



**14<sup>th</sup> Clinical Applications for  
Age Management Medicine**  
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# **THE USE OF NUTRACEUTICALS IN CHRONIC LIVER DISEASE: MYTHS, FACTS AND DANGERS**

Francesco Marotta, MD, PhD (Japan)

ReGenera Research Group for Aging Intervention, Italy  
WHO-cent for Trad Med & Biotech, University of Milano, Italy  
Dept. of Human Nutrition & Food Science, Texas University, USA

# Impact of HCV Infection in the US

Approximately 4.0 million persons are chronically infected with HCV

10-15 years

**20%** will develop cirrhosis  
(+/- 780,000 patients)

10-15 years

**4%** will develop liver cancer  
(+/- 31,000 patients)

# Chronic hepatitis C is a major health care problem

Projected prevalence of cirrhosis and its complications in the US over the next 20 years

Cirrhosis / Complication	Year		Change (%)
	2000	2020	
HCV infection	2,940,678	2,681,556	-9.7
Cirrhosis	472,103	858,788	45.0
Decompensated cirrhosis	65,294	134,743	51.5
Hepatocellular carcinoma	7,271	13,390	44.9
Liver-related death	13,000	36,483	64.4
Patients listed for transplant	10,893	~30,000	—
Transplants performed	4893	unknown	—
Transplants performed for HCV	1920	unknown	—

Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) Database  
Davis GL et al., Liver Transplant 2003

# The prognosis of HCV-induced cirrhosis is poor

## Annual incidence of complications (%)

Clinical decompensation	3.6 – 6.0
• Hepatocellular carcinoma	1.4 – 2.6
• Ascites	2.2
• Variceal bleeding	0.5
• Hepatic encephalopathy	0.3

## 5-year survival

Compensated cirrhosis	91%
After 1 <sup>st</sup> major complication	50%



# ***Why should we treat HCV patients?***

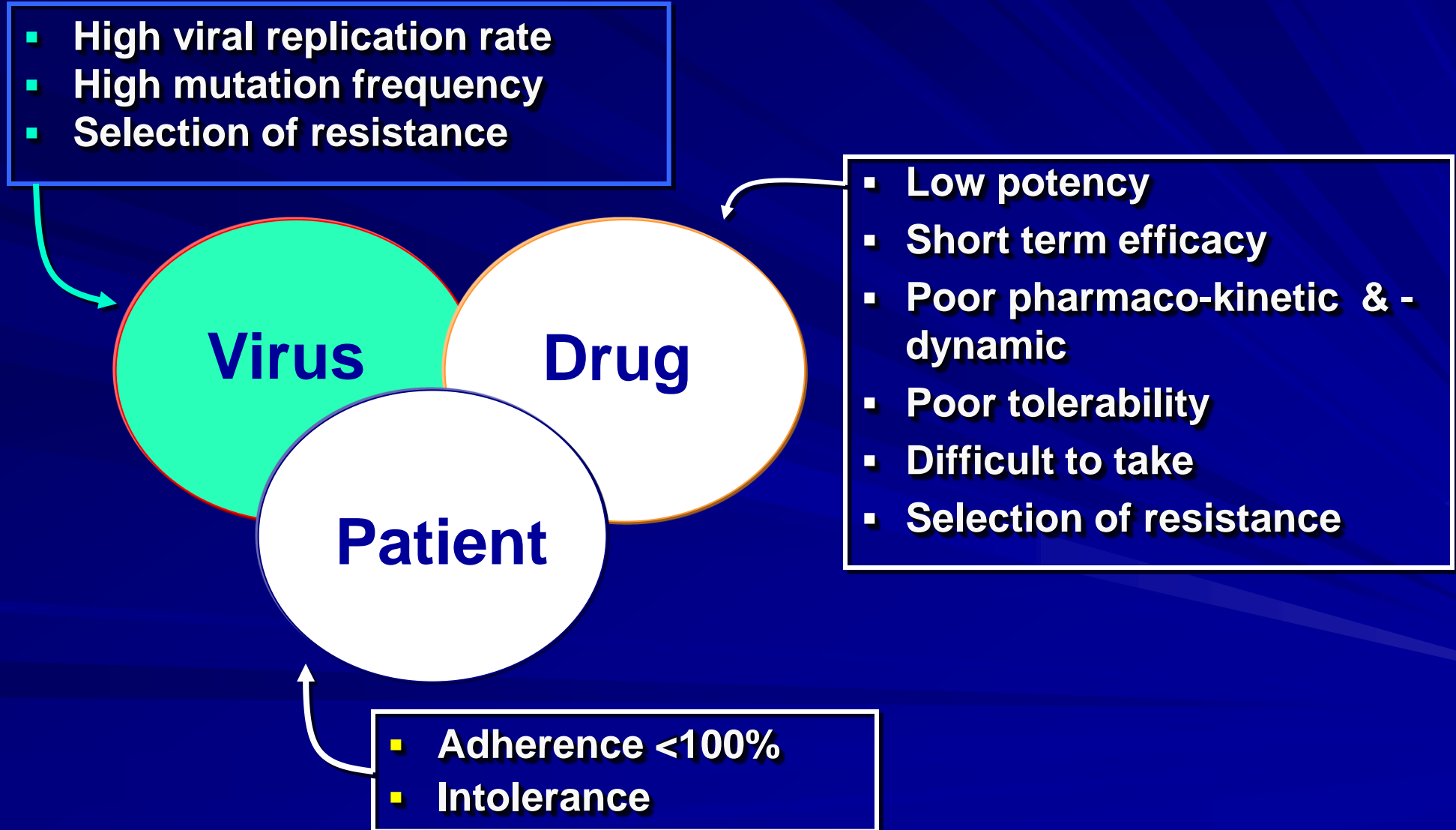
## **Short term endpoints**

- **Eradicate HCV**
- **Reduce/Stop necroinflammation**
- **Reduce/stop fibrosis progression**

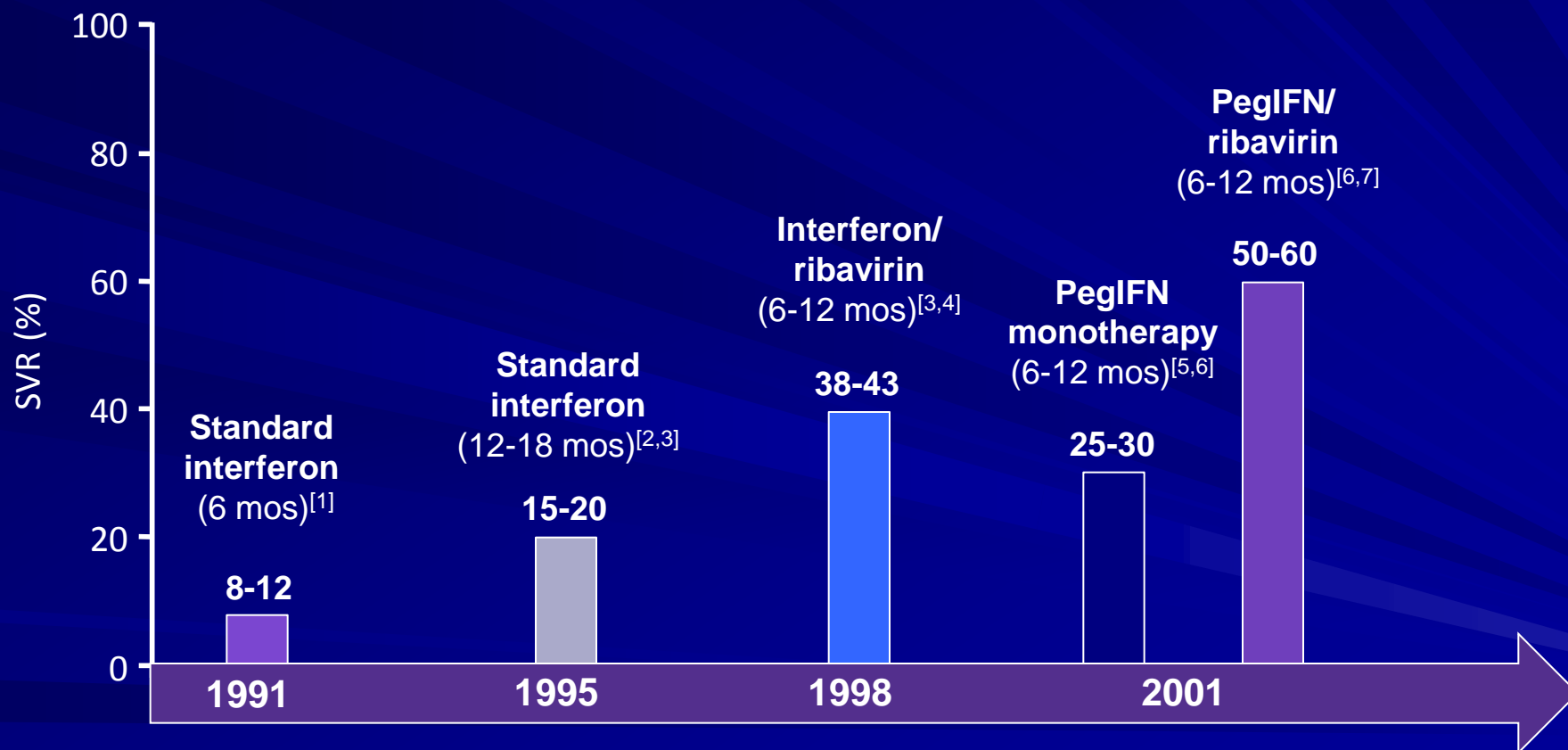
## **Ultimate aims**

- **Prevent/delay cirrhosis**
- **Prevent/delay liver decompensation**
- **Reduce the risk of HCC**

# ***Limits to successful antiviral therapy***



# Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis C



1. Carithers RL Jr., et al. Hepatology. 1997;26(3 suppl 1):83S-88S. 2. Zeuzem S, et al. N Engl J Med. 2000;343:1666-1672. 3. Poynard T, et al. Lancet. 1998;352:1426-1432. 4. McHutchison JG, et al. N Engl J Med. 1998;339:1485-1492. 5. Lindsay KL, et al. Hepatology. 2001;34:395-403. 6. Fried MW, et al. N Engl J Med. 2002;347:975-982. 7. Manns MP, et al. Lancet. 2001;358:958-965.

# Evaluating Factors Associated With Poor Response to HCV Therapy

## Factors Associated With Poor Response to HCV Therapy

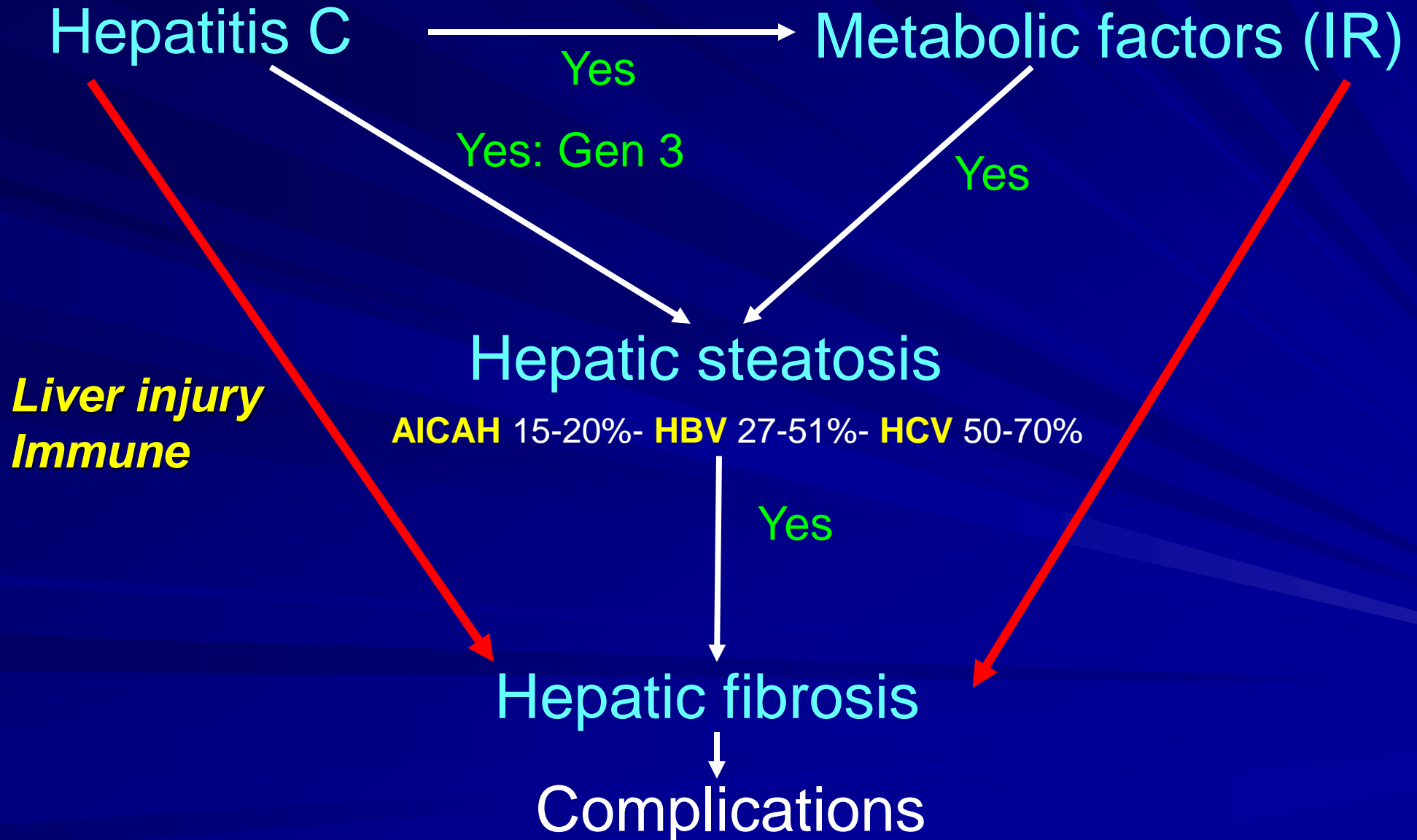
### Fixed Factors

- HCV genotype
- Race
- Patient age
- Serum HCV RNA level
- Cirrhosis
- Morbid obesity

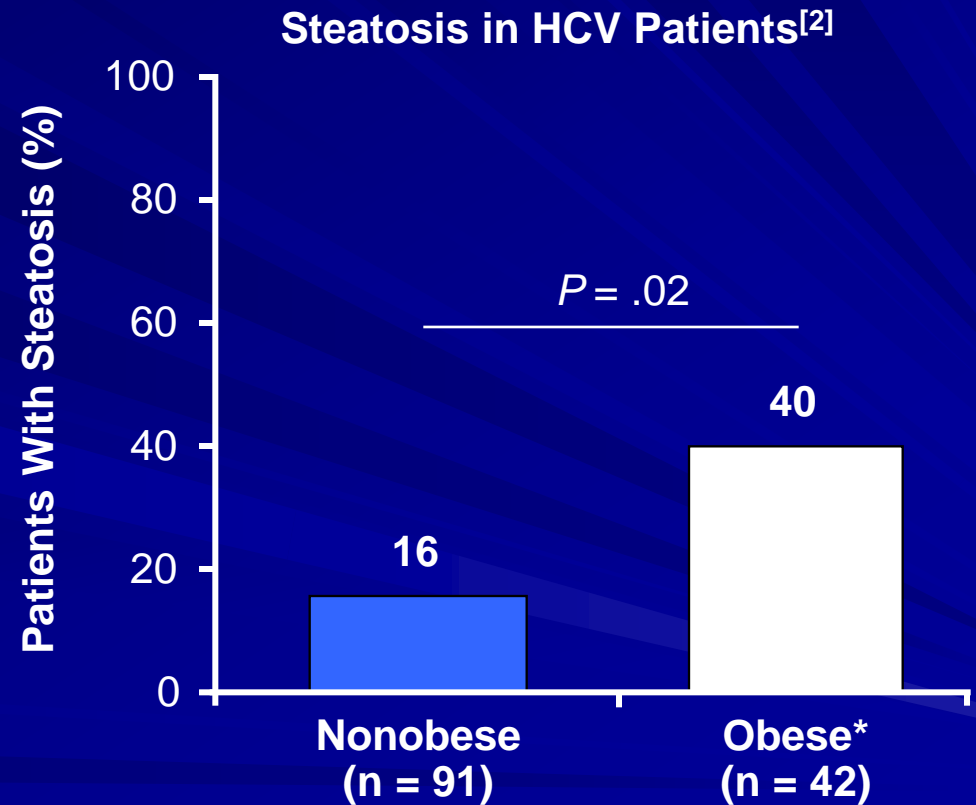
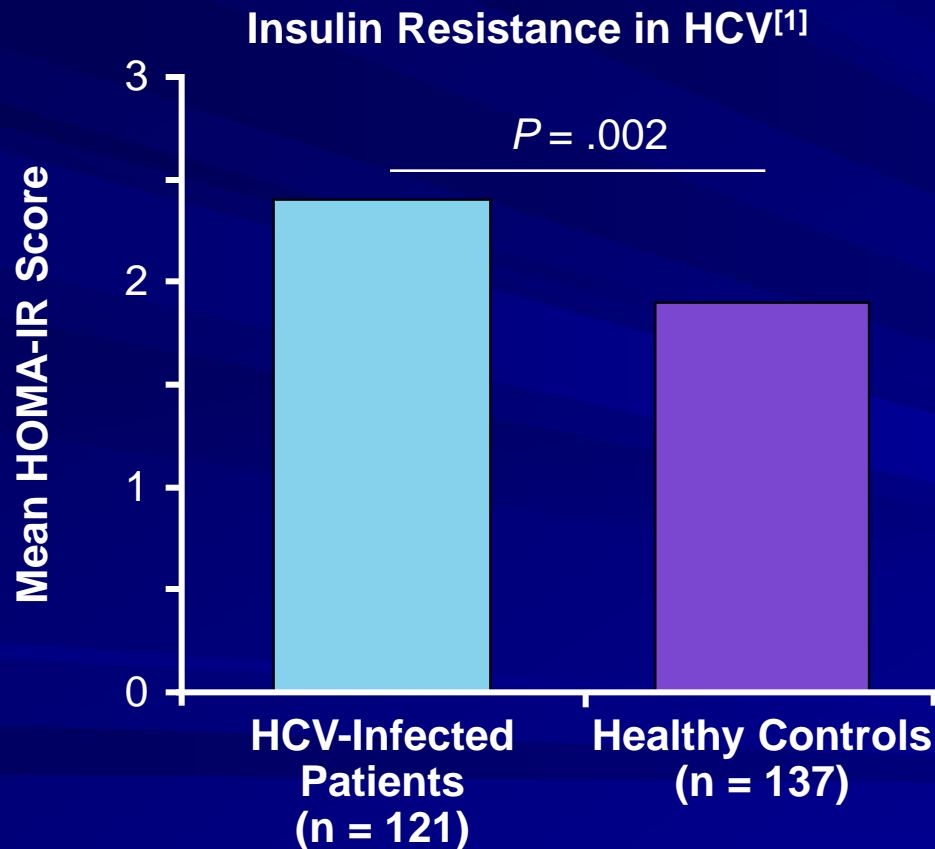
### Correctable Factors

- Pretreatment
  - Prescription of optimal course of therapy
  - Substance abuse
  - Fatty liver disease
  - Obesity/metabolic syndrome
  - Psychiatric comorbidities
  - Other comorbidities
- On treatment
  - Noncompliance with treatment
  - Management of adverse effects

# *Hepatic steatosis, IR and chronic hepatitis C infection*



# Evidence: Metabolic Syndrome, Steatosis, and HCV



\*BMI  $\geq 30$ .

1. Hui JM et al. Gastroenterology 2003;125:1695-1704.
2. Cesario K, et al. J Hepatol. 2005;42(suppl 2):201-202.



more **FIBROSIS**.....Yano M, et al. Hepatology. 1996;23:1334-1340

Fibrosis Score	Description of Fibrosis	Patients Progressing to Cirrhosis by Year 10, %
≤ 1.9 (n = 27)	None; too mild to alter portal tract size	29.6
2.0-2.9 (n = 28)	Portal/ <u>periportal</u> ± portal-portal bridging	42.9
3.0-3.45 (n = 15)	<u>Septal</u> + regions of partial nodular regeneration	100

more **INFLAMMATION**..... Chany MG, et al. Gastroenterol. 2003;124:97-104.

Change in Fibrosis Score According to Necrosis Score at Baseline			
	Piecemeal Necrosis Score at Baseline		
	0-1	2-3	> 4
Patients, n	30	66	27
Mean change in fibrosis score per yr	0.05	0.19	0.37

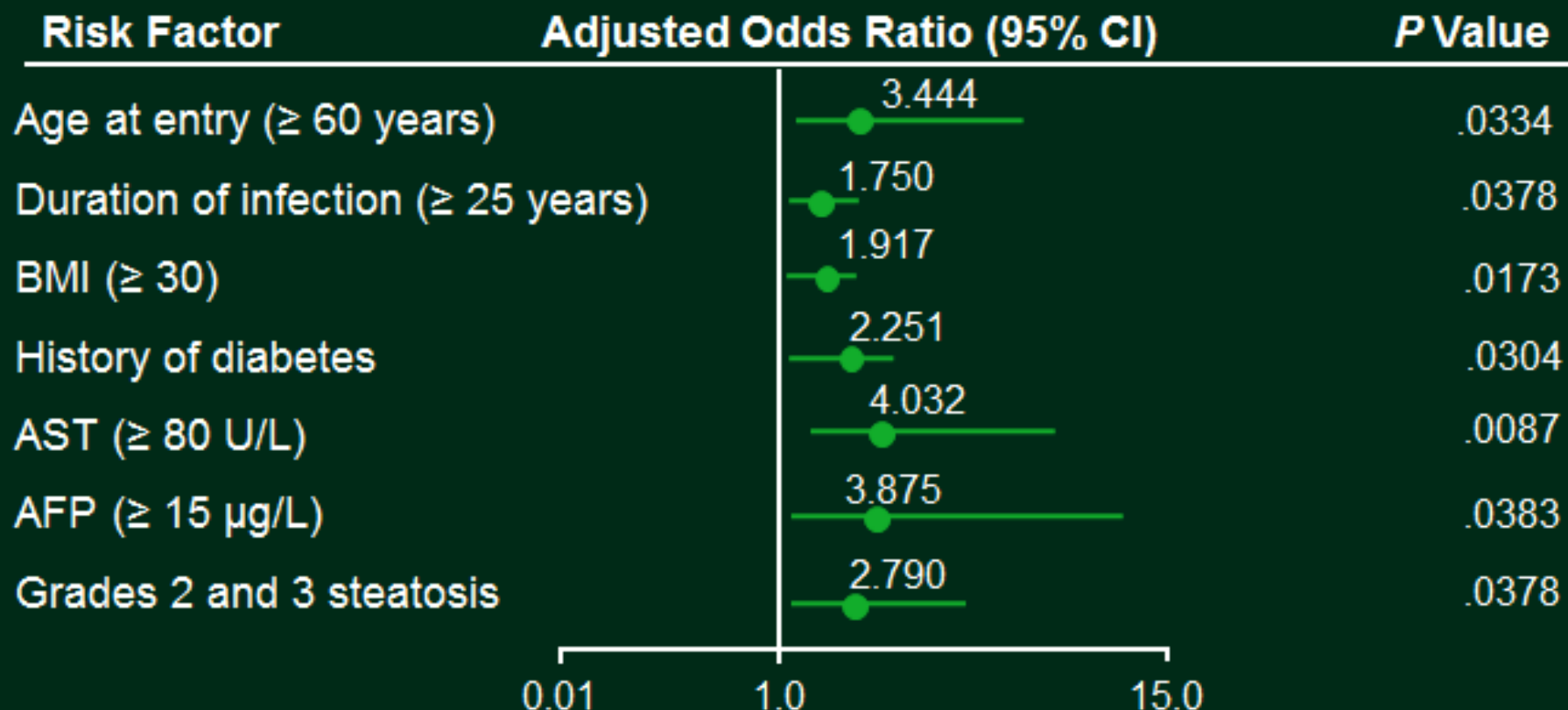
# Evidence: Steatosis and Fibrosis Progression in HCV-Infected Patients

- Younossi, et al (N = 122)
  - Predictors of advanced fibrosis: higher BMI, superimposed NASH
- Fartoux, et al (N = 135 paired liver biopsies, untreated patients)
  - After 6 yrs follow-up, steatosis was only independent predictor of progressive fibrosis
- Hui et al (N = 117)
  - Fibrosis progression predicted by HOMA-IR, serum cholesterol
- Conjeevaram et al (N = 399 GT 1 patients)
  - Bridging fibrosis or cirrhosis in patients with vs without steatosis (45% vs 23%, respectively;  $P < .0001$ )

# Factors Associated With Advanced Fibrosis

Hu S, et al. J Clin Gastro. 2009

- Retrospective study of 460 pts with chronic hepatitis C (41% F3-4)
- Multivariate analysis of factors associated with F3-4



# Steatosis, fibrosis and necroinflammation in chronic hepatitis C: a Meta-Analysis of Individual patient Data (The HCV MAID Study)

Leandro G et al

## Independent predictors of fibrosis stage

	<i>P</i> value
<i>HOMA-IR</i>	<0.001
Age	<0.001
Alcohol: past	<0.001
Portal inflammation	<0.001
ALT	0.04
Platelets (negative association)	<0.001
Cholesterol (negative association)	0.001

# ***Future Therapy of Hepatitis C***

Tomorrow

Treatment Strategies to Enhance  
Response to Current Therapies

Years

New strategies:  
molecular based therapy

## **Therapeutic Strategies**

- ***To Reduce Liver Injury***
- ***To Reduce Progression of Fibrosis***
- ***To Decrease Hepatocytes Proliferation***

# Treatment of hepatitis C

## *Unsolved issues*

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- Clinical heterogeneity of hepatitis C
- Over-treatment
- Tailoring of dose/duration
- Role of PEG-IFNs monotherapy
- **Non-responders to IFN and to IFN-ribavirin**
- Drug toxicity
- Co-morbidities
- Special patient populations
- **The financial issue**



# Contraindications to therapy

## Absolute

- Pregnancy
- Decompensated cirrhosis
- End stage kidney disease
- Severe or uncontrolled psychiatric disease
- Cardiopulmonary disease
- Severe Autoimmune disease
- Severe anemia
- Noncompliance

## Relative

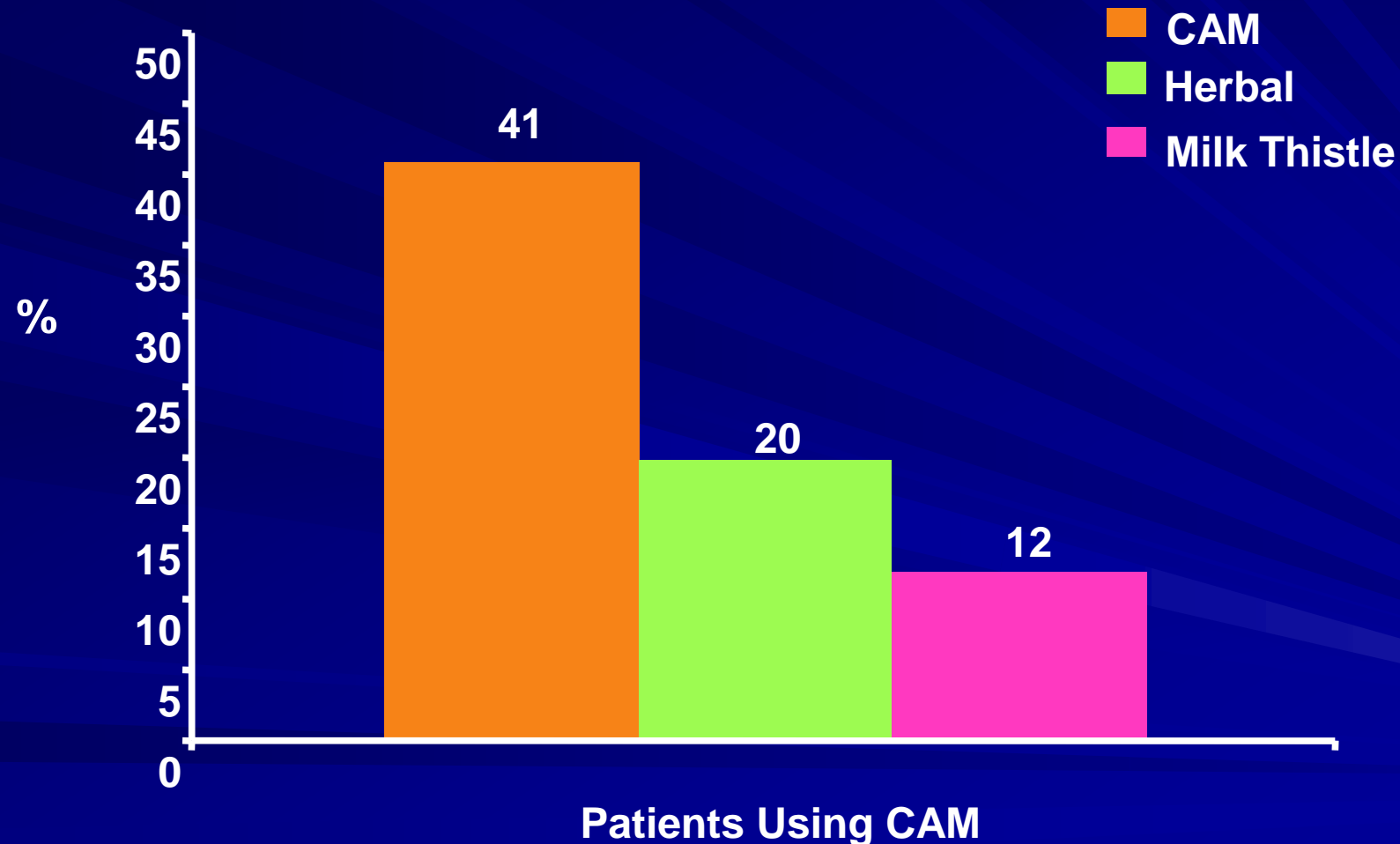
- Cirrhosis, compensated
- Controlled psychiatric disease
- Mild anemia/leukopenia
- Renal insufficiency
- Mild autoimmune disease

# Epidemiology of CAM

- Prevalence of the use of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) in US adults
  - 1990      2.5%
  - 1997      12.1%
  - 2002      18.9%
  - 2012      > %
- 2009 Estimated sales >\$4 billion in the US
- Worldwide, underdeveloped countries
- Europe
  - Regulate herbs as prescription or nonprescription medicines available only through a pharmacist
  - German physicians receive medical school training in medicinal herbs (and must pass a test to become licensed)

# Percent of Patients Using CAM

## *Liver Clinics*



# Appeal of CAM

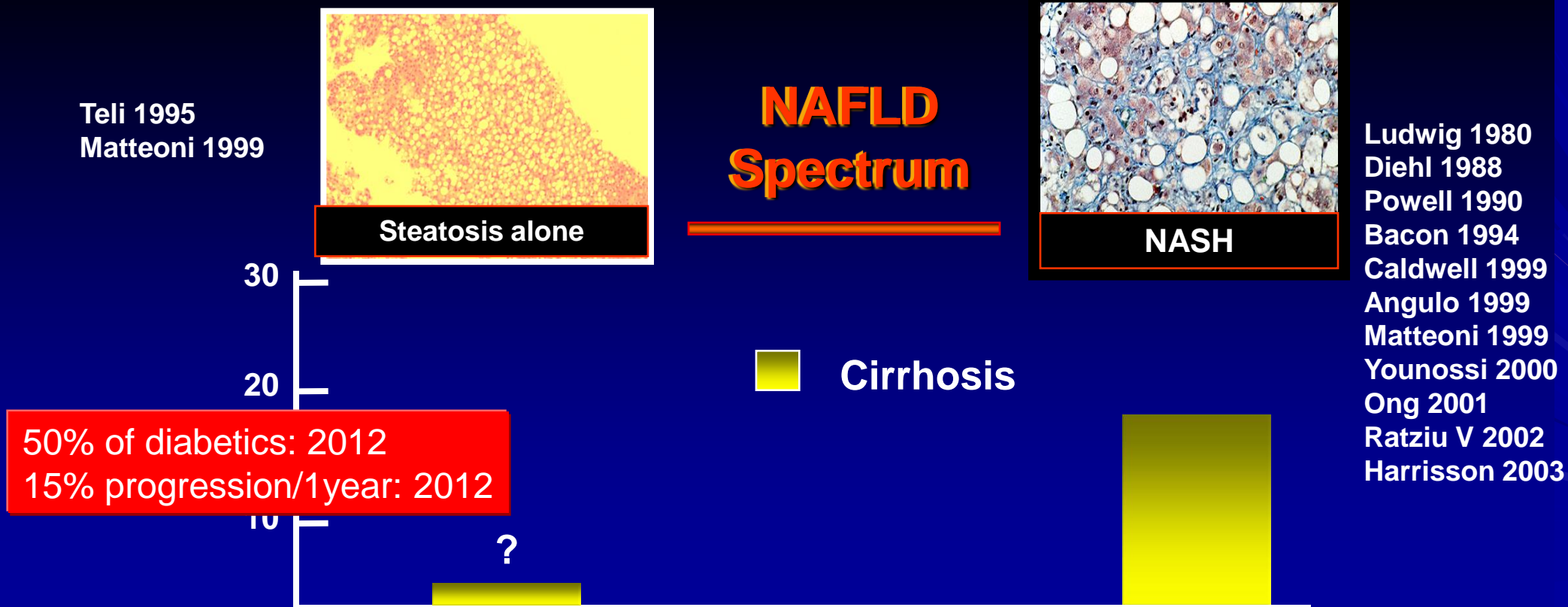
## Among Patients With HCV Infection

- A **chronic** illness with limited treatment success
- Frustration with **uncertainty** of prognosis
  - Limited information available from providers
  - Absence of signs and symptoms
- Lack of symptoms vs **side effects** of conventional treatment
- Desire for a “**holistic**” approach to therapy

# Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease

- Evidence to support important interactions between NAFLD and Metabolic Syndrome
  - Evidence #1: NAFLD and Metabolic Syndrome co-exist
  - Evidence #2: Metabolic Syndrome affects progression of NAFLD
  - Evidence #3: Treating Metabolic Syndrome influences the outcome of NAFLD

# From the spectrum of NAFLD, only those patients with NASH have convincingly been shown to progress





***Natural antiox/anti-inflammatory compounds in  
NASH: any relevant role?***

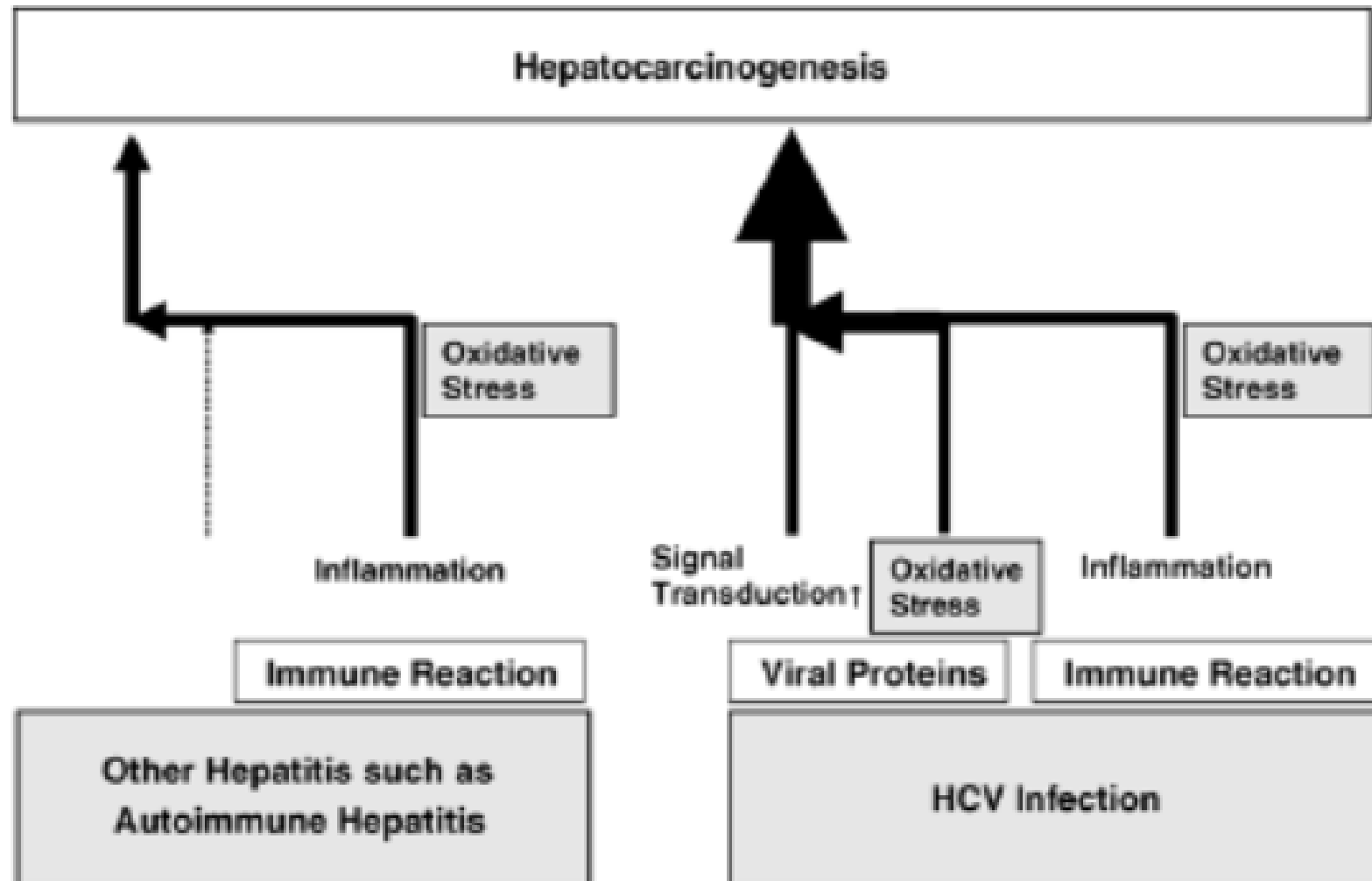
**HCV: a metabolic disease? Common pathways with  
NASH.** Koike et al. JSH (Japan Society Hepatology)  
meeting, October, 2004

There is a growing body of evidences suggesting the role of free radical generation and oxidant injury in the pathogenesis of liver fibrosis, NASH and NAFLD.

# Oxidative stress and hepatitis C viral infection

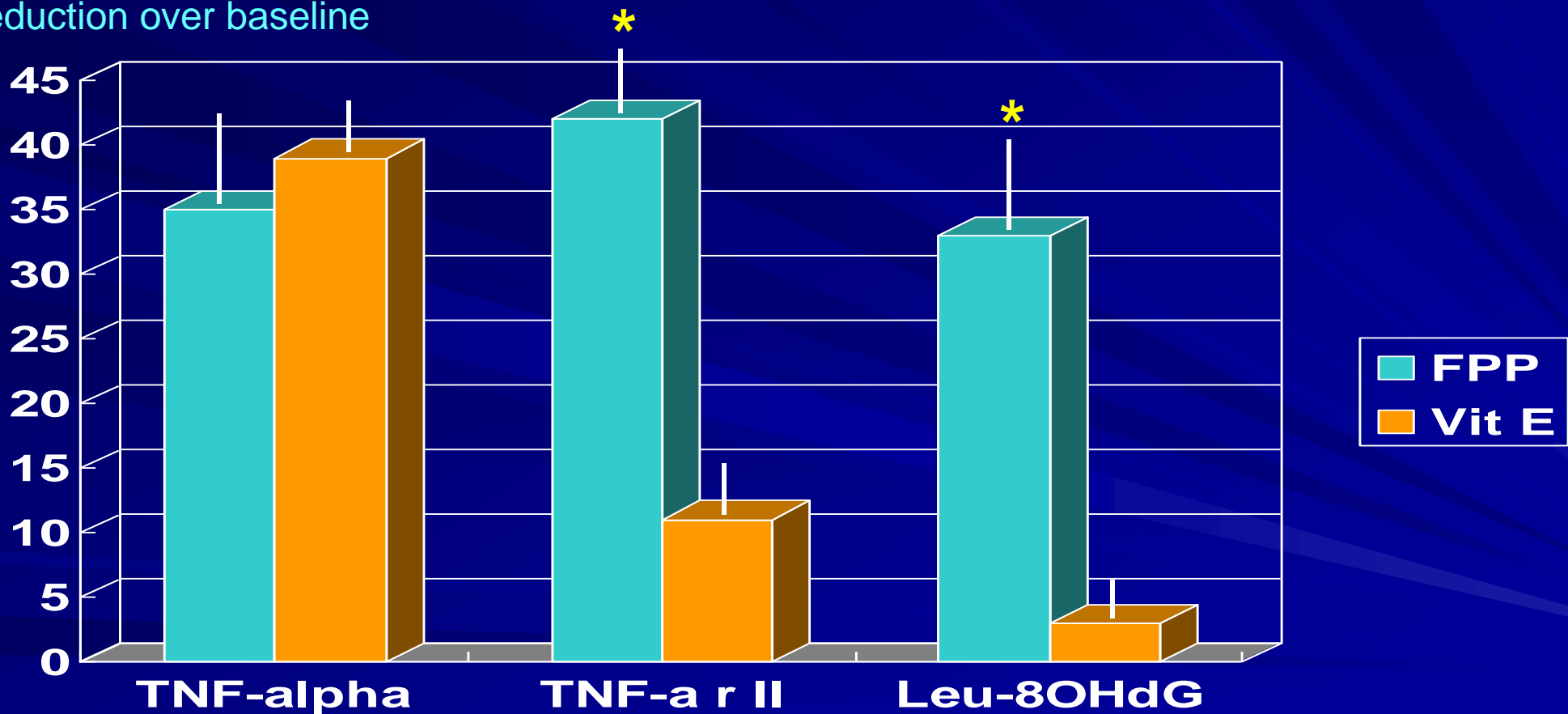
Kazuhiko Koike\*, Hideyuki Miyoshi

Hepatology Research 34 (2006)



## Modulating leukocyte DNA damage and cytokines by nutraceuticals in HCV-CLD: a fermented papaya preparation vs vitamin E

% reduction over baseline



Marotta et al. J Gastroenterol Hepatol 2006

# Hepatoprotective effects of antioxidants in chronic hepatitis C

*R Moreno-Otero, M Trapero-Marugán*

*World J Gastroenterol 2010*

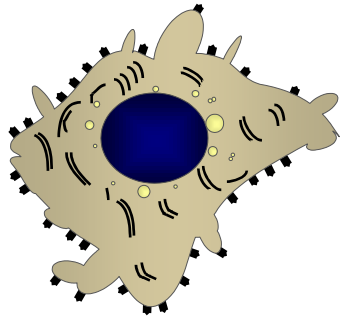
.....abundant evidence suggests that antioxidants can *effectively attenuate the oxidative and nitrosative stress in liver injury*, ultimately improving inflammation and fibrosis progression.

It is worth testing these drugs in future clinical trials including CHC patients, mainly those who present negative predictive factors of sustained virological response to standard antiviral regimens

**But not any antioxidant naively !**

Nakamura M et al.. An antioxidant *resveratrol* significantly *enhanced replication* of hepatitis C virus. *World J Gastroenterol 2010*

# Regression of fibrosis and cirrhosis



IFN alpha is a potent inhibitor of experimental fibrosis

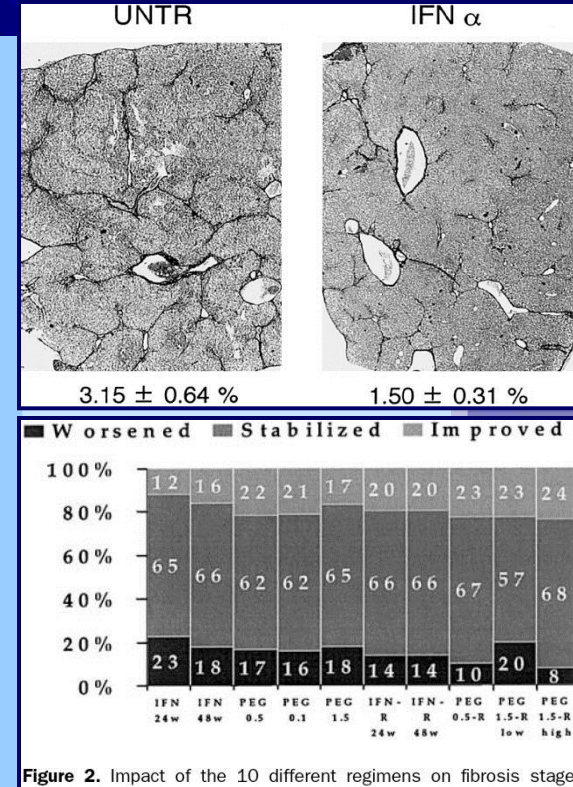
Inaki Y et al., Hepatology 2003

IFN reverses fibrosis in clinical studies

Poynard T et al.,  
Gastroenterology 2002

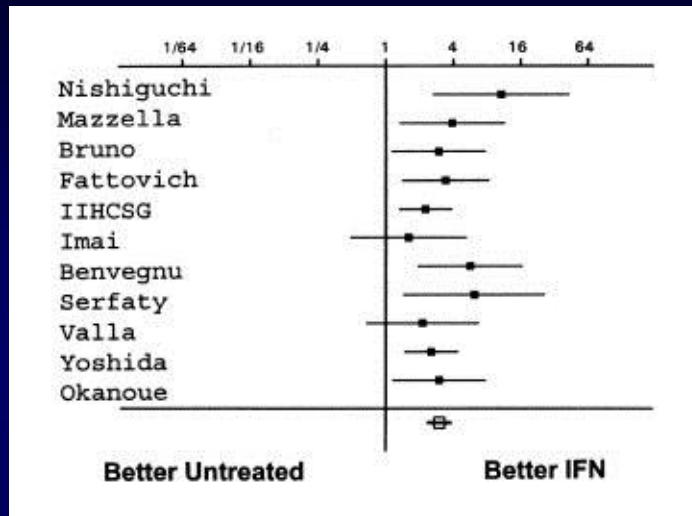
Whether structural changes of cirrhosis are reversible is still unclear

Desmet VJ et al., J Hepatol 2004

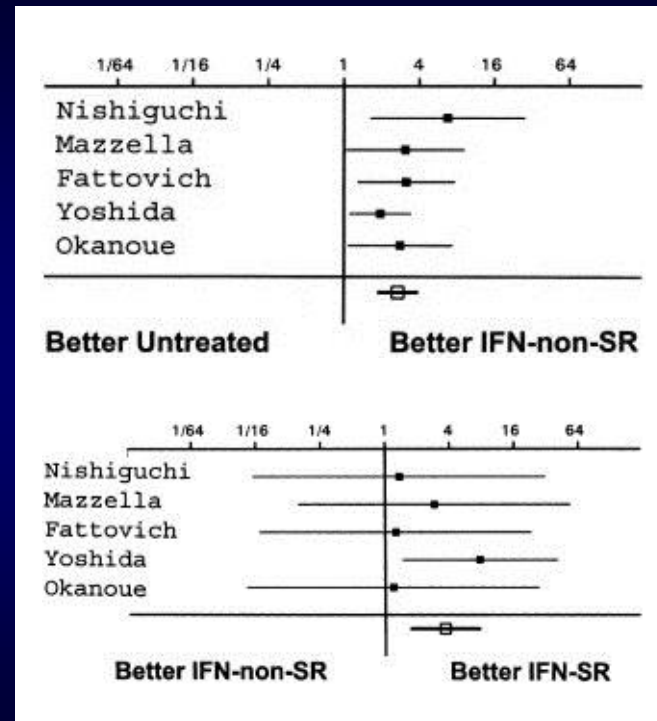


# Interferon alpha decreases development of HCC in patients with hepatitis C

Meta-analysis, 11 studies, 2178 patients



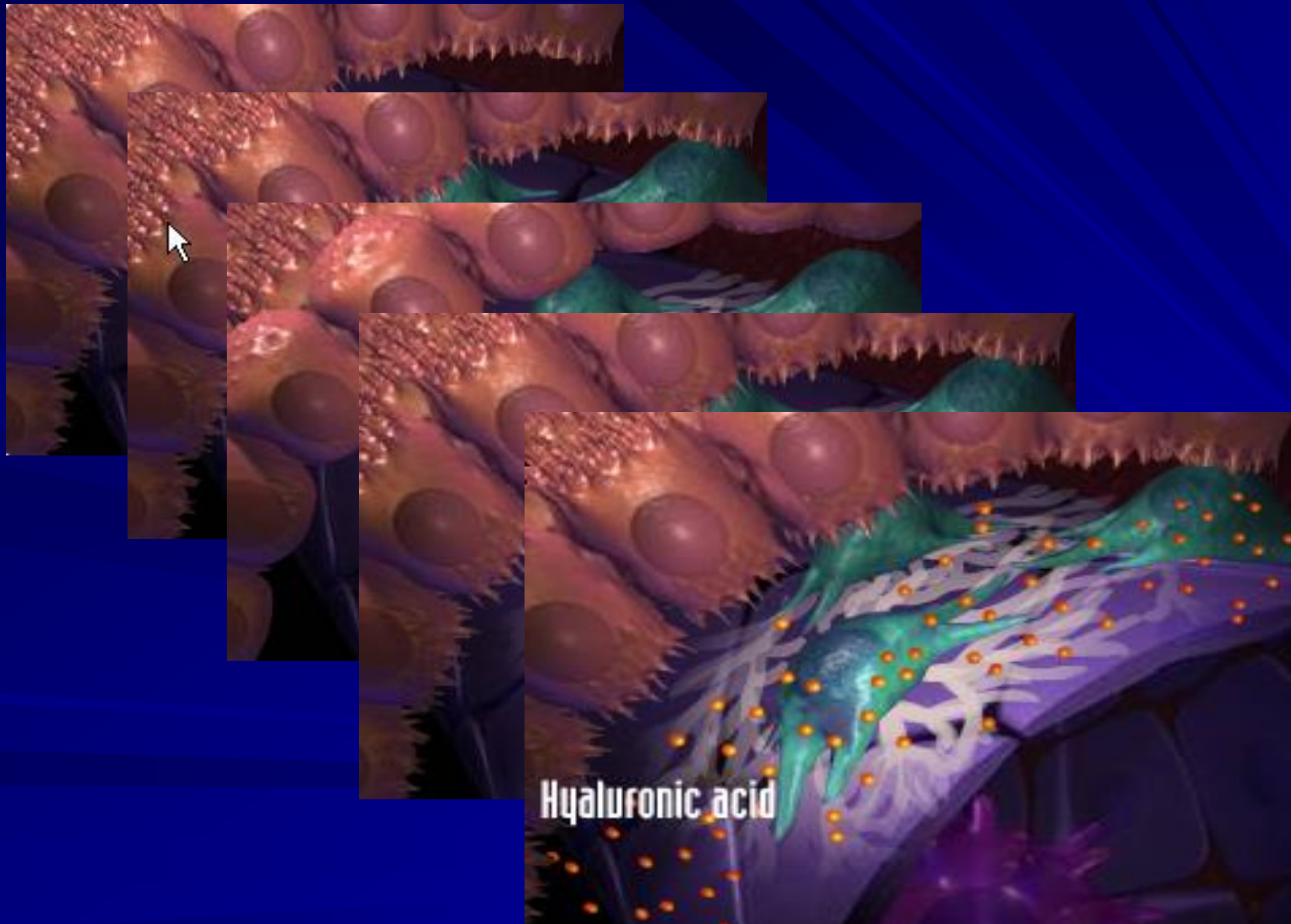
HCC: 21% → 8%  
Odds ratio 3.0



HCC: 22% → 9%  
Odds ratio 2.7

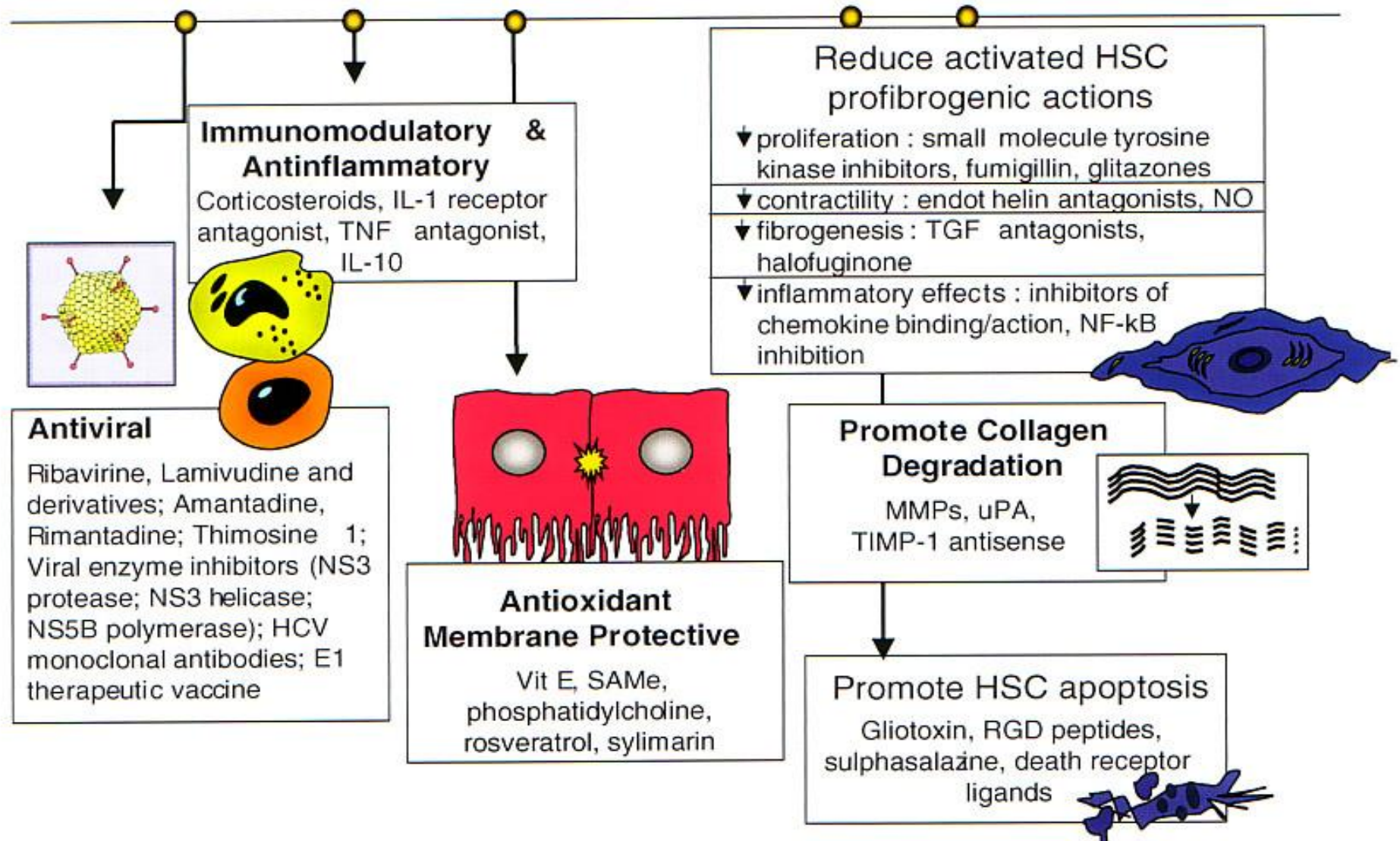
HCC: 9% → 1%  
Odds ratio 3.7





# Therapies for hepatic fibrosis: real hope or just academic exercise?

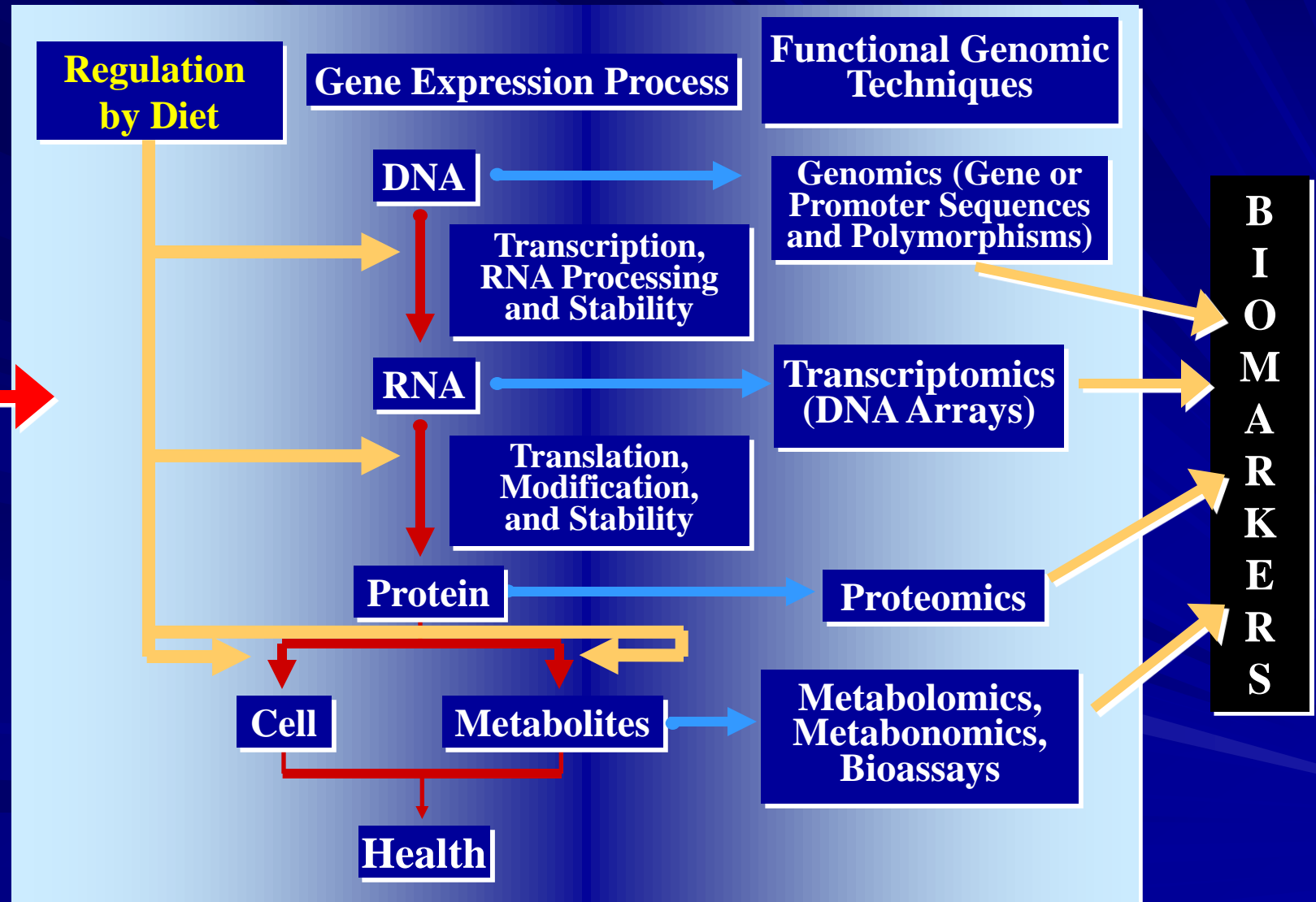
(Pinzani 2004)



# Nutritional Genomics And Biomarker Discovery

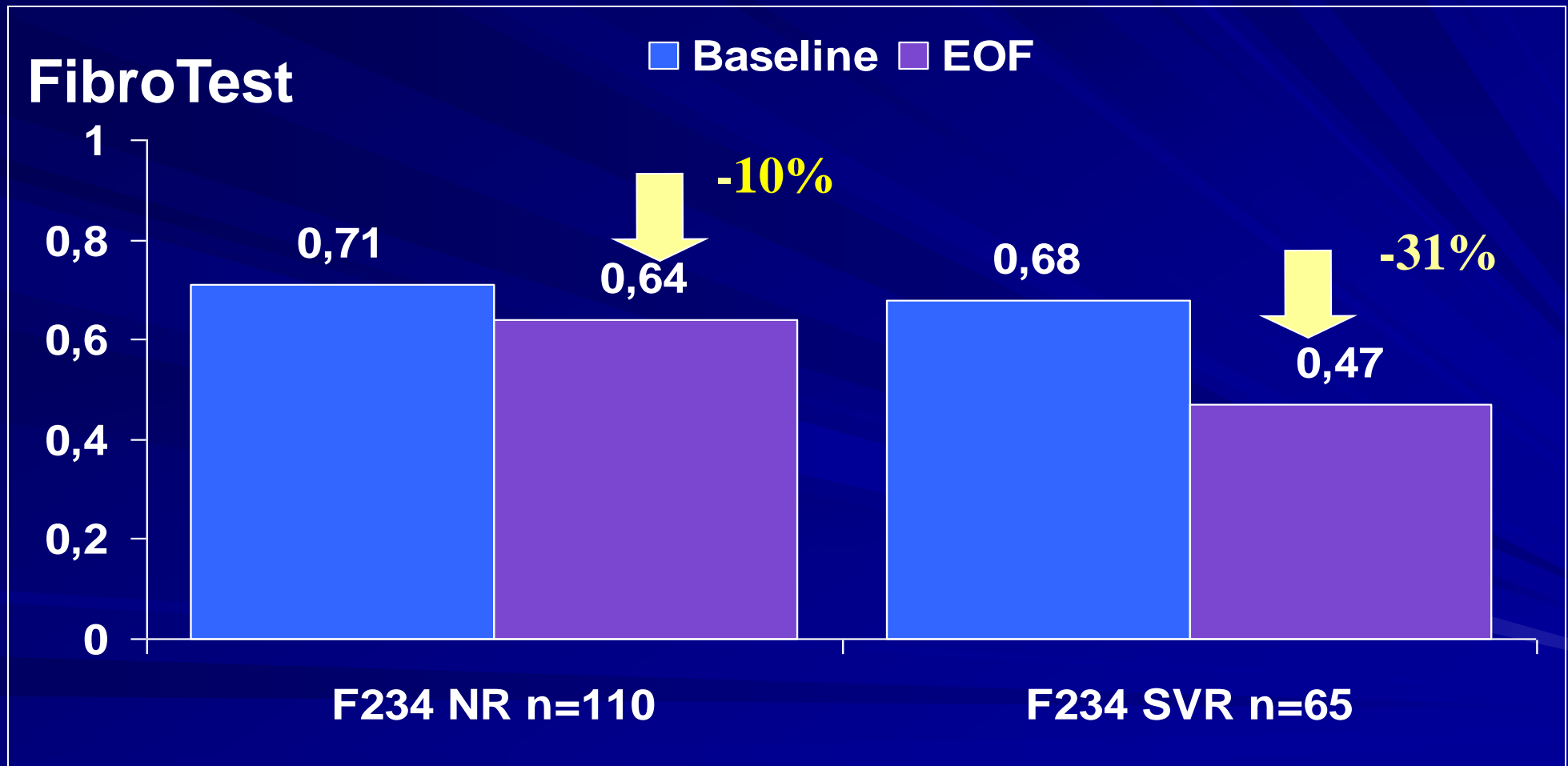
## Nutrients to Modify Disease Risk

- Vitamins A
- Vitamin D
- Vitamin E
- Vitamin C
- Folic Acid
- Calcium
- Selenium
- Lycopene
- Resveratrol
- Tea Polyphenols
- Curcumin
- Genestein
- Sulforaphane
- Macronutrients
- Carbohydrates
- Fat
- Protein
- Fiber & Water

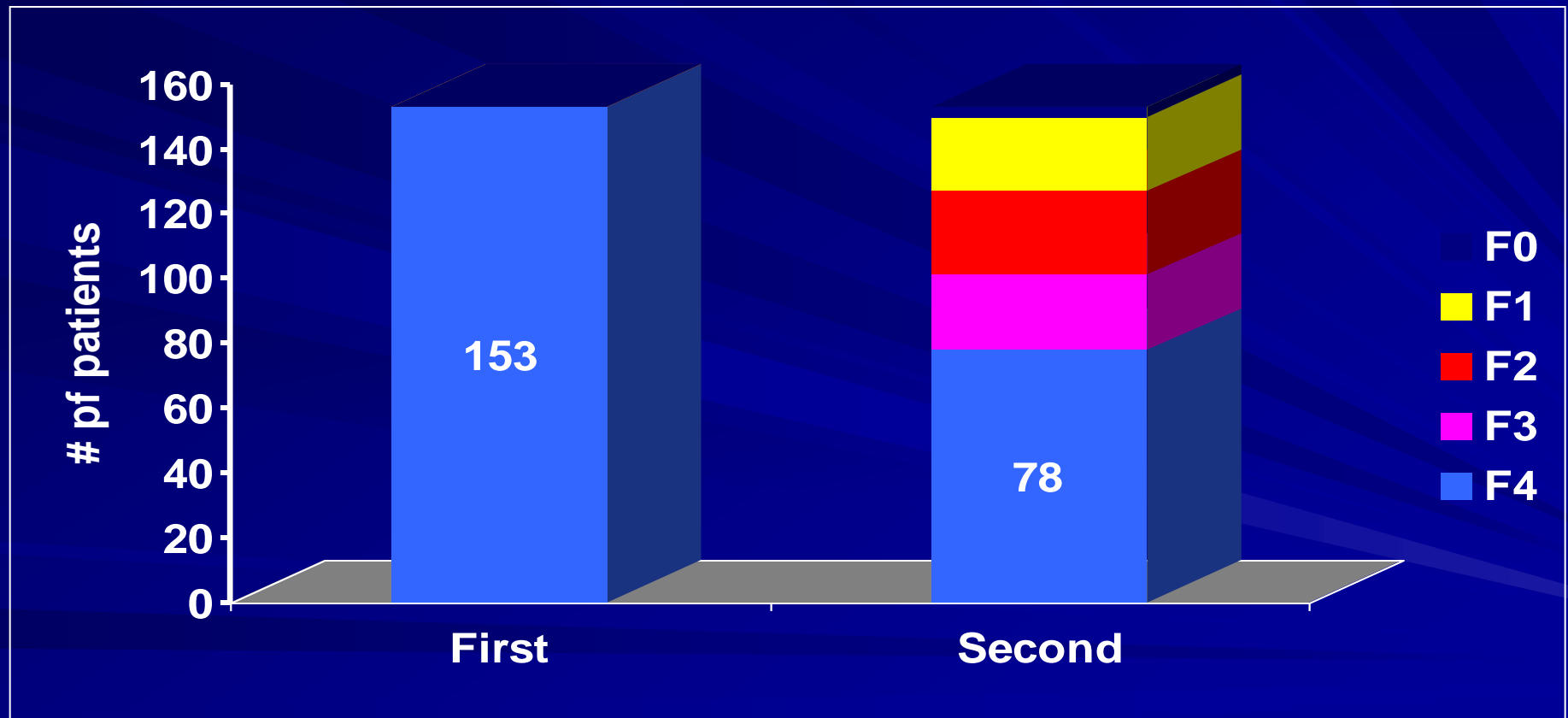




# FibroTest: Estimates Anti-Fibrotic Impact



# Reversal of cirrhosis in 75 (49%) of patients



# Peginterferon Alfa-2a and Ribavirin in Patients With Chronic Hepatitis C Who Have Failed Prior Treatment

## HALT-C trial

- Multicenter, 604 patients
- 233 cirrhosis, 371 bridging fibrosis
- Peginterferon alfa-2a + ribavirin  
20 + 28 weeks
- **Cirrhosis is a negative predictor of therapy response**

## Sustained viral response

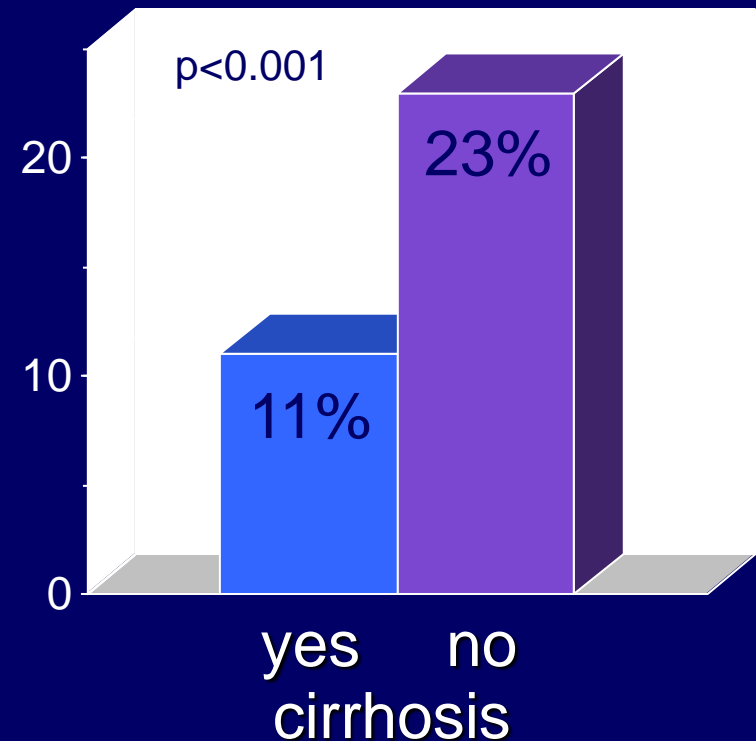




TABLE 1. Candidate Compounds With Possible Efficacy in Liver Diseases

Compound	Putative Biological Mechanism*	Targeted Liver Disease†
Silymarin (milk thistle) <sup>17,18,24,27,28</sup>	Biologically active compound—silibinin Acts as an antioxidant and free radical scavenger  In animals, prevents glutathione depletion free radical formation in the liver May also be antifibrotic through undeterminate mechanism(s)	Cirrhosis In Europe—chronic liver disease, digestive disorders, and gallbladder disease
Glycyrrhizin <sup>29,30,31,35</sup>	Licorice root—multiple constituents appears to inhibit enzyme 11-beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase, thus anti-inflammatory in inhibiting prostaglandin production and modifies arachidonic acid metabolism Also antioxidant properties—induces glutathione-S-transferase and catalase	Used traditionally for cough, bronchitis, gastritis, liver inflammation Fibrosis
<i>Plantago asiatica</i> seed <sup>39,40</sup>	Aucubin—active ingredient, iridoid glycoside Transient inhibition of viral replication	Hepatitis B virus
Herbal Medicine 861 <sup>40,42</sup>	Herbal mixture, blocks stellate cell activation through inhibiting cell cycle progression	Fibrotic liver disease
TJ-9 (Sho-saiko-to) <sup>44-48</sup>	Herbal mixture, blocks stellate cell activation Inhibits lipid peroxidation in hepatocytes and stellate cells	Fibrotic liver disease In Japan, recommended for hepatitis B virus
TJ-41 <sup>50,51</sup>	Herbal mixture, induces cellular apoptosis via P 53.	Hepatocellular carcinoma
TJ-108 <sup>51</sup>	Herbal mixture with active compound gomisin A. Antiviral	Hepatitis C virus
Liv-52 <sup>52</sup>	Herbal mixture—hepatoprotective	In India, alcohol-induced liver disease
<i>Phyllanthus amarus</i> <sup>54,55</sup>	Extract inhibits hepatitis B viral polymerase by inhibiting the virus enhancer I activity—complexes transcription factors	Hepatitis B virus

## *some* Clinical studies

### Plantago

**1997** 10mg/kg/day i.v. x 4-month: 10-40% ↓ HBV-DNA;

### Compound 861

**1995** 2-years, CHB: 83% subj. improv., ↓ 41% spleen size,  
↓ AST,ALT (73% to normal range), PIIINP;

**1998** 6-month, CHB: histological improvement (infl. & fibrosis);

**CH-100 1998** RCT - HCV pts: significant ALT reduction;

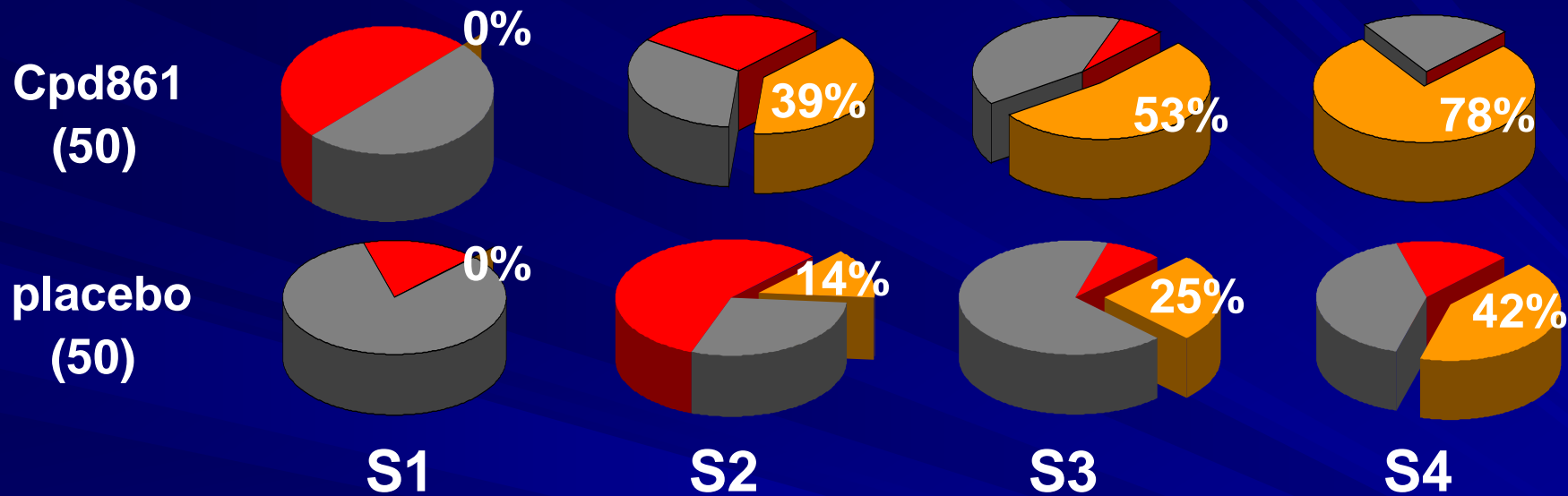
**TJ-9 1995** 5-year study, 260 cirrhotics, ↑ survival, ↓ HCC;

**TJ-108 2000** ↓ HCV-RNA in 21% HCV +ve patients;

**YHK/K-17.22 1998-2004** HCV pts.: ↓ ALT;

# Compound 861 in HBV CLD

## Salviae miltiorrhizae (丹参): Reversal rate



■ **reversed:** score ↓ >2  
■ **worse:** score ↑ >2  
■ **no change:** score <2

	861	placebo
	Reverse(%)	Reverse(%)
s3+s4	66*	33*
total	52	20

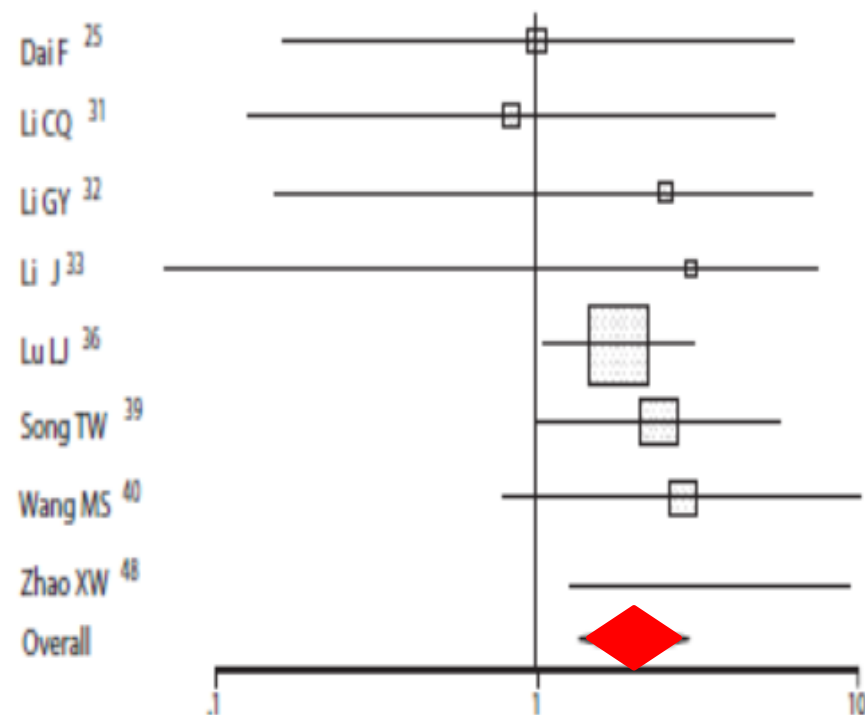
\*p<0.05

# Chinese Herbal Medicine and Interferon in the Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis B: A Meta-Analysis of Randomized, Controlled Trials

Am J Publ Health, 2002

## Chinese Herbal Medicine alone vs IFN- $\alpha$

Hepatitis B surface antigen



Favors IFN- $\alpha$

Favors CHM

## Chinese Herbal Medicine combined with IFN- $\alpha$ vs IFN- $\alpha$

Hepatitis B surface antigen



Favors IFN- $\alpha$

Favors CHM + IFN- $\alpha$



## Traditional Chinese medicine causing hepatotoxicity in patients with chronic hepatitis B infection: a 1-year prospective study

Aliment Pharmacol Ther, 2006

Traditional Chinese medicine-related hepatotoxicity resulted in **high mortality** in chronic hepatitis B patients.

Prospective RC trials with the same stringent criteria as western medicine clinical trials are required for Chinese medicines, to document their efficacies and safety before they can be advocated for the treatment of patients.

Funded by a grant from the Hepatology Research Fund, The University of Hong Kong

## **Glycyrrhizin**

**1991** 4-wks Gly + 4 wks IFN: 70% loss of HbeAg after 6 months;

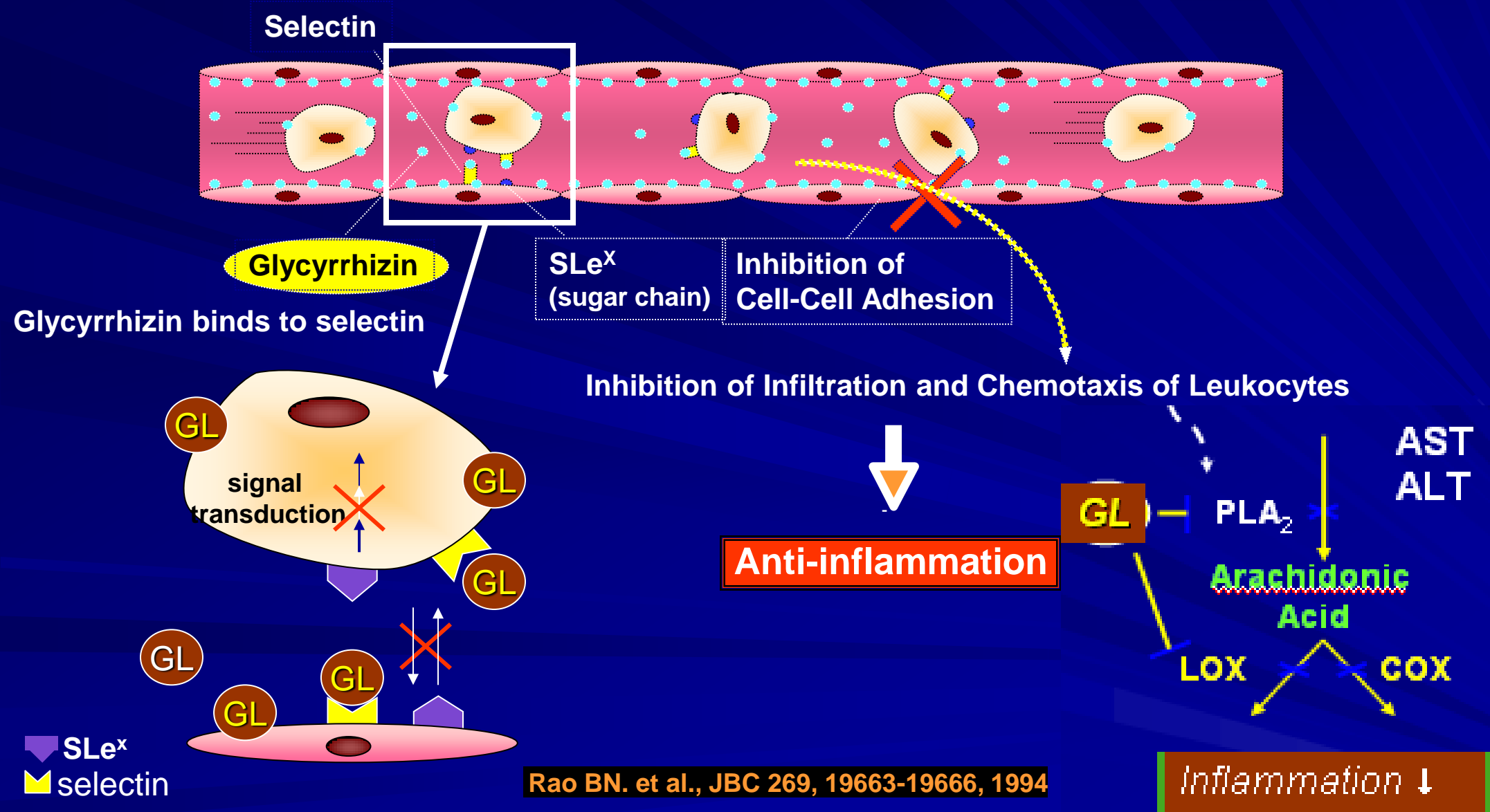
**1994** Gly + IFN vs IFN: 33% vs 13% HCV-RNA negativization;

**1997** 80mg x 2 weeks → AST, ALT in >60% of CAH pts;

**1997** 2-7/weekly i.v. Gly x 10 years: 2.5-fold decrease of HCC  
and 1.5-fold decrease of cirrhosis;



# Mechanism of Pharmacological Action of Glycyrrhizin (GL)



# Chronic Hepatitis C Trial

## Indian Council Medical Research

**Multicenter Double-Blind Randomized controlled**

130pts, HCV+ve, ALT >60IU, HAI >3

**IFN + Ribavirin**

**IFN + SNMC**

Genotype 3 – 1 – 4: 71%, 27%, 2%

median ALT: 100.5 IU  38.0 IU p<0.0001

Sustained Virological Response: Genotype 1:100%, Gen. 3: 70%, Gen 4: 100%

Viral Load: Genotype 1: all -ve, Gen 3: Gen 4: -ve

HCV-RNA +ve: 25% - HCV-RNA -ve: 75%

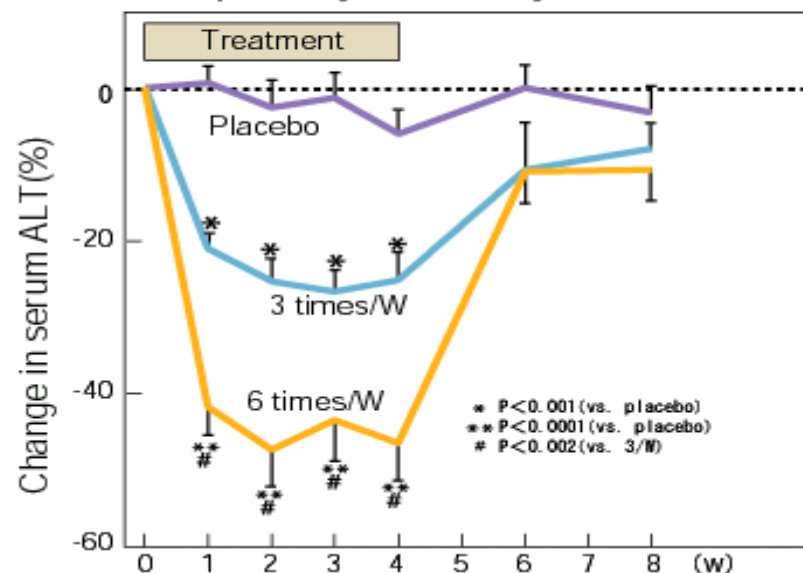
# Therapeutic Effect of SNMC to IFN Non-responders in Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C

Van Rossum TGJ. et al., Am. J. Gastroenterol., 2001

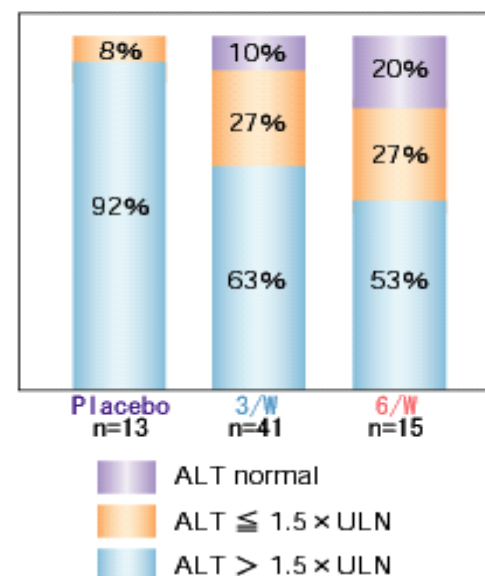
	Placebo	SNMC 3 times/W (40, 80, 120 mL)	SNMC 6 times/W (100 mL)
Number of patients	13	41	15
Male/Female	13/0	32/9	12/3
White/Other	8/5	23/18	11/4
Median age*(yr) (range)	47(37-60)	46(32-69)	49(39-70)
Noncirrhosis/Cirrhosis	7/6	24/17	7/8
Previous interferon(ribavirin) Yes/No	12/1	32/9	13/2
Median ALT ULN** (range)	3.1 (1.5-6.8)	2.6(1.4-11.8)	3.0(1.6-12.5)
Median HCV-RNA Mgeneq#/mL(range)	4.5(1.4-39.2)	14.9(0.2-104)	14.1 (0.7-76.3)
Genotype-1/Genotype non-1	7/6	20/21	7/8

\*at start of treatment \*\*upper limit of normal #Mega genome equivalent

■ The mean percentages ALT change from baseline



■ Distribution of ALT at the end of treatment



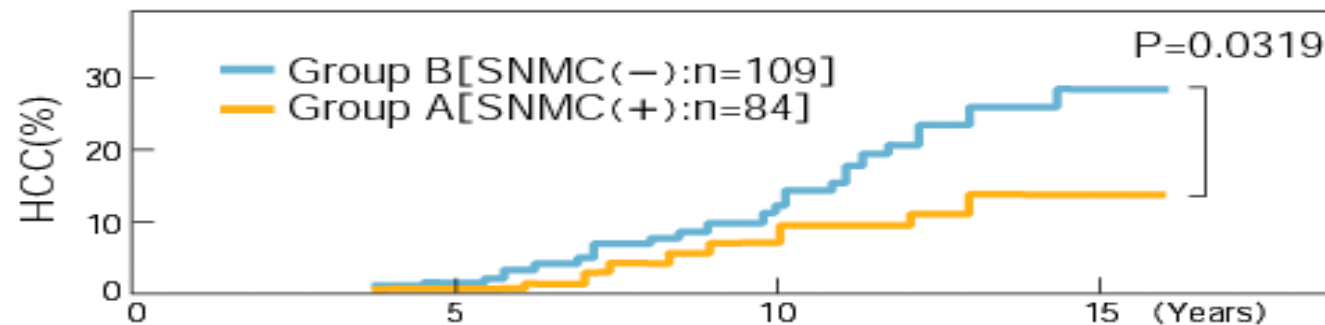
# The Long-Term Efficacy of SNMC in Chronic Hepatitis C Patients

Y. Arase et al., Cancer, 1997

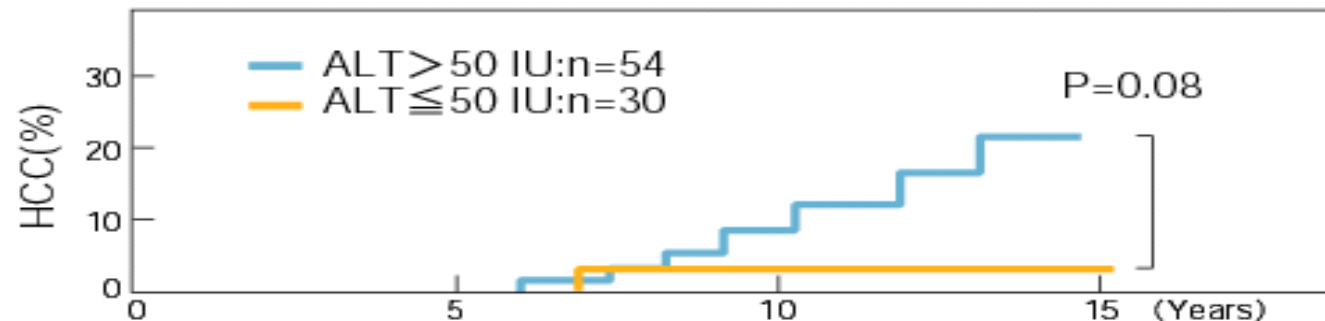
	SNMC(+)	SNMC(-)
Number	84	109
Age(years) <sup>a</sup>	47(31-64)	48(30-64)
Gender (male/female)	73/11	92/17
Transfusion(+/-)	39/45	48/61
Histology(F1/F2 or F3)	51/33	61/48
HCV genotype(1b2a or 2b)	60/16	62/21
ALT(IU/L) <sup>a</sup>	200(100-726)	186(104-698)
ICG R15(%) <sup>a</sup>	14(9-24)	15(8-26)

a: Data are expressed as the median value(range)

## ■ Cumulative HCC appearance rate with or without SNMC administration



## ■ Cumulative HCC appearance rate based on the average ALT after SNMC administration



# Silymarin

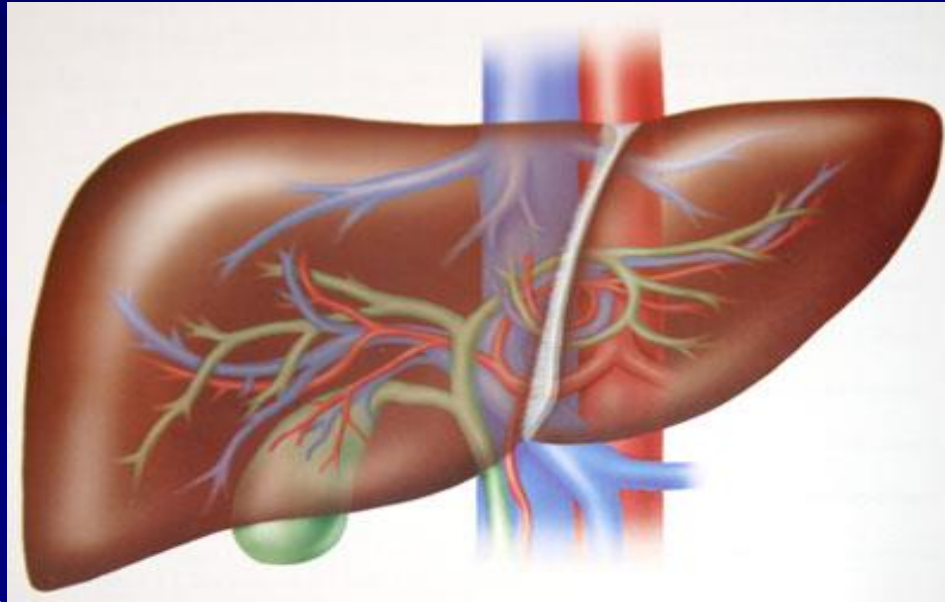


- Extract of crushed milk thistle seeds:
  - Milk Thistle:
  - Silymarin:
    - Extract from seeds of Milk Thistle
    - a complex of at least 7 flavonolignans and 1 flavonoid that comprise 65-80% of milk thistle extract
- Prevents liver disease in many experimental animal models
- Used widely by HCV patients as a hepatoprotectant
- Clinical studies indicate that Silymarin is very well tolerated and safe

# Hepatoprotection

**Antiviral**

**Antiinflammatory**



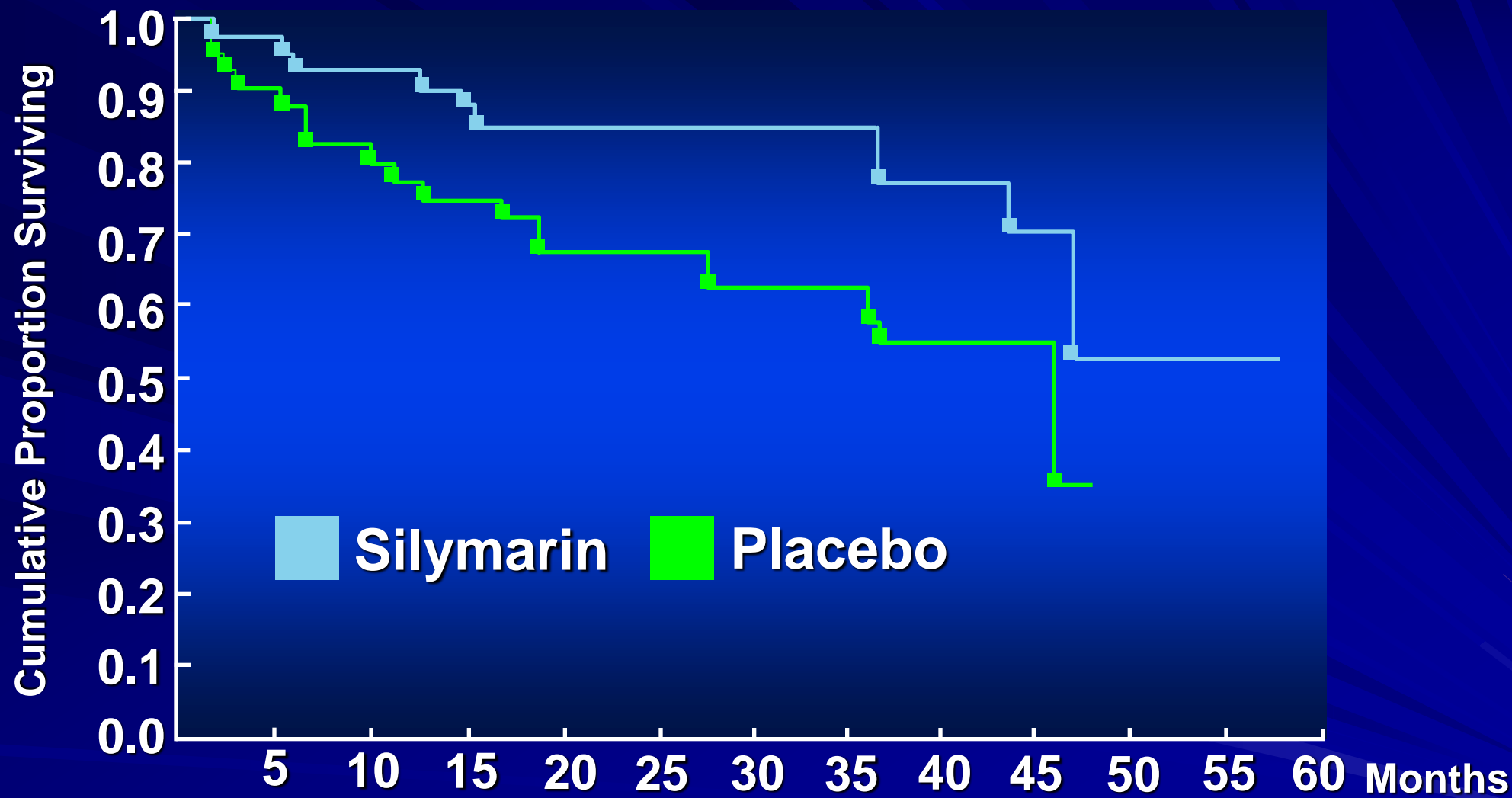
**Antioxidant**

**Immunomodulatory**



# Milk Thistle (Silymarin)

- Choose a brand that has silibin and phosphotidyl choline
  - Better absorbed
- Typical dose 140-420 mg per day in divided doses of 2-3 times per day of 70-80% silymarin
- Large doses can cause loose stools



At Risk S	47	42	40	36	33	27	20	16	13	6	2	1	1
At Risk P	45	39	35	33	29	26	20	16	10	7	2	-	-

## Silymarin

**1978** expedites recovery after acute A or B hepatitis;

**1980** expedites recovery in alcohol-related hepatitis;

**1982** 2-fold decrease of death rate due to Amanita intoxication;

**1989** 41 months follow-up: higher survival in cirrhotics;

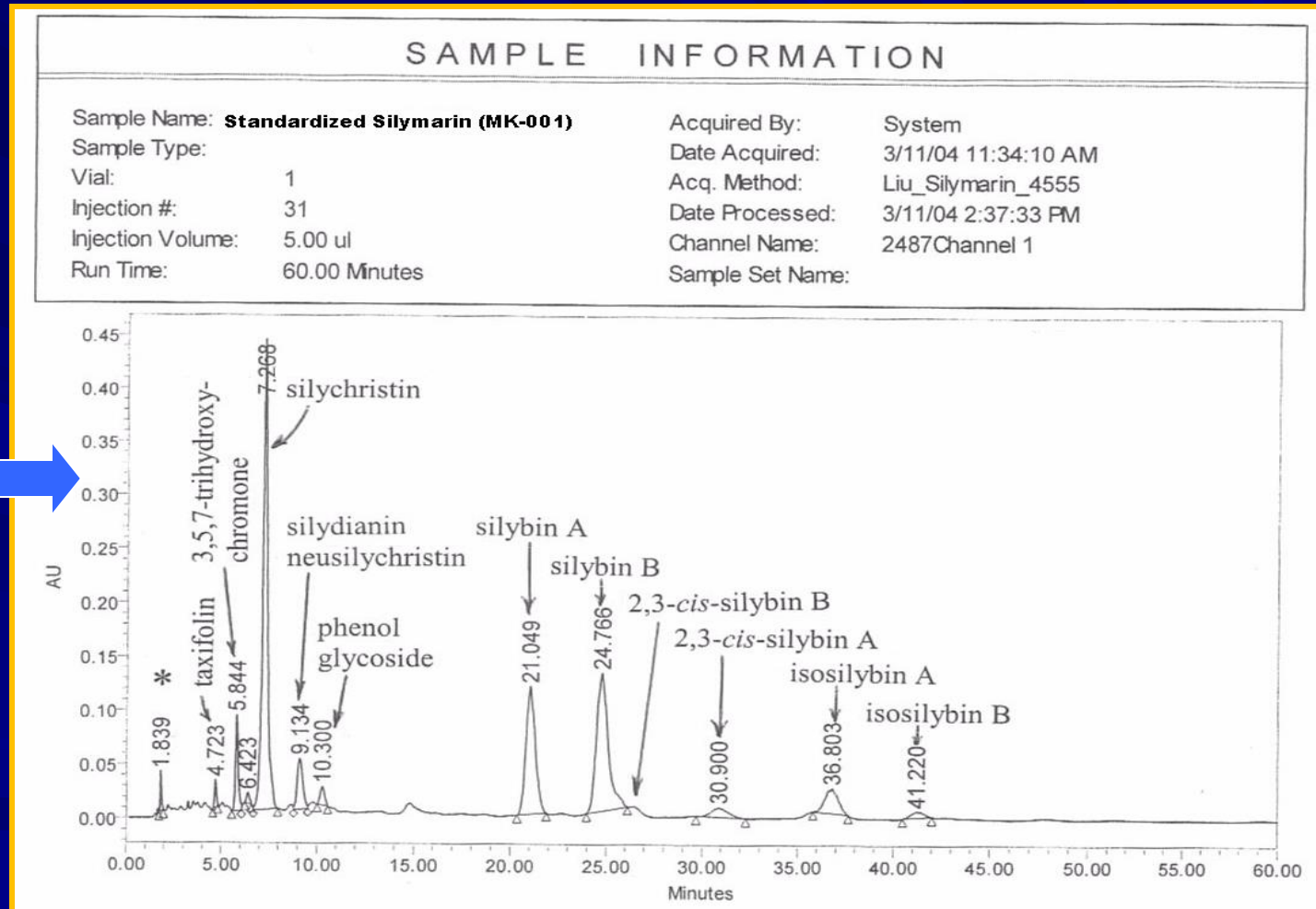
**1998** previous data not confirmed !

*.....lack of reliable formulations, erratic pharmacokinetics*

# Molecular Profile of Silymarin



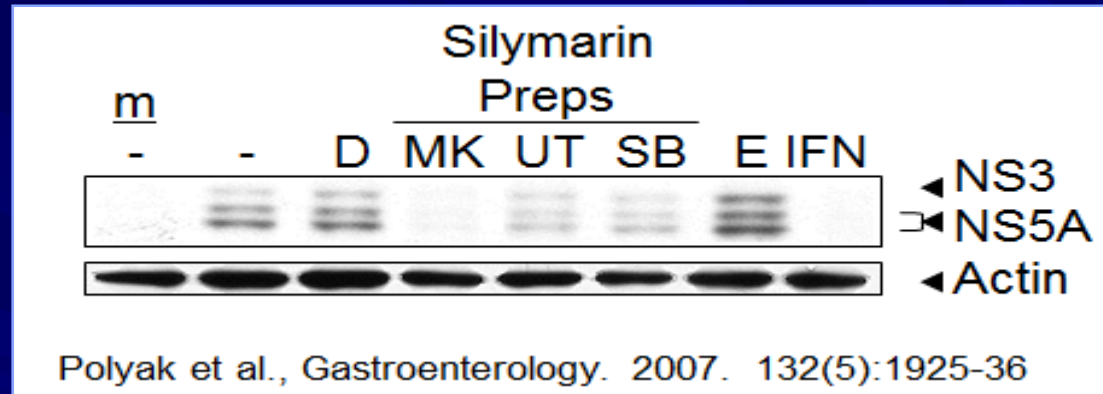
*Silybum marianum*  
seeds



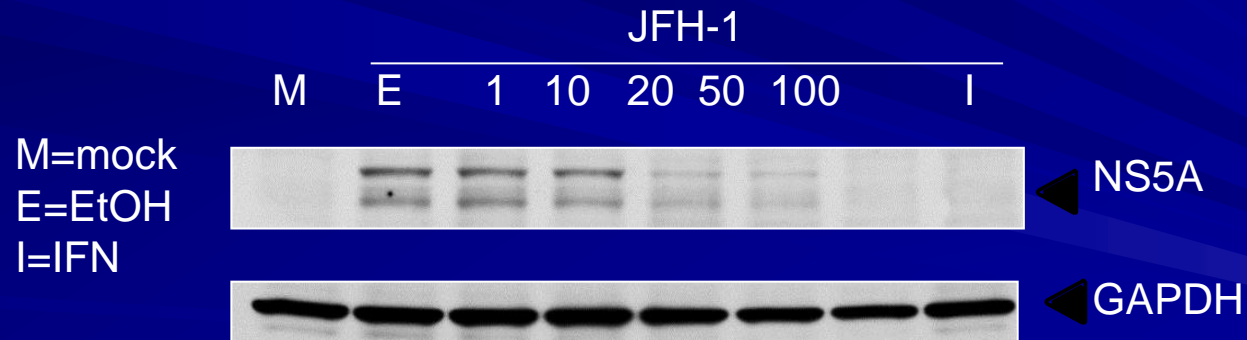
HPLC Fingerprint of Standardized Milk Thistle Product (MK-001)

# Silymarin Inhibits HCV Infection

HCVcc,  
(m.o.i. 0.01)



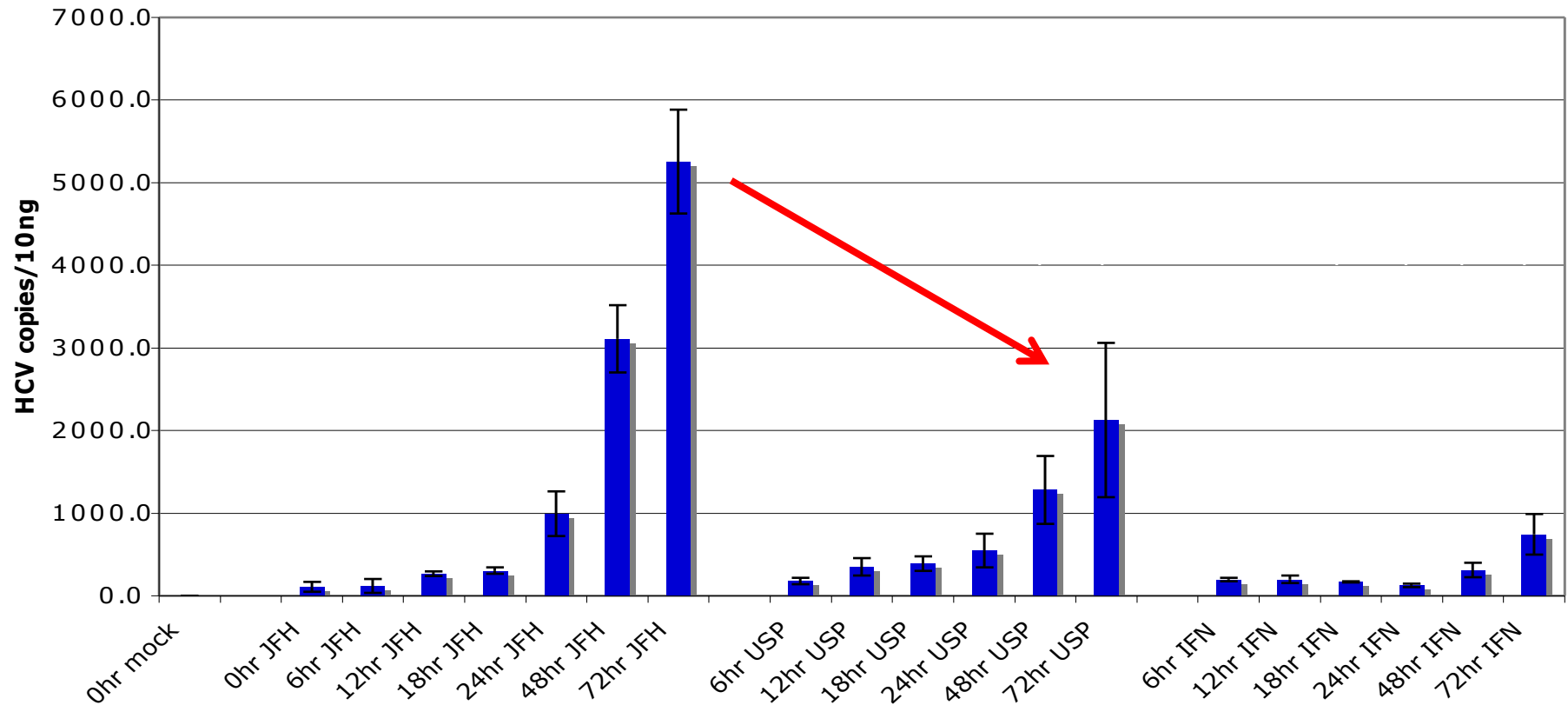
Therapeutic  
Design



US Pharmacopoeia Milk Thistle

# HCV RNA Synthesis

HCVcc,  
(m.o.i. 0.01)

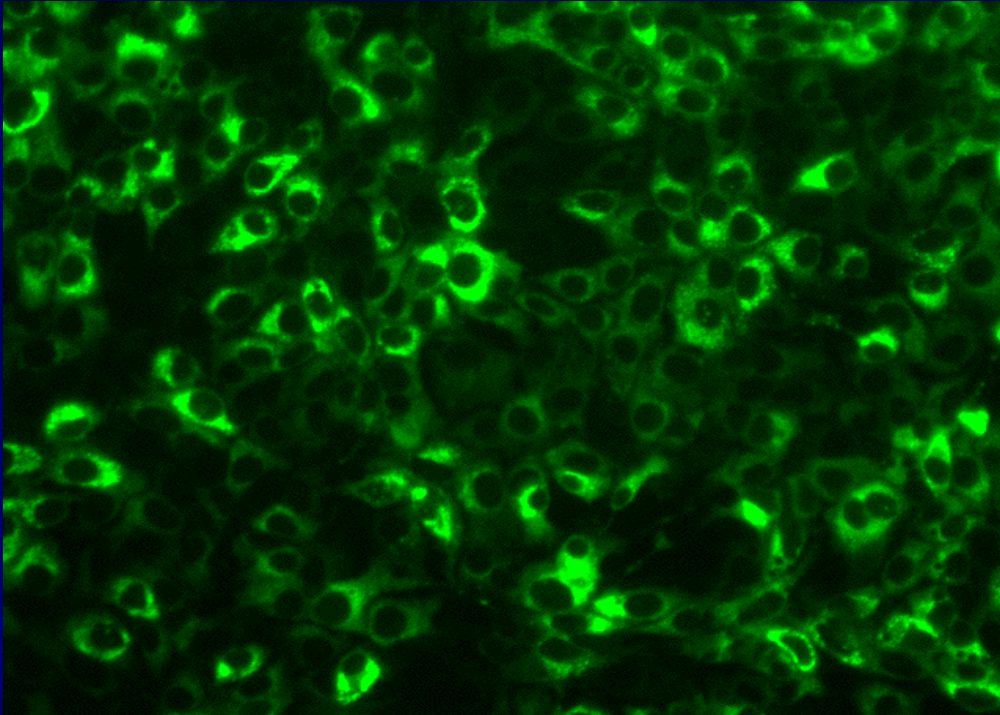


Therapeutic Design

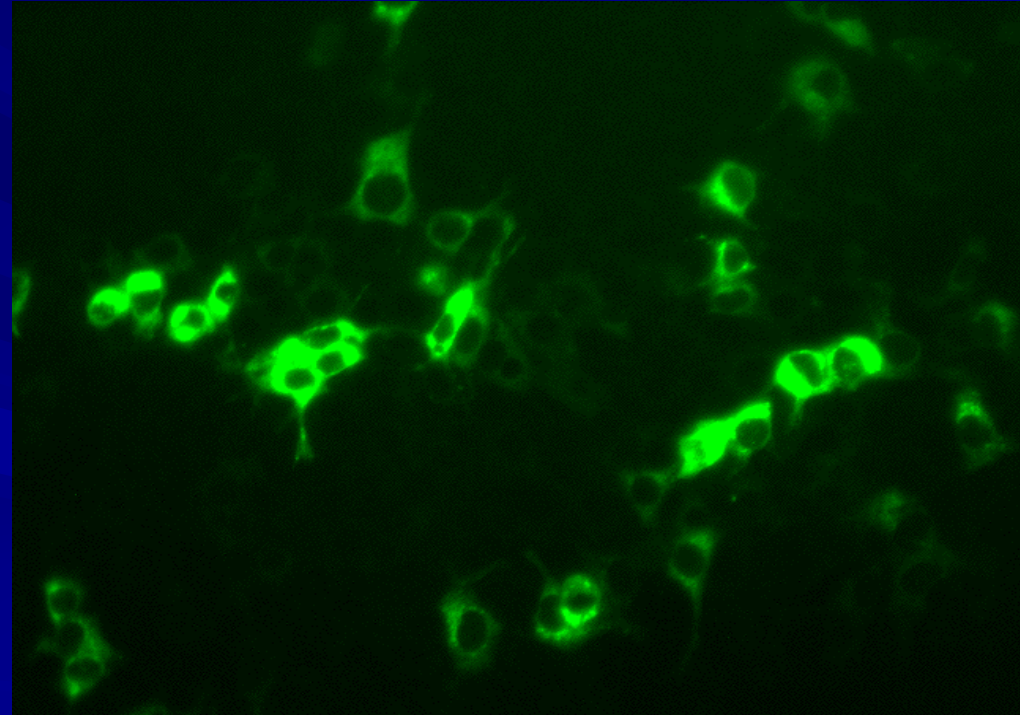


# Infectious Virus Release

**Supes From 48 Hours Post-Treatment**

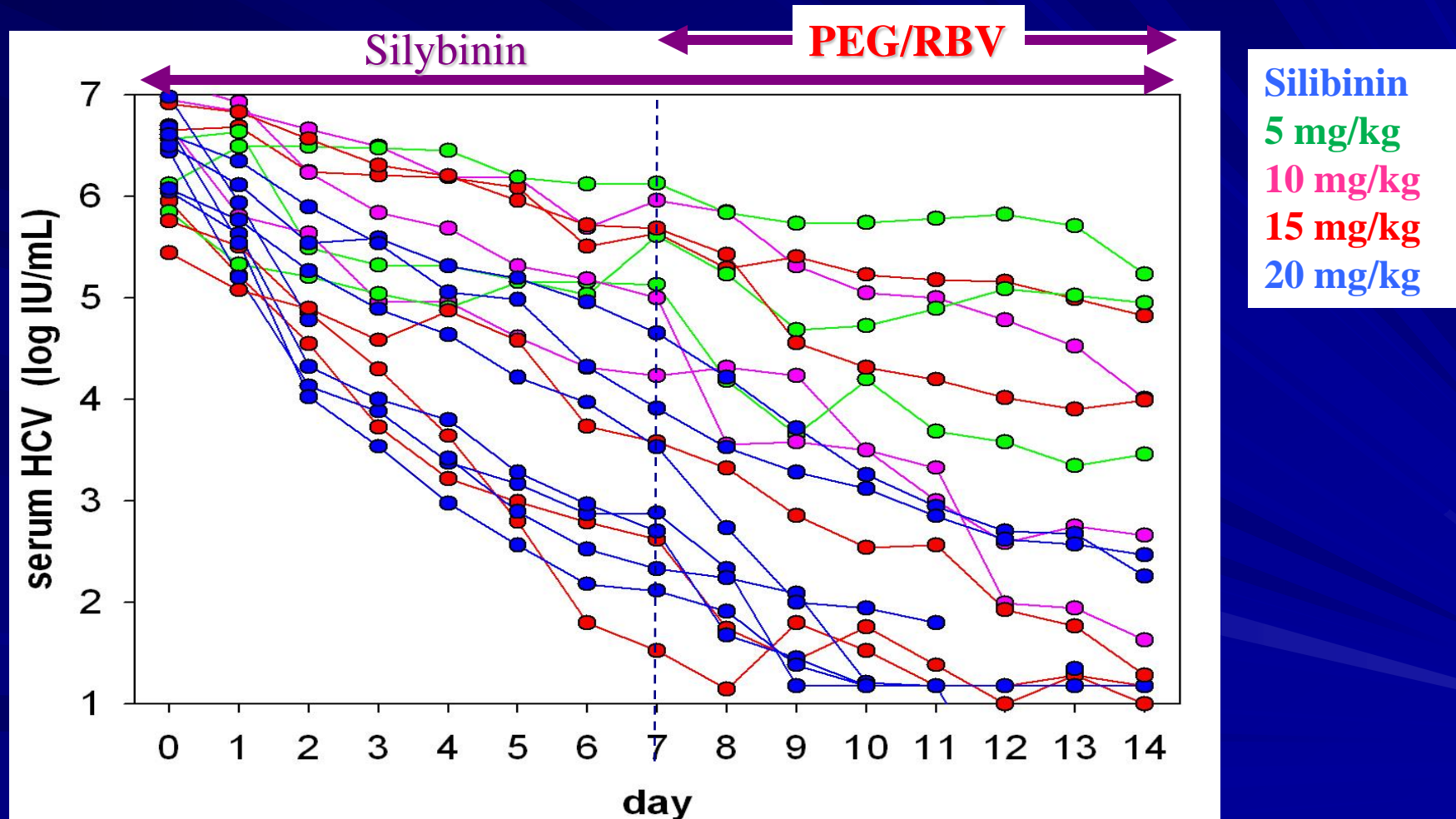


**DMSO**



**Silymarin**

# Intravenous Silymarin Reduces Viral Loads in IFN Nonresponders

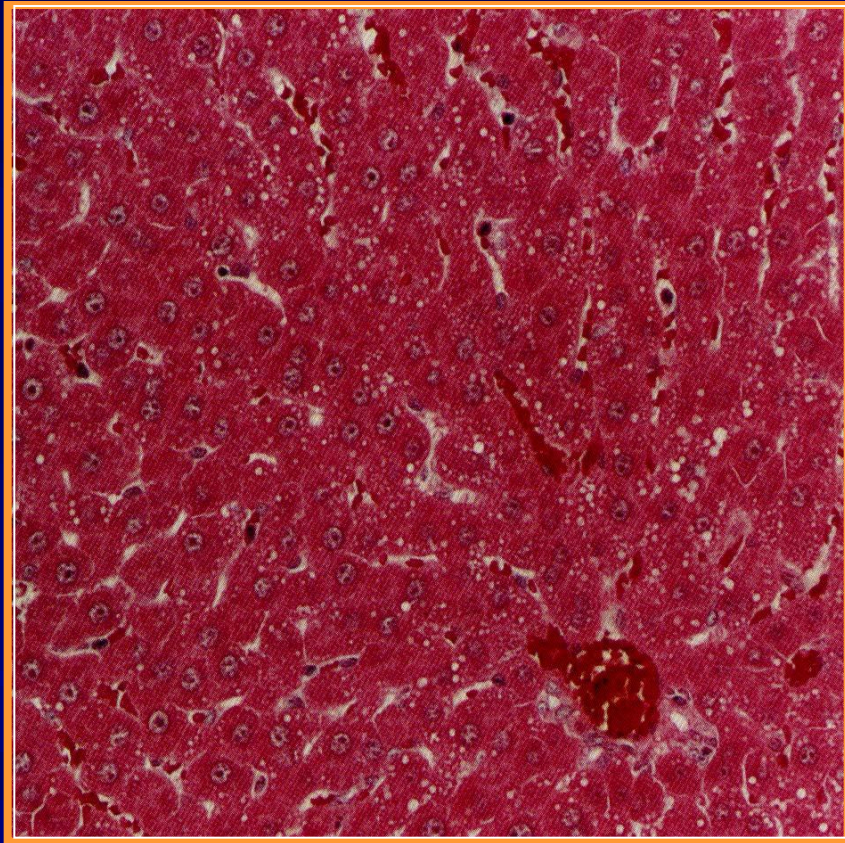
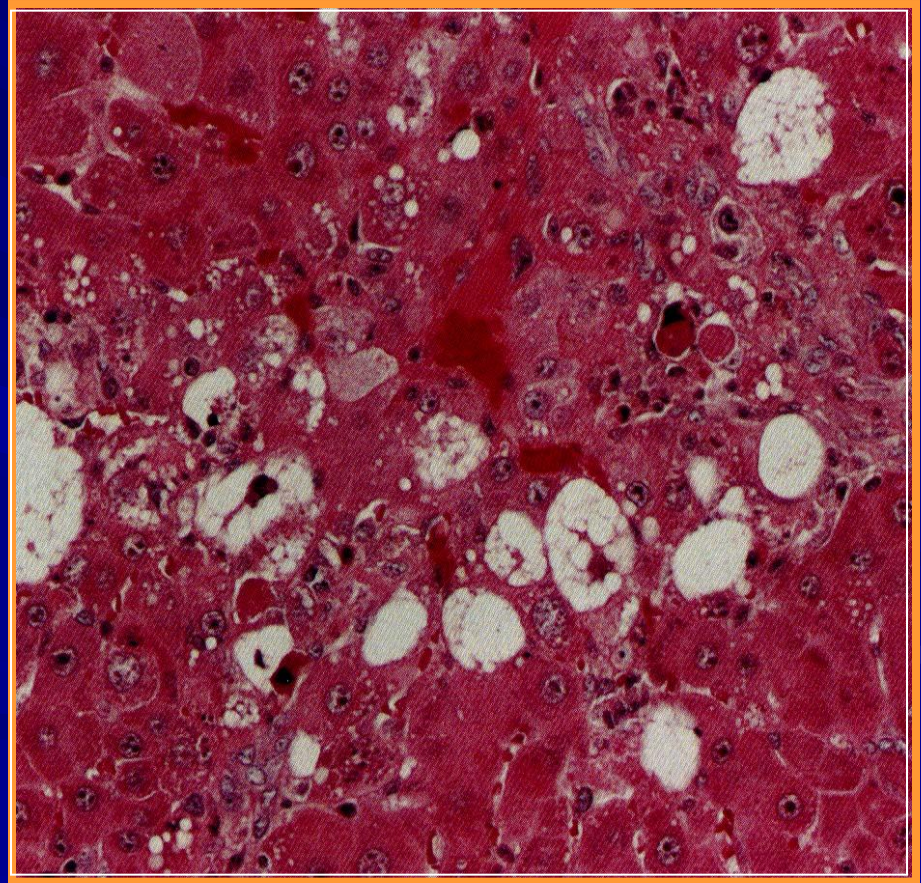




# A novel ISO-controlled nutraceutical: YHK

## CCL<sub>4</sub> Model

### Untreated



### YHK-Treated

## Hydroxyproline content of the liver

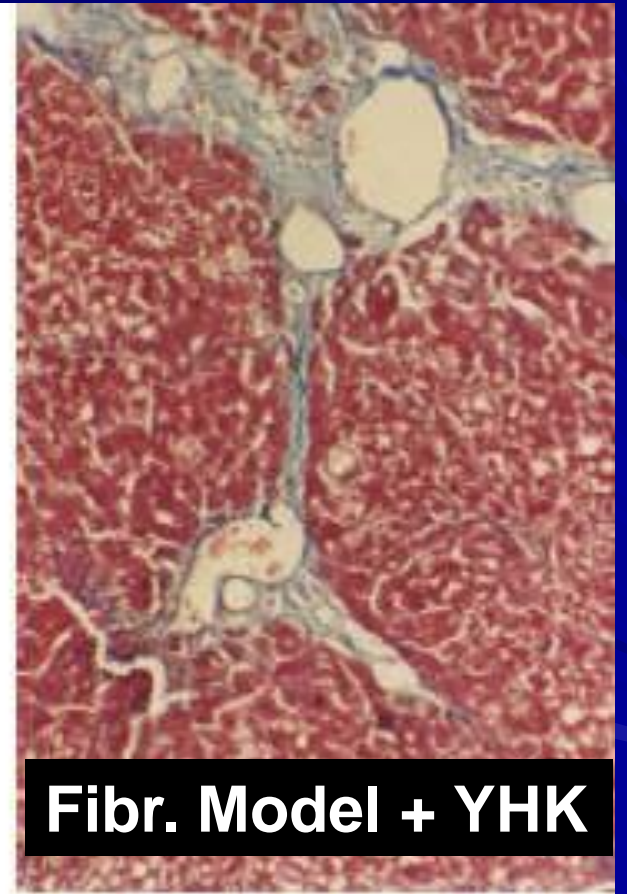
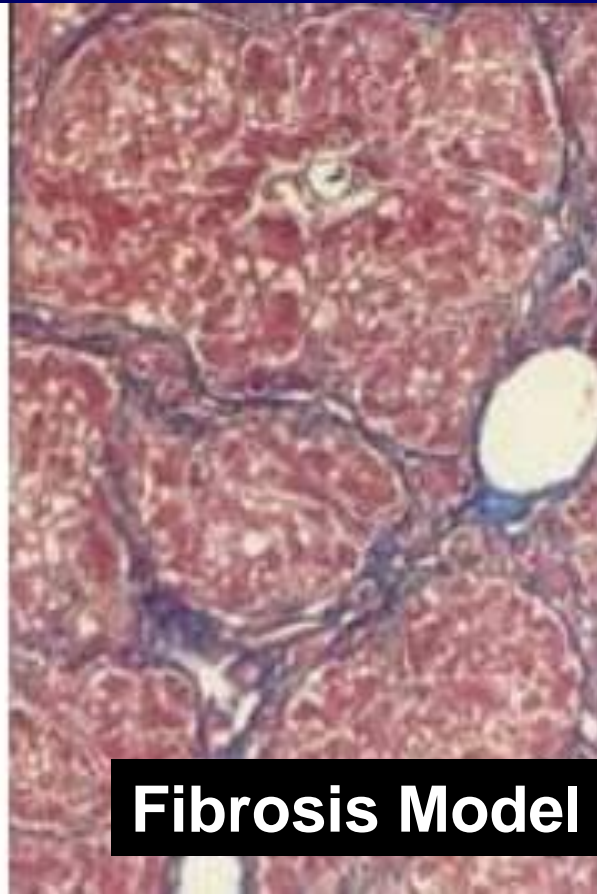
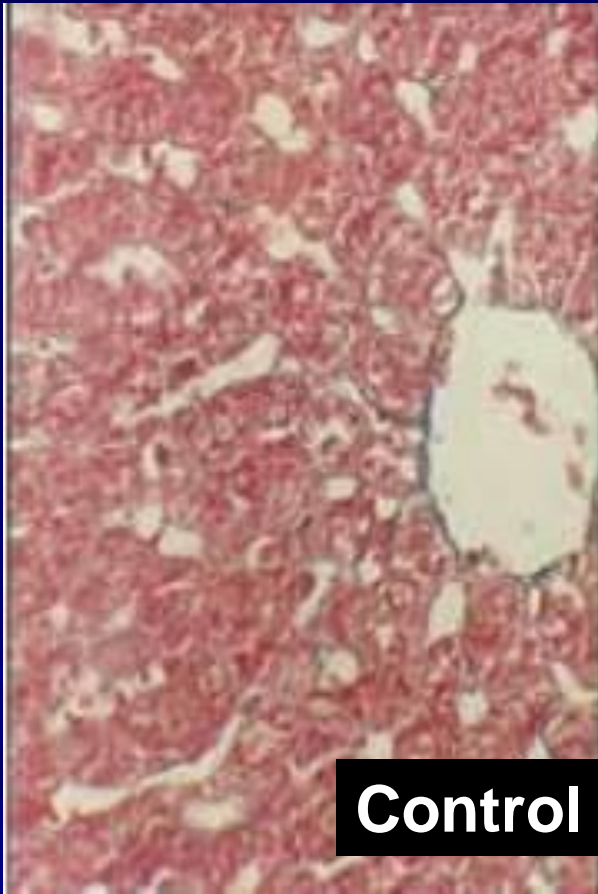
weeks	Control	CCL <sub>4</sub>	CCL <sub>4</sub> + YHK
0	367 ± 75	344 ± 87	401 ± 110
10	389 ± 93	839 ± 147*	563 ± 132*§
20	343 ± 61	1190 ± 205*	718 ± 151*§



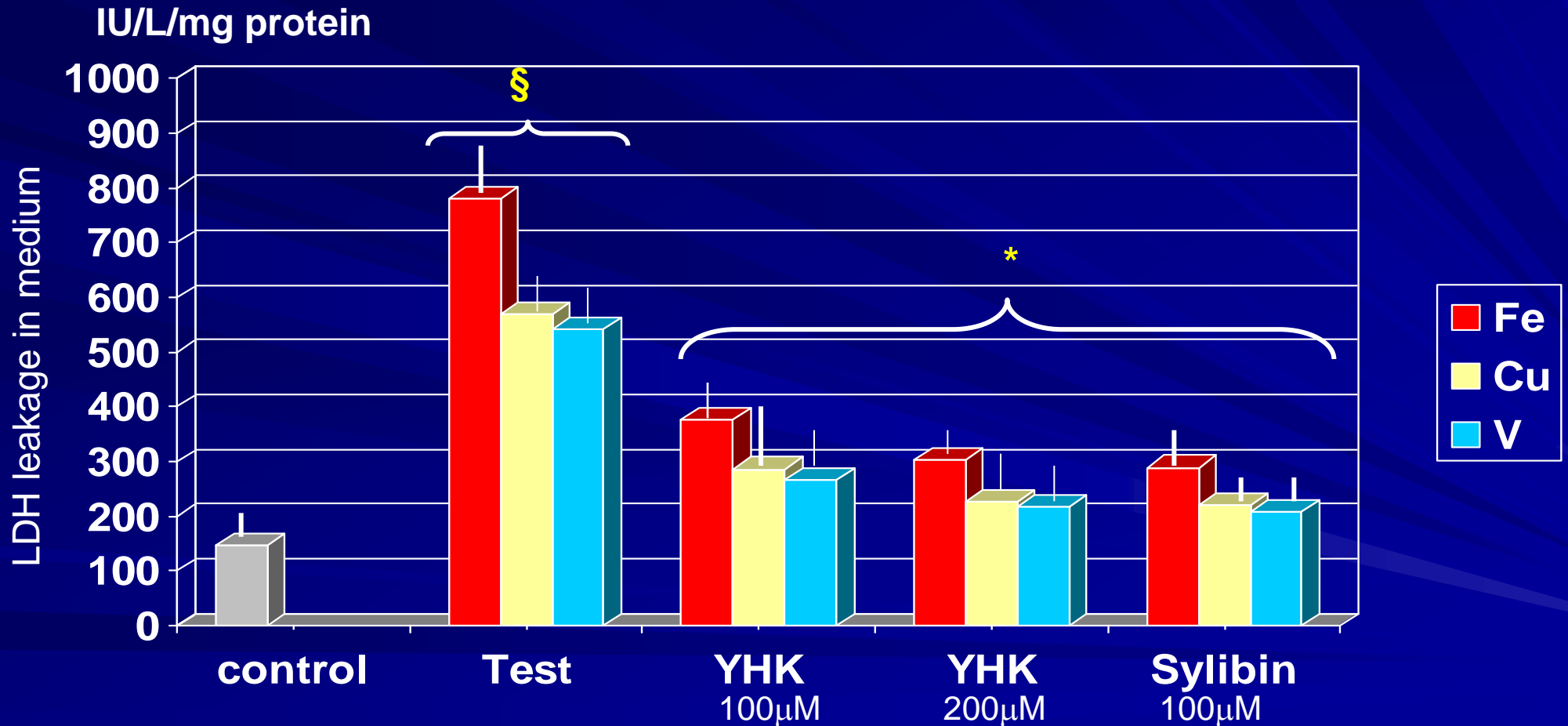
# Serum markers of fibrosis

weeks	Control	CCL <sub>4</sub>	CCL <sub>4</sub> + YHK
	<b>Hyarulonic acid</b>		
0	8.3±4.3	4.6±3.7	6.2±4.0
10	6.7±3.6	133.8±55.6*	67.8±24.7*§
20	11.3±5.4	224.6±77.5*	15.5±7.2§
	<b>Type IV collagen 7s</b>		
0	4.3 ±0.2	4.4 ±0.2	4.2 ±0.3
10	4.2 ±0.2	4.2 ±0.5	4.1 ±0.5
20	4.3 ±0.6	4.9 ±0.4	4.7 ±0.1





# EFFECT OF YHK AND SYLIBIN ON LDH LEAKAGE DUE TO METAL IONS DAMAGE IN CULTURED HEPATOCYTES



# Inhibiting activity of YHK and silybin on FeSO<sub>4</sub>-, Cu SO<sub>4</sub>- and VCl<sub>3</sub> -induced lipid peroxidation in normal hepatocytes (*mean ± SD*)

Metal ion	YHK		Silybin
	100μM	200μM	100μM
FeSO <sub>4</sub>	15.6 ± 4.6 <sup>§</sup>	12.2 ± 4.4 <sup>§</sup> *	18.9 ± 3.2 <sup>§</sup>
Cu SO <sub>4</sub>	7.9 ± 0.3	6.7 ± 0.7	7.3 ± 0.3
VCl <sub>3</sub>	8.7 ± 0.99	9.4 ± 0.85	10.8 ± 1.2

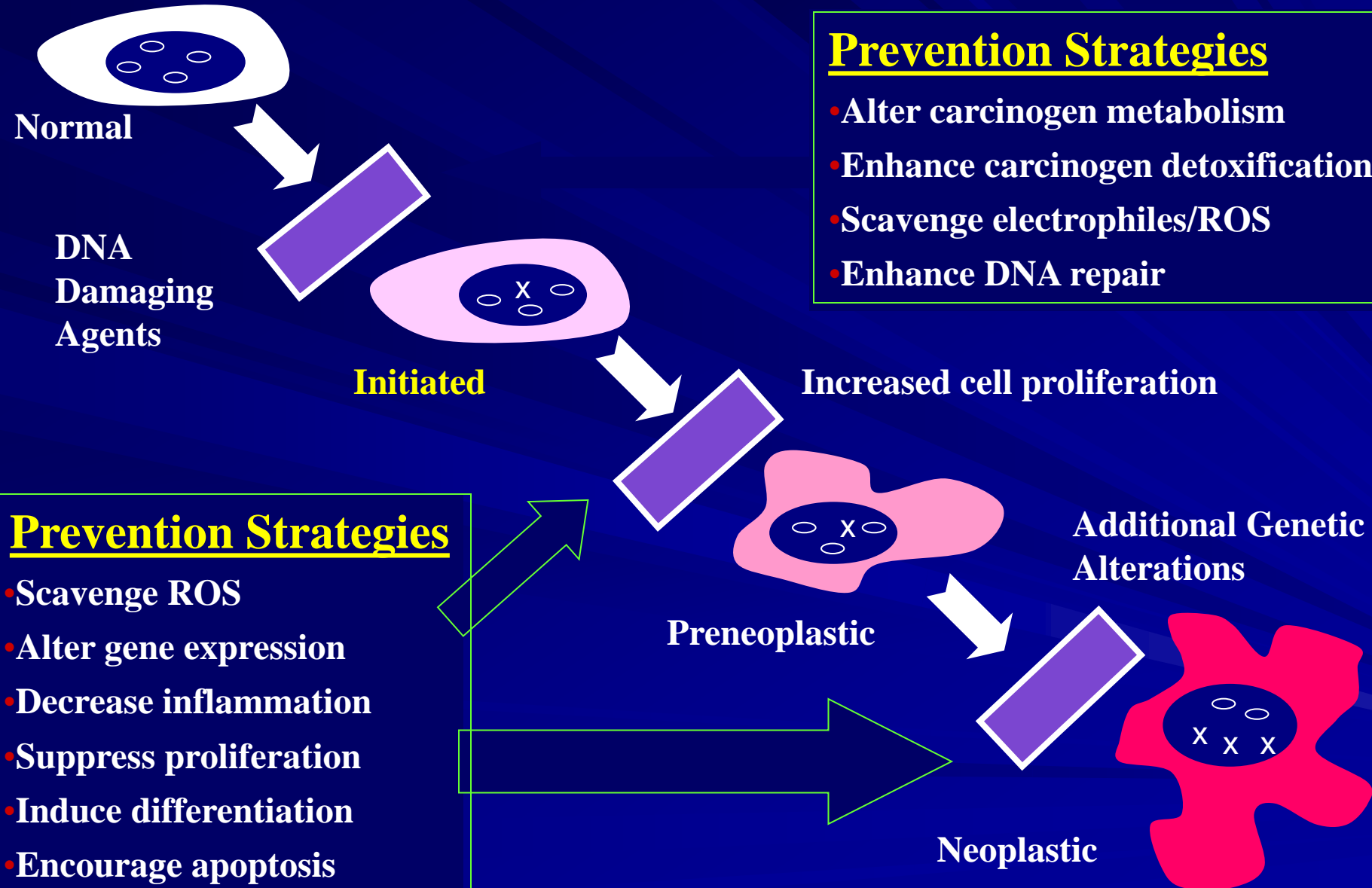
Values represent the concentrations that inhibit lipid peroxidation by 50% (IC<sub>50</sub>, μM). IC<sub>50</sub> is calculated from the concentration-activity curves.

<sup>§</sup>p<0.05 vs Cu SO<sub>4</sub> and VCl<sub>3</sub>. \*p<0.05 vs Silybin

# Nutritional Modulation of Carcinogenesis

## Prevention Strategies

- Alter carcinogen metabolism
- Enhance carcinogen detoxification
- Scavenge electrophiles/ROS
- Enhance DNA repair



## Prevention Strategies

- Scavenge ROS
- Alter gene expression
- Decrease inflammation
- Suppress proliferation
- Induce differentiation
- Encourage apoptosis



American Institute  
for Cancer Research

Washington, 2008

# Phytotherapeutic Compound **YHK** Exerts an Inhibitory Effect on Early Stage of Experimentally-Induced Neoplastic Liver Lesions

*Marotta F et al*

Hepato-Gastroenterology Dept., S.Giuseppe Hospital, Milan, Italy

MHC Hospital, Tokyo, Japan

Hepato-GI Unit, University of Sao-Paulo, Brazil



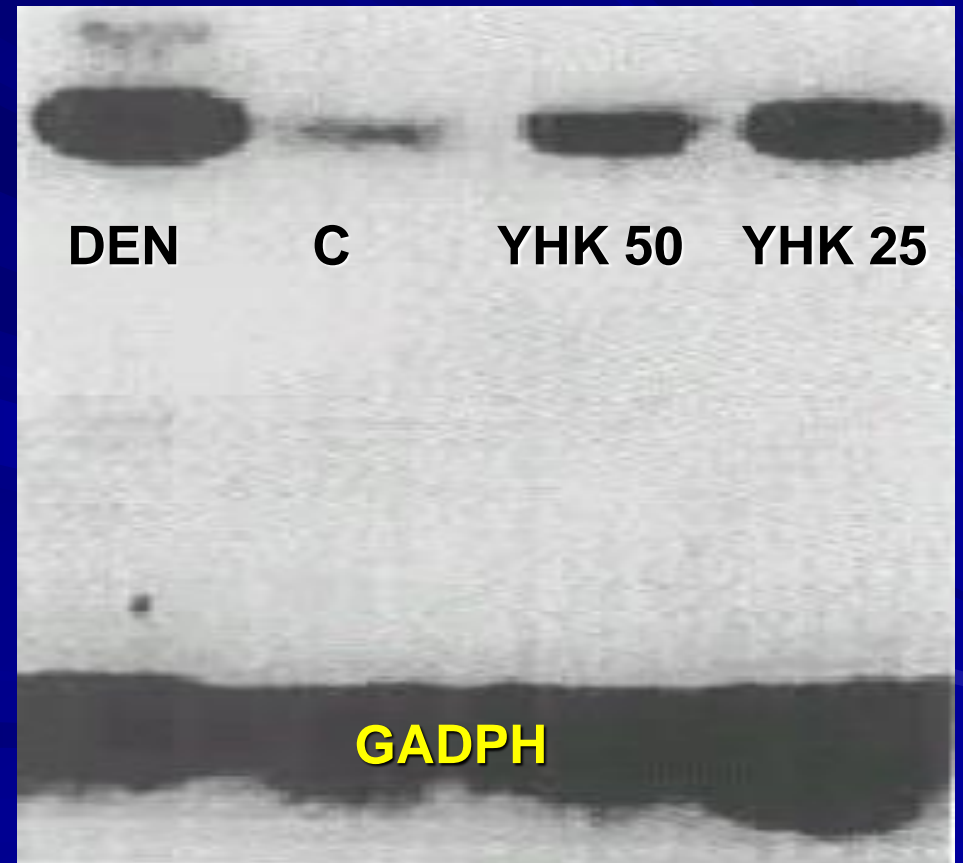
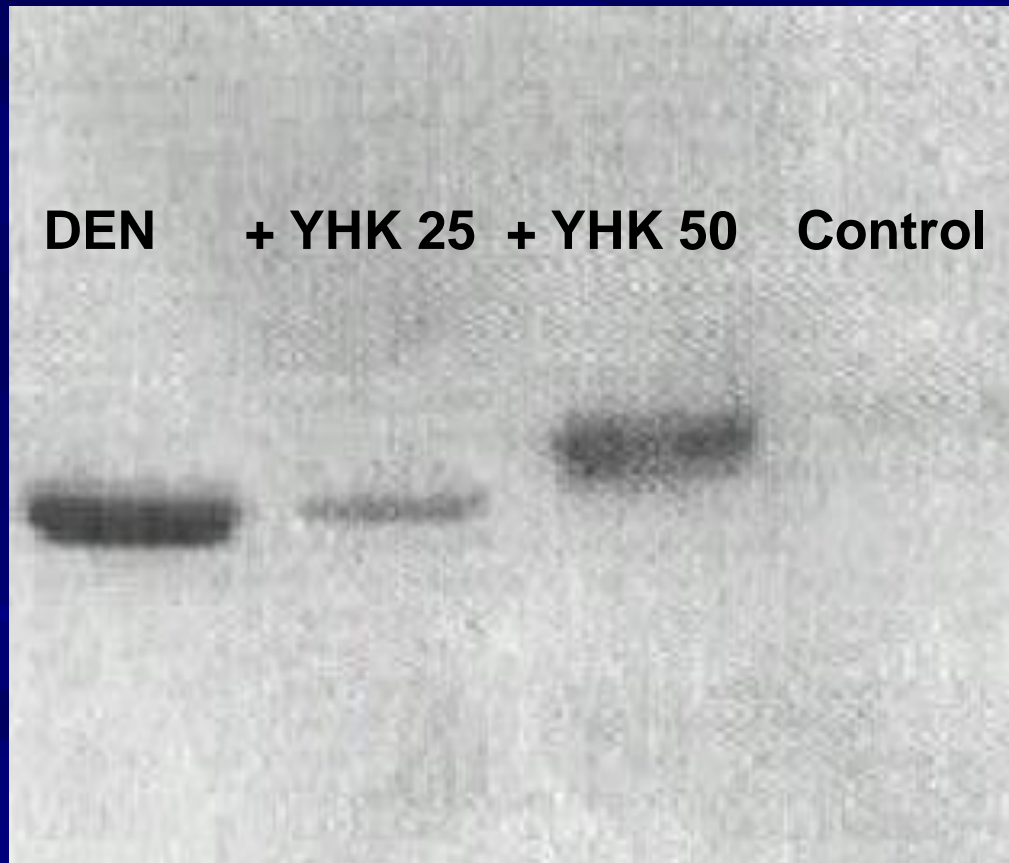
# NUMBER AND SIZE OF **GST-P-POSITIVE** HEPATIC LESIONS IN DEN-INDUCED HEPATOCARCINOGENESIS: EFFECT OF CONCOMITANT SUPPLEMENTATION WITH YHK

Group	DEN	DEN + YHK 50mg/kg/day
No./cm <sup>2</sup>	12 ± 4	6 ± 3 *
Mean area (mm <sup>2</sup> )	0.32 ± 0.04	0.25 ± 0.03 *
No./cm <sup>3</sup>	2012 ± 133	1545 ± 109 *
Mean vol. (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.17 ± 0.03	0.14 ± 0.02 *
Foci/tissue %	28.2 ± 2.5	21.7 ± 2.1 *

\* p<0.01 vs DEN-only treated rats



# Western blotting and Northern blot hybridization of **GST-P mRNA** in the liver: effect of YHK



# INCIDENCE, NUMBER, SIZE AND VOLUME OF DEN-INDUCED HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA: EFFECT OF CONCOMITANT SUPPLEMENTATION WITH YHK

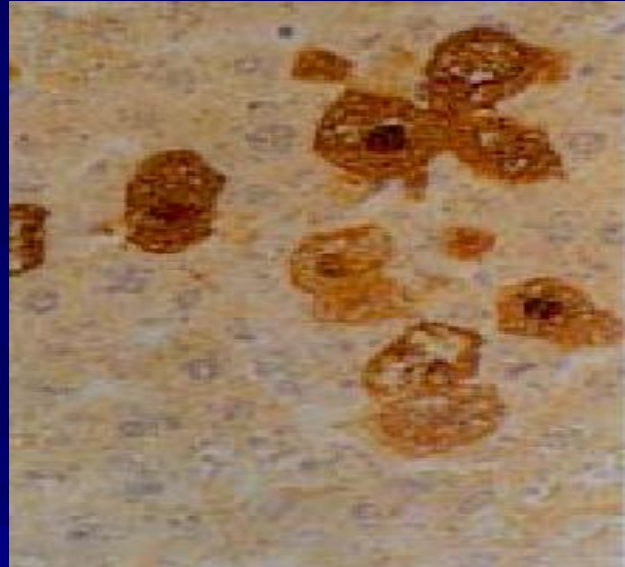
Group	DEN	DEN + YHK 50mg/kg/d
No. of rats with HCC (%)	96 ± 4	71 ± 4 *
Mean area (mm <sup>2</sup> )	1.40 ± 0.47	0.17 ± 0.09 * *
No./cm <sup>3</sup>	1.3 ± 0.3	0.8 ± 0.2 *
Mean volume (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.79 ± 0.28	0.02 ± 0.01 * *
HCC/tissue %	0.7 ± 0.2	0.2 ± 0.1 *

\* p<0.01 vs DEN-only treated rats

DEN

DEN + YHK

Small-multiple  
GST-P Foci

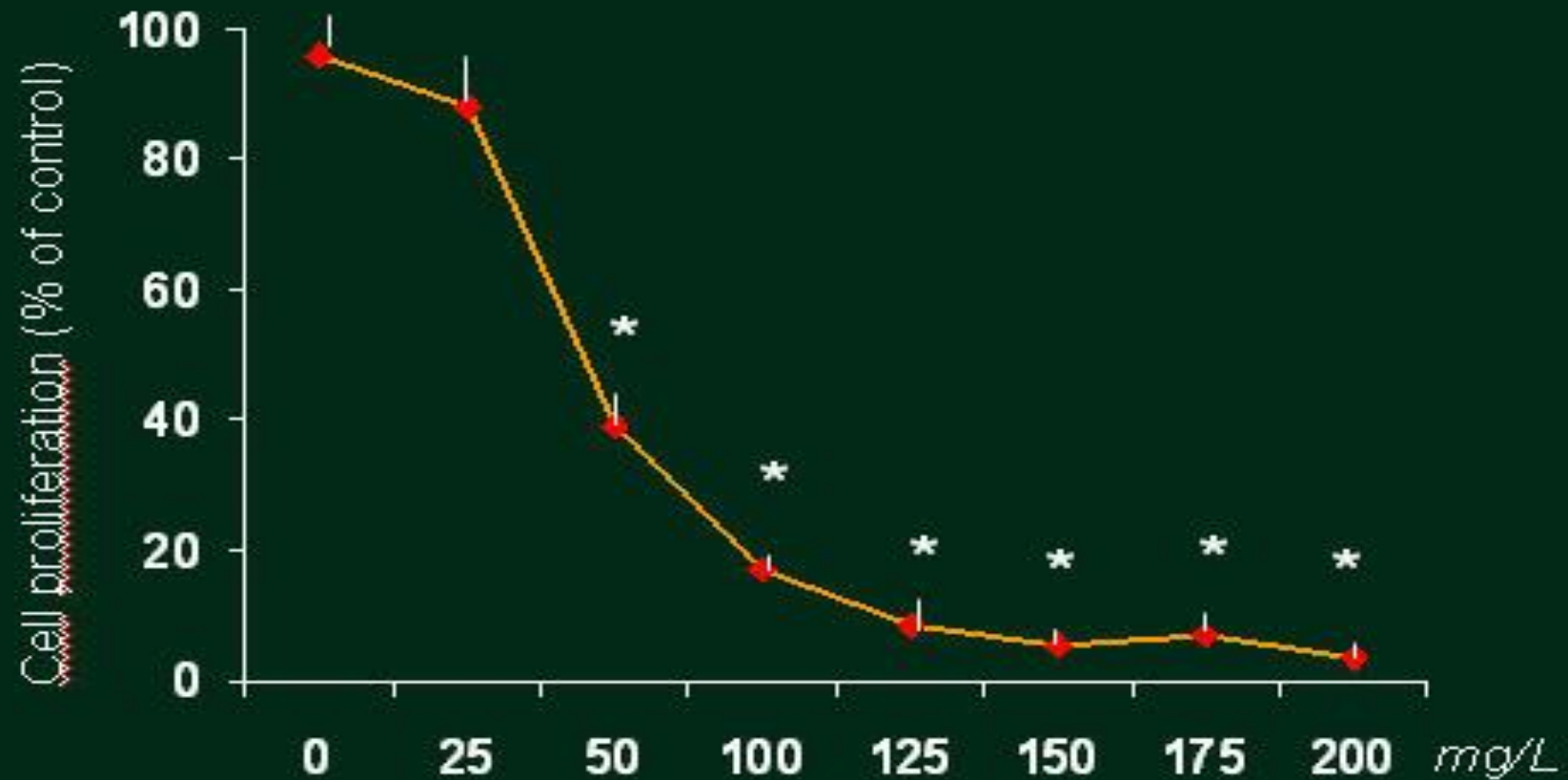


Large GST-P Foci

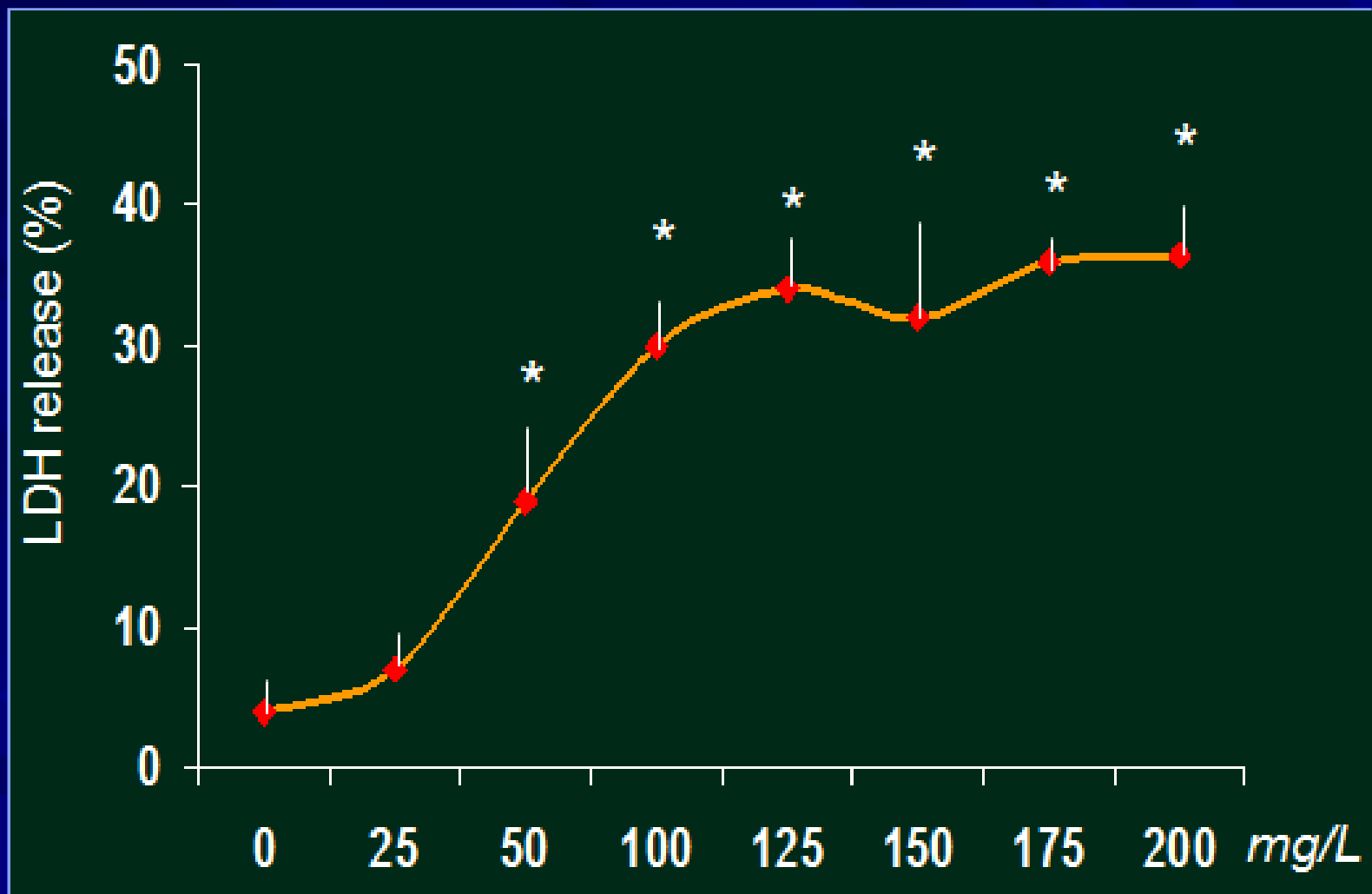


# ***IS THERE ANY ROLE FOR SUPPORTIVE NUTRACEUTICALS IN HCC?***

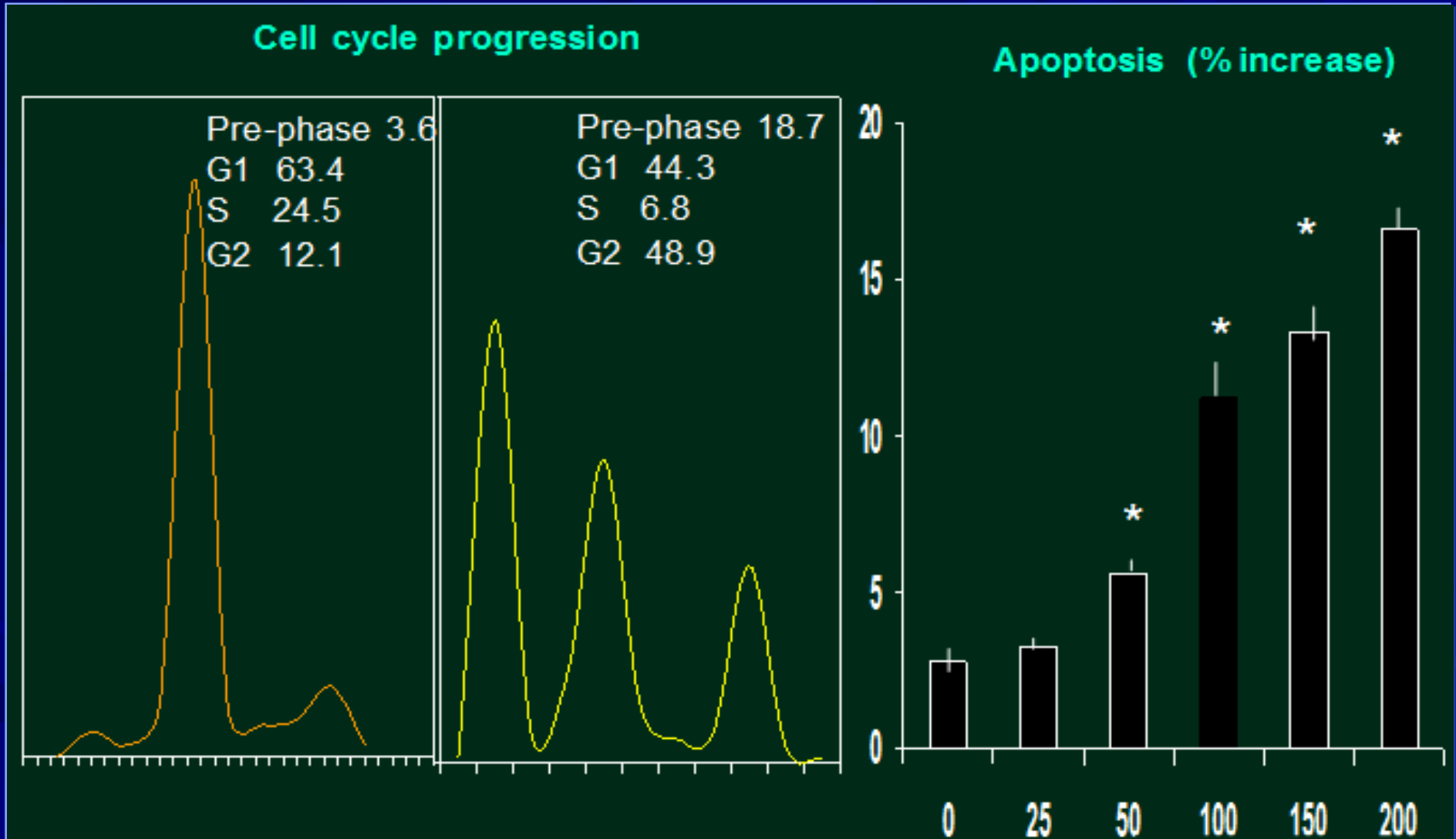
## Effect of YHK on HepG2 cell proliferation



## Effect of YHK on cell cytotoxicity in HepG2 cells



# Effect of YHK on Cell cycle and apoptosis of HepG2 cells





# A pilot clinical study of YHK in *HCV-related CLD*

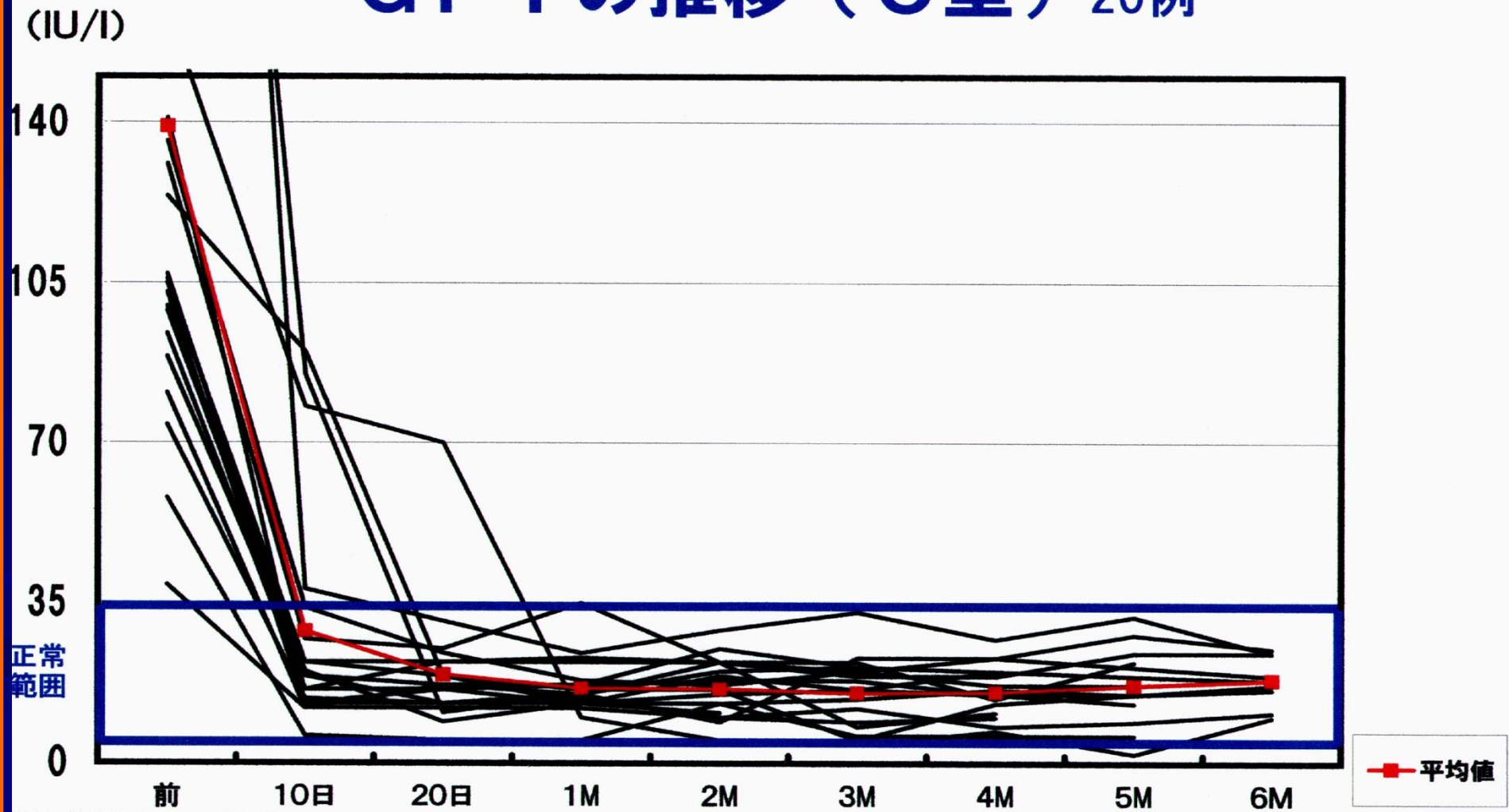
Prize-Winner  
JSH 2002

## BIOPSY ASSESSMENT

Fibrosis score	Necro-Inflamm. score	Outcome
F <sub>1</sub> → F <sub>0-1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub> → A <sub>0</sub>	<i>improved</i>
F <sub>2</sub> → F <sub>0-1</sub>	A <sub>3</sub> → A <sub>2</sub>	<i>improved</i>
F <sub>1</sub> → F <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub> → A <sub>2</sub>	<i>no change</i>
F <sub>0</sub> → F <sub>0</sub>	A <sub>2</sub> → A <sub>0-1</sub>	<i>improved</i>
F <sub>2</sub> → F <sub>3</sub>	A <sub>2</sub> → A <sub>2</sub>	<i>progression</i>
F <sub>1-2</sub> → F <sub>1-1</sub>	A <sub>3</sub> → A <sub>1-2</sub>	<i>improved</i>

# A pilot clinical study of **YHK** in *HCV-related CLD*

## GPTの推移（C型）20例



❑ 1: [Liver Int.](#) 2007 Mar;27(2):227-34.

Yo jyo hen shi ko, a novel Chinese herbal, prevents nonalcoholic steatohepatitis in ob/ob mice fed a high fat or methionine-choline-deficient diet.

[de Lima VM](#), [de Oliveira CP](#), [Sawada LY](#), [Barbeiro HV](#), [de Mello ES](#), [Soriano FG](#), [Alves VA](#), [Caldwell SH](#), [Carrilho FJ](#).

Department of Gastroenterology (LIM 07), University of São Paulo School of Medicine, São Paulo, Brazil.

❑ 1: [Dig Dis Sci.](#) 2006 Jul;51(7):1183-9.

Yo Jyo Hen Shi Ko (YHK) improves transaminases in nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH): a randomized pilot study.

[Chande N](#), [Laidlaw M](#), [Adams P](#), [Marotta P](#).

# Factors Affecting HCC Risk

- Active disease

  - **Elevated ALT**

- Persistently elevated AFP

- Low platelet count

- HBV DNA level

- Histologic changes

  - Dysplasia

  - Geographic morphologic changes

  - PCNA positive

- Use of TIPS (?)

Beasley RP, et al. Lancet. 1981. Degos F, et al. Gut. 2000. Oka H, et al. Hepatology. 1994. Zhang JY, et al. Am J Trop Med Hyg. 1998. Colombo M, et al. N Engl J Med. 1991. Ganne-Carrie N, et al. Hepatology. 1996; Lee RG, et al. Hepatology. 1997. Chen CJ, et al. JAMA. 2006.



# Cirrhosis (Non-HBV) Suitable for HCC Surveillance\*

- **Hepatitis C**
  - Incidence of HCC ~ 2% to 8% per year
- **Primary biliary cirrhosis**
- **Alcoholic cirrhosis**
- **Genetic hemochromatosis**
- **Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis**
- ? Alpha1-antitrypsin deficiency
- ? Autoimmune hepatitis
- ? Cryptogenic cirrhosis

\*Populations with an annual HCC incidence of  $\geq 1.5\%$ .

# Drug Development is NOT Easy

**Clinical Trials – Timeline for new drug development**

	Preclinical Testing	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	FDA	Total Years	Phase IV
<b>Years</b>	3.5	1	2	3	2.5	12	Post-marketing
<b>Test Population</b>	Laboratory & animal studies	20 to 80 healthy volunteers	100 to 300 patient volunteers	1000 to 3000 patient volunteers	Review process/ Approval		
<b>Purpose</b>	Assess safety and biological activity	Determine safety and dosage	Evaluate effectiveness, look for side effects	Verify effectiveness, monitor adverse reactions from long-term use			



# HCV Drugs in Development

(as of April 21st, 2009)

- 23 drugs against HCV targets:
  - 12 targeting NS3/4a protease
  - 8 targeting NS5B polymerase
  - 2 targeting NS5A
  - 1 entry inhibitor
- 15 general drugs:
  - 6 against cellular targets: cyclophilin, miRNAs, caspases, glucosidase, phospholipids
  - 9 Immunomodulators (stimulators/inhibitors): TLR9 agonists, A3AR agonists, anti-inflammatory, anti-fibrotic
- 6 Interferons:
  - IL-29, oral IFN, albuferon, consensus IFN
- 6 vaccines
- 4 liver cancer drugs
- 42 studies cancelled

# Risks of CAM

- Indirect risks
  - Delay/avoidance of effective treatment
- Direct health risks
  - Toxic reactions
  - Pharmacologic effects
  - Mutagenic effects
  - Drug interactions
  - Contamination
  - Substitutions or adulteration of ingredients

# Hidden risks: Ginger

- Beneficial for nausea
- Be careful if you have gallstones
- Can worsen blood clotting!

# Herbals supplements implicated in causing hepatotoxicity

---

- *Atractylis gummifera*
- Black cohosh
- *Callilepis laureola*
- Chaparral

## Chinese herbal medicines

- Chaso and Onshido
- Sho (Do)-saiko-to
- Jin Bu Huan
- Ma huang
- Shou-wa-pian

- Comfrey/pyrrolizidine alkaloids
- Germander
- Greater celandine
- Kava
- Mistletoe
- Pennyroyal
- Skullcap and valerian
- Centella Asiatica
- Red yeast

# Common Chinese Herbs with potentially liver-toxic substances

- An Gong Niu Huang Wan
- Bi Tong Pian
- Bi Yan Pian
- Dendrobium Moniliforme
- Farfunoeiminkam Wan
- Gan Mao Ling
- High Strength Yin Cheng
- Huang Lien Shang Ching Pian
- Ma Hsing Zhe Ke Pian
- Marguerite Acne Pills
- Aconite or aconitum
- Acorus
- Comfrey
- Crotalaria
- Eupatorium
- Germander
- Groundsel
- Heliotropium
- Jin Bu Huan
- Mentha pulegium
- **Mistletoe**
- Pennyroyal oil
- Hedeoma pulegoides
- Sassafras
- Senicio species
- **Senna**
- Sophora
- Night Sight Pills
- Niu Huang Chiang Ya Wan
- Pe Min Kan Wan
- Da Huo Luo Wan
- Shen Ling Bai Zhu Pian
- Ta Huo Lo Tan
- Tsai Tsao Wan
- Yin Chiao Chieh Tu Pian
- Zhi Sou Ding Chuam Wan
- Zhong Gan Ling
- Amanita mushroom
- Chaparrel

**In general, combination ingredient supplements are more likely to cause serious adverse events than single ingredient supplements!**



# CAM Can Be Beneficial in HCV

- 40% use in liver patients suggests benefit
- Preliminary data promising
- Need more scientific data
  - May **ameliorate side effects** of conventional therapy
  - Use in those **in whom therapy is contraindicated**
  - Use in **cirrhotics**
  - Use in **non-responders**
  - Potential **synergy** with conventional therapy
  - Bridge pending advances in conventional therapy

# How Do We Counsel Patients Using Alternative Therapies?

- Consider what motivates patients to pursue alternative therapy
  - Educate patients concerning natural history of HCV infection and improving treatment options
- Obtain a thorough history of alternative treatments
- Discuss limited information on efficacy, safety, and potential risks of therapy
- Safe alternative agents are often beneficial for symptoms

# Treatment Options for Hepatitis C

## Western (Allopathic) Medicine Hepatitis C Specialist

Pegylated  
interferon/ribavirin  
or  
Experimental protocols

## Integrated Medicine Hepatitis C Specialist

Western therapy and  
complementary and  
alternative medicine

## Complementary and Alternative Medicine Hepatitis C Specialist

*Combination of all/some:*

- Ayurvedic medicine
- Chinese herbs and acupuncture
- Homeopathy
- Mind:body medicine
- Naturopathic treatments
- Nutrition and lifestyle

**Relapse or non-responder: Try retreatment or use supportive care while waiting for new options. Continue healthcare provider follow-up on a regular basis.**

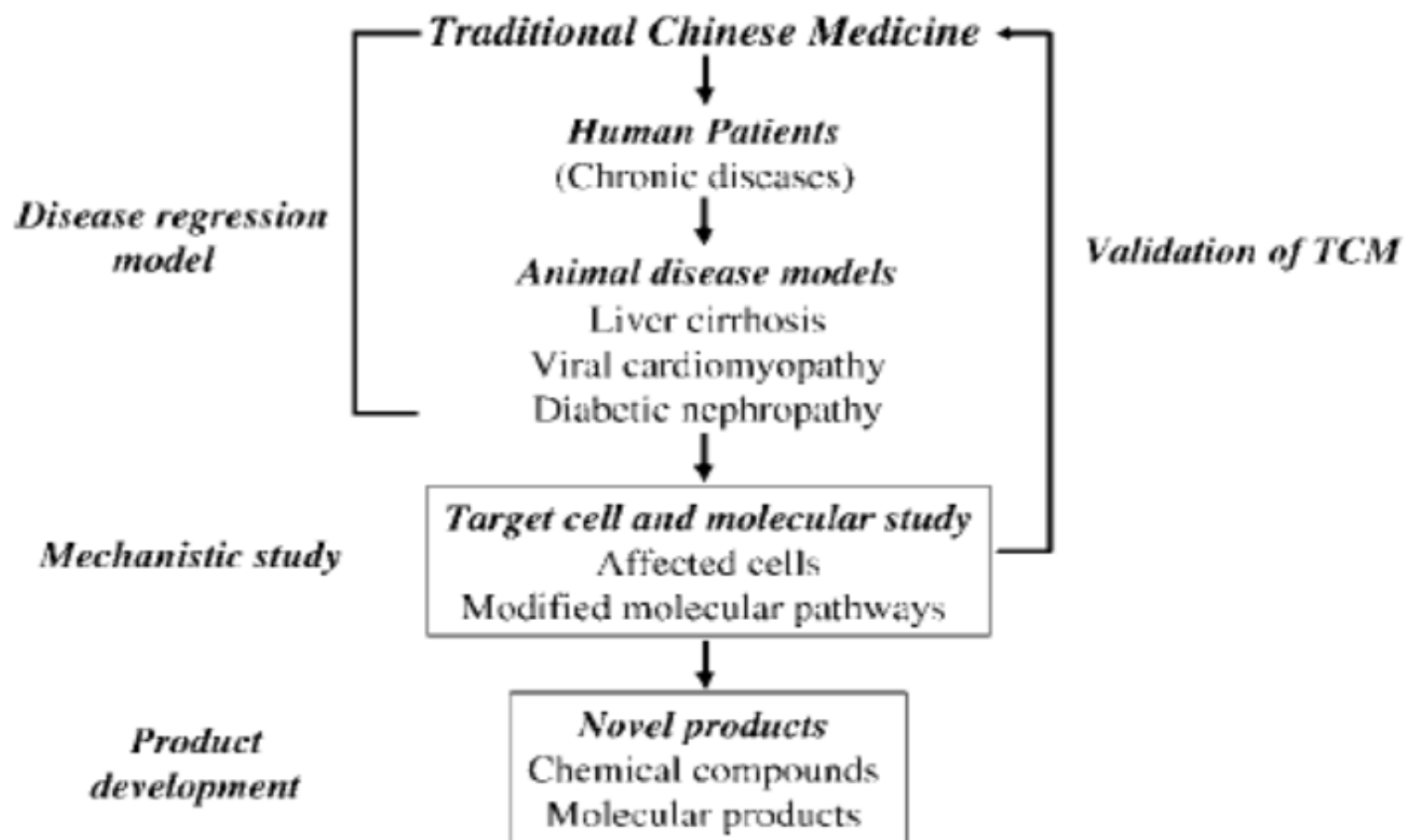
## No treatment or self-treatment

*Discuss possible implications with your hepatitis C specialist/healthcare provider.  
Understand your risks of cirrhosis or liver cancer.*

# Herbogenomics: From Traditional Chinese Medicine to Novel Therapeutics

*Experimental Biology and Medicine* 2008

## Novel Platform for TCM Analysis and Application



## ***Fermented Papaya Preparation: ≈15 years of Evidence-Based studies***

- **L. Packer's group -UCLA, USA**      **Life Sci 2000; 67:679-94**  
FFP is a potent macrophage activator increasing NO synthesis and TNF $\alpha$  secretion in vitro.  
hydroxyl scavenging and iron-chelating properties of FFP prevents oxidative damage to DNA and proteins.      **Anticancer Res 2000; 20:2907-14**
- **F. Marotta et al.**      **Digestion 1999; 60:538-543, Hepatogastroenterol 1997, 2000**
- FFP promotes an effective protection against ethanol-induced gastric mucosal damage and reduced ox stress and DNA damage in cirrhosis  
FFP reduced precancerous markers of GI lesions      **Ann NYAS 2004, 2006**
- **Luc Montagnier et al.** Immune-stimul. in imm-NR HIV (in process)
- **“Development of Life Living Guidance for Prevention of HIV Progression” Res. Project**      **Dept. of Health Japan, 1998**  
FFP enhanced CD8+ cell count in HIV pts. No side effects.



# ***Fermented Papaya Preparation*** (100g)

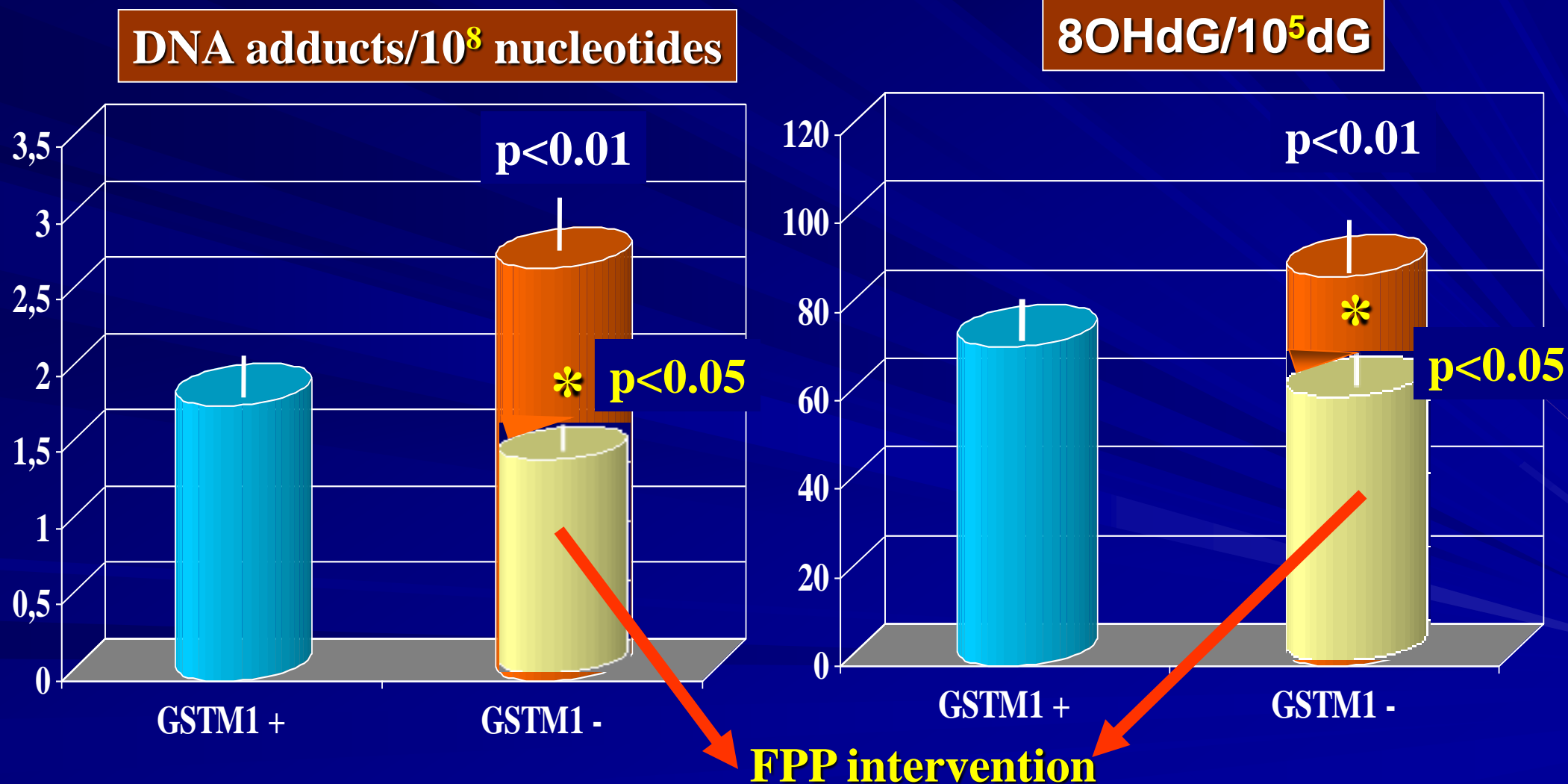
ISO 9001, ISO 14001 Japan Food Res. Lab., report n. 397100396-007

<b>CHD</b>	90.7g	<b>Phenylalanine</b>	11mg
<b>Moisture</b>	8.9g	<b>Tyrosine</b>	9mg
<b>Protein</b>	0.3g	<b>Leucine</b>	18mg
<b>Fat</b>	none	<b>Isoleucine</b>	9mg
<b>Folic acid</b>	2μg	<b>Methionine</b>	5mg
<b>Niacin</b>	0.24mg	<b>Valine</b>	13mg
<b>Lysine</b>	6mg	<b>Glycine</b>	11mg
<b>Histidine</b>	5mg	<b>Proline</b>	8mg
<b>Aspartic ac.</b>	27mg	<b>Tryptophan</b>	2mg
<b>Serine</b>	11mg	<b>Threonine</b>	8mg
<b>Arginine</b>	16mg	<b>Glutam.ac.</b>	37mg

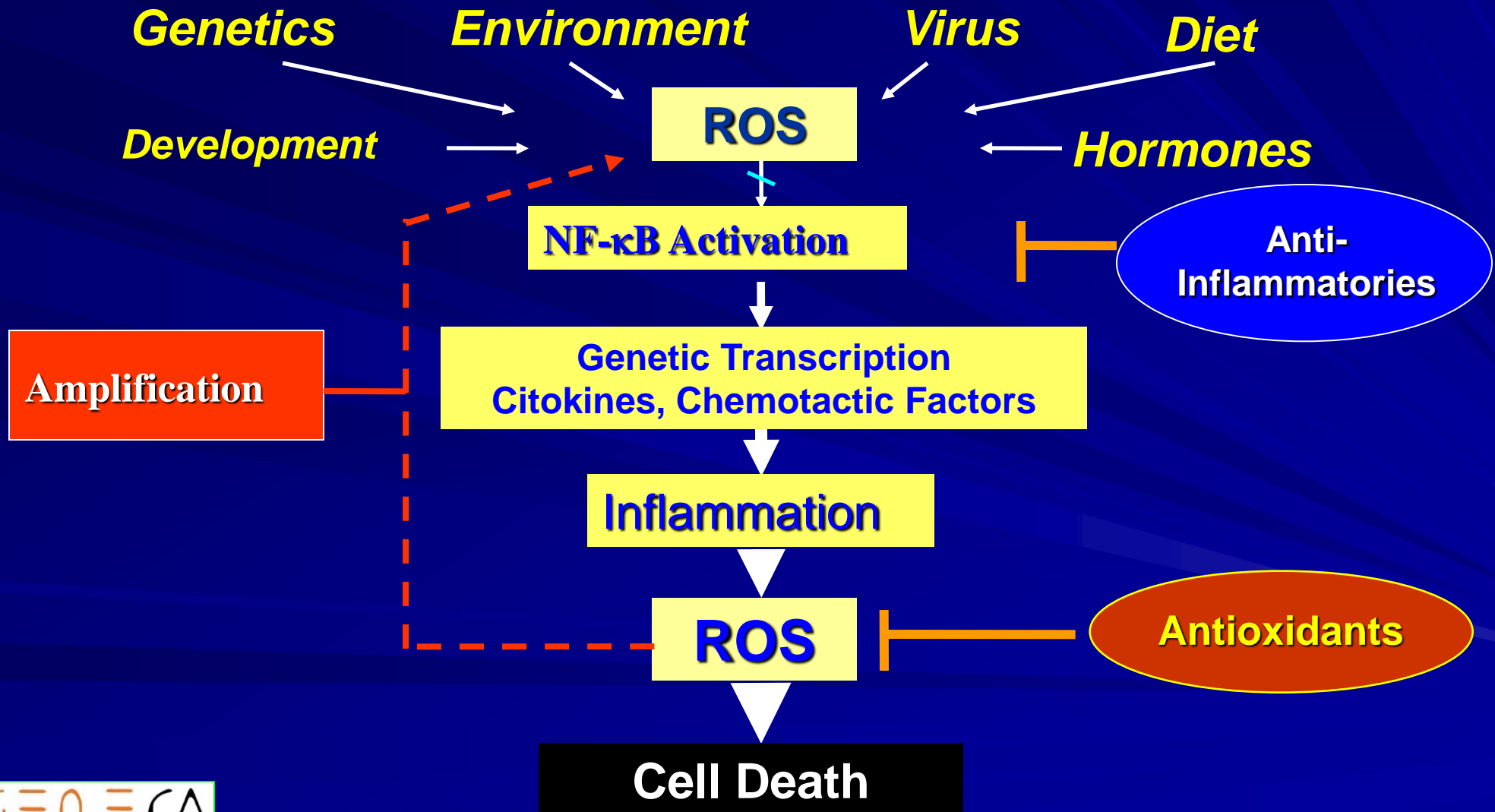
## SOME COMMON CONDITIONS WITH IMMUNE SYSTEM-LINKED INFLAMMATORY & OXIDATIVE STRESS PHENOMENA

- ❑ Aging per se
- ❑ Chronic Diseases (Liver, Diabetes, etc.)
- ❑ Relates stress
- ❑ Seasonal (*flu, COPD flare up*) stress

Nutraceutical supplementation: effect of a fermented papaya preparation on redox status and DNA damage in healthy elderly individuals and relationship with GSTM1 genotype: a randomized, placebo-controlled, cross-over study.

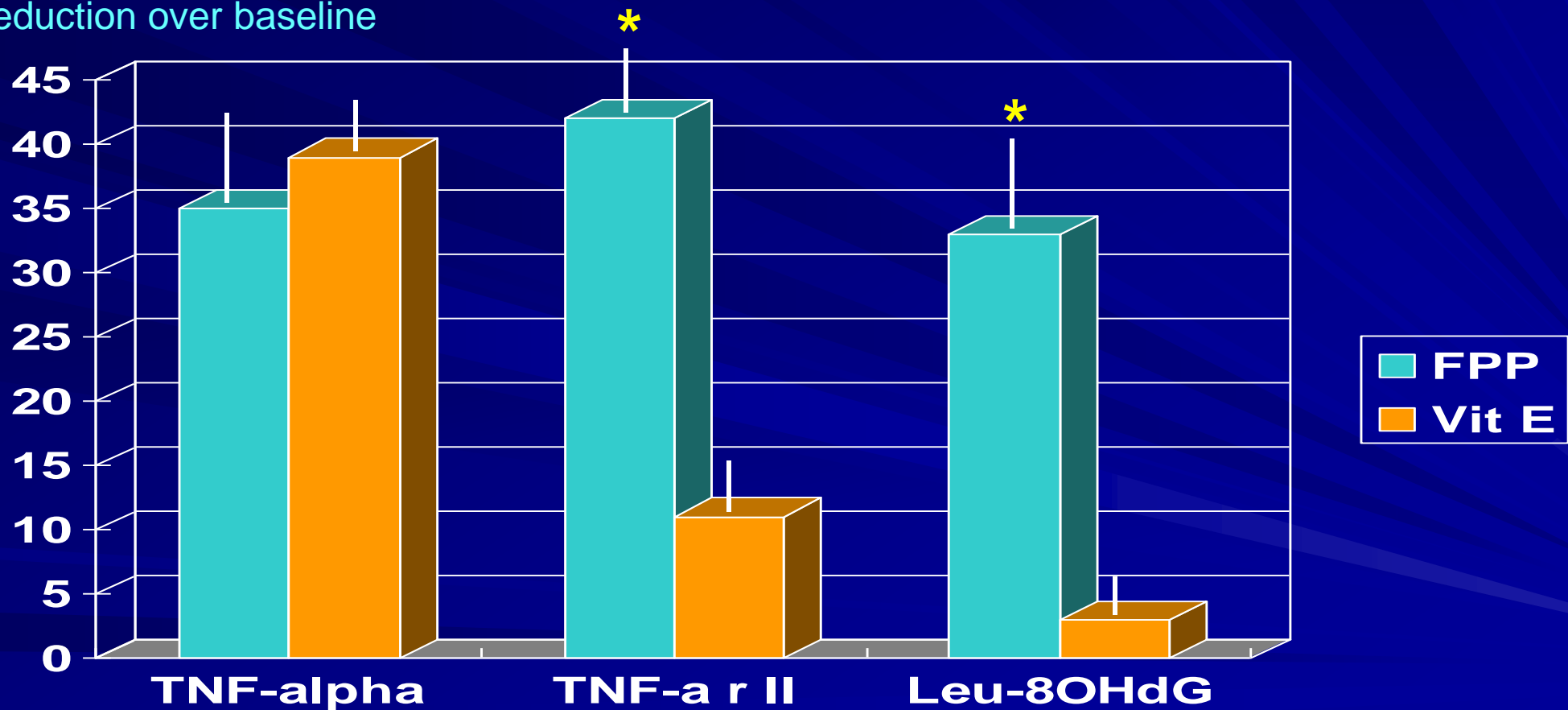


# Prevention of Chronic Diseases: the ox stress-inflammation network



## Modulating leukocyte DNA damage and cytokines by nutraceuticals in HCV-CLD: a fermented papaya preparation vs vitamin E

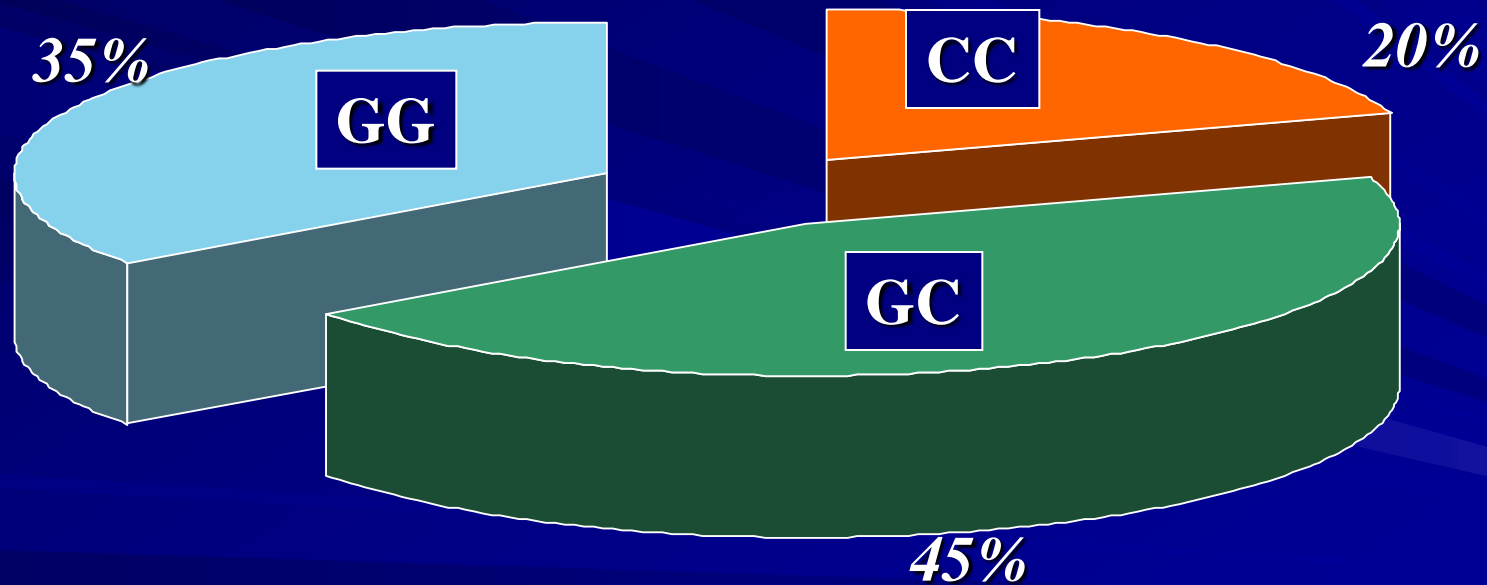
% reduction over baseline



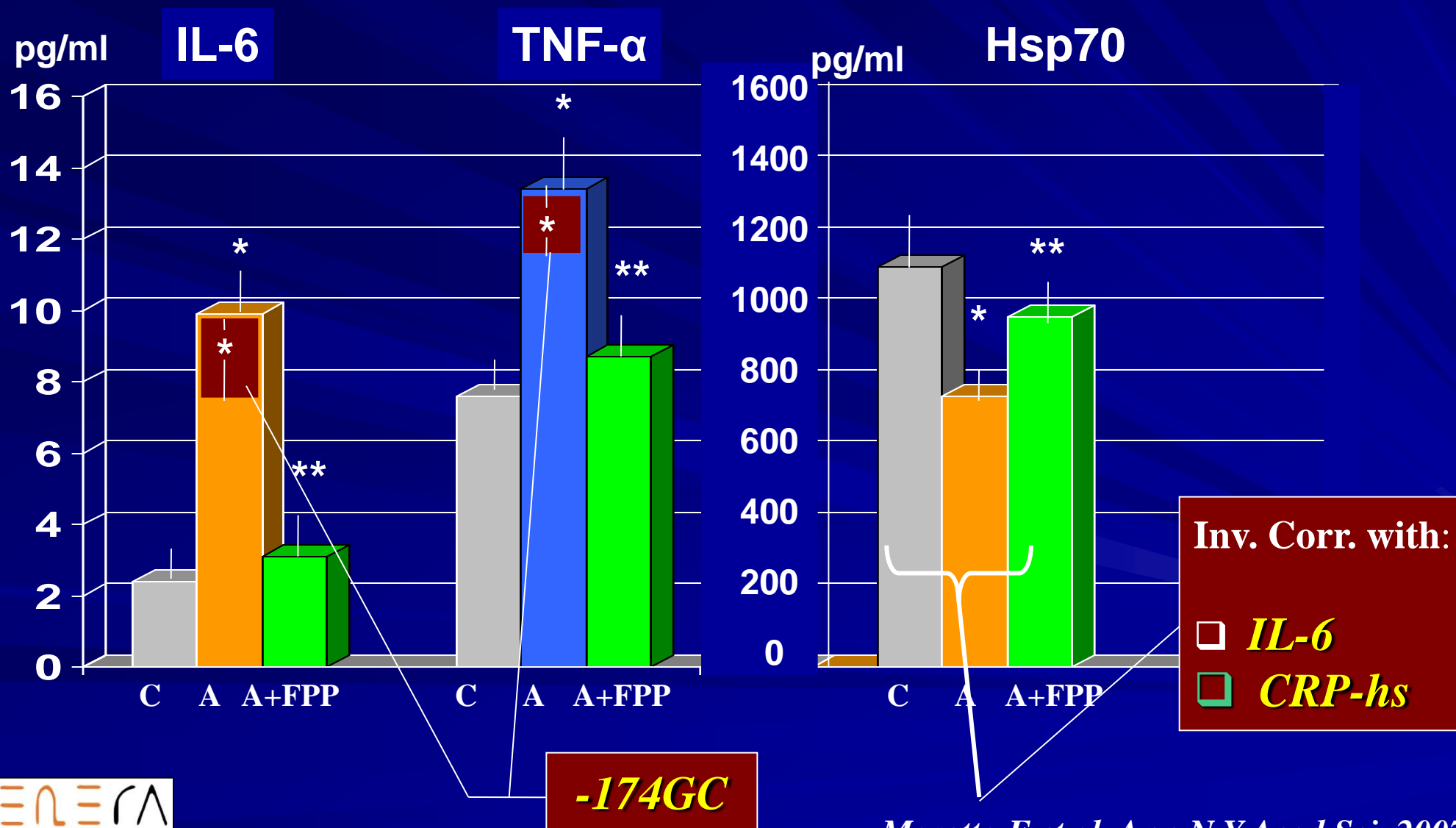
Marotta et al. J Gastroenterol Hepatol 2006



# Interleukin-6 Promoter Polymorphism Analysis

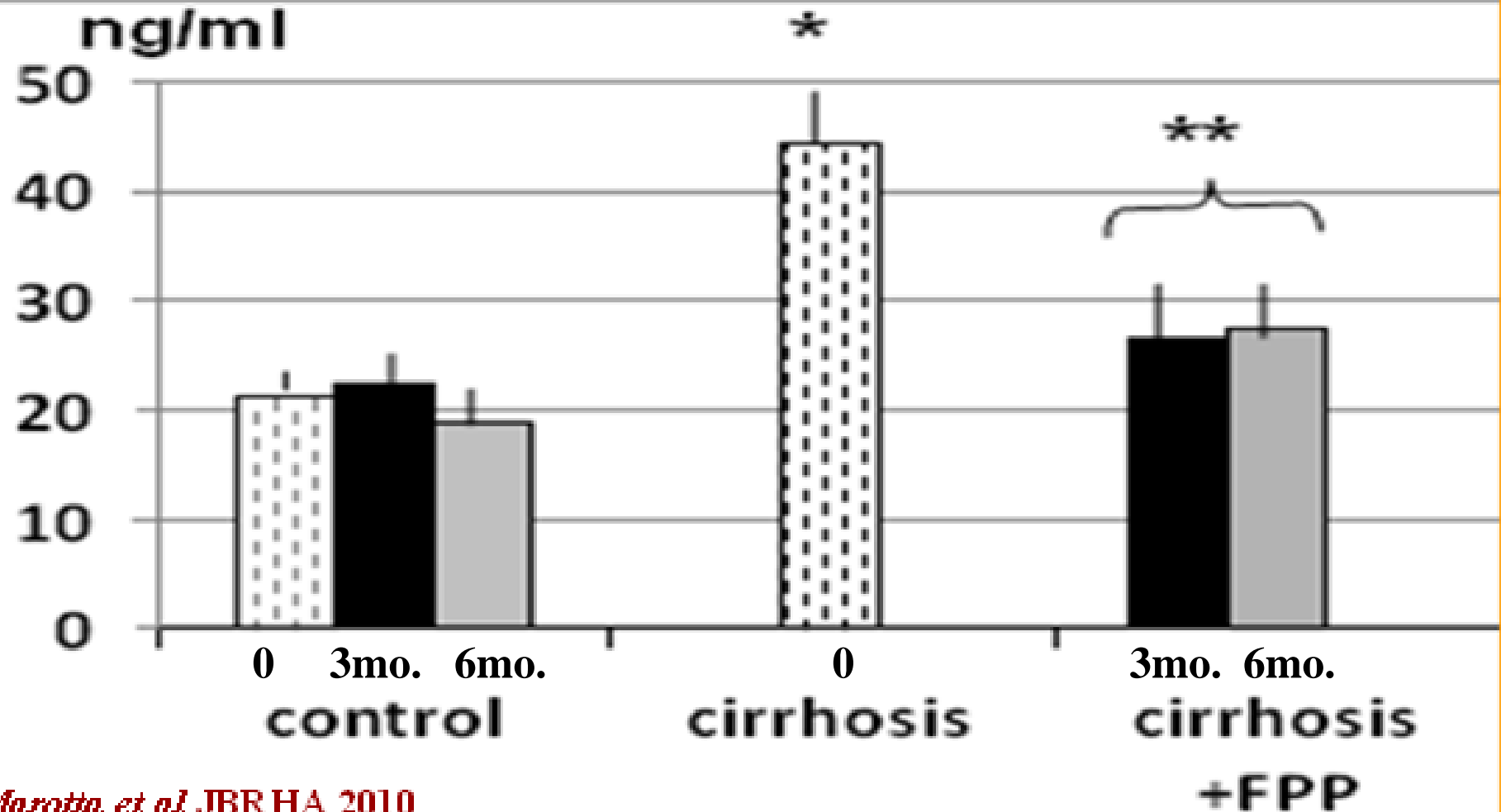


# Effect of FPP supplementation on IL-6, TNF- $\alpha$ and Hsp70 in elderly population



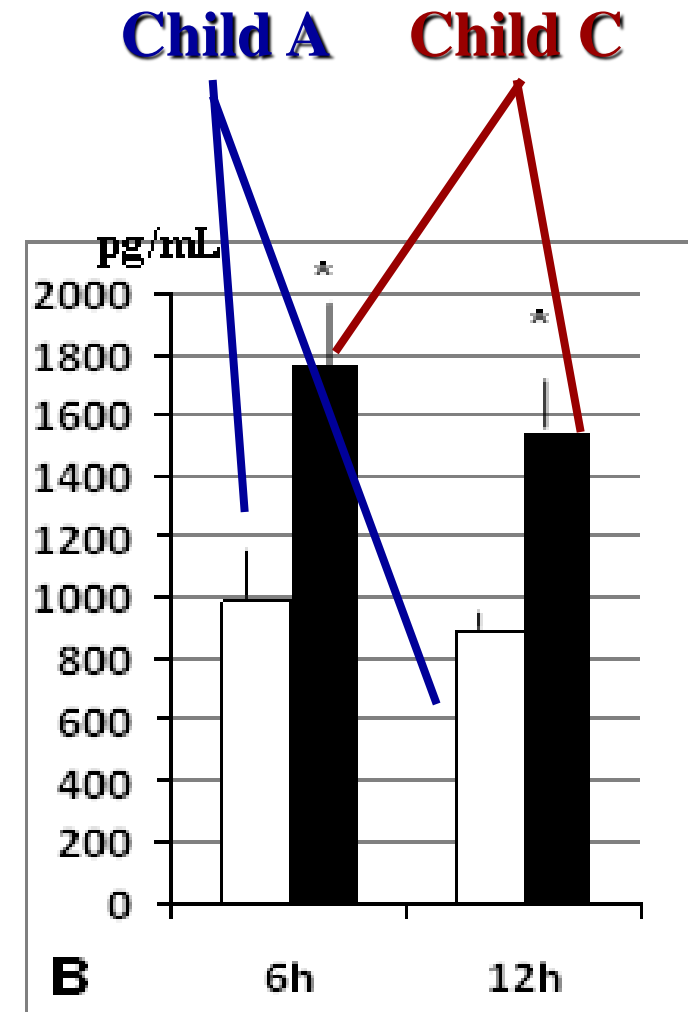
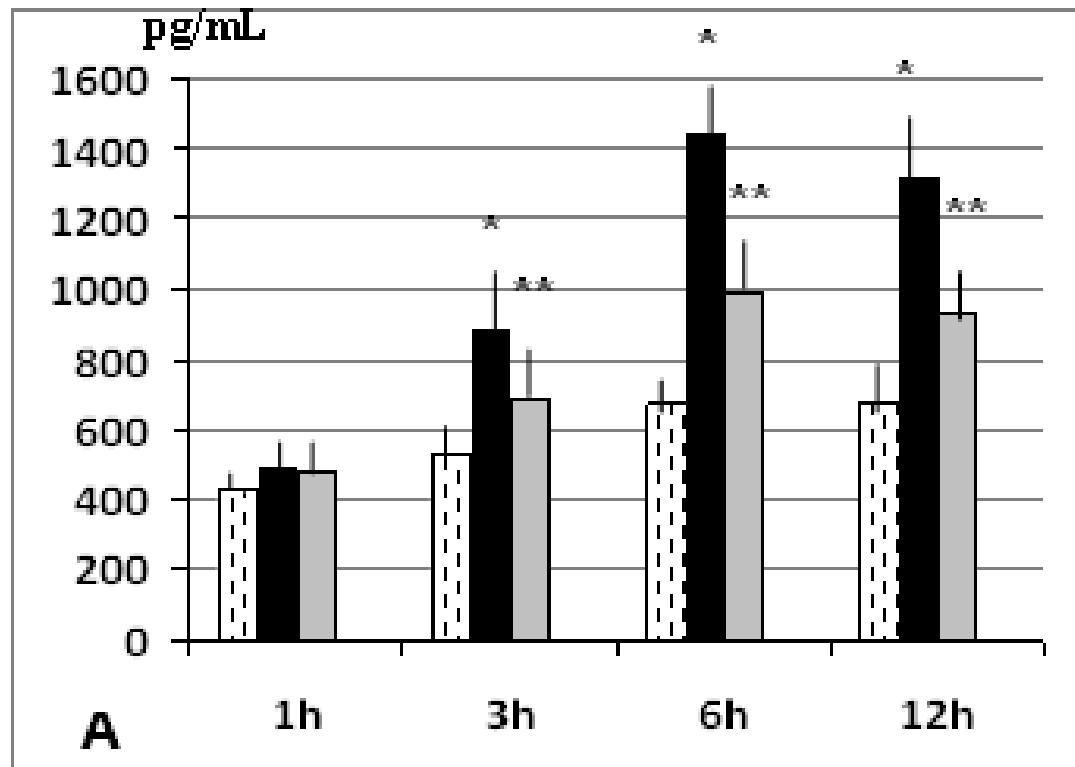
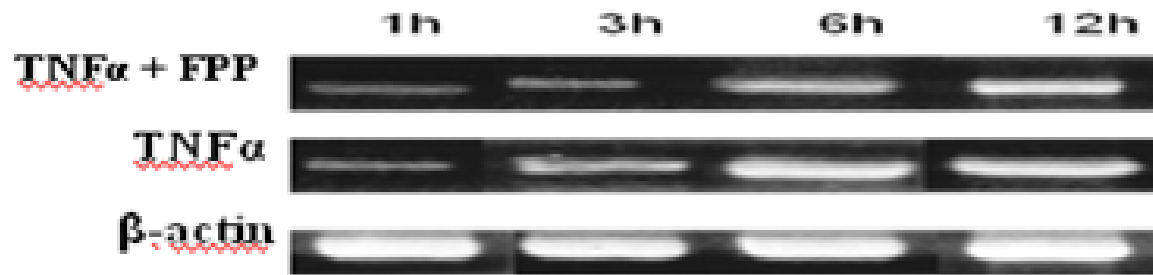
# EFFECT OF A FERMENTED NUTRACEUTICAL ON THIOREDOXIN LEVEL AND TNF- $\alpha$ SIGNALLING IN CIRRHOTIC PATIENTS

## Plasma Level of THIOREDOXIN



# EX-VIVO LPS-STIMULATION TEST OF TNF- $\alpha$ PRODUCTION FROM MONOCYTES: NUTRACEUTICAL MODULATION.

Marotta et al, JBRHA 2010



# Vitamin Supplements

## ■ Multivitamin without iron

- **Excess iron** increases inflammation in the liver
- Powder capsule formula is best for digestion
- Can sometimes make people nauseated: take with food

## ■ Fatty acids

- Decreases muscle aching and fibromyalgia symptoms
- Get refrigerated type to avoid rancidity



# Vitamin Supplements

- Avoid Vitamin A unless you have been documented to be deficient
- Calcium with vitamin D two-three times daily
- Vitamin E: 400-1200 IU per day
  - Can help cell-mediated immune function, skin problems, memory loss
- Vitamin C: improves the immune function
- Lactobacillus acidophilus: aids with digestion

# REDOX MODULATION IN OCCUPATIONAL STRESS : MODIFICATIONS BY NUTRACEUTICAL INTERVENTION

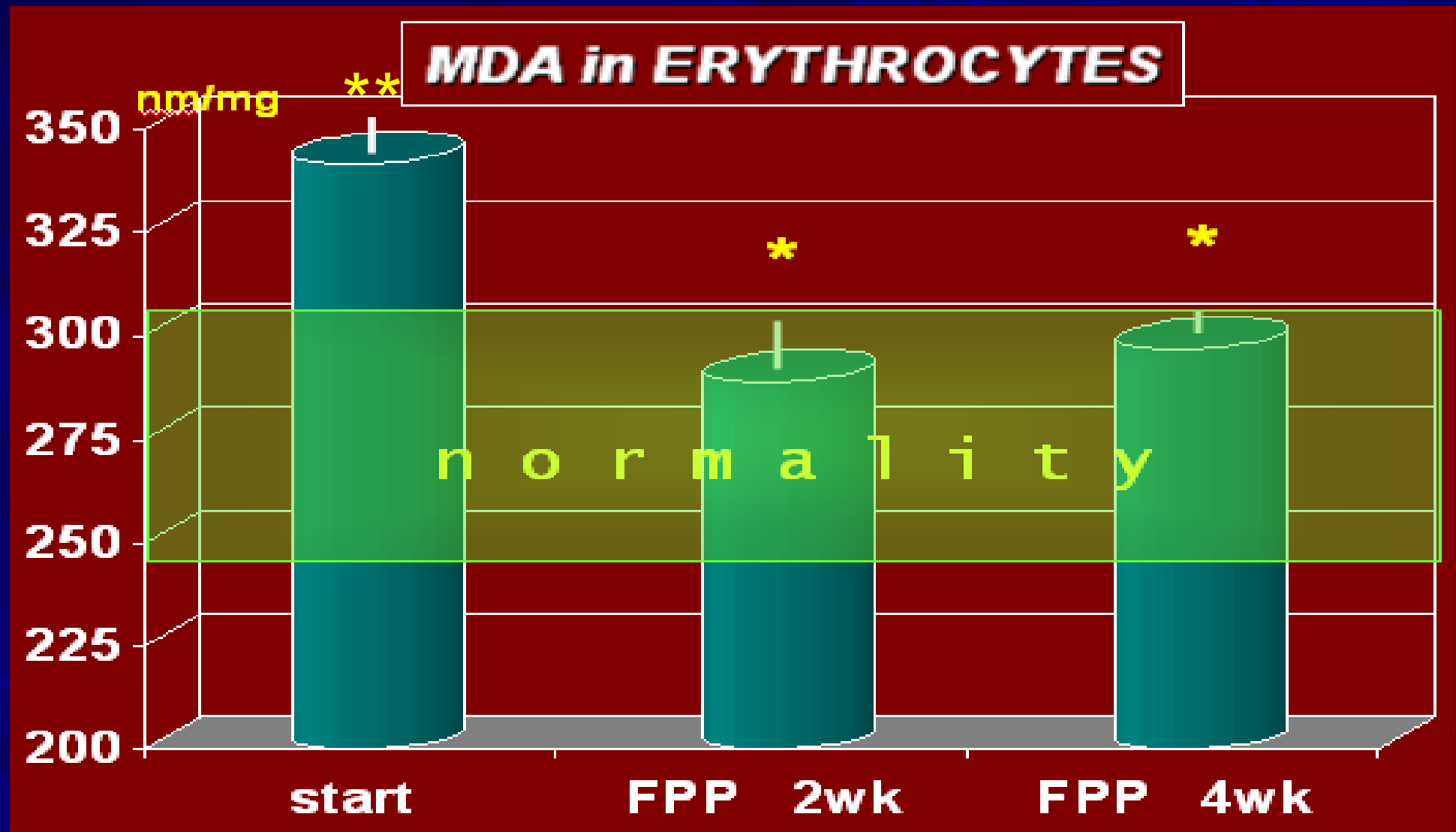
*Marotta et al, JBRHA 2010*

## Patients and Methods

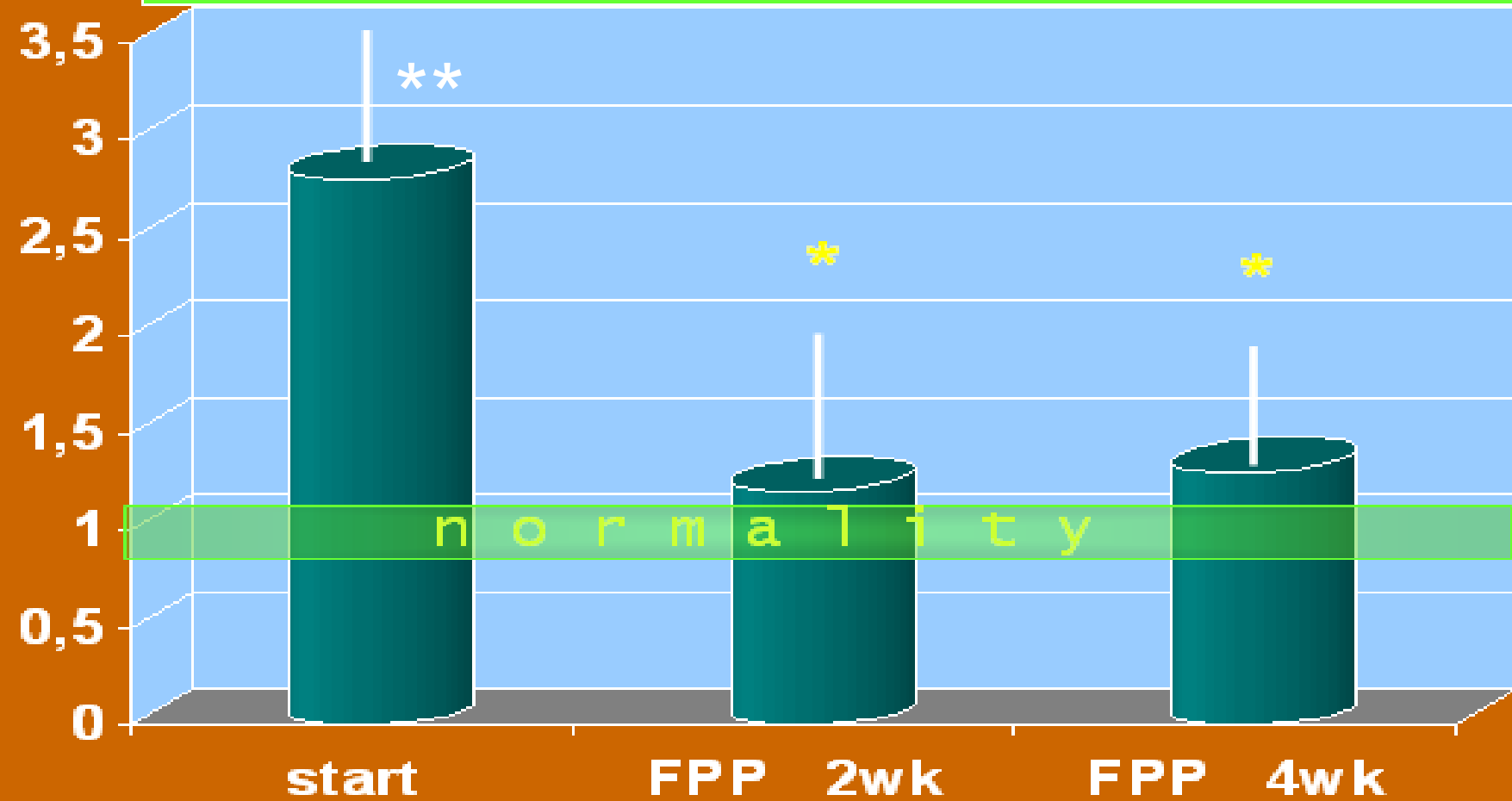
- A) 39 healthy subjects, sedentary, teetotaler or <20g/day, non-smoking,
- B) Stress questionnaire (State Trait Anxiety Inventory), Dr. Padrini's psycho-emotional questionnaire and Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index
- C) Dietary- and life-style questionnaire

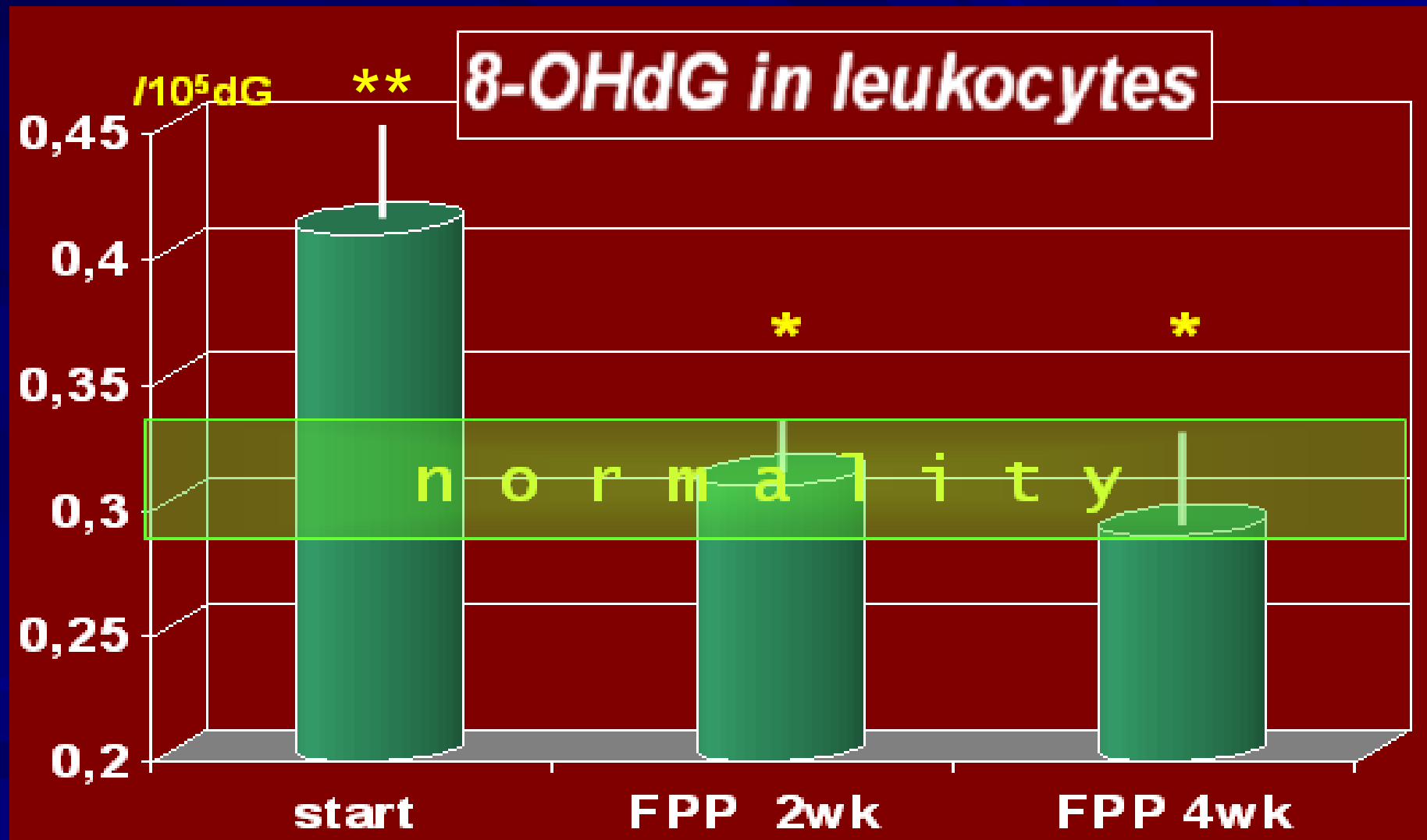
## Treatment and controls

- A) FPP (Osato Res. Inst., Gifu, Japan) **9g/day** (4.5g twice/day) for 1mo.
- B) Blood chemistry 2- and 4-wks afterwards



## Urinary Excretion of BOMs (relative values)

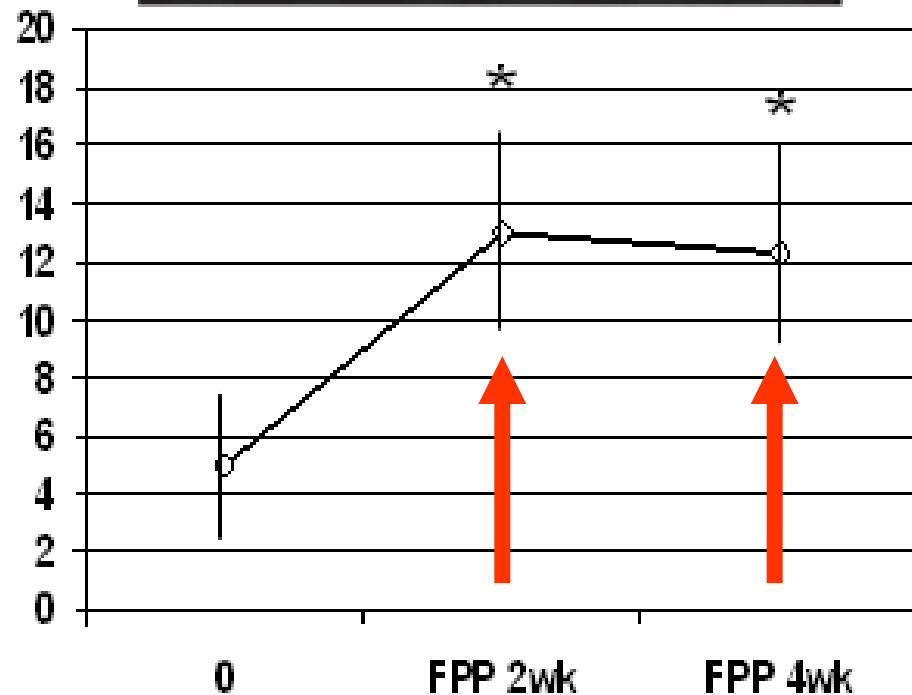




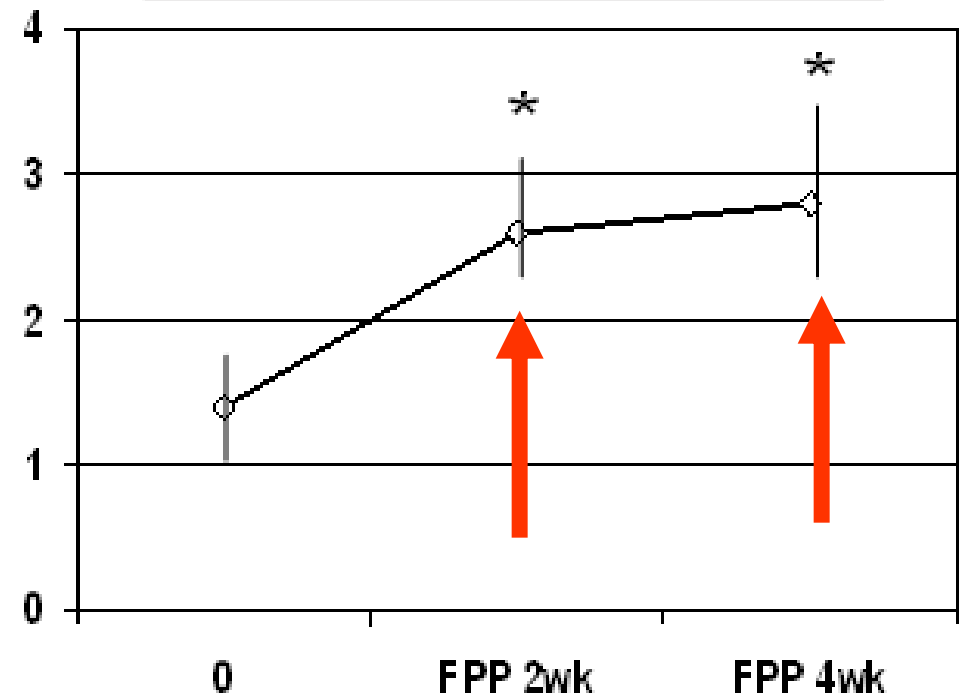
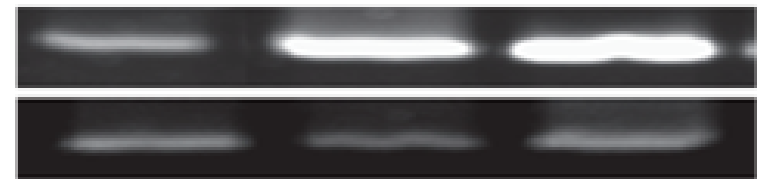


# CAN WE IMPROVE OUR ADAPTATIVE RESPONSE THROUGH “GOOD” GENES ACTIVATION?

HO-1 / GAPDH mRNA (AU)

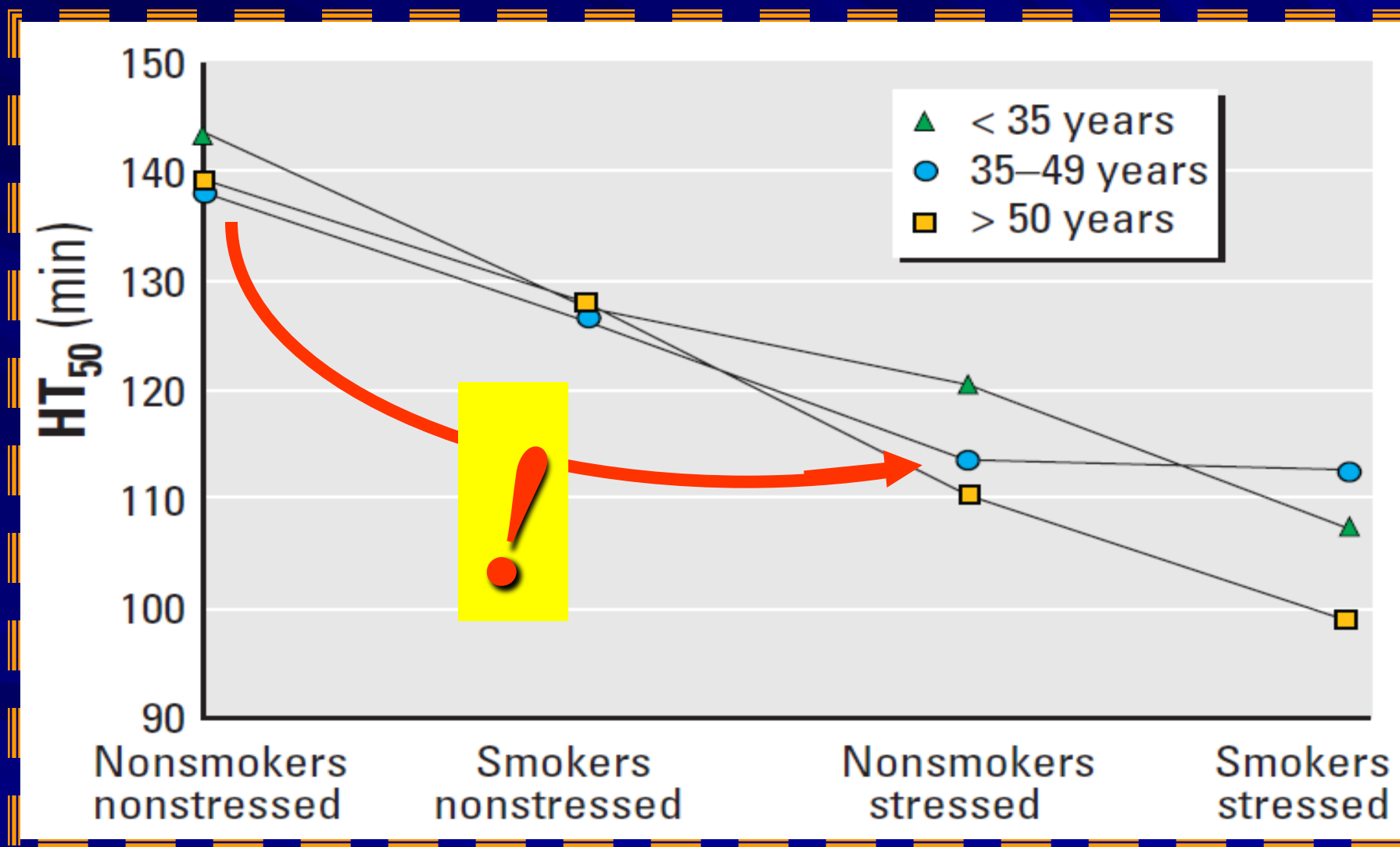


HO-1 / CD 14 mRNA (AU)

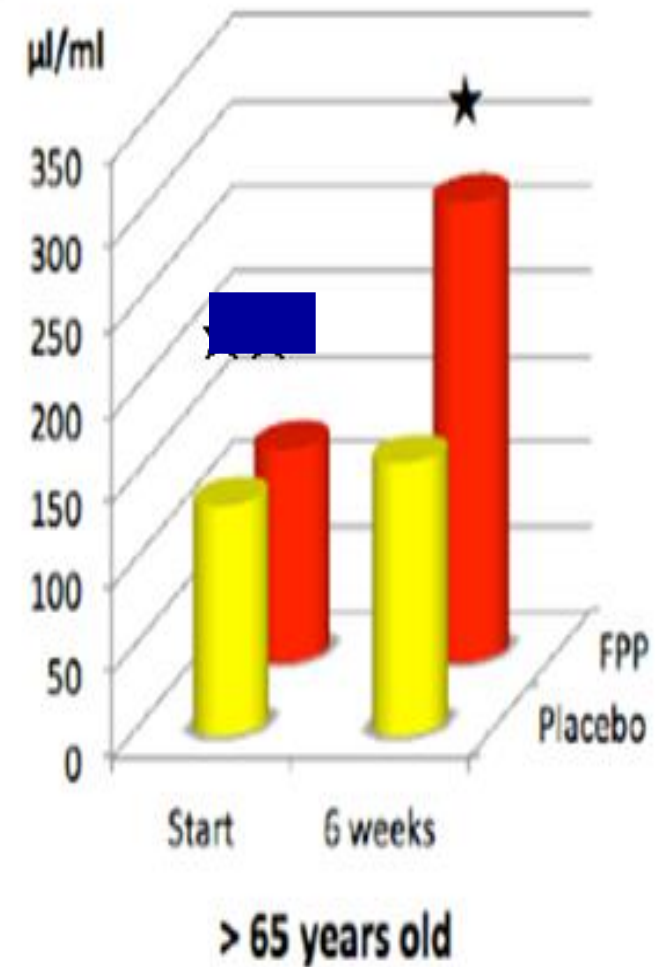
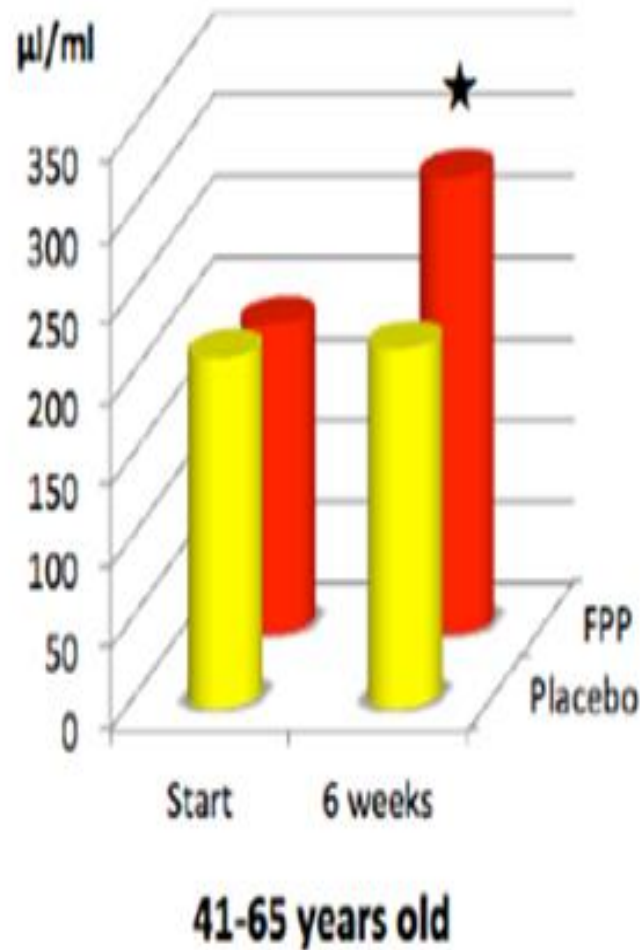
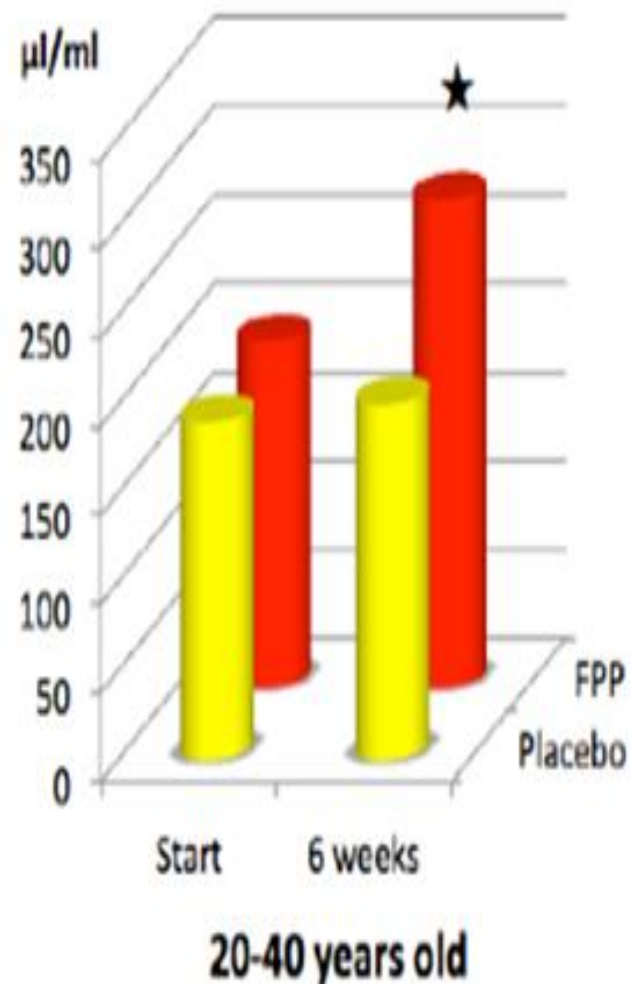


# Assessment of Lifestyle Effects on the Overall Antioxidant Capacity of Healthy Subjects

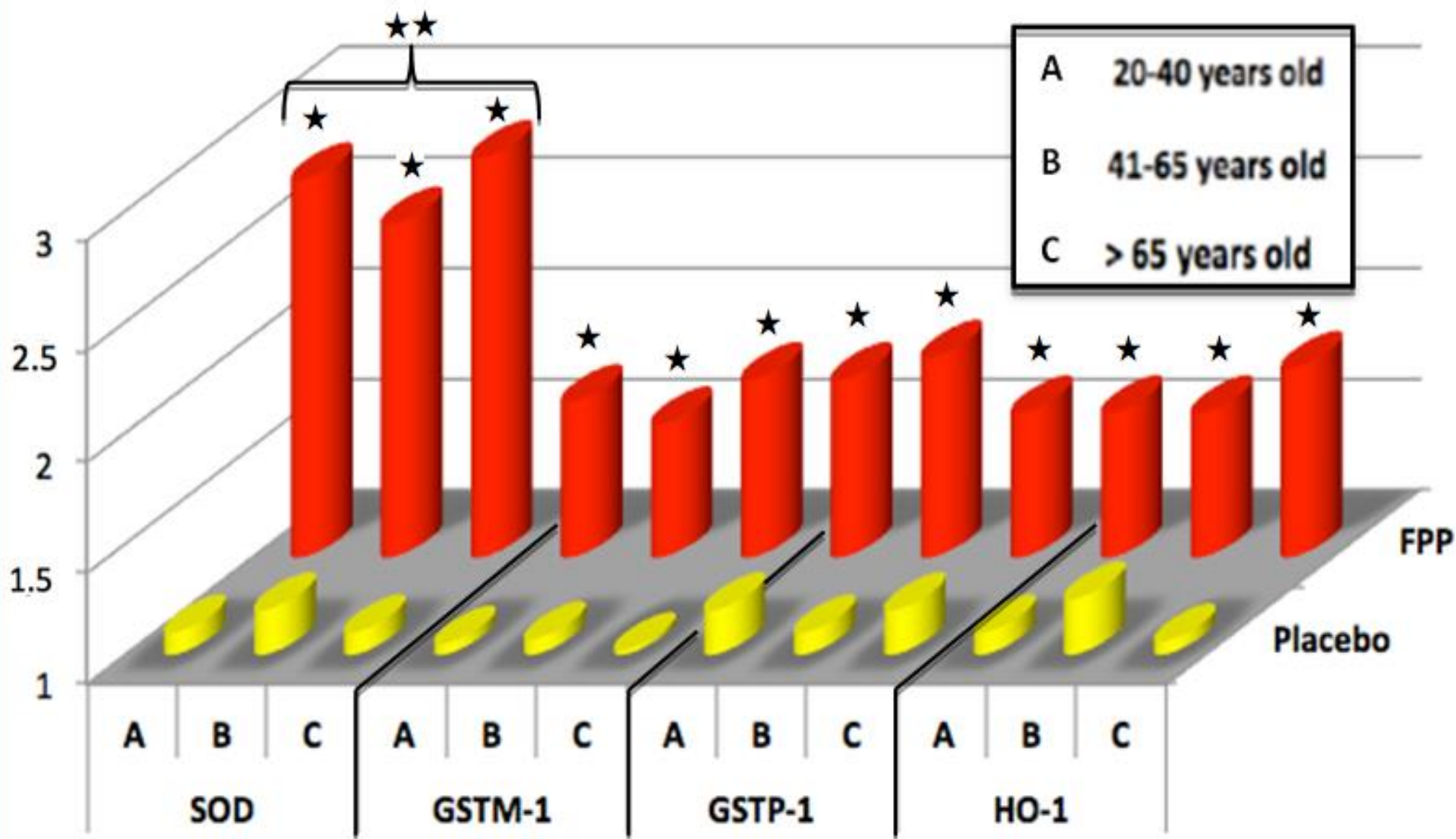
Jean-François Lesgards, *Environ Health Perspect* 110:479–487 (2002)



# **SALIVARY SECRETION OF IgA: *EFFECT OF FPP SUPPLEMENTATION IN DIFFERENT HEALTHY AGE GROUPS***



# Potenziation of **Phase II detoxification** and **Antioxidant Gene Expression** in epithelial cells from nasal lavage: *effect of FPP*



**Can Nutrition and Nutraceutical  
Supplementation affect  
gene expression of our genes?**





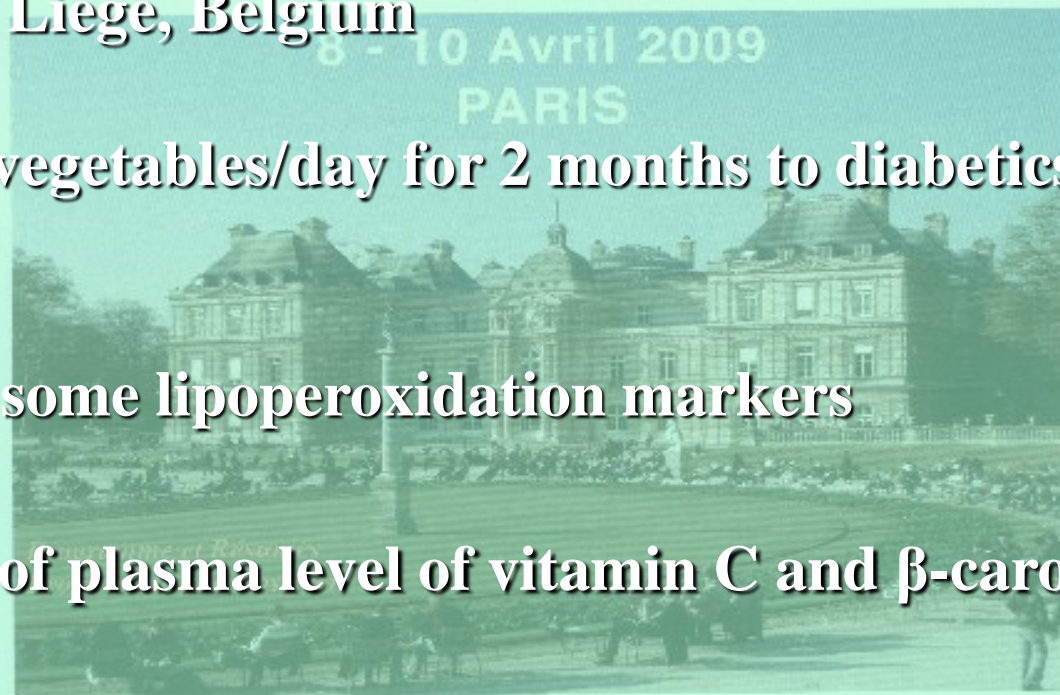
3<sup>ème</sup> Symposium International  
Nutrition, Biologie de l'Oxygène et Médecine  
*Nutrition, Oxygen Biology and Medicine*

*Pincemail J et al.* Dept. Cardiovascular Surgery, Diabetology,  
University of Liege, Belgium

600g of fruit & vegetables/day for 2 months to diabetics :

a) Reduction of some lipoperoxidation markers

b) **No variation** of plasma level of vitamin C and  $\beta$ -carotene !!



Campus des Cordeliers - 15 rue de l'École de Médecine - PARIS 6<sup>ème</sup>

SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE DE RECHERCHES SUR LES RADICAUX LIBRES  
OXYGEN CLUB OF CALIFORNIA - (OCC)



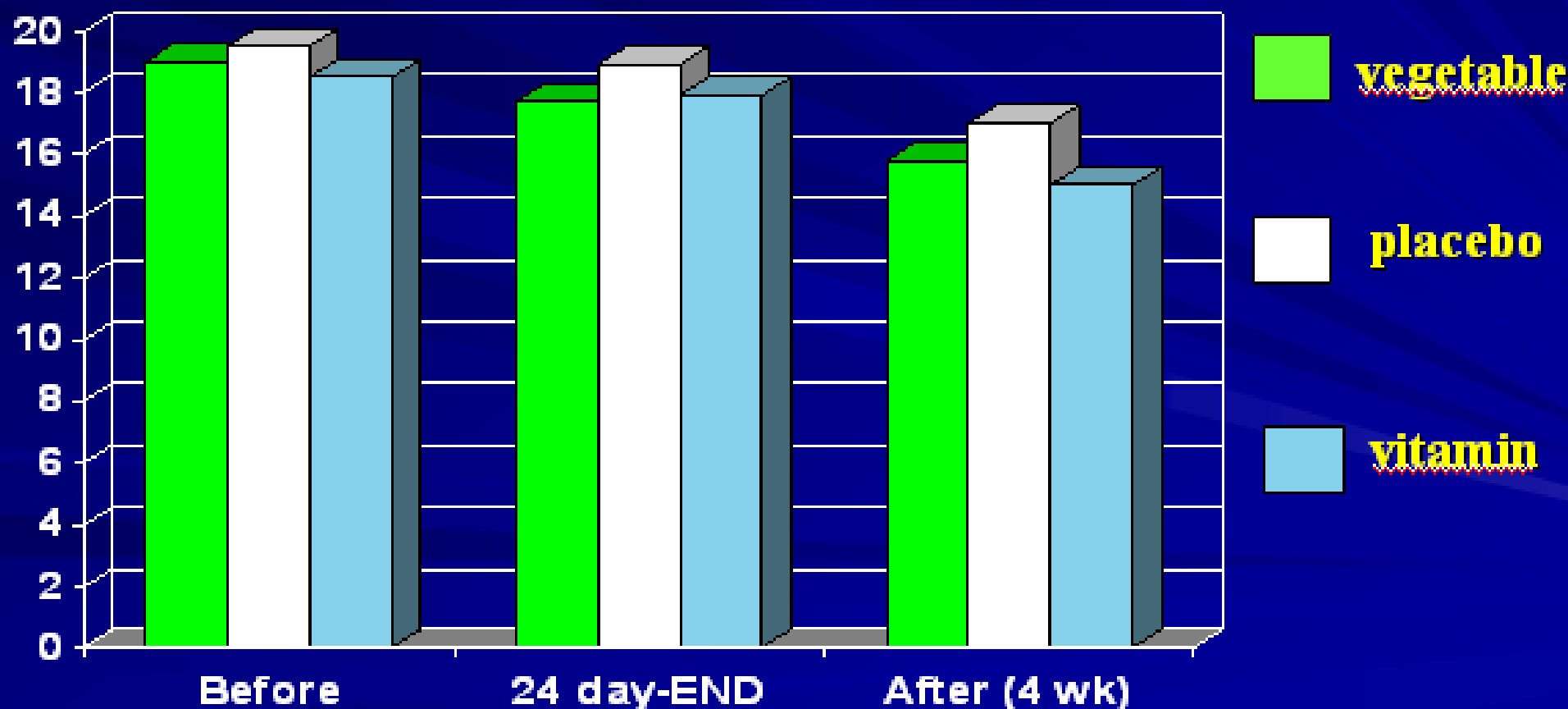


# No Effect of 600 Grams Fruit and Vegetables Per Day on Oxidative DNA Damage and Repair in Healthy Nonsmokers<sup>1</sup>

Canc Epidemi Prev, 2003

Level of 24 h urinary 8-oxodG excretion (mean and SD)

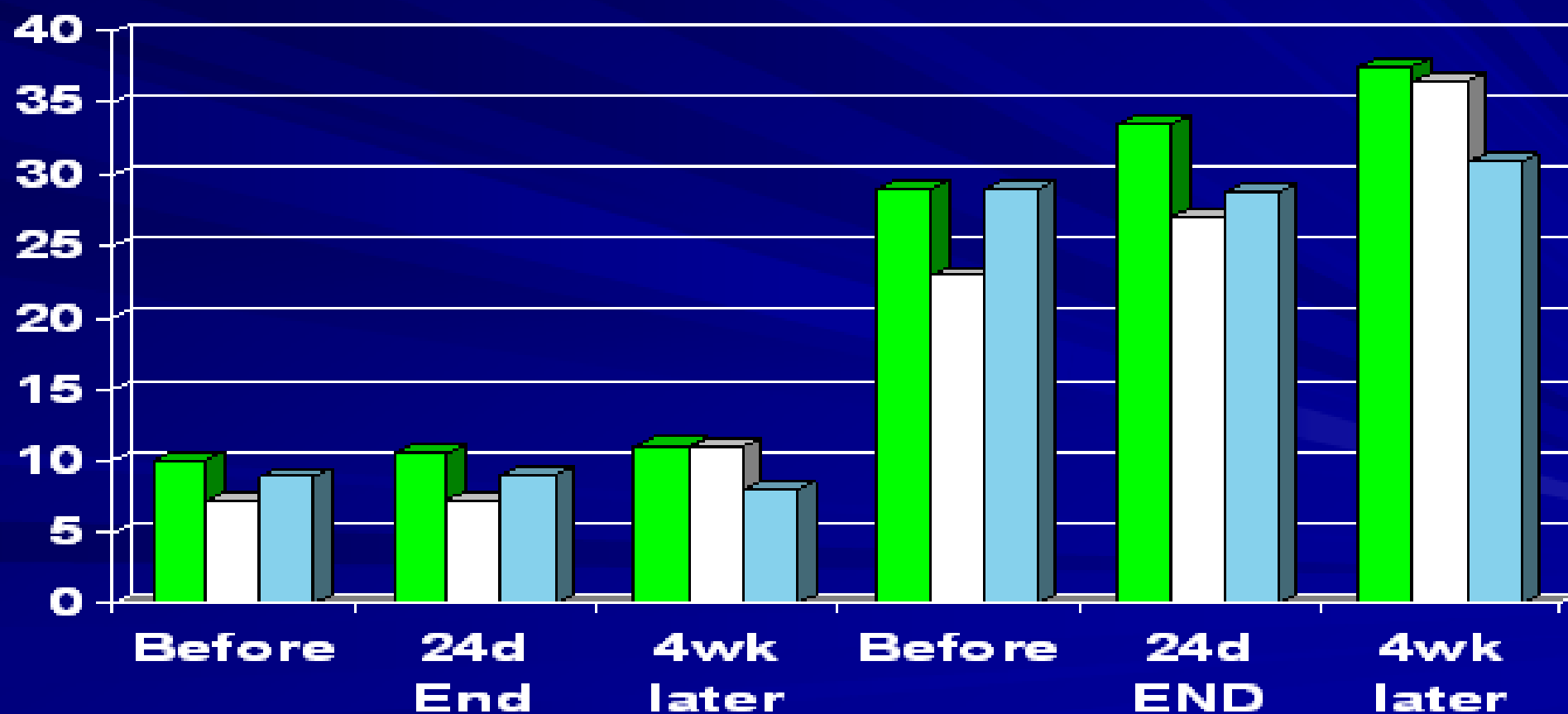
nmol/24h



Expression of *OGG1* and *ERCC1* mRNA relative to 18S in leukocytes isolated from whole blood

**OGG1**

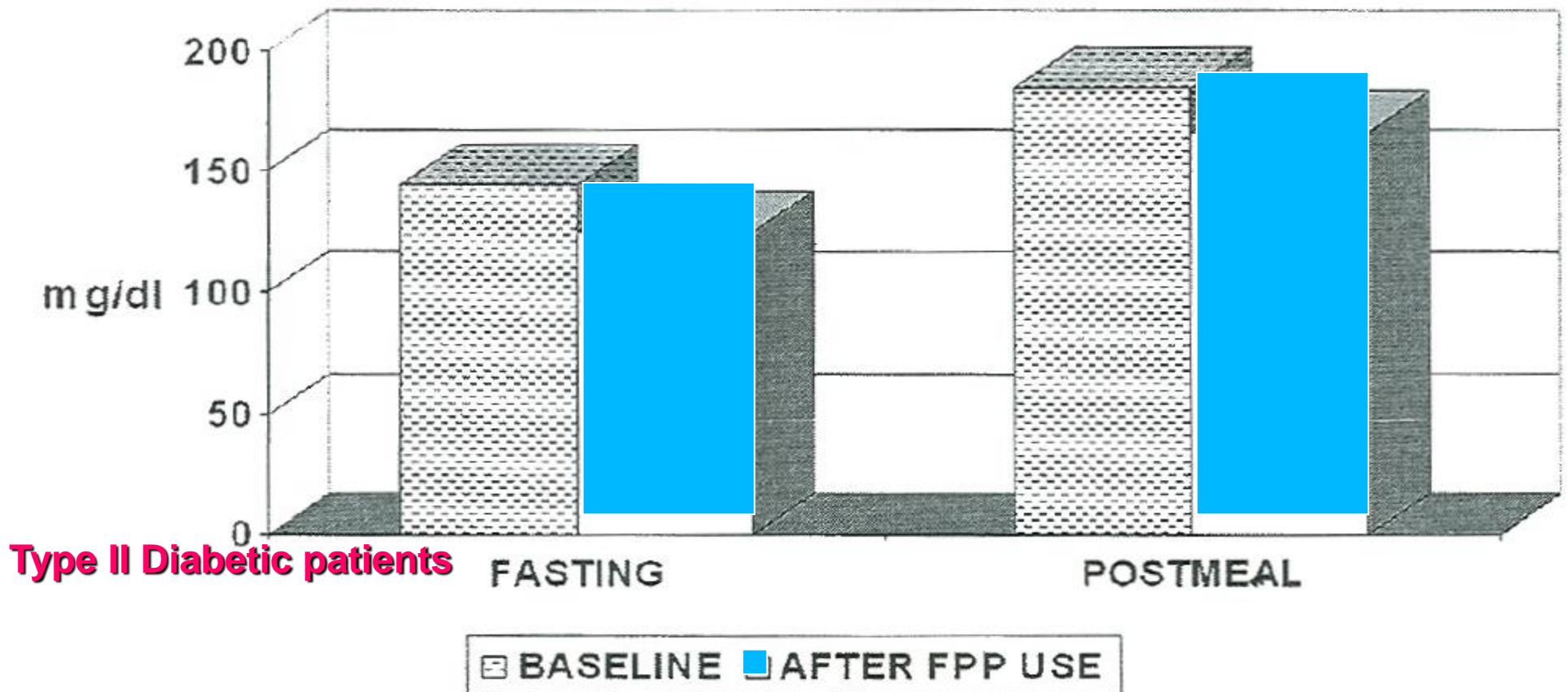
**ERCC1**



## Liver disease & Diabetes

**Plasma glucose level decreases as collateral effect of fermented papaya preparation use**

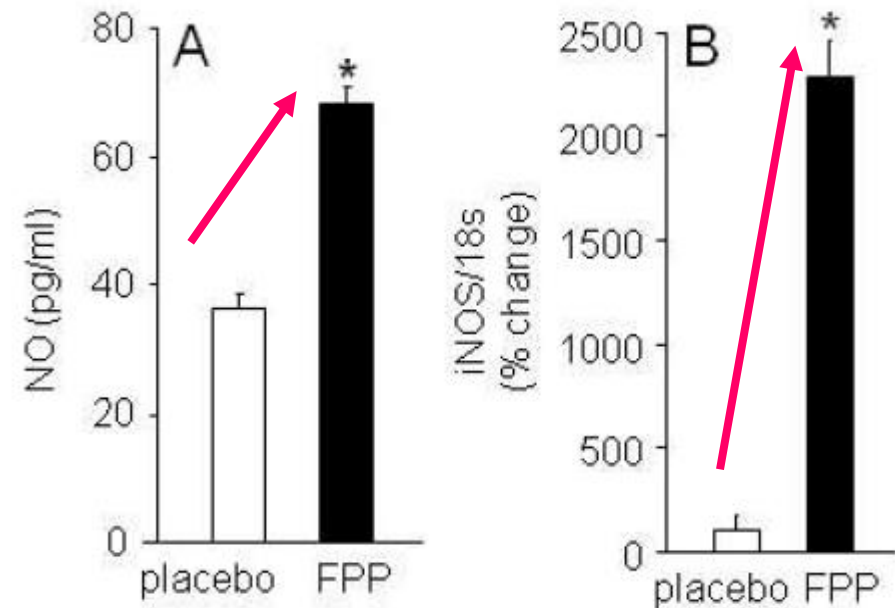
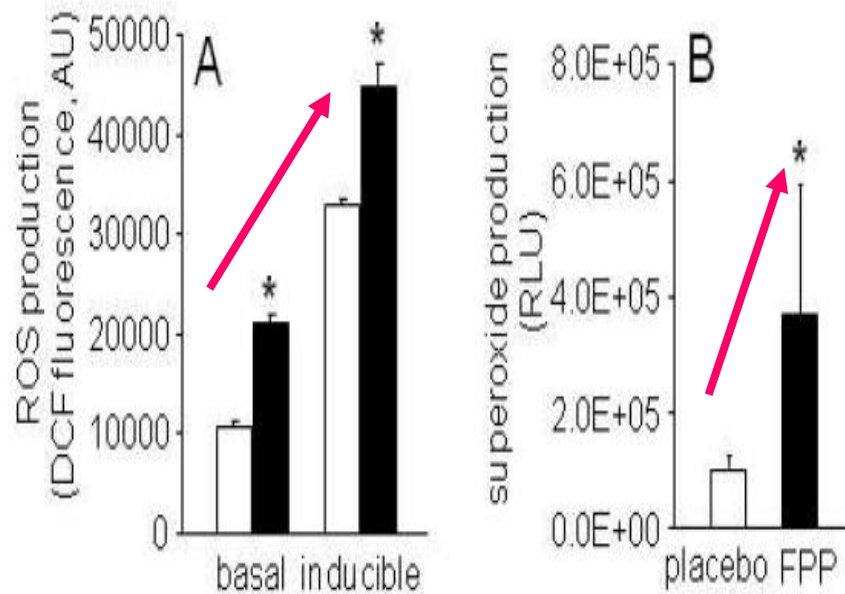
*Danese et al La Clin Ter, 2006*



# Liver disease & Diabetes

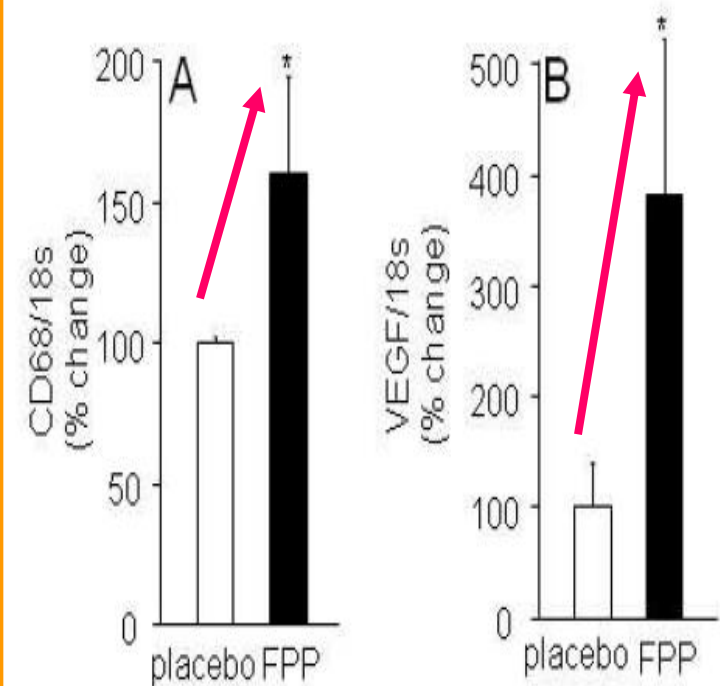
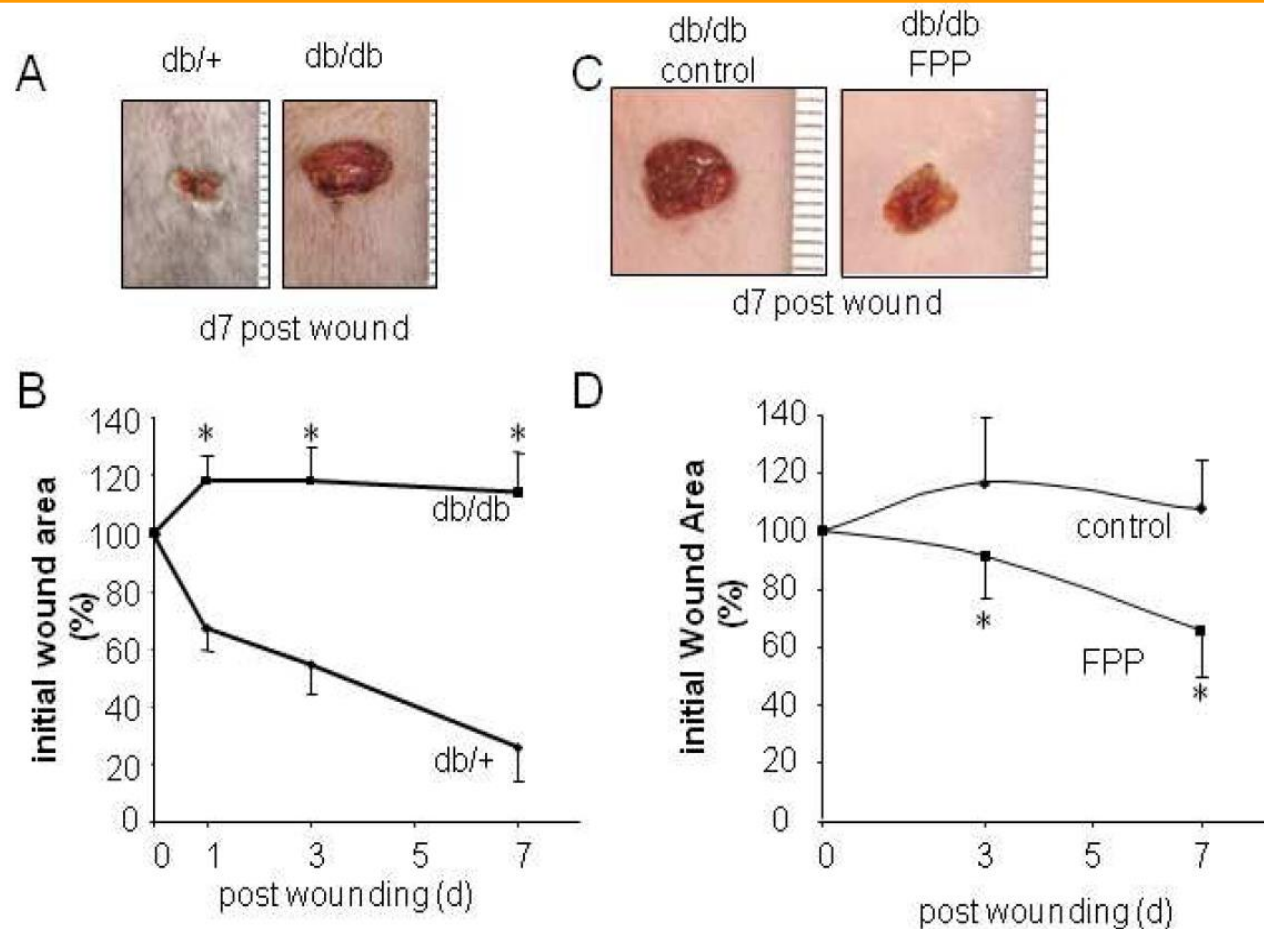
**Improved function of diabetic wound-site macrophages and accelerated wound closure in response to oral supplementation of a fermented papaya preparation**

Antiox & Redox Sign, 2009

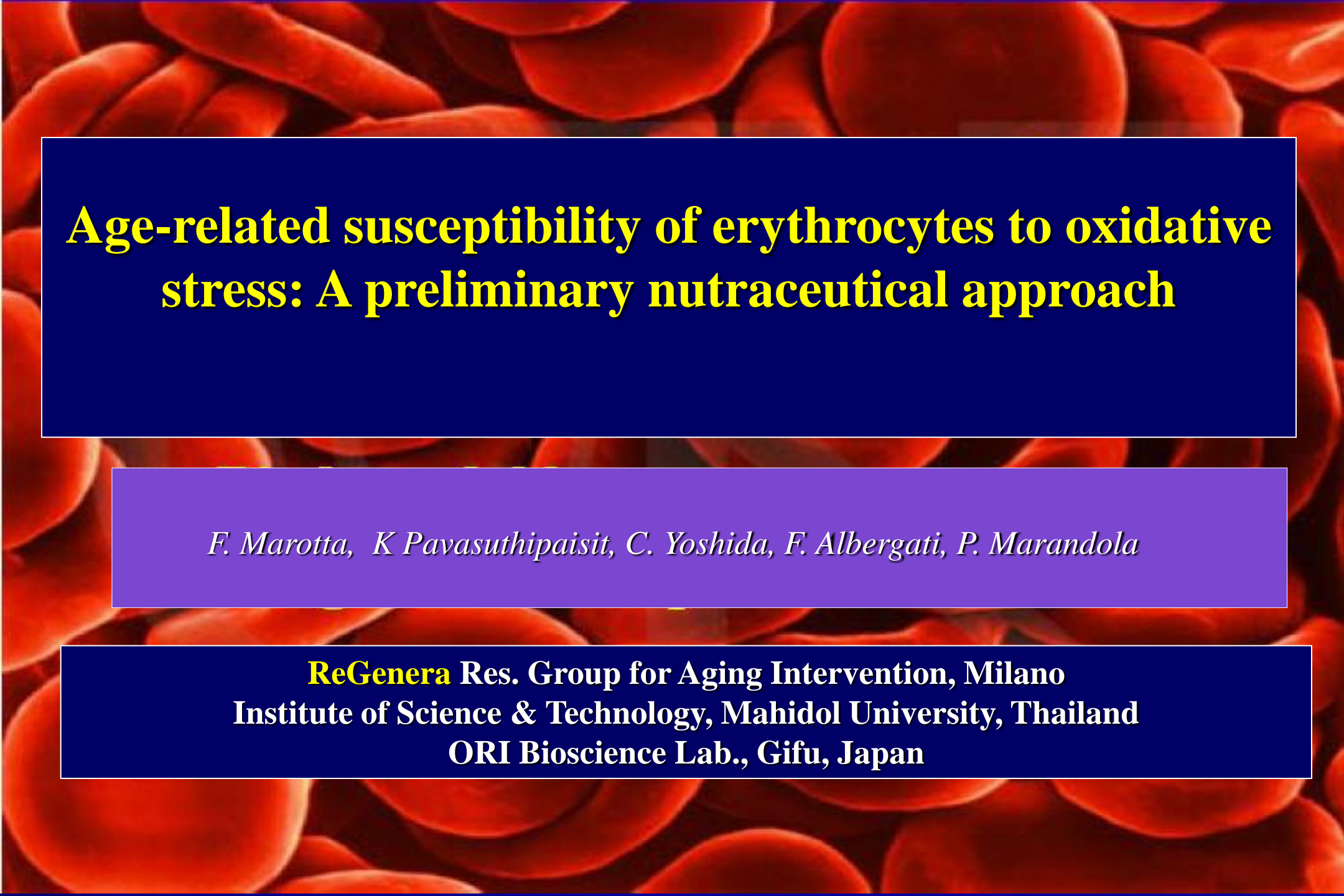


# Improved function of diabetic wound-site macrophages and accelerated wound closure in response to oral supplementation of a fermented papaya preparation

Antiox & Redox Sign, 2009





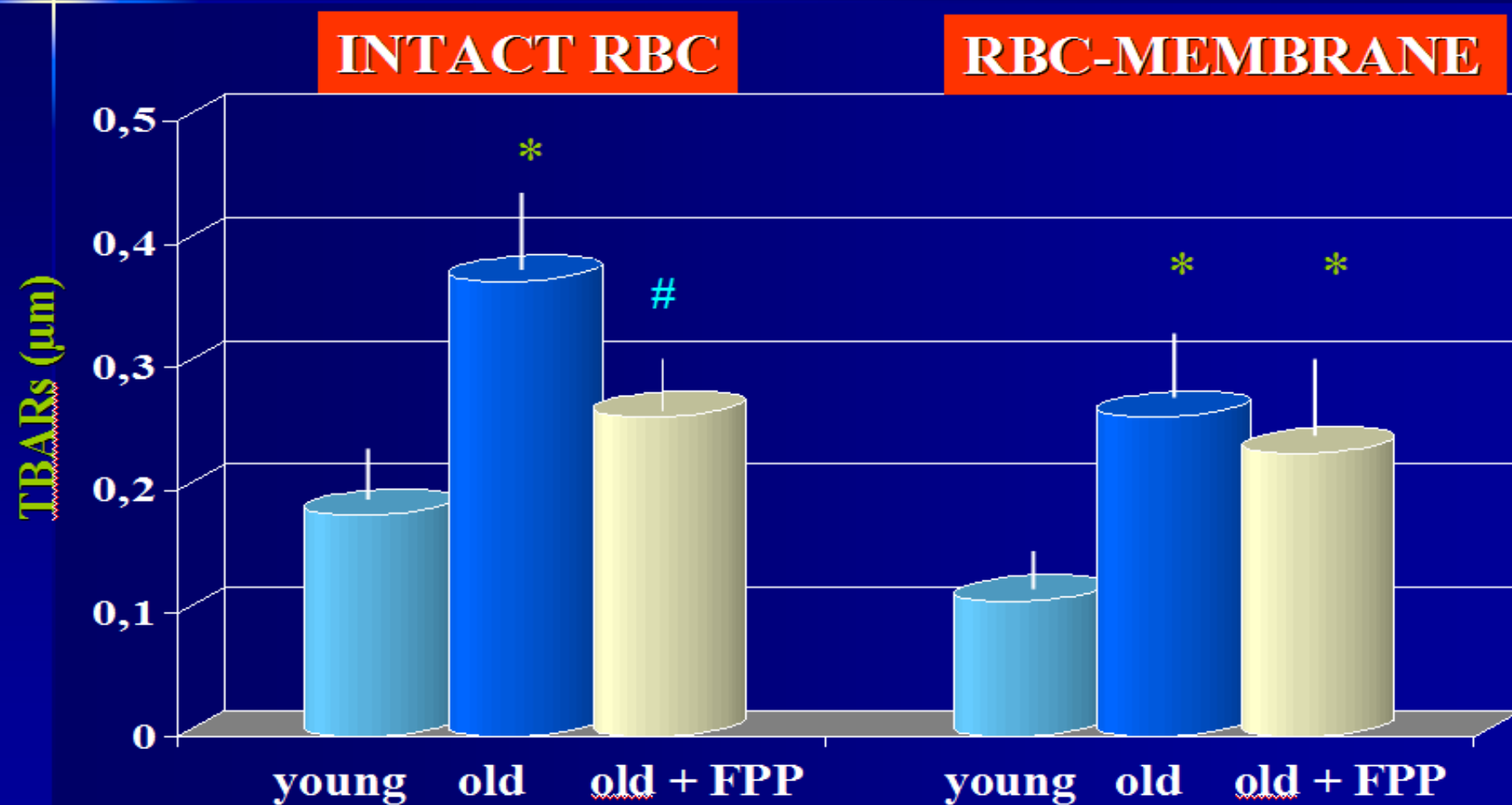


# Age-related susceptibility of erythrocytes to oxidative stress: A preliminary nutraceutical approach

*F. Marotta, K Pavasuthipaisit, C. Yoshida, F. Albergati, P. Marandola*

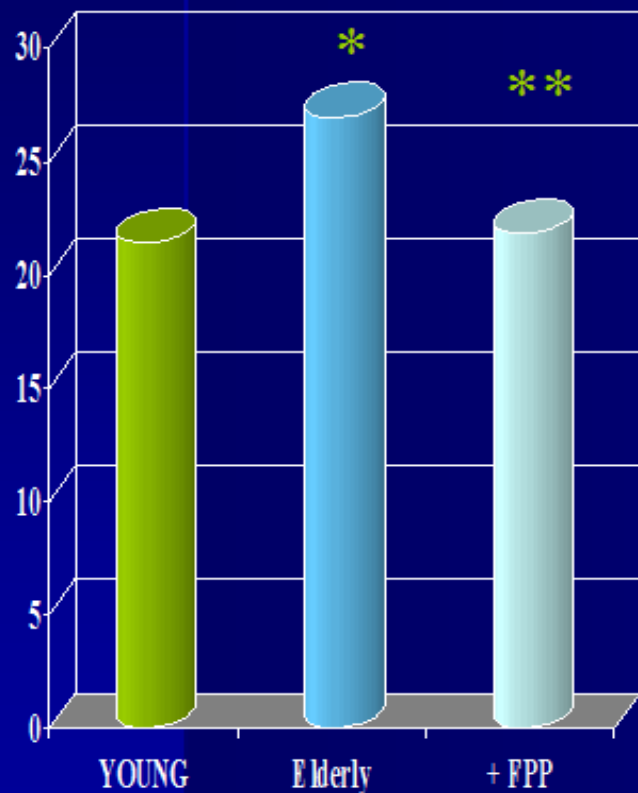
**ReGenera** Res. Group for Aging Intervention, Milano  
Institute of Science & Technology, Mahidol University, Thailand  
ORI Bioscience Lab., Gifu, Japan

# Generation of TBARs in Erythrocyte in vitro: Effect of Aging and FPP Administration

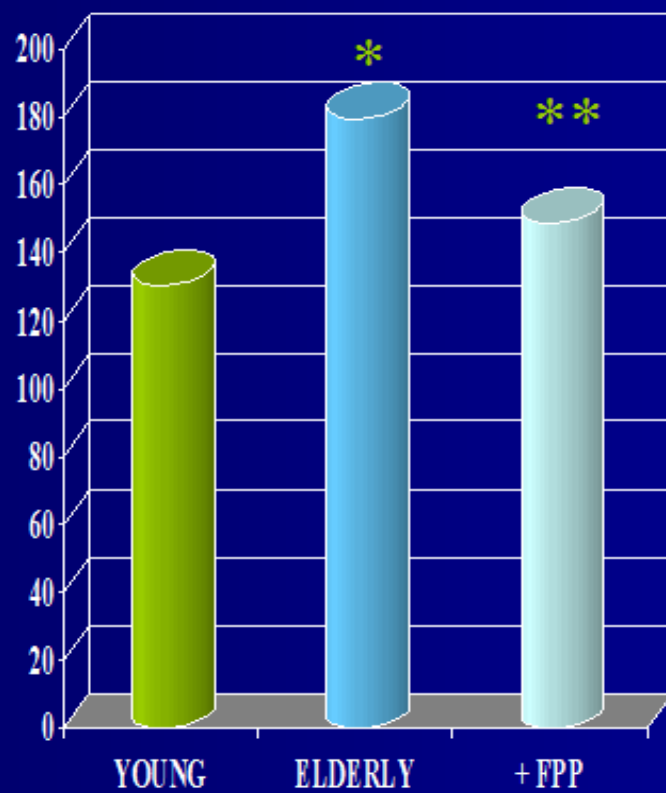


# Peroxidation Profile in young and elderly subjects: role for a nutraceutical?

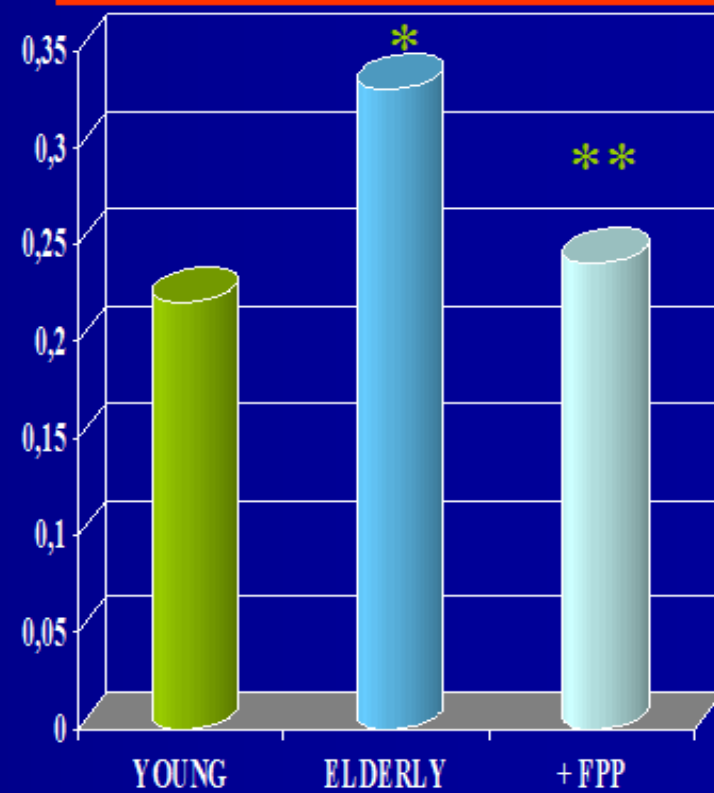
**Hydroperoxides**  
(H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> mg/dl of plasma)



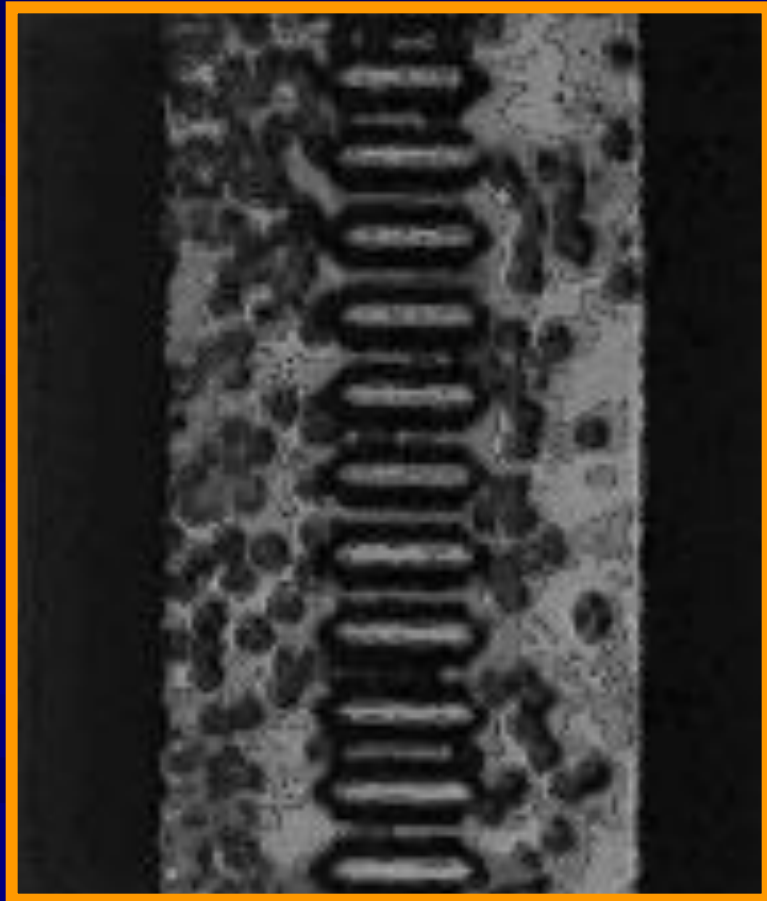
**Plasma Antiox. Capacity**  
(lag time needed: min)



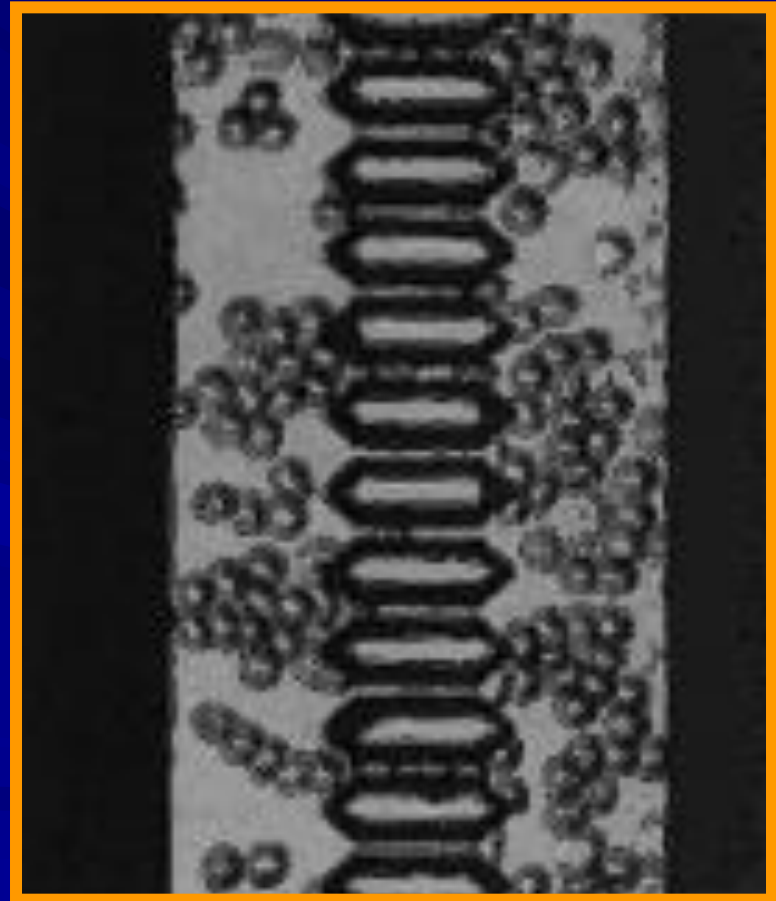
**Fluoresc. Anisotropy**  
(rs= 1v-Ih/Iv+2Ih)



# Micro-Channel array Flow Analyzer: old RBC deformability under placebo and FPP treatment



**Placebo**

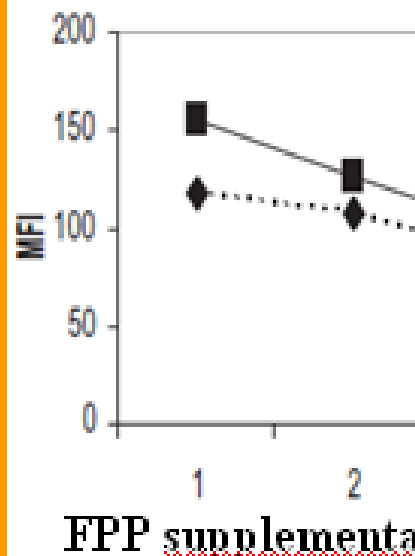


**FPP**

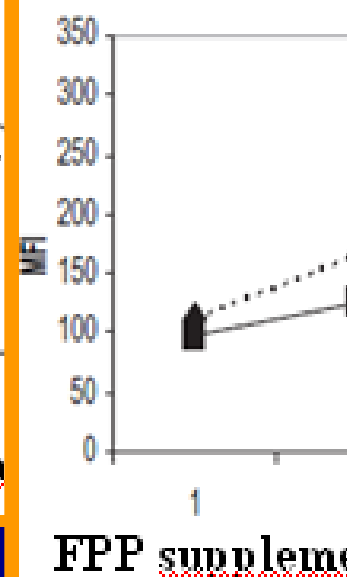
# Amelioration of Oxidative Stress in RBC from Patients with $\beta$ -thalassemia Major and Intermedia and E- $\beta$ -thalassemia Following Administration of Fermented Papaya Preparation

Eliezer A. Rachmilewitz *Phytother. Res.* 2010

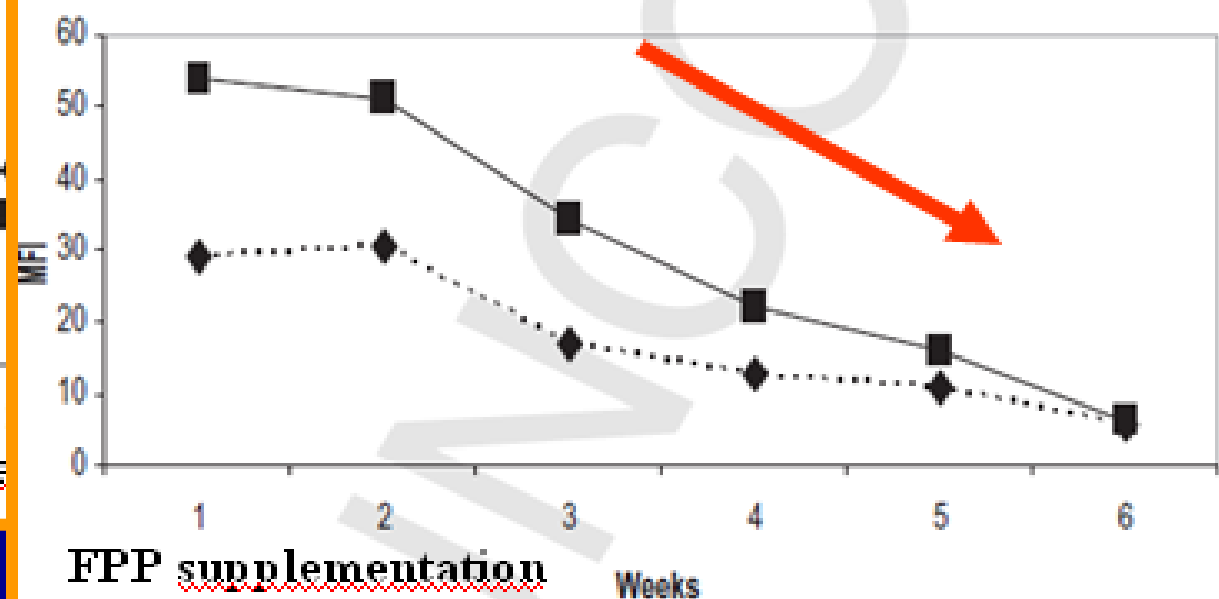
ROS unstimulated



GSH unstimulated



PS unstimulated



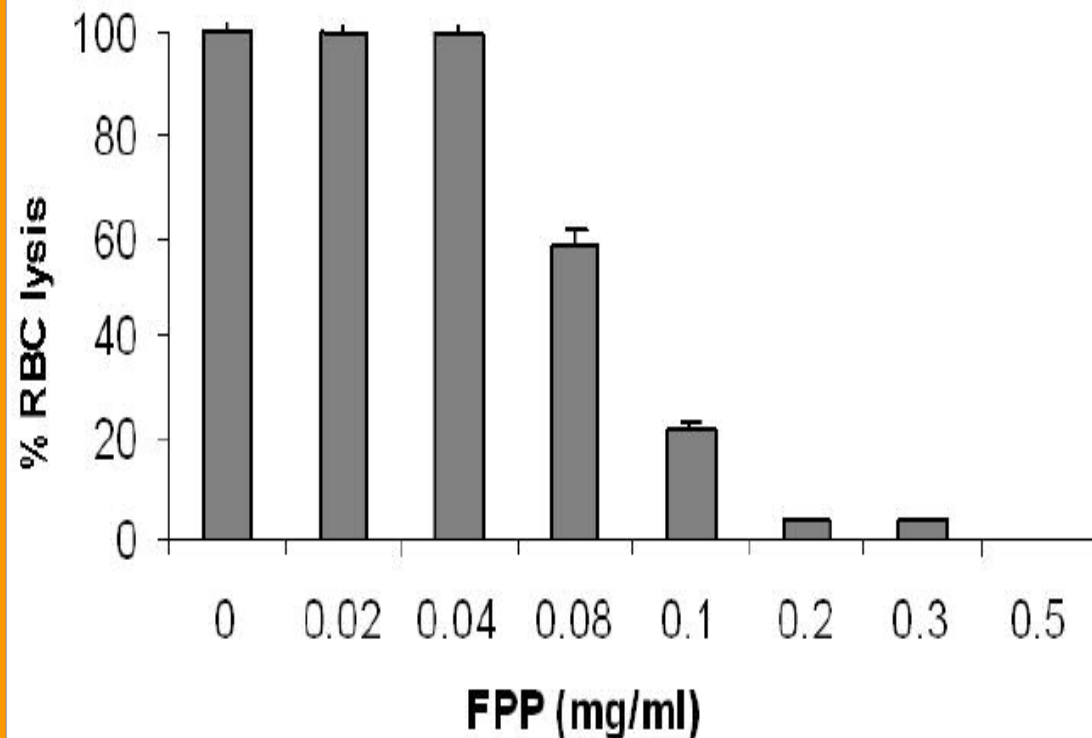
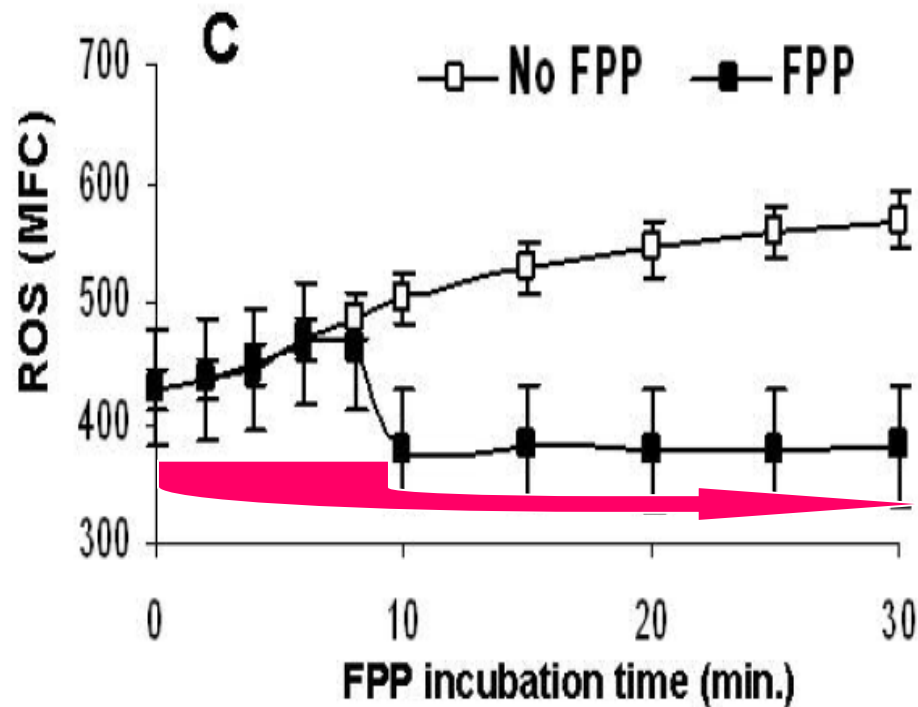
# Fermented Papaya Preparation as Redox Regulator in Blood Cells of $\beta$ -Thalassemic Mice and Patients

*Phytother. Res.* 22, 820–828 (2008)

Johnny Amer<sup>1</sup>, Ada Goldfarb<sup>1</sup>, Eliezer A. Rachmilewitz<sup>2</sup> and Eitan Fibach<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Hematology, Hadassah – Hebrew University Medical Center, Jerusalem, Israel

<sup>2</sup>Department of Hematology, The E. Wolfson Medical Center, Holon, Israel





# Overcoming Barriers: Antioxidants for Steatosis and Metabolic Syndrome

- Few studies evaluating impact of improved oxidation on SVR
- Phase I trial: antioxidant cocktail\* given for 20 weeks (N = 50)<sup>[1]</sup>
  - ALT normalization: 44%;  $\geq 2$ -point improvement in HAI score: 36%
- Ursodeoxycholic acid given with HCV therapy did not improve SVR rates (N = 52)<sup>[2]</sup>
- Patients received IFN or IFN + vitamin E for 24 weeks (N = 24)<sup>[3]</sup>
  - Greater response, reduction in viral load with vitamin E

\***Cocktail** included glycyrrhizin, schisandra, silymarin, ascorbic acid, lipoic acid, L-glutathione, alpha-tocopherol, glycyrrhizin, ascorbic acid, L-glutathione, and B-complex

# Overcoming Barriers: Weight Loss for Steatosis and Metabolic Syndrome

- 3-month weight-loss program resulted in reduced steatosis and liver enzymes, improved fibrosis (N = 19)<sup>[1]</sup>
  - Mean weight loss: 5.9 kg
  - Mean fasting insulin reduced ( $P < .002$ )
  - Reduced steatosis ( $P < .005$ ) and Knodell fibrosis score ( $P = .04$ )
- 3-month low calorie diet (n = 15) vs controls (n = 17) before pegIFN/RBV therapy in GT 1 patients<sup>[2]</sup>
  - Reduced insulin resistance in weight-loss group
  - Response 60% for weight-loss group vs 17.6% for controls

# Overcoming Barriers: Insulin Sensitizers for Steatosis, Metabolic Syndrome

## ■ Thiazolidinediones: pioglitazone, rosiglitazone

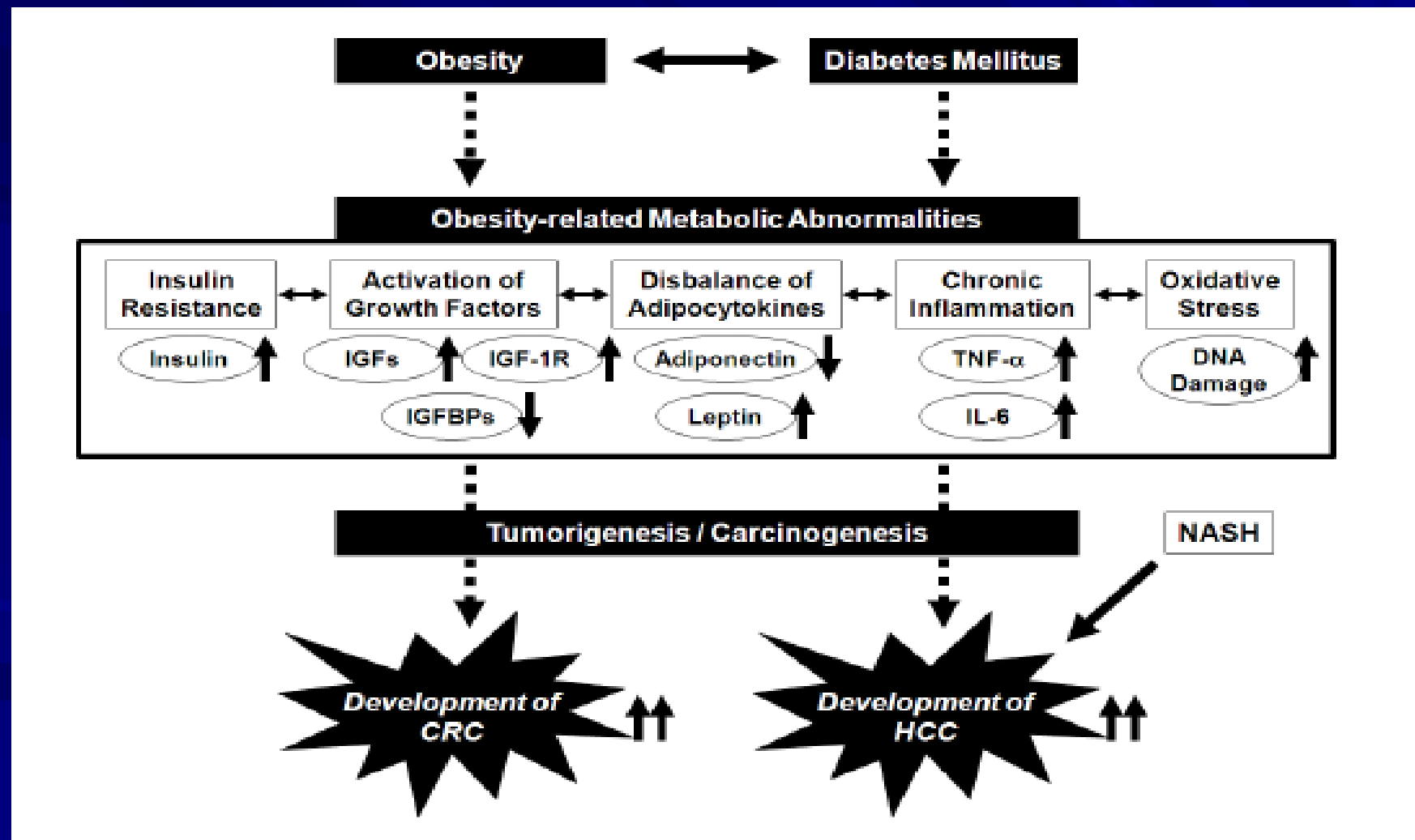
- Pioglitazone improved insulin sensitivity through SOCS 3 suppression in mouse model<sup>[1]</sup>
- 55 NASH patients with impaired glucose metabolism received hypocaloric diet + pioglitazone or placebo for 6 months<sup>[2]</sup>
  - Diet + pioglitazone superior at improving glucose tolerance, ALTs
  - Diet + pioglitazone led to greater drop in liver fat content, improved steatosis, reduced inflammation

## ■ Biguanide: metformin reduces glucose production in liver

- Effects in NASH less robust than thiazolidinediones<sup>[3]</sup>

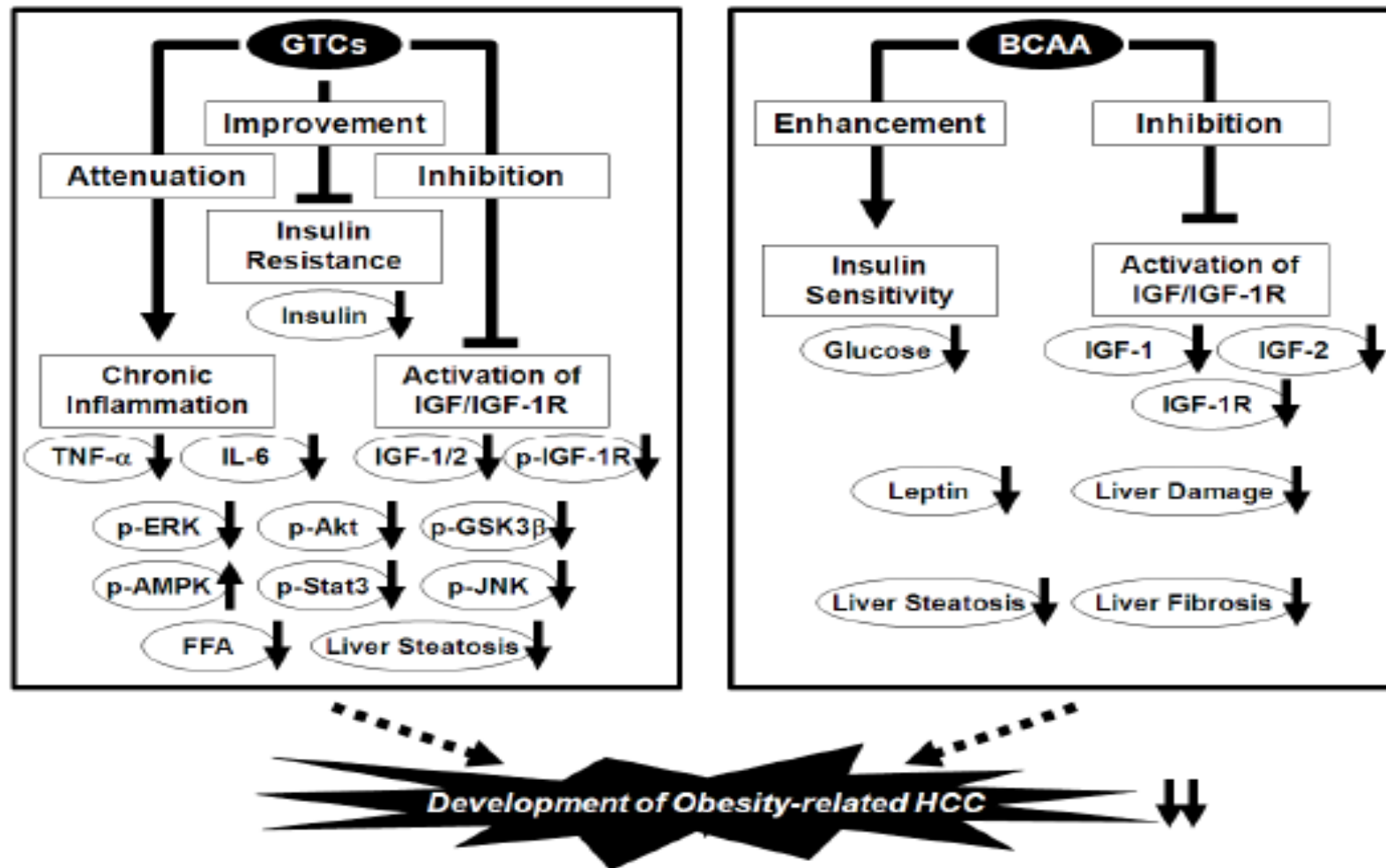
# Nutraceutical Approach for Preventing Obesity-Related Colorectal and Liver Carcinogenesis

*Int. J. Mol. Sci.* 2012,



# Nutraceutical Approach for Preventing Obesity-Related Colorectal and Liver Carcinogenesis

*Int. J. Mol. Sci.* 2012,





Associated to established  
IFN + Rib. treatment ?

Only in IFN + Rib. Non-Responders ?  
In the place of Rib. if side effects ?

In cirrhosis with ALT > 80 IU ?  
In cirrhosis irrespective of ALT ?

- Macronutrients-CHD, fats, and proteins
- Micronutrients-vitamins and minerals
- Dietary fiber

- ***EB-Phytochemicals (FPP,***
  - ***high-quality silibin,***
  - ***modified-YHK)***

In associated NASH Tx

Post-op liver surgery ? etc.