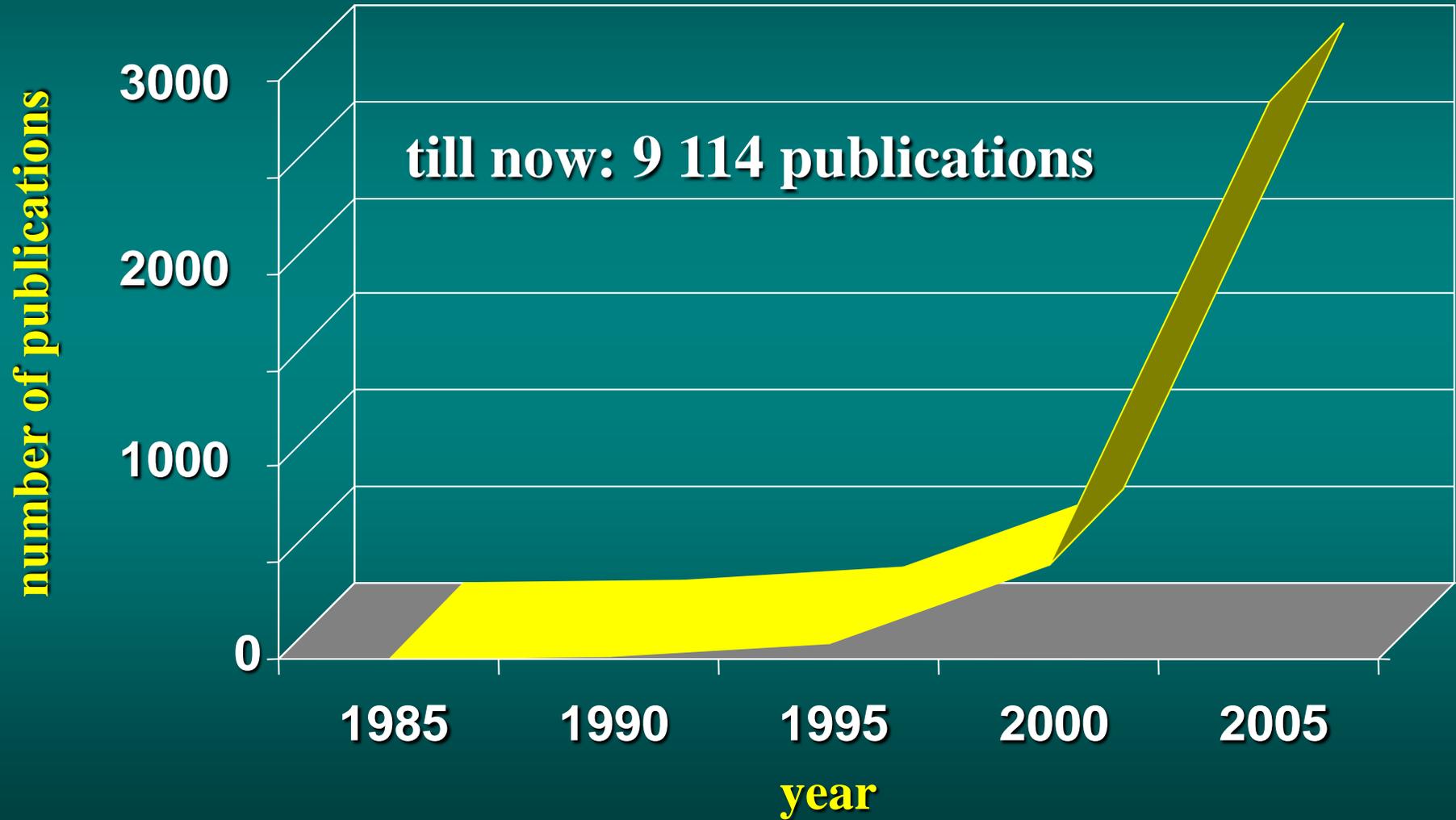




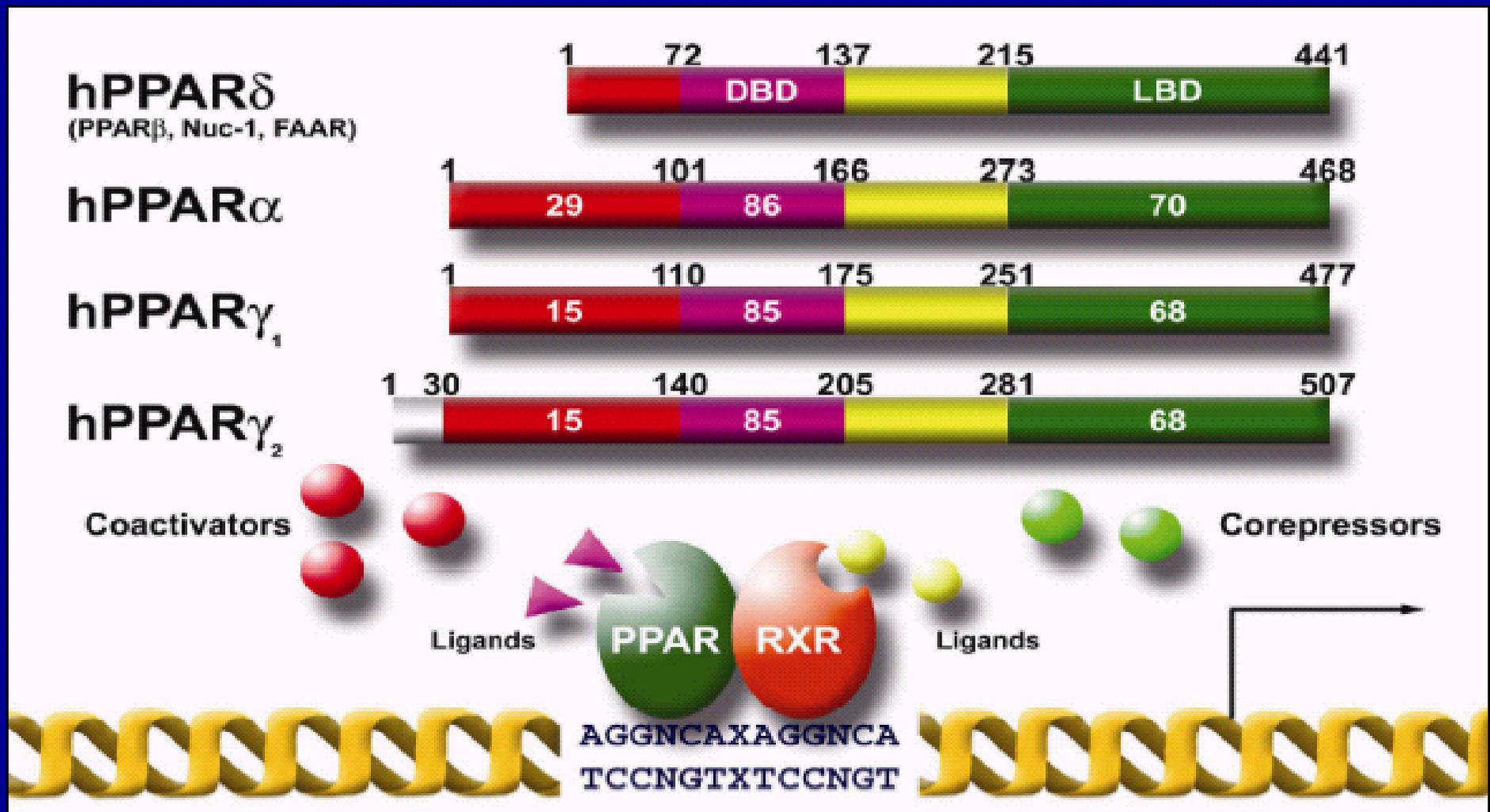
Rubens, 1640

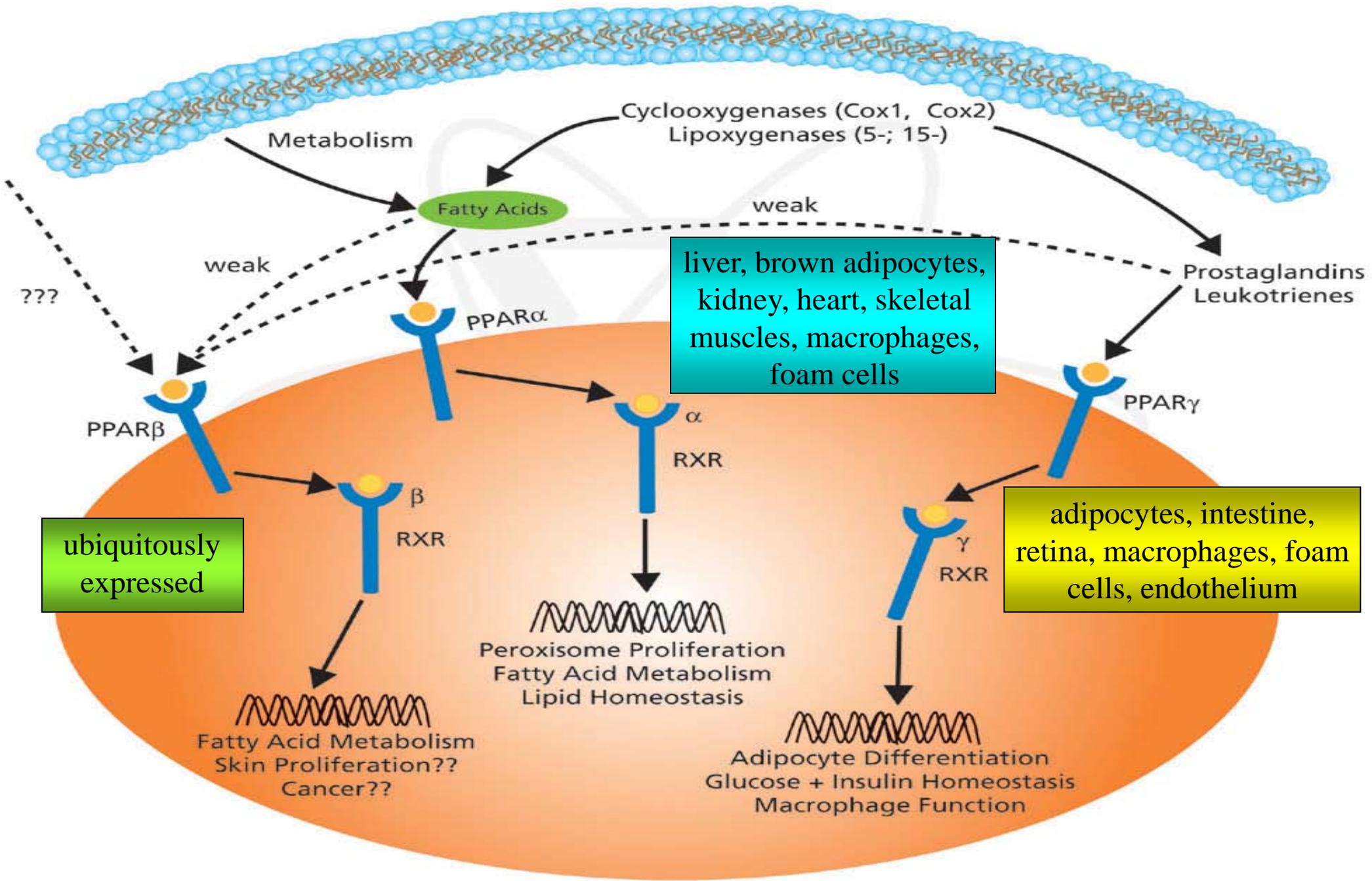
PPAR

PPAR – history of research



PPARs: Isoforms of Receptors





liver, brown adipocytes,
kidney, heart, skeletal
muscles, macrophages,
foam cells

ubiquitously
expressed

adipocytes, intestine,
retina, macrophages, foam
cells, endothelium

PPAR α , PPAR γ , PPAR δ

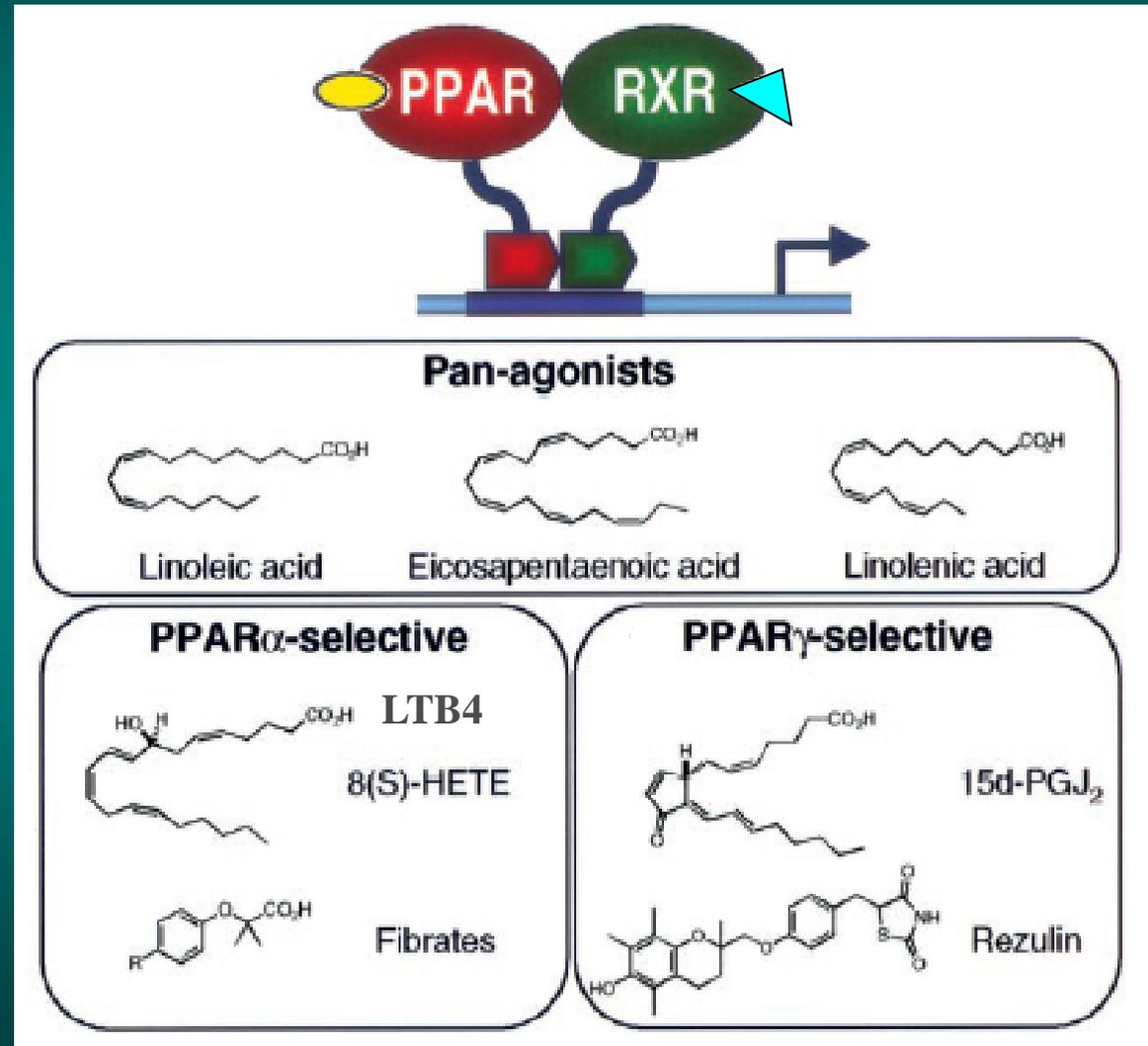
- Lipid-activated transcription factors

- Regulate:

* lipid metabolism

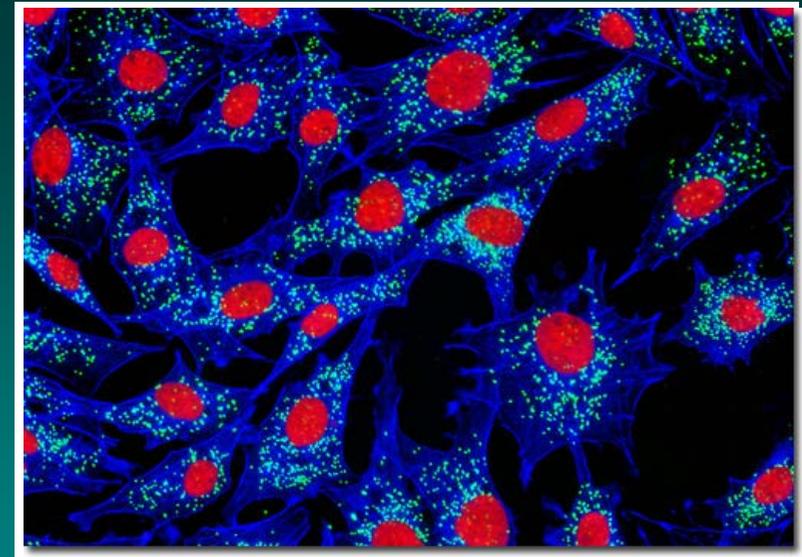
* glucose homeostasis

- Impaired PPAR activity is believed to lead to dyslipidemia and insulin resistance



Peroxisomes

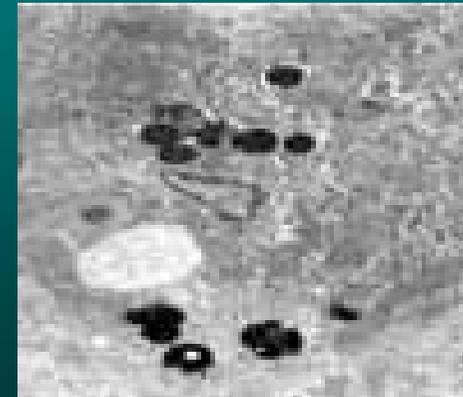
- The ubiquitous organelles, delineated by a single membrane, containing enzymes that utilize oxygen to subtract hydrogen atoms from organic substrates in an oxidative reaction that generates hydrogen peroxide.
- Peroxisomes typically contain catalase, an enzyme that uses H_2O_2 to oxidize formic acid, alcohols, phenols, and other substrates. Any remaining H_2O_2 present in the cell is broken down by catalase into water and free oxygen molecules.
- Peroxisomes are responsible for degradation of fatty acids and the catalysis of the initial steps in the synthesis of phospholipids, utilized in membrane formation.



peroxisome



proliferators

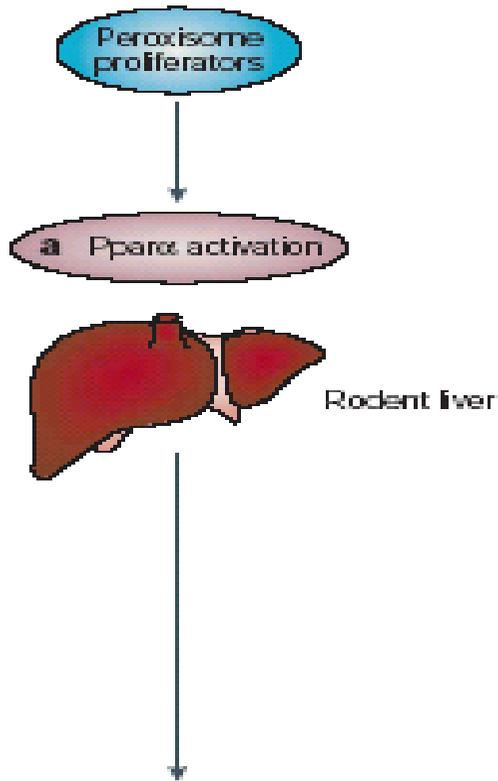


Peroxisome proliferators

- Peroxisome proliferators are a diverse group of chemicals.

- Responses of rodent hepatocytes to peroxisome proliferators include proliferation of peroxisomes, increase in β -oxidation of fatty acids, resulting from induction of all enzymes in the peroxisomal β -oxidation cascade, and hepatomegaly.

- The peroxisome proliferator-response has gained considerable interest due to its association with metastatic hepatocellular carcinomas in rodents. The mechanism is not clear - these compounds do not bind directly and do not damage DNA.



b Short-term response

Transcriptional activation of genes that are involved in fatty-acid metabolism, in the cell cycle and in degradation of endogenous and exogenous compounds (cytochrome p450 family)

Peroxisome proliferation
Cell proliferation

Liver hypertrophy

c Long-term response

Hepatocellular carcinoma

PPARs (peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors)

- PPARs were cloned in 1990 as transcription factors that mediate the effects of synthetic peroxisome proliferators.
- Since this time PPARs have been described in a wide variety of species ranging from zebrafish and *Xenopus* to mouse and human.



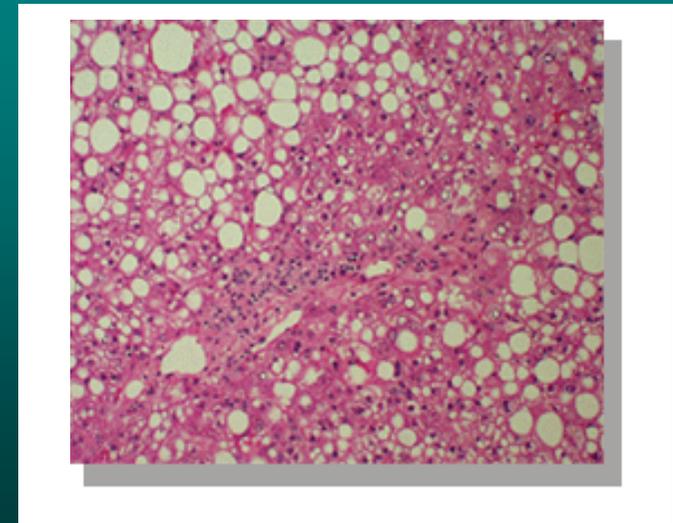
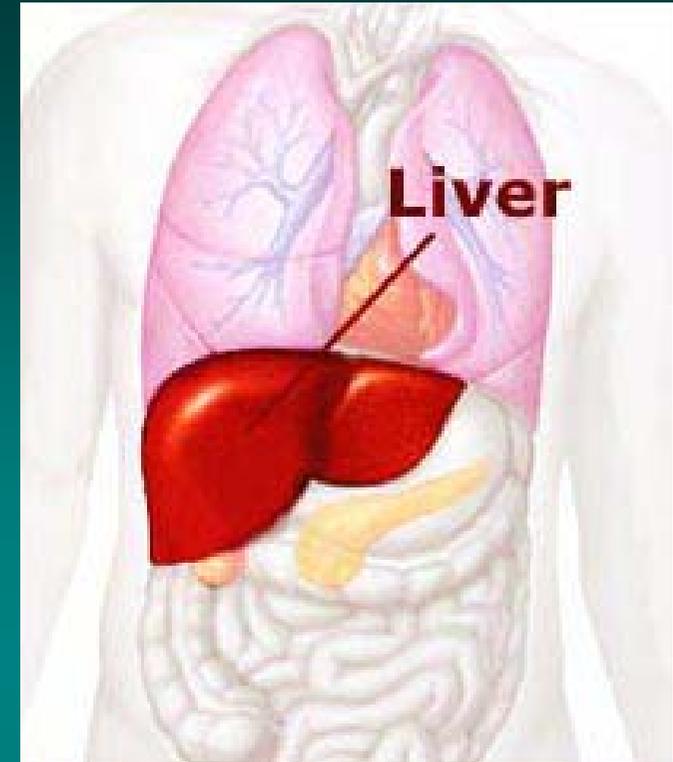
- The ligand binding pocket of PPARs is much larger than that of other NRs, with a volume of 1300 Å³, of which the ligand occupies only about 30% to 40%.
- Overall, PPARs appear to have evolved as NRs adapted for binding to multiple natural ligands with relatively low affinity.
- The first PPRE was identified in the promoter of the acyl coenzyme A (acyl-CoA) oxidase gene, and then in a number of genes activated during adipocyte differentiation or associated with lipid metabolism.

PPAR α and lipid metabolism

In the liver, PPAR α targets form a comprehensive ensemble of genes which participates in many if not all aspects of lipid catabolism. It includes:

- * transport of fatty acids in the circulation,
- * their uptake by the hepatocytes,
- * intracellular binding by fatty acid binding proteins,
- * activation by the acyl-CoA synthase,
- * β -oxidation in the peroxisomes and mitochondria,
- * ω -oxidation in the microsomes.

Ethanol inhibits PPAR α activity – it may play a role in development of alcoholic fatty liver. \longrightarrow



PPAR α ^{-/-} mice

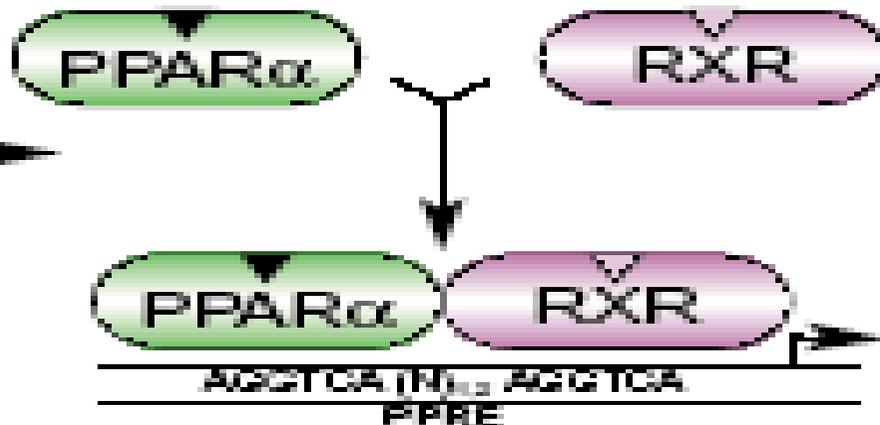
- Overall, PPAR α acts as a global regulator of energy metabolism, which coordinates the rates of utilization of the various energy sources in relation to food availability.
- Accordingly, PPAR α null mice which are viable and do not exhibit any obvious phenotype when kept under normal laboratory conditions and diet, experience serious difficulties during **fasting**, a situation that **normally results in an enhanced fatty acid mobilization and increased β -oxidation in the liver** as fatty acids represent the major energy source.
- Confronted to such a metabolic challenge, **PPAR α null mice** are not capable of enhanced fatty oxidation and rapidly **suffer from hypoglycemia and hypothermia**.
- With age they **develop obesity**.
- Mice display **increased inflammatory reactions** and delayed wound healing.



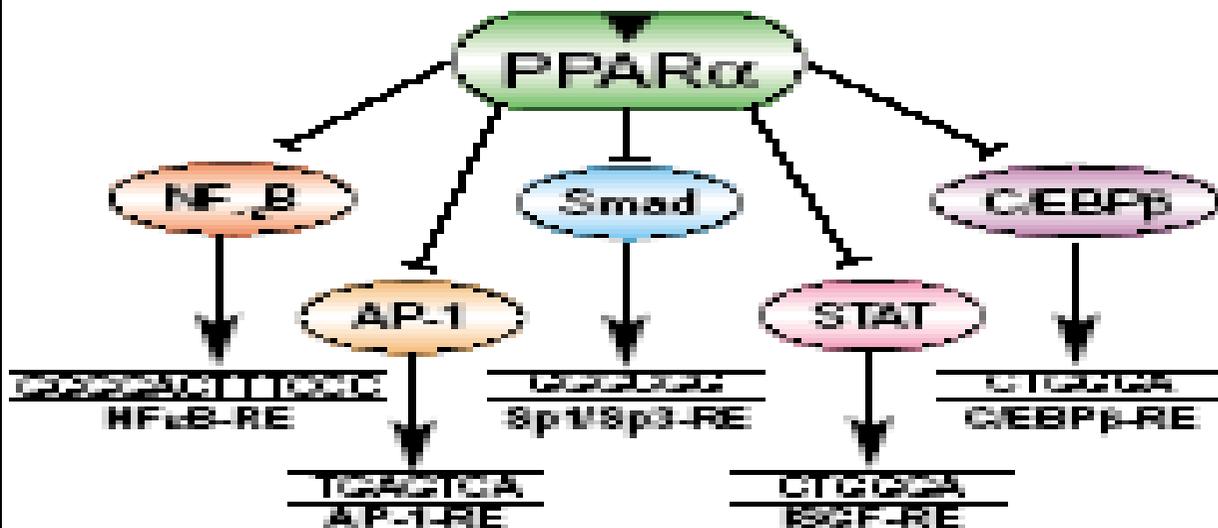
Natural ligands
fatty acids, derivatives

Synthetic ligands
fibrates, GW7647...

Transactivation



Transrepression



PPARα participates in the control of the inflammatory response:

* it decreases inflammation possibly via stimulation of catabolism of the proinflammatory lipid mediators.

* its activation results in repression of NFκB signaling which leads to decreased production of proinflammatory cytokines in different cell-types.

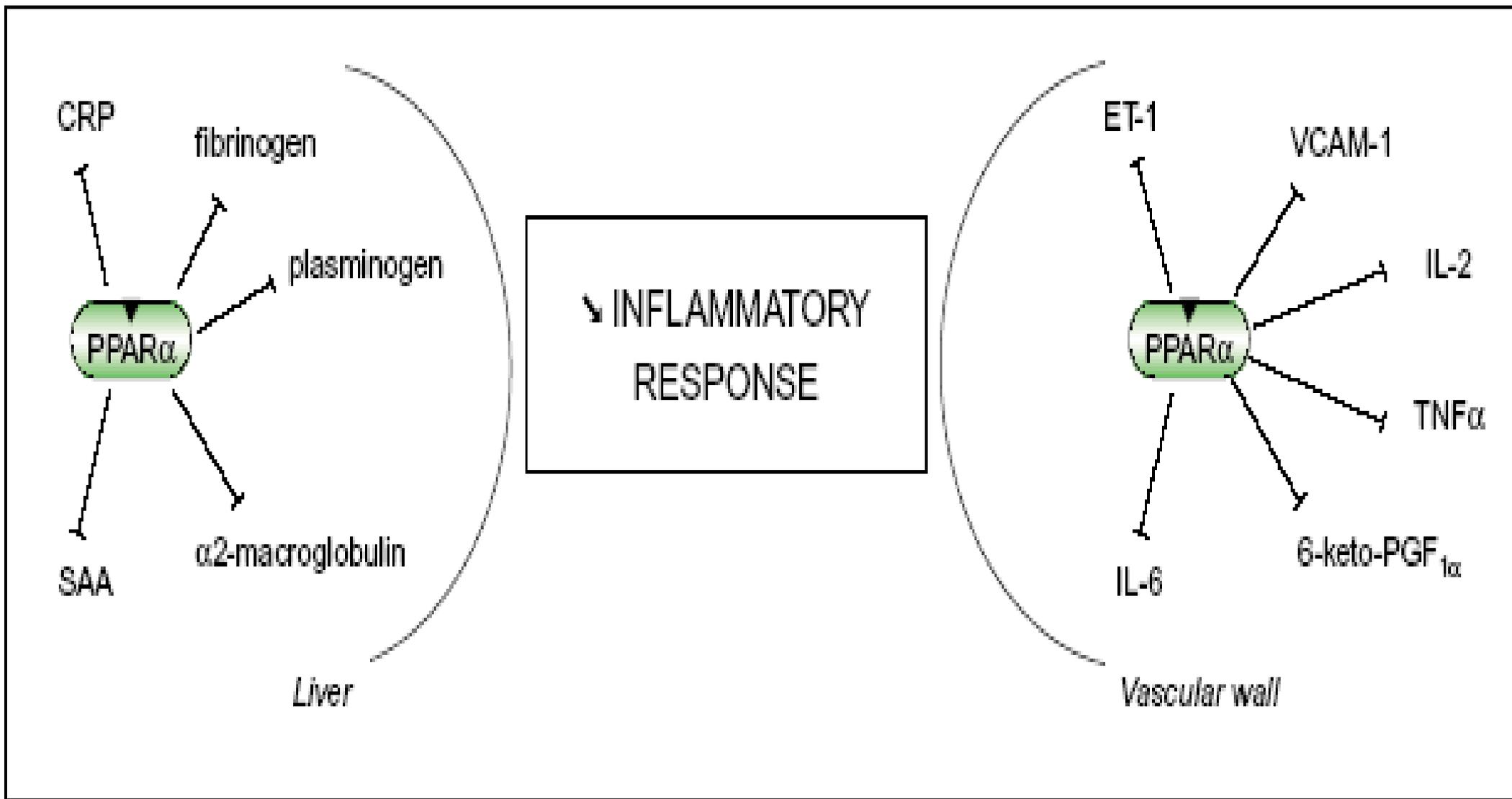
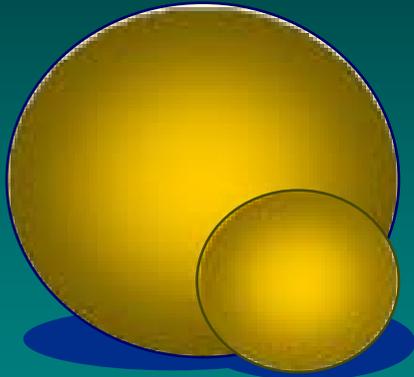


FIG. 3 - PPAR α and the control of the inflammatory response. PPAR α interferes with acute phase protein production in the liver and decreases the expression of several inflammatory mediators or cytokines directly in the vascular wall, thus exerting an overall effect on the systemic and local inflammatory response. CRP: C-reactive protein; SAA: serum amyloid A; ET-1: endothelin-1; VCAM-1: vascular cell-adhesion molecule-1; IL: interleukin; TNF α : tumor necrosis factor α .

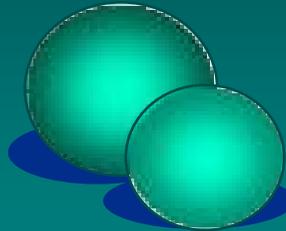
Lipoprotein Classes and Inflammation



Chylomicrons,
VLDL, and
their catabolic
remnants

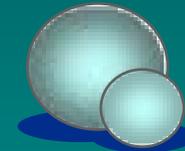
$> 30 \text{ nm}$

Potentially proinflammatory



LDL

$20\text{--}22 \text{ nm}$

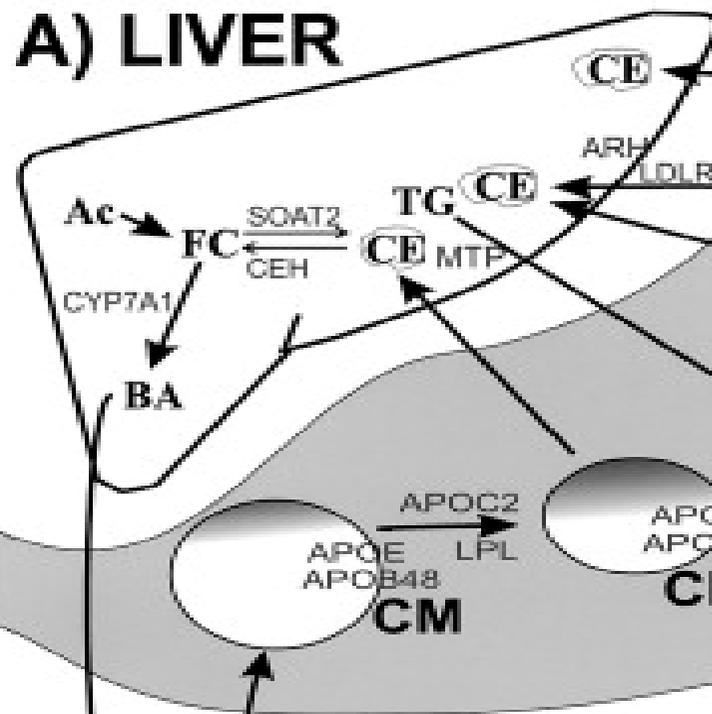


HDL

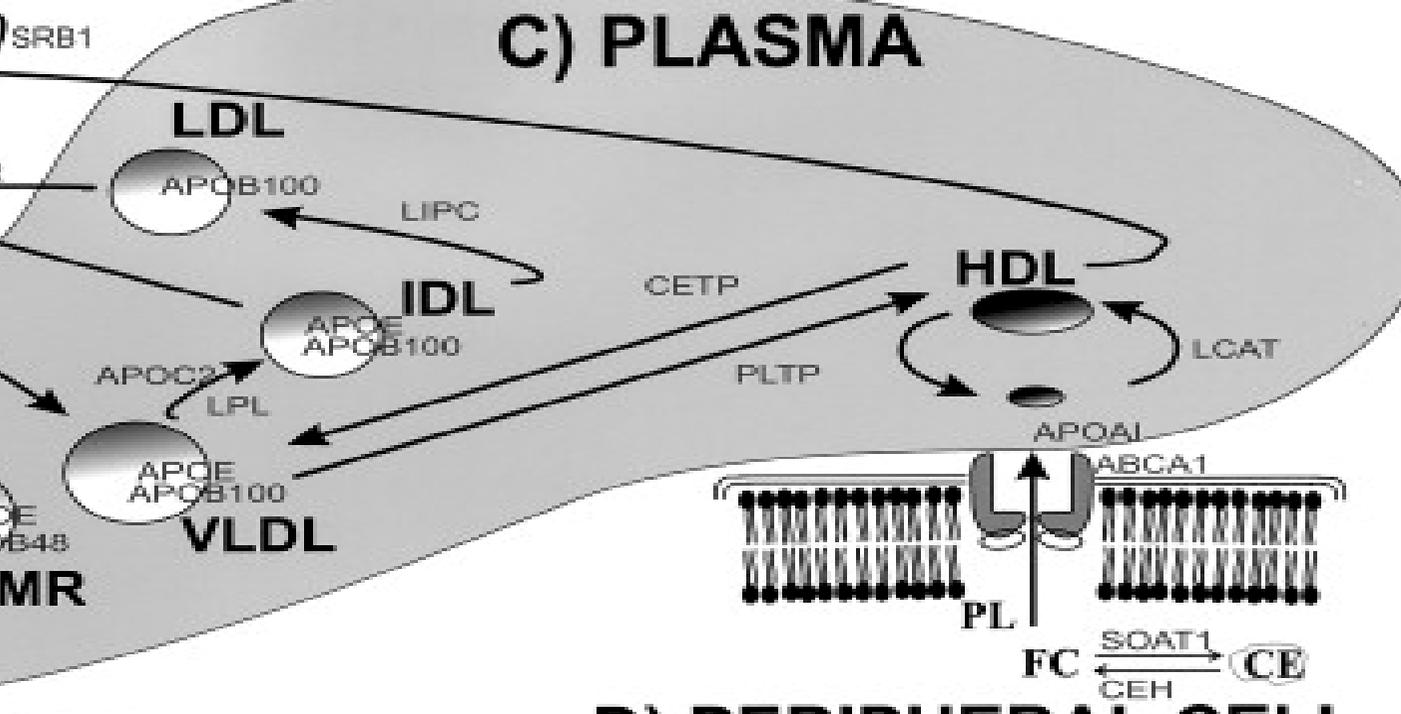
$9\text{--}15 \text{ nm}$

Potentially anti-
inflammatory

A) LIVER



C) PLASMA



D) PERIPHERAL CELL

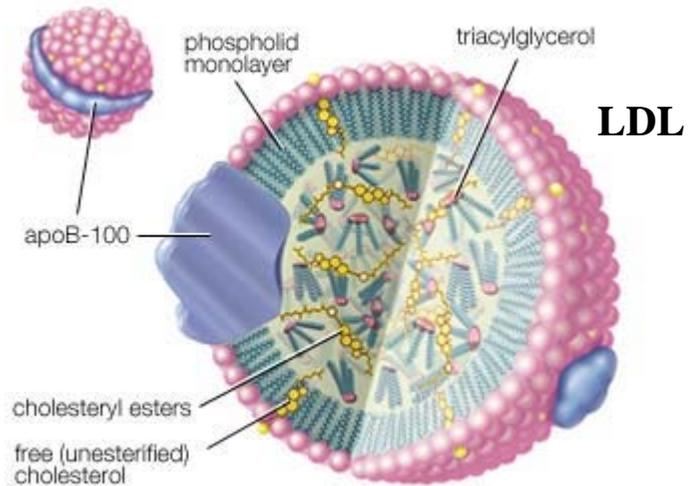
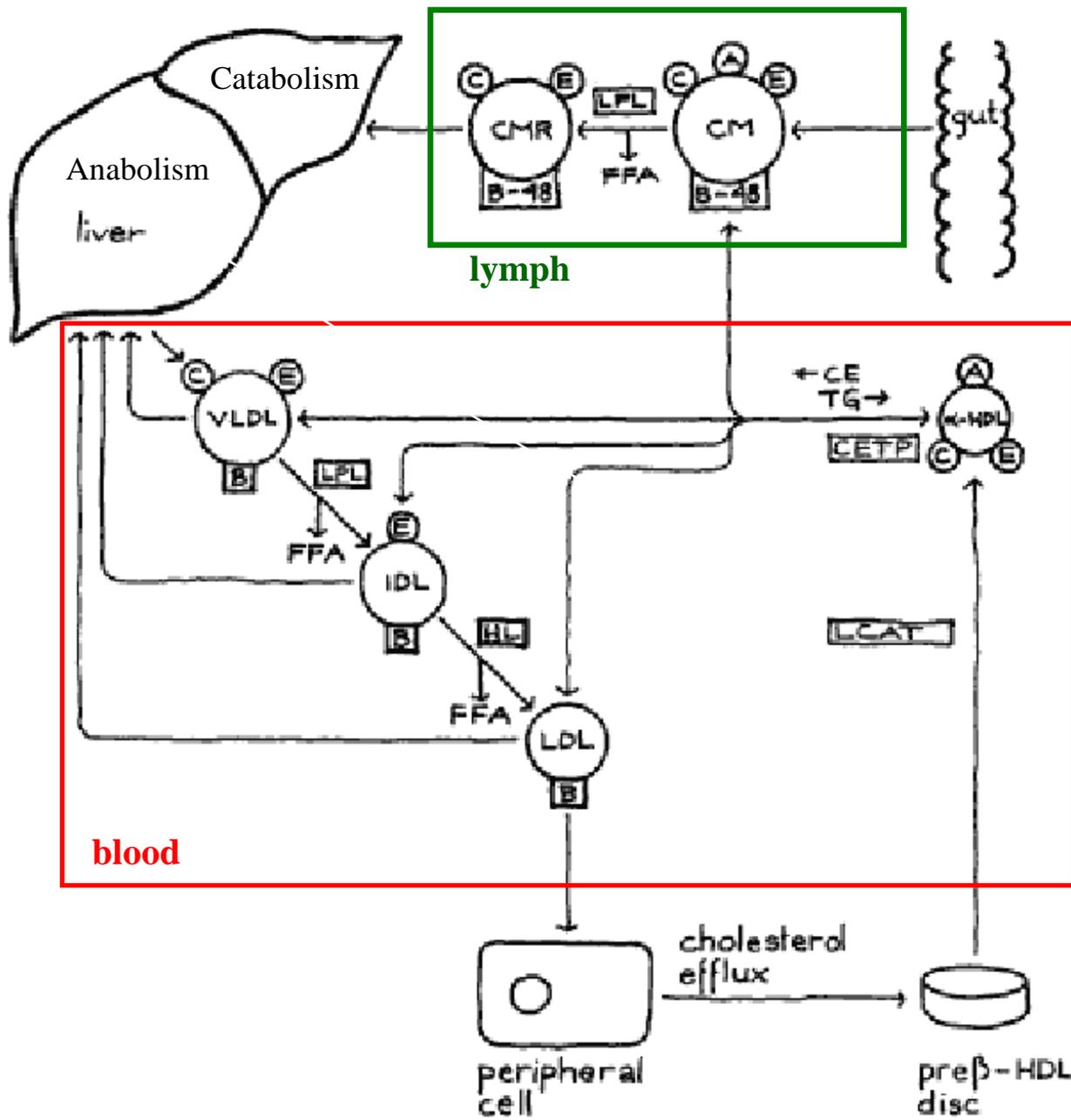


B) INTESTINE



PPAR α lowers triglyceride levels as a result of:

- enhanced lipolysis, induction of FA uptake and catabolism
- reduced FA synthesis and VLDL production by the liver
- increased removal of LDL



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- A-I, apo A-I;*
- B, apo B-100; B-48, apo B-48;*
- C, apo C;*
- CE, cholesterol ester;*
- CETP, cholesterol ester transfer protein;*
- CM, chylomicron;*
- CMR, chylomicron remnant;*
- E, apo E;*
- HL, hepatic lipase;*
- LCAT, lecithin:cholesterol acyltransferase*
- LPL, lipoprotein lipase;*
- TG, triglycerides;*

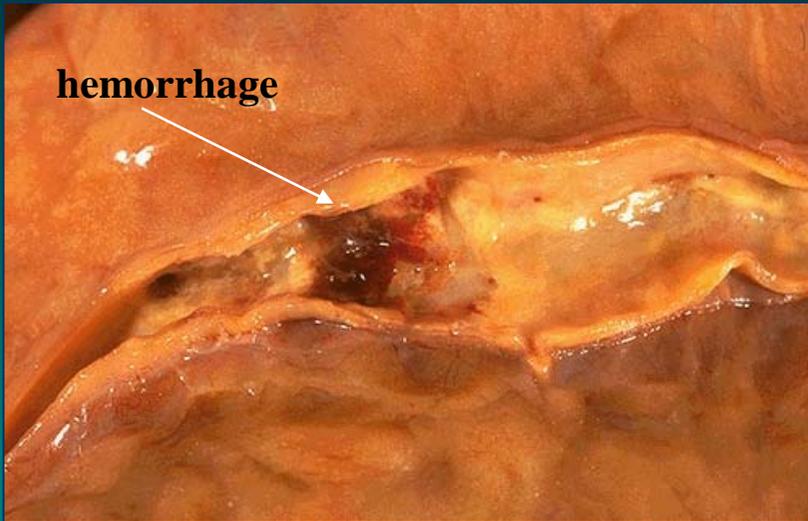
Eruptive xanthomas

Effect of dyslipidemia

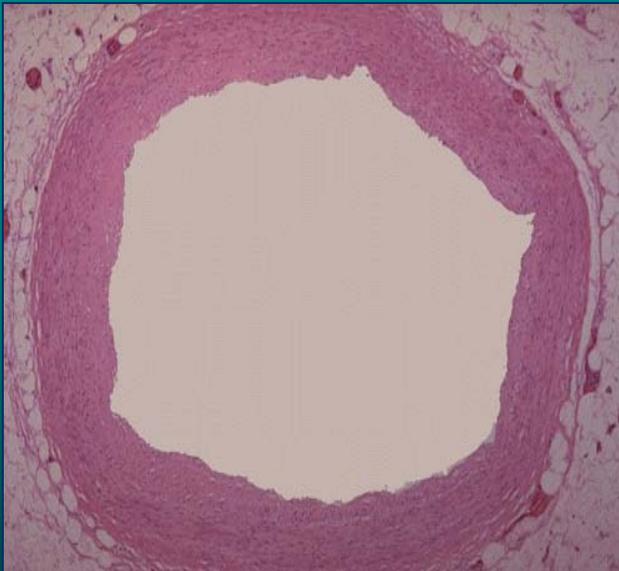


Atherosclerotic plaques

Effect of dyslipidemia



healthy vessel



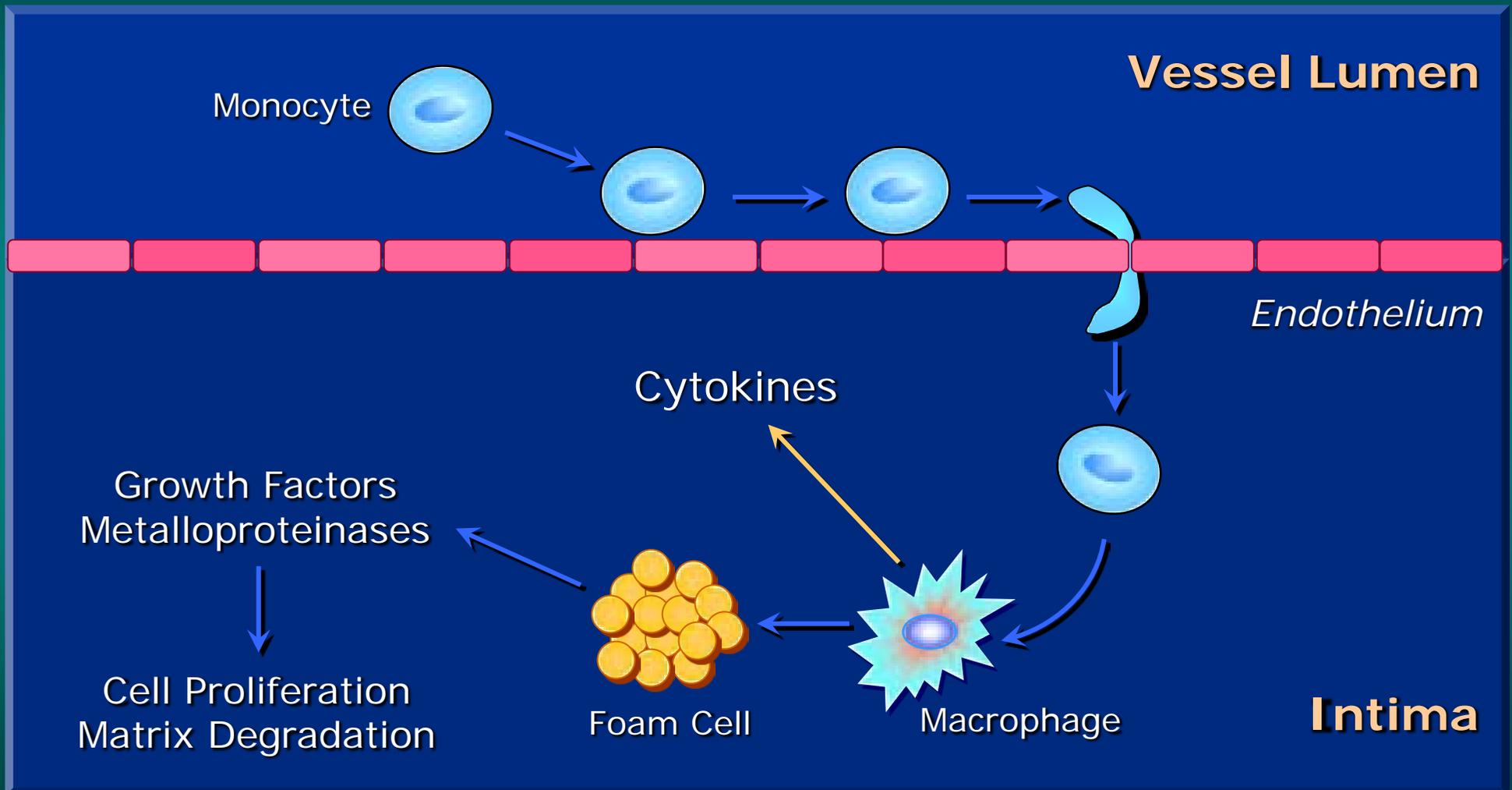
~70% lumen reduction



occlusive plaque

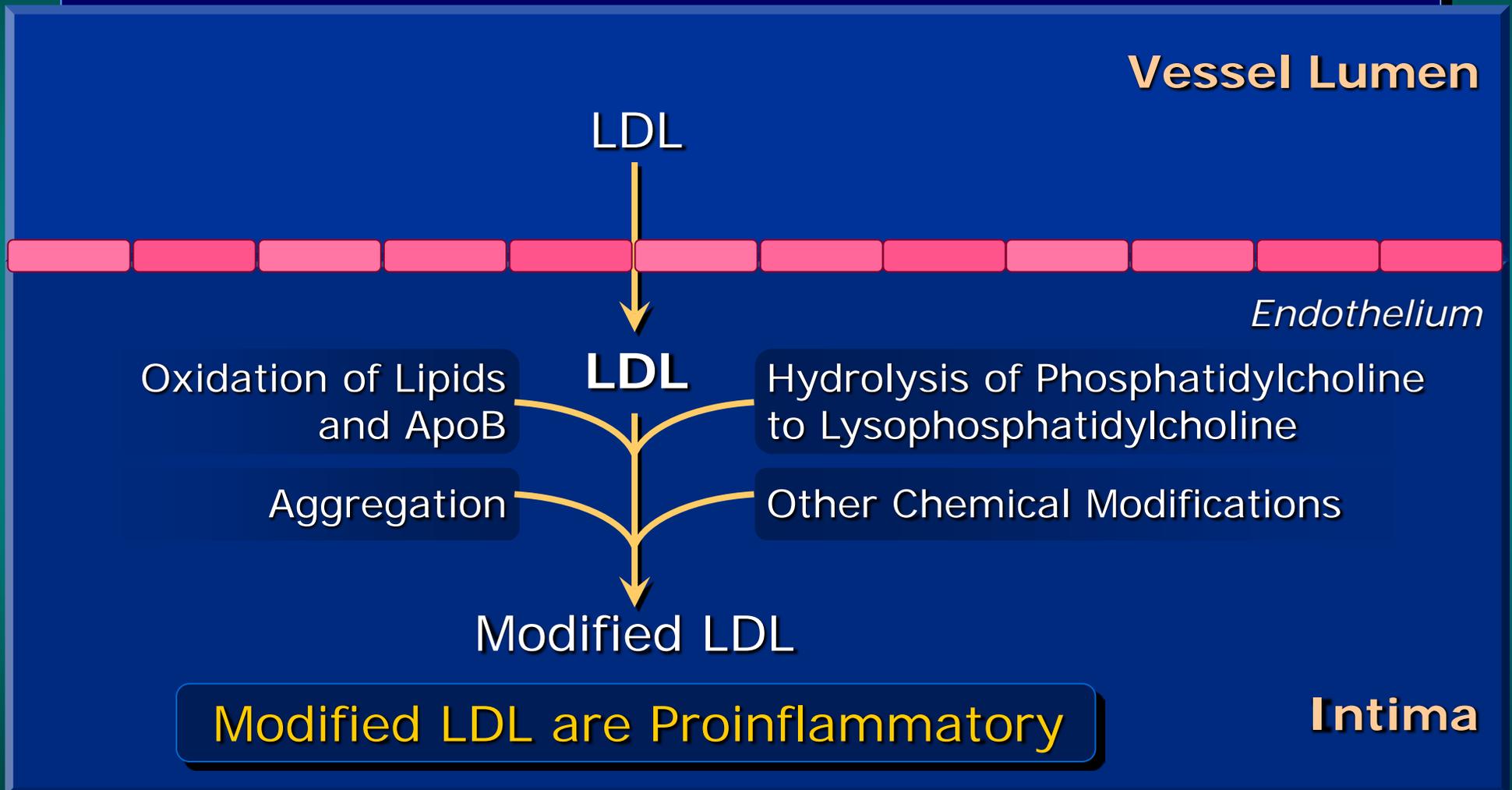


Atherosclerosis is an Inflammatory Disease

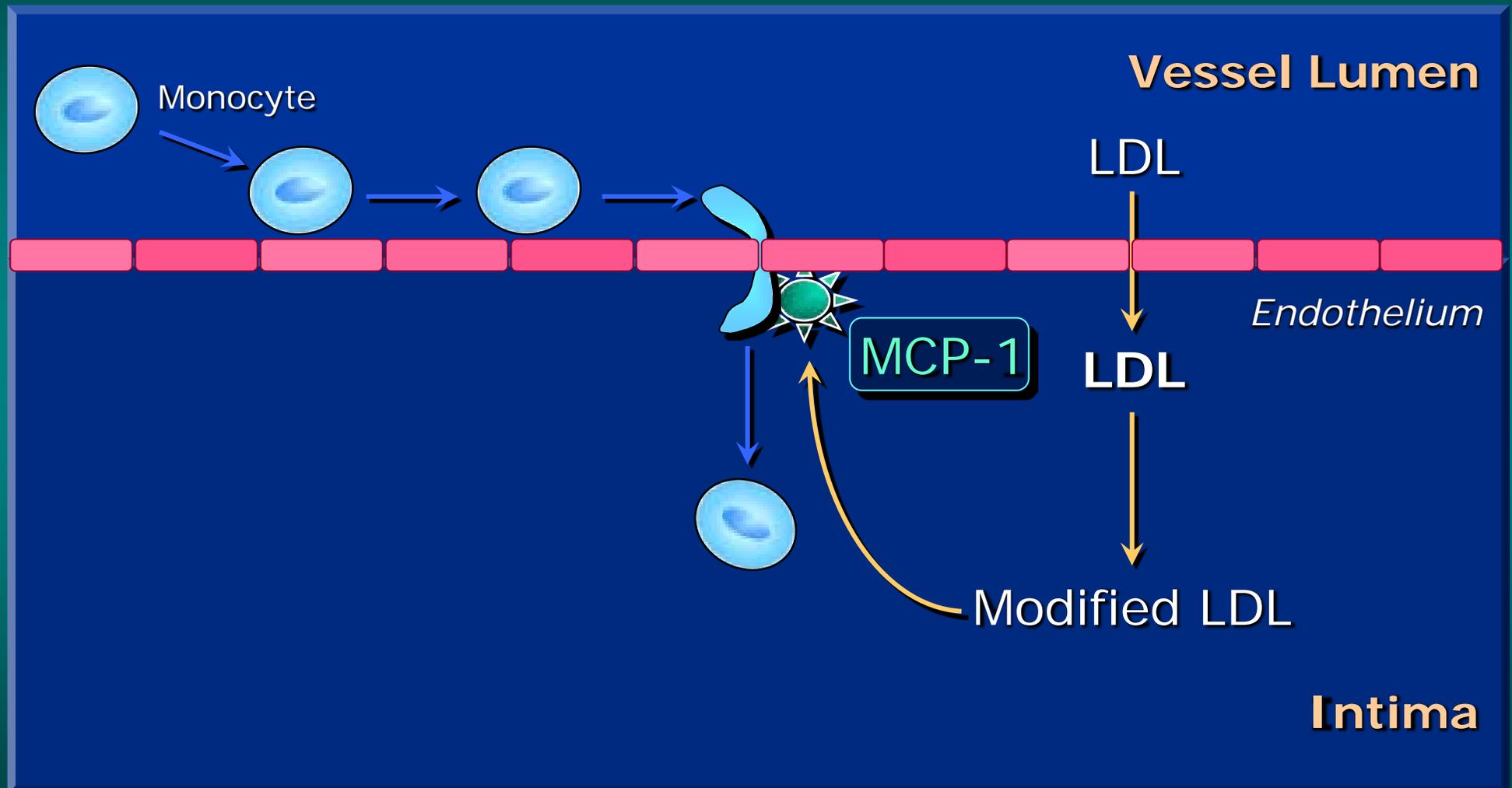


Role of LDL in Inflammation

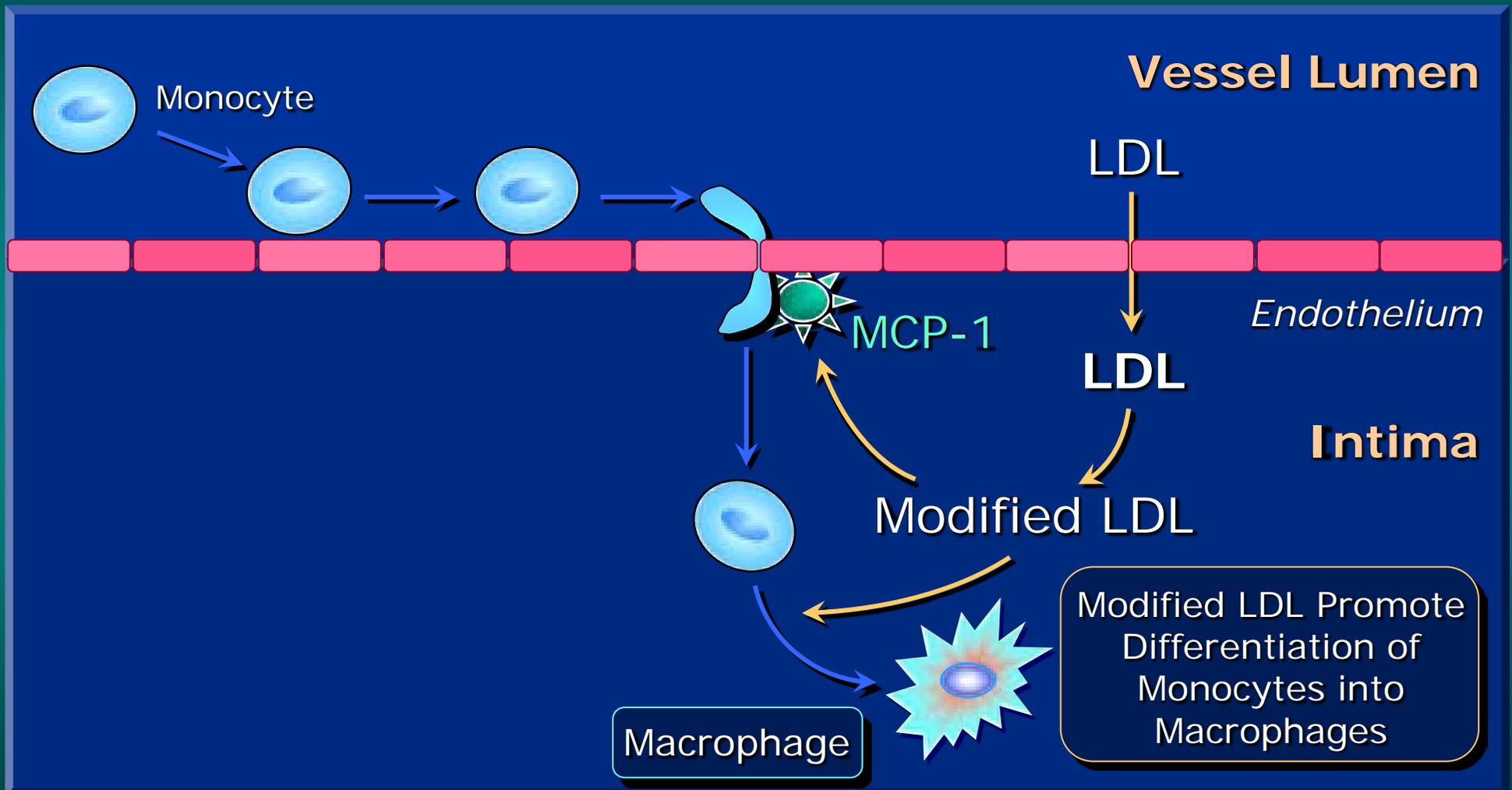
LDL Readily Enter the Artery Wall Where They May be Modified



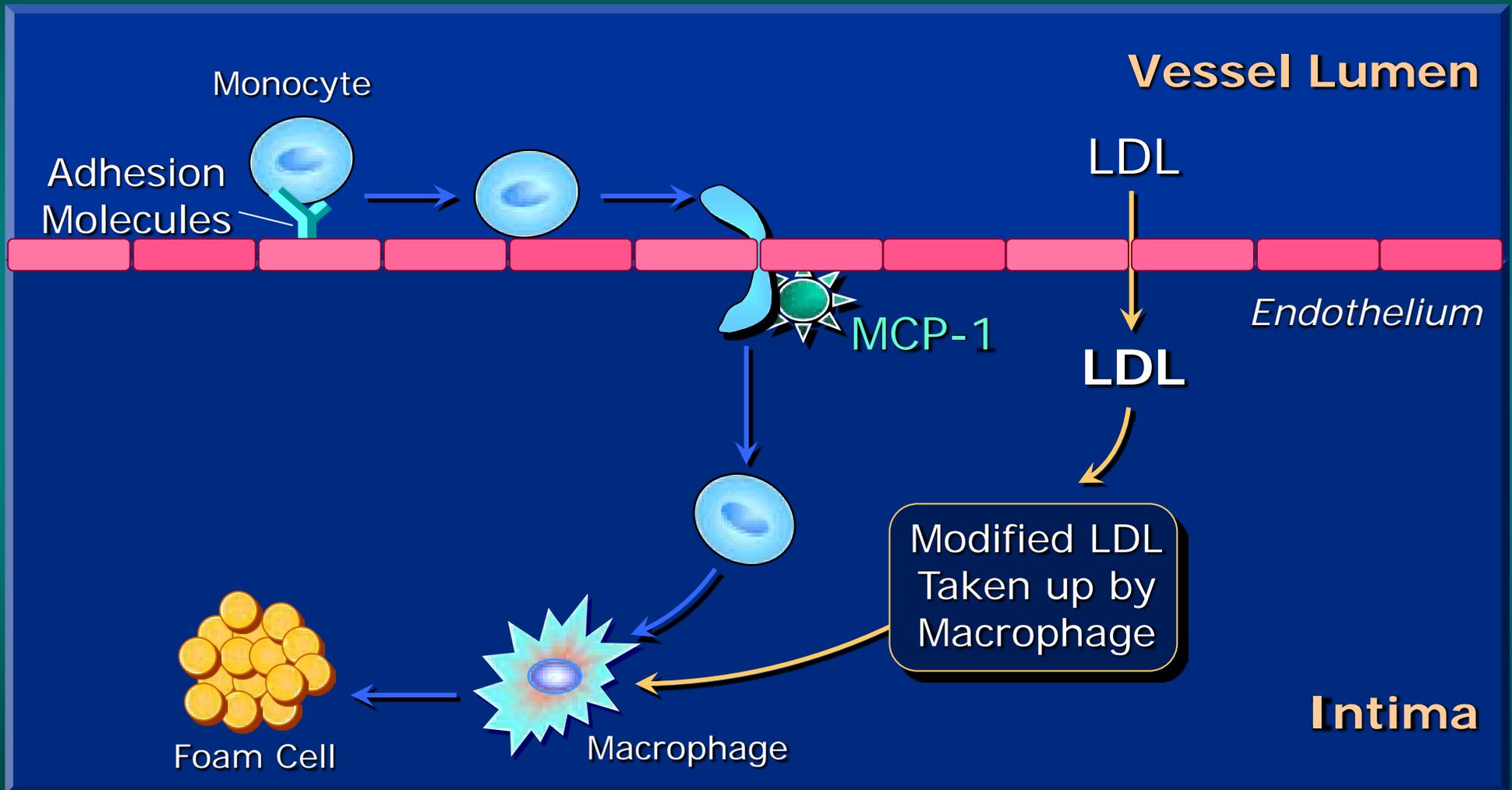
Modified LDL stimulate expression of MCP-1 in endothelial cells



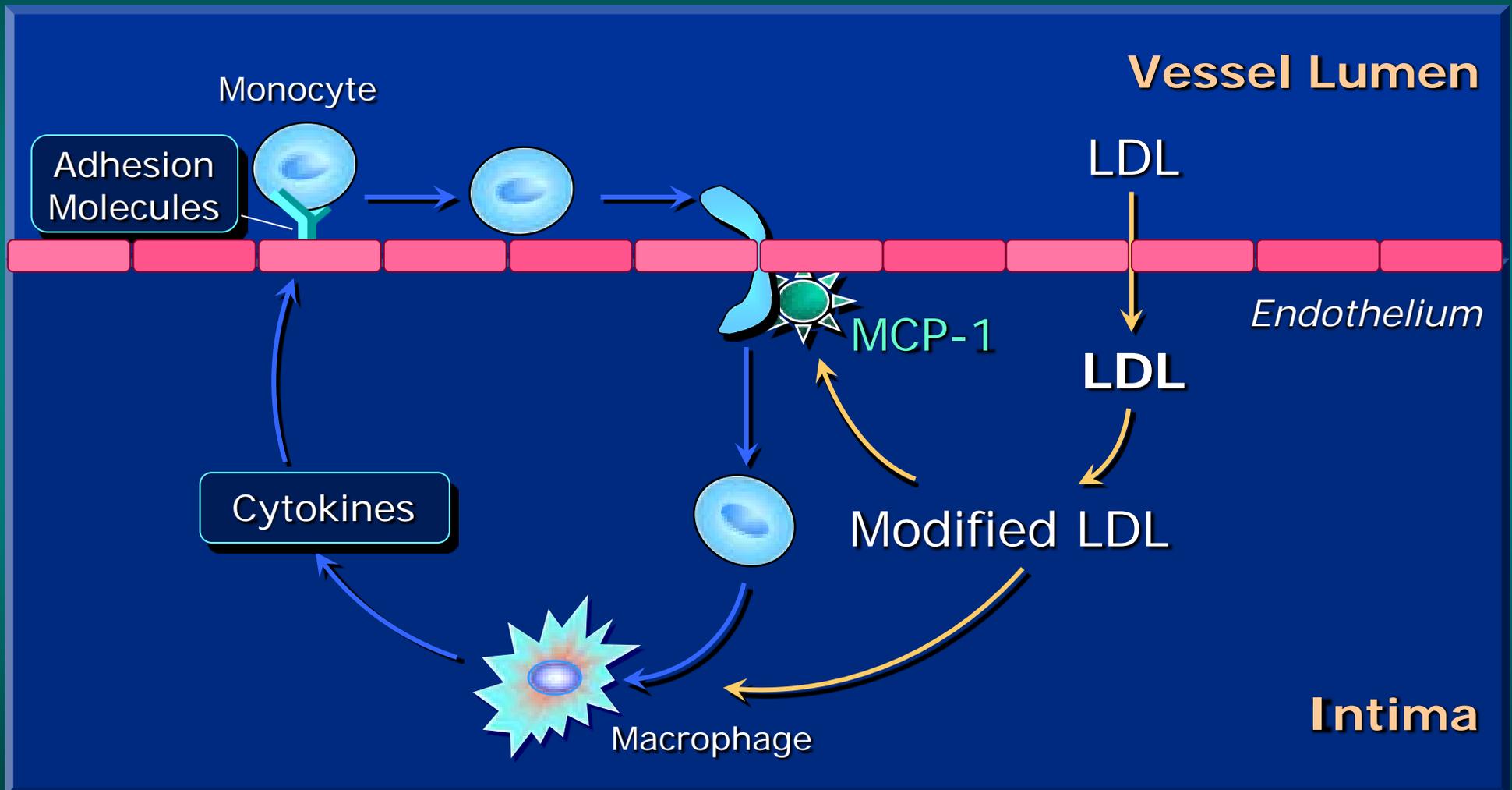
Differentiation of monocytes into macrophages



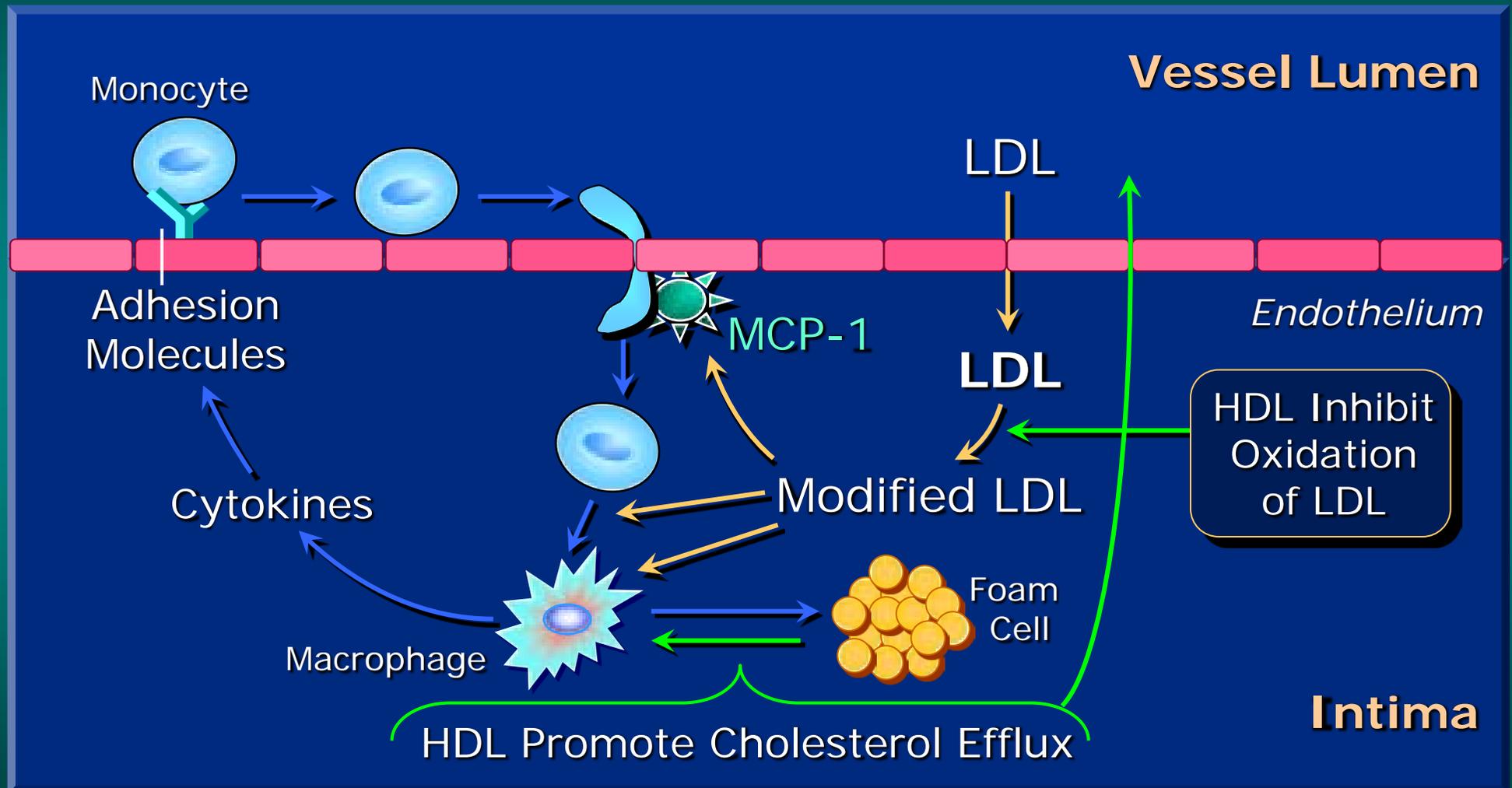
Macrophages express receptors that take up modified LDL

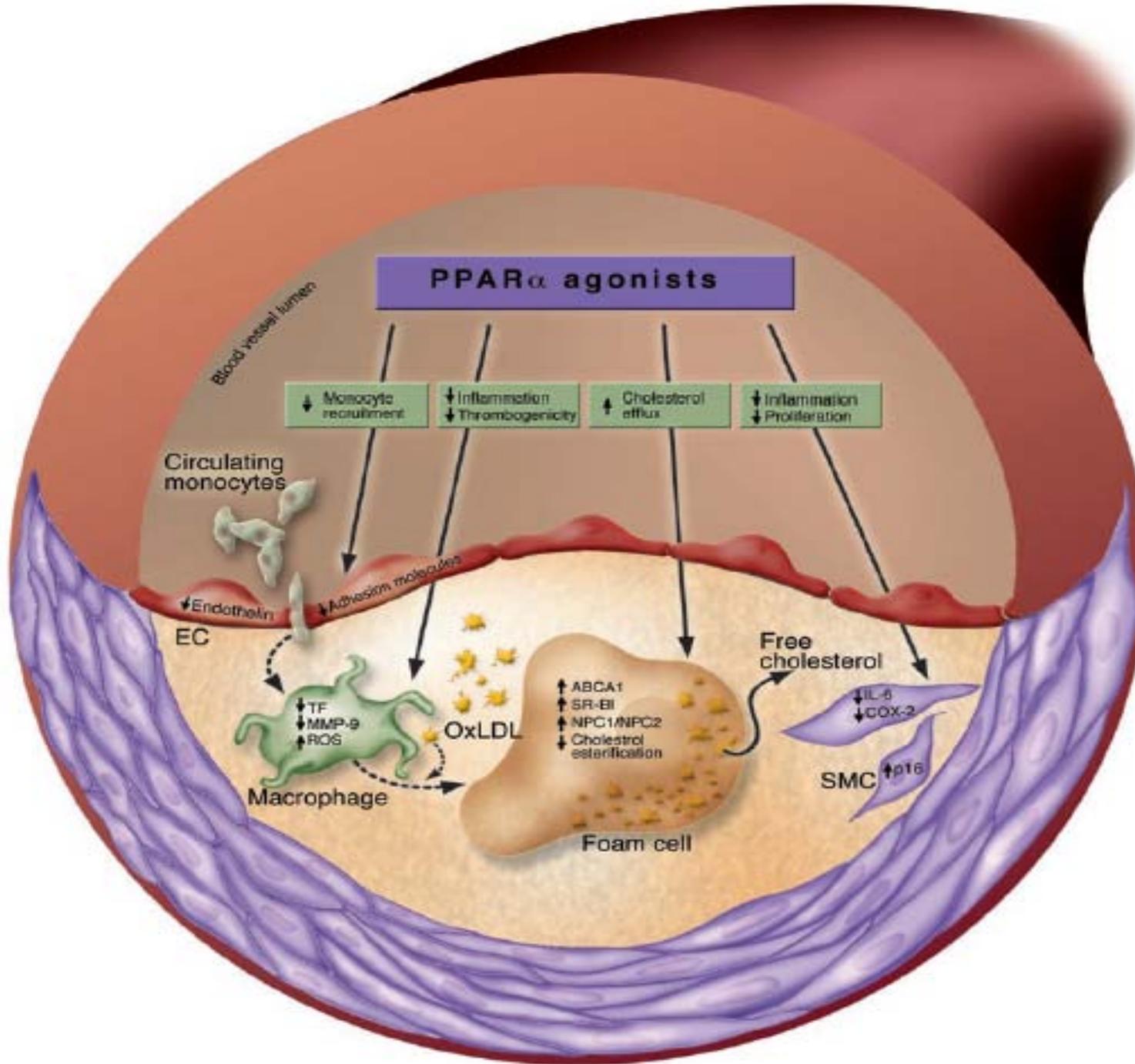


Modified LDL induces macrophages to release cytokines that stimulate adhesion molecule expression in endothelial cells



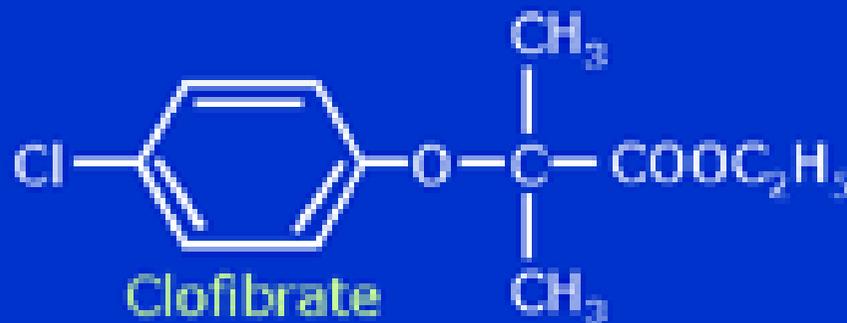
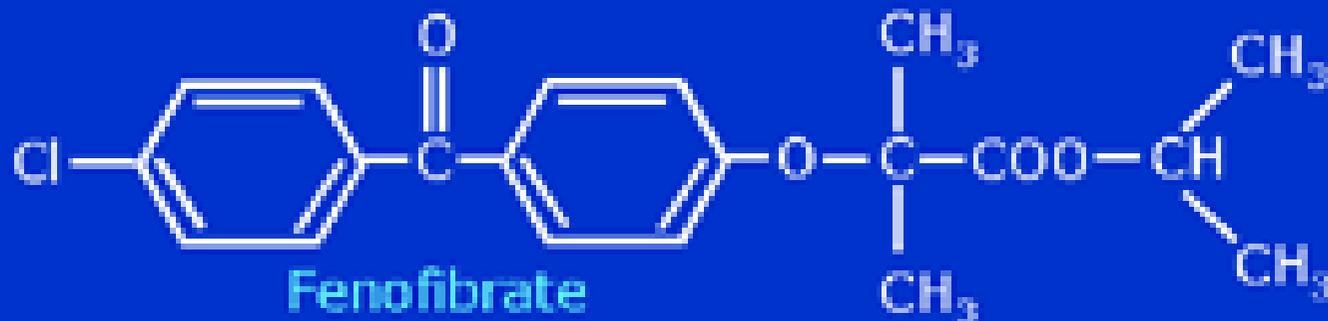
HDL prevent formation of foam cells, reduced adhesion molecules and inhibit the oxidative modification of LDL



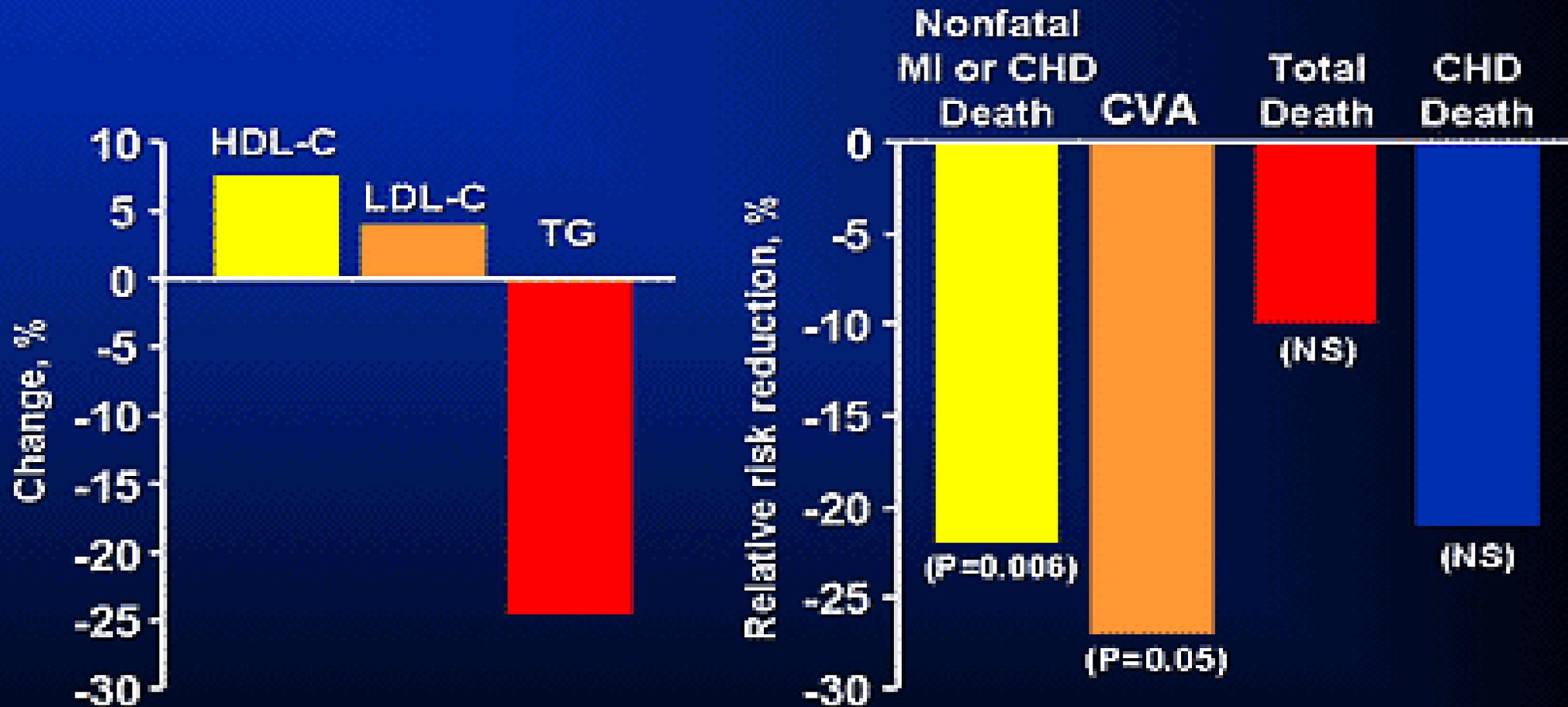


PPAR α and atherosclerosis

Fibrate Chemical Structures

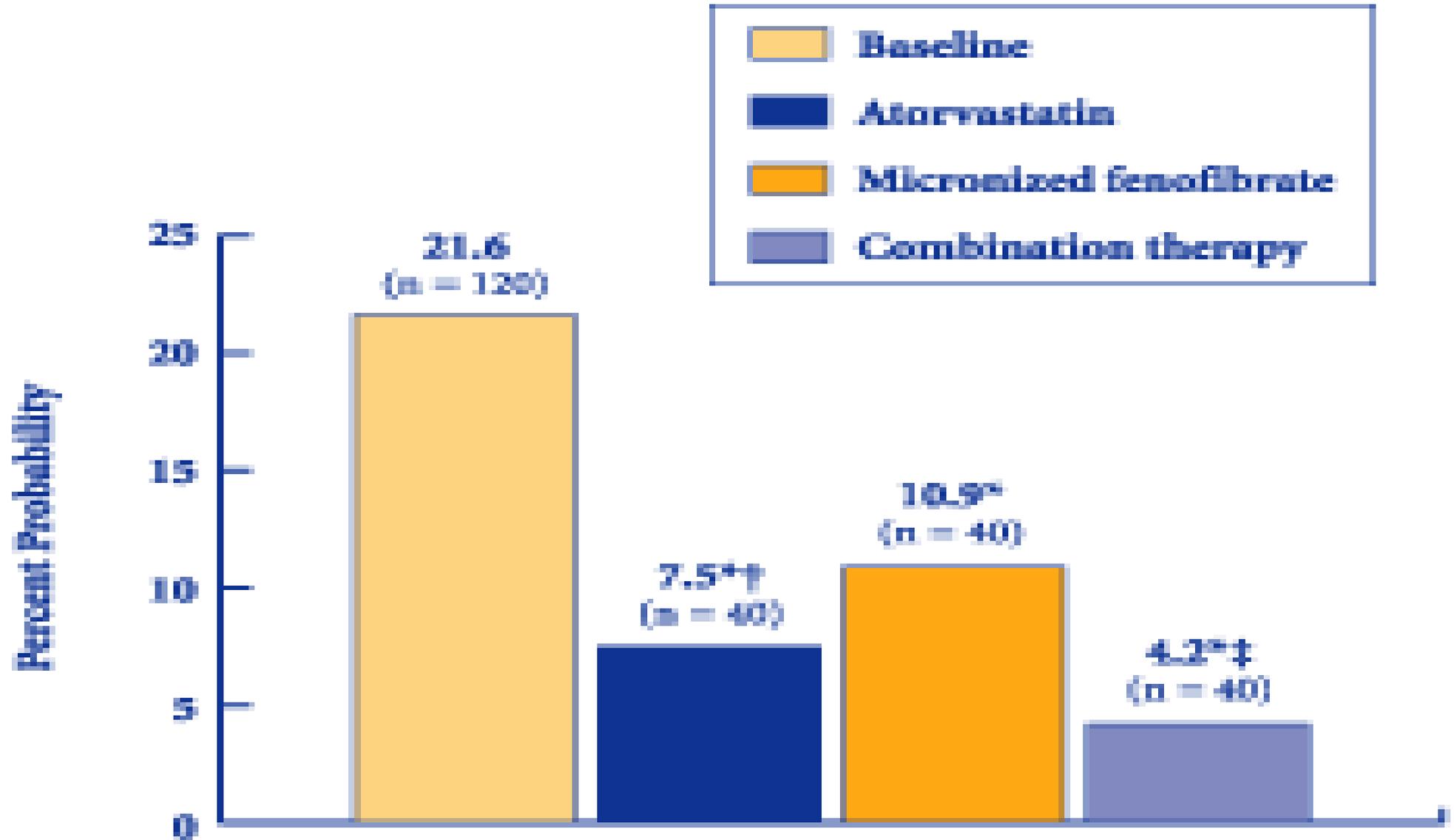


VA-HIT Results: Gemfibrozil vs Placebo



MI – myocardial infarction, CVA - cerebrovascular accident (stroke), CHD – coronary heart disease

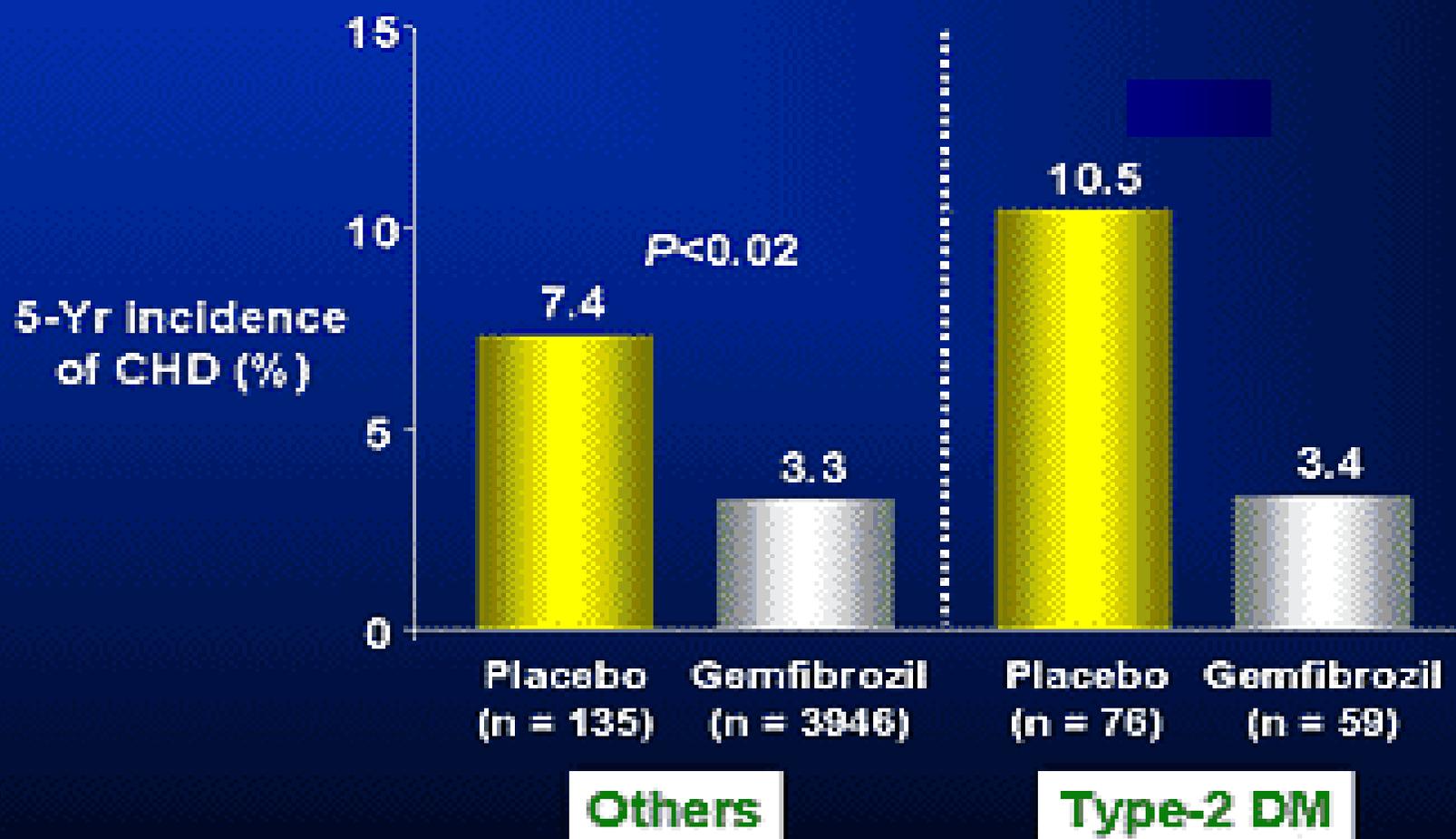
Probability of myocardial infarction during 10 years



Data are %. * $P < .0001$ vs. baseline;

† $P < .05$ vs. fenofibrate; ‡ $P < .05$ vs. both monotherapies.

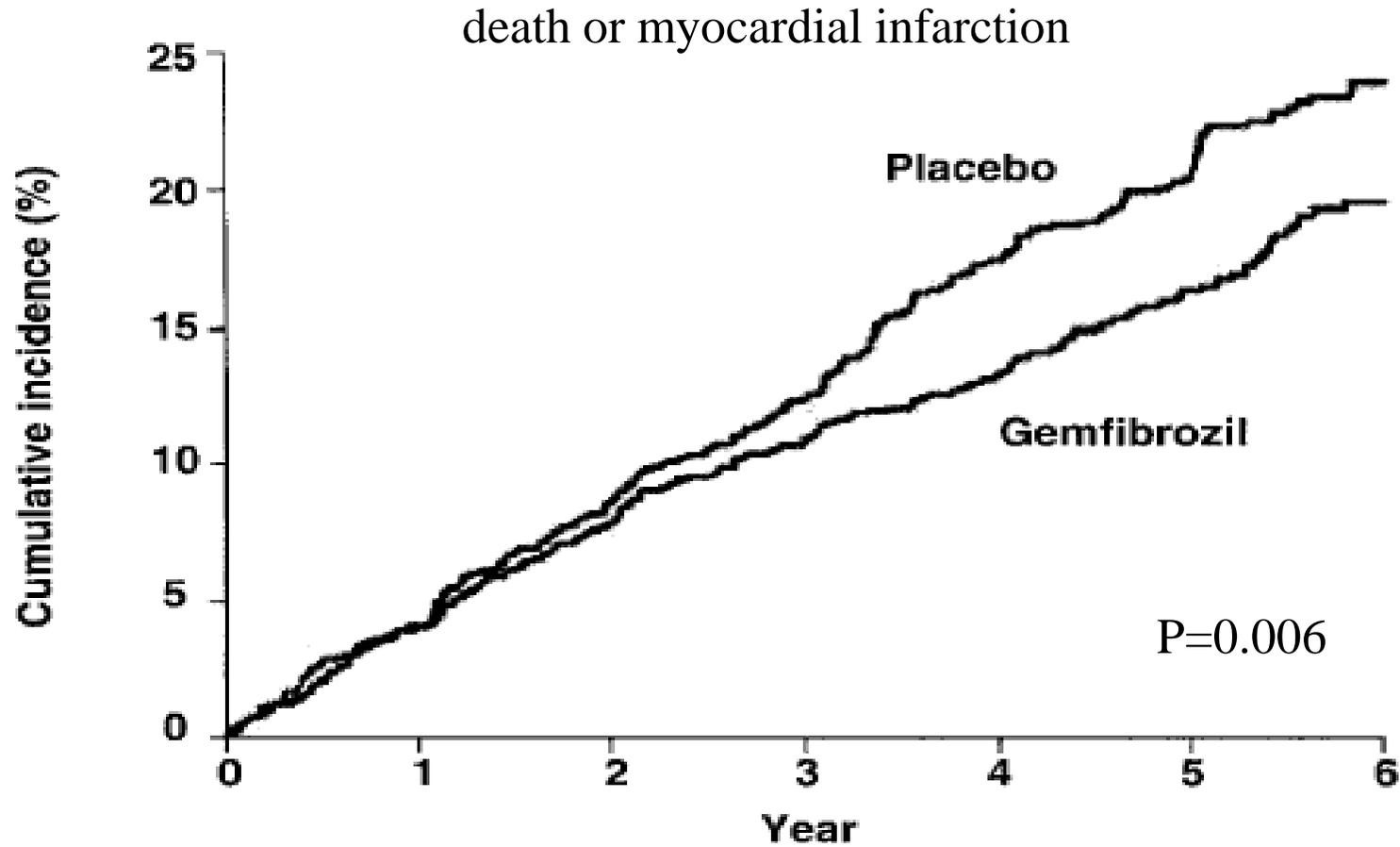
Primary CHD Prevention in Patients With Type 2 Diabetes: The Helsinki Heart Study



*Myocardial infarction or cardiac death.

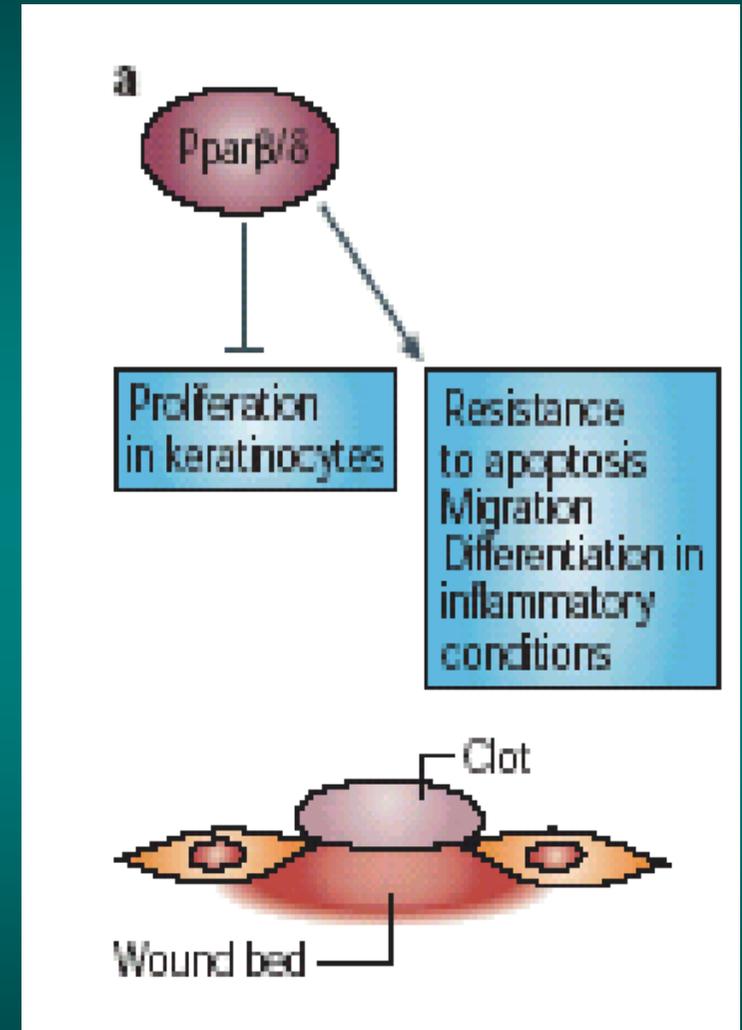
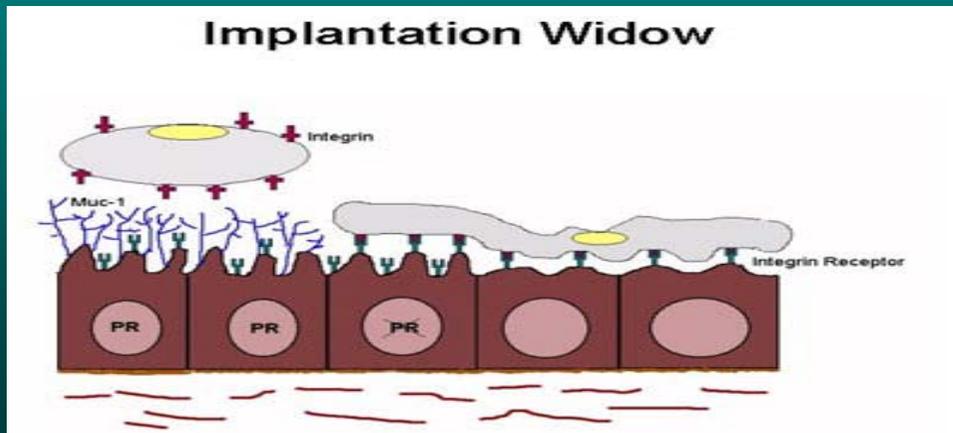
NS=not significant.

Treatment with fibrates reduces cardiovascular risk

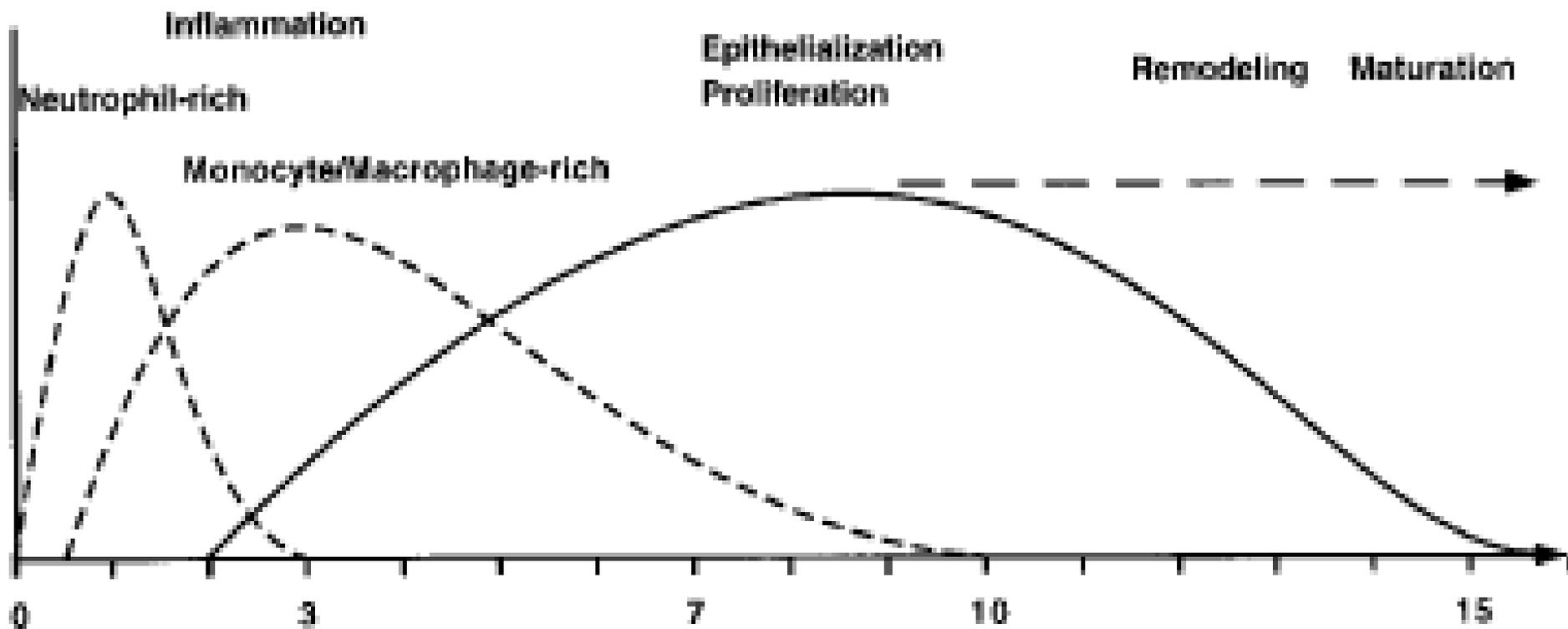


PPAR β (PPAR δ)

- PPAR β is relatively poorly characterized.
- Its expression is rather ubiquitous, with varying levels in different organs.
- Endogenous ligand for PPAR δ is prostacyclin (PGI₂).
- PPAR δ seems to play a very important role in implantation of embryo.
- It was also implicated in oligodendrocyte maturation.



PPAR expression in epidermis during wound healing



PPAR expression

PPAR α

PPAR β



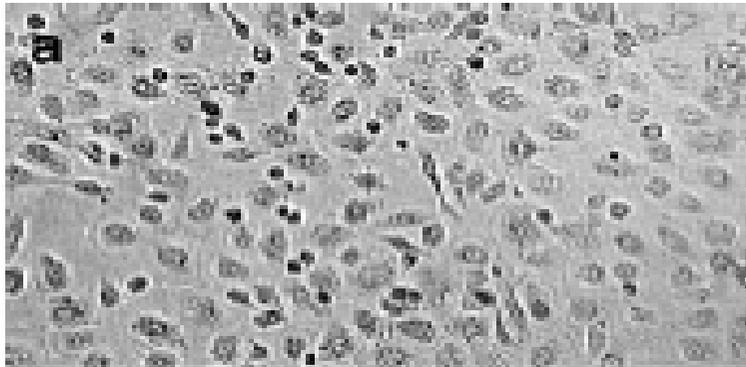
PPAR β – wound healing

- **Recent studies have demonstrated an involvement of PPAR δ in regulation of wound healing. Its activation:**
 - * contributes to lipid biosynthesis in sebocytes and keratinocytes
 - * ameliorates inflammatory responses in the skin.
 - * diminishes proliferation and accelerates differentiation of keratinocytes
 - * enhances keratinocyte resistance to apoptotic signals.
- **Increased proliferation and death of keratinocytes at the edges of epidermal wounds in PPAR δ mutant mice most likely participate in the healing delay observed in these animals.**



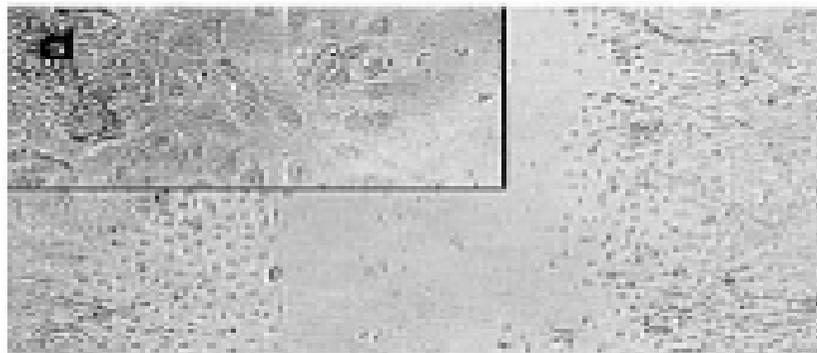
Effect of PPAR β deficiency on keratinocyte adhesion...

Plating

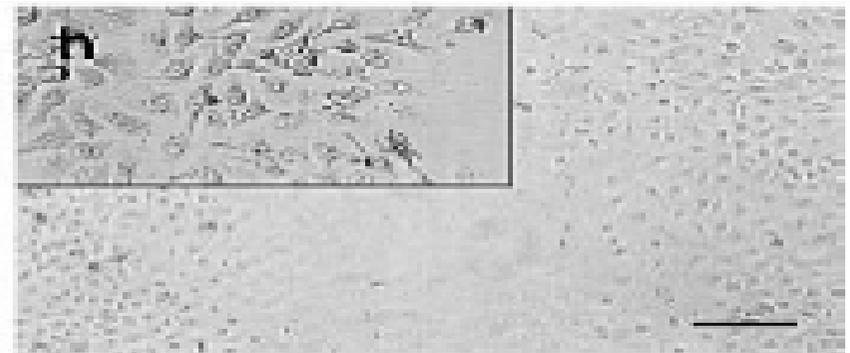


...and in vitro wound healing.

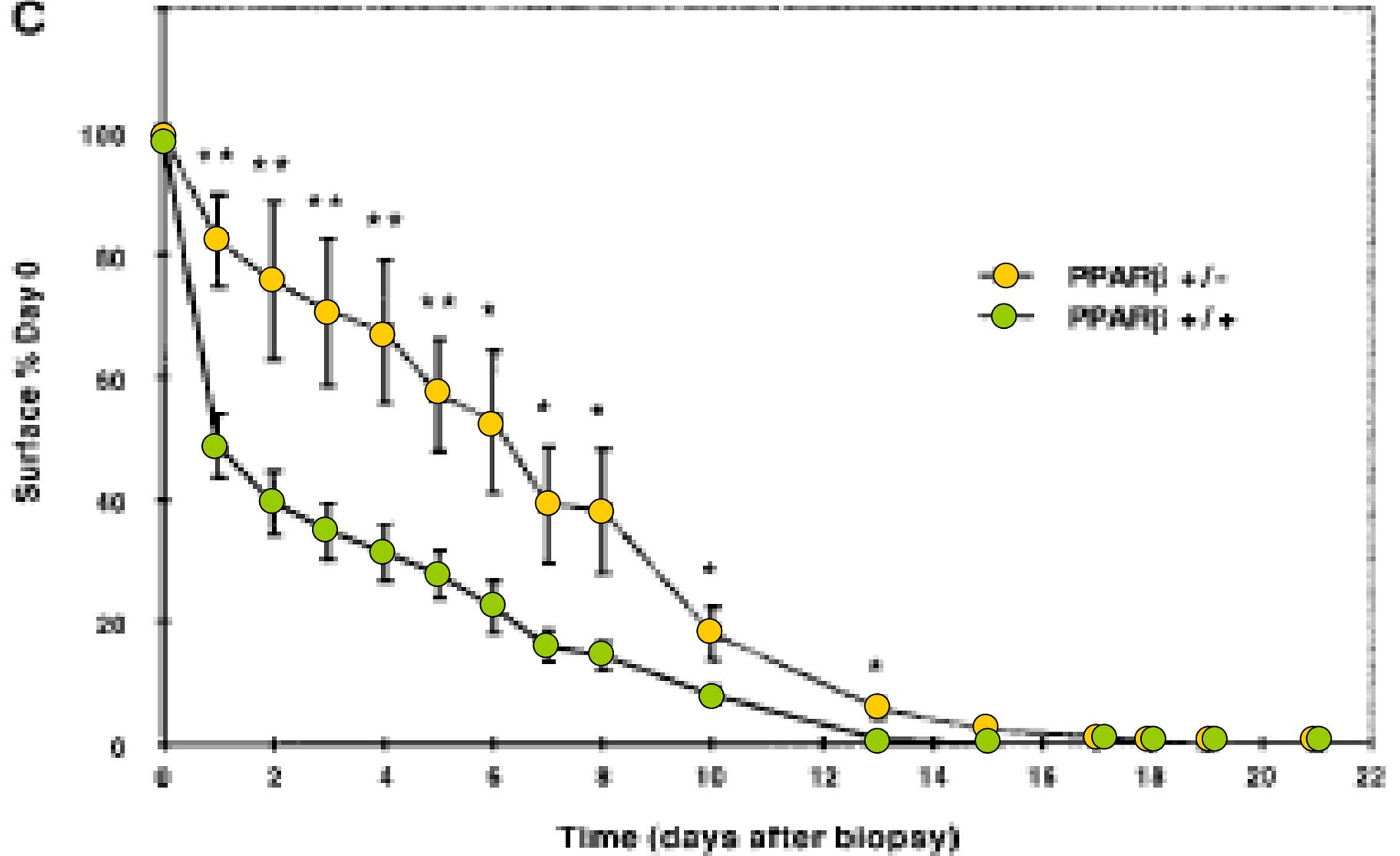
Day 4



PPAR β +/+



PPAR β +/-

C

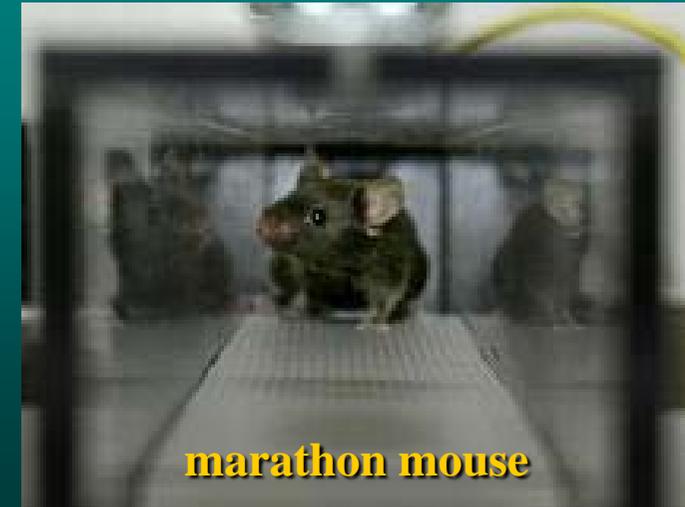
PPAR β – atherosclerosis

- Some studies indicate, that activation of PPAR δ may influence atherogenesis, although the final output of its action is not known yet.
- Artificial, selective ligand of PPAR δ was reported to cause a dramatic **rise in HDL** cholesterol, while **lowering the levels of LDL** small dense lipoprotein, fasting triglycerides, and insulin.
- On the other hand, PPAR δ , whose expression is increased during differentiation of macrophages, increases the expression of genes involved in lipid uptake and storage, what may promote the macrophage lipid accumulation and foam cell formation.



PPAR β overexpressing mice

- Overexpression of PPAR β in adipose tissue specifically induces expression of genes required for fatty acid oxidation and energy dissipation, which then leads to improved lipid profiles and reduced adiposity.
- Importantly, these animals are **completely resistant to obesity that is induced by a high-fat diet** and by genetic predisposition.
- As predicted, treatment of obese mice with a synthetic PPAR β agonist depletes lipid accumulation. In parallel, **PPAR β -deficient mice** challenged with a high-fat diet show reduced energy expenditure and are **prone to obesity**. Maybe PPAR β serves as a widespread regulator of fat burning and is a potential target in the treatment of obesity.
- The **Marathon Mice** are capable of continuous running of up to twice the distance of a wild-type littermate. This is achieved by targeted expression of an activated form of PPAR β in skeletal muscle, which resulted in a dramatic increase in "nonfatiguing, red" type I muscle fibers.



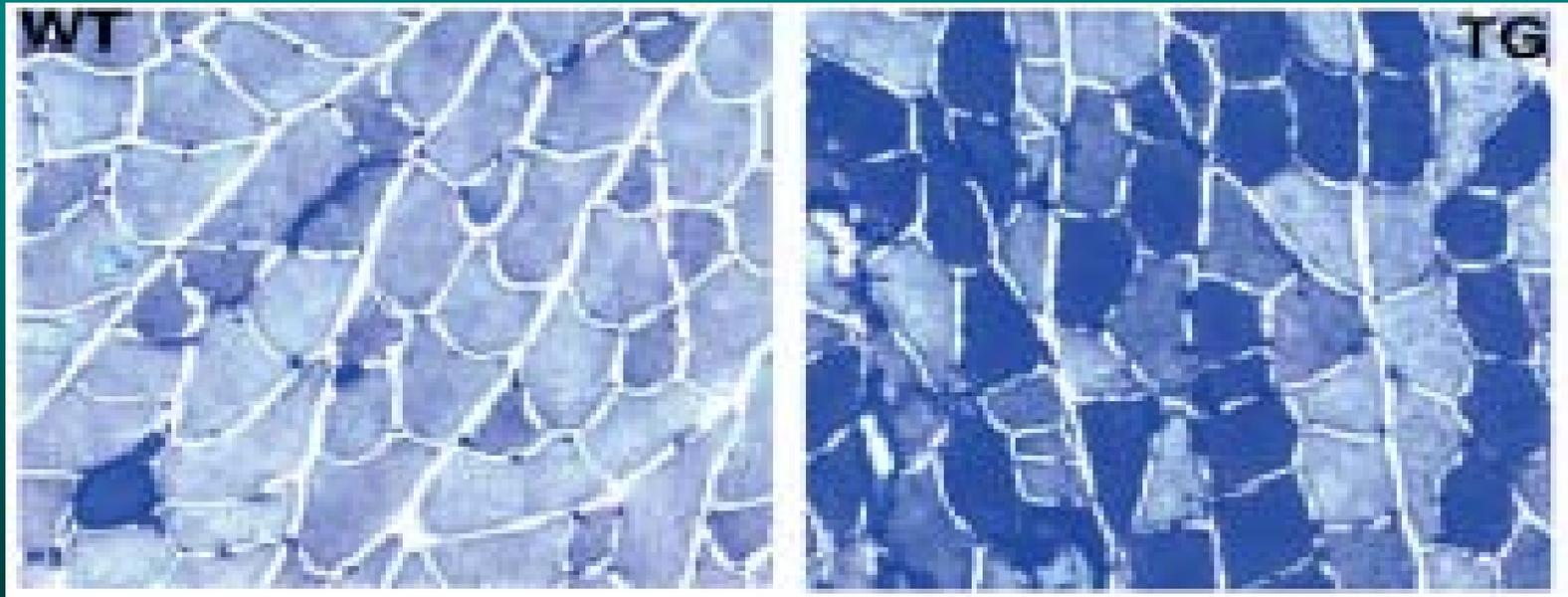
Increased Oxidative Type I Fibers in the PPAR δ Transgenic Mice

Skeletal muscle fibers are generally classified as type I or type II fibers.

Type I fibers (oxidative/slow) are mitochondria rich and **mainly use oxidative metabolism** for energy production, which provides a stable and long-lasting supply of ATP, and thus are fatigue-resistant.

Type II (glycolytic/fast) fibers comprise three subtypes, IIa, IIx, and IIb. Type IIb fibers have the lowest levels of mitochondrial content and oxidative enzymes, **rely on glycolytic metabolism** as a major energy source, and are susceptible to fatigue, while the oxidative and contraction functions of type IIa and IIx lie between type I and IIb

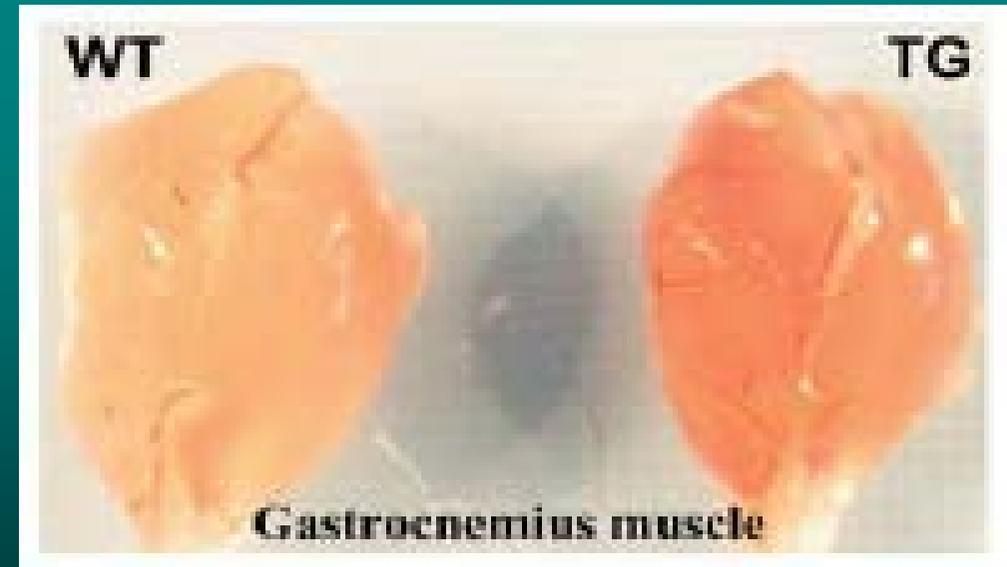
Metachromatic staining of the plantaris muscle. Type I fibers are stained dark blue.



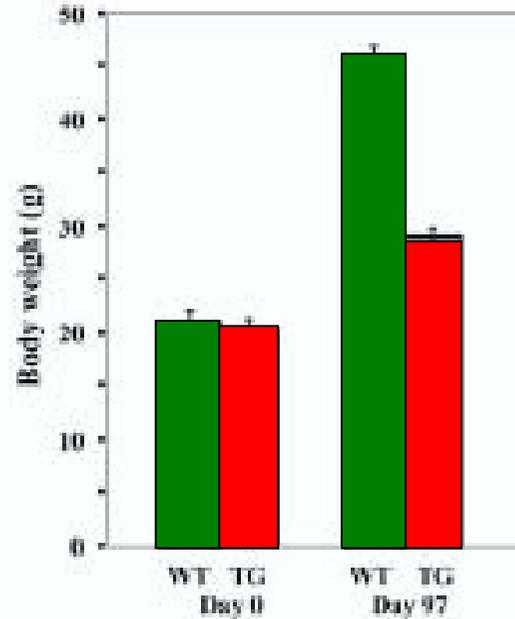
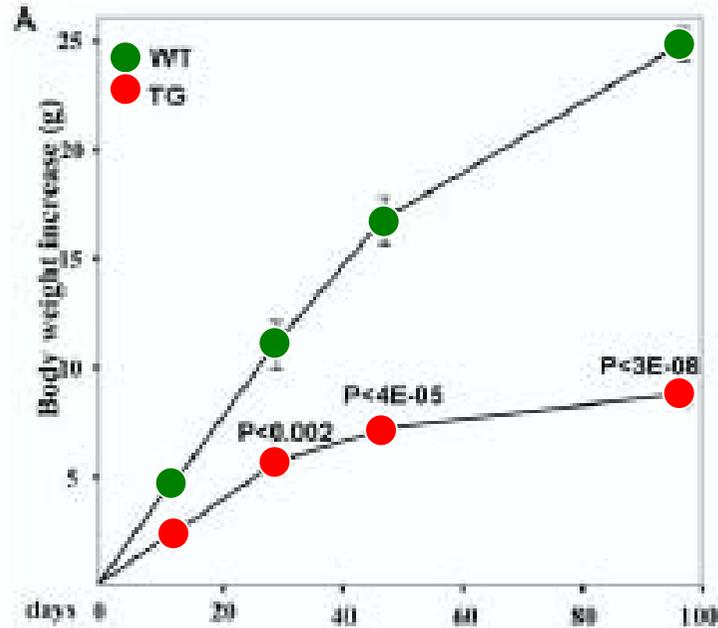


Skeletal muscles in the PPAR δ Transgenic Mice

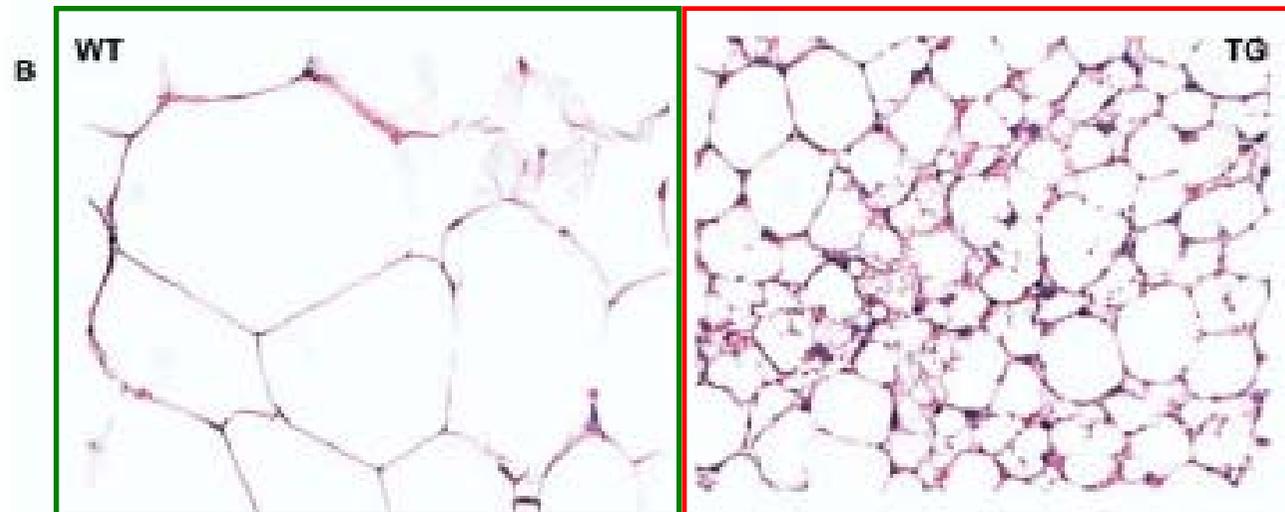
Muscles in transgenic mice (TG) are redder than those in wild-type mice (WT)



Effect of PPAR δ overexpression on obesity



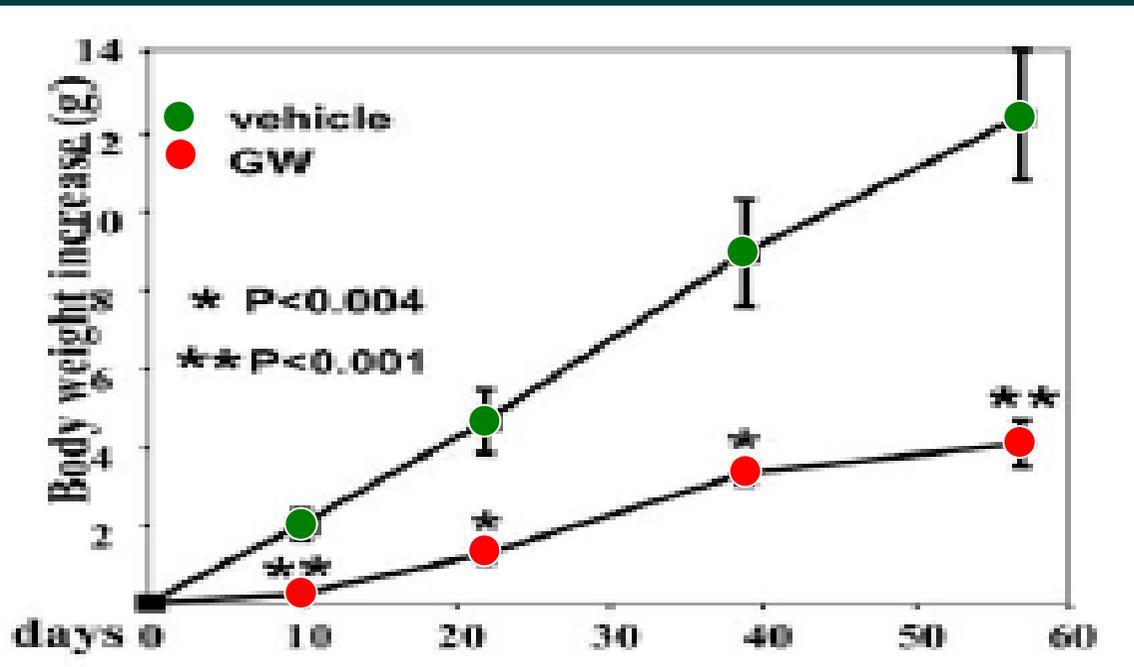
Body weight



Adipose tissue morphology

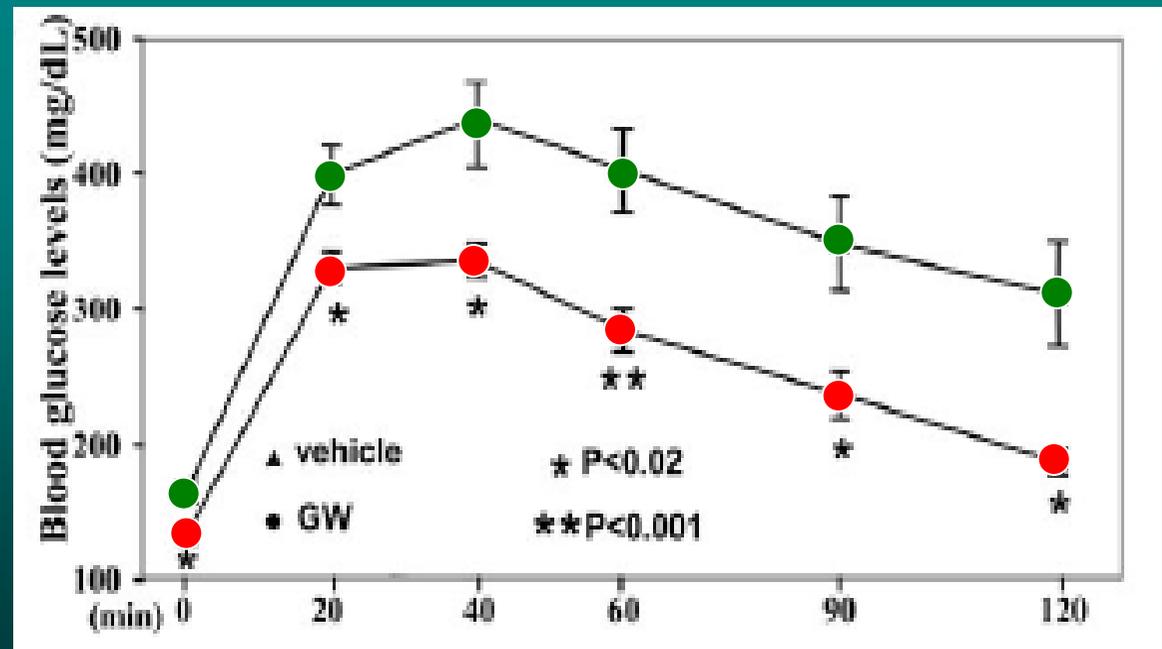
Effect of pharmacological activation of PPAR δ on obesity

Old mice fed a high-fat diet

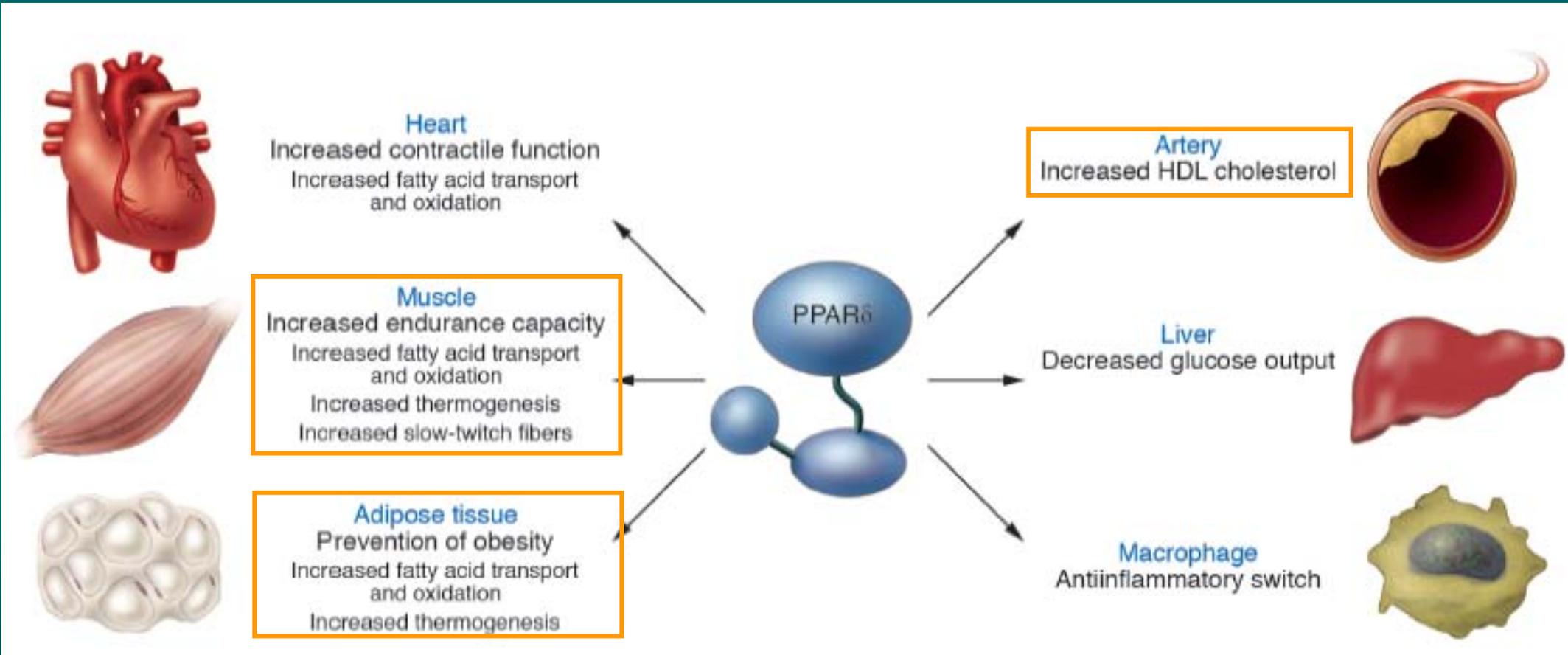


Body weight

Blood glucose level
after glucose injection



Therapeutic targets of PPAR δ



Thank you and see you next week...

What would be profitable to remember in June:

- Expression pattern and physiological role of PPARs
- Current and potential usage of PPAR α ligand in the clinic
- Potential clinical significance of PPAR β

Slides can be found in the library and at the
Heme Oxygenase Fan Club page:

<https://biotka.mol.uj.edu.pl/~hemeoxygenase>

