

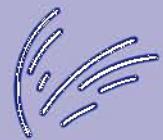


# Serological and cellular markers for refractory celiac disease

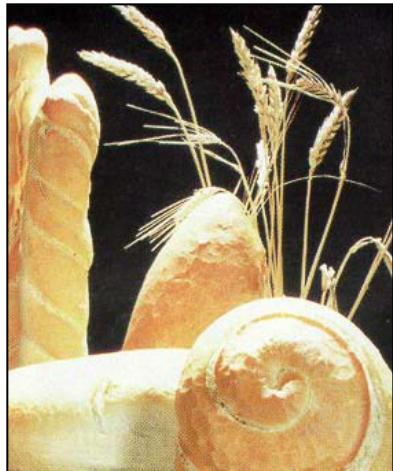
Hetty Bontkes  
Medical Immunology Unit  
Dept Pathology, Vumc

Currently at dept Oral Cell Biology  
ACTA, Amsterdam





A **gluten-sensitive enteropathy** mediated by a small intestinal pro-inflammatory (auto-) immune response resulting in a malabsorption syndrome through enterocyte destruction





## Life long gluten free diet (GFD)

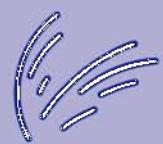


=> 95% CD patients: full recovery of intestinal mucosa through decrease in gluten-induced intestinal pathology.

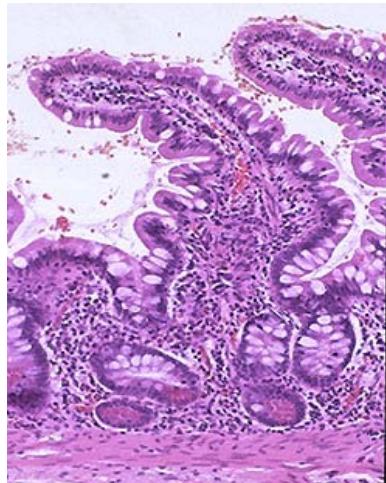
Decreased skin and neurological pathology.

# Refractory CD (RCD)

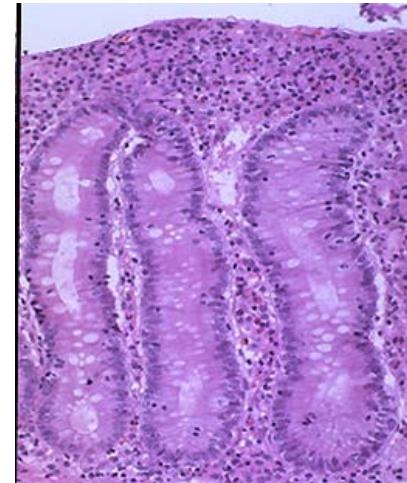
VU medisch centrum



Definition: persistent villous atrophy, crypt hyperplasia en intraepithelial lymphocytosis despite a strict gluten free diet (GFD) of >12 months (Daum et al. 2005)

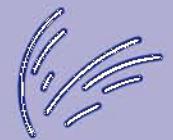


active CD



responsive GFD

refractory CD

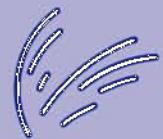


## Main suspect



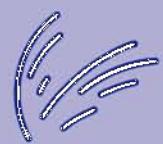
# A Milligram of Gluten a Day Keeps the Mucosal Recovery Away: A Case Report

Federico Biagi, MD, Jonia Campanella, MD, Susi Martucci, MD, Donatella Pezzimenti, MD, Paul J. Ciclitira, PhD, Heather J. Ellis, PhD, and Gino R. Corazza, MD



- Prevalence: 2-5% of adult onset CD patients
- persistence/recurrence of symptoms/villous atrophy despite gluten-free diet
- Negative for classic diagnostic antibodies (TGA, EMA, DGPA) due to strict GFD
- Exclusion of other causes of villous atrophy:
  - No hidden gluten intake (!)
  - No irritable bowel syndrome
  - No allergies
  - No bacterial infections
- Type I: mainly normal intra-epithelial T-lymphocyte (IEL) population
  - Therapy: Immunosuppression
- Type II: >15% abnormal intraepithelial lymphocytes (surface CD3-, intracellular CD3+)
  - Therapy: Cladribine

# Suspected RCD: Biopsy analysis by flowcytometry

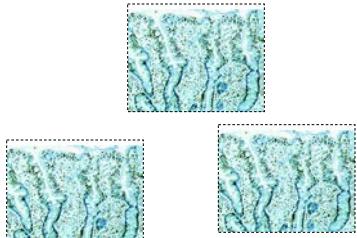


RCD type I: no (histological) response to GFD

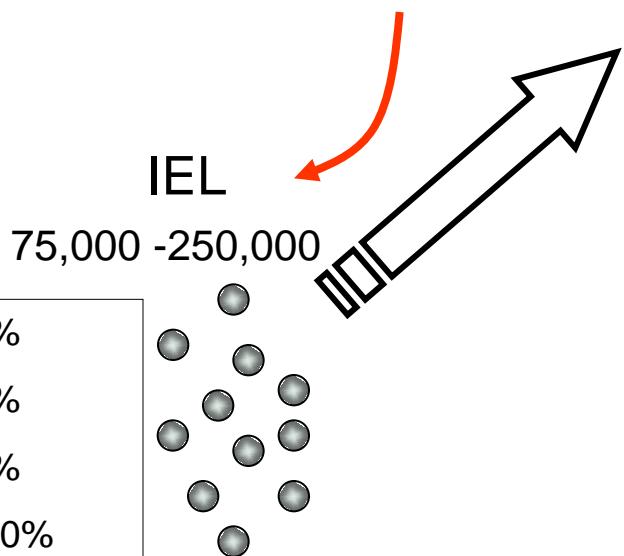
VU medisch centrum

RCD type II: no (histological) response to GFD, aberrant IEL

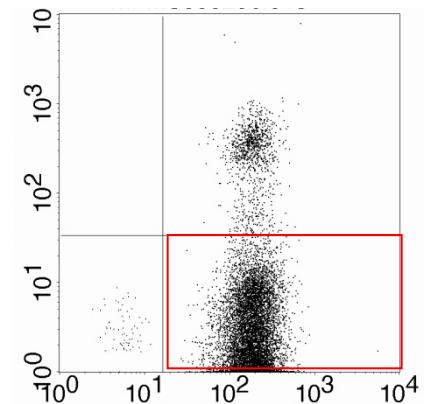
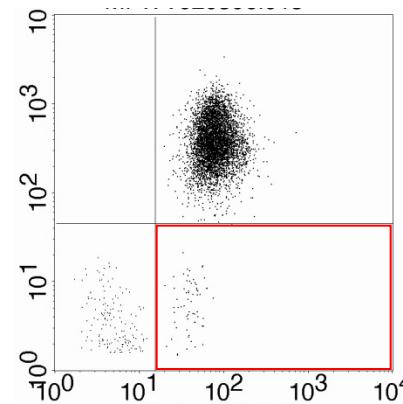
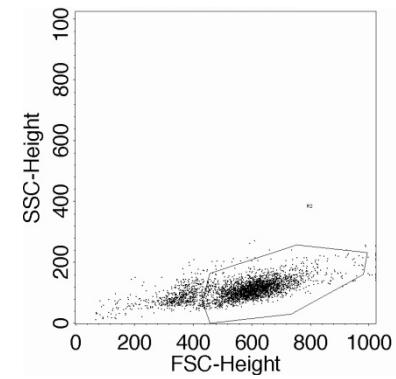
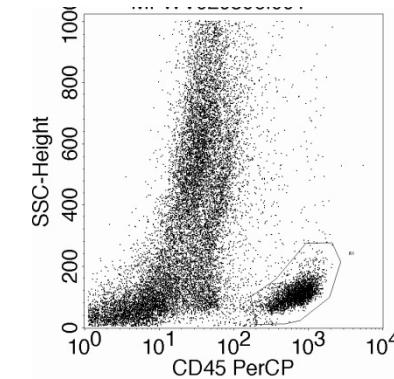
3 biopten



+ DDT/EDTA



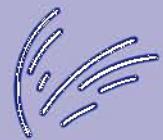
Cell surface CD3



cytoplasmic CD3

< 20%

>> 20%



Long-lasting ↑↑ IL-15 secretion in intestinal mucosa



↓ Bcl11B expression<sup>1</sup>

↑ Bcl-xl expression<sup>2</sup>

Immature T-cells in intestine do not reach stage of full maturation,  
but acquire NK-like (cytotoxic) phenotype and expand monoclonally<sup>1,3</sup>



↓ PCNA expression<sup>3</sup>

Chromosomal instability<sup>4</sup>



EATL<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cerf-Bensussan et al *in preparation*

<sup>2</sup> Cerf-Bensussan et al *J Clin Invest* 2010

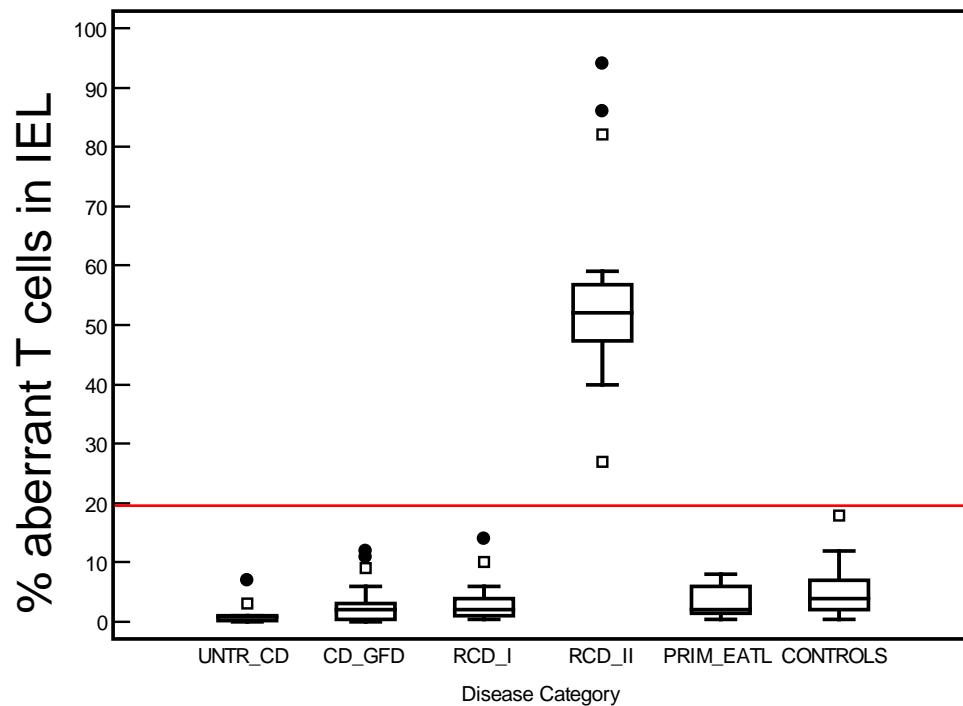
<sup>3</sup> Tack et al *Mol Immunol* 2012

<sup>4</sup> Verkarre et al *Gastroenterology* 2003

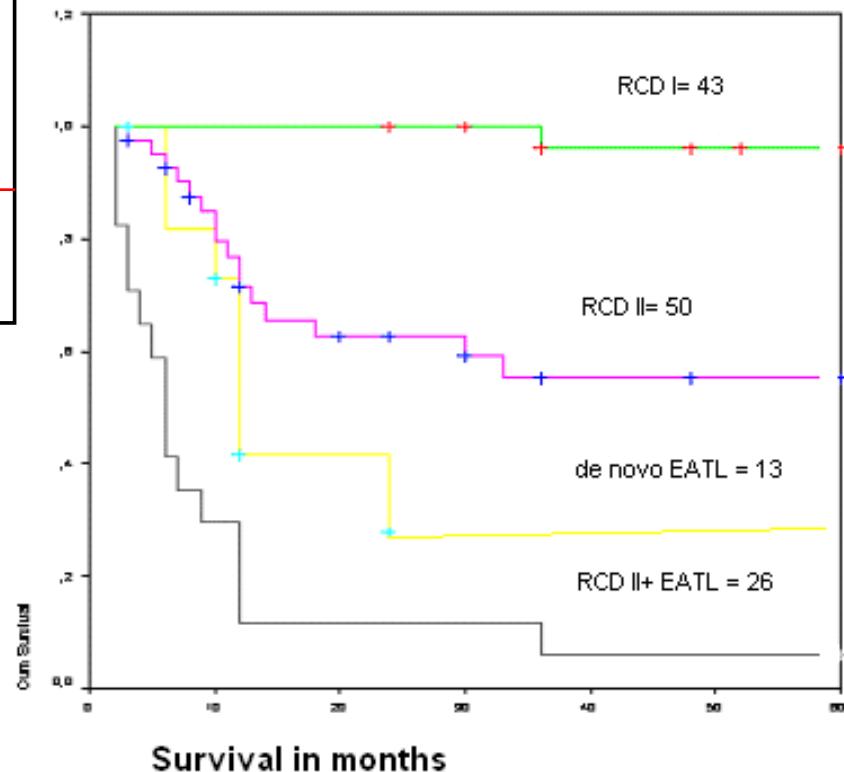
<sup>5</sup> Cellier et al *Lancet* 2000

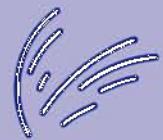
# IEL phenotype important for prognosis of RCD

VU medisch centrum



RCD I/II: serious malabsorption  
(cachexia), osteoporosis

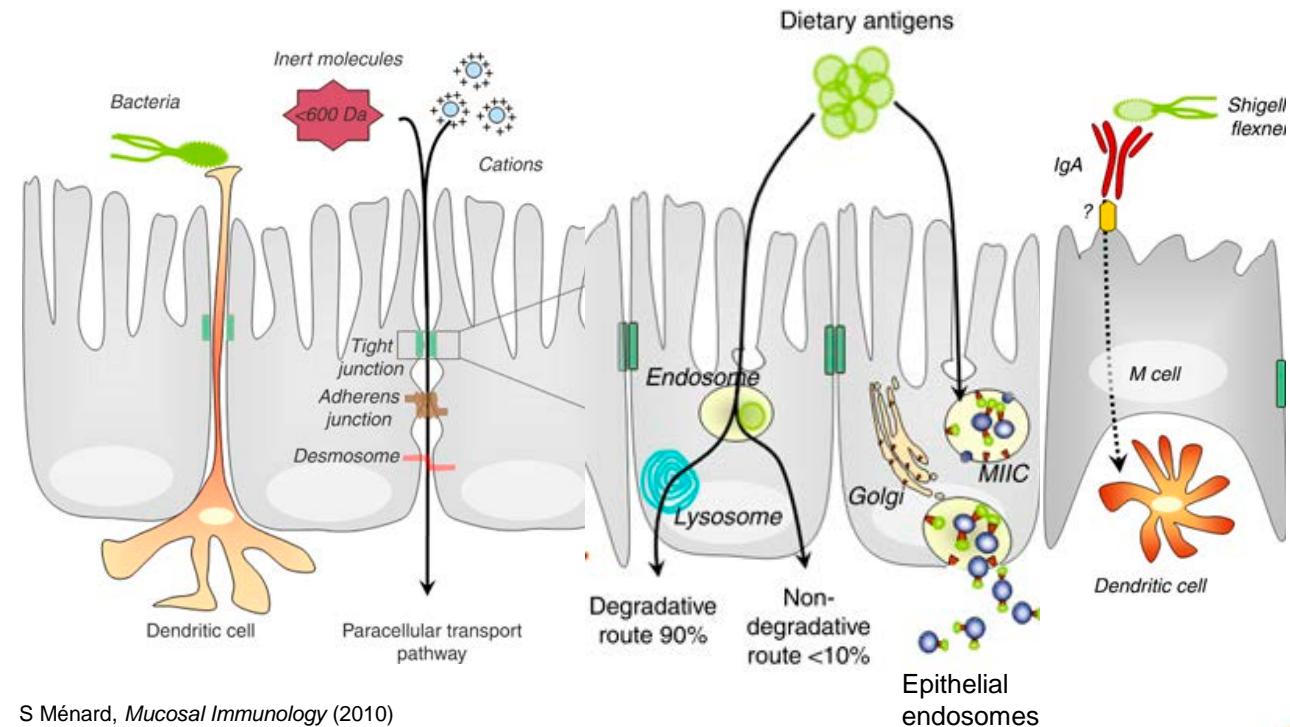
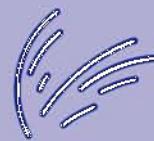




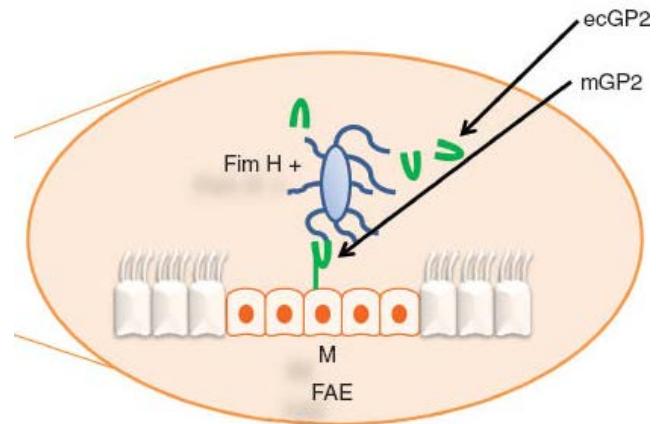
- I. Identification of serum markers associated with development of RCDII
  - II. Identification of mucosal markers associated with RCDII and EATL
- 
- To improve early diagnosis of RCD II and EATL

# Intestinal barrier and intestinal permeability

VU medisch centrum

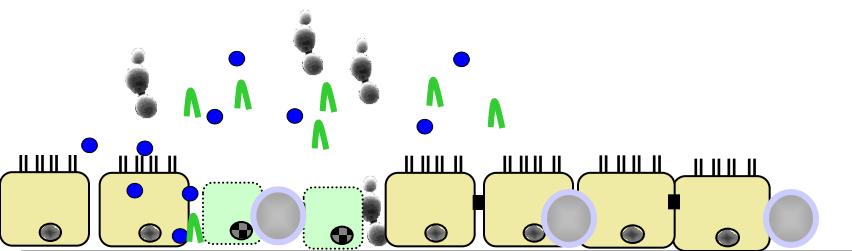


S Ménard, *Mucosal Immunology* (2010)



# Identification of serum markers associated with RCDII

VU medisch centrum



Lumen

epithelium

Lamina propria



Apoptotic enterocyte



IEL



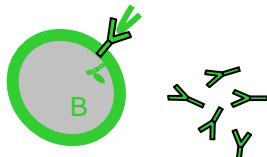
*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*



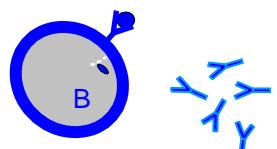
Food proteins/peptides (BSA)



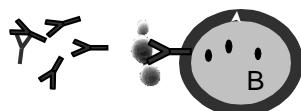
Glycoprotein 2



GP2A  
Anti-Glycoprotein 2



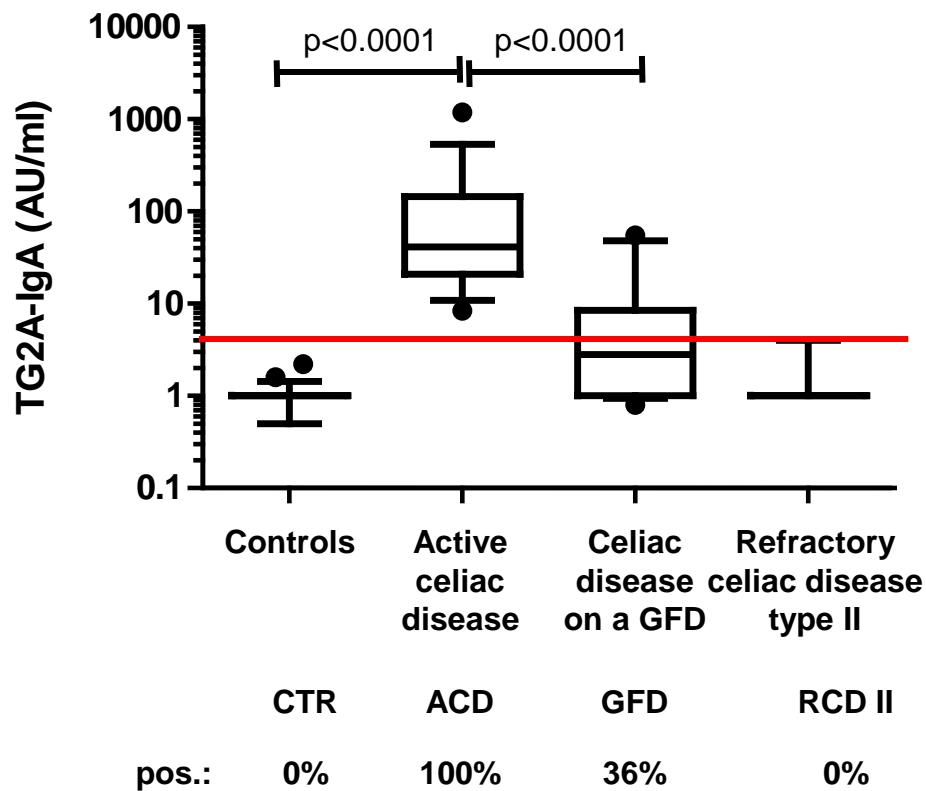
ABSA  
Anti-BSA



ASCA  
Anti-saccharomyces cerevisiae antigen

Increased incidence of GP2A and ASCA in Crohn's disease

# TG2A not a suitable marker for RCD

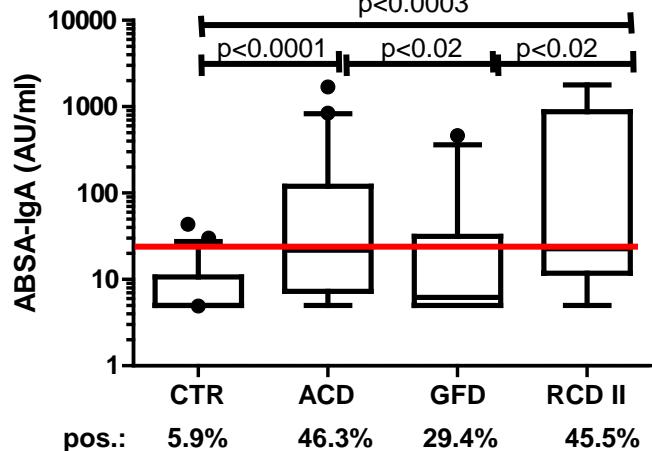


# ABSA, ASCA and GP2A

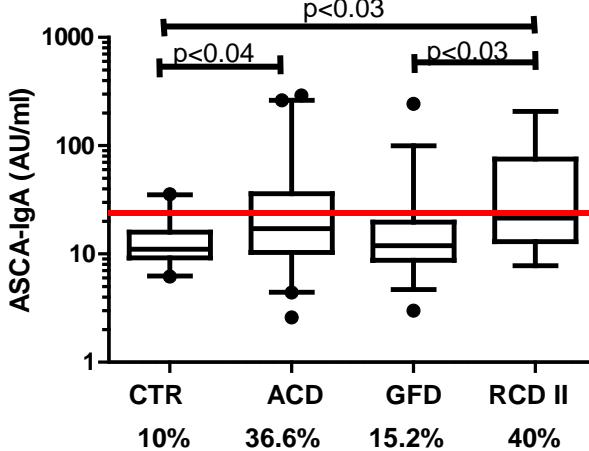
VU medisch centrum



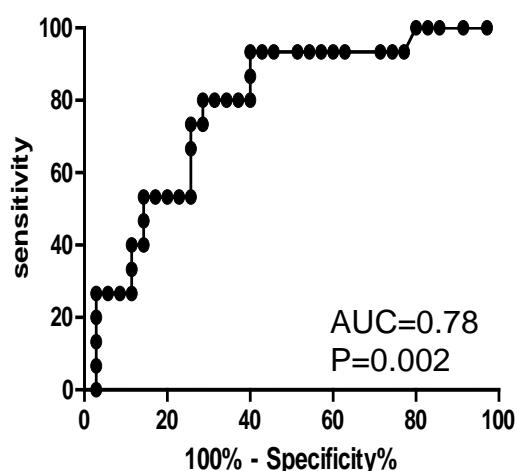
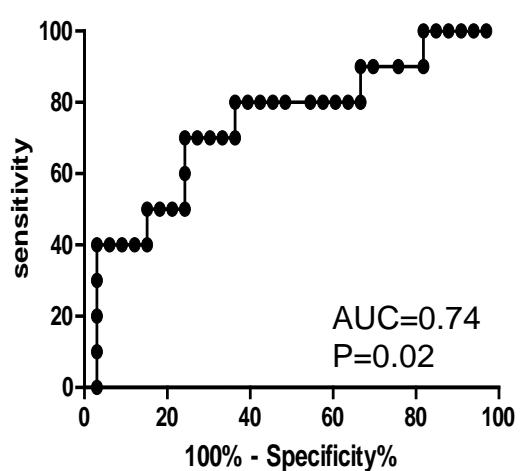
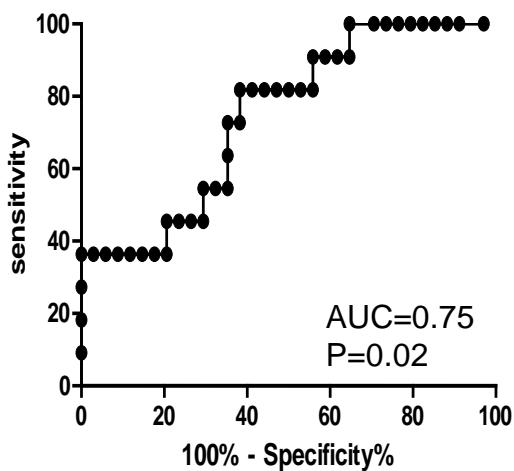
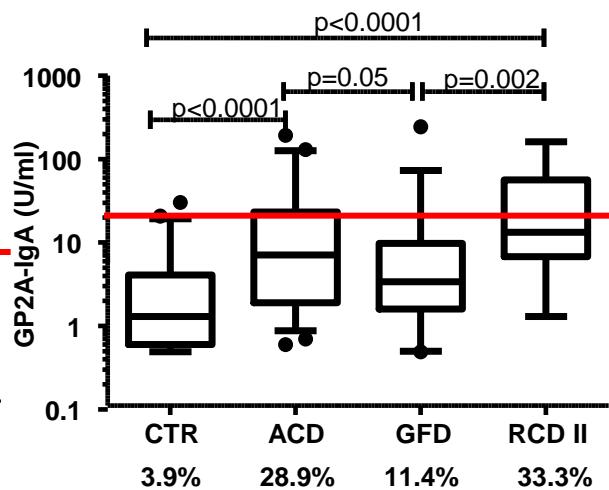
ABSA-IgA

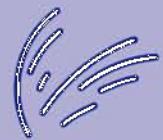


ASCA-IgA



GP2A-IgA

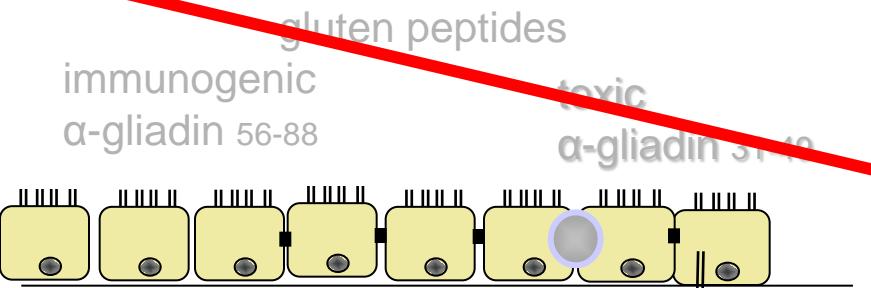
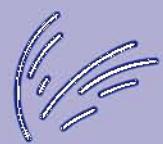




GP2A and to a lesser extend ASCA are relatively specific for RCD II in a group of patients on a GFD without TG2A, however their use in clinical practice is limited due to their lack of sensitivity.

# RCD pathogenesis ???

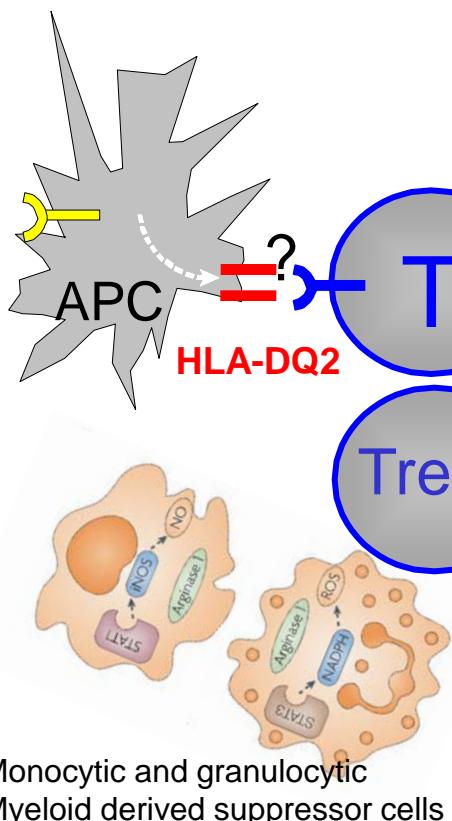
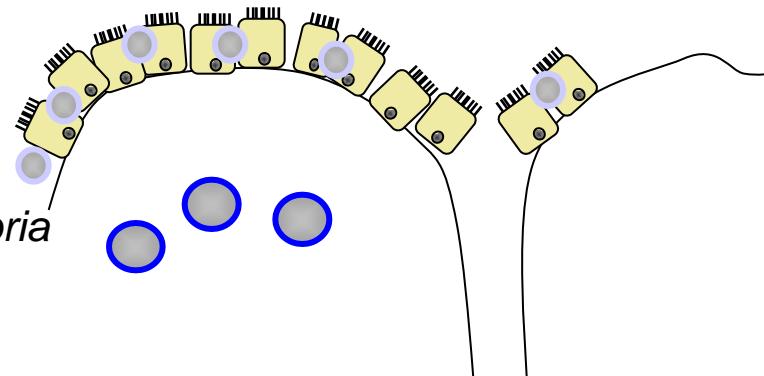
VU medisch centrum



Lumen

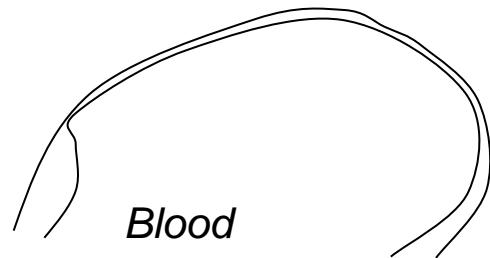
epithelium

Lamina propria



Regulatory cells?

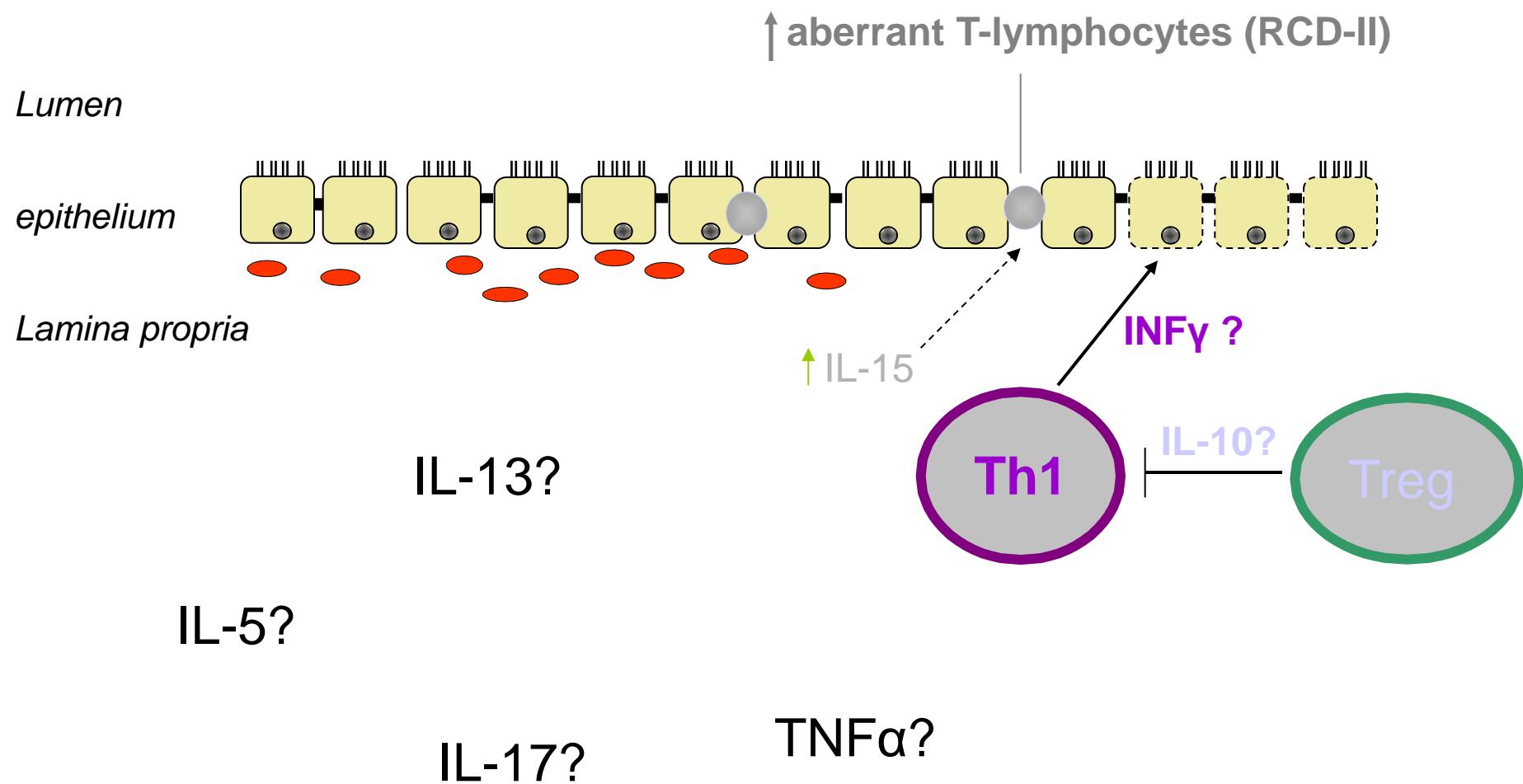
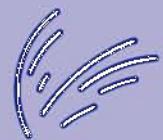
Monocytic and granulocytic  
Myeloid derived suppressor cells



Blood

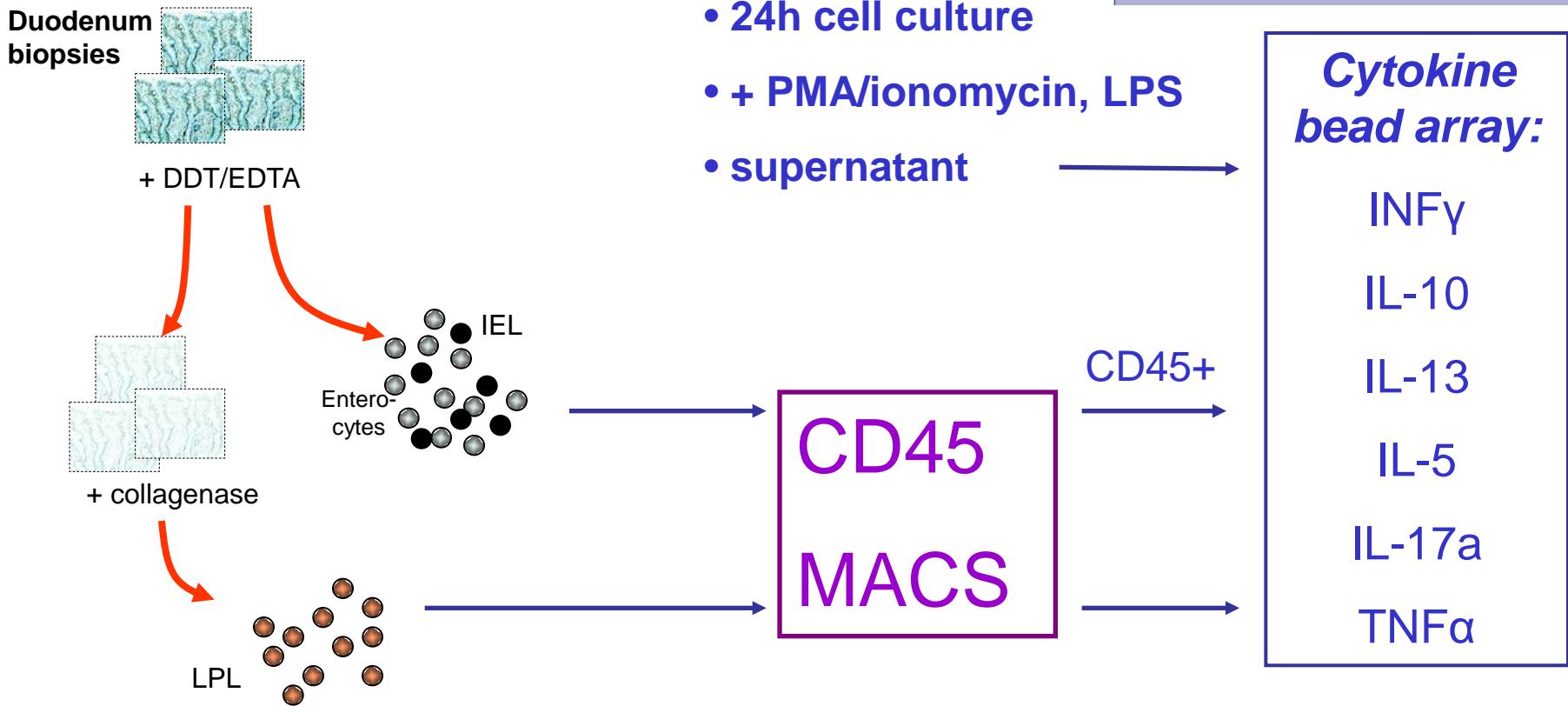
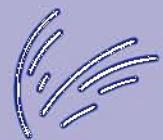
Mucosal changes:  
Epithelial apoptosis  
Villous atrophy  
Crypt hyperplasia  
IEL lymphocytosis

Functional defects:  
Malabsorption  
Permeability ↑



# Cytokine production analysis

VU medisch centrum



## 20 patients included:

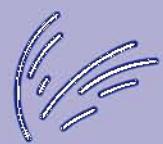
4 patients with active coeliac disease (ACD)

7 on a gluten free diet (GFD), follow-up of at least 8 months since start GFD

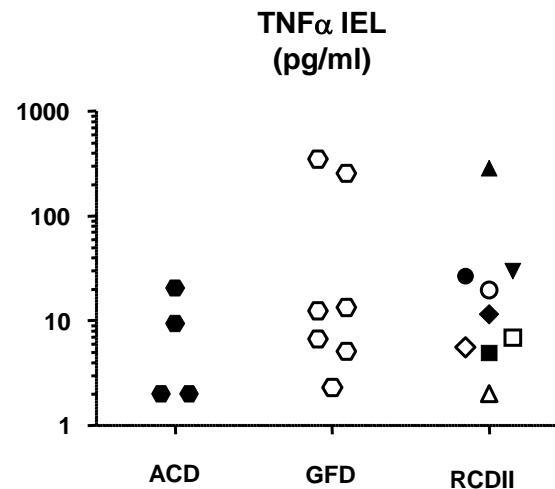
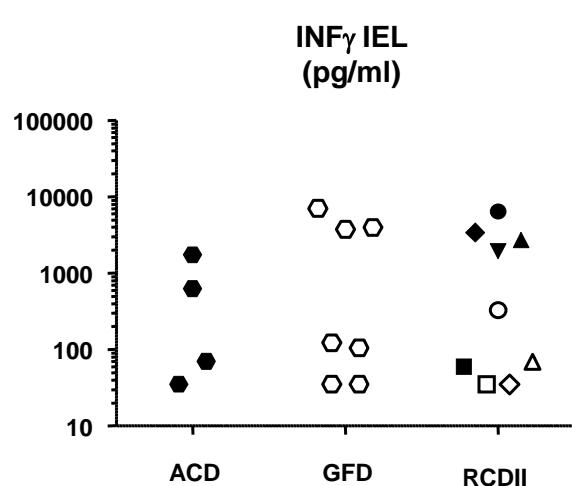
9 patients with RCDII, follow-up of at least 2 years since start GFD; 8 after treatment (cladribine or SCT), one before treatment

# No differential cytokine release by IEL between ACD and RCD

VU medisch centrum



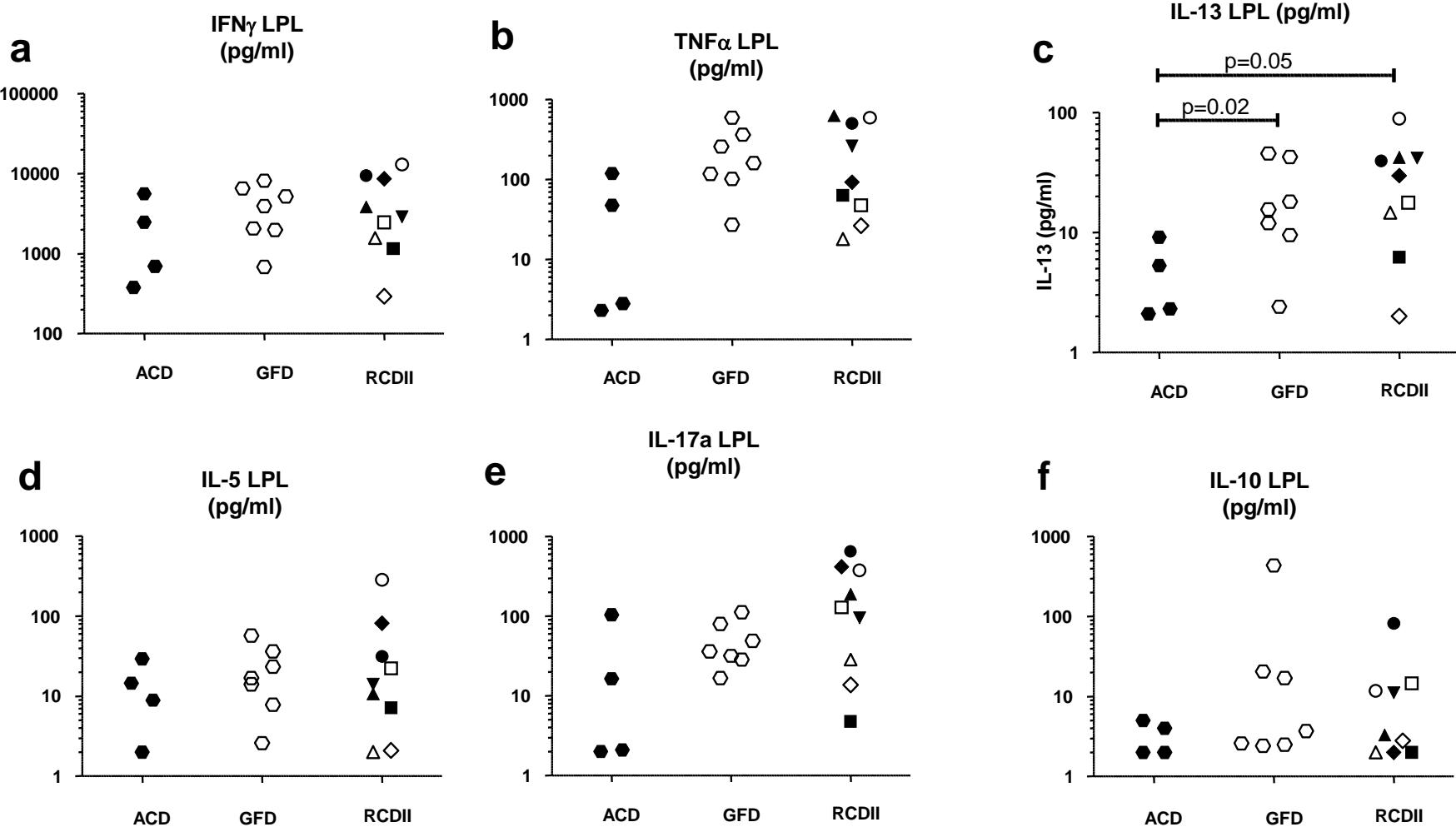
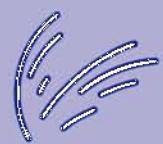
with villous atrophy (closed symbols);  
without villous atrophy (open symbols),

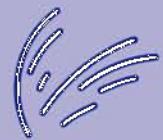


IL-5 IL-10, IL-13, IL-17A not detectable

# Cytokine release of RCD LPL shows similarities with GFD LPL

VU medisch centrum

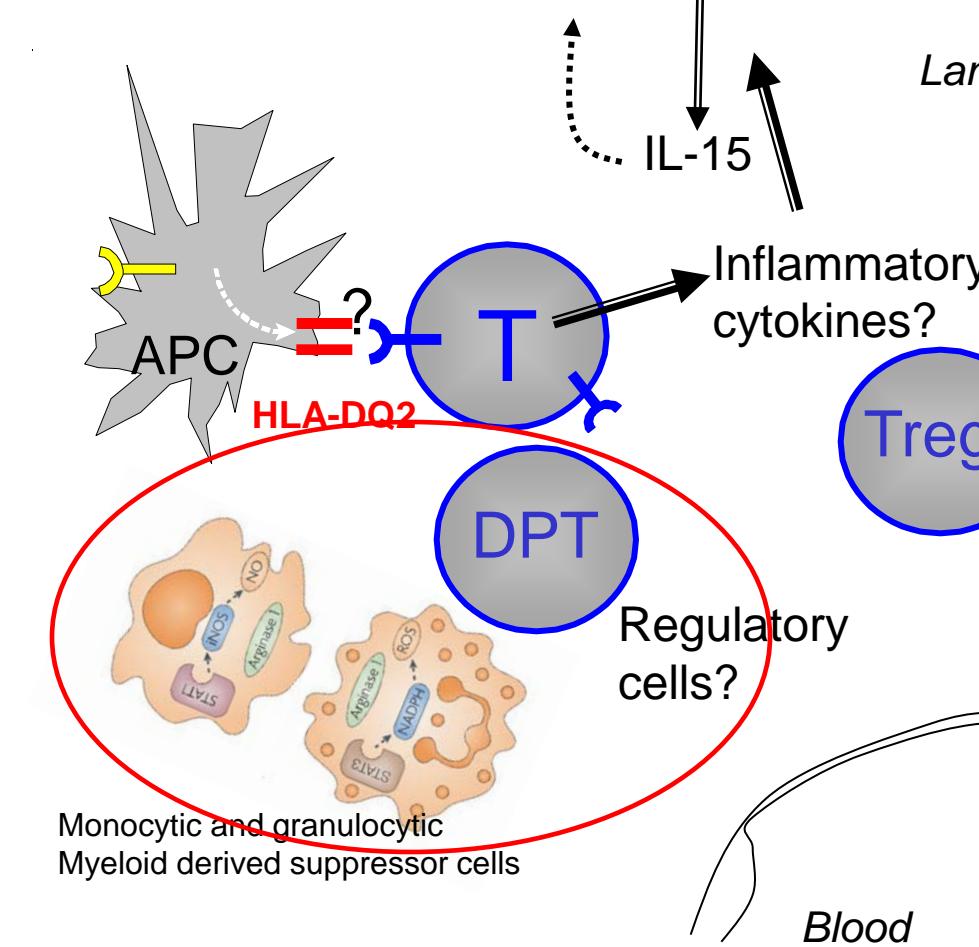
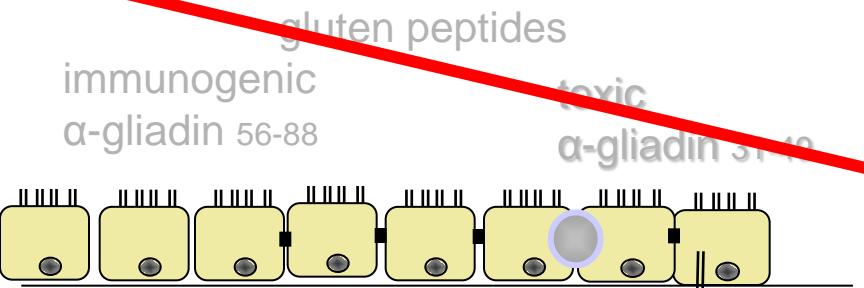




- Overall, the cytokine production pattern of LPL in RCDII showed more similarities with LPL isolated from GFD patients than from ACD patients.
- Our data suggest that different immunological processes are involved in RCDII and ACD with a potential role for IL-13.

# RCD pathogenesis ???

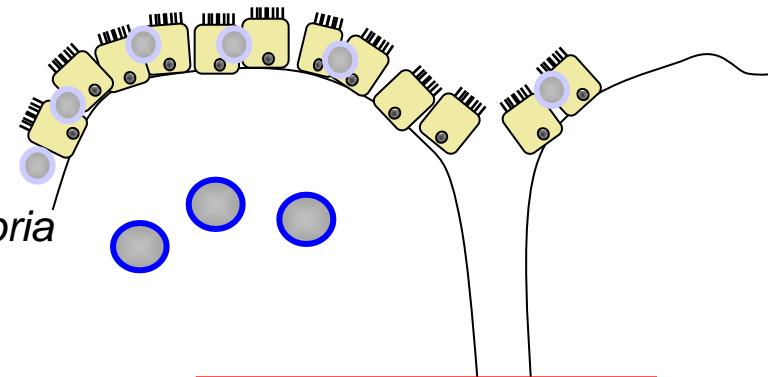
VU medisch centrum



Lumen

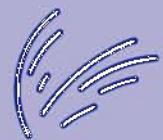
epithelium

Lamina propria



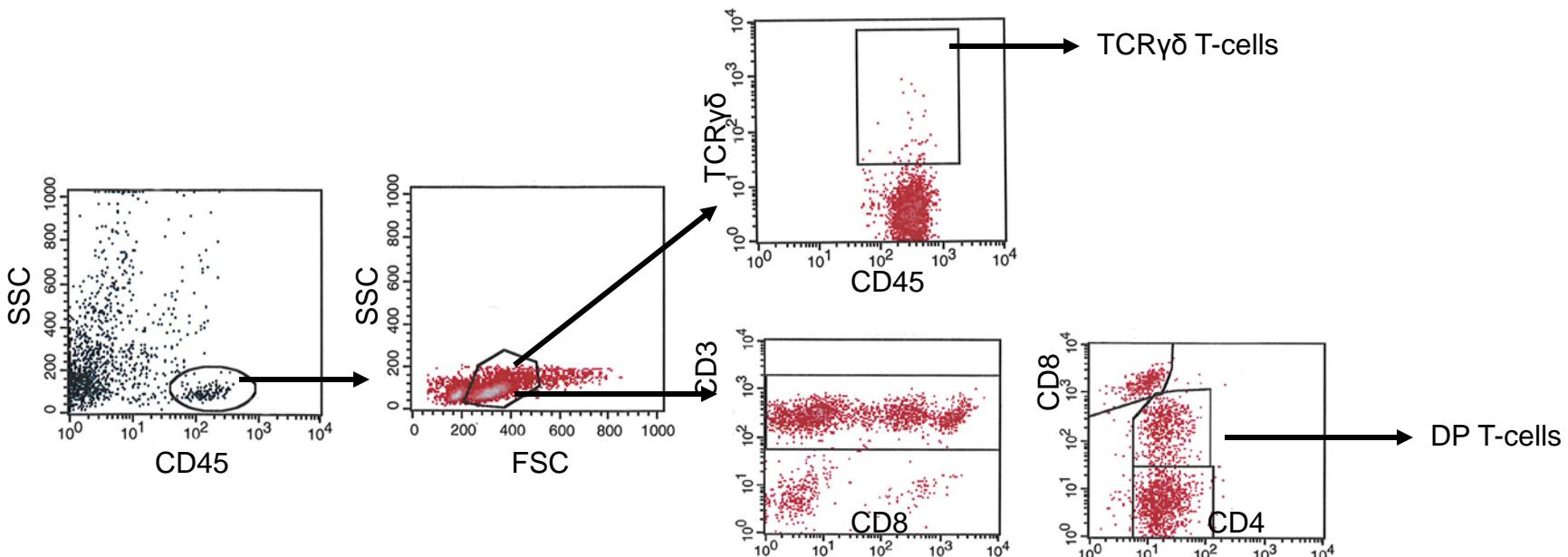
Mucosal changes:  
Epithelial apoptosis  
Villous atrophy  
Crypt hyperplasia  
IEL lymphocytosis

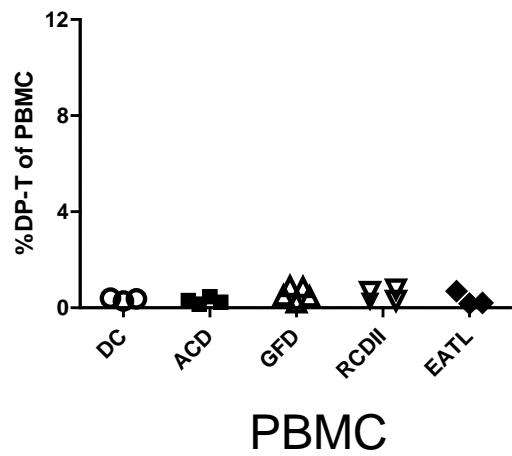
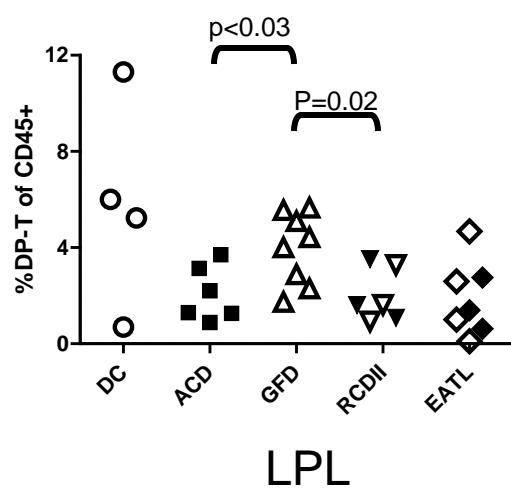
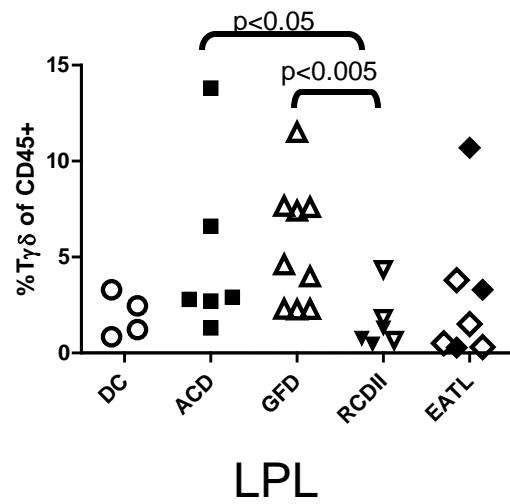
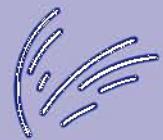
Functional defects:  
Malabsorption  
Permeability ↑



- Increased in auto immune diseases ( PB) and hepatitis (PB & liver)
- Increased in breast cancer/melanoma (tumor): produce higher levels of IL-4, IL-5 en IL-13 as compared to single pos T-cells, can kill tumor cells
- Normally relatively high in small intestine
- CD: lower in active CD do not return after effective GFD: CD predisposed individuals have low numbers?
- Mice: in mucosa CD8aa T-cells may interact with thymus leukemia antigen (TLa); CD8a expressed on CD4+ T-cells interacts with TLa
- No human homologue identified of TLa, possibly similar role for CD1 in humans

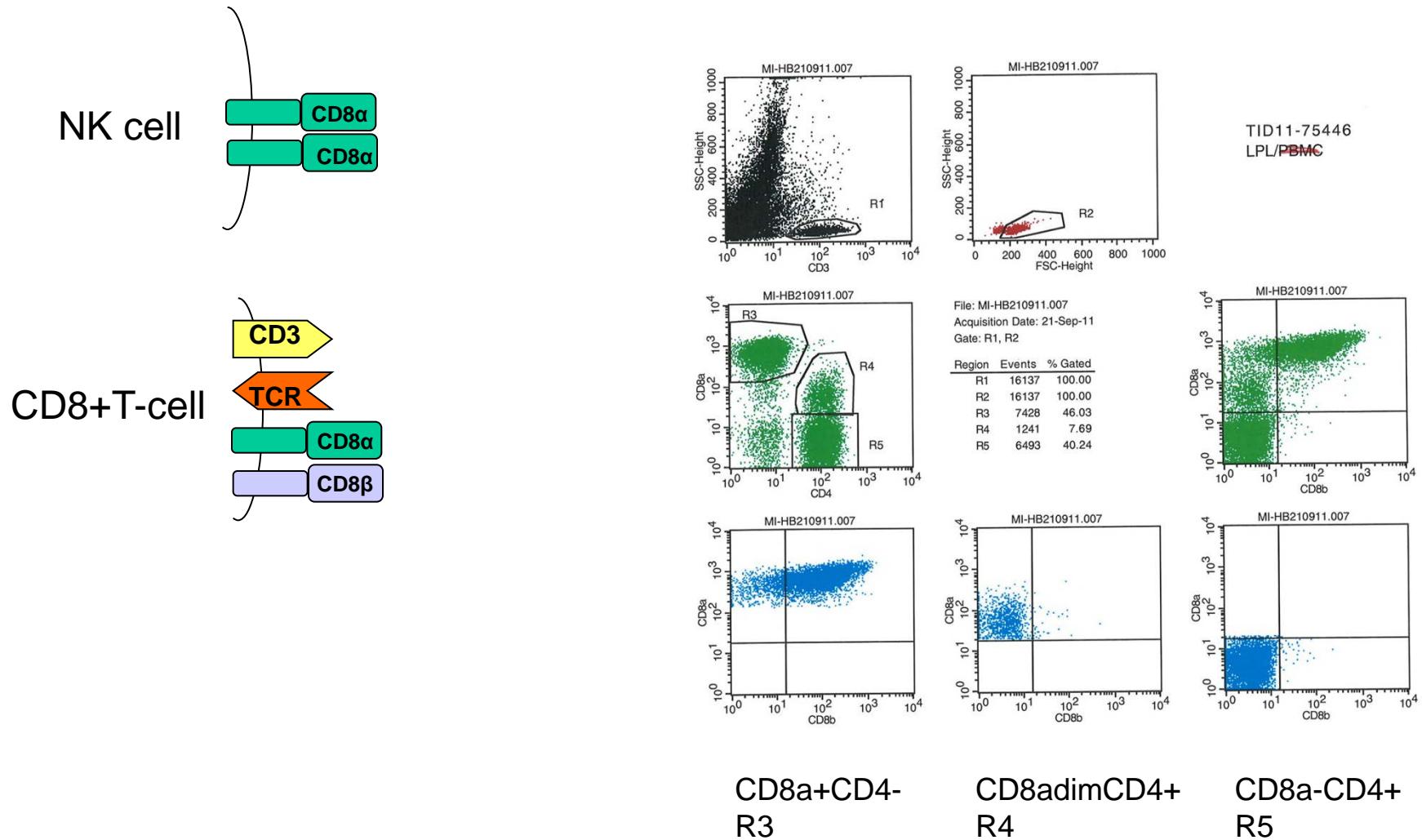
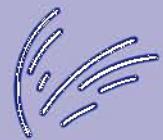
# T cell analysis in LPL



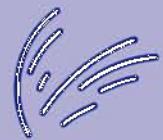


# Lack of CD8 $\beta$ expression on DPT in LPL

VU medisch centrum

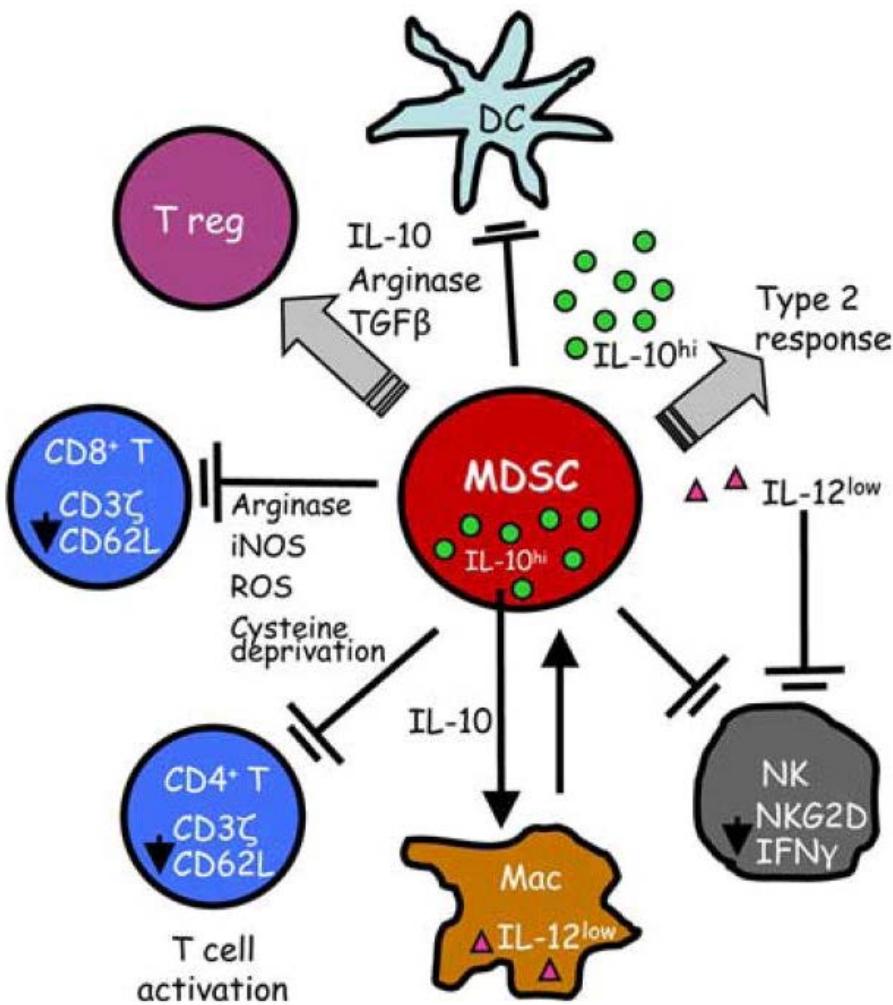
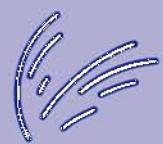


# Questions that remain to be answered



- What is the function of DPT in the lamina propria of the duodenum?
- What is the cytokine profile, do they have killing capacity?
- What is the ligand for the TCR (CD1d?)
- Do DPT inhibit the development of CD?
- Can DPT serve as a therapeutic target?
- ....

# Myeloid derived suppressor cells in inflammation and cancer

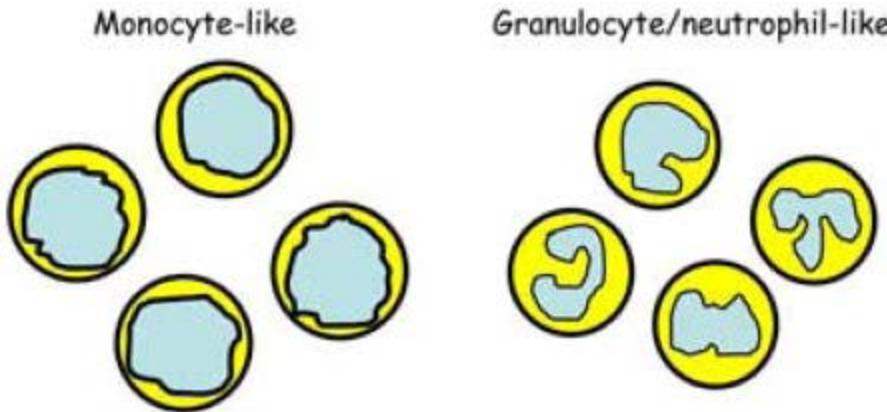


- Chronic inflammation enhances accumulation of MDSC and increases their capacity to suppress T cells.
- potent inhibitors of anti-tumor immunity
- facilitate tumor progression by
  - blocking the activation of CD4(+) and CD8(+) T cells
  - by promoting a type 2 immune response through their production of IL-10 and down-regulation of macrophage production of IL-12.

# Phenotype of Myeloid derived suppressor cells



VU medisch centrum



## MOUSE MDSC

Gr1, CD11b

## HUMAN MDSC

CD33, CD11b,  
CD15, CD14 negative  
MHC class II negative

### Common plasma membrane markers:

Gr1, CD11b

CD33, CD11b,  
CD15, CD14 negative  
MHC class II negative

### Plasma membrane markers found on some MDSC:

CD80, F4/80, IL-4Ra  
CD115, Ly6C, Ly6G

CD14, HLA-DR<sup>low or -</sup>

### Intracellular markers:

Arginase, iNOS, ROS

Arginase, iNOS

### Suppressive activity/mechanism:

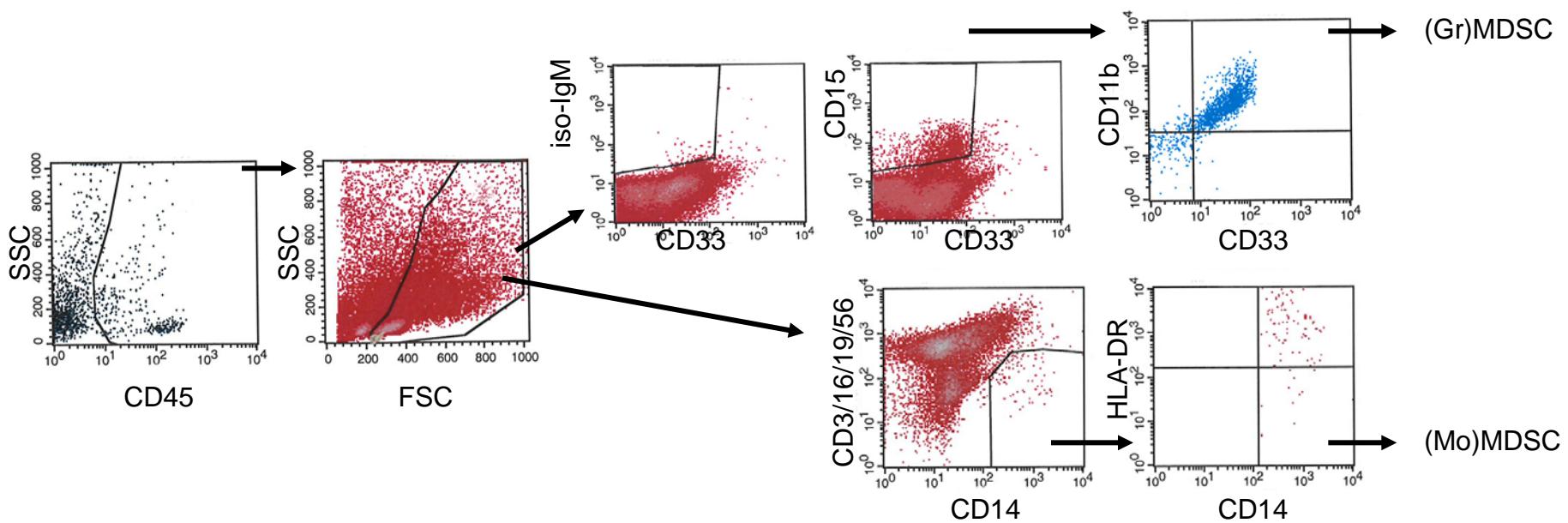
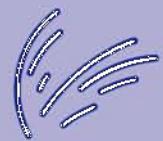
NO, Arginase,  
Nitrotyrosine  
ROS undetectable  
(monocyte-like)

NO, Arginase  
Nitrotyrosine

ROS, Arginase,  
Nitrotyrosine  
NO undetectable  
(neutrophil-like)

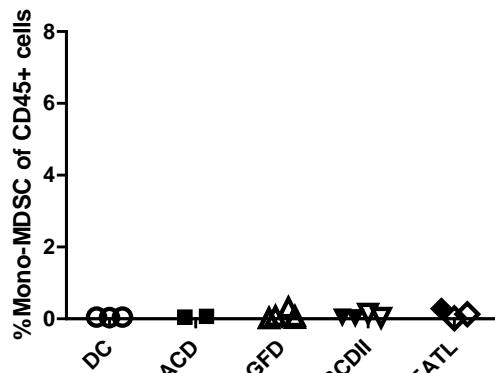
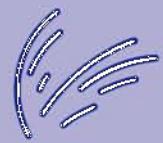
# MDSC analysis in LPL

VU medisch centrum

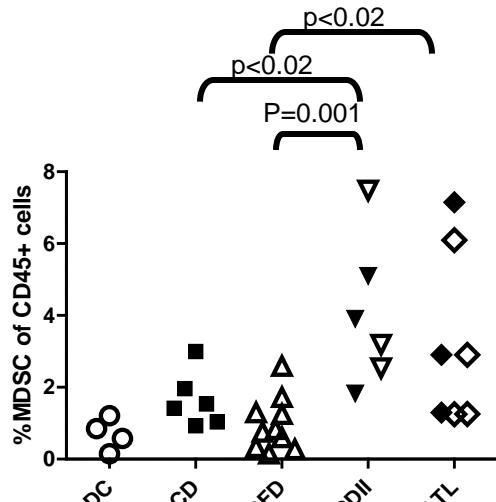


# MDSC in LPL and in PBMC

VU medisch centrum

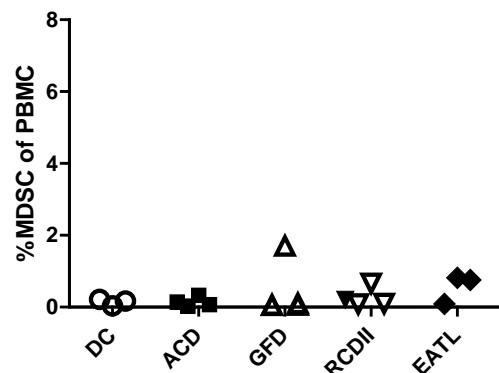


LPL



LPL

Open symbols: no villous atrophy  
Closed symbols: Marsh 3



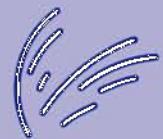
PBMC

- accumulation of Gr-MDSC in the lamina propria of RCDII patients may contribute to the progression to EATL.
- Gr-MDSC may provide a therapeutic target and an additional predictive marker for risk of disease progression.

# Overall conclusions

VU medisch centrum





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