

Etiologie, pathogenese, diagnostiek en therapie:

Primair biliare cholangitis, Primair scleroserende cholangitis, IgG4-gerelateerde ziekte

Overeenkomsten en verschillen

Rotterdam

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Disclosures

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Lecture fees

Falk Foundation, Gilead, Intercept, Novartis, Roche, Shire, Zambon

Consulting agreements

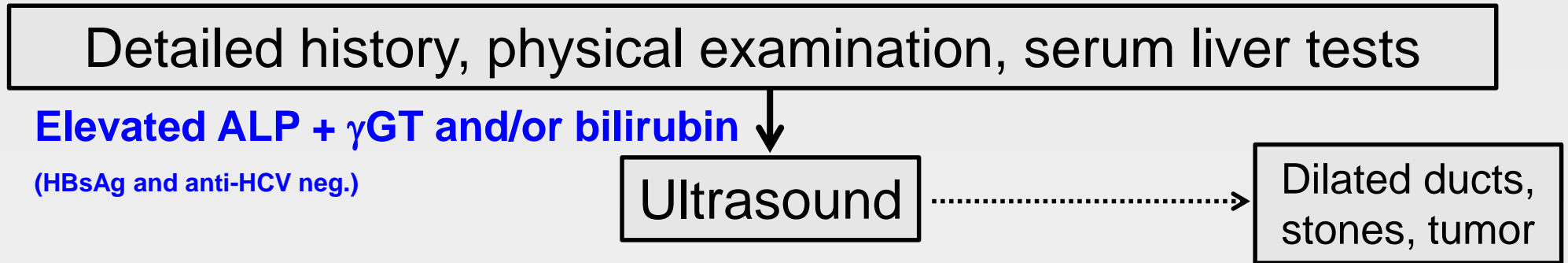
Intercept, Novartis

Support for investigator-initiated studies

Falk, Intercept



Diagnostic approach to cholestasis



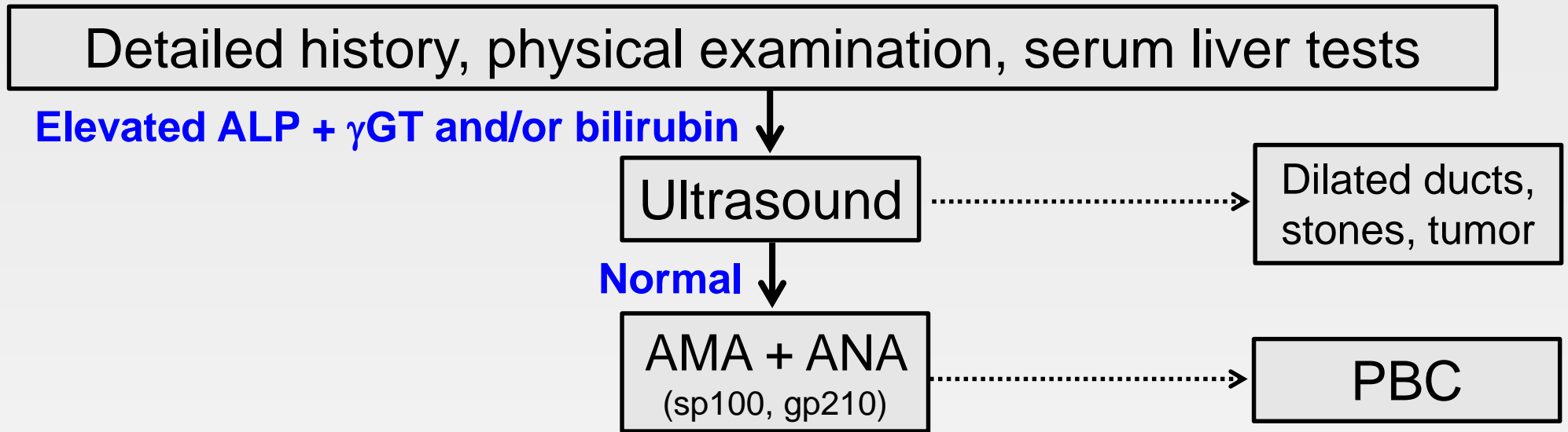
Entry question #1

Which pathological findings fit with the diagnosis of primary biliary cholangitis (PBC)?

- A. aP, γ GT \uparrow ; AMA+, AMA-M2+; IgM \uparrow
- B. ALAT, ASAT \uparrow ; ANA+, SMA+, SLA+; IgG \uparrow
- C. ALAT, ASAT \uparrow ; LKM-1; IgG \uparrow
- D. aP, γ GT \uparrow ; p-ANCA
- E. ALAT, ASAT \uparrow ; anti-TG-IgA



Diagnostic approach to cholestasis



Entry question #1

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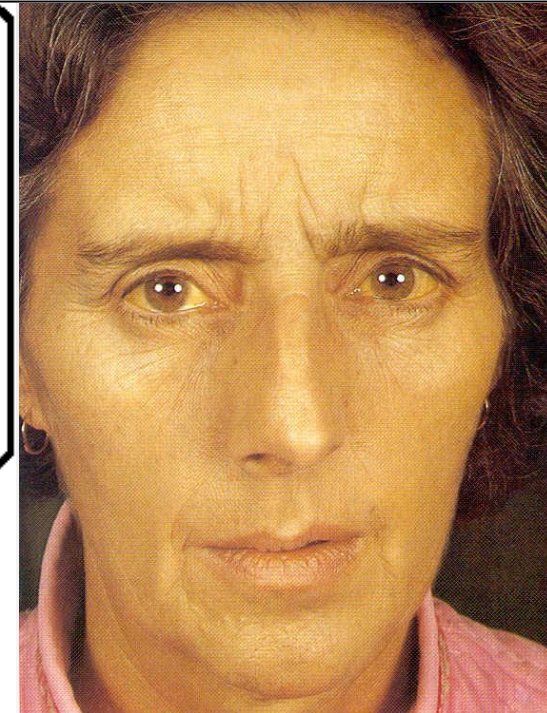
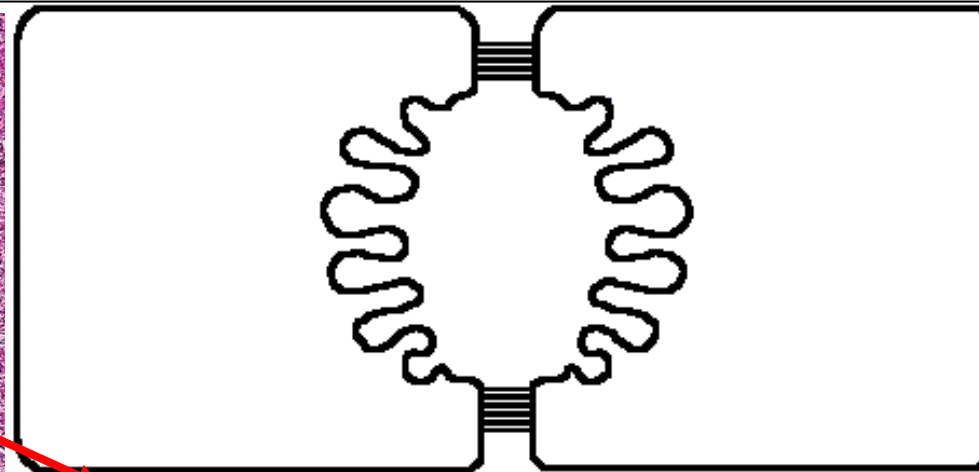
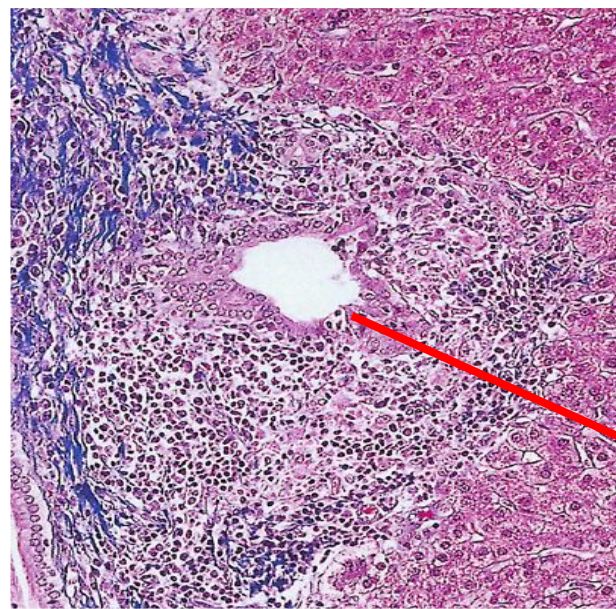
Primair biliaire cholangitis

- **Diagnose**
- Pathogenese
- Therapie



Primary biliary cholangitis [formerly: cirrhosis*]

Characteristics



Sherlock and Summerfield, 1991

Symptoms:

- Fatigue
- Itch
- “Dry eye, dry mouth”
- ...

Sex (f:m)

9 : 1

Age

35 - 60

Survival without treatm.

7.5-16 years

Cholestatic enzyme

AP, γ GT \uparrow

pattern

Autoantibodies

AMA (anti-PDC-E2)



Primair biliaire cholangitis

- Diagnose
- **Pathogenese**
- Therapie



Primary biliary cholangitis:

Pathogenesis

Immune-mediated bile duct injury



Bile duct injury by hydrophobic bile acids



Cholestasis with retention of hydrophobic bile acids in liver



Fibrosis, cirrhosis



Liver failure

Genetic
Predisposition

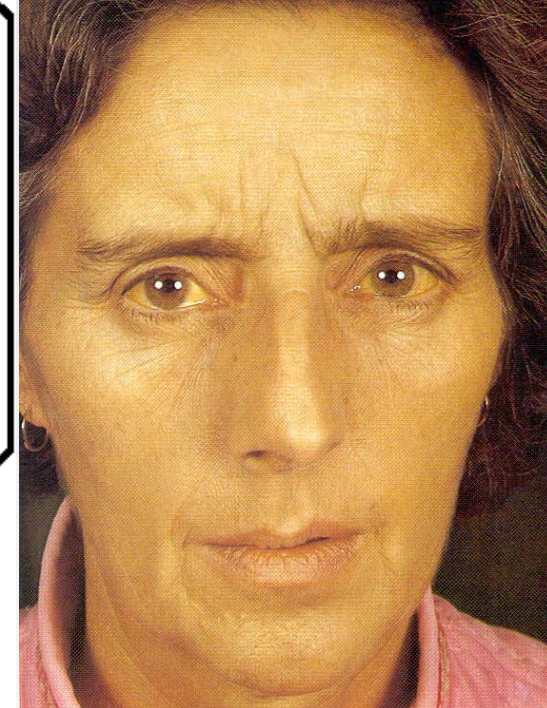
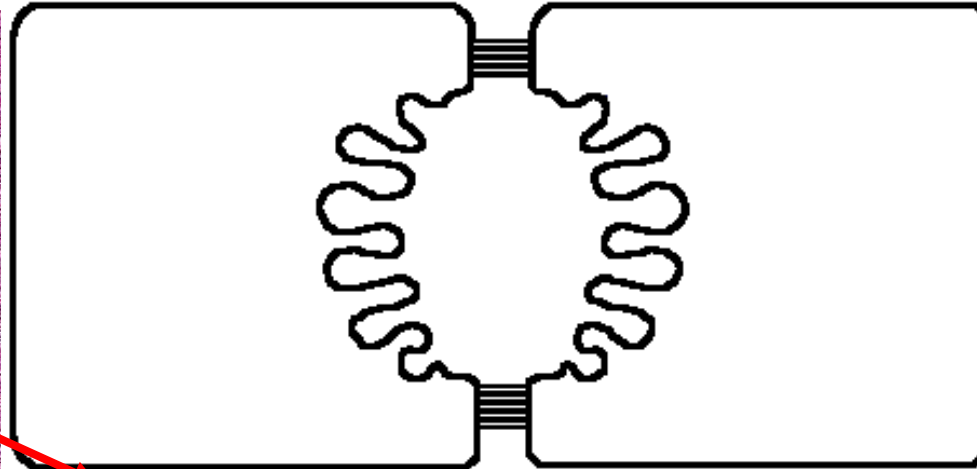
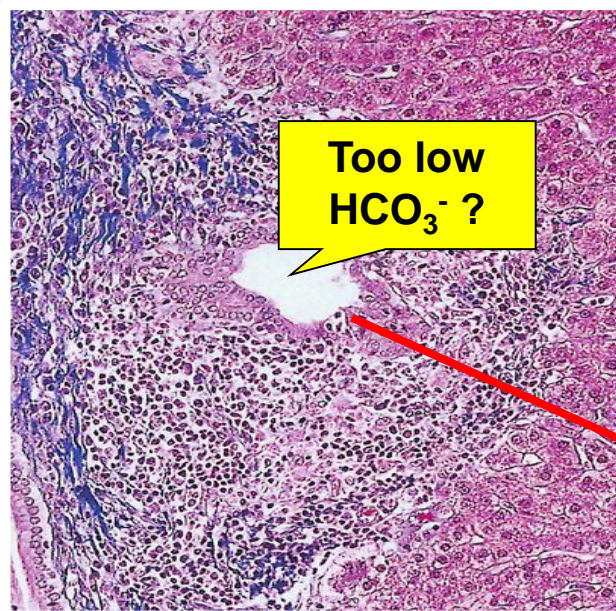
Environmental
factors
(molecular mimicry)

Cellular/humoral
immune response



Primary biliary cholangitis

Pathogenesis



Sherlock and Summerfield, 1991

Symptoms:

- Fatigue
- Itch
- "Dry eye, dry mouth"
- ...

9 : 1

40 - 60

7.5-16 y

AP, γ GT

AMA (anti-PDC-E2)

Prieto et al. Gastroenterology 1993;105:572
Medina et al., Hepatology 1997;25:12
Prieto et al., Gastroenterology 1999;117:167
Beuers et al. Hepatology 2010;52:1489
Hohenester et al. Hepatology 2012;55:173
Banales et al. Hepatology 2012;56:687
Anantharajanan et al. JBC 2015;290:184
Chang et al. Hepatology 2016;64:522

Sex (f:m)

Age

Survival without treatm.

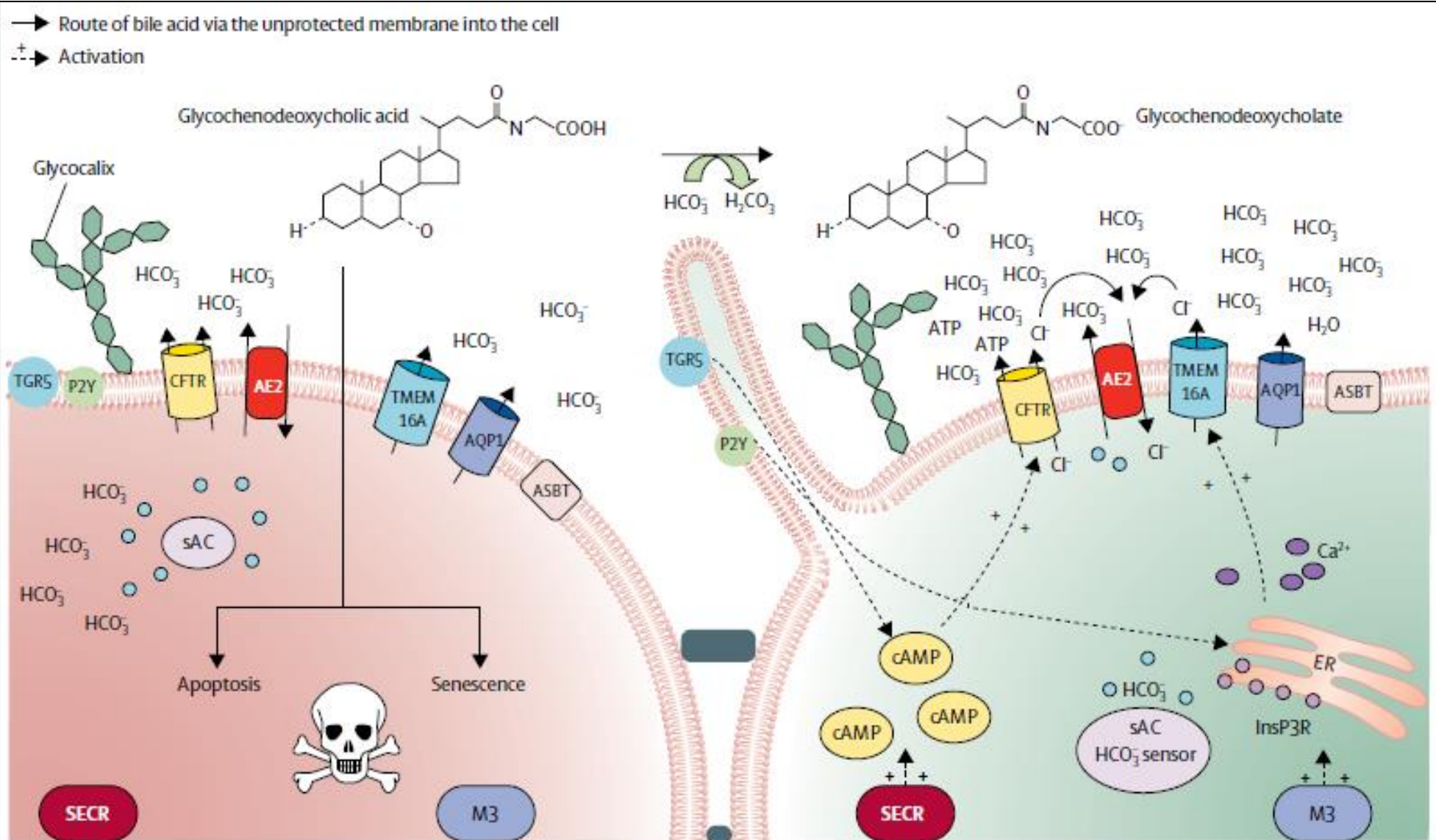
Cholestatic enzyme

Pattern

Autoantibodies



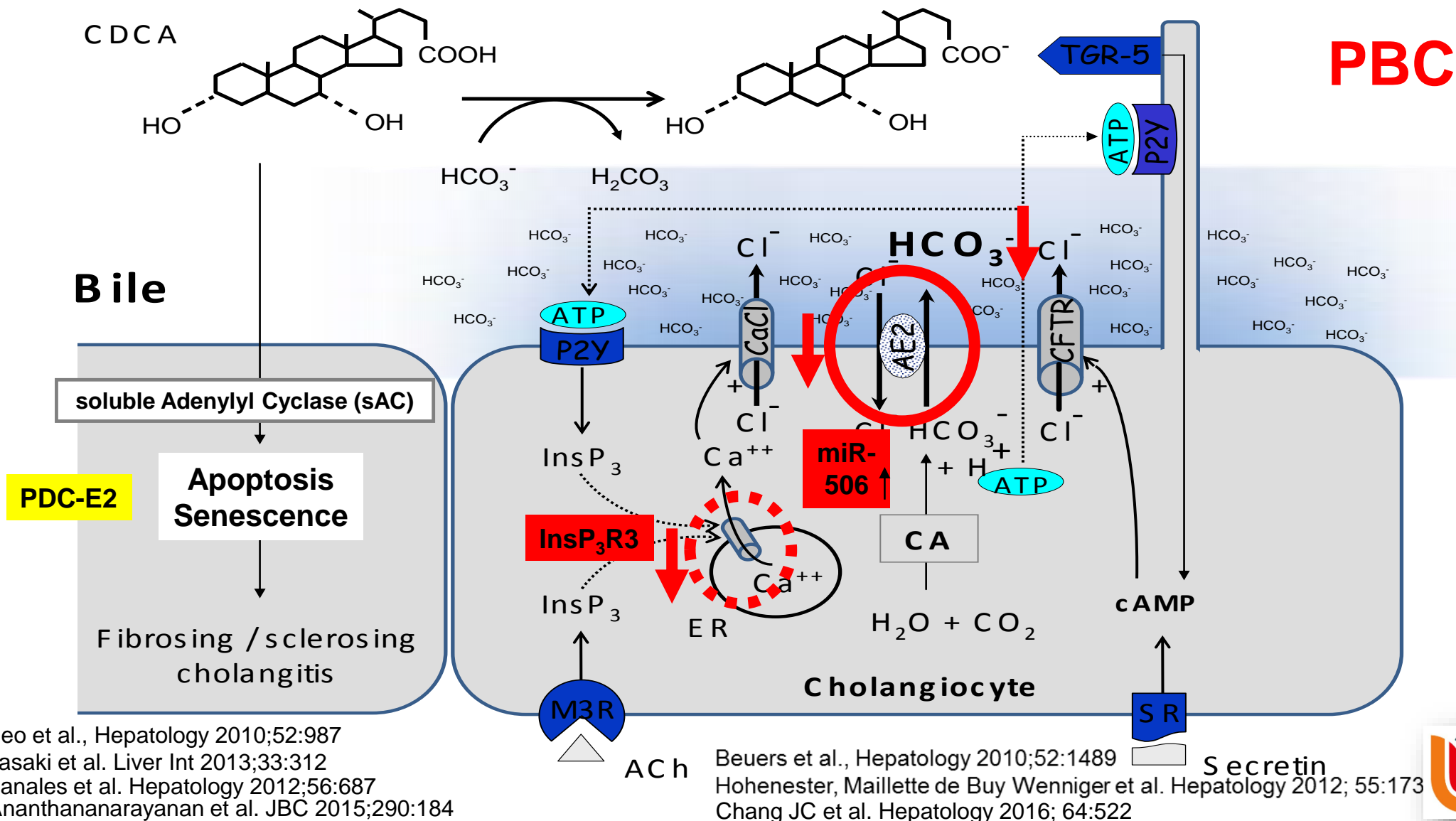
Hypothesis: The biliary HCO_3^- umbrella



[Lancet 2018, in press]

Defect of the biliary HCO_3^- umbrella in PBC ?

Elevated miR-506 downregulates AE2 and $\text{InsP}_3\text{R3}$, critical for HCO_3^- secretion



Leo et al., Hepatology 2010;52:987
 Sasaki et al. Liver Int 2013;33:312
 Banales et al. Hepatology 2012;56:687
 Ananthanarayanan et al. JBC 2015;290:184

Beuers et al., Hepatology 2010;52:1489
 Hohenester, Maillette de Buy Wenniger et al. Hepatology 2012; 55:173
 Chang JC et al. Hepatology 2016; 64:522



Primary biliary cholangitis

Pathogenesis

Immune-mediated bile duct injury



**Defect of the biliary HCO_3^- umbrella:
cholangiocyte injury by BA**



**Cholestasis with retention of
hydrophobic bile acids in liver**



**Liver cell damage, fibrosis,
cirrhosis**



Liver failure



Primair biliaire cholangitis

- Diagnose
- Pathogenese
- **Therapie**



Primary biliary cholangitis:

Standard therapy

Pathogenesis

Immune-mediated bile duct injury



Defect of the biliary HCO_3^- umbrella: cholangiocyte injury by BA



Cholestasis with retention of hydrophobic bile acids in liver



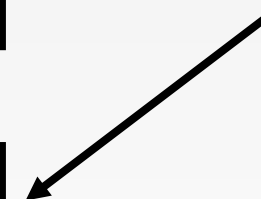
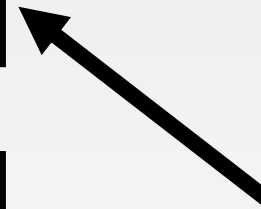
Liver cell damage, apoptosis, necrosis, fibrosis, cirrhosis



Liver failure

Ursodeoxycholic acid

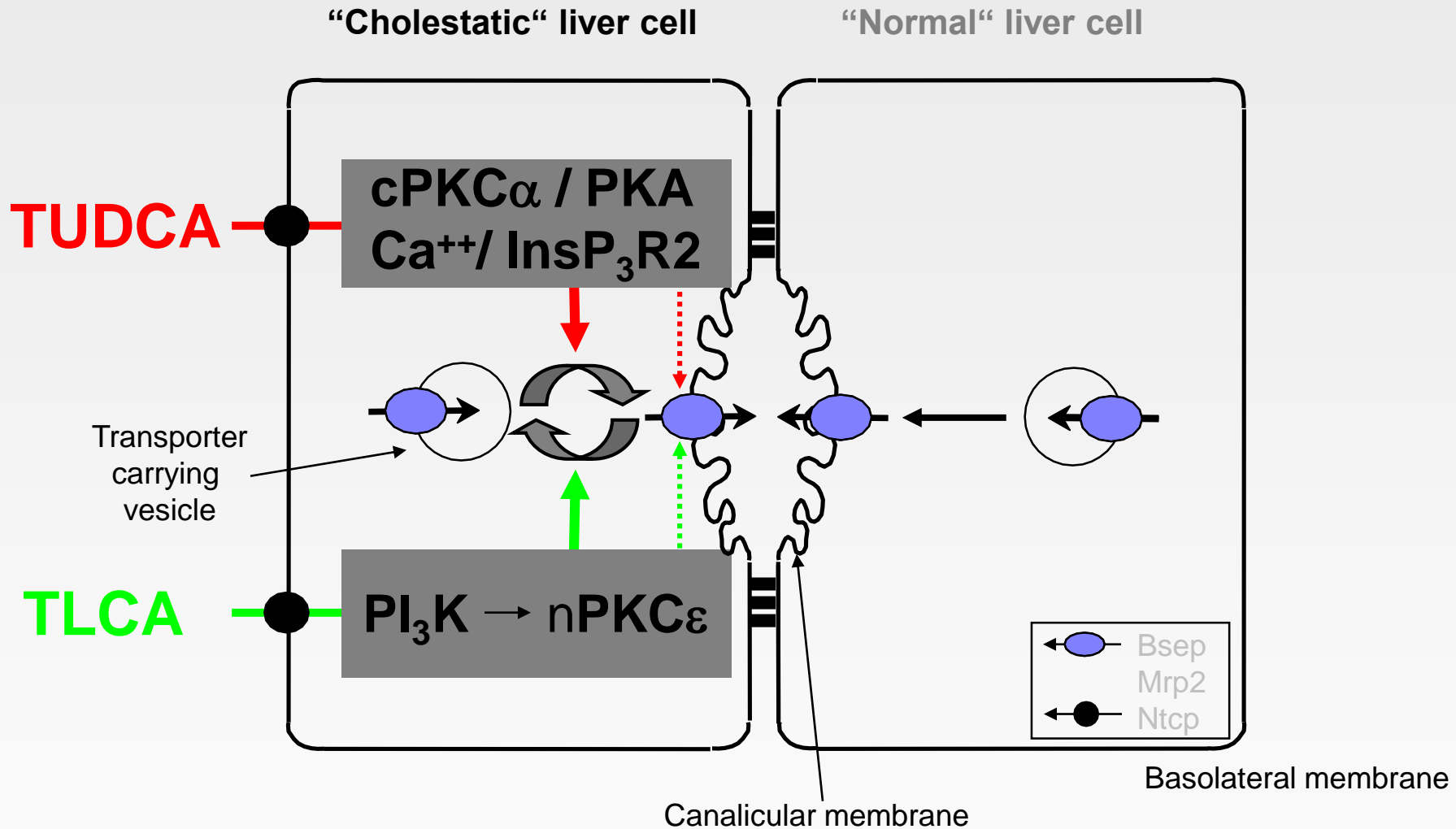
(13-15 mg/kg/d)



Liver transplantation



UDCA conjugates act as posttranscriptional secretagogues in experimental cholestasis



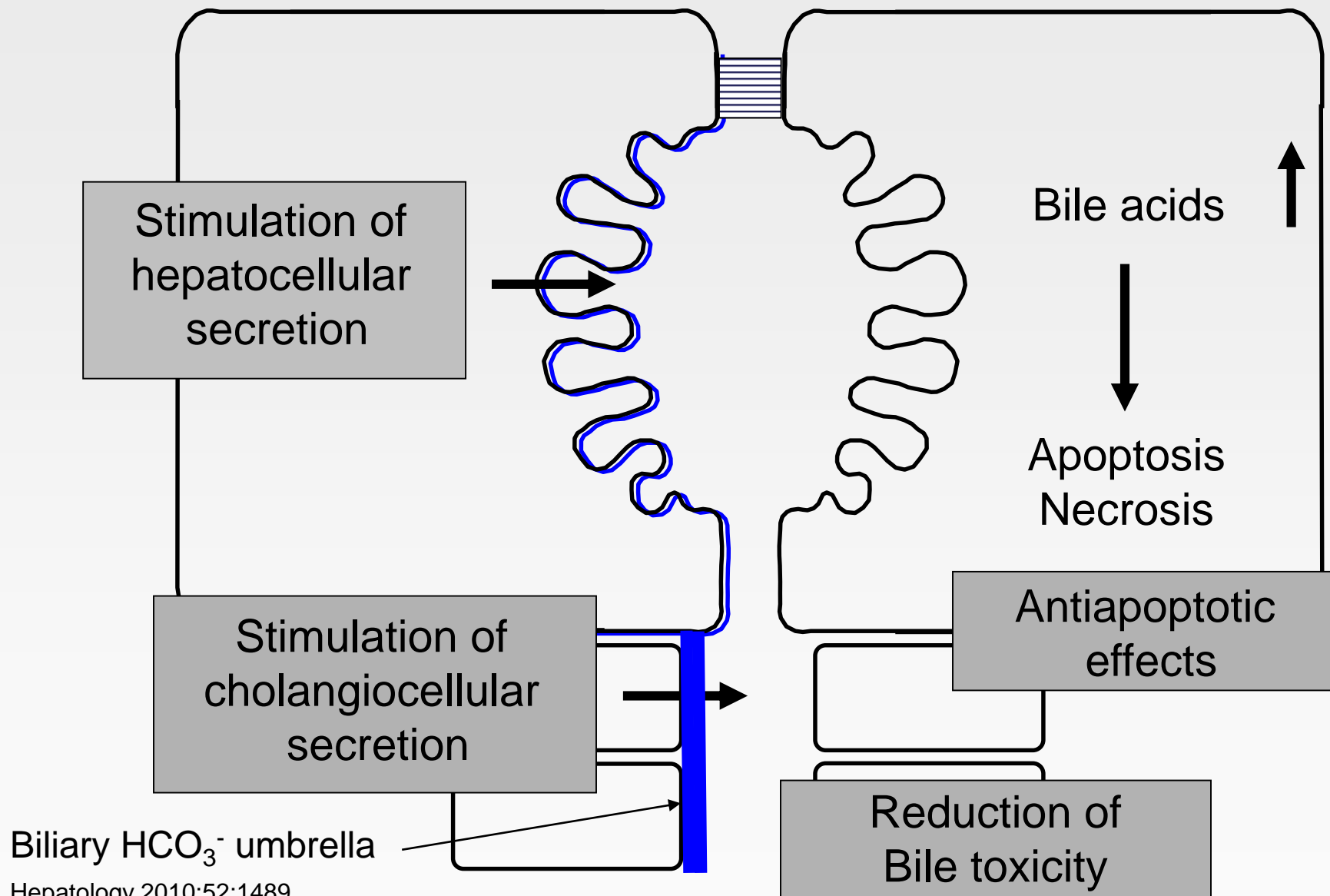
Beuers. Nature CP Gastroenterol Hepatol 2006;3:318 (references 1992-2006)

Wimmer, Hohenester et al., Gut 2008; 57: 1448

Cruz et al., Hepatology 2010; 52: 327

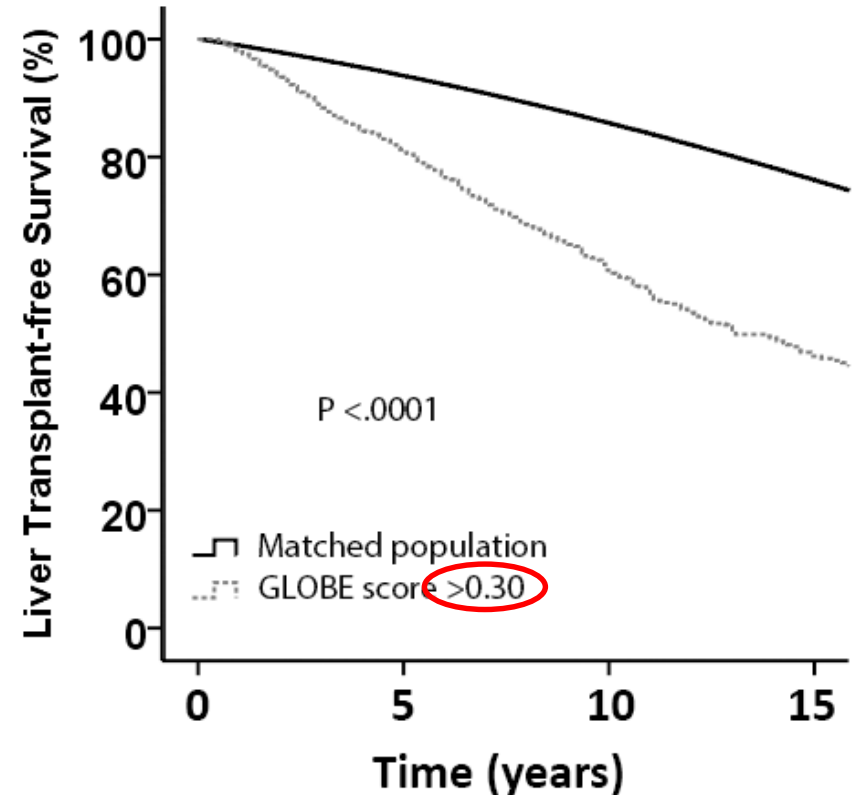
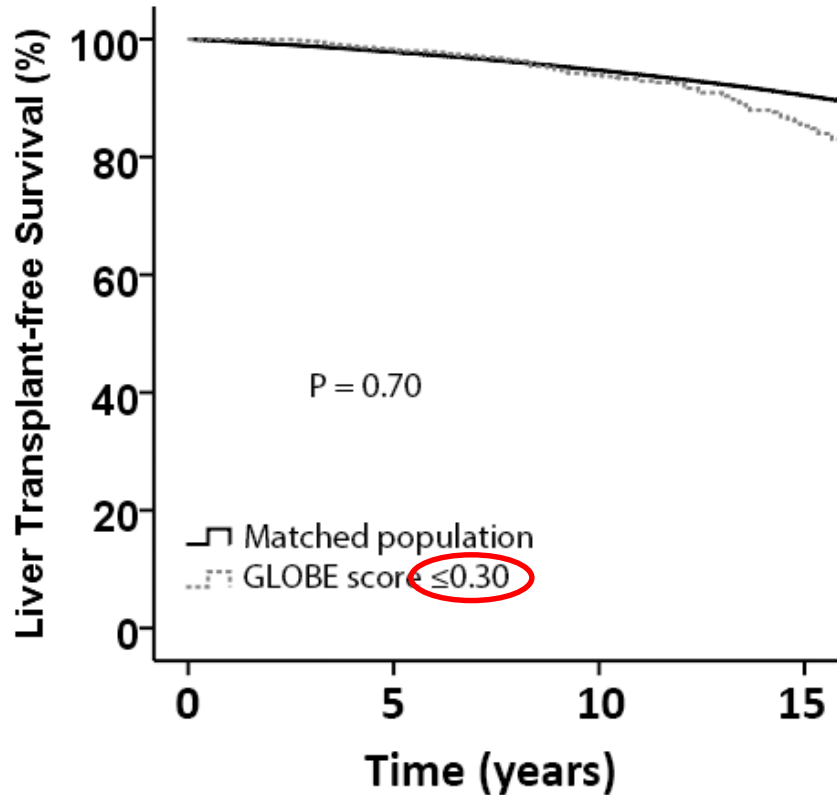


Putative mechanisms and sites of action of UDCA in cholestatic liver diseases



The PBC GLOBE score predicts outcome after 1 year of UDCA

Derivation cohort



GLOBE score: Age, bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, albumin, platelets

n=4111 PBC patients



Primary biliary cholangitis: Standard *and potential 2nd line* therapy

Pathogenesis

RCT
(Phase 3)

Immune-mediated bile duct injury



Defect of the biliary HCO₃⁻ umbrella: cholangiocyte injury by BA



Cholestasis with retention of hydrophobic bile acids in liver



Liver cell damage, fibrosis, cirrhosis



Liver failure

FXR agonists: e.g., obeticholic acid

PPARα agonists: e.g. bezafibrate

GR/PXR agonists: e.g., budesonide?

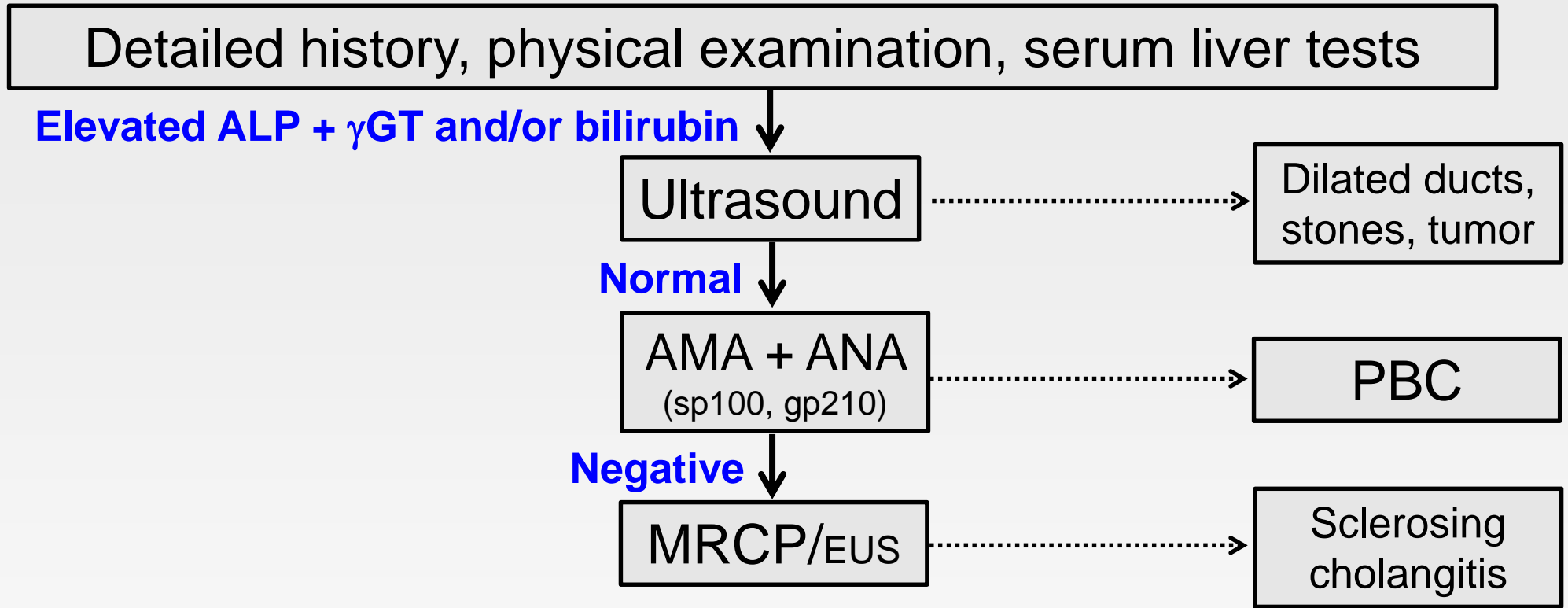
Ursodeoxycholic acid

(13-15 mg/kg/d)

Liver transplantation



Diagnostic approach to cholestasis



Primair scleroserende cholangitis

- **Diagnose**
- Pathogenese
- Therapie



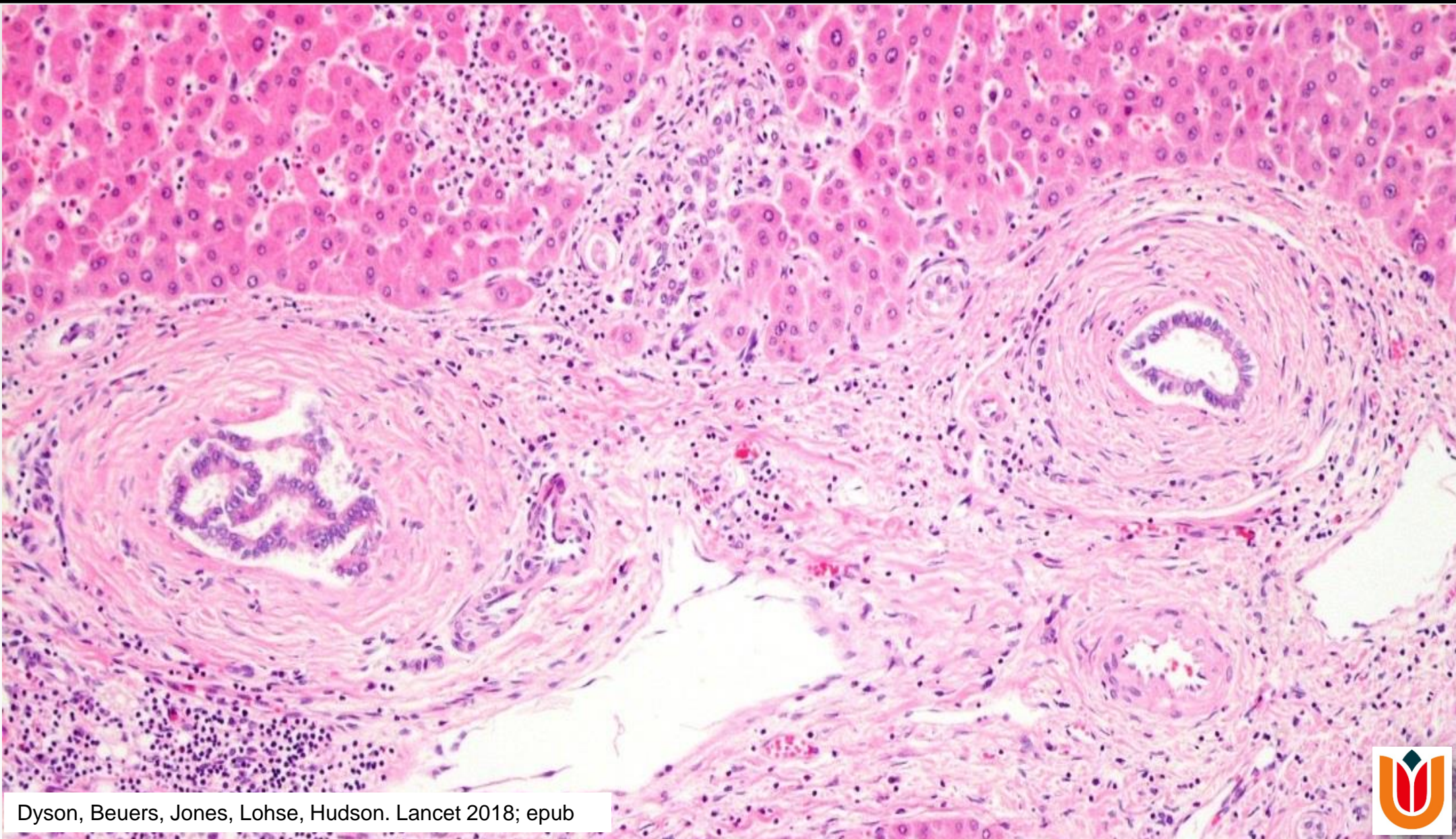
Sclerosing cholangitis

MRCP



Sclerosing cholangitis

Histology



The patient with sclerosing cholangitis

History, additional diagnostic procedures:

Causes of secondary sclerosing cholangitis ?

no

Primary sclerosing cholangitis

yes

- AIDS-related cholangiopathy
- Cholangiocarcinoma*
- Choledocholithiasis*
- Chronic biliary infestation (liver fluke, ascaris)
- Congenital (choledochal cysts, Caroli's s., biliary atresia)
- Cystic fibrosis
- Eosinophilic cholangitis
- Histiocytosis X
- IgG4-associated cholangitis (IAC)
- Ischaemic cholangitis
- Mast cell cholangiopathy
- Portal hypertensive biliopathy
- Recurrent pyogenic cholangitis
- Sarcoidosis
- Sclerosing cholangitis of the critically ill patient
- Surgical trauma

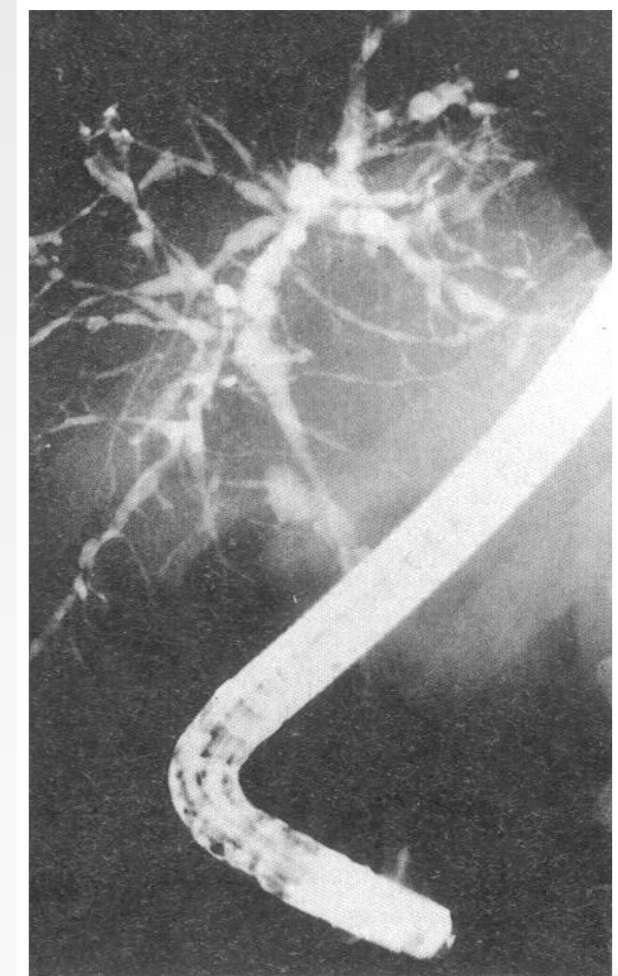
Secondary sclerosing cholangitis



Primary sclerosing cholangitis

The typical patient in the Netherlands

Point prevalence (per 100.000)	6.0
Incidence (per 100.000/year)	0.5
Age at manifestation (yrs, mean)	38.9
Male gender	64%
Inflammatory bowel disease	68%
UDCA treatment	92%
LTx-free survival (yrs, mean)	21.2
(LTx-free survival of 450 patients at 3 LTx centres)	13.2)
Cholangiocarcinoma	7%
Colorectal carcinoma	3%



m, 42 years

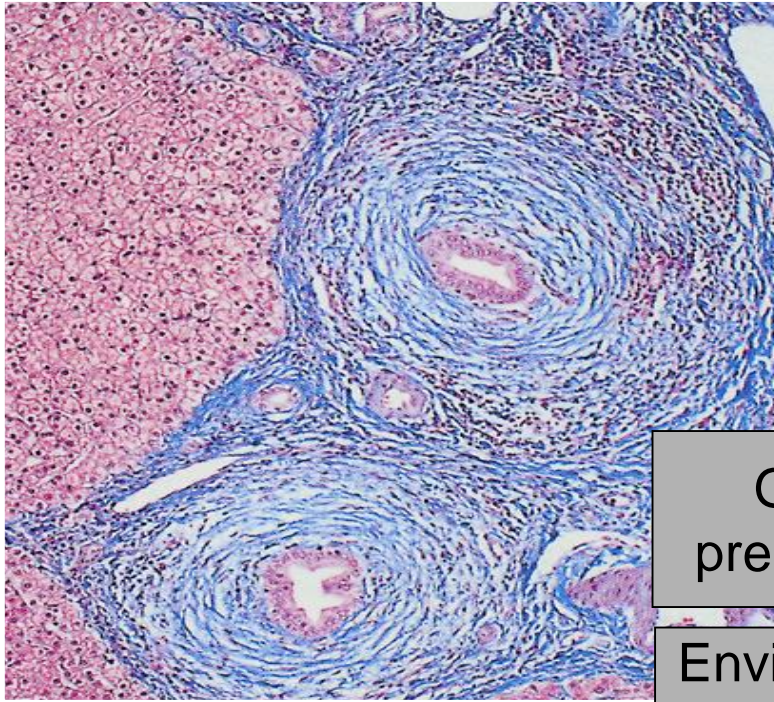


Primair scleroserende cholangitis

- Diagnose
- **Pathogenese**
- Therapie



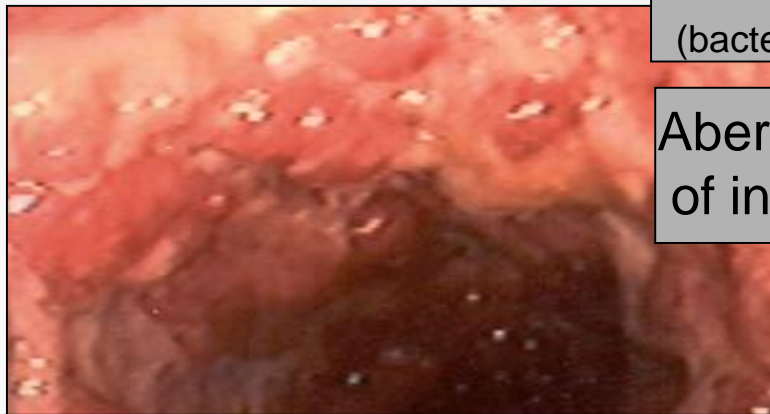
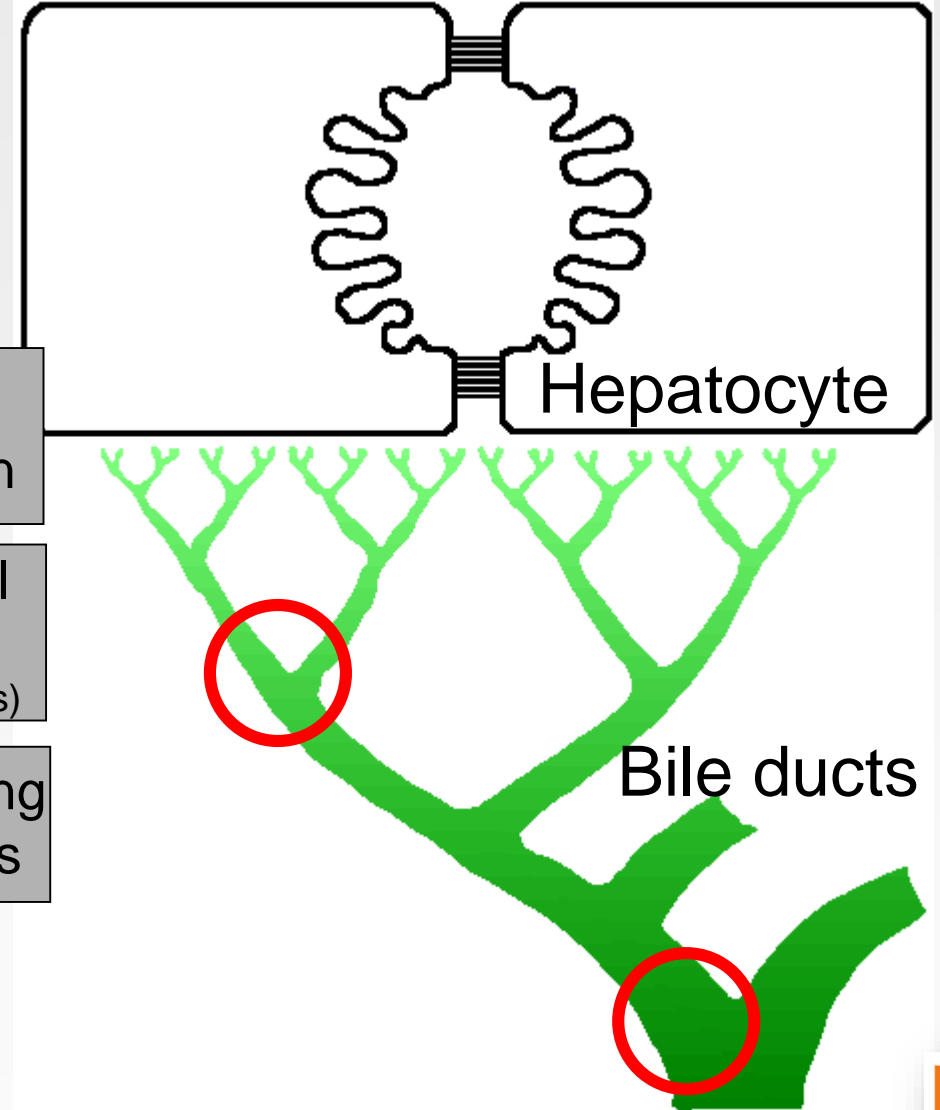
Pathogenesis of primary sclerosing cholangitis



Genetic predisposition

Environmental factors
(bacterial pathogens)

Aberrant homing of intest. T-cells



Association with IBD $\geq 70\%$



Primair scleroserende cholangitis

- Diagnose
- Pathogenese
- **Therapie**



PSC :

Therapy

Pathogenetic model

Immunologic bile duct injury
(Cytokine-mediated)



Bile duct stenoses
Aggravation of injury by BA



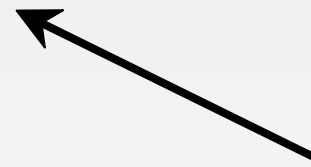
Cholestasis with retention of
hydrophobic bile acids in liver



Fibrosis, cirrhosis



Liver failure



Ursodeoxycholic acid

(15-20 mg/kg/d)

?



Liver transplantation

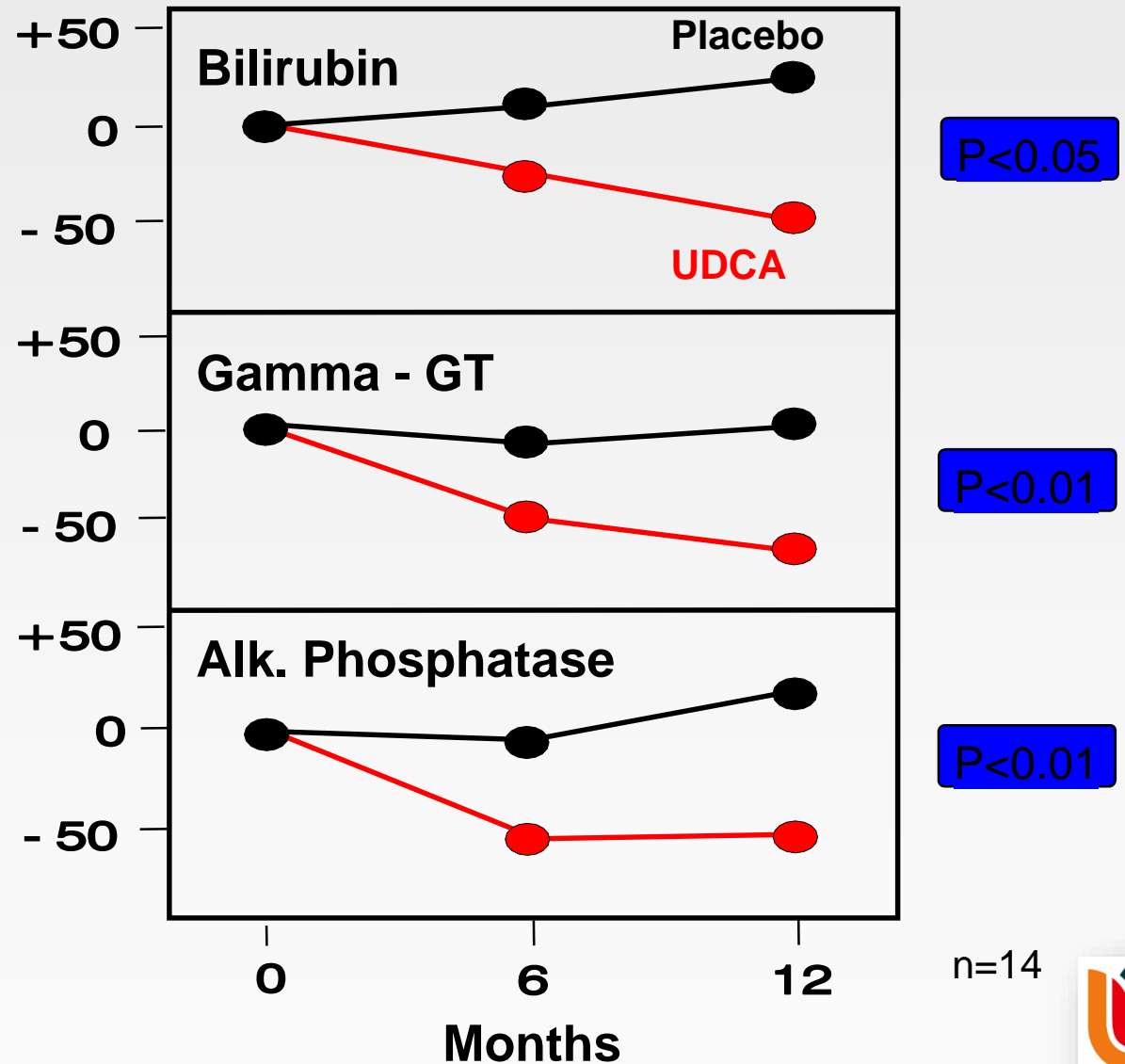
EASL CP Guidelines, J Hepatol 2009;51:237



Treatment of primary sclerosing cholangitis with UDCA

Serum liver tests

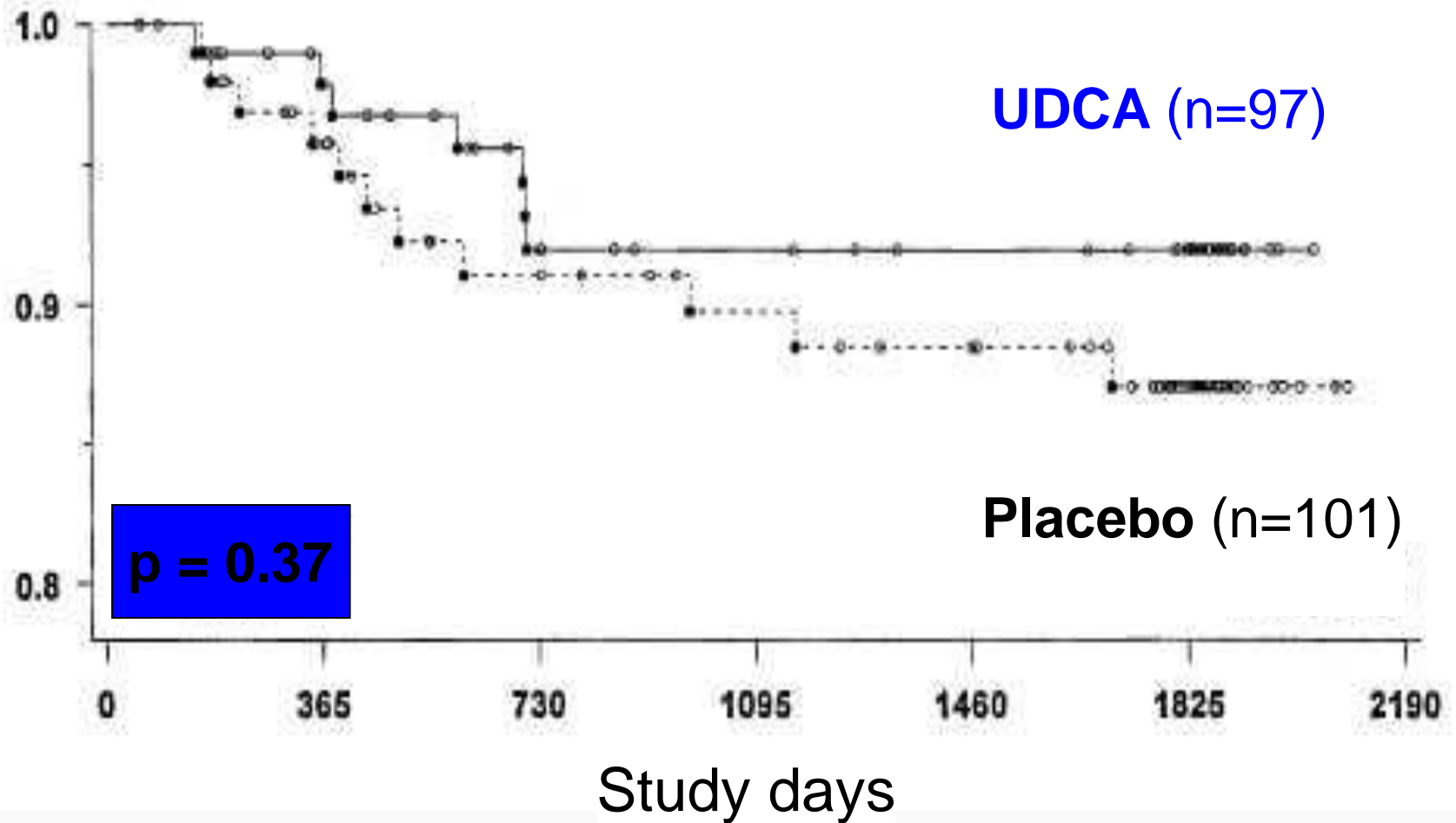
Change
[%]



Treatment of primary sclerosing cholangitis with UDCA

- Transplant-free survival -

Survival
without
liver
trans-
plantation



Power analysis *a priori*: n = 346



PSC :

Therapy *under evaluation*

Pathogenetic model

**Immunologic bile duct injury
(Cytokine- mediated)**



**Bile duct stenoses
Aggravation of injury by BA**



**Cholestasis with retention of
hydrophobic bile acids in liver**



Fibrosis, cirrhosis



Liver failure

*Vedolizumab ?
norUDCA ?*

*RCT
(Phase 2)*

Endoscopic dilatation

*RCT
(Phase 3)*

**Ursodeoxycholic acid
(15-20 mg/kg/d)**

*Nuclear receptor agonists ?
- PPAR α*

*RCT
(Phase 2)*

FGF19 homologues ?

Liver transplantation



Entry question #2

Uw 27-jarige patiënt met PSC en Colitis ulcerosa vraagt u:
Voor welke kwaadaardige tumor heb ik de relatief sterkste
verhoging van risico door mijn ziekte ?

- Cholangiocellulair carcinoom
- Colorectaal carcinoom
- Hepatocellulair carcinoom
- Melanoom
- Pancreas carcinoom



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Advies

- **Cholangiocellulair carcinoom**
- Colorectaal carcinoom
- Hepatocellulair carcinoom
- Melanoom
- Pancreas carcinoom

Echo jaarlijks

Coloscopie jaarlijks



Primary sclerosing cholangitis

Conclusions

- The typical PSC patient is a young(er) man with IBD.
- The pathogenesis remains unclear and may involve genetic, environmental and immunological factors.
- PSC is associated with an enhanced risk for malignancies.
- UDCA at moderate doses and balloon dilatation for dominant strictures are widely used in PSC. Liver transplantation is the only proven treatment which improves long-term survival.



The patient with sclerosing cholangitis

History, additional diagnostic procedures:

Causes of secondary sclerosing cholangitis ?

no

Primary sclerosing cholangitis

yes

- AIDS-related cholangiopathy
- Cholangiocarcinoma*
- Choledocholithiasis*
- Chronic biliary infestation (liver fluke, ascaris)
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- **IgG4-associated cholangitis (IAC)**
- Ischaemic cholangitis
- Mast cell cholangiopathy
- Portal hypertensive biliopathy
- Recurrent pyogenic cholangitis
- Sarcoidosis
- Sclerosing cholangitis of the critically ill patient
- Surgical trauma

Secondary sclerosing cholangitis



IgG4-geassocieerde cholangitis

- **Diagnose**
- Pathogenese
- Therapie



Entry question #3

What is the most frequent initial clinical sign / symptom of the hepatobiliary manifestation of IgG4-RD?

- A. Abdominal complaints
- B. Jaundice
- C. New onset diabetes
- D. Steatorrhea
- E. Weight loss



Entry question #3

What is the most frequent initial clinical sign / symptom of the hepatobiliary manifestation of IgG4-RD?

- A. Abdominal complaints
- B. Jaundice**
- C. New onset diabetes
- D. Steatorrhea
- E. Weight loss



Entry question #4

U begeleid een 65-jarige schilder met een IgG4-geassocieerde cholangitis (IAC). Hij vraagt u voor meer informatie over het ziektebeeld.

Wat is correct?

- A. Het ziektebeeld betreft vooral vrouwen.
- B. Inductie therapie met prednisolon wordt gevolgd door cyclische onderhoudsbehandeling met rituximab.
- C. Patiënten hebben een hoge genetische predispositie.
- D. IAC stelt vaak een van meerdere orgaan manifesties van de systemische IgG4-gerelateerde ziekte voor.
- E. Serum IgG4 is zeer sensitief en specifiek voor de diagnose van IgG4-RD.



Entry question #4

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Wat is correct?

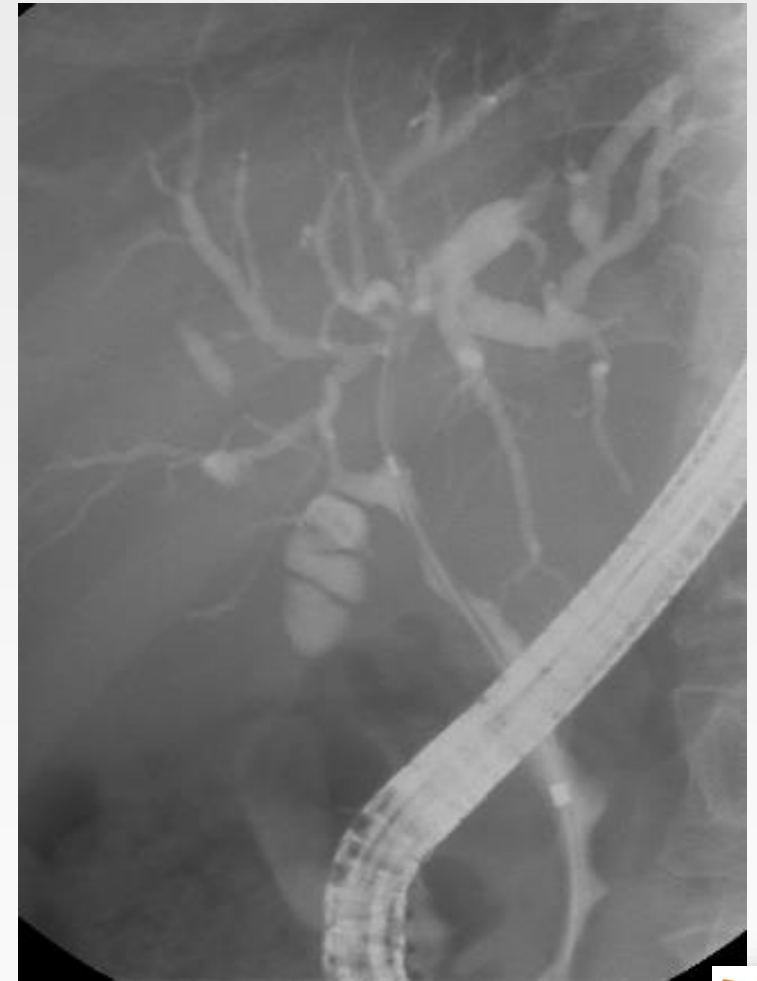
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- E. Serum IgG4 is zeer sensitief en specifiek voor de diagnose van IgG4-RD.



IgG4-associated cholangitis (IAC)

The typical patient

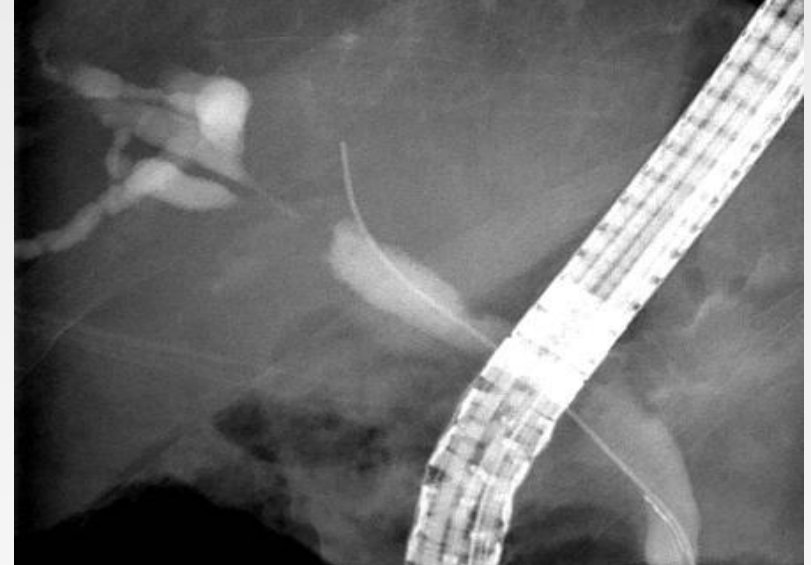
- Male (80-85%)
- Middle aged / elderly (> 60 yrs)
- Jaundice, weight loss, abdominal compl.
- Localized organ swelling / tumor
- Elevated serum / tissue IgG4
- Other organ manifestations of IgG4-RD



IgG4-associated cholangitis mimics PSC and CCA



Cholangiographic appearance mimicking primary sclerosing cholangitis (**PSC**)

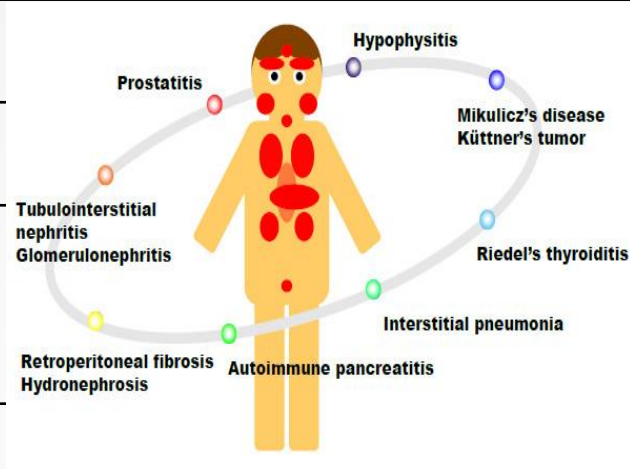


Cholangiographic appearance mimicking cholangiocarcinoma (**CCA**)

Misdiagnosis is common!

IgG4-Related Disease (IRD)

Abdominal and pelvic IRD localisation	Extra-abdominal IRD localisation
Bile ducts (IAC) , gallbladder and liver	Hypophysis
Pancreas (AIP)	Eye, retro-orbital tumor
Stomach, intestine, ileal pouch	Salivary and lacrimal glands
Retroperitoneum	Thyroid gland
Kidney	Lungs
Pseudotumor	Lymphatic system (lung hilus !)
Prostate	Vascular system (aortitis)
Testis	



Diagnosis of IgG4-associated Cholangitis

- HISORt Criteria -

Biliary strictures: intrahepatic, proximal and/or distal extrahepatic

A ↓

Previous pancreatic /
biliary resection or core
biopsy of pancreas
showing diagnostic
features of AIP / IAC

Definite IAC



76 yrs, m; IgG4 12.5 g/L (n < 1.4)

Alderlieste et al., Digestion 2009;79:220



Diagnosis of IgG4-associated Cholangitis

- HISORt Criteria -

Biliary strictures: intrahepatic, proximal and/or distal extrahepatic

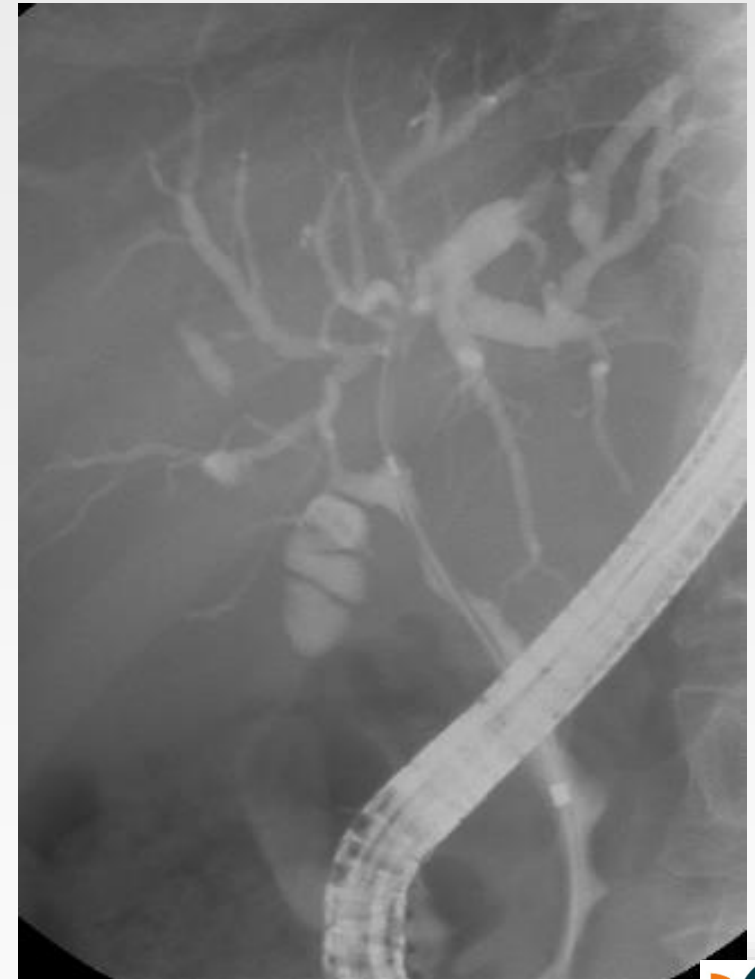
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Previous pancreatic /
biliary resection or core
biopsy of pancreas
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features of AIP / IAC

B ↓

Classical imaging
findings of AIP
+
Elevated serum IgG4

Definite IAC



71 yrs, m; IgG4 11.9 g/L (n < 1.4)

Alderlieste et al., Digestion 2009;79:220



Diagnosis of IgG4-associated Cholangitis

- HISORt Criteria -

Biliary strictures: intrahepatic, proximal and/or distal extrahepatic

A ↓

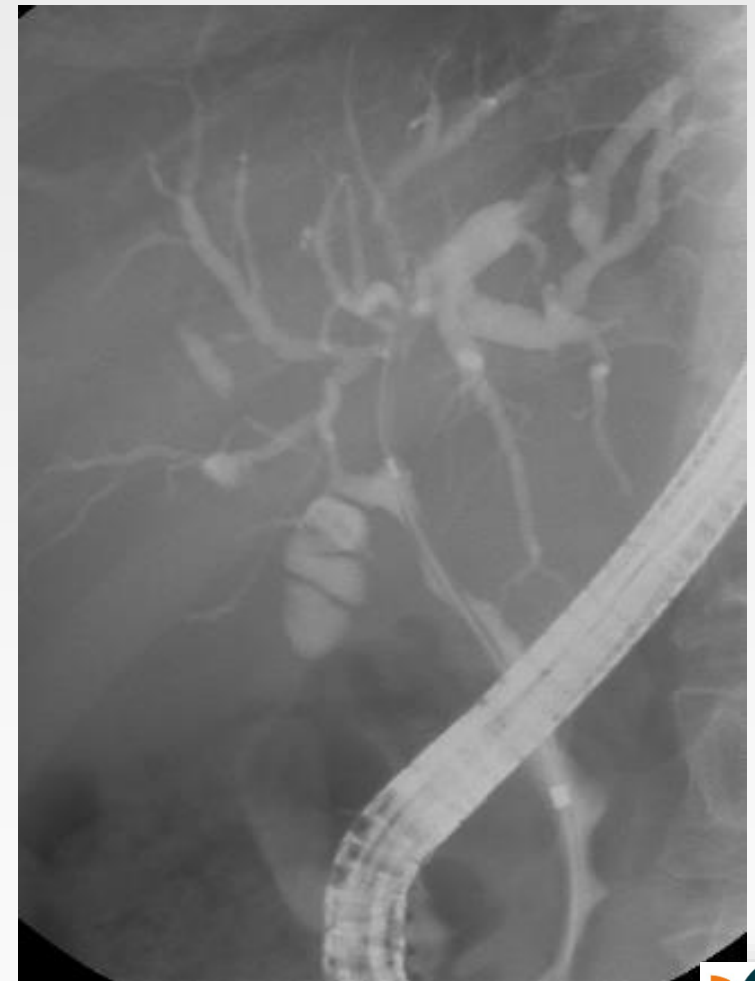
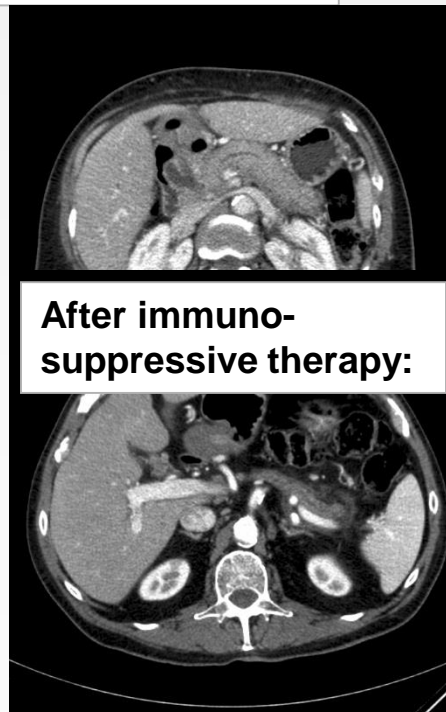
Previous pancreatic / biliary resection or core biopsy of pancreas showing diagnostic features of AIP / IAC



Definite IAC

B ↓

Classical imaging findings of AIP
+
Elevated serum IgG4



71 yrs, m; IgG4 11.9 g/L (n < 1.4)

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Diagnosis of IgG4-associated Cholangitis

Biliary strictures: intrahepatic, proximal and/or distal extrahepatic

A ↓

Previous pancreatic / biliary resection or core biopsy of pancreas showing diagnostic features of AIP / IAC



B ↓

Classical imaging findings of AIP
+
Elevated serum IgG4



C ↓

Two or more of the following:

- Elevated serum IgG4
- Suggestive pancreatic imaging
- Other organ involvement
- Bile duct biopsy with > 10 IgG4-positive cells/HPF

Probable IAC

After 4 weeks of corticosteroids:

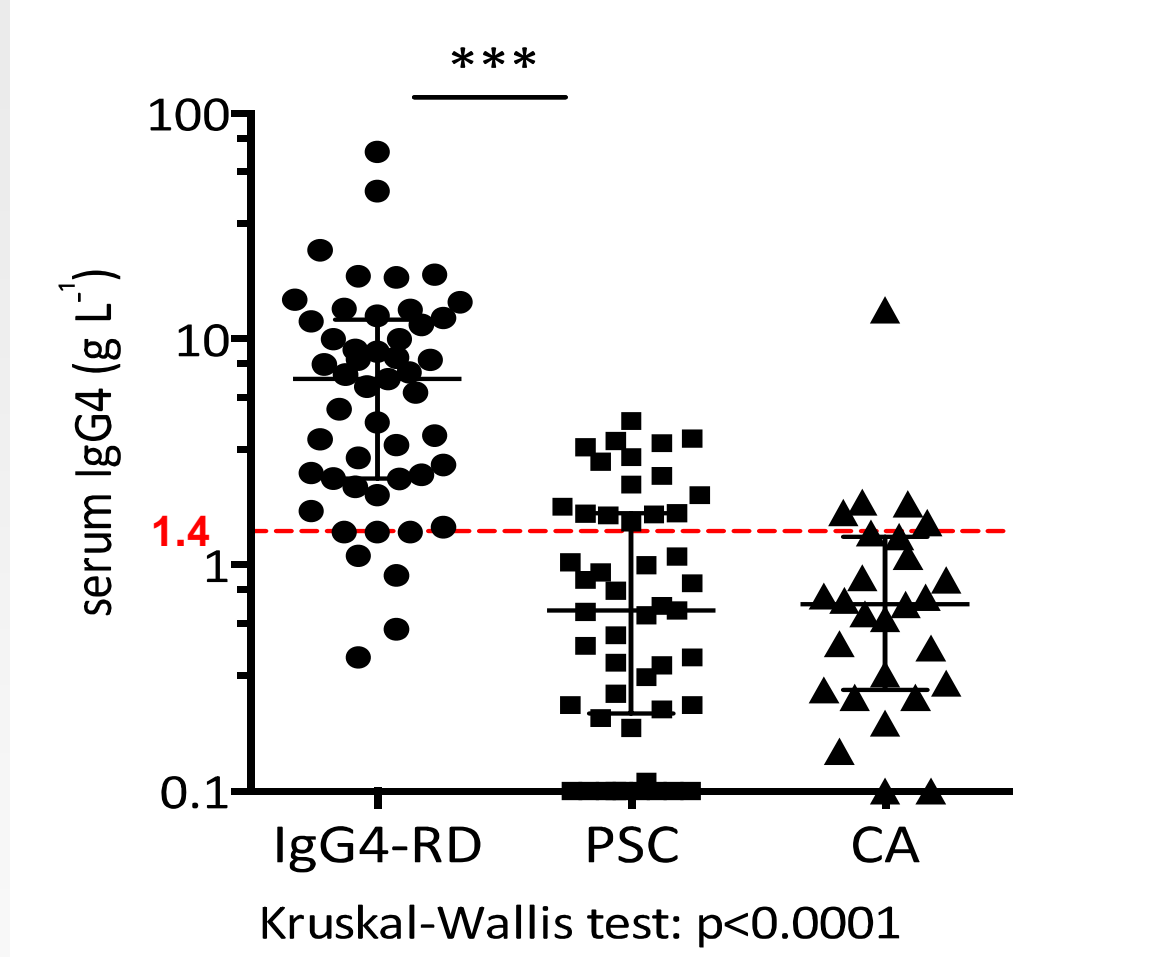
- Markedly improved biliary strictures
- Serum liver tests < 2 x ULN
- Decreasing IgG4 and CA19.9



Definite IAC



Diagnostic value of serum IgG4 is limited



Sensitivity = 86%
Specificity = 75%



IgG4-geassocieerde cholangitis

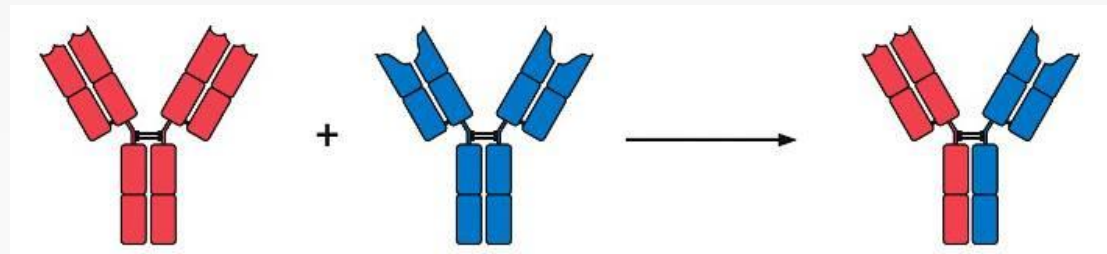
- Diagnose
- **Pathogenese**
- Therapie



Pathogenesis of IgG4-Related Disease

Role of IgG4 ?

- Smallest fraction of total IgG in serum
- ‘Regulatory’ antibody
- Unable to bind C1q, low Fc affinity
- Upregulated in chronic immune stimulation (e.g., helminthic infections, allergies)
- Can exchange Fab arm



Role of IgG4 in health and disease

→ IgG4 is upregulated in chronic immune stimulation

Beekeepers ¹

- Bee poison-specific IgG4

Patients with melanoma ²

- Melanoma-specific IgG4

Animal workers ³

- Rodent-specific IgG4



1 Garcia-Robaina et al., Clin Exp Allergy 1997;27:418

2 Karagiannis et al., J Clin Invest, 2013;123:1457

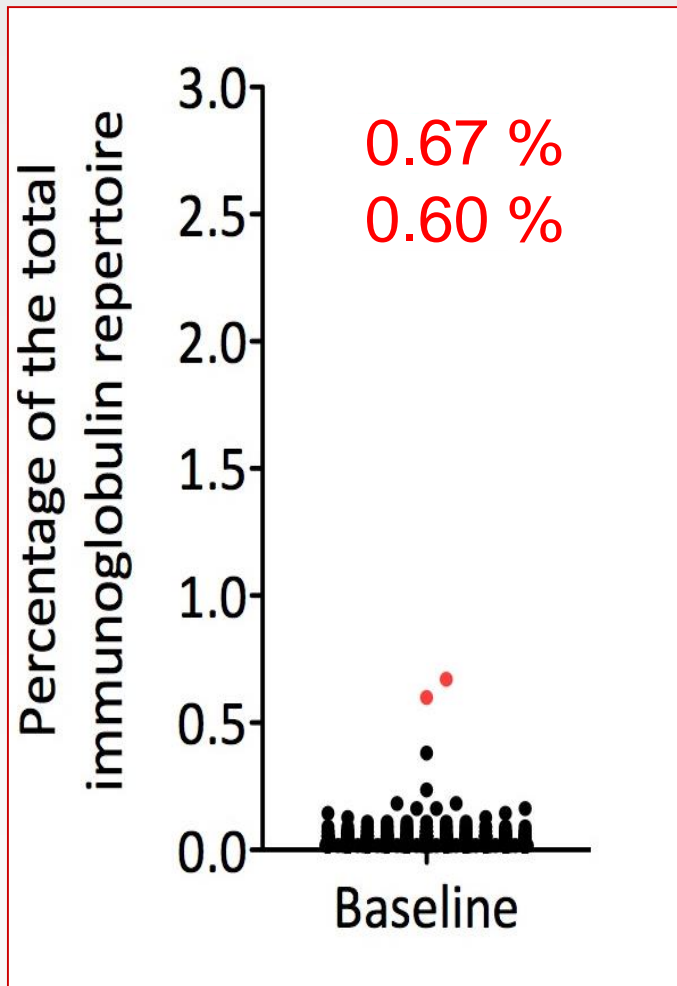
3 Jones et al., Occup Environm Medicine 2014; 71: 619



IgG4-associated cholangitis

B-cell receptor sequencing

Patient #1



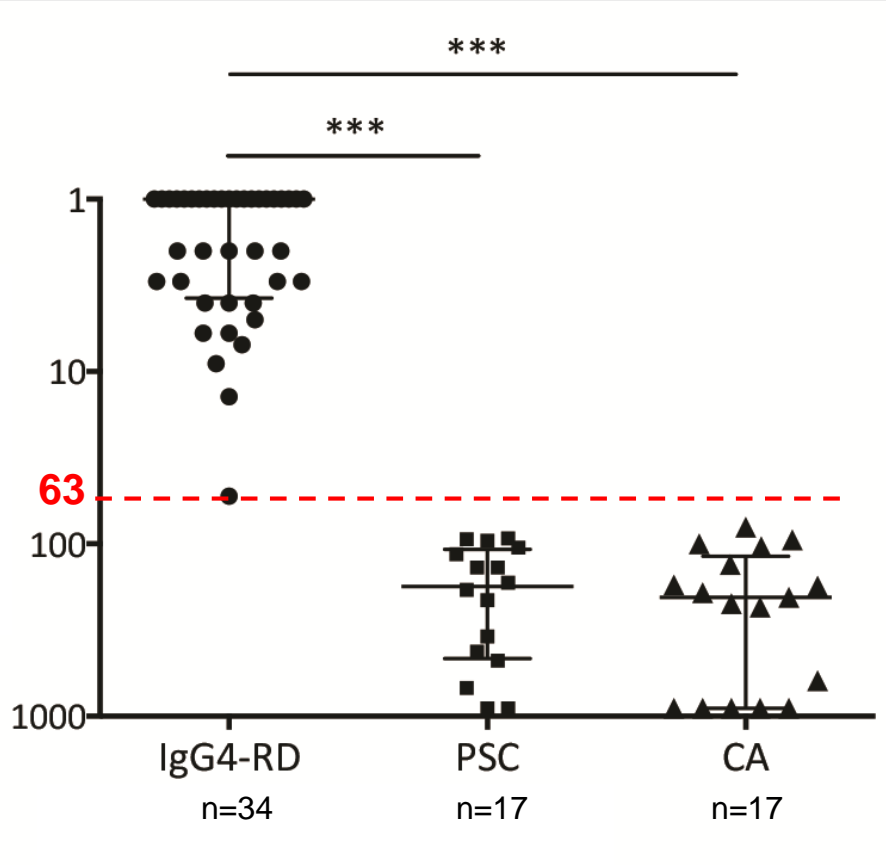
- Two highly expanded IgG4⁺ B cell clones
- ➔ Specific B-cell responses may be relevant in the pathogenesis of IgG4-related disease



Distinguishing PSC and IgG4-associated cholangitis

The most prominent IgG4+ BCR clone ranks higher in IgG4-RD than PSC

Rank of the most prominent IgG4+ BCR clone among all IgG clones



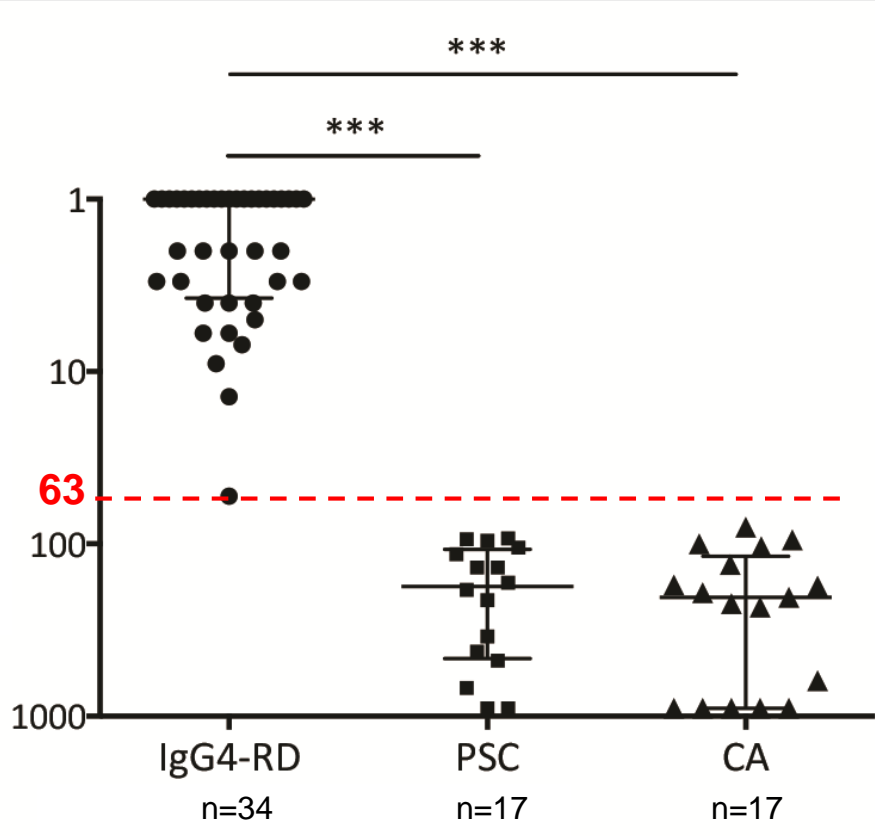
Sensitivity = 100%
Specificity = 100%



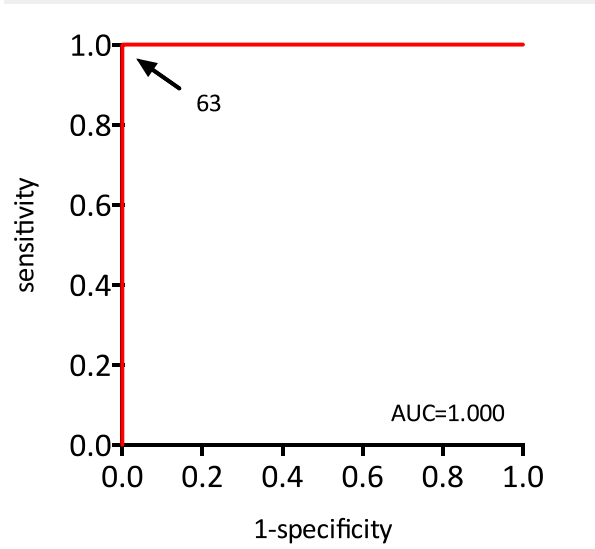
Distinguishing PSC and IgG4-associated cholangitis

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Sensitivity = 100%
Specificity = 100%



Doorenspleet, Hubers et al. Hepatology 2016; 64: 501

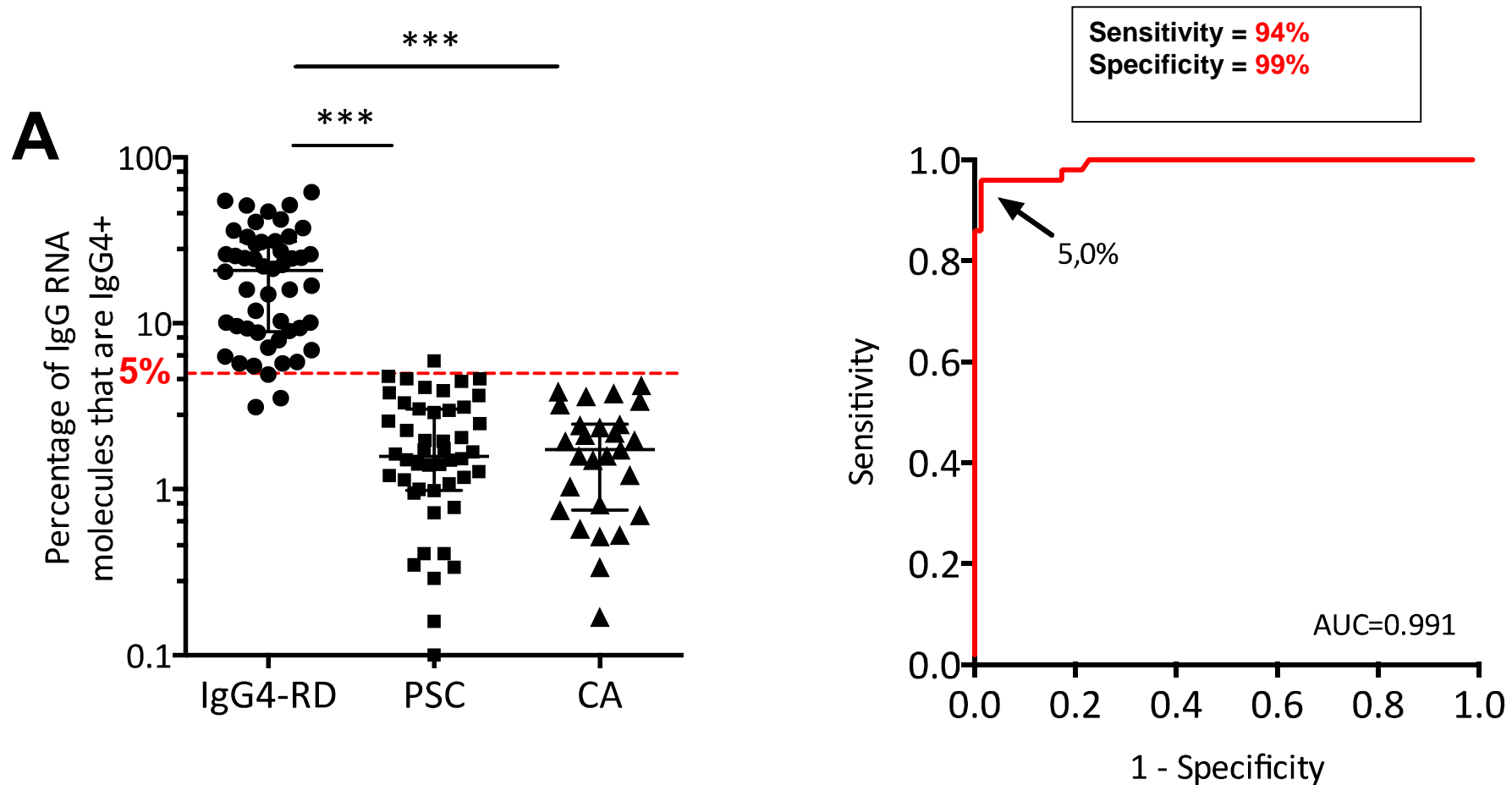
CA: Biliary and pancreatic malignancies

Maillette de Buy Wenniger, Doorenspleet et al. Hepatology 2013; 57: 2340



Distinguishing PSC and IgG4-Related Disease

An affordable IgG4/IgG RNA qPCR is almost as accurate as NGS technology



Chronic Exposure to Occupational Antigens May Play a Key Role in the Initiation and/or Maintenance of IgG4-Related Disease



“Blue collar” work

(> 1 year, mostly lifelong)

Amsterdam

Oxford

IAC/AIP (n=25 and 44, resp.)

88 %

61 %

PSC (n=21 and 22, resp.)

16 %

22 %



Job history (≥ 1 year)

1. Musician, painter, metal worker, carpenter
2. Carpenter
3. Glass worker, project manager at multinational
4. Plasterer
5. Industrial fuel/waste oil laboratory, skipper
6. Miner, tiler, bath superintendent
7. Metal worker, textile worker
8. Shipping
9. Painter, army officer, flight arrangements, tomato farmer
10. Painter
11. Small machine factory owner
12. Builder, plumber
13. Self-employed ophthalmician
14. Carpenter
15. Bricklayer, industrial cleaner of house walls
16. Mud worker, shipping, mud industry manager
17. Builder, painter
18. Car industry worker
19. Historian, rebuilt 3 houses during last 20 years
20. Builder, wall miller
21. Hospital cleaner
22. Street builder, pigeon holder
23. *Industrial warehouse forklift driver*
24. *Teacher*
25. *Nurse*

Recalled regular occupational exposures (≥ 1 year)

car paint, metal, **solvents**, pigments

sawdust, wood, chipboard, **solvents**

glass dust, glass components, lead, barium, cobalt, nickel, lead, silica, industrial dust, building sites

chalk dust, sawdust, wood, chipwood, **solvents**

crude oil, ship waste oil, **solvents**, chemicals

silica dust, mine dust, asbestos, **solvents**, glue, chlorine

metal dust, **solvents**, textiles, pigments, paints

solvents, asbestos, crude oil

paint, pigments, **solvents**, kerosene, pesticides, friction plate dust

paint, pigments, **solvents**, dust

car paint, metal dust, **solvents**, asbestos, oils

plumbing materials, dust, sawdust, clipboard, glue, lead

lense glass dust, lense plastic dust, acetone

sawdust, clipboard, glue, **solvents**

silica dust, concrete dust, brick dust, **solvents**, asbestos

solvents, oil products, dust

solvents, sawdust, clipboard, paints

solvents, oil products

sawdust, silica dust, **solvents**, paint

silica dust, sawdust, dust, **solvents**

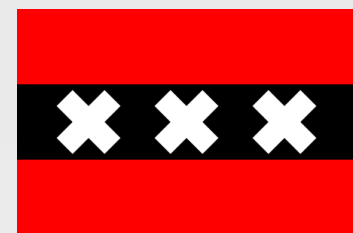
cleaning products

silica dust, tar, pigeon antigens, pigeon faeces

unknown (deceased)

no known exposures

no known exposures

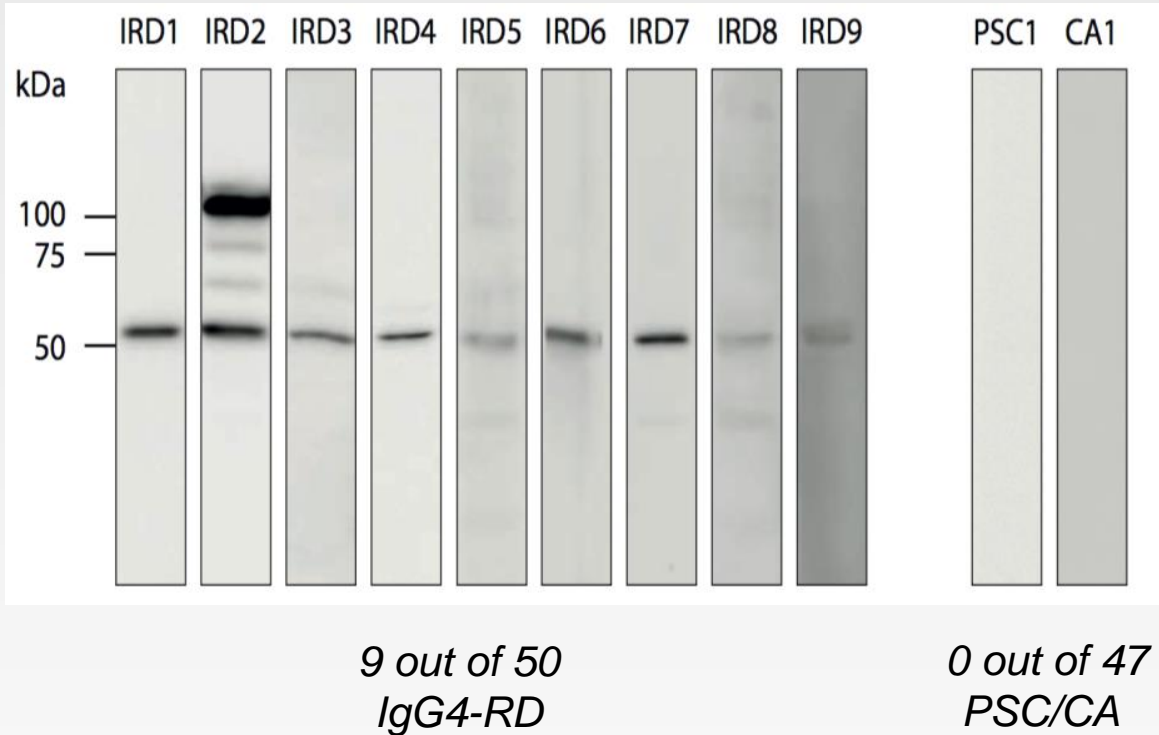


Pathogenesis of IgG4-Related Disease

Are there specific auto-antigens in IgG4-RD?



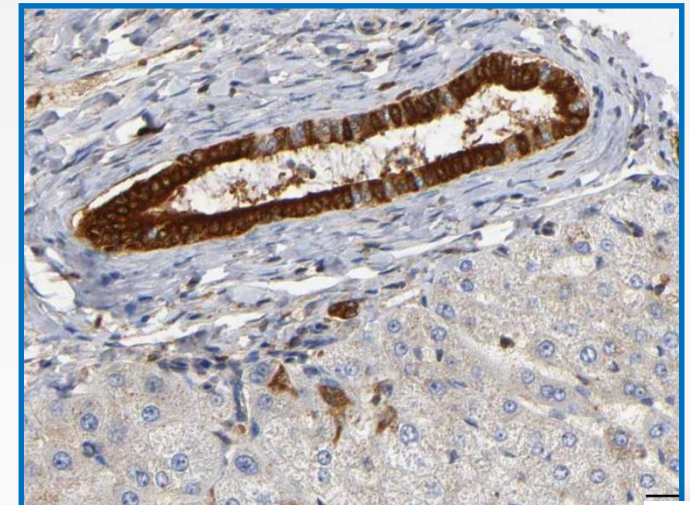
Serum IgG4 antibodies in IgG4 cholangiopathy recognize a ~56 kDa protein in human H69 cholangiocyte lysates



IgG1 antibodies bind to the 56 kDa protein in 7/9 patients with IgG4-RD

Mass-spectrometry identified Annexin A11 as the 56 kDa protein

IgG4 antibodies block binding of IgG1 antibodies to Annexin A11



www.proteinatlas.com

IgG4-geassocieerde cholangitis

- Diagnose
- Pathogenese
- **Therapie**



Treatment of IgG4-associated cholangitis

1. Initial treatment:

- 40 mg* predniso(lo)ne / day for 4 weeks
- Tapering of daily predniso(lo)ne: 5 mg/week
- Total treatment duration: 11 weeks

* (10-)20 mg predniso(lo)n / day may be sufficient

Buijs et al. Pancreas 2014;43:261

2. Long-term maintenance treatment (incomplete responders):

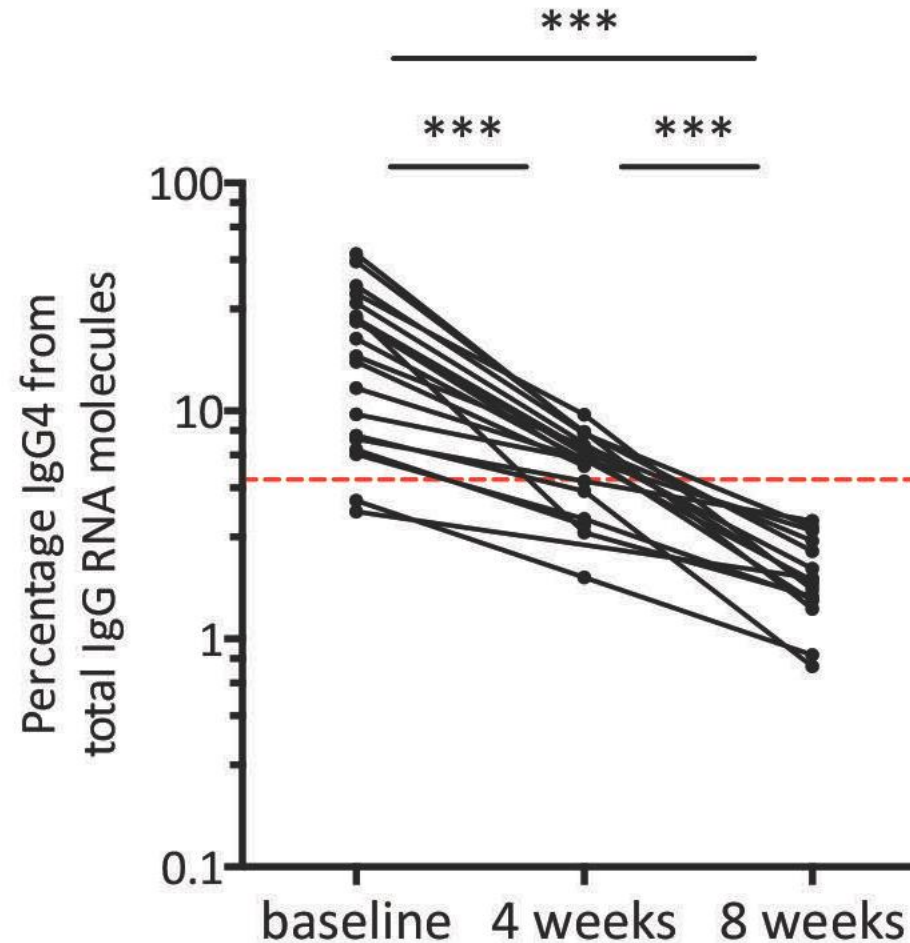
- 5(-10) mg/d Predniso(lo)ne
- ≤ 2 mg/kg/d Azathioprine

3. Experimental (corticosteroid-refractory patients): Rituximab



How to monitor treatment response in IgG4-RD?

IgG4/IgG RNA ratio: promising marker for monitoring of disease activity



IgG4-associated cholangitis

Conclusions

- Bile ducts and pancreas are major targets of IgG4-RD, a multiorgan disease characterized by highly specific B-cell responses.
- Environmental risk factors (“blue collar worker”) might explain the typical gender and age distribution.
- A highly accurate and affordable IgG4/IgG RNA qPCR distinguishes IgG4-RD from PSC and pancreatobiliary malignancies and may help to monitor treatment response.
- Immunosuppressive treatment is effective in IgG4-RD.

