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Russian Dialysis Society

Peterhof, Russia

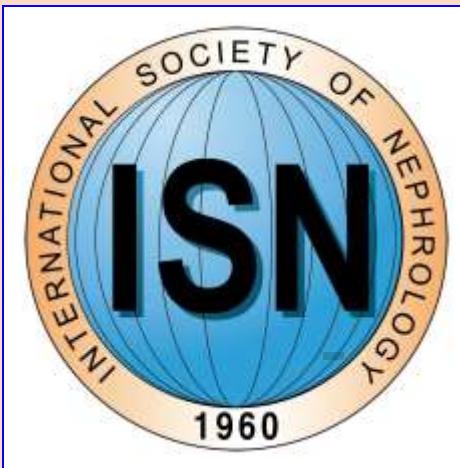
June 8, 2016

*Update on the pathogenesis
and treatment of IgA
Nephropathy:*

One disease or many?



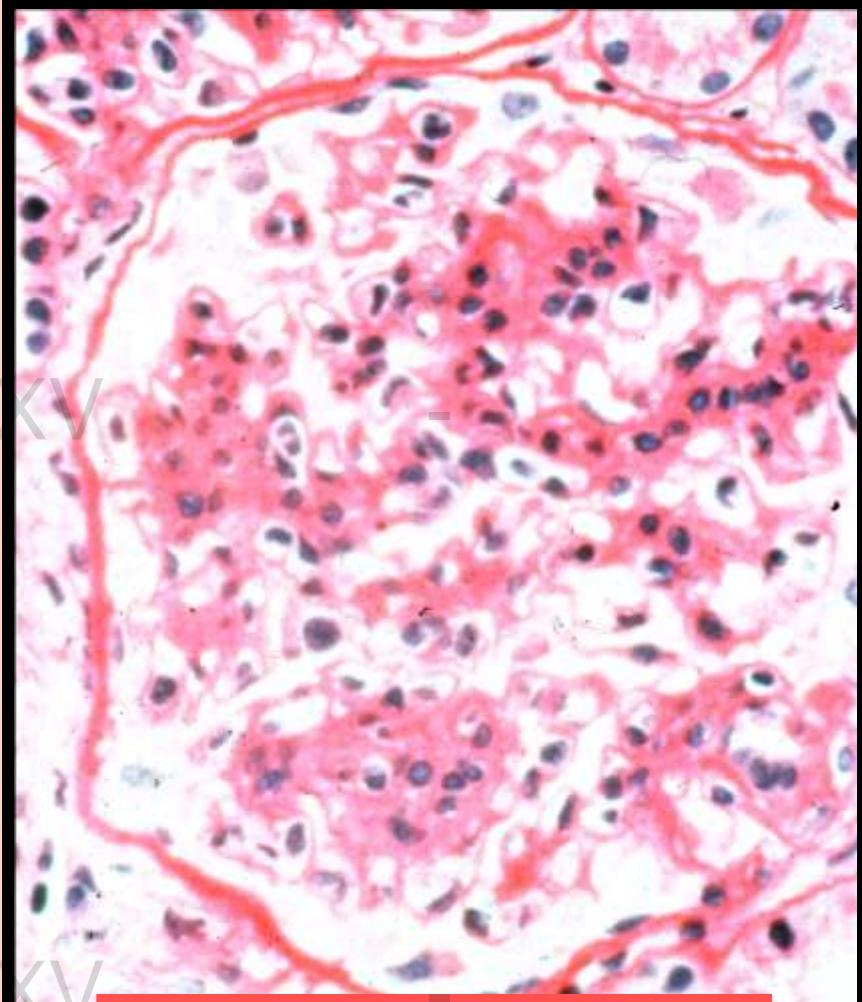
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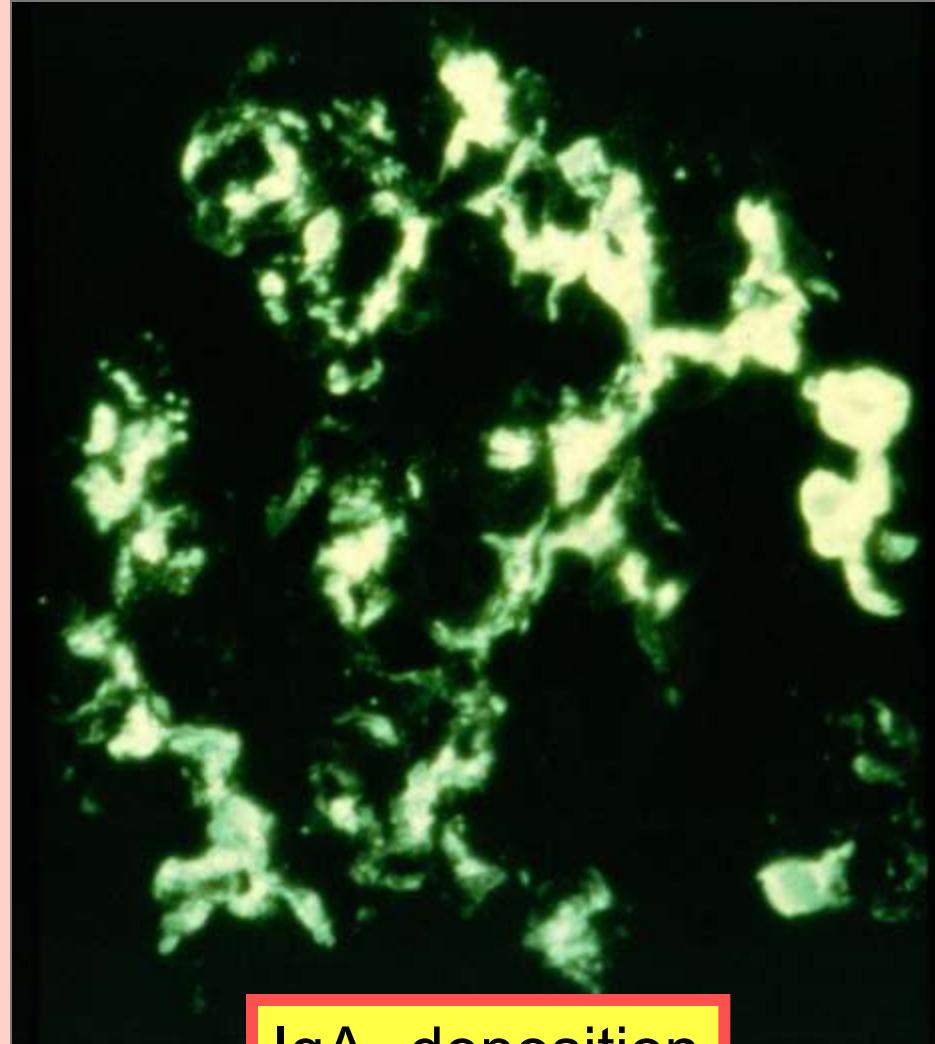
William Couser, MD
Affiliate Professor of Medicine
University of Washington
Seattle, WA USA

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- IgA Nephropathy

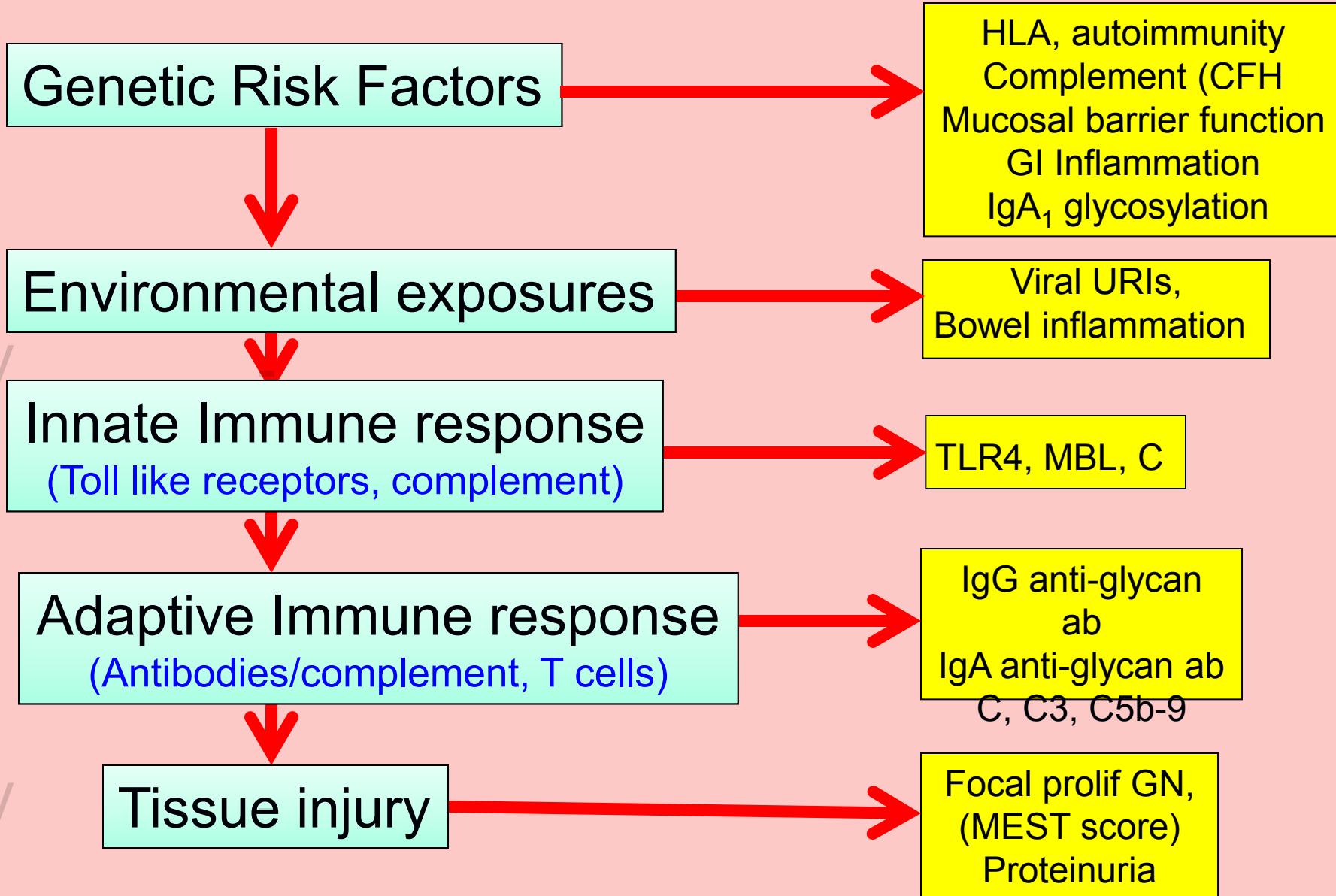


Focal proliferative GN



IgA₁ deposition

XV Pathogenesis of GN - IgAN



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Hit #1 - Genetics of IgAN



The IgA nephropathy genetic risk calculator

(Based on 15 SNPs)

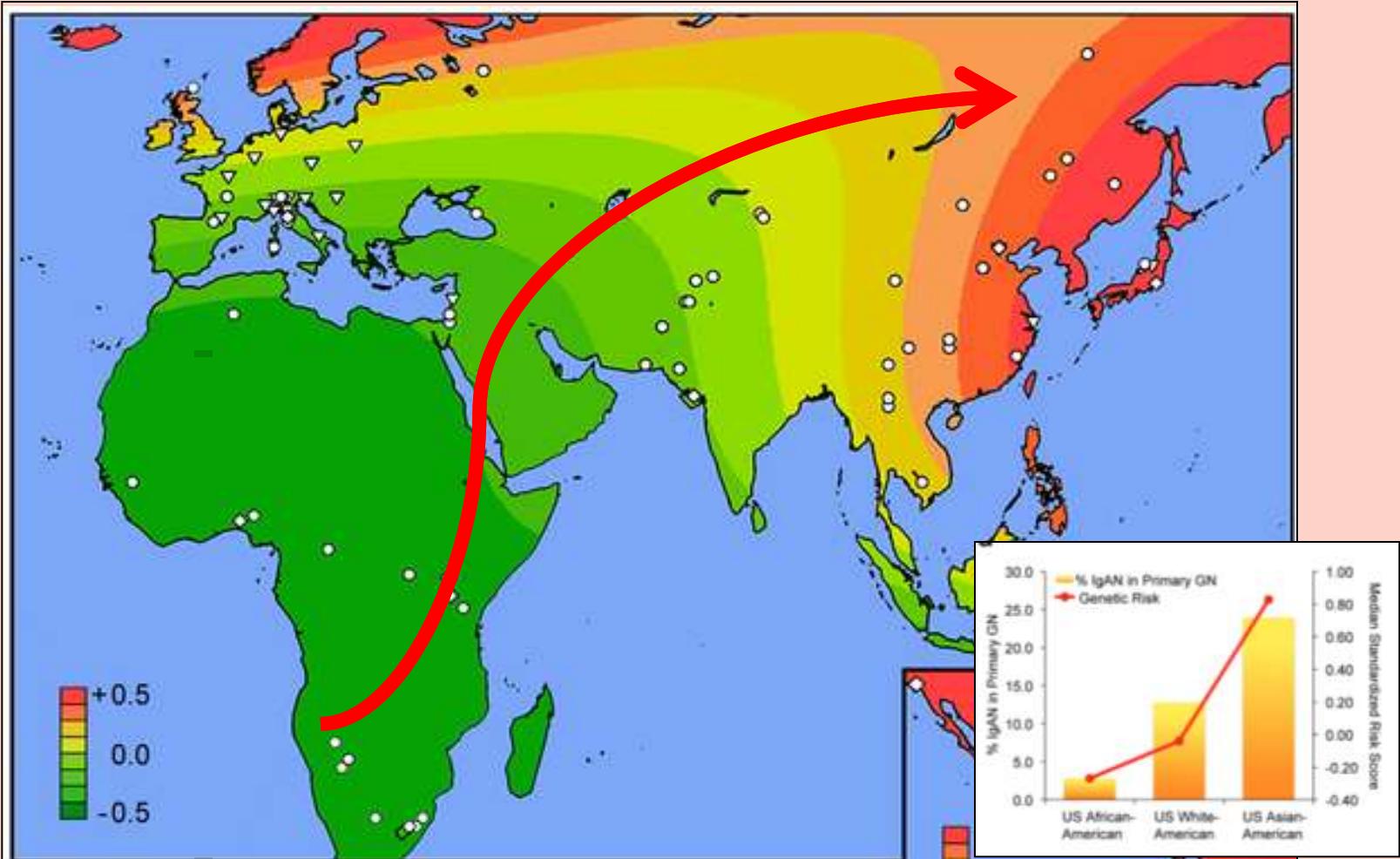
www.columbiamedicine.org/divisions/gharavi/calc_genetic.php

The screenshot shows a web-based calculator for IgA Nephropathy. At the top, the URL is visible: columbiamedicine.org/divisions/gharavi/calc_genetic.php — Gharavi Lab. Below the URL, the title "Genetic Susceptibility to IgA Nephropathy (Version 2.0)" and authors "Krzysztof Kiryluk, MD, MS and David A. Fasel" are displayed. A descriptive text explains the calculator's purpose: "Use this calculator to determine an individual's risk of developing IgA nephropathy based on specific genetic markers. The risk score equation is based on the 15 SNPs associated with IgA nephropathy in the analysis of 20,612 individuals from 14 international case-control cohorts of European and Asian ancestry. The risk score is standardized using genotypes of 1,050 individuals from 52 worldwide populations included in the Human Genome Diversity Project (HGDP). This replaces the previous 7 SNP calculator." Below this, instructions say "To calculate the disease risk, select the genotypes from the drop-down menus:". On the left, a vertical list of 15 SNPs with their risk alleles and genotypes is shown, each with a dropdown menu:

- rs17019602 [G]
- rs6677604 [G]
- rs7763262 [C]
- rs9275224 [G]
- rs2856717 [T]
- rs9275598 [T]
- rs9357155 [G]
- rs1883414 [C]
- rs2738048 [T]
- rs10086568 [A]
- rs4077515 [A]
- rs11150612 [A]
- rs11574637 [T]
- rs3803800 [A]
- rs2412971 [G]

On the right, a green button labeled "Standardized IgA Nephropathy Risk:" is highlighted, with the text "Select SNP genotypes to calculate risk." below it. At the bottom of the calculator are two buttons: "Calculate" and "Reset".

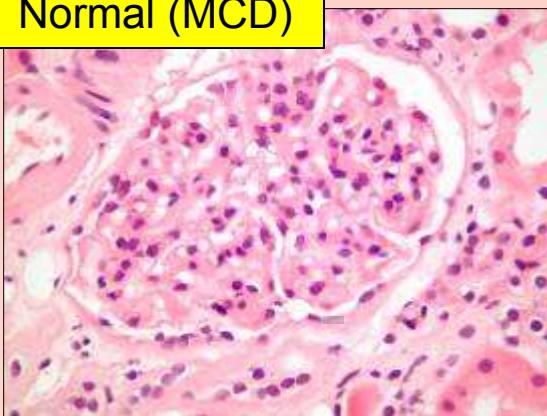
XV Geographic and racial prevalence of genetic risk scores determines the prevalence of IgAN



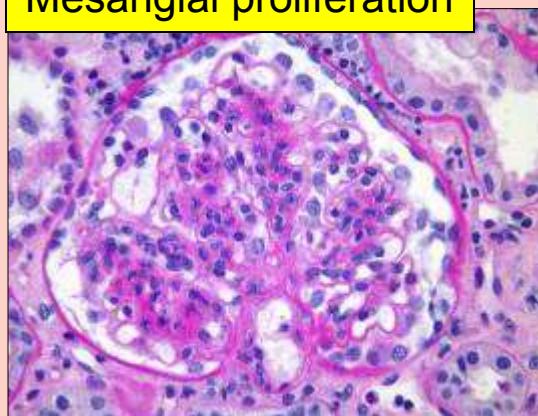
Modified from Kuryluk et al. Ann Rev Med 64:339, 2013

IgA Nephropathy is Morphologically Heterogeneous

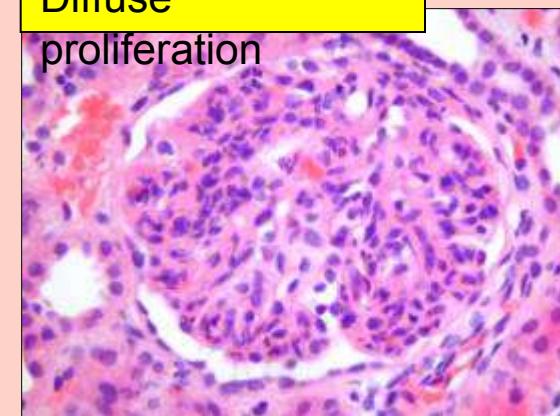
Normal (MCD)



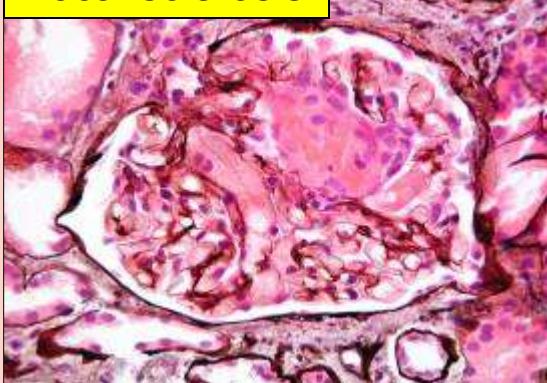
Mesangial proliferation



Diffuse proliferation



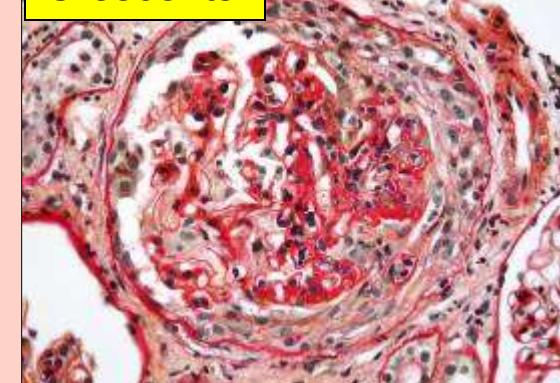
Focal sclerosis



Mesangial expansion



Crescents



The Oxford Classification of IgA nephropathy (265 patients, Light Microscopy only)

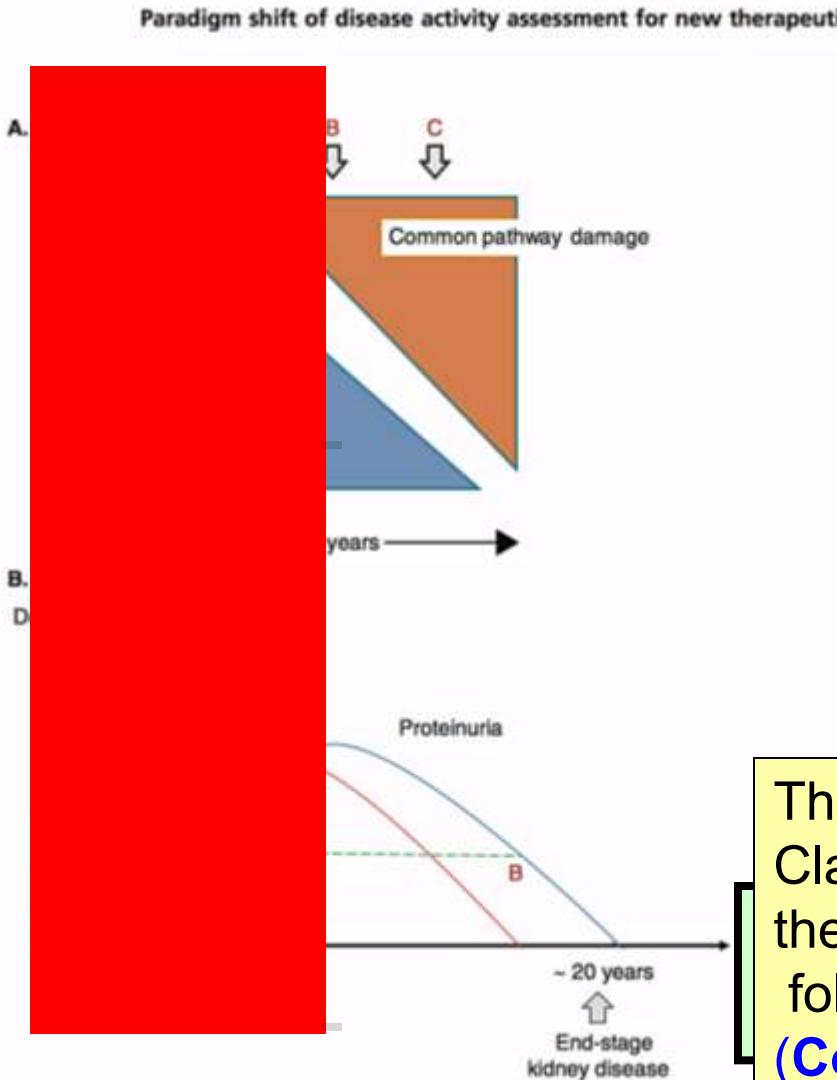
- Other studies have suggested that the Oxford classification does not add predictive value more than serum creatinine at diagnosis. ([Alamartine et al, CJASN 6:2384, 2011](#))
 - Re IF, C3, IgG and C4d correlate with Scr and outcomes ([Nasri et al. J Nephropath 2:190, 2013](#); [Wada et al: Clin Exp Nephrol 17:73, 2013](#))

Podocyte injury and podocytopenia in the form of FGS occurs in 80% of patients with IgAN and the presence of FGS on biopsy correlates with poor outcome.

Karoui et al Kidney Int 79:643, 2011

T Tubular atrophy/interstitial fibrosis (<25%, 25-50%, >50%) (21%)

Evolution of IgA nephropathy and the MEST criteria



Early phase

Mesangial hypercellularity
 *Endocapillary proliferation
 ? crescents

Chronic phase

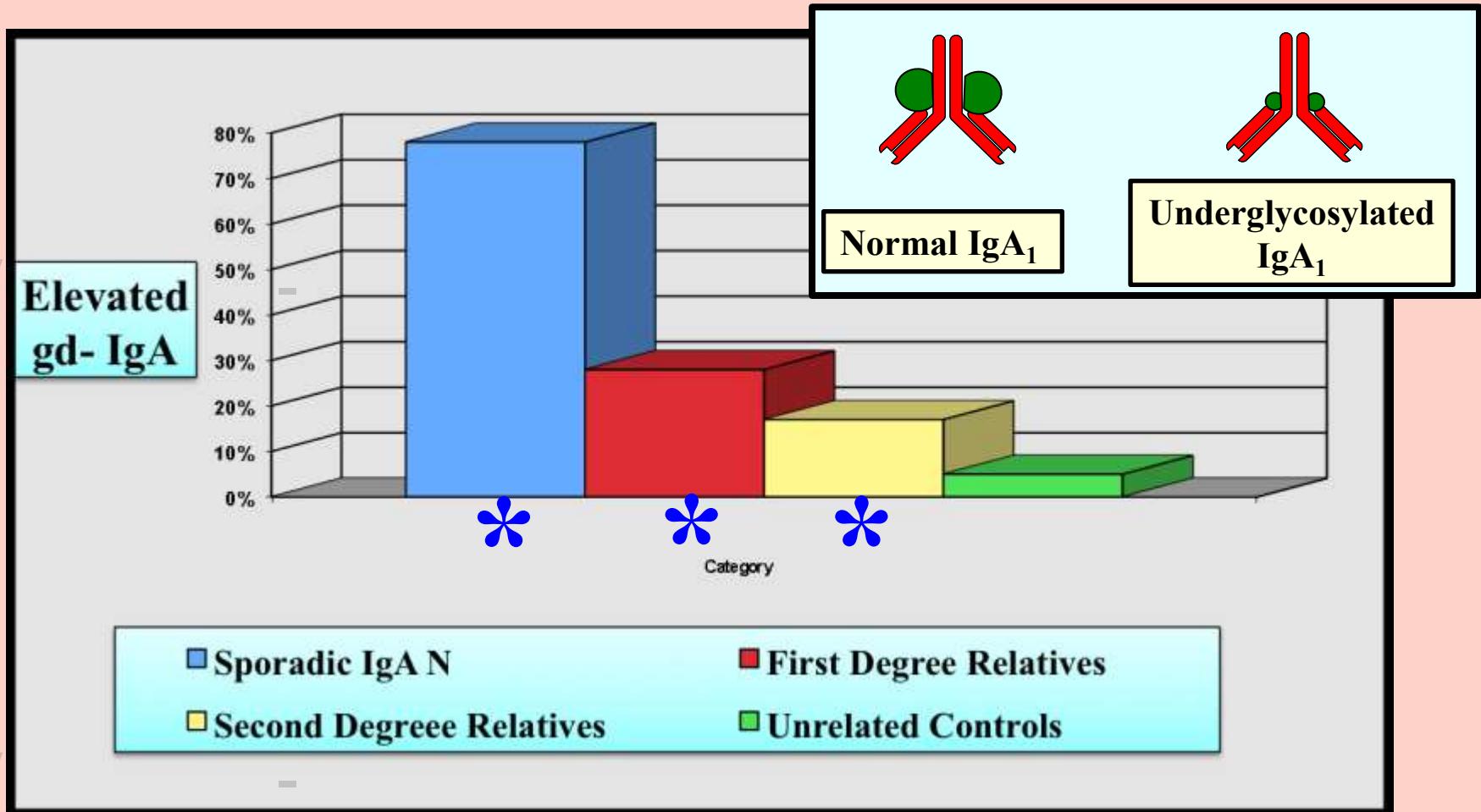
Segmental sclerosis

The predictive value of the Oxford Classification has been validated in the VALIGA study of 1147 patients followed for over 4 years.

(Coppo et al. Kidney Int 86:828, 2014)

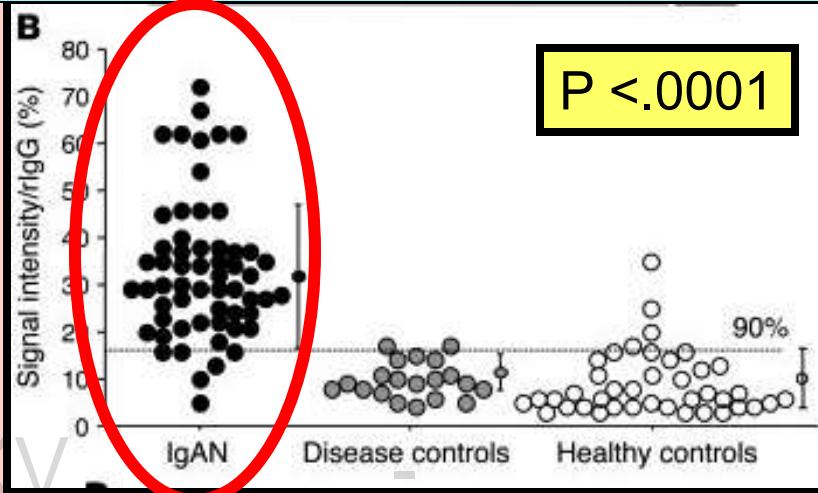
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A major genetically determined risk factor is the levels of serum galactose-deficient IgA₁ **(The first hit)**

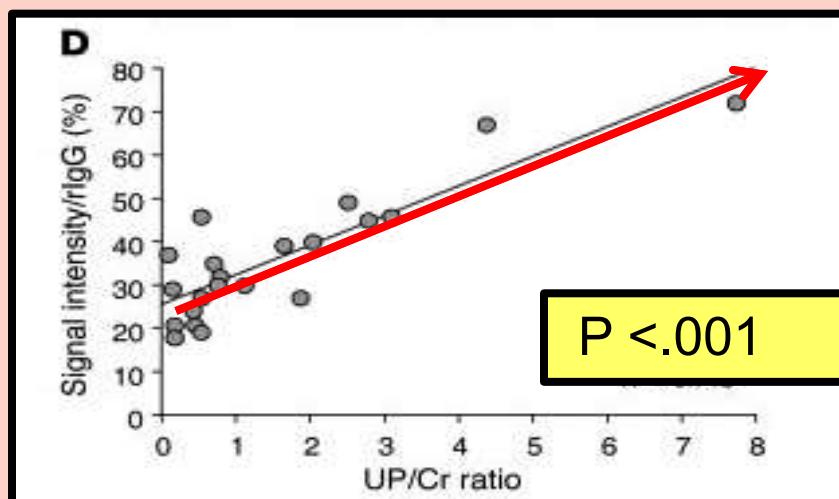


IgG antibodies to gal-deficient IgA₁ are specific for IgA nephropathy and correlate with clinical disease.

(The second hit)



IgG anti-glycan antibodies are 88% specific and 95% sensitive for IgA nephropathy compared to healthy and GN controls.

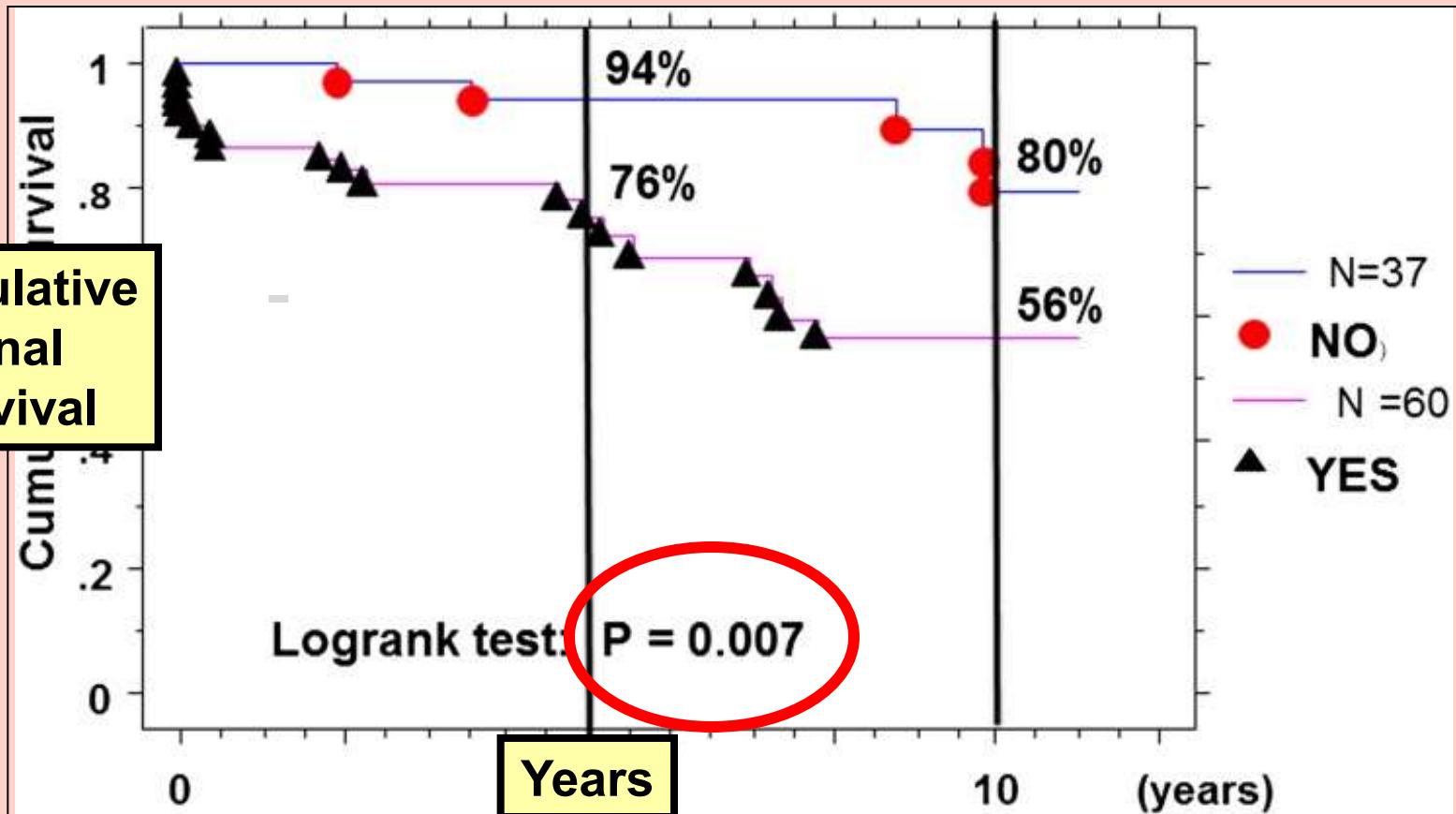


IgG (and IgA) anti-glycan antibodies correlate with U Pr/Cr and predict outcomes

Note: Gal-NAC residues on Gd-IgA1, which anti-glycan antibodies bind to, are also present on several bacterial species (Tn antigens)

IgG anti-glycan antibodies at diagnosis predict outcomes at 10 years

(Also IgA anti-glycan antibody and total serum levels of gd-IgA1)



PATHOGENESIS OF IgA NEPHROPATHY

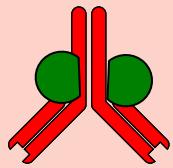
The mesangial response to injury

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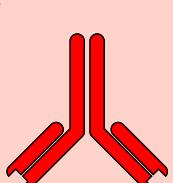
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Circulation



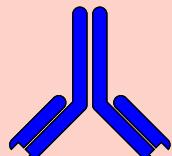
Normal IgA₁



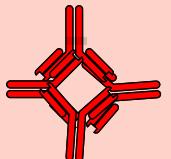
Under-galactosylated IgA₁ molecules are poorly cleared, self-aggregate, bind to IgG, FN and MRI and activate

C5b-9
(? MBL or AP)

Undergalactosylated IgA₁



IgG or IgA anti-glycan (Anti-Tn antigen) antibodies



Spleen

Fc α Receptor (CD89)
Transferrin (TF) receptor (CD71)
Toll-like receptors (TLRs)

Inflammatory Mediators

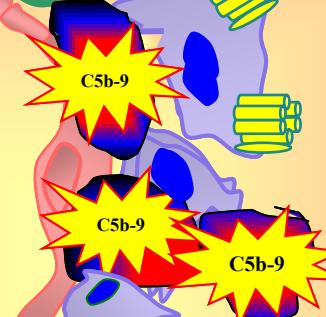
Cytokines (TGF β , IL1, IL6)

Growth factors (PDGF)

Oxidants

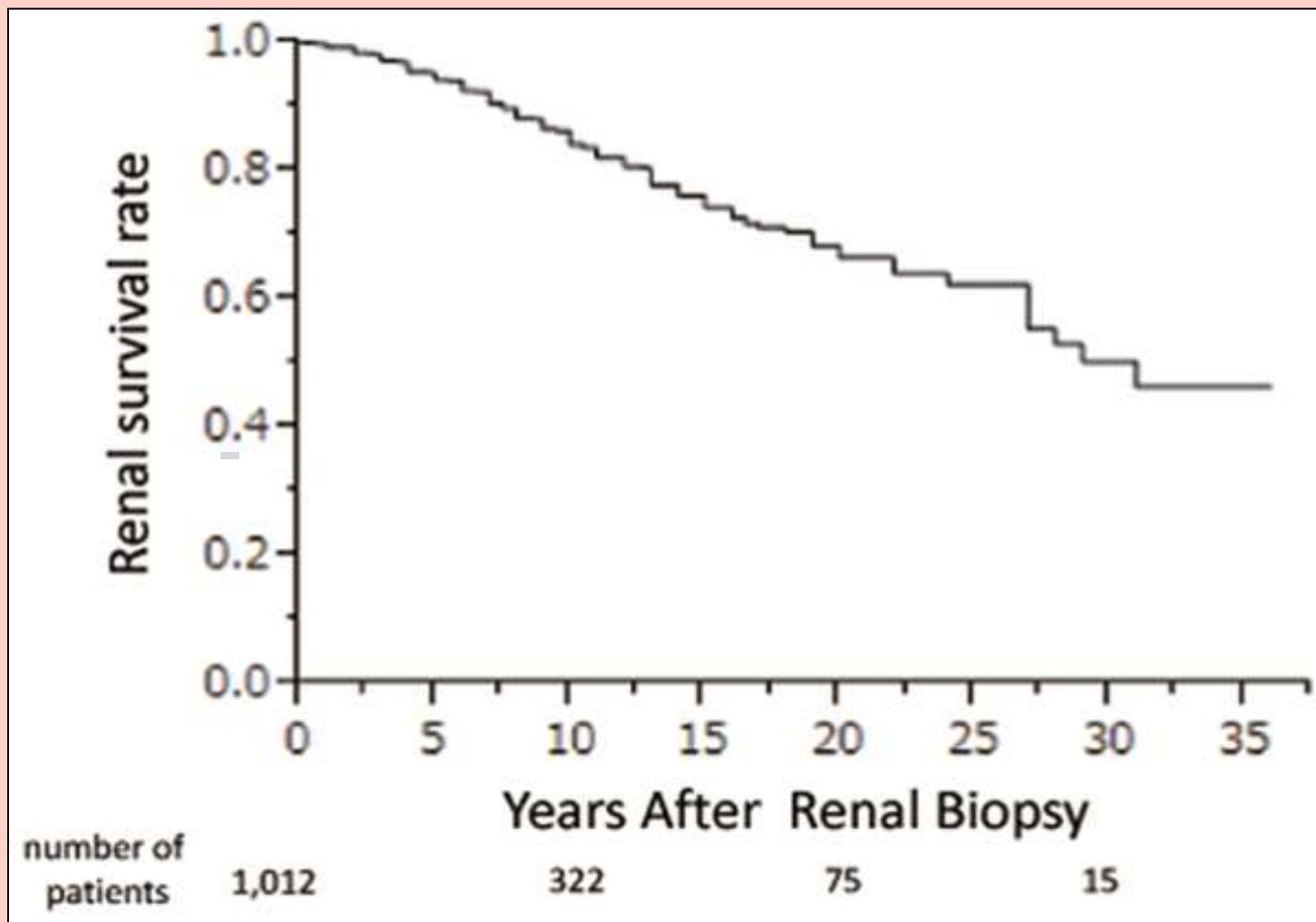
C3

Proteases
Matrix



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Cumulative renal survival rate from renal biopsy until ESRD in 1,012 Japanese patients with IgAN.



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Moriyama T, Tanaka K, Iwasaki C, Oshima Y, et al. (2014) Prognosis in IgA Nephropathy: 30-Year Analysis of 1,012 Patients at a Single Center in Japan. PLoS ONE 9(3): e91756.

IgA nephropathy: One disease or many?

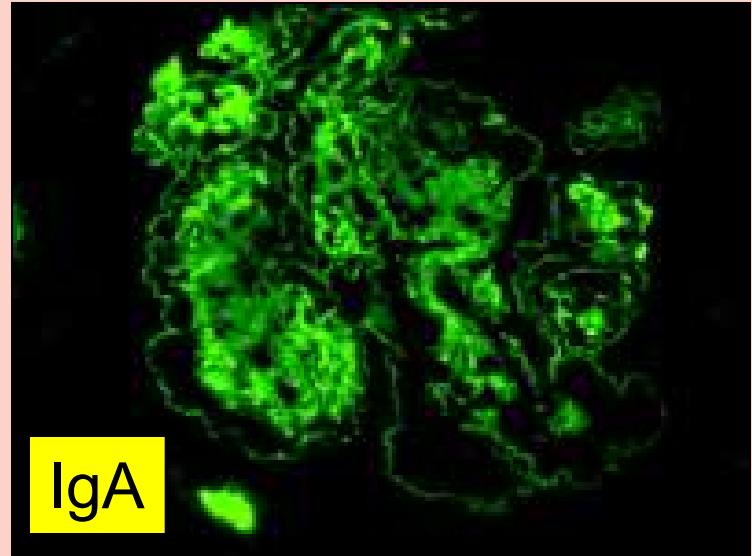
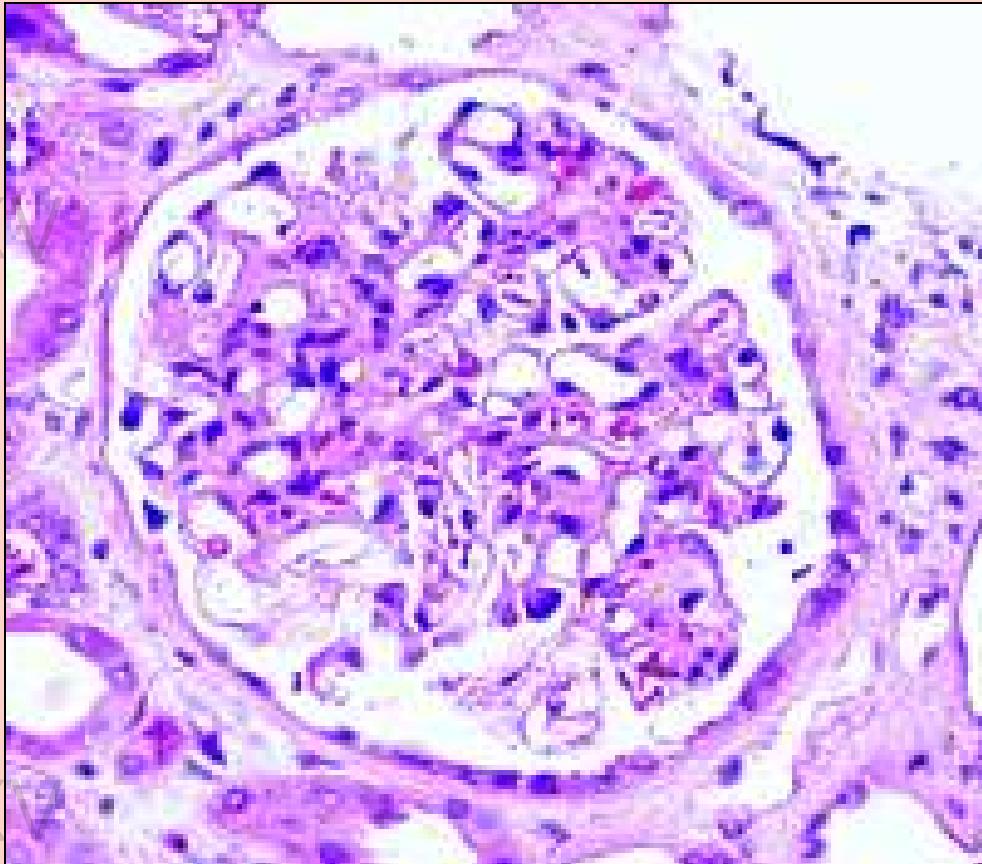
Recognized atypical clinical variants

-

-

IgA-dominant post-infectious GN

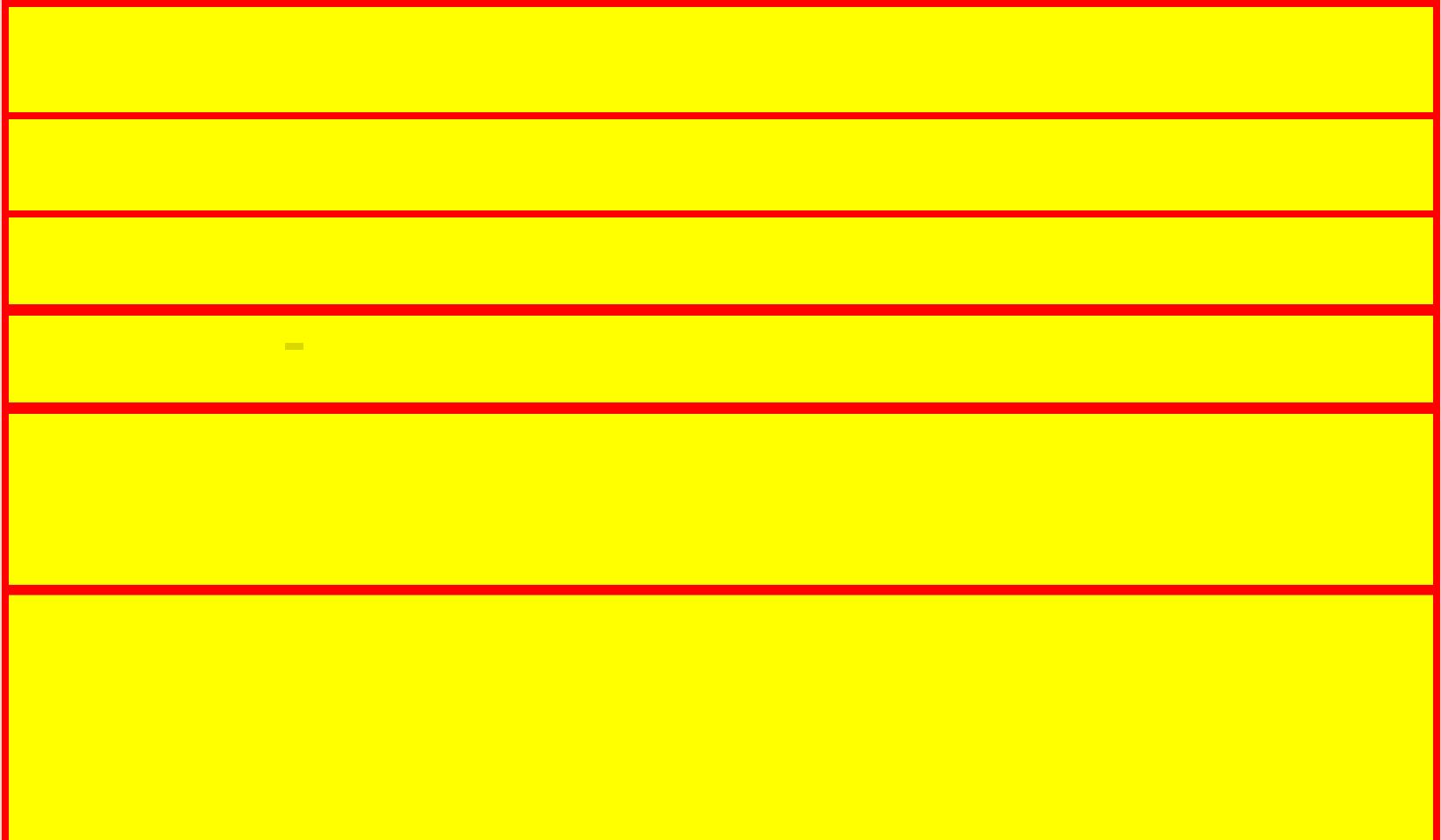
Male, MRSA, diabetic, AKI, low C3



From Haas et al, Human Path
39, 1309, 2008

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IgA-dominant post-infectious GN



Outcome predictors in typical IgAN

IgA nephropathy - Treatment

- “Intense supportive care”
- ACE inhibitors/ ARBs
- Fish oil
- Steroids (pulse, oral, local)
- Immunosuppression (CTX, AZA, MMF, CSA, Rituximab)
- Other
 - Low antigen diet
 - IV Ig
 - Rituximab
 - Eculizumab
 - Tonsillectomy

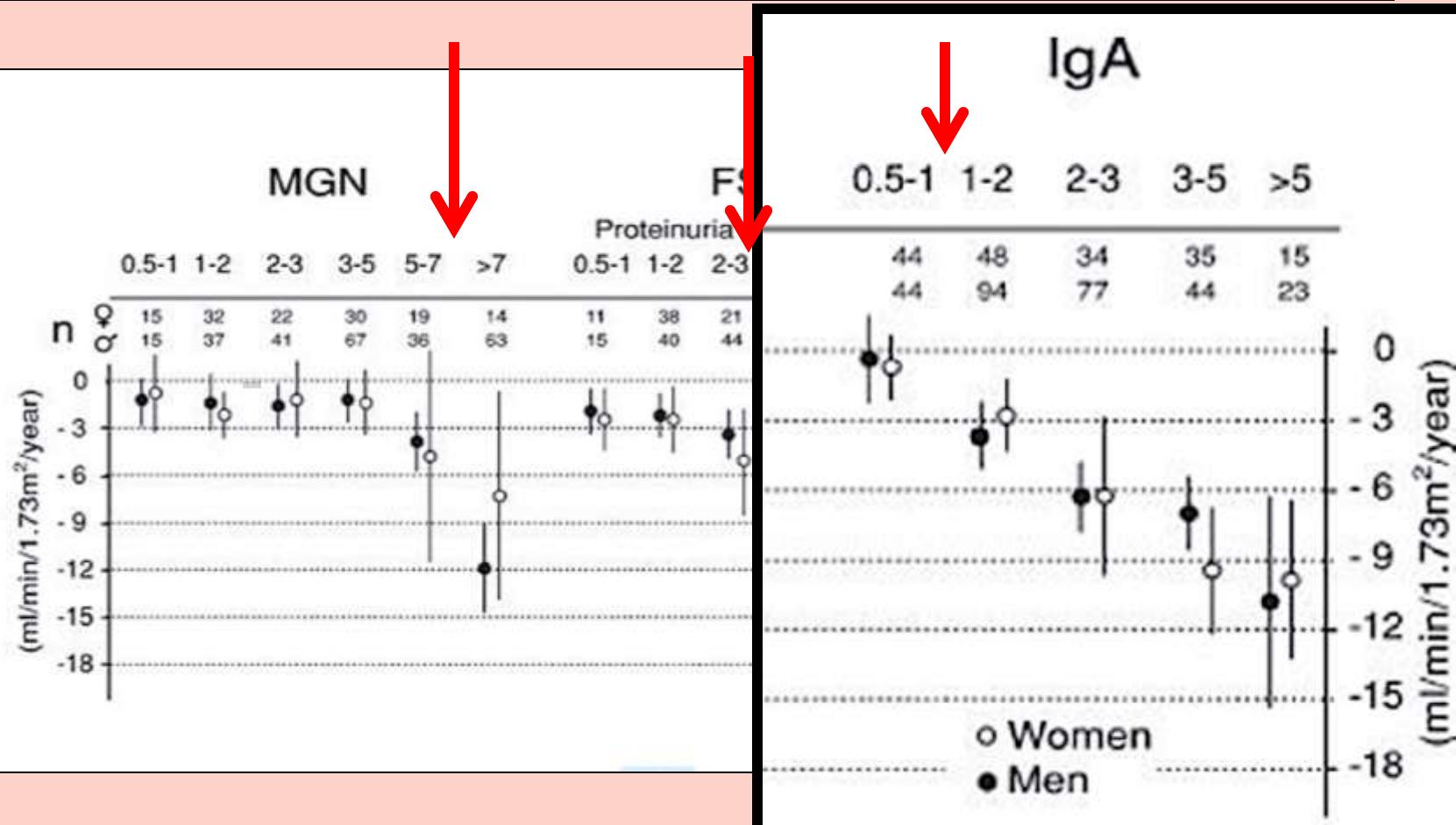
XV “Intensive supportive care” in IgAN

- ACEI/ARB titrated to lowest achievable level of protein excretion (all patients).

Note: Use of combination therapy with ACEI followed by ARBs (if goals are not met) is controversial. It is probably better to add sodium restriction, a diuretic, diltiazem or verapamil and/or an aldo blocker before adding an ARB to ACEI therapy because of risks of hyperkalemia, increased Scr or hypotension.

- Fish oil for patients who choose it, but not in place of other therapy

XV Proteinuria and progression in MN, FGS and IgAN



ACEI reduce proteinuria and slow progression in IgA

BOTTOM LINE:
ANYONE WITH IgA NEPHROPATHY AND
RISK FACTORS FOR PROGRESSION
SHOULD BE RECEIVING ACE/ARBs.

U prot	<.05	.05 - .10	.10 - .15	>.15
<i>Stable remission in Uprot</i>	57%	9%		<.05
<i>Ccr</i>	124 ml/min	109 ml/min		<.05

IgA nephropathy - Treatment

Note: In the recent “STOP IgA” study, 70% of patients became ineligible for randomization during 6 mos of supportive care because proteinuria decreased to < 750 mg/day

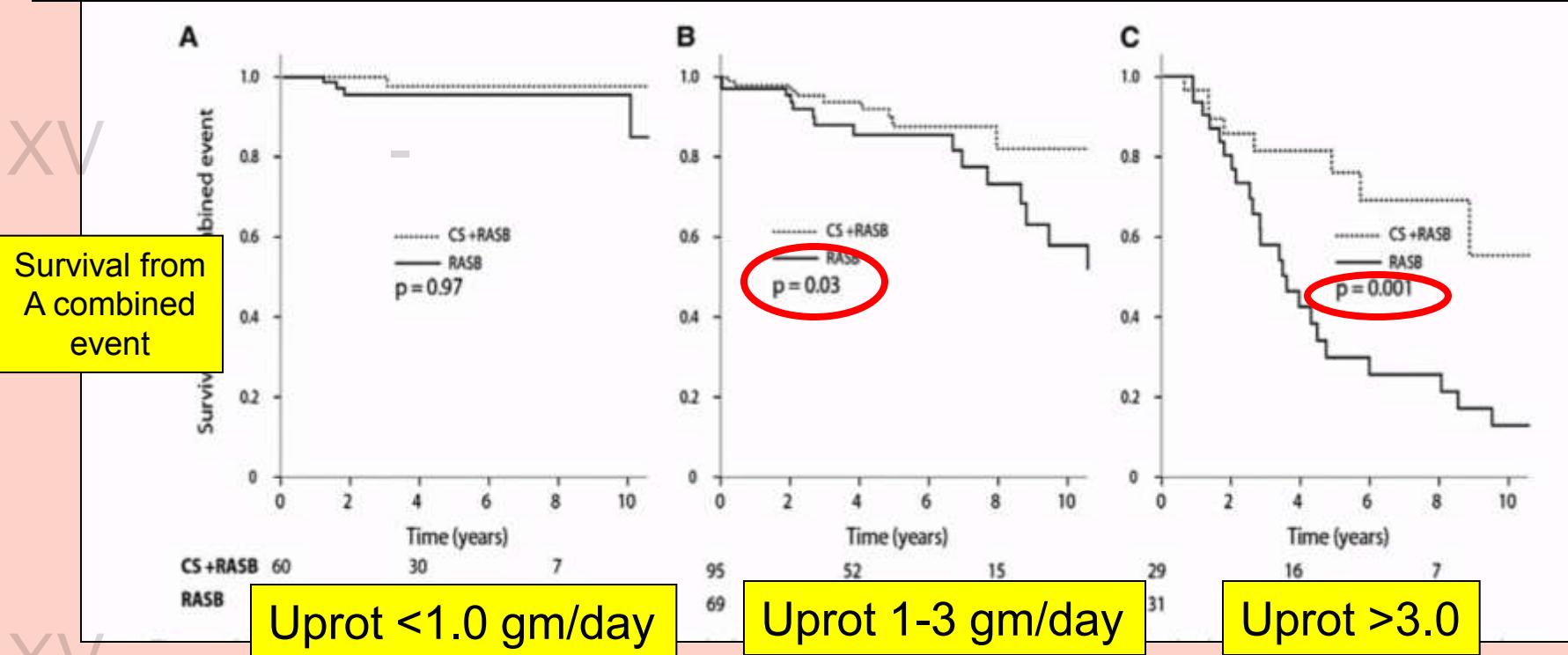
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IgA nephropathy - Treatment

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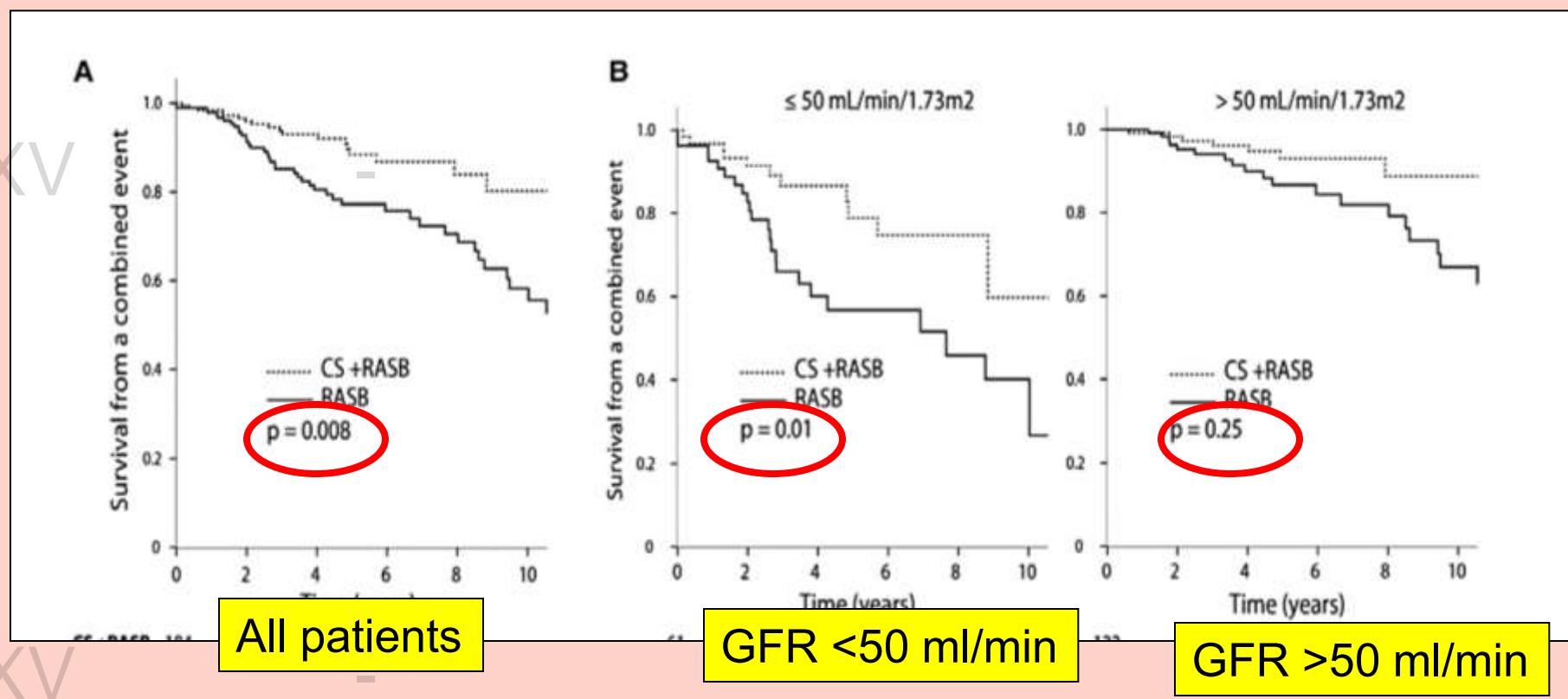
Corticosteroids improve outcomes in IgAN with proteinuria >1 gm/day

Many previous studies, including the several “Pozzi studies”, failed to include only patients who had failed supportive care and ACEI/ARB therapy first.



Corticosteroids improve outcomes in IgAN with GFR <50 ml/min

Retrospective analysis of the VALIGA study (1147 pts) comparing 184 patients who received RASB alone vs 184 matched patients who received RASB plus steroids. Mean follow up 4.7 yrs (2.4-7.9)



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TREATMENT OF IgA NEPHROPATHY

Literature review: Steroids in IgA, 2004-16

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Bottom line on steroids:

There is reasonable data as of June 2016 to support using steroid therapy for 6 mos in IgA if there is continued proteinuria > 1 gm and/or loss of GFR despite maximal use of ACEI/ARB therapy for 6 mos and achievement of a BP goal of 125/75 mmhg.

Also steroids have been shown not to benefit patients with a GFR <45 (point of no return in IgA)

Canetta et al, CJASN 9:617, 2014

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Relatively few patients will meet these criteria.

IgA nephropathy - Treatment

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Pred/ CTX (3 mos), then Immuran vs placebo 38 patients, Scr 1.5-2.8 mg/dl, ↑15%/ yr, 2 yr F/U

This study, the only RCT of cytotoxic drugs in IgA, looked only at very high risk patients losing 15% or more of GFR/yr, was underpowered and did not use ACEI/ARBs or achieve current BP goals.

Smaller studies in milder disease have not shown a benefit of cytoxan in IgA.

5

72

6

.05

XV Supportive care vs immunosuppressive therapy for progressive IgAN: The STOP IgAN study)

(3 year follow up)

Although using two different immunosuppressive protocols (steroids alone and steroids plus cytotoxic drugs) is confusing, subsequent analysis showed no differences in outcomes between these two groups. ([Floege et al. ASN abstract, November 2015](#))

immunosuppression, there was no effect on renal function (at 3 years), the adverse event rate was high, and the study is interpreted as showing no role for immunosuppression in typical progressive IgAN.

Summary: Current indications for steroid therapy in IgAN (June 2016)

Usual steroid regimen for IgAN:

- 1. Oral prednisone 0.8-1.0 mg/kg/day for 2 mos, taper by 0.2 mg/kg/month, stop at 6 mos.**

Or
- 2. Pulse methylprednisolone, 750-1.0 gm iv daily X3 at the beginning of months 1,3 and 5 with 0.5 mg/kg po daily for 6 months (Ponticelli or Pozzi regimen)**

IgA nephropathy - Treatment

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There are case reports of responses to each of these, but insufficient data to recommend any of them.

Treatment of IgA nephropathy

KDIGO CPG for GN (Kidney Int Suppl 2: June 2012)
(revised 5-23-14)

Tesar et al. VALIGA study suggests steroids are also beneficial in patients with GFRs of 30-50

XV Trials and emerging therapies in IgAN

June 2016

- China (TESTING)(Oral steroids vs placebo (13,000 pts!))
- China (MMF vs steroids)
- China (Pred/cytoxin vs pred alone)
- Asia (Blisibmod – BAFF antagonist)
- US. Rituximab in IgAN
- NEFIGAN study (Budesonide (non-absorbed GI steroid) vs placebo)
- Fostamatinib (siRNA blocks serine tyrosine kinase pathway in B cell receptor)
- Bortezomib (Proteosome inhibitor)
- Atacicept (April/BAFF inhibitor) vs placebo
- ACTH trial

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Thank you!

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спасибо

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spasibo