

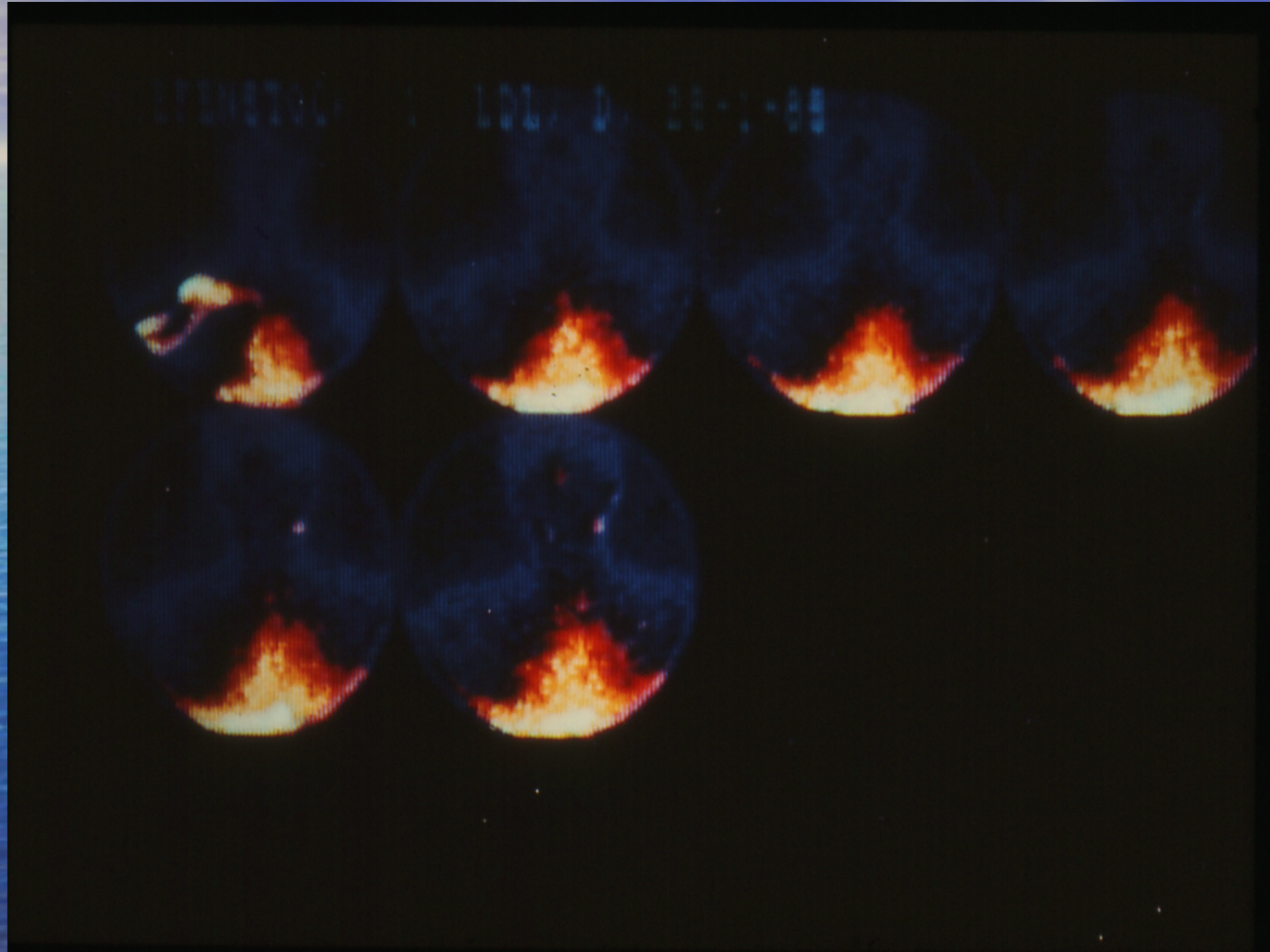
**DOES RADIONUCLIDE IMAGING OF  
ATHEROSCLEROSIS HAVE A CHANCE  
AND WHICH TECHNIQUE MIGHT  
SUCCEED?**

Helmut SINZINGER

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16<sup>th</sup> ISORBE, Pretoria, 21-23 March 2013

# EARLY CAROTID UPTAKE OF $^{123}\text{I}$ -LDL



H. Sinzinger



# HOW TO IMAGE ATHEROSCLEROSIS?

MECHANISM

PROLIFERATION

LIPIDS

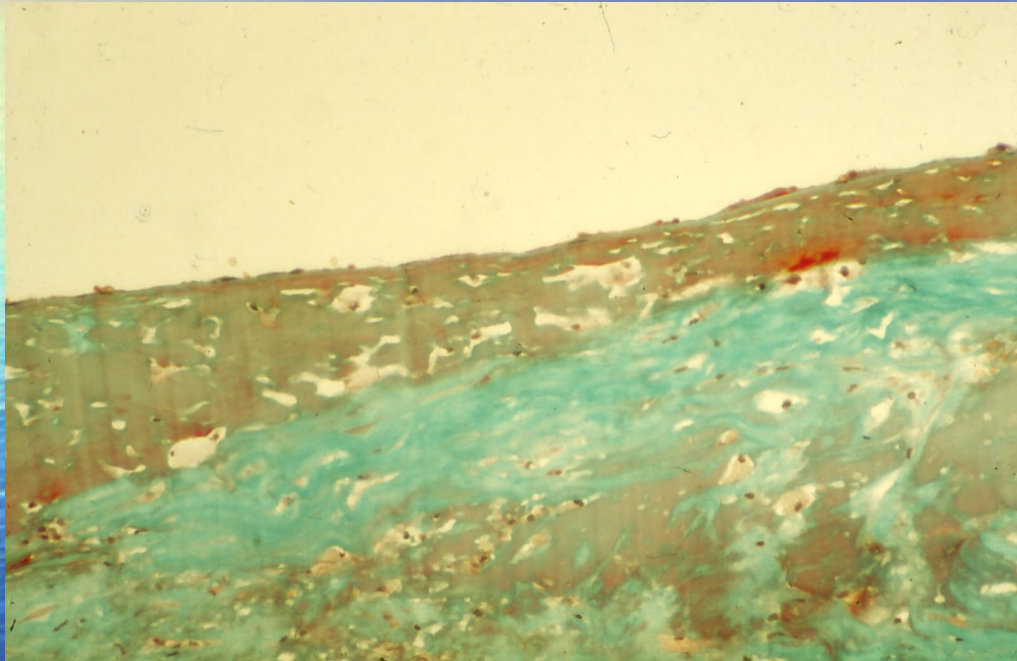
THROMBOSIS

INFLAMMATION

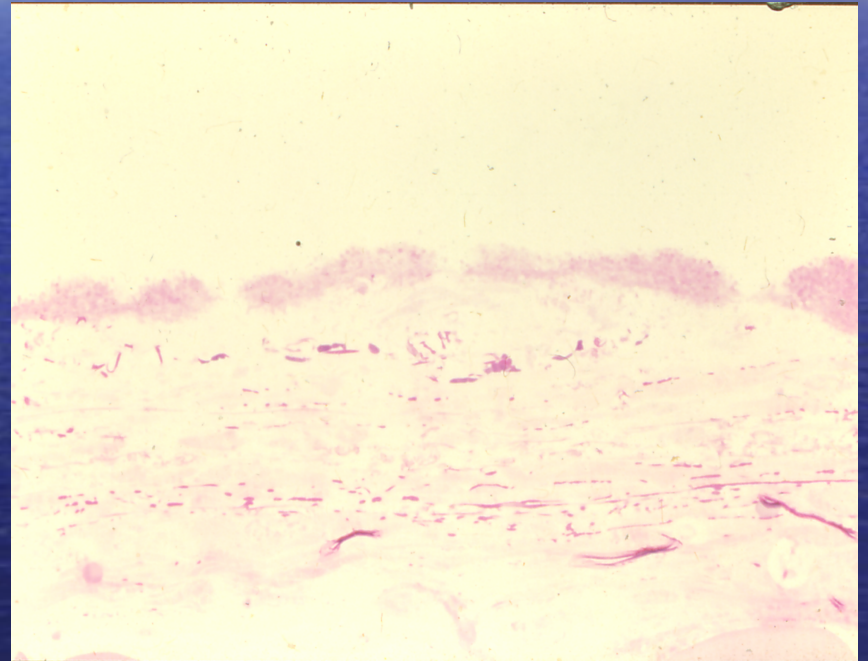
VULNERABLE LESION

16th ISORBE, Pretoria, 21-23 March 2013

PARIETAL THROMBOSIS (FIBRIN)



PARIETAL THROMBOSIS (PLATELETS)





# THE NEW CONCEPT

## UNSTABLE ATHEROSCLEROTIC PLAQUE

EXTRACELLULAR MATRIX ↓

THIN LESION CAP ( $< 65 \mu$ )

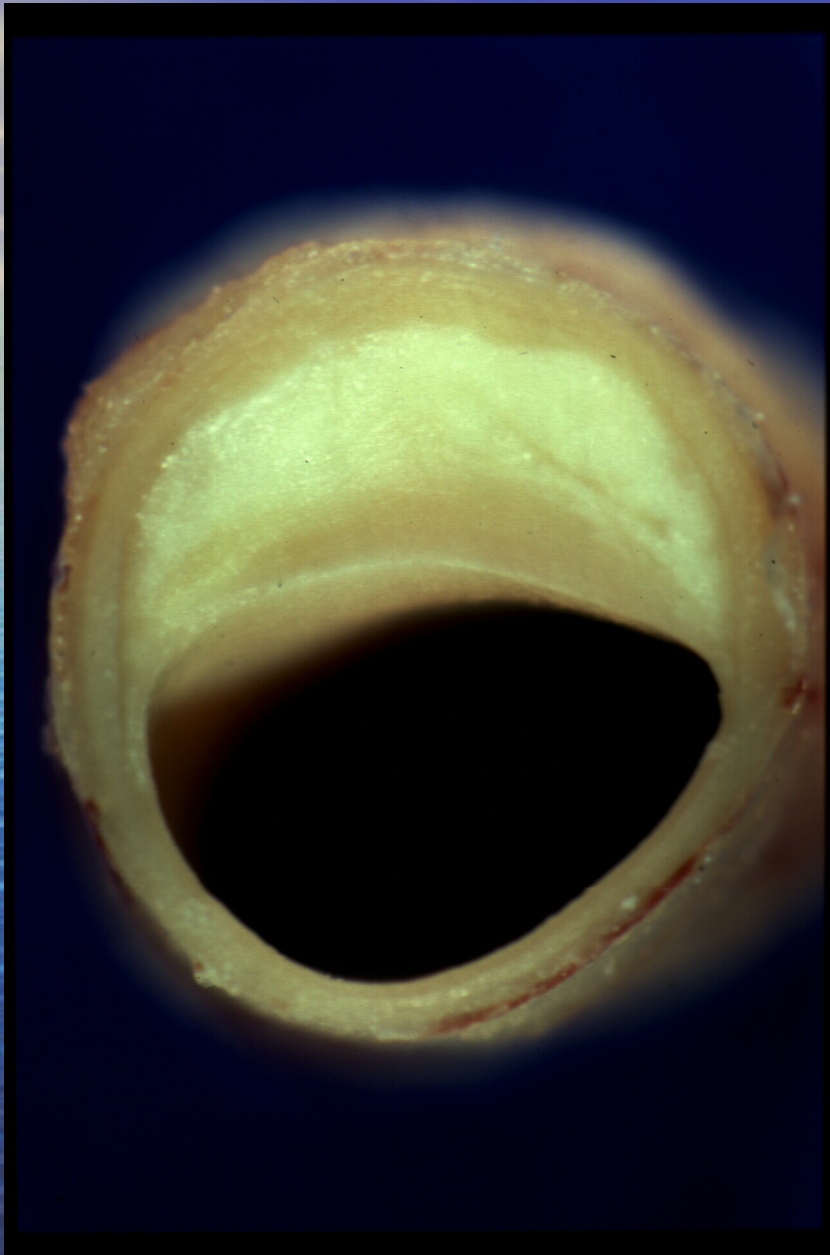
LIPID RICH CORE

DYING (APOPTOTIC) CELLS

INFLAMMATION

OXIDATION

## HIGH-RISK LESION (LCA)



## THE NEW CONCEPT

### UNSTABLE ATHEROSCLEROTIC PLAQUE

EXTRACELLULAR MATRIX ↓  
THIN LESION CAP ( $< 65 \mu$ )  
LIPID RICH CORE

INTRAPLAQUE HEMORRHAGE  
DYING (APOPTOTIC) CELLS  
INFLAMMATION  
OXIDATION  
NECROSIS

( $< 70\%$  OF ACUTE EVENTS)

24 a, male,  
homicide victim

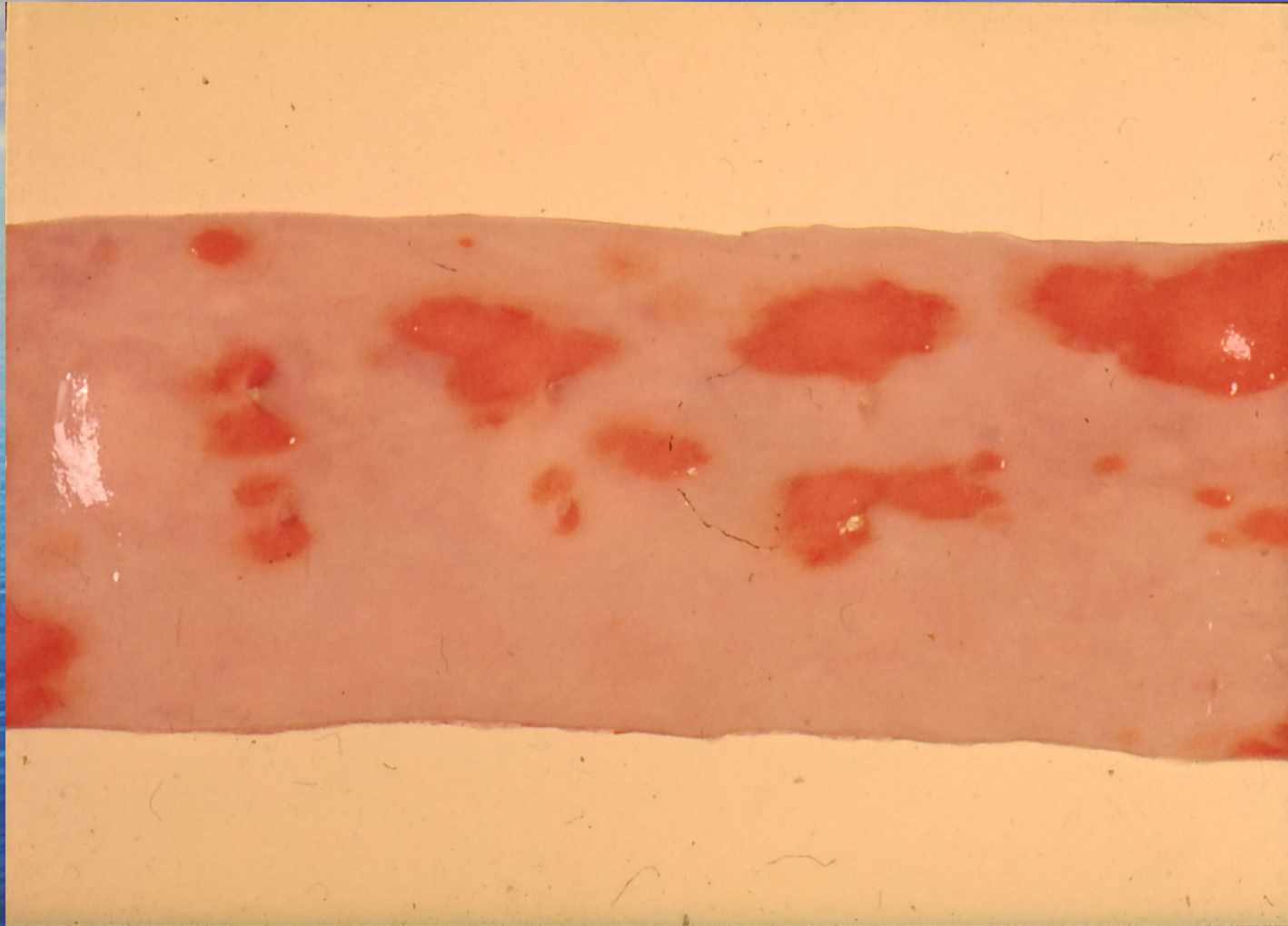
from H.C. Stary



# Vulnerable plaque imaging

- apoptosis
- thrombogenicity
- lipoprotein accumulation
- inflammation
- proteolysis
- angiogenesis
- extracellular matrix

## SUDANOPHILIC LESION



ox Lp(a) > oxLDL > LDL > HIG > FDG

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# UPTAKE (EXPERIMENTAL)

	<b>FDG</b>	<b>LDL</b>	<b>Lp(a)</b>	<b>HIG</b>
MONONUC.	0.8612	0.8380	0.8544	0.9133
SUDAN III	0.7217	0.8623	0.8914	0.8512
OIL RED D	0.7016	0.8433	0.8563	0.8617

$p < 0.01$  (all);  $n = 8$  each (rabbits)

# CORRELATION

<b>EXPERIMENTAL<sup>+)</sup></b>	
oxLp(a)/SUDAN III	0.9204
oxLDL/SUDAN III	0.8843
LDL/SUDAN III	0.8623
HIG/SUDAN III	0.8245
FDG/SUDAN III	0.7217
FDG/CD 68	0.8510
LDL/CHOL.	0.8931
HIG/CHOL.	0.8377
<b>HUMAN<sup>+) )</sup></b>	
FDG/OIL RED D	0.5600; < 0.05

<sup>x)</sup>p < 0.01 if not otherwise; <sup>+)n</sup> = 8 each; <sup>°)</sup>Richter et al. 2010



# CORRELATION

## LIPID DEPOSITION

$\text{oxLp(a)} > \text{oxLDL} > \text{Lp(a)} > \text{LDL} > \text{HIG} > \text{FDG}$

## FOAM CELL CONTENT

$\text{HIG} > \text{oxLp(a)} > \text{FDG} > \text{LDL}$

# EXPERIMENTAL

	<b>LDL</b>	<b>FDG</b>	<b>HIG</b>	<b>PLAT</b>
EXP	Y	Y	Y	Y
EXP-RE	Y	Y	Y	Y
HU-RE	Y	Y	Y	Y
RISK CALC	Y	Y	Y	Y

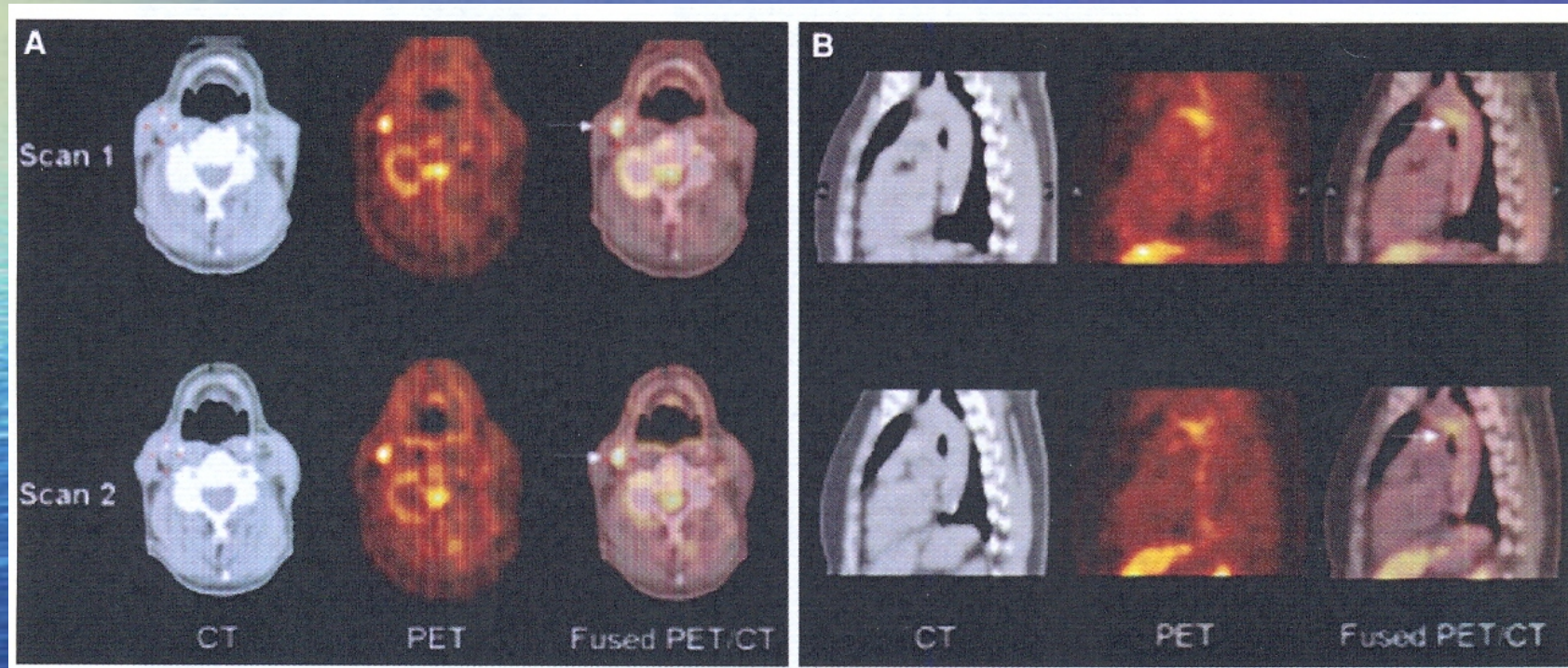
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# REPRODUCIBILITY OF $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG (2 WEEKS APART)

CAROTID

AORTIC





# REPRODUCIBILITY OF FDG-UPTAKE

2 WEEKS: IDENTICAL (RUDD 2007, 2008)

7 MONTHS: ONLY 50% IDENTICAL (WASSELIUS  
2009)

SIGNIFICANT LONG-TERM FLUCTUATIONS (BEN-  
HAIM 2006)

OPTIMAL (PLATEAU) IMAGING TIME?



# WHAT LESION COMPONENTS ARE PROMISING FOR PET-TARGETING

ALMOST ALL STUDIES RETROSPECTIVE IN  
CANCER PATIENTS (INFLUENCE OF THERAPY?)

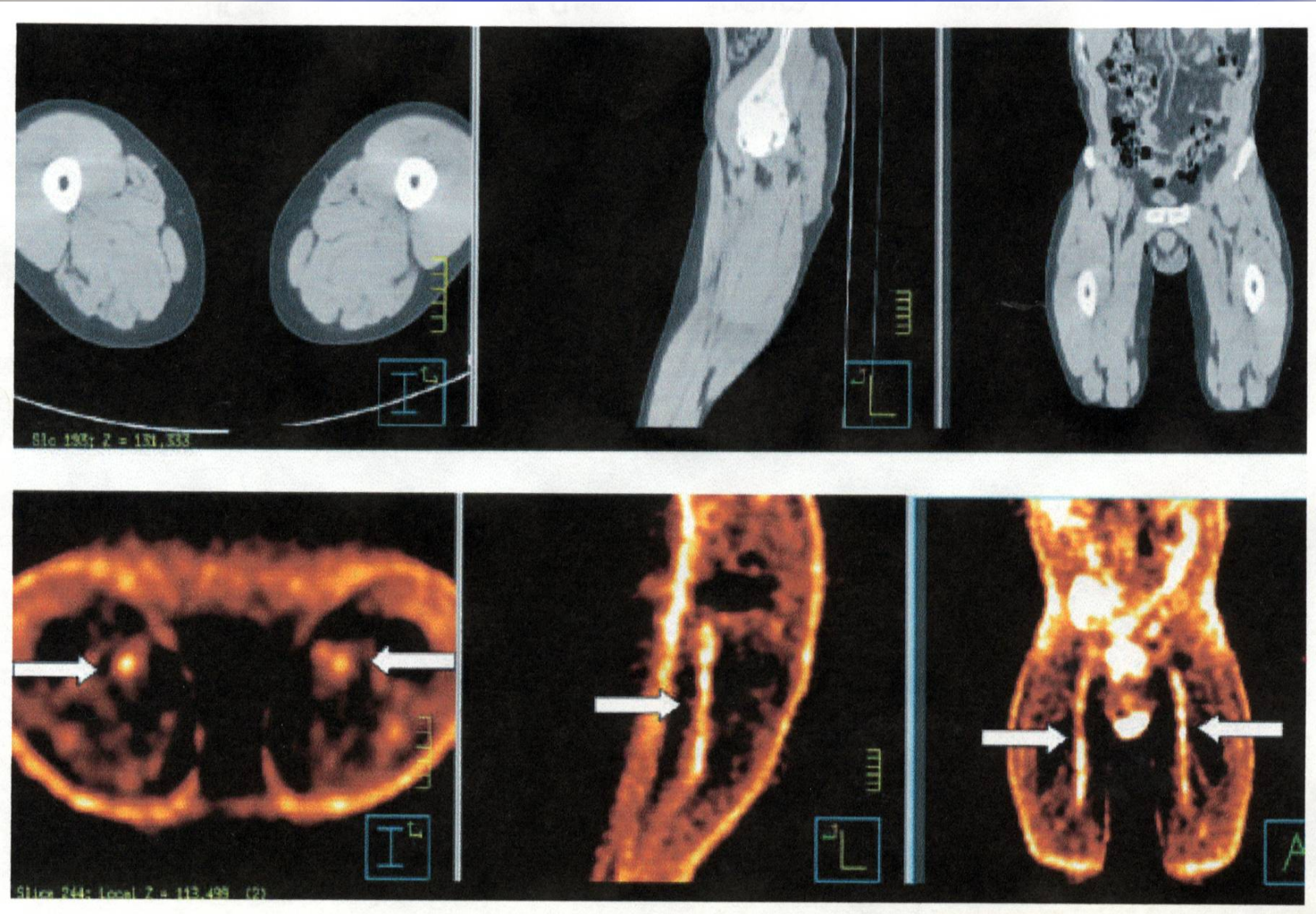
CONTROLLED, RANDOMIZED, PROSPECTIVE  
STUDIES SHOWING DIAGNOSTIC VALUE FOR  
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS AND MORTALITY RATHER  
THAN MORPHOLOGICAL, RISK AND  
BIOCHEMICAL ASSOCIATIONS

NO PROSPECTIVE (VASCULAR) EVENT STUDIES

NO STANDARDIZED PROTOCOL



# FEMORAL ARTERIAL UPTAKE OF $^{18}\text{F}$ FDG



Paulmier et al, 2008

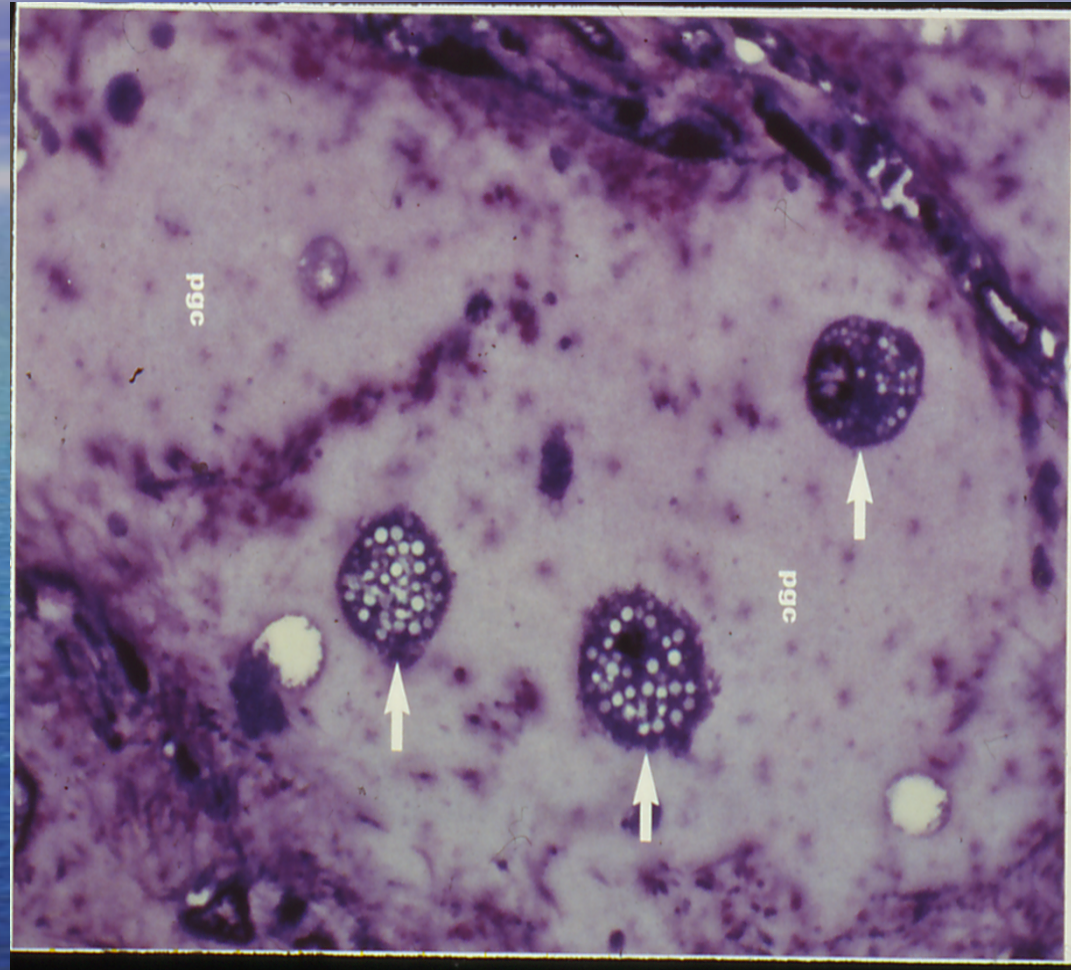


# FDG-UPTAKE ↑

29% P (vs 10% Co) CAROTID  
SONOGRAPHY (TAHARA 2007)

11 (OUT OF 13) WITH 50% ANGIOGRAPH.  
ICA STENOSIS (ARAUZ 2007)

# MONONUCLEAR FOAM CELLS



A ROLE FOR FDG  
OR MONOCYTES  
OR HIG ?

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# ROLE OF MACROPHAGES

$^{68}\text{Ga}$  UPTAKE (MICE) HIGHER IN LESIONS, CORRELATES TO MACROPHAGES (n)

SLOW CLEARANCE WILL LIMIT USABILITY

SILVOLA et al., EJNM 14 (2011)

$^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG (MICE) CORRELATES TO MAGROPHAGE DENSITY

SILVOLA et al., JACC 1294 (2011)

DIRECT EVIDENCE OF  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG UPTAKE STILL LACKING  
COCKER (2012)

# **<sup>18</sup>F-FDG UPTAKE**

DAVIS 2005 (ONLY) 25% OF NON-STENOTIC LESIONS IMAGED BY FDG  
↑ BY FOAM CELL FORMATION, BUT  
↓ AT DIFFERENTIATION TO FOAM CELLS

OGAWA et al., JNM 53 (2012) 55 ff

KIM 2010: FDG-UPTAKE CORRELATES WITH FRAMINGHAM SCORE  
RUDD 2002: SYMPTOMATIC LESIONS > FDG vs. ASYMPT. <sup>11</sup>C-ACETATE  
COLOCALIZED WITH ARTERIAL CALCIFICATION;  
ONLY 13.3% OF CALCIUM → INCREASED UPTAKE

DEVLIN et al., JNM 52 (2011) 1848 ff

**MONO vs SMC-OXYGEN CONSUMPTION (3:1)**

**HOW TO DIFFERENTIATE**

**BJÖRNHEDEN, ART 7 (1987) 238 ff**



# VASCULAR CORRELATION OF FDG-UPTAKE

## YES

MACROPHAGES (n) (OGAWA 2004)  
MAGROPHAGE DENSITY (VALLABHAJOSULA 1996)  
I/M-RATIO (LEDERMAN 2001)  
NEOVASCULARIZATION IN PLASMA (CALCAGNO 2008)  
CALCIFICATIONS (LAITINEN 2006)  
PATIENT'S AGE (YUN 2002)  
HYPERCHOLESTEROLEMIA (YUN 2002)  
TNF

## NO

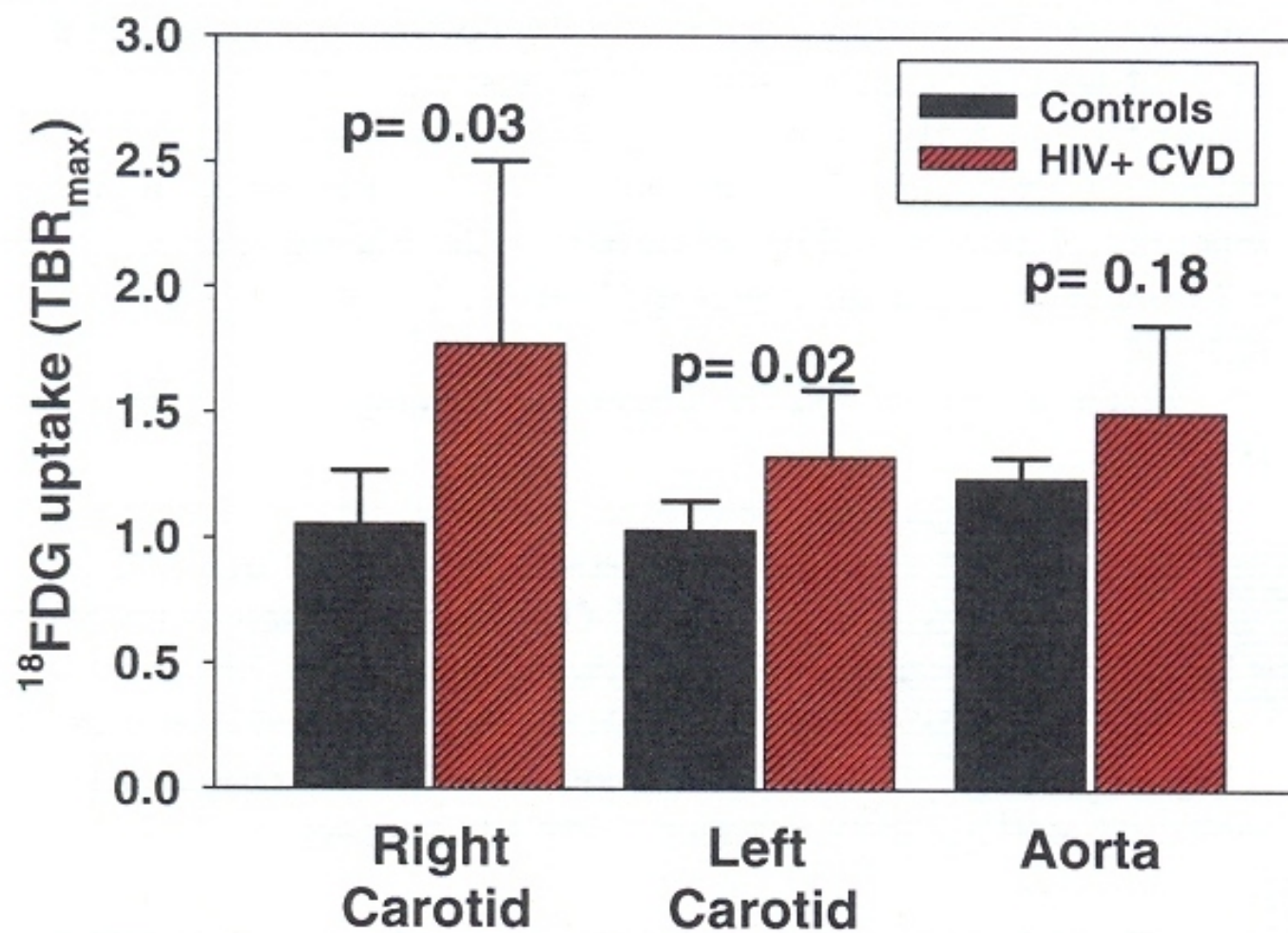
SMC (TAWAKOL 2005)  
AORTIC WALL THICKNESS (TAWAKOL 2005)  
PLAQUE AREA (TAWAKOL 2006)  
I/M-RATIO (OGAWA 2004)  
PLAQUE THICKNESS (TAWAKOL 2006)  
AMOUNT OF COLLAGEN (TAWAKOL 2006)  
CALCIFICATIONS (TATSUMI 2003)

# FDG-UPTAKE – CLINICAL CORRELATIONS

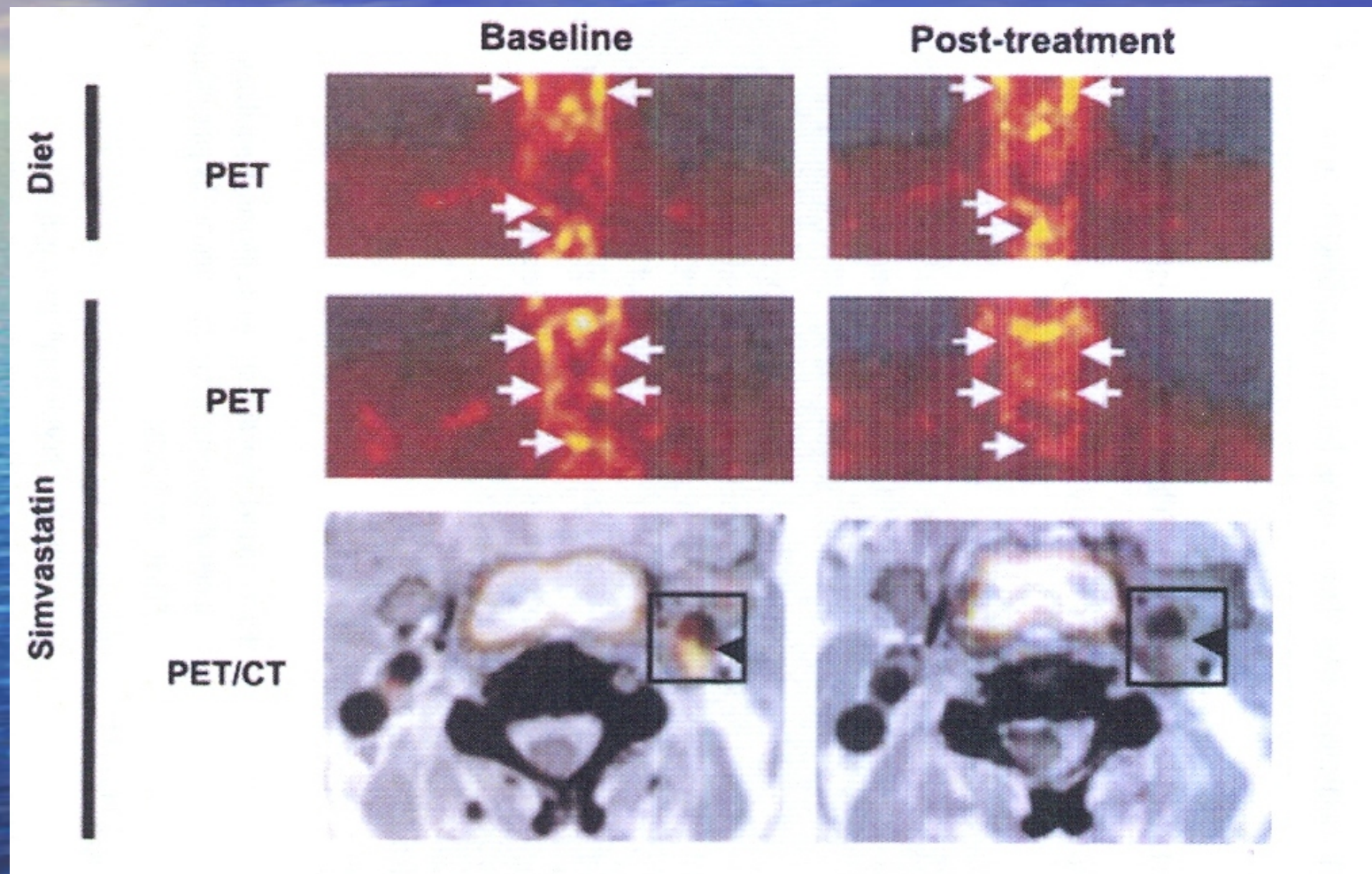
- COMPONENTS OF METABOLIC SYNDROME (WASSELIUS 2009)
- BMI, WC, I/M-CAROTID, CRP, HYPERTENSION (TAHARA 2007)
- VASCULAR CALCIFICATION (DUNPHY 2005)
- MMP-1 (WU 2007)
- HISTORY OF CVD (WILLIAMS 2009)
- PATIENTS WITH EVENTS (ROMINGER 2009)
- HDL (TAHARA 2006)
- FRAMINGHAM RISK SCORE (KIM 2010)
- SUV INCREASES WITH AGE



## 18F-FDG CAROTID UPTAKE (HIV VS. Co)



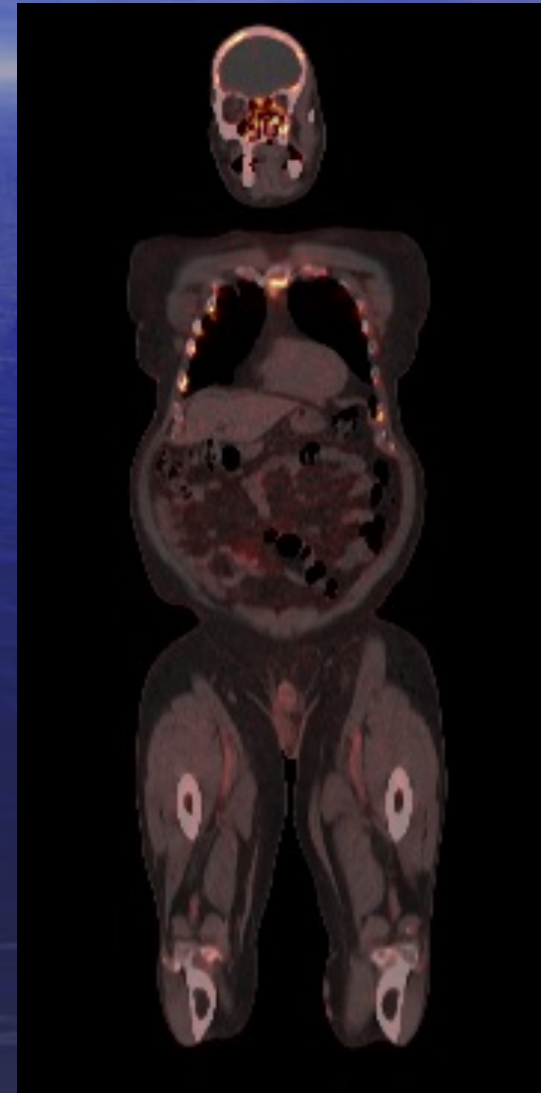
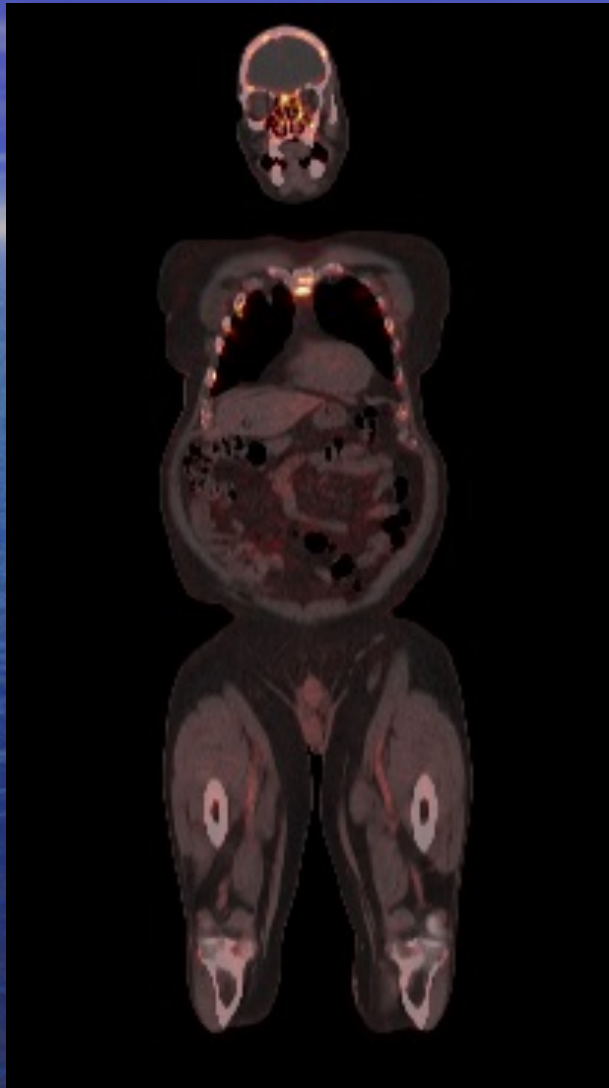
# THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION





# FDG-UPTAKE AND THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION

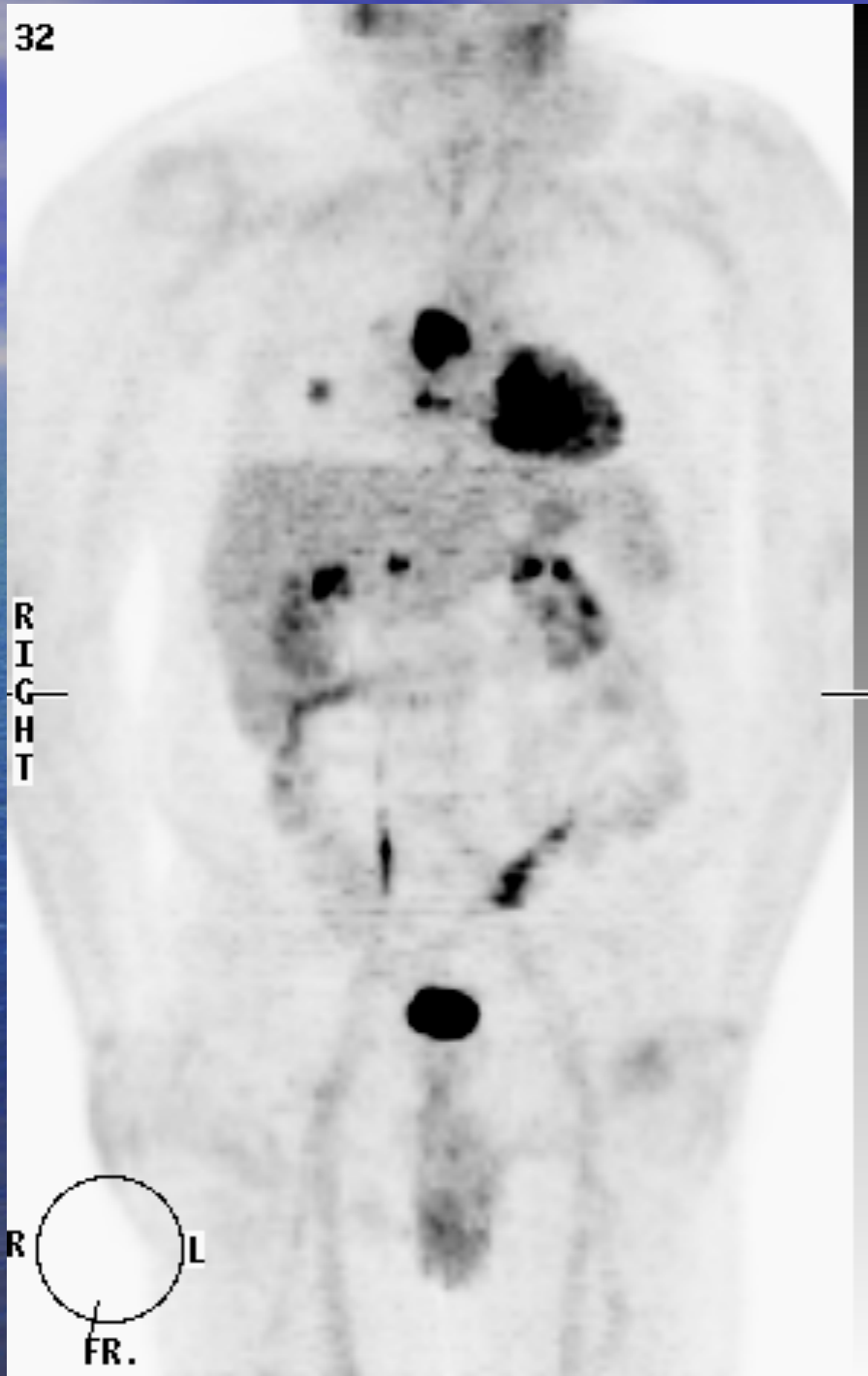
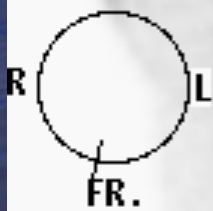
- ↓ PROBUCOL (OGAWA 2006)
- ↓ STATINS (S-TAHARA 2006, S-WASSELIUS 2009, A-ISHII 2010, A-WU 2012) > 12 wk
  - Hcy (POTTER 2009)
- ↓ LIFESTYLE (LEE 2008) – 16 mo
- ↓ DALCETRAPIB (FAYAD 2011)
- ↓ PIOGLITAZONE (VUCIC 2011)
  - GLIMEPIRIDE (MIZOGUCHI 2011)





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# FDG-PET CT STUDY

## ADVANTAGES OVER OTHER METABOLIC STUDIES:

- HIGH CONTRAST RESOLUTION
- QUANT. OF PLAQUE VOLUME
- (ASSESS. METABOL. ACTIVITY?)
- DYNAMIC, REAL TIME, IN-VIVO IMAGING
- MINIMAL OPERATOR DEPENDENCE



# CORONARY ARTERY $^{18}\text{F}$ -NaF

HIGHER IN CORONARY ATHEROSCLEROSIS vs CO

- CALCIUM SCORE ( $r = 0.652, p < 0.001$ )
- CORRELATES WITH EVENTS ( $p = 0.016$ )
- **FRAMINGHAM SCORE ( $p = 0.011$ )**

CORONARY ARTERY  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG

- HAMPERED BY MYOCARDIAL ACTIVITY
- NO DIFFERENCE ATHEROSCLEROSIS vs CO

DWECK et al., JACC 59 (2012) 1539 ff

# IMAGING METALLOPROTEINASE (MMP) ACTIVITY

$^{111}\text{In}$ -DTPA-RP 782

$^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ -HYNIC-RP 805

MARIMASTAT-ArB( $^{18}\text{F}$ )F3

$^{123}\text{I}$ -Ho-CGS 27023A

IN EXPERIMENTAL MODELS ONLY

rev. in N. MATUSIAK et al., Curr. Pharm.  
Des. (2013)



# PET/CT TRACERS USED FOR ATHEROSCLEROTIC PLAQUE CHARACTERIZATION

PET radiotracer	Mechanism of action	Uptake suggestive of	Arteries evaluated	Validation in human atherosclerotic plaque
[ <sup>18</sup> F]fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG) <sup>60</sup>	Uptake by metabolically active cells	Macrophage density	Carotid, aorta, coronary, iliac, femoral	Immunohistochemistry and autoradiography
<sup>11</sup> C-PK11195 <sup>97-99</sup>	Selective ligand of the translocator protein (TSPO, 18 kDa), formerly known as peripheral benzodiazepine receptor	Macrophage density	Carotid, aorta (vasculitis )	Immunohistochemistry and autoradiography
<sup>11</sup> C-choline <sup>101</sup>	Choline enters the cell via specific transport mechanisms, is phosphorylated by choline kinase, metabolized to phosphatidylcholine is incorporated into the cell membrane	Macrophage density, inflammatory infiltrates	Carotid, aorta	No
<sup>68</sup> Ga-[1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane- <i>N,N',N'',N9'''</i> -tetraacetic acid]-D-Phe1, Tyr3-octreotate (DOTATATE) <sup>100</sup>	Binds to somatostatin receptors of subtype 2 (SSTR2)	Macrophage density	Coronary	No
<sup>11</sup> C-Acetate <sup>116</sup> .	Fatty acid synthesis in lesions requires acetyl-coenzyme-A, which is produced from acetate	Fatty acid synthesis	Carotid, aorta, iliac	No
[ <sup>18</sup> F]Sodium fluoride <sup>117-119</sup>	Binds to hydroxyapatite molecules by replacing hydroxyl groups	Calcification	Carotid, aorta, iliac, femoral, coronary	No

# OTHER PET-TRACERS USED

$^{11}\text{C}$ -ACETATE – FATTY ACID SYNTHESIS

$^{68}\text{Ga}$ -MACROPHAGES (CLEARANCE  
PROBLEM)

$^{18}\text{F}$ -SODIUM FLUORIDE

$^{18}\text{F}$ -NaF

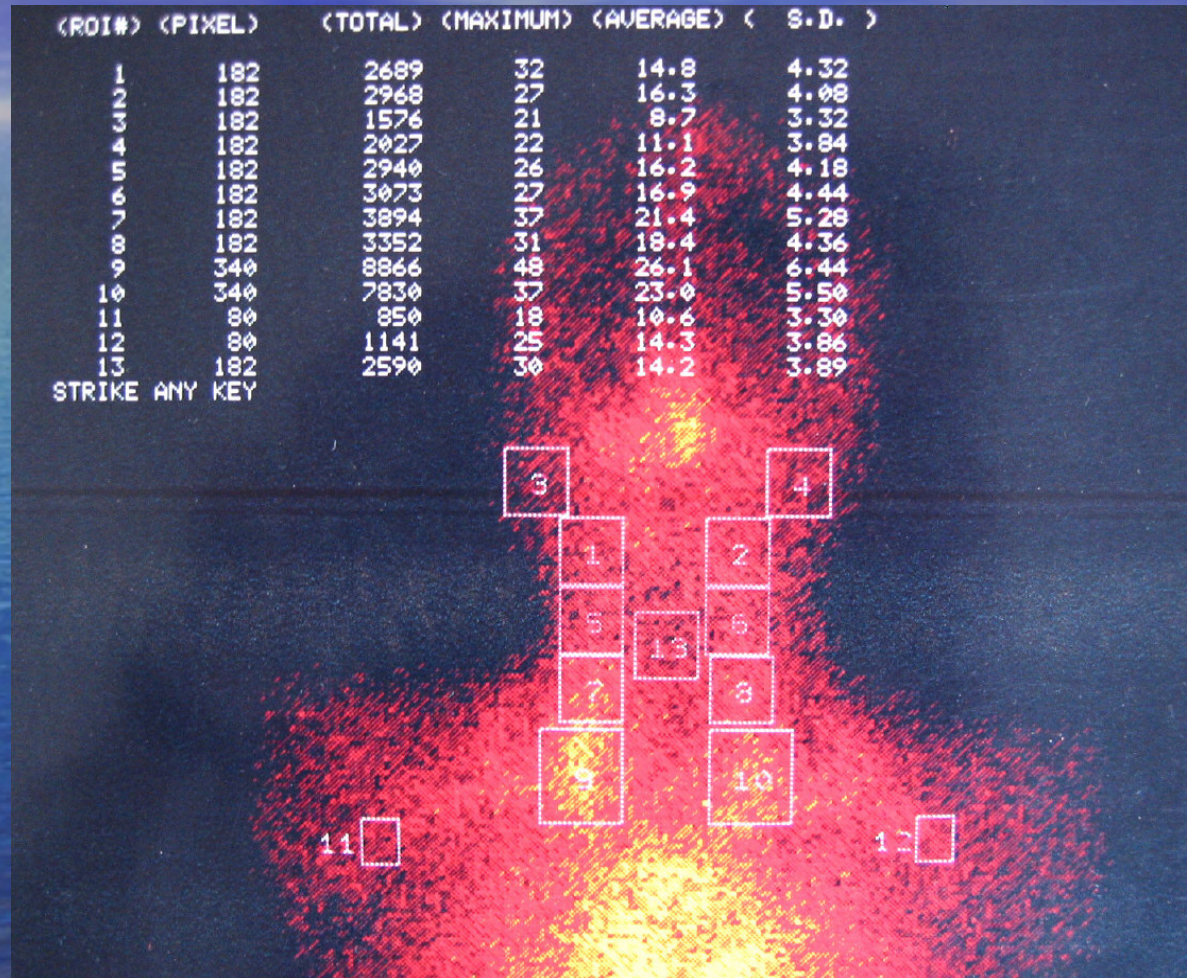
$^{18}\text{F}$ -GALAKTO-RGD

$^{64}\text{Cu}$ -ANTI-OX-LDL

$^{18}\text{F}$ -FLUORO-ETHYLCHOLINE

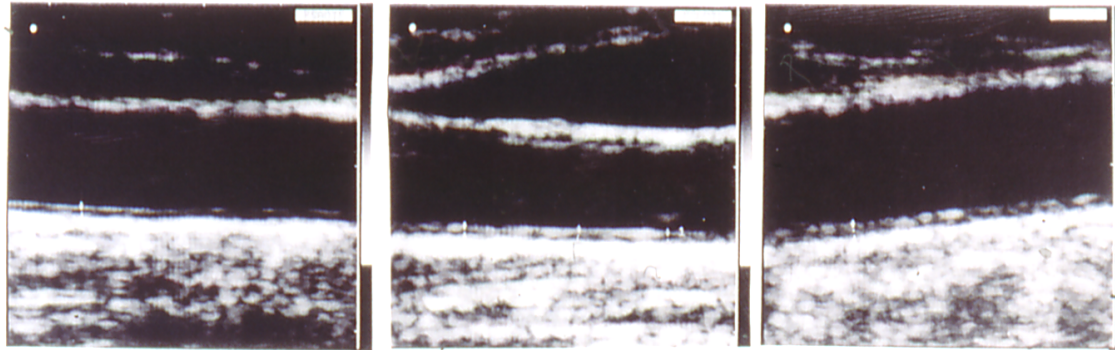


# $^{111}\text{In}$ -HIG SCINTIGRAPHY





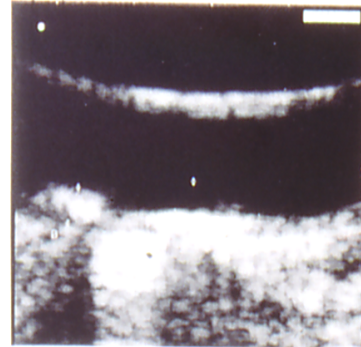
# ULTRASOUND STAGES



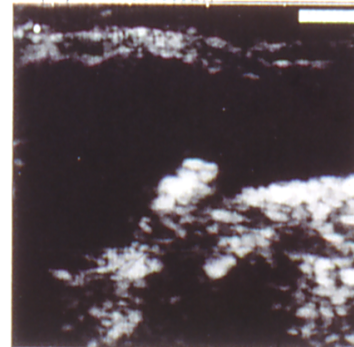
(1) NORMAL

(2) GRANULATION

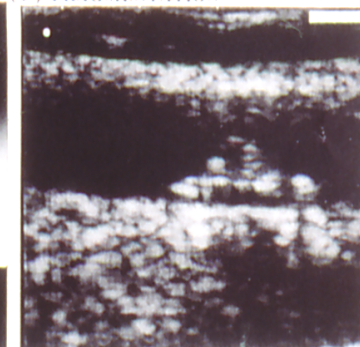
(3) FRAGMENTATION



(4) WALL THICKNESS > 1mm  
AND/OR SMALL PLAQUES (< 25%)



(5) PLAQUES > 25%



(6) PLAQUES > 75%



# **$^{111}\text{In}$ -HIG AND $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG COLOCALIZE**

ACCUMULATE IN

- FOAM CELLS
- LIPID RICH AREAS
- INFLAMMATORY ACTIVE SITES
- HEALING EDGES OF LESIONS
- NOT IN DEENDOTHELIALIZED AREAS

# CORRELATION vs. DIAGNOSIS

$^{125}\text{I}$ -LDL –  $^{111}\text{In}$ -MONOCYTES  
AND  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG COLOCALIZE

16th ISORBE, Pretoria, 21-23 March 2013



# <sup>111</sup>In-HIG - SCINTIGRAPHY

## Patients characteristics

	n	+	-	m	f	age	CHD (%)	MORTALITY	SEX DISTR.
CVD	100	61	39	61	39	60,6±7,5	62	24 vs 7 ( <b>39,3 vs 17,9%</b> )	16m/8f vs 4/3
PVD	100	69	31	75	25	64,6±6,9	75	29 vs 5 ( <b>42,0 vs 16,1%</b> )	20m/9f vs 3/2

NO CORRELATION TO SONOGRAPHY, BUT

**PREDICTOR OF EVENTS**

(LESIONS vs. INFLAMMATORY PROCESS)

# **$^{111}\text{In}$ -HIG vs $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG**

- **FDG PREDICTS VASCULAR EVENTS INDEPENDENT OF RISK FACTORS**
- **ASSOCIATED WITH VASCULAR DISEASE BURDEN**
- **ARTERIAL SUV vs VENOUS BLOOD-POOL BACKGROUND**



# MONOCYTE UPTAKE RATIO

<sup>111</sup>In-MONOCYTES AND ATHEROSCLEROSIS  
INDEPENDENTLY DESCRIBED 1984 BY DU  
HEYNS AND SINZINGER 1990.

NORMOLIPEMICS ALL NORMAL UPTAKE:

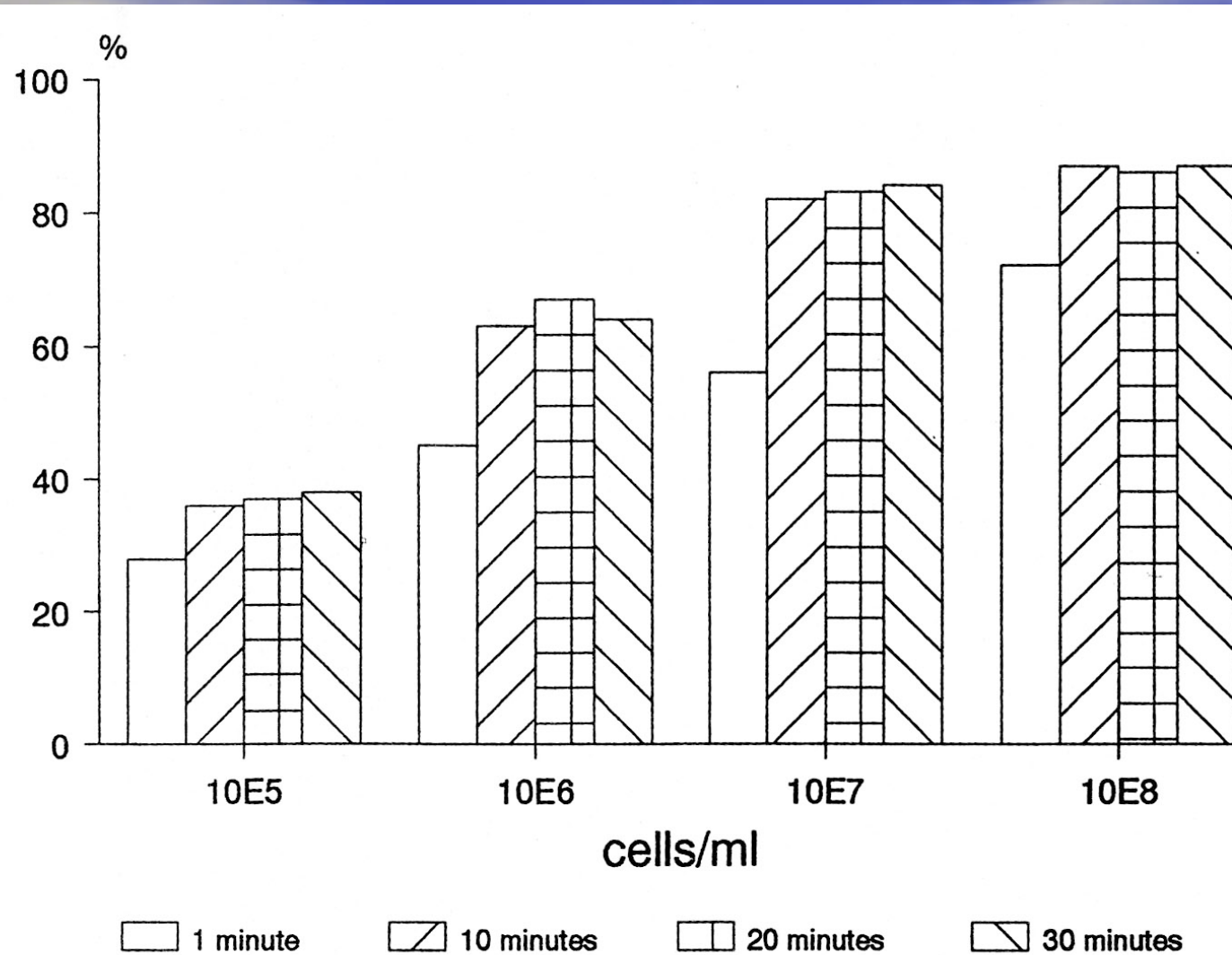
LDL-APHERESIS:  $1,35 \pm 0,07 \rightarrow 1,19 \pm 0,08$

NO DIFFERENCE SMOKERS VS. NON-  
SMOKERS

H. Sinzinger

ISORBE and Radiol. Blood El. 1992

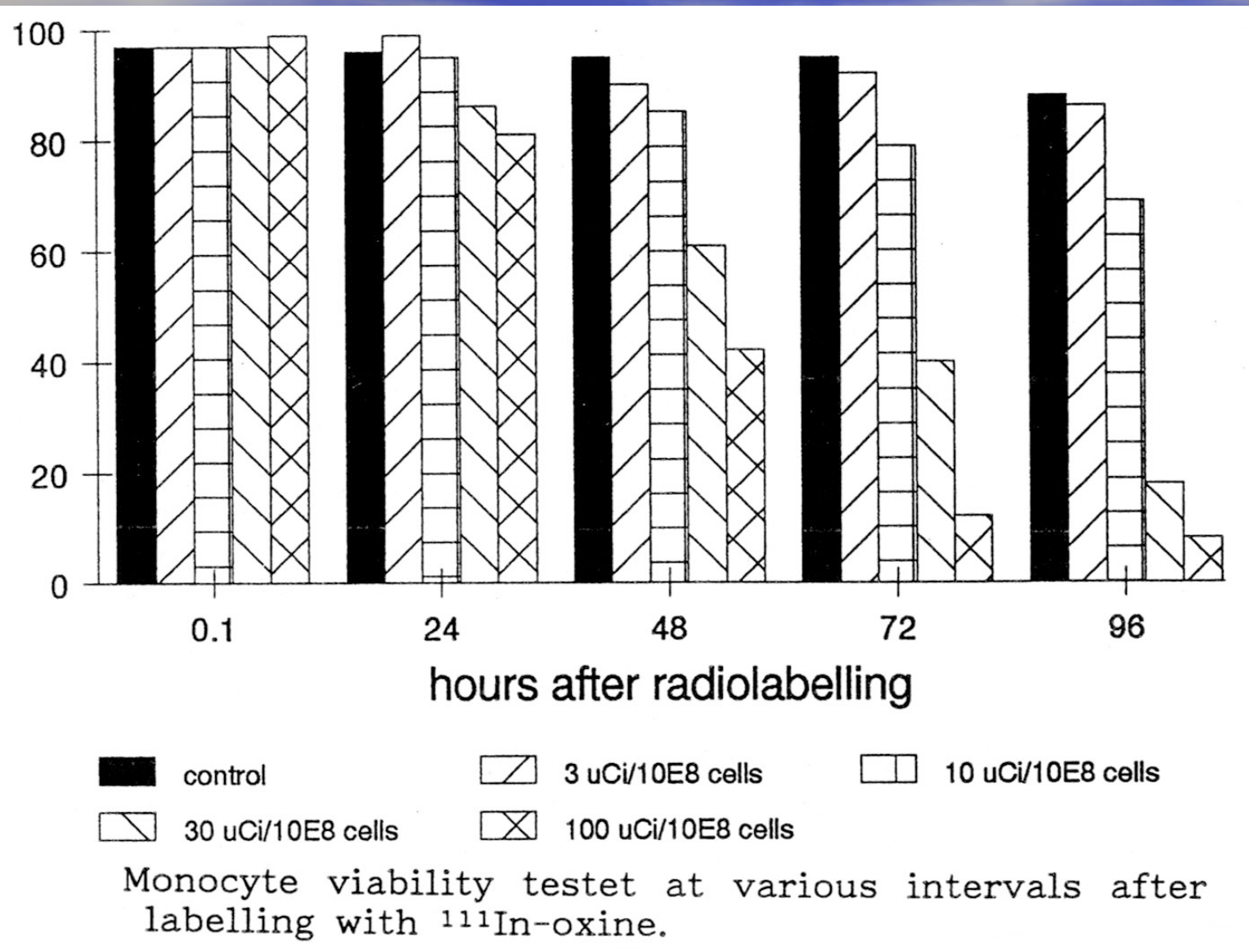
# LE VS. MONOCYTE DENSITY



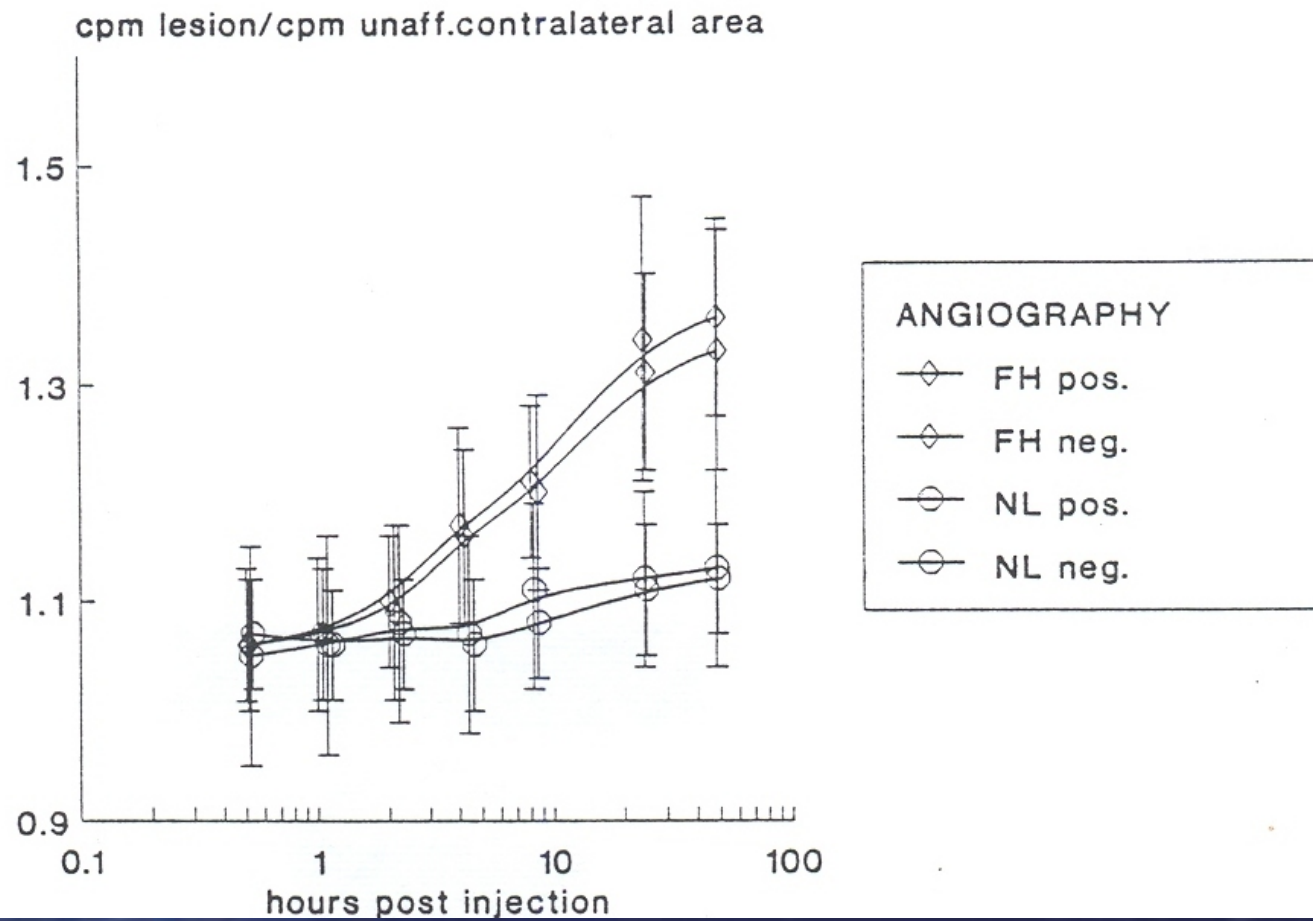
Labelling efficiency determined at different time intervals after labelling at 22°C.



# VIABILITY OF RADIOLABELED MONOCYTES

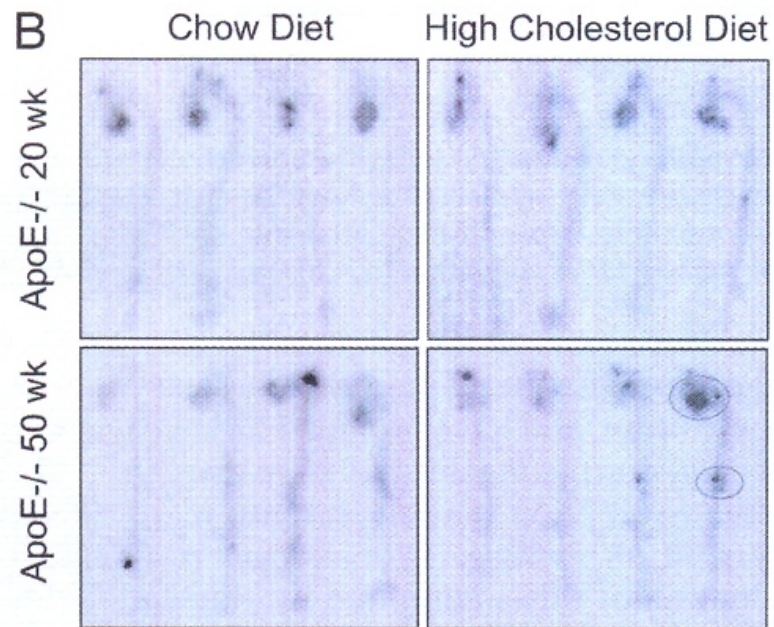
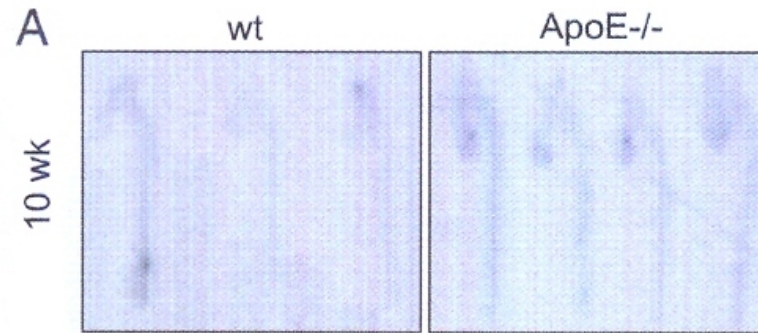


# VASCULAR MONOCYTE UPTAKE

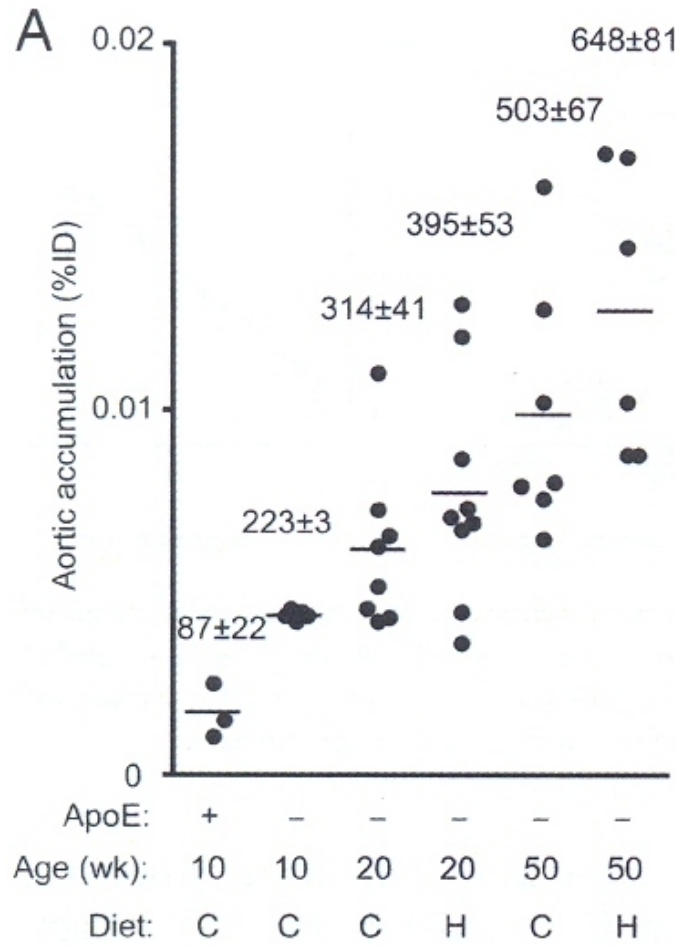




# $^{111}\text{In}$ -oxine MONOCYTES IN MICE



# <sup>111</sup>In-oxine MONOCYTES IN MICE



**B**

	+ 10 C	- 10 C	- 20 C	- 20 H	- 50 C
- 10 C	>0.05				
- 20 C	>0.05	>0.05			
- 20 H	<0.05	>0.05	>0.05		
- 50 C	<0.01	<0.05	>0.05	>0.05	
- 50 H	<0.001	<0.001	<0.01	<0.05	>0.05



# VALUE OF $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG

n = 15; 64 – 76 a, MALES

NO SINGLE  $\uparrow$  FDG-UPTAKE

CALCIFICATIONS 14

> 50% LESIONS IN 6 PATIENTS (TOTAL 9)  
(SONOGRAPHY) – ONLY 5 VISIBLE

REF: CT DEFINED PLAQUES – NO HIGHER FDG-UPTAKE  
MRI DEFINED vs NON-AFFECTED CONTRALATERAL SITE  
NO DIFFERENCE

OKANE et al. 2006

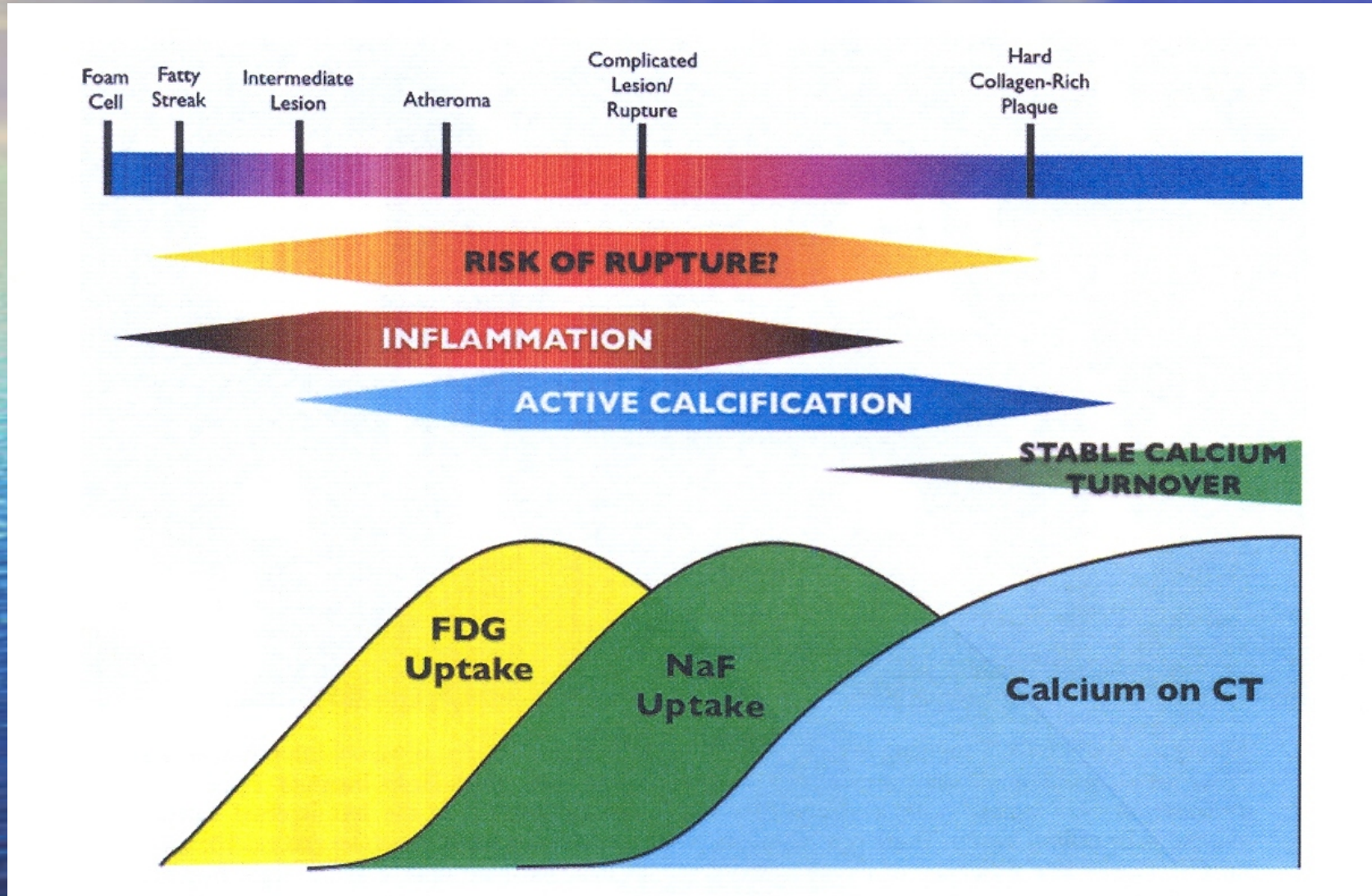


## <sup>18</sup>F-FDG – PROSPECTIVE STUDIES IN ATHEROSCLEROSIS

Reference	No. of patients	Circulation time (min)	PET scan type	Method of image analysis
Sakalihan et al. (14)	26	60	PET only	Visual
Rudd et al. (7)	8	180	PET only	Net <sup>18</sup> F-FDG accumulation rate
Davies et al. (15)	12	120	PET only	Uptake ratio > 1.28
Tawakol et al. (2)	17	180	PET only	TBR
Okane et al. (16)	15	103–158	PET only	TBR
Tahara et al. (7)	43	60	PET only	SUV <sub>max</sub>
Wu et al. (12)	47	45 and 150	PET/CT	SUV <sub>max</sub> > 2.0
Lee et al. (9)	60	45	PET/CT	Uptake ratio > 1
Arauz et al. (17)	13	90	PET only	Visual, SUV <sub>max</sub> ≥ 2.7
Rudd et al. (5)	11	90	PET/CT	TBR
Tahara et al. (18)	216	60	PET only	SUV score
Tahara et al. (13)	100	60	PET only	SUV score ≥ 1.60
Kuehl et al. (19)	33	60	PET/CT	SUV <sub>max</sub> > 2.5
Paulmier et al. (20)	45	60	PET/CT	SUV <sub>max</sub>
Rudd et al. (8)	20	90	PET/CT	TBR
Reeps et al. (4)	15	90	PET/CT	SUV <sub>max</sub>



# UNAPPROPRIATE SIMPLIFICATION



# WHAT WE NEED

- **A TRACER SPECIFICALLY TAKEN UP BY ONE KEY COMPONENT OF THE VULNERABLE PLAQUE**
- **CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE RATHER THAN MERE CORRELATIONS**
- **LESION AT RISK, NOT PATIENT AT RISK**

**MY CLAIM:**

**FDG WILL NOT SUCCEED IN THIS INDICATION**



# COMPETING VASCULAR IMAGING MODALITIES

	resolution	sensitivity (vuln.)	limitation	availability
IVUS	100 $\mu$	100 (37) %	resolution	+++
Angioscopy	n.a.	100 (25) %	blood free subjectivity	+ -
Opt. coherence tom. (OCT)	5 $\mu$ (!)	90 (75) %	blood free	-
Thermography	500 $\mu$	45 (20) %	injury risk	-
Spectroscopy	n.a.	90 (60) %	no structural information	-
Spiral CT	> 500 $\mu$	65 (15) %	-	+++
MRI	n.a.	65 (20) %	-	+++
Intravasc. MRI	n.a.	n.a.	Motion, flow, artefacts	+ -
Electron beam CT	100 $\mu$	calc. 94%, noncalc. 53% vuln. 10%	limited to Ca <sup>++</sup>	+ -

06K71SALL  
Study Date: Oktober 18 2012 13:08:46



Left

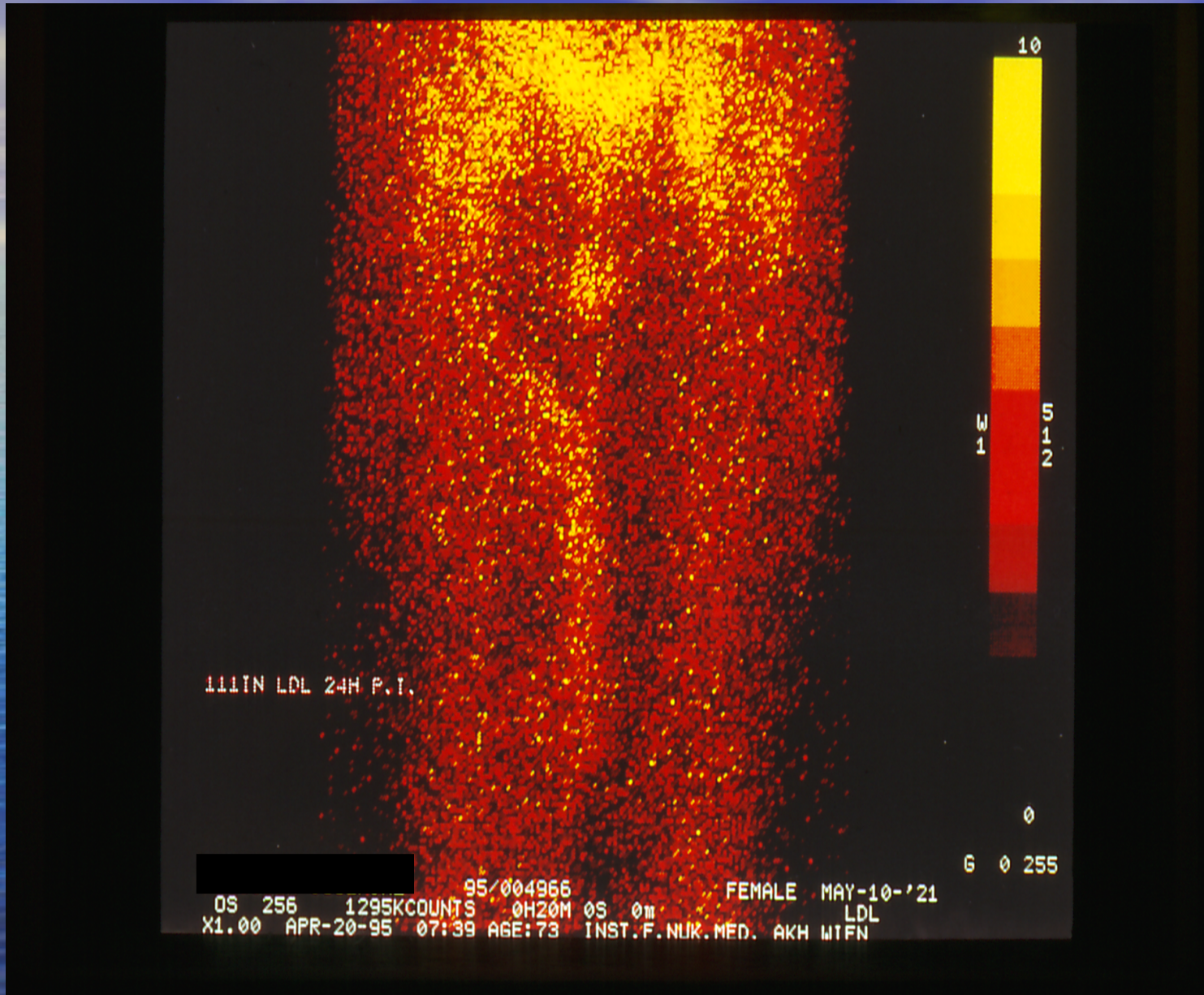




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H. Sinzinger



# PET-IMAGING

$^{64}\text{Cu}$ -ANTI-OX-LDL (MONKEY)

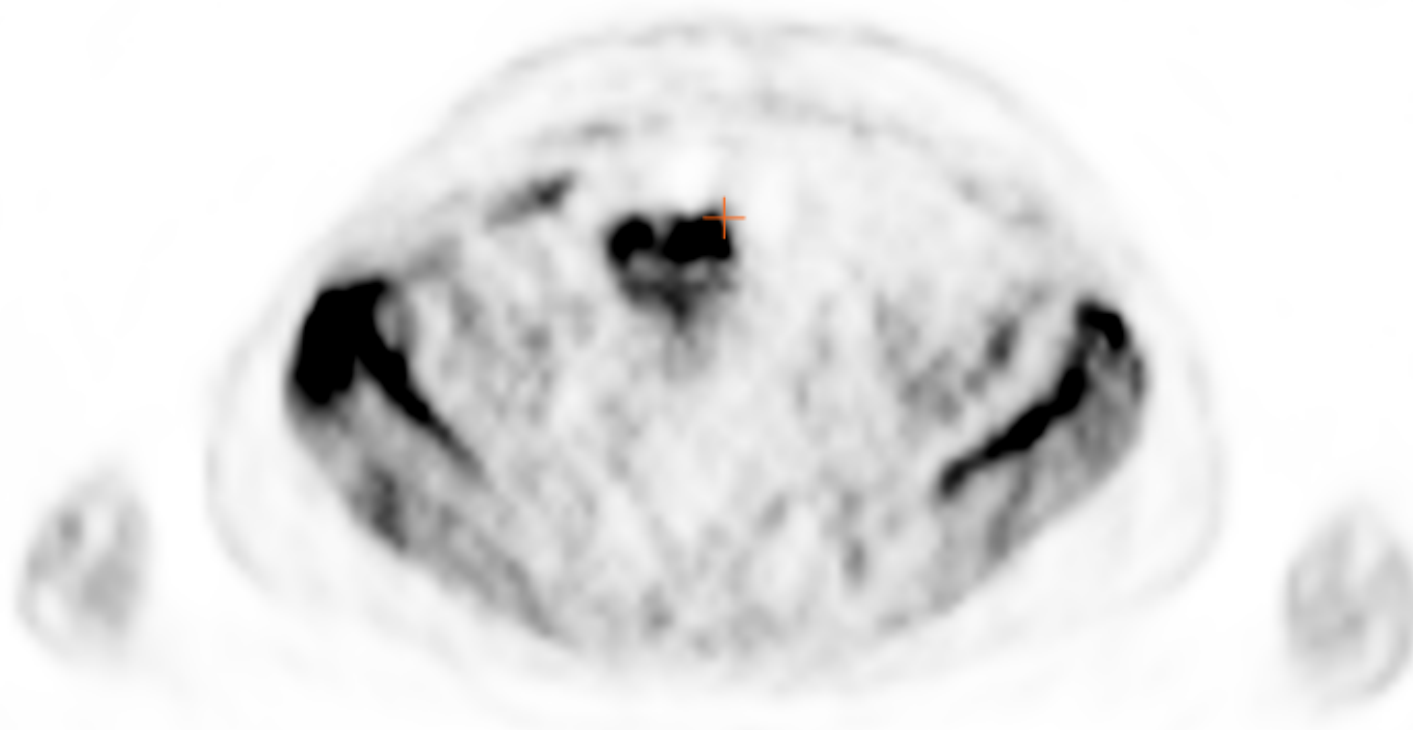
KAMATH et al. (2012)

NO BENEFIT vs.  $\perp$

VARIOUS ANTIBODIES

06K71SALL

Study Date: Oktober 18 2012 13:08:46



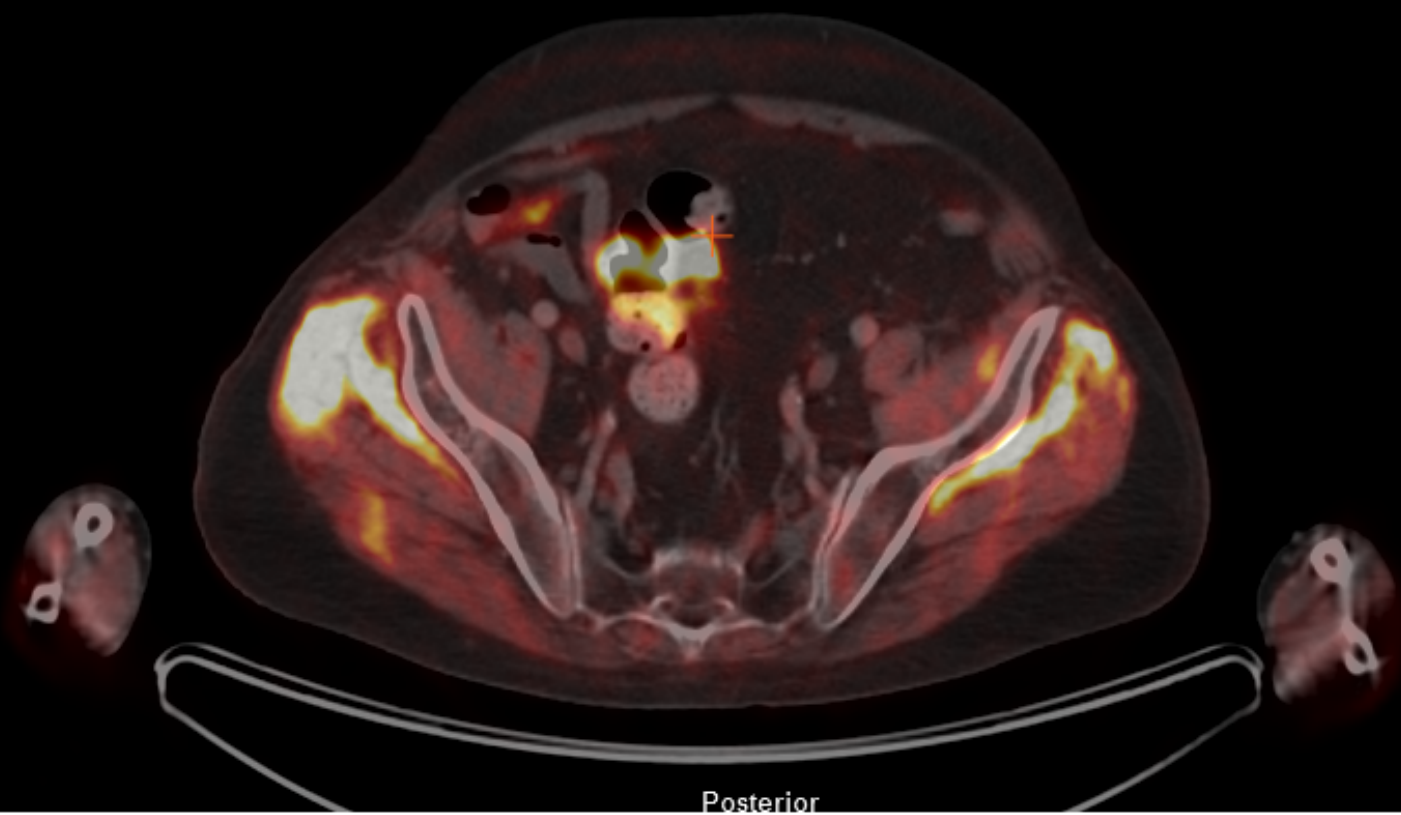
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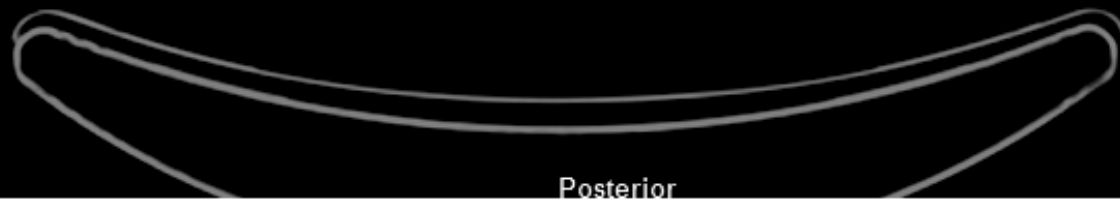
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