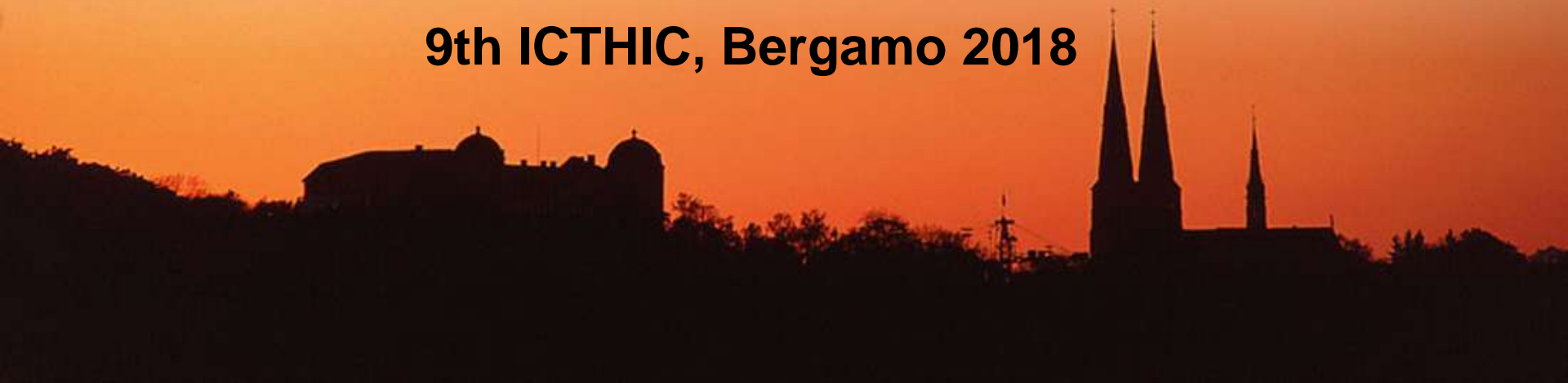

NETosis, platelets and cancer

Anna-Karin Olsson
IMBIM, Uppsala University

9th ICTHIC, Bergamo 2018



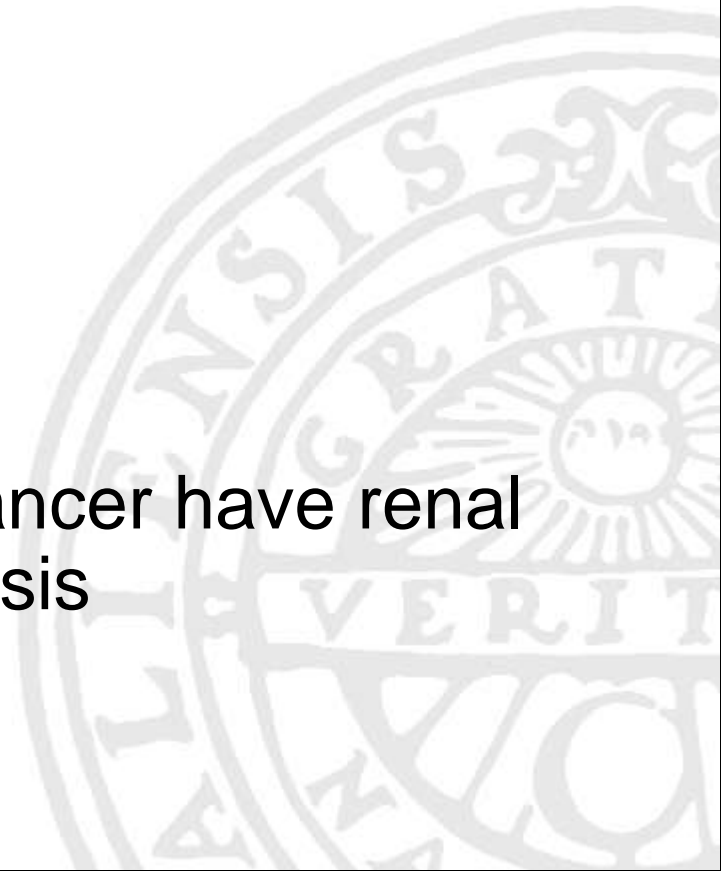
Major causes of cancer-related death

- disseminated disease
- thrombosis
- distant organ failure

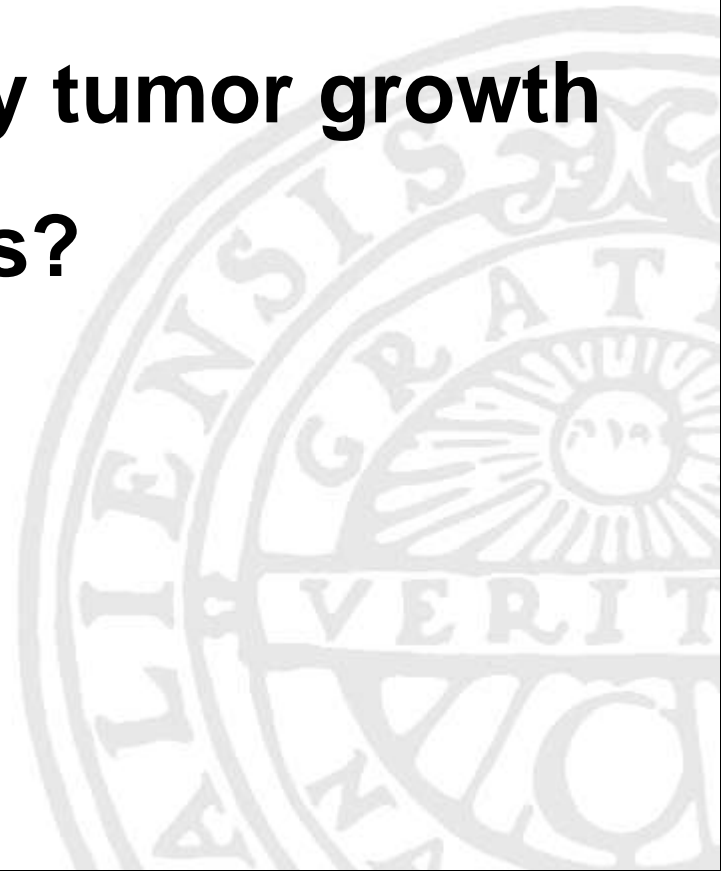


Major causes of cancer-related death

- disseminated disease
- thrombosis
- distant organ failure
- >50% of patients with solid cancer have renal insufficiency at time of diagnosis



**Tumor-induced effects on organs that
are not affected by primary tumor growth
or metastases?**



Tumor-induced effects on distant organs in mice with cancer

RIP1-Tag2

pancreatic insulinoma,
liver and lung metastases

Strain: C57BL/6



MMTV-PyMT

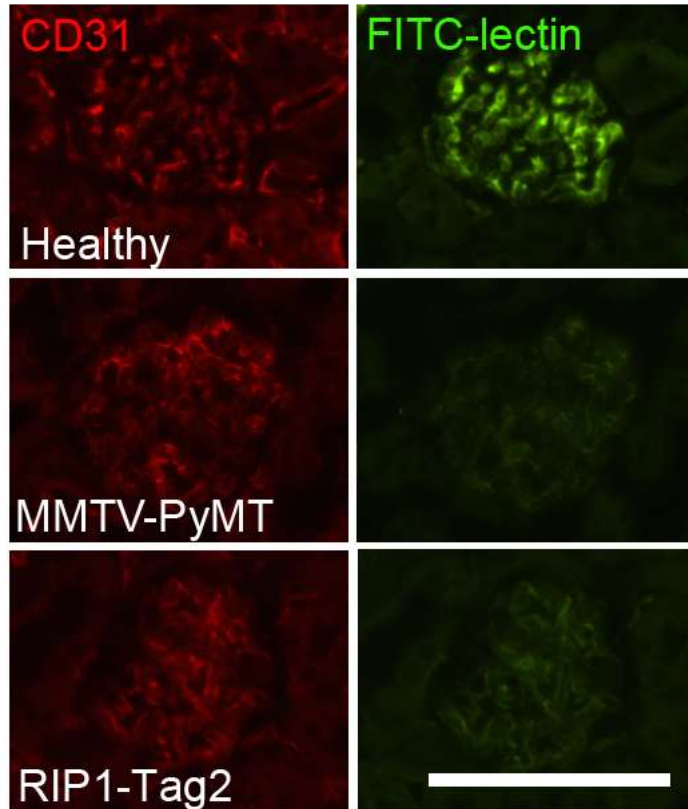
mammary carcinoma,
lung metastases

Strain: FVB/n

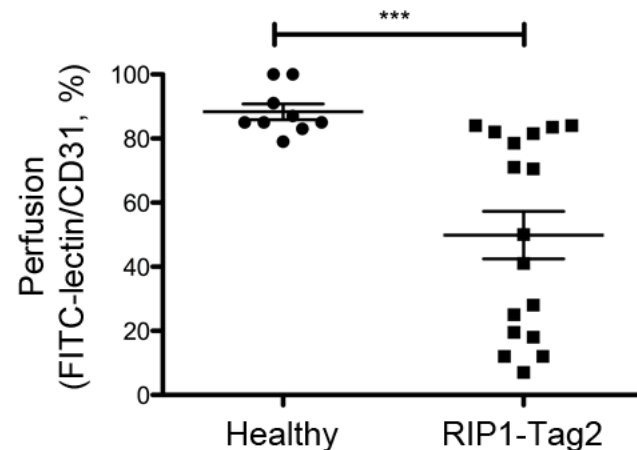
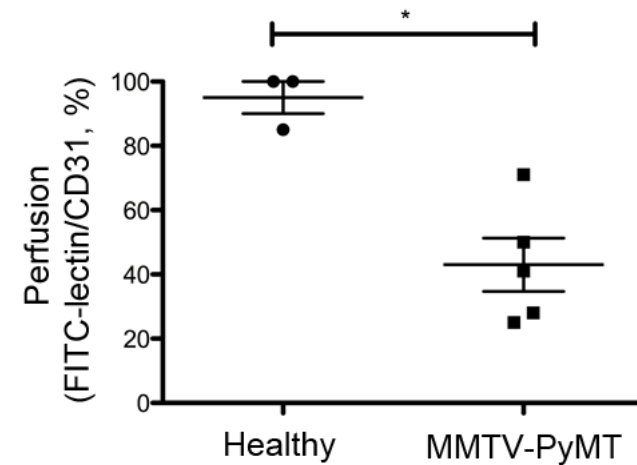


Perfusion and **leakage** of kidney and heart
in RIP1-Tag2 and MMTV-PyMT mice?

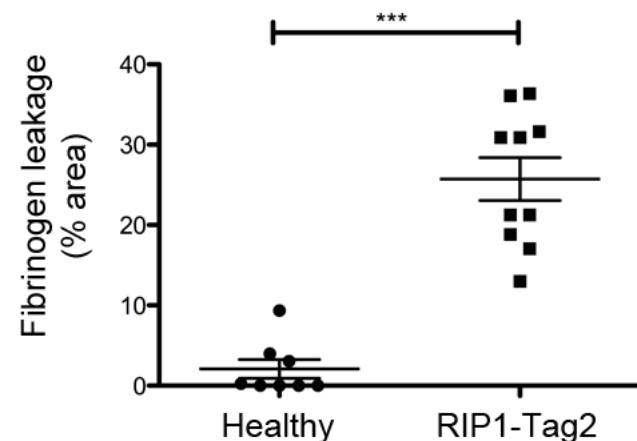
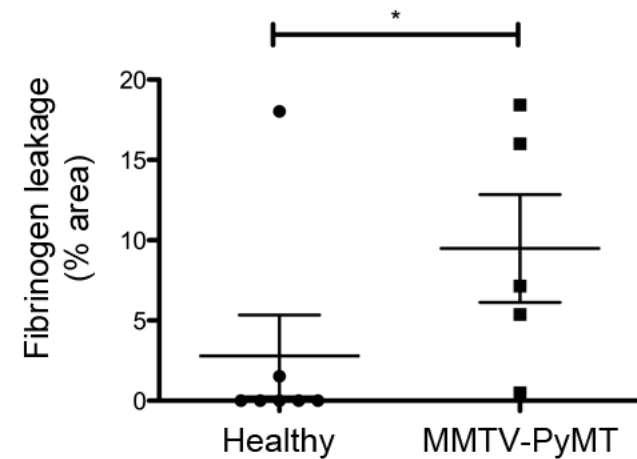
Reduced vascular perfusion in kidney from tumor-bearing mice



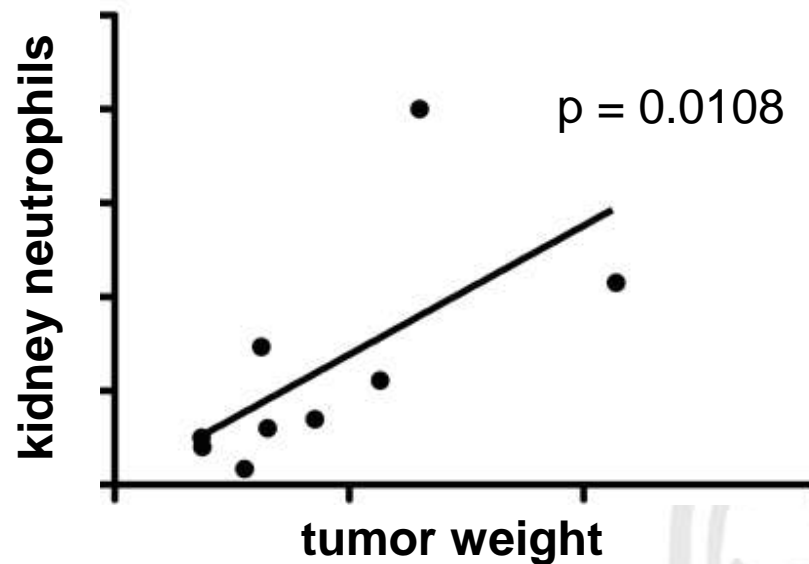
Vascular perfusion



Vascular leakage



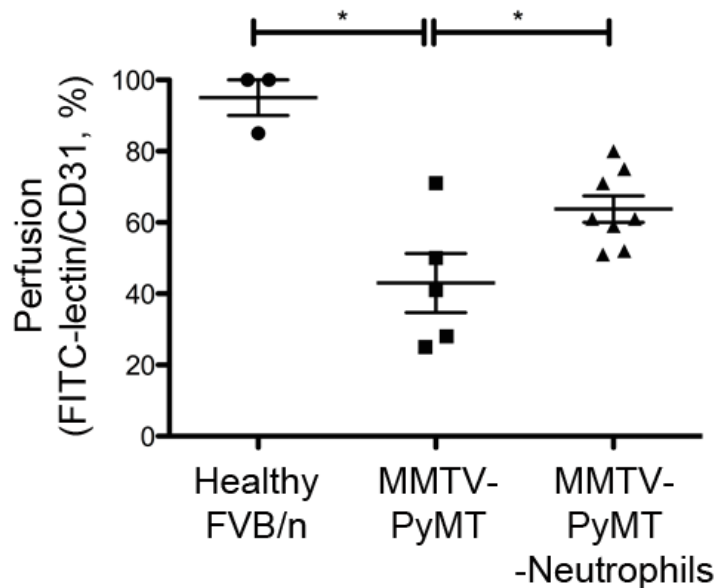
Number of kidney neutrophils correlates with primary tumor burden



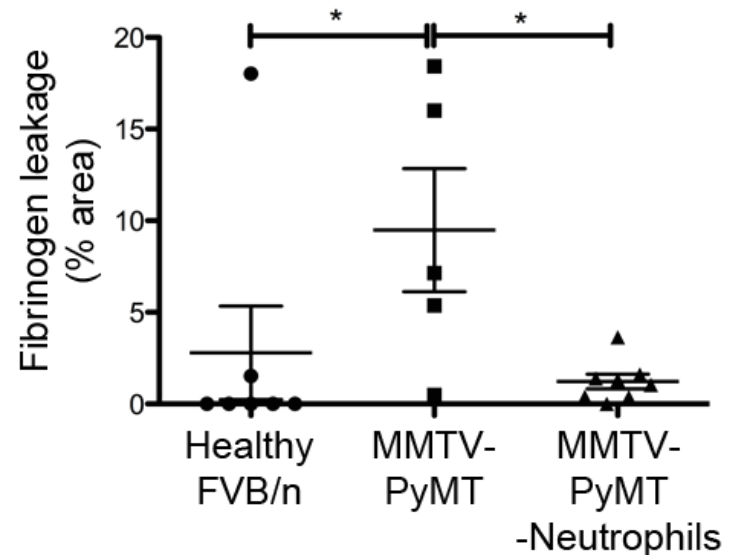
Neutrophil depletion restores kidney vascular perfusion and prevents leakage

Neutrophil depletion by injection of an anti-Gr1 antibody

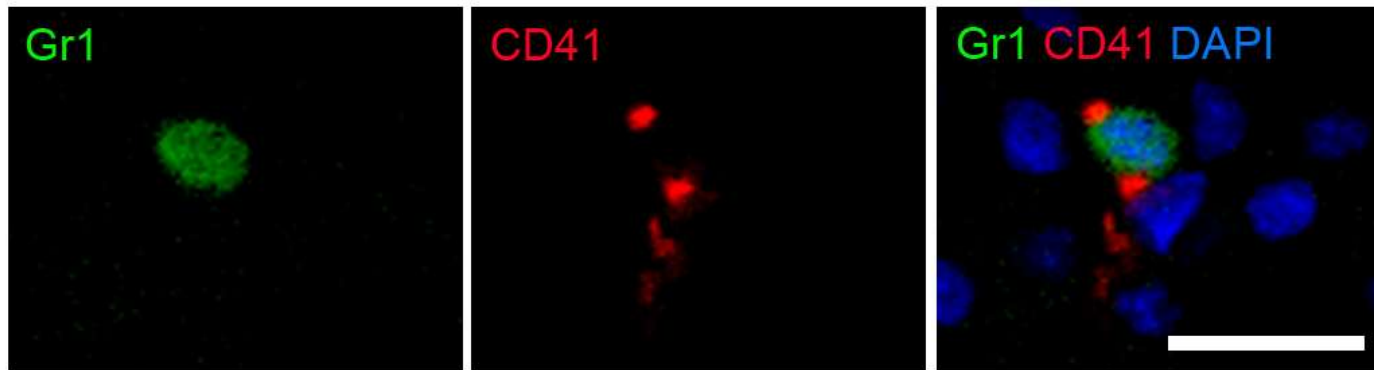
Vascular perfusion



Vascular leakage



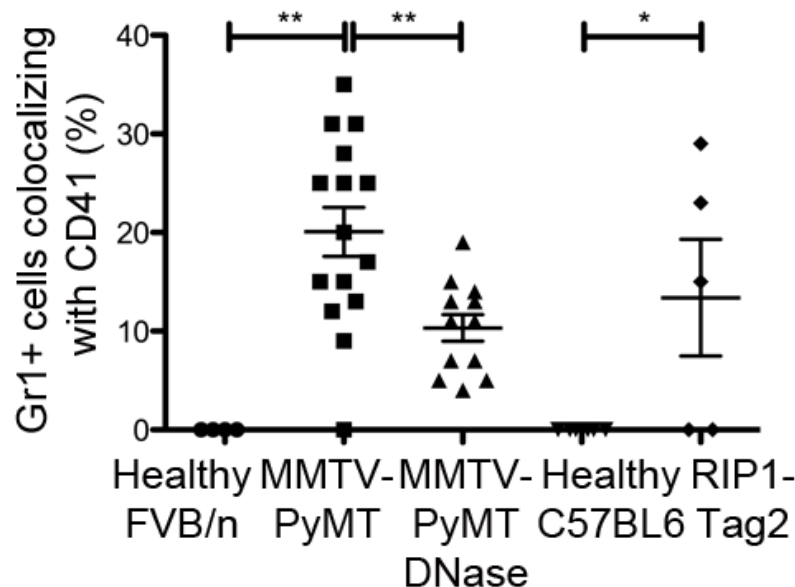
Platelet-neutrophil complexes accumulate in peripheral vasculature in mice with cancer



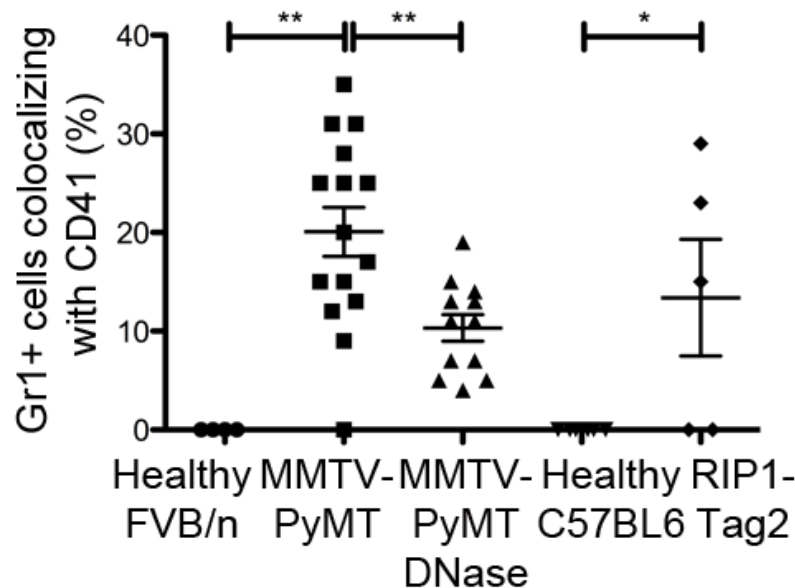
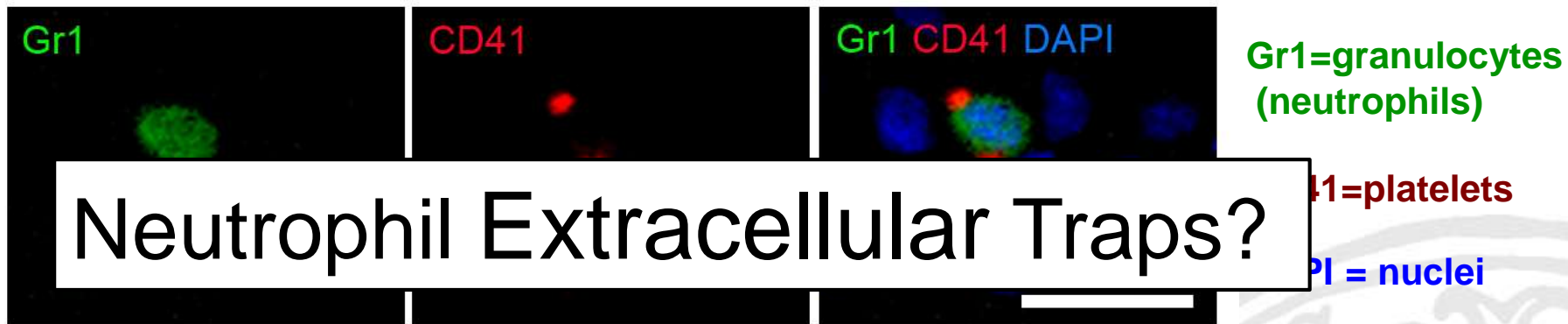
Gr1=granulocytes
(neutrophils)

CD41=platelets

DAPI = nuclei



Platelet-neutrophil complexes accumulate in peripheral vasculature in mice with cancer



Neutrophil extracellular traps – NETs



Scanning electron micrograph
of *Staph aureus* bound to NETs
(Brinkmann et al 2004)

- 2004: novel defense mechanism to bacterial infections
- Formed when neutrophils externalize their DNA together with histones and anti-bacterial granule proteins like elastase & myeloperoxidase.
- Traps and kills bacteria.
- Cytotoxic towards the endothelium.

NETs in non-infectious disease

NETosis implicated in various inflammatory diseases:

- **thrombosis**
- **cancer**
- **postsurgical complications**
- **autoimmunity**
- **diabetes**
- **atherosclerosis**
- **arthritis**

Fuchs et al PNAS 2010, Villanueva J Immunol 2011, Demers et al, PNAS 2012, Wong et al Nat Med 2015, Warnatsch et al, Cedervall et al Cancer Res 2015, Clin Exp Immunol 2017, Kubes, Nat Med 2017, Wolach Sci Translational Med 2018

NETs activate platelets and are prothrombotic

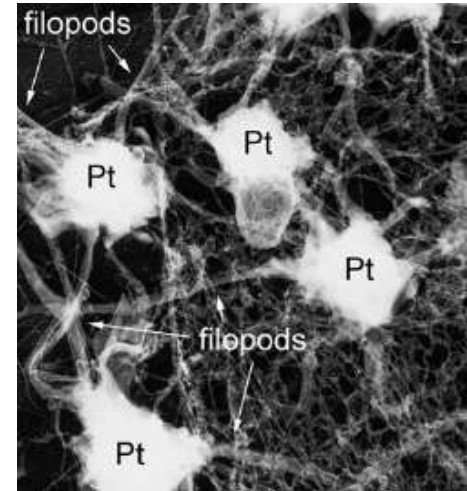
- Clark et al Nat Med 2007
- Fuchs et al PNAS 2010
- Von Bruhl et al J Exp Med 2012
- Demers et al PNAS 2012
- Now more than 200 papers!

Suggested mechanisms:

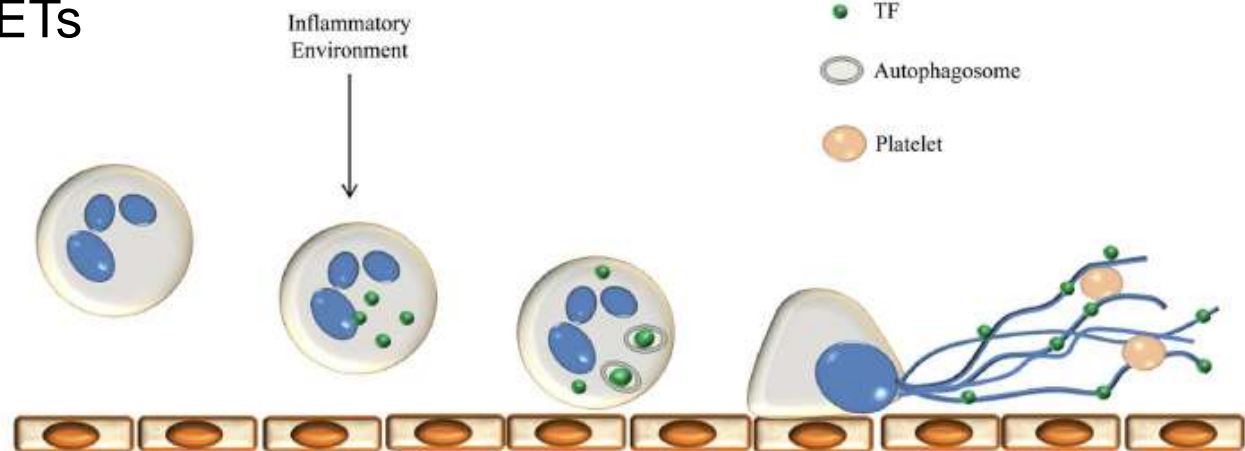
Platelet activation by extracellular histones

FXII activation by extracellular DNA

TF bound to NETs



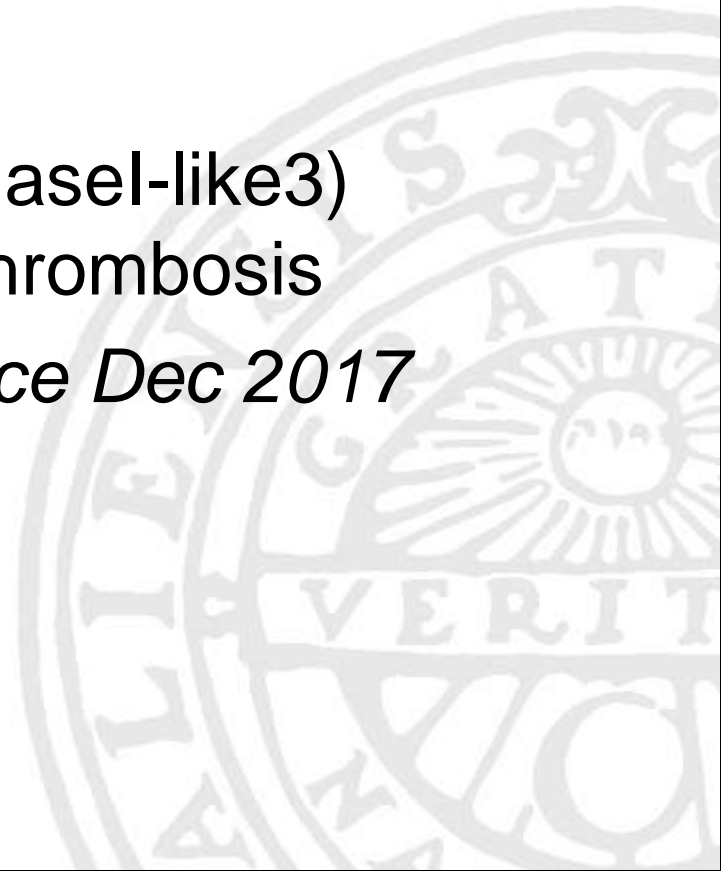
Fuchs et al PNAS 2010



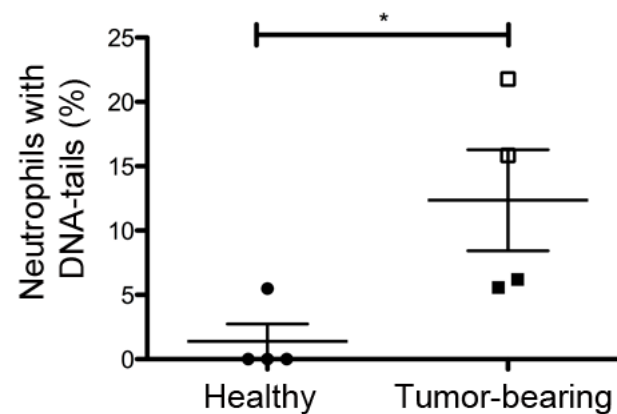
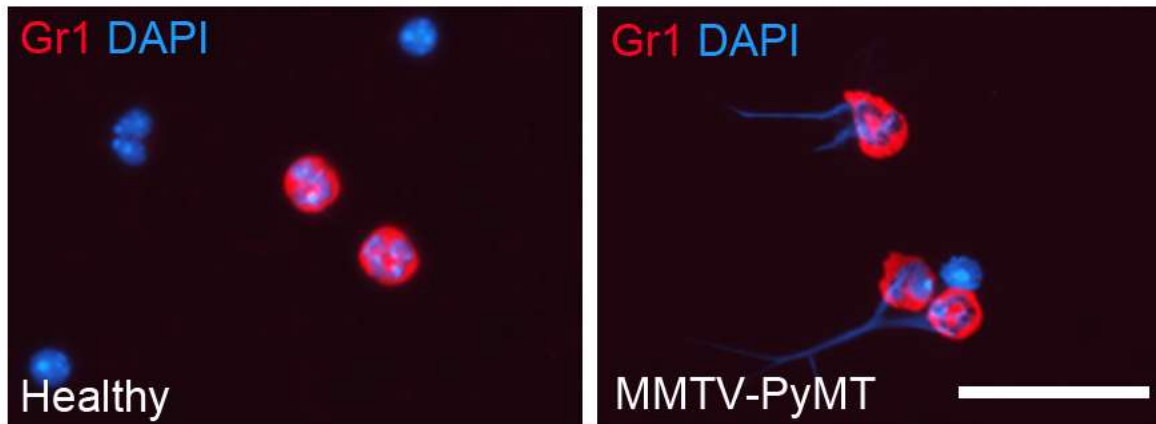
DNase I degrades NETs

- Several studies have shown that DNase I treatment can degrade NETs *in vivo*
- Host DNases (DNase1 and DNase1-like3) protects us from NET-induced thrombosis

Jiménez-Alcázar et al, Science Dec 2017

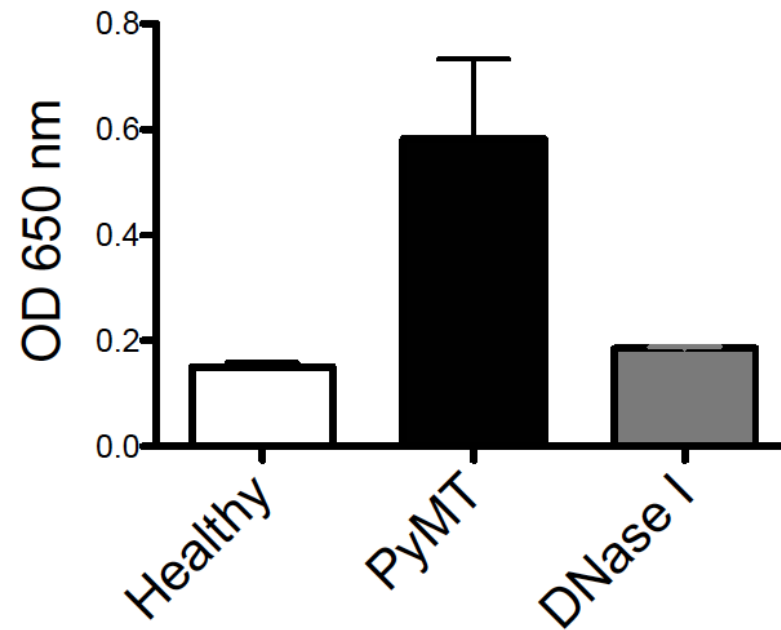


Neutrophils with extracellular DNA in peripheral vasculature in mice with cancer

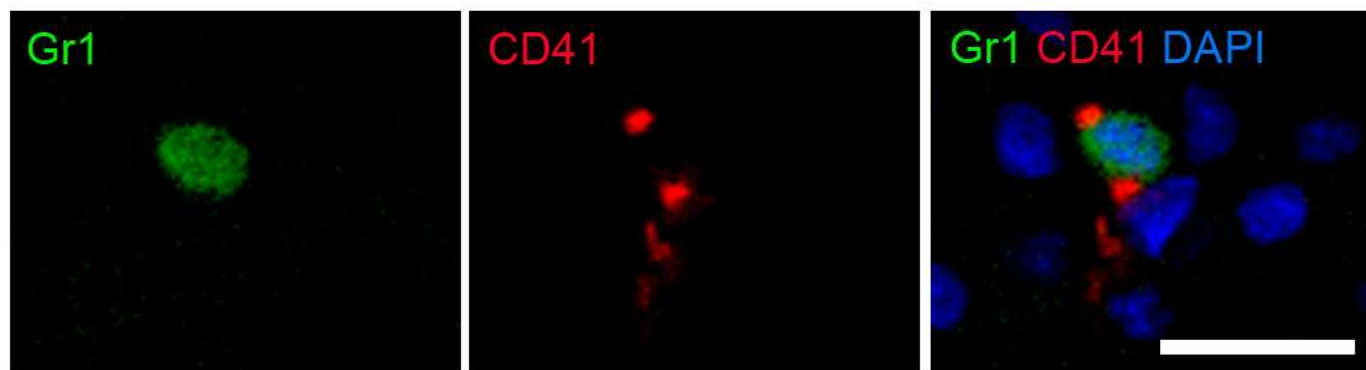


DNase I treatment removes NETs from the circulation of tumor-bearing mice

ELISA: citH3-DNA complex in plasma



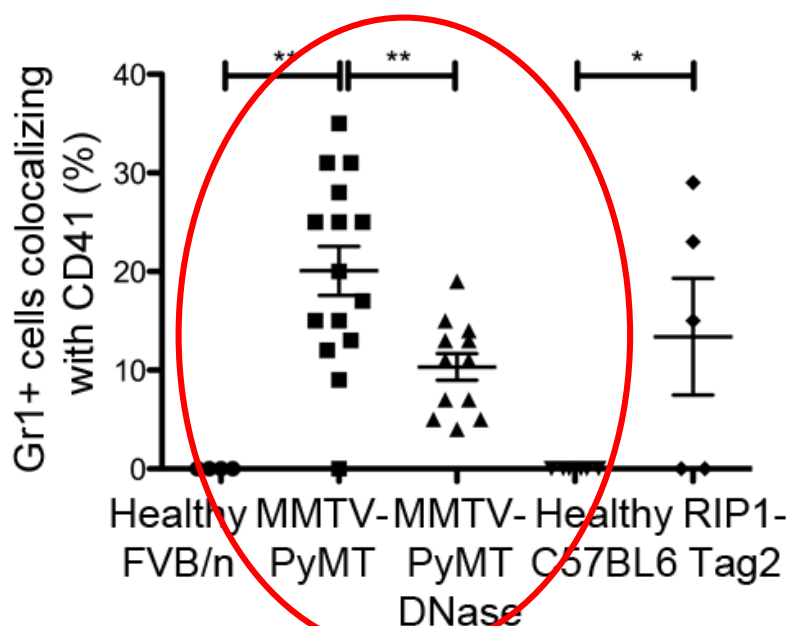
DNase I treatment removes kidney platelet-neutrophil complexes in mice with cancer



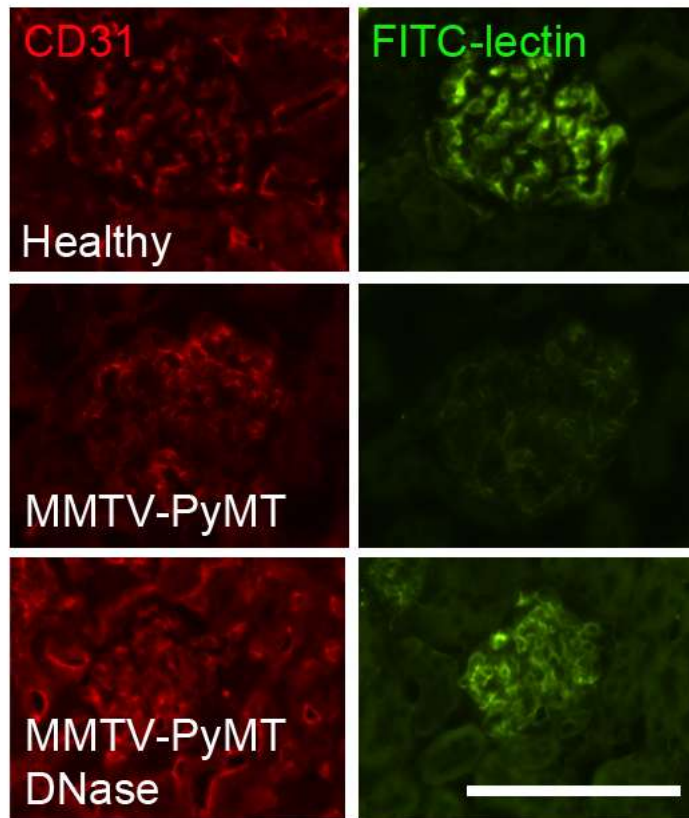
Gr1=granulocytes
(neutrophils)

CD41=platelets

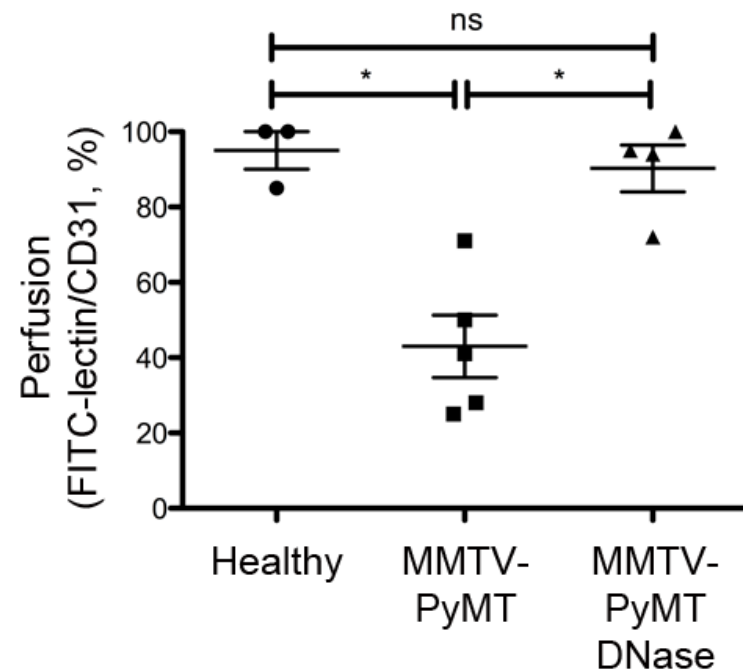
DAPI = nuclei



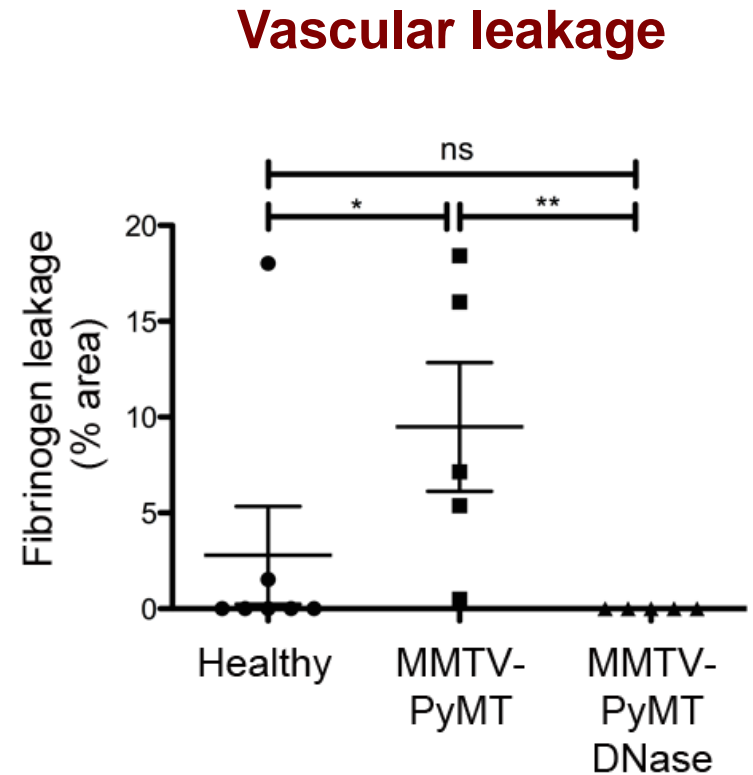
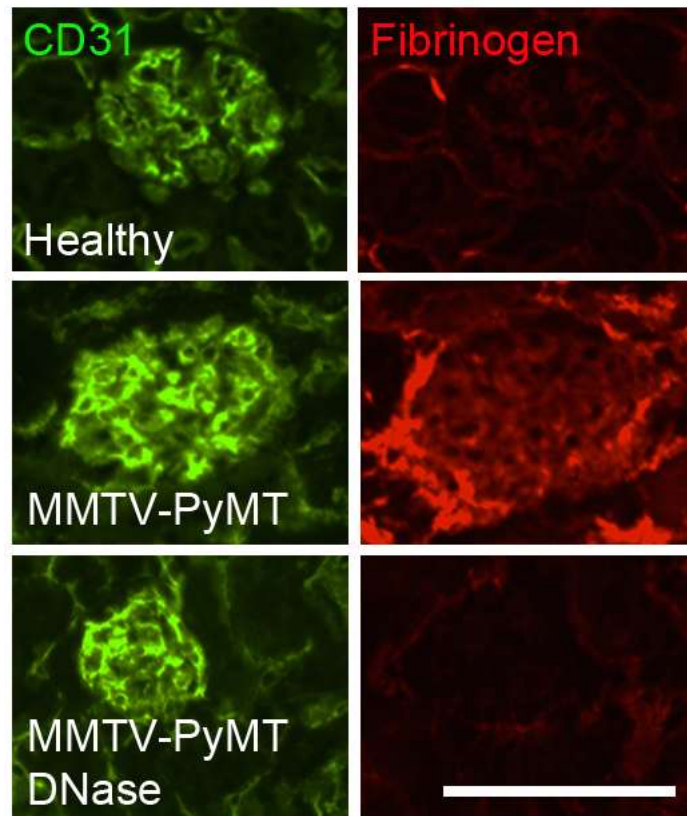
DNase I treatment restores kidney vascular perfusion



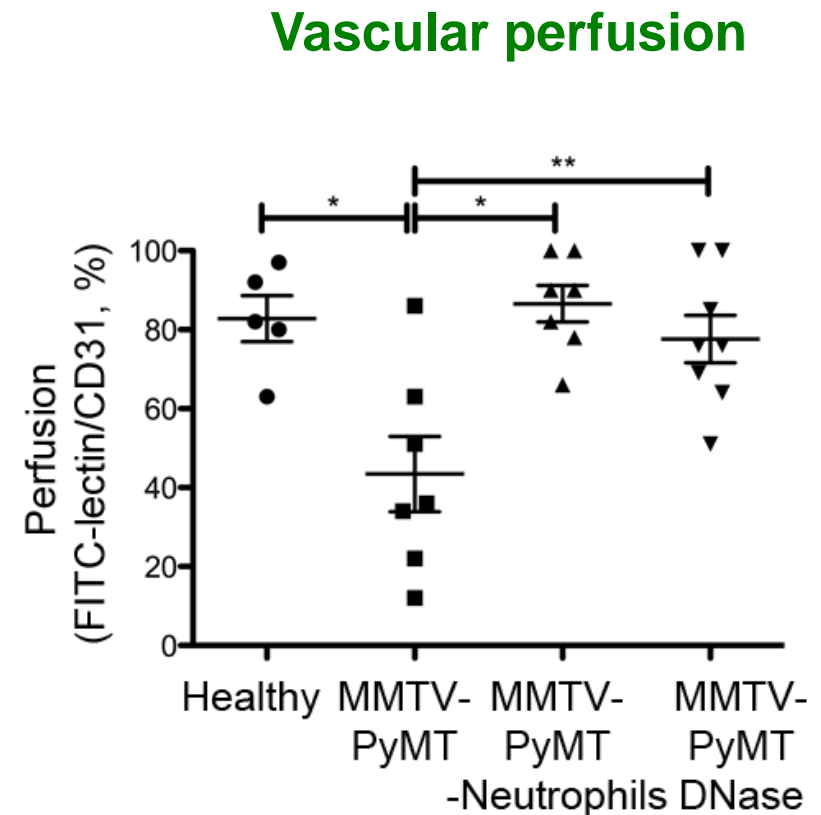
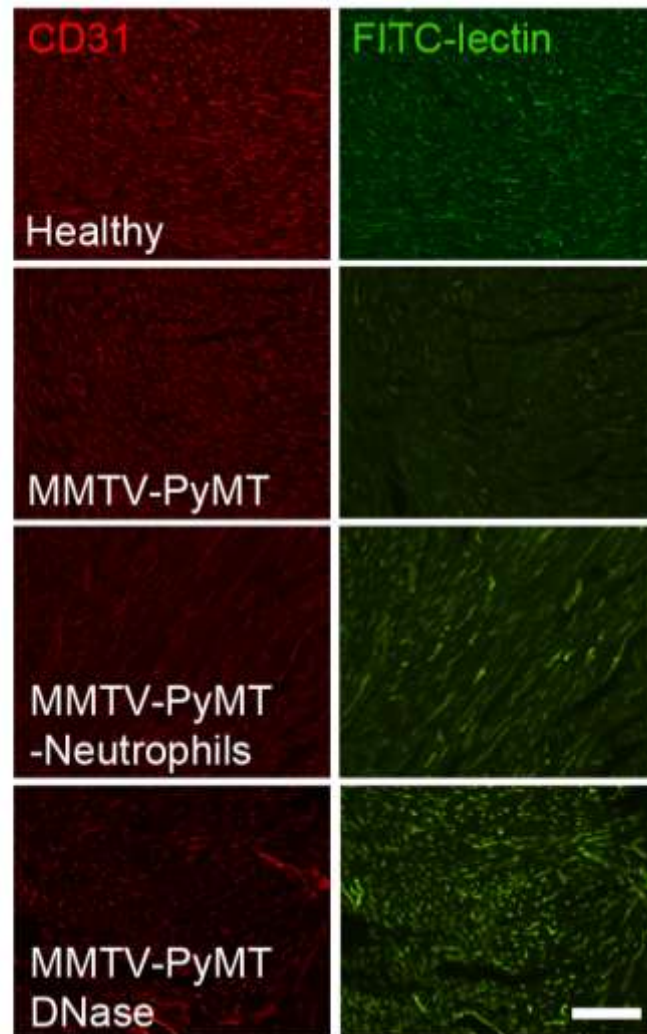
Vascular perfusion



DNase I treatment prevents kidney vascular leakage



DNase I treatment restores vascular perfusion in the heart



Upregulation of inflammatory molecules in kidneys from tumor-bearing mice

Gene	Forward (5'-3')	Reverse (5'-3')
ICAM	CCGCTACCATCACCGTGTA	CACAGGTCTCACCTCCACACT
VCAM	TGGGAACCTGGAACCAAGTA	CTCTGGATCCTTGGGGAAAA
E-selectin	GCGCTTTCTCTCTGCTCTTG	ATGAGCTCACTGGAGGCATT
G-CSF	CCTGGAGCAAGTGAGGAAGA	CTCGGGGTCACACAGCTT
IL1a	TCATTGGCGCTTGAGTCCGCA	TCAGAGAGAGATGGTCAATGGCACA
IL1b	TGAAATGCCACCTTTTGACA	GGGTCCGTCAACTTCAAAGA
IL6	GATGGATGCTACCAAAGTGA	GGTACTCCAGAAGACCAGAGGA
IL10	TGAATTCCTGGGTGAGAAG	GCTCCACTGCCTTGCTCTTA
IL17	TCCAGAAGGCCCTCAGACTA	AGCTTCCCAGATCACAGAGG
IL18	TGTCTACCCTCTCCTGTAAGAAC	TGTATATCATCAATATTTTCAGGTGG
CCL20	CTTGCTTTGGCATGGGTACT	TGTACGAGAGGCAACAGTCG
CXCL12	CCAAACTGTGCCCTTCAGAT	TAATTCGGGTCAATGCACA
CX3CL1	CGCGTTCTTCCATTGTGTA	TTCGTGAGGTCATCTGTGCG
CCL3	ACCATGACACTCTGCAACCA	TAGGAGAAGCAGCAGGCACT
CCL5	GTGCCCACGTCAAGGAGTAT	CACTTCTTCTCTGGGTTGGC
CXCL1	GTCGCGAGCCTTGCCCTTAC	AAGCCAGCGTTCACCAGACAGG
TNF α	GTCTACTGAACTTCGGGGTGA	AGGGTCTGGGCCATAGAAGT
IFN γ	CACGGCACAGTCATTGAAAG	TTCCACATCTATGCCACTTGA

ICAM-1

VCAM-1

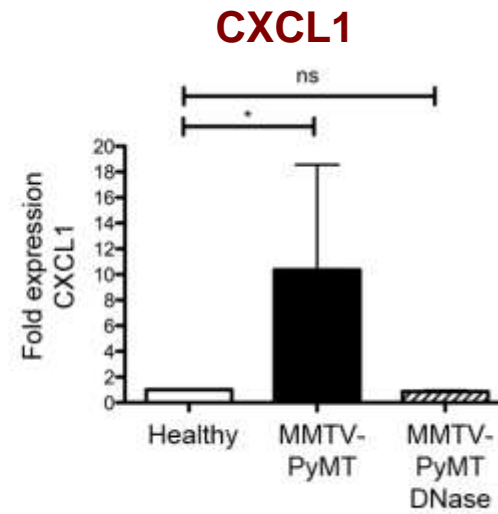
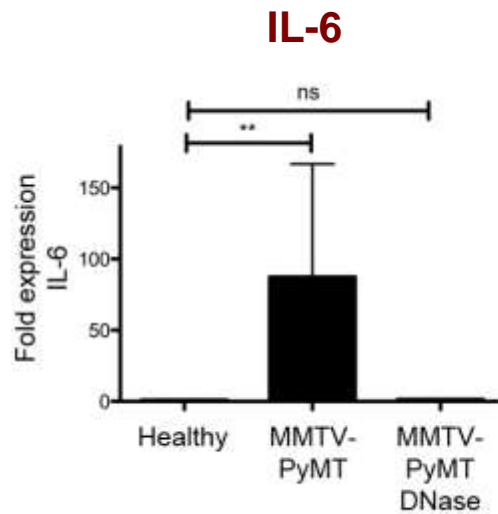
E-selectin

IL-1 β

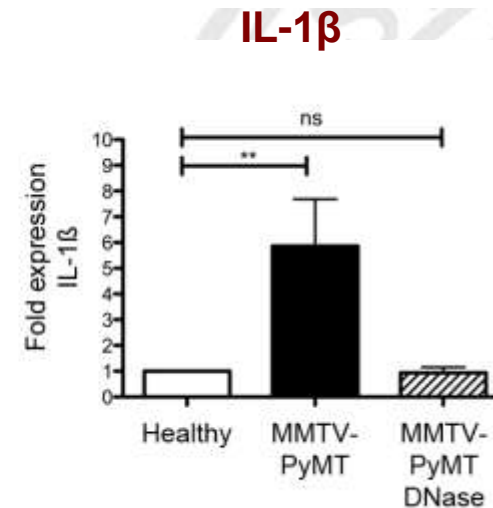
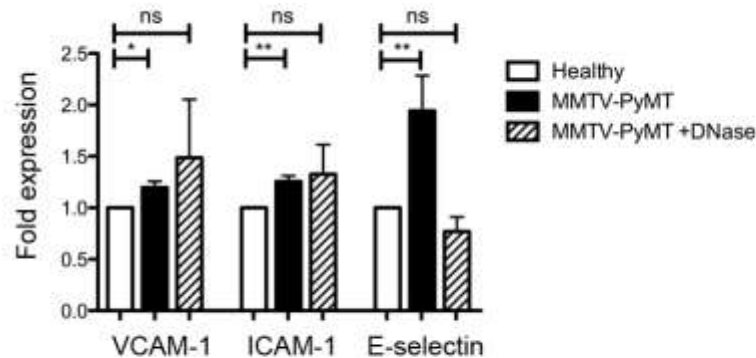
IL-6

CXCL1

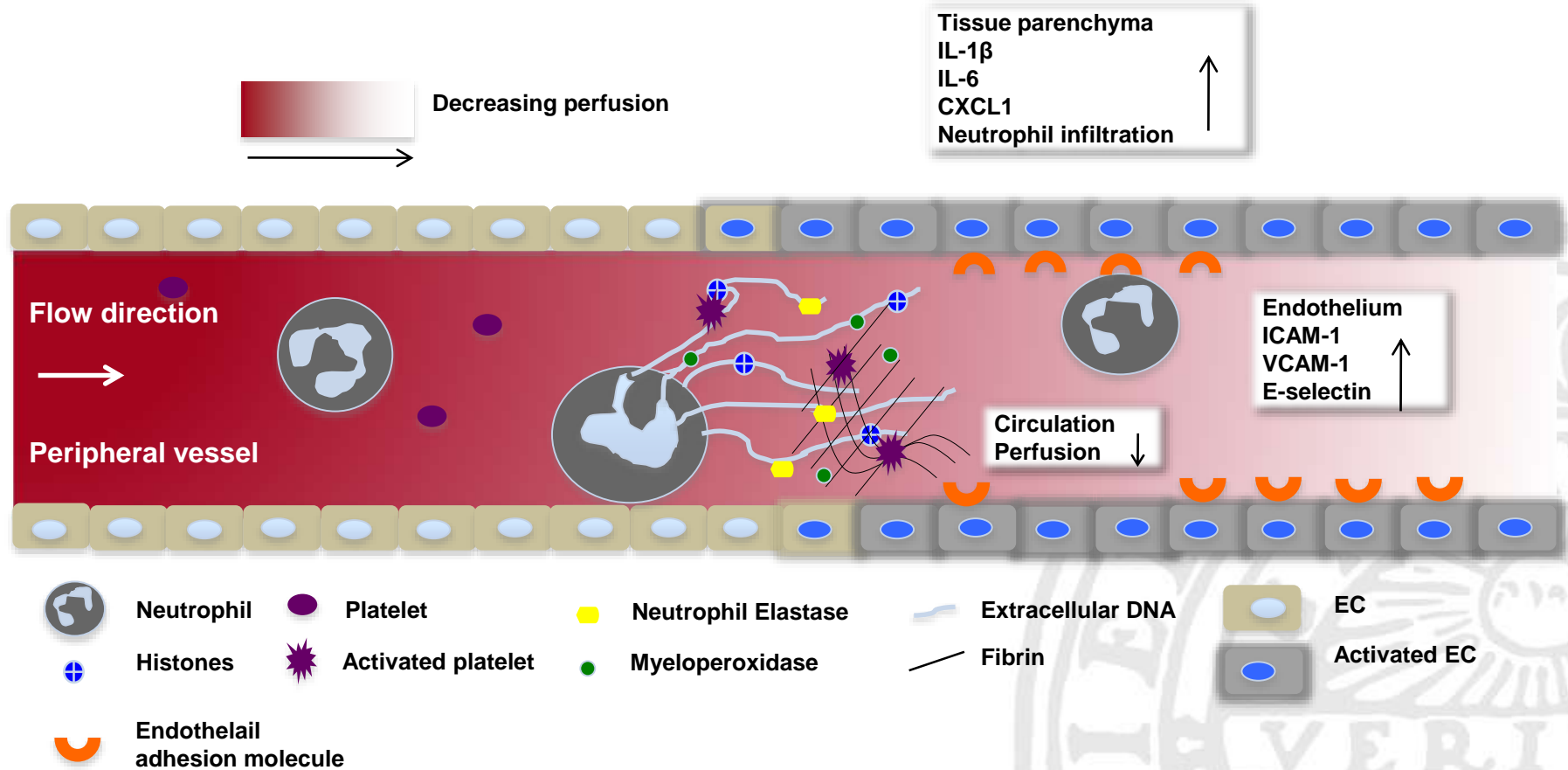
DNase I treatment suppressed inflammation in the kidney



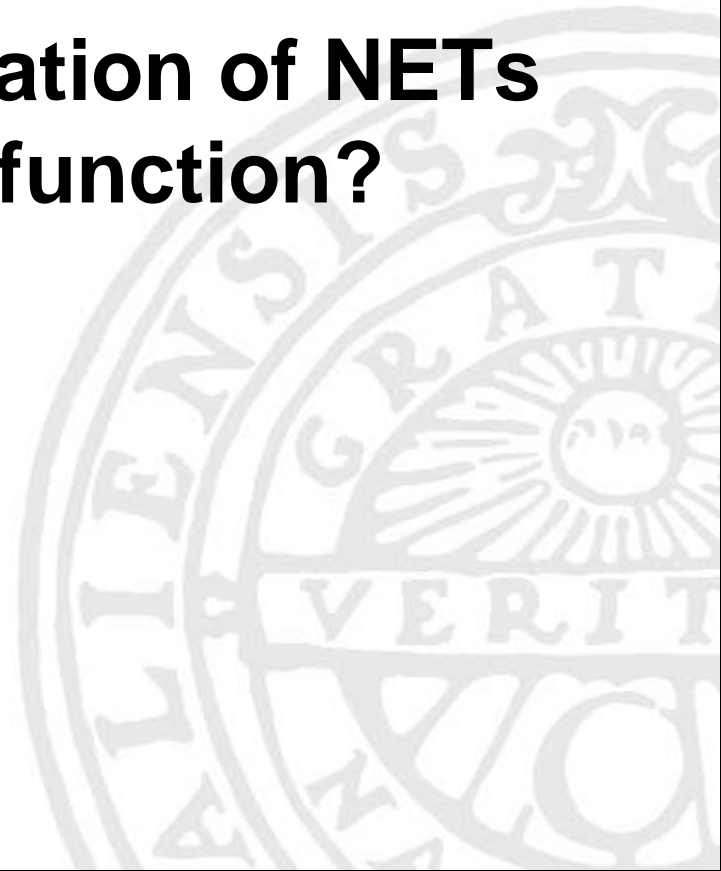
VCAM-1 ICAM-1 E-selectin



Tumor-induced intravascular NETs obstructs perfusion and induces systemic inflammation



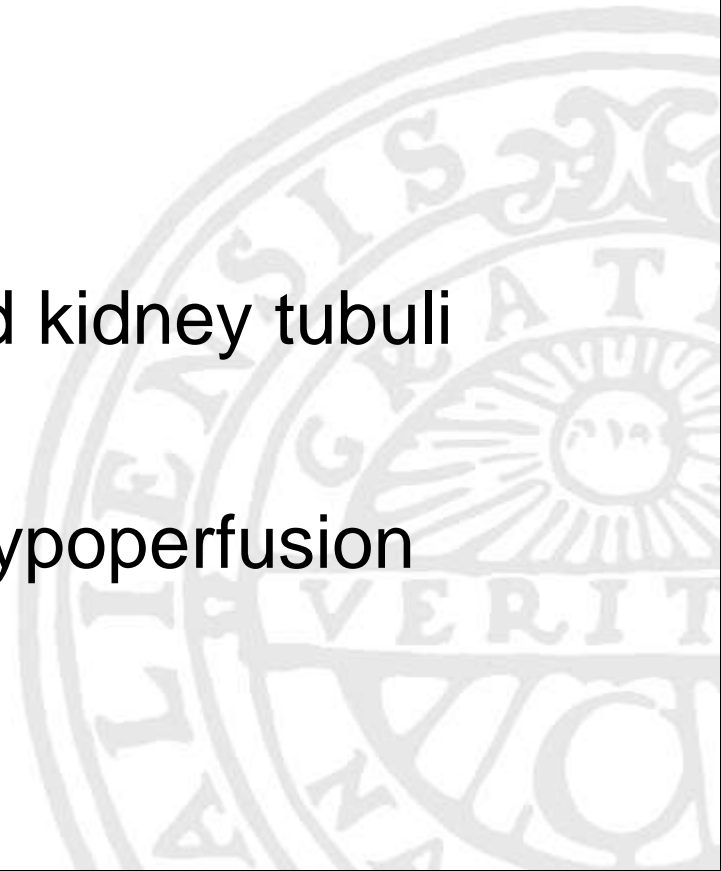
**Can tumor-induced formation of NETs
impair distant organ function?**



Biomarkers for kidney function

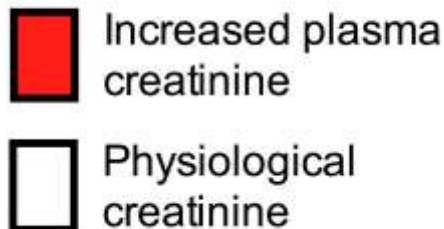
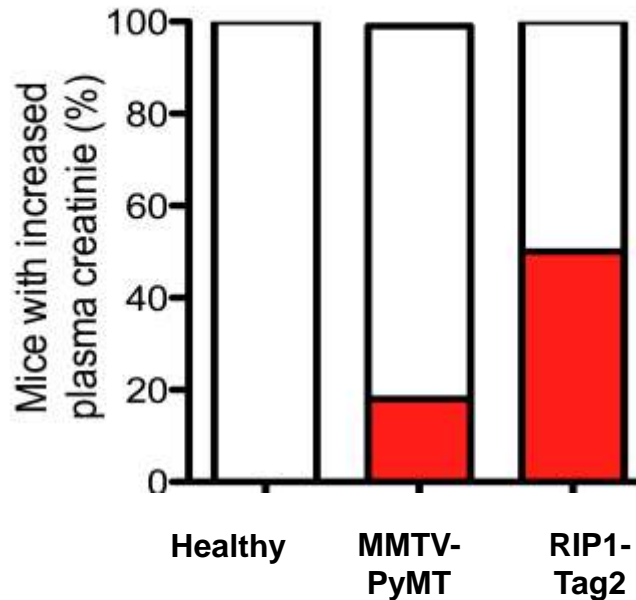
- plasma and urine creatinine
- total protein in urine
- Lipocalin-2/ NGAL in urine and kidney tubuli

NGAL is an early marker for hypoperfusion (hypoxia) and kidney stress.

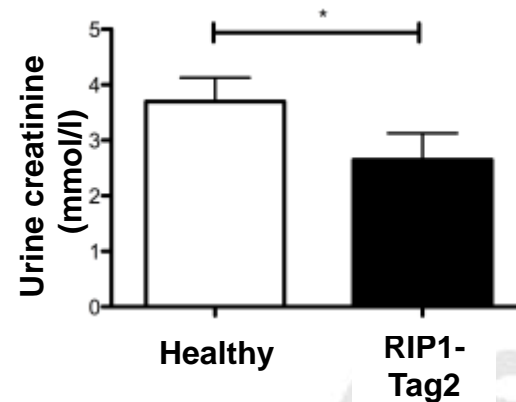


Tumor-bearing mice show clinical signs of renal insufficiency

Plasma creatinine



Urine creatinine



“RIFLE-criteria”:

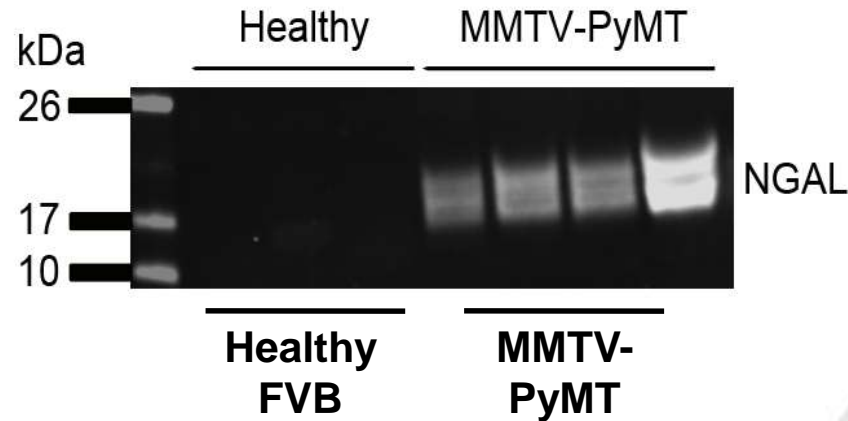
risk – 1.5-fold increase

injury – 2-fold increase

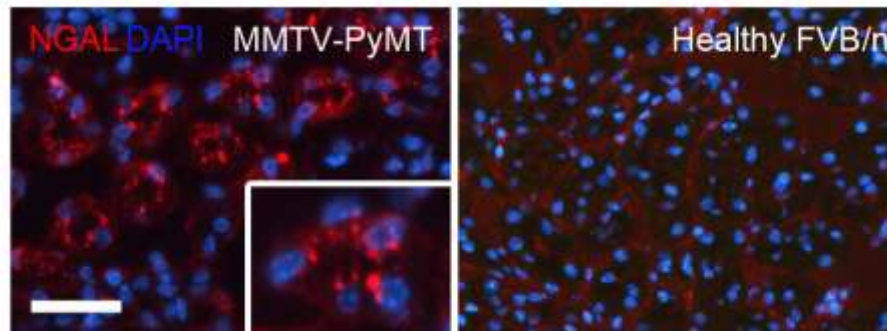
failure – 3-fold increase

Elevated NGAL expression in kidneys from tumor-bearing mice

NGAL Western blot urine

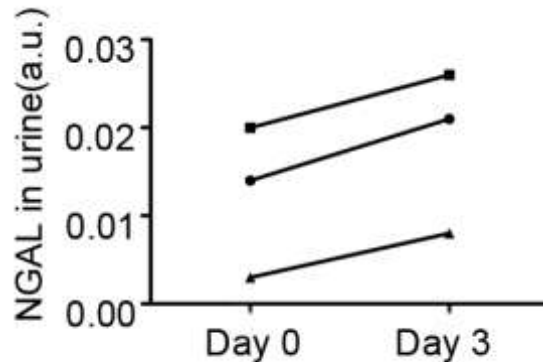


NGAL expression in kidney tubuli cells

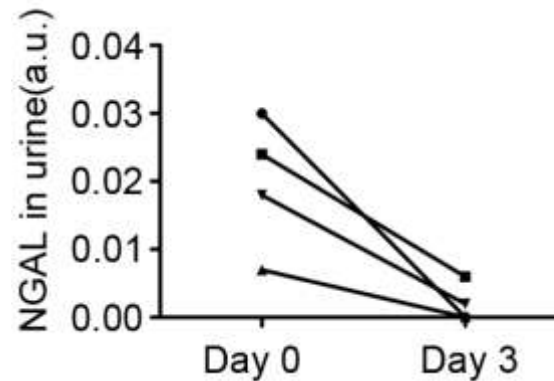


NGAL levels in urine decreased after DNase I treatment

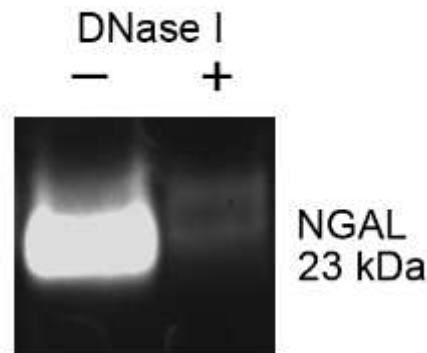
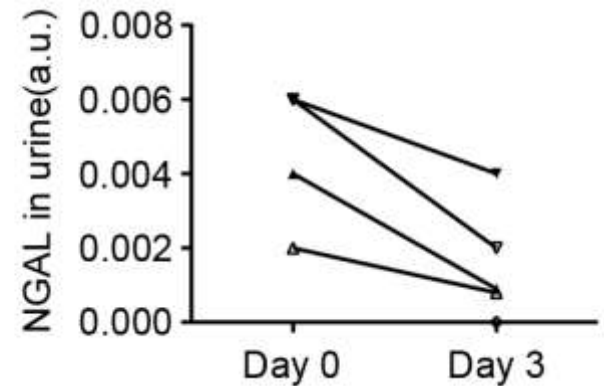
**MMTV-PyMT
untreated**



**MMTV-PyMT
+ DNase I**

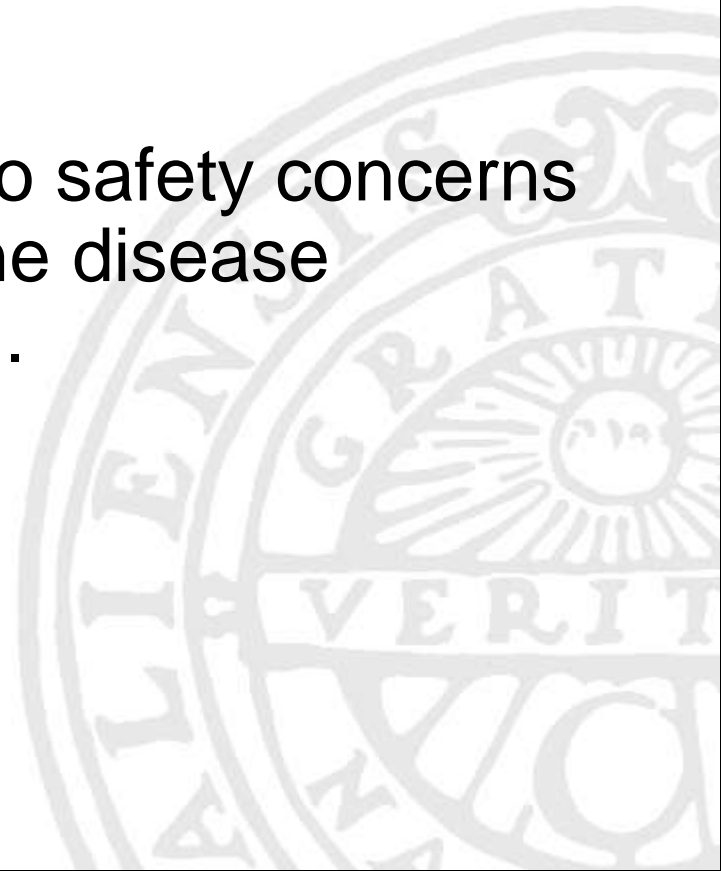


**RIP1-Tag2
+ DNase I**



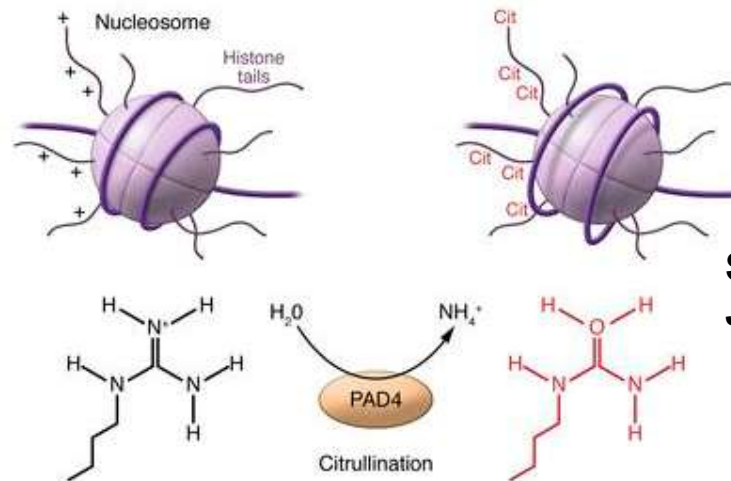
Is DNase I a therapeutic option?

- Established treatment for patients with Cystic Fibrosis (Pulmozyne®, aerosol spray).
- Injection of DNase I showed no safety concerns in patients with the autoimmune disease systemic lupus nephritis (SLE).



Targeting of peptidylarginine deiminase 4 (PAD4) to prevent NETosis

- PAD4 responsible for histone citrullination, essential for NETosis



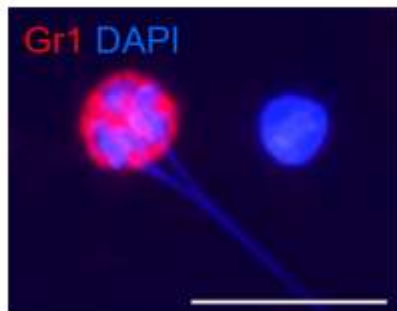
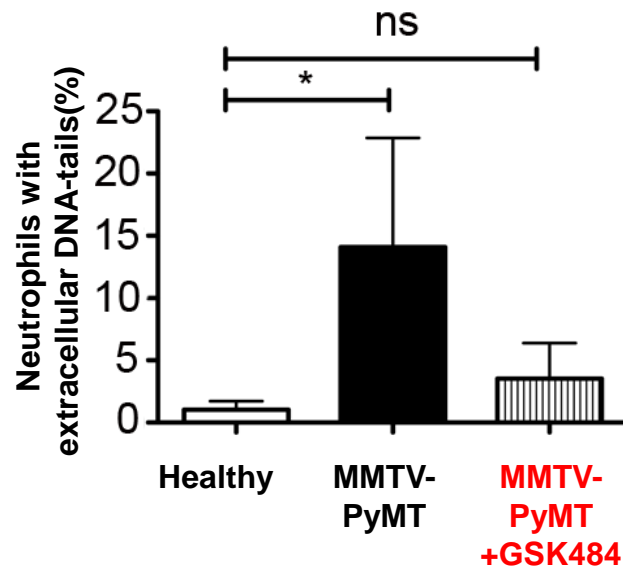
Sorensen & Borregaard,
J Clin Inv 2016

- PAD4^{-/-} mice do not form NETs in response to bacterial infections.
- Inhibitors of PAD4 enzymatic activity recently described and commercially available (GSK484).

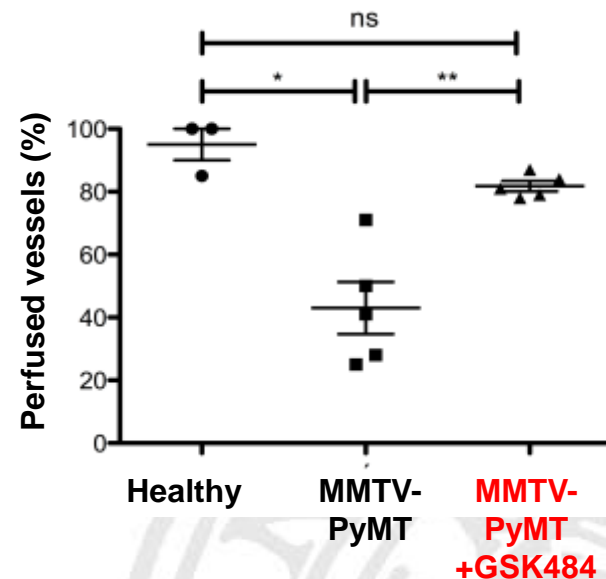
Lewis et al, Nat Chem Biol 2015

GSK484 suppresses NET formation and restores kidney vascular perfusion

NETs in peripheral blood

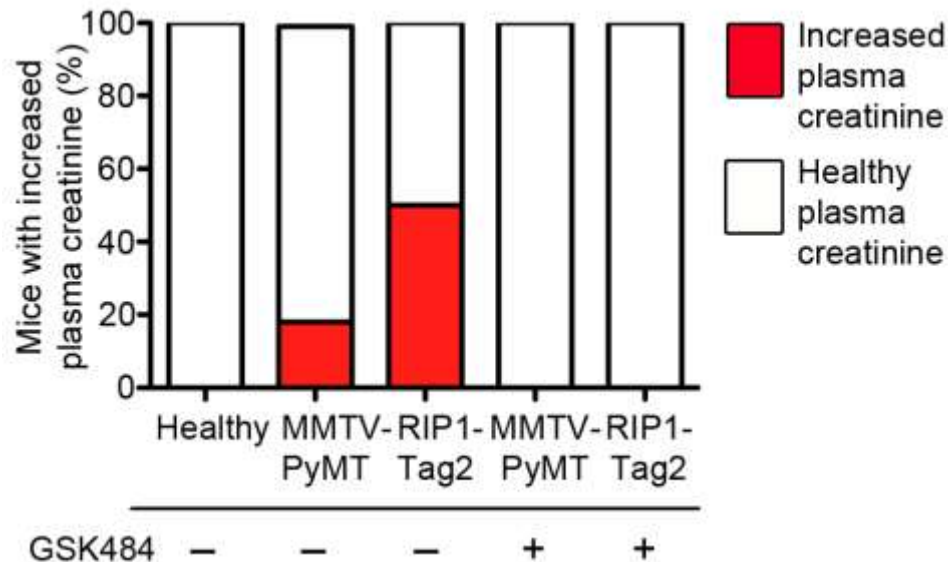


Kidney vascular perfusion

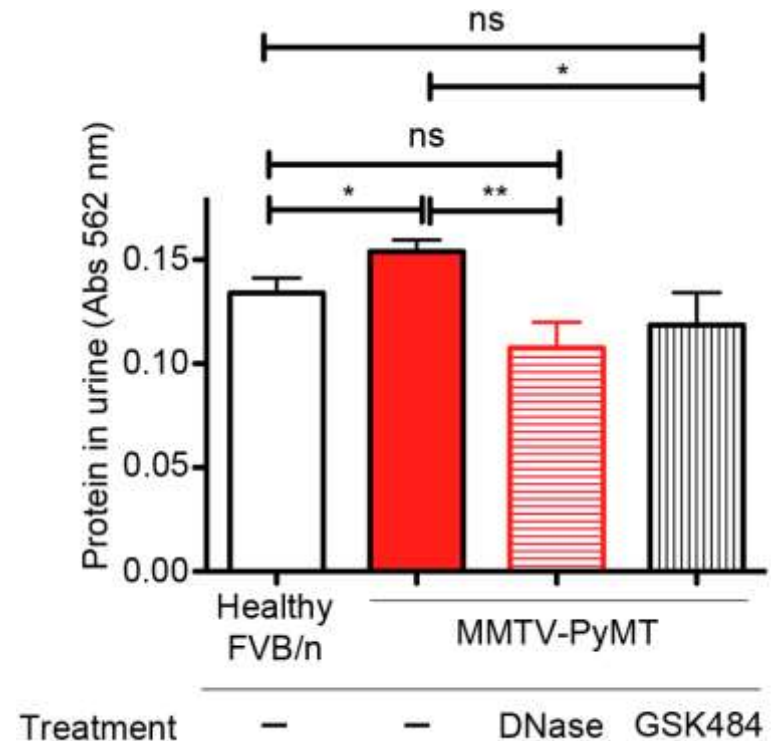


Treatment with the PAD4-inhibitor GSK484 improves renal function

Plasma creatinine

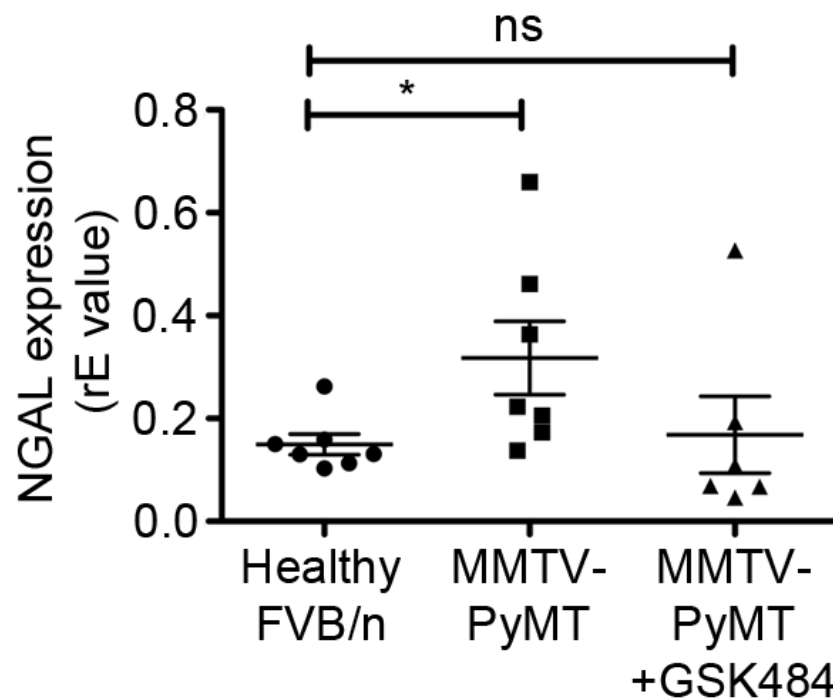


Urine protein

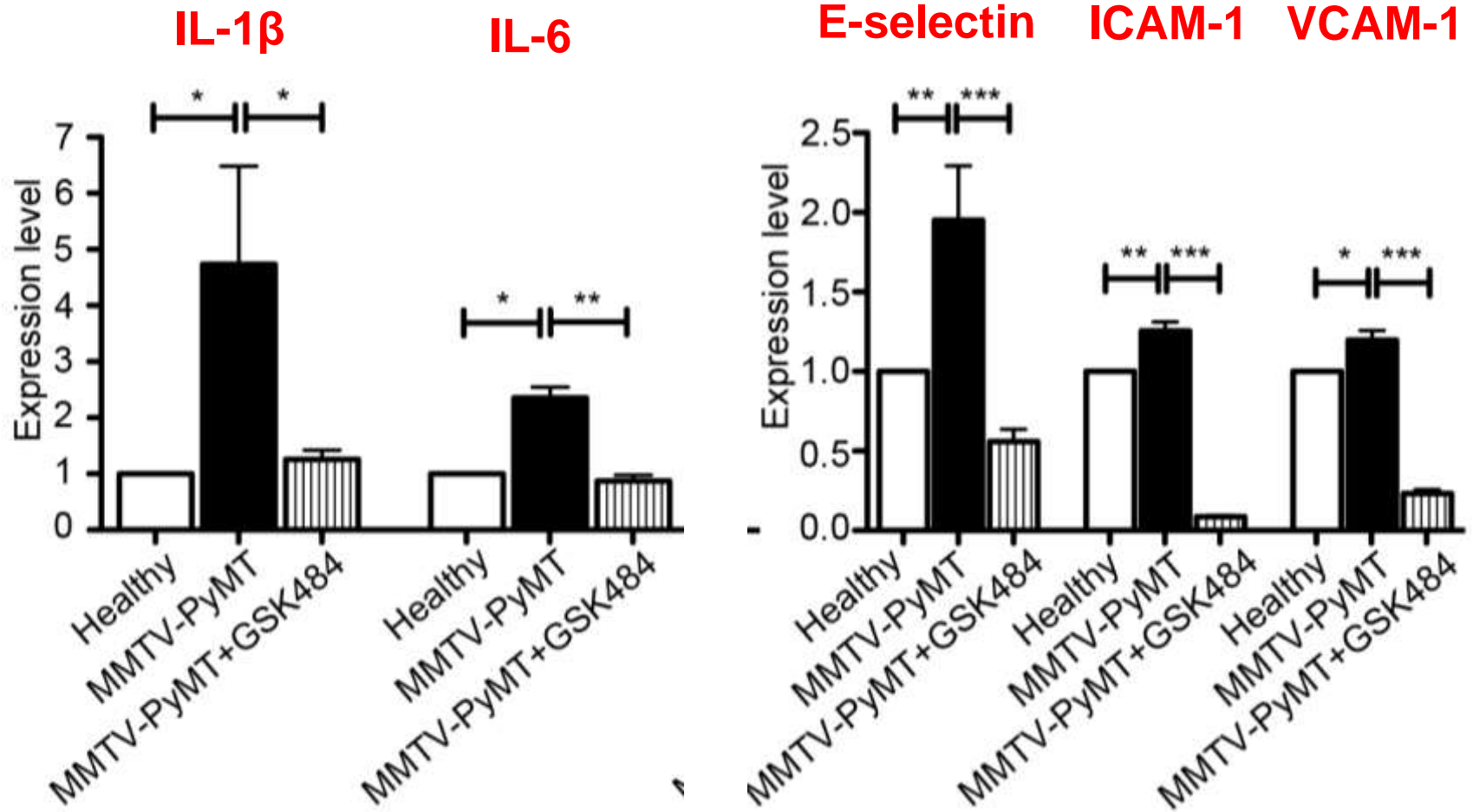


Treatment with the PAD4-inhibitor GSK484 improves renal function

NGAL mRNA expression



Suppressed inflammation in the kidney after PAD4-inhibition

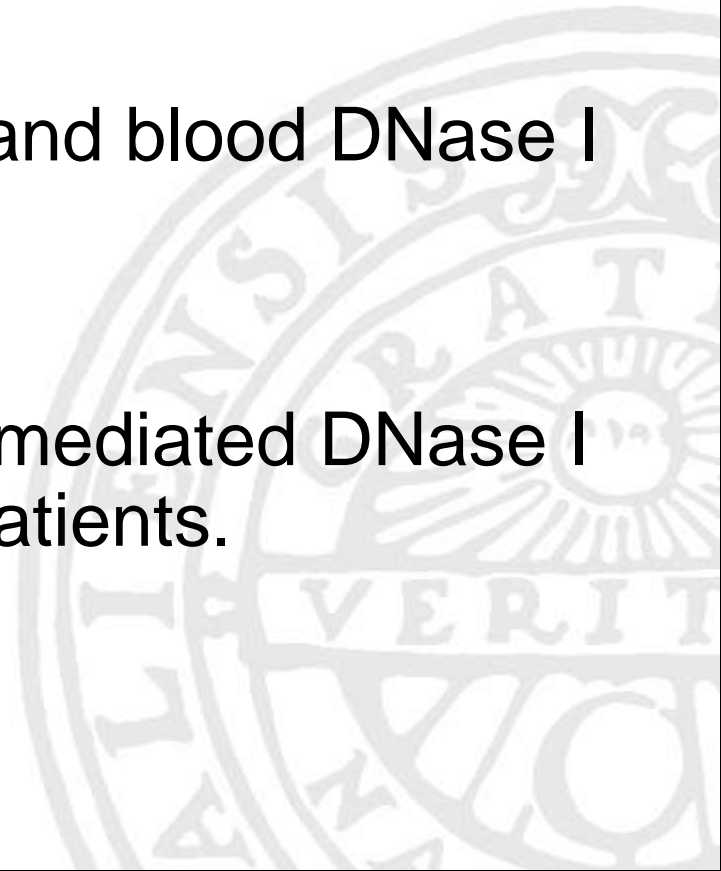


Conclusions

- Tumor-induced NET formation impairs vascular function in distant organs and promotes systemic inflammation.
- Tumor-induced NET formation may be a contributing factor to kidney failure commonly seen in cancer patients.
- NET formation could represent a therapeutic target to prevent cancer-associated kidney injury.

Future – patient samples

- Correlation NETs and biomarkers kidney function?
- Correlation thrombotic events and blood DNase I levels?
- Initiating collaboration on AAV-mediated DNase I delivery in pancreatic cancer patients.



Acknowledgement

Uppsala University

Else Huijbers

Julia Femel

Jessica Cedervall

Yanyu Zhang

Falk Saupe

Maria Ringvall

Åsa Thulin

Anahita Hamidi

Anna Dimberg

Lei Zhang

Hua Huang

Anders Larsson

Anca Dragomir

Erik Larsson

Lars Hellman

Agneta Siegbahn

Aris Moustakas

Willi Jahnen-Dechent,
Aachen University

Kristian Pietras, KI,
Stockholm

Dario Neri, ETH Zurich

Christopher Parish,
Australian National
University, Canberra



Cancerfonden



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET



Vetenskapsrådet



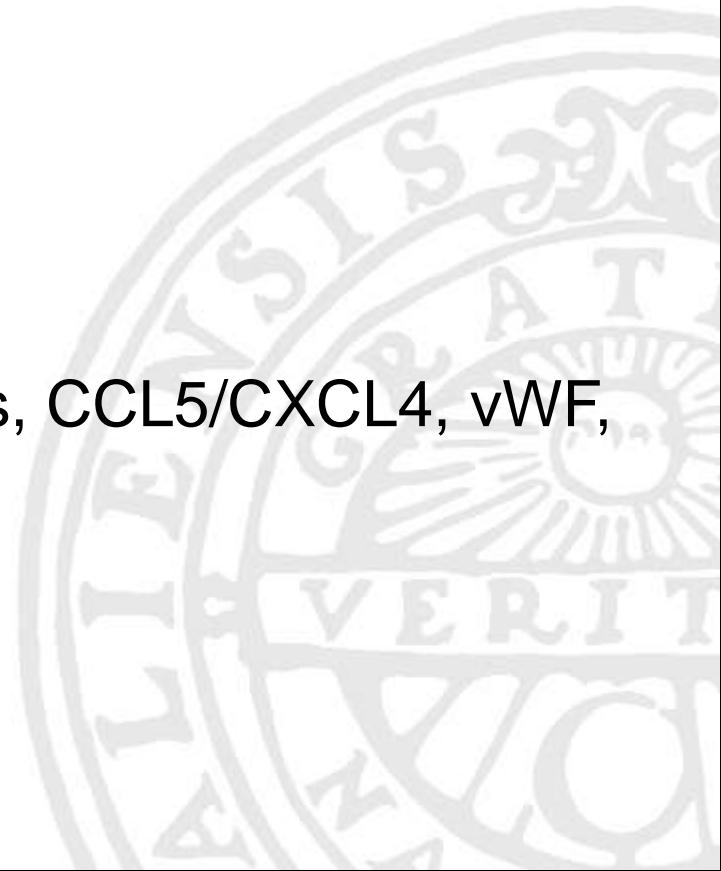
NET-inducing signals

- Infectious agents

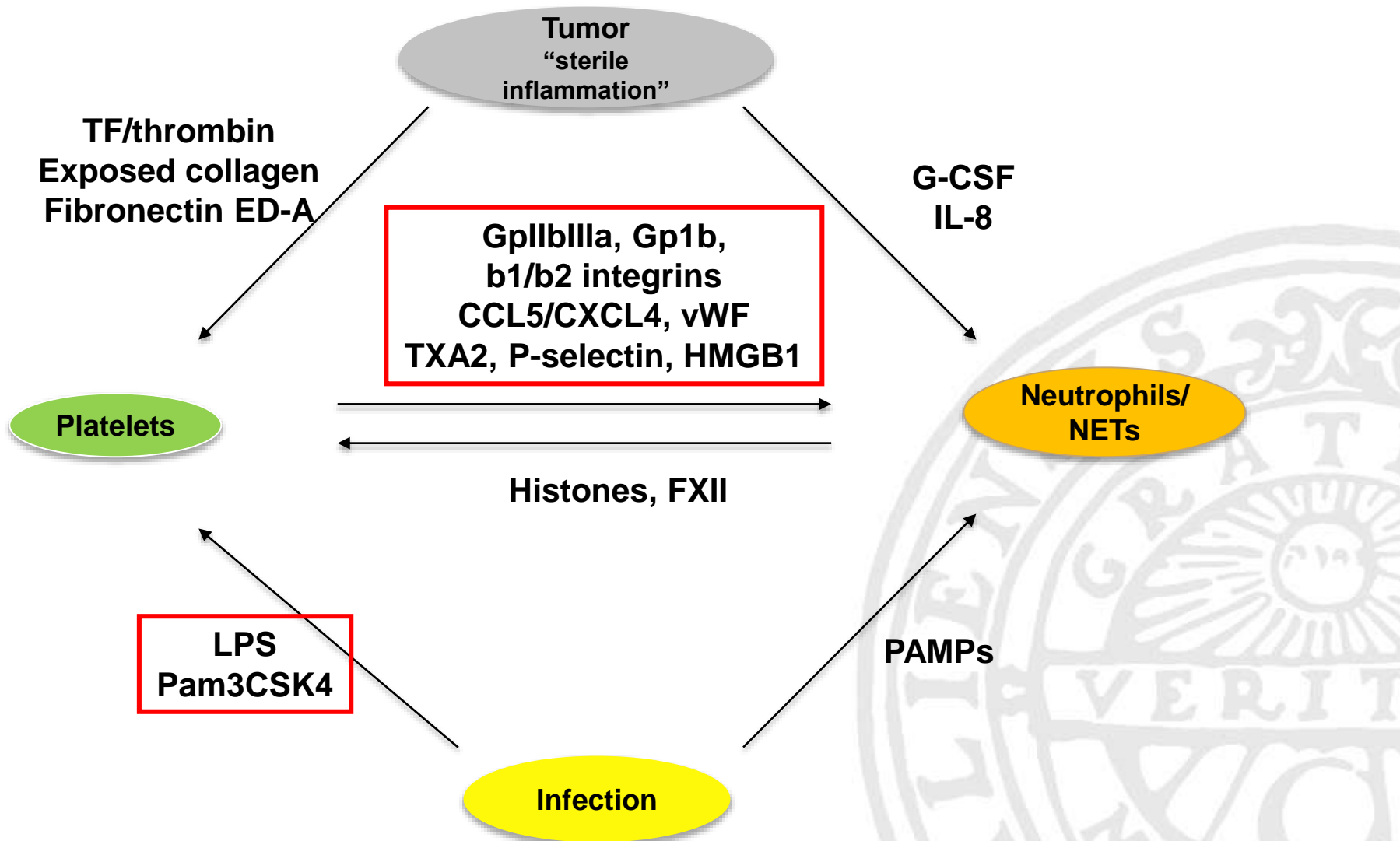
- bacterial infections (LPS, PamC3K)
- Virus

- Endogenous factors

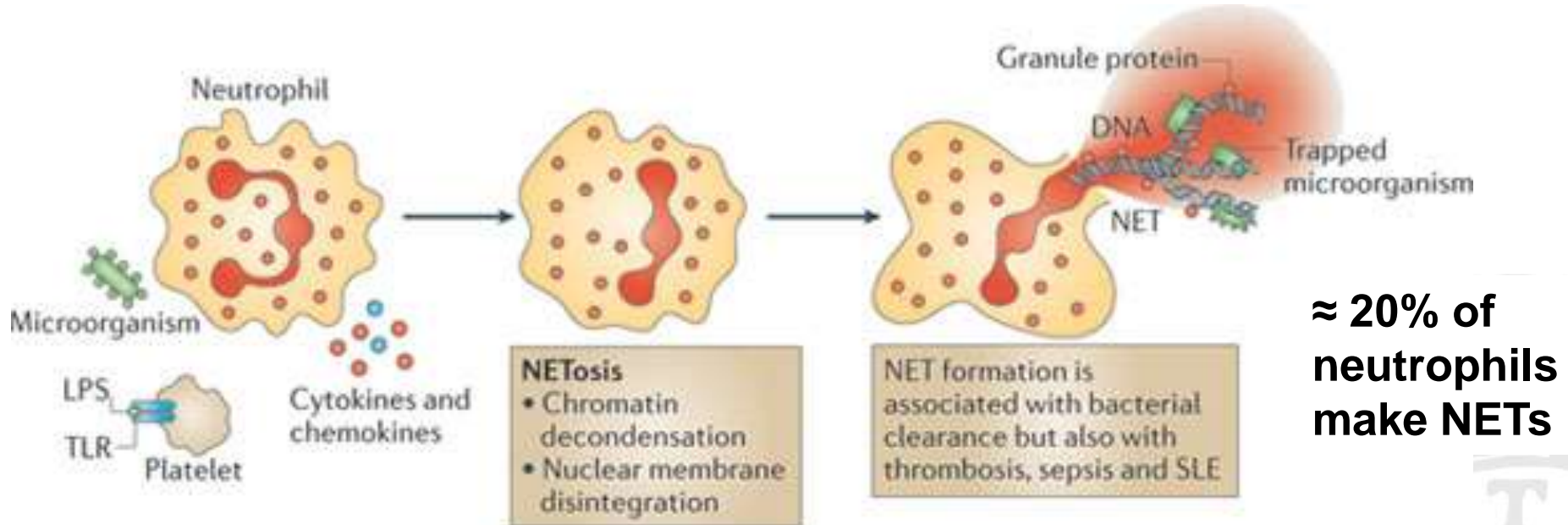
- inflammation
- G/GM-CSF, IL-8, HMGB1
- platelet-mediated signals (integrins, CCL5/CXCL4, vWF, TXA2, P-selectin, HMGB1)
- ischemia – reperfusion
- cholesterol
- high blood glucose



Platelets promote NET formation



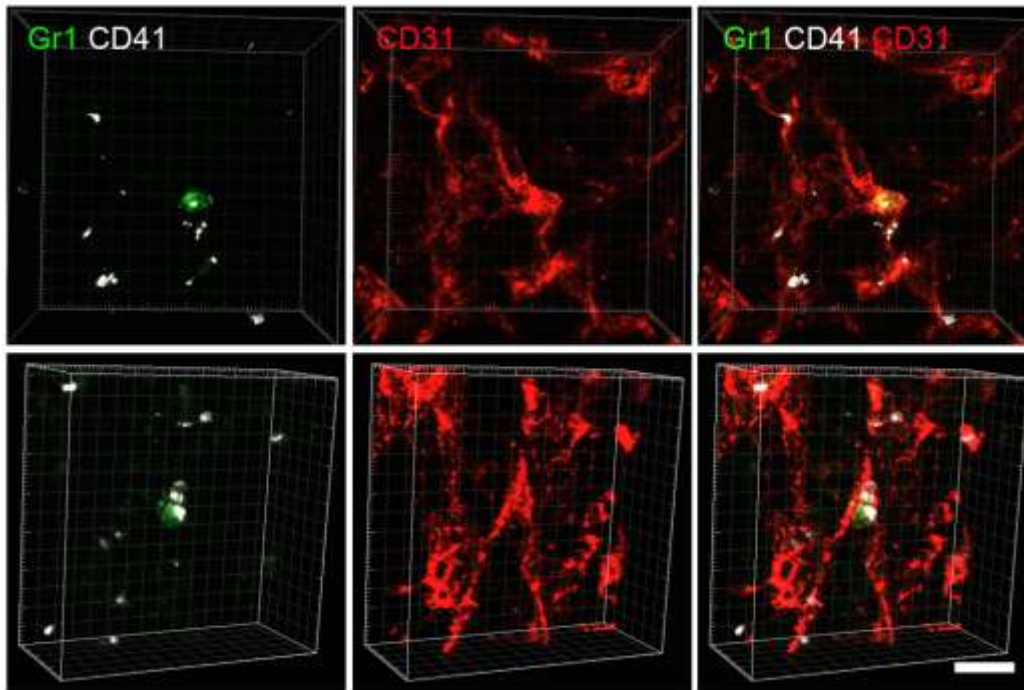
Neutrophil extracellular traps – NETs



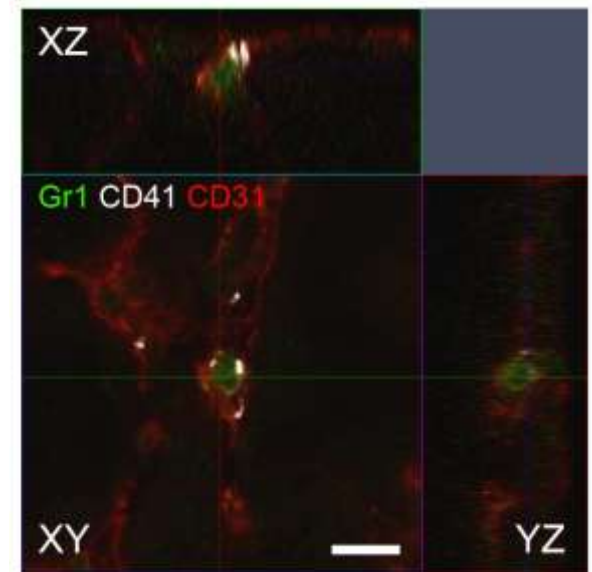
- Activating signal: LPS, IL-8, G-CSF, phorbol ester
- Platelets can induce NETosis; TLR4, P-selectin/PSGL-1

Platelet-neutrophil complexes are located inside the kidney vessel lumen

Kidney tissue from MMTV-PyMT mice



3D confocal reconstruction

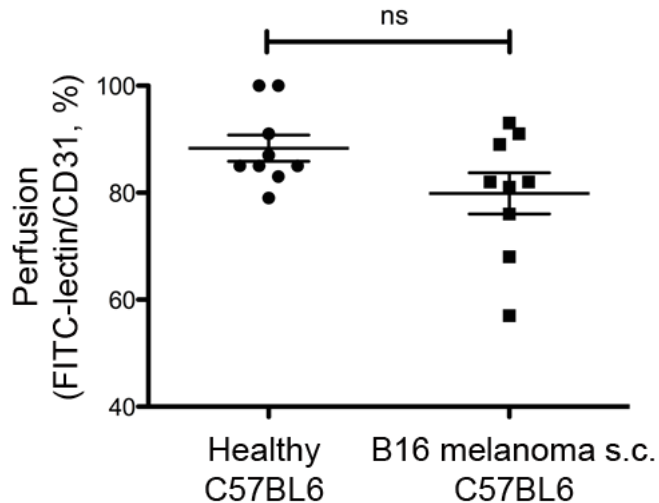


Optical sections
three different angles (XZ, XY, YZ)

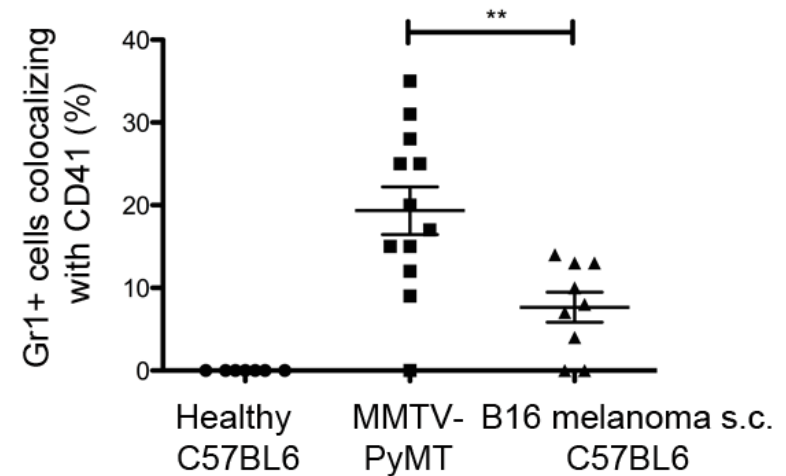
Which tumor-derived factors are involved
in formation of NETs?

B16 melanomas do not exhibit impaired function of the peripheral vasculature

Vascular perfusion

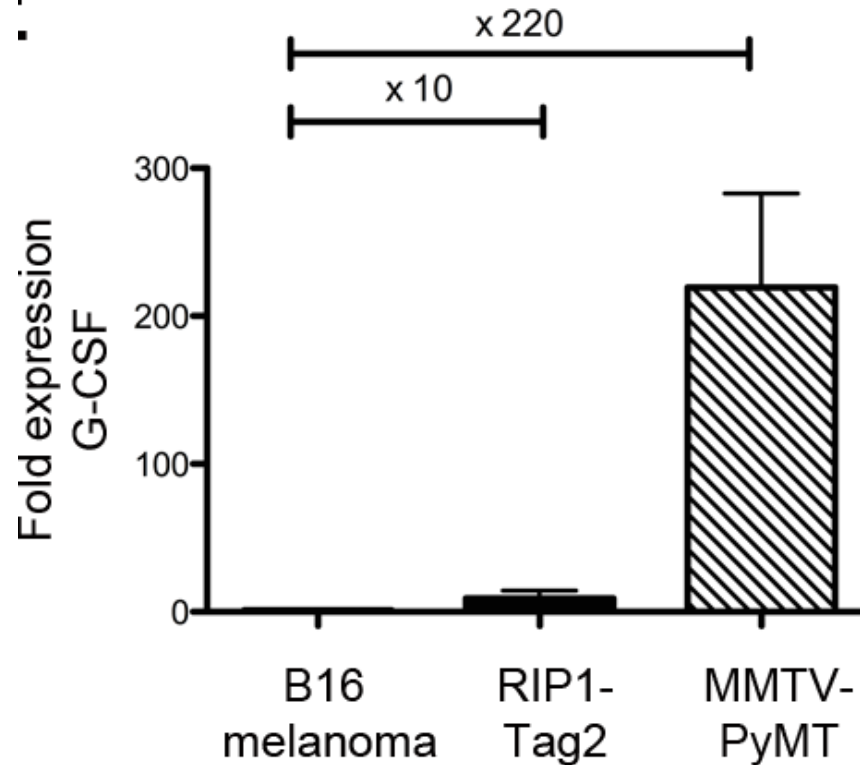


Platelet-neutrophil complexes in the kidney

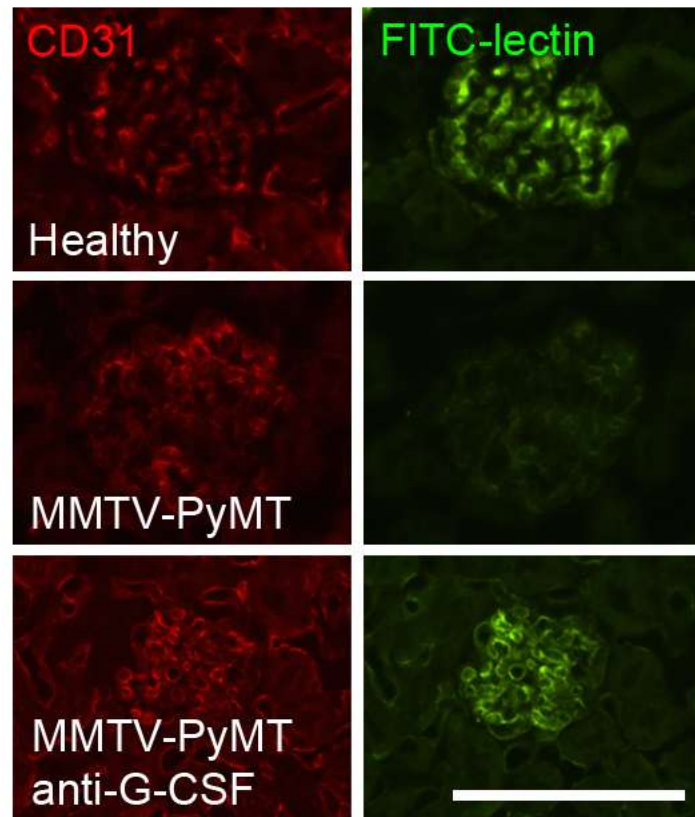


Subcutaneous B16 melanoma

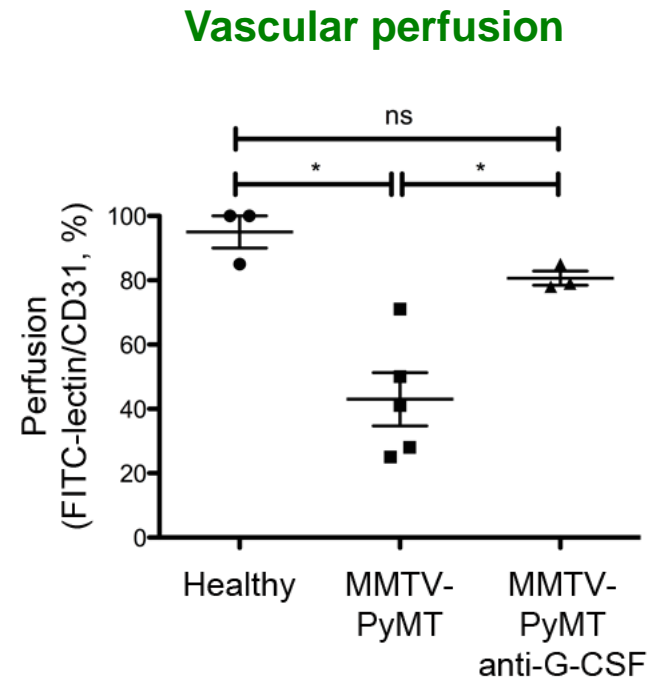
RIP1-Tag2 and MMTV-PyMT tumors express higher levels of G-CSF than B16 tumors



Anti-G-CSF treatment restores kidney vascular perfusion in tumor bearing mice

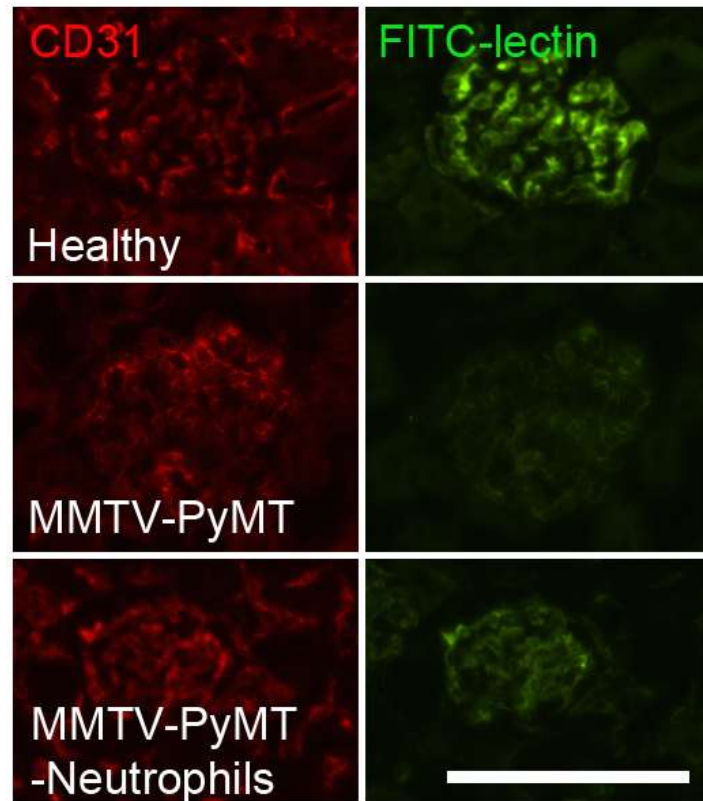


CD31 = blood vessels

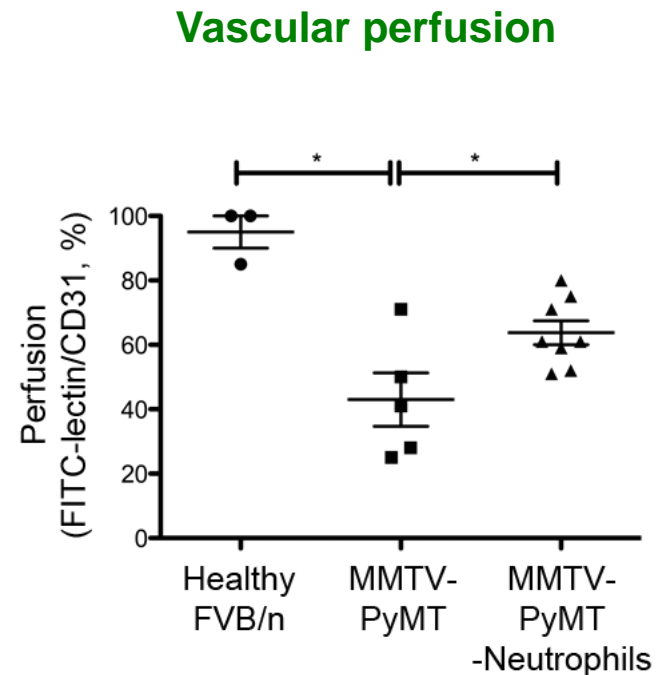


Neutrophil depletion restores kidney vascular perfusion

Neutrophil depletion by injection of an anti-Gr1 antibody

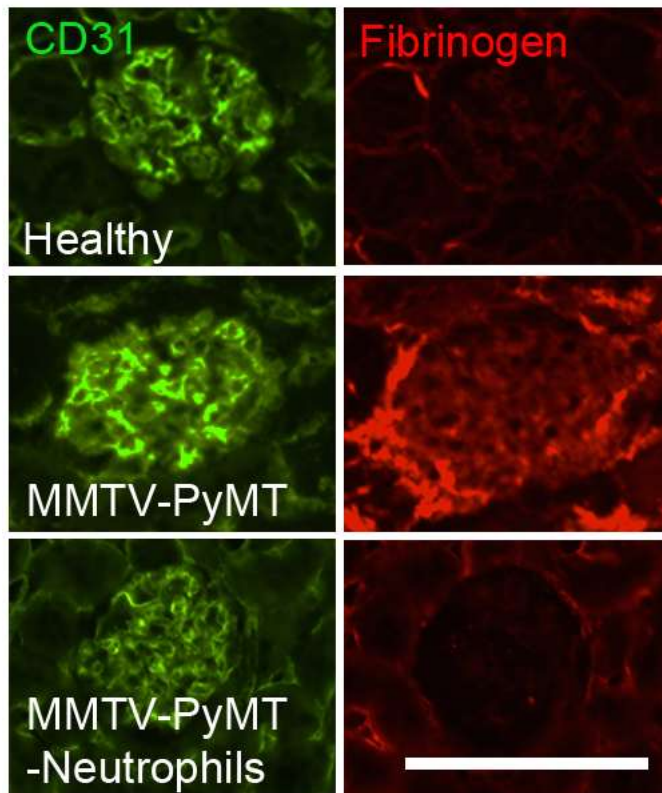


CD31 = blood vessels

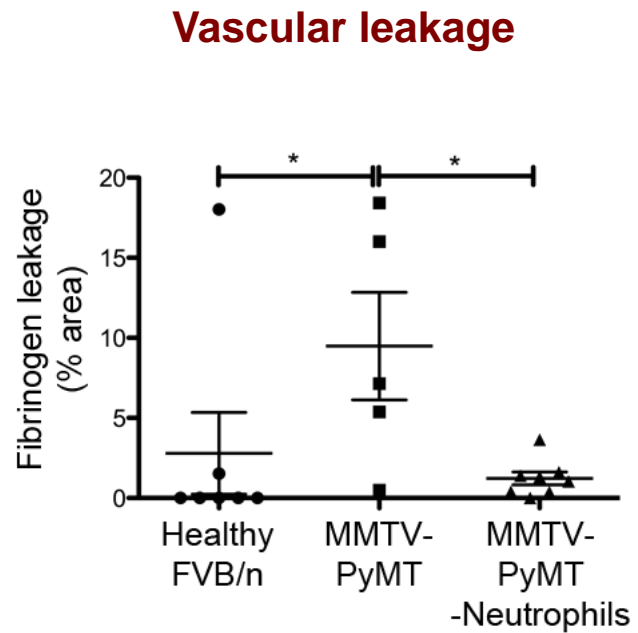


Neutrophil depletion reduces kidney vascular leakage

Neutrophil depletion by injection of an anti-Gr1 antibody



CD31 = blood vessels

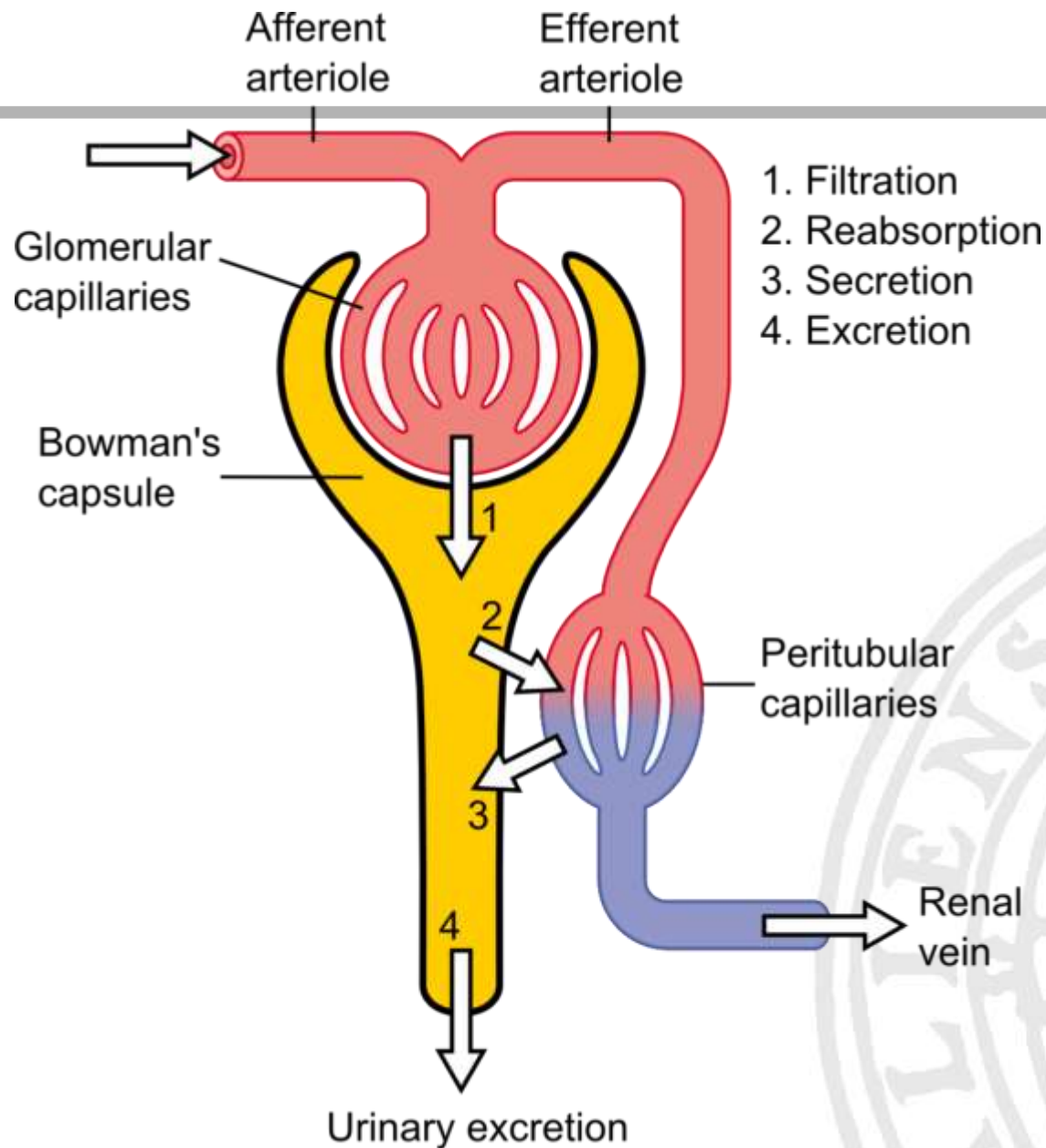


CANCER

Increased neutrophil extracellular trap formation promotes thrombosis in myeloproliferative neoplasms

Ofir Wolach,^{1,2,3*} Rob S. Sellar,^{1,4,5*} Kimberly Martinod,⁶ Deya Cherpokova,⁶ Marie McConkey,¹ Ryan J. Chappell,¹ Alexander J. Silver,¹ Dylan Adams,¹ Cecilia A. Castellano,¹ Rebekka K. Schneider,^{1,7} Robert F. Padera,⁸ Daniel J. DeAngelo,⁹ Martha Wadleigh,⁹ David P. Steensma,⁹ Ilene Galinsky,⁹ Richard M. Stone,⁹ Giulio Genovese,^{5,10} Steven A. McCarroll,^{5,10} Bozenna Iliadou,¹¹ Christina Hultman,¹¹ Donna Neuberg,⁹ Ann Mullally,^{1,5,9} Denisa D. Wagner,⁶ Benjamin L. Ebert^{1,5,9†}

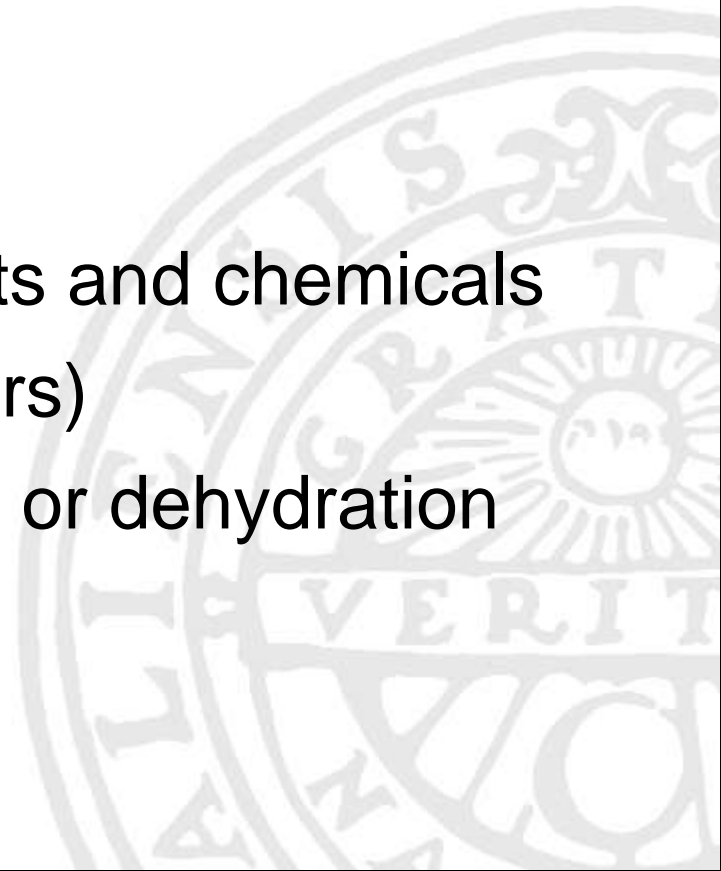




$$\text{Excretion} = \text{Filtration} - \text{Reabsorption} + \text{Secretion}$$

Major causes of cancer-related death

- locally disturbed organ function
- systemic organ failure, for instance kidney failure
- thrombosis
- infections
- disturbed balance in body salts and chemicals
- calcium overdose (bone tumors)
- severe weight loss (cachexia) or dehydration



Cancer-associated NET formation – consequences for peripheral vessel and organ function

Anna-Karin Olsson

IMBIM, Uppsala University

