

# **TERAPIE BIOLOGICHE: PASSATO, PRESENTE, FUTURO**

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# Current and emerging biologicals

## CURRENT

### TNF inhibitors

Etanercept

Adalimumab

Infliximab

### Non TNF Biologicals

Anakinra

Rituximab (25% Mouse Prot.)

Abatacept

## EMERGING

### TNF inhibitors

Golimumab

Certolizumab

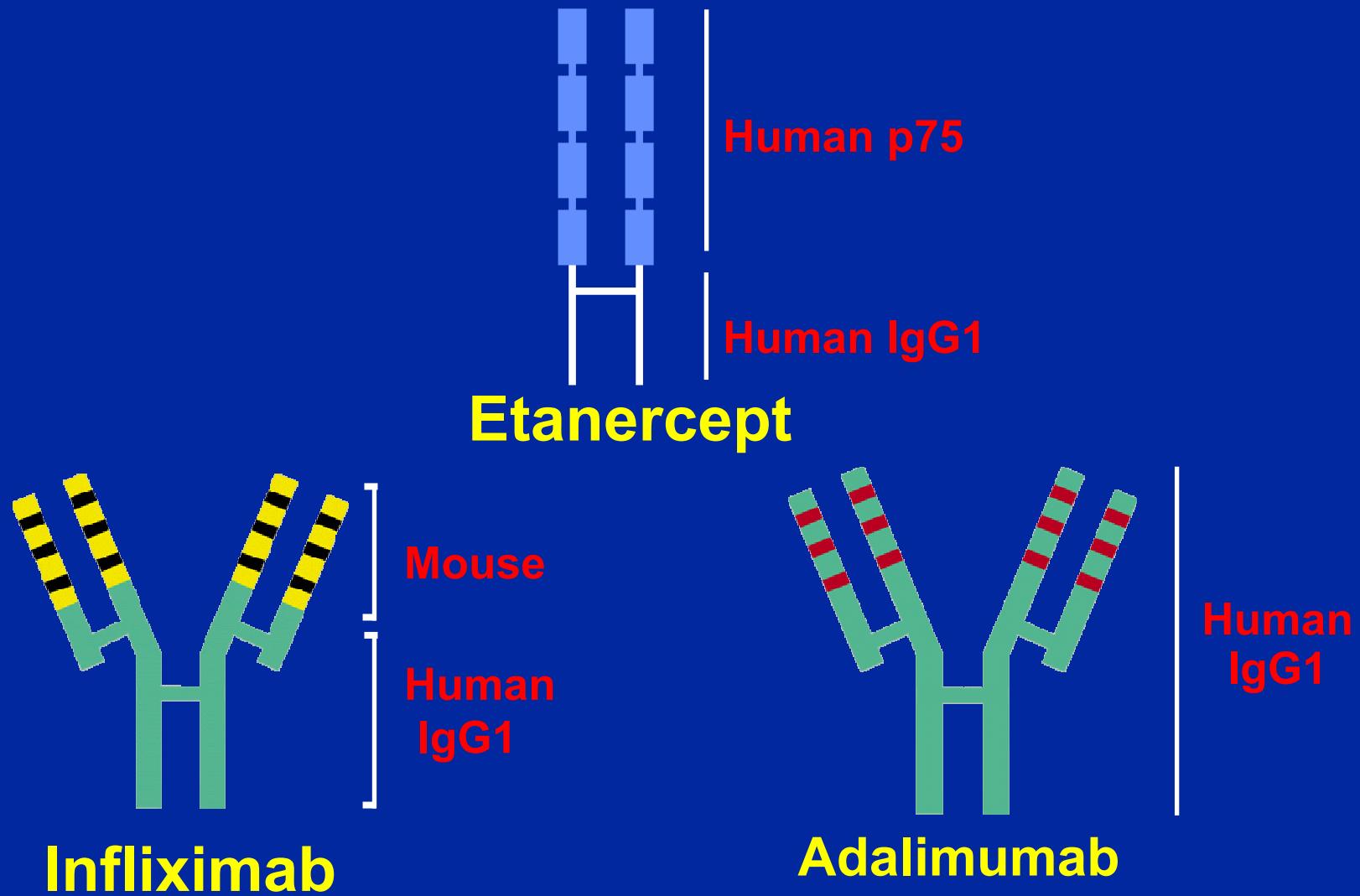
### Non TNF Biologicals

**ocrelizumab** (5%-10% Mouse  
Prot.)

**Ofatumumab** (no Mouse Prot.)

Tocilizumab

# Attuali Agenti Biologici Anti-TNF- $\alpha$



# Caratteristiche degli anti-TNF

	Recettore solubile	Anticorpi monoclonali	
	Etanercept	Infliximab	Adalimumab
Struttura	Proteina di fusione del recettore umano	Anticorpo monoclonale chimerico (murino/umano)	Anticorpo monoclonale umano
Somministrazione	25 mg x 2/settimana SC AIG 0.4 mg/kg x 2/settimana SC	3 –10 mg/kg ogni 4-8 settimane IV	40 mg/1 o 2 settimane
Emivita	4,8 giorni	9.5 giorni	12-14 giorni
Fissazione del complemento (invitro)	No	Si	Si
Lisi delle cellule che esprimono il TNF (in vitro)	No	Si	Si
Immunogenicità (anticorpi anti-farmaco)	<5% (non neutralizzanti) (PI)	15-24% (in monoterapia) neutralizzanti (PI)	Fino al 12% in monoterapia 5% con MTX (PI)
Associazione con MTX	Facoltativa	Obbligata	Facoltativa

ENBREL®  
Package Insert (PI)

Remicade ®  
Package Insert

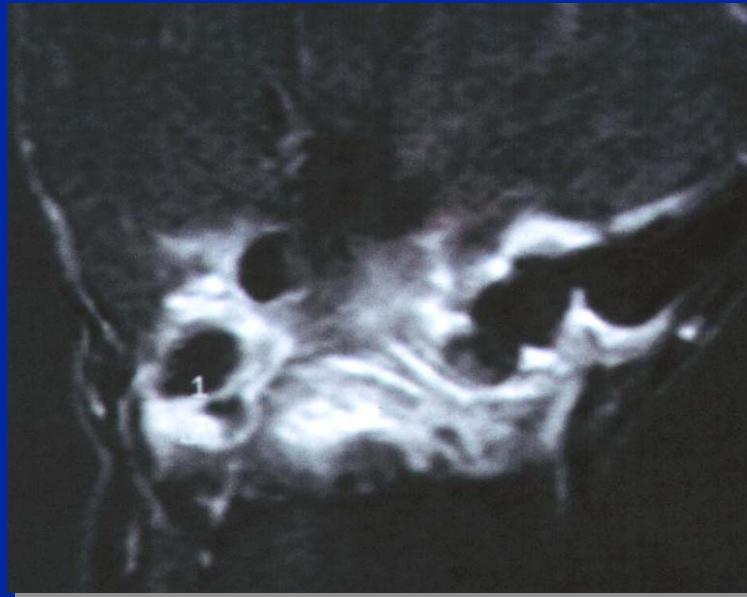
HumiraTM  
Package Insert

# **Studi multicentrici, controllati con placebo, in doppio cieco:**

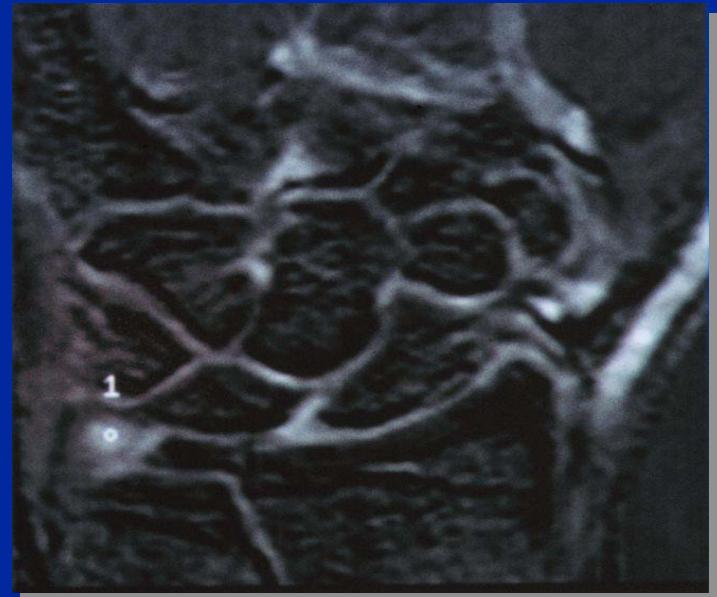
- Infliximab / Remicade (**ATTRACT, ASPIRE**)
- Etanercept / Enbrel (**TEMPO**)
- Adalimumab / Humira (**DEO11, ARMADA,  
STAR**)

# Anti-TNF Riducono il Processo Infiammatorio nell'Artrite

NMR Scan del polso – Gadolinium Uptake



Settimana 0



Settimana 10

# Who should get anti-TNF<sub>A</sub> Biologic Agents?

- Methotrexate partial responders
- DMARD failures
- ? Early inflammatory arthritis patients

# **Anti-TNF $\alpha$ agents are the first biologic of choice after MTX failure**

- Rapid onset of action
- Marked radiographic inhibition
- Large population exposure
- Long term safety data

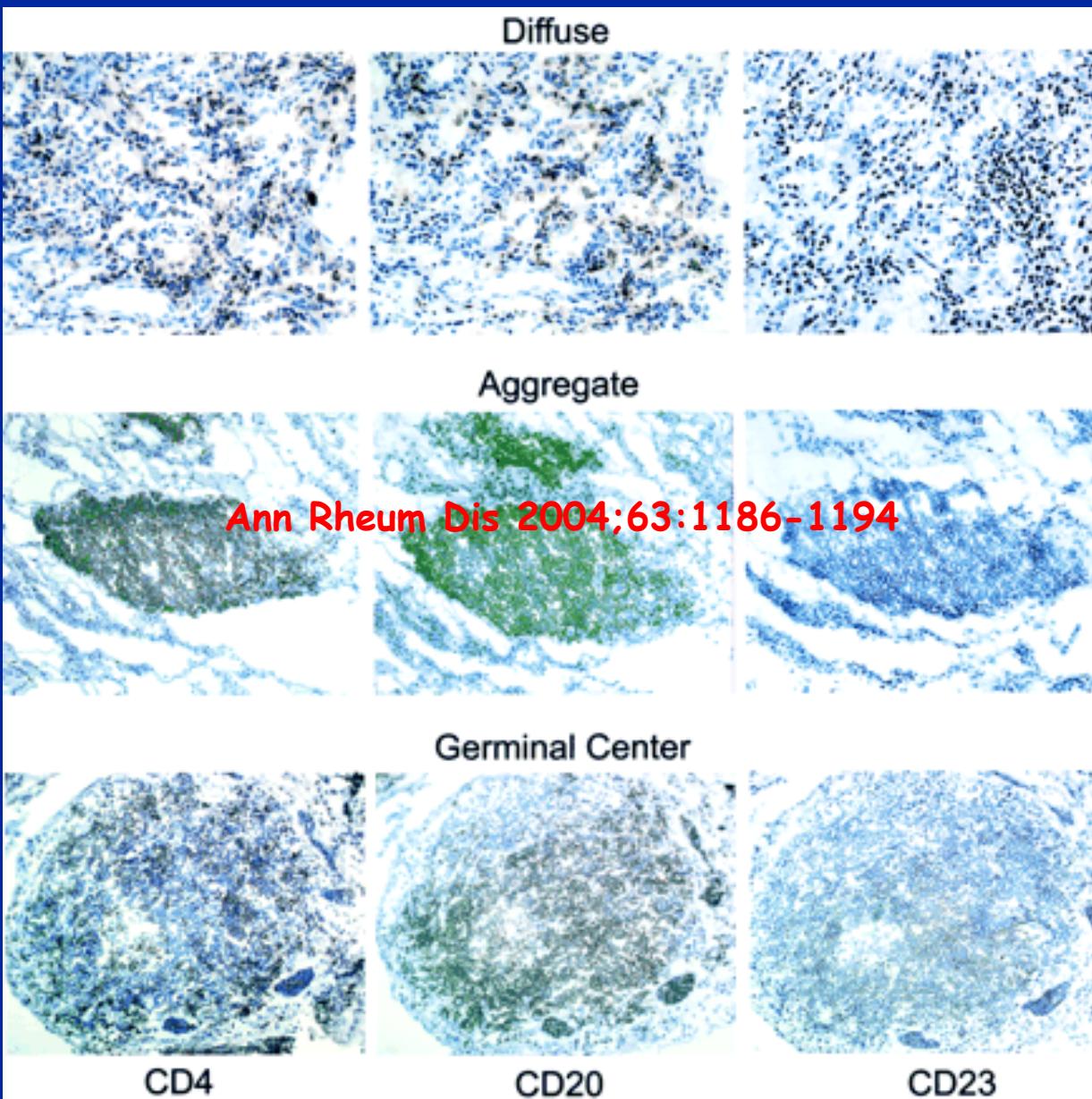
# **Kineret® (Anakinra)**

## **forma ricombinante dell'antagonista del recettore per l'interleuchina-1 (IL-1Ra)**

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- Inibisce il legame della citochina al recettore dell'IL-1
- Indicazioni proposte
  - Riduzione di segni e sintomi dell'AR moderata/grave non responsiva ad uno o più DMARDs

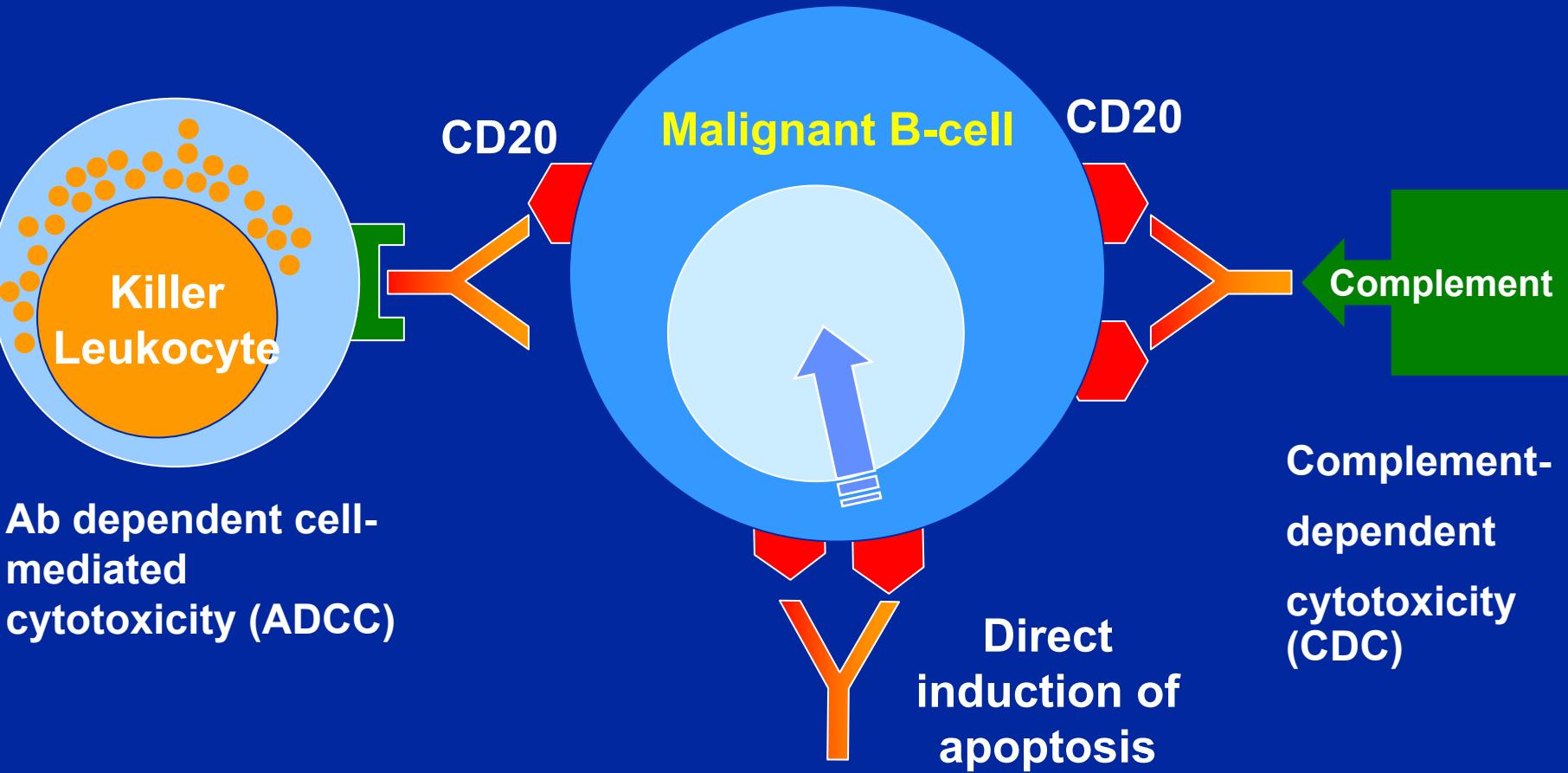
# ORGANIZZAZIONE DEI LINFOCITI IN CORSO DI SINOVITE



# Rituximab

- Monoclonal antibody
  - Chimeric human/murine (25% Mouse Prot.)
  - Anti-CD 20 (B cell surface marker)
- Mechanism of action
  - B cell depletion

# Anti- CD20 (Rituximab; Mabthera®) mechanism of action



# Rituximab

## • Indications

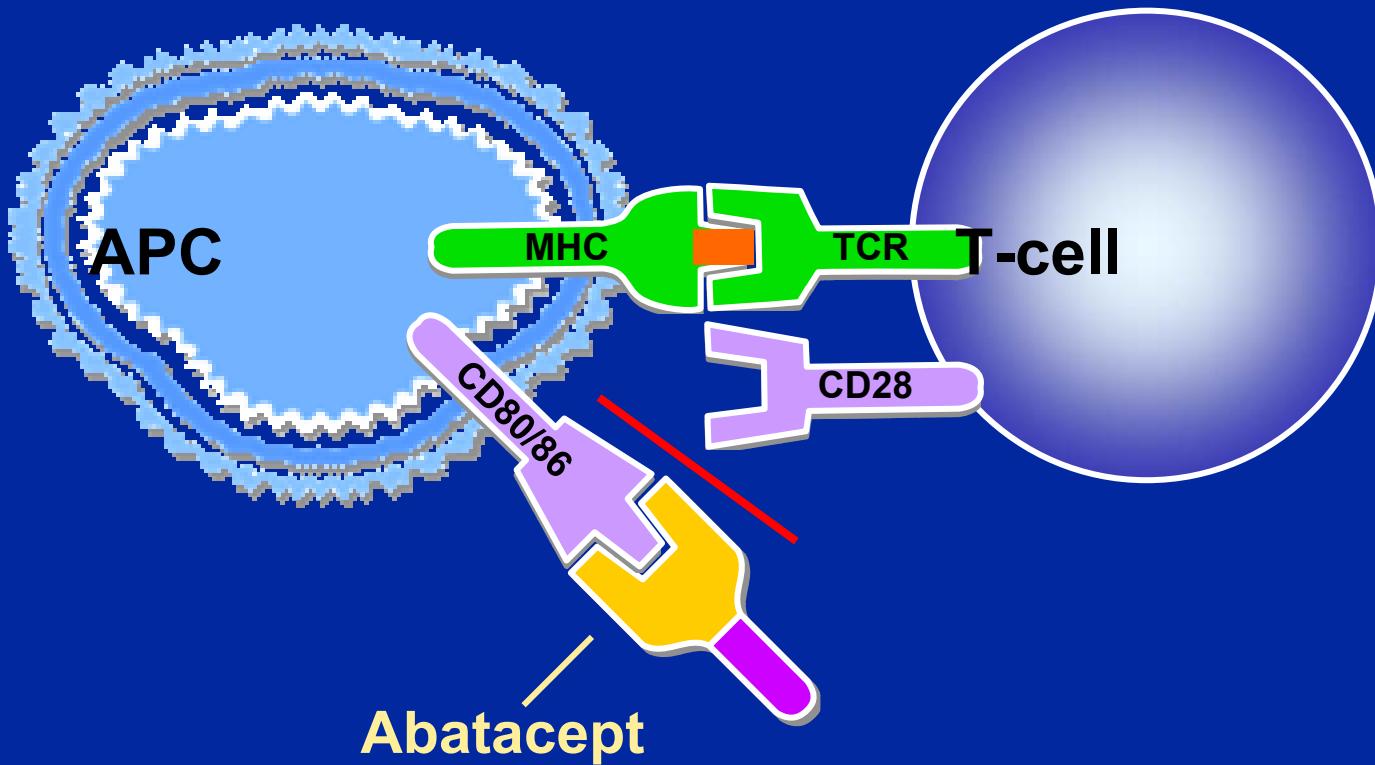
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (1997)
- Rheumatoid arthritis (2006)
- Investigational
  - SLE
  - Wegener's granulomatosis
  - Hepatitis C associated cryoglobulinemia
  - Sjogren's syndrome
  - Others....(Regiona Toscana)

# FACTORS IN CHOOSING RITUXIMAB

- NOVEL MECHANISM OF ACTION
- INFREQUENT ADMINISTRATION
- USED SAFELY IN HIGH TB RISK PATIENTS, POSSIBLE CTD, LYMPHOMA

# Abatacept (ORENCIA)

Proteina di fusione costituita dal dominio extracellulare del CTL4 (CD28)  
e un frammento del dominio Fc delle IgG umane



Selectively Modulates Co-Stimulation via  
CD80/86:CD28 Pathway

# Proposed Mechanism of Action of Abatacept

- Decrease T-cell activation and proliferation
- Decrease pro-inflammatory cytokine secretion from activated synovial macrophages
- Decrease autoantibody production (e.g. RF)
- No depletion of T-cells or other leukocytes

# Abatacept

- **Proposed indications for abatacept:**
  - For use in adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response to one or more biologic or non-biologic DMARDs
    - Reducing signs and symptoms
    - Inducing major clinical response
    - Inhibiting the progression of structural damage
    - Improving physical function
  - Abatacept may be used as monotherapy or concomitantly with methotrexate or other non-biologic DMARD therapy

Somministrato per flebo (100 mg) una volta al mese

In sperimentazione per via sottocutanea

# Overall Safety Summary

- abatacept is generally safe and well-tolerated
- Major identified risk is infection
  - Frequency slightly increased (1% difference in serious infection rate) but type, duration, treatment, and outcome similar to placebo
- Malignancy risk similar to placebo overall and for major categories of malignancy (solid, hematologic) but current assessment is not definitive
- 2 large observational studies to better define risk of rare events, including lymphoma, other malignancies, and serious infections

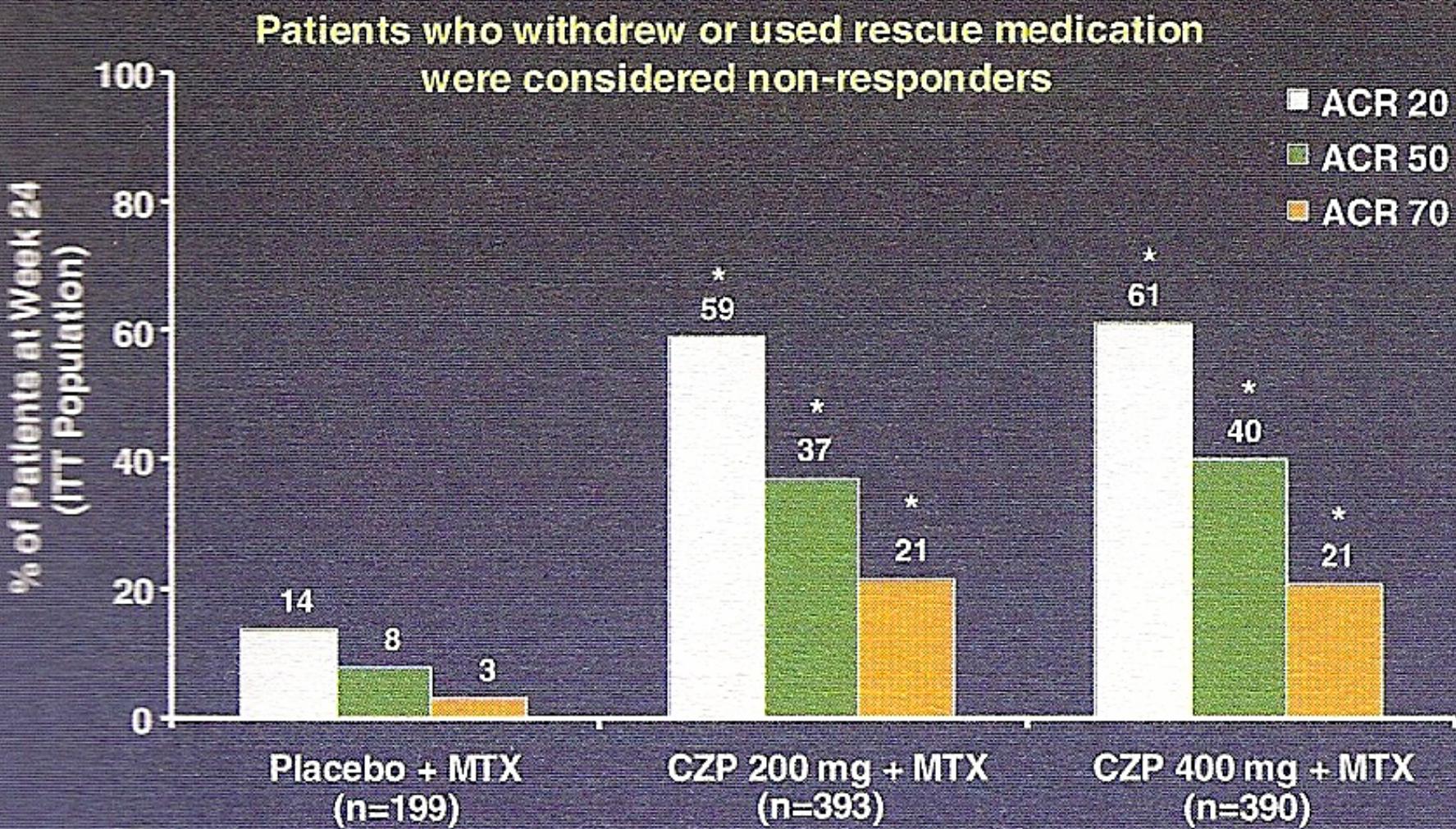
# FACTORS IN CHOOSING ABATACEPT

- NOVEL MECHANISM OF ACTION
- GOOD SUSTAINABILITY
- INFREQUENT INFUSION REACTIONS

# **CERTOLIZUMAB (CIMZIA)**

- anticorpo monoclonale “umanizzato” che presenta un’alta specificità, affinità e potenza di neutralizzazione del TNF $\alpha$ .
- la somministrazione di Certolizumab avviene per via sottotanea alla dose di 400 mg ogni 2 settimane

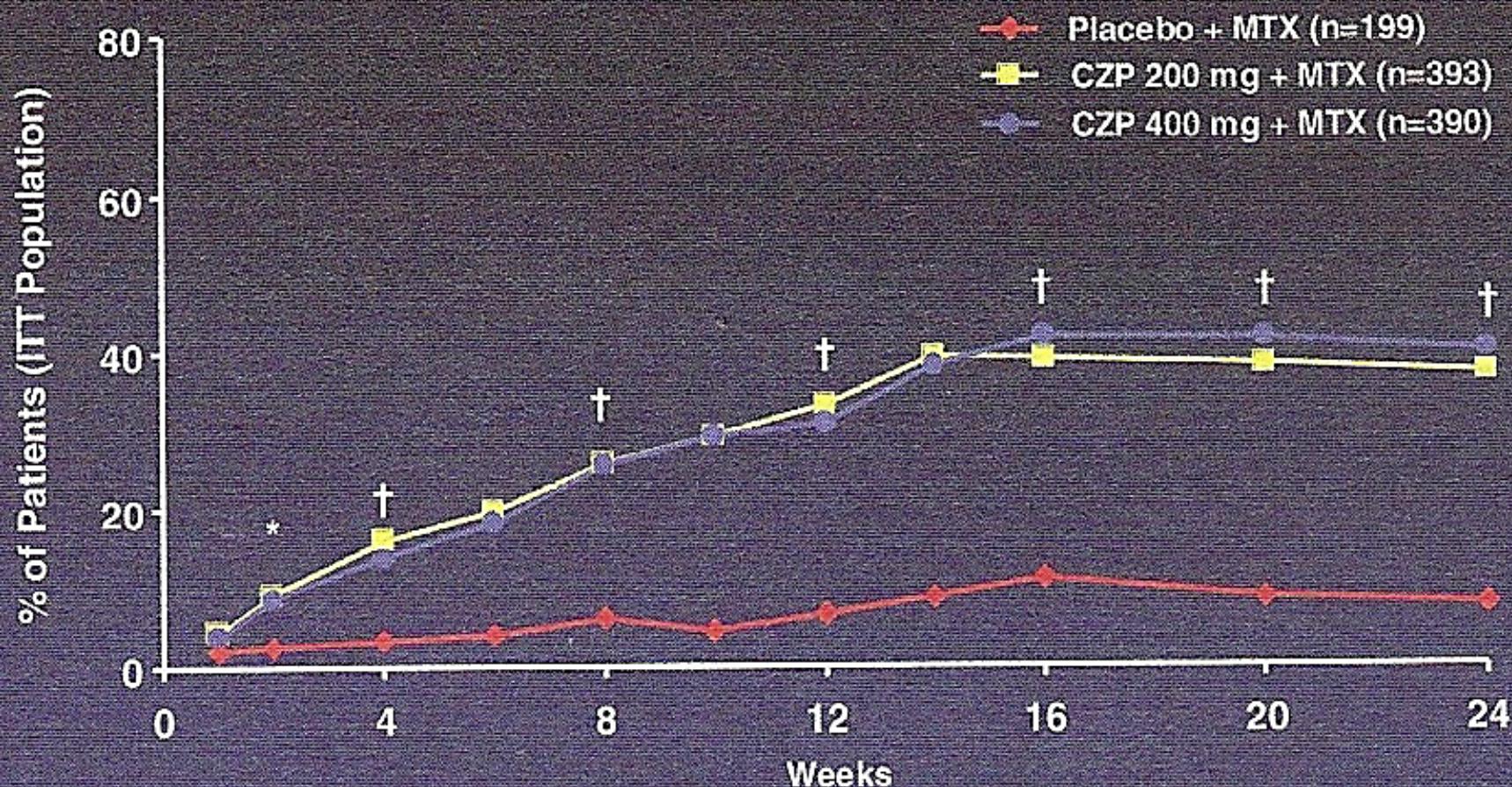
# ACR Responder Rates of Certolizumab



Significantly different from placebo,  $P < 0.001$

Keystone et al. EULAR 2007, Abstract #OP001

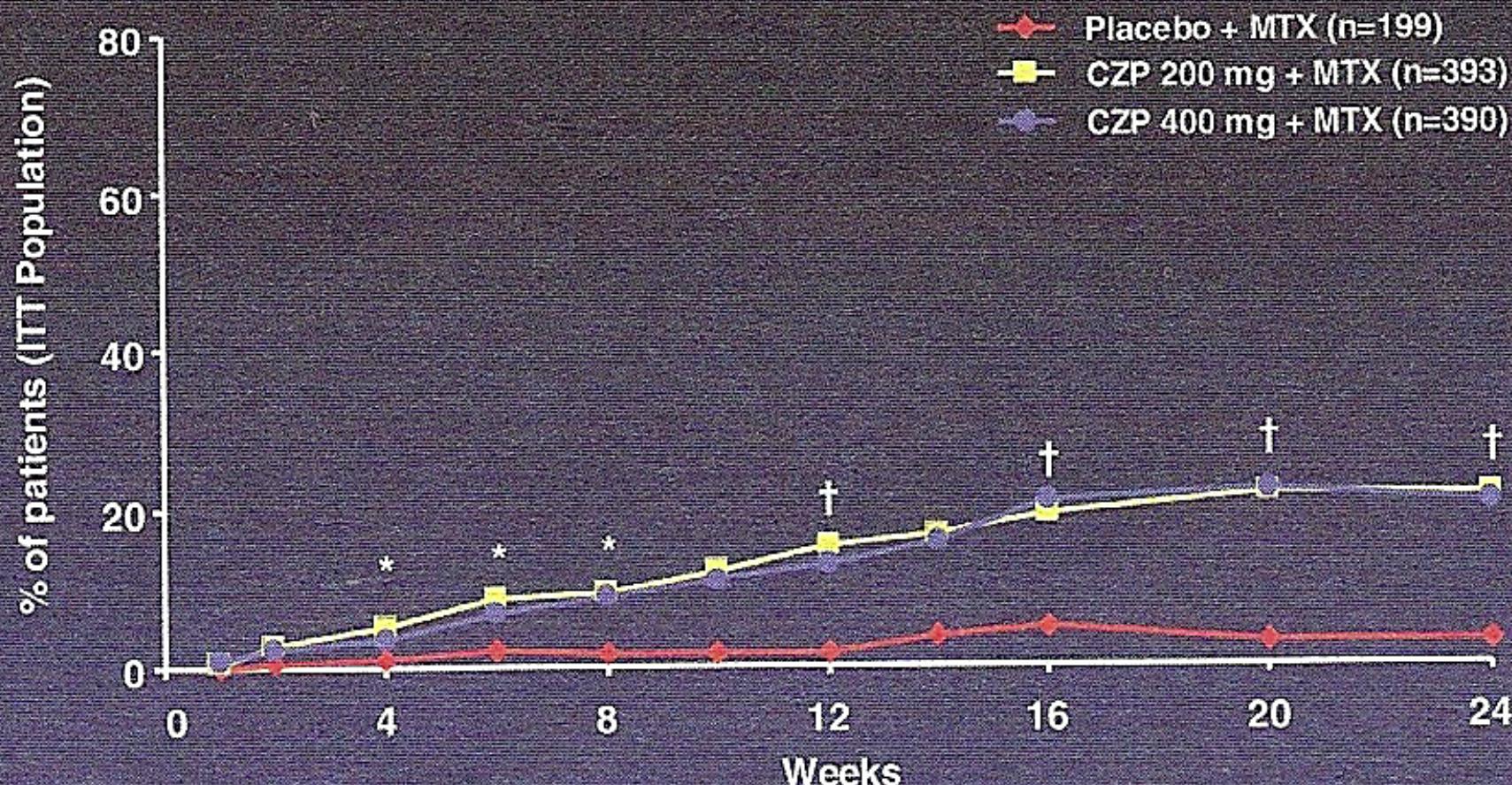
# ACR50 Efficacy of Certolizumab Over Time



\* Week 2 significantly different from placebo,  $P \leq 0.007$

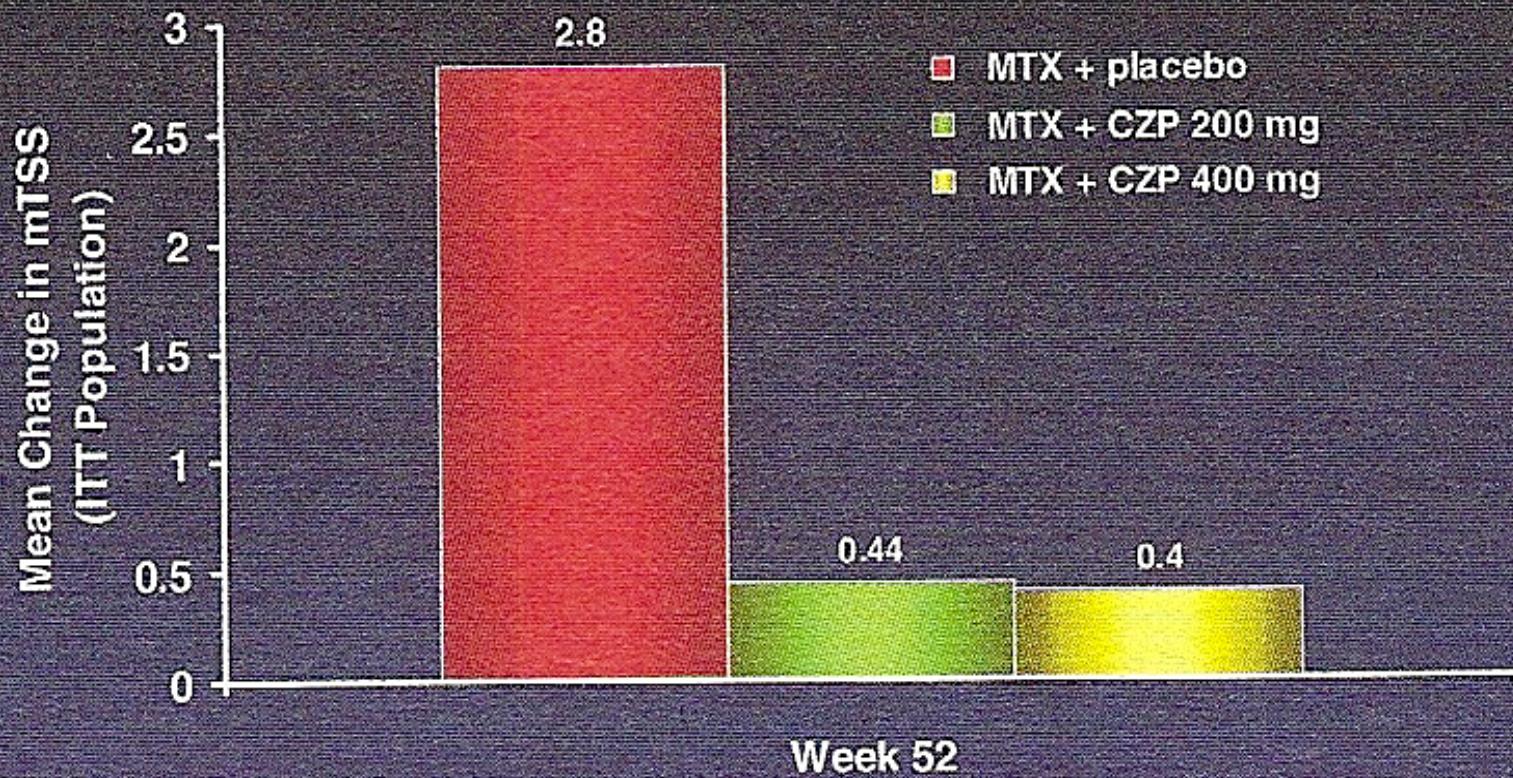
† Remaining weeks all significantly different from placebo,  $P < 0.001$

# ACR70 Efficacy of Certolizumab Over Time



Week 4, 6, and 8 significantly different from placebo,  $P \leq 0.05$   
Remaining weeks all significantly different from placebo,  $P < 0.001$

# Radiographic Outcome With Certolizumab



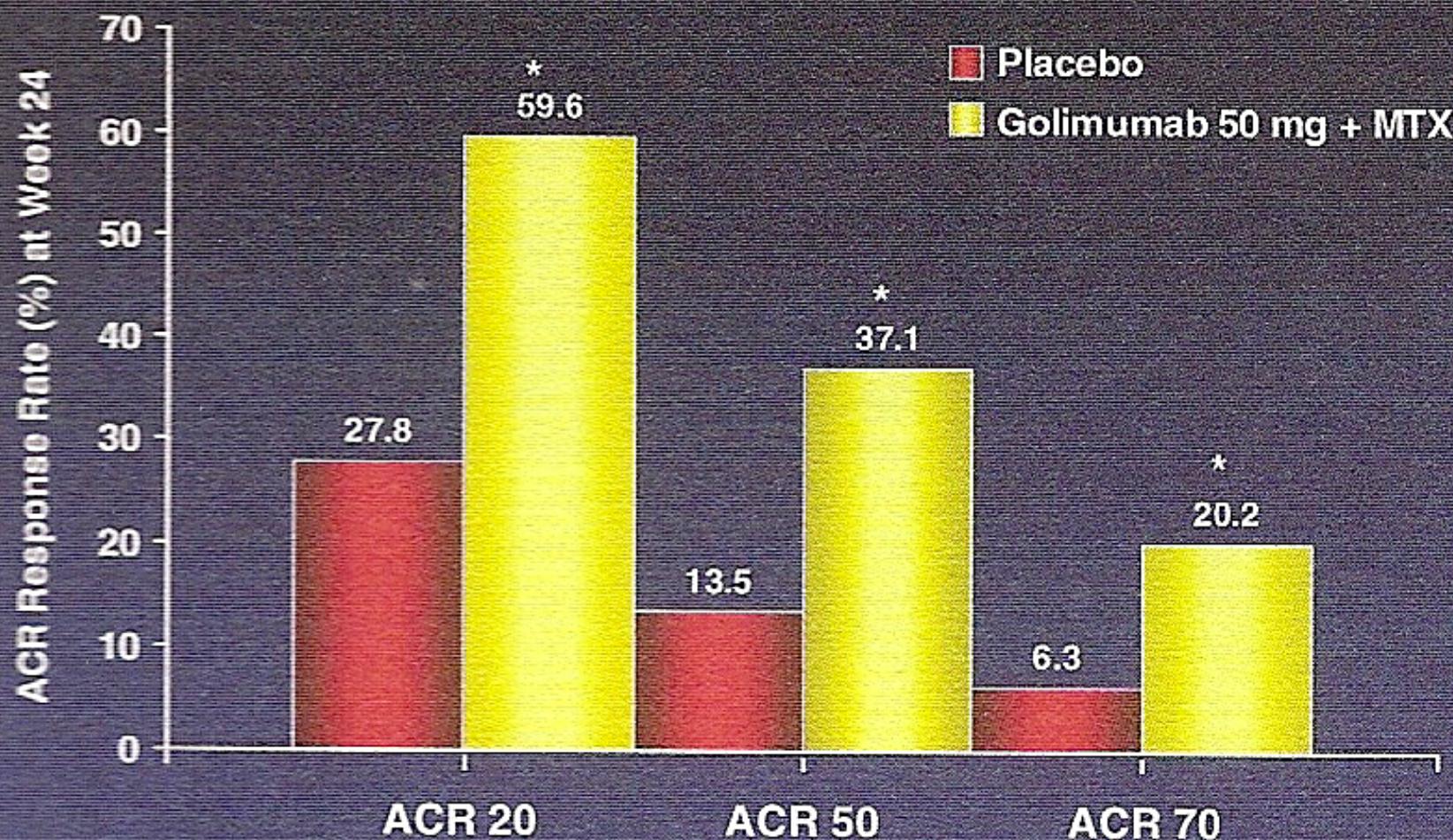
# FACTORS IN CHOOSING CERTOLIZUMAB

- RAPID ONSET OF ACTION
- EARLY ACQUISITION ACR 50/70
- LESS INJECTION SITE PAIN

# Golimumab

- Fully human mAb that binds to and neutralizes TNF activity
- Pre-clinical studies show Golimumab to be more potent than infliximab
- Dose Every four weeks SC due to long half life

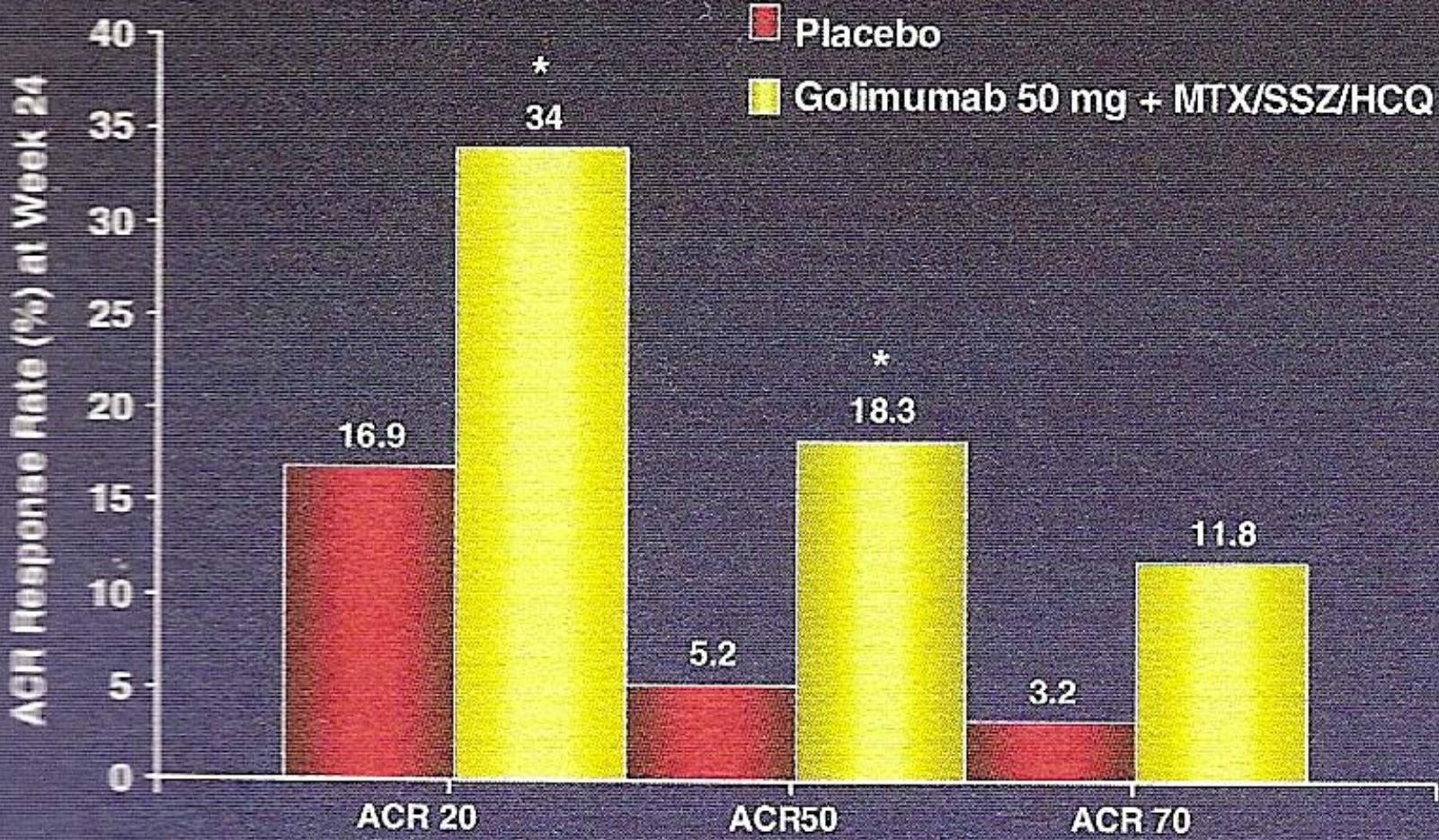
# Golimumab in MTX-IR Patients



P < .001

Keystone E et al. EULAR 2008, Abstract THUD0150

# Golimumab in TNF-IR Patients

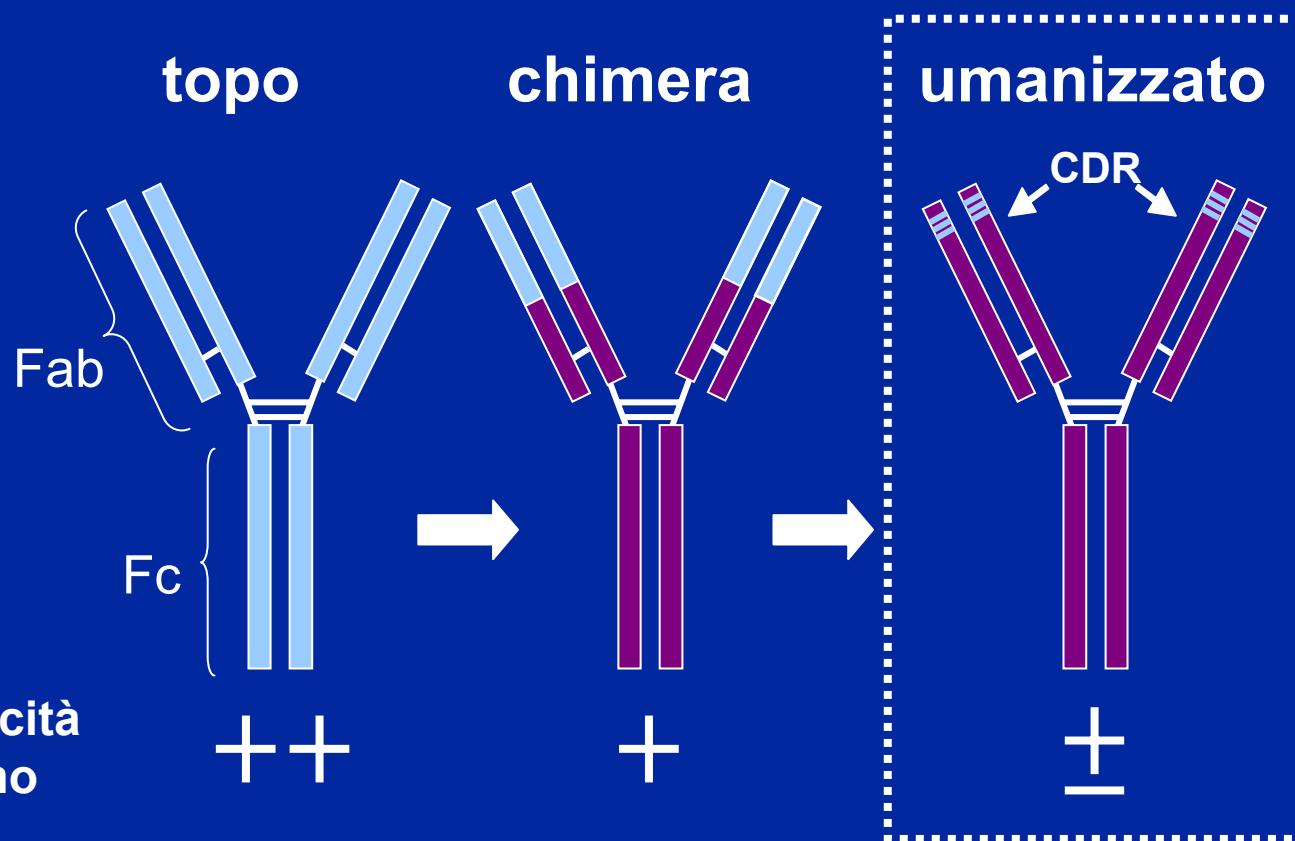


# FACORS IN CHOOSING GOLIMUMAB

- MONTHLY SC ADMINISTRATION
- MORE POTENT THAN INFILIXIMAB

# Tocilizumab

anticorpo monoclonale umanizzato anti recettore dell'IL-6



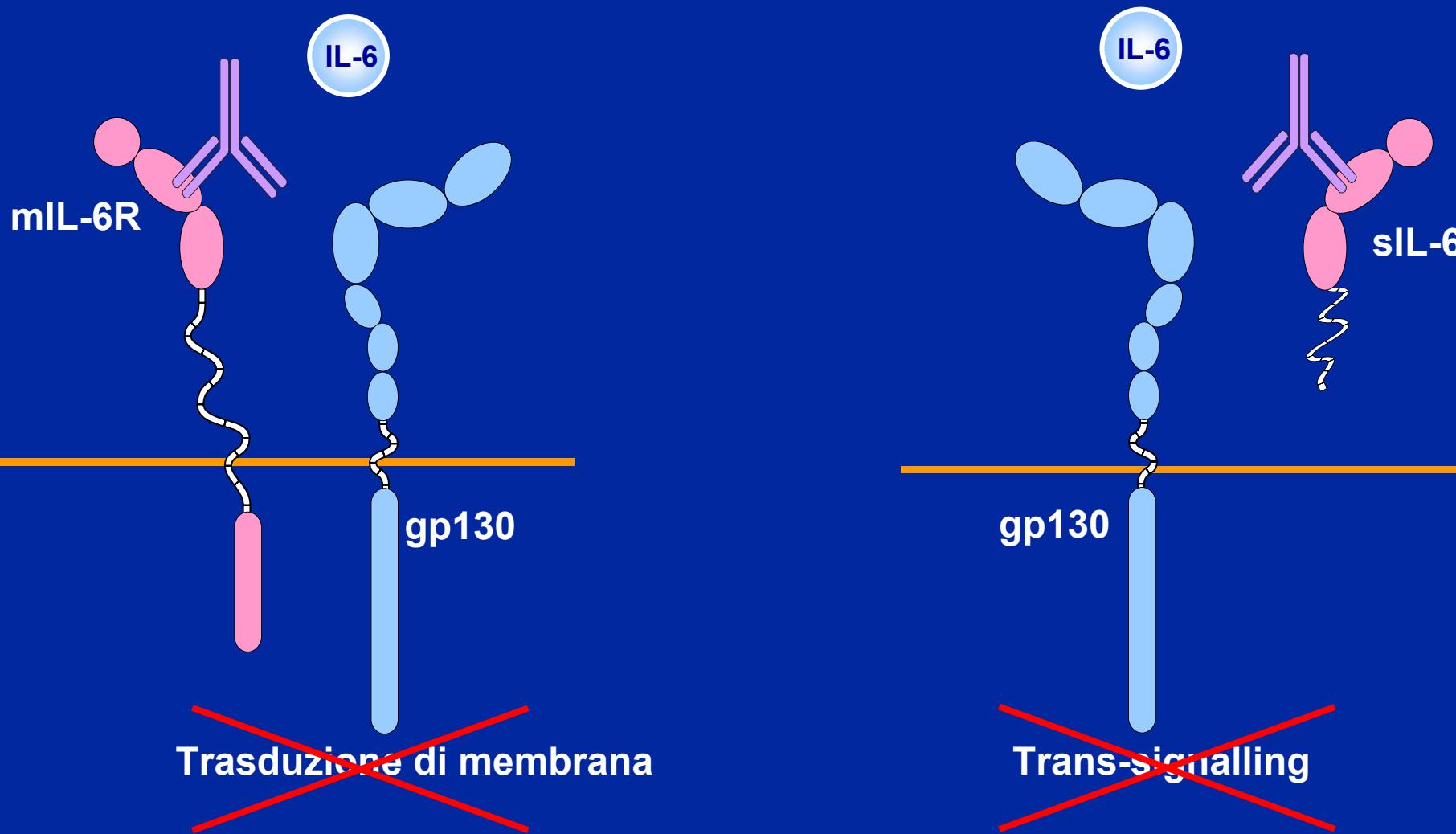
Antigenicità  
Nell'uomo

■ Proteine murine

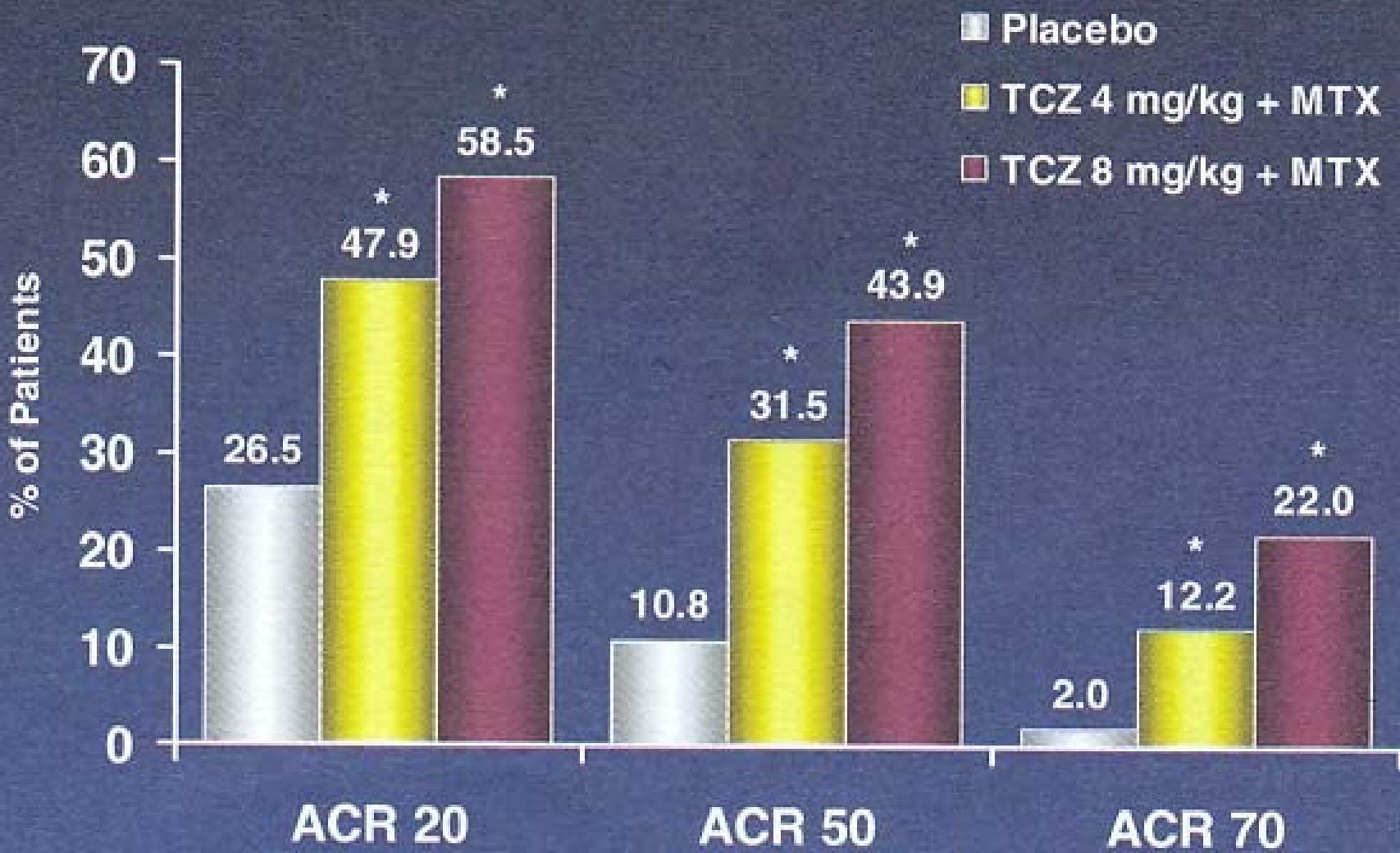
■ Proteine umane

Anticorpo anti-IL-6R  
tocilizumab (TCZ)

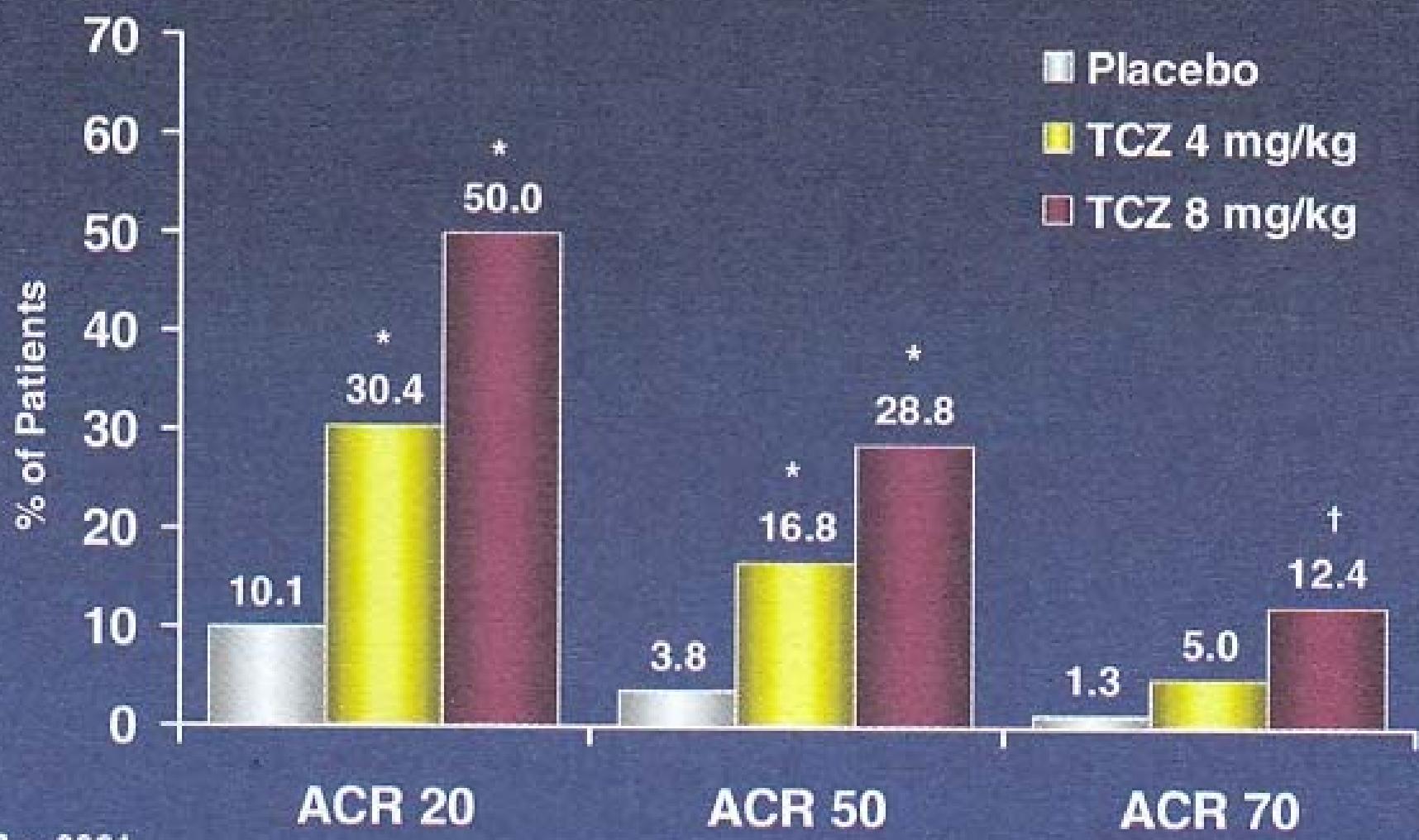
# Trasduzione del segnale IL-6: Tocilizumab lega mIL-6R e sIL-6R per inibire la trasduzione di IL-6R



# Efficacy of Tocilizumab in MTX-IR Patients



# Efficacy of Tocilizumab + MTX in TNF Inhibitor-IR Patients

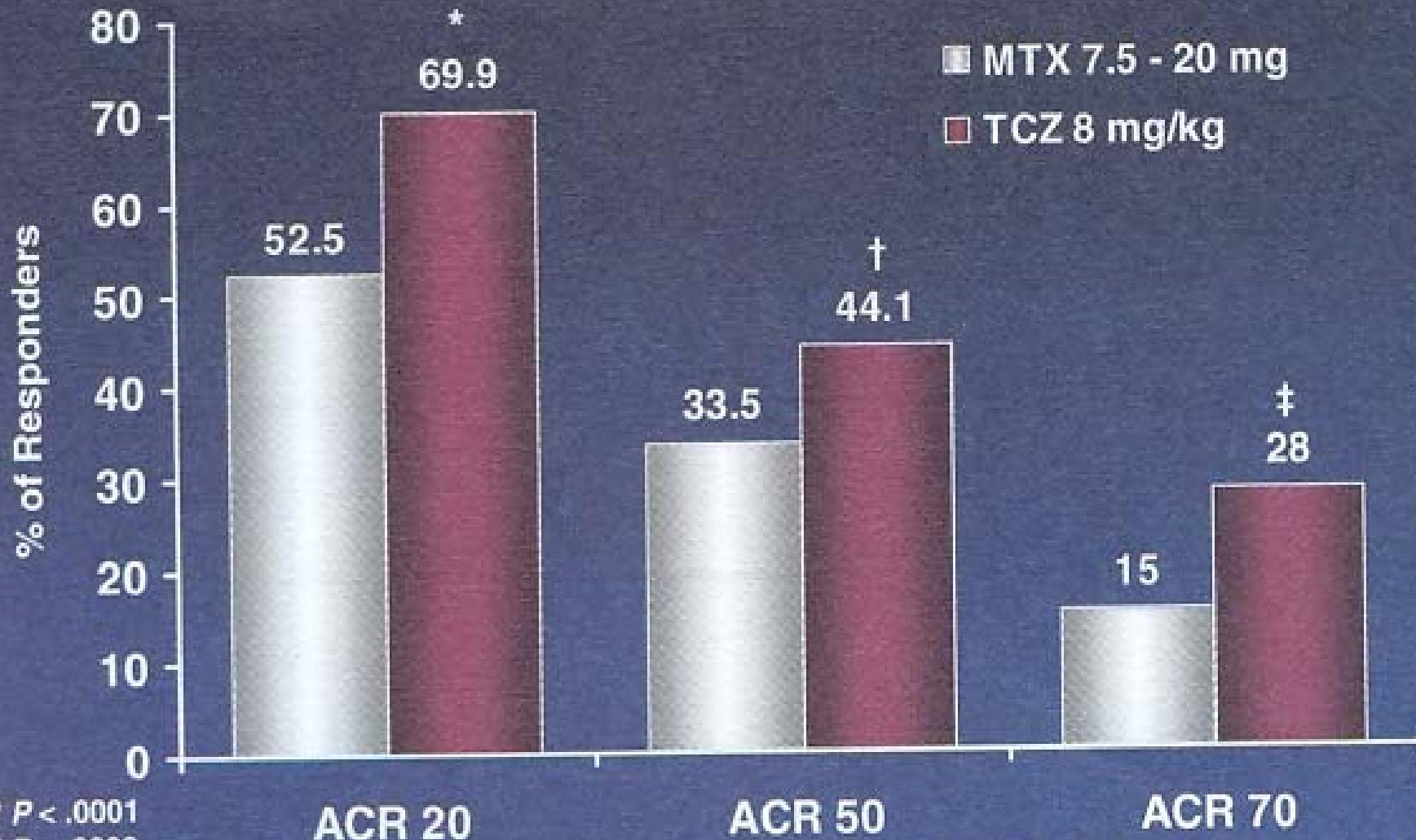


P < .0001

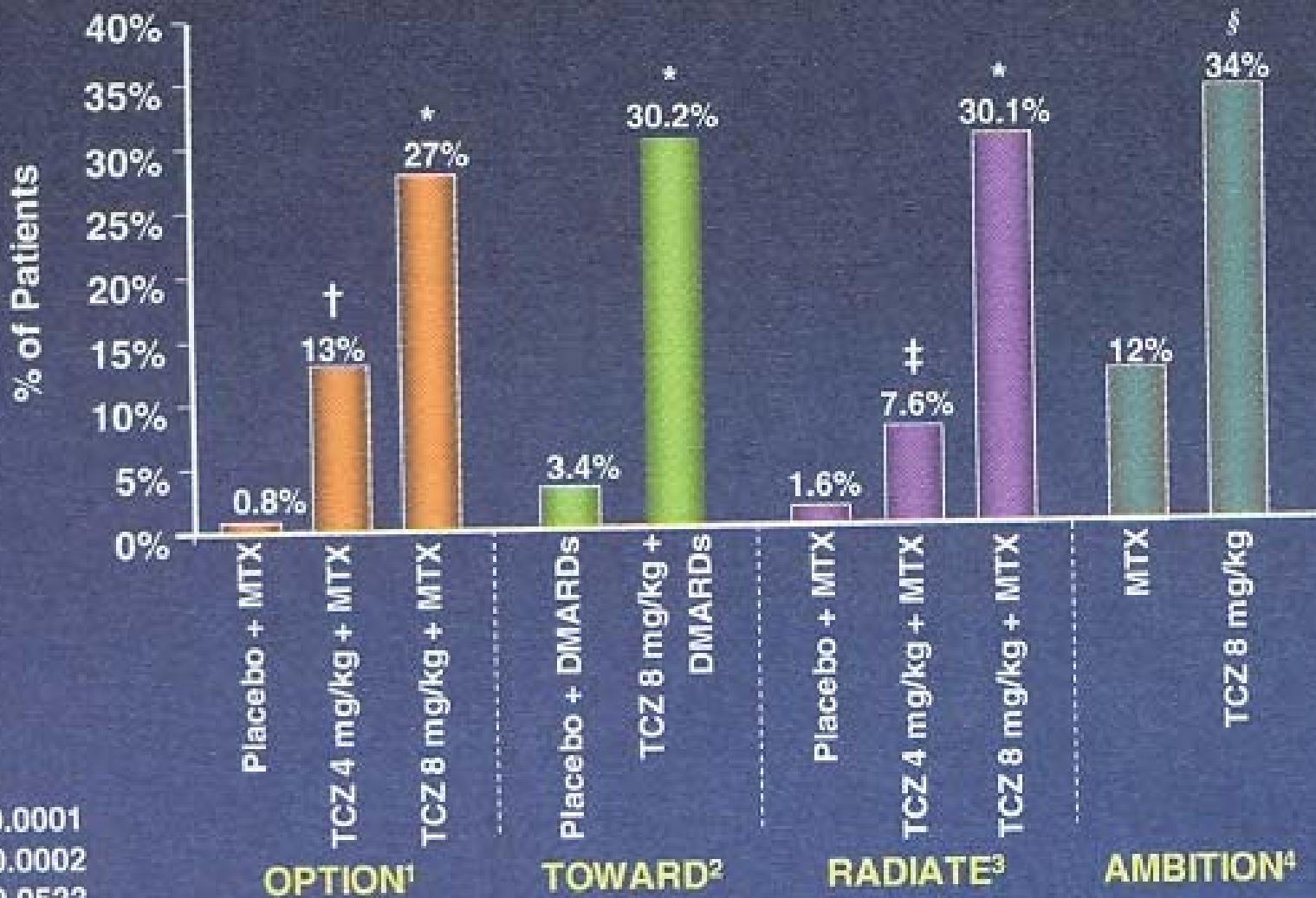
P = .0002

Emery P et al. EULAR 2008, Abstract OP0251

# Efficacy of Tocilizumab Monotherapy vs MTX



# Percentage of Patients with DAS<sub>20</sub> Remission (DAS <2.6) at Week 24



1. Smolen JS et al. Lancet. 2008;371:987. 2. Genovese M et al. ACR 2007, Abstract L1

3. Ferraccioli G, EULAR 2008, Abstract OP-0251. 4. Jones G et al. EULAR 2008, Abstract OP-013

# **FACTORS IN CHOOSING TOCILIZUMAB**

- NOVEL MECHANISM OF ACTION (INHIBITS TH17 DIFFERENZIATION)
- EFFICACY IN MONORTHERAPY SUPERIOR TO MTX
- HIGH DAS REMISION RATES

# Ruolo dei Micro-RNA, Nelle Patologie Autoimmuni Sistemiche

**THE FUTURE!?**

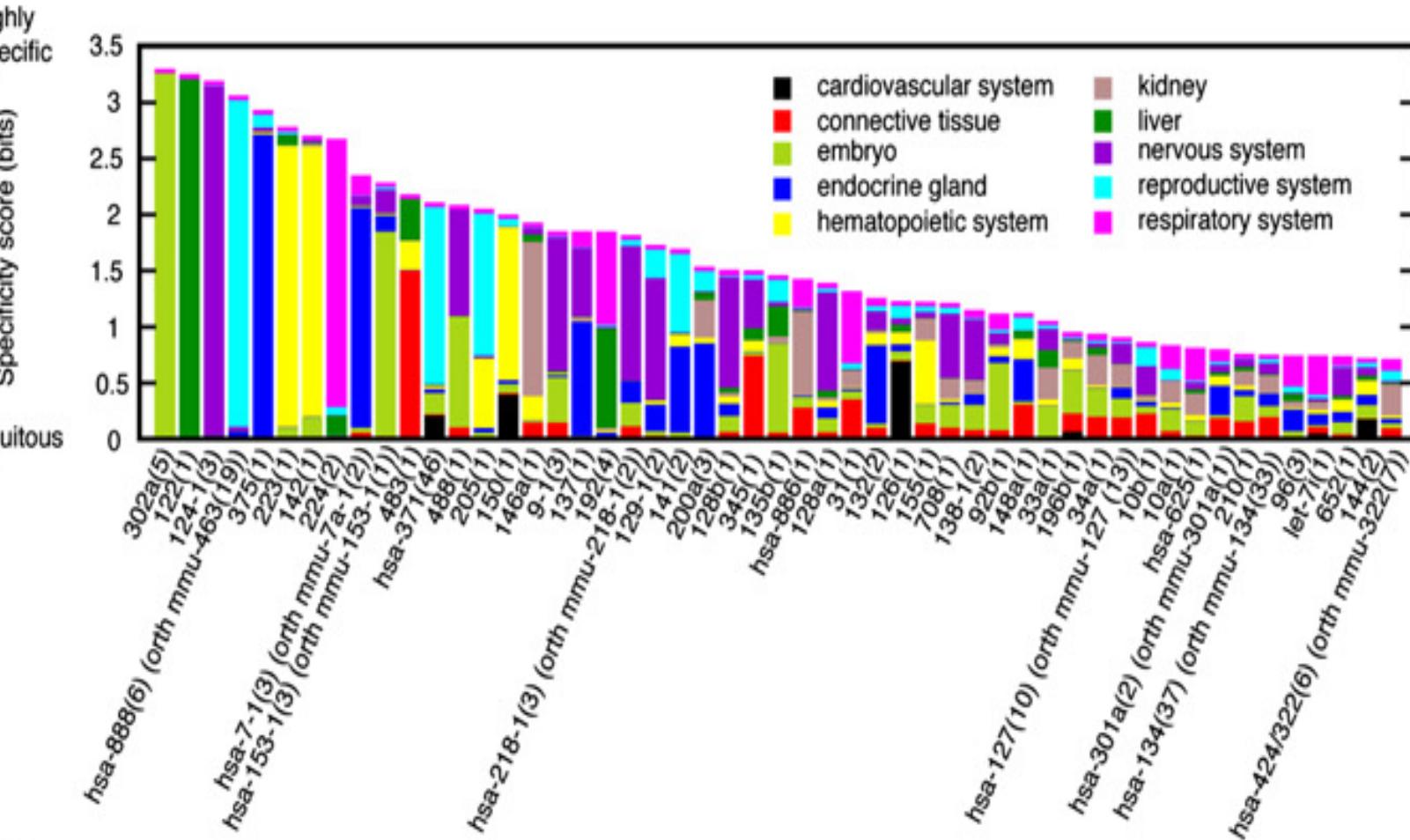
M.Galeazzi

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# microRNAs

- are 21- 25 nucleotide long non coding RNA molecules that regulate gene expression at post transcriptional level by inhibiting mRNA protein transcription
- over 700 miRNAs have been identified and sequenced in humans,
- About 3% of human genes encode for miRNAs,
- up to 30%-50% of human protein coding genes may be regulated by miRNAs.

# Where are miRNA expressed? “microRNomics”



# miRNA function

- Control cell proliferation and differentiation
- Control apoptosis
- Control fat metabolism
- Control neuronal patterning
- Control hematopoietic lineage differentiation

# microRNAs DIS-FUNCTIONS

disregulation of miRNA function may lead to

human diseases such as:

cancer, cardiovascular disease,

liver disease, metabolic disorders,

response to viral infections

immune dysfunction

# mRNAs in autoimmune disorders

- M. Galeazzi et al: Aberrant over-expression of myeloid lineage specific miR-223 in T-lymphocytes from Rheumatoid Arthritis patients (Arthritis Rheum-ACR 2008)
- Stanczyk J :Altered expression of MicroRNA 155 and 146 in synovial fibroblasts and synovial tissue in rheumatoid arthritis (Arthritis Rheum 2008)
- Y Dai et al: Microarray analysis of microRNA expression in peripheral blood cells of systemic lupus erythematosus patients (Lupus 2007)

# THE FUTURE

- The use of anti-miRNA, or mimic-miRNA oligonucleotides, have been tested in different cancer cell lines, in mice and in non-human primates.
- miRNA-based gene therapies, targeting dysregulated miRNAs, have the potential for becoming therapeutic tools of choice for the treatment of
  - \* metabolic disorders,
  - \* cancers,
  - \* immune-related diseases.

# THE FUTURE

It will be very interesting to see if these miRNA-based gene therapies will be used to treat patients with rheumatic disease, such as RA, in the near future.



## Unresolved Issues

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- Which TNF or biologic to choose first
- The heterogeneity of biologic drivers in an individual patient
- Genetic background in determining efficacy in an individual patient
- Differential effect of biologics on co-morbidities, i.e. cardiovascular disease

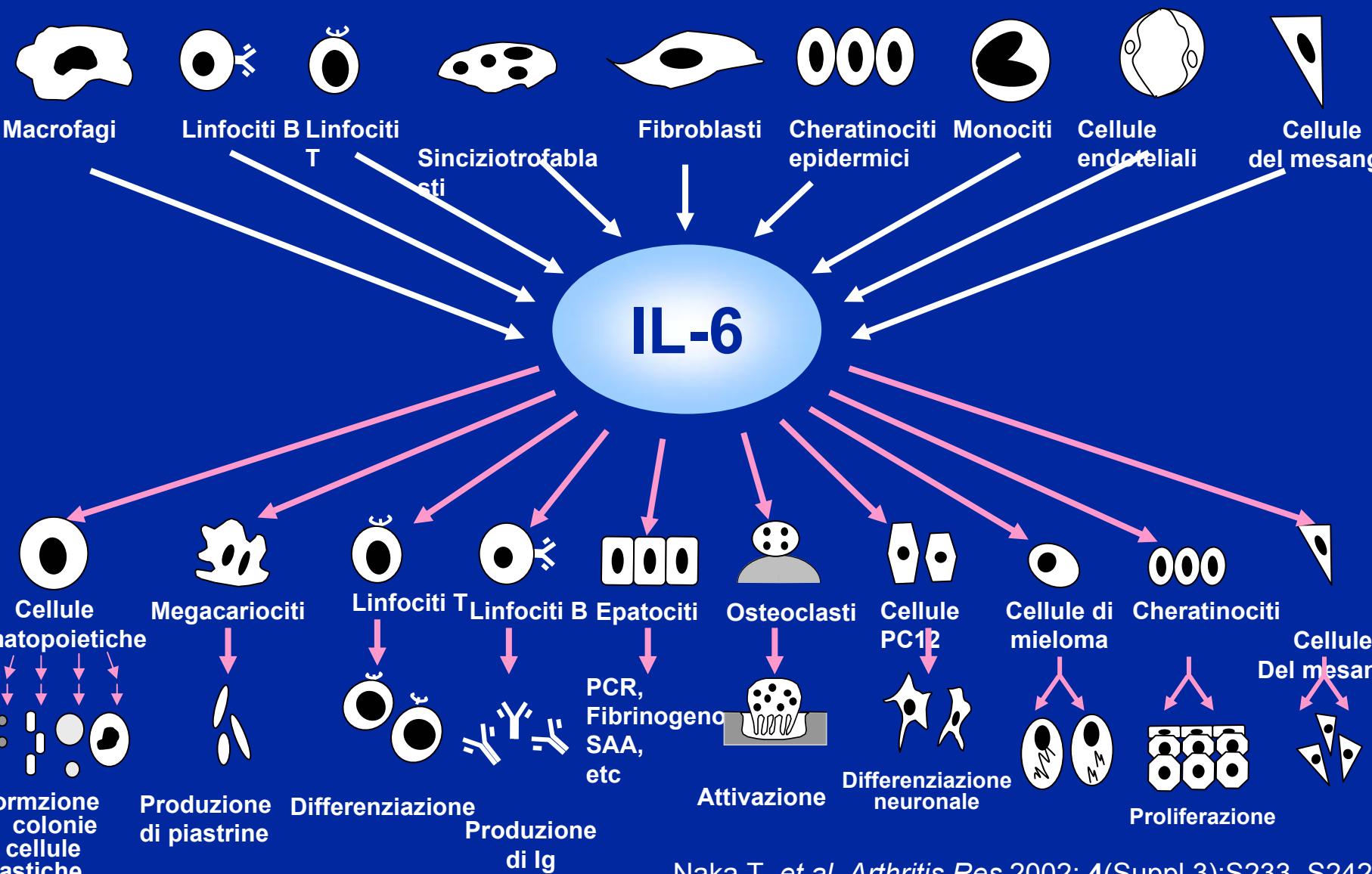
# Conclusion

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Can an algorithm for biologic use be generated at this time?

*I Don't Think So!*

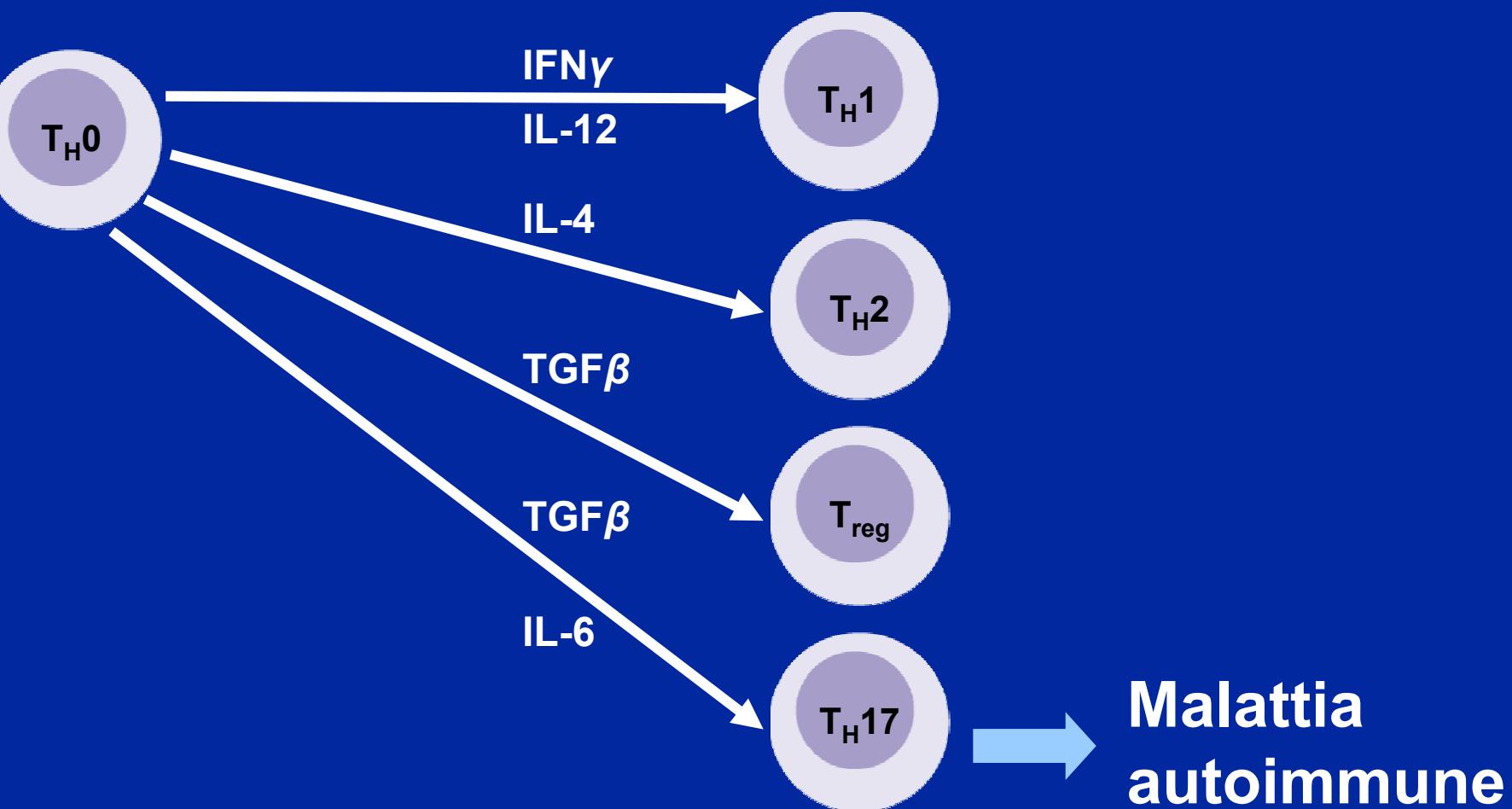
# IL-6: Fonti e bersagli multipli



# IL-6: Attività biologica



# Effetti di tipo immunitario: Il ruolo dell'IL-6 nella differenziazione dei Linfociti T *helper*



1. Mangan PR, et al. *Nature* 2006; **441**:231–235
2. Bettelli E, et al. *Nature* 2006; **441**:235–238