

RENE E DIABETE: INTERAZIONI FISIOPATOLOGICHE E NOVITA'
TERAPEUTICHE

Bologna, 20-21 gennaio 2023

Finerenone: meccanismi d'azione

Lucia Del Vecchio

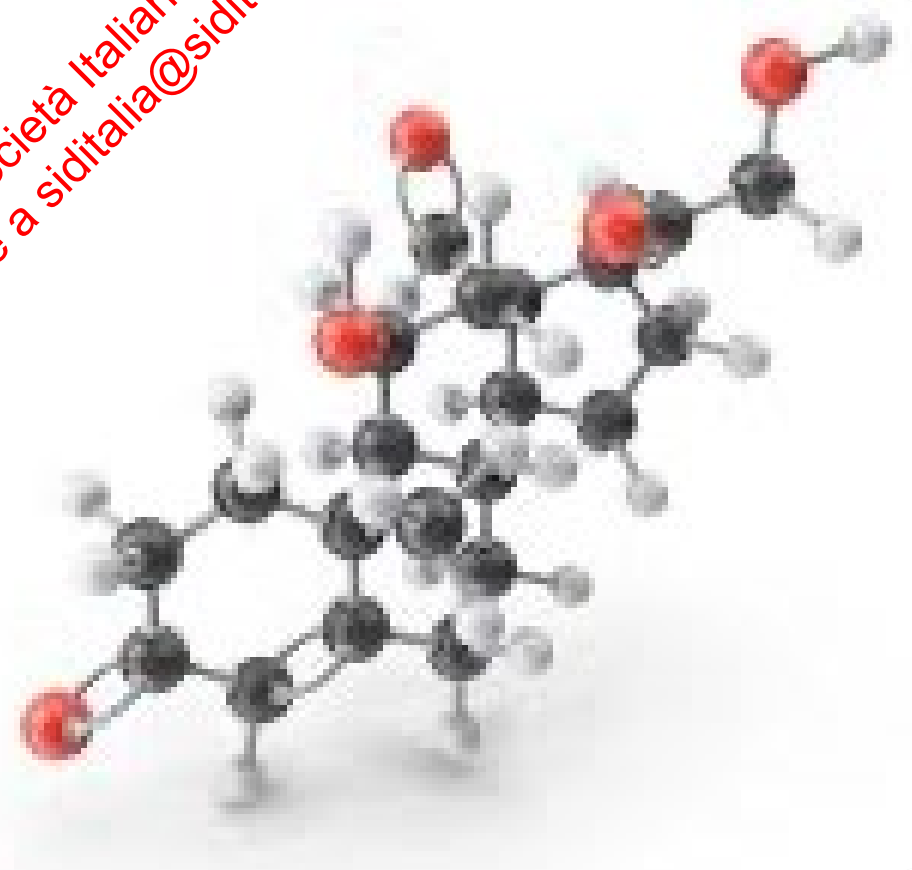
UO Nefrologia e Dialisi

Ospedale Sant'Anna, ASST Lariana, Como

Diapositiva preparata da LUCIA DEL VECCHIO e ceduta alla Società Italiana di Diabetologia.
Per ricevere la versione originale si prega di scrivere a siditalia@siditalia.it

L'ALDOSTERONE

- E' un ormone steroide prodotto dalla corticale del surrene
- E' parte della famiglia degli ormoni steroidei (cortisolo e corticosterone)
- La principale funzione è mantenere costante la pressione arteriosa e il volume ematico, regolando il bilancio idroelettrolitico.
- In condizioni di ridotta perfusione (e quindi di ridotto volume di sangue), l'aldosterone stimola il riassorbimento del sodio e dell'acqua da parte dei tubuli renali eliminando potassio.



Isolato nel 1954 da Simpson et al da estratti surrenalici

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Iperaldosteronismo primitivo

Conn (1964)

**154 casi con iperaldosteronismo
severo:**

- **85% con proteinuria severa**
- **Ipertensione arteriosa severa +
ipopotassiemia**

*La "carica" delle 600. Tutti al
mare!
Sulla nuova autostrada del Sole*



Diapositiva preparata da LUCIA DEL VECCHIO e presentata alla Società Italiana di Diabetologia.
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Cloning of Human Mineralocorticoid Receptor Complementary DNA: Structural and Functional Kinship with the Glucocorticoid Receptor

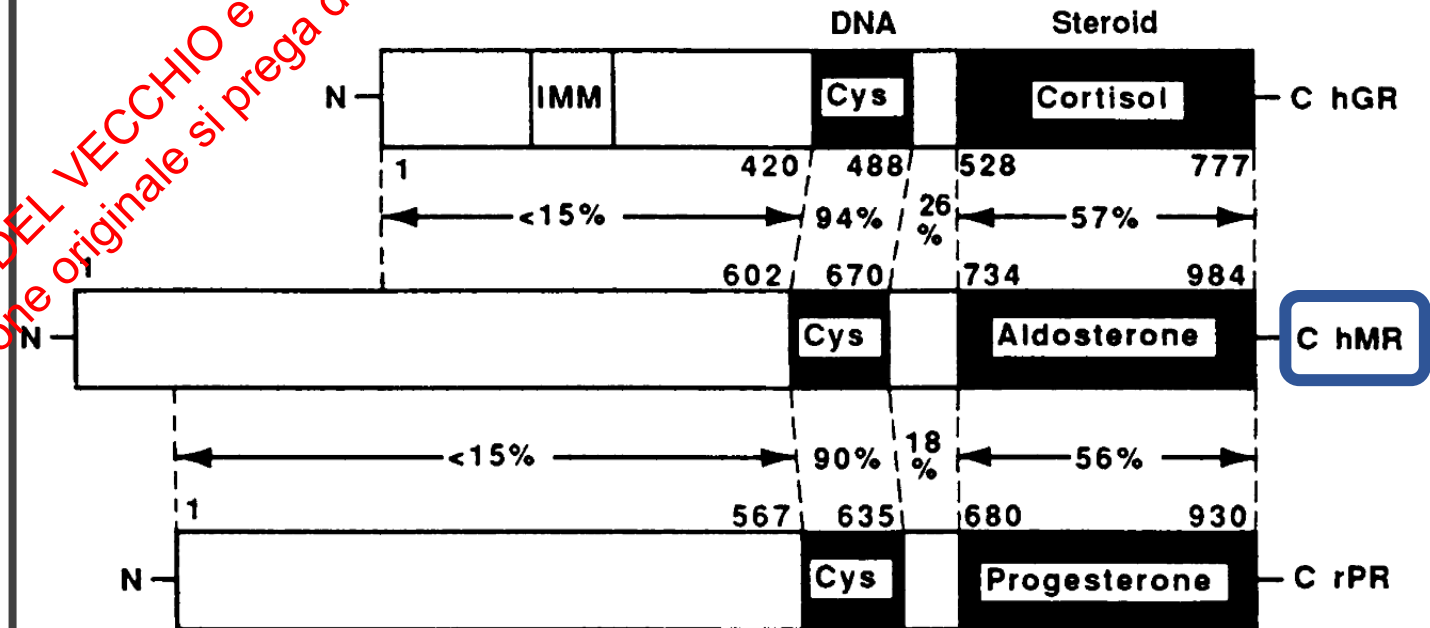
JEFFREY L. ARRIZA, CARY WEINBERGER,* GAIL CERELLI, TOM M. GLASER,
BARBARA L. HANDELIN, DAVID E. HOUSMAN, RONALD M. EVANS



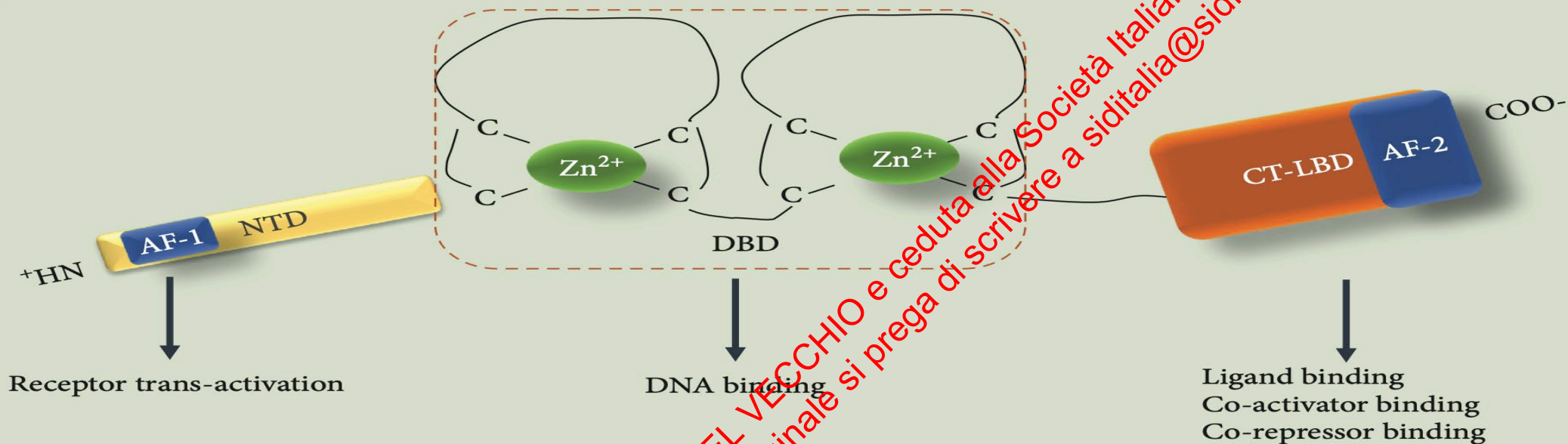
17 JULY
Volume 237 | Issue 4812

1987

- Extensive amino acid sequence identity in the presumptive steroid-binding domains of hMR, hGR, and rPR: similar ligand-binding properties
- The MR binds glucocorticoids with an affinity equal to that for aldosterone
- Only in tissues additional mechanisms confer selective response to aldosterone



STRUCTURE OF THE MINERALCORTICOID RECEPTOR



An amino-terminus domain (NTD), which contains a NH₂-terminal ligand-independent transcriptional activation (AF-1) and contributes to transactivation of other receptors

A central cysteine-rich DNA-binding domain (DBD), which contains two zinc fingers (ZFs)

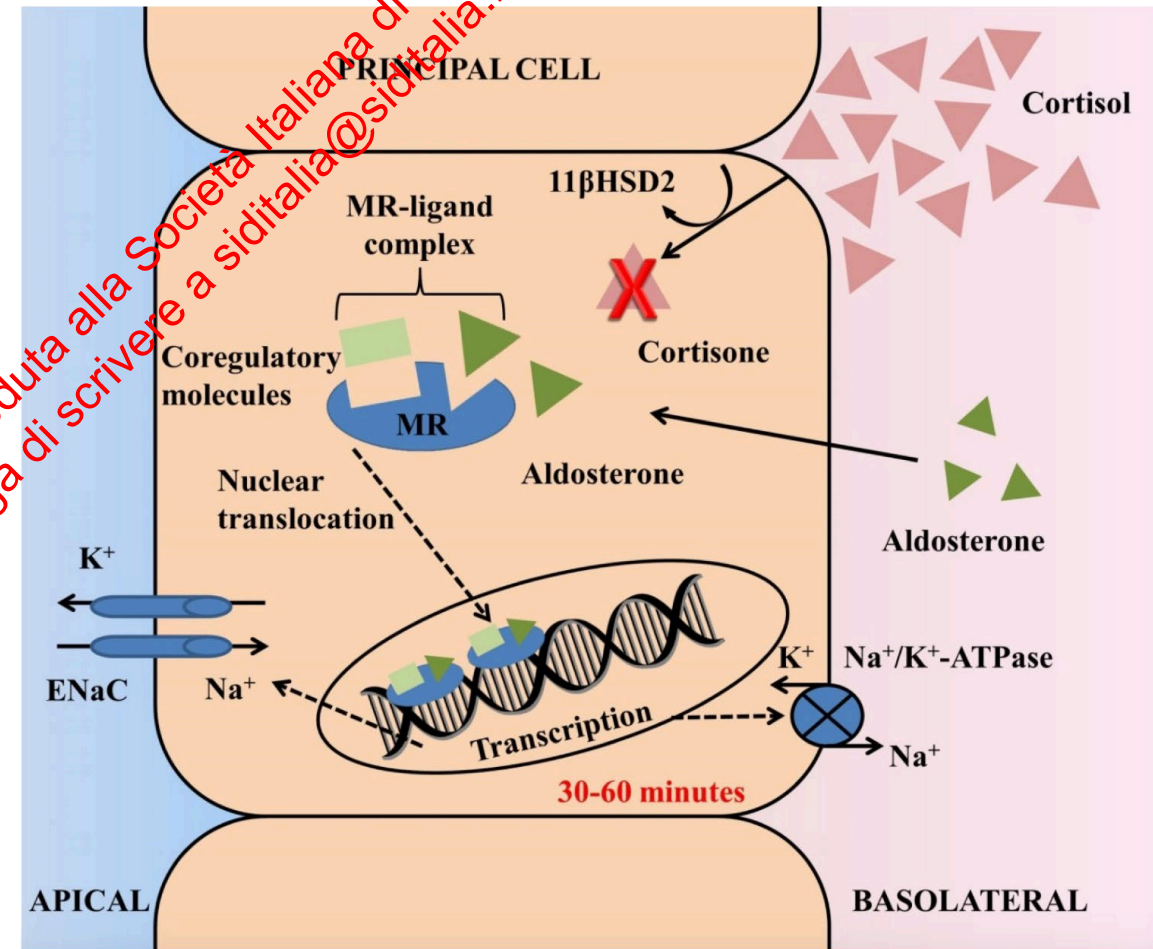
A carboxy-terminal- (CT-) ligand-binding domain (CT-LBD) which contains an activation function 2 domain (AF-2), which is crucial for ligand and coregulator binding

ALDOSTERONE FUNCTION

- ❑ Major role in the maintenance of sodium, potassium, and acid-base balance through its effects on renal electrolyte excretion.
- ❑ Aldosterone-induced stimulation of:
 - Na^+ absorption
 - K^+ secretion
 - H^+ secretion by the distal nephron, particularly segments of the collecting duct

Classical actions:

Transcription of the epithelial sodium channel (**ENaC**), $\text{Cl}^-/\text{HCO}_3^-$ exchangers and ROMK channels



ALDOSTERONE: GENOMIC AND NON-GENOMIC EFFECTS

Genomic response

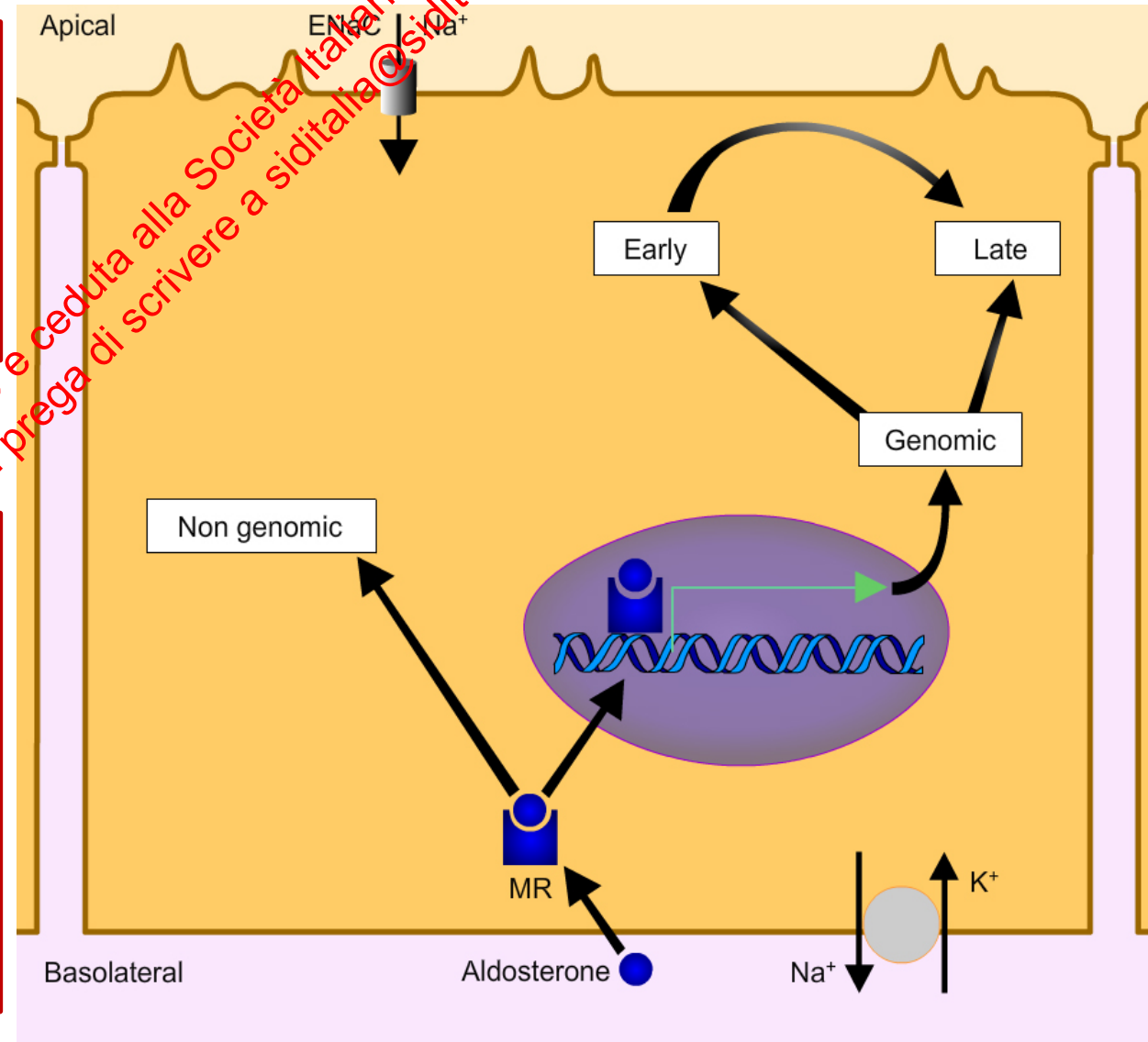
Classical steps of cell membrane diffusion:

- Binding to the MR in the cytoplasm
- Translocation to the nucleus and activation of gene transcription
- Increase of ENaC concentration in epithelial cells (i.e., distal tubule, colon)

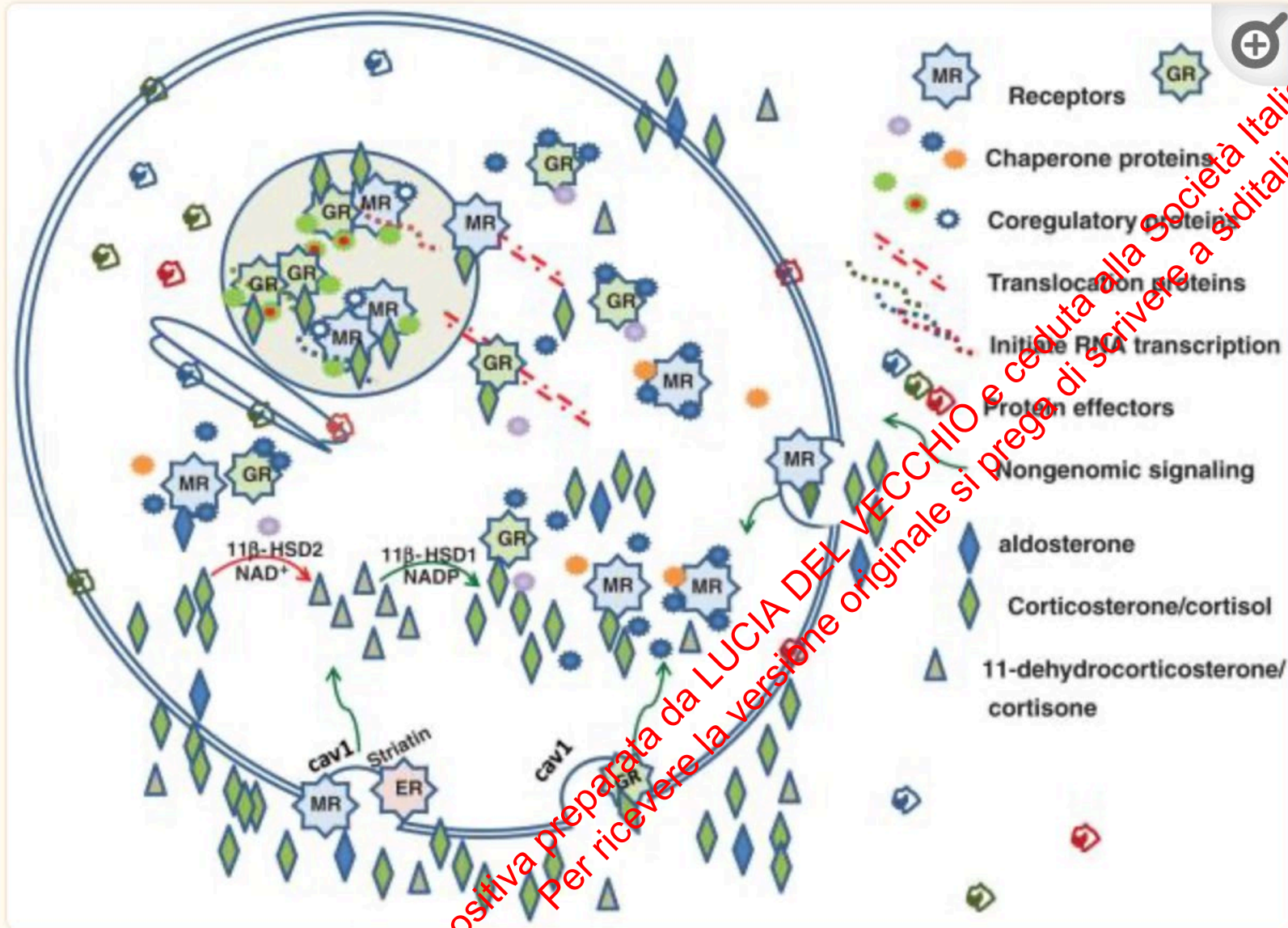
Non-genomic response

Rapid effects not explained by the traditional pathway and not blocked by inhibition of the transcriptional process molecules (actinomycin D and aldosterone blockers)

- Enhanced activity of the $\text{Na}^+\text{-K}^+\text{-2Cl}^-$ cotransporter and $\text{Na}^+\text{-K}^+\text{-ATPase}$ in the heart
- Enhanced activity of $\text{Na}^+\text{-H}^+$ antiporter, ENaC and $\text{Na}^+\text{-K}^+\text{-ATPase}$ in the kidney
- Connected to subcellular trafficking



CHAPERONE AND SCAFFOLDING PROTEINS

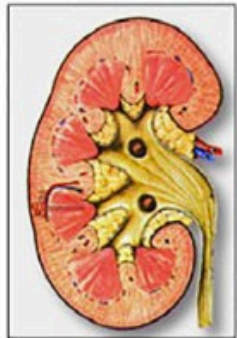


- MR and GR reside primarily in the cytoplasm bound to chaperone and scaffolding proteins when not bound to an agonist
- These proteins facilitate posttranslational modification of the receptors (phosphorylation), ligand binding, and attachment to the mechanism that shuttles the receptors between the cytoplasm and nucleus
- Scaffolding proteins are also associated with rapid nonnuclear effects.

Heat shock proteins 90 and 70 and immunophilins

EXPRESSION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE MINERALOCORTICOID RECEPTOR

Conventional function



Kidney
(distal nephron)



Colon

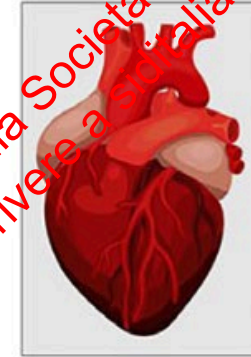


Salivary glands

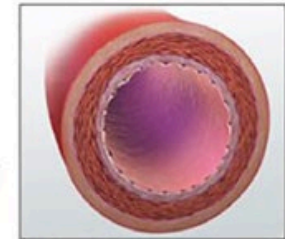
Classical mineralocorticoid function:

Low salt intake → hypovolemia →
RAAS activation → aldosterone →
MR stimulation → Na reabsorption

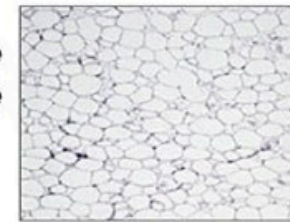
Unconventional functions



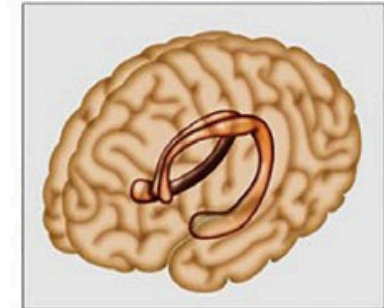
Heart



Blood vessel



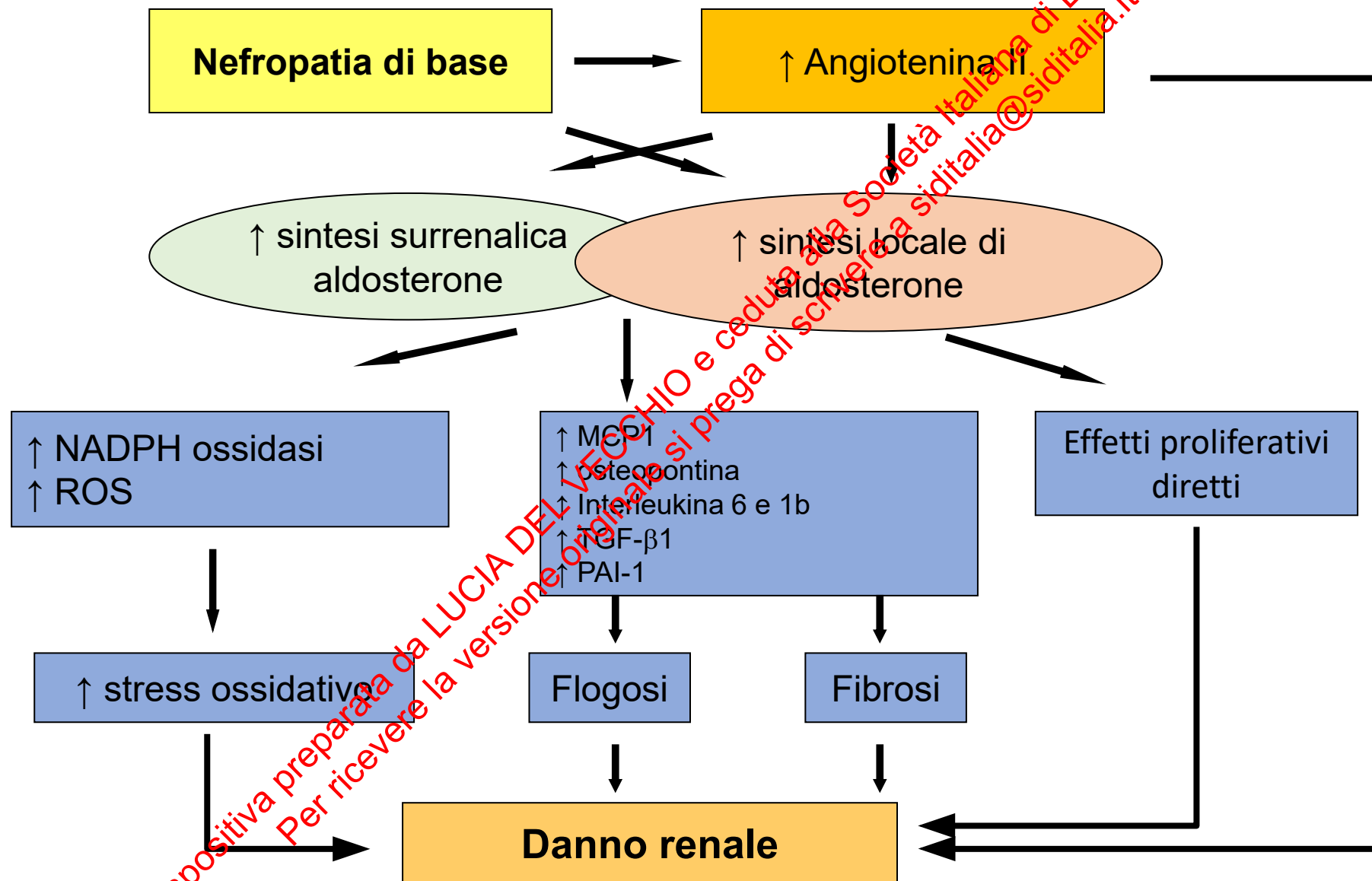
Adipose
tissue



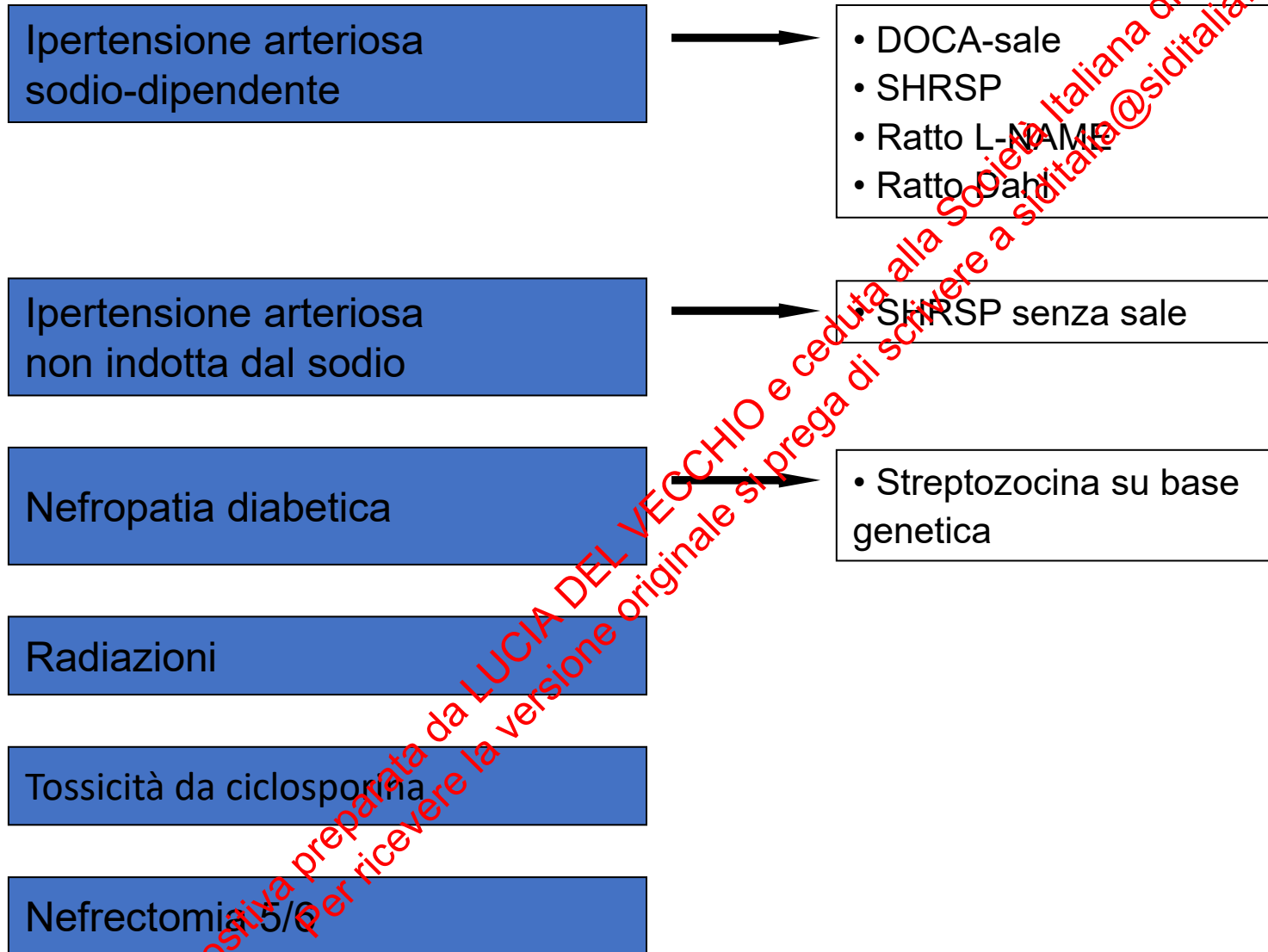
Brain (hippocampus)

Ancestral, multiple functions linked to :
vascular inflammation and fibrosis, adipocyte
differentiation, bipolar disorders, stress adaptation,
cardiac hypertrophy and **arrhythmias**

MECCANISMI PATOGENETICI DEL DANNO RENALE INDOTTO DALL'ALDOSTERONE



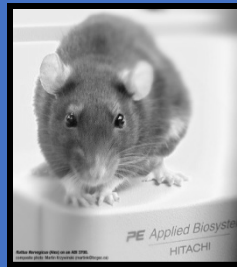
Modelli sperimentali di danno renale e aldosterone



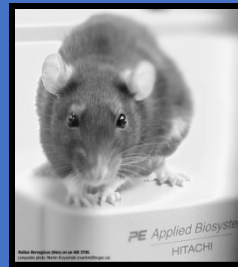
Role of aldosterone in the remnant kidney model in the rat

E L Greene, S Kren, and T H Hostetter

1996 August 15; 98(4): 1063–1068.



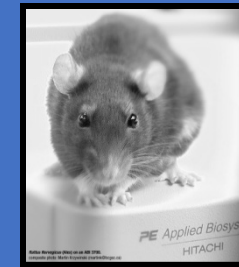
SHAM-operated



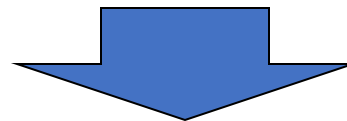
*Untreated
remnant rats (REM)*



*REM rats +
losartan and enalapril*



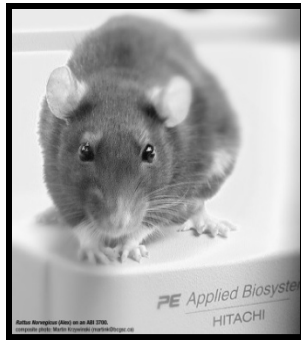
*REM AIIA rats
infused with
exogenous
aldosterone*



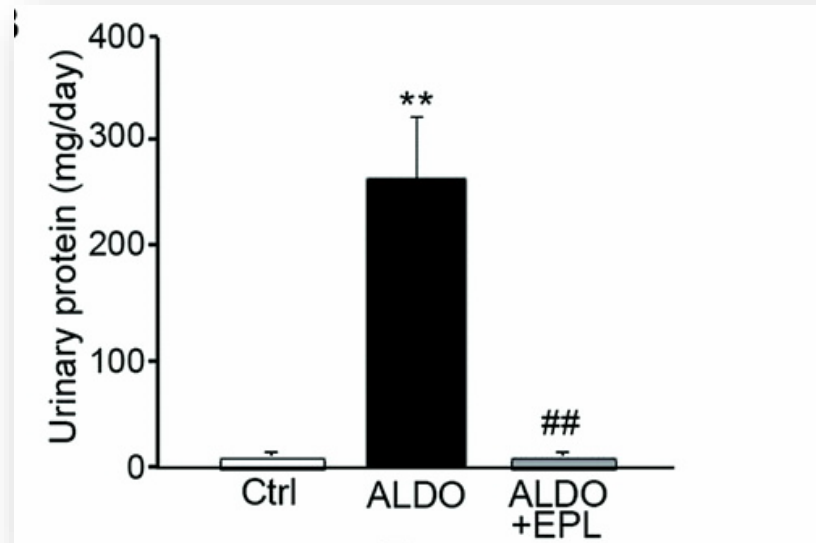
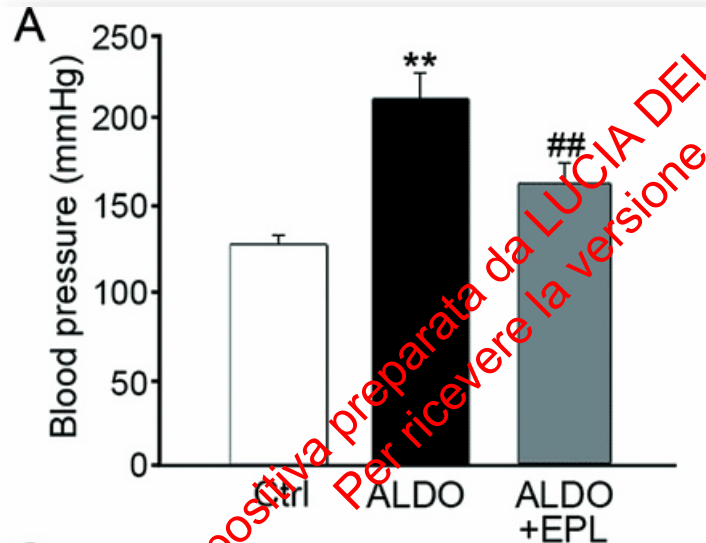
**REM AIIA + ALDO rats manifested greater proteinuria, hypertension,
and glomerulosclerosis than REM AIIA rats.**

Hypertension

Aldosterone and podocyte damage: oxydative stress and Sgl

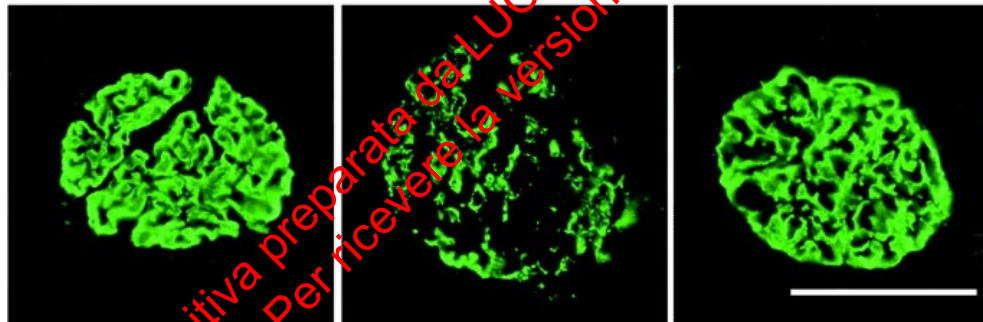
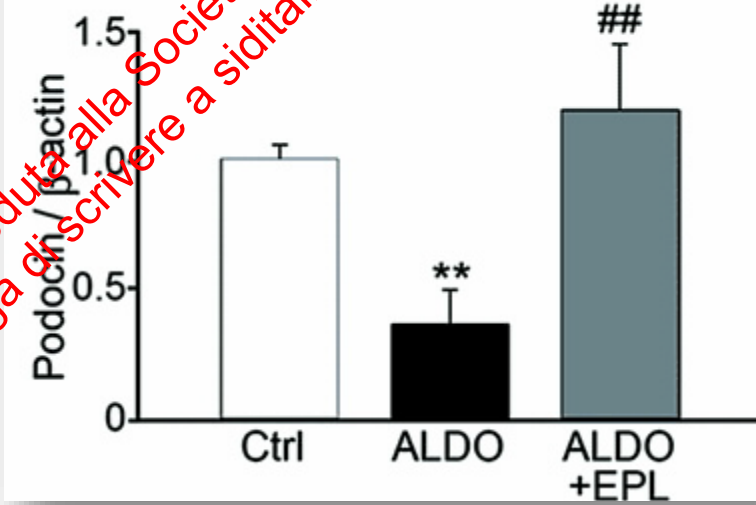
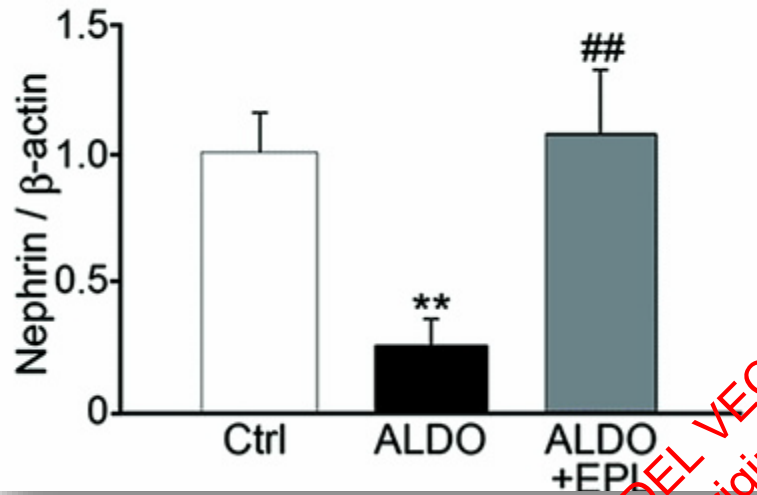


Mononephrectomy
Aldosterone infusion
Hypersodic diet



Aldosterone and podocyte damage

Nephrin and podocin expression



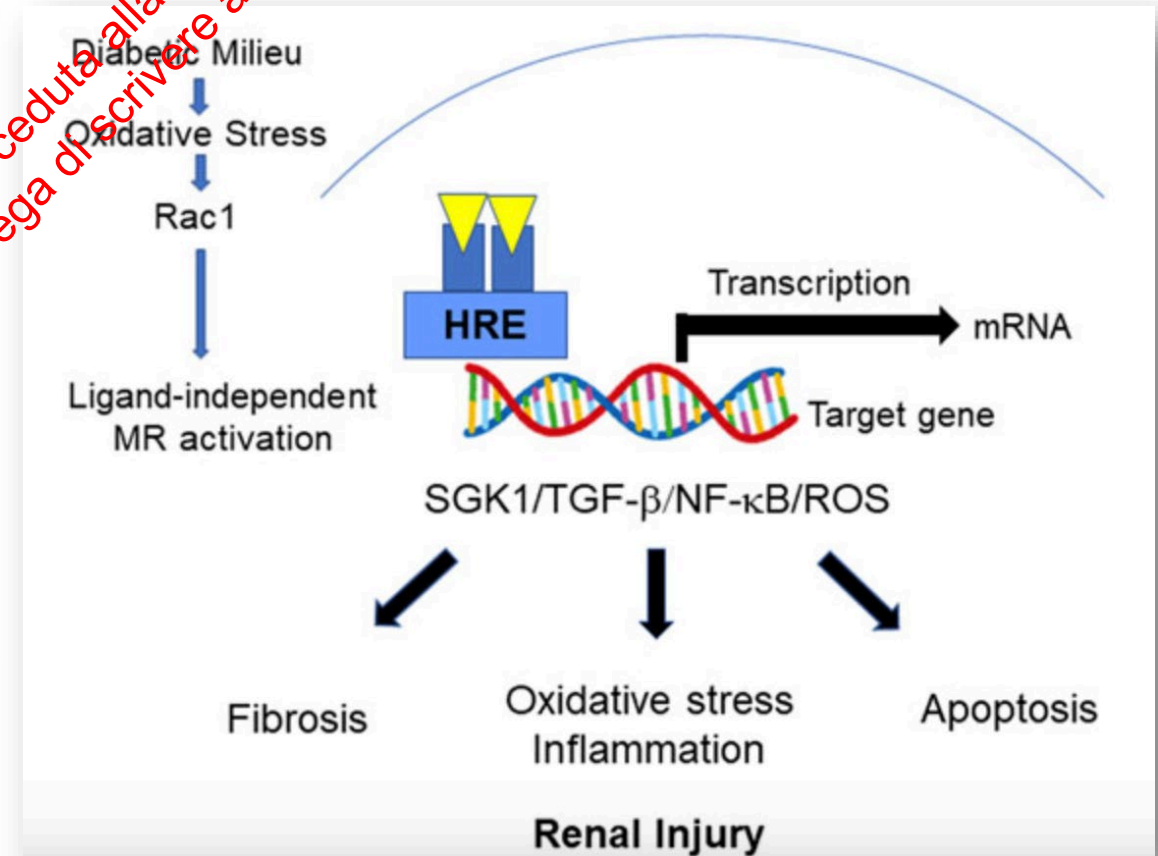
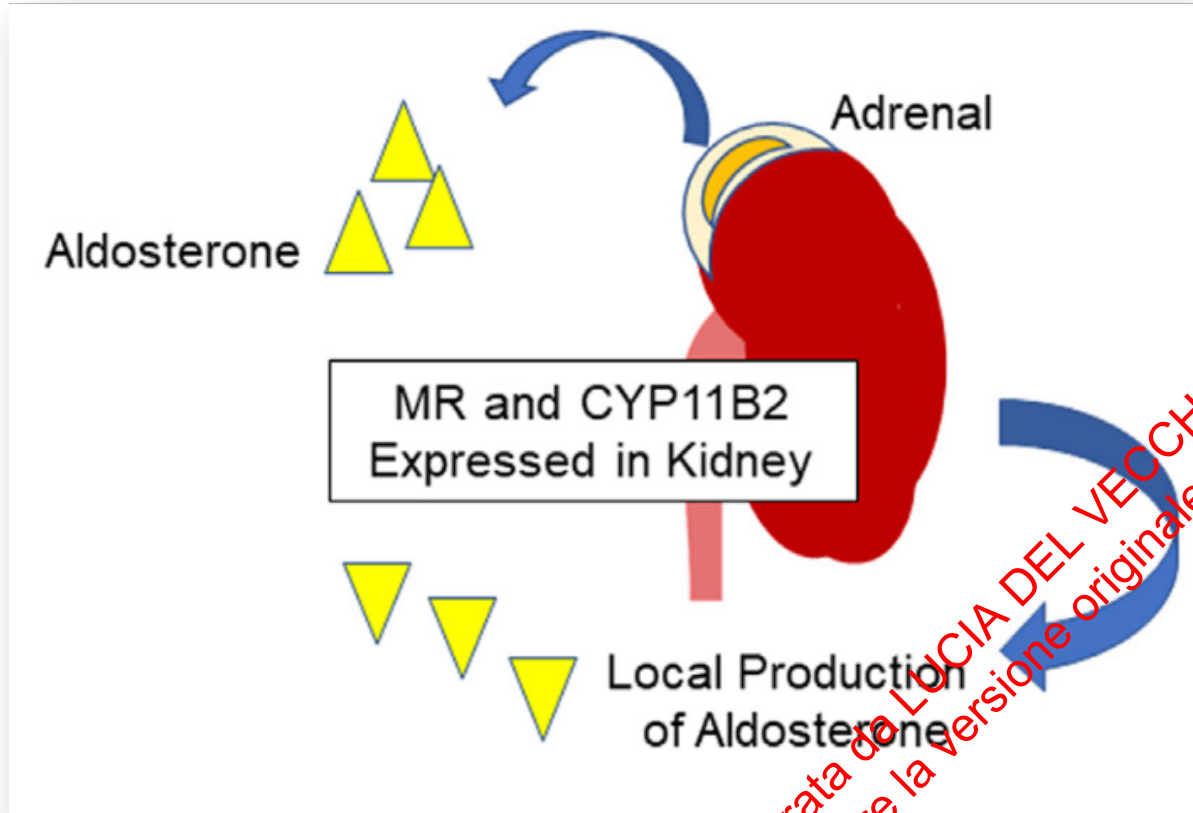
Controls

Aldosterone

Aldo + Eplerenone

Nephrin staining

MECCANISMI DI DANNO RENALE INDOTTO DALL'ALDOSTERONE NELLA NEFROPATIA DIABETICA

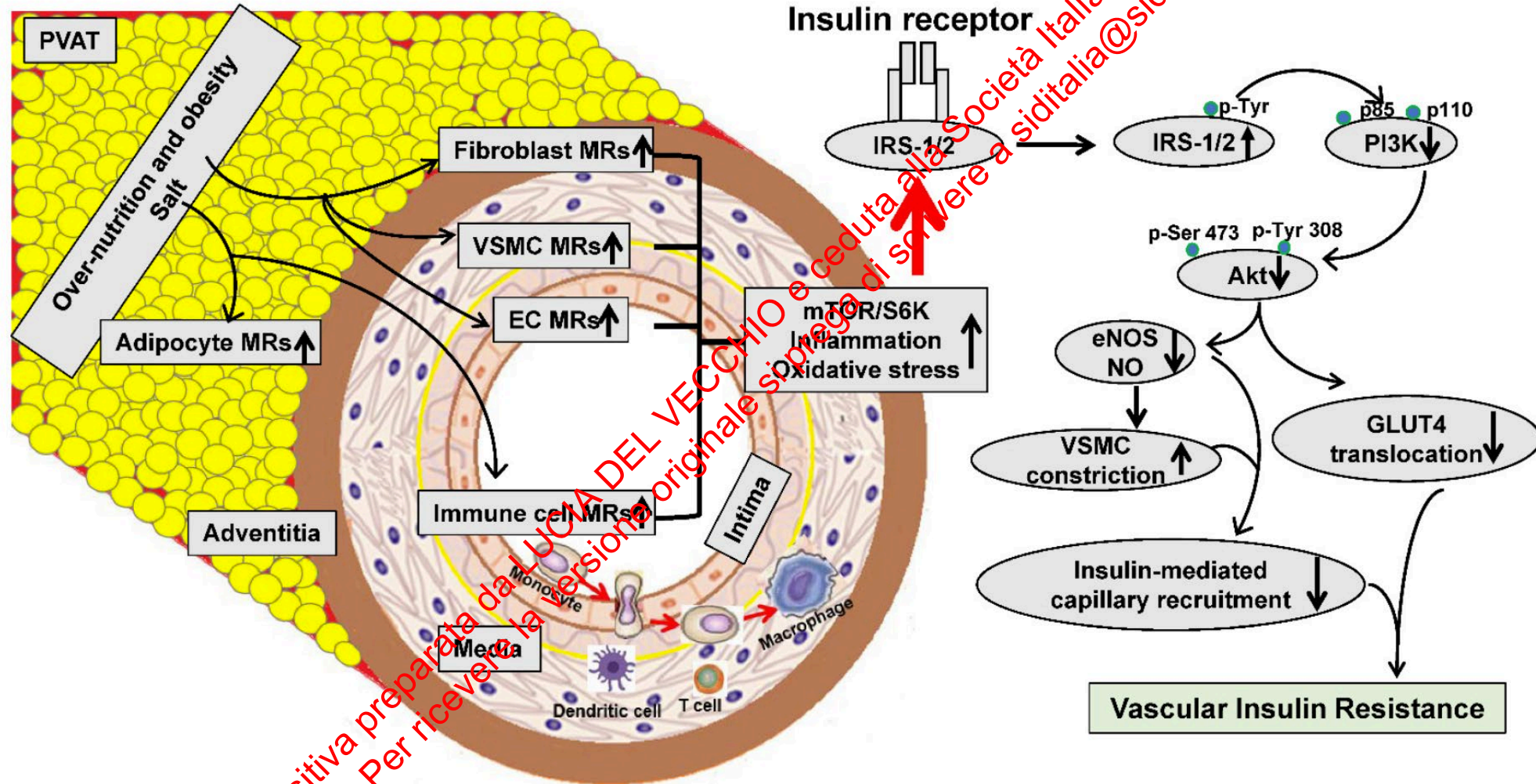


INAPPROPRIATE MINERALOCORTICOID RECEPTOR ACTIVATION IN THE PATHOGENESIS OF VASCULAR INSULIN RESISTANCE

Hyperglycaemia

High salt levels

Oxidative stress



SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Effectiveness of Aldosterone Blockade in Patients With Diabetic Nephropathy

Atsuhisa Sato, Koichi Hayashi, Mitsuhide Naruse, and Takao Saruta

45 patients with type 2 diabetes and early nephropathy treated with an ACE inhibitor for 40 weeks

Overall, aldosterone concentrations did not change after treatment with an ACE inhibitor for 40 weeks

They eventually increased in 40% (aldosterone escape), and fell in the remaining 60%

TABLE 2. Clinical Data of Patients With or Without Aldosterone Escape

Characteristic	Escape (–)	Escape (+)
No. (men/women)	27 (15/12)	18 (10/8)
Age, y	64±12	61±10
Systolic BP, mm Hg	136±13	135±12
Diastolic BP, mm Hg	84±11	83±10
Heart rate, beats/min	73±3	72±3
Na, mEq/L	142.5±1.8	142.3±1.6
K, mEq/L	4.1±0.3	4.3±0.2
BUN, mg/dL	13.5±1.8	12.8±1.3
Cr, mg/dL	0.88±0.25	0.90±0.20
UAE, mg/g Cr	119±95	368±142*
PRA, ng/mL per hour	3.98±1.66	3.15±1.58
PAC, pg/mL	53.2±15.1	112.0±18.7*
HbA1c	7.2±0.4	7.1±0.3
Urinary sodium excretion, mEq/d	158±33	149±34
Urinary potassium excretion, mEq/d	44±8	42±10

All values are mean±SD. (–) indicates group without aldosterone escape; (+), group with aldosterone escape.

*P< 0.05 vs the value in the group without aldosterone escape.

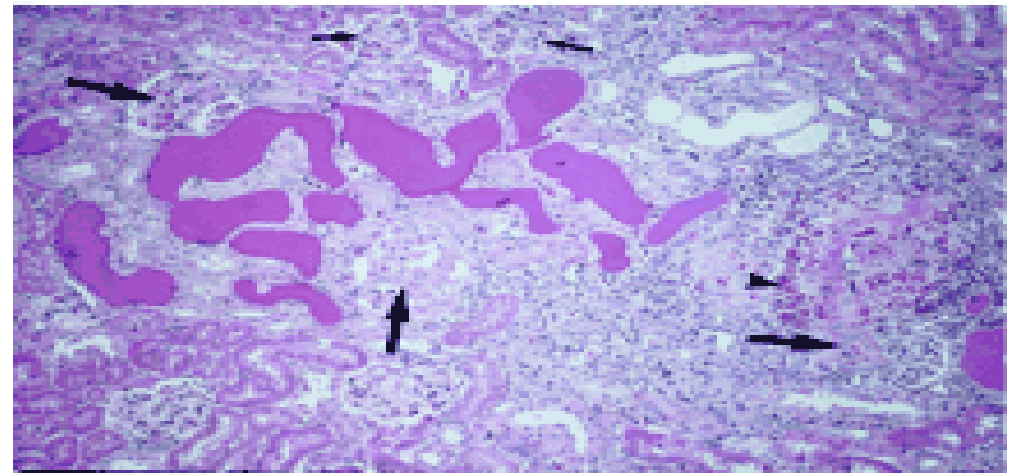
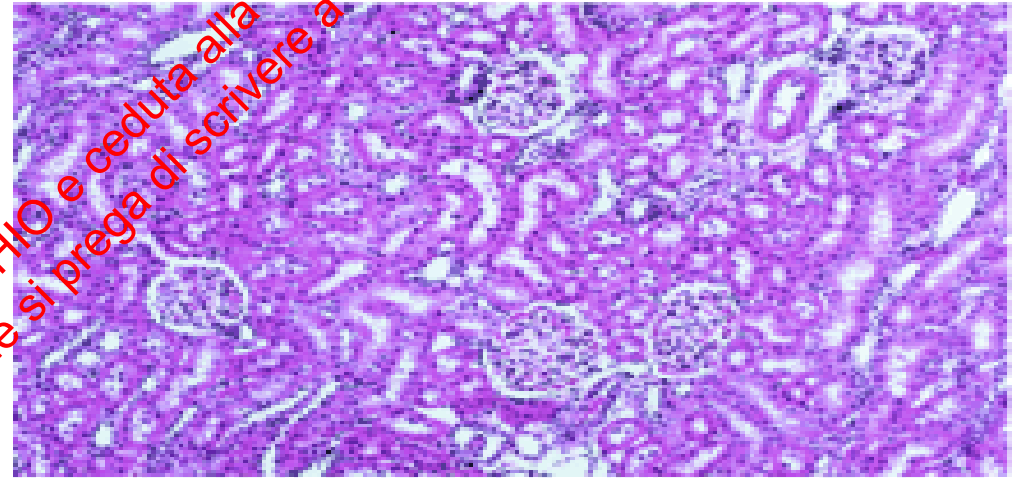
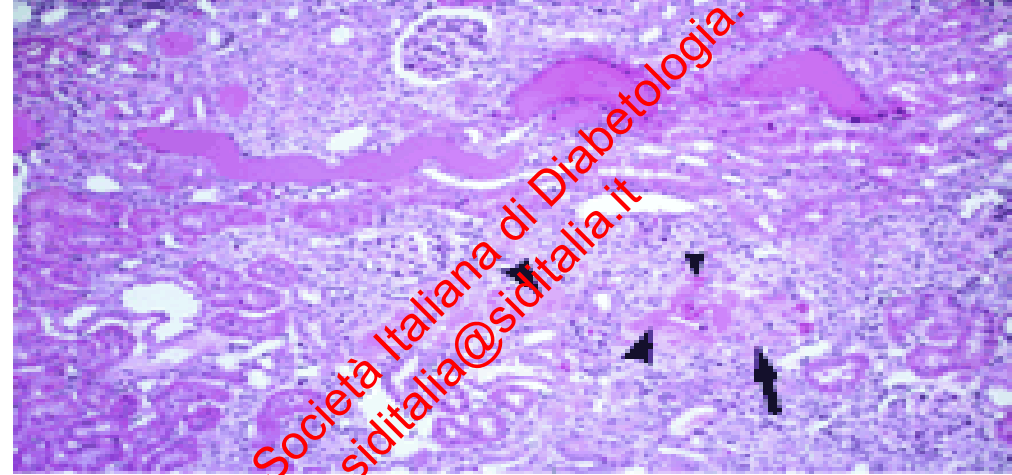
ALDO- induced renal injury (Rocha et al, Hypertension 1999)

*Stroke-prone
spontaneously
hypertensive rat
model*

A. vehicle

B. vehicle + CAPTO

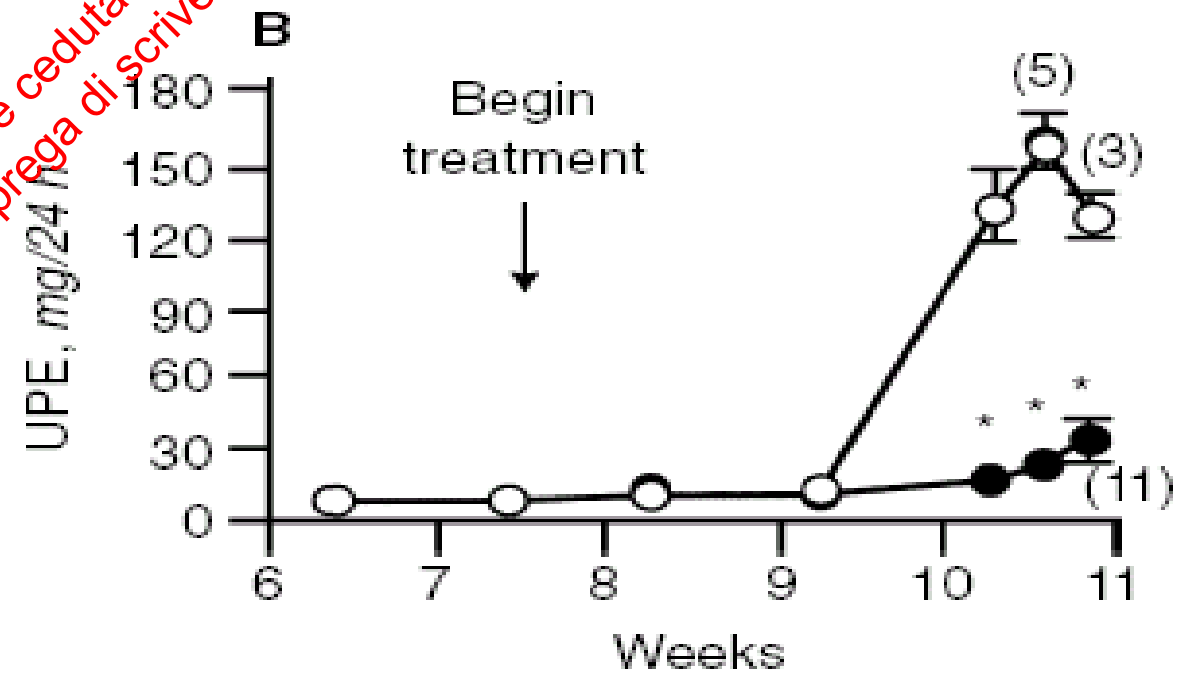
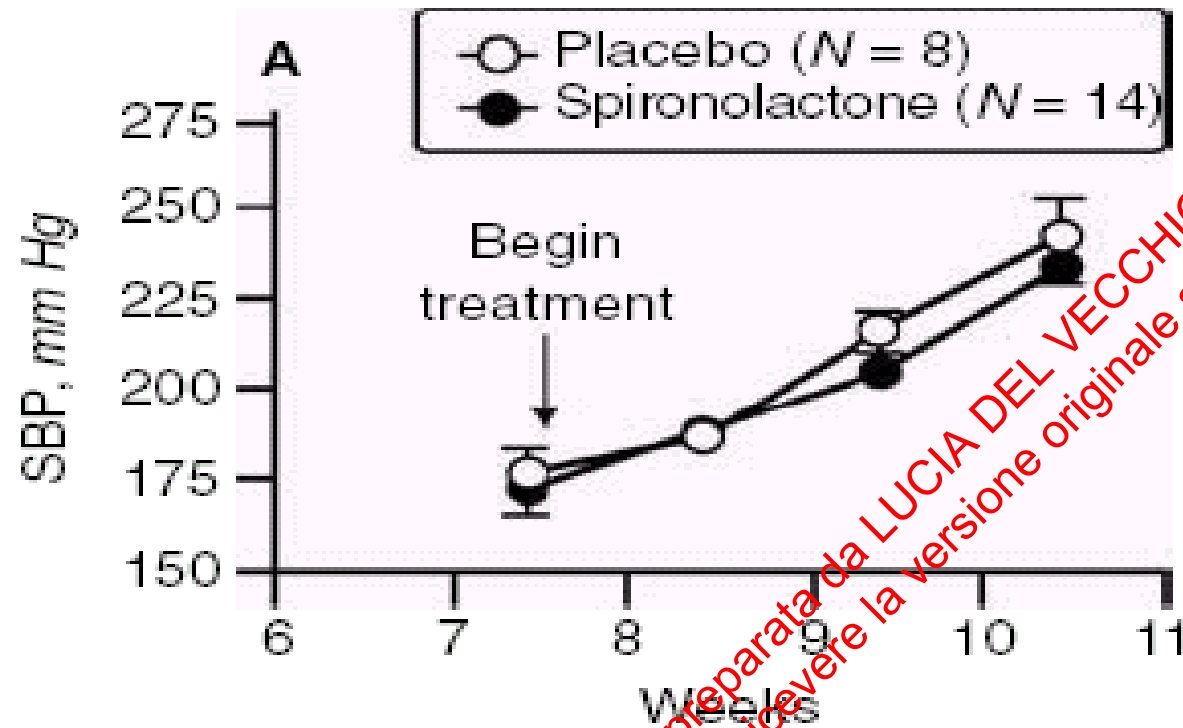
**C. vehicle + CAPTO
+ALDO**



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Spironolactone and proteinuria

Rocha et al, *Hypertension* 1999



Spironolactone in Addition to ACE Inhibition to Reduce Proteinuria in Patients with Chronic Renal Disease

The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

September 20, 2001

N Engl J Med 2001; 345:925-926

DOI: 10.1056/NEJM200109203451215

Anastasia Chrysostomou, B.M., B.S.

Gavin Becker, M.D., M.B., B.S.

Royal Melbourne Hospital, Parkville 3052, Australia

TO THE EDITOR:

- ✓ Over the past 12 months, we studied eight patients with various renal diseases and persistent proteinuria (>1 g/day), despite treatment with enalapril for more than 12 months
- ✓ Spironolactone (25 mg/day) was added to the medication, and protein excretion was measured 4 weeks later
- ✓ After treatment, there was a 54% reduction in protein excretion (from 3.81 ± 2.50 to 1.73 ± 1.02 g/day)



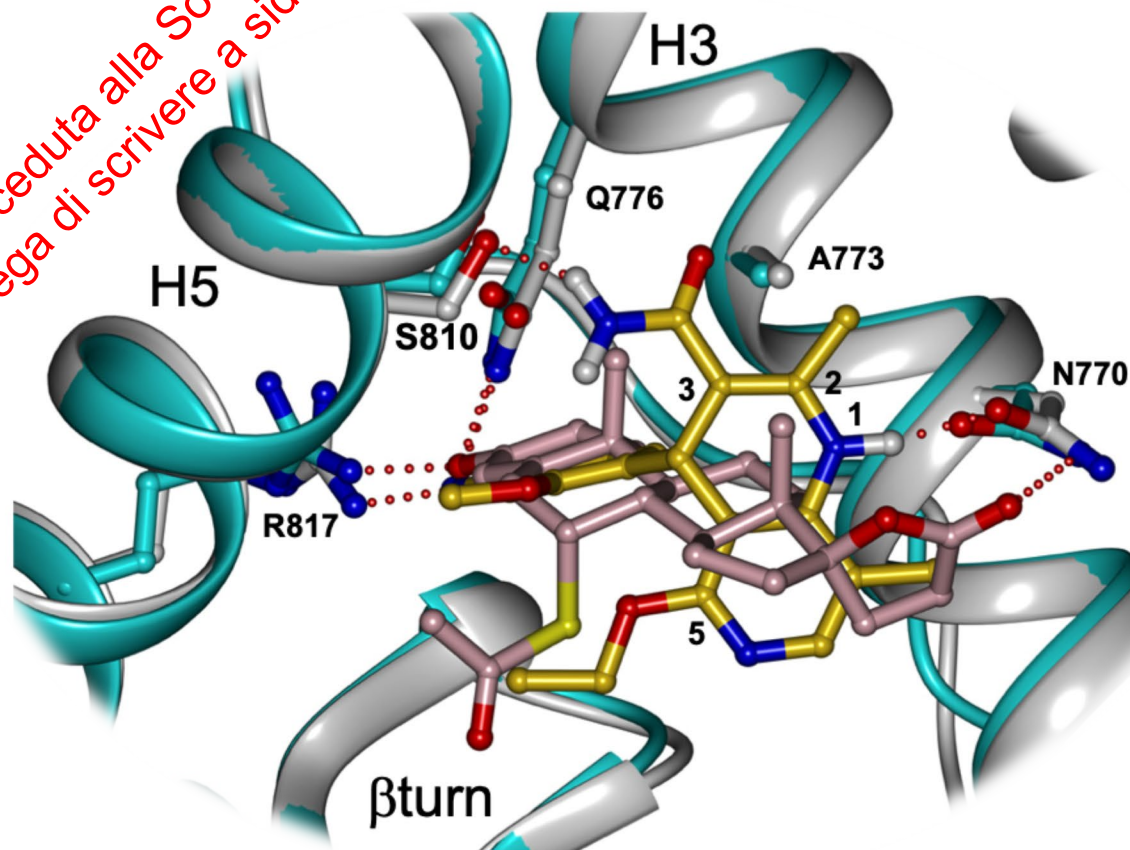
FINERENONE

- ❑ Finerenone is a selective, nonsteroidal MR antagonist
- ❑ Developed to reduce the risk of sustained eGFR decline, ESKD, infarction, and HHF in patients with CKD associated with T2D

CHEMICAL NAME:

(4S)-4-(4-cyano-2-methoxyphenyl)-5-ethoxy-2,8-dimethyl-1,4-dihydro-1,6-naphthyridine-3-carboxamide)

Accommodation mode of finerenone within the MR ligand-binding pocket

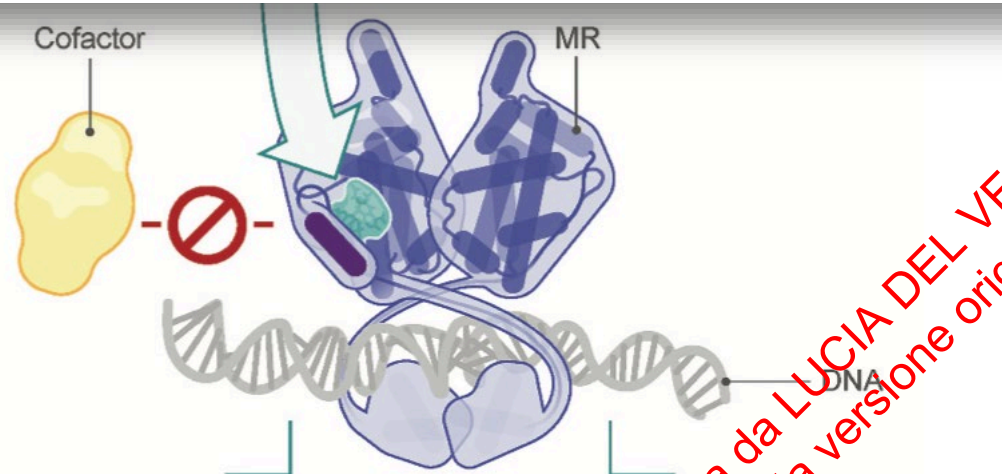


Amazit

Finerenone Impedes Aldosterone-dependent Nuclear Import of the Mineralocorticoid Receptor and Prevents Genomic Recruitment of Steroid Receptor Coactivator-1*

Received for publication, April 10, 2015, and in revised form, July 16, 2015 Published, JBC Papers in Press, July 22, 2015, DOI 10.1074/jbc.M115.657957

Larbi Amazit^{†§¶1}, Florian Le Billan^{†§1,2}, Peter Kolkhof[¶], Khadija Lamribet^{†§}, Say Viengchareun^{†§}, Michel R. Fay^{***†}, Junaid A. Khan^{†§3}, Alexander Hillisch^{§§}, Marc Lombès^{†§}, Marie-Edith Rafestin-Oblin^{***†}, and Jérôme Fagart^{†§***†4}

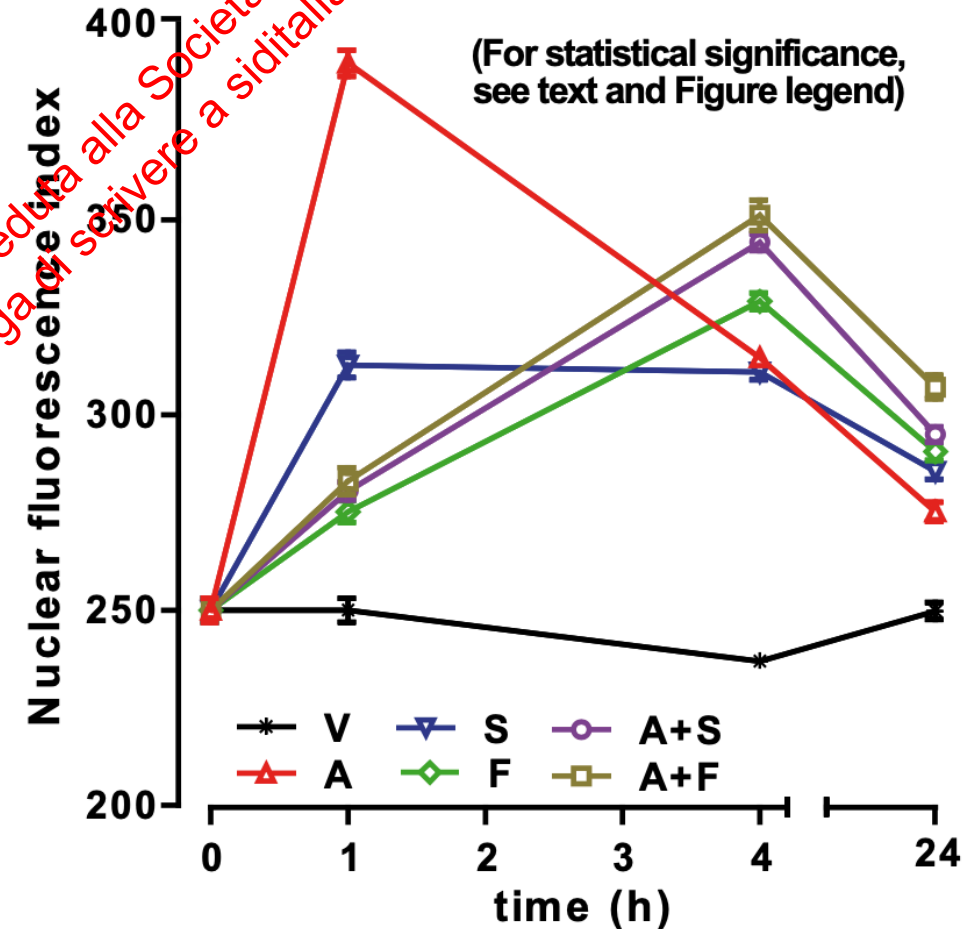
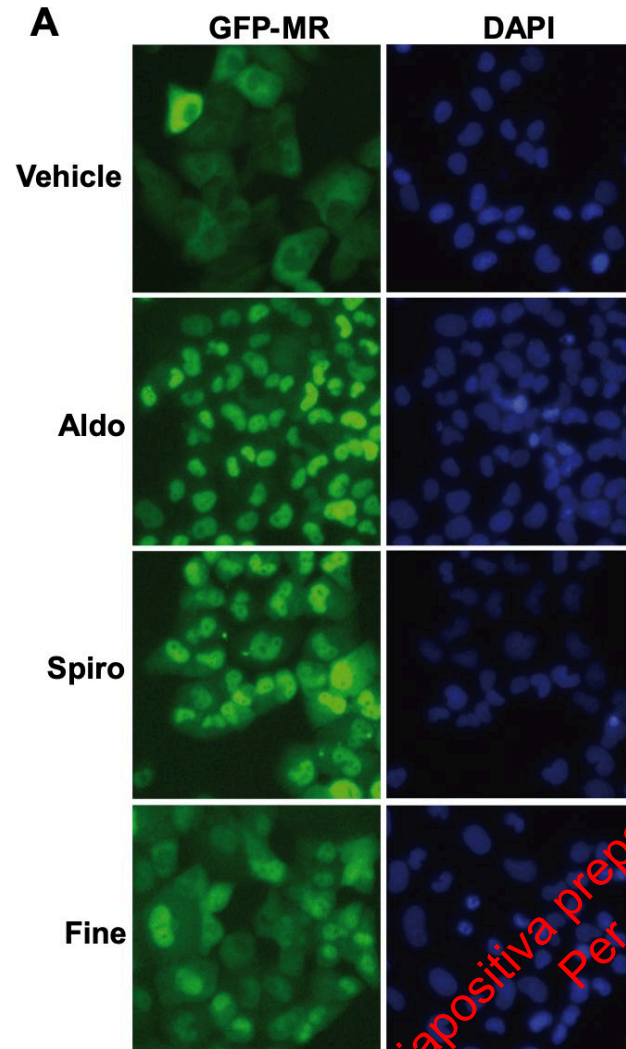


Edgar V. Lerma & Daniela Wilson, 2022

Molecular modeling and mutagenesis approaches allowed identification of **Ser-810** and **Asn-773** as **key residues for the high MR selectivity of finerenone**

- ☐ Finerenone blocks the MR as a bulky, passive antagonist
- ☐ This mechanism is distinct from steroid-MRAs, which might impact its differential clinical response

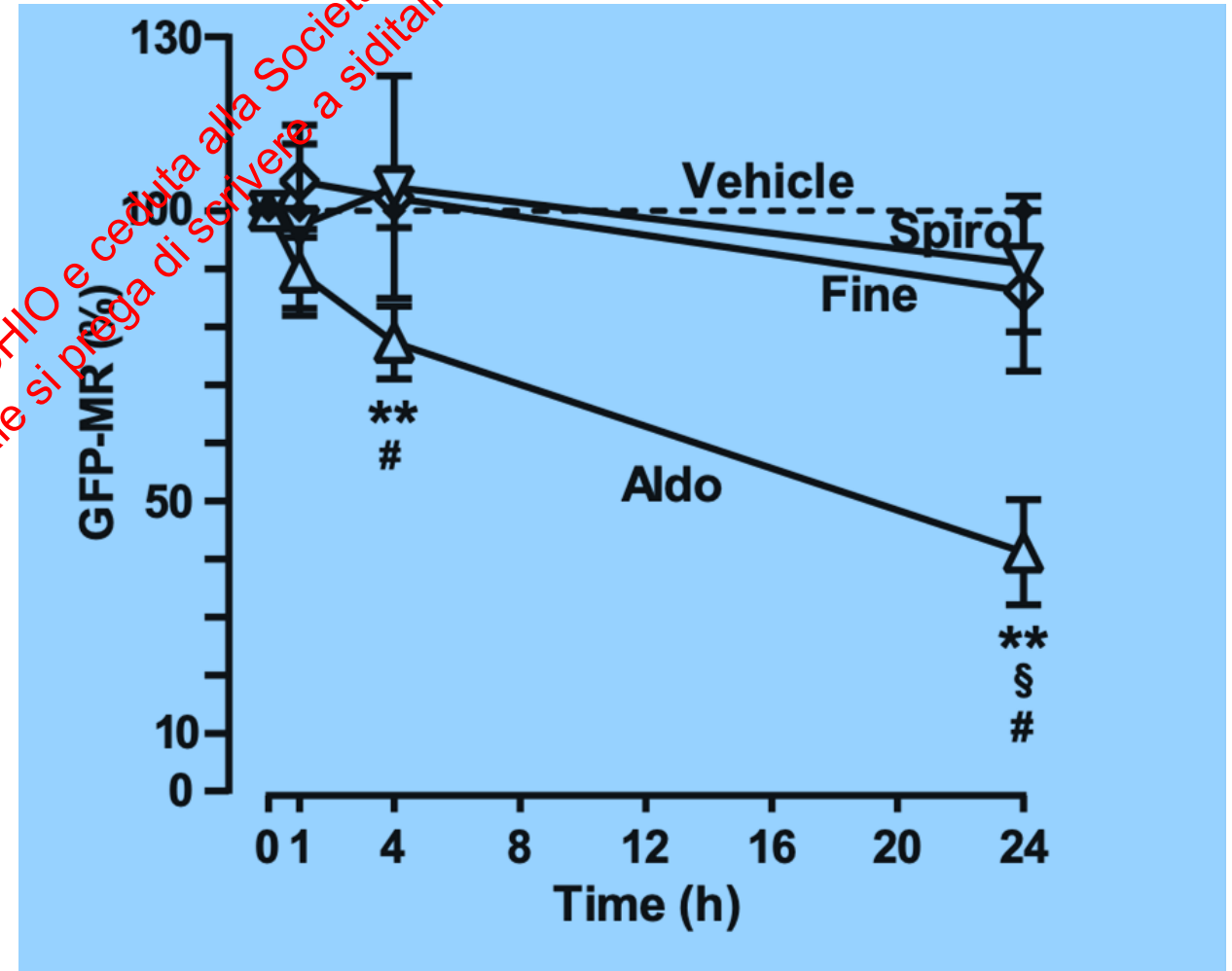
FINERENONE AND SPIRONOLACTONE DELAY THE LIGAND-INDUCED NUCLEAR TRANSLOCATION OF THE MINERALOCORTICOID RECEPTOR



ALDOSTERONE-DEPENDENT DOWN-REGULATION OF THE MINERALOCORTICOID RECEPTOR

- ❑ Steroid receptor transcriptional activation is directly coupled to the receptor degradation by the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway.
- ❑ Gene transactivation could not occur when the receptor is not down-regulated

GFP-MR degradation upon ligand binding

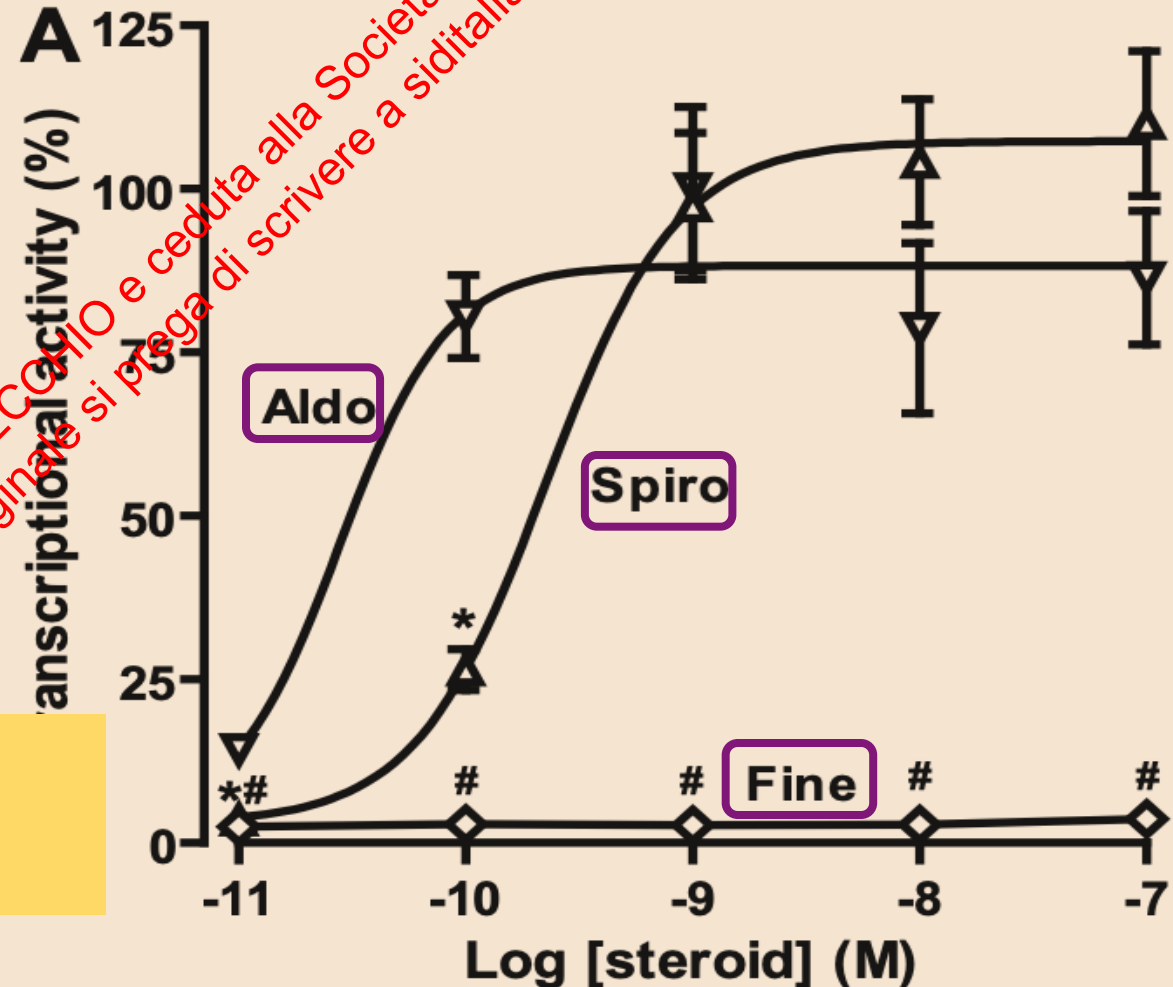


FINERENONE AND SPIRONOLACTONE DIFFERENTIALLY AFFECT RECRUITMENT OF TRANSCRIPTIONAL COFACTORS ON A MINERALOCORTICOID RECEPTOR TARGET PROMOTER

High throughput microscope experiments indicated that finerenone and spironolactone have different effects on MR nuclear translocation kinetics

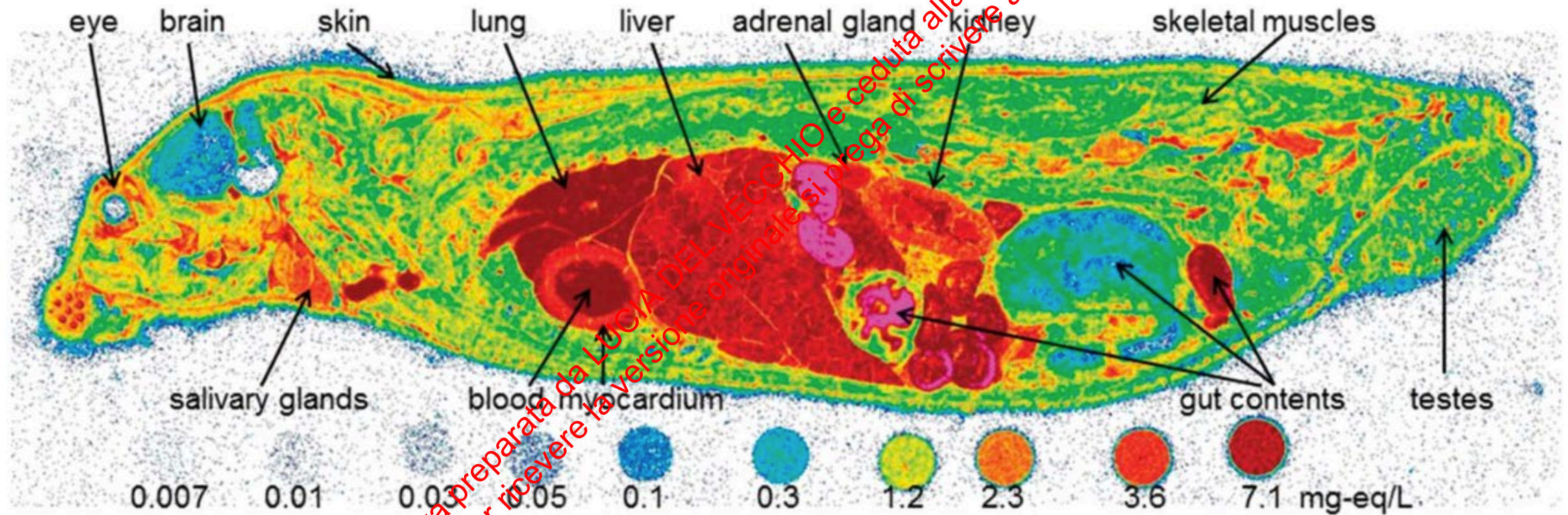
Finerenone acts as an inverse mineralocorticoid receptor agonist

Amazit L et al. J Biol Chem. 2015;290(36):21876-89

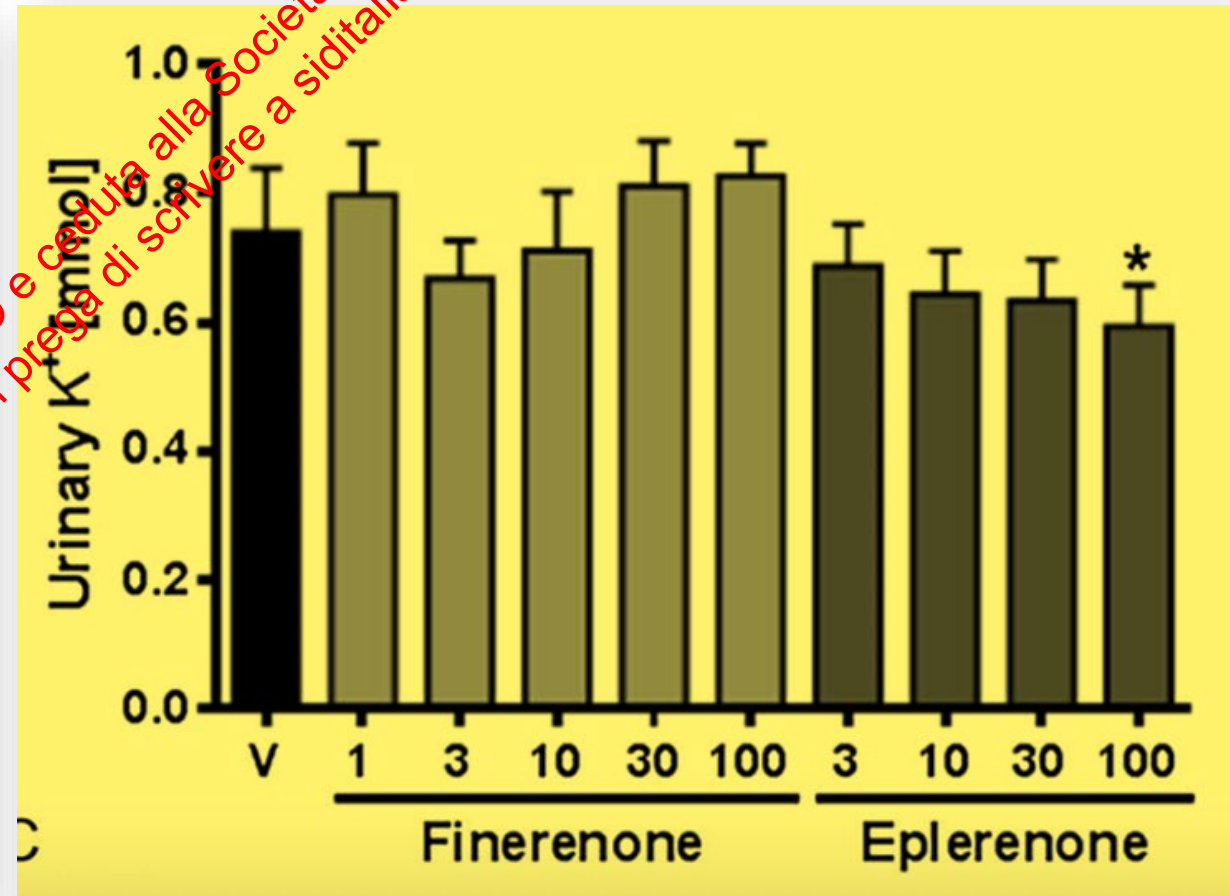
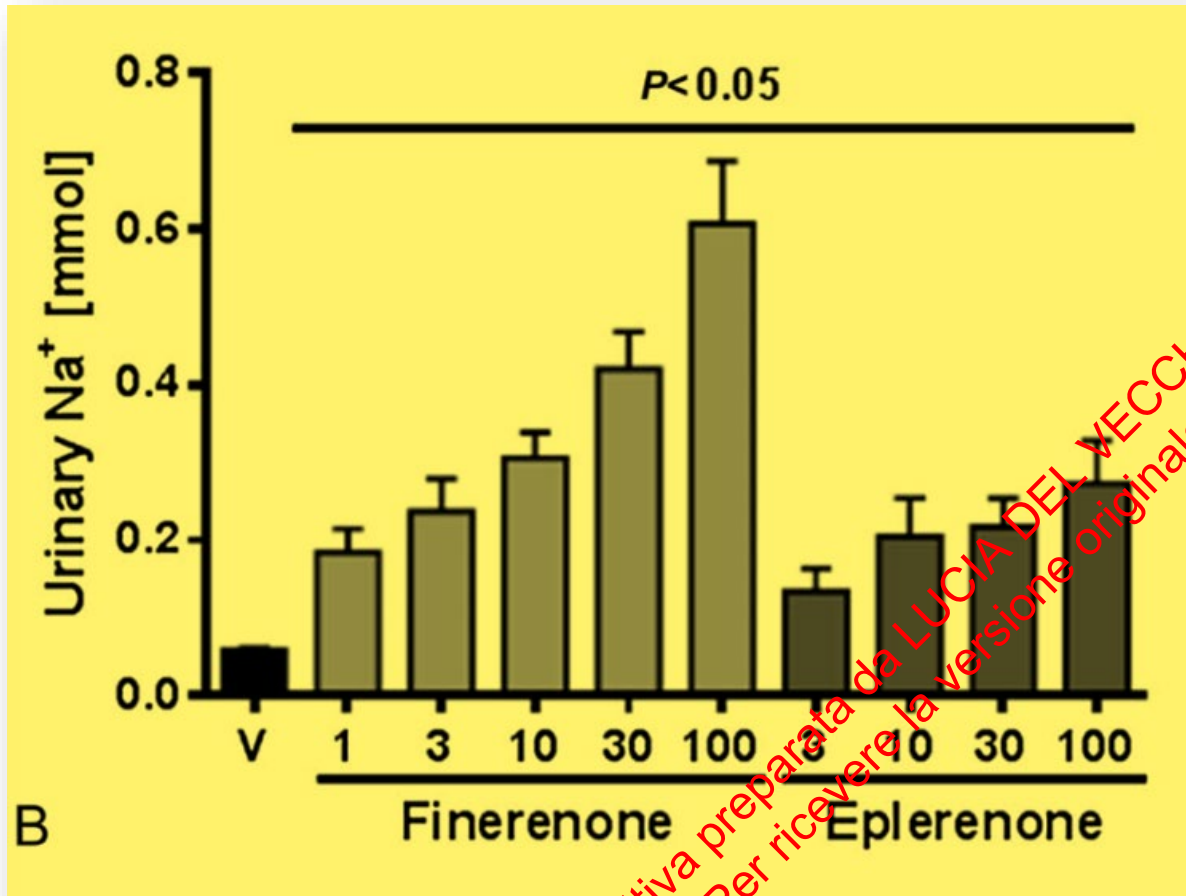


FINERENONE DISTRIBUTES EQUALLY INTO CARDIAC AND RENAL TISSUES

Distribution of radioactivity in a male Wistar rat 1 hour after oral administration of 3 mg/kg [14 C]-labeled finerenone



DIURETIC EFFECTS OF FINERENONE AND EPLERENONE

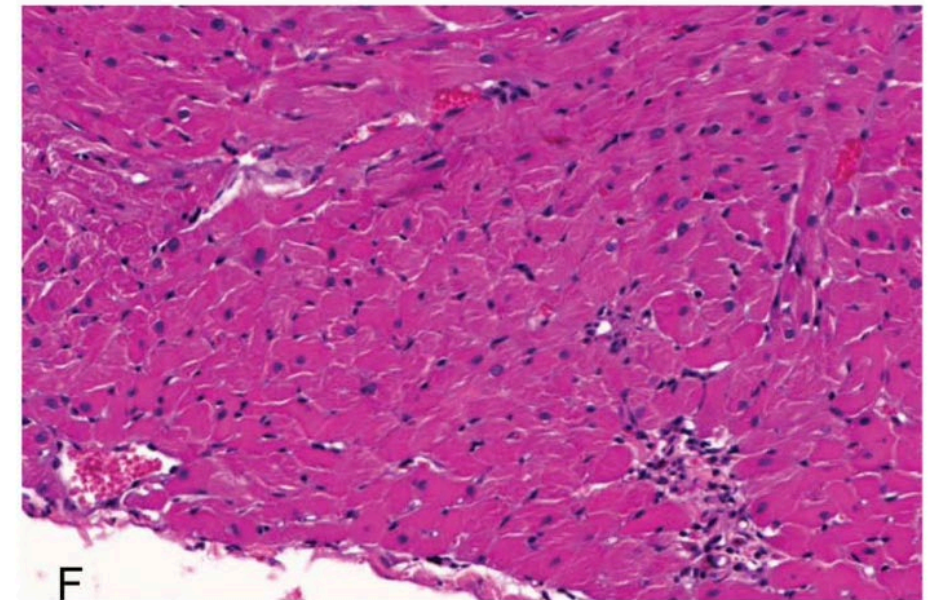
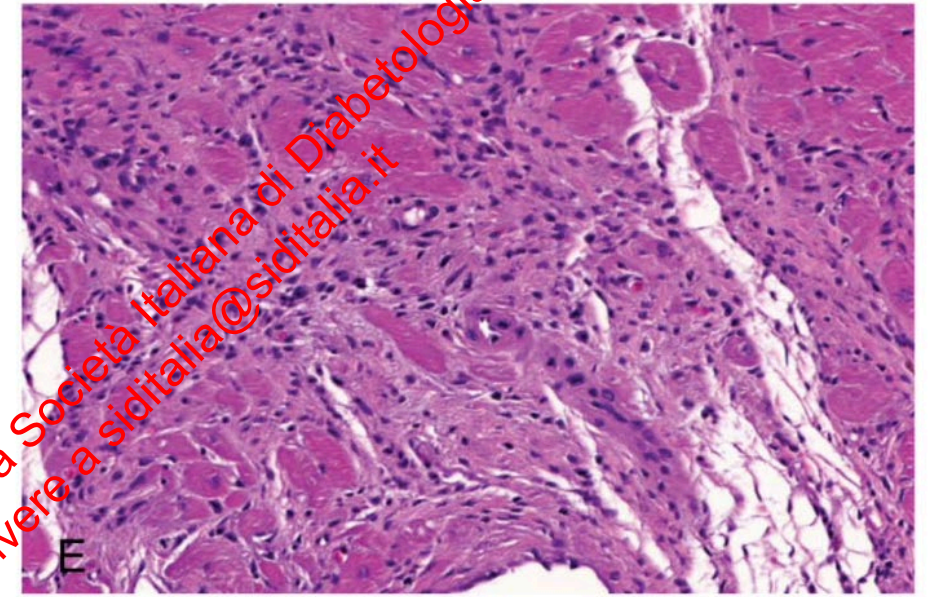
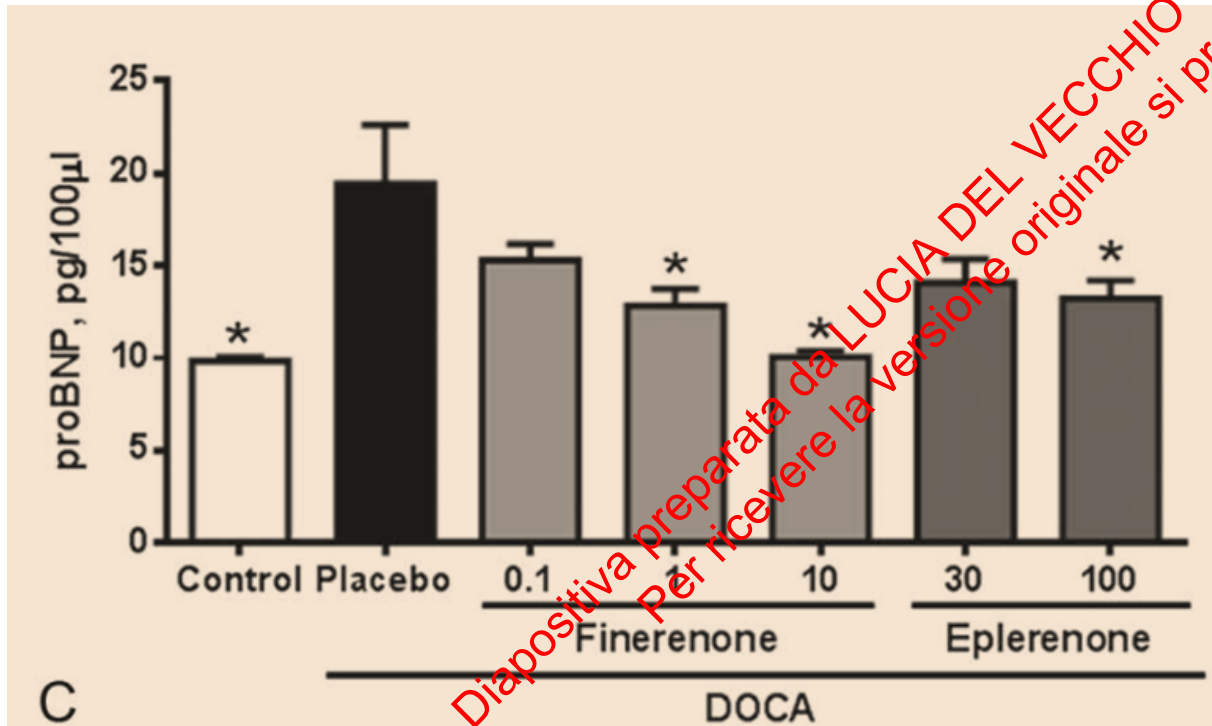


DOCA/salt treatment

Treatment with 10 mg/kg finerenone

HEART

- ☐ Moderate myocardial degeneration
- ☐ Fibrosis
- ☐ Focal vasculopathy

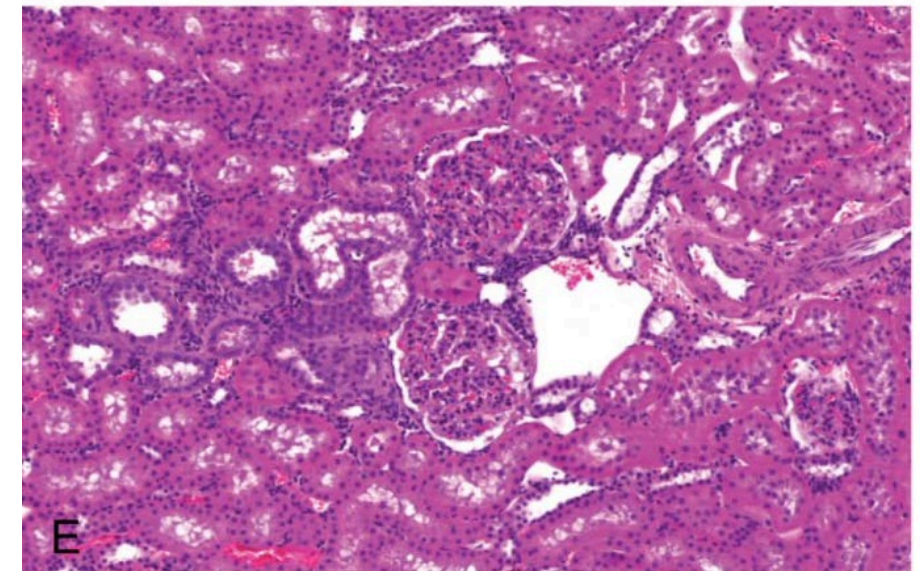
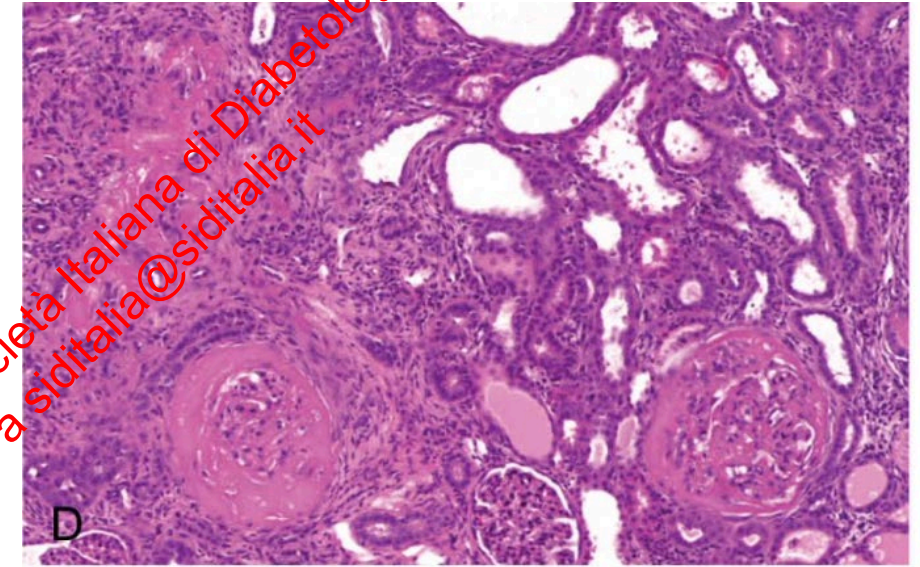
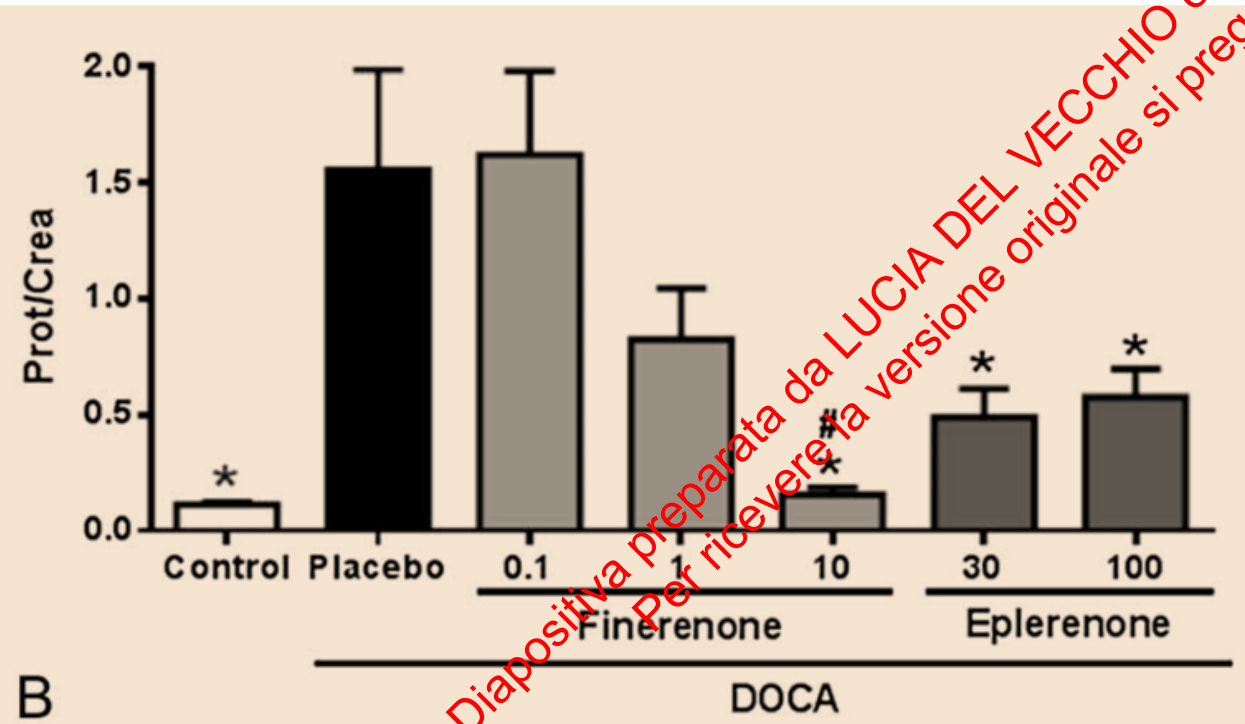


DOCA/salt treatment

Treatment with 10 mg/kg finerenone

KIDNEY

- ☐ Glomerulopathy
- ☐ Tubular degeneration
- ☐ Vasculopathy



Nonsteroidal Mineralocorticoid Receptor Antagonist Finerenone Protects Against Acute Kidney Injury–Mediated Chronic Kidney Disease

Role of Oxidative Stress

Lionel Lattenist, Sebastian M. Lechner, Smail Messaoudi, Alan Le Mercier, Soumaya El Moghrabi, Sonia Prince, Norma A. Bobadilla, Peter Kolkhof, Frédéric Jaissner, and Jonatan Barrera-Chimal*

Acute study (24 hours)

18 rats developed acute renal ischemia

rats that received 3 doses of

After 24 hours of reperfusion, the untreated IR rats presented kidney dysfunction and tubular injury

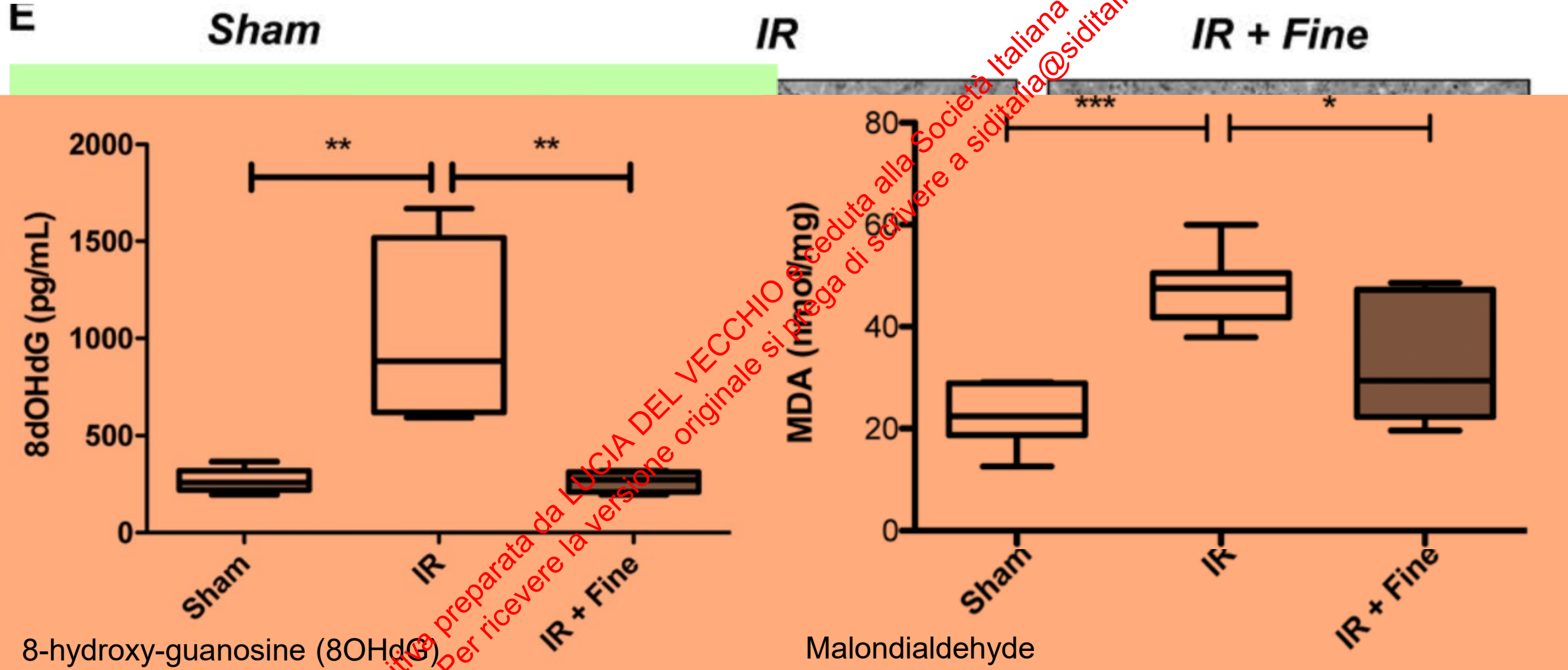
Chronic study (4 months)

rats that received lateral

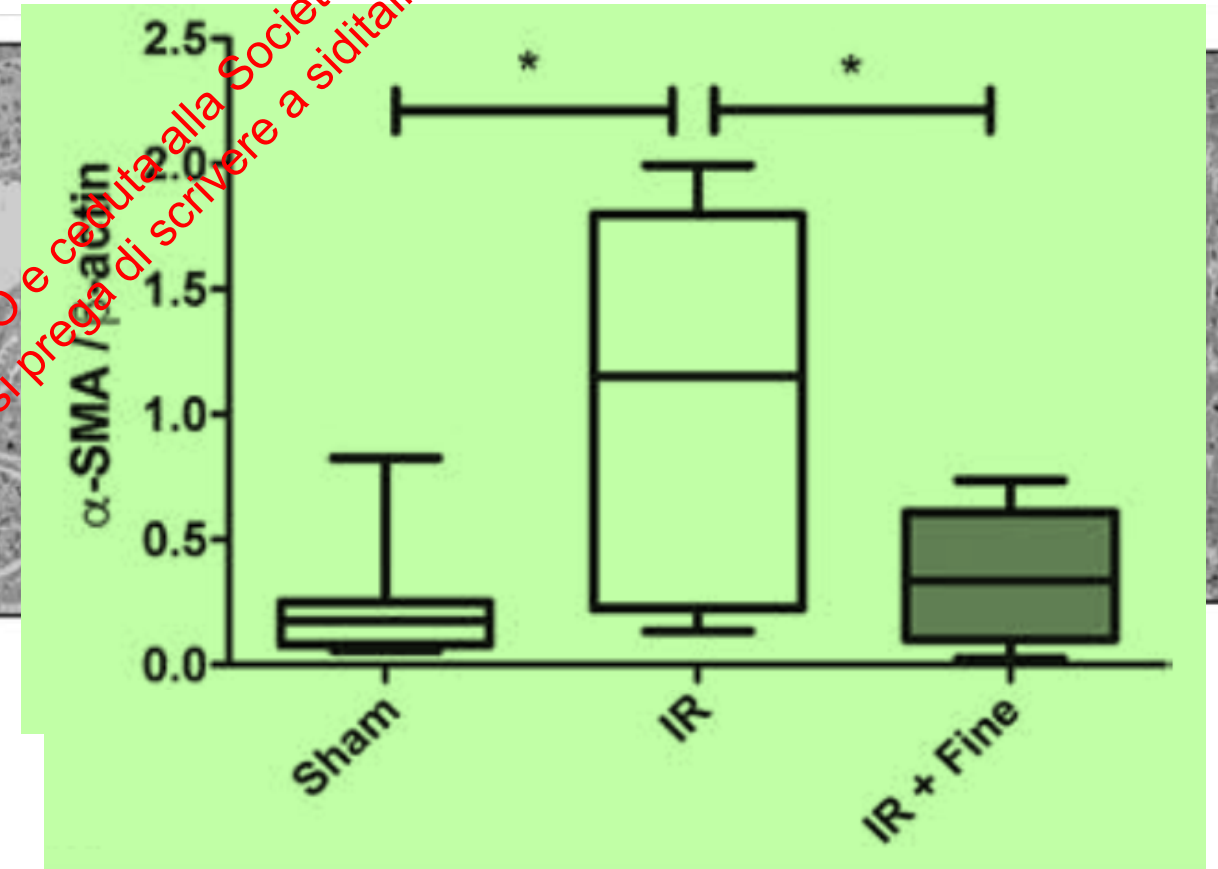
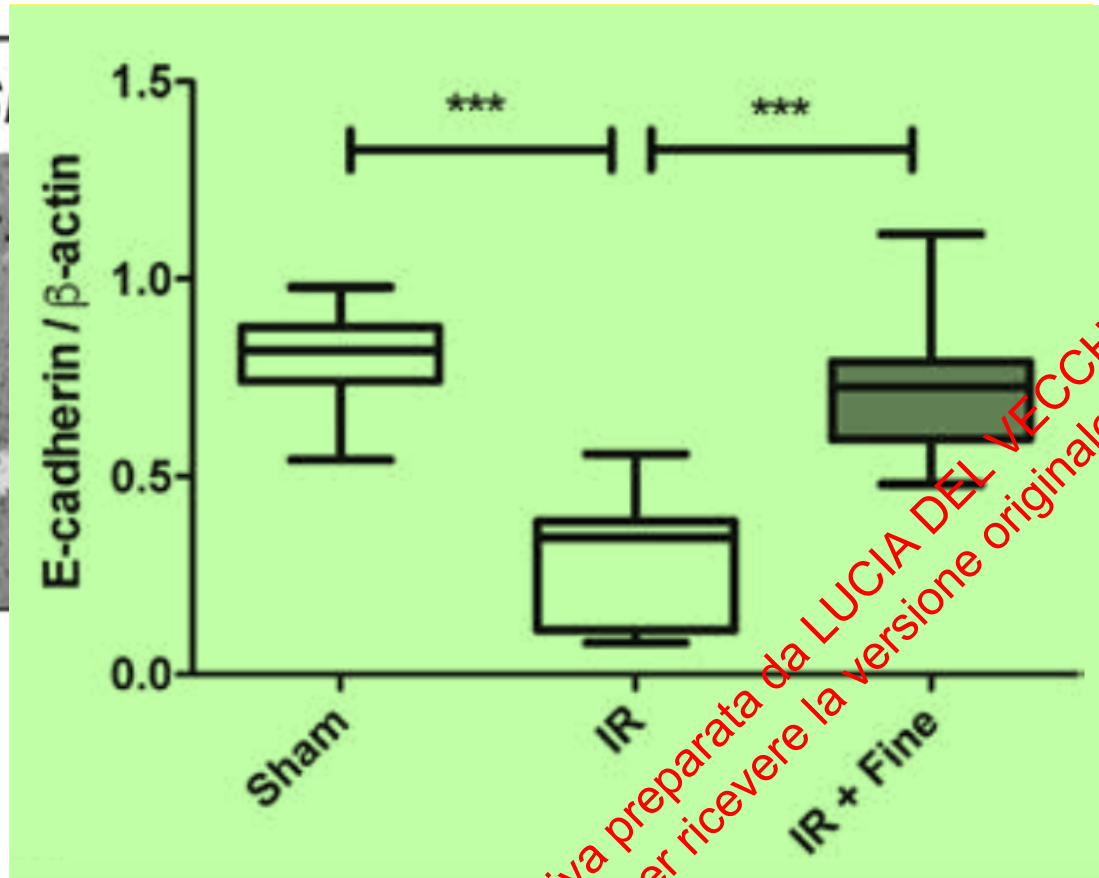
ischemia, and rats treated with

After 4 months, the IR rats developed chronic kidney disease, with kidney dysfunction, increased proteinuria and renal vascular resistance, tubular dilation, extensive tubule-interstitial fibrosis

ACUTE CONSEQUENCES OF RENAL ISCHAEMIA REPERFUSION



FINERENONE ADMINISTRATION PREVENTS THE AKI TO CKD TRANSITION



The myeloid mineralocorticoid receptor controls inflammatory and fibrotic responses after renal injury via macrophage interleukin-4 receptor signaling



Jonatan Barrera-Chimal^{1,2}, Gabriel R. Estrela^{1,9}, Sebastian M. Lechner^{1,9}, Sébastien Giraud^{3,4,5}, Soumaya El Moghrabi¹, Shiem Kaaki^{3,6}, Peter Kolkhof⁷, Thierry Hauet^{3,4,5} and Frédéric Jaisser^{1,8}

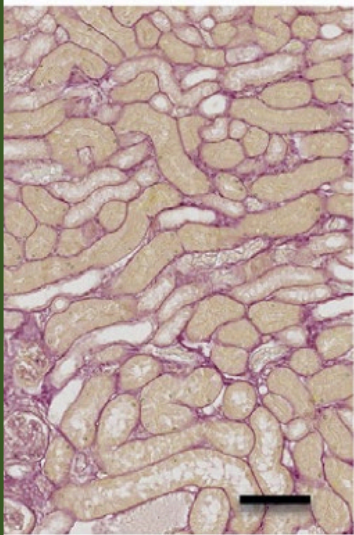
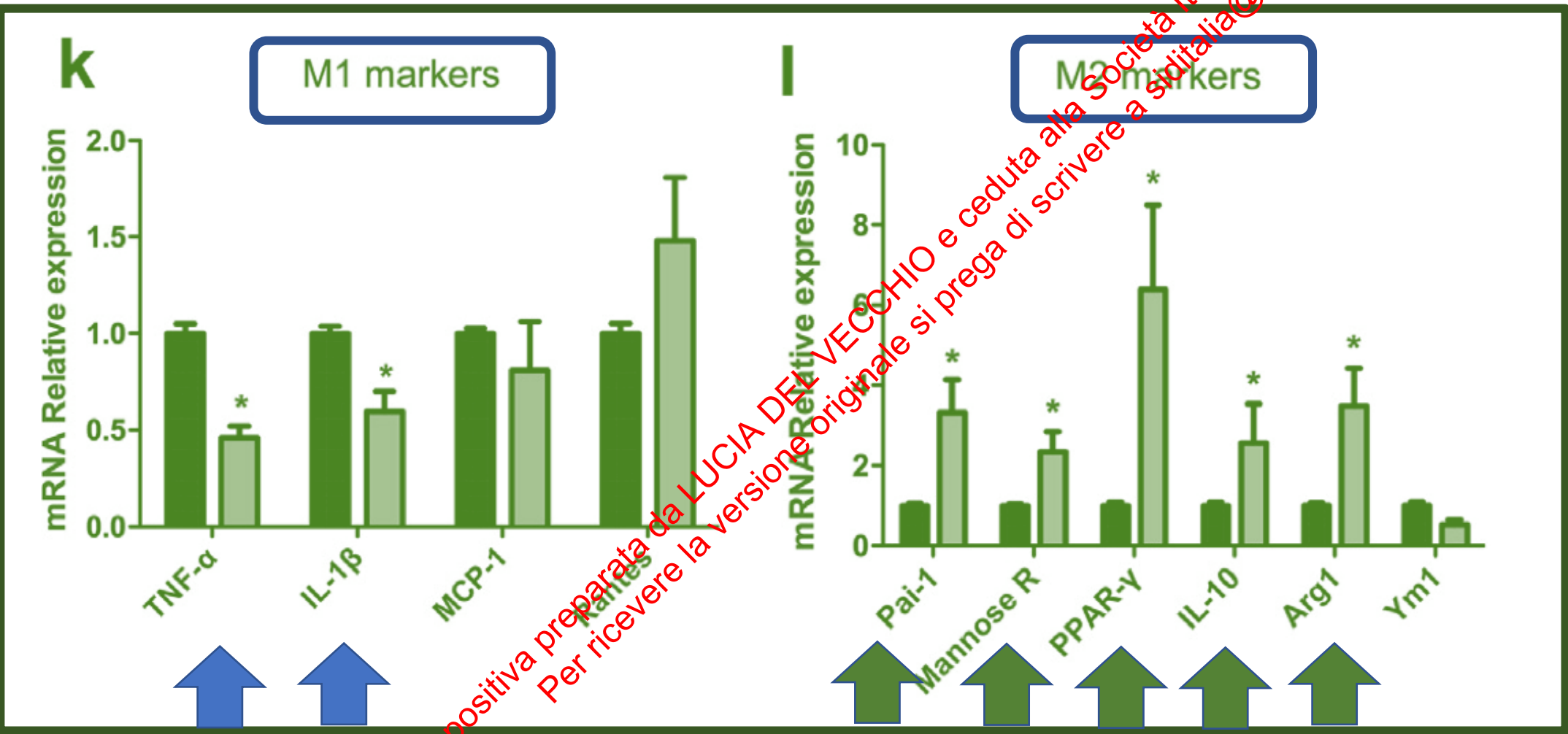
☐ MR is expressed in myeloid cells

☐ The infiltration of inflammatory cells early after an AKI episode plays an important role in defining effective versus maladaptive repair

☐ Myeloid MR may potentially be involved in the development of kidney fibrosis after an ischemic AKI episode

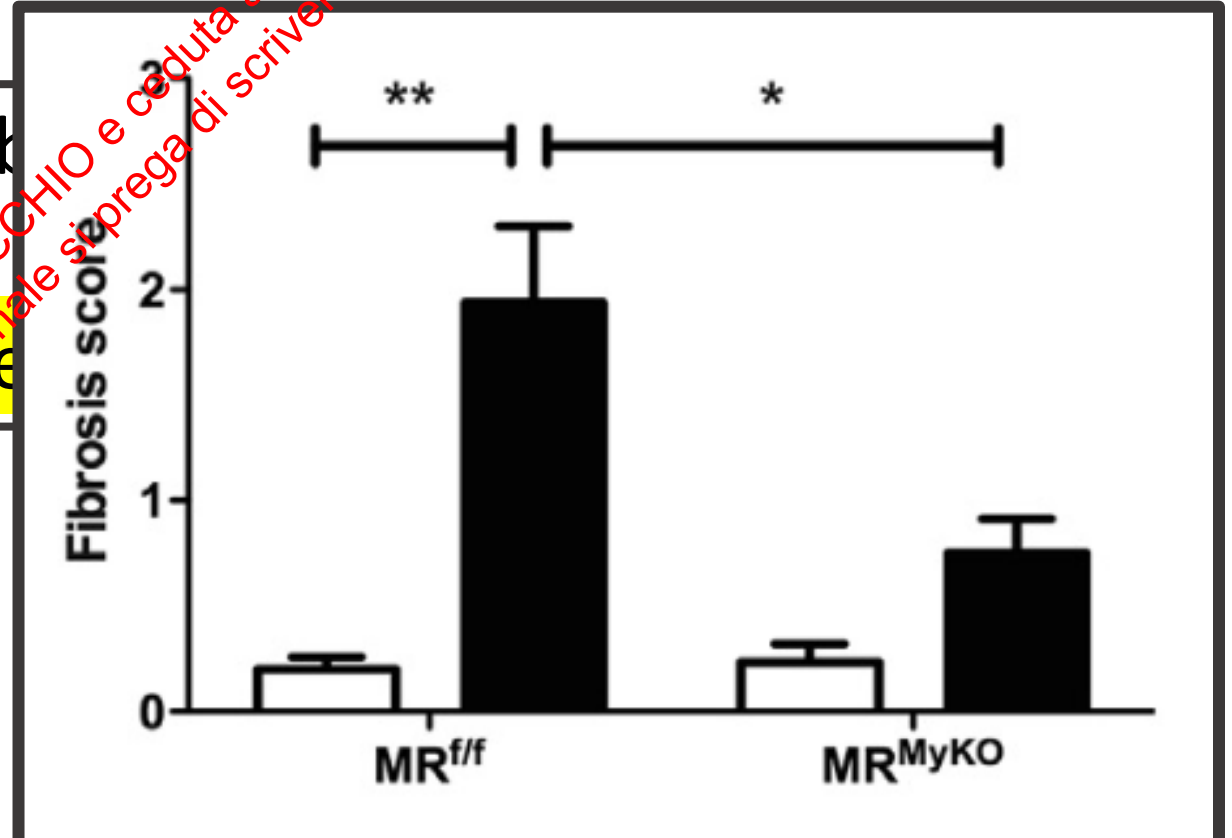
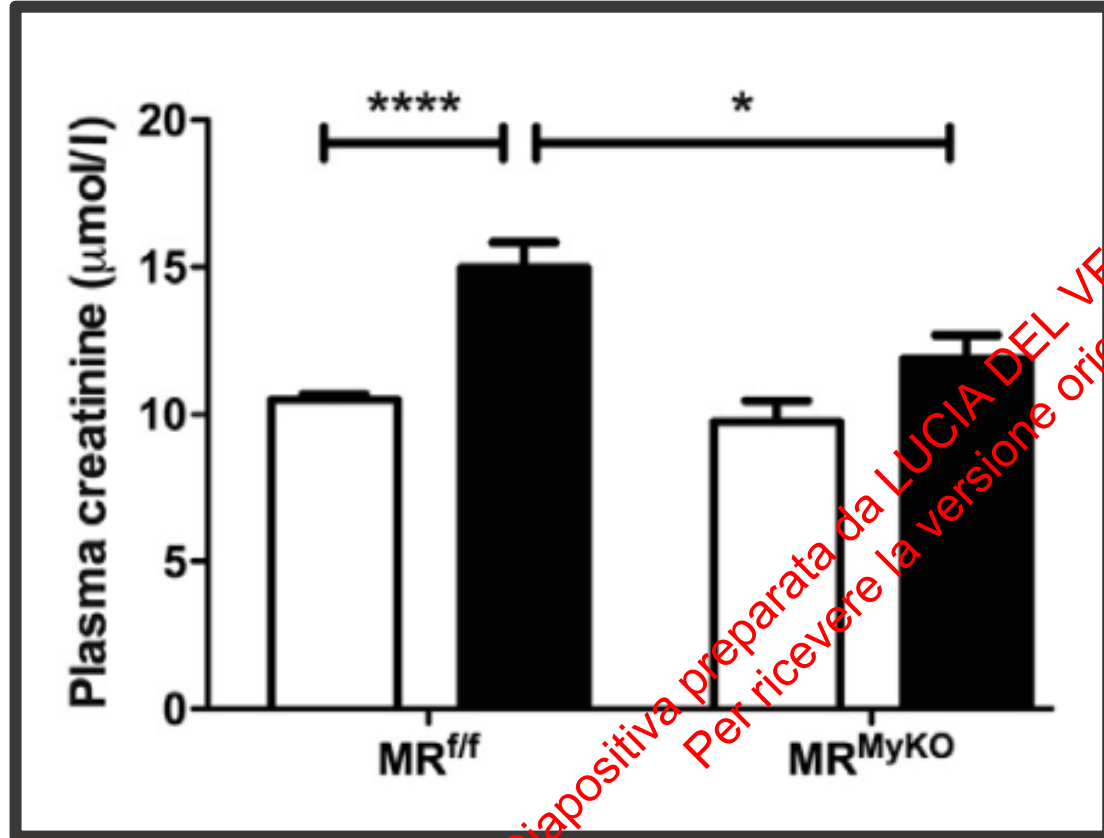
☐ A model of bilateral IR-induced CKD in mice

FINERENONE PROTECTS AGAINST THE TRANSITION FROM ACUTE KIDNEY INJURY TO CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE



MINERALOCORTICOID RECEPTOR DEFICIENCY IN MYELOID CELLS PROTECTS AGAINST CHRONIC DYSFUNCTION AND FIBROSIS INDUCED BY ISCHEMIA-REPERFUSION

Kidney International (2018) 93, 1344–1355



Direct Blood Pressure-Independent Anti-Fibrotic Effects by the Selective Nonsteroidal Mineralocorticoid Receptor Antagonist Finerenone in Progressive Models of Kidney Fibrosis

Karoline Droebner^a Mira Pavkovic^b Manuel Grundmann^a Elke Hartmann^c
Laura Goea^a Johannes Nordlohne^a Jürgen Klar^a Frank Eitner^a Peter Kolkhof^a

Kidney fibrosis induced in mice via unilateral ureteral obstruction or ischemia

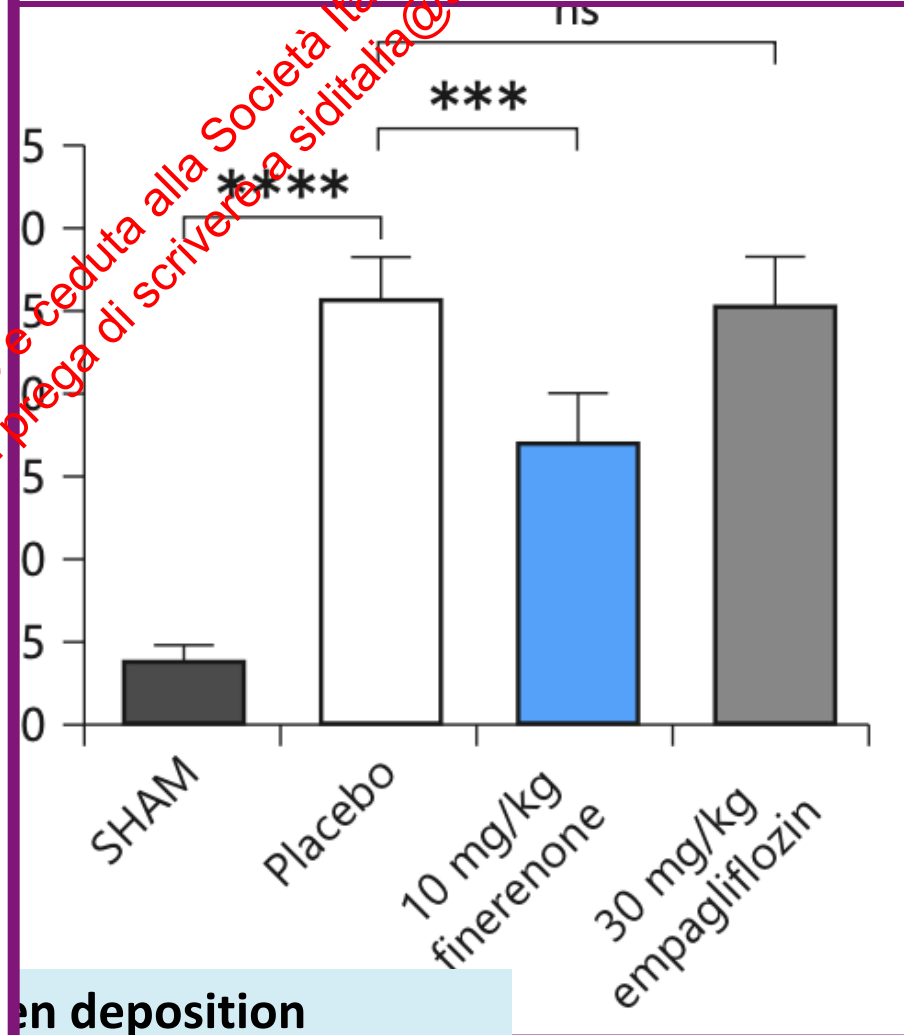
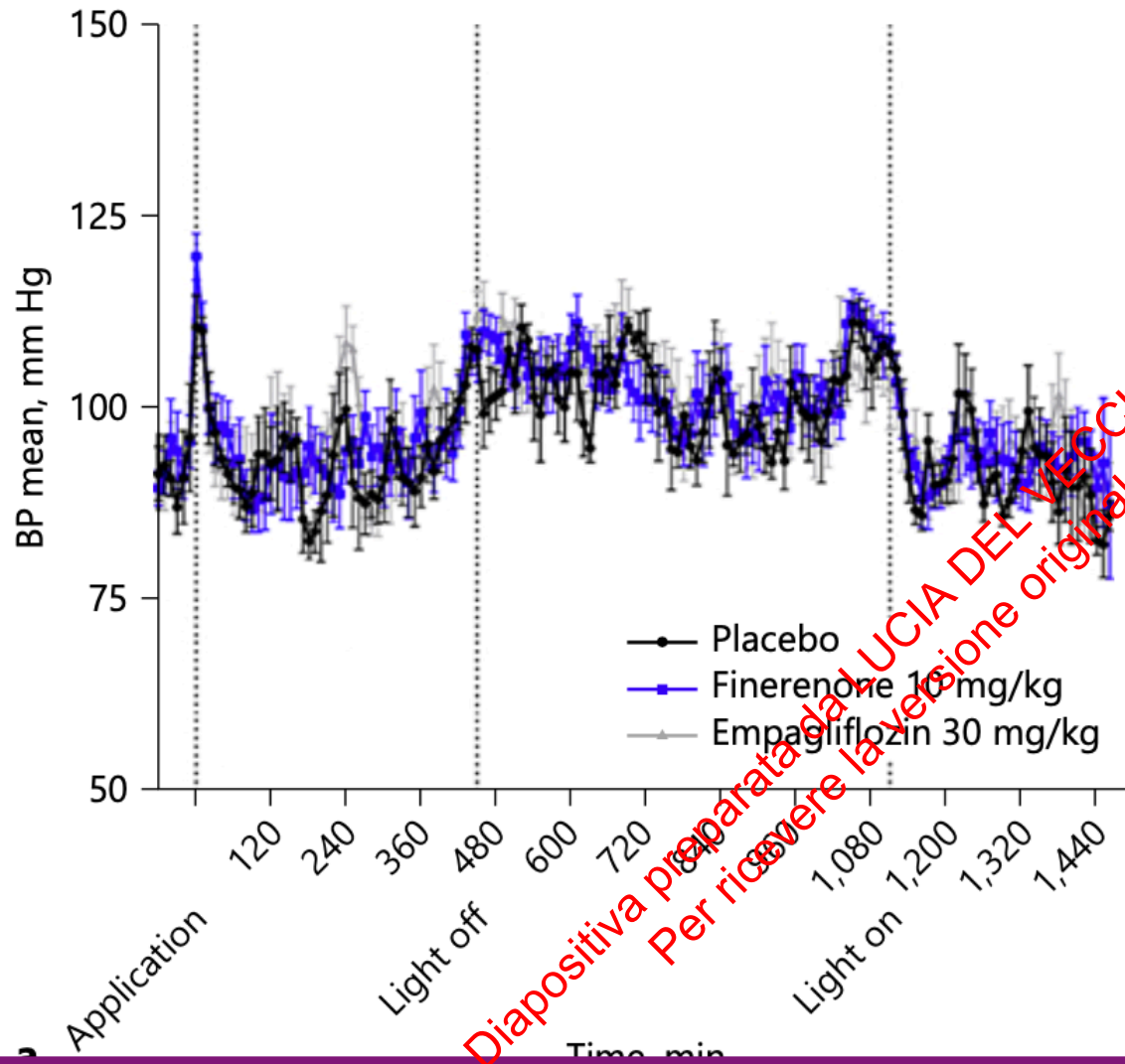
Treated orally with:

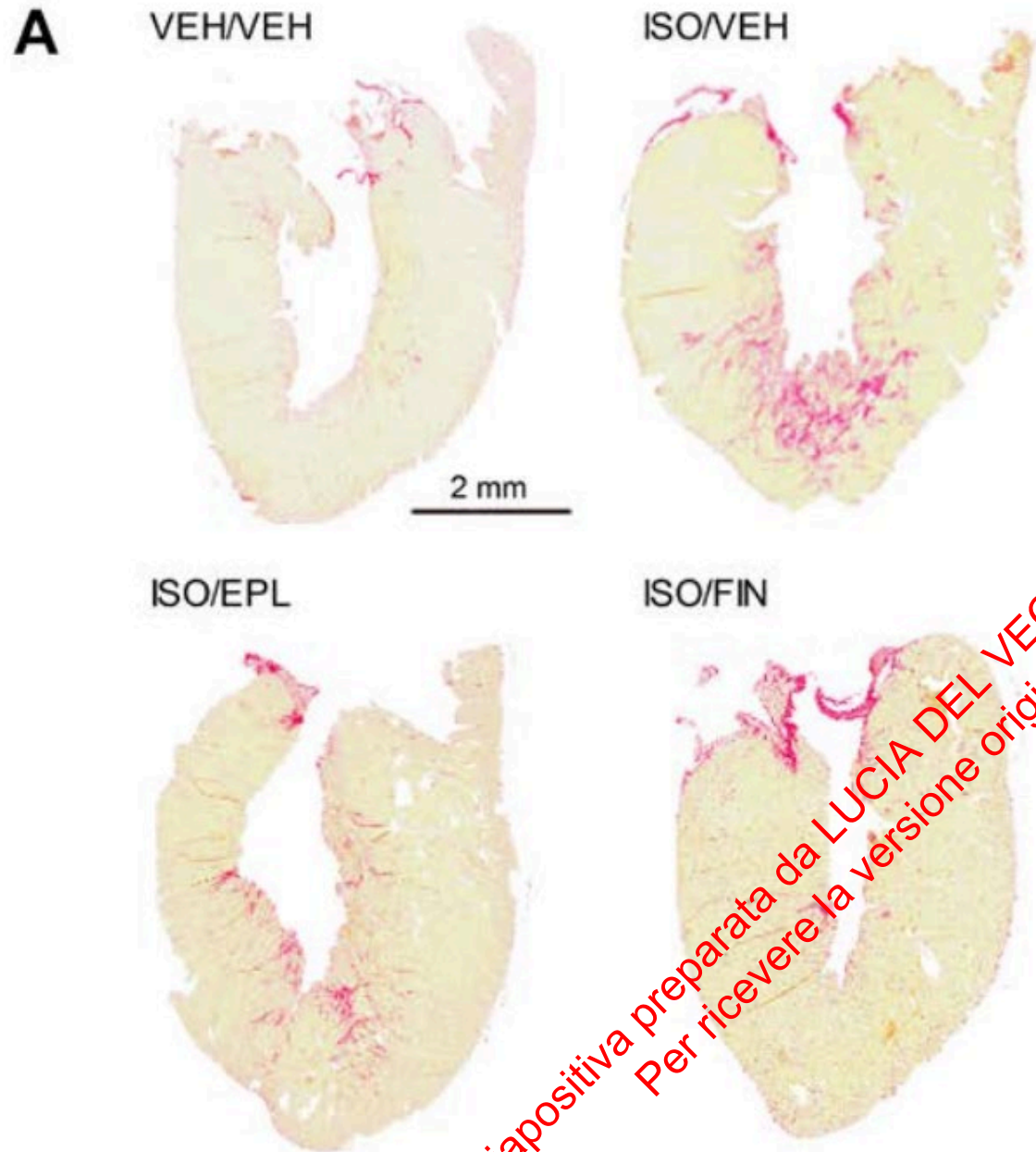
- ☐ Finerenone (3 or 10 mg/kg)
- ☐ Empagliflozin (10 or 30 mg/kg)
- ☐ Both drugs

Interstitial myofibroblast accumulation quantified via alpha-smooth muscle actin and interstitial collagen deposition via Sirius Red/Fast Green staining in both models



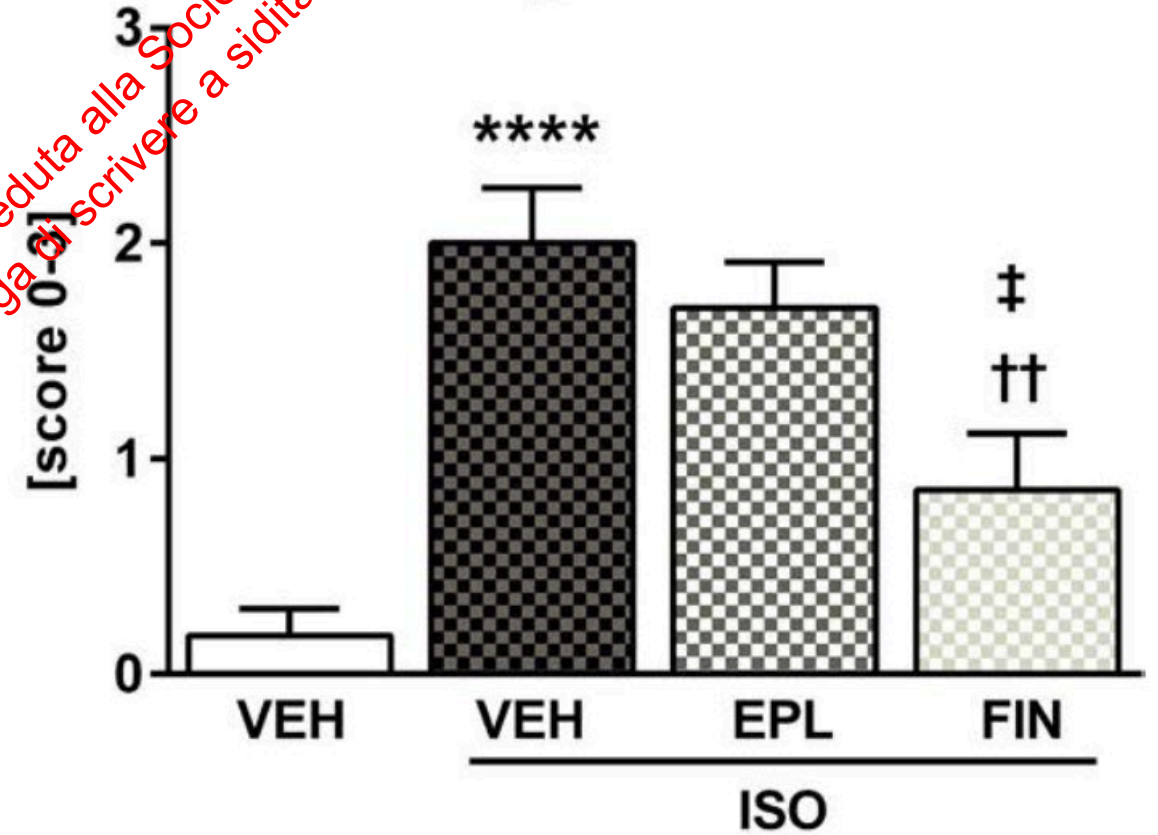
RENAL FIBROSIS IN UNILATERAL URETERAL OBSTRUCTION MODEL





B

Collagen Content

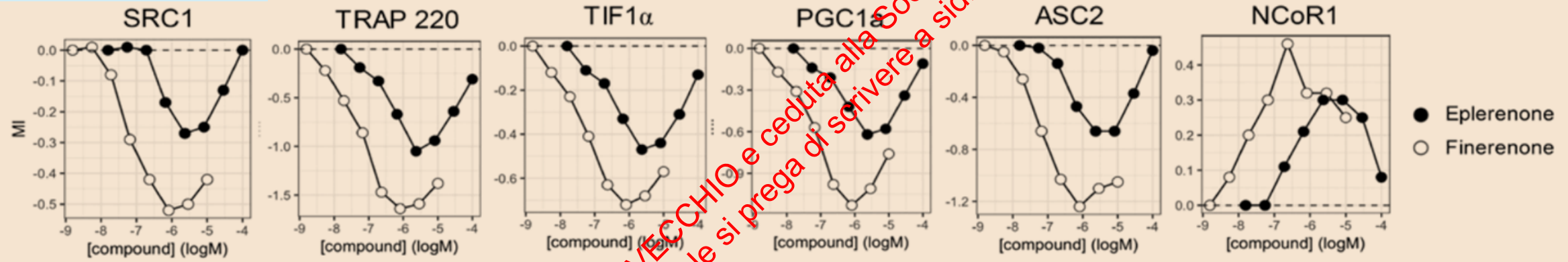


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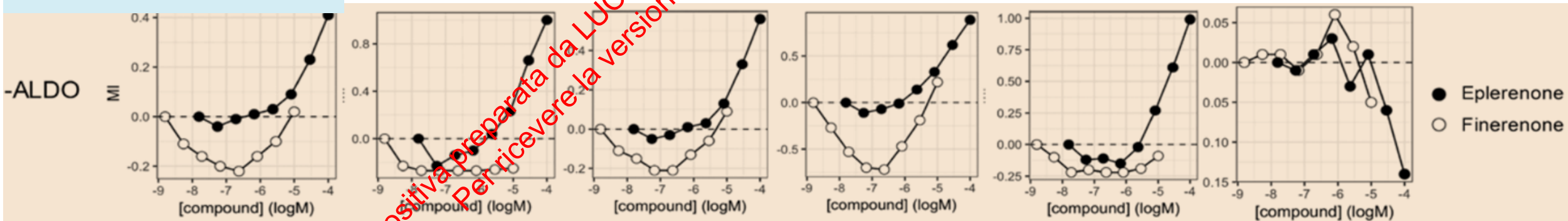
EPLERENONE AND FINERENONE INDUCE LIGAND-SPECIFIC MR COFACTOR BINDING

ALDOSTERONE +

The gene expression of published MR-coregulators in H9C2/MR+ cells



ALDOSTERONE -

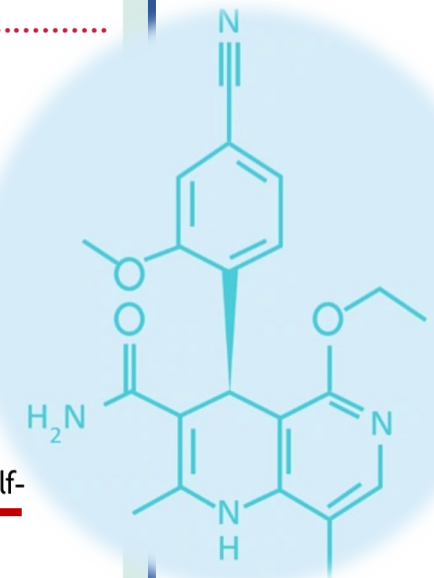


Finerenone

A nonsteroidal, selective mineralcorticoid receptor antagonist

Table I Key differences between steroidal MRAs and nonsteroidal finerenone

	Steroidal MRAs		Nonsteroidal finerenone
	Spironolactone	Eplerenone	Finerenone
Mode of MR antagonism	Potent and unselective (first generation)	Less potent and more selective than spironolactone (second generation)	Potent and selective ⁵⁹ Bulky and passive ⁶¹
Tissue distribution (in rodents)	Passive Spironolactone Kidney > heart ⁶³	Passive Eplerenone Kidney > heart ⁶⁴	Finerenone: balanced kidney–heart ⁶²
Pharmacokinetics	Spironolactone: prodrug with multiple active metabolites with long half-lives ⁶⁵ Eplerenone: no active metabolites; half-life 4–6 h ⁶⁴	Spironolactone and eplerenone: partial agonistic cofactor recruitment	Finerenone: no active metabolites and short half-life ^{66,67}
Effect on cofactor recruitment in absence of aldosterone <i>in vitro</i> ^{61,68}	Spironolactone and eplerenone: partial agonistic cofactor recruitment		Finerenone: inverse agonist (inhibits cofactor binding in the absence of aldosterone)
Effect on cofactor recruitment in the presence of aldosterone <i>in vitro</i>	Spironolactone and eplerenone: inhibition of cofactor recruitment ⁶⁸		Finerenone: more potent and efficacious than eplerenone in blocking MR cofactor binding and inducing corepressor binding ⁶⁸





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L'ATTENZIONE***