

# **Inflammation, Plaque Stability Imaging, and Clinical Trials**

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# Features of Rupture Prone Plaque

**Inflammation; Macrophage,  
sICAM-1, Fibrinogen, CRP...**

**Thin cap**

**Large necrotic core**

**Angiogenesis**

**Intraplaque hemorrhage**

**Expansive remodeling**

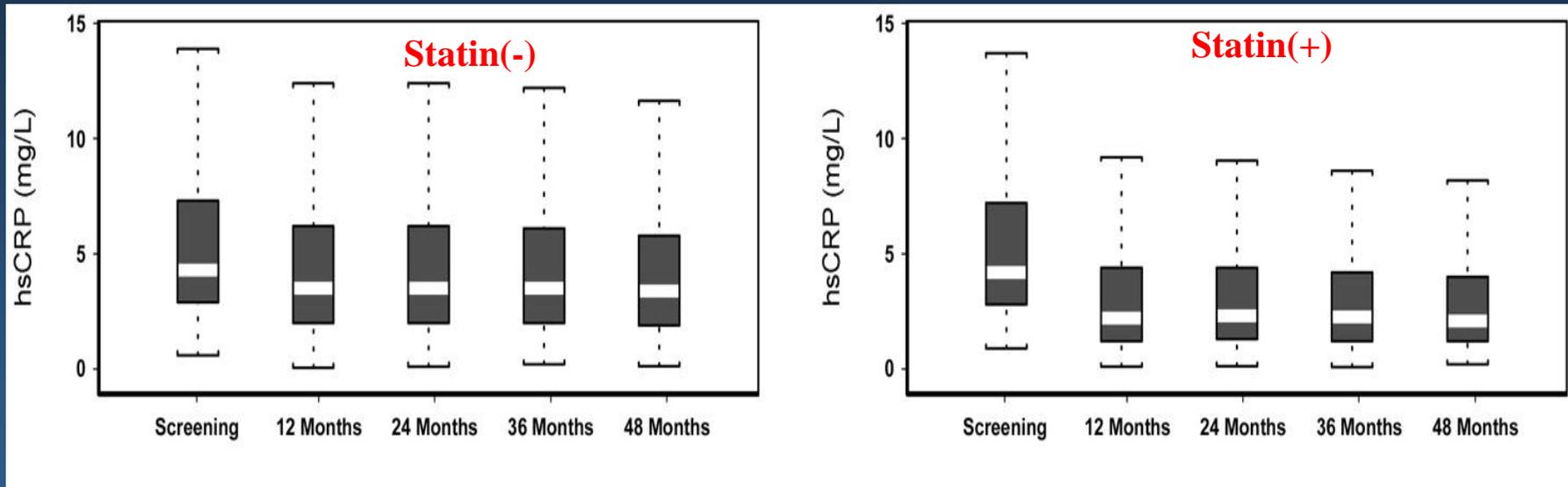
**Spotty Calcification**

# **CRP?**

- **Reliability of hsCRP Measurements**
- **Epidemiologic Evidence**
- **In Vivo Evidence of Imaging Studies**
- **Causal Evidence of Genetic, Pathologic, and Clinical Studies**
- **Ongoing Studies Targeting Inflammation**

## Tracking of High-Sensitivity C-Reactive Protein after an Initially Elevated Concentration: 8901 pts (JUPTER)

The distributions of hsCRP at the screening visit and at 12, 24, 36, and 48 months



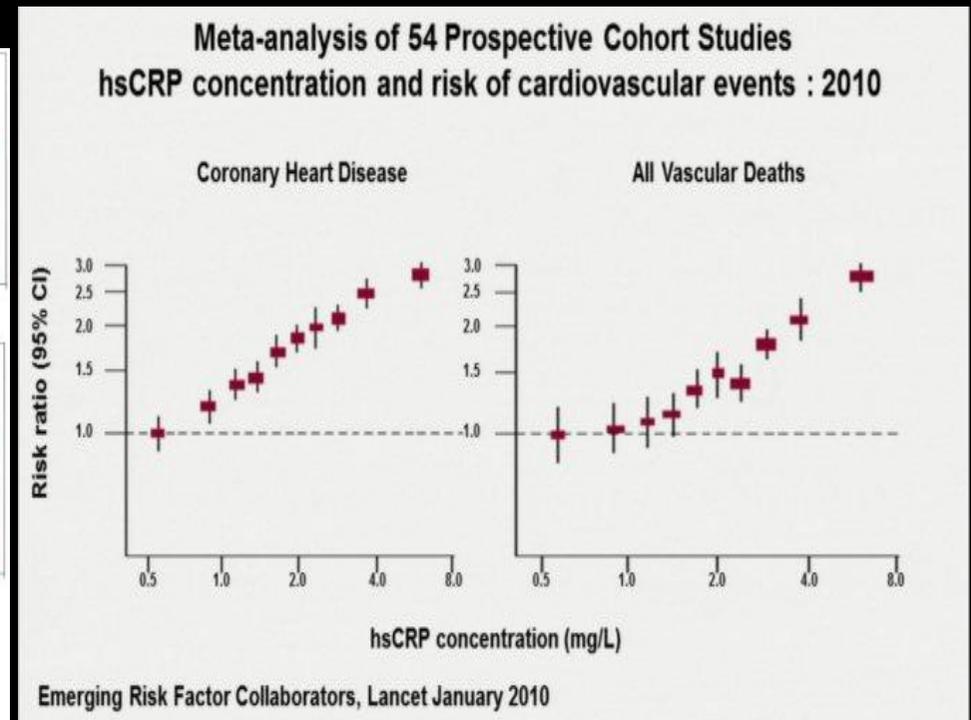
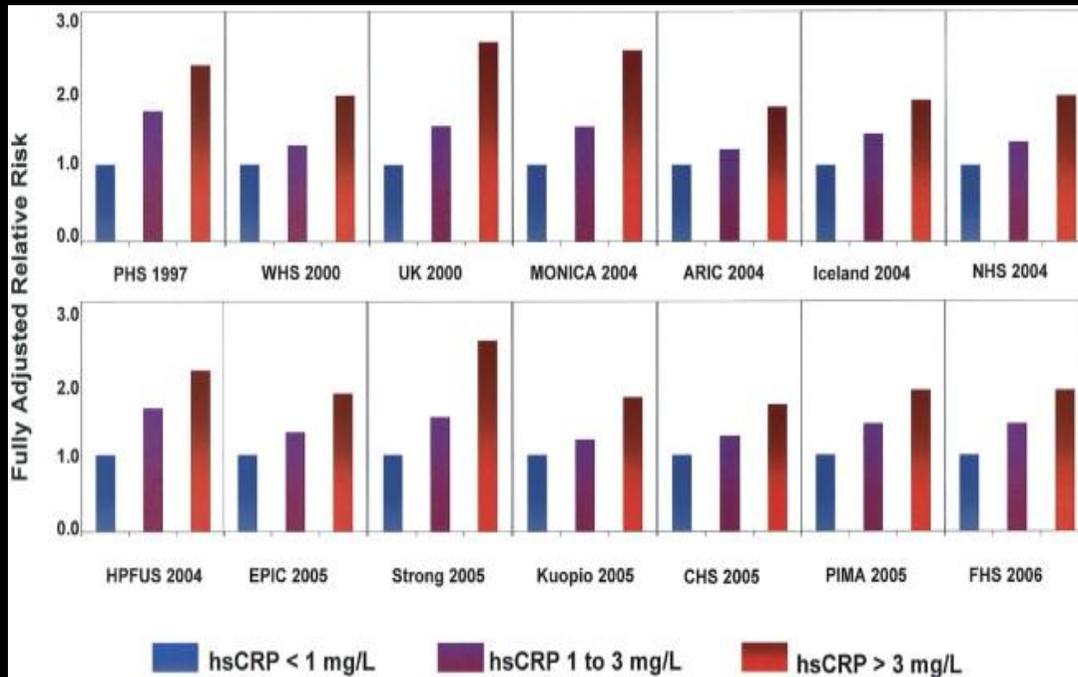
This study indicates temporal stability of hsCRP.

Tracking correlations for hsCRP over time were comparable to those for blood pressure and LDL cholesterol

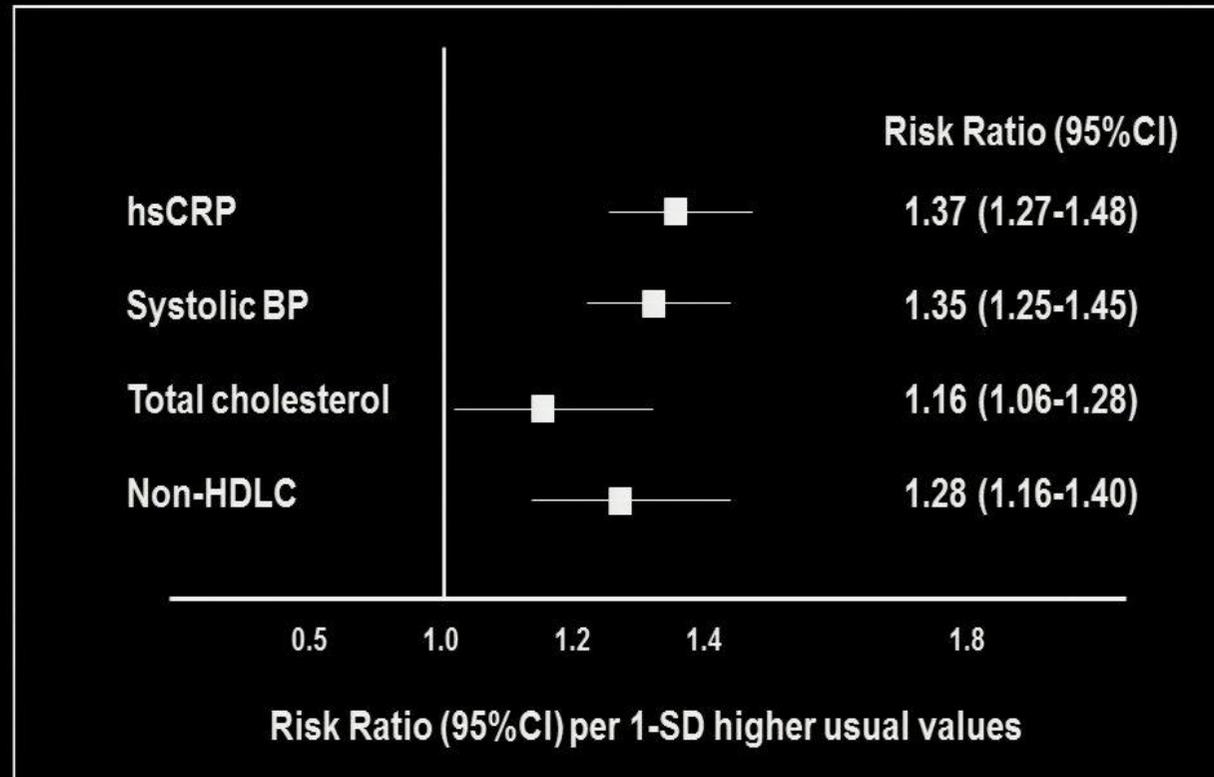
# Epidemiologic evidence linking inflammatory biomarkers such as C-reactive protein

The predictive value in 14 apparently healthy populations with baseline hsCRP levels of <1 mg/l, 1 to 3 mg/l, and >3 mg/l after adjustment for traditional risk factors

Inflammation is a strong and consistent of predictor of CV risk



**The magnitude of cardiovascular risk associated with a one standard deviation increase in hsCRP is at least as large as that associated with a one standard deviation increase of BP and cholesterol**



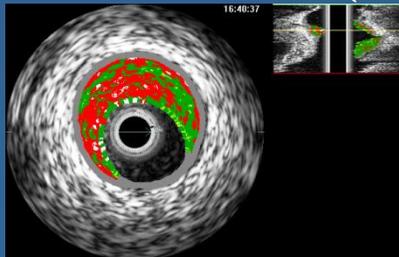
Adjusted for age, gender, smoking, diabetes, BMI, triglycerides, alcohol, lipid levels, and hsCRP

# Changes of Plaque Composition after Statin Therapy in Patients with Acute Coronary Syndrome; *Classification and Analysis by IntraVascular UltraSound-Virtual Histology:*

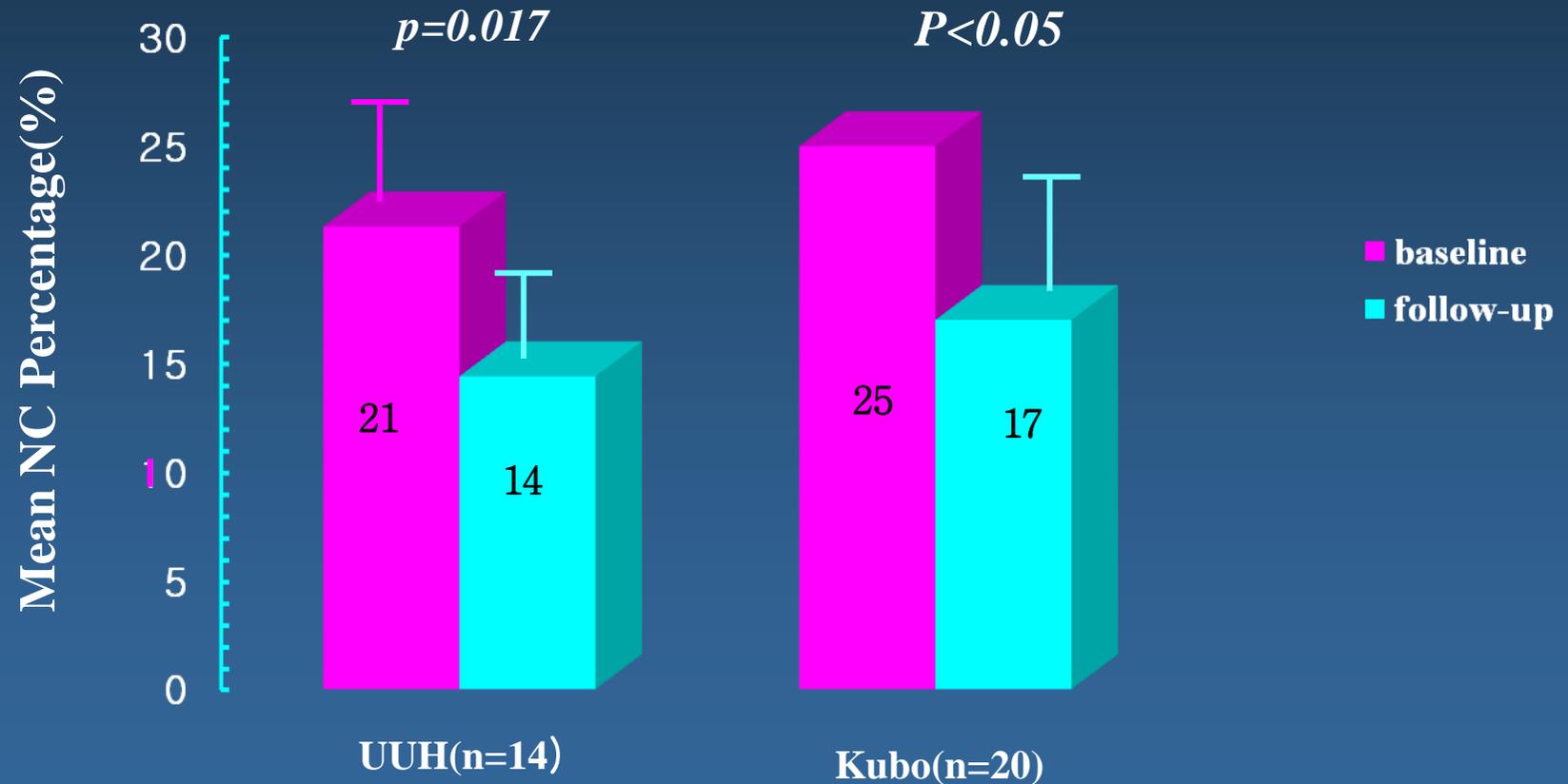
**Non-Culprit Plaque(n=54)**

**TCFA: n=14 (26%)**

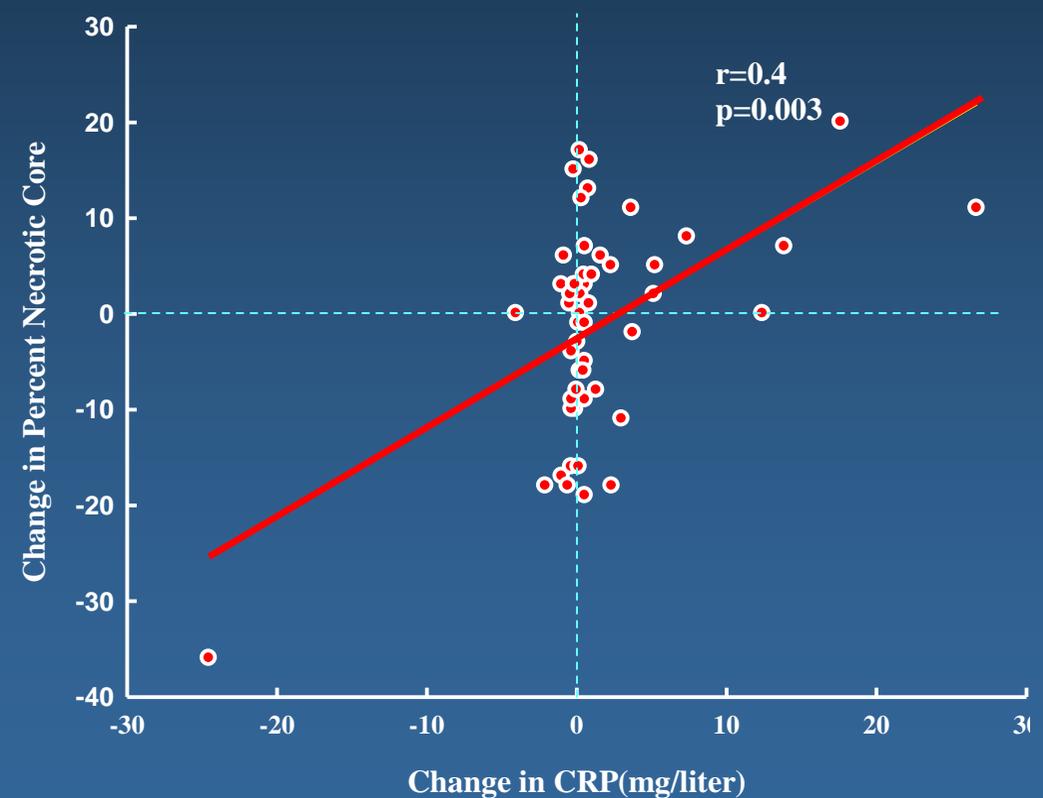
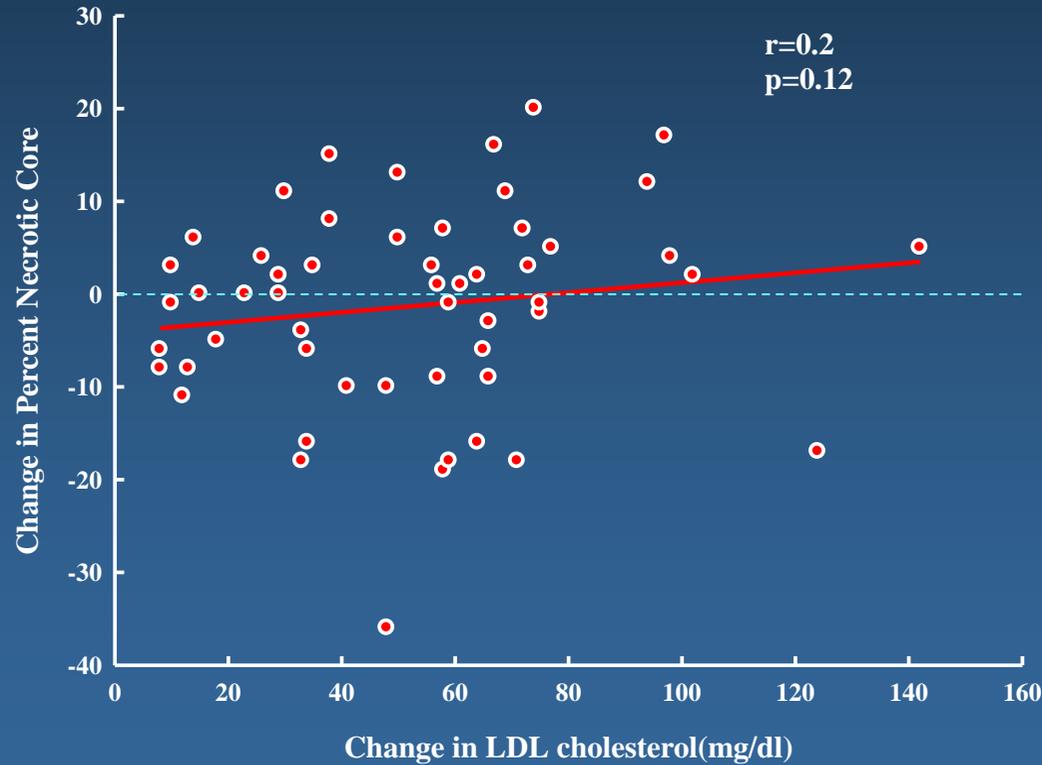
**Non-TCFA: n=40 (74%)**



## Changes of percent necrotic core in VH-TCFA between Baseline and Follow-up



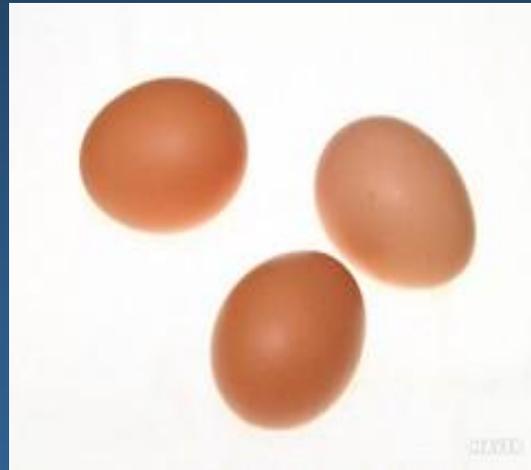
# Correlation between change of necrotic core percentage and change of LDL-C and hsCRP level



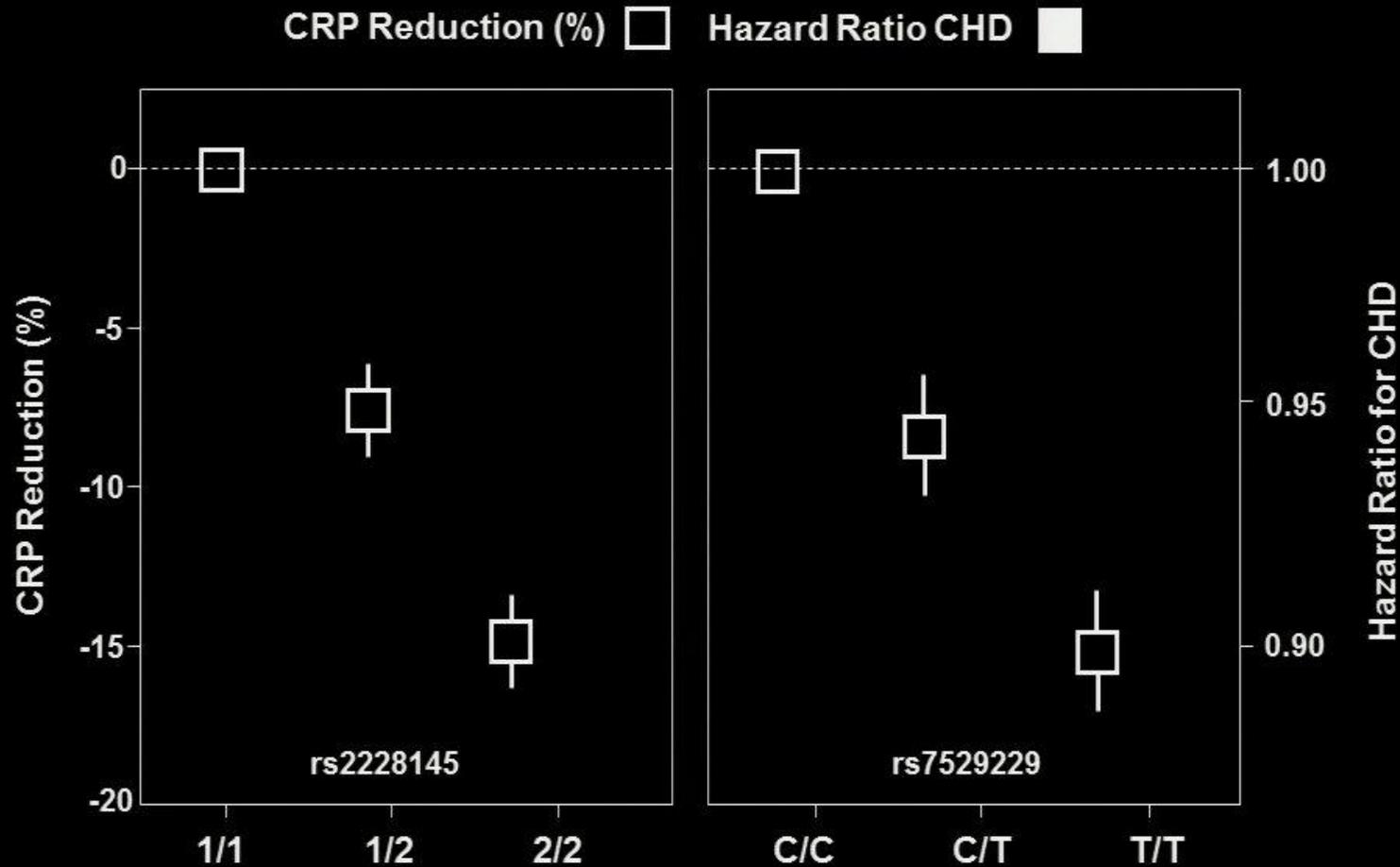
# Effects of statin therapy on changes in TCFA

Study	Imaging tool	TCFA	hsCRP	correlation	p
<b>SATURN</b> (n=71)	VH-IVUS	%necrotic core	on-treatment hs CRP	r=0.25	0.03
<b>Toyohashi</b> (n=63)	OCT	fibrous cap thickness	change in hsCRP	r=0.42	0.001

# Elevated CRP in Atherosclerosis- *Chicken or Egg?*



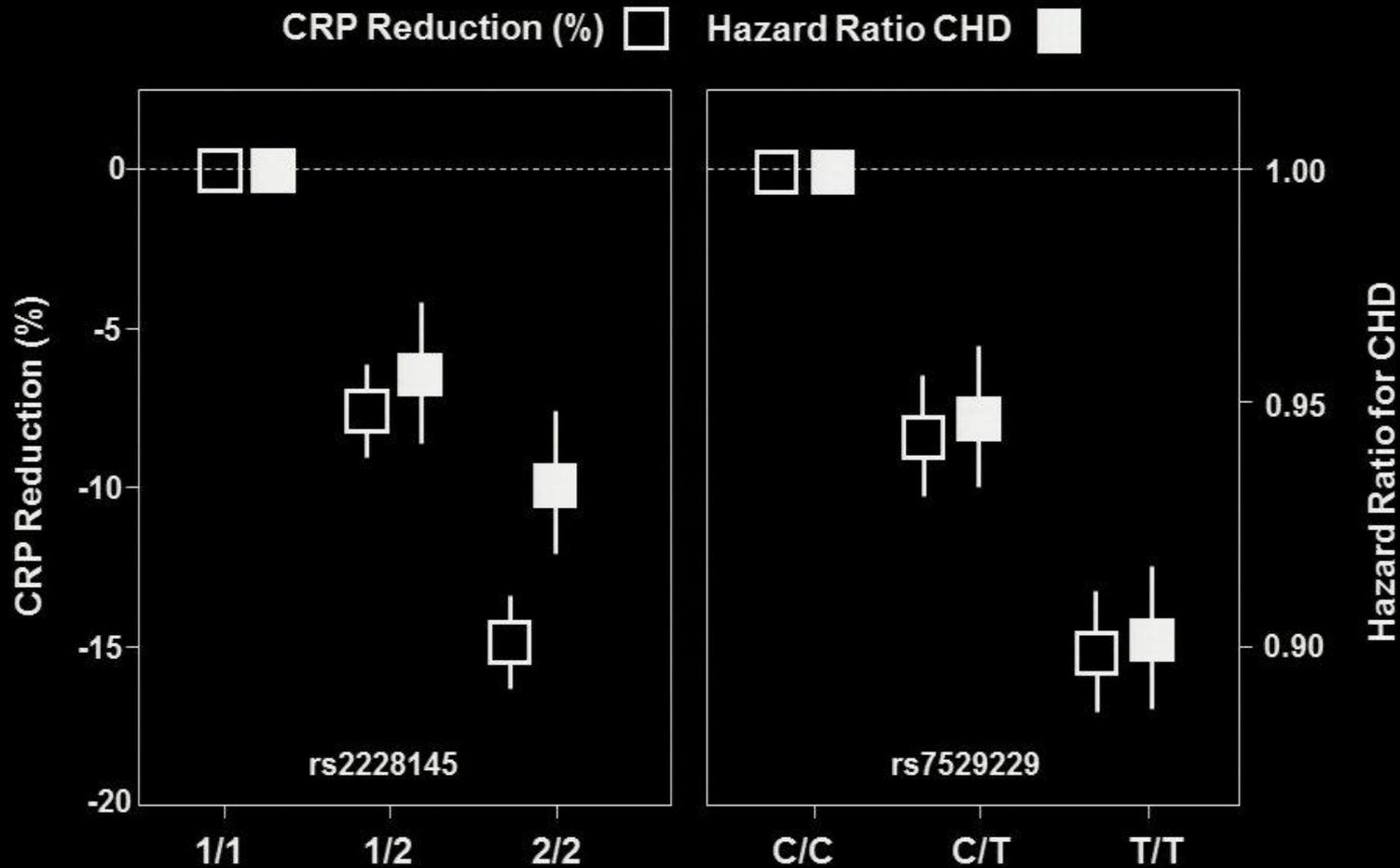
## Effects on Polymorphism in the IL-6 receptor Signaling Pathway On downstream CRP Levels: *a collaborative meta-analysis of 82 studies*



Sawar N et al, Lancet 2012;379;1205-13

Swerdlow et al, Lancet 2012;379;1214-24

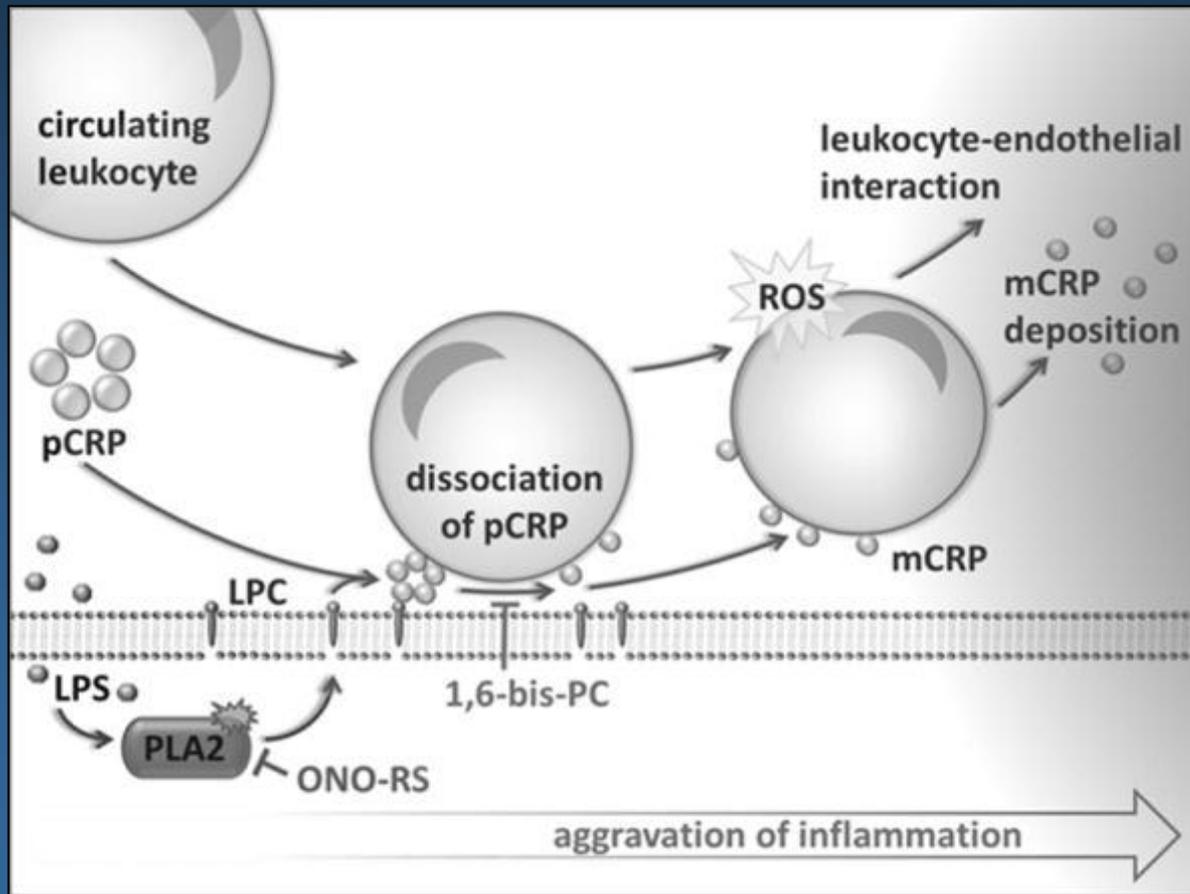
# Effects on Polymorphism in the IL-6 receptor Signaling Pathway On Downstream CRP Levels and Risks of Coronary Heart Disease



Sawar N et al, Lancet 2012;379;1205-13

Swerdlow et al, Lancet 2012;379;1214-24

# Proposed mechanism of phospholipase A2 (PLA2)-mediated lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC) generation and consecutive pentameric C-reactive protein (pCRP) dissociation in lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced inflammation.

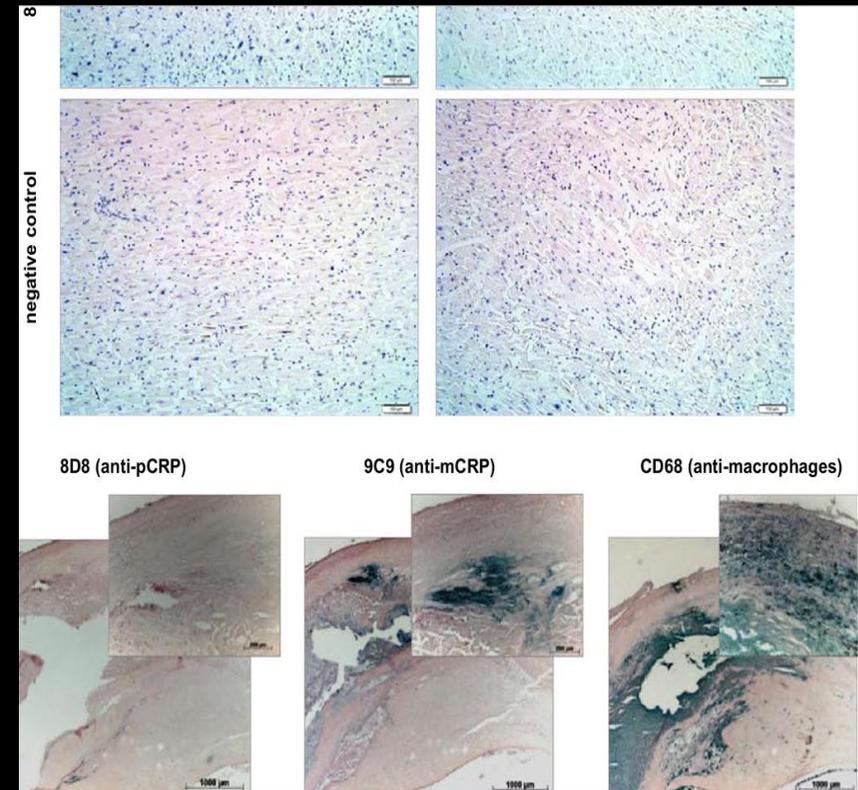
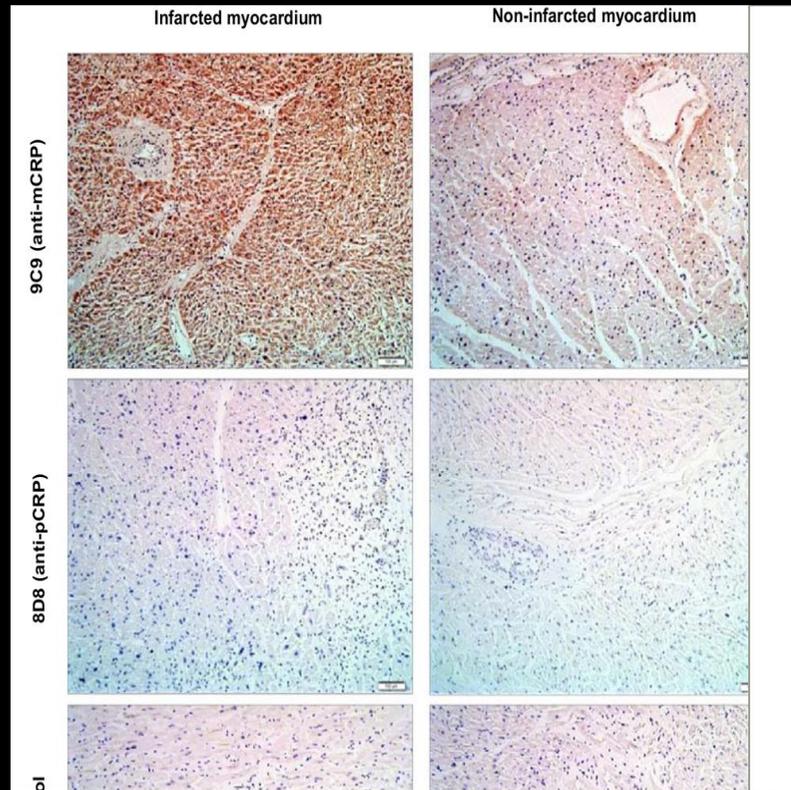


LPC is expressed on activated membranes via induction of PLA2 and mediates the dissociation of pCRP to mCRP

Monomeric subunit of C-reactive protein (mCRP) triggers leukocyte-endothelium interaction and is deposited in areas of inflammation.

# Dissociation of Pentameric to Monomeric C-Reactive Protein Localizes and Aggravates Inflammation: In Vivo Proof of a Powerful Proinflammatory Mechanism and a New Anti-Inflammatory Strategy

*in vivo* evidence for a novel mechanism that localizes and aggravates inflammation via phospholipase A<sub>2</sub>-dependent dissociation of circulating pCRP to mCRP



# JUPITER

## Primary Endpoint: MI, Stroke, UA/Revasc, CV death

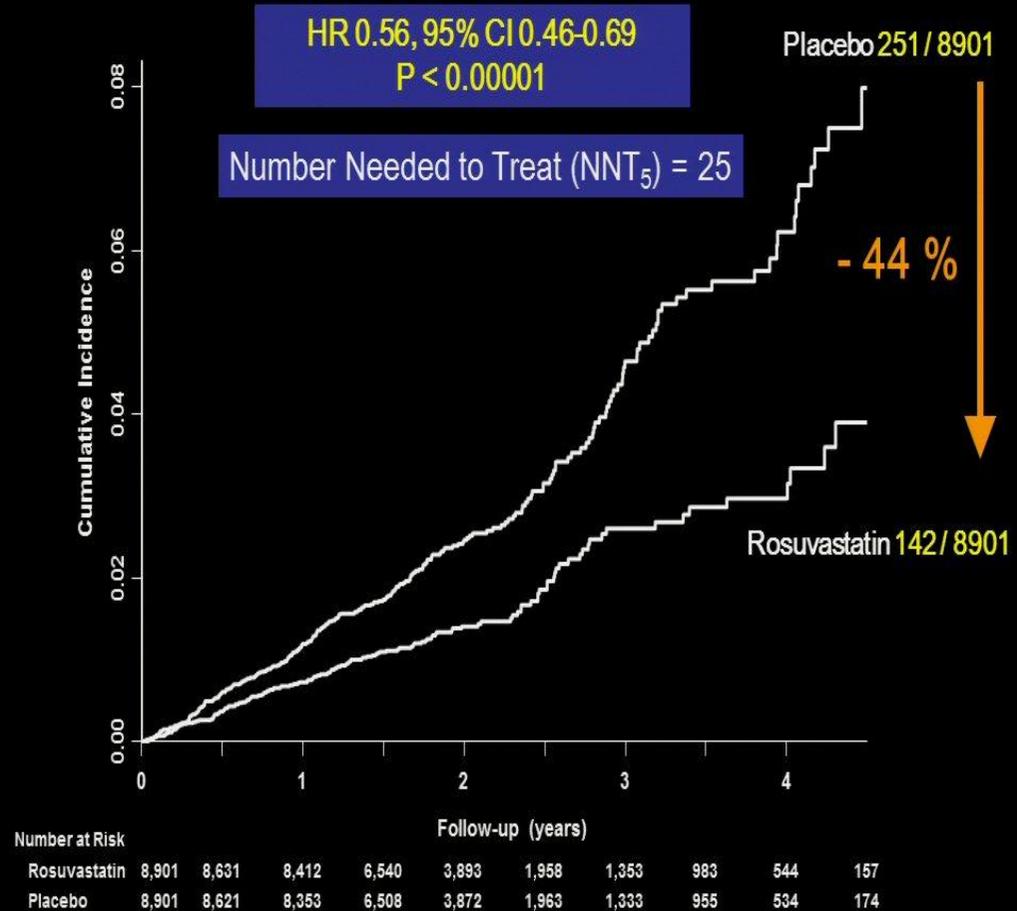
### JUPITER

Multi-National Randomized Double Blind Placebo Controlled Trial of Rosuvastatin in the Prevention of Cardiovascular Events Among Individuals With Low LDL and Elevated hsCRP



Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Germany, Israel, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Uruguay, United States, Venezuela

Mean LDLC 104 mg/dL, Mean HDLC 50 mg/dL, hsCRP 4 mg/L

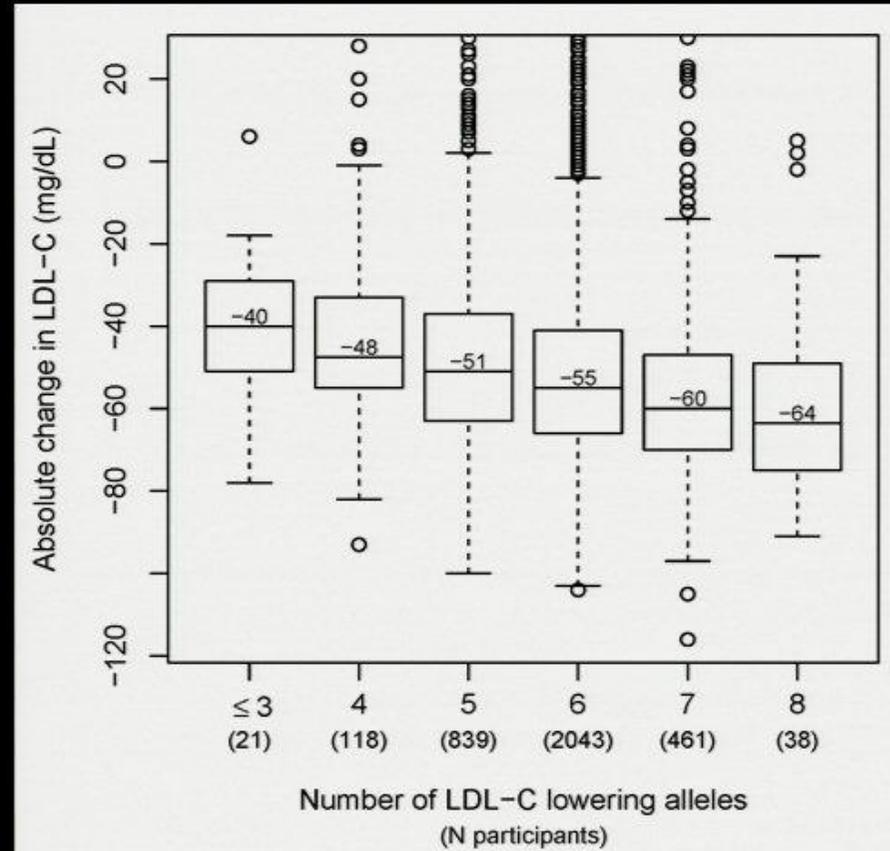


# JUPITER

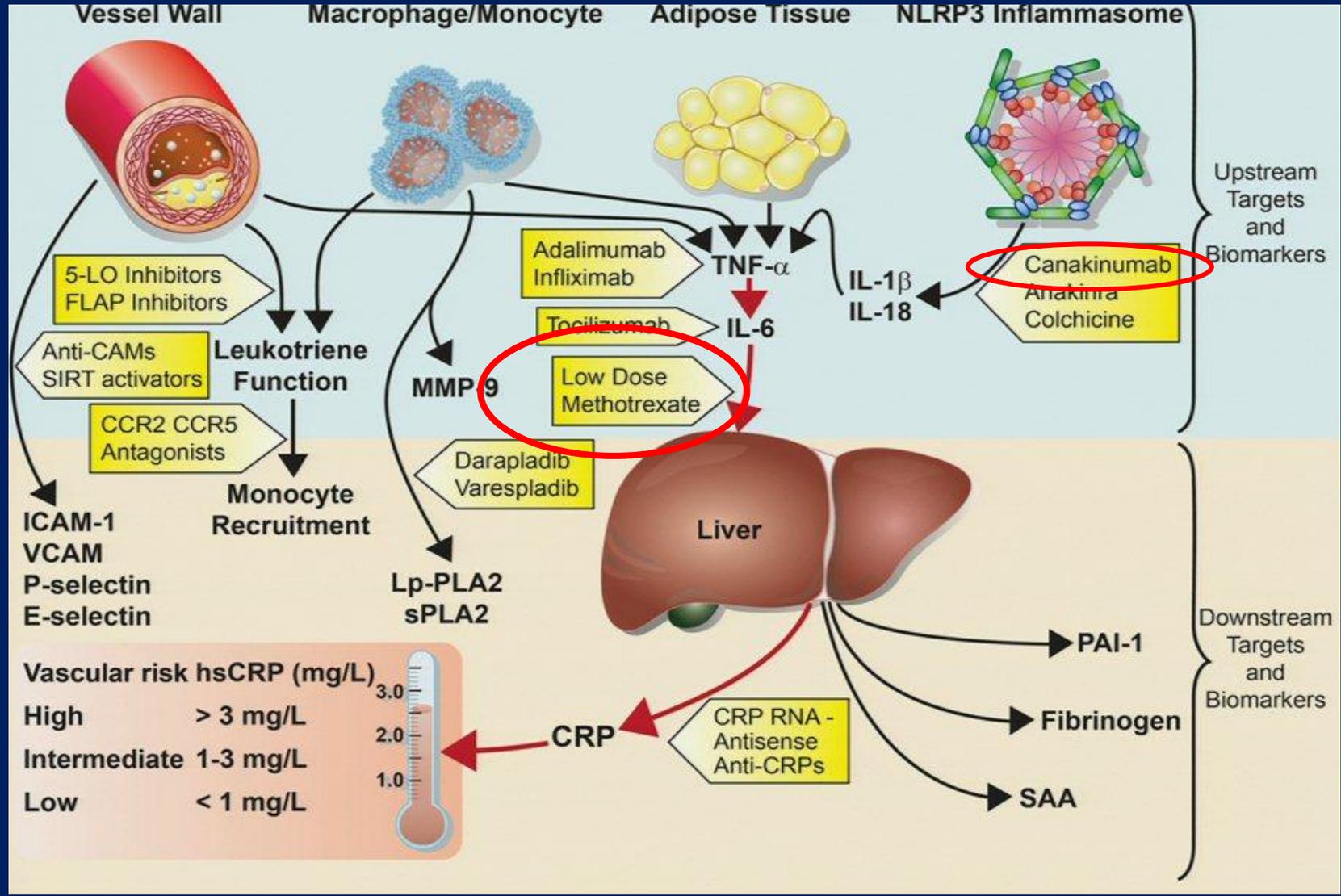
## LDL reduction, hsCRP reduction, or both

The genetic determinants of rosuvastatin-induced LDL-C reduction do not predict rosuvastatin-induced CRP reduction

The genetic determinants of rosuvastatin-induced CRP reduction do not predict rosuvastatin-induced LDL-C reduction



# Targeting Inflammatory Pathways for the Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease



## Low Dose Methotrexate and CVD: Observational Evidence

<u>cohort</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>HR* (95% CI)</u>	<u>Endpoint</u>	<u>Exposure</u>
<b>Wichita</b> Choi 2002	RA	0.4 (0.2-0.8)	Total Mortality	LDM
		0.3 (0.2-0.7)	CV Mortality	LDM
		0.4 (0.3-0.8)	CV Mortality	LDM
<b>Netherlands</b> Van Helm 2006	RA	0.3 (0.1-0.7)	CVD	LDM
		0.2 (0.1-0.5)	CVD	LDM
		0.2 (0.1-1.2)	CVD	LDM
		0.2 (0.1-0.5)	CVD	LDM
<b>Miami VA</b> Pradanovich 2005	RA	0.8 (0.7-1.0)	CVD	LDM
		0.6 (0.5-0.8)	CVD	LDM
<b>CORRONA</b> solomon 2008	RA	0.6 (0.3-1.2)	CVD	LDM
		0.3 (0.2-0.8)	CVD	TNF-inhibitor
<b>QUEST-RA</b> Narango 2008	RA	0.85 (0.8-0.9)	CVD	LDM
		0.82 (0.7-0.9)	MI	LDM
		0.89 (0.8-1.0)	Stroke	LDM

# Cardiovascular Inflammation Reduction Trial(CIRT)

**Stable CAD  
On Statin, ACE/ARB,BB,ASA**

**Persistent Evidence of Inflammation  
Diabetes or Metabolic syndrome**

**MTX 15-20 mg  
Weekly**

**Placebo**

**Nonfatal MI, Nonfatal Stroke,  
Cardiovascular Death**

- To evaluate in a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial whether MTX given at a target dose of 20mg po weekly over a three year period will reduce rates of recurrent myocardial infarction , stroke, or cardiovascular death among patients with coronary atherosclerosis and either type 2 diabetes or metabolic syndrome.

**N=7,000 NHLBI-Sponsored  
Enrollment to Start June 2013  
350 US and Canadian Sites**

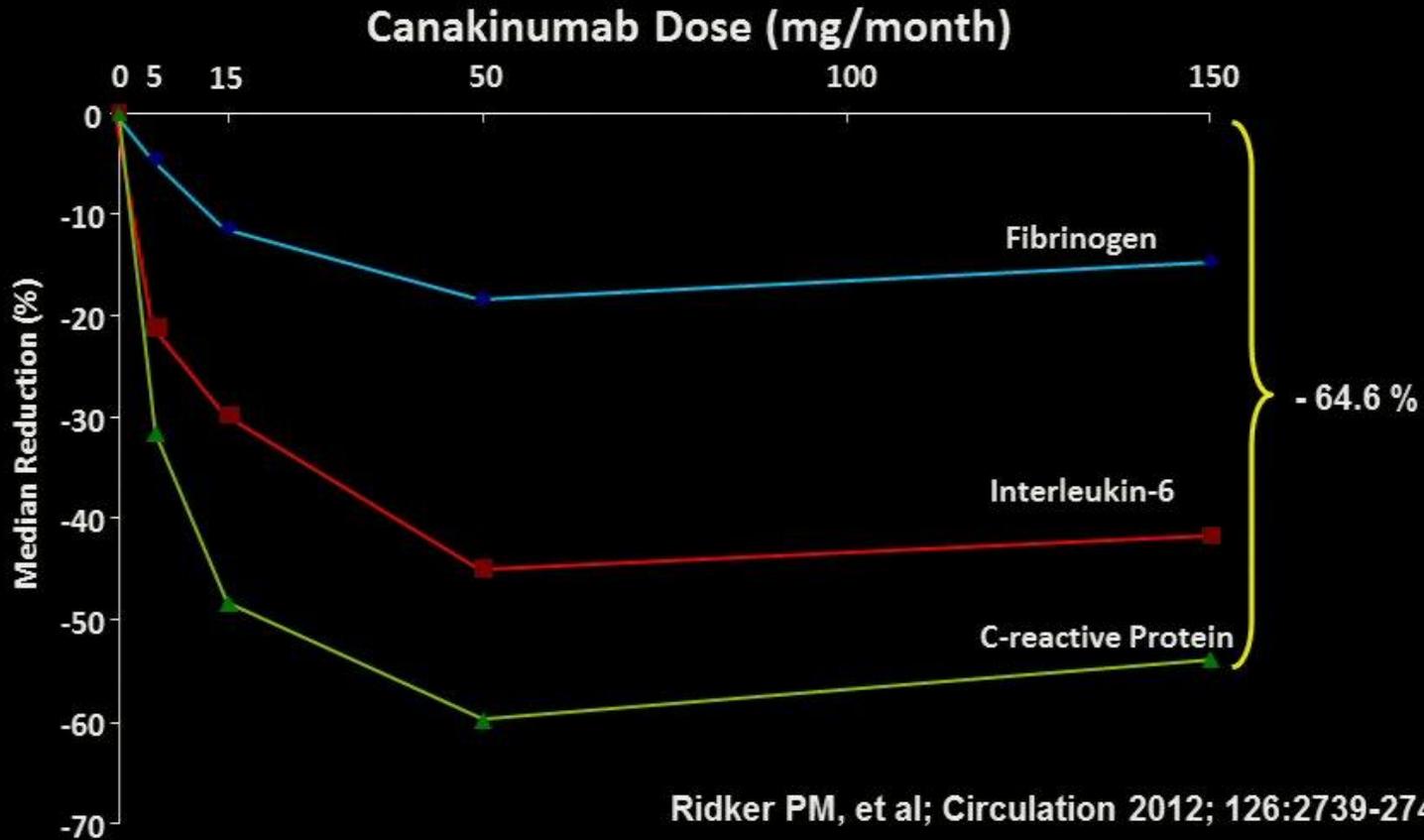
# Canakinumab

- **High affinity human monoclonal anti-human IL-1 beta antibody**
- **Designed to bind to human IL-1 beta and functionally neutralize the bioactivity of this pro-inflammatory cytokine**
- **Long half life(4-8weeks)with CRP and IL-6 reduction for up to 3 months**

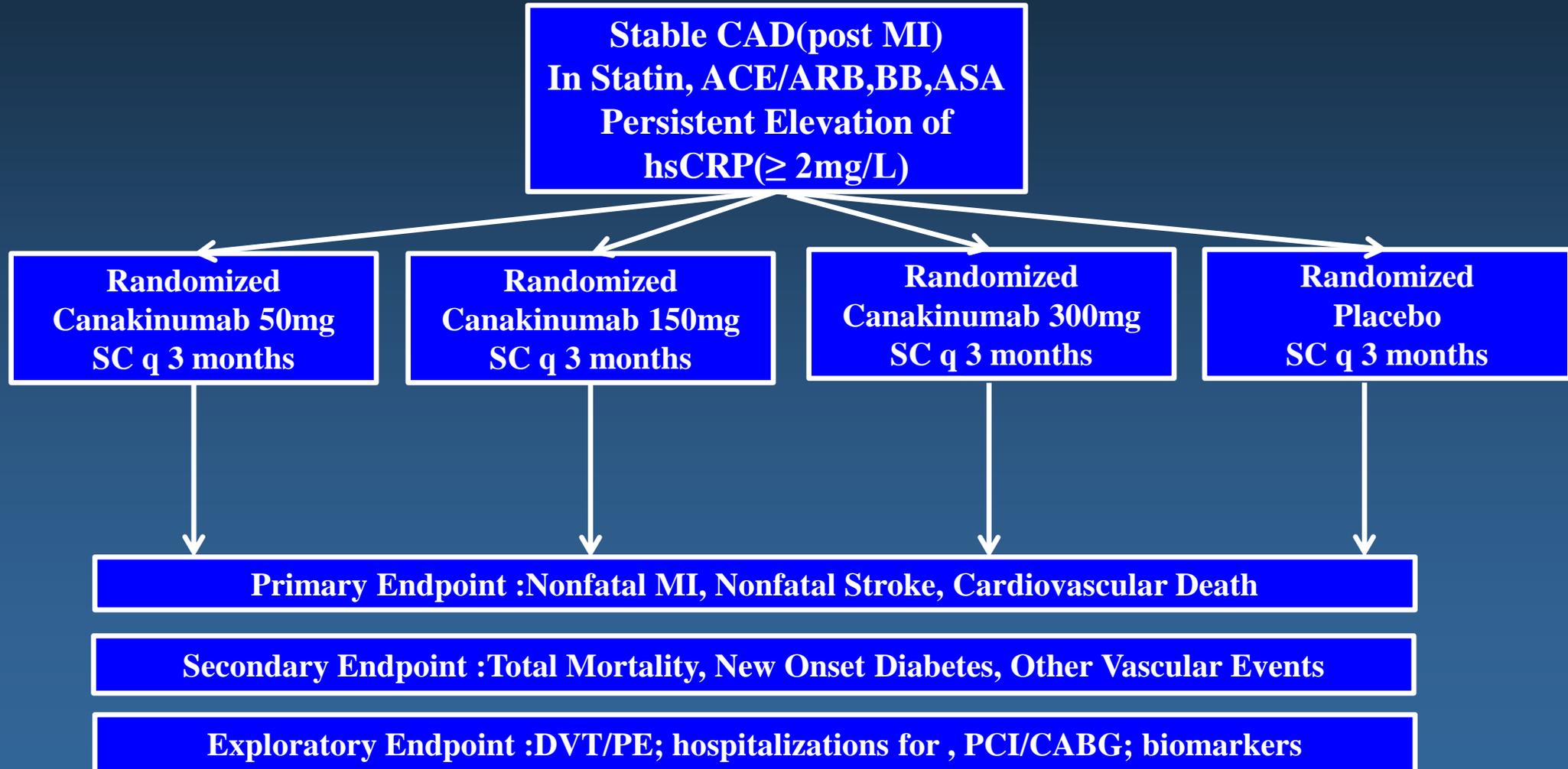
# Effects of Interleukin-1 $\beta$ Inhibition With Canakinumab on Hemoglobin A1c, Lipids, C-Reactive Protein, Interleukin-6, and Fibrinogen

A Phase IIb Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial

Paul M Ridker, MD, MPH; Campbell P. Howard, MD; Verena Walter, Dipl Math (FH);  
Brendan Everett, MD; Peter Libby, MD; Johannes Hensen, MD; Tom Thuren, MD, PhD, on behalf of  
the CANTOS Pilot Investigative Group

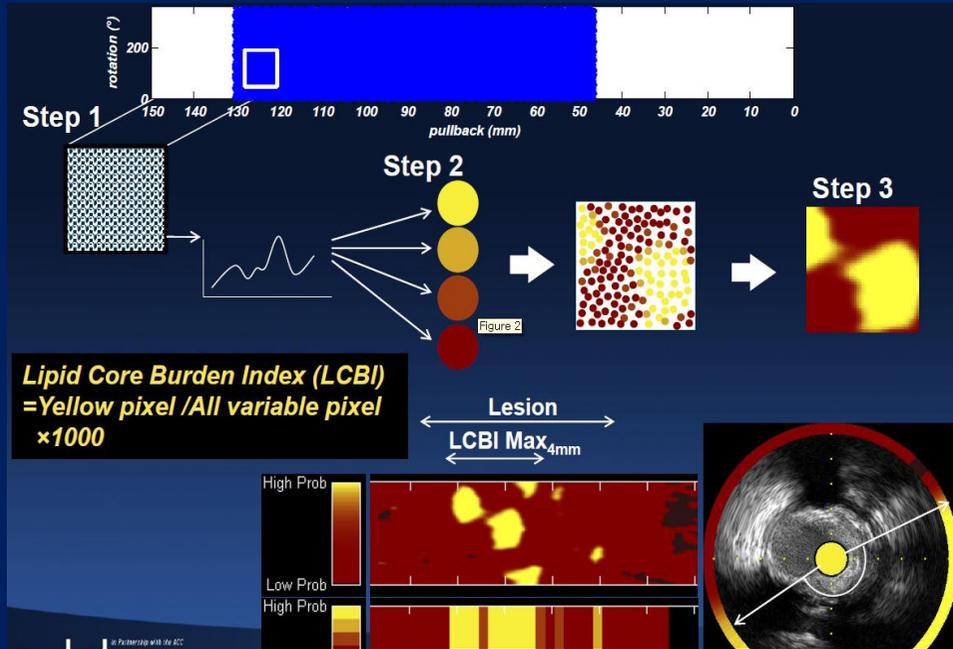


# Canakinumab Anti-inflammatory Thrombosis Outcomes Study (CANTOS)

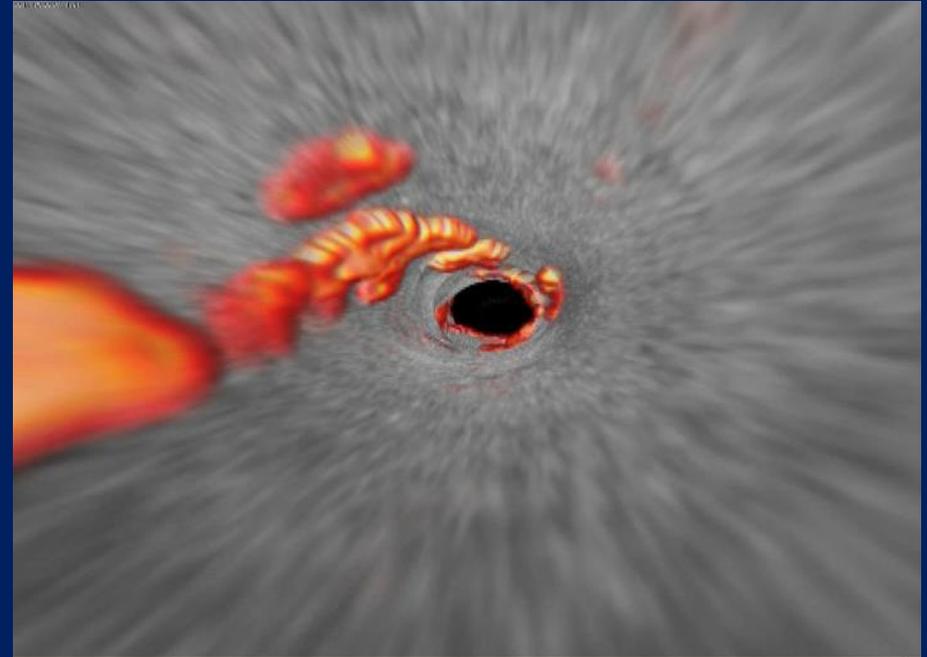


# Summary

1. **hsCRP is a reliable inflammatory biomarker due to its ease of measurement and temporal stability.**
2. **Many epidemiologic evidence shows that elevated CRP level is a strong and consistent predictor of CV risk.**
3. **A reduction of percent necrotic core and fibrous cap thickness using imaging studies showed a significant correlation with high-sensitivity CRP levels .**
4. **Recent genetic and pathologic studies provide in-vivo evidence and a direct causal role of CRP in inflammation.**
5. **Ongoing clinical trials targeting CRP will provide critical safety and efficacy data on long-term inhibition of inflammation.**



Near InfraRed Spectroscopy(NIRS)



Dual-Modal NIRF-OFDI

Thank you for your attention!

