

Endothelial dysfunction in  
Postoperative Congenital Heart Disease  
and Kawasaki Disease  
– is it real?

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## Introduction

Shear force, Endothelium & Its function

Drug to evaluate vascular function

Endothelial dysfunction in preoperative CHD

## Endothelial dysfunction in postoperative CHD

Cardiopulmonary bypass & endothelial injury

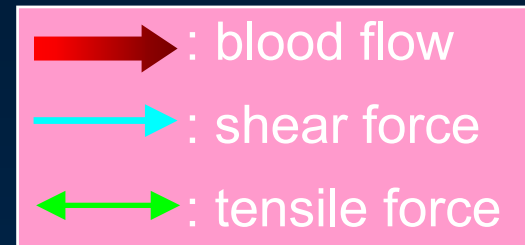
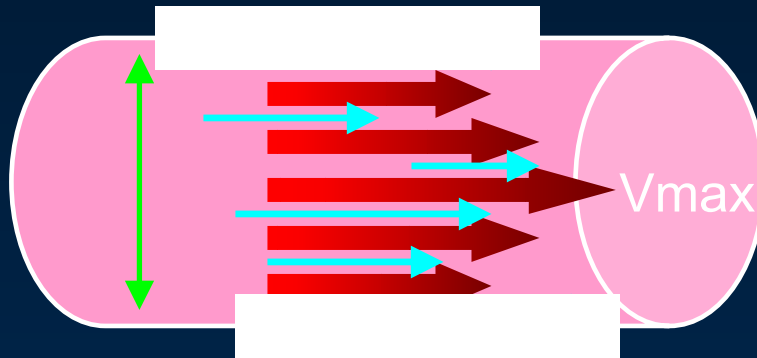
Endothelial dysfunction in Fontan circulation

## Endothelial dysfunction in Kawasaki disease

## Conclusion

# Introduction

# Hemodynamics in blood vessel



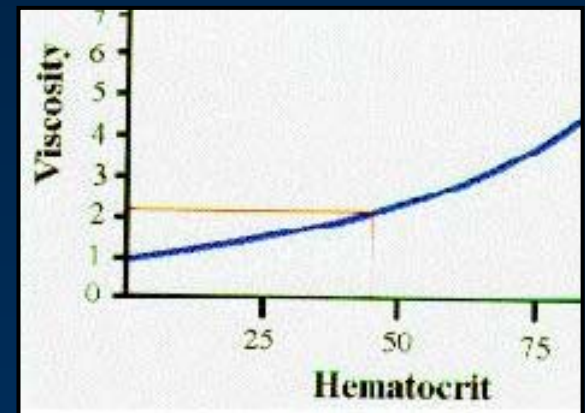
## 1) Tensile force

## 2) Shear force (frictional force)

$\propto$  viscosity, flow velocity,  $1/\text{vessel diameter}$

Aorta :  $15 \text{ dyn/cm}^2$  vs. venule :  $0.8\sim 1 \text{ dyn/cm}^2$

Essential to maintain homeostasis of vessel.



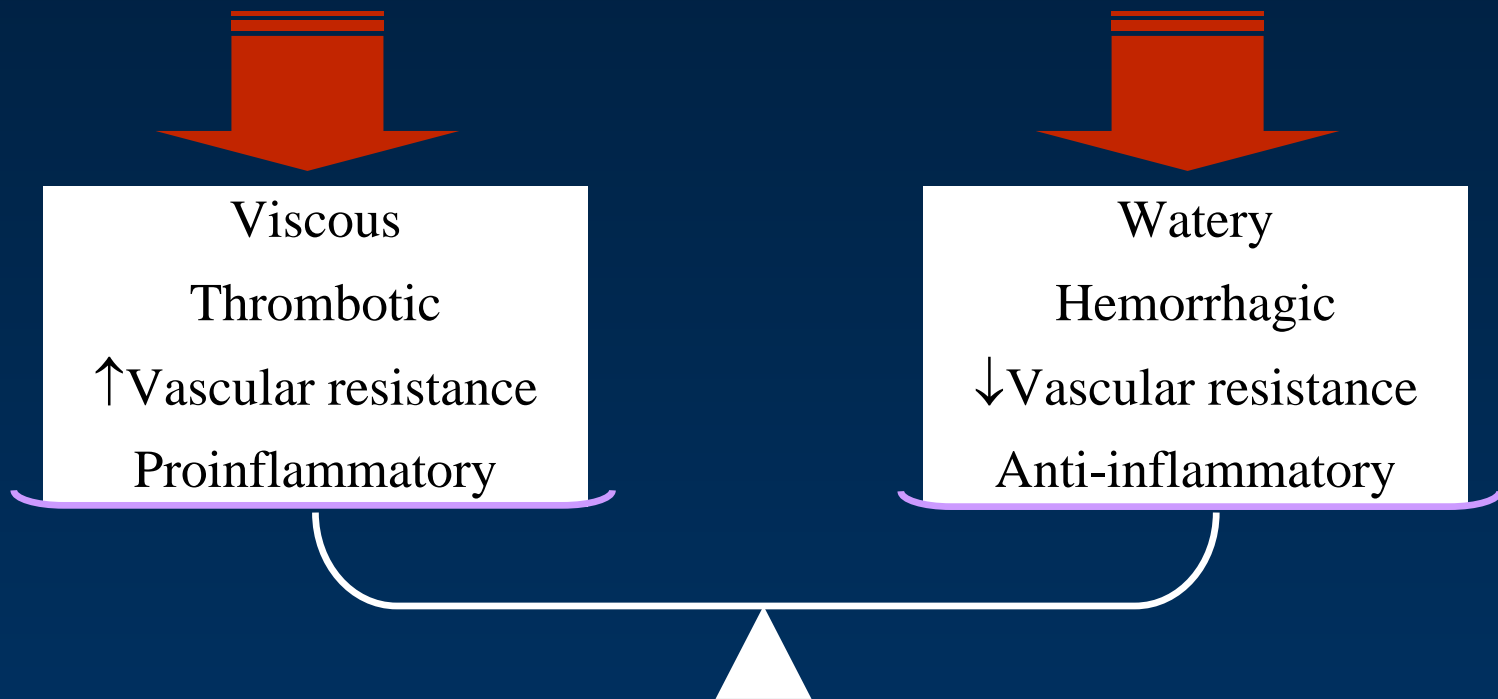
But if excessive or too small, damage to endothelial cell structurally and functionally.

Example) expression of iNOS

# Endothelium

; The thin epithelium lining the blood vessels, lymphatics, and serous cavities.

**Endothelin-1, nitric oxide radical, superoxide radical, prostaglandin, von Willebrand factor, adenine nucleotide, kinin, endothelium-derived hyperpolarizing factor, ...**

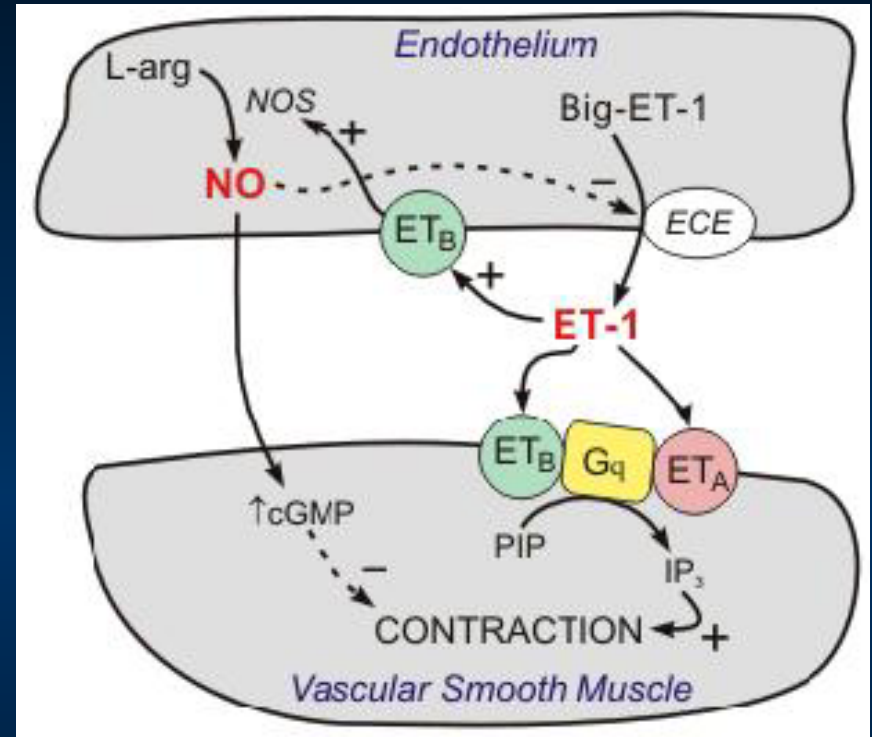
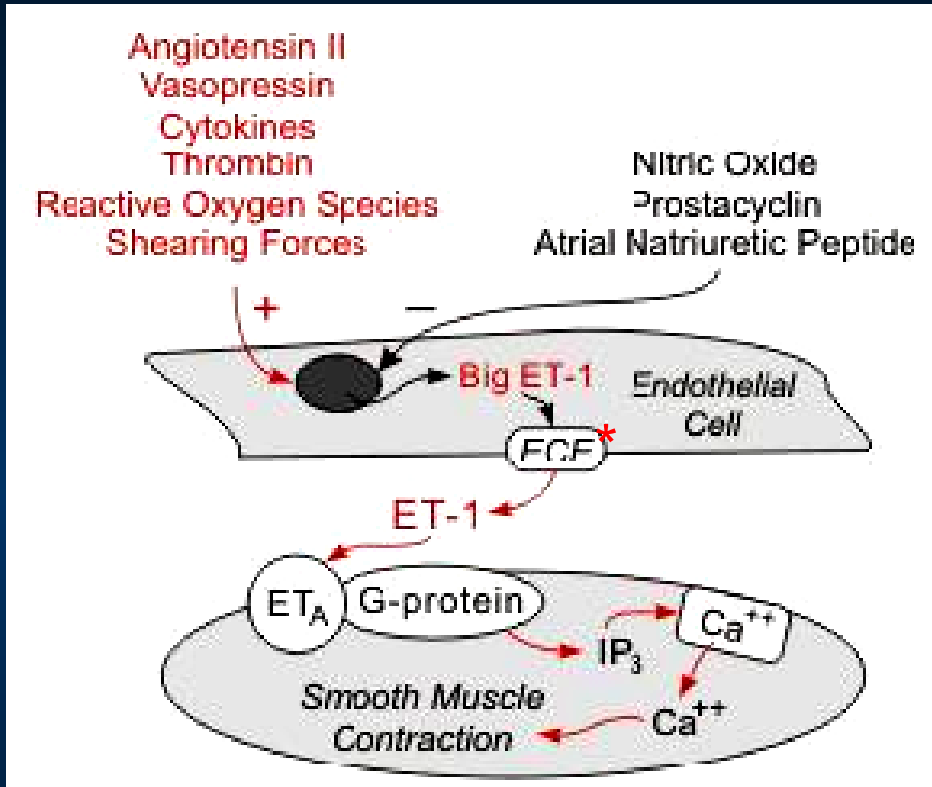


**Disease**

**Homeostasis**

**Disease**

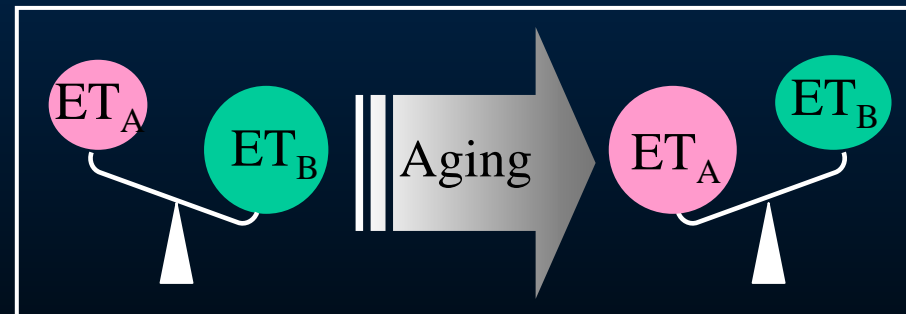
# Endothelin-1 (ET-1)



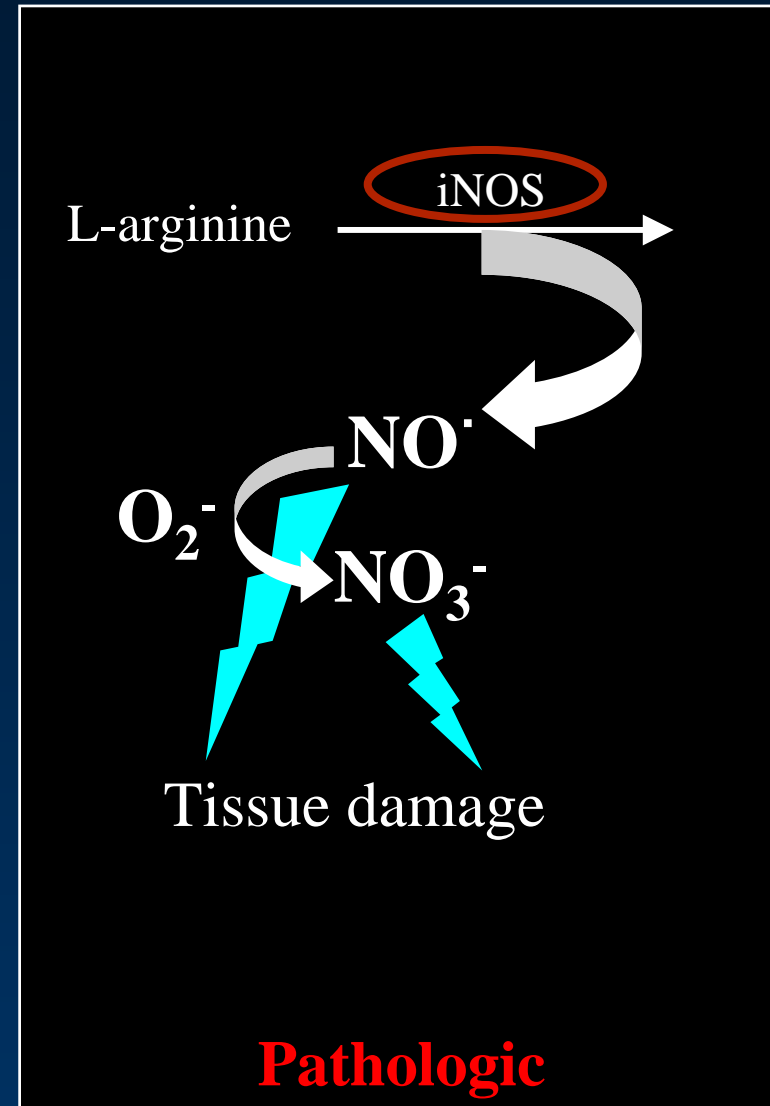
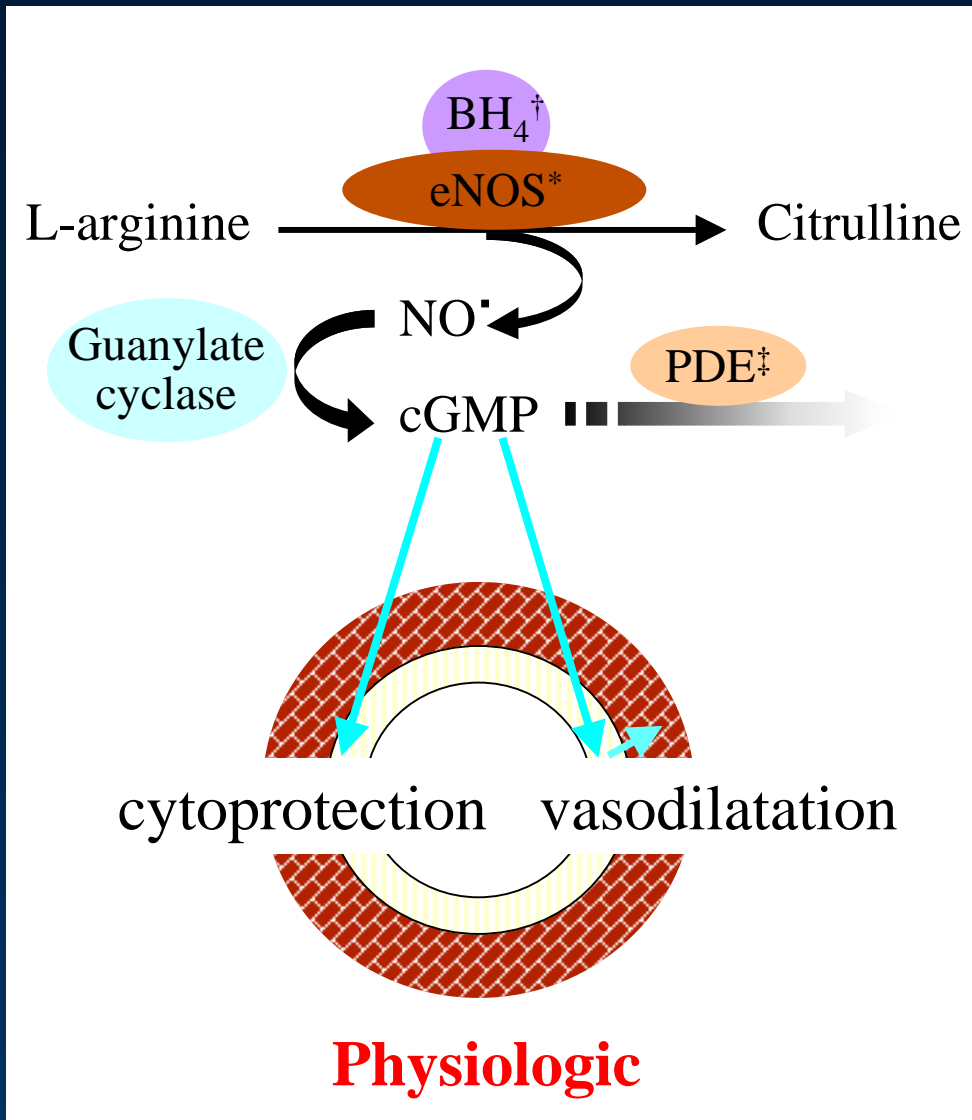
*ET-1 and interaction with NO*

*ET-1 production by vascular endothelium and its mechanism for production vascular smooth muscle contraction.*

*\*ECE: endothelin converting enzyme*

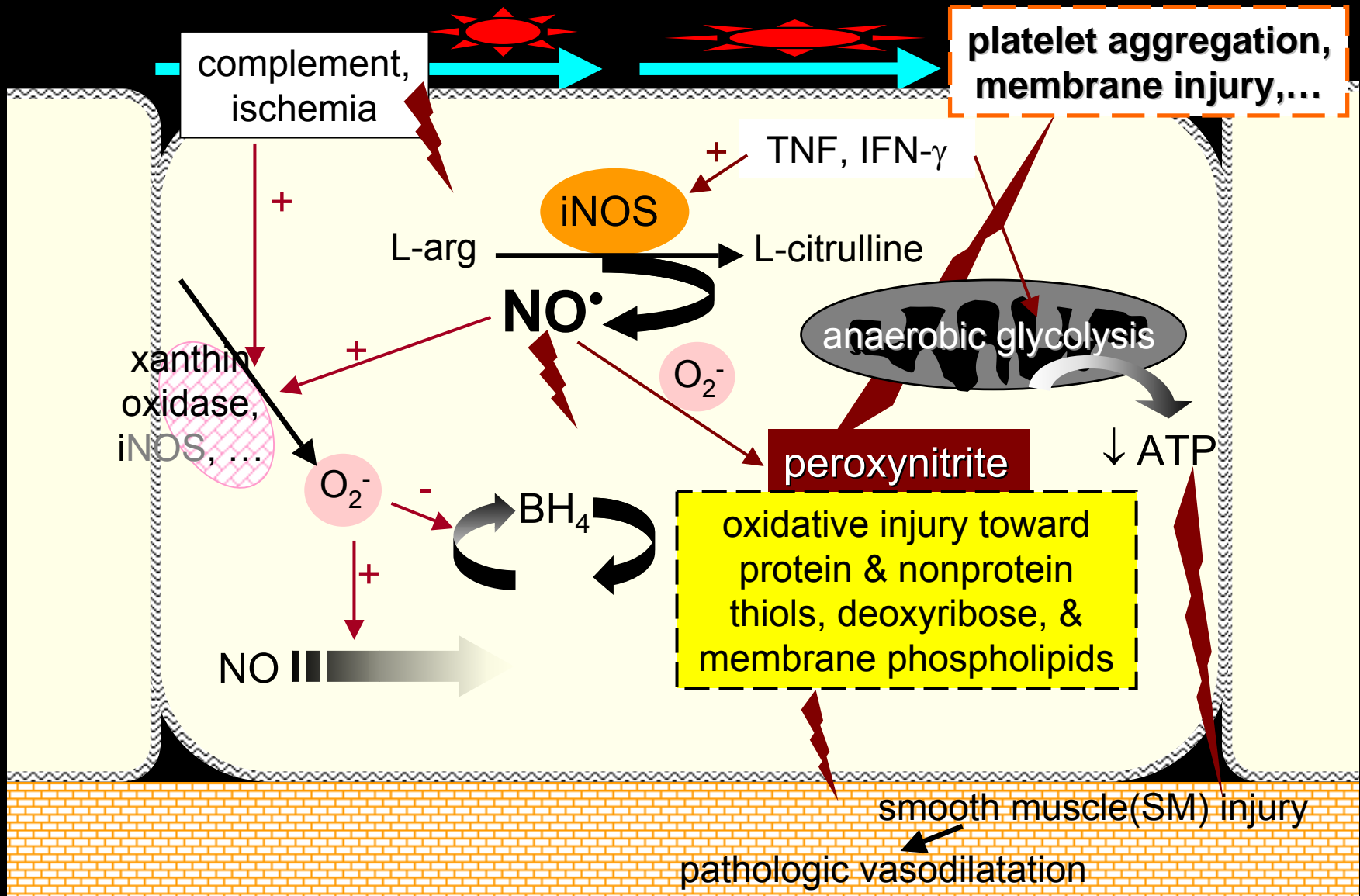


# Nitric oxide( $\text{NO}^\bullet$ ) – a kind of free radicals

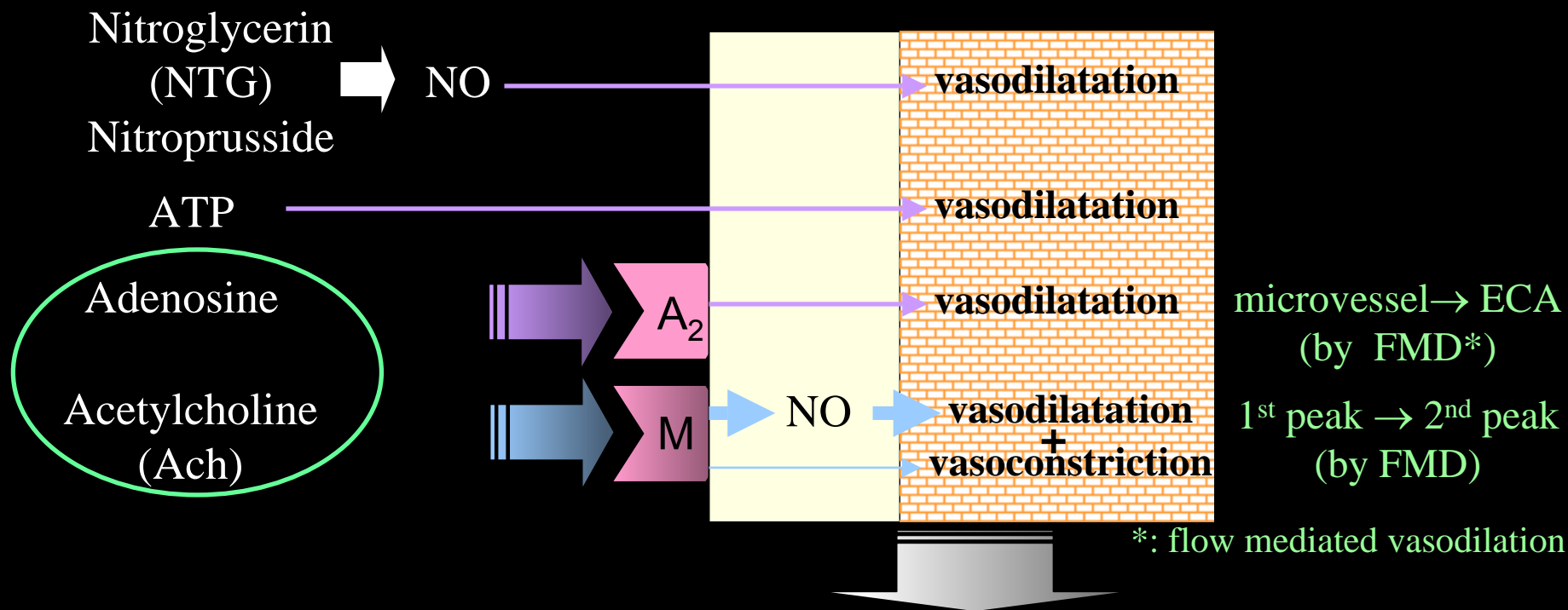


\*:e-nitric oxide synthase, †:tetrahydrobiopterin, ‡:phosphodiesterase

# Endothelial injury, dysfunction & nitric oxide



# Evaluation of vascular function



PET { Myocardial blood flow (MBF)  
       Coronary flow reserve (CFR)

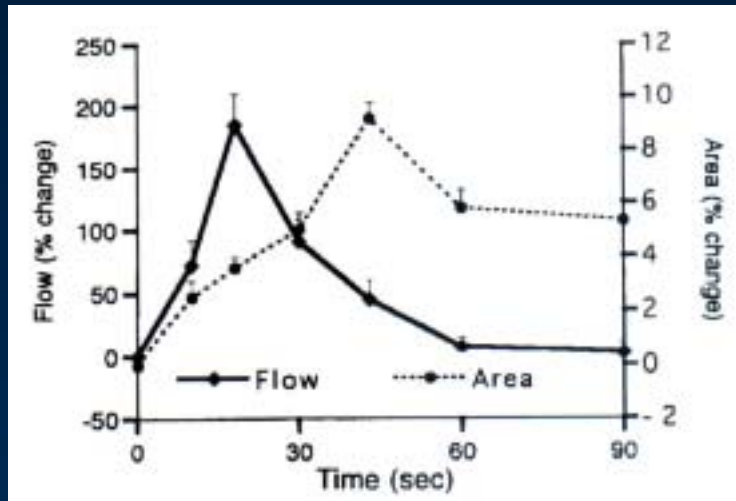
Cardiac angiography { Epicardial coronary arterial (ECA) diameter  
                               Coronary blood flow (CBF)

Sonography, angiography : Blood flow & diameter of systemic artery

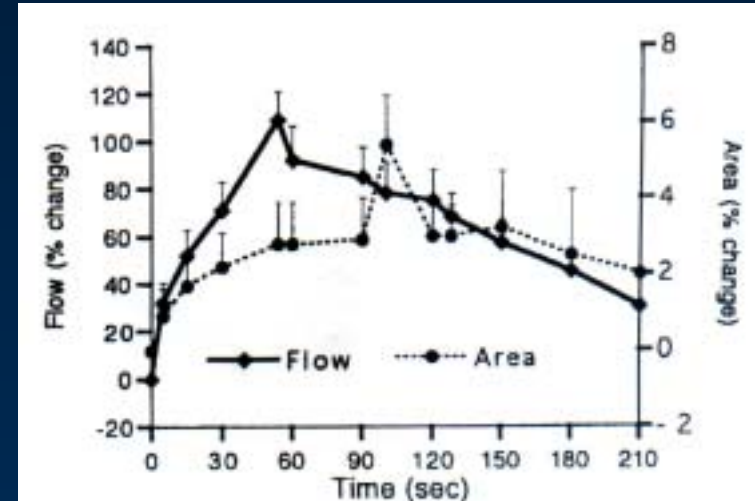
# Effect of adenosine vs. Ach. on ECA

*Hollenberg SM, Catheter Cardiovasc Interv 1999*

## Adenosine



## Ach



Binding to  $A_2$  receptor on **coronary microvascular endothelium**

→ ↑ coronary microvascular diameter

→ ↑ coronary blood flow

→ ↑ ECA diameter (by FMD)

Binding to muscarinic receptor on **coronary endothelium**

→ ↑ ECA & microvascular diameter, coronary blood flow

→ Plateau of coronary flow & diameter

→ Maximal ↑ ECA diameter (by FMD)

# Endothelial dysfunction in CHD with increased L→R shunt By ↑shear stress on pulmonary artery(PA)

↑Pulmonary blood flow & velocity

Normal to ↑ PA pressure, reversible PHT

Irreversible PHT(Eisenmenger Sd.)

- ↑Shear stress
- Normal response to vasoactive agent
- Normal histology on LM, ↑ endothelial metabolism on EM



- Endothelial adaptation → injury & dysfunction
- ↓Vasodilatory response to Ach.
- Initiation of PA wall muscularization



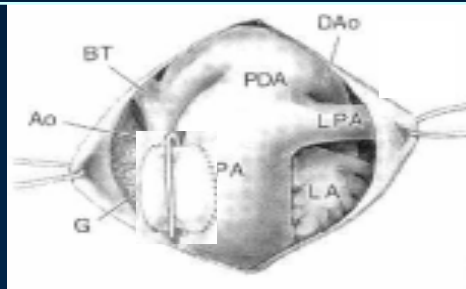
- Progression to vascular smooth muscle injury
- ↓Vasodilatory response to adenosine, NTG, nitroprusside, etc. Paradoxical vasoconstriction to Ach.
- Hypertrophy of arterial media, proliferative intimal lesion, ↑arterial wall collagen content...

Operable

Inoperable

# Endothelial dysfunction in CHD with increased L→R shunt, From a molecular point of view. -Ao. to PA shunt model -

Black SM et al., 1998~2002. Artificial Ao. to PA shunt, in late stage of pregnancy, **birth** ??



4wks (reversible change on PA)

8wks (1mo. in human, irreversible change)

PA pressure

normal

↑

eNOS mRNA

↑

No change

NO & cGMP conc.

↑

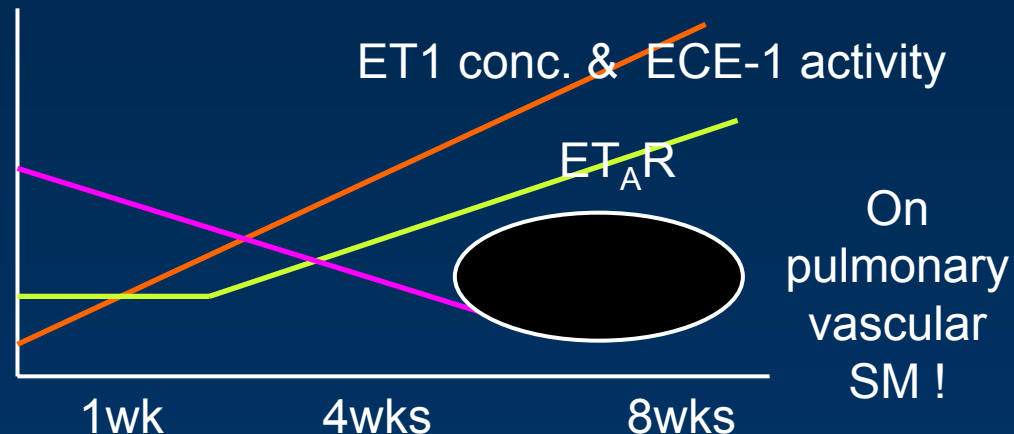
↓

ET1 conc.

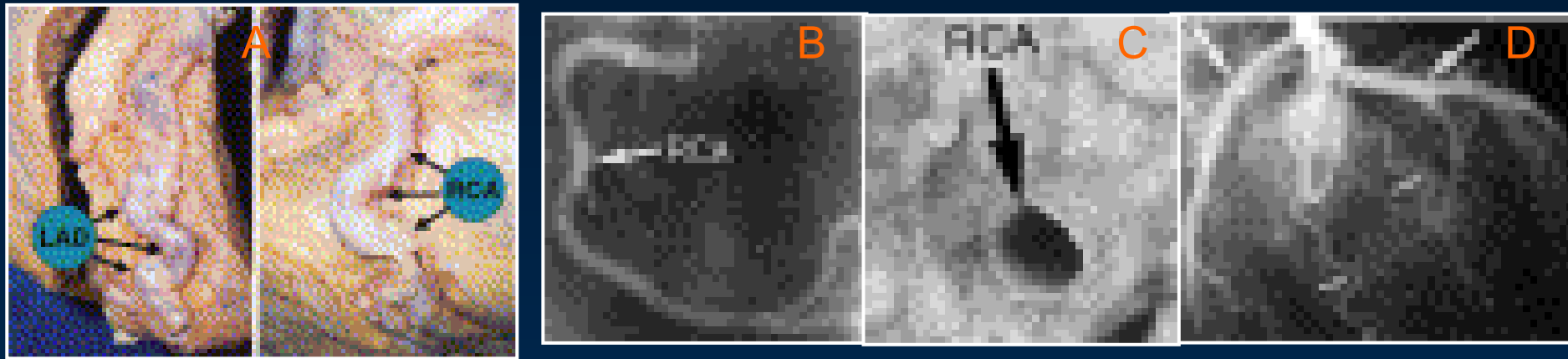
ECE-1 activity

ET<sub>A</sub>R

ET<sub>B</sub>R



# Endothelial dysfunction in cyanotic CHD (CCHD) By $\uparrow$ shear stress on coronary artery(CA)



- A) CAs in a 43-year-old cyanotic woman with Eisenmenger's sd.
- B) Selective coronary arteriogram illustrating moderate dilatation of the RCA.
- C) Necropsy specimen illustrating moderate dilated and atheroma free RCA.
- D) Selective left coronary arteriogram from a 53-year-old cyanotic man with Eisenmenger's sd. The circumflex and left anterior descending arteries are moderately dilated; the diagonal branches are moderately dilated and tortuous.

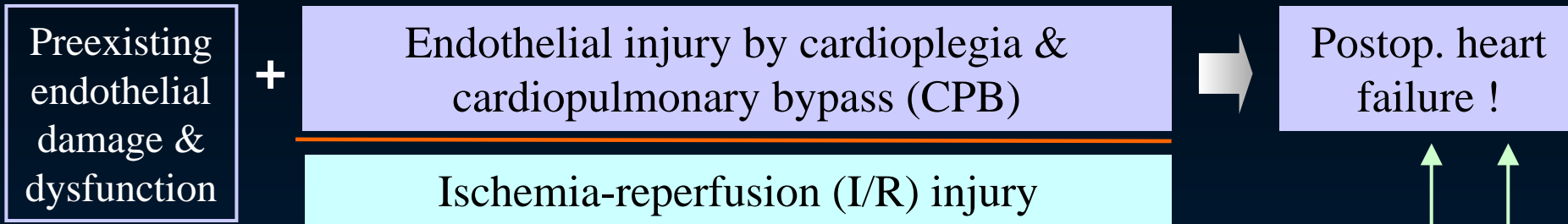
$\uparrow$  viscosity  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  shear force  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  endothelium derived vasodilating factor, etc.  $\rightarrow$  tortuous dilatation, wall thinning & anti-atherosclerotic change of CA, but, maintain CBF & CFR !!

# Endothelial dysfunction in CCHD & Eisenmenger Sd.

- In functionally univentricular heart & Eisenmenger Sd. :  
Altered levels of endothelial markers → precede intravascular coagulation and thrombosis, ↑vWF & tissue-type plasminogen activator, ↓thrombomodulin
- Hypoxia :  
Shift the endothelial phenotype towards a prothrombotic state.  
Induces exocytosis of the Weibel-Palade bodies (storage site of vWF, tissue-type plasminogen).
- In severe PHT patients, ET<sub>B</sub>R gene is overexpressed on pulmonary vascular SM.  
→ ET<sub>AB</sub>R inhibitor (bosentan<sup>®</sup>) has an positive effect on these patients (in studying).

# Endothelial dysfunction in postoperative CHD

# Endothelial dysfunction in postoperative CHD



Activation of complement system & inflammatory cells, ↑ oxidative stress, free radical &  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , disturbance of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  homeostasis,...

Heart

PA

- **iNOS** on cardiomyocyte.
- ↑ coronary vascular permeability due to ↑ VEGF, its receptor on CA & prostaglandin by Cyclooxygenase-2(COX-2).
- ↑ contractility of cardiomyocyte due to ↑ ET-1.
- ↑ coronary vascular tone or **coronary spasm** due to ↑ intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , ET-1 & COX-2.

↑ ↑ PA pressure (PAP)

PHT, ↓ oxygenation

↓ coronary microvascular circulation & ventricular function

Postop. heart failure !

# NO and peroxynitrite in postischemic myocardium

Zweier, *Antioxidants & redox signaling*, 2001

- In Sprague-Dawley rats,

Preischemia  $\xrightarrow{30 \text{ min of global ischemia}}$  Post-reperfusion ( ~900 sec.)

- Measure NO<sup>•</sup> & O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> generation, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> & nitrotyrosine formation, contractile function.

*By electron paramagnetic  
resonance (EPR) spin  
trapping measurements*

*By luminol  
chemiluminescence*

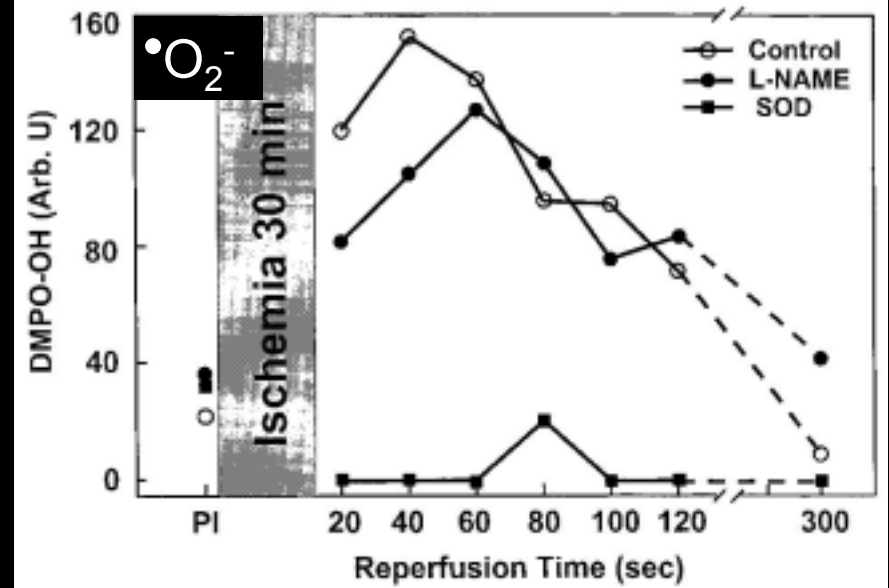
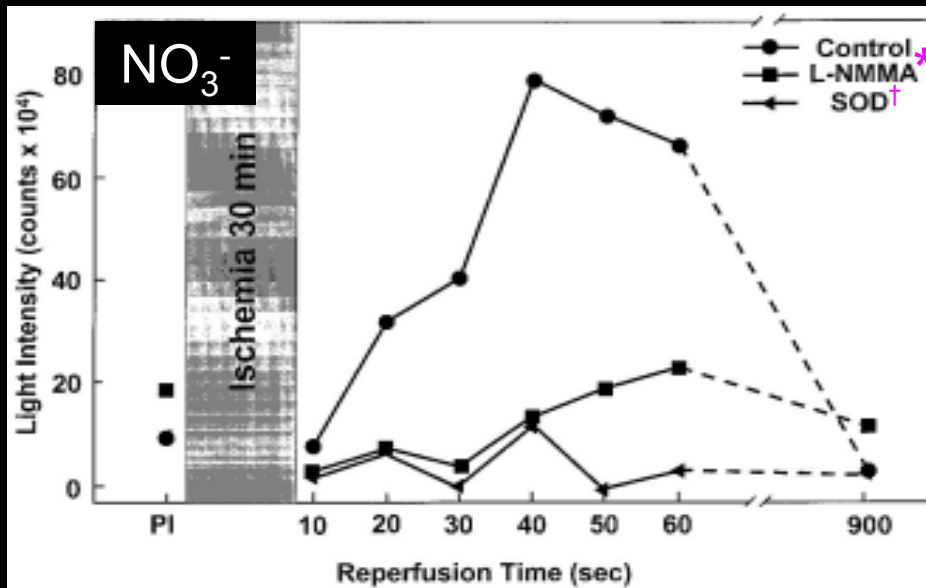
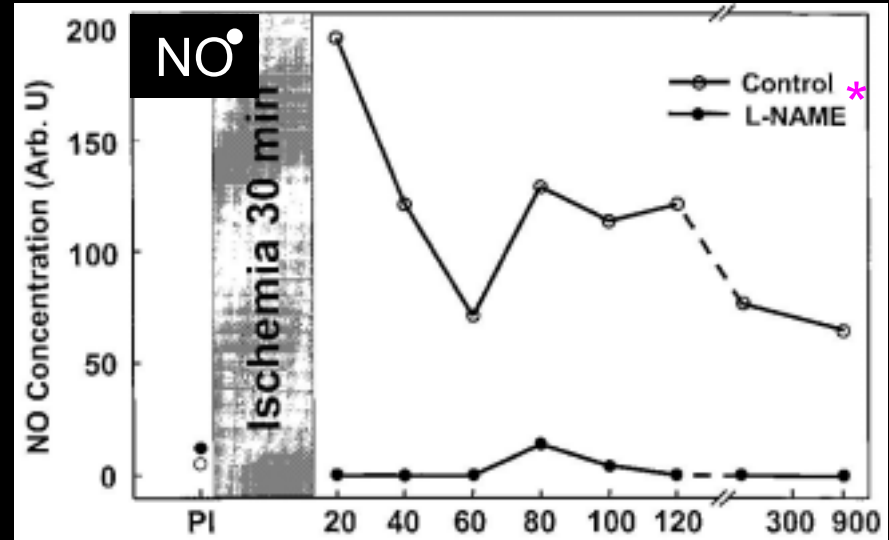
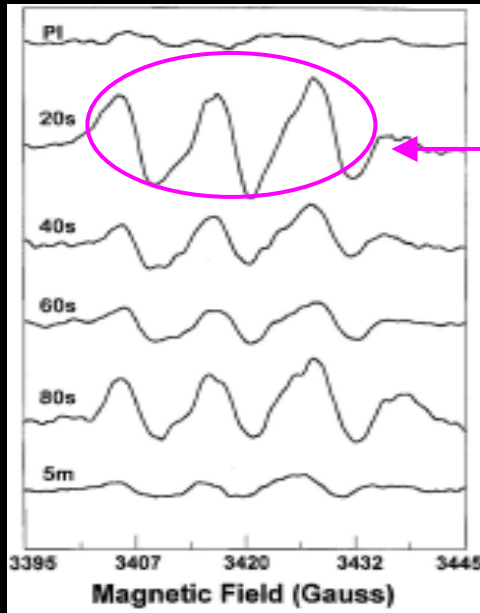
*By immuno-  
histochemistry  
using Ab.*

NO<sup>•</sup> & O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> : Paramagnetic.

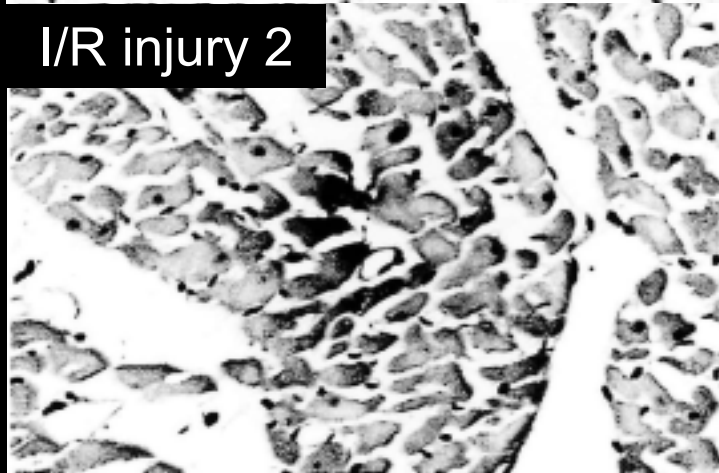
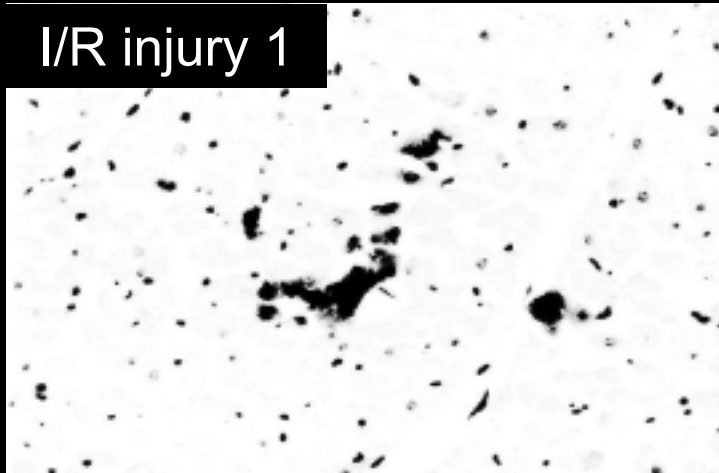
Bind with high affinity to a variety of metal chelates and metalloproteins  
**distinctive EPR spectra** of these nitroso complexes. **Quantitative measure** of  
free radical generation **in living tissue**.

Fe-MGD(Fe<sup>2+</sup>-N-methyl-D-glucamine dithiocarbamate) : for NO<sup>•</sup>

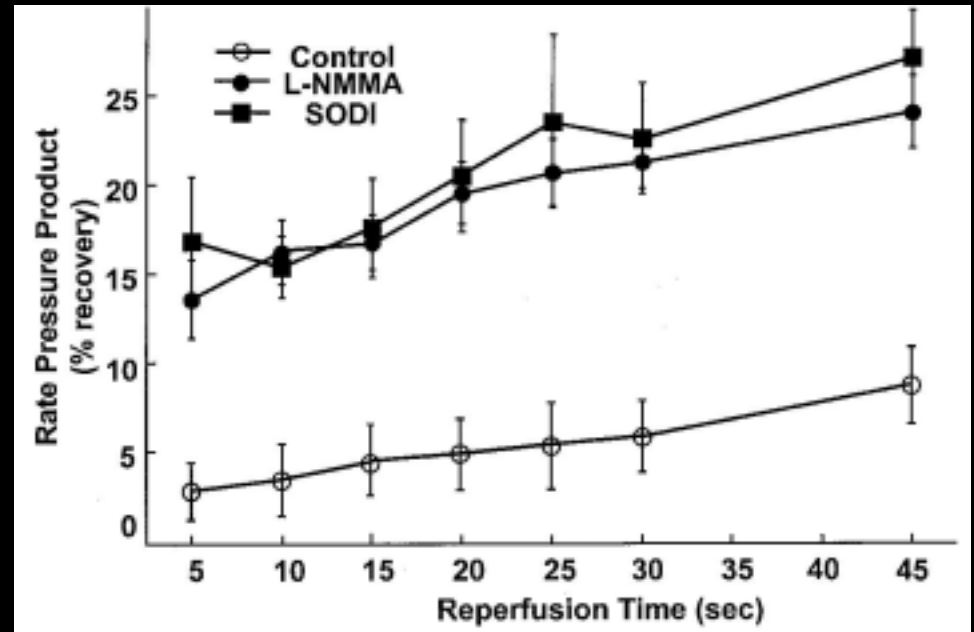
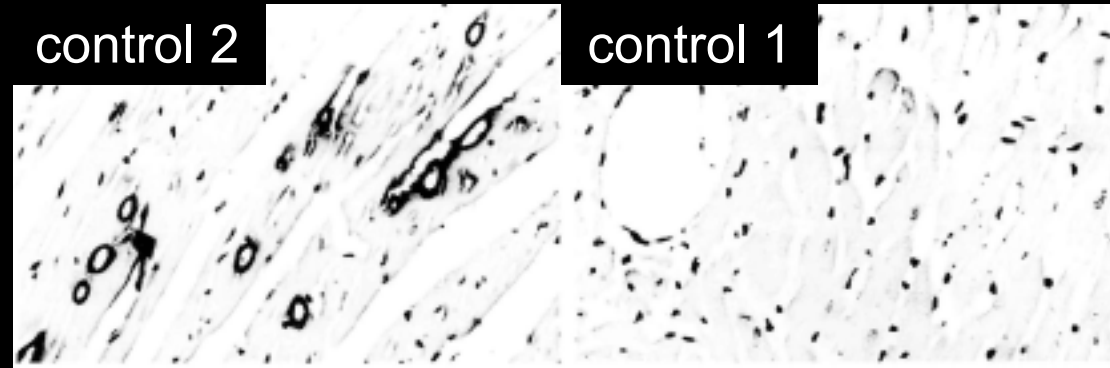
DMPO(5,5-dimethyl-α-pyrroline-N-oxide) : for O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup>



\* L-NAME, L-NMMA: NOS inhibitor † SOD: superoxide dismutase



Immunohistology measurement of the presence and localization of nitrotyrosine formation in normal & postischemic heart tissue.



Measurement of the recovery of RPP, an index of contractile function in untreated control hearts & hearts pretreated L-NMMA or SOD.

# Significance of pulmonary vascular endothelial injury

- CPB & cardioplegia aggravate pre-existing pulmonary endothelial injury.
- **Pulmonary hypertensive crisis**  
; sudden onset of desaturation, hypotension, and increase of PAP → directly ↑ of postop. morbidity, mortality and mechanical ventilation time.
- Factors to aggravate PA injury.  
:CPB duration, preoperative diagnosis (**AVSD** > **large VSD** > TGA, TA, TAPVR), preoperative pulmonary blood flow, operation time.
- PHT not increase more than mean arterial pressure is clinically not important, but it may be **critical to patient of Fontan circulation or RV dysfunction !!**

# Interventions to reduce endothelial injury

- To reduce the degree of complement activation.
  - : coating the cardiopulmonary circuit with heparin, using leukocyte filter or monoclonal antibody to adhesion molecule or complement (pexelizumab).
- To remove free radicals.
  - : add superoxide dismutase, deferoxamine, or N-acetyl cysteine to cardioplegic solution.
- To reduce the degree of intracellular  $[Ca^{2+}]$  increase.
  - : use cardioplegic solution of low  $[Ca^{2+}]$  (0.4~1.2mmol/l) or high  $[Mg^{2+}]$  (5.0mEq/l).

Local  $[Mg^{2+}]$  is high → protect endothelial cell

Intracellular  $[Mg^{2+}]$  is high → inhibit release  $Ca^{2+}$  from intracellular calcium store and exhaustion of ATP → maintain homeostasis of vascular SM

# Treatment of endothelial injury

1. Classic Tx.: vasodilator, inotropics, high O<sub>2</sub> ventilation, induce alkalosis, etc.

2. **NO inhalation**

Benefit: inactivation at the moment of contact to Hb. → no systemic effect.  
Problem: no consistent response rate, **rebound PHT & oxygen desaturation**, coagulation inhibition, methemoglobinemia.

\* IV infusion of sildenafil (viagra<sup>®</sup>, potent & selective PDE-5 inhibitor), prostacyclin.  
→ overcome the problem of No therapy, esp. rebound phenomenon.

3. Intravenous infusion of L-arginine, or substance P.

→ produce NO.

4. Intravenous infusion of BQ123 (selective ET<sub>A</sub>R inhibitor), Oral medication of bosentan<sup>®</sup> (ET<sub>AB</sub>R inhibitor).

# Endothelial injury & dysfunction after Fontan op.

Major hemodynamic change: absence of pulsatile pulmonary blood flow

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## Problems

Endothelial dysfunction in pulmonary & systemic vessel

↓NO, ↑ET-1, ↑VEGF, ...

Arrhythmia

.  
.

## Treatment

NO inhalation

Sildenafil, prostacyclin, ... infusion

ACE inhibitor, ET<sub>AB</sub>R inhibitor medication

# NOS expression: a predictive marker of Fontan procedure outcome?

Satisfactory preoperative hemodynamic data  successful, or **failed**  
**Endothelial dysfunction ?** → ↑ Intraacinar PA wall thickness

- Group I : successful outcome, 8 cases      Group II : failed outcome, 9 cases

	Control	Group I	Group II	P value*
%wall thickness of the distal PA(%)		9.6	20.45	<0.01
eNOS immunostaining grade	0.88	0.86	1.86	<0.01
ET-1 immunostaining grade	0.7	0.9	1.3	<0.01

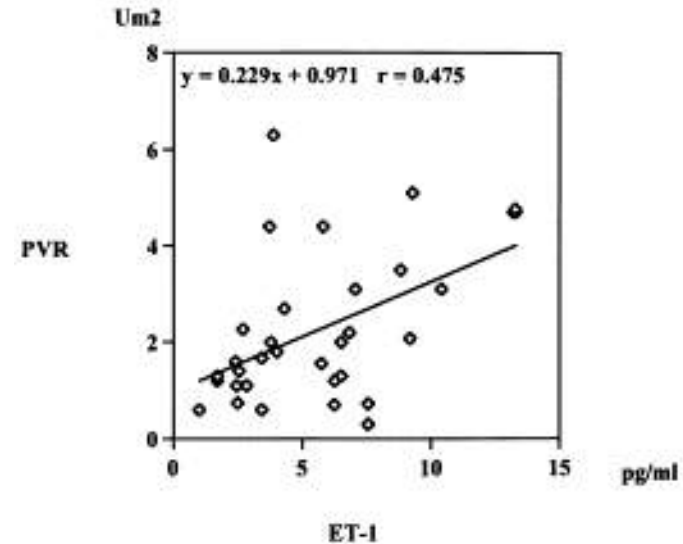
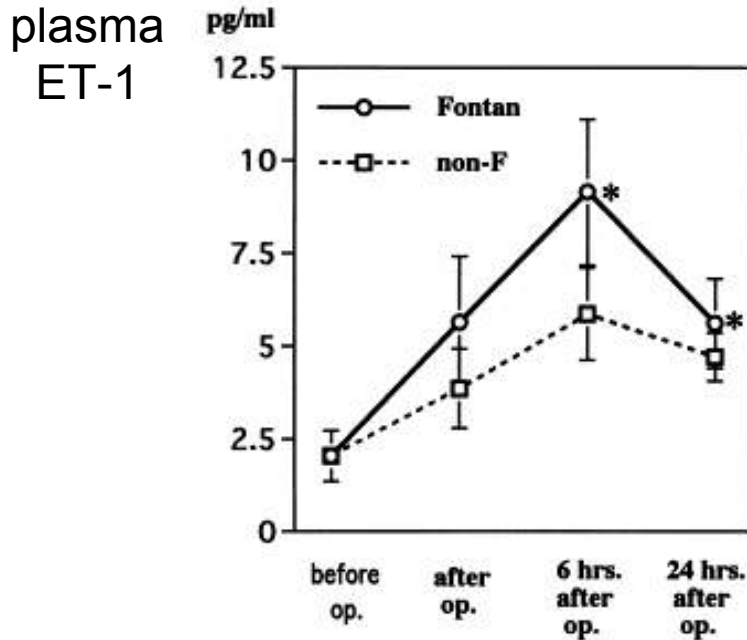
\*: P value between Group I and II

- All pts. of Gr II : a marked expression of NOS & ET-1, despite low PAP.
- Normal wall thickness & ↑↑ NOS (2 pts.) → failed outcome  
 ↑↑ wall thickness & ↑ NOS (1 pt.) → successful outcome
- eNOS grade correlated with histomorphometric grade, r=0.71

Intraacinar PAs contribute greatly to PVR & failure of the Fontan procedure  
 an impaired vascular reactivity after a stimulus such as CPB.

# Plasma ET-1 after Fontan op.

[ Hiramatsu et al., Ann Thorac Surg 1999 ]



Correlation between ET-1 and PVR

[ Yamagishi M et al., J Cardiovasc Surg (Torino) 2002 ]

POD #1, after ICU care : Plasma ET-1 concentrations were elevated (more than 4 x basal level), and correlated significantly with CVP.

During postop. Cath. : ET-1 concentrations were decrease, but significantly correlated with CVP.

# Treatment after Fontan op.

1. Postop. NO inhalation : **immediately** ~~~~~ 9yrs after op.

	Yoshimura (2005)		Gamillscheg (1997)	Goldman (1996)	
Pts. number	47		9	15	
NO conc.(ppm)	10 (5~30)		4.1 (1.5~10)	20	
Duration (hours)	48 (5~1248)		12~264 (106)	0.25	
Indication	CVP<15 TPG<8	<b>CVP≥15 TPG≥8</b>	CVP≥20, TPG≥10	SaO <sub>2</sub> ≤85%	SaO <sub>2</sub> >85%
CVP (mmHg)	NS	16 → 14	21 → 17.8		
Transpulmonary ΔP(TPG, mmHg)*	NS	9.9 → 8.4	13.5 → 7.7	12.2→ 9.6	NS
Mean systemic BP	NS	71.9 → 76.8	59 → 65		
SaO <sub>2</sub> (%)	NS	90.1 → 93.3	86 → 94	64 → 82	NS

\*TPG : PAP-LAP

2. Angiotensin converting enzyme(ACE) inhibitor medication.

;direct vascular SM relaxation, ↓bradykinin degradation, ET-1 secretion, iNOS expression & vascular membrane oxidase activity,... But, routine administration ?

# Endothelial dysfunction in Kawasaki disease

# Endothelial dysfunction in Kawasaki disease

Coronary arterial obstruction, progress to ischemic heart disease, atherosclerosis.

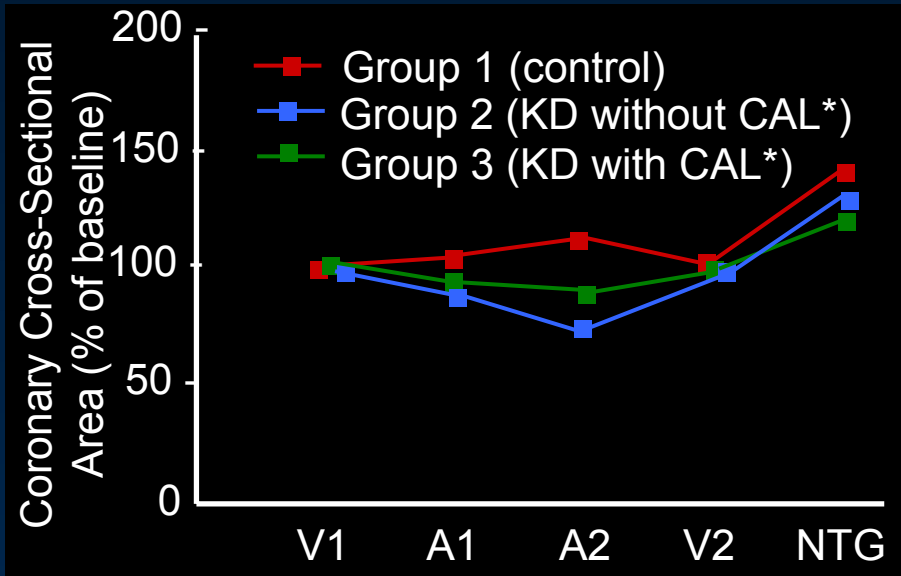
Coronary aneurysm, dilatation, intimal hypertrophy

Myocarditis, coronary microvasculitis

iNOS mediated coronary endothelial injury

- $\uparrow$  NO (by downregulation of eNOS & upregulation of iNOS).
- Endothelial iNOS detection even to one year after onset of disease.
- Neutrophil iNOS expression is maximal at the acute stage of disease, vs. Monocyte iNOS expression is maximal at the 2 weeks after disease onset.
- IVIG decrease the expression of iNOS on coronary endothelial cell.
- Detection of iNOS & nitrotyrosine on aneurysmal coronary arterial wall. (by animal model using intraperitoneal infusion of *Lactobacillus casei* cell wall)
- $\text{NO} + \text{O}_2^- \rightarrow \text{NO}_3^-$  pathway in ischemia-reperfusion model.

# Endothelial dysfunction in Kawasaki disease



## Angiography & IVUS study

Mitani Y, *Circulation* 1997

Serial intracoronary infusion of Ach vs. NTG  
→ % Change of LAD area

Ach - Gr.1 vs. 2, Gr.1 vs. 3 :  $P < 0.05$   
NTG - Gr.1 vs. 3 :  $P < 0.05$

## PET studies

Muzik O, *JACC* 1996

Hauser M, *Pediatr Cardiol* 2004

Duration from disease onset to evaluation (yr)

$8 \pm 4$

$10.3 \pm 6$

Group (n)

Control  
(10)

KD without  
CAL\* (10)

Control  
(10)

KD with resolved  
CAL (10)

**MBF**  
(ml/g/min)

At rest

$0.77 \pm 0.16$

$0.82 \pm 0.14$

$0.77 \pm 0.17$

$0.86 \pm 0.27$

**Adenosine**<sup>†</sup>

$3.40 \pm 0.57$

$2.63 \pm 0.64$

$3.10 \pm 0.80$

$2.42 \pm 0.81$

**CFR** (ml/g/min)<sup>†</sup>

$4.6 \pm 0.9$

$3.2 \pm 0.7$

$4.09 \pm 1.01$

$2.89 \pm 0.26$

\*CAL: Coronary arterial lesion †:  $P < 0.05$

# Conclusion

Endothelial dysfunction in  
Postoperative Congenital Heart Disease  
and Kawasaki Disease  
– is it real?

*Yes...*