

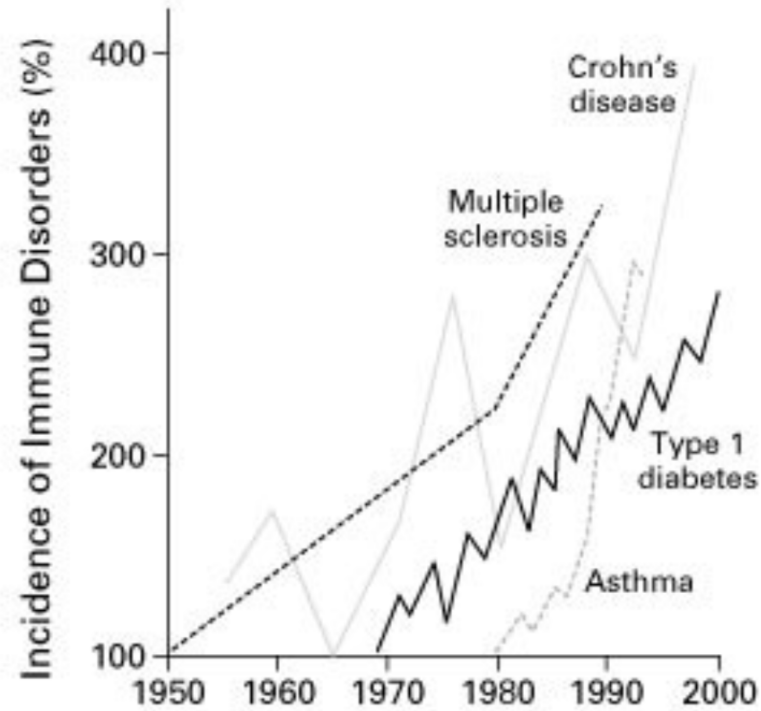
Understanding the Environmental Determinants of Host Fitness to Inflammation

Andrew Wang
Yale University
Medicine | Immunobiology

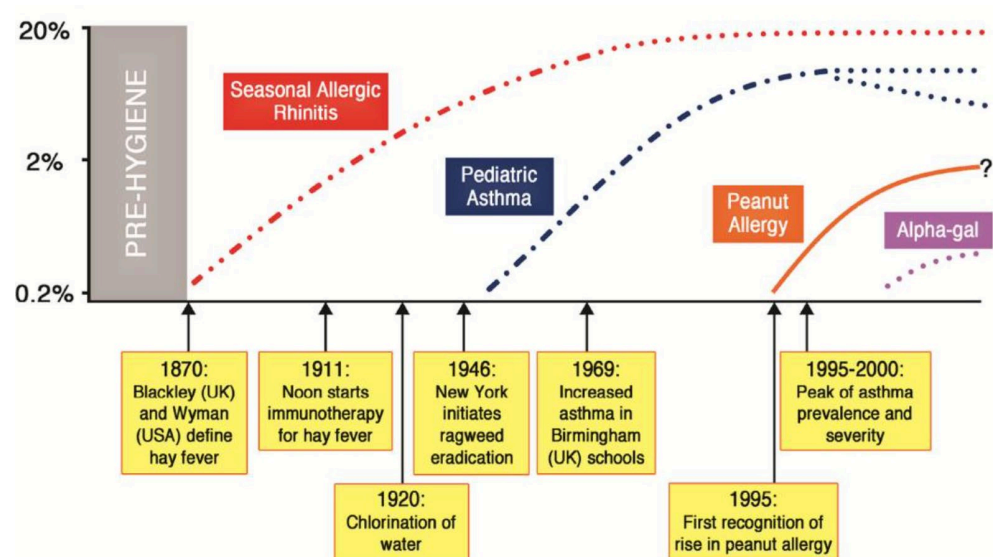
Disclosures

I consult or receive funds from: NGM Biopharmaceuticals, Soleil Bio Labs, The Column Group, Seranova, and AstraZeneca

Why is the prevalence of autoimmune/allergic diseases increasing?



Bach. NEJM. 2002.

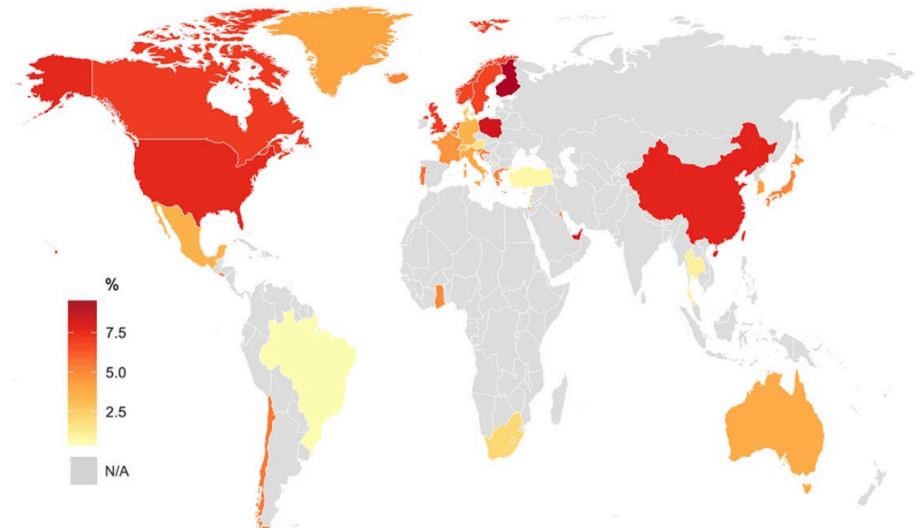


Platts-Mills. JACI. 2015.

Increases tend to occur only in modern industrialized environments

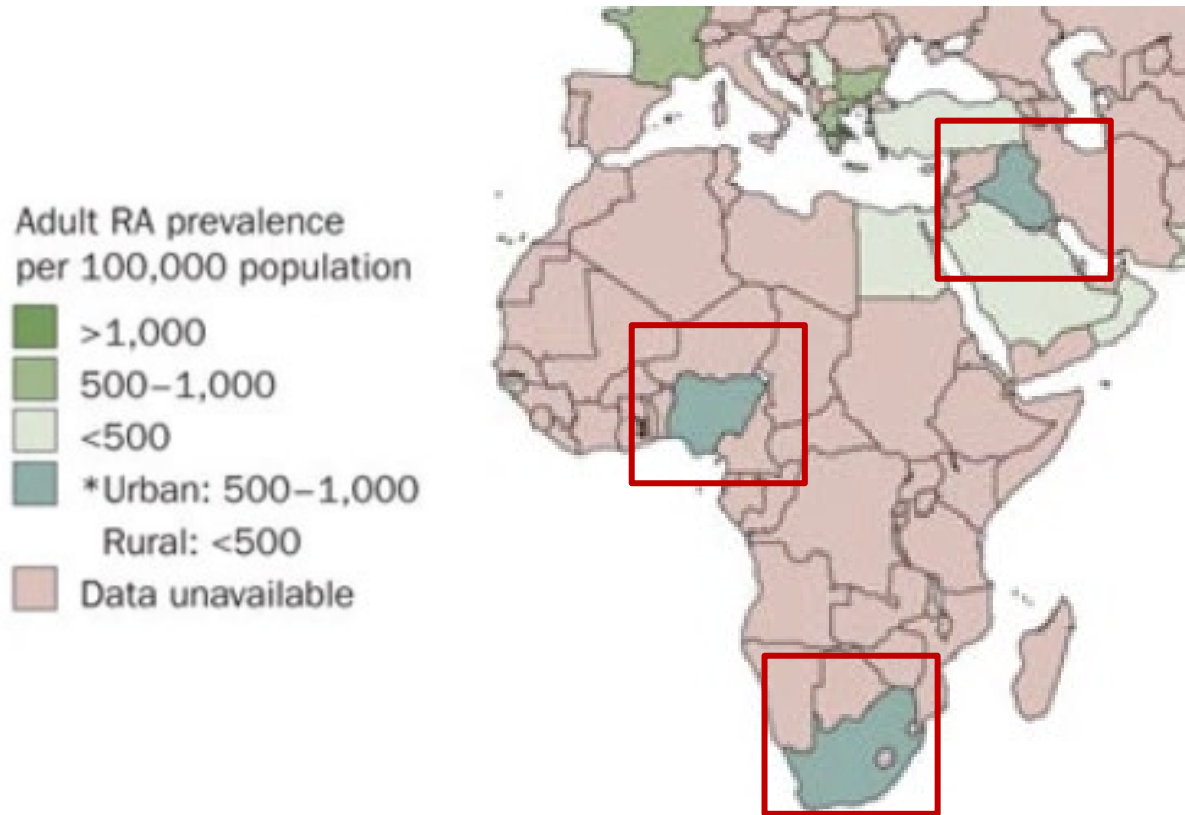


Shapira. Nat Rev Rheum. 2010



Warren. Cur Allergy Asthma Rep. 2020

Increases tend to occur only in modern industrialized environments



Incomplete penetrance and a role for the “environment”?

Table I. Relative risks in autoimmune disease

| Disease | Concordance rate (%) | | | Population prevalence (%) | λ_s |
|---------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| | Monozygotic twins | Dizygotic twins | Non-twin siblings | | |
| IMD | 30–50 | 0–13 | 6 | 0.4 | 15 ^a |
| MS | 25 | 0–5 | 3–5 | 0.1 | 20 ^b |
| SLE | 24–57 | 2–5 | 2–5 | 0.2 | 20–40 ^c |
| RA | 12–15 | 3–4 | 2–4 | 0.24–1.0 | 5–10 ^d |

^aRefs. 106 and 107. ^bRef. 49. ^cRef. 108. ^dRef. 3.

Wanstrat. Nature Immunol. 2001.

Table I Concordance rates for peanut allergy

| | Monozygotic | Dizygotic |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Concordant | 9 | 3 |
| Discordant | 5 | 41 |
| Pairwise concordance rate * | 64.3% | 6.8% |

* $\chi^2 = 21.38; P < .0001.$

Sicherer. JACI. 2000.

Divergent trajectories in MZ twins in the same environment

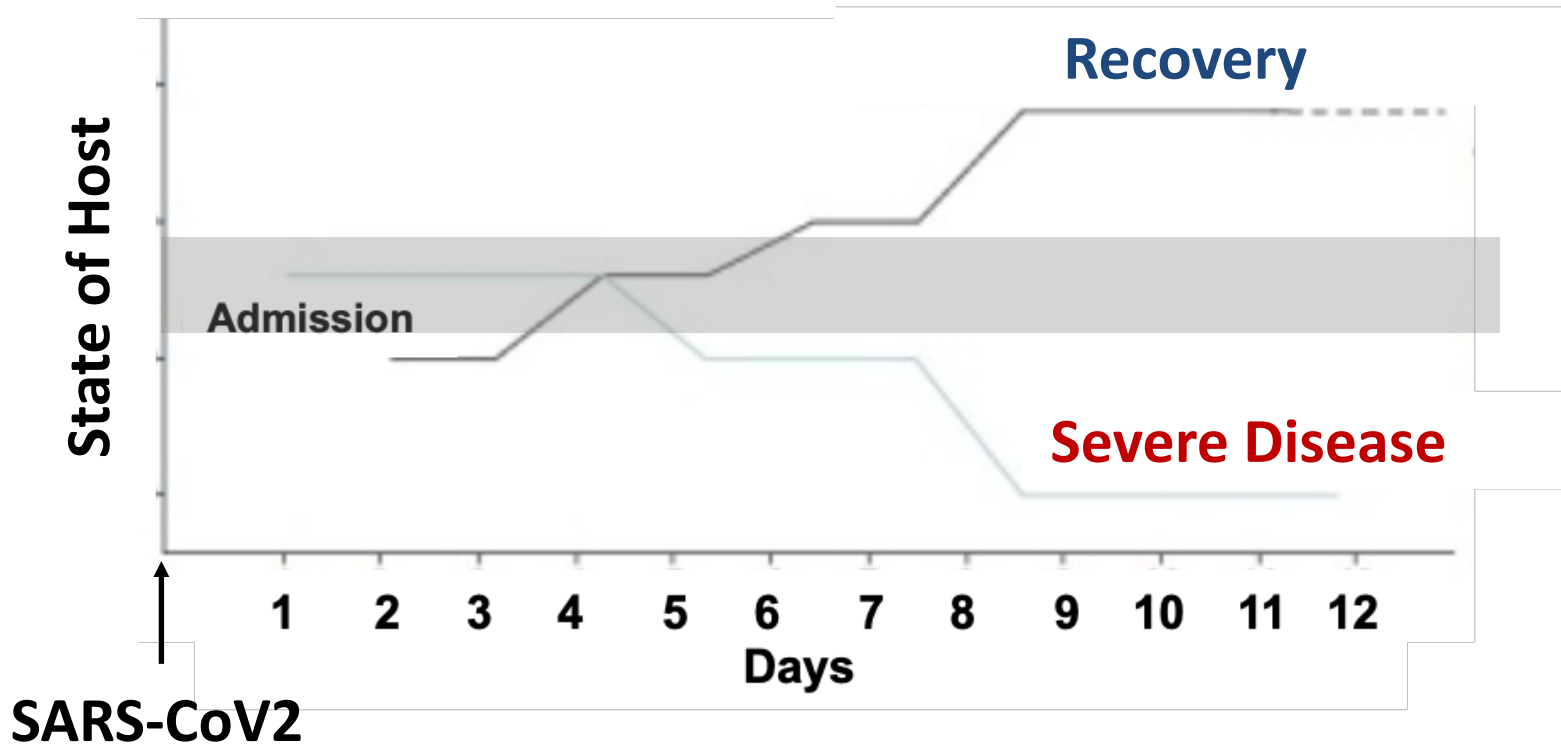
Annals of Internal Medicine

Letters | May 2021

OBSERVATION: CASE REPORT

Davide Lazzeroni, MD , Pietro Concari, MD, and Luca Moderato, PhD 

Simultaneous COVID-19 in Monozygotic Twins



The curious case of LD50

The Error of Determination of Toxicity.

By J. W. TREVAN, Wellcome Physiological Research Laboratories, Beckenham,
Kent.

(Communicated by Dr. H. H. Dale, Sec. R.S.—Received March 26, 1927.)

VII. *Discussion.*

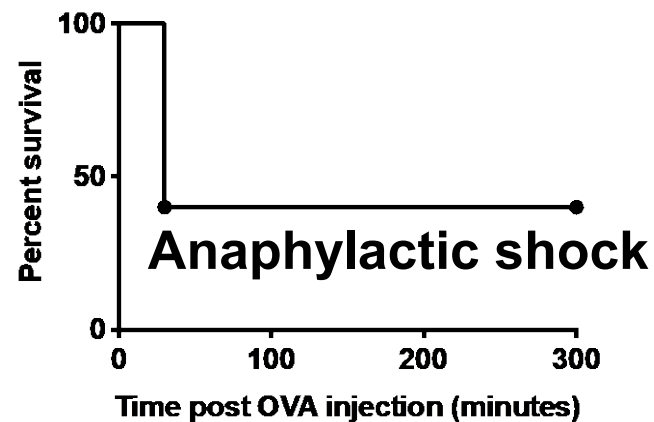
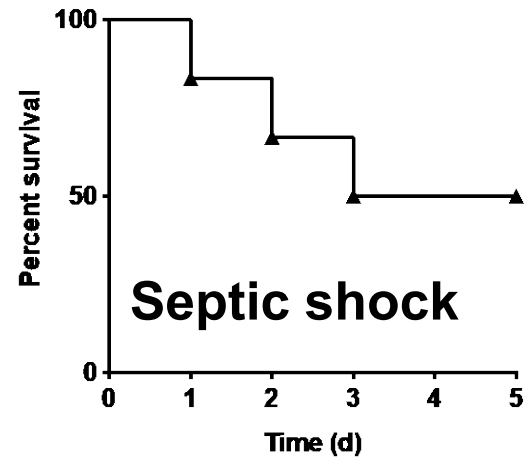
A few points of general interest remain to be cleared up.

(1) The form of a characteristic depends on the combined effect of a large number of different factors, some of which are controllable by alteration of experimental conditions (see, for instance, the remarkable effect of temperature on the response of mice to insulin—Trevan and Boock, 1926) and most of which are not. Among the former is probably the effect of heredity.

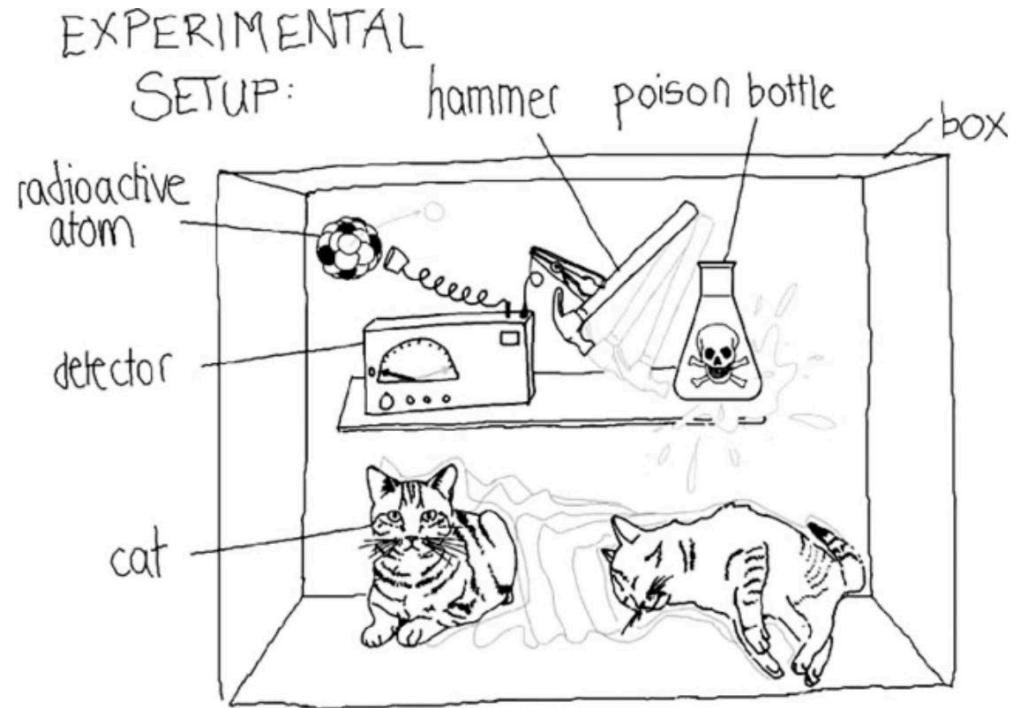
It is almost certain that animals inbred, after the fashion of the Wistar Institute rats, will give steeper characteristics than casual groups selected at random from the ordinary dealers' stocks. The effects of colour and weight on the insulin curve have, however, been found to be negligible (Trevan and

LD50: Are there differences in the environment?

The Paradox of Lethal Dose 50



Schrödinger's Cat Our Mice



E. Schrödinger. Naturwissenschaften. 1935.
Schleich et al. Applied Physics B. 2016.

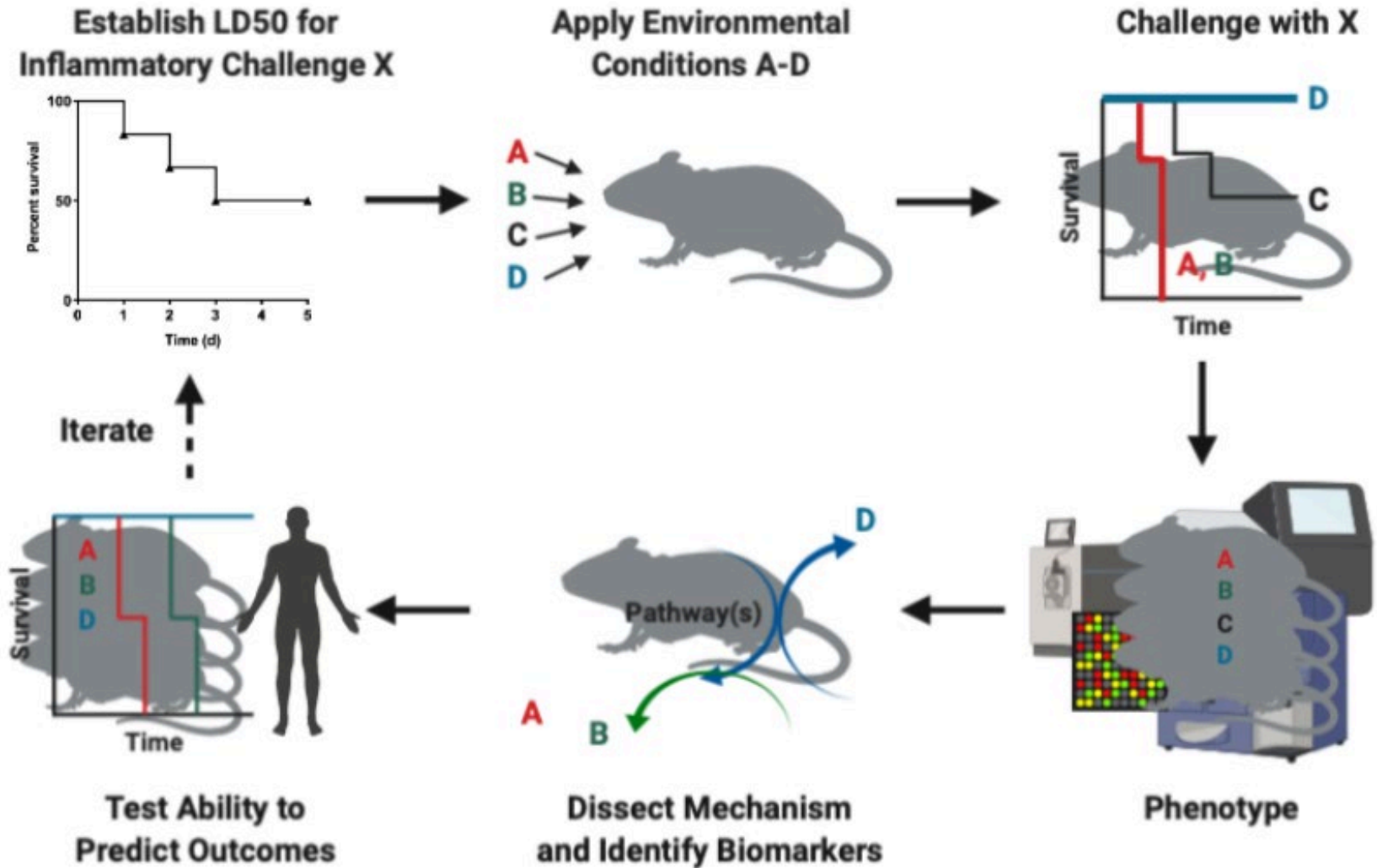
Questions

If the “environment” matters, what in it, exactly, matters?

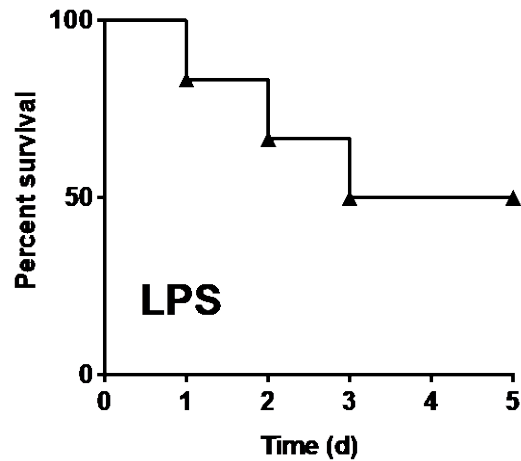
Using LD50 models pre-clinically, what, exactly, are we modeling?

Are disease trajectory divergences random or knowable?

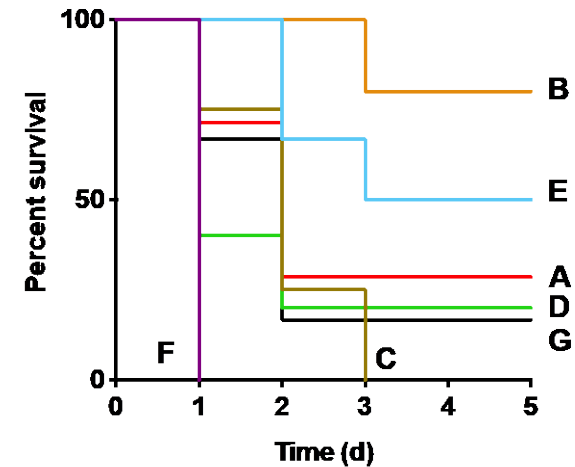
Approach #1: Hypothesis-driven “screen” of the (micro)environment



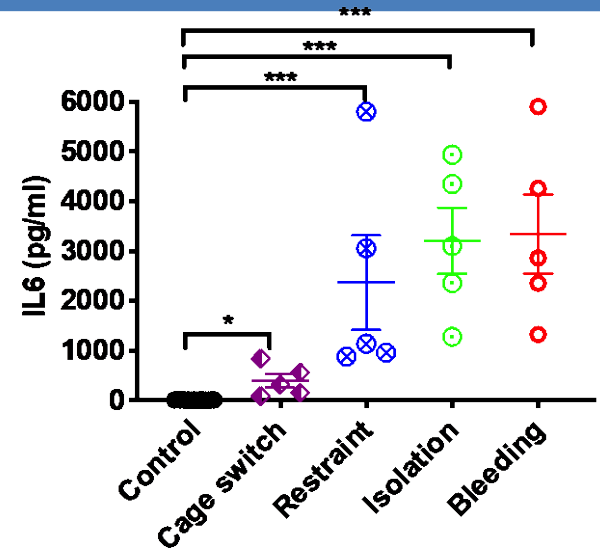
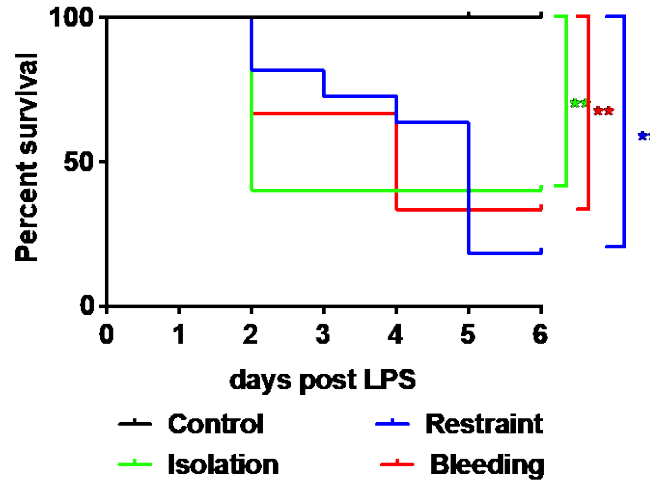
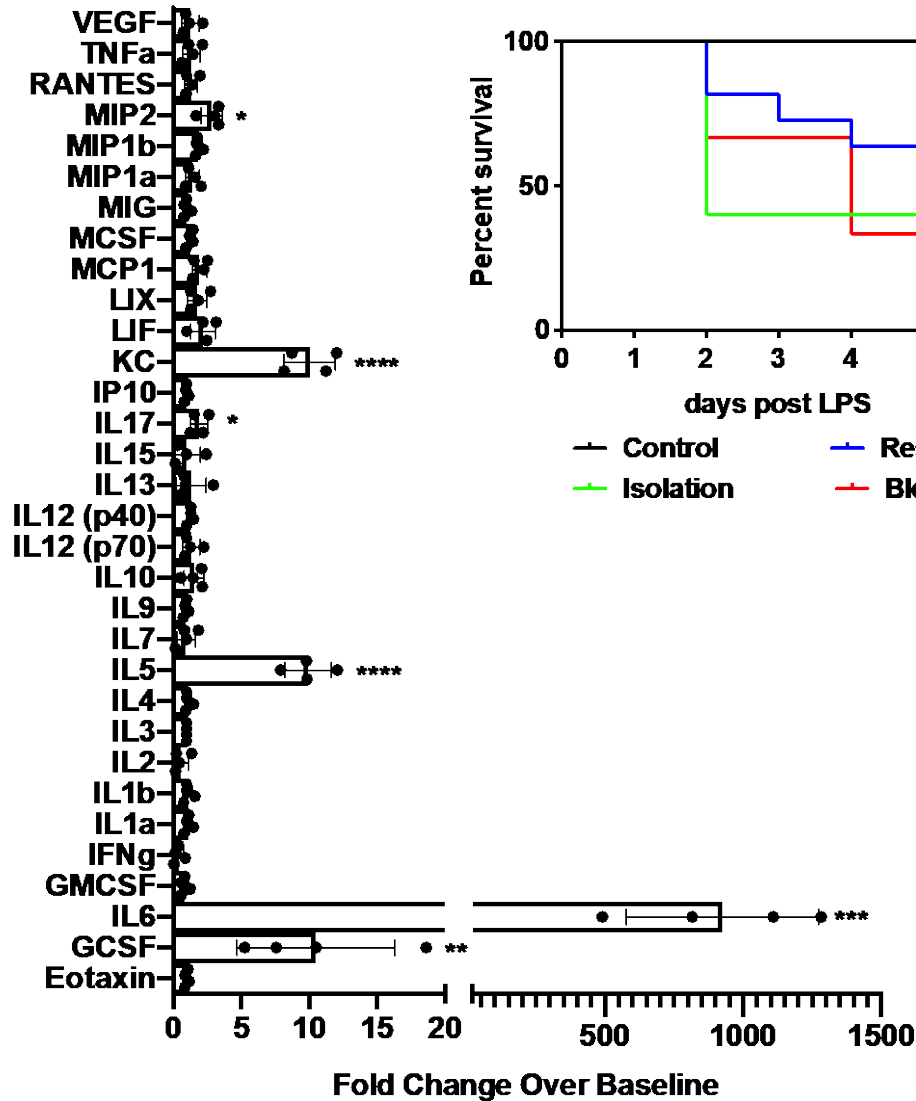
Maximization of acute psychological stress leads to LD100



- A. Fast
- B. Cold
- C. Restraint
- D. Isolation
- E. Prior LD0 LPS
- F. Prior LD0 Poly I:C
- G. Sleep deprivation



Acute psychological stress induces cytokines

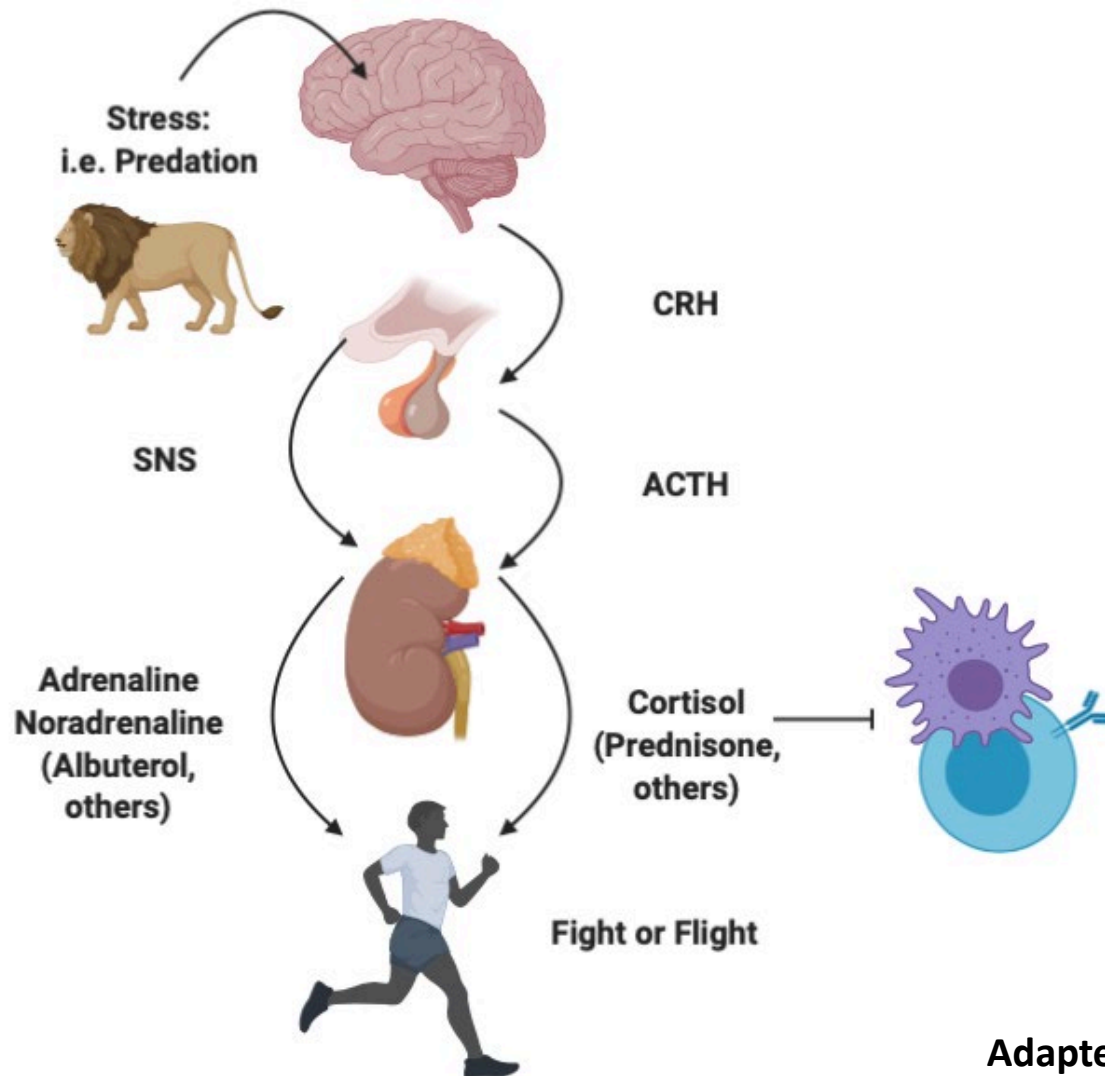


Hua
Qing



Reina
Desrouleaux

Acute Stress Increases Immunosuppressants

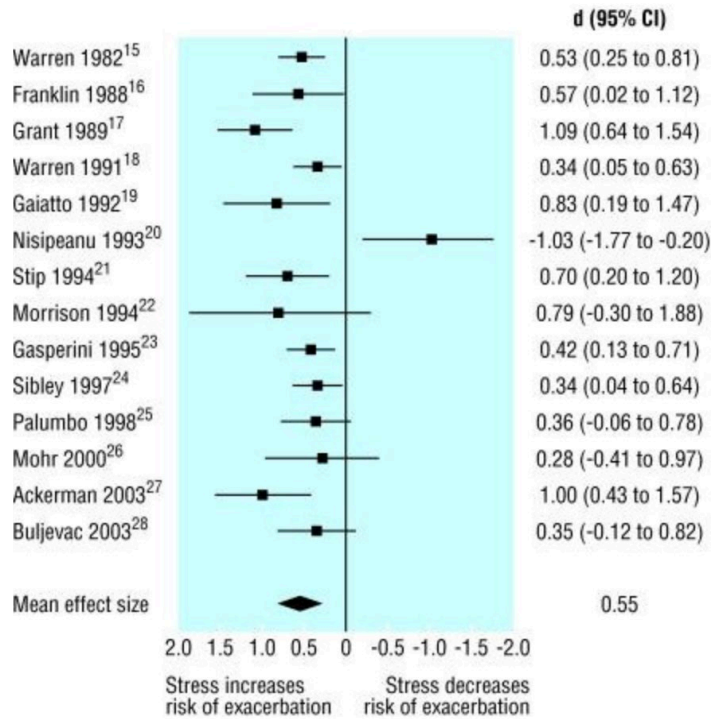


Adapted from:
Wang et al. Science 2019.

Paradox: Acute Stress Worsens Inflammation

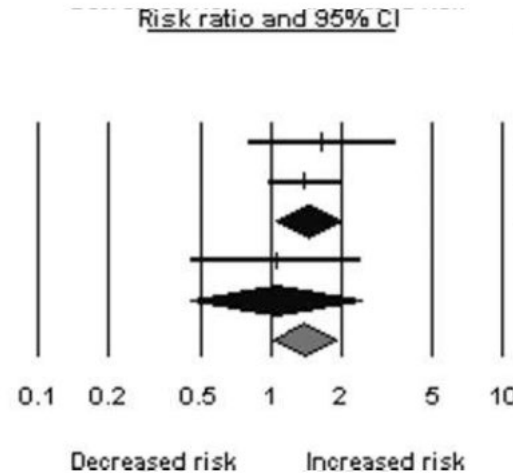
“To avoid the fever, one should guard himself against his own anger.” Hippocrates 4th Century

Multiple Sclerosis



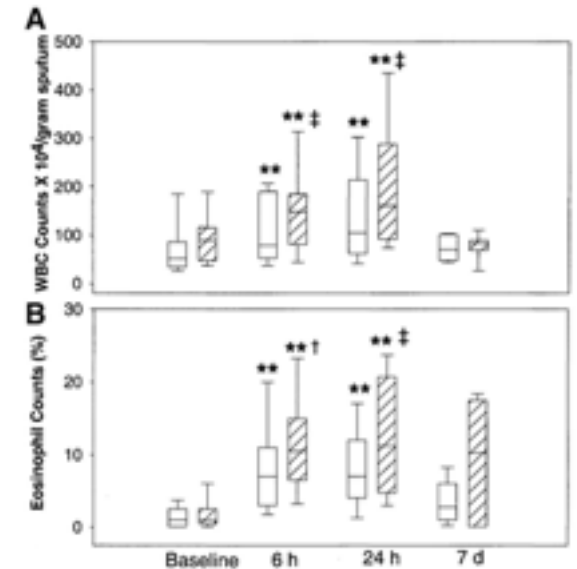
Mohr et al. BMJ. 2009.

Cancer



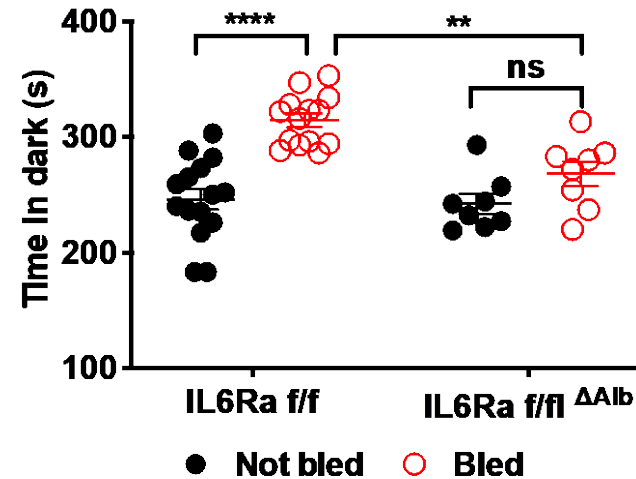
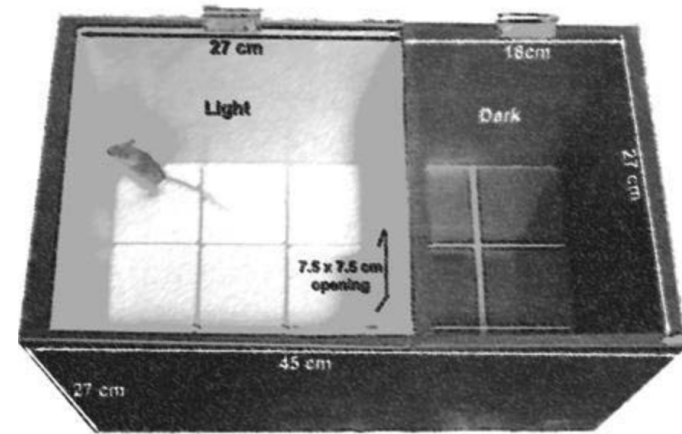
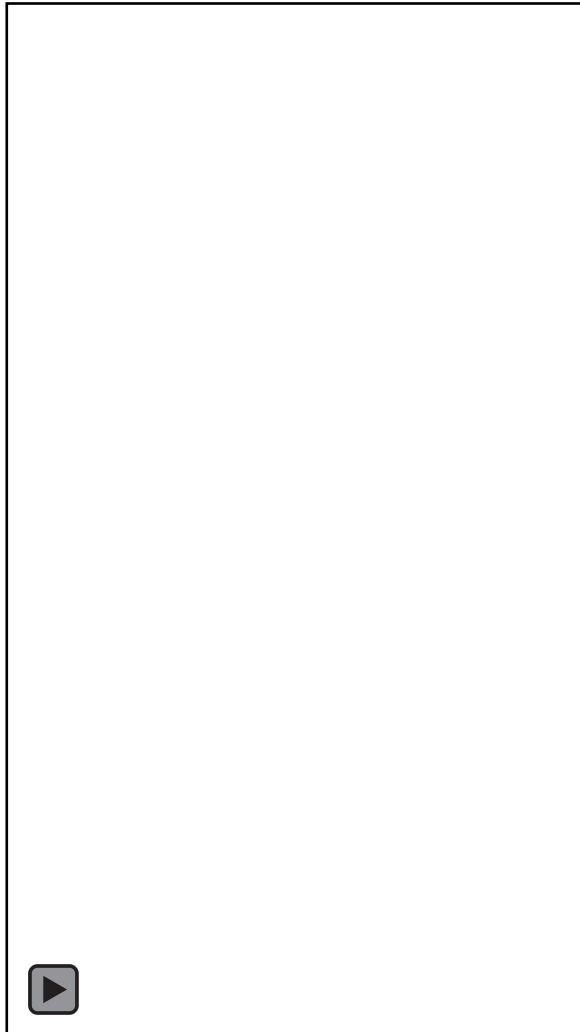
Satin et al. Cancer. 2009.

Asthma



Liu et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2002.

Hepatic IL6 Signaling is Required for Flight Behavior



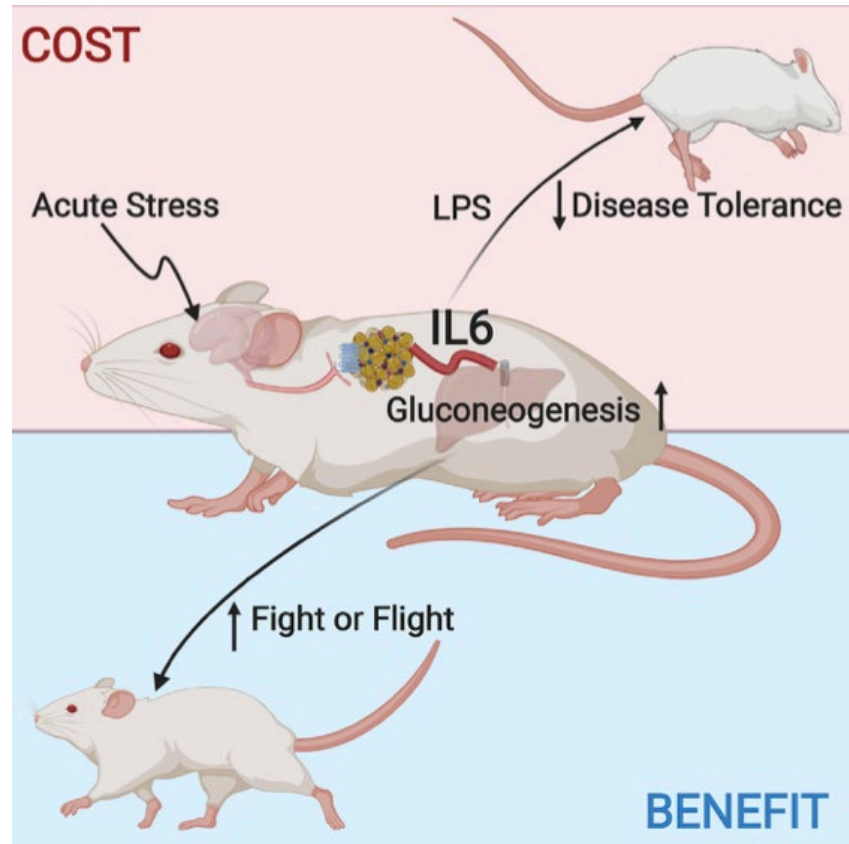
Psychological stress induces adaptive inflammation (that comes at a cost)



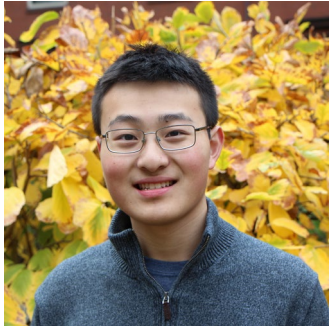
Hua
Qing



Reina
Desrouleaux



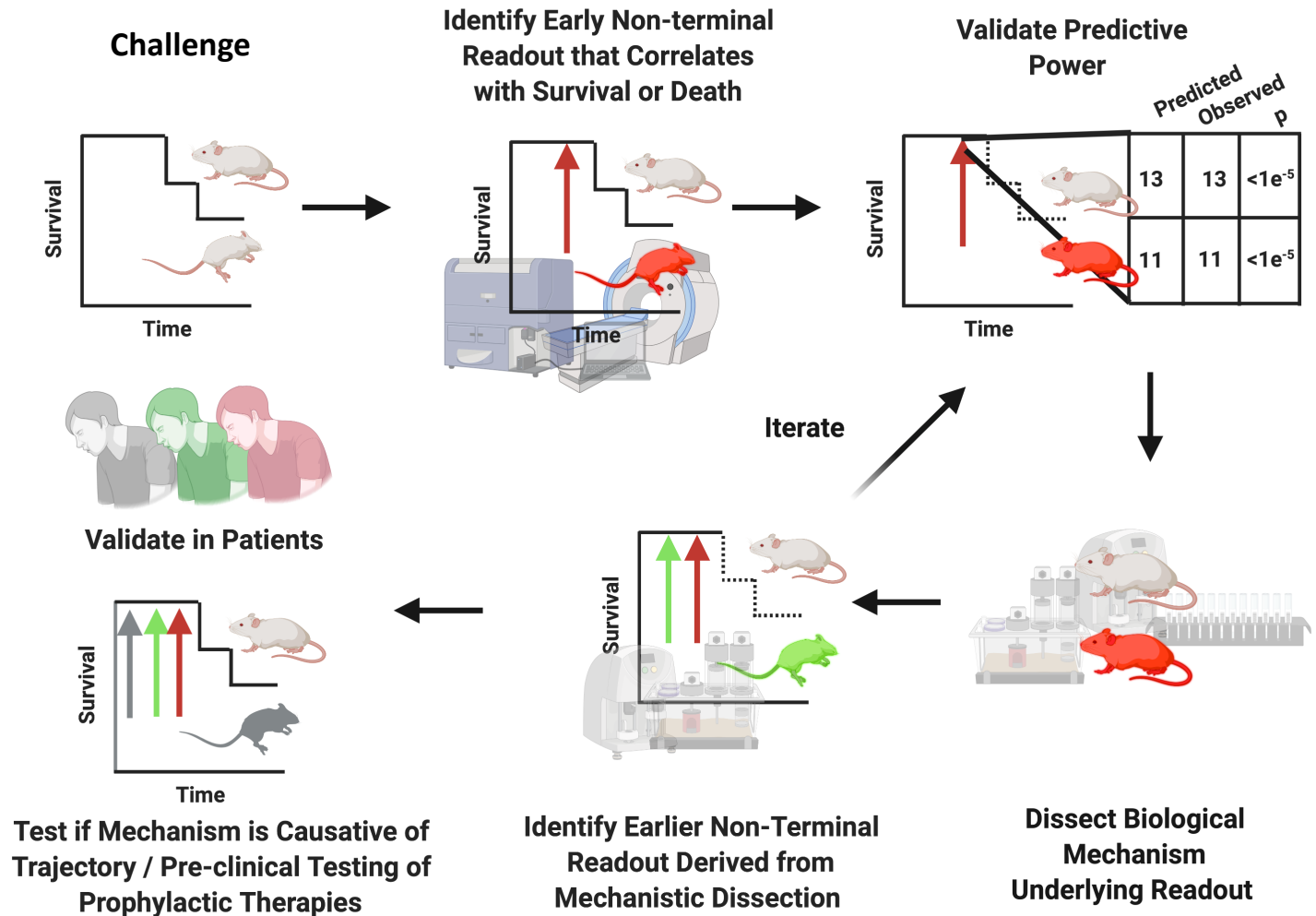
Approach # 2: "Reverse Engineering" LD50



Michael Gao



Kavita Israni-Winger



Approach #3: “Screening” the modern environment for adjuvants

NOT-FOE

Antigen
(like self proteins or
food proteins)

+

=

Immune Tolerance

FOE

Antigen
(like spike protein)

+

Adjuvant
(like viral components or
added compounds in vaccines)

=

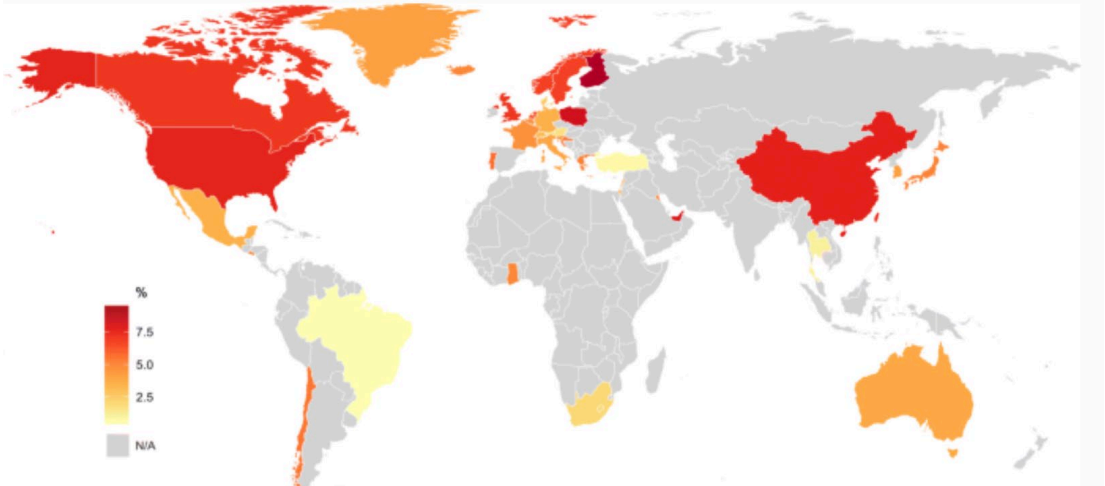
Immune Memory

Adjuvants in broad strokes

| Type I | Type II |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Complete Freund's Adjuvant | Aluminum salts (Alum) |
| LPS | Cholera Toxin |
| Squalene | Chitin |
| Flagellin | Papain |
| Poly(I:C) | Plant lectins |
| Lipid A analogues – MPL, RC529, GLA | Ara h 1 |
| Imiquimod | Bioactive lipids |
| Emulsions (MF59) | |

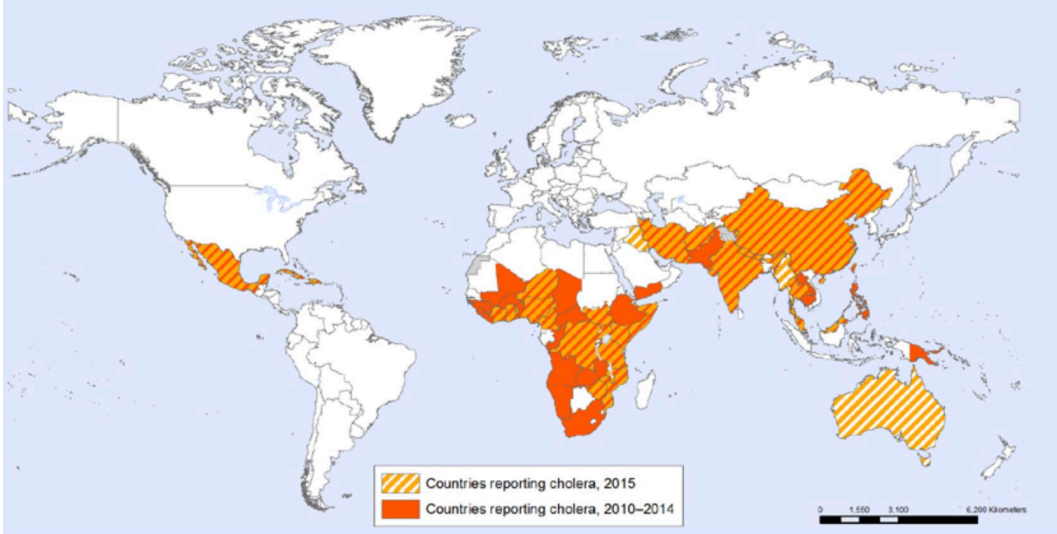
Cholera and food allergy prevalence don't overlap

Food Allergy



Warren et al.
Current Allergy.
2020.

Cholera



WHO

Molecular features (if there are one/many) that confer allergic adjuvancy are unknown

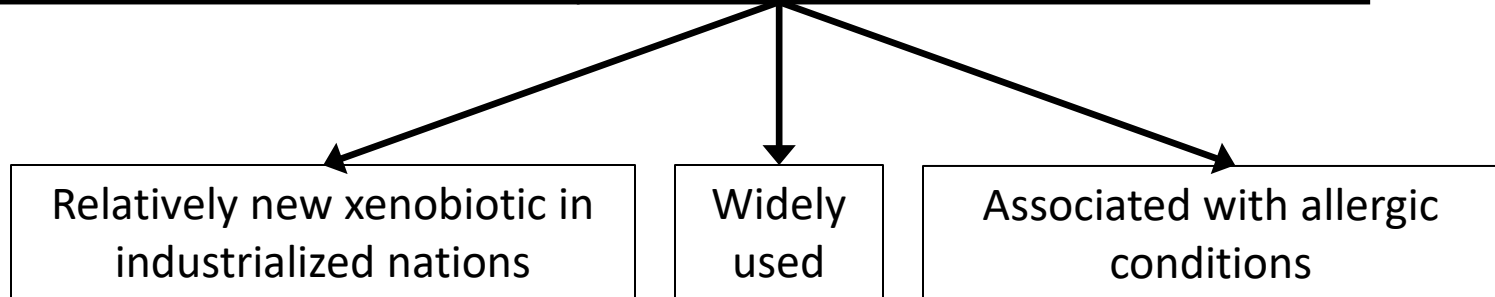
Pattern Recognition Receptors

?

| Type I | Type II |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Complete Freund's Adjuvant | Aluminum salts (Alum) |
| LPS | Cholera Toxin |
| Squalene | Chitin |
| Flagellin | Papain |
| Poly(I:C) | Plant lectins |
| Lipid A analogues – MPL, RC529, GLA | Ara h 1 |
| Imiquimod | Bioactive lipids |
| Emulsions (MF59) | |

Something new?

| Type I | Type II |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Complete Freund's Adjuvant | Aluminum salts (Alum) |
| LPS | Cholera Toxin |
| Squalene | Chitin |
| Flagellin | Papain |
| Poly(I:C) | Plant lectins |
| Lipid A analogues – MPL, RC529, GLA | Ara h 1 |
| Imiquimod | Bioactive lipids |
| Emulsions (MF59) | New Environmental Factor? |



Approach #3: “Screening” the modern environment

Pre-1960

Antigen

(peanut, dust mite, ovalbumin,
ovomucoid, etc.)

+

Manmade xenobiotics

=

Allergic sensitization

Post-1960

Antigen

(peanut, dust mite, ovalbumin,
ovomucoid, etc.)

+

Manmade xenobiotics

=

Allergic sensitization

Approach #3: “Screening” the modern environment



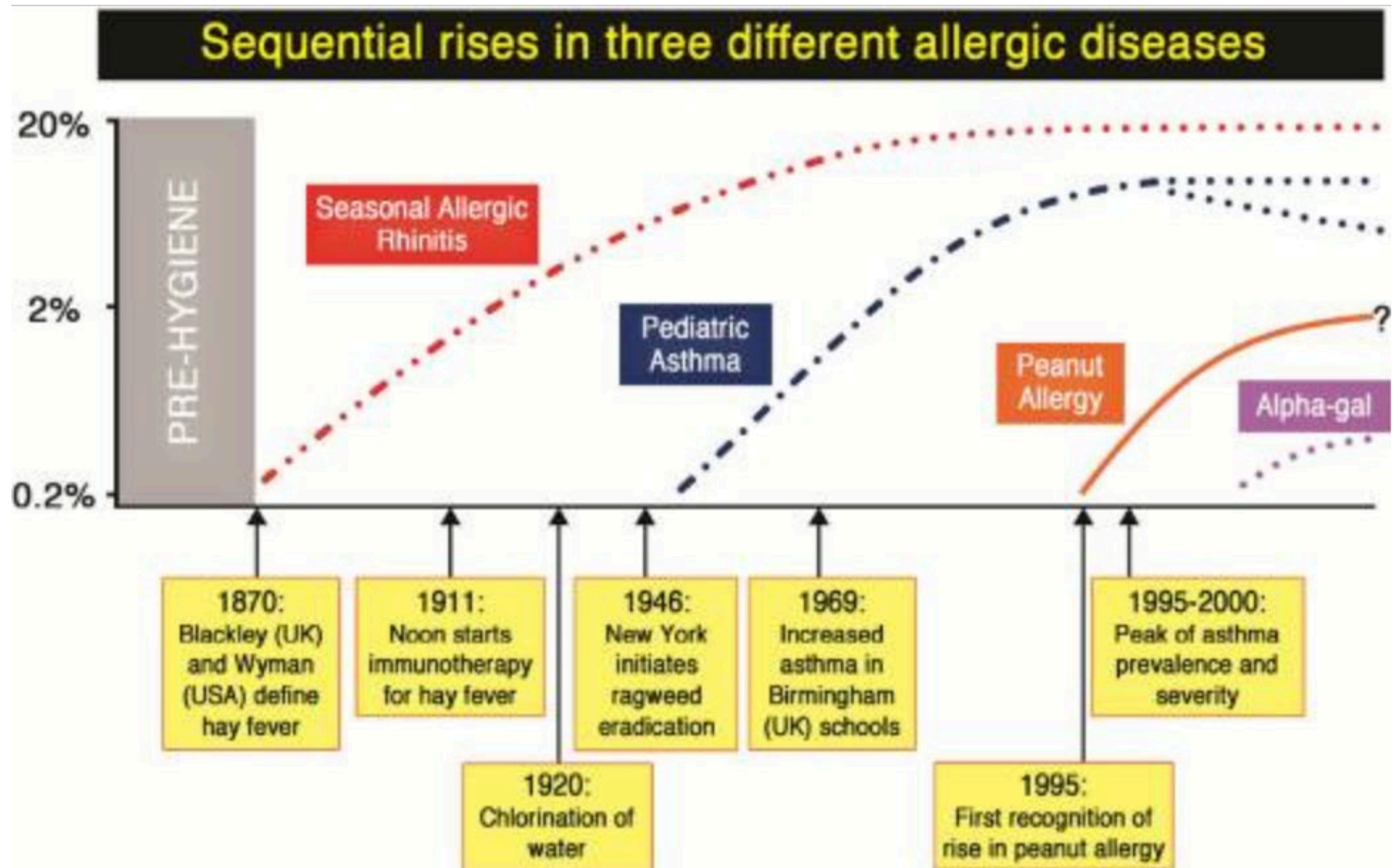
Anna Eisenstein



Brandon Hilliard



Dan Waizman



Approach #3: “Screening” the modern environment



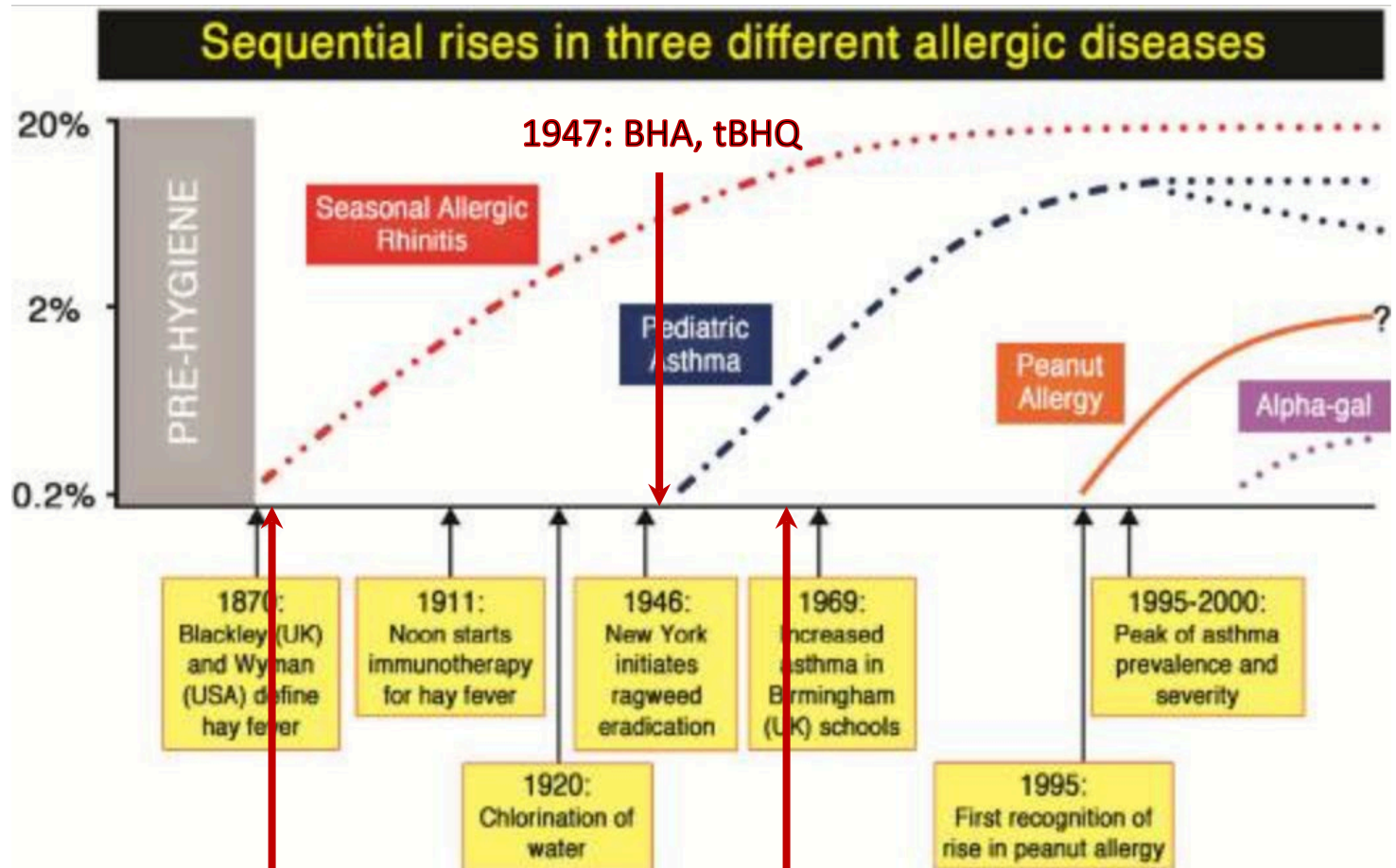
Anna Eisenstein



Brandon Hilliard



Dan Waizman



1890: Aspirin

1963: Reye's Syndrome Reported

1965: Indomethacin

1969: Ibuprofen

Bastardizing (mea culpa) the beautiful figure from Platts-Mills. JACI. 2015.

The Screen

 An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#) ▾



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Food Additive Status List

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[Color Additive Status List](#)

Disclaimer FDA offers this list as a service to the Field Offices. Inclusion of a substance in the Food Additive Status list does not necessarily represent its legal regulatory status. The regulations for food additives in 21 Code of Federal Regulations need to be consulted.

[More >>](#)

[Forward](#) | [Abbreviations](#)

[Additives: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z](#)

FOREWORD

Food Additives & Petitions

[Color Additives in Food](#)

[Food & Color Additive Petitions](#)

Food Additive Status List

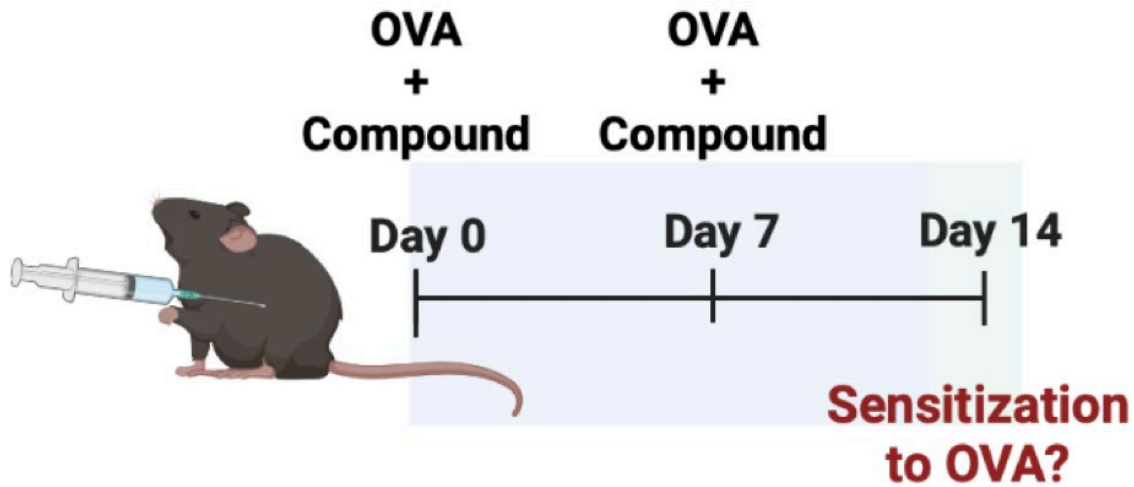
[Substances Added to Food \(formerly EAFUS\)](#)

Content current as of: 08/25/2022

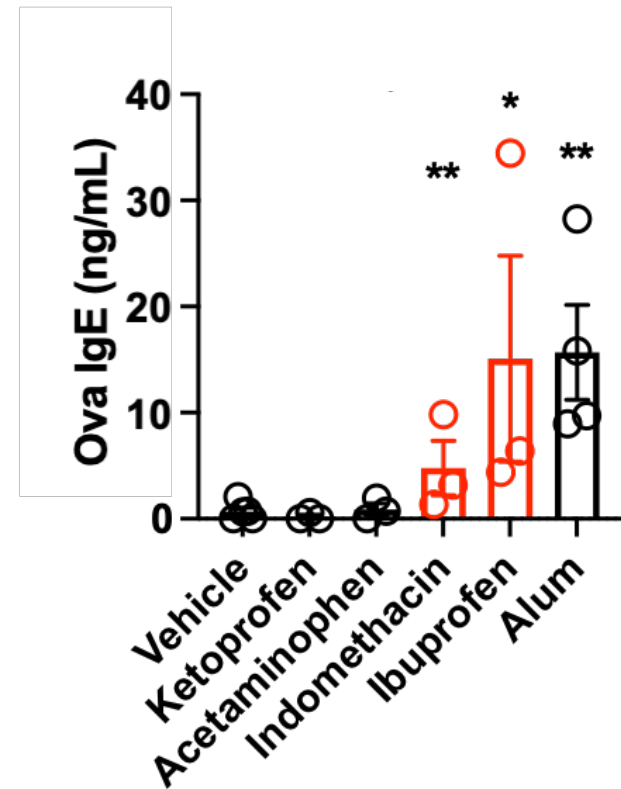
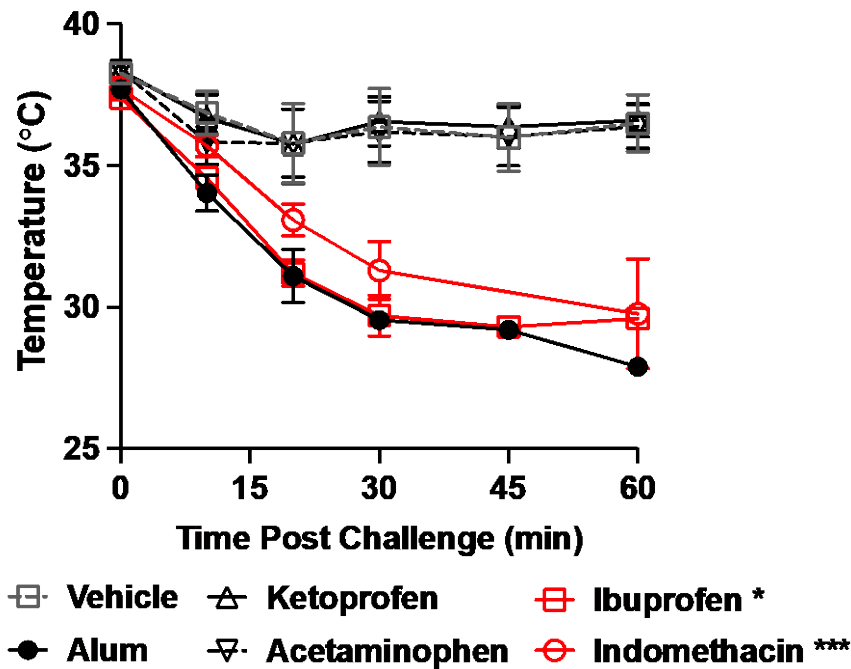
Regulated Product(s)
Food & Beverages
Food & Color Additives



The Screen



Some NSAIDs are sufficient for allergic sensitization

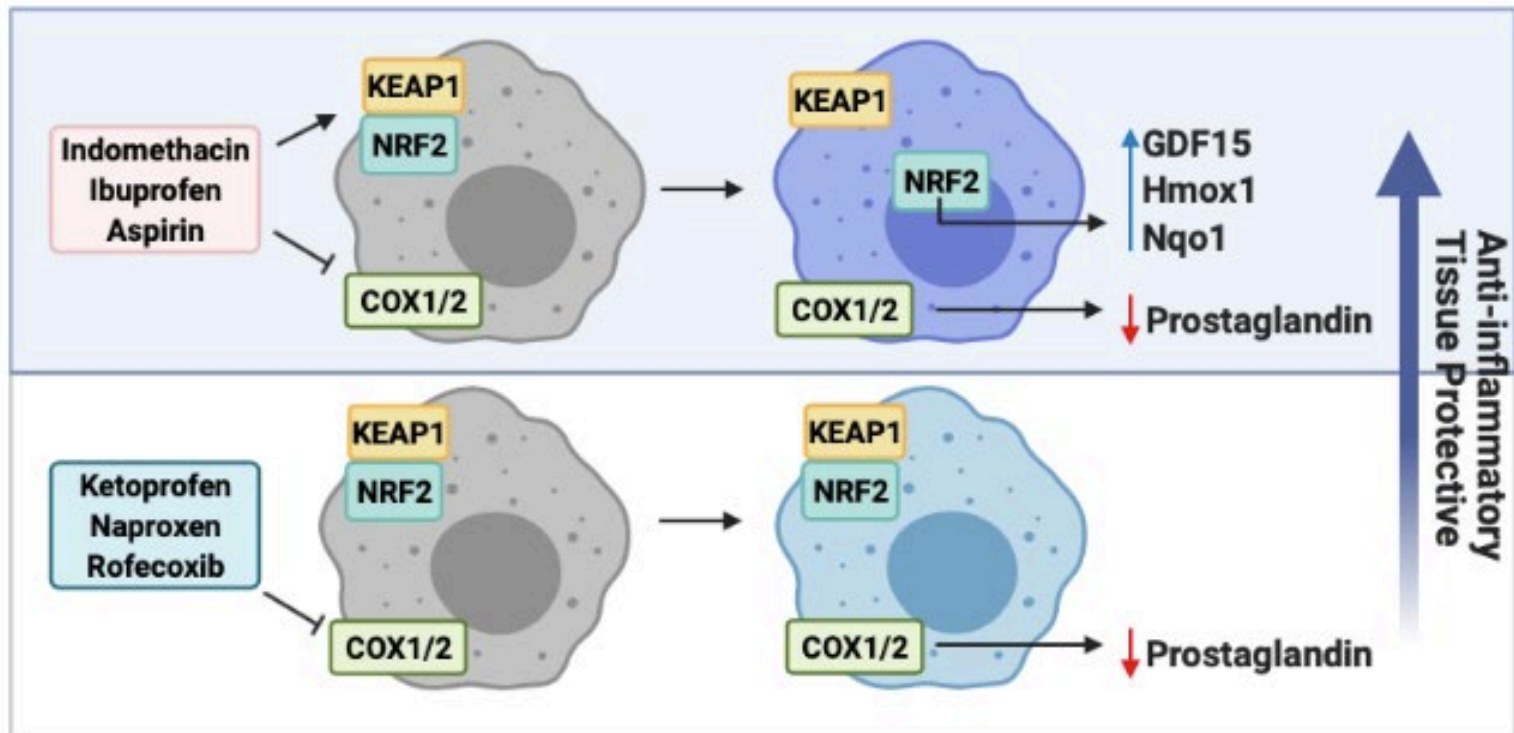


Luan, Hilliard et al. Cell. 2019

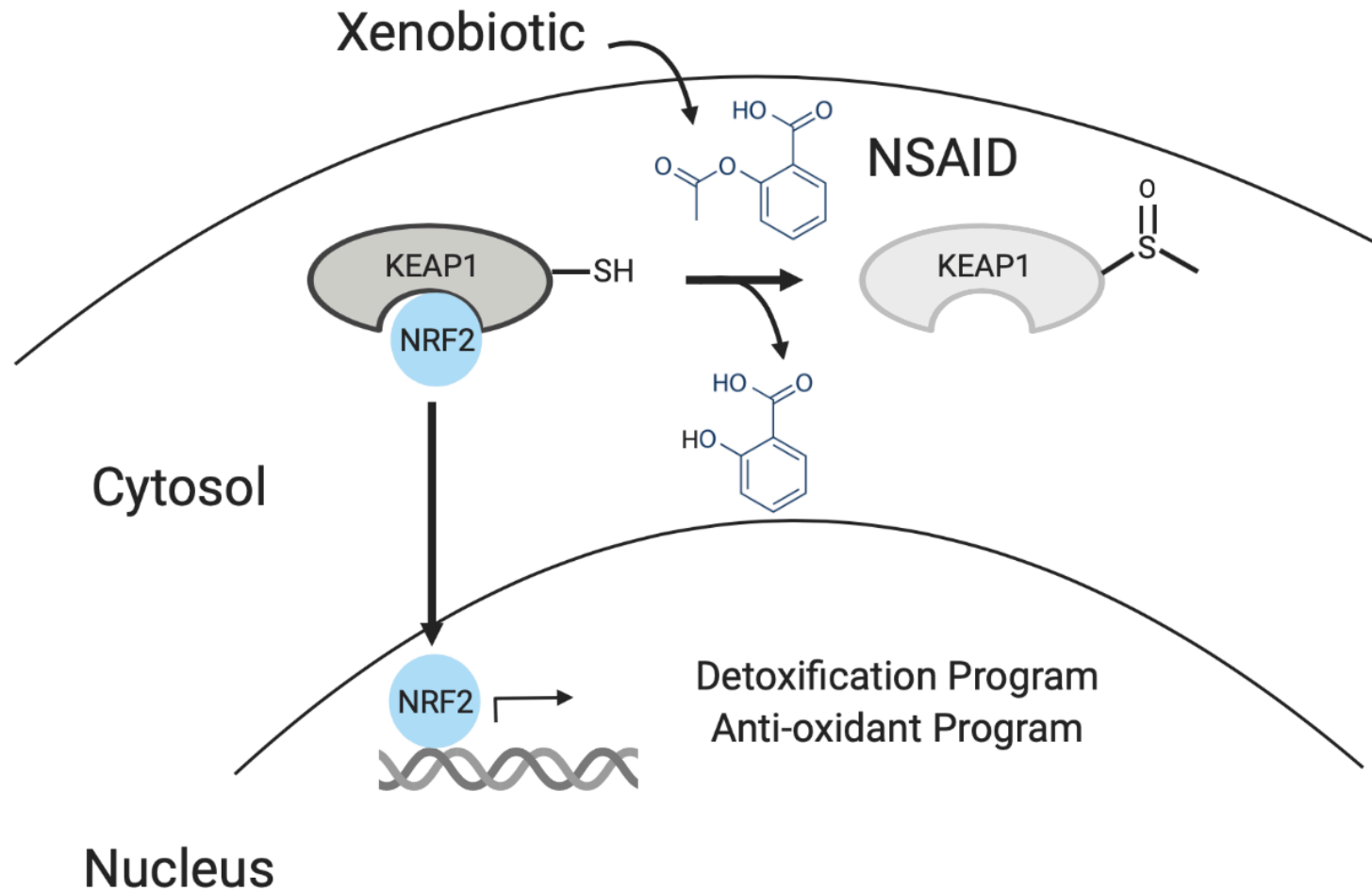
Eisenstein, Hilliard et al. Immunity. 2022.

Eisenstein et al. *In Revision*.

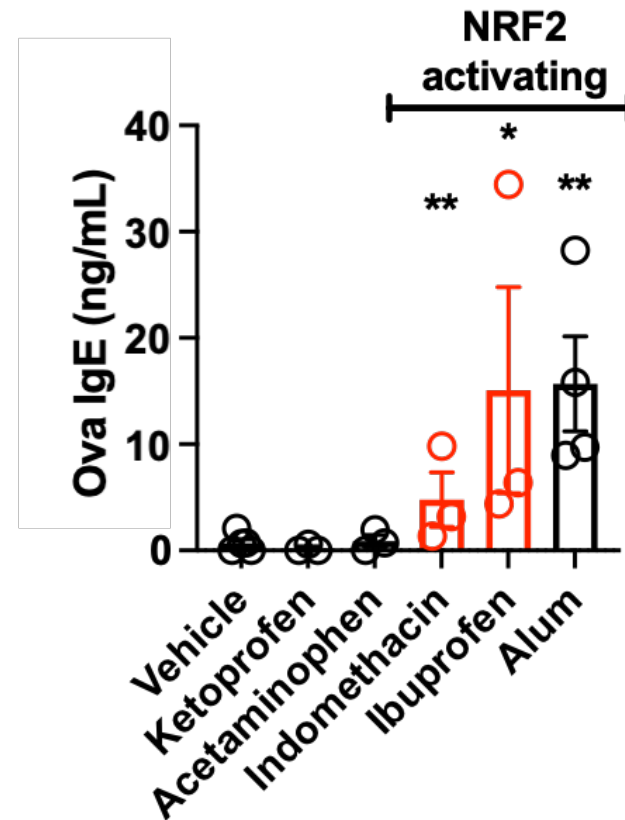
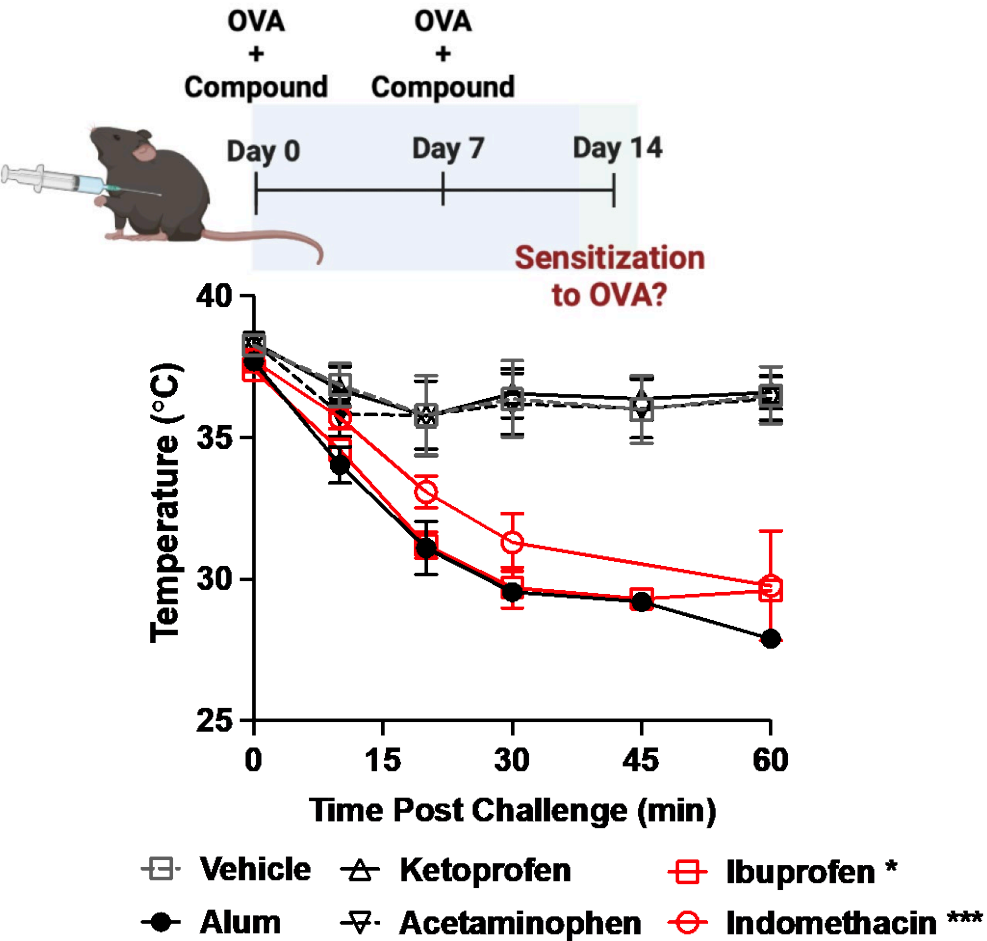
A subset of NSAIDs also activate xenobiotic defense pathways



NRF2/KEAP1 defends against excess electrophiles



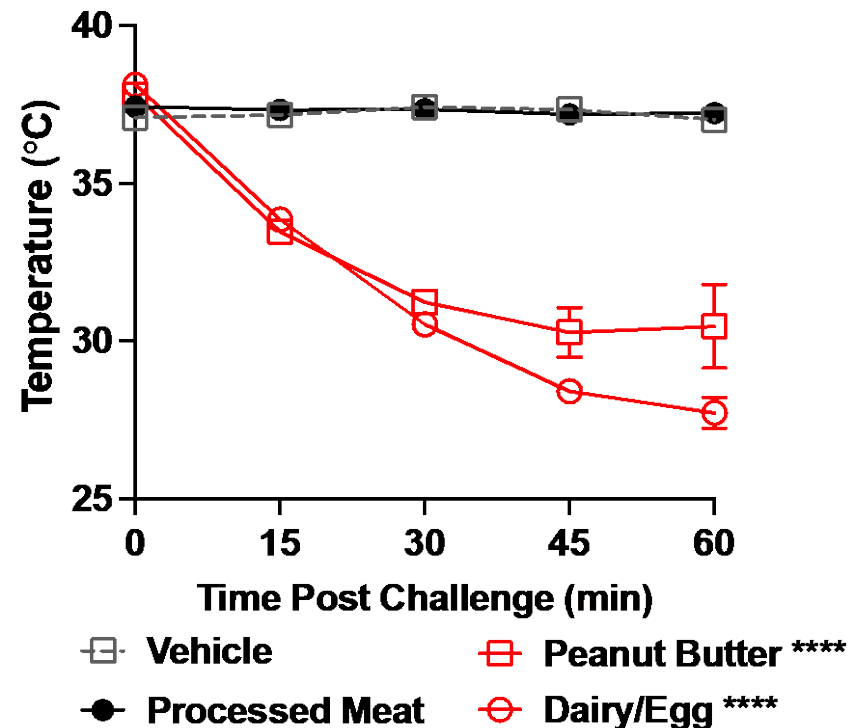
NRF2-activating NSAIDs are allergic adjuvants



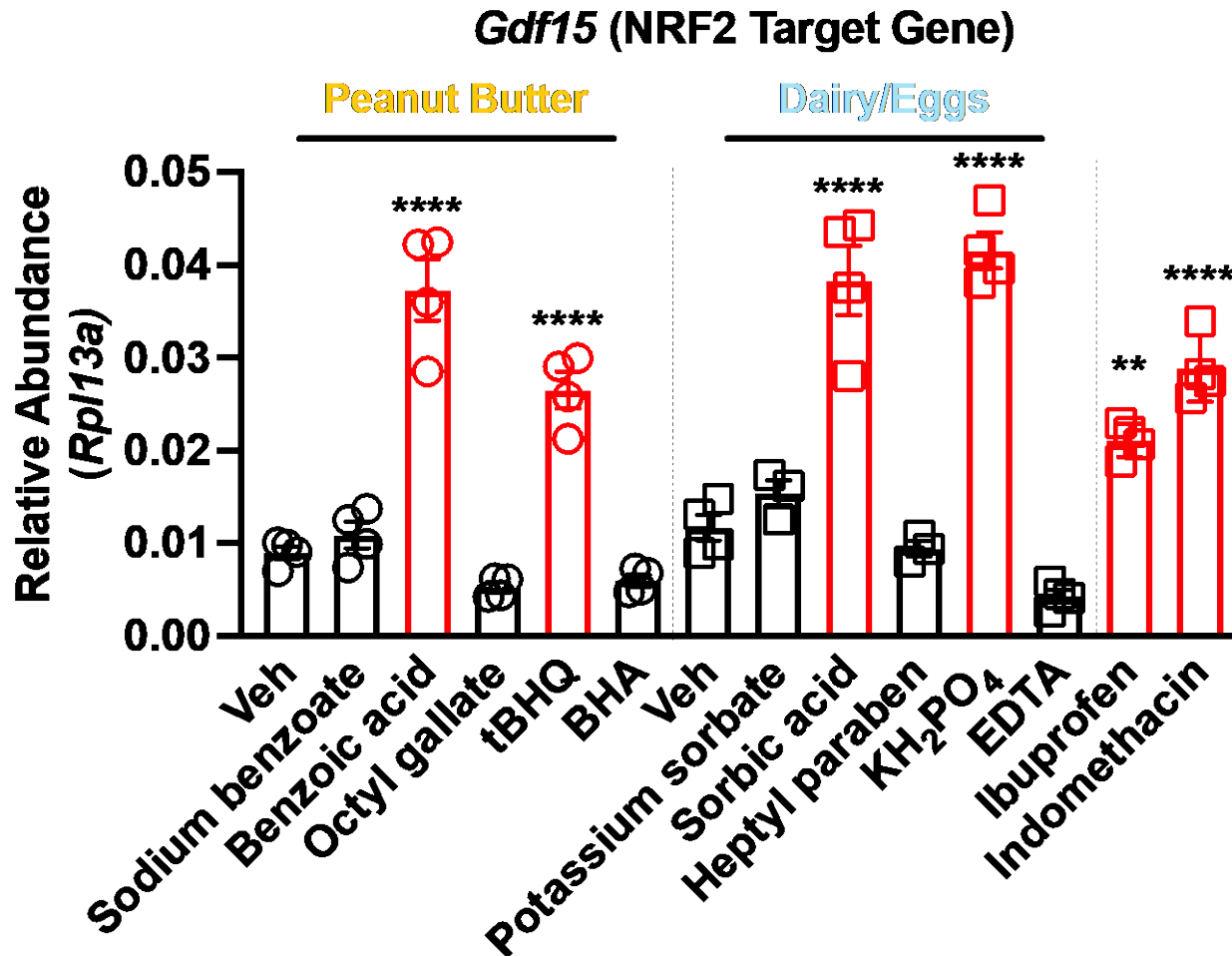
Luan, Hilliard et al. Cell. 2019
 Eisenstein, Hilliard et al. Immunity. 2022.
 Eisenstein et al. *In Revision*.

Identification of food additives that are sufficient as allergic adjuvants

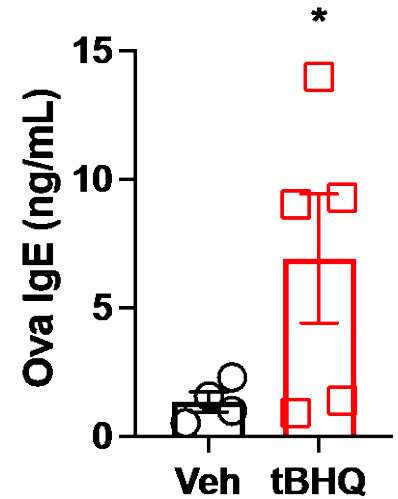
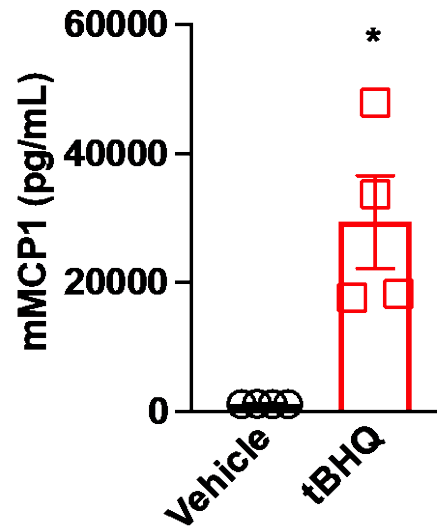
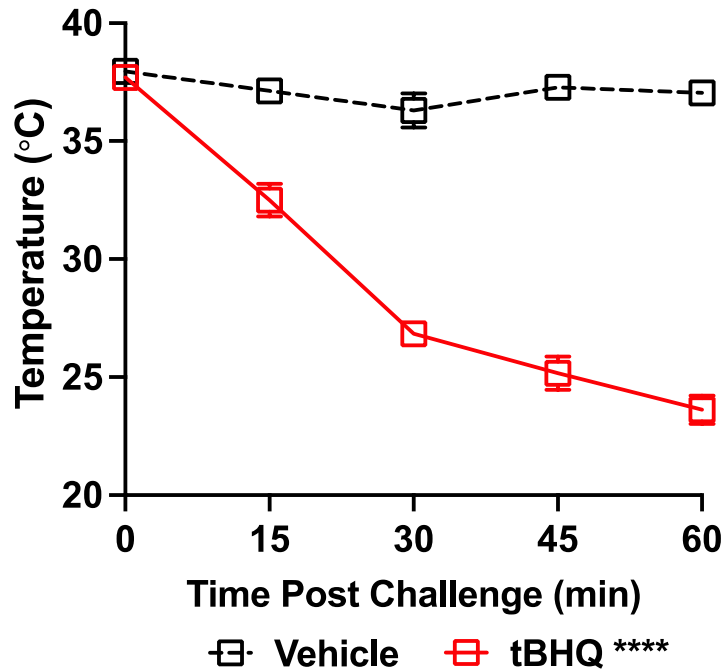
| Food | Additive |
|----------------|---|
| Peanut Butter | Sodium Benzoate, Benzoic Acid Octyl Gallate, tBHQ. Butylated Hydroxyanisole |
| Dairy/Egg | Potassium Sorbate, Sorbic Acid, Heptyl Paraben, Potassium Phosphate Ethylene Diamine Tetra acetic Acid |
| Processed Meat | Lignosulfonic Acid Calcium Salt, Sodium Nitrite, Potassium Nitrate, Sodium Nitrate |



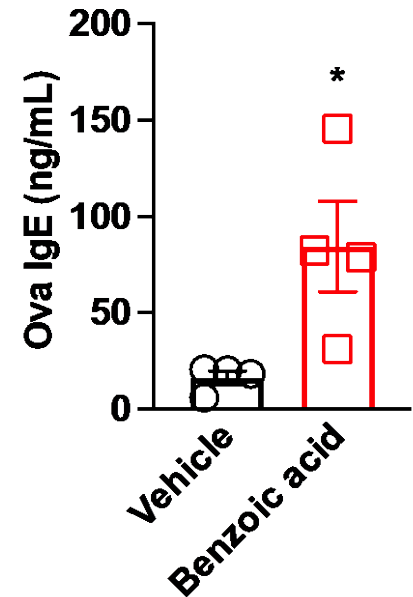
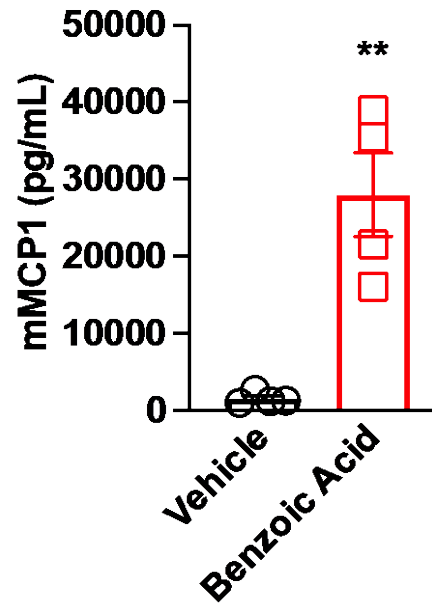
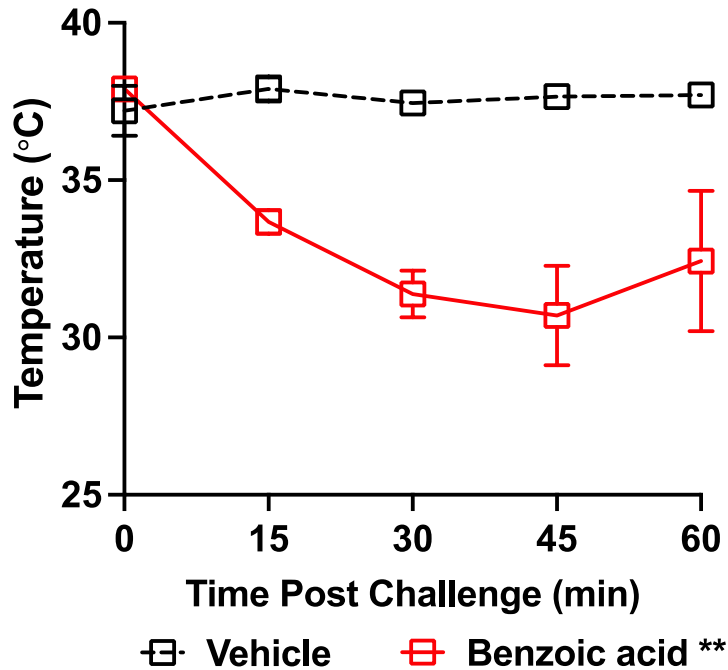
In vitro screen of NRF2 activators identify known and novel activators



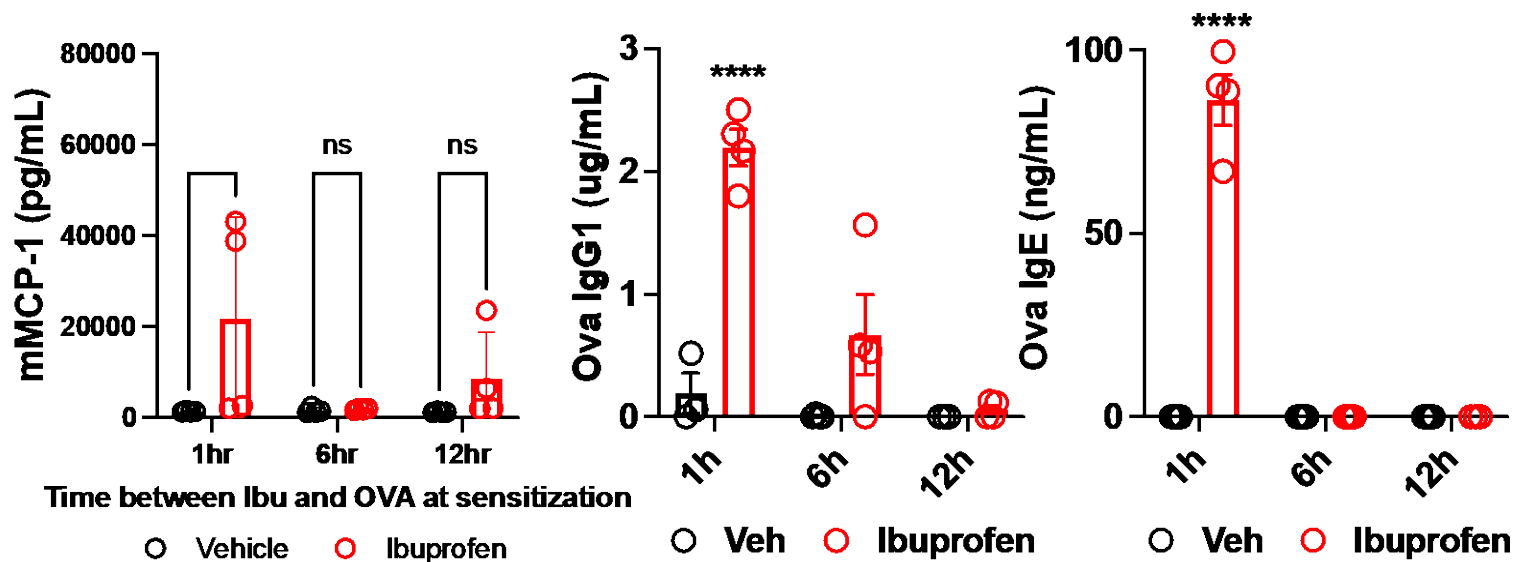
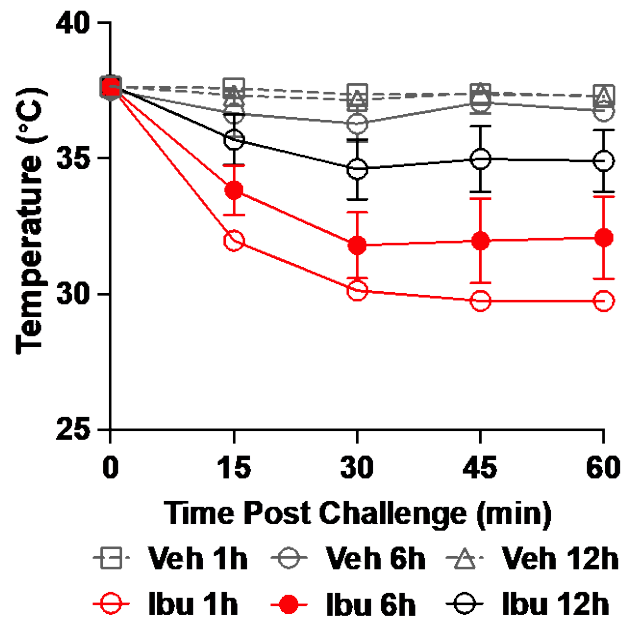
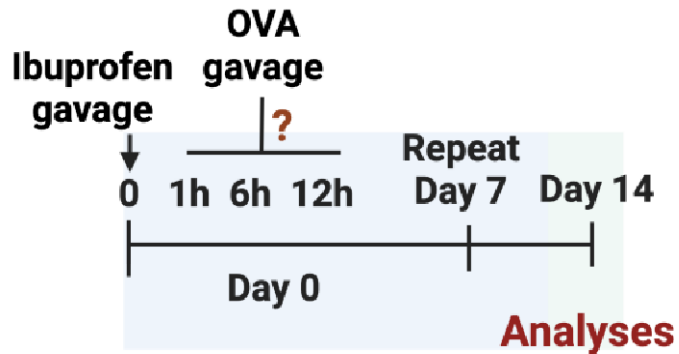
The NRF2 activator tBHQ is sufficient as an allergic adjuvant



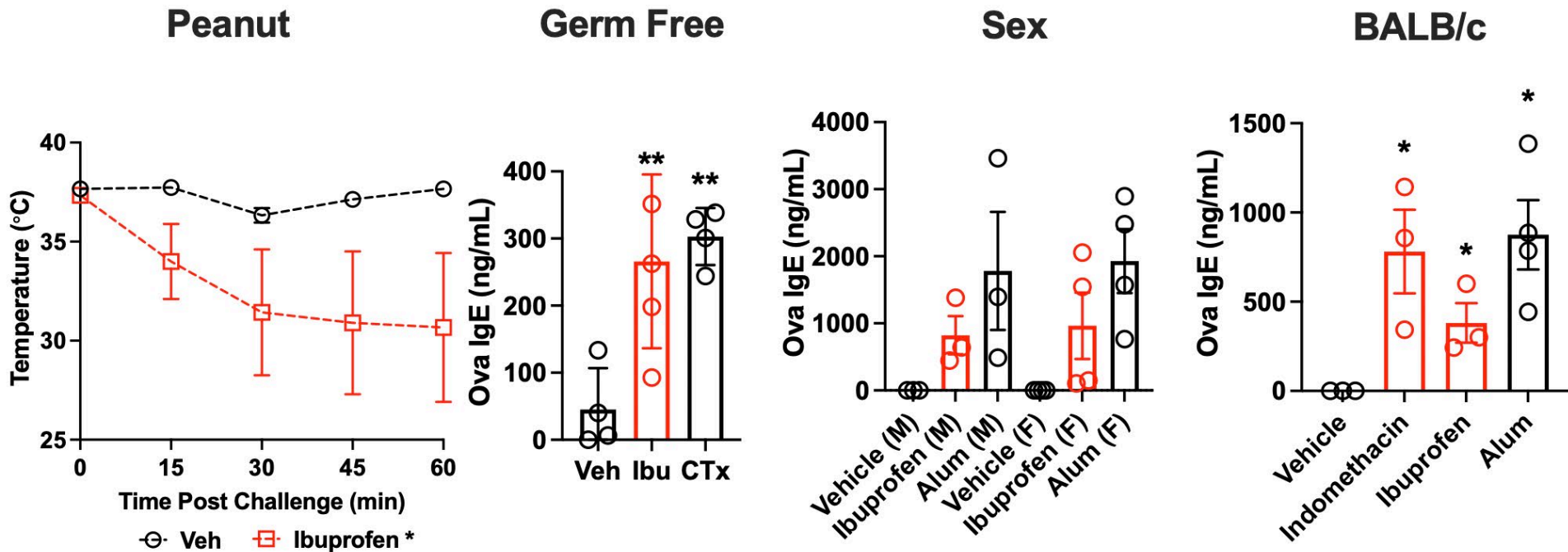
Benzoic acid (novel NRF2 activator) is an allergic adjuvant



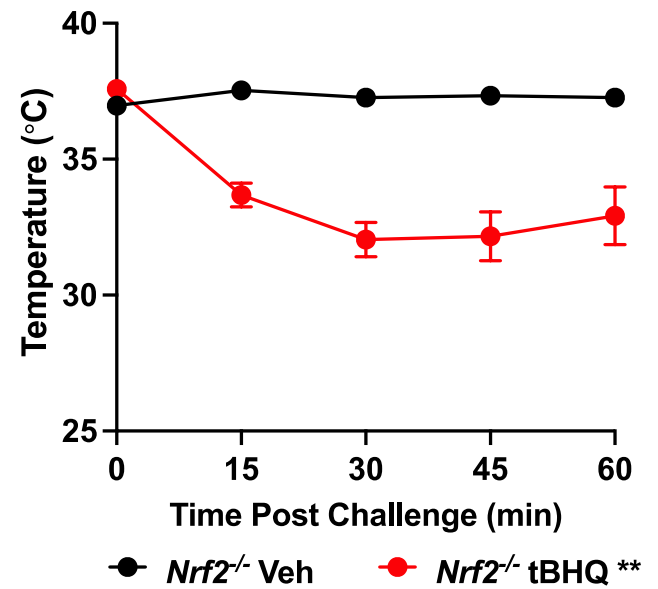
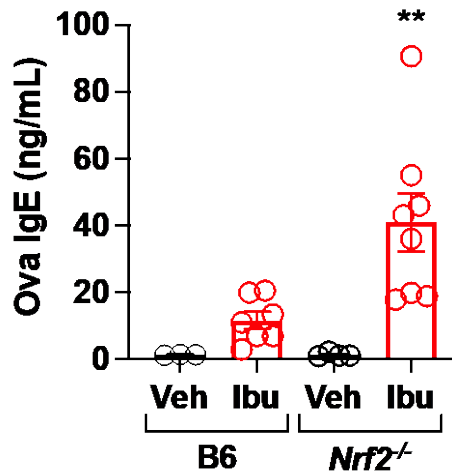
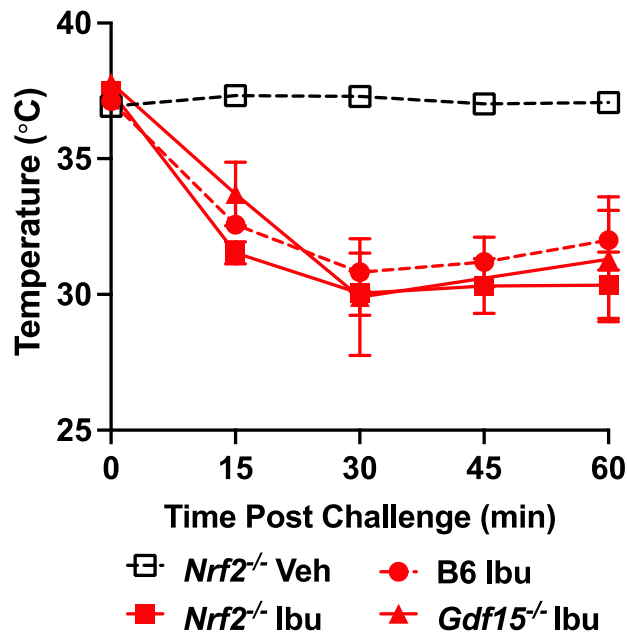
Immune memory formation requires temporal proximity



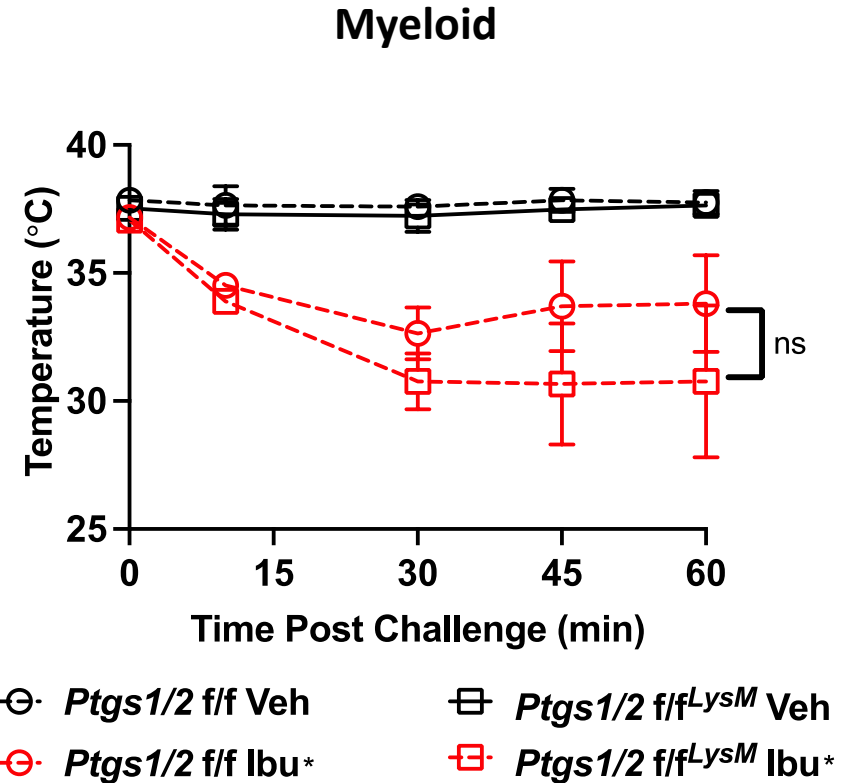
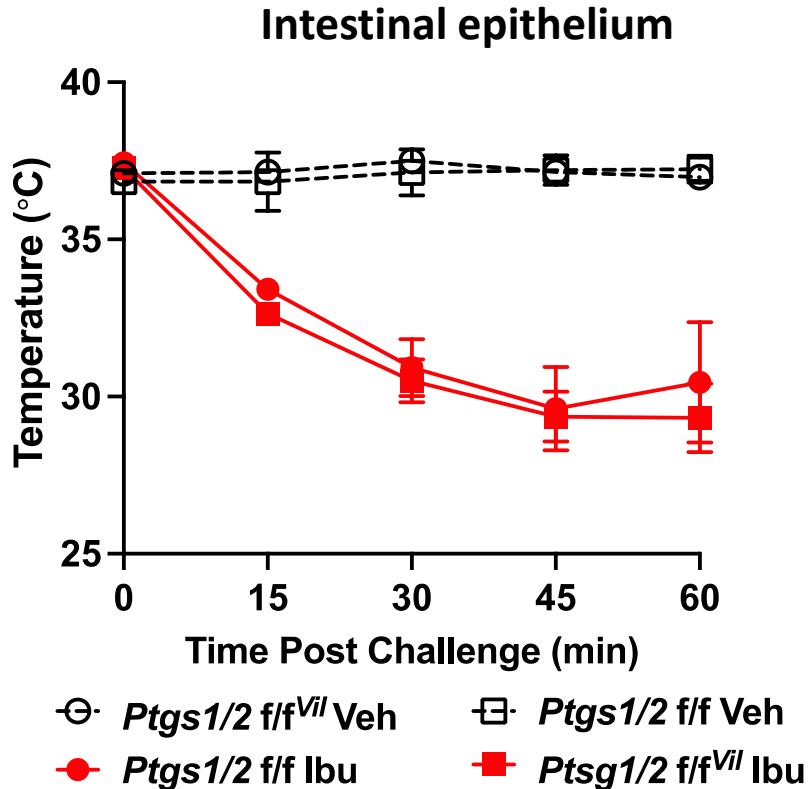
Sensitization occurs with other antigens, independent of microbiome, sex, genotype



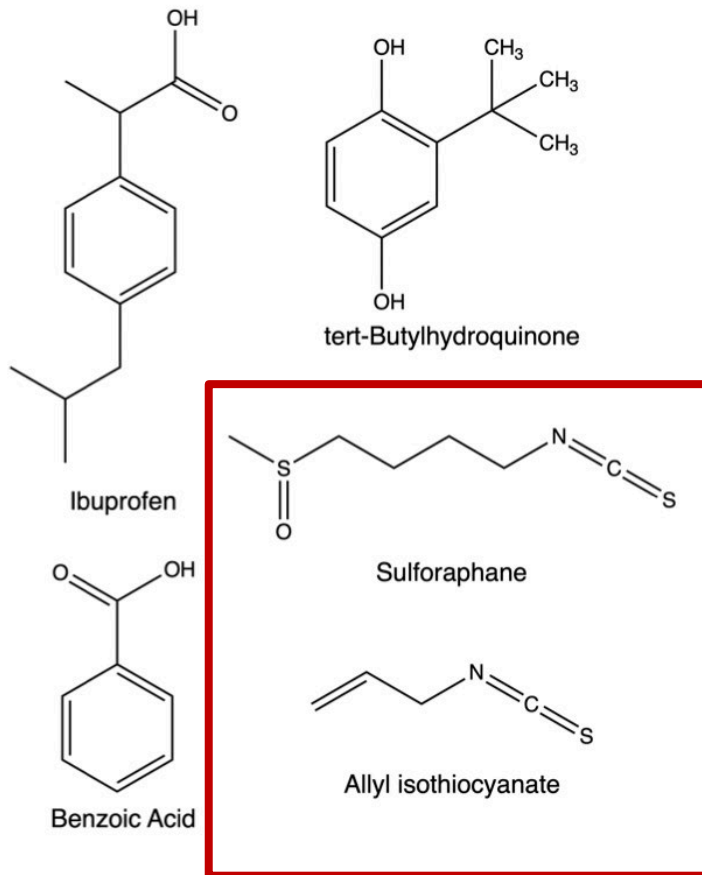
How: The NRF2 activators are sufficient, but not necessary, but make things worse...



COX isozymes aren't necessary either...



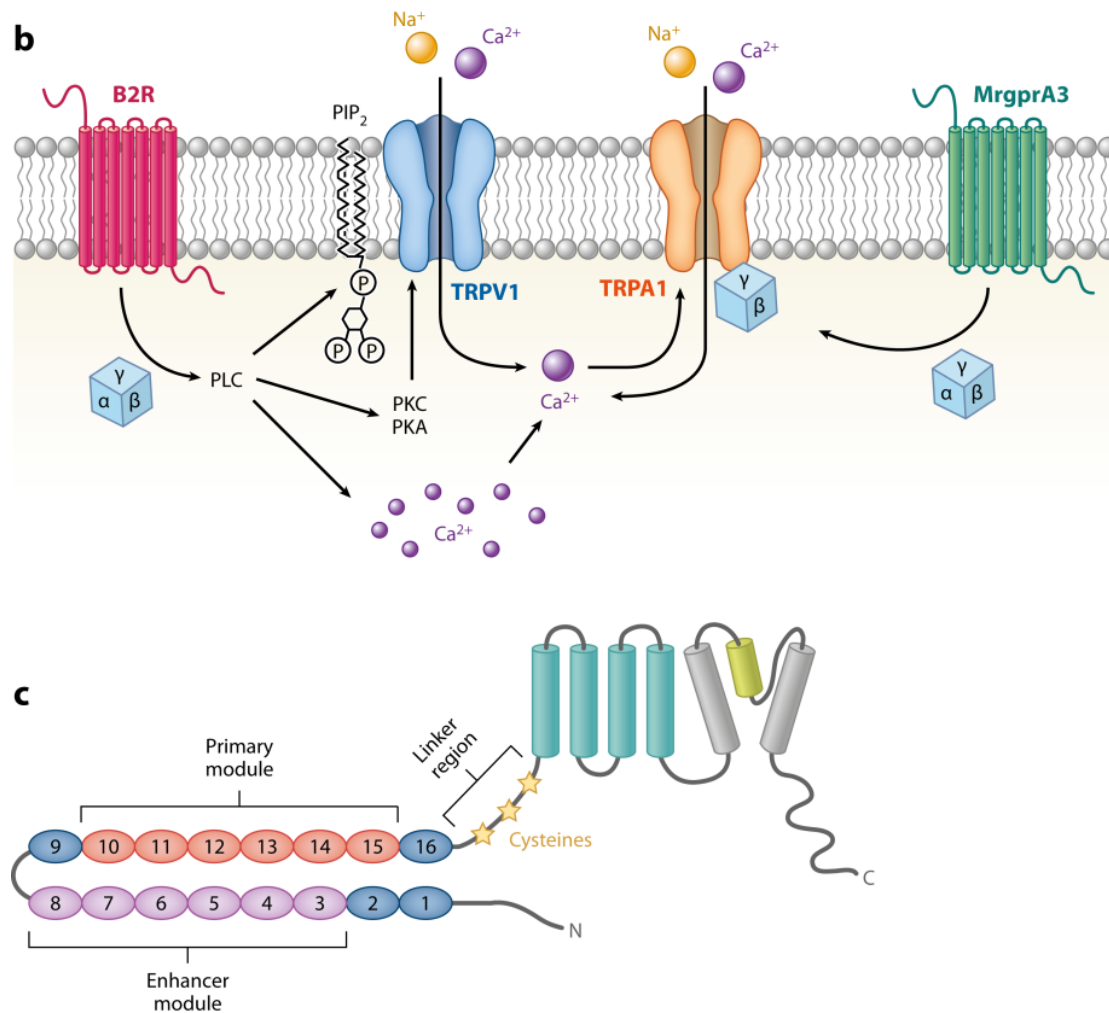
Back to the drawing board looking for the sensor



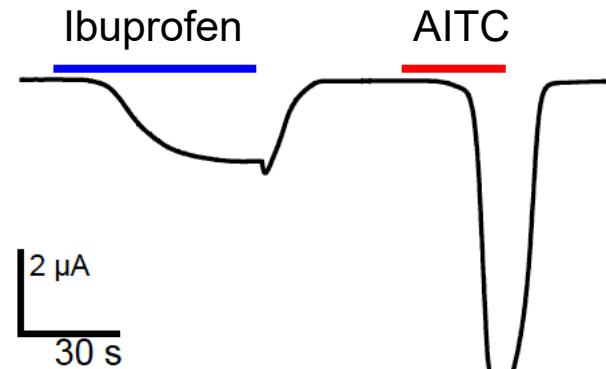
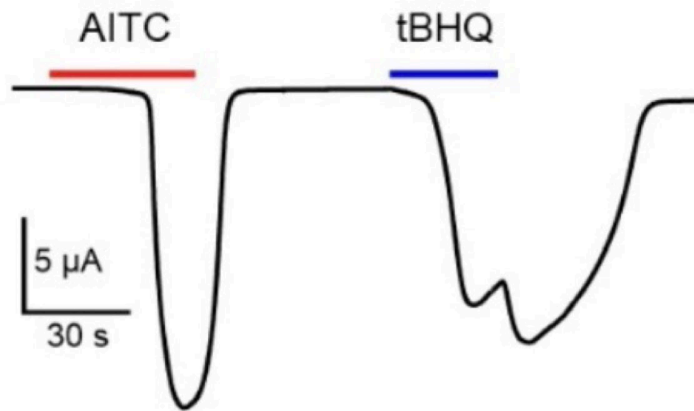
All cytosolic proteins with reactive thiols

Thioredoxin (Trx)
Peroxiredoxins (Prxs)
Protein tyrosine phosphatases (PTPs)
Kelch-like ECH-associated protein 1 (**Keap1**)/NF-E2-related factor 2 (**Nrf2**)
Cysteine-rich proteins (CRPs)
Redox-sensitive Ras family proteins (Rho, Ras, Rap)
Redox-sensitive protein kinases (c-**Src**, PKC)
Redox-sensitive phosphatases (PTEN, PTP1B)
Redox-sensitive calcium release channels (ryanodine receptors)
Redox-sensitive apoptotic proteins (Bcl-2 family proteins)
Redox-sensitive ribonucleotide reductases (RNR)
Redox-sensitive G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs)
Redox-sensitive ion channels (cysteine-modified potassium channels)
Glutaredoxins (Grxs)
Protein disulfide isomerases (PDIs)
Transient receptor potential channels (**TRPA1**, TRPM2, TRPM7)
5' AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK)

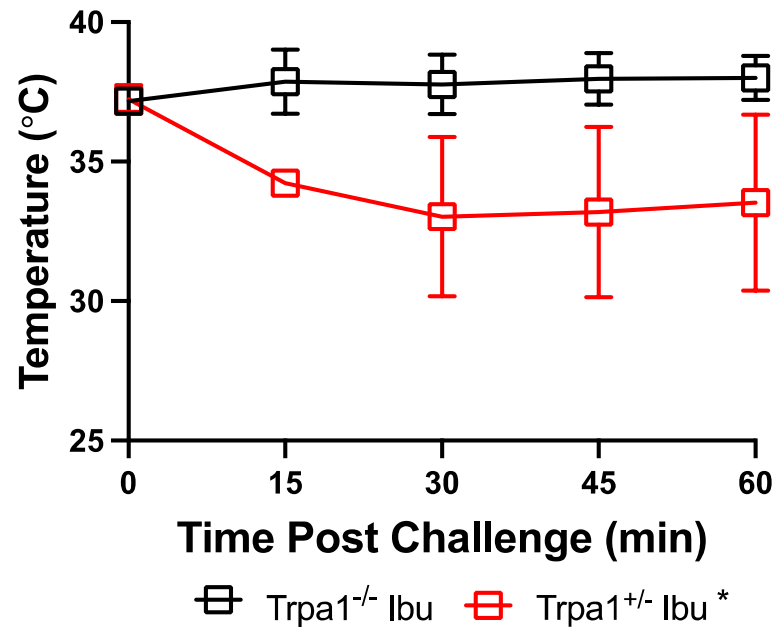
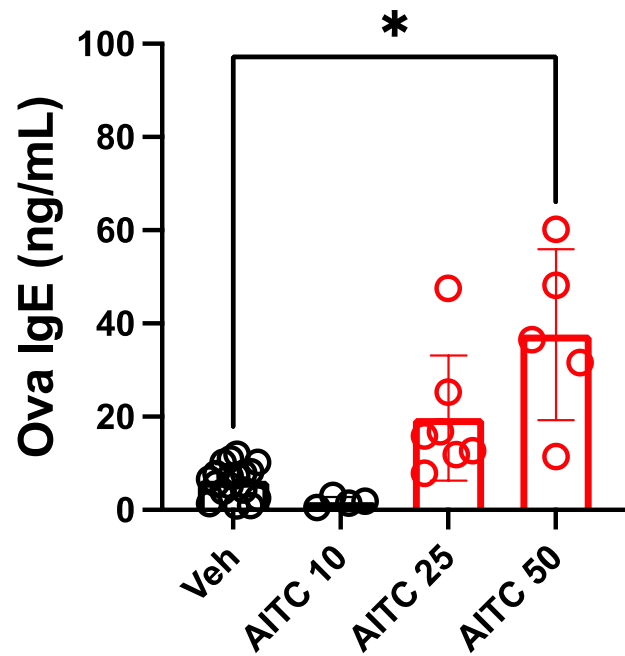
TRPA1: Irritant sensor through thiol sensing



NRF2 activators are TRPA1 activators (electrophiles and reactive cysteines)



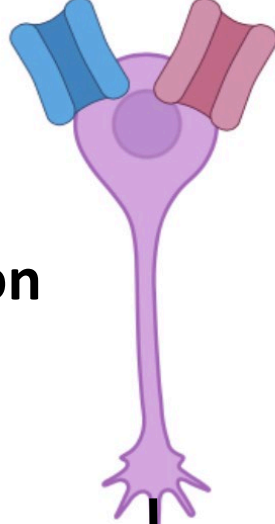
TRPA1 is necessary and sufficient for xenobiotic sensitization



TRPA1 is expressed on neurons and enteroendocrine cells

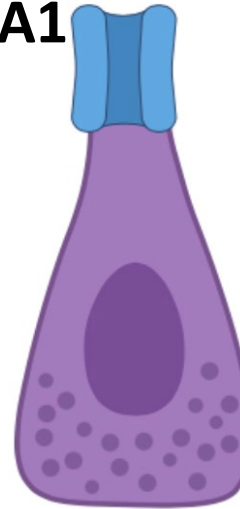
Mediate:
Itch
“Wasabi” burn/pain
Noxious cold aversion

TRPA1 TRPV1



Neuro-
transmission

TRPA1

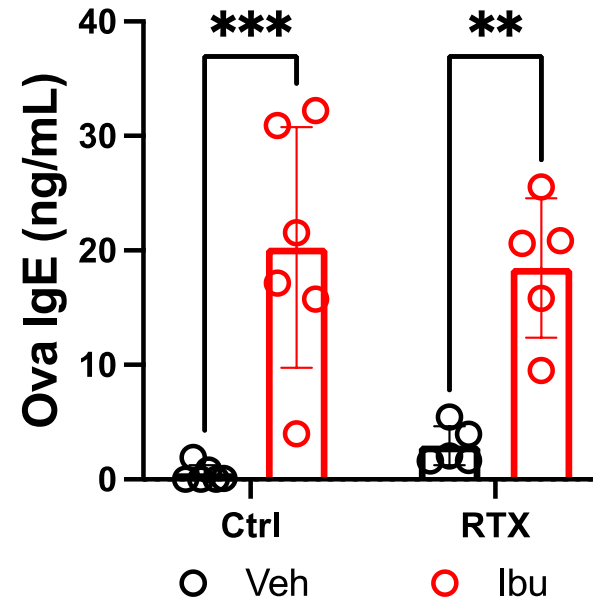
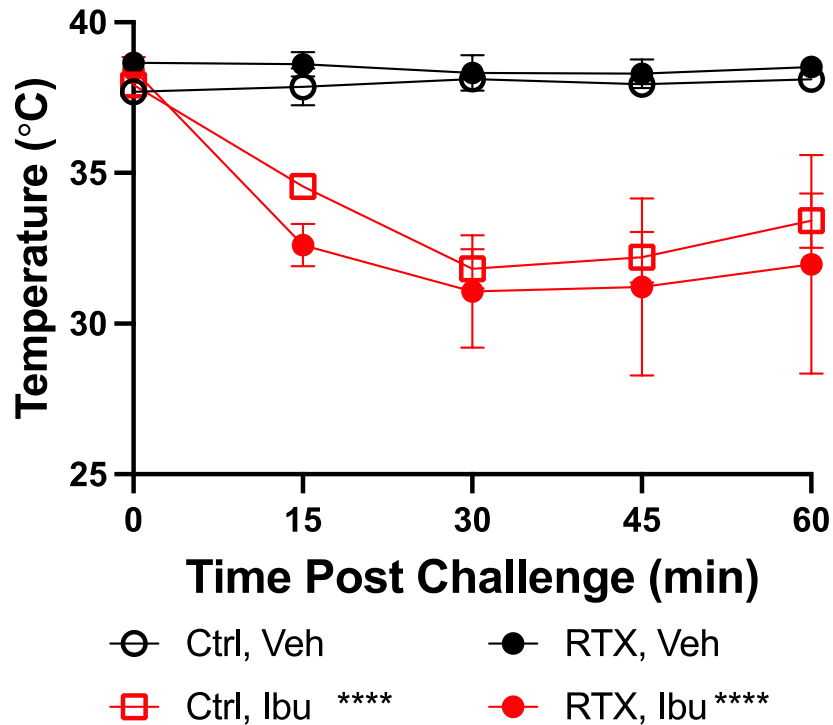


Serotonin

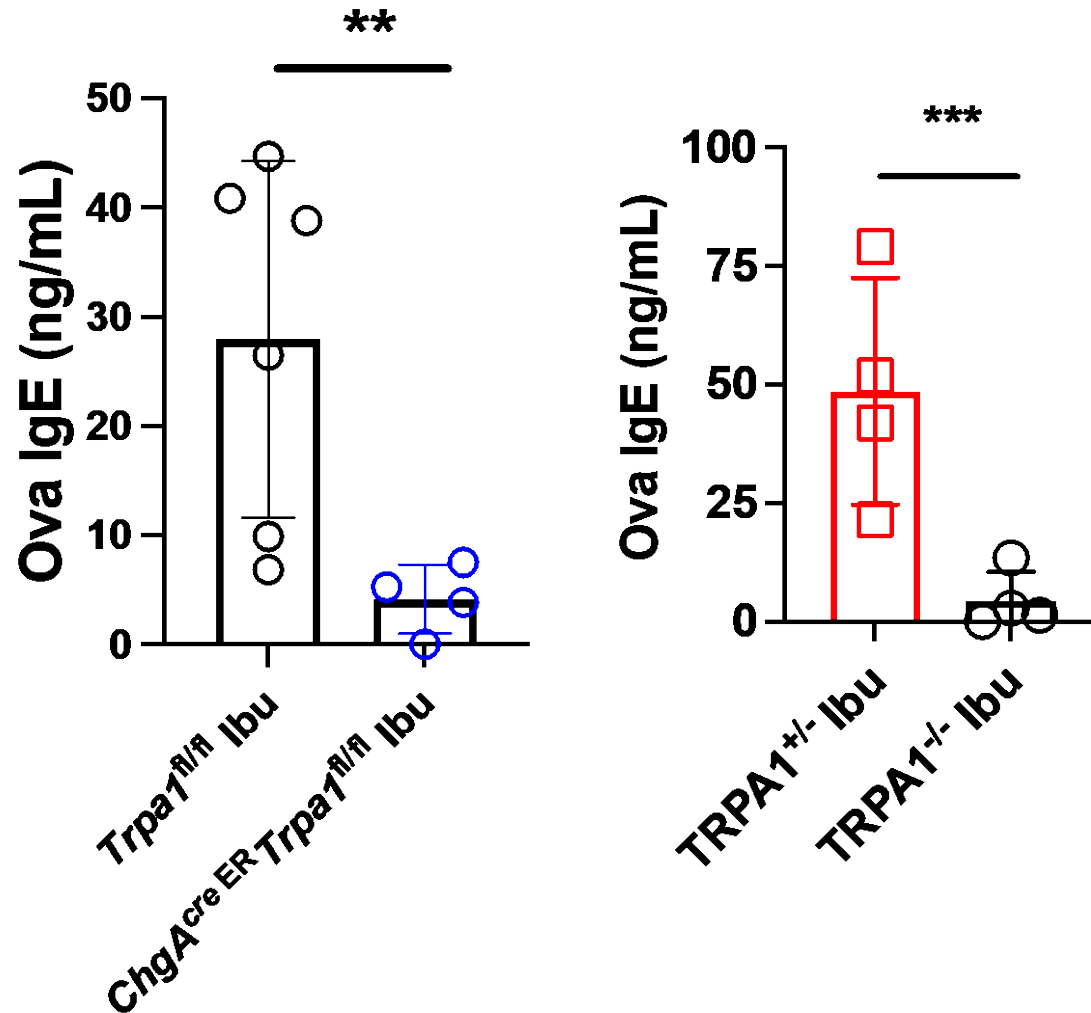
Mediate:

- Mucus production
- Increased intestinal motility
- Increased tight junctions

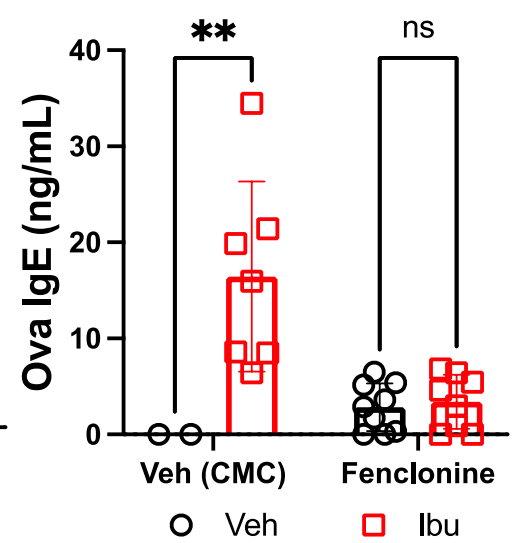
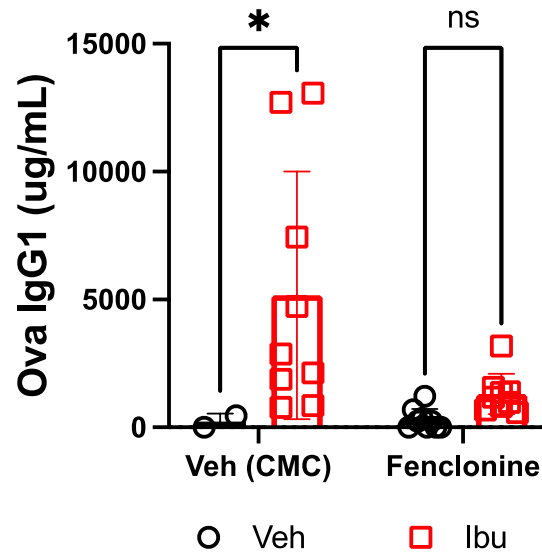
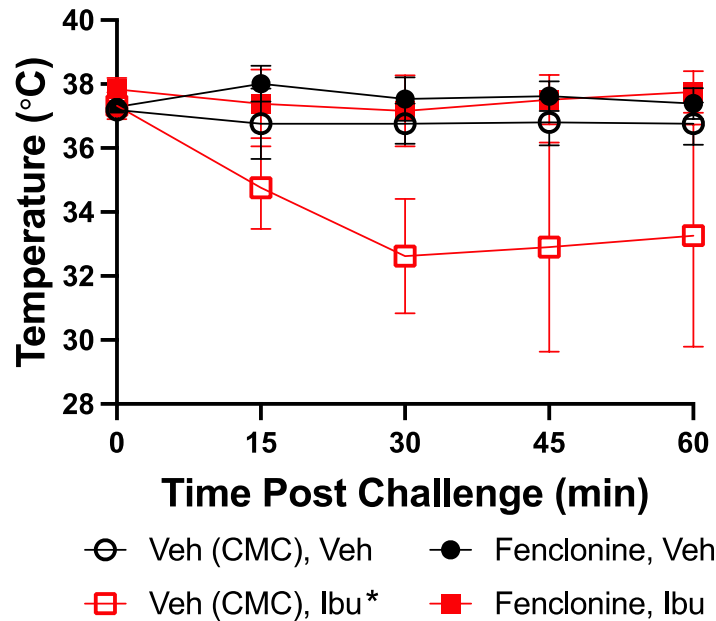
Neuronal TRPA1 (via TRPV1 deletion) is dispensable



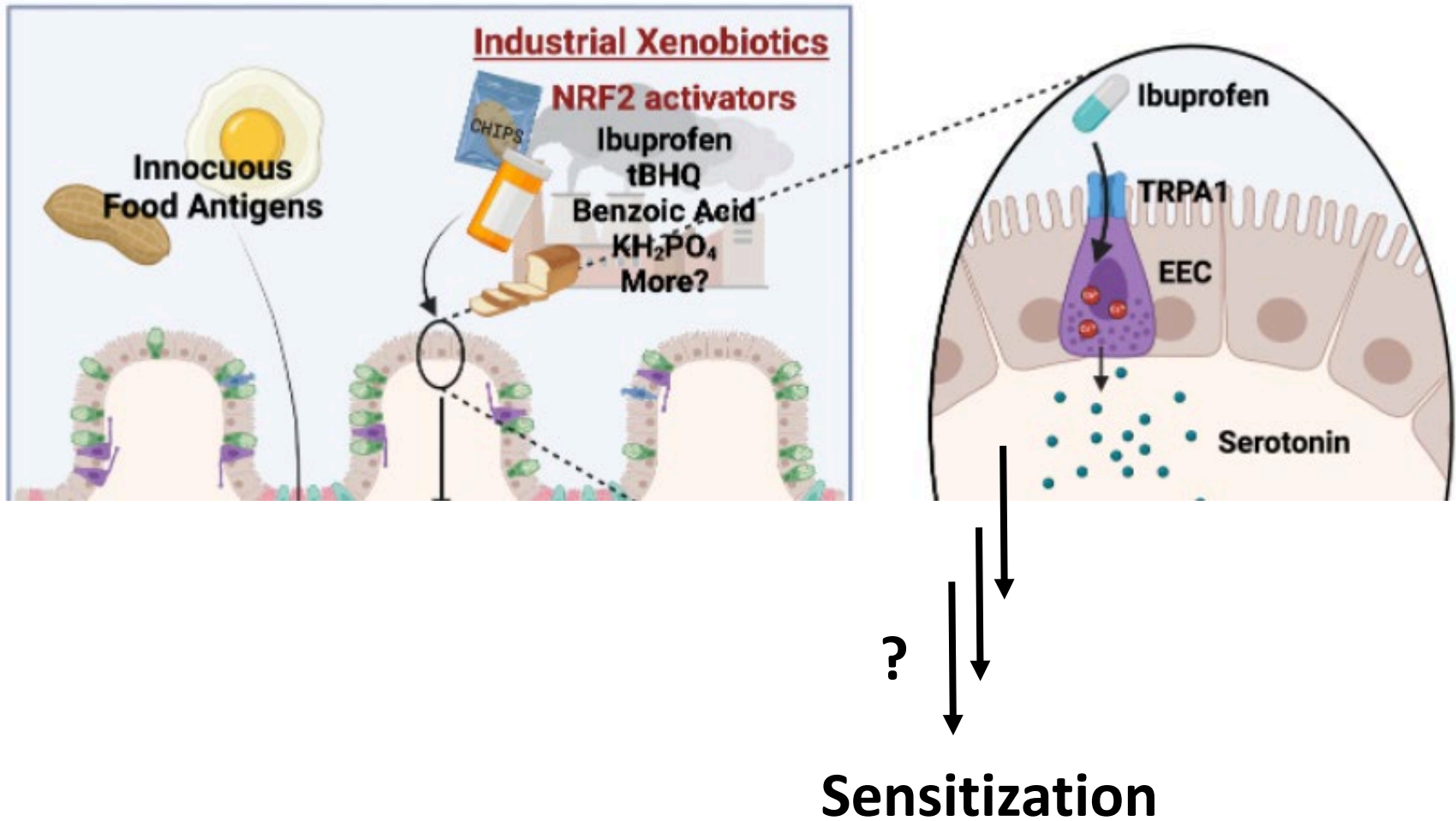
EEC deletion of TRPA1 phenocopies whole body knockout



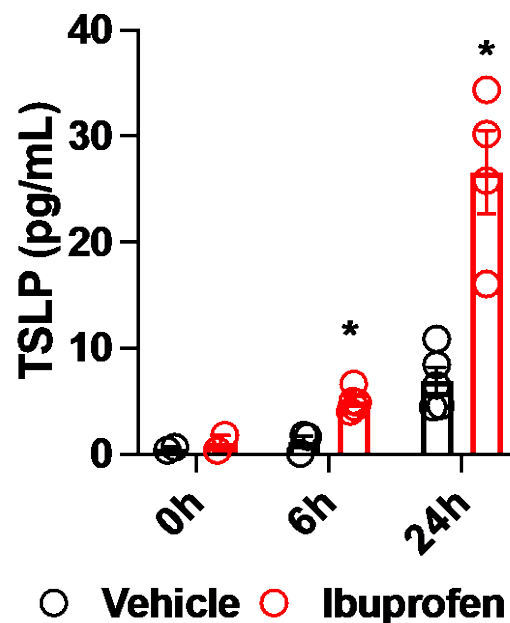
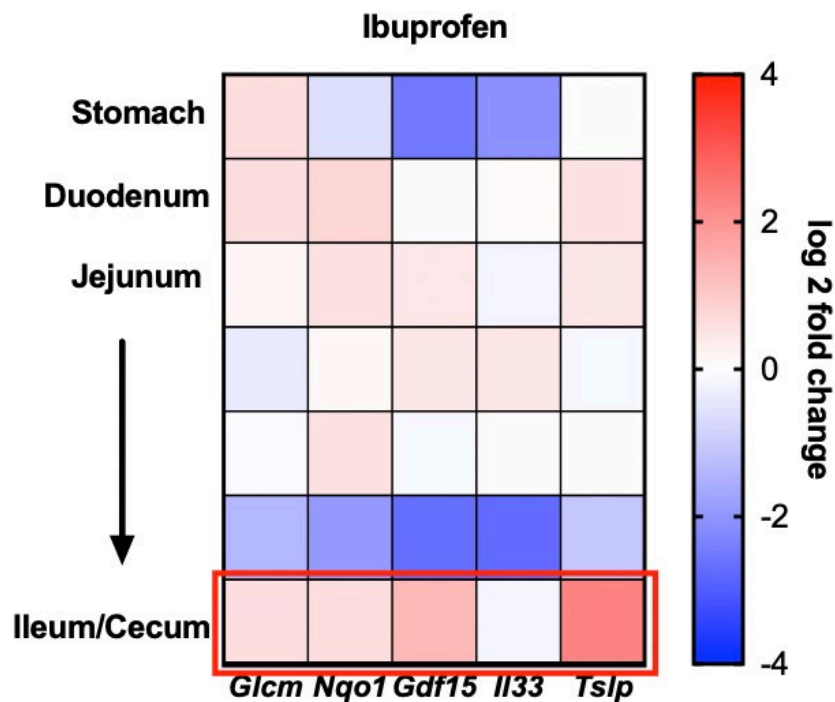
Serotonin is required for sensitization



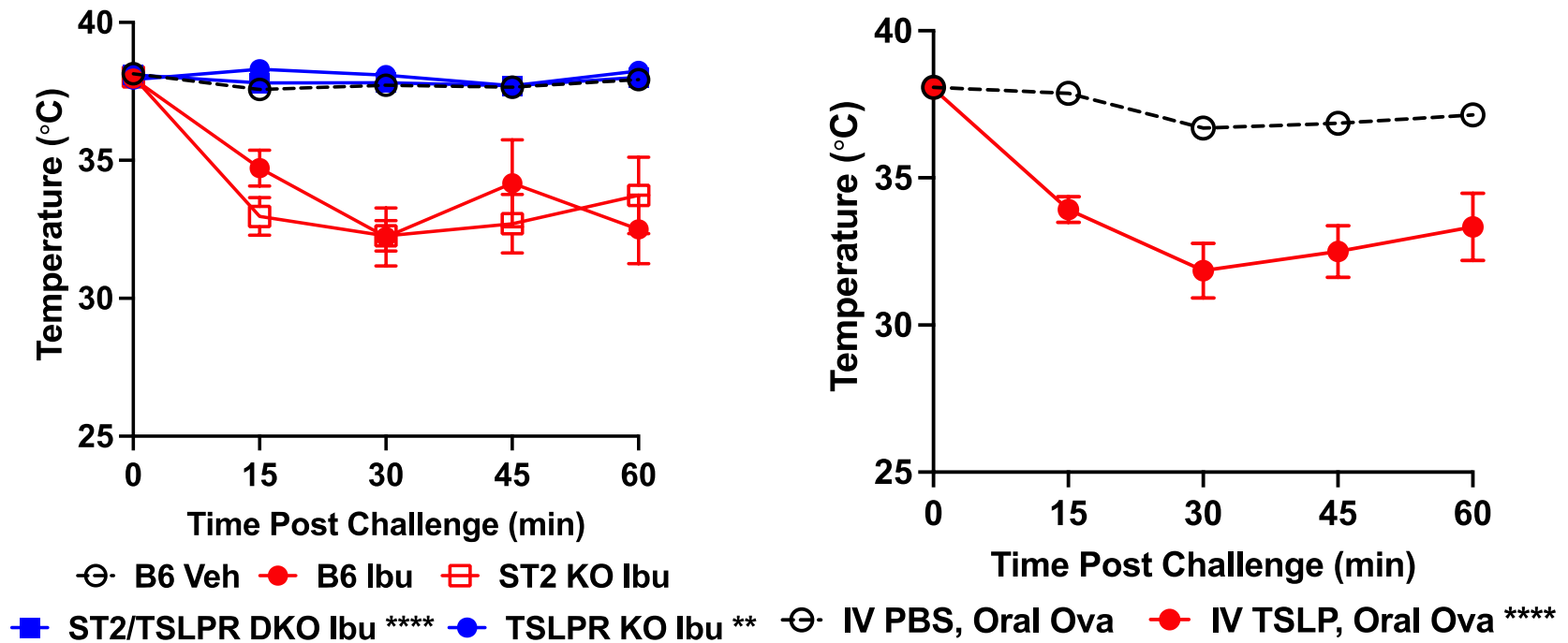
Summary Part I



Where? Ibuprofen induces NRF2 program and alarmins in the ileum



TSLP is necessary and sufficient for xenobiotic sensitization

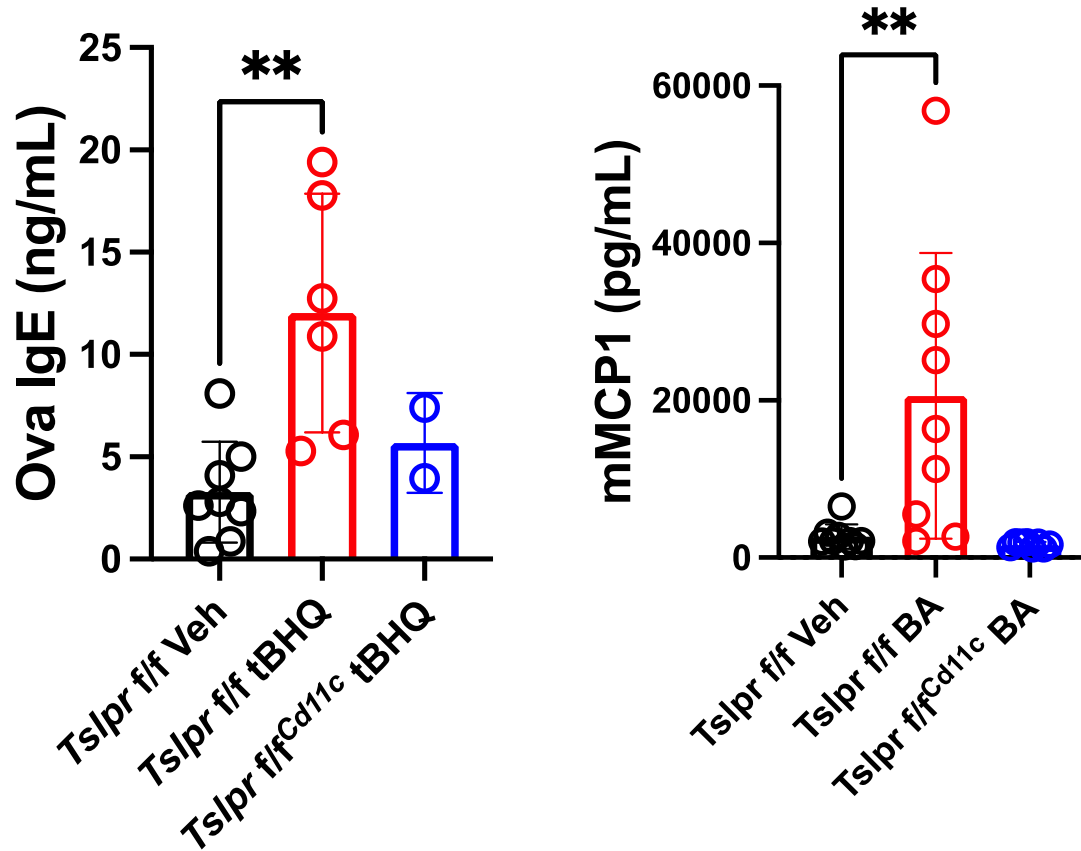


Eisenstein et al. *In Revision*.

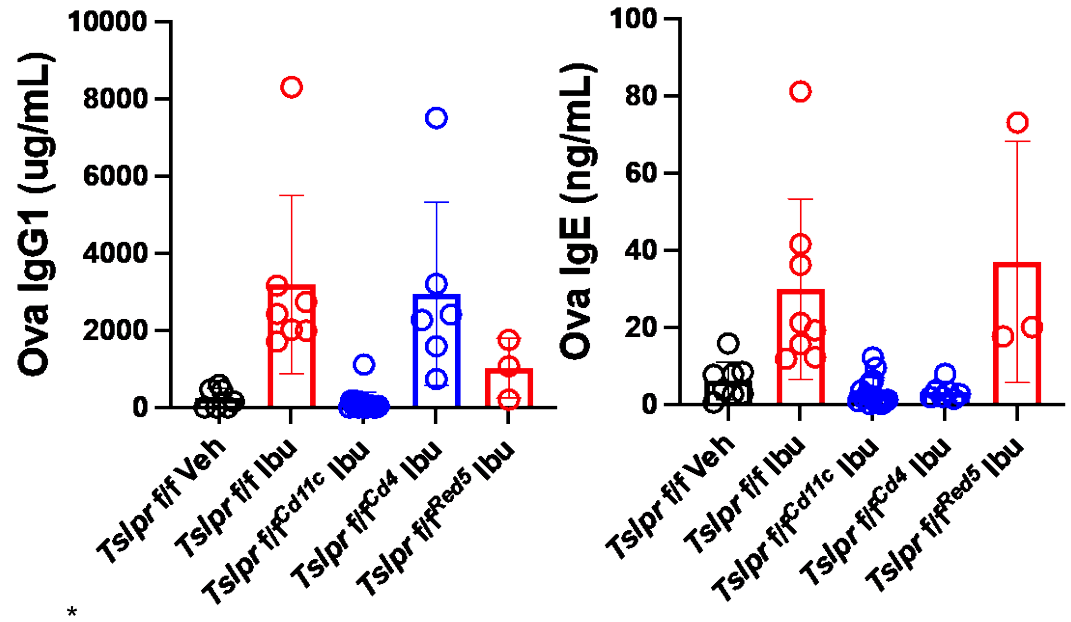
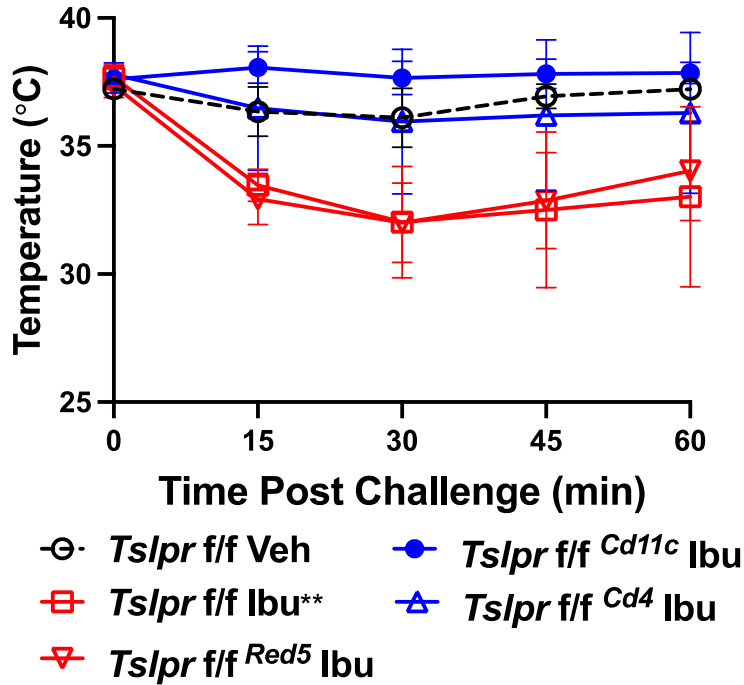
Waizman et al. *In Revision*.

Gift of Rich Locksley (UCSF)

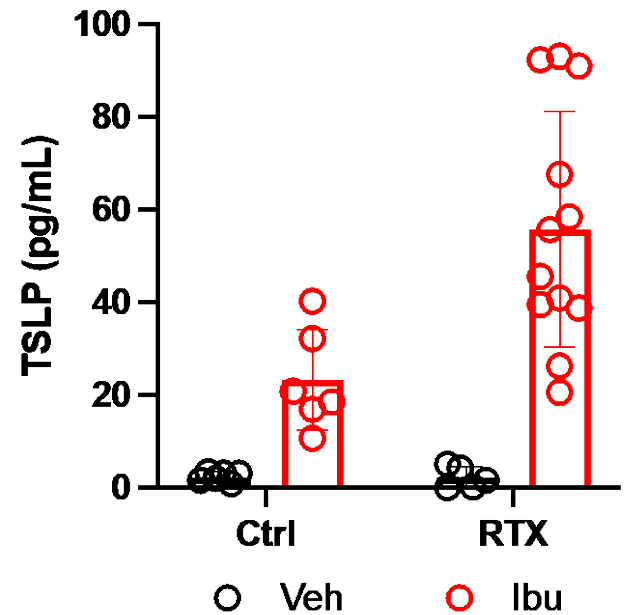
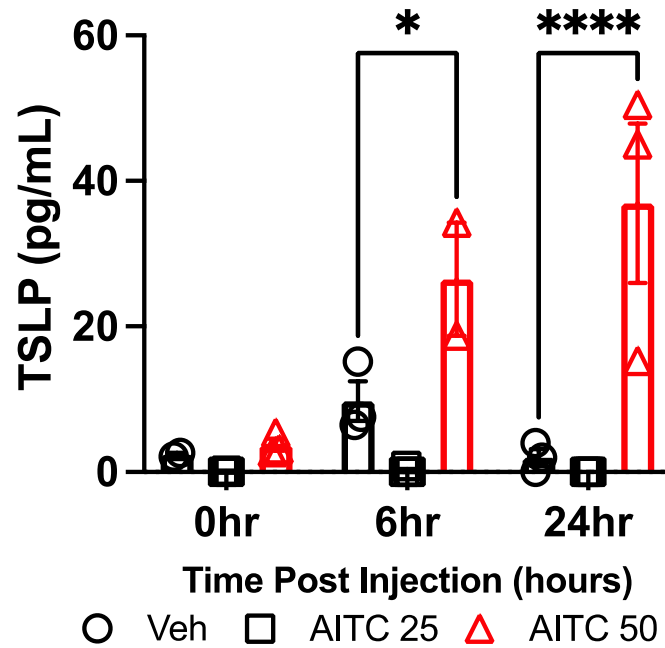
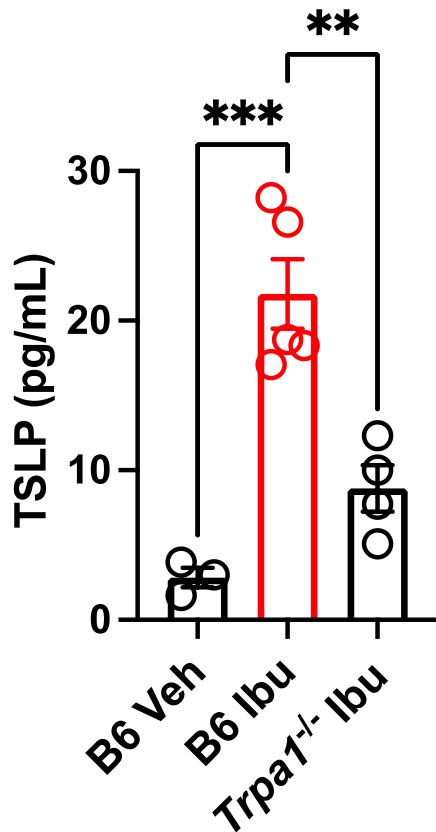
TSLP is necessary and sufficient for xenobiotic sensitization (generally)



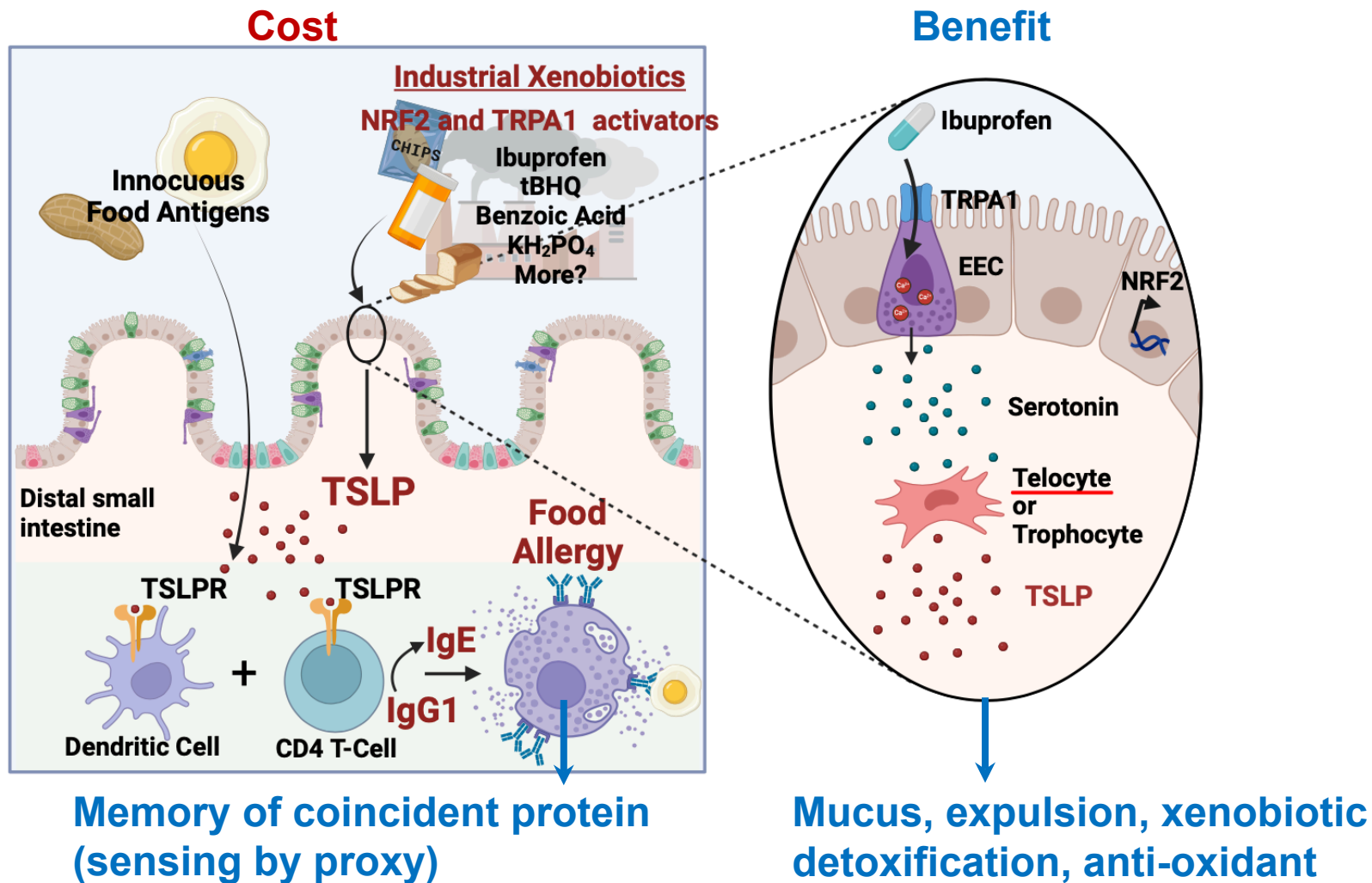
TSLP signals on dendritic cells and CD4 T cells to direct allergic memory



TRPA1 is necessary and sufficient for TSLP induction



Identification of food additives that are sufficient as allergic adjuvants



How about in people? NSAID use is associated with anaphylaxis in claims data

Medicaid data 1990-2015 CA and FL

| | Non-NSAID User (%) | NSAID User (%) | P value |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------|
| Total Cohort | 8,849,067 | 24,198 | |
| Asthmatics | 595,238 (6.7) | 3,062 (12.6) | <0.001 |
| Acute asthma exacerbation | 171,740 (1.9) | 777 (3.2) | <0.001 |
| Anaphylaxis | 5,680 (0.06) | 34 (0.14) | <0.001 |
| Allergy | 67,301 (0.8) | 198 (0.8) | 0.315 |
| Atopic Dermatitis | 10,767 (0.1) | 35 (0.1) | 0.352 |

Eisenstein et al. *In Revision*.
With Abbas Shojaee

Case control survey study at Yale

Environmental Exposures in the Development of Food Allergies



Does your child have food allergies or eczema?

Would you like to contribute to our understanding of the development of food allergies?

What does participation in the study involve?

Completion of a confidential online questionnaire that asks questions about your child's food allergies or eczema and about products used by the child in infancy.

You will receive \$50 gift card for completion of the survey.

Follow the link or scan the QR code to access the survey:

https://yalesurvey.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9mMtCmkDLAwM3Vs



Eisenstein et al. *In Revision.*
With Gary Soffer

Questions: Anna Eisenstein, MD PhD, Assistant Professor of
Yale IRB 2000034319 Dermatology, anna.eisenstein@yale.edu, Phone: 203-500-3918

Case control survey study at Yale: Interim Analyses

| | Odds Ratio | 95% Confidence Intervals | n | P value |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| Atopic Dermatitis | 5.07 | 1.98-12.95 | 86 | 0.0007 |
| Fever/pain medication use | 2.14 | 0.88 – 5.23 | 82 | 0.094 |
| Exposure to store-bought food | 0.70 | 0.25-1.95 | 78 | 0.487 |
| Exposure to formula | 1.16 | 0.38-3.50 | 84 | 0.790 |

Open Question

Pattern Recognition Receptors

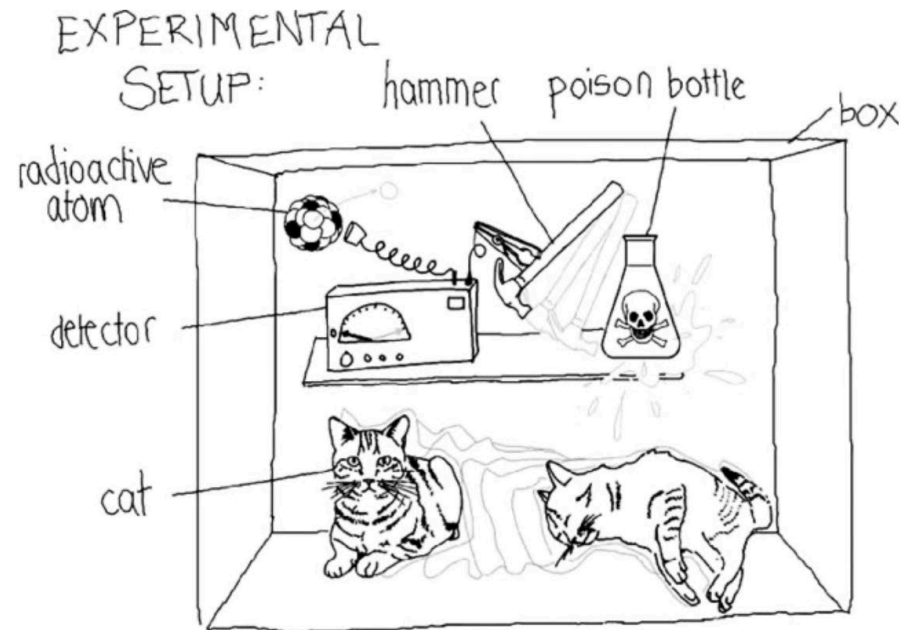
TRPA1/NRF2, others?

| Type I | Type II |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Complete Freund's Adjuvant | Aluminum salts (Alum) |
| LPS | Cholera Toxin |
| Squalene | Chitin |
| Flagellin | Papain |
| Poly(I:C) | Plant lectins |
| Lipid A analogues – MPL, RC529, GLA | Ara h 1 |
| Imiquimod | Bioactive lipids |
| Emulsions (MF59) | |

Open Questions

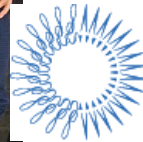
**If the “environment” matters,
what in it, exactly, matters?**

**Are disease trajectory
divergences random or
knowable?**



E. Schrödinger. Naturwissenschaften. 1935
Schleich et al. Applied Physics B. 2016.

Lab



PEW

FASI | FOOD ALLERGY SCIENCE INITIATIVE

Charles H. Hood FOUNDATION

The Colton Foundation



Mentorship: Ruslan Medzhitov, Joe Craft, Ward Wakeland
Mike Brown, Mike Carroll

Family and Farm

