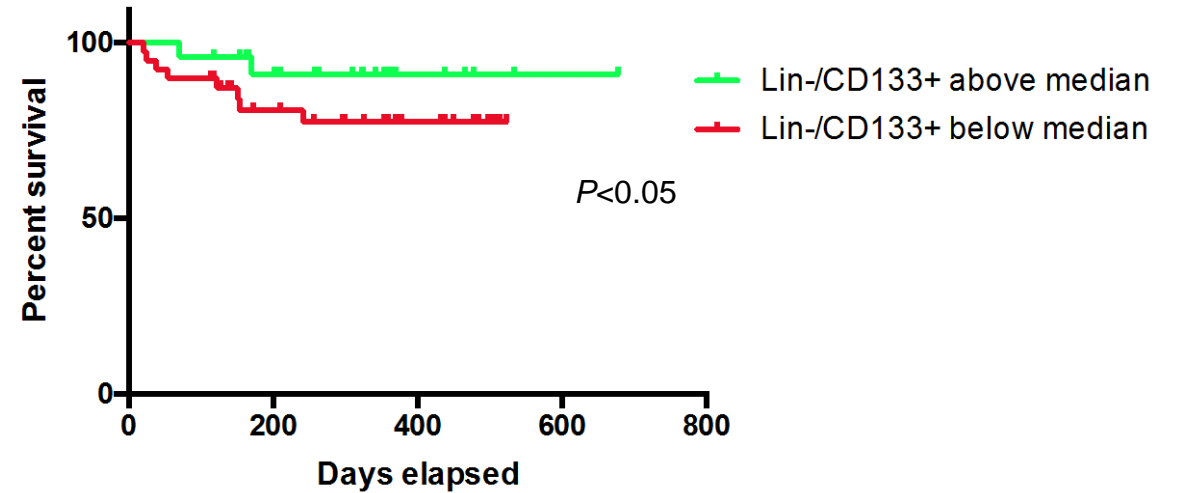
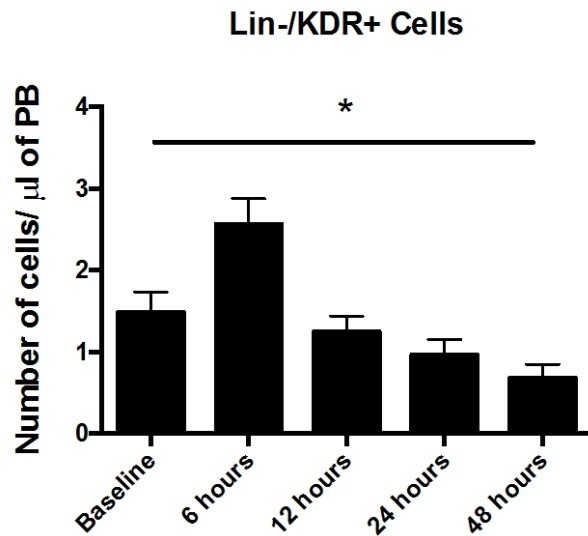
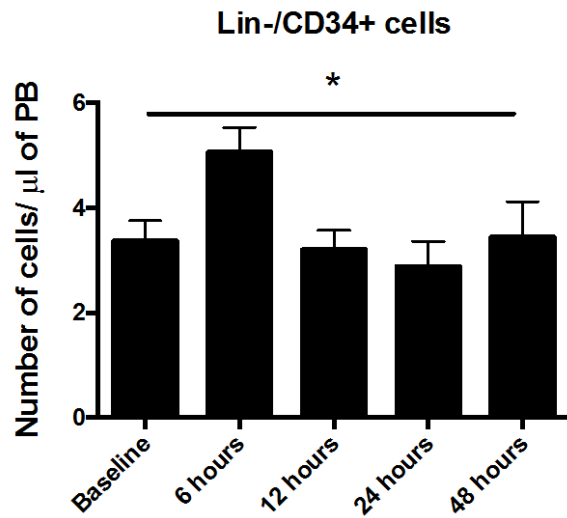
Clinical characteristics



Clinical and Imaging Variables

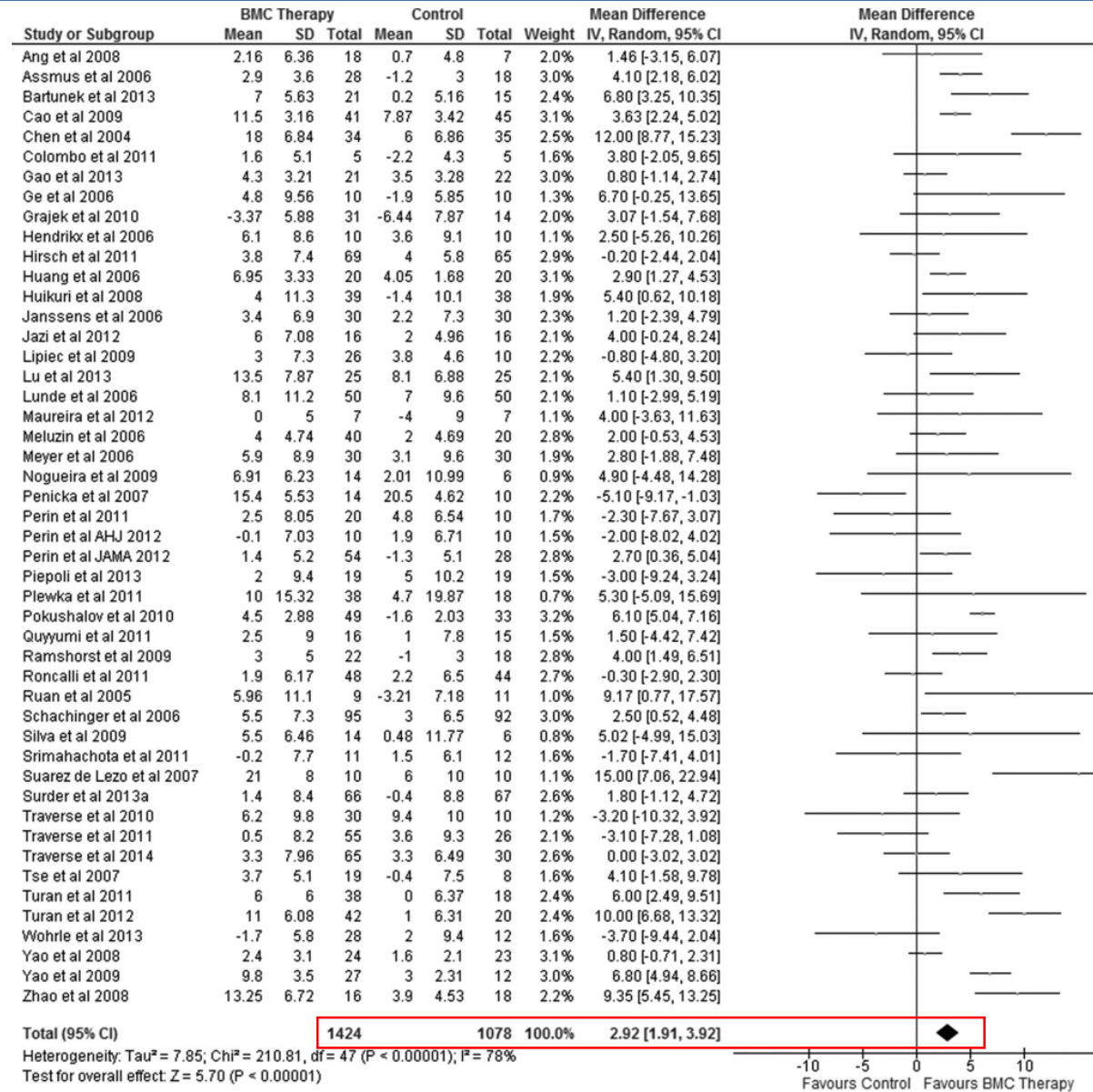
| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Age (years) | 58.1 ± 1.5 |
| Anterior STEMI (%) | 41 ± 0.06 |
| Baseline LVEF | 44 ± 1.4 |
| Baseline LVEDV | 150 ± 7 |
| Baseline LVESV | 82 ± 6 |
| Scar size (%) | 22 ± 0.02 |
| Scar mass (g) | 32 ± 4 |
| Troponin I (ng/ml) | 14 ± 1.9 |
| CK (IU/L) | 1764 ± 150 |
| NT pro-BNP (pg/ml) | 2057 ± 216 |
| Median follow up (days) | 324 |

Stem cell mobilization predict outcomes in STEMI patients



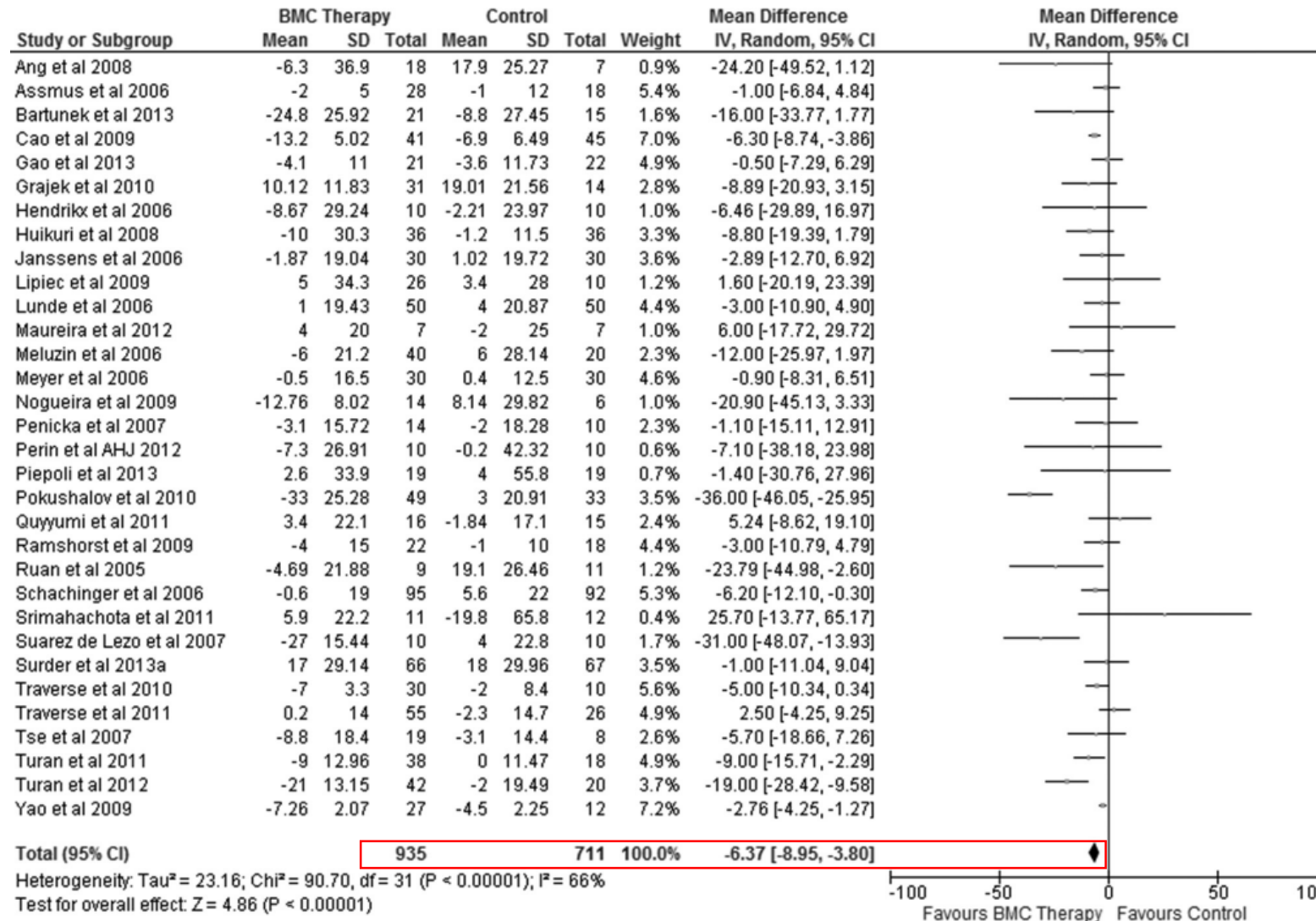
Bone marrow cells for myocardial regeneration (Clinical data)

LVEF

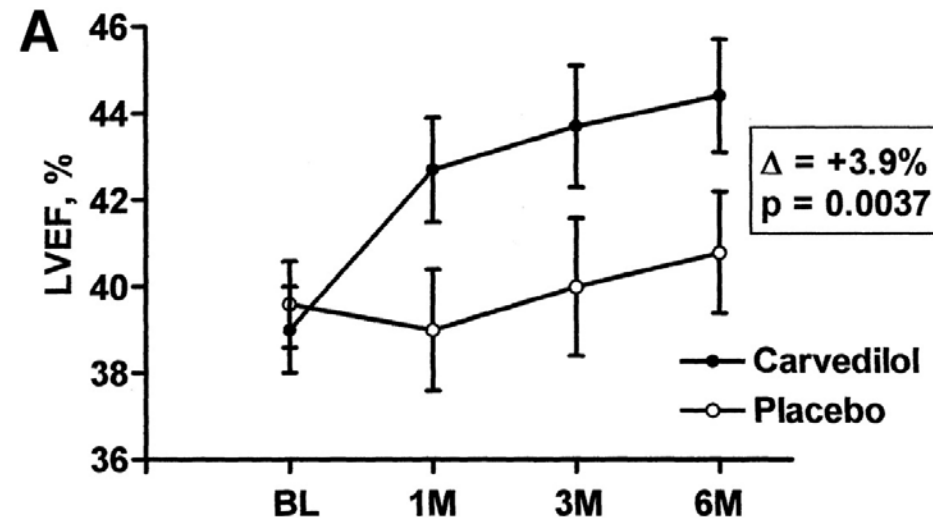


Bone marrow cells for myocardial regeneration (Clinical data)

LVESV



Drugs that increase ejection fraction modestly...



Bone marrow cells for myocardial regeneration (Clinical data)

Table 8. Clinical Outcomes in BMC-Treated Patients Compared With Patients Receiving Standard Therapy

| Outcome | Patients With IHD | | | | Patients With AMI | | | | Patients With CIHD | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------|------------------|--------|-------------------|-------------|------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|--------|
| | BMC (n) | Control (n) | Peto OR (95% CI) | PValue | BMC (n) | Control (n) | Peto OR (95% CI) | PValue | BMC (n) | Control (n) | Peto OR (95% CI) | PValue |
| → All-cause mortality | 1397 | 980 | 0.55 (0.34–0.89) | 0.01 | 1053 | 741 | 0.77 (0.41–1.44) | 0.40 | 344 | 239 | 0.35 (0.16–0.73) | 0.005 |
| Cardiac deaths | 970 | 666 | 0.52 (0.24–1.13) | 0.10 | 712 | 496 | 0.58 (0.25–1.38) | 0.22 | 258 | 170 | 0.36 (0.07–1.86) | 0.22 |
| → Recurrent MI | 1159 | 799 | 0.50 (0.27–0.92) | 0.03 | 912 | 634 | 0.52 (0.27–1.01) | 0.05 | 247 | 165 | 0.34 (0.05–2.19) | 0.26 |
| Heart failure | 1027 | 761 | 0.62 (0.37–1.05) | 0.08 | 841 | 626 | 0.77 (0.42–1.42) | 0.40 | 186 | 135 | 0.36 (0.11–1.14) | 0.08 |
| Stent thrombosis | 599 | 458 | 0.48 (0.21–1.09) | 0.08 | 527 | 407 | 0.51 (0.22–1.18) | 0.12 | 72 | 51 | 0.13 (0.00–6.54) | 0.31 |
| In-stent restenosis | 432 | 332 | 0.92 (0.55–1.54) | 0.75 | 383 | 284 | 0.91 (0.53–1.57) | 0.74 | 49 | 48 | 0.97 (0.13–7.10) | 0.97 |
| TVR | 866 | 606 | 0.84 (0.59–1.21) | 0.36 | 778 | 546 | 0.83 (0.57–1.21) | 0.33 | 88 | 60 | 1.00 (0.32–3.11) | 1.00 |
| CVA | 640 | 462 | 0.25 (0.08–0.81) | 0.02 | 491 | 355 | 0.47 (0.11–1.95) | 0.30 | 149 | 107 | 0.07 (0.01–0.55) | 0.01 |
| VT/VF | 481 | 419 | 0.45 (0.22–0.93) | 0.03 | 264 | 209 | 0.38 (0.17–0.85) | 0.02 | 217 | 210 | 0.95 (0.19–4.79) | 0.95 |

AMI indicates acute myocardial infarction; BMC, bone marrow cell; CI, confidence interval; CIHD, chronic ischemic heart disease; CVA, cerebrovascular accident; MI, myocardial infarction; n, number of patients in each group; OR, odds ratio; TVR, target vessel revascularization; VF, ventricular fibrillation; and VT, ventricular tachycardia.

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