

# Causes and Consequences of Vascular Pathologies in CKD

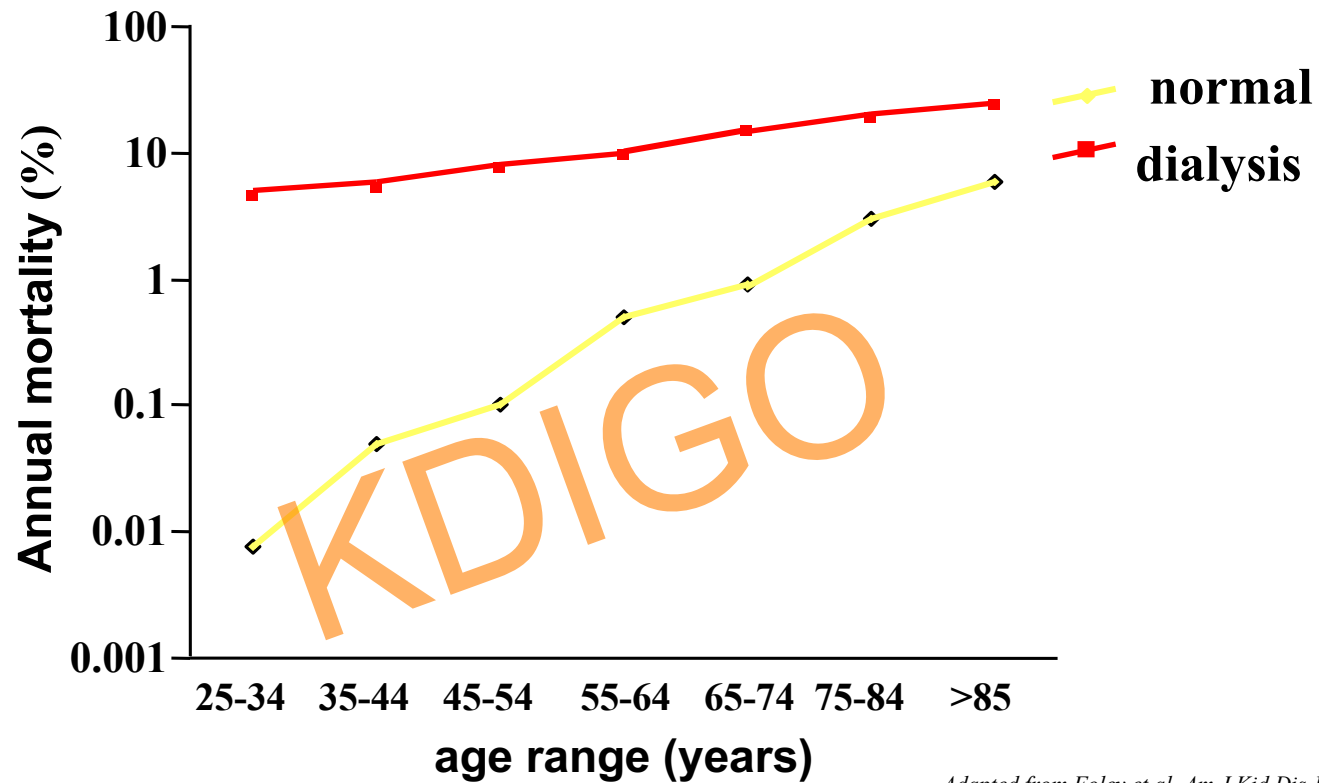
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King's College London  
Cardiovascular Division



**KING'S**  
*College*  
**LONDON**

## Cardiovascular mortality in CKD patients



*Adapted from Foley et al. Am J Kid Dis 1998*

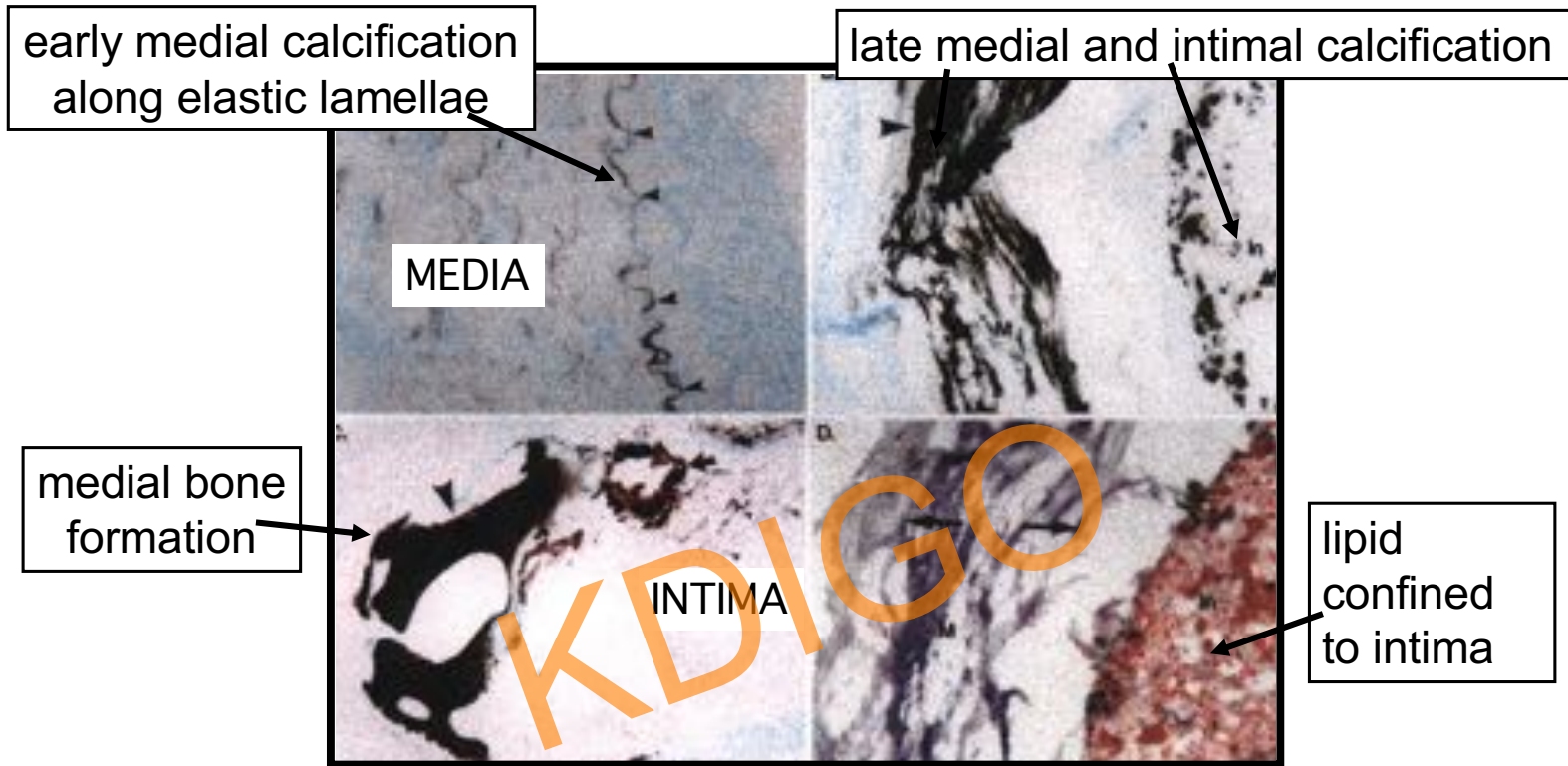
### Adolescents and young adult with CKD:

- structural and functional abnormalities in the large vessels
- present even in the second decade of life
- linked to disorders in mineral metabolism

*Goodman, NEJM, 2000; Litwin, JASN, 2005;  
Mitsnefes, JASN 2005; Goldsmith, NDT, 2006*

**Is Vascular Calcification A Major Cause  
Of Cardiovascular Mortality in  
Renal Failure  
Patients?**

KDIGO



MEDIAL CALCIFICATION

organised along elastic lamellae  
 bone formation common  
 VSMCs only  
 little lipid

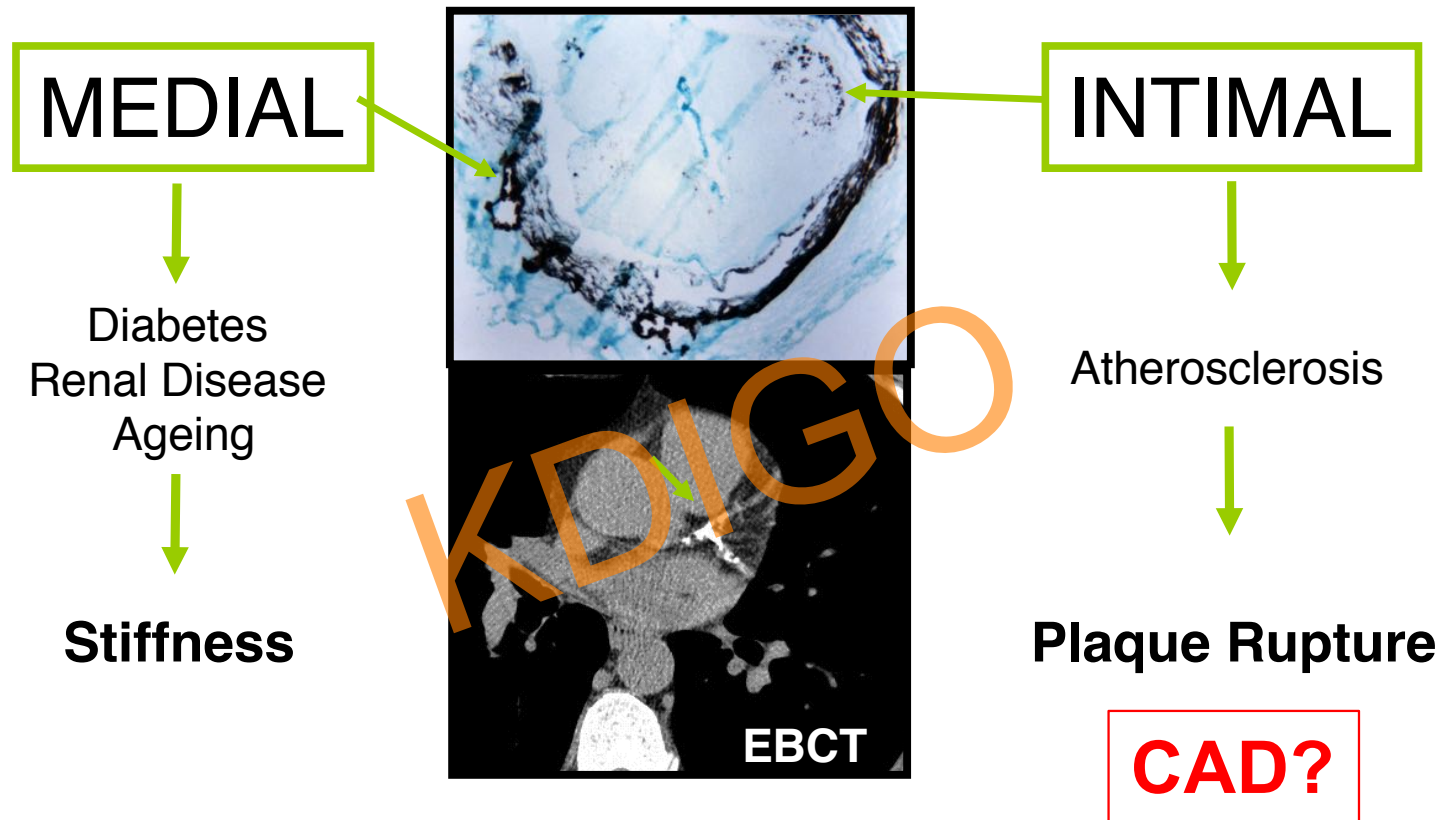
→ Ageing  
 Uremia  
 Diabetes

INTIMAL CALCIFICATION

punctate, disorganised  
 bone formation uncommon  
 macrophages + VSMCs  
 lipid always present

Atherosclerosis

# Vascular calcification occurs at two sites



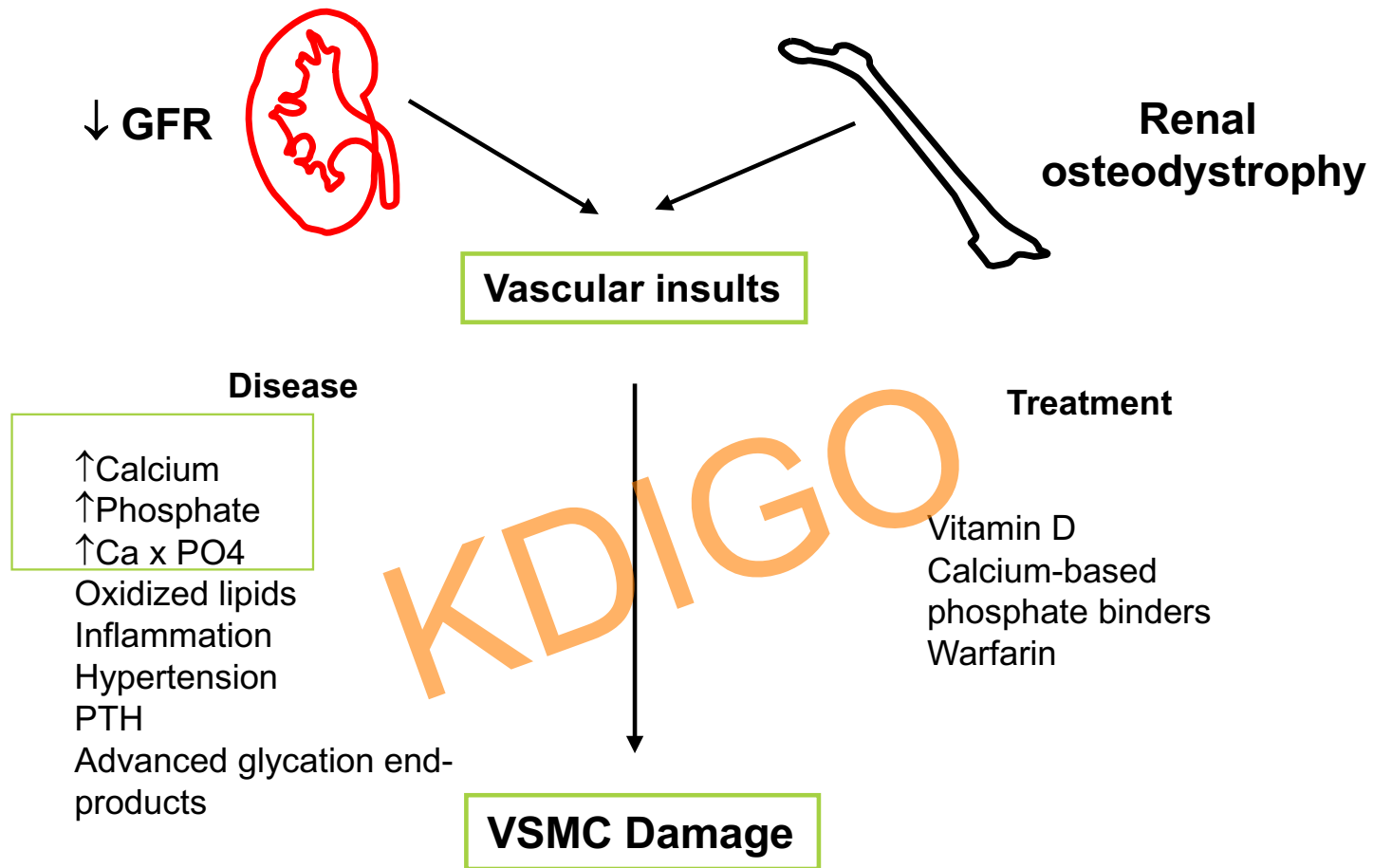
- Major cause of cardiovascular mortality in CKD
- Increased risk of myocardial infarction and all cause mortality
- Surgical complications and amputations
- Valve calcification

**Vascular Calcification is a**

**Regulated Process similar to**

**bone calcification**

**So Reflects Disease Processes?**



- Time on dialysis
- Pre-existing vascular calcification (once present rapidly progresses)

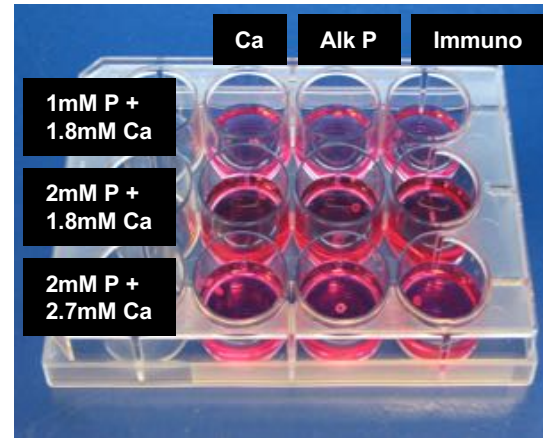
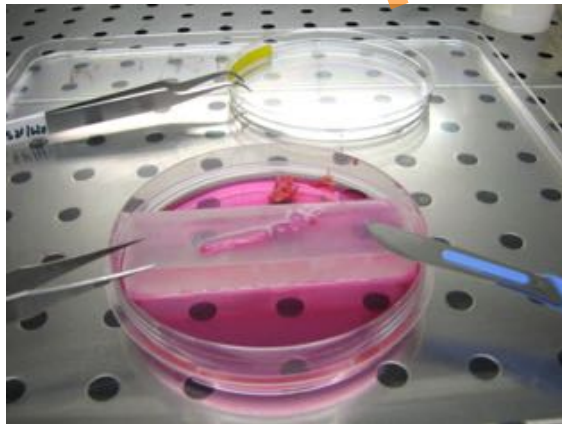
# Vessel Rings from Children *in vivo* and *ex vivo*

**Studied vessels from children on dialysis who develop rapid medial vascular calcification**

- pristine vessels -no atherosclerosis
- Intact - vascular matrix structure maintained

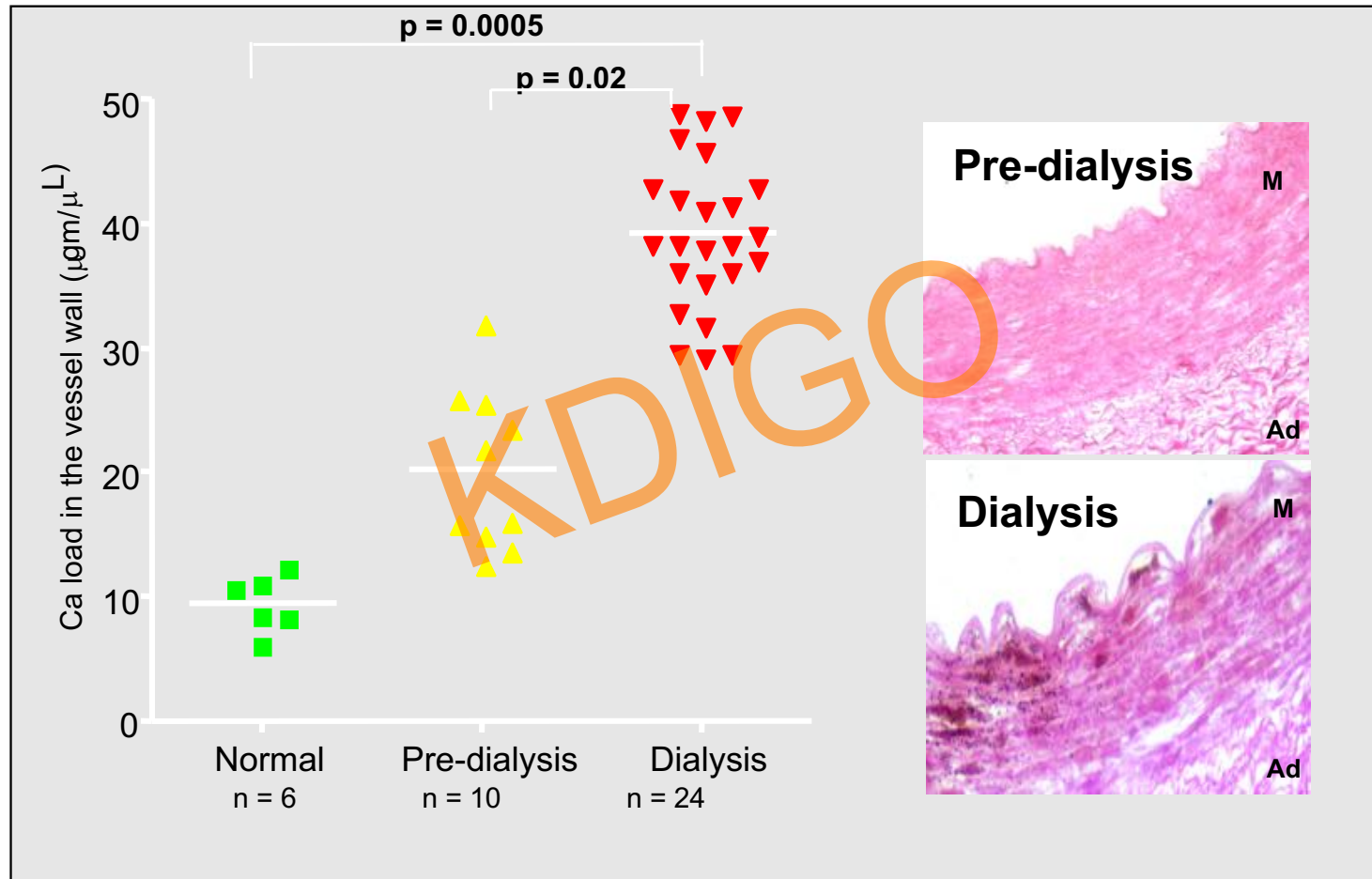
Measured: CALCIUM LOAD  
VESSEL HISTOLOGY

Correlated with : VASCULAR MEASURES  
BIOCHEMICAL DATA



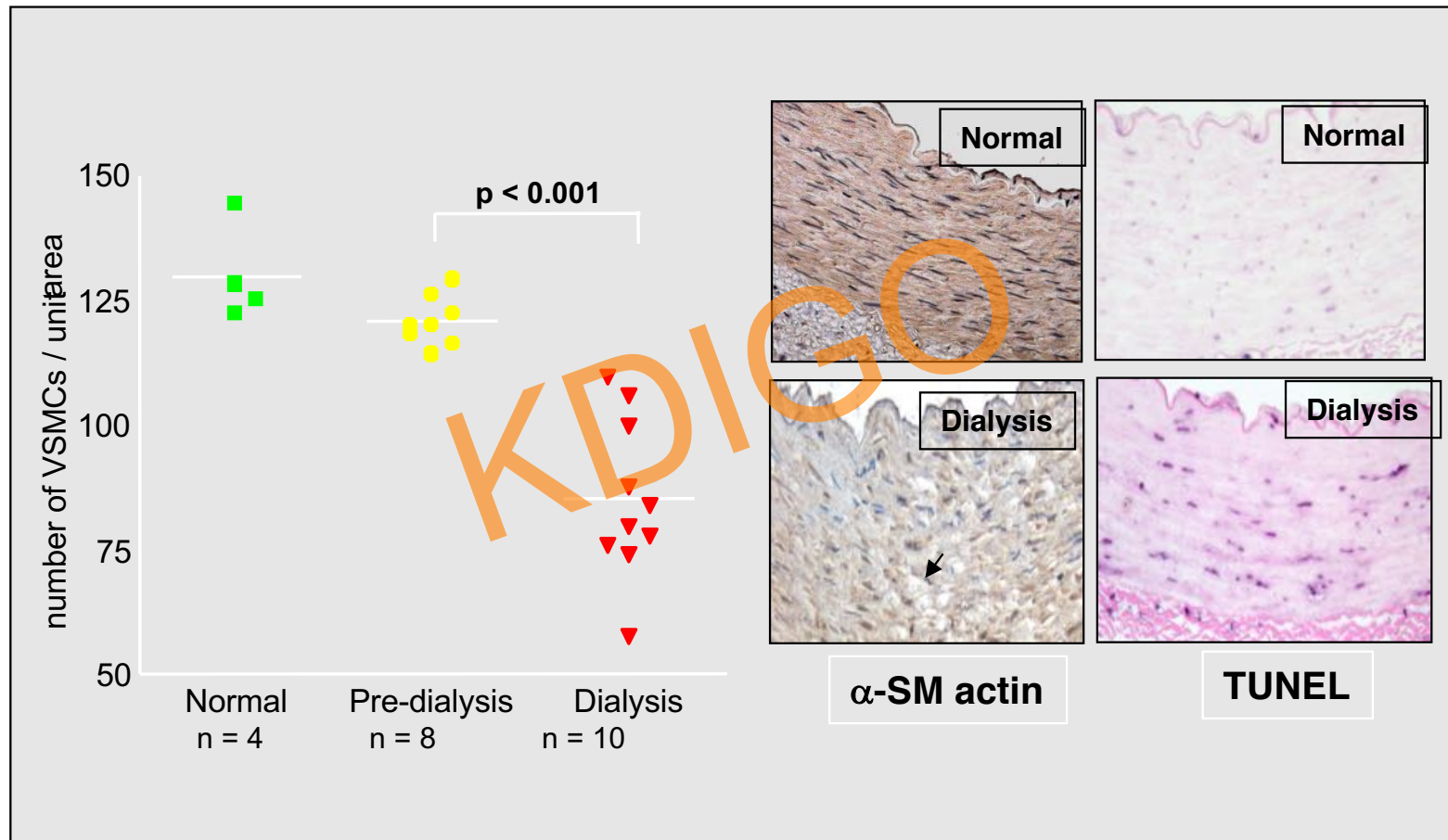


# Children on Dialysis develop rapid medial calcification

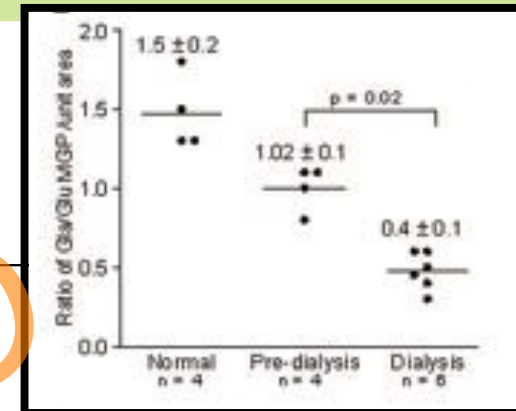
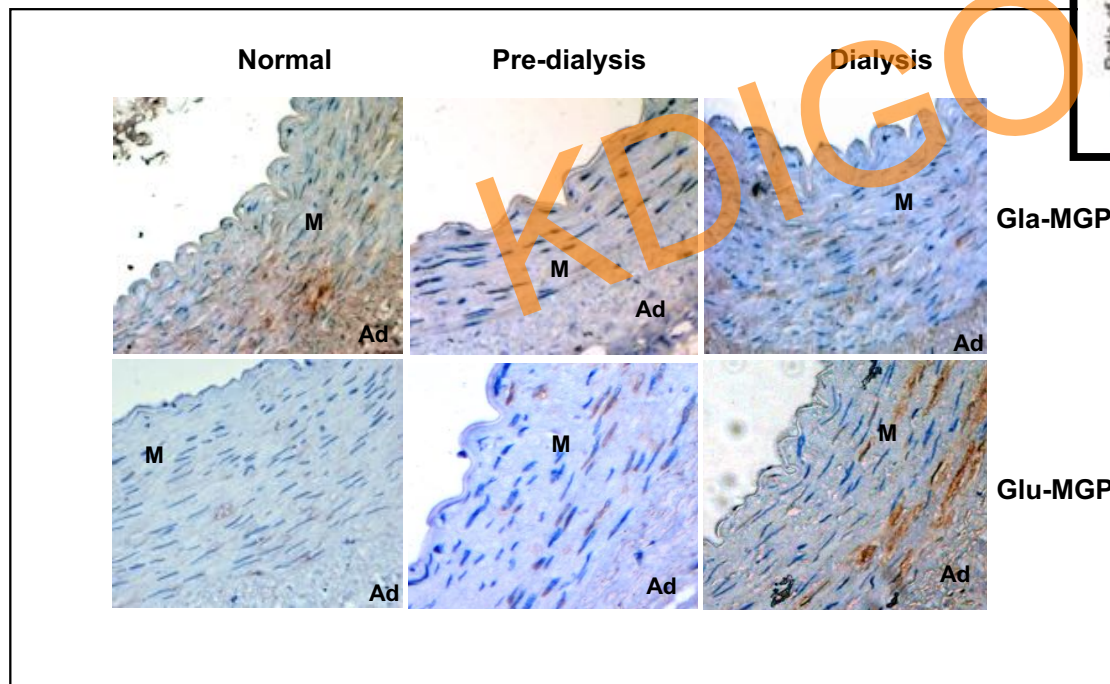


High Circulating Phosphate Levels, Transient Hypercalcemia?

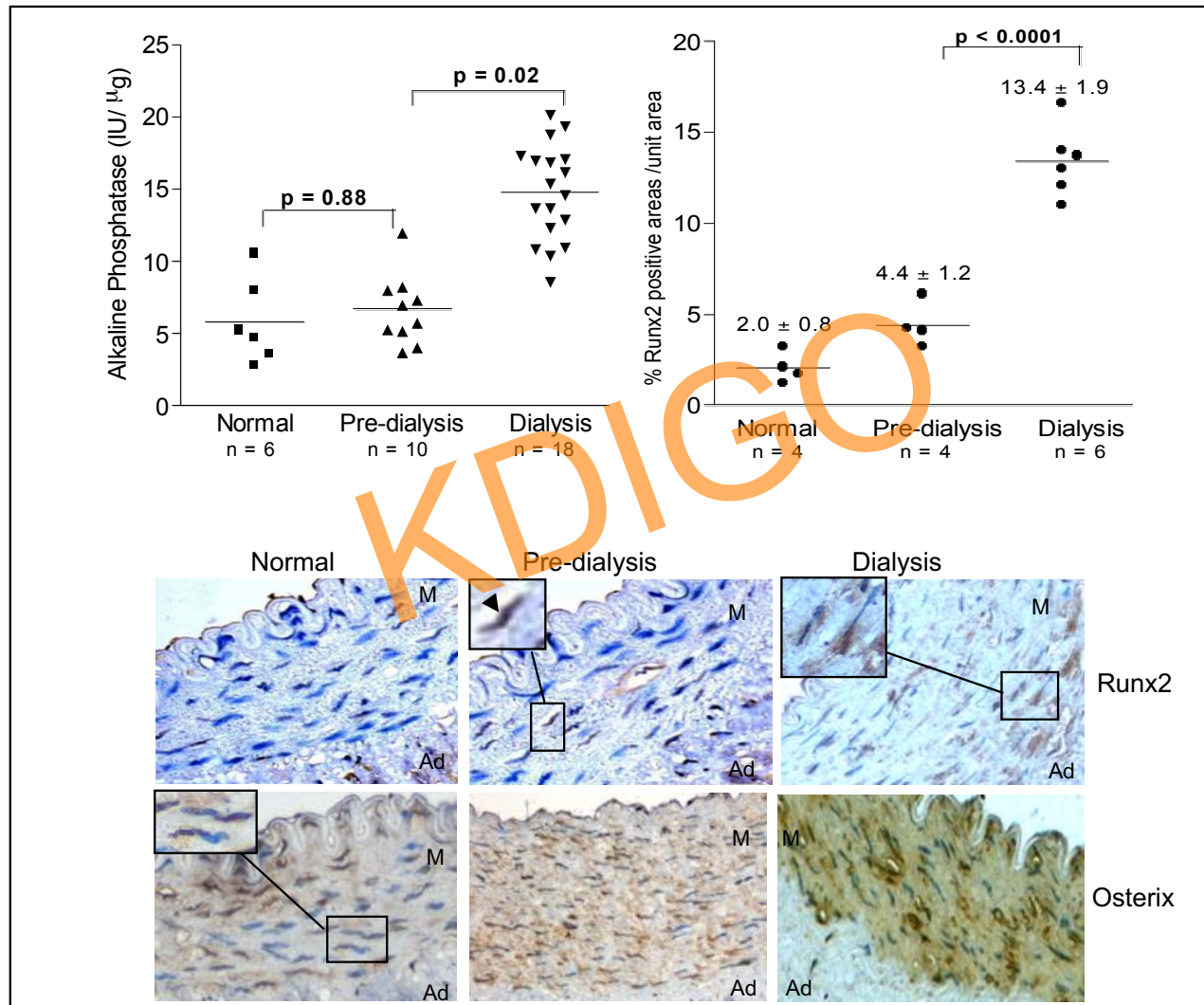
# Calcification correlates with VSMC loss via apoptosis



# Loss of Calcification Inhibitors Non-functional Glu-MGP predominates in Dialysis vessels

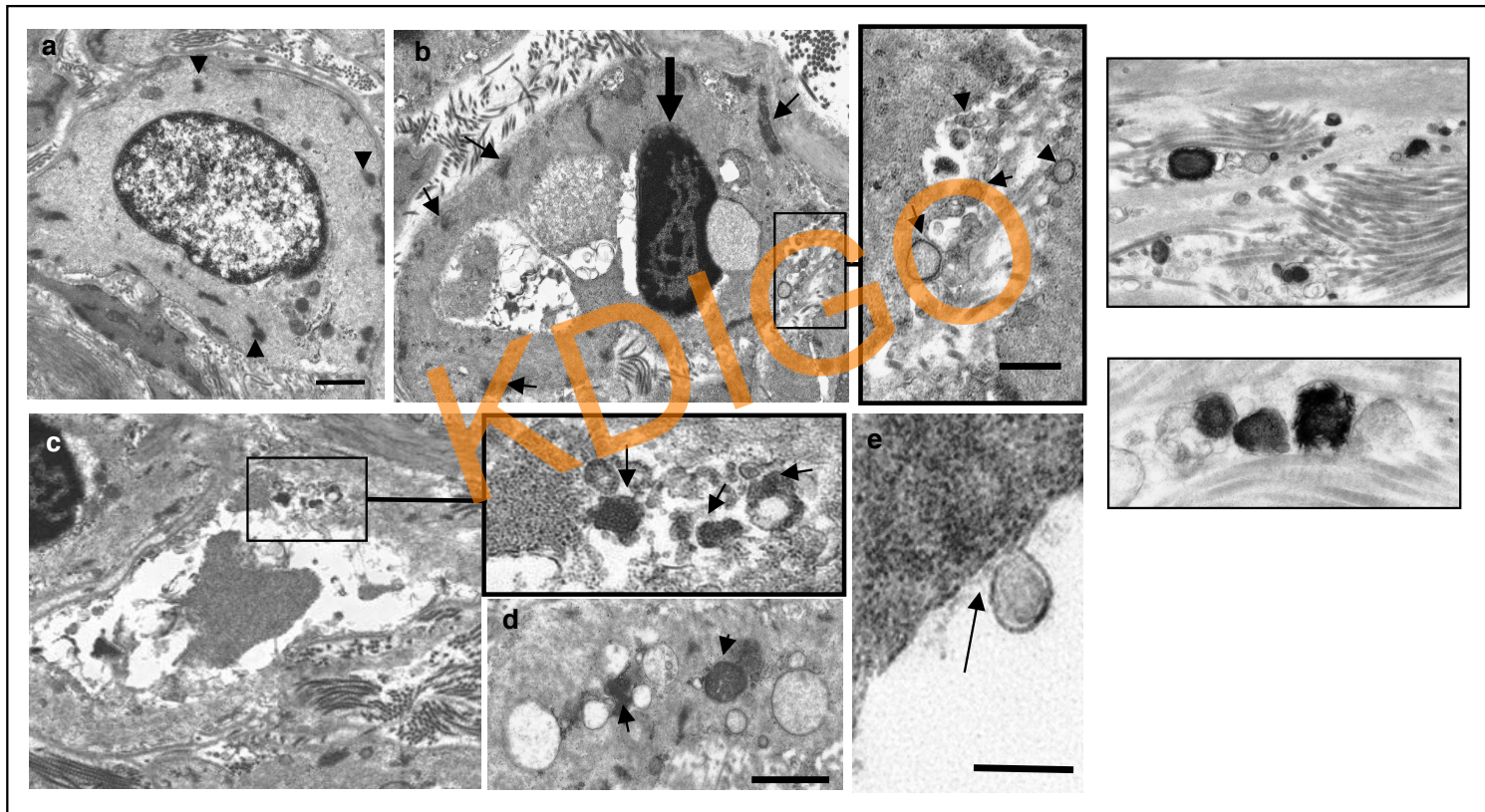


# Dialysis vessels show increased osteogenic differentiation



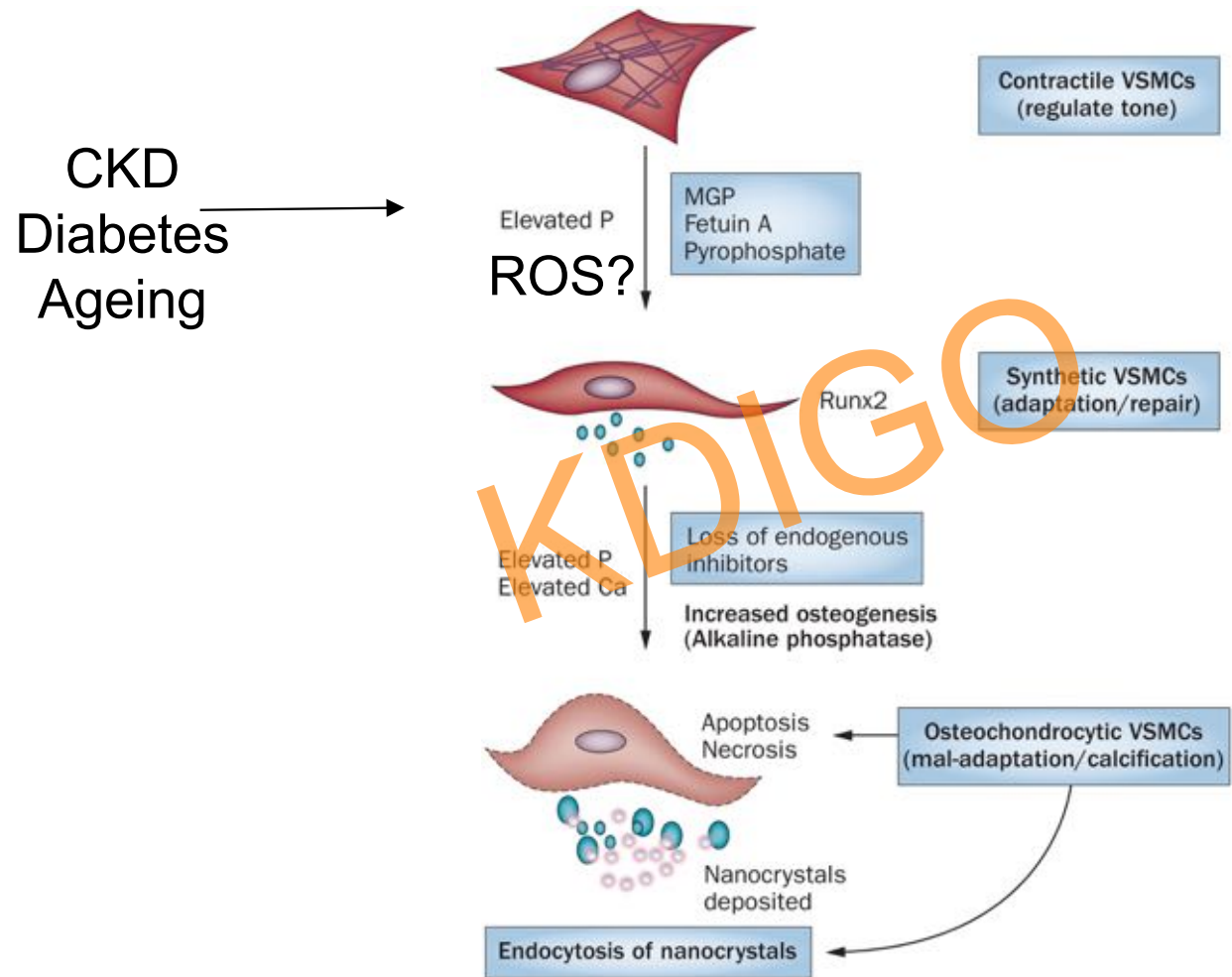
(Shroff et al 2008, Circulation)

# Ca load is associated with increased vesicle deposition by VSMCs



(Shroff et al 2008, *Circulation*)

# Mechanisms of Vascular Smooth Muscle Cell Calcification



# Why is Calcification Important Clinically?

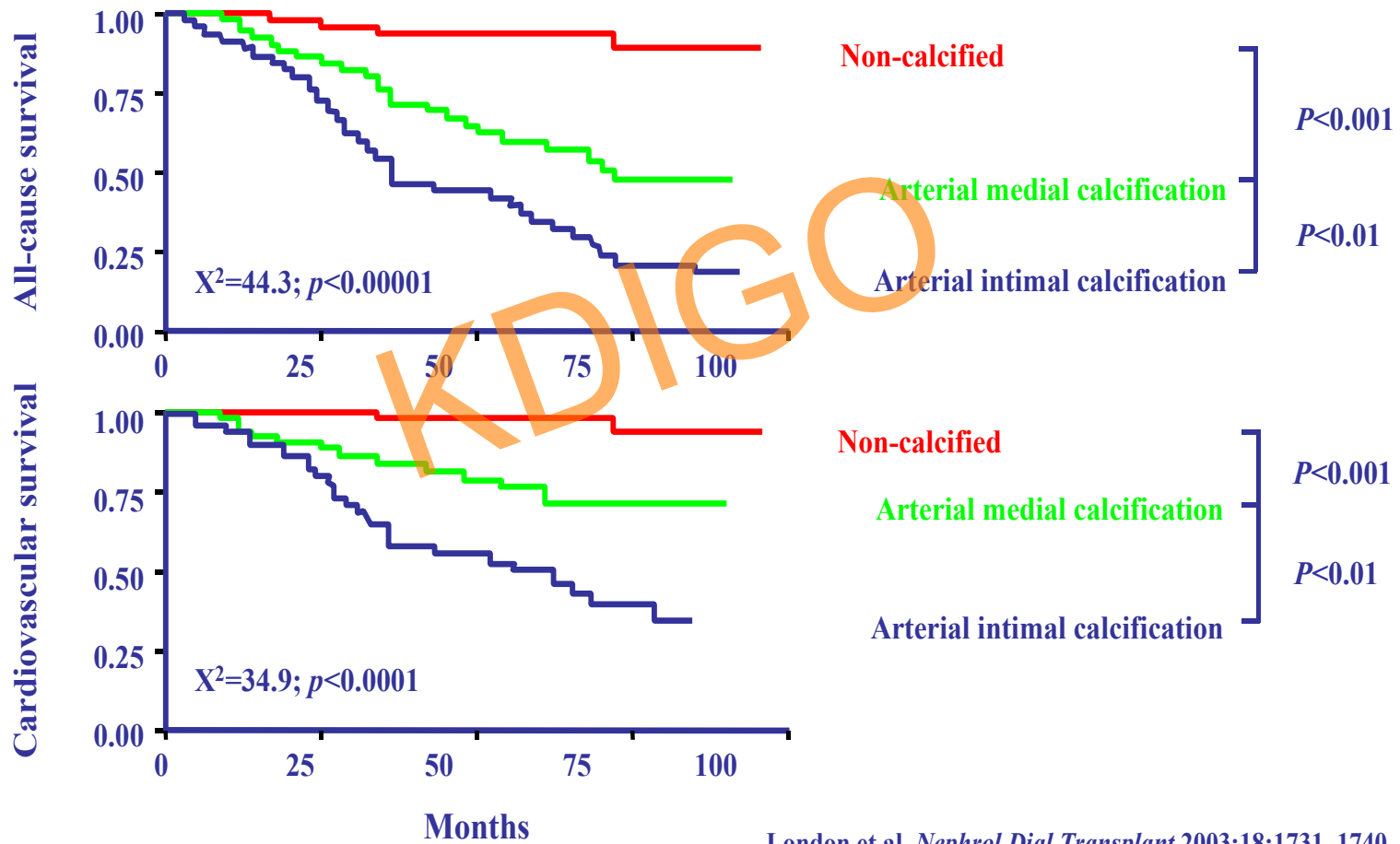
KDIGO

The Clinical Consequence  
Medial Calcification is Arterial  
Stiffening

KDIGO



# Impact on all-cause and CV mortality of arterial Calcification in CKD



London et al. *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 2003;18:1731-1740

# Diabetes is Associated with a high Prevalence of Vascular Calcification in Peripheral Arteries

## Peripheral Artery Calcification in Diabetes



Associated with increased CV mortality, amputation and ulcers, surgical complications

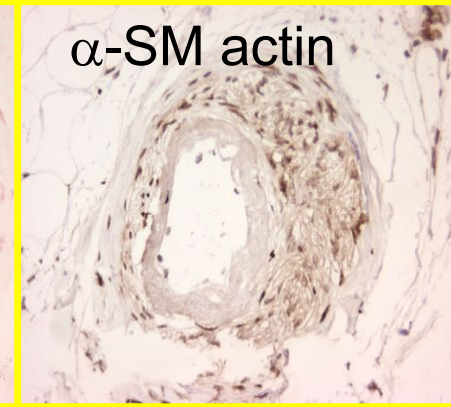
# Calciphylaxis in CKD

Medial calcification of  
small arterioles

Von Kossa



$\alpha$ -SM actin



Progressive Gangrene  
High Mortality

## Is there medial calcification in the coronary arteries of patients with ESRD?

Detailed analysis of calcified areas using the Kossa stain showed that calcification of the coronary lesions was predominantly located in the intima, i.e. the arterial plaque, whereas we could hardly find any media calcification in the coronary arteries (Fig. 1).



N=25 CKD patients

*Watcher et al, Histol Histopathol, 2018*

Vascular Calcification is Associated  
with an increased risk of Plaque  
Rupture.

Does calcification cause  
plaque rupture?

Is the type of calcification Important?

# Small Calcium deposits are associated with plaque instability

## Spotty Calcification Typifies the Culprit Plaque in Patients With Acute Myocardial Infarction An Intravascular Ultrasound Study

Shoichi Ehara, MD; Yoshiki Kobayashi, MD; Minoru Yoshiyama, MD; Kenei Shimada, MD; Yoshihisa Shimada, MD; Daiju Fukuda, MD; Yasuhiro Nakamura, MD; Hajime Yamashita, MD; Hiroyuki Yamagishi, MD; Kazuhide Takeuchi, MD; Takahiko Naruko, MD; Kazuo Haze, MD; Anton E. Becker, MD; Junichi Yoshikawa, MD; Makiko Ueda, MD

**Background**—Calcification is a common finding in human coronary arteries; however, the relationship between calcification patterns, plaque morphology, and patterns of remodeling of culprit lesions in a comparison of patients with acute coronary syndromes (ACS) and those with stable conditions has not been documented.

**Methods and Results**—Preinterventional intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) images of 178 patients were studied, 61 with acute myocardial infarction (AMI), 70 with unstable angina pectoris (UAP), and 47 with stable angina pectoris (SAP). The frequency of calcium deposits within an arc of less than 90° for all calcium deposits was significantly different in culprit lesions of patients with AMI, UAP, and SAP ( $P < 0.0001$ ). Moreover, the average number of calcium deposits within an arc of  $< 90^\circ$  per patient was significantly higher in AMI than in SAP ( $P < 0.0005$ ; mean  $\pm$  SD, AMI  $1.4 \pm 1.3$ , SAP  $0.5 \pm 0.8$ ). Conversely, calcium deposits were significantly longer in SAP patients ( $P < 0.0001$ ; mean  $\pm$  SD, AMI  $2.2 \pm 1.6$ , UAP  $1.9 \pm 1.8$ , and SAP  $4.3 \pm 1.2$  mm). In AMI patients, the typical pattern was spotty calcification, associated with a fibrofatty plaque and positive remodeling. In ACS patients showing negative remodeling, no calcification was the most frequent observation. Conversely, SAP patients had the highest frequency of extensive calcification.

**Conclusions**—Our observations show that IVUS allows the identification of vulnerable plaques in coronary arteries, not only by identifying a fibrofatty plaque and positive remodeling, but also by identifying a spotty pattern of calcification. (*Circulation*. 2004;110:3424-3429.)

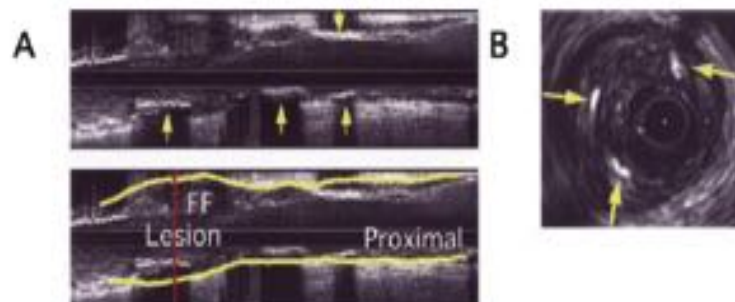
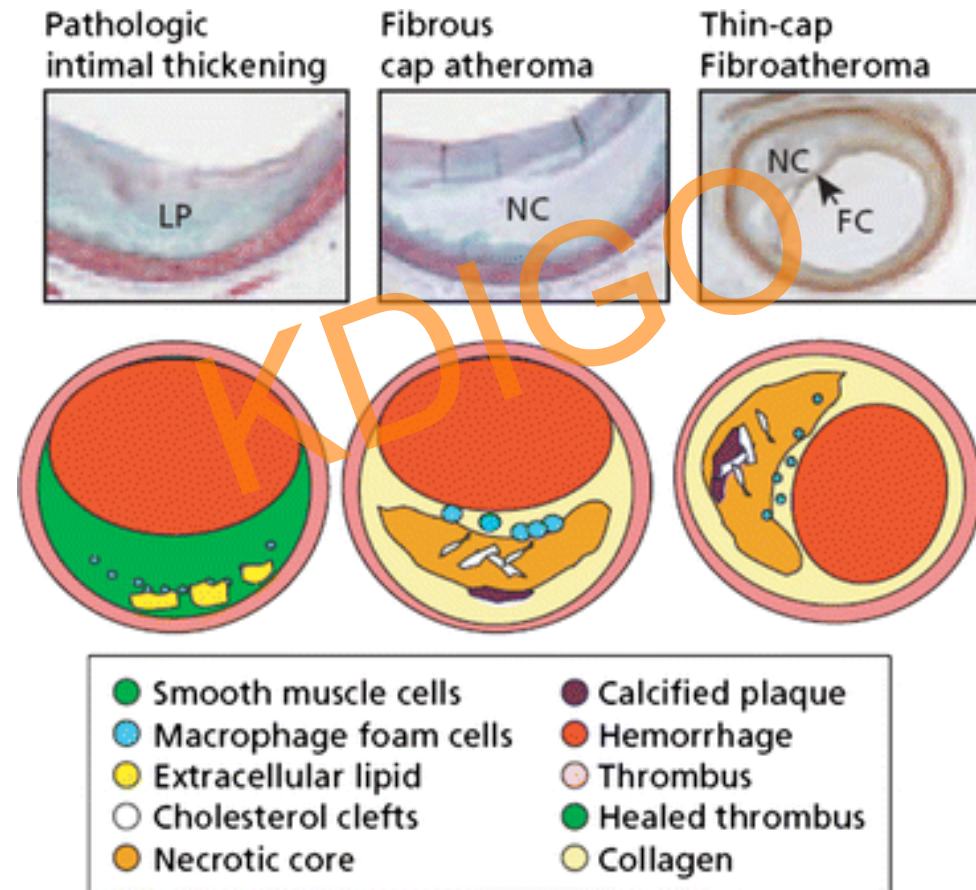


Figure 3. Typical example of IVUS image of spotty calcification with fibrofatty plaque in AMI patient with PR. A, Longitudinal image (upper panel) shows scattered calcifications (arrows) in fibrofatty plaque (FF); EEM is traced in lower panel. B, Cross-sectional image obtained from culprit lesion (indicated by vertical line in lower panel A) demonstrates small calcium deposits (arrows) in fibrofatty plaque.

# Calcium Crystals Cause VSMC Death and Inflammation and Plaque Rupture?

- Nanocrystals induce VSMC death  
(Ewence et al Circ Res 2008)
- Nanocrystals cause macrophage Inflammation  
(Nadra et al Cir Res 2006)
- Changes in plaque response to mechanical forces  
(Richardson et al, Lancet 1989)
- Nanocrystals cause rupture of the fibrous cap  
(Kelly-Arnould, et al Weinbaum, PNAS 2013)

# Plaque Rupture is Associated with Thinning of the FC but Plaque Erosion can also occur

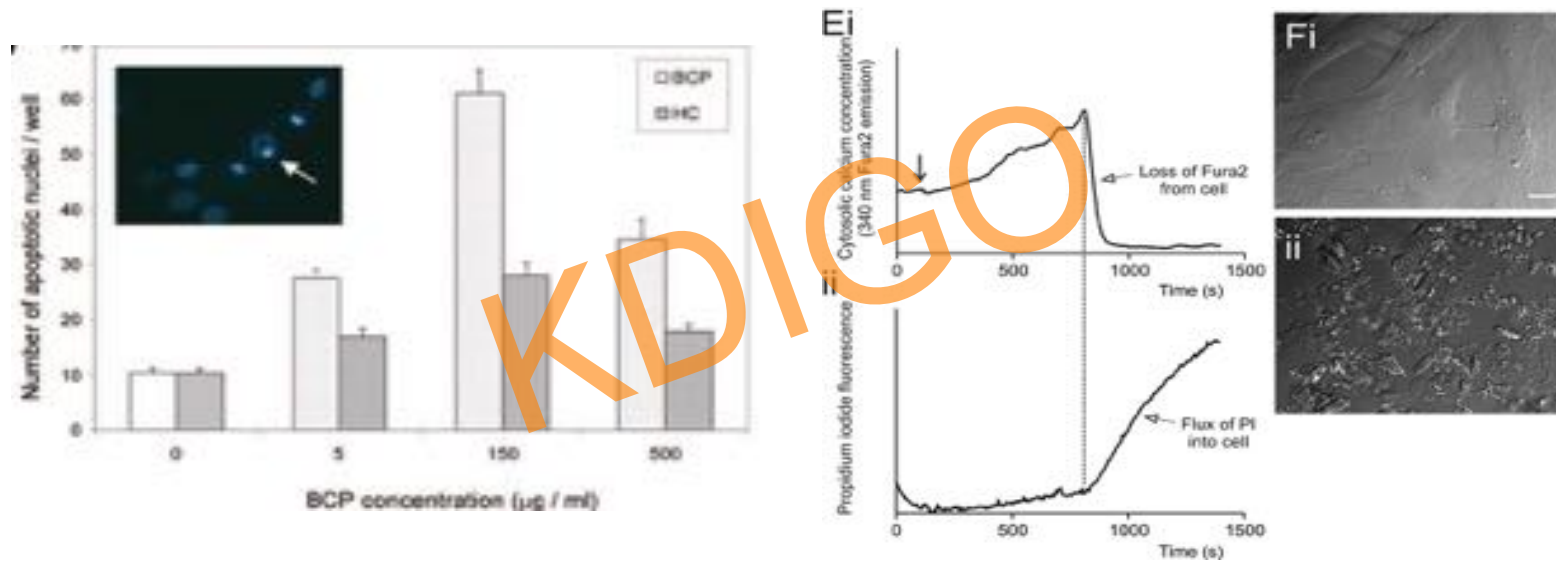




# Calcium Phosphate Crystals Induce Cell Death in Human Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells

## A Potential Mechanism in Atherosclerotic Plaque Destabilization

Alexandra E. Ewence, Martin Bootman, H. Llewelyn Roderick, Jeremy N. Skepper, Geraldine McCarthy, Matthias Epple, Markus Neumann, Catherine M. Shanahan, Diane Proudfoot



Nano-crystals from plaques induce VSMC death. Small crystals most potent.

Small crystals also activate the Infammasome and IL1a signalling.

VSMC death is induced by intracellular Ca overload due to phagocytosis and lysosomal degradation of nano-crystals.

*Proudfoot et al 2018*

# Nano-crystals activate inflammatory NfκB signalling in macrophages



Atherosclerosis 196 (2008) 98–105

ATHEROSCLEROSIS

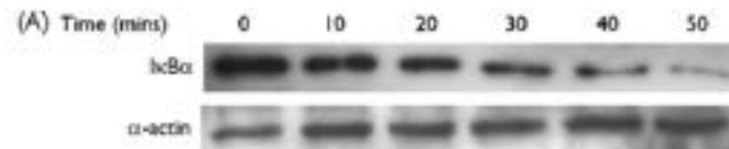
www.elsevier.com/locate/atherosclerosis

## Effect of particle size on hydroxyapatite crystal-induced tumor necrosis factor alpha secretion by macrophages

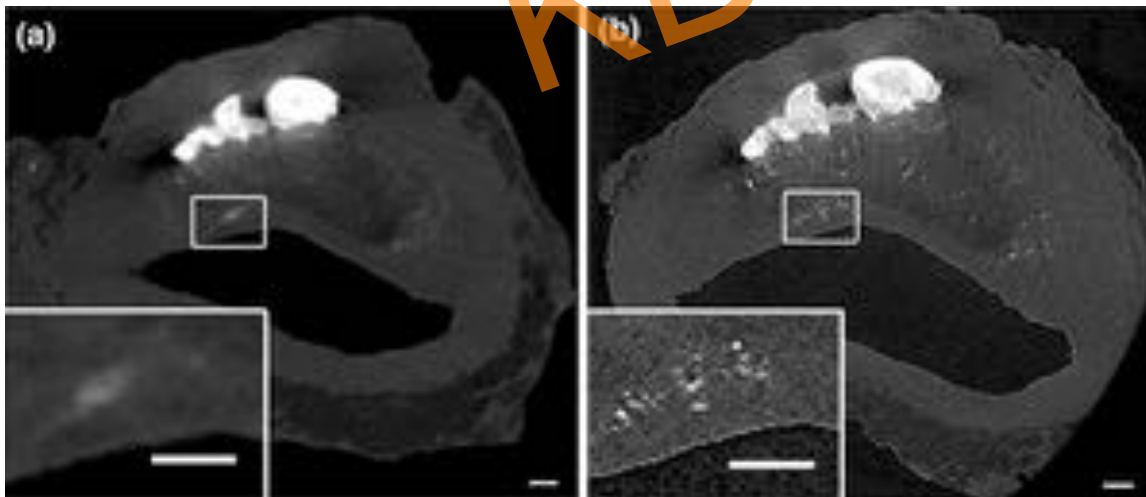
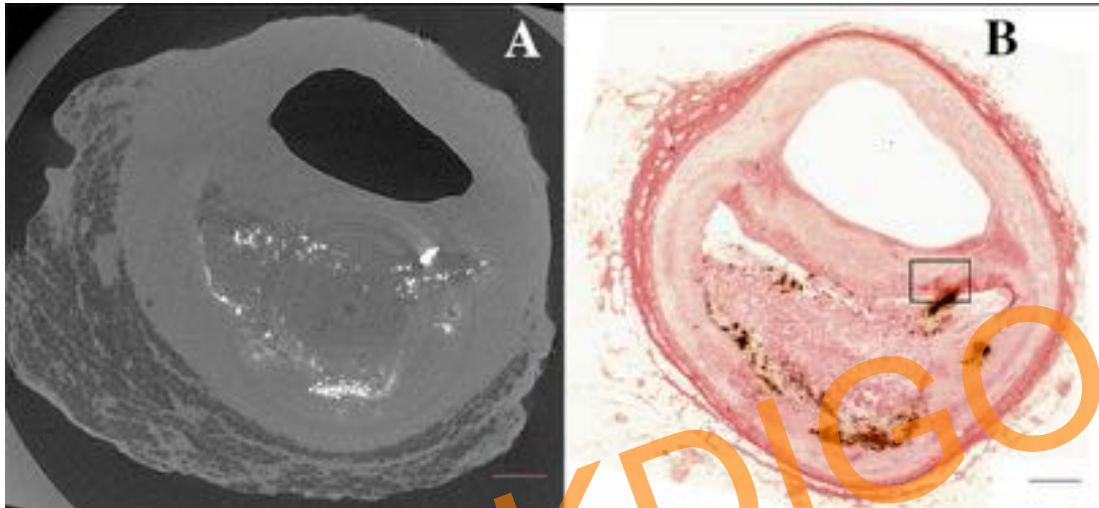
Imad Nadra<sup>a</sup>, Aldo R. Boccaccini<sup>b</sup>, Pandelis Philippidis<sup>a</sup>, Linda C. Whelan<sup>c</sup>, Geraldine M. McCarthy<sup>a</sup>, Dorian O. Haskard<sup>a</sup>, R. Clive Landis<sup>a,\*</sup>

*I. Nadra et al. / Atherosclerosis 196 (2008) 98–105*

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# Micro CT shows microcalcifications in the Fibrous Cap

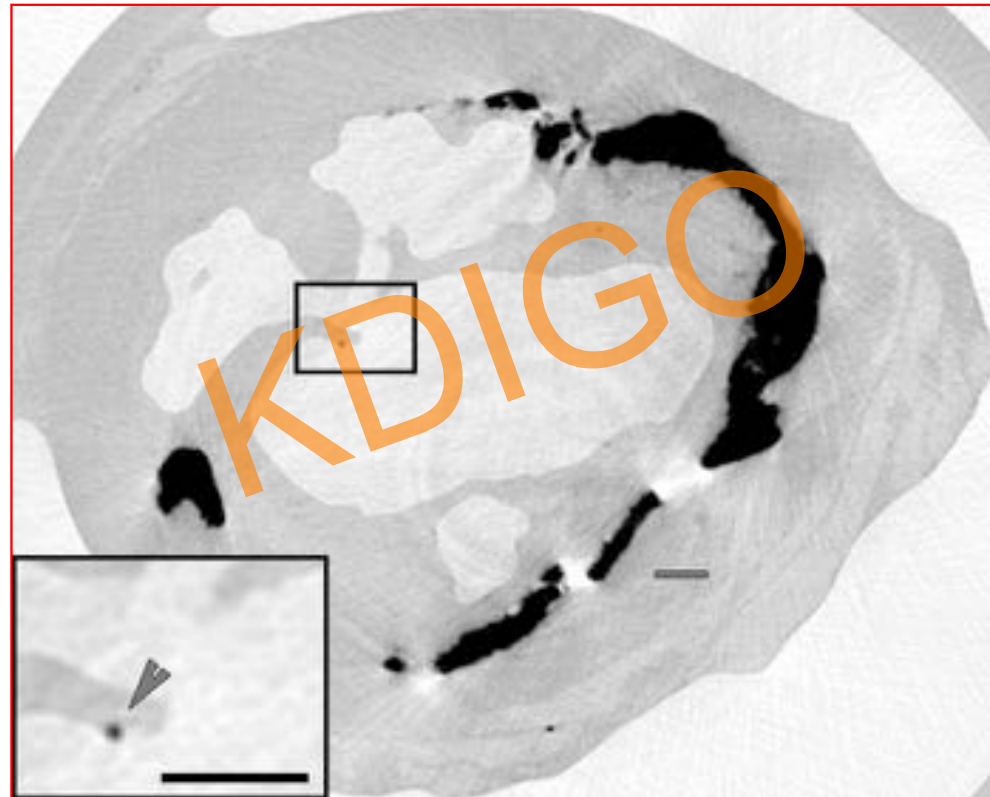


Plaque Erosion?

*Vermani*

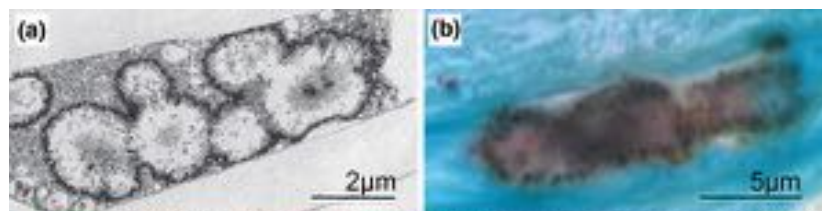
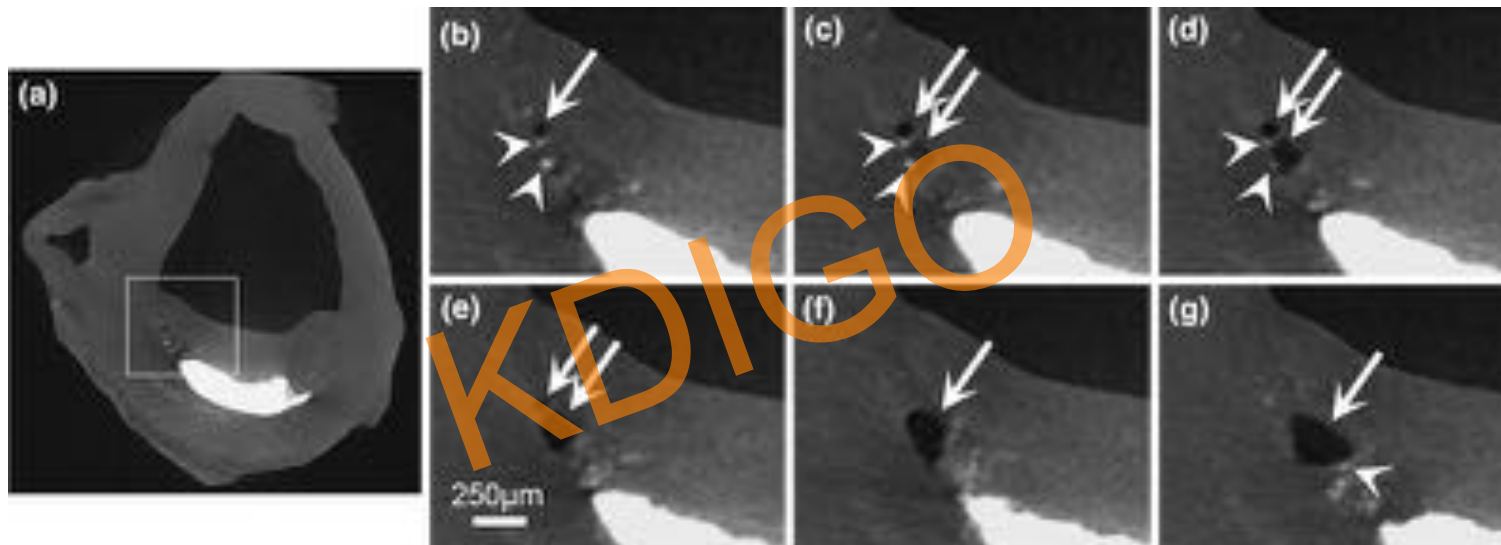
*Maldonado et al 2012*

# Plaques Rupture at Sites of Micro-calcifications



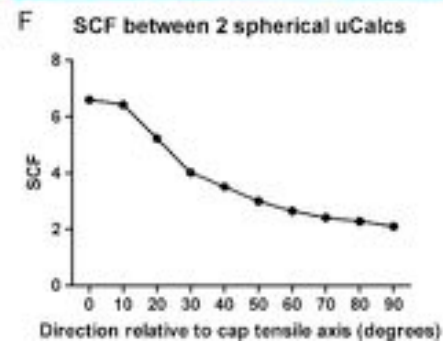
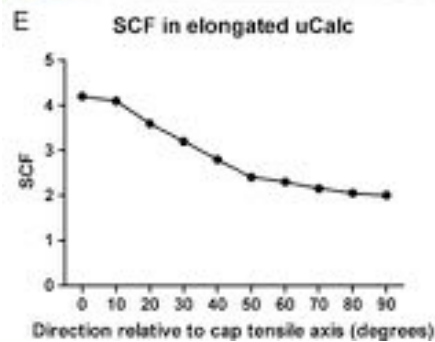
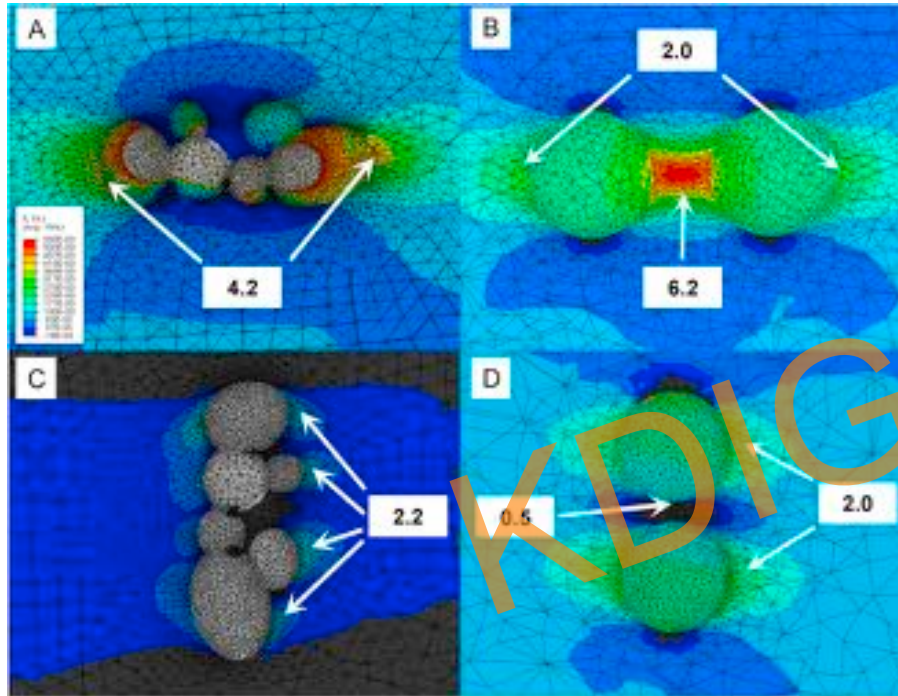
Why?

# Microcalcifications are associated with Voids in the Extracellular Matrix



Exosomes (matrix vesicles) contain Matrix metalloproteinases that can degrade collagen – create a void.

# Modelling of Material Properties of Mineral/Matrix Interface



Predicts Material Stress at these Sites.

Sheldon Weinbaum  
*Maldonado et al 2012*

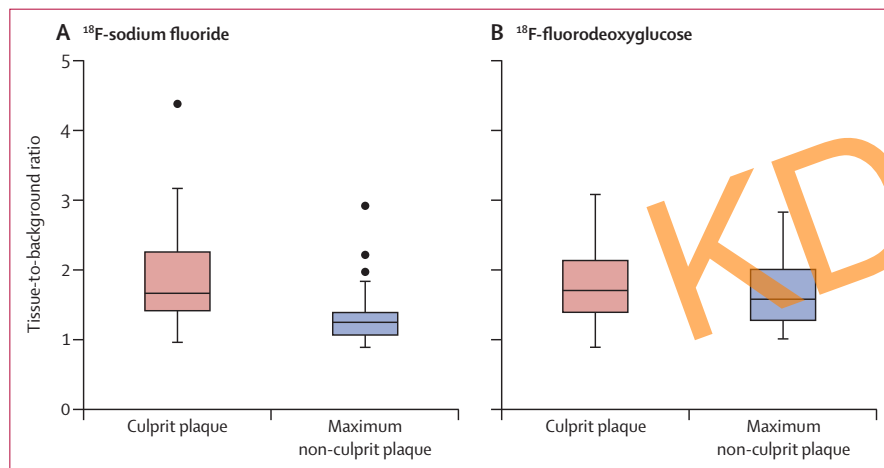
The Holy Grail of Atherosclerosis Research!

# How can Unstable Atherosclerotic Plaque Be Detected?

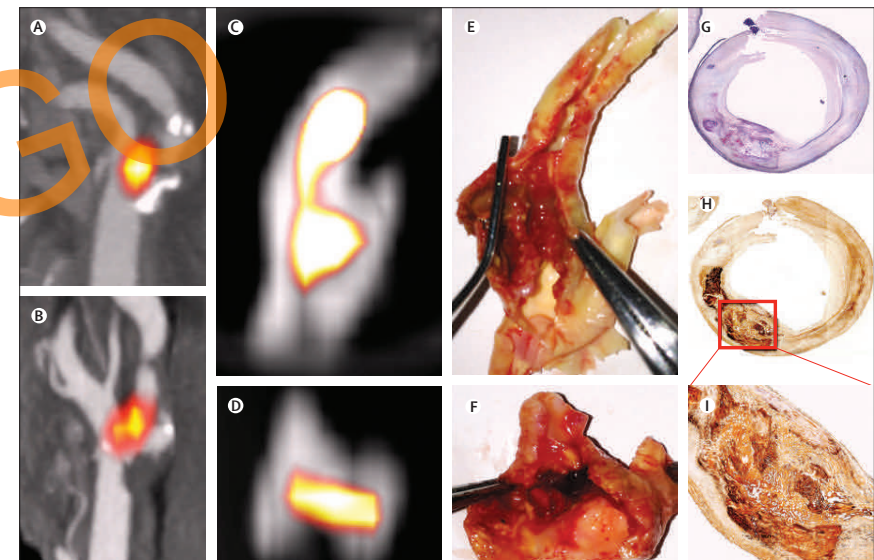
# $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluoride positron emission tomography for identification of ruptured and high-risk coronary atherosclerotic plaques: a prospective clinical trial



Nikhil V Joshi, Alex T Vesey, Michelle C Williams, Anoop SV Shah, Patrick A Calvert, Felicity H M Craighead, Su Ern Yeoh, William Wallace, Donald Salter, Alison M Fletcher, Edwin J R van Beek, Andrew D Flapan, Neal G Uren, Miles WH Behan, Nicholas L M Cruden, Nicholas L Mills, Keith A A Fox, James H F Rudd, Marc R Dweck\*, David E Newby\*



**Figure 2:**  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluoride and  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluorodeoxyglucose uptake in patients with myocardial infarction  
 $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluoride activity (maximum tissue-to-background ratio) was increased in the culprit plaque (red) compared with the maximum uptake in any of the non-culprit plaques (blue). By contrast, there was no difference in the activity of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluorodeoxyglucose between these regions.



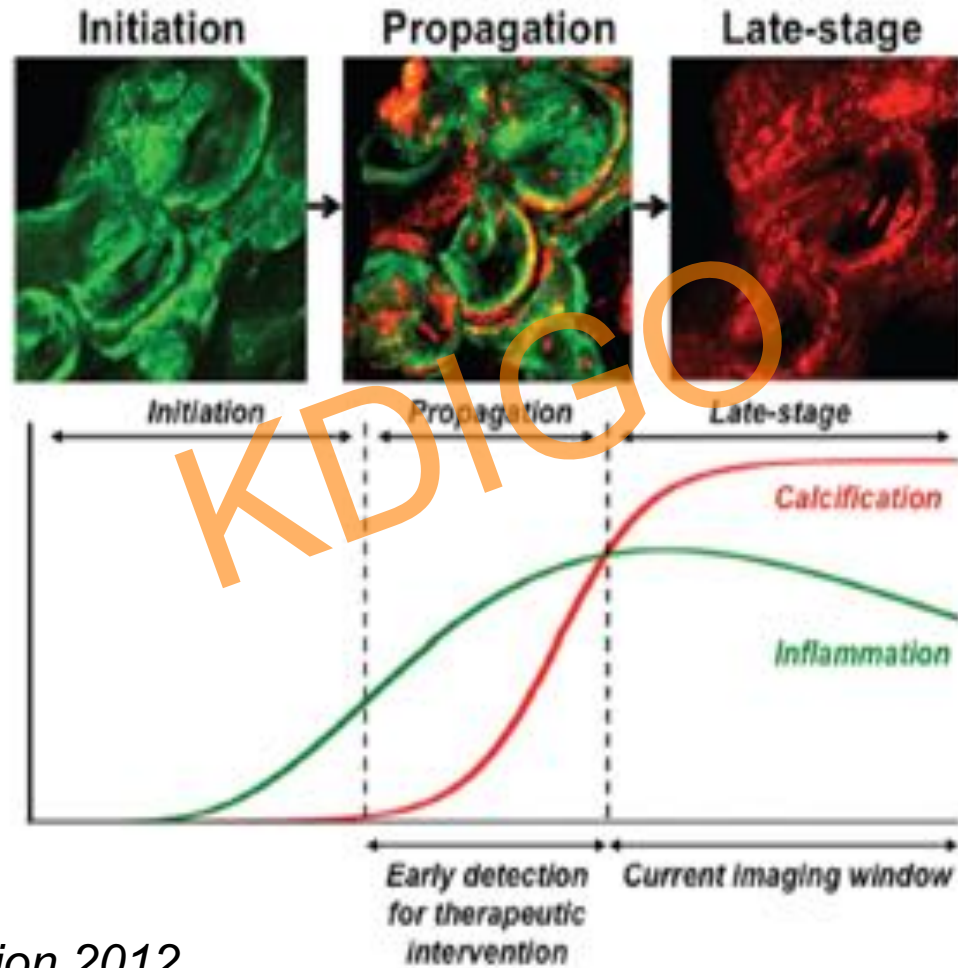
**Figure 3:** Carotid  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluoride uptake and carotid plaque rupture  
 In-vivo (A and B) and ex-vivo (C and D) positron emission and computed tomograms showing colocalisation of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluoride ( $^{18}\text{F}$ -NaF) uptake (yellow-orange) to the site of plaque rupture with adherent thrombus on excised carotid endarterectomy tissue (E and F). Histology of the  $^{18}\text{F}$ -NaF-positive region shows a large necrotic core (Movat's pentachrome, magnification 4 $\times$ , G), within which increased staining for tissue non-specific alkaline phosphatase can be seen as a marker of calcification activity on immunohistochemistry (magnification 4 $\times$ , H; magnification 10 $\times$ , I).



# Can and Should Calcification be Treated?

KDIGO

# What is the Treatment Window

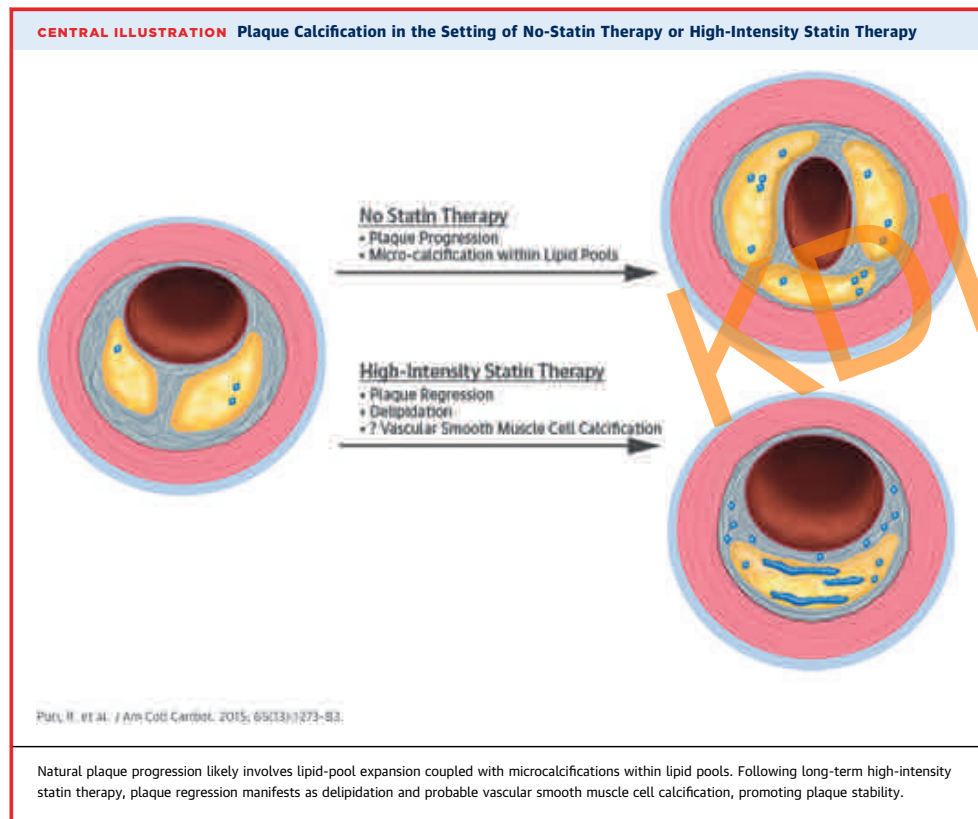


*Aikawa and Otto, Circulation 2012*

# Impact of Statins on Serial Coronary Calcification During Atheroma Progression and Regression



Rishi Puri, MBBS, PhD,\*† Stephen J. Nicholls, MBBS, PhD,‡ Mingyuan Shao, MS,\* Yu Kataoka, MD,‡ Kiyoko Uno, MD, PhD,\* Samir R. Kapadia, MD,† E. Murat Tuzcu, MD,† Steven E. Nissen, MD\*†



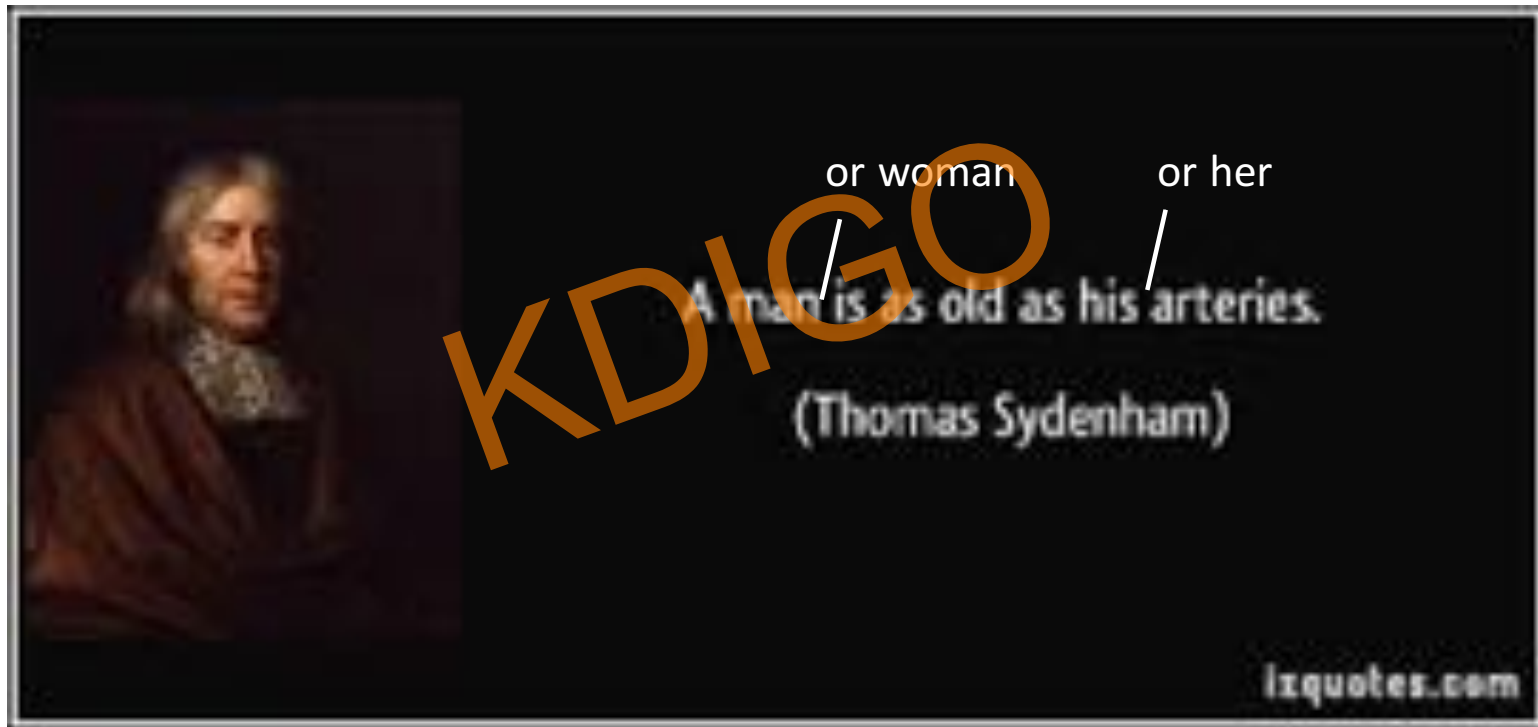
STATINS -The Gold Standard for Treating CAD  
INCREASE calcification

Are statins effective in calcified renal patients?  
*Wanner et al NEJM 2005*

# What is the Nature of CAD in Renal Patients?

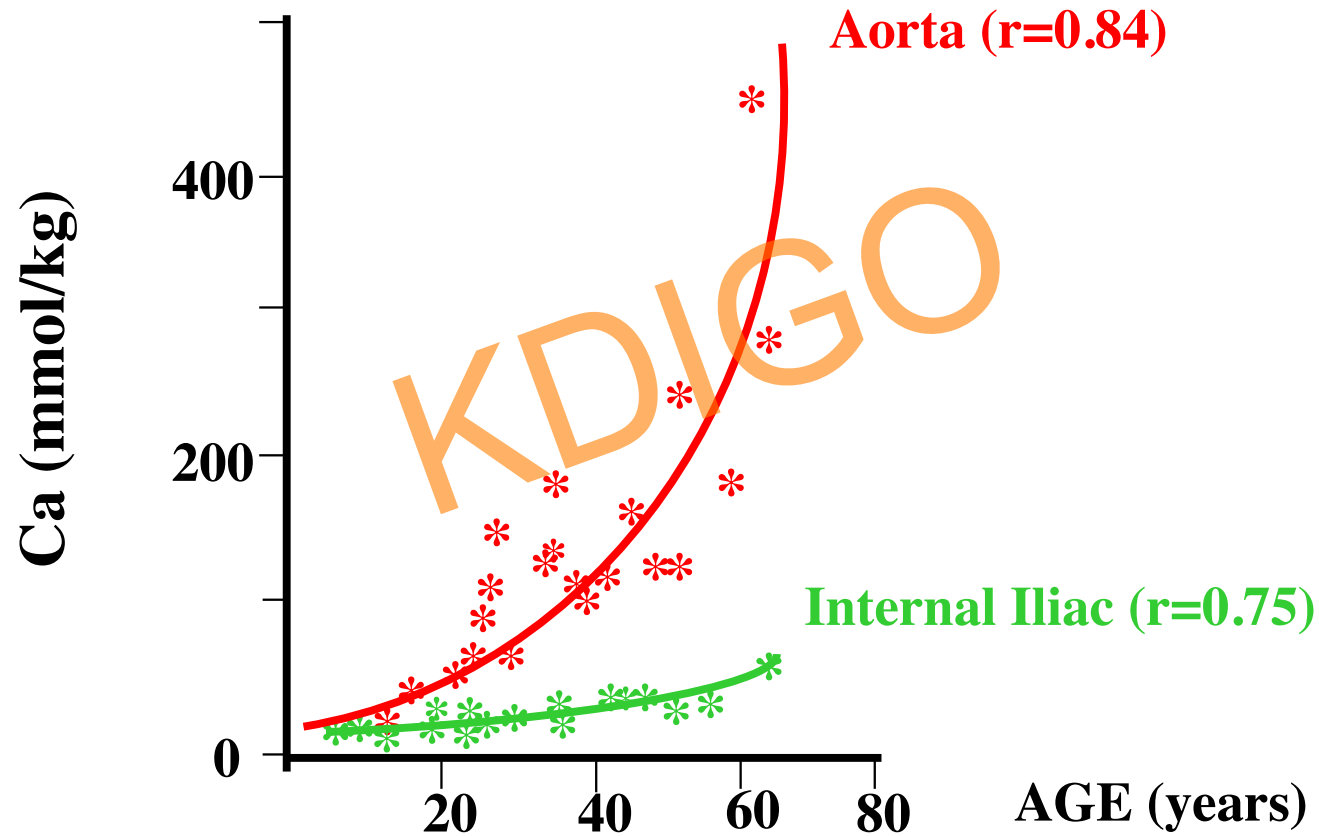
- Is the calcification medial or intimal.
- Is the calcification micro or macro?
- Are the lesions different from those seen in the 'general' population?
- Lipid, Inflammation?

## Vascular Calcification – A Degenerative Unmodifiable Risk Factor that Predicts Disease and Death?



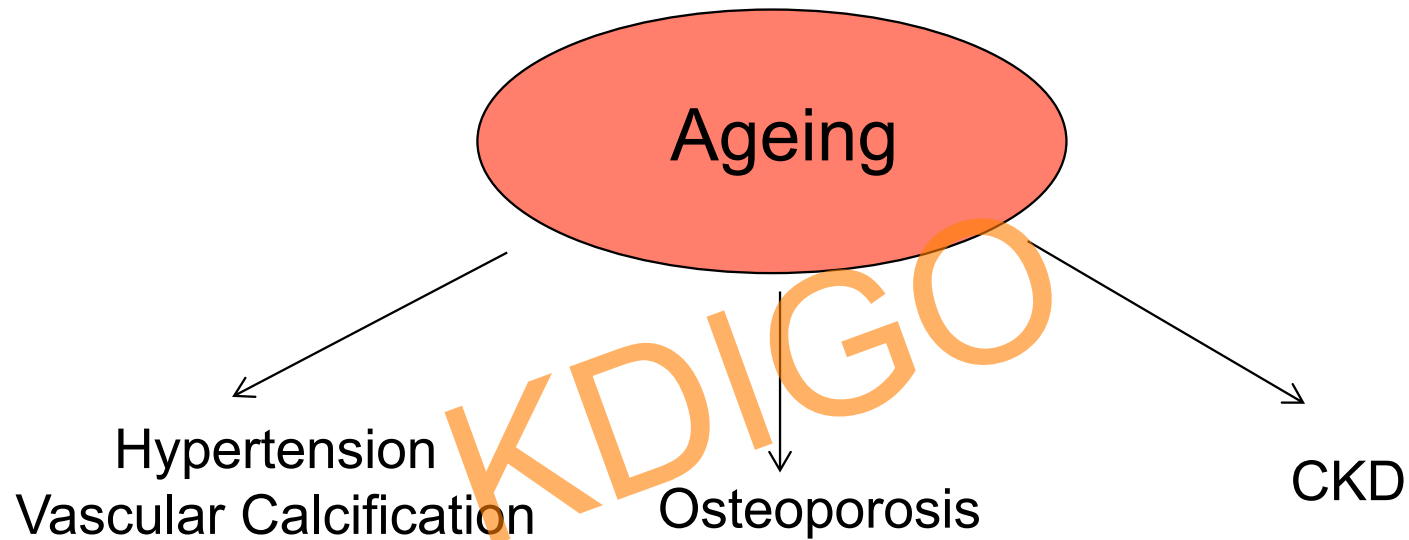
British Physician 1624-1689

# Incidence of Vascular Calcification with Age



Ibels et al. Am J Med 1979

# Ageing is the Strongest Risk Factor for Defects in Kidney-Bone-Vascular Axis Tissues



- Elevated Phosphate/FGF23/Klotho
- Low Vitamin D
- DNA damage
- Oxidative Stress
- Systemic Inflammation

# Multiple Pathways Regulate Vascular Calcification

Mouse gene knockouts develop vascular calcification and bone defects (eg. osteoporosis).

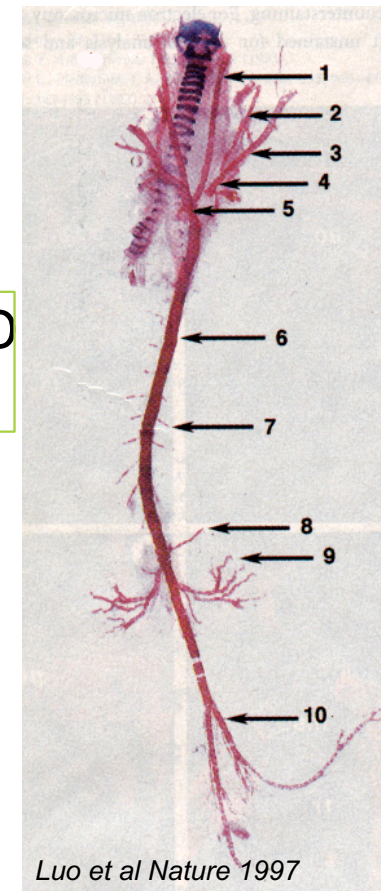
- MGP (matrix Gla protein)
- Fetuin\*\*
- Osteoprotegerin
- Klotho/ FGF23\*\* - Phosphate and Vit D metabolism
- Pyrophosphate metabolism (ENPP1)
- carbonic anhydrase
- Smad 6

Human single gene defects

- Keutel Syndrome (MGP null)
- Idiopathic calcification of newborn (ENPP1)

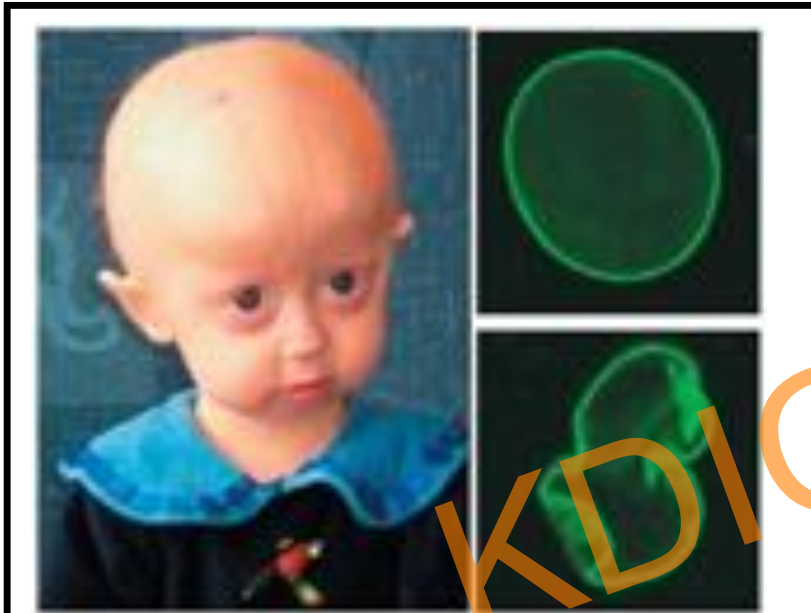
Develop vascular calcification

Genetic Component

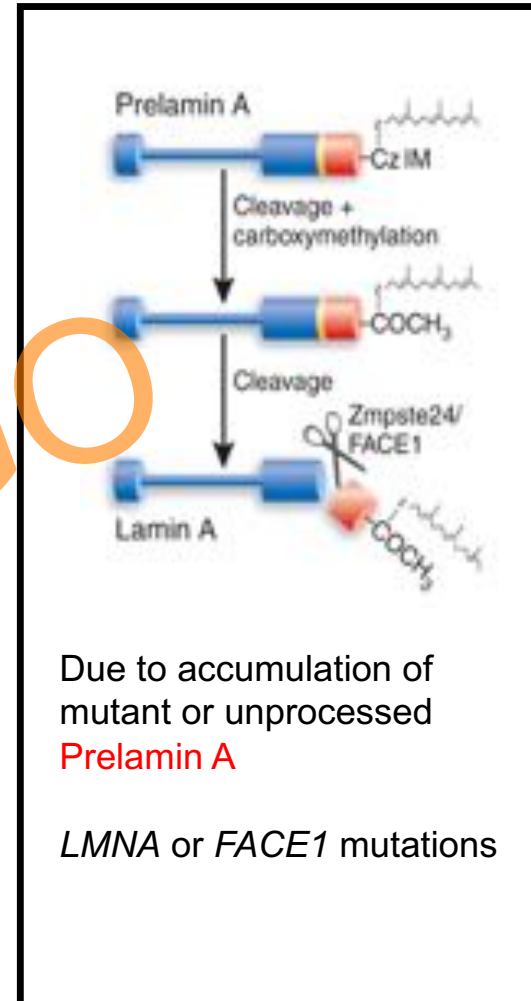




# Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome (HGPS)

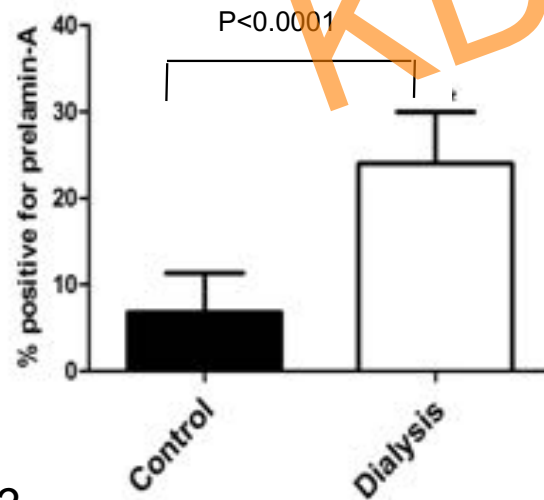
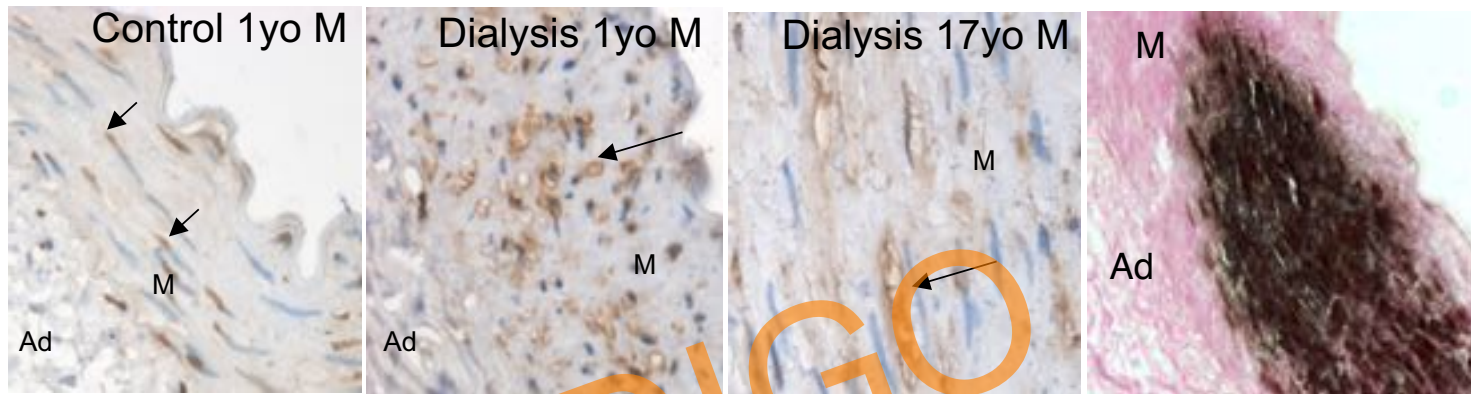


- VSMC loss
- Premature Atherosclerosis
- Calcification
- Vascular Stiffening
- Osteoporosis
- Death before age 16 of MI or stroke



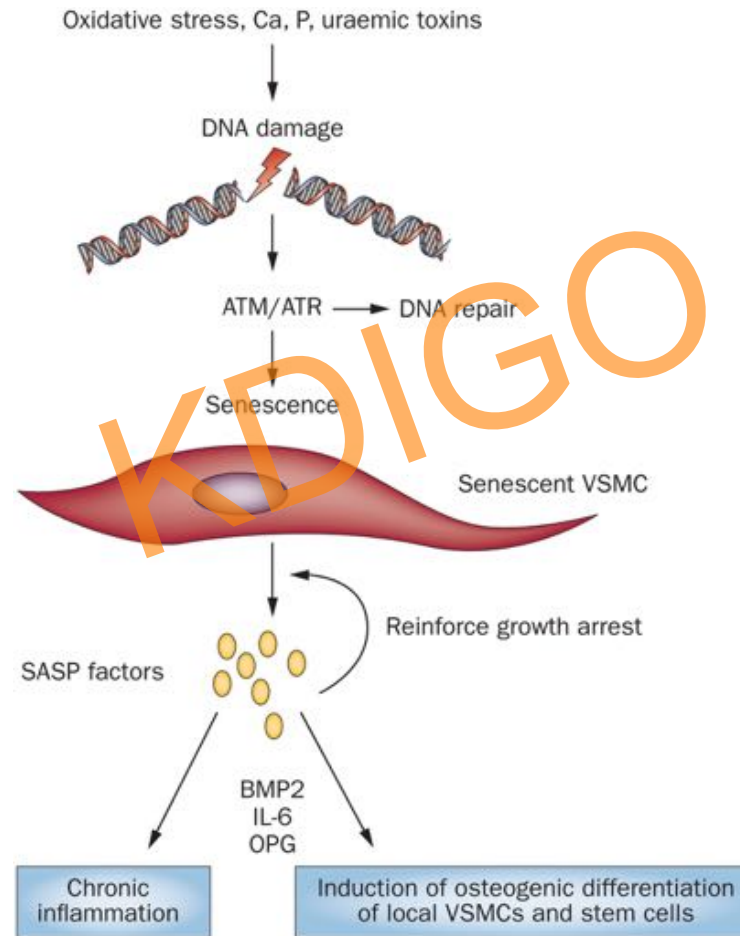
Protein selectively accumulates in MSC populations

## Is there evidence for this pathway in dialysis patients?



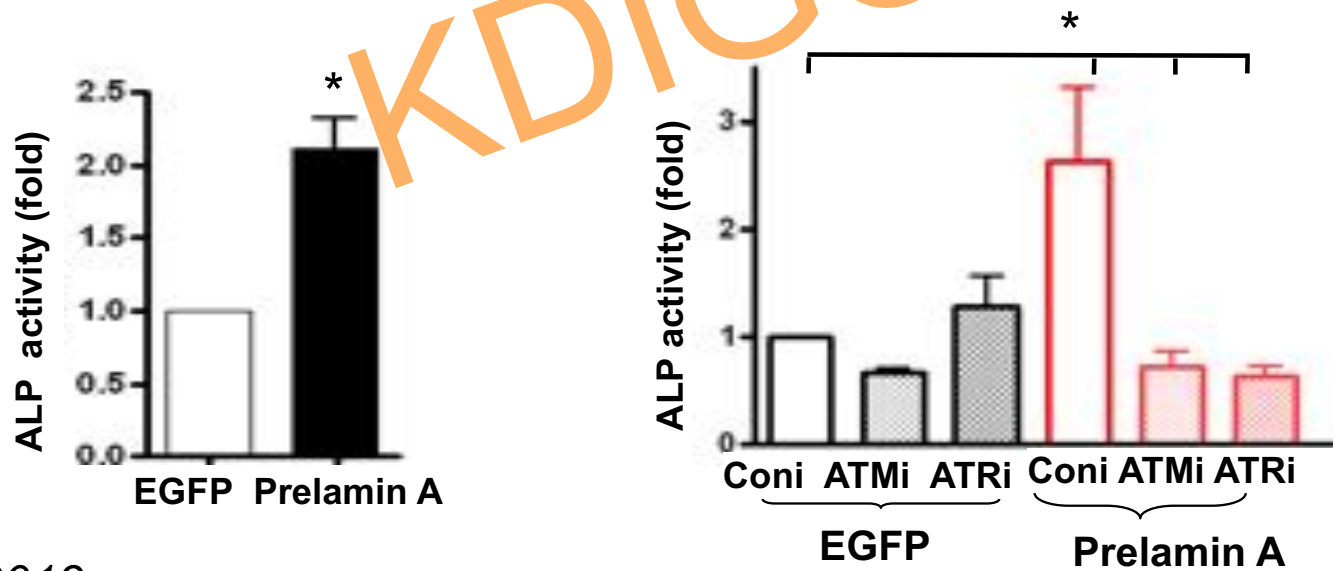
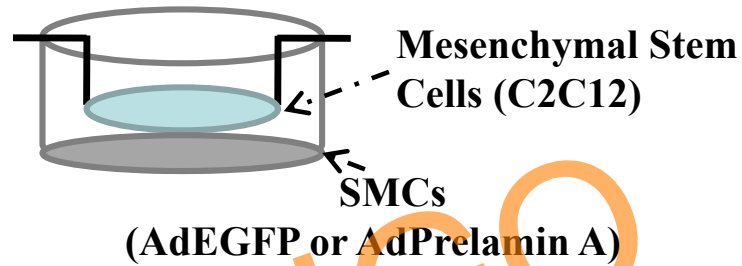
Children on dialysis show prelamins A accumulation and increased levels of p16 positive cells.

# Ageing is Associated with Increased Inflammation Senescence Associated Secretory Phenotype (SASP)

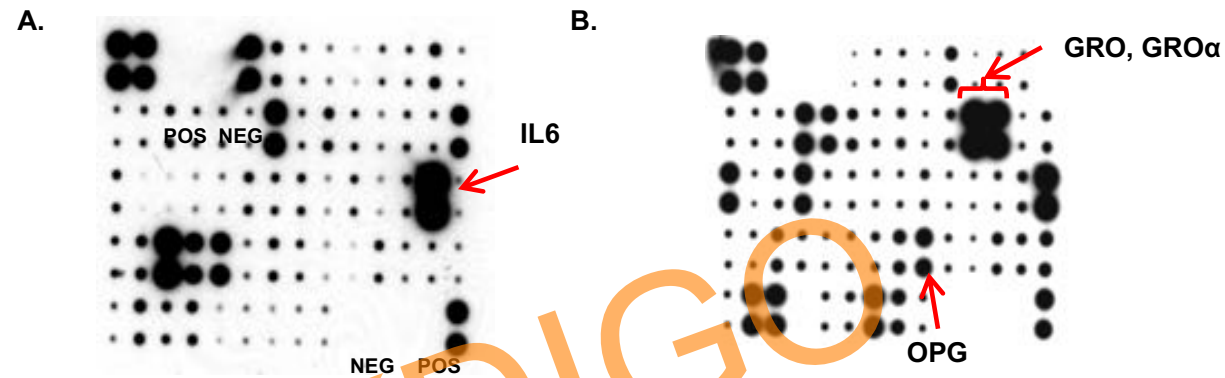


Shanahan, C. M. (2013)

# SMCs overexpressing prelamin A show osteogenic paracrine effects on surrounding cells *in vitro*



## Array analysis shows VSMCs secrete pro-osteogenic cytokines in response to prelamin A accumulation

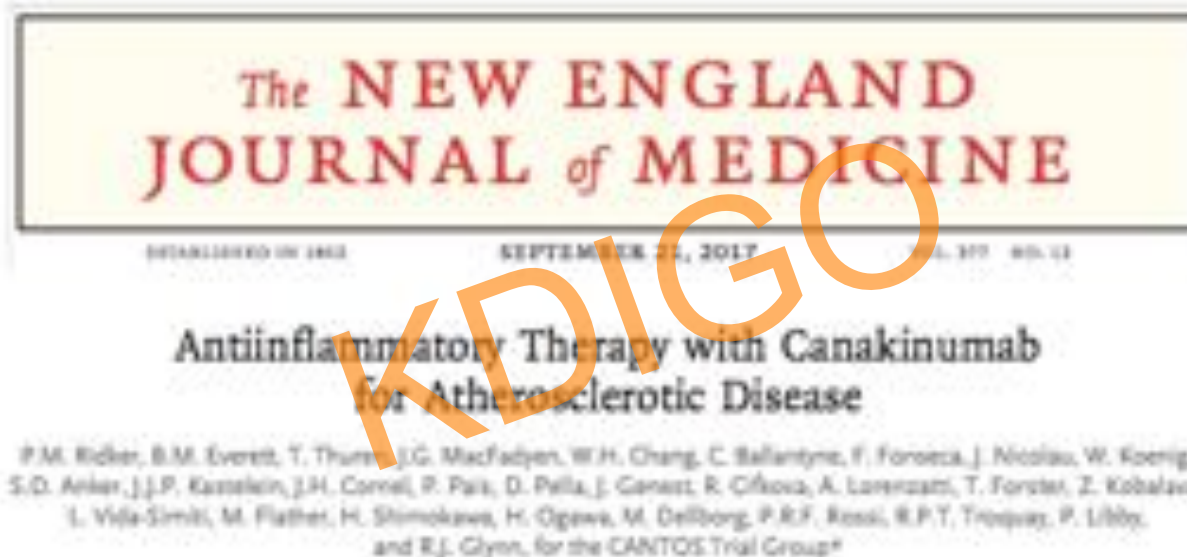


	SASP factors
Interleukins and chemokines	IL6, IL8, GRO, GRO $\alpha$ , MCP-1, -2, -3, ENA78, GCP-2
Growth factors and regulators	Angiogenin, IGFBP-4, -6, VEGF, BMP2
Proteases	TIMP-1, -2
Soluble or shed receptors or ligands	OPG, Fas, uPAR, ICAM-1

*Liu et al Circ Res 2013*

**Same Inflammatory Profile seen in VSMCs from Children on Dialysis**

# Is Inflammation the Key?



Monoclonal antibody to Interleukin-1 $\beta$   
CANTOS trial



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology

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

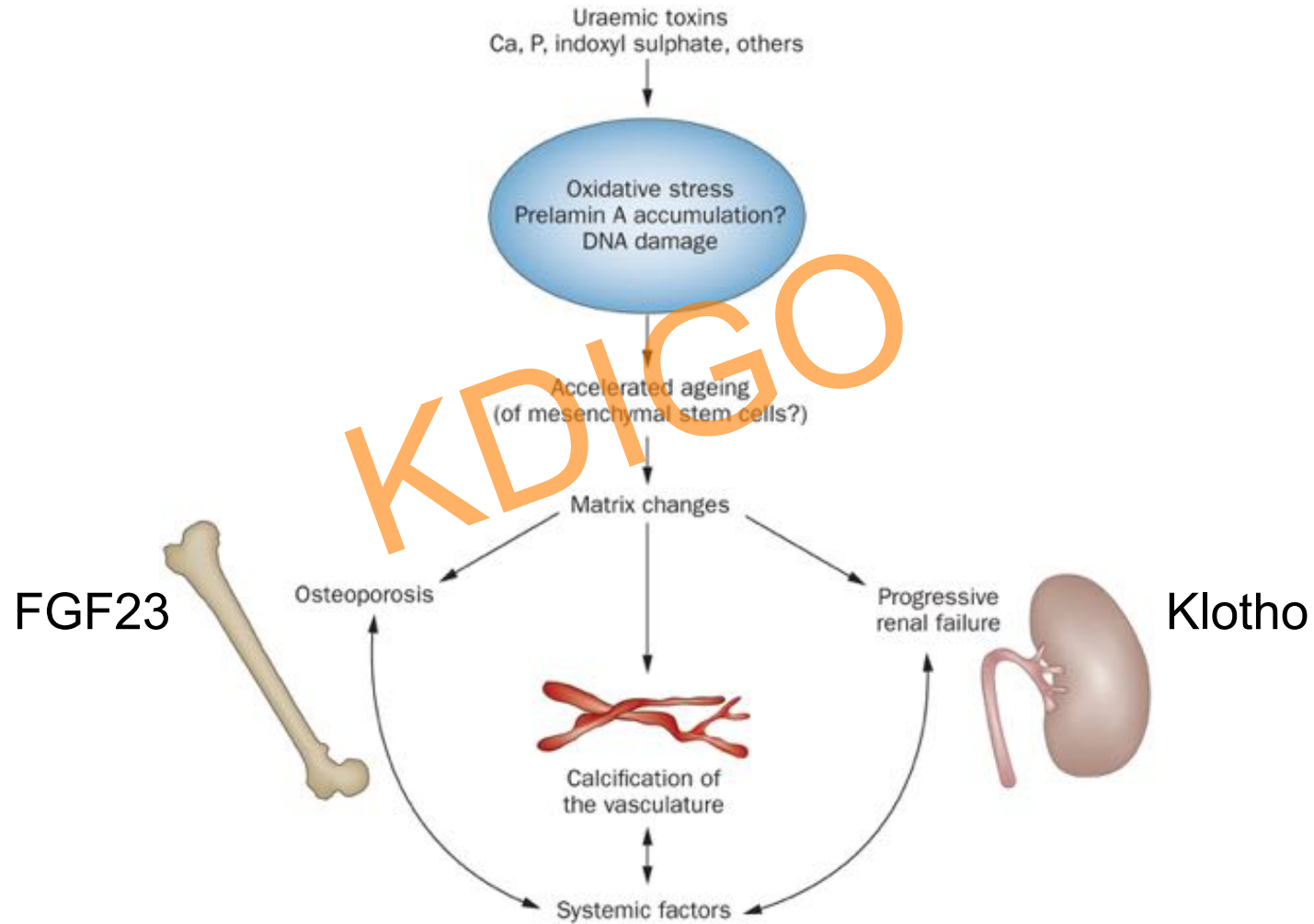


### Calcium phosphate particles stimulate interleukin-1 $\beta$ release from human vascular smooth muscle cells: A role for spleen tyrosine kinase and exosome release

Yana Dastova<sup>a</sup>, Alexander N. Kapustin<sup>b</sup>, Kevin Pappert<sup>c</sup>, Matthias Epple<sup>c</sup>, Hanneke Oikarinen<sup>d</sup>, Simon J. Cook<sup>e</sup>, Catherine M. Shanahan<sup>b</sup>, Martin D. Bootman<sup>d</sup>, Diane Proudfoot<sup>b,\*</sup>



# Tissue ageing is driven by DNA damage and inflammatory mediators released from senescent tissues





# Summary

1. Calcification is a cell mediated process that reflects a disease process.
2. Calcification occurs at two sites with different clinical outcomes.
3. Calcification can be used to predict clinical events.
4. There are no treatments for vascular calcification.
5. The status of calcification in plaque stability remains controversial.
6. Inflammation may be a key process in CAD in renal failure
7. THE NATURE OF CAD IN RENAL PATIENTS REQUIRES FURTHER BASIC KNOWLEDGE