

# Immune Regulation

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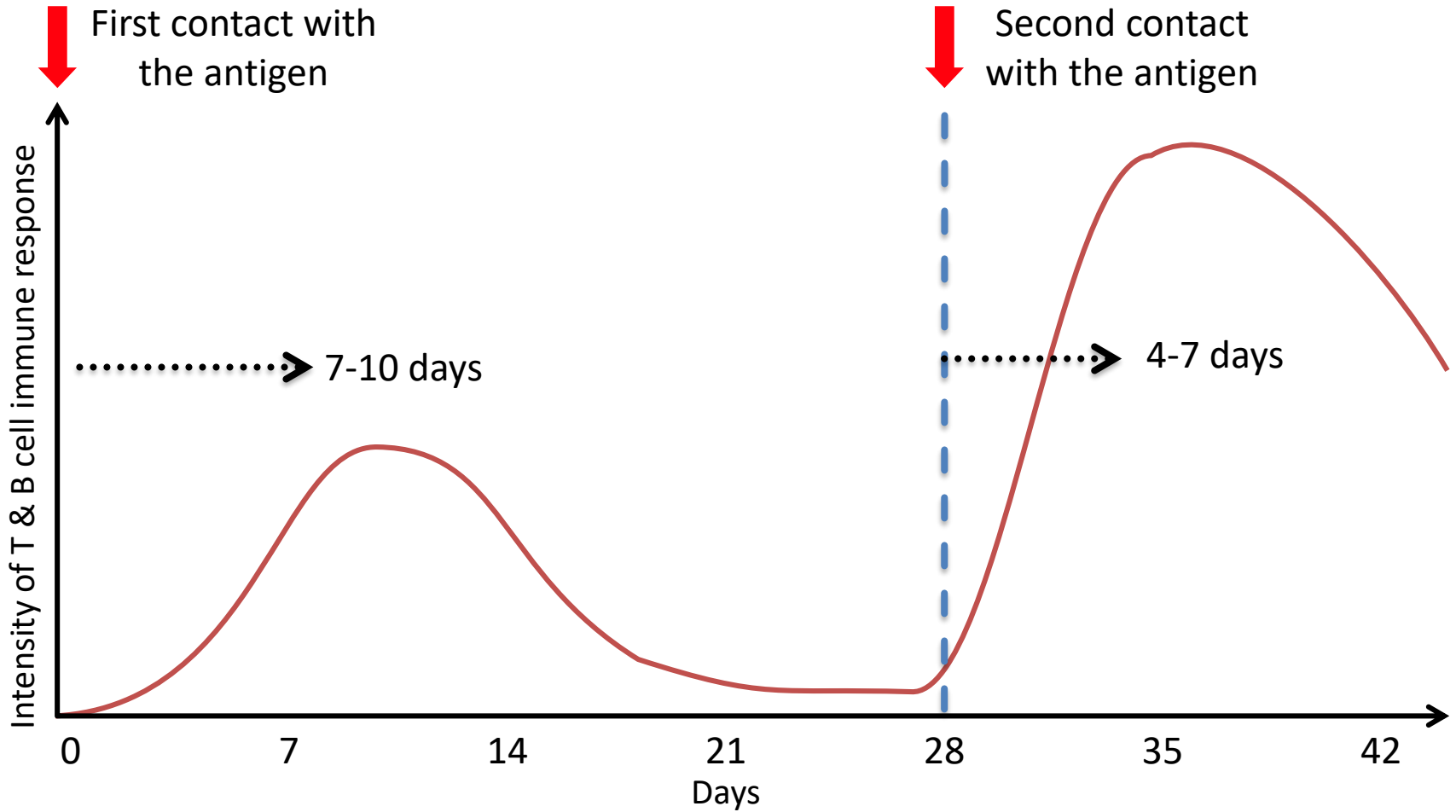
Molecular Immunology

# Index

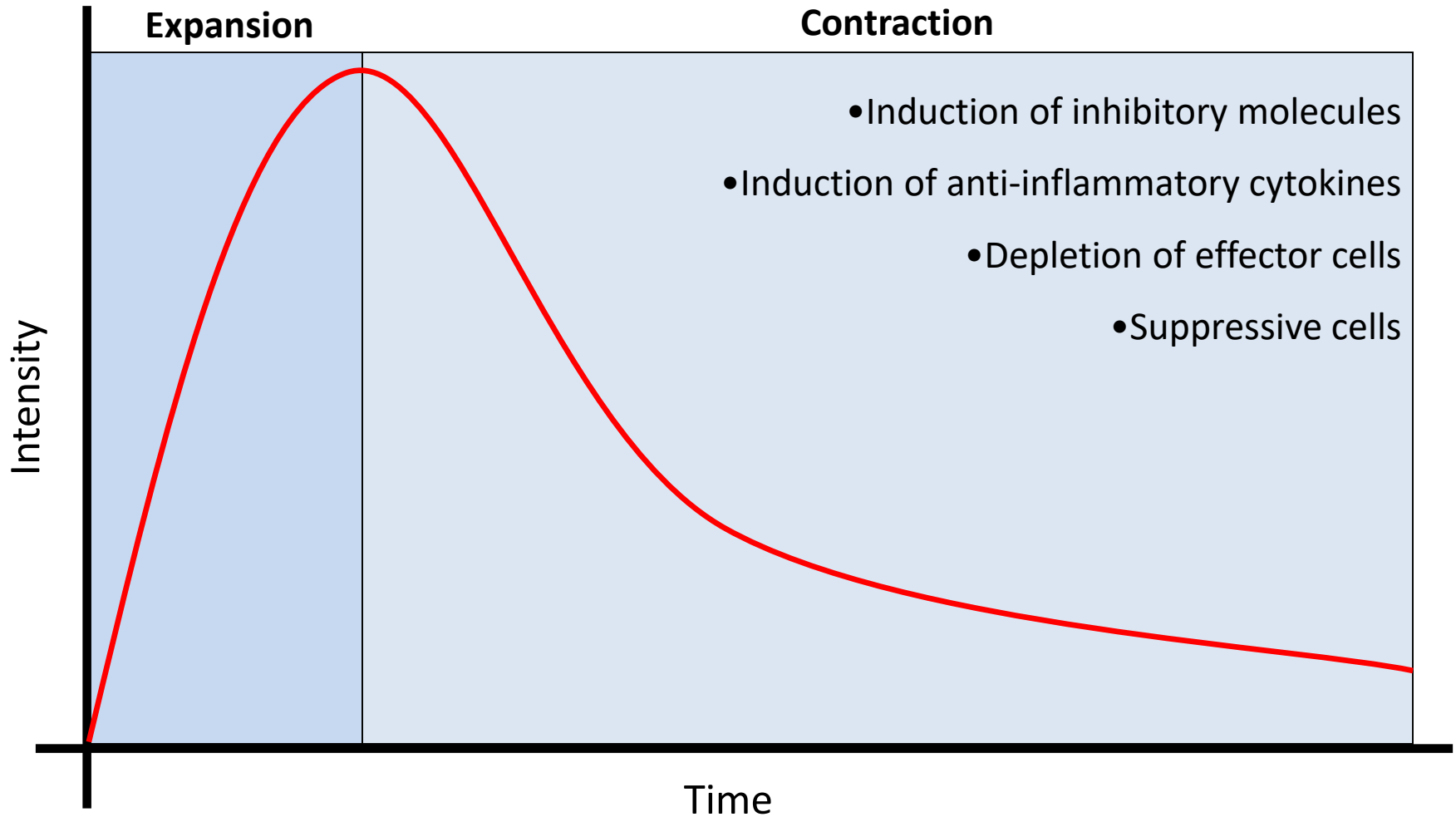
- Introduction
- Tolerance
- Regulatory (Treg) cells
- Immunosuppressive cytokine: TGF- $\beta$
- Inhibitory molecules: CTLA-4 & PD-1 / PD-L1
- Depletion of effector cells: Apoptosis

# Primary and secondary immune response

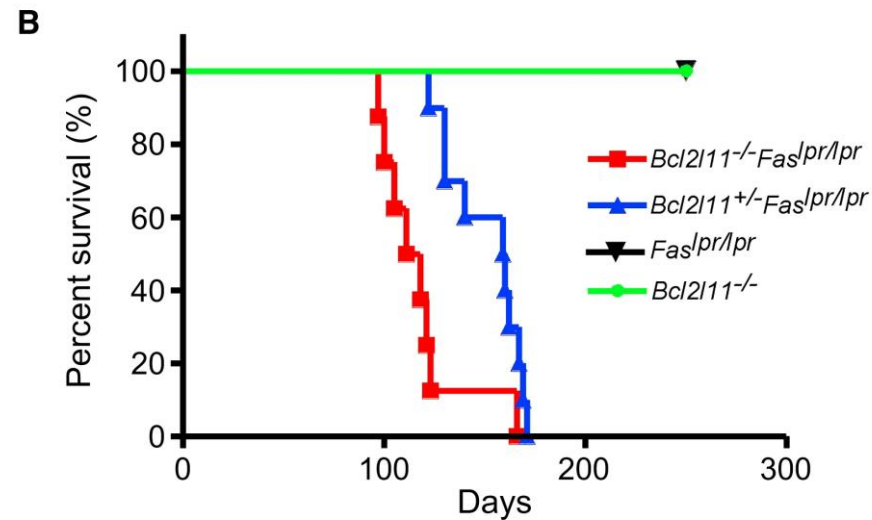
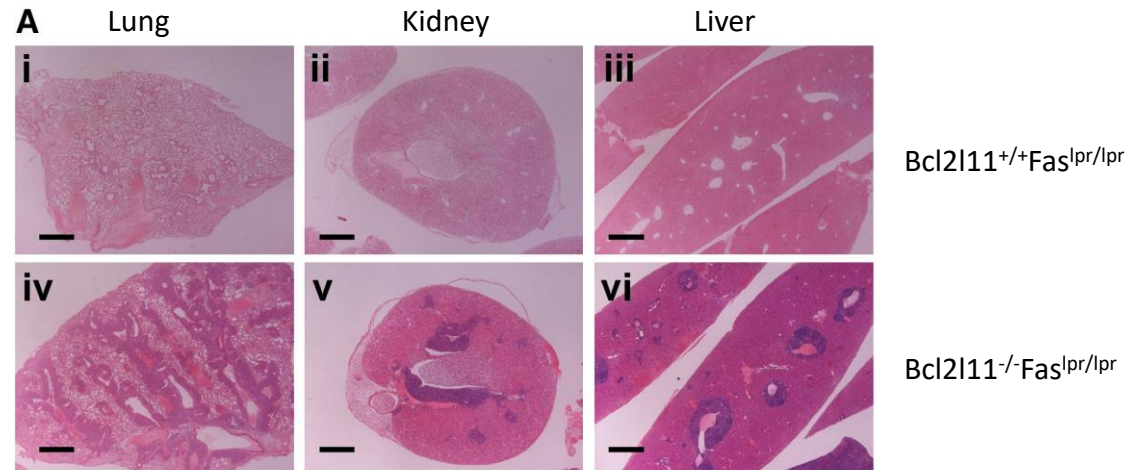
T and B cell responses during primary and secondary immune responses



# Mechanisms of immune response



# Apoptosis defect leads to lethal lymphoproliferation and a tolerance break



Tolerance

# Tolerance

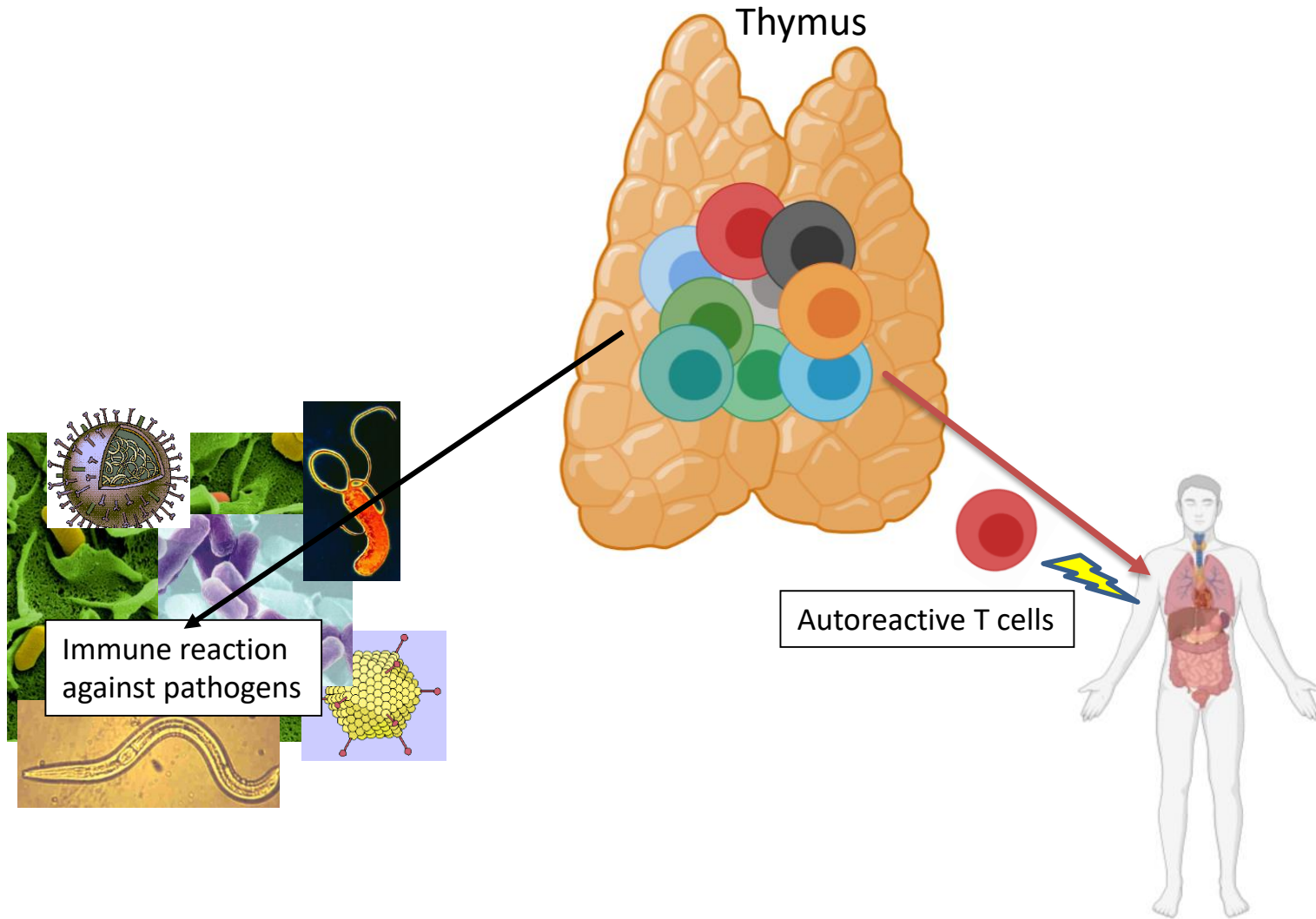
- Property of the immune system not to respond to self-antigens
- Differentiation between “self” and “foreign”

**Tolerance break**  **Autoimmune diseases**

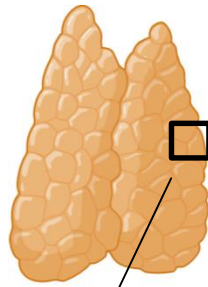
# Tolerance

- 2 Levels of immunological tolerance:
  - Central tolerance
  - Peripheral tolerance

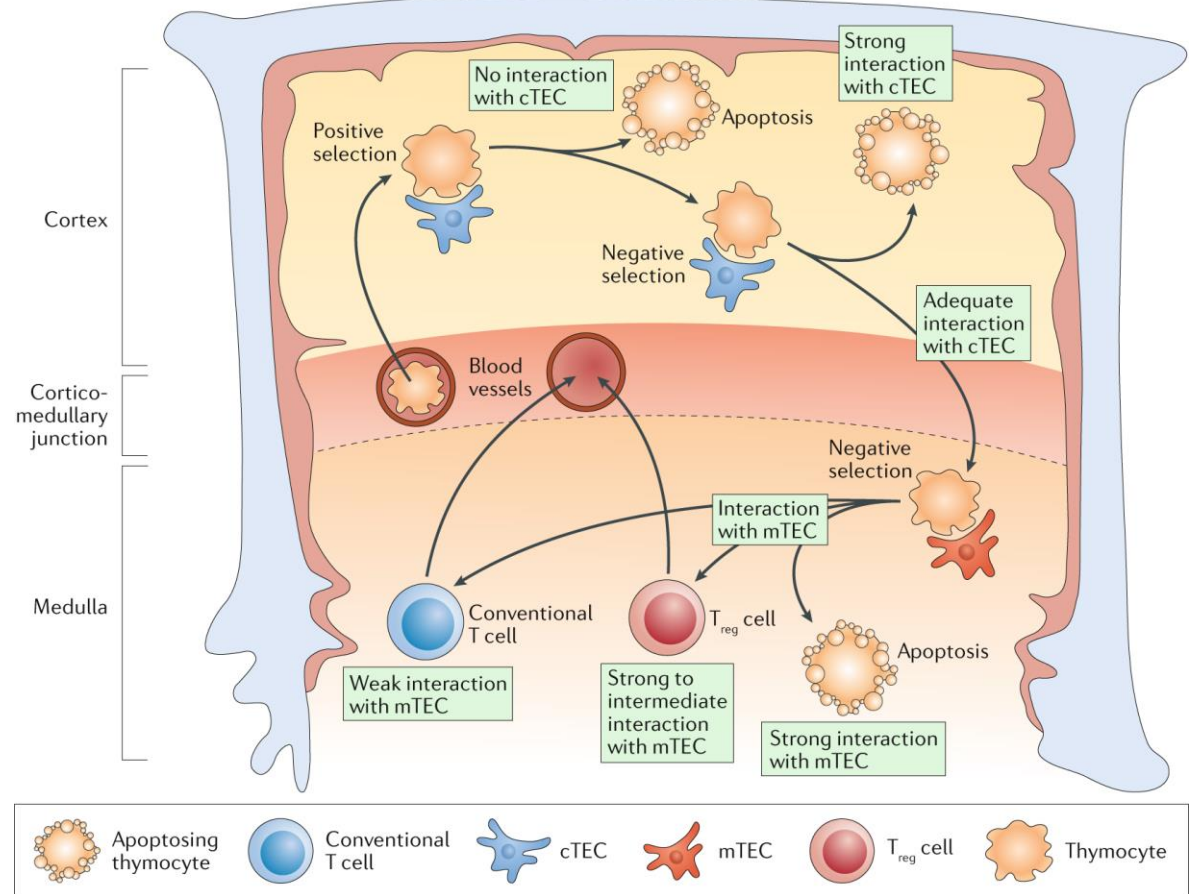
# Central Tolerance & T cell development



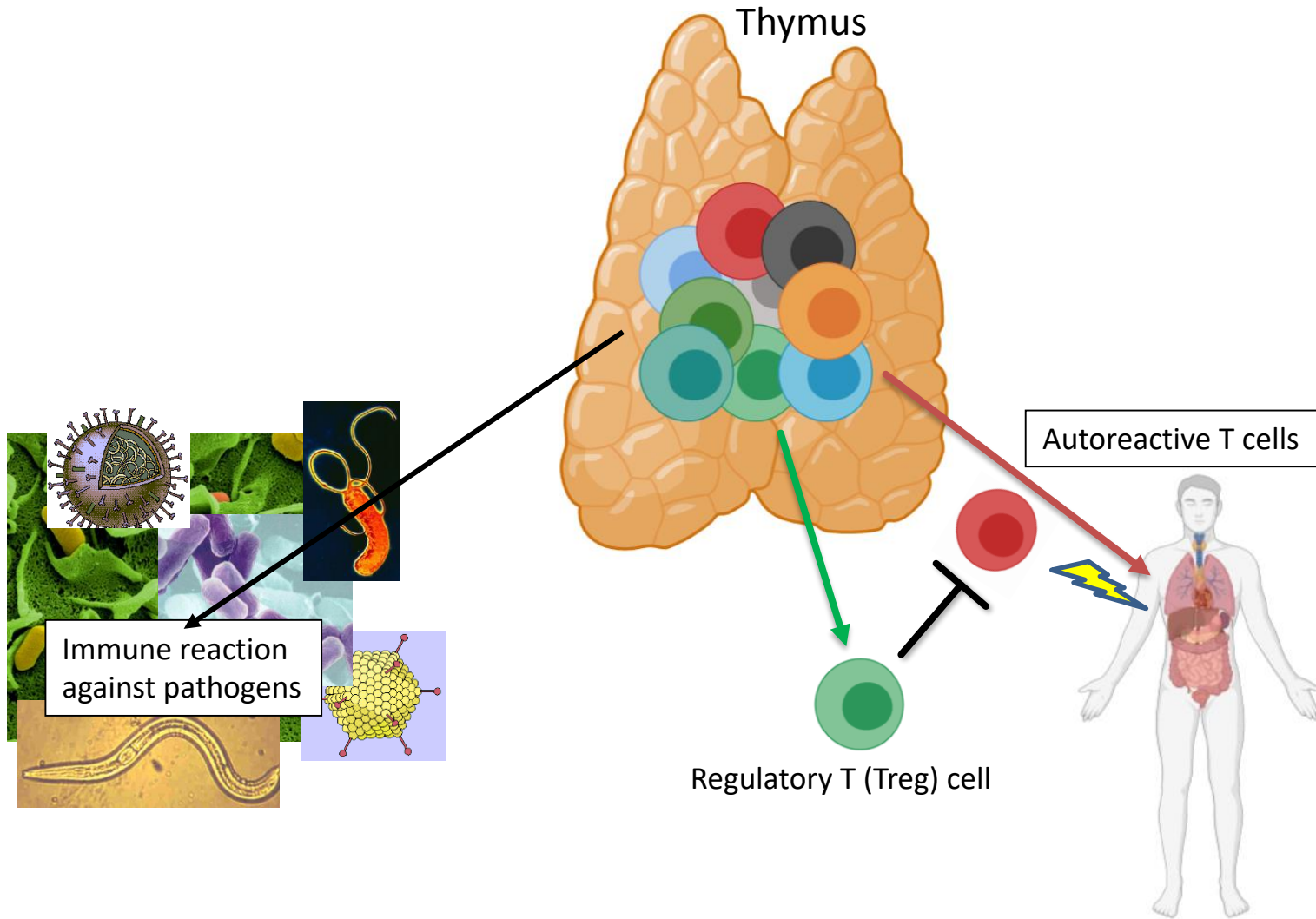
# Central Tolerance & T cell development



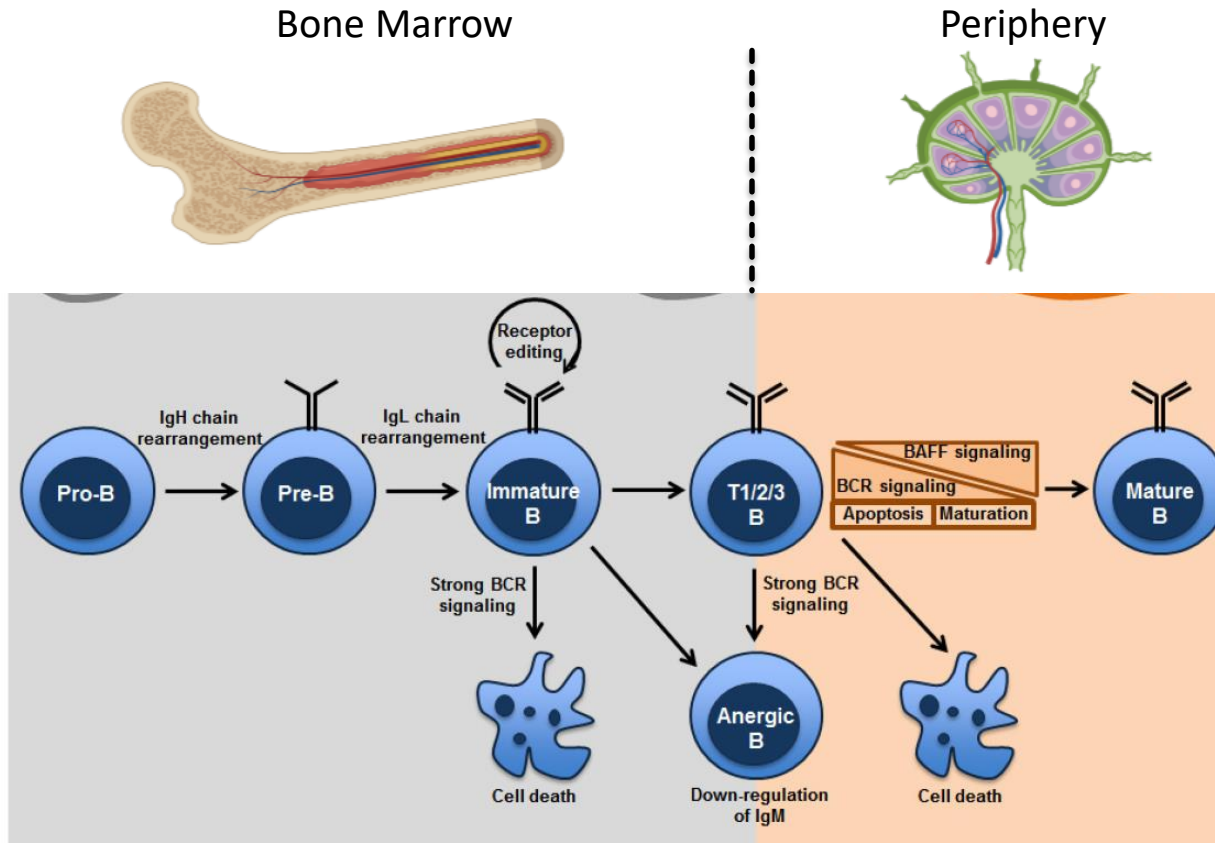
J. Nikolic-Zugic (1991)  
Immunology Today; Vol.12 No.2



# Peripheral Tolerance & T cell development

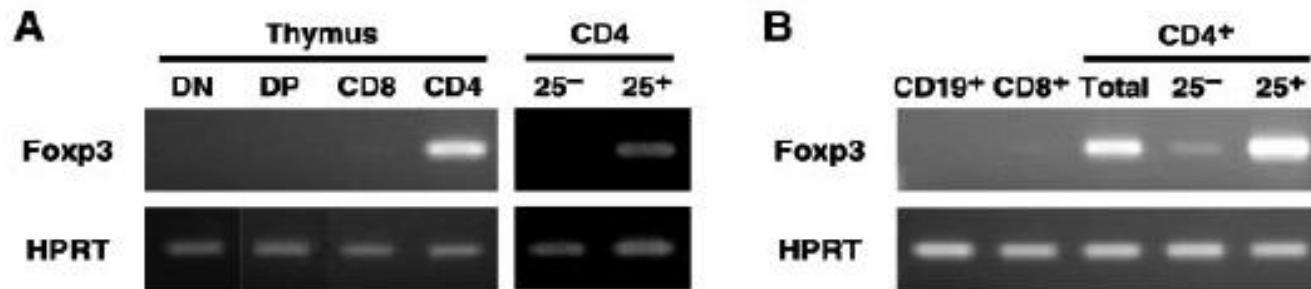
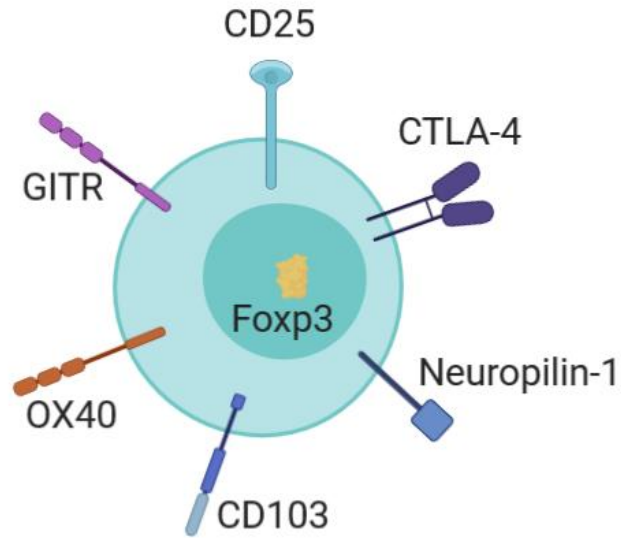


# B cell selection



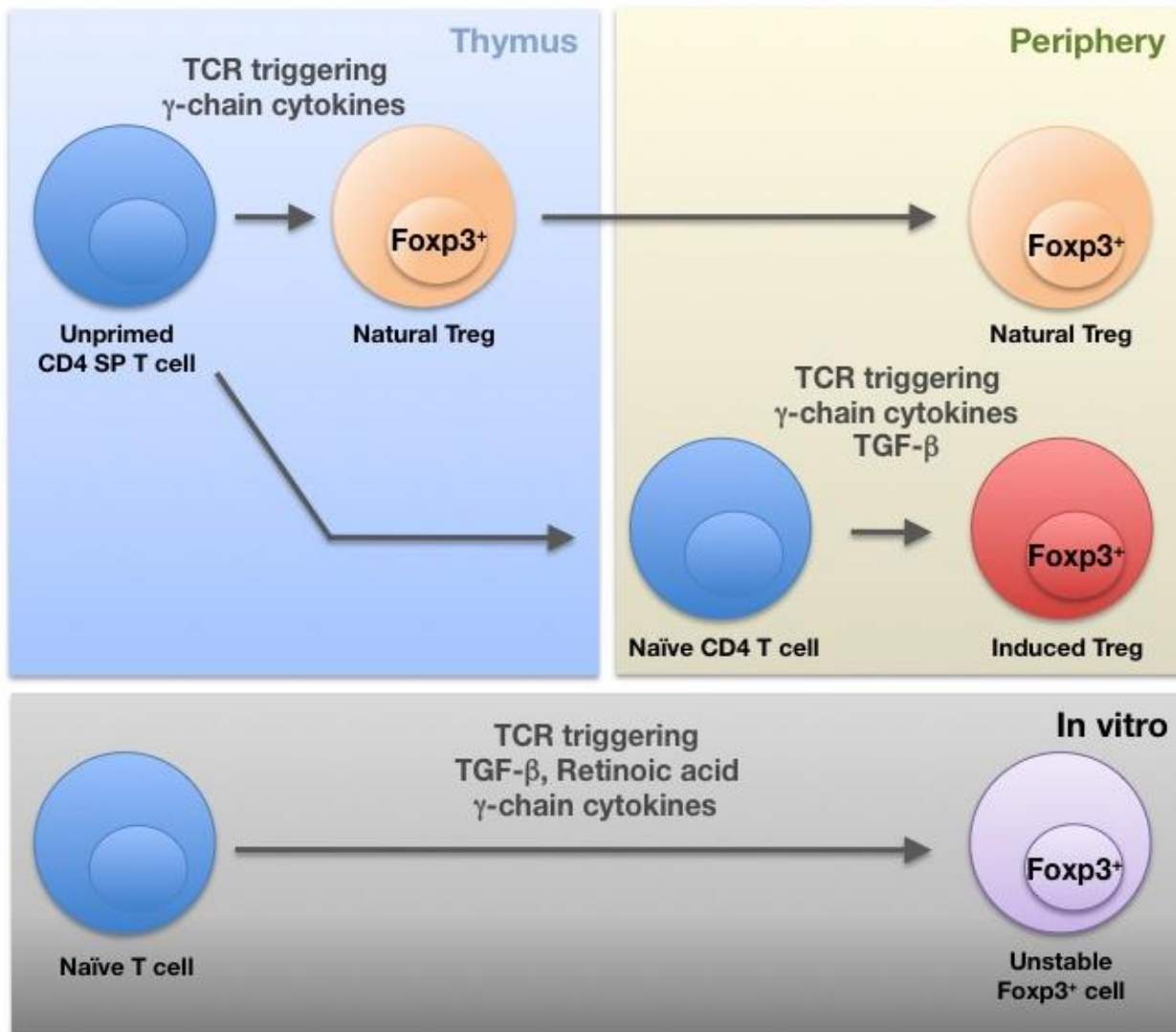
Regulatory T (Treg) cells

# Treg cell markers



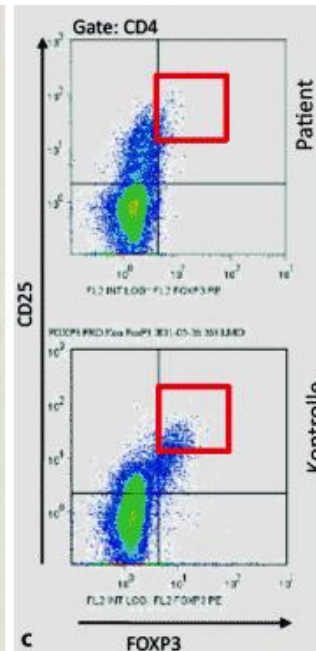
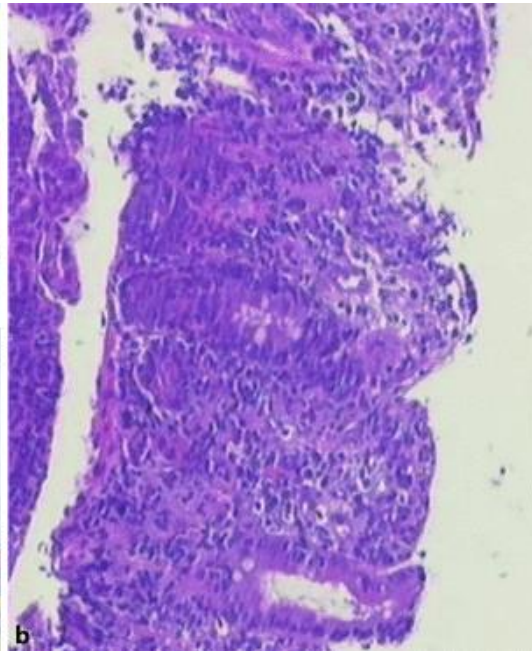
Hori et al. Science (2003) 299:1057

# Treg cell sources



# FoxP3 mutation causes autoimmune syndrome

IPEX = immunodysregulation, polyendocrinopathy, enteropathy, X linked (IPEX) syndrome



Weber et al., Pädiatrische Gastroenterologie, Hepatologie und Ernährung, pp 731-744, Springer 2013

Bennett et al., *Nat Genet* 2001

Brunkow et al., *Nat Genet* 2001

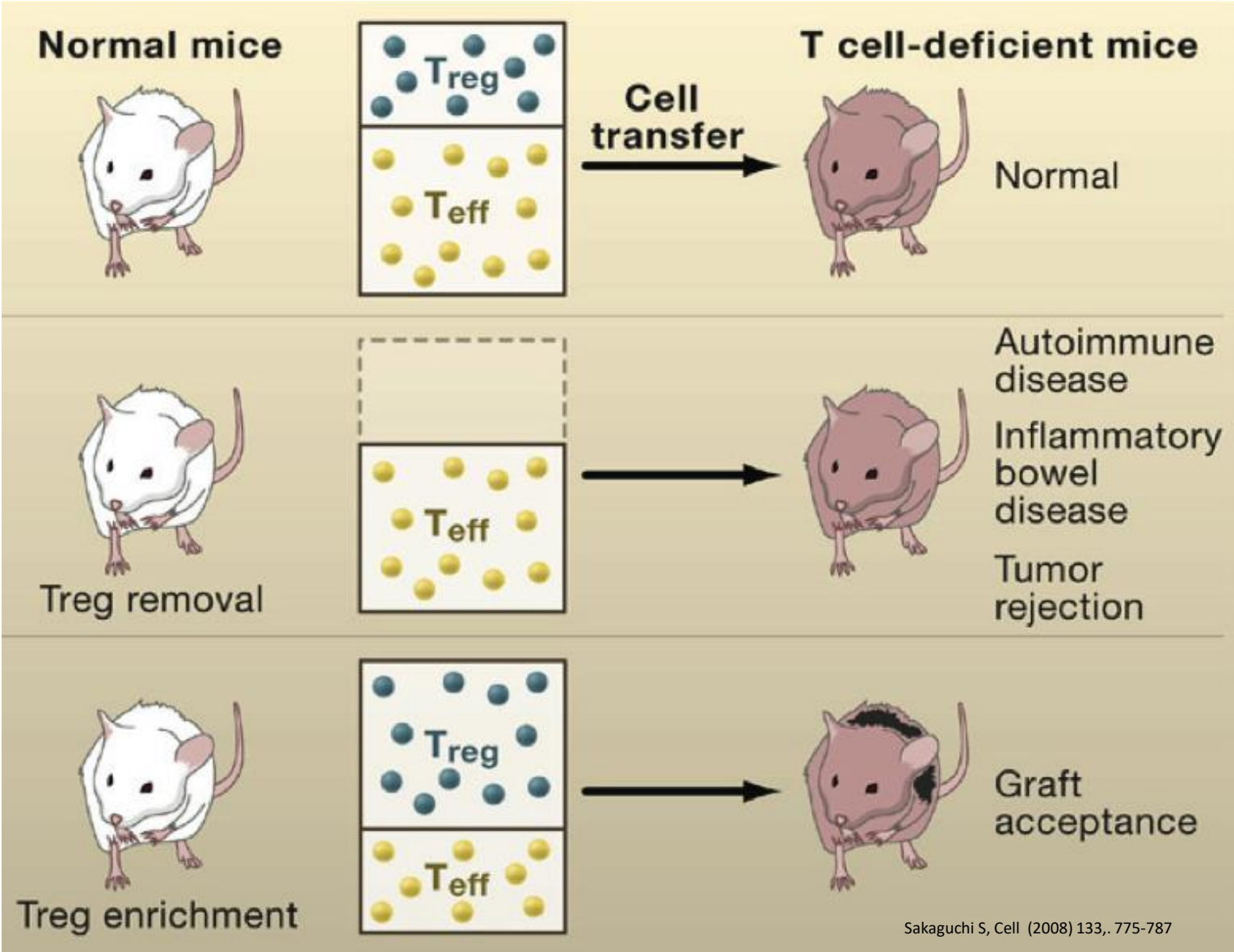
Chatila et al., *J Clin Inv* 2000



courtesy of Edgar Schmitt

**Scurfy mouse (spontaneous mutation)**

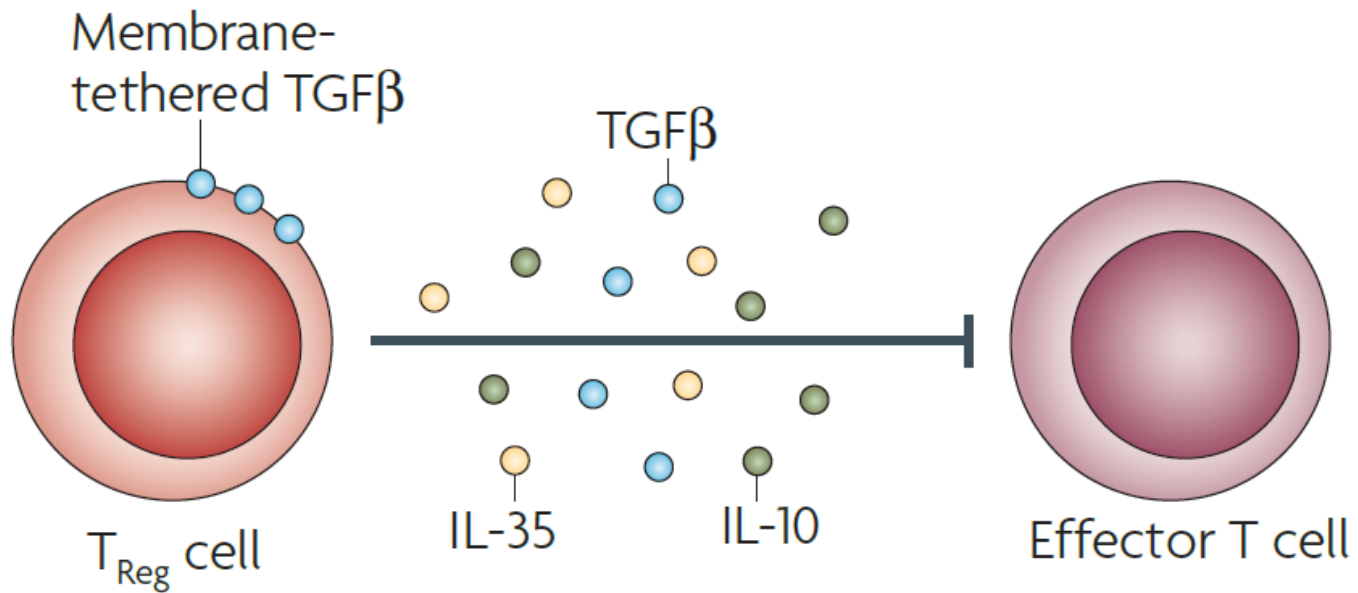
# Effects of Treg cell deficiency / enrichment



Sakaguchi S, Cell (2008) 133, 775-787

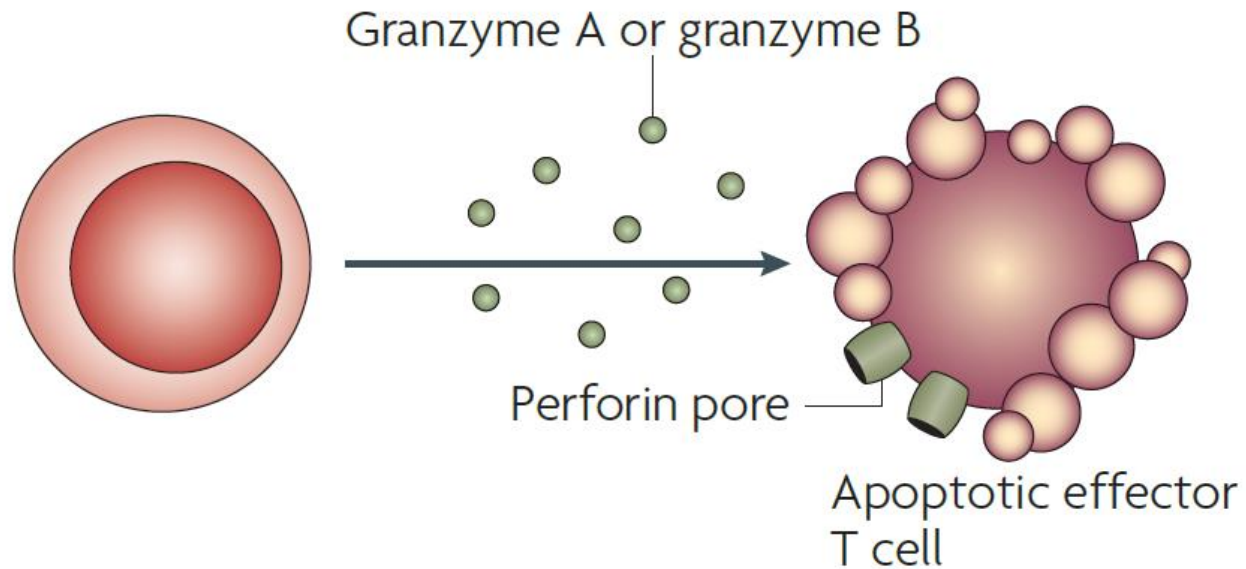
# Treg cell-mediated mechanisms of immunosuppression

## a Inhibitory cytokines



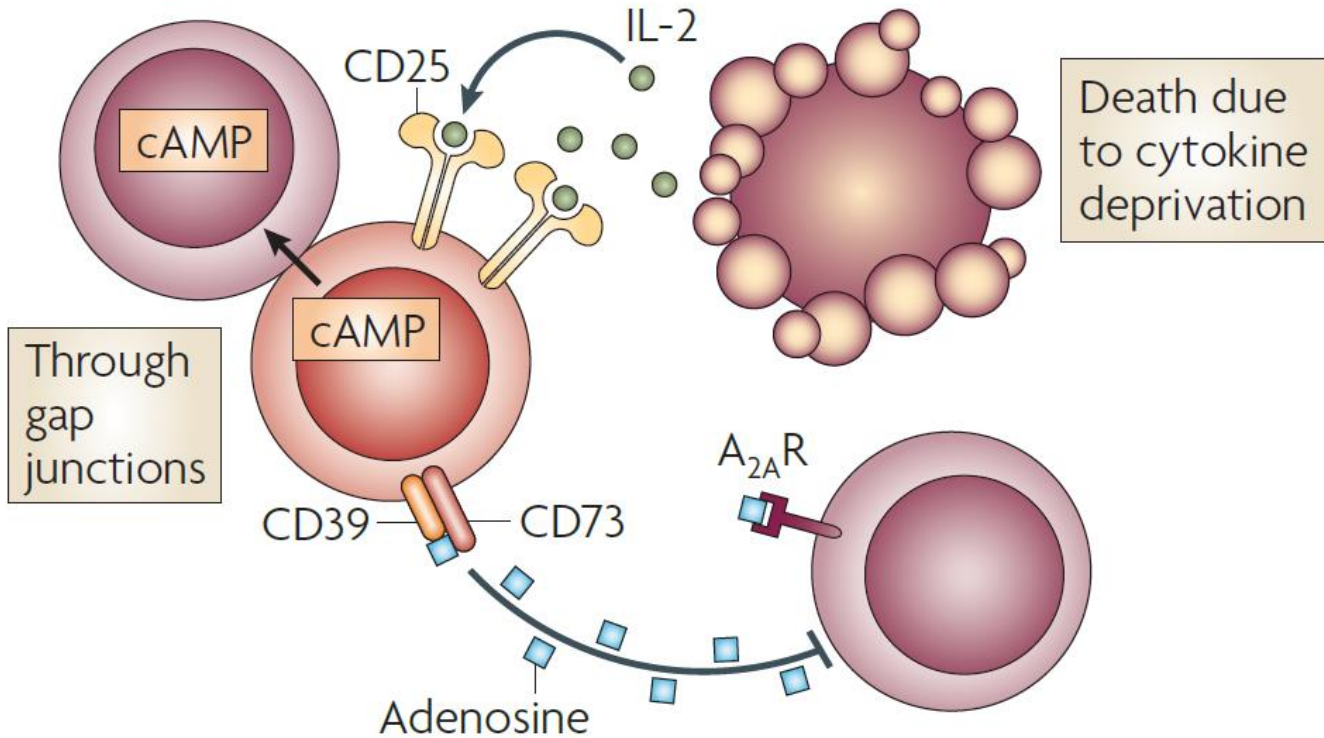
# Treg cell-mediated mechanisms of immunosuppression

## b Cytolysis



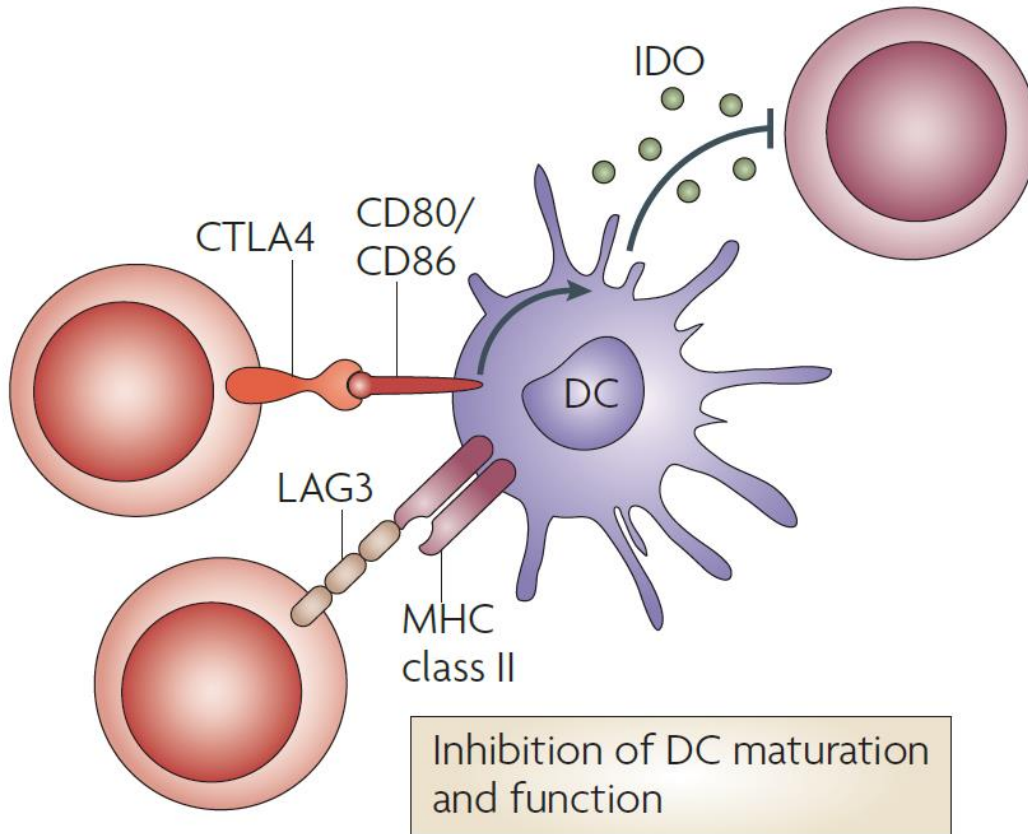
# Treg cell-mediated mechanisms of immunosuppression

## c Metabolic disruption



# Treg cell-mediated mechanisms of immunosuppression

## d Targeting dendritic cells



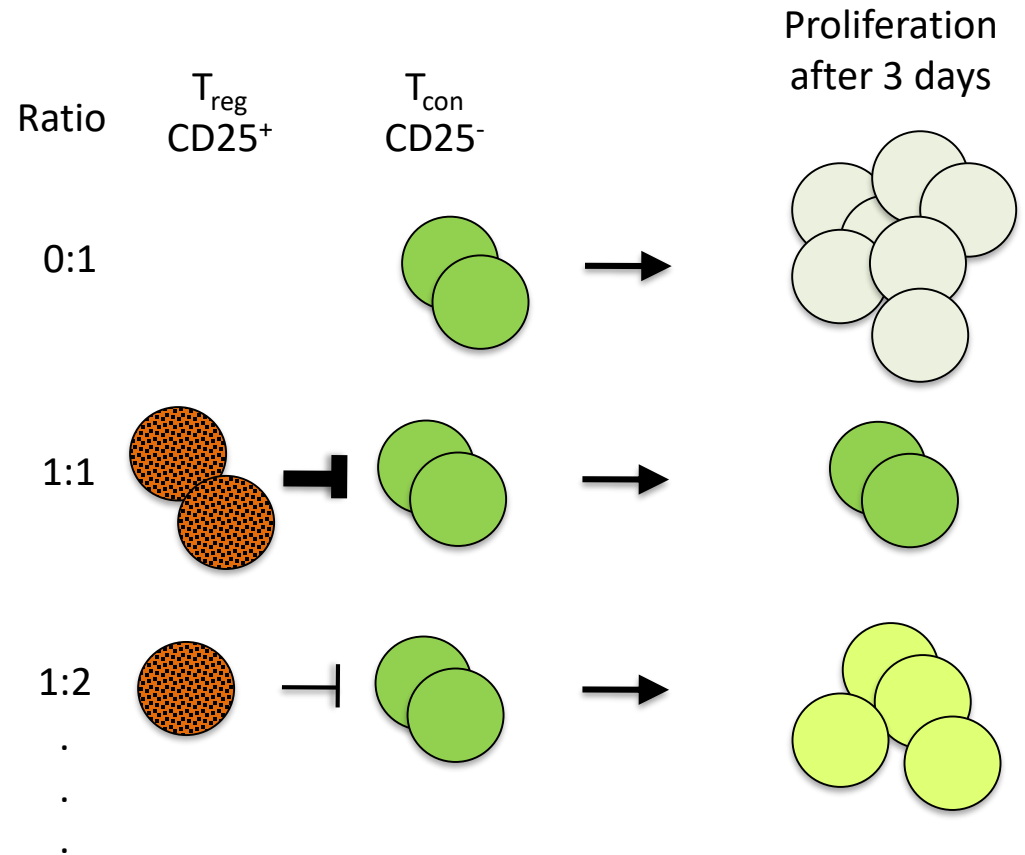
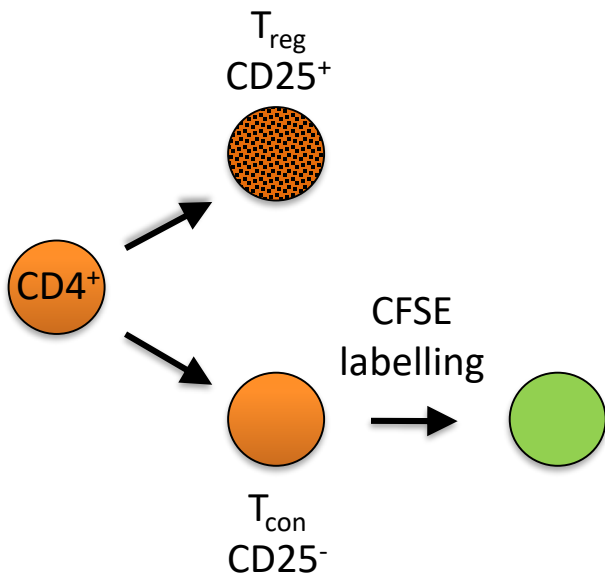
# Treg cells inhibit T cell proliferation: *in vitro* suppression assay

Cell separation

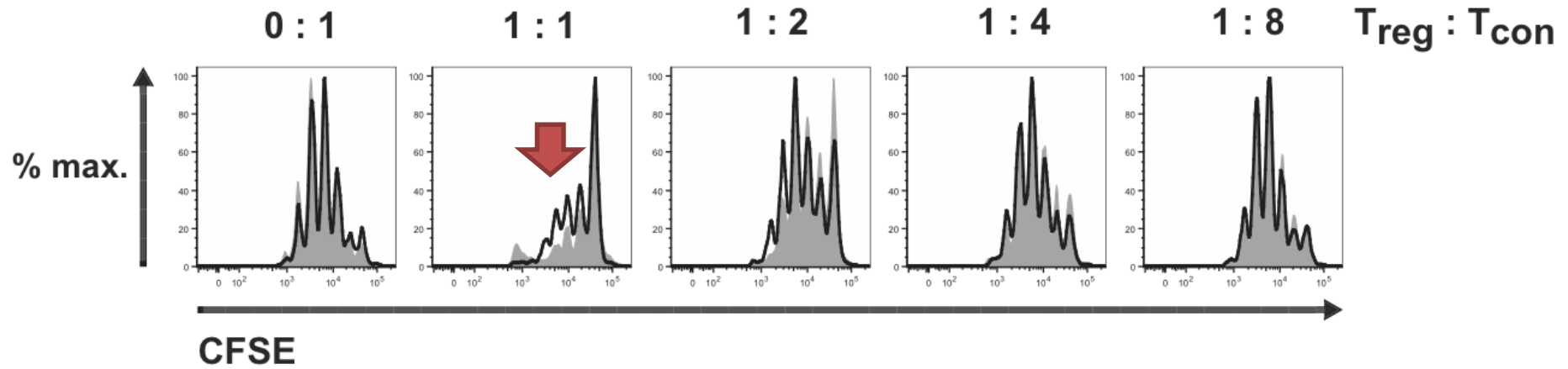
Tcon labelling

Co-culture in different ratios

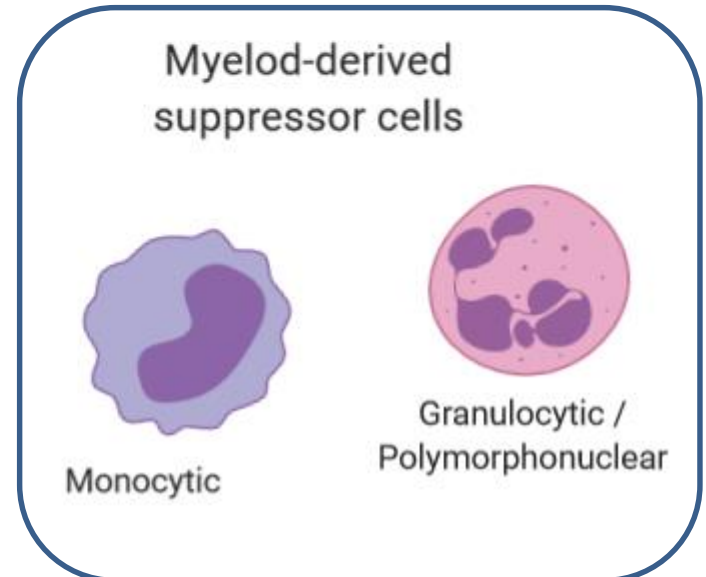
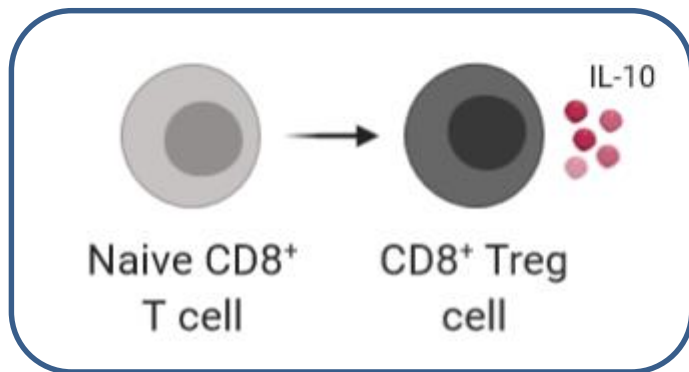
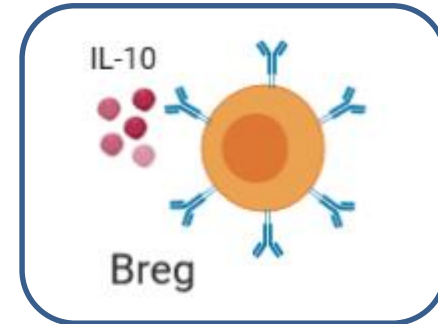
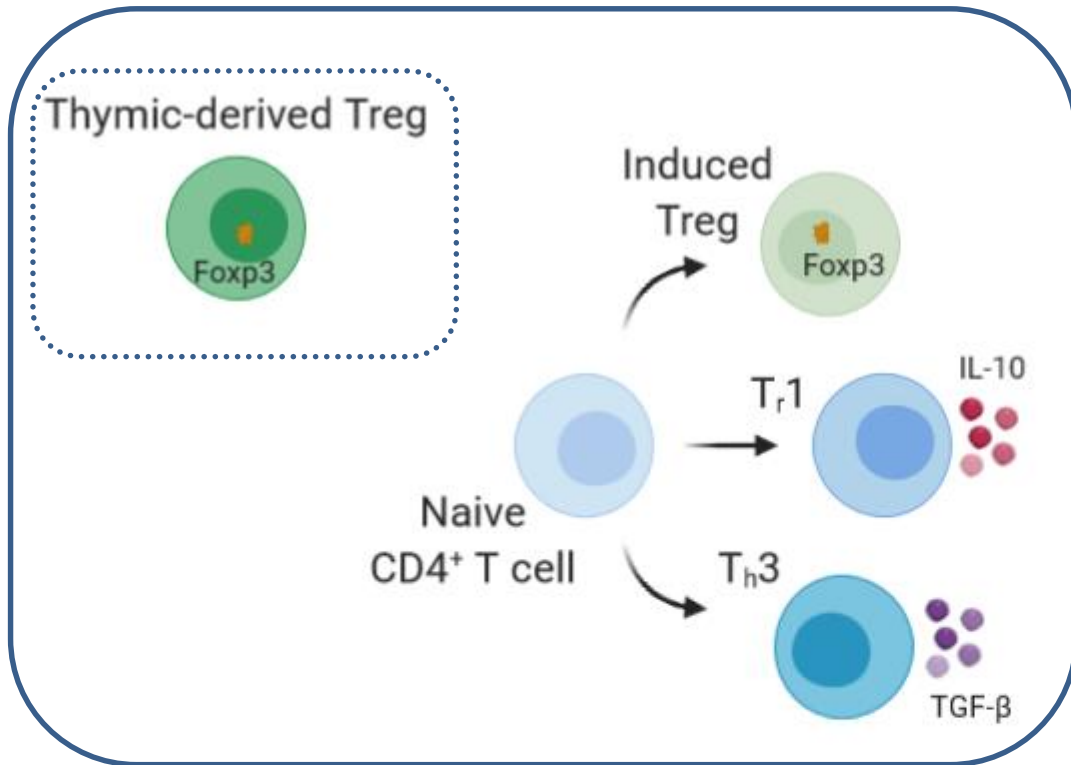
Flow cytometric analysis



# Treg cells inhibit T cell proliferation: *in vitro* suppression assay



# Suppressive immune cells



Immunosuppressive cytokine: TGF- $\beta$

# Immunosuppressive Cytokine: TGF- $\beta$

**“TGF- $\beta$ : Brake of the immune system.”**

**“TGF- $\beta$  influences the life and death of T lymphocytes.”**

**S.M. Wahl: Cytokine Growth Factor Rev. 11, 71-79 (2000)**

TGF- $\beta$  family:

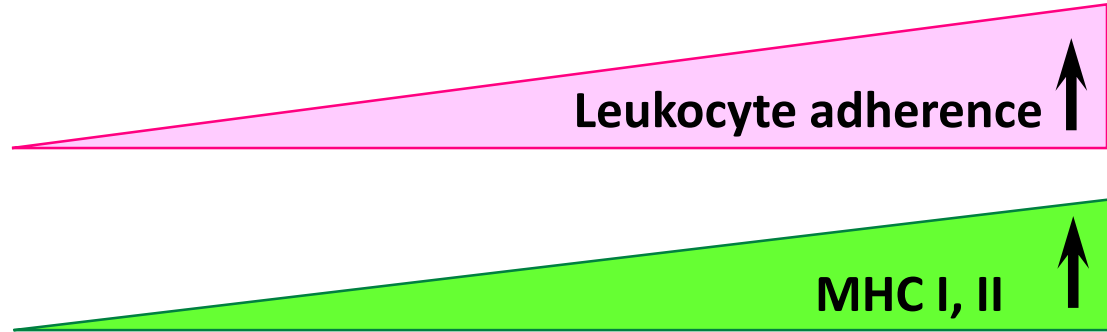
- TGF- $\beta$ 1 (predominant in the immune system)
- TGF- $\beta$ 2
- TGF- $\beta$ 3

Involved in embryogenesis, carcinogenesis and the immune response

# TGF- $\beta$ 1 deficient mouse



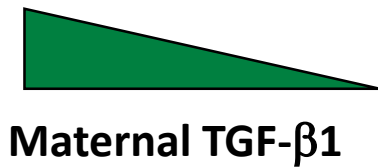
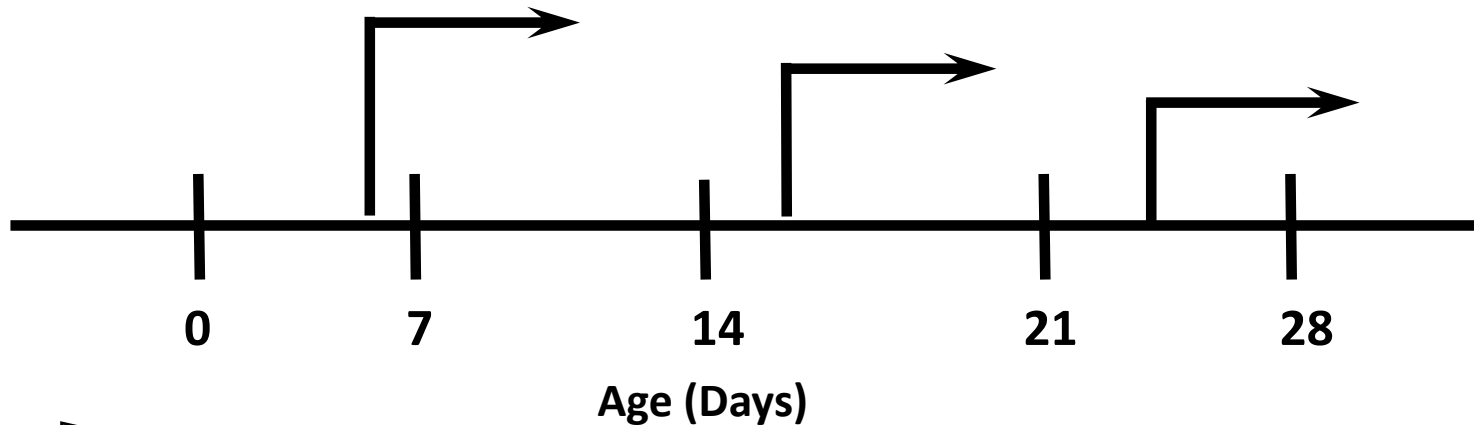
TGF- $\beta$ 1<sup>-/-</sup> mouse



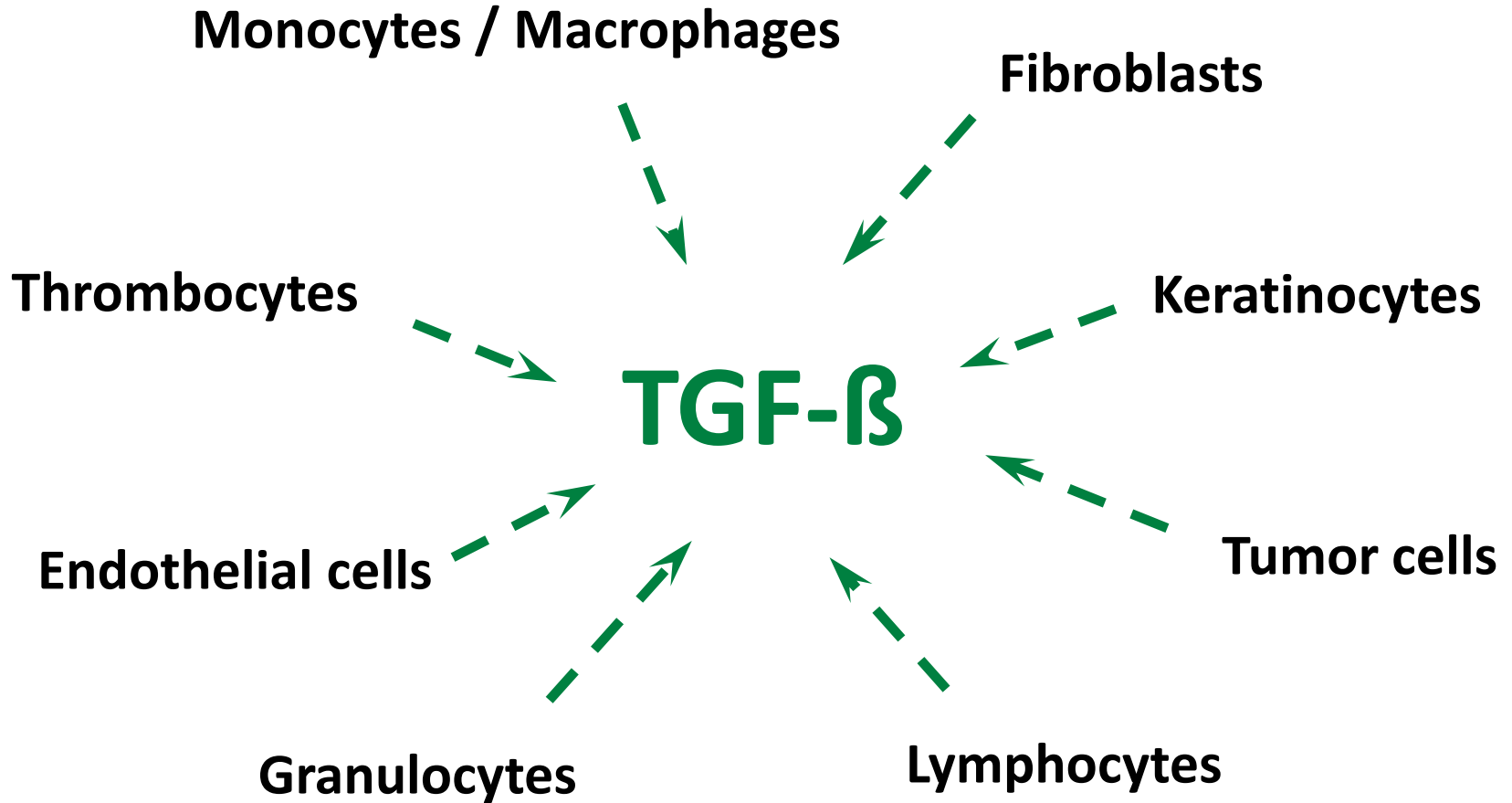
Inflammation

Multi-organ failure

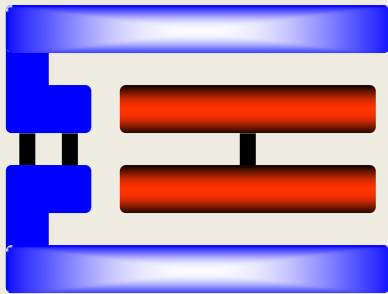
Death



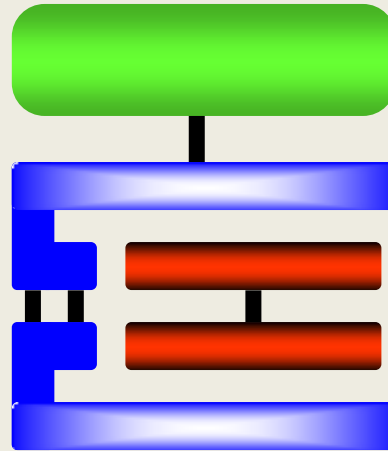
# TGF- $\beta$ secreting cells



# TGF- $\beta$ structure



~ 100 kDa



~ 225 - 260 kDa

LTBP: 125 -160 kDa

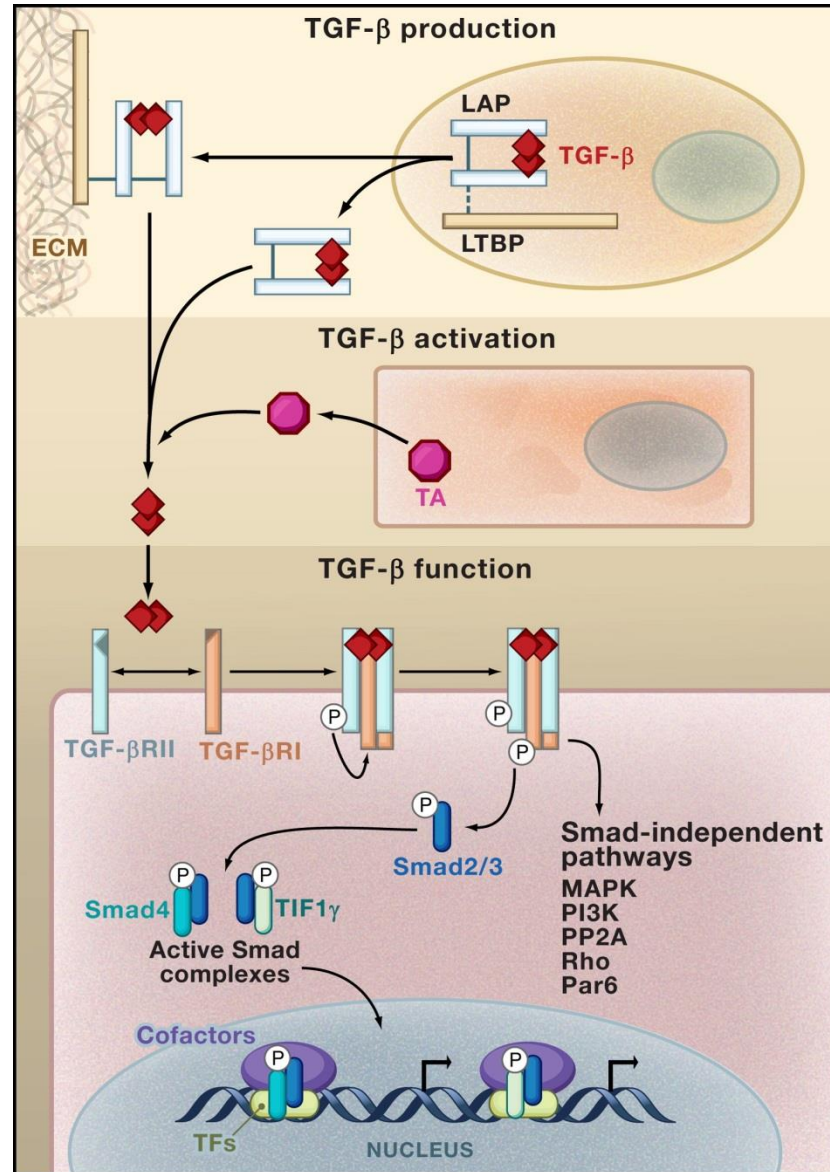
LAP: 75 kDa

Active TGF- $\beta$ : 25 kDa

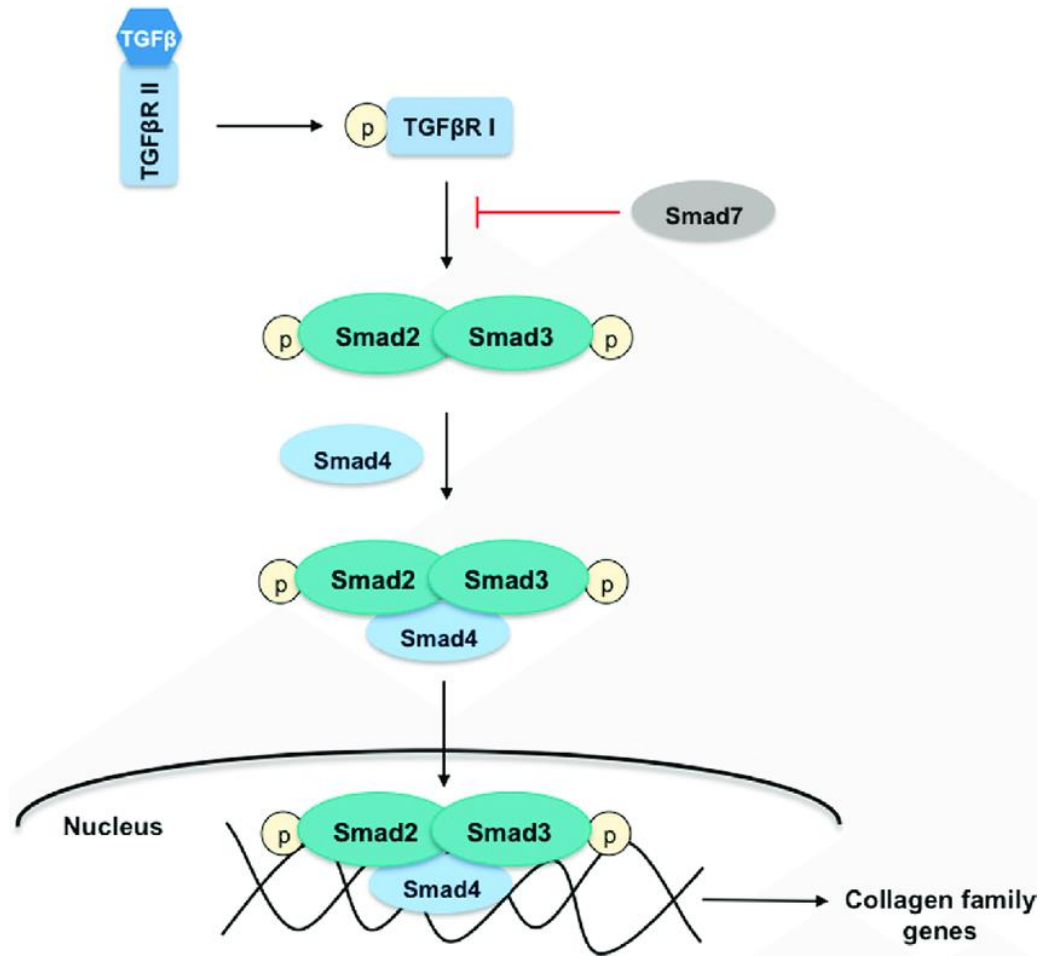
LAP = Latency-associated protein

LTBP = Latent TGF- $\beta$  binding protein

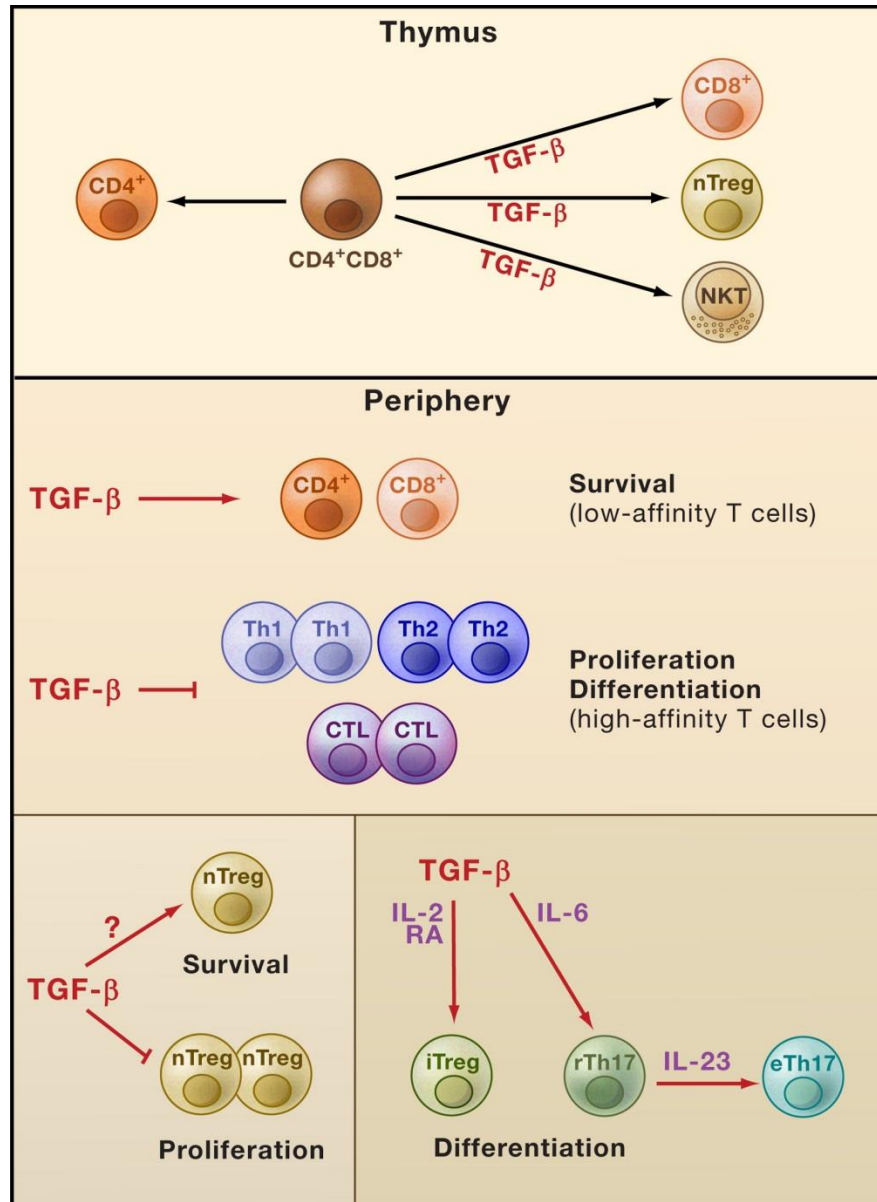
# TGF- $\beta$ : from secretion to gene induction



# TGF- $\beta$ signaling

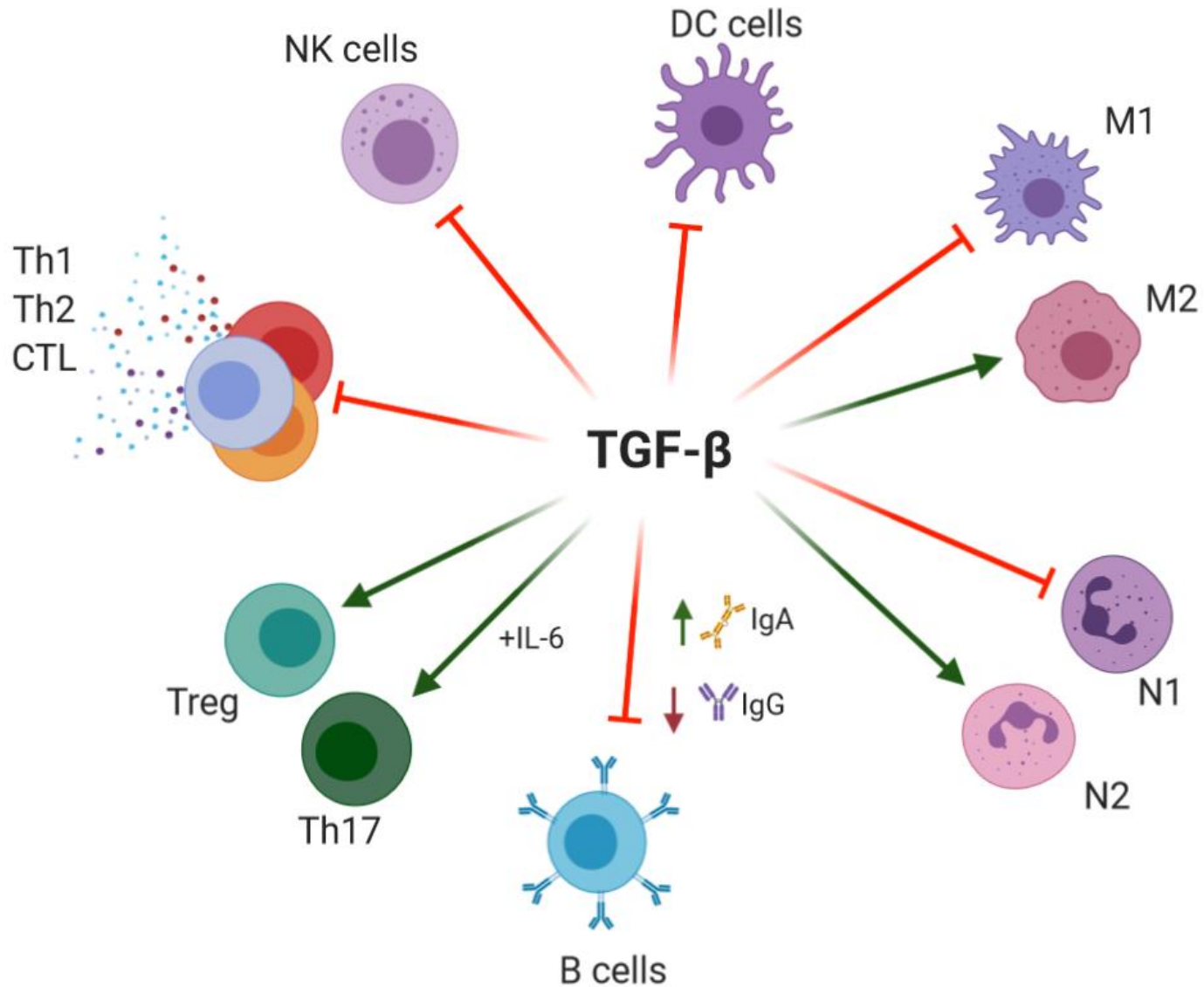


# TGF- $\beta$ -mediated T cell regulation





# Effects of TGF- $\beta$ on immune cells



# Inhibitory molecules

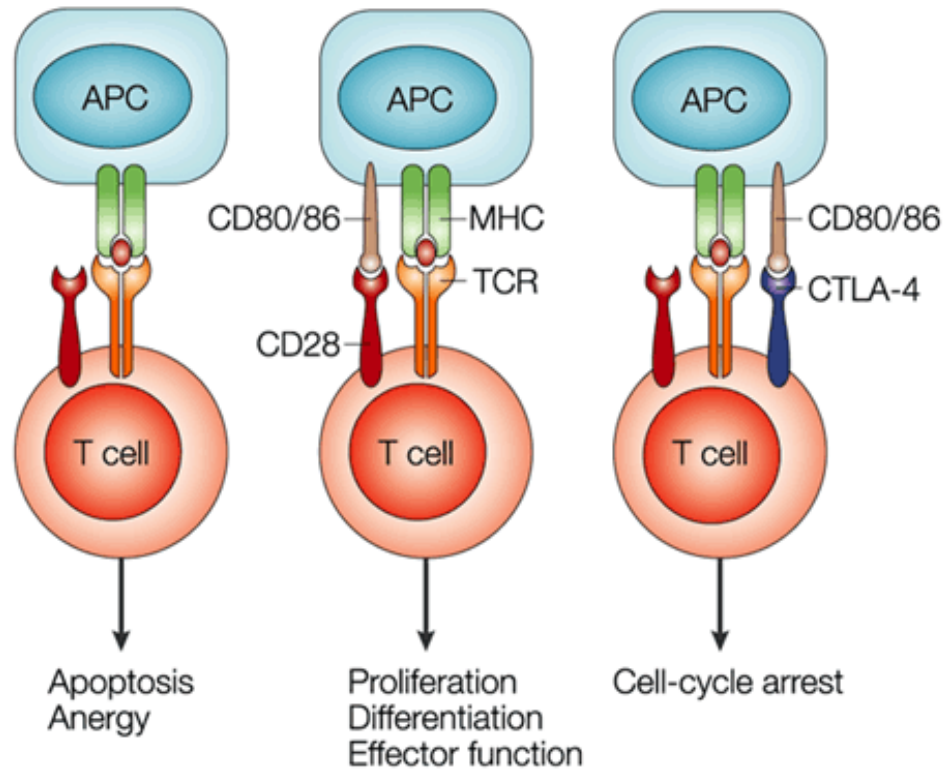
CTLA-4

PD-1 / PD-L1

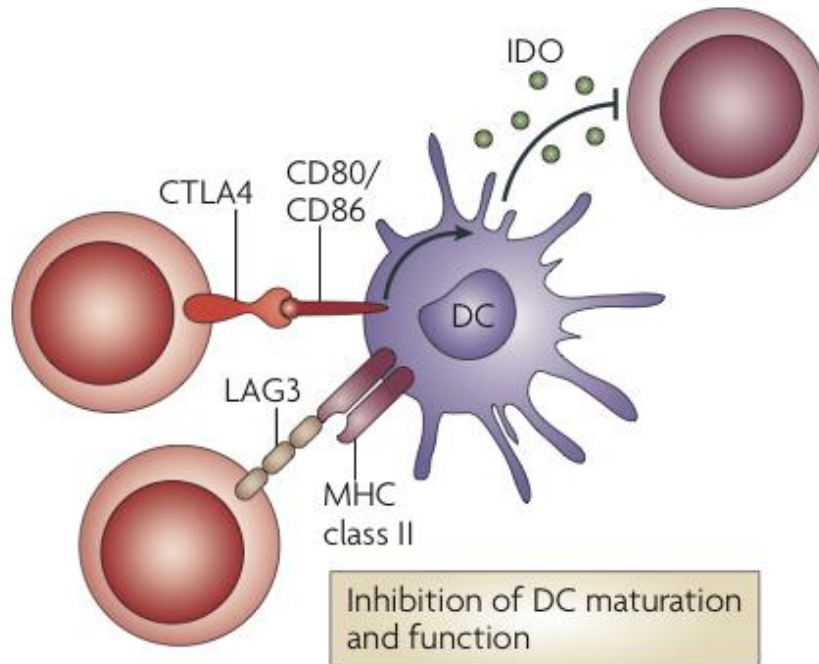
# CTLA-4

- **CTLA-4:** cytotoxic T-lymphocyte antigen-4 (CD152)
- **CD28 homologue:** immunoglobulin family
- **Inhibitory receptor:** binds to CD80 and CD86 with higher affinity than CD28. Inhibits T cell activity and causes cell anergy.
- **Expression:** Treg cells and activated T effector cells (few days after activation)
- **CTLA-4<sup>-/-</sup> (KO)-mause:** massive lymphocyte expansion and lymphocyte infiltration into many tissues, uncontrolled lymphocyte proliferation, generalized autoimmune disease, death at about 6 weeks.

# CTLA-4 intrinsic effect



# CTLA-4 extrinsic effect

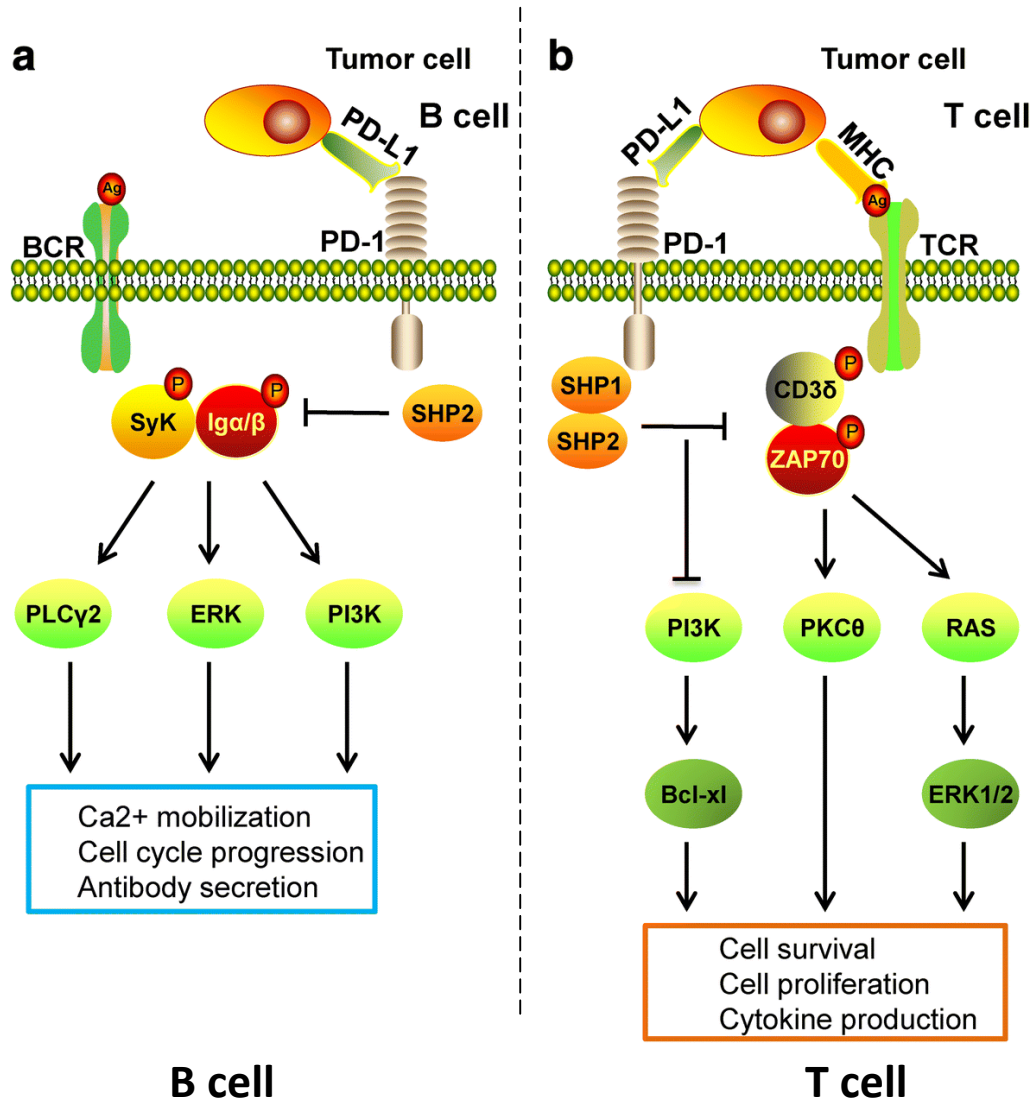


- CTLA-4 binds to CD80/86 on dendritic cells (DC)
- Induction of indolamine-2,3-dioxygenase (IDO) – immunosuppressive molecule
- Reduction of CD80/80 availability
- Possible: inhibition of DC maturation

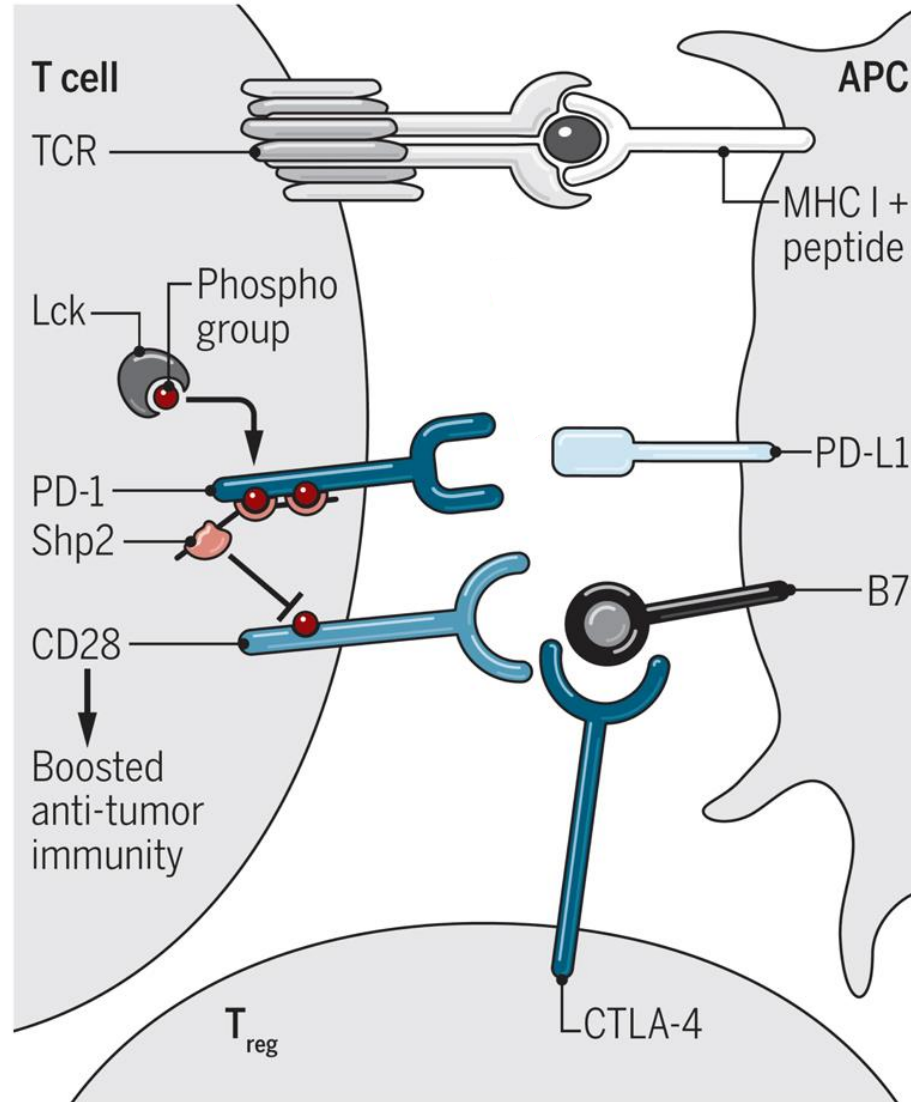
# PD-1

- **PD-1:** Programmed cell death protein 1 (CD279)
- Immunoglobulin family
- **Inhibitory receptor:** inhibits TCR- and BCR-mediated cell activation
- **Expression:** activated T cells, B cells, monocytes, NK cells, and certain DCs.
- PD-L1
  - PD-L1 (B7-H1 or CD274): B7 family
  - Abnormal high expression of PD-L1 in tumor cells

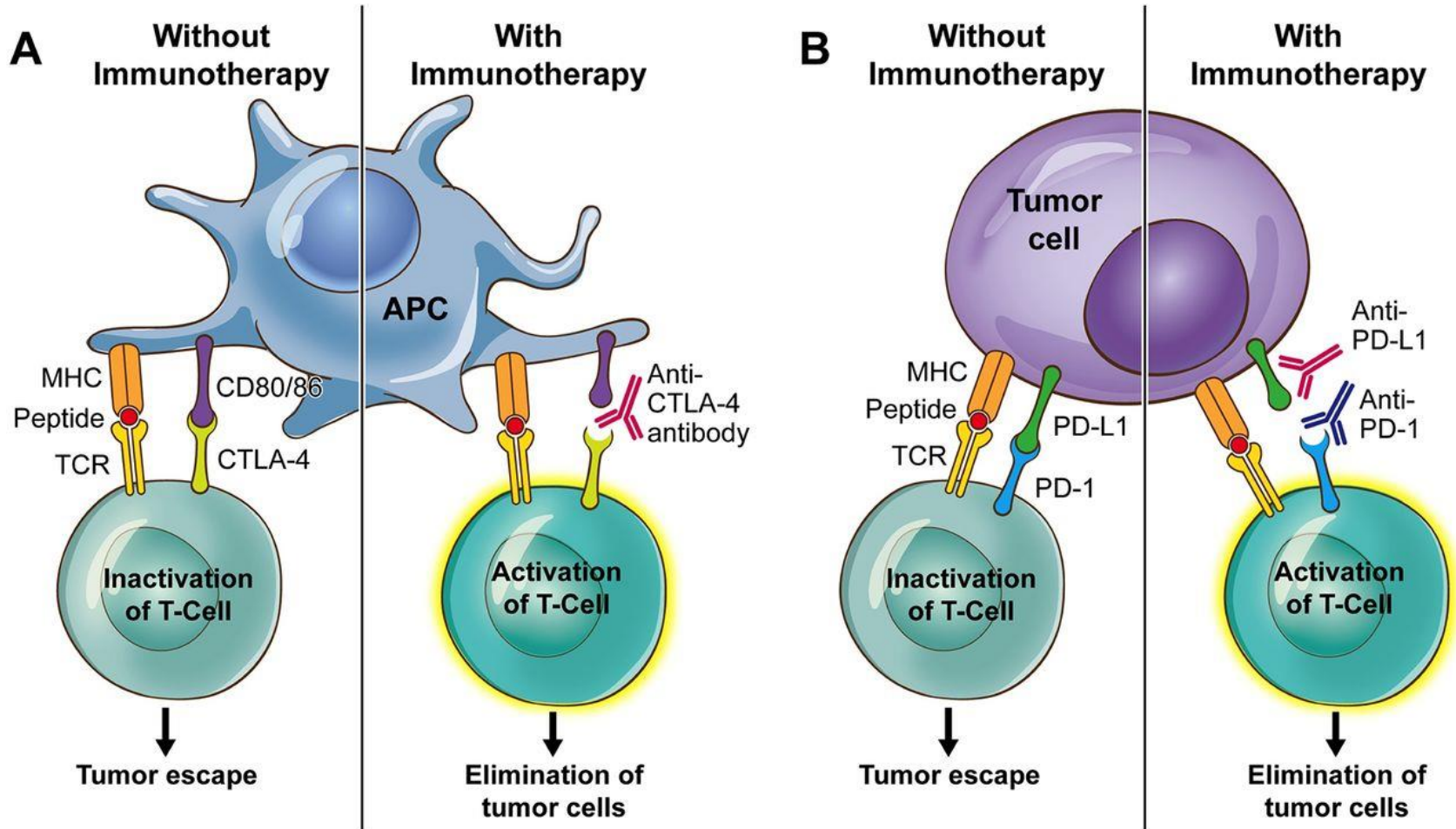
# PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitory mechanism



# CTLA-4 and PD-1 checkpoint inhibitors



# CTLA-4 and PD-1 checkpoint inhibitors



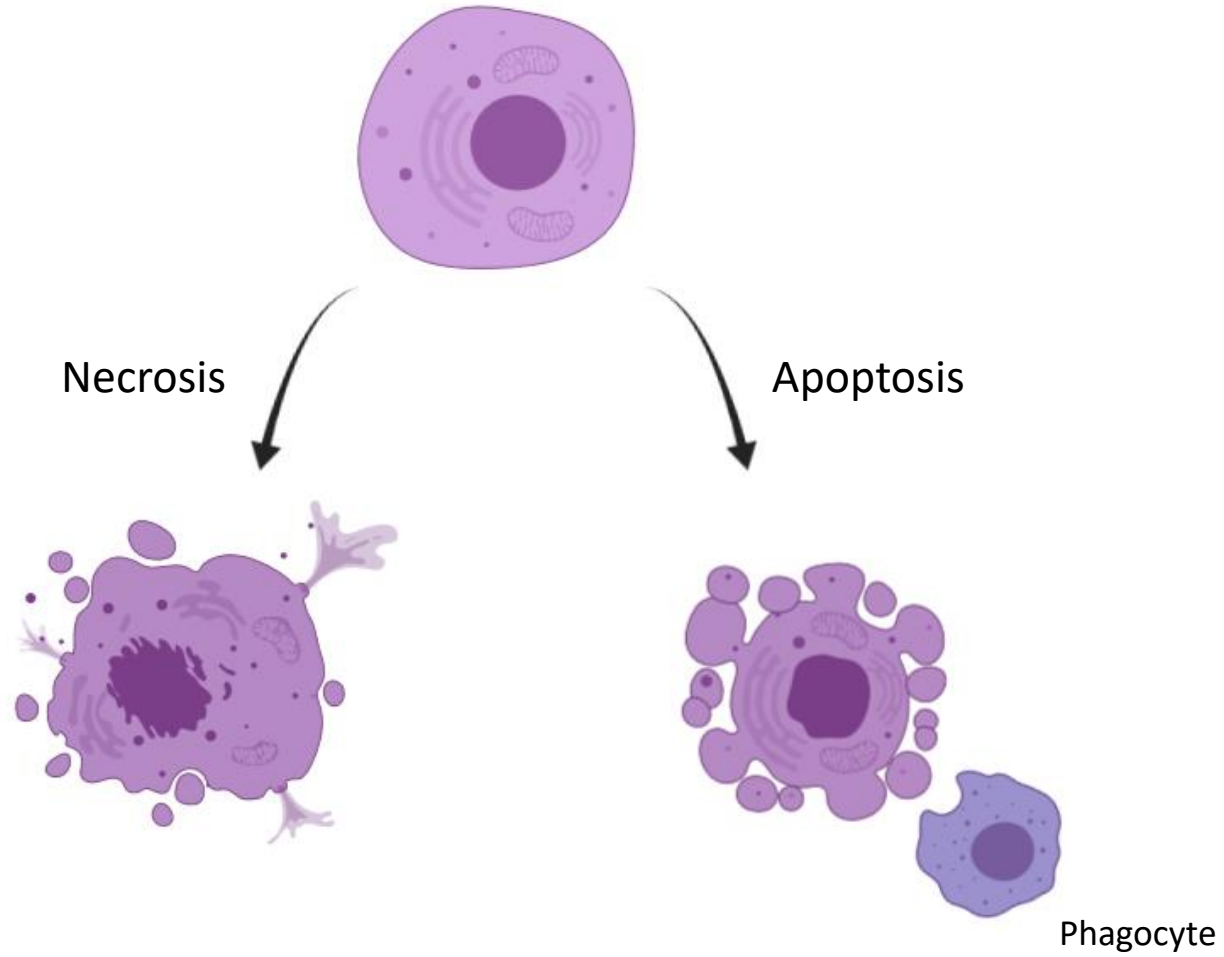
Depletion of effector cells  
-Apoptosis-

# Apoptosis

ΑΠΟΠΤΩΣΙΣ (Greek)

- = Fall off petals or tree leaves
- Cell biology (immunology):
  - Apoptosis = "programmed cell death"

# Necrosis vs. Apoptosis



# Apoptosis

## Programmed cell death

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2002 was awarded jointly to Sydney Brenner, H. Robert Horvitz and John E. Sulston "for their discoveries concerning genetic regulation of organ development and programmed cell death'."

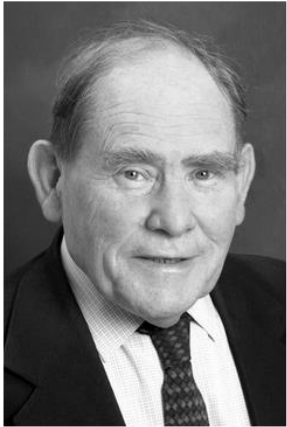


Photo from the Nobel Foundation archive.

Sydney Brenner



Photo from the Nobel Foundation archive.

H. Robert Horvitz



Photo from the Nobel Foundation archive.

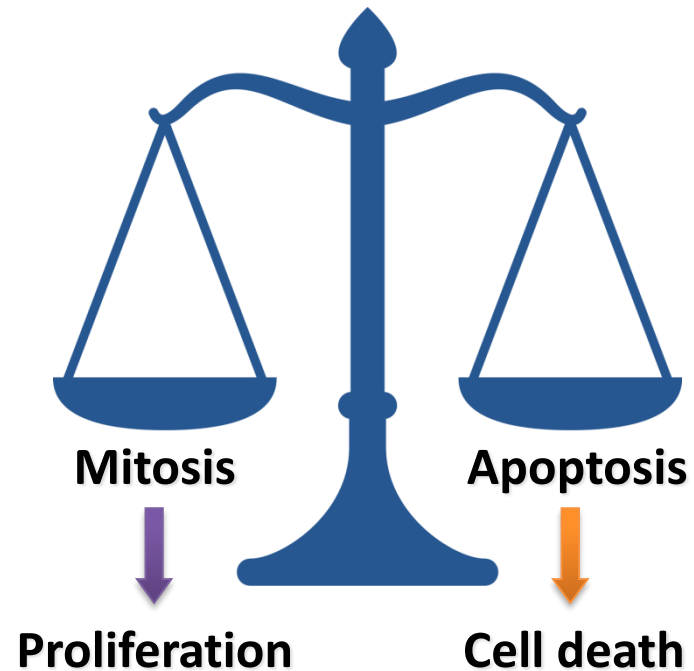
John E. Sulston



Apoptosis as an essential part of organogenesis

- Tissue homeostasis: balance between renewal (mitosis) and elimination of disused cells (apoptosis)

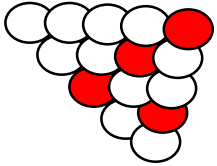
# Life and death balance



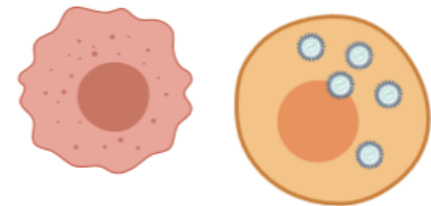
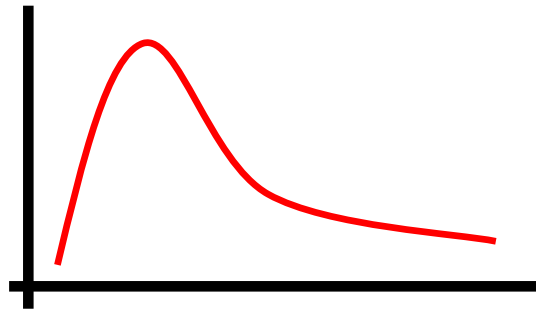
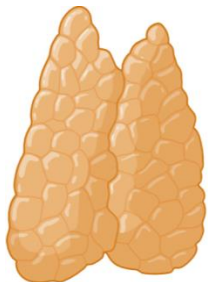
10 billion ( $10^{10}$ ) of our body cells ( $10^{14}$ ) have to die every day to compensate for the new cells created by mitosis. (M. T. Heemels: Nature 2000 407:769)

Without cell death, an 80-year-old person would have 2 tons of bone marrow and lymph nodes and 16 km of intestines (Gerry Melino: The siren's song Nature 2001 412:23)

# Physiological role of apoptosis



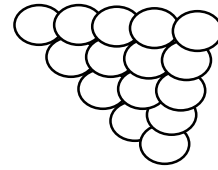
- Preservation of tissue structure in vertebrates
- In the immune system:
  - Negative selection
  - Regulation of the immune response
  - Deletion of infected and abnormal cells



# Pathophysiological role of apoptosis

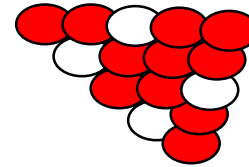
- Insufficient apoptosis:

- Autoimmune diseases
- Cancer
- Virus infection

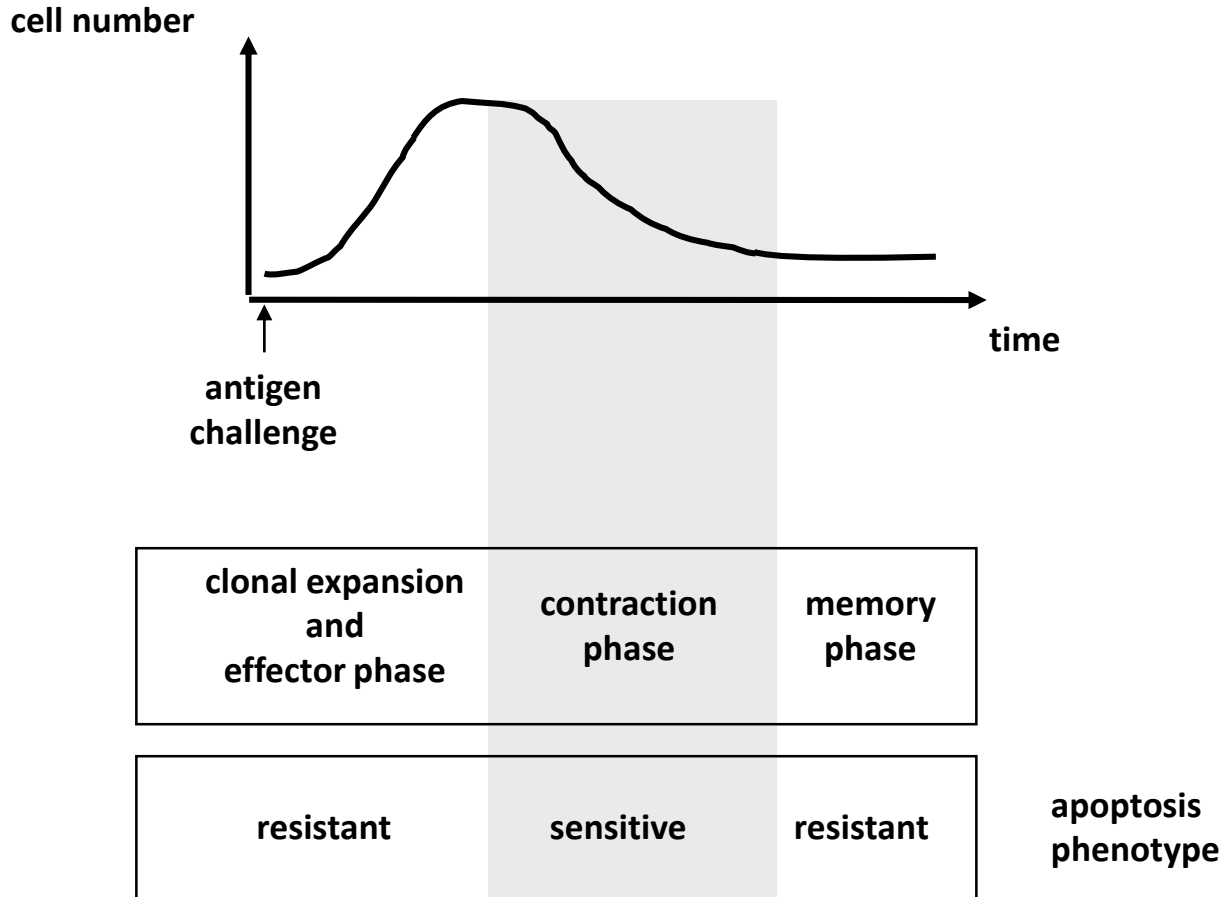


- Excessive apoptosis:

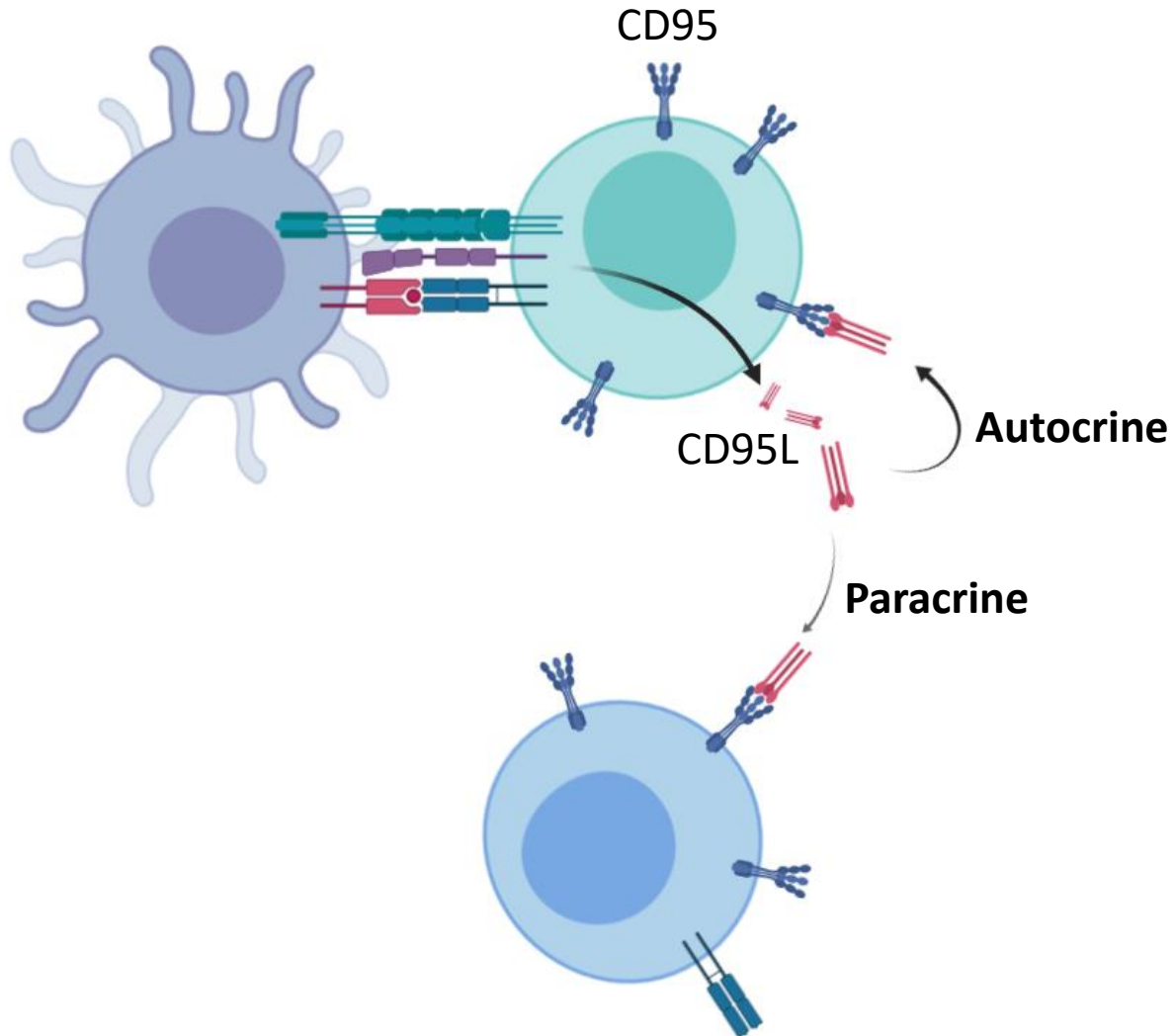
- AIDS
- Stroke
  
- Neurodegenerative diseases:
  - Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Retinitis pigmentosa



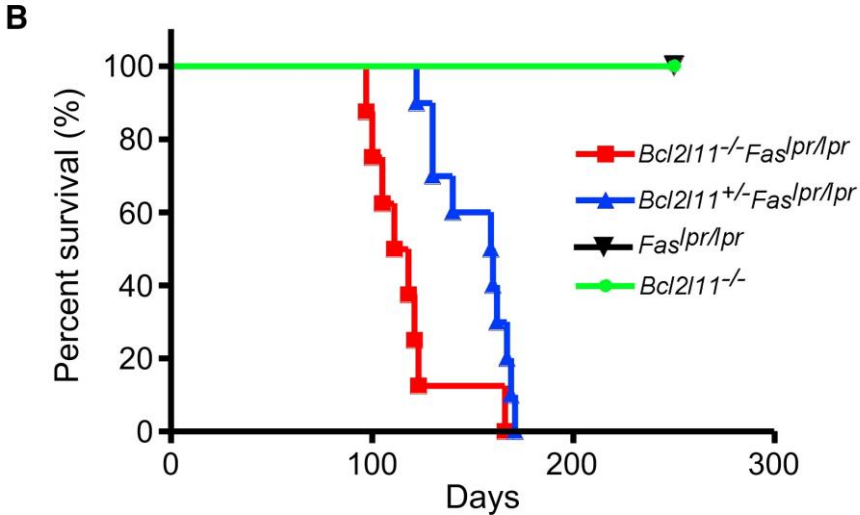
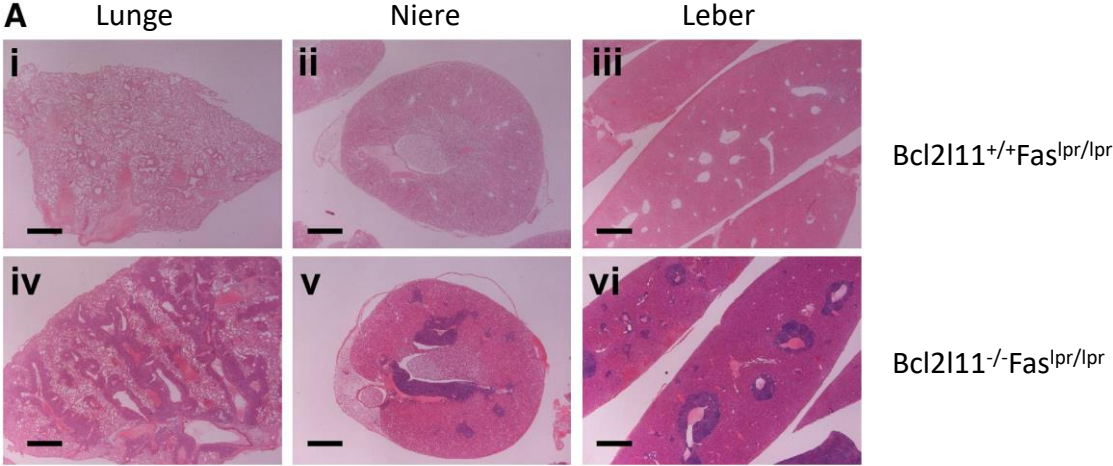
# T cell mediated immune responses



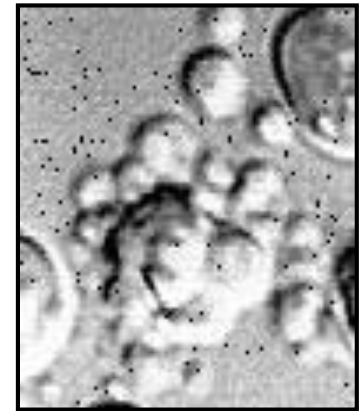
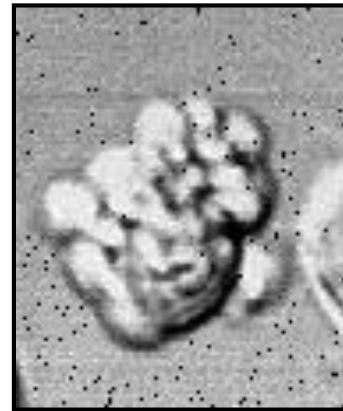
# AICD (activation-induced cell death) in T cells



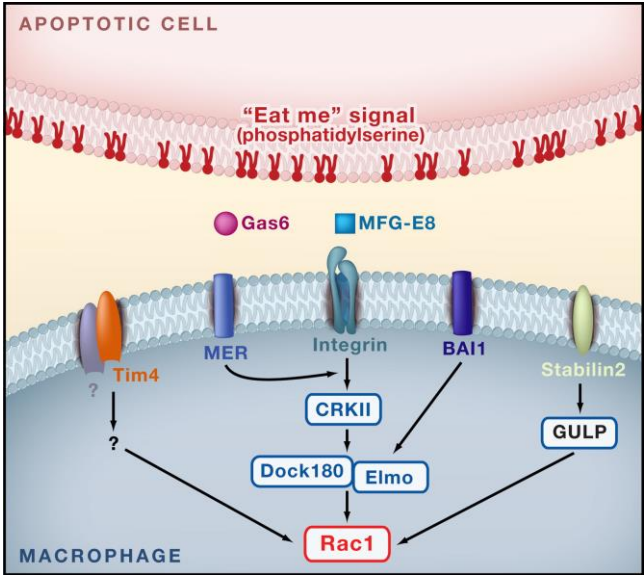
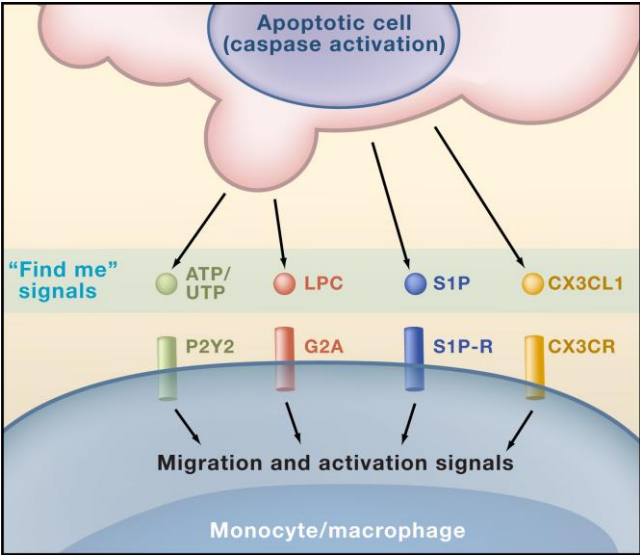
# Reminder: Loss of apoptosis leads to lethal lymphoproliferation and a break in tolerance



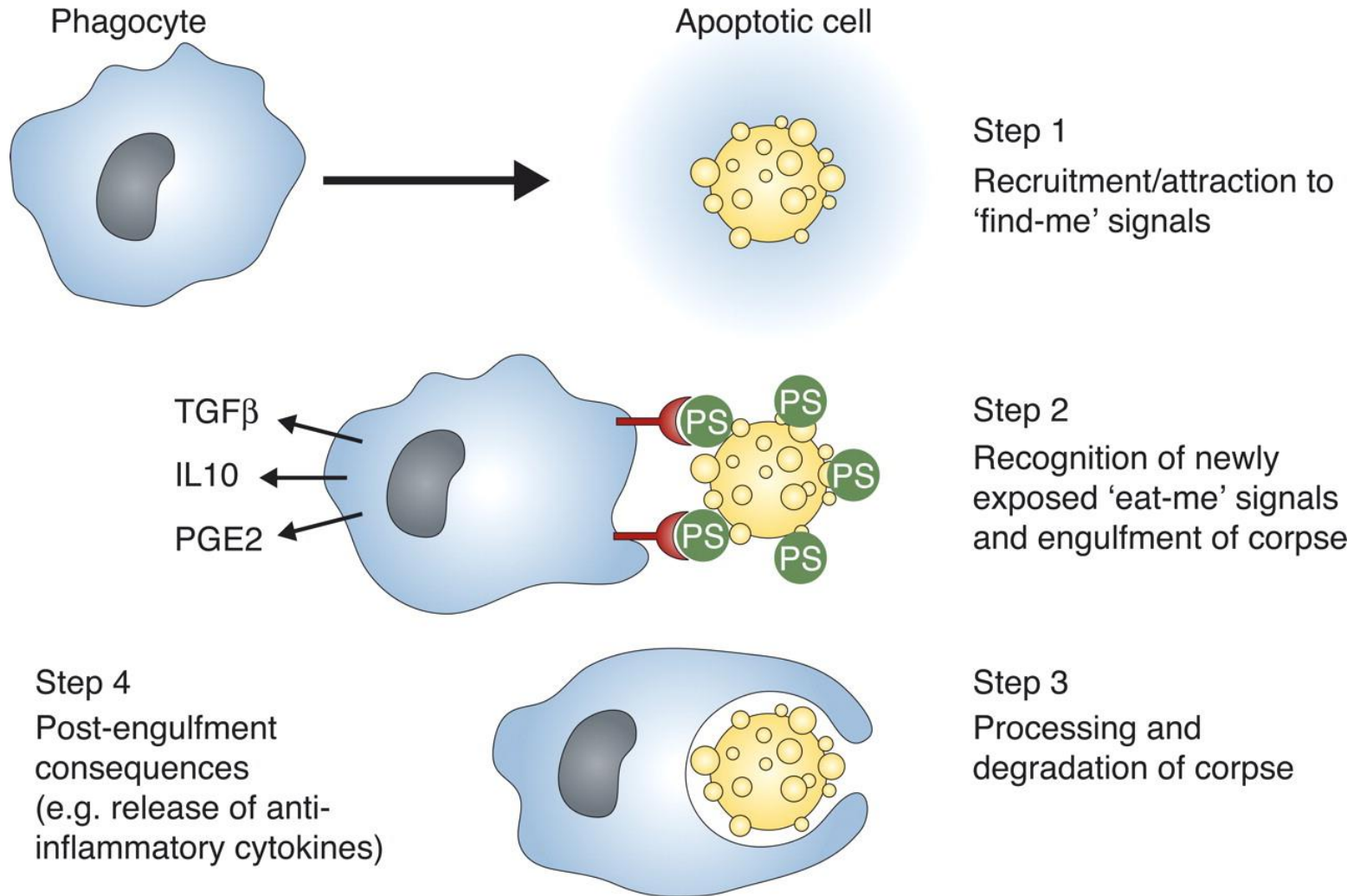
# Elimination of apoptotic cells



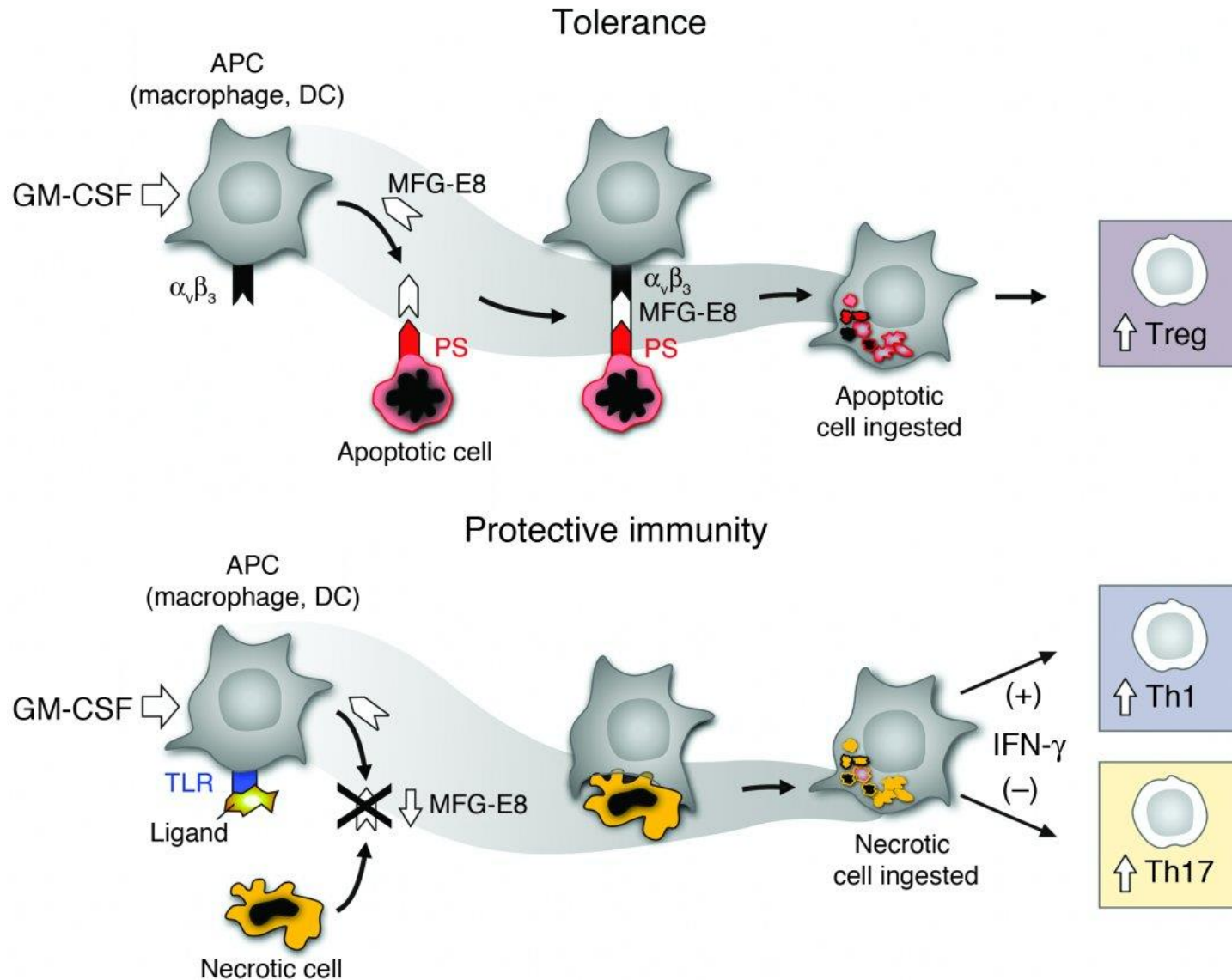
# „Find me“ und „Eat me“ signals control the removal of apoptotic cells



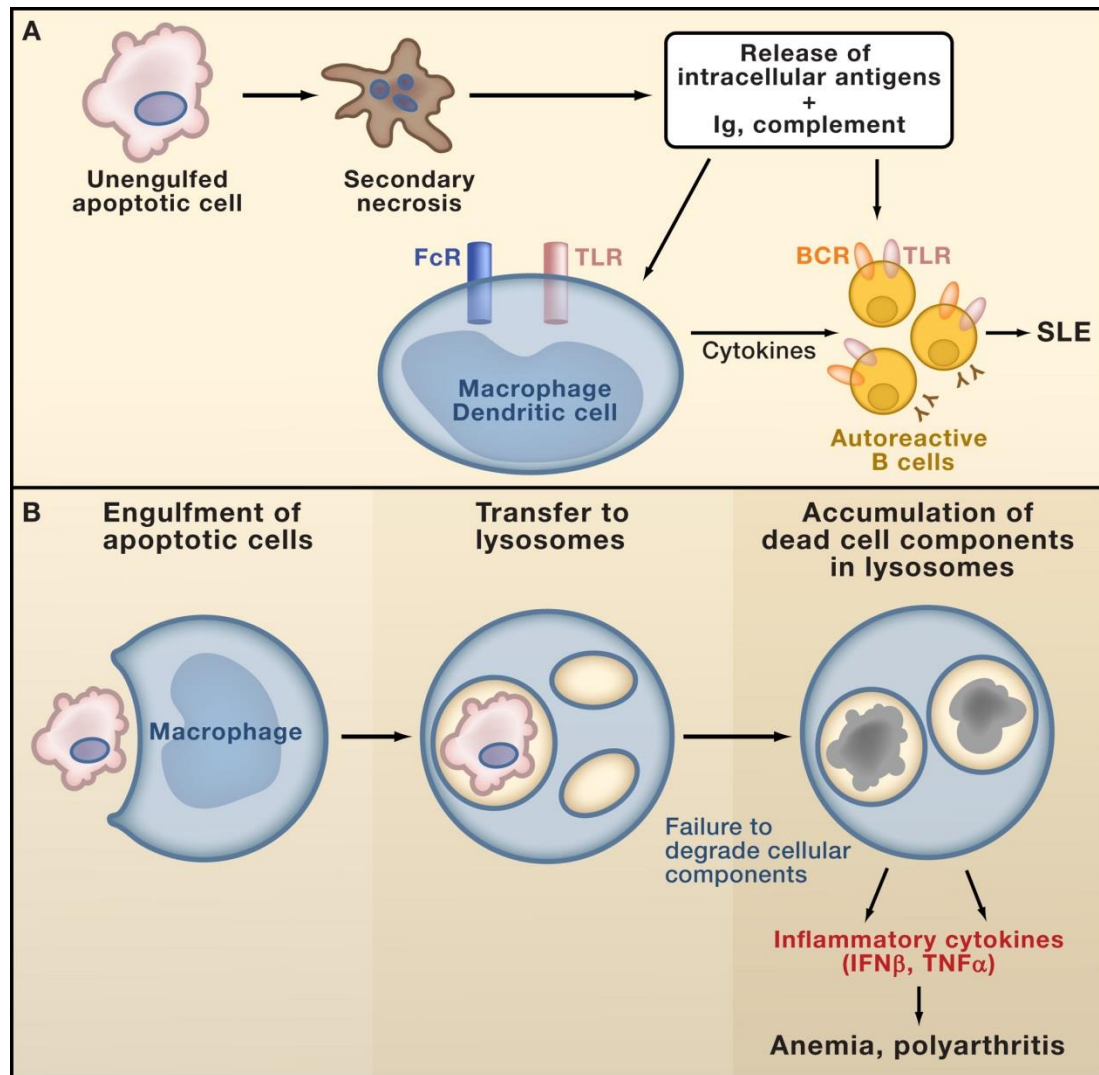
# Successive steps in the removal of apoptotic cells



# Influence of apoptotic vs. necrotic cells to the immune response



# Defects in cell death elimination in pathophysiological conditions



# Thanks for your attention

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