

## •Active and Native Vitamin D

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## Disclosures

- Member of Sanofi, Shire, Amgen and Vifor Australia advisory boards.
- Has received speaker's fees from Amgen and Shire.

# Outline

## General Population Data

- Bone
- Effects outside bone
- Time to turn out the lights?

## 25OH-vitamin D Assays

- Seasonal variations
- Specific populations
- What should we be measuring?

## Nutritional / 25OHD in CKD 3-5 and 5D

## Calcitriol and Analogs in CKD 3-5 and 5D

## Conclusions

# Skeletal Effects of Vitamin D

**Osteomalacia / Rickets**

**Myopathy**

**Secondary HPT**

**Reduced BMD**

|              |               |                    |                    |                |                    |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| <b>25OHD</b> | <b>nmol/L</b> | <b>&lt;15 - 25</b> | <b>&lt;40 - 50</b> | <b>40 - 50</b> | <b>&gt;60 - 75</b> |
|              | <b>ng/ml</b>  | <b>6 - 10</b>      | <b>16 - 20</b>     | <b>16 - 20</b> | <b>24 - 30</b>     |

# Non-Skeletal Effects of Vitamin D

**Osteomalacia / Rickets**

**Myopathy**

**Secondary HPT**

**Reduced BMD**

**Inadequate    Adequate    Optimal**

**Neuromuscular function:  
falls, tests of functional capacity**

|              |               |                    |                    |                |                    |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| <b>25OHD</b> | <b>nmol/L</b> | <b>&lt;15 - 25</b> | <b>&lt;40 - 50</b> | <b>40 - 50</b> | <b>&gt;60 - 75</b> |
|              | <b>ng/ml</b>  | <b>6 - 10</b>      | <b>16 - 20</b>     | <b>16 - 20</b> | <b>24 - 30</b>     |

Association Studies

CV Outcomes; RAS regulation; Myocardial cell hypertrophy;

VSMC proliferation; Endothelial cell function;

Diabetes types 1 and 2; Insulin resistance

Infection; Immunomodulation; cancer

Preeclampsia

# General Population; Fracture Risk

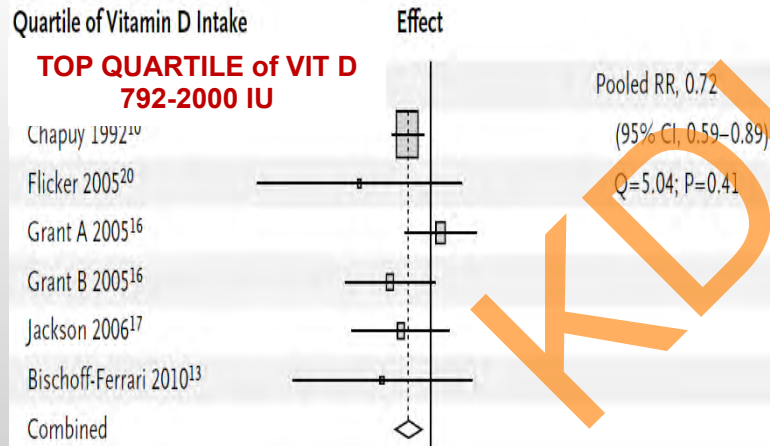
**Pooled analysis; 12 studies (30011 participants 65 or older; 91% women);**

**1111 incident hip and 3770 nonvertebral fractures**

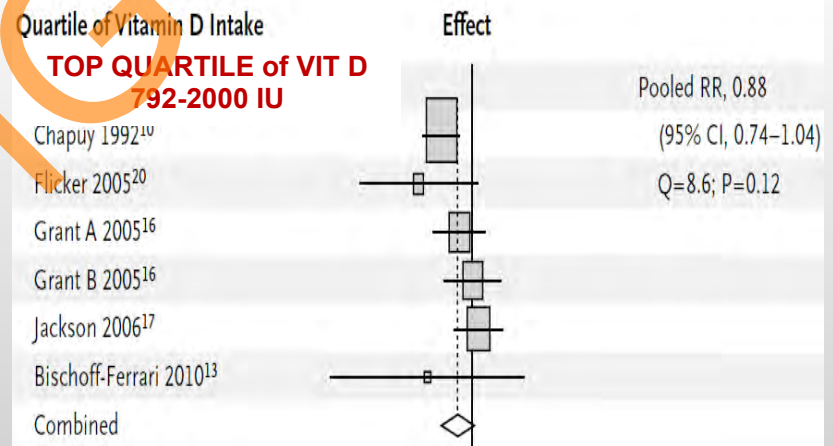
**Vitamin D or D plus Ca vs. placebo or calcium. Median dose 800 IU (792 - 2000)**

## Meta-analysis of intervention studies

### Risk of hip fracture

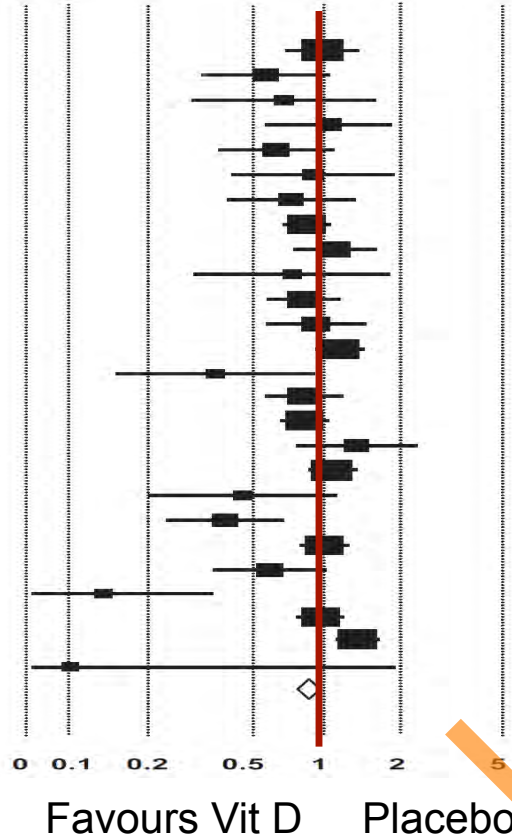


### Risk of non vertebral fracture



**NOTE: Effect driven by Chapuy 1992; ?prevalence of osteomalacia**

# Falls Risk



**26 studies; 45782 participants**  
**Is the odds ratio of patients suffering at least 1 fall reduced with calciferol?**

- Vit D deficient; Significant;  
OR; 0.53 (0.39 – 0.72)

- Non-deficient; Borderline:  
OR; 0.90 (0.81-0.99)

Similar to earlier analysis of Bischoff-Ferrari; 0.84 vs. 0.87 (BMJ 2009)

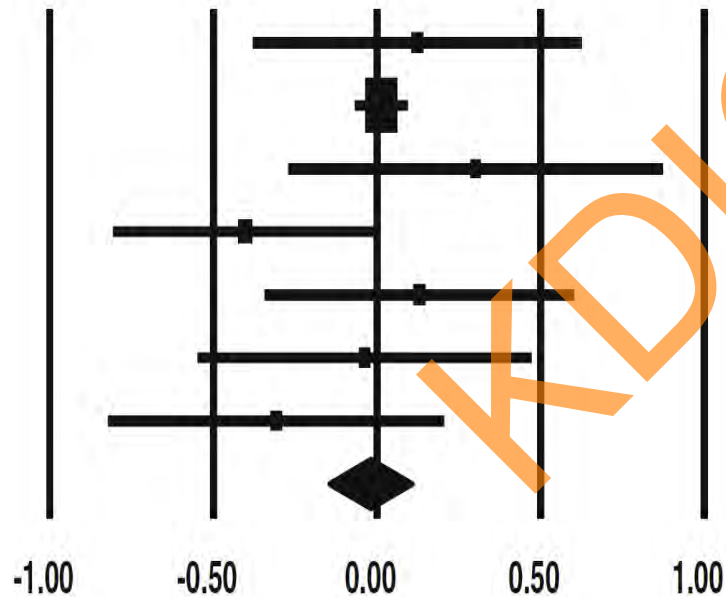
- Randomised to vitamin D2/D3 (calcitriol and analogs excluded) or control
- Most; elderly women. Dose generally  $\geq 800$  IU/day.
- High baseline falls risk (15-69%; median 50%).

# Muscle Strength

## Grip Strength

7 RCTs, n= 3648

No effect



Favours Vit D

Favours placebo

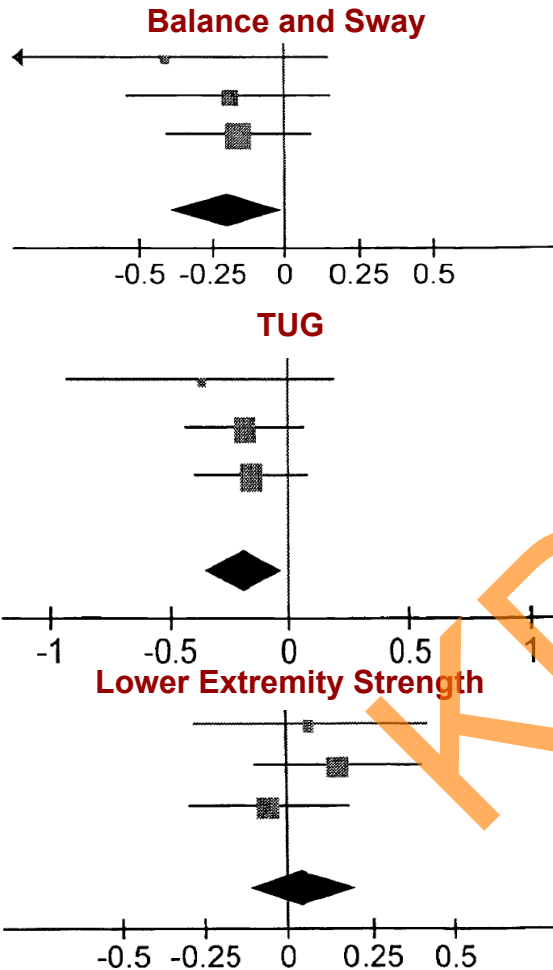
## Hip strength

17 RCTs, n = 5072

- No effect in adults with 25OHD >25 nmol/L
- Limited studies report improvement for adults with 25OHD <25 nmol/L



# Stability, Gait, Strength



- Balance and Sway (n=207)

-0.2 (-0.39 to -0.01) P=0.04

Not robust with removal of one low quality study.

- TUG (n=274)

-0.19 (-0.35 to -0.02) P=0.03

- Lower Extremity Strength (n=312)

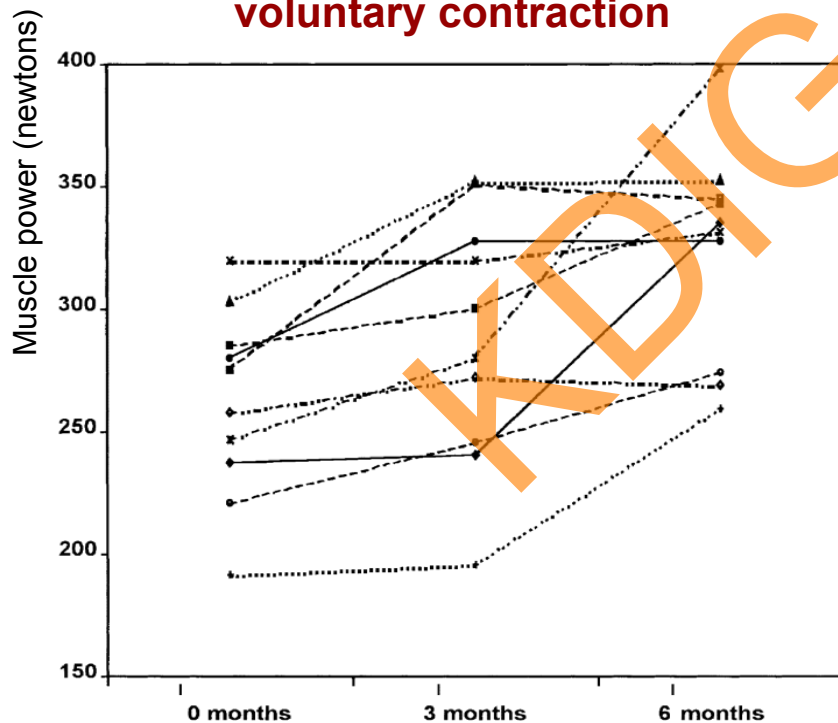
NS; P=0.55

- Effect of Vitamin D Supplementation on Muscle Strength, Gait and Balance in Older Adults: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

# Muscle Strength

Veiled Arabic Women living in Denmark with 25OHD levels  $<20$  nmol/L  
Hypovitaminosis D myopathy without *biochemical* features of OM

## Improvement in maximal voluntary contraction

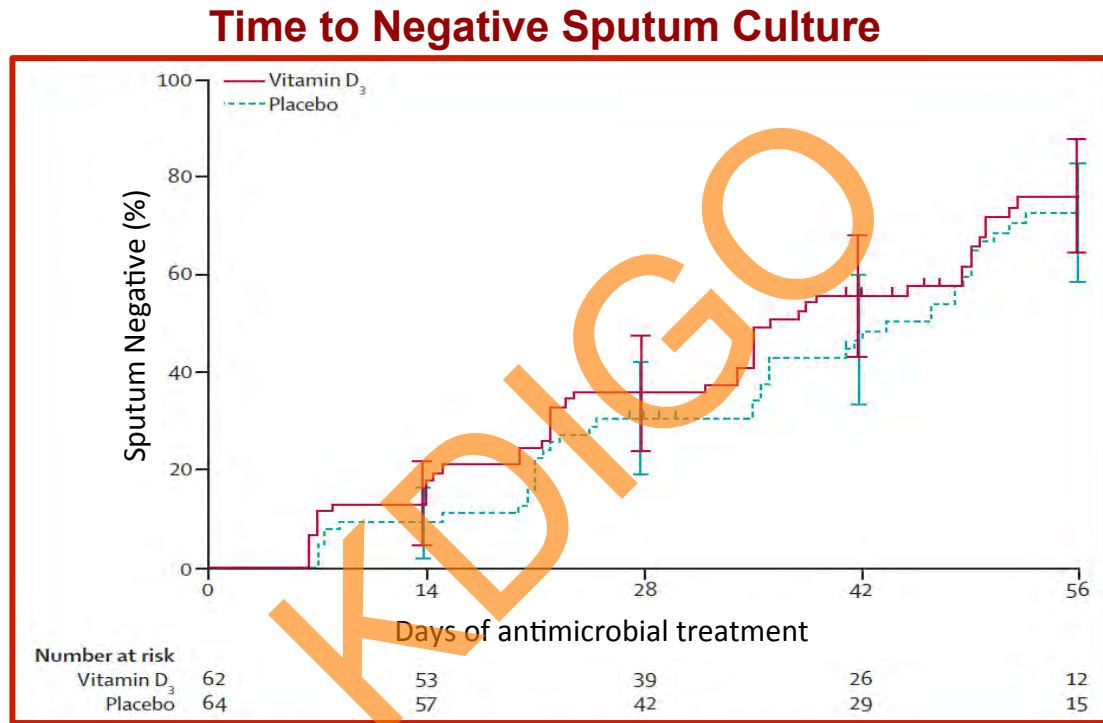


- Improved force by single twitch electrical stimulation

- Improved; Knee extension after 3 and 6 mo. treatment

# Effects Outside Bone

- Vitamin D3 or placebo with antituberculous therapy

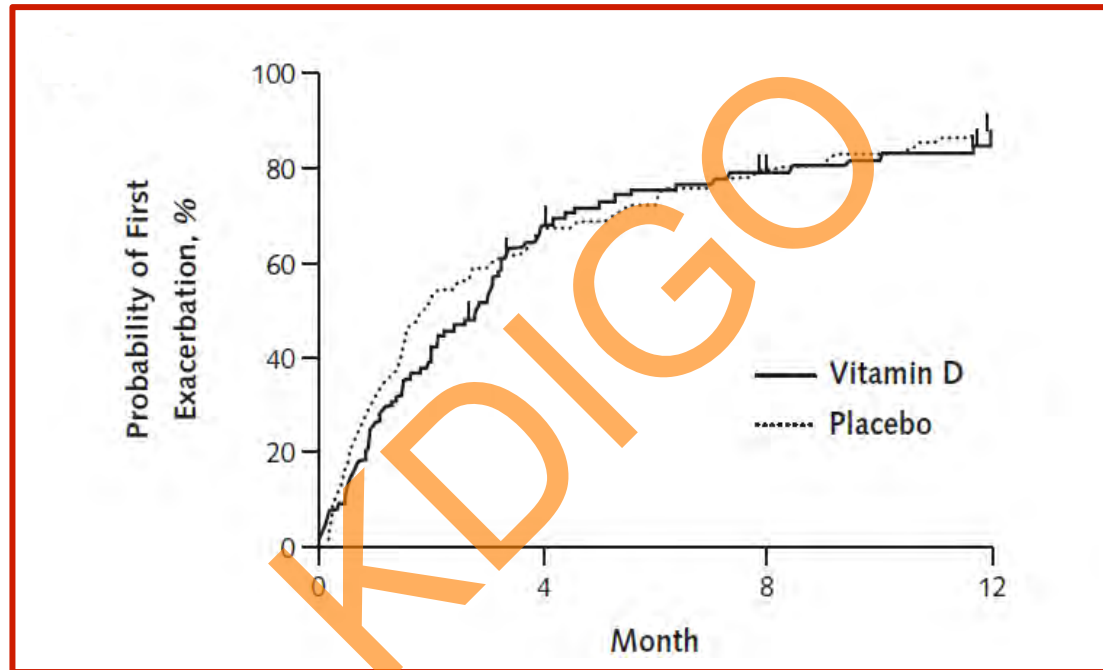


No difference vs. placebo when added to standard therapy

# Effects Outside Bone

- Vitamin D and COPD

## Probability of 1<sup>st</sup> exacerbation



No difference vs. placebo over 1 year in 184 patients with moderate to severe deficiency

# Effects Outside Bone

- Cardiometabolic Syndrome (MI, Cardiac event or death, stroke)

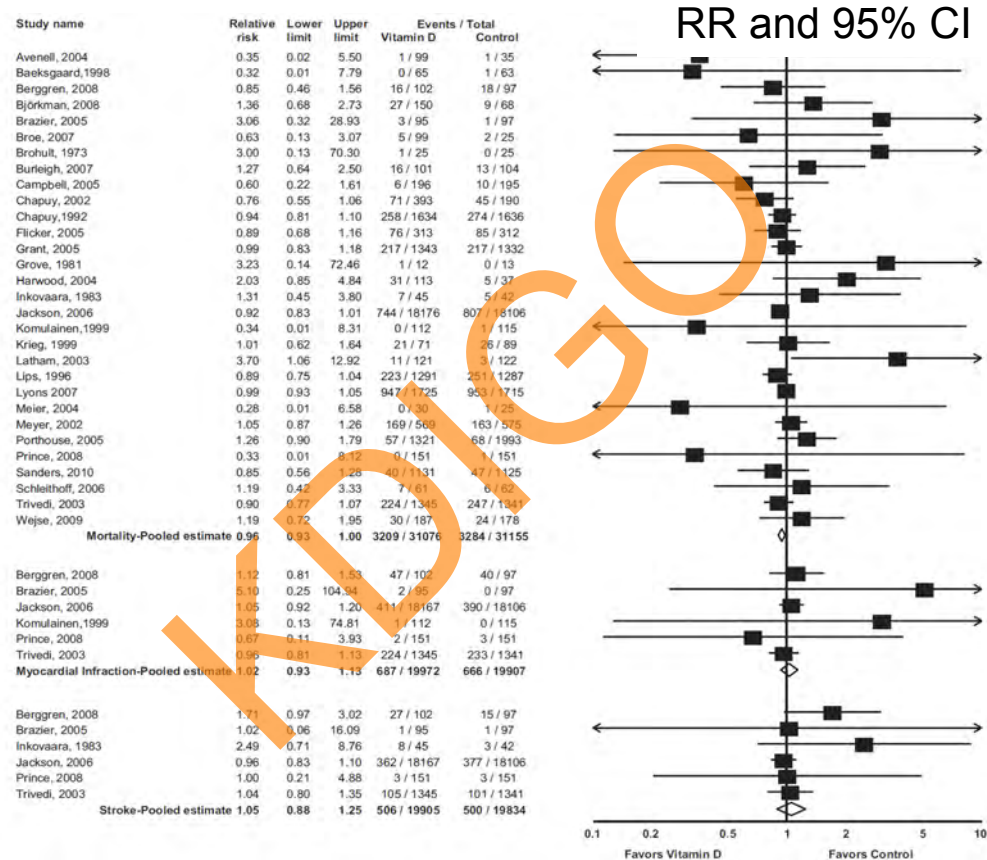
The association between vitamin D status and cardiometabolic outcomes is uncertain. Trials showed no clinically significant effect of vitamin D supplementation at the dosages given

- Type 1 diabetes with high C-peptide

At doses used, calcitriol is ineffective in protecting beta-cell function in subjects (including children) with recent-onset type 1 diabetes and high C-peptide at diagnosis.

# Effects Outside Bone

- Vitamin D and CV outcomes; a systematic review and meta-analysis



Favours Vitamin D Favours Control

Forest Plot representing pooled result for mortality, MI and stroke

## Effects Outside Bone

Long-term follow-up for mortality and cancer in a randomized placebo-controlled trial of vitamin D(3) and/or calcium (RECORD trial).

- 5292 people (85% women) aged at least 70 yr with previous low-trauma fracture
- Randomly allocated to daily vitamin D3 (800 IU), calcium (1000 mg), both, or placebo for 24-62 months
- Follow-up of 3 yr

Conclusions:

- Daily vitamin D or calcium supplementation did not affect mortality, vascular disease, cancer mortality, or cancer incidence

## Summary: Vitamin D in the General Population

For bone and muscle:

Benefits may be limited to

- Older individuals (>60 years)
- Those with levels are <25-50 nmol/L (10-20 ng/ml)

IOM 2011:

With the exception of measures related to bone health, the potential indicators examined are currently not supported by evidence

- Adequate 25OHD 40-50 nmol/L
- UL: 4000 IU/day



## **Editorial**

# **Vitamin D Too Soon to Turn Out the Lights?**

Ravi I. Thadhani, JoAnn E. Manson

KDIG

## Editorial

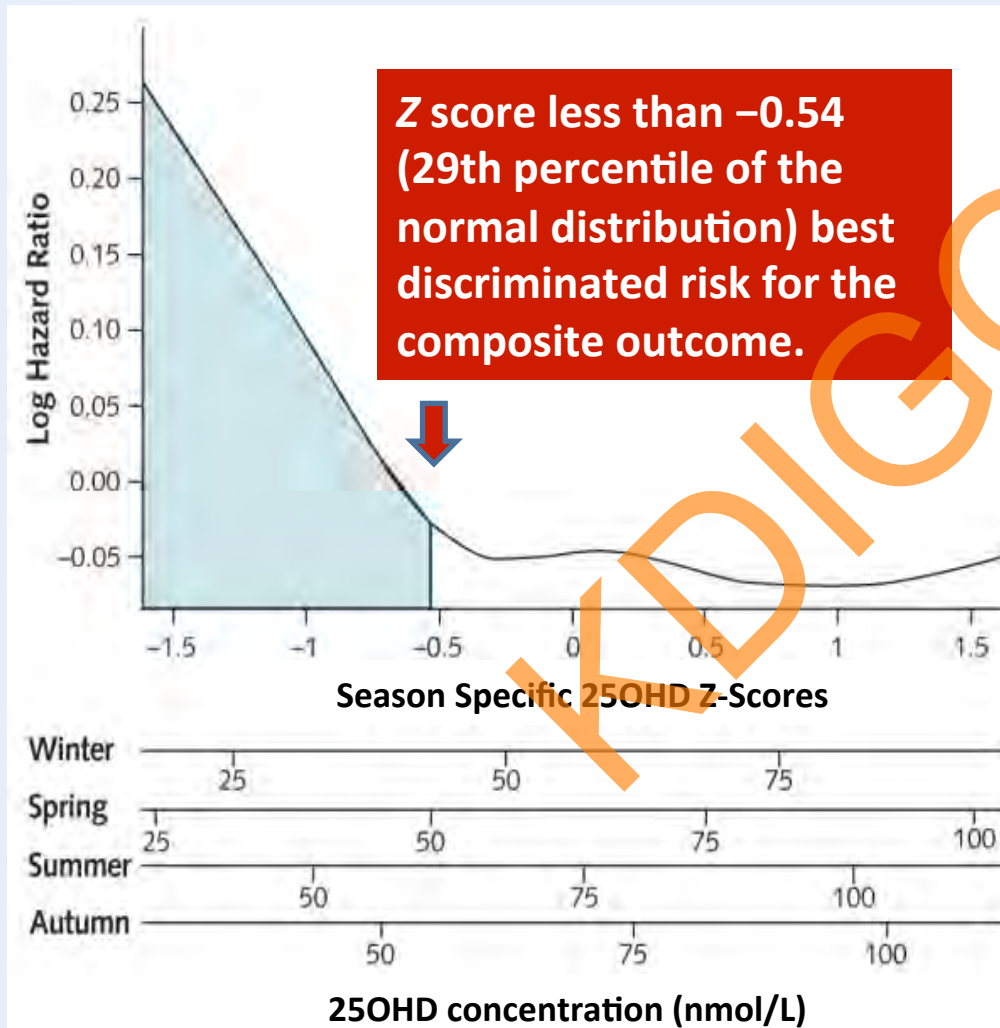
### Vitamin D Too Soon to Turn Out the Lights?

Ravi I. Thadhani, JoAnn E. Manson

Confounding influences:

- What is the cut point for major clinical disease
- Seasonal variation
- Genetic variation and specific populations
- Assays

## Cut Points: Serum 25-Hydroxyvitamin D Concentration and Risk for Major Clinical Disease Events in a Community-Based Population .



- 1621 participants  $\geq$  65 years  
4 US communities

- Median follow-up 11 years  
(IQ range 6,13)

- Composite clinical outcome  
1018 (63%)

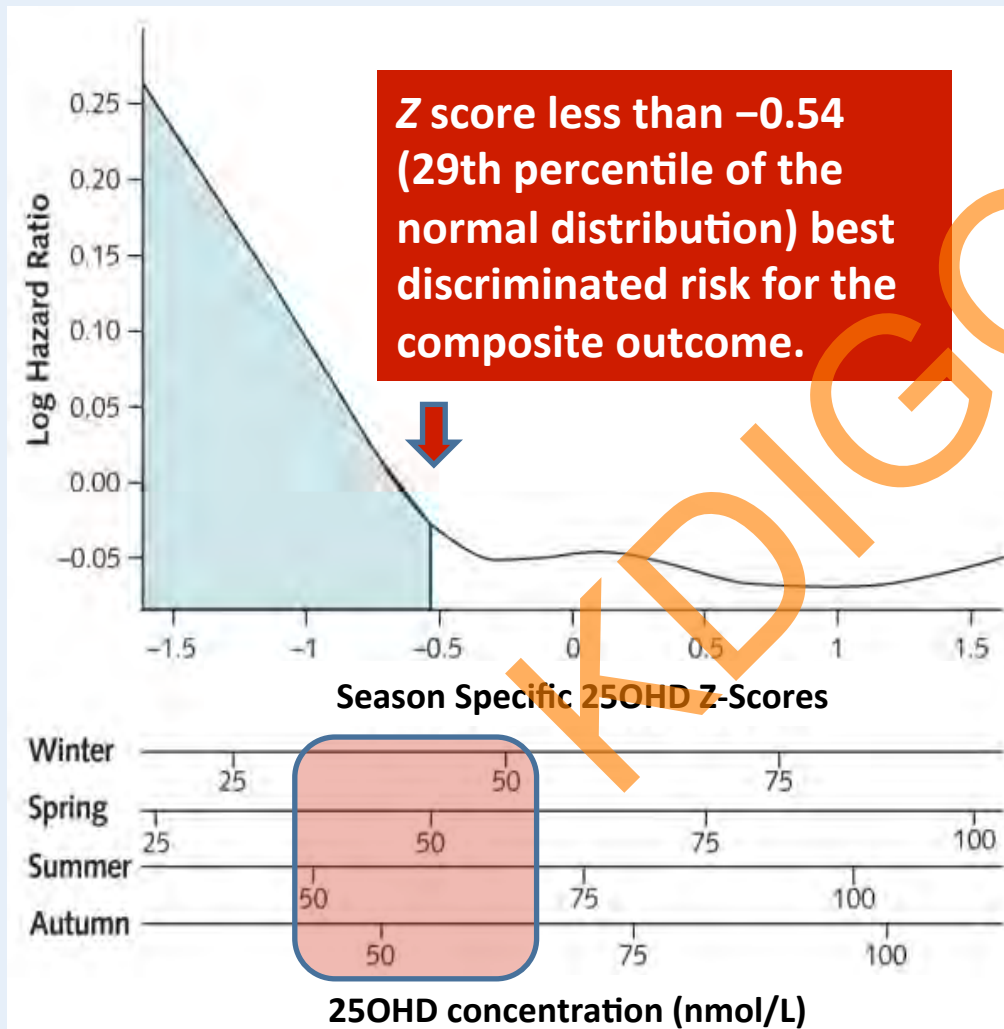
  - Hip fracture for 137 (8%)

  - MI for 186 (11%)

  - Cancer for 335 (21%)

  - Death for 360 (22%)

## Seasonal variation: Serum 25-Hydroxyvitamin D Concentration and Risk for Major Clinical Disease Events in a Community-Based Population.



•Based on association with major clinical disease events, optimal 25OHD is  $\geq 50$  nmol/L (20 ng/ml)

# Genetic Factors

- GWAS studies\*

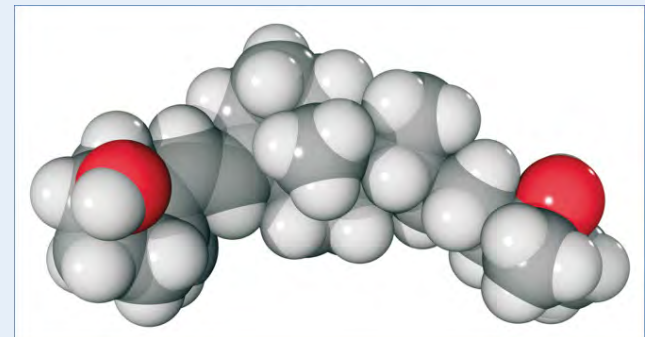
Differences in 25OHD between strongest genetic variants were similar to summer winter seasonal changes.

Variants in 7-DHC reductase

25-hydroxylase (CYP2R1)

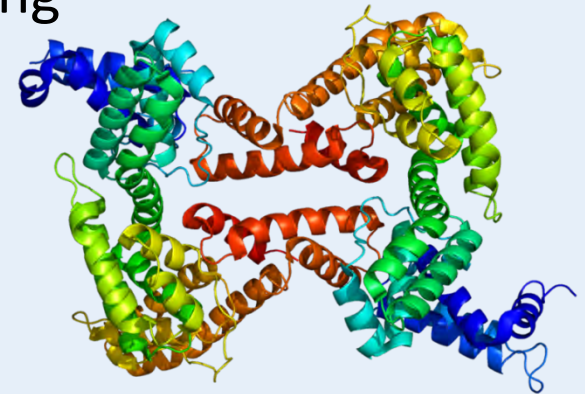
CYP24A1

- GC gene polymorphisms, encoding DBP had *greatest* effect on 25OHD values



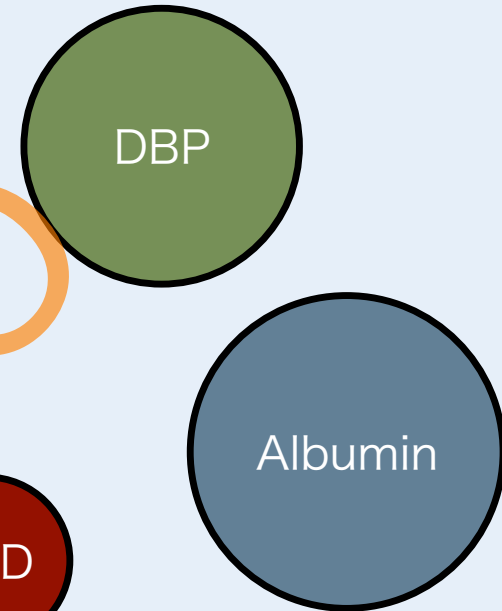
## Assays: Vitamin D Binding Protein

- DBP: glycosylated ~58kd protein  
t  $\frac{1}{2}$  2-3 days  
Produced in the Liver
- Negative acute phase reactant  
Binds actin in tissue damage  
DBP-actin is rapidly cleared
- 25OHD t  $\frac{1}{2}$  is 2-3 weeks; ligand recycling
- 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D t  $\frac{1}{2}$  is 4-6 hours



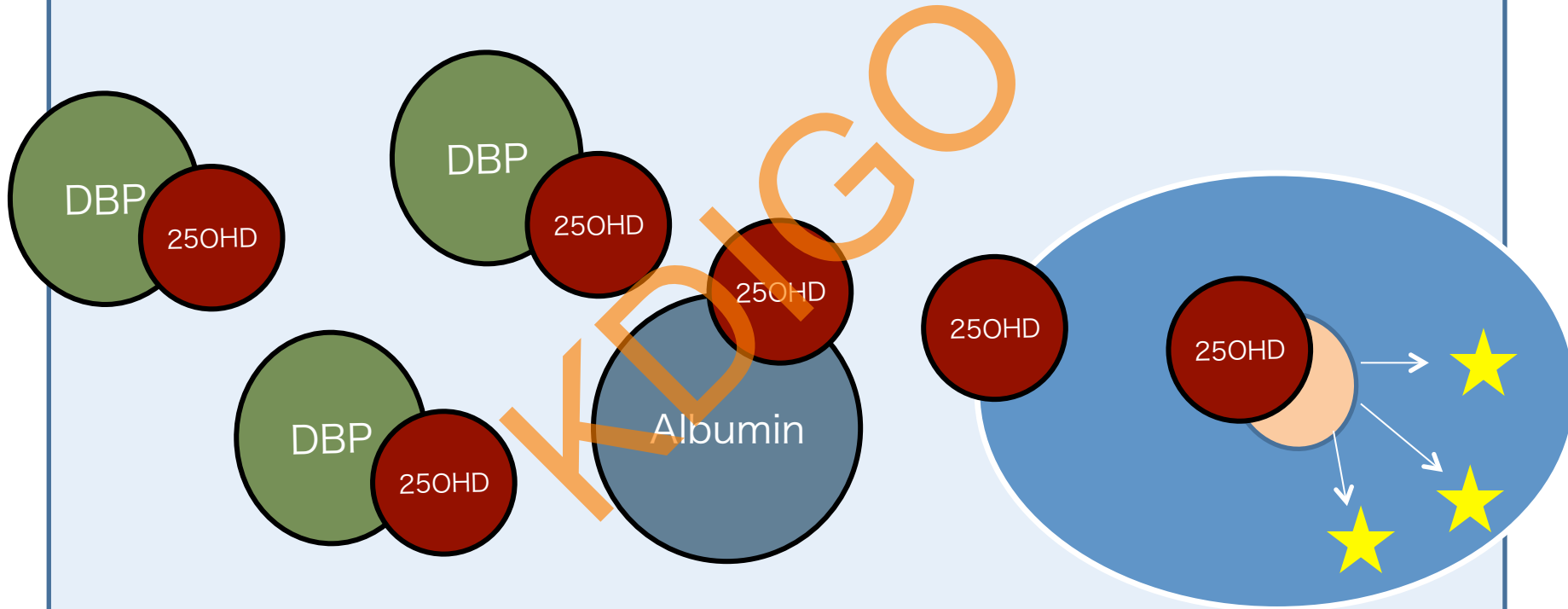
## 25OHD and Circulating Proteins

- 25OHD binds to DBP in circulation
- 25OHD binds to Albumin
- 25OHD circulates in a free form
- $[Total] = [D] + [DA_{lb}] + [DDBP]$



# Free Hormone Hypothesis

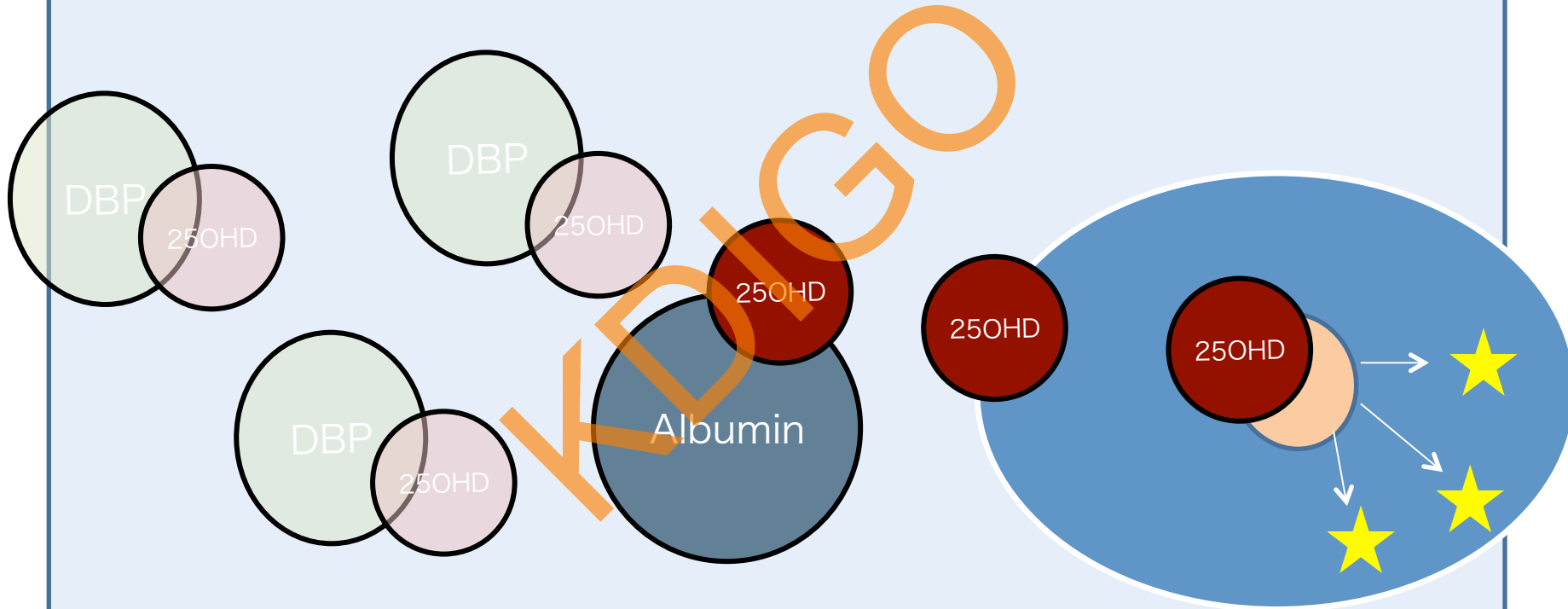
Only UNBOUND hormones cross cell membranes and have biological action





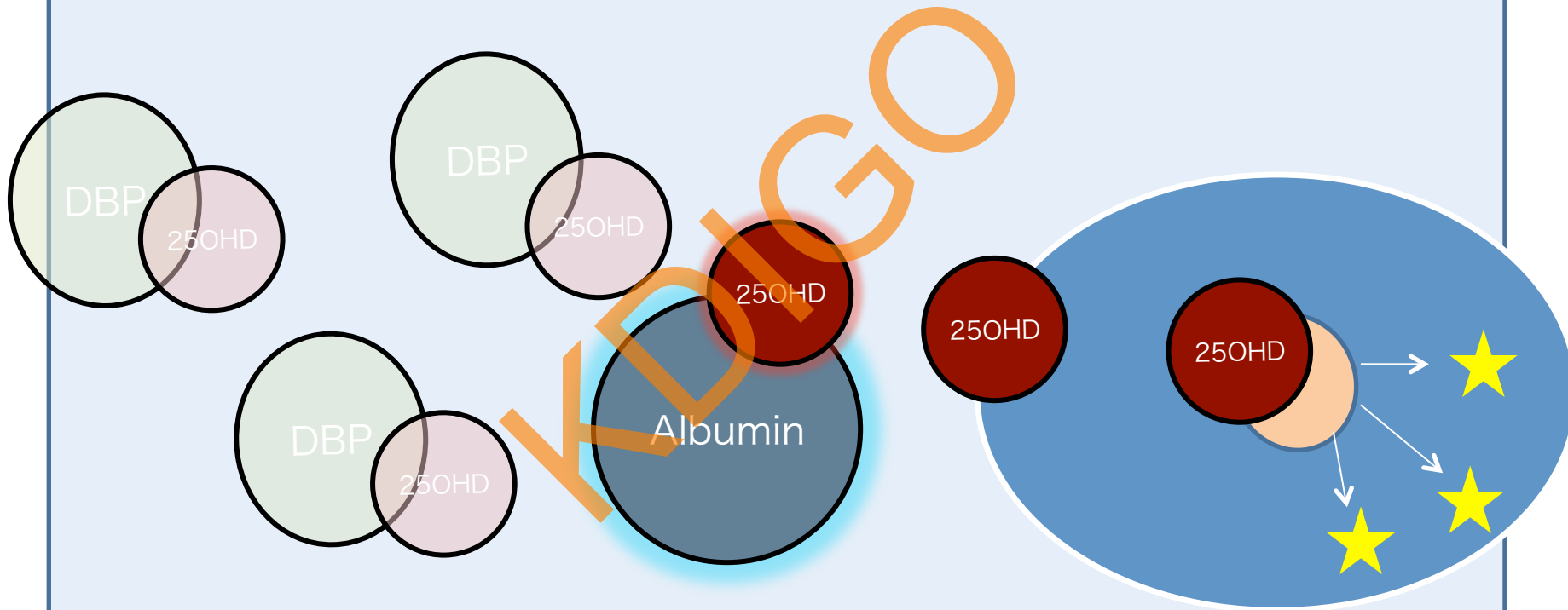
# Free Hormone Hypothesis

Only UNBOUND hormones cross cell membranes and have biological action



# Free Hormone Hypothesis

## Albumin Bound 25OHD is Bioavailable

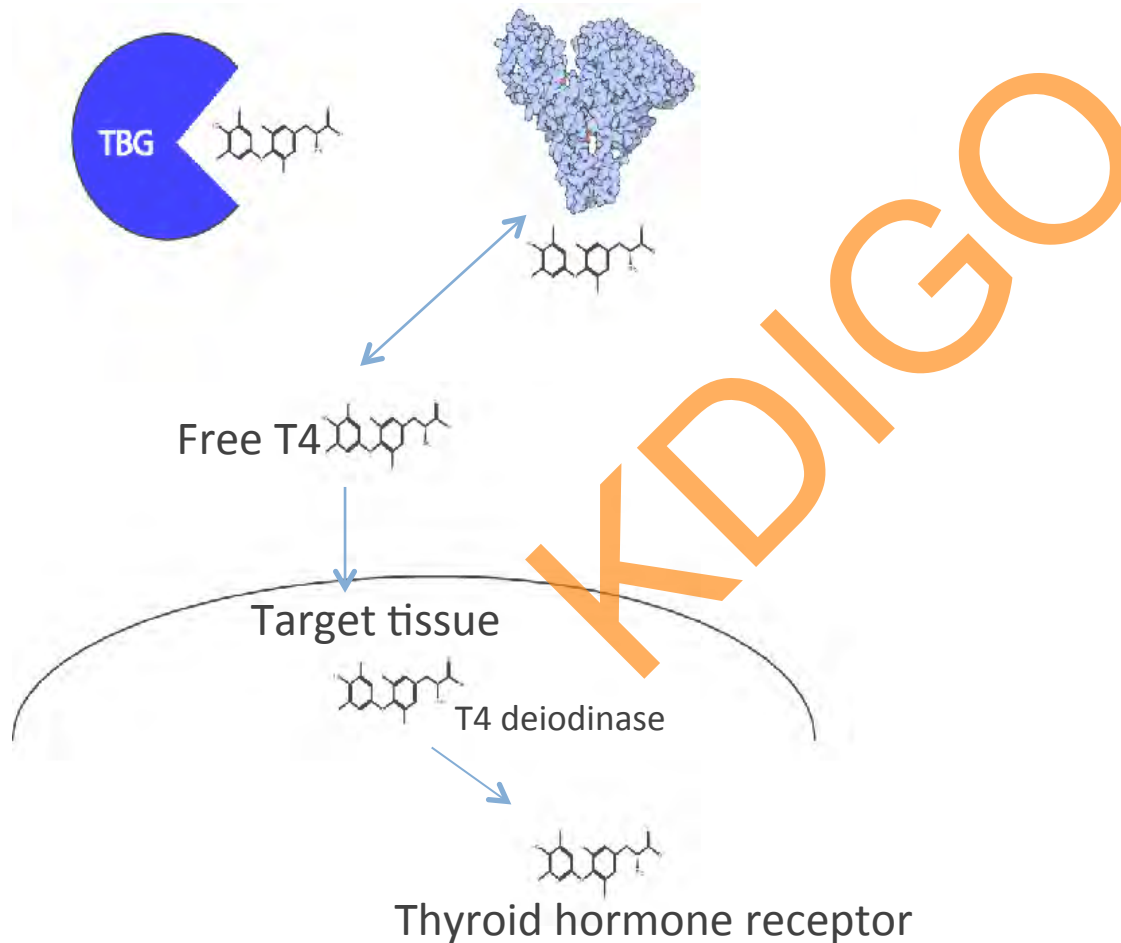


Yet, vitamin D deficiency is clinically defined by TOTAL 25(OH)D

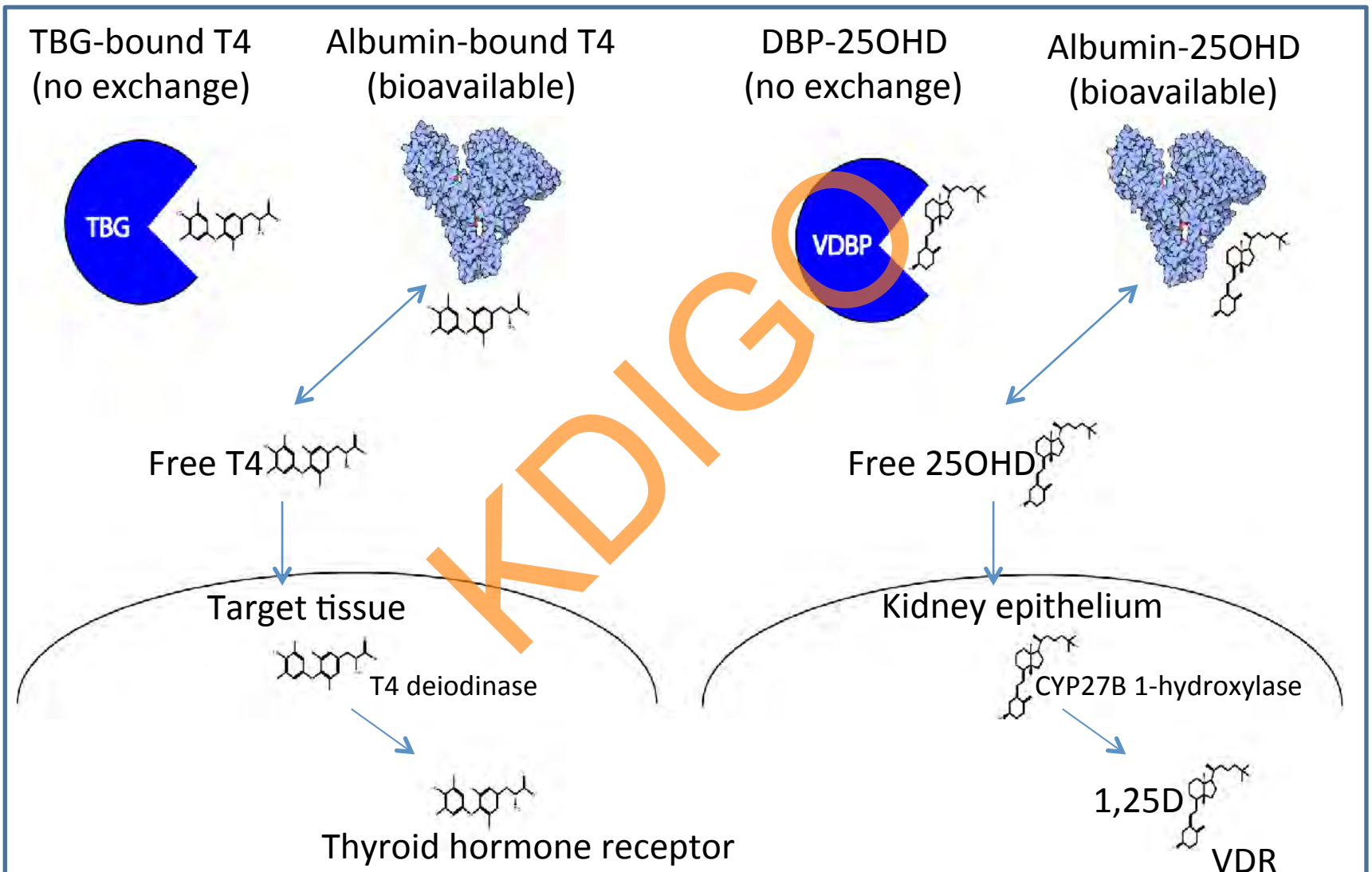
# Similar to T4 response

TBG-bound T4  
(no exchange)

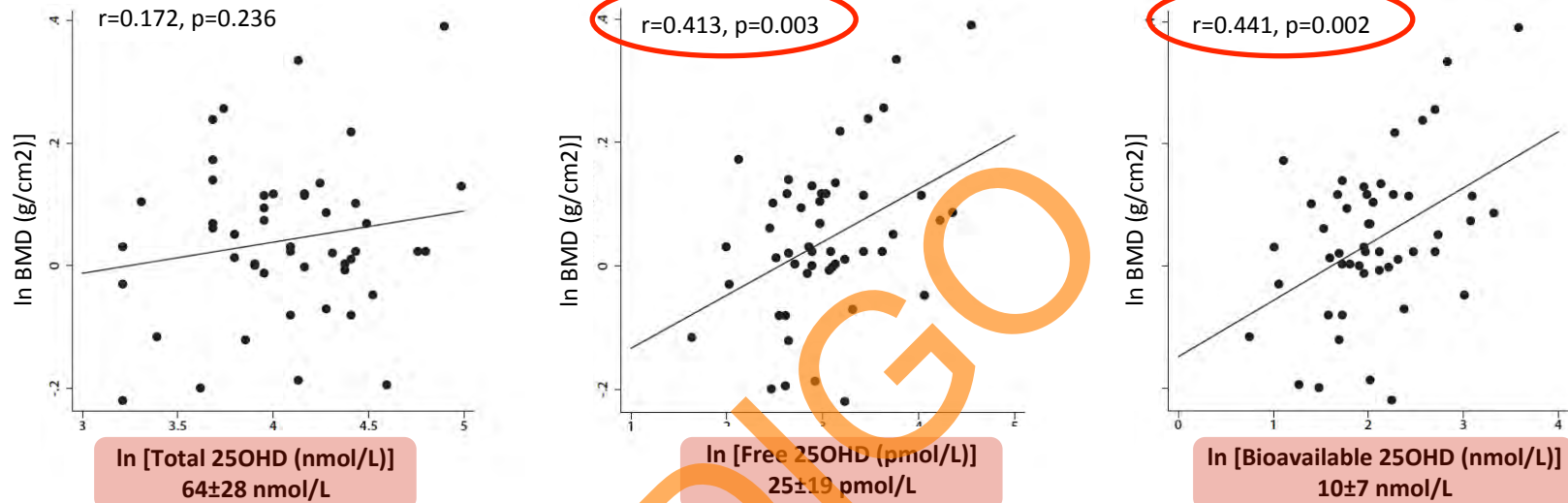
Albumin-bound T4  
(bioavailable)



# Similar to T4 response



# DBP Modifies the Vitamin D - BMD Relationship



- 49 healthy young adults enrolled in the Metabolic Abnormalities in College-Aged Students (MACS) study
- Free and bioavailable 25OHD levels were positively correlated to Lumbar Spine BMD
- No correlation to values of 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D

## DBP Modifies the Vitamin D - BMD Relationship

This may explain the racial paradox

|                       | WHITES | BLACKS |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| 25(OH)D               | High   | Low    |
| PTH                   | Low    | High   |
| Bone Mineral Density  | Low    | High   |
| Osteoporosis/Fracture | High   | Low    |

## Summary

- Vitamin D deficiency as is currently defined is an epidemic
- Assay quality assurance and standardisation remains a problem
- Seasonal and genetic factors influence 25OHD levels
- Determining bioavailable vitamin D may resolve some paradoxes of association and interventional studies
- Large RCTs may soon provide insight to these Qs

## Practise Patterns for Vitamin D in CKD

KDIGO

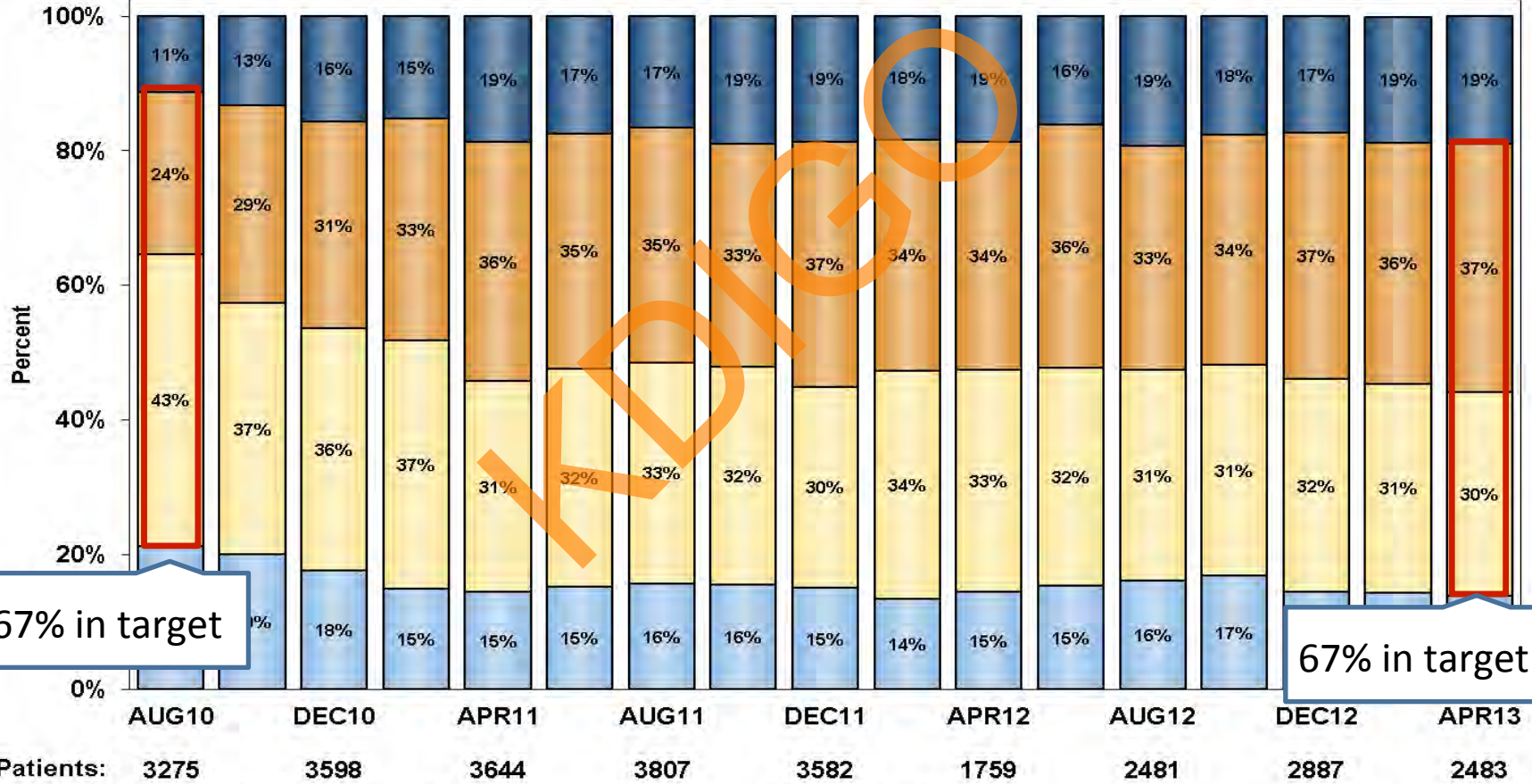


# DOPPS USA Data 2010 - 2013

Approximate KDIGO  
iPTH Range: 2-9X

□ < 150 pg/ml
□ 150-300 pg/ml
□ 301-600 pg/ml
■ > 600 pg/ml

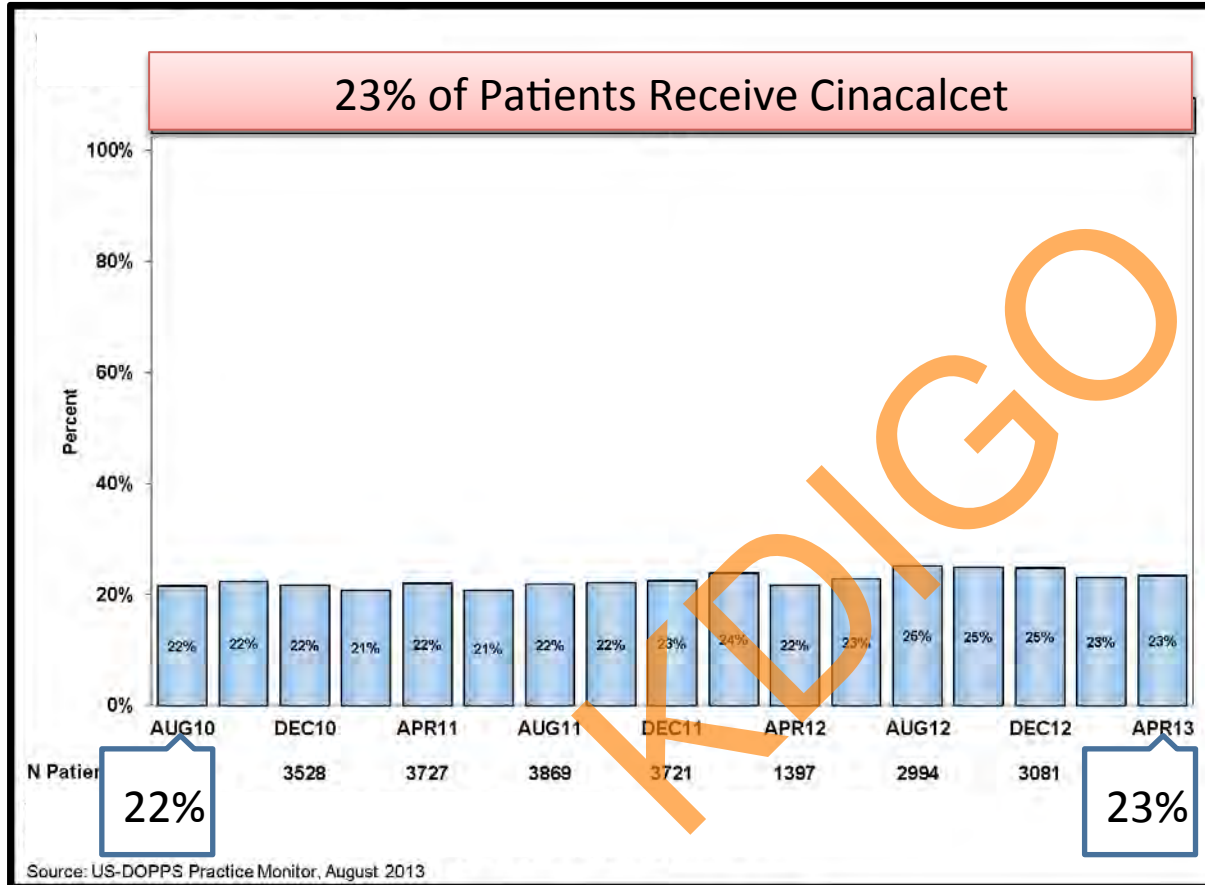
Overall



67% in target

67% in target

# DOPPS USA Data 2010 - 2013

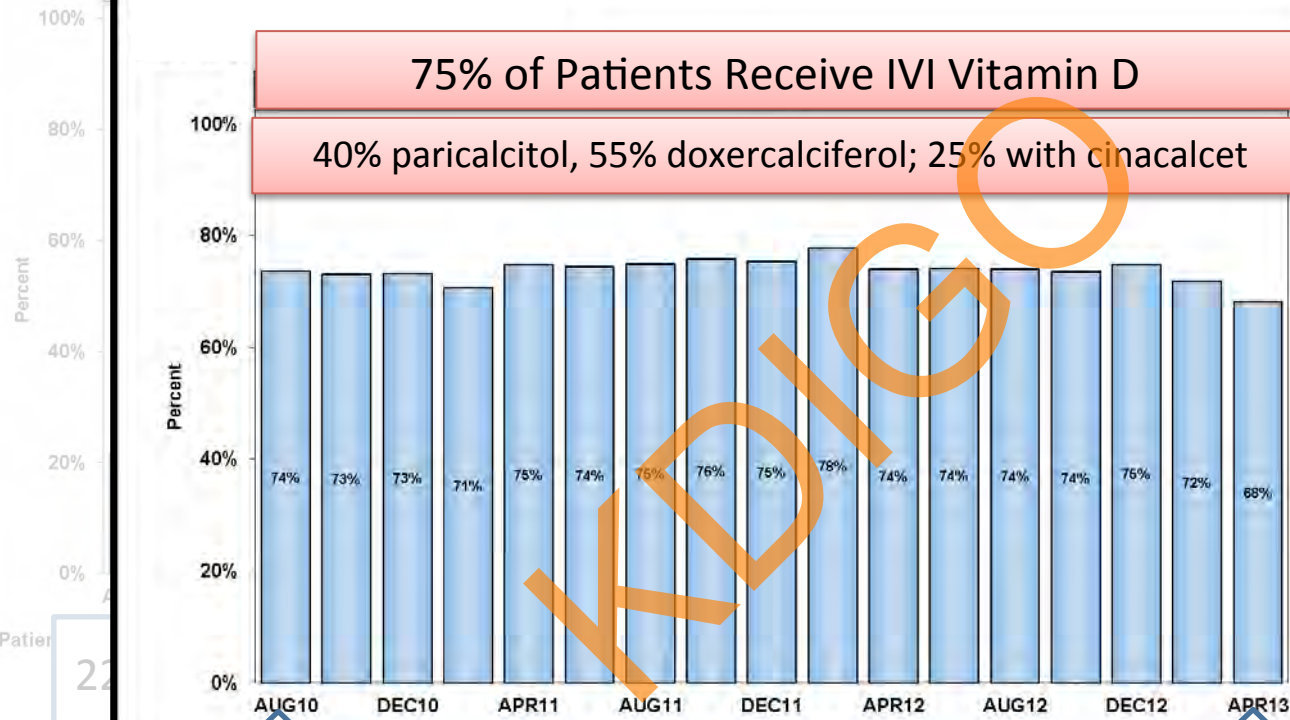


# DOPPS USA Data 2010 - 2013

23% of Patients Receive Cinacalcet

75% of Patients Receive IVI Vitamin D

40% paricalcitol, 55% doxercalciferol; 25% with cinacalcet



N Patient  
22

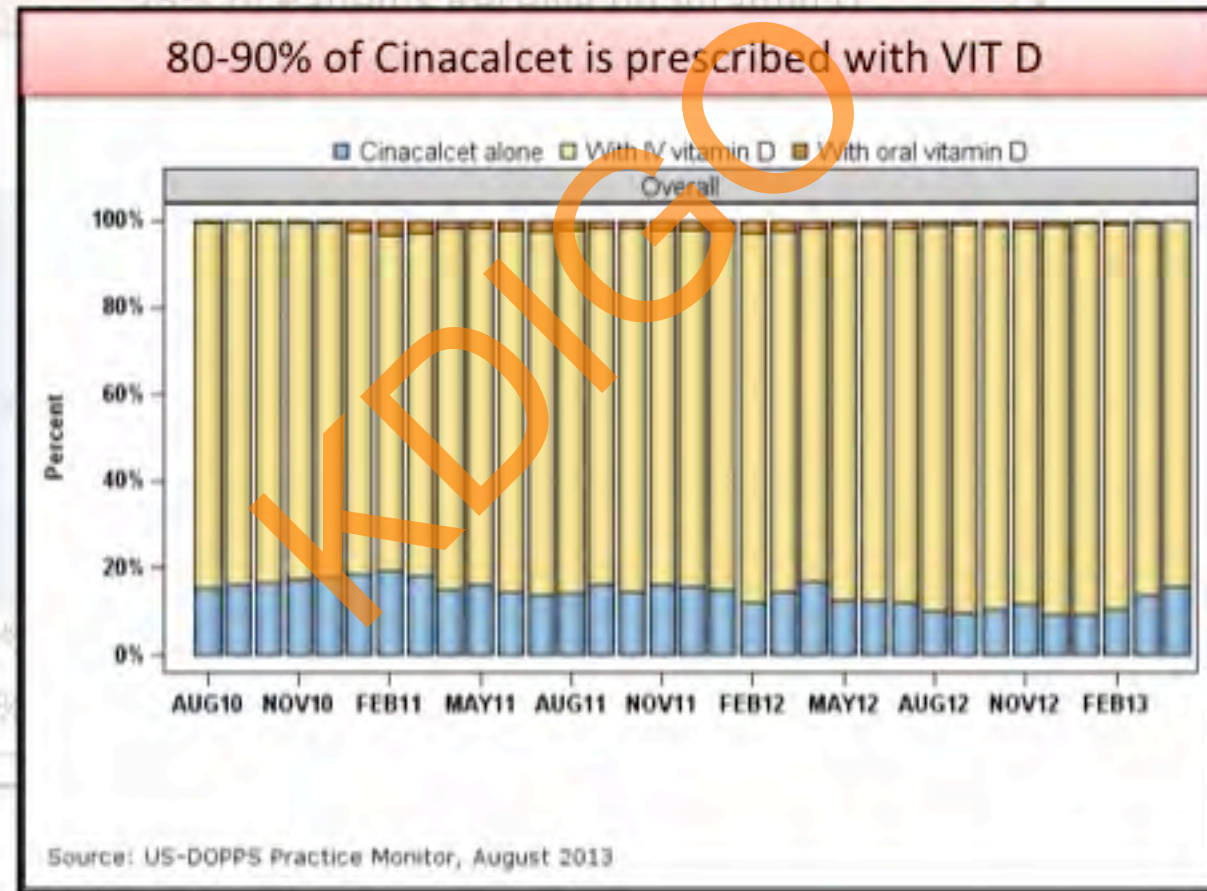
Source: US-DOF

N Patient

74%

68%

# DOPPS USA Data 2010 - 2013

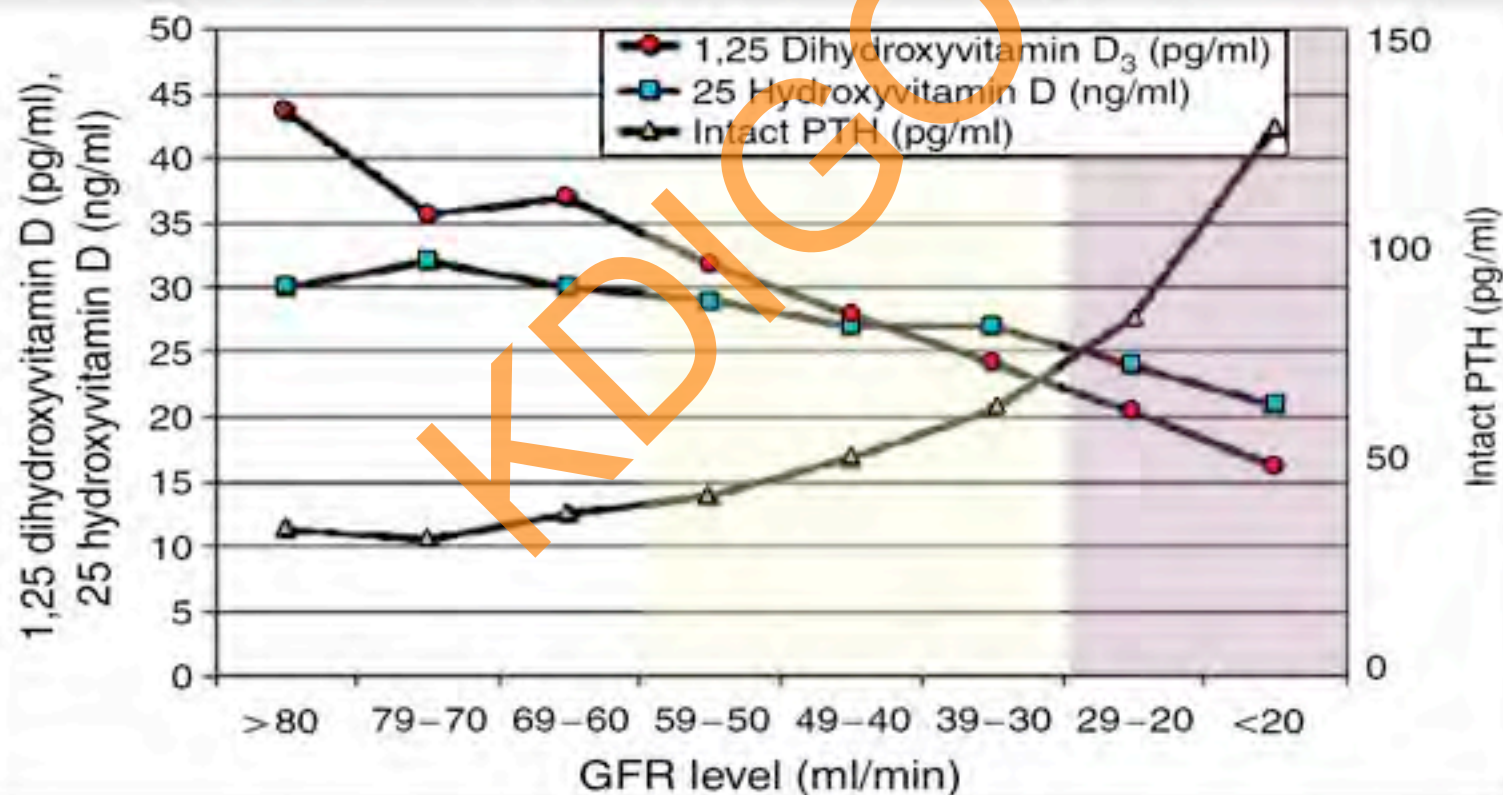


## Vitamin D Values in CKD

Study for the Evaluation of Early Kidney disease (SEEK):

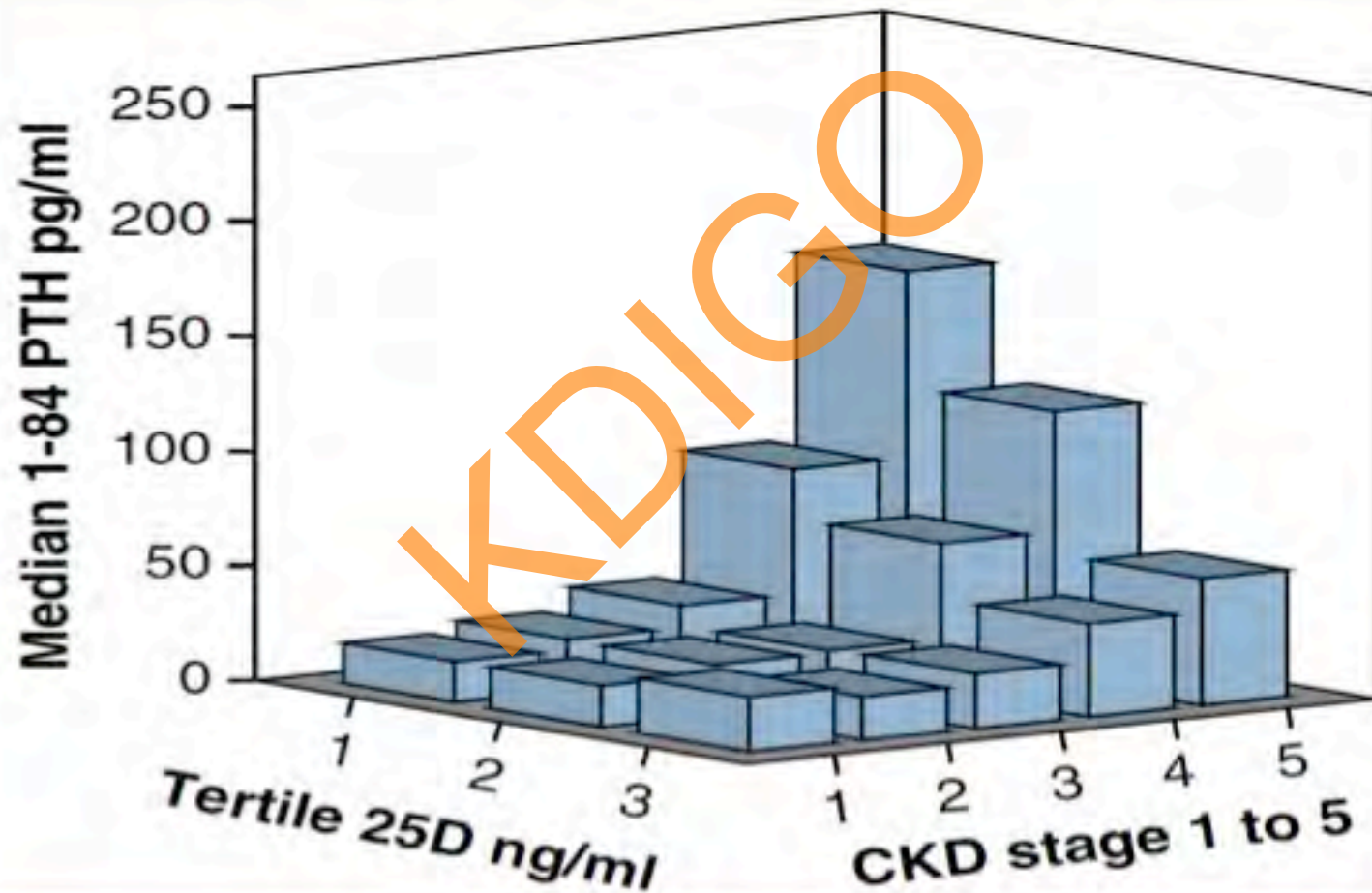
1814 CKD 3-5 patients from USA:

48% male, 47% diabetes, 71% > age 65



## Reciprocal Relationship to PTH

Calciferol therapy reduces PTH in CKD 1 to 4



Falls, stability and muscle strength in CKD 5D

Clinical Endocrinology (2010)

doi:10.1111/j.1365-2265.2010.03821.x

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

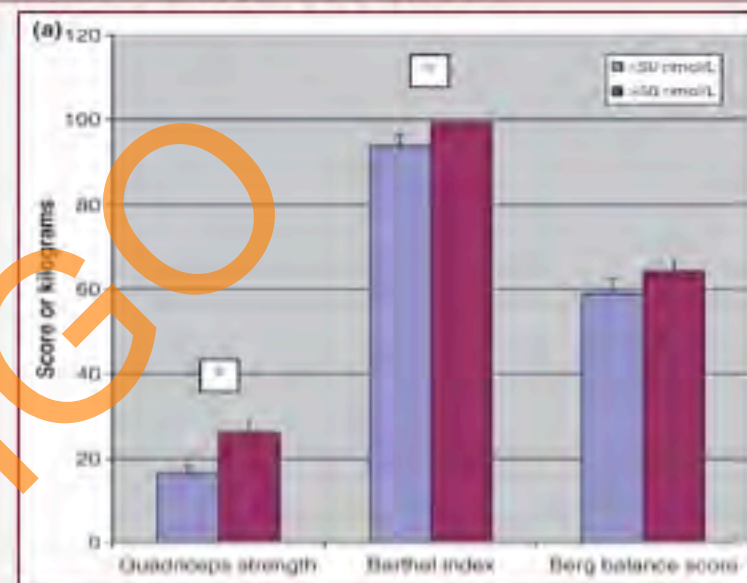
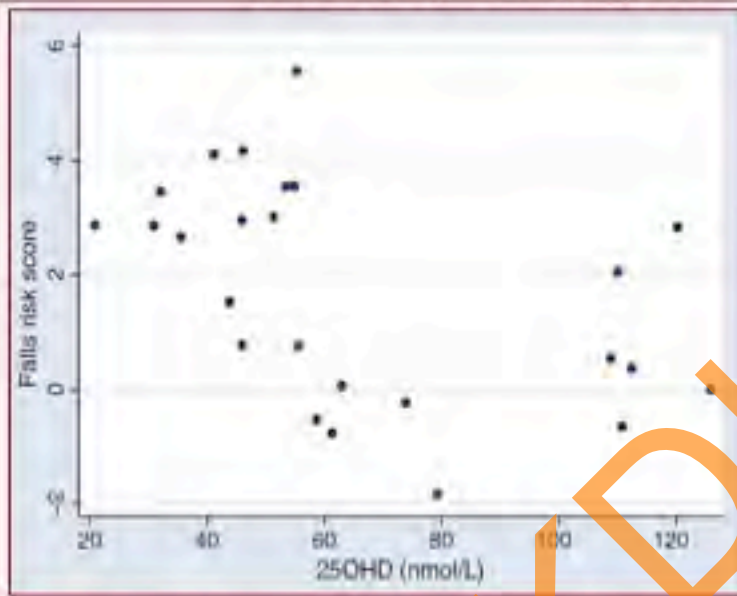
Association between 25-hydroxyvitamin D, somatic muscle weakness and falls risk in end-stage renal failure

N Boudville<sup>\*†</sup>, C Inderjeeth<sup>\*†</sup>, GJ Elder<sup>‡</sup> and P Glendenning<sup>\*†</sup>

- Cross sectional study of HD patients:

## Patient-level associations; 25OHD in CKD-5D

### Falls Risk, stability and muscle strength in CKD 5D



- Significant inverse relationships of 25OHD to falls
- Quadriceps strength
- Function related to falls (Modified Barthel Index)
- No relationship to 1,25(OH)2D



# Patient-level associations; 25OHD in CKD-5D

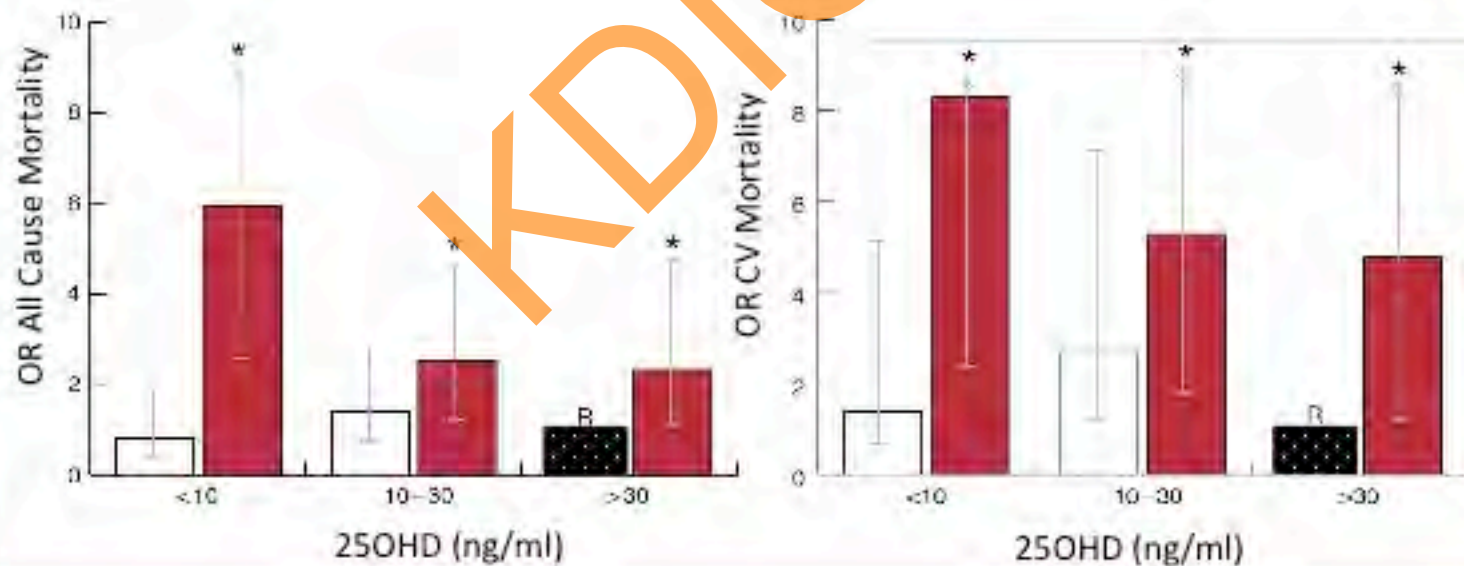
Multivariate adjusted OR of 90-day all-cause and CV mortality

■ No active vitamin D therapy

□ Active vitamin D therapy

■ Reference; *active* vitamin D+25(OH)D >30 ng/ml+calcitriol >13 pg/ml

Lower risk at higher 25OHD values



## Effects of Cholecalciferol on Biochemical, Vascular, and Quality of Life Outcomes in HD

- Double blind RCT over 6 months
- 60 satellite HD patients with 25(OH)D <60 nmol/L
- Oral cholecalciferol 50,000 IU in 10 mls weekly for 8 weeks then monthly for 4 months
- Placebo: medium chain triglyceride

**Muscle strength and hand grip**

**Functional testing and balance**

**QOL questionnaire (KDQOL-36)**

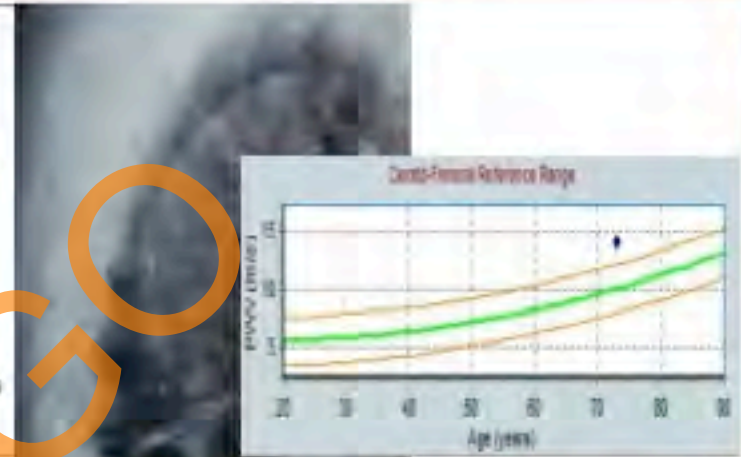
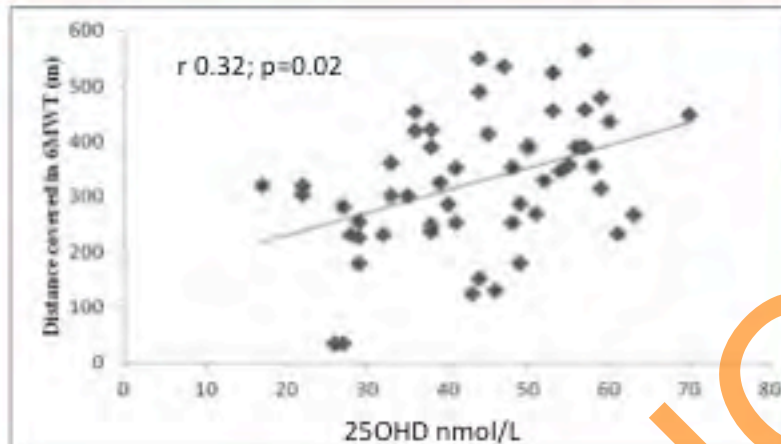
**PWV, BP**

**Ca, P, 25(OH)D, 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D, PTH, b-ALP and TRAcP-5b, Hb and ESA**

**Co-morbidities: ANZDATA**

**Falls diary, infections, adverse events**

# Effects of Cholecalciferol on Biochemical, Vascular, and Quality of Life Outcomes in HD



## Baseline characteristics well matched;

Median age 62 years (20–86), 52% women, 55% diabetes, 25(OH)D  $43 \pm 13$  nmol/L ( $17 \pm 5$  ng/ml); BMI ( $\text{kg}/\text{m}^2$ ) \*  $31.3 \pm 9.5$  (placebo)  $26.6 \pm 6.4$  (cholecalciferol)

- 25(OH)D lower with diabetes ( $39 \pm 13$  vs.  $48 \pm 10$  nmol/L;  $p = 0.002$ )
  - Correlated to calcitriol ( $r = 0.27$ ;  $p = 0.04$ )
  - Correlated to distance covered in the 6-min. walk
  - Predicted PWV (adjusted  $r^2 = 0.149$ ;  $p = 0.019$ );
  - Part correlations: Age 0.306, 25(OH)D -0.266).

## Effects of Cholecalciferol on Biochemical, Vascular, and Quality of Life Outcomes in HD

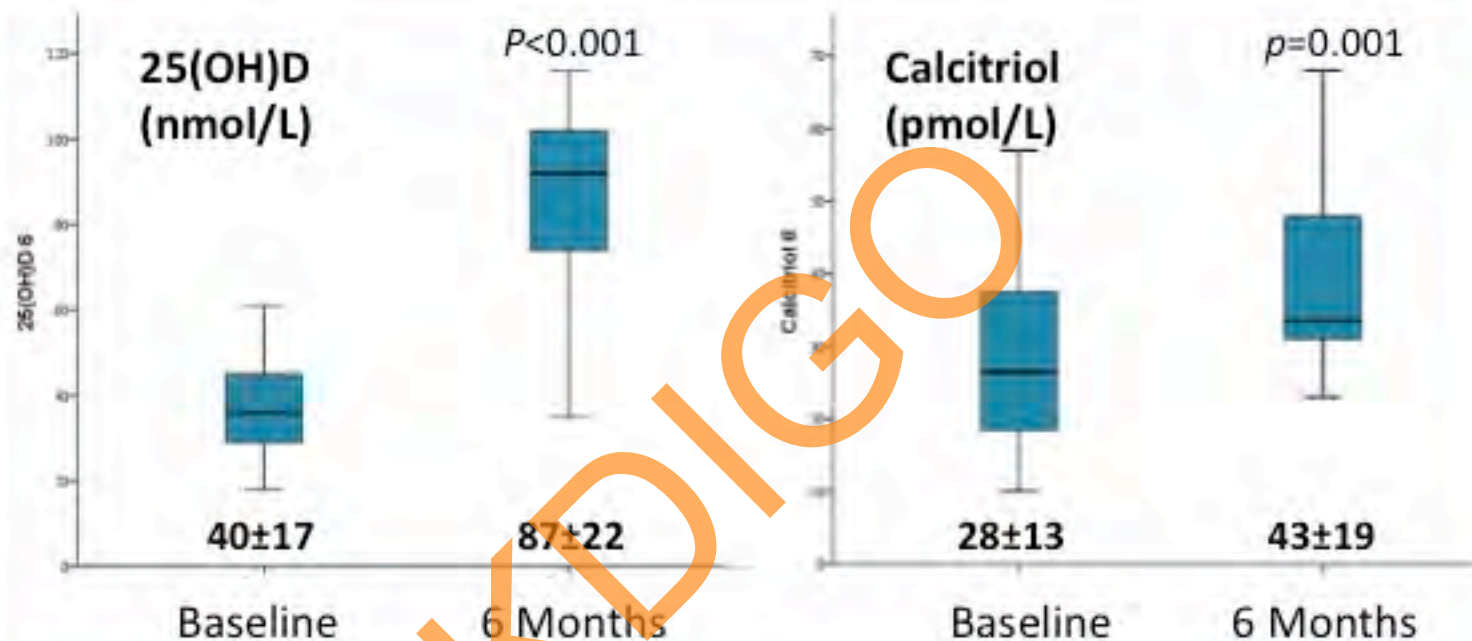
At 6 months: No effect on primary end point; muscle strength testing

Table 4. Baseline and 6-month muscle group strength

| Muscle Group       | Time     | Placebo     | Cholecalciferol | P Value |
|--------------------|----------|-------------|-----------------|---------|
| Grip strength      | Baseline | 21 (17, 25) | 23 (19, 28)     | 0.28    |
|                    | 6 mo     | 21 (17, 24) | 24 (21, 28)     |         |
| Shoulder abduction | Baseline | 5 (4, 6)    | 5 (4, 6)        | 0.53    |
|                    | 6 mo     | 6 (4, 7)    | 7 (5, 9)        |         |
| Elbow flexion      | Baseline | 12 (9, 14)  | 12 (9, 14)      | 0.63    |
|                    | 6 mo     | 14 (11, 16) | 15 (12, 18)     |         |
| Elbow extension    | Baseline | 10 (8, 11)  | 10 (9, 12)      | 0.41    |
|                    | 6 mo     | 11 (10, 13) | 13 (11, 14)     |         |
| Hip flexion        | Baseline | 12 (10, 15) | 13 (11, 15)     | 0.83    |
|                    | 6 mo     | 16 (14, 17) | 16 (15, 18)     |         |
| Knee flexion       | Baseline | 11 (9, 12)  | 12 (10, 13)     | 0.93    |
|                    | 6 mo     | 14 (12, 16) | 13 (11, 15)     |         |
| Knee extension     | Baseline | 15 (12, 17) | 14 (12, 17)     | 0.97    |
|                    | 6 mo     | 19 (16, 21) | 19 (16, 22)     |         |

Data are shown in kilograms of force (95% confidence interval). *P* values represent differences in strength between treatment groups over time (repeated-measures ANOVA). There were 30 patients in each group at baseline and 24 patients in the placebo group and 21 patients in the cholecalciferol group at 6 months.

## Effects of Cholecalciferol on Biochemical, Vascular, and Quality of Life Outcomes in HD



At 6 months

- 25OHD and calcitriol were higher and phosphate lower ( $p=0.04$ )
- TRAcP-5b higher;  $p=0.04$
- Reduced Ca-based P binder use
- No between group differences in levels of iPTH, ALP, b-ALP, Ca, functional tests, falls, HRQOL, PWV, ESA dose, Infections, AEs

## Summary: calciferol

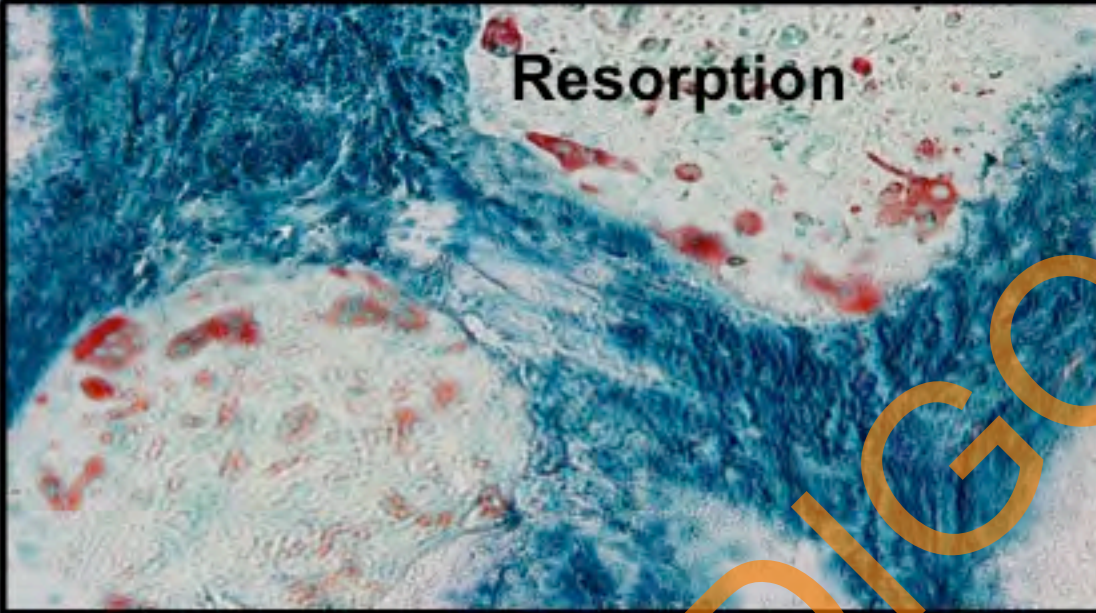
- PTH is inversely related to 25OHD values in CKD 3 - 4 / 5. General population data is applicable to many in this group
- In CKD 5D, association studies suggest relationships of 25OHD to improved mortality, PWV and functional tests but no change was seen after 6 months therapy in patients with vitamin D insufficiency
- Treatment with cholecalciferol effectively increases serum 25(OH)D and levels of calcitriol are higher; possibly supporting the concept of extra-renal conversion
- Cholecalciferol may increase osteoclast markers
- Cholecalciferol does not increase serum Ca or P

## Rationale for Treatment with Calcitriol and Analogs

- **Control of sHPT and avoidance of PTx**
- **Control of sHPT effects on bone and mineral metabolism**
- **Avoidance of related CV events and mortality**
- **Pleomorphic vitamin D effects; oxidative stress, infection etc**
- **Physiological Replacement**

# Control of sHPT


**Resorption**

A histological micrograph showing a bone surface with a distinct resorptive pit. The pit is filled with a pale, granular material, likely resorptive debris. The surrounding bone matrix is stained blue, and the surface is lined with a layer of cells, possibly osteoclasts or osteoclast precursors. The overall appearance is that of active bone resorption.

**Trabecular thinning**

A histological micrograph showing a trabecula of bone. The trabecula is significantly thinner than normal, indicating a loss of bone mass. The trabecular structure is stained blue, and the surrounding marrow space is visible. The thinning is a characteristic feature of secondary hyperparathyroidism.

**Trabecular perforation**

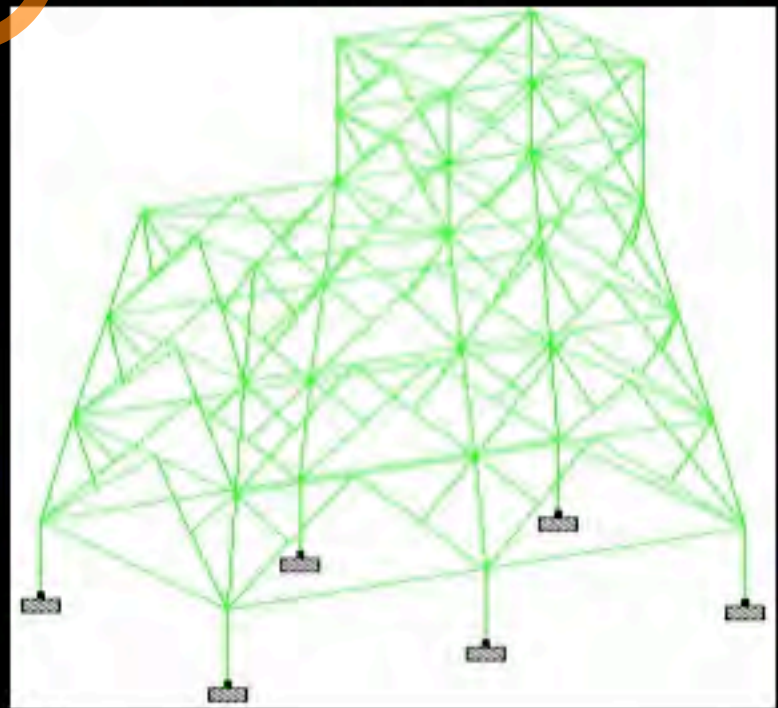
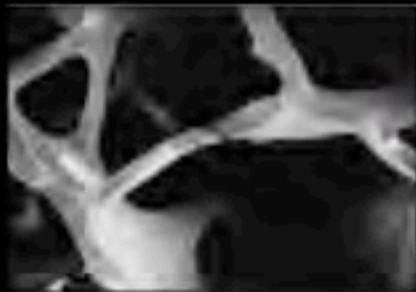
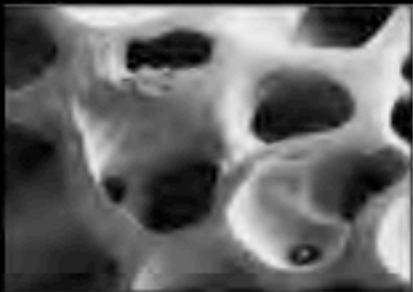
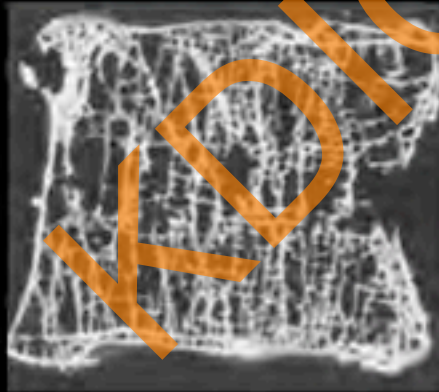
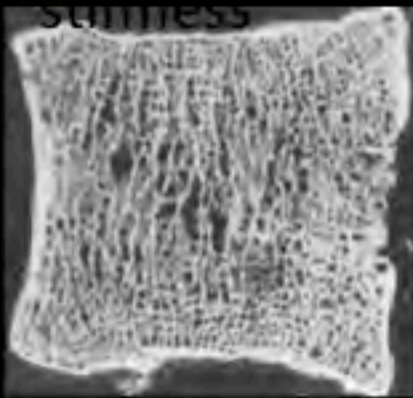
A histological micrograph showing a trabecula of bone that has been perforated. The trabecula is stained blue and shows a clear break or hole, indicating a loss of structural integrity. The surrounding marrow space is visible, and the perforation is a characteristic feature of secondary hyperparathyroidism.

**KLINGO**



## Control of sHPT

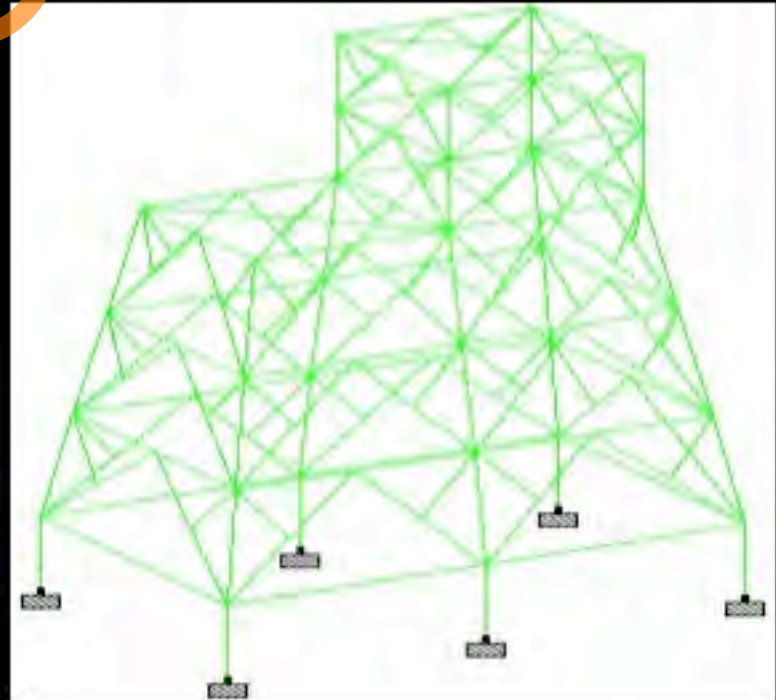
- Reduced bone mass and quality
- Structural properties: micro-architecture;
  - loss of plate structures in trabecular bone
  - reduced cortical thickness
  - increased cortical porosity reduces



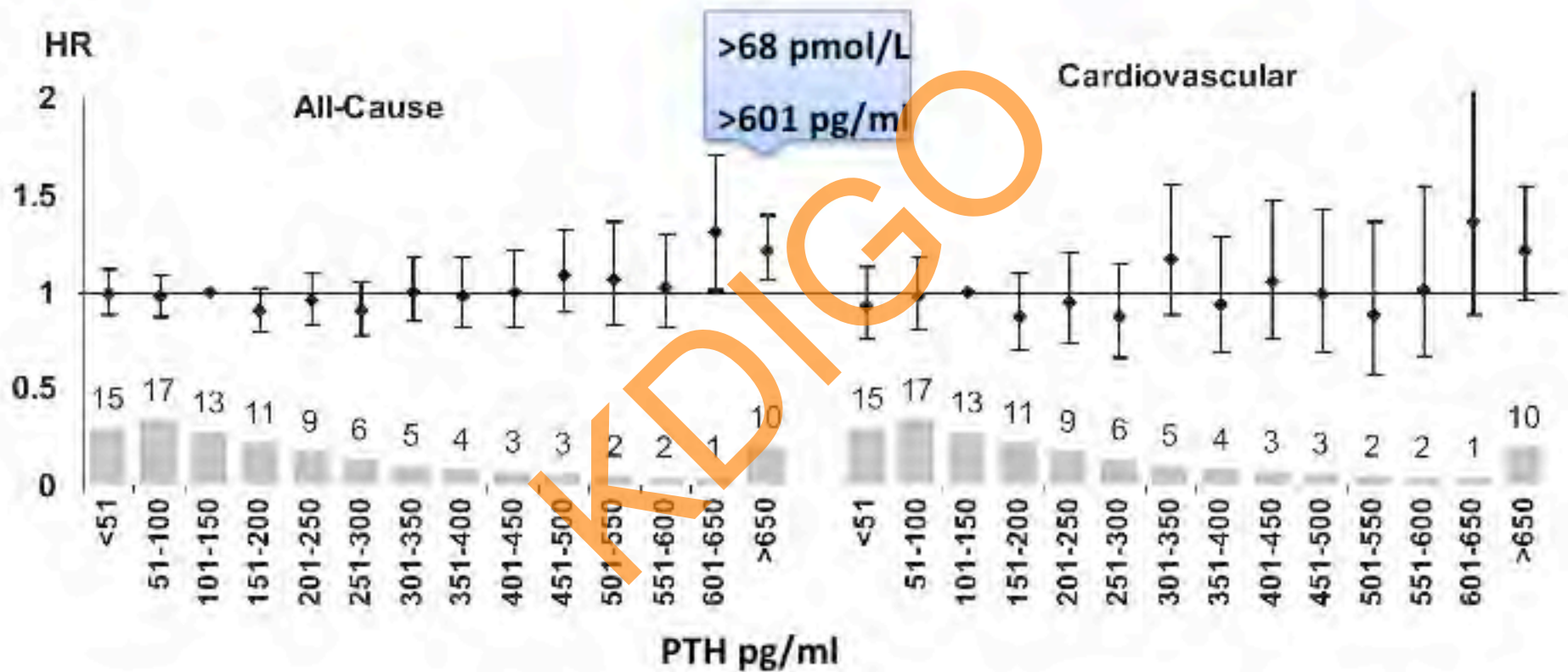
## Control of sHPT

- Reduced bone mass and quality
- Structural properties: micro-architecture;
  - loss of plate structures in trabecular bone
  - reduced cortical thickness
  - increased cortical porosity reduces

With equal bone volume, resorption cavities cause twice the loss of stiffness as the same amount of loss due to trabecular thinning.

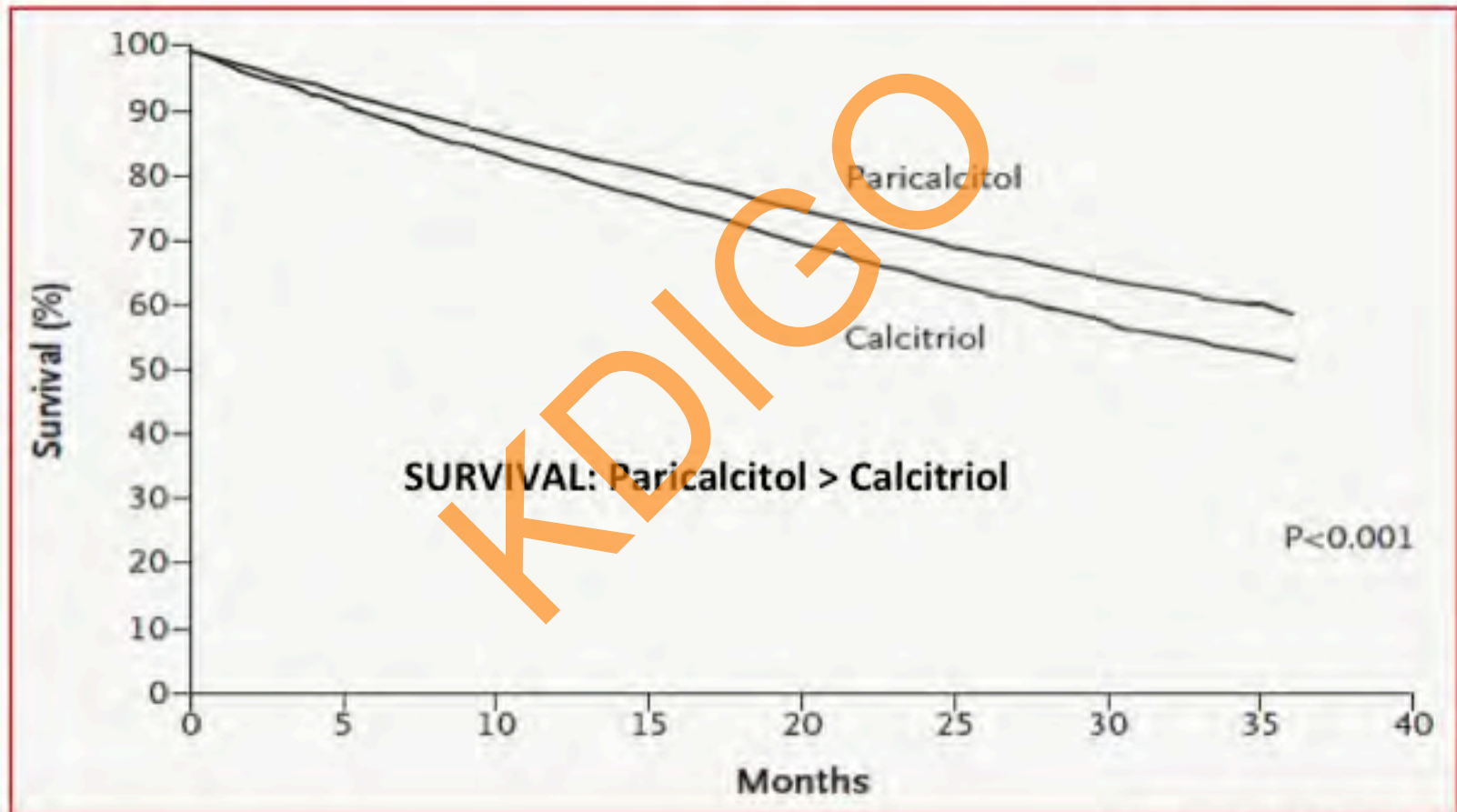


# Avoidance of CV events and mortality

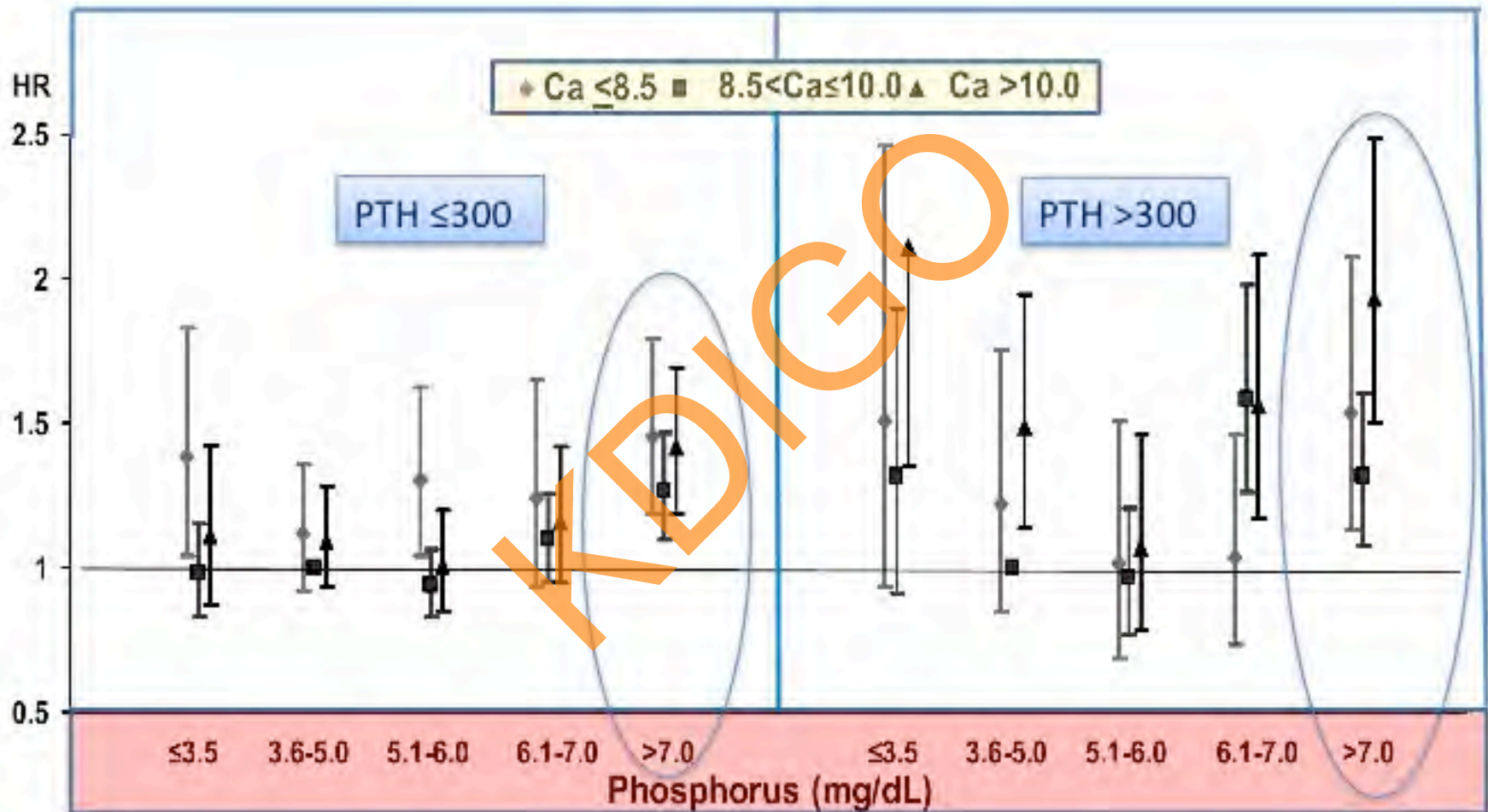


# Avoidance of CV events and mortality

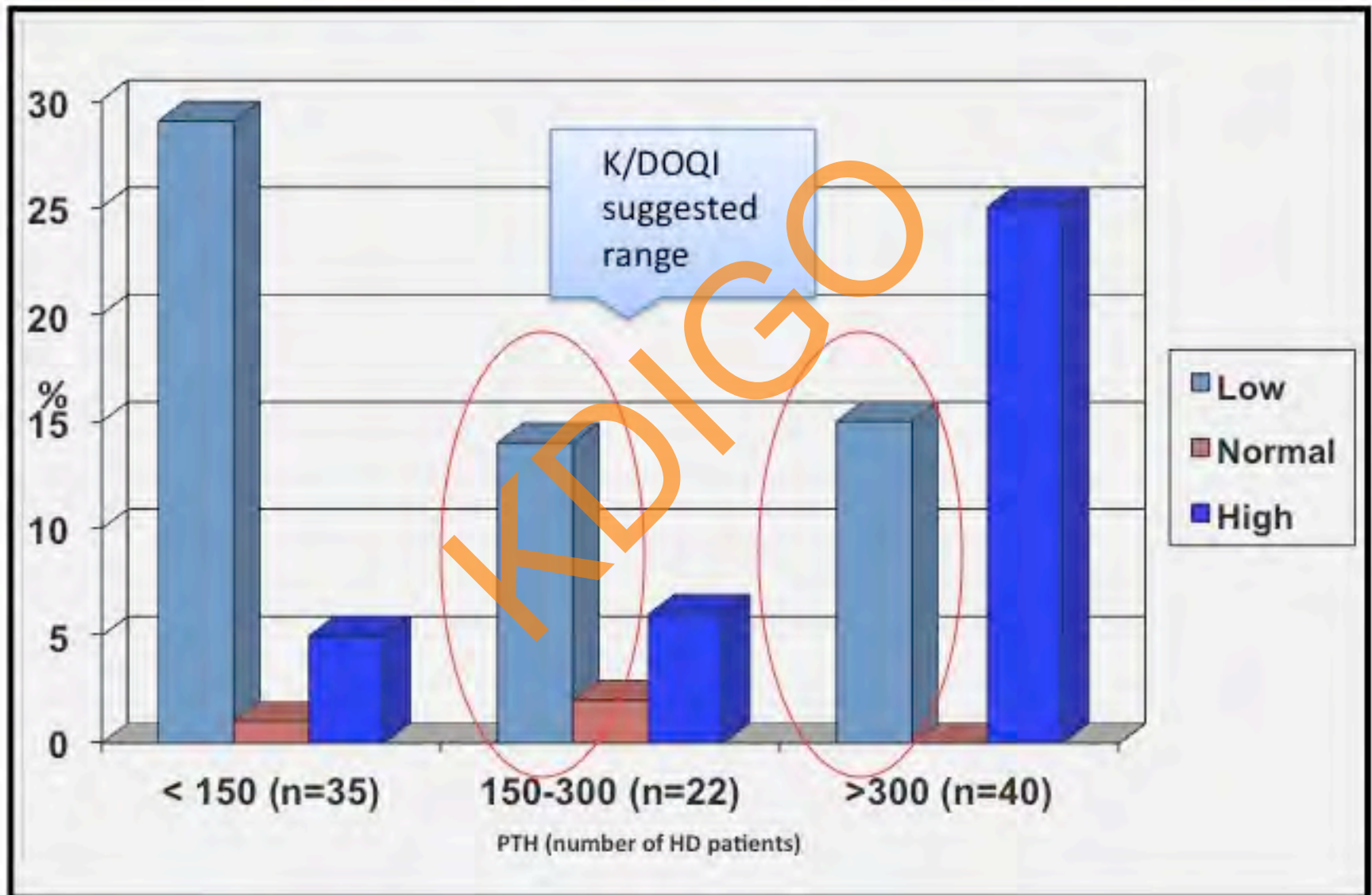
FRESENIUS MEDICAL CARE iPTH TARGET <300 pg/ml



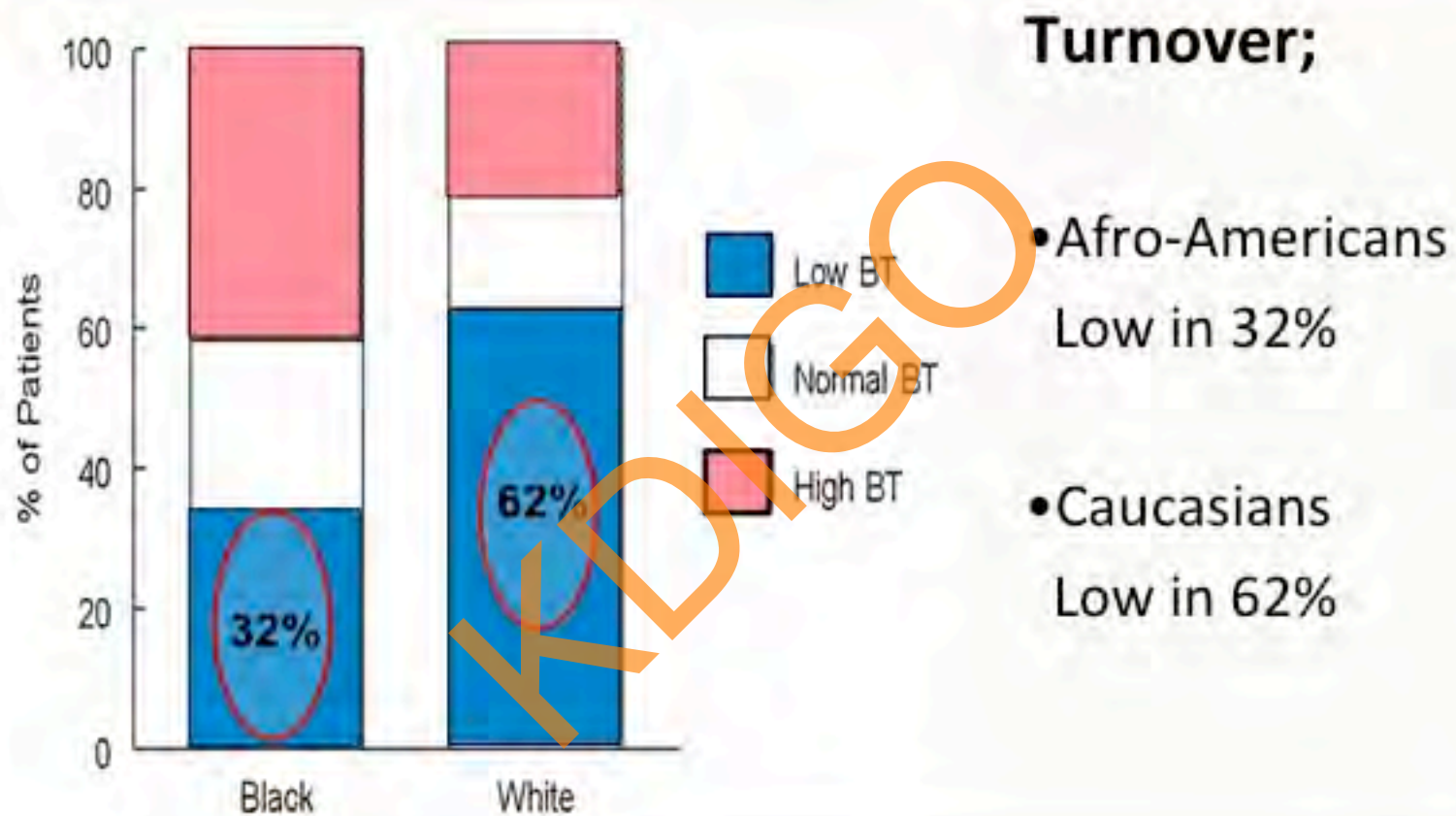
# PTH and mortality inconsistently associated



## PTH value may not reflect bone turnover

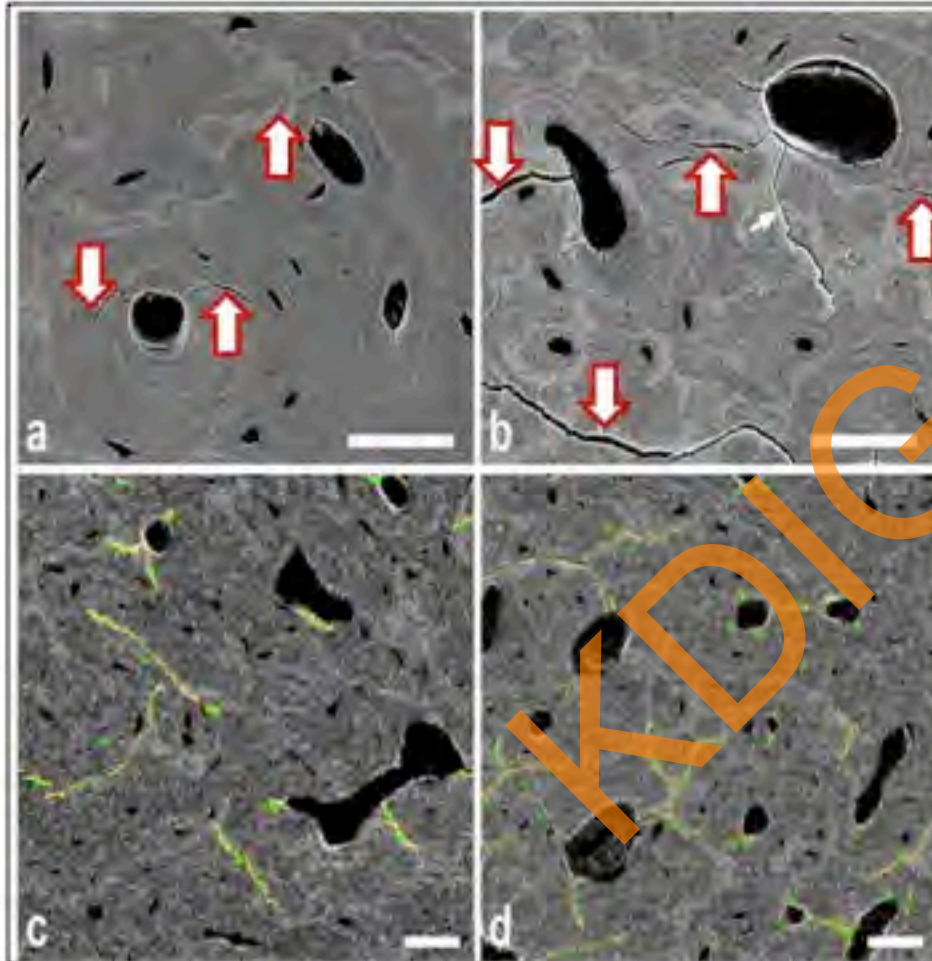


## Low bone turnover is common



630 bone biopsies: 543 Caucasian. Dialysate  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  1.25 mmol/L in 371, 1.75 mmol/L in 259; 429 Ca-based P binders; 4 cinacalcet

## Low turnover may increase bone fragility



Microcrack frequency and bone remodeling in postmenopausal osteoporotic women on long-term bisphosphonates: a bone biopsy study

**Compared to controls, reduced turnover but no increase in microcrack accumulation**



## Low and high turnover potentiate VC

### Soft tissue Calcium Deposition

- Inappropriately Low PTH
- Reduced rapid Uptake
- Abnormal Bone Turnover

ECF

- Prescribed Ca
  - Ca 'Spike'
- Calcitriol and analogs

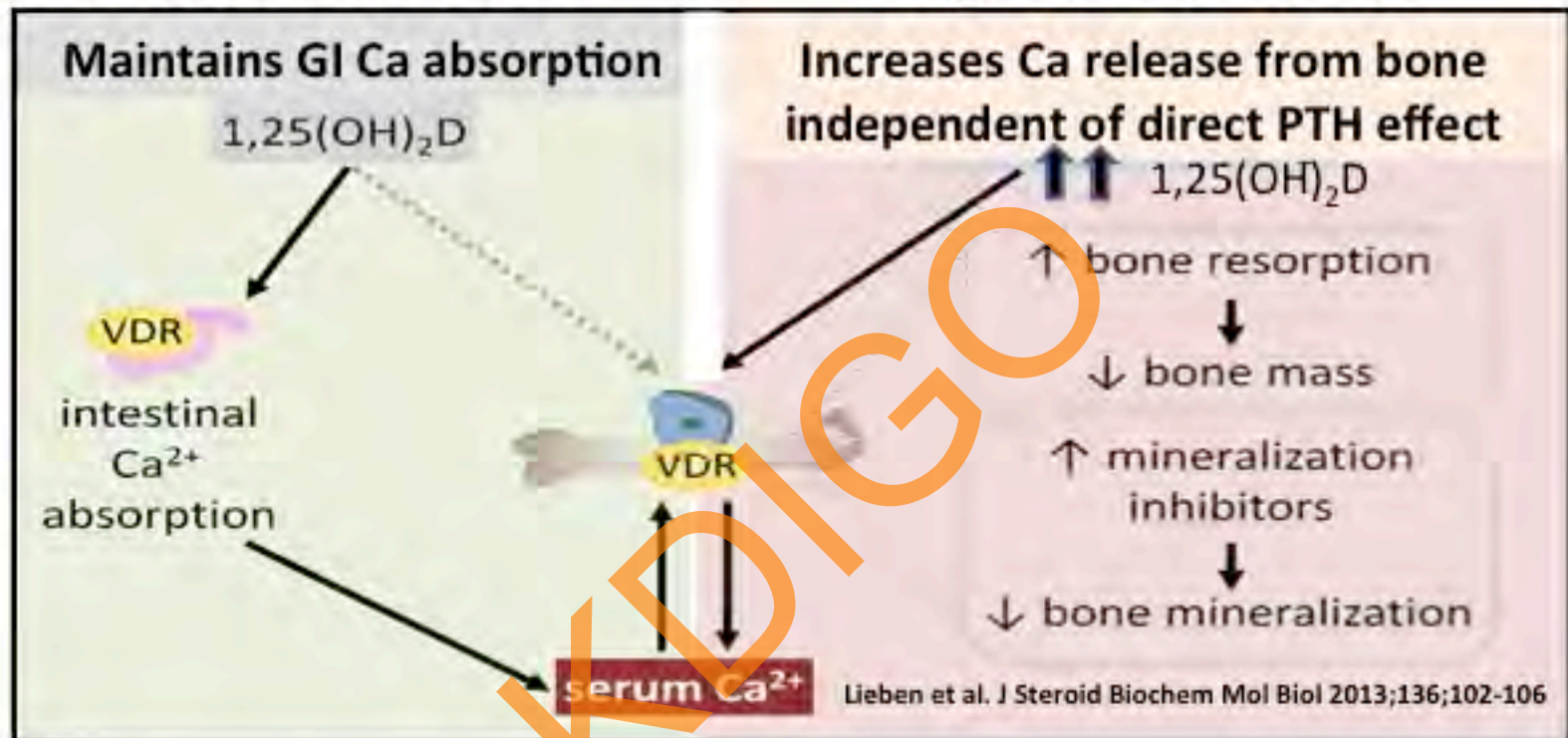
- Reduced Kidney Function

ECF many compartments interstitial, bone, CT, plasma, water ; net balance zero

# 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D actions vary with calcium balance

## Normal Ca balance

## Negative Ca balance

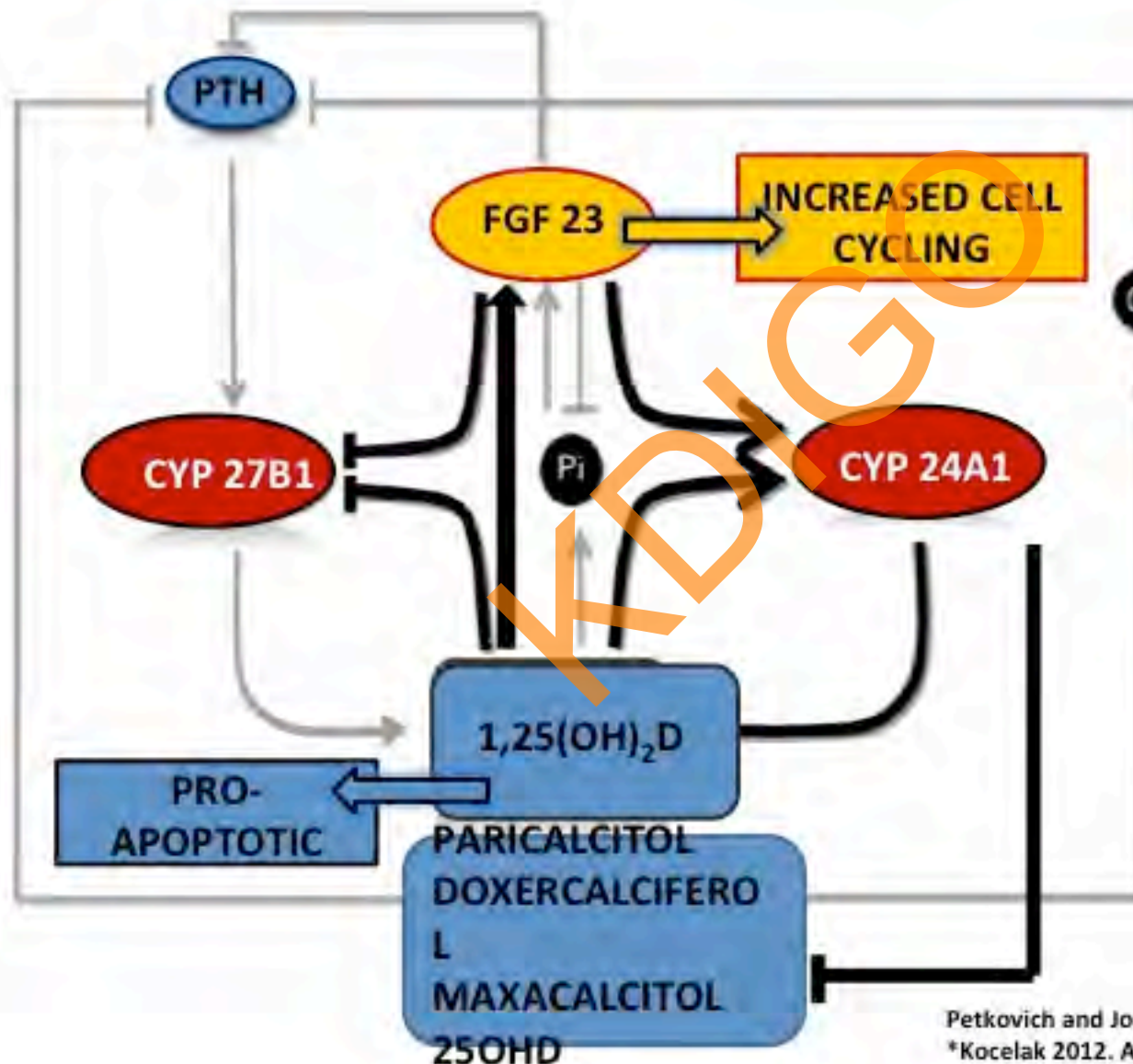


- 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D suppresses mineralisation by increasing levels of pyrophosphate
- Inhibits osteoblastogenesis and increases osteoclast activity
- BUT: Effects vary with developmental stage  
Anabolic effects on mature osteoblasts also reported

Tanaka et al. J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol 2004;89-90:343-345

St Arnaud J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol 2008

# 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D / FGF 23 interactions



Independent effects on P and Ca

1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D induces FGF 23 release if normocalcaemic; ? reduced in CKD\*

FGF 23 and 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D induce 24-hydroxylase; clears calcitriol, analogs and 25OHD.

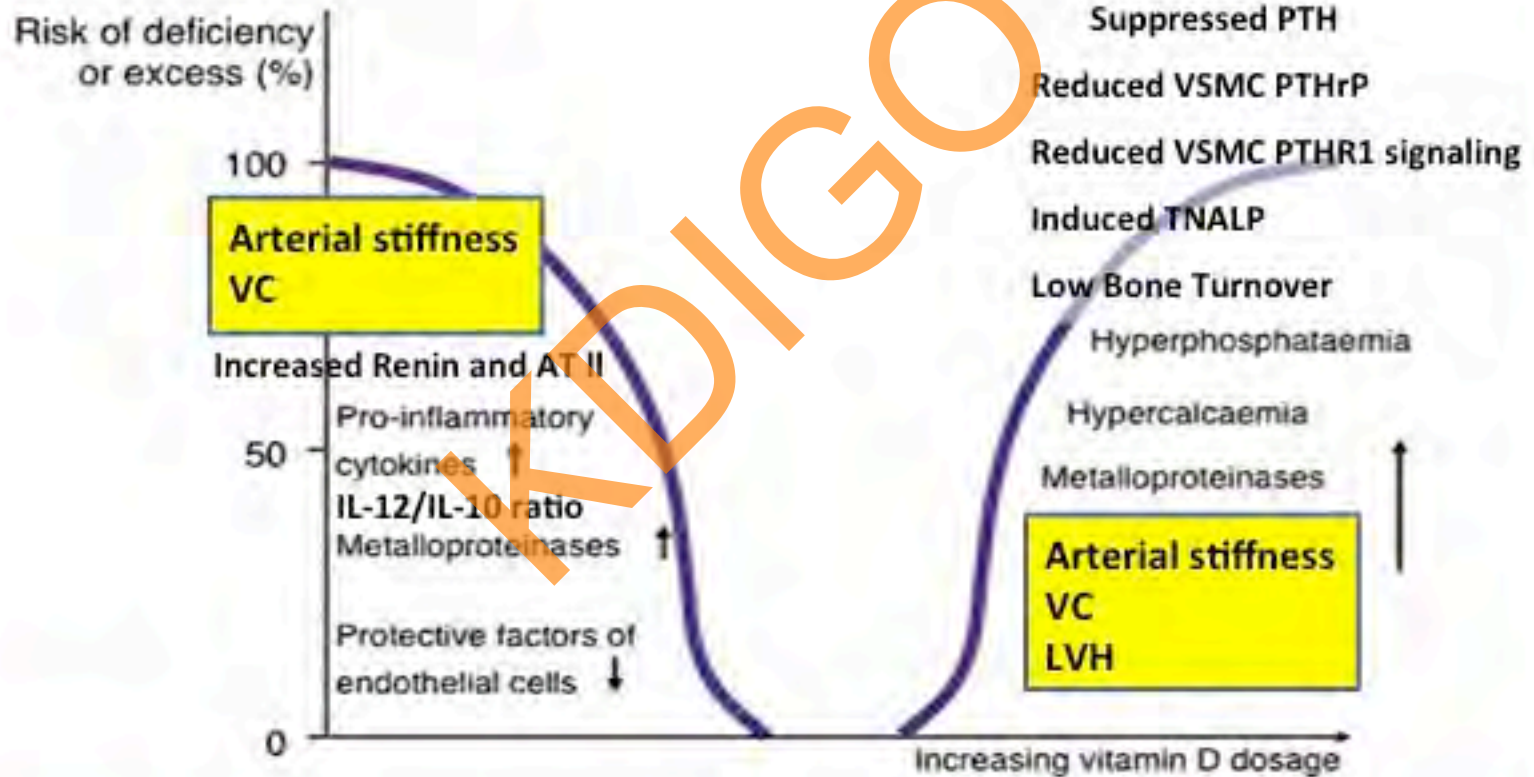
Cell cycling effects

Petkovich and Jones. Current Opin Nephrol Hypertens 2011

\*Kocelak 2012. Adv Clin Exp Med 2012, 21, 3, 391-401

# Biphasic Dose-Response Curve for 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D

## Deleterious Consequences of Deficiency or Excess



Thompson and Towler. Nature Reviews Endocrinology 2012  
Cozzolino Clin Nephrol 2009

Zittermann et al, Curr Opin Lipidol 2007; 18: 41-46

# Effect of Calcitriol and Analogs on TMV

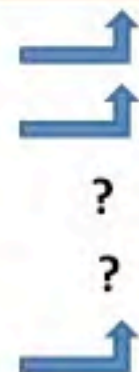
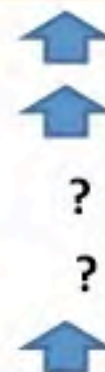
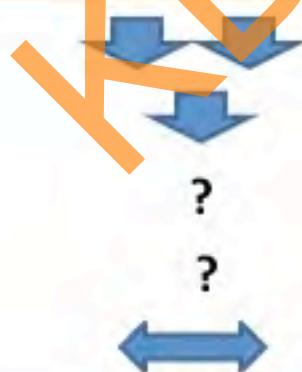


Turnover:

Mineralisation:

Volume:

- Calcitriol IV / PO
- Alfacalcidol
- Paricalcitol
- Doxercalciferol
- Maxacalcitol



Reduced turnover, woven bone, fibrosis, improved mineralisation

## Meta-analysis: Vitamin D Compounds in Chronic Kidney Disease

Suetonia C. Palmer, MBChB; David O. McGregor, PhD; Petra Macaskill, PhD; Jonathan C. Craig, PhD; Grahame J. Elder, PhD; and Giovanni F.M. Strippoli, MD, MPH(Hons), MM

**Purpose:** To determine whether vitamin D therapy improves biochemical markers of mineral metabolism and cardiovascular and mortality outcomes in chronic kidney disease.

**Data Sources:** MEDLINE (January 1966 to July 2007), EMBASE (January 1980 to July 2007), and Cochrane databases were searched without language restriction.

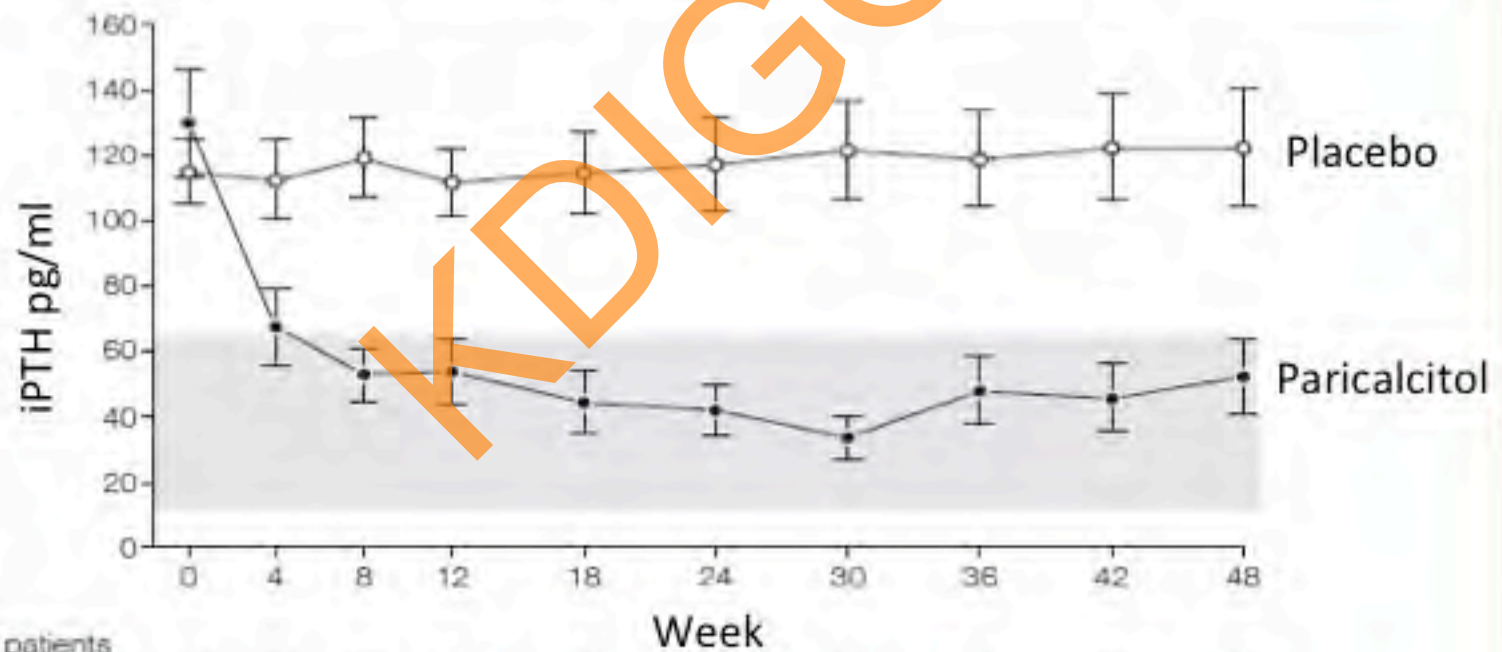
Meta-analysis of 76 trials; 3667 patients; 40 years research!

## Calcitriol and newer analogs

- Little data on patient-level outcomes
- Reciprocal relationship of calcitriol / analogs to PTH  
Newer analogs may reduce PTH more effectively
- Established vitamin D therapies were associated with increases in both Ca and P
- Newer analogs were associated with increases in Ca but not P vs. placebo

# The PRIMO Randomized Controlled Trial

In patients with LVH and CKD, does 48-weeks treatment with paricalcitol reduce LV mass and CVD events and improve diastolic function and cardiac biomarkers?



No. of patients

|              |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| Placebo      | 112 | 105 | 106 | 104 | 100 | 93  | 94 | 91 | 92 | 85 |
| Paricalcitol | 115 | 111 | 112 | 108 | 104 | 101 | 96 | 92 | 88 | 84 |



## The PRIMO Randomized Controlled Trial

- NS change in LVMI at 48 weeks (primary endpoint)
- Hospitalizations from any cause NS.
- Between-group differences in BNP NS.
- Paricalcitol reduced left atrial volume index, a measure linked to adverse cardiovascular events, particularly CCF

### ADVERSE EVENTS

- Hypercalcemia (paricalcitol, 22.6% vs placebo, 0.9%; P.001)
- Decline in GFR by creatinine and cystatin C-based methods (p=0.001 and 0.06 respectively)

### COMMENTS:

- Patients may have been too well controlled: RAS inhibitors, BP, CRP
- BNP and LAVI changes may be adequate surrogates.

## Summary: calcitriol and analogs

- Pharmacological doses of calcitriol and analogs suppress PTH in CKD 3-5D but increase calcium and/or phosphate levels.
- Calcitriol and analogs improve bone histomorphometry in patients with high bone turnover.
- Patients treated with calcitriol/analog ± calcimimetics may develop low bone turnover; with increased risks for VC and possibly bone quality.
- Despite observational support for calcitriol/analog improving CV risk and mortality, the PRIMO study did not show an overall advantage; although surrogate measures suggest subgroups may be benefited.
- Low dose calcitriol/analog may benefit CV risk and bone