

**GUT-LIVER CROSSTALK in  
GASTROINTESTINAL MALIGNANCIES-  
IS THERE a ROLE FOR SPECIFIC  
BACTERIAL SPECIES**

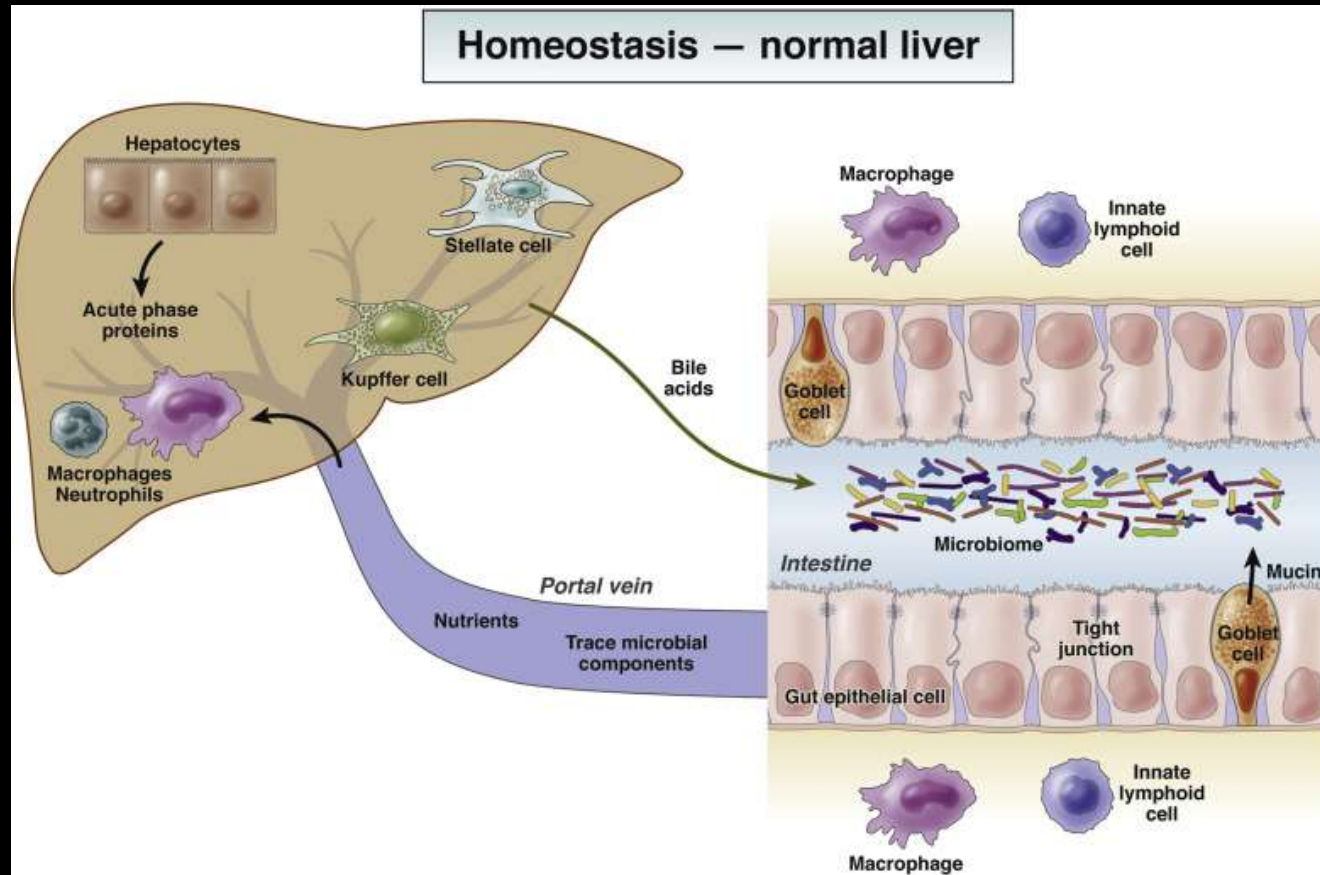
**MICHAEL KARIN**  
UCSD School of Medicine  
Depts of Pharmacology and Pathology

# When it comes to Gastrointestinal Cancers are Bacteria in the Driver's Seat?



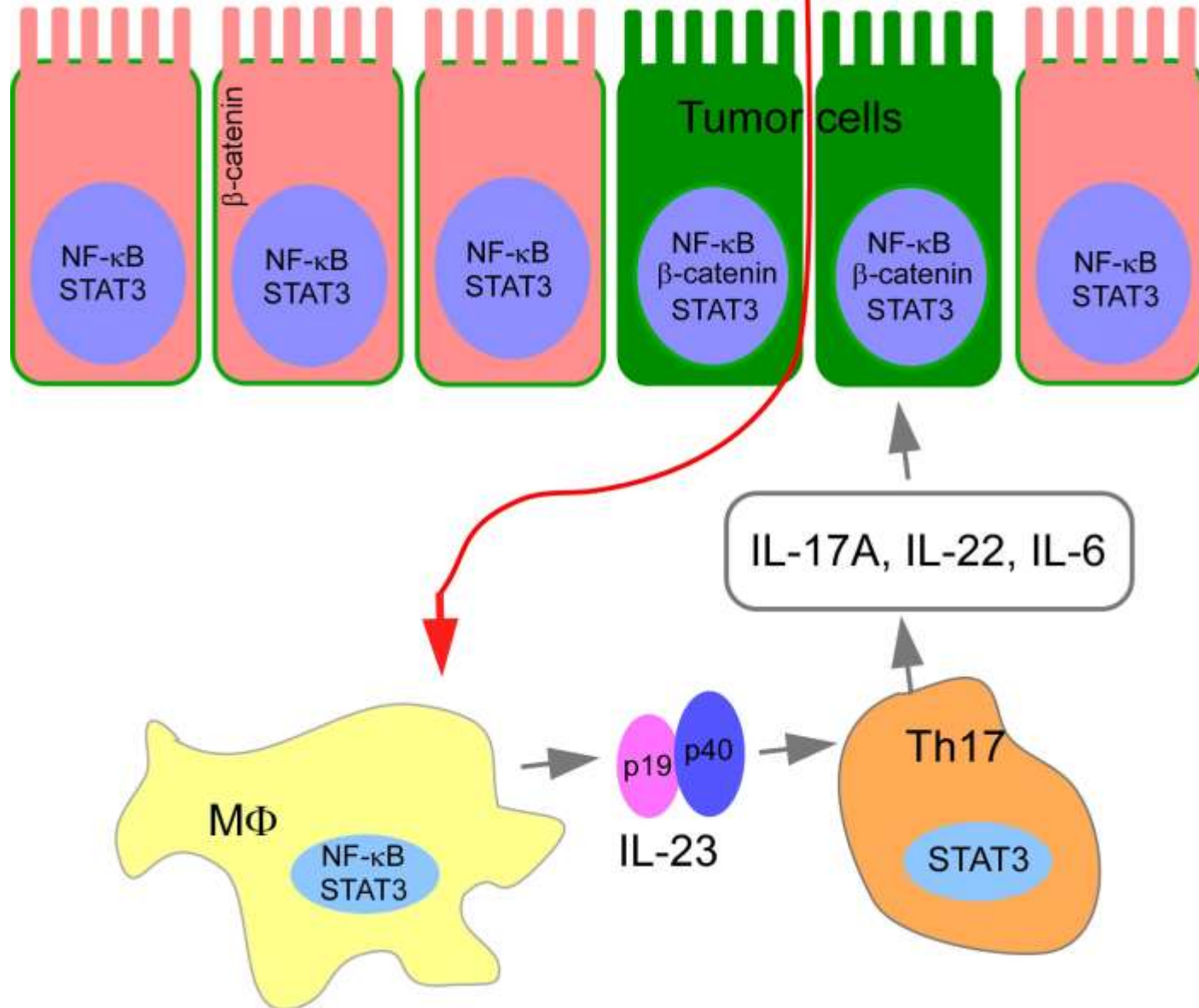
Only one bacterium, *Helicobacter pylori*, has been recognized by the WHO as a carcinogen.

# The intestine and the liver are connected via the portal circulation

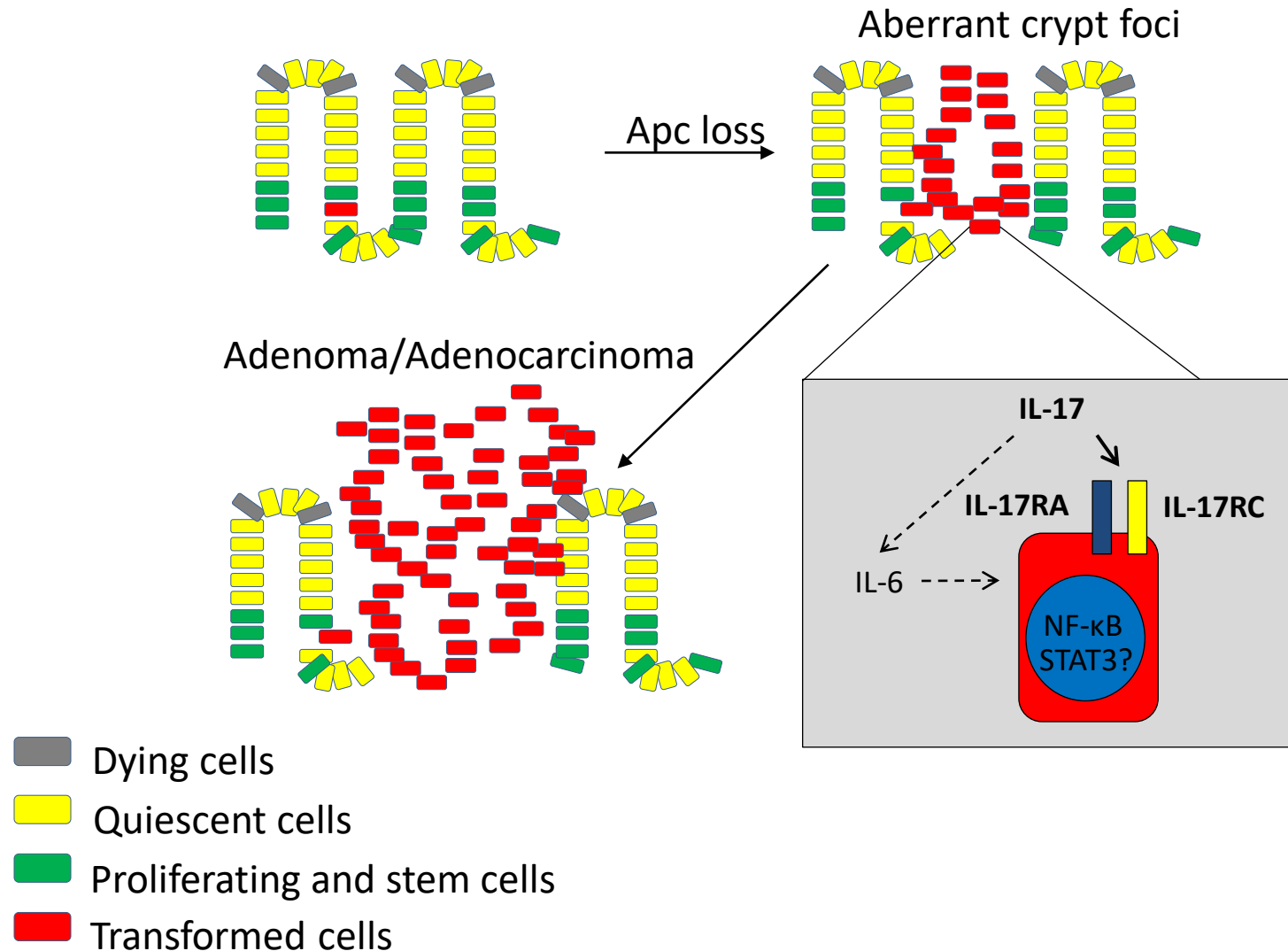


Therefore, what happens in the intestine, including barrier disruption, epithelial erosion, etc., has a profound impact on the liver.

Bacteria/bacterial products



# IL-17RA signals in transformed enterocytes to promote early colorectal tumorigenesis

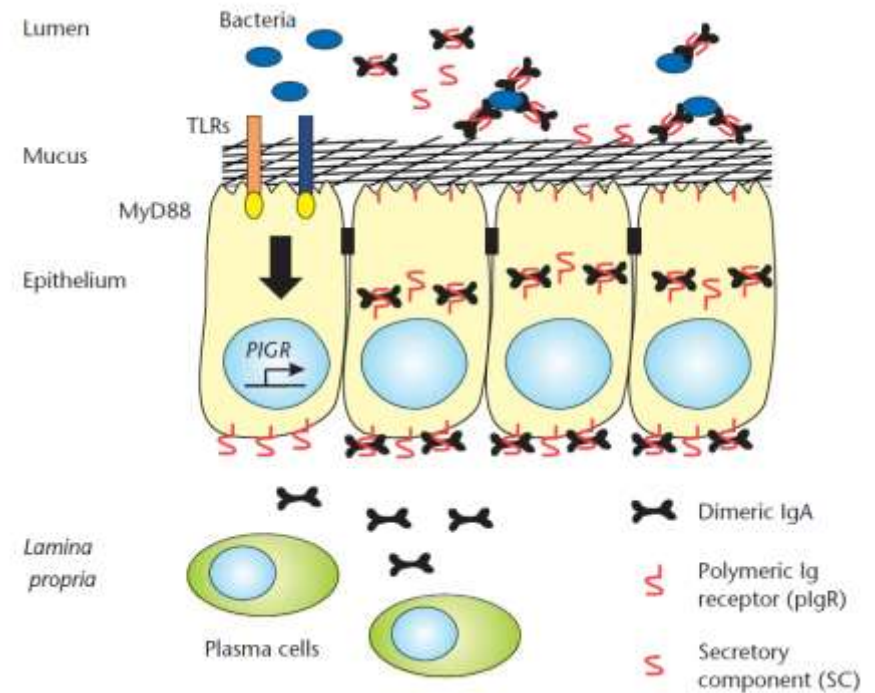
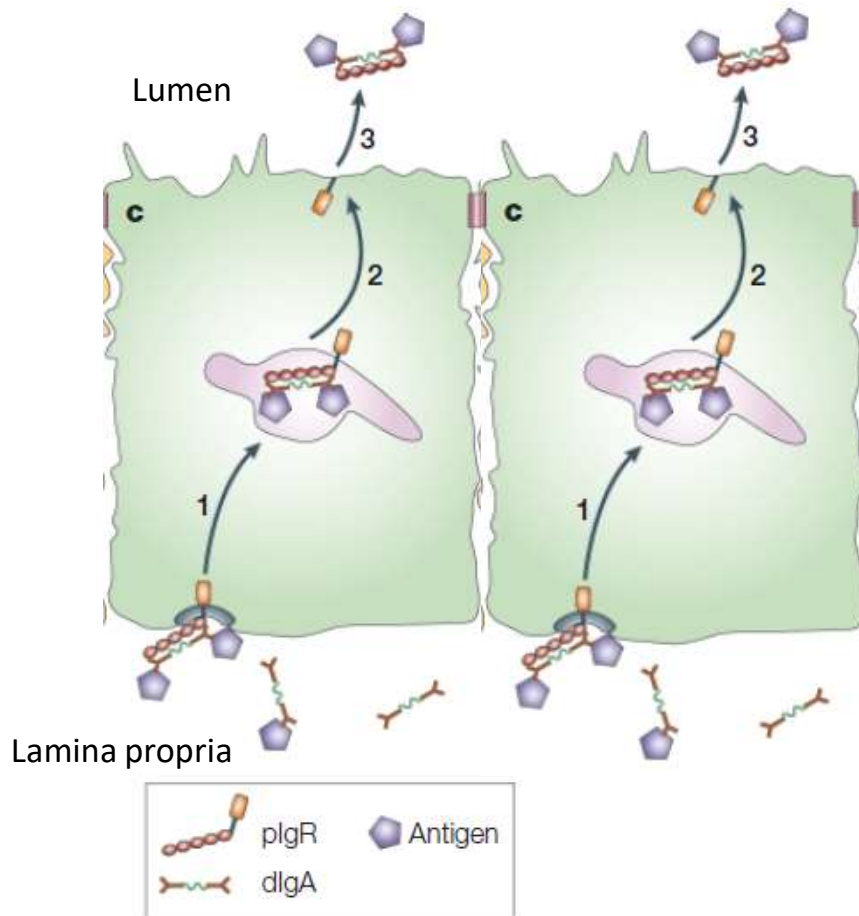


Colorectal cancer has been attributed to dysbiosis and microbial translocation

- 1.What is the origin of dysbiosis and microbial translocation?
- 2.Do dysbiosis or translocation precede tumor development?

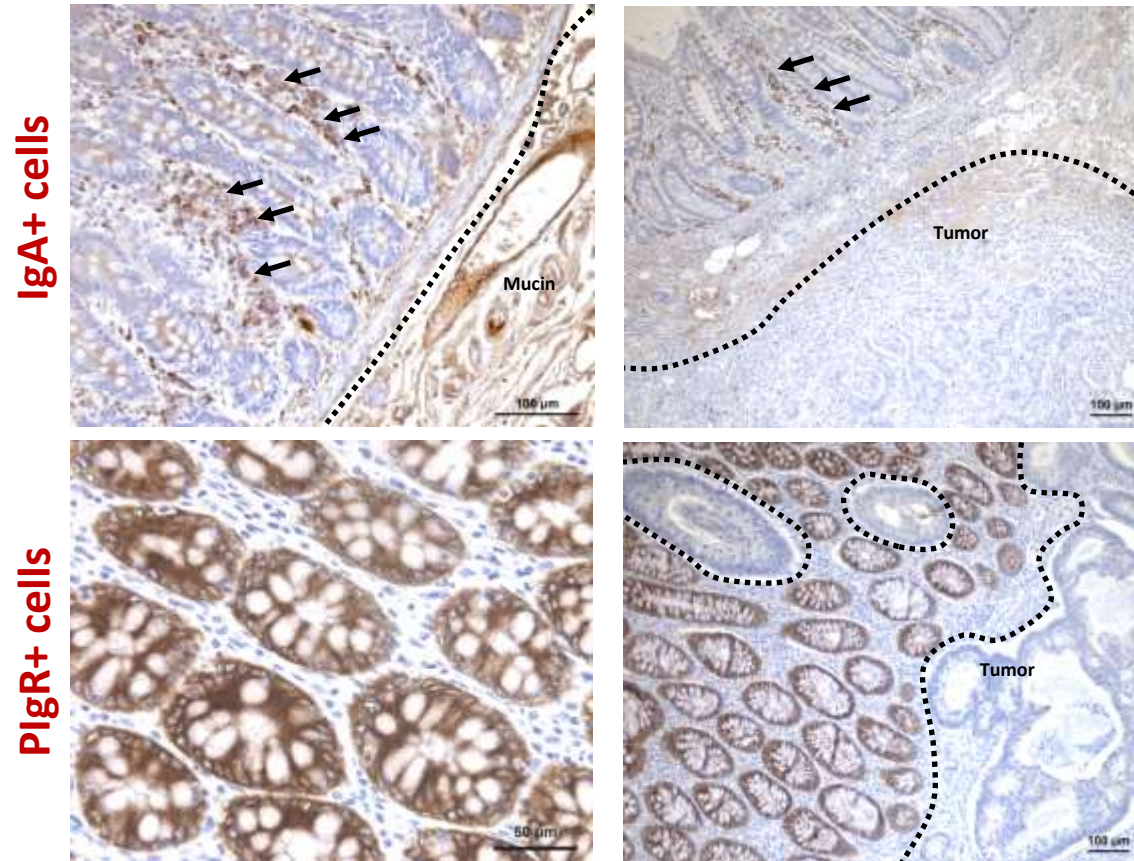


# The IgA-PlgR System: A Critical Regulator of Intestinal Immune Homeostasis and a Component of the Barrier



Rojas *et al*, Nature Rev Mol Cell Biol, 2002  
 Kaetzel *et al*, eLS, 2013

# Loss of IgA and PlgR in human colorectal cancer



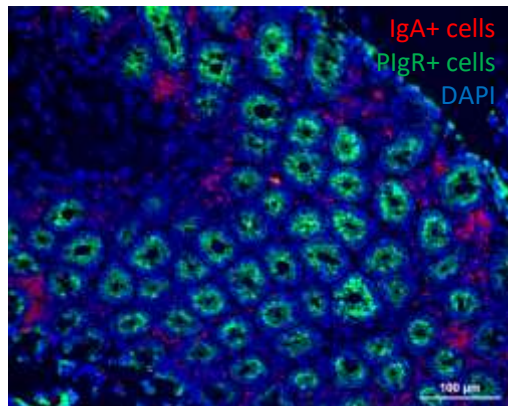
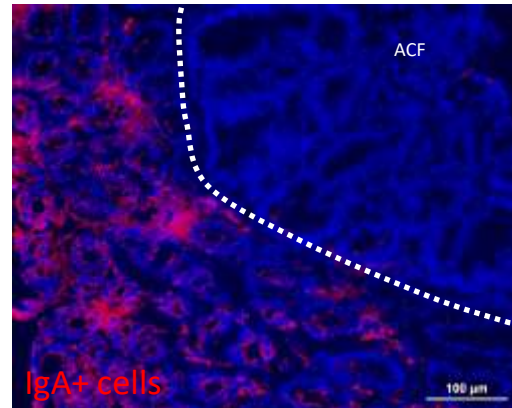
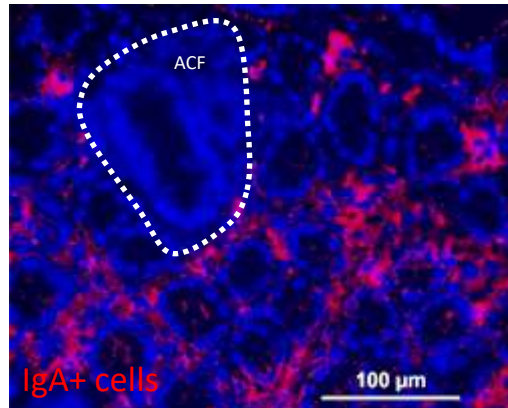
TMA data		Death		Logistic regression	
		no	yes	O.R. (95%C.I.)	P
		(n=36)	(n=126)		
IgA-PlgR	No	29	116	1.00 ref.	
	Yes	7	10	0.36 (0.12-1.02)	0.06



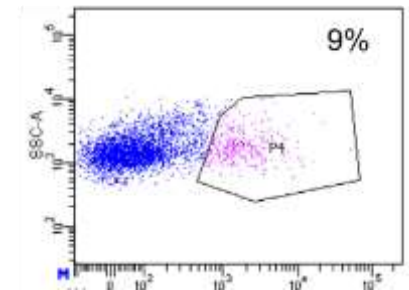
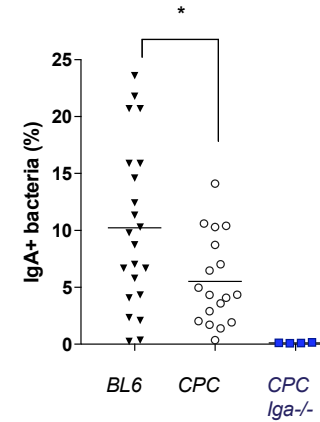
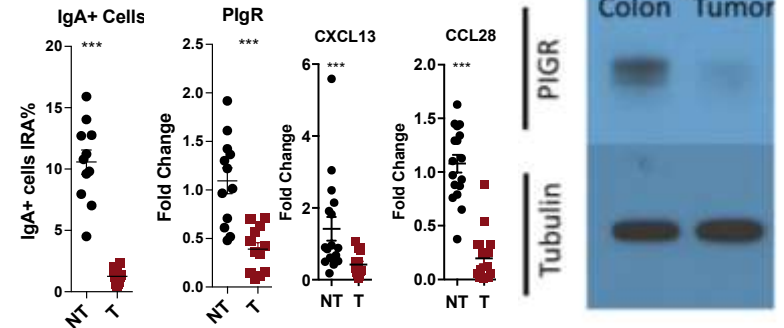
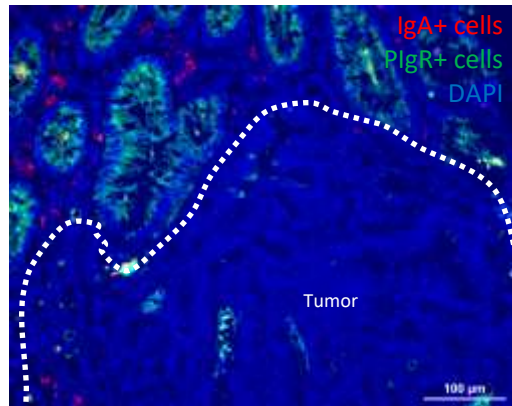
# Loss of IgA, PlgR and CCL28 (plasma cell chemoattractant) In murine colonic cancer

*Apc*<sup>F/F</sup>-*Cdx2*<sup>Cre-ERT2</sup>: 1 week

4 weeks

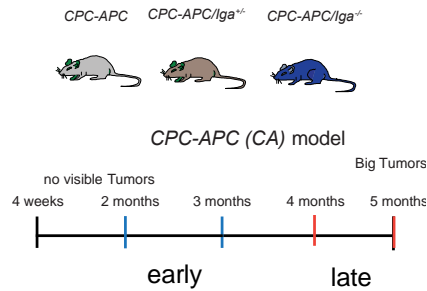


CPC-APC

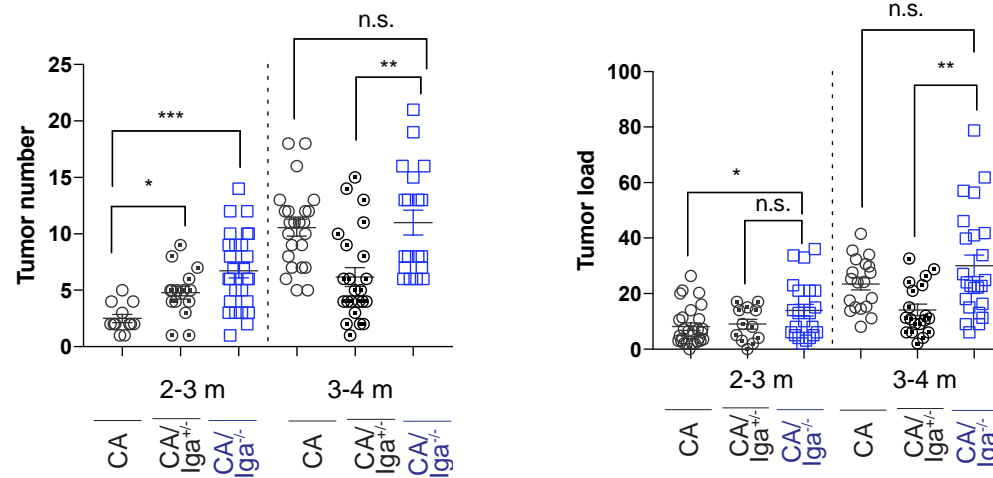


IgA<sup>+</sup> bacteria

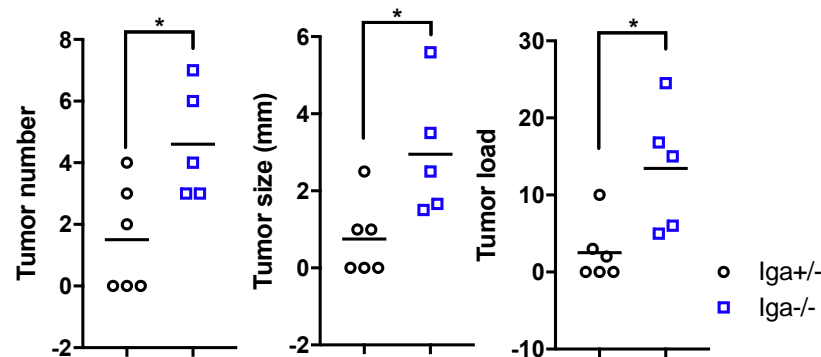
# Loss of IgA enhances colorectal carcinogenesis in CPC-APC and AOM-treated mice



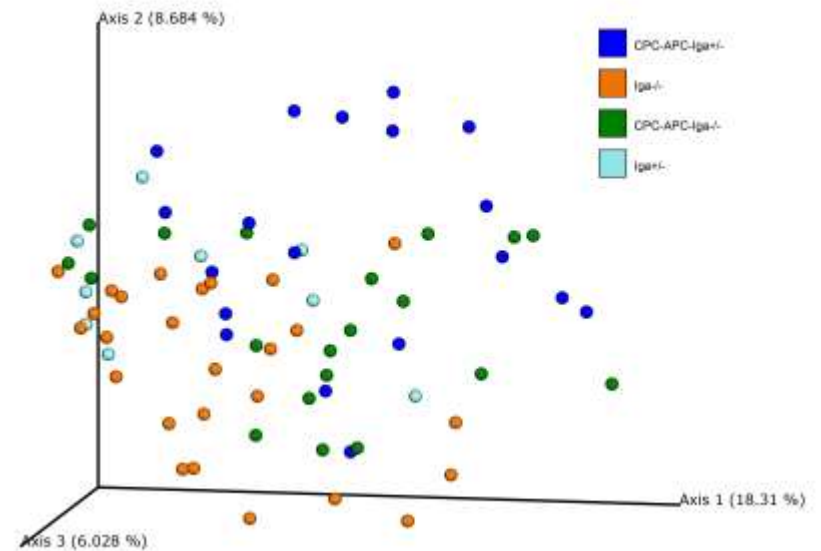
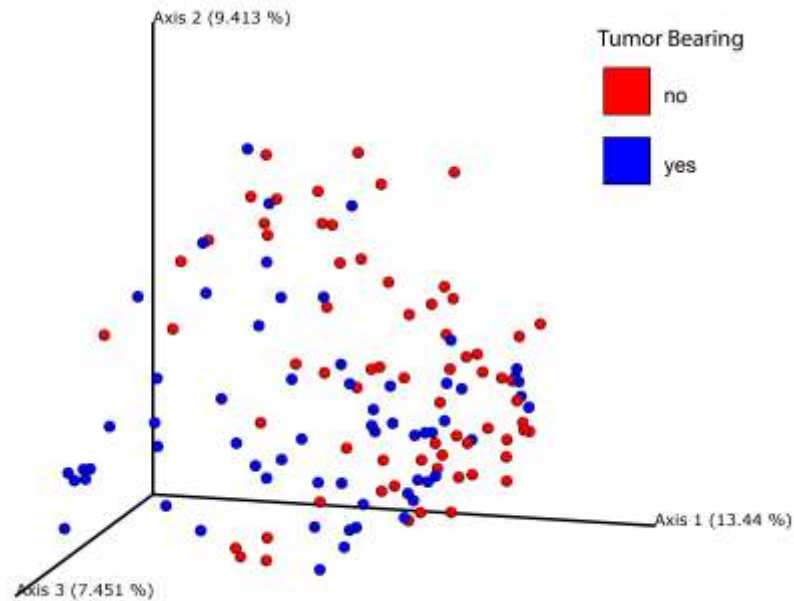
## CPC-APC mice



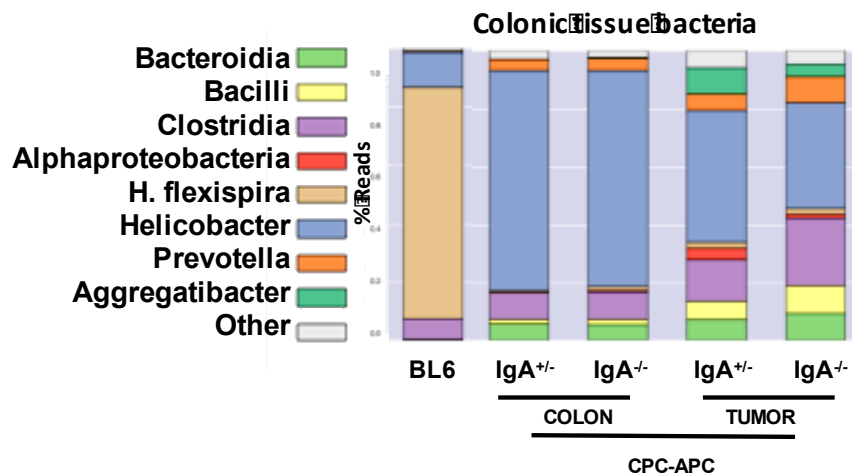
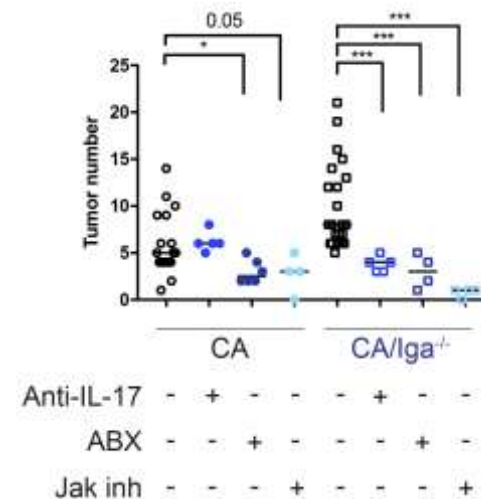
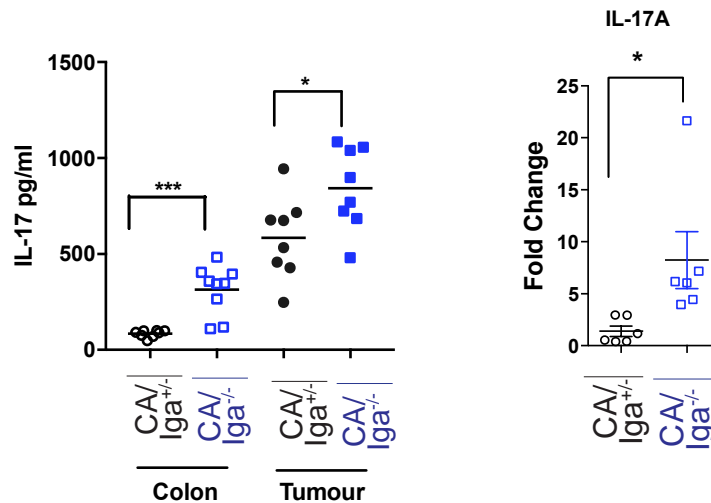
## AOM treatment



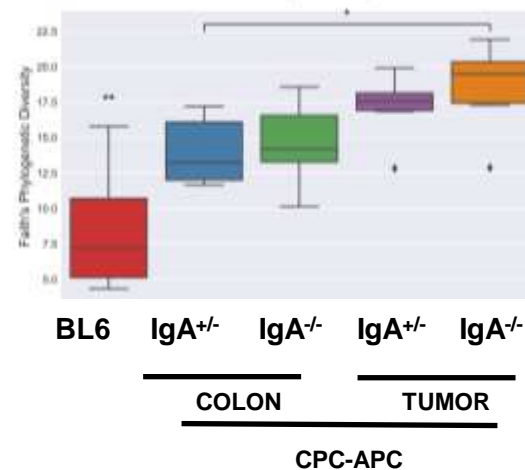
# Colorectal adenomas and IgA deficiency induce dysbiosis



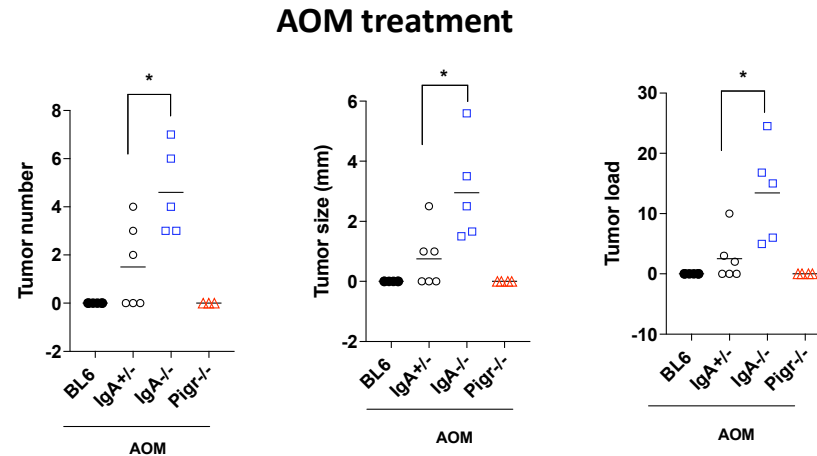
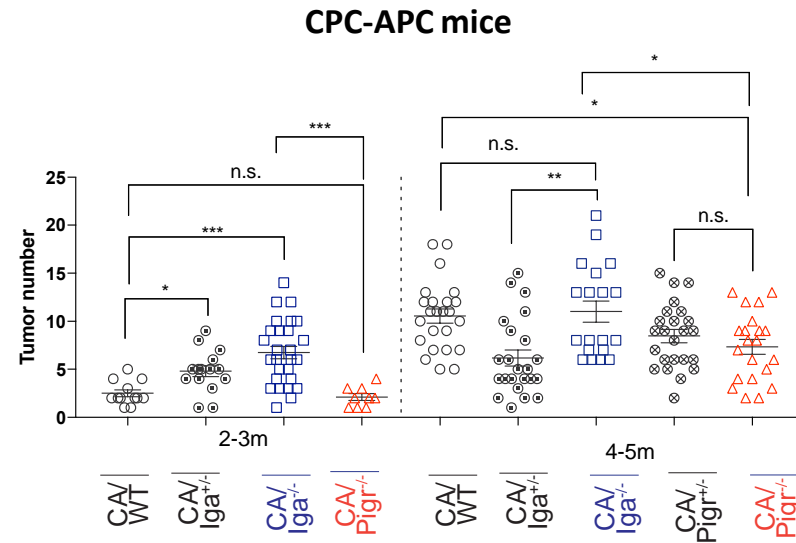
# Enhanced carcinogenesis in IgA deficient mice depends on bacteria and IL-17



## Tissue alpha diversity



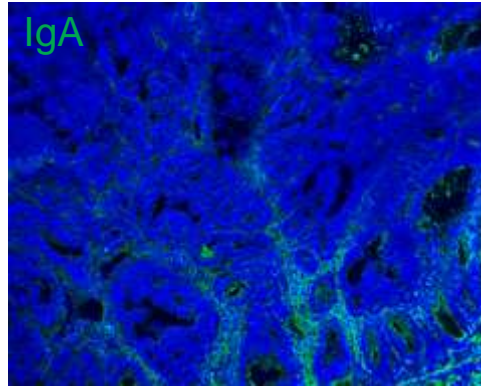
# By Contrast to IgA Ablation PlgR Ablation Fails to Enhance Colorectal Tumorigenesis



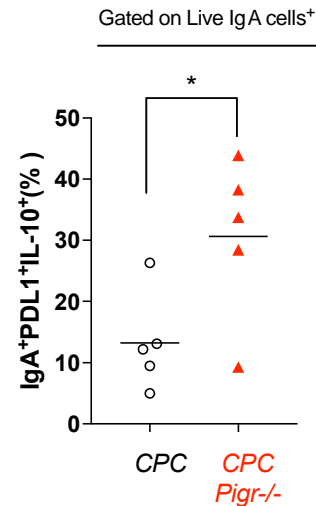
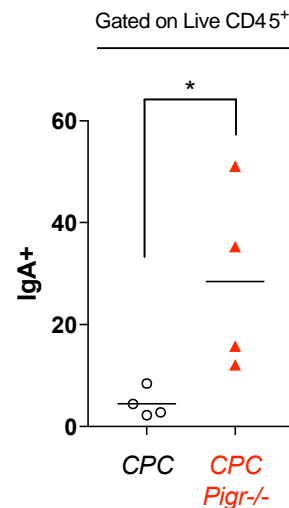
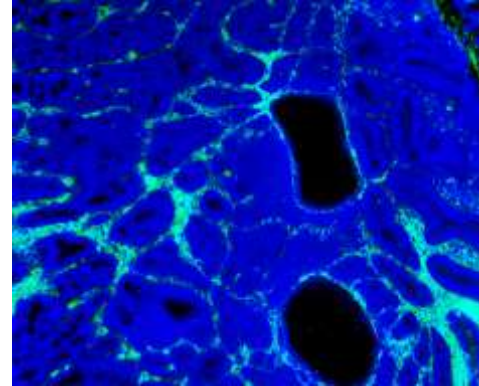


# By Remaining in the Lamina Propria of PlgR ko Mice IgA Continues to Protect From Invading Colitogenic Bacteria

CA/PigR<sup>+/+</sup>



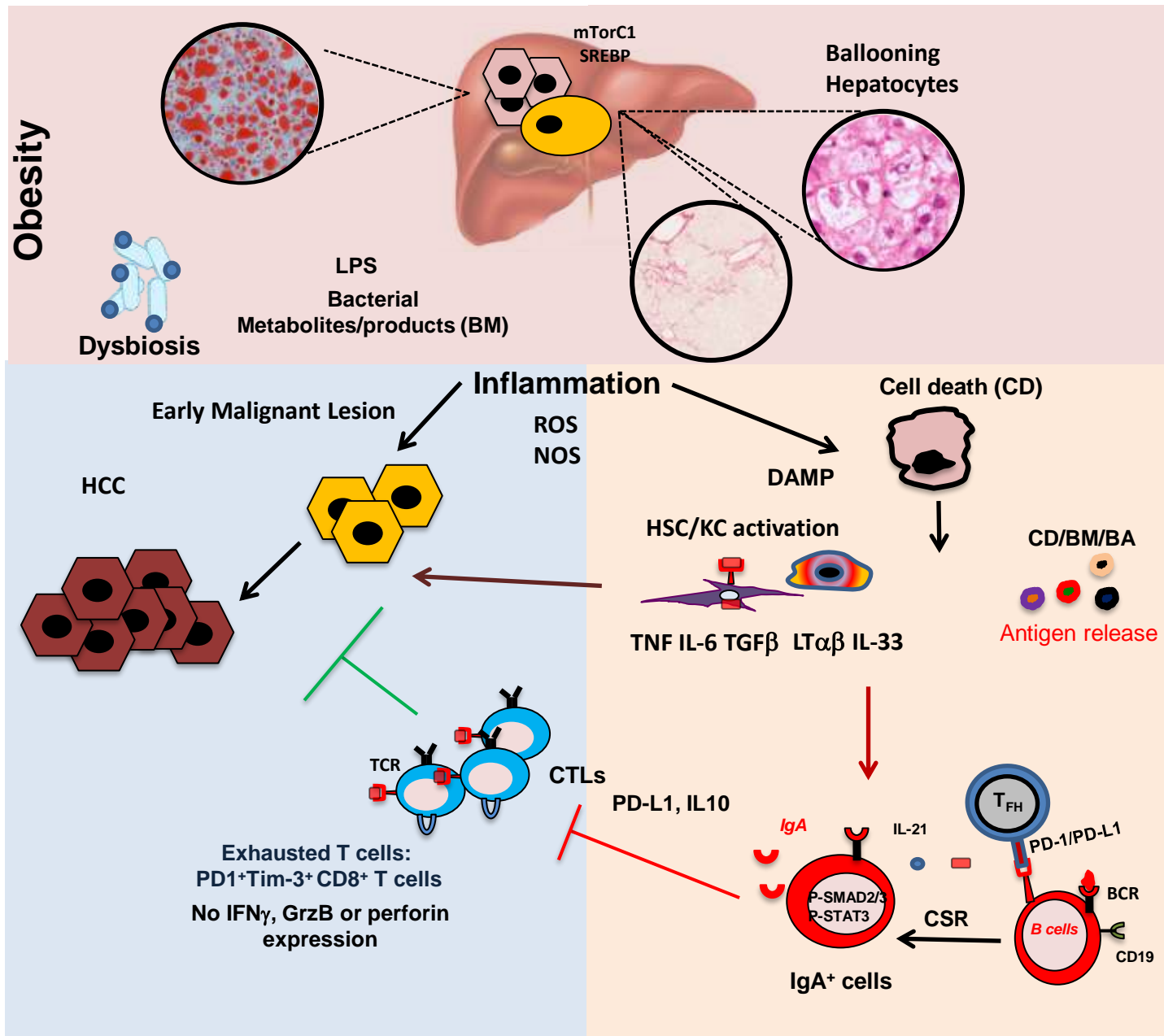
CA/PigR<sup>-/-</sup>



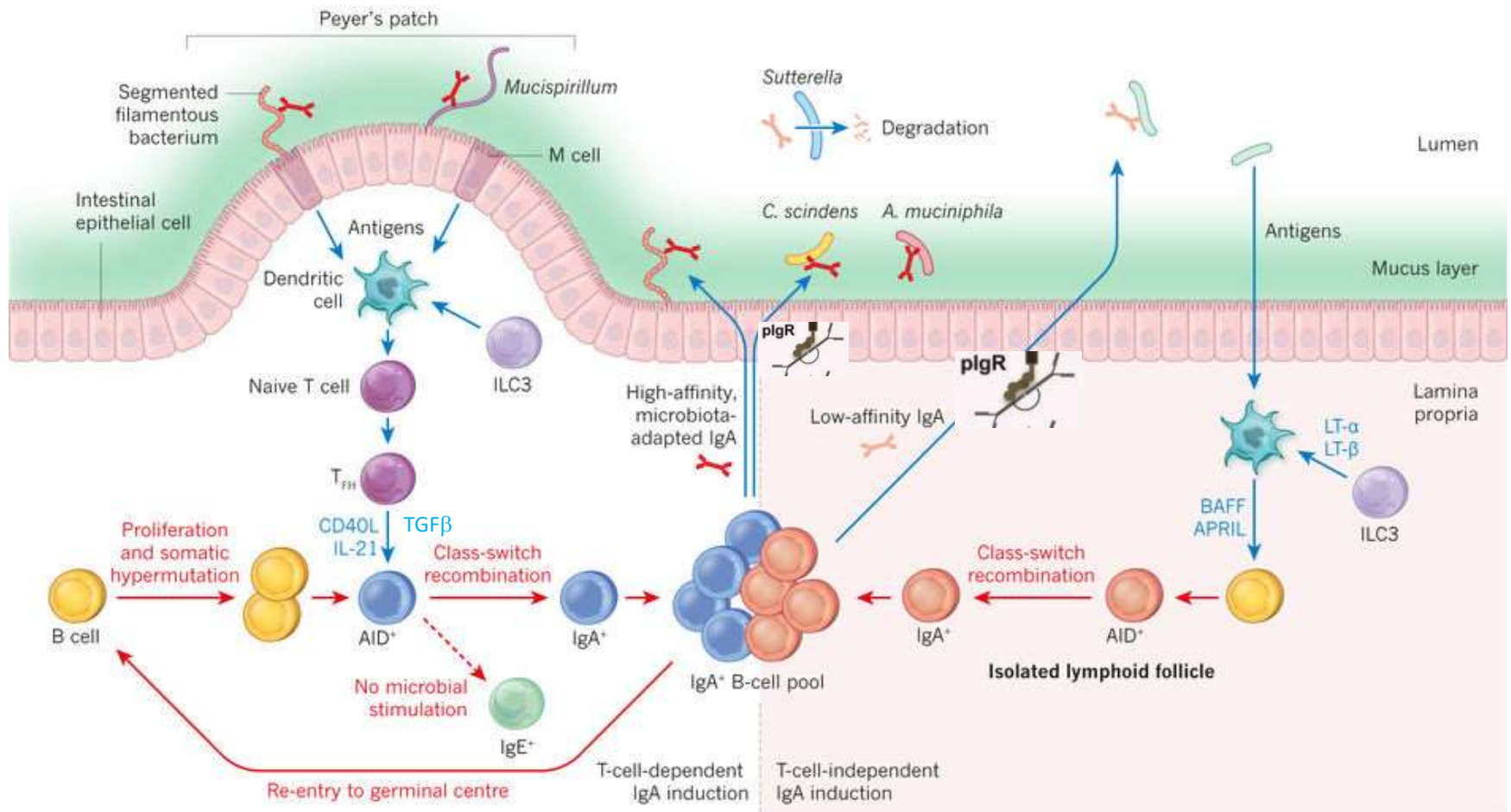
Conclusion: Colonic tumor development  
results in loss of barrier integrity  
and local IgA production

It is the loss of IgA rather than PIgR  
that leads to dysbiosis and increased  
proliferation of colitogenic bacteria

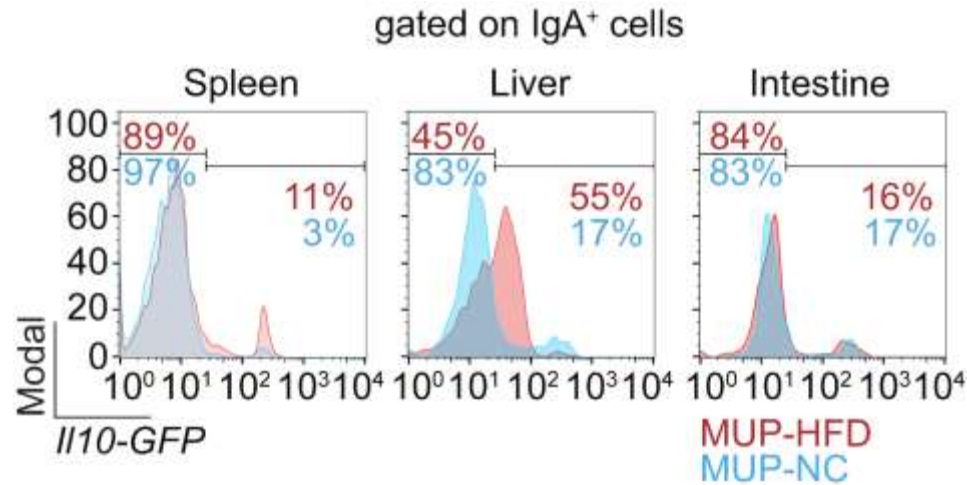
# Inflammation-induced IgA<sup>+</sup> cells dismantle anti-liver cancer immunity



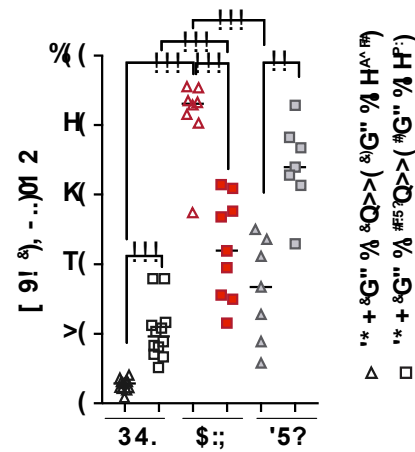
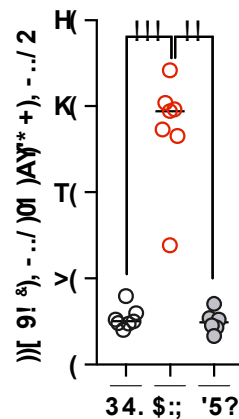
# T cell -dependent and -independent class switch recombination (CSR) to IgA



# NASH enhances liver but not intestinal IgA plasmocyte development

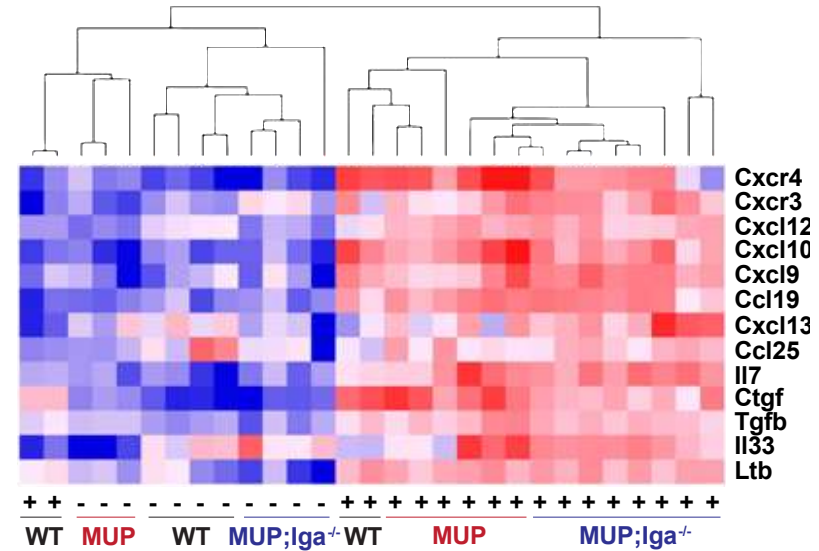
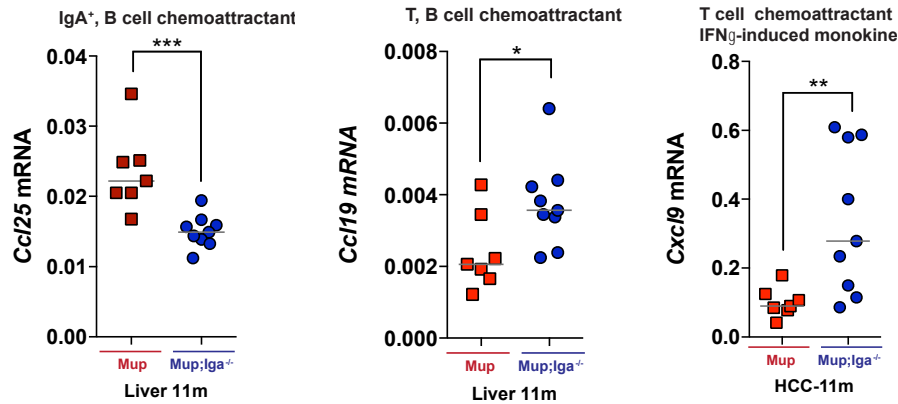
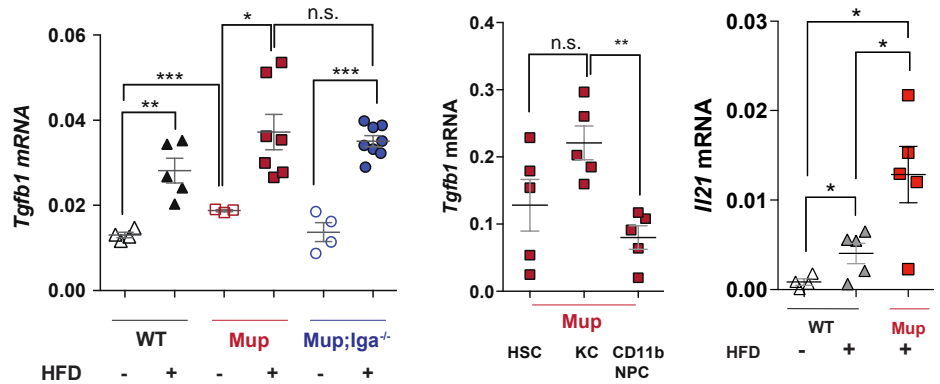


!'"\$% 9!

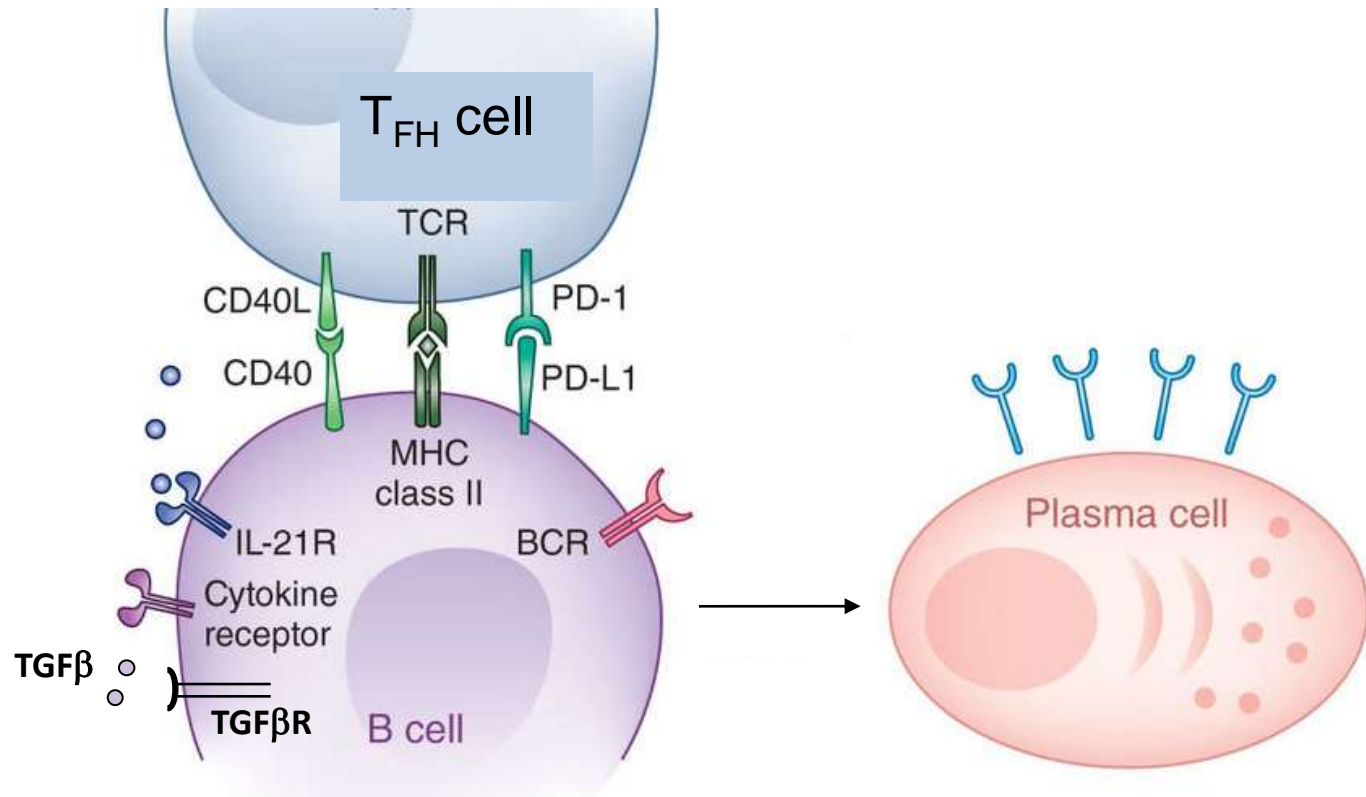




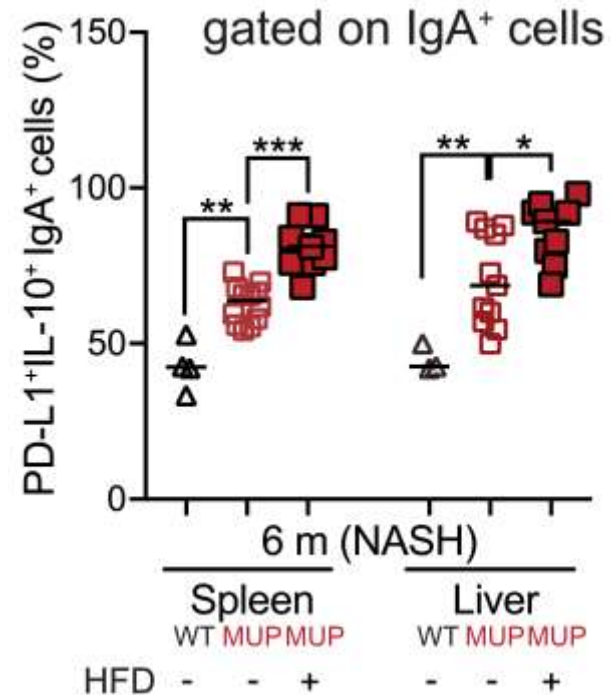
# *Tgfb1* and *IL-21*, as well as numerous B and T cell chemokines are induced during liver fibrosis



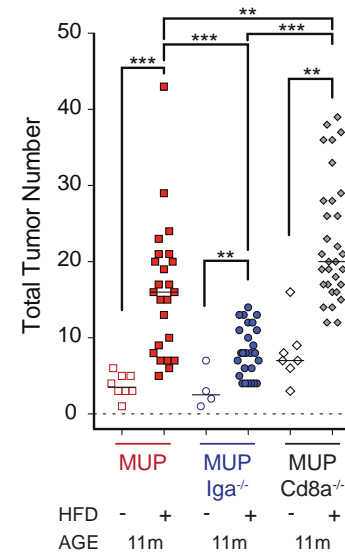
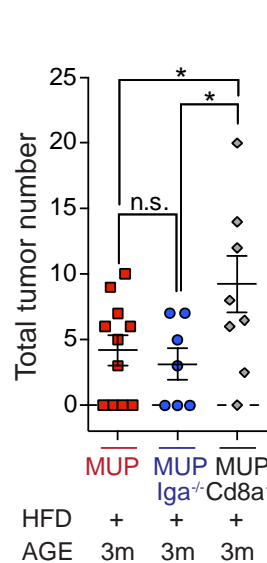
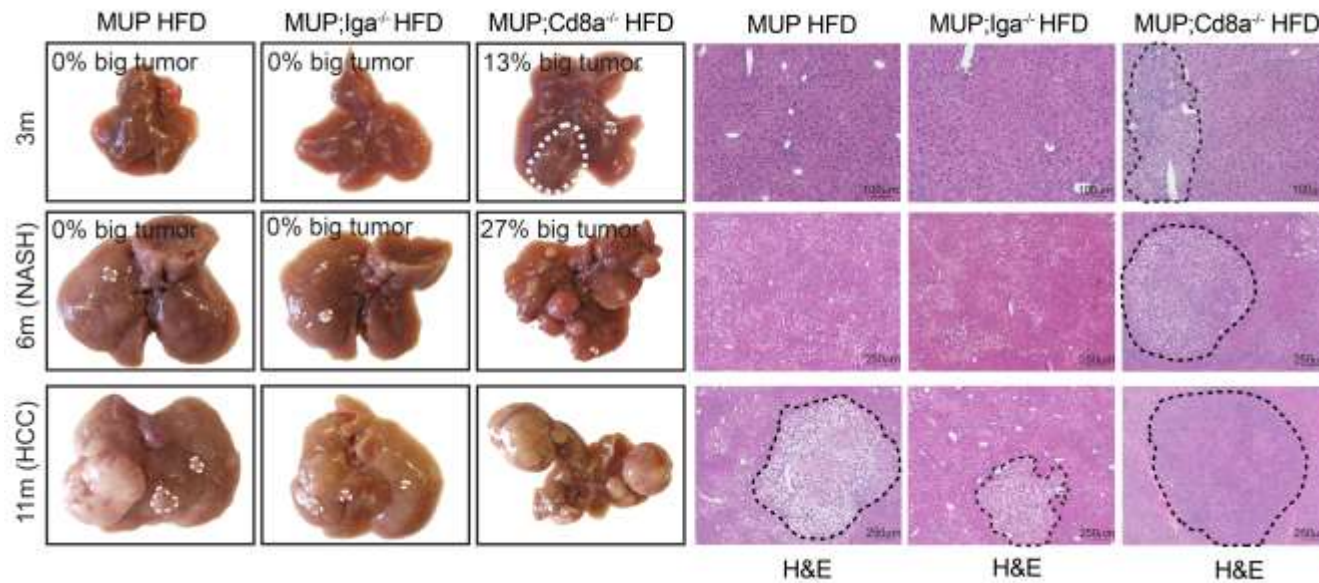
# PD-1 signaling between germinal center B cells and $T_{FH}$ cells is needed for plasma cell development.



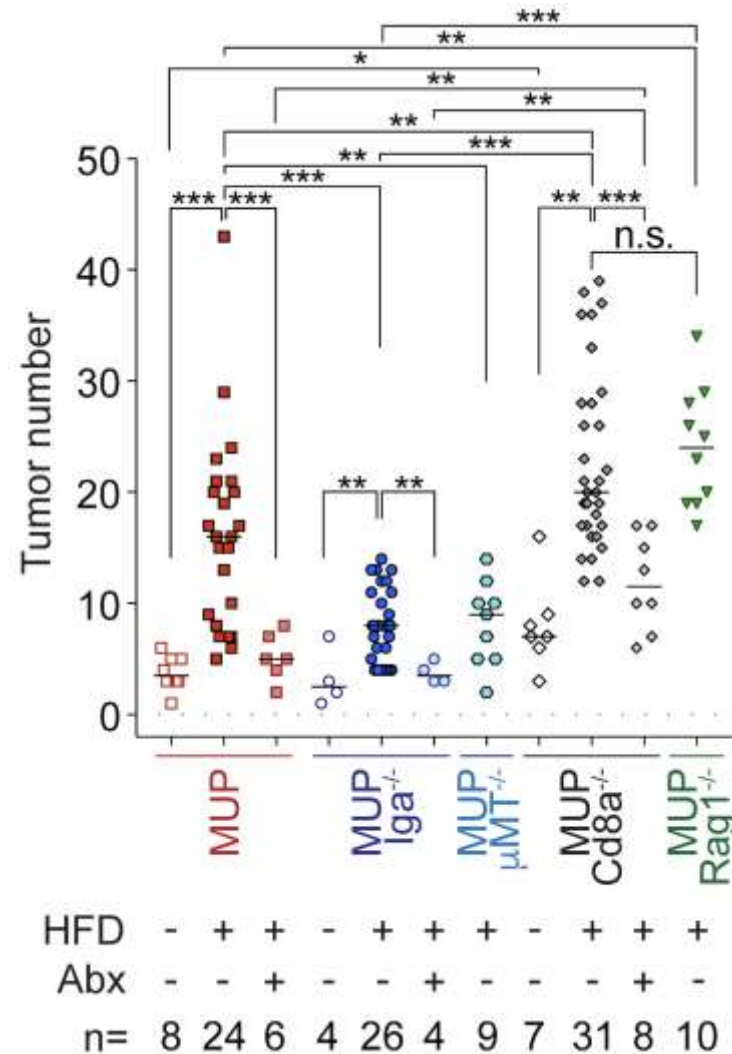
# HFD increases the number of PD-L1+IL-10+IgA+ cells in spleen and liver



# While CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells suppress, IgA<sup>+</sup> plasmacytes promote HCC

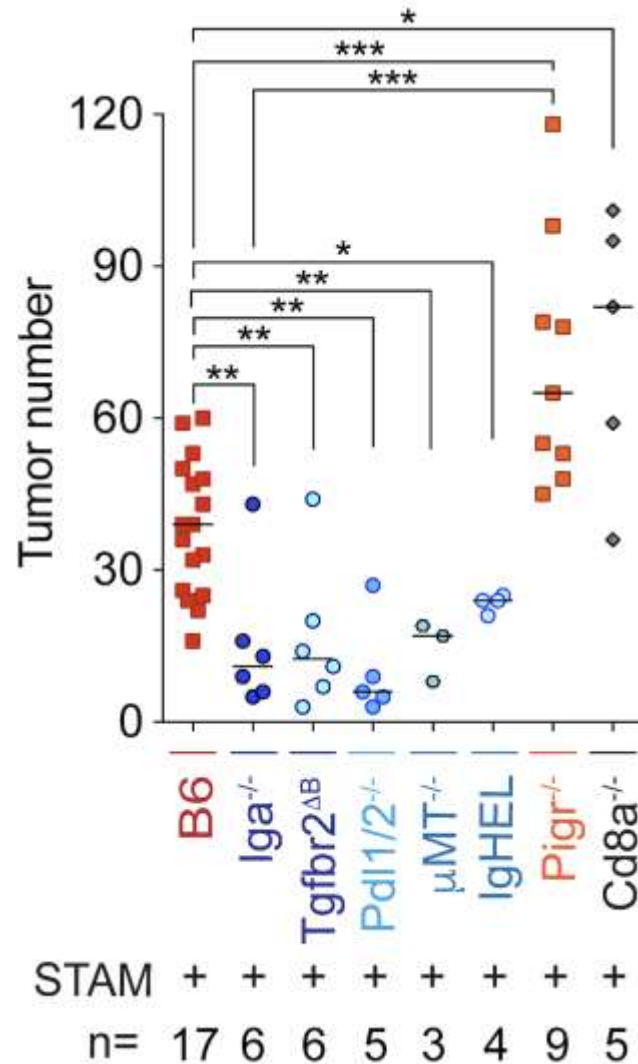


# The gut microbiota promotes HCC development by enhancing liver inflammation and IgA immunosuppressive plasma cell generation

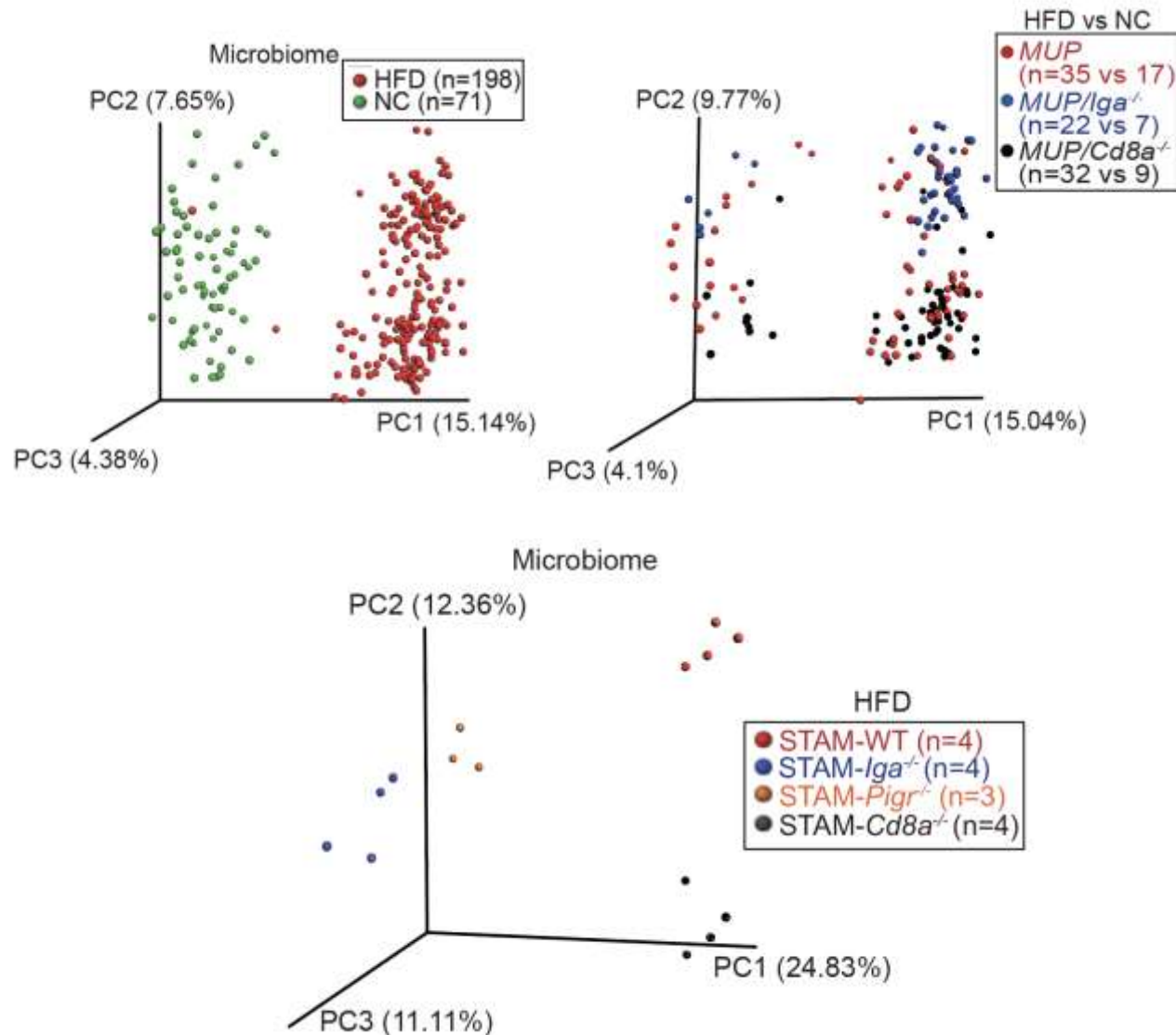




# By Contrast to its Effect on Colorectal Cancer PlgR Deficiency Enhances HCC Development



# Despite their Opposing Effects on NASH- Driven Liver Tumorigenesis both IgA and PlgR Deficiencies Result in Similar Dysbiosis



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## UCSD

### Liver

**Shabnam Shalapour**

Xue-Jia Lin

Ingmar Bastian

Weihua Li

Sylvia Choi

Andres Perkins

Brian Dang

## UCSD

### Colon

**Giuseppe Di Caro**

Shabnam Shalapour

Lei Liu

## UCSD Collaborators:

### **Rob Knight lab:**

Alison Vrbanc

Jose Navas

### **Pieter Dorrestien Lab:**

Alexander Aksenov

### **Rohit Loomba- UCSD**

### **Christopher Benner- UCSD**

### **Ruth Yu and Michael Downes-Salk**

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Southern California Research Center  
for ALPD and Cirrhosis grant

# Fructose is a risk factor for metabolic diseases and cancer

Overconsumption of fructose is now considered a major contributor to NAFLD/NASH in adults and children due to the ability of this carbohydrate to stimulate hepatic *de novo* lipogenesis.

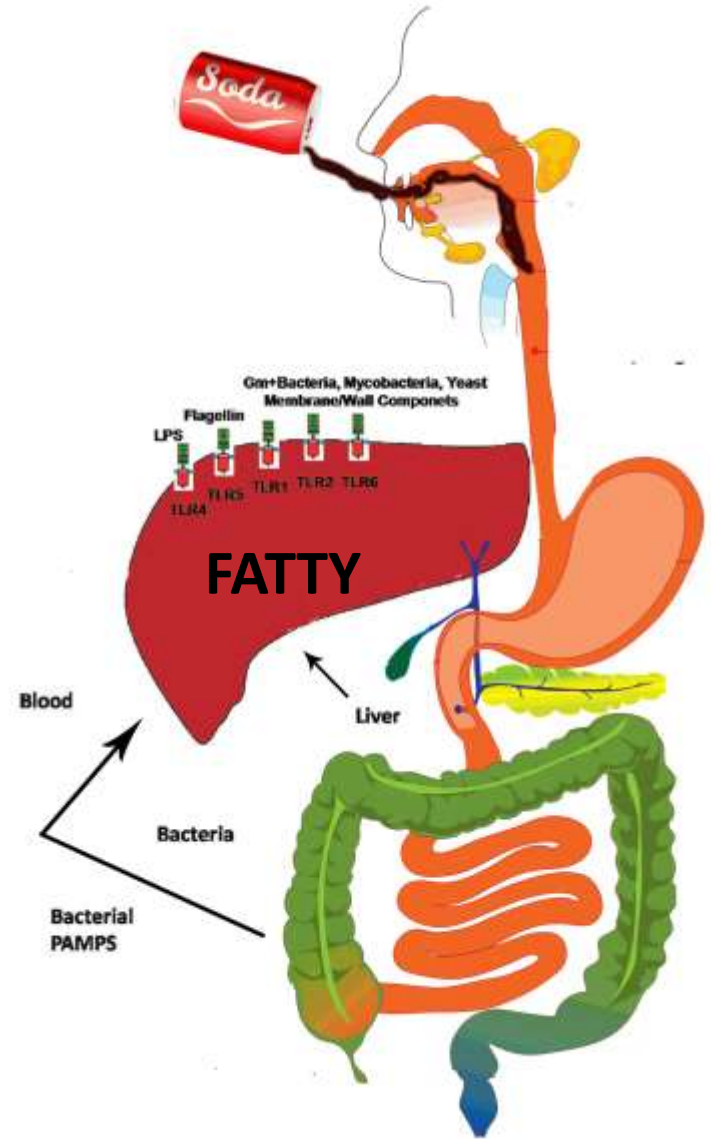
Fructose promotes obesity, insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes.

Moreover fructose consumption has been associated with increased risk of colon, pancreatic and liver cancer.

Sources of fructose in the Western diet include cane sugar (sucrose) and high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), a corn-based sweetener that has been on the market since about 1970.

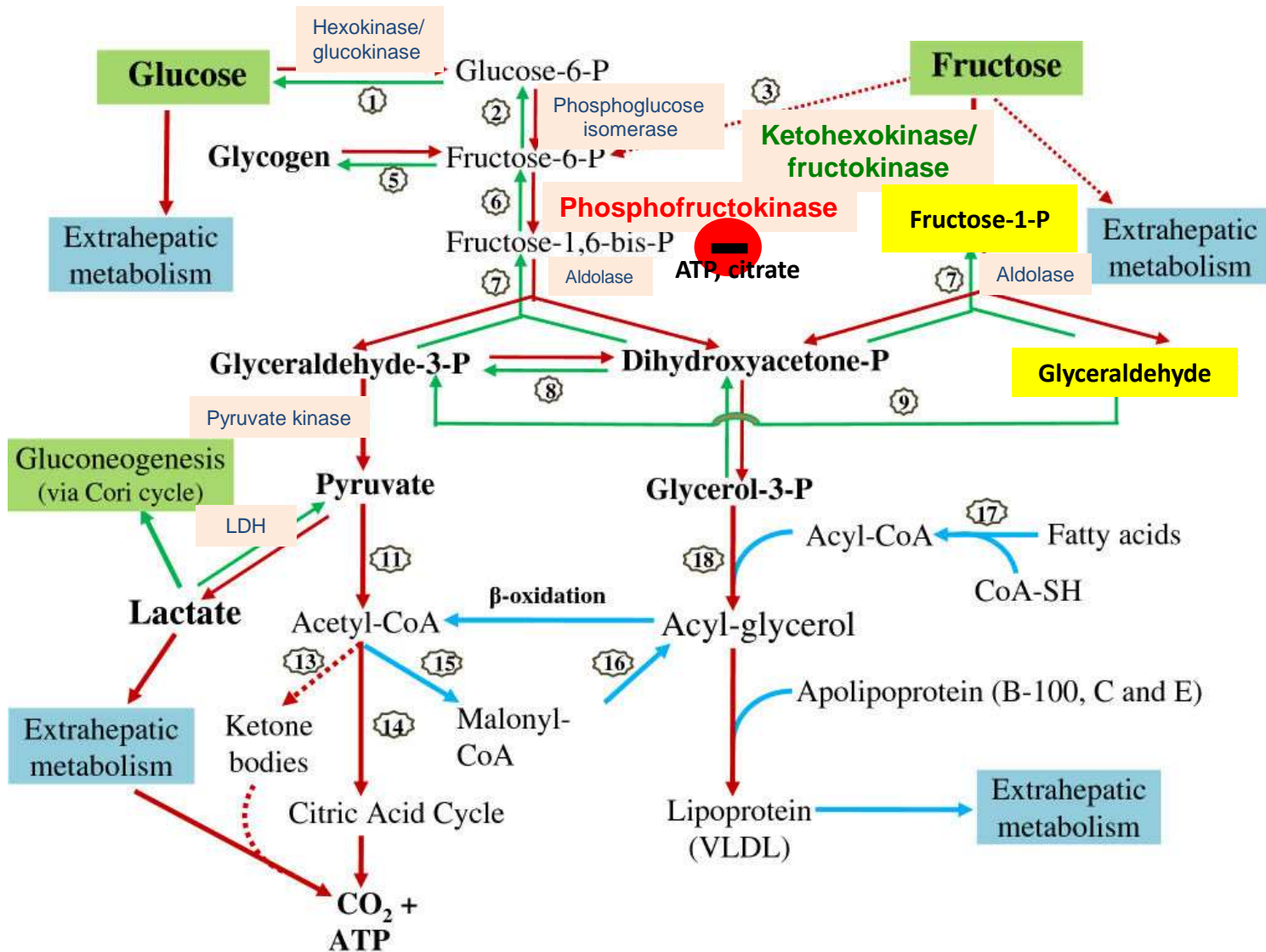
HFCS accounts for more than 40 percent of the caloric sweeteners added to foods and beverages, and it is the sole sweetener used in American soft drinks.

High fructose corn syrup induces hepatic steatosis presumably by preferential uptake of fructose by the liver.

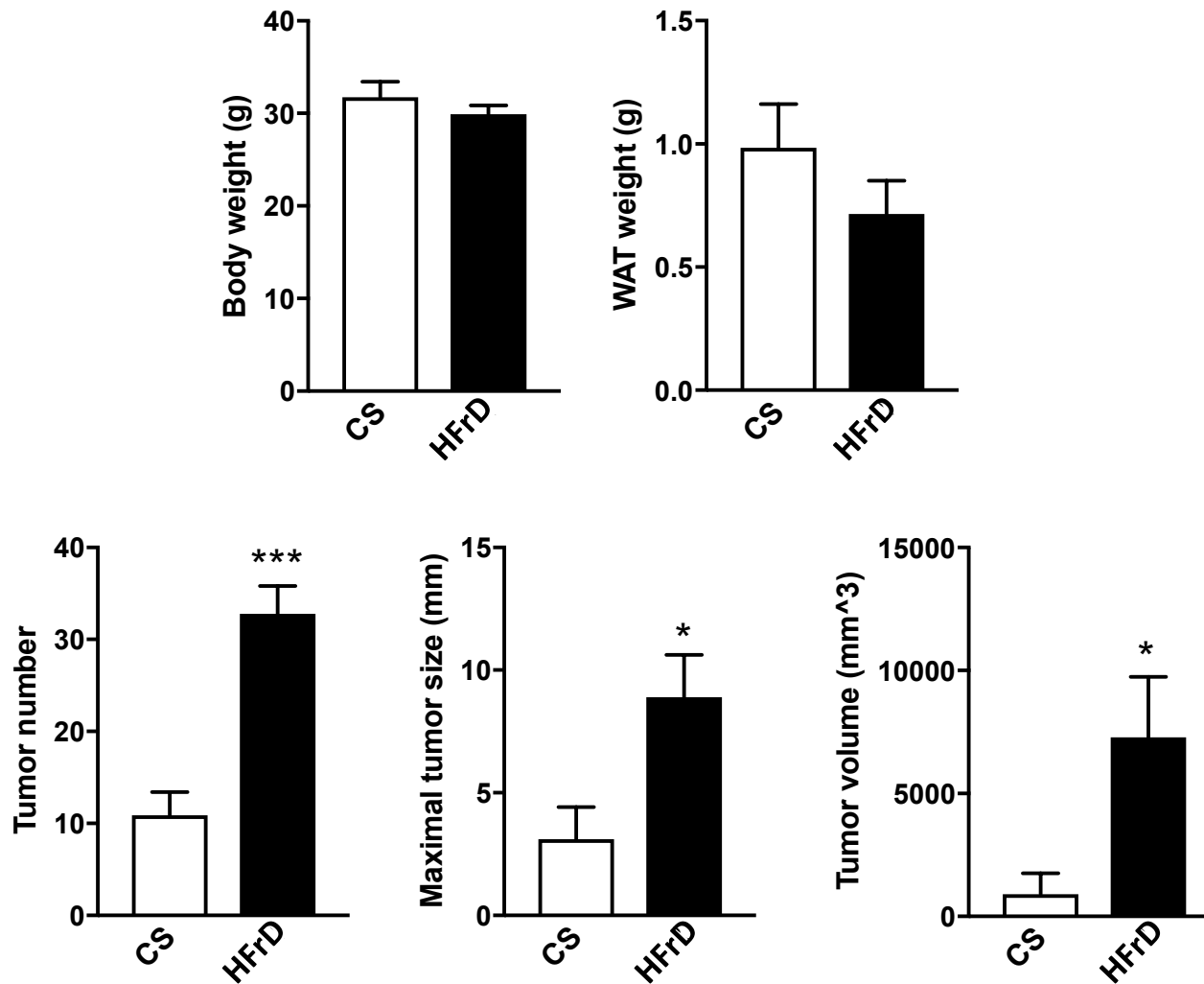




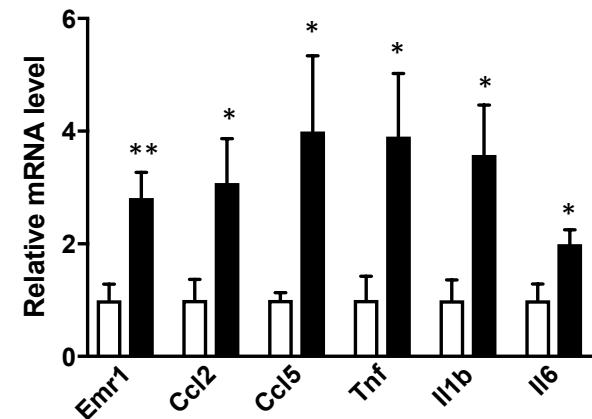
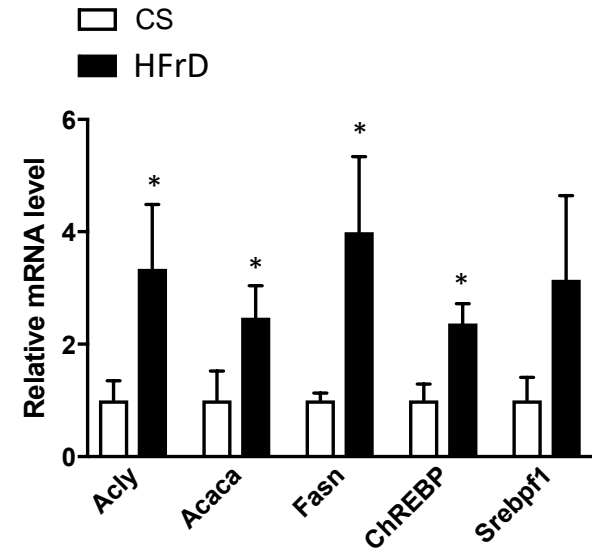
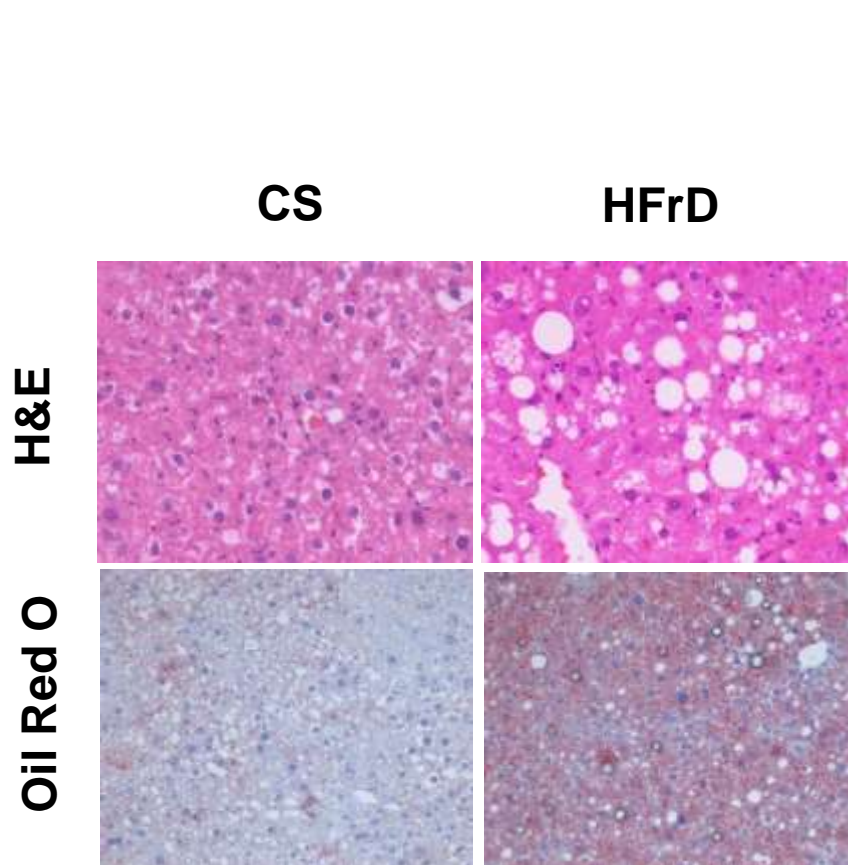
**Unlike glucose, fructose was suggested to be metabolized almost completely by the liver in an insulin-independent manner bypassing key negative feedback controls.**



# MUP-uPA mice fed HFrD diet show increased tumor formation at 12 months of age compared to CS diet-fed littermates.



# Fructose causes hepatic steatosis in MUP-uPA mice (6m) and induces genes that mediate de novo lipogenesis and inflammation.



# Leaky gut and liver cancer

The gut microbiota is composed of 100 trillion bacteria of diverse taxonomy (2000 distinct species).

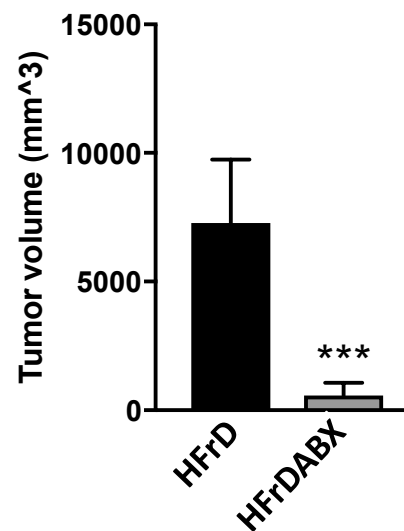
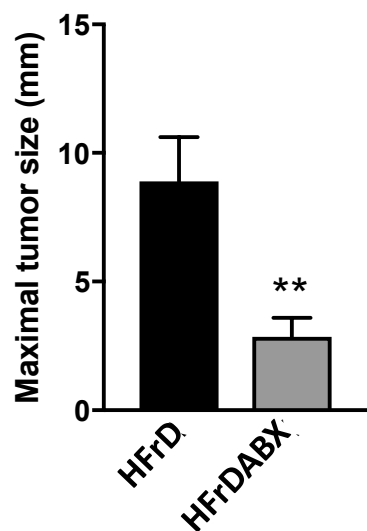
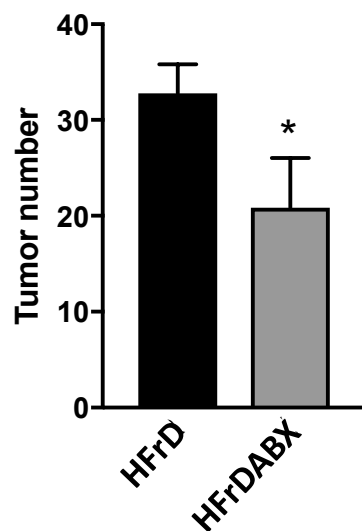
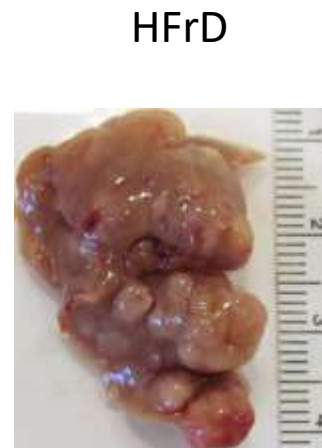
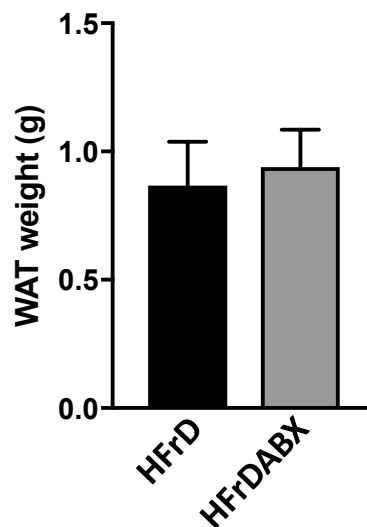
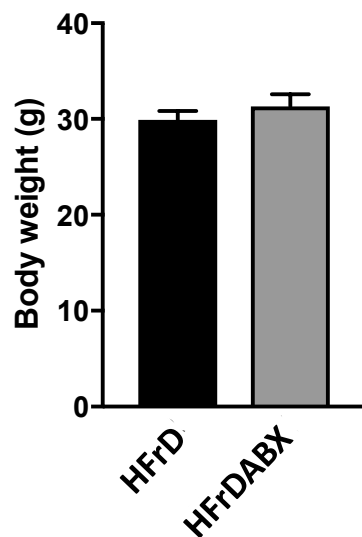
Disruption of microbial homeostasis is associated with obesity, malnutrition, inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD), neurologic disorders and liver diseases such as NASH, ASH and HCC.

Intestinal dysbiosis causes colonic inflammation, which is mediated by chemokine (C-C motif) ligand 5 (CCL5).

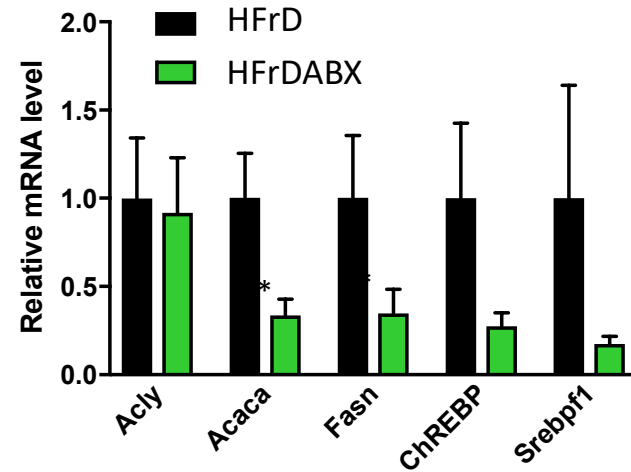
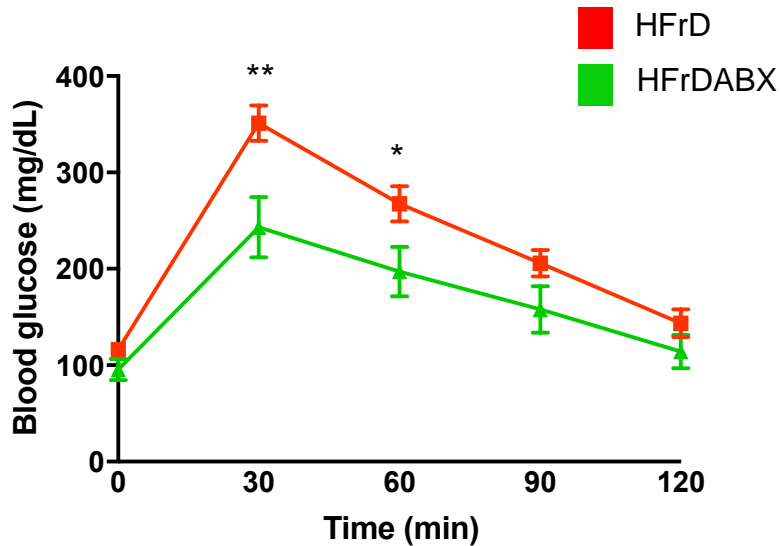
Intestinal inflammation results in an increase in intestinal permeability, which leads to translocation of microbial products to the liver.

Binding of these microbial products to Toll-like receptors (TLRs) in the liver is associated with exacerbated hepatic steatosis driving NASH or ASH progression.

# Antibiotic treatment abrogated HFrD-induced hepatocarcinogenesis in MUP-uPA mice.

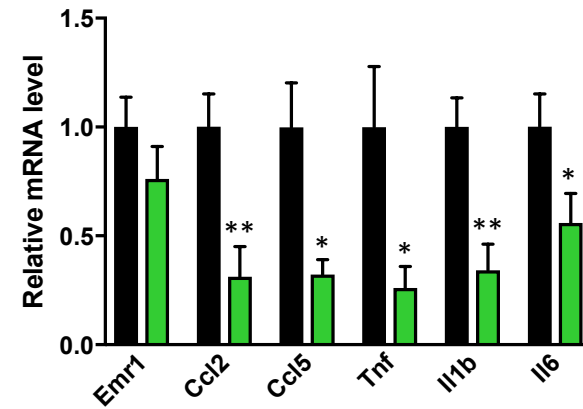
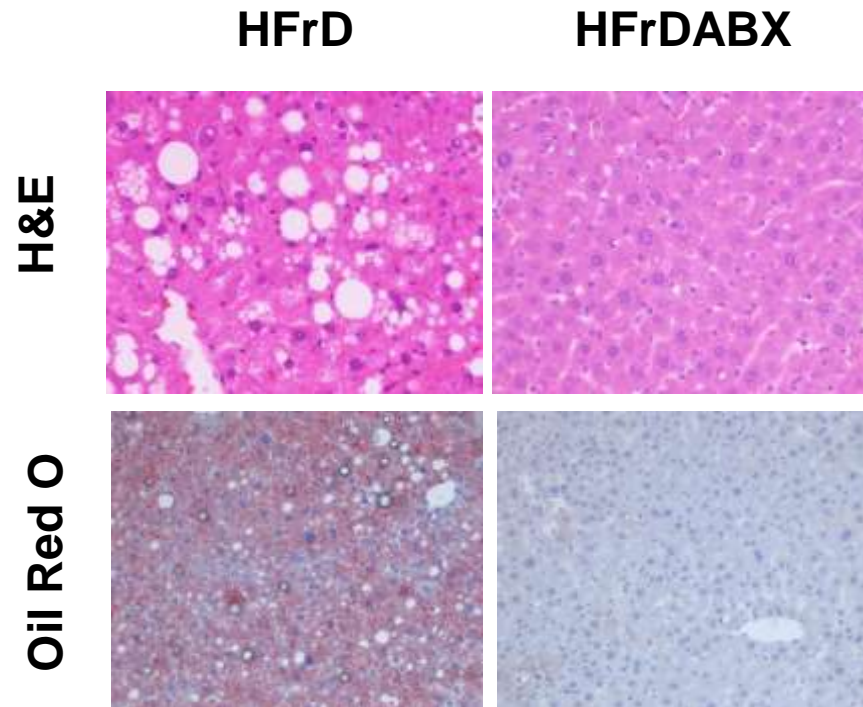


# Antibiotic treatment ameliorated glucose intolerance and abrogated induction of *de novo* lipogenesis genes in 6 month-old HFrD-fed MUP-uPA mice.

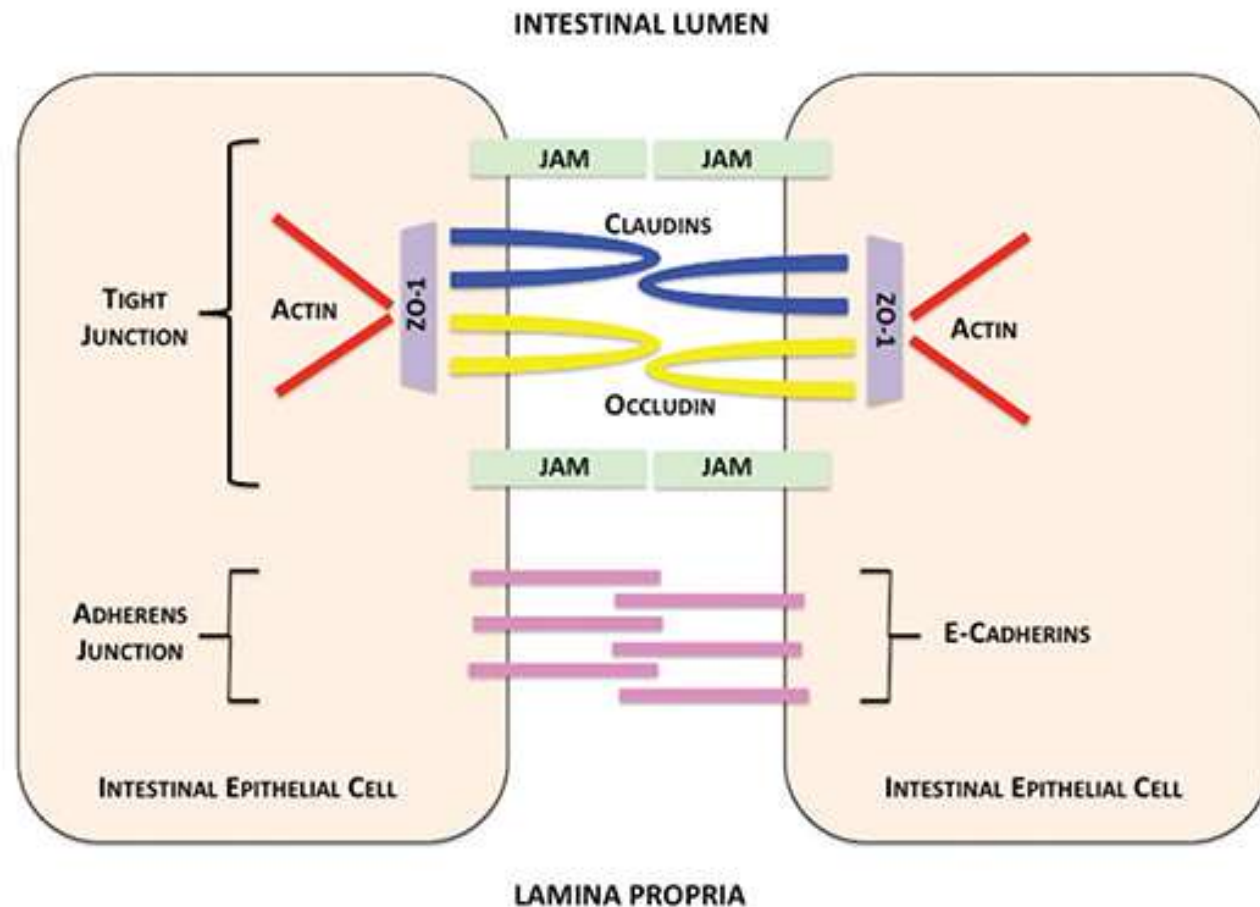




# Antibiotics prevent hepatic steatosis and inflammatory gene induction in HFrD-fed MUP-uPA mice.

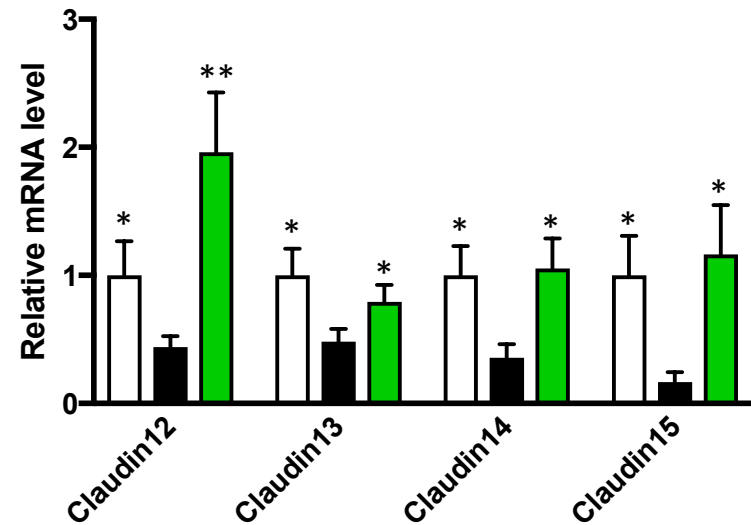
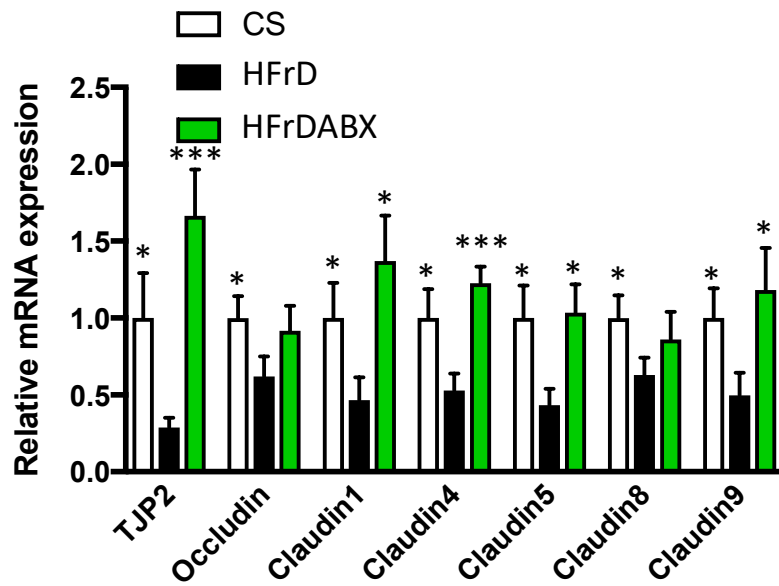


**The epithelial tight junction (TJ) is a multi-protein complex that forms a selective permeable seal between adjacent epithelial cells. Disruption of the intestinal TJ barrier, followed by permeation of luminal molecules, induces a perturbation of the mucosal immune system and inflammation.**

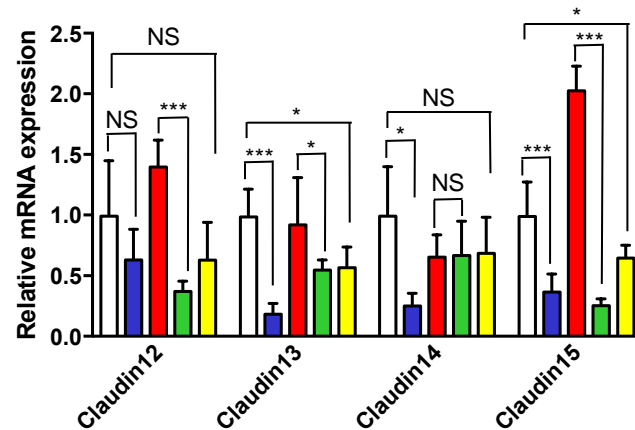
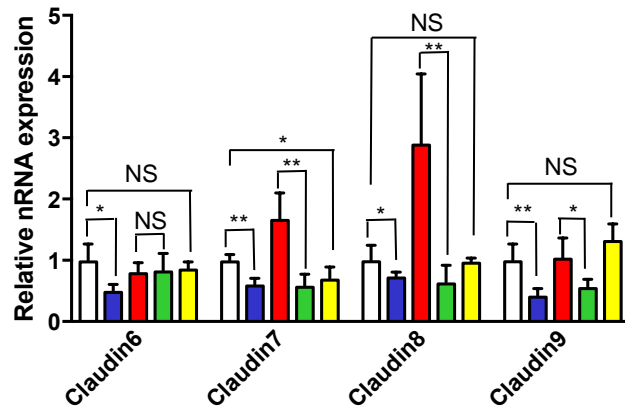
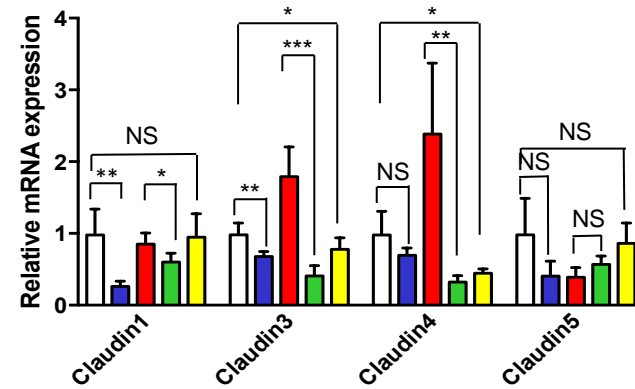
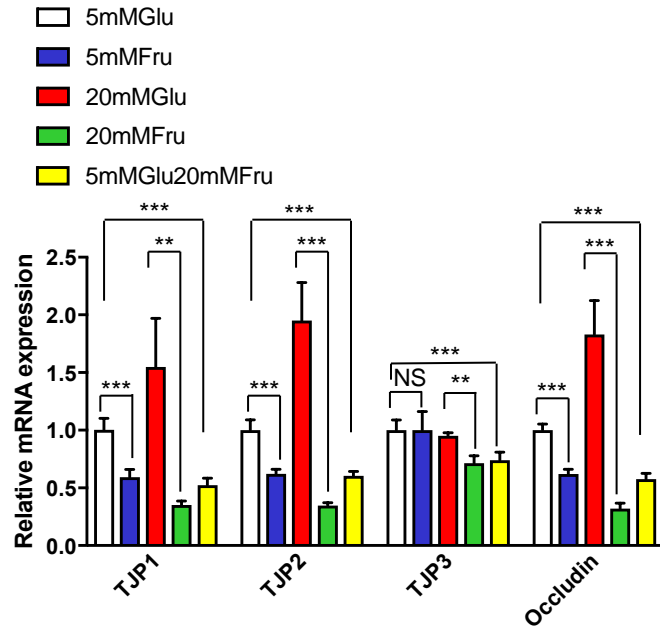


# HFrD-induced suppression of intestinal tight junction-related genes is restored by antibiotic-treatment.

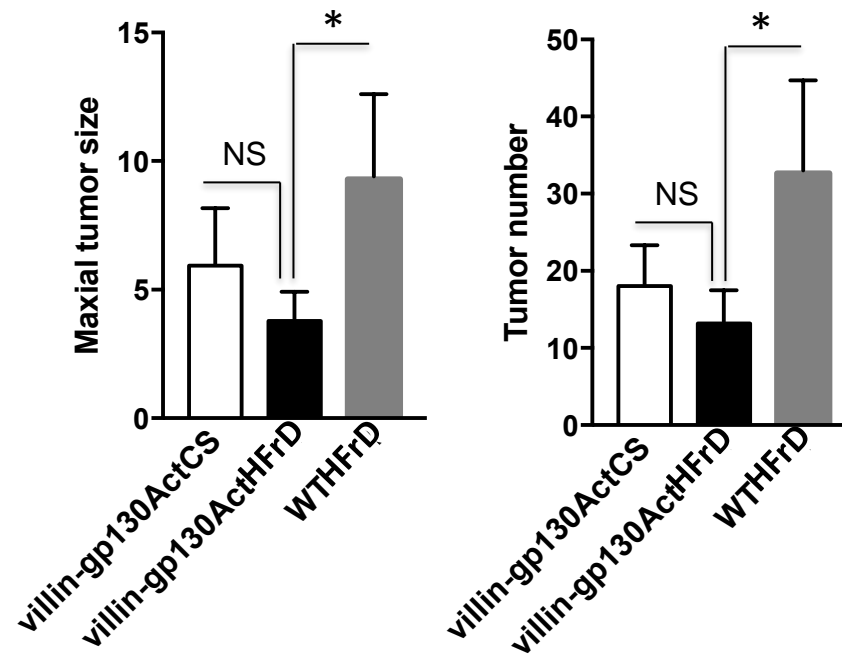
Colon



# Fructose inhibits expression of several intestinal tight junction-related genes in colonic organoids



# ***Villin-gp130Act* mice that rapidly regenerate intestinal barrier are protected against HFrD-induced HCC development**







70% Corn starch  
(CSD)



60% Fructose  
10% Corn starch  
(HFrD)



ANTIBIOTICS

HFrD and antibiotics  
(HFrDABX)



MUP-uPA or carcinogen  
treated WT mice



Bacterial  
products

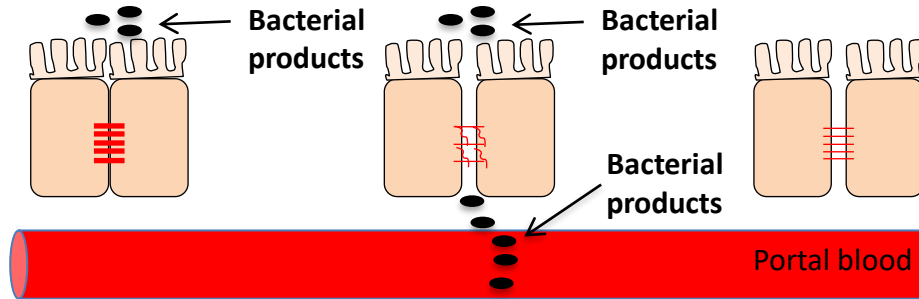
Bacterial  
products

Bacterial  
products

Fructose-induced gut  
microbial alteration and  
inflammation

Fructose effects on  
tight junctions ↓ and  
intestinal permeability ↑

Fructose-induced PAMP  
translocation



TLRs

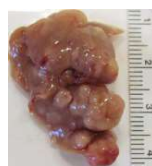
TLRs

TLRs

PAMP-mediated TLR  
activation + liver  
hyperlipidemia/steatosis



NASH



HCC



# Acknowledgments

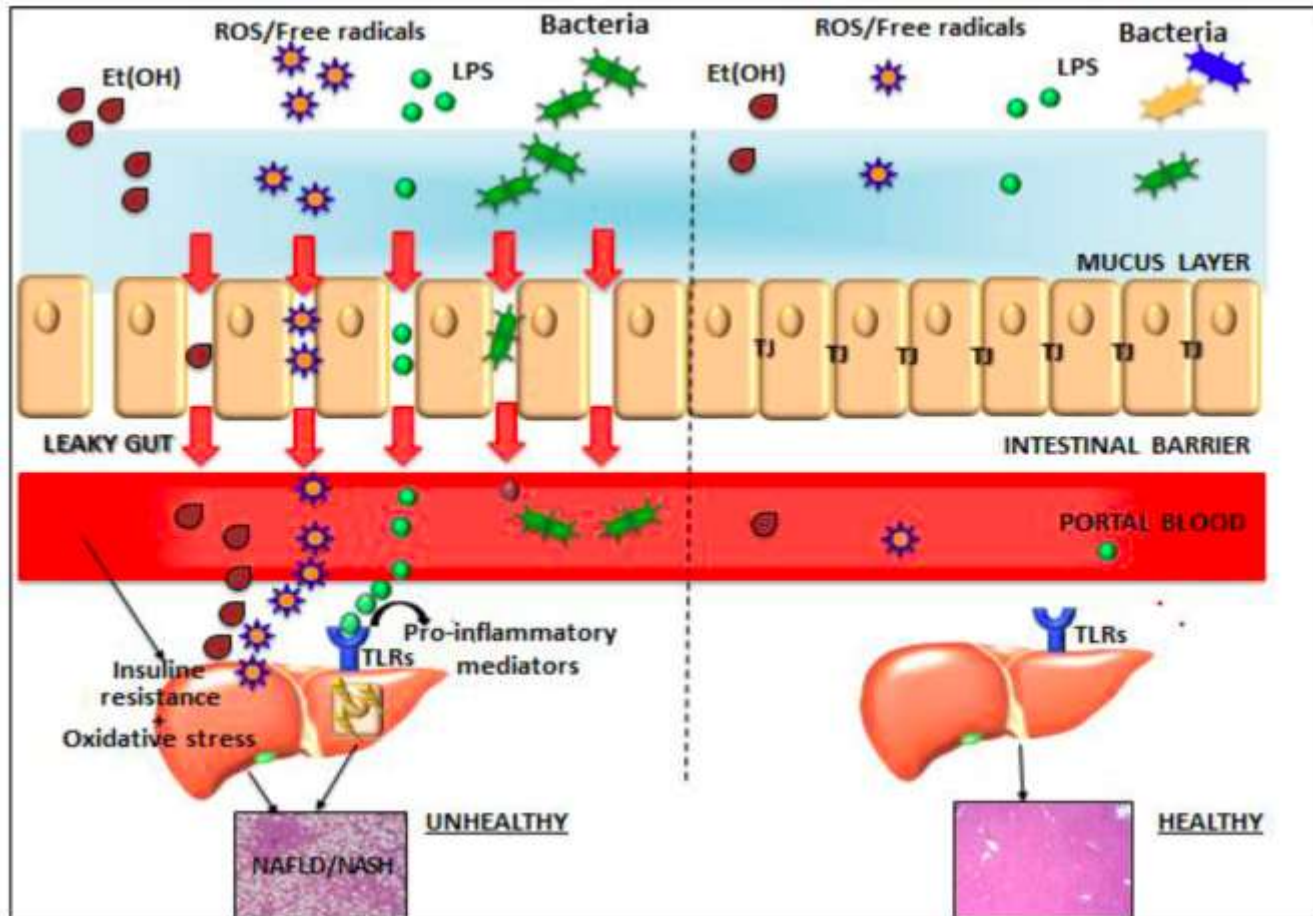
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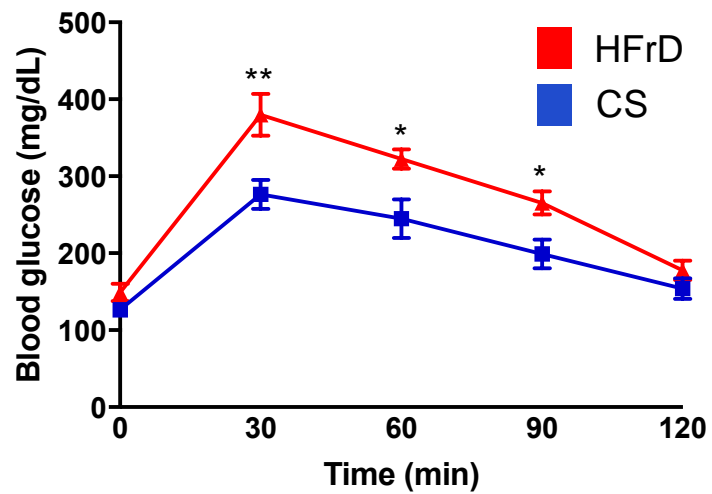
**Mark Febbraio  
Saskia Reibe-Pal  
Darren Henstridge**

**Conclusion: Barrier disruption comes first and the increased influx of microbes or microbial products leads to the inflammation that stimulates NASH and HCC development**



# Fructose is more diabetogenic than corn starch in both models.

DEN-treated B6 mice



MUP-uPA mice

