



ACTUALITÉS EN RÉANIMATION  
Médecine Intensive, Surveillance Continue  
et Urgences Graves

23 et 24 novembre 2017

# Immunomodulation et sepsis : Actualités 2017

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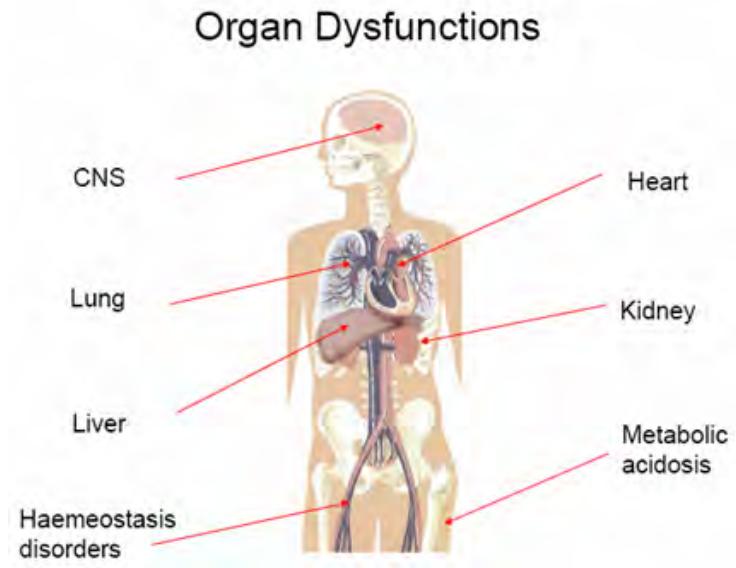


Flow Division  
  
Immunology Department



# Sepsis-3 definition

Uncontrolled  
Inflammatory  
response



Decreased arterial pressure  
Shock  
Multiple organ failure

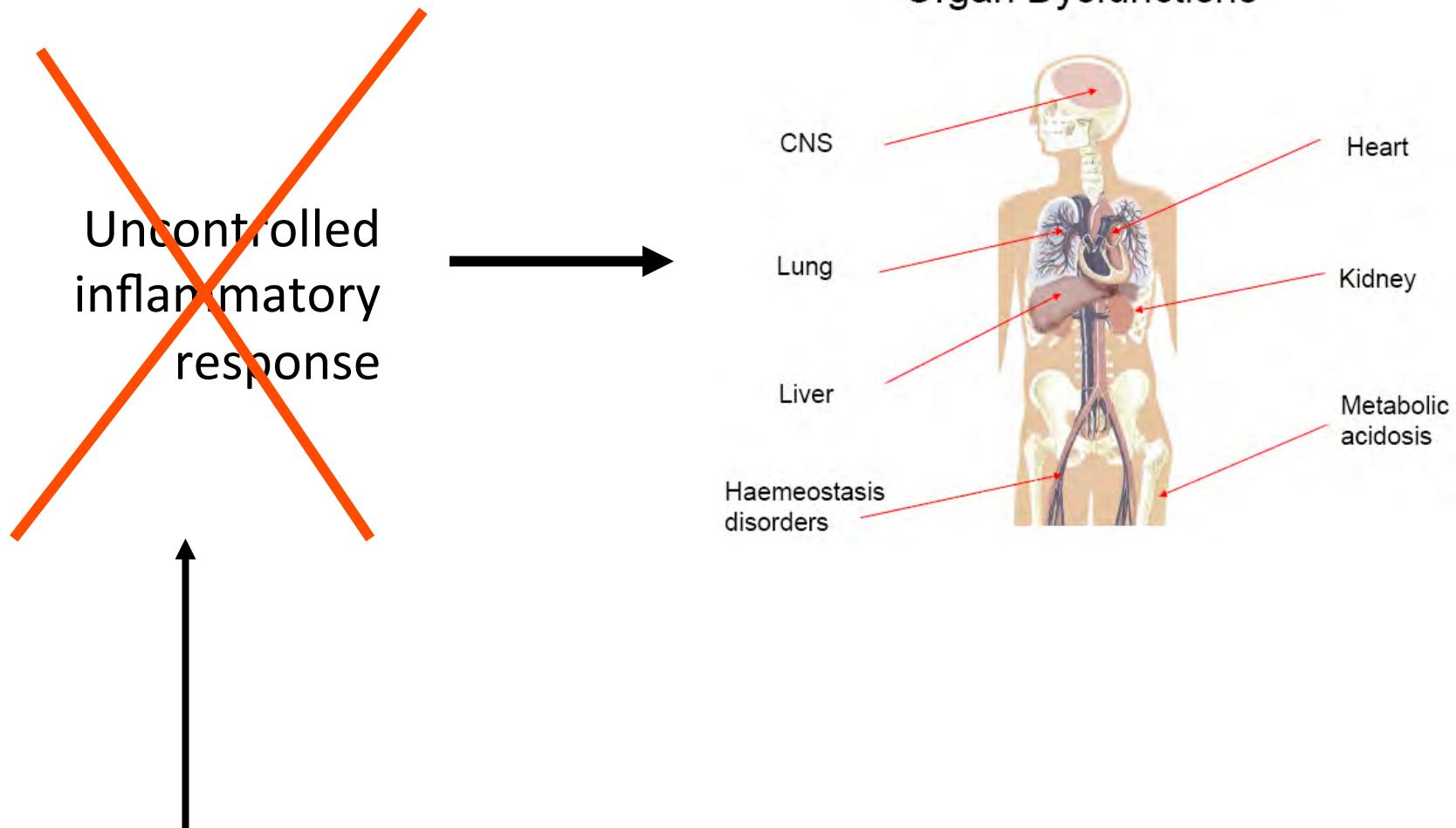


## REVISED DEFINITIONS

Sepsis      Life threatening organ dysfunction\* caused by a dysregulated host response to infection

Septic shock      Sepsis and vasopressor therapy needed to increase mean arterial pressure to  $\geq 65$  mm Hg and lactate to  $> 2$  mmol/L despite adequate fluid resuscitation

# Immunomodulation: first attempts



Adjunctive therapy in addition to symptomatic treatments : anti-inflammatory drugs

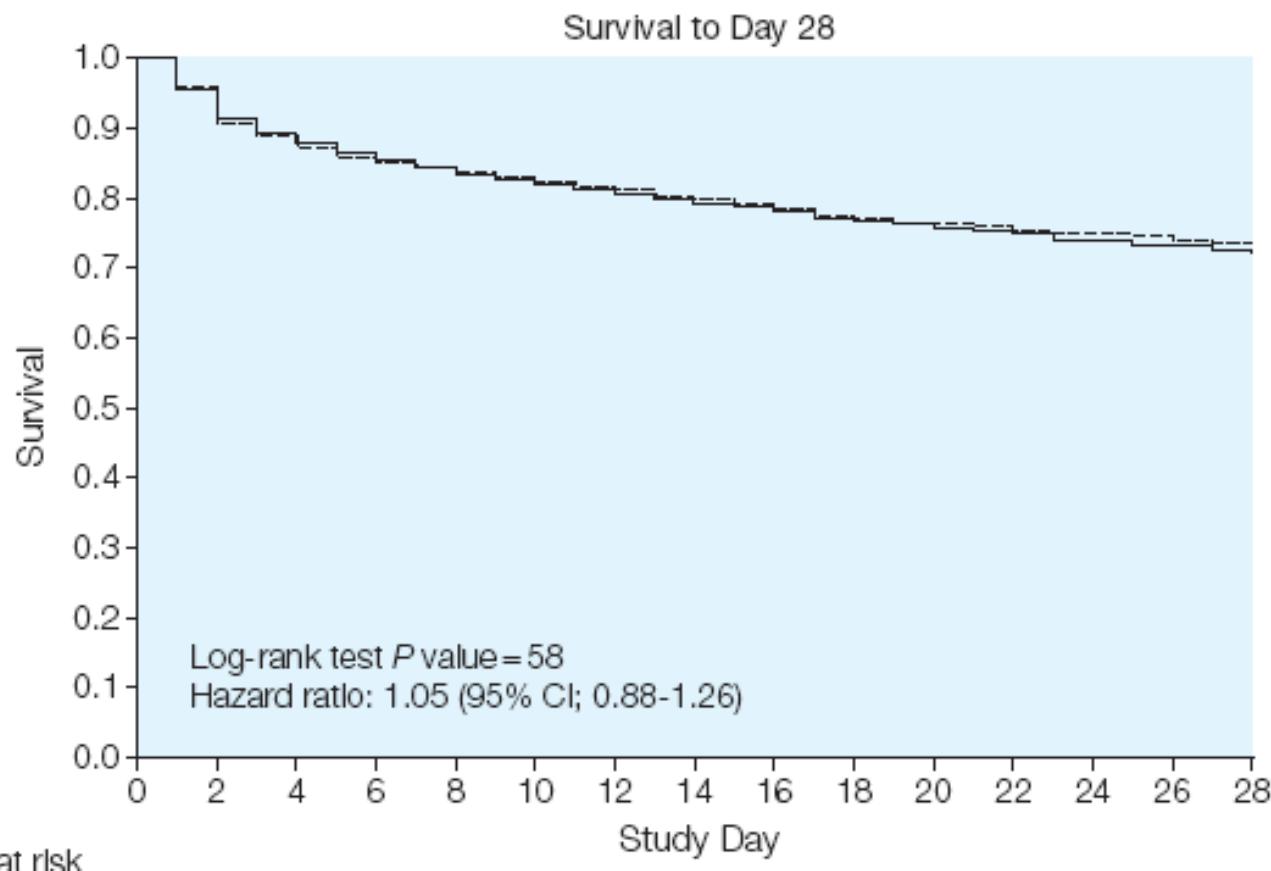
# Failure of clinical trials testing anti-inflammatory therapies

Drug	Number of studies	Number of patients	Mortality (%) Placebo	Mortality (%) Drug
Anti-endotoxine	4	2010	35	35
Anti-bradykinine	2	755	36	39
Anti-PAF	2	870	50	45
Anti-TNF	8	4132	41	40
R solubles TNF	2	688	38	40
AINS	3	514	40	37
Steroids (high doses)	9	1267	35	39
...	...	...	...	...
Total	33	12034	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>

Zeni et al, Crit Care Med, 1997

# Effect of Eritoran, an Antagonist of MD2-TLR4, on Mortality in Patients With Severe Sepsis

The ACCESS Randomized Trial

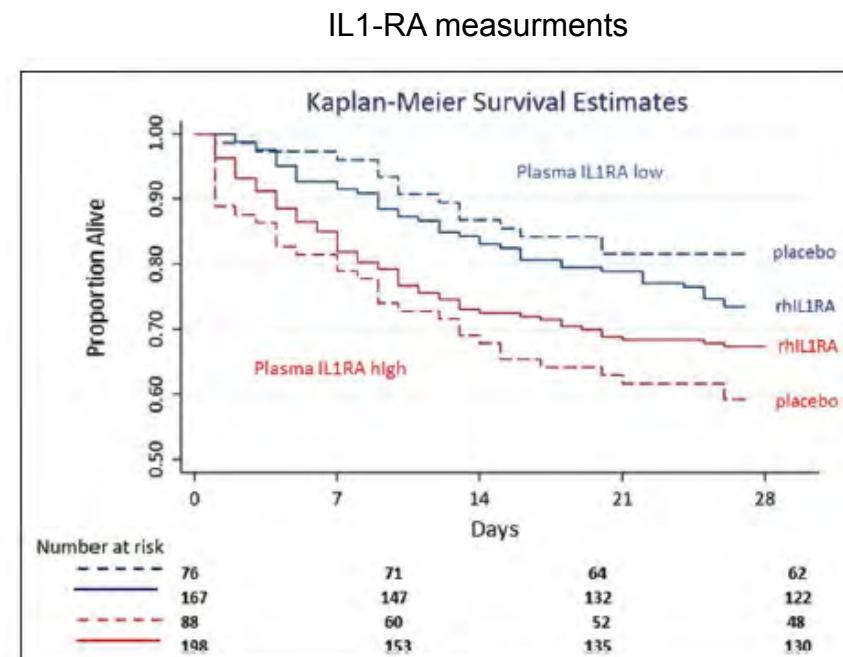
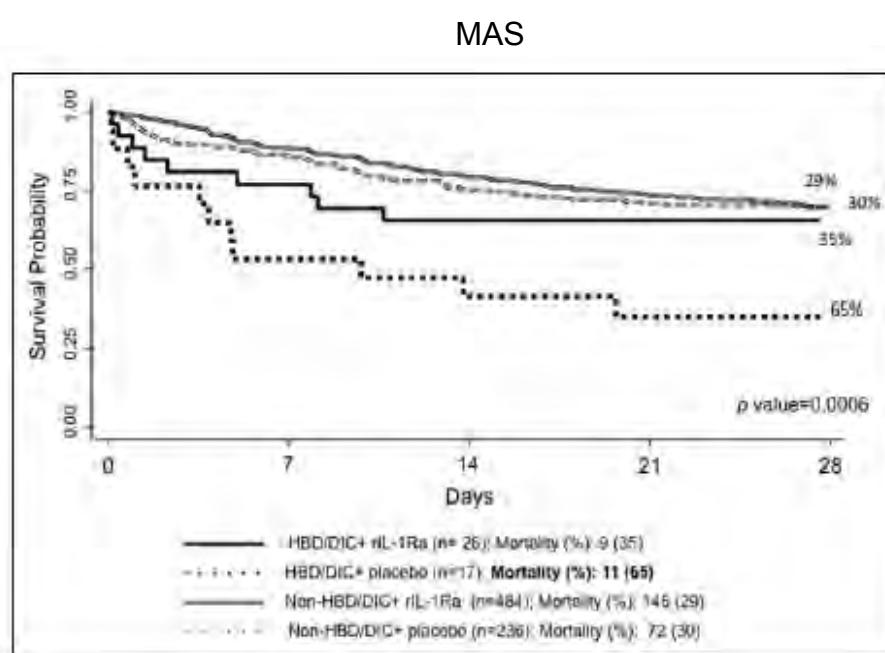


# Still a room for blocking inflammation ?

Eichacker, P.Q. et al. Risk and the efficacy of antiinflammatory agents: retrospective and confirmatory studies of sepsis. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2002.

Panacek, E.A. et al. Afelimomab in patients with severe sepsis and elevated interleukin-6 levels. *Crit Care Med* 2004

From IL1-RA trials (**JAMA 1994, CCM 1997**):



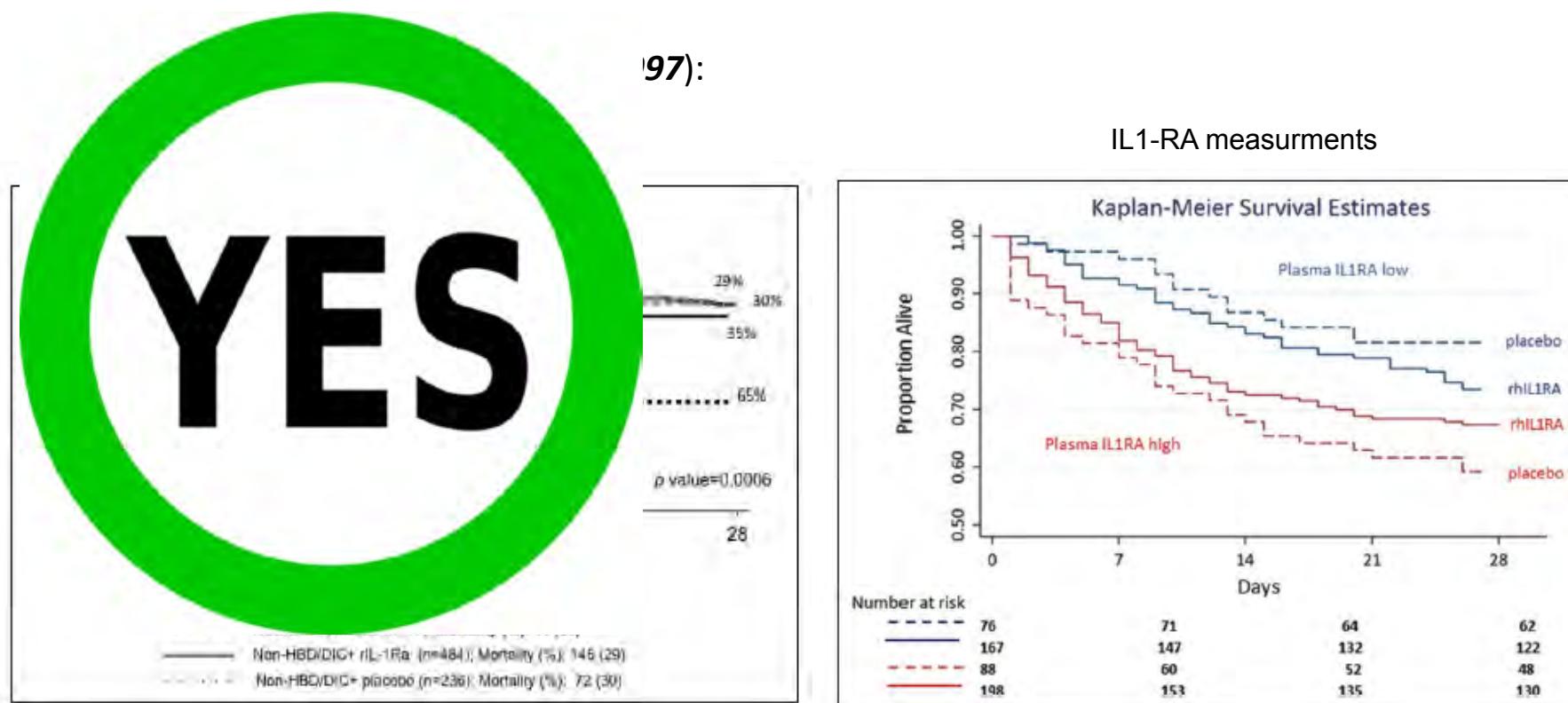
Shakoori B et al., CCM 2016

Meyer NL et al., CCM 2017

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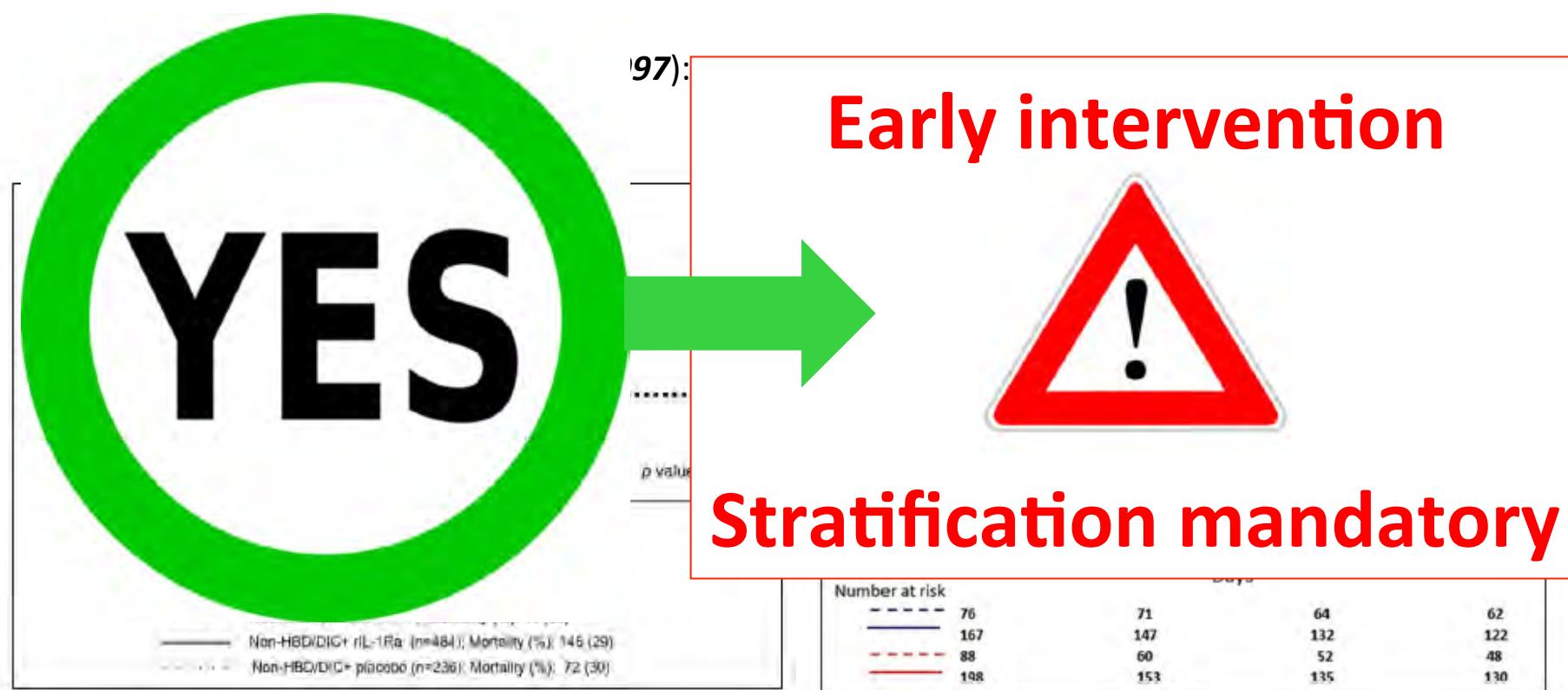
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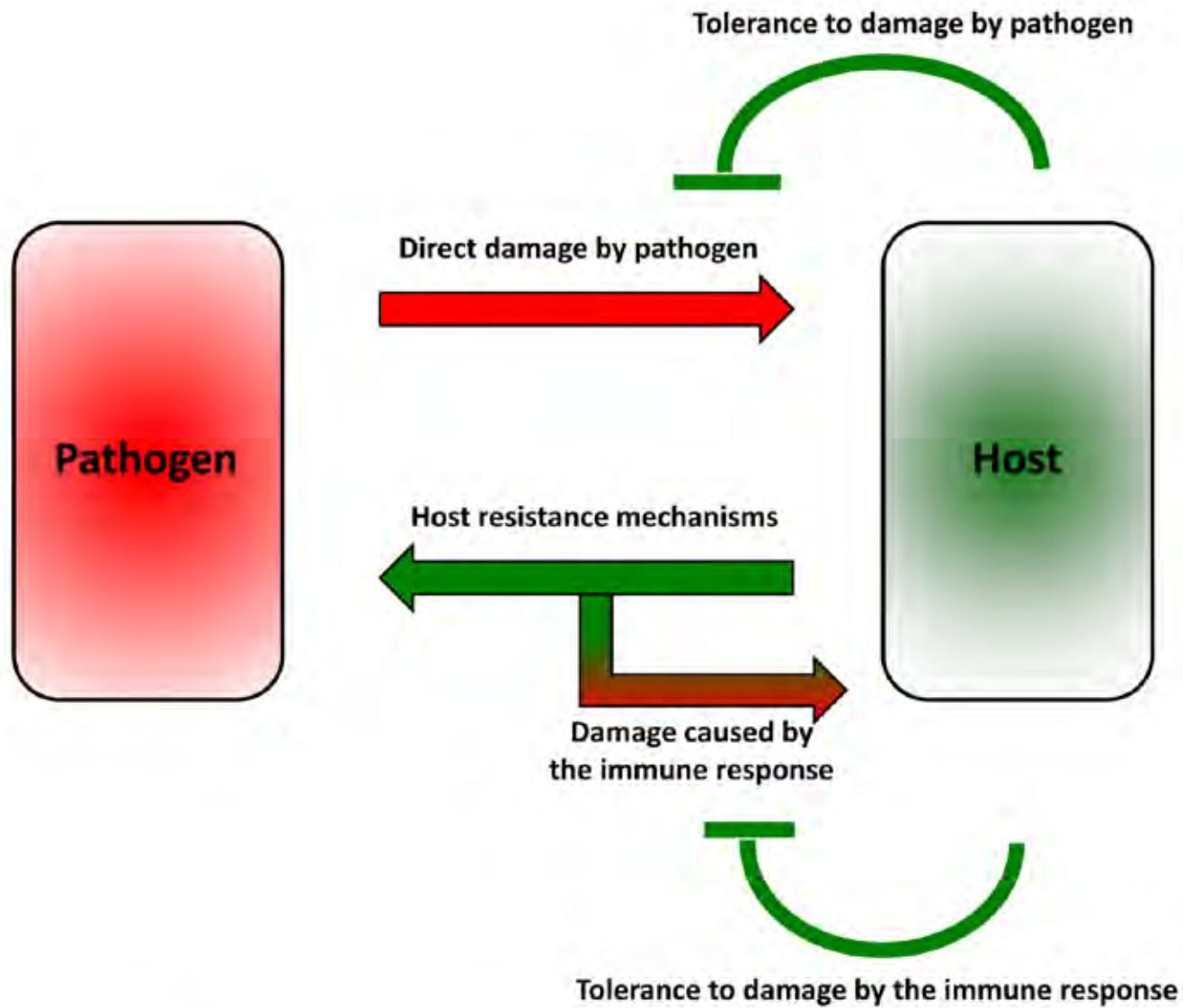
Eichacker, P.Q. et al. Risk and the efficacy of antiinflammatory agents: retrospective and confirmatory studies of sepsis. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2002.

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Shakoori B et al., CCM 2016

Meyer NL et al., CCM 2017

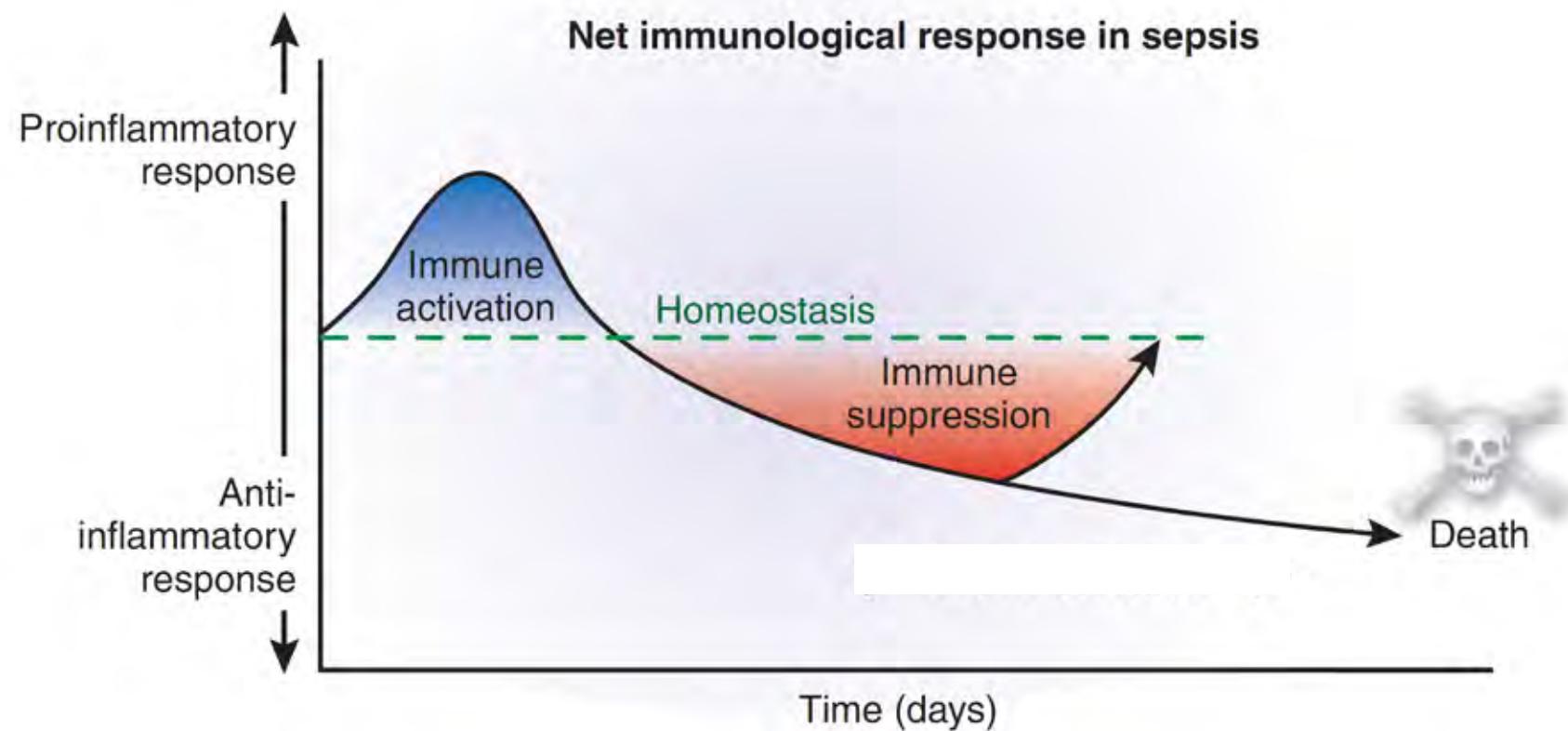


Medzhitov et al., Science 2012

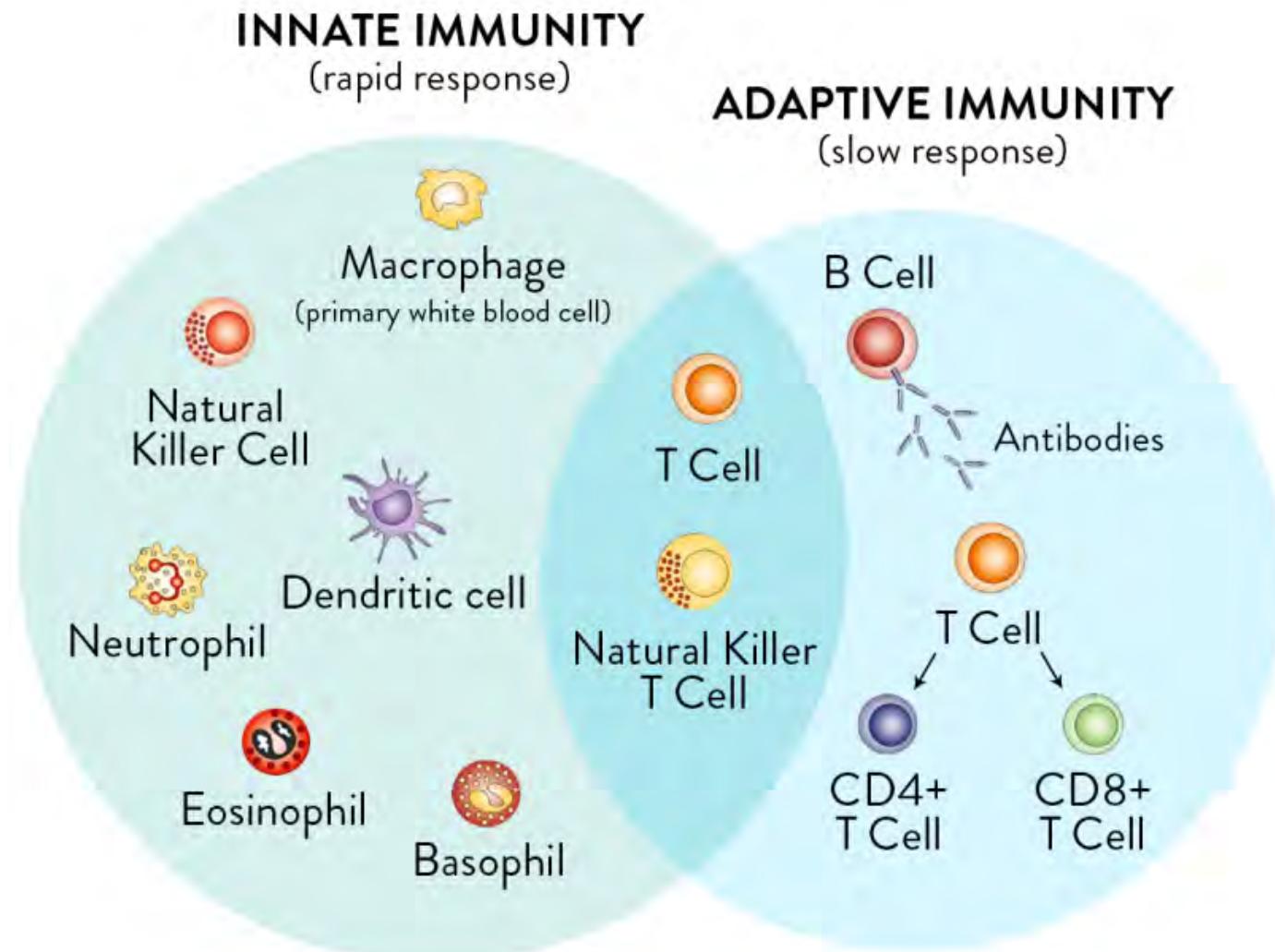
# The sepsis-induced immunosuppression hypothesis

## Tilting toward immunosuppression

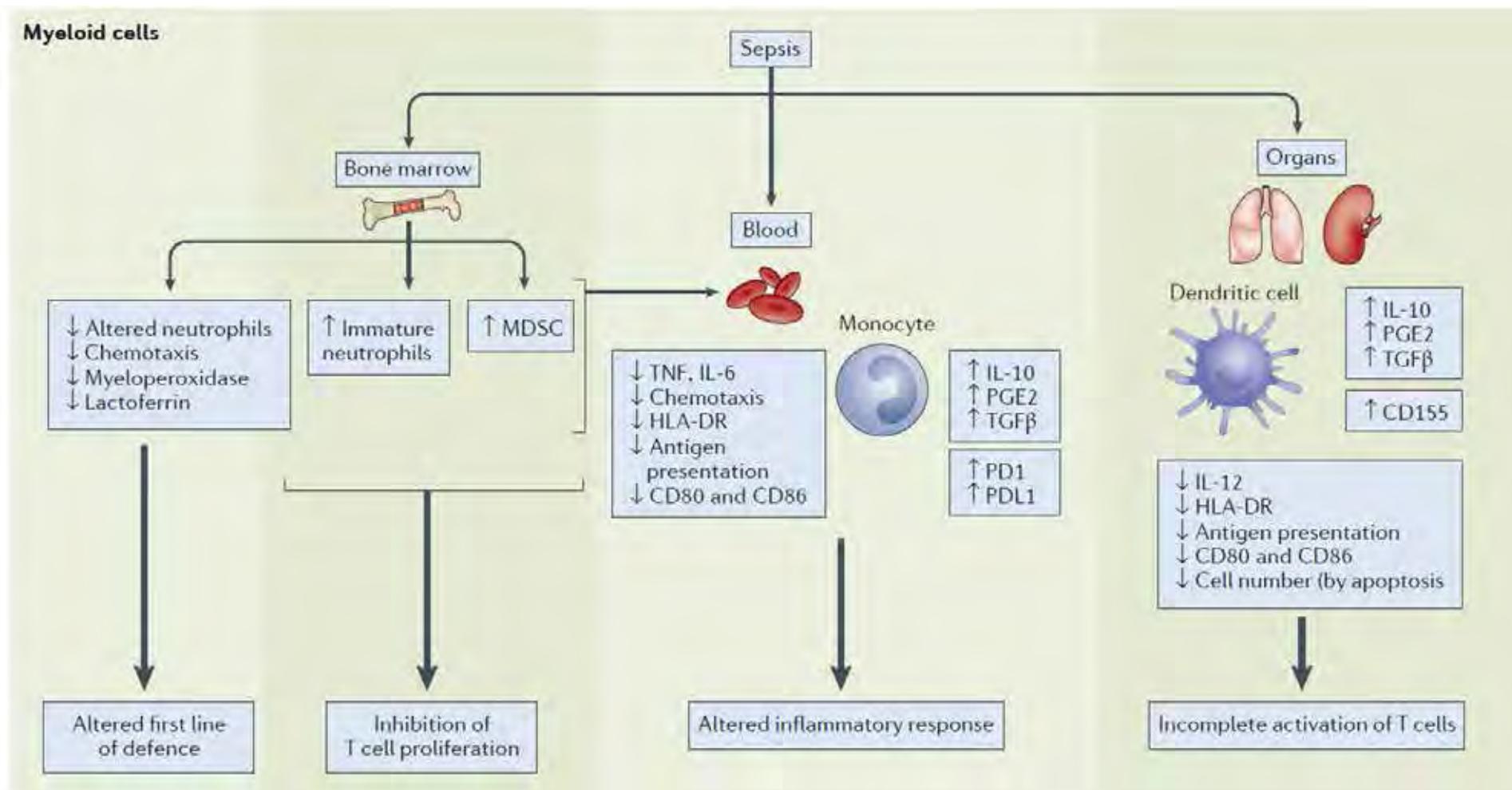
Richard S Hotchkiss, Craig M Coopersmith, Jonathan E McDunn & Thomas A Ferguson



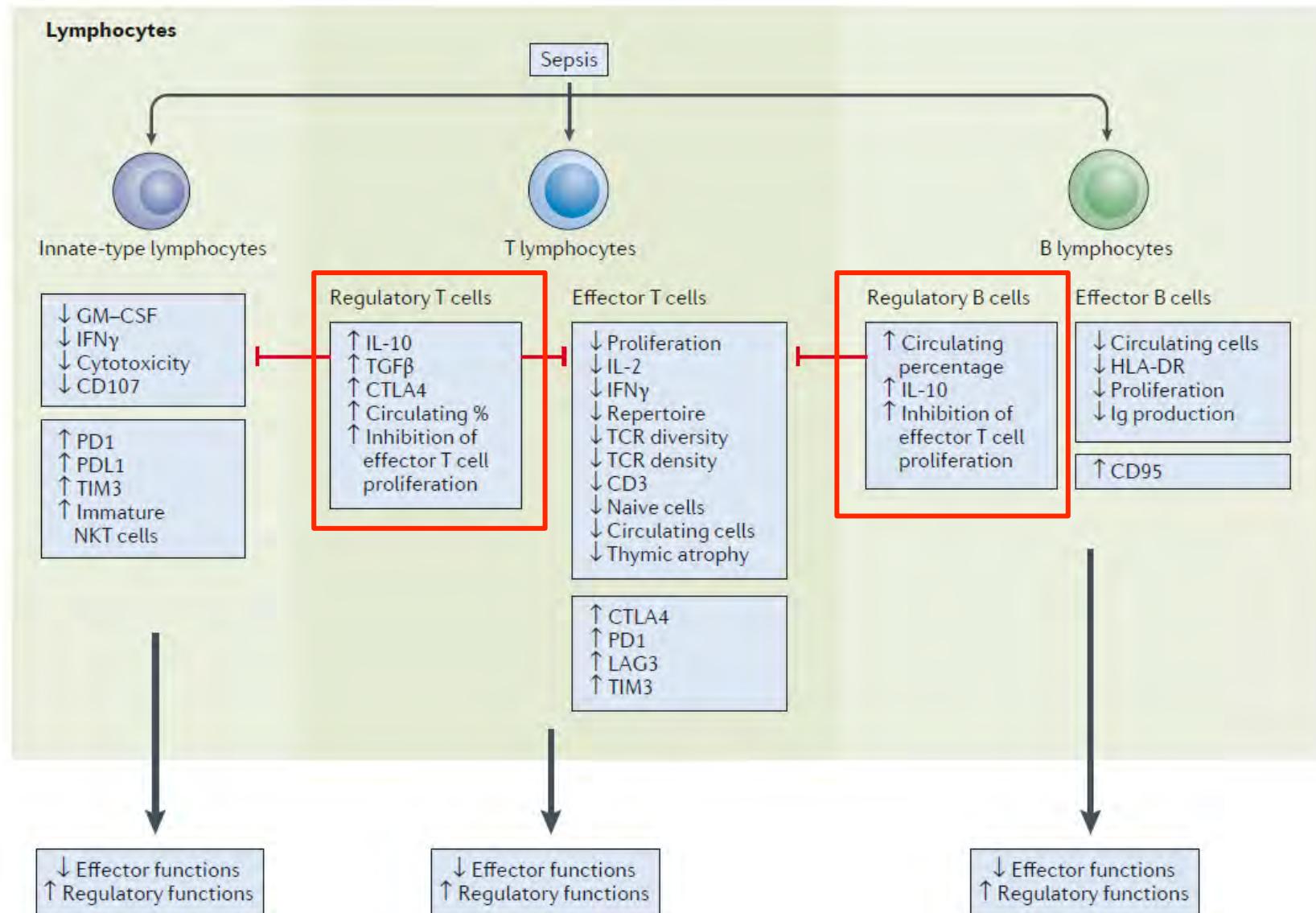
# Do septic patients present immune alterations ?



# Myeloid cells (summary)



# Lymphoid cells (summary)

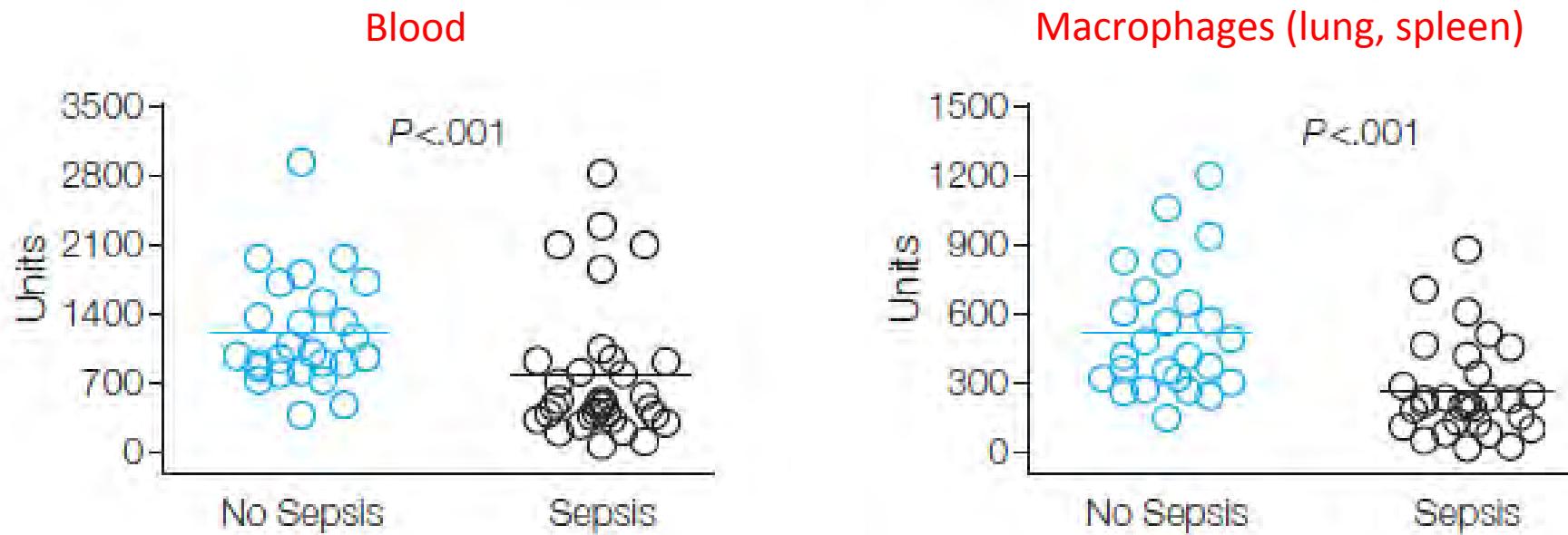


# What about (lymphoid) organs ?

## Immunosuppression in Patients Who Die of Sepsis and Multiple Organ Failure

CARING FOR THE  
CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT

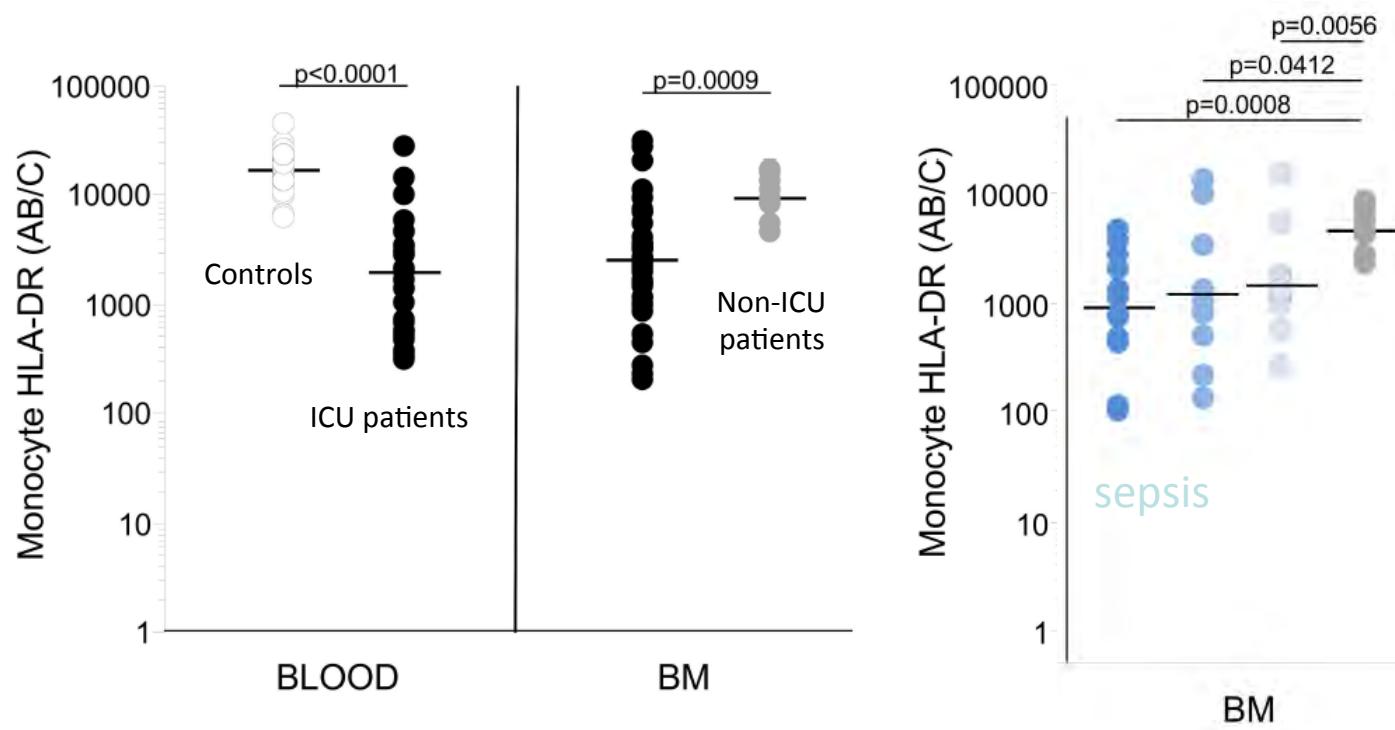
**Boomer et al.** JAMA, December 21, 2011—Vol 306, No. 23



**Figure 3.** Expression of Cell Surface Receptors on Splenic Antigen-Presenting Cells and Tissue Macrophages

Lymphoid organs are also affected (post-mortem biopsy) : spleen, lungs (+ circulating blood)

# Downregulation of Blood Monocyte HLA-DR in ICU Patients Is Also Present in Bone Marrow Cells

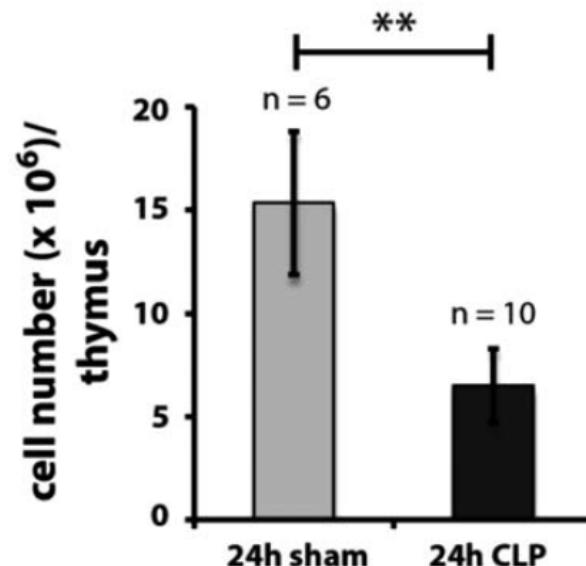


# Thymus

## APOPTOTIC DIMINUTION OF IMMATURE SINGLE AND DOUBLE POSITIVE THYMOCYTE SUBPOPULATIONS CONTRIBUTES TO THYMUS INVOLUTION DURING MURINE POLYMICROBIAL SEPSIS

Christoph Netzer,<sup>\*</sup> Tilo Knape,<sup>†</sup> Laura Kuchler,<sup>\*</sup> Andreas Weigert,<sup>\*</sup> Kai Zacharowski,<sup>‡</sup> Waltraud Pfeilschifter,<sup>§</sup> Gregory Sempowski,<sup>||</sup> Michael J. Parnham,<sup>†</sup> Bernhard Brüne,<sup>\*,†</sup> and Andreas von Knethen<sup>,†</sup>

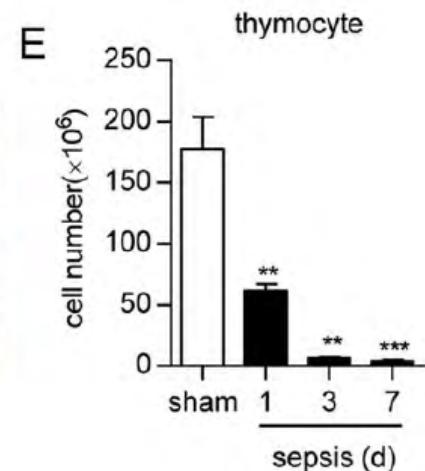
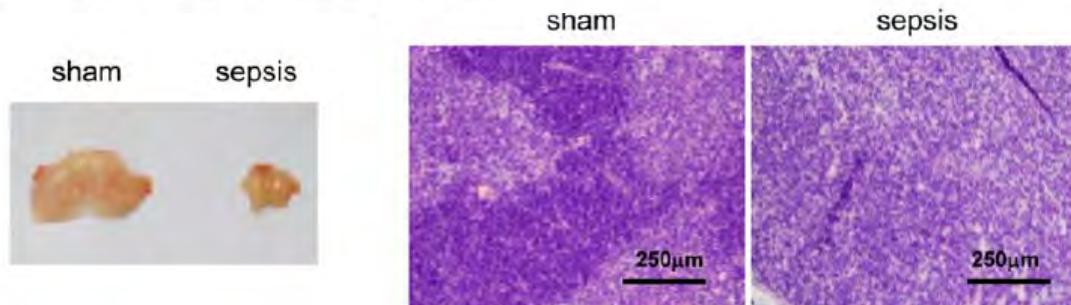
SHOCK, Vol. 48, No. 2, pp. 215–226, 2017

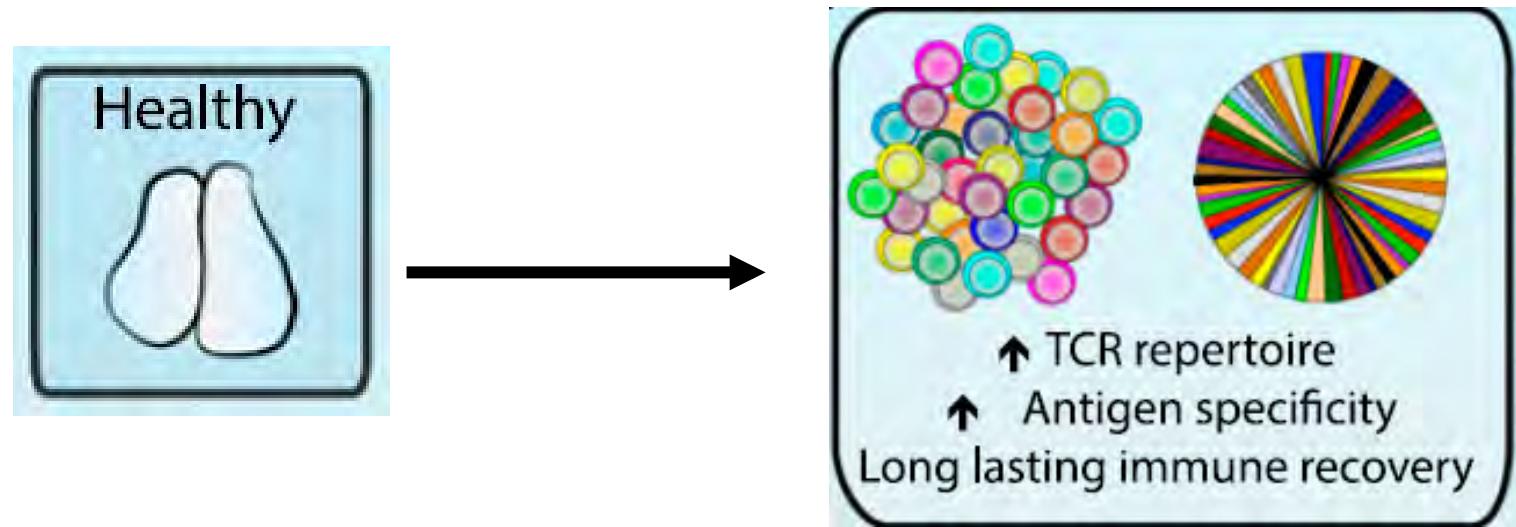


## Sepsis-Induced Thymic Atrophy Is Associated with Defects in Early Lymphopoiesis

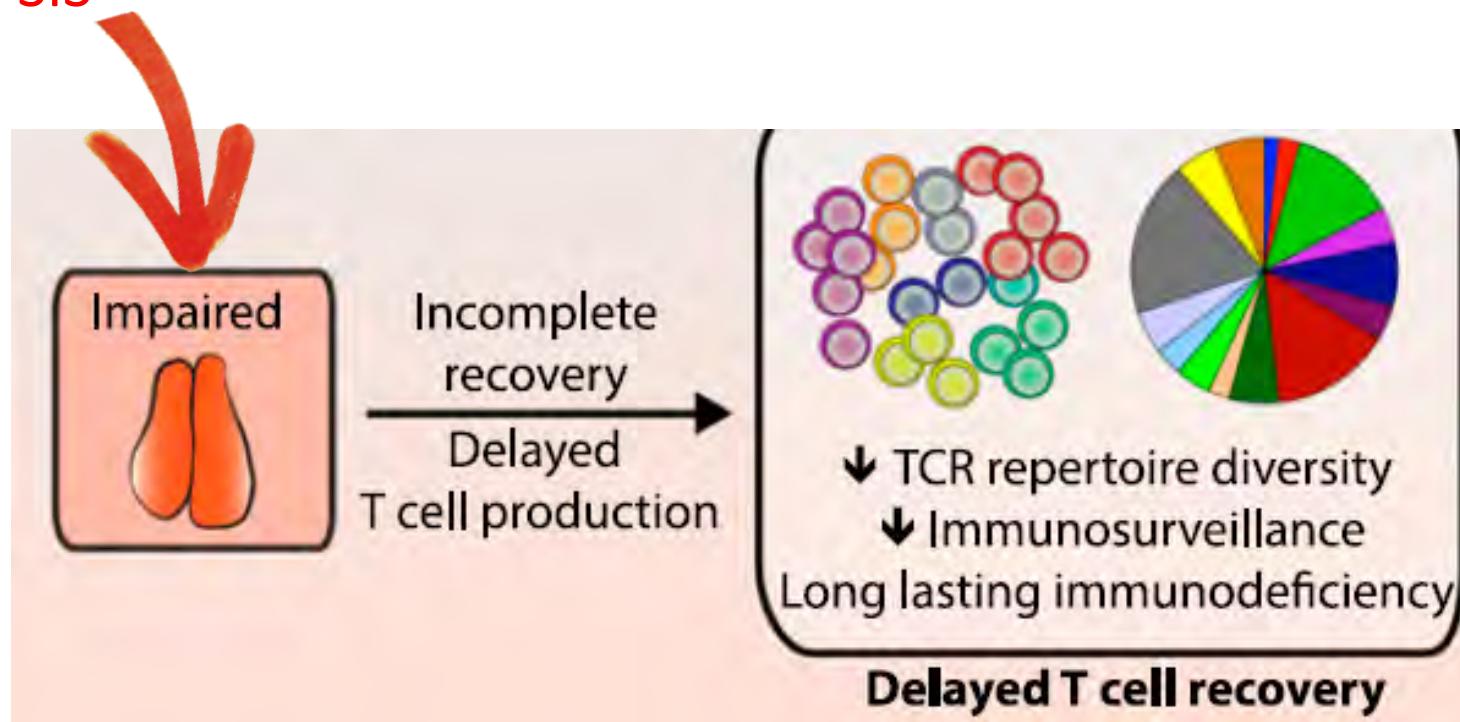
STEM CELLS 2016;34:2902–2915

YAXIAN KONG,<sup>a,b</sup> YAJIE LI,<sup>a,b</sup> WEIMEI ZHANG,<sup>a,b</sup> SHAOXIN YUAN,<sup>a,b</sup> RENÉ WINKLER,<sup>c</sup> ULRIKE KRÖHNERT,<sup>c</sup> JUNYAN HAN,<sup>a,b</sup> TAO LIN,<sup>a,b</sup> YU ZHOU,<sup>d</sup> PENG MIAO,<sup>e</sup> BEIBEI WANG,<sup>a,b</sup> JIAPING ZHANG,<sup>a,b</sup> ZHENGYA YU,<sup>e</sup> YU ZHANG,<sup>d</sup> CHRISTIAN KOSAN,<sup>c</sup> HUI ZENG<sup>a,b</sup>



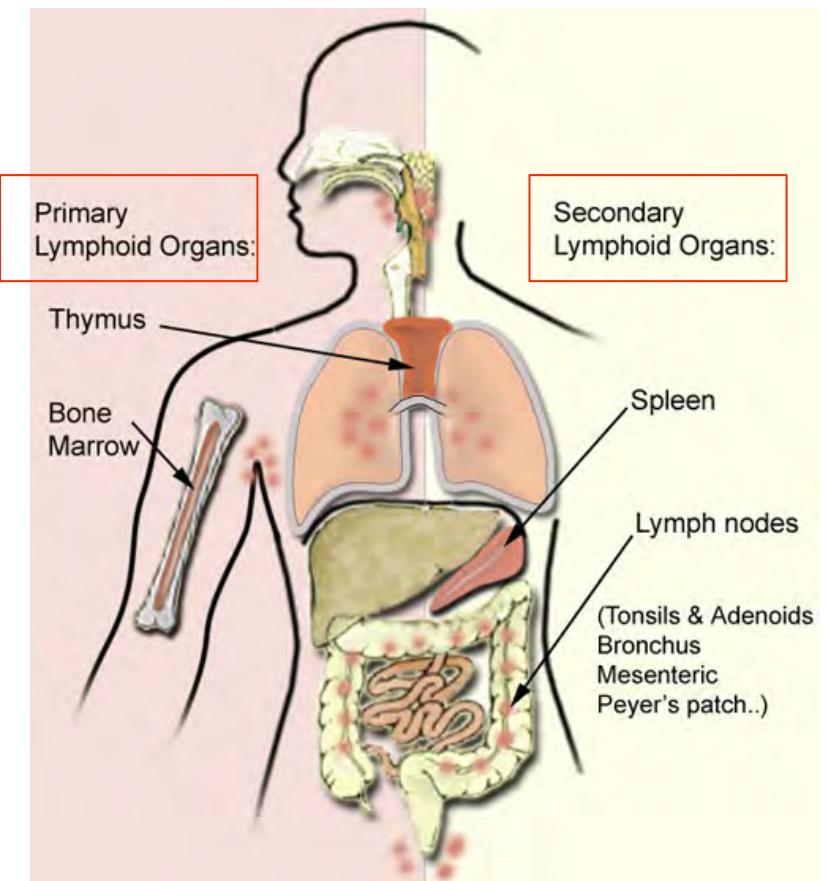
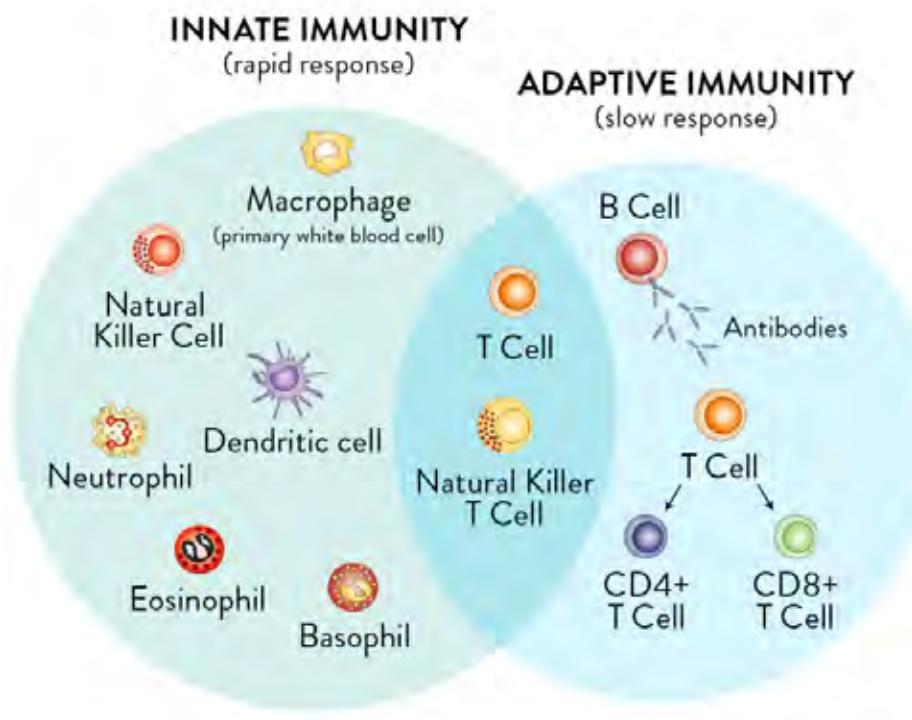


**SEPSIS**



Adapted from Chaudhry HS, J Immunol 2017

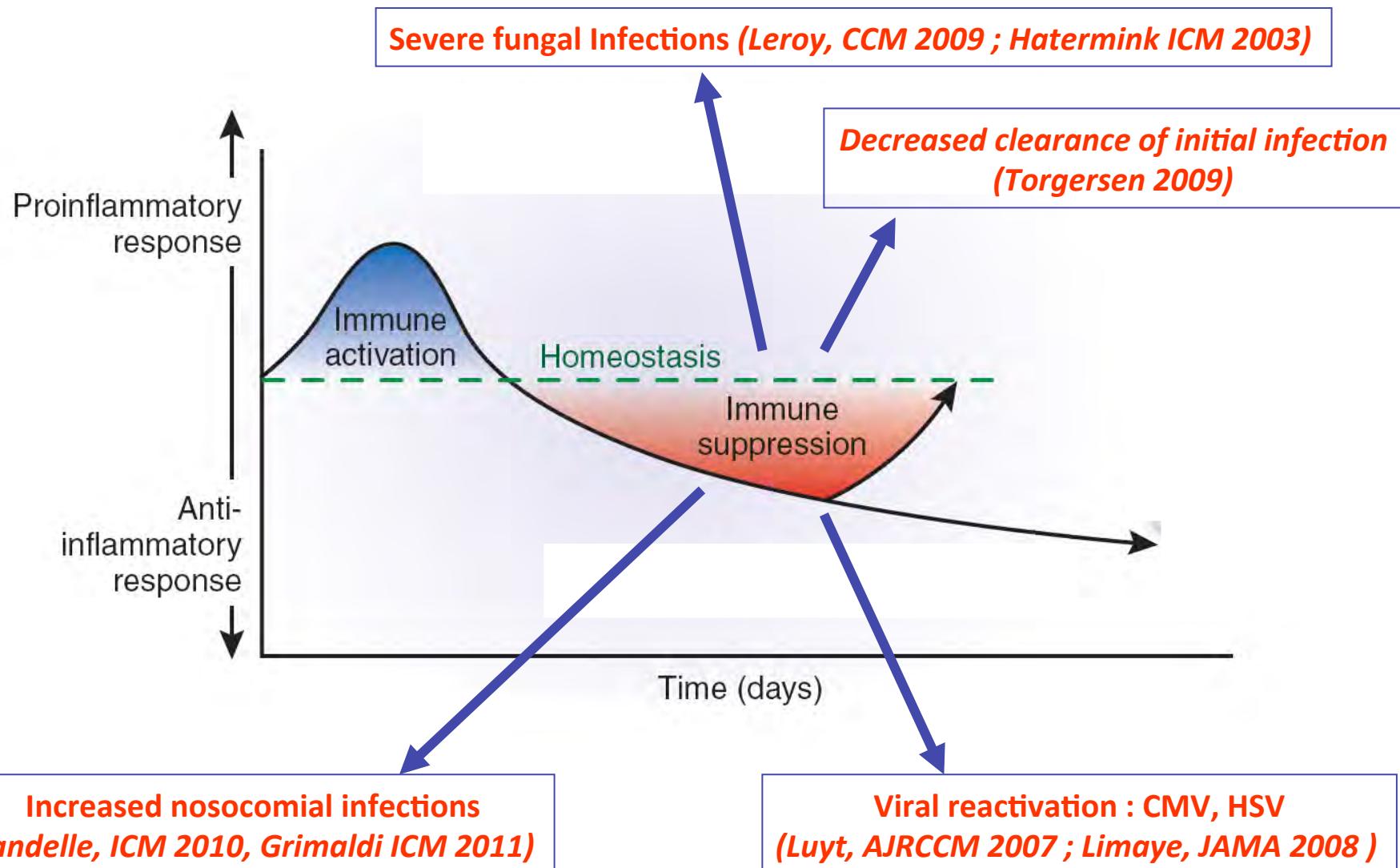
# Summary



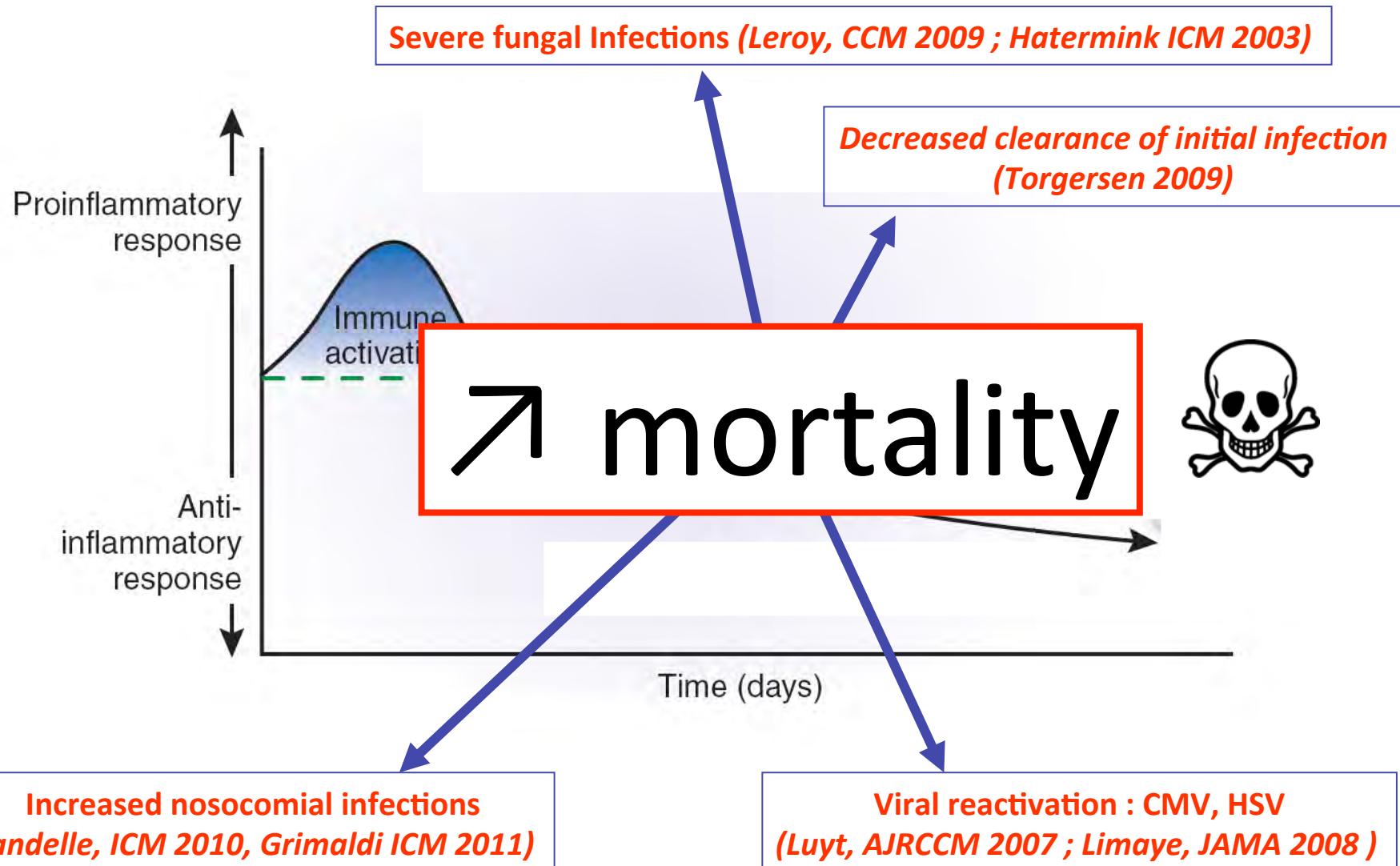
# Summary



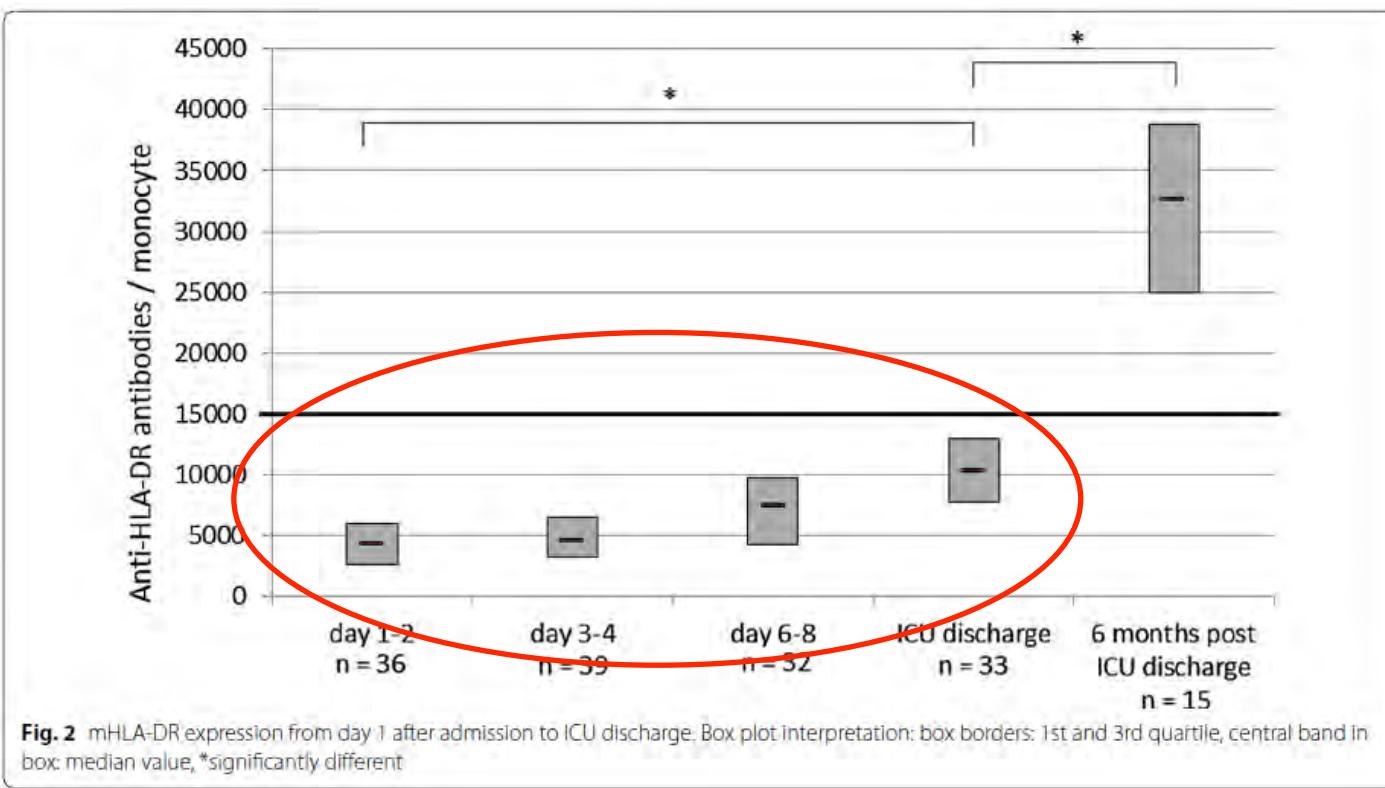
# Consequences of sepsis-induced immunosuppression



# Consequences of sepsis-induced immunosuppression

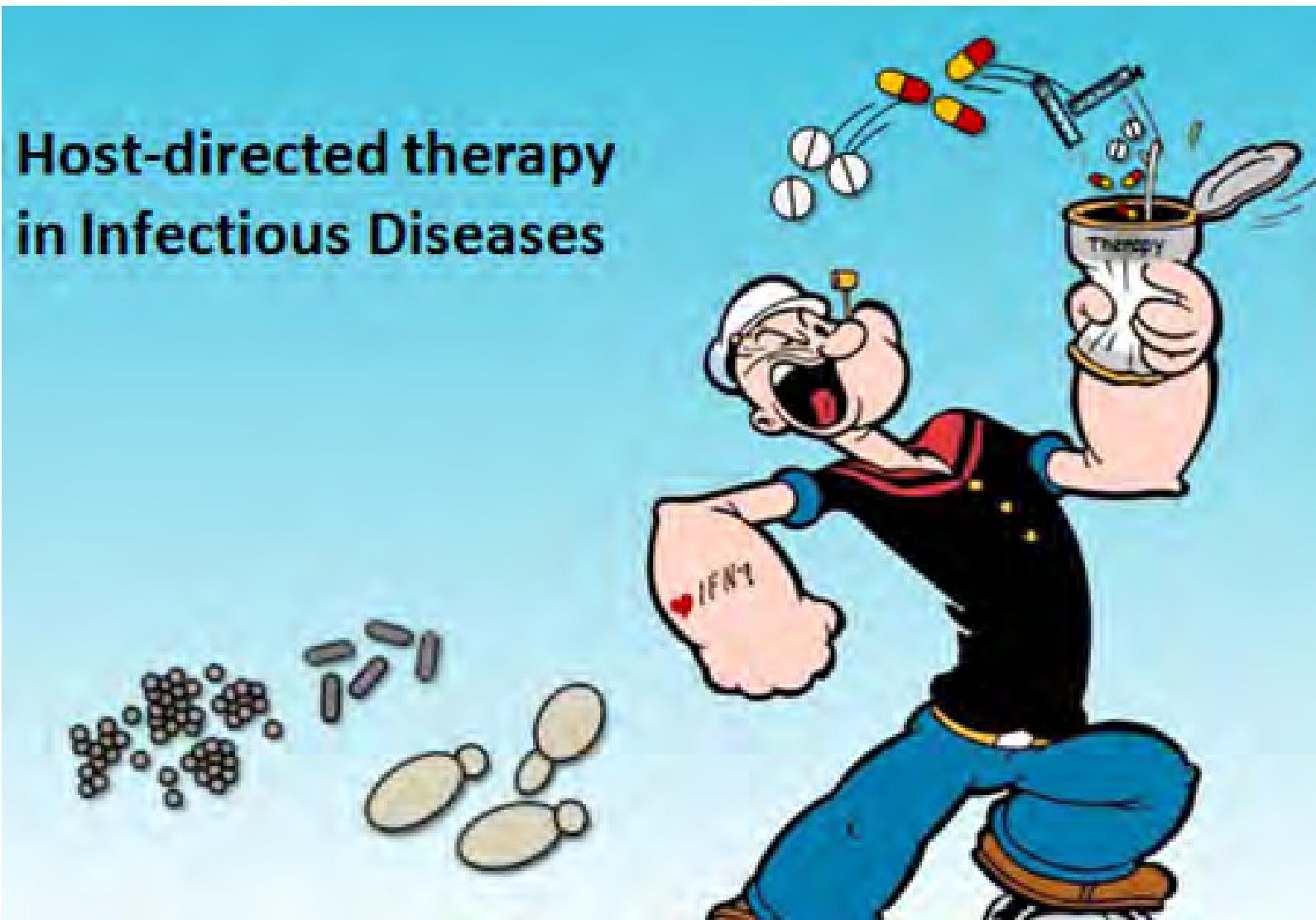


# Assessment of sepsis-induced immunosuppression at ICU discharge and 6 months after ICU discharge



Median discharge = 11 days

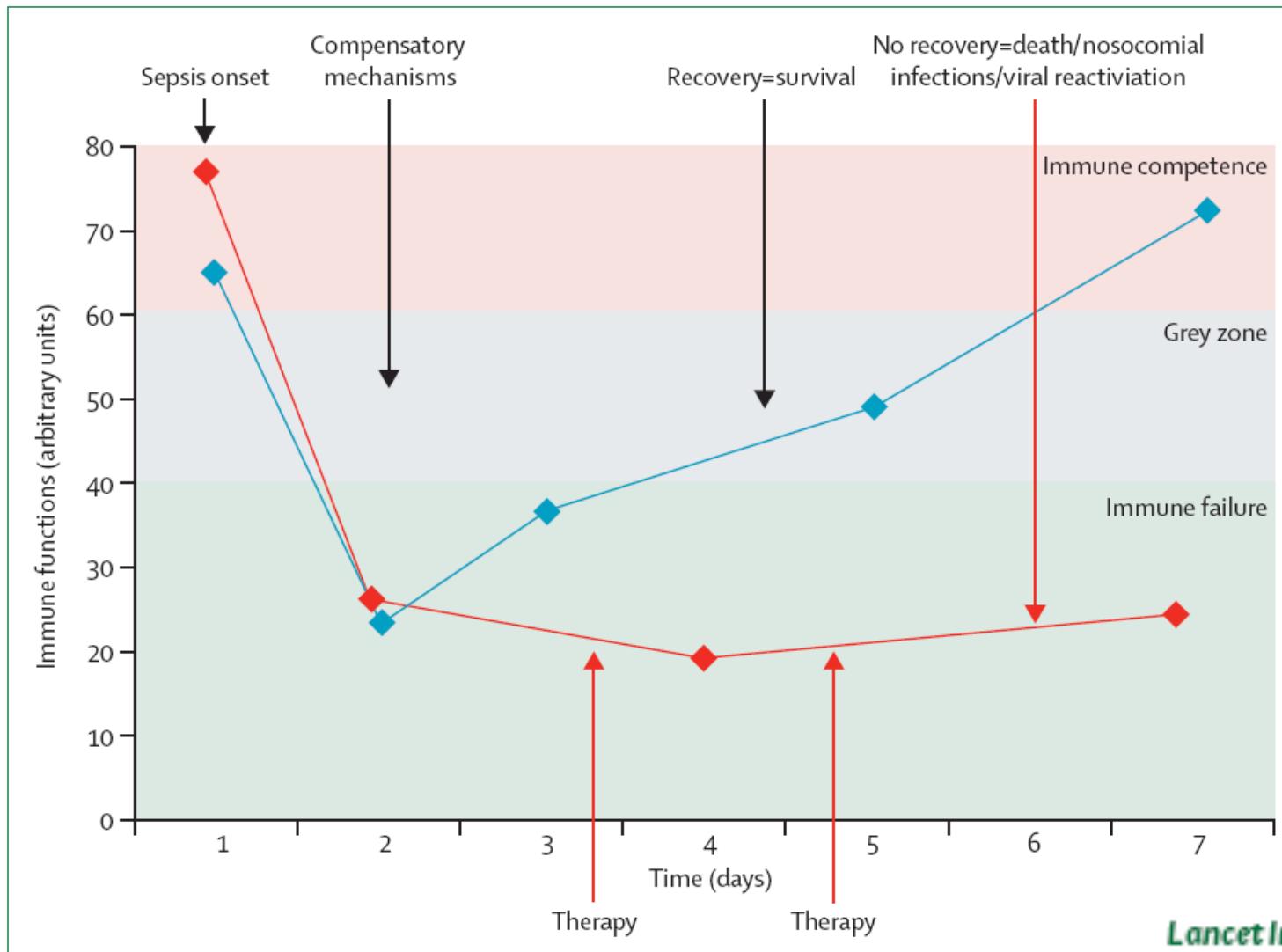
# Immunostimulation in sepsis



*Slide courtesy : P. Pickkers*

# Immunosuppression in sepsis: a novel understanding of the disorder and a new therapeutic approach

Richard S Hotchkiss, Guillaume Monneret, Didier Paven



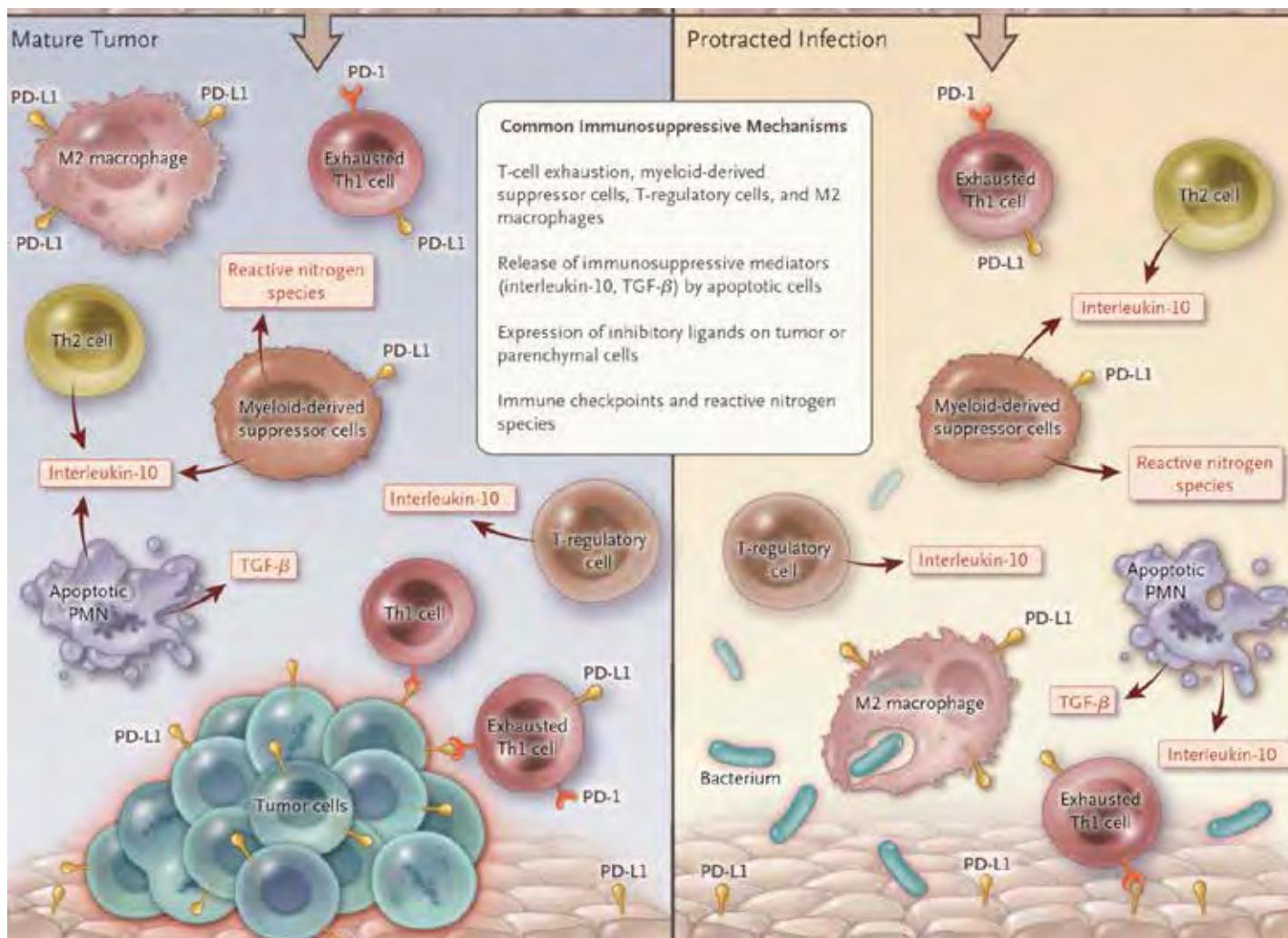
## CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS OF BASIC RESEARCH



Elizabeth G. Phimister, Ph.D., Editor

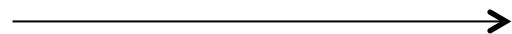
### Parallels between Cancer and Infectious Disease

Richard S. Hotchkiss, M.D., and Lyle L. Moldawer, Ph.D.



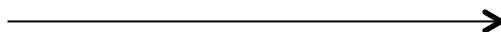
## Principles of immunotherapy

Antibiotics

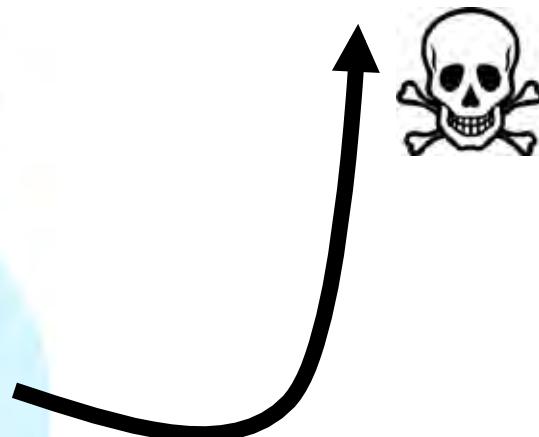
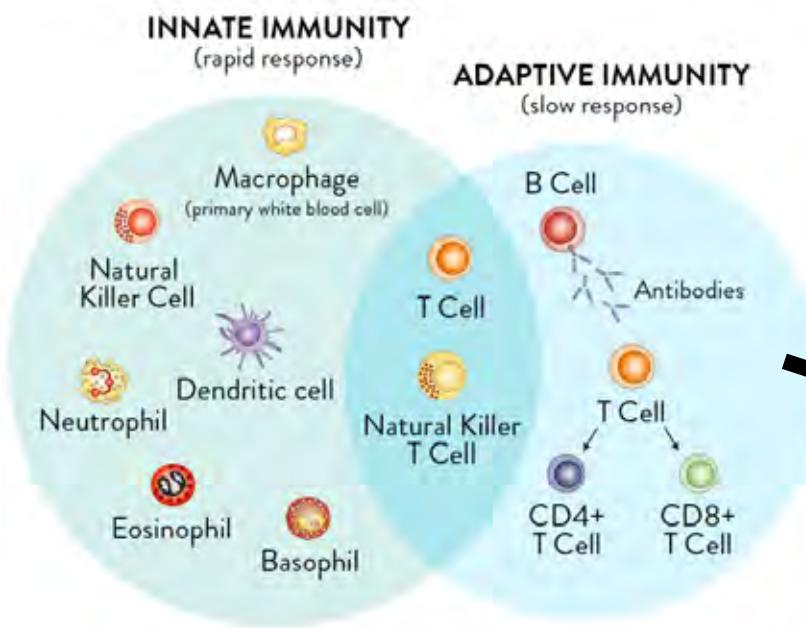


# Principles of immunotherapy

Antibiotics



Rejuvenate / stimulate  
immune cells



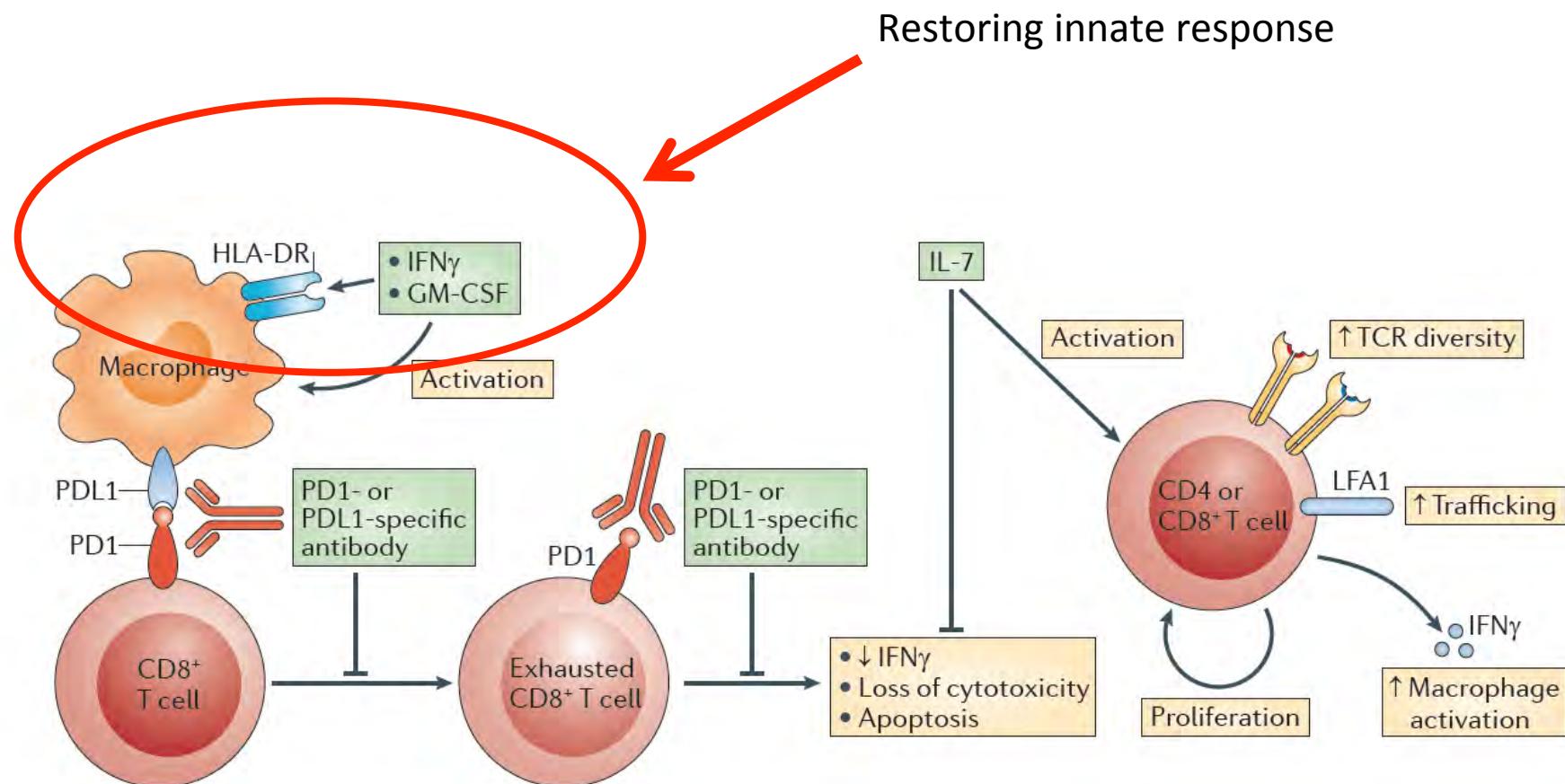
## Principles of immunotherapy

Compelling preclinical results in sepsis:

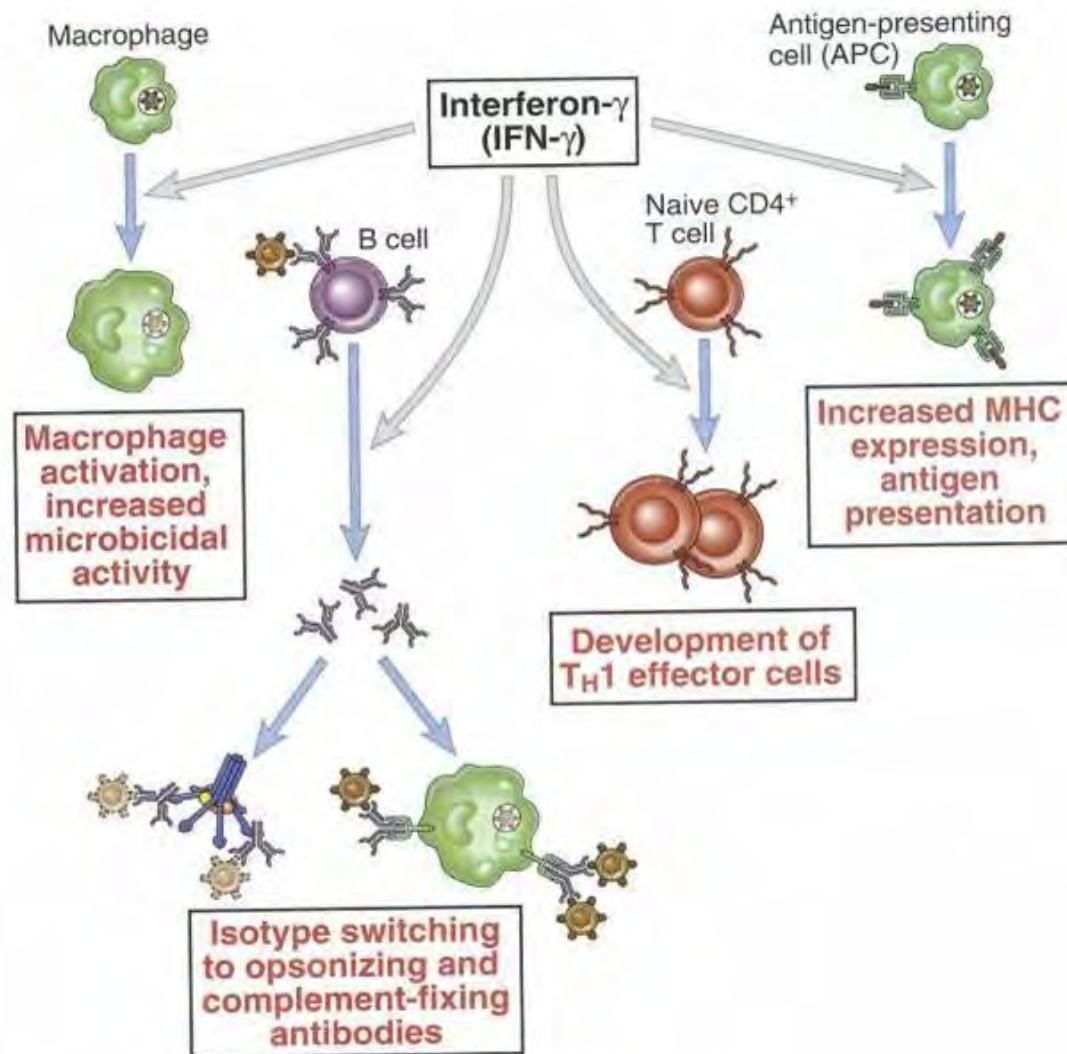
- Improves bacterial clearance and mortality in mice
- Restores immune functions ex-vivo in human cells

# Sepsis-induced immunosuppression: from cellular dysfunctions to immunotherapy

Richard S. Hotchkiss<sup>1</sup>, Guillaume Monneret<sup>2</sup> and Didier Payen<sup>3</sup>

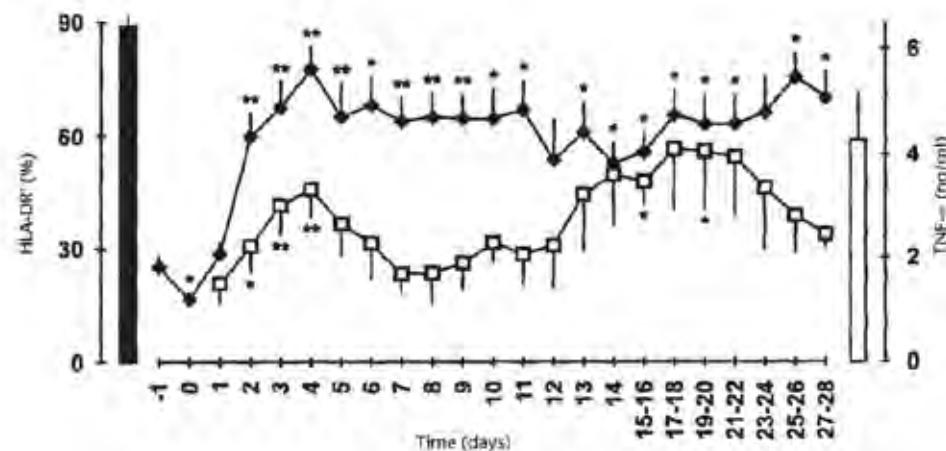
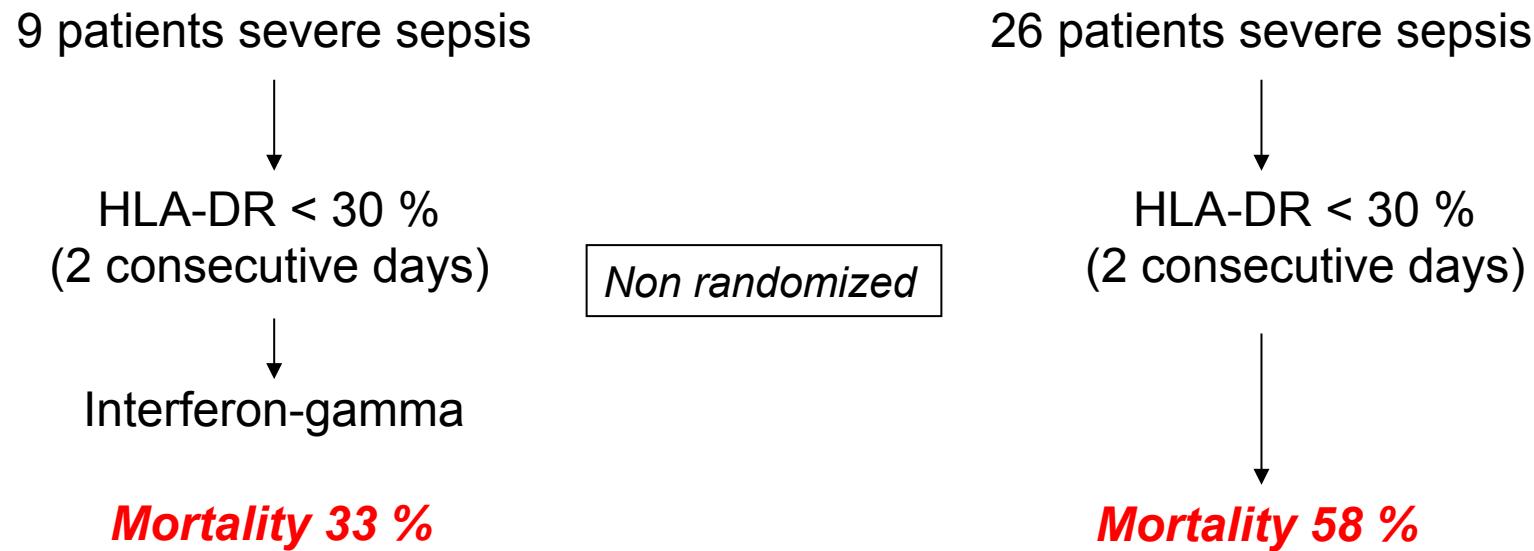


# 1. INTERFERON - $\gamma$ (IMUKIN)



Docke WD et al. Nat Med. 1997;3:678-81

## Monocyte deactivation in septic patients: restoration by IFN-gamma treatment



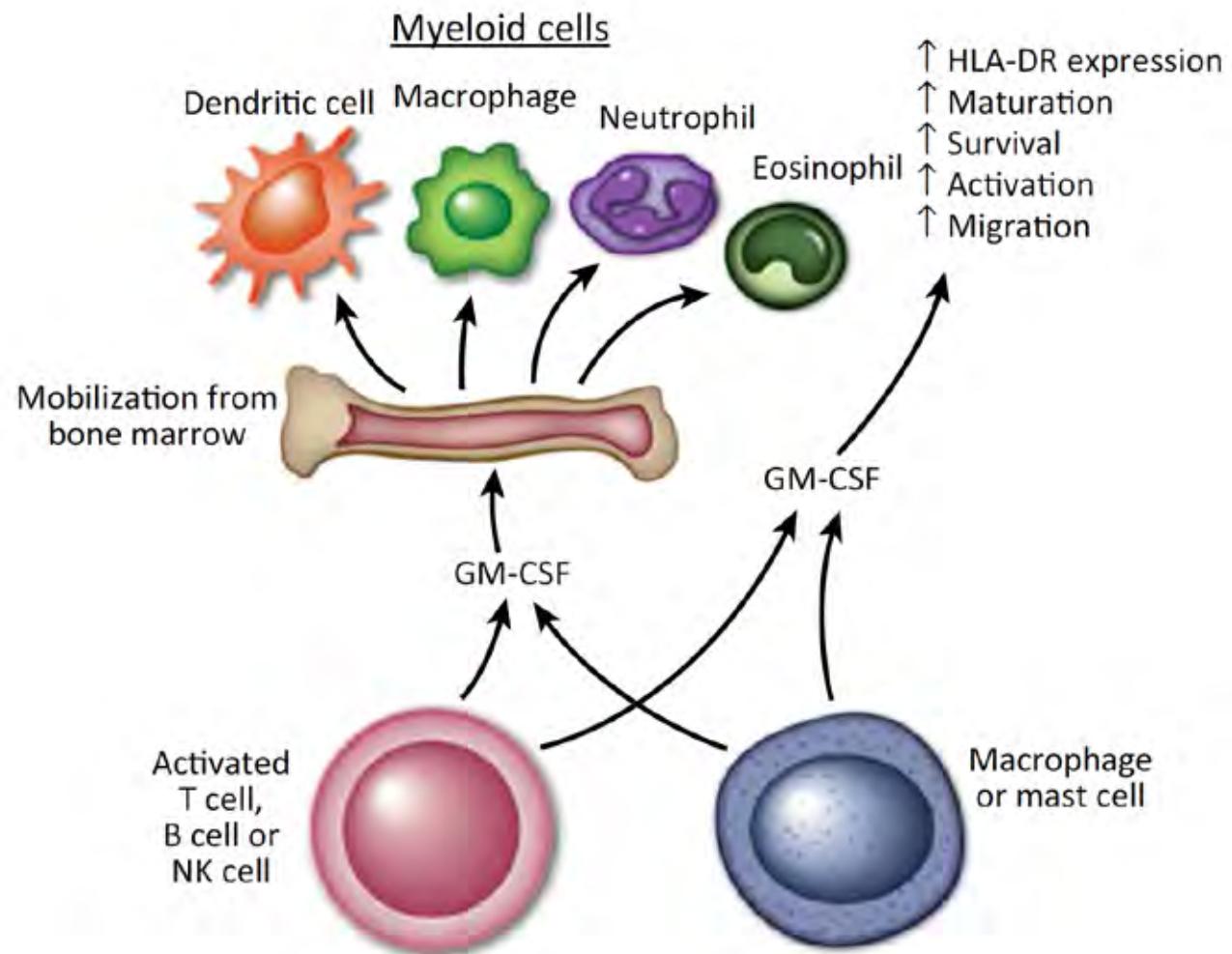
**nature  
medicine**

## Case reports (successful)

- Nakos et al., CCM 2002 (nosocomial infections in trauma)
- Luckasewicz et al., CCM 2009 (nosocomial)
- Delsing et al, BMC Infectious Diseases 2014 (fungal infections)
- Nalos et al., AJRCCM 2012 (staph sepsis)
- Mezidi et al., Minerva Anesth 2014 (fungal infection)
- Grimaldi et al., Lancet infect Dis 2017 (mucormycosis)

Current trial in fungal infections (Netea, Nijmegen) – non randomized

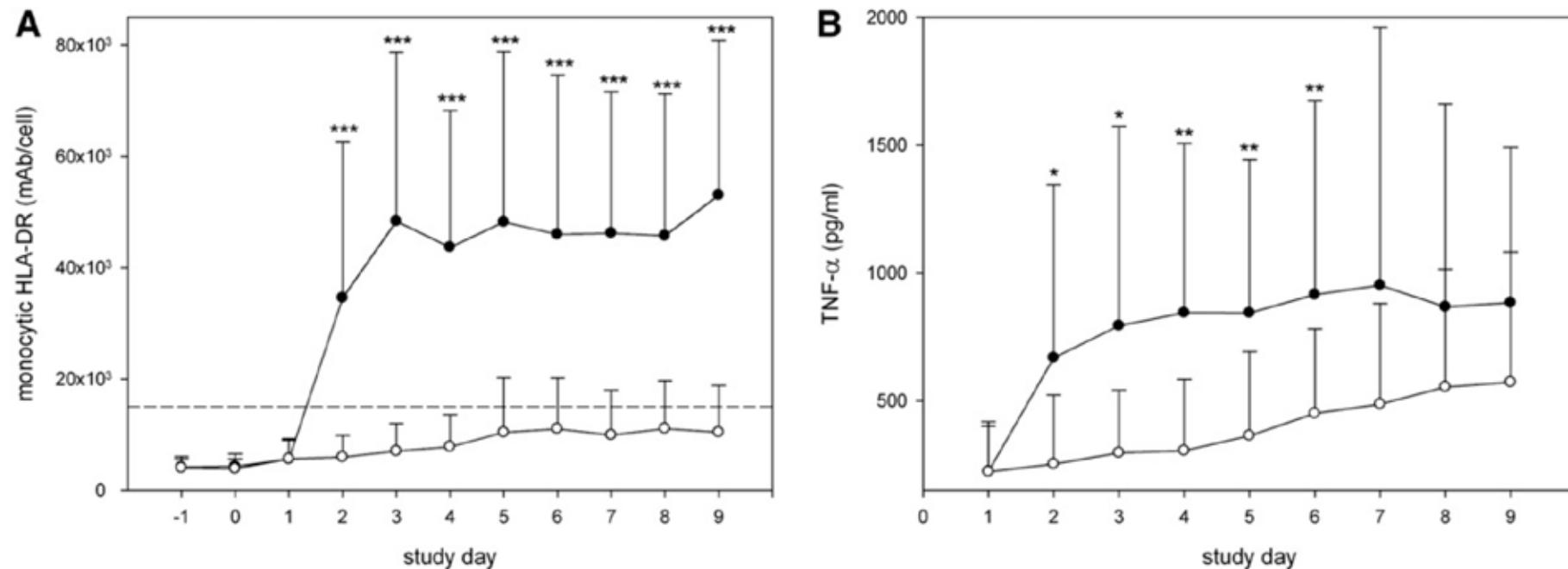
## 2. GM-CSF (Leukine)



# Granulocyte-Macrophage Colony-stimulating Factor to Reverse Sepsis-associated Immunosuppression

## A Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-controlled Multicenter Trial

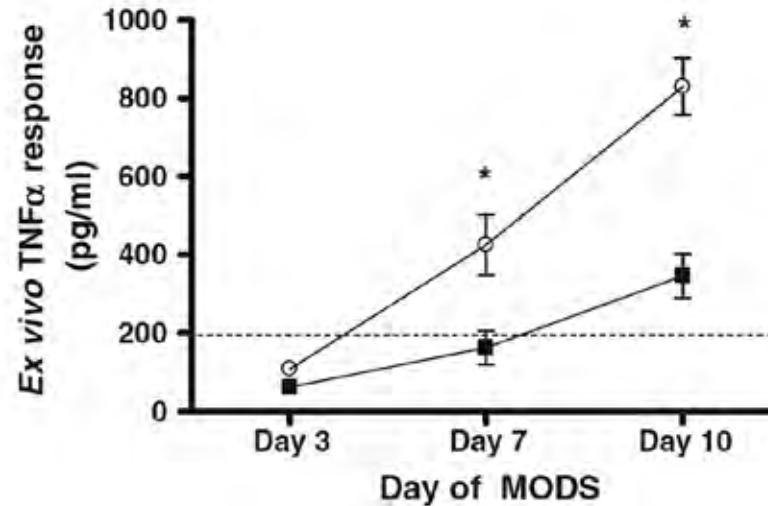
Christian Meisel<sup>1\*</sup>, Joerg C. Schefold<sup>2\*</sup>, Rene Pschowski<sup>2</sup>, Tycho Baumann<sup>1</sup>, Katrin Hetzger<sup>1</sup>, Jan Gregor<sup>3</sup>, Steffen Weber-Carstens<sup>4</sup>, Dietrich Hasper<sup>2</sup>, Didier Keh<sup>4</sup>, Heidrun Zuckermann<sup>3</sup>, Petra Reinke<sup>2,5</sup>, and Hans-Dieter Volk<sup>1,5</sup>



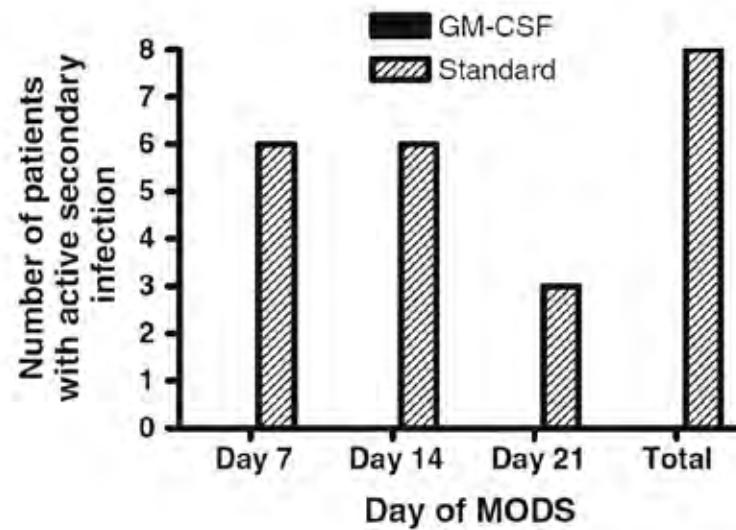
- No adverse effects
- Significantly shorter time of ventilation (148 vs 208 h, p=0.04)
- shorter length of intra-hospital stay (59 vs 69 days)
- shorter length of ICU stay (41 vs 52)
- 28-day mortality not different (trial not powered for mortality)

Mark W. Hall  
Nina L. Knatz  
Carol Vetterly  
Steven Tomarelo  
Mark D. Hewers  
Hans Dieter Volk  
Joseph A. Carrillo

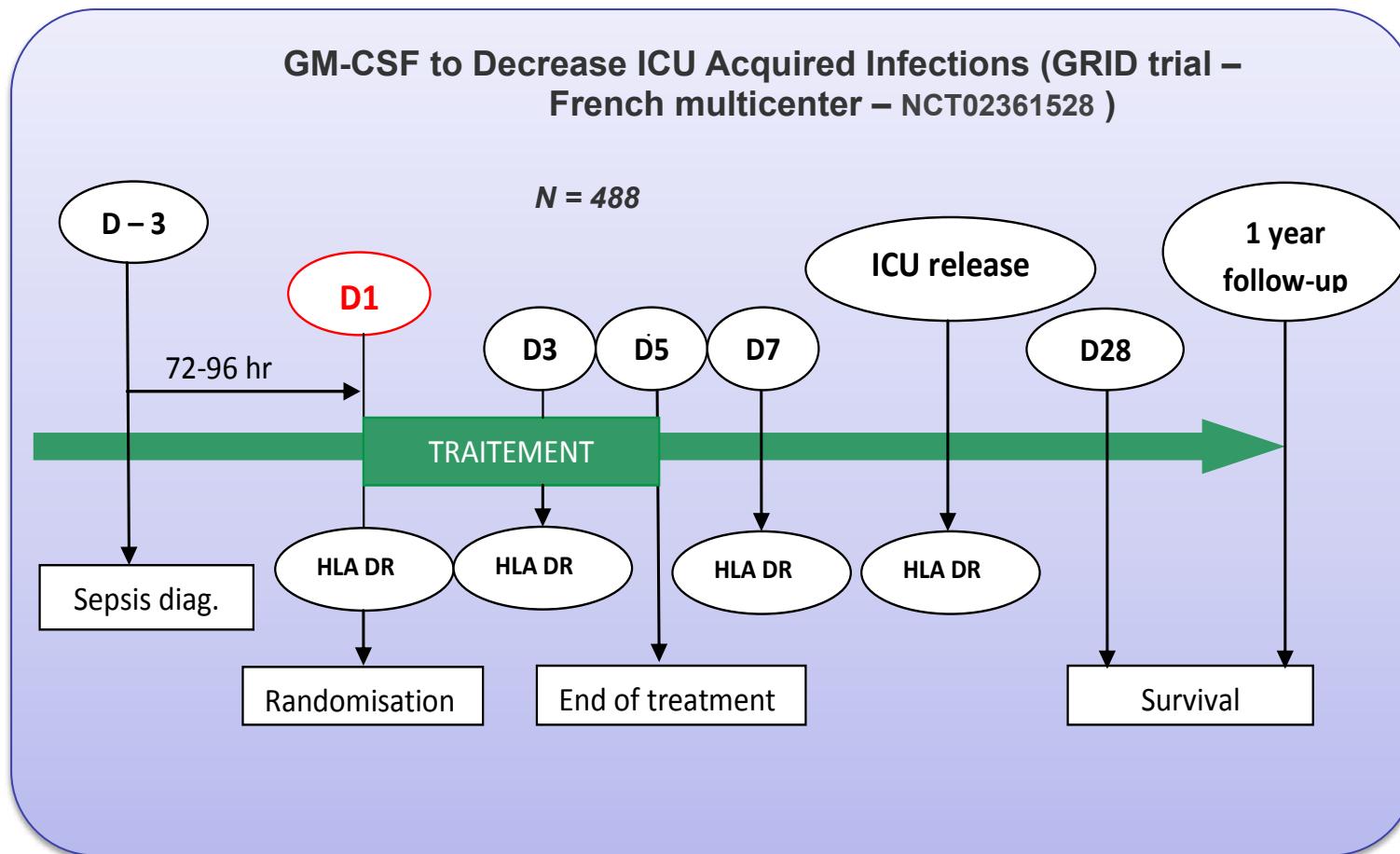
## Immunoparalysis and nosocomial infection in children with multiple organ dysfunction syndrome



Absence of nosocomial infections on GM-CSF



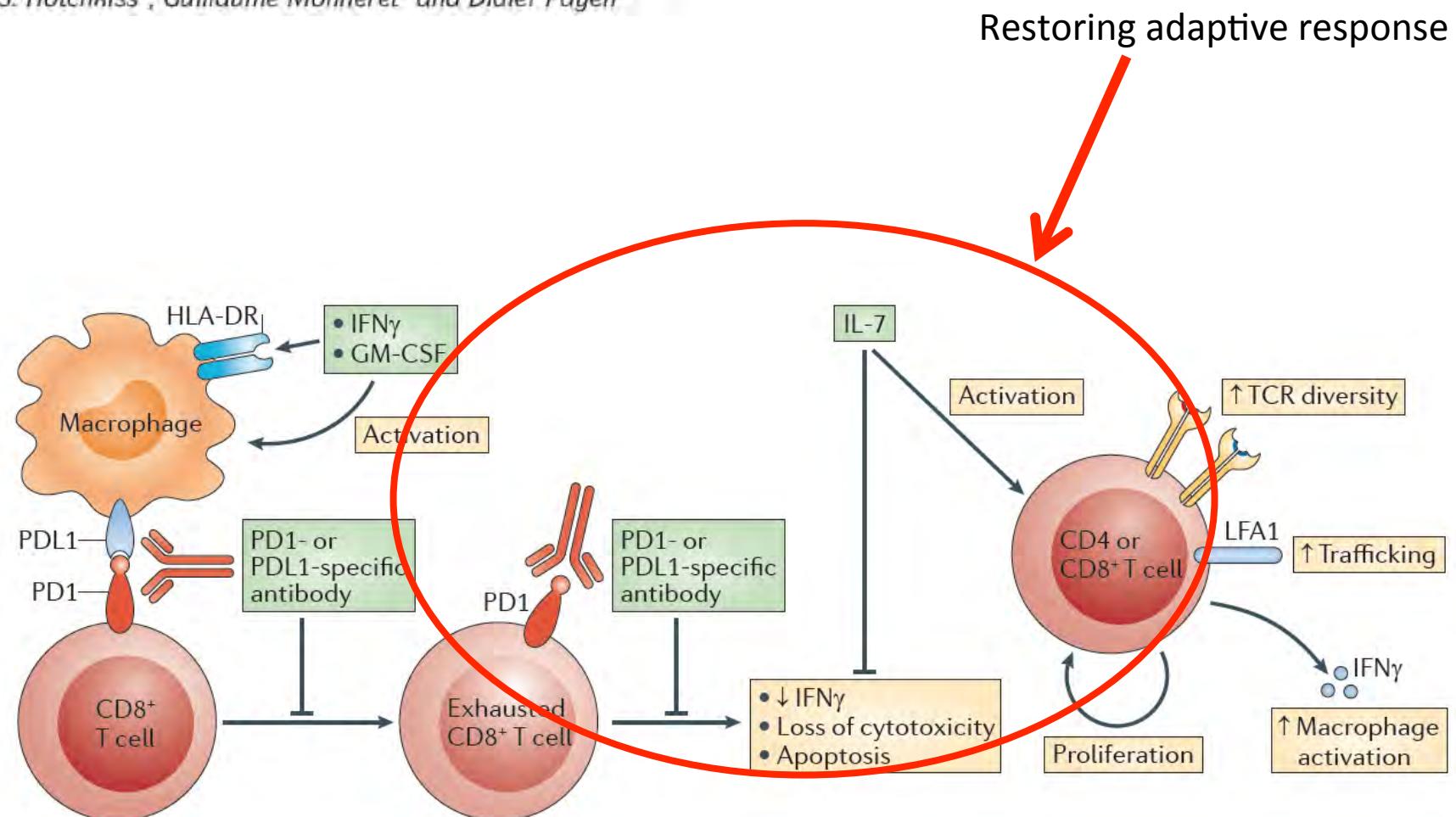
# The GRID study



Trial ended by promoter at 100 patients  
Results to be published in 2018

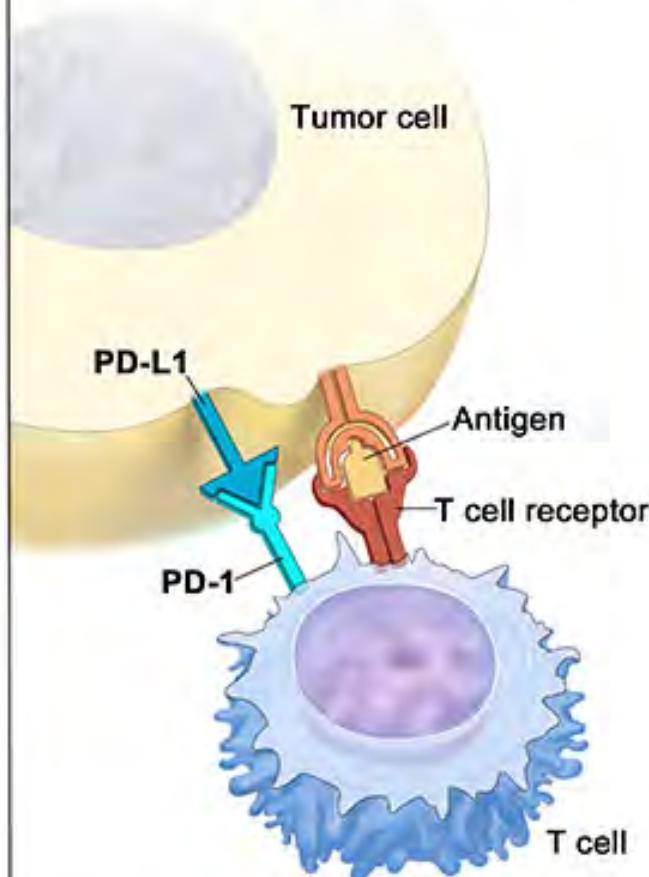
# Sepsis-induced immunosuppression: from cellular dysfunctions to immunotherapy

Richard S. Hotchkiss<sup>1</sup>, Guillaume Monneret<sup>2</sup> and Didier Payen<sup>3</sup>

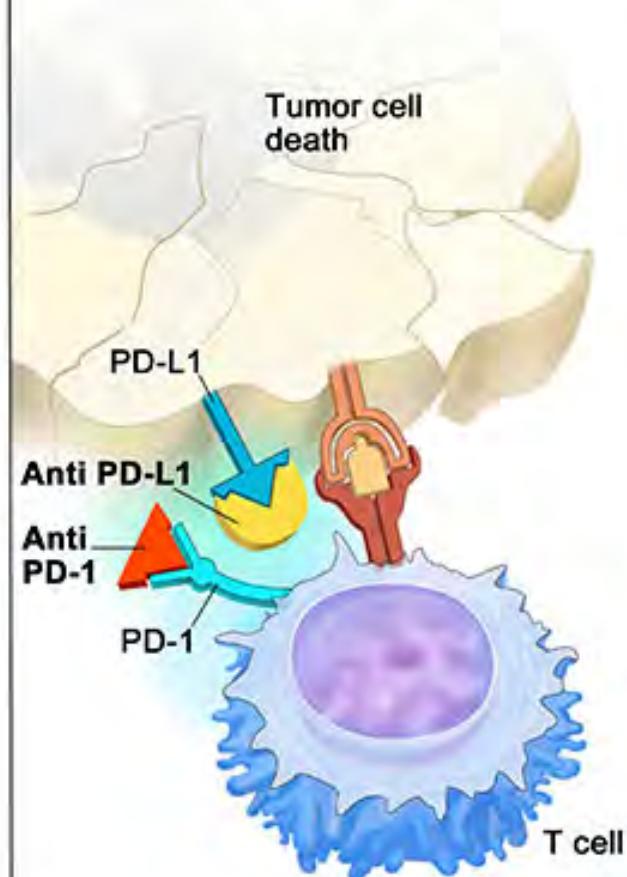


### 3. Anti-PD1 / Anti-PD-L1

**PD-L1/PD-1 binding inhibits T cell killing of tumor cell**



**Blocking PD-L1 or PD-1 allows T cell killing of tumor cell**





Review

# Targeting Immune Cell Checkpoints during Sepsis

Naeem K. Patil <sup>1,\*</sup>, Yin Guo <sup>1</sup> , Liming Luan <sup>1</sup> and Edward R. Sherwood <sup>1,2</sup>

**Table 2.** Summary of clinical studies showing alterations in expression of various immune checkpoints during sepsis.

Reference	Sample Size	Alterations in Expression of Immune Checkpoints	Any Other Major Clinical Findings
Guignant et al., 2011 [43]	64 Patients, prospective study	Increased PD-1 and PD-L1 on CD4 <sup>+</sup> T cells, and higher PD-L1/PD-L2 on monocytes	- Impaired lymphocyte proliferation Findings correlated with increased nosocomial infections and mortality
Zhang et al., 2011 [44]	19 Patients, prospective study	Increased PD-1 and CD4 <sup>+</sup> and CD8 <sup>+</sup> T cells, and higher PD-L1 on monocytes	- Increased T and B lymphocytes apoptosis
Boomer et al., 2011 [23]	Postmortem study, 40 patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased PD-1 on CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> on splenic T cells</li><li>Increased PD-L1 and HVEM on lung tissue</li><li>Increased PD-L1/PD-L2 on splenic dendritic cells</li></ul>	- Depletion of CD4 <sup>+</sup> and CD8 <sup>+</sup> and HLA-DR <sup>+</sup> cells in spleen and lung - Decreased IL-7 receptor alpha on splenic T cells
Boomer et al., 2012 [57]	24 Patients, prospective study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased PD-L1 on splenic dendritic cells, and CTLA-4 on CD4<sup>+</sup>, CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells</li><li>Increased TIM-3, LAG-3 on splenic CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells</li></ul>	Impaired splenic T cell function (as measured by decreased IFN- $\gamma$ production upon ex vivo stimulation of cells)
Shubin et al., 2013 [58]	24 Patients, prospective study	Increased BTLA on circulating CD4 <sup>+</sup> T cells	Increased BTLA correlated with increased mortality
Yang et al., 2013 [59]	26 Patients (12-sepsis,14-severe sepsis)	Increased TIM-3 mRNA in PBMC's in sepsis patients as compared to severe sepsis patients	None
Chang et al., 2014 [45]	43 Patients, Prospective study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased PD-1 and decreased PD-L1 on CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells</li><li>Increased PD-L1 on monocytes</li></ul>	- Decreased IFN- $\gamma$ and IL-12 production by CD8 <sup>+</sup> T cells upon ex vivo stimulation - Increased PD-1 expression on CD8 <sup>+</sup> T cells correlated with increased rate of secondary infections
Ren et al., 2015 [60]	Prospective study; 40-sepsis and 42-severe sepsis patients/18-septic shock patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased TIM-3 on monocytes of septic shock patients</li><li>Decreased plasma soluble TIM-3 levels in septic shock patients</li></ul>	Decreased soluble TIM-3 levels correlated with increased mortality
Patera et al., 2016 [24]	17 Patients, prospective study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased PD-L1 on suppressor neutrophils</li><li>Increased PD-1 on CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells and NK cells</li></ul>	- Impaired neutrophil, monocyte and NK cell function - Impaired CD8 <sup>+</sup> T cell function



## Nivolumab plus interferon- $\gamma$ in the treatment of intractable mucormycosis

Acquired immunosuppression is an important complication of major trauma and might contribute to the development of severe fungal infections in these patients. Here, we describe a patient with extensive abdominal mucormycosis unresponsive to conventional therapy who was treated successfully with immunostimulating drugs.

A previously healthy 30-year old woman sustained pelvic and femur fractures, extensive soft-tissue abdominal and pelvic damage, pulmonary contusion, and second-degree burns in the terrorist bombing in Brussels in March, 2016. The patient's early hospital course was complicated by sepsis, femur osteomyelitis, and deep wound infections with multi-drug-resistant Enterobacteriaceae. On day 15 after admission to the intensive care unit, results of CT analysis showed gastric and splenic necrosis (figure), gastric biopsy results available on day 18 revealed invasive mucormycosis, and treatment was started with liposomal amphotericin-B and posaconazole.



**Figure:** Axial abdominal CT scan. **C:** axial liver post-contrast, showing place of enhancement of splenic parenchyma (**1**) due to the dense granulations (arrowhead), and gastric intramural gas (**2**).

On day 22, gastrectomy and splenectomy were done; pathology showed invasive mucormycosis in the stomach and spleen with extension into peritoneal and vascular structures, but additional debridement was not feasible. Because of the poor prognosis and immunosuppression, as shown by a low absolute lymphocyte count, low monocyte HLA-DR expression, and increased expression of programmed death-1 (PD-1) on T-cells (appendix), immune adjuvant therapy with interferon- $\gamma$  (Immunkin, Boehringer, Brussels, Belgium; 100 µg three times weekly for five doses) was started on day 28, followed by a single 250 mg dose of nivolumab (Opdivo, BMS, Braine l'Alleud, Belgium) on day 30. Subsequent immunological examinations showed increases in absolute lymphocyte count, monocyte HLA-DR expression, and CD8 T-cells, and decreased T-cell PD-1 expression (appendix). The patient improved slowly, and repeat CT scans showed no residual infection. The patient was discharged from the intensive care unit 80 days after admission.

This patient with well-documented fungal sepsis, showed typical features of post-aggression immunosuppression involving defective innate and adaptive immunity.<sup>12</sup> Interferon- $\gamma$  and the anti-PD-1 monoclonal antibody nivolumab reversed these defects. Interferon- $\gamma$  restores monocyte function and has been used as rescue therapy for life-threatening fungal infections in patients not responding to conventional treatment.<sup>13</sup> Nivolumab binds to PD-1, blocks interaction with its ligands, PD-L1 and PD-L2, and releases PD-1 pathway-mediated inhibition of T-cell proliferation and cytokine production. Anti-PD-1 has shown activity in animal models of fungal sepsis and in patients with chronic hepatitis C virus infection.<sup>14</sup> A phase I clinical trial of nivolumab

in the treatment of severe sepsis is about to begin (NCT02960854).

Combination immunotherapy has been proposed as a possible advance in sepsis treatment.<sup>15</sup> To our knowledge, this is the first report showing efficacy of such an approach in a patient with life-threatening fungal infection unresponsive to conventional therapy.

KG has research support funding from Bristol-Myers-Squibb, the maker of mAbs, and is also doing clinical trials with anti-PD-L1, an investigational drug made by Bristol-Myers Squibb. All other authors declare no competing interests. The patient provided consent for publication of this case.

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## Early ICU course:

- Acute Lung Injury
- Osteomyelitis
- Deep wound infection
- MDR enterobacteria
- Mucormycosis



**Low levels of mHLA-DR  
High levels of PD1 on Tcells**



**Immunkin (IFNg)  
Nivolumab (anti PD-1)**

## Current trials

### ANTI PD-1 / ANTI-PD-L1

Two Phase 1b/2a, randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled, multicenter study to evaluate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics:

- Nivolumab (anti-PD1, NCT02960854)
- BMS-936559 (anti-PD-L1, NCT02576457)

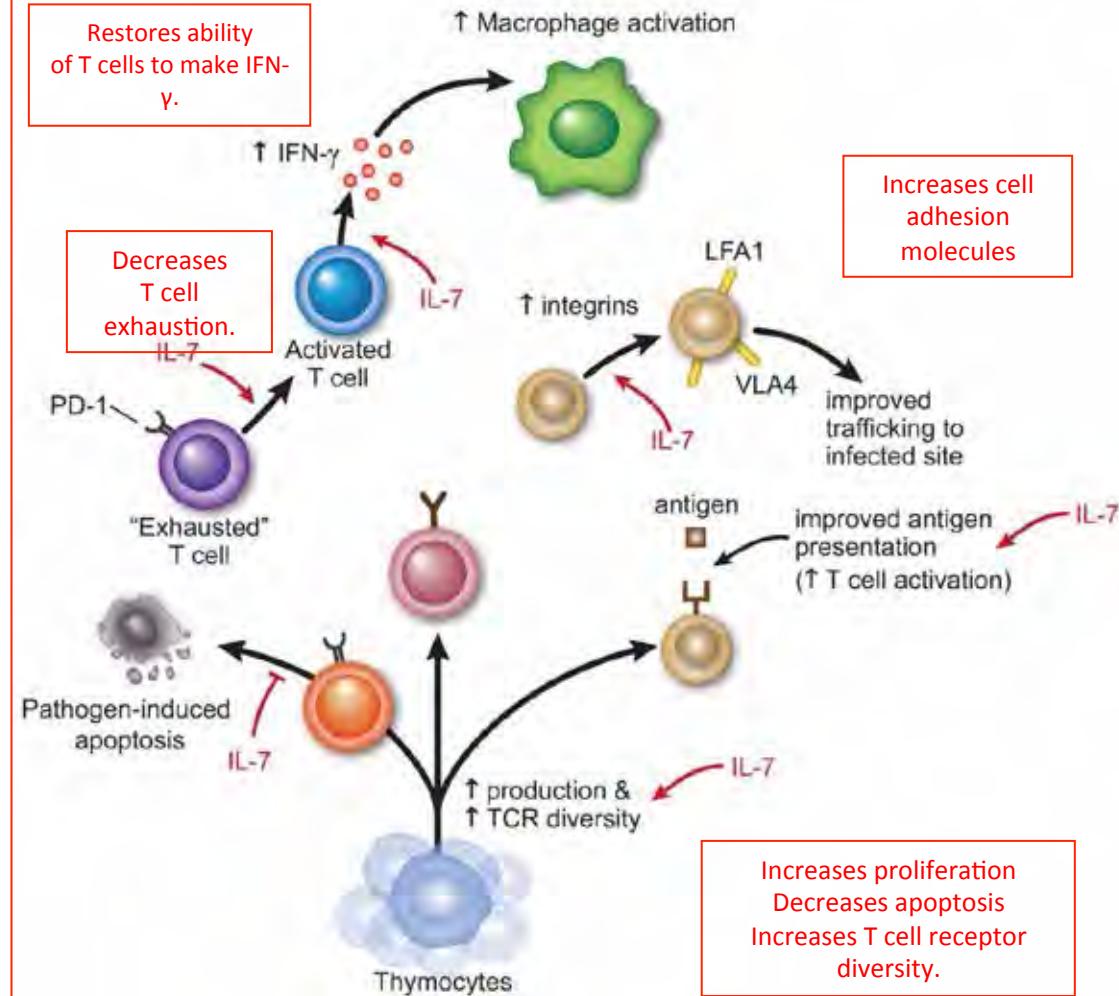
Next trial in preparation : PD-1 (international multicenter, randomized trial)

## 4. IL-7

IL-7 acts at multiple levels to improve functionality of CD4 and CD8 T cells and secondarily adaptive immunity.

IL-7 offers a new approach to infectious disease.

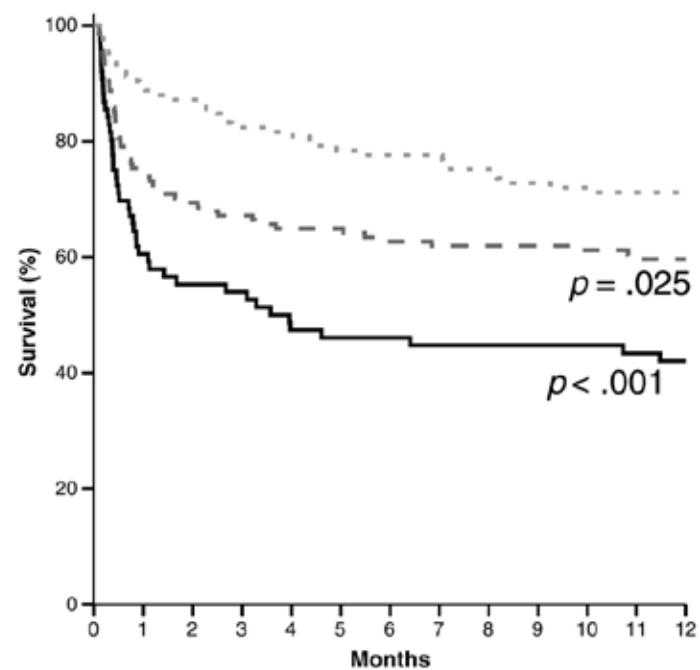
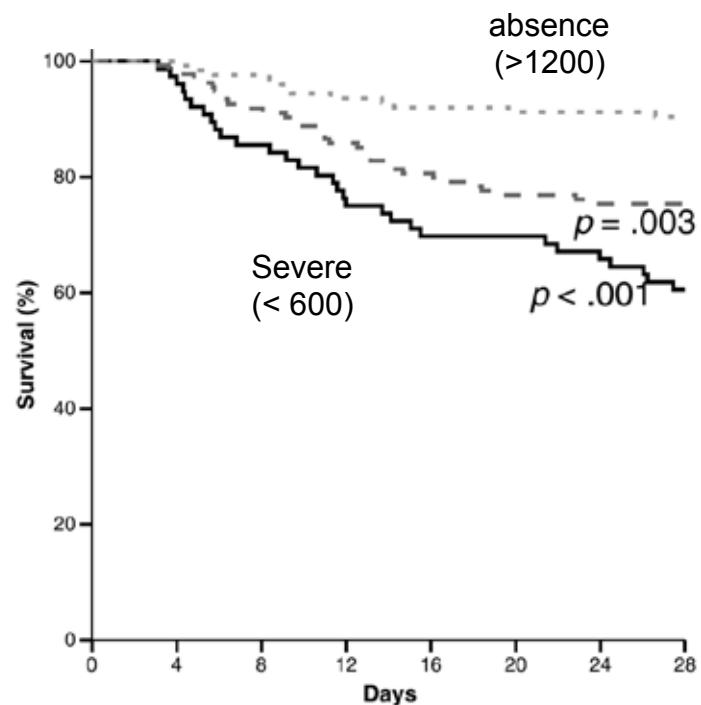
### Beneficial Effects of IL-7 in Infectious Disease



# PERSISTENT LYMPHOPENIA AFTER DIAGNOSIS OF SEPSIS PREDICTS MORTALITY

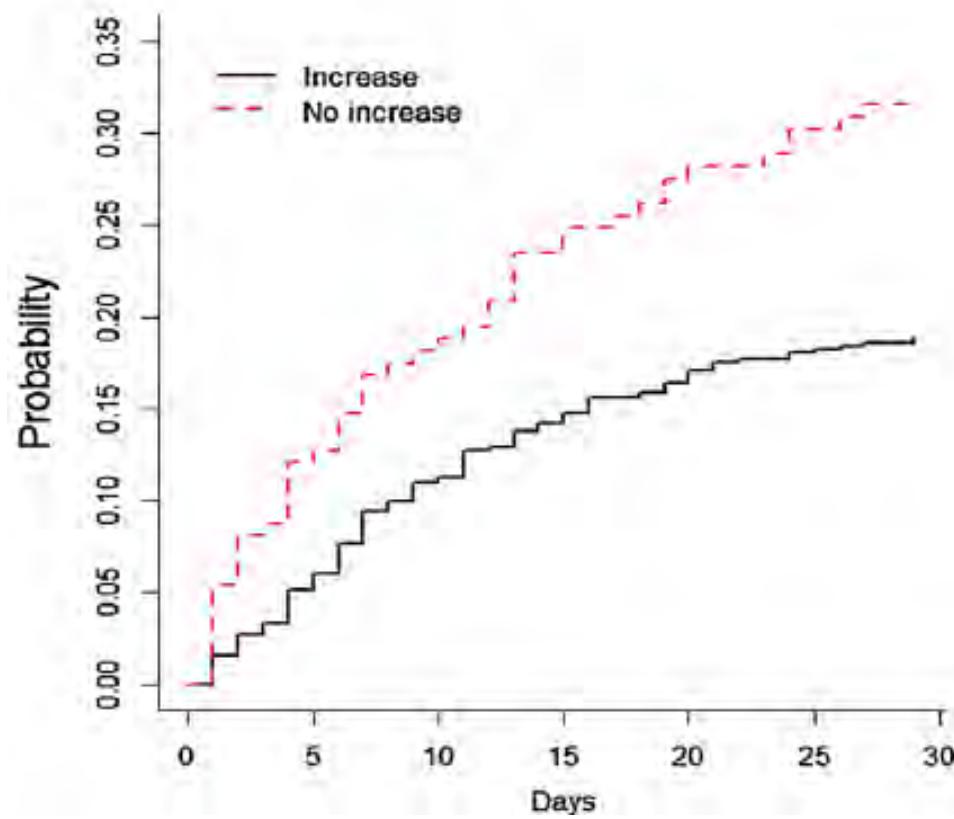
Anne M. Drewry,\* Navdeep Samra,<sup>†</sup> Lee P. Skrupky,<sup>‡</sup> Brian M. Fuller,<sup>\*§</sup>  
Stephanie M. Compton,\* and Richard S. Hotchkiss<sup>\*†</sup>

=> Day 4 total lymphocyte count



Persistent lymphopenia is a risk factor  
for ICU-acquired infections and for death  
in ICU patients with sustained hypotension  
at admission

Ly increase between baseline and day 3



# The IRIS trial (to be submitted)

- Bruno Francois
- Thomas Daix
- Emilie Lereclus
- Michelle Nouaille
- Ludmila Baudrillart



- Guillaume Monneret
- Thomas Rimmelé



- Richard Hotchkiss
- Andrew Walton



- Edward Sherwood

RevImmune

- Michel Morre

# Immunostimulation (summary)

- Preclinical results in sepsis : +++
- Several clinical cases : +++
- First trials promising (no adverse “cytokine storm”)
- GRID (GM-CSF) & IRIS (IL-7) : to be published in 2018
- Anti-PD-1 : to be started in 2018



=> Awaiting good news from multicenter RCT

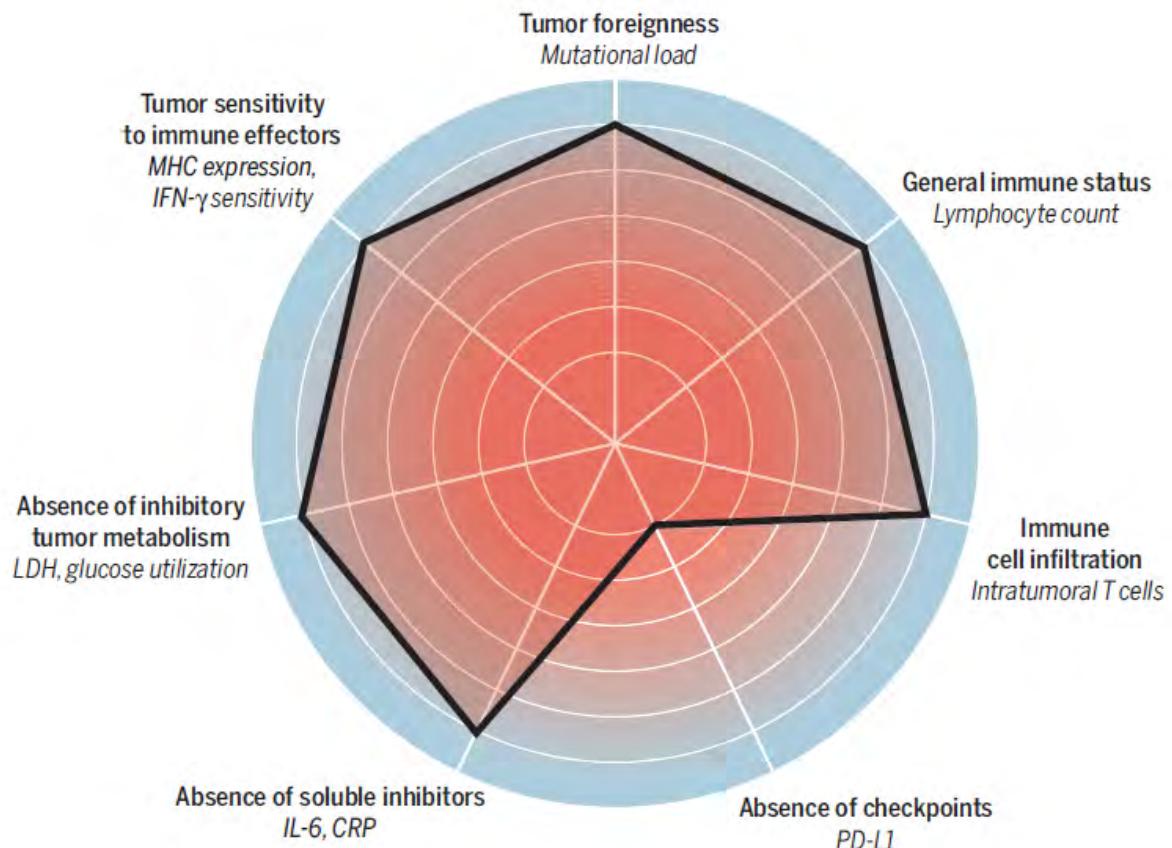
# The “cancer immunogram”

Visualizing the state of cancer-immune system interactions may spur personalized therapy

By Christian U. Blank,<sup>1,2</sup> John B. Haanen,<sup>1,2</sup>  
Antoni Ribas,<sup>3</sup> Ton N. Schumacher<sup>2</sup>

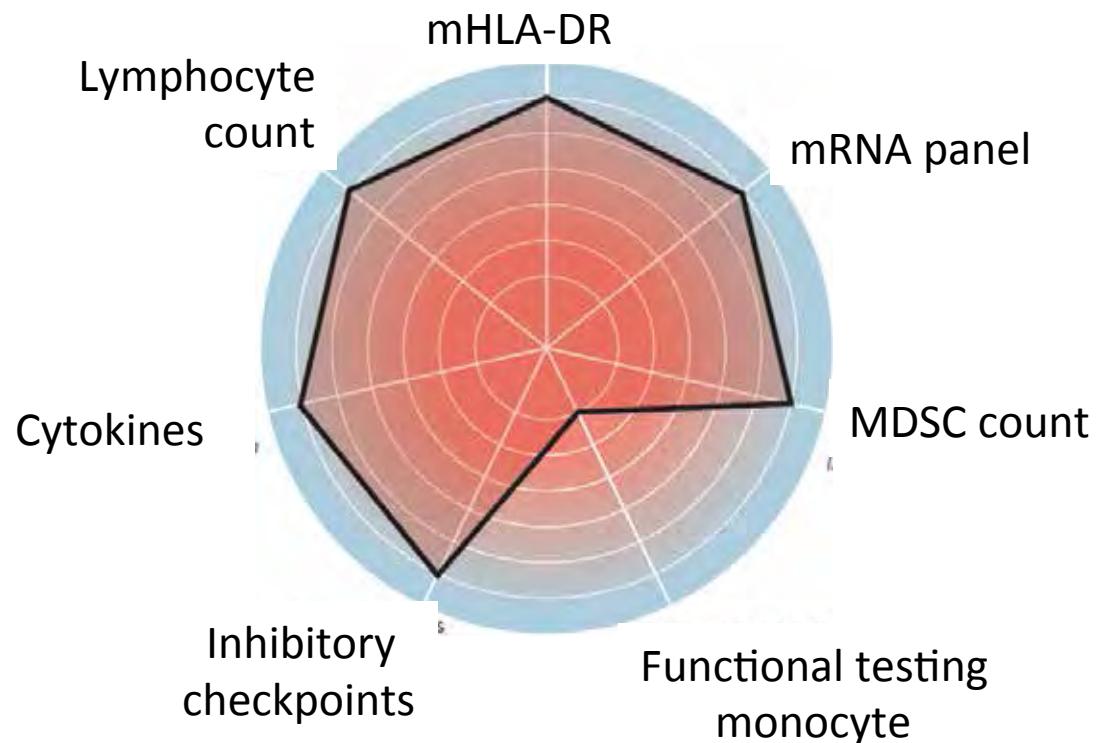
*“...a cancer immunogram... does make it possible to... discuss treatment options in a more refined and personalized manner.”*

*“Seven parameter classes may constitute a reasonable initial framework for building such an immunogram...”*



# The future? => The « sepsis immunogram »

*“...a sepsis immunogram...  
does make it possible to...  
discuss treatment options  
in a more refined and  
personalized manner...”*



(meningococcemia ≠ immunosenescence ≠ diabetes)  
+ impact of biotherapies



LYON, F  
EA 7426

« Pathophysiology of Injury-induced Immunosuppression »

