

Diabete Mellito di tipo 1: Una prevenzione è possibile?



Francesco Dotta



**UOC Diabetologia, Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria Senese
Dip. Scienze Mediche, Chirurgiche e Neuroscienze, Università di Siena**

Centro Regionale per la Medicina di Precisione

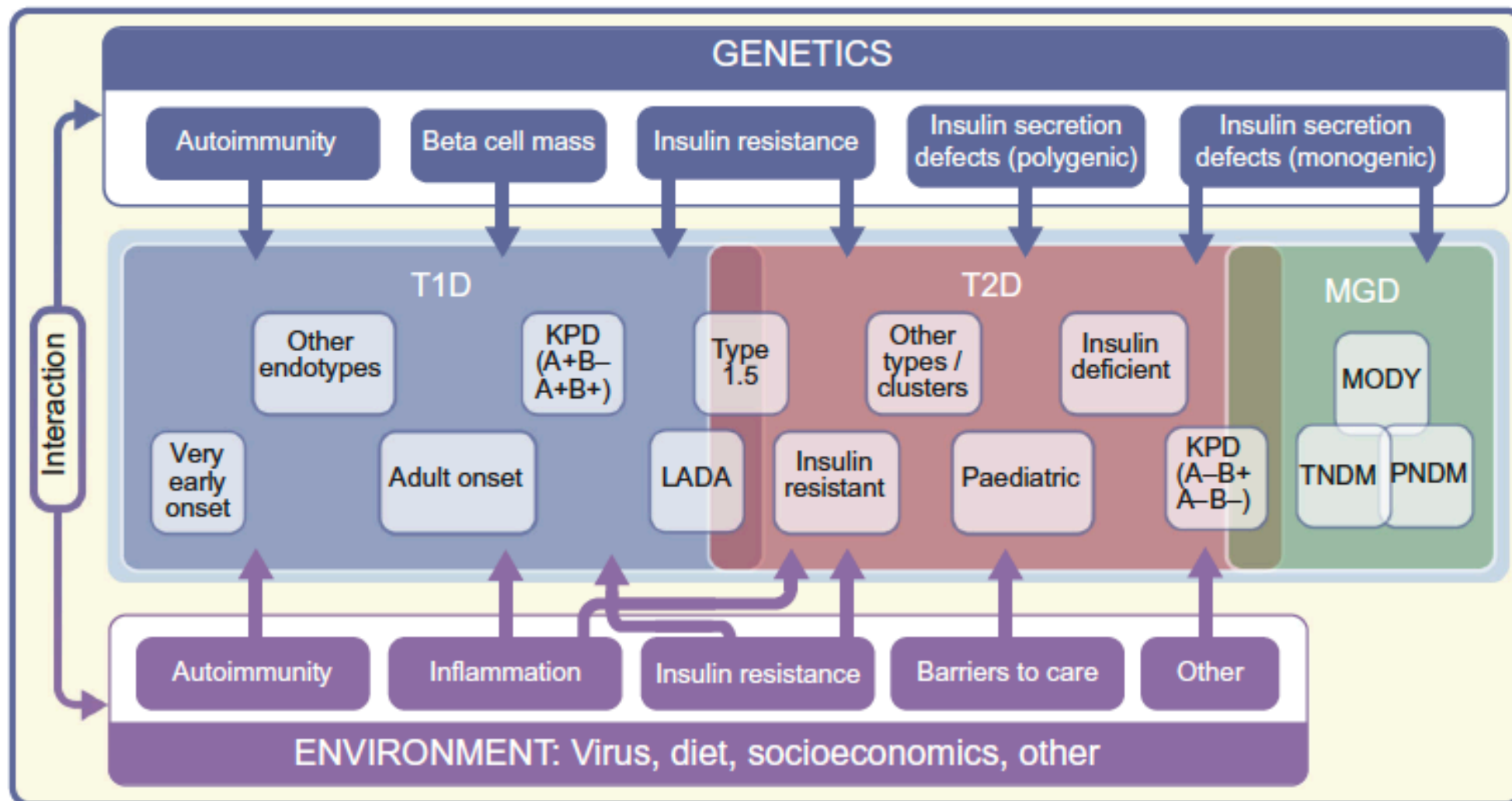
Toscana Life Science, Siena

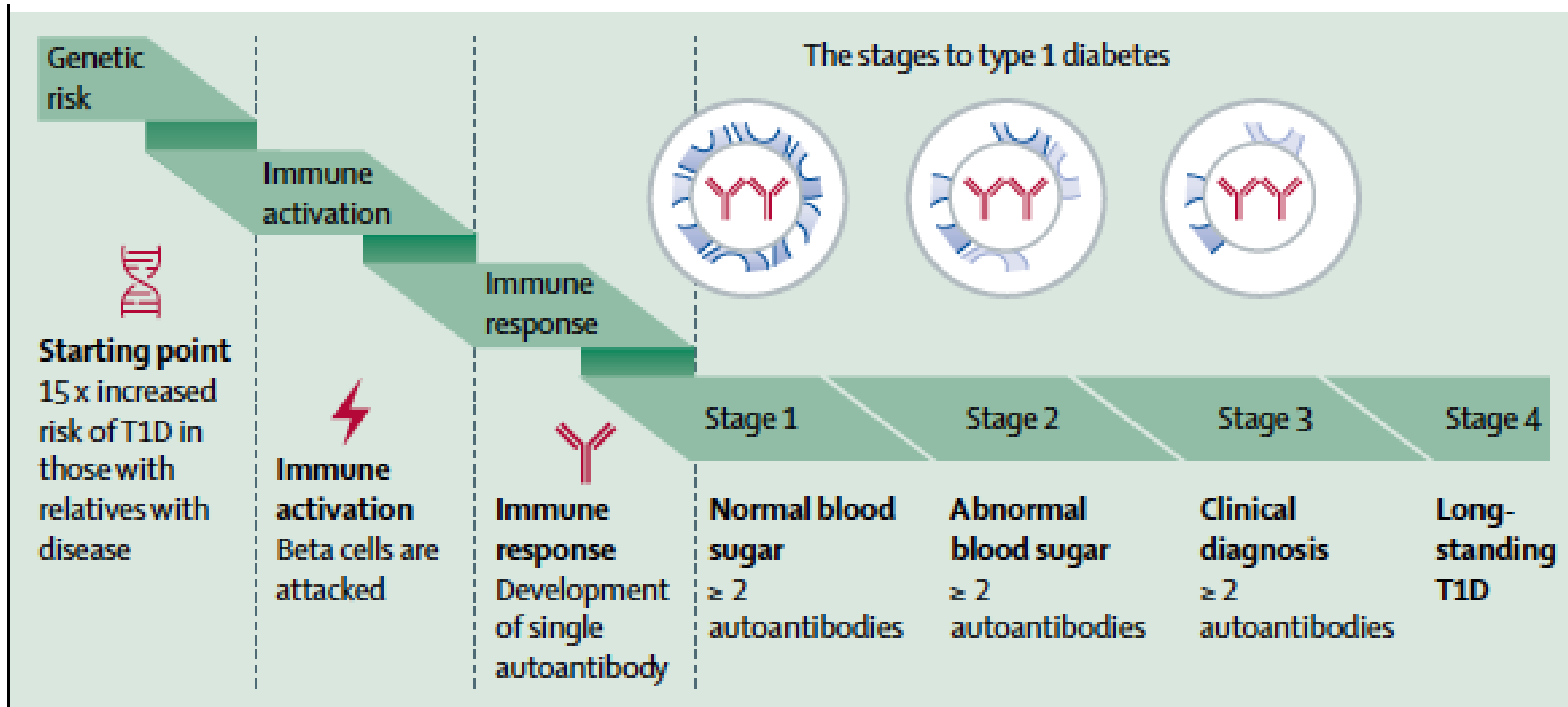


Il sottoscritto Prof. Francesco Dotta dichiara di aver ricevuto negli ultimi due anni compensi o finanziamenti dalle seguenti Aziende Farmaceutiche e/o Diagnostiche:

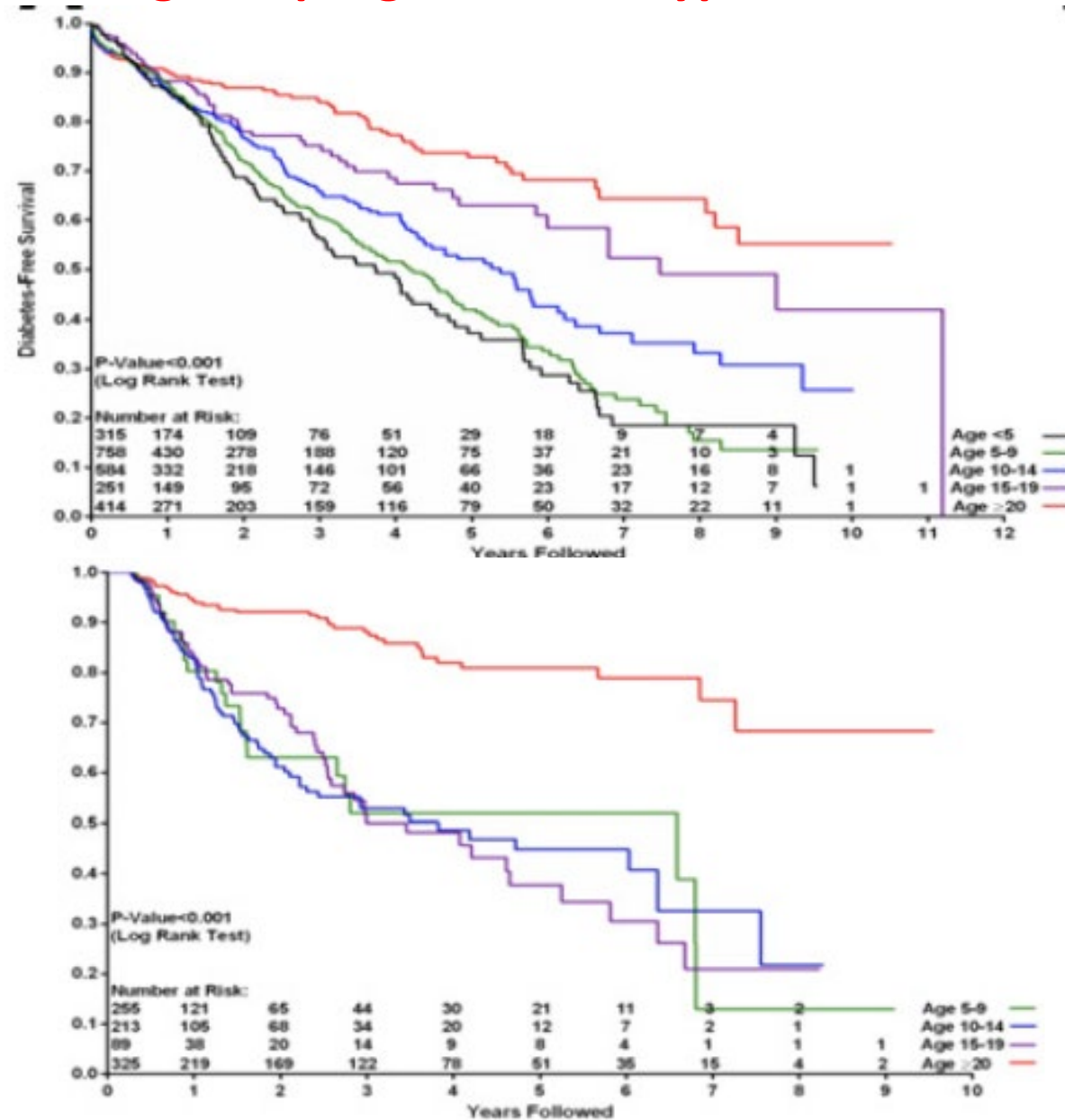
- Eli Lilly**
- Sanofi**
- Johnson & Johnson**
- Novo Nordisk**
- GSK**

The clinical consequences of heterogeneity within and between different diabetes types

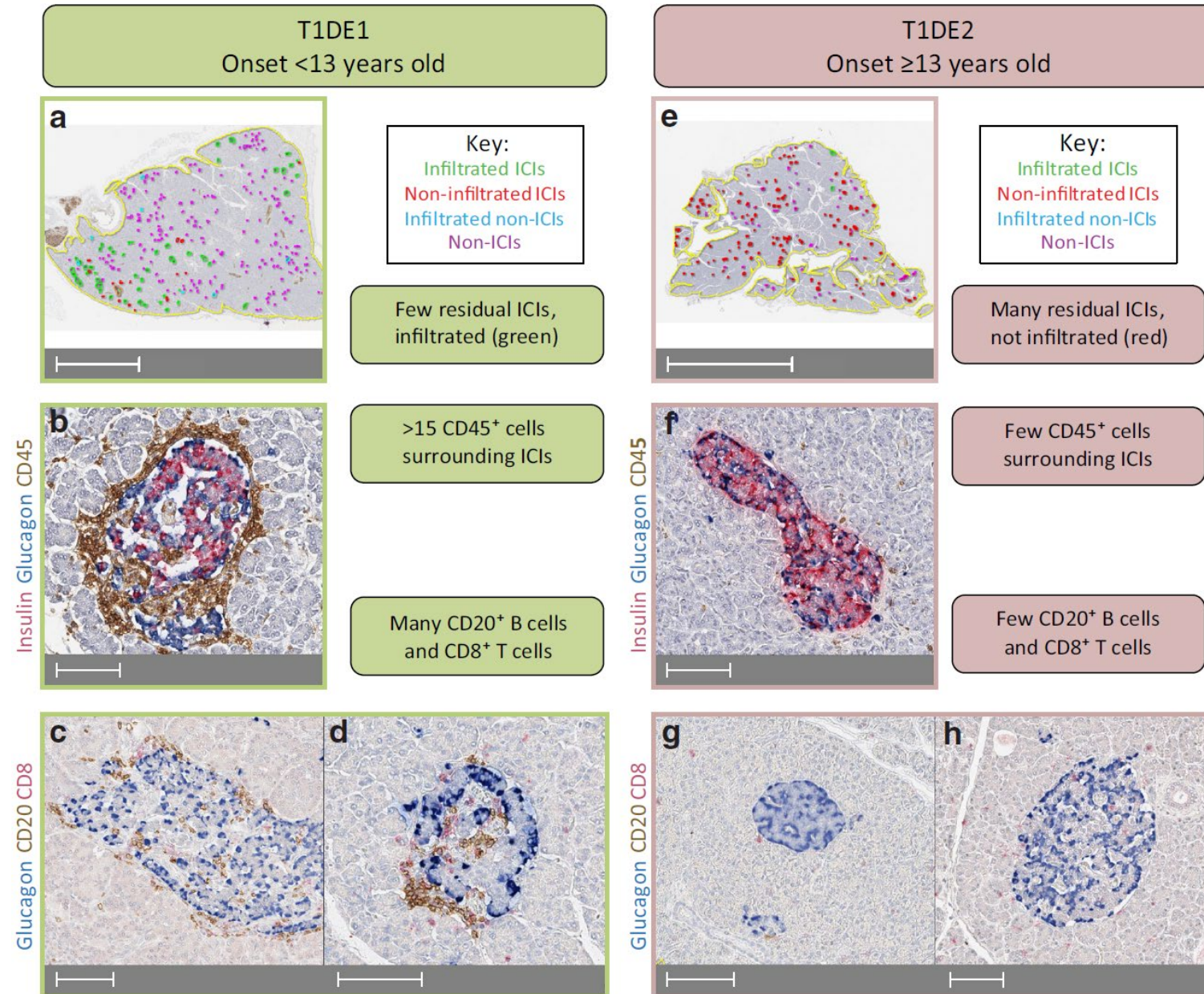




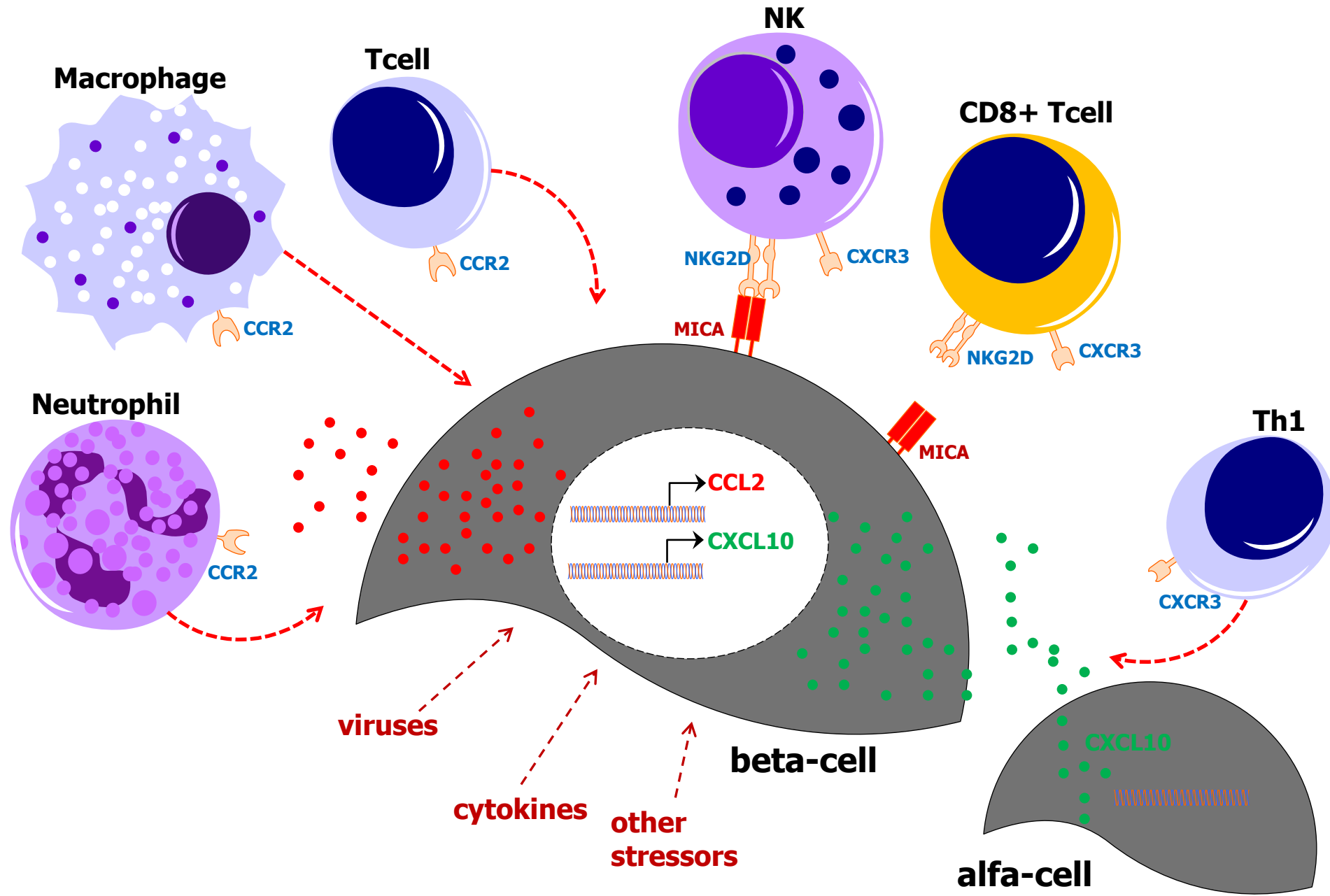
Effects of age on progression to type 1 diabetes



Age-related T1D Endotypes



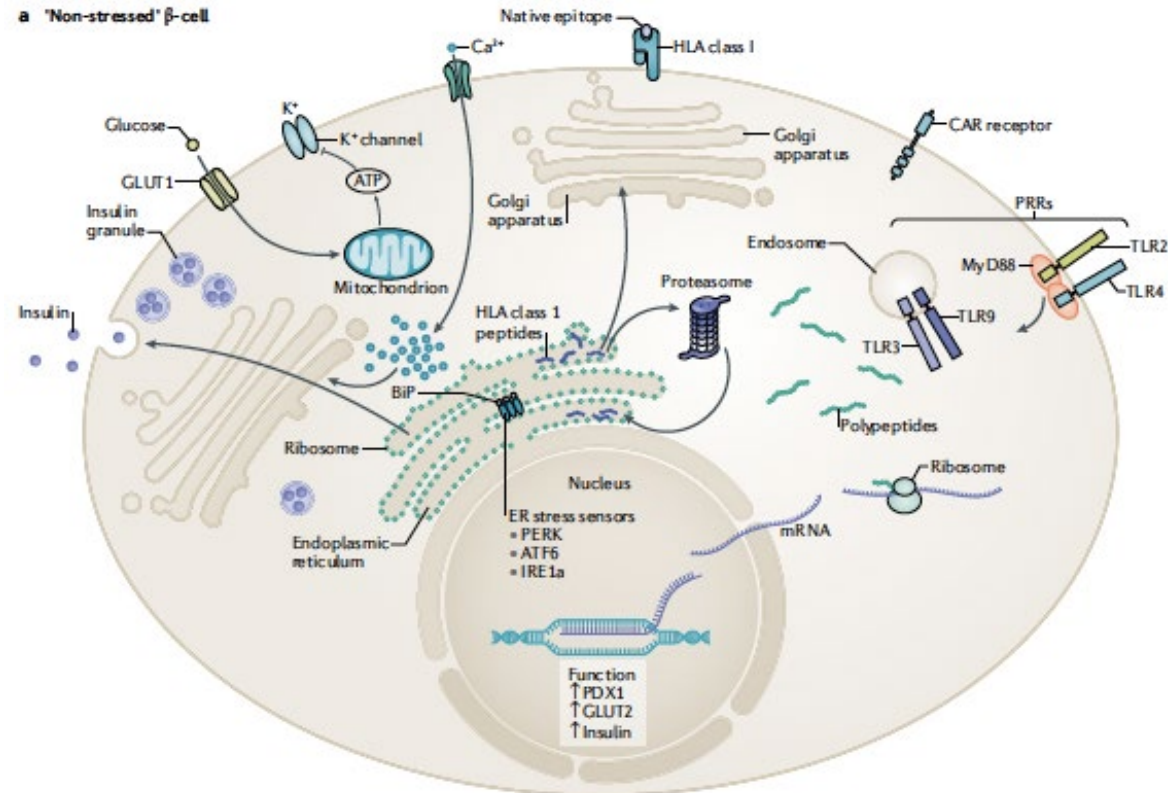
Type 1 diabetes: Complex dialogue between islet and immune system



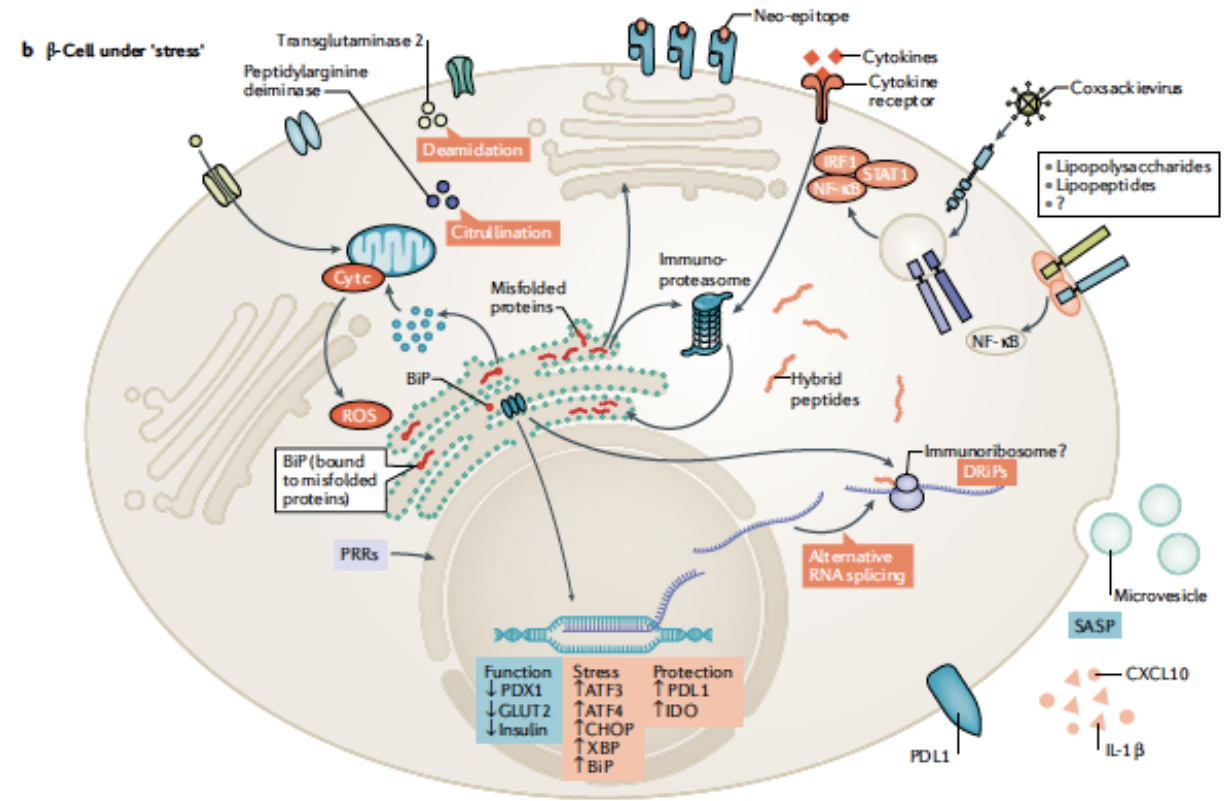
Type 1 diabetes mellitus as a disease of the β -cell (do not blame the immune system?)

Bart O. Roep^{1,2}, Sofia Thomaidou³, René van Tienhoven¹ and Arnaud Zaldumbide³

a 'Non-stressed' β -cell

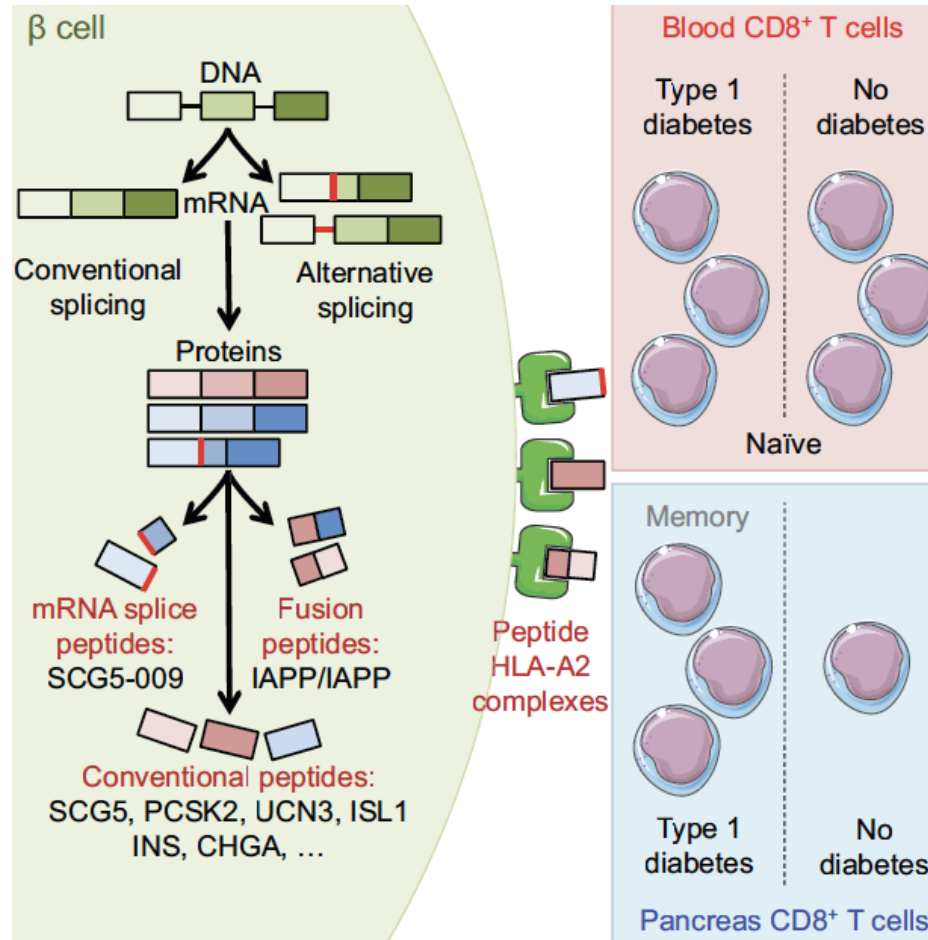


b β -Cell under 'stress'



Conventional and Neo-Antigenic Peptides Presented by β Cells Are Targeted by Circulating Naïve CD8⁺ T Cells in Type 1 Diabetic and Healthy Donors

Sergio Gonzalez-Duque,^{1,2,3,4} Marie Eliane Azoury,^{1,2,3} Maikel L. Colli,⁵ Georgia Afonso,^{1,2,3} Jean-Valery Turatsinze,⁵ Laura Nigi,⁶ Ana Ines Lalanne,^{1,2,3} Guido Sebastiani,⁶ Alexia Carré,^{1,2,3} Sheena Pinto,⁷ Slobodan Culina,^{1,2,3} Noémie Corcos,^{1,2,3} Marco Bugliani,⁸ Piero Marchetti,⁸ Mathieu Armanet,⁹ Marc Diedisheim,^{1,2,3,10} Bruno Kyewski,⁷ Lars M. Steinmetz,^{11,12} Søren Buus,¹³ Sylvaine You,^{1,2,3} Daniele Dubois-Laforgue,^{1,2,3,10} Etienne Larger,^{1,2,3,10} Jean-Paul Beressi,¹⁴ Graziella Bruno,¹⁵ Francesco Dotta,⁶ Raphael Scharfmann,^{1,2,3} Decio L. Eizirik,^{5,16} Yann Verdier,^{4,16} Joelle Vinh,^{4,16} and Roberto Mallone^{1,2,3,10,17,*}



- Peptide HLA class I presentation by β cells is increased by inflammatory cytokines
- Peptide sources feature several insulin granule proteins, e.g., SCG5, PCSK2, UCN3
- SCG5-009 mRNA splice products and IAPP fusion peptides are also presented
- In type 1 diabetes, peptide-reactive CD8⁺ T cells are enriched in the pancreas

Neoantigens in T1D

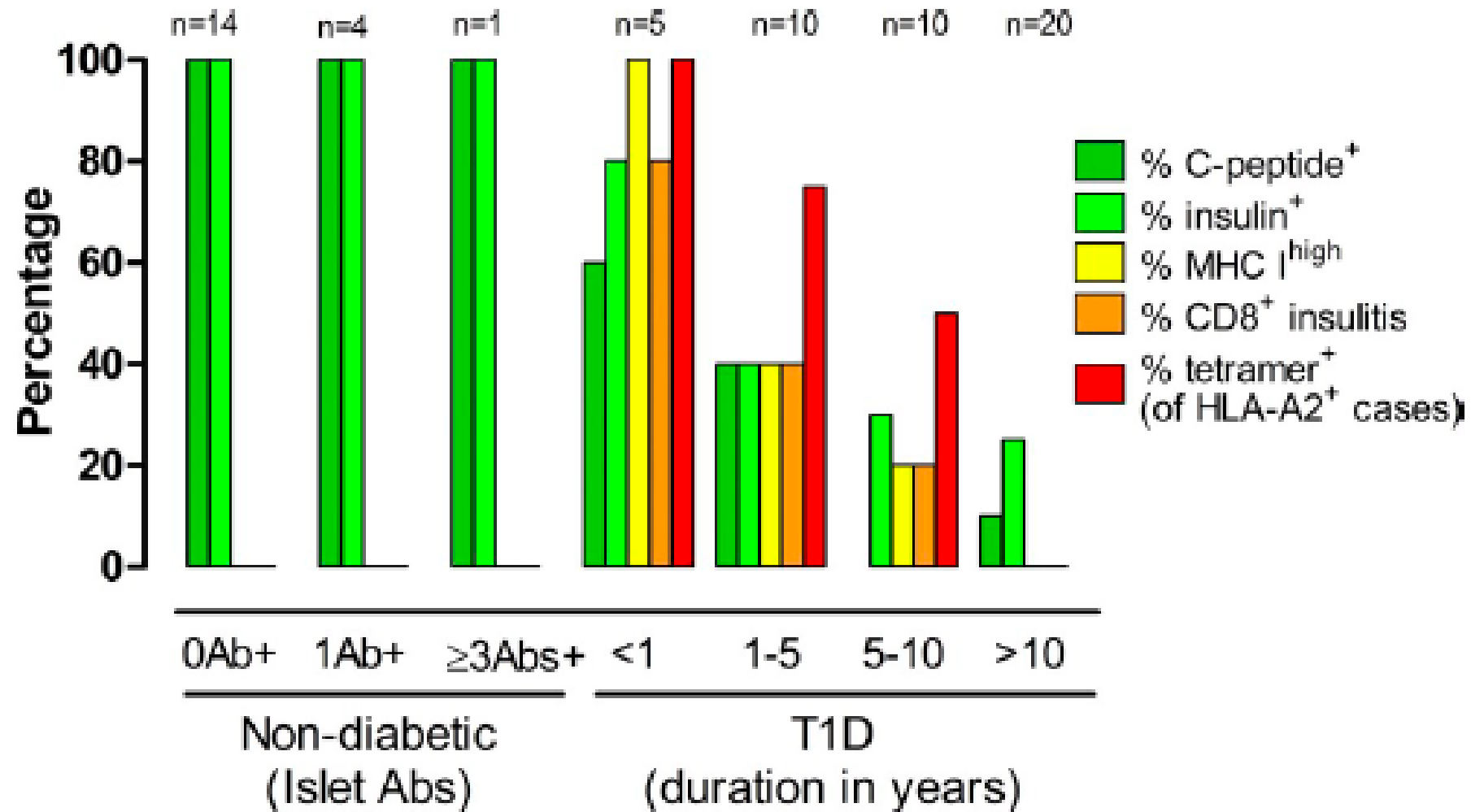
Table 1. List of the main autoantigens targeted by the adaptive immune response in human T1D

Autoantigen	Expression	Subcellular location	Function	Autoantibodies	Autoreactive T cells
Amylin, IAPP, pplAPP	β -cells	Secretory granules	Glucose homeostasis	Yes	CD4 ⁺ , CD8 ⁺
Carboxypeptidase H/E	Neuroendocrine cells	Secretory granules	Proinsulin to insulin processing	Yes	Not reported
ChgA	Neuroendocrine cells	Secretory granules	Precursor of several biologically active peptides	Not reported	CD4 ⁺ , CD8 ⁺
GAD65	Neuroendocrine cells	Synaptic-like microvesicles	GABA synthesis	Yes	CD4 ⁺ , CD8 ⁺
GAD67	Islet cells (not β -cells), neurons	Synaptic-like microvesicles	GABA synthesis	Yes	CD4 ⁺
GRP78	Not restricted	Endoplasmic reticulum	Protein folding	Yes	CD4 ⁺
HSP60	Ubiquitous	Mitochondria	Protein folding	Yes	CD4 ⁺
IA-2	Neuroendocrine cells	Secretory granules	Regulation of hormone secretion	Yes	CD4 ⁺ , CD8 ⁺
IA-2 β	Neuroendocrine cells	Secretory granules	Regulation of hormone secretion	Yes	CD4 ⁺
ICA69	β -cells	Secretory granules	Unascertained	Yes	CD4 ⁺
IGRP	β -cells	Endoplasmic reticulum	Glucose metabolism	Not reported	CD4 ⁺ , CD8 ⁺
Insulin gene enhancer protein isl-1	Not restricted	Nucleus	DNA-binding transcriptional activator	Not reported	CD8 ⁺
P4Hb	Not restricted	Endoplasmic reticulum	Formation and rearrangement of disulfide bonds	Yes	Not reported
PDX1	β -cells	Nucleus	Role in pancreas development and β -cell differentiation and function	Yes	Not reported
Peripherin	Neuroendocrine cells	Filaments	Unascertained	Yes	Not reported
Pre-proinsulin, Proinsulin, Insulin, oxPTM-insulin	β -cells	Secretory granules	Glucose homeostasis	Yes	CD4 ⁺ , CD8 ⁺
Tetraspanin-7, Glim 38	Neuroendocrine cells	Plasma membrane	Signal transduction	Yes	Not reported
Urocortin-3	β -cells, α -cells	Secretory granules	May regulate insulin secretion	Not reported	CD8 ⁺
ZnT8	β -cells	Secretory granules	Zinc uptake in β -cell secretory granules	Yes	CD4 ⁺ , CD8 ⁺

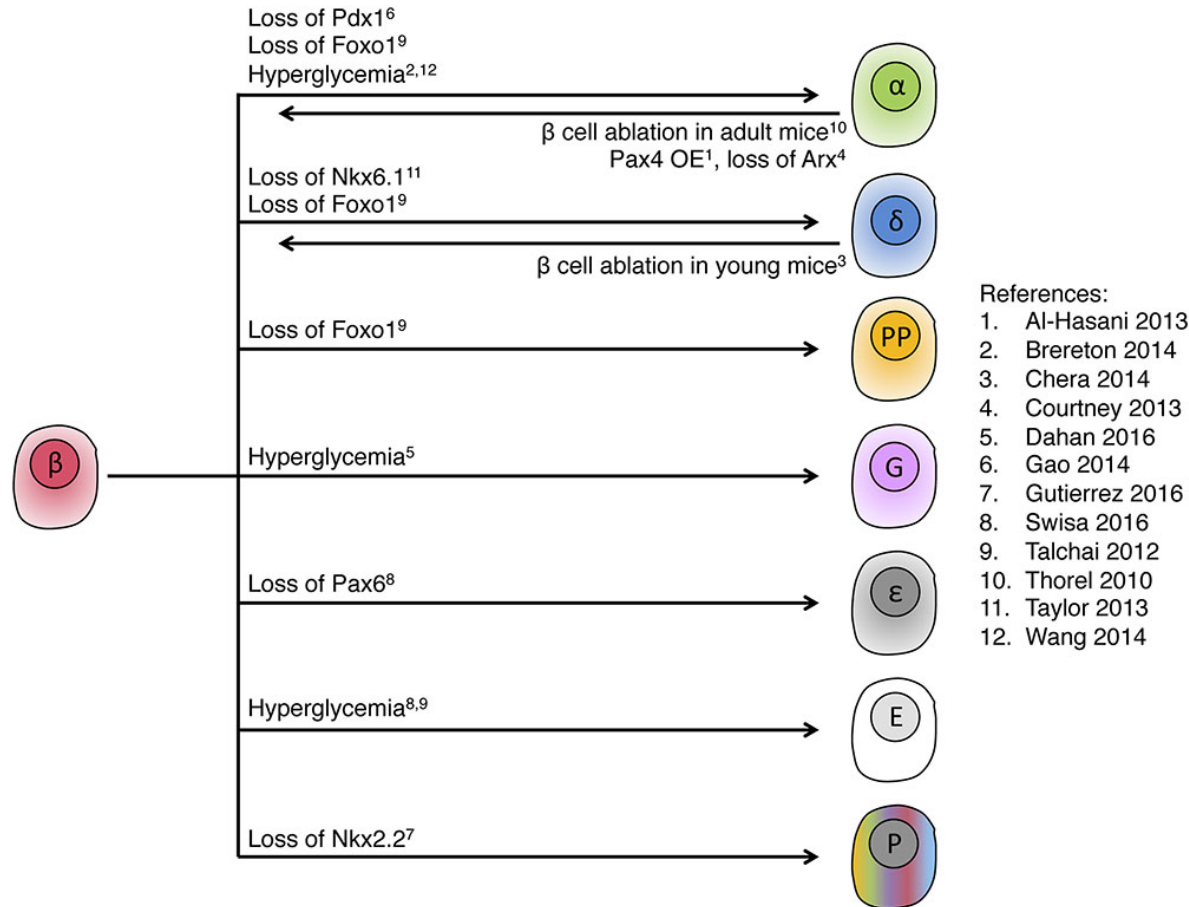
ChgA, chromogranin A; GABA, γ -amino butyric acid; GAD, glutamic acid decarboxylase; GRP78, glucose-regulated protein 78; HSP60, heat shock protein 60; IA-2, insulinoma-associated antigen 2; IAPP, islet amyloid polypeptide; ICA69, islet-cell antigen 69; IGRP, islet-specific glucose-6-phosphatase catalytic subunit-related protein; oxPTM-insulin, oxidative post-translational modifications-insulin; P4Hb, prolyl 4-hydroxylase subunit β , protein disulfide-isomerase; PDX1, pancreatic duodenal homeobox protein 1; pplAPP, IAPP precursor protein; ZnT8, zinc transporter 8.

Adapted from Purcell *et al.*²³ and Roep and Peakman.⁹⁰

Residual beta cells and insulinitis at different disease stages

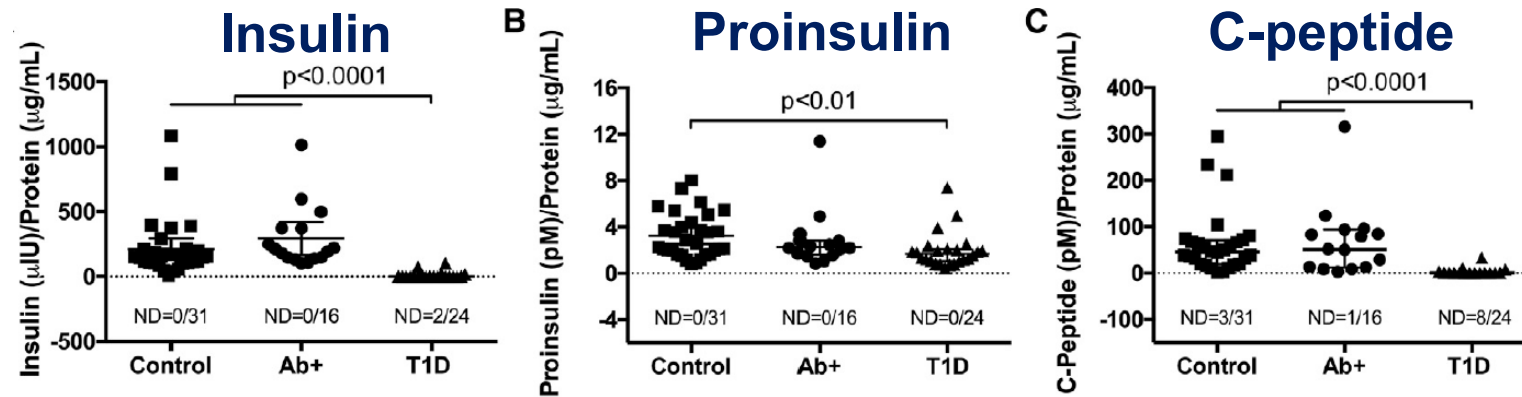


β-cell plasticity



- Physiologically only 3% of β-cells proliferate in adult mice, but no β-cells proliferate in adult human pancreas
- Pathological conditions and β-cell dysfunction can lead to neogenesis (from exocrine cells) and de/ trans-differentiation (from other endocrine cell types)
- Pancreas disease can generate different β-cells subpopulations

Dedifferentiated beta-cells in T1D?



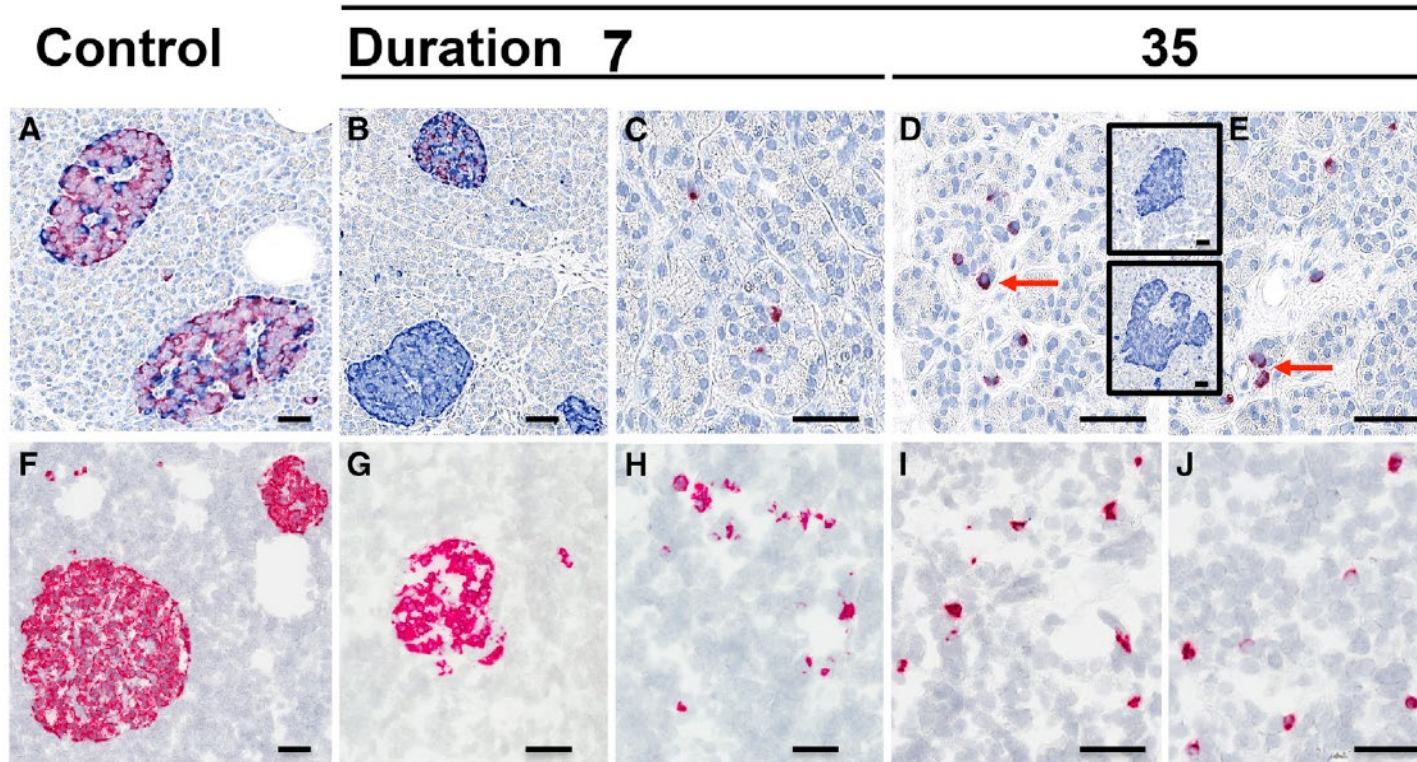
T1D

Protein

INS/GCG-IHC

mRNA

INS-ISH



❑ Persistent proinsulin but low/absent insulin protein

❑ Long-lasting INS messenger RNA

❑ Absence of actively transcribed INS mRNA $\rightarrow$ low/no insulin promoter activity

The majority of patients with long-duration type 1 diabetes are insulin microsecretors and have functioning beta cells

Richard A. Oram • Angus G. Jones • Rachel E. J. Besser •
Bridget A. Knight • Beverley M. Shields • Richard J. Brown •
Andrew T. Hattersley • Timothy J. McDonald

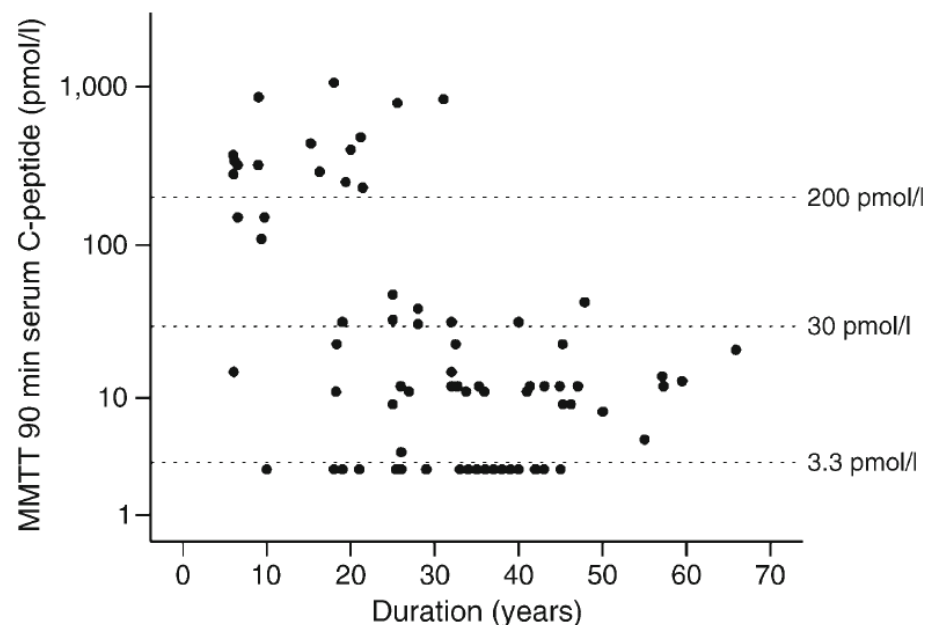


Fig. 1 Scatterplot of serum C-peptide at 90 min after a mixed meal (log₁₀ scale) against duration of diabetes. Dotted reference lines indicate 200, 30 and 3.3 pmol/l. MMTT, mixed-meal tolerance test

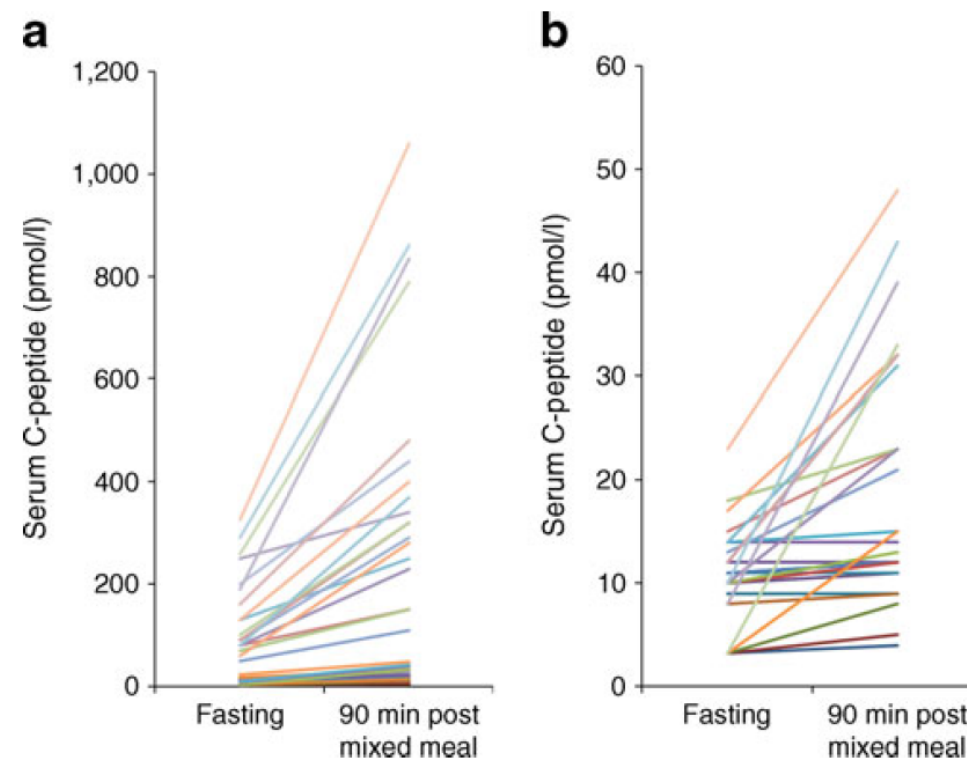
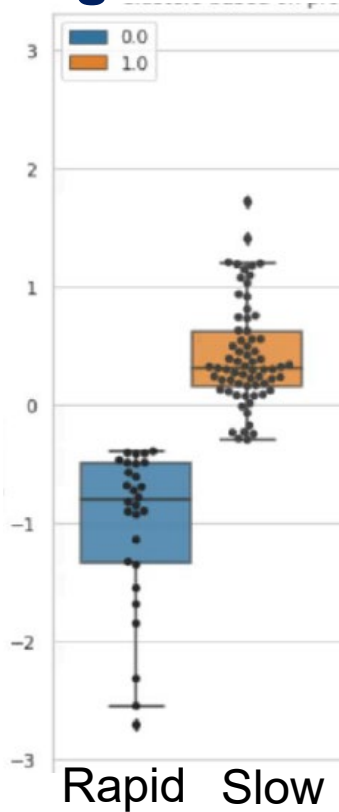


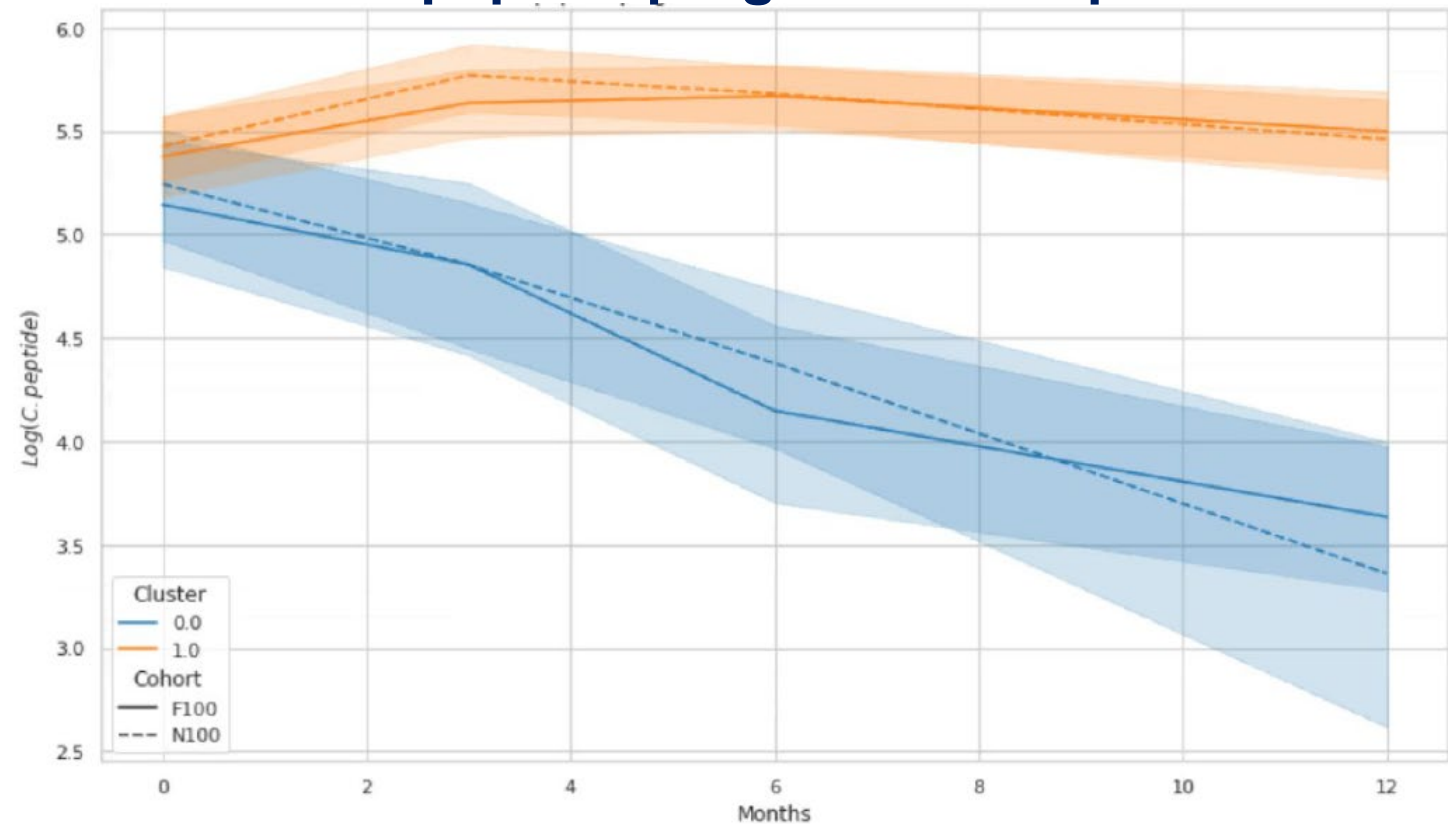
Fig. 2 The effect of a meal stimulus on serum C-peptide levels in participants with detectable insulin ($n=54$). **(a)** Paired fasting and mixed meal results for all patients with detectable C-peptide. Each line represents an individual patient. **(b)** Results for all patients with fasting C-peptide below 30 pmol/l ($n=36$). Of 54 patients, 34 (80%) had a serum C-peptide value that rose after the mixed meal. None had a fall in the C-peptide value after the meal

Identification of Rapid Progressors and Slow progressor among T1D individuals of INNODIA 100s cohort

Progression Clusters

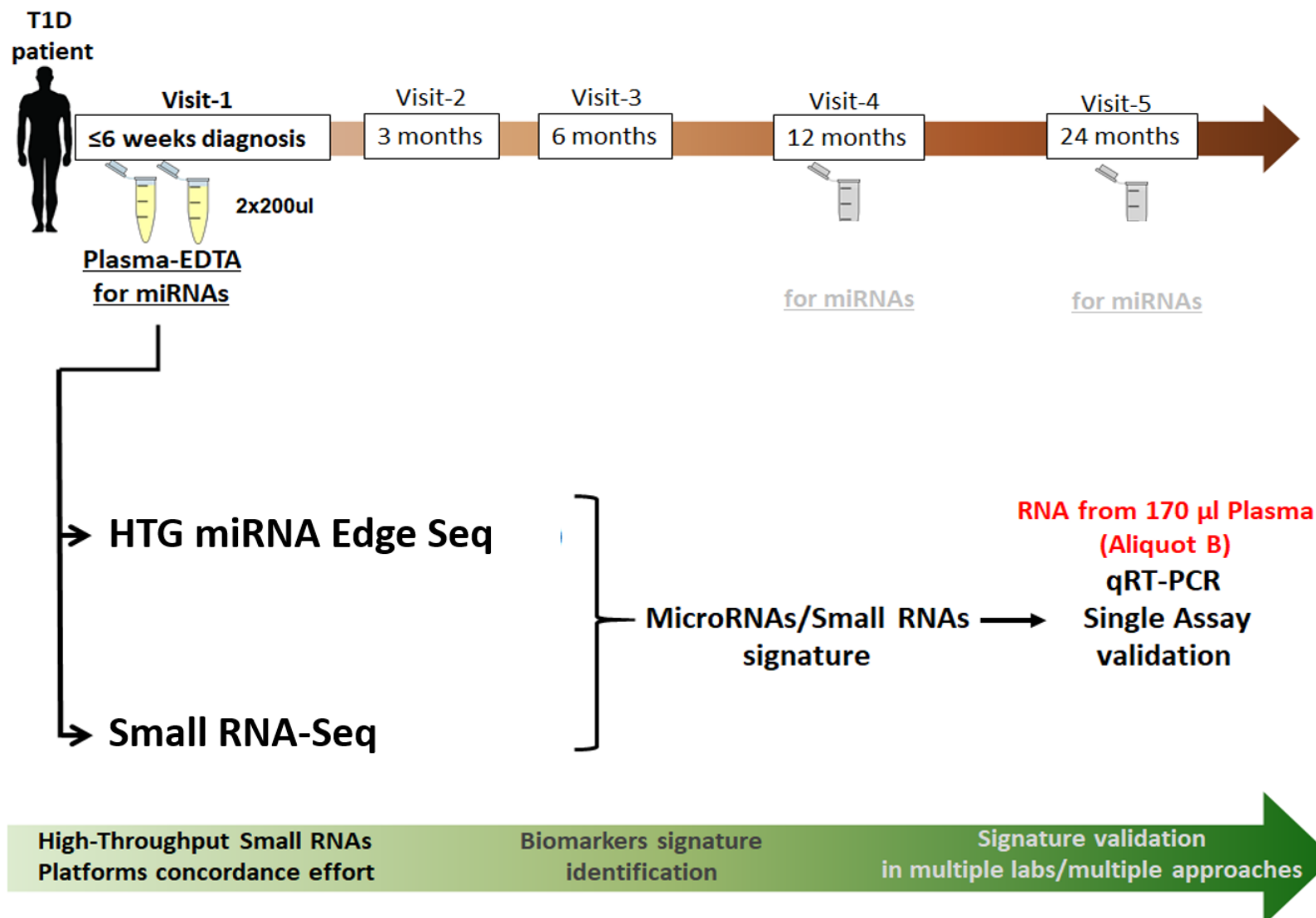


C-peptide progression slopes



Experimental Design for the analysis of miRNAs/small RNAs

INNODIA 100s cohort
+
Additional INNODIA
T1D subjects
=
115 T1D individuals



INNODIA Biomarkers Research study to identify novel T1D endotypes

	Within 6w	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months
	Visit 1	Visit 2	Visit 3	Visit 4	Visit 5
MMTT		✓	✓	✓	✓
C-pep	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Serum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cells	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
AA	✓			✓	✓
Omics*	✓			✓	✓
Stool /urine	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

* Including micro-RNA and whole blood RNA

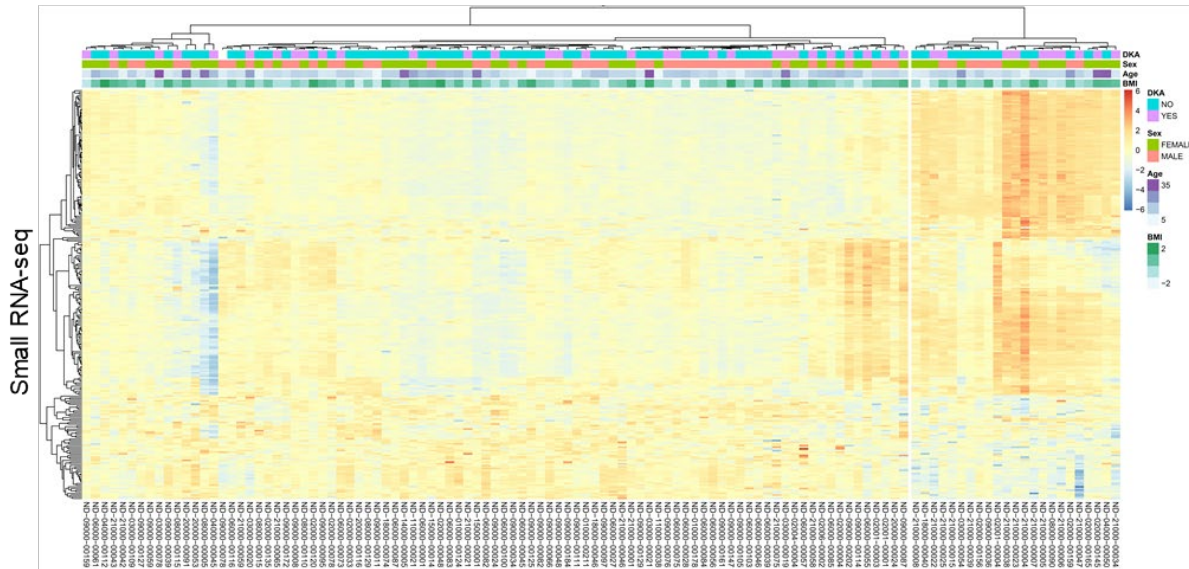
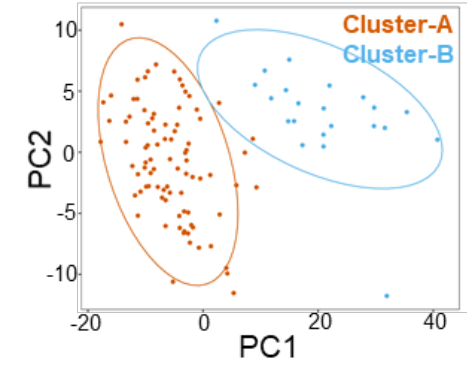
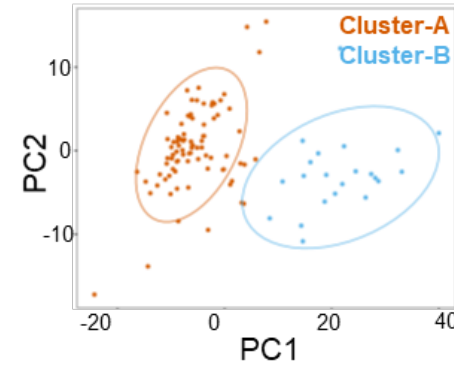
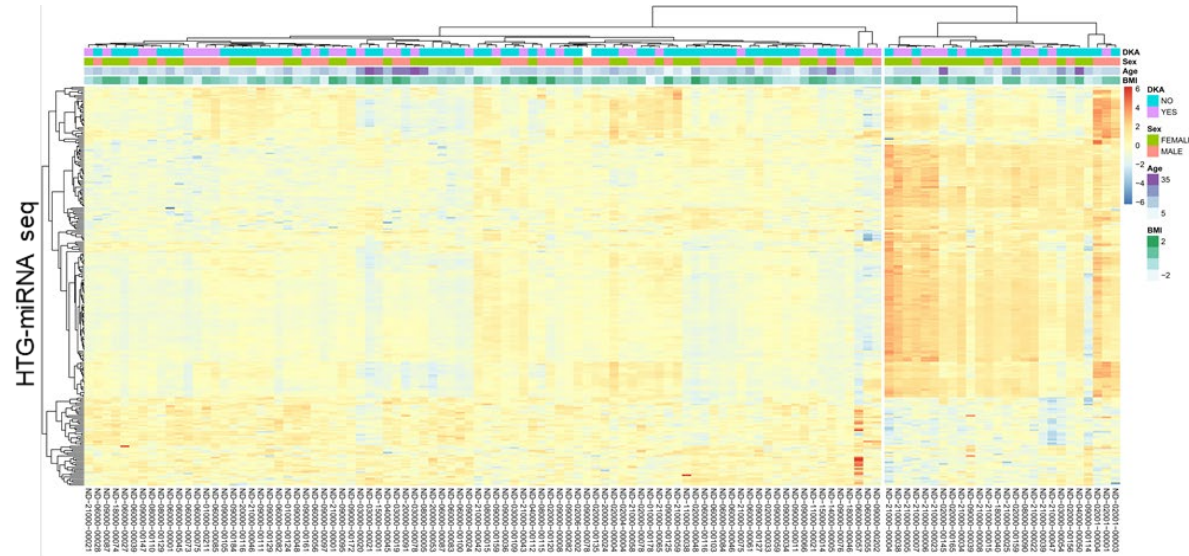
- Genotyping
- Immunomics
- Lipidomics
- Transcriptomics
- Proteomics
- Microbiome
- miRNA/Small RNAs

INNODIA new onset T1D cohort

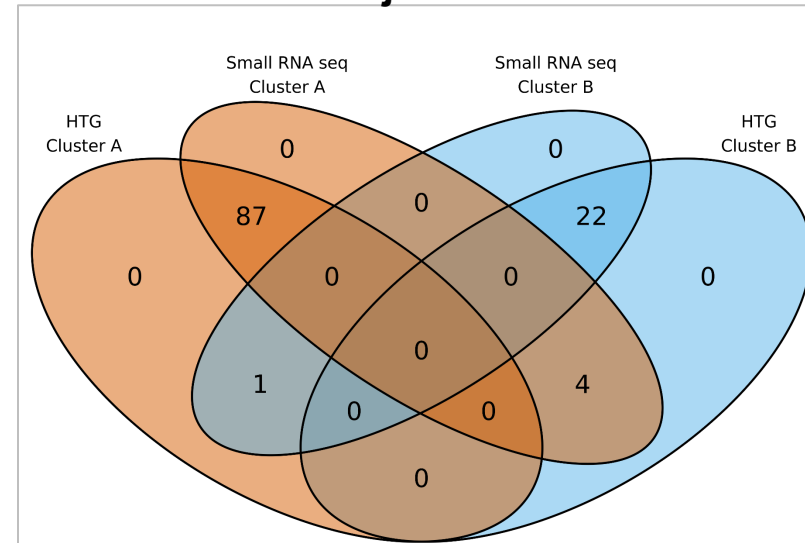
	Number of Patients (n)	Age at Onset (years)	Diabetes Duration (weeks)	Gender (F/M)	Samples Received
Pediatric Patients	100 (age<18y)	9,82±3,8y	4,5±1,5w	50/50	2 x 200 µl K ₂ -EDTA Plasma Aliquots
Adult Patients	16 (age≥18y)	28,0±7,1y	4,6±1,4w	9/7	2 x 200 µl K ₂ -EDTA Plasma Aliquots
ALL	116	12,4±7,7y	4,5±1,5w	59/57	

- ❑ 1 T1D subject (ND-06000-00019) resulted to be a MODY10, then excluded from dataset
- ❑ 7/115 are in duplicate (INNODIA Technical replicates)
- ❑ 20 samples (from 2 subjects) to be used as Batch Controls (in case of samples splitting). We used 4 samples.
- ❑ **Total: 127 Samples**

Two-seq platforms profiling reveals two distinct T1D subjects groups

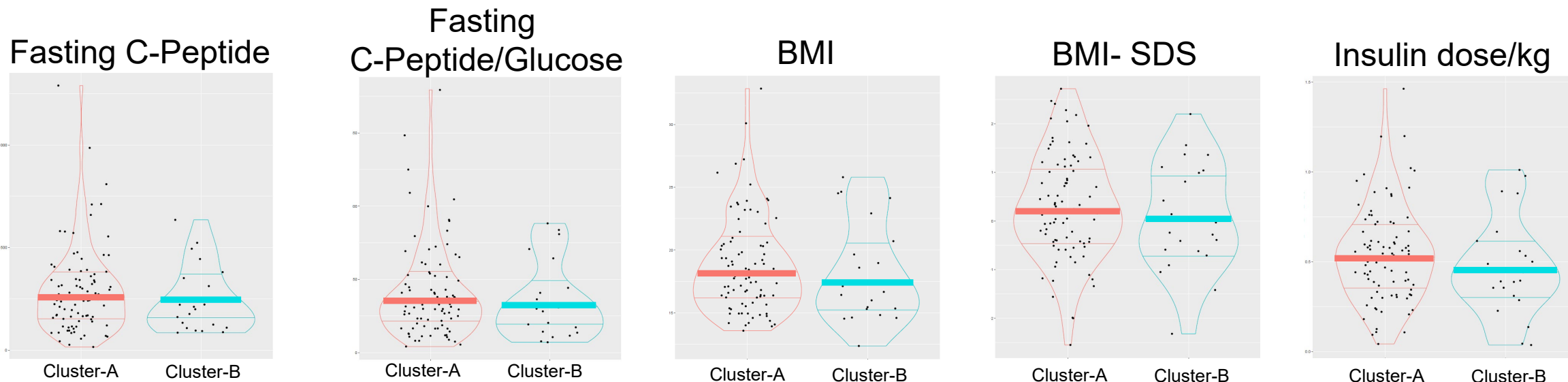
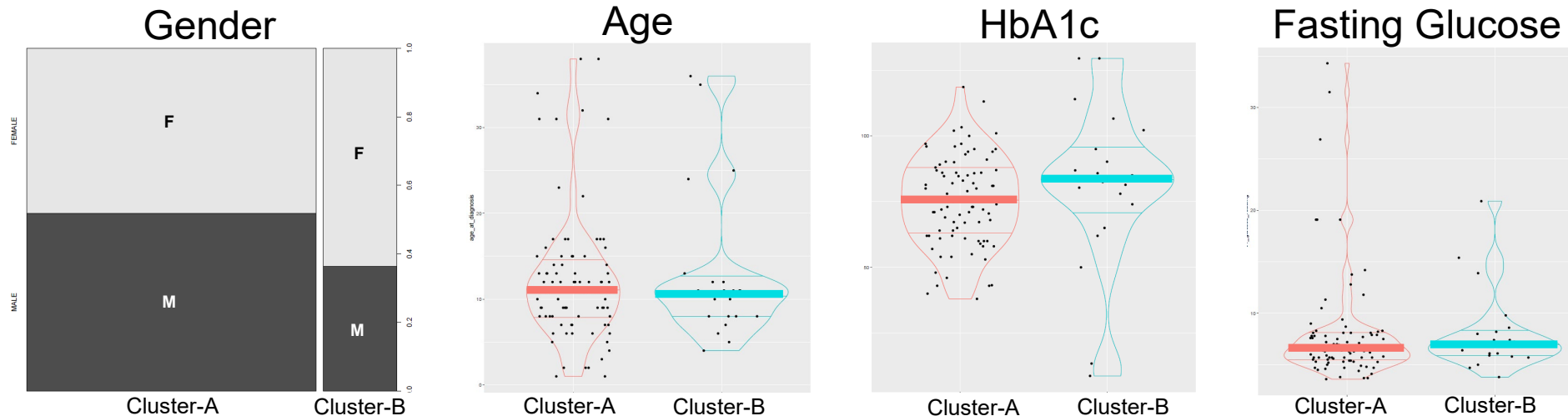


T1D subjects/Cluster

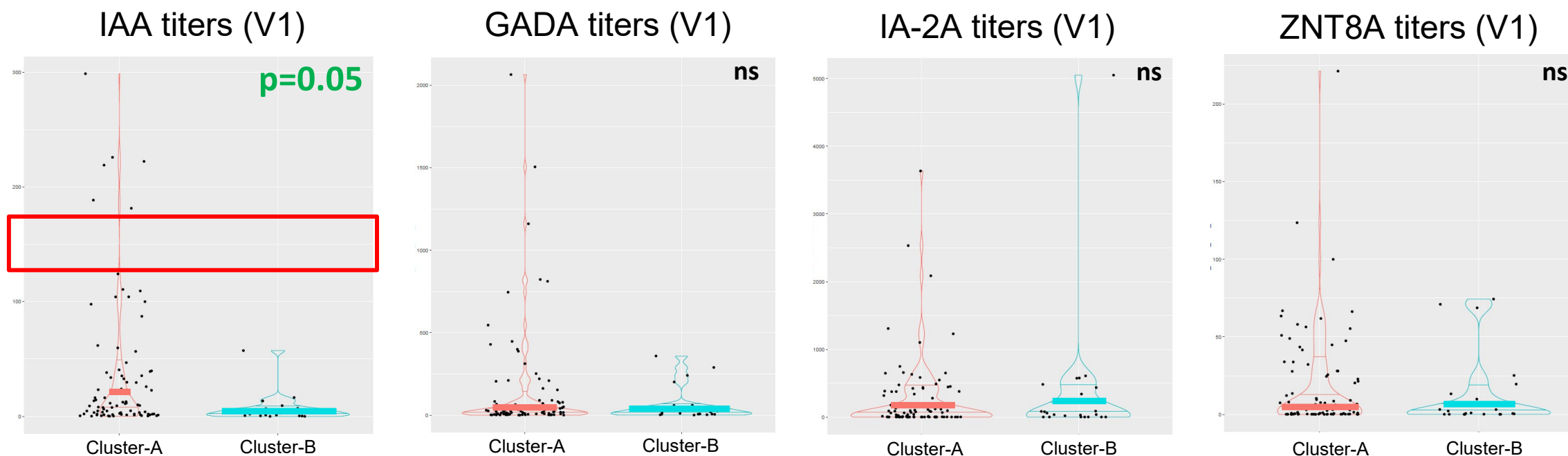


109/115 were consistently included in Cluster-A or Cluster-B in both platforms

T1D patient clusters do not differ for main clinical parameters at baseline

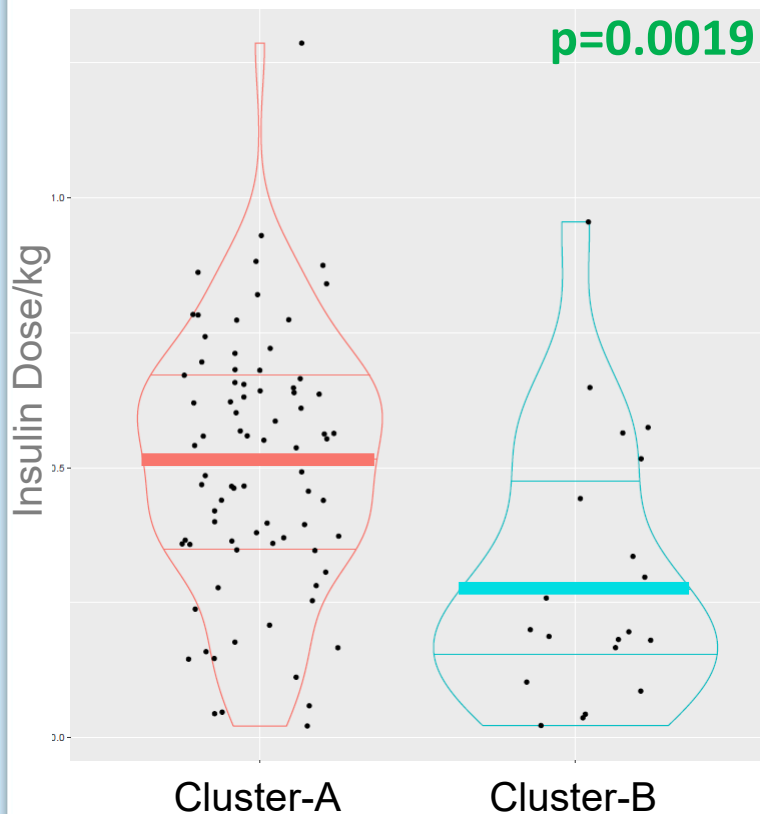


Cluster-A T1D subjects showed significantly higher IAA titers at baseline

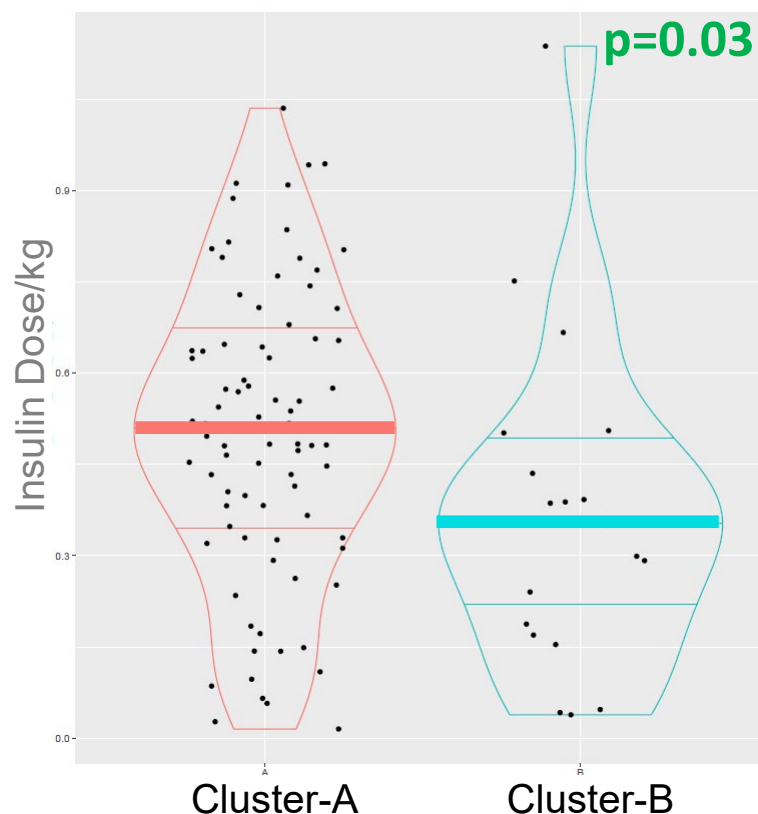


Cluster-A T1D subjects show a higher insulin requirement at 3- and 6-months

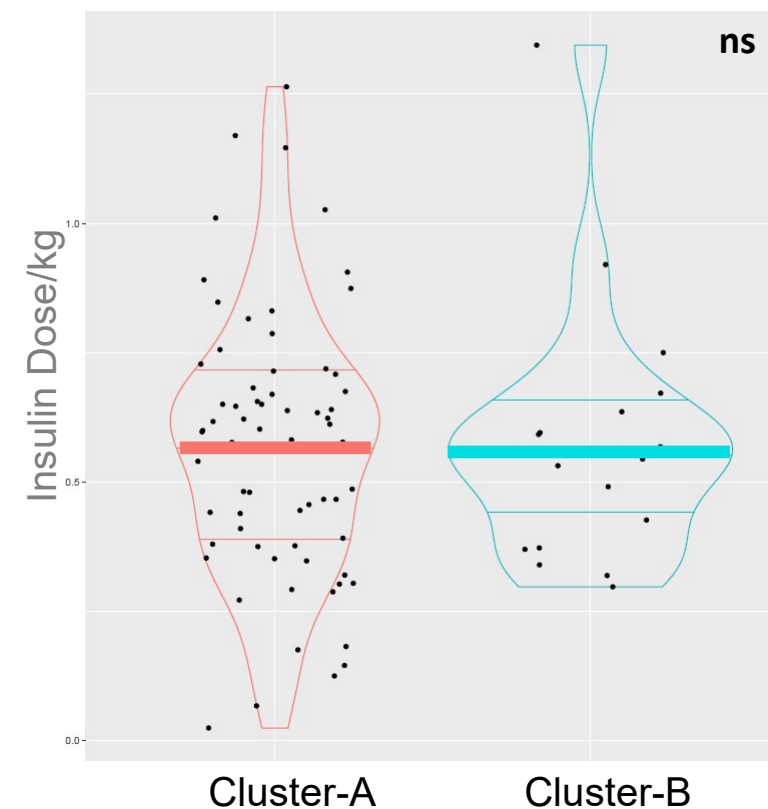
Insulin Requirement
3-months (V2), insulin dose/kg



Insulin Requirement
6-months (V3), insulin dose/kg



Insulin Requirement
12-months (V4), insulin dose/kg



Logit Model (R); p-values using Wald z-statistic ($p < 0.05$)
Median values and quartiles are shown.

Immunophenotyping of PBMCs in T1D subjects at baseline

□ A set of 67/115 T1D patients was also analyzed for circulating immunome

38 Single Colour
Flow Cytel Aurora

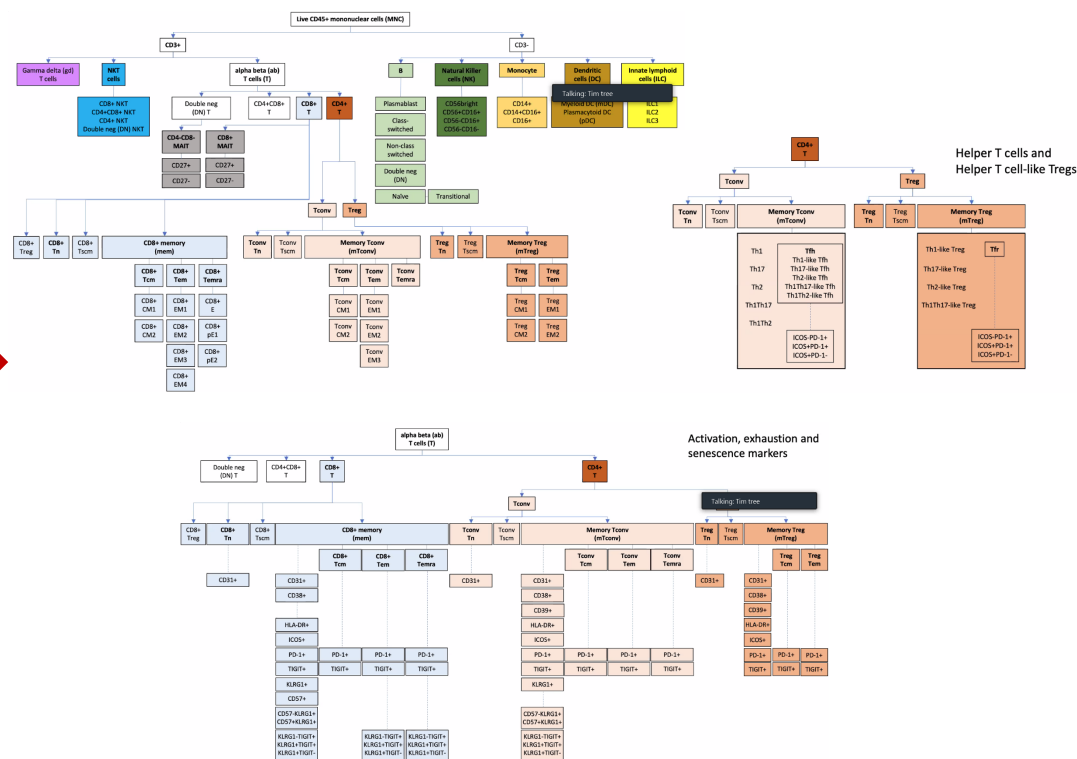


Frequencies of n=150 well-defined
immune cell subsets in 67 T1D patients



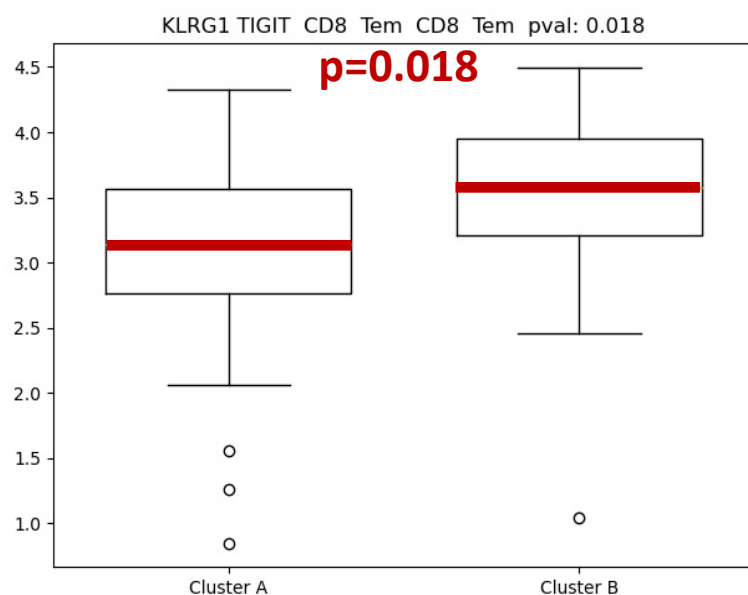
Prof. Timothy Tree

	Peak channel	Fluorochrome	Marker	Isotype
1	UV2	BUV395	CD45RA	
2	UV6	Live/dead blue	Live/dead blue	
3	UV7	BUV496	CD39	
4	UV9	BUV563	CD28	
5	UV10	BUV615	CD294	Rat
6	UV11	BUV661	CD11c	
7	UV14	BUV737	CD56	
8	UV16	BUV805	CD117	
9	V1	Brilliant Violet 421	PD-1	
10	V2	Super Bright 436	CD123	
11	V3 (but I used V2)	eFluor450	CD161	
12	V4	Brilliant Violet 480	IgD	
13	V7	Brilliant Violet 510	CD3	
14	V8	Brilliant Violet 570	HLA-DR	
15	V8	Pacific Orange	CD20	
16	V10	Brilliant Violet 605	CD31	
17	V11	Brilliant Violet 650	CD95	
18	V13	Brilliant Violet 711	CD196/CCR6	
19	V14	Brilliant Violet 750	CD185/CXCR5	Rat
20	V15	Brilliant Violet 785	CCR7	
21	V15	Qdot 800	CD8	
22	B1 (but I used B2)	BB515	ICOS	
23	B2	FITC	CD57	
24	B3	Spark blue 550	CD14	
25	B8	PerCP	CD45	
26	B9	PerCP-Cy5.5	CD16	
27	B10	PerCP-eFluor710	TCRgd	
28	YG1	PE	PD-L1	
29	YG1	CF568	CD4	
30	YG3	PE/Dazzle™ 594	CD24	
31	YG5	PE/Cy5	CXCR3	
32	YG7	PE-AF700	CD25	
33	YG9	PE-Cy7	TIGIT	
34	R1	APC	CD27	
35	R2	Alexa Fluor® 647	KLRG1	
36	R3	Spark NIR 685	CD19	
37	R4	APC-R700	CD127	
38	R7	APC-eFluor780	CD38	

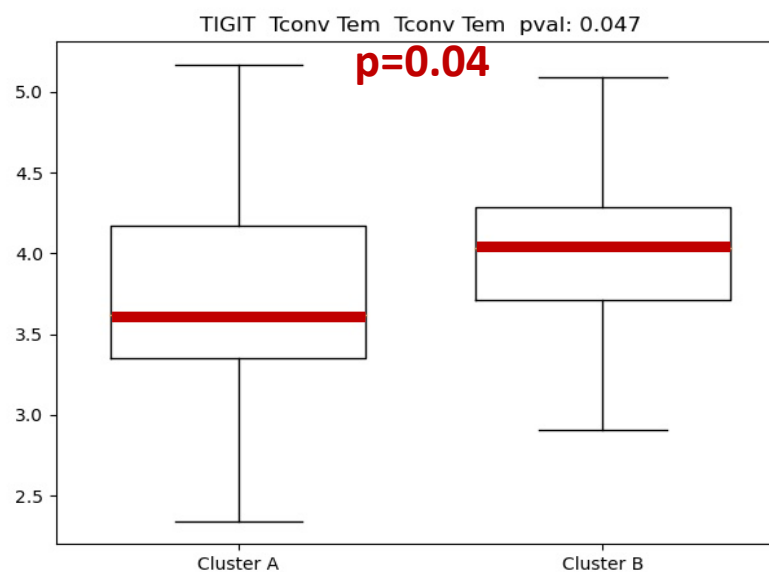


Cluster-B T1D subjects showed higher frequencies of CD8 and CD4 exhausted Memory T-cells

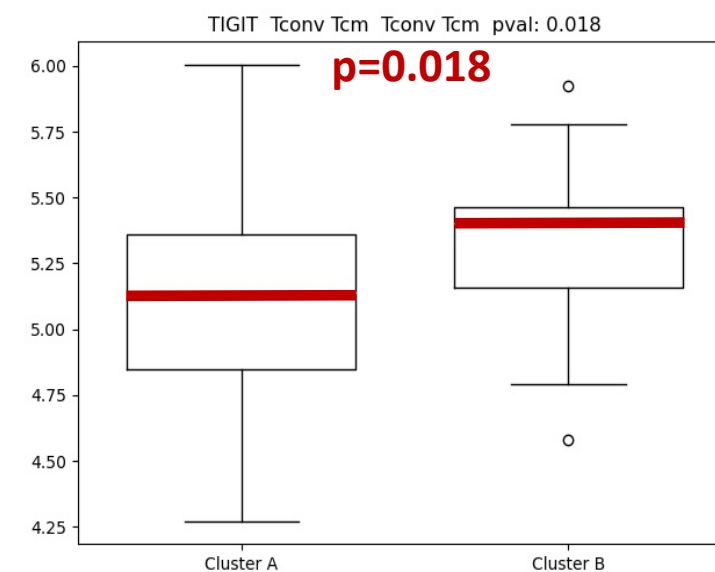
CD8 Tem KLRG1⁺ TIGIT⁺



CD4 Tem TIGIT⁺

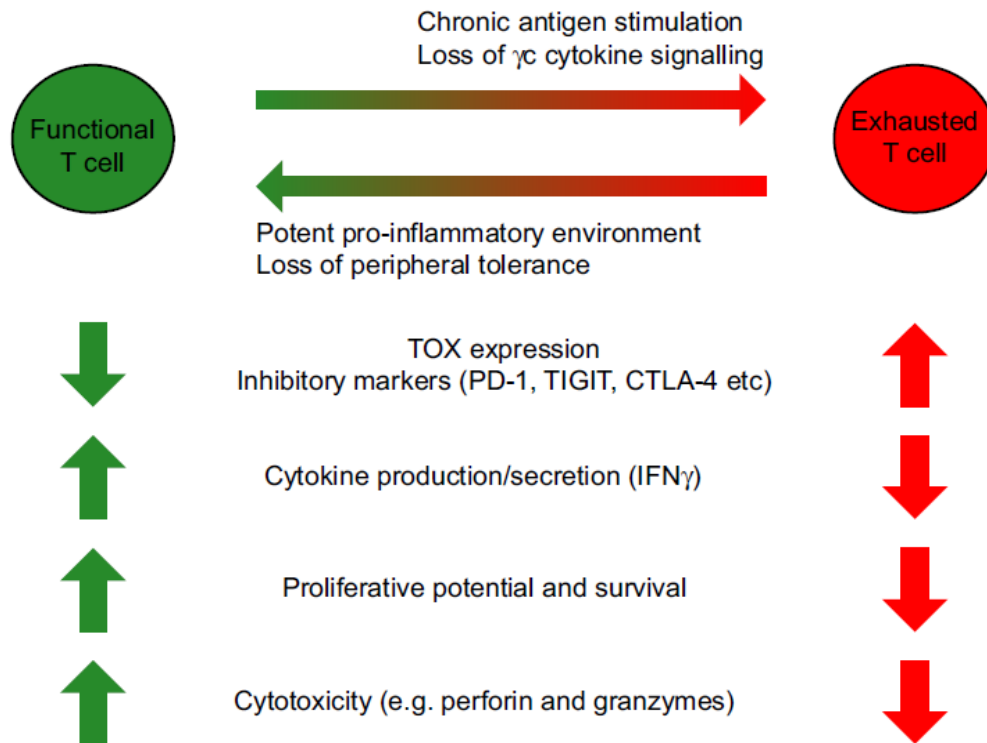


CD4 Tcm TIGIT⁺

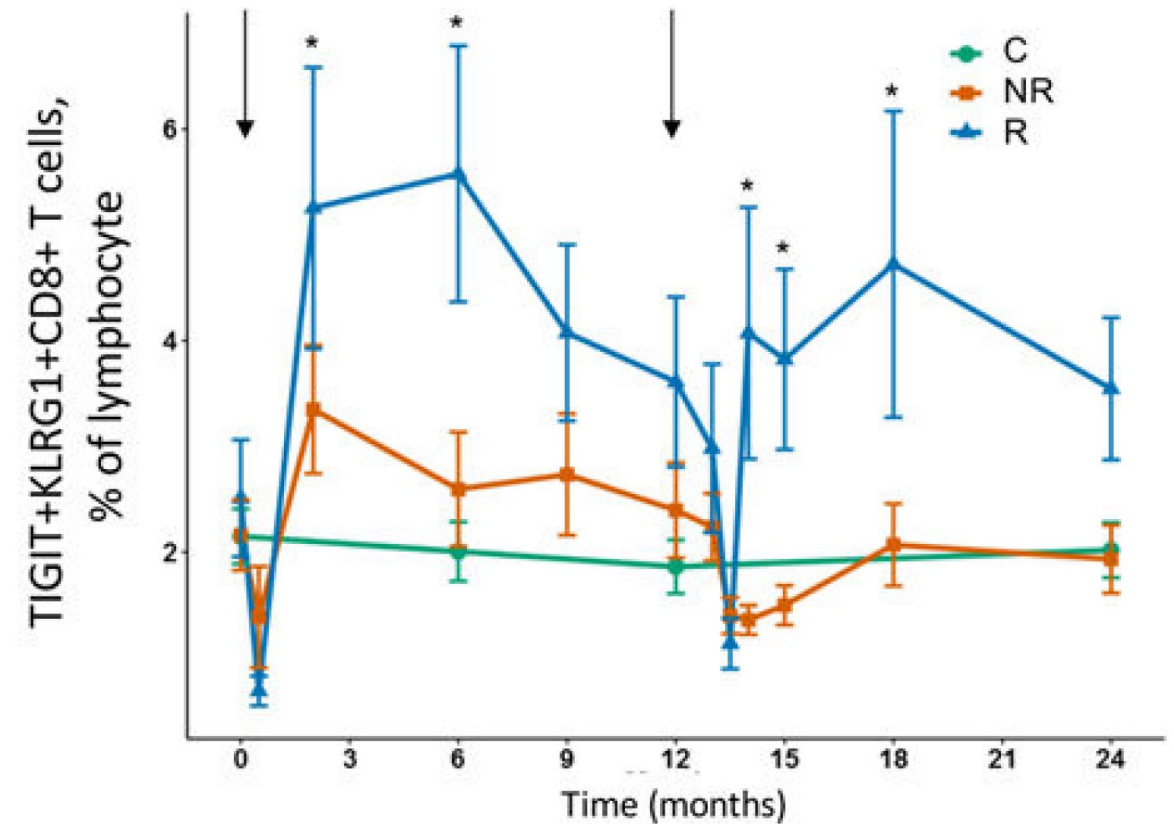


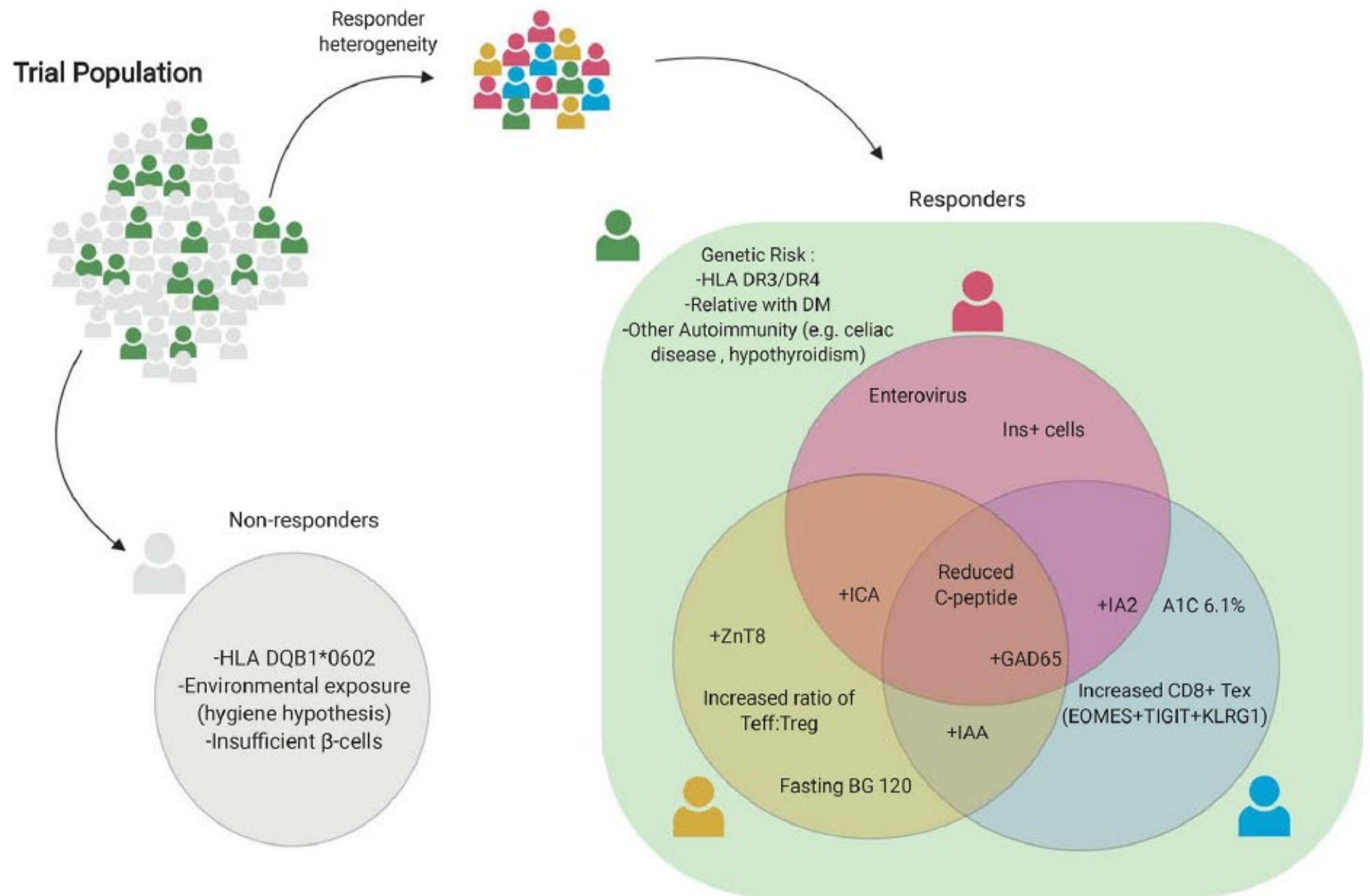
T-cell exhaustion in T1D

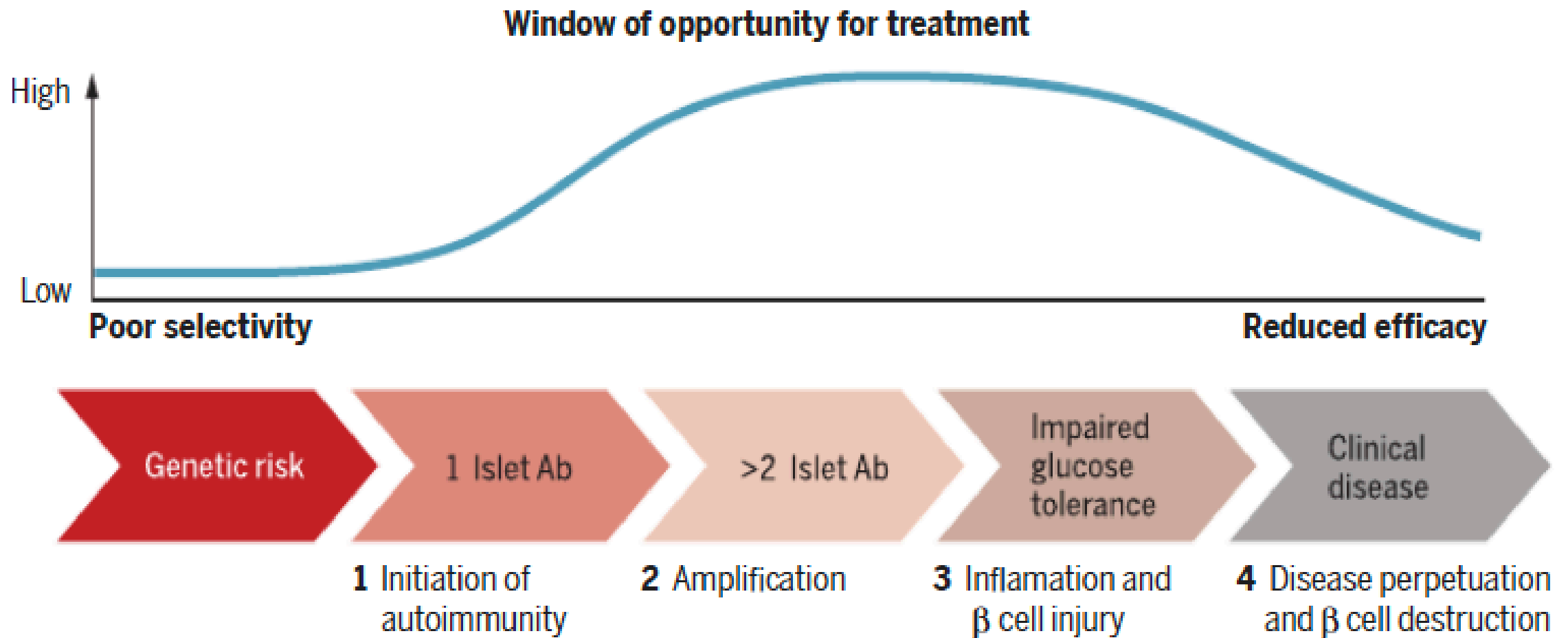
T-cell exhaustion is associated with reduced cytokines production



T1D subjects, **RESPONDERS** to aCD3 immunotherapy, showed higher levels of partially exhausted CD8 Tem KLRG1⁺ TIGIT⁺





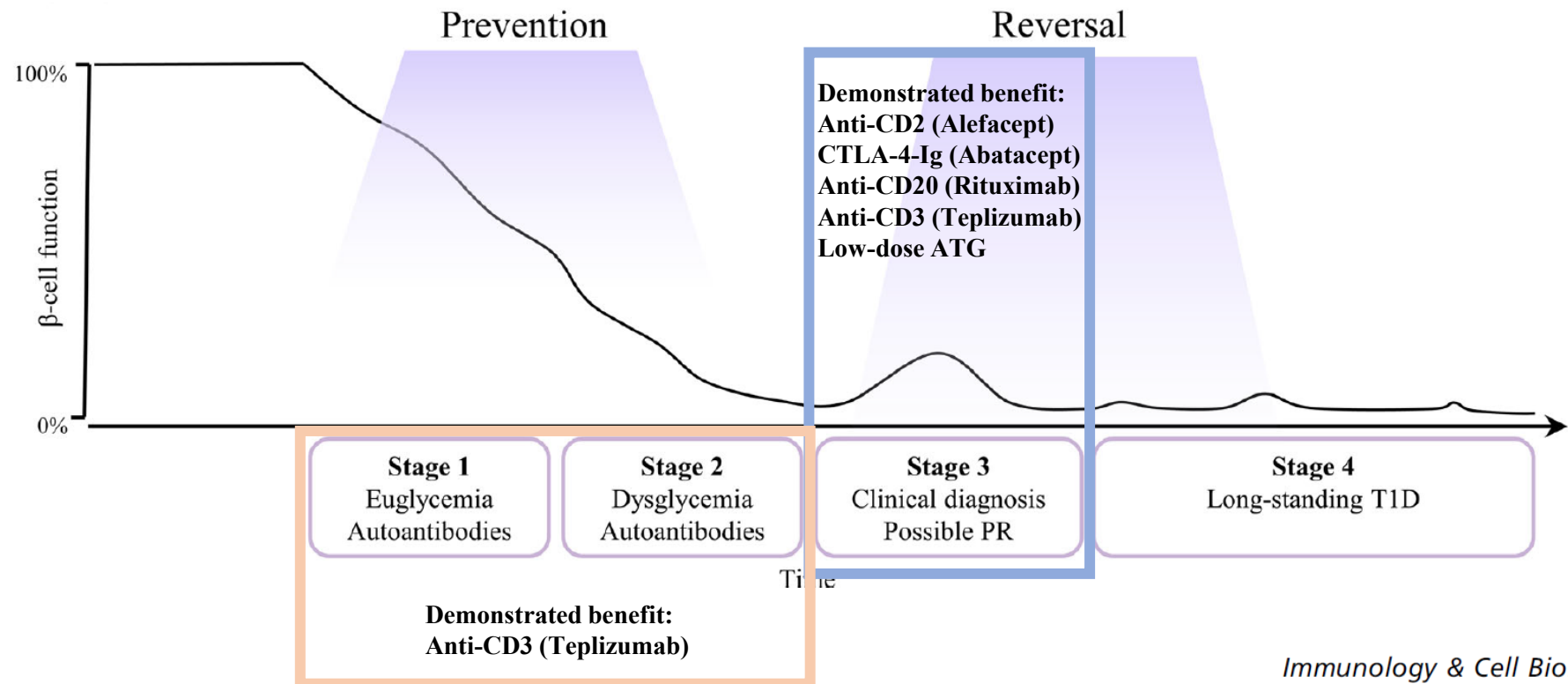
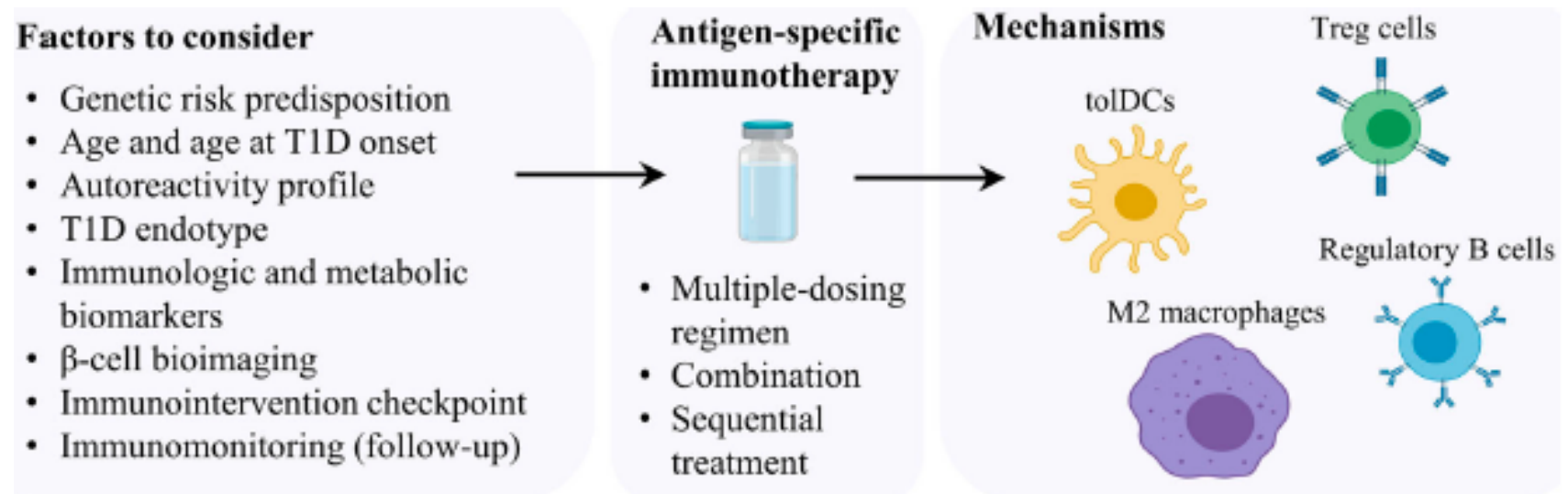


Immune and metabolic markers in the peripheral blood

Immune biomarker	Selected examples
Autoantibodies [appear years before clinical diagnosis (12)]	ICA, IAA, ICA512(IA-2), anti-ZnT8, anti-GAD65
Antigen-specific CD8 ⁺ T cells	Class I MHC tetramers, T cell libraries, ELISAs: Reactivity to proinsulin, insulin, GAD65, ZnT8, altered peptides
Antigen specific CD4 ⁺ T cells	ELISAs, T cell proliferation, T cell activation (by CD154). Antigens: GAD65, proinsulin, insulin

Metabolic biomarkers

β cell function	C-peptide response to oral glucose, mixed meal, arginine
β cell stress	Levels of proinsulin relative to insulin or C-peptide
β cell death	Unmethylated <i>INS</i> DNA, miRNAs, exosomes



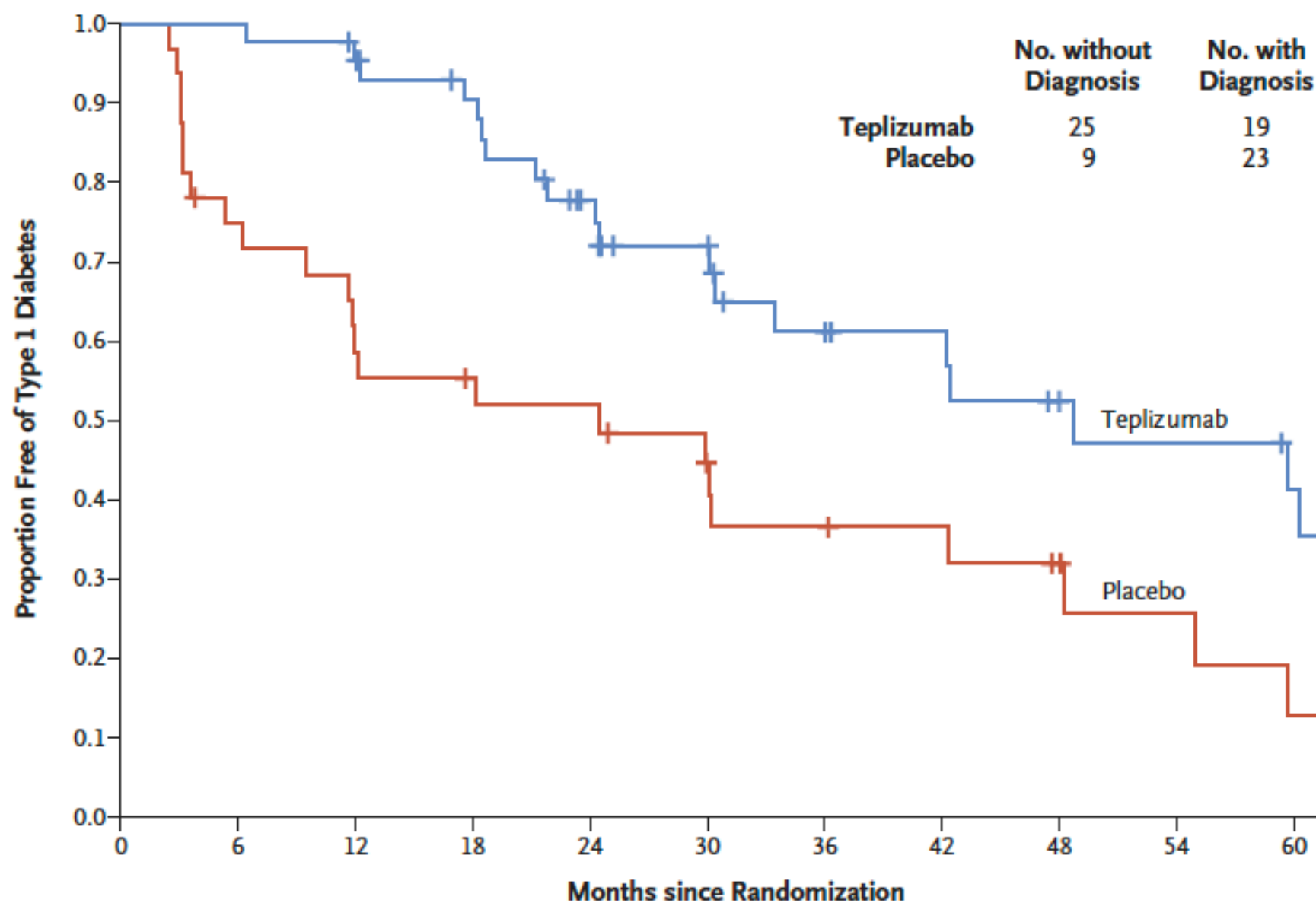
An Anti-CD3 Antibody, Teplizumab, in Relatives at Risk for Type 1 Diabetes

Characteristic	Teplizumab (N=44)	Placebo (N=32)
Age — yr		
Median (IQR)	14 (12–22)	13 (11–16)
Range	8.5–49.5	8.6–45.0
Age <18 yr — no. (%)	29 (66)	26 (81)
Male sex — %	57	53
Relationship to person with type 1 diabetes — no. (%)		
Sibling†	28 (64)	16 (50)
Offspring	6 (14)	6 (19)
Parent	6 (14)	3 (9)
Sibling and another first-degree relative	2 (5)	3 (9)
Second-degree relative	2 (5)	3 (9)
Third-degree relative or further removed	0	1 (3)
Autoantibodies — no. of participants positive (%)‡		
Anti-GAD65, harmonized	40 (91)	28 (88)
Micro insulin	20 (45)	11 (34)
Anti-IA-2, harmonized	27 (61)	24 (75)
ICA	29 (66)	28 (88)
Anti-ZnT8	32 (73)	24 (75)
Median glycated hemoglobin level (IQR) — %	5.2 (4.9–5.4)	5.3 (5.1–5.4)

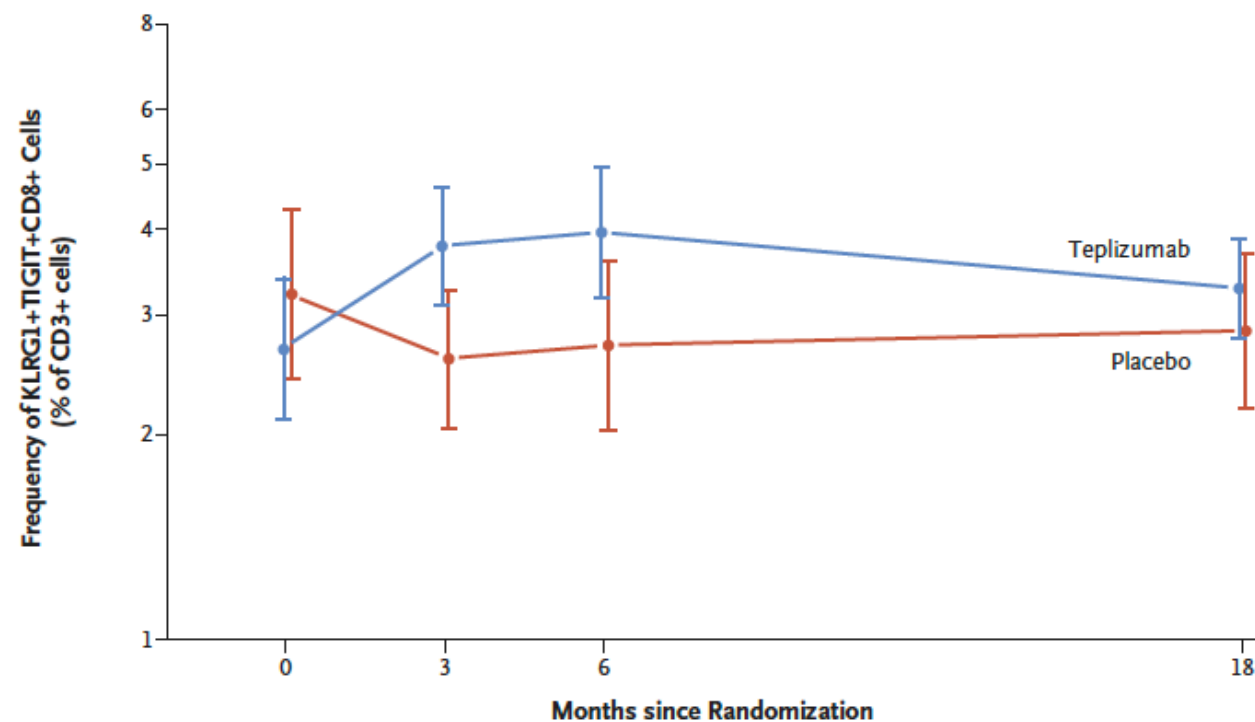
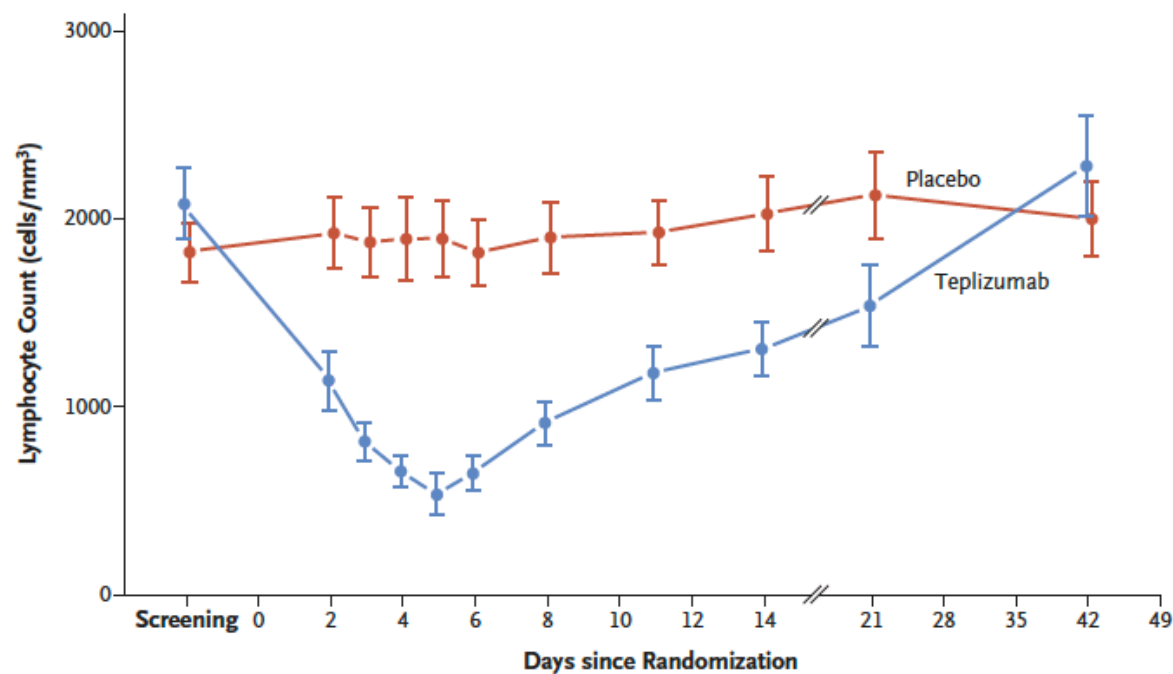
Table 2. Adverse Events during Active Follow-up.*

Adverse Event Category	Teplizumab		Placebo	
	Events (N=112)	Participants (N=44)	Events (N=23)	Participants (N=32)
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no. (%)</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no. (%)</i>
Blood or bone marrow†	45	33 (75)	2	2 (6)
Dermatologic or skin†	17	16 (36)	1	1 (3)
Pain	11	5 (11)	5	3 (9)
Infection	8	5 (11)	5	3 (9)
Gastrointestinal	5	4 (9)	3	3 (9)
Metabolic or laboratory	7	4 (9)	2	2 (6)
Pulmonary or upper respiratory	6	4 (9)	0	0
Constitutional symptoms	3	2 (5)	0	0
Allergy or immunologic	2	2 (5)	0	0
Cardiac, general	1	1 (2)	1	1 (3)
Endocrine	0	0	2	2 (6)
Vascular	1	1 (2)	1	1 (3)
Neurologic	1	1 (2)	0	0
Ocular or visual	1	1 (2)	0	0
Musculoskeletal or soft tissue	2	1 (2)	0	0
Hepatobiliary or pancreatic	0	0	1	1 (3)
Syndrome	1	1 (2)	0	0
Hemorrhage or bleeding	1	1 (2)	0	0

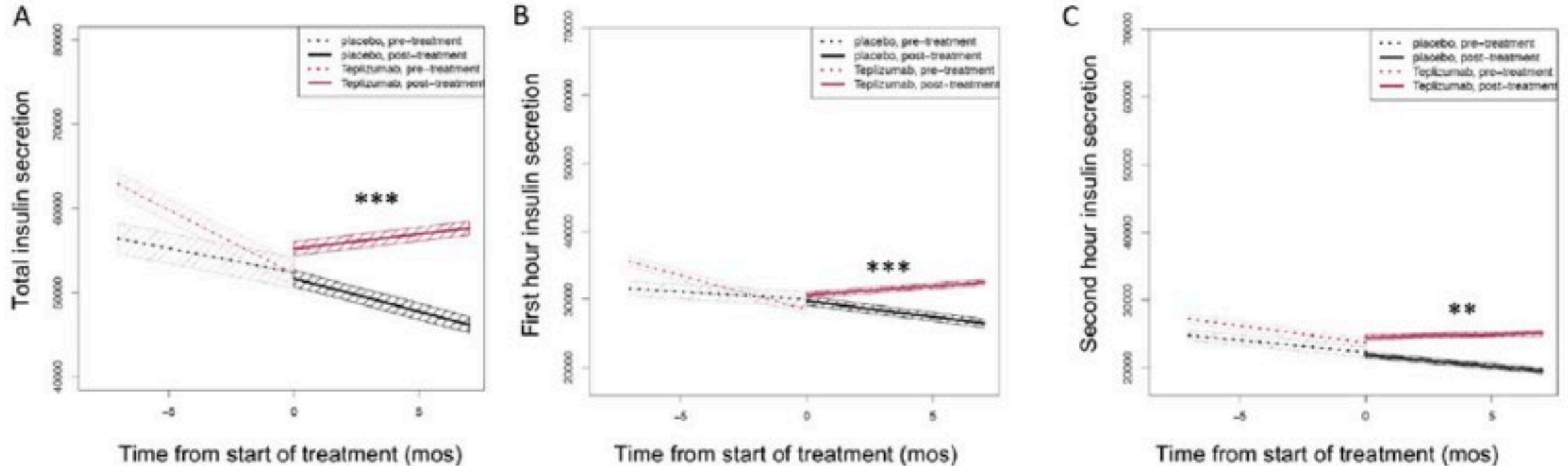
An Anti-CD3 Antibody, Teplizumab, in Relatives at Risk for Type 1 Diabetes



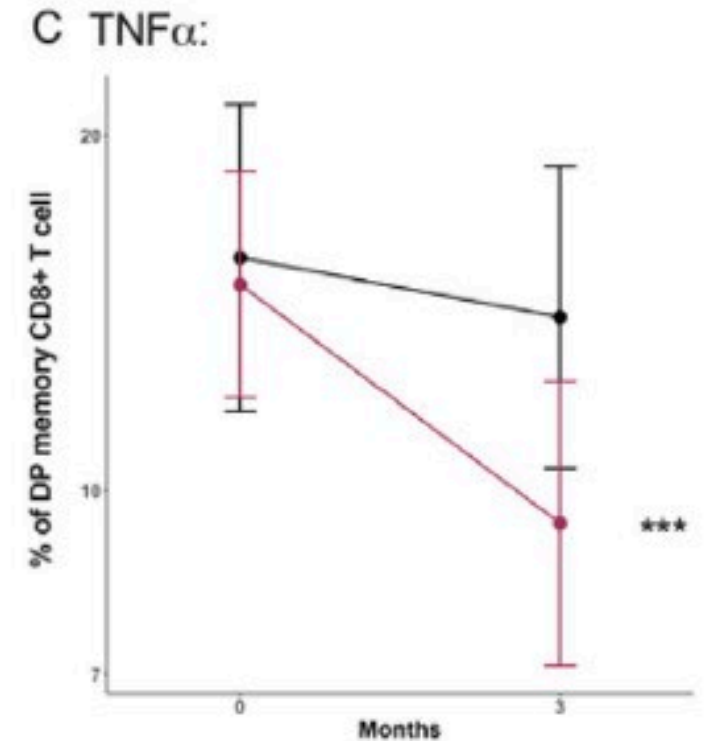
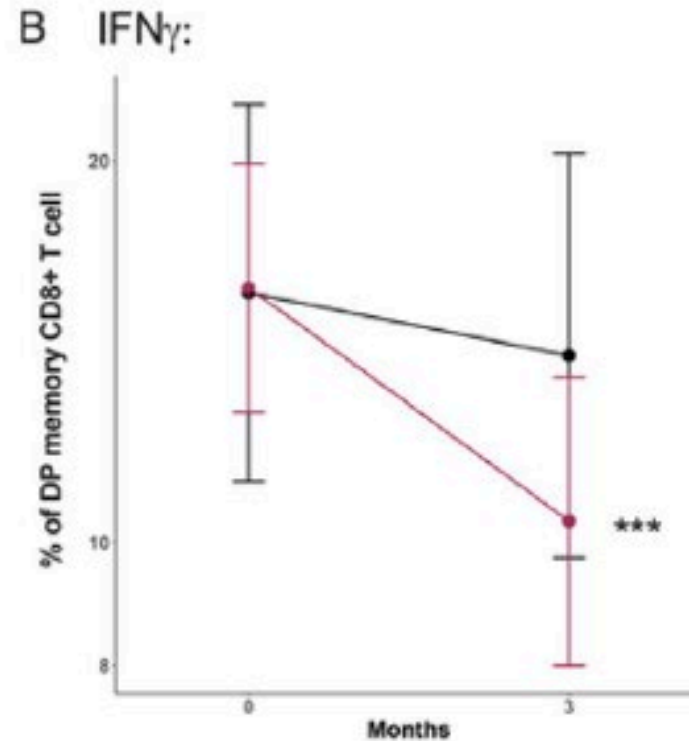
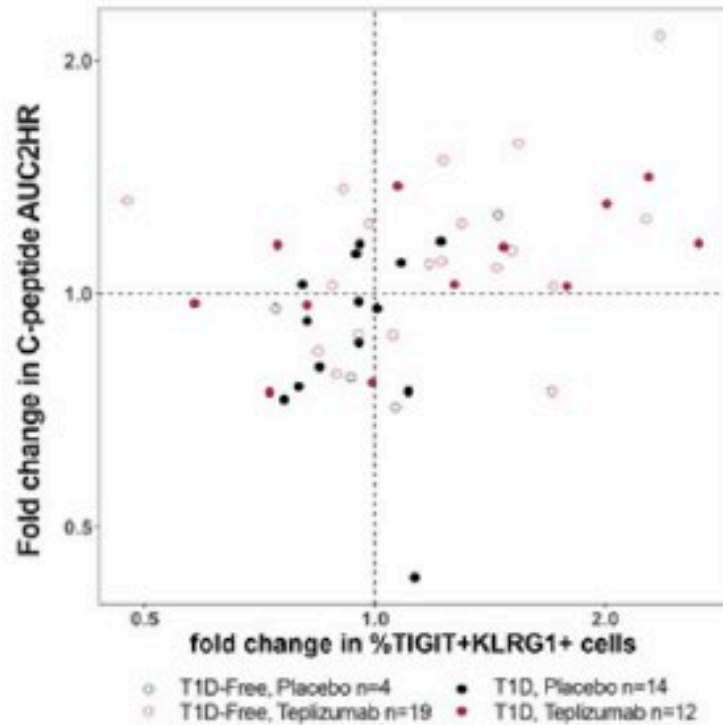
An Anti-CD3 Antibody, Teplizumab, in Relatives at Risk for Type 1 Diabetes



Teplizumab improves and stabilizes beta cell function in antibody positive high-risk individuals



Teplizumab improves and stabilizes beta cell function in antibody positive high-risk individuals

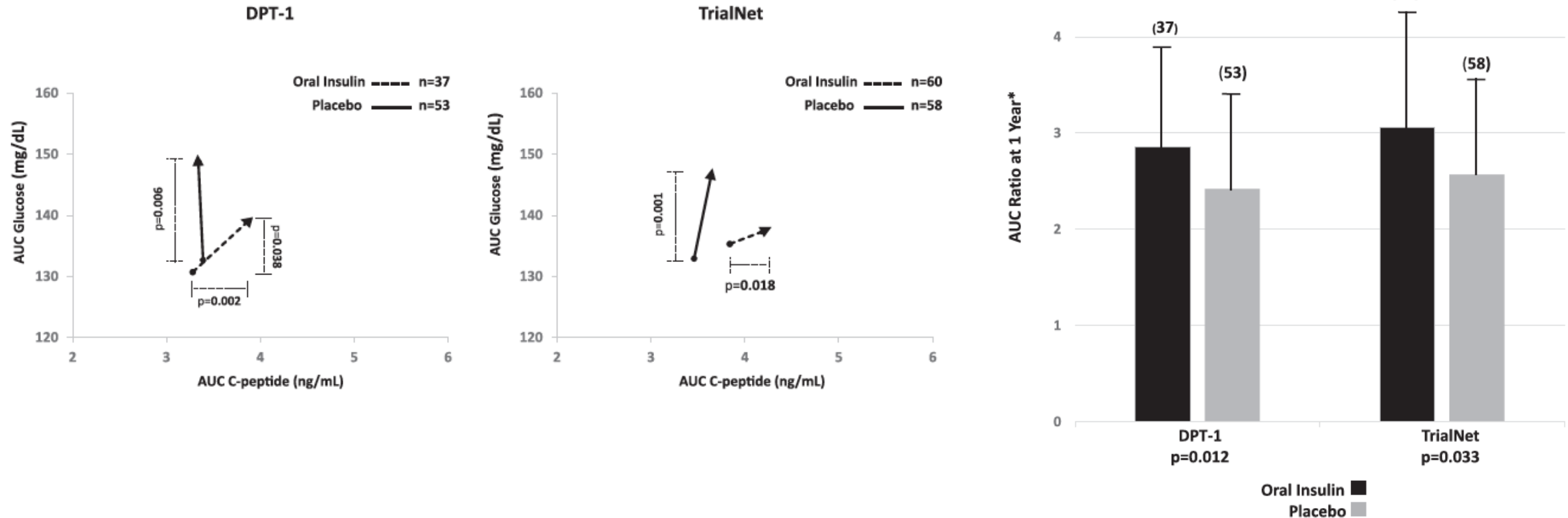


Functional changes in T cells are associated with improvements in metabolic function

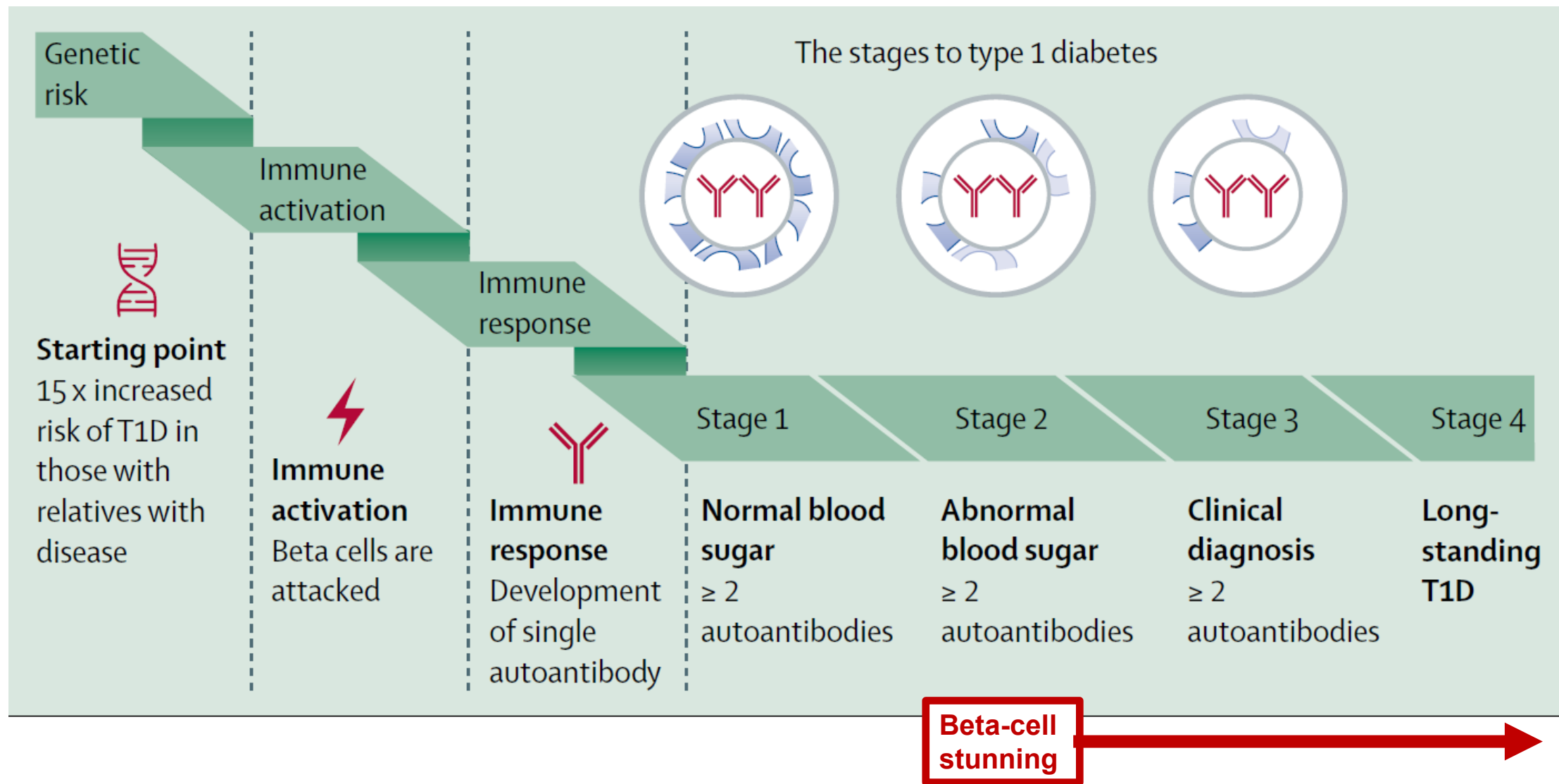
Slowed Metabolic Decline After 1 Year of Oral Insulin Treatment Among Individuals at High Risk for Type 1 Diabetes in the Diabetes Prevention Trial–Type 1 (DPT-1) and TrialNet Oral Insulin Prevention Trials

Jay M. Sosenko,¹ Jay S. Skyler,¹ Kevan C. Herold,² Desmond A. Schatz,³ Michael J. Haller,³ Alberto Pugliese,¹ Mario Cleves,⁴ Susan Geyer,⁴ Lisa E. Rafkin,¹ Della Matheson,¹ and Jerry P. Palmer,⁵ for the Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet Study Group*

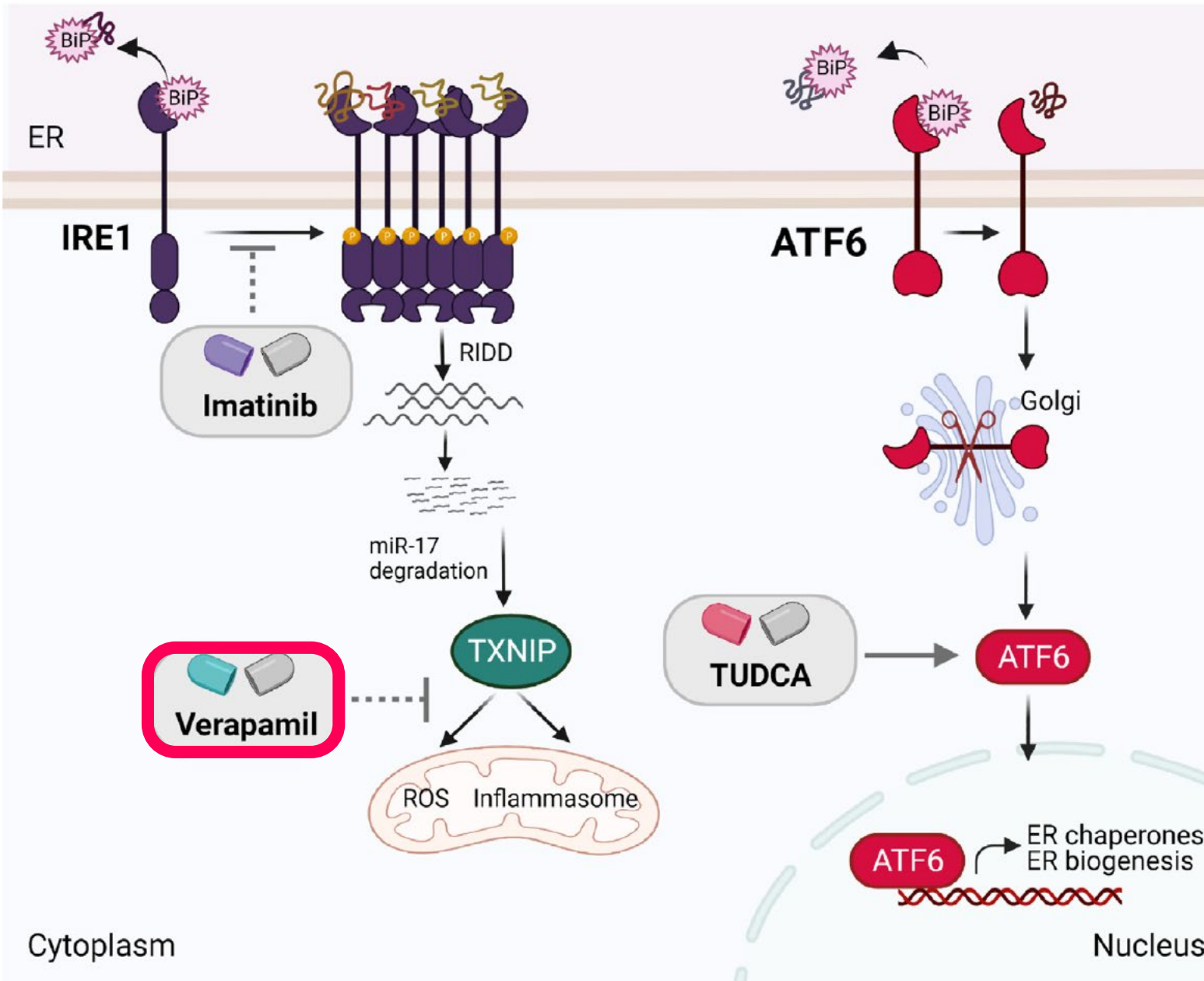
Diabetes 2020;69:1827–1832 | <https://doi.org/10.2337/db20-0166>



The path to progressive beta-cell stunning and death in T1D



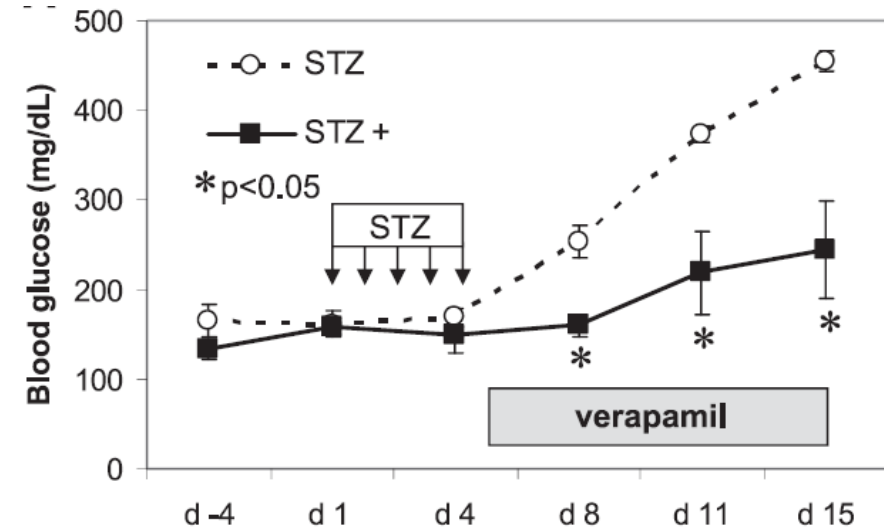
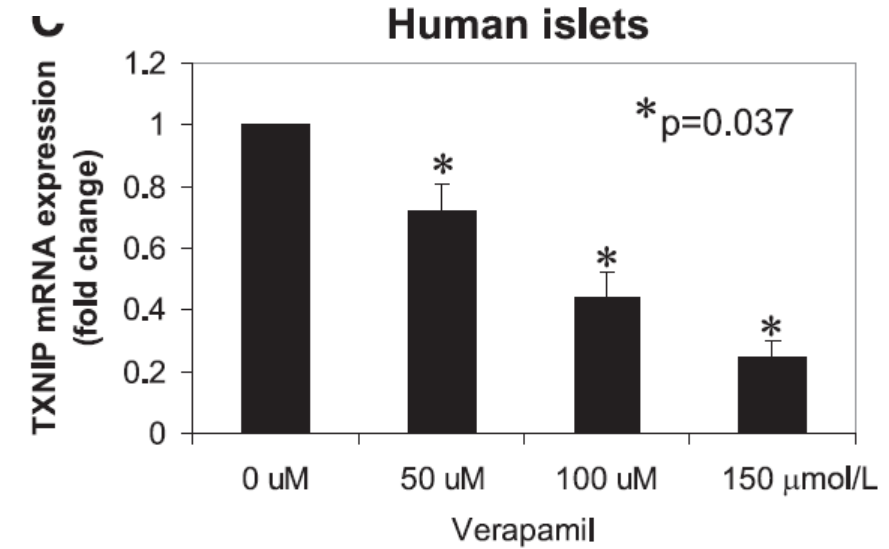
Intervention on stunned beta-cells



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

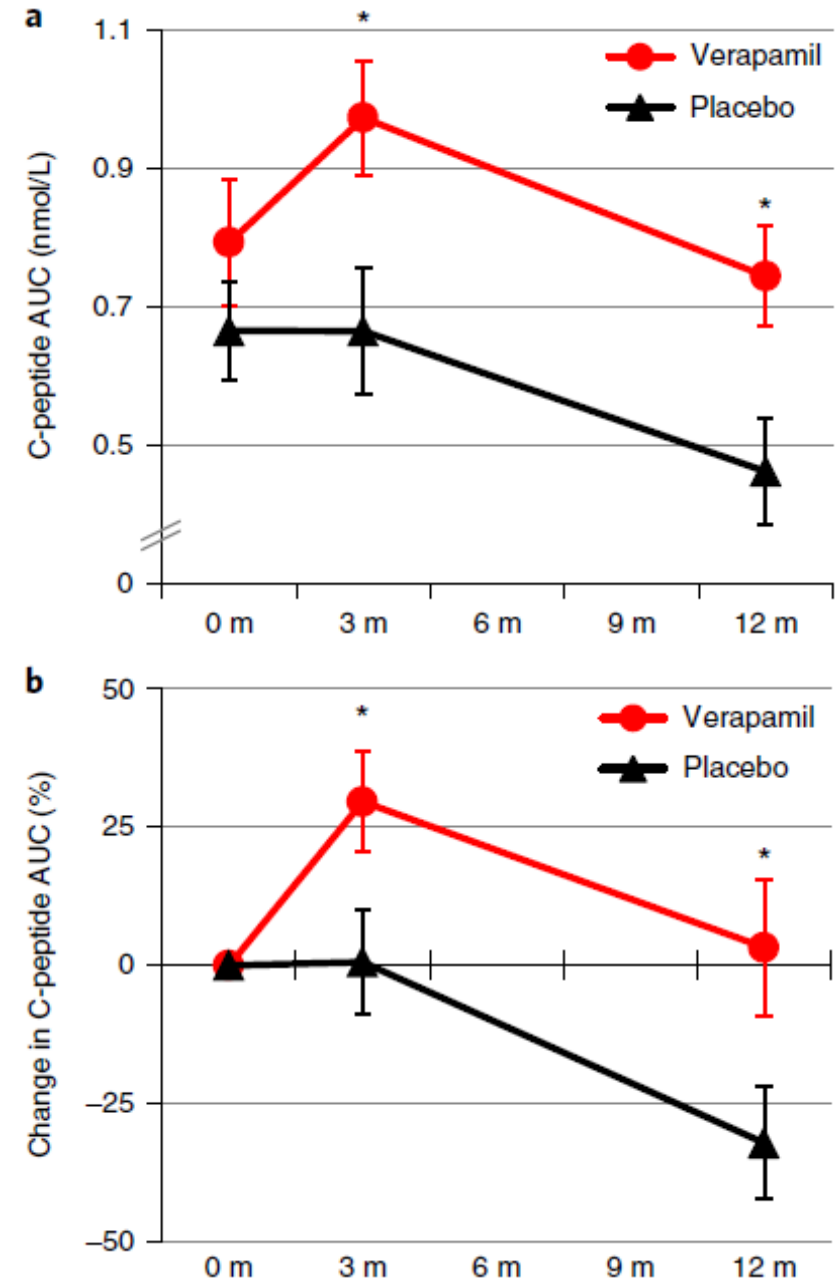
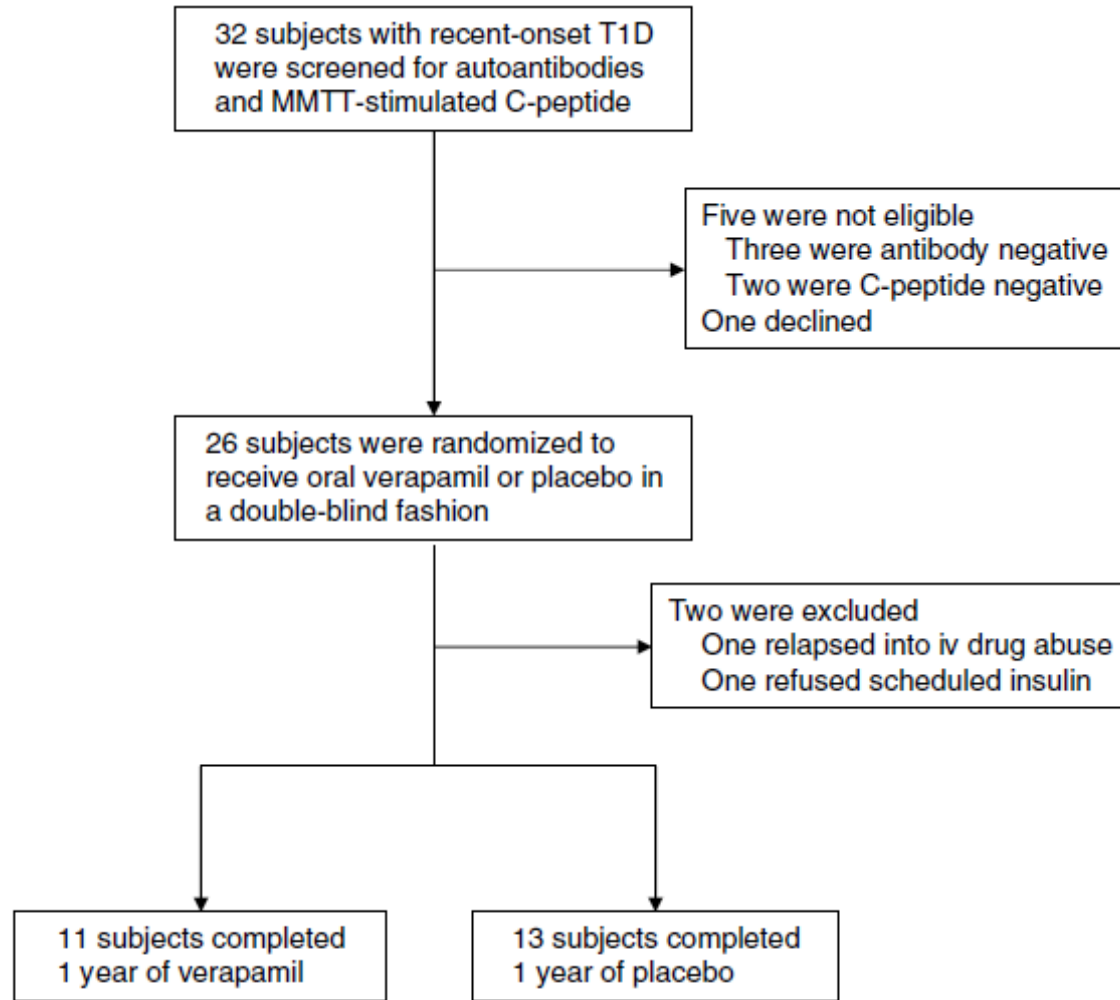
Preventing β -Cell Loss and Diabetes With Calcium Channel Blockers

Guanlan Xu, Junqin Chen, Gu Jing, and Anath Shalev

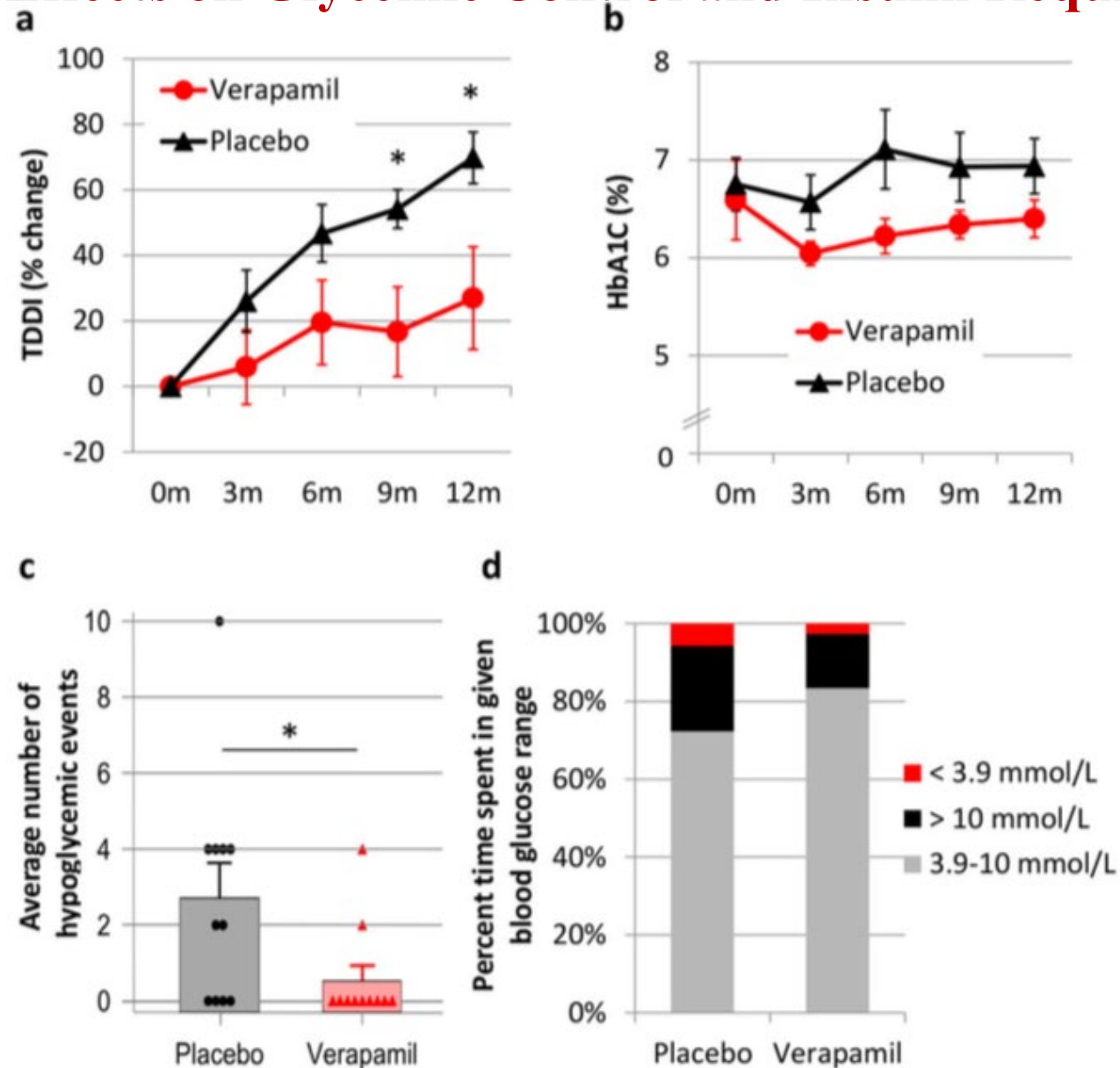


Xu G. et al. 2012, Diabetes

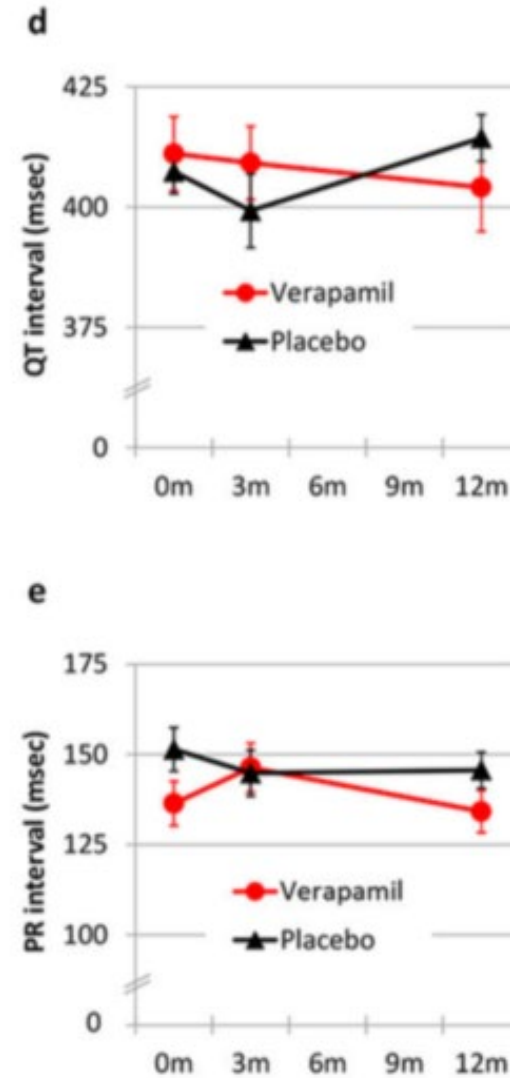
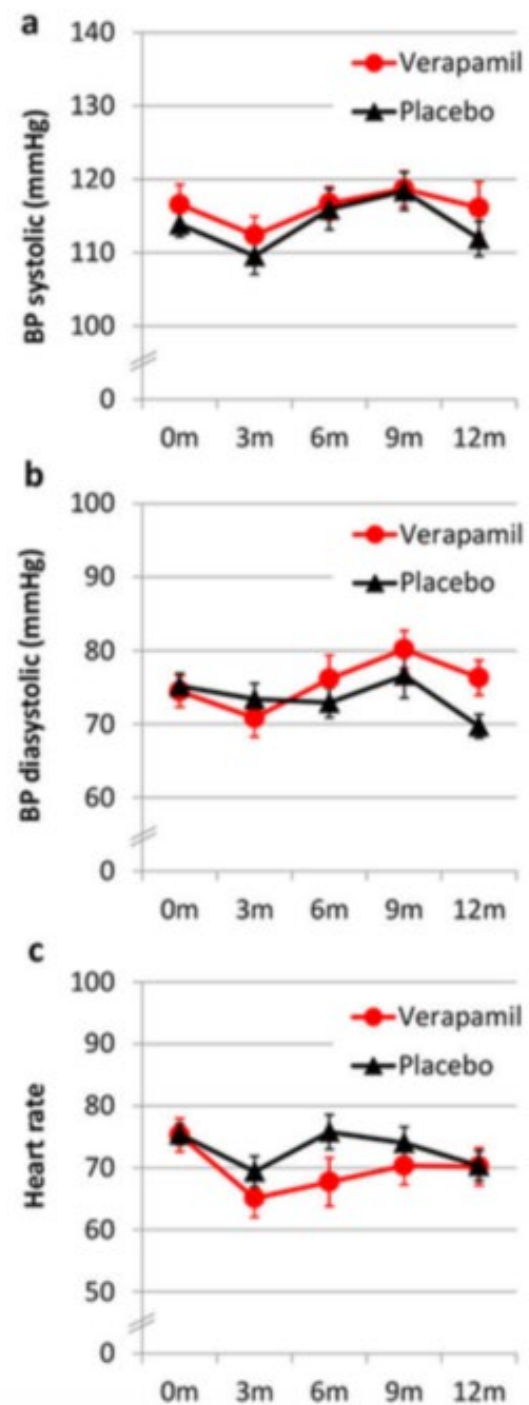
Verapamil inhibits TXNIP activation and ameliorates beta-cell function in T1D



Verapamil Effects on Glycemic Control and Insulin Requirements.



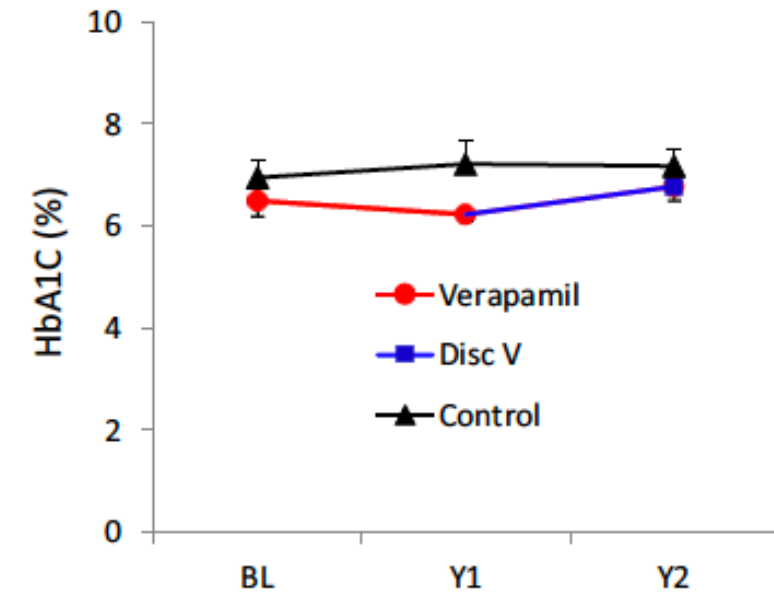
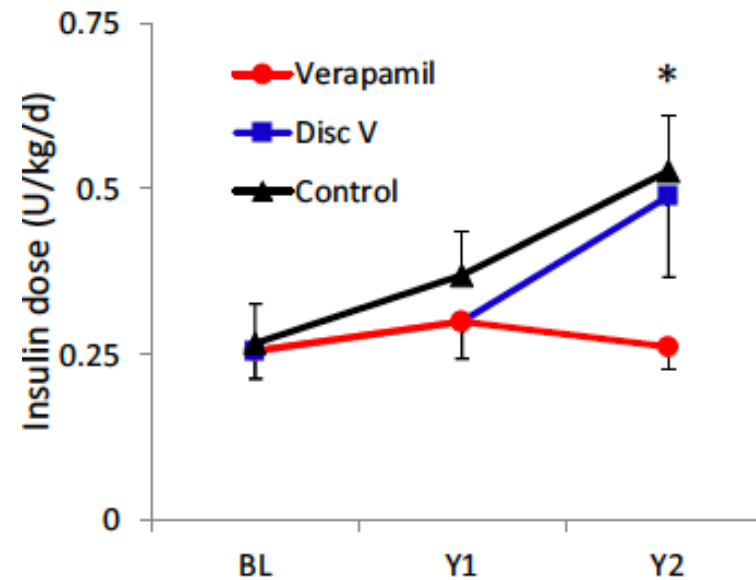
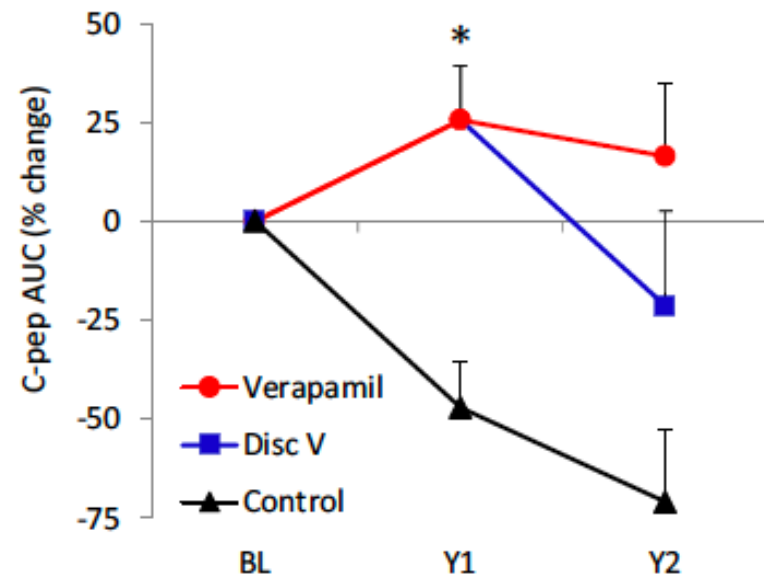
(a) Mean percent change in total daily dose of insulin (TDDI) during the trial in the verapamil. **(b)** Mean values for %HbA1c as measured at 0, 3, 6, 9, and 12 months. **(c)** Average number of hypoglycemic episodes of blood glucose ≤ 2.2 mmol/L per month. **(d)** Percent time spent at the target blood glucose range of 3.9–10 mmol/L (grey), above 10 mmol/L (black) or below 3.9 mmol/L (red) as assessed by CGM.



Blood Pressure and Heart Rate throughout the Trial. Mean values for systolic (**a**) and diastolic (**b**) blood pressure (BP), heart rate (**c**) and EKG-measured QT (**d**) and PR (**e**) intervals observed in the verapamil (n = 11) and placebo (n = 13) groups during the 12 month trial.

Exploratory study reveals far reaching systemic and cellular effects of verapamil treatment in subjects with type 1 diabetes

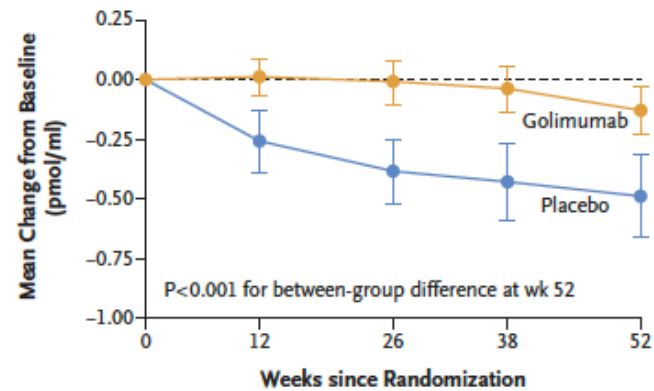
Guanlan Xu^{1,2}, Tiffany D. Grimes^{1,2}, Truman B. Grayson^{1,2}, Junqin Chen^{1,2}, Lance A. Thielen^{1,2}, Hubert M. Tse^{1,3}, Peng Li^{1,4}, Matt Kanke⁵, Tai-Tu Lin⁶, Athena A. Schepmoes⁶, Adam C. Swensen⁶, Vladislav A. Petyuk⁶, Fernando Ovalle^{1,2}, Praveen Sethupathy⁵, Wei-Jun Qian⁶ & Anath Shalev^{1,2}✉



Golimumab and Beta-Cell Function in Youth with New-Onset Type 1 Diabetes

T. Quattrin, M.J. Haller, A.K. Steck, E.I. Felner, Y. Li, Y. Xia, J.H. Leu, R. Zoka, J.A. Hedrick, M.R. Rigby,
and F. Vercruysse, for the T1GER Study Investigators*

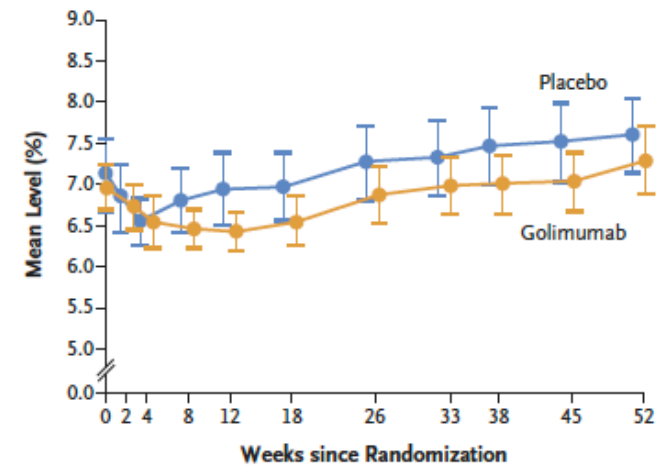
A 4-Hour C-Peptide AUC



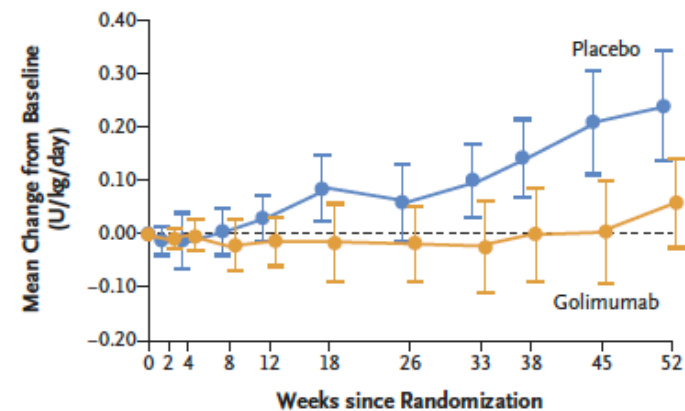
No. at Risk

Golimumab	56	52	49	49	50
Placebo	28	26	25	24	25

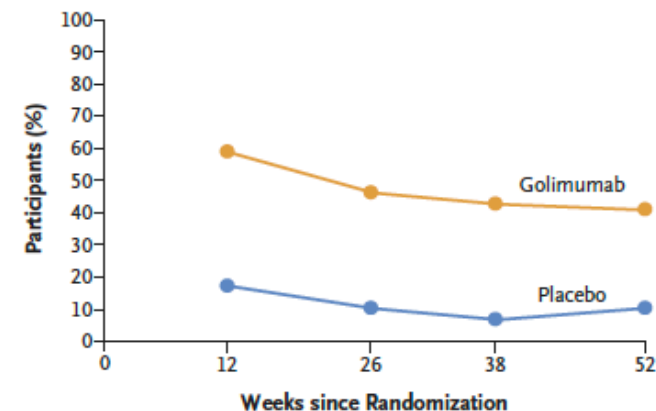
B Glycated Hemoglobin



C Insulin Use



D C-Peptide Response



Golimumab in Youth with New-Onset Type 1 Diabetes

PHASE 2, MULTICENTER, DOUBLE-BLIND, RANDOMIZED TRIAL

84 Patients (6–21 years of age) with newly diagnosed type 1 diabetes

Golimumab



N=56

Placebo



N=28

Mean ($\pm$ SD) 4-hour C-peptide
AUC at 52 wk (mixed-meal tolerance test)

0.64 ± 0.42
pmol/ml

($P < 0.001$)

0.43 ± 0.39
pmol/ml

Change in glycated hemoglobin at 52 wk

0.47%

($P = 0.80$)

0.56%

Increase in daily insulin use at 52 wk

0.07 U/kg

($P = 0.001$)

0.24 U/kg

Mean no. of hypoglycemic events

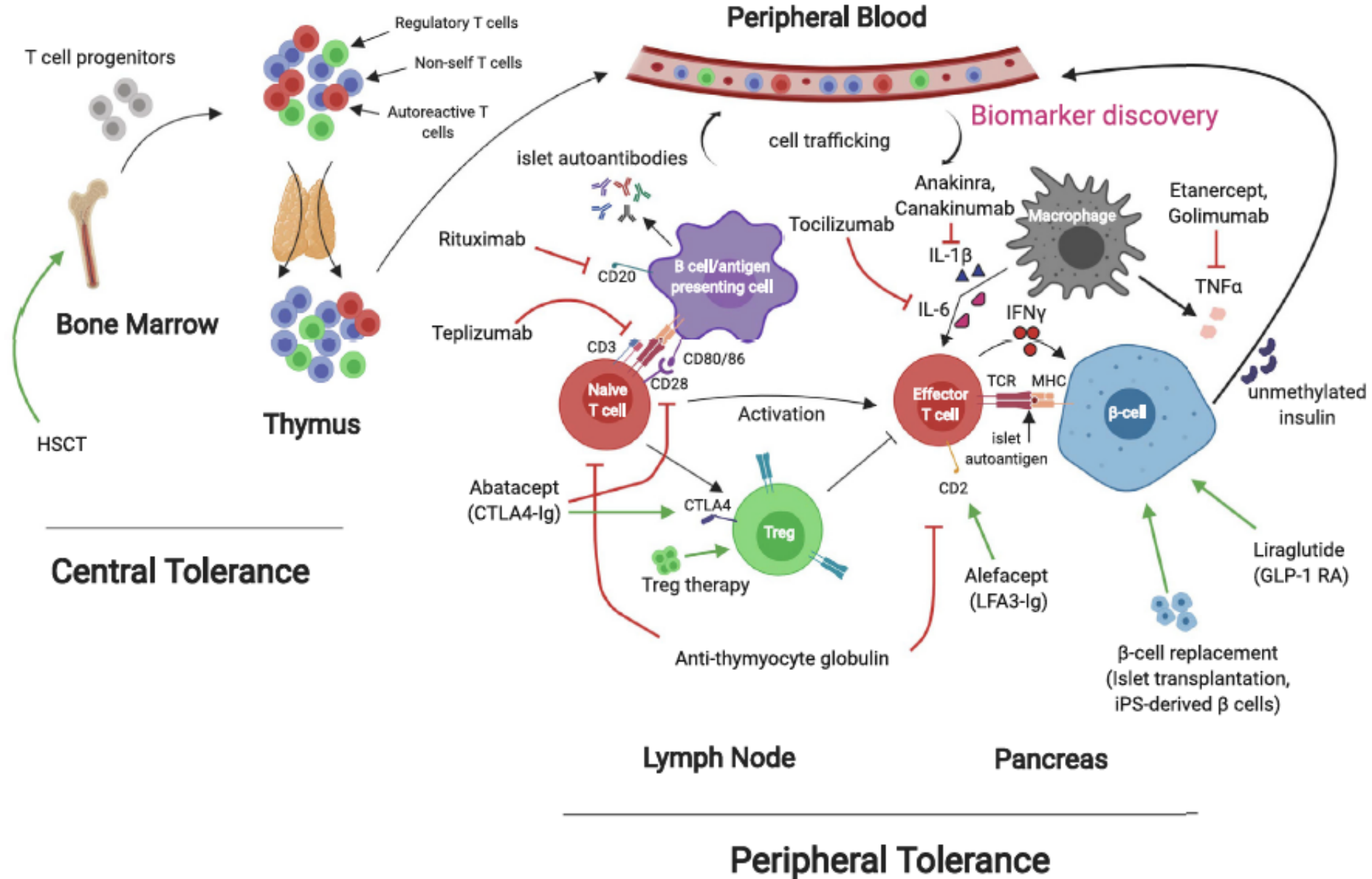
38.2

($P = 0.80$)

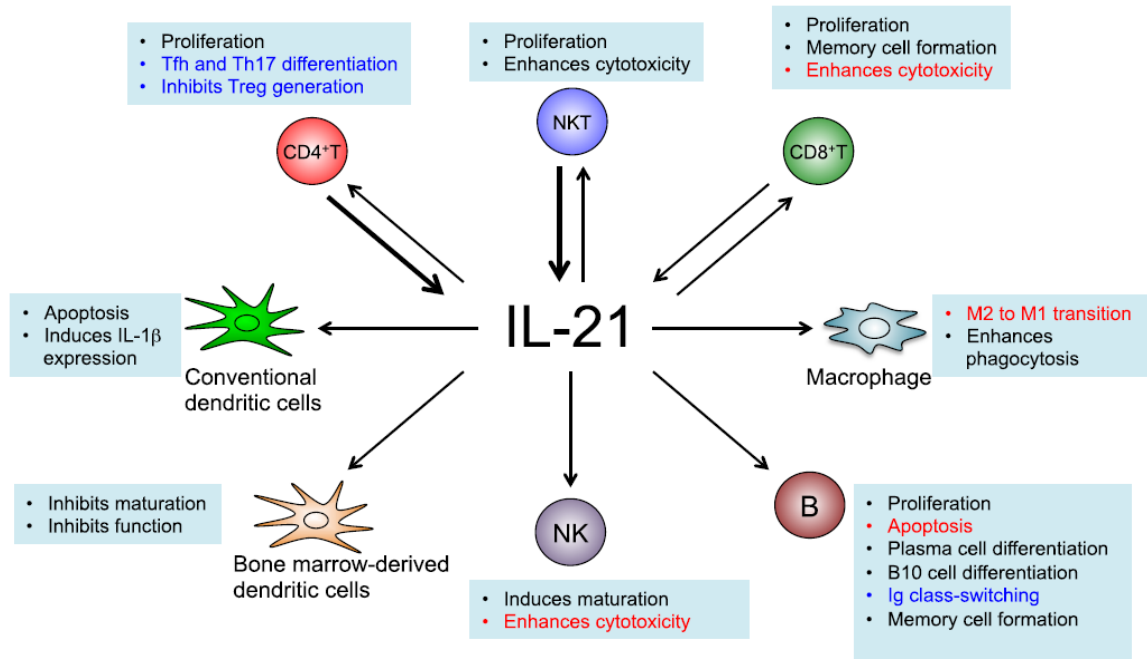
42.9

Golimumab resulted in better production of endogenous insulin and less use of exogenous insulin

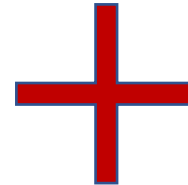
Combination therapeutic strategies



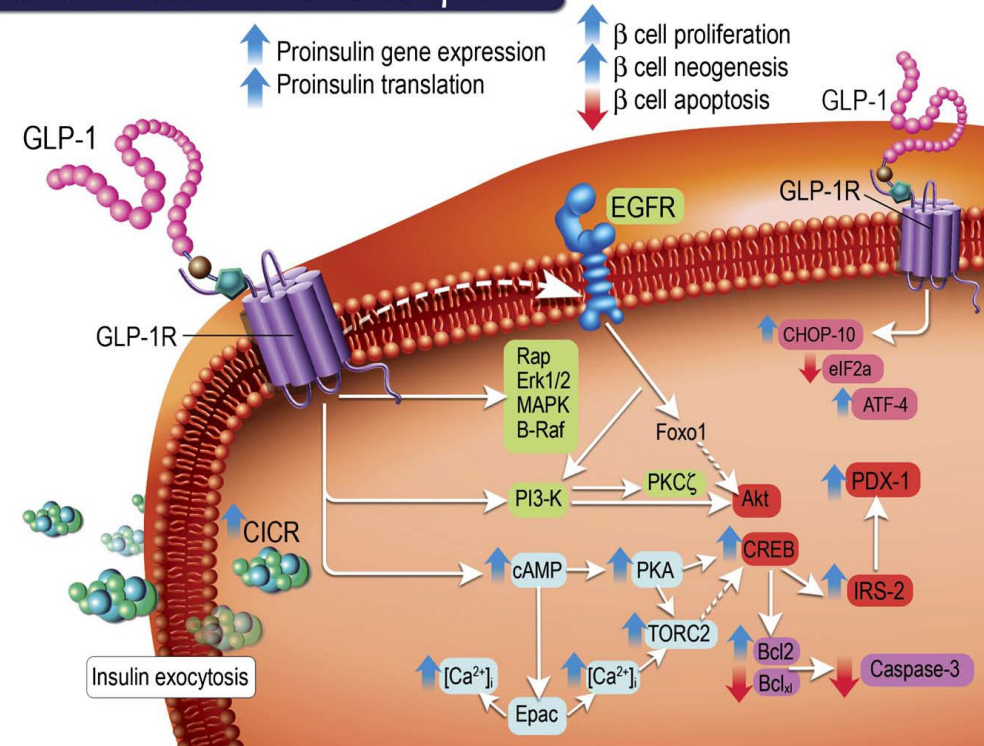
Combined intervention: anti-Interleukin-21+ Liraglutide



Inflammation reduction



GLP-1 action and the islet β cell



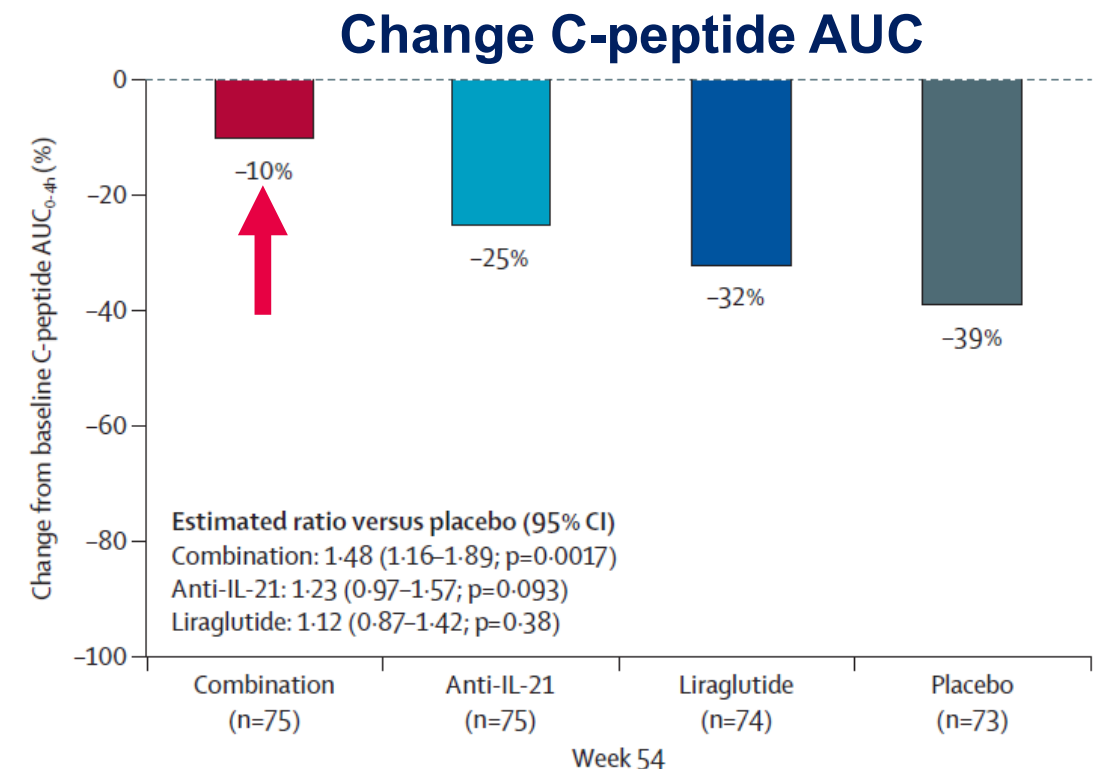
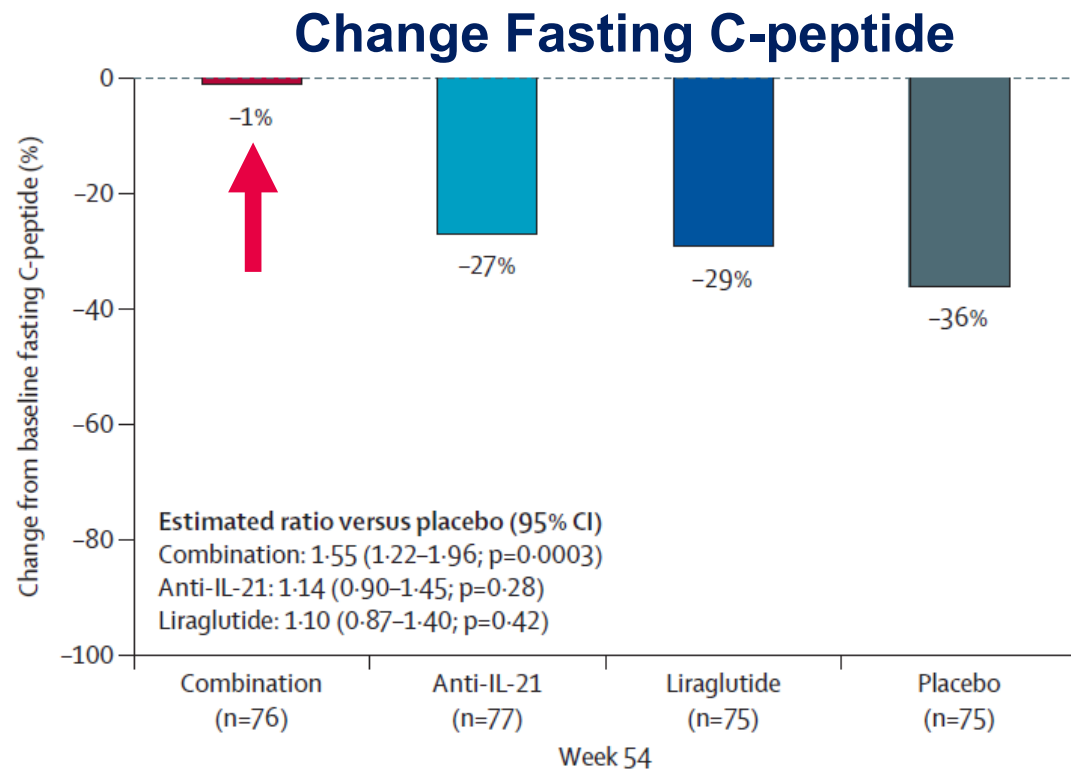
Improvement of the beta-cell function

Combined intervention: anti-IL21+ Liraglutide

Anti-interleukin-21 antibody and liraglutide for the preservation of β -cell function in adults with recent-onset type 1 diabetes: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 2 trial



Matthias von Herrath, Stephen C Bain, Bruce Bode, Jesper Ole Clausen, Ken Coppieters, Leylya Gaysina, Janusz Gumprecht, Troels Krarup Hansen, Chantal Mathieu, Cristobal Morales, Ofri Mosenzon, Stine Segel, George Tsoukas, Thomas R Pieber, on behalf of the Anti-IL-21-liraglutide Study Group investigators and contributors*



Failures to meet trial endpoints and advance therapies into clinical settings can be ascribed to a series of:

- Flawed guiding hypotheses
- **Possible subcategories of T1D etiologies,**
- Potential impact of environmental, temporal, and demographic/geographic factors, patterns of loss of β -cell mass/function,
- Our ability to quantify functional and dysfunctional β -cell mass in living patients;
- Ability of residual β -cells to compensate for declining β -cell mass/function prior to clinical onset of the disease,
- The need for earlier intervention to prevent progression from multi-autoantibody positivity (Stage 1 disease) to dysglycemia (Stage 2).

Acknowledgements

Siena University

Grieco
Laura Nigi
Caterina Formichi
Noemi Brusco
Caterina Formichi
Giada Licata
Daniela Fignani
Elena Aiello
Stefano Auddino
Marco Bruttini
Alessia Mori

Dorica Cataldo
Cecilia Fondelli
Elisa Guarino

Leuven University

Chantal Mathieu
Conny Gysemans
Lut Overberg

Copenhagen University

Soren Brunak
Caroline Brorsson
Gianluca Mazzoni
Piotr Chmura
Kostas Tsirigos

Cambridge University

David Dunger
Sylvaine Bruggaber
Asmaa Qureshi

Pisa University

Piero Marchetti
Lorella Marselli
Mara Suleiman

Helmsley foundation miRNA project Team

Alberto Pugliese (Miami, USA)
Carmella Evans-Molina (Indianapolis, USA)

