

# The Role of T Cells in the Pathogenesis of Hypertension **Part I.**

**Bernardo Rodriguez-Iturbe**

Hospital Universitario and Universidad del Zulia  
Maracaibo, Venezuela



Semmelweis University The 18th Budapest Nephrology School

Under the auspices of ISN, ERA-EDTA and ISP



# IMMUNITY AND HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE (1976-1990)

## Enhanced immune reactivity

Antibodies anti-renal tissue <sup>1,2</sup>

Antibodies to thymocytes in SHR <sup>3</sup>

HTN improved with 6MP <sup>4, 1</sup>

HTN improved with cyclophosphamide <sup>4,5, 14</sup>

Nude (athymic mice) and thymectomy prevent HTN <sup>6,7,8</sup>

T cell transfer from rats with renal infarction induce HTN <sup>6</sup>

Spleen cell transfer of rats with DOCA-salt hypertension induce HTN <sup>11</sup>

Reduction of blood pressure with anti-thymocytic serum <sup>10</sup>

## Suppressed immune reactivity

Thymic grafts from WKY rats improve hypertension in SHR <sup>9</sup>

Decreased DHT <sup>12</sup>

Reduced antibody formation in SHR <sup>12</sup>

Injections of IL2 ameliorate HTN <sup>13</sup>

<sup>1</sup> White FN, Grollman A.. *Nephron*. 1964;204:93–102; <sup>2</sup> Takeichi N, Ba D, Koga Y, Kobayashi H. *J Immunol*. 1983;130:501–505; <sup>3</sup> Takeichi N, Ba D, Kobayashi H. *Cell Immunol*. 1981;60: 181–190. <sup>4</sup> Dzielak DJ. *Am J Physiol*. 1991;260:R459–R467. <sup>5</sup> Norman RA Jr, Dzielak DJ. *Proc Soc Exp Biol Med*. 1986;182:448–453; <sup>6</sup> Okuda T, Grollman A.. *Tex Rep Biol Med*. 1967;25: 257–264. <sup>7</sup> Svendsen UG. *Acta Pathol Microbiol Scand A*. 1976;84:235–243. <sup>8</sup> Svendsen UG. *Acta Pathol Microbiol Scand A*. 1976;84:523–528. <sup>9</sup> Ba D, Takeichi N, Kodama T, Kobayashi H. *J Immunol*. 1982;128:1211–1216. <sup>10</sup> Bendich A, Belisle EH, Strausser HR.. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun*. 1981;99:600–607. <sup>11</sup> Olsen F. *Acta Pathol Microbiol Scand C*. 1980;88:1–5. <sup>12</sup> Takeichi N, Suzuki K, Okayasu T, Kobayashi H. *Clin Exp Immunol*. 1980; 40:120 –126. <sup>13</sup> Tuttle RS et al. *Hypertension* 1990; 15:89-94. <sup>14</sup> Bataillard A et al. *Int J Immunopharmacol* 1989; 11: 377-384

# IMMUNITY and HYPERTENSION. Editorials/Reviews

***Immune dysfunction interpreted as an adaptive response that would tend to reduce what would otherwise be life threatening increments in blood pressure***

Bendich A, Belisle EH, Strausser HR. Immune system modulation and its effects on blood pressure of the spontaneously hypertensive male and female rat

*Biochem Biophys Res Commun* **1981**; 99: 600-607

***..immune dysfunction is rarely mentioned in discussions on arterial hypertension***

Dzielak DJ. Editorial: AIDS, lupus, rheumatoid arthritis-hypertension?

*Hypertension* **1990**; 15: 95-96.

***...new data implicating T lymphocytes will eventually allow discovery of new therapeutic targets that may improve outcomes in cardiovascular and renal disease in humans.***

Schiffrin EL. T lymphocytes: a role in hypertension?

*Cur Opin Nephrology Hyperten* **2010**, 19:181–186

**Experimental conditions and animal strains in which hypertension has been found to be associated with renal interstitial inflammation.**

# AORTA

All-induced HBP

Sham

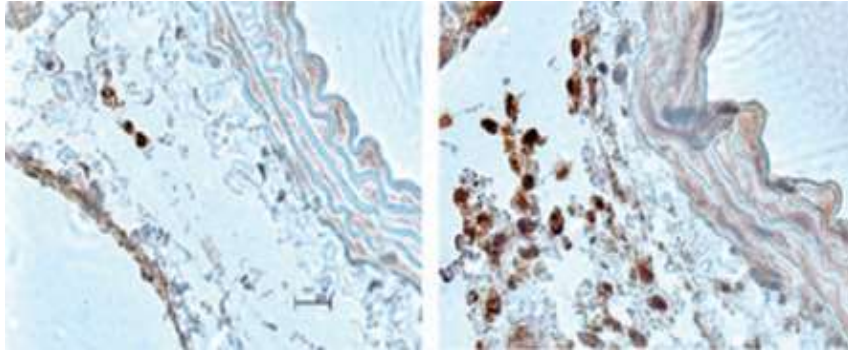
Ang II

L-NAME-induced SSHTN

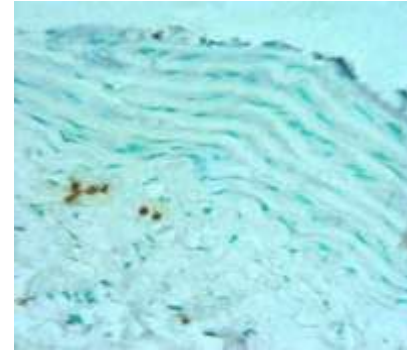
Control

SSHTN

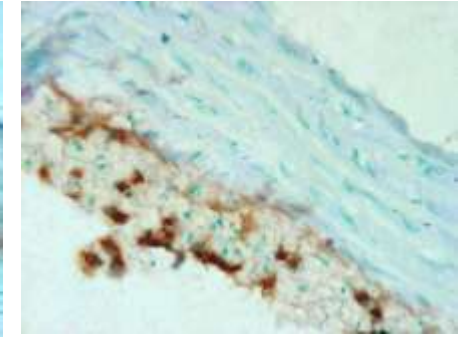
CD3



Guzik et al. JEM 204;2449-60, 2007



Quiroz et al. 2011

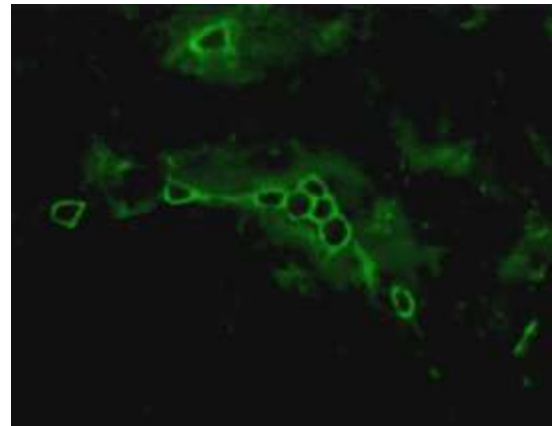


# KIDNEY

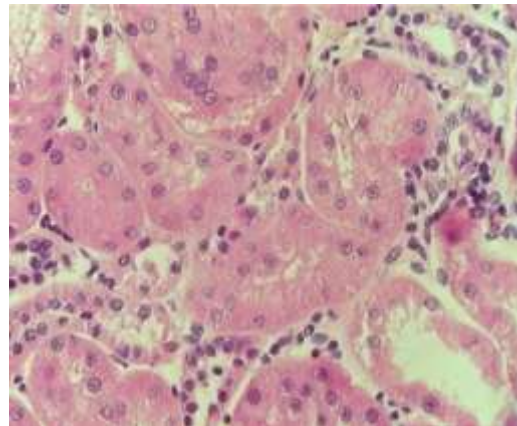
SHR

L-NAME-induced SSHTN

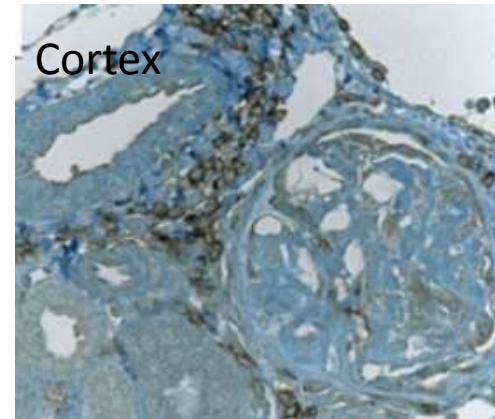
Dahl-Salt sensitive



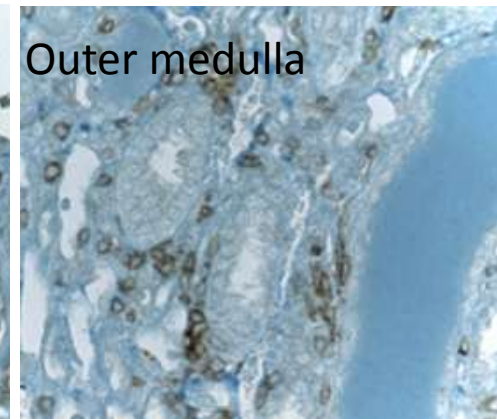
AJPhys 2002;282:F191-F201



AJPhys 2001,281:F38-F47



De Miguel C et al. AJPhys 2010, 298; R1136-R1142enal



# HUMANS

## Interstitial lymphocyte infiltrations in kidney biopsies of hypertensive patients treated with sympatectomy

### ÉTUDE HISTOLOGIQUE DE 55 BIOPSIES RÉNALES PRÉLEVÉES CHEZ DES MALADES HYPERTENDUS

Roger-J. GAREAU<sup>1</sup> et Georges-Etienne CARTIER<sup>2</sup>,

*Union Medical de Canada* 1955; 84: 1134-42

**7/55 patients had chronic interstitial nephritis**

trouvaille histologique. Il est impossible de déterminer, par le seul examen des coupes histologiques, si la néphrite interstitielle influence l'évolution de la néphro-sclérose ou si elle provoque l'hypertension.

### RENAL BIOPSIES IN HYPERTENSION

BY

R. H. HEPTINSTALL

*British Heart Journal* 1954; 16: 133

**16/37 patients had lymphocyte infiltration & scars**

Grade (Vasc. changes)	N cases/ N with L infiltrates (%)
0	1/0 (0)
I	12 /1 (8.3)
II	17/9 (52.9)
III	6/5 (83.3)
iV	1 /1 (100)
Total	16/37 (43.2)

# HUMANS

## Interstitial lymphocyte infiltrations in kidney biopsies of hypertensive patients treated with sympatectomy

### HISTOLOGIC STUDIES OF KIDNEY BIOPSY SPECIMENS FROM PATIENTS WITH HYPERTENSION\*

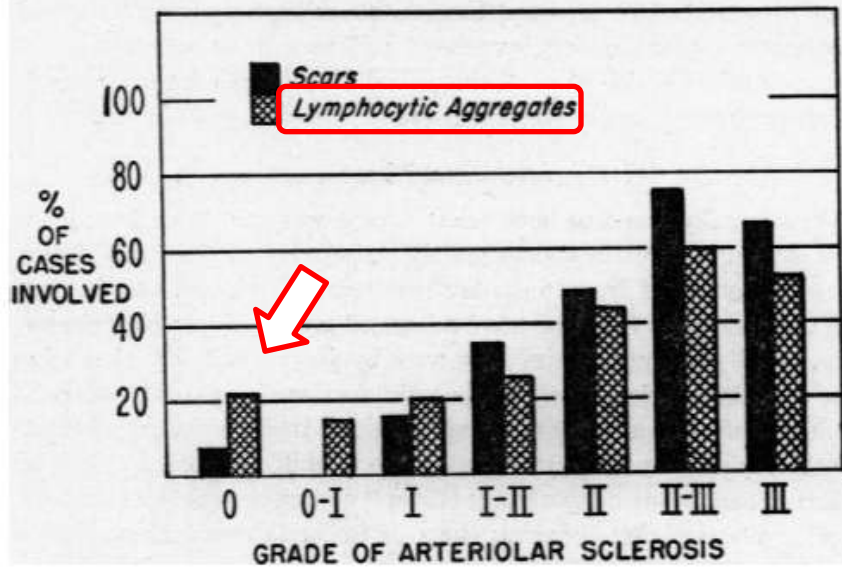
SHELDON C. SOMMERS, M.D.; ARNOLD S. RELMAN, M.D.,  
and REGINALD H. SMITHWICK, M.D.

*From the Departments of Pathology, Medicine and Surgery, Massachusetts Memorial  
Hospitals and Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, Mass.*

Am J Pathol. 1958 August; 34(4): 685–715

Kidney biopsy specimens from 1,350 patients with hypertension who underwent sympathectomy were re-examined microscopically.

## INTERSTITIAL ALTERATIONS IN KIDNEY BIOPSIES

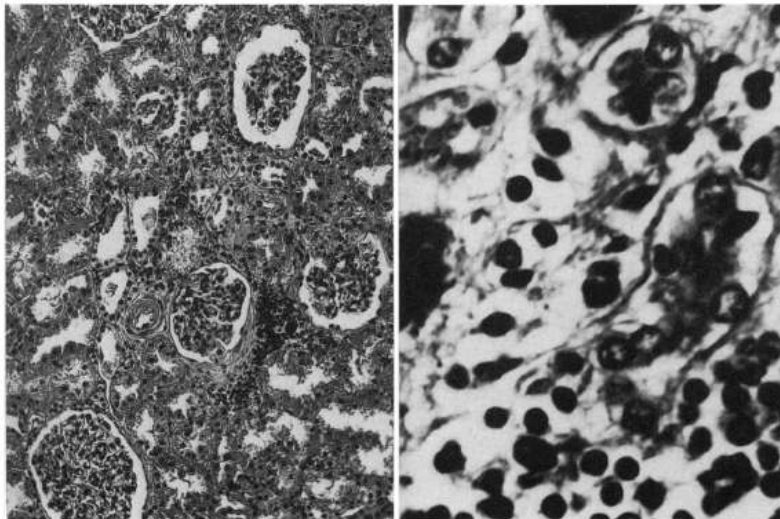


## Interstitial Tissue

The normally inconspicuous renal stroma was infiltrated by collections of lymphocytes in approximately 20 per cent of the renal biopsy specimens obtained from "negative" and grade I groups, and in over half the specimens from the more advanced grades of vascular disease (Fig. 3). Unaccompanied as they were by plasma cells or other stigmas of inflammation, the lymphocytic foci were regarded as concomitants of renal atrophy and degeneration. In the kidney as well as in other organs, lymphocytes have been found collected at sites of basement membrane dissolution.<sup>17</sup> Oliver<sup>18</sup> and numerous other authors have emphasized the damaging effect of ischemia upon renal tubular basement membranes (Fig. 4).

## DISCUSSION

Less than 2 per cent of patients with hypertension were found at sympathectomy to have either insignificant or no arteriolar abnormalities in kidney biopsy specimens. Although two thirds of the cases revealed advanced renal arteriolar sclerosis, the presence of even a few individuals with apparently normal renal vessels is consistent with the view that hypertension precedes structural changes in the kidney vasculature.<sup>7,8</sup> The present material is probably not representative of patients in the initial stages of hypertensive disease, and there is reason to believe that the incidence of normal renal biopsy material would be higher in earlier or milder hypertension.



# HUMANS

## Tubulointerstitial inflammation in renal **autopsy** material of patients with hypertension with hypertension

Clinicopathological Features of African Americans and Whites

Michael D. Hughson, Glenda C. Gobe, Wendy E. Hoy, R. Davis Manning Jr, Rebecca Douglas-Denton, and John F. Bertram, PhD<sup>5</sup>

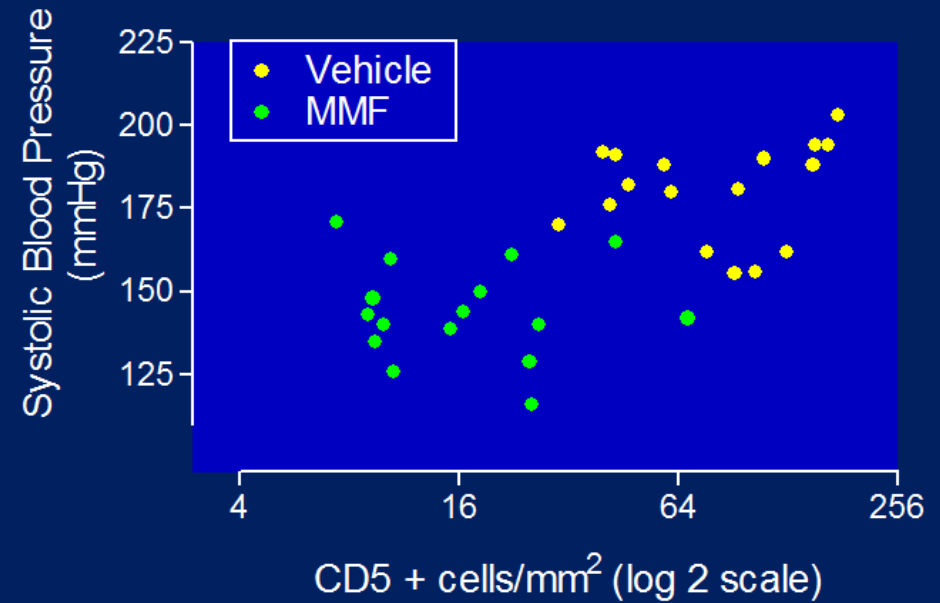
	N glom	CD68 +cells/mm <sup>2</sup>		P
African American Non-Hypertensive	951.807±268.7	3.9 (2.0-8.3)	(n = 32)	<0.001
African American Hypertensive	885.279±333.6	17.6 (9.9-31.5)***	1,903 (74)	0.4 <0.01
White Non-Hypertensive	901.011±298.3	4.8 (2.3-12.9)	0.076)	<0.001
White Hypertensive	841.069±291.9	15.0 (7.6-26.8)***	0.148)	<0.001
			0.365)	<0.001
			0.8)	<0.001

Note: V: comparison  
Abbrev: \*Signific

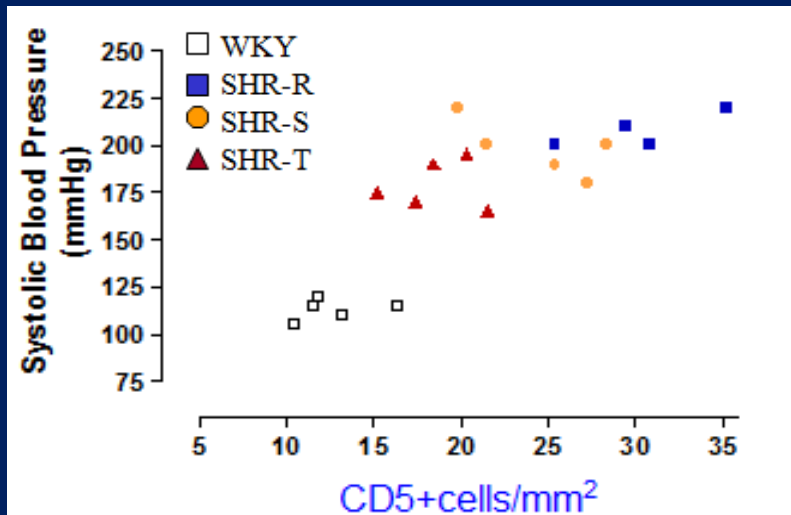
reflects within-race

American Journal of Kidney Diseases, Vol 52, No 1 (July), 2008: pp 18-28

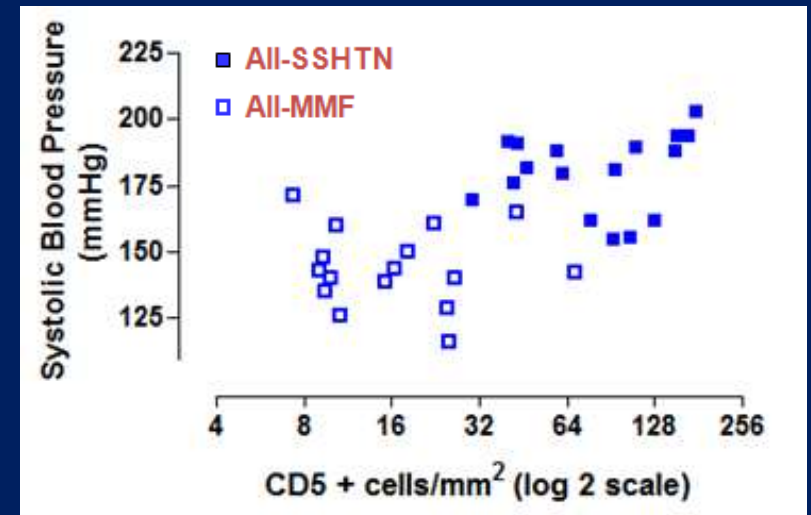
Intensity of renal lymphocyte infiltration is directly correlated with the severity of hypertension



*Am J Physiol (Renal)* 282:F191-F201, 2002



*Hypertension* 41:341-6, 2003



*AJPhys Integ Comp Physiol* 2001; 293, R251-R256

## Correlation between intensity of TI inflammation and severity of hypertension

Associations of Glomerular Number and Birth Weight With Clinicopathological Features of African Americans and Whites. *Michael D. Hughson, Glenda C. Gobe, Wendy E. Hoy, R. Davis Manning Jr, Rebecca Douglas-Denton, and John F. Bertram, PhD*

*American Journal of Kidney Diseases, Vol 52, No 1 (July), 2008: pp 18-28*

**Table 6. Spearman Pairwise Correlations Between Age, Glomerular Number, Mean Arterial Blood Pressure, and Pathological Features of Arteriolonephrosclerosis**

	$N_{\text{glom}}$	% GS	CF	It	Hyaline	CD68	MAP
Age	-0.149 0.04	<b>0.569</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.434</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.517</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.364</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.397</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.417</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>
$N_{\text{glom}}$		<b>-0.245</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>-0.174</b> <b>&lt;0.02</b>	<b>-0.098</b> <b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.025</b> <b>0.7</b>	<b>-0.119</b> <b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.007</b> <b>0.9</b>
% GS			<b>0.662</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.566</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.455</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.522</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.436</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>
CF				<b>0.525</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.422</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.520</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.446</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>
It					<b>0.541</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.479</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.589</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>
Hyaline						<b>0.406</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>0.498</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>
CD68							<b>0.582</b> <b>&lt;0.001</b>

Note: Upper values are unadjusted correlation coefficients and lower values are probabilities. Significant relationships are in bold type. Cases of bacterial sepsis were omitted.

Abbreviations:  $N_{\text{glom}}$ , number of glomeruli; % GS, percent glomerulosclerosis; CF, cortical fibrosis; It, intimal thickening of interlobular arteries; Hyaline, arteriolar hyalinization; CD68, CD68 staining density; MAP, mean arterial blood pressure.

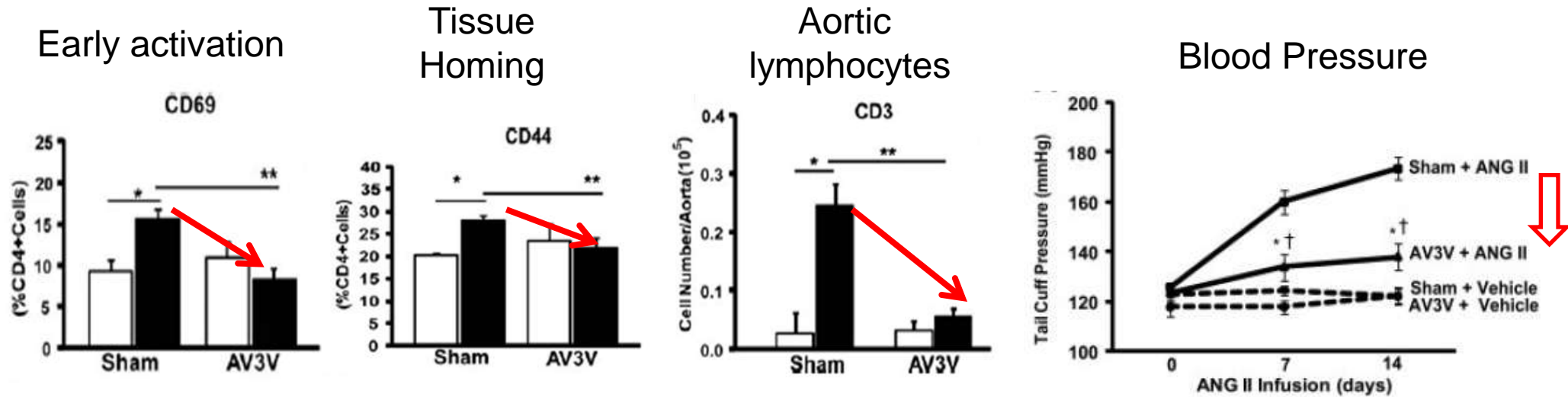
# Renal lymphocyte infiltration precedes hypertension in the SHR

SHR

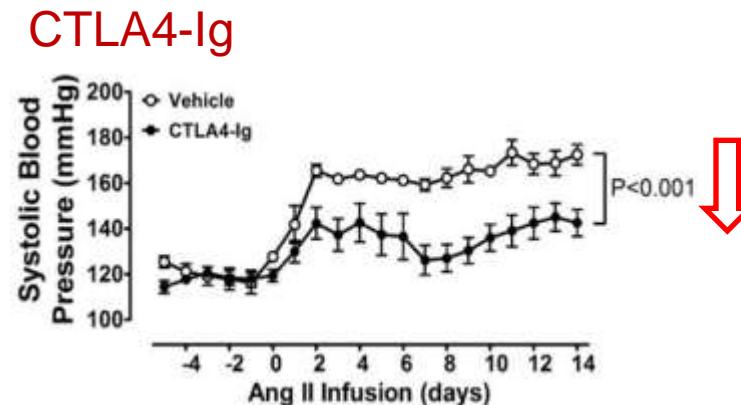
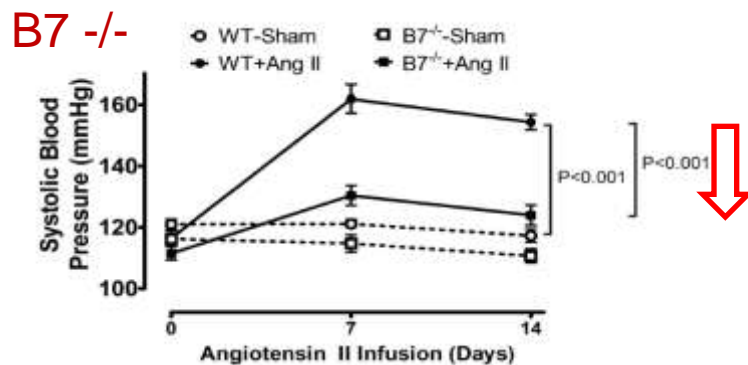


# HYPERTENSION IS AMELIORATED BY SUPPRESSION OF EARLY LYMPHOCYTE ACTIVATION AND HOMING

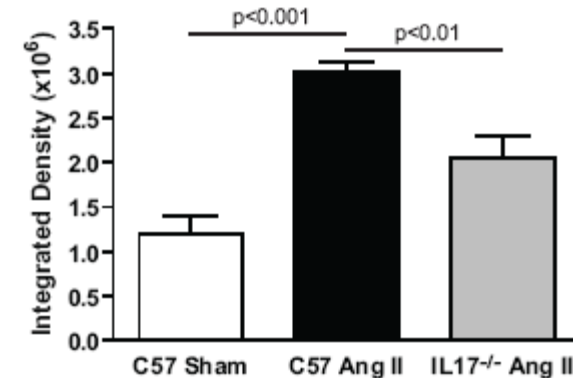
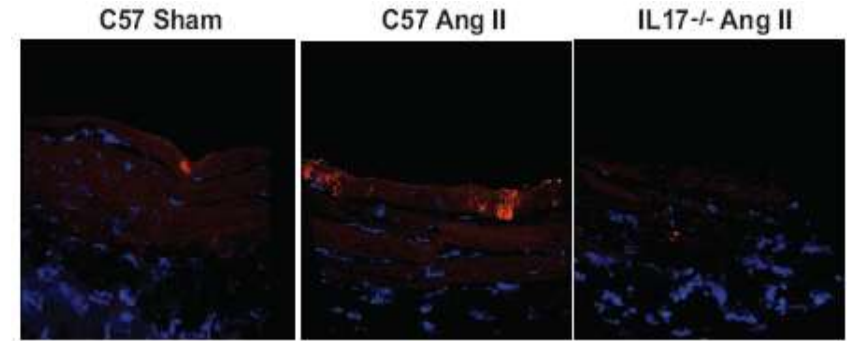
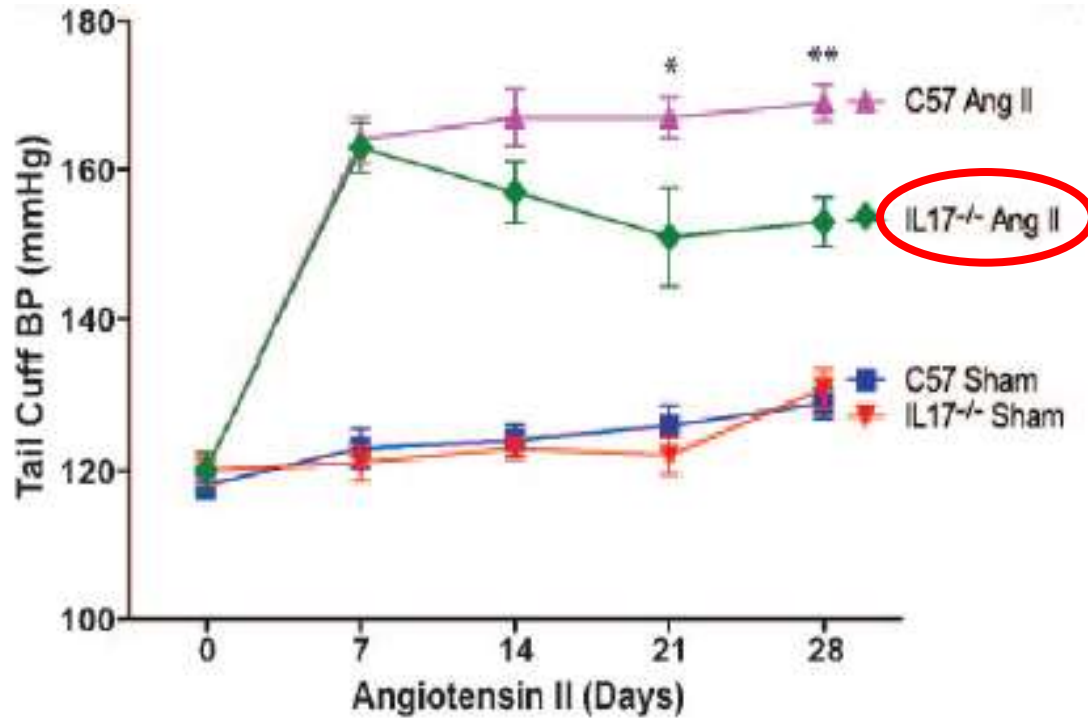
Anteroventral third cerebral ventricle lesions (Marvar PJ et al. *Circ Res* 2010; 107: 263-70)



Suppression of the immune co-estimulatory axis (Vinh A et al. *Circulation* 2010; 122: 2529-37)



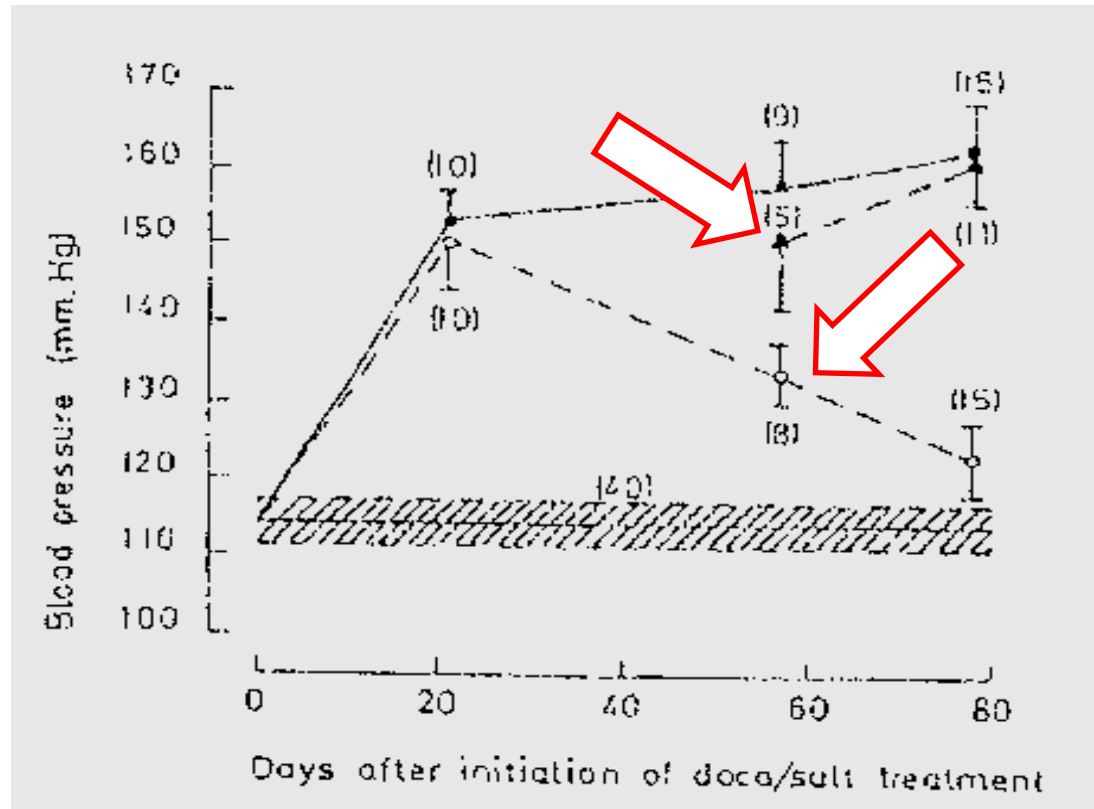
# IL-17 promotes angiotensin II-induced hypertension



# IMMUNE SUPPRESSION AMELIORATES/PREVENT SSHTN

TREATMENT/CONDITION	EXPERIMENTAL MODEL	REFERENCE
<i>Lymphocyte depletion</i>		
Nude mice	DOCA-Salt hypertension	37
Neonatal <u>thymectomy</u>	Renal infarction (chronic phase)	38
	Lyon hypertensive rats	45
	Hypertensive NZB mice	46
Rag -/- mice	<u>Angiotensin II-induced hypertension</u>	47
Anti-lymphocyte serum	SHR	40
<i>Cytokine depletion</i>		
interleukin-6 knockout mice	<u>Angiotensin II-induced hypertension</u>	48
<i>Inhibition of proinflammatory transcription factors</i>		
Inhibition of <u>NFκB</u>	SHR	49
	<u>dTGF rats</u>	50
<i>Immunosuppressive treatment</i>		
<u>Mycophenolate mofetil</u>	SHR	51
	Dahl-Salt sensitive	52, 53
	AIJ infusion	42
	NOS inhibition	43
	chronic lead toxicity	55
	<u>Overload proteinuria</u>	44
	Cellophane wrapped kidney	55
	Prenatally programmed HTN	56
	Grade I hypertension (humans)	57
<u>Cyclosporin A</u>	<u>dTGF rats</u>	58
<u>Cyclophosphamide</u>	SHR	59
	Black New Zealand mice	46
	<u>Renal infarction (Chronic phase)</u>	39
<i>Reduction of oxidative stress(studies specifically looking for reduction in inflammation associated to lowering of BP)</i>		
Antioxidant diets	SHR	<u>60</u>
	<u>Mineralocorticoid hypertension</u>	<u>61</u>
Melatonin	SHR	<u>62</u>

# Thymus is necessary for salt-dependent hypertension

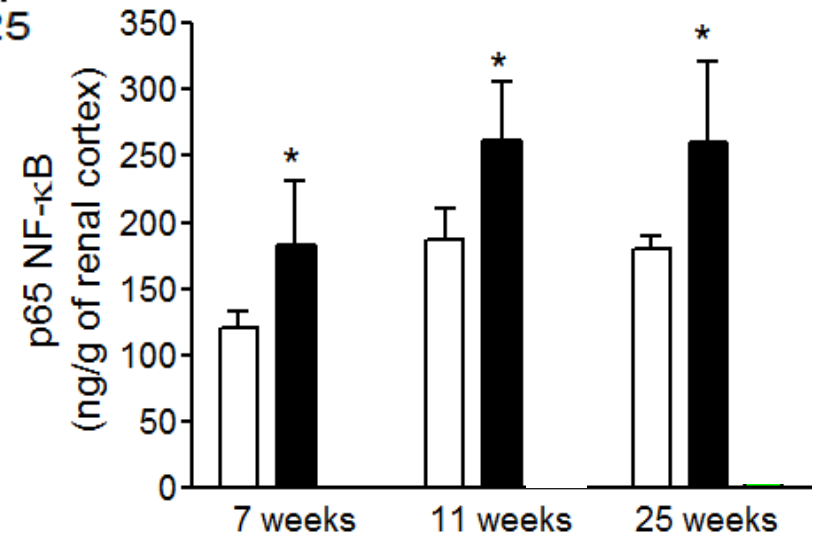
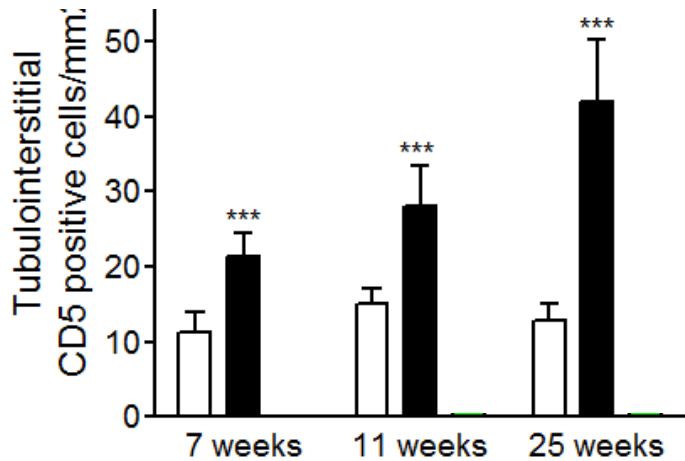
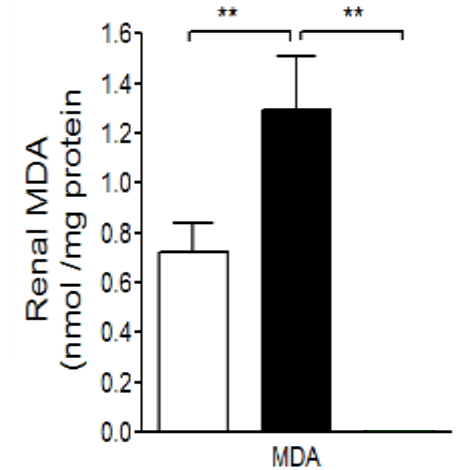
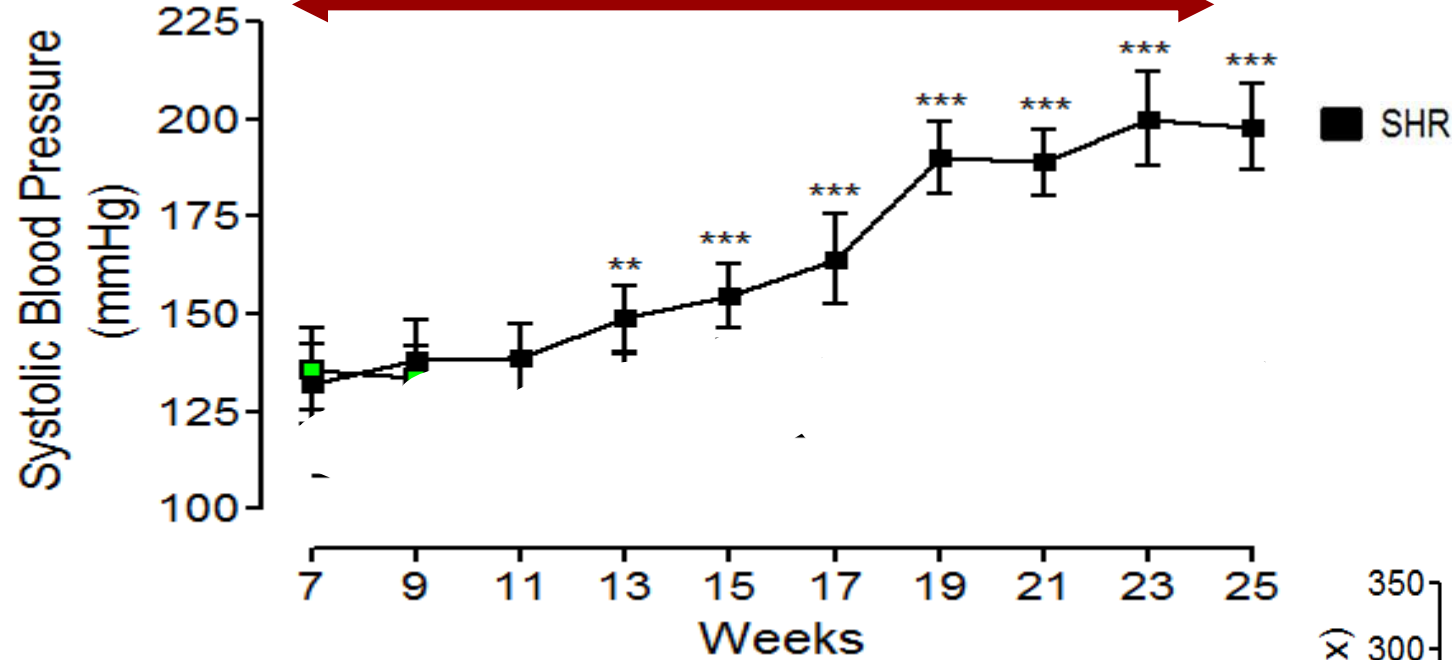


...“the maintenance of elevated systemic pressure in the late phase of the DOCA-salt hypertension might be causally related to thymus-dependent vascular lesions and due to progressive ischaemia resulting from multiple constrictions of small intrarenal vessels.” Svendsen UG, Acta Path Microbiol Scand 84:523-528, 1976

# Inhibition of NFκB corrects HBP in SHR

(J Pharm Exp Ther 2005, 315; 51-7)

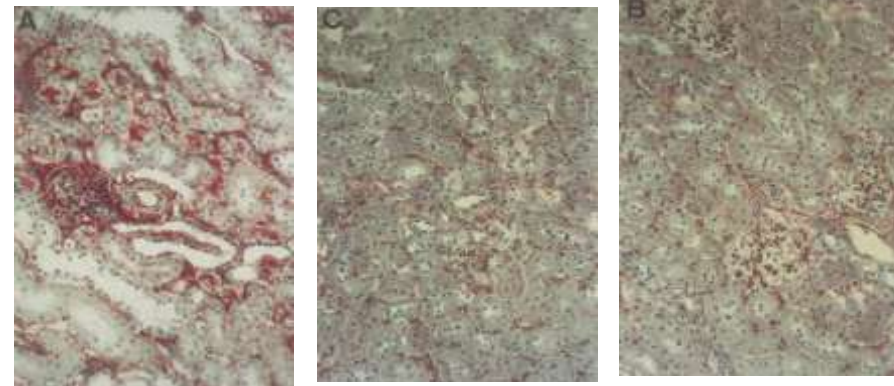
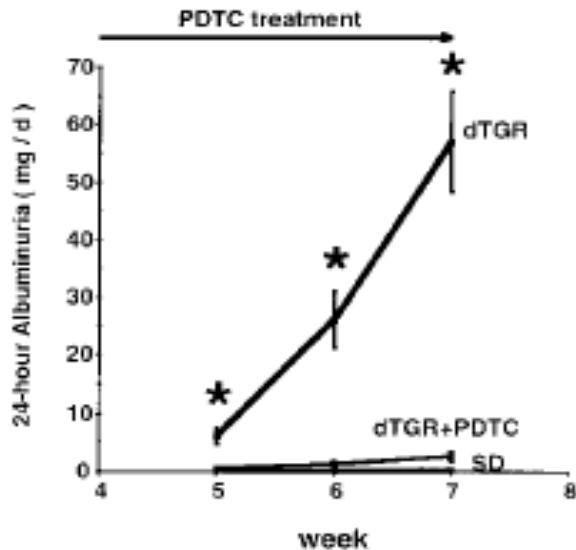
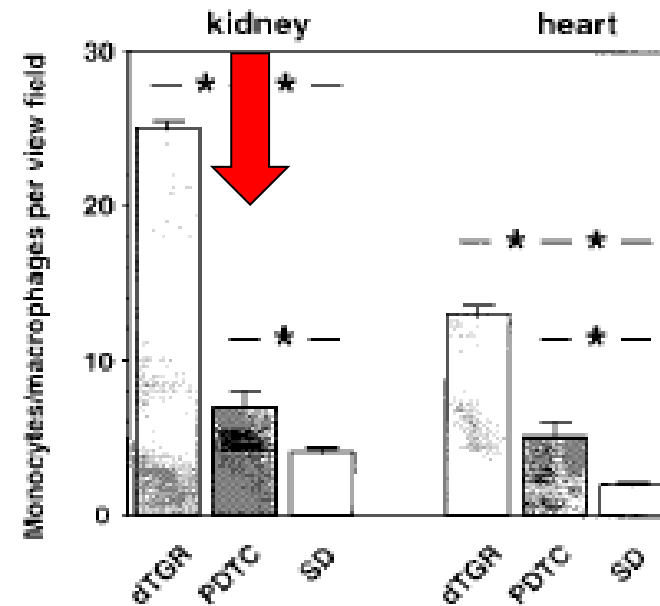
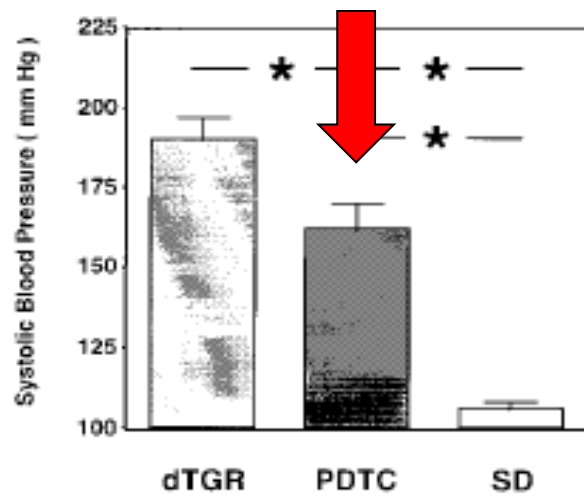
PDTC (100 mg.kg<sup>-1</sup>.day<sup>-1</sup> ip) or vehicle



# NF- $\kappa$ B Inhibition Ameliorates Angiotensin II-Induced Inflammatory Damage in Rats

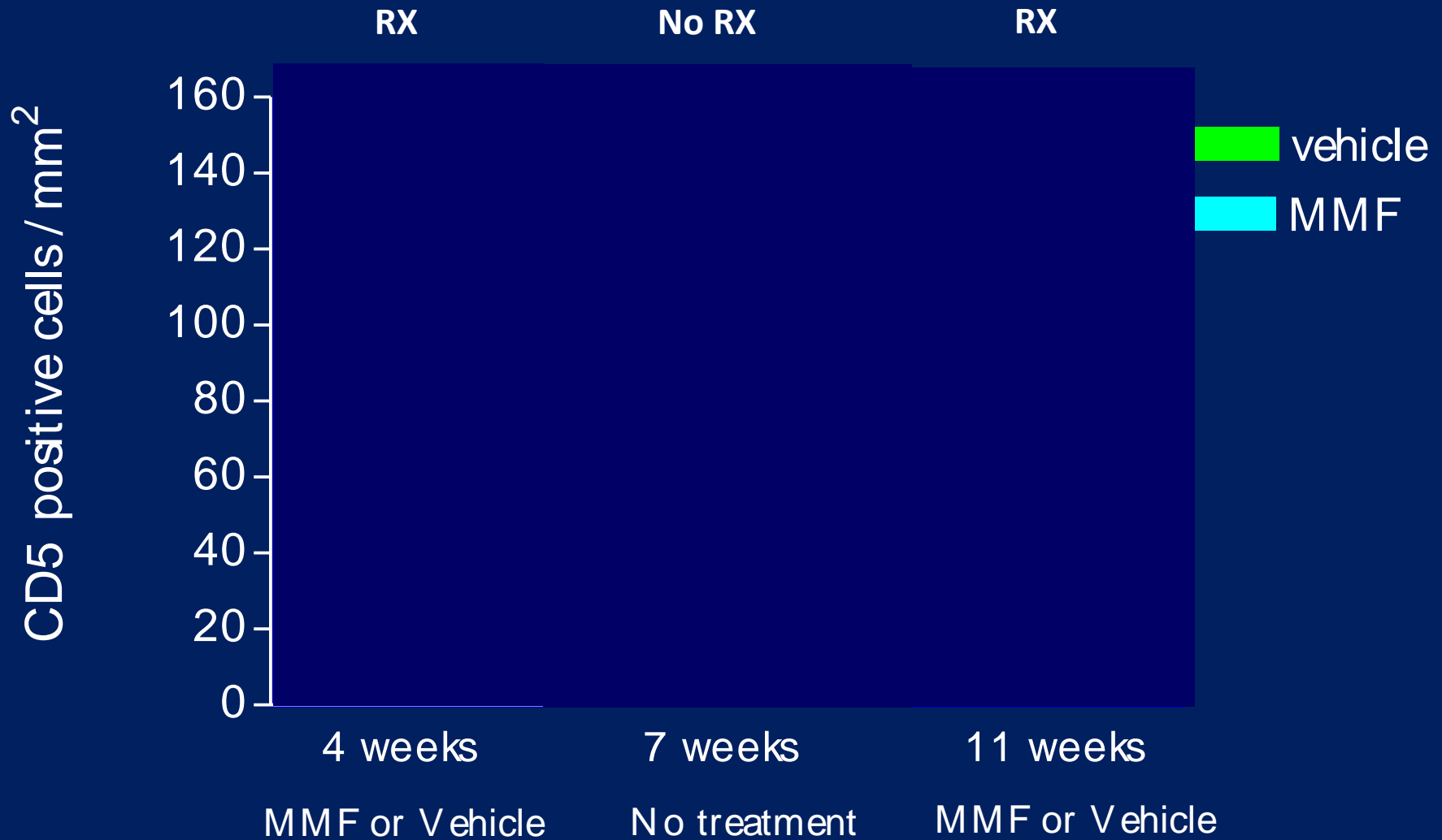
Dominik N. Muller, Ralf Dechend, Eero M.A. Mervaala, Joon-Keun Park, Folke Schmidt, Anette Fiebeler, Jürgen Theuer, Volker Breu, Detlev Ganten, Hermann Haller, Friedrich C. Luft

(*Hypertension*. 2000;35[part 2]:193-201.)

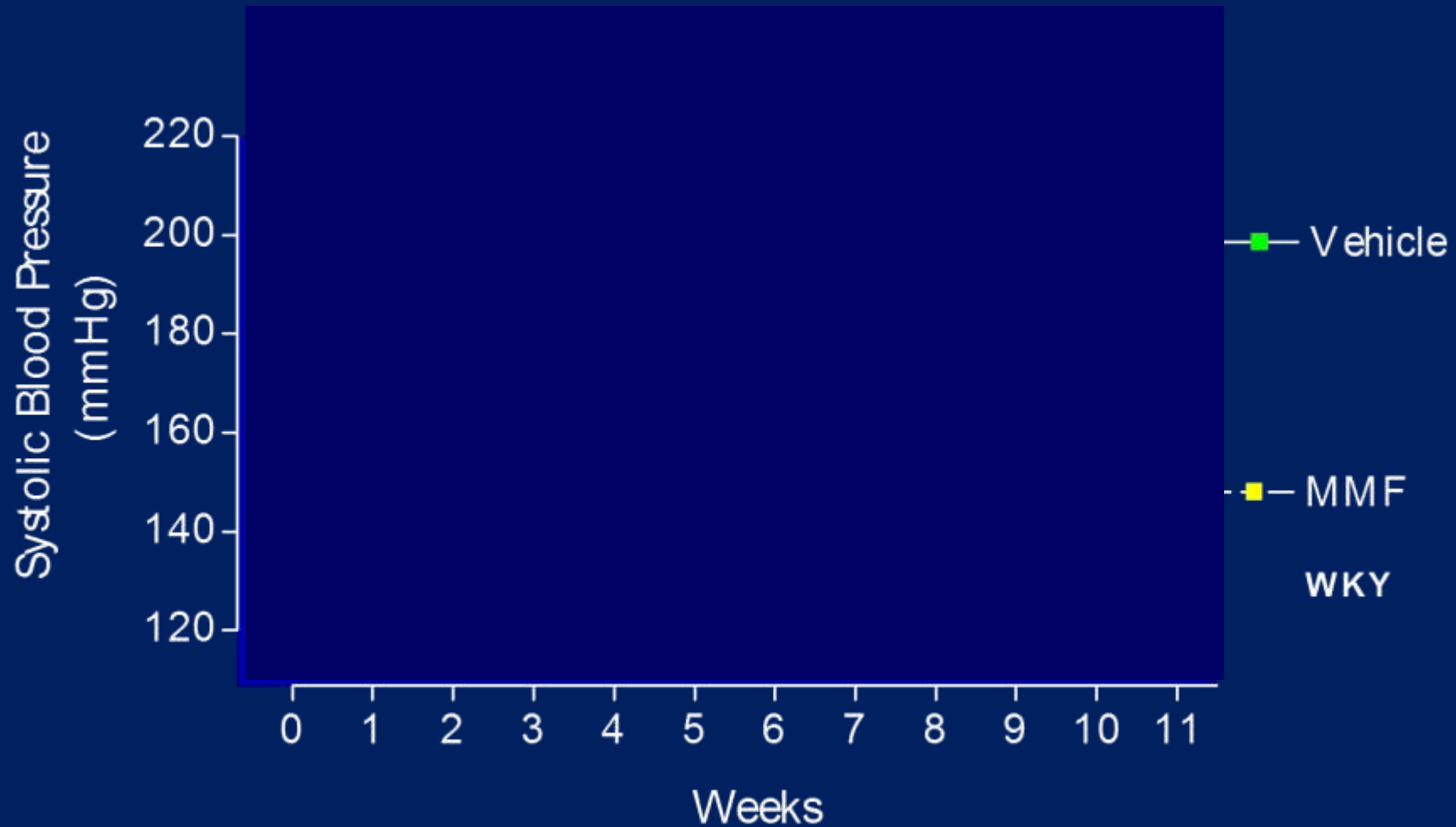


ICAM-1 Expression

# MMF Rx improves hypertension in the SHR



## MMF Rx improves hypertension in the SHR (2)

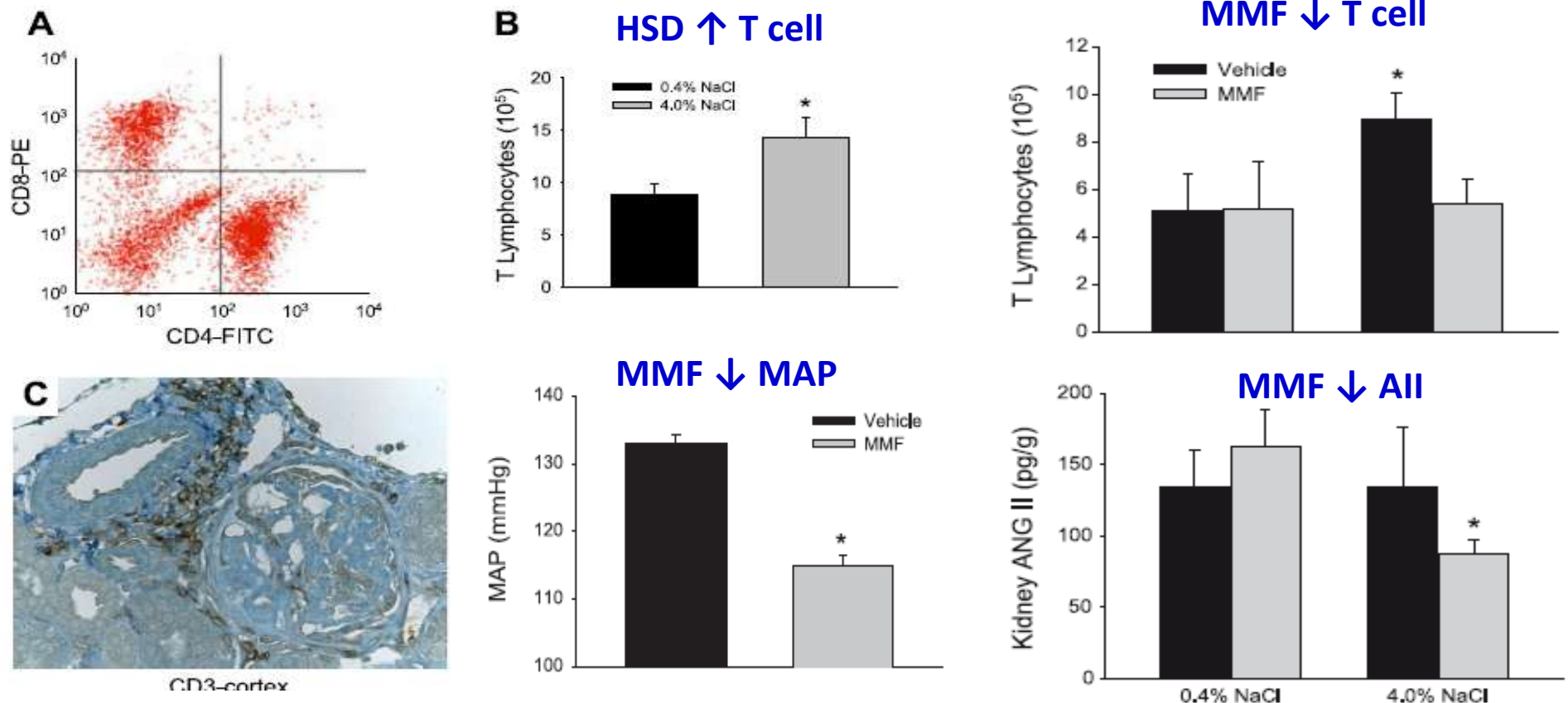


\* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$

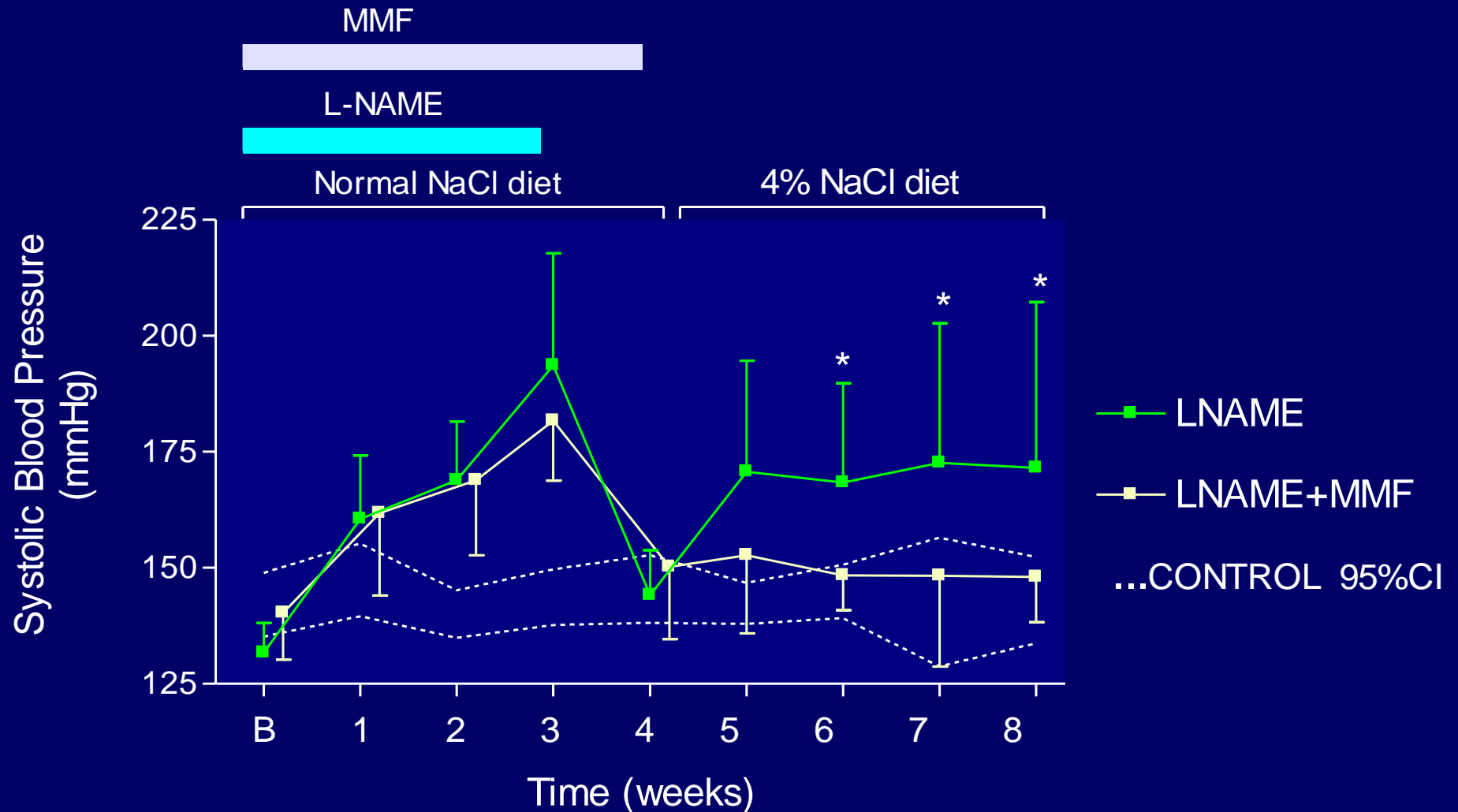
# MMF Rx improves hypertension in the Dahl SS

*Am J Physiol Regul Integr Comp Physiol* 298: R1136–R1142, 2010.  
First published February 10, 2010; doi:10.1152/ajpregu.00298.2009.

T lymphocytes mediate hypertension and kidney damage in Dahl salt-sensitive rats Carmen De Miguel, Satarupa Das, Hayley Lund, and David L. Mattson

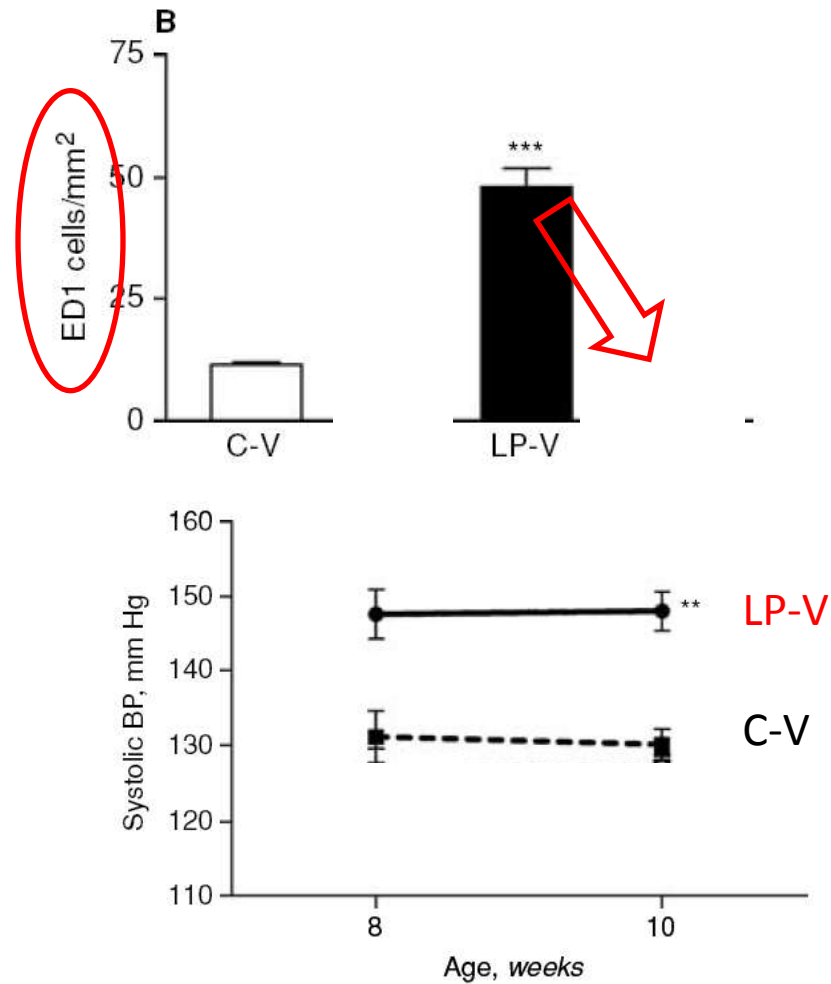
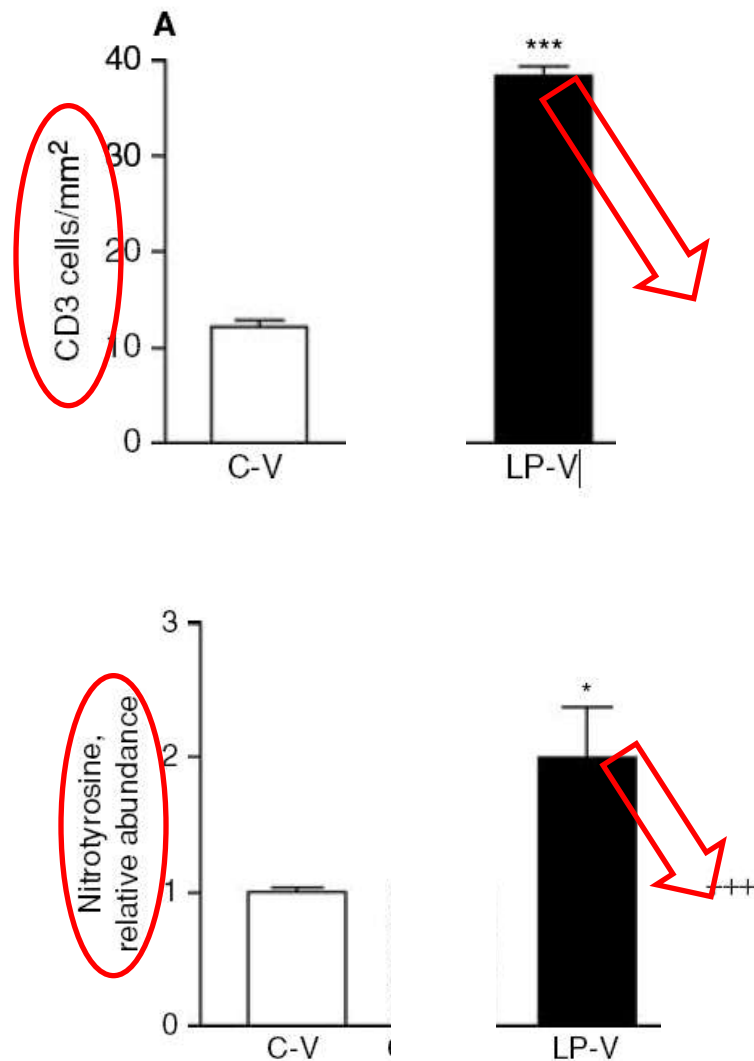


# MMF prevents the development of LNAME-induced SSHBP



\* $p < 0.01$  vs control and  $p < 0.05$  vs MMF

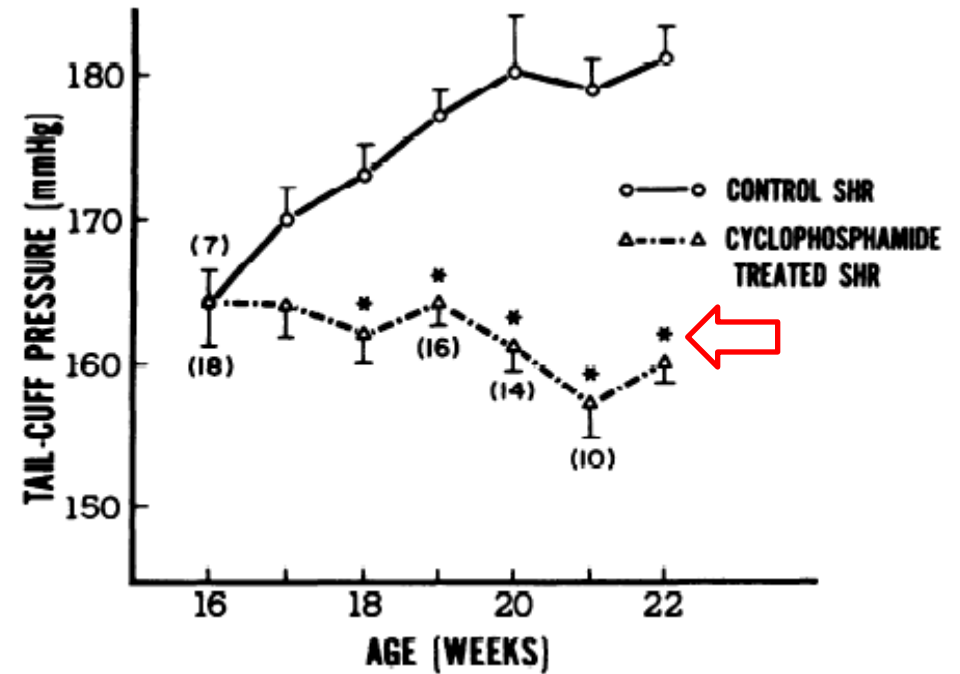
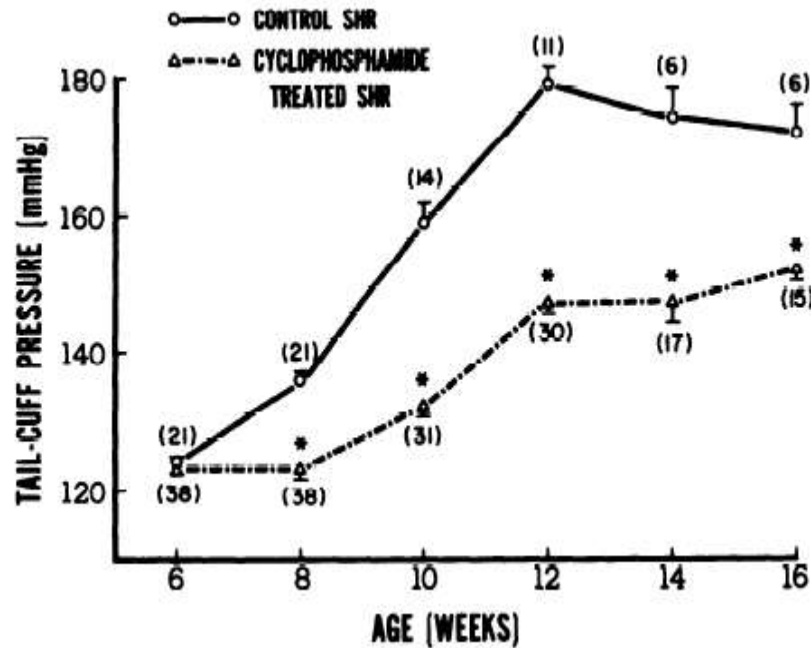
# MMF corrects prenatally programmed hypertension



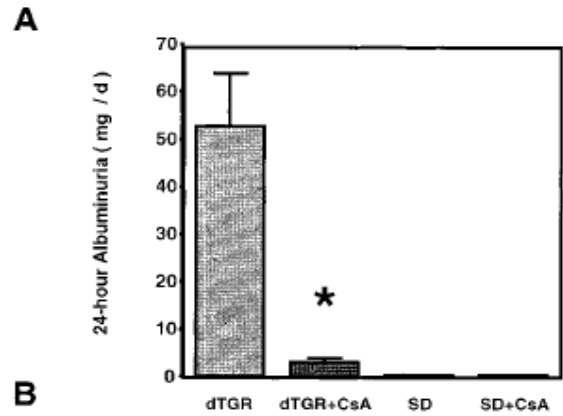
TYRUS STEWART, FLAVIA E. JUNG, JENNIFER MANNING, and V. MATTI VEHASKARI  
*Kidney International*, Vol. 68 (2005), pp. 2180–2188

# CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE AMELIORATES HYPERTENSION IN THE SHR

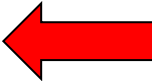
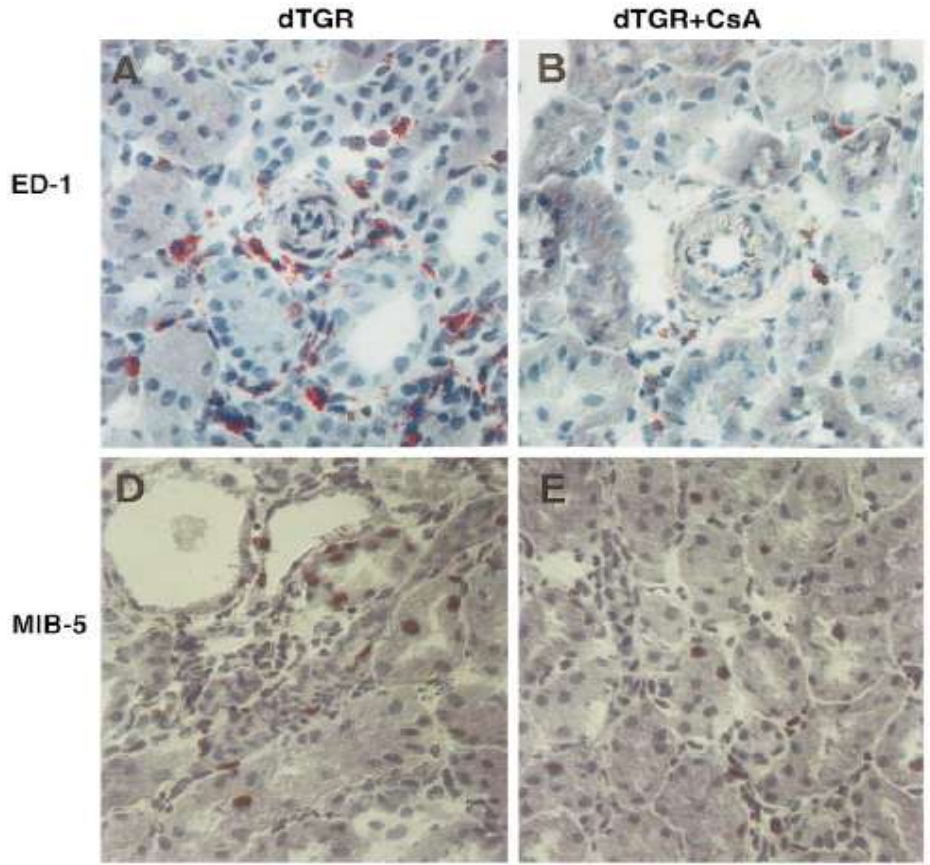
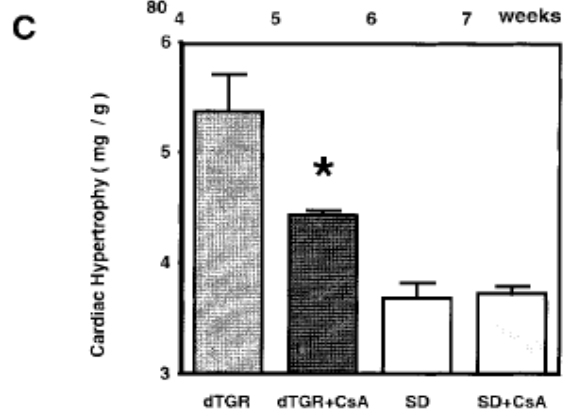
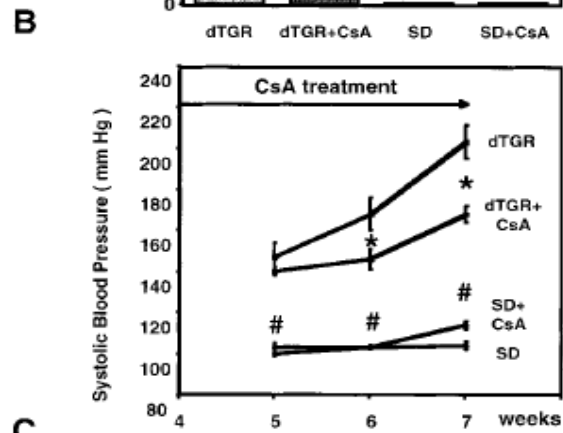
Khraibi AA, Norman RA Jr, Dzielak DJ. Chronic immunosuppression attenuates hypertension in Okamoto spontaneously hypertensive rats. *Am J Physiol* 1984; 247 (*Heart Circ Physiol* 16): H722-H726



# CYCLOSPORIN AMELIORATES HYPERTENSION IN THE SHR



**Cyclosporin A Protects Against Angiotensin II-Induced End-Organ Damage in Double Transgenic Rats Harboring Human Renin and Angiotensinogen Genes**  
 Eero Mervaala, Dominik N. Müller, Joon-Keun Park, Ralph Dechend, Folke Schmidt, Anette Fiebeler, Markus Bieringer, Volker Breu, Detlev Ganten, Hermann Haller and Friedrich C. Luft  
*Hypertension* 2000;35:360-366

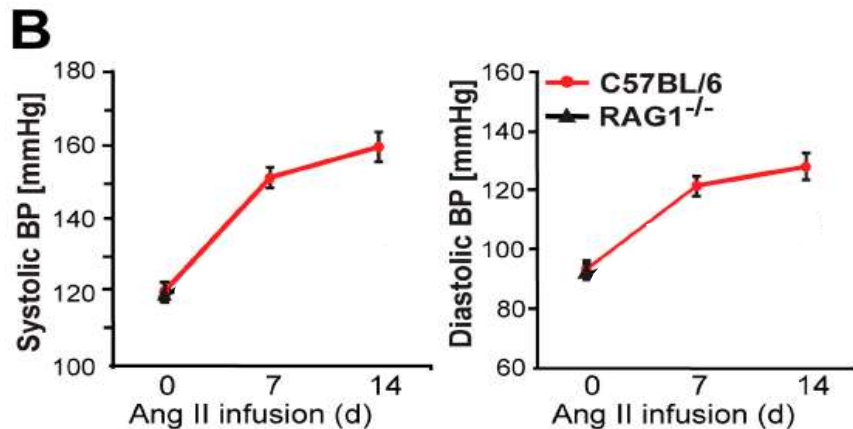


# ABSENCE OF LYMPHOCYTES IS ASSOCIATED WITH RESISTANCE TO ANG II-INDUCED HYPERTENSION

Role of the T cell in the genesis of angiotensin II-induced hypertension and vascular dysfunction

Tomasz J. Guzik,<sup>1,2</sup> Nyssa E. Hoch,<sup>1,2</sup> Kathryn A. Brown,<sup>1,2</sup> Louise A. McCann,<sup>1,2</sup> Ayaz Rahman,<sup>1,2</sup> Sergey Dikalov,<sup>1,2</sup> Jorg Goronzy,<sup>1,2</sup> Cornelia Weyand,<sup>1,2</sup> and David G. Harrison<sup>1,2,3</sup>

JEM 204;2449-60, 2007



## MMF improves essential hypertension

*J Am Soc Nephrol* 17: S218–S225, 2006.

### Mycophenolate Mofetil Treatment Improves Hypertension in Patients with Psoriasis and Rheumatoid Arthritis

Jose Herrera,\* Atilio Ferrebuz,\* Ernesto García MacGregor,<sup>†</sup> and Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe\*

8 patients (6 females)

50-68 years

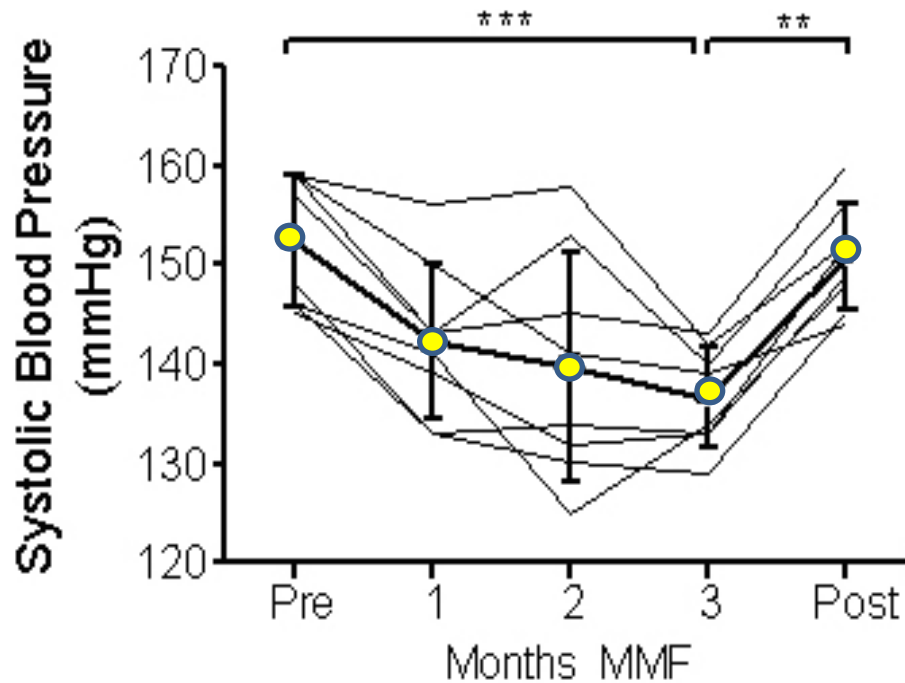
3 Psoriasis

5 Rheumatoid arthritis

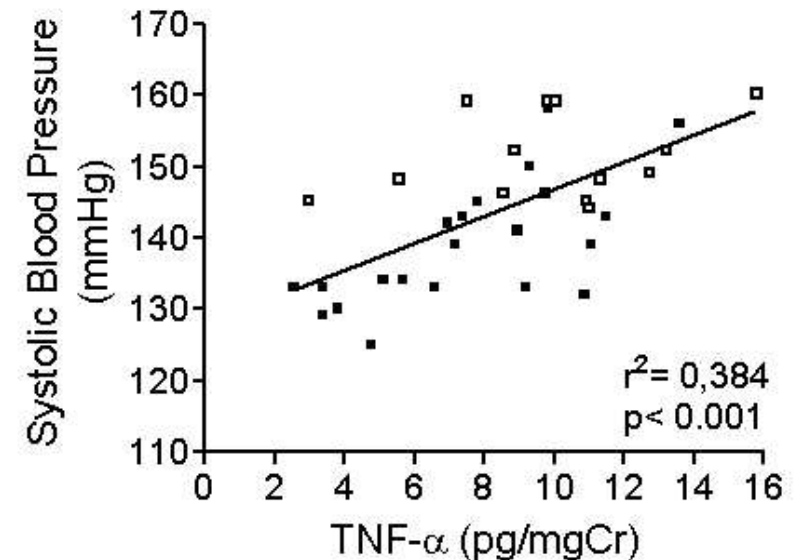
3 month Rx MMF

All essential HBP grade 1

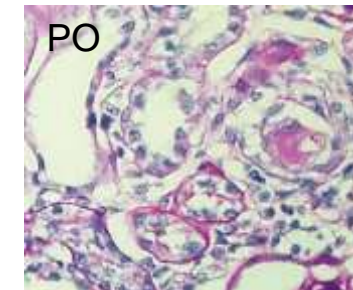
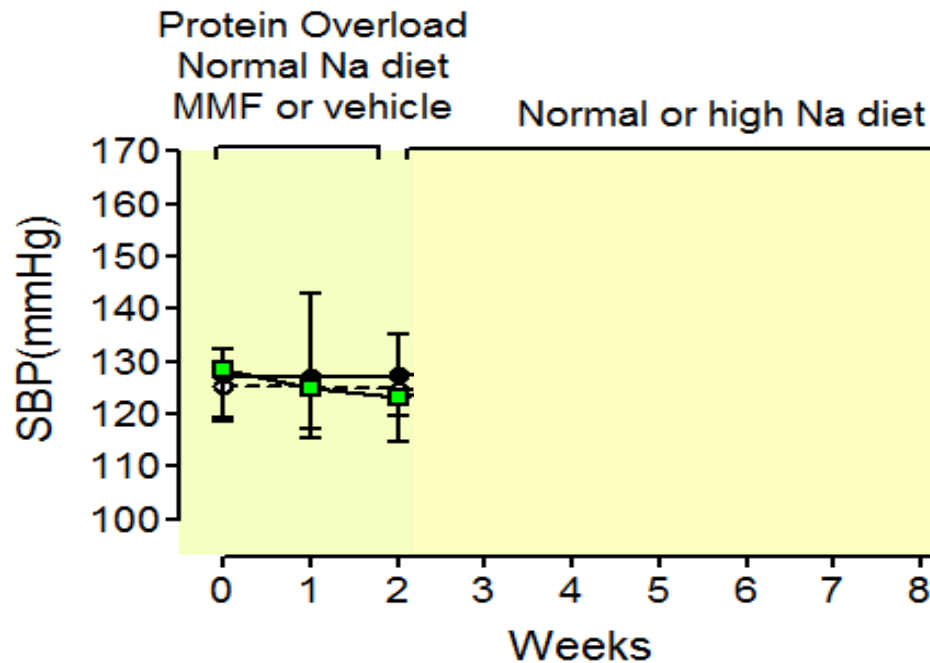
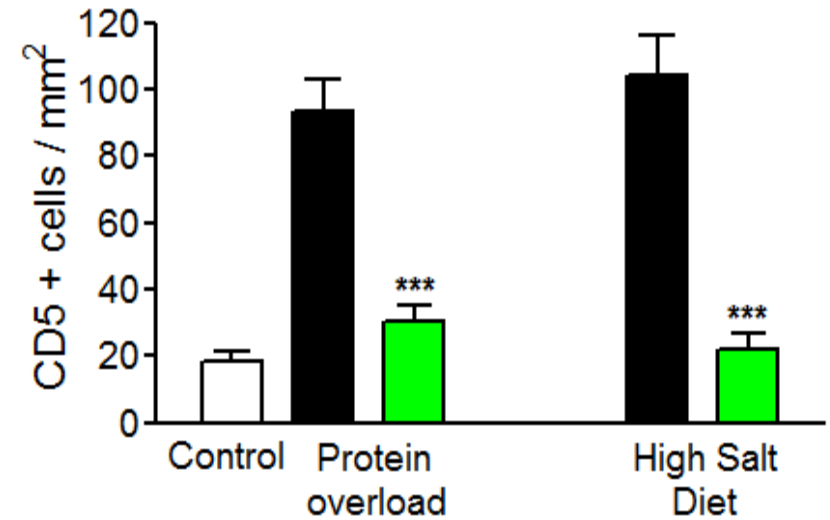
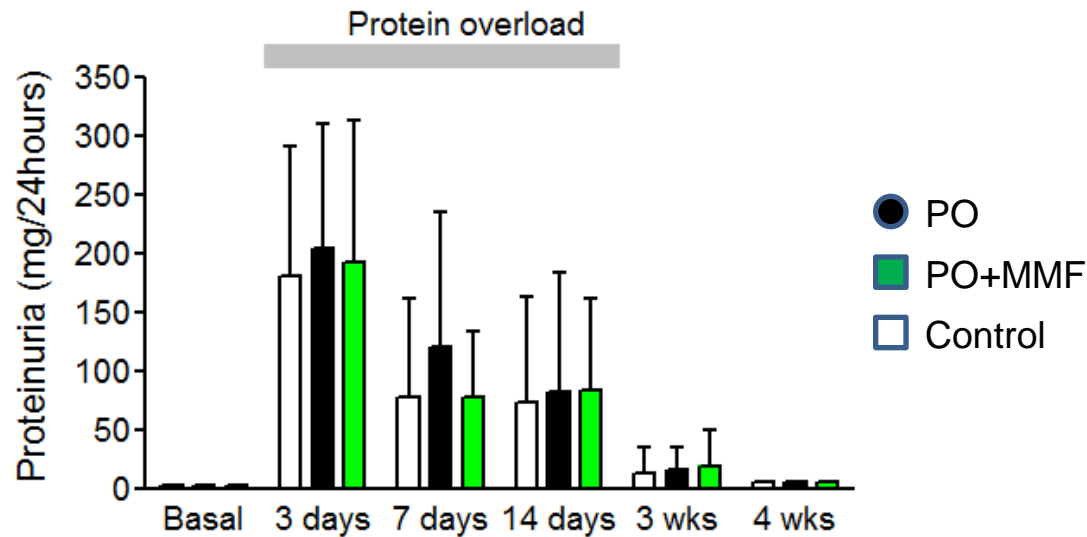
Normal renal function



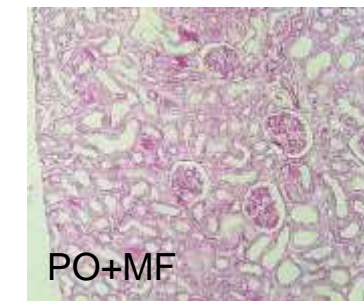
*No change in medication*  
*No change in Na intake*  
*No change in protein intake*



# Overload proteinuria causes TI immune cell infiltration and SS Hypertension (AJPhys Renal 2002; 283:F1132-F1141)



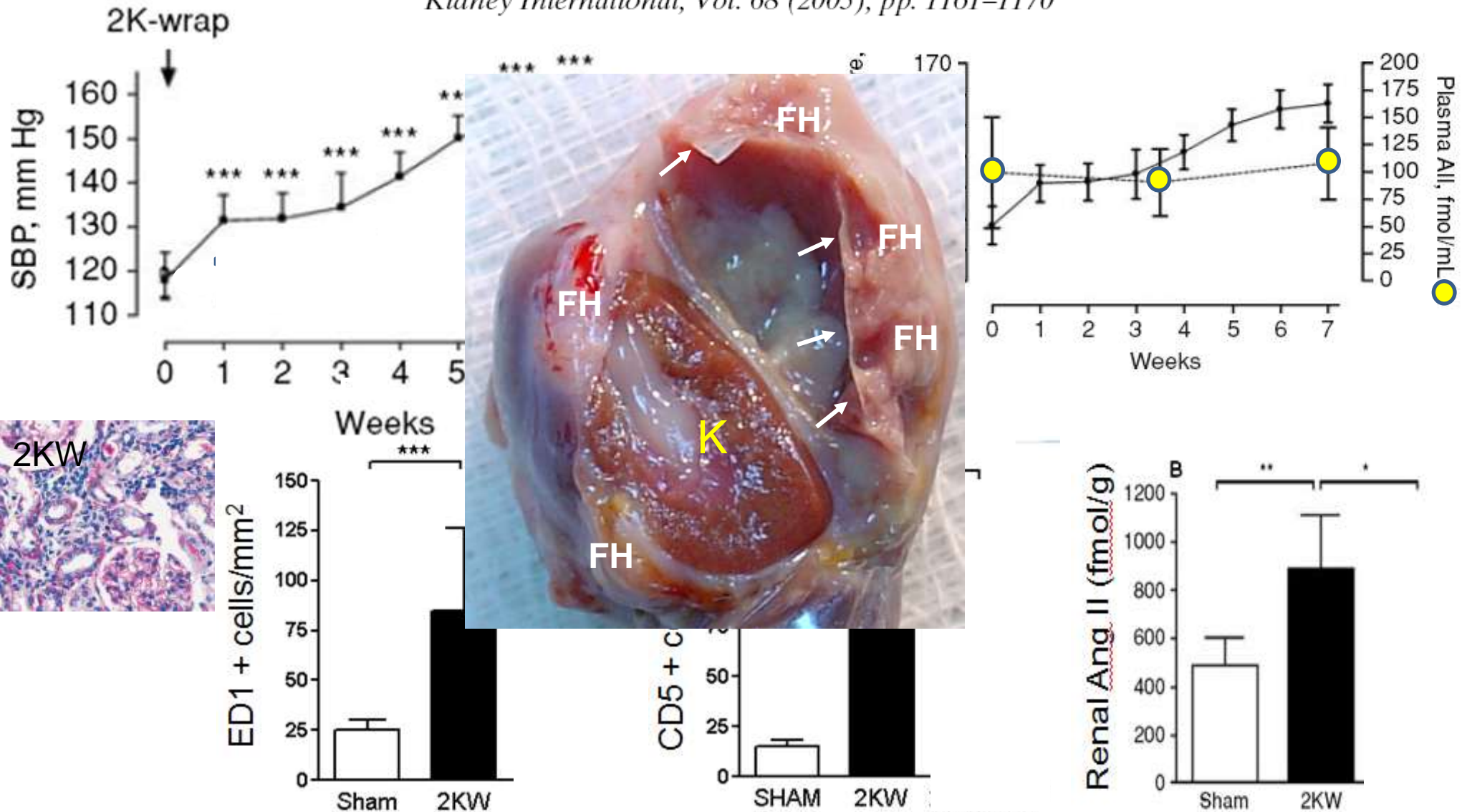
[PO]  
4% NaCl diet



[PO+MMF]  
4% NaCl diet  
[PO]  
0.4% NaCl diet

# Hypertension in Page (cellophane-wrapped) kidney is due to interstitial nephritis

*Kidney International, Vol. 68 (2005), pp. 1161-1170*



## Tubulointerstitial nephritis associated with hypertension (i)

### Drug induced interstitial nephritis

Preddie DC, et al. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol* 2006 ;1:718-22

### Interstitial nephritis due to proton-pump inhibitors

Torpey N et al. *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 2004; 19:1441-46

### HIV-associated interstitial nephritis

Parkhie SM et al. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol* 2010; 5: 798-804

### Aristolochic acid nephropathy

Yang L et al. *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 2011

## Mortality Statistics > Acute tubulo-interstitial nephritis (most recent) by country



## **Analgesic nephropathy in Hungary: the HANS study**

István Pintér<sup>1,2</sup>, János Mátyus<sup>3</sup>, Zoltán Czégány<sup>4</sup>, Judit Harsányi<sup>5</sup>, Marietta Homoki<sup>6</sup>, Miklós Kassai<sup>7</sup>, Éva Kiss<sup>8</sup>, István Kiss<sup>9</sup>, Erzsébet Ladányi<sup>10</sup>, Lajos Lócsey<sup>11</sup>, Lajos Major<sup>12</sup>, Mihály Misz<sup>13</sup>, Lajos Nagy<sup>14</sup>, Kálmán Polner<sup>15</sup>, Jenő Rédl<sup>16</sup>, István Solt<sup>17</sup>, Béla Tichy<sup>18</sup>, Marietta Török<sup>19</sup>, Gábor Varga<sup>20</sup>, Gyula Wagner<sup>21</sup>, Imre Wórum<sup>22</sup>, Béla Zsoldos<sup>23</sup>, László Pótó<sup>24</sup>, Katalin Dérczy<sup>1</sup>, István Wittmann<sup>1</sup> and Judit Nagy<sup>1</sup>

**Results.** Our survey suggested analgesic nephropathy in 47 of 1400 patients (3.3%), 3-fold higher than the EDTA database estimate for Hungary. The analgesics most commonly abused were phenacetin-containing mixtures. The driving symptoms were mainly headache and joint pain. Cardiovascular complications were more common than in the rest of the dialysis population, independent of smoking and lipid values ( $P < 0.01$ ).