

CONTROLLO GLICEMICO, INFIAMMAZIONE e DANNO RENALE

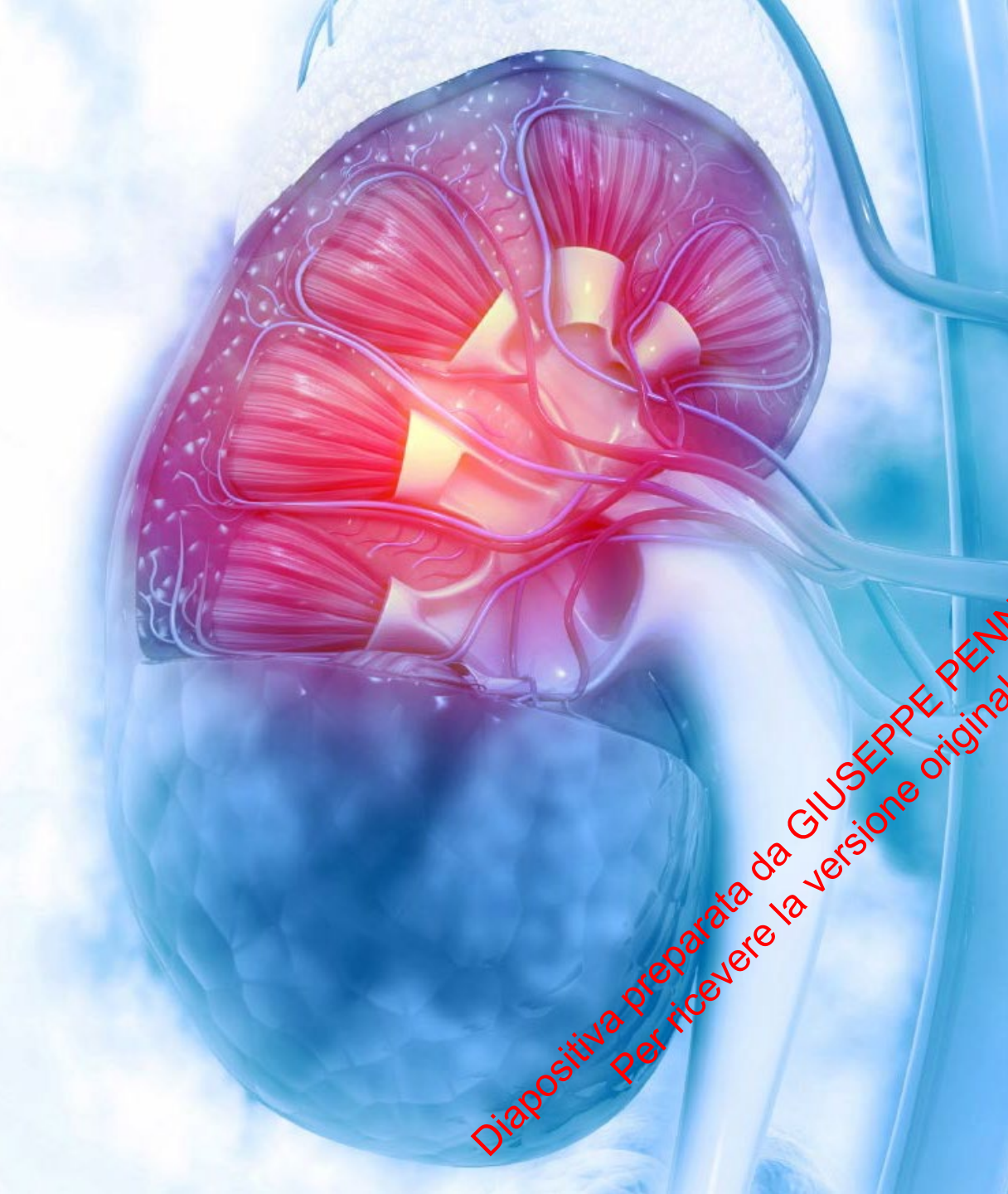
Giuseppe Penno



UNIVERSITÀ
DI PISA

Bologna, 20-21 gennaio 2023

Diapositiva preparata da GIUSEPPE PENNO e ceduta alla Società Italiana di Diabetologia.
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Disclosure

Il Dr. **Giuseppe Penno**

dichiara di aver ricevuto negli ultimi due anni compensi o finanziamenti dalle seguenti Aziende Farmaceutiche e/o Diagnostiche:

AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, Eli-Lilly, Merck Sharp & Dohme, Mundipharma Pharmaceuticals, Novo Nordisk, Takeda

Dichiara altresì il proprio impegno ad astenersi, nell'ambito dell'evento, dal nominare, in qualsivoglia modo o forma, aziende farmaceutiche e/o denominazione commerciale e di non fare pubblicità di qualsiasi tipo relativamente a specifici prodotti di interesse sanitario (farmaci, strumenti, dispositivi medico-chirurgici, ecc.).

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The contribution of inflammation to the pathogenesis of DKD



The discontinuation of undergoing clinical testing of promising anti-inflammatory agents for DKD



The current landscape of inflammation in DKD pathogenesis and treatment



An uphill road: any novel (anti-inflammatory) drug should show improvement over RAAS-blockade and SGLT2-inhibition (and finerenone)

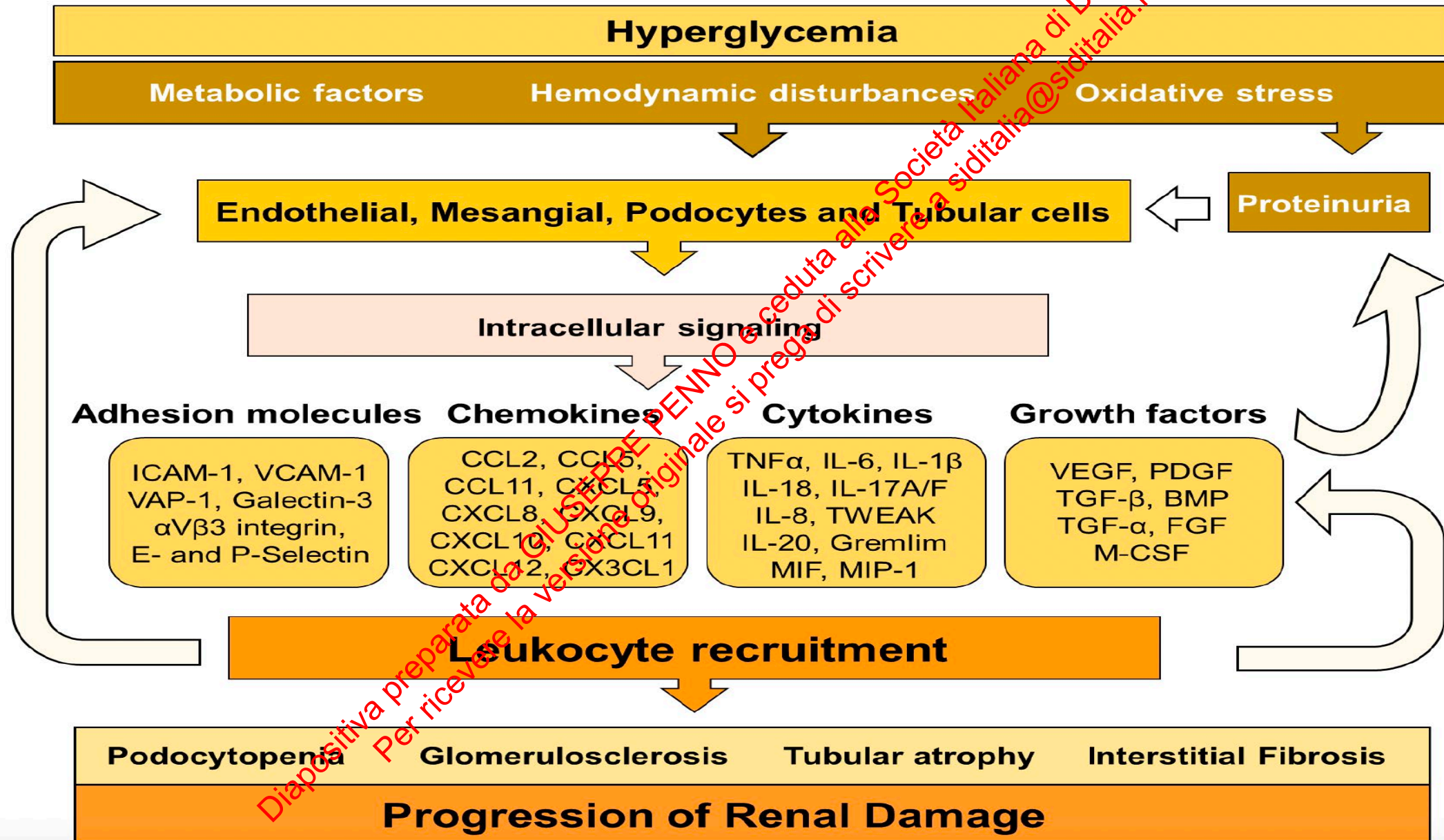
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The contribution of inflammation to the pathogenesis of DKD

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Mechanisms involved in inflammation, tissue injury and progression of renal damage in DKD

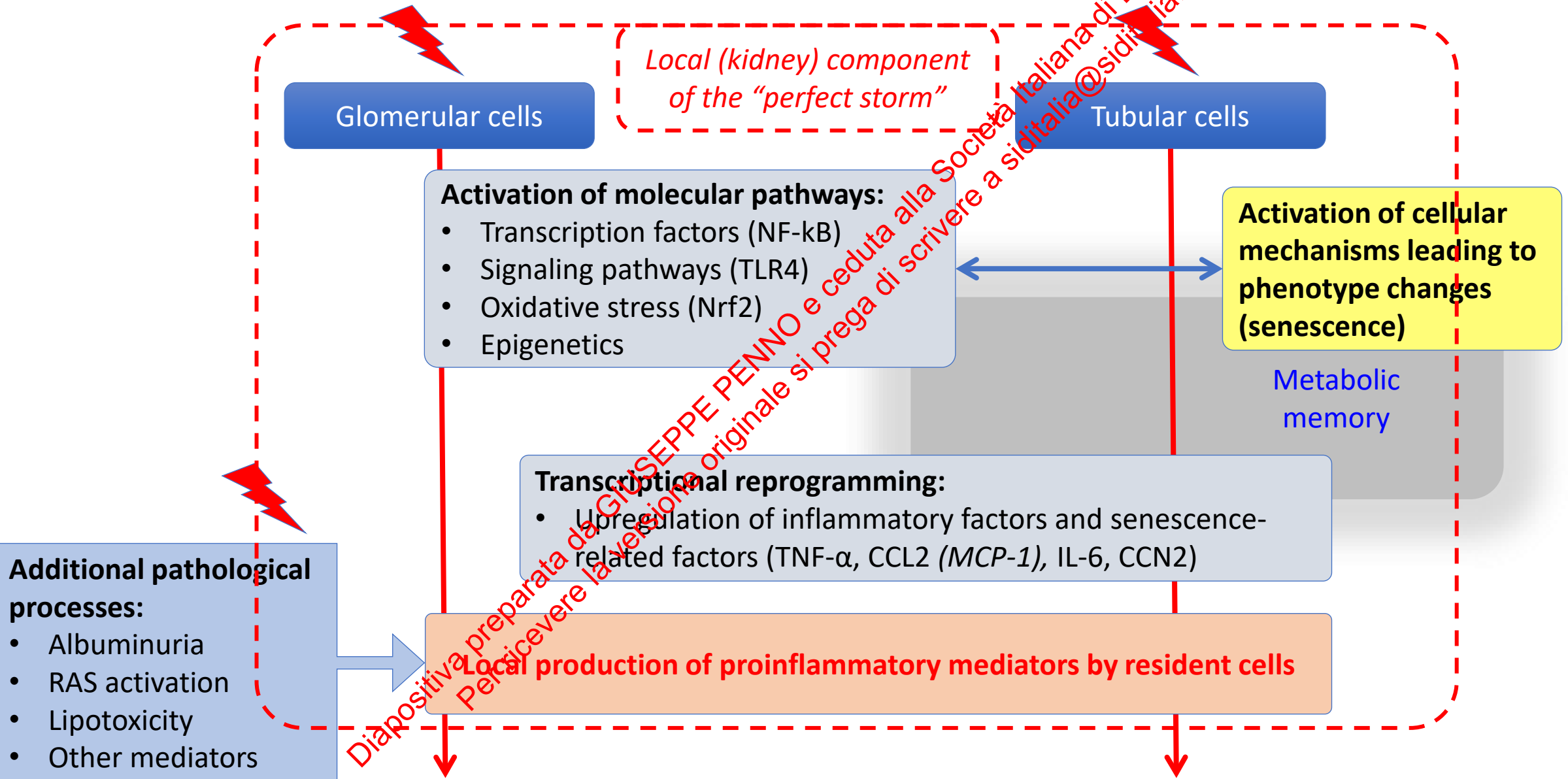


Inflammation is a key process in DKD

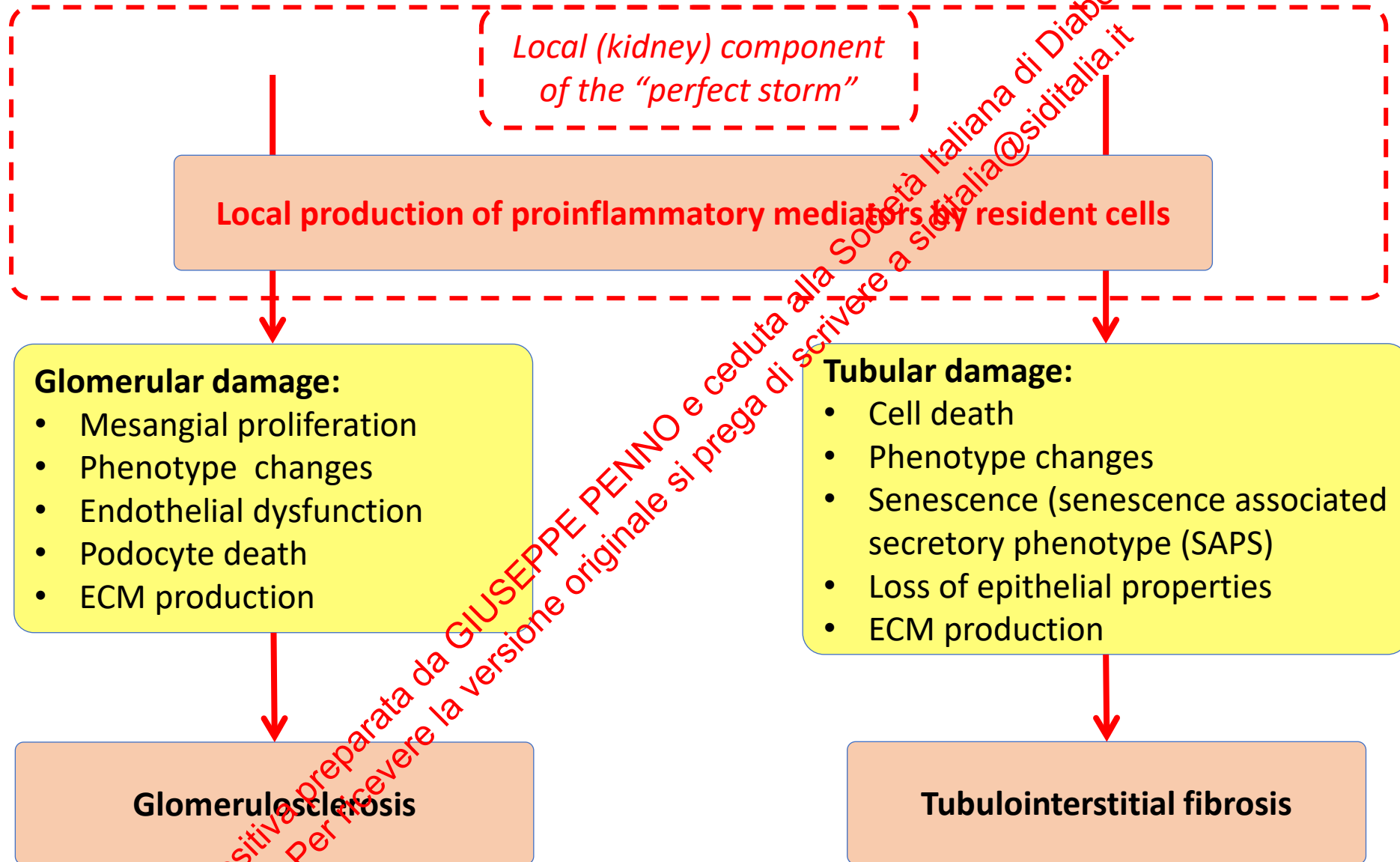


Initiation

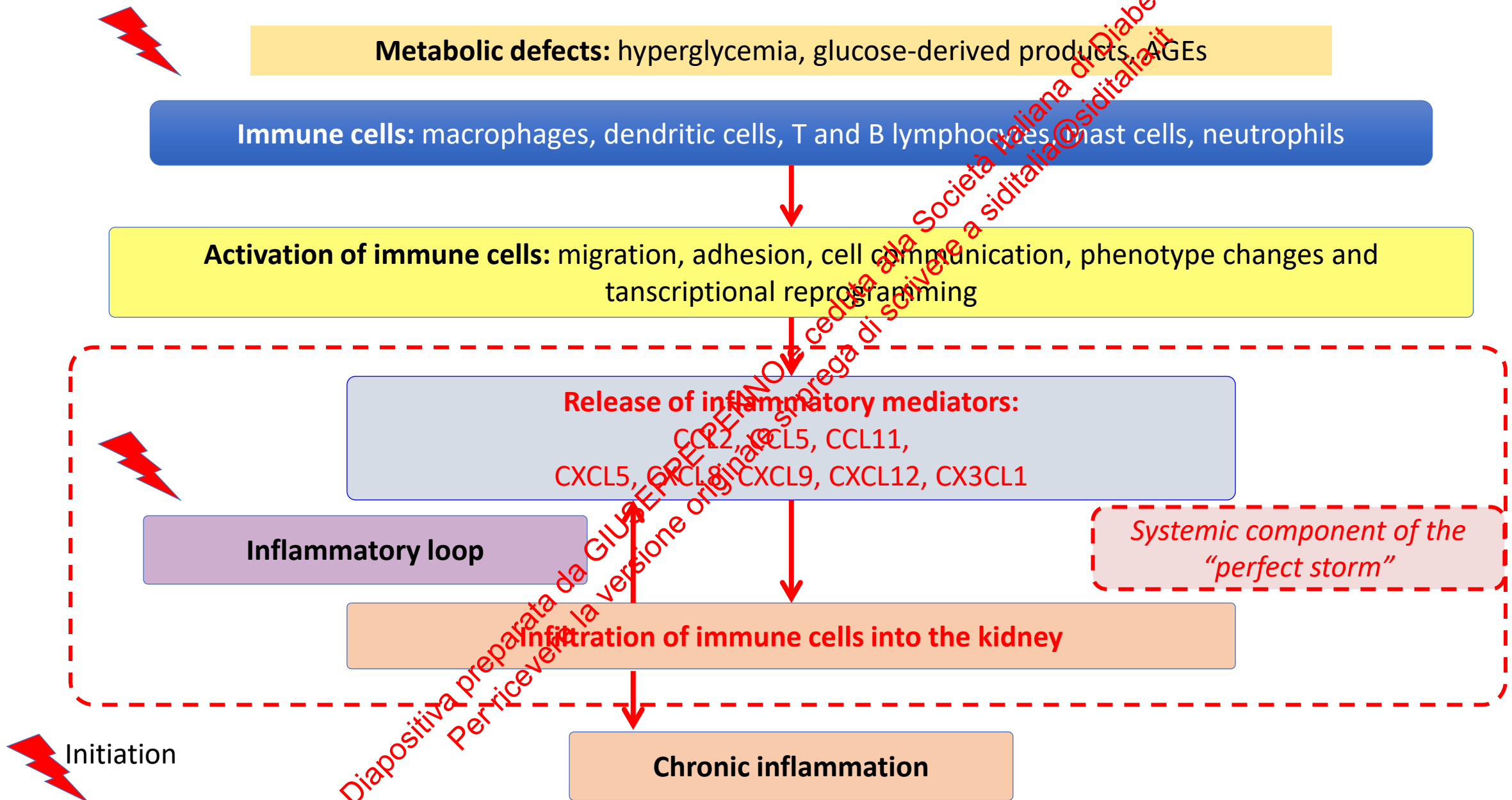
Metabolic defects: hyperglycemia, glucose-derived products, AGEs



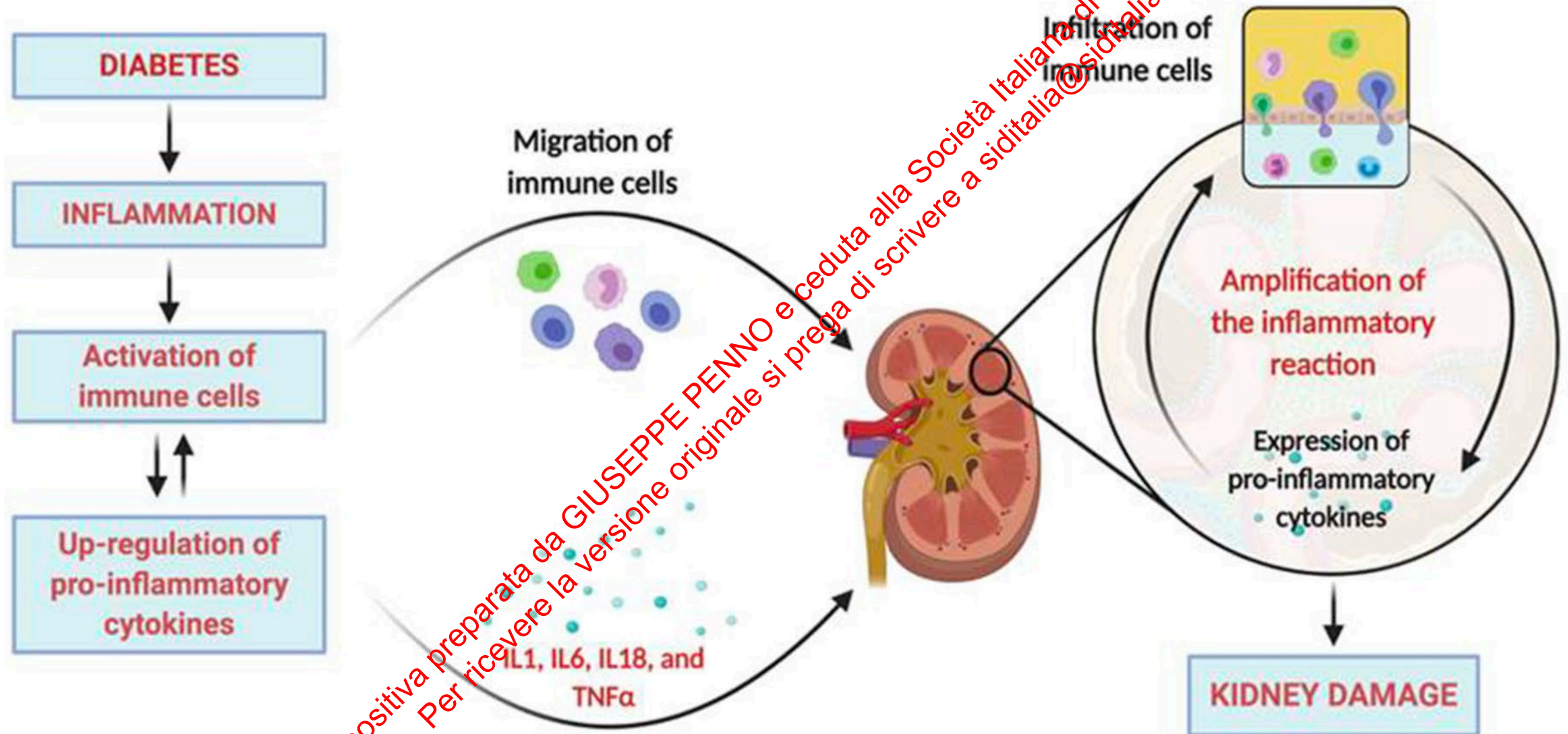
Inflammation is a key process in DKD



Inflammation is a key process in DKD

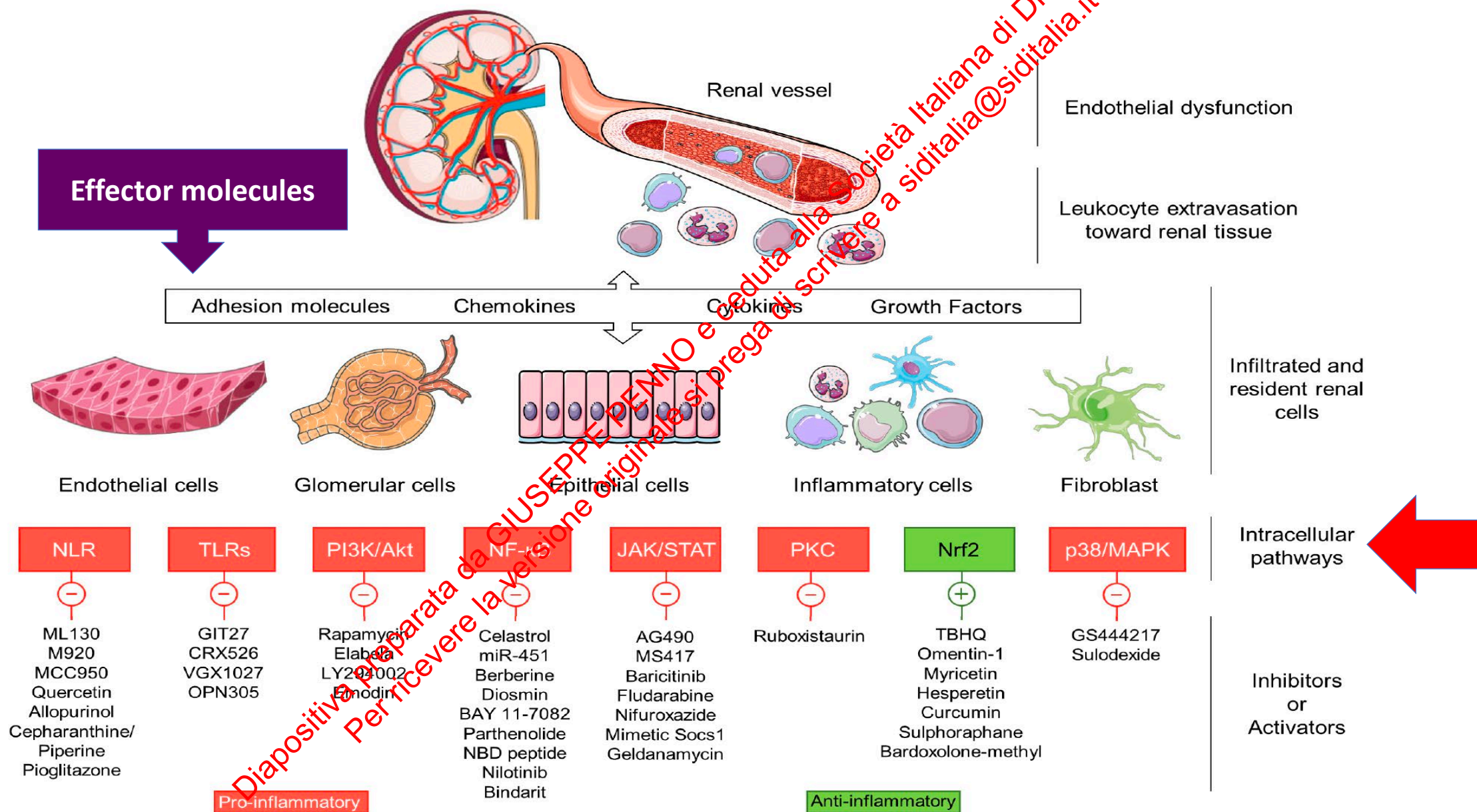


Mechanisms involved in inflammation, tissue injury and progression of renal damage in DKD



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Therapeutic compounds targeting proinflammatory intracellular signaling pathways in DKD



Selected preclinical studies targeting inflammatory mediators in DKD

Target	Diabetic Model	Strategy	Category	Conclusion	Ref.
Adhesion molecules	SD rats (65 mg/kg)	Anti-ICAM-1 antibody	ICAM-1 antagonist	Prevents glomerular mononuclear cell infiltration.	
	Yorkshire pigs + STZ (50 mg/kg)	Anti-αVβ3 antibody	αVβ3 antagonist	Attenuates proteinuria and renal histological changes.	
	ZSF1 rats	MK-0429	αVβ3 inhibitor	Reduces proteinuria and renal fibrosis	
Chemokines	SD rats + STZ (60 mg/kg)	AMD3100	CXCR4 inhibitor	Increases albuminuria and accelerated tubular cell death.	
	db/db mice	NOX-A12	CXCL1 inhibitor	Decreases glomerulosclerosis and albuminuria.	
	db/db mice	Recombinant CXCL10	Mimetic CXCL10	Reduces mesangial matrix expansion, albuminuria, and glomerular hypertrophy.	
	iNOS-Tg mice	Propagermanium	CCR2 antagonist	Decreases mesangial matrix expansion and macrophage infiltration.	
	db/db mice	CC-504393	CCR2 antagonist	Ameliorates inflammation, oxidative stress, and fibrosis.	
	db/db mice	CCX140-B	CCR2 antagonist	Reduces albuminuria, glomerular hypertrophy and increases podocyte number.	
	Wistar rats + STZ (40 mg/kg)	Infliximab	TNF-α inhibitor	Decreases albuminuria.	
	CCR-A(y) mice	Etanercept	TNF-α inhibitor	Improves albuminuria, macrophage infiltrate and CAM expression.	
	SD rats + STZ (65 mg/kg)	Tocilizumab	IL-6 inhibitor	Decreases albuminuria, oxidative stress, inflammation.	
Chemokines	BKS db/db mice	Anti-IL-1β antibody	IL-1β inhibitor	Improves kidney injury markers and attenuates decline of eGFR.	
	db/db, and Akita mice; STZ (150 mg/kg)	Recombinant IL-17A	Mimetic IL-17A	Prevents fibrosis, podocytes loss, tubular atrophy, and albuminuria.	
	BTBR ob/ob mice	Anti-IL-17A antibody	IL-17A inhibitor	Ameliorates renal function, macrophage infiltration and podocyte loss.	
	Wistar rats + STZ (70 mg kg)	Anti-IL-20 antibody	IL-20 inhibitor	Reduces glomerular area and improves renal functions.	
	db/db mice	ISO-1	MIF inhibitor	Decreases albuminuria, fibrosis and inflammation.	
	Wistar rats + STZ (50 mg kg)	p425	MIF antagonist	Decreases UACR, serum BUN and creatinine.	

Selected preclinical studies targeting inflammatory intracellular signaling pathways in DKD

Nucleotide-binding oligomerization domain (NOD)-like receptors (NLR)

Toll-like receptors (TLRs)

PI3K/Akt/mTOR (Phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase/protein kinase B/mammalian target of rapamycin)

NF-κB (Nuclear Factor-κappa B)

Target	Diabetic Model	Strategy	Category	Conclusion	Ref.
	SD rats + STZ (55 mg/kg)	Quercetin or allopurinol	Flavonoid or XO inhibitor	Ameliorates hyperuricemia and reduces IL-1β and IL-18 levels.	
	SD rats + STZ (50 mg/kg)	Cepharanthine and Piperine	Nutraceuticals	Decreases cytokines NLRP3-dependent.	
	ApoE ^{-/-} mice + STZ (80 mg/kg)	Pioglitazone	PPARγ agonist	Restores renal function. Downregulates AGEs, RAGEs and cytokines NLRP3-dependent.	
	db/db mice	MCC950	Selective NLRP3 inhibitor	Ameliorates GBM thickness, podocyte injury and renal fibrosis.	
	db/db mice	M920	Pan-caspase inhibitor	Reduces NLRP3-inflammasome (IL-1β, IL-18, NLRP3, caspase-1) and profibrotic markers.	
	eNOS ^{-/-} + STZ mice	CRX526	TLR4 antagonist	Ameliorates histological changes, inflammatory and profibrotic markers.	
	db/db mice	GIT2	TLR4 inhibitor	Reduces proinflammatory, oxidative stress and lipid metabolism markers.	
	SD + STZ (60 mg/kg)	Rapamycin	mTOR inhibitor	Ameliorates histological changes, inflammation and fibrotic markers.	
	C57BL/6 + STZ (60 mg/kg)	Mangiferin	Natural phenolic xanthonoid	Reduces inflammation, oxidative stress and profibrotic markers.	
	C57BL/6J + STZ (50 mg/kg)	Elabela	Peptide agonist Apelin/API receptor	Reduces GBM thickening, podocyte damage, inflammation, apoptosis and fibrosis markers.	
	Wistar rats + STZ (60 mg/kg)	Emodin	Derived from root rhubarb	Attenuates inflammation, oxidative stress and apoptosis markers.	
	db/db mice	Celastrol	Celastrus regelii root extracts	Improves lipid accumulation, oxidative stress and proinflammatory markers.	
	db/db mice	miR-451	LMP7 modulator	Decreases histological lesions, inflammation and fibrosis markers.	
	Wistar rats + STZ (65 mg/kg)	Berberine	Flavonoid	Improves systemic and renal cortex inflammatory response.	
	SD rats + STZ (50 mg/kg).	BAY 11-7082	Phospho-IκB inhibitor	Reduces proinflammatory cytokines and oxidative stress markers.	
	ApoE ^{-/-} mice + STZ (125 mg/kg -2 days)	NBD peptide	Mimetic IKKβ-NEMO complex	Decreases histological lesions, inflammation and fibrosis.	
	SD rats + STZ (50 mg/kg)	Nilotinib hydrochloride	BCR-ABL tyrosine kinase inhibitor	Reduces oxidative stress, inflammation and profibrotic marker expression.	

Selected preclinical studies targeting inflammatory intracellular signaling pathways in DKD

JAK/STAT (Janus kinases/signal trasducer and activators of transcription

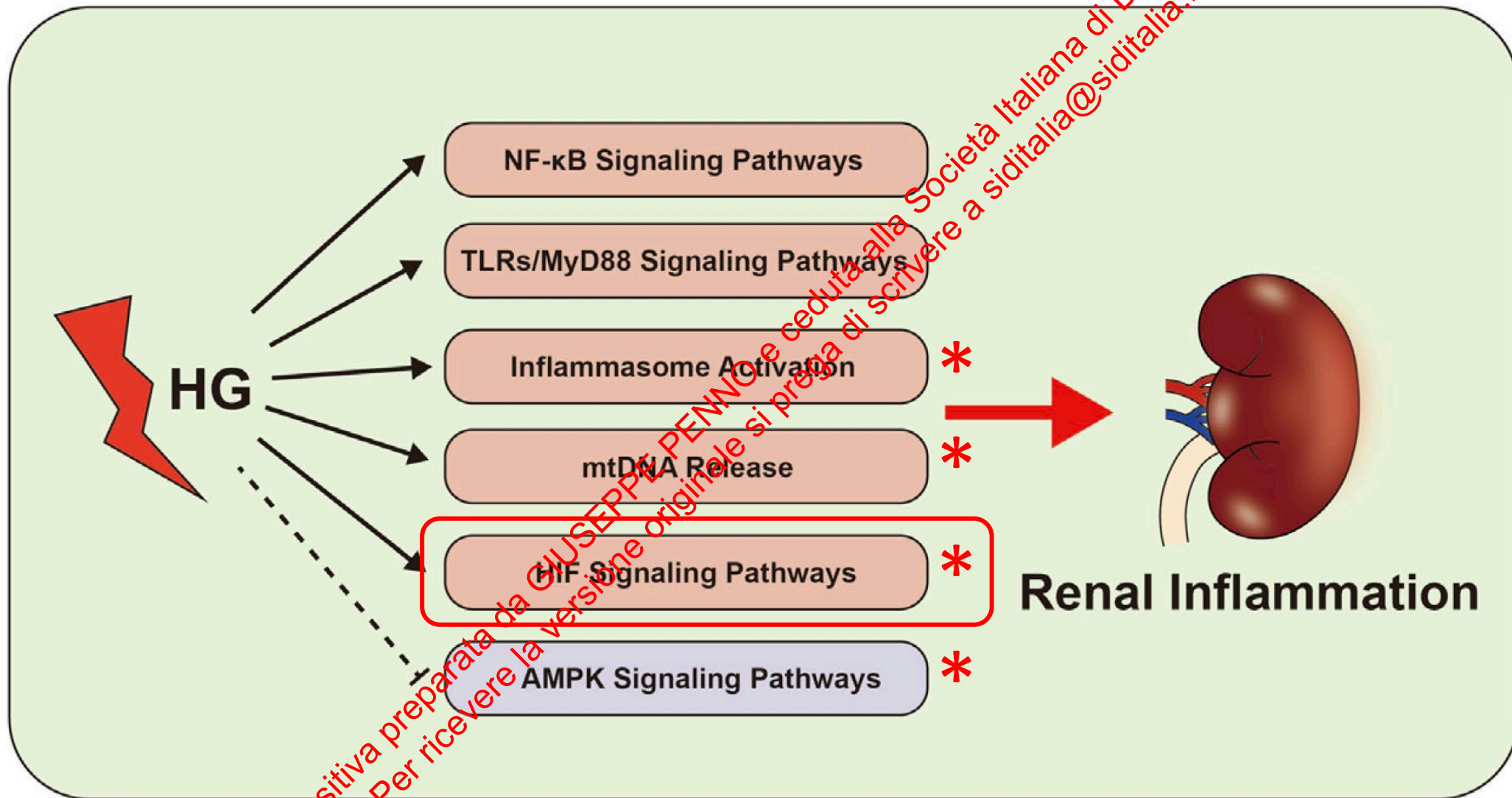
PKC (Protein Kinase C)

Nrf2 (Nuclear factor (erythroid-derived 2)-like 2)

P38/MAPK (P38 mitogen-activated protein kinases)

Target	Diabetic Model	Strategy	Category	Conclusion	Ref.
JAK/STAT (Janus kinases/signal trasducer and activators of transcription	SD rats + STZ (60 mg/kg)	AG-490 (Tyrphostin)	JAK 2 inhibitor	Prevents JAK2 and STATs phosphorylation.	
	Akita mice + JAK2 Pod-overexpression	Tyrphostin or Baricitinib	JAK 2 inhibitors	Ameliorates histological changes, serum amyloid A3 plasma and kidney tissue.	
	SD rats + STZ (50 mg/kg)	Nifuroxazide	STAT3 inhibitor	Diminishes inflammatory and profibrotic factors and infiltrating cells.	
	Double db/db-SIRT1 ^{-/-} mice	MS417	BET-specific BRD4 inhibitor	Attenuates histological changes and STAT3 activity.	
	CD-1 mice + STZ (150 mg/kg)	Gene delivery SOCS1	SOCS1 Overexpression	Attenuates renal hypertrophy, inflammation and profibrotic markers.	
	ApoE ^{-/-} + STZ (125 mg/kg)	SOCS1 delivery system	Mimetic SOCS1-SIR region	Reduces atherosclerosis, structural changes and inflammatory markers.	
PKC (Protein Kinase C)	Wistar rats + STZ (55 mg/kg)	Ruboxistaurin	Selective PKCβ inhibitor	Improves histological changes and attenuates TGFβ/Smad2/3 pathway.	
	Swiprosin-1 ^{-/-} C57BL/6 mice + STZ (150 mg/kg)	Ruboxistaurin	Selective PKCβ inhibitor	Ameliorates histological changes, apoptosis and Swiprosin-1 expression.	
	SD rats + IR injury + STZ (65 mg/kg)	TBHQ	Synthetic antioxidant	Ameliorates oxidative stress, inflammation and apoptosis.	
	db/db and C57BL/6 mice + HFD	γ-glutamyl transpeptidase	Bardoxolone methyl analog	Reduces body weight, histological changes and GBM thickening.	
Nrf2 (Nuclear factor (erythroid-derived 2)-like 2)	Wistar rats + STZ (50 mg/kg)	Sulforaphane	Cruciferous vegetables extracts	Diminishes inflammation, oxidative stress markers, DNA damage and cell death.	
	SD rats + STZ (60 mg/kg)	Hesperetin	Flavonoid	Ameliorates histological changes, inhibition AGEs/RAGE axis and inflammation.	
	C57BL/6 + STZ (50 mg/kg) and Nrf2 knockdown mice	Myricetin	Flavonoid	Mitigates inflammation, oxidative stress and fibrosis markers.	
	db/db mice	Omentin-1	Adipokine	Reduces proinflammatory cytokines and oxidative stress markers.	
	SD rats + STZ (55 mg/kg)	Curcumin	Flavonoid	Lipid accumulation, angiogenesis, profibrotic and podocyte damage markers.	
	eNOS ^{-/-} mice + STZ (55 mg/kg)	GS-444217	ASK1 inhibitor (Selonsertib)	Ameliorates histological changes, inflammatory and profibrotic markers.	
	eNOS ^{-/-} db/db mice	GS-444217 + ACEi			
P38/MAPK (P38 mitogen-activated protein kinases)	OLETF rats	Sulodexide	Sulfated GAGs	Reduces histological changes, urinary VEGF and profibrotic markers.	

Inflammation-related signaling pathways in the development of DKD





The contribution of inflammation to the pathogenesis of DKD



The discontinuation of undergoing clinical testing of promising anti-inflammatory agents for DKD

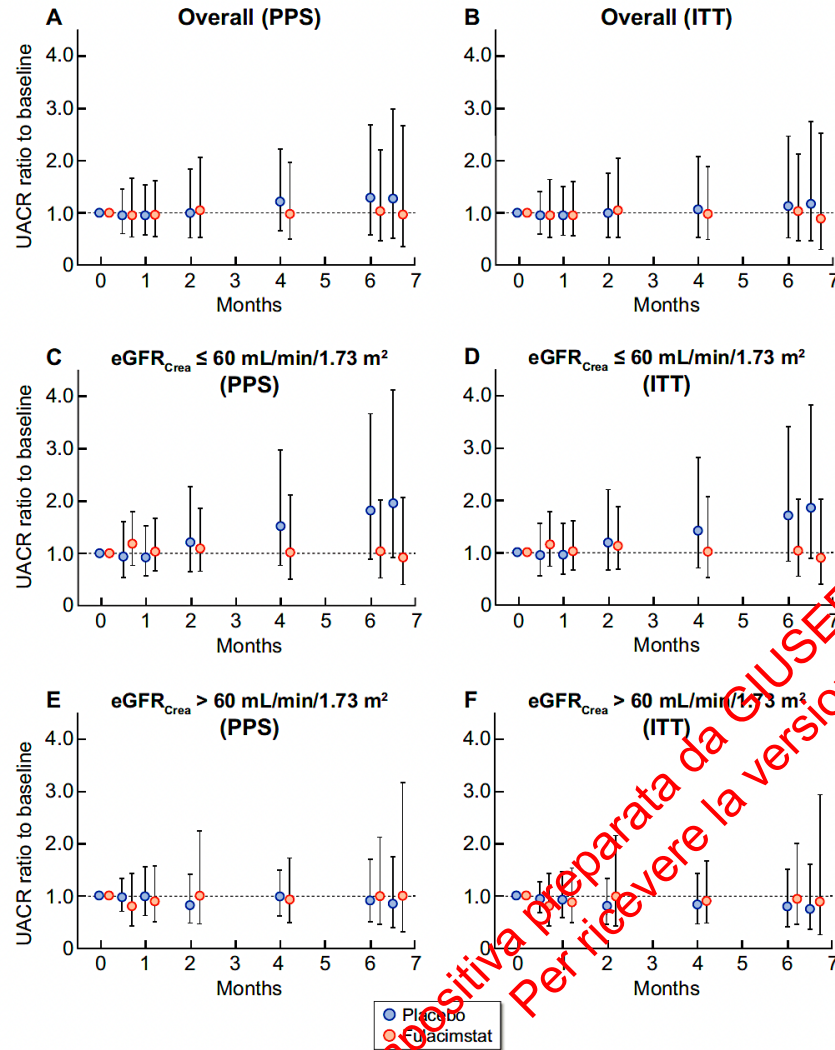
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Selected clinical trials targeting inflammation in DKD

	Target	Compound	Enrollment	Phase	Status	1st or 2nd Outcome	Identification
●	Chymase inhibitor	BAY1142524 Fulacimstat	152	2	C	UACR	NCT03412006
●	VAP-1 inhibitor	ASP8232	55	2	C	AE—UACR	NCT02218099
	Galectin-3 antagonist	GCS-100	375	2	C	eGFR	NCT02312050
	Anti-Human $\alpha V\beta 3$	VPI-2690B Monoclonal antibody	165	2	C	Albuminuria—eGFR	NCT02251067
	CCL2 inhibitor	AF2838 Bindarit	100	2	C	UACR	NCT01109212
●	CCL2 inhibitor	Spiegelmer [®] NOX-E36	76	2	C	UACR	NCT01547897
	CCR2 inhibitor	Propagermanium	45	2	A	UACR—eGFR	NCT03627715
●	CCR2 inhibitor	CCX140-B	332	2	C	UACR	NCT01447147
	CCR2/5 antagonist	PF-04634817	126	2	C	UACR	NCT01712061
	CCR2/5 antagonist	BMS-813160	319	2	T	UACR	NCT01752985
	PDE inhibitor	Pentoxifylline	196	4	R	eGFR	NCT03664414
●	PDE inhibitor	Pentoxifylline	2510	4	A	Death—ESRD—UACR	NCT03625648
●	Anti-Human IL-1 β	Canakinumab	10066	3	C	MACE—UACR—eGFR	NCT01327846
	Anti-Human IL-18	GS01070606 Monoclonal antibody	37	2	C	UACR, HbA1c and metabolic changes	NCT01648153
	Anti-Human IL-33	MEDI3506 Monoclonal Antibody	168	2	R	UACR	NCT04170543

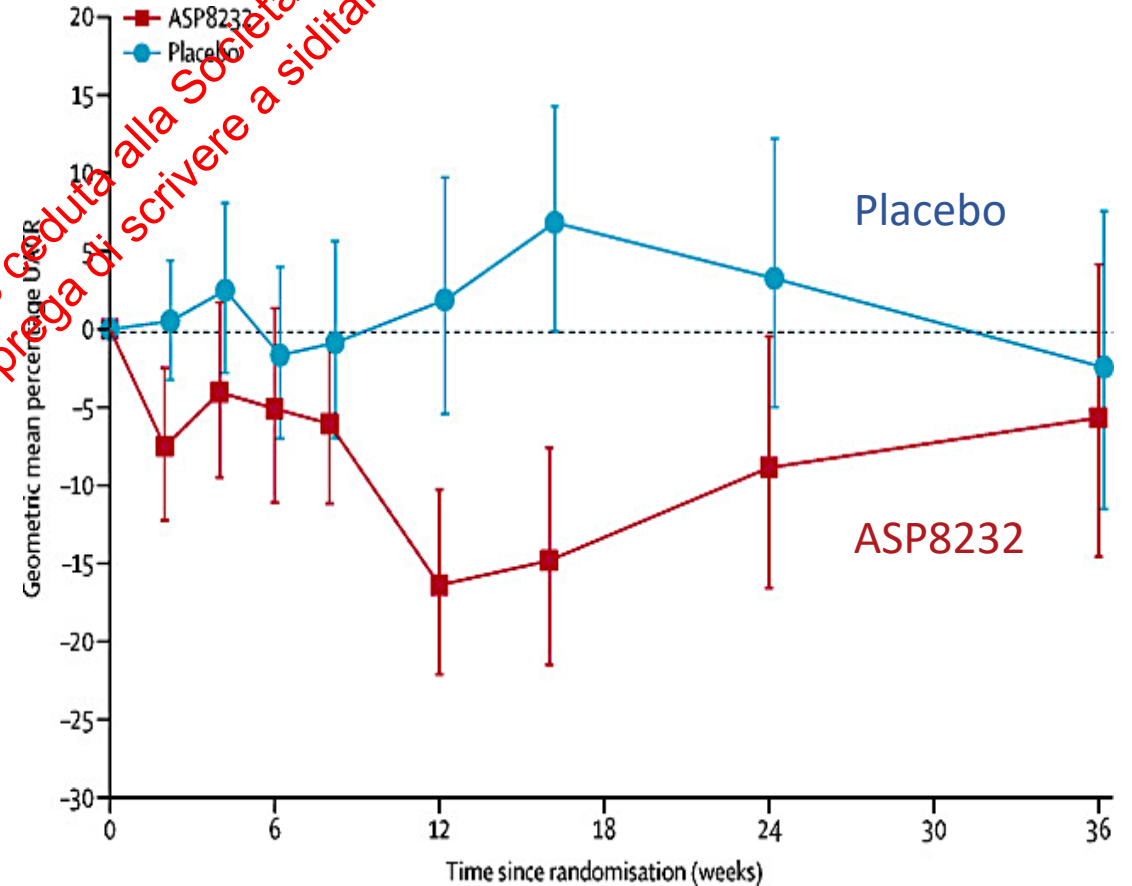
Selected clinical trials targeting inflammation in DKD

Effect of the chymase inhibitor **fulacimstat** in DKD – results from the CADA DIA trial



Rossing P, et al., Nephrol Dial Transplant. 2021; 36: 2263-2273.

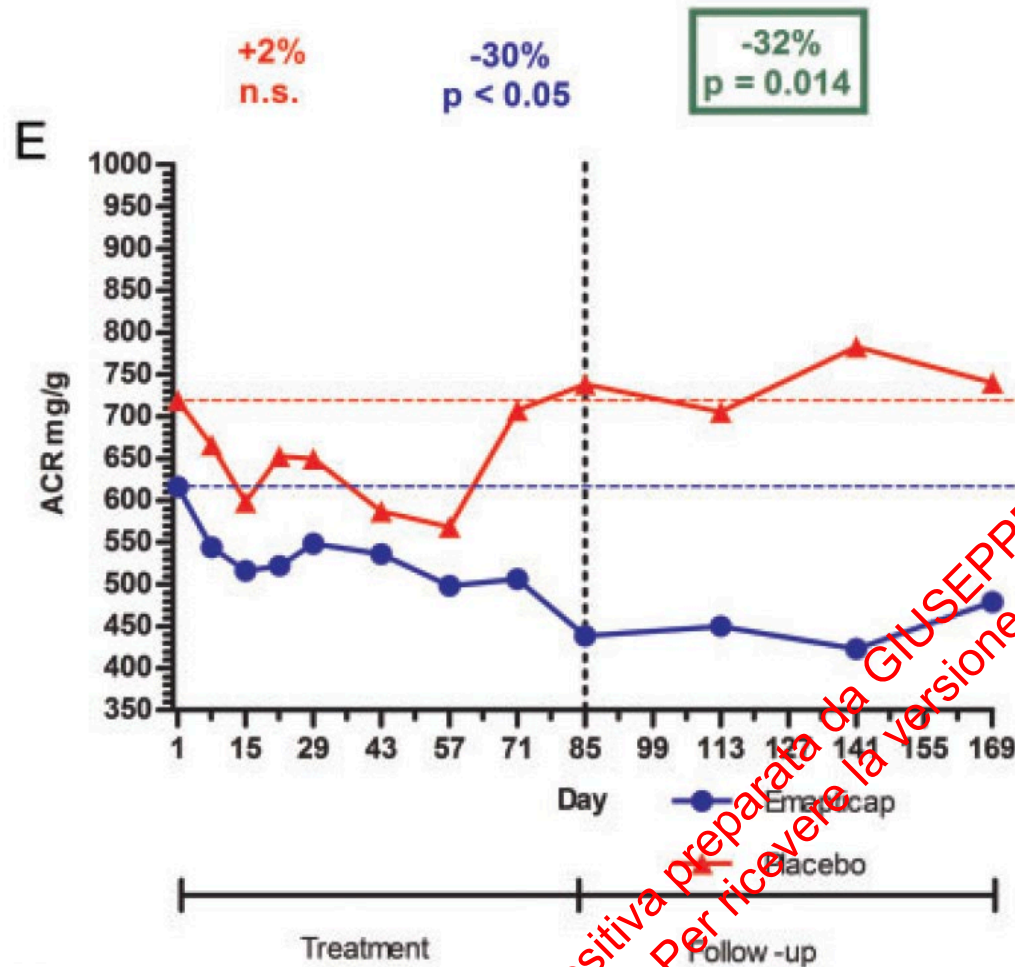
Efficacy of a novel inhibitor of vascular adhesion protein-1 in reducing albuminuria in patients with diabetic kidney disease (ALBUM): a randomised, placebo-controlled, phase 2 trial



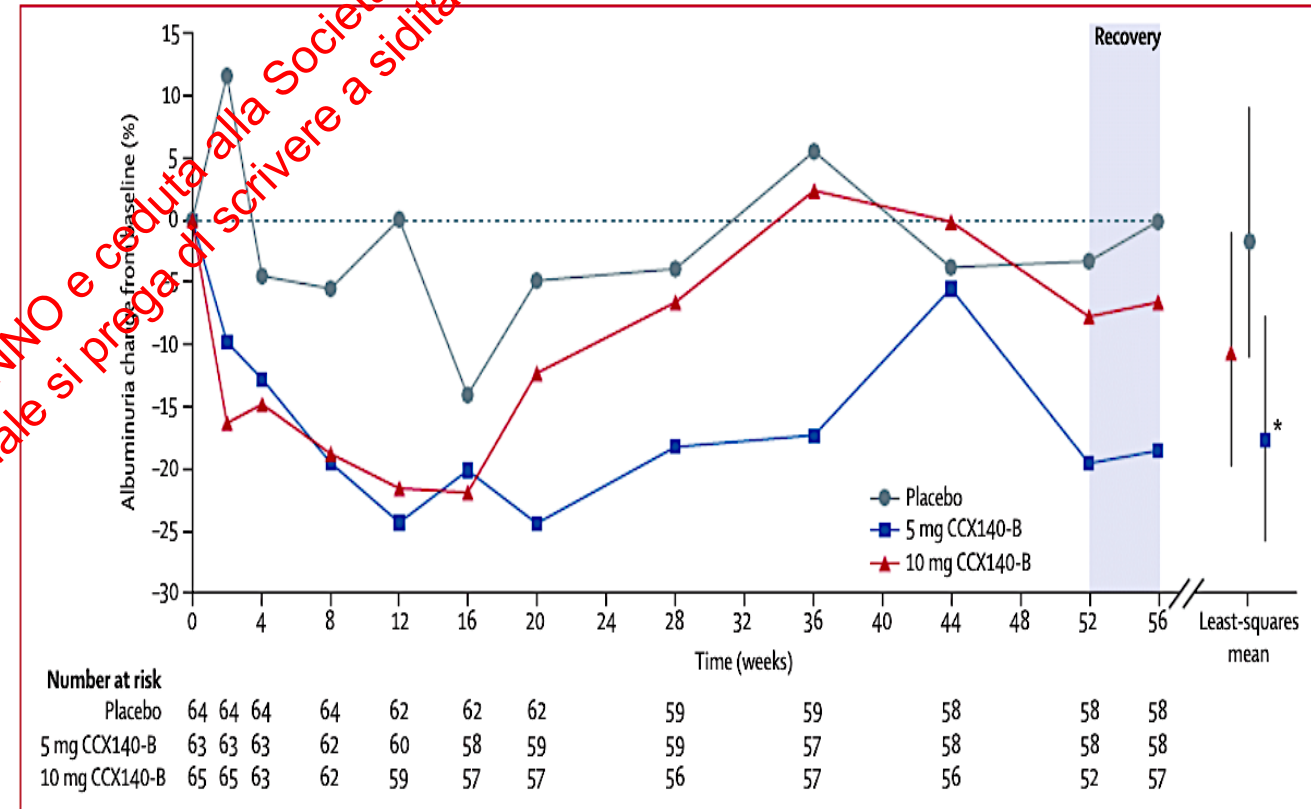
de Zeeuw D et al., Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol. 2018; 6: 925-933.

Selected clinical trials targeting inflammation in DKD

C-C motif-ligand 2 (CCL2; MCP-1) inhibition with emapticap pegol (**NOX-E36**) in type 2 diabetic patients with albuminuria (*post hoc analysis*)



The effect of **CCR2 inhibitor CCX140-B** on residual albuminuria in patients with type 2 diabetes and nephropathy: a randomised trial



Selected clinical trials targeting inflammation in DKD

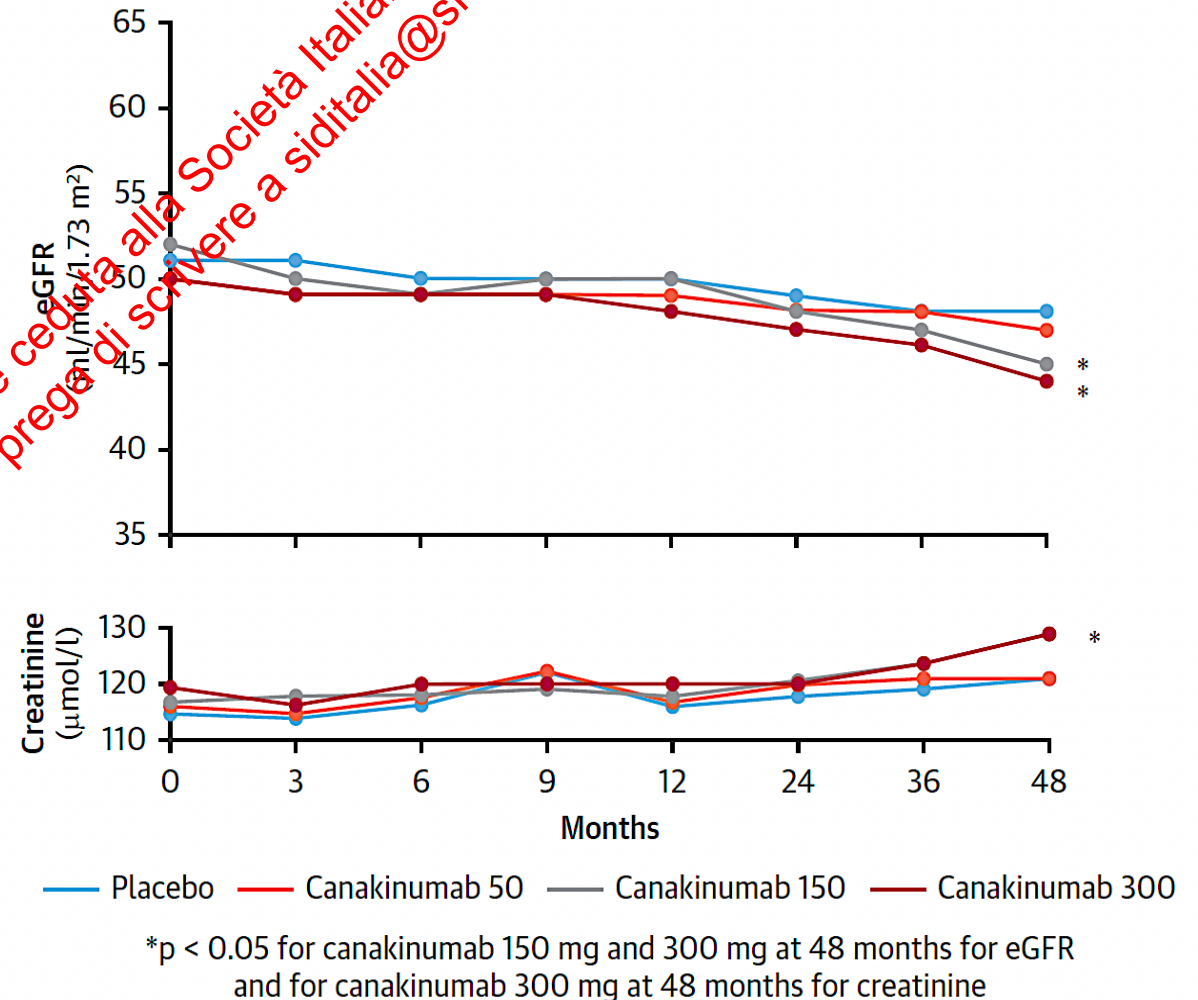
Pentoxifylline in diabetic kidney disease (VA PTXRx): protocol for a pragmatic randomised controlled trial

- Large randomised, controlled, pragmatic, multicentre clinical trial to determine if pentoxifylline (PTX), a phosphodiesterase inhibitor, can prevent ESRD and/or death in patients with DKD.
- PTX is a readily available, safe and inexpensive medication which might be effectively **repurposed** to treat this condition.
- Study medication is added to standard of care therapy in both the active intervention and placebo control groups. Standard of care is determined by the treating physicians.
- The primary outcome is time to ESRD or death (all-cause mortality).

- **An example of drug repositioning**

Leehey DJ, et al., BMJ Open. 2021; 11: e053019.

Inhibition of Interleukin-1 β by **Canakinumab** and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Patients With Chronic Kidney Disease



Ridker PM, et al., J Am Coll Cardiol. 2018; 71: 2405-2414.

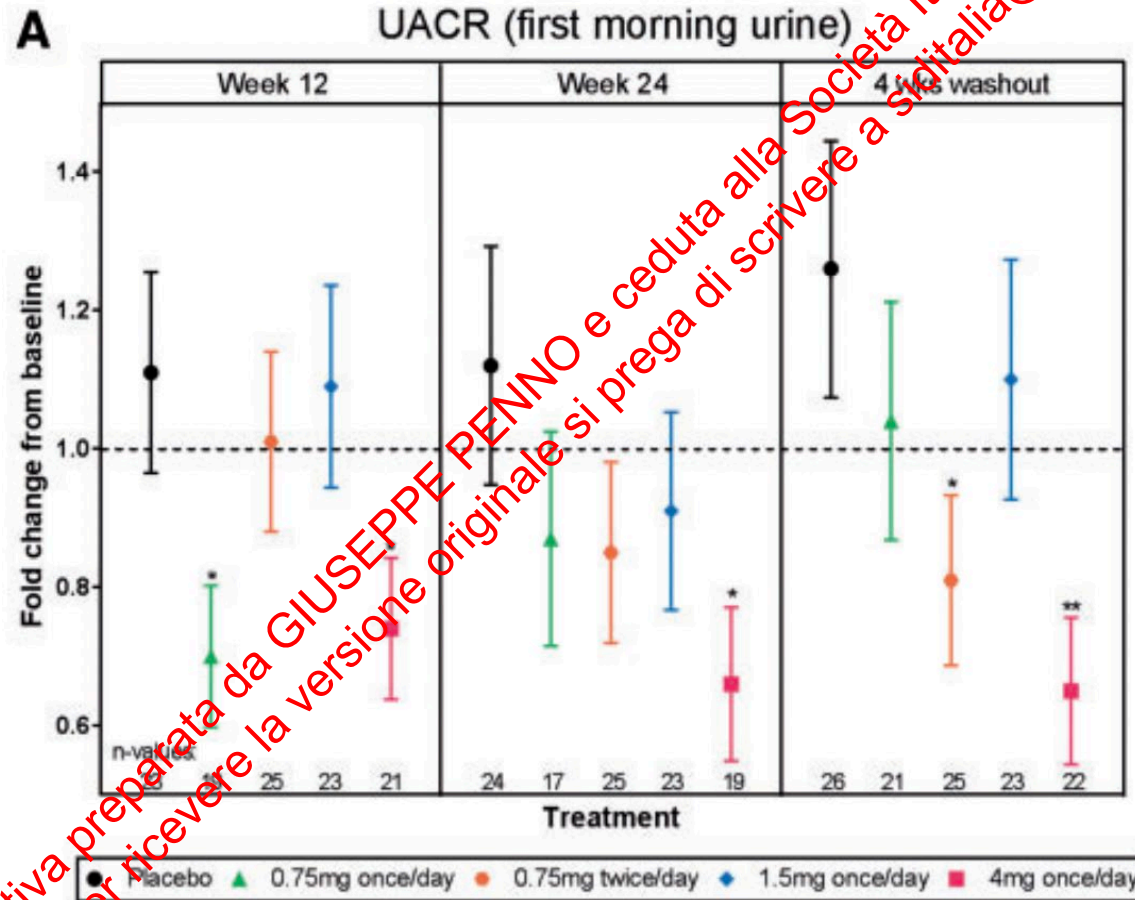
Selected clinical trials targeting inflammation in DKD

Target	Compound	Enrollment	Phase	Status	1st or 2nd Outcome	Identification
Anti-Human TGFβ1	Galunisertib Monoclonal Antibody	417	2	T	UACR	NCT01113801
Anti-Human TGFα/Epiregulin	LY3016859 Monoclonal antibody	60	2	C	UACR	NCT01774981
● JAK2 inhibitor	Baricitinib	130	2	C	UACR—eGFR	NCT01703234
PKCβ Inhibitor	Ruboxistaurin	20		C	UACR	NCT00297401
NRF2 inducer	Bardoxolone Methyl	1323	3	A	eGFR or ESRD	NCT03550443
● NRF2 inducer	Bardoxolone Methyl	2185	3	C	ESRD or death	NCT01351675
● NRF2 inducer	Bardoxolone Methyl	216	2	C	AE—eGFR	NCT02316821
Anti-inflammatory inhibitor	Colchicine	160	NA	A	UACR	NCT02035891
● Sulfated GAGs	KRX-101 Sulodexide	1248	4	T	ESRD—UACR	NCT00130312
● ASK-1 inhibitor	GS-4997 Selonsertib	3300	3	A	eGFR—ESRD	NCT04026165

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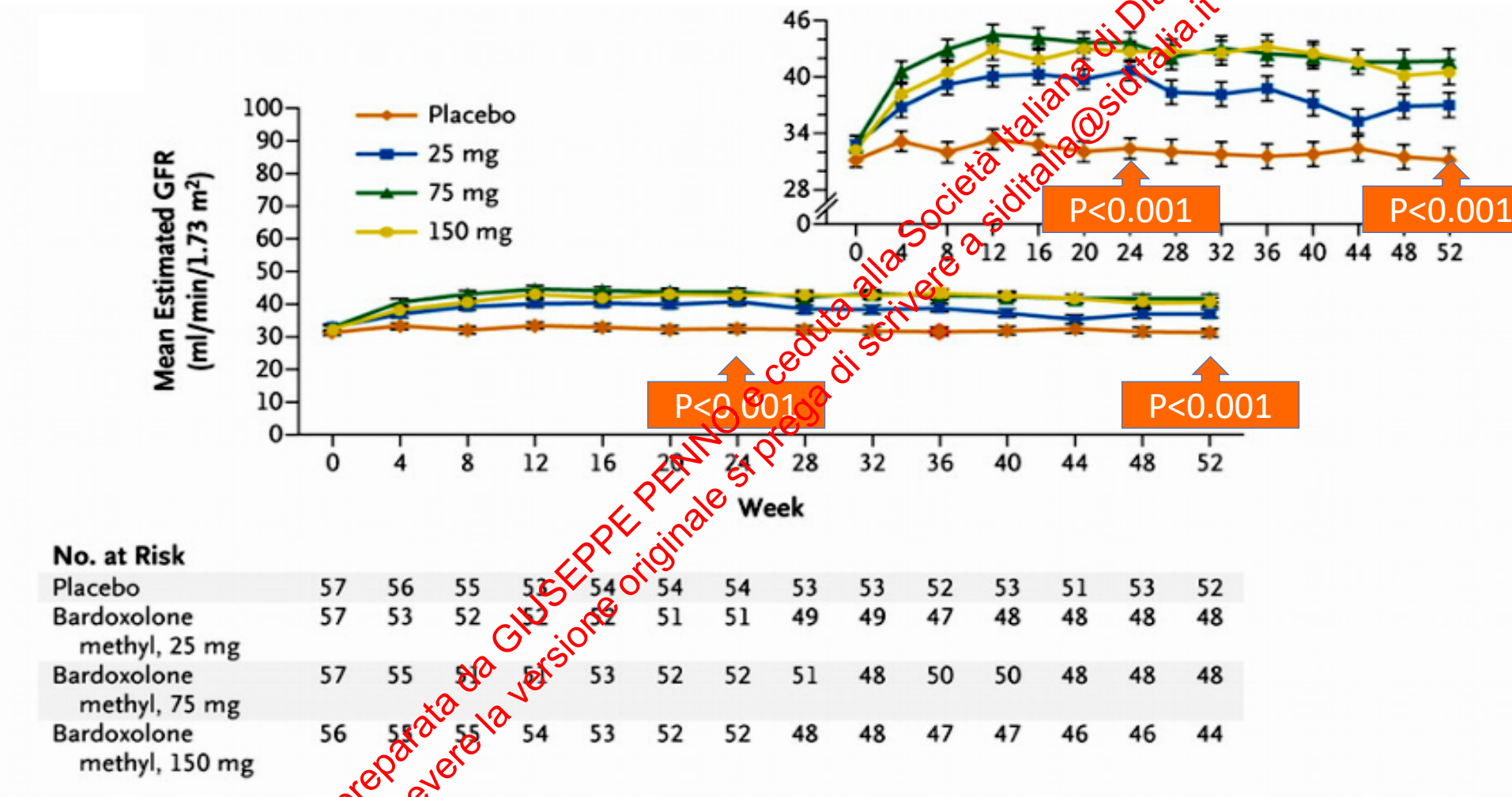
Selected clinical trials targeting inflammation in DKD

JAK1/JAK2 inhibition by **baricitinib** in diabetic kidney disease: results from a Phase 2 randomized controlled clinical trial



Bardoxolone Methyl and Kidney Function in CKD with Type 2 Diabetes

The BEAM Study



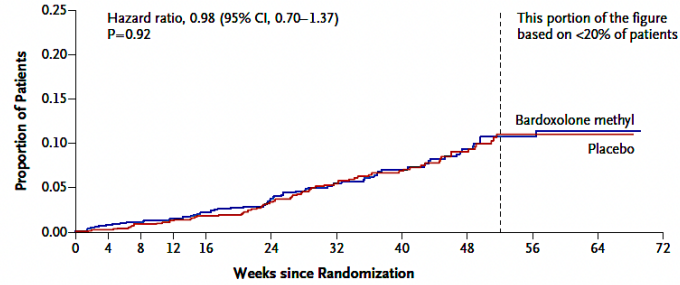
227 subjects with type 2 diabetes and eGFR = 20-45 ml/min/1.73m²

Baseline eGFR Bardoxolone methyl, an oral antioxidant inflammation modulator, was associated with improvement in the estimated GFR in patients with advanced CKD and type 2 diabetes at 24 weeks. The improvement persisted at 52 weeks.

Bardoxolone Methyl in Type 2 Diabetes and Stage 4 CKD

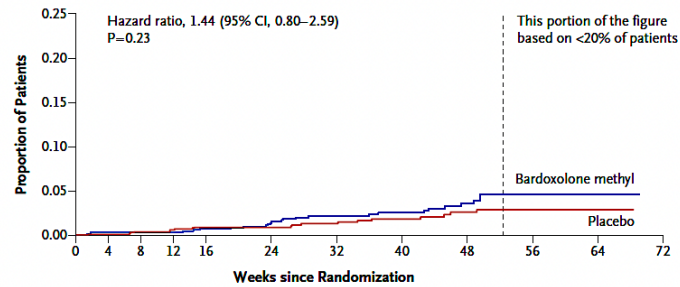
BEACON Trial Investigators

A Primary Composite Outcome



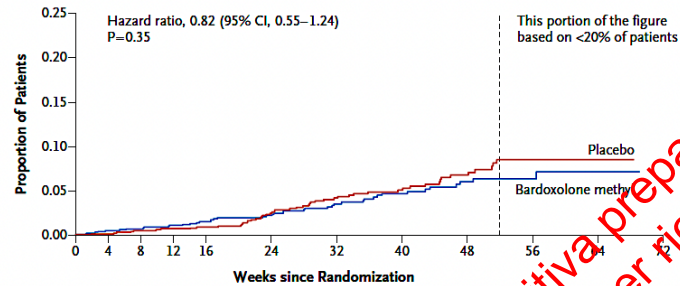
No. at Risk	0	4	8	12	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72
Bardoxolone methyl	1088	1077	1050	982	904	756	571	429	297	137	16	0
Placebo	1097	1095	1076	1004	922	768	596	439	318	142	19	0

B Death from Cardiovascular Causes



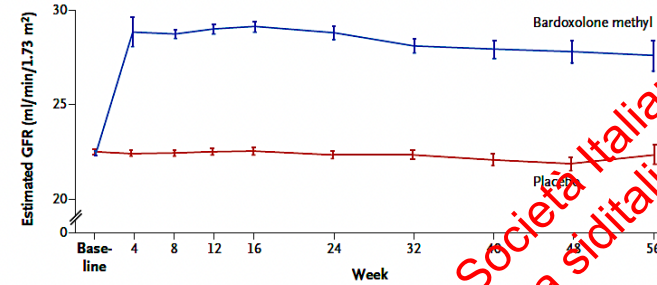
No. at Risk	0	4	8	12	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72
Bardoxolone methyl	1088	1082	1055	991	916	770	590	450	315	144	18	0
Placebo	1097	1096	1081	1010	930	786	622	464	340	156	23	0

C ESRD



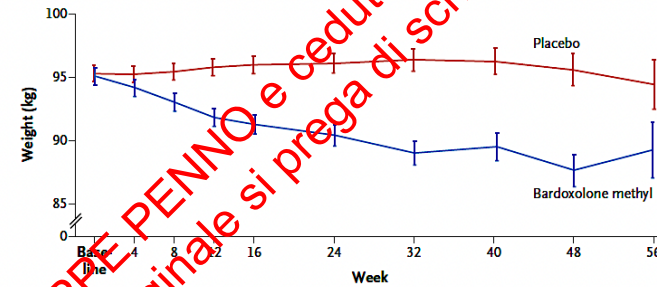
No. at Risk	0	4	8	12	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72
Bardoxolone methyl	1088	1077	1050	982	904	756	571	429	297	137	16	0
Placebo	1097	1095	1076	1004	922	768	596	439	318	142	19	0

A



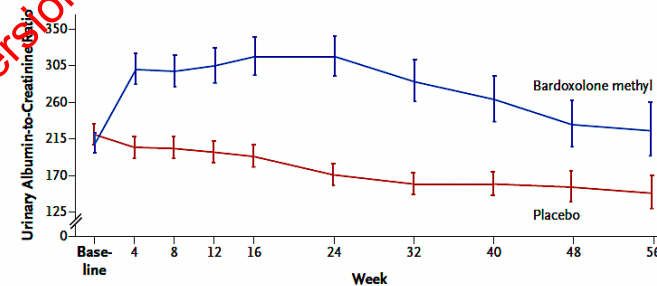
No. at Risk	0	4	8	12	16	24	32	40	48	56
Placebo	1097	1074	1041	971	898	743	585	411	290	134
Bardoxolone methyl	1088	1041	1007	921	860	693	529	390	268	116

B



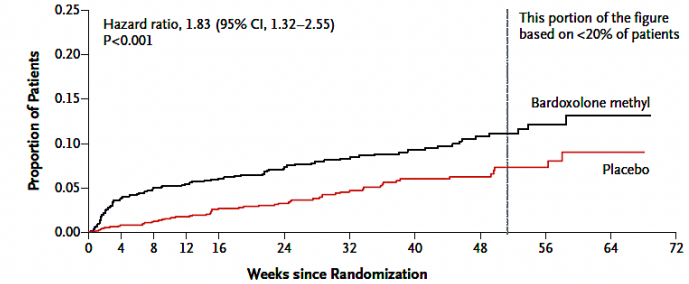
No. at Risk	0	4	8	12	16	24	32	40	48	56
Placebo	1097	1066	1031	969	890	730	553	407	282	126
Bardoxolone methyl	1088	1001	957	859	791	633	416	342	241	106

C



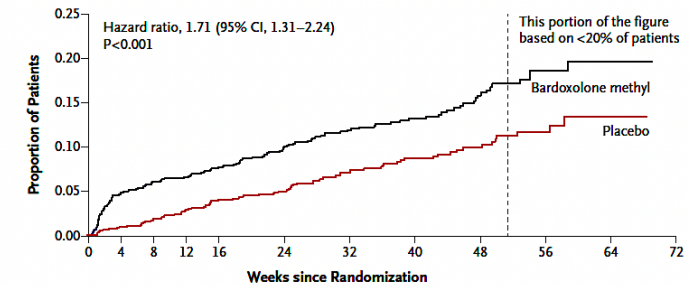
No. at Risk	0	4	8	12	16	24	32	40	48	56
Placebo	1097	1075	1038	994	947	812	640	497	346	225
Bardoxolone methyl	1088	1038	982	908	849	709	552	401	298	185

A Heart Failure



No. at Risk	0	4	8	12	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72
Bardoxolone methyl	1088	1045	1006	942	864	723	548	417	288	133	15	0
Placebo	1097	1089	1070	994	907	762	591	436	315	135	20	0

B Secondary Composite Outcome



No. at Risk	0	4	8	12	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72
Bardoxolone methyl	1088	1038	999	935	855	712	537	409	278	126	15	0
Placebo	1097	1088	1068	990	902	754	582	430	310	132	20	0

Sulodexide therapy for the treatment of diabetic nephropathy, a meta-analysis and literature review

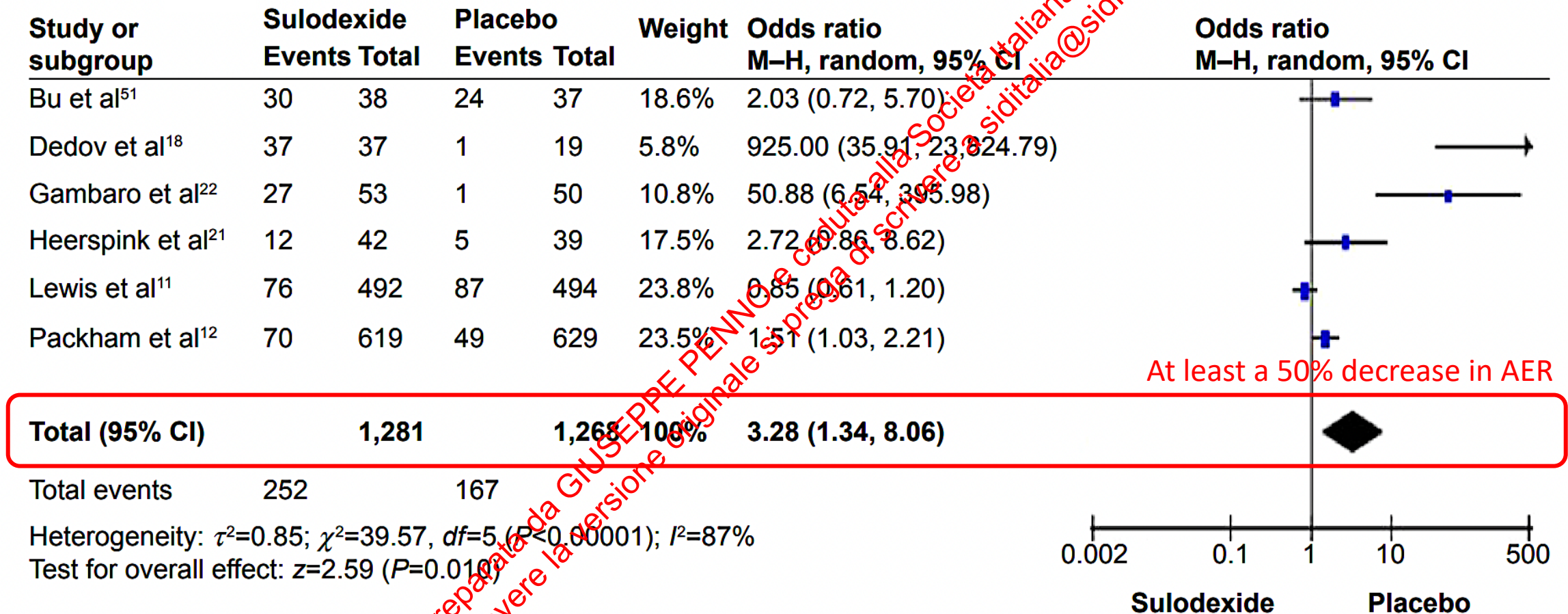
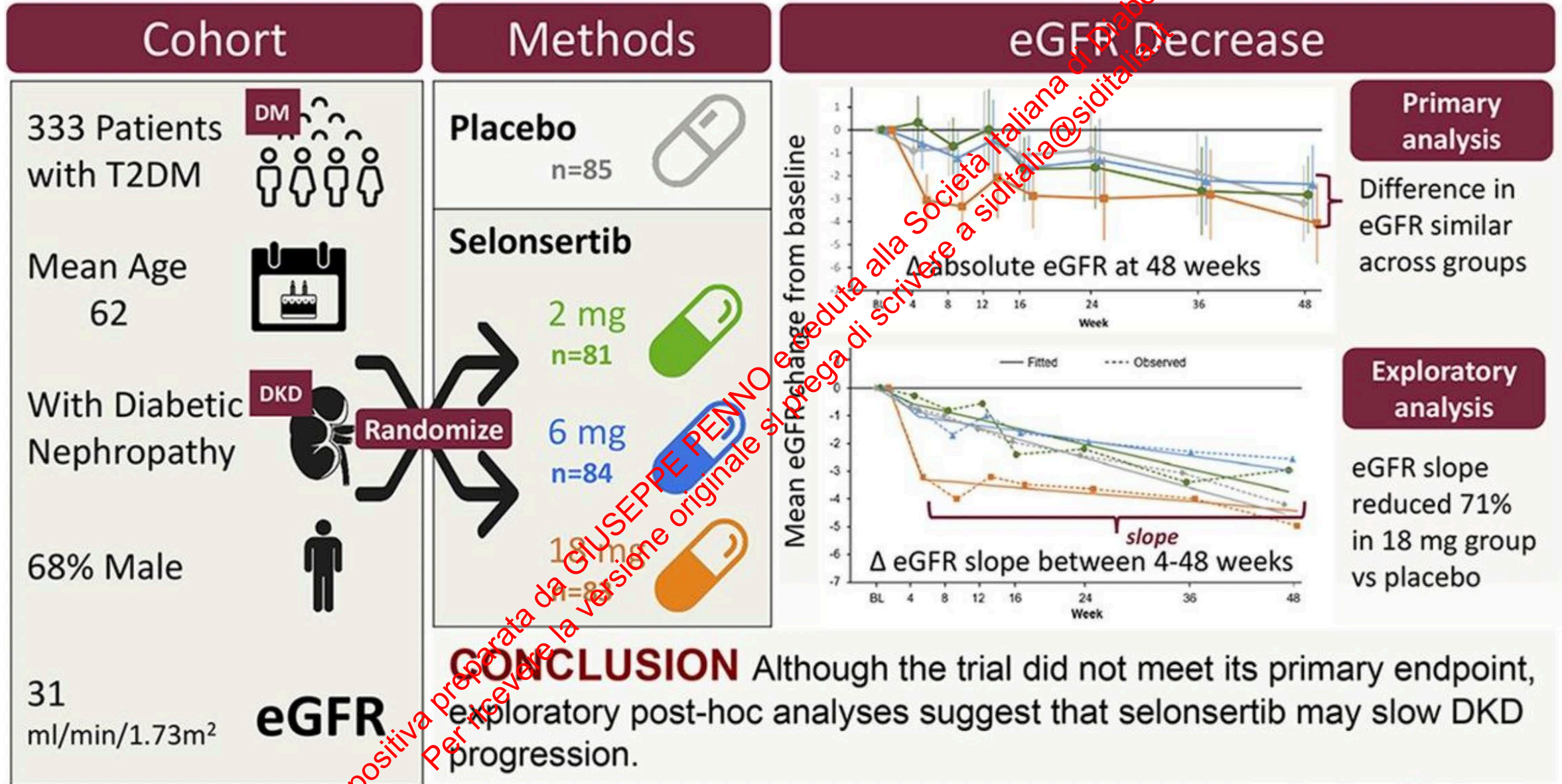


Figure 3 Antiproteinuric effects of sulodexide, as assessed by the proportion of patients to achieve the therapeutic effect from six studies.

Notes: OR=3.28, 95% CI, 1.34–8.06, $P=0.01$.

Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; OR, odds ratio; M-H, Mantel–Haenszel test.

Effects of Selonsertib (ASK-1 inhibitor) in Patients with Diabetic Kidney Disease





The contribution of inflammation to the pathogenesis of DKD



The discontinuation of undergoing clinical testing of promising anti-inflammatory agents for DKD



The current landscape of inflammation in DKD pathogenesis and treatment

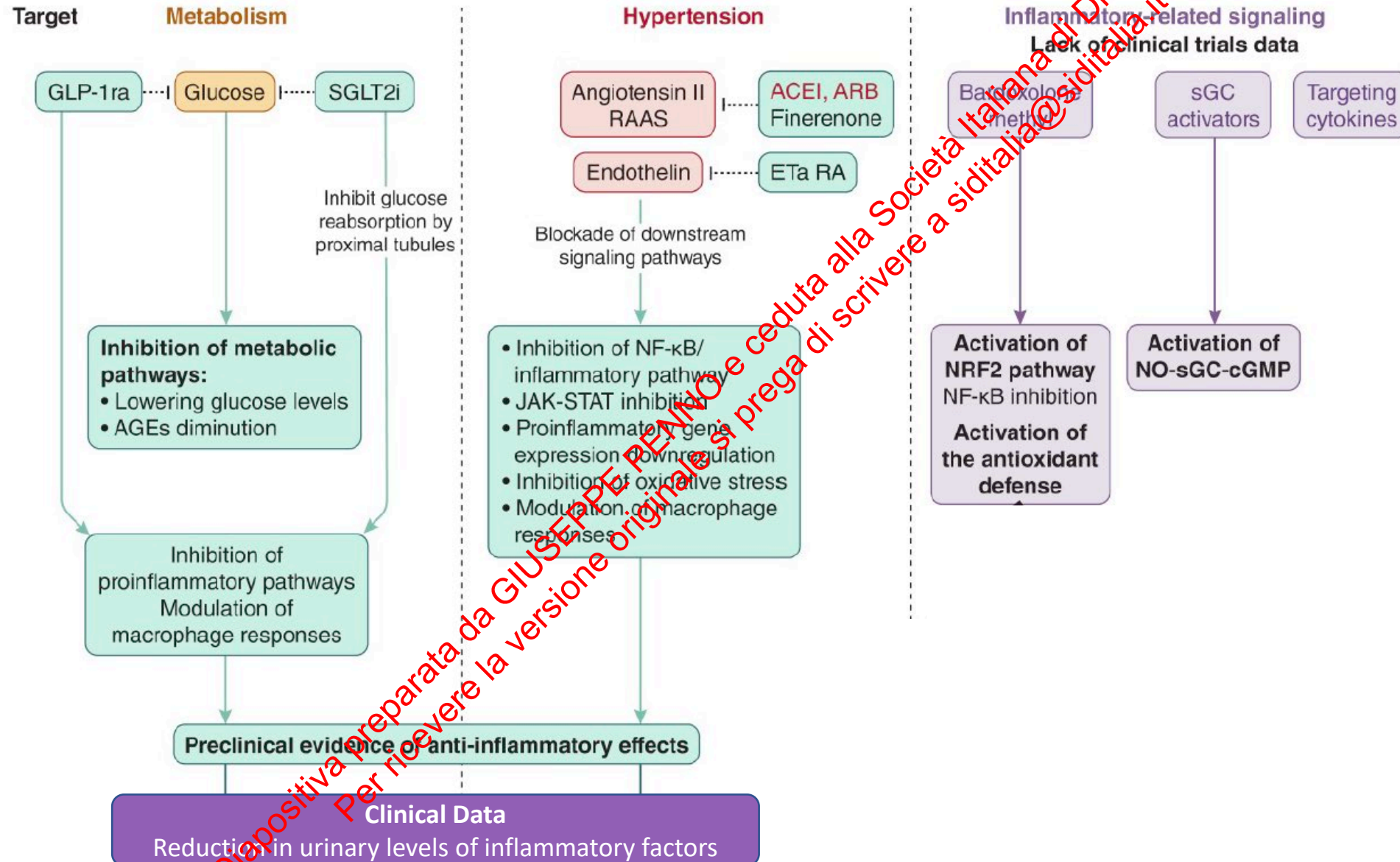
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Therapeutic strategies in DKD with potential anti-inflammatory properties

Drug	Primary target	Main outcomes in DKD	Anti-inflammatory effects	References
RAS blockers	Inhibition of ACE or blockade of angiotensin II receptor.	Reduce proteinuria and the progression of nephropathy.	Inhibition of NF- κ B, MCP1 gene expression, and macrophage infiltration.	(68, 69)
SGLT2 inhibitors	Blockade of glucose reabsorption by SGLT2 at the proximal tubule.	Improved glycemic control. Slower progression of kidney disease and lower rates of clinically relevant renal events.	Reduction of inflammation by targeting the IL1 β and reduction of hsCRP, TNF α , IL6, and IFN γ .	(70–90)
DPP4 inhibitors and GLP-1 receptor agonists	Stimulation of glucose-dependent insulin release.	Improved glycemic control and body weight reductions. Renoprotective actions	Reduction in levels of inflammatory markers including CRP, TNF α , IL6, and IL18.	(91–97)
Pentoxifylline	Inhibition of phosphodiesterases.	Reduced progression of renal disease and proteinuria.	Downregulation of NF- κ B signaling and reduction of inflammatory biomarkers.	(98–114)

RAAS, Renin-Angiotensin Aldosterone System; ACEI, angiotensin converting enzyme; NF- κ B, nuclear factor- κ B; MCP1, monocyte chemoattractant protein 1; SGLT2, type 2 sodium-glucose cotransporter; IL, interleukin; hsCRP, high sensitivity C reactive protein; TNF α , tumor necrosis factor α ; IFN- γ , interferon γ ; DPP4, dipeptidyl-peptidase-4; GLP-1, glucagon-like peptide-1.

Therapeutic strategies in DKD with potential anti-inflammatory properties



Drivers of DKD Progression

- RAAS inhibitors
- **SGLT2 inhibitors**
- **Non-steroidal MRAs**
- Endothelin RA

Haemodynamic^{1,2}
(Elevated BP and/or intraglomerular pressure)

Metabolic^{1,2}
(poor glycaemic control)

- RAAS inhibitors
- **SGLT2 inhibitors**
- **GLP-1RAs**
- **Non-steroidal MRAs**

Inflammation and fibrosis¹⁻³

- **GLP-1RAs**
- **SGLT2 inhibitors**
- Other BG-lowering agents

Tubulointerstitial damage and inflammation¹⁻³

Glomerulosclerosis¹⁻³

Mesangial expansion^{1,2}

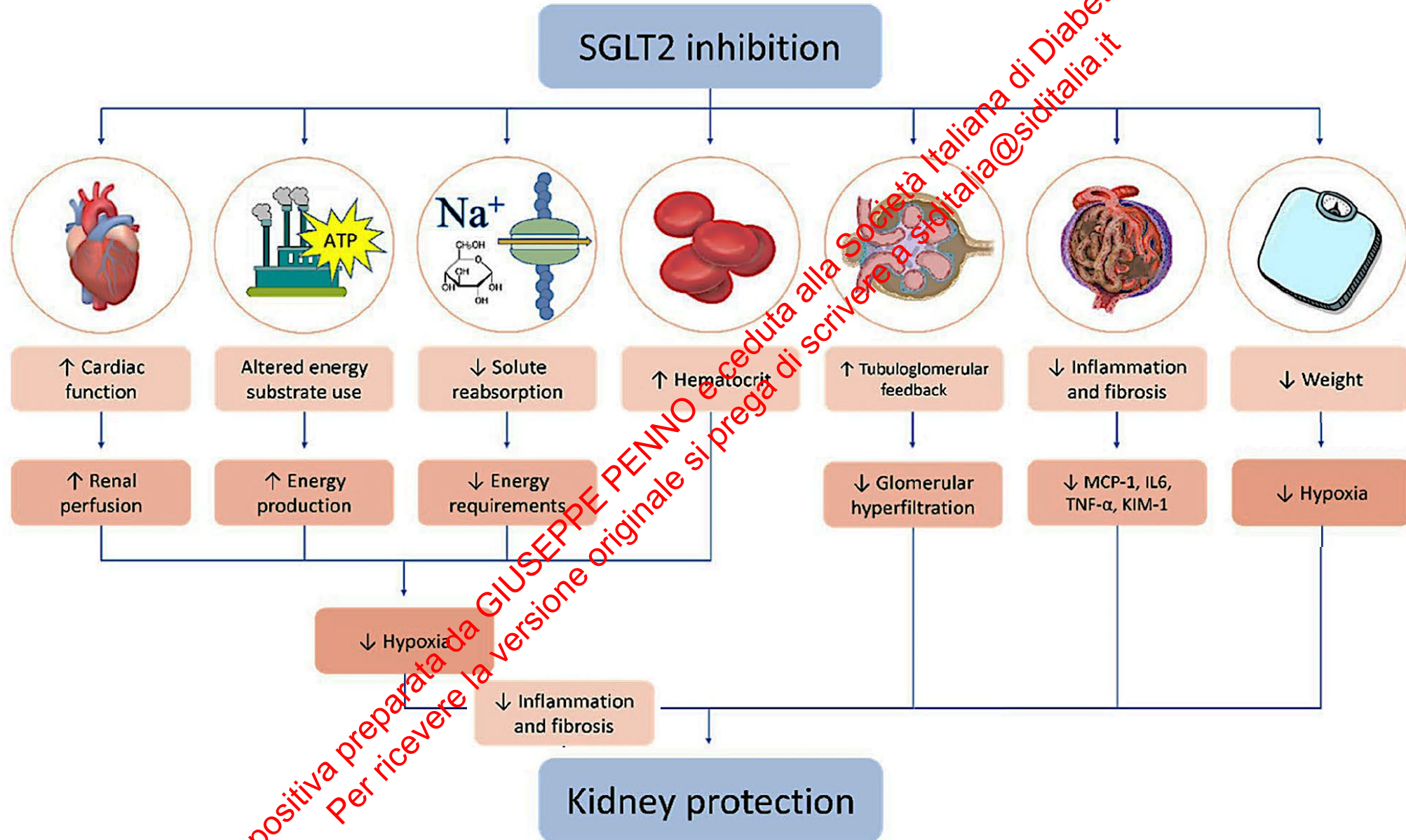
Glomerular hypertrophy^{1,3}

Kidney fibrosis

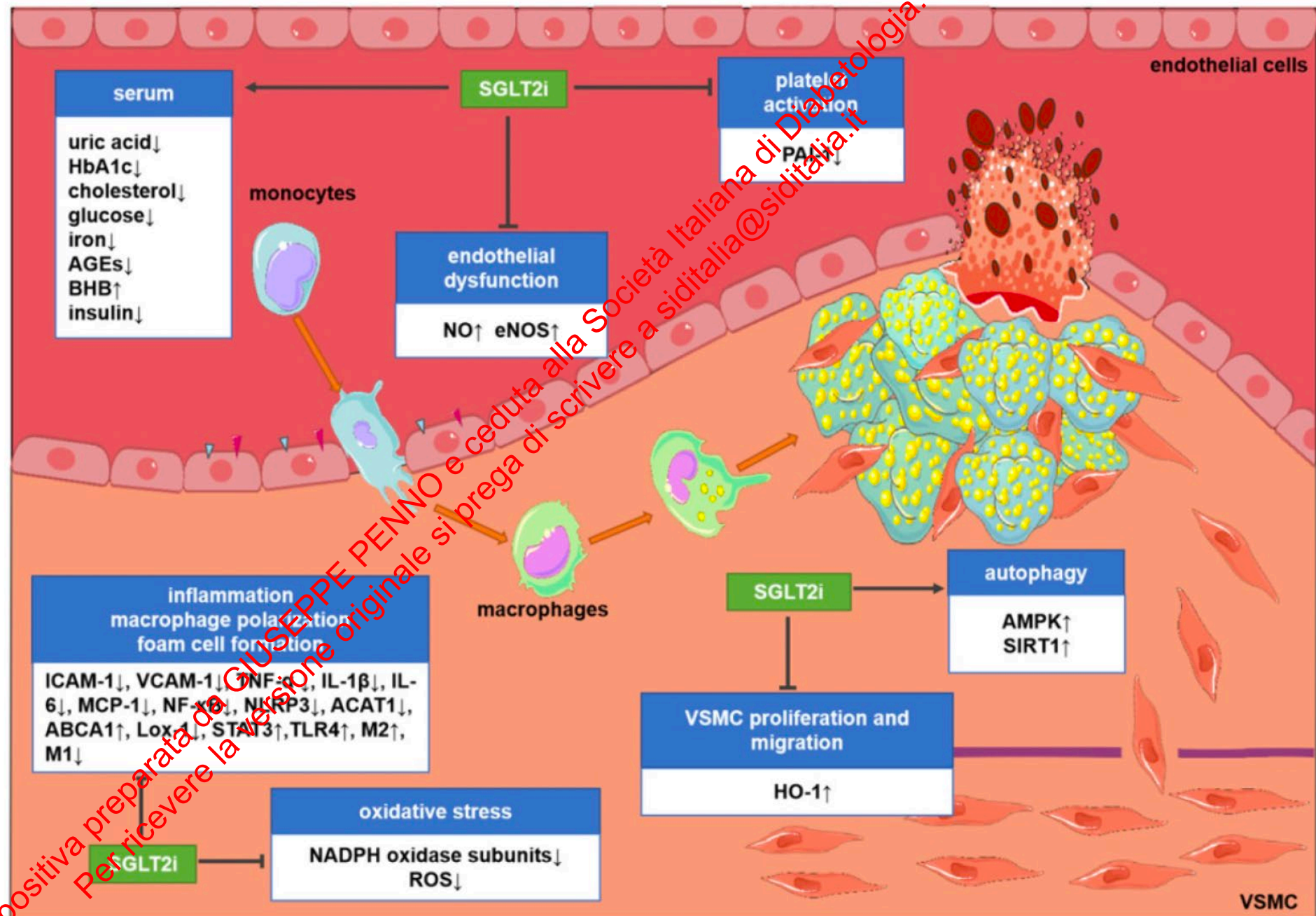
CKD PROGRESSION

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

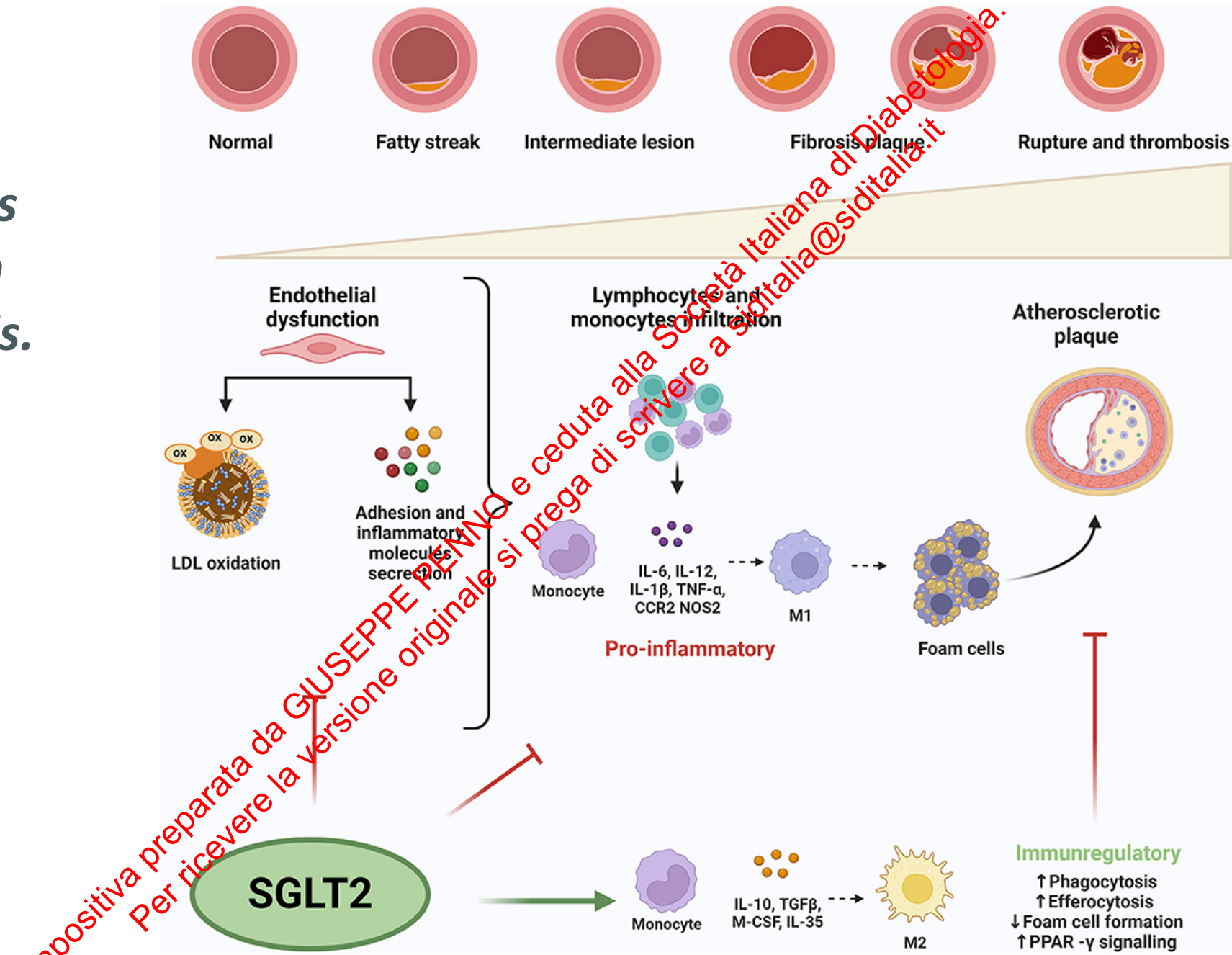
Potential mechanisms for kidney protection with SGLT2 inhibitors



Among others,
potential anti-
inflammatory
mechanisms for
vascular (and
kidney) protection
with SGLT2
inhibitors



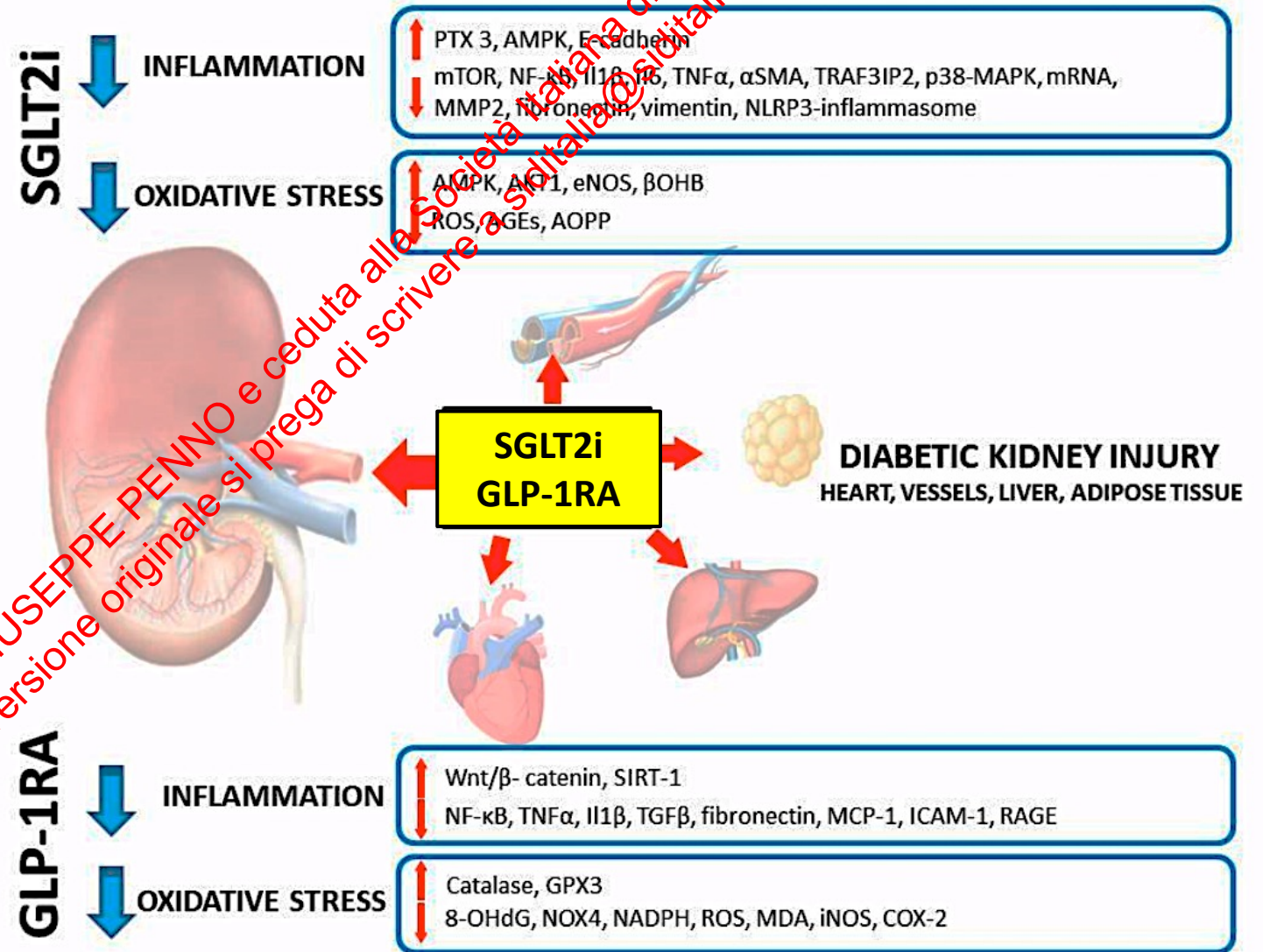
Sodium-glucose co-transport 2 inhibitors' effects on inflammation in atherosclerosis.

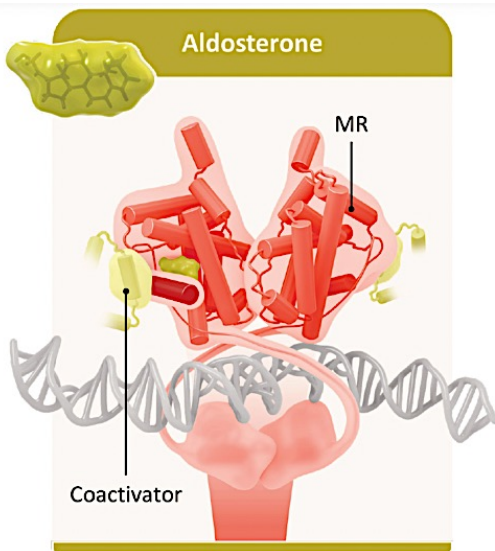


Inflammation and Oxidative Stress in Diabetic Kidney Disease: The Targets for SGLT2 Inhibitors and GLP-1 Receptor Agonists

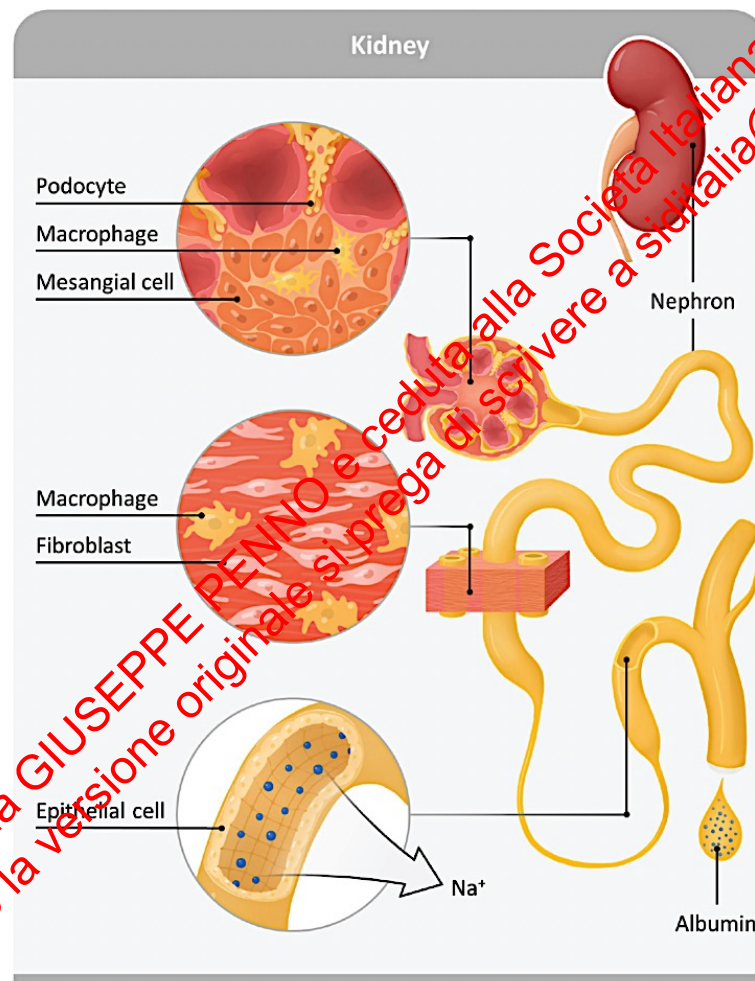
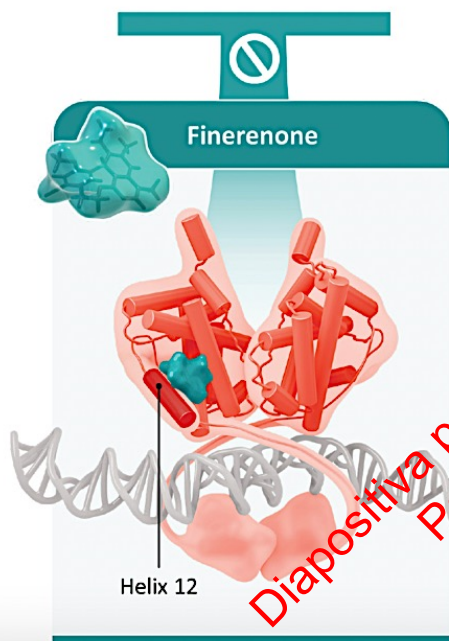
Selected mechanisms of interaction between SGLT2i, GLP1RA and inflammation/oxidative stress in the kidney and other target organs/tissues.

Inflammation and oxidative stress are among the key pathways contributing to organ damage in the course of diabetes.



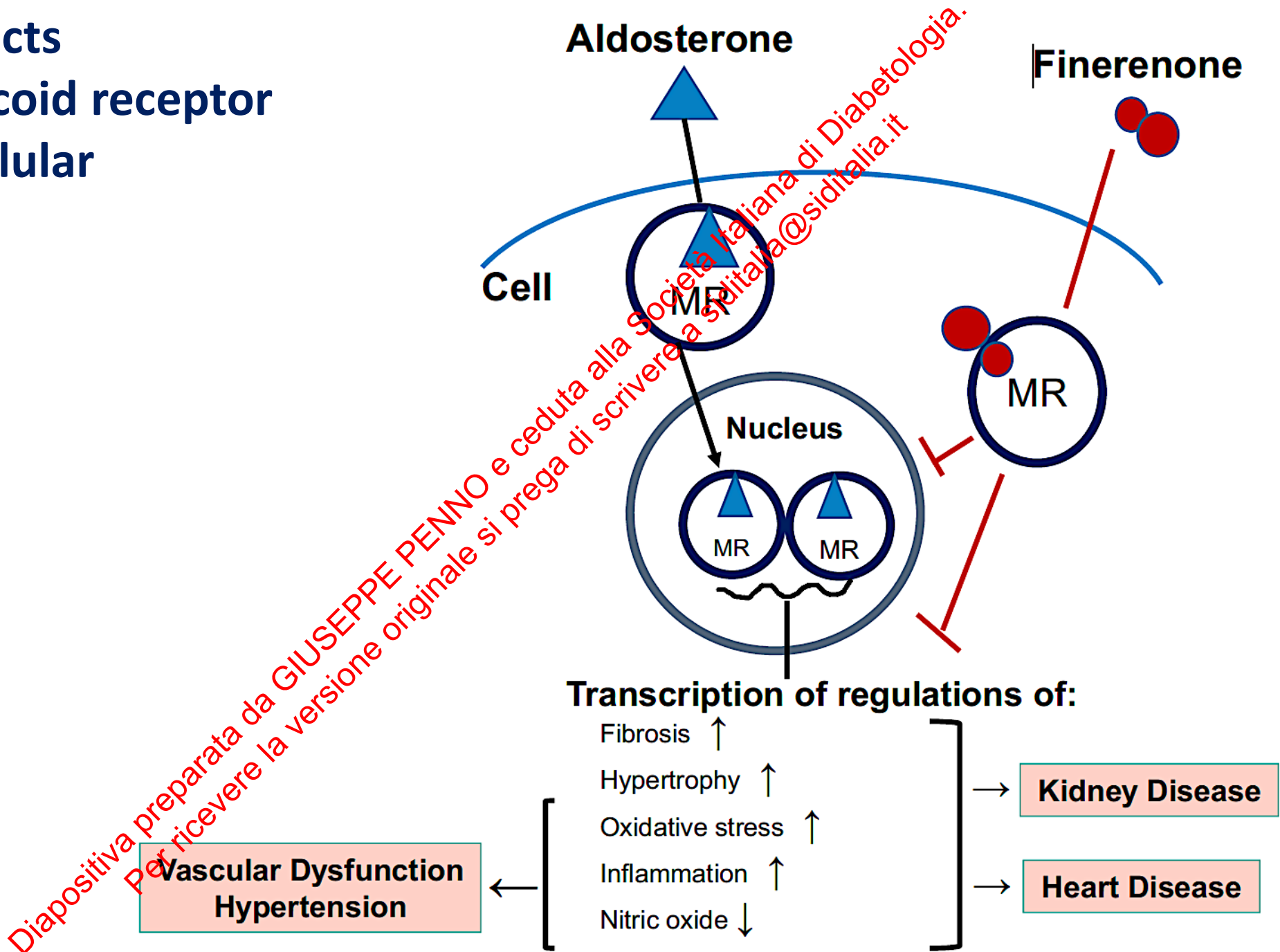


MR overactivation leads to pathophysiological sodium retention, remodelling/hypertrophy, inflammation and fibrosis



Mechanism of action of the non-steroidal mineralocorticoid receptor (MR) antagonist finerenone

Finerenone's effects
on mineralocorticoid receptor
(MR)-induced cellular
pathways.



Ravid JD et al. Current
Cardiology Reports
(Published online: 4
August 2022)

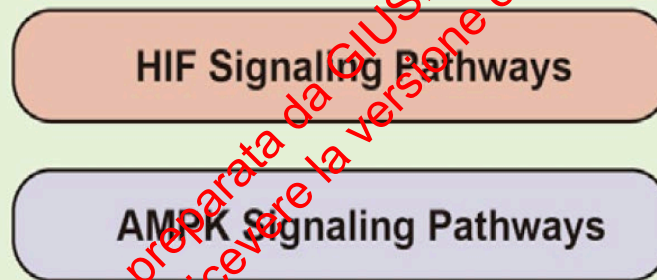
Finerenone: a MRA for the treatment of CKD associated with T2DM

Renal cell types	Tissue effects	Mode of action of MR antagonists		Clinical settings	Clinical effects
Distal tubular cells	↓ Tubular injury	↓ Profibrotic mediators: • TGF-β • Collagen I, III and IV • CTGF • PAI-1 • Galectin-3 • NGAL ↓ Fibroblast proliferation ↓ Oxidative DNA damage ↓ NADPH oxidase activity ↓ NADPH subunits expression ↓ Proinflammatory mediators: • MCP-1 • IL-6 • IL-1β • TNF-α • IFN-γ • Osteopontin • NGAL • ICAM-1 ↓ Vasoconstrictors: • Angiotensin receptor (AT1) • Endothelin A receptor • Endothelin-1 ↑ Vasodilators: • Angiotensin receptor (AT2) • Endothelin B receptor • eNOS activation ↓ T-cell activation ↓ Th17 polarization ↑ Treg cells ↑ IL4R expression and signaling ↓ c-jun and c-fos phosphorylation ↓ M1 macrophage markers ↑ M2 macrophage markers MR blockade		Situations with risk of IRI: • cardiac surgery • kidney transplantation • other?	IRI prevention
	↓ Fibrosis				Prevention of AKI to CKD transition
Endothelial cells	↓ Glomerulosclerosis			Hypertension	Antihypertensive
	↓ Podocyte injury				
Podocytes	↓ Inflammation			Diabetes	Antiproteinuric
Mesangial cells	↓ Vasoconstriction			Glomerulonephritis	Prevention of CV outcomes
Fibroblasts	↓ Vascular injury			CKD–fibrosis	Prevention of CKD progression
Macrophages	↓ Mesangium expansion			Kidney transplantation	Prevention of CNI toxicity
T cells					

The Long-term Effects of Metformin on Patients With Type 2 DKD

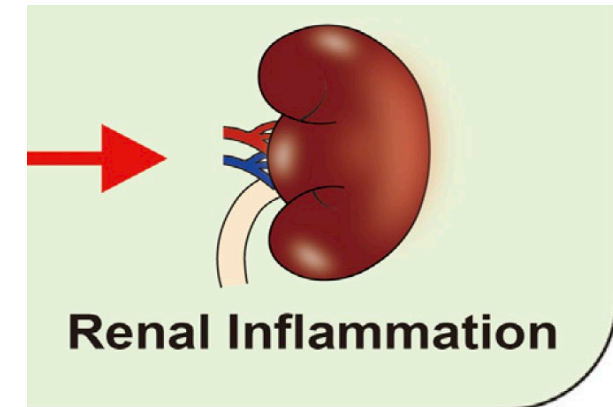
	All			eGFR ≥ 45 mL/min/1.73 m ²			30 mL/min/1.73 m ² $\leq$ eGFR < 45 mL/min/1.73 m ²			eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73 m ²		
	HR	95% CI	P value	HR	95% CI	P value	HR	95% CI	P value	HR	95% CI	P value
All-cause mortality												
Model 1 ^a	0.44	0.41–0.49	<0.001	0.67	0.60–0.75	<0.001	0.56	0.45–0.71	<0.001	0.35	0.25–0.49	<0.001
Model 2 ^b	0.45	0.41–0.49	<0.001	0.66	0.59–0.74	<0.001	0.59	0.47–0.75	<0.001	0.42	0.30–0.59	<0.001
Model 3 ^c	0.58	0.52–0.64	<0.001	0.61	0.54–0.70	<0.001	0.58	0.45–0.75	<0.001	0.49	0.35–0.69	<0.001
Model 4 ^d	0.65	0.57–0.73	<0.001	0.70	0.60–0.82	<0.001	0.64	0.47–0.86	0.003	0.55	0.37–0.81	0.003
ESRD progression												
Model 1 ^a	0.38	0.35–0.42	<0.001	0.69	0.60–0.80	<0.001	0.69	0.54–0.88	0.003	0.90	0.73–1.10	0.300
Model 2 ^b	0.38	0.34–0.42	<0.001	0.68	0.59–0.79	<0.001	0.71	0.55–0.91	0.007	0.85	0.69–1.50	0.135
Model 3 ^c	0.66	0.59–0.76	<0.001	0.62	0.53–0.73	<0.001	0.77	0.58–1.00	0.052	0.88	0.71–1.10	0.257
Model 4 ^d	0.67	0.58–0.77	<0.001	0.62	0.51–0.76	<0.001	0.73	0.54–0.99	0.049	0.87	0.67–1.12	0.278

^aUnadjusted. ^bAdjusted for age, sex, BMI, hypertension, and liver disease. ^cAdjusted for age, sex, BMI, hypertension, liver disease, initial eGFR, initial HbA_{1c} level, the presence of proteinuria according to the urine dipstick test, and other medication use (sulfonylurea, insulin, angiotensin II receptor blocker, and ACE inhibitor). ^dPSM covariates: age, sex, BMI, hypertension, liver disease, initial eGFR, initial HbA_{1c} level, presence of proteinuria according to the dipstick test, and other medication use (sulfonylurea, insulin, angiotensin II receptor blocker, and ACE inhibitor).



HIF = Hypoxia-inducible factor

AMPK = AMP-activated protein kinase



Ongoing clinical trials: potential anti-inflammatory actions

Target	Intervention	Conditions	Key outcomes	Note	Phases
Thromboxane synthase/receptor blocker	SER150	Macroalb.	ACR (and eGFR)	NCT04881123	2/3
Nrf2 activators (negative regulation of the NF-kB pathway)	Bardoxolone methyl (AYAME)	DKD	eGFR for ESRD	NCT03550443	3
	Curcumin	Early DKD	eGFR and ACR	NCT03262363	2/3
	Resveratrol & losartan	Early DKD	eGFR and ACR	NCT02704494	1
Endothelin-1 (ET-1)	Zibotentan & dapagliflozin (ZENITH-CKD)	(CKD, incl. DKD)	eGFR and ACR	NCT04724837	2
Guanyl cyclase activators (sGC)	Runcaciguat (CONCORD)	DKD	ACR	NCT04507061	2
	BI 68509	DKD	ACR	NCT04750577	2
Apoptosis signal regulating kinase 1 (ASK1)	Selonsertib	DKD	eGFR	Drug no longer in sponsor pipeline	2
Phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor	Roflumilast	DKD	ACR, eGFR and MCP-1	NCT04755946	3
Fatty acid oxidation inhibitor	Trimetazidine	DKD	ACR	NCT05147194	2
TRPC5 Channel Inhibitor	GFB-887	CKD, incl. DKD)	PCR and UCR	NCT04387448	2
Mab: Anti IL-33	Tozinarsen*	DKD	ACR	NCT04170543	2
Mab: Anti FGF-B	FGF346	DKD	ACR	NCT04419467	2
Cell therapy (several trials)	Mesenchymal stem/stromal cells or renal autologous cells	DKD	Mainly safety (eGFR)	---	1/2

* On top of RAS blockers and dapagliflozin

Renal Autologous Cell Therapy (REACT®) to Stabilize Function in Diabetes-Related Chronic Kidney Disease: Corroboration of Mechanistic Action With Cell Marker Analysis



22 adults with
Type 2 D-CKD



Kidney biopsy



2 subcortical
injections of SRCs:

- 7±3 months apart
- Phenotypic markers identify 3 kidney cell lineages

Baseline Characteristics

DM duration:

18.4 ± 8.8 years



Hemoglobin A1C:

7.0 ± 1.05



Estimated GFR:

40.3 ± 9.35

ml/min/1.73m²

combined cystatin C and
creatinine calculation



Annualized eGFR slope

Pre-injection:

-4.63 ml/min/1.73m²/yr

p=0.015

Post-injection:

-1.69 ml/min/1.73m²/yr

**7 patients had a positive
eGFR slope of
+5.88 ml/min/1.73m²/yr**

D-CKD, diabetic chronic kidney disease; SRC, selected renal cells; REACT®, renal autologous cell therapy

KI REPORTS
Kidney International Reports

Stavas J. 2022

Visual abstract by:

Brian Rifkin MD

@brian_rifkin

Conclusion Our cell marker analysis suggests selected renal cells may enable REACT® to stabilize and improve kidney function, possibly halting Type 2 diabetic kidney disease progression.



The contribution of inflammation to the pathogenesis of DKD



The discontinuation of undergoing clinical testing of promising anti-inflammatory agents for DKD



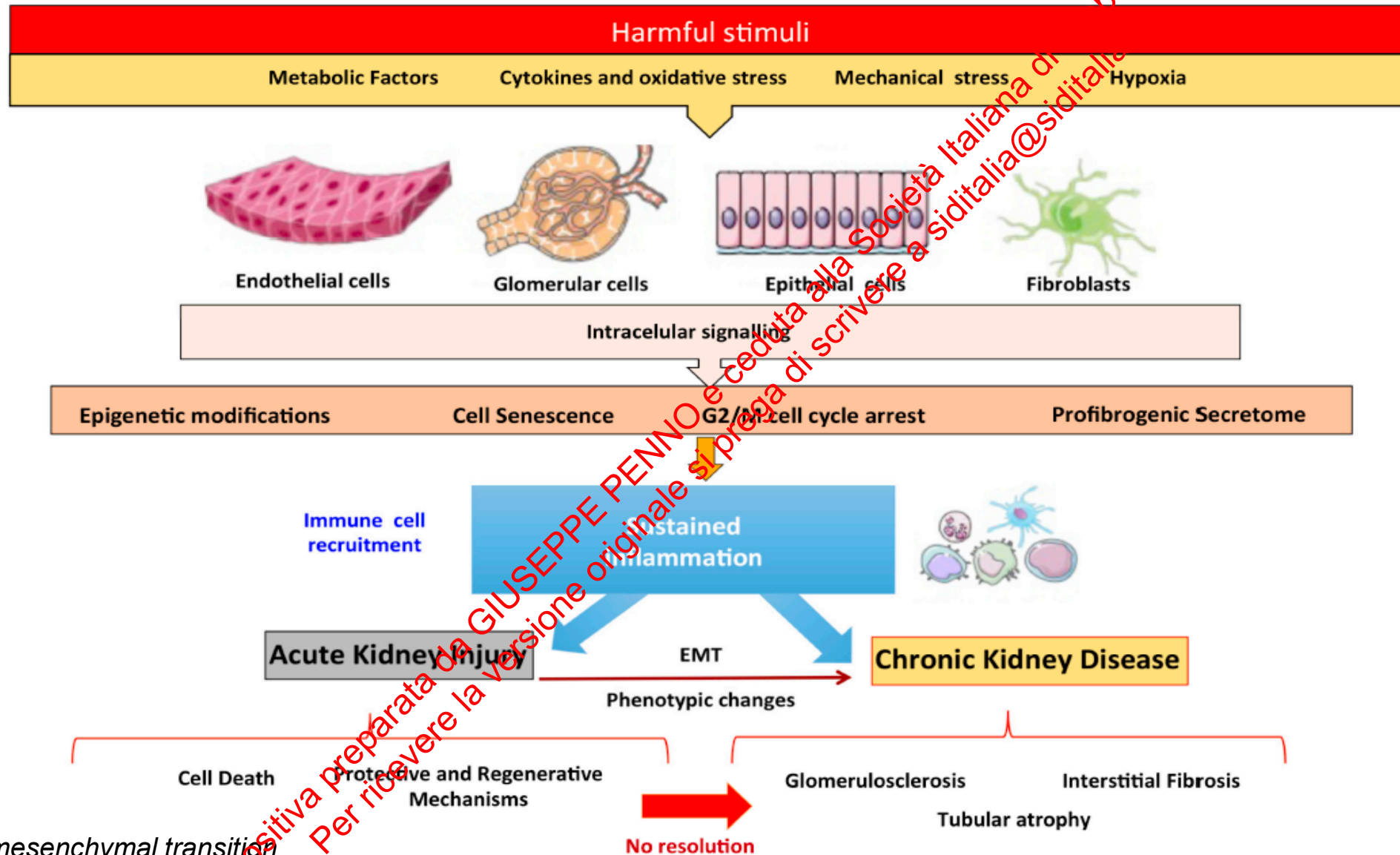
The current landscape of inflammation in DKD pathogenesis and treatment



An uphill road: any novel (anti-inflammatory) drug should show improvement over RAAS-blockade and SGLT2-inhibition (and finerenone)

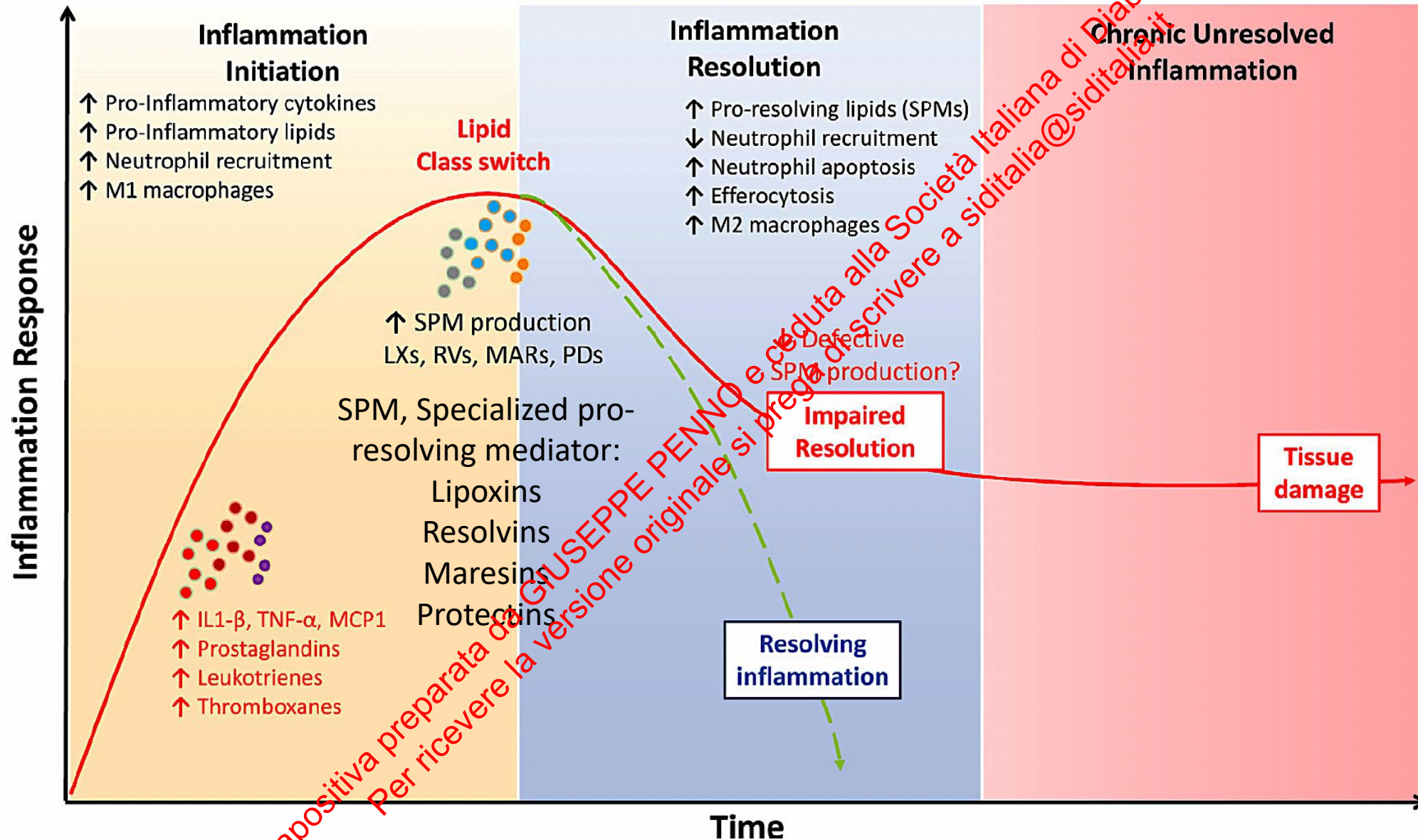
Diapositiva preparata da GIUSEPPE PENNO e ceduta alla Società Italiana di Diabetologia.
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Mechanisms of kidney injury and repair



EMT: epithelial-mesenchymal transition

Regulation of inflammation



Finerenone in Predominantly Advanced CKD in Type 2 Diabetes With or Without SGLT-2i Therapy

Methods



Subgroup
Analysis of
FIDELIO-DKD



Placebo (with or
without SGLT-2i)

VS



Finerenone (with
or without SGLT-2i)

FIDELIO-DKD design



Global, multicenter,
RCT, double blind,
phase III trial (n = 5674)



eGFR 25-75
ml/min/1.73m²



UACR 30-5000 mg/g



Type 2 diabetes



Finerenone

VS



Placebo

Findings

*Compared to those not treated with SGLT-2i

Finerenone with SGLT-2i use characteristics at baseline*



Higher eGFR



Lower UACR

UACR reduction (compared to placebo)

Baseline G_{mean}
816 mg/g

32%

No SGLT-2i
N = 5415

Baseline G_{mean}
630 mg/g

25%

With SGLT-2i
N = 259



Compared to
placebo, the kidney
and CV benefits
of Finerenone
were consistent
irrespective of
SGLT2i use



Patients on
SGLT-2i had fewer
hyperkalemia events

SGLT-2i, sodium glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitor; RCT, randomized controlled trial; UACR, urine albumin creatinine ratio; CV, cardiovascular; G_{mean} , geometric mean

KI REPORTS

Kidney International Reports

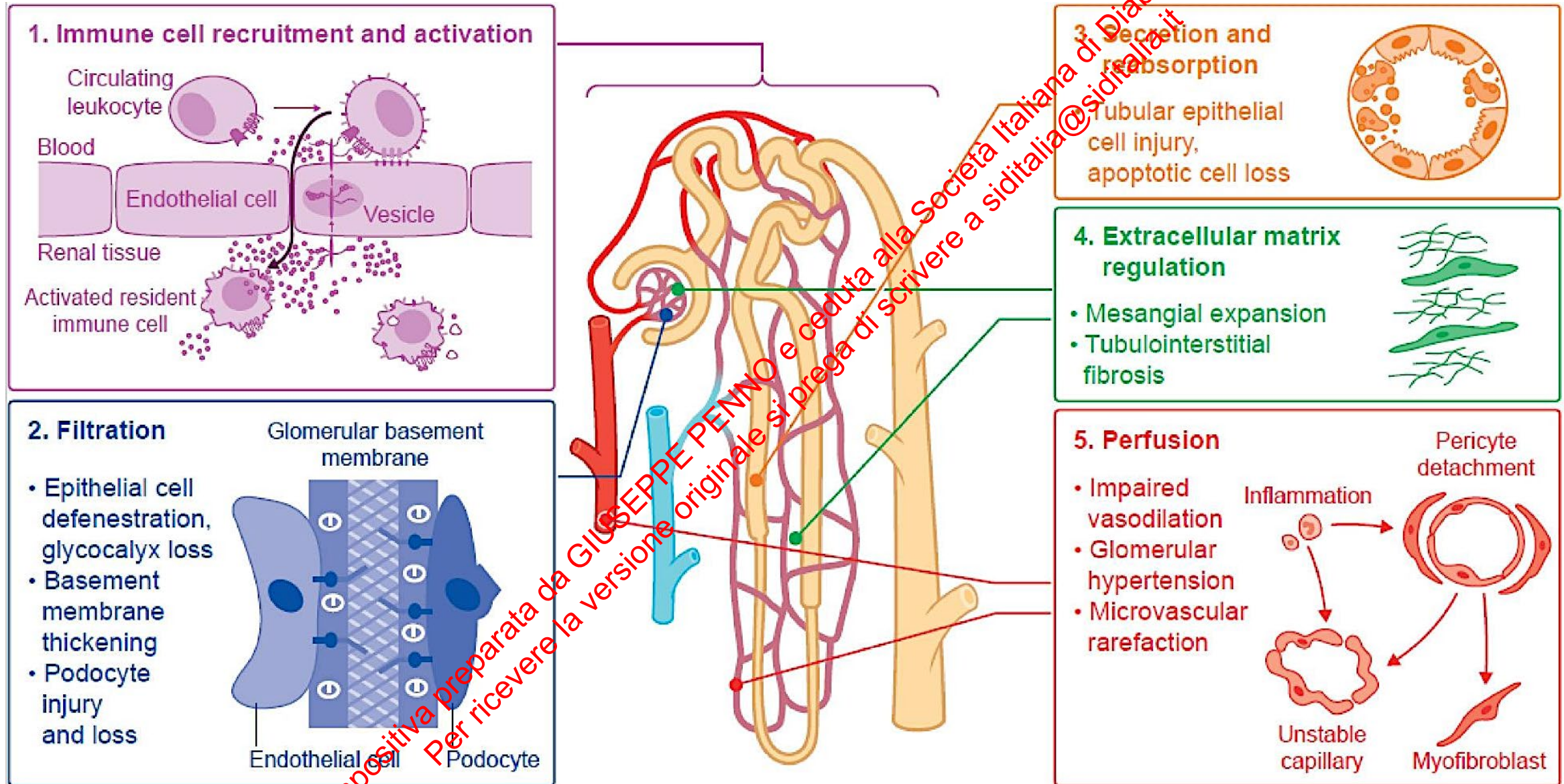
Rossing et al. 2022

Visual abstract by:
Sophia Ambruso, DO

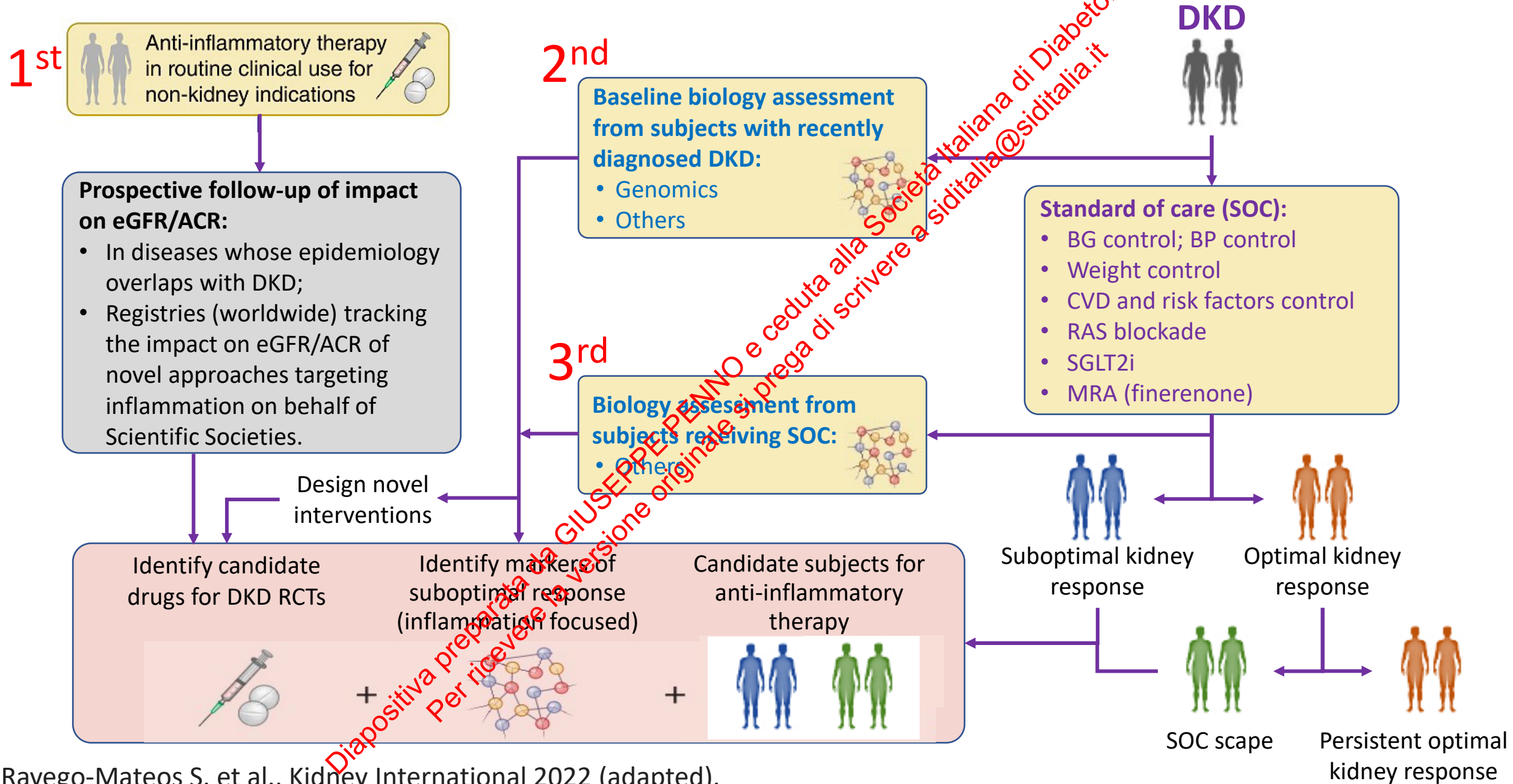
@Sophia_kidney

Conclusion UACR improvement was observed with finerenone in patients with CKD and T2D already receiving SGLT-2i at baseline and benefits on kidney and cardiovascular outcomes appear consistent irrespective of SGLT-2i use.

Targeting inflammation for the treatment of Diabetic Kidney Disease: a five-compartment mechanistic model



Designing future RCT of therapy targeting inflammation in Diabetic Kidney Disease





Grazie dell'attenzione

Diapositiva preparata da GIUSEPPE PENNO e ceduta alla Società Italiana di Diabetologia.
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