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IRICT Innovative Research Institute
for Cell Therapy

Inflammation in experimental and clinical study

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Inflammation in experimental and clinical study: Contents

□ Inflammatory processes on cardiovascular cells

- Inflammatory signaling pathways
- Endothelial cell dysfunction / Matrix degradation
- Cellular survival/proliferation with inflammation

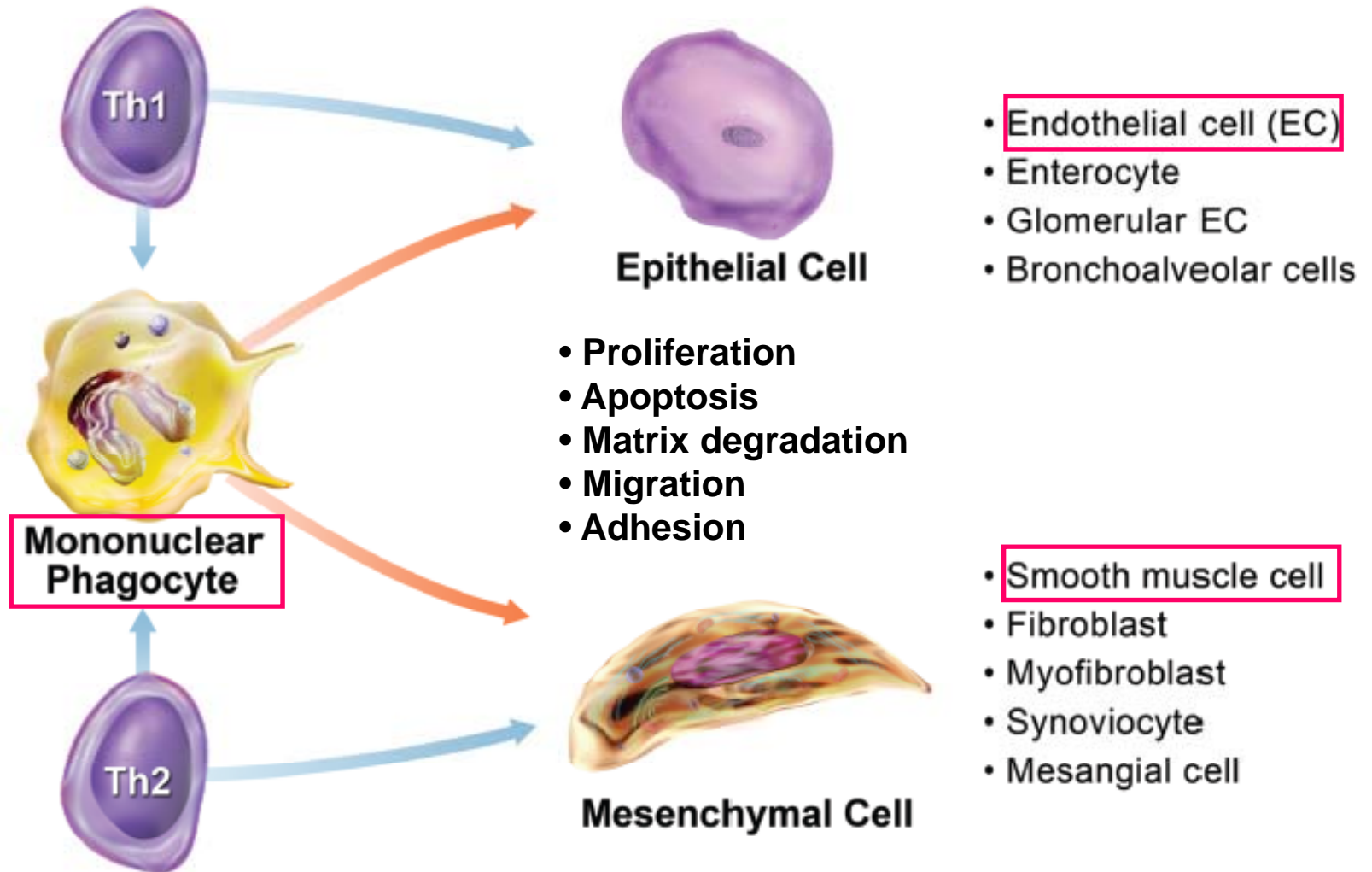
□ Inflammatory markers in clinical studies

- Cell adhesion molecules
- Inflammatory cytokines
- Clinical implication

Common inflammatory and immune processes act on different cell types

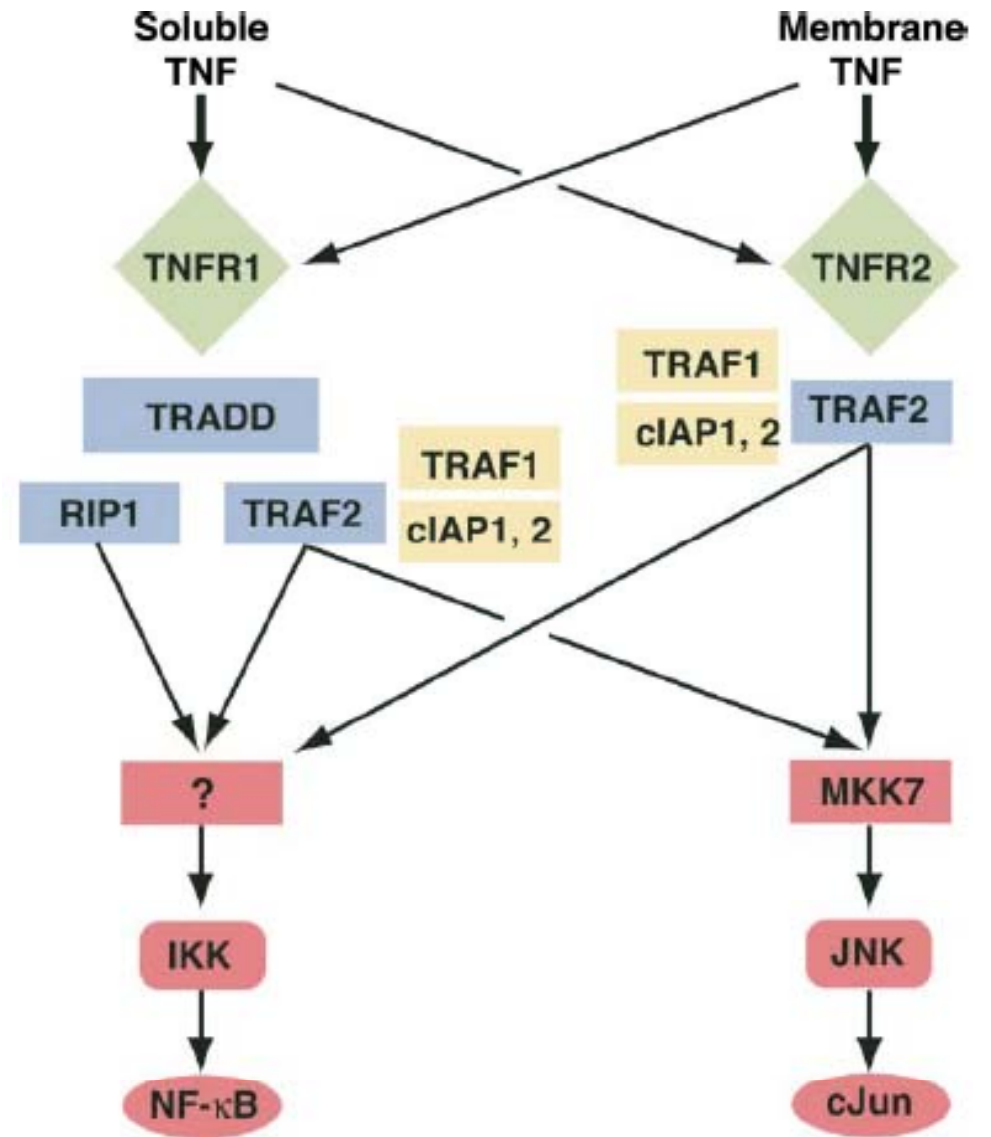
Inflammatory stimuli

- Angiotensin II
- Glucose
- oxLDL
- CRP, LPS
- ROS
- AGE
- ...

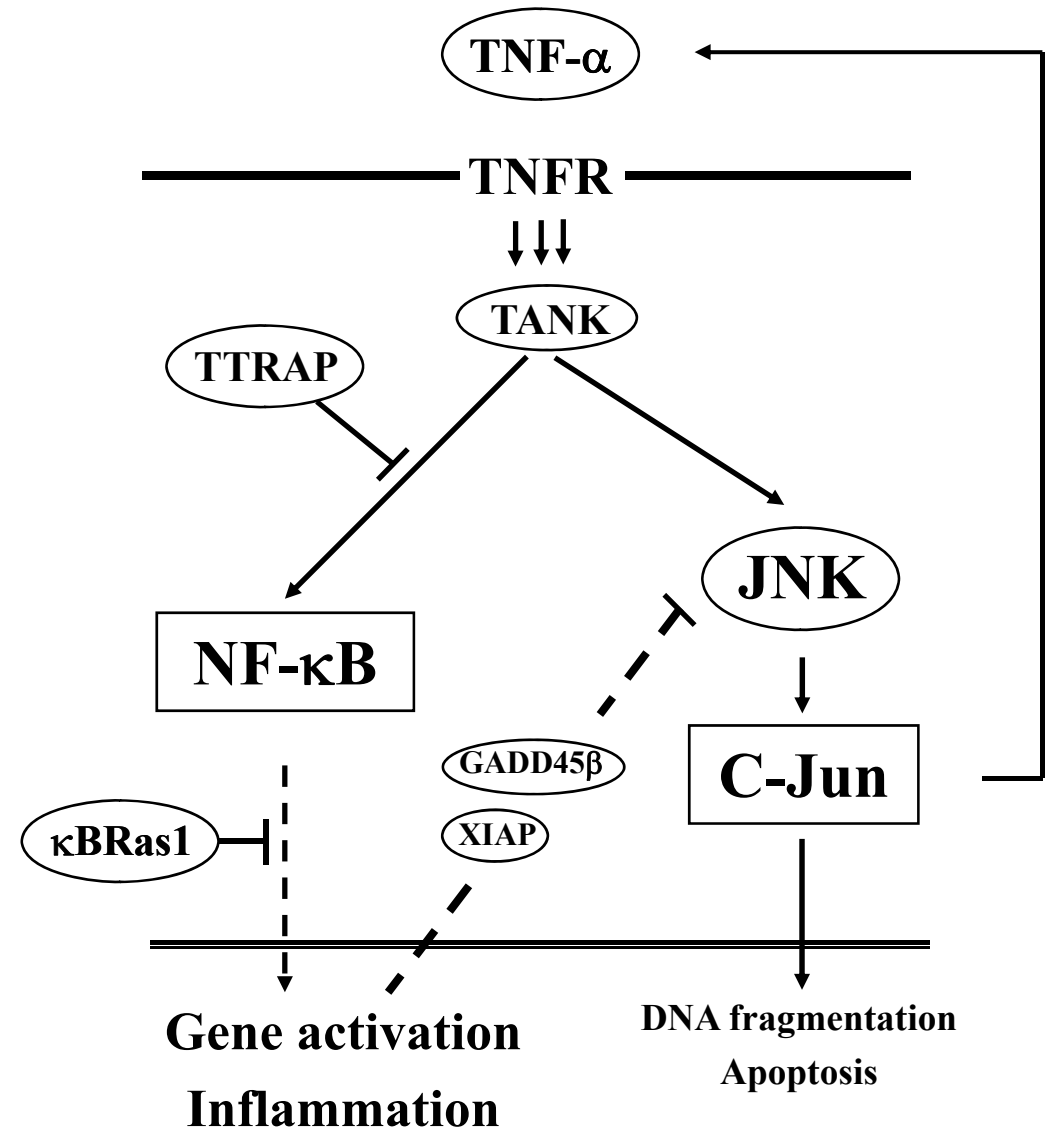
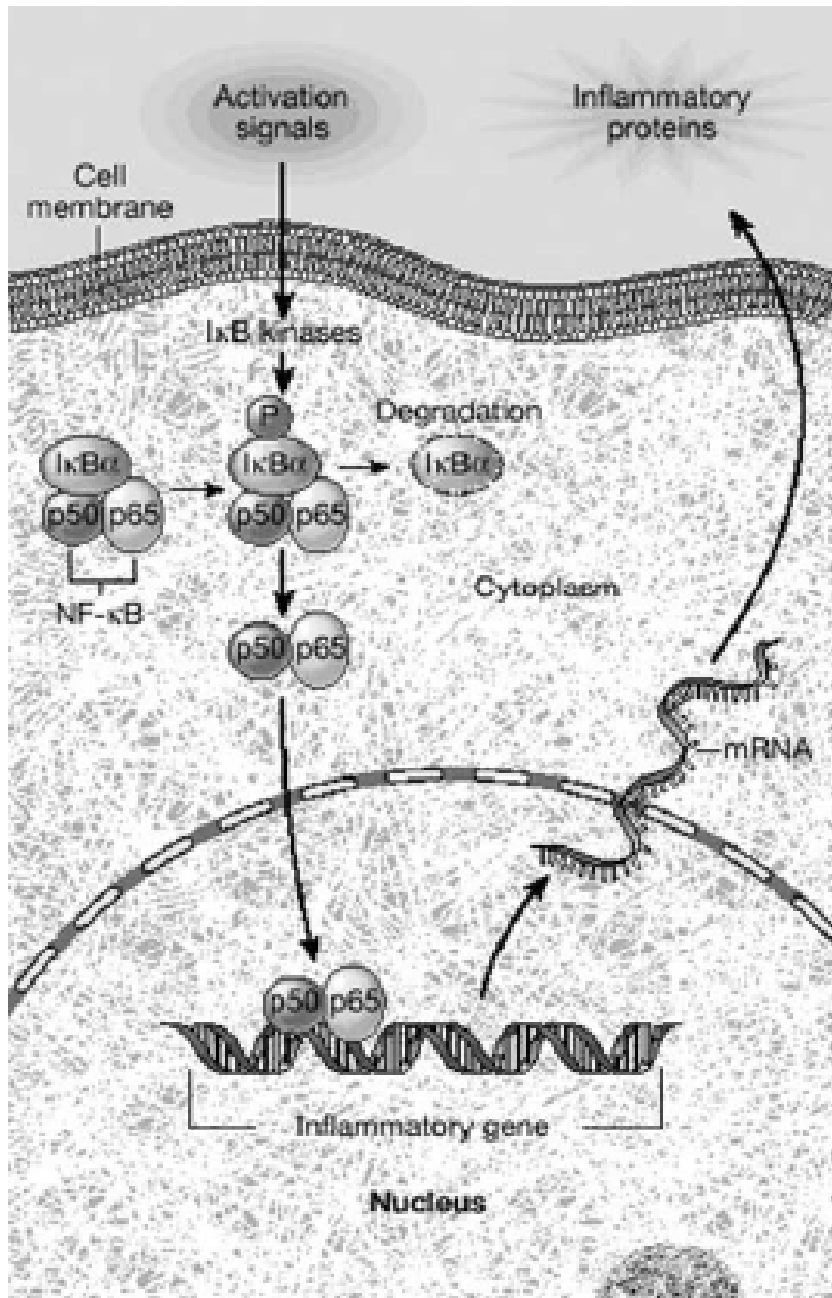


TNF receptor pathways signaling both death and inflammation

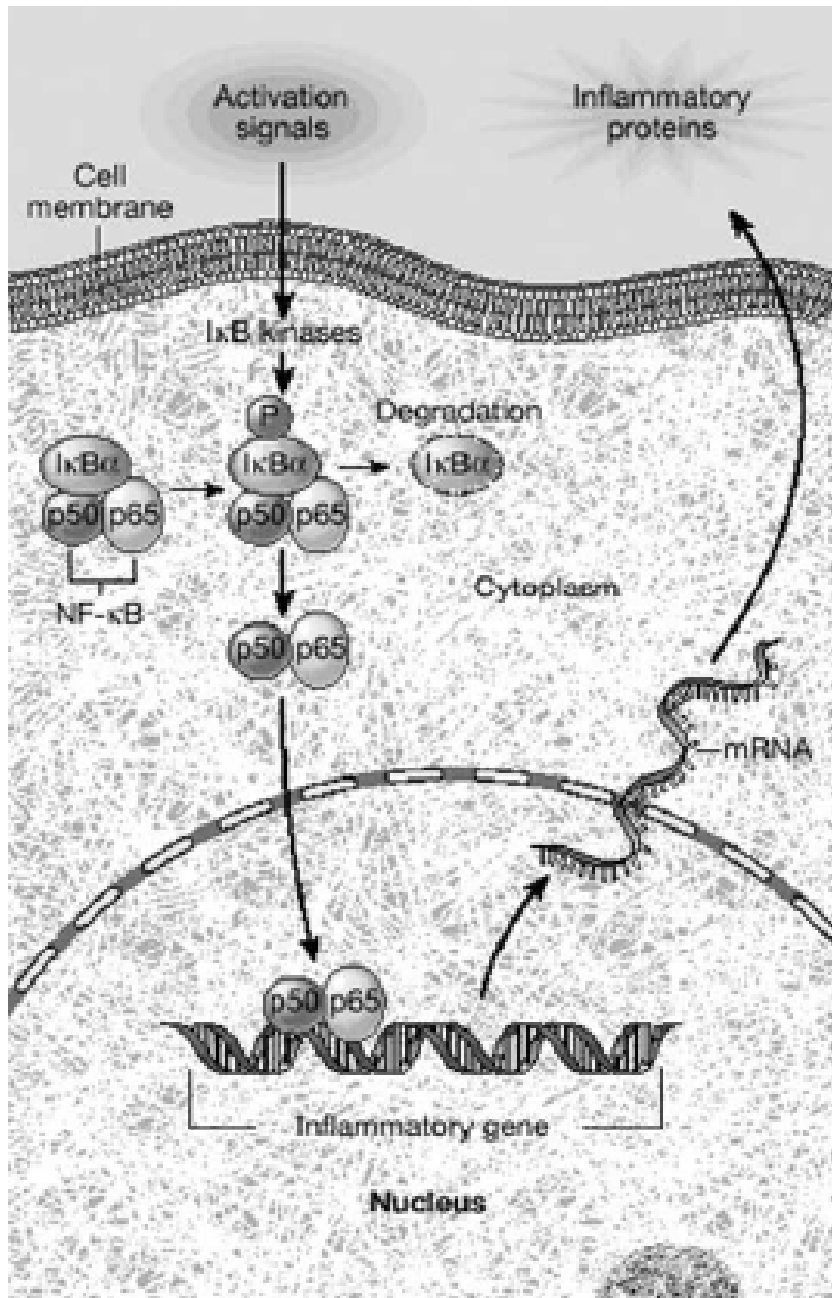
- TNF as a key inducer of proinflammatory genes
 - Triggering local expression of cytokines
 - Promoting adhesion, extravasation, attraction, leukocyte activation
- Two distinct TNF receptors
 - TNFR1: primary R for sTNF constitutively expressed in most cell types
 - TNFR2: main R for MTNF expression highly regulated



TNF receptor pathways signaling both death and inflammation



TNF receptor pathways signaling both death and inflammation



Pro-inflammatory signal

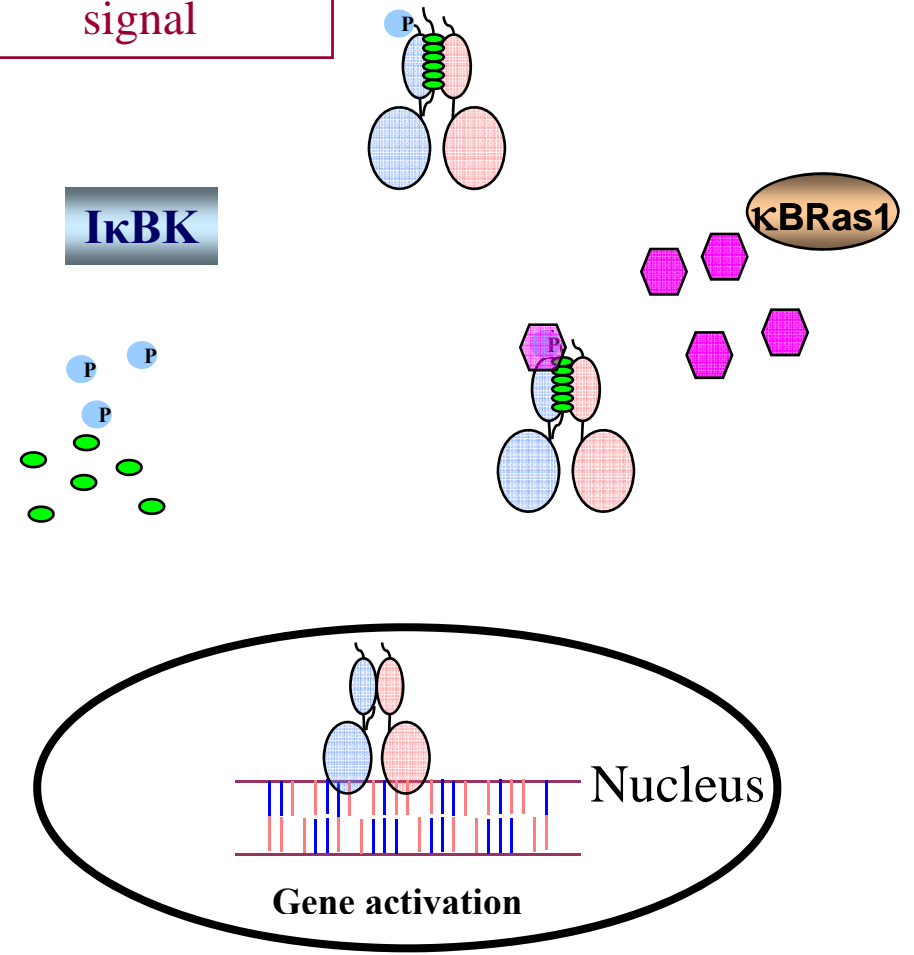


Figure from NEJM 1997;336:1066-1071

TNF receptor pathways signaling both death and inflammation

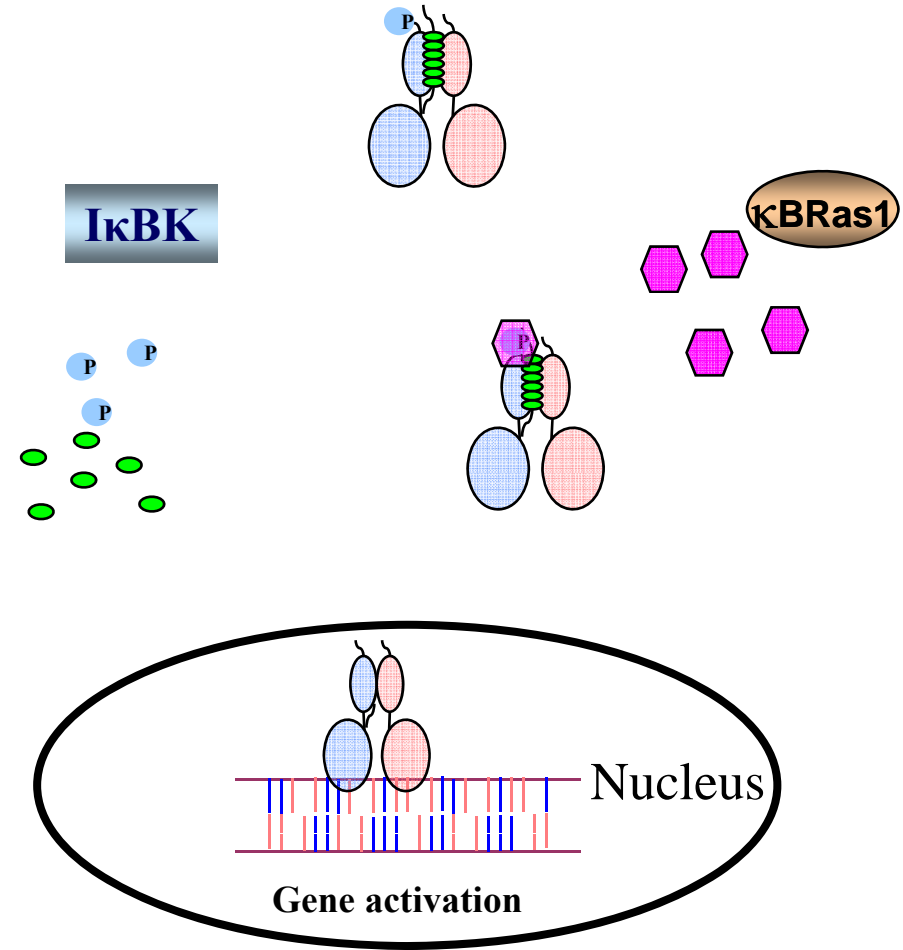
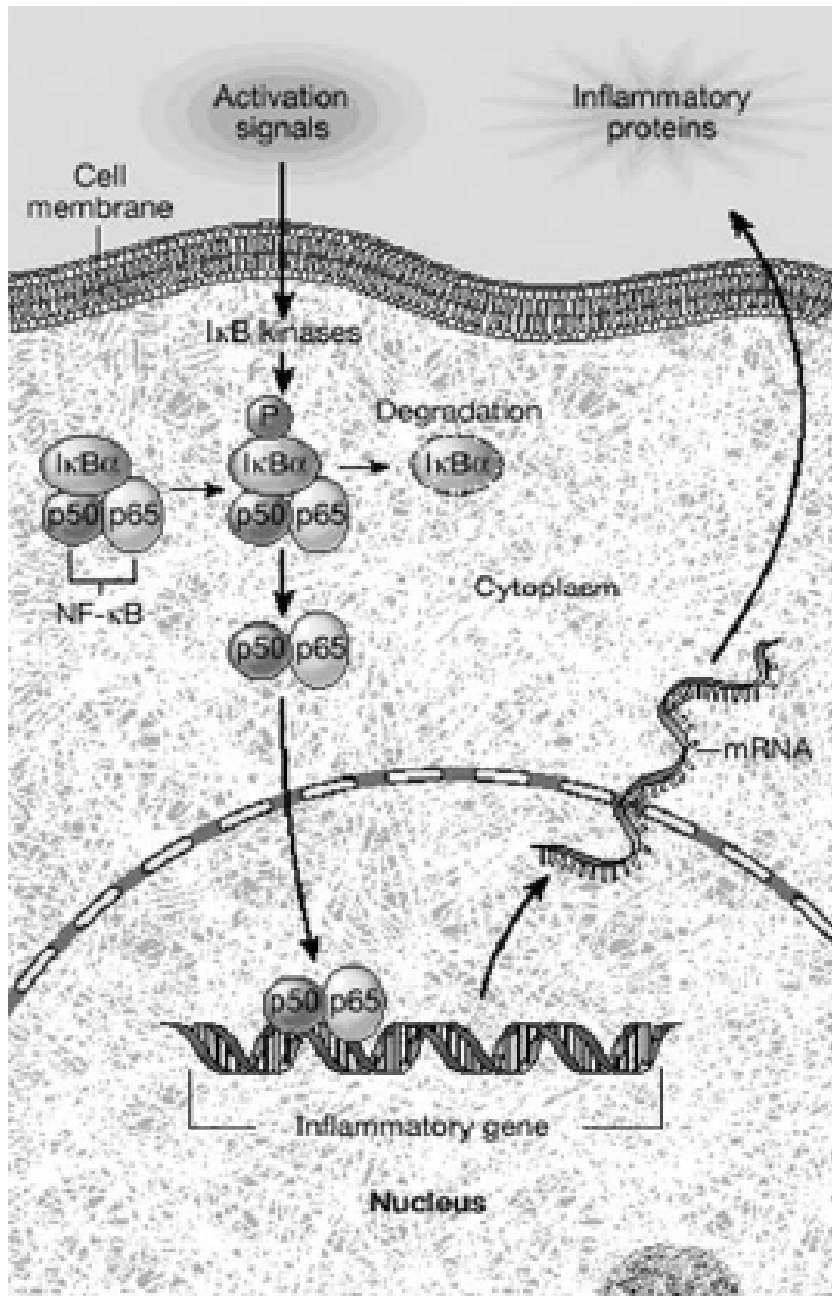
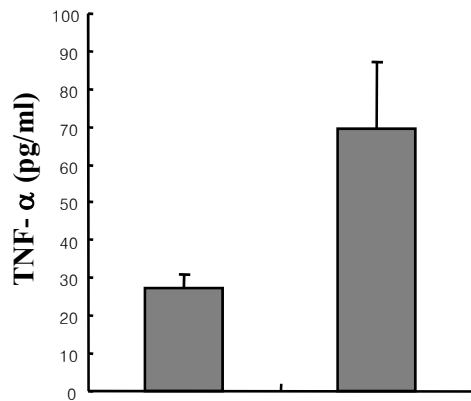


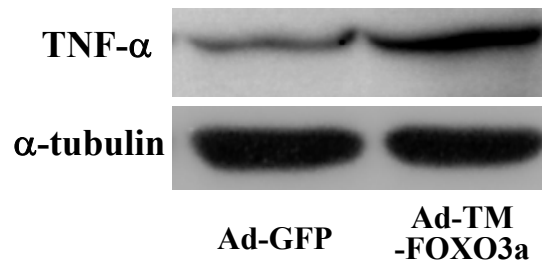
Figure from NEJM 1997;336:1066-1071

Evaluating TNF receptor pathways: TNF and NF- κ B

ELISA in supernatant

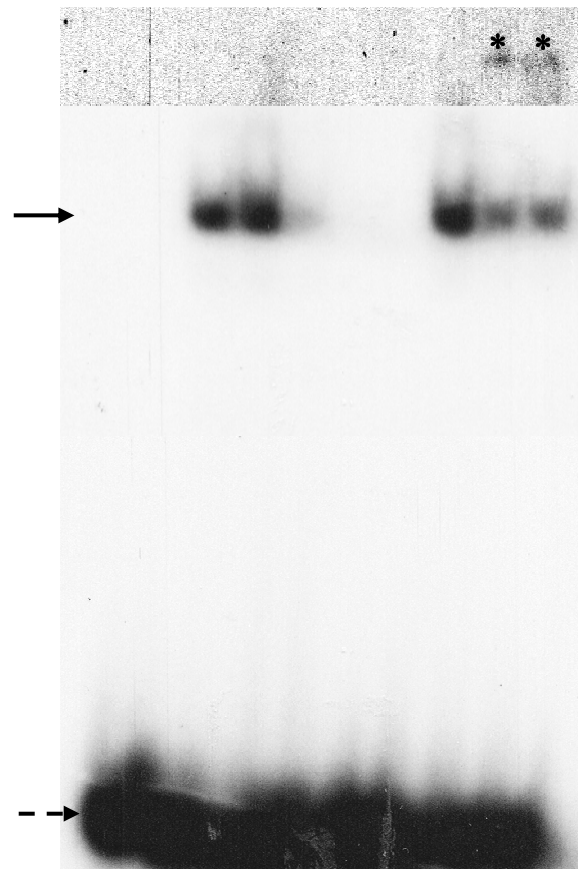


Immunoblot in cell fraction



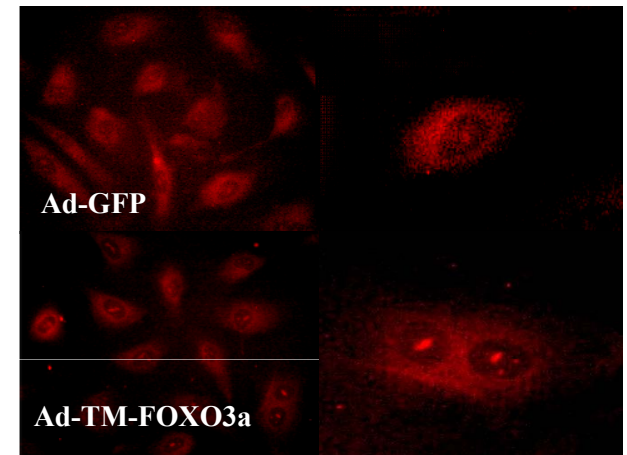
EMSA of NF- κ B

Ad-GFP	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Ad-TM-FOXO3a	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
TNF- α	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
NF κ B competitor	-	-	-	S25	S100	NS		
NF κ B antibody	-	-	-	-	-	-	p65	p50

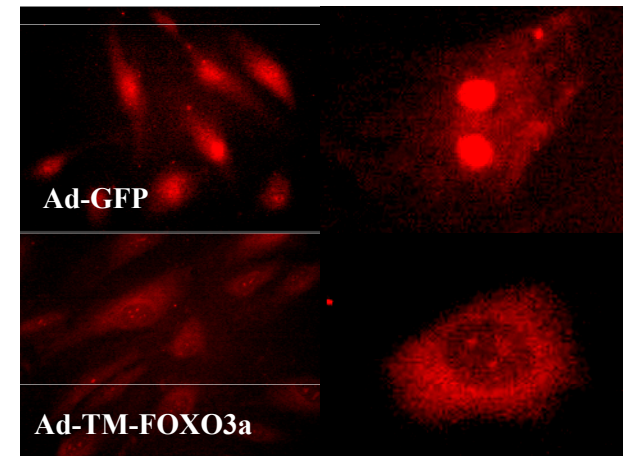


Immunofluorescent microscopy for p65 subunit

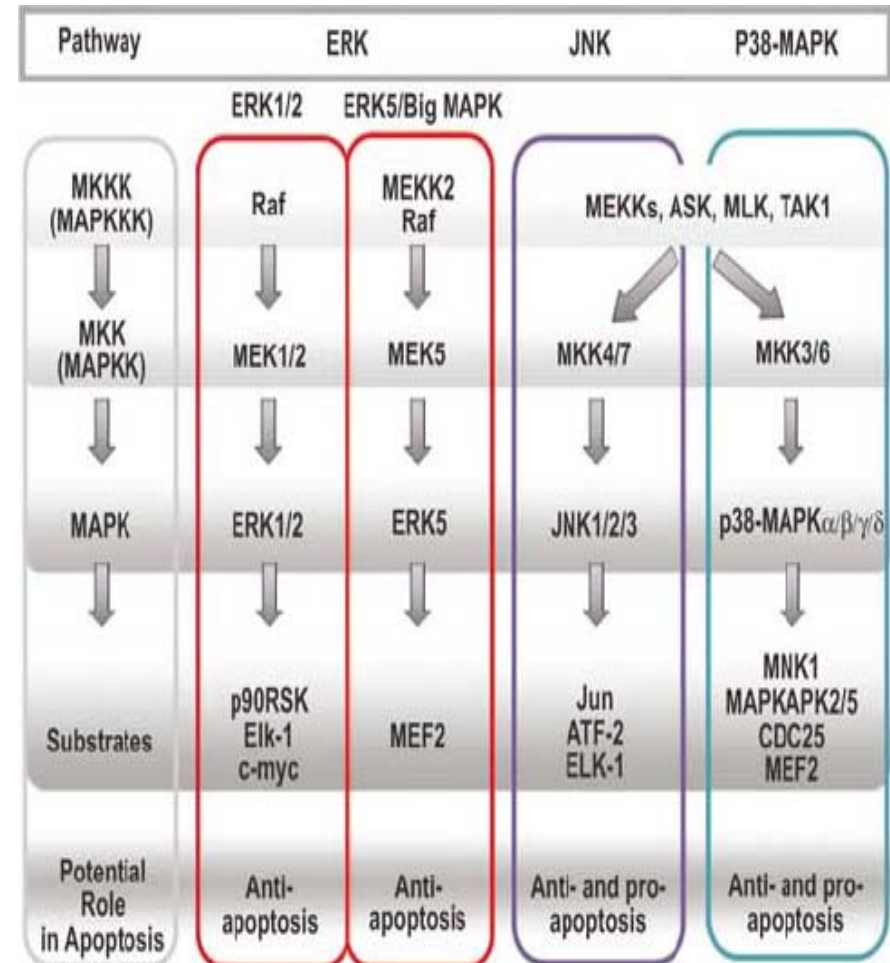
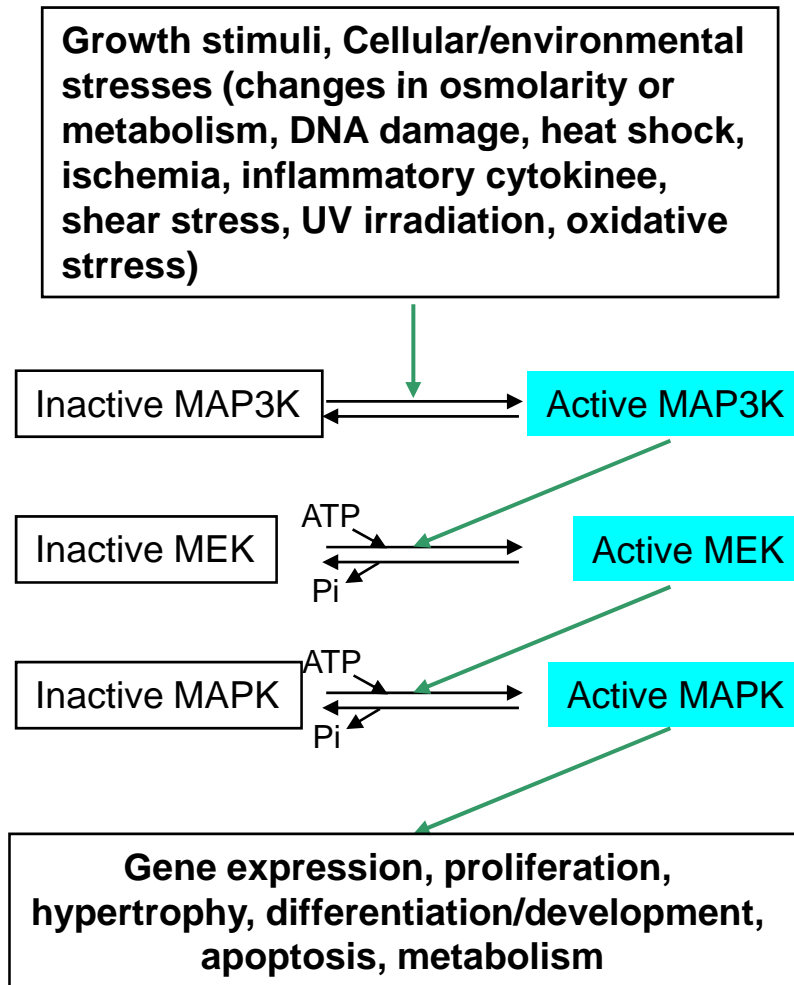
Prestimulation



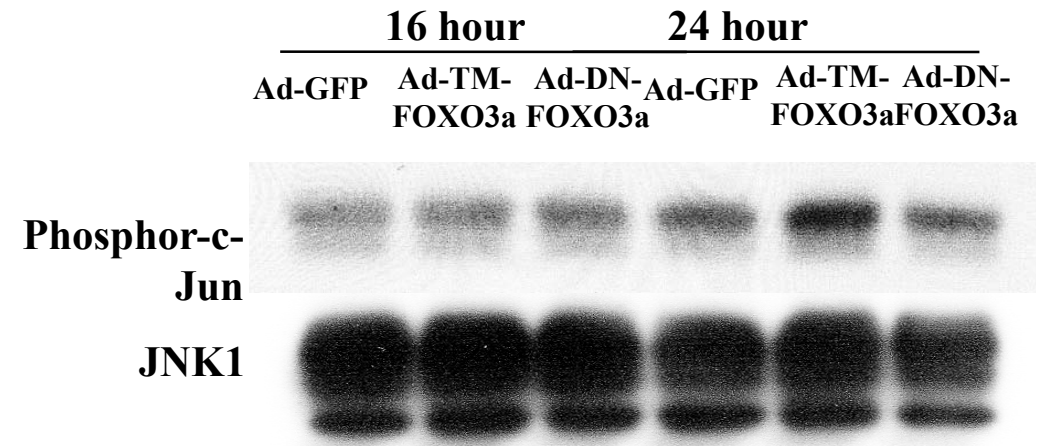
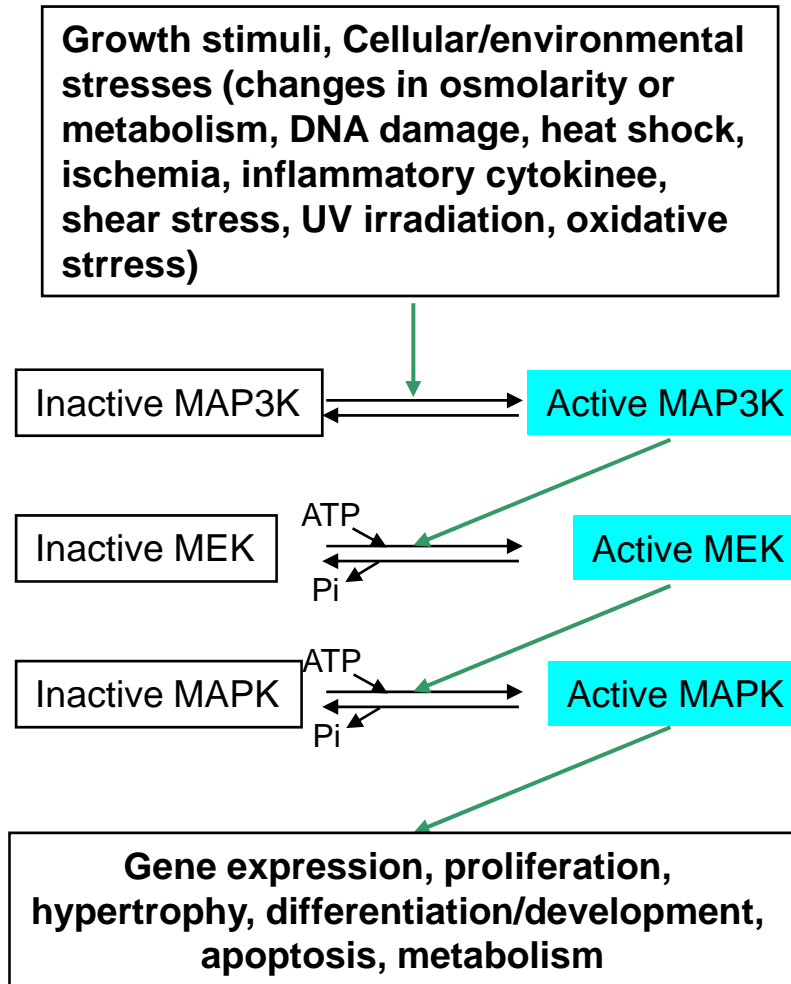
Poststimulation with TNF- α



Mitogen-activated protein kinases in inflammation / apoptosis regulation



Mitogen-activated protein kinases in inflammation / apoptosis regulation



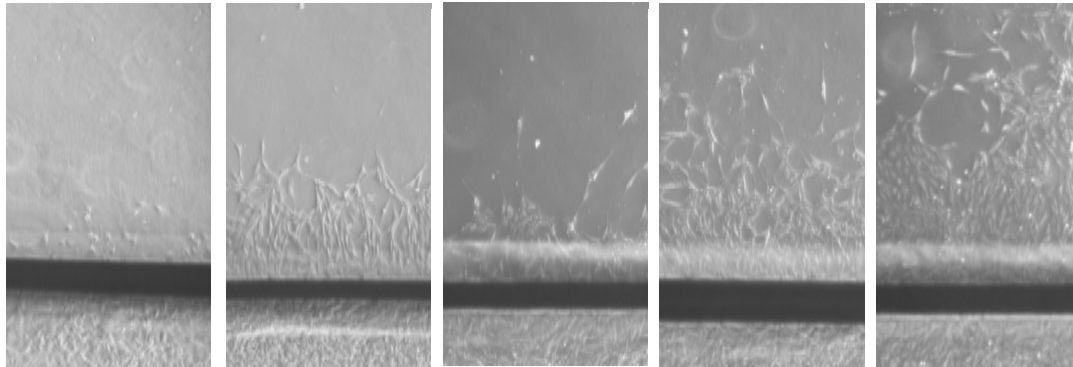
VSMC migration following inflammatory chemotactic cytokines

□ Scratch wound migration assay

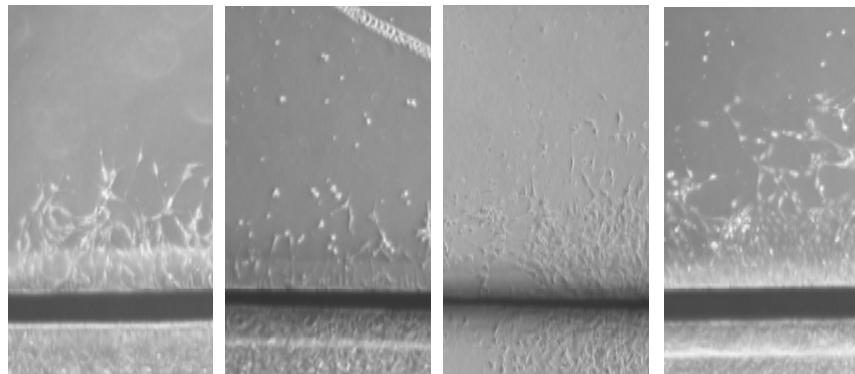
- Cells on glass coverslips scratched with a cell scraper to make the wound area
- Indicated cytokines applied to VSMCs on the coverslips
- Incubated for 96 hours and the migration distance quantified using Image-Pro 4.5

Non-stimulation

20% FBS



Angiotensin II(10⁻⁷mol/L)

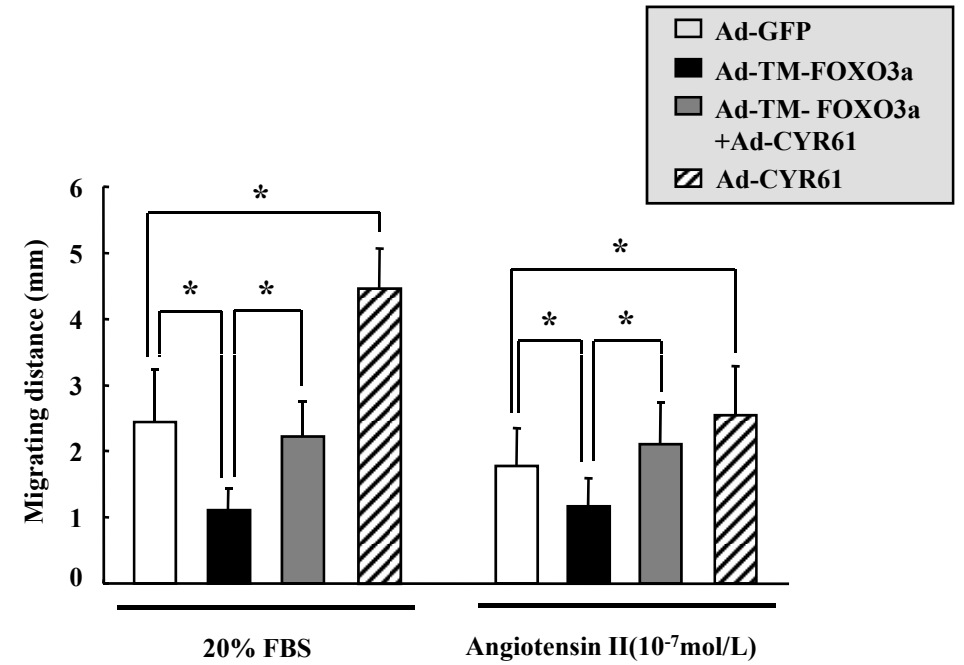


Ad-GFP

Ad-TM-FOXO3a

Ad-TM-FOXO3a + Ad-CYR61

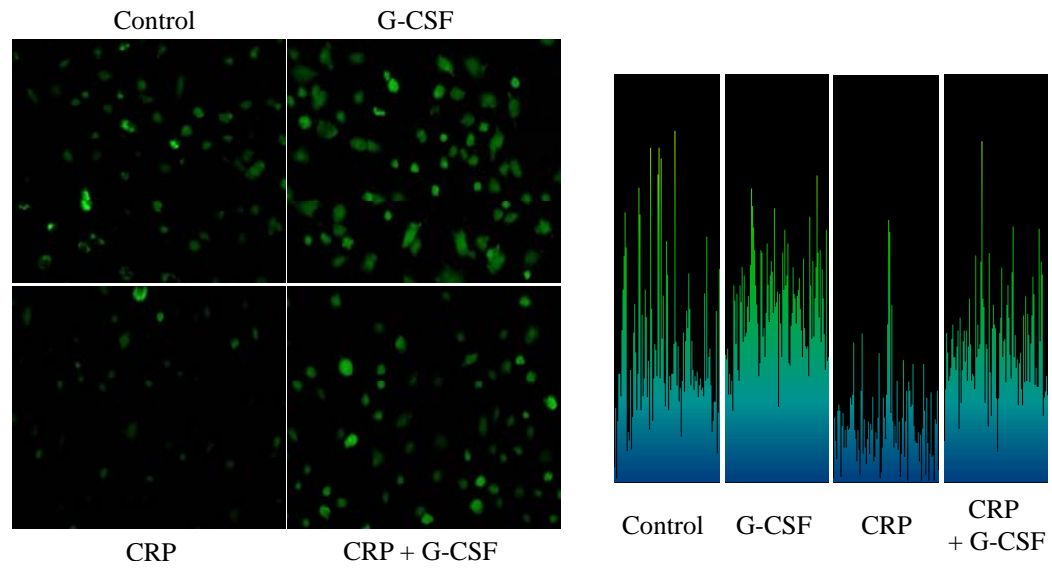
Ad-CYR61



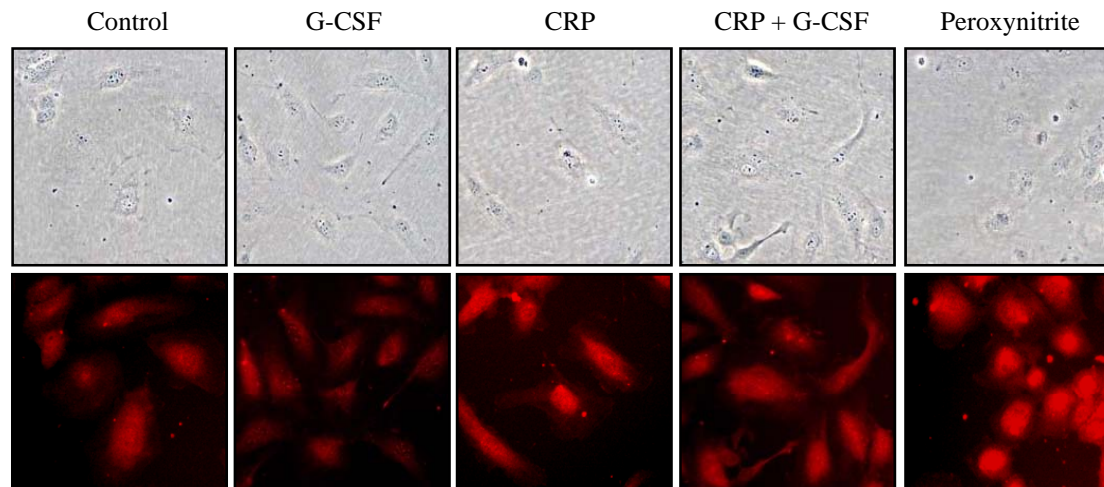
Nitric oxide production from endothelial cells

- Diamino-fluorescein-2 diacetate (DAF-2 DA) staining
 - DAF-2 DA: a membrane NO-specific fluorescence indicator
 - ECs bathed in buffer containing L-arginine (1 mM) and DAF-2 DA (10 μ M) for 15 minutes.
 - Intensity profile of fluorescence of each cell in captured image during a fixed exposure time measured semiquantitatively with Image-Pro Plus® (MediaCybernetics)
- Immunofluorescent microscopy for peroxynitrite formation

Nitric oxide production



Peroxynitrite formation



Extracellular degradation by metalloproteinase

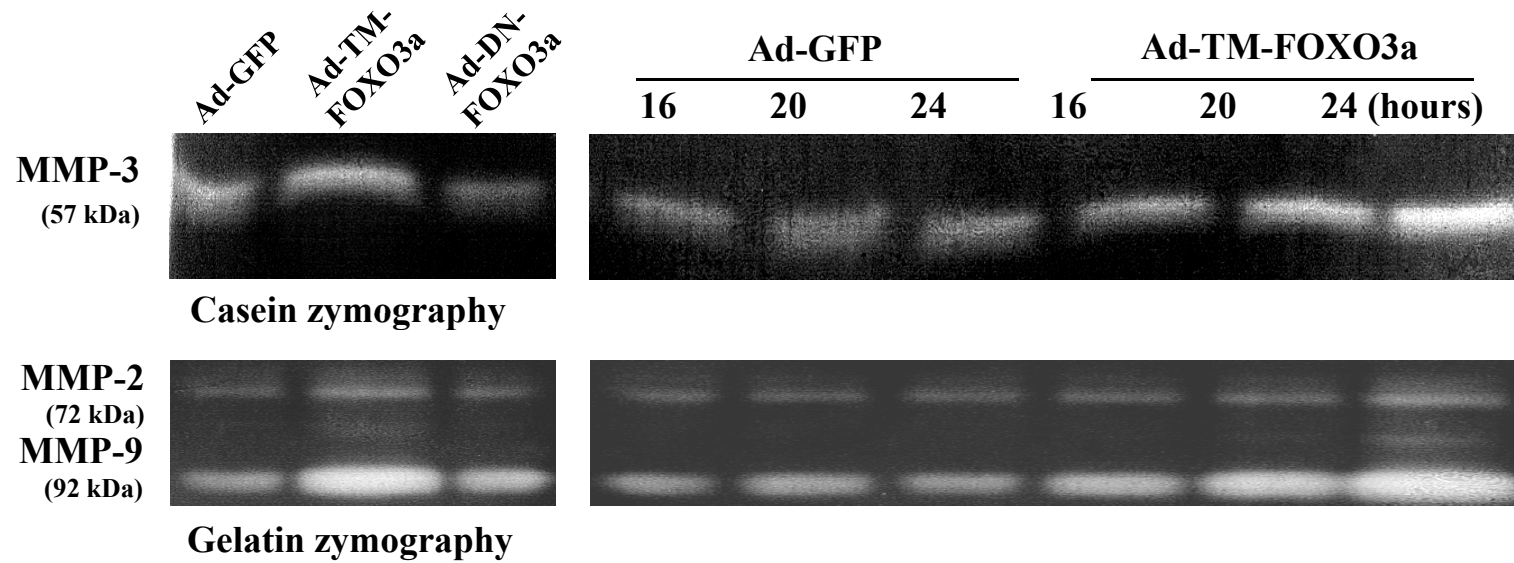
□ Casein and gelatin zymography

- Media conditioned by cell culture under different experimental conditions separated on an 8% polyacrylamide gel containing 0.1% casein or gelatin
- After electrophoresis, gels stained with 0.05% Coomassie Brilliant Blue R250 (Sigma Co.) and location of enzymolytic activity detected as clear bands

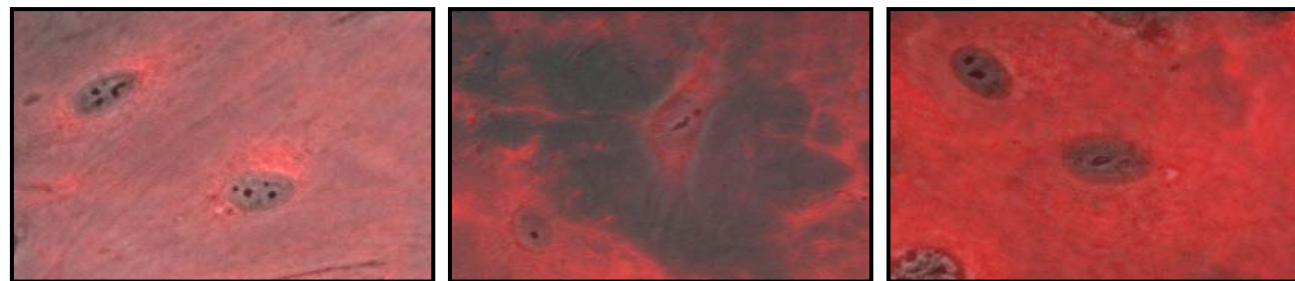
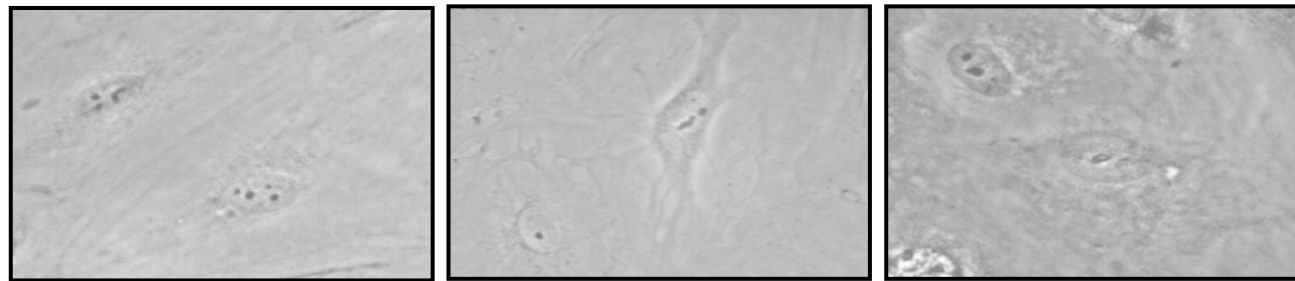
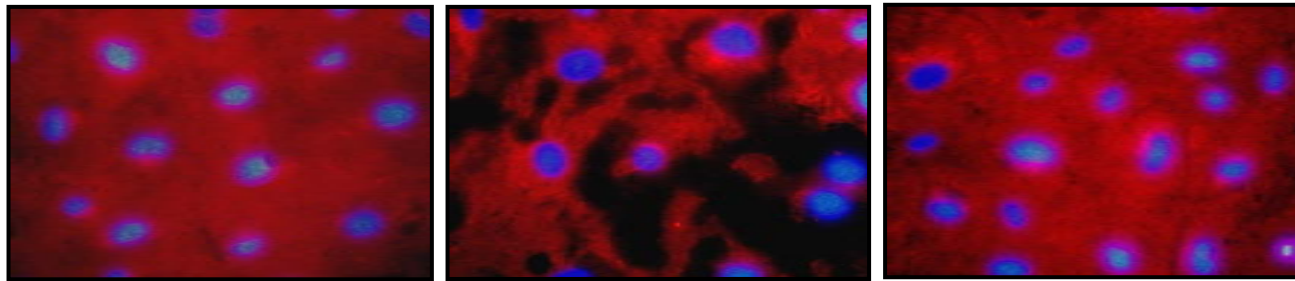
□ Immunofluorescent staining for extracellular matrices

- Monoclonal antibody against fibronectin, beta-catenin, or VE-cadherin
- Counter stained with 4,6-diamidino-2-phenylindole(DAPI) to visualize nuclei

Zymography



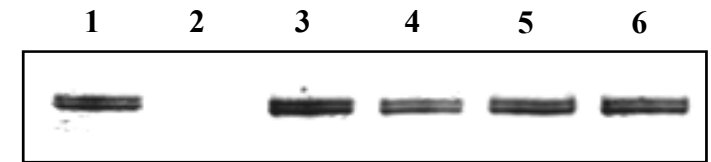
Fibronectin immunofluorescent stain



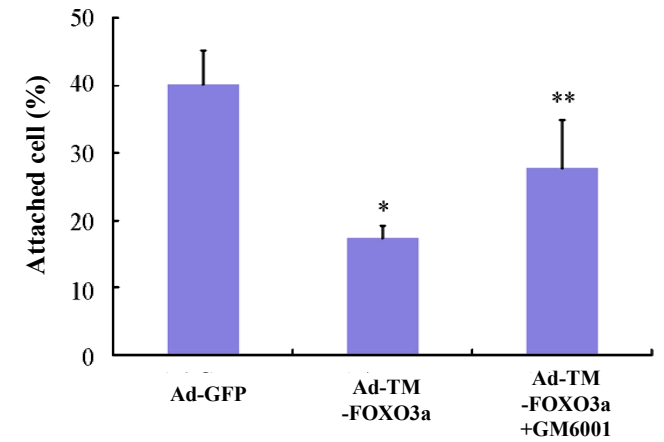
Ad-GFP

Ad-TM-FOXO3a

Ad-TM-FOXO3a + GM6001



- 1. Only Fibronectin,
- 2. Only supernatant
- 3. Ad-GFP, 4. Ad-TM-FOXO3a
- 5. Ad-TM-FOXO3a + GM6001 (5µM)
- 6. Ad-TM-FOXO3a + GM6001 (10µM)

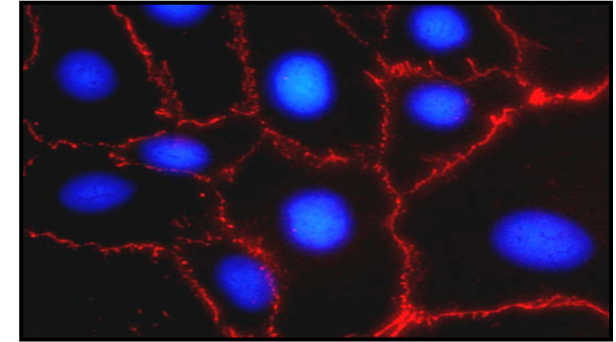
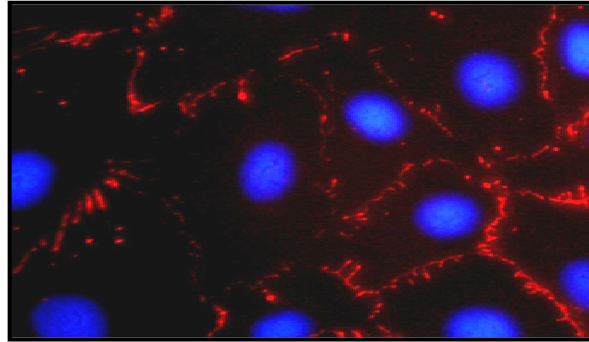
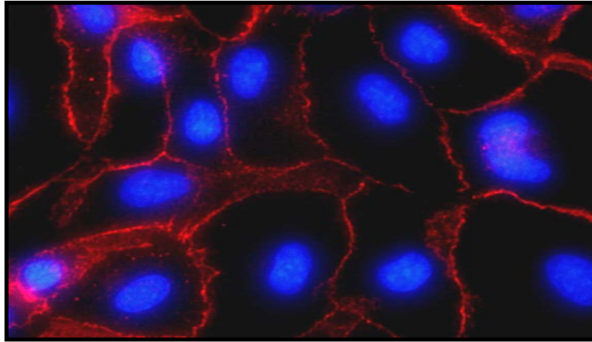


VE-cadherin

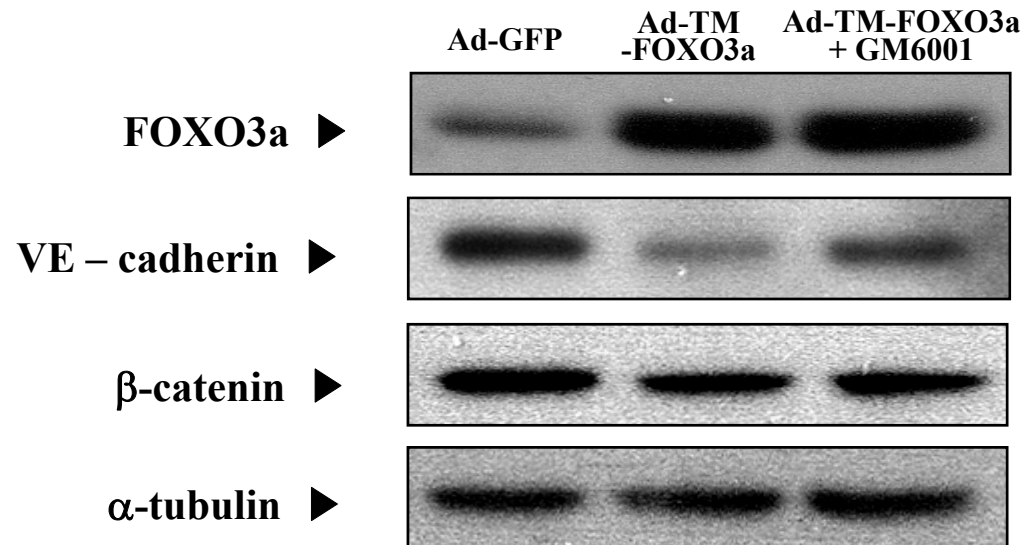
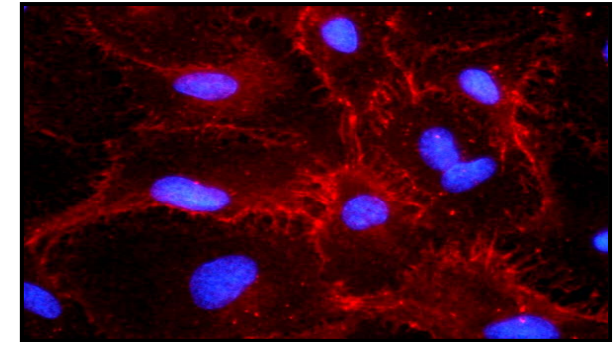
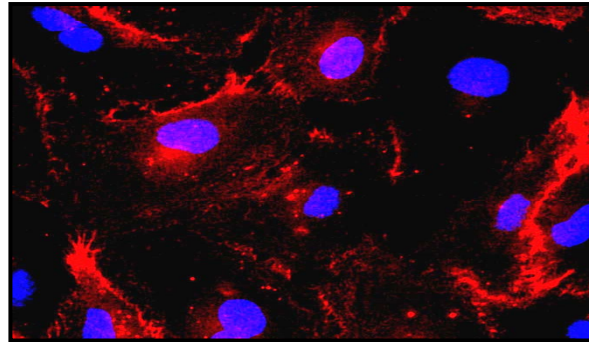
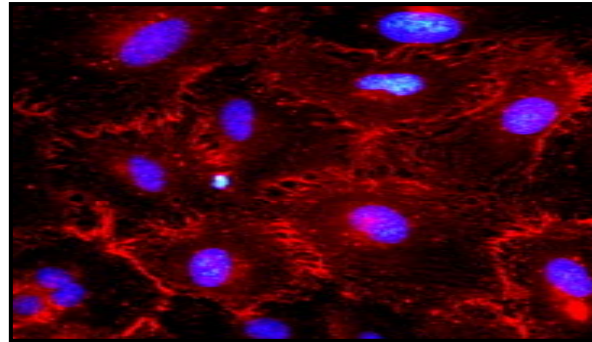
Ad-GFP

Ad-TM-FOXO3a

Ad-TM-FOXO3a + GM6001



β -catenin



Histologic analysis of VSMC proliferation and apoptosis

□ Morphometric analysis

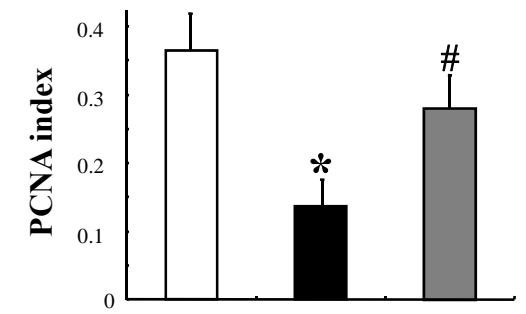
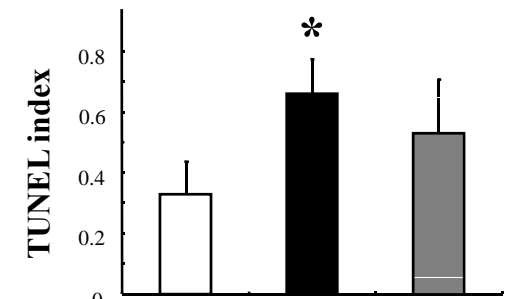
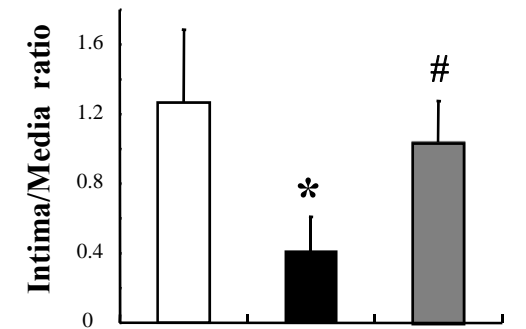
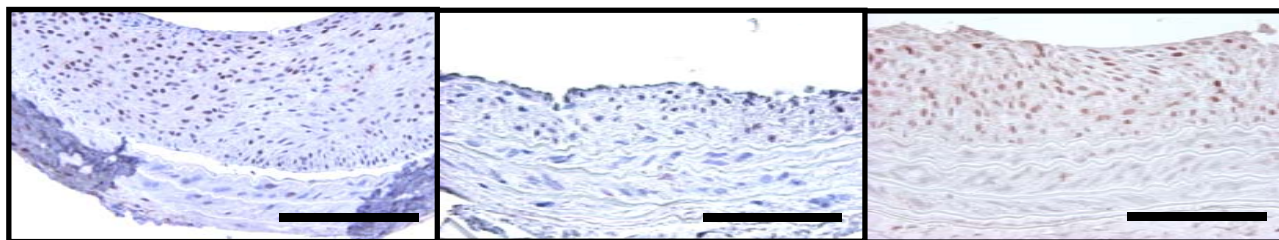
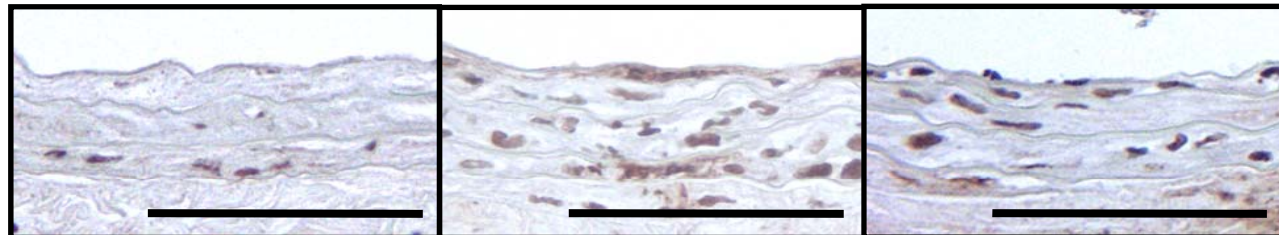
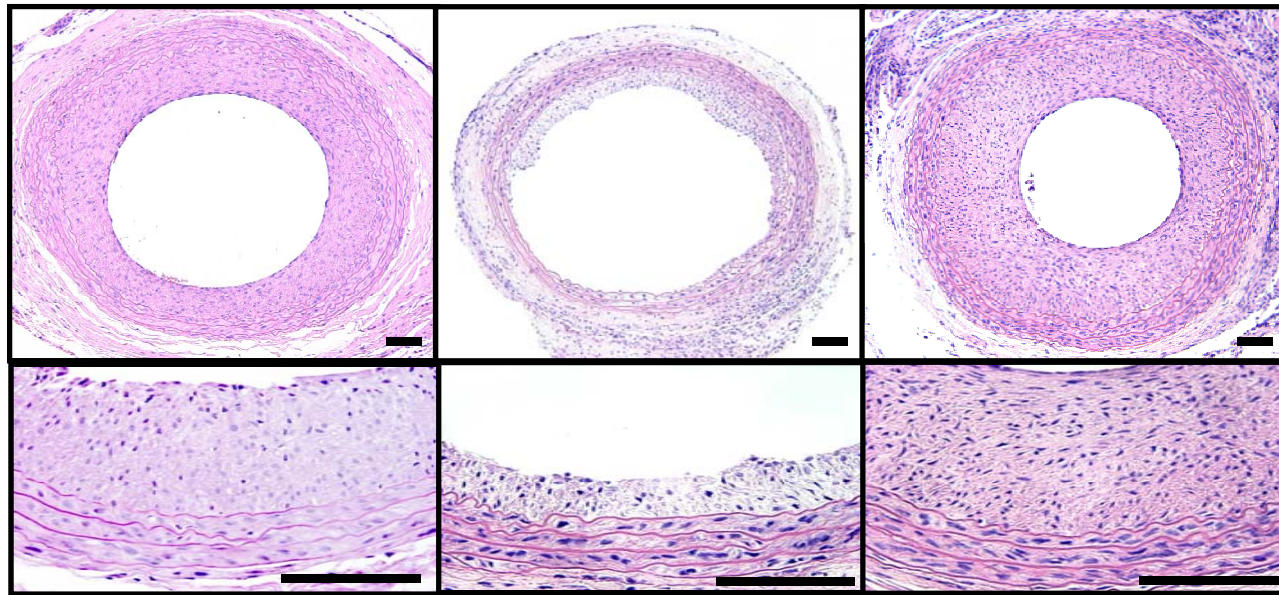
- Extent of neointima quantified by computed planimetry of stained sections
- Cross-sectional areas of the blood vessel layers quantified by using Image Pro Plus Analyzer Version 4.5 (Media Cybernetics)
- Intima-to-media ratios were calculated from the mean of these determinations.

□ Detection of proliferating cells or fraction

- FACS analyzing cells with S phase using Modfit LT software (Verity Software)
- Immunohistochemical stain for proliferating cell nuclear antigen (PCNA)

□ Detection of apoptotic fraction

- FACS counting cells with hypodiploid DNA contents
- Terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase-mediated dUTP nick endlabeling (TUNEL) stain



Ad-GFP

Ad-TM-FOXO3a

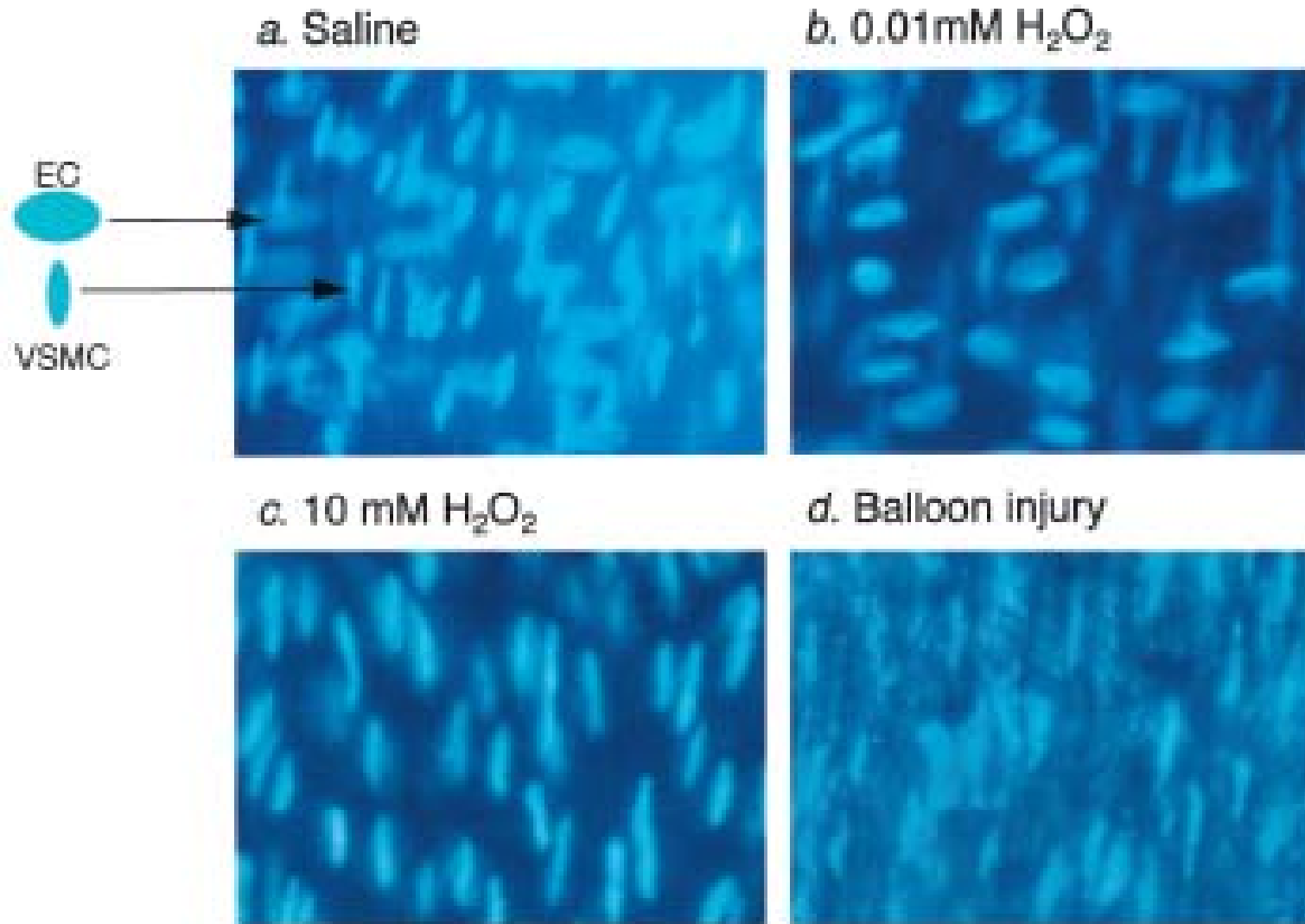
Ad-TM-FOXO3a
+Ad-CYR61

Ad-GFP Ad-TM-FOXO3a Ad-TM-FOXO3a + Ad-CYR61

Ex vivo visualization of endothelial denudation in vessels

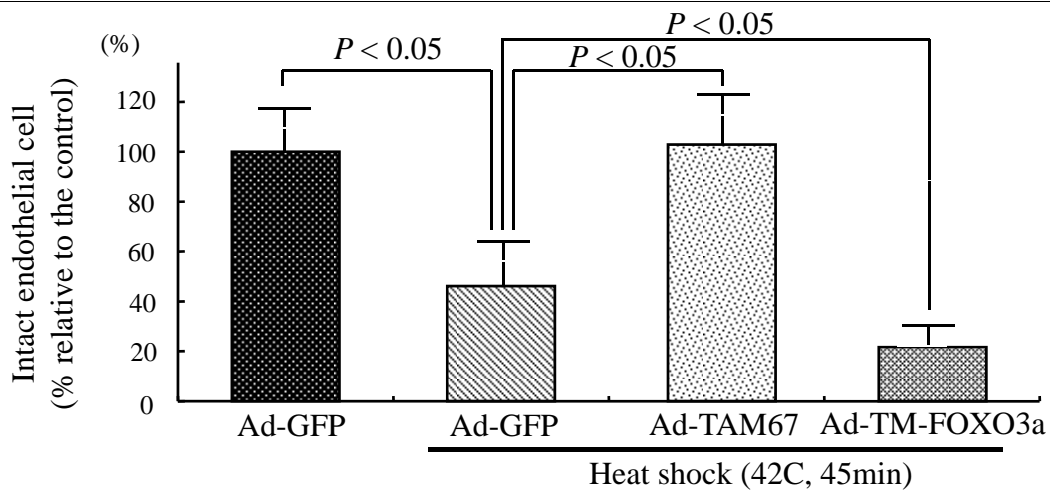
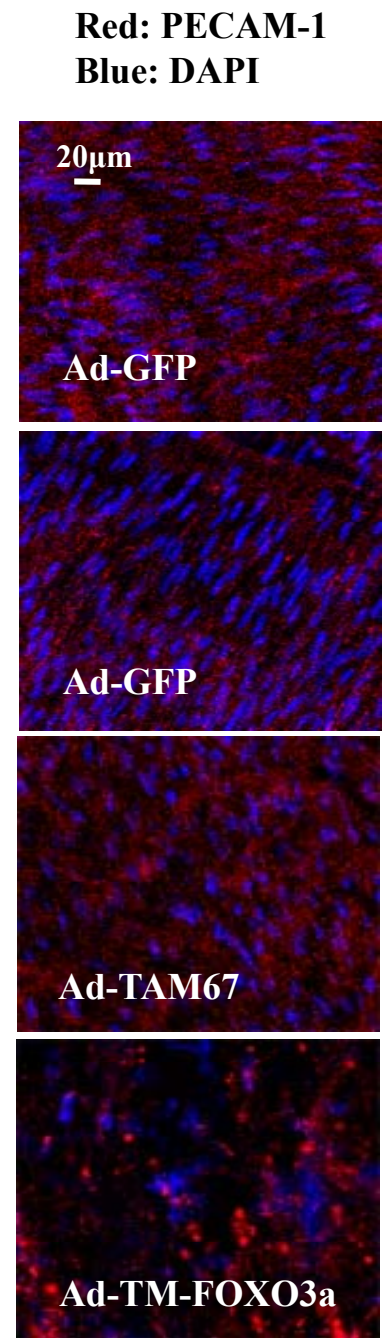
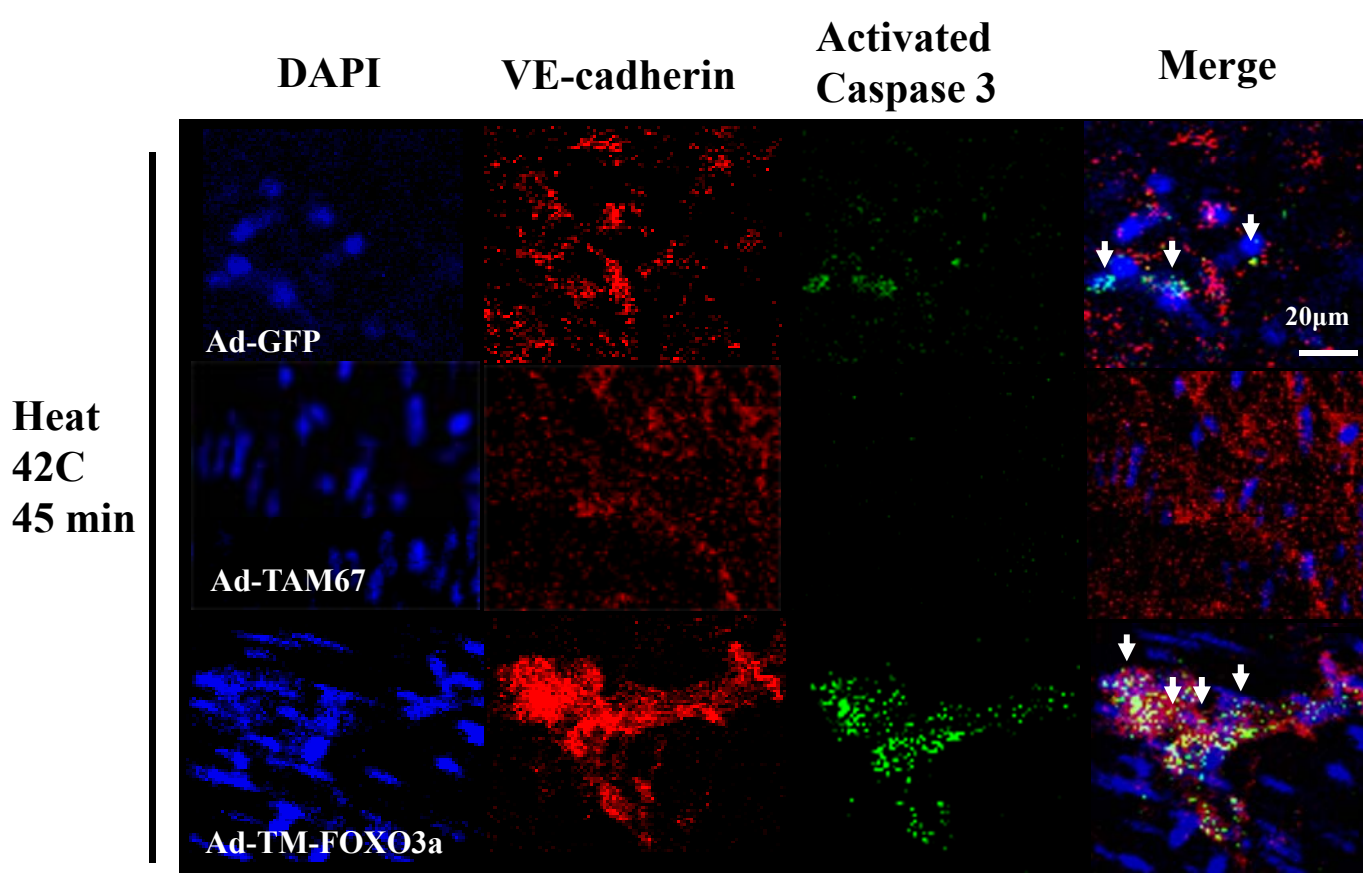
- The indicated artery was dissected, incised longitudinally, and pinned to plastic board
- The specimens were immunostained with antibodies against
 - activated caspase-3 and VE-cadherin to visualize apoptotic Ecs
 - PECAM-1 to visualize ECs lining
 - 4,6-diamidino-2-phenylindole(DAPI) to visualize nuclei
- After IF staining, the luminal sides of the harvested vessels were observed en-face with the confocal microscope.
In immuno-staining of PECAM-1 with DAPI staining,
 - Viable ECs were quantitated by counting the round nuclei with PECAM-1 positivity
 - Apoptotic ECs were identified by double positive for the activated caspase-3 and VE-cadherin

Ex vivo visualization of endothelial denudation induced by ROS



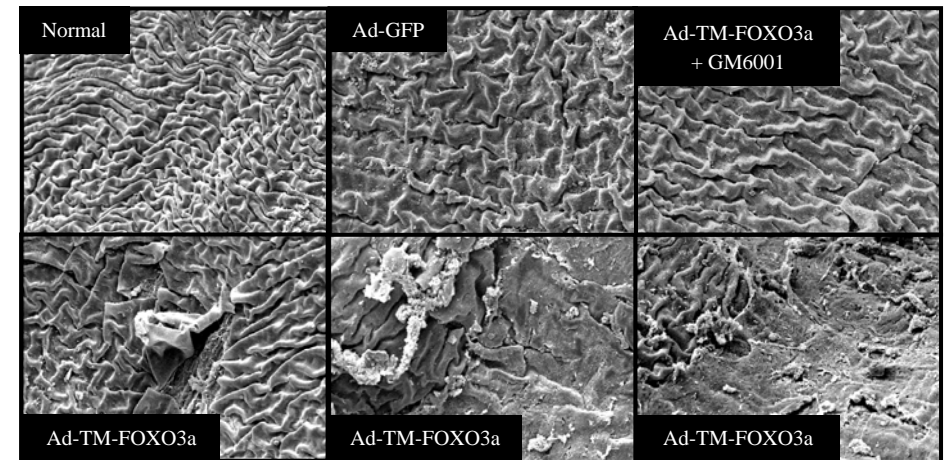
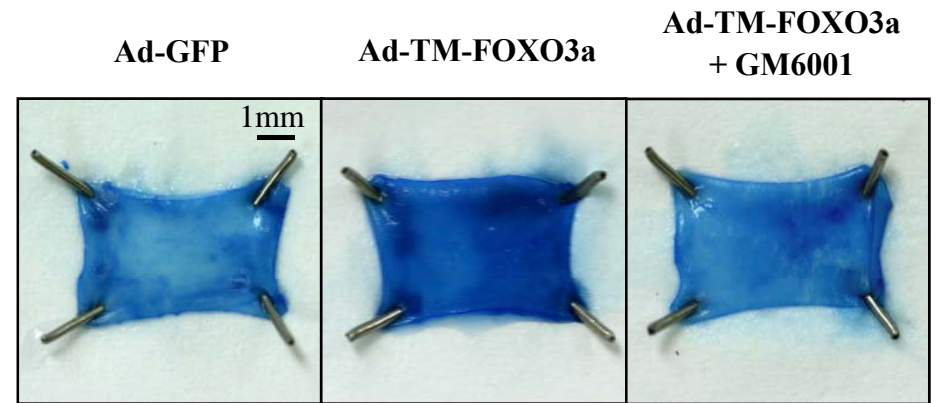
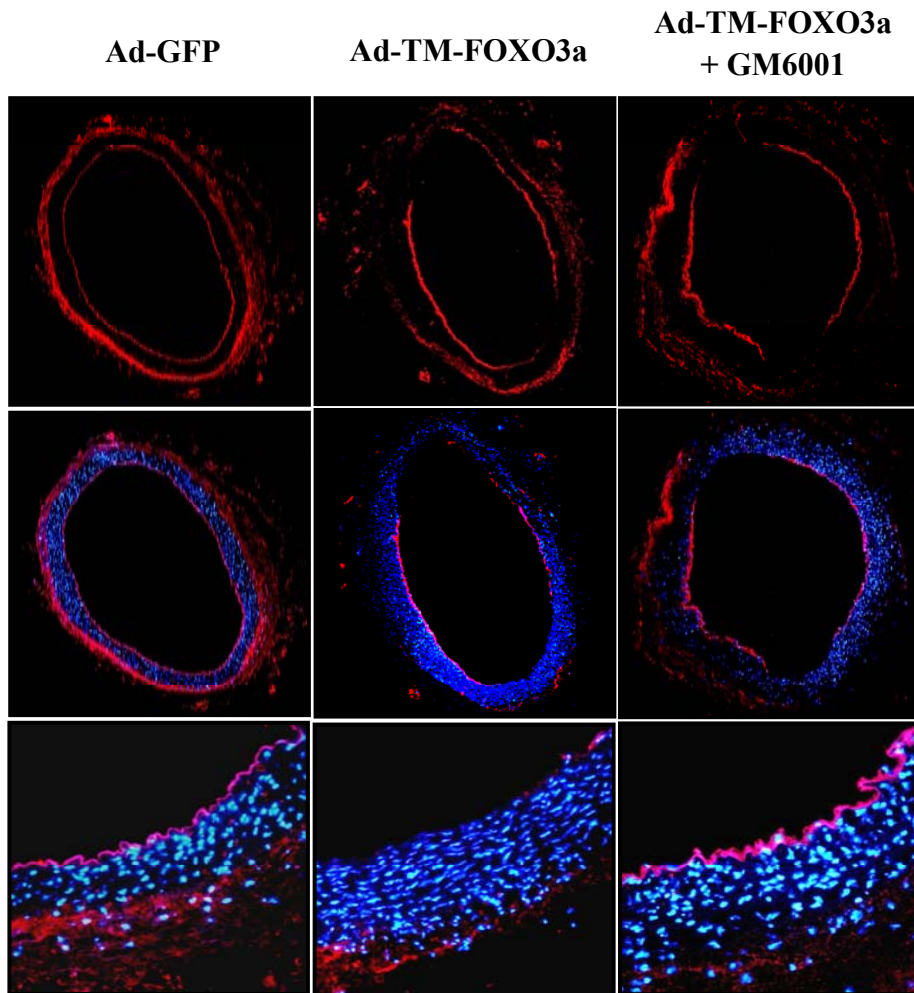
Direction of artery

Estrogen prevents oxidative stress-induced endothelial cell apoptosis in rats. Ouchi Y, et al. Circulation 2001

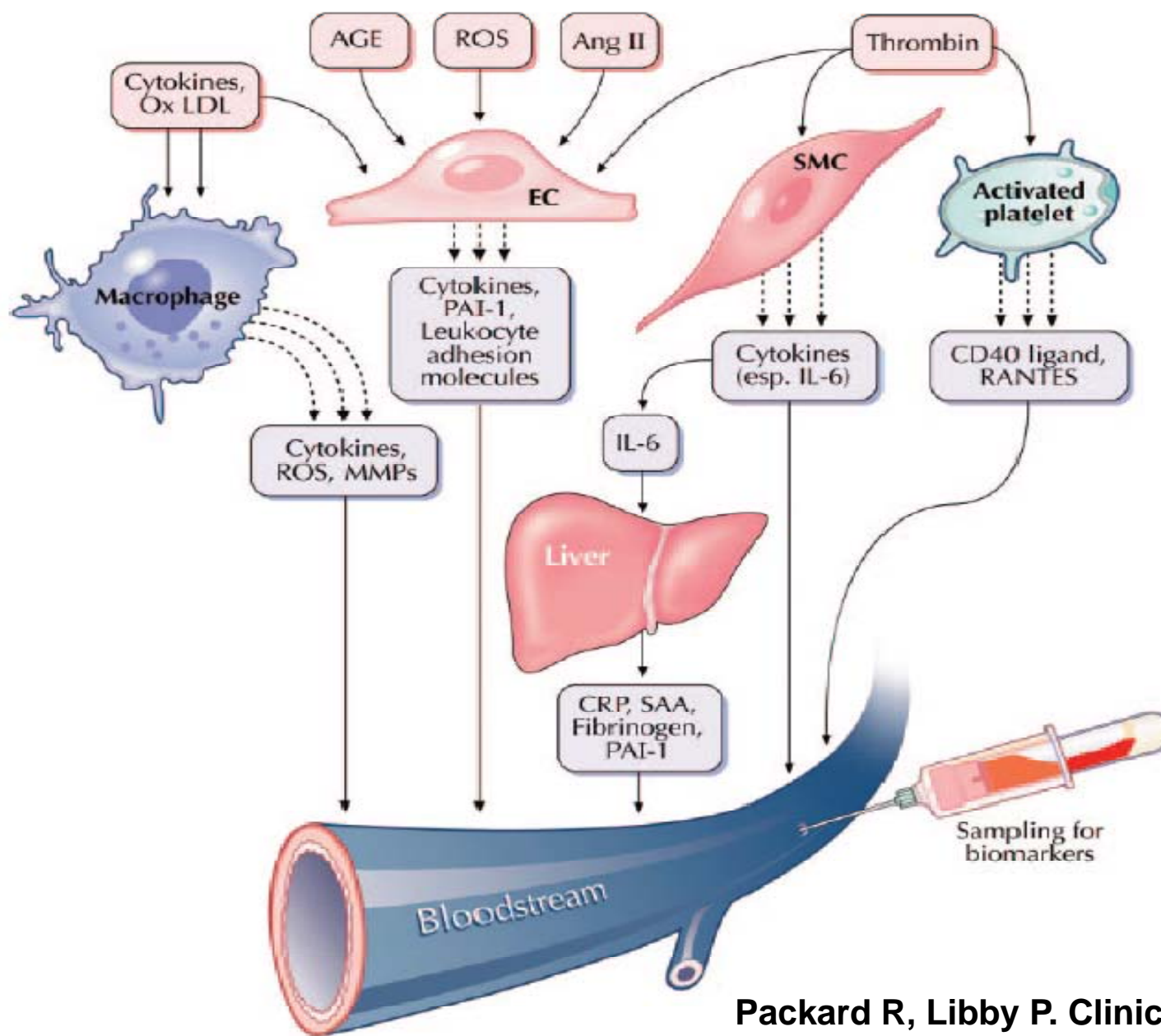


Histologic analysis of endothelial denudation

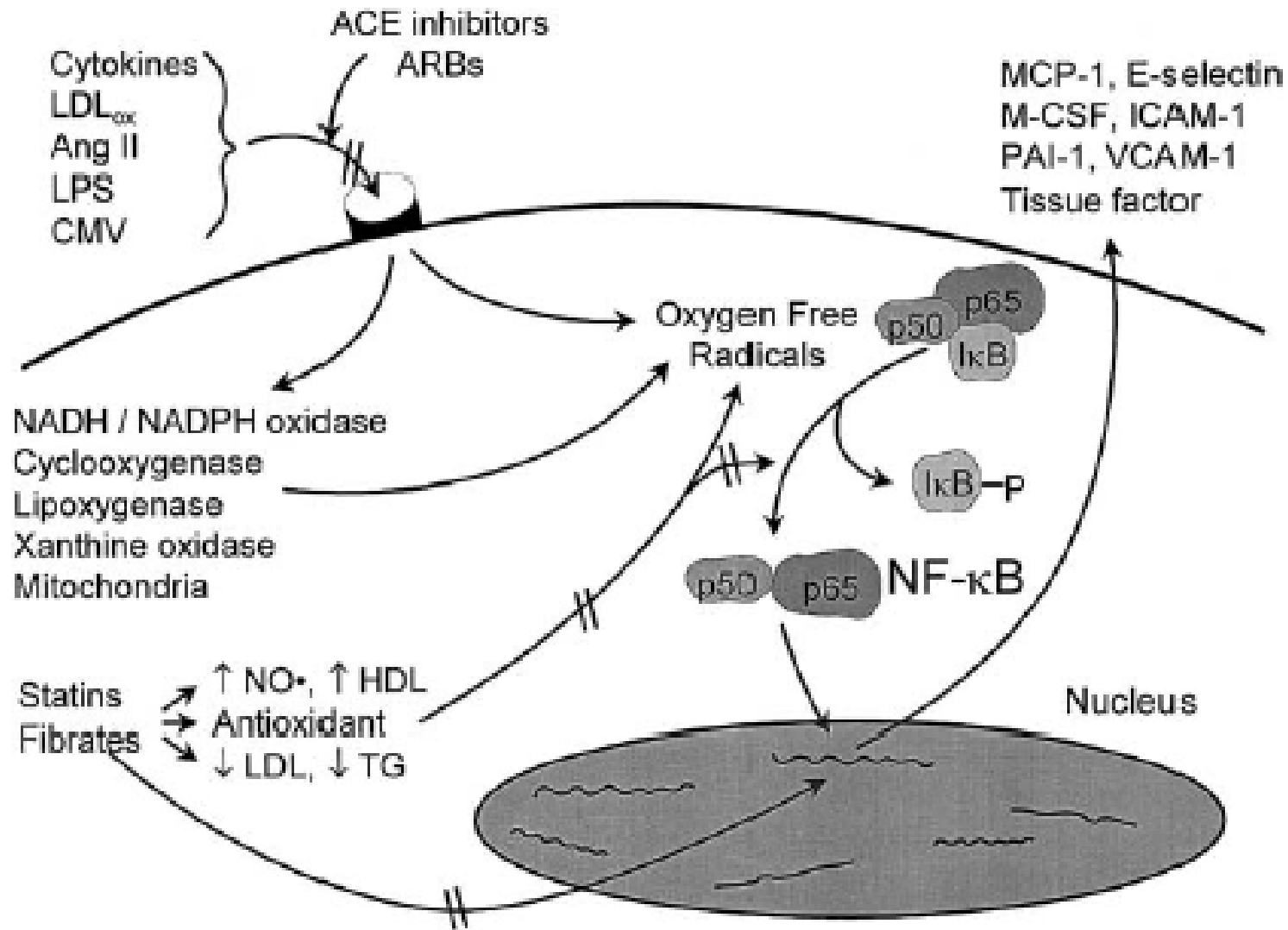
- Evans blue stained on the denudated area
 - Immediately before sacrifice, animals were perfused with Evans blue dye14 to identify the remaining denuded area
 - endothelium-retained area was defined macroscopically as the area that was not stained with the Evans blue dye
- Cross sectional immunohistochemical stain
 - EC visualized with PECAM-1 monoclonal antibody
 - 4,6-diamidino-2-phenylindole(DAPI) used for nuclei visualization
 - Endothelial coverage assessed by the percentage of PECAM-1 positive circumference versus total in three different sections PECAM-1 to visualize ECs lining
- Scanning electron microscope



Inflammatory mediators released at different stages of atherosclerosis



Many proinflammatory stimuli initiated gene transcription through NF- κ B



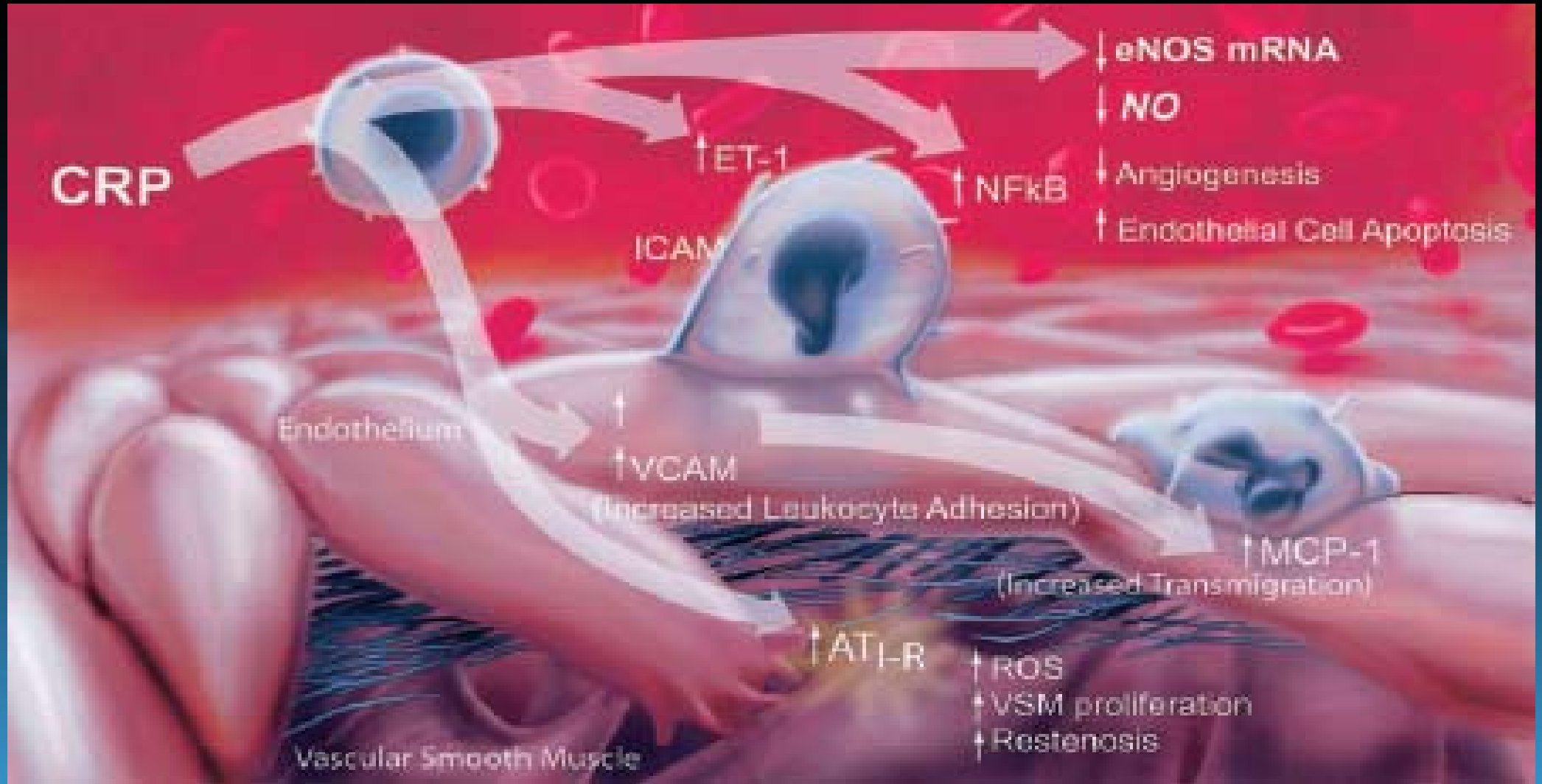
Mediators affecting various stage of inflammatory response

- **Cell adhesion: LFA-1, ICAM-1, VCAM-1, E-selectin, L-selectin**
- **Cell migration: MCP-1, IL-8, RANTES**
- **Matrix degradation:**
 - **Interstitial collagenases: MMP-1/-13**
 - **Gelatinases: MMP-2/-9**
 - **Stromelysin MMP-3**
 - **Negative regulator of MMPs: TIMP-1**
- **Inflammatory mediator: CD40/CD40L, sCD40L, IL-1, IL-6, TNF, C-reactive protein, serum amyloid A**
- **Thrombosis: Tissue factor, Factor VIIa, t-PA, Fibrinogen, PAI-1, PGI2, TxA2**
- **Apoptosis: Caspase-3, -9, Bcl-2**

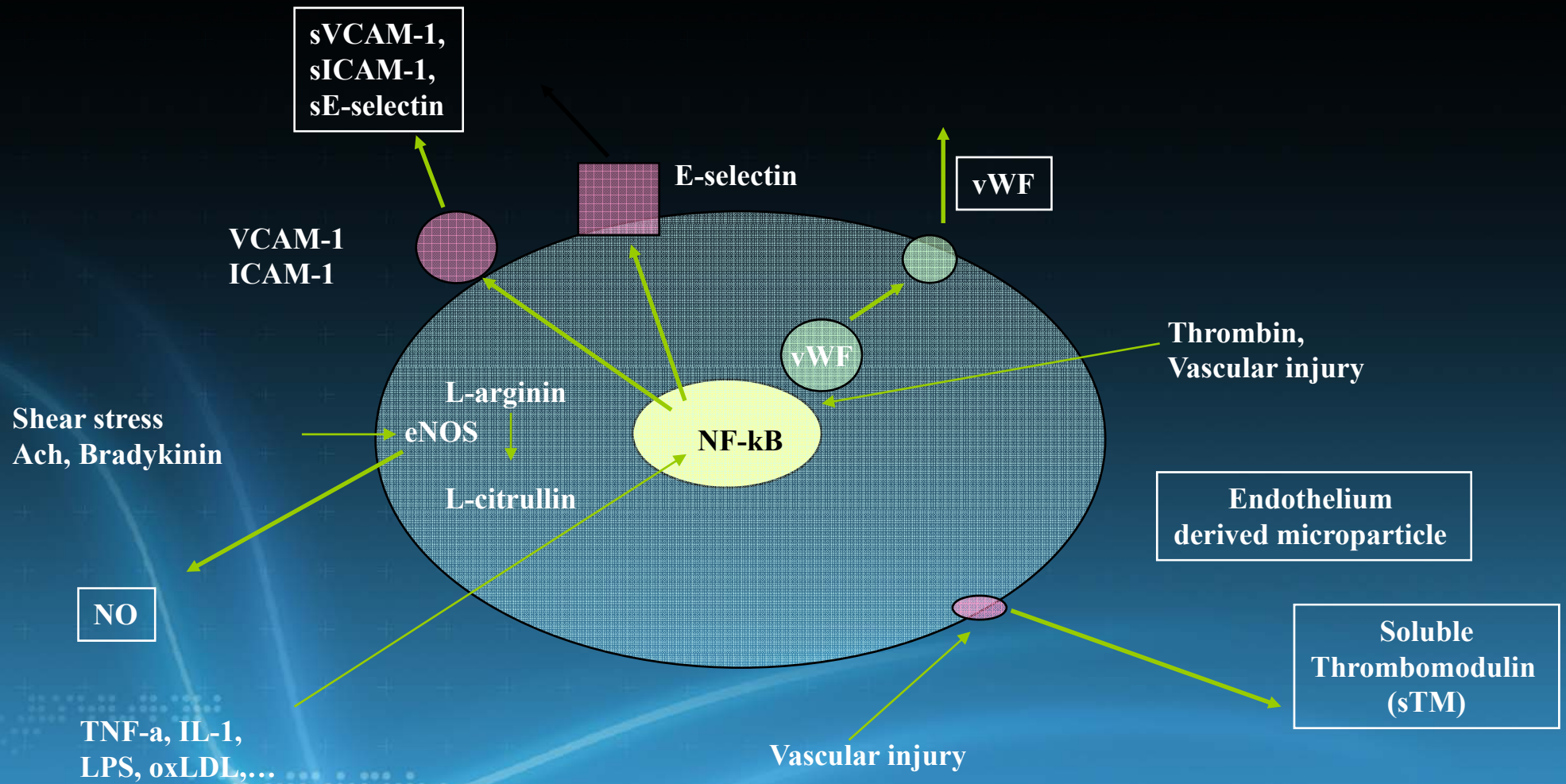
C-reactive protein

- Not only an inflammatory marker but also a inflammatory mediator
- Inducing synthesis of cytokines, adhesion molecules, tissue factor in monocytes and endothelial cells
- Contributing atherosclerosis progress in
 - atheroma formation / plaque rupture / coronary thrombosis
- Reported as an independent predictor of
 - myocardial infarction, stroke, PAD, and sudden cardiac death, even in apparently healthy individuals
- CRP can be reduced by medication such as
 - statin, fibrate, ARB, ACEI, Glitazones

CRP as a direct effector more than a marker of inflammation



Subcellular origin of markers of endothelial activation / dysfunction



Adhesion molecules

E-selectin

- **Specifically expressed on surface of stimulated EC**
- **Markers of EC damage or activation**
 - **Measured by ELISA**
- **Large inter-individual variation**
 - **Children (9-16) > adult**
 - **Male > Female**
 - **Menopause > Premenopause**
- **Clinical implication**
 - **Increased in CAD and DM**
 - **Prediction of DM**

ICAM-1 / VCAM-1

- **Expressed on a variety of cell types including VSMC, Monocytes, EC**
 - **Not endothelial-specific**
- **Measured by ELISA**
- **Inter-individual variation**
 - **Race**
 - **No age or menstruation variation**
- **Clinical implication**
 - **sICAM-1 predicting CHD and DM in healthy individuals**
 - **sVCAM-1 predicting CHD recurrence**

Other markers of inflammation

□ CD40/CD40L

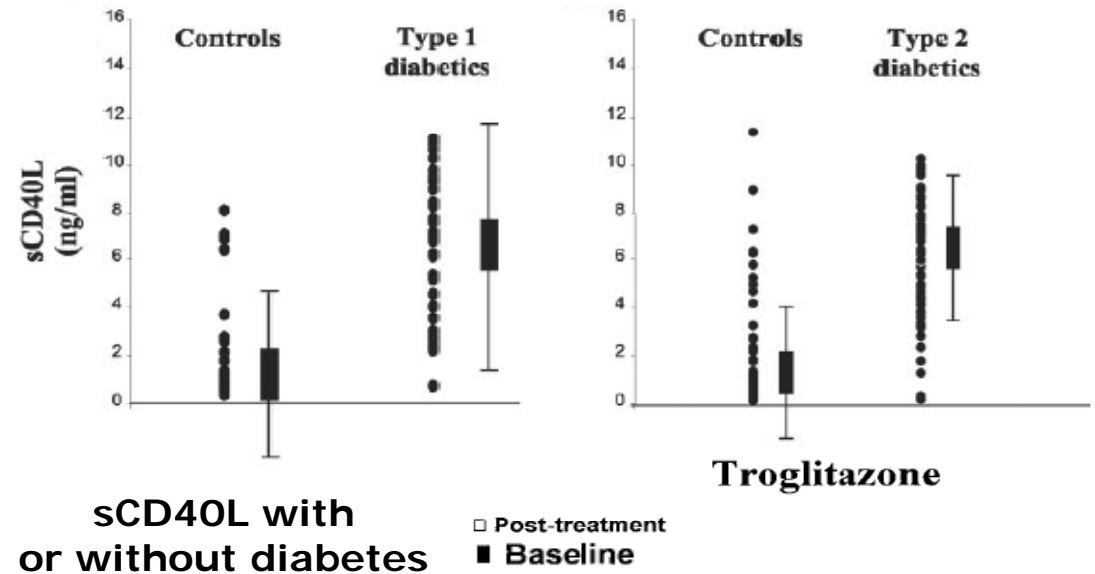
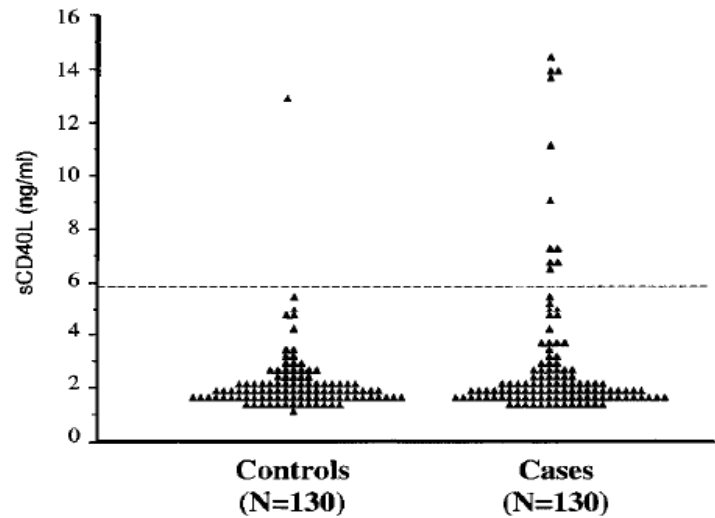
- Expressed on CD4+ T cells and activated platelets
- Both membrane-bound and soluble CD40L interacts with CD40 expressed on vascular cells
- Roles in inflammatory cascade and prothrombotic functions

□ Interleukin-18 (IL-18)

- IL18 co-localized with mononuclear phagocytes in atheroma
- Inducing essential effectors in atherosclerosis: VCAM-1, IL-8, IL-1, MMPs
- Proximal inducer and regulator of IFN-gamma

sCD40L as a biochemical marker of risk stratification

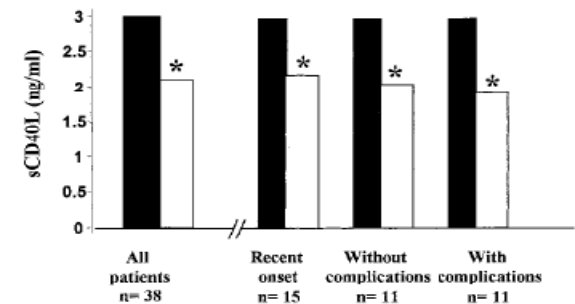
sCD40L among middle-aged healthy women or CAD patients



sCD40L with or without diabetes

□ Post-treatment
■ Baseline

Troglitazone



Cutpoint, percentile	sCD40L, ng/mL	Controls, % (n)	Cases, % (n)	RR	P
50th	>1.76	50.4 (65)	50.8 (66)	1.02	0.95
75th	>2.15	24.9 (32)	30.8 (40)	1.35	0.29
90th	>2.92	10.1 (13)	17.7 (23)	1.92	0.08
95th	>3.71	5.0 (6)	13.9 (18)	3.29	0.02
99th	>5.54	0.8 (1)	8.5 (11)	11.83	0.01

Libby P, et al. Circulation, 2001, 2003.

Matrix metalloproteinases

- Degrades ECM, creating uncoiled, less effective collagen and broken / frayed elastin molecules

- MMP-9 as a most compromising MMP
 - Genetic activity related with presence and severity of CAD
 - Blood MMP-9 levels elevated in
Type 2 DM with CAD, HT, smoking, Premature CAD
Abdominal aortic aneurysm expansion
Worse outcome in stroke, Cardiovascular death

- Tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase (TIMPs): TIMP-1
 - Related with CV risk factors, LVH, carotid atherosclerosis

- Procollagen markers:
 - N-terminal propeptides of collagen III, C-terminal propeptides of procollagen I

ECM remodeling by matrix metalloproteinases

Activators:

- Gene or protein expression
- MT-MMP, MMP's
- TNF- α , oxLDL, IL-1
- Thrombin, plasmin,
- ROS, flow turbulence

Collagenases:

- MMP-1 (VSMC, M \emptyset)
- MMP-8 (PMN)
- MMP-13 (M \emptyset)

MMP's

Elastases:

- MMP-7 (M \emptyset)

Inhibitors:

- TIMP's
- α 2-MG

Gelatinases:

- MMP-2 (VSMC, M \emptyset)
- MMP-9 (VSMC, M \emptyset , PMN)

Response of surrogate markers of inflammation by various intervention

		Valsartan	Candesartan	Irbesartan	Losartan	Enalapril	Ramipril	Quinapril
sICAM-1	Decrease		Rosei et al. ²⁰ Tsutamoto et al. ²²		Graninger et al. ²²	Rosei et al. ²⁰ Graninger et al. ²²		
sVCAM	No change Decrease No change		Tsutamoto et al. ²²	Navalkar et al. ²¹	Graninger et al. ²²	Graninger et al. ²²		
CRP	Decrease	Dandona et al. ²⁵ Anand et al. ²⁶ Ridker et al. ²⁶		Schieffler et al. ²⁶				Trikonis et al. ²⁶
Oxidative stress	No change Decrease	Dandona et al. ²⁵	Koh et al. ²⁶ Koh et al. ²⁶	Navalkar et al. ²¹ Sola et al. ²⁸ Navalkar et al. ²¹ Khan et al. ²⁸		Schieffler et al. ²⁶		Dandona et al. ²⁵
MCP-1	No change Decrease		Koh et al. ²⁶					Dandona et al. ²⁵
TNF-α	No change Decrease	Neri Serneri et al. ²¹	Koh et al. ²¹ Tsutamoto et al. ²²				Neri Serneri et al. ²¹	
PAI-1	No change Decrease		Koh et al. ²⁶	Sola et al. ²⁸			Vaughan et al. ²¹	
MMP-9	No change Decrease			Schieffler et al. ²⁶		Schieffler et al. ²⁶		
IL-6	No change Decrease	Neri Serneri et al. ²¹	Tsutamoto et al. ²²	Sola et al. ²⁸ Lauten et al. ²⁶ Schieffler et al. ²⁶			Neri Serneri et al. ²¹	Lauten et al. ²⁶
NF-κB	No change Decrease	Dandona et al. ²⁵				Schieffler et al. ²⁶		
IcB	No change Increase	Dandona et al. ²⁵						
IL-10	No change Increase			Schieffler et al. ²⁶		Schieffler et al. ²⁶		
Platelet aggregation	No change Decrease No change			Schieffler et al. ²⁶		Schieffler et al. ²⁶		

Conclusions

- Inflammatory processes play a fundamental role in the initiation, propagation, and complications of atherosclerosis.
- Various surrogate markers for inflammation have been studied for reflecting inflammatory condition and evaluating pleiotropic effects of various medication in anti-inflammatory mechanism
- In vitro and in vivo studies of inflammatory response could uncover pathogenic mechanism, thus establishing new therapeutic strategy against atherosclerosis



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