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AIEOP
ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA EMATOLOGIA
ONCOLOGIA PEDIATRICA

Corso Teorico Pratico

AIEOP YOUNG PRECEPTORSHIP 2026

Nuovi approcci terapeutici
in Ematologia pediatrica
non oncologica

Bologna | 15-16 aprile

Le Citopenie immunomediatae come manifestazione di immunodeficit congenito

Raffaele Badolato Clinica Pediatrica, ASST Spedali Civili di Brescia, Università degli Studi di Brescia



Manifestazioni
di difetto del
sistema
immunitario



10 Segni di allarme di Immunodeficienza primitiva



- Anamnesi familiare di immunodeficienza o morte prematura inspiegabile (p.es., prima dei 30 anni)



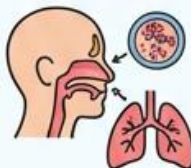
- Ritardo della crescita



- Necessità di antibiotici per via endovenosa e/o ricovero in ospedale per eliminare le infezioni



- 6 o più infezioni del tratto respiratorio in un anno



- 2 o più sinusiti o polmoniti gravi nell'arco di un anno



- 4 o più nuove infezioni dell'orecchio in un anno



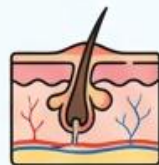
- 2 o più episodi di sepsi o meningite nel corso della vita



- 2 o più mesi di antibiotici con scarso effetto

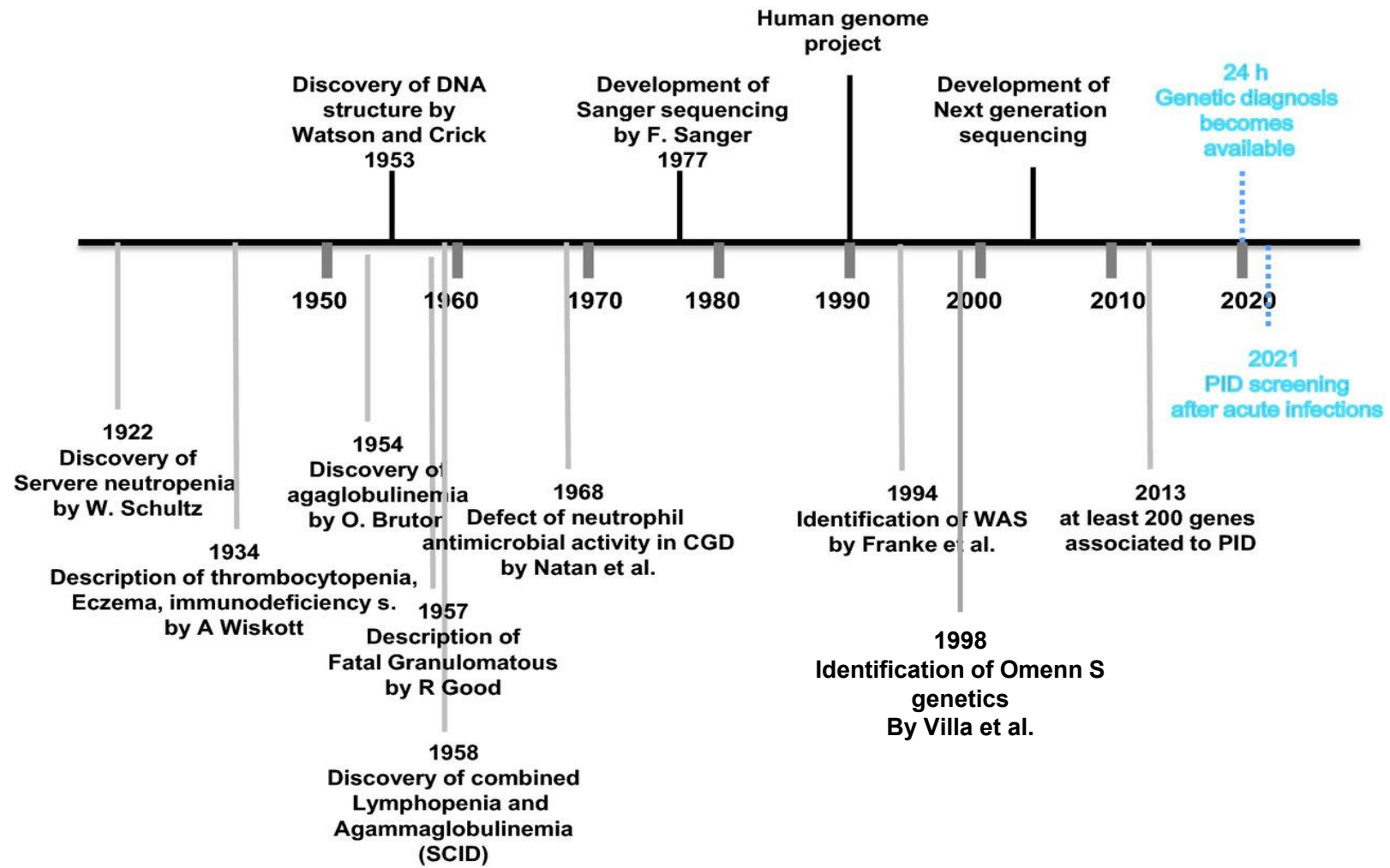


- Candidosi orale o cutanea ricorrente o resistente



- Ascessi ricorrenti della pelle profonda o degli organi





Isolation of a Novel Gene Mutated in Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome

Jonathan M. J. Derry,* Hans D. Ochs,[†] and Uta Francke*[‡]

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Beckman Center for Molecular and Genetic Medicine
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Seattle, Washington 98195

Summary

Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome (WAS) is an X-linked recessive immunodeficiency characterized by eczema, thrombocytopenia, and recurrent infections. Linkage studies have placed the gene at Xp11.22-p11.23. We have isolated from this interval a novel gene, *WASP*, which is expressed in lymphocytes, spleen, and thymus. The gene is not expressed in two unrelated WAS patients, one of whom has a single base deletion that produces a frame shift and premature termination of translation. Two additional patients have been identified with point mutations that change the same arginine residue to either a histidine or a leucine. *WASP* encodes a 501 amino acid proline-rich protein that is likely to be a key regulator of lymphocyte and platelet function.

Introduction

normal cell surface cytoarchitecture, seen as a paucity of microvillus surface projections on WAS T lymphocytes when compared with normal lymphocytes (Molina et al., 1992); abnormalities in patterns of O-glycosylation of cell surface proteins (Greer et al., 1989a; Piller et al., 1991; Higgins et al., 1991); defective transmembrane signaling (Simon et al., 1992); and a failure of WAS T cells to proliferate in response to certain antigenic stimuli (Molina et al., 1993).

Linkage analyses have localized the WAS gene to a >1 Mb region in Xp11.22-p11.23, bounded by the markers *DXS255* and *TIMP* (Peacocke and Siminovitch, 1987; Kwan et al., 1988, 1991; de Saint Basile et al., 1989; Greer et al., 1990, 1992). To isolate the WAS gene, we have used a positional cloning strategy that involved the construction of a clone contig in this interval and the subsequent isolation of cDNA sequences. Evaluation of several candidate cDNAs has led to the identification of a sequence whose expression is limited to lymphocytic and megakaryocytic cell lineages and which is altered in affected individuals. The identification of DNA mutations in four patients with classical WAS leads us to postulate that this gene is the WAS gene.

Results

Construction of a Clone Contig in Xp11.22-p11.23 Surrounding the WAS Locus

We have used yeast artificial chromosomes (YACs) and cosmid clones to build a clone contig from the hypervariable region surrounding marker *NYC255* extending distally

1994 Wiskott Aldrich



Hans D. Ochs

Professor of Pediatrics | Seattle, Washington

SCID = Severe combined immunodeficiency

IL2RGC, JAK3, RAG1, RAG2, ADA,

Lymphopenia

X-linked or autosomal recessive inheritance

- Early onset in life
 - Bronchiolites
 - Interstitial pneumonia → *P.jirovecii*
 - Otitis, pneumonia
 - Sepsis (*Pseudomonas*, *S.aureus*)
 - Candidiasis
 - Diarrhea
 - Fungal infections (rare)
 - BCGites
- Failure to thrive, extreme dystrophy
- Lethal if left untreated



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Summary

Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome is a primary immunodeficiency disease characterized by thrombocytopenia, eczema, and recurrent infections. We have isolated a novel gene from a patient with Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome. The gene encodes a protein of 501 amino acids. The protein is highly conserved among mammals and is predicted to be a transmembrane protein. The gene is located on chromosome 11q24.3, the same region as the WAS gene. The mutation in the novel gene is a 501 bp deletion. This mutation is likely to be a frameshift mutation.

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¹Department of Human Genome and Multifactorial Disease, Istituto di Tecnologie Biomediche Avanzate, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, via Fratelli Cervi 93, 20090 Segrate (Milano), Italy

²Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Rutenberg Cancer Center, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, New York 10029



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Partial V(D)J Recombination Activity Leads to Omenn Syndrome

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1994 Wiskott Aldrich

1998 Omenn

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Professor of Pediatrics | Seattle, Washington

Omenn syndrome





The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE |

Familial Reticuloendotheliosis with Eosinophilia

Gilbert S. Omenn, M.D.[†]

August 19, 1965

N Engl J Med 1965; 273:427-432

REPORTS of proliferative and infiltrative disorders of the reticuloendothelial system in children have documented a fascinating and frustrating category of disease. Most of these cases of multiorgan involvement and of unknown etiology have in common a

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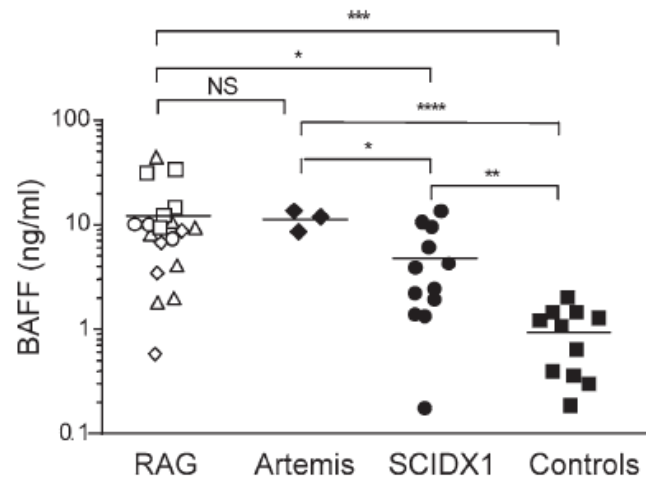
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Autoantibodies in Omenn patients

Serum BAFF



Autoantibodies

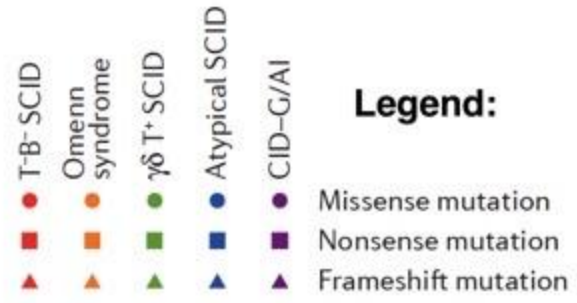
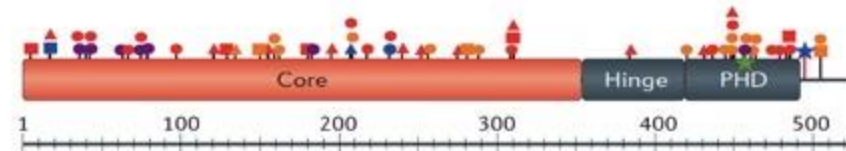
Table I. Autoantibodies in patients with hypomorphic *RAG* mutations

Patients	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i> (%) with autoantibodies	Specificity
<i>RAG</i> deficiency			
OS/LS	14	9 (64.3)	Five ANA, four TPO, two pANCA, one TG, and one OmpC
T ⁻ B ⁻ SCID	5	0 (0)	
SCIDX1	14	0 (0)	
Controls	6	1 (16.7)	ANA

OS, Omenn syndrome; LS, leaky SCID; TPO, thyroid peroxidase; pANCA, perinuclear anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody; TG, thyroglobulin; and OmpC, outer membrane porin protein C.

Spectrum of RAG2 Mutations

RAG2

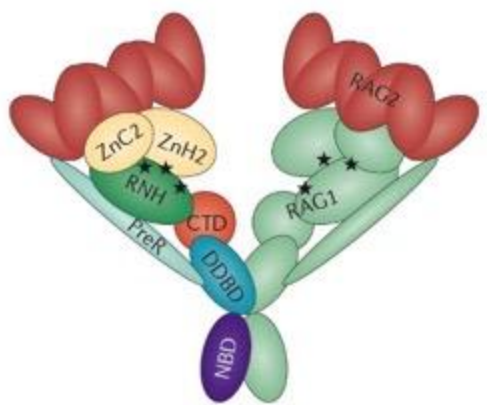


Legend:

RAG2

35
9

57

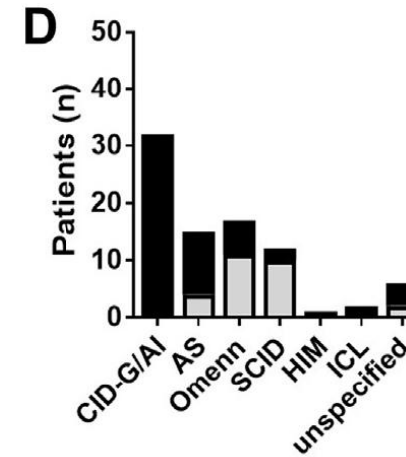
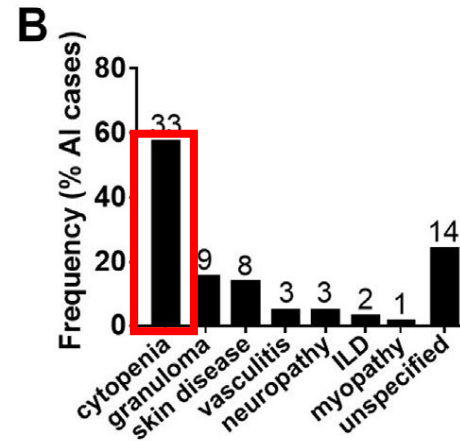
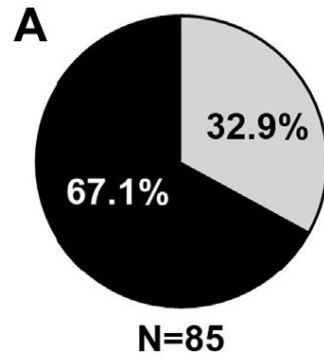


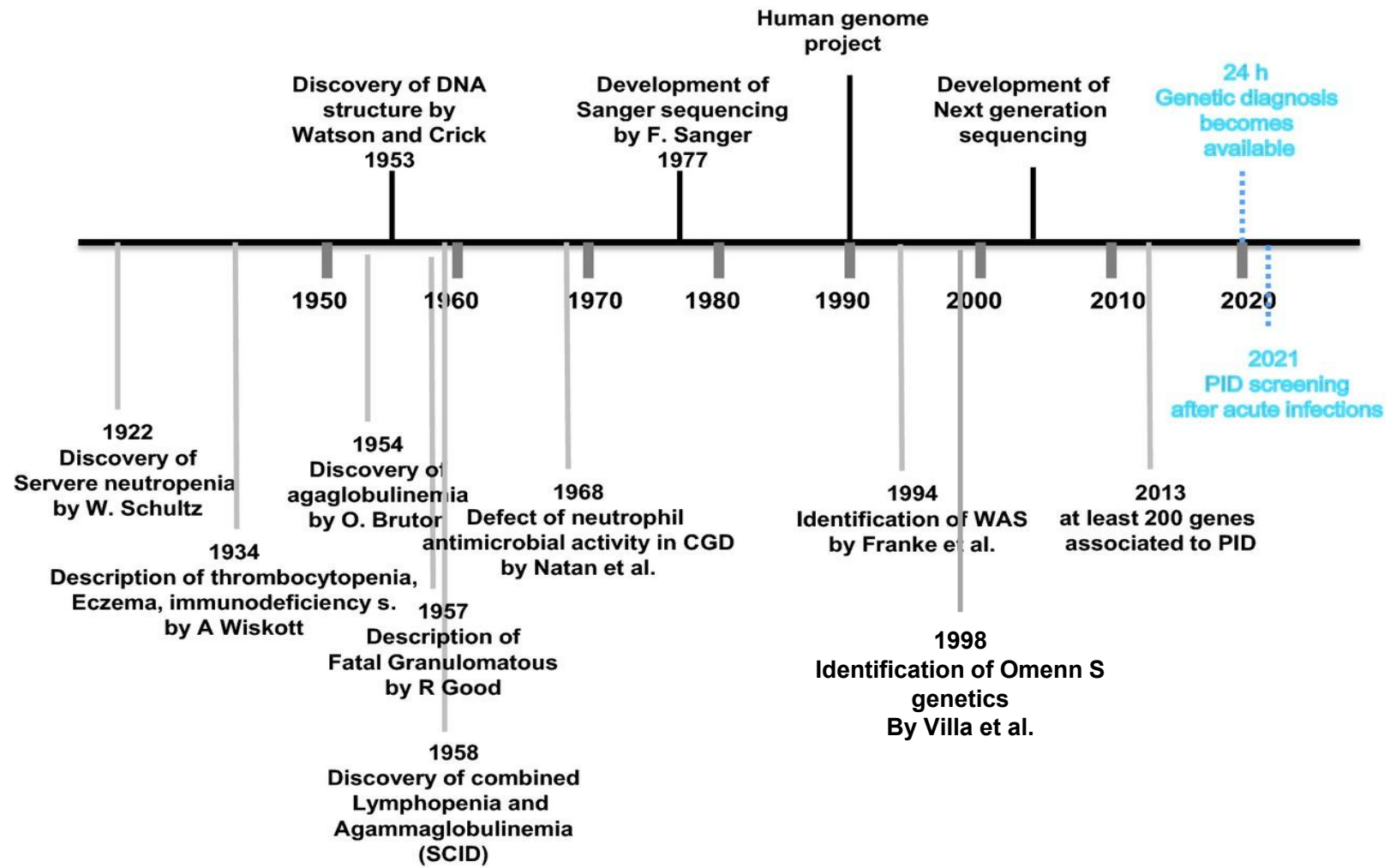
RAG2

Missense mutations: PhD domain crucial for V(D)J recombination

*catalytic residues

Outcomes and Treatment Strategies for Autoimmunity and Hyperinflammation in Patients with RAG Deficiency





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IPEX is a fatal disorder characterized by immune dysregulation, polyendocrinopathy, enteropathy and X-linked inheritance (MIM 304930). We present genetic evidence that different mutations of the human gene *FOXP3*, the ortholog of the gene mutated in scurfy mice (*Foxp3*), causes IPEX syndrome. Recent linkage analysis studies mapped the gene mutated in IPEX to an interval of 17–20-cM at Xp11.23–Xq13.3 (refs. 1,2).



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1994 Wiskott Aldrich

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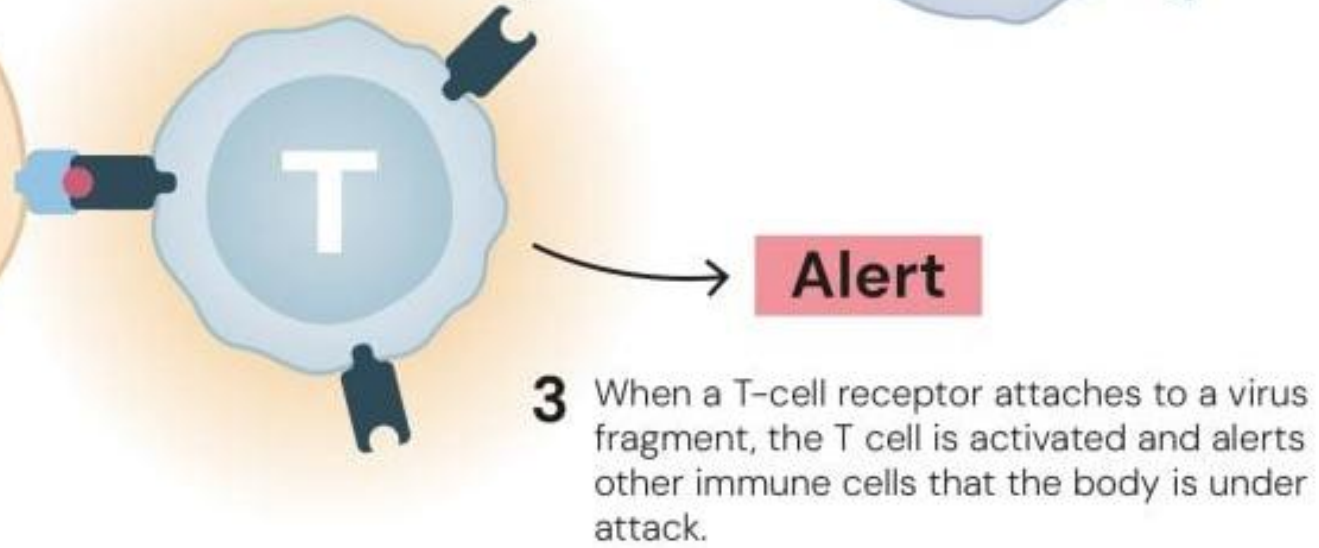
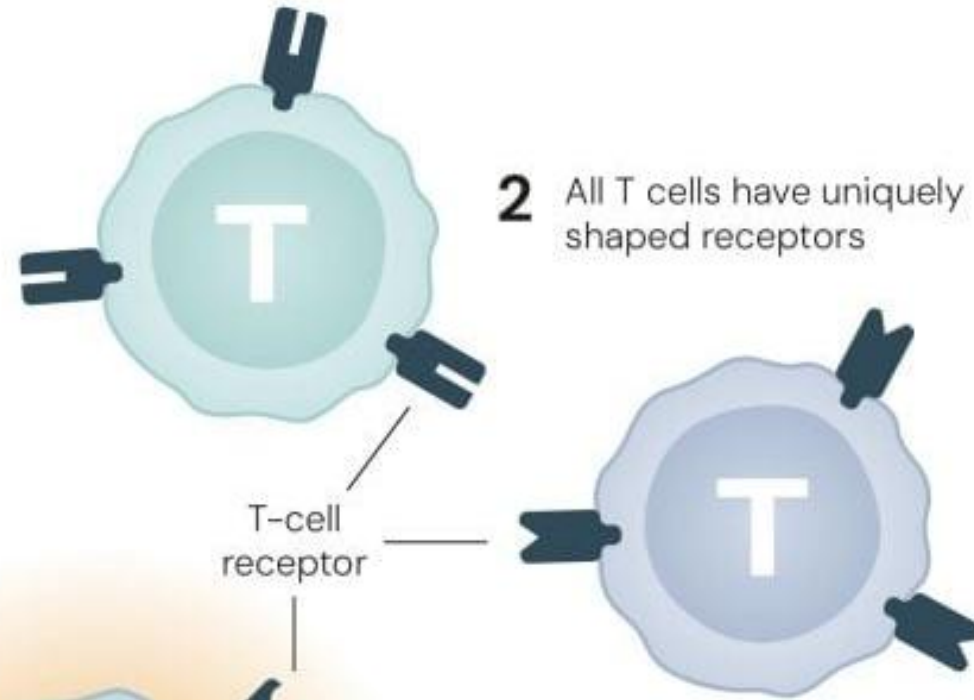
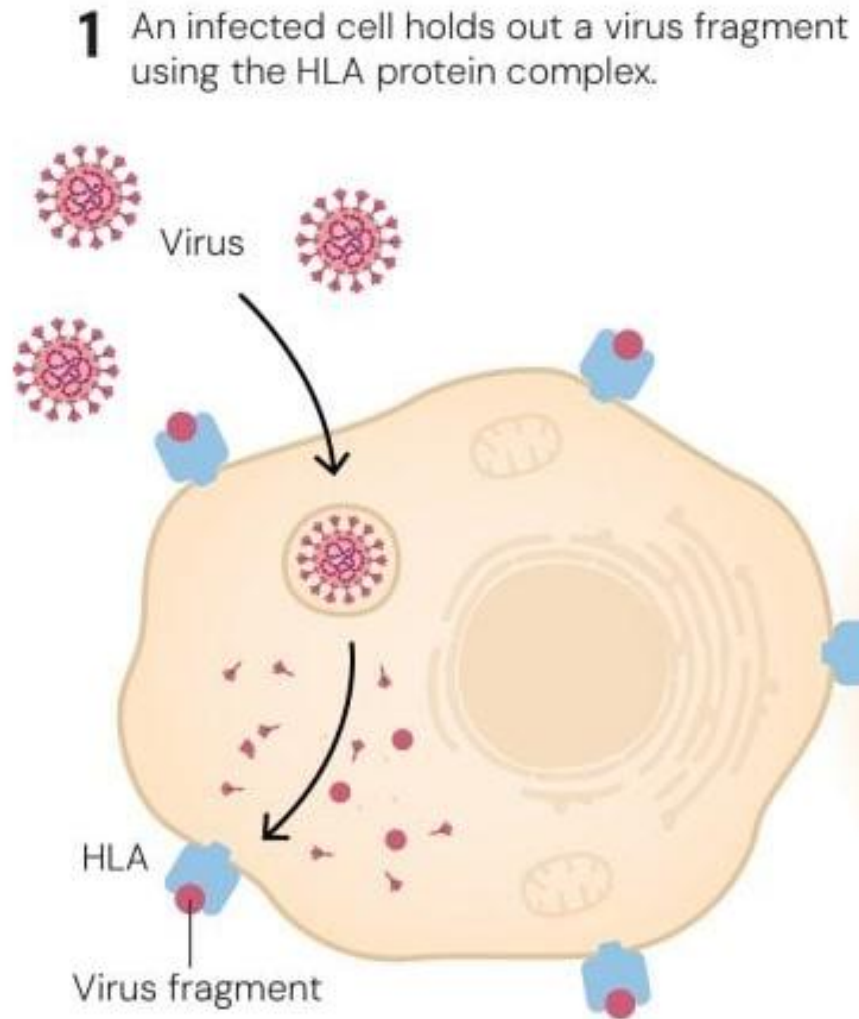
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IPEX: clinical and laboratory features

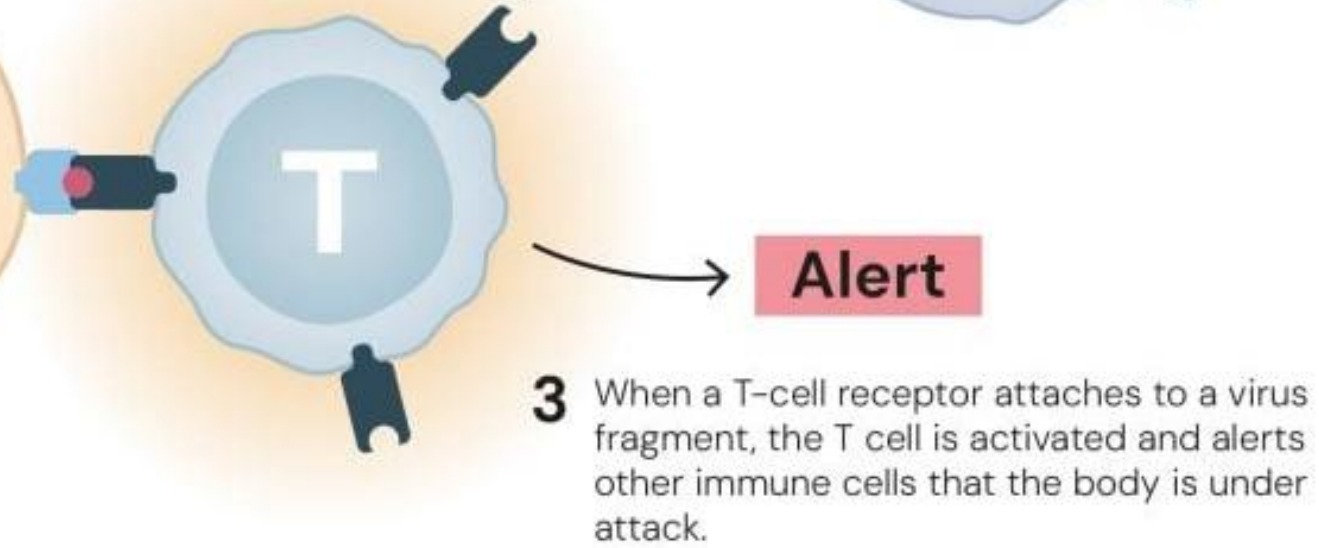
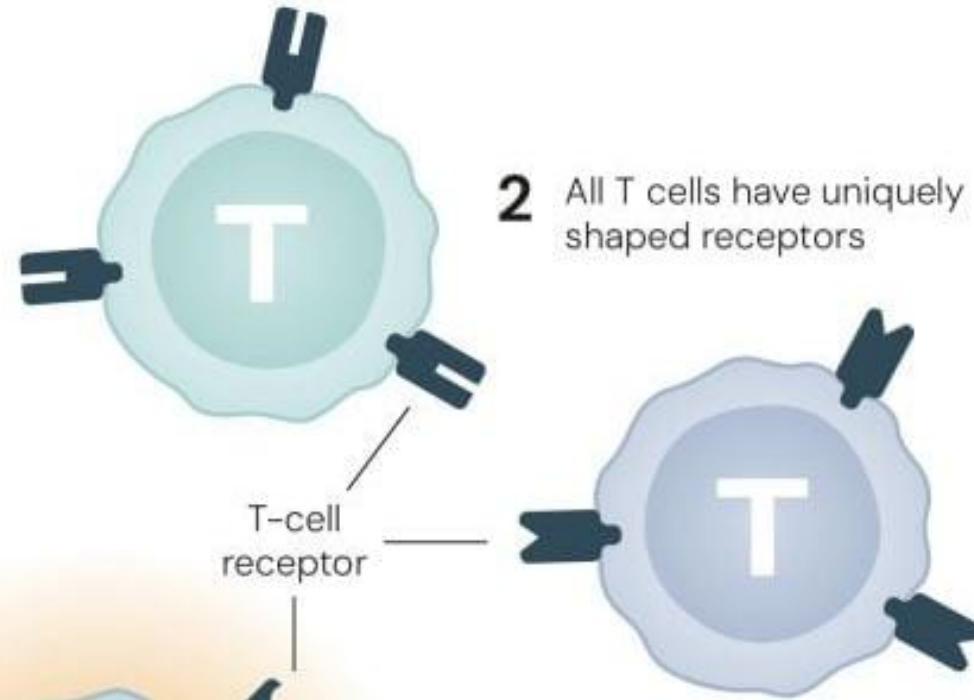
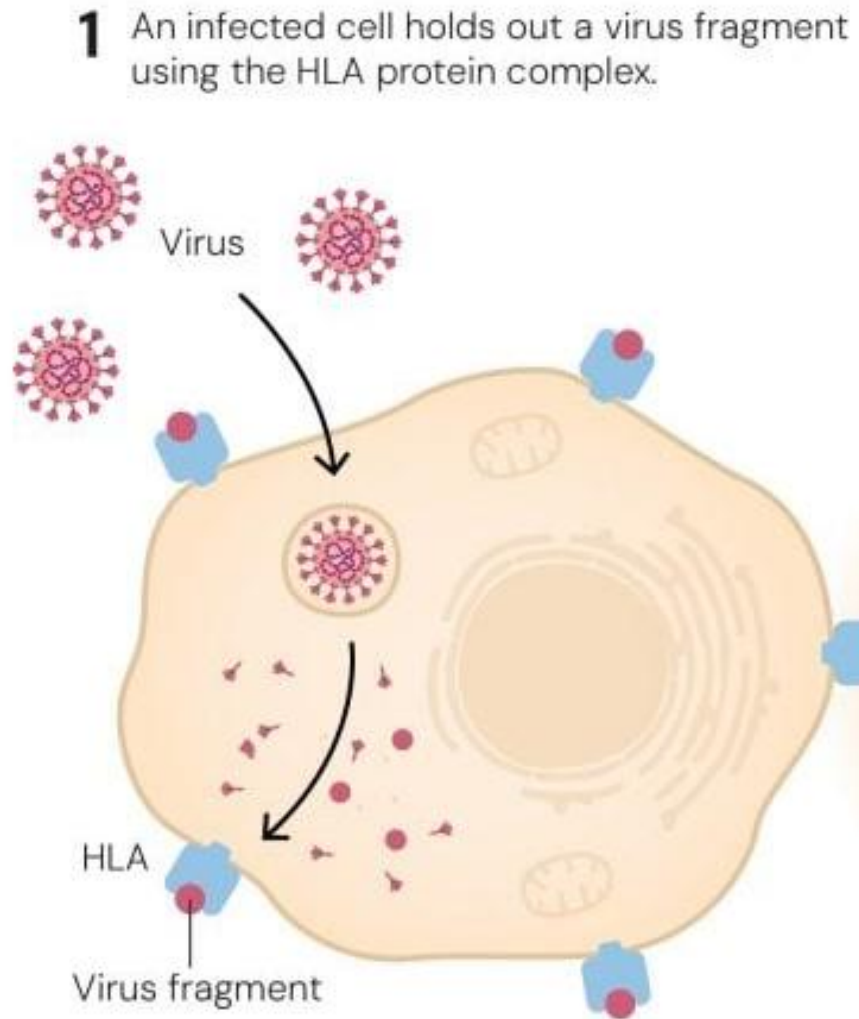
- eczema
- enteropathy (diarrhea, villous atrophy)
- early-onset IDDM
- hypothyroidism
- hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia
- cholangitis
- lymphocytic infiltration of various organs
- lung consolidation, infiltrates
- elevated IgE
- increased expression of activation markers on CD4+ cells
- normal proliferation to mitogens
- usually lethal within first years



How T cells discover a virus

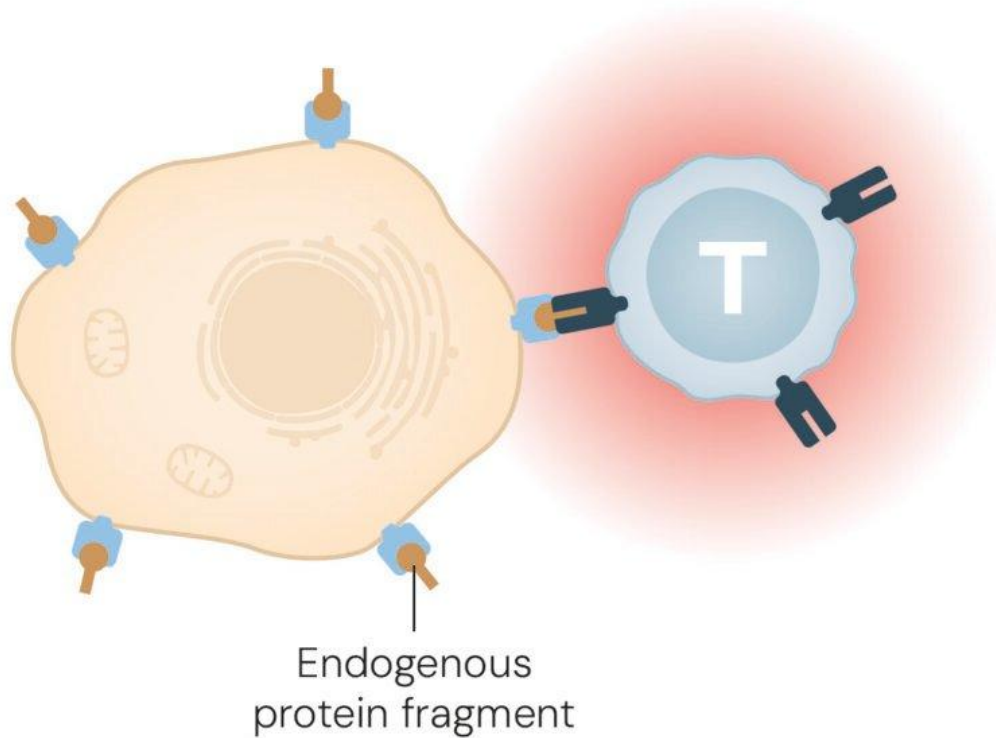


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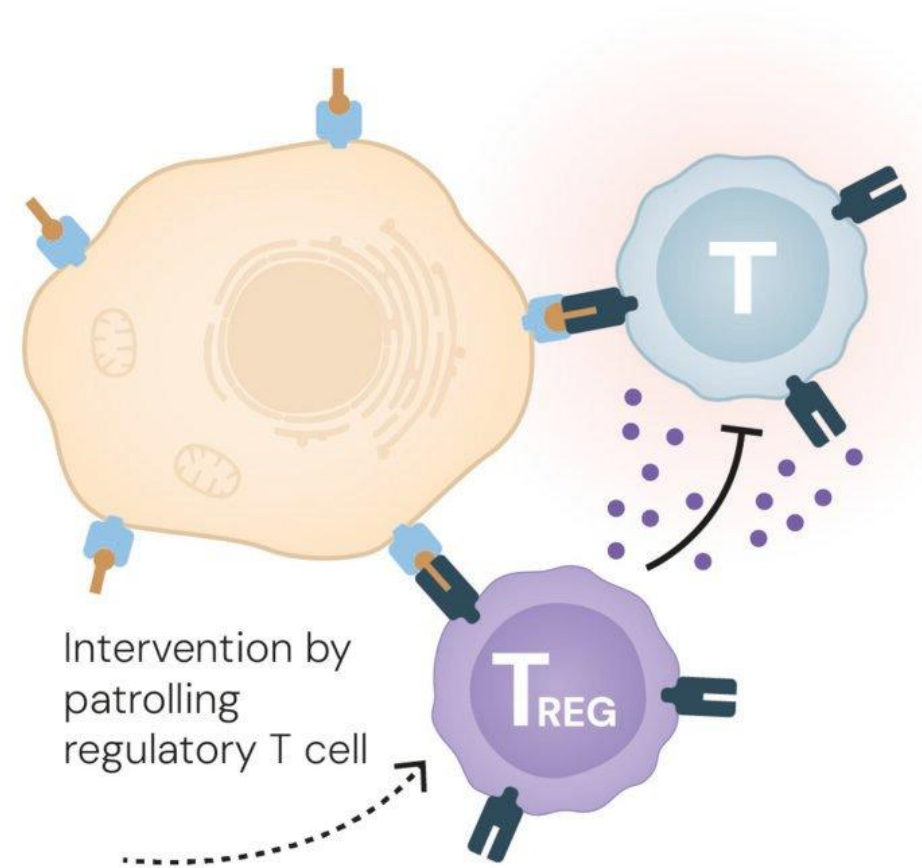


How regulatory T cells protect us

1 A T cell that has slipped through the test in the thymus reacts to a fragment from one of the body's proteins.

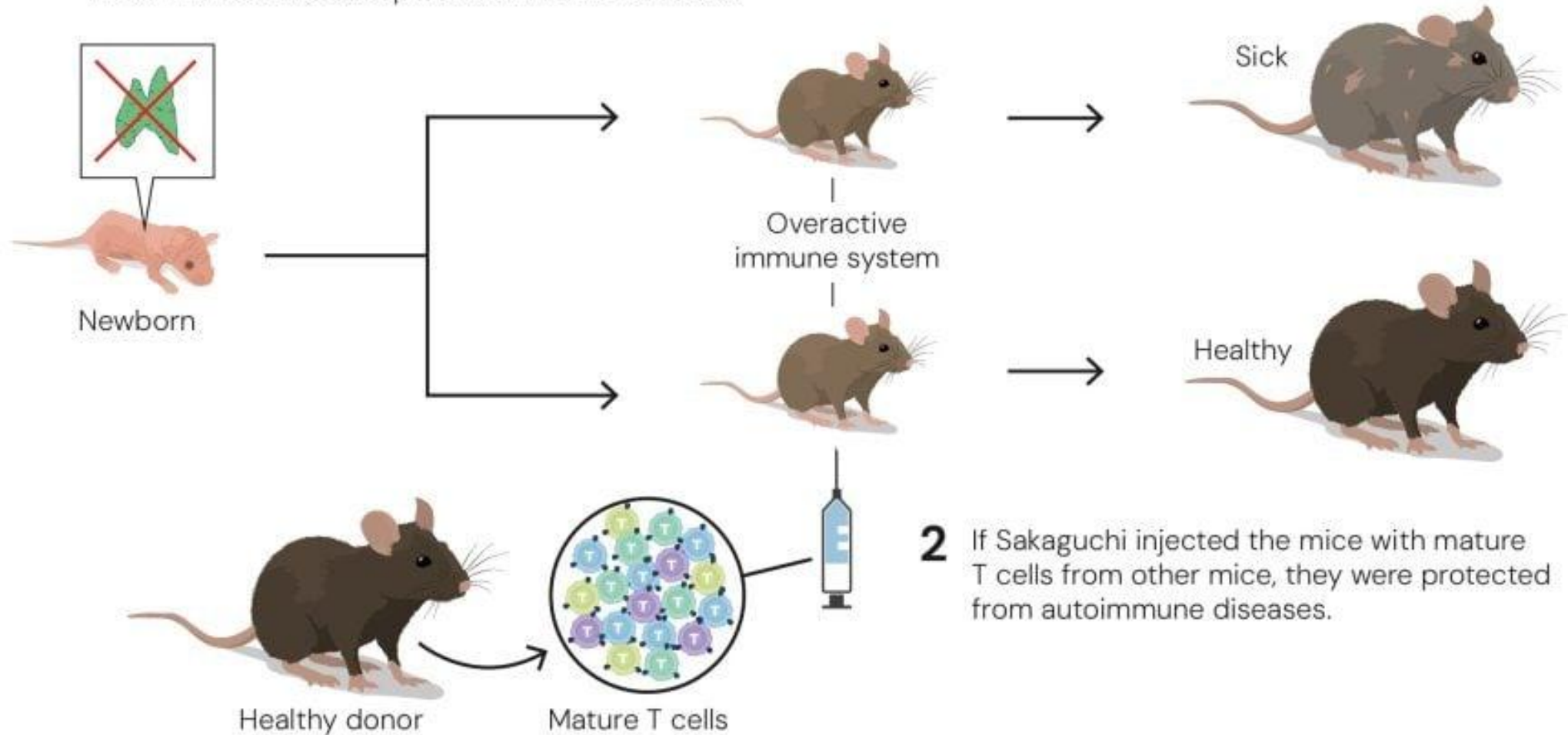


2 Regulatory T cells discover that the attack is a mistake and calm it down. This prevents autoimmune disease.



The experiment that inspired Sakaguchi

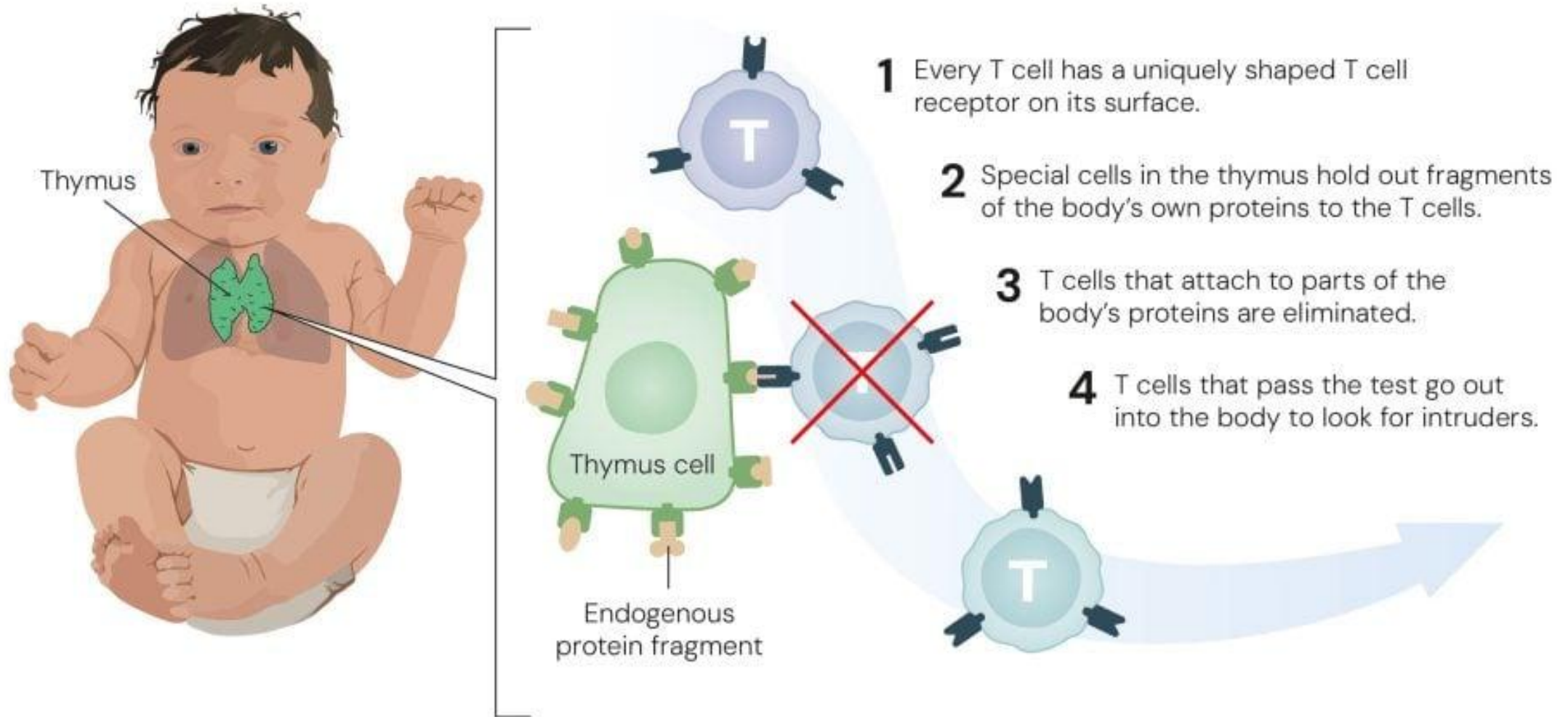
- 1 Sakaguchi removed the thymus from three-day-old mice. These mice then developed autoimmune diseases.

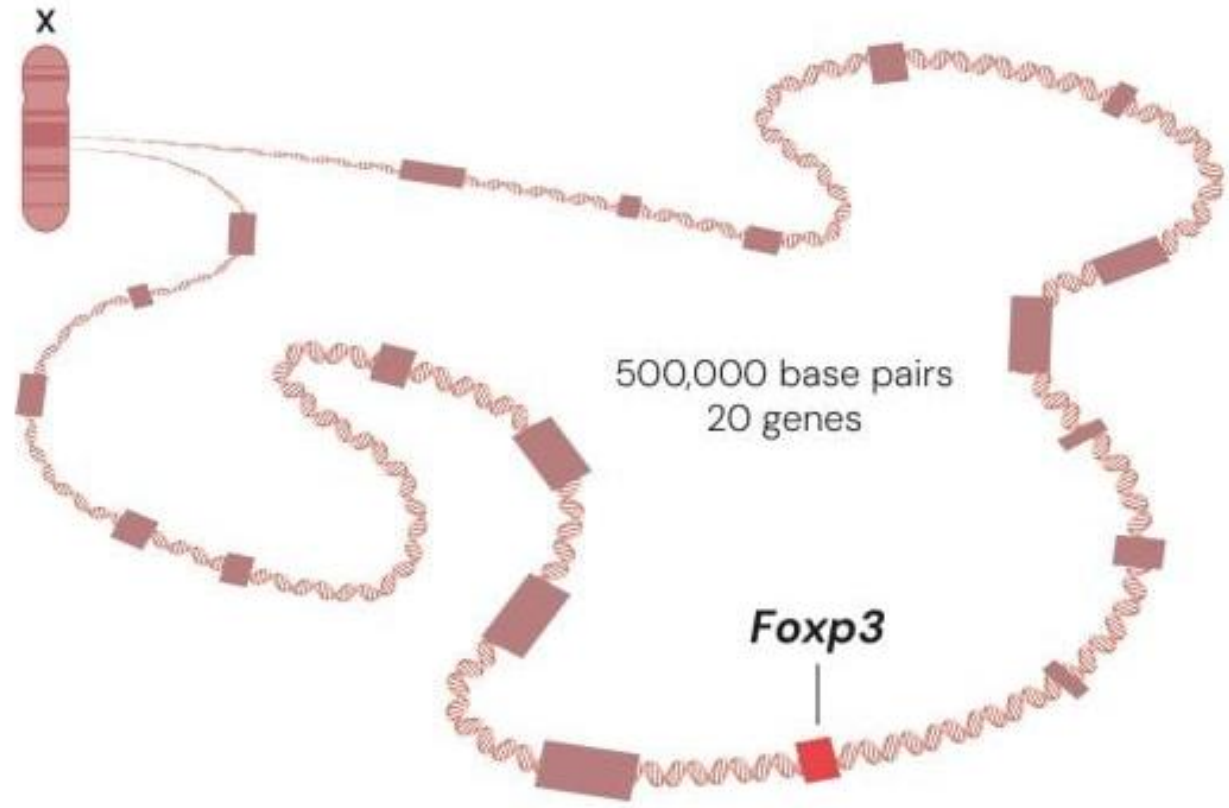
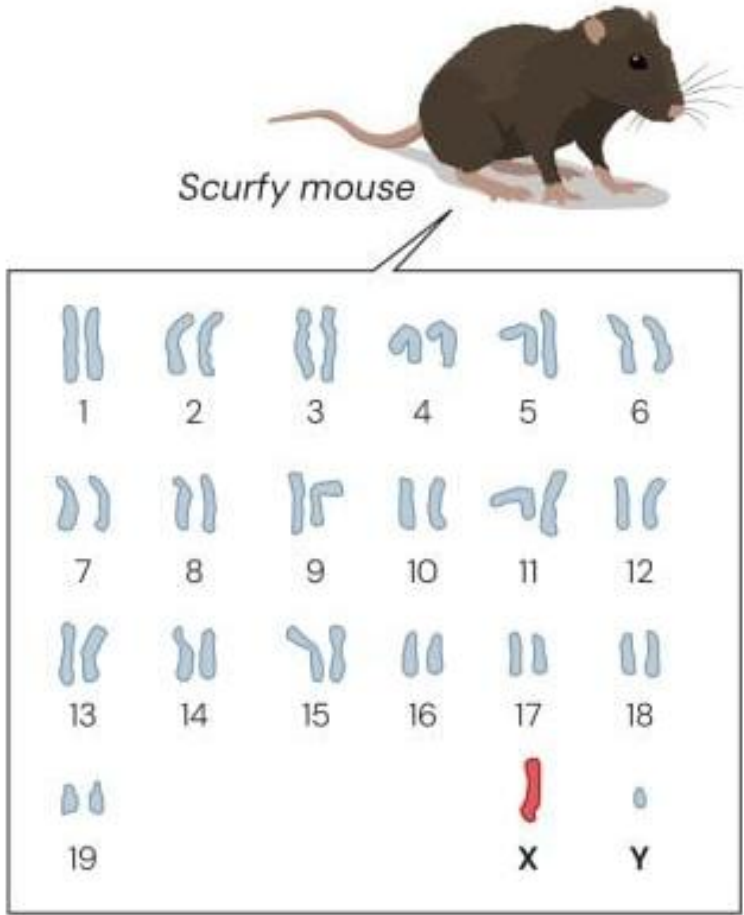


- 2 If Sakaguchi injected the mice with mature T cells from other mice, they were protected from autoimmune diseases.

How harmful T cells are eliminated

T cells mature in the thymus. The ones that recognise the body's own proteins are sorted and removed. This process is called central tolerance.





Brunkow and Ramsdell find the scurfy mutation

The scurfy mutation causes a mutiny in the immune system. Brunkow and Ramsdell succeeded in narrowing down the area of the mutation and locating it in the *Foxp3* gene, which turned out to be decisive in the development of regulatory T cells.



Mary E. Brunkow

Institute for Systems Biology,
Seattle, USA



Fred Ramsdell

Sonoma Biotherapeutics,
San Francisco, USA



Shimon Sakaguchi

Osaka University,
Osaka, Japan

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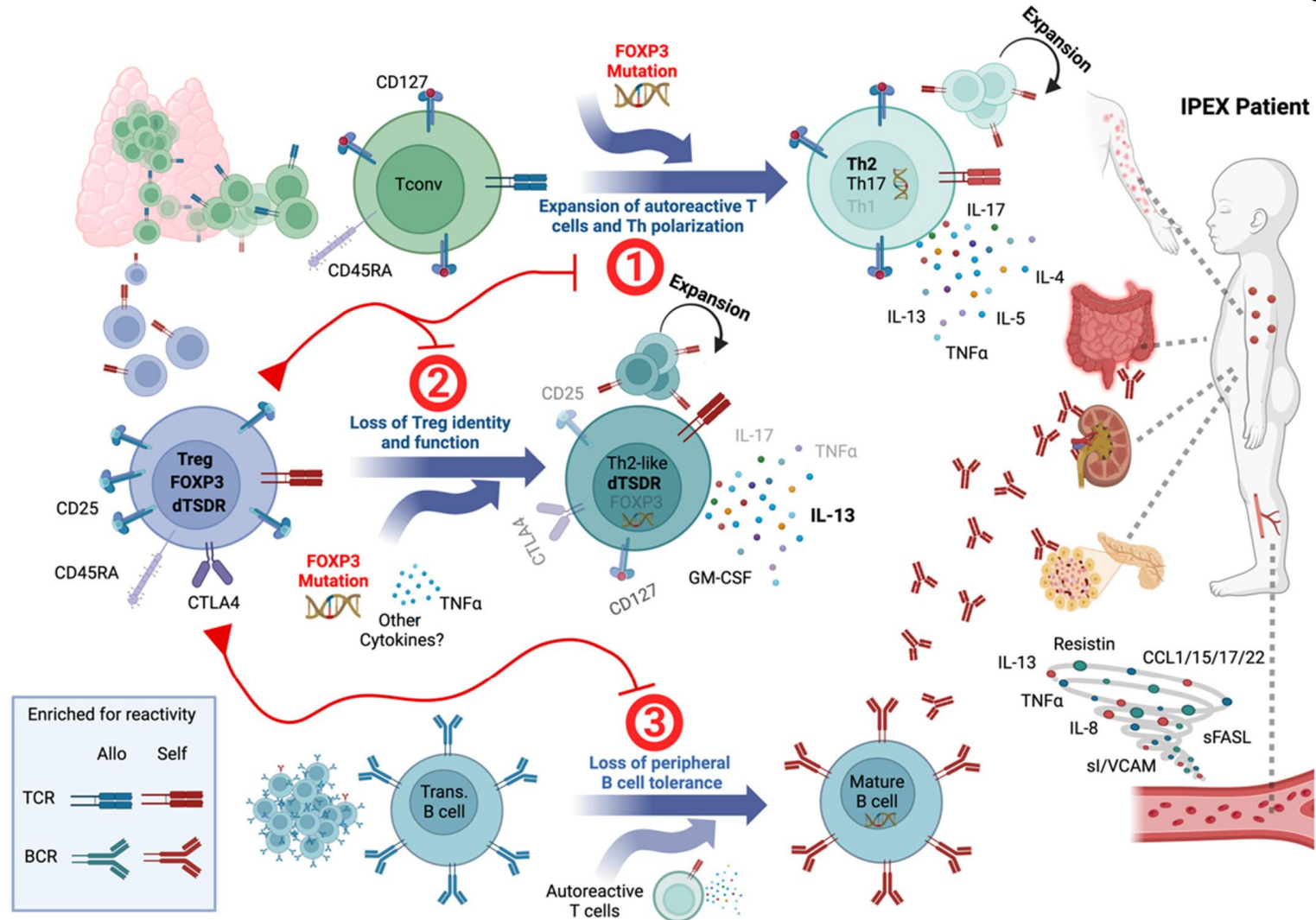
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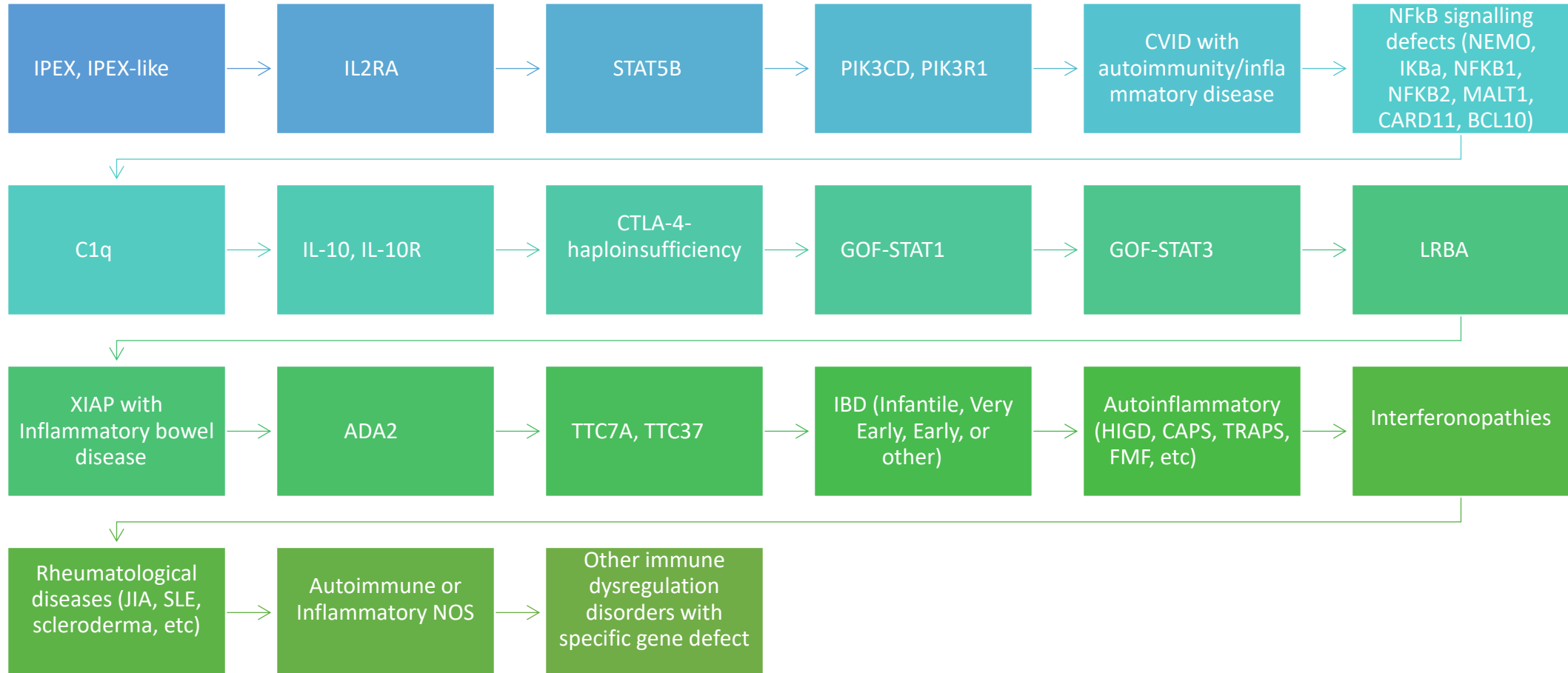
IPEX: mechanisms of immunedysregulation



Regulatory T-lymphocyte defect (absent/reduced Tregs and/or functional Treg defect)

IPEX syndrome (immune dysregulation, polyendocrinopathy, enteropathy, X-linked)	<i>FOXP3</i>	XL	Autoimmune enteropathy, early onset type 1 diabetes mellitus, eczema, thyroiditis, hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia, elevated IgE
CTLA4 haploinsufficiency	<i>CTLA4</i>	AD	Autoimmunity particularly cytopenias, enteropathy, type 1 diabetes, lymphoproliferation, interstitial lung disease, recurrent infections, hypogammaglobulinemia
LRBA deficiency	<i>LRBA</i>	AR	Autoimmunity particularly cytopenias, lymphoproliferation, recurrent infections, enteropathy
STAT3 GOF	<i>STAT3</i>	AD	Autoimmunity, lymphoproliferation, infections, short stature
CD25 deficiency	<i>IL2RA</i>	AR	Autoimmunity, lymphoproliferation

List of diseases



Errori congeniti dell'immunità

Immunodeficienze

Infezioni opportunistiche

Infezioni invasive

Linfoadenopatia (infettiva)

Infezioni che richiedono terapia prolungata

Polmonite

Ritardo di crescita

Diarrea

Mal. immunodisregolatorie

Linfadenopatia/linfomi

Citopenie autoimmuni

Splenomegalia

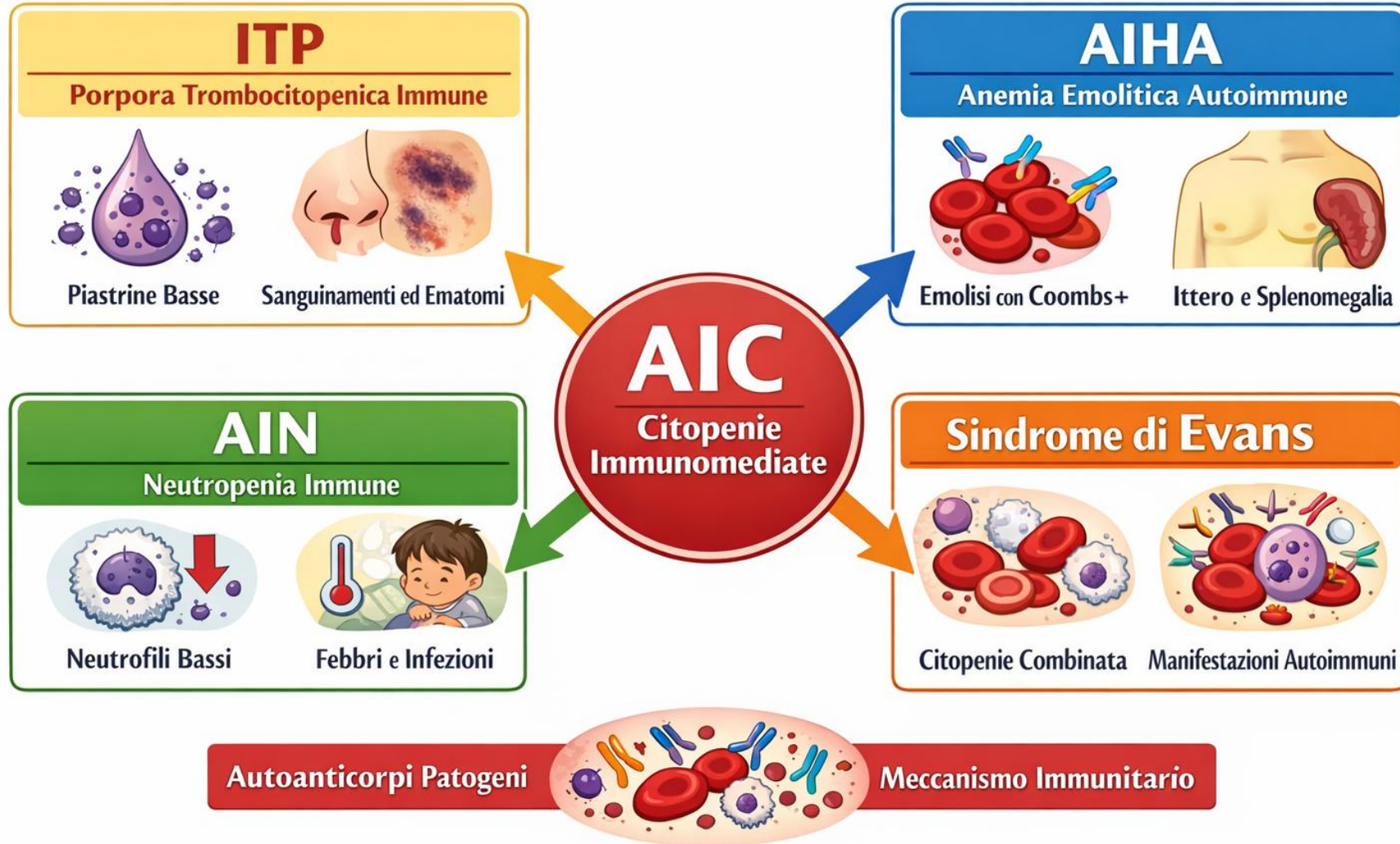
Enteropatia

Endocrinopatia

LES, autoanticorpi

Febbri periodiche

*malattie monogeniche



CVID = Common Variable Immunodeficiency

NFKB1, CD19, CD20, CD21, BAFFR, TACI, CD81, PIK3CD, PIK3R1, NFKB2 or unknown genes (poligenic-CVID)

Features

1. Sinopulmonary infections

2. Splenomegaly

3. Malignancies

4. Autoimmune diseases

- Autoimmune cytopenia

Autoimmune cytopenia	31.4 %
Gastrointestinal disorders	24.4
Skin	14.1
Rheumatologic disorders	12.8
Endocrine disorders	8.1
Lung	3.5
Eye	1.7
Kidney	1.3
Vasculitis	1.0
Neurologic disorders	1.0
Urologic disorders	0.4
Other	0.3

Fischer et al., JACI 2017

Tuijnenburg et al., JACI, 2018

CLINICAL TRIALS AND OBSERVATIONS

Pediatric Evans syndrome is associated with a high frequency of potentially damaging variants in immune genes

Jérôme Hadjadj,^{1,2,*} Nathalie Aladjidi,^{3,4,*} Helder Fernandes,^{3,4} Guy Leverger,⁵ Aude Magérus-Chatinet,^{1,2} Fabienne Mazerolles,^{1,2} Marie-Claude Stolzenberg,^{1,2} Sidonie Jacques,^{1,2} Capucine Picard,^{2,6} Jérémie Rosain,^{2,6} Cécile Fourrage,^{7,8} Sylvain Hanein,⁹ Mohammed Zarhrate,^{8,10} Marlène Pasquet,¹¹ Wadih Abou Chahla,¹² Vincent Barlogis,¹³ Yves Bertrand,¹⁴ Isabelle Pellier,¹⁵ Elodie Colomb Bottollier,¹⁶ Fanny Fouyssac,¹⁷ Pascale Blouin,¹⁸ Caroline Thomas,¹⁹ Nathalie Cheikh,²⁰ Eric Dore,²¹ Corinne Pondarre,^{22,23} Dominique Plantaz,²⁴ Eric Jeziorski,²⁵ Frédéric Millot,²⁶ Nicolas Garcelon,^{2,27} Stéphane Ducassou,^{3,4} Yves Perel,^{3,4} Thierry Leblanc,²⁸ Bénédicte Neven,^{1,2,29} Alain Fischer,^{2,29-31} and Frédéric Rieux-Laucat^{1,2} on behalf of members of the French Reference Center for Pediatric Autoimmune Cytopenia (CEREVANCE)

Gene (no. of patients)	Mutation type and consequences
Pathogenic mutations, n = 32, 40%	
<i>TNFRSF6</i> (6)	Heterozygous/LOF
<i>CTLA4</i> (8)	Heterozygous/LOF
<i>STAT3</i> (6)	Heterozygous/GOF
<i>PIK3CD</i> (1)	Heterozygous/GOF
<i>CBL</i> (1)	Heterozygous/LOF
<i>ADAR1</i> (1)	Heterozygous/LOF
<i>LRBA</i> (4)	Homozygous/LOF
<i>RAG 1</i> (2)	Compound heterozygous/LOF
<i>TNFRSF6</i> somatic (1)	Heterozygous/LOF
<i>KRAS</i> somatic (2)	Heterozygous/GOF

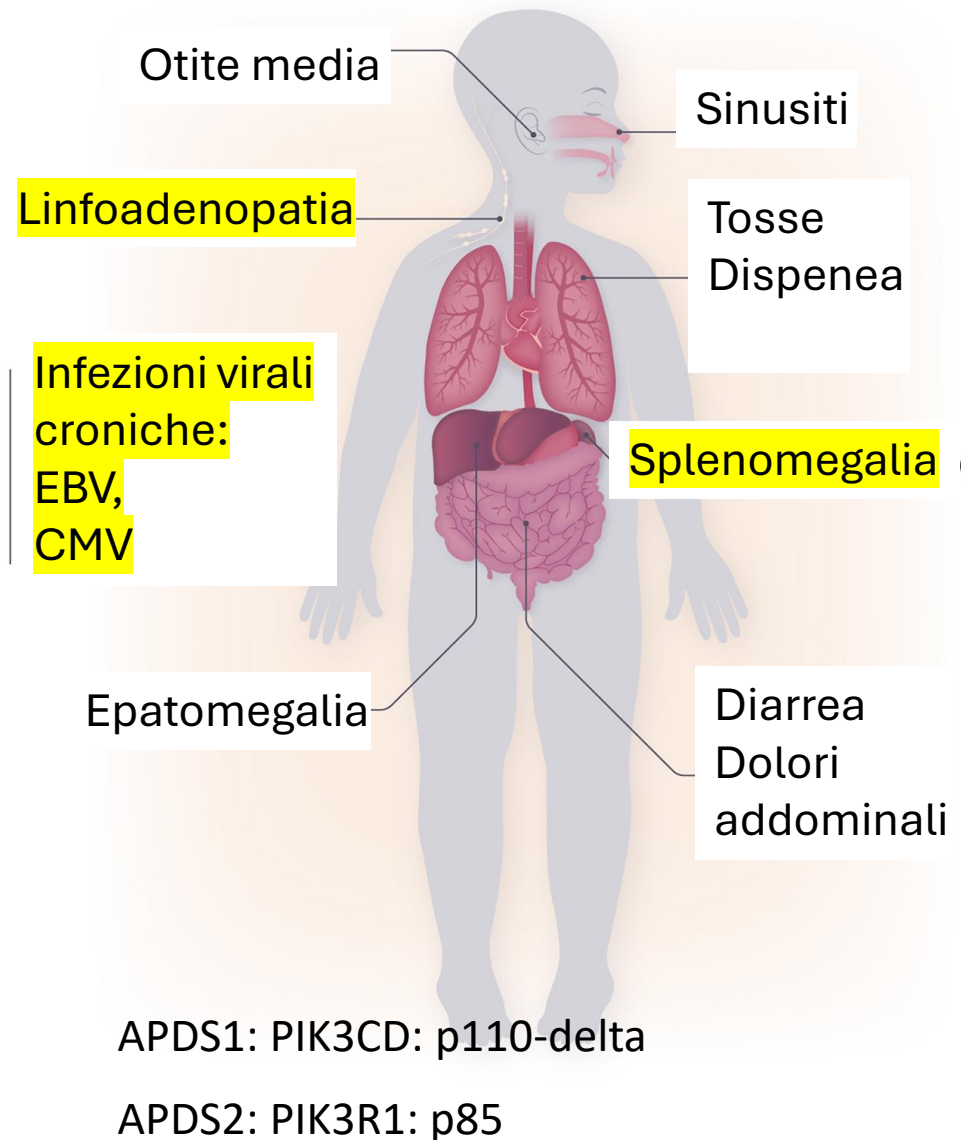
Gene (no. of patients)	Mutation type and consequences
Probably pathogenic mutations, n = 20, 25%	
Immune cell receptors	
<i>IFNAR1</i> (1)	Homozygous/likely LOF
<i>TNFR2</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>TGFBR2</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely LOF
Intracellular signaling	
<i>JAK1</i> (2)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>JAK2</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>PLCG2</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>TRAF3</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>CARD11</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>ARHGEF4</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>PTPN11</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>PARP4</i> (1)	Compound heterozygous/likely LOF
Apoptosis regulation	
<i>RIPK2</i> (2)	Heterozygous/likely LOF
<i>APAF1</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
Transcription factors	
<i>IKZF1</i> (2)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>NFATC1</i> (2)	Heterozygous/likely GOF
<i>IKZF2</i> (1)	Heterozygous/likely LOF

Target Therapies nelle Immunodeficienze Primitive

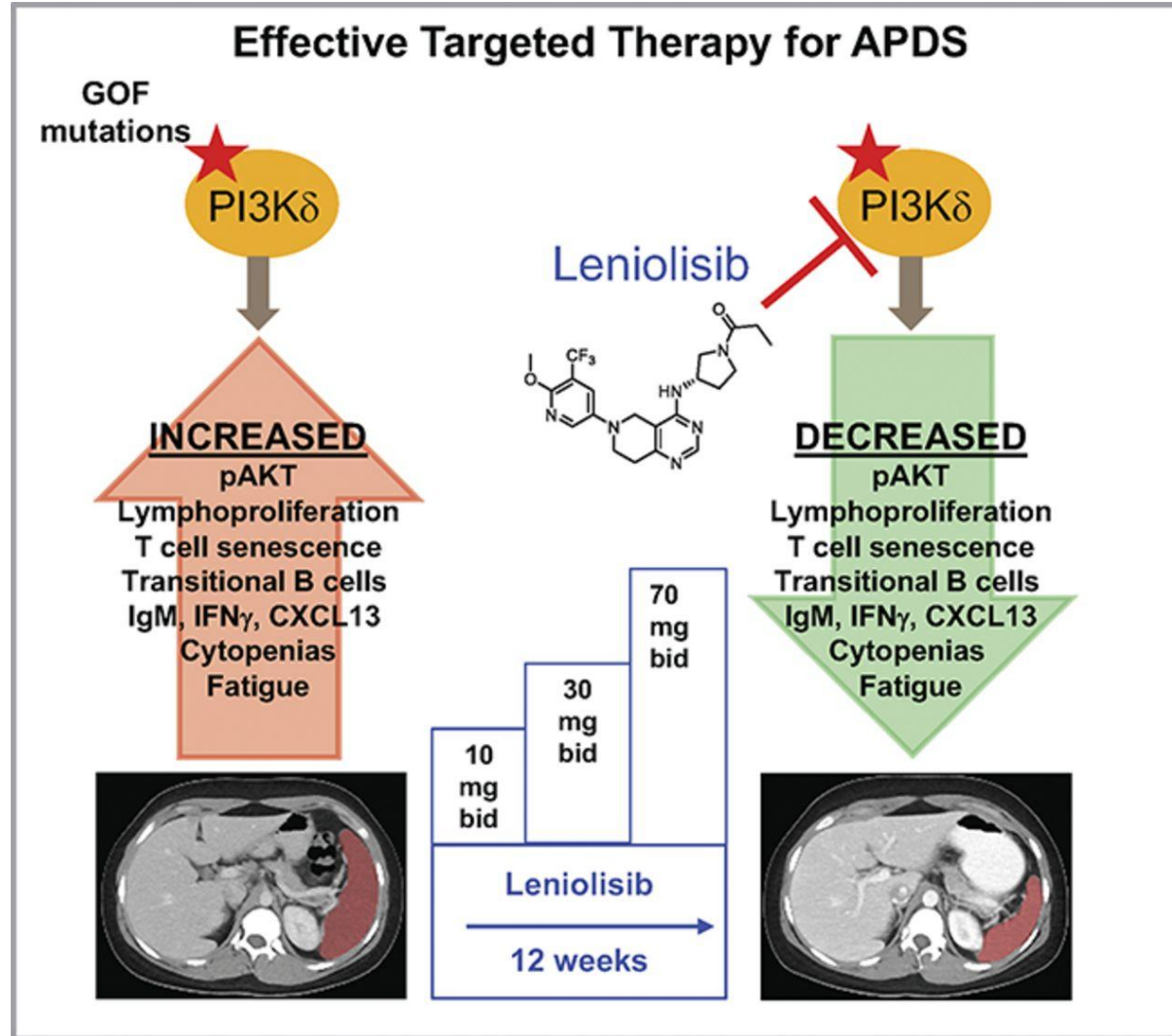
Anno	Immunodeficienza / Condizione	Bersaglio molecolare	Farmaco mirato
2000	IPEX (FOXP3 mutato), disregolazione Treg	mTOR	Sirolimus
2007	Malattia granulomatosa cronica (CGD), difetti inflammasoma	TNF, IL-1, IL-6	Anti-TNF / Anakinra / Canakinumab / Tocilizumab
2011	Deficit di CTLA-4 o LRBA	CTLA-4 pathway	Abatacept (CTLA-4-Ig)
2017	STAT1/STAT3 gain-of-function	JAK-STAT pathway	Ruxolitinib, Baricitinib
2018	HLH genetiche (difetti perforina/esocitosi)	IFN- γ	Emapalumab
2022	APDS (Activated PI3K δ Syndrome)	PI3K δ	Leniolisib

APDS

- Infezioni respiratorie
- Bronchiectasie
- **Linfoadenopatia cronica**
- **Infezioni da virus erpetici: EBV, CMV**
- **Citopenia autoimmune**
- Manifestazioni gastrointestinali
- Rischio di linfoma
- Lieve ritardo dello sviluppo neurologico (APDS2)
- Genetica: autosomica dominante



Effective “activated PI3Kδ syndrome”–targeted therapy with the PI3Kδ inhibitor leniolisib



STAT1-CMC: Candidiasis associated with STAT1 mutations

Genes: STAT1 gain of function:

increased STAT1 phosphorylation

Autosomal dominant inheritance

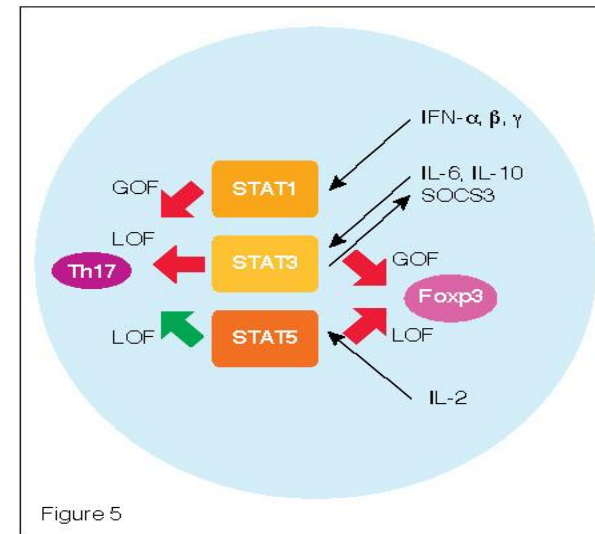
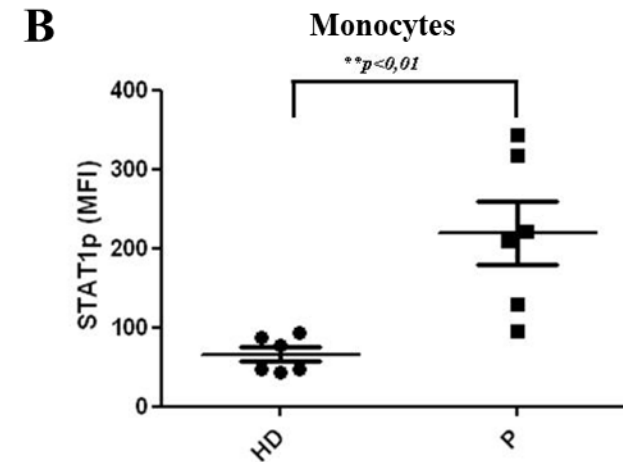


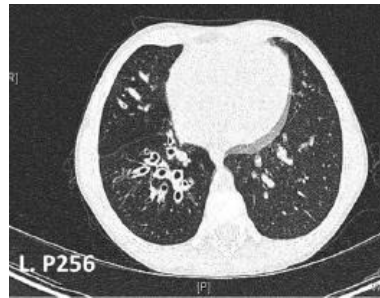
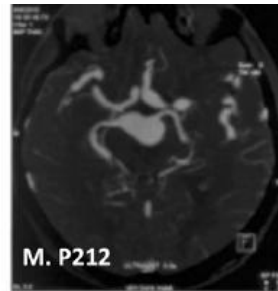
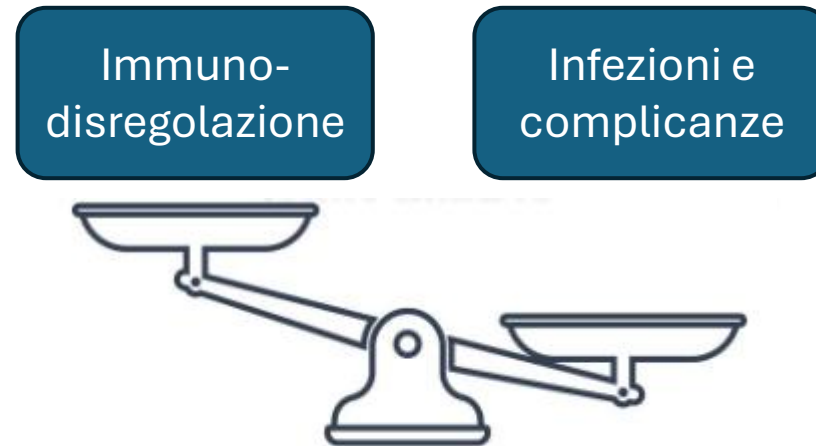
Figure 5

Features

1. Candidiasis
2. Respiratory infections
3. Autoimmunity
Thyroidites, vitiligo
4. Malignancies



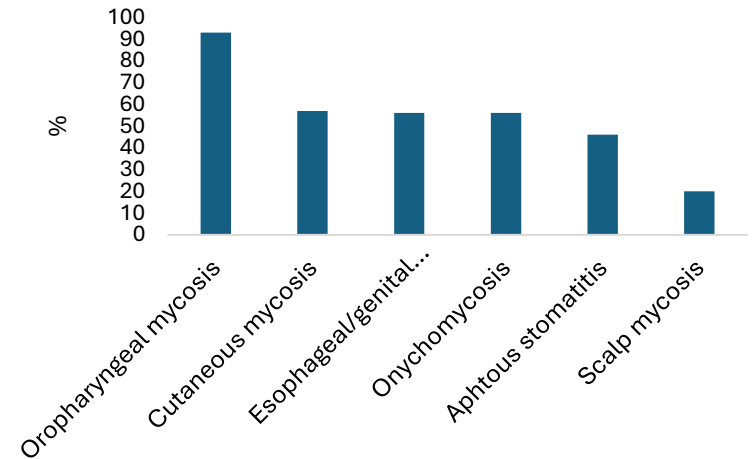
- ✓ **Tiroidite**
- ✓ **Malattia infiammatoria cronica intestinale**
- ✓ **Diabete Mellito Tipo 1**
- ✓ **Lupus Eritematoso Sistemico**
- ✓ **Citopenia autoimmune**
- ✓ **Anemia aplastica**
- ✓ **Epatite autoimmune**
- ✓ **Tumori**
- ✓ **Neuroinfiammazione**
 - ✓ **Vasculopatie**
 - ✓ **Aneurismi**
 - ✓ **Deficit sviluppo**



✓ **Candidiasi mucocutanea cronica**

Mucocutaneous fungal infections

(268/274 -98%-)



✓ **Infezioni batteriche e virali**

- Otiti, polmoniti ricorrenti, ascessi cutanei, sepsi (*S. pneumoniae*, *P.aeruginosa*, *H.influenzae*, *S.aureus*, micobatteri)
- Herpes, Zoster, Varicella complicata, CMV/EBV, HPV (verruche), mollusco contagioso

✓ **Altre infezioni fungine e parassitarie**

- Dermatofiti
- Infezioni invasive (*Aspergillus spp.*, *Criptococcus spp.*, *Histoplasma spp.*, *Coccidioides spp.*, *Trichosporon*; giardiasi, leishmaniosi, mucormicosi)

✓ **Malattia polmonare cronica**

Sindrome STAT1-GOF e tumori

Over-espressione STAT1:

- ❖ Induzione molecole inibitorie (es.PD-L1) → immunoevasione, perdita di efficacia di checkpoint inhibitors
- ❖ Ridotta sensibilità a farmaci citotossici e radiazioni

Trattamento con JAK inibitori (i.e. ruxolitinib):

- ❖ Riduzione della sorveglianza mediata da IFNs, NK/T citotossici
- ❖ Rischio tumori cutanei non melanocitari, linfomi (EBV), tumori solidi



Table 4. Other clinical features and outcome of patients with STAT1 GOF mutations

	Patients (%)
Noninfectious phenotypes	
n = 274	
Autoimmunity/inflammatory disease	101 (37)
Thyroid disease	61 (22)
Other endocrine disease*	12 (4)
Skin disease†	28 (10)
Gastrointestinal disease‡	11 (4)
Autoimmune hepatitis	6 (2)
Autoimmune cytopenia§	11 (4)
Others	3 (1)
Aneurysm	17 (6)
Cerebral	14 (5)
Extracerebral	3 (1)
Tumor	17 (6)
Benign	2 (0.7)
Squamous cell carcinoma	11 (4)
Gastrointestinal carcinoma	2 (0.7)
Others¶	3 (1)
Other clinical features	
Asthma/eczema	54 (20)
Bone fragility	5 (2)
Clinical outcome	
Failure to thrive	33 (12)
Dysphagia/esophageal stenosis	31 (11)
Bronchiectasis	57 (21)
Death	34 (12)

*Diabetes mellitus, Addison's disease, growth hormone deficiency.

†Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), vitiligo, psoriasis, alopecia, scleroderma.

‡Biermer anemia, celiac disease, colitis.

§Immunological anemia or thrombocytopenia.

||Multiple sclerosis, ankylosing spondylitis.

¶Melanoma, basal cell carcinoma, acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

123

pazienti

77

pazienti sintomatici

62% della coorte totale; 32/77 erano già in IgRT prima della comparsa della citopenia autoimmune.

Messaggio chiave: la IgRT non previene questa complicanza in modo affidabile.

45

ITP

manifestazione più frequente tra i pazienti sintomatici

43

Evans syndrome

quasi sovrapponibile a ITP per frequenza

Spettro delle citopenie autoimmuni



Risposta ai trattamenti

- **Corticosteroidi:** 50 trattati, 43 responder transitori (89%).
- **Rituximab:** 30 trattati, 25 responder (83%); 3 pazienti hanno risposto anche a un secondo ciclo.
- **Immunoglobuline EV:** 6 trattati, 5 responder (83%).
- **Splenectomia:** 16 pazienti, età mediana 20 anni, risposta sostenuta solo in 4 (25%).
- **Abatacept:** beneficio riportato in 3 casi cronici, uno con ITP, uno con AIHA e uno con PRCA.

LRBA deficit

PARAMETRO	G0	G1	G2	G3	G4
A. Autoimmune cytopenia	24	9	10	23	2
B. Enteropathy / IBD	13	5	10	31	9
C. Lymphoproliferation / spleno-hepatomegaly	13	14	23	17	1
D. Parenchymal lung disease / GLILD / LIP	28	4	7	23	6
E. Skin or eye manifestations	43	4	11	9	1
F. Endocrinopathy	50	5	1	10	2
G. Arthritis / musculoskeletal	50	4	4	9	1
H. Autoimmune hepatitis / cholangitis / pancreatitis	55	8	2	3	0
I. Renal involvement	56	2	5	2	3
J. Neurologic manifestations	53	1	2	6	7
K. Failure to thrive / malabsorption / wasting	19	11	13	22	3
L. Severe / opportunistic infections	18	6	22	15	7

INTERPRETAZIONE DEL GRADING

- Grade 0: assente / inattivo
- Grade 1: lieve, transitorio, senza terapia
- Grade 2: moderato, terapia intermittente
- Grade 3: severo, terapia continuativa
- Grade 4: life-threatening / refrattario / irreversibile

31

massimo G3: enteropatia/IBD

9

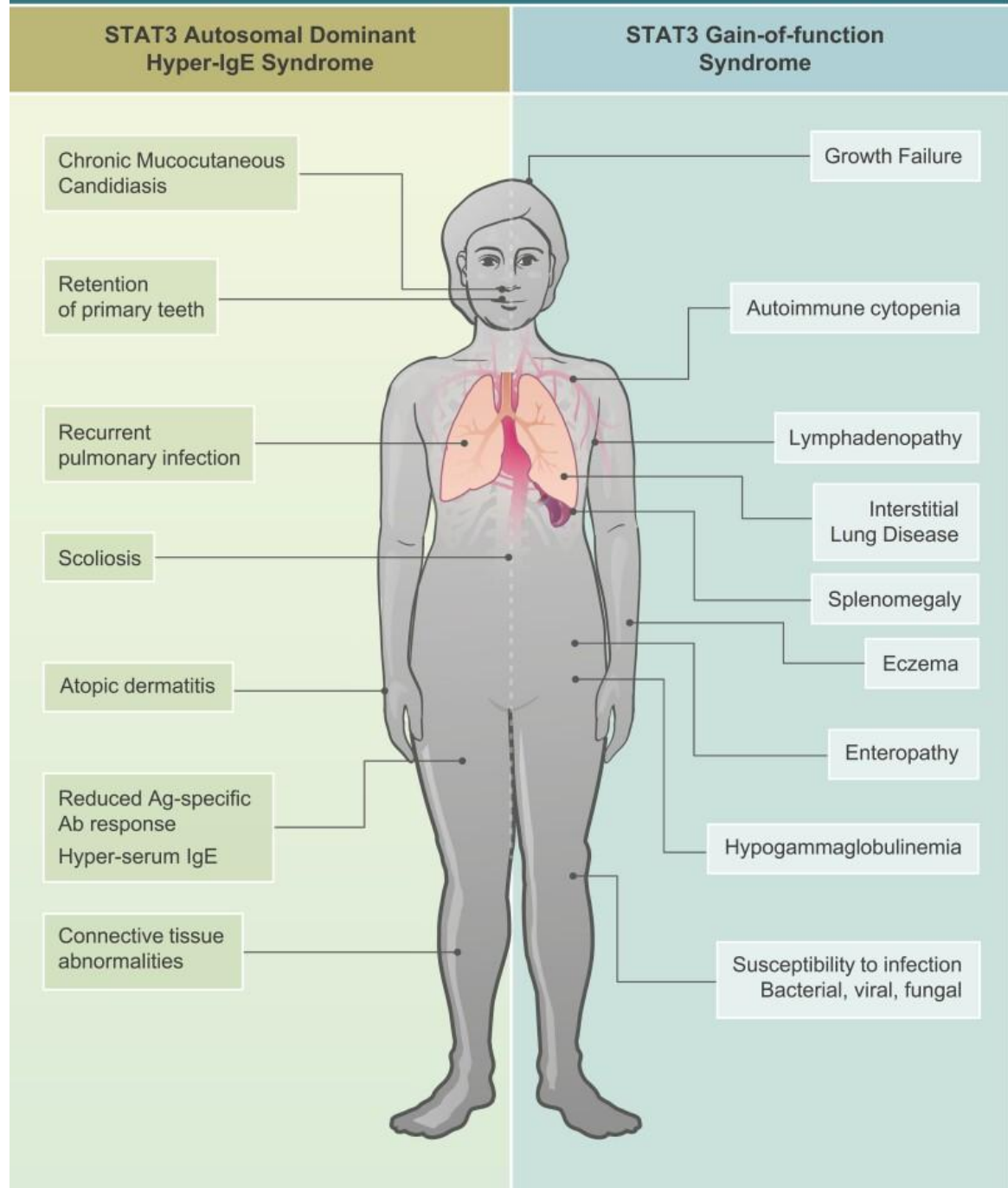
massimo G4: enteropatia/IBD

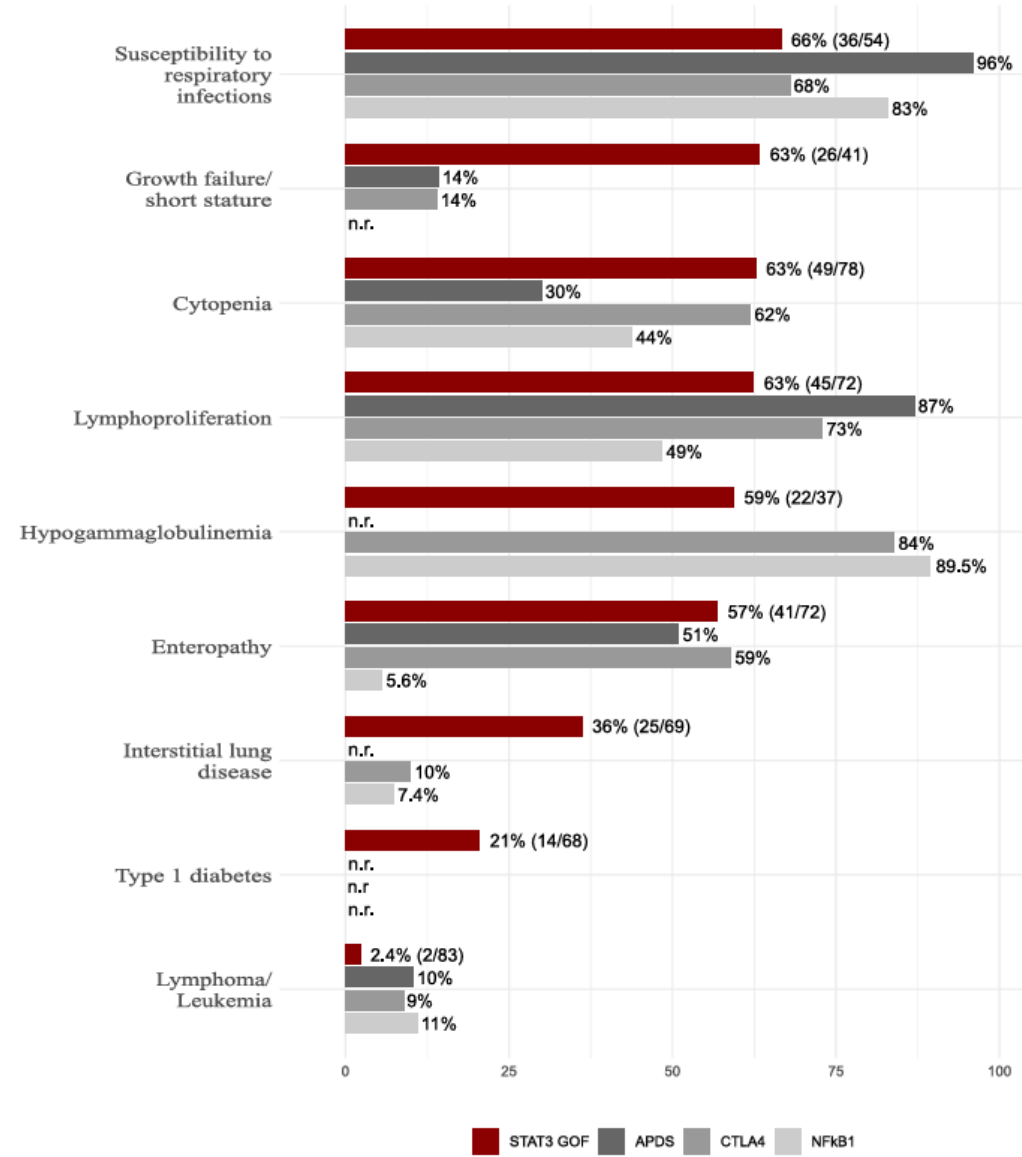
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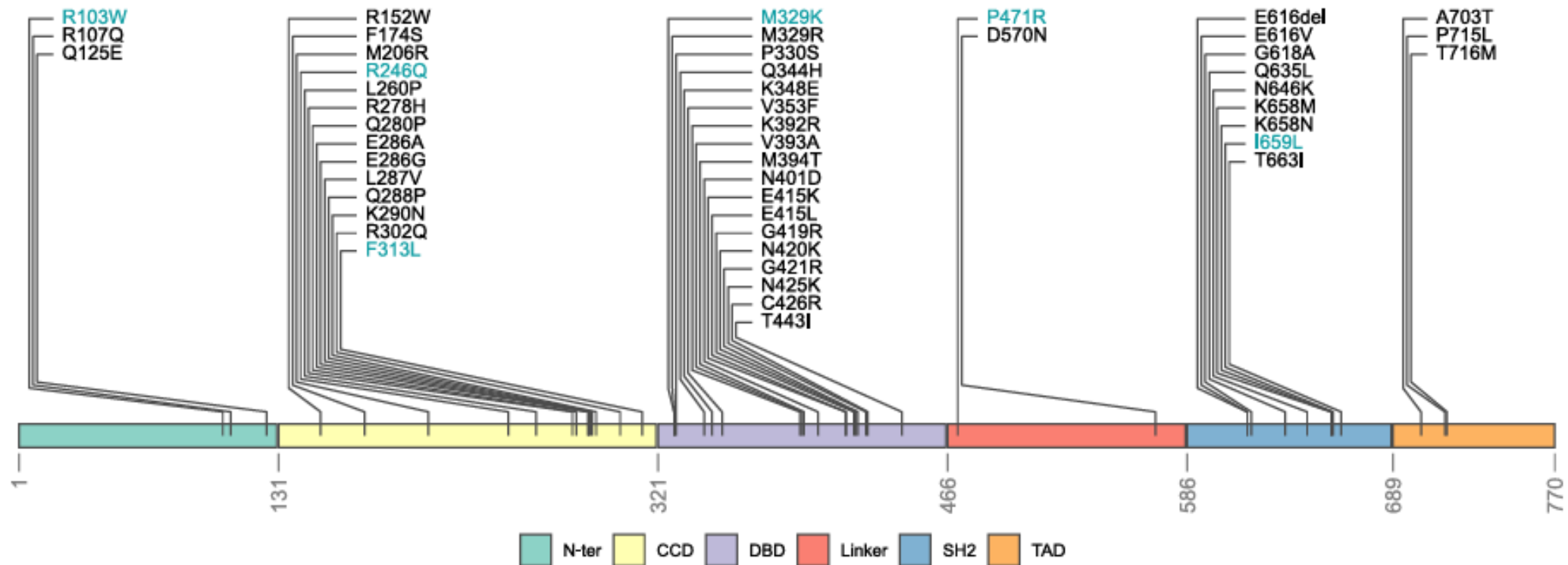
G3 anche in citopenia autoimmune

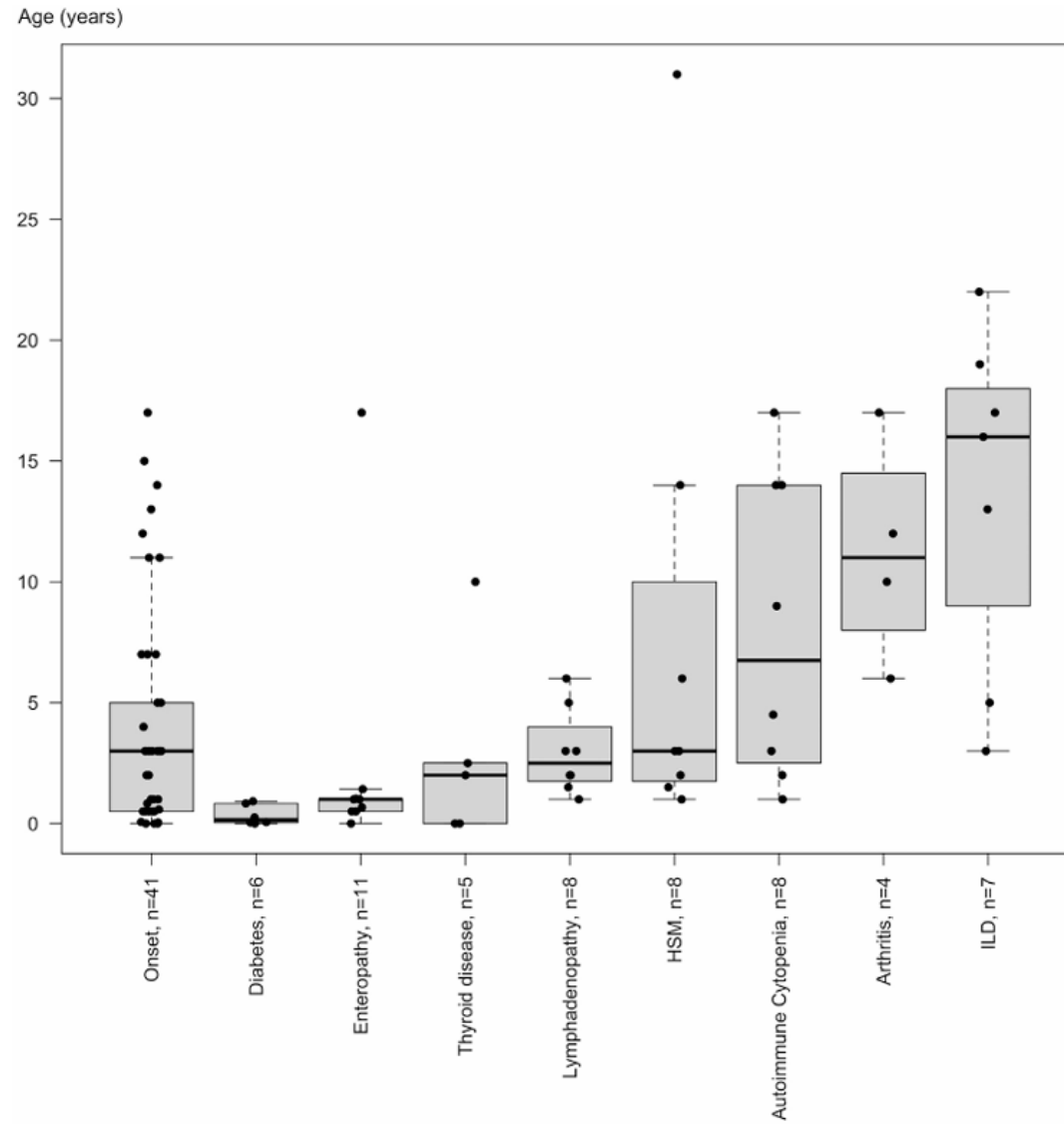
7

G4 neurologico e infezioni severe



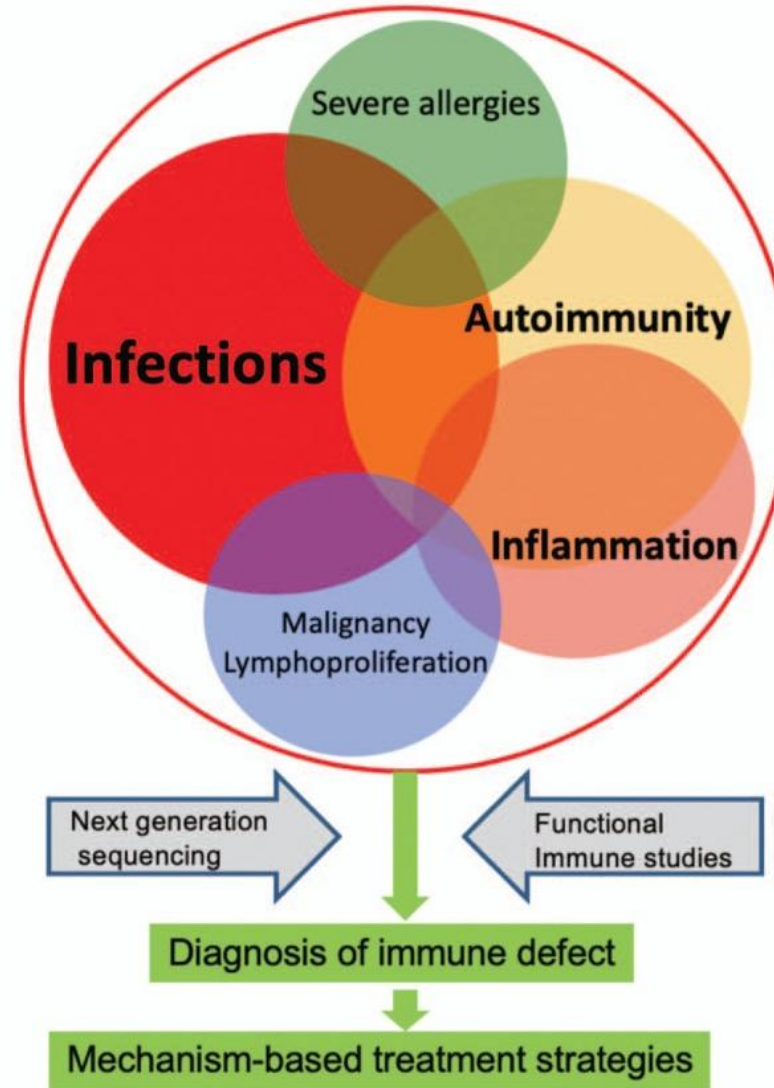


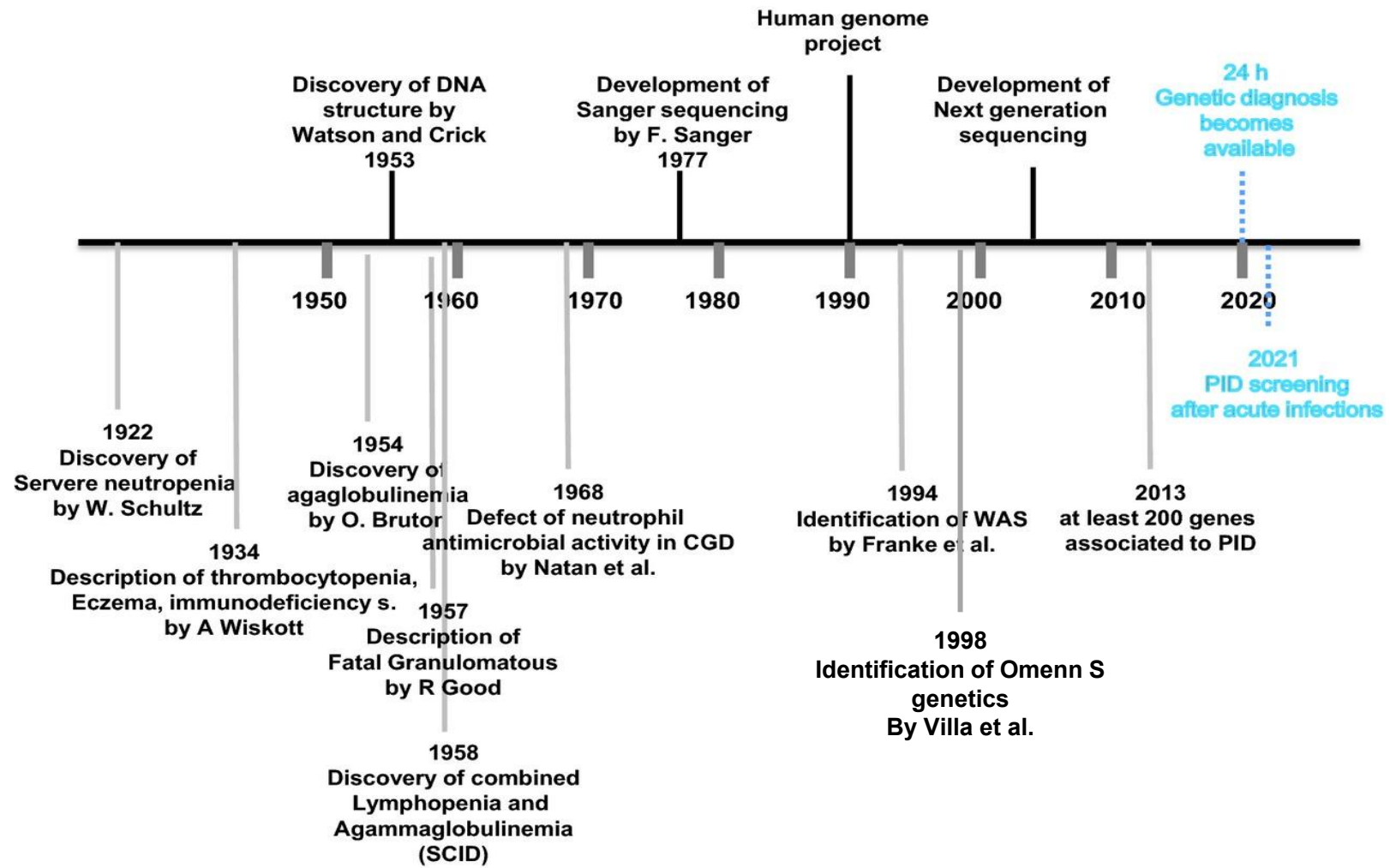




Flowchart Diagnosis of IEI

- Walter J et al.,
Curr Opin Pediatr.
2019





2 anni, infezione herpes zoster

- 🧒 **Bambino**
- Nato a termine, 38w – PN 3400 g
- Ritardo psicomotorio
- Vaccinazioni complete (MPR + VZV, 12/2017)
- ⬇
- 🦠 **ZOSTER PRECOCE (01/2018)**
- Localizzazione lombare/glutea
- Post-vaccino
- Terapia: Aciclovir
- ⬇
- ⬇
- 📉 **LINFOPENIA**
- Linfociti: **460/mm³**
- ⬇

-  **ANEMIA SEVERA (07/2018)**

- Hb: **3,9 g/dl**

- Reticolociti: **35.200/mm³** (↓)

- **WORK-UP NEGATIVO**

- Coombs, G6PD, assetto marziale, B12, folati

- Sierologie infettive negative

-  **IMMUNOGLOBULINE**

- IgG: **635 mg/dl**

- IgA: **70 mg/dl**

- IgM: **58 mg/dl**

-  **Nella norma per età**

-  **MIDOLLO OSSEO**


- Ipocellulare




- Eritroblasti ↓

- Megacariociti ↓ (piccoli, ipolobati)

- Granulociti ↓

-  Diagnosi iniziale:
Eritroblastopenia transitoria

-  **IMMUNODEFICIENZA SEVERA**
- **T linfociti** ↓↓↓
- **CD3: 3–16% (3–10/mm³)**
- **CD4: 0–2/mm³**
- **CD8: 1–2/mm³**
- **B linfociti assenti**
- **CD19: 0% (0/mm³)**
- **NK ↑**
- **CD16: 96% (104/mm³)**
-  **Pattern: T– B– NK+**

- 
-  **DIAGNOSI**
- **PNP: 0 U/gHb**
- **Acido urico: indosabile**
- **Genetica:**
 - c.51_52delTC
 - c.314T>C
-  **Deficit di PNP**

3 anni

1. Peggioramento respiratorio con aumento degli indici infiammatori (PCR fino a 17,8 mg/L),

2. Trattamento iniziale Avvio di terapia antibiotica con Amikacina e somministrazione di immunoglobuline EV

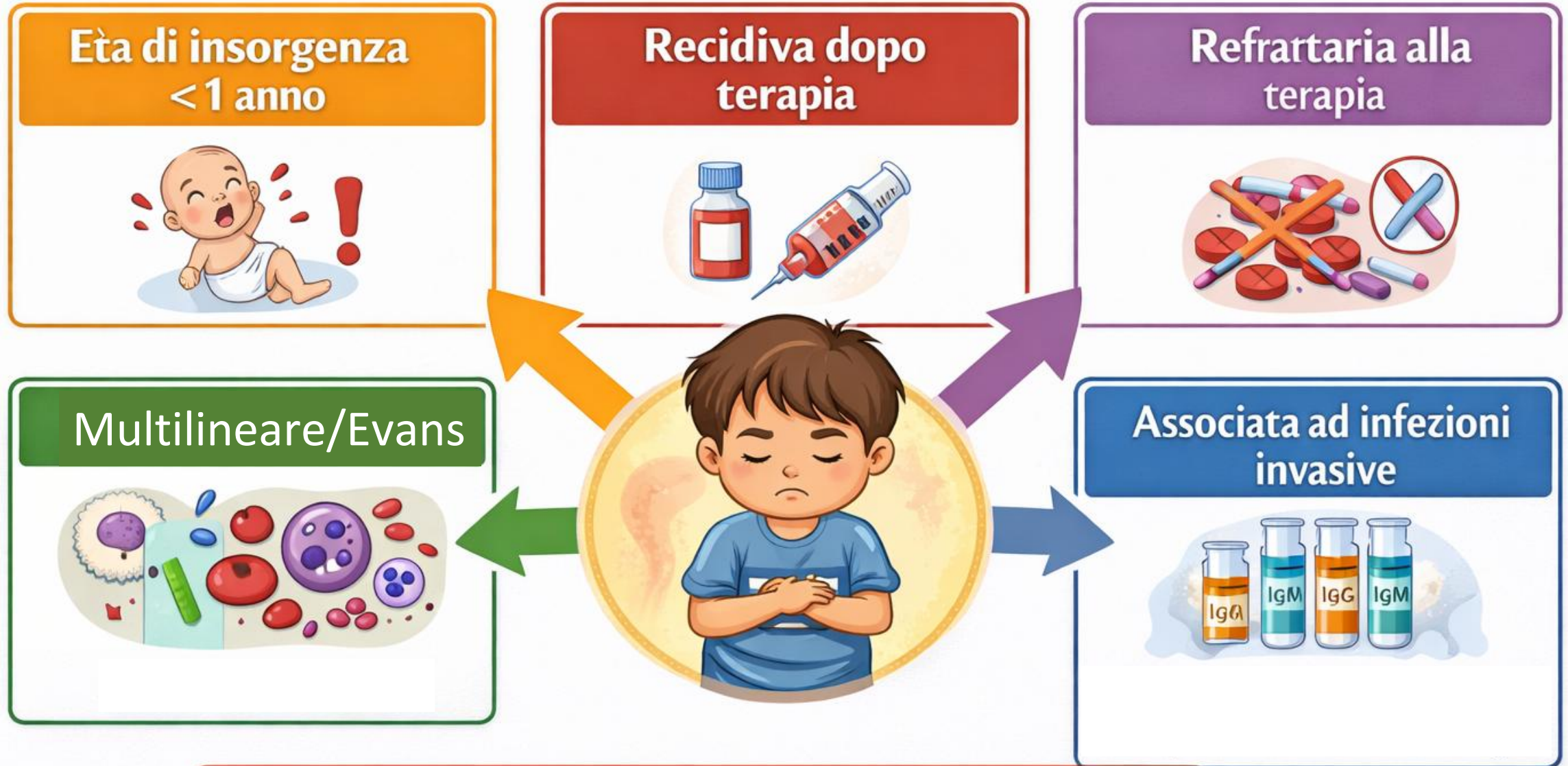
3. Imaging TC torace con evidenza di interessamento interstiziale bilaterale, aree ground-glass e consolidamenti parenchimali a destra, con possibile eziologia fungina.



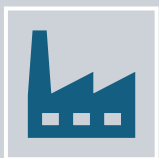
2019

- Alla luce del progressivo peggioramento respiratorio con necessità di supporto con HFNC, nonostante la terapia antibiotica ad ampio spettro, la terapia antifungina e la terapia anti-Pneumocystis, e alla luce del risultato dello studio HLA familiare (il paziente, la sorella e il fratello risultavano genotipicamente identici) il paziente veniva sottoposto a **trapianto di cellule staminali da fratello HLA identico**, senza condizionamento.

Quando la citopenia immunomediata può essere espressione di un Errore Congenito dell'Immunità?



Esordio precoce (<12 mesi)



AIHA, ITP o AIN



**IEI fino a prova
contraria**

**Età di insorgenza
< 1 anno**

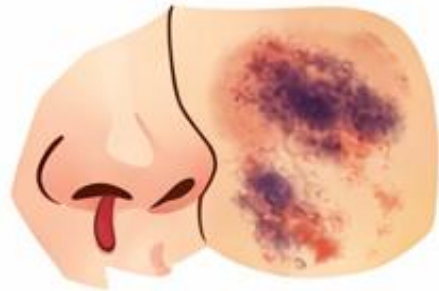


ITP

Porpora Trombocitopenica Immune



Piastrine Basse



Sanguinamenti ed Ematomi

Forma pediatrica “classica” idiopatica:
2–7 anni, spesso post-infettiva, acuta,
autolimitante.

Forma cronica / atipica / IEI-correlata:
infanzia tardiva → adolescenza, ma può
comparire anche <2 anni.

Esordio <12 mesi → fortemente
suggestivo di IEI (ALPS-like, CTLA4, LRBA,
STAT3 GOF, CVID-like precoce).

AIHA

Anemia Emolitica Autoimmune



Emolisi con Coombs+

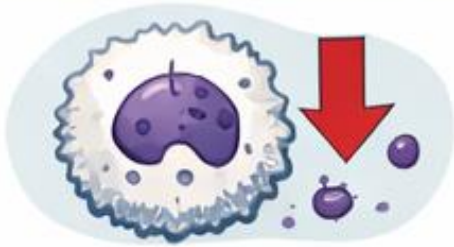


Ittero e Splenomegalia

- **Esordio idiopatico pediatrico:** tipicamente <4 anni, spesso post-infettivo.
- **AIHA ricorrente o cronica:** più frequente in età scolare e adolescenza.
- **Esordio nel primo anno di vita** → considerare IEI (deficit di regolazione, difetti del complemento, sindromi linfoproliferative).

AIN

Neutropenia Immune



Neutrofili Bassi



Febbri e Infezioni

- **Forma “benigna” idiopatica: 6–24 mesi**, con risoluzione spontanea entro 3–5 anni.
- **AIN persistente / severa / associata ad altre autoimmunità: esordio oltre i 3 anni** → sospetto IEI (CVID-like, ALPS-like, CTLA4/LRBA, STAT3 GOF).

Sindrome di Evans



Citopenie Combinata



Manifestazioni Autoimmuni

- **Picco pediatrico: 2–12 anni**, spesso con andamento recidivante.
- **Esordio molto precoce (<2 anni) o adolescenziale** → fortemente associato a IEI.
- **>60%** dei bambini con Evans ha un IEI sottostante.

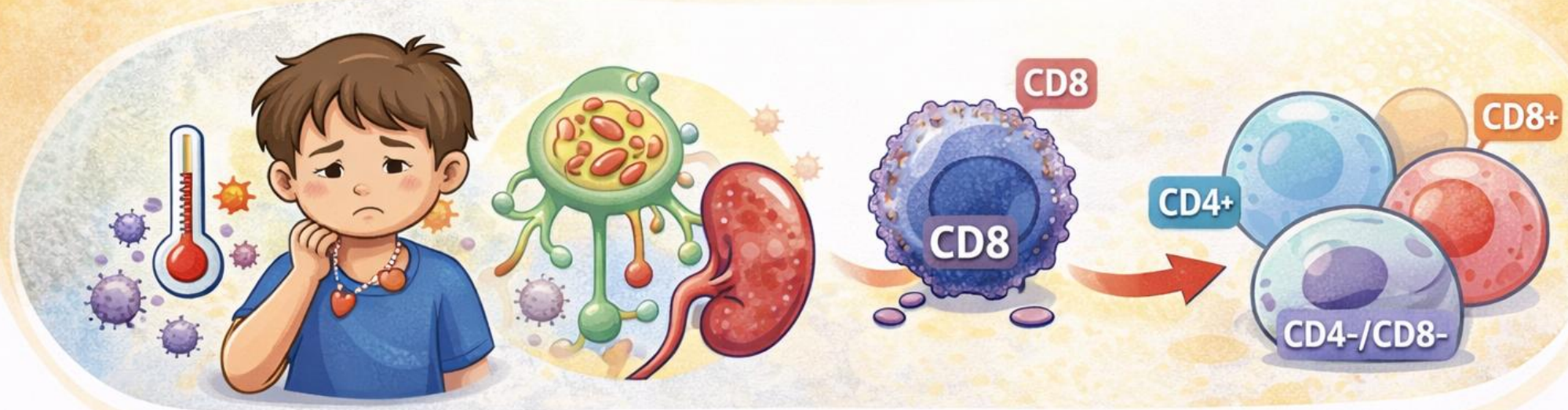
Rischio IEI se Decorso recidivante o refrattario

- Risposta incompleta o dipendenza da steroidi
- Necessità di più linee terapeutiche



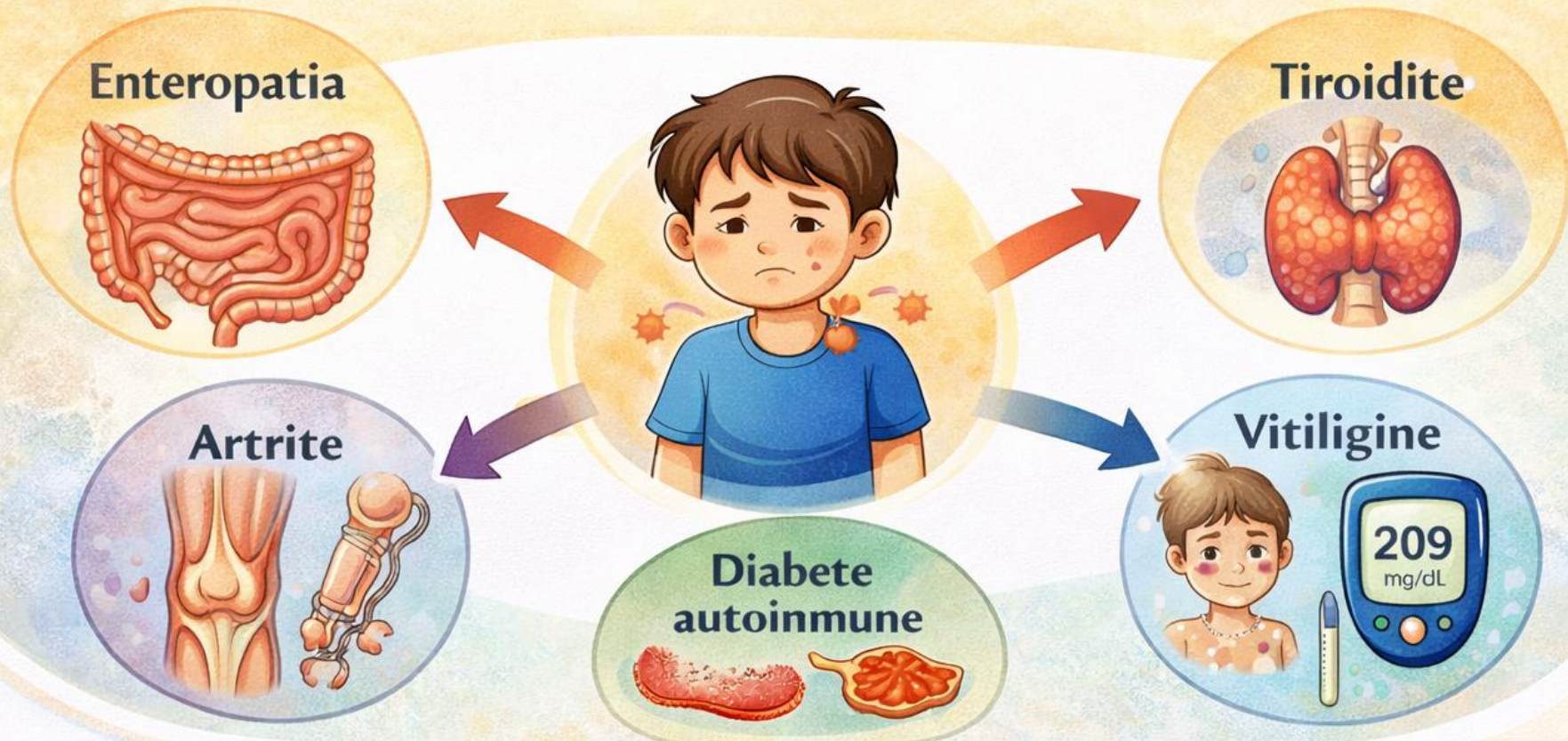
Rischio IEI se Linfoproliferazione persistente

- Linfadenopatie, splenomegalia
- espansione CD8
- linfociti T doppi negativi (CD4-/CD8-)



Rischio IEL se Associazione con altre autoimmunità

- Enteropatia, tiroidite, artrite, vitiligine, diabete autoimmune



Livello 1: esami immunologici

Infezioni opportunistiche

Infezioni invasive

Linfoadenopatia (infettiva)

Infezioni che richiedono terapia prolungata

Polmonite

Ritardo di crescita

Diarrea

Approccio iniziale a sospetta immunodeficienza nel bambino



Conta linfocitaria



Conta granulocitaria



Burst ossidativo dei granulociti/ROS



Sottopopolazioni linfocitarie
(es. CD3, CD4, CD8, CD19, NK)



Attività del complemento
(CH50, AP50)

Esami immunologici: cosa cercare?

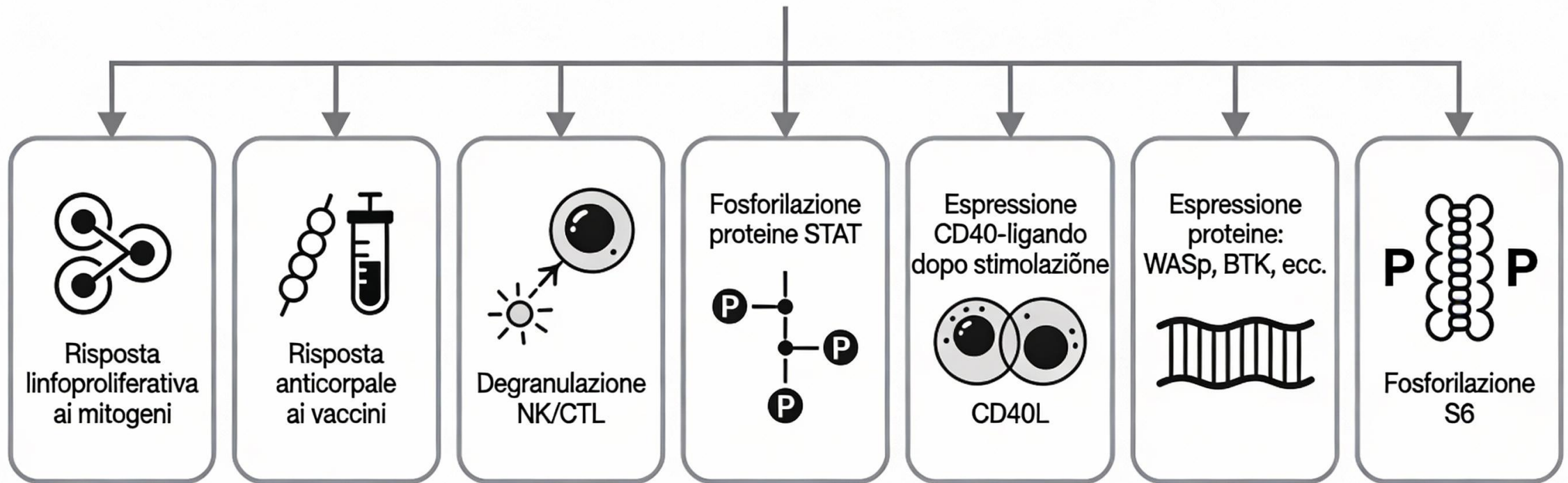
Alterazioni B

- Ig basse o disomogenee
- Riduzione switched memory B,
- Aumento linfociti B CD21^{low}

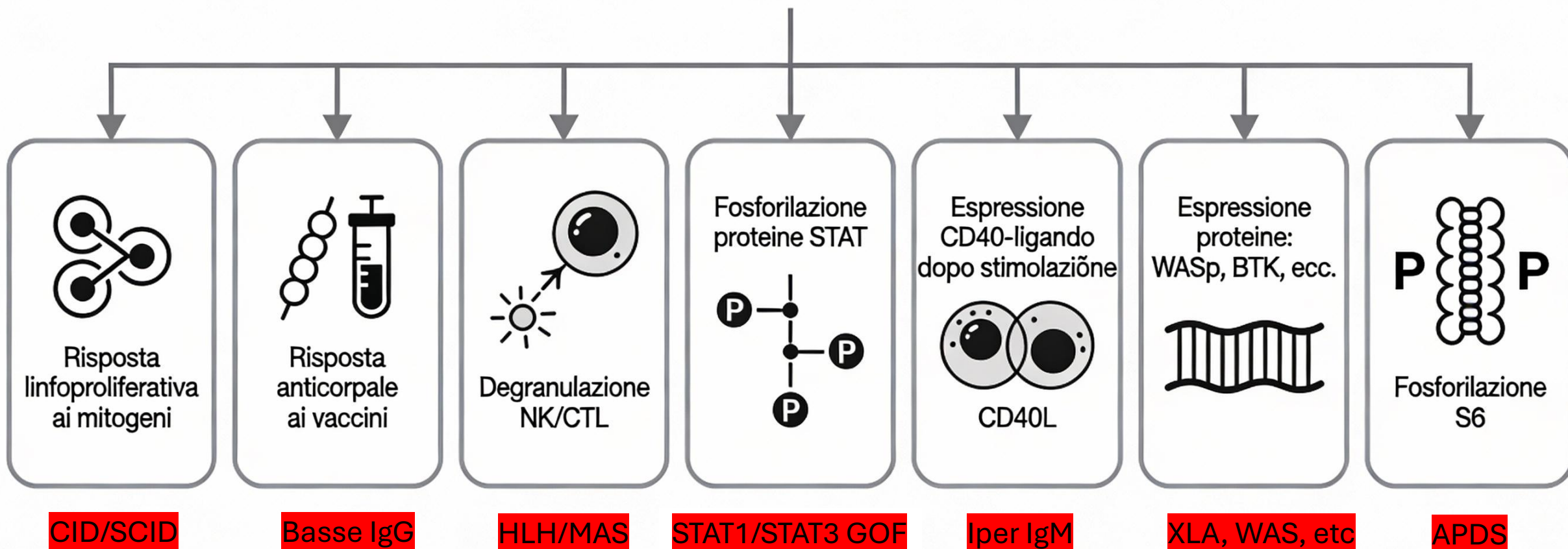
Alterazioni T

- Linfopenia T
- Inversione CD4/CD8
- Aumento dei Linfociti T doppi negativi
- Riduzione linfociti T naïve
- Proliferazione linfocitaria ai mitogeni ridotta

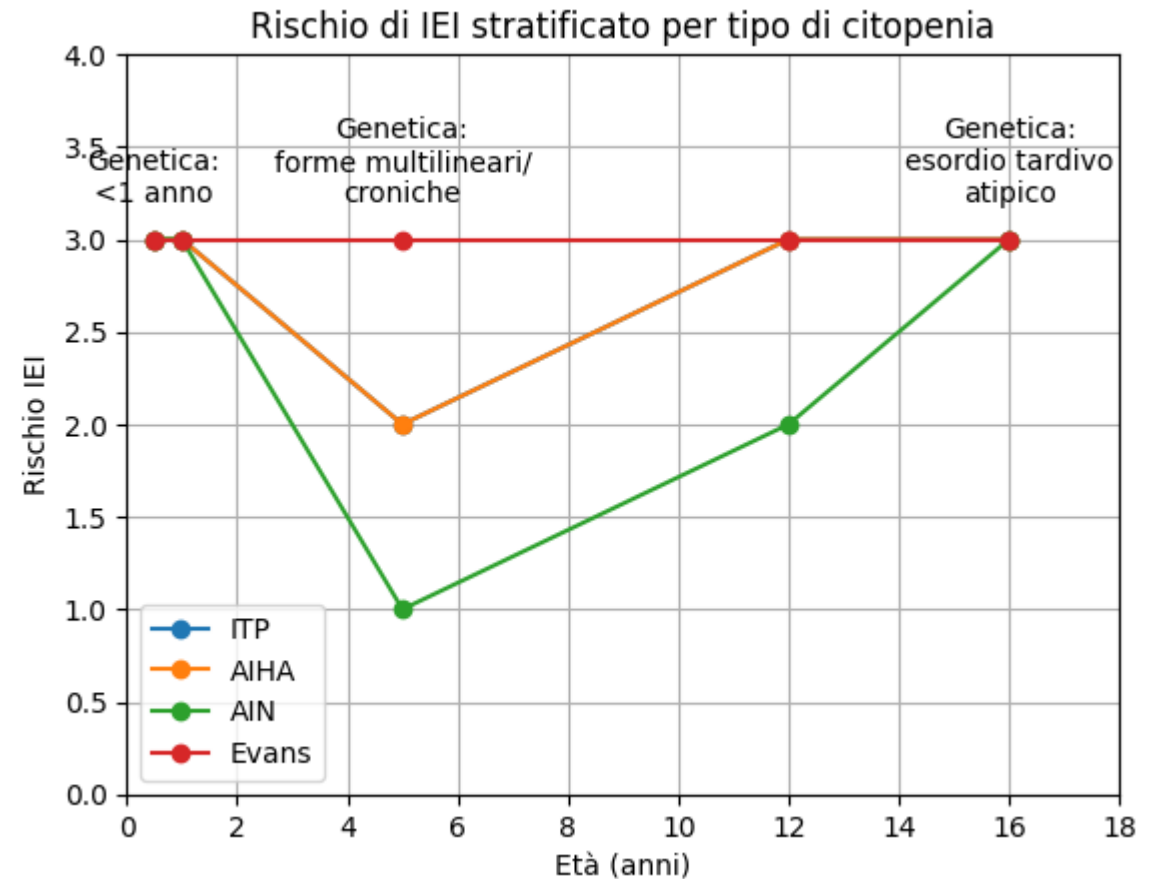
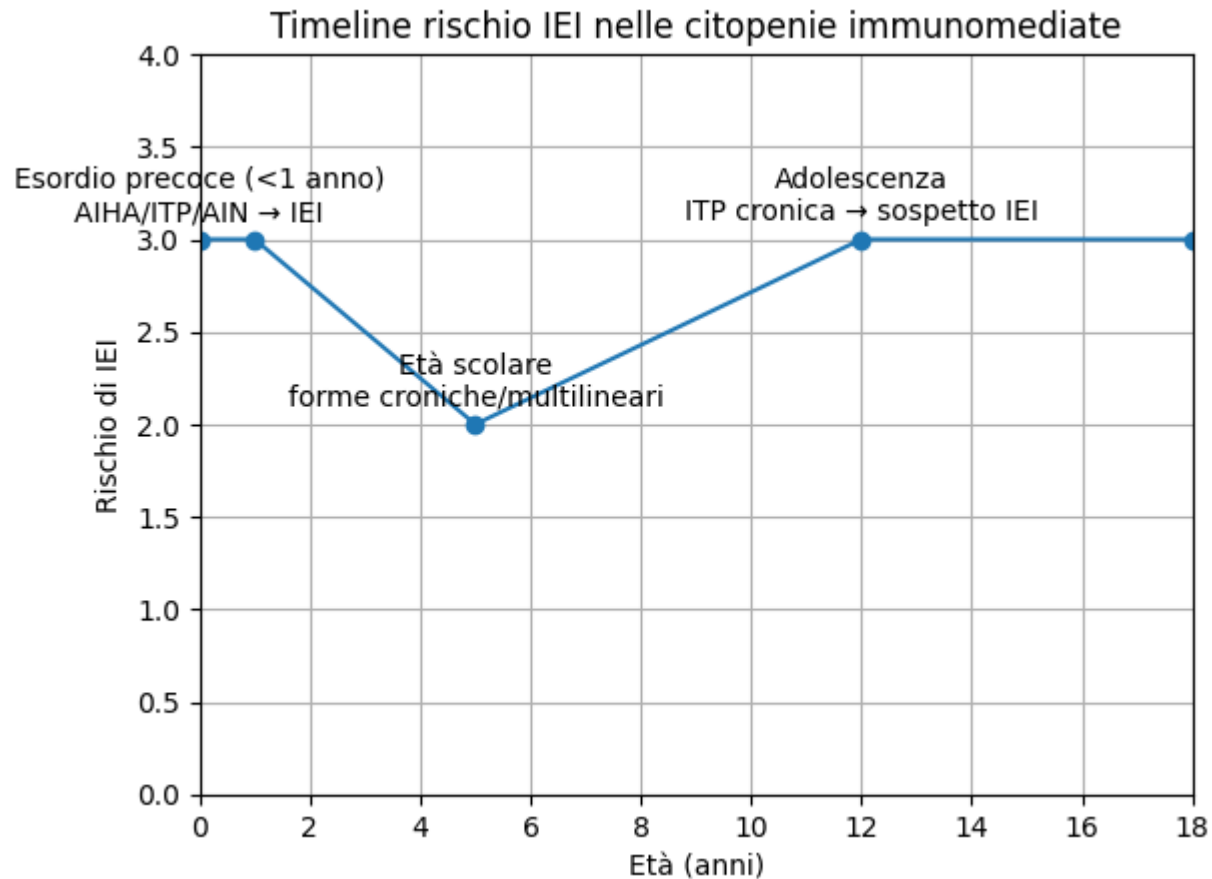
Livello immunologico 2: Esami funzionali/espressione della proteina



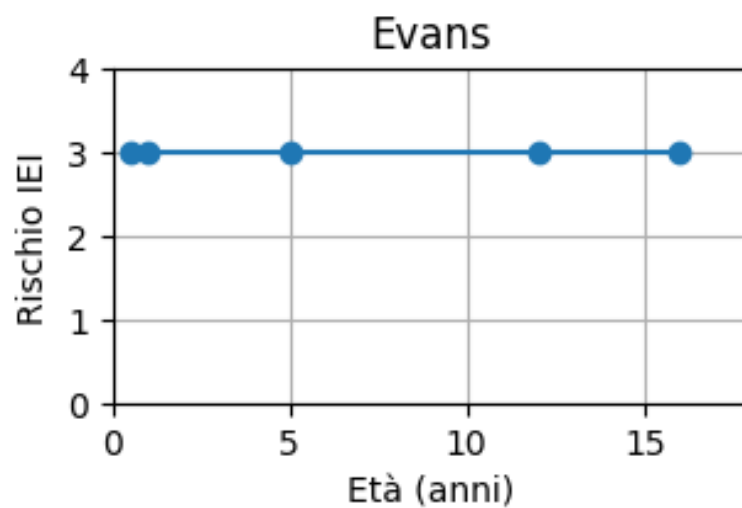
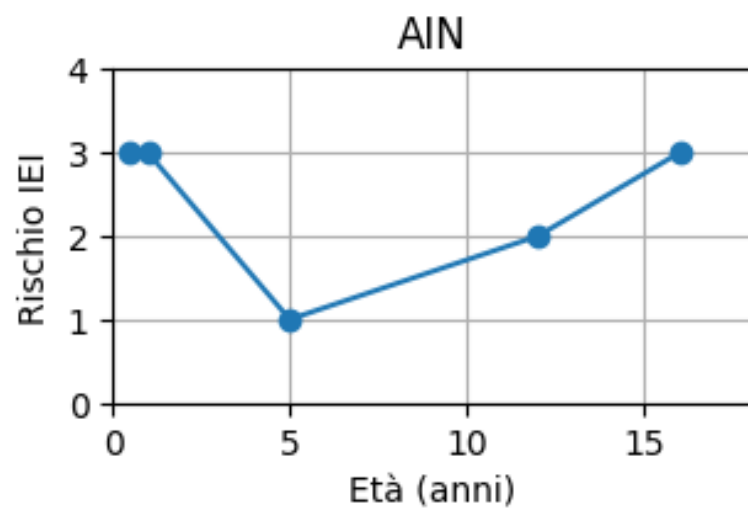
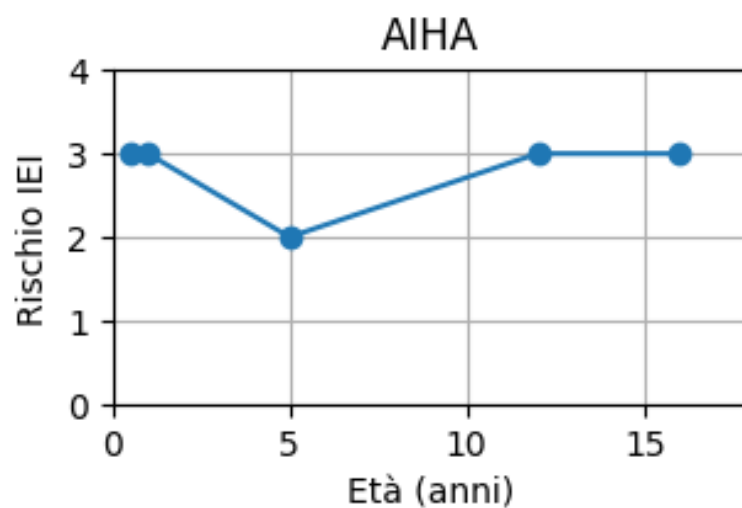
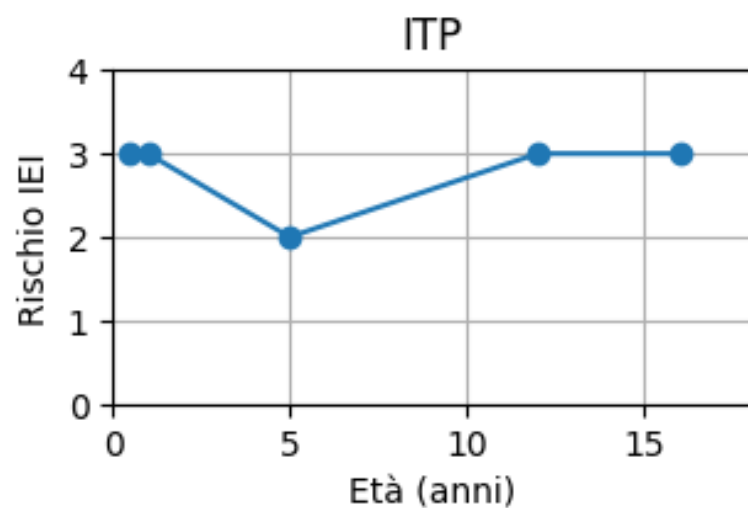
Livello immunologico 2: Esami funzionali/espressione della proteina



Rischio di IEI in citopenie autoimmuni



Rischio IEI per tipo di citopenia (pannelli separati)



Uso della genetica nella diagnosi delle immunodeficienze

Approccio 1: clinico



Storia clinica +
fenotipo



Ipotesi di diagnosi



Ricerca gene
malattia mirata

Approccio 2: genomico



Esoma / Whole genome

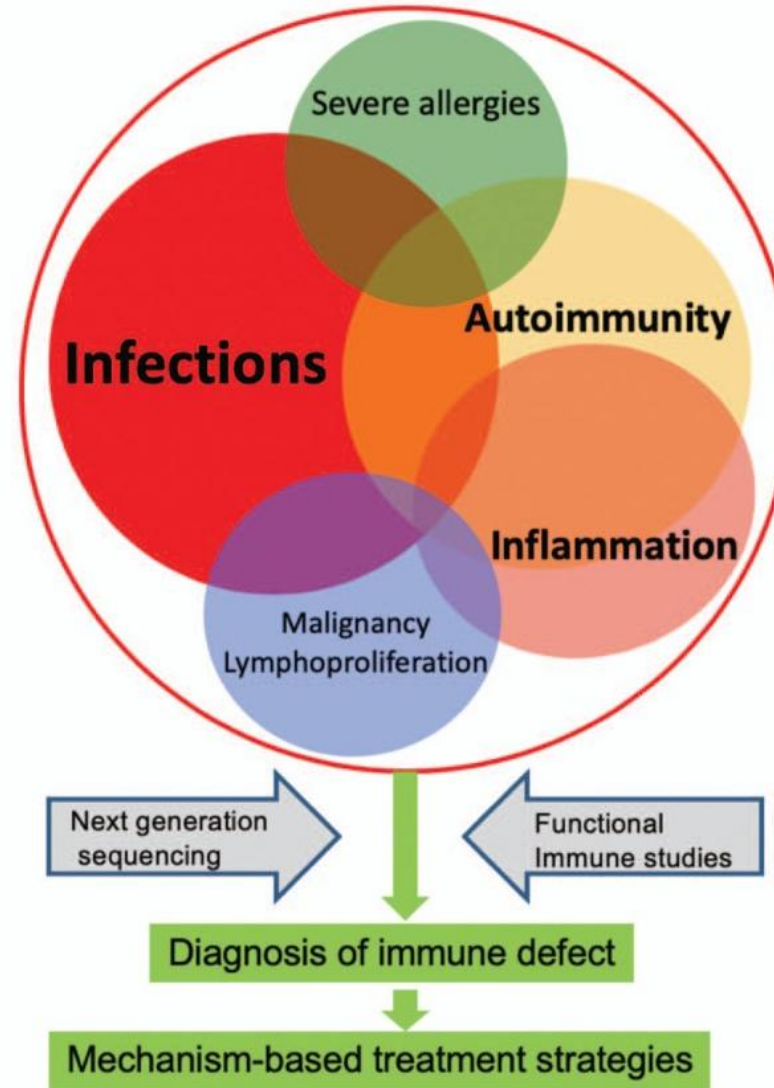

Lista geni
candidati



Validazione con
test funzionali

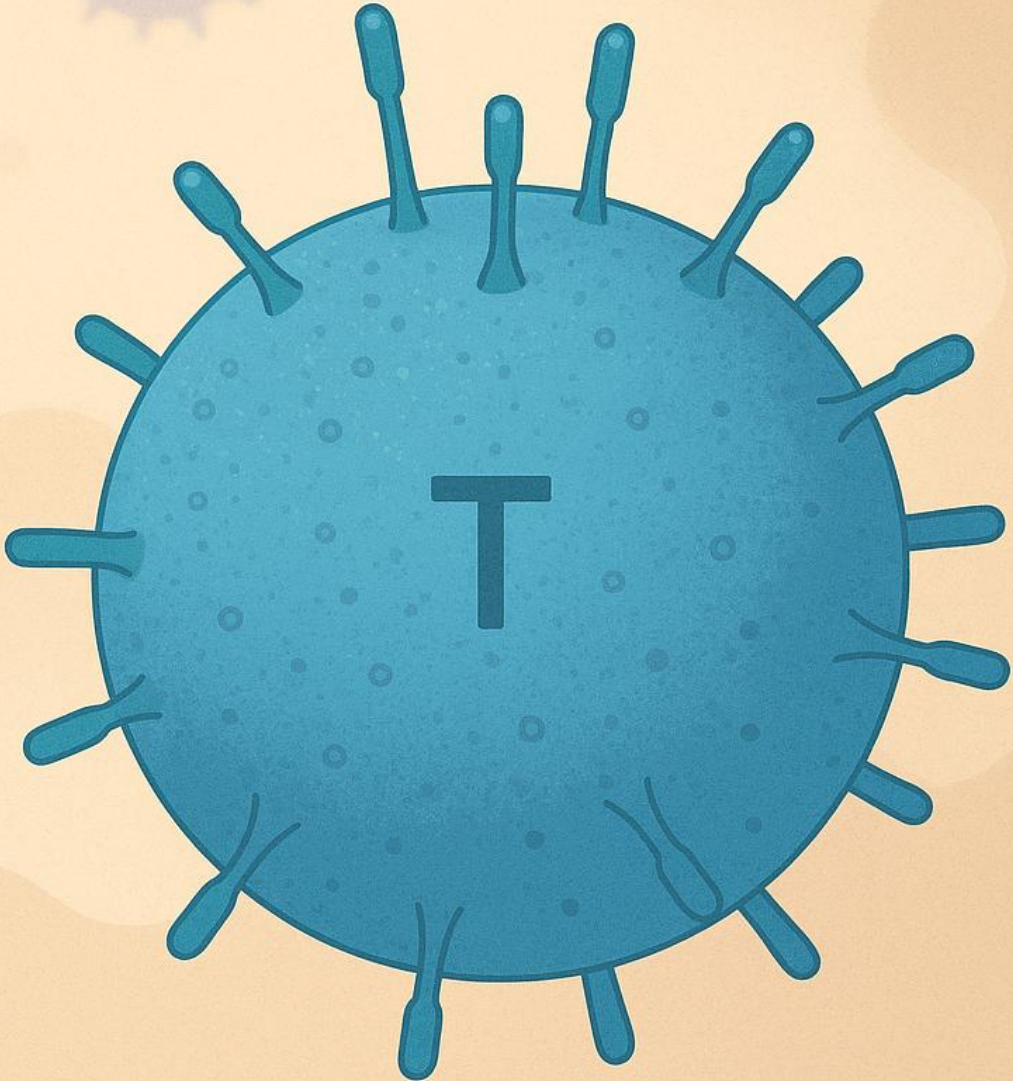
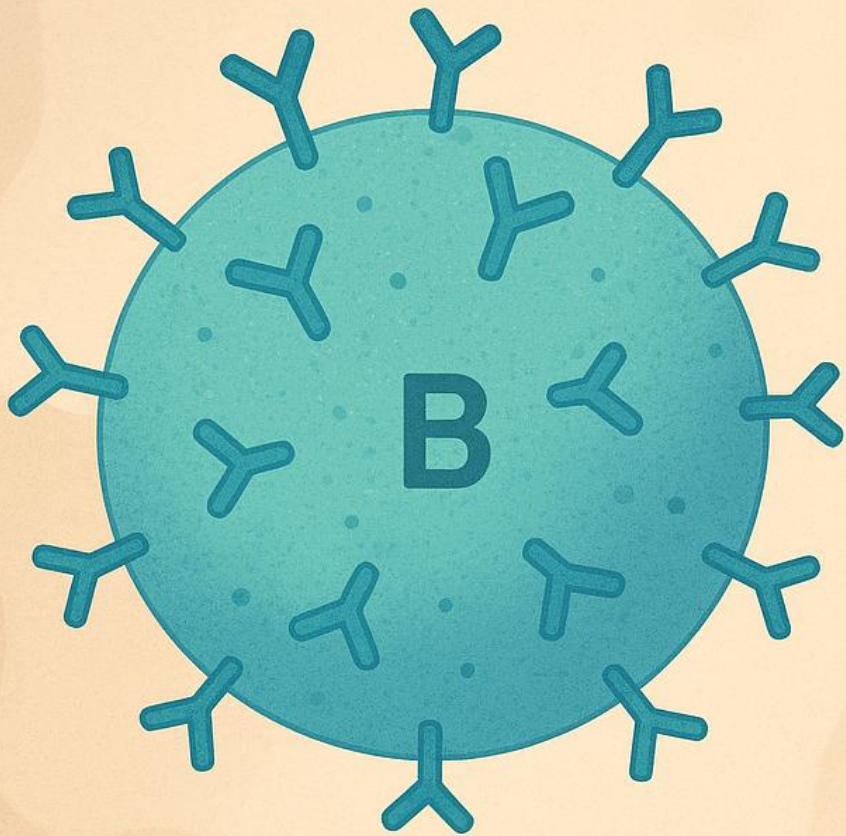
Flowchart Diagnosis of IEI

- Walter J et al.,
Curr Opin Pediatr.
2019



Conclusioni

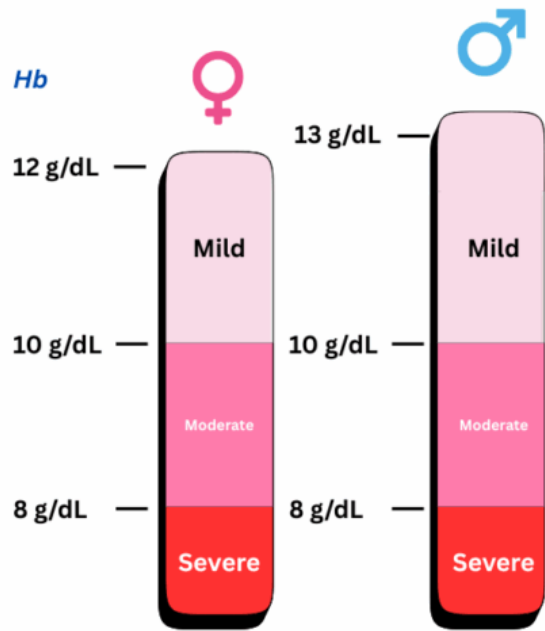
- Gli errori congeniti dell'immunità non sono più definiti dalle sole infezioni:
 - autoimmunità, come citopenie o esordio precoce;
 - le malattie infiammatorie intestinali e le malattie reumatologiche possono essere i primi segni clinici.
- Ogni paziente con citopenia autoimmune deve essere sottoposto a **screening immunologico**
- Citopenie associate ad altre malattie autoimmuni o a mancata risposta alla terapia richiedono **screening genetico**



Sintomo	Sindrome di Wiskott-Aldrich	XLT (Piastrinopenia X-recessiva)
Emorragia	Grave e precoce	Presente
Eczema	Quasi sempre presente	Assente
Infezioni ricorrenti	Molto frequenti	Poco frequenti
Autoimmunità	Presente	Assente

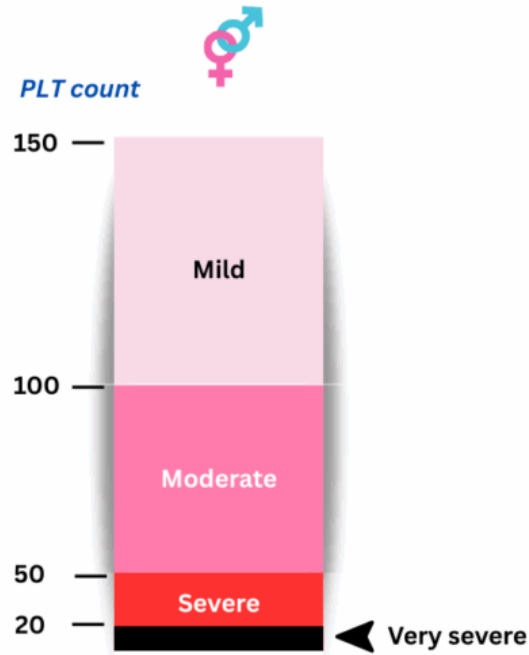
Standard Definitions of Cytopenia Severity

Anemia



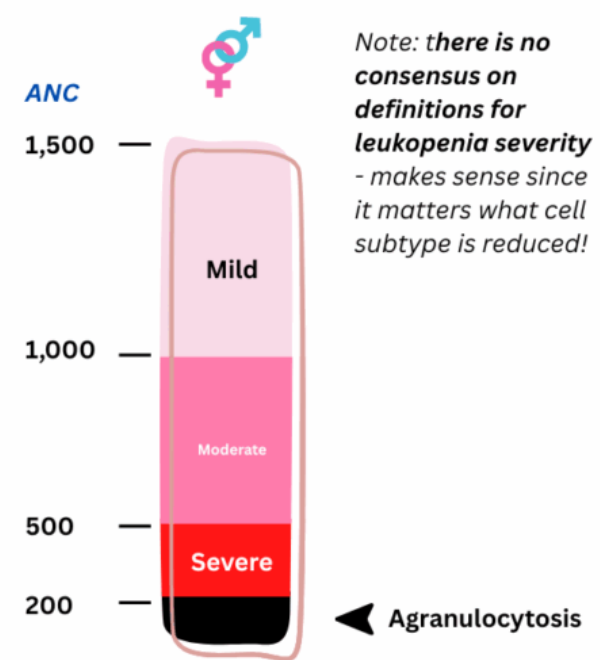
WHO, 2024

Thrombocytopenia



These categories are reflected in clinical literature and are useful for risk stratification and management decisions, but they are not codified in official guidelines

Neutropenia



Note: there is no consensus on definitions for leukopenia severity - makes sense since it matters what cell subtype is reduced!

Some guidelines define ANC < 100 as "profound neutropenia"

- Platelet count and ANC are shown as $\times 10^9/L$
- ANC, absolute neutrophil count

Long-term outcome in Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome and X-linked thrombocytopenia patients: an observational -prospective multi-center study of the Italian Primary Immune Deficiency Network (IPINET)

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