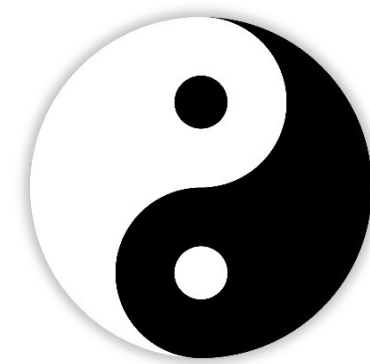
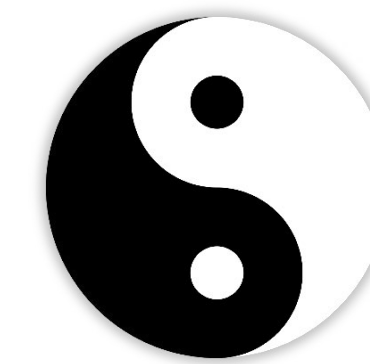


# The Yin and Yang of nanomedicine



*Jan Grimm, MD, PhD*

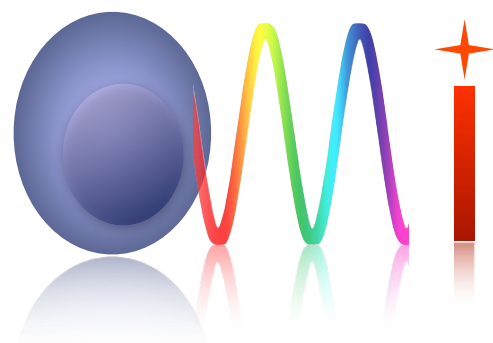


*Professor, Attending*

Molecular Pharmacology & Department of Radiology  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Pharmacology Program, Cornell University

New York, NY USA

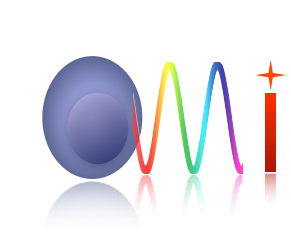


# Nanoparticles in medicine

Nanoparticles are attractive as a biomolecular scaffold to unify many functional moieties into a single unified macromolecule

*Swiss army knife of drugs:*

- Drug carrier
- Targeting ligand
- Imaging moiety: fluorochrome, isotope, MR agent
- Can interact with target for switchable agents





# Nanoparticles in medicine

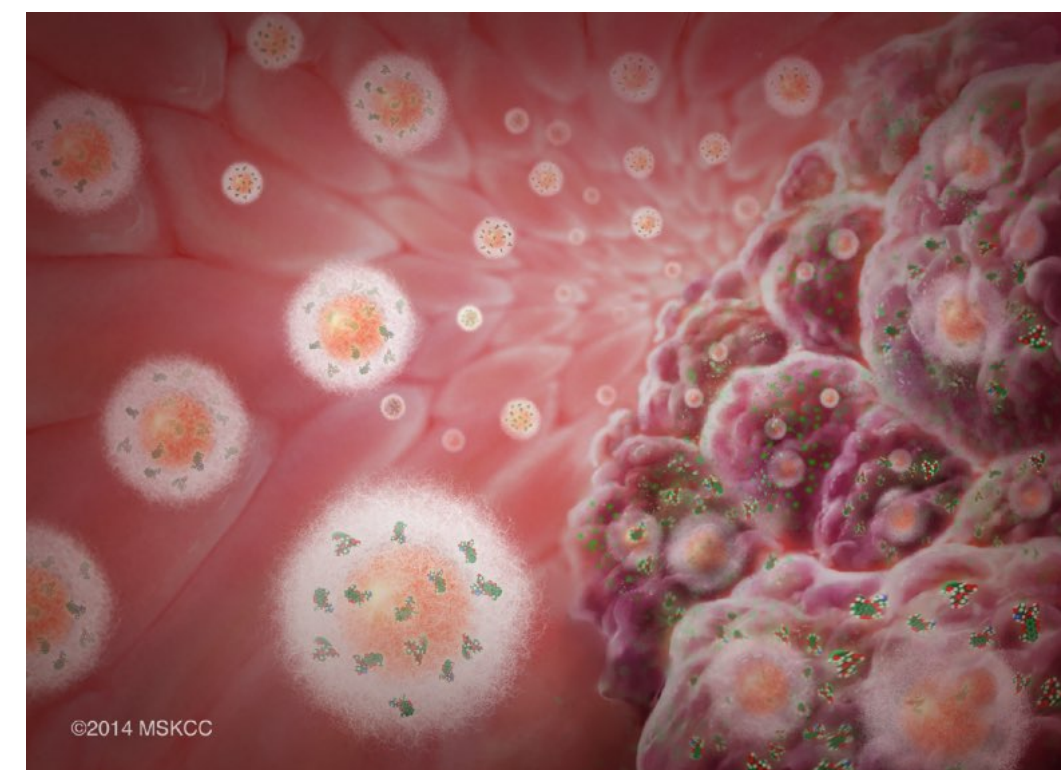
Nanoparticles are attractive as a biomolecular scaffold to unify many functional moieties into a single unified macromolecule

*Swiss army knife of drugs:*

- Drug carrier
- Targeting ligand
- Imaging moiety: fluorochrome, isotope, MR agent
- Can interact with target for switchable agents



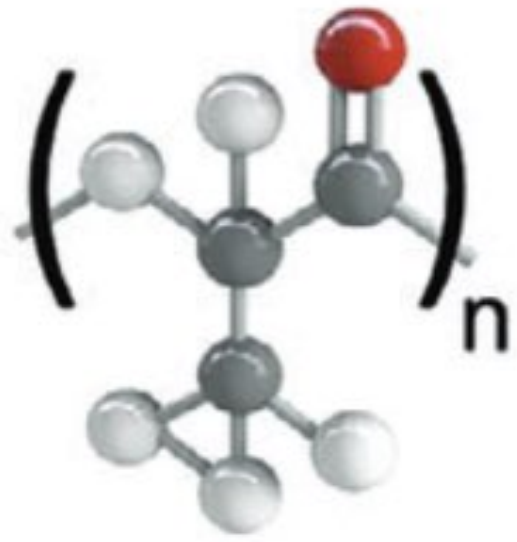
Considered "inert" carrier to deliver therapeutic or for imaging



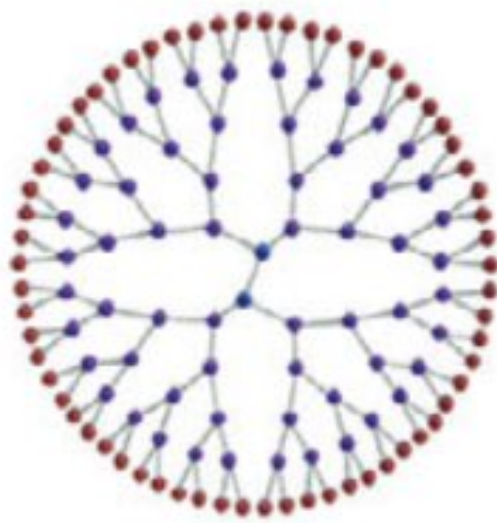


# Nanoparticle ≠ Nanoparticle

Polymer



Dendrimer



Micelle



Nanogel



Nanobubble



Polymersome



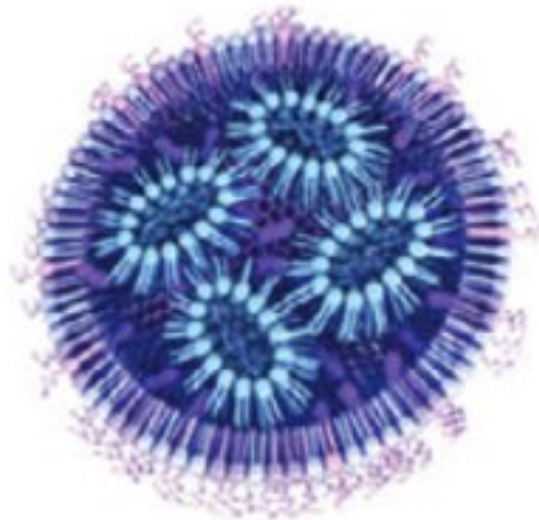
Protein NP



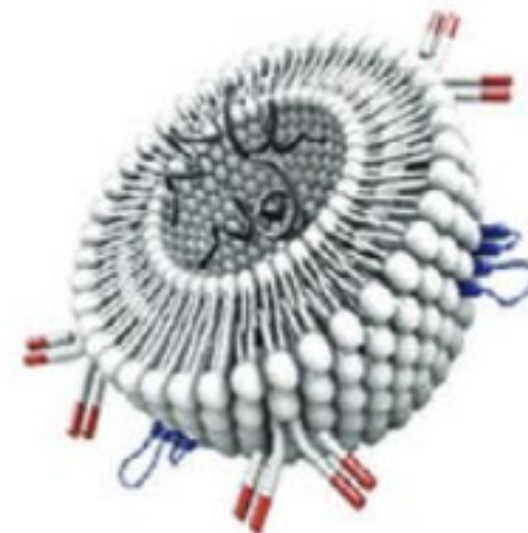
Liposome



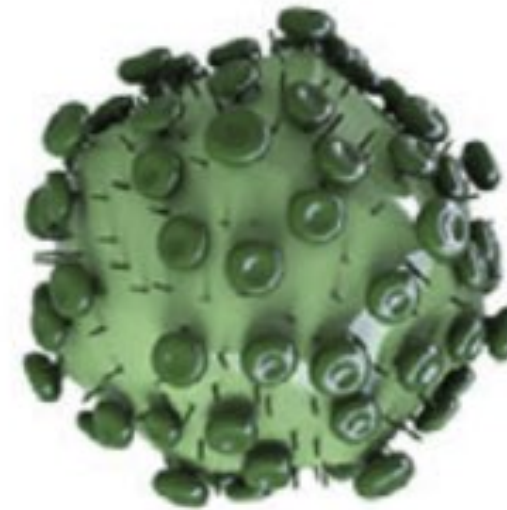
Lipid NP



Exosome



Viral NP



Iron Oxide NP



Gold NP

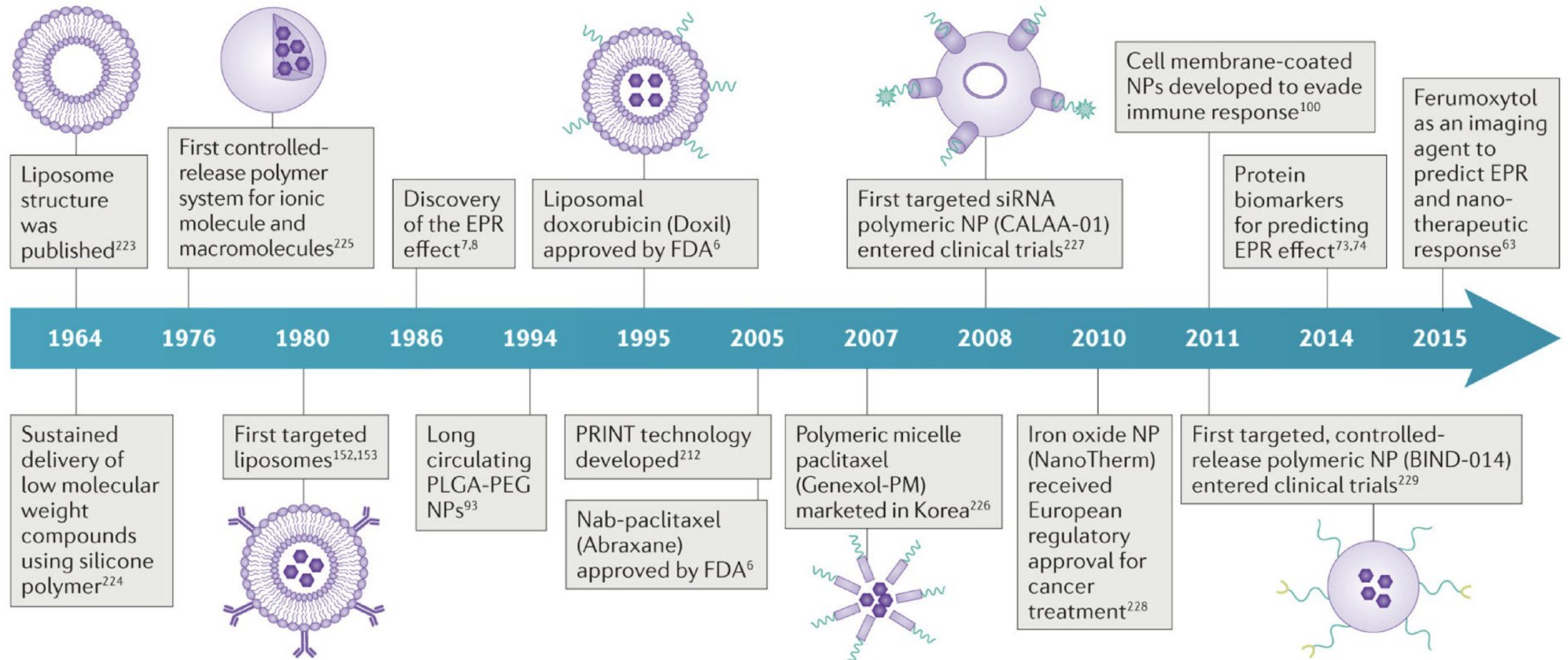


Silica NP





# Historic overview





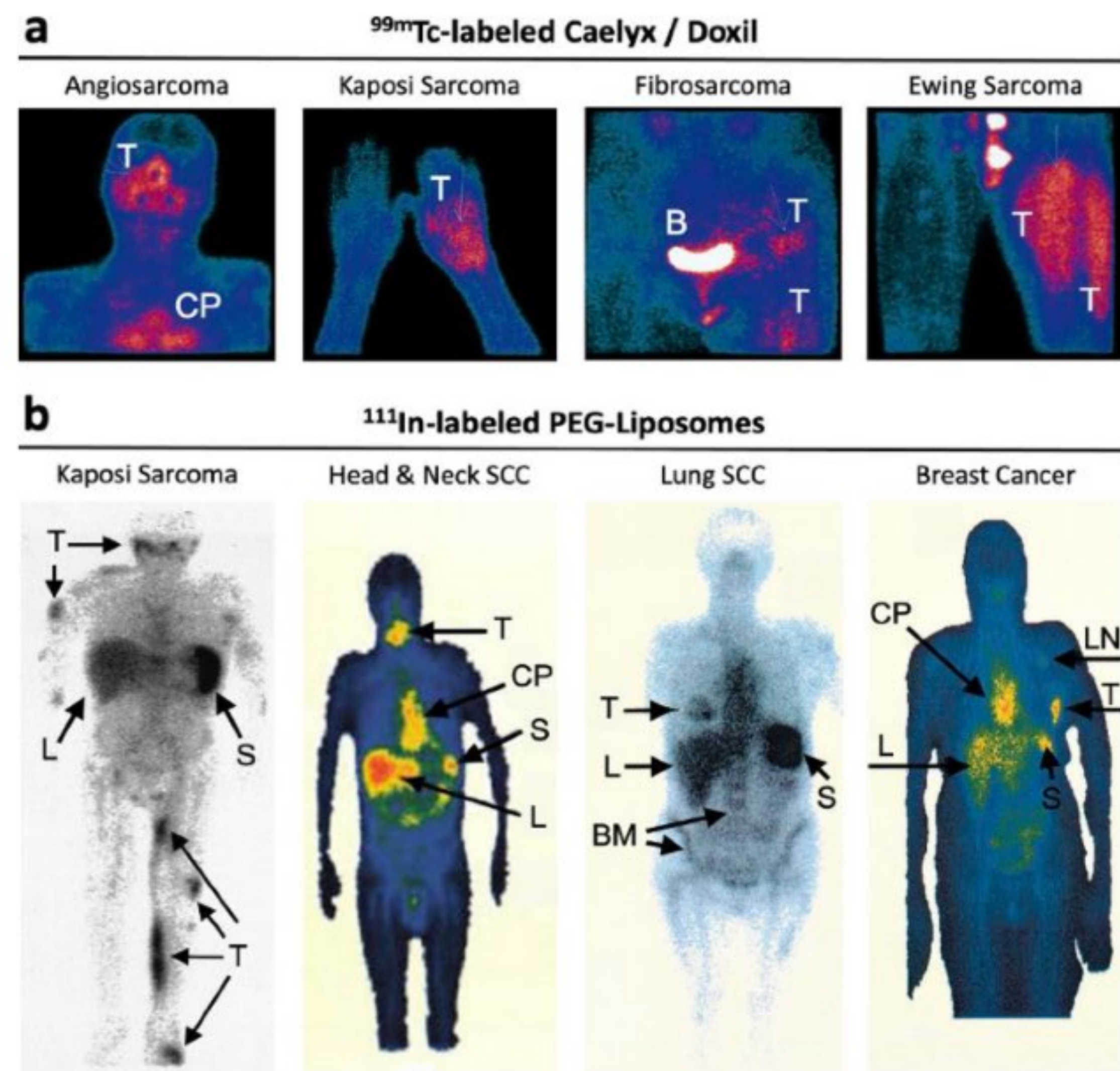
# Nanoparticles in clinical use

<b>Doxil/Caelyx</b>	<b>Daunoxome</b>	<b>Myocet</b>	<b>Lipusu</b>	<b>Oncaspar</b>	<b>Abraxane</b>	<b>DepoCyt</b>	<b>Genexol-PM</b>
PEG-Liposome	Non-PEG Liposome	Non-PEG Liposome	Non-PEG Liposome	Polymer-Protein Conjugate	Protein-Drug Nanoparticle	Non-PEG Liposome	Polymeric Micelle
							
							
1995/1996	1996	2000	2003	2006	2005	2007	2007
<b>Mepact</b>	<b>Nanotherm</b>	<b>Marqibo</b>	<b>Onivyde</b>	<b>Vyxeos</b>	<b>Apealea</b>	<b>Hensify</b>	<b>Fyarro</b>
Lipid-Drug Nanoparticle	Iron Oxide Nanoparticle	Non-PEG Liposome	PEG Liposome	Non-PEG Liposome	Retinoic Acid Micelle	Hafnium Oxide Nanoparticle	Protein-Drug Nanoparticle
							
							
2009	2011	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2021



# Nanomedicine does work

...but is highly heterogeneous



**c**

Pat.	Tumor Type	GS	SPECT	%ID/kg
1	Head & Neck	+	+	53.0
2	Head & Neck	+	+	46.8
3	Head & Neck	+	+	32.0
4	Lung	+	+	25.4
5	Head & Neck	+	+	24.2
6	Lung	+	+	16.7
7	Lung	+	+	12.5
8	Breast	+	+	9.5
9	Head & Neck	+	+	9.0
10	Breast	+	+	5.2
11	Breast	+	+	3.9
12	Breast	+	+	2.7
13	Cervix	-	+	N.A.
14	Glioma	-	+	N.A.
15	Glioma	-	+	N.A.
16	Lung	-	-	N.A.
17	Breast	-	-	N.A.
All	Accumulation in Tumors	12/17 = 71%	15/17 = 88%	



# Criticism with cancer nanotherapies



## Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews

Volume 65, Issue 1, January 2013, Pages 80–88

Advanced Drug Delivery: Perspectives and Prospects



Cancer nanomedicines: So many papers and so few drugs! ☆

Vincent J. Venditto, Francis C. Szoka Jr.  



# Criticism with cancer nanotherapies



## Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews

Volume 65, Issue 1, January 2013, Pages 80–88

Advanced Drug Delivery: Perspectives and Prospects



Cancer nanomedicines: So many papers and so few drugs! ☆

Vincent J. Venditto, Francis C. Szoka Jr.  



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

## Journal of Controlled Release

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel)



### Review article

To exploit the tumor microenvironment: Since the EPR effect fails in the clinic, what is the future of nanomedicine?

F. Danhier

Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain Drug Research Institute, Advanced Drug Delivery and Biomaterials, Avenue Mounier, 73 bte B1 73.12, 1200 Brussels, Belgium





# Criticism with cancer nanotherapies



## Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews


Volume 65, Issue 1, January 2013, Pages 80–88

Advanced Drug Delivery: Perspectives and Prospects



### Cancer nanomedicines: So many papers and so few drugs! ☆

Vincent J. Venditto, Francis C. Szoka Jr.  



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

## Journal of Controlled Release

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel](#)

### Review article

#### To exploit the tumor microenvironment: what is the future of nanomedicine?

F. Danhier

Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain Drug Research Institute

### ABSTRACT

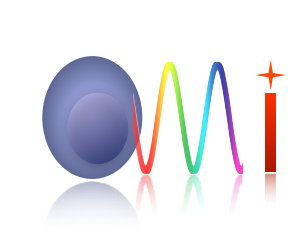
Tumor targeting by nanomedicine-based therapeutics has emerged as a promising approach to overcome the lack of specificity of conventional chemotherapeutic agents and to provide clinicians the ability to overcome shortcomings of current cancer treatment. The major underlying mechanism of the design of nanomedicines was the Enhanced Permeability and Retention (EPR) effect, considered as the “royal gate” in the drug delivery field. However, after the publication of thousands of research papers, the verdict has been handed down: the EPR effect works in rodents but not in humans! Thus the basic rationale of the design and development of nanomedicines in cancer therapy is failing making it necessary to stop claiming efficacy gains via the EPR effect, while tumor targeting cannot be proved in the clinic. It is probably time to dethrone the EPR effect and to ask the question: what is the future of nanomedicines without the EPR effect? The aim of this review is to provide a general overview on (i) the current state of the EPR effect, (ii) the future of nanomedicine and (iii) the strategies of modulation of the tumor microenvironment to improve the delivery of nanomedicine.



# Nanoparticles in medicine

---

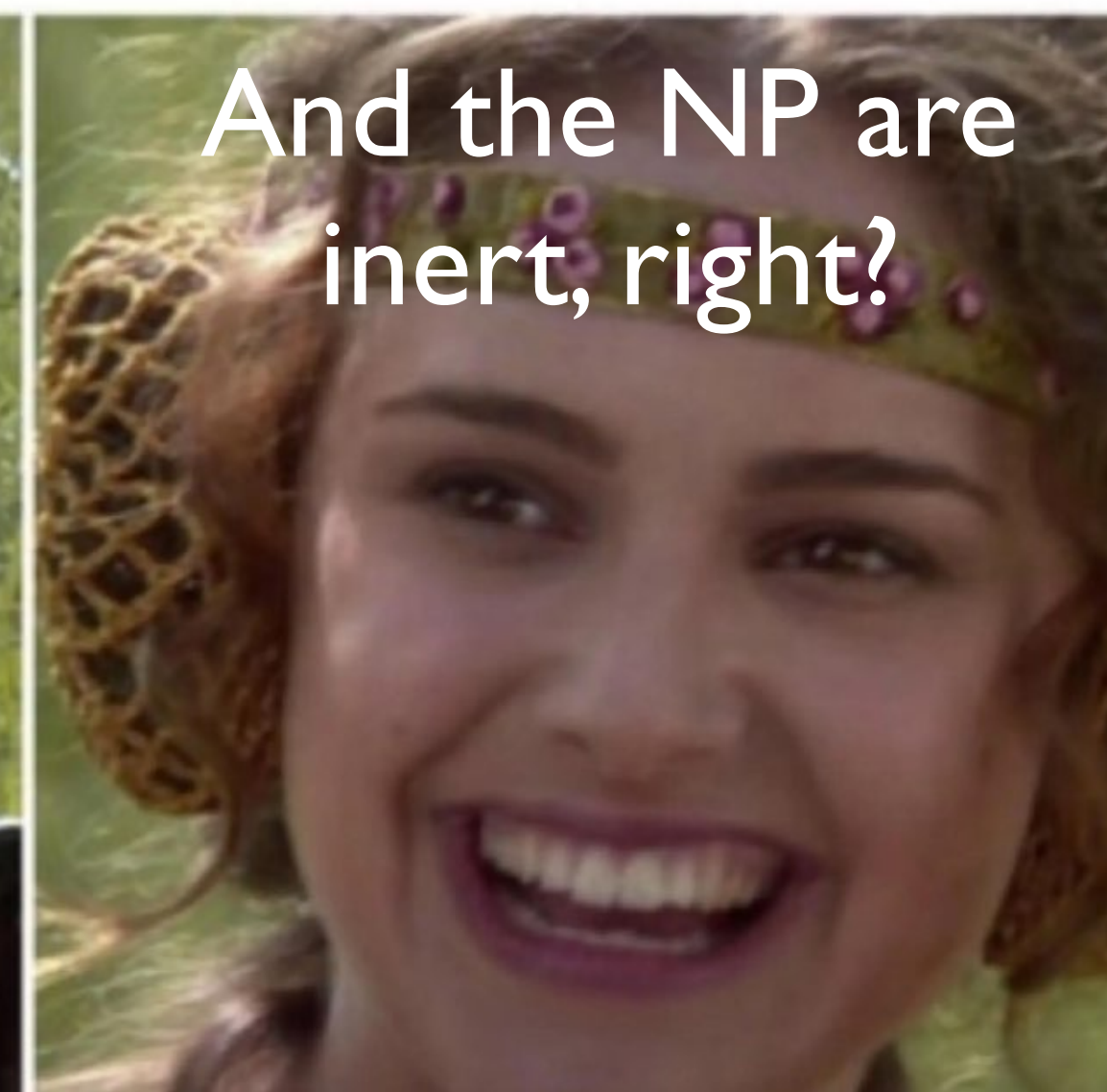
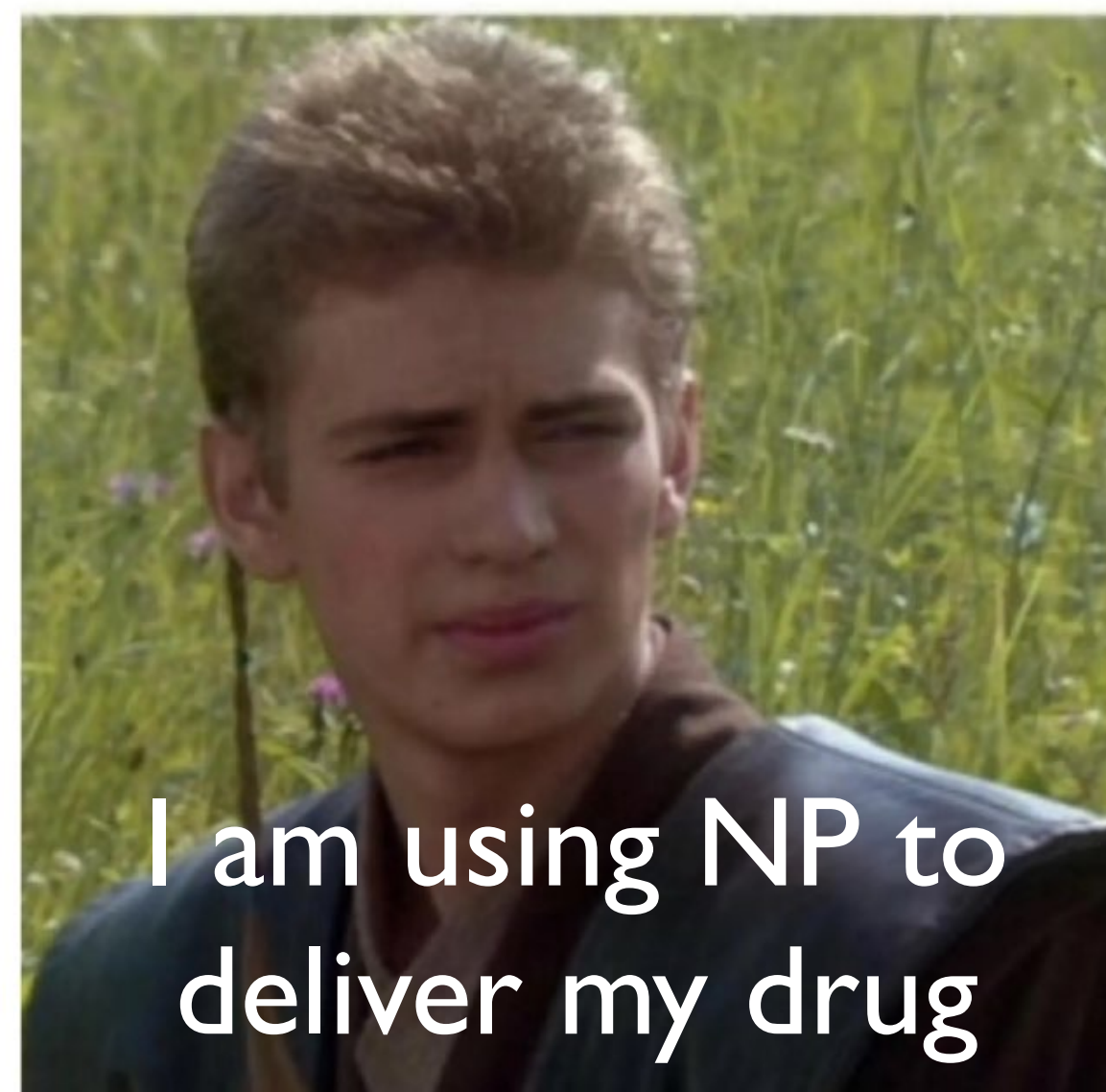
Anakin is a  
senior grad student  
in a nano lab





# Nanoparticles in medicine

Anakin is a senior grad student in a nano lab

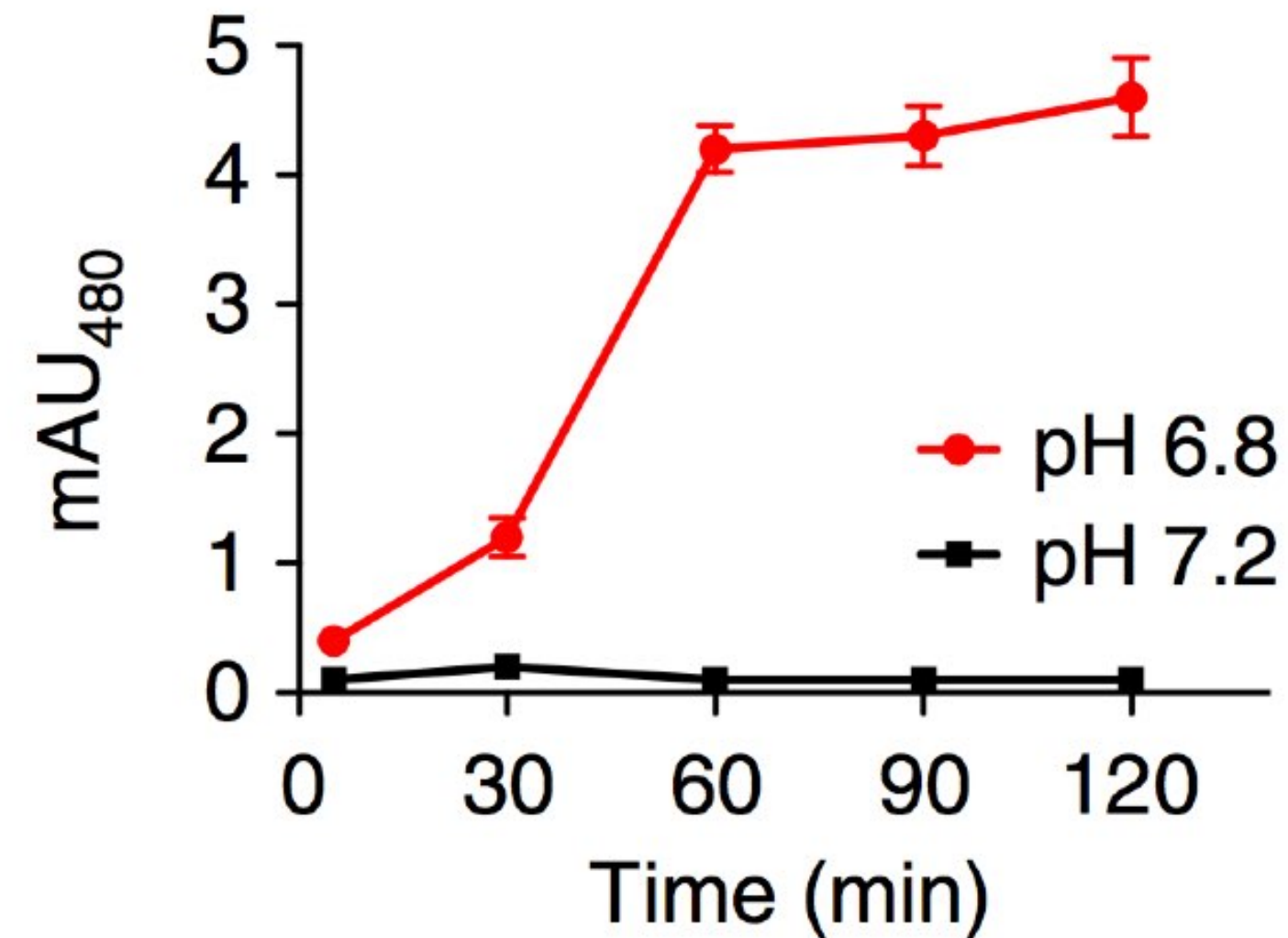
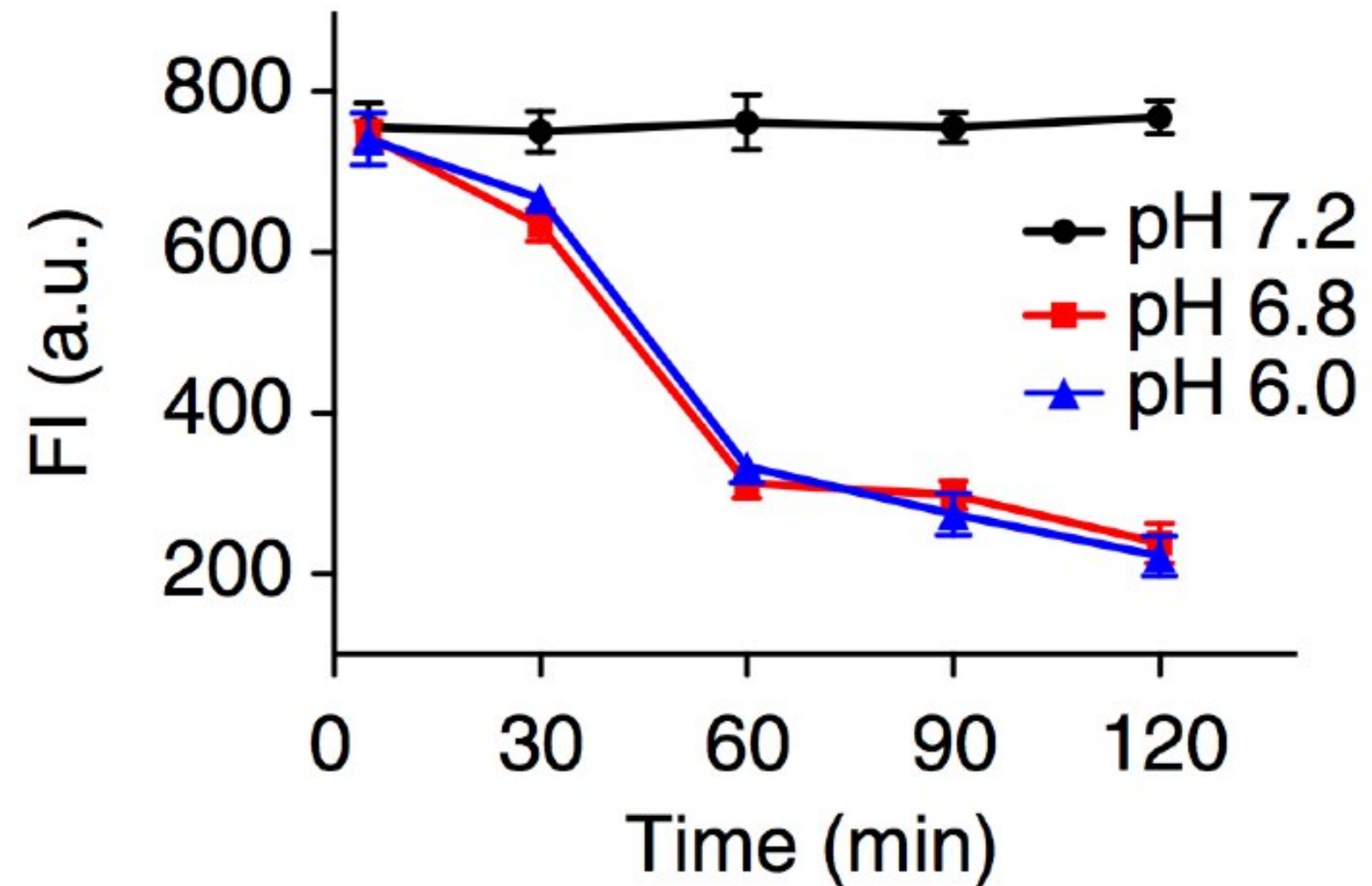


Padme is a new postdoc in the neighbouring lab



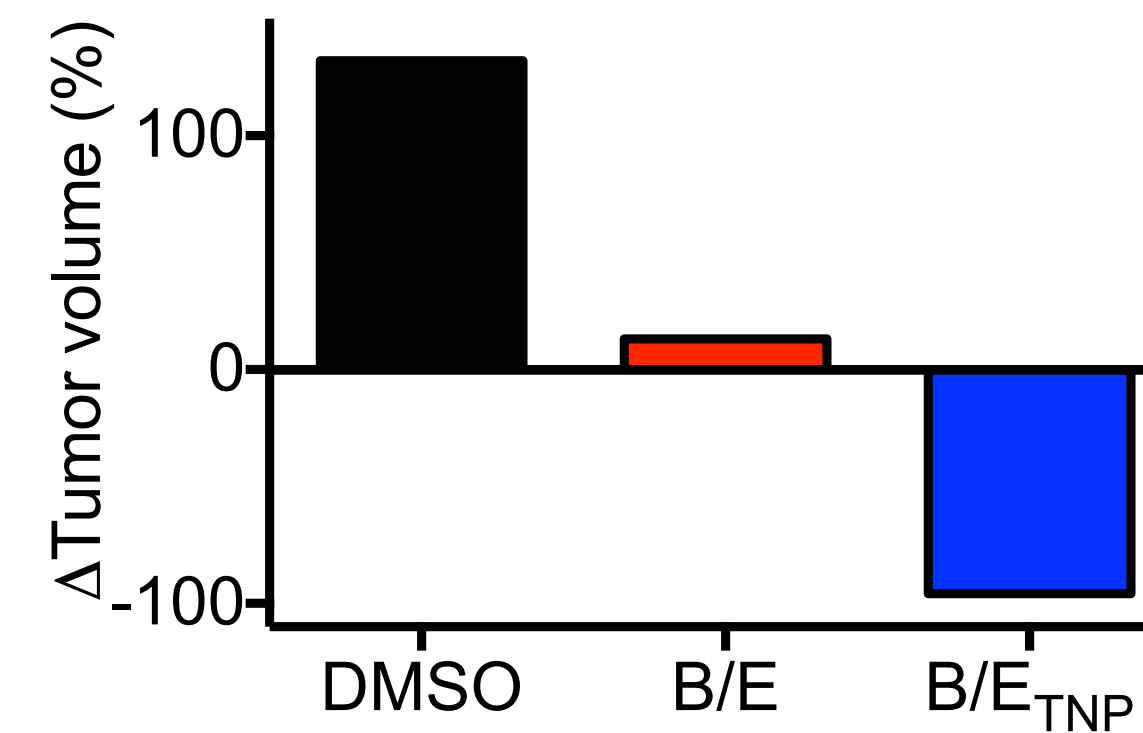
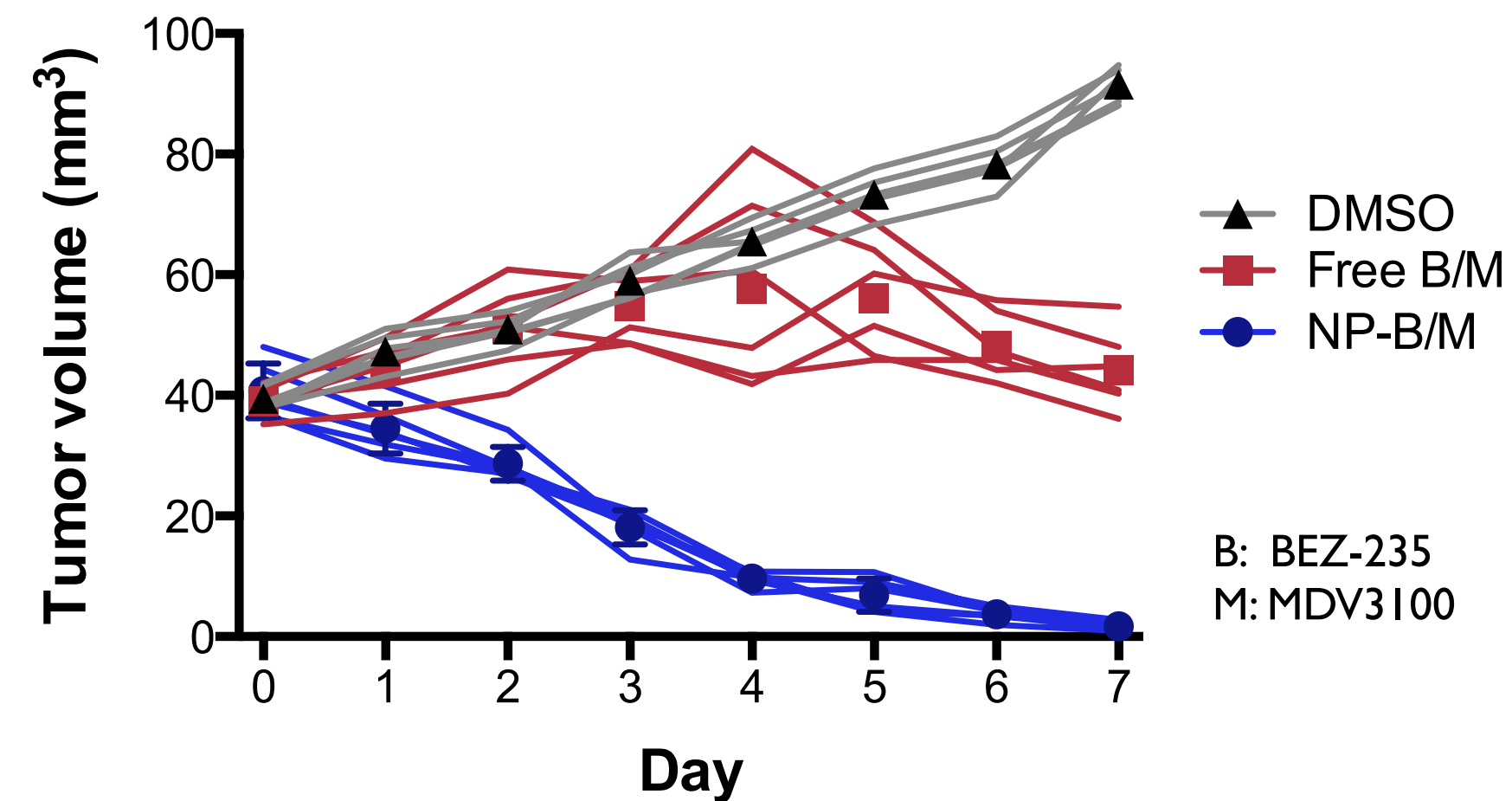
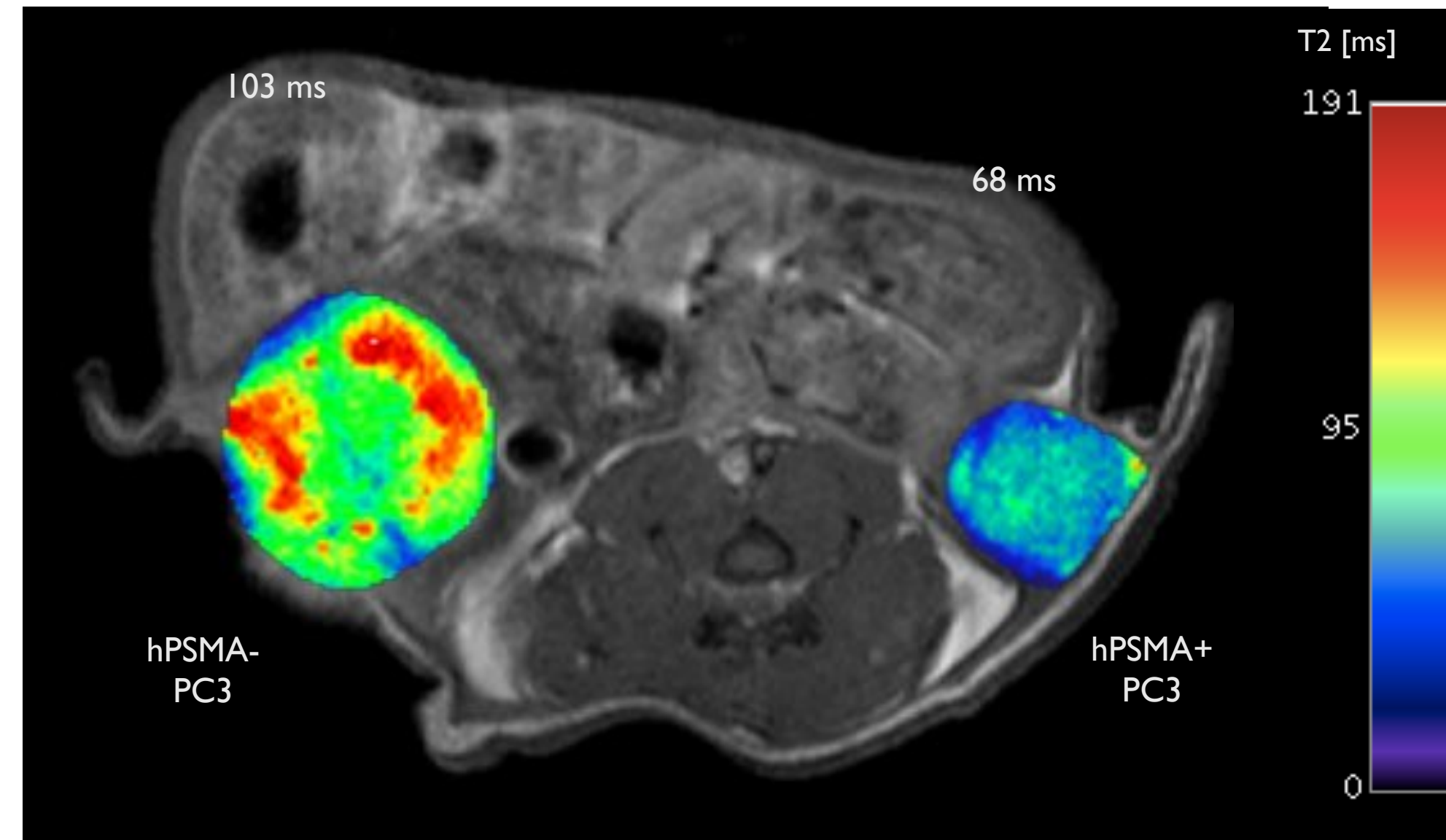
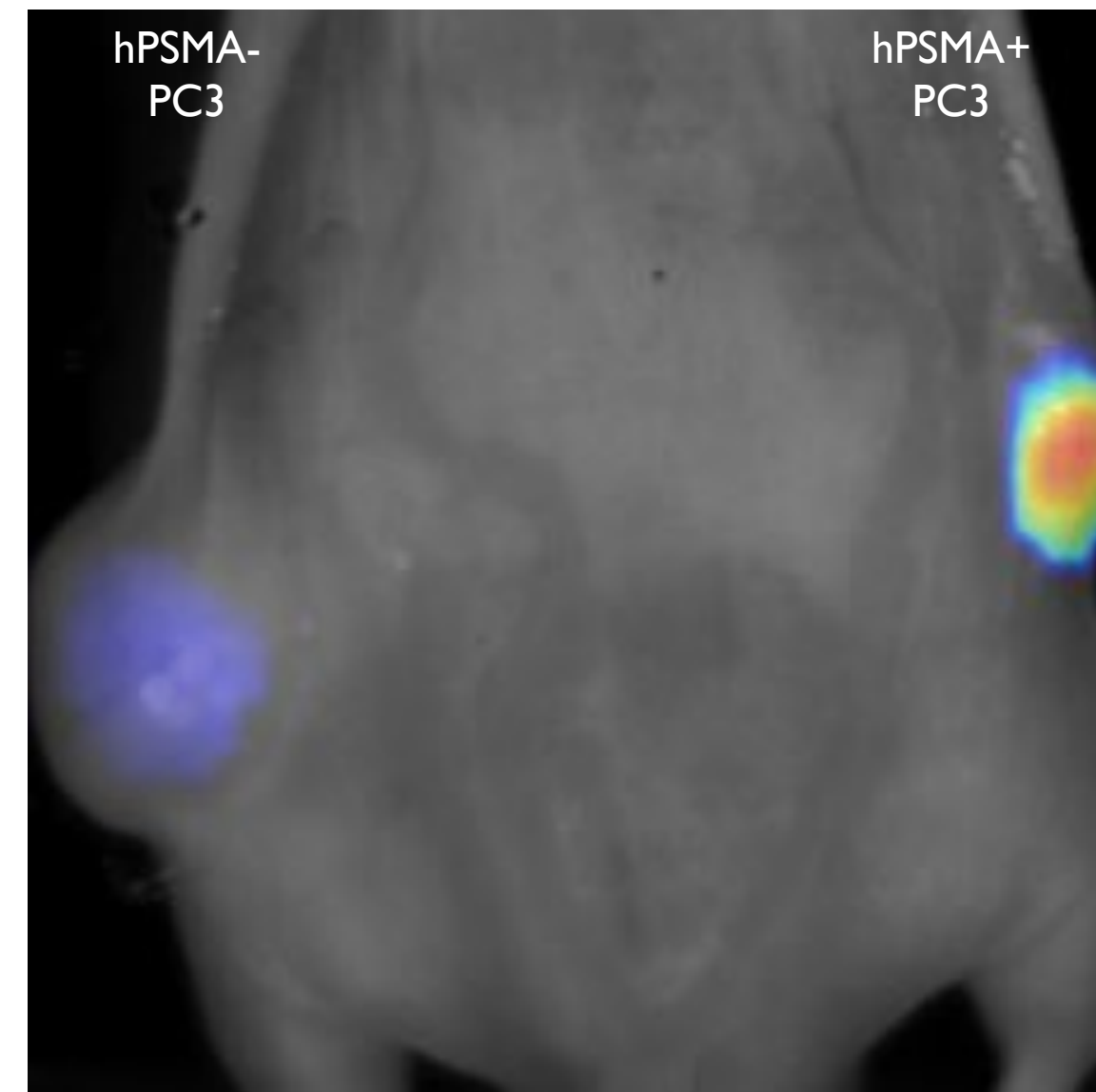
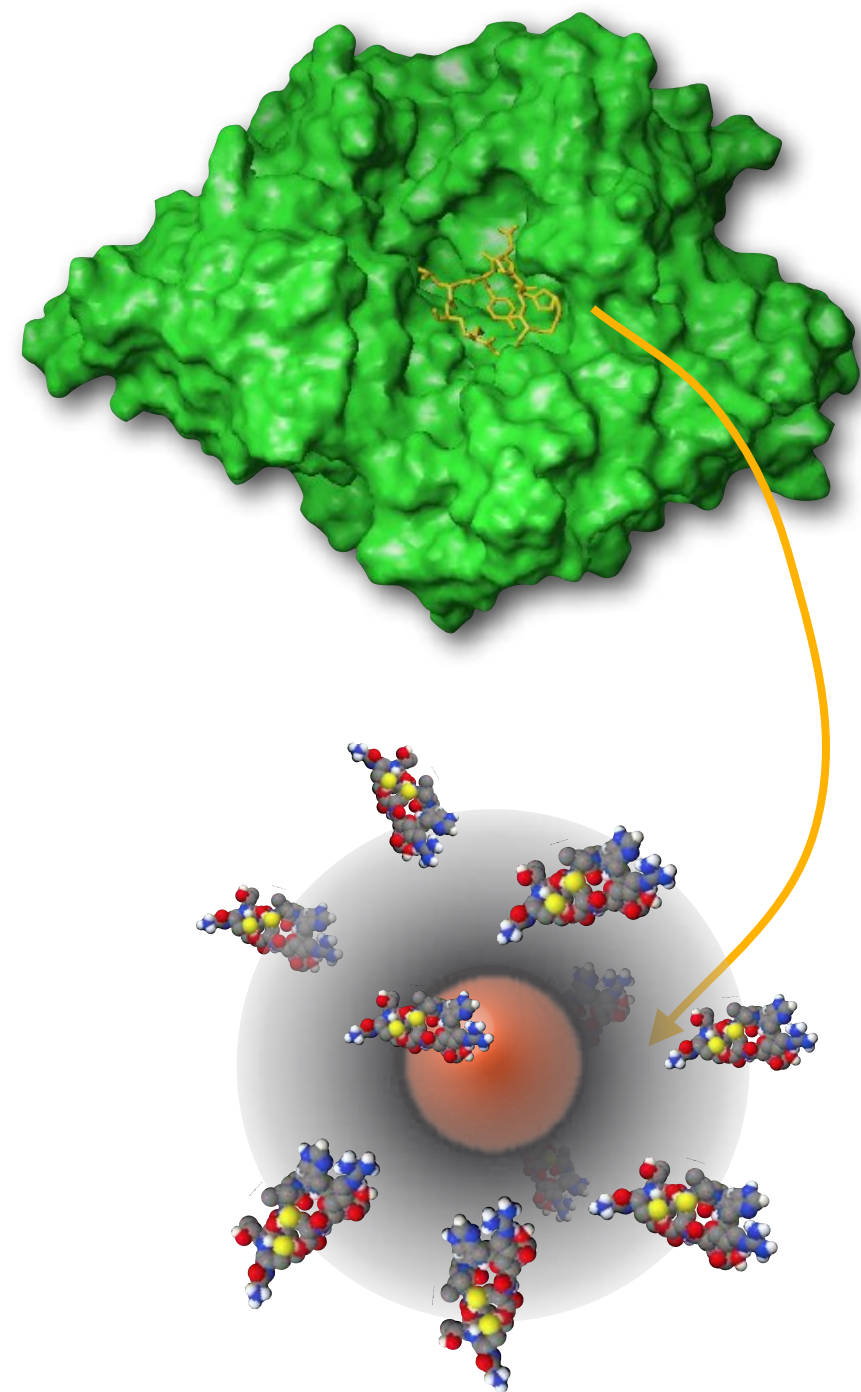
# So, lets look at this

## Drug loading of ferumoxytol with doxorubicin



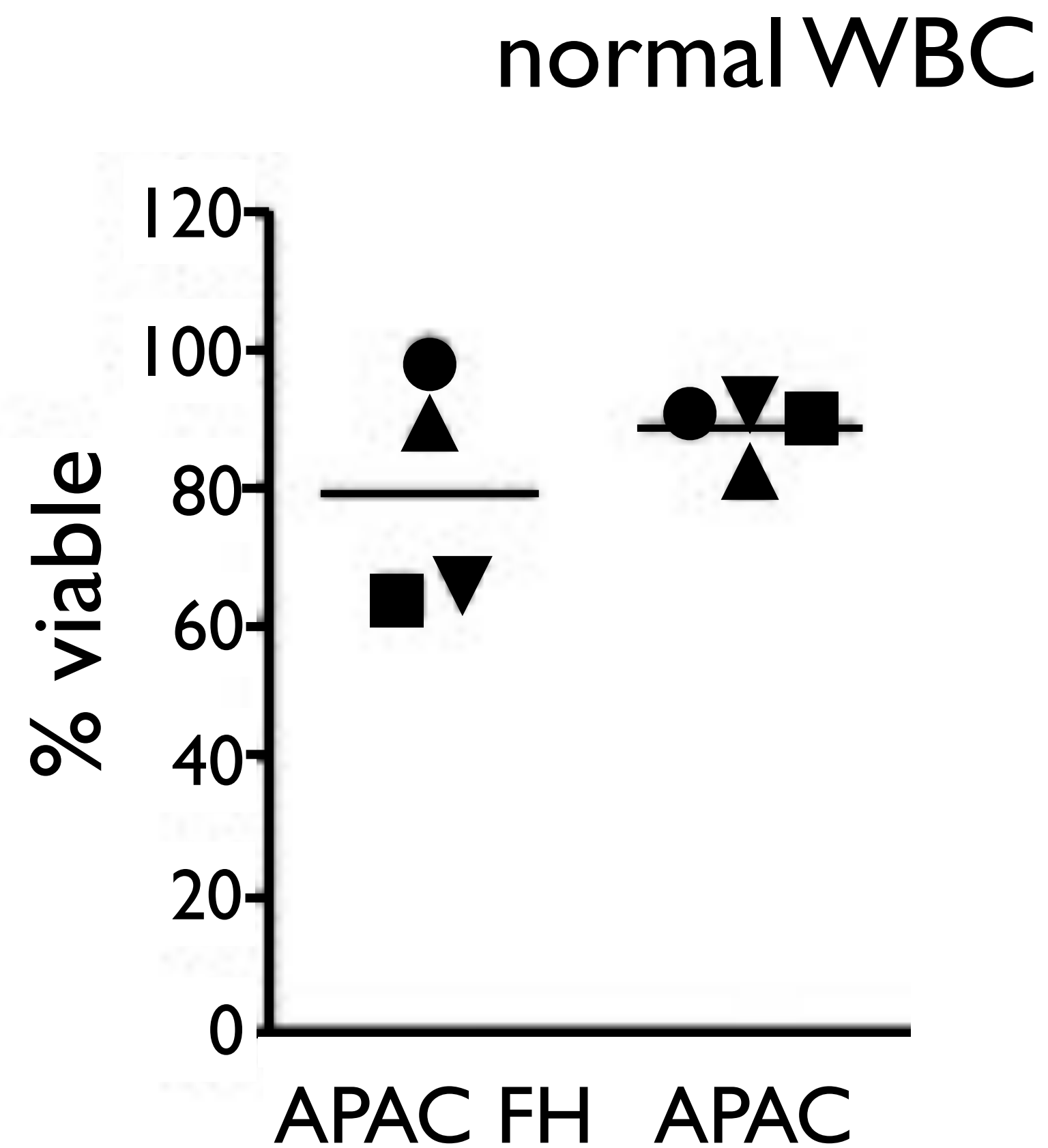
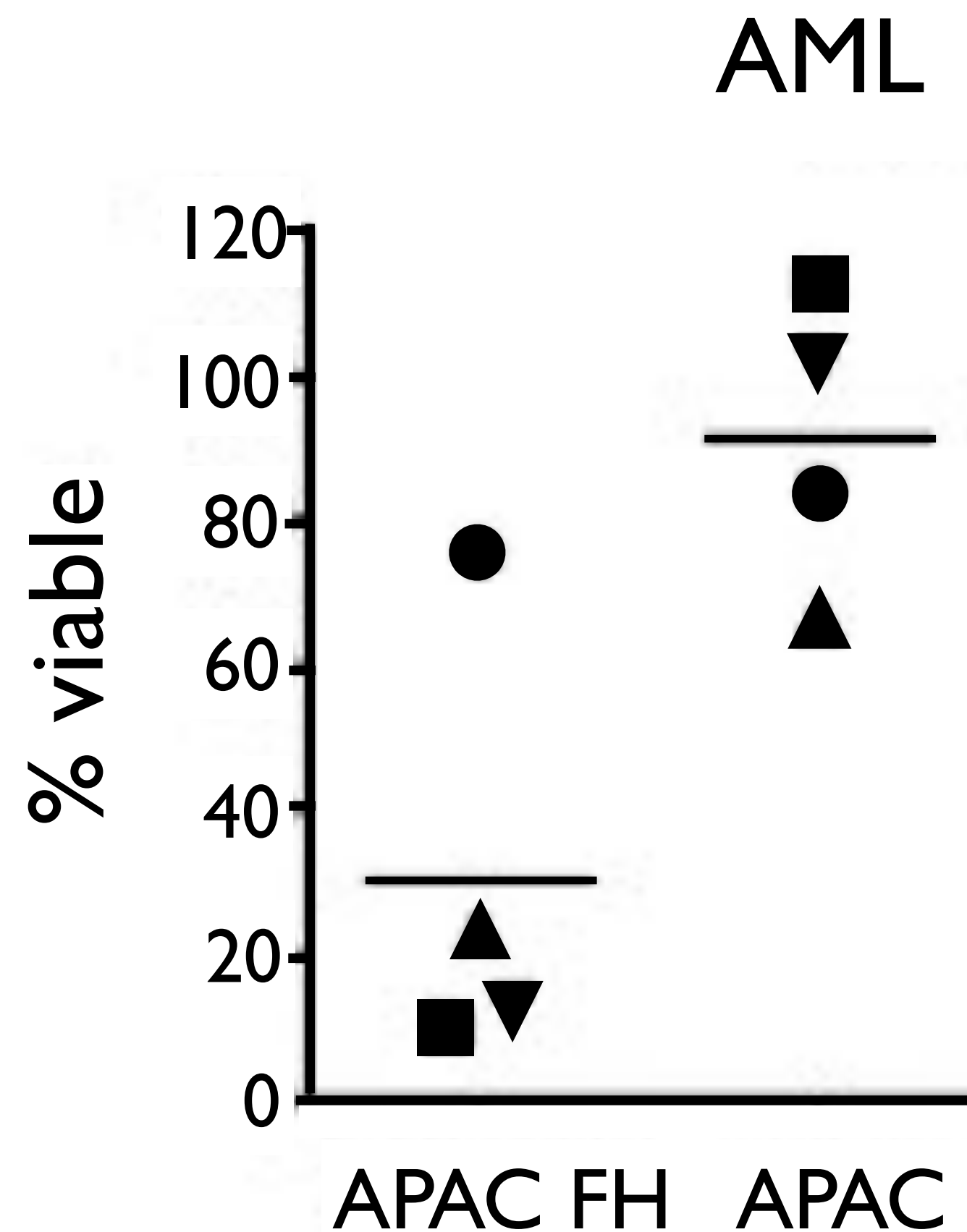


# PSMA-targeted theranostic IONP





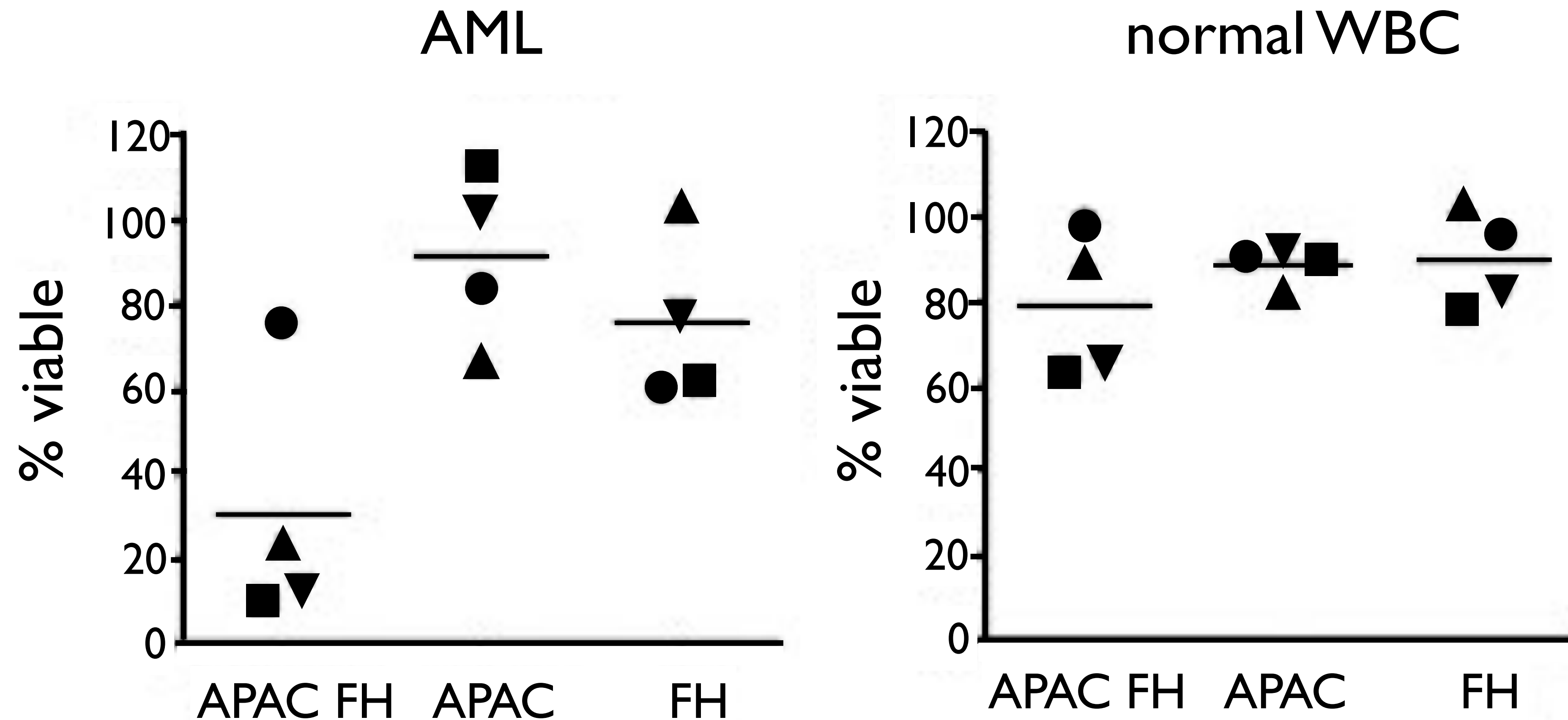
# Simple carrier, hm...?



APAC: Parthenolide derivative



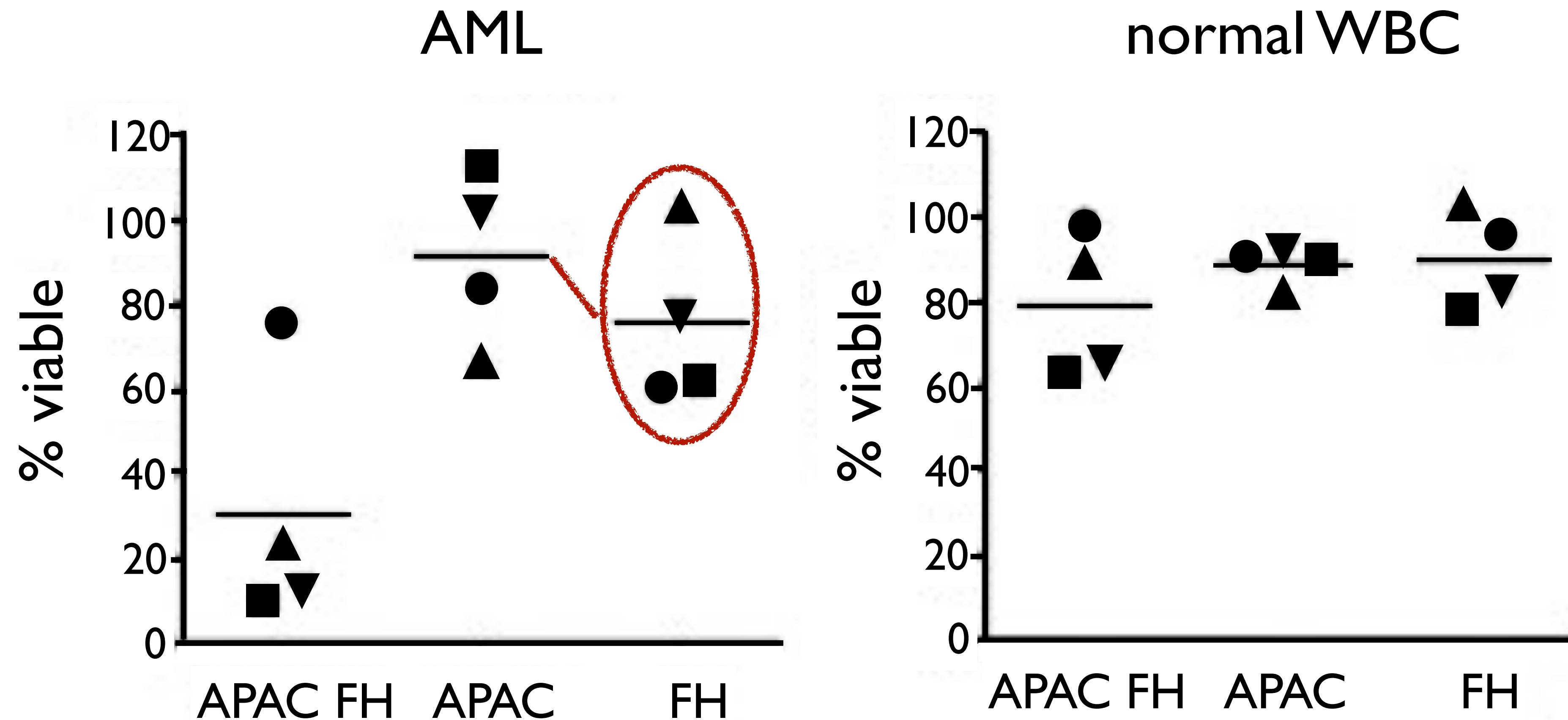
# Simple carrier, hm...?



APAC: Parthenolide derivative



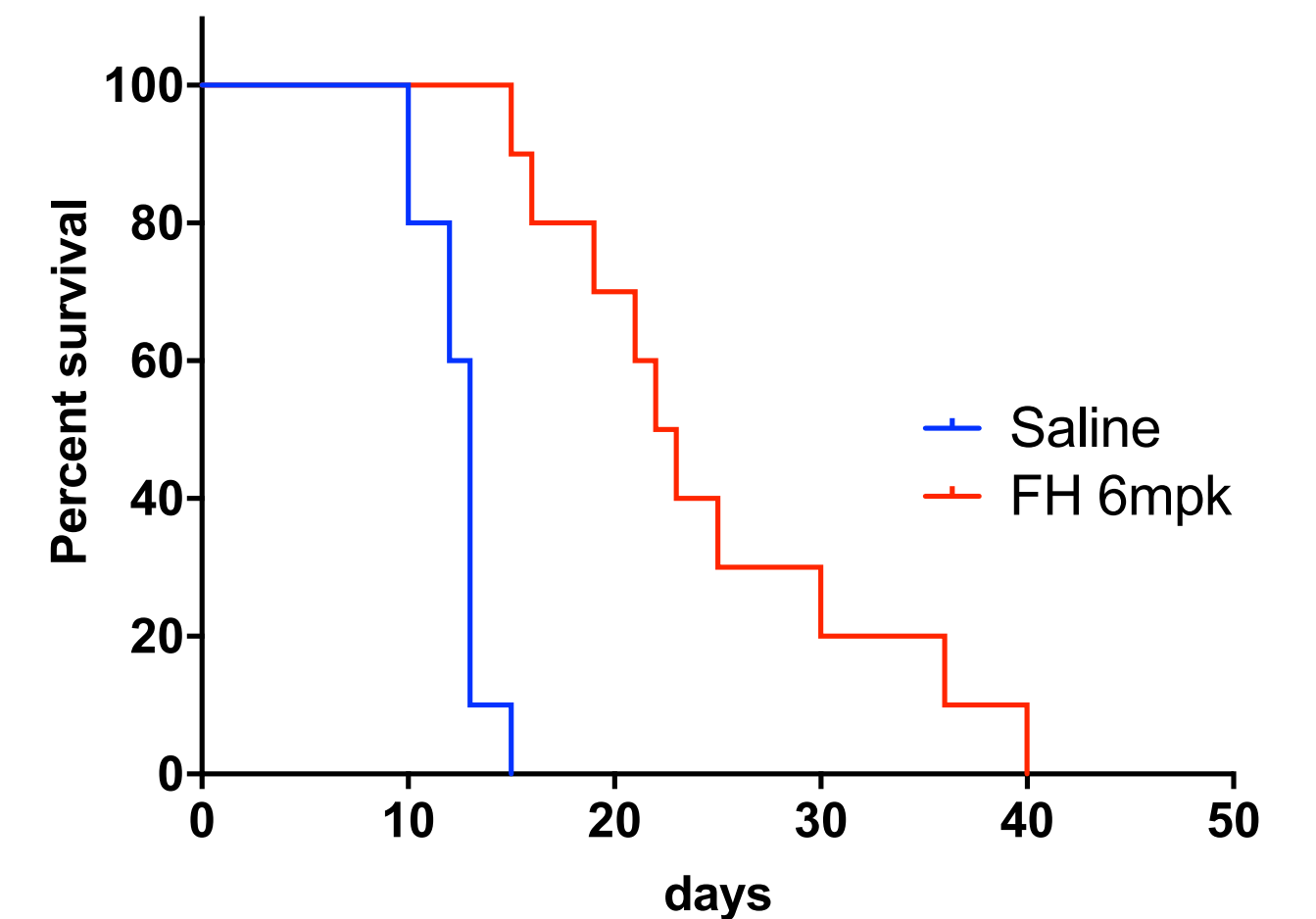
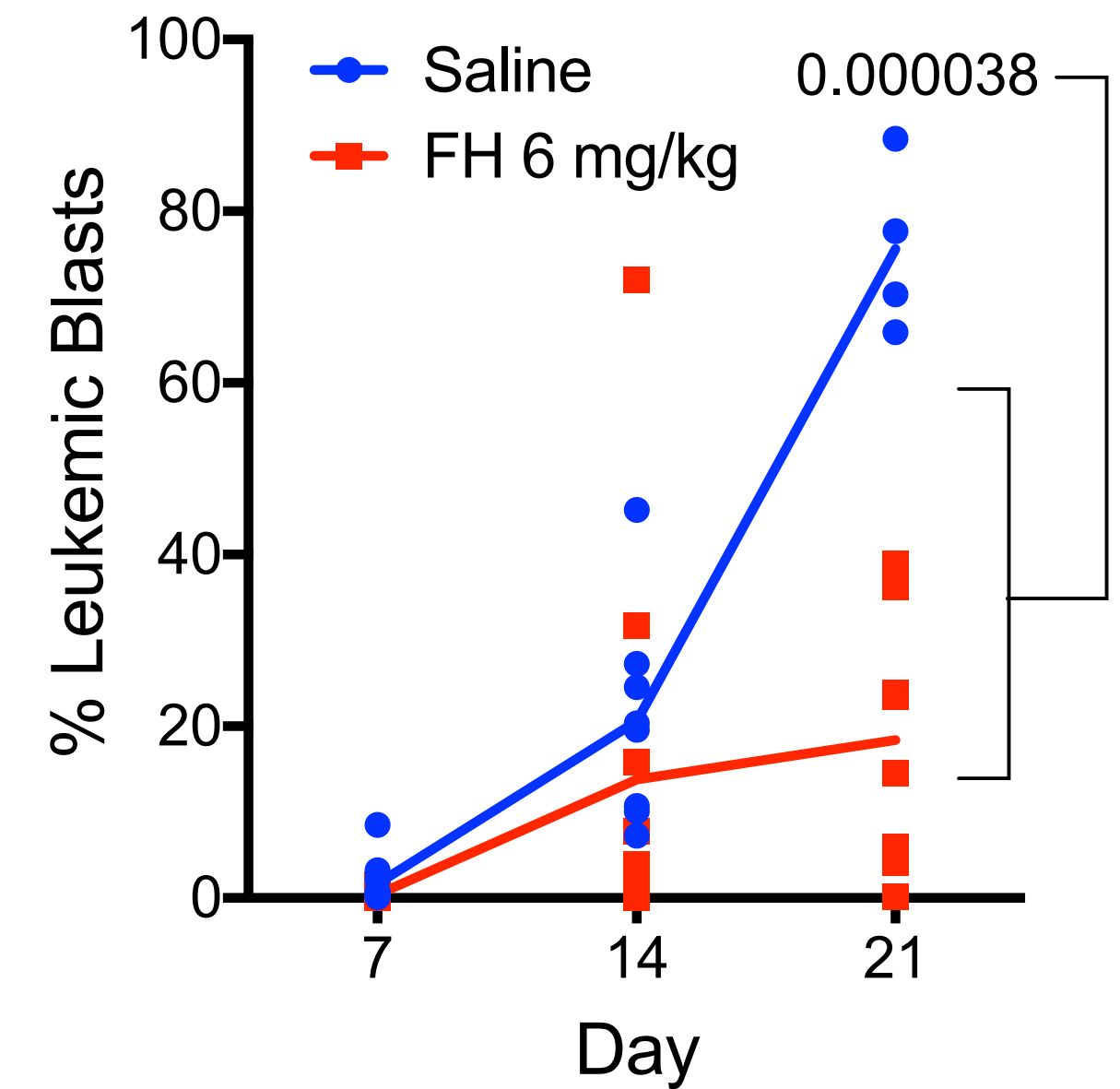
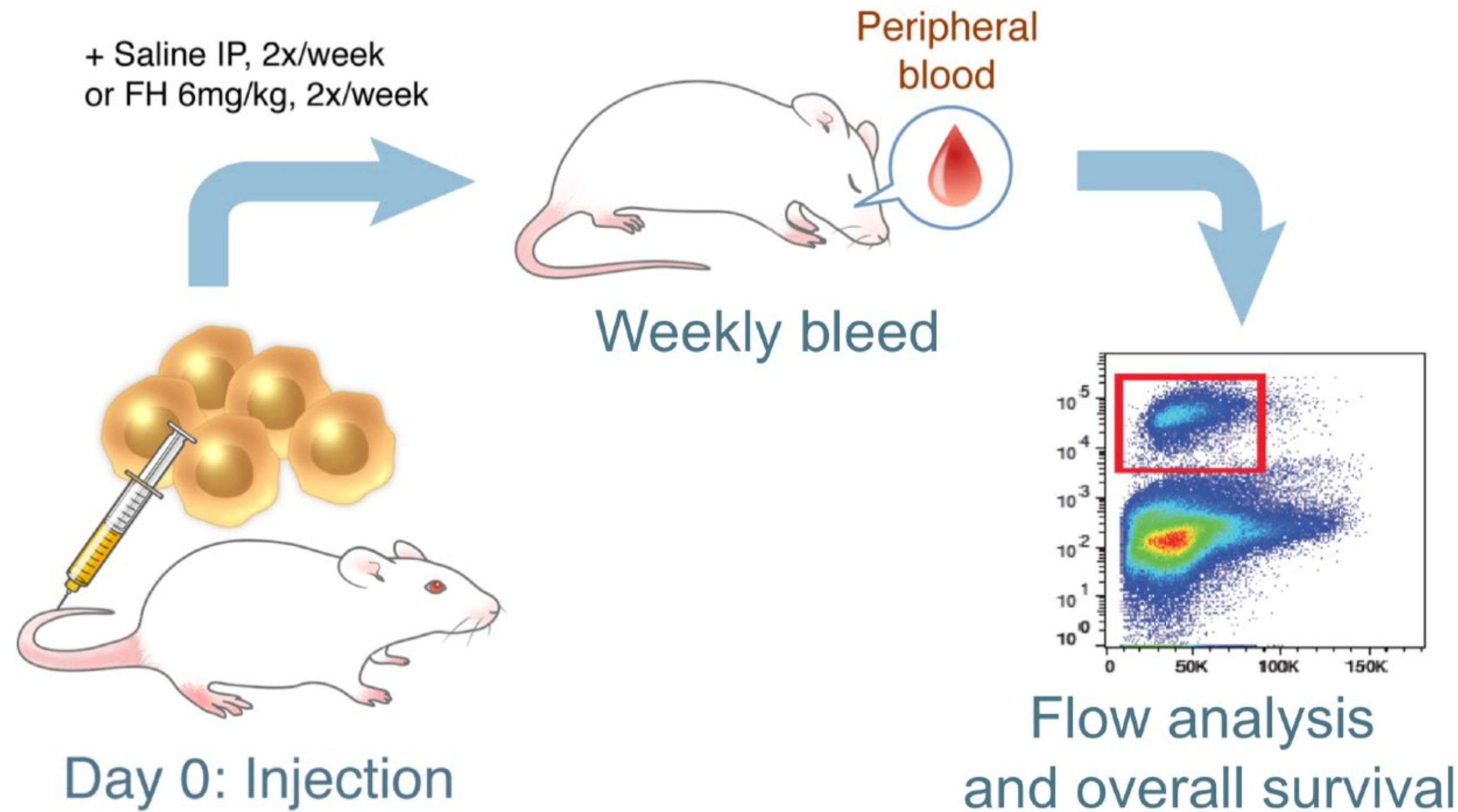
# Simple carrier, hm...?



APAC: Parthenolide derivative



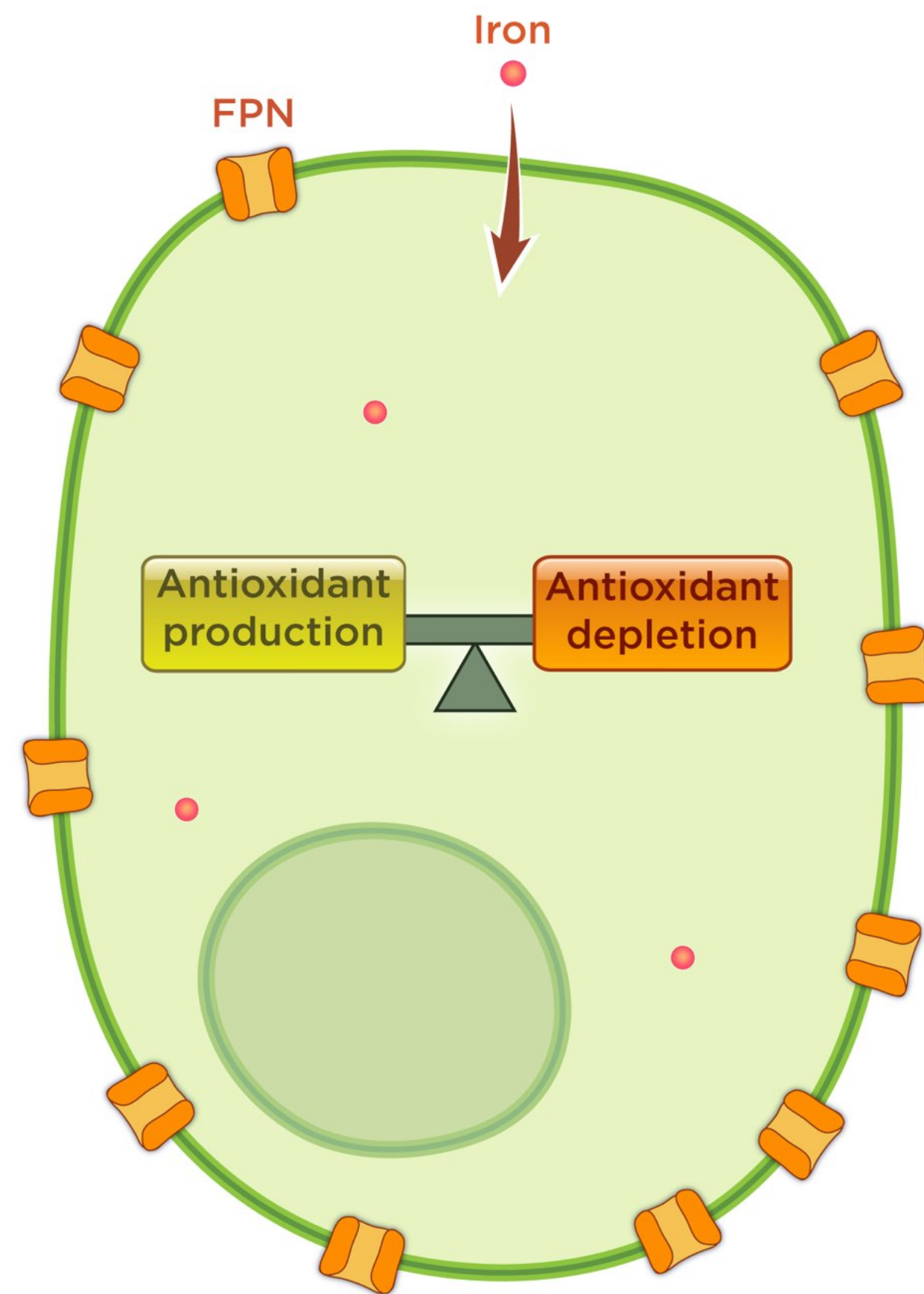
# AML therapy with FH





# Oxidative Ferrotherapy

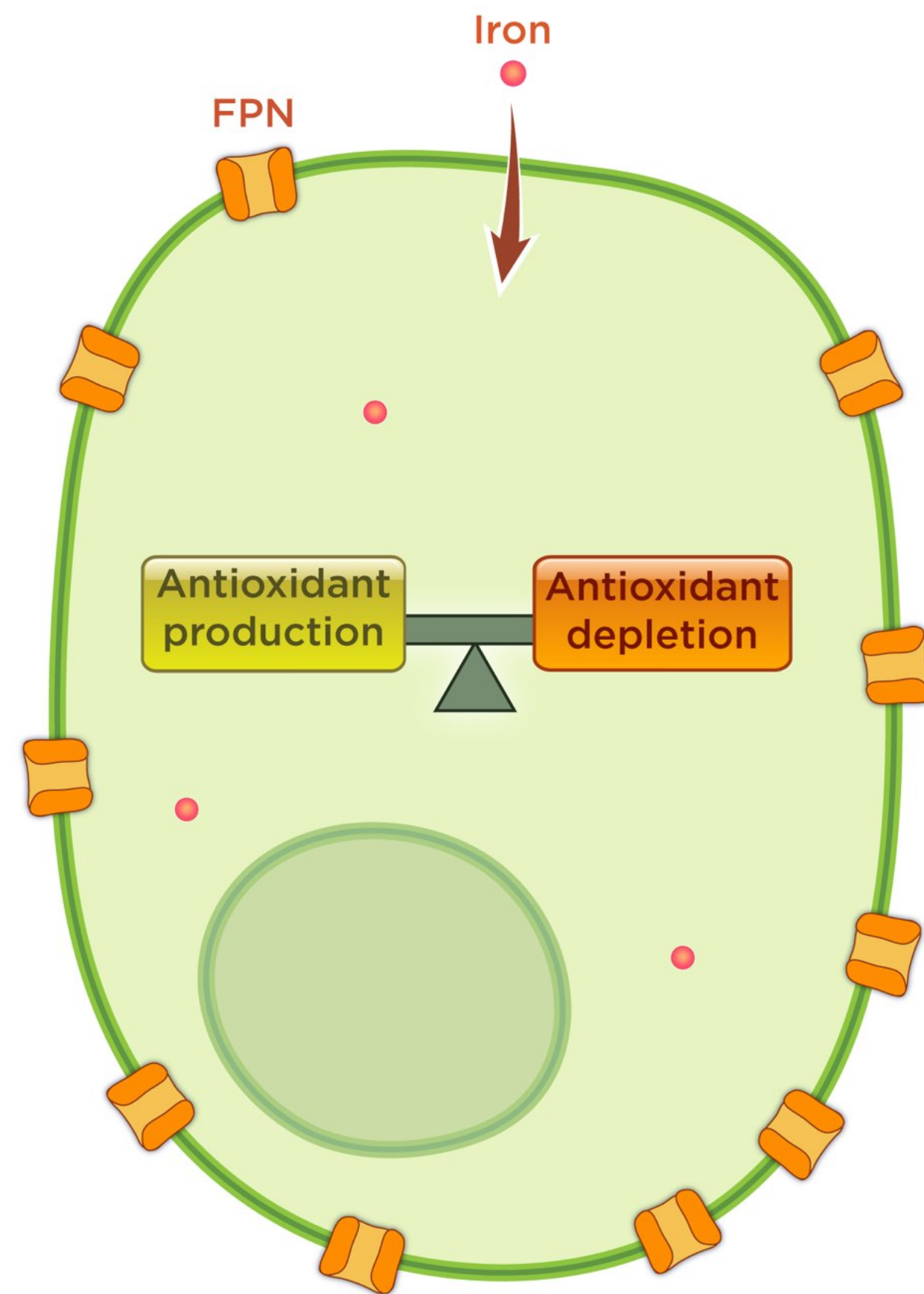
normal cell



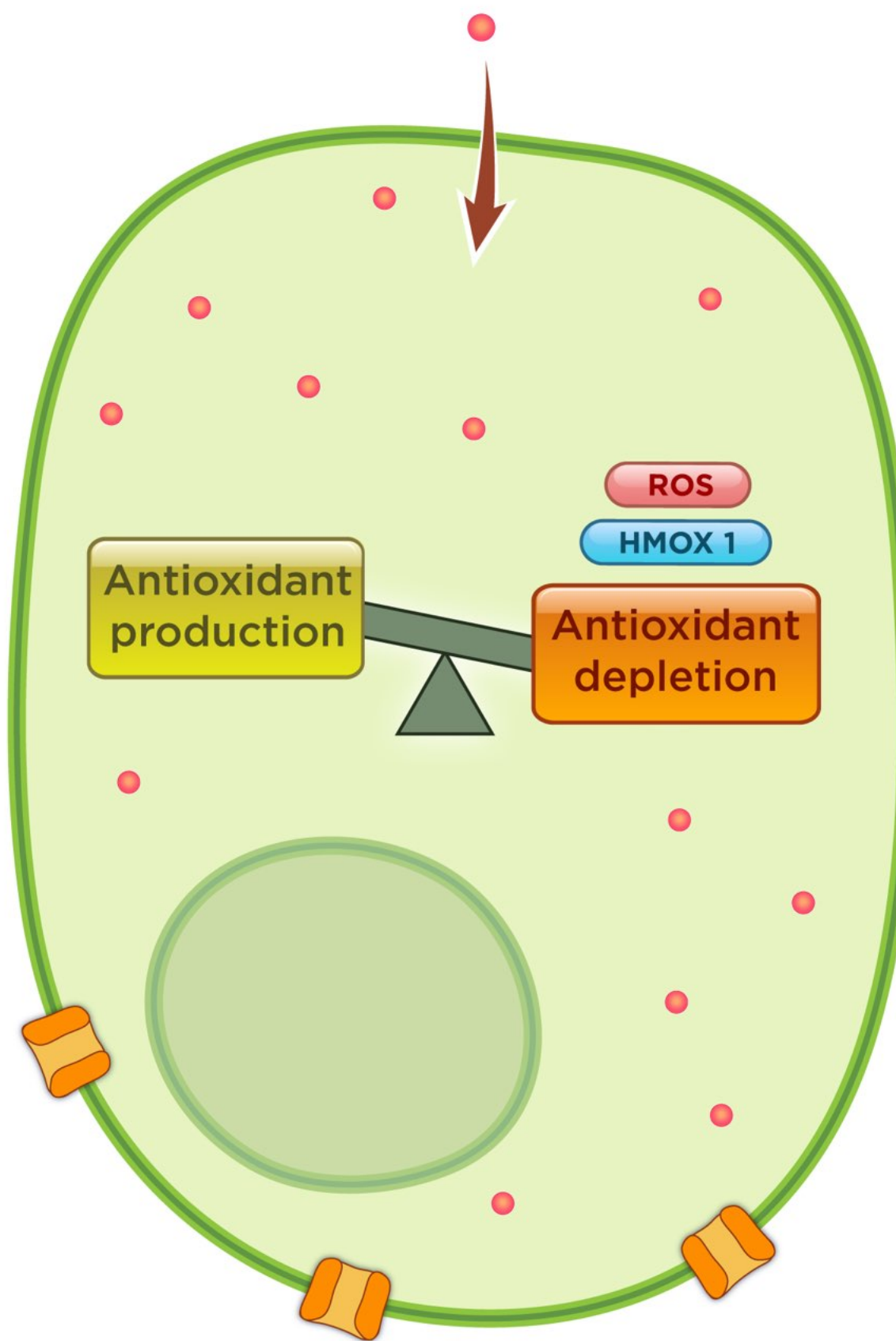


# Oxidative Ferrotherapy

normal cell



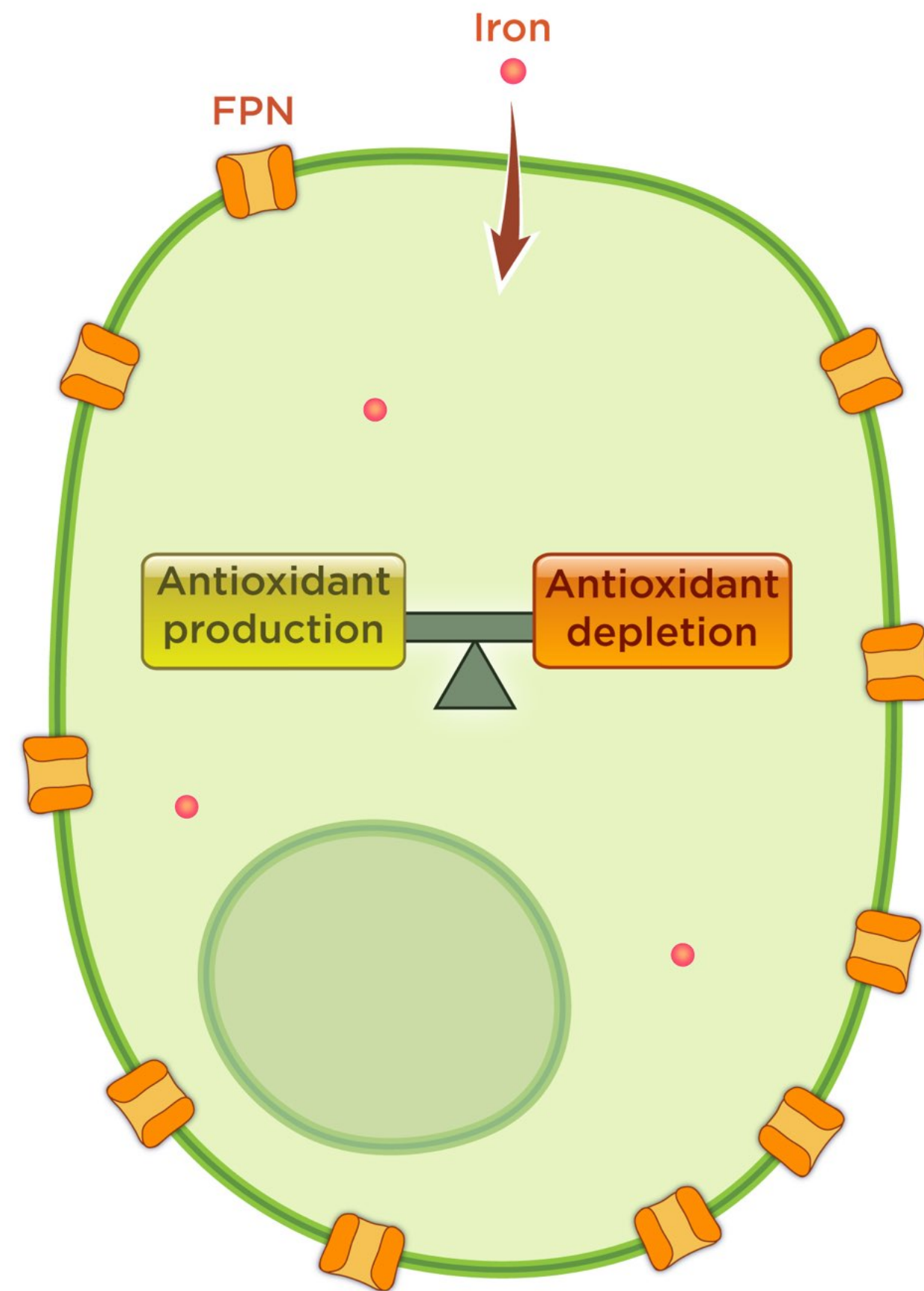
cancer cell



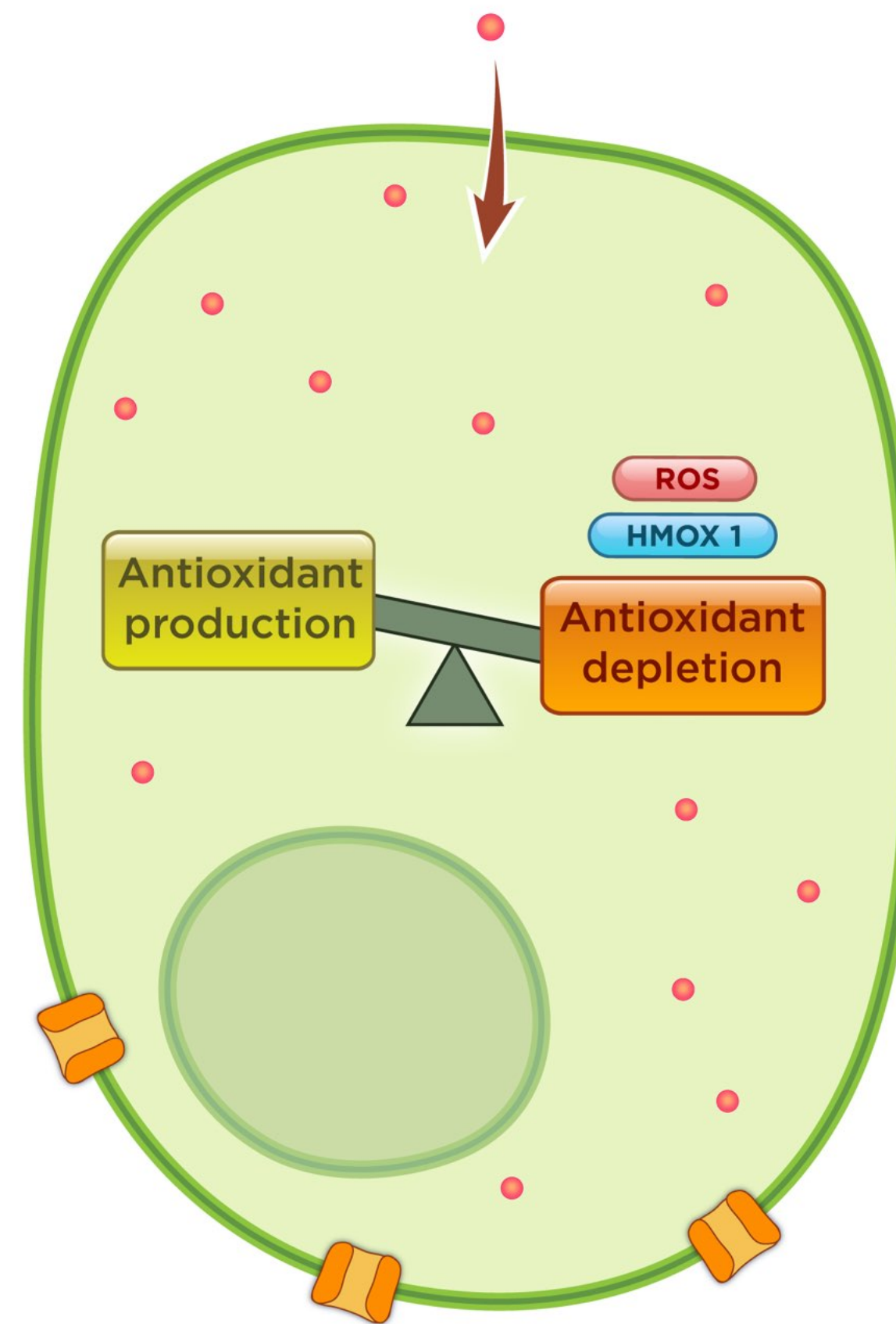


# Oxidative Ferrotherapy

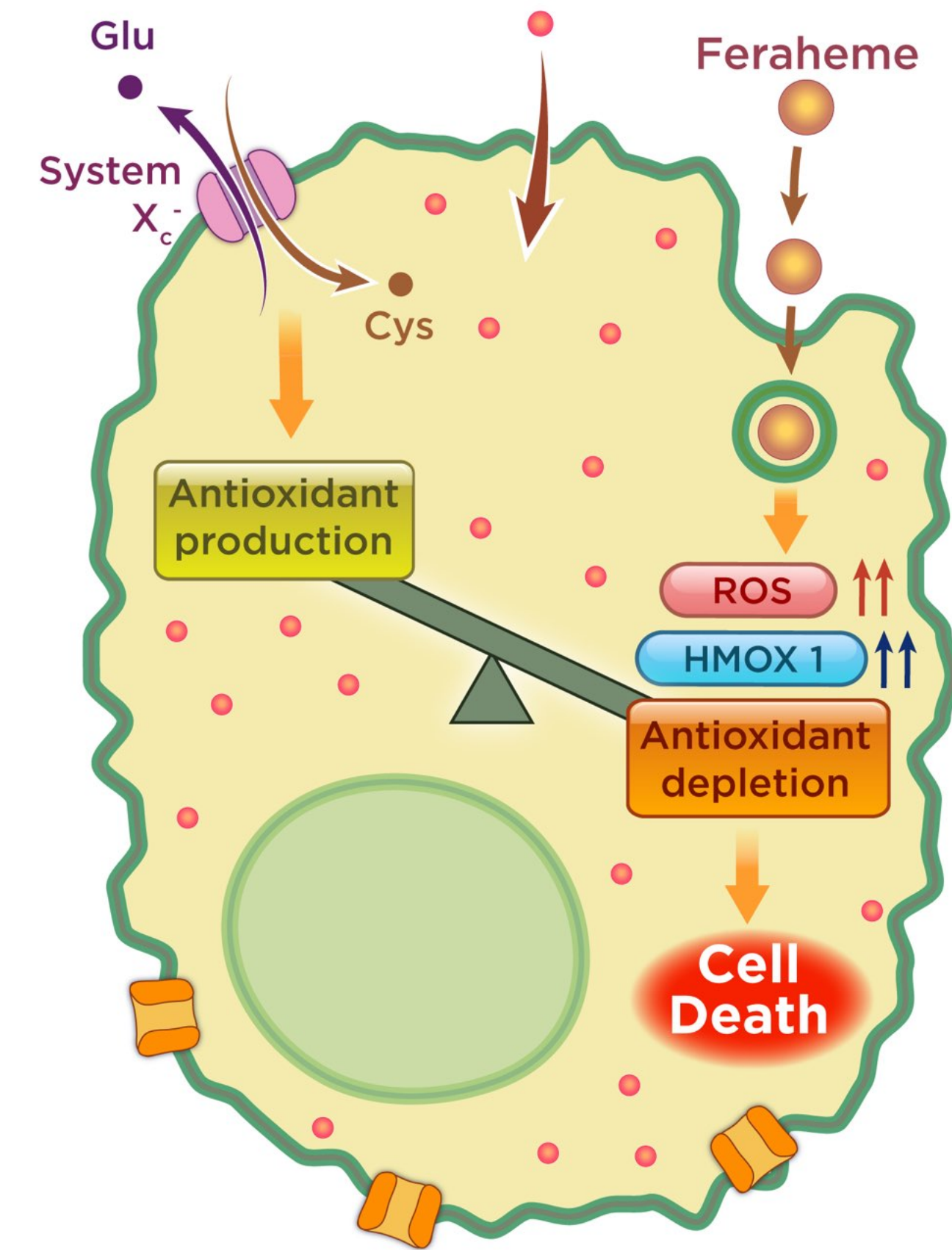
normal cell



cancer cell



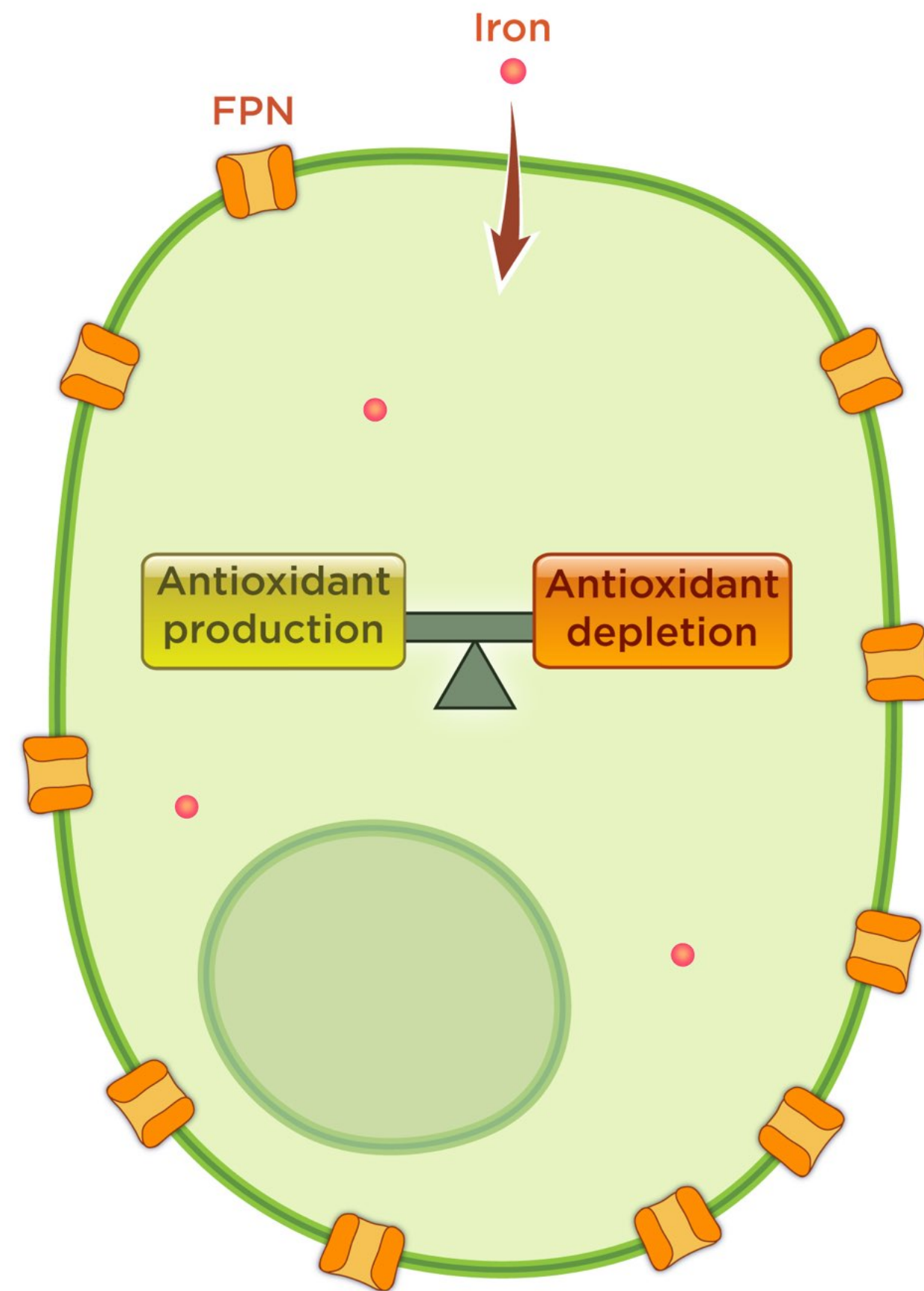
cancer cell & FH



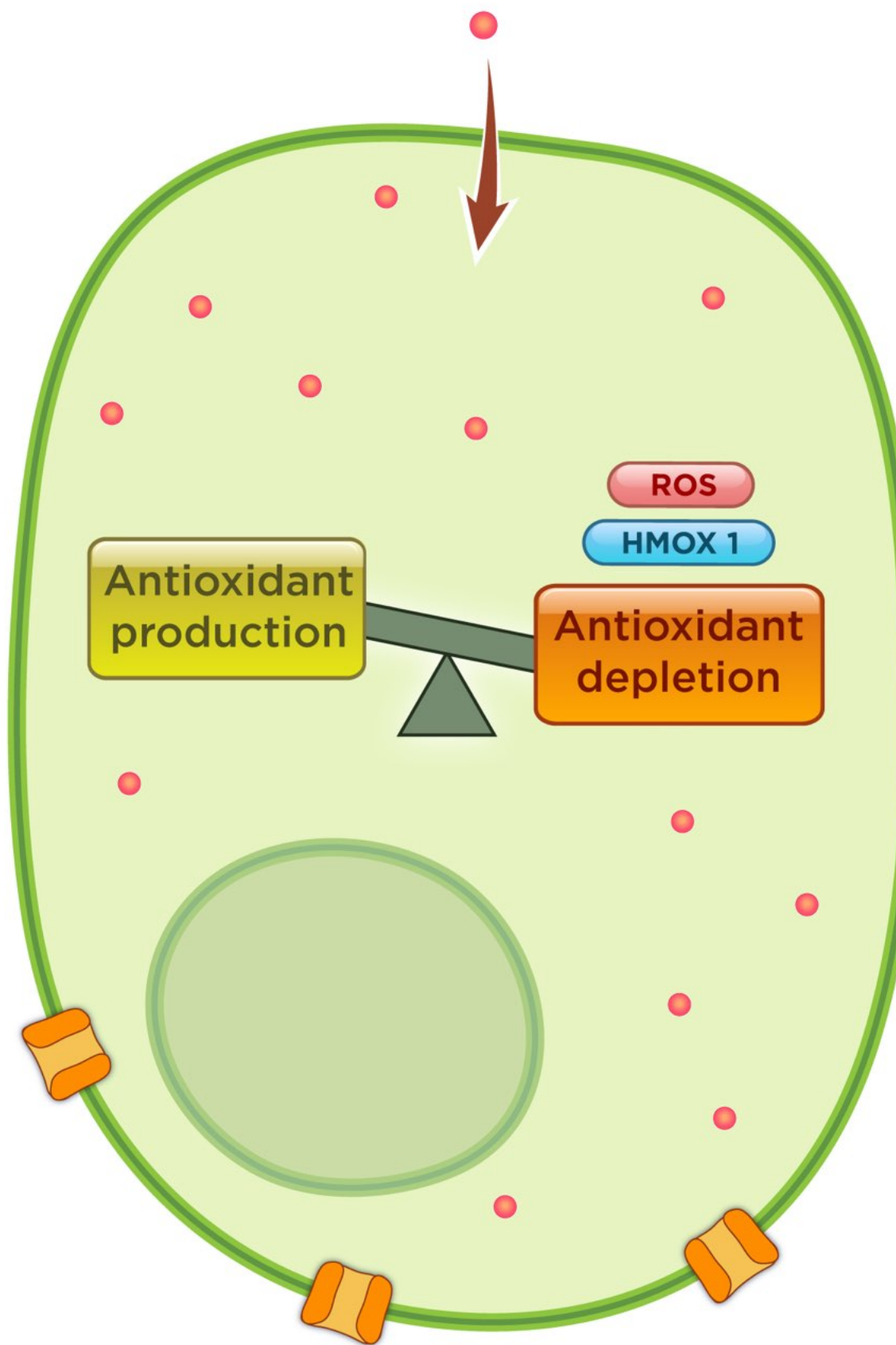


# Oxidative Ferrotherapy

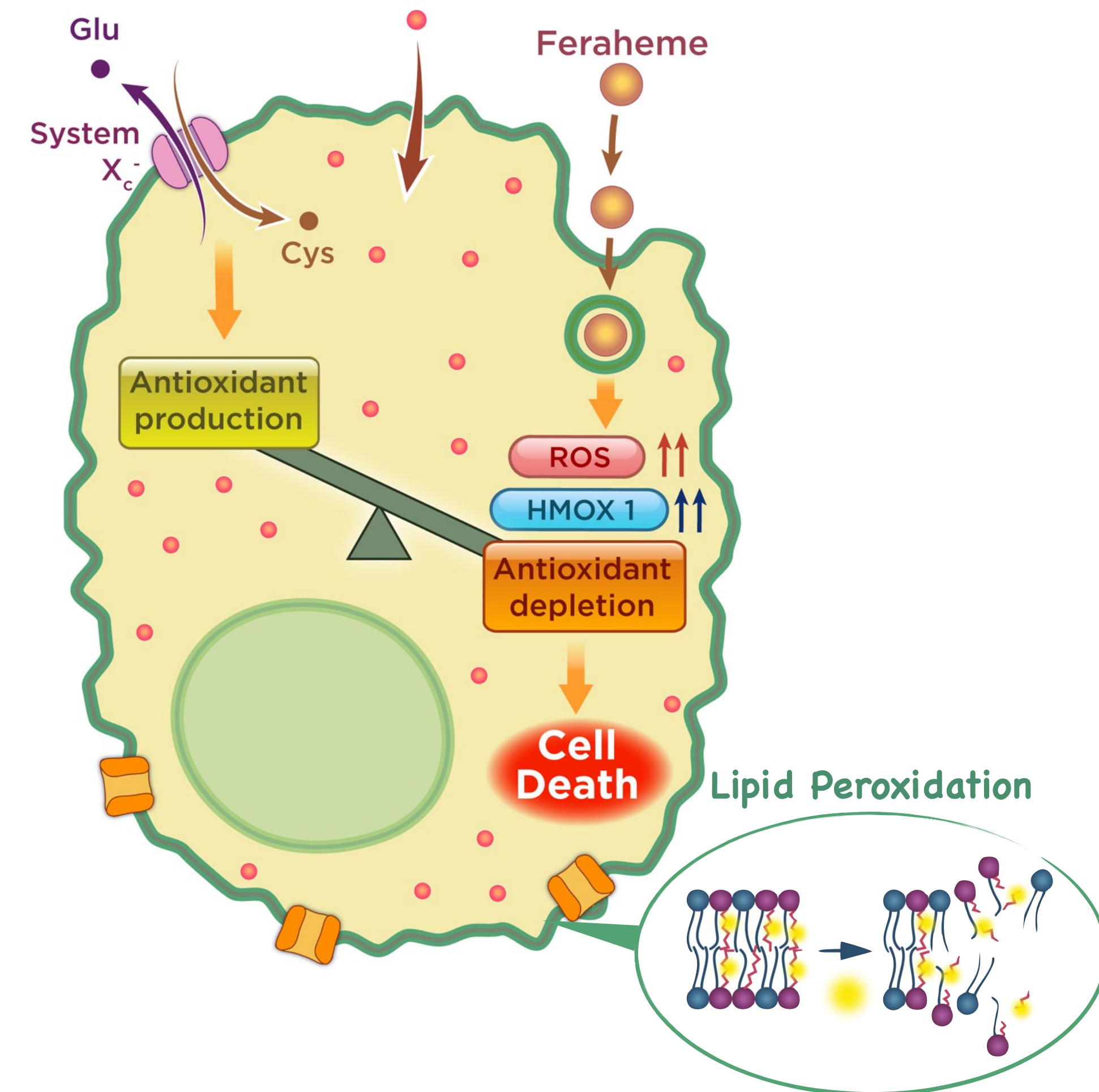
normal cell



cancer cell



cancer cell & FH

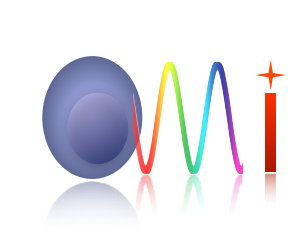




# The nanoparticle knowledge gap

---

- Limited understanding compared to small molecules or biologics

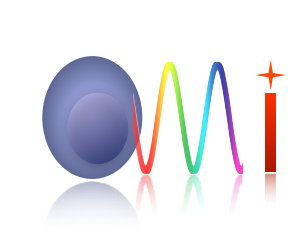




# The nanoparticle knowledge gap

---

- Limited understanding compared to small molecules or biologics
- *Too often unclear interactions with host biology*

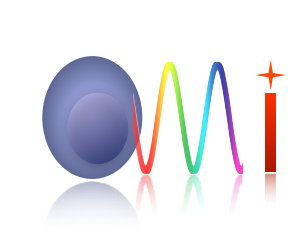




# The nanoparticle knowledge gap

---

- Limited understanding compared to small molecules or biologics
- *Too often unclear interactions with host biology*
- Most study of biomedical nanoparticles has taken a very narrow view

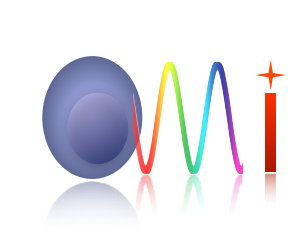




# The nanoparticle knowledge gap

---

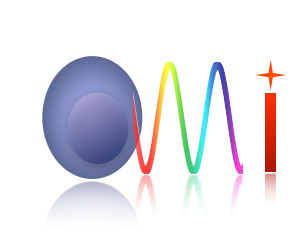
- Limited understanding compared to small molecules or biologics
- *Too often unclear interactions with host biology*
- Most study of biomedical nanoparticles has taken a very narrow view
- We can image / we can treat - with the *payload*, ignoring carrier



# The nanoparticle knowledge gap

---

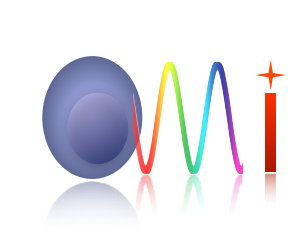
- Limited understanding compared to small molecules or biologics
- *Too often unclear interactions with host biology*
- Most study of biomedical nanoparticles has taken a very narrow view
  - We can image / we can treat - with the *payload*, ignoring carrier
- Studies predominantly focus on effects of functional moieties (payloads)





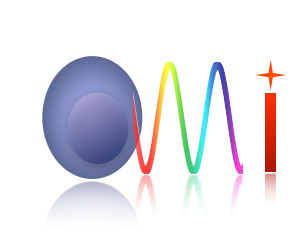
# The nanoparticle knowledge gap

- Limited understanding compared to small molecules or biologics
- *Too often unclear interactions with host biology*
- Most study of biomedical nanoparticles has taken a very narrow view
  - We can image / we can treat - with the *payload*, ignoring carrier
  - Studies predominantly focus on effects of functional moieties (payloads)
- What effects might arise from the rest of the particle?



# The nanoparticle knowledge gap

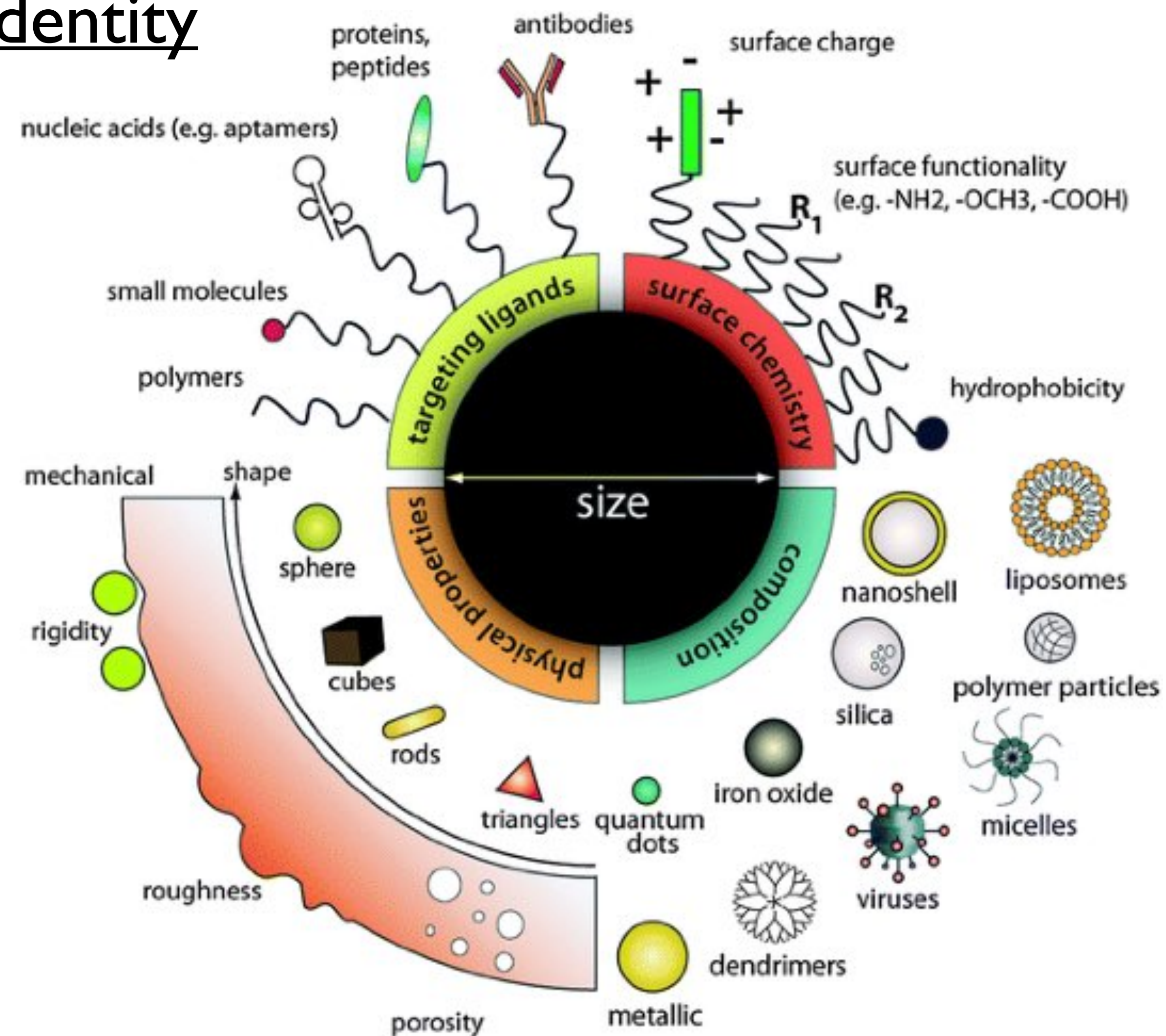
- Limited understanding compared to small molecules or biologics
- *Too often unclear interactions with host biology*
- Most study of biomedical nanoparticles has taken a very narrow view
  - We can image / we can treat - with the *payload*, ignoring carrier
  - Studies predominantly focus on effects of functional moieties (payloads)
- What effects might arise from the rest of the particle?





# "Pristine" particle identity

## Determinants of pristine nanoparticle identity

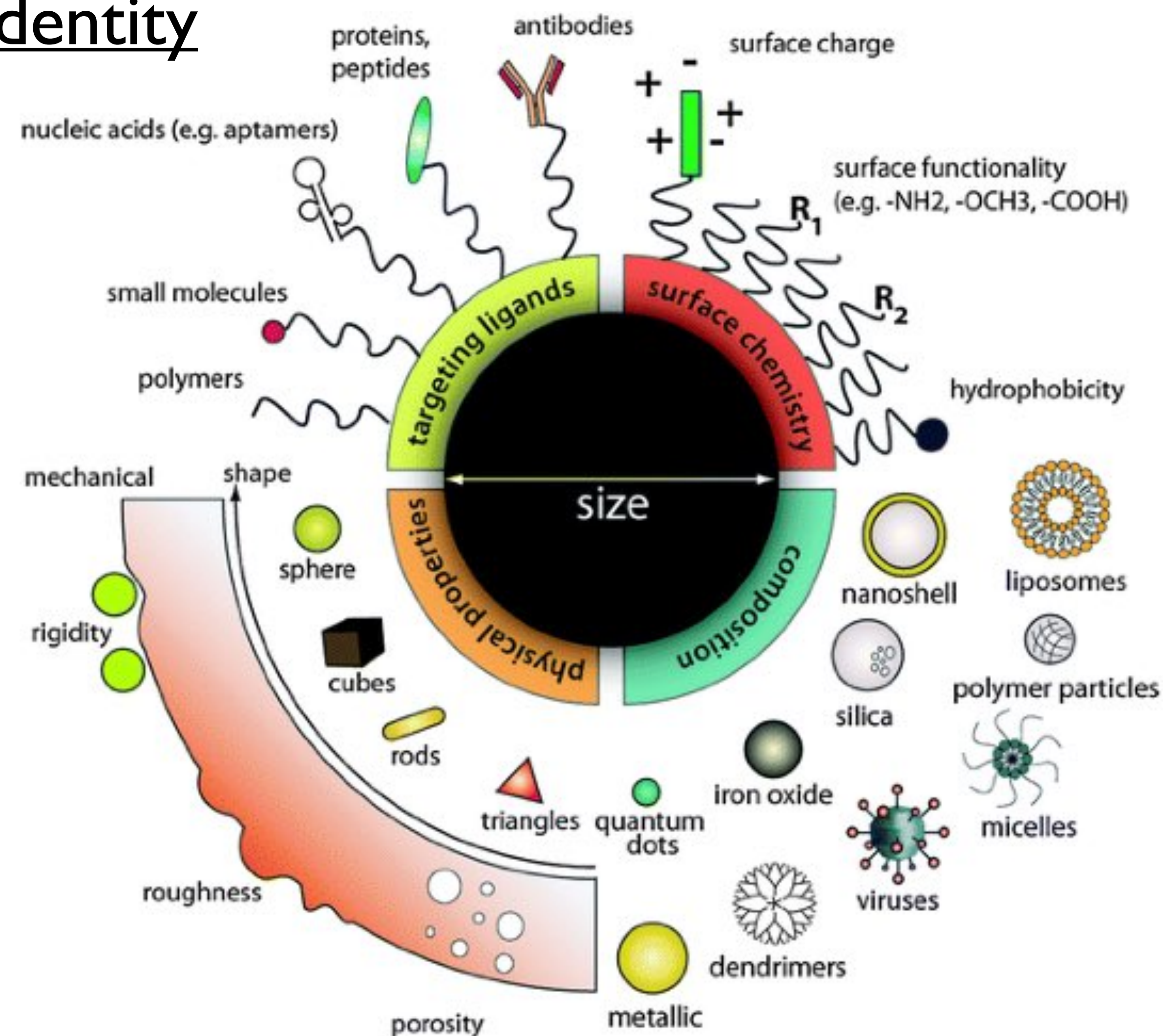




# "Pristine" particle identity

## Determinants of pristine nanoparticle identity

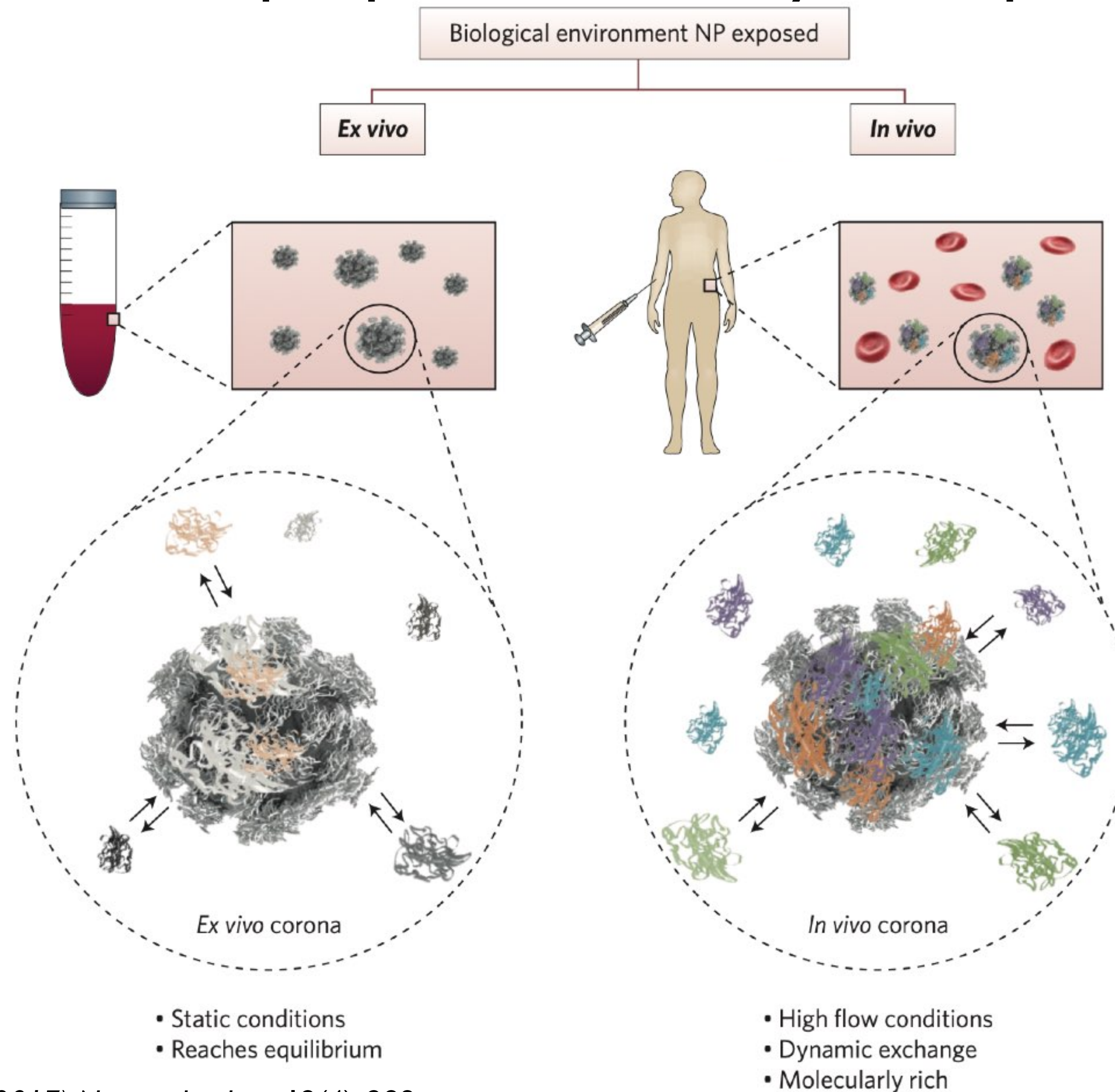
- Targeting ligands
- Drug payloads
- Size
- Shape
- Material
- Structure
- Rigidity/elasticity
- Roughness
- Porosity
- Surface charge
- Hydrophobicity
- Functional groups
- Imaging moieties
- etc.





# “*Biological*” particle identity (Corona)

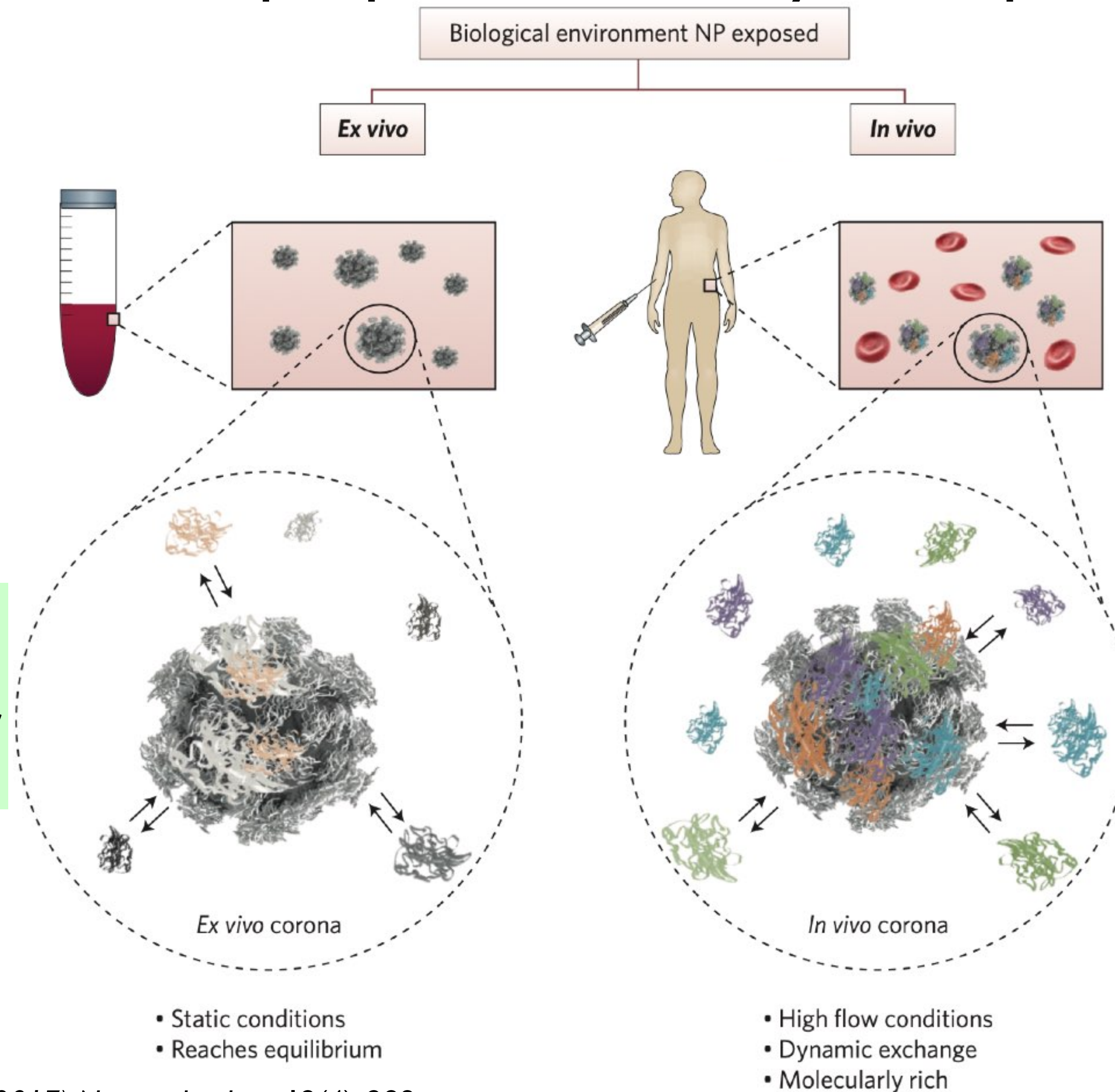
Biomolecules form a unique particle identity on top of the pristine identity





# “Biological” particle identity (Corona)

Biomolecules form a unique particle identity on top of the pristine identity

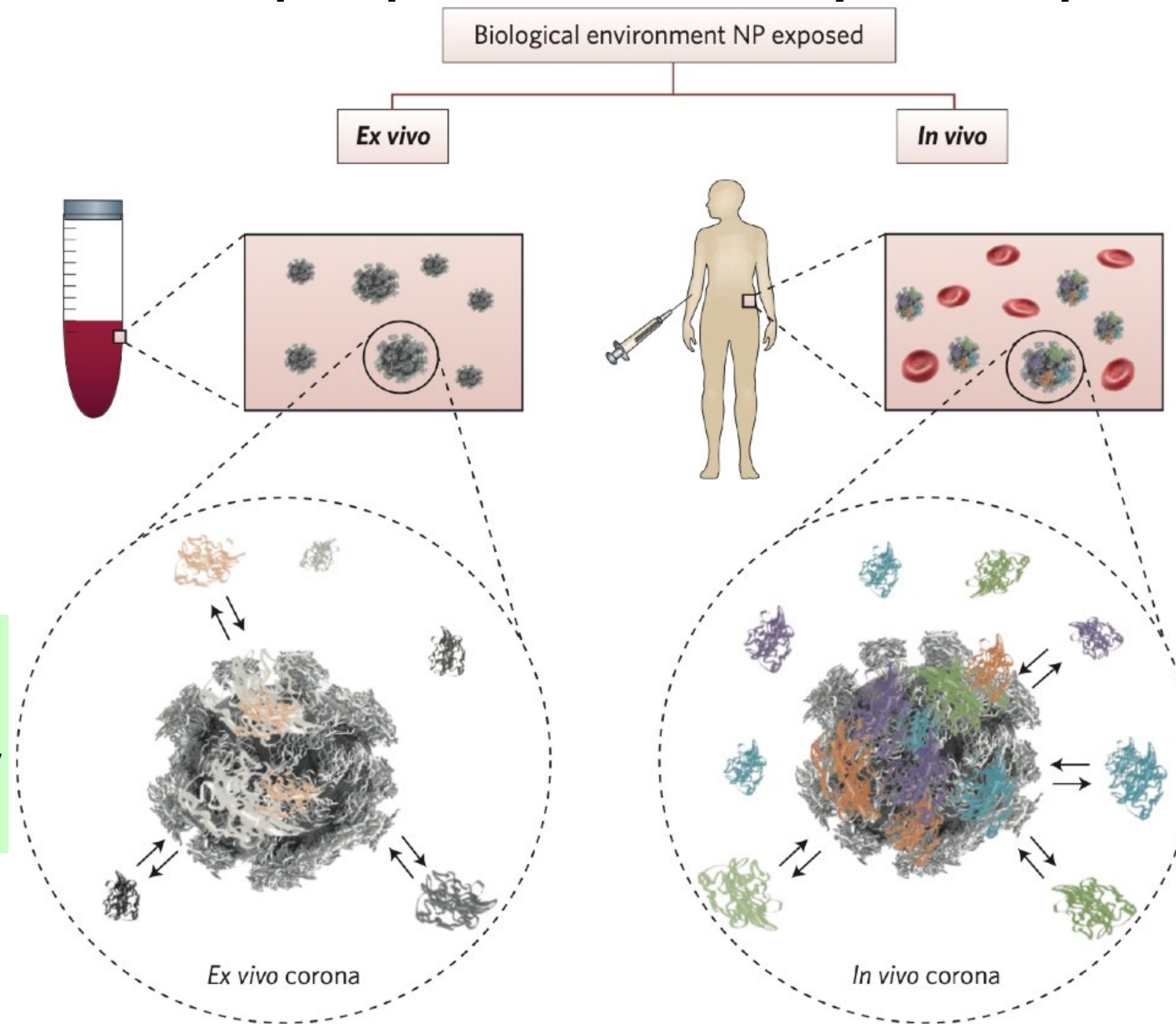


1. “Pristine” size
2. “Pristine” composition
3. “Pristine” surface chemistry
4. etc.



# “Biological” particle identity (Corona)

Biomolecules form a unique particle identity on top of the pristine identity

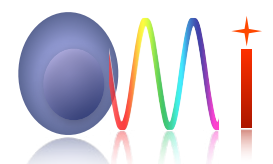


1. “Pristine” size
2. “Pristine” composition
3. “Pristine” surface chemistry
4. etc.

**Static and predictable**  
**Easily measured**

- Static conditions
- Reaches equilibrium

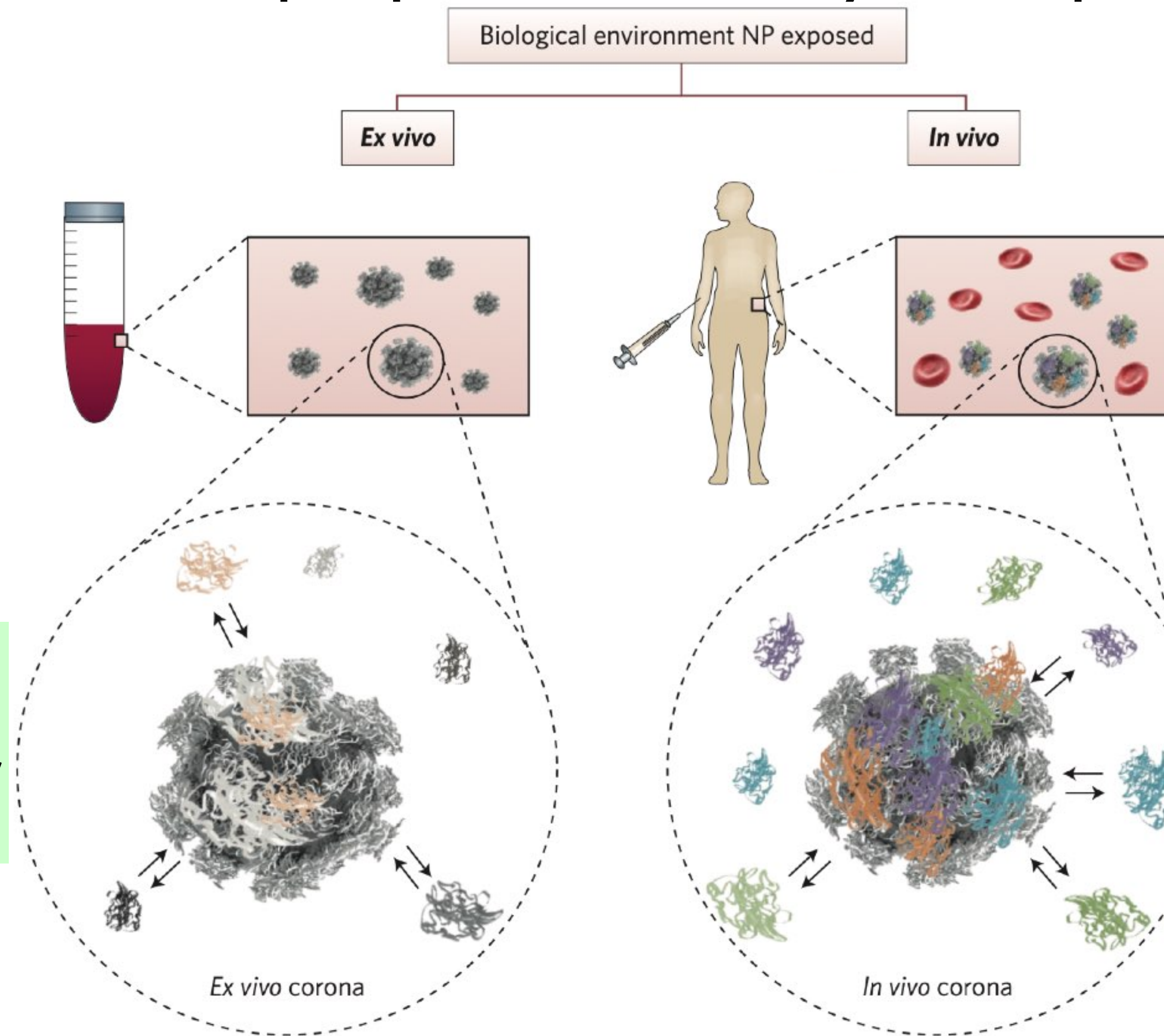
- High flow conditions
- Dynamic exchange
- Molecularly rich





# “Biological” particle identity (Corona)

Biomolecules form a unique particle identity on top of the pristine identity



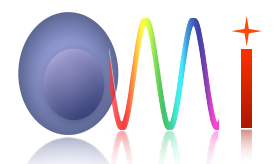
1. “Pristine” size
2. “Pristine” composition
3. “Pristine” surface chemistry
4. etc.

**Static and predictable**  
**Easily measured**

- Static conditions
- Reaches equilibrium

1. “Biological” size
2. “Biological” composition
3. “Biological” surface chemistry
4. etc.

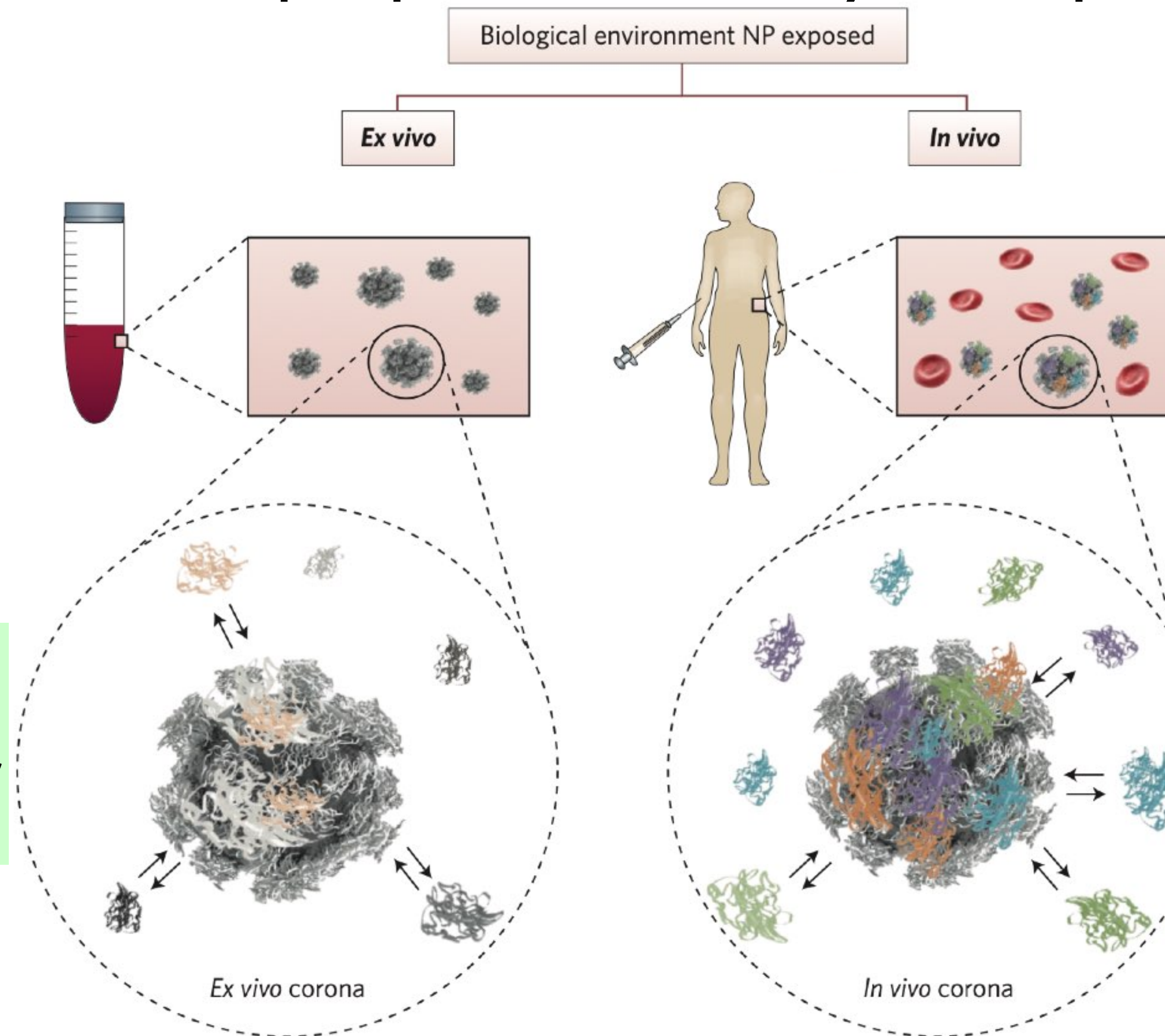
- High flow conditions
- Dynamic exchange
- Molecularly rich





# “Biological” particle identity (Corona)

Biomolecules form a unique particle identity on top of the pristine identity



1. “Pristine” size
2. “Pristine” composition
3. “Pristine” surface chemistry
4. etc.

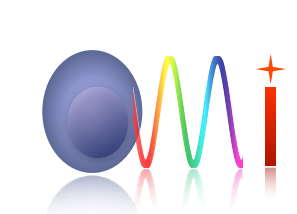
**Static and predictable**  
**Easily measured**

1. “Biological” size
2. “Biological” composition
3. “Biological” surface chemistry
4. etc.

**Dynamic and variable**  
**Difficult to monitor**

- Static conditions
- Reaches equilibrium

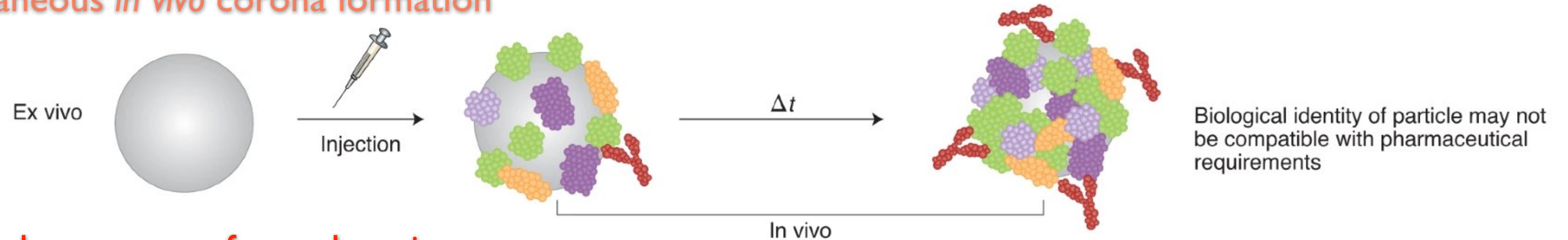
- High flow conditions
- Dynamic exchange
- Molecularly rich



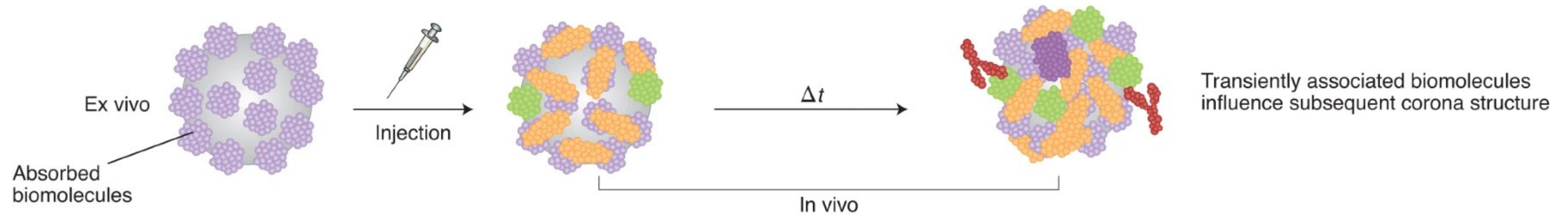


# Taking control of nanoparticle identity

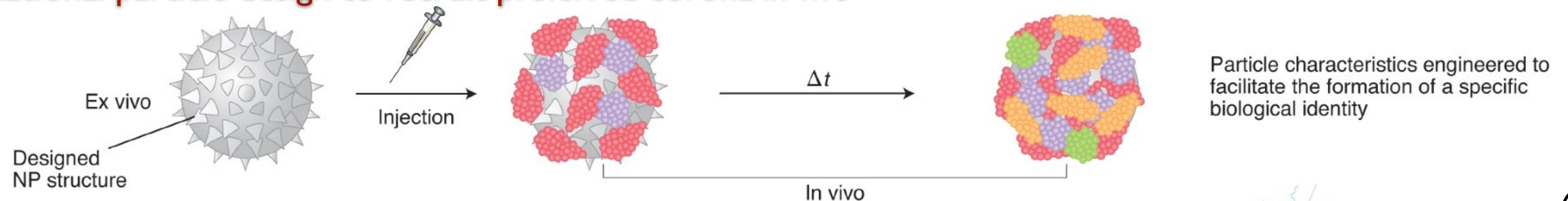
## Spontaneous *in vivo* corona formation



## Defined corona pre-formed ex vivo



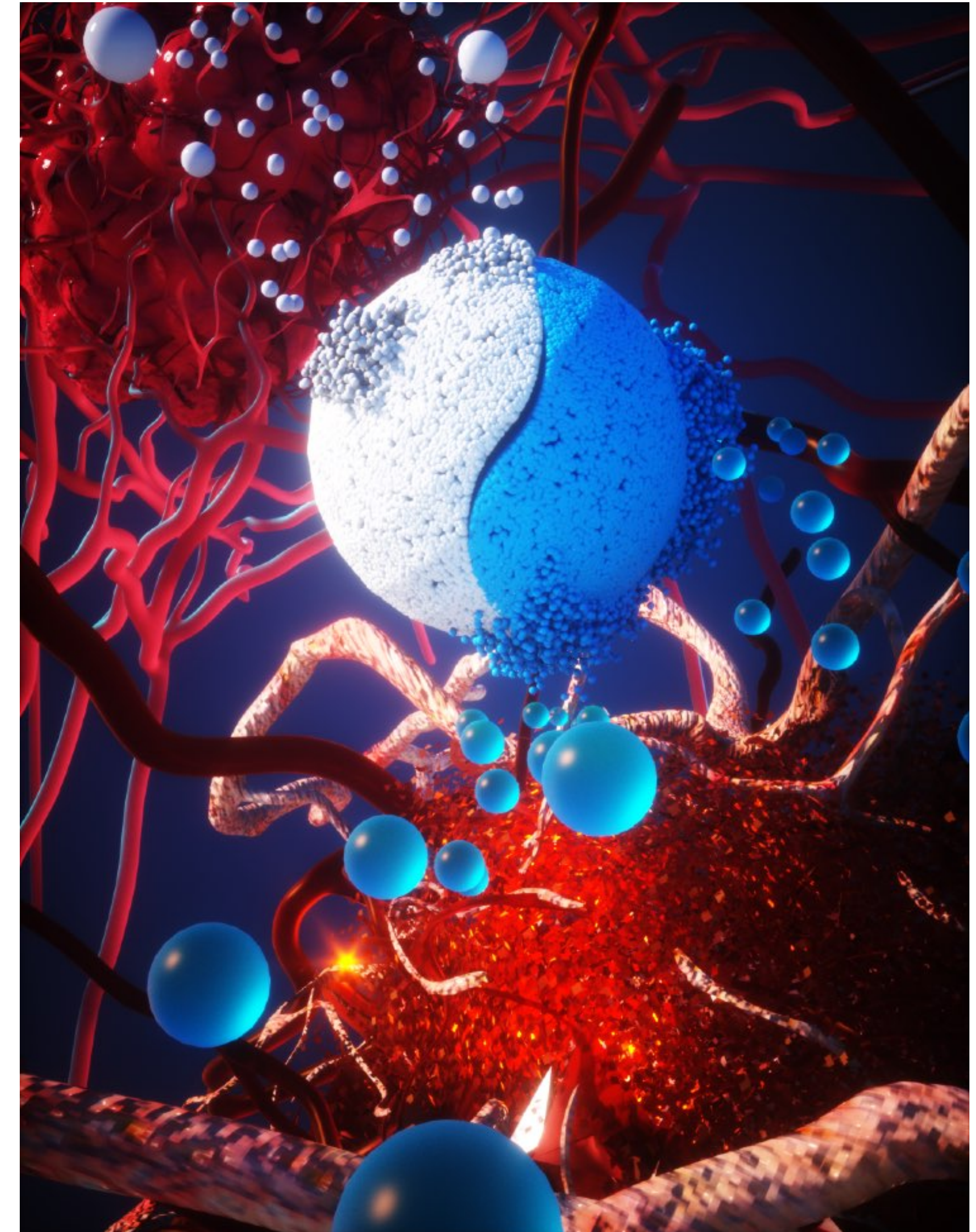
## Rational particle design to recruit preferred corona *in vivo*





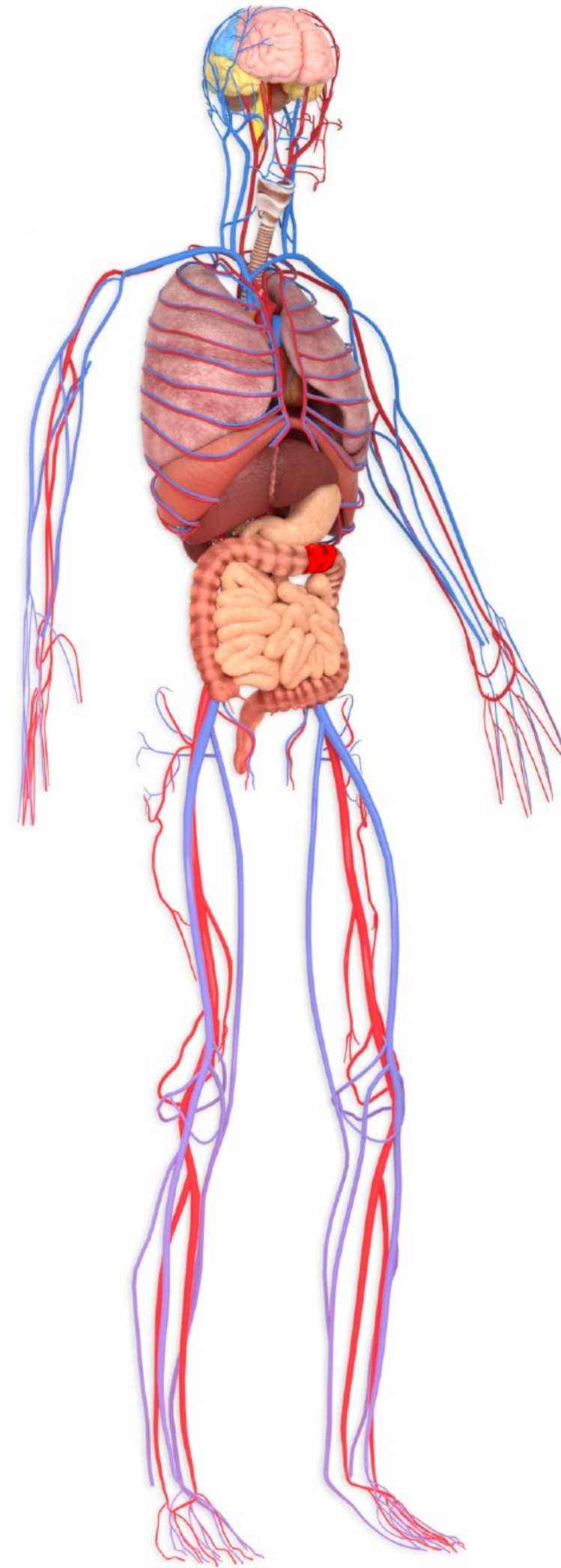
# Ancillary effects of NP

- Nanomaterial cannot be assumed to be functionally inert simply because it has low toxicity or high biocompatibility
- **Ancillary effect** = any unanticipated biological effect elicited by nanoparticles and independent of any engineered functionality or drug payload
- Double-edged sword
  - Potentially harmful
  - Could be exploited as therapeutic mechanism



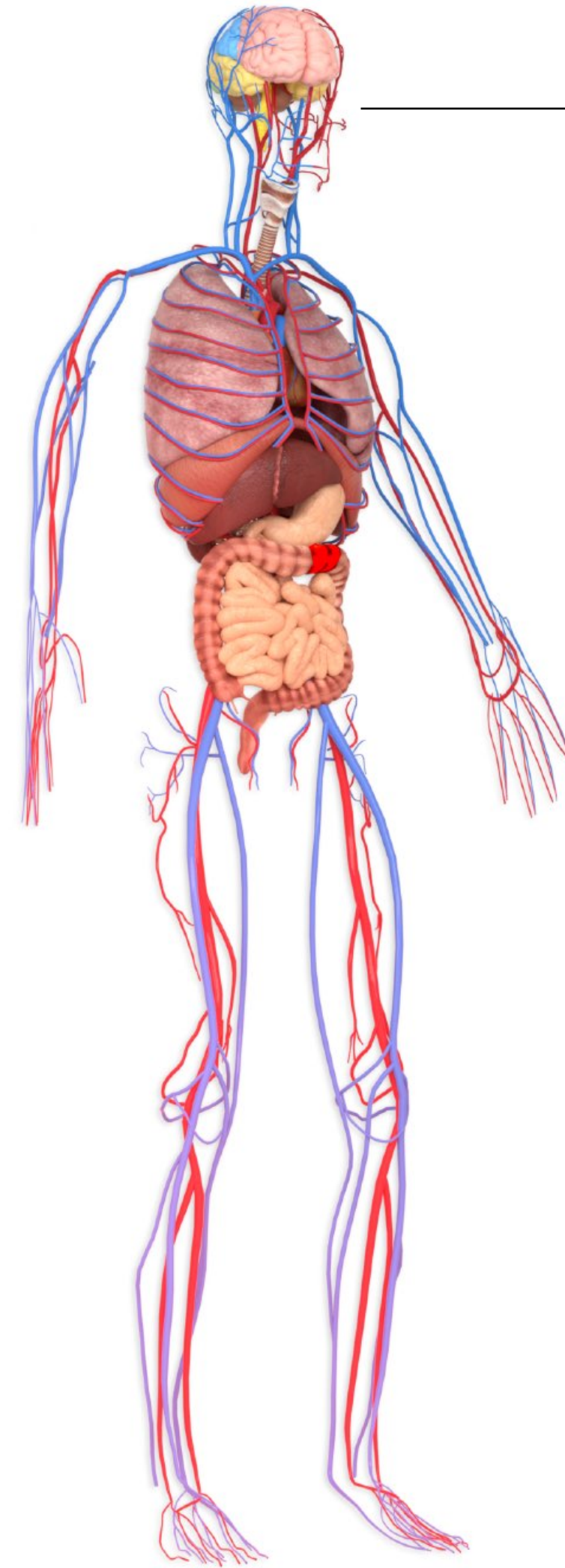


# Evidence of NP ancillary effects





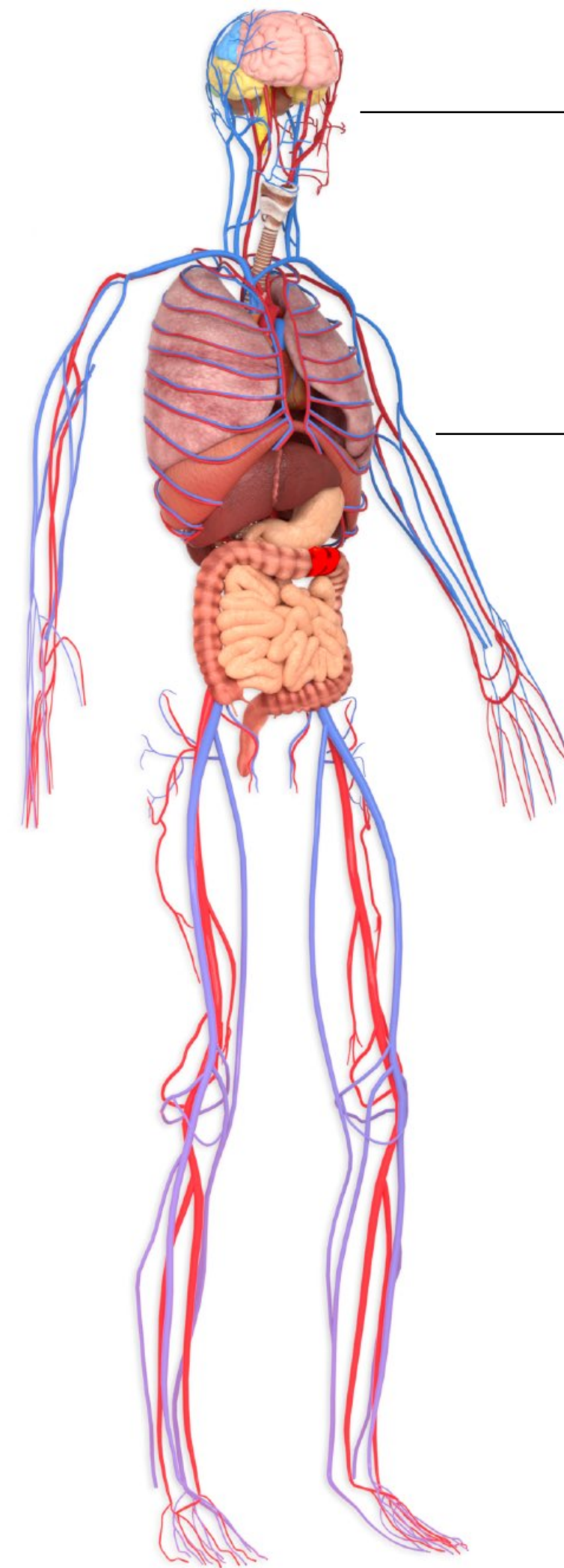
# Evidence of NP ancillary effects



## Microvasculature

- Permeabilization of endothelium and BBB
- Modulation of angiogenesis
- Upregulation of endothelial adhesion proteins

# Evidence of NP ancillary effects



## Microvasculature

- Permeabilization of endothelium and BBB
- Modulation of angiogenesis
- Upregulation of endothelial adhesion proteins

## Blood

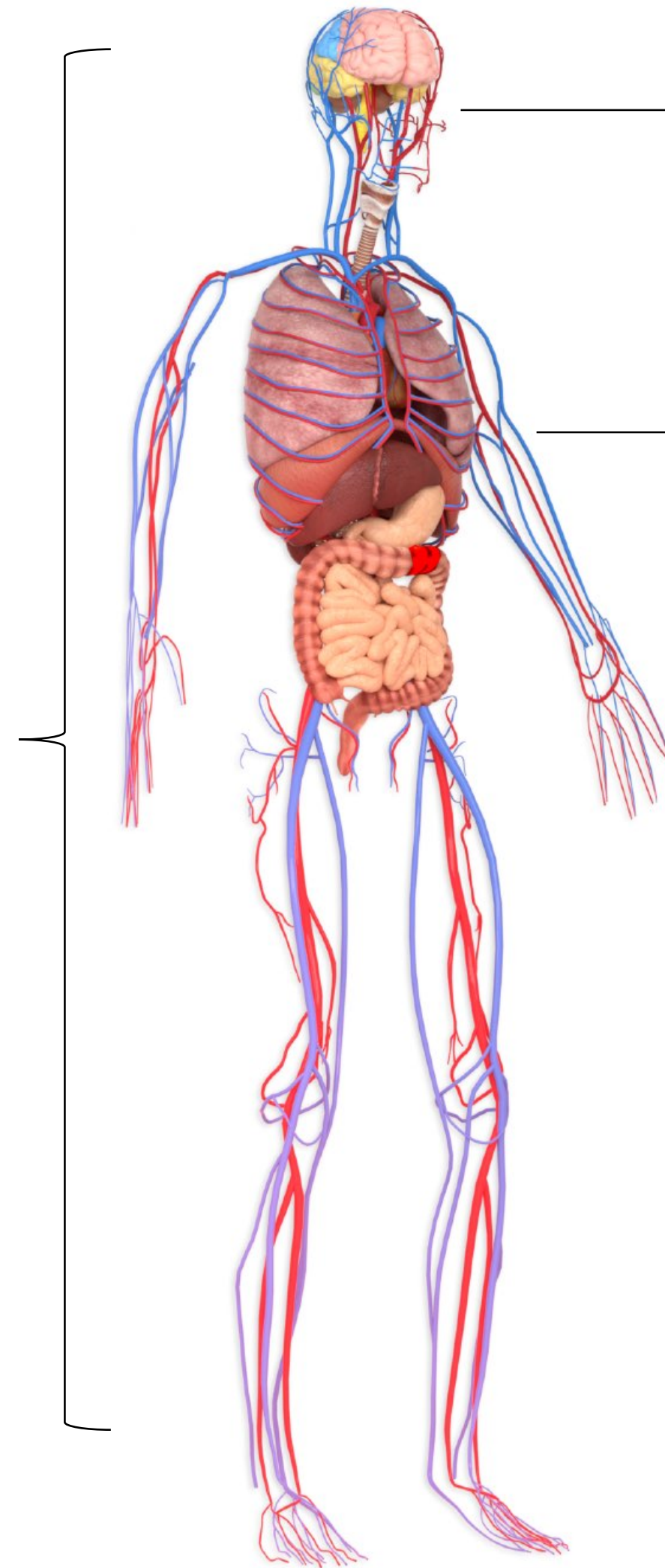
- Induced changes to blood lipids
- Pro- and anti-coagulant effects



# Evidence of NP ancillary effects

## Immune system

- Pro-inflammatory activation
- Histamine release
- Inhibition of response to inflammatory signals
- Immune cell apoptosis
- Complement system activation



## Microvasculature

- Permeabilization of endothelium and BBB
- Modulation of angiogenesis
- Upregulation of endothelial adhesion proteins

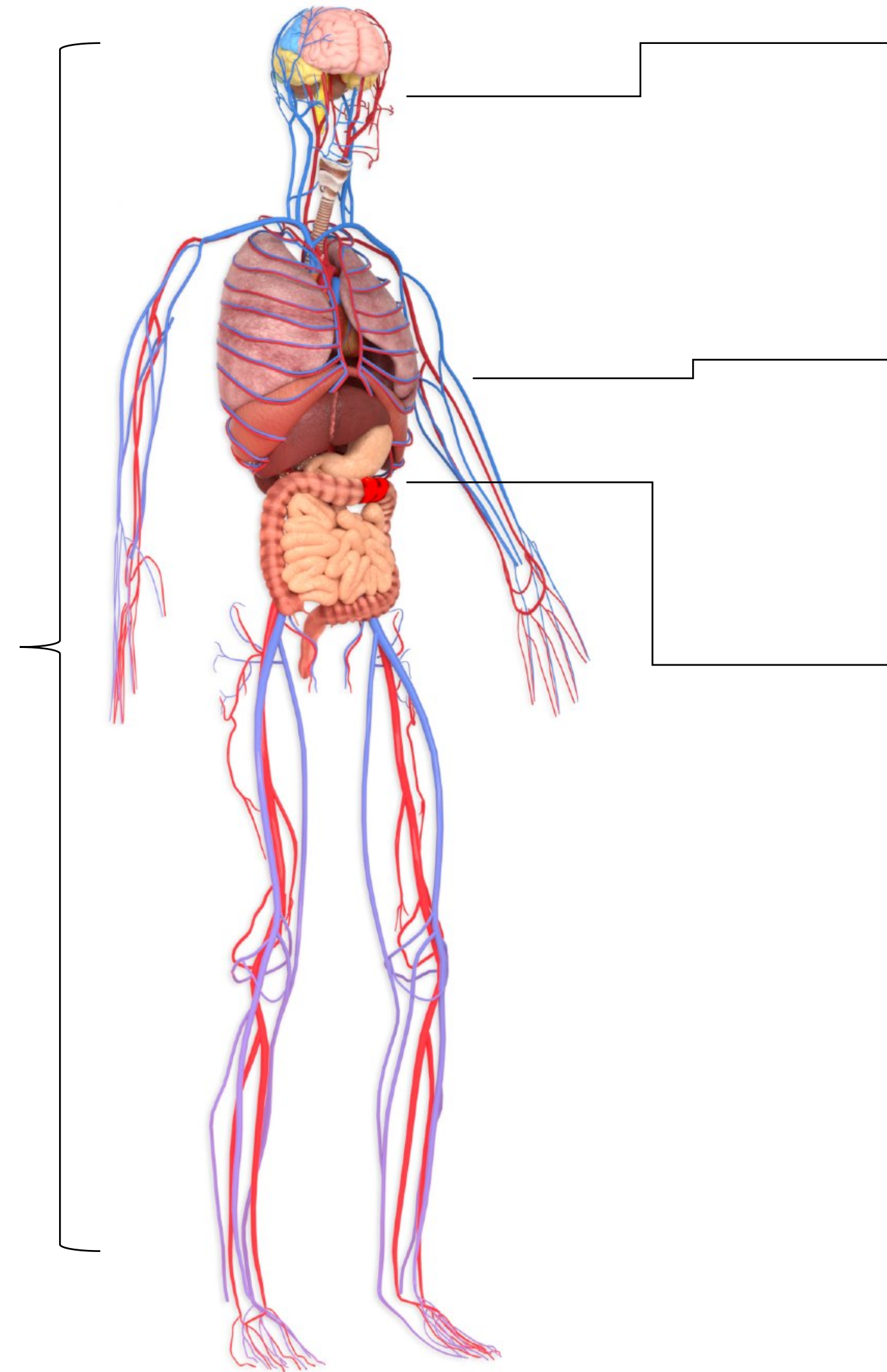
## Blood

- Induced changes to blood lipids
- Pro- and anti-coagulant effects

# Evidence of NP ancillary effects

## Immune system

- Pro-inflammatory activation
- Histamine release
- Inhibition of response to inflammatory signals
- Immune cell apoptosis
- Complement system activation



## Microvasculature

- Permeabilization of endothelium and BBB
- Modulation of angiogenesis
- Upregulation of endothelial adhesion proteins

## Blood

- Induced changes to blood lipids
- Pro- and anti-coagulant effects

## Cancer

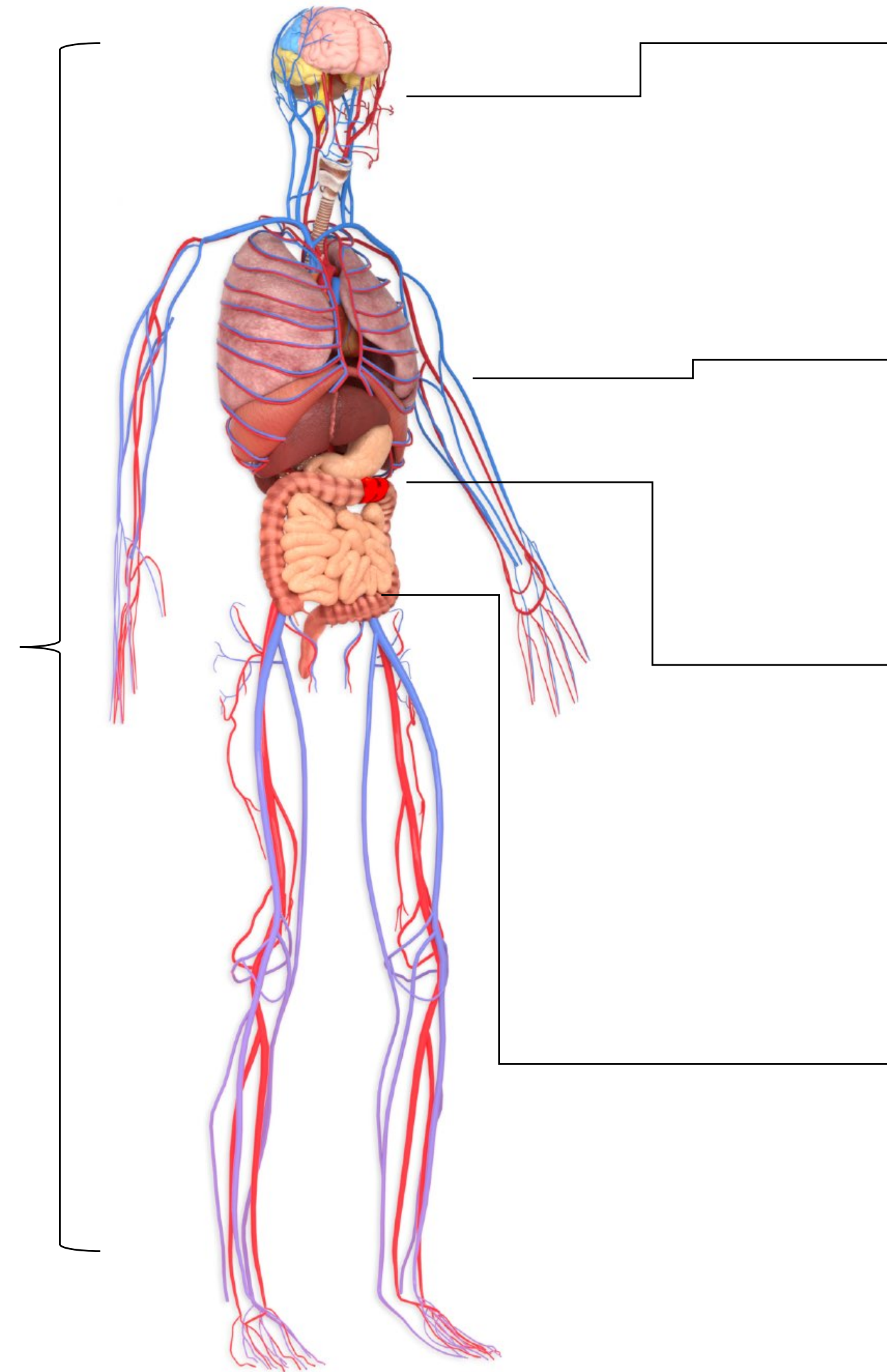
- Pro-tumorigenic effects
- Anti-tumorigenic effects
- Facilitation of metastasis



# Evidence of NP ancillary effects

## Immune system

- Pro-inflammatory activation
- Histamine release
- Inhibition of response to inflammatory signals
- Immune cell apoptosis
- Complement system activation



## Microvasculature

- Permeabilization of endothelium and BBB
- Modulation of angiogenesis
- Upregulation of endothelial adhesion proteins

## Blood

- Induced changes to blood lipids
- Pro- and anti-coagulant effects

## Cancer

- Pro-tumorigenic effects
- Anti-tumorigenic effects
- Facilitation of metastasis

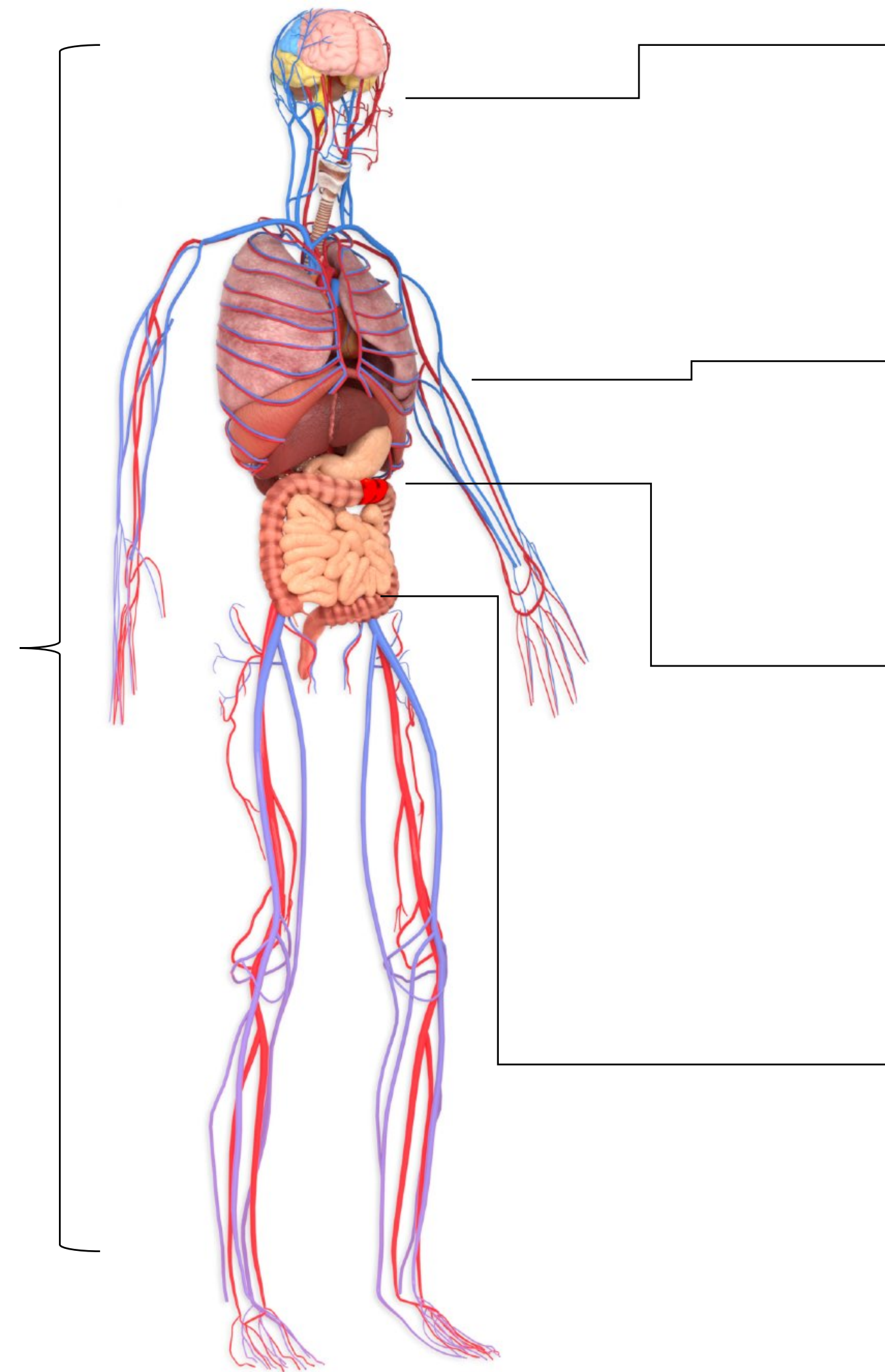
## Gut microbiome

- Selective anti-microbial activity
- Modulation of bacterial ecosystem

# Evidence of NP ancillary effects

## Immune system

- Pro-inflammatory activation
- Histamine release
- Inhibition of response to inflammatory signals
- Immune cell apoptosis
- Complement system activation



## Microvasculature

- Permeabilization of endothelium and BBB
- Modulation of angiogenesis
- Upregulation of endothelial adhesion proteins

## Blood

- Induced changes to blood lipids
- Pro- and anti-coagulant effects

## Cancer

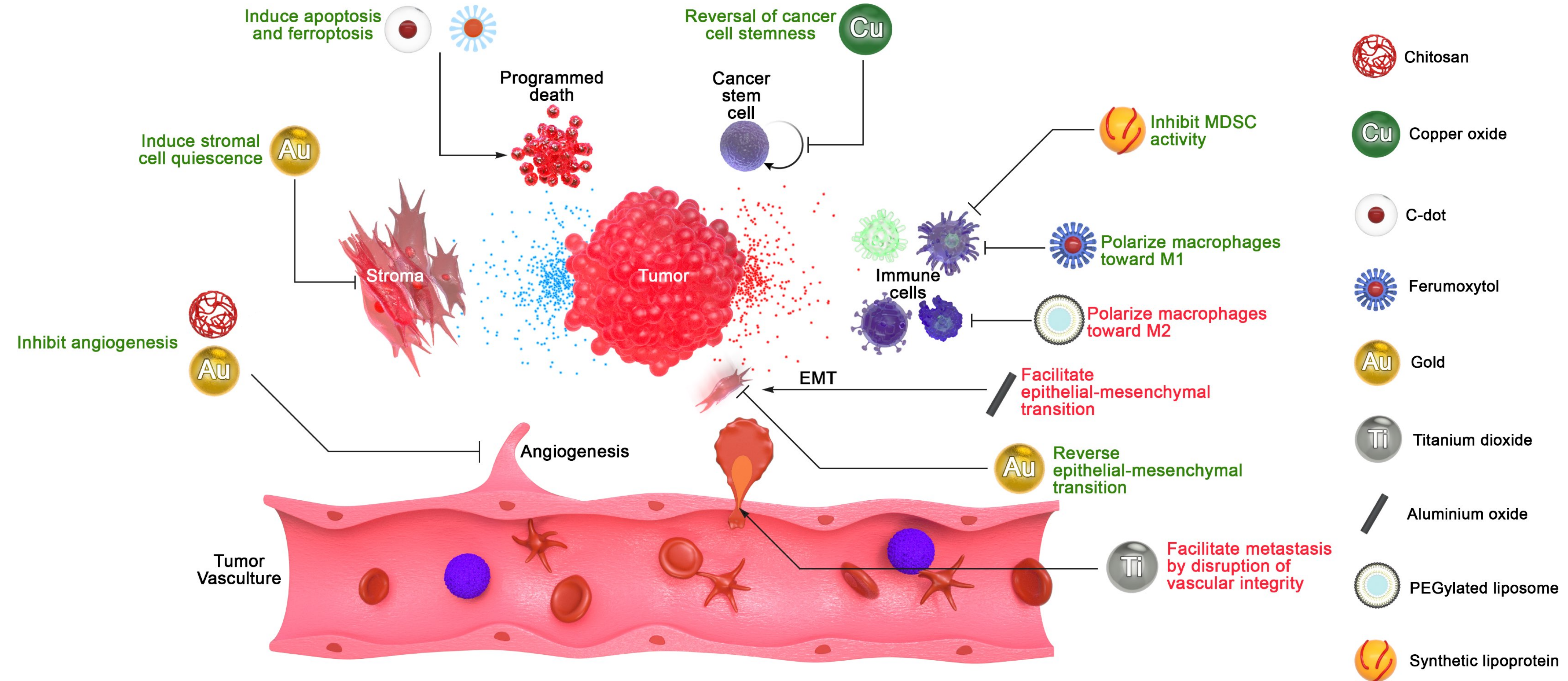
- Pro-tumorigenic effects
- Anti-tumorigenic effects
- Facilitation of metastasis

## Gut microbiome

- Selective anti-microbial activity
- Modulation of bacterial ecosystem



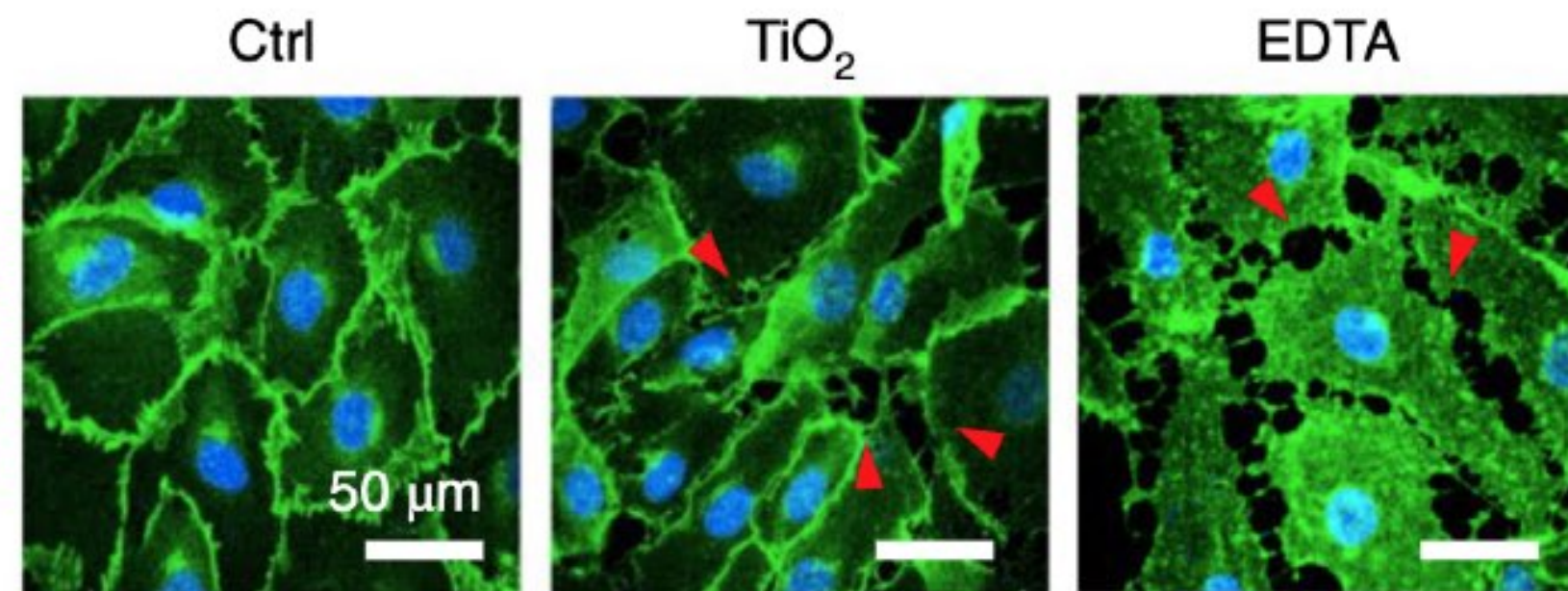
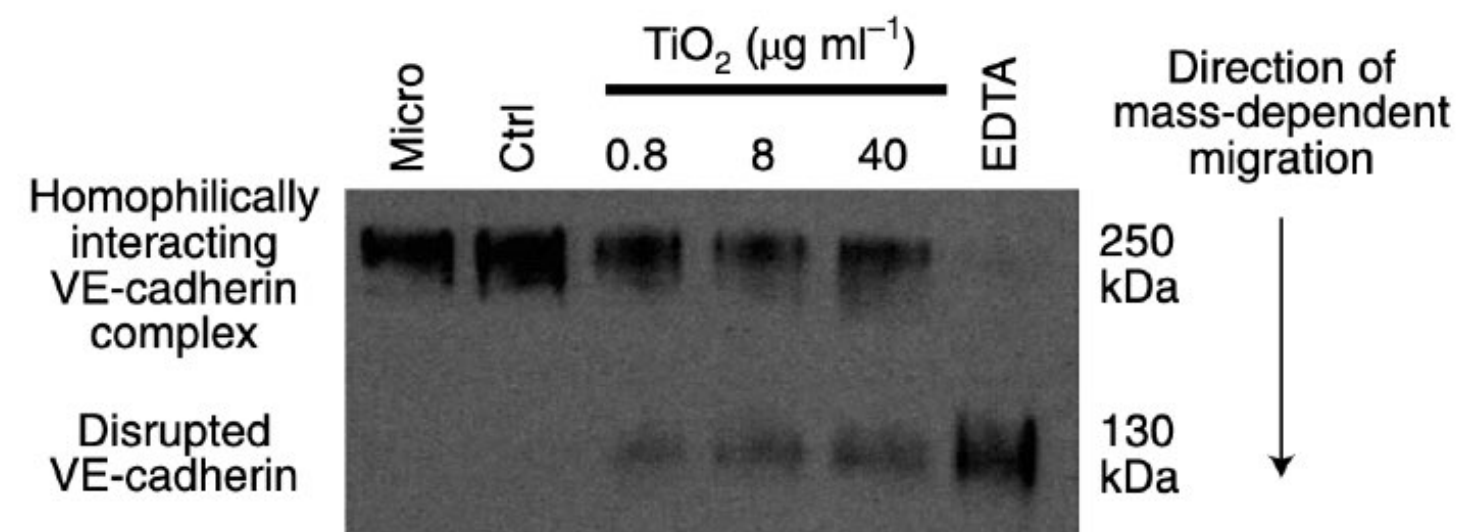
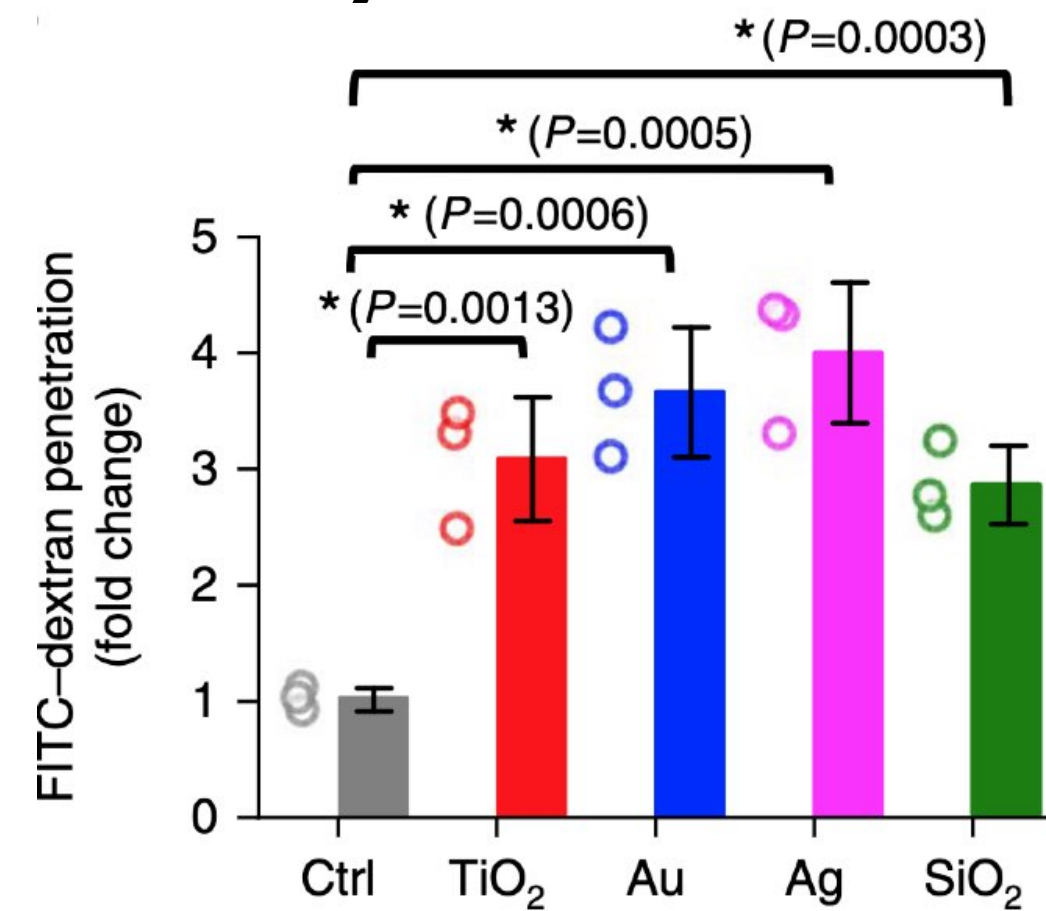
# Diverse ancillary effects in cancer





# NP disrupt endothelial barriers

## leaky endothelium

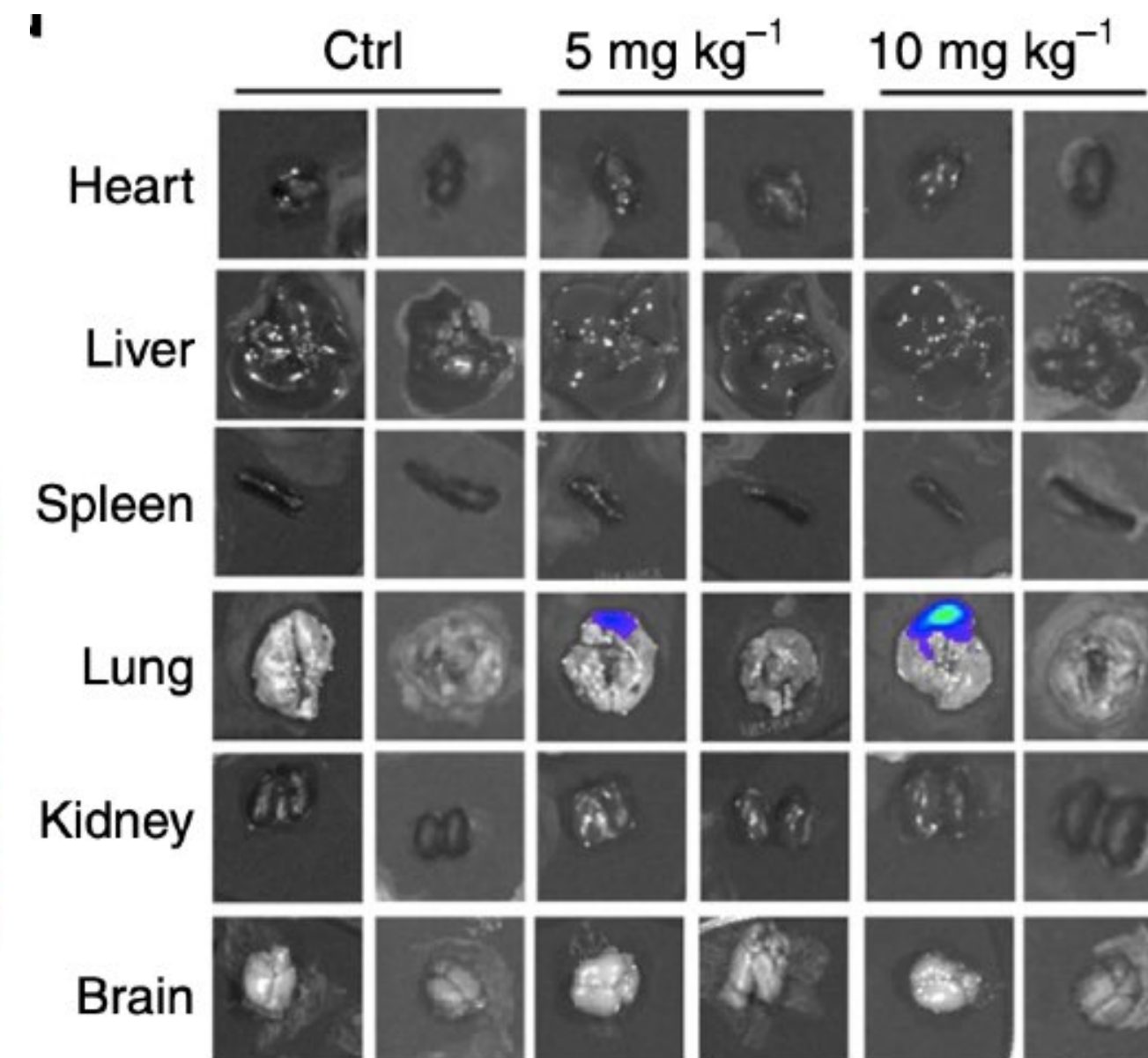
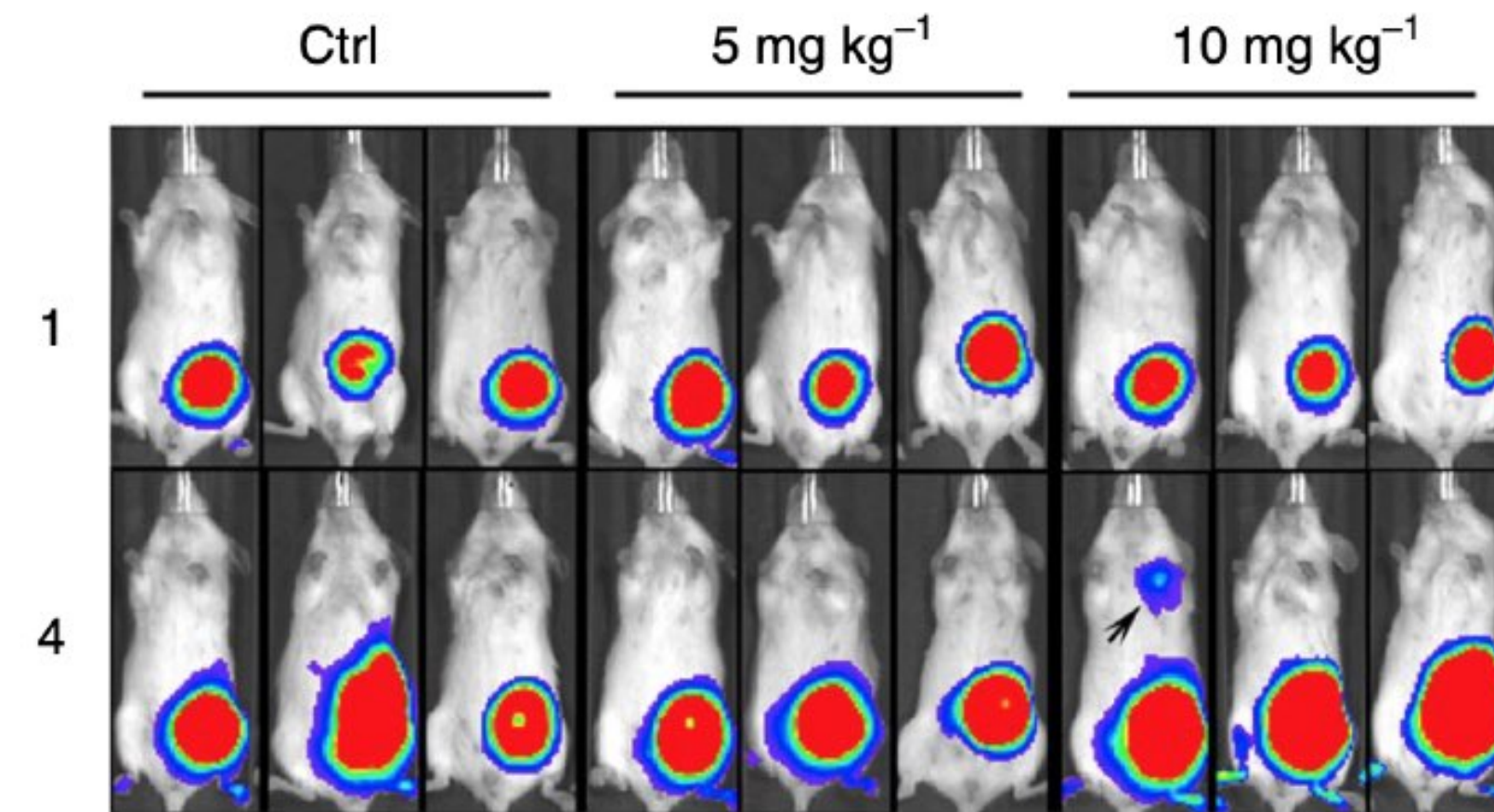
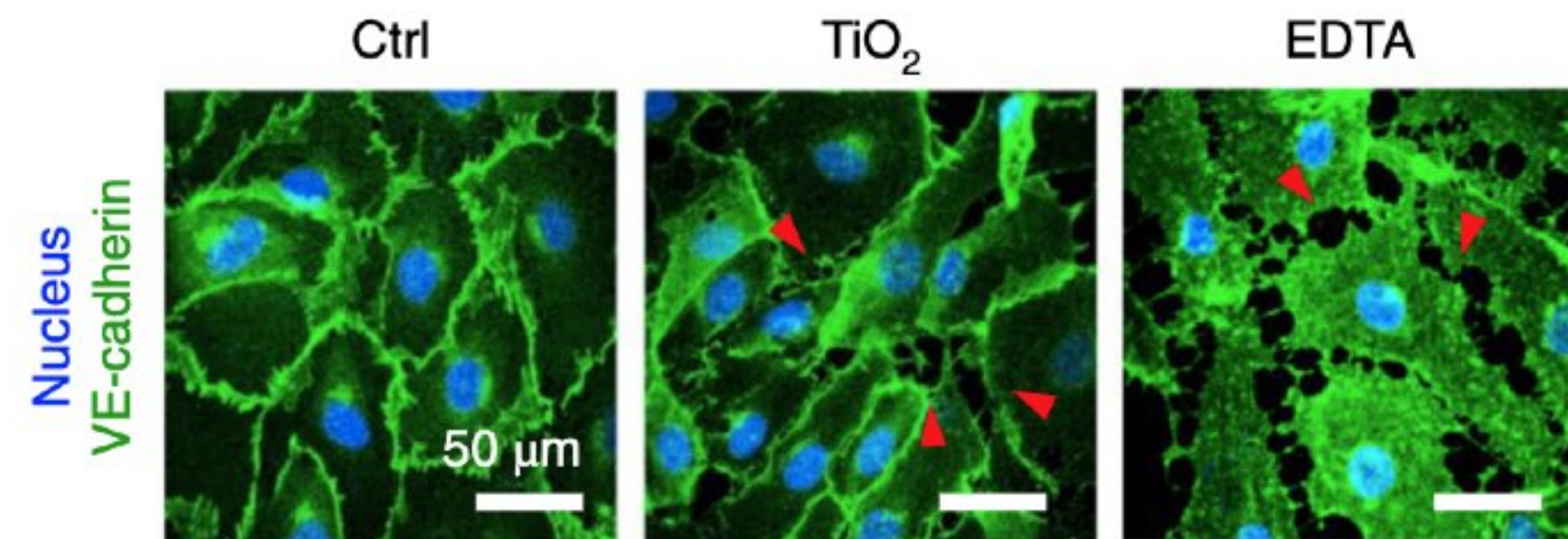
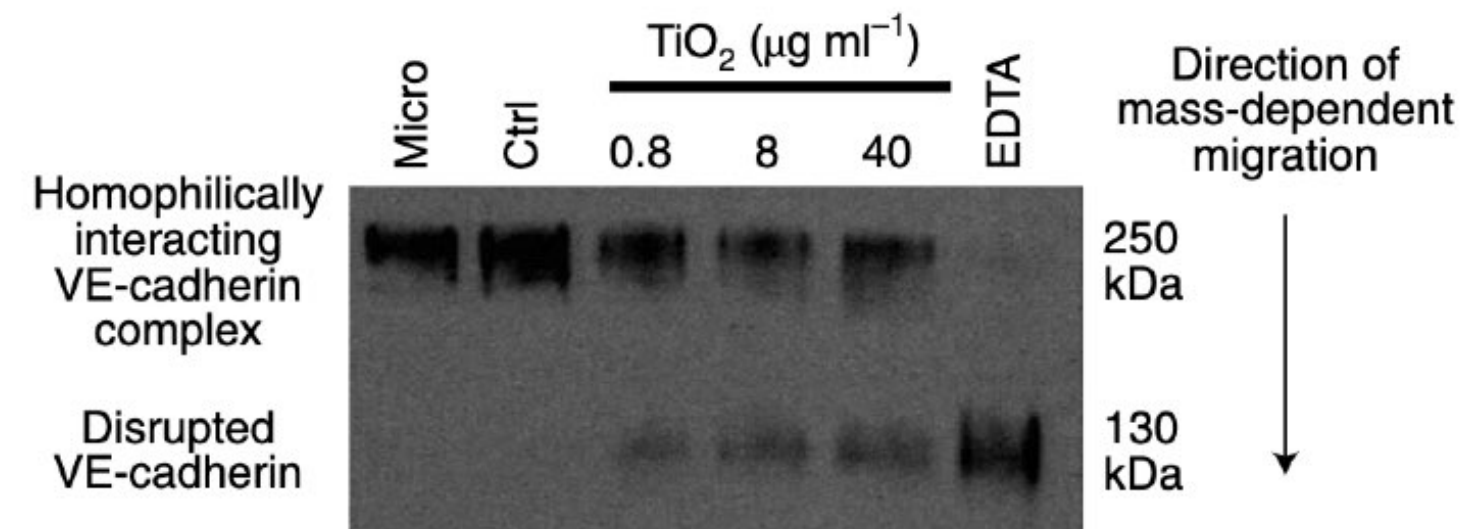
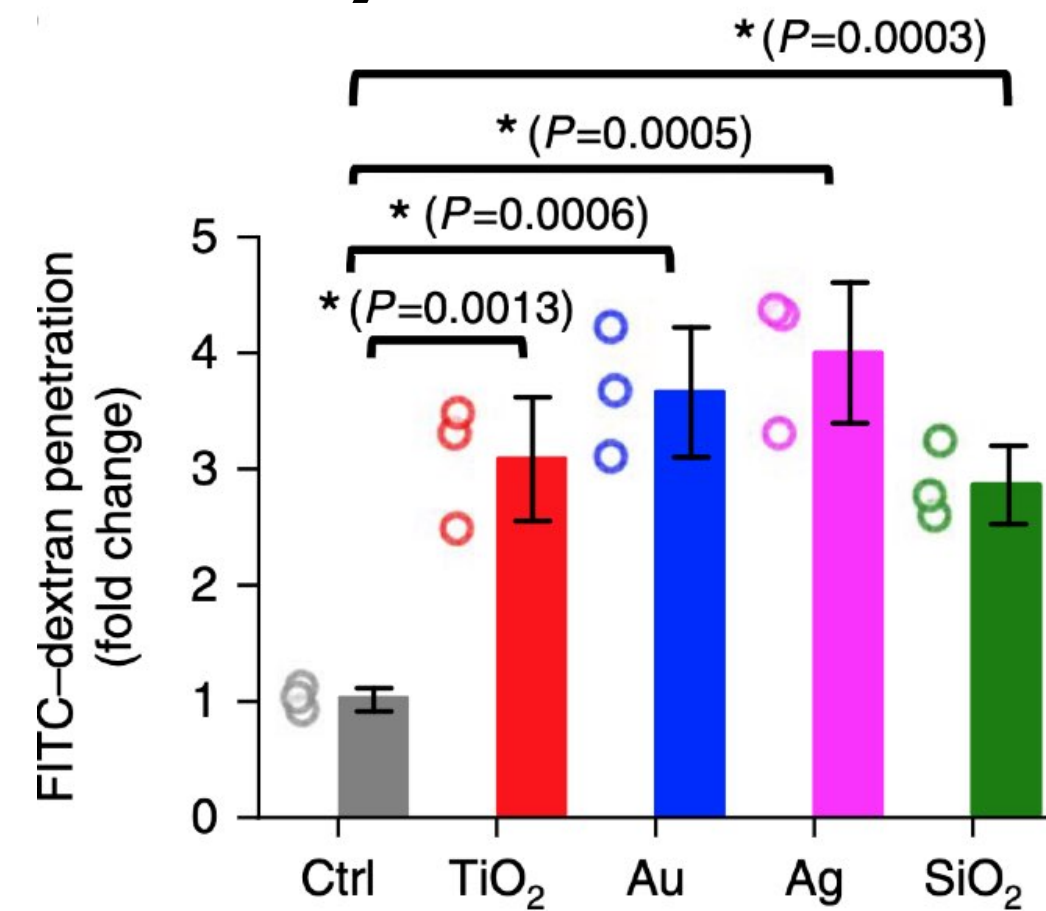




# NP disrupt endothelial barriers

## leaky endothelium

## TiO<sub>2</sub>: BC cell intravasation



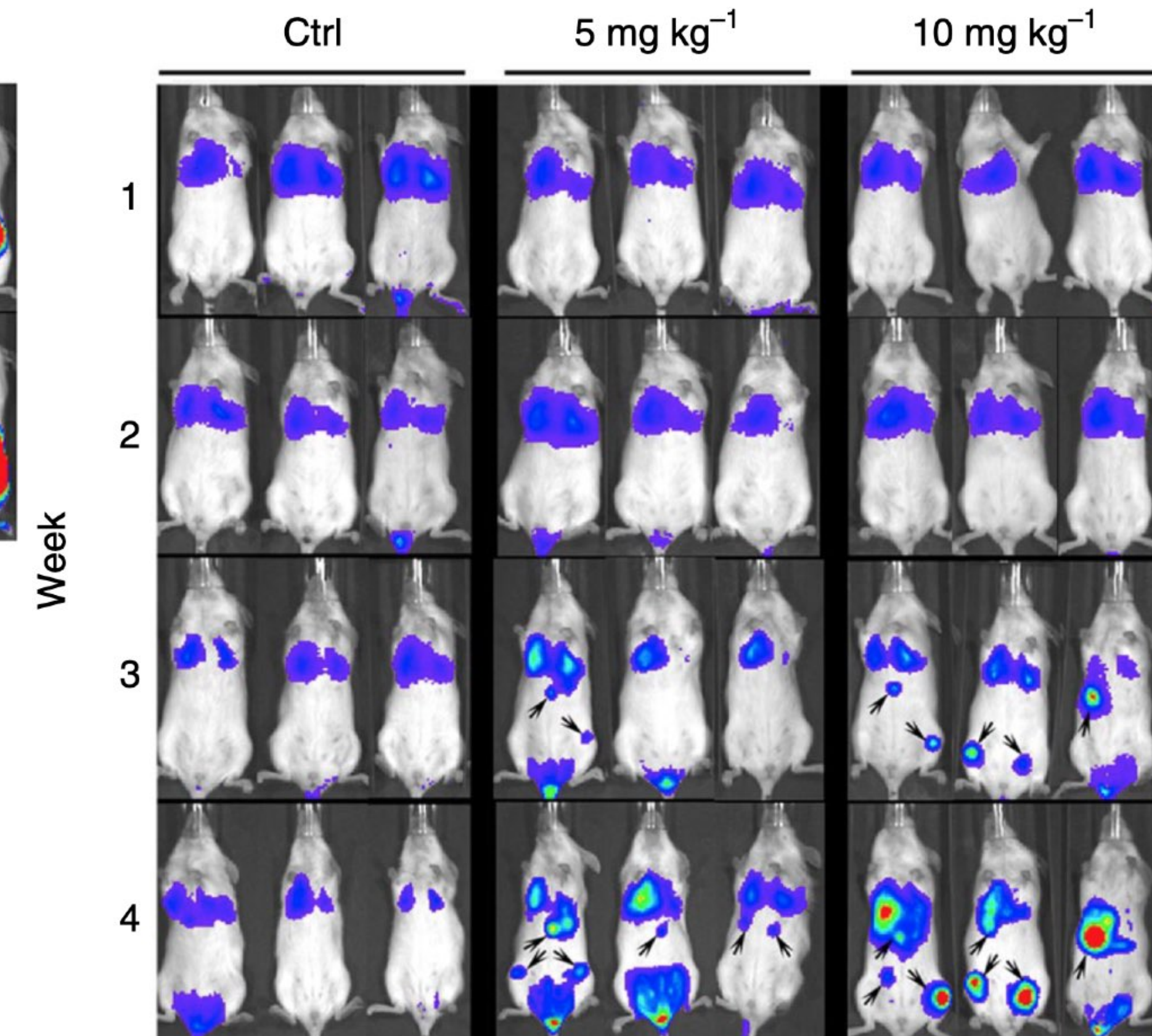
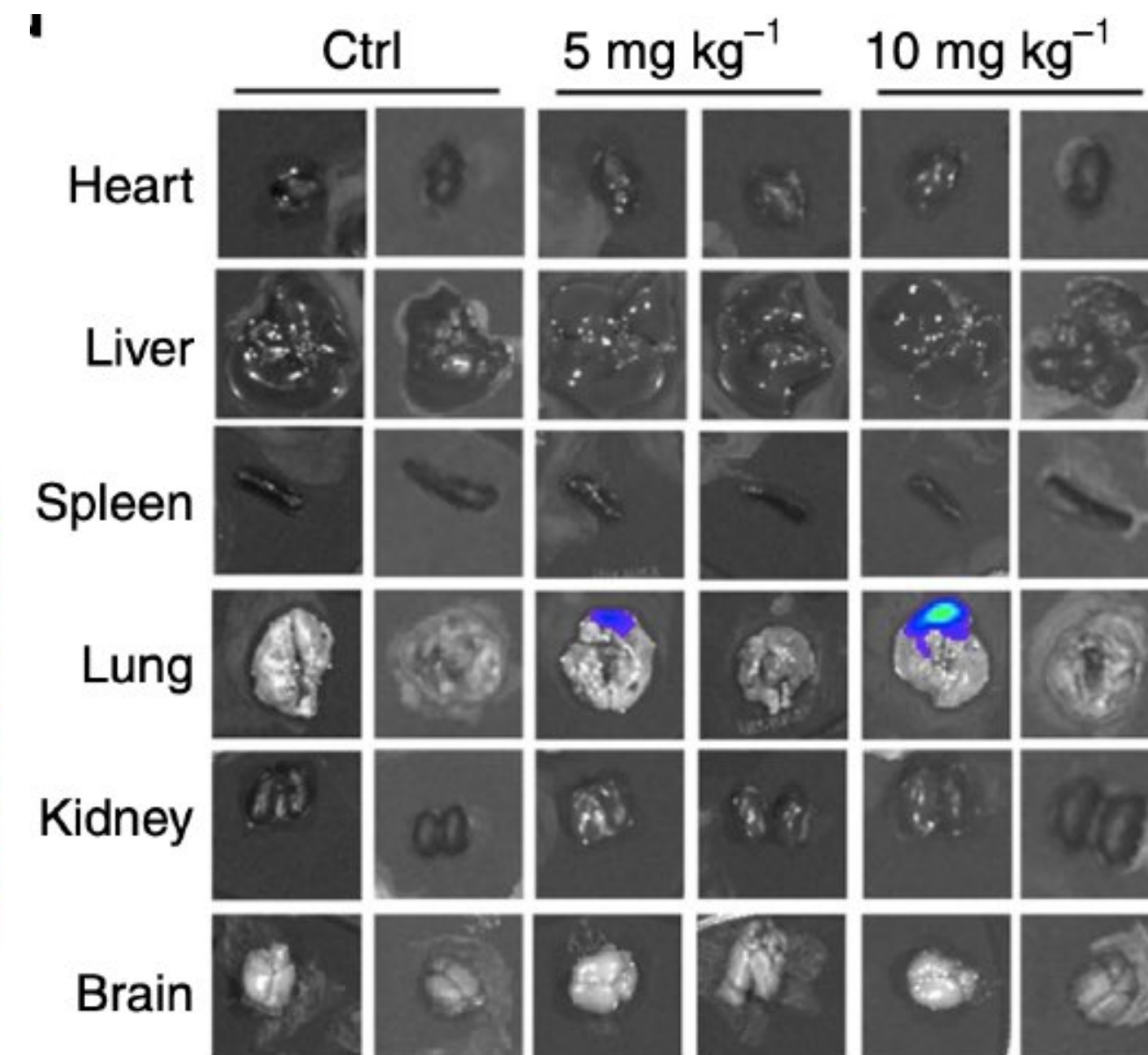
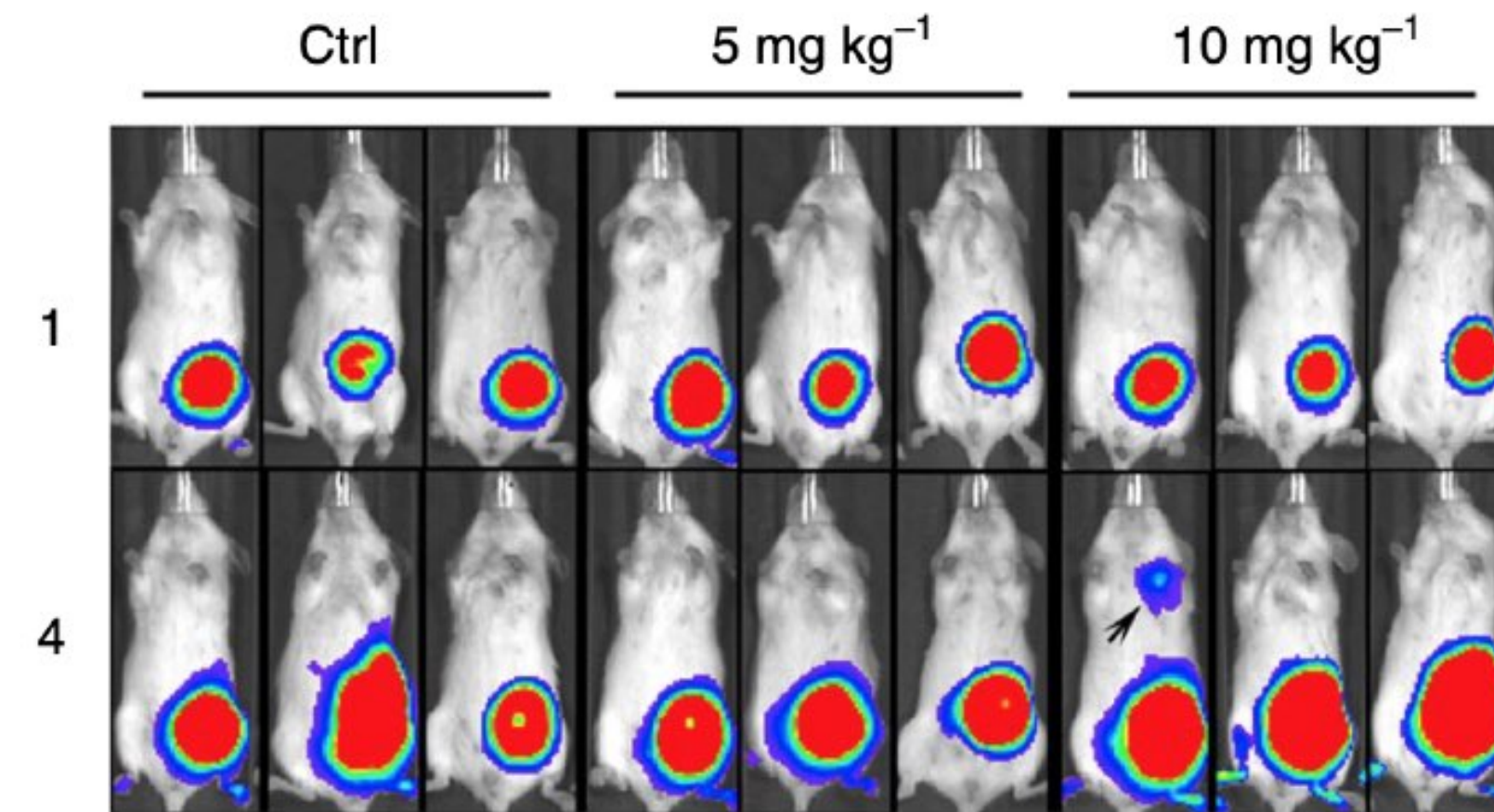
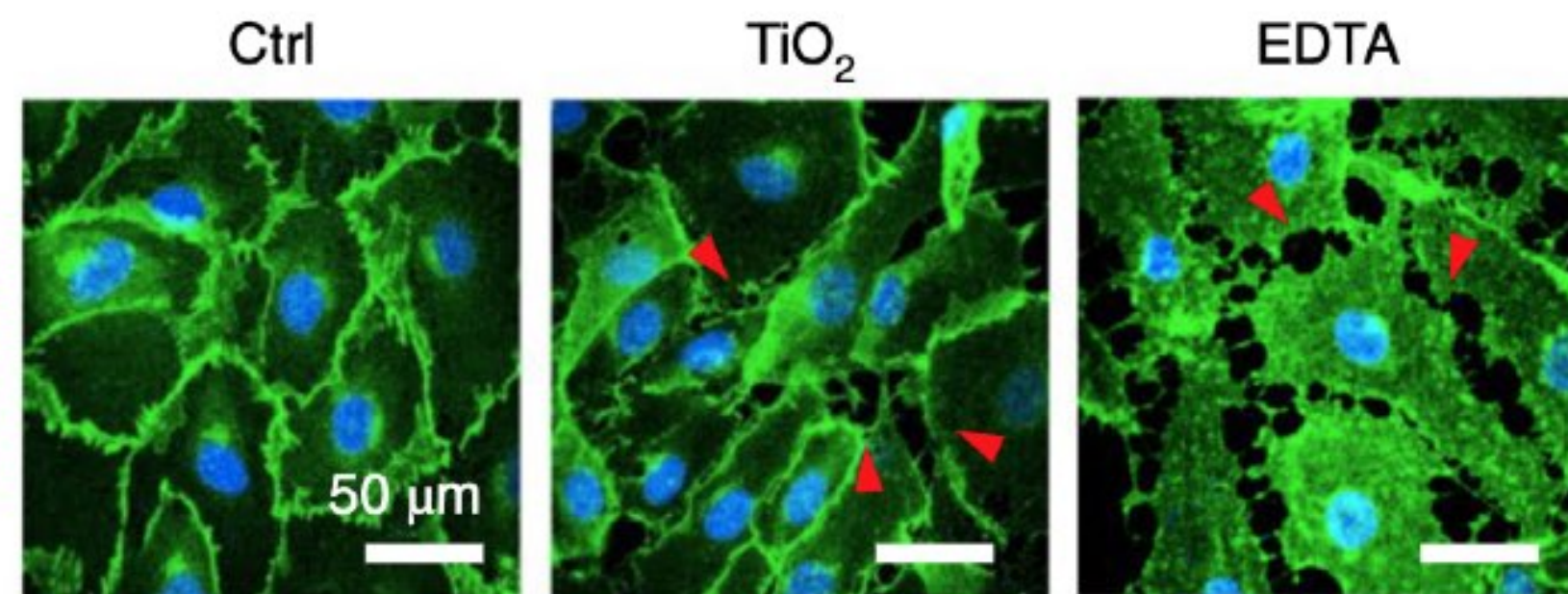
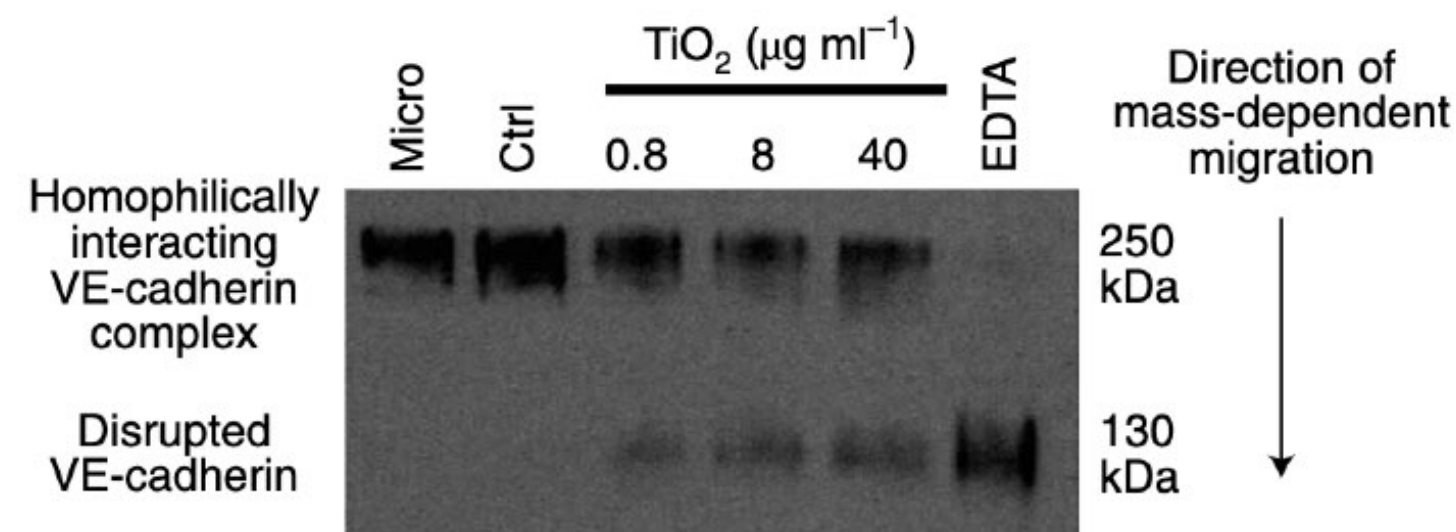
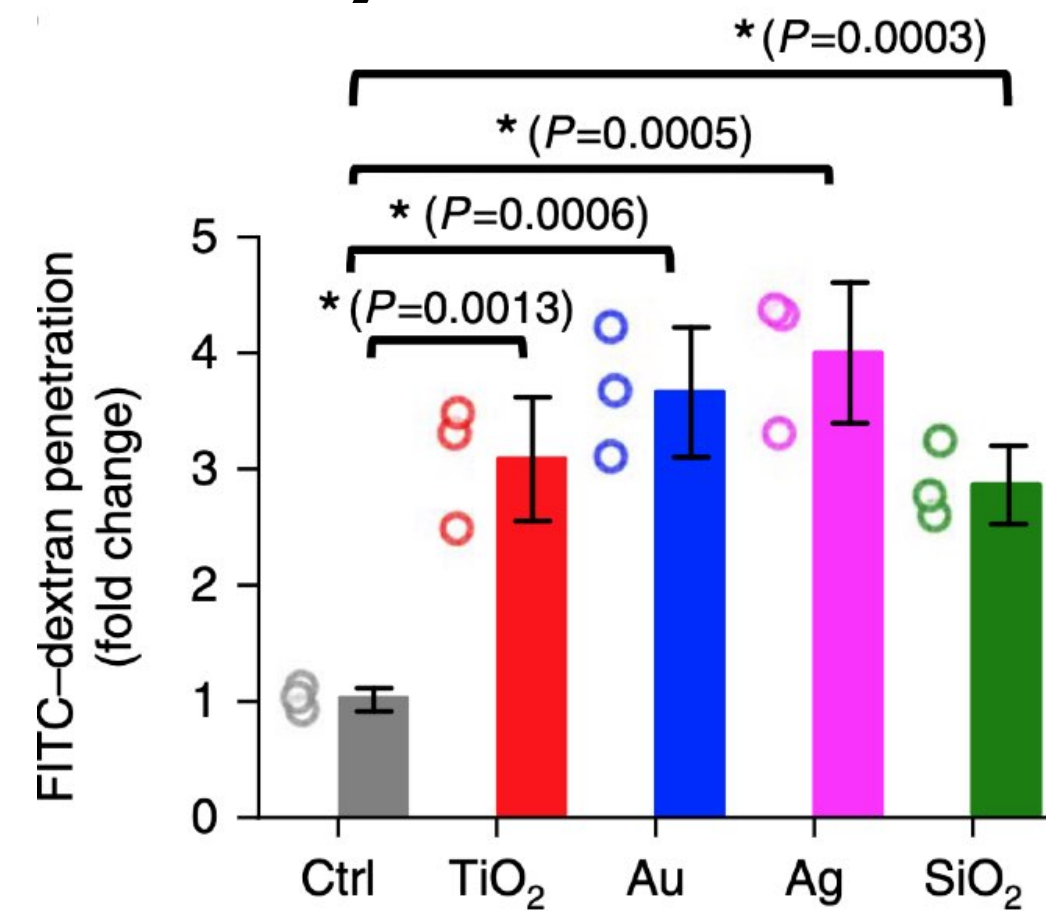


# NP disrupt endothelial barriers

## leaky endothelium

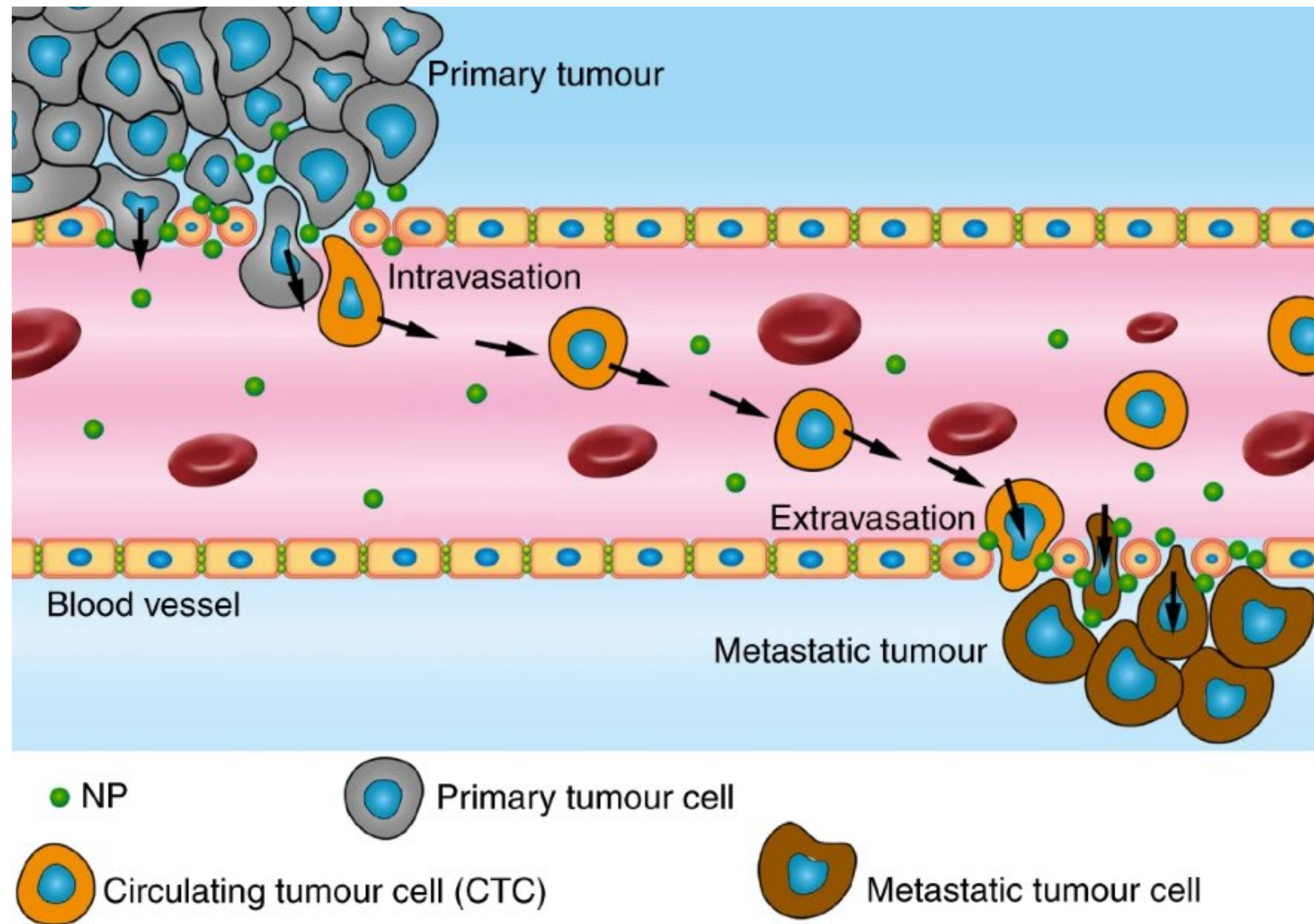
## TiO<sub>2</sub>: BC cell intravasation

## TiO<sub>2</sub>: BC cell extravasation





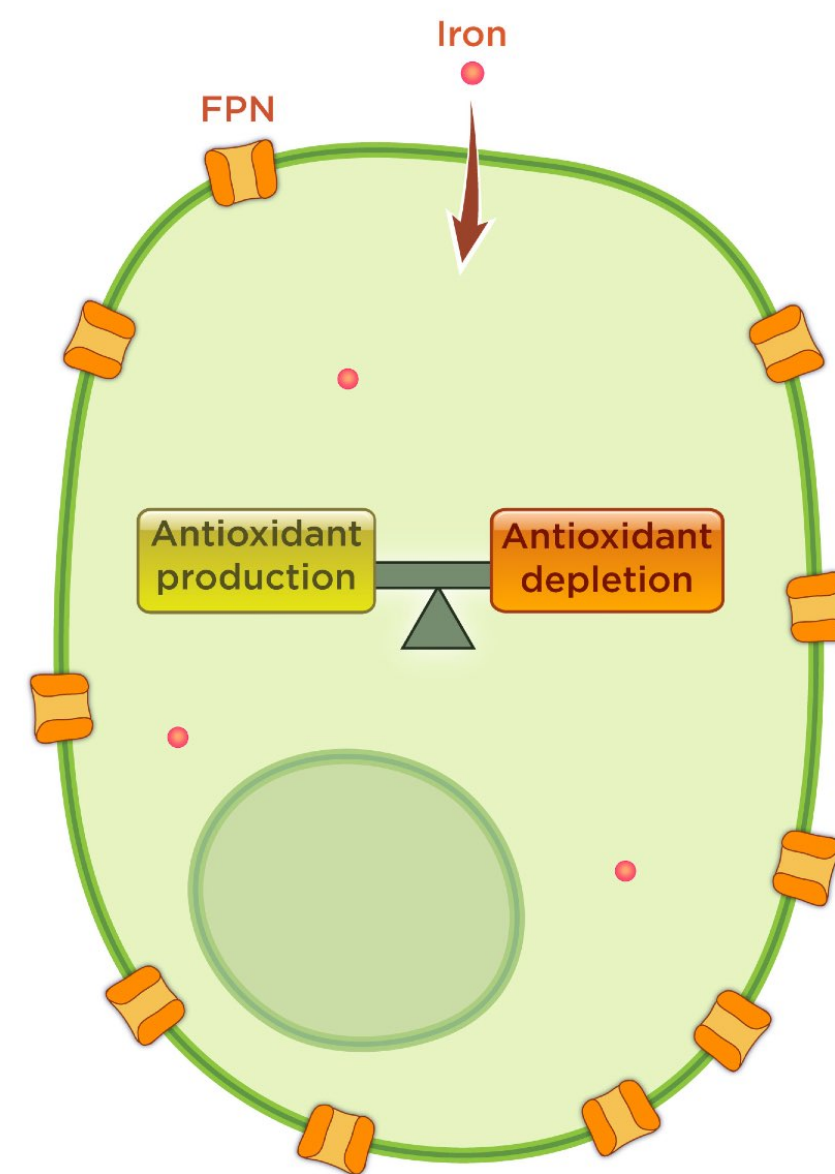
# Nanoparticles may facilitate metastasis



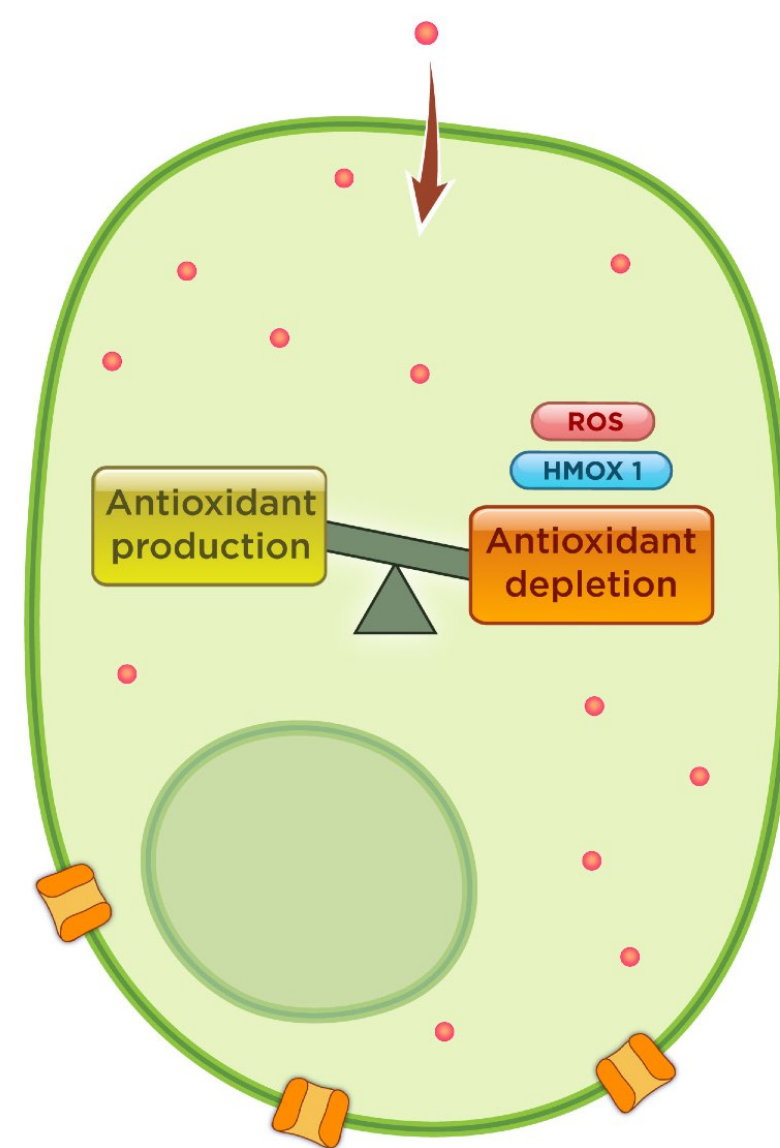
- Microvascular integrity maintained by VE-cadherin homophilic interactions at the adherens junction
- $\text{TiO}_2$  nanoparticles disrupt VE-cadherin binding and junction dissociation
- Particle-induced endothelial cell “leakiness” increased extravasation from primary murine tumors
- Leakiness also facilitated metastatic seeding of distal sites
- Silica and gold NP also showed capacity to disrupt VE-cadherin



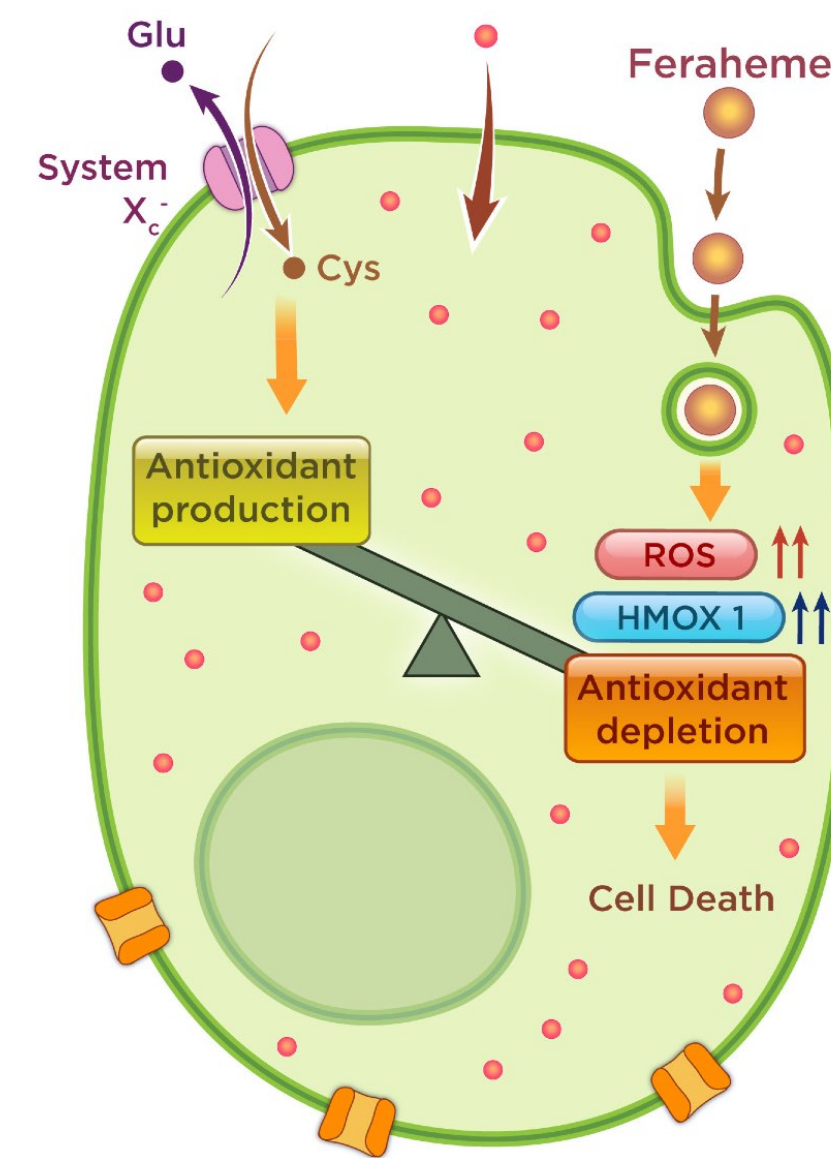
# Ferumoxytol kills selectively leukemic cells



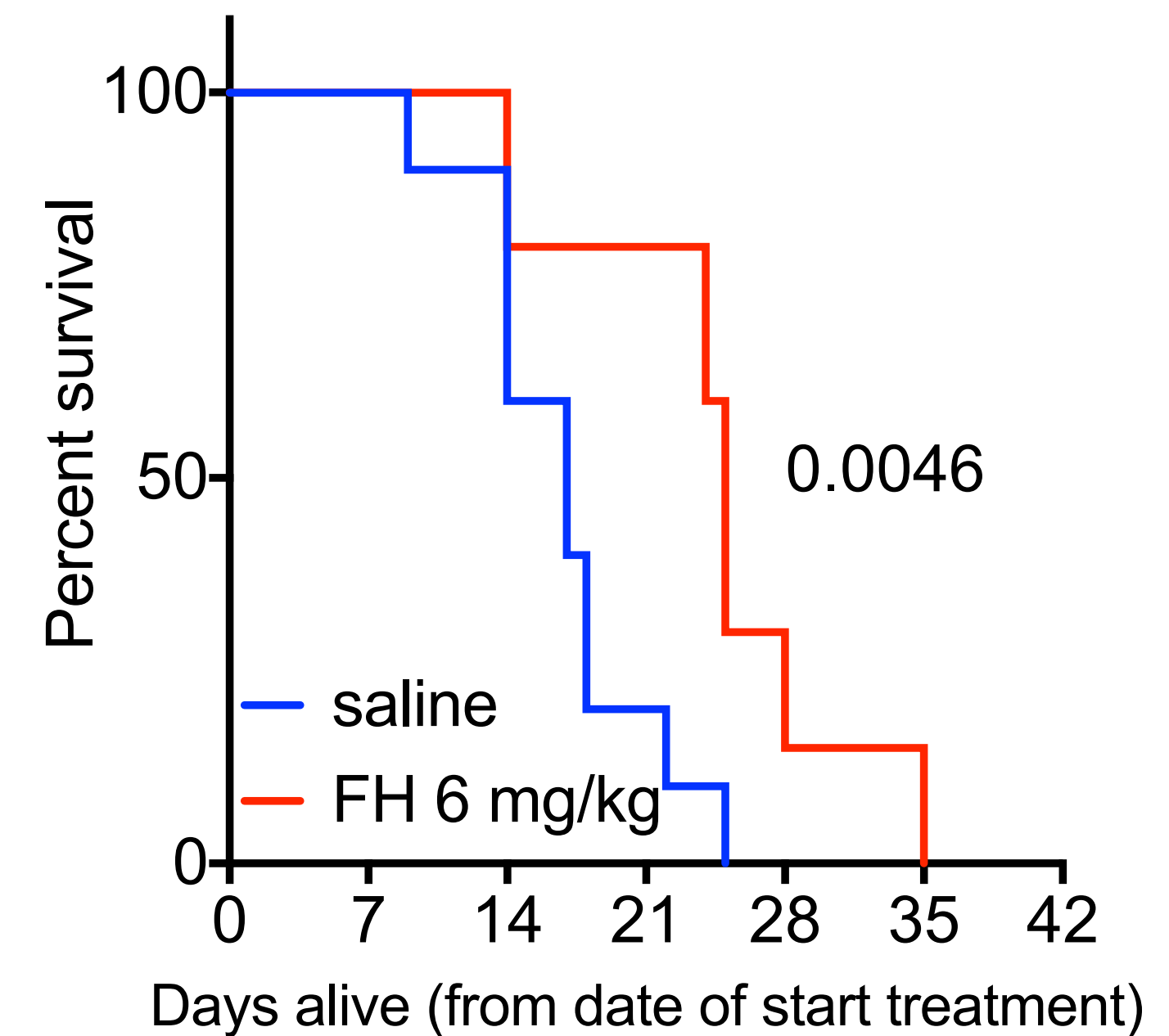
Normal



Leukaemia



FH Treated  
Leukaemia

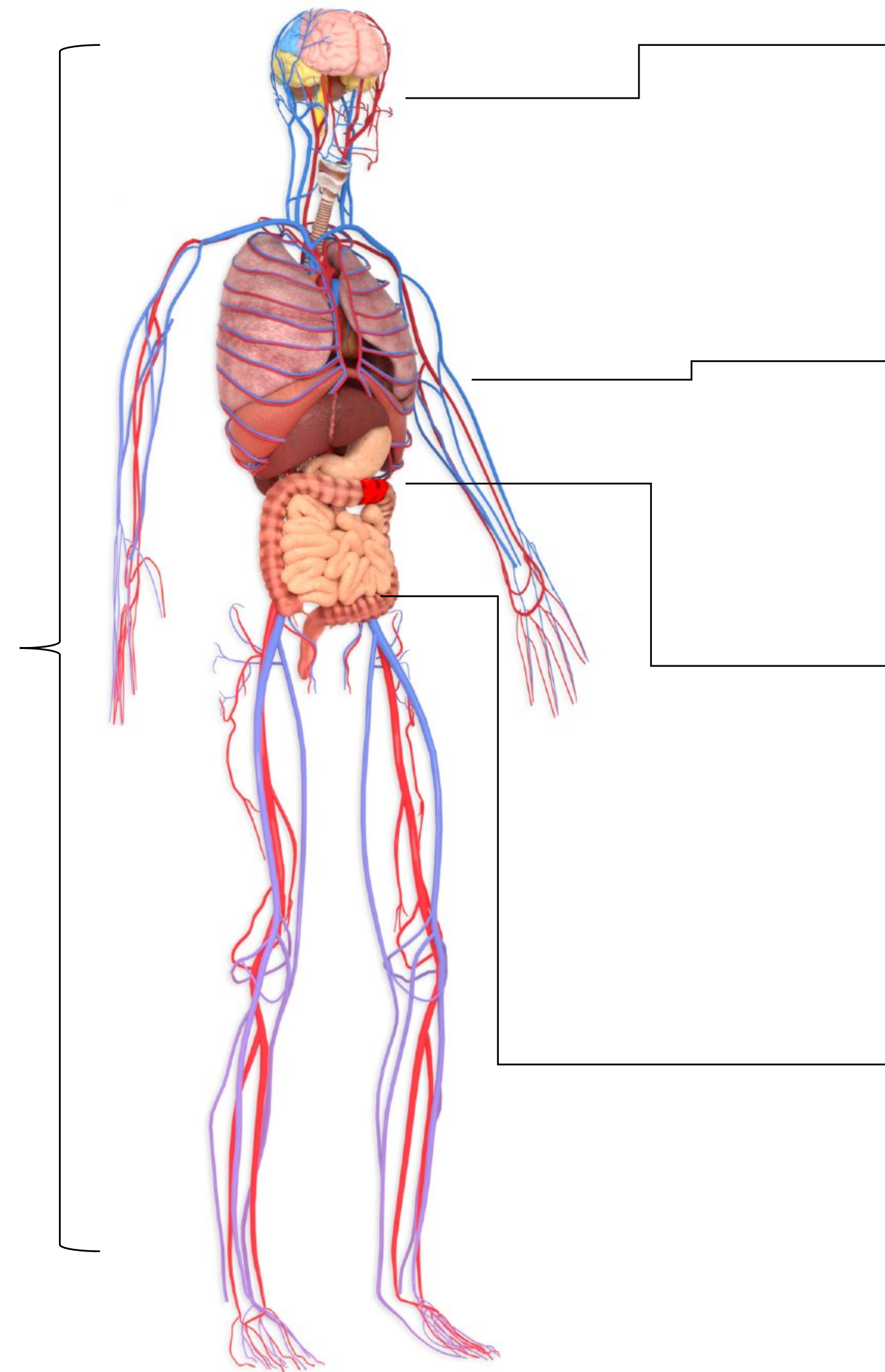




# Evidence of NP ancillary effects

## Immune system

- Pro-inflammatory activation
- Histamine release
- Inhibition of response to inflammatory signals
- Immune cell apoptosis
- Complement system activation



## Microvasculature

- Permeabilization of endothelium and BBB
- Modulation of angiogenesis
- Upregulation of endothelial adhesion proteins

## Blood

- Induced changes to blood lipids
- Pro- and anti-coagulant effects

## Cancer

- Pro-tumorigenic effects
- Anti-tumorigenic effects
- Facilitation of metastasis

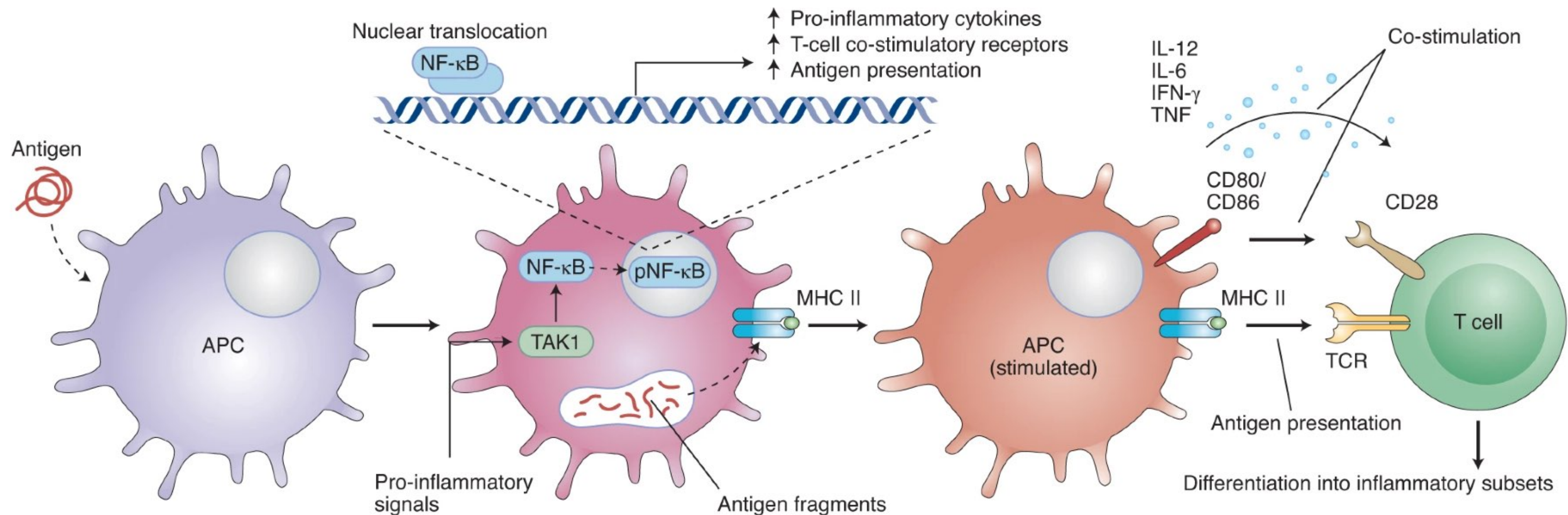
## Gut microbiome

- Selective anti-microbial activity
- Modulation of bacterial ecosystem



# NP-induced antigen tolerance

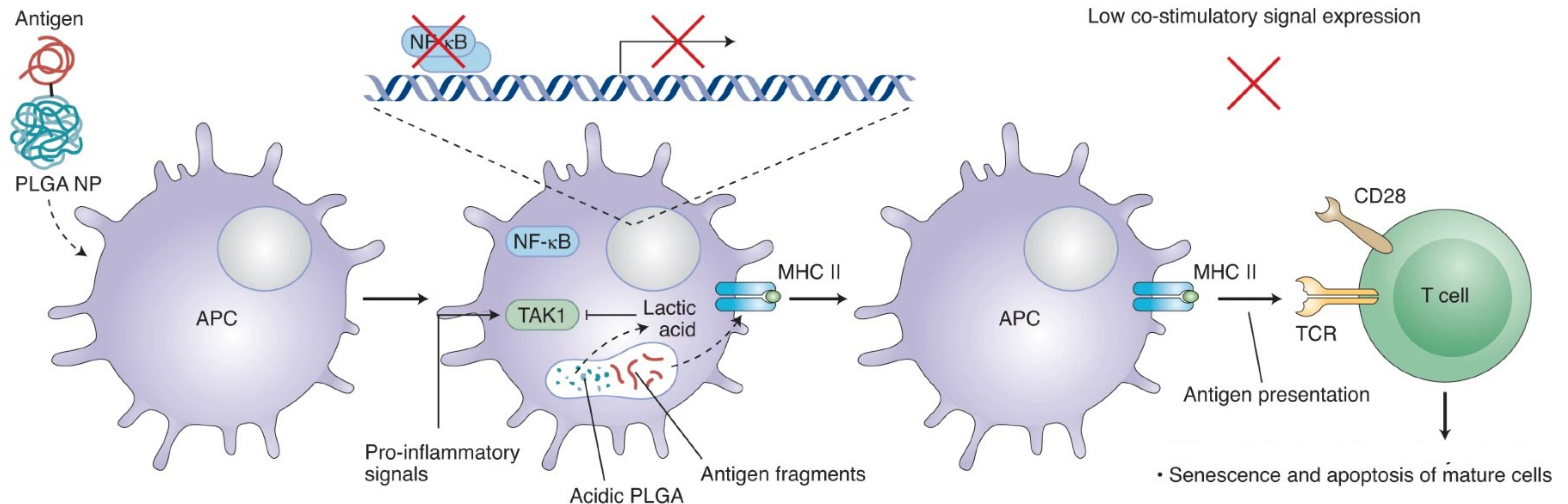
- Antigen-presenting cells (APC) phagocytose antigens
- Antigen fragments presented to T/B lymphocytes via MHC II
- Inflammatory activation of APC produces costimulatory signals
- Reactive T/B lymphocytes differentiate into active subsets





# Nanoparticle-induced antigen tolerance

- Phagocytosis of antigens with PLGA nanoparticles
- PLGA hydrolysis into lactic acid interferes with signal transduction
- Attenuation of costimulatory signal release from APC
- Antigen presentation without costimulation triggers senescence and apoptosis of reactive lymphocytes

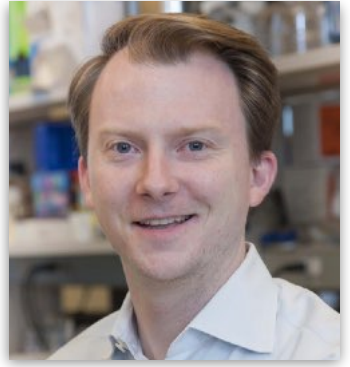




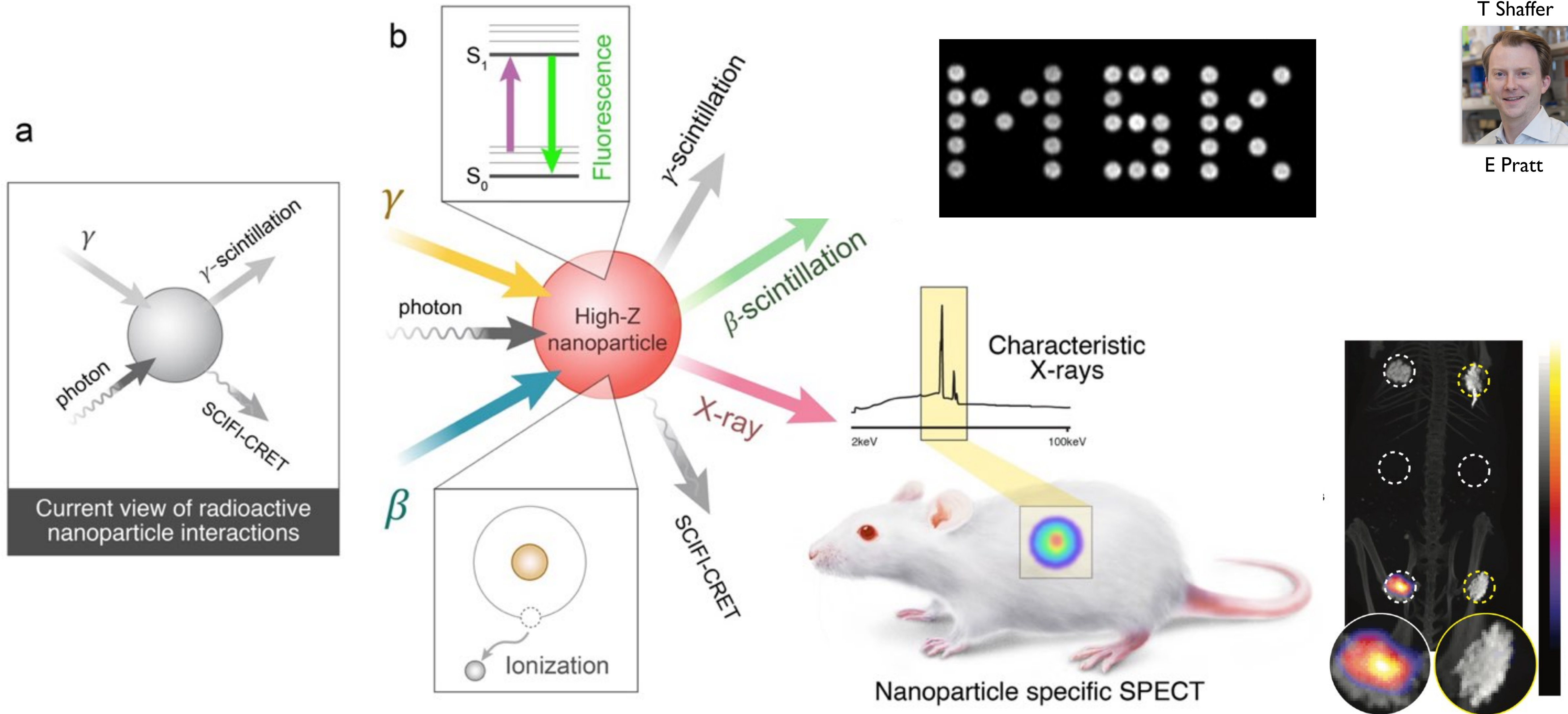
# Ionizing radiation interacts with NP



T Shaffer



E Pratt

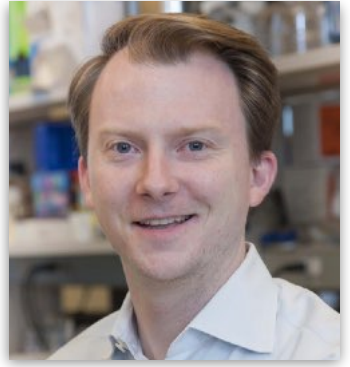




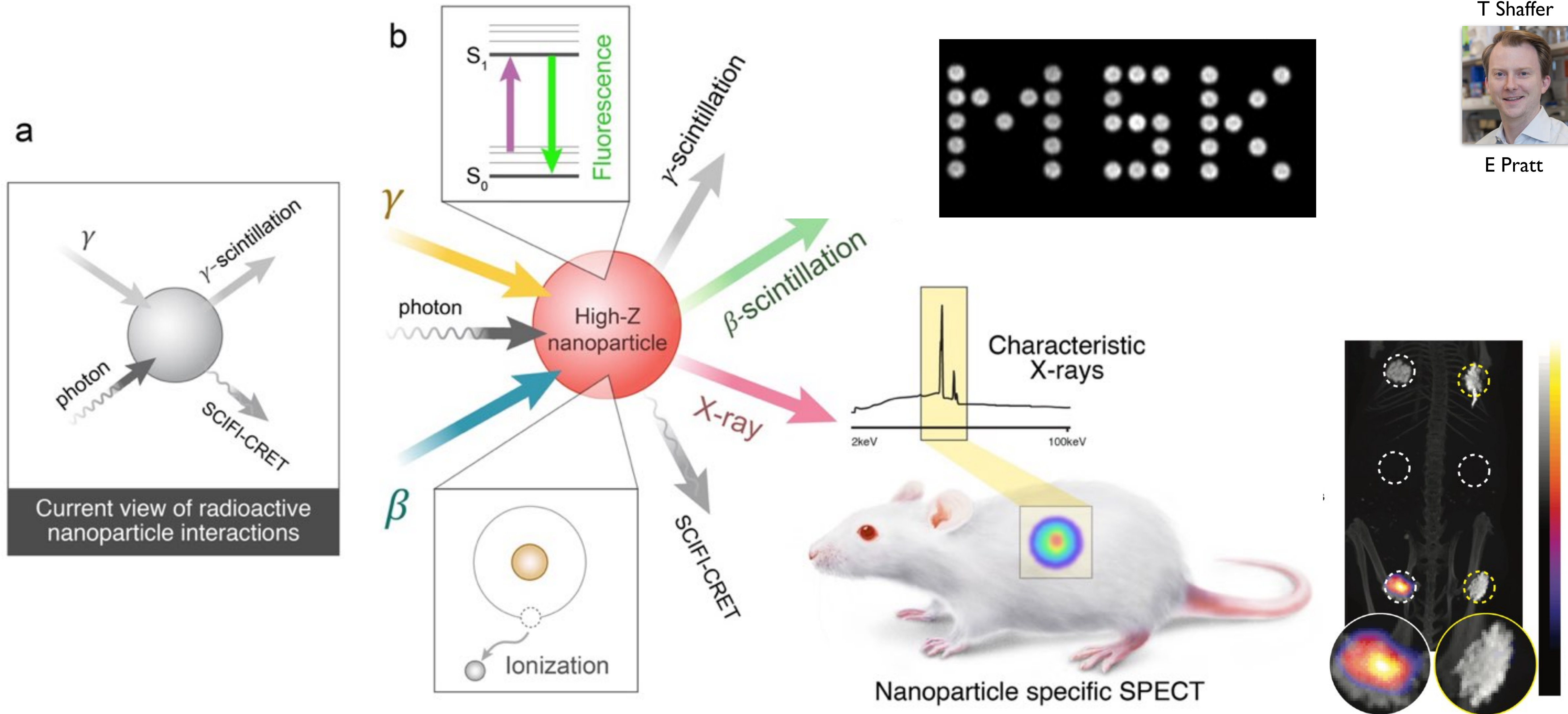
# Ionizing radiation interacts with NP



T Shaffer



E Pratt

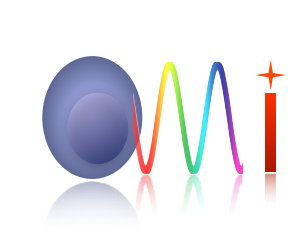




# Conclusions

---

- I. Nanomaterial causes ancillary effects in biological systems

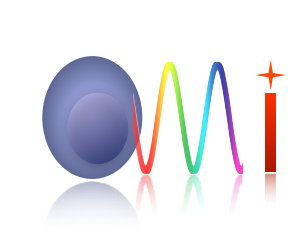




# Conclusions

---

1. Nanomaterial causes ancillary effects in biological systems
2. Ancillary effects are dependent upon particle identity

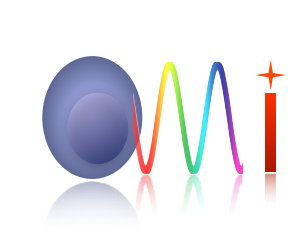




# Conclusions

---

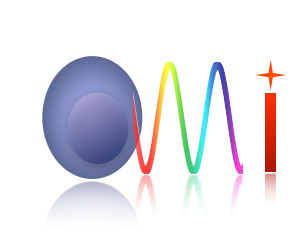
1. Nanomaterial causes ancillary effects in biological systems
2. Ancillary effects are dependent upon particle identity
3. The identity-effect relationship is poorly understood



# Conclusions

---

1. Nanomaterial causes ancillary effects in biological systems
2. Ancillary effects are dependent upon particle identity
3. The identity-effect relationship is poorly understood
4. Some ancillary effects are potentially harmful

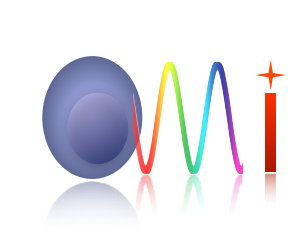




# Conclusions

---

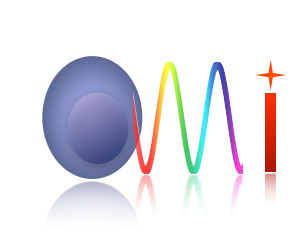
1. Nanomaterial causes ancillary effects in biological systems
2. Ancillary effects are dependent upon particle identity
3. The identity-effect relationship is poorly understood
4. Some ancillary effects are potentially harmful
5. Some ancillary effects have therapeutic potential



# Conclusions

---

1. Nanomaterial causes ancillary effects in biological systems
2. Ancillary effects are dependent upon particle identity
3. The identity-effect relationship is poorly understood
4. Some ancillary effects are potentially harmful
5. Some ancillary effects have therapeutic potential
6. There are also physical effects

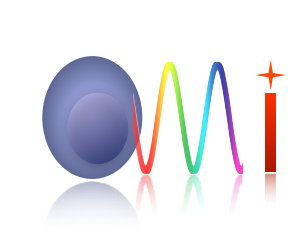




# Conclusions

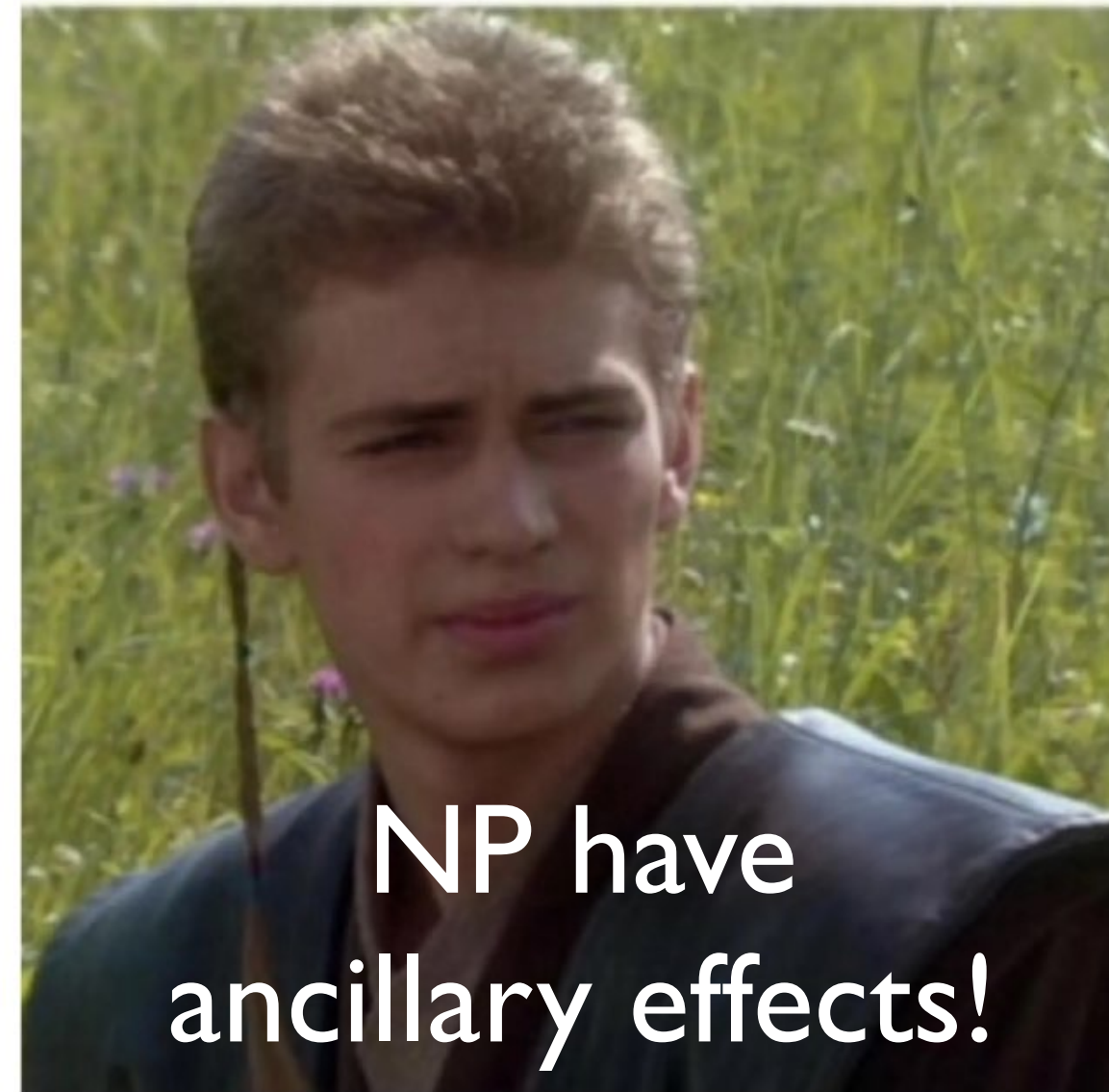
---

1. Nanomaterial causes ancillary effects in biological systems
2. Ancillary effects are dependent upon particle identity
3. The identity-effect relationship is poorly understood
4. Some ancillary effects are potentially harmful
5. Some ancillary effects have therapeutic potential
6. There are also physical effects
7. Better understanding of the nano-bio interface will facilitate development of new and better nanomedicines



# Conclusions

1. Nanomaterial
2. Ancillary effects
3. The identity-effect
4. Some ancillary
5. Some ancillary
6. There are also
7. Better understanding of new and better



items

facilitate development



# Further reading:

## REVIEW ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41565-021-01017-9>

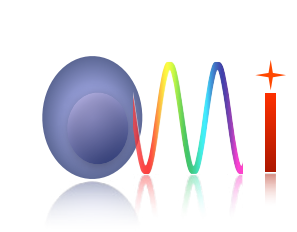
nature  
nanotechnology



# The ancillary effects of nanoparticles and their implications for nanomedicine

Evan P. Stater<sup>1</sup>, Ali Y. Sonay<sup>2</sup> , Cassidy Hart<sup>3</sup> and Jan Grimm<sup>1,2,4</sup>  

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pharmacology, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, NY, USA. <sup>2</sup>Molecular Pharmacology Program, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA. <sup>3</sup>Department of General Surgery, Lankenau Medical Center, Wynnewood, PA, USA. <sup>4</sup>Department of Radiology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA. ✉e-mail: [grimmj@mskcc.org](mailto:grimmj@mskcc.org)





# Acknowledgements



NIH R01-CA218615  
NIH R01-CA215700  
NIH R01-CA212379  
NIH R01-CA257811  
NIH R56-EB030512

MSKCC Society  
Past DOD and NIH grants





# Wonder is around every corner...

Thank you

[grimmj@mskcc.org](mailto:grimmj@mskcc.org)



[@grimmlab](https://twitter.com/grimmlab)

