

Aging and HIV infection: looking at two facets of the infection

Pere Domingo

Infectious Diseases

Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

pdomingo@santpau.cat

Outline

- **What is aging?**
- **HIV infection in older patients**
- **HIV/ART as aging**

What is aging?

WHO Definition of Elderly

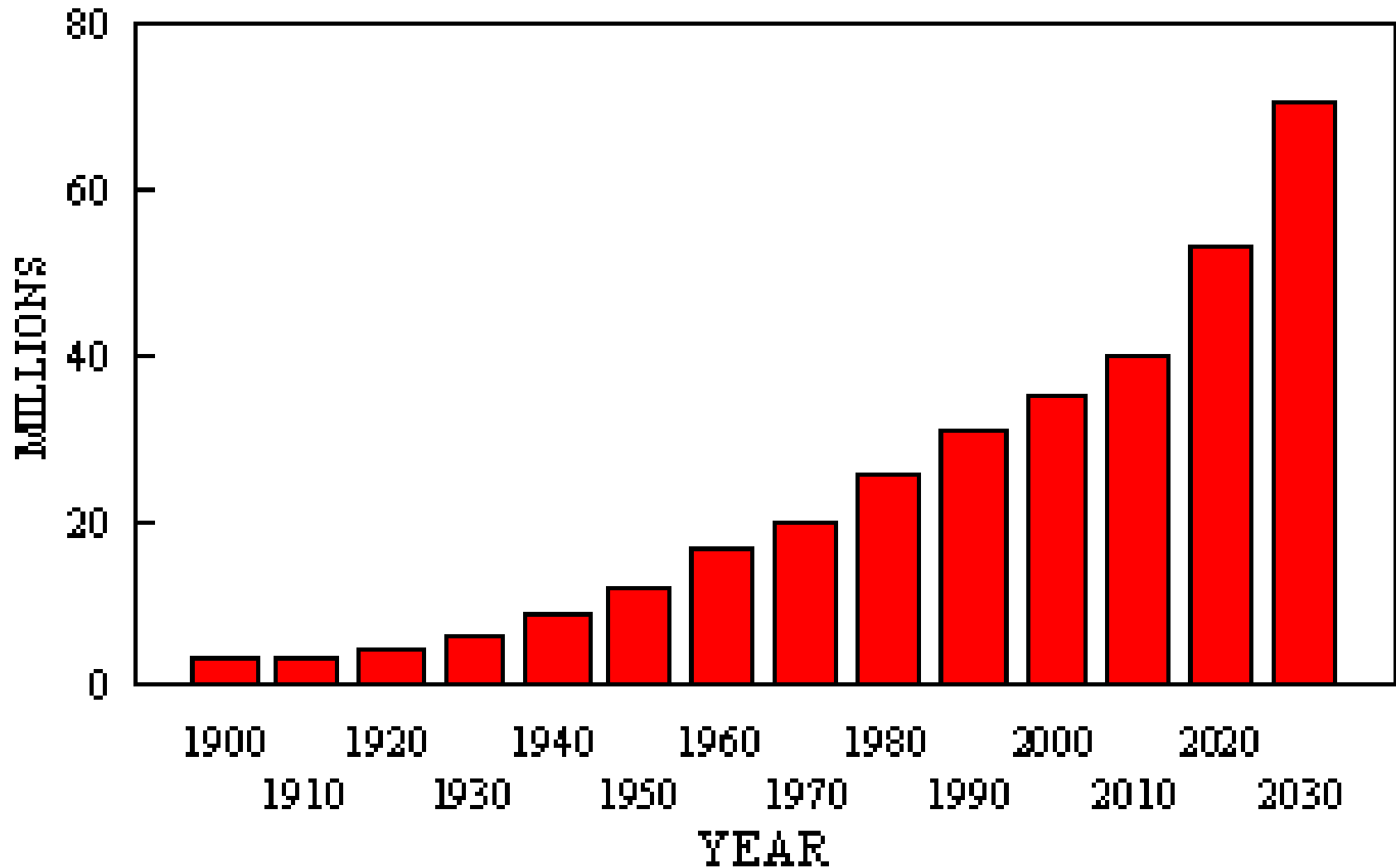
- **Lacking an accepted and acceptable definition, in many instances the age at which a person became eligible for statutory and occupational retirement pensions has become the default definition.**
- **The ages of 60 and 65 years are often used, despite its arbitrary nature**
- **The cutoff age of 50 years is often used for HIV patients**

What is aging?

- **Progressive deterioration in physiologic function that accrues as a consequence of cumulative molecular, cellular and organ damage**
- **Impaired ability to maintain physiologic equilibrium with stress**
- **These changes invariably result in increased susceptibility to disease and death**

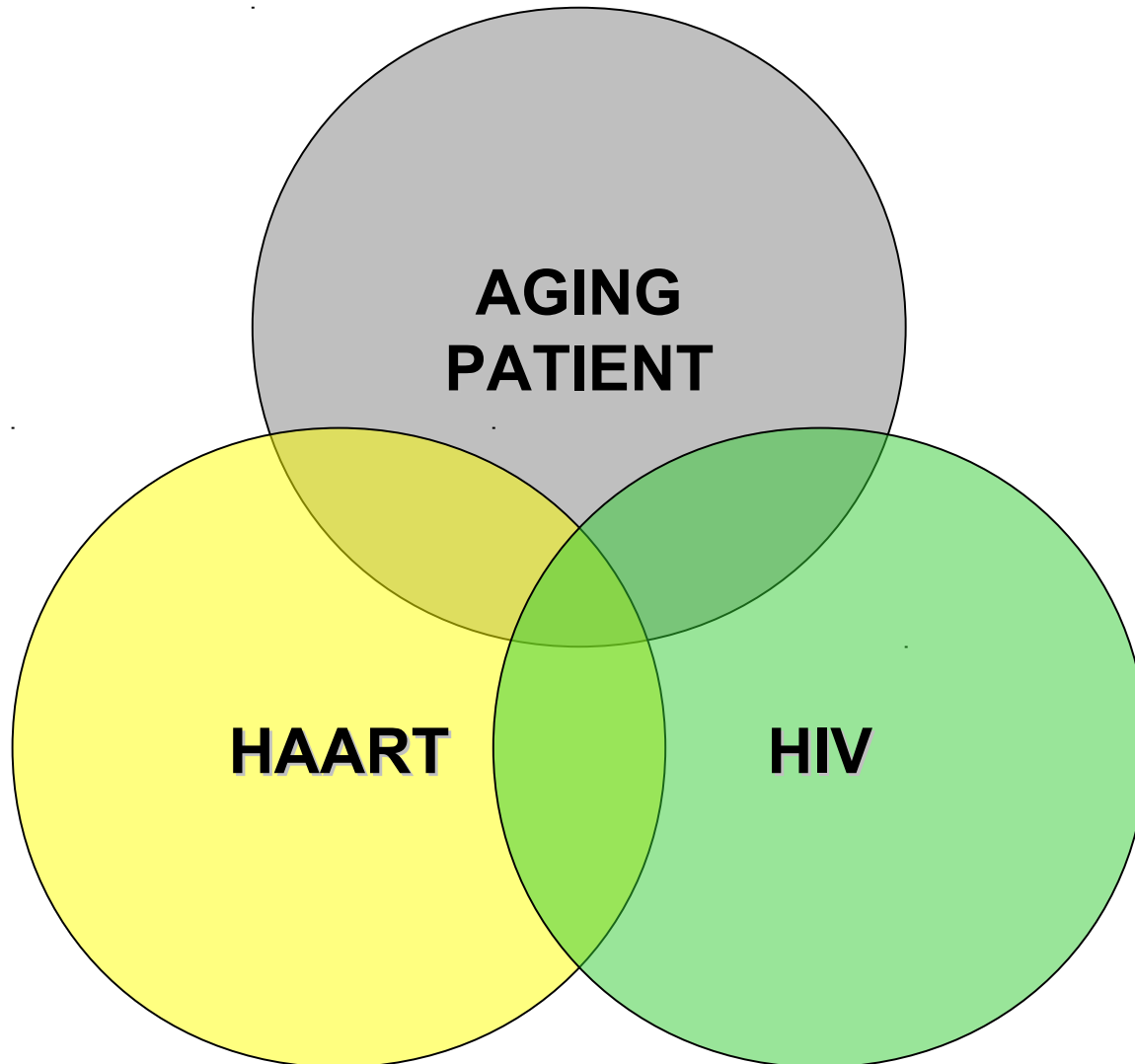
Growth of the Elderly Population

1900 to 2030



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

An intersecting problem





HIV in older patients

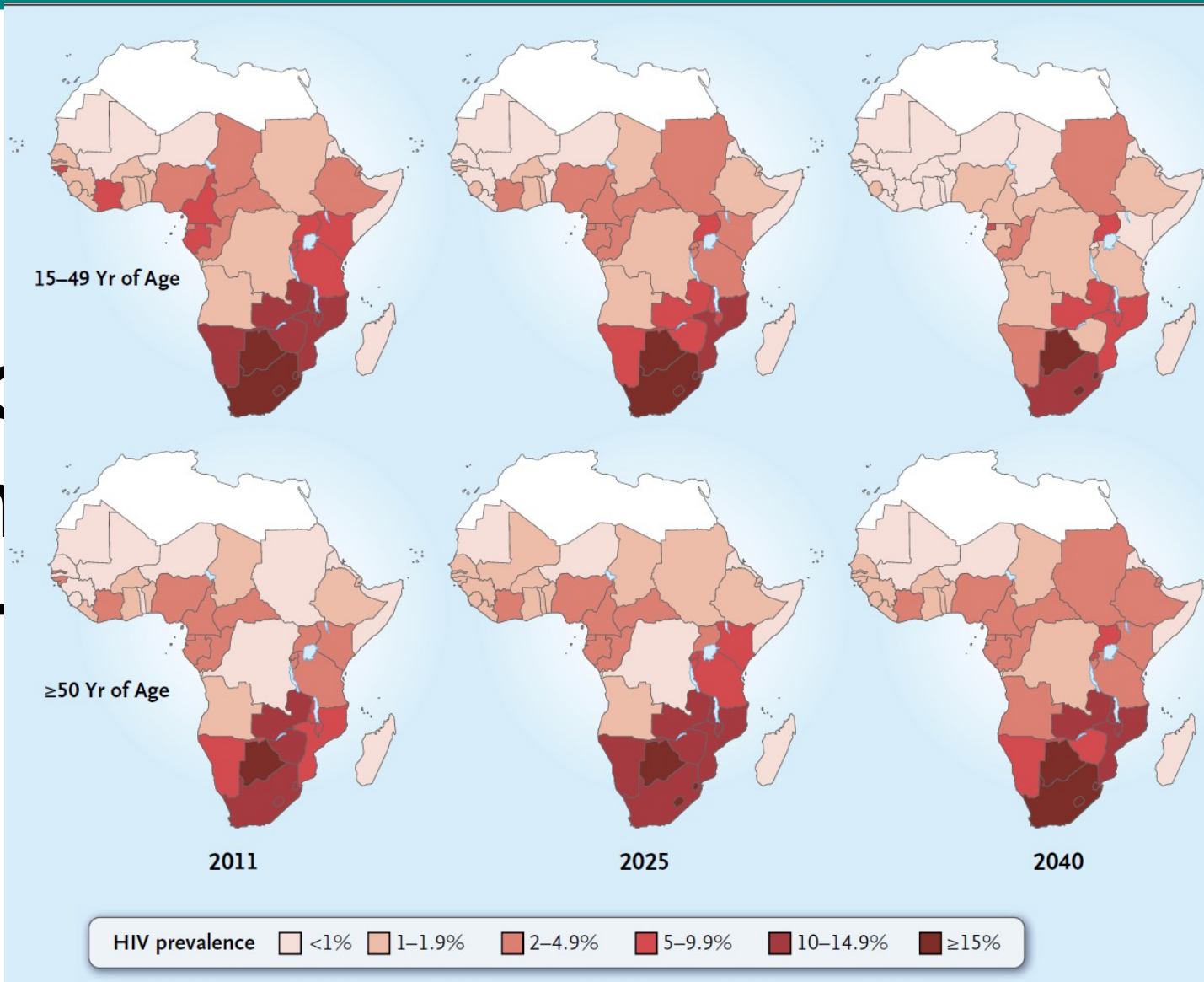
**HIV/ART as aging
agents**

HIV infection in older patients

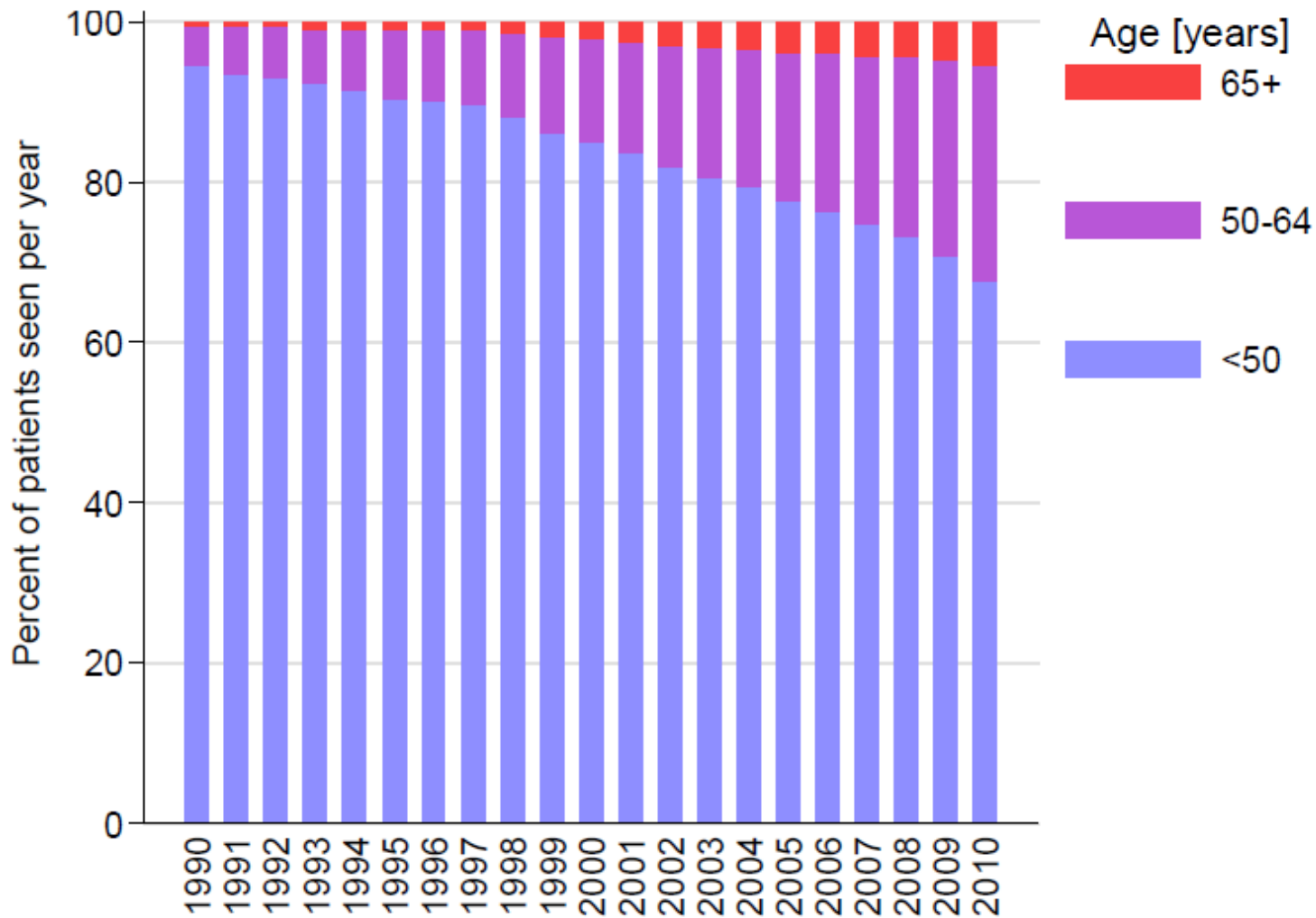
The magnitude of the problem

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(M)
50

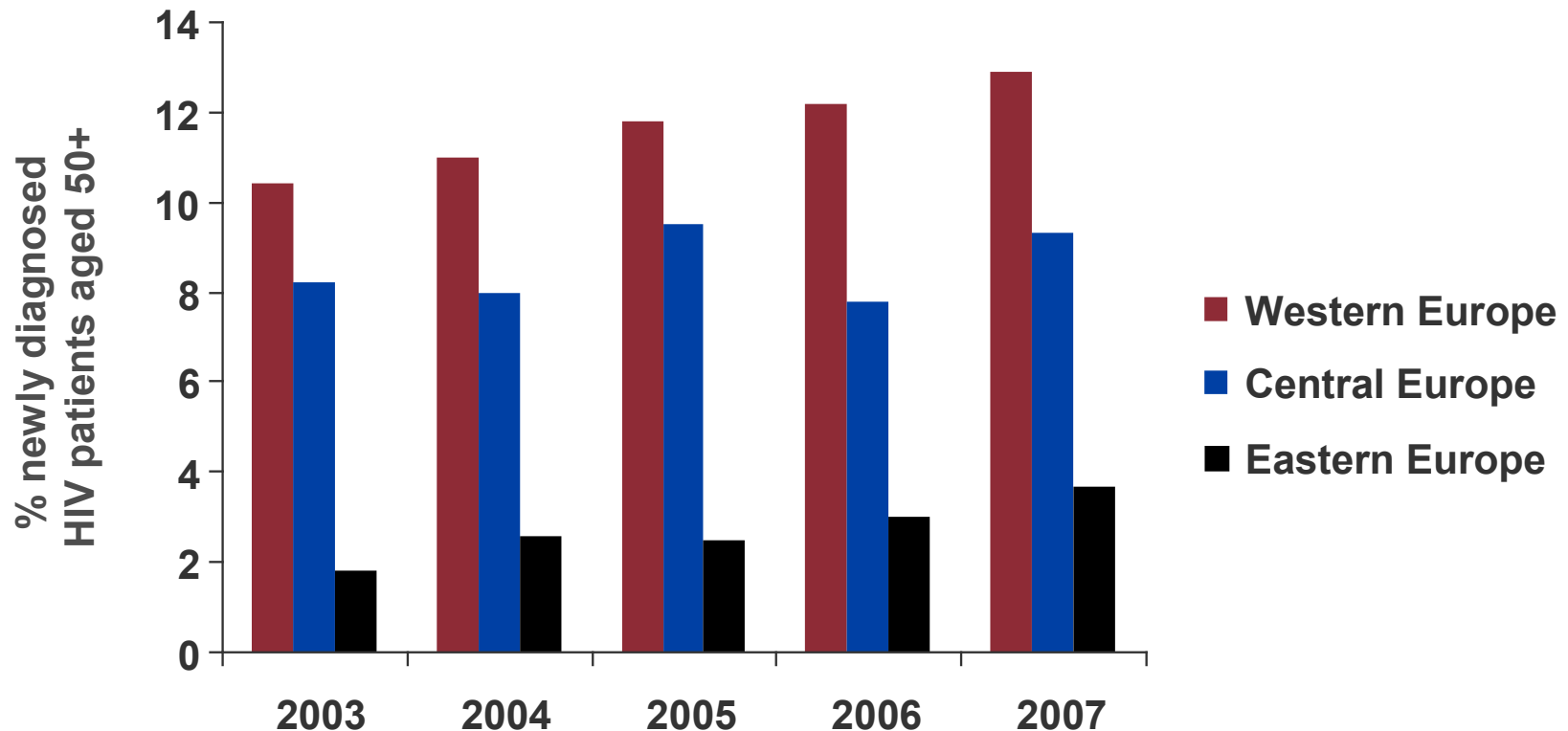


Aging of HIV population Swiss Cohort



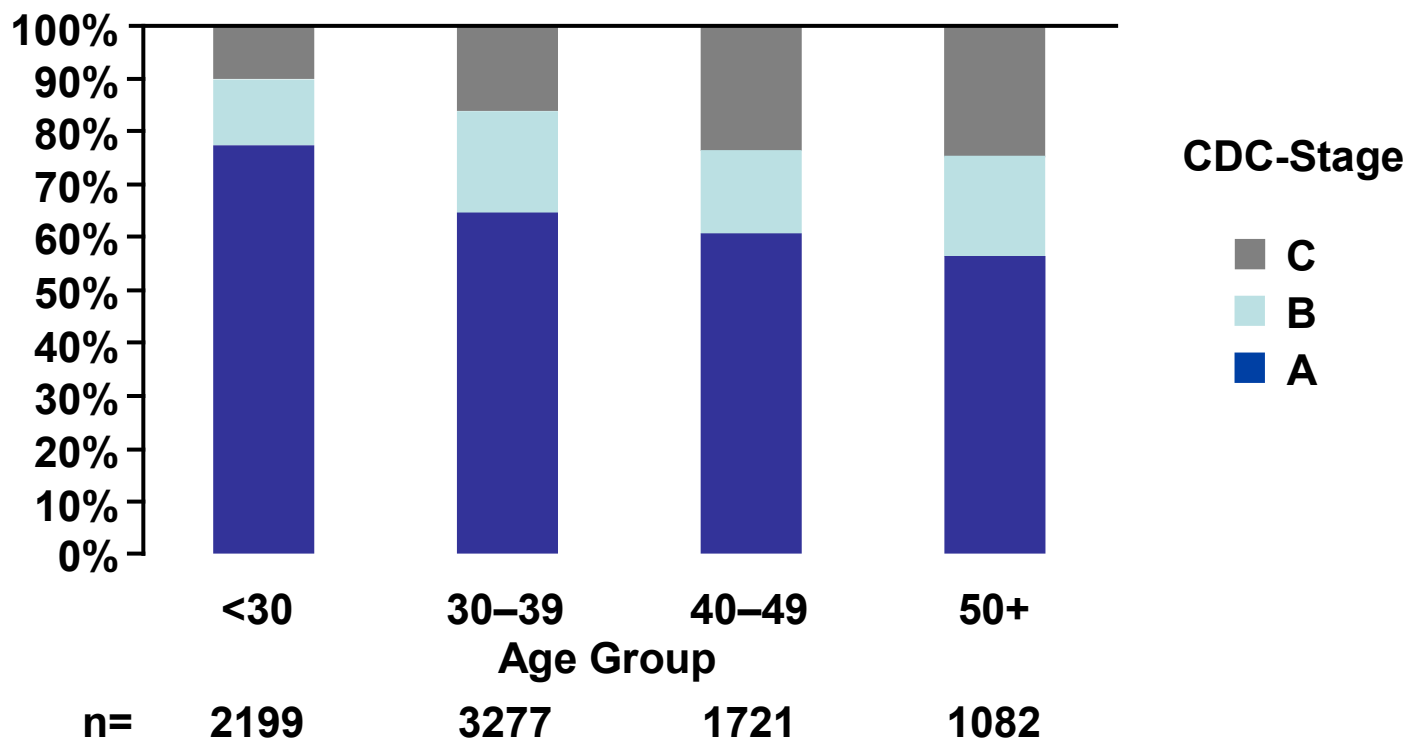
Epidemiology: A growing proportion of HIV diagnoses are in the over 50s

12.9% of newly reported cases of HIV infection in Western Europe in 2007 were in people aged 50 years or older



Persons 50+ more often present with symptomatic HIV disease

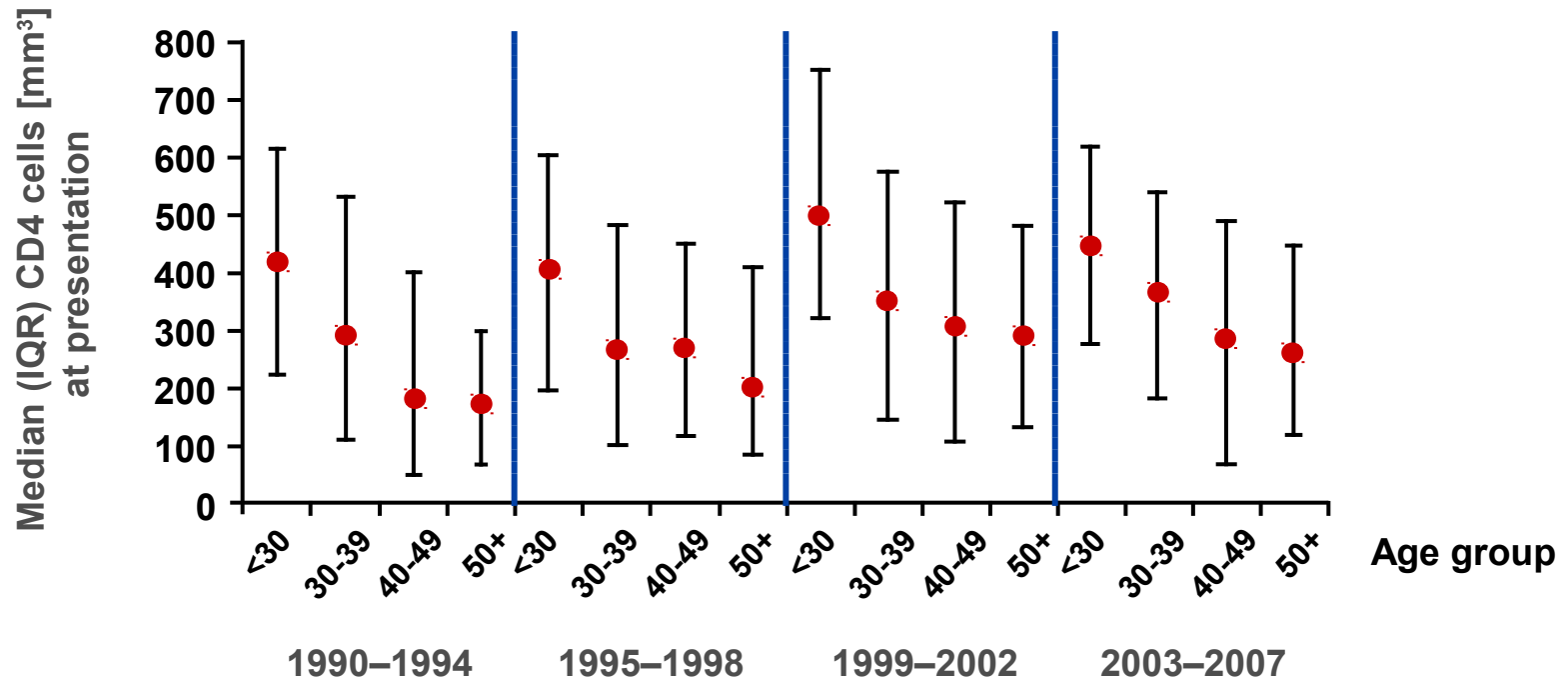
Clinical stage at presentation of non-IDUs since 1990



Unpublished Swiss Cohort HIV Study

...and more often with a lower CD4 cell count

CD4 cell count at presentation of Caucasian heterosexually-infected persons (n=2877)

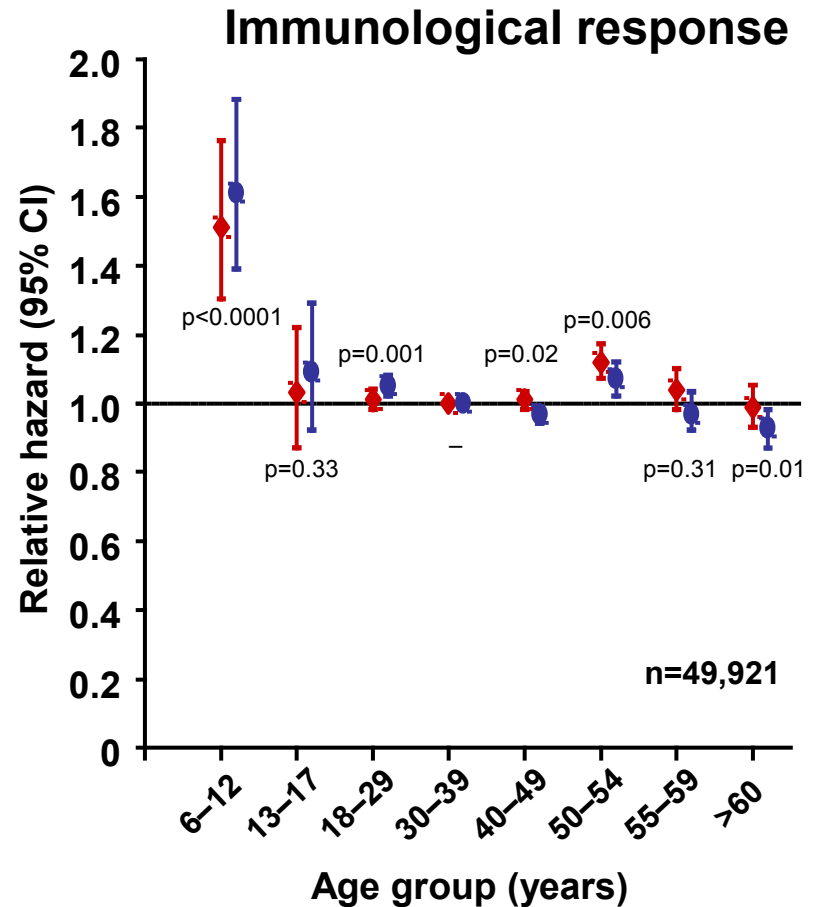
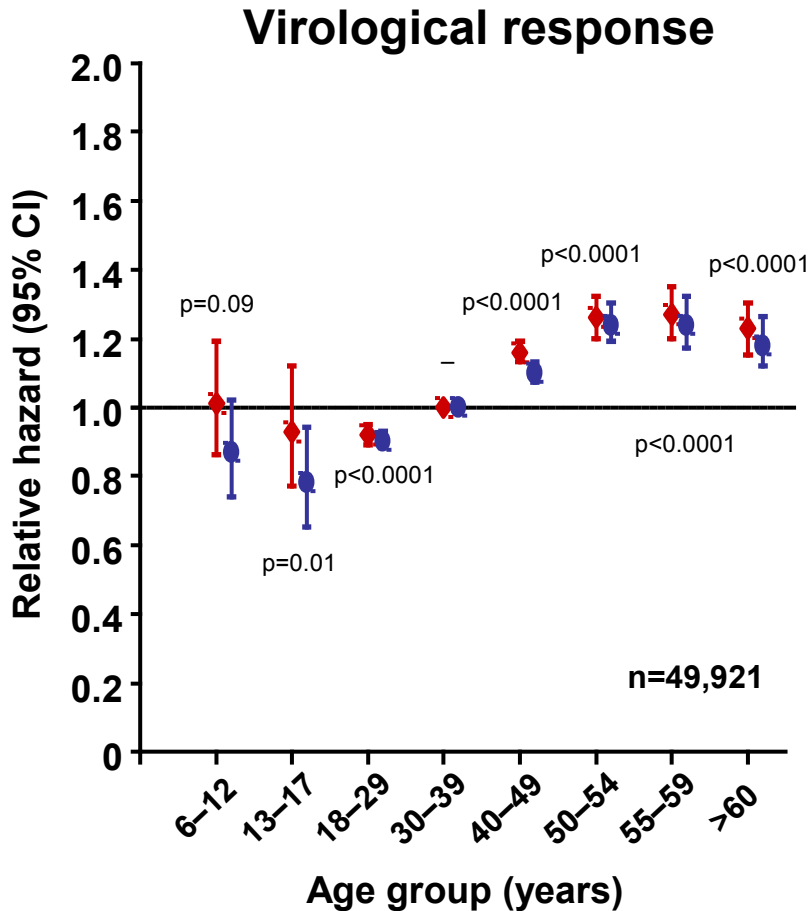


Unpublished Swiss Cohort HIV Study

Why do older patients appear to be at higher risk of HIV disease progression?

- **Tendency to be diagnosed at a later stage**
- **More rapid progression in natural course of HIV**
- **Higher risk of complications**
- **Greater potential for worsening ARV toxicity**
- **Slower immunological response to ART**

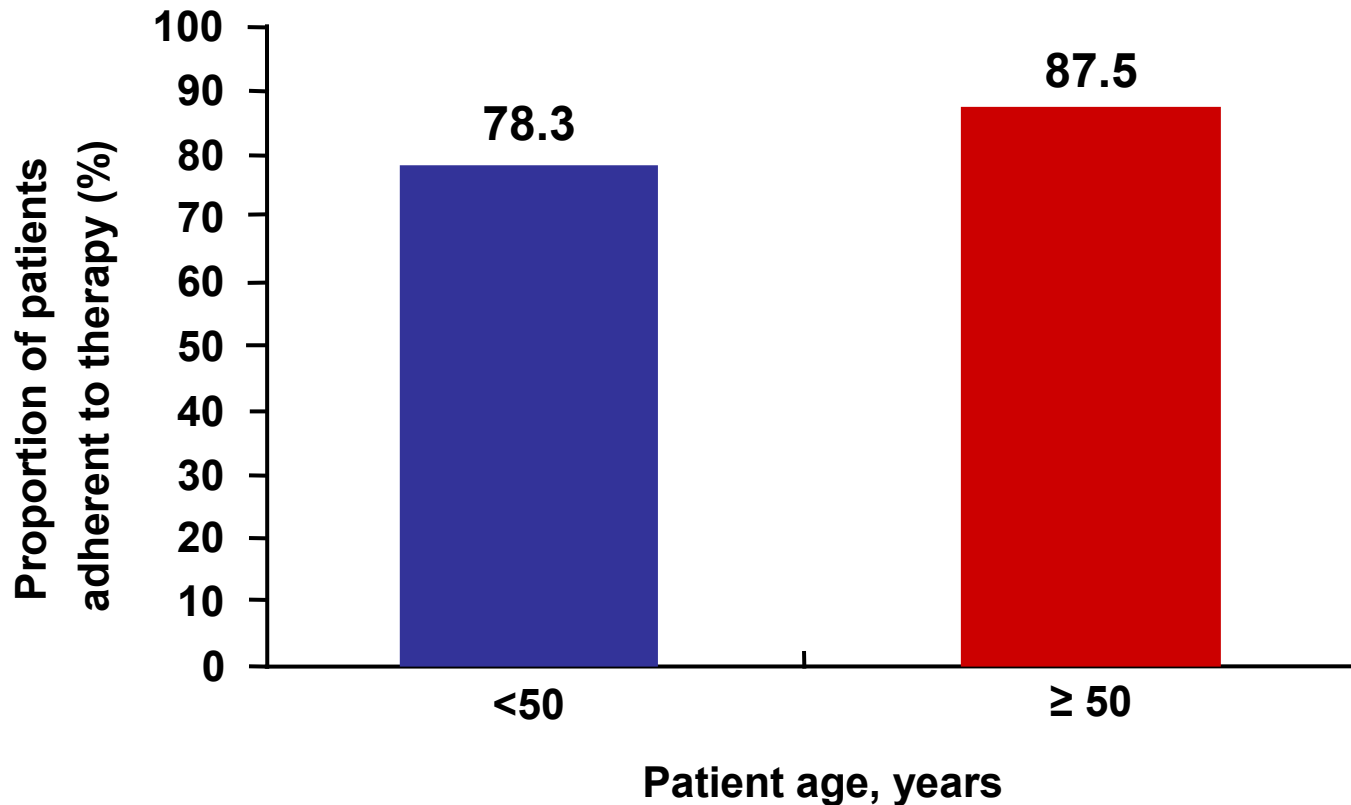
Effect of age on ART response: COHERE 2006



Unadjusted (red) and adjusted (blue) relative hazards for confirmed virological and immunological responses in the different age groups. Estimates are adjusted for year of starting cART, pre-cART CD4 and VL, AIDS, gender, ethnic origin and initial cART regimen.

COHERE: Collaboration of Observational HIV Epidemiological Research Europe

Adherence in younger vs. older HIV patients



p=0.01

Challenges in treating older patients

- **Older patients often take concurrent medications for other conditions**
- **Vigilance is needed to avoid drug–drug interactions**
 - **Overlapping toxicities**
 - **Altered plasma drug levels, necessitating dose adjustments**
 - **Increased metabolism of ARVs, decreasing bioavailability**
- **Commonly used drugs that may interact include**
 - **Statins, antiarrhythmics, gastric acid inhibitors, warfarin, SSRIs, erectile dysfunction agents, anticonvulsants**

Age impact on ART tolerability

- **Pharmacological handling:**
 - Decreased hepatic and renal function with age
 - Decreased CYP450 concentrations¹
- **Predisposition to toxicities:**
 - Increased cardiovascular risk
 - Lower bone mineral density
 - Increased renal disease
- **Polypharmacy**
- **Patient perception of health and medicines:²**
 - Increased adherence, stoicism
 - Less concerns about theoretical toxicity
 - Less concerns with experiencing side-effects

1. Sotaniemi EA et al., *Clin Pharmacol Ther* 1997.
2. Sherr et al., *Psychology, Health & Medicine* 2009.

Toxicity in the first year of cART


- 8,708 treatment-naïve patients initiating HAART between 1998–2005 in 13 UK centres
- 2,650 (30%) discontinued at least one drug for non-virological failure reasons
- Discontinuing was associated with:
 - Younger age (<30; RH 1.12, 95% CI 1.01, 1.24)
 - Older age (>50; RH 1.14, 95% CI 1.00, 1.31)
- Strong association between older age and:
 - Increased cholesterol
 - Decreased haemoglobin
 - Increased triglycerides (although triglycerides were also higher in older patients before HAART)

Antiretroviral Tolerability Decreases With Age

- Kaiser Permanente of Northern California chart review study of all members who initiated antiretroviral therapy from 1995-2004 (N = 5090)
- ≥ 18 years of age
- Starting ≥ 3 antiretrovirals in combination
- Labs available in year before and year after HAART initiation
- Excluded patients with laboratory abnormality in year before HAART
- Analysis of those who developed grade 2-4 abnormality while on HAART

Parameter	% With Abnormality				
	All Patients	18-39 Yrs	40-49 Yrs	≥ 50 Yrs	<i>P</i> Value
TC or LDL cholesterol	26.6	21.0	26.4	34.0	.0001
Glucose	9.7	6.0	11.4	14.4	< .001
Creatinine	5.2	3.2	5.8	8.3	< .001

Lipid-Lowering Agents and PIs: Drug-Drug Interactions



Fibrate	Low interaction potential
Fluvastatin	
Pravastatin	
Ezetimibe	
Fish oil	
Statin + fibrate	Use cautiously
Atorvastatin	
Rosuvastatin	
Niacin	
Lovastatin	Contraindicated
Simvastatin	

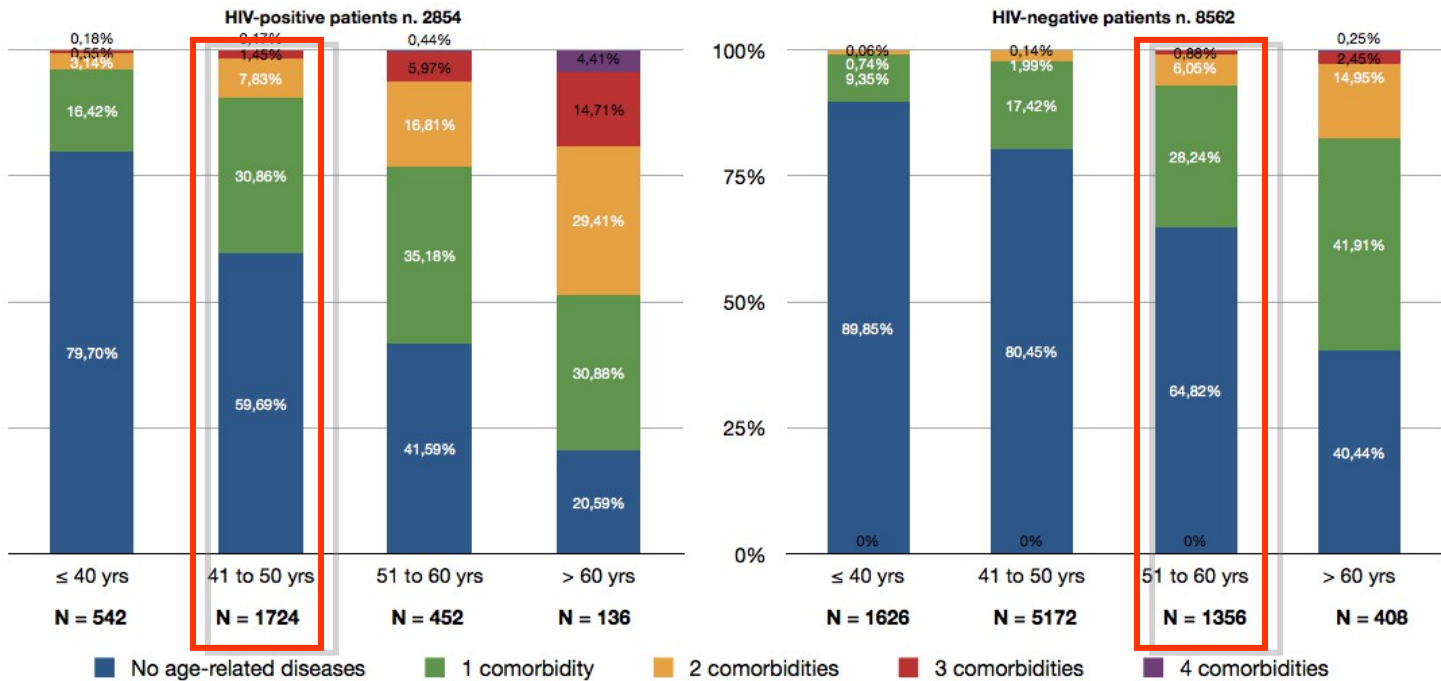
*AUC ↑↑↑ with DRV.

Aptivus [package insert]; 2005. Carr RA, et al. ICAAC 2000. Abstract 1644. Fitchenbaum CJ, et al. AIDS. 2002;16:569-577. Gerber JG, et al. CROI 2004. Abstract 603. Gerber J, et al. IAS 2003. Abstract 870. Hsue PH, et al. Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 2001;45:3445-3450. *Lexiva* [package insert]; 2007. *Prezista* [package insert]; 2006. *Reyataz* [package insert]; 2007.

Age and Comorbidities in HIV Infection

- **Cardiovascular disease**
- **Metabolic syndrome**
- **Body composition changes**
- **Renal dysfunction**
- **Bone disease**
- **Cancer**

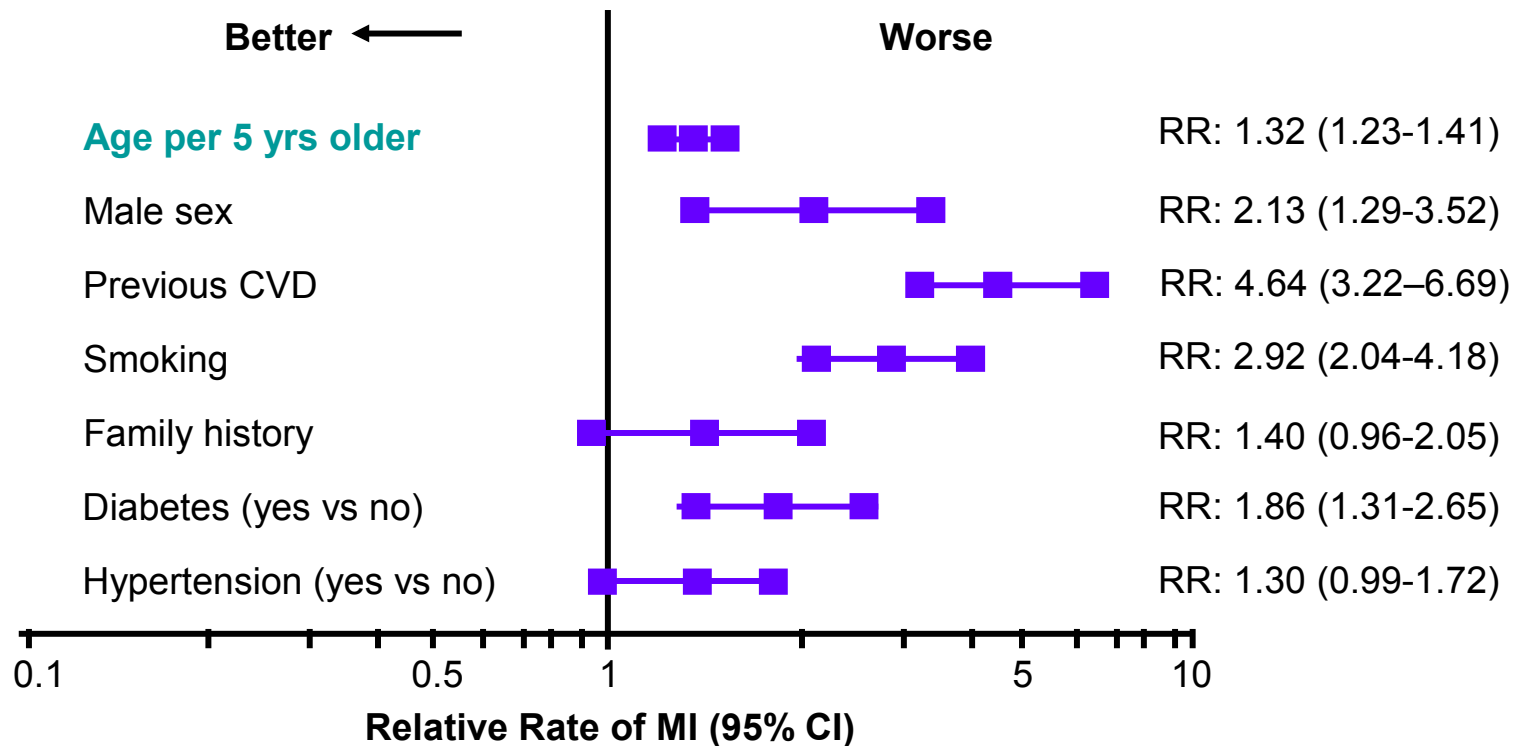
Incidence of Multiple Comorbidities Increases With Age in HIV-Infected patients



Pp prevalence was higher in cases than controls in all age strata (all p-values <0.001)

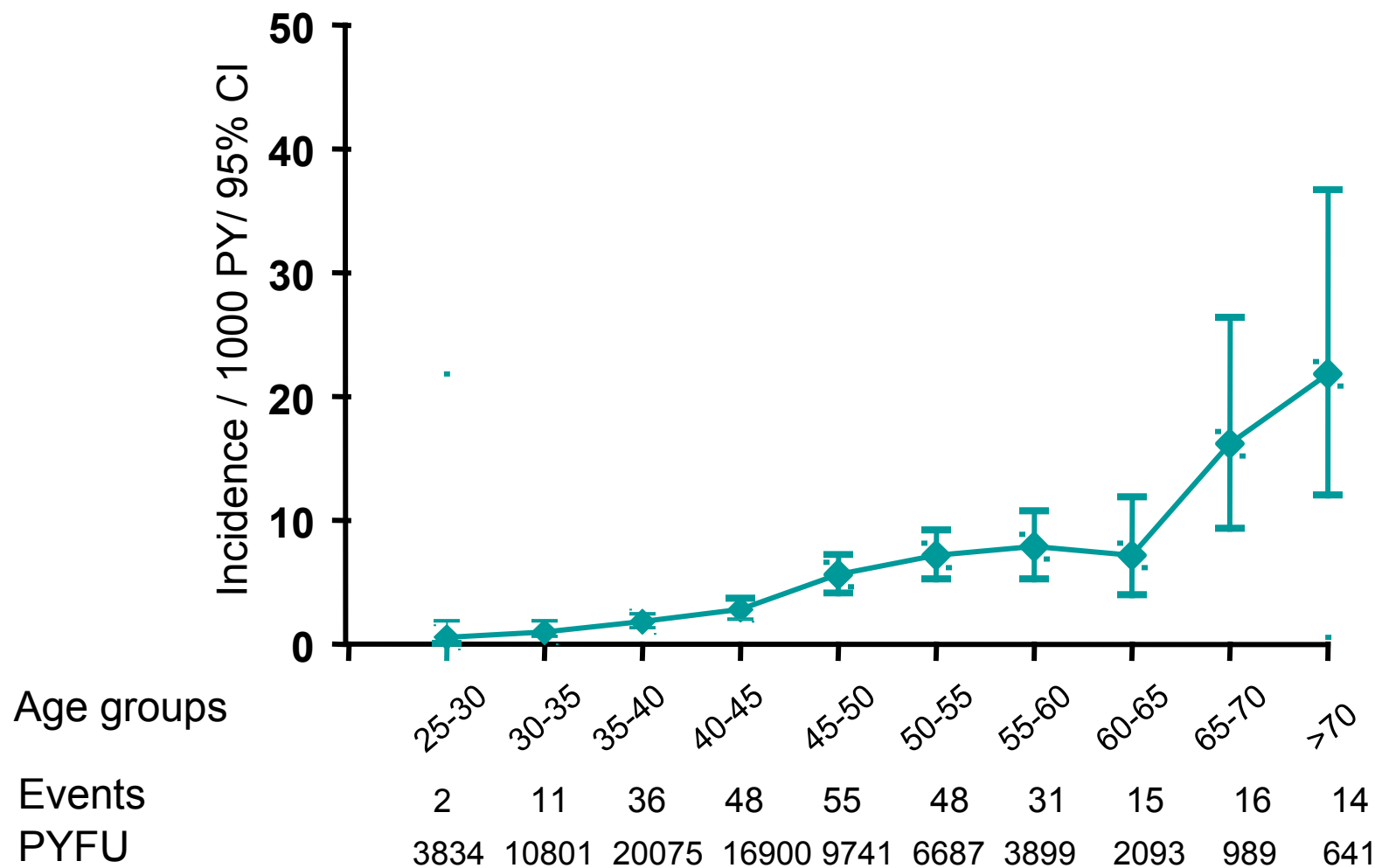
Pp prevalence seen cases aged 41-50 was similar to that observed among controls aged 51-60 controls (p = 0.202)

D:A:D: Risk Factors for CHD in an HIV-Infected Population



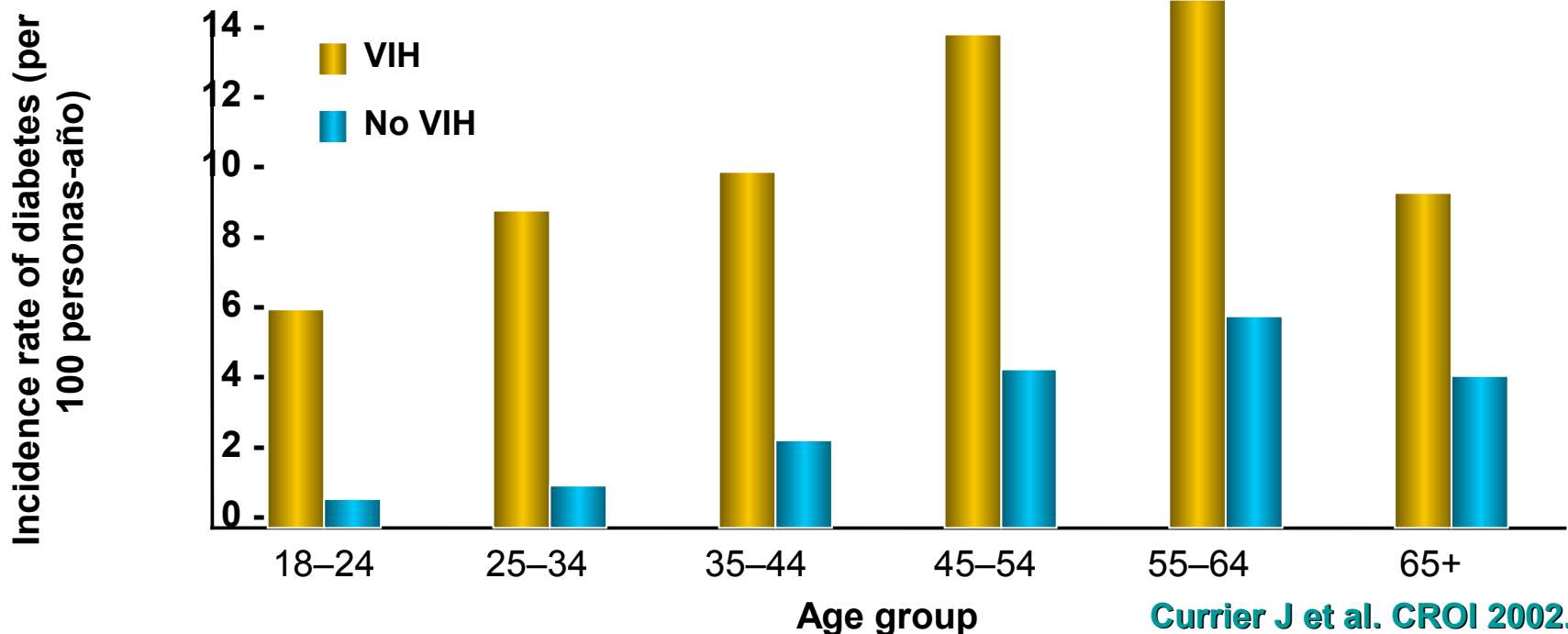
Multivariable Poisson model adjusted for age, sex, BMI, HIV risk, cohort, calendar year, race, family history of CVD, smoking, previous CVD event, TC, HDL, HTN, DM.

MI Incidence according to age in the D:A:D study



The risk of diabetes in HIV patients is greater than in controls

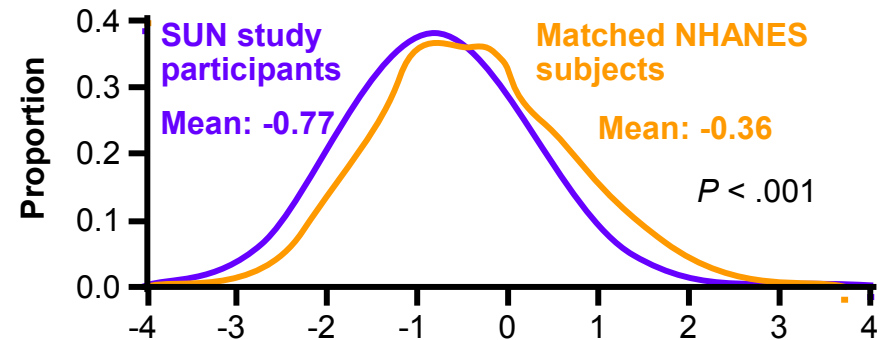
- Medi-Cal database explored between July 1994–June 2000, age-specific incidence rate of diabetes
- Diabetes mellitus diagnosed by ICD-9
- 7219 VIH (61% men) and 792 971 non-VIH (30% men) individuals, for 7 101 180 persons-year



SUN: Prevalence of Osteopenia/ Osteoporosis in HIV-Infected Patients

- **Prospective study of 525 HIV+ pts with baseline DEXA bone densitometry compared with matched pairs from NHANES**
 - Longitudinal follow-up ongoing
- **Higher rates of reduced bone density at the femoral neck in HIV+ vs controls**
 - Osteopenia: 51.7% vs 29.1%
 - Osteoporosis: 9.8% vs 1.0%

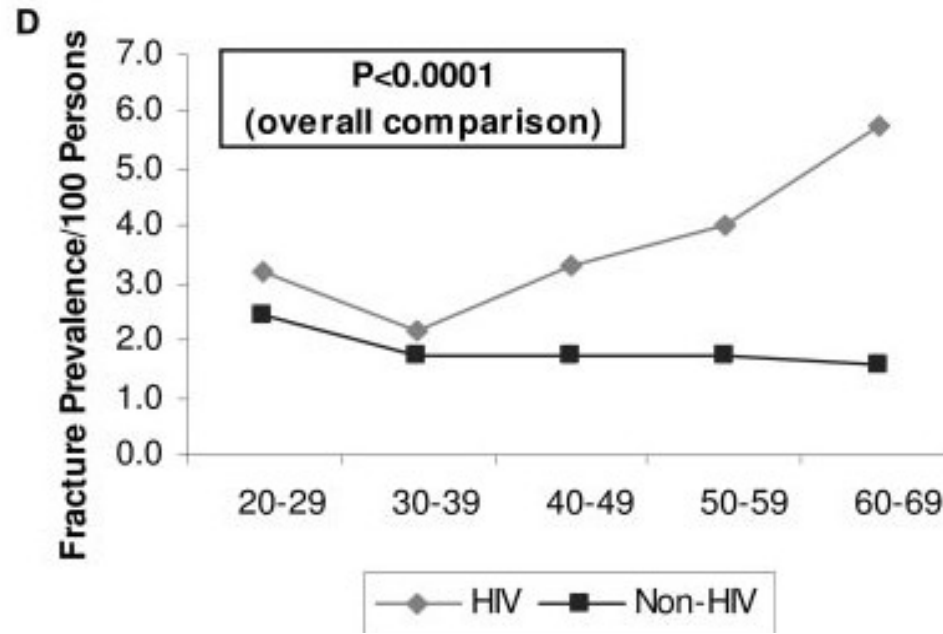
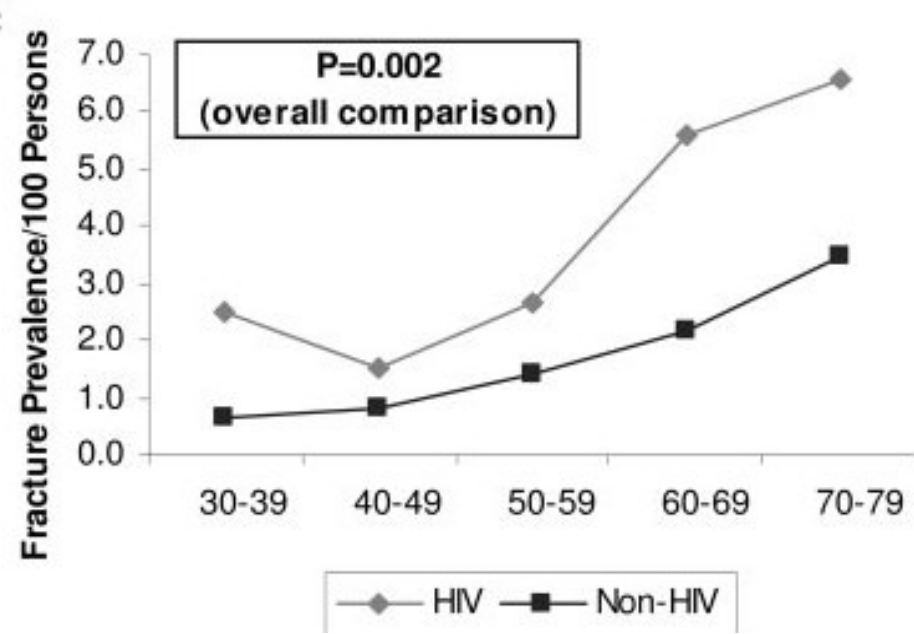
Comparison of Femoral Neck T-Scores Among SUN Study Participants and Matched Controls



Multivariate Analysis: Factors Related to Osteoporosis

Factor	OR (95% CI)	P Value
BMI < 22.5 kg/m ²	3.01 (2.24-5.69)	<.001
Age > 45 yrs	2.35 (1.33-4.15)	.003
BL CD4+ < 300	2.10 (1.16-3.78)	.013
HIV > 97.7 mos	1.56 (1.09-3.55)	.023

Fracture Prevalence in HIV-infected and non-HIV-infected Persons



MGH/Partners Healthcare System: 1996-2008

HIV and Malignancies

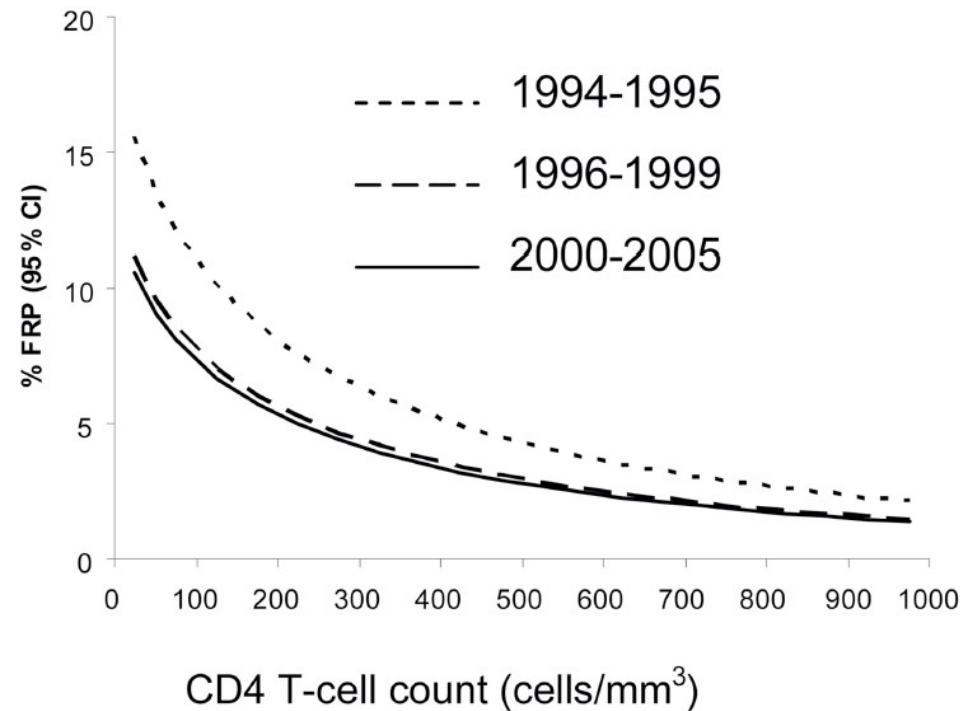
- Risk factors for fatal AIDS-defining and non–AIDS-defining malignancies evaluated in D:A:D study
- 1246 deaths in 23,441 subjects (rate: 16.2/1000 person-years)
 - 193 (1.8/1000 person-years) due to fatal nADM
 - 112 (1.1/1000 person-years) due to fatal ADM
- Most frequently affected organs with nADM: lungs, GI tract, hematologic system, anal canal
- Gradually increasing RR of either nADM or ADM with fatal outcome with lower latest CD4+ cell counts
- Risk factors for fatal nADM: **older age (relative rate: 1.53/5.00 years older; $P < .0001$)**, current smoking; active HBV infection

HIV and frailty

- **Frailty: vulnerability to health threats**
 - ✓ **Accumulated functional defects**
 - ✓ **Cognitive, physical, social**
 - ✓ **Exhaustion, muscle weakness, slow gait, weight loss, decreased physical activity**
- **Can be measured**
 - ✓ **Fried's Frailty Phenotype**
 - ✓ **Short Physical Performance Battery**
 - ✓ **400 m walk time**

Increased frailty phenotype in HIV infection

- **Three-fold higher prevalence of frailty in HIV+ than in HIV-**
- **Occurs around 20 years earlier than in HIV-**
- **Associated with lower CD4 counts, older age and longer duration of Hiv infection**



Summary

- **HIV infection in old patients is a growing condition in western societies**
- **Age modifies the natural history of HIV infection**
- **Management of older HIV-infected patients is complicated by the presence of co-morbidities related to age**
 - **Cardiovascular disease, Cancer, Diabetes, Renal disease, Hepatic disease, Bone disease**
- **Not clear to what extent HIV status and ARV exposure contribute to these comorbidities**

Summary (cont'd)

- **Presence or risk of comorbidities in older HIV patients may influence antiretroviral selection**
 - **Avoidance of metabolic and other toxicities, drug-drug interactions**
- **Management of older HIV patients should include**
 - **Baseline evaluation of cardiovascular risk**
 - **Regular monitoring of fasting lipids and glucose, renal function, and markers of bone disease**

HIV/ART as aging agents



The questions

- **Does HIV accelerate the aging process?**
- **Does HIV accelerate degenerative, aging-related diseases?**
- **Does ART reverse or accelerate these processes?**

Molecular Mechanics of Aging

- Senescence (Telomere shortening)
- Low degree inflammation
- Chronic immune activation
- Mitochondrial dysfunction
- Apoptosis
- Reactive oxygen intermediates generation

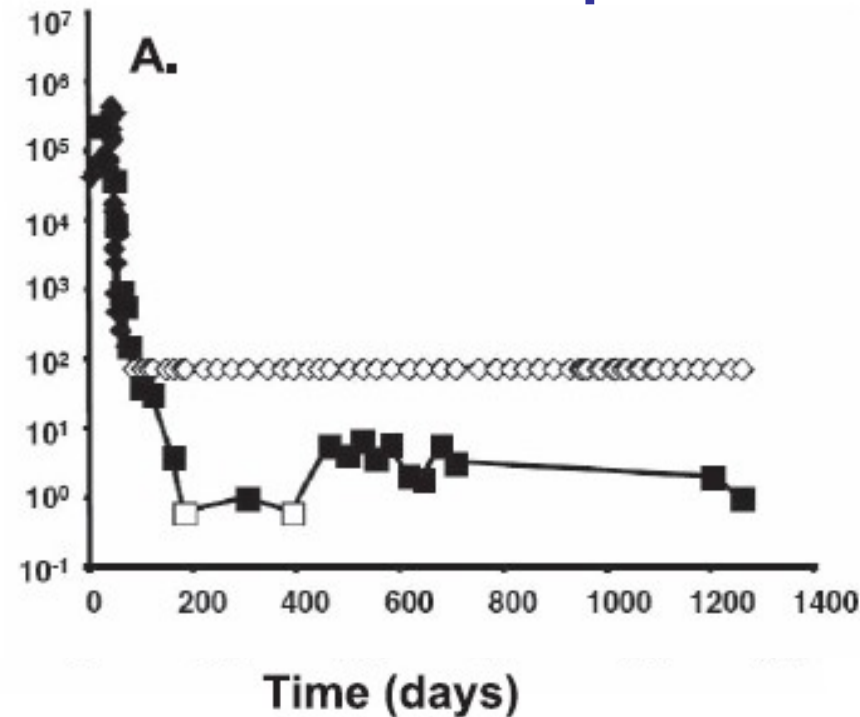
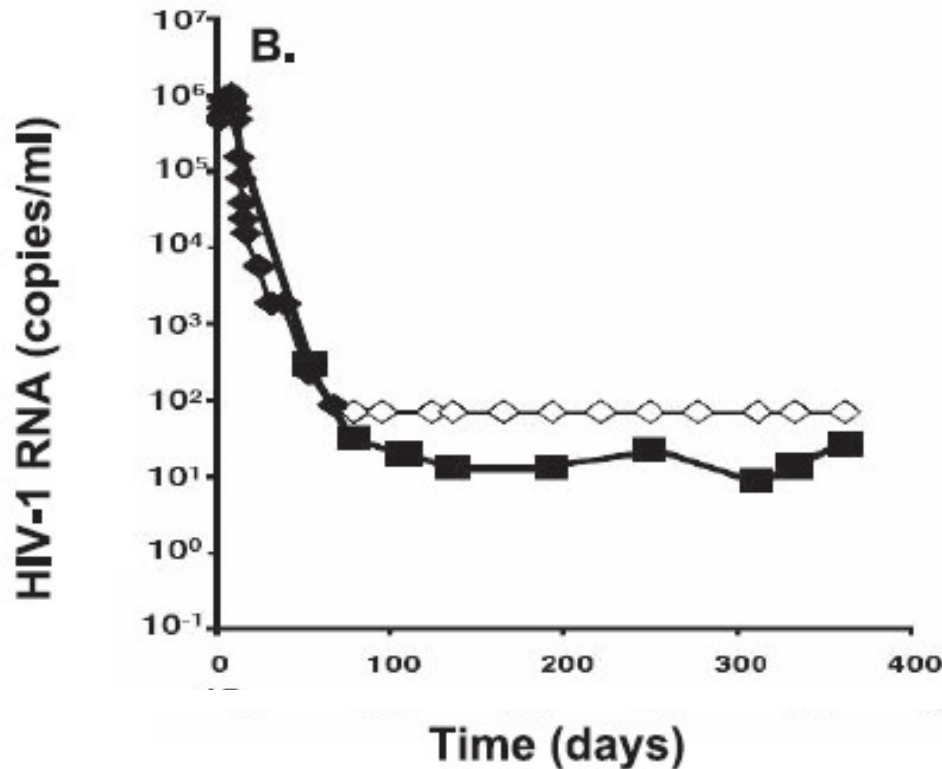
HIV-1 ART

Low-level Viremia <75 copies/ml is Common During Apparent Viral Suppression on HAART

N=130

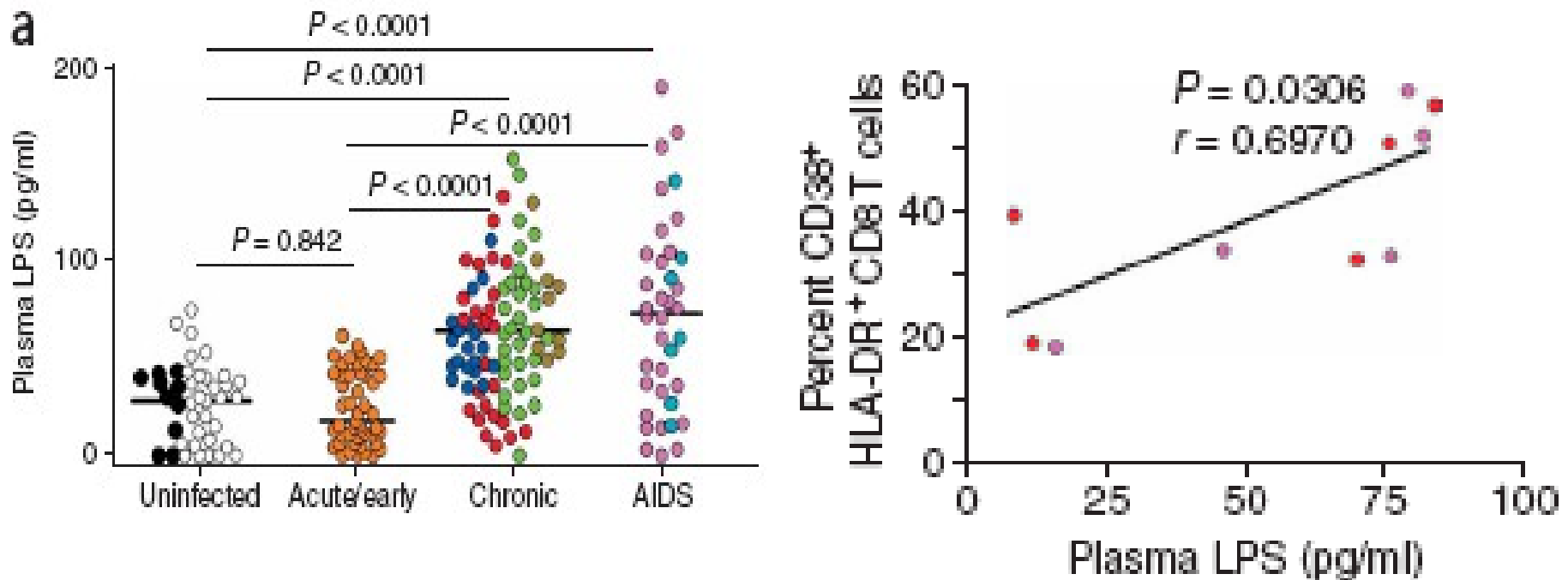
80% Patients had detectable viremia

Median 3.1 copies/ml

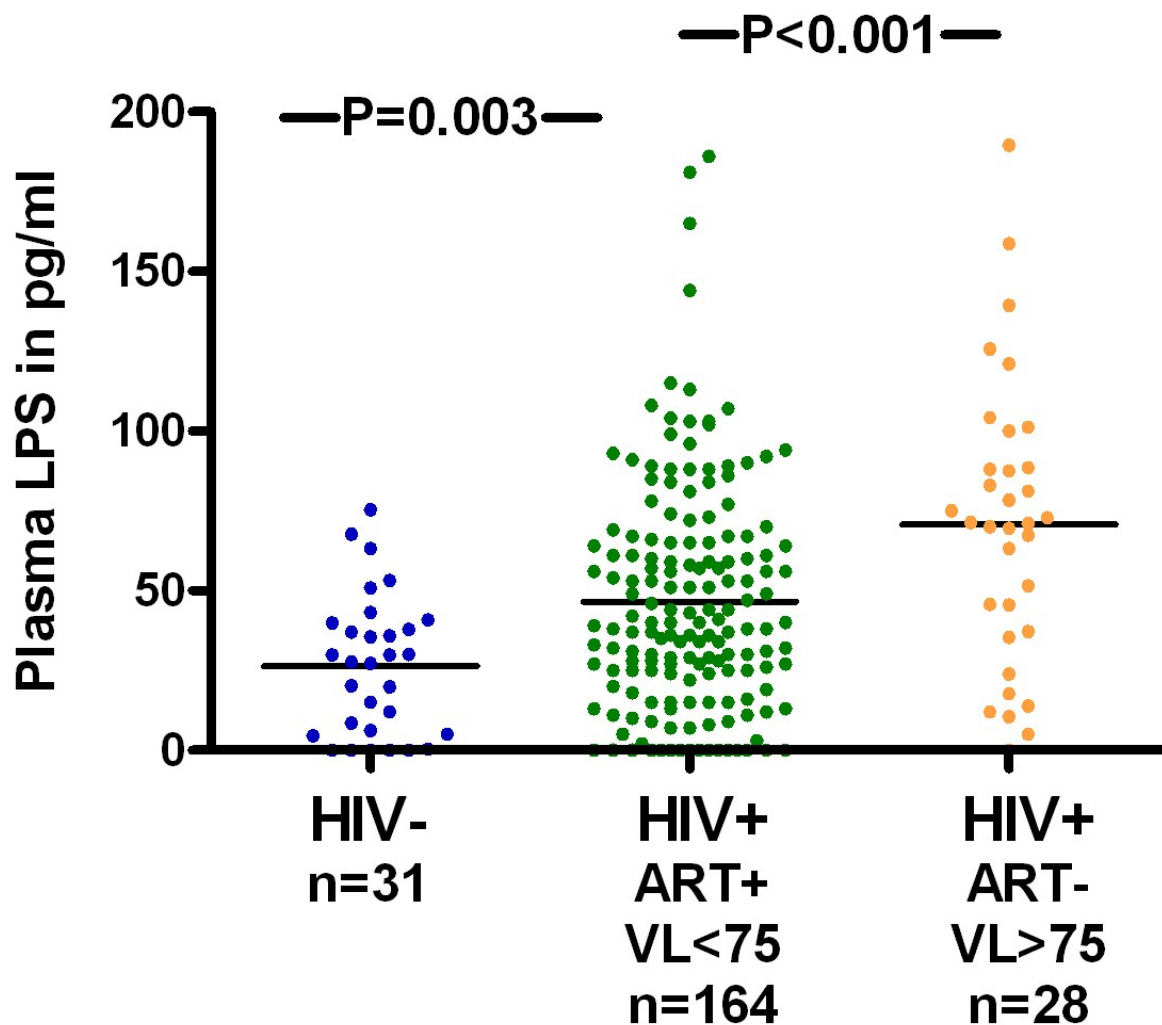


Mucosal Translocation of Bacterial Products

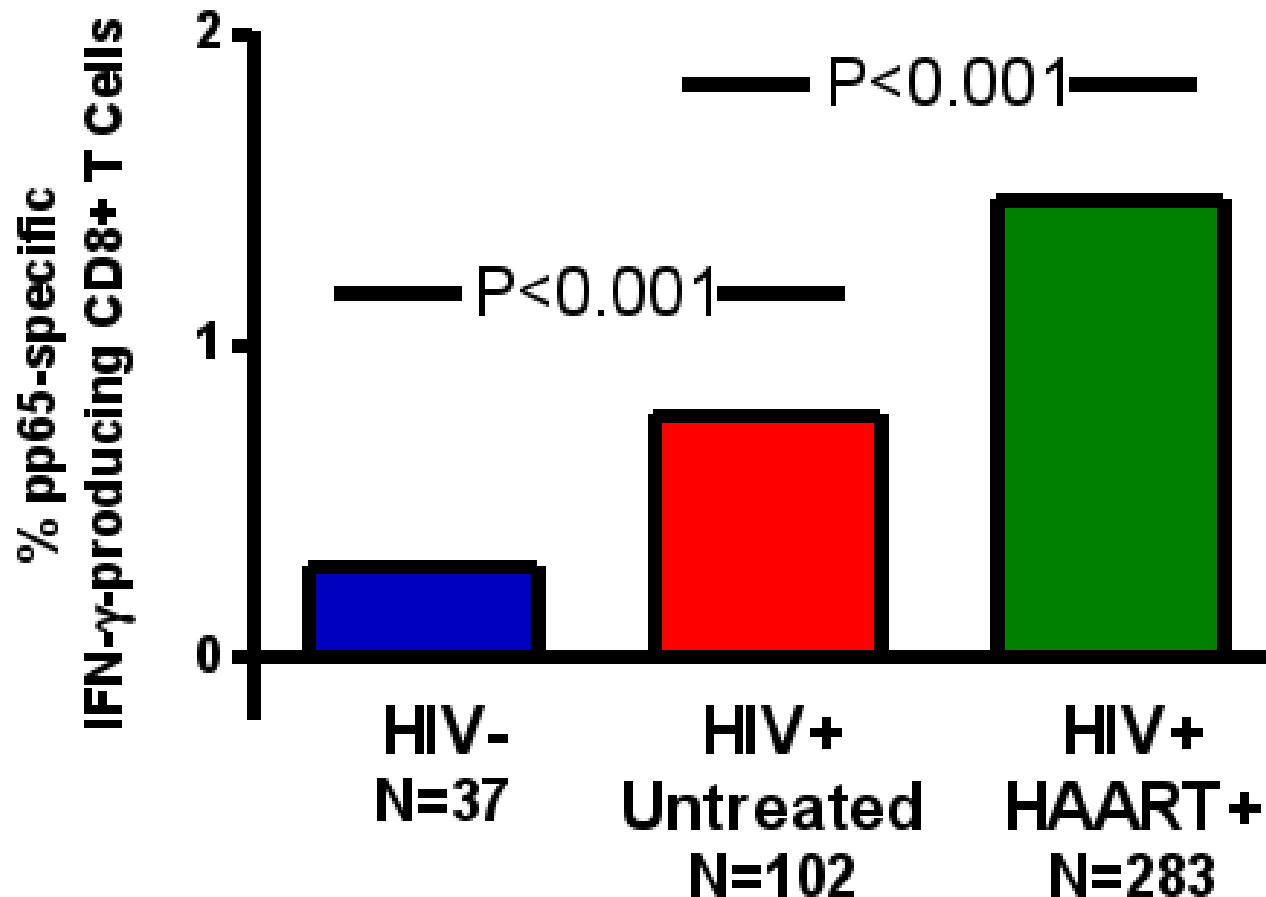
A potential cause of T cell activation in HIV



Microbial Translocation Decreases with cART but Persists for Years



CMV-specific T Cell Responses are Higher in HIV-infected Patients



Cascade of events due to chronic inflammation and immune activation

Low-level viral replication/LPS/CMV

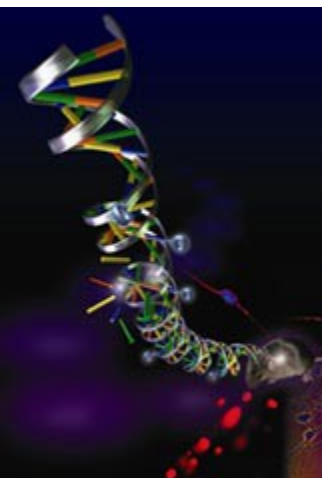


Secretion of pro-inflammatory cytokines

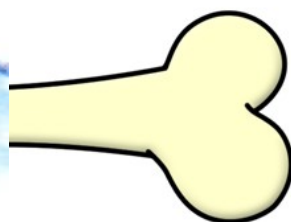
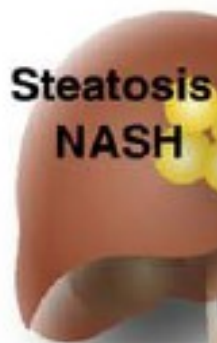


Chronic inflammation



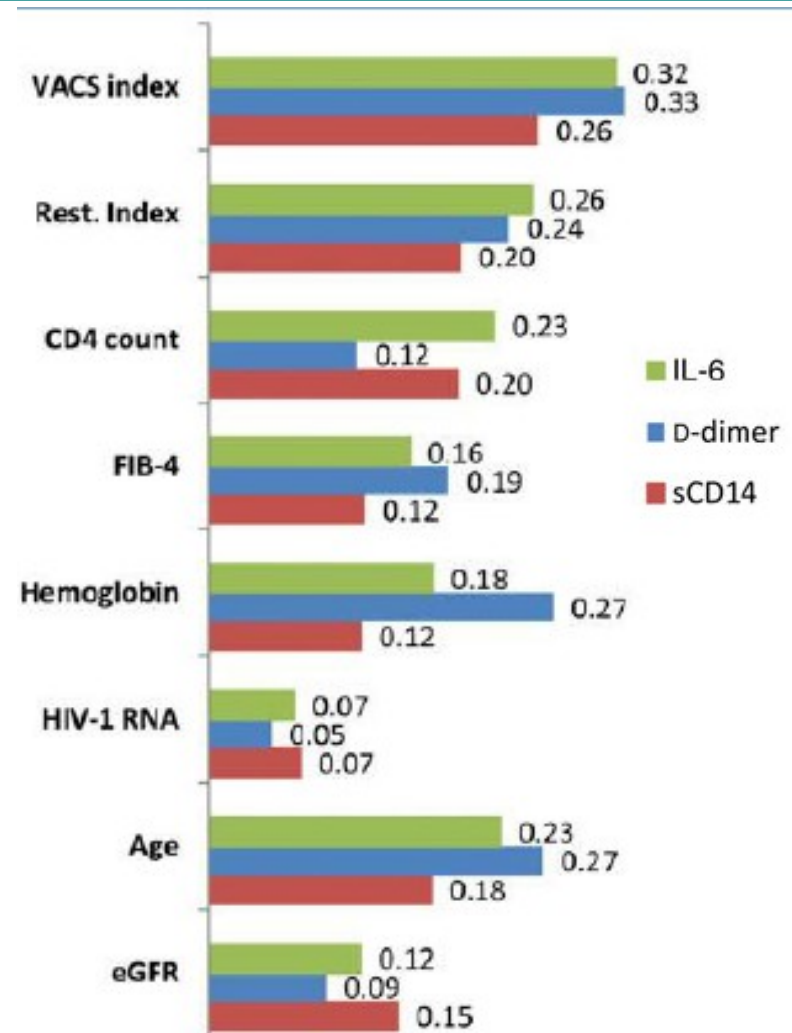


**Steatosis
NASH**

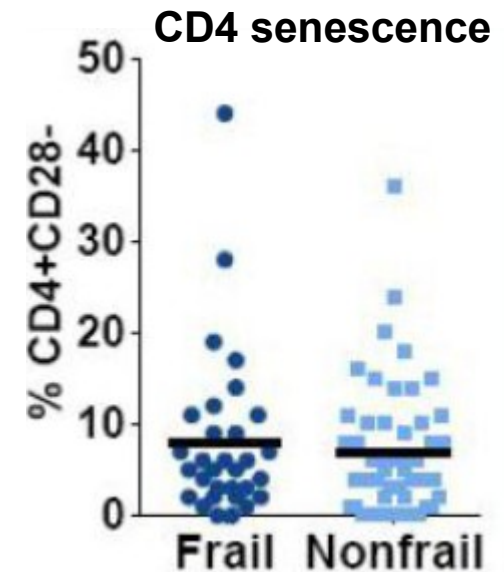
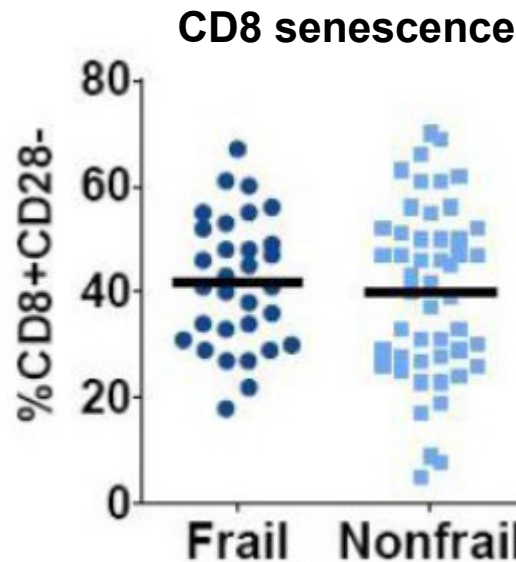
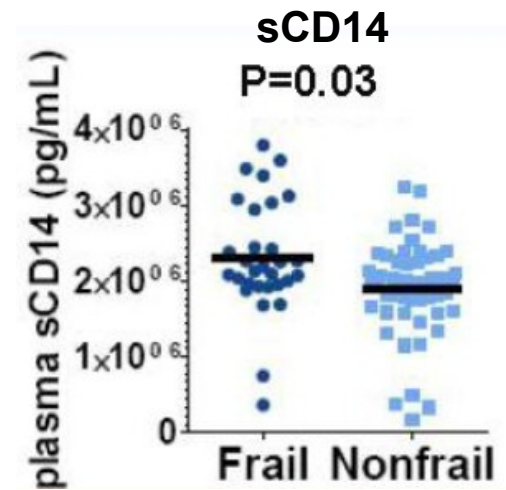
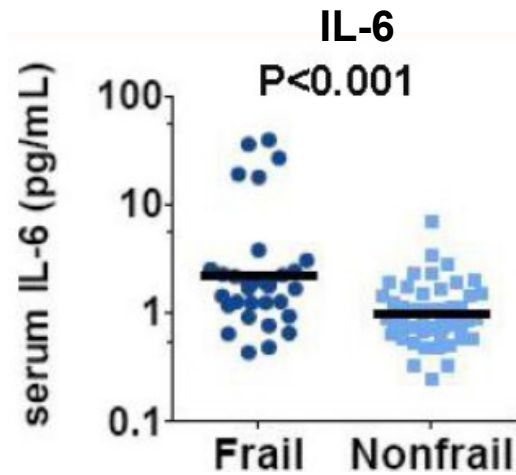
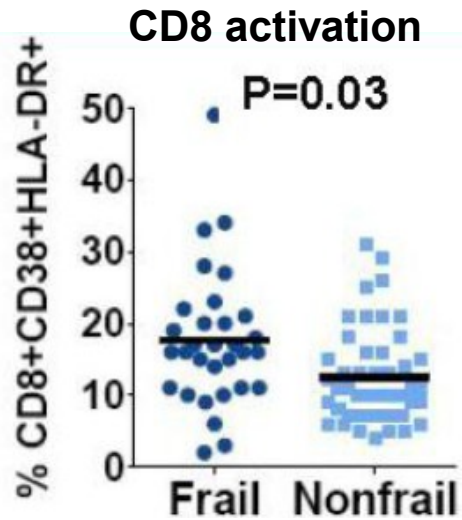


Inflammation correlated with VACS index and end-organ function in HIV

- **VACS index combines**
 - ✓ HIV-associated factors (CD4, VL)
 - ✓ End-organ function
 - Liver (FIB-4)
 - Anemia (HgB)
 - Renal (eGFR)
 - Age
- **VACS index predicts death more strongly than age/CD4/VL alone**
- **VACS index and components associated with inflammation**



Inflammation associated with frailty during suppressive ART

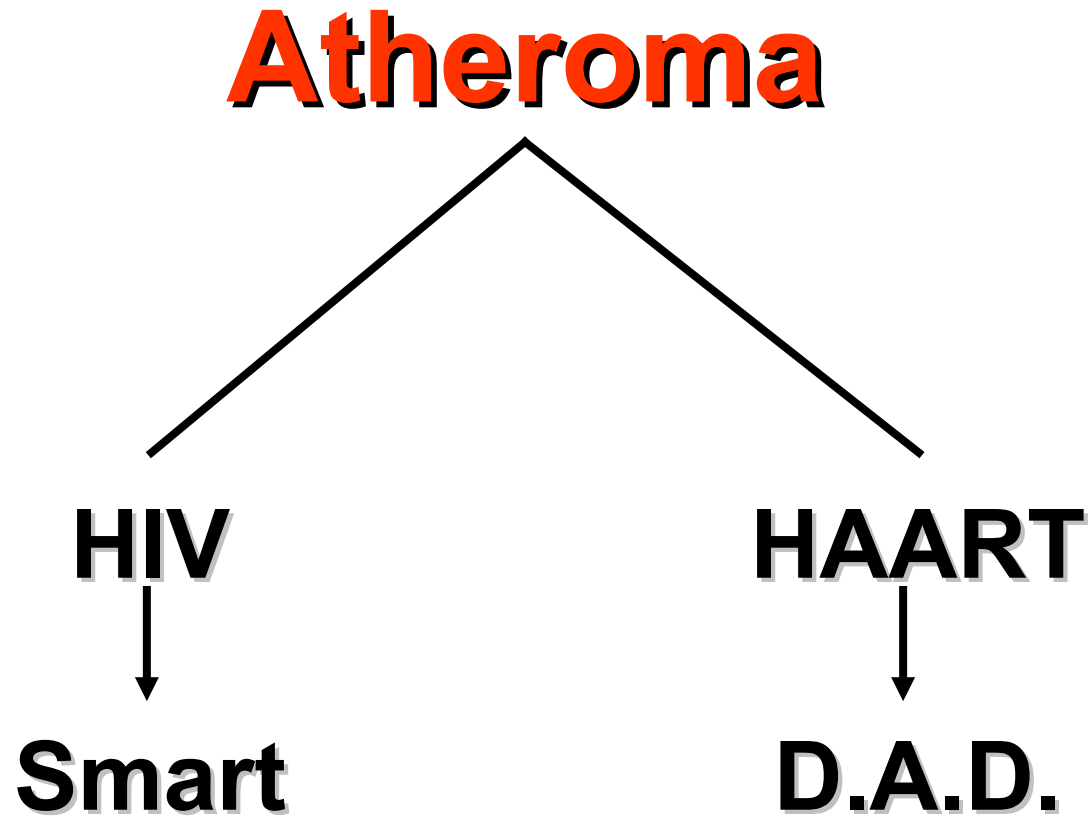


But T-cell senescence not associated with frailty

The Conundrum of Using cART

- **Allow persons to get older**
 - **Demasking chronic disease processes associated with HIV not perceived as an issue prior to the introduction of cART (eg. HBV, HCV)**
 - **Allow the normal aging process to manifest itself clinically**
 - **Exacerbate adverse effects of cART that interacts with the normal aging process**

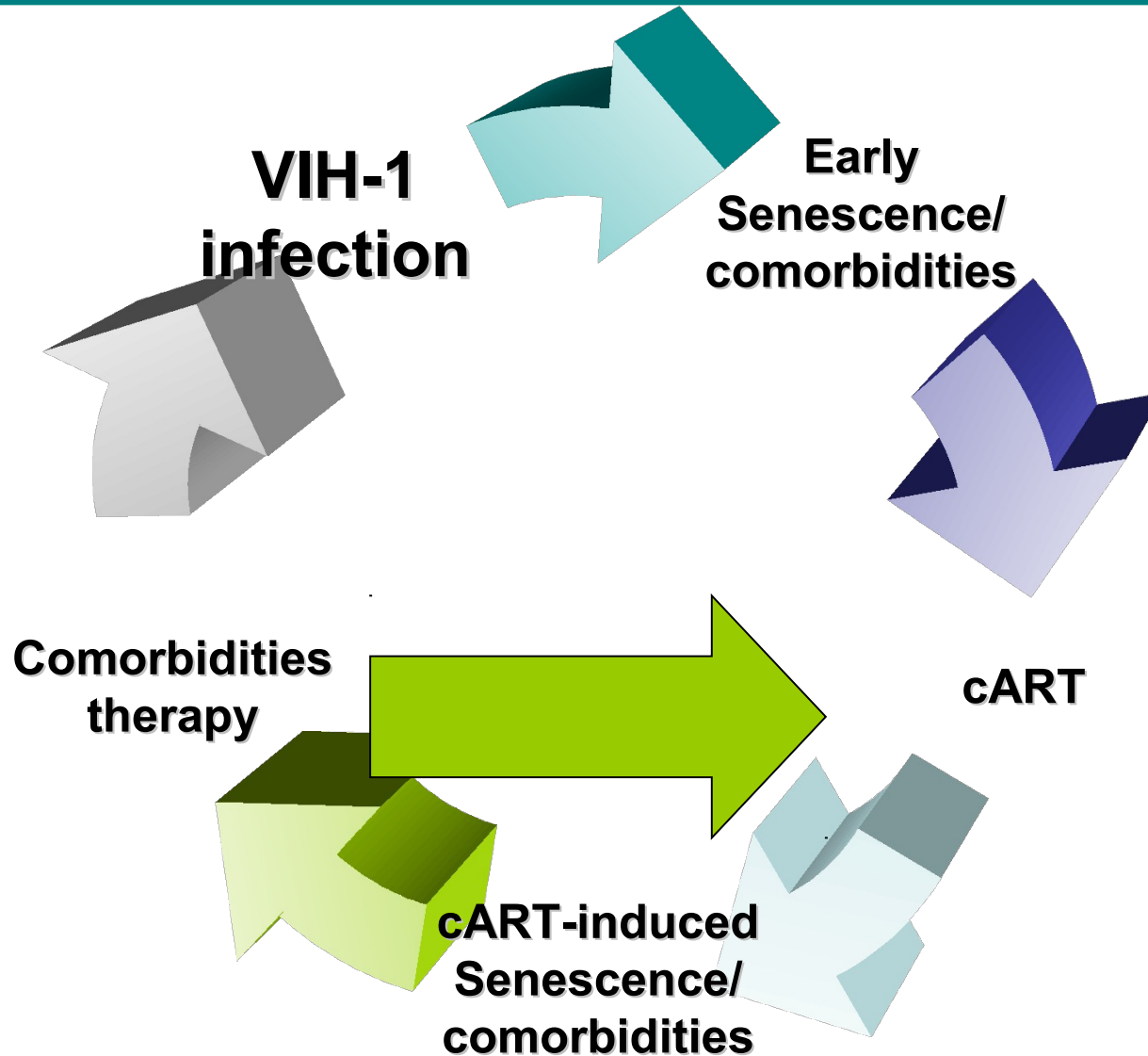
Atherosclerosis, HIV and ART



The geriatric giants

- **Atheroma**
- **Neoplasia**
- **Dementia**

The vicious circle



Summary

- **Clinical evidence suggest that age-associated comorbidities are prevalent in HIV-infected patients**
- **Pathophysiological mechanisms present in HIV-infected patients have been implicated in senescence**
- **Premature senescence in HIV-infected patients may be HIV- or ART-dependent**

**“Old age is not so bad
when you consider the
alternatives”**

**Maurice Chevalier
(1888–1972)**