



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO  
FACOLTÀ DI FARMACIA

# Nuovi meccanismi d'azione e target farmacologici

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**Lipoprotein Management in Patients With Cardiometabolic Risk: Consensus Conference Report From the American Diabetes Association and the American College of Cardiology Foundation**

John D. Brunzell, Michael Davidson, Curt D. Furberg, Ronald B. Goldberg, Barbara V. Howard, James H. Stein, and Joseph L. Witztum

*J. Am. Coll. Cardiol.* 2008;51;1512-1524; originally published online Mar 27, 2008;

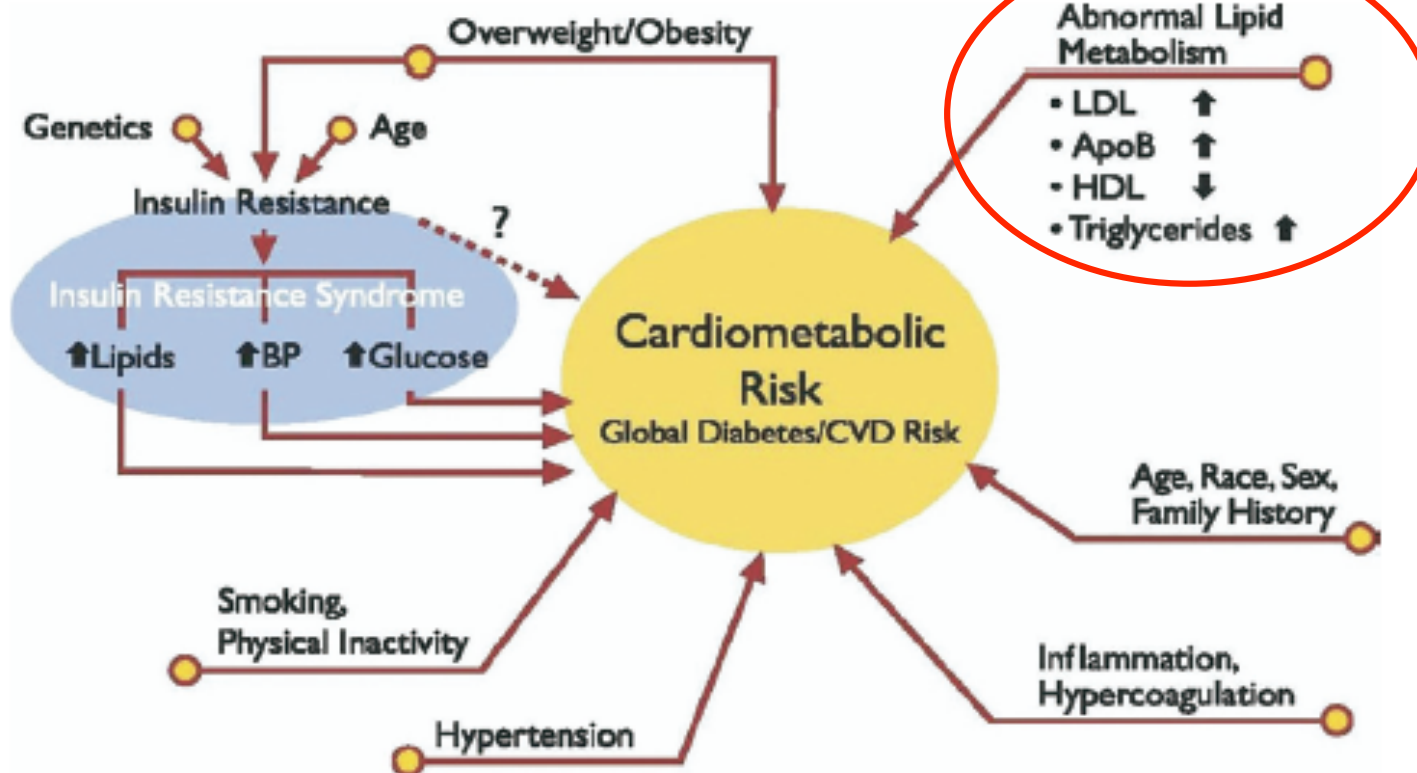
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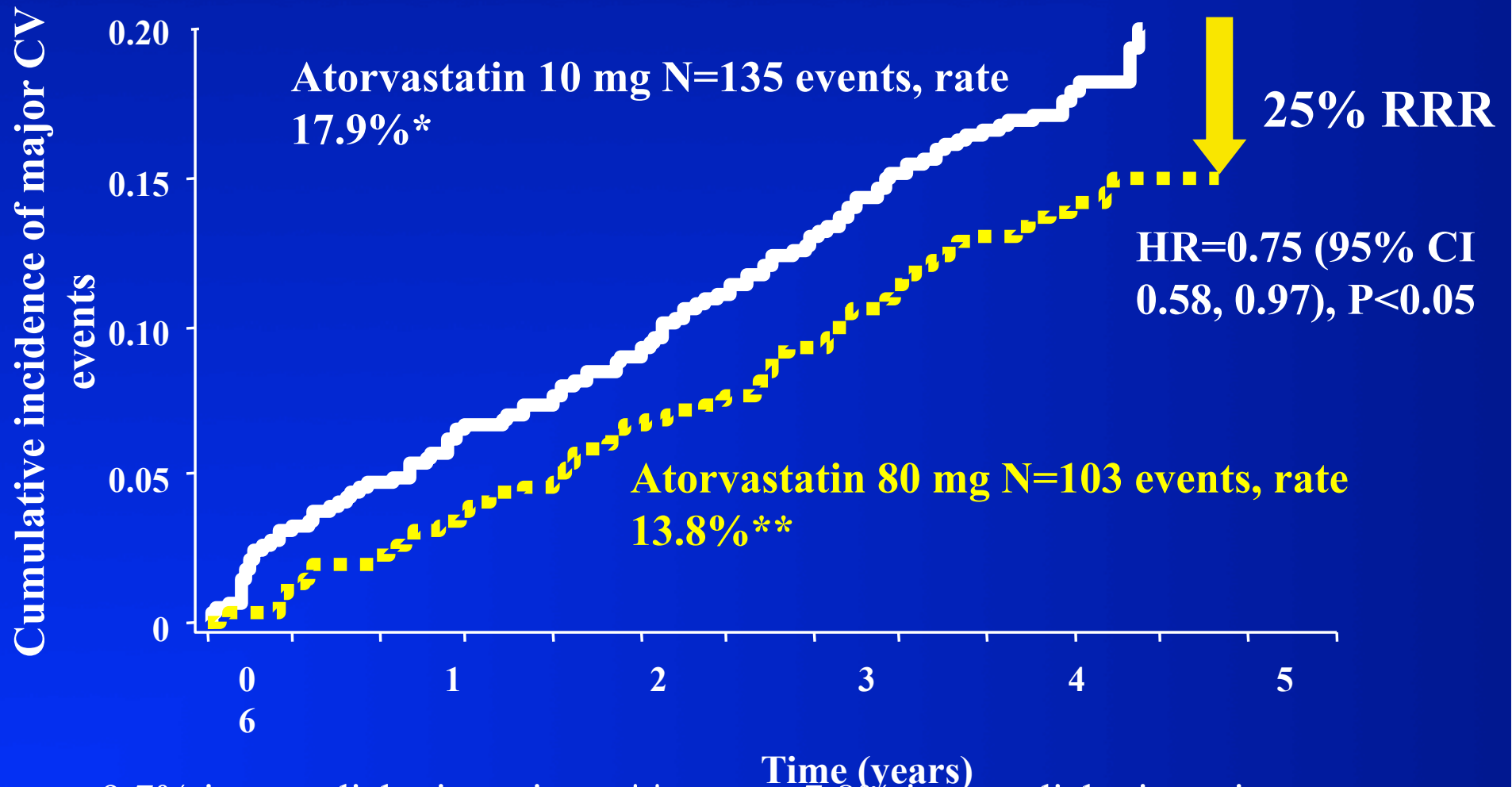
JACC Vol. 51, No. 15, 2008  
April 15, 2008:1512-24

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**Figure 1. Factors Contributing to Cardiometabolic Risk**

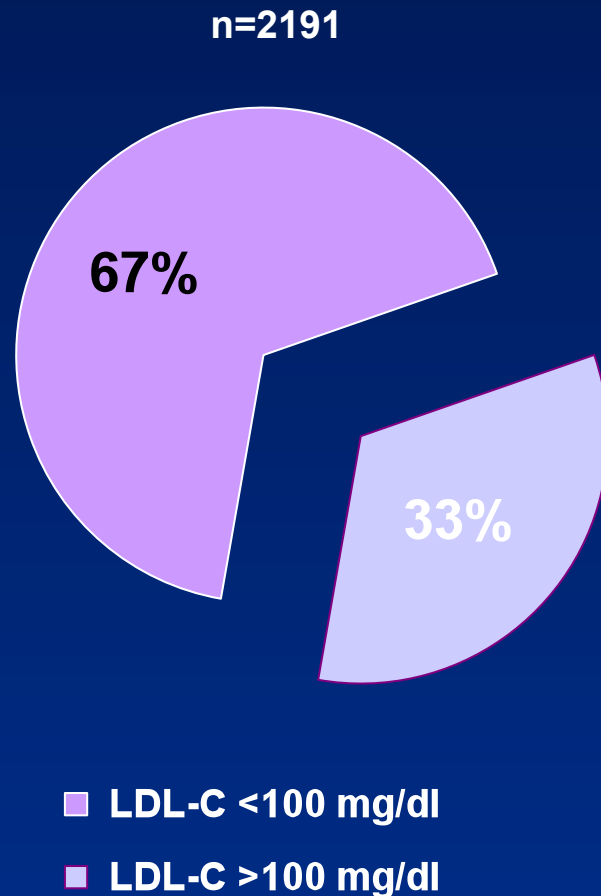
# TNT: Time to First Major Cardiovascular Endpoint in Patients With Diabetes



\*versus 9.7% in non-diabetic patients \*\* versus 7.8% in non-diabetic patients

Shepherd Jet al. Diabetes Care 2006

# Patients at or below LDL-C of 100 mg/dl had Vascular Events



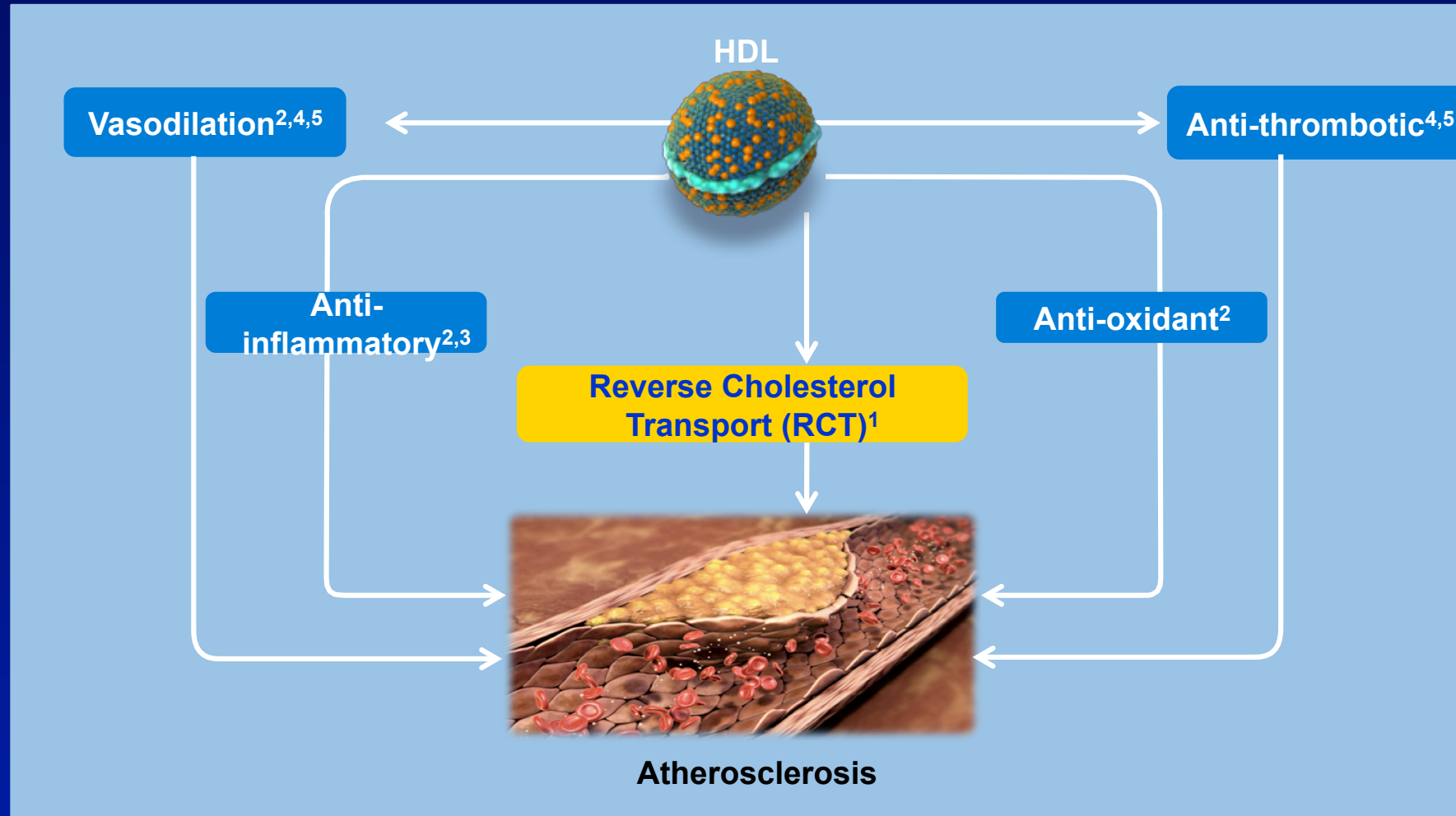
Retrospective cohort study conducted in the UK of 19,882 patients >35 years of age

- Of 2191 statin-treated patients who experienced a CV/CB event, **67%** were at LDL-C of 100 mg/dl
  - **33%** of the 2191 patients who had a CV event were not at LDL-C of 100 mg/dl
- Among patients with a CV/CB event and
  - With LDL-C <100 mg/dl, **38.6%** had low HDL-C and/or elevated triglycerides
  - With LDL-C >100 mg/dl, **43.9%** had low HDL-C and/or elevated triglycerides

Patients were on statin therapy  $\geq 6$  weeks; >2 years pre- and post-statin history with laboratory data; no concomitant lipid-lowering drugs; and  $\geq 1$  complete lipid profile pre- and post-statin initiation. Patients were followed for up to 5 years

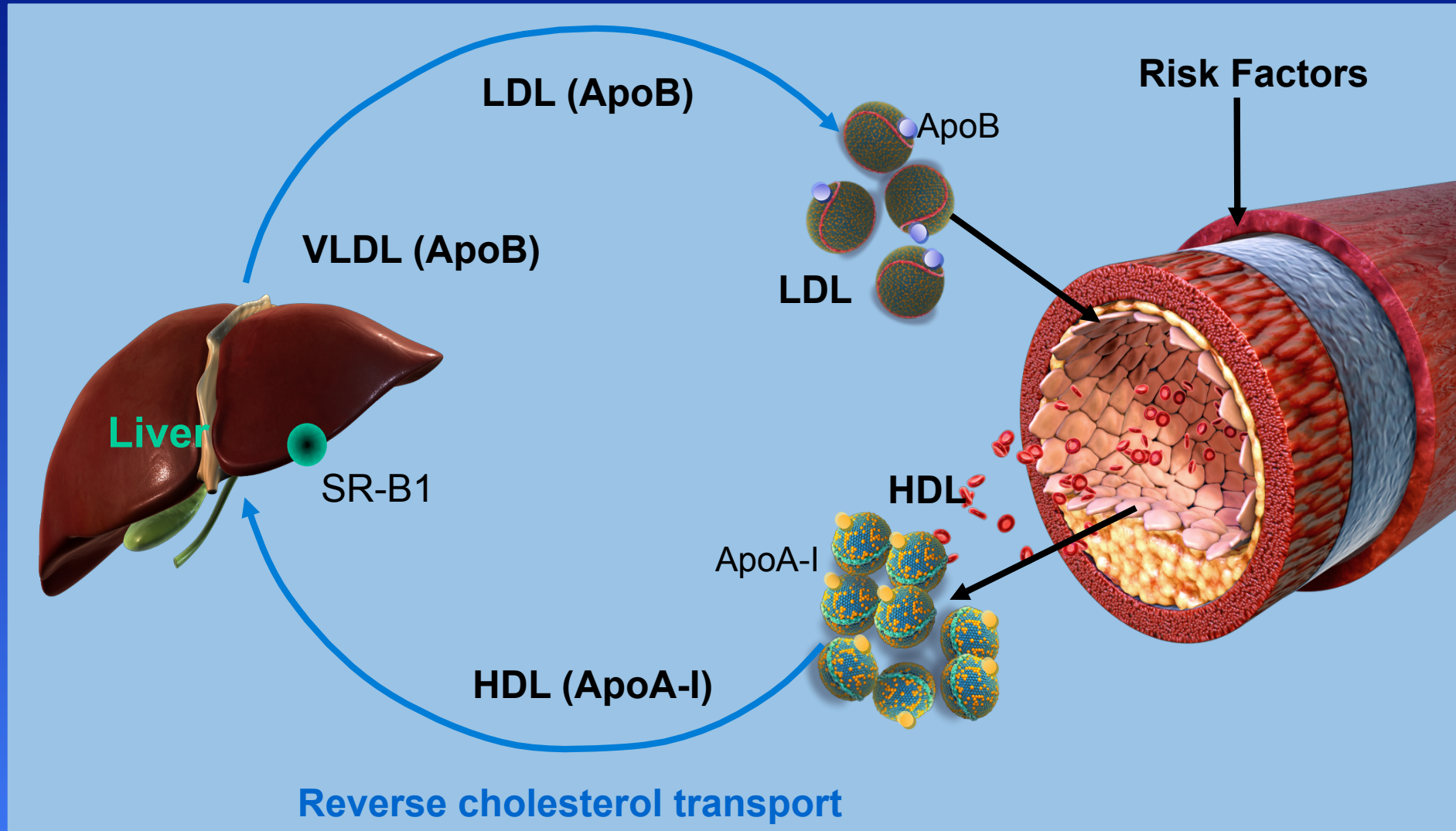
LDL-C=low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; HDL-C=high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; CV=cardiovascular; CB=cerebrovascular  
Phatak H et al. Poster presented at the European Atherosclerosis Society Congress; 10–13 June 2007; Helsinki, Finland. Poster P016-441.

# HDL has multiple cardiovascular benefits



<sup>1</sup>Barter P. *Eur Heart J Suppl.* 2004;6(Suppl. A): A19–A22; <sup>2</sup>Tabet F, Rye KA. *Clin Sci* 2009;116:87-98; <sup>3</sup>Yvan-Charvet et al. *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol* 2010;30:139-143; <sup>4</sup>O'Connell BJ, Genest J, Jr. *Circulation.* 2001;104:1978–1983; <sup>5</sup>Calabresi et al. *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol.* 2003;23:1724–1731.

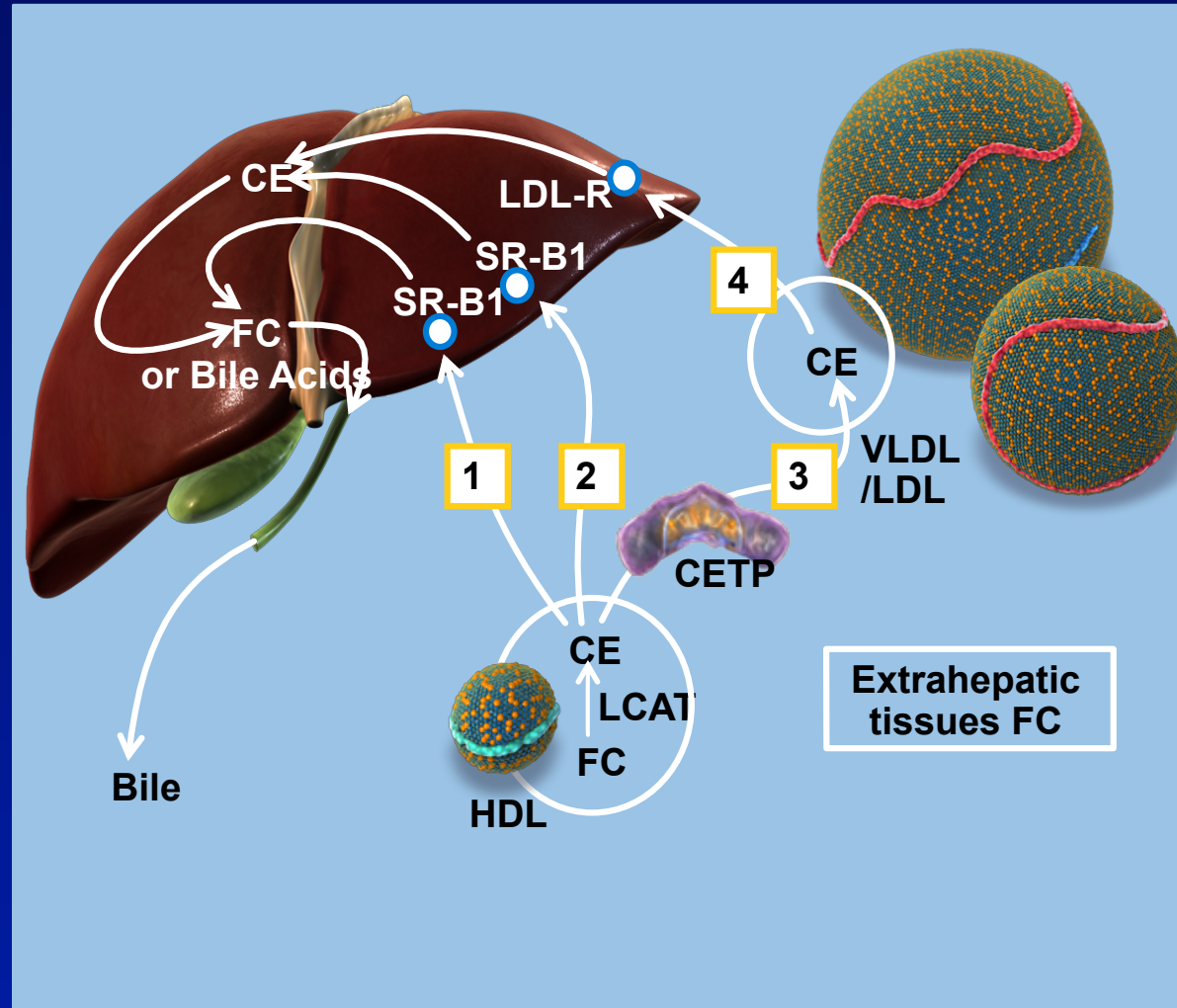
# The simple good and the simple bad!



Adapted from Barter P. *Eur Heart J Suppl.* 2004;6(Suppl A): A19–A22.

# HDL and reverse cholesterol transport

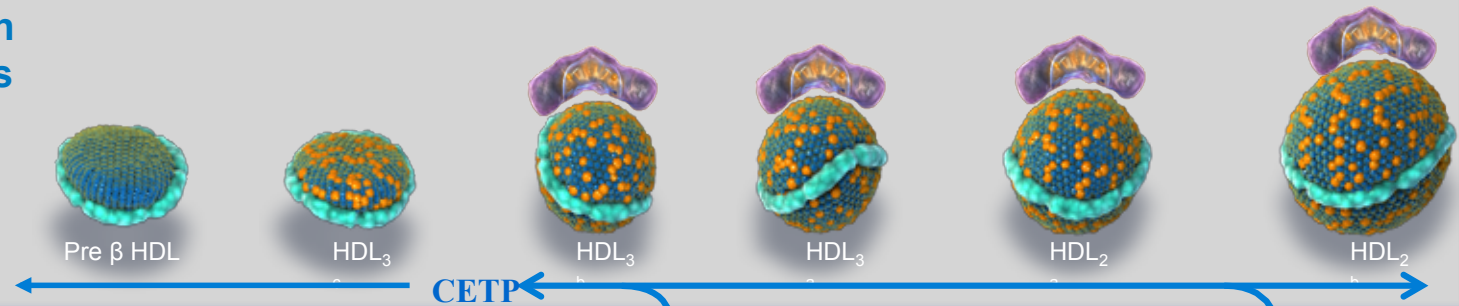
- 1** Direct uptake of FC from HDL by SR-B1
- 2** Esterification of FC by LCAT; CE taken up by SR-B1
- 3** CETP-mediated transfer of CE from HDL to VLDL in exchange for TG
- 4** Uptake of CE following binding to LDL-R



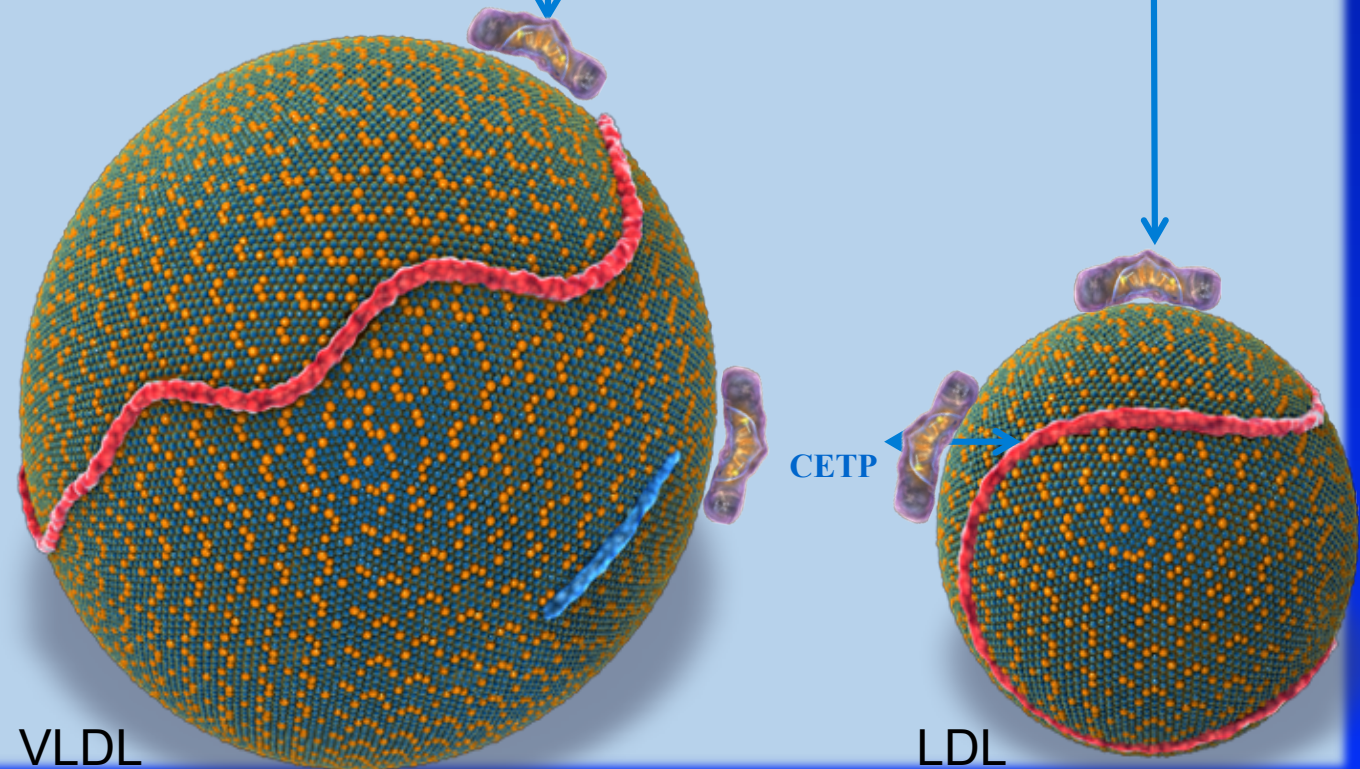
Adapted from Barter P, Rye KA. *A new therapeutic target: cholesteryl ester transfer protein. Current status and future directions.* Birmingham, UK: Sherbourne Gibbs, 2008.

# The Function of CETP: lipid transfer among all lipoproteins

CETP is involved in the natural process of HDL remodeling



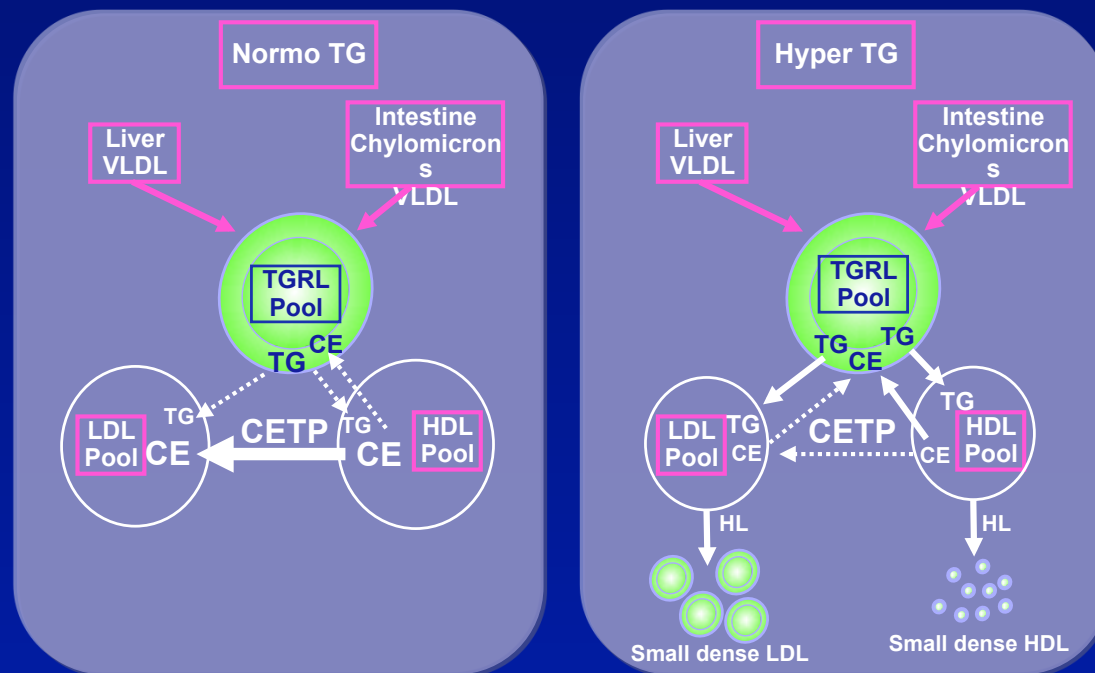
CETP is involved in the transfer of cholesterol from HDL to VLDL and LDL





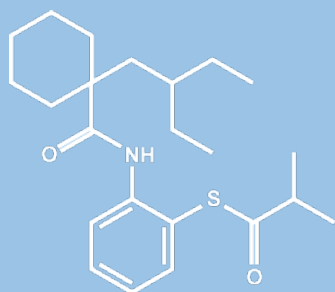
# The Role of CETP in Atherogenesis

- CETP may promote or inhibit atherogenesis, depending on TG levels
- When TGs are normal CETP maintains an equilibrium of cholesteryl esters between HDL and LDL
- When TGs are elevated, CETP promotes transfer of cholesteryl esters to VLDL

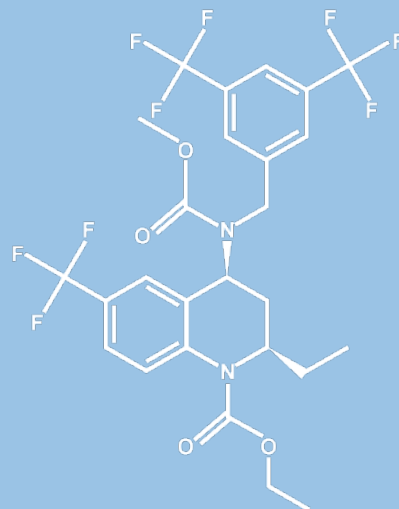


# CETP inhibitors: Differences in chemical structure and physicochemical properties

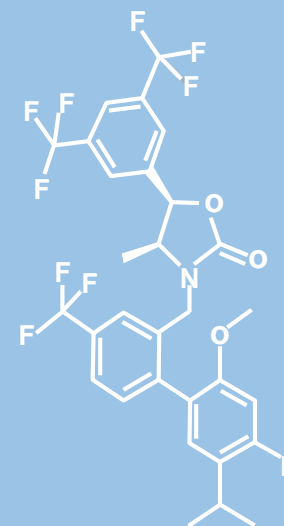
Dalcetrapib<sup>1</sup>



Torcetrapib<sup>2</sup>



Anacetrapib<sup>3</sup>



Molecular weight

389.60

600.40

637.51

Lipophilicity

cLogP ~7

cLogP ~9

cLogP ~9

<sup>1</sup><http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/365/dalcetrapib.doc>;

<sup>2</sup><http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/365/torcetrapib.doc>;

<sup>3</sup><http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/365/anacetrapib.pdf>.

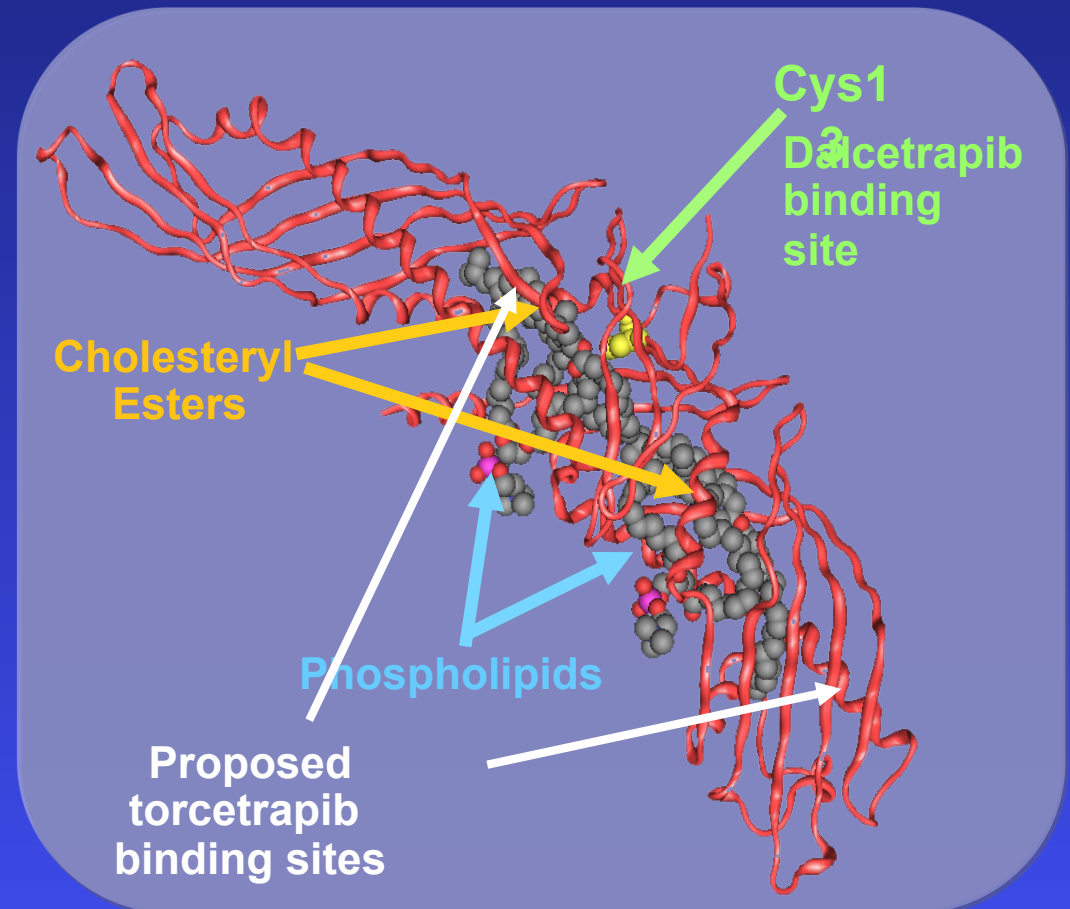
# Clinical Pharmacology of Dalcetrapib

- Chemical structure and Mechanism of action
- Preclinical studies
- Pharmacokinetics
- Clinical trials

# CETP Inhibitors: Mechanism of Action

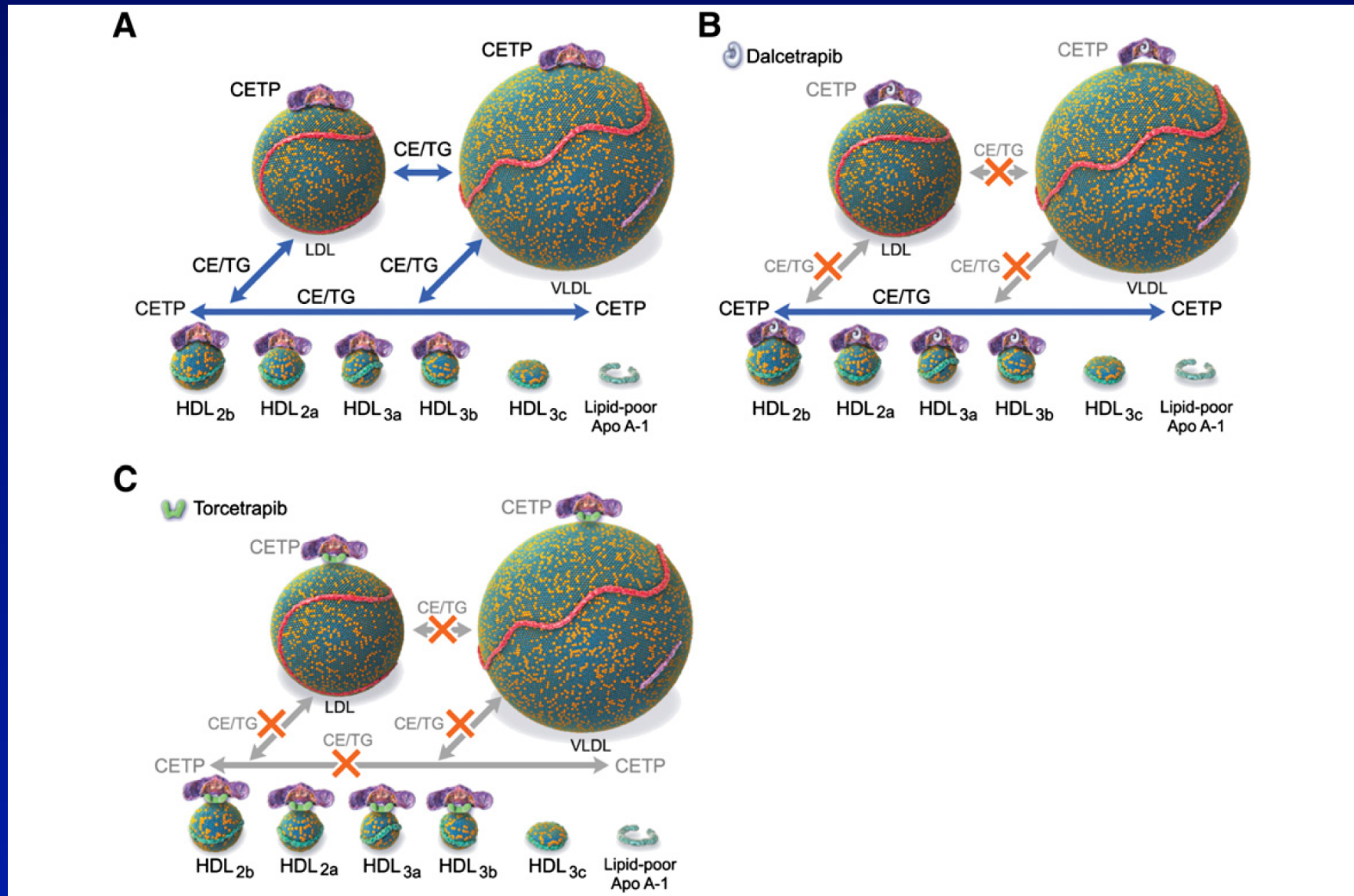
## *Binding of Lipids and CETP Inhibitors to the CETP Molecule*

- The cysteine at residue 13 of CETP seems to be essential for decreased CETP activity with dalcetrapib<sup>1</sup>
- Torcetrapib is believed to bind to the helices at the end of the C and N barrels of the CETP molecule<sup>2</sup>

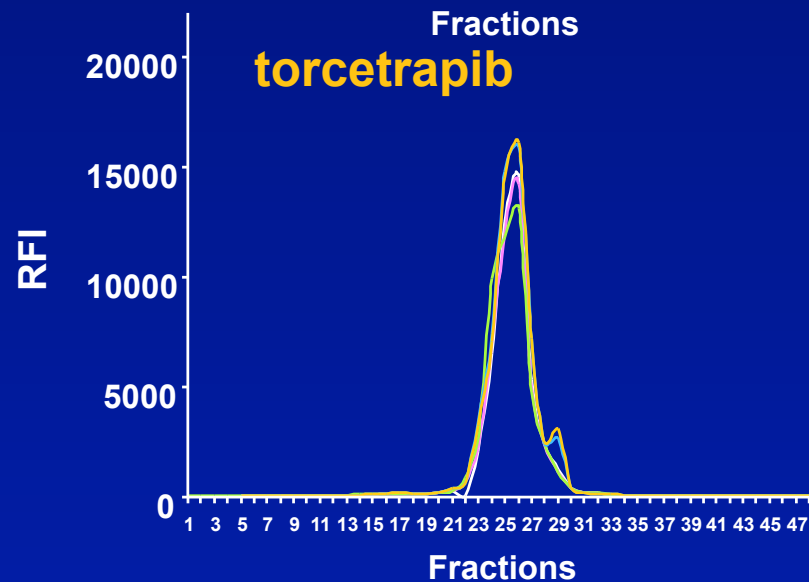
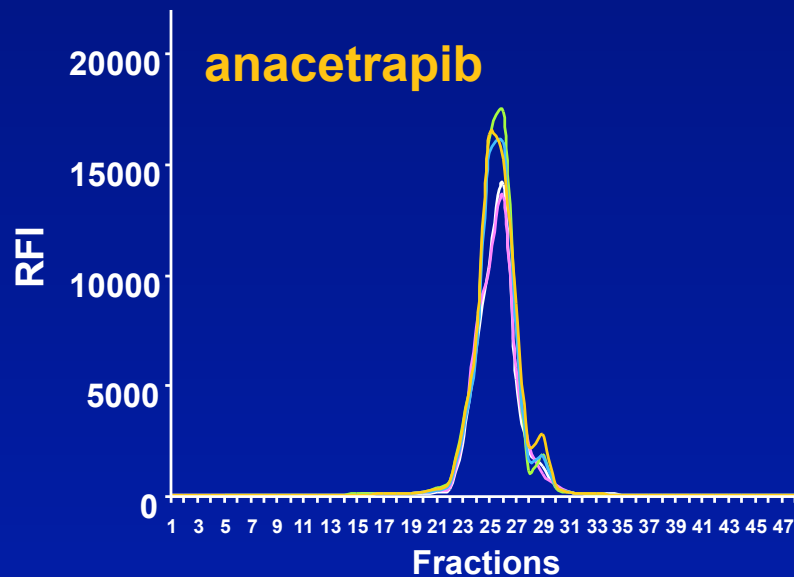
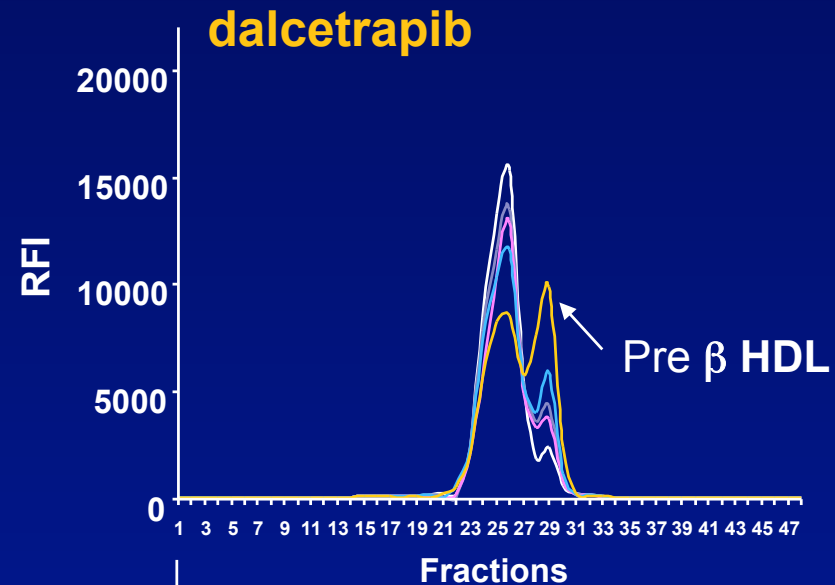
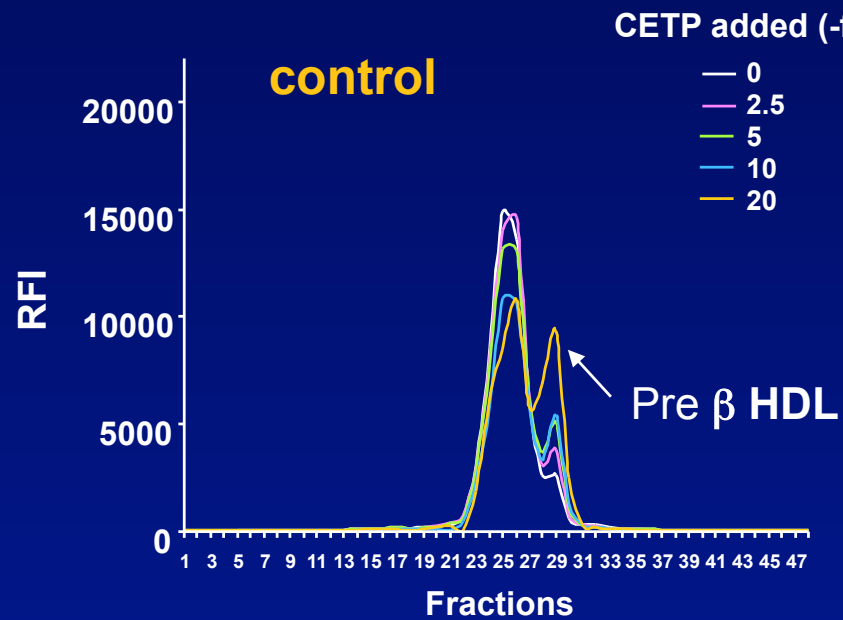


<sup>1</sup>Okamoto et al. *Nature*. 2000;406:203–207; <sup>2</sup>Clark et al. *J. Lipid Res.* 2006;47:537–552;  
<sup>3</sup>Barter et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2007;357:2109–2122.

# Dalcetrapib Differs from Anacetrapib and Torcetrapib by not Preventing rhCETP induced pre- $\beta$ -HDL formation



# Effect of compounds affecting CETP activity on CETP induced pre- $\beta$ -HDL formation (in vitro)

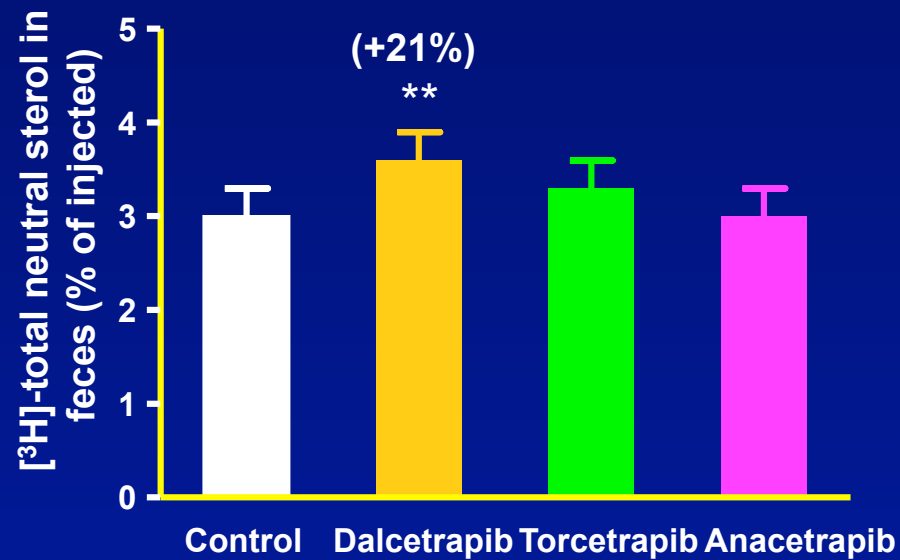


# Clinical Pharmacology of Dalcetrapib

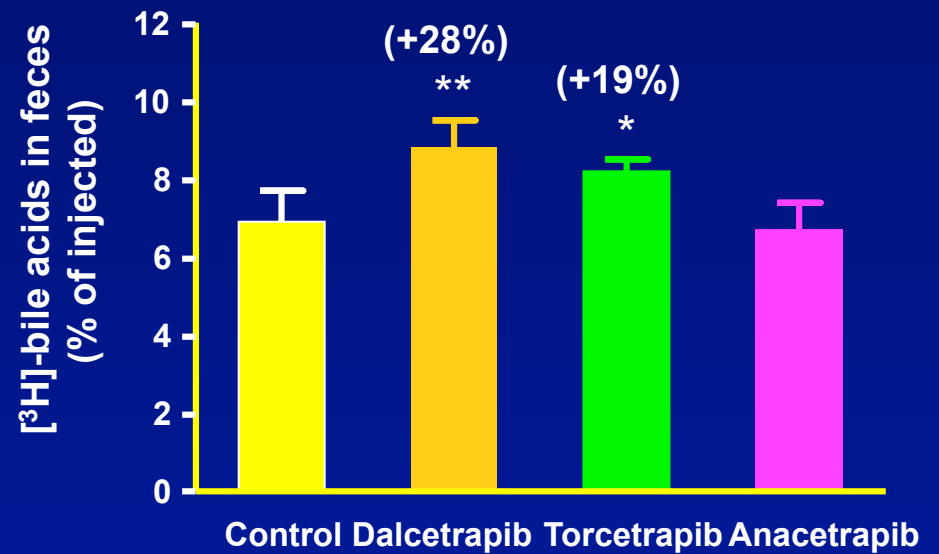
- Chemical structure and Mechanism of action
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# Dalcetrapib increased fecal [<sup>3</sup>H]-bile acid and [<sup>3</sup>H]-neutral sterol radioactivity

## [<sup>3</sup>H]-neutral sterols



## [<sup>3</sup>H]-bile acids



Data shown are mean  $\pm$ SD

\* $P < .05$ ; \*\* $P < .01$  vs. control (Dunnett test)

Dalcetrapib 100 mg/kg bid; torcetrapib 30 mg/kg qd; anacetrapib 30 mg/kg qd



# Clinical Pharmacology of Dalcetrapib

- Chemical structure and Mechanism of action
- Preclinical studies
- **Pharmacokinetics**
- Pharmacodynamics
- Clinical trials

# Comparison of CETP inhibitors: Clinical pharmacology

	Dalcetrapib	Torcetrapib	Anacetrapib
<b>Clinical dosing regimen</b>	600 mg o.d. <sup>1</sup>	60 mg o.d. <sup>2</sup>	100 mg o.d. <sup>3</sup>
<b>Food effect*</b>	~2x <sup>4</sup>	~20–30x <sup>5</sup>	~6–8x <sup>6</sup>
<b>Terminal half-life</b>	~30 h <sup>7</sup>	~200 h <sup>8</sup>	>100 h <sup>9</sup>
<b>Accumulation</b>	~20% <sup>10</sup>	?	85-280% <sup>11</sup>
<b>Clearance route</b>	Metabolism <sup>7</sup>	Metabolism <sup>8</sup>	Metabolism <sup>9</sup>
<b>Metabolic pathways</b>	Glucuronidation, methylation <sup>7</sup>	Decarbamylation (CYP3A4) <sup>8</sup>	Demethylation (CYP3A4) <sup>9</sup>
<b>Drug-drug interactions with cytochrome P450 inhibitors</b>	None <sup>12</sup>	?	Ketoconazole: 4.6x <sup>13</sup> Diltiazem: 1.9x <sup>14</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Schwartz et al. *Am Heart J.* 2009;158:896-901; <sup>2</sup>Barter et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2007;357:2109–2122; <sup>3</sup>Cannon et al. *Am Heart J.* 2009;158:513-519; <sup>4</sup>Roche data on file;

<sup>5</sup>Perlman et al. *Int J Pharm.* 2008;351:15–22; <sup>6</sup>Krishna et al. *Br J Clin Pharmacol.* 2009;68:535-545; <sup>7</sup>Derks et al. *Clin Pharmacol Ther.* 2010;87 (suppl 1):S24;

<sup>8</sup>Dalvie et al. *Drug Metab Dispos.* 2008;36:2185-98; <sup>9</sup>Kumar et al. *Drug Metab Dispos.* 2010;38:474–483; <sup>10</sup>Derks et al. *Eur J Clin Pharmacol.* 2010; doi 10.1007/s00228-010-0841-2; <sup>11</sup>Krishna et al. *Clin Pharmacol Ther.* 2008;84:679-683; <sup>12</sup>Derks et al. *Clin Ther.* 2009;31:586–599;

<sup>13</sup>Krishna et al. *J Clin Pharmacol.* 2009;49:80-87; <sup>14</sup>Garg et al. *J Clin Pharmacol.* 2010; in press.

# Clinical Pharmacology of Dalcetrapib

- Chemical structure and Mechanism of action
- Preclinical studies
- Pharmacokinetics
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# The dal-HEART Program dalcetrapib HDL Evaluation, Atherosclerosis & Reverse cholesterol Transport

**Double blind, randomized, placebo-controlled studies**

## dal-OUTCOMES<sup>1</sup>

15,600 patients recently hospitalized for ACS

To evaluate the effect of dalcetrapib on CV outcomes

**RECRUITING**

## dal-VESSEL<sup>2</sup>

450 patients with CHD or CHD risk equivalent

To evaluate the effect of dalcetrapib on endothelial function and blood pressure, measured by FMD and ABPM

**RECRUITMENT COMPLETE**

## dal-PLAQUE<sup>3</sup>

130 patients with CHD

To evaluate the effect of dalcetrapib on plaque inflammation, plaque size and burden, measured by PET/CT and MRI

**RECRUITMENT COMPLETE**

## dal-PLAQUE 2<sup>4</sup>

900 patients with CAD

To evaluate the effect of dalcetrapib on atherosclerotic disease progression, assessed by IVUS and carotid B-mode ultrasound

**RECRUITING**

<sup>1</sup>Schwartz et al. *Am Heart J.* 2009;158:896-901; <sup>2</sup><http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00655538> Accessed April 1st 2010;

<sup>3</sup><http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00655473> Accessed 1st April 2010; <sup>4</sup><http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01059682> Accessed April 1st 2010

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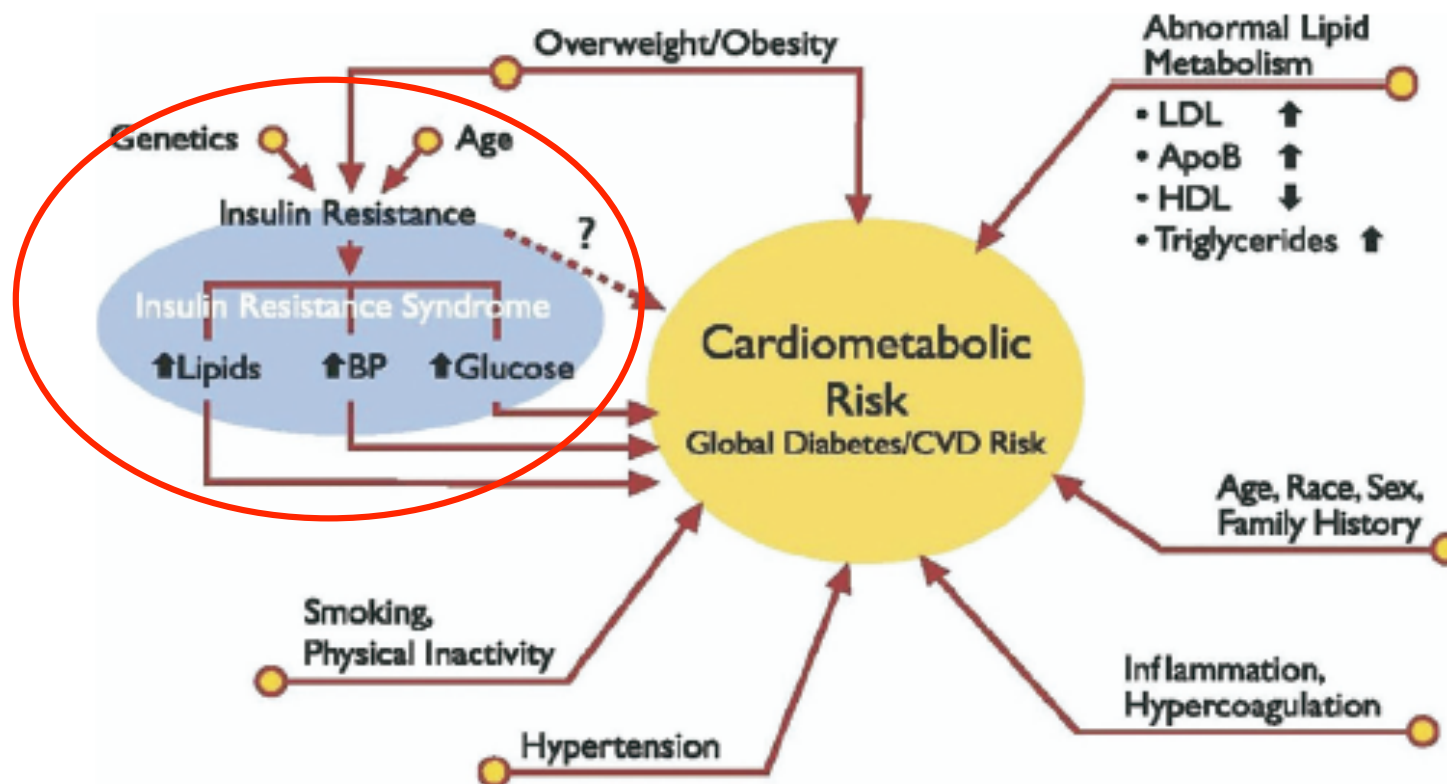
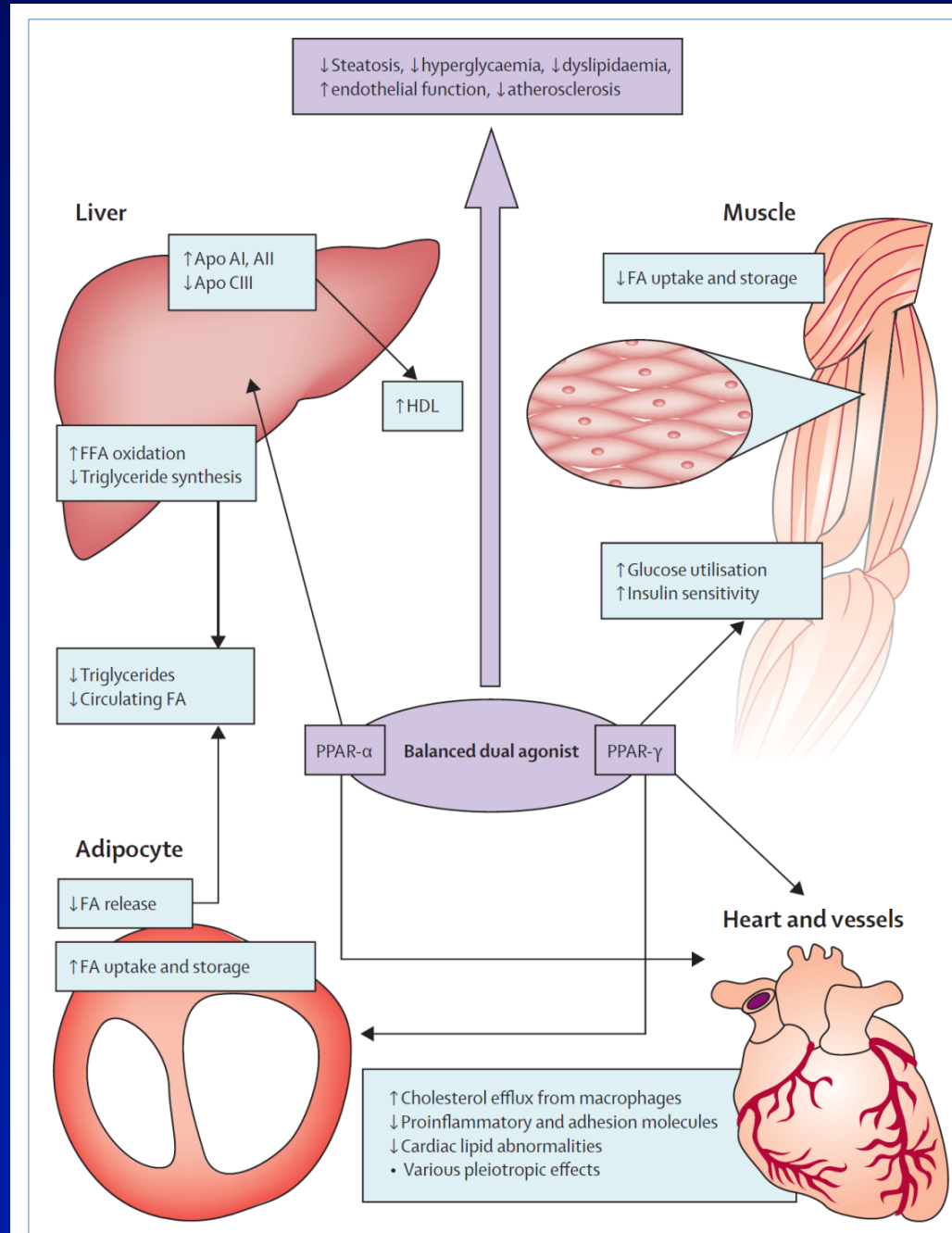


Figure 1. Factors Contributing to Cardiometabolic Risk

# Synergistic beneficial actions of balanced PPAR- $\alpha$ / $\gamma$ agonists

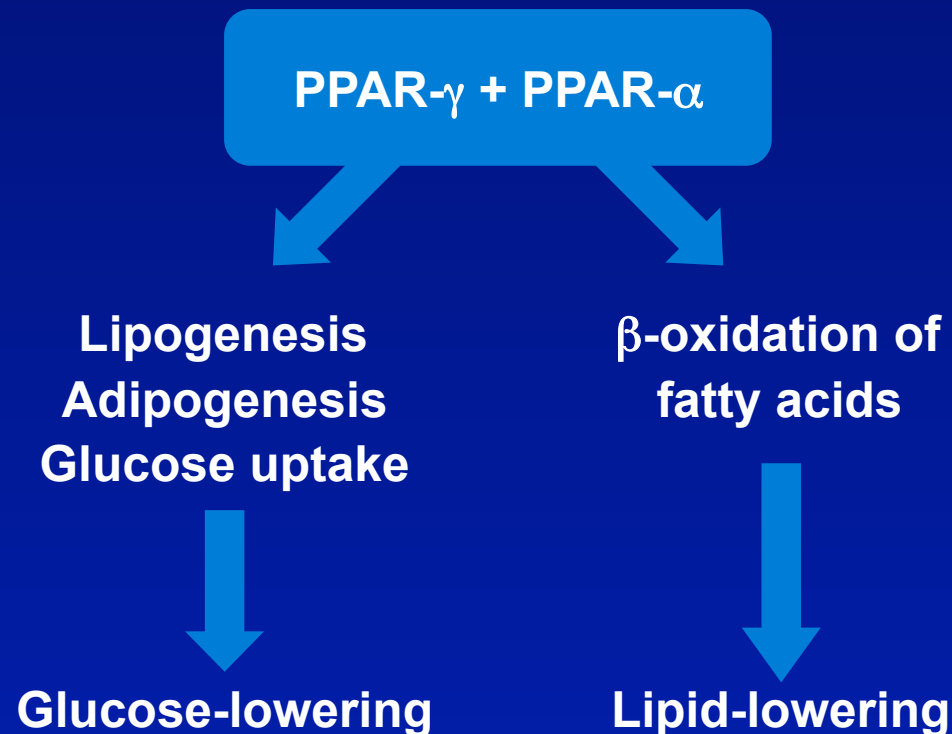


Charbonnel B, Lancet  
374: 97-98; 2009

# *Dual PPAR agonists*

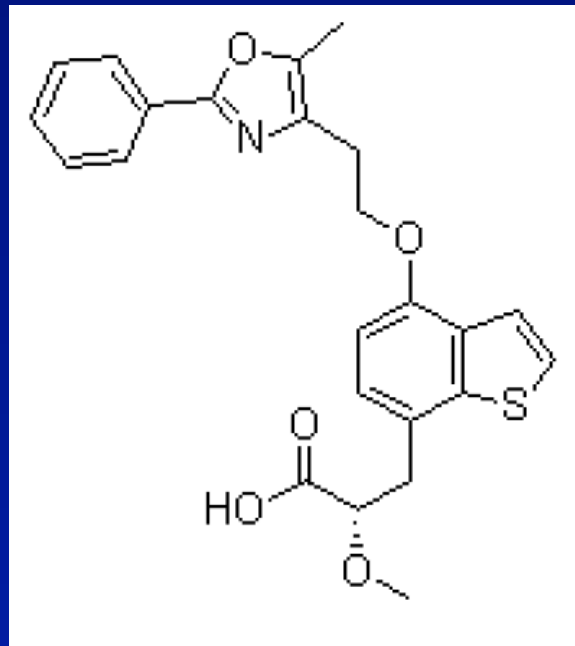
## *A Promising Approach*

- Both dyslipidemia and insulin resistance appear to promote atherosclerosis in diabetics
- Likewise, improving lipid profile and insulin resistance both promise to improve clinical outcomes



# *Aleglitazar*

*A novel dual  $\alpha/\gamma$  PPAR activator*

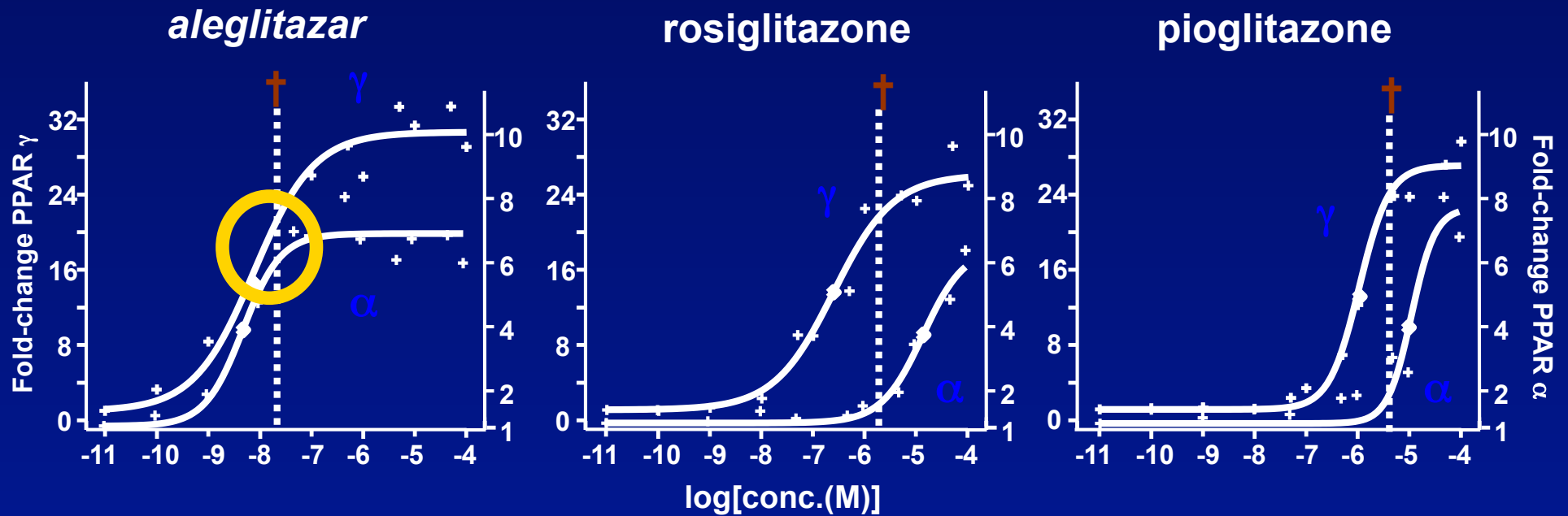




# ***Development of dual PPAR agonists to date***

	<b>Reason for termination</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Tesaglitazar</b>	<b>Impairment of renal function</b>	<b>III</b>	<b>Too much PPAR-<math>\alpha</math> activity?</b>
<b>Muraglitazar</b>	<b>Excess CV events in pooled trials</b>	<b>III</b>	<b>Too much PPAR-<math>\gamma</math> activity?</b>
<b>Aleglitazar</b>		<b>III</b>	<b>Balanced PPAR effects?</b>

# Aleglitazar's balanced activation of both PPAR $\alpha$ and PPAR $\gamma$ receptors in vitro compared to unbalanced profile of rosi and pio



	<i>aleglitazar</i>	rosiglitazone	pioglitazone
EC <sub>50</sub> PPAR $\gamma$ (nM)	8	245	1060
EC <sub>50</sub> PPAR $\alpha$ (nM)	5	15000	11700
Clinical Dose	150 $\mu$ g	8 mg	45 mg

† maximum plasma concentration at clinical dose

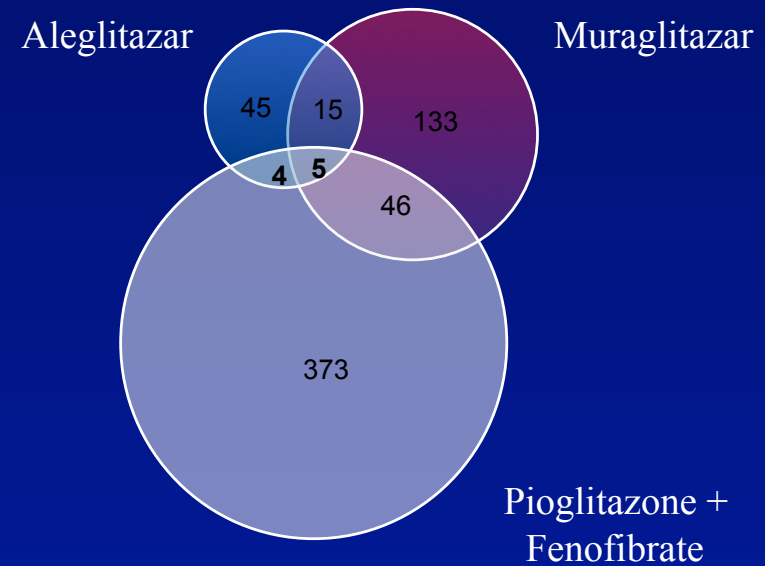
Source: RDR report 1038635

# Aleglitazar: Gene Chip Microarray Analysis

Significant state changes between treatment and control

EC50 aligned dosage	Drug concentration	State changes
<b>Aleglitazar</b>		
- Low	0.013 mM	69
- Medium	0.064 mM	-
- High	0.32 mM	69
<b>Muraglitazar</b>		
- Low	0.13 mM	-
- Medium	0.64 mM	73
- High	3.2 mM	199
<b>Pioglitazone + Fenofibric Acid</b>		
- Low	0.11 mM + 6 mM	-
- Medium	0.56 mM + 30 mM	-
- High	2.8 mM + 155 mM	428

Shared state changes at high doses



- These data suggest that the gene activation/deactivation pattern of aleglitazar is distinct compared with muraglitazar and is distinct compared to a combination of pioglitazone + fenofibrate

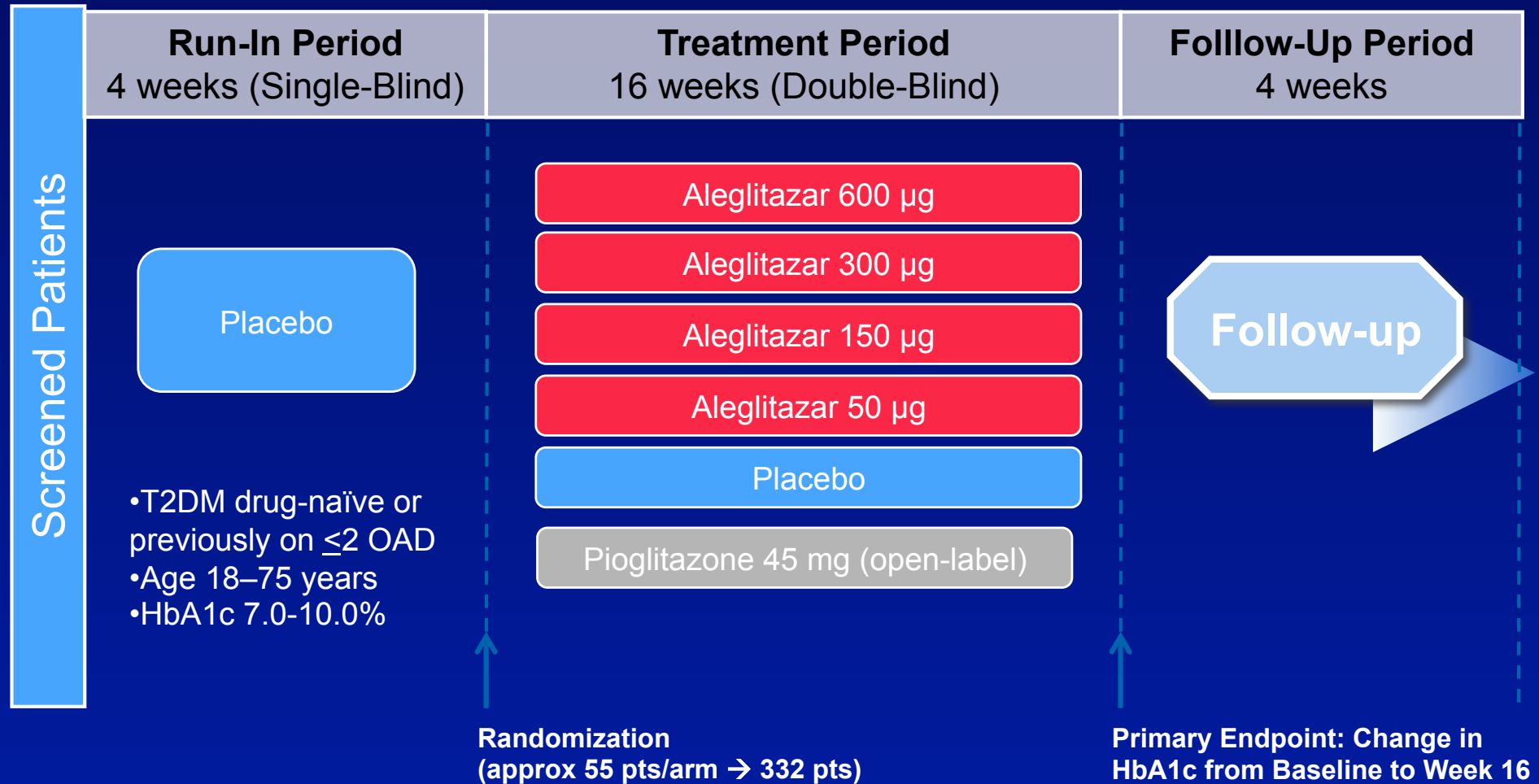
Data on File

# Aleglitazar Clinical Development Program

Study	Objectives
SYNCHRONY trial <sup>1</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Dose finding, determine efficacy, safety, and tolerability</li> <li>◆ Primary Endpoint: HbA1c change from baseline at week 16</li> </ul>
SESTA-R trial <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Evaluate effect (at 4x therapeutic dose, 600 µg) on GFR, renal plasma flow, and serum creatinine</li> </ul>
ALECARDIO trial <sup>3</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ To determine whether aleglitazar reduces CV mortality and morbidity in patients with a recent ACS event and T2DM</li> <li>◆ Evaluate the effects of aleglitazar on other clinical endpoints of CV risk</li> <li>◆ Evaluate the effects of aleglitazar on glycemic control, the lipoprotein profile, blood pressure, and biomarkers of CV risk</li> <li>◆ Evaluate the tolerability and long-term safety profile of aleglitazar (e.g. fluid retention, heart failure, fractures, renal function, musculoskeletal adverse events and liver enzyme elevation)</li> </ul>
ALENEPHRO trial <sup>4</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Long-term safety data (52-weeks) and reversibility (8-weeks) with aleglitazar at therapeutic dose (150 µg)</li> </ul>
Drug-drug interaction studies (ACE-I, ARBs, ASA, NSAIDs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ PK/PD effects of concomitant treatment of aleglitazar and another agent on renal function in controlled setting</li> </ul>
Renal Mechanistic Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Examination of renal effects in comparison to fibrate and pioglitazone</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup>Henry R et al. *Lancet* 2009;374:126; <sup>2</sup>ClinicalTrials.gov NCT00461006; <sup>3</sup>ClinicalTrials.gov NCT01042769; <sup>4</sup>ClinicalTrials.gov NCT01043029;

# SYNCHRONY: Study Design

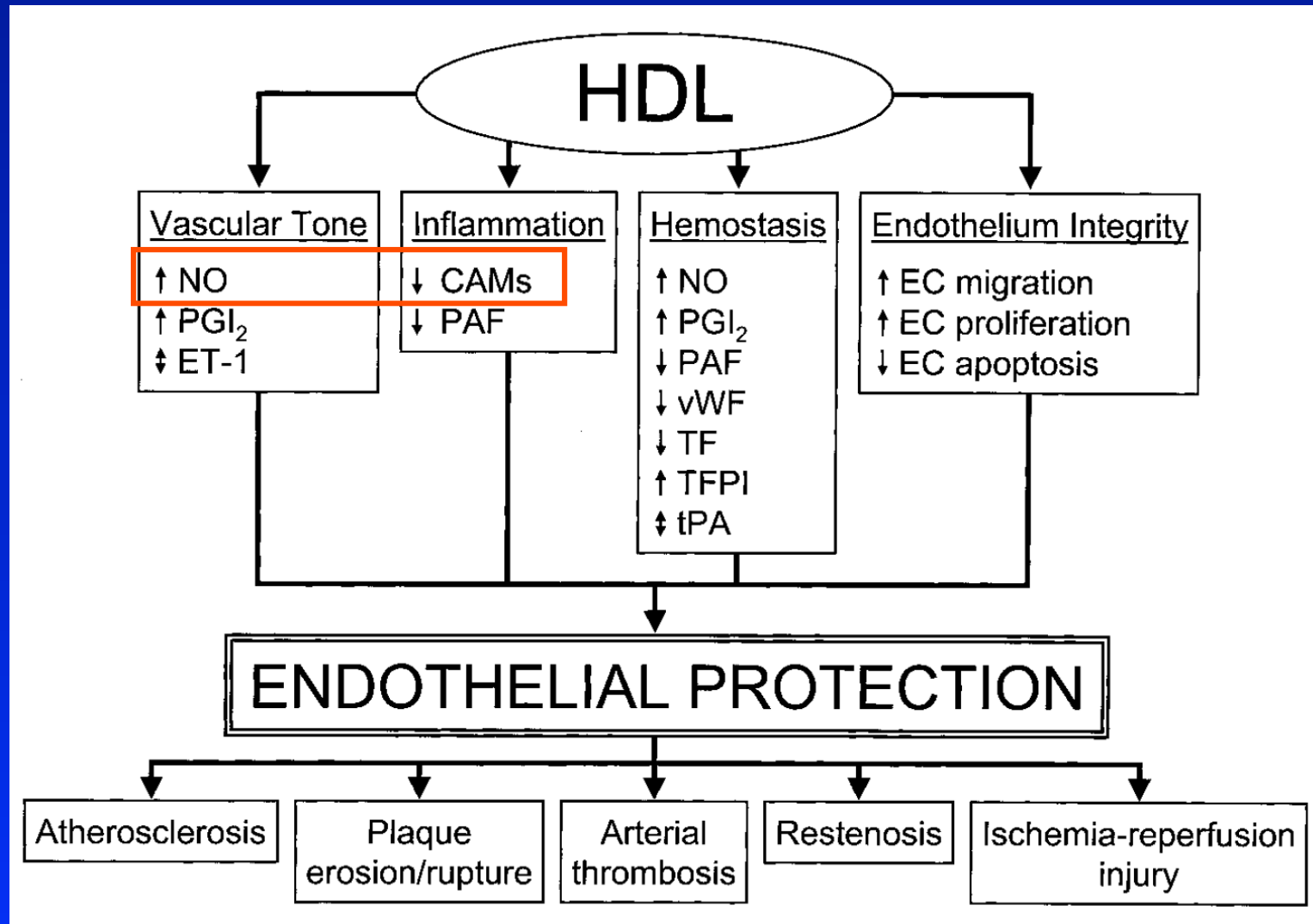




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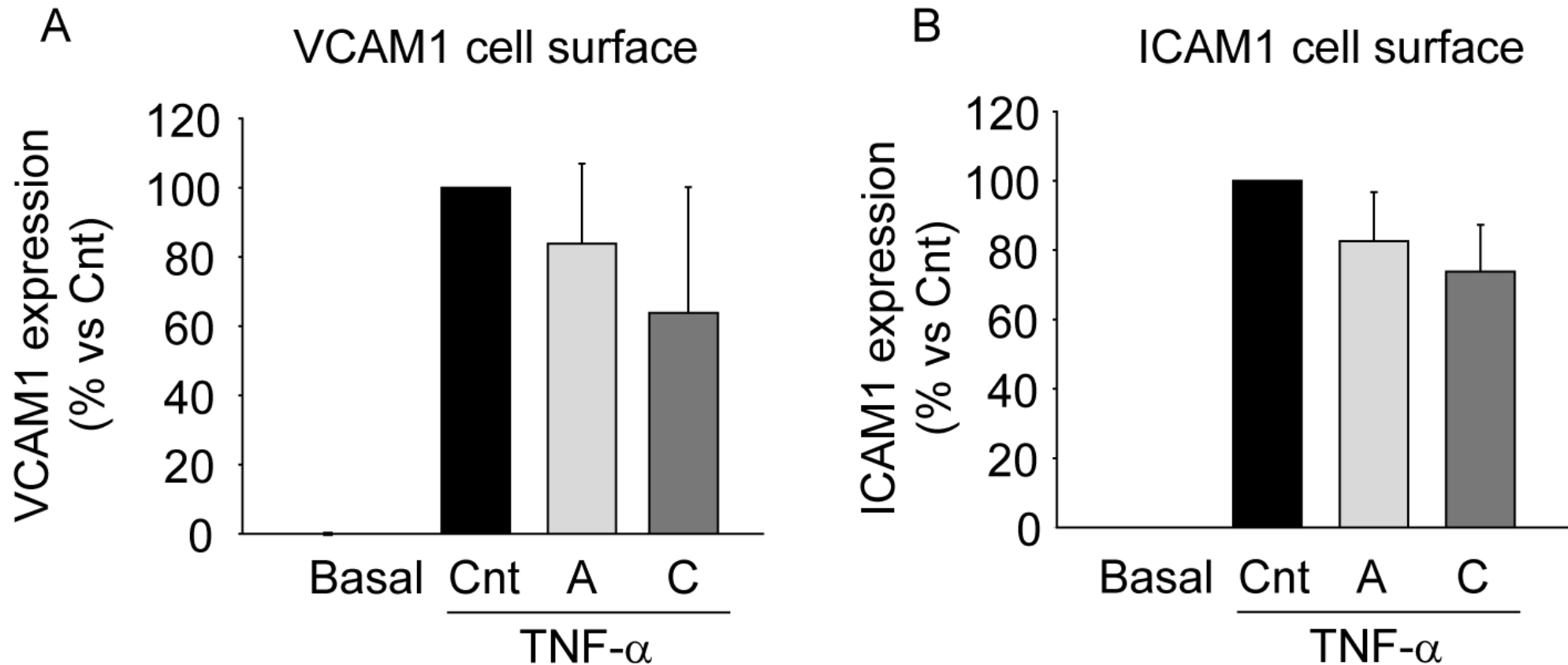
# Effect of aleglitazar on HDL functionality: ex-vivo study in non-human primates

# Multiple biological actions of HDL on vascular endothelium



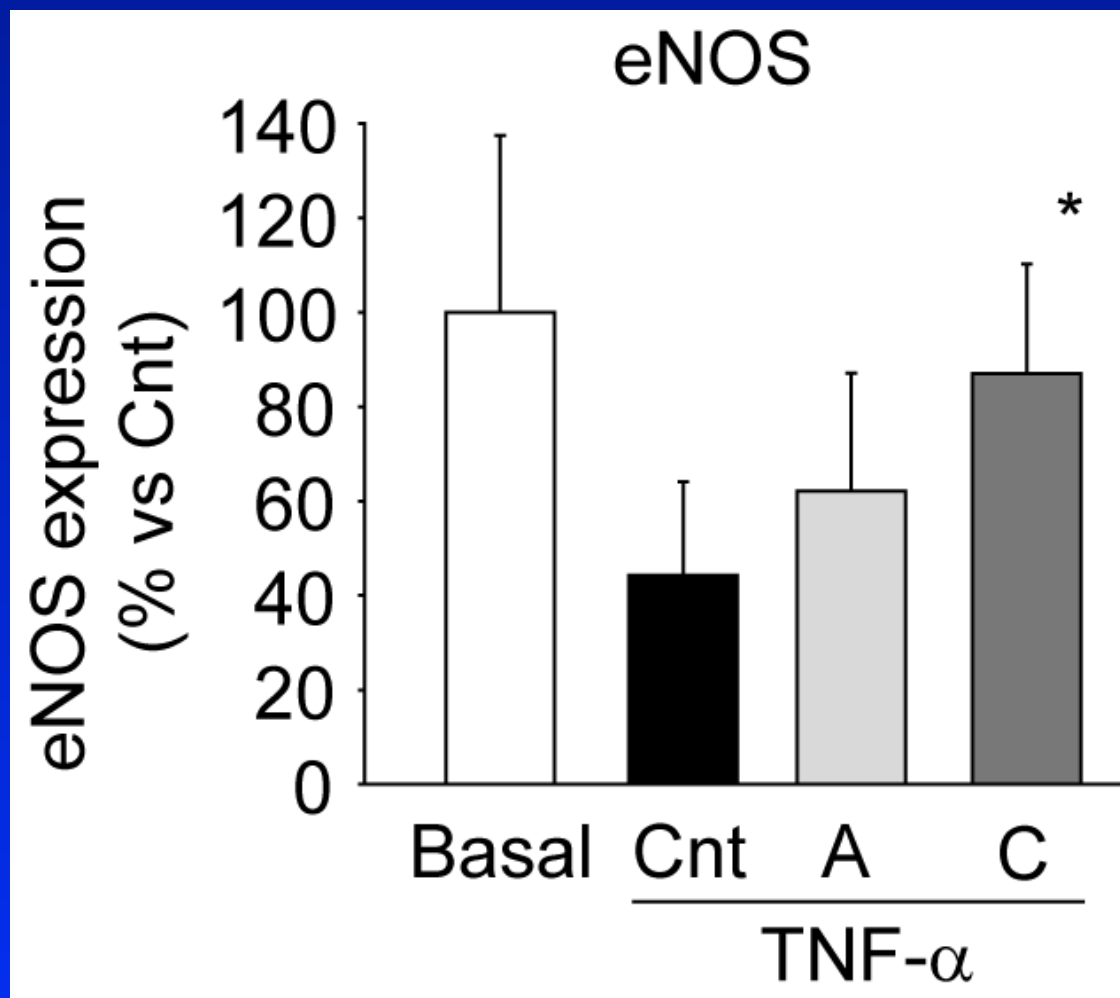
# Effect of HDL on cell surface expression levels of VCAM1 and ICAM1

FACS





# Effect of HDL on eNOS expression levels



# Lipid composition of HDL from monkeys treated or not with aleglitazar

Component	Human HDL*	Group A	Group C
FC + CE	48.4%	27.0%	34.1%
TG	6.3%	3.1%	1.7%
PL	45.3%	69.9%	64.2%

\* Data from Ronald W.C. et al. *ATVB* (2004) 24:490-497





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## Atherosclerosis

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/atherosclerosis](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/atherosclerosis)

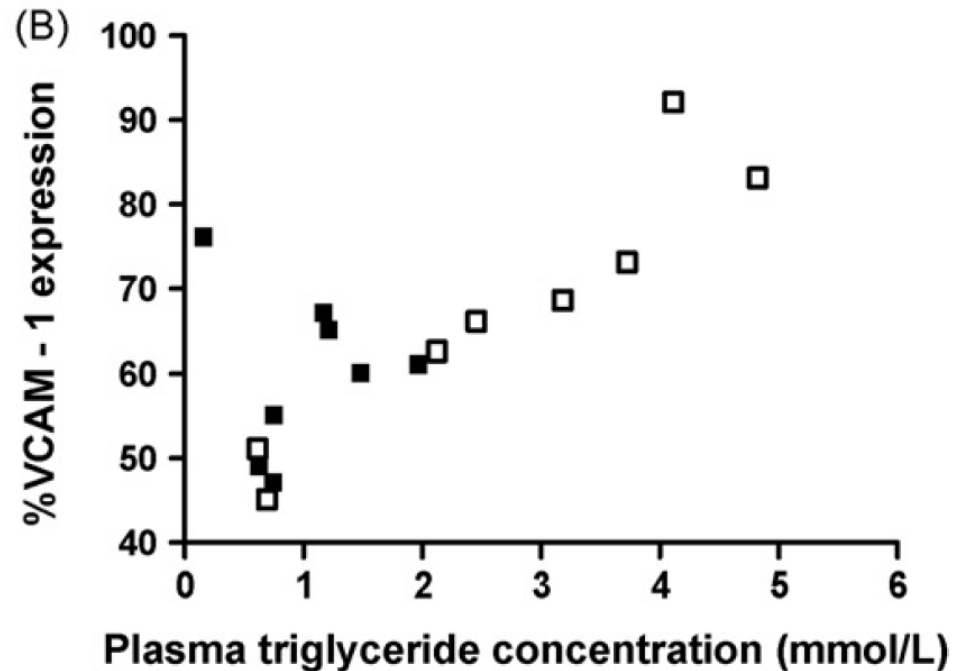
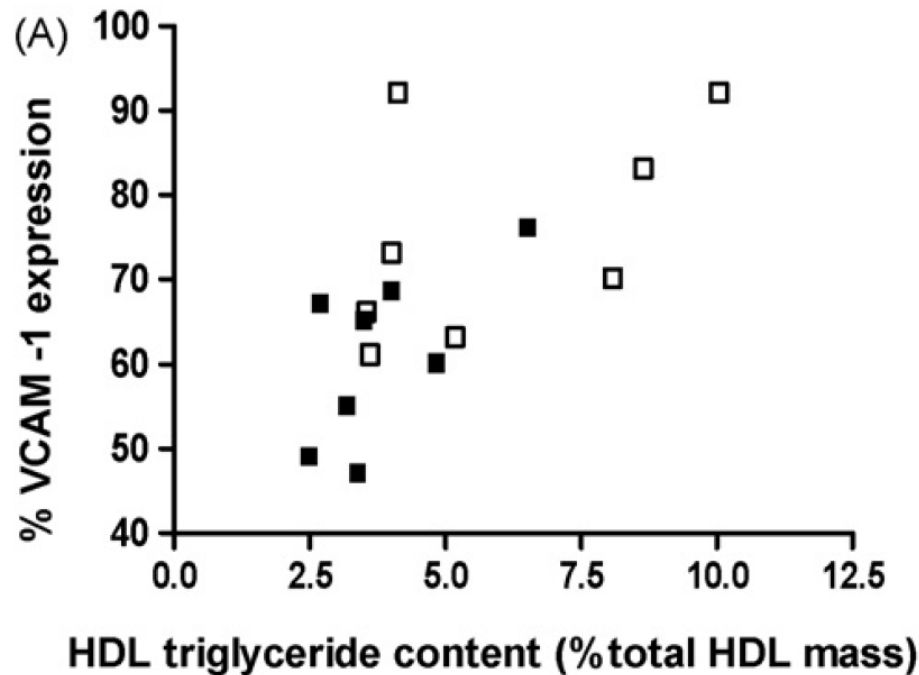


### Acute hypertriglyceridaemia in humans increases the triglyceride content and decreases the anti-inflammatory capacity of high density lipoproteins

Sanjay Patel<sup>a,b,c,\*</sup>, Rajesh Puranik<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Shirley Nakhla<sup>a</sup>, Pia Lundman<sup>d</sup>, Roland Stocker<sup>e</sup>, Xiao S. Wang<sup>e</sup>, Gilles Lambert<sup>a</sup>, Kerry-Ann Rye<sup>a,c</sup>, Philip J. Barter<sup>a,c</sup>, Stephen J. Nicholls<sup>f</sup>, David S. Celermajer<sup>a,b,c</sup>



# Effects of triglyceride enrichment on the anti-inflammatory properties of HDL



# Conclusions

HDLs isolated after treatment with **aleglitazar** seem to reduce the extent of VCAM1 and ICAM1 expression in response to 6h stimulation with TNF- $\alpha$  and to preserve the expression of eNOS after 24 h incubation with TNF- $\alpha$ .

Both changes may exert a positive effect on the HDL function and therefore can account for a potential atheroprotective effect of **aleglitazar**.

Aleglitazar significantly decreases HDL's TG concentrations and only marginally those of phospholipids. Notably, a compositional change in TG has also been evident.



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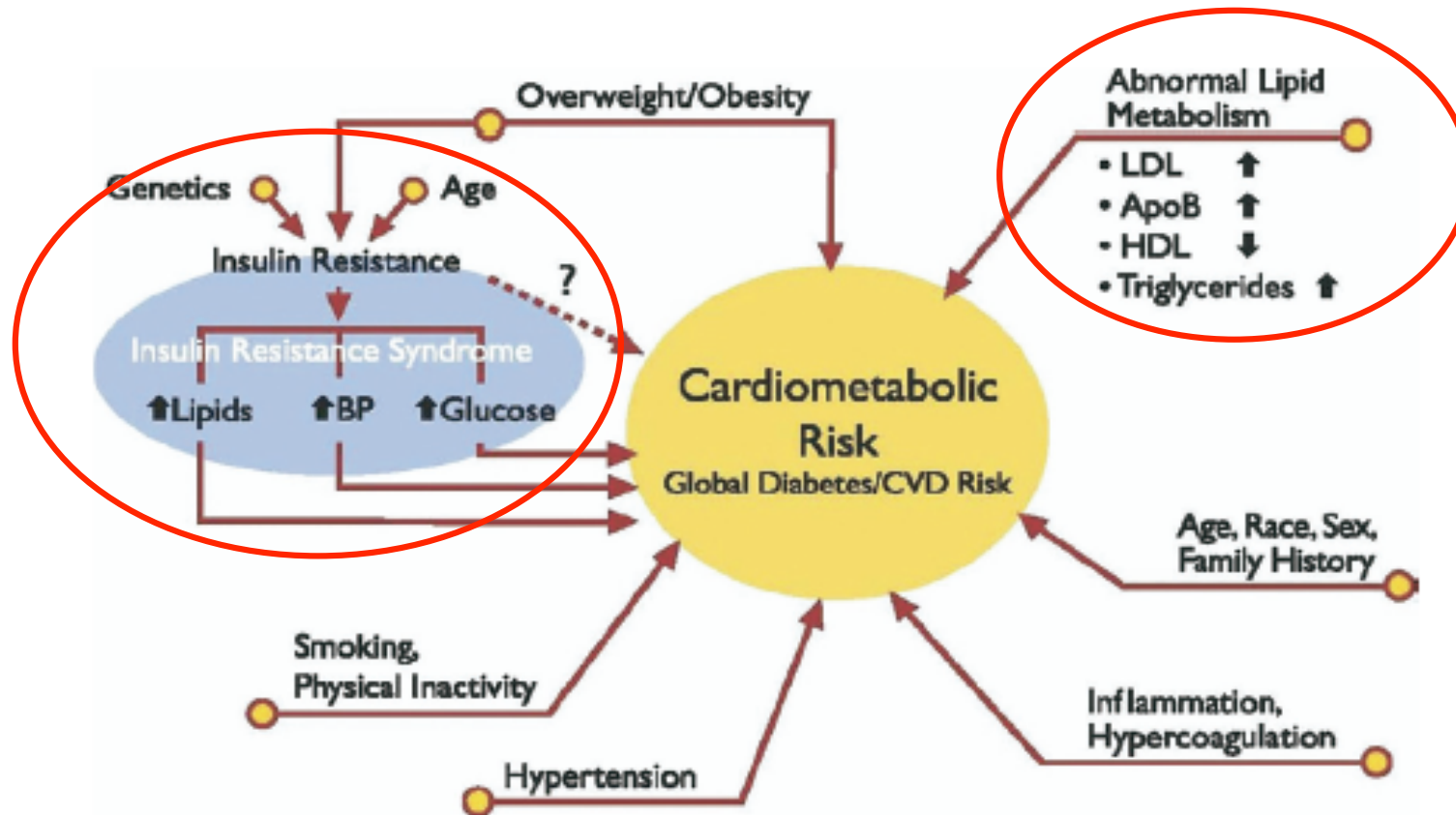
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**Figure 1. Factors Contributing to Cardiometabolic Risk**