

**Endothelial Dysfunction in  
Patients with Insulin Resistance**

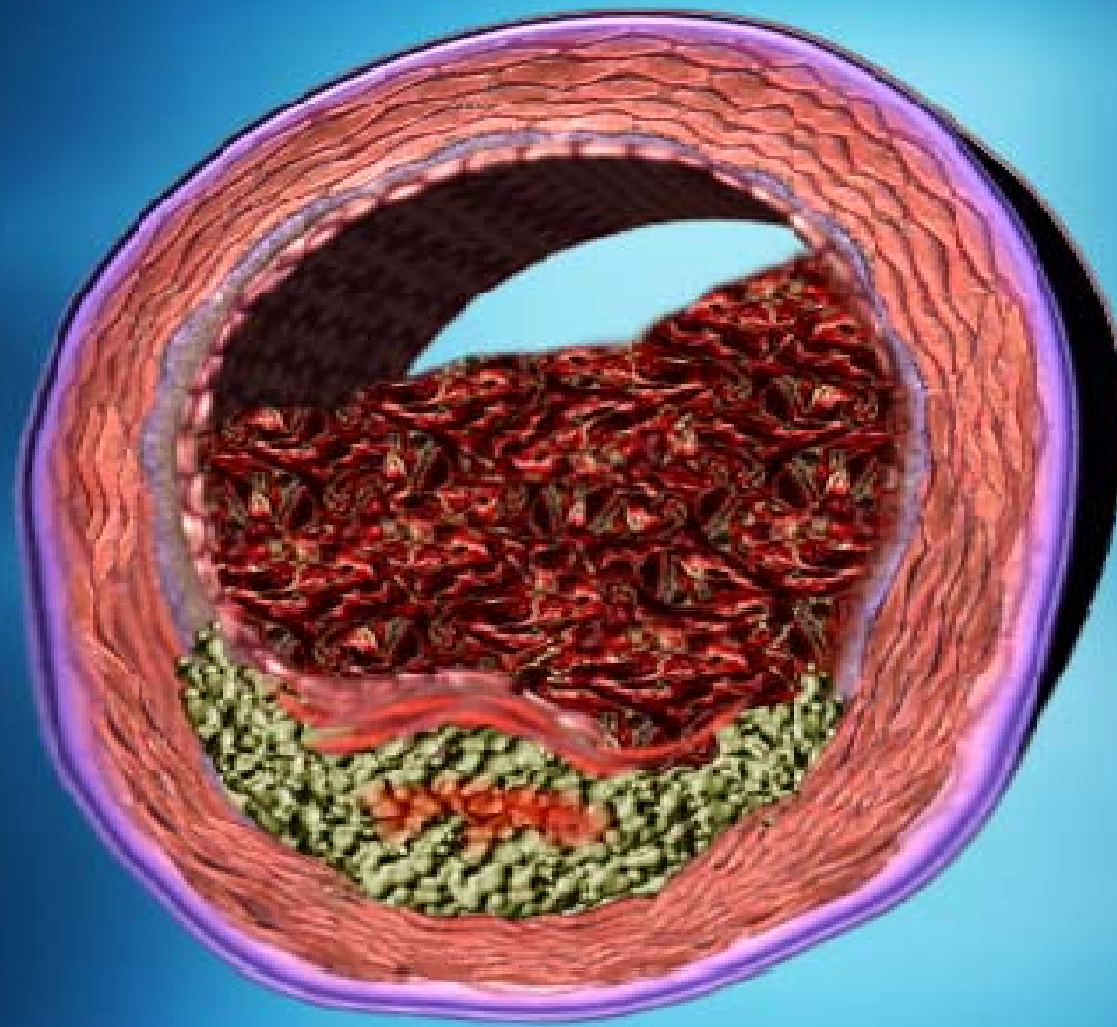
**Joseph A. Vita, MD**

**Professor of Medicine**

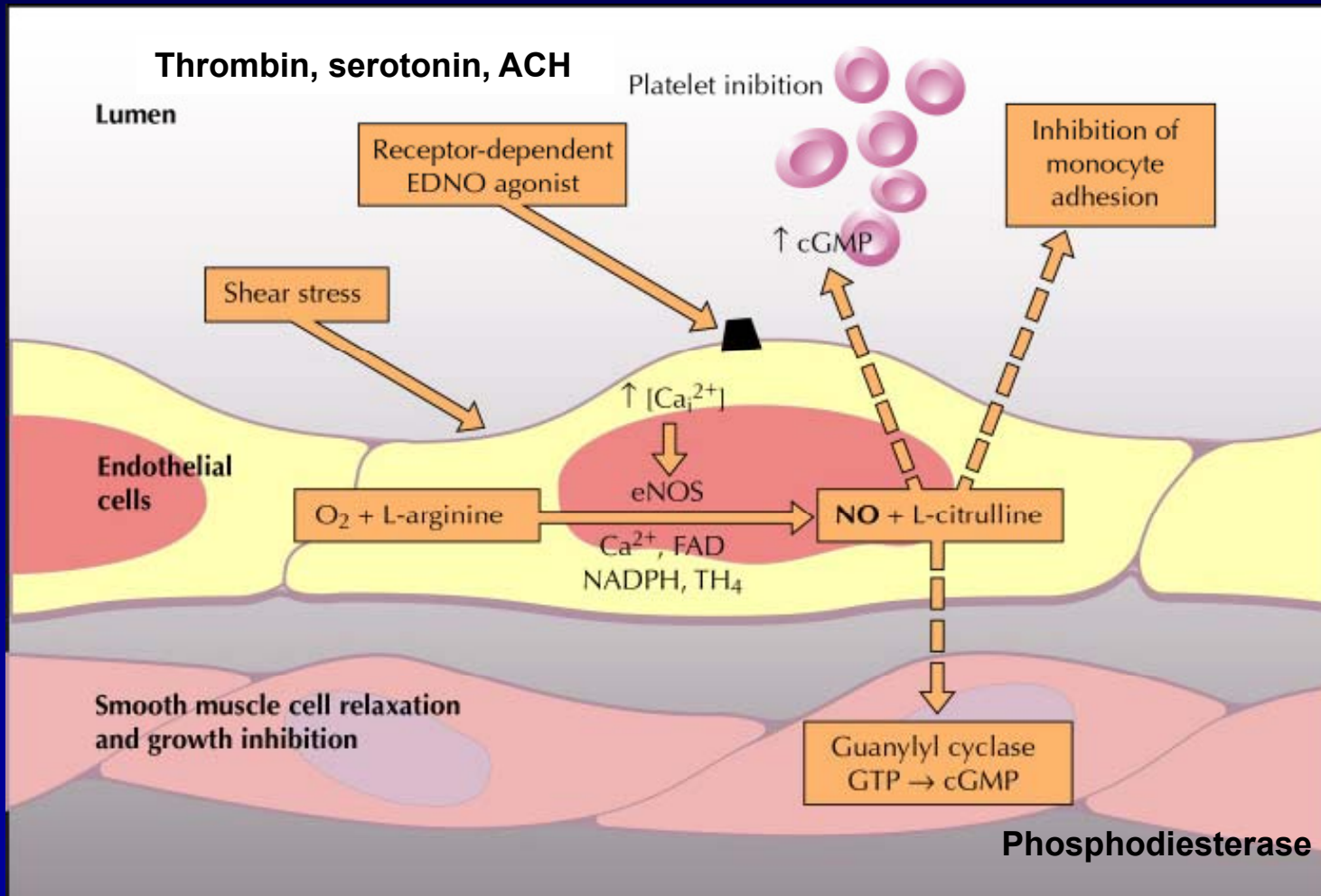
**Boston University School of Medicine**

**Memorial Lecture to Honor  
Dr. Suh Soon Kyu**

# Pathogenesis of Acute Coronary Syndromes

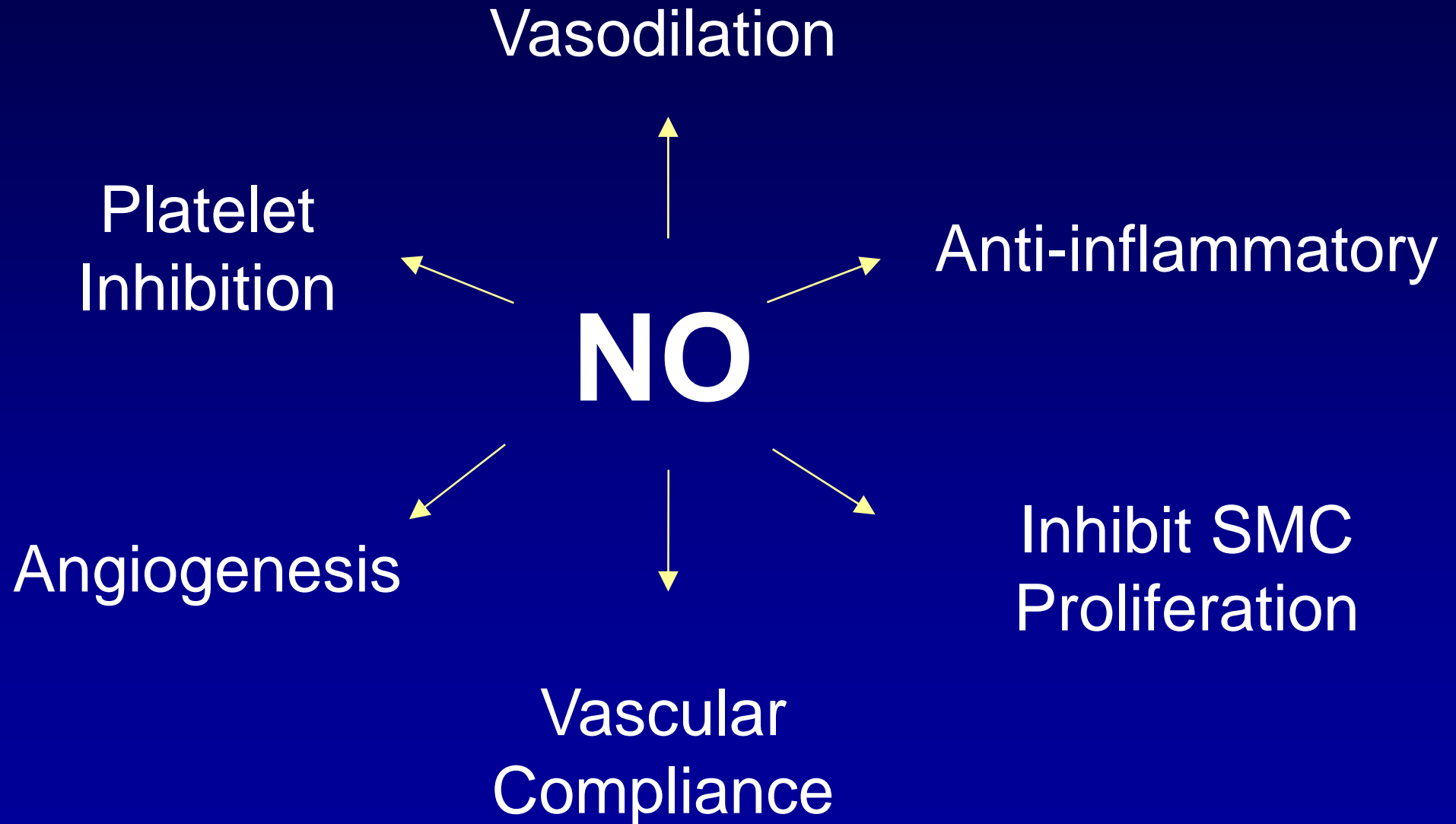


# EDNO Synthesis and Action

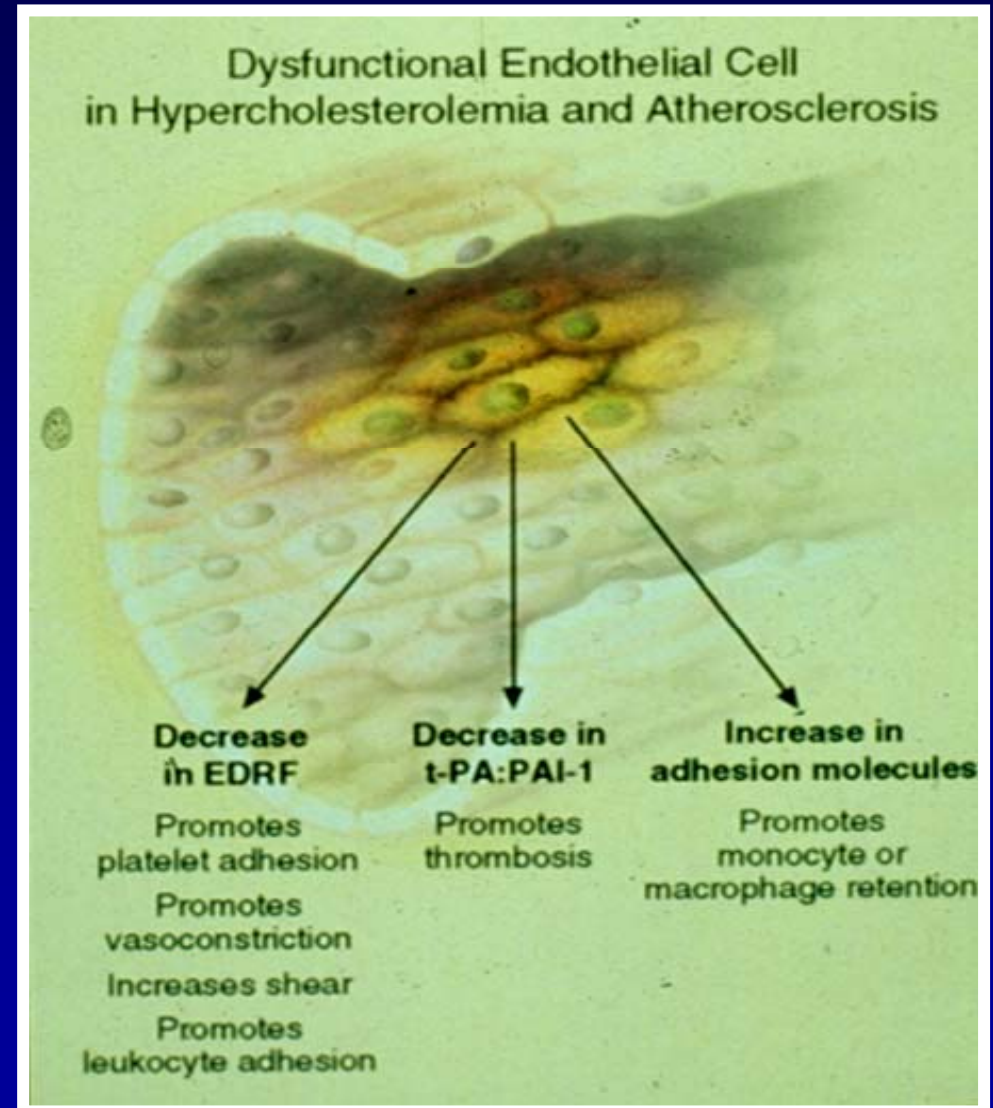
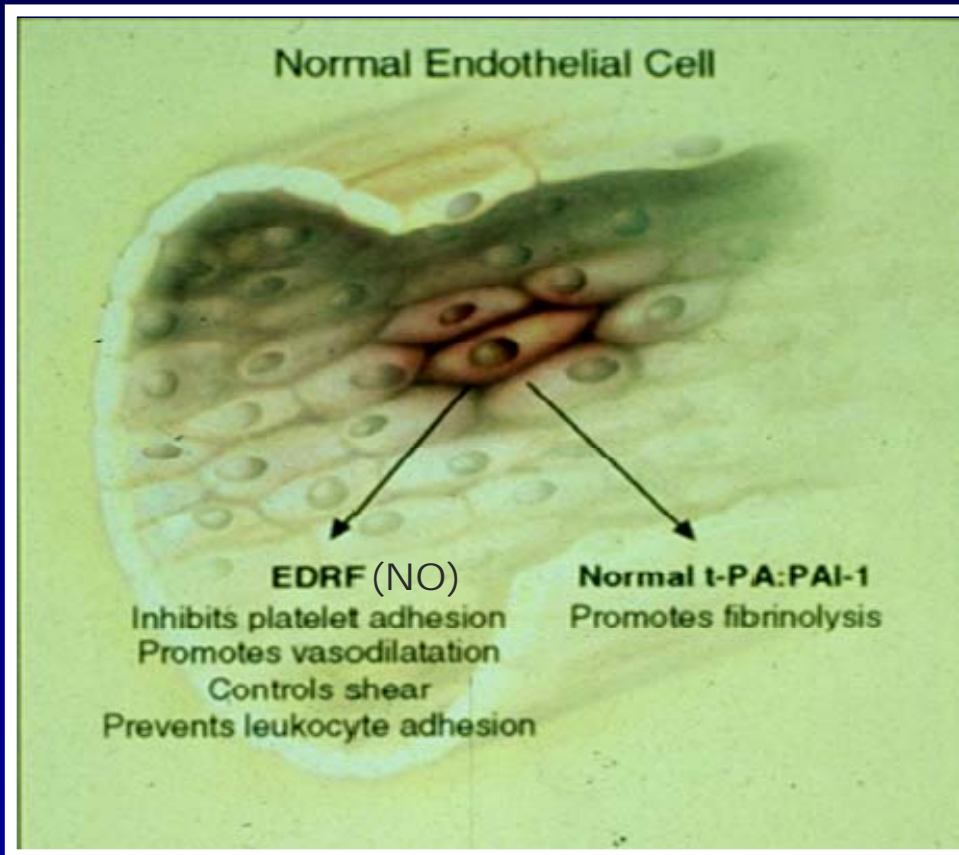


# Vascular Effects of Nitric Oxide

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# Pathological Endothelial Phenotype



# Interventions Shown to Improve Endothelial Function

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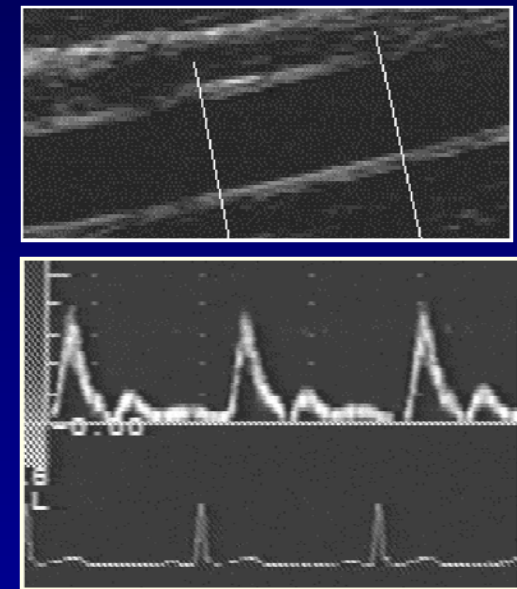
- **Lipid lowering therapy/statins**
- **ACE inhibitors/Ang II receptor blockers**
- **Insulin sensitizing agents**
- **Exercise**
- **Weight loss**
- **Smoking cessation**
- **Flavonoid containing foods and beverages**
  - Black tea
  - Grape juice/Wine
  - Chocolate
  - Cranberry juice

# **Non-invasive assessment of vascular function**



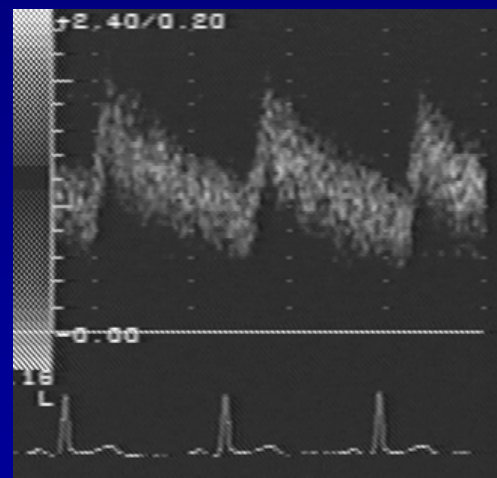
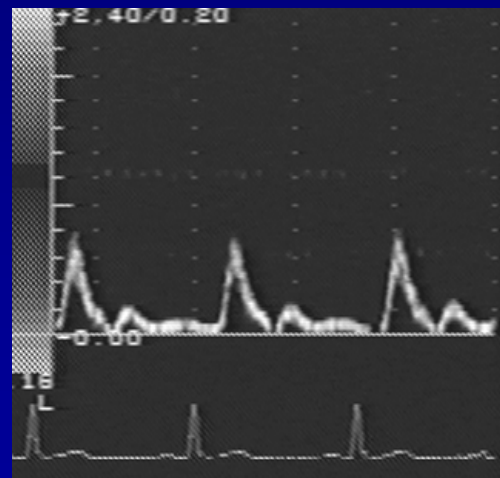
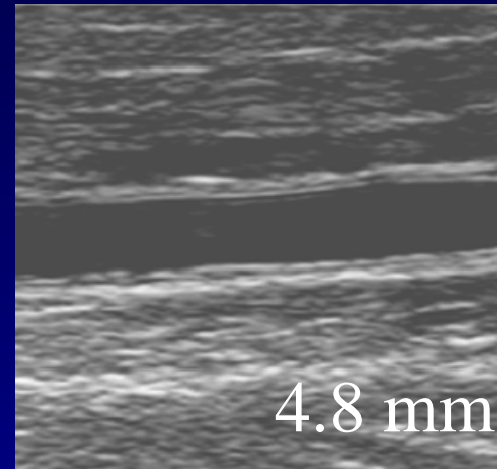
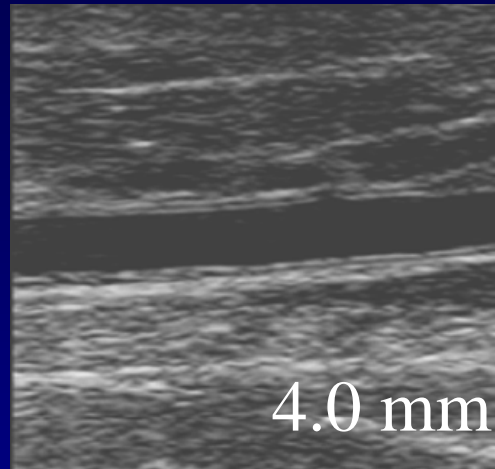
# Non-Invasive Measurement of NO-Mediated Vascular Function

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Real-time display of flow velocity and vessel diameter

# Ultrasound Evaluation of Brachial Artery Endothelial Function

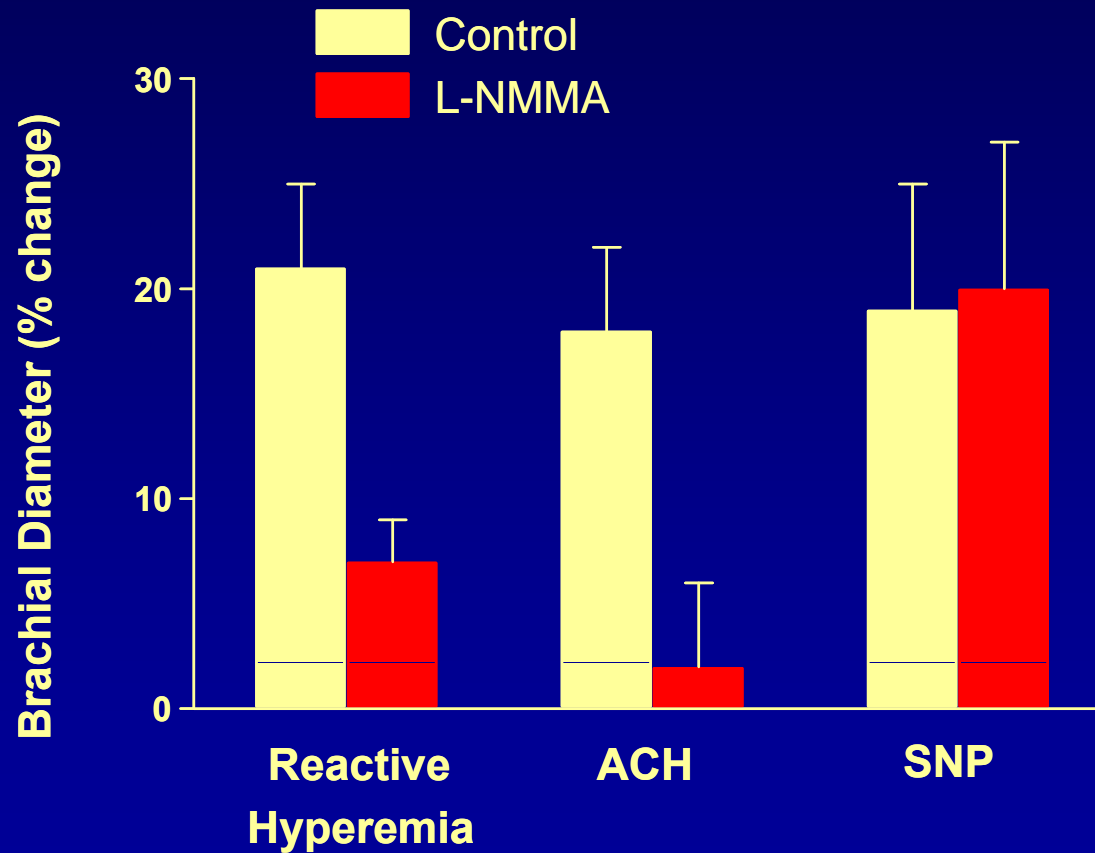


Baseline

Hyperemia

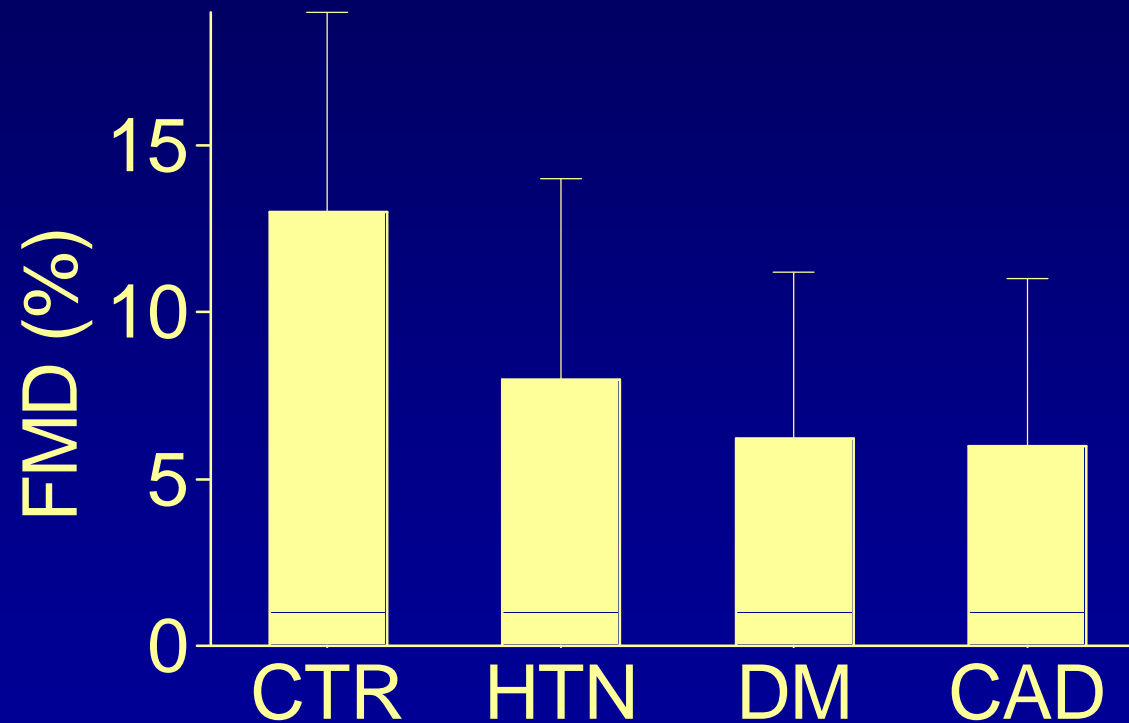
# Brachial Artery Flow-Mediated Dilatation is NO Dependent

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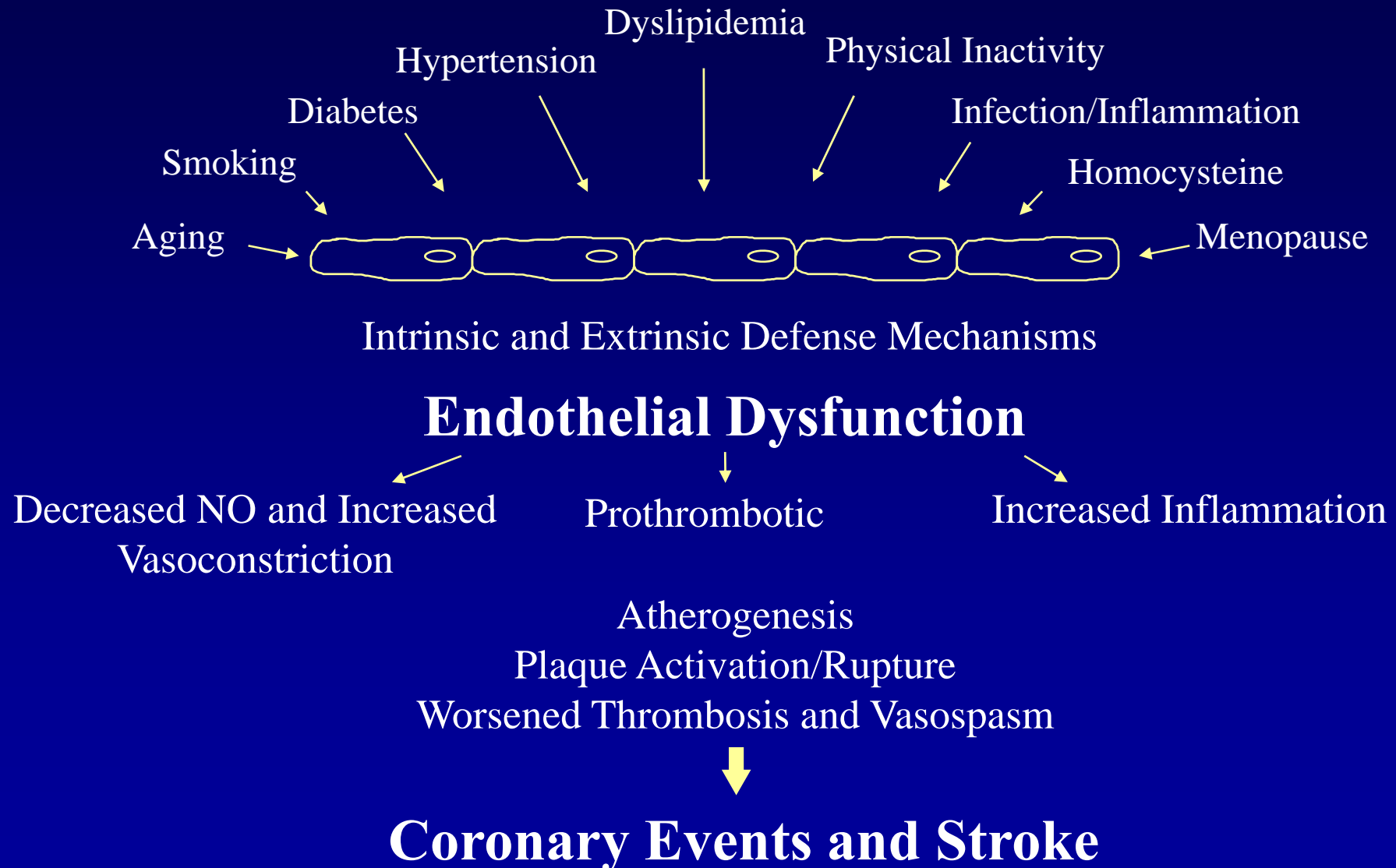
# Brachial Artery Flow-Mediated Dilation and Coronary Risk Factors

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# A Barometer for Vascular Health

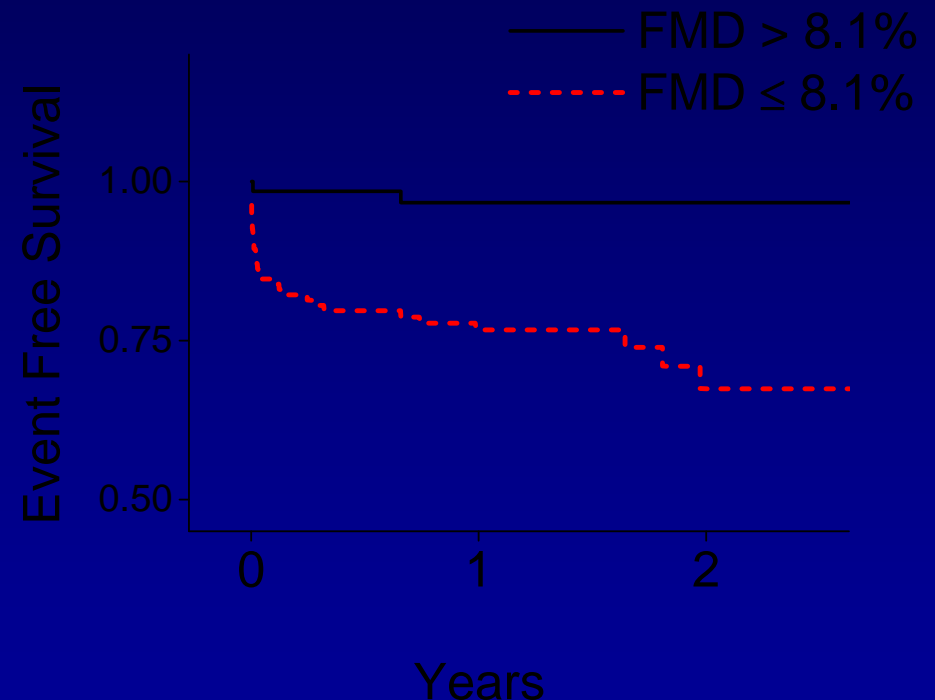
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# Brachial Endothelial Dysfunction Predicts Long-Term CVD Events in High Risk Patients

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- 199 patients undergoing vascular surgery.
- 34 (death, MI, stroke, unstable angina).
- Endothelial function by USG
- Odds Ratio 9.3 (2.2 – 39)  
P<0.001, adjusting for other risk factors



# Prognostic Value of Endothelial Dysfunction

| Author           | Vascular Bed | N    | F/U (yrs)  | # events | Predictive |
|------------------|--------------|------|------------|----------|------------|
| Suwaidi 2000     | Coronary     | 157  | 2.4        | 6        | +          |
| Schachinger 2000 | Coronary     | 147  | 7.7        | 16       | +          |
| Halcox 2002      | Coronary     | 308  | 4          | 35       | +          |
| Heitzer 2001     | FBF          | 281  | 4.5        | 91       | +          |
| Perticone 2001   | FBF          | 225  | 2.5        | 29       | +          |
| Gokce 2002       | FMD          | 199  | 30 d/1.2 y | 45       | +          |
| Werner 2005      | EPC count    | 519  | 1          | 219      | +          |
| Yeboah 2007      | FMD          | 2792 | 5          | 674      | +          |

# **Endothelial Dysfunction and Insulin Resistance**



# Design of the Framingham Heart Study

1948 → 1958 → 1968 → 1978 → 1988 → 1998 → 2008

## Original cohort

N = 5209 men & women (ages 28-62)

1971 → → → → 2008

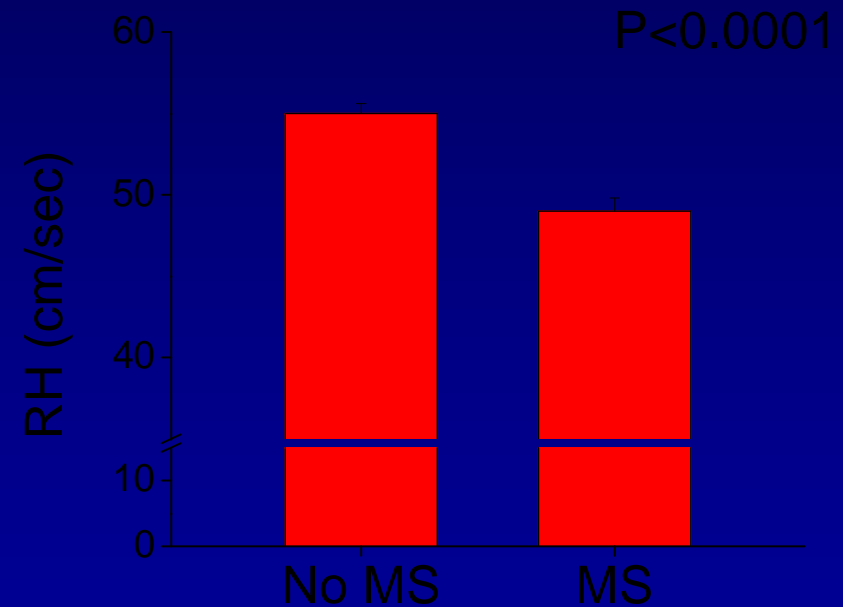
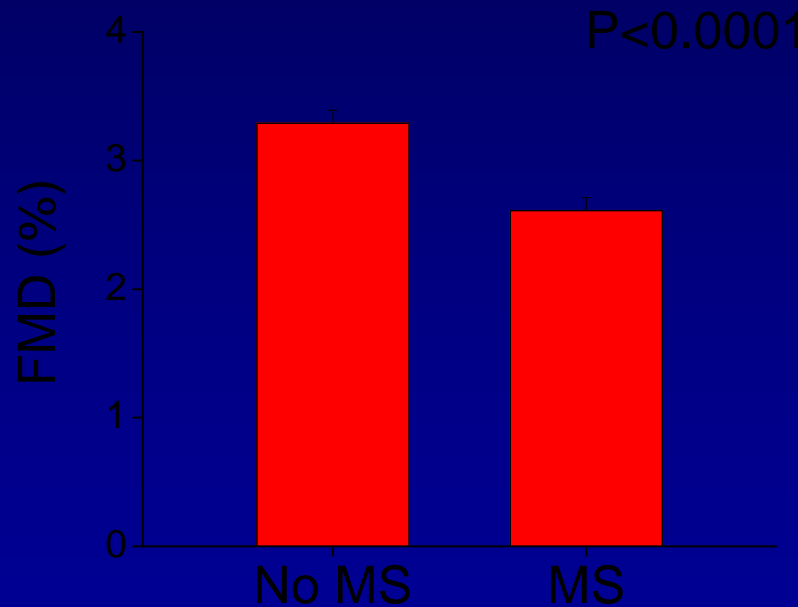
## Offspring study

N = 5124 men and women (ages 5-70)

2002 → 2008

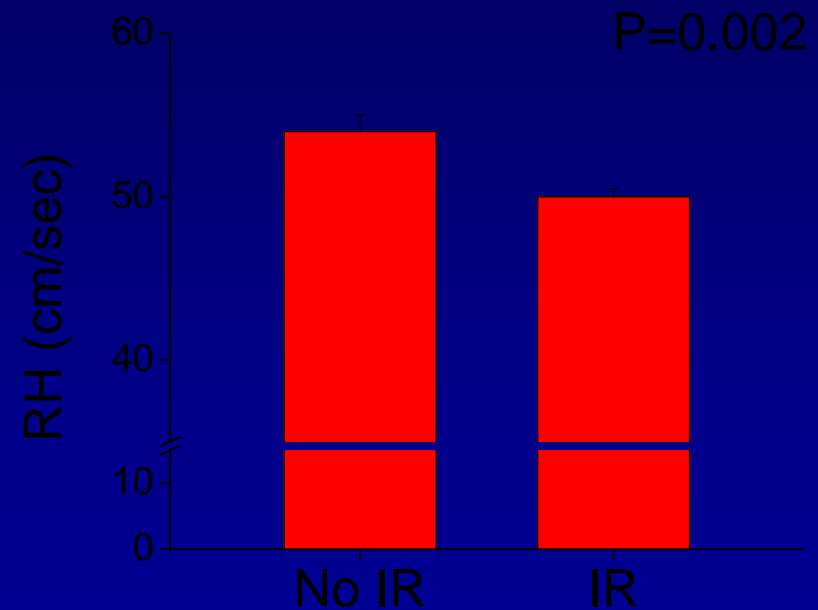
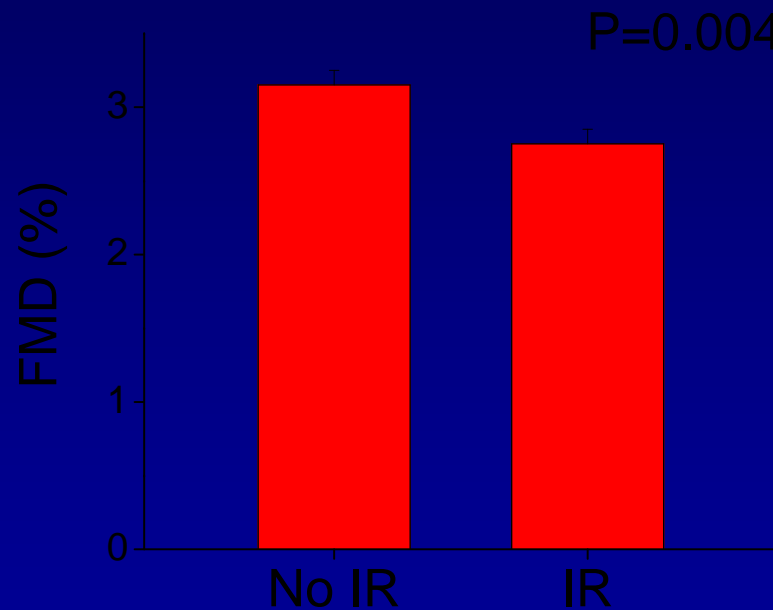
## Third Generation study

# Framingham Heart Study – Metabolic Syndrome



N=2,123 Offspring Cohort, no DM

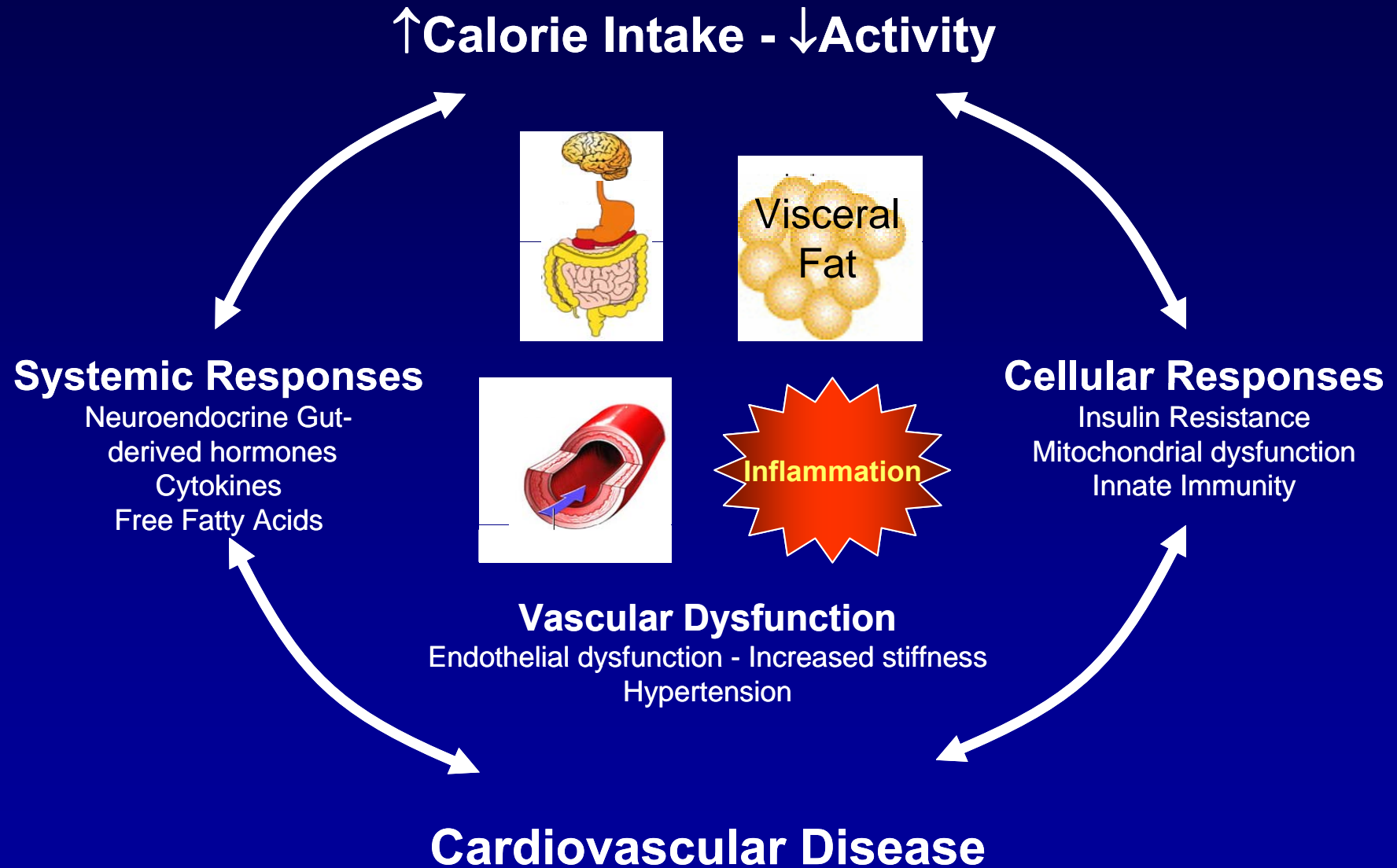
# Framingham Heart Study – Insulin Resistance



HOMA-IR  
N=2,123 Offspring Cohort, no DM

**Can we distinguish the direct effects of  
insulin resistance from the effects of  
concomitant risk factors?**

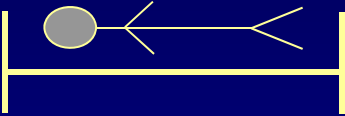
# Obesity, Insulin Resistance, and CVD



## **Background - Sedentary Lifestyle**

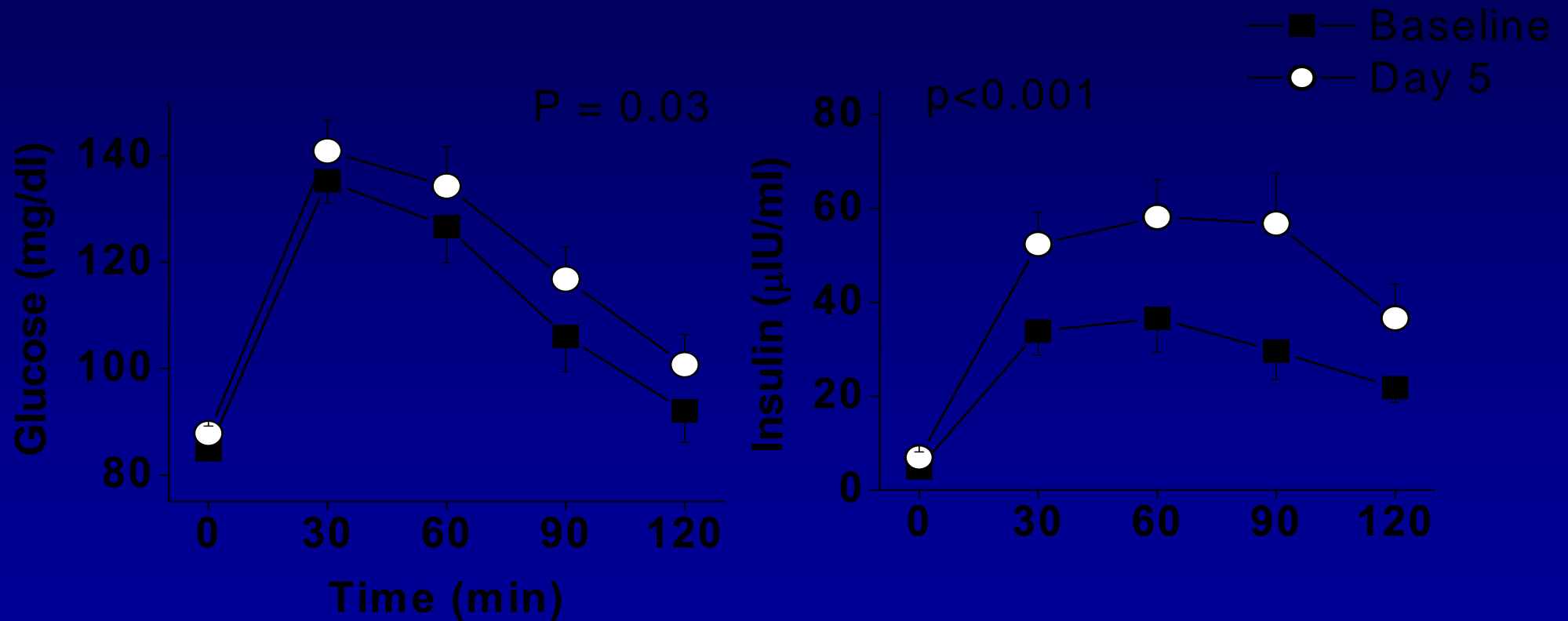
- **Sedentary lifestyle associated with increased cardiovascular risk**
- **Physical inactivity rapidly induces insulin resistance – NASA studies with microgravity**
- **Insulin resistance in endothelial cells: loss of NO bioactivity, activation of NF $\kappa$ B, mitochondrial dysfunction**

# Study Design

| Study Days                  |   |                         |   |                             |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1                           | 2   | 3                       | 4 | 5                           |
|                             |  |                         |   |                             |
|                             | <b>BEDREST</b>  |                         |   |                             |
| Oral Glucose Tolerance Test |   | Vascular Function Study |   | Oral Glucose Tolerance Test |
| Vascular Function Study     |   |                         |   | Vascular Function Study     |

N = 20 Healthy subjects, age  $31 \pm 8$  years, background diet maintained

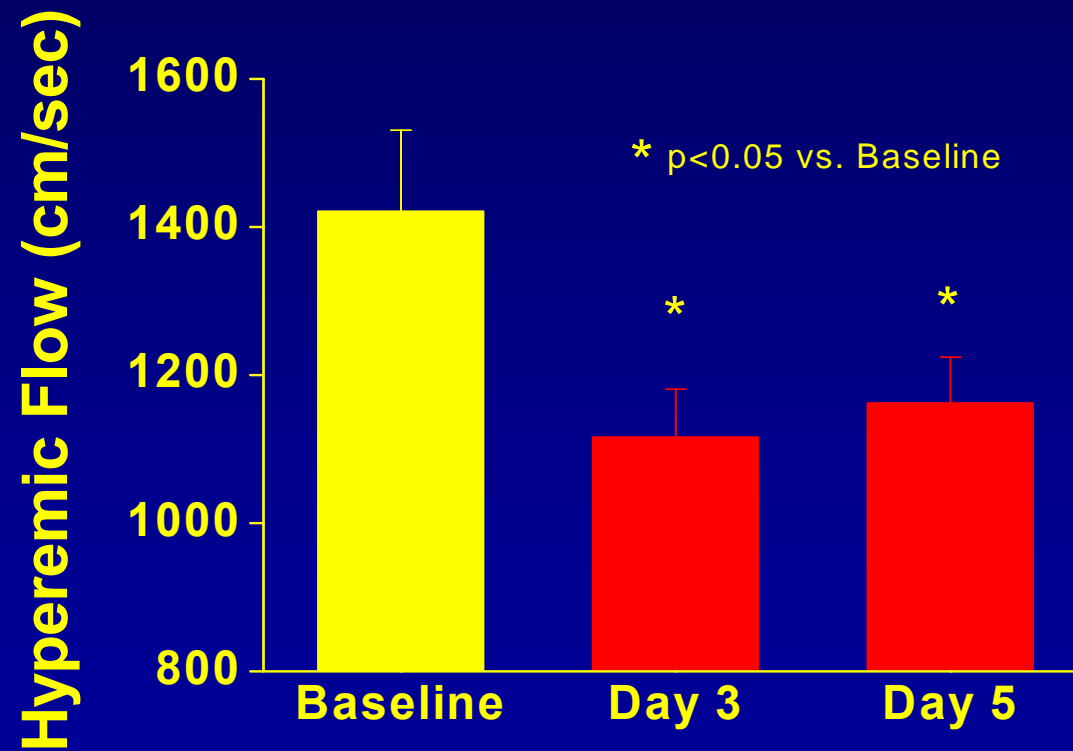
# Physical Inactivity Induces Insulin Resistance





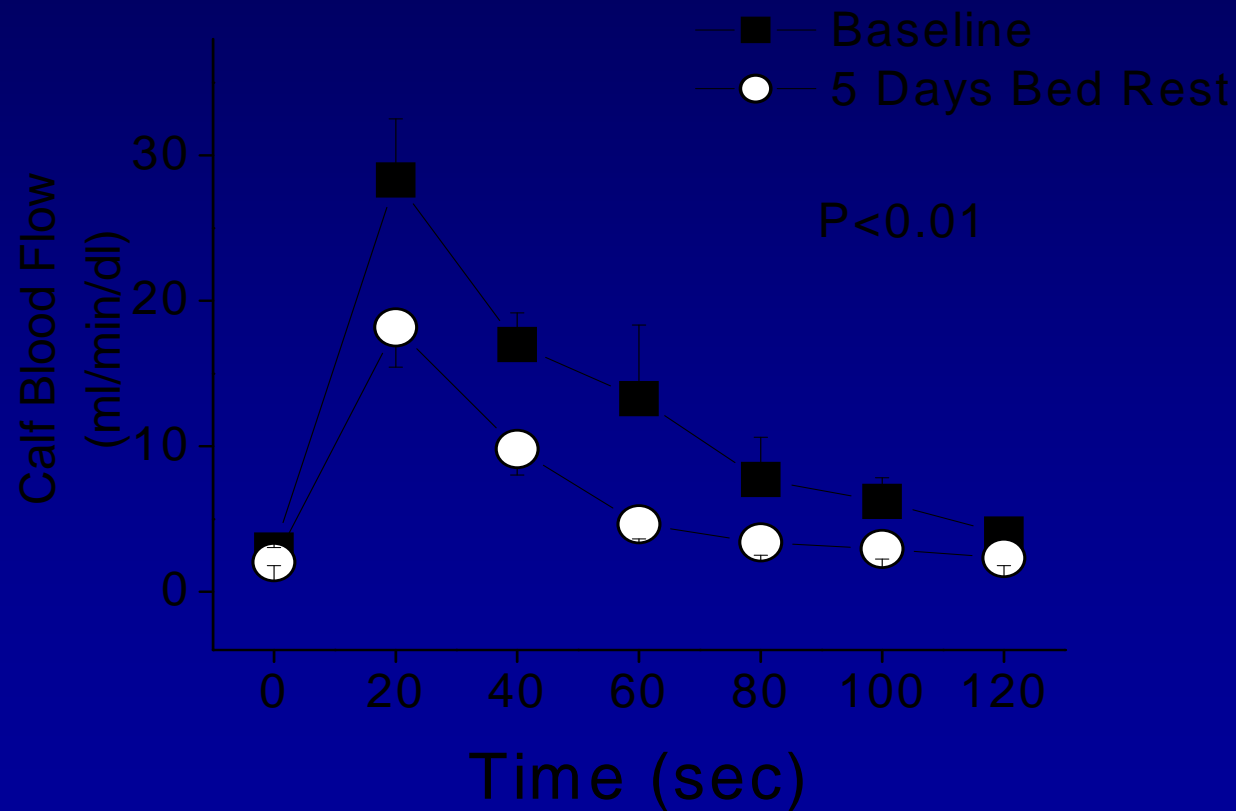
# Physical Inactivity Impairs Microvascular Function

## Upper Extremity Reactive Hyperemia



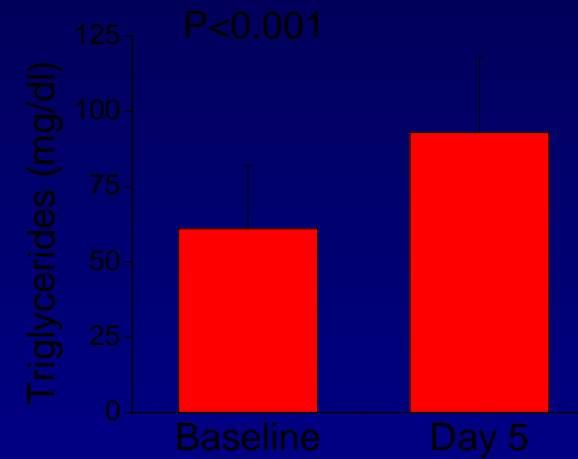
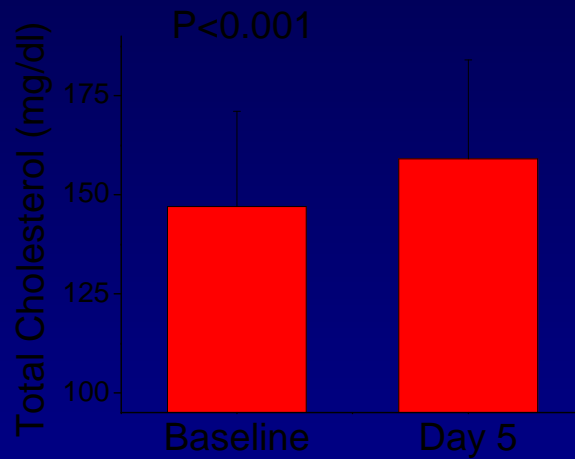
# Physical Inactivity Impairs Microvascular Function

## Lower Extremity Reactive Hyperemia



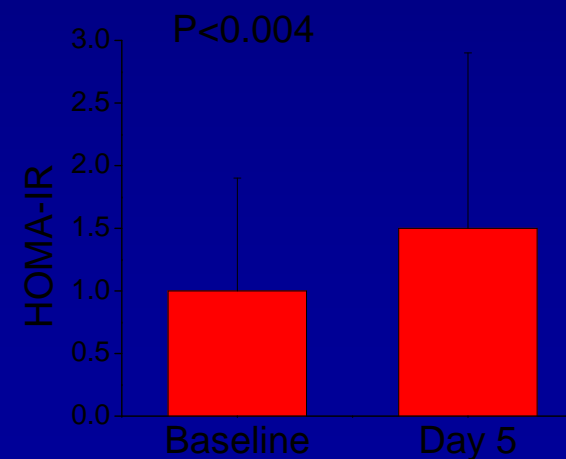
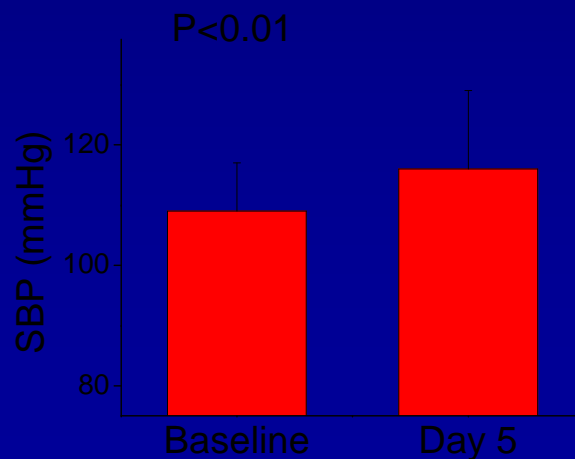
# Bed Rest Induces Early Metabolic Abnormalities

Total  
Cholesterol



Triglycerides

Systolic  
Blood Pressure

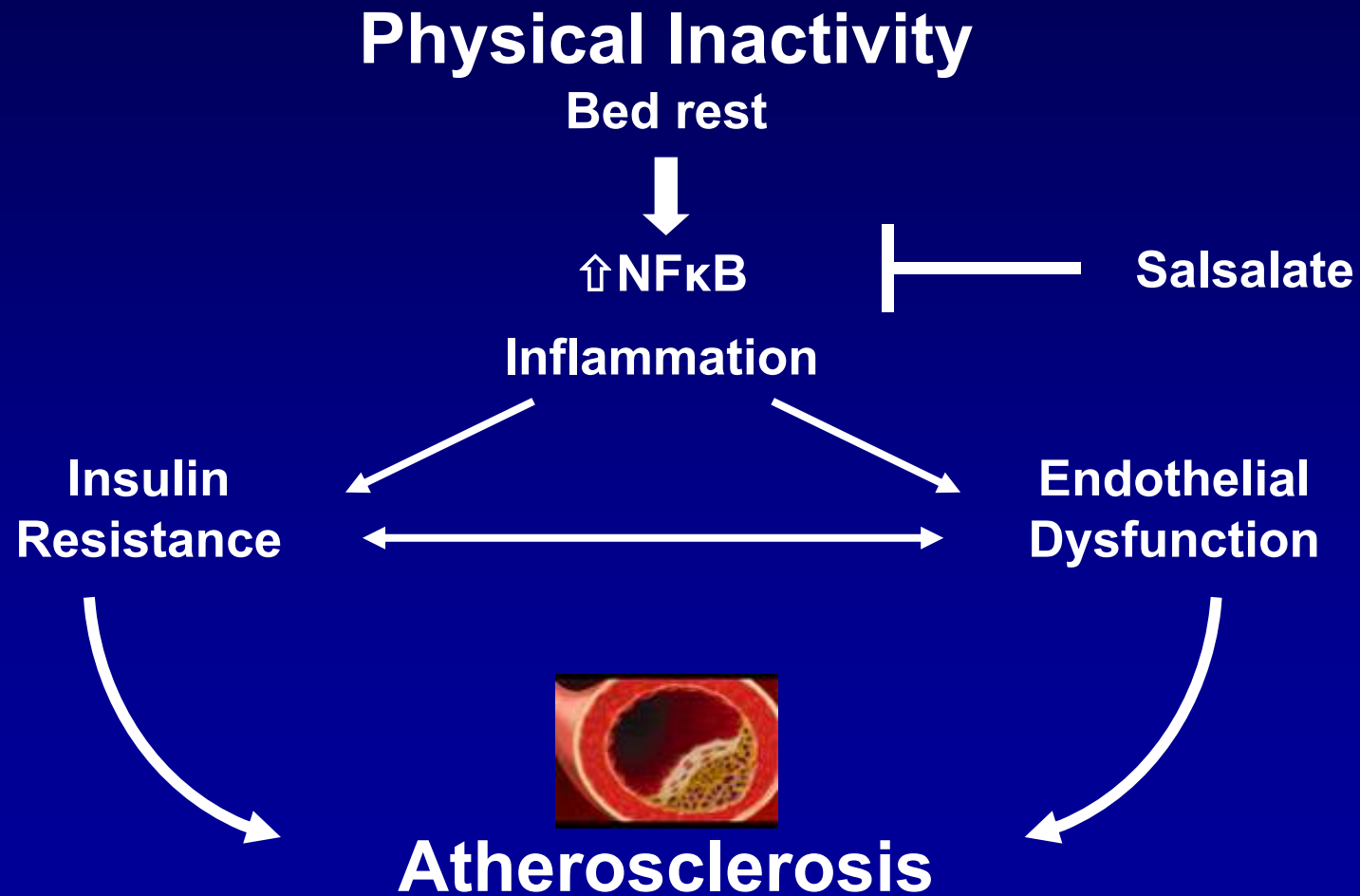


HOMA-IR


## **Other Consequences of Bed Rest**

- **Trend for increased serum ICAM-1**
- **No change in serum CRP, adiponectin, IL-6**
- **Decreased resting flow and arterial diameter**
- **No change in conduit artery FMD**
- **Vascular effects resolve after 3-4 days of normal activity**

# Study Hypothesis

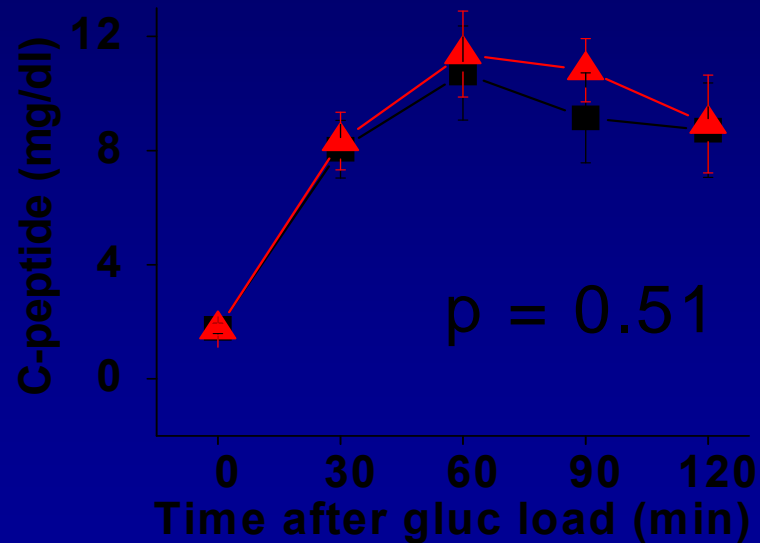


# Study Design

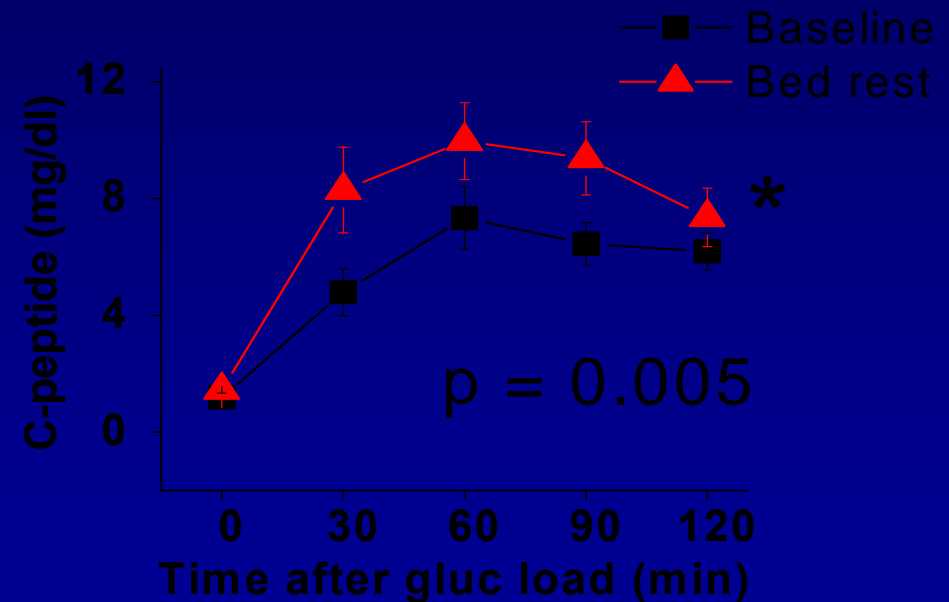
| STUDY DAY                 |                      |                           |   |                           |   |                           |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| -7-14                     | -4                   | 1                         | 2   | 3                         | 4 | 5                         |
|                           | SALSALATE or PLACEBO |                           |   |                           |   |                           |
|                           |                      |                           |  |                           |   |                           |
| Glucose Tolerance Test    |                      | Glucose Tolerance Test    |   |                           |   | Glucose Tolerance Test    |
| Vascular Function Studies |                      | Vascular Function Studies |   | Vascular Function Studies |   | Vascular Function Studies |

# Salsalate blocks Physical Inactivity-Induced Insulin Resistance

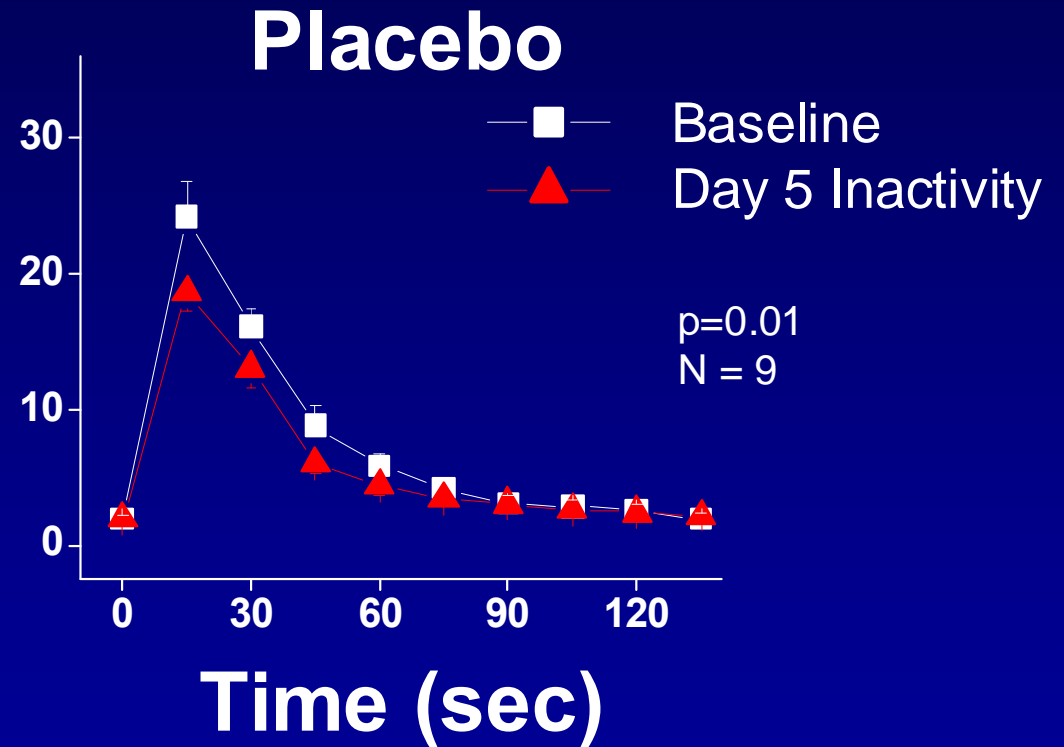
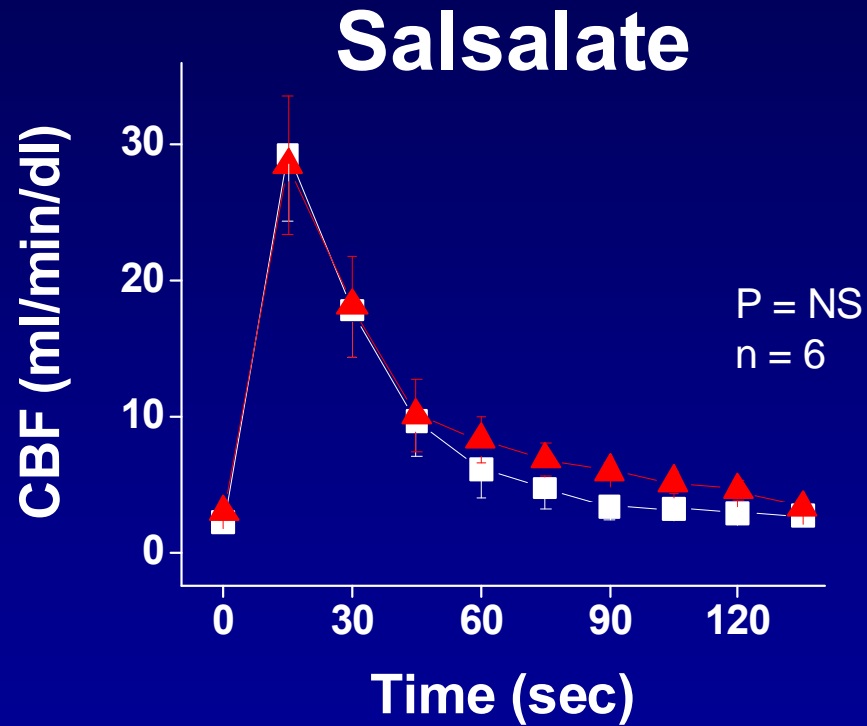
## Salsalate



## Placebo



# Salsalate Prevents Physical Inactivity Induced Vascular Dysfunction





# Summary

- **Early insulin resistance produced by bed rest rapidly induces clinical relevant vascular dysfunction**
- **Salsalate blocked physical inactivity induced insulin resistance and vascular dysfunction**
- **Pharmacologic NFκB inhibitors may protect the vasculature from the adverse consequences of sedentary behavior**

# Potential Clinical Utility of Endothelial Function

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- **Identification of novel risk factors**
- **Investigation of potential mechanisms of vascular dysfunction**
- **Surrogate to assess potential new therapies for CVD**
- **Evaluating CVD risk in individuals**
- **Monitoring response to interventions**

# Acknowledgements

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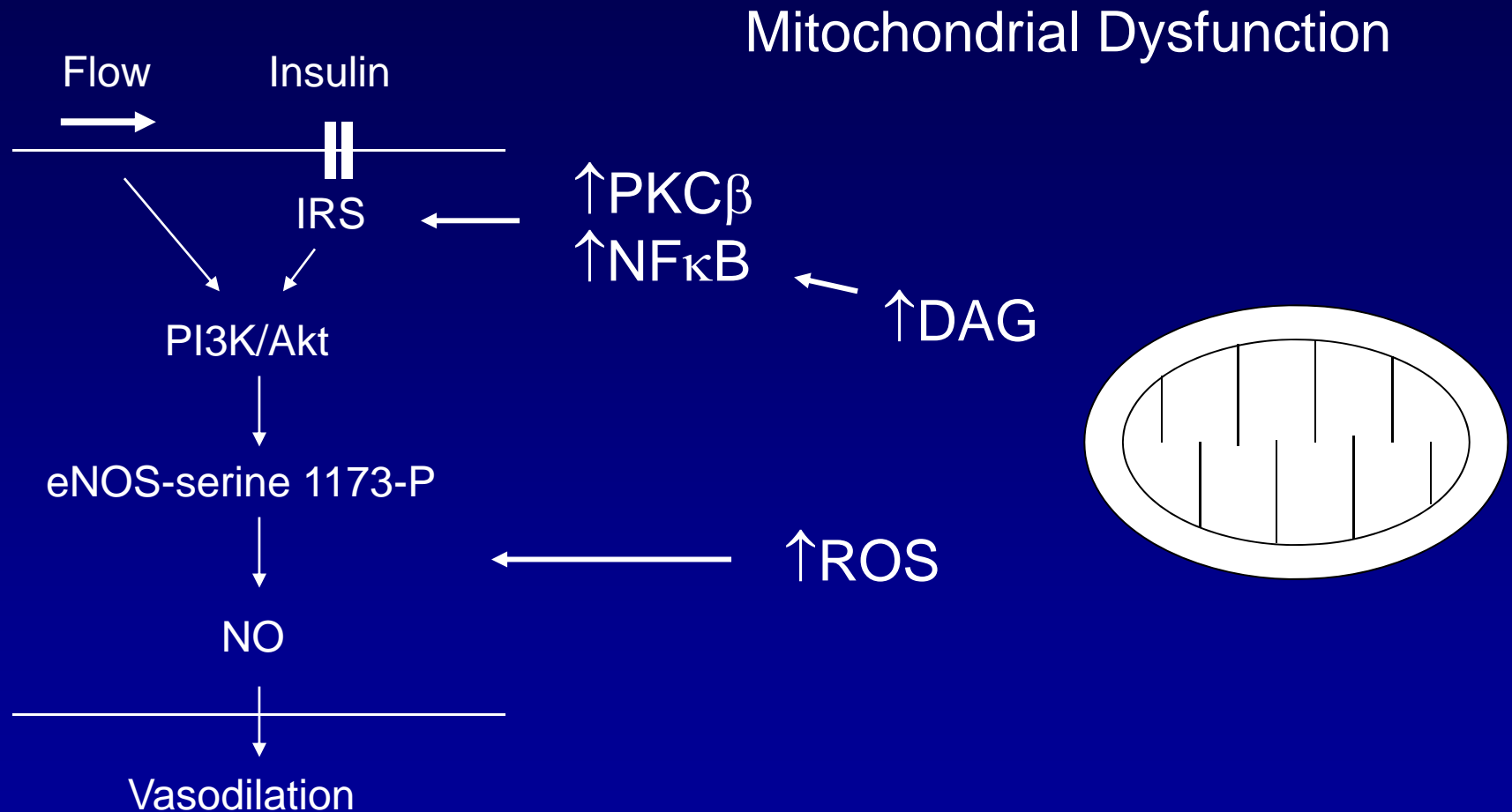
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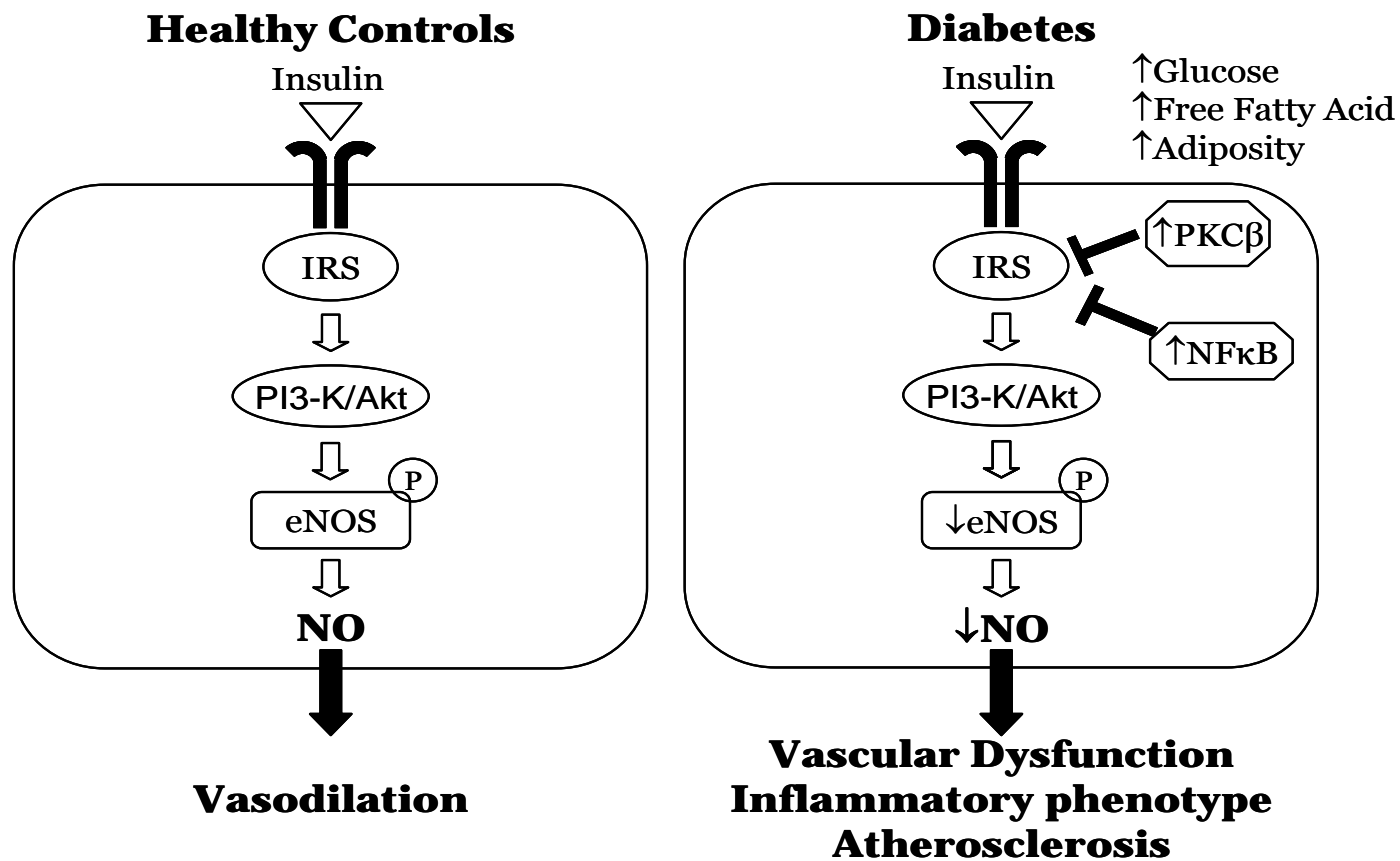
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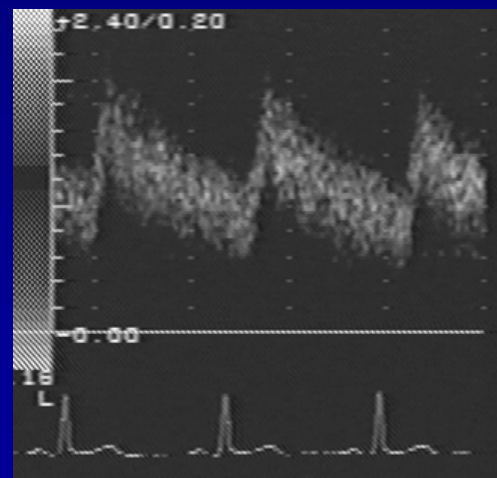
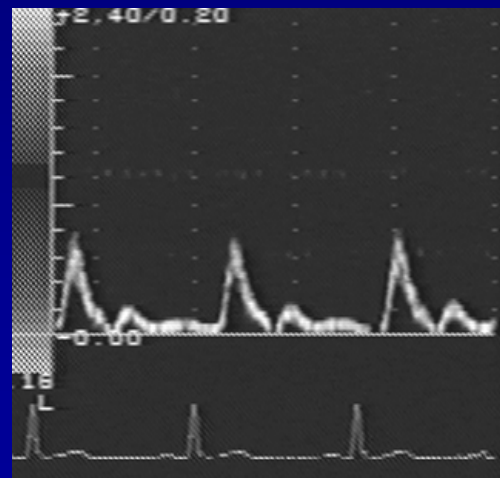
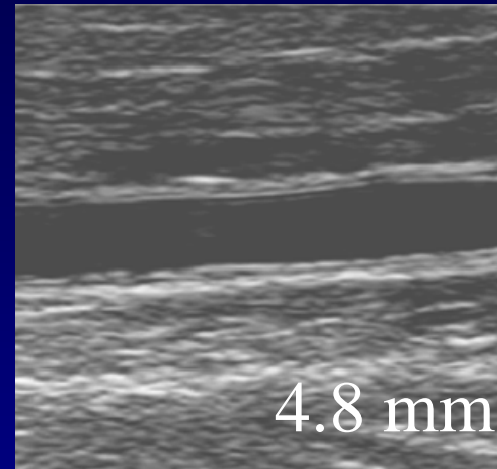
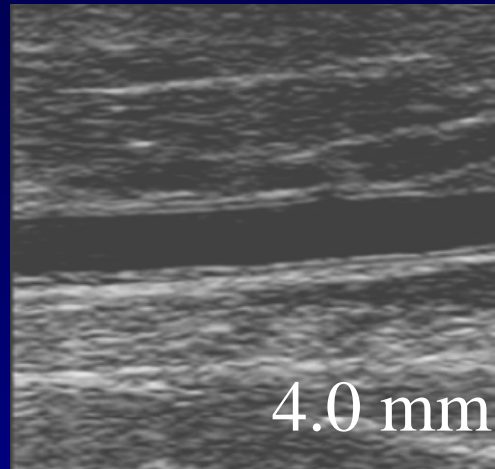
# Working Hypothesis



# Endothelial Insulin Resistance



# Ultrasound Evaluation of Brachial Artery Endothelial Function



Baseline

Hyperemia

# Reactive Hyperemia Predicts CVD Events

**N=267 patients  
undergoing  
vascular surgery**

**Adjusted hazard  
ratio 2.7 (1.2-5.9)  
Risk factors and  
FMD**

Hyperemic Velocity

