

VITAMIN D IMMUNOLOGY: COVID 19 DISEASE

Defence & Adjunct Therapy

Dr. Renu Mahtani MD FMNM



Vitamin D deficiency is now
recognized as a **PANDEMIC**

**Rickets is
just the tip of the
vitamin D deficiency
iceberg**

RICKETS

**ALLERGIES
ASTHMA
AUTISM
CANCER
CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE
CHRONIC PAIN
COLDS & FLU
DENTAL CAVITIES
DIABETES - TYPE 1
ECZEMA
FETAL GROWTH IMPAIRMENT
GESTATIONAL DIABETES
GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT
PROBLEMS
PREECLAMPSIA
PRENATAL INFECTIONS
PRETERM BIRTH**

**The lifelong impact
of deficiency
on pregnancy and
the developing
child**

HEALTH & MEDICINE

Study confirms vitamin D protects against colds and flu

A recent study by a global team of researchers has found that Vitamin D supplements, already widely prescribed for a variety of ailments, are effective in preventing respiratory diseases.




Credit: iStock





Review

Evidence that Vitamin D Supplementation Could Reduce Risk of Influenza and COVID-19 Infections and Deaths

William B. Grant ^{1,*} , Henry Lahore ², Sharon L. McDonnell ³, Carole A. Baggerly ³ ,
Christine B. French ³ , Jennifer L. Aliano ³ and Harjit P. Bhattoa ⁴

¹ Sunlight, Nutrition, and Health Research Center, P.O. Box 641603, San Francisco, CA 94164-1603, USA

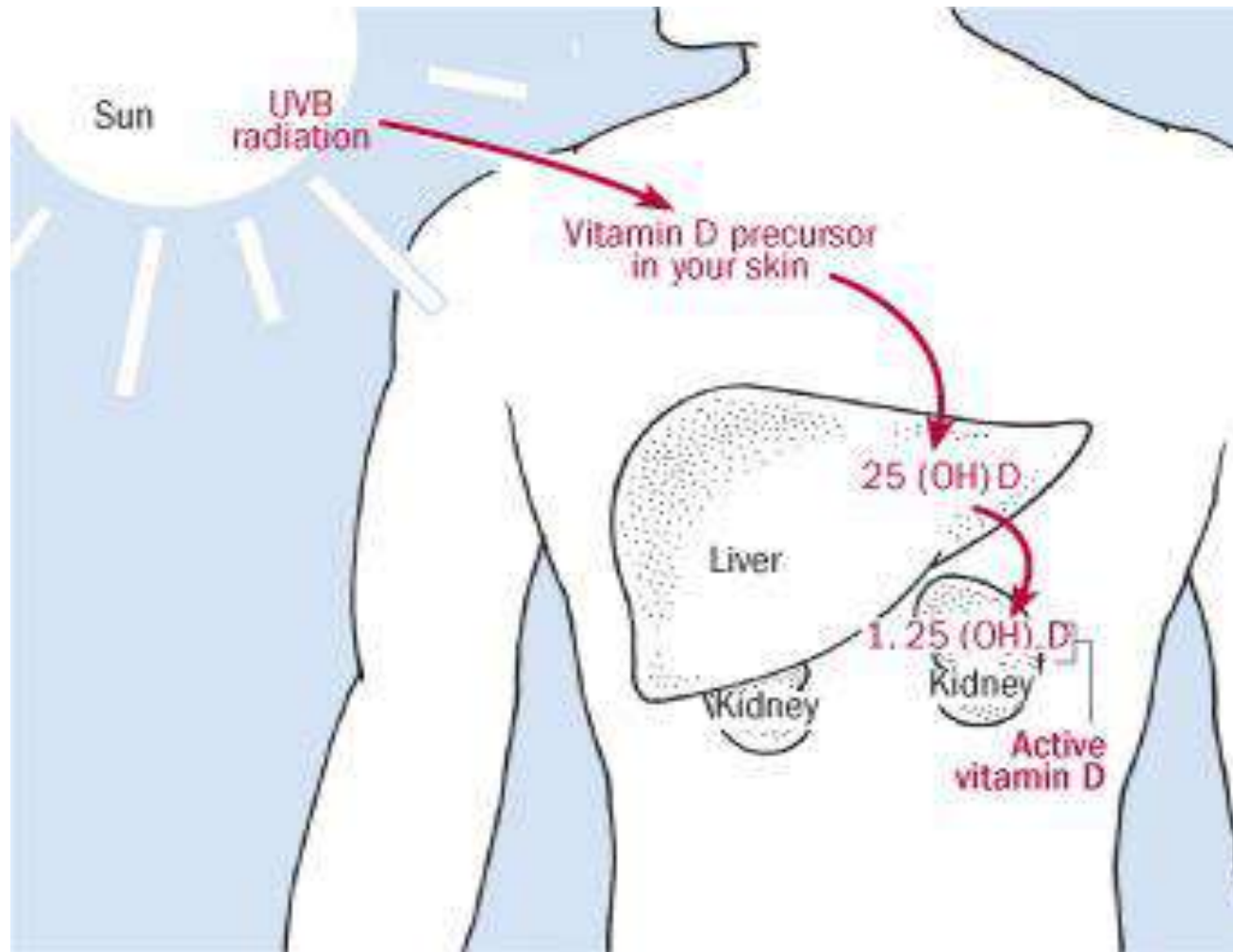
² 2289 Highland Loop, Port Townsend, WA 98368, USA; hlahore@vitamindwiki.com.

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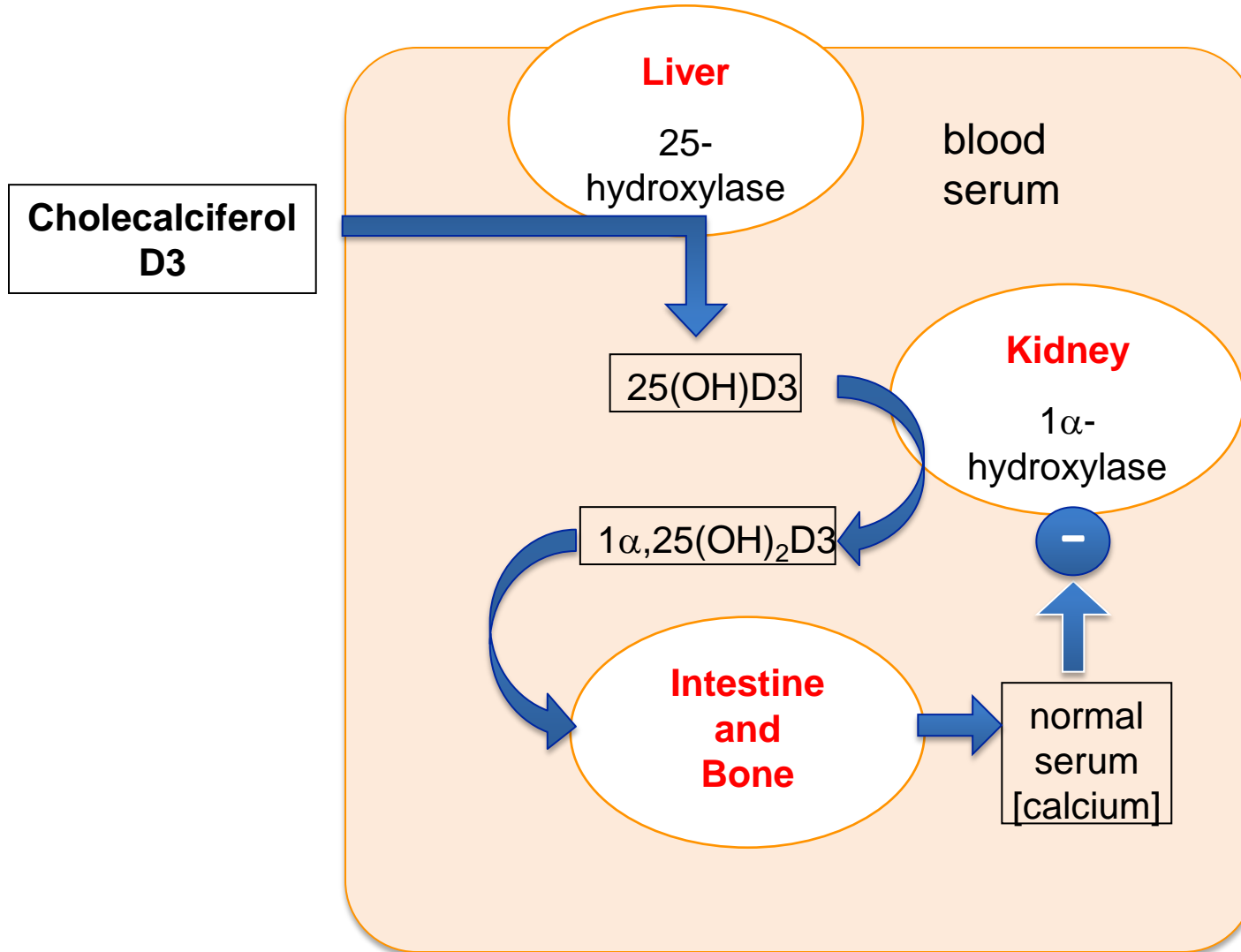


Vitamin D

Biological Activation



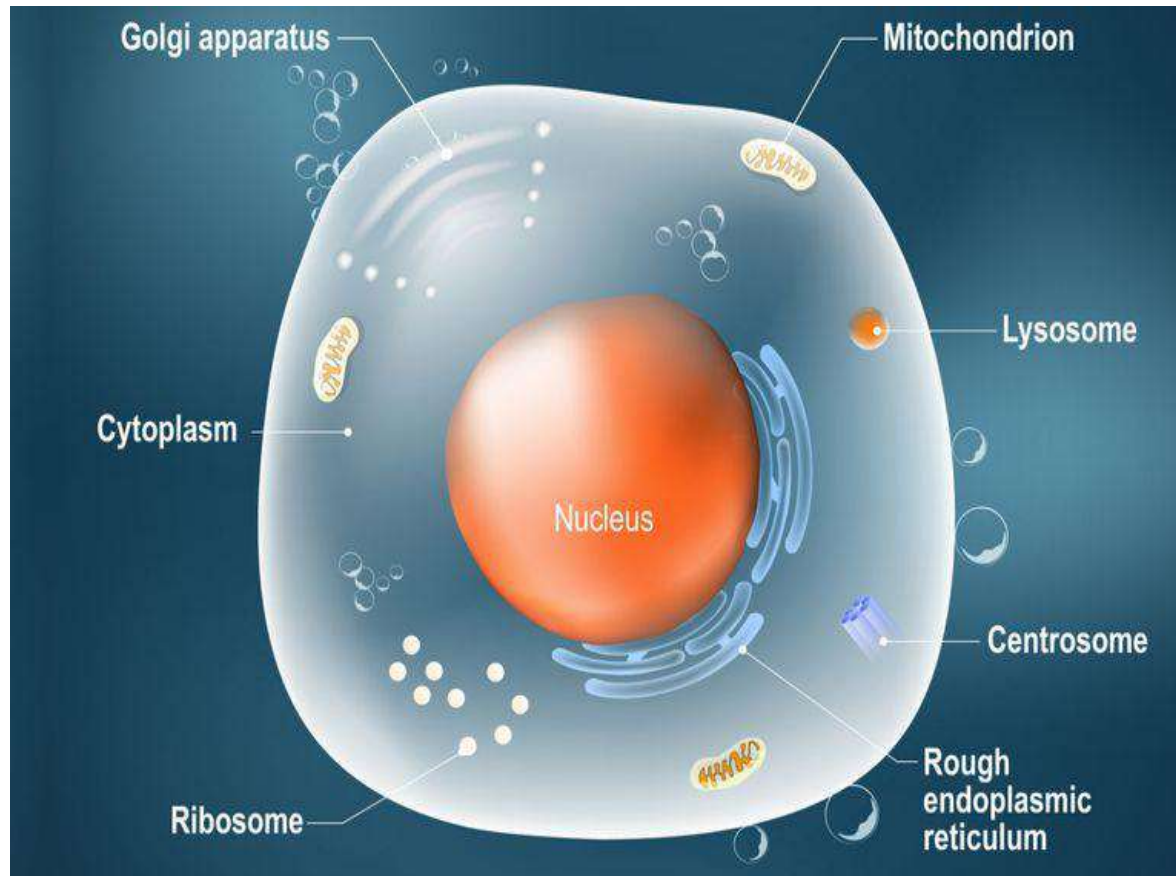
How Vitamin D works – 1 Hormone / Endocrine Action



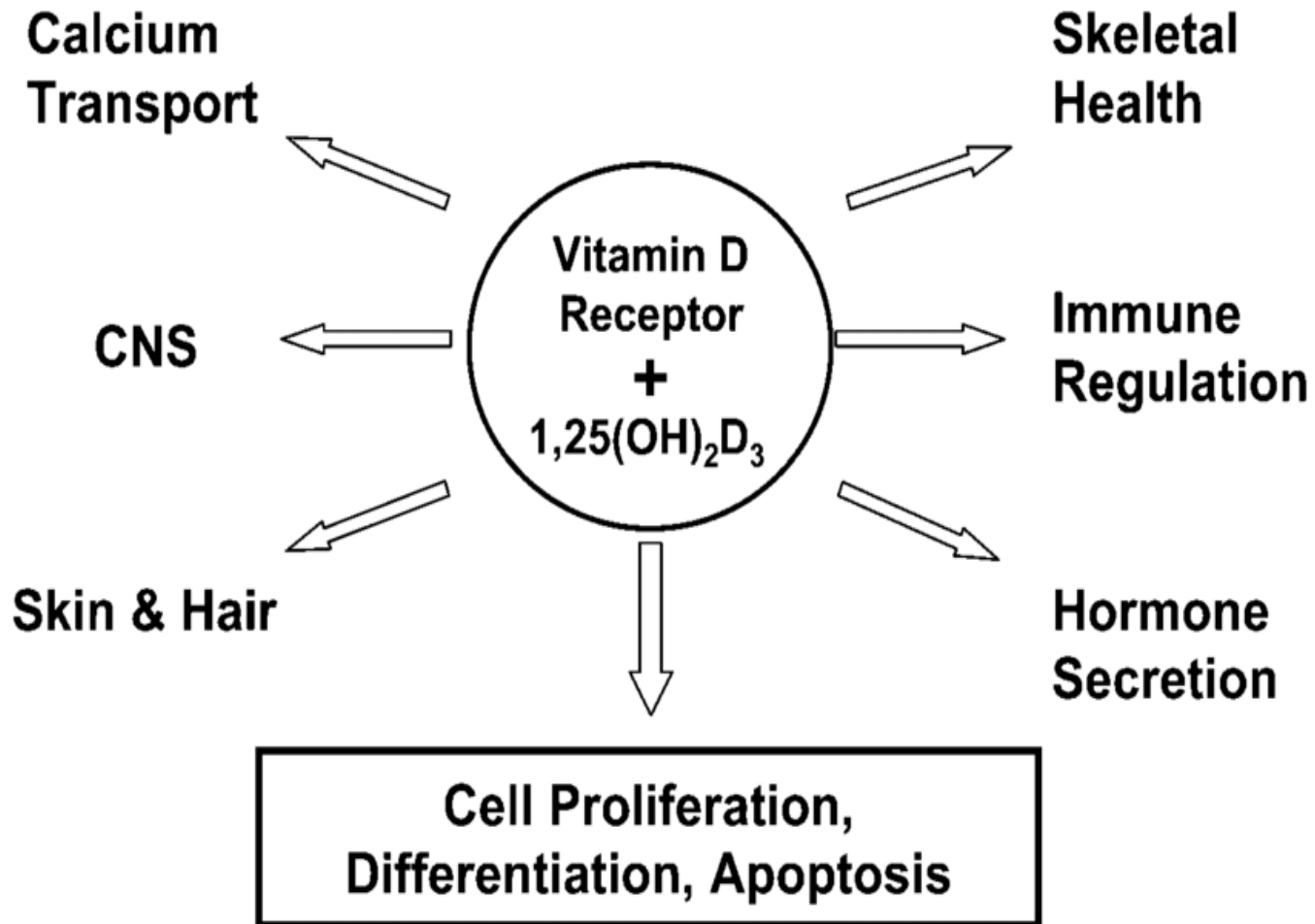
How Vitamin D works – 2

VDR – Vitamin D Receptor

Nuclear Receptor in every cell



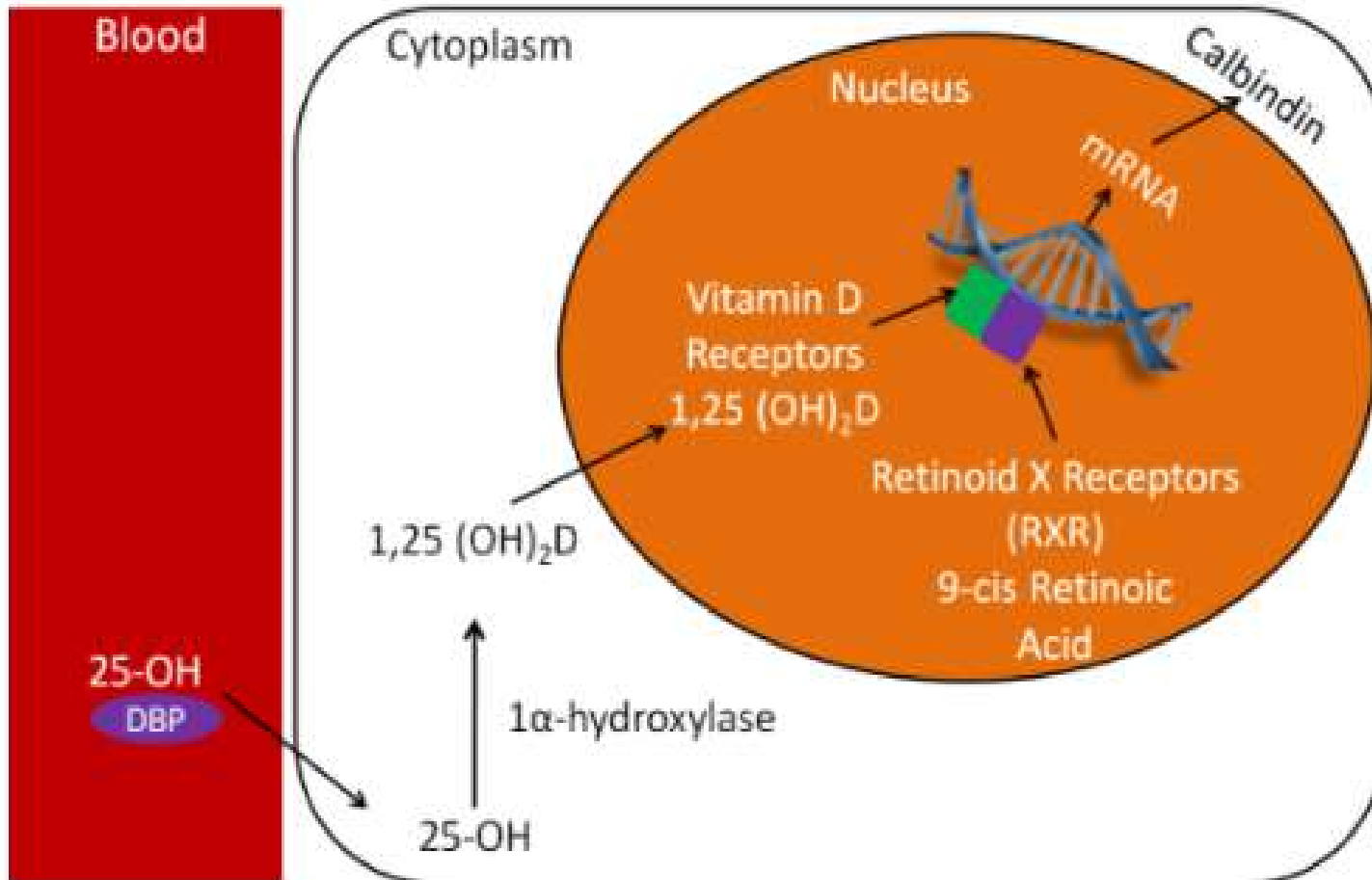
VDR - Vitamin D Receptor



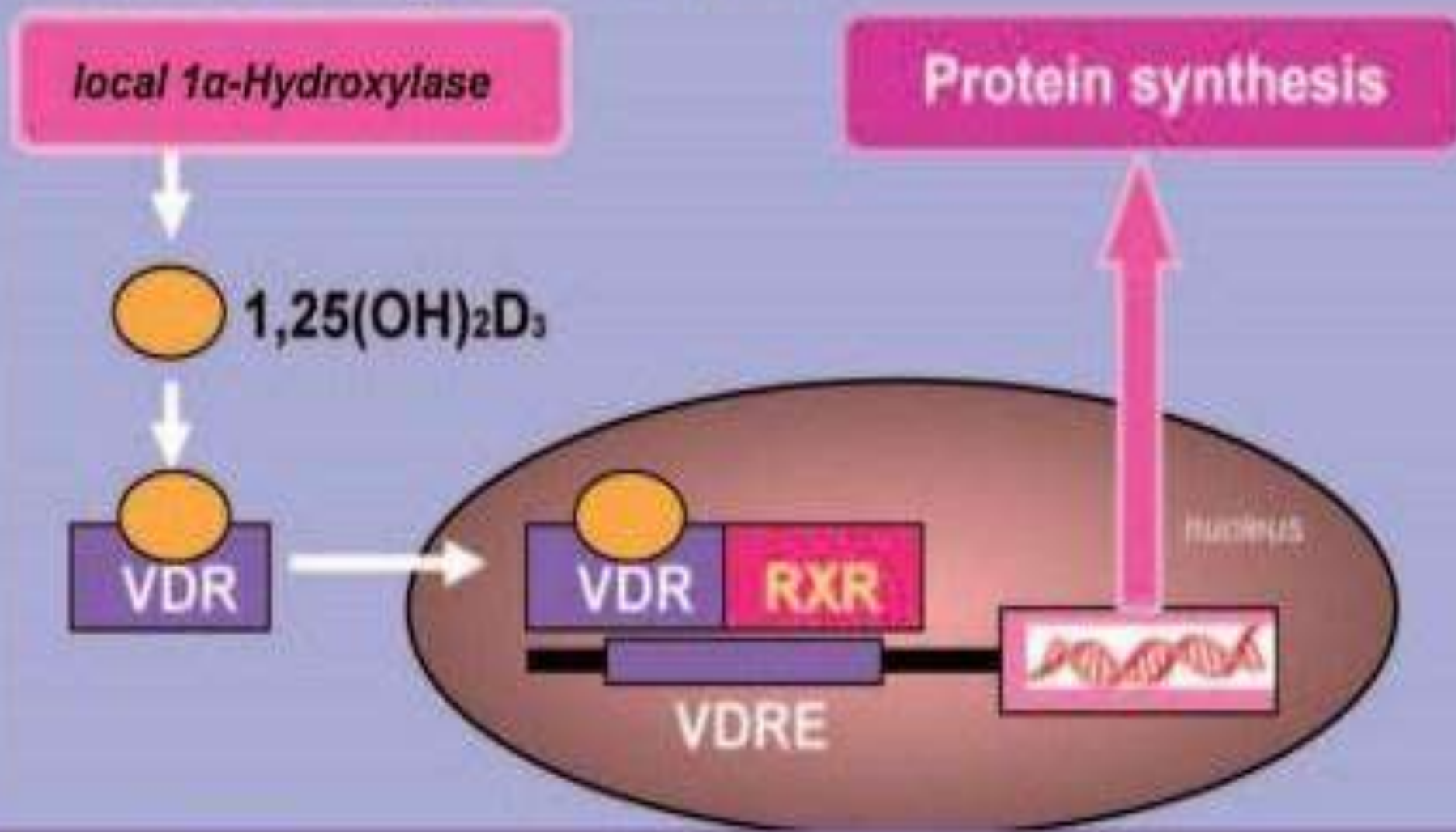
How Vitamin D works – 3

Local (intracellular) activation of Vitamin D

Autocrine / Paracrine action

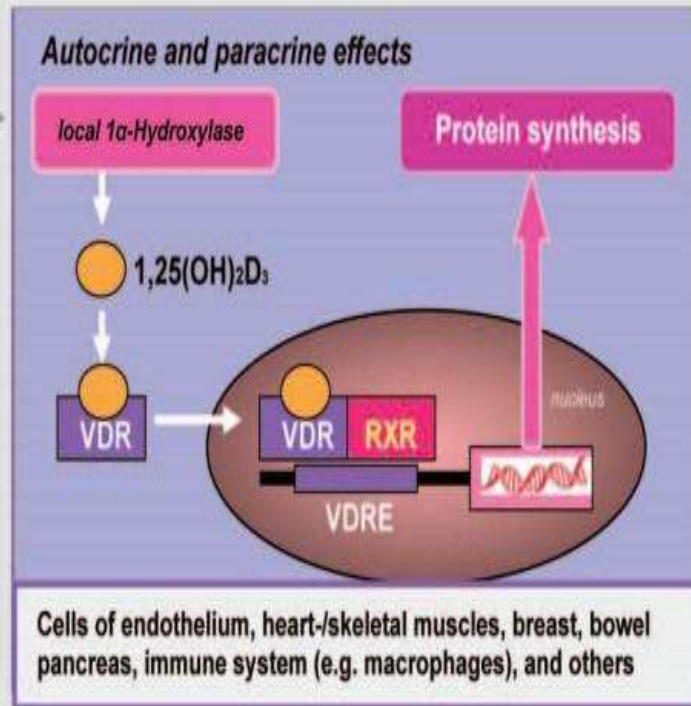


Autocrine and paracrine effects



Cells of endothelium, heart-/skeletal muscles, breast, bowel pancreas, immune system (e.g. macrophages), and others

Autocrine & Paracrine Effects



Immune system: modulation

Endothelial function \uparrow

Renin angiotensin system \downarrow

Secretion of insulin \uparrow

Cell differentiation \uparrow

Epigenetic signaling

Induction of apoptosis \uparrow

Tumor induced angiogenesis \downarrow

Extra-skeletal Actions of Vitamin D

Beyond the Bones

- **Local intra-cellular activation** of vitamin D by 1 alpha hydroxylase, the enzyme that converts 25(OH)D to 1,25(OH)₂D
- **Vitamin D receptor (VDR)** is expressed in all cells
 - Immune cells - Macrophages, monocytes, T cells, B cells, dendritic cells
 - Brain - microglia
 - Lungs, Intestines, Kidneys, Heart, Prostate
- **Gene modulator** - more than 2000 genes

The Gene Modulator Vitamin D 2000 genes through the nuclear receptors (VDR)

Research

A ChIP-seq defined genome-wide map of vitamin D receptor binding: Associations with disease and evolution

Sreeram V. Ramagopalan,^{1,2,3,6,7} Andreas Heger,^{4,6} Antonio J. Berlanga,^{1,2}
Narelle J. Maugeri,¹ Matthew R. Lincoln,^{1,2} Amy Burrell,^{1,2} Lahiru Handunnetthi,^{1,2}
Adam E. Handel,^{1,2} Giulio Disanto,^{1,2} Sarah-Michelle Orton,^{1,2} Corey T. Watson,⁵
Julia M. Morahan,^{1,2} Gavin Giovannoni,³ Chris P. Ponting,⁴ George C. Ebers,^{1,2,7}
and Julian C. Knight^{1,7}

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VITAMIN D IMMUNOLOGY

- **COVID – 19 Disease**
 - For Prevention
 - As Adjunct Therapy
- **Mechanisms**
 - Genomic
 - Non-genomic



nutrients

Review

Vitamin D: Nutrient, Hormone, and Immunomodulator

Francesca Sassi, Cristina Tamone and Patrizia D'Amelio * 

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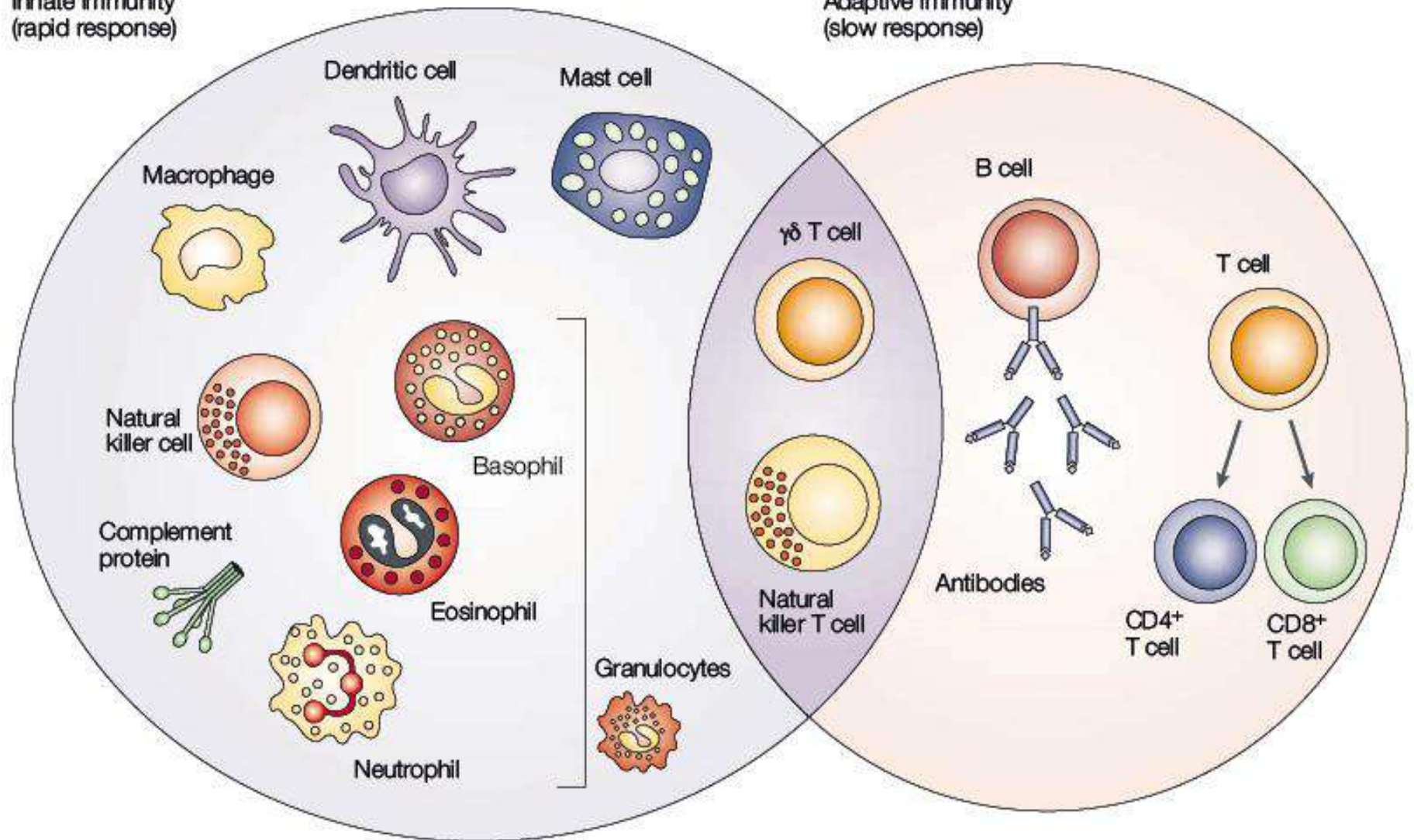
Received: 24 September 2018; Accepted: 31 October 2018; Published: 3 November 2018

Abstract: The classical functions of vitamin D are to regulate calcium-phosphorus metabolism and control bone metabolism. However, vitamin D deficiency has been related to various conditions associated with increased inflammation and deregulation of the immune system, such as diabetes, asthma, and rheumatoid arthritis. These observations, together with the hypothesis of a disease-specific alteration of vitamin D metabolism, suggest a critical role for vitamin D in the modulation of immune function. This review focuses on the hypothesis of a disease-specific alteration of vitamin D metabolism and its role in maintaining a healthy immune system. Two key observations are discussed: the role of vitamin D in the regulation of the immune system and the role of vitamin D in the regulation of the immune system.

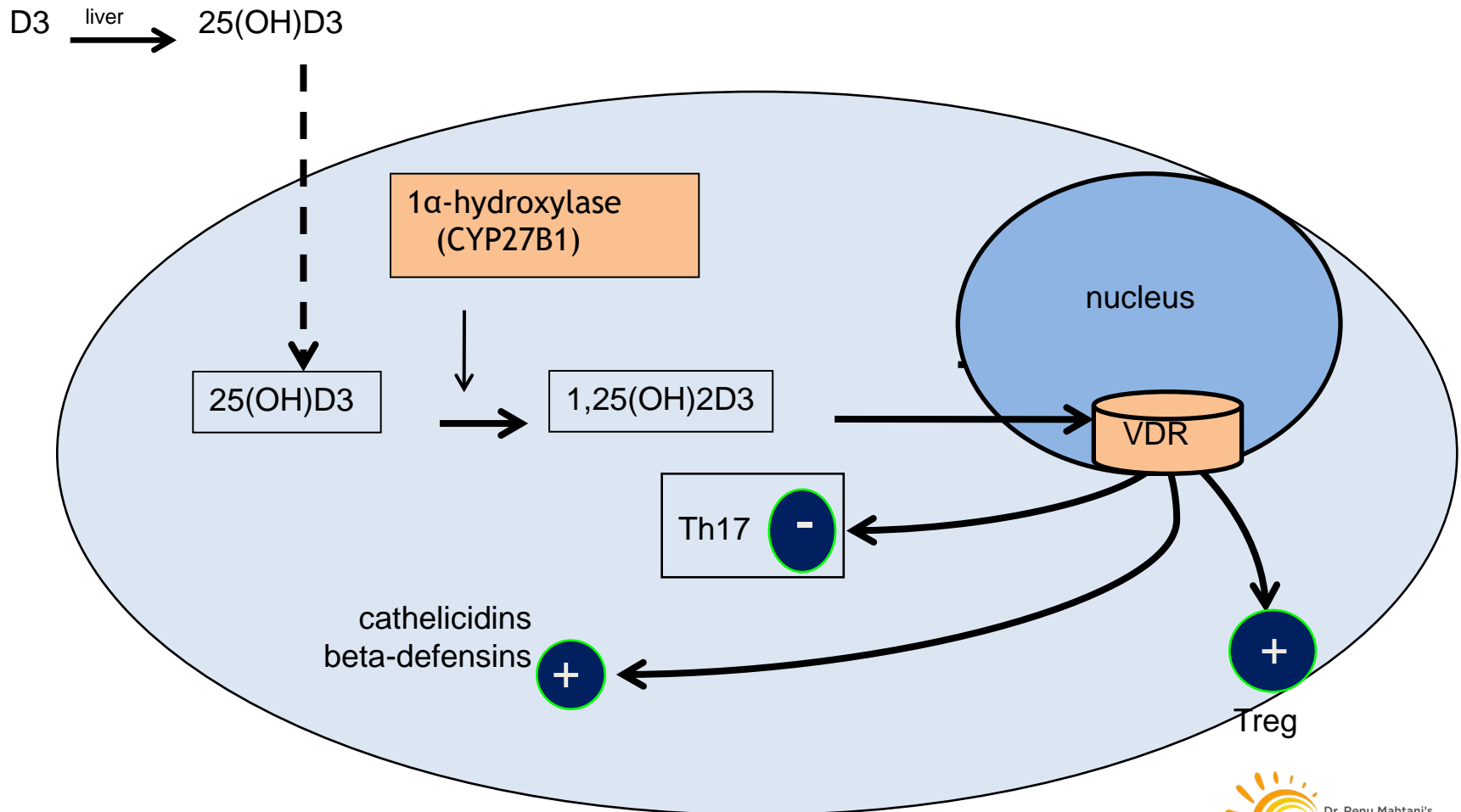
VDR are present in all immune cells

Innate immunity
(rapid response)

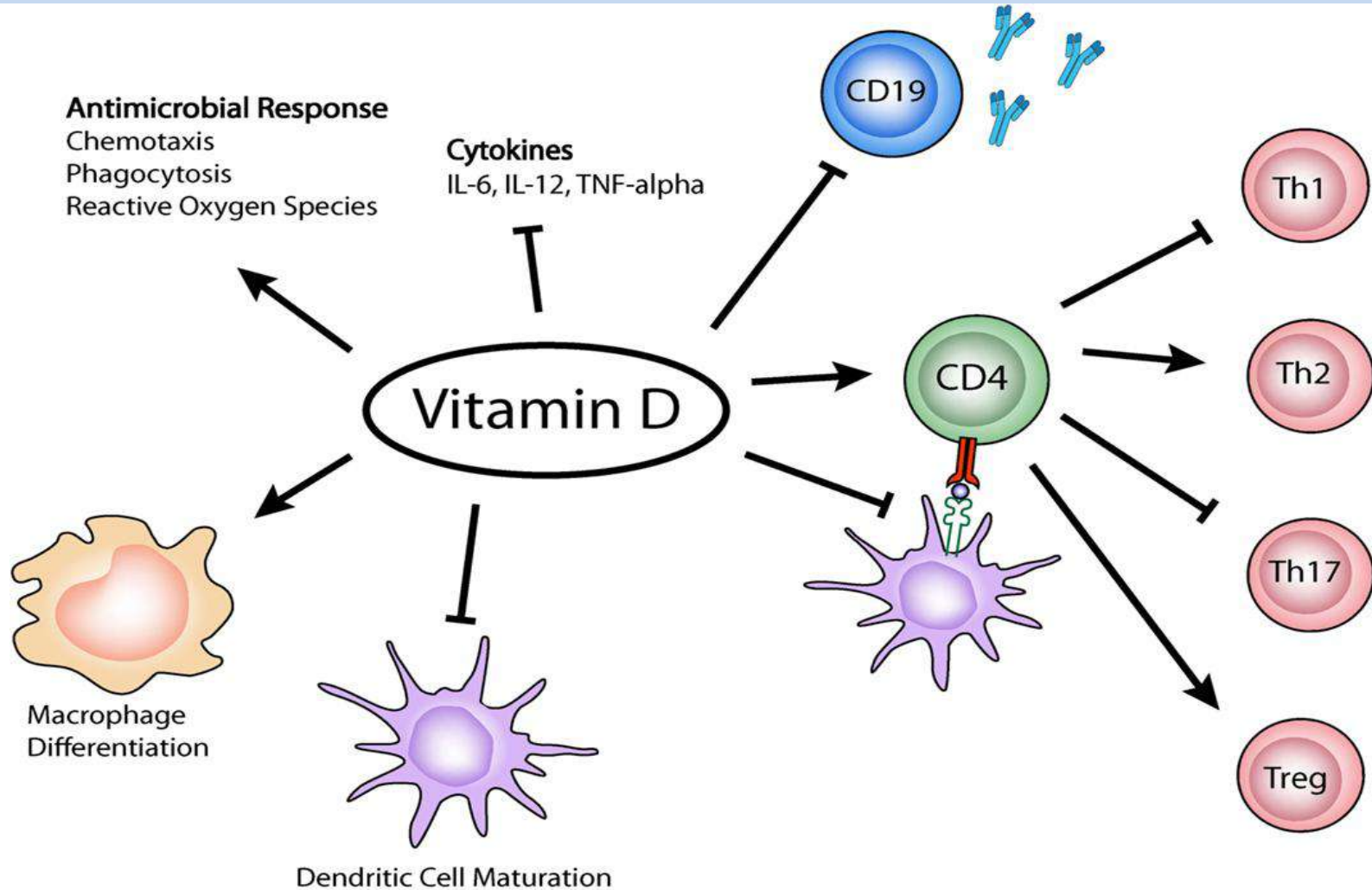
Adaptive immunity
(slow response)



Vitamin D gets activated inside the Immune Cells



Vitamin D – Innate & Adaptive Response



Review

Modulation of the Immune Response to Respiratory Viruses by Vitamin D

Claire L. Greiller ^{*} and Adrian R. Martineau ^{*}

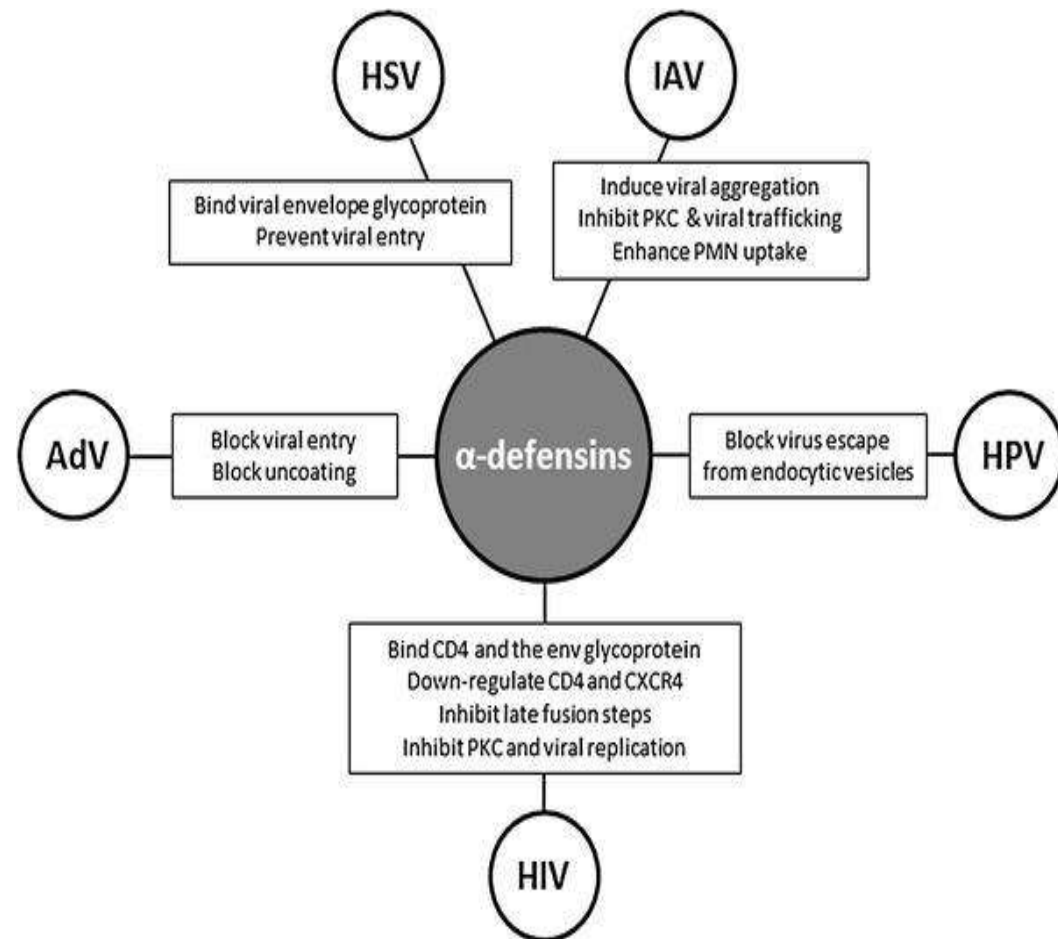
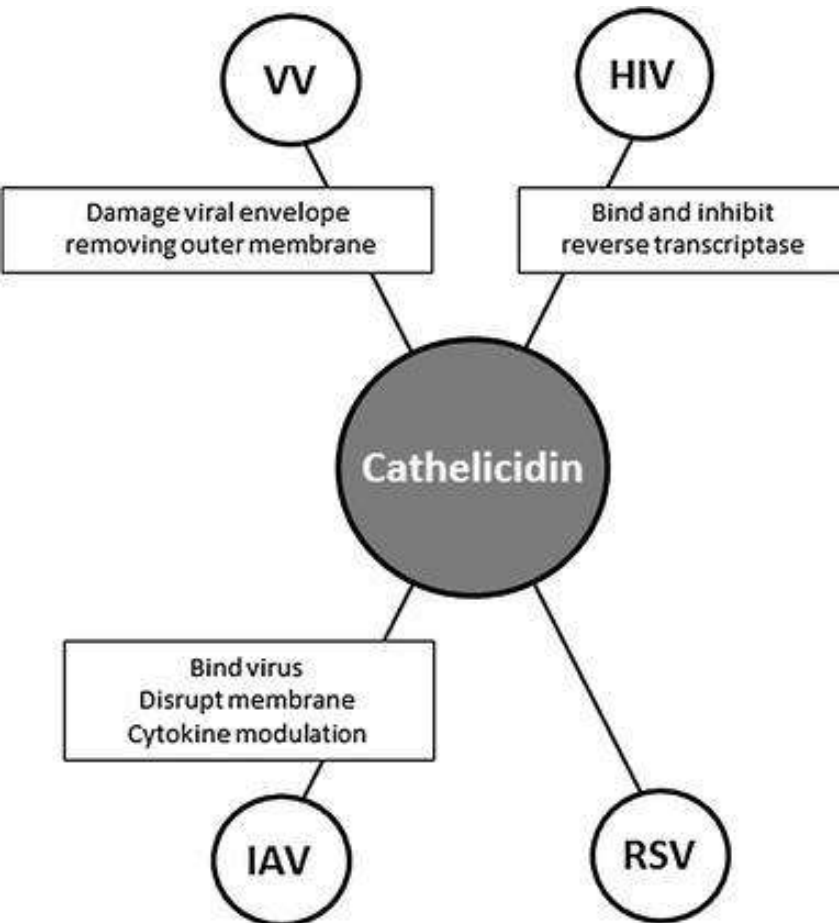
Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London,
London E1 2AB, UK

**Innate immune response or First line of Defense -
Defensins & Cathelicidins - anti-microbial and immuno-
modulatory capabilities.**

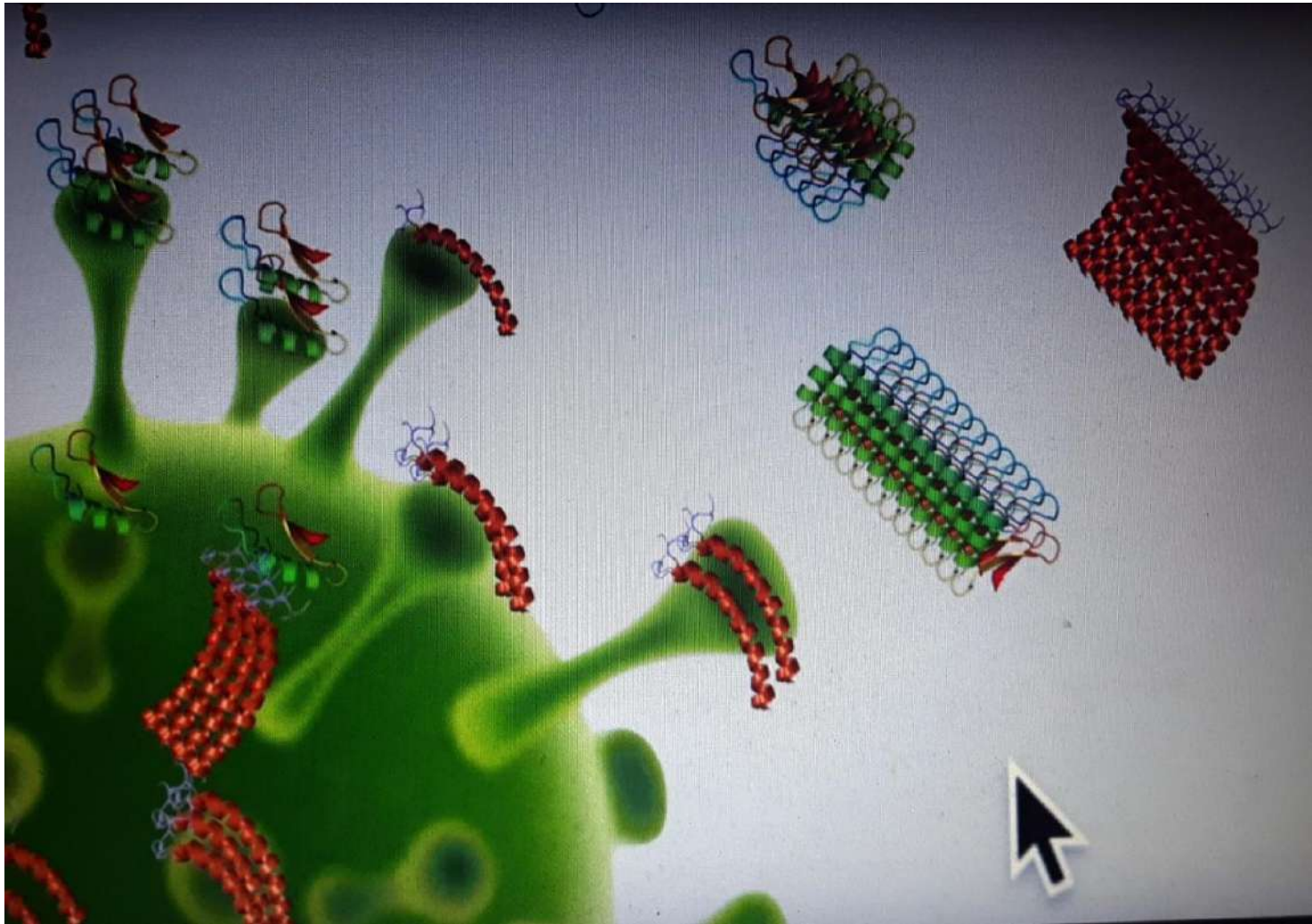
**Natural, broad spectrum anti-viral agents against both
enveloped and non-enveloped viruses.**

Natural antibiotics & antivirals

Cathelicidins & Defensins

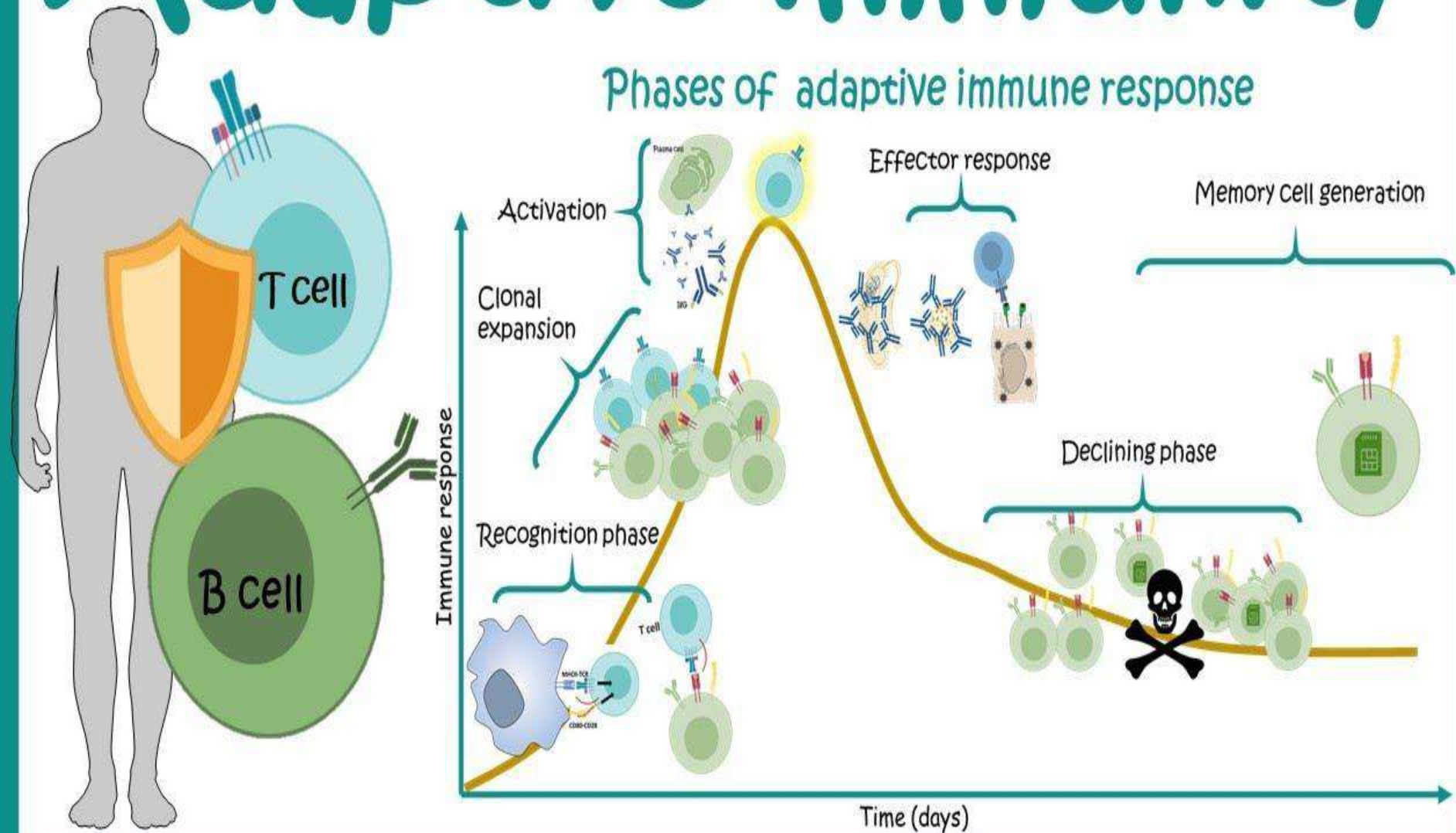


Vitamin D Innate Immune Response Defensins & Cathelicidins (Anti Spike Protein)

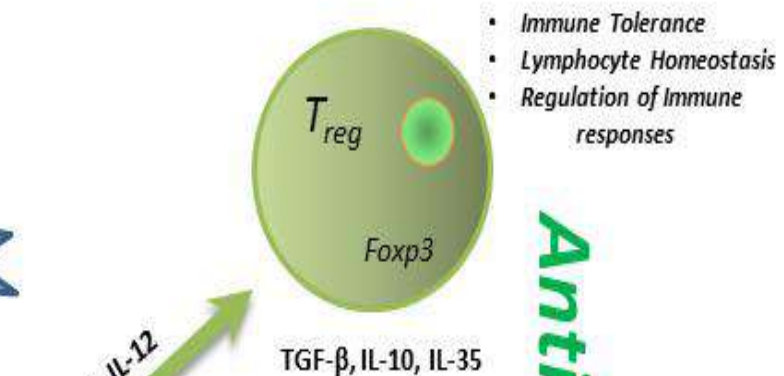
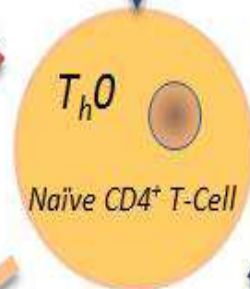
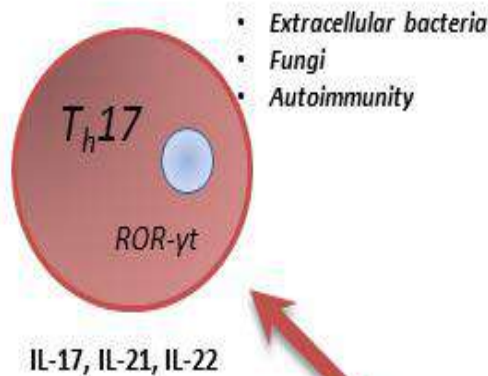


Adaptive immunity

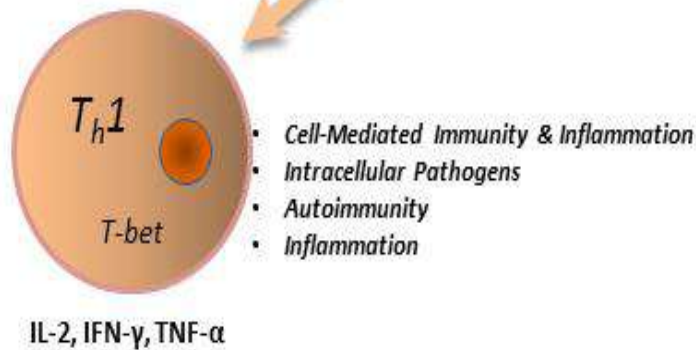
Phases of adaptive immune response



Pro-Inflammatory

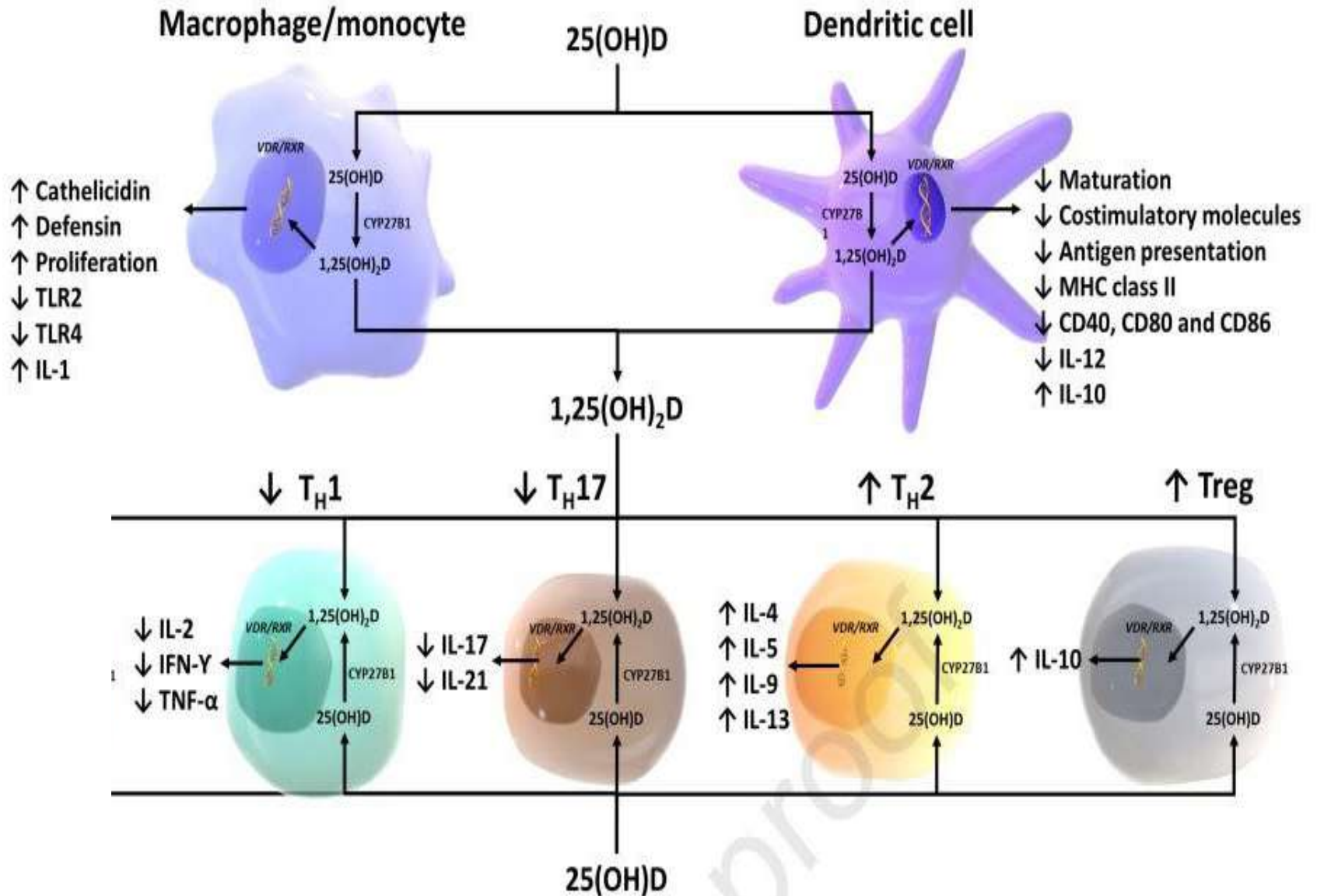


Anti-Inflammatory



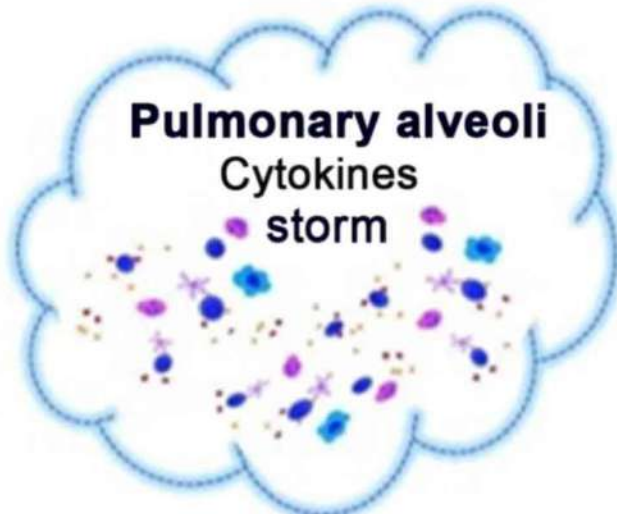
Vitamin D on Adaptive Immune Response

- Vitamin D - **powerful regulator** of the immune system modulates this process by -
 - **Promotes a timely shift from Th1 to Th2** cell immune profile (Cell-mediated to Antibody-mediated immunity)
 - It **suppresses the Th17 reaction** caused by over production of the 'immune messenger' cytokine called interleukin 17
 - It **facilitates differentiation of the T regulatory cells** that balance the immune response.

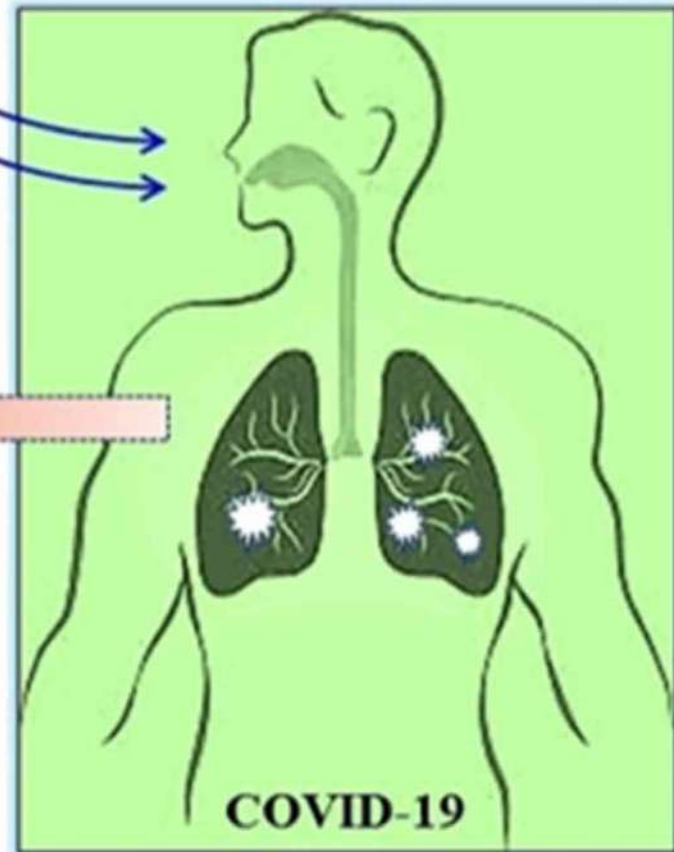
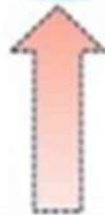




SARS-CoV-2



Pulmonary alveoli
Cytokines
storm



COVID-19

Vitamin D

- ↓ Viral replication
- ↑ Physical barrier
- ↑ Cellular natural immunity
- ↑ Adaptive immunity: ↓ Th1/Th17
CD4⁺ T cells, ↓ TNF- α , ↓ IFN- γ

ARDS & Multiple Organ Failure

Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome



Renin-Angiotensin System (RAS)



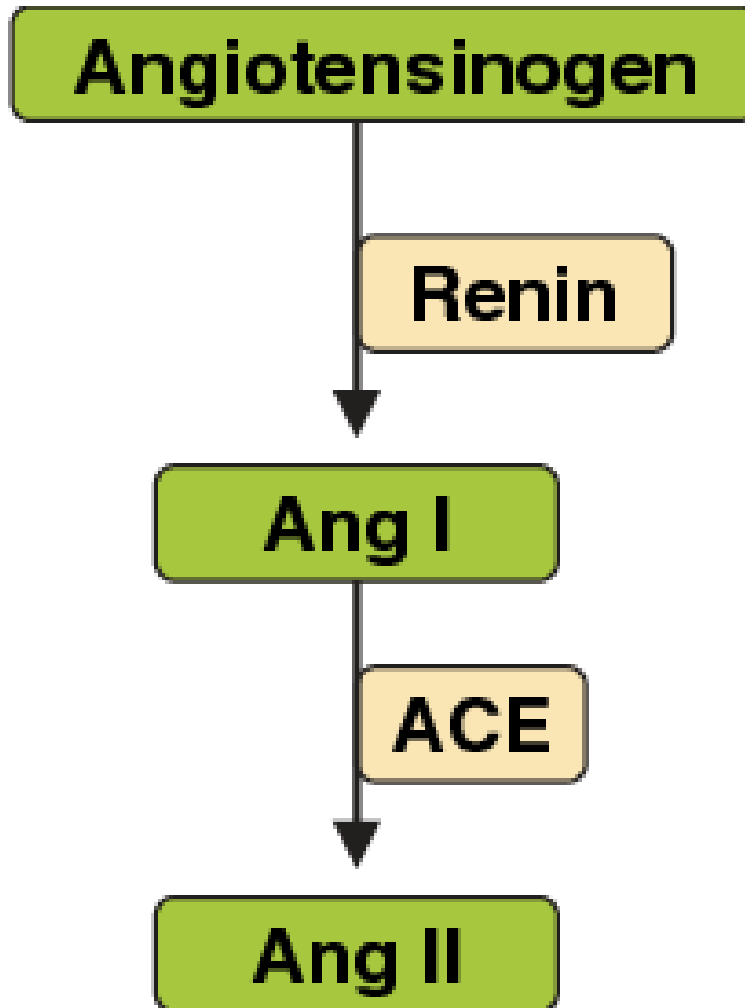
Pulmonary Pharmacology & Therapeutics

Volume 58, October 2019, 101833



Renin-angiotensin-system, a potential pharmacological candidate, in acute respiratory distress syndrome during mechanical ventilation

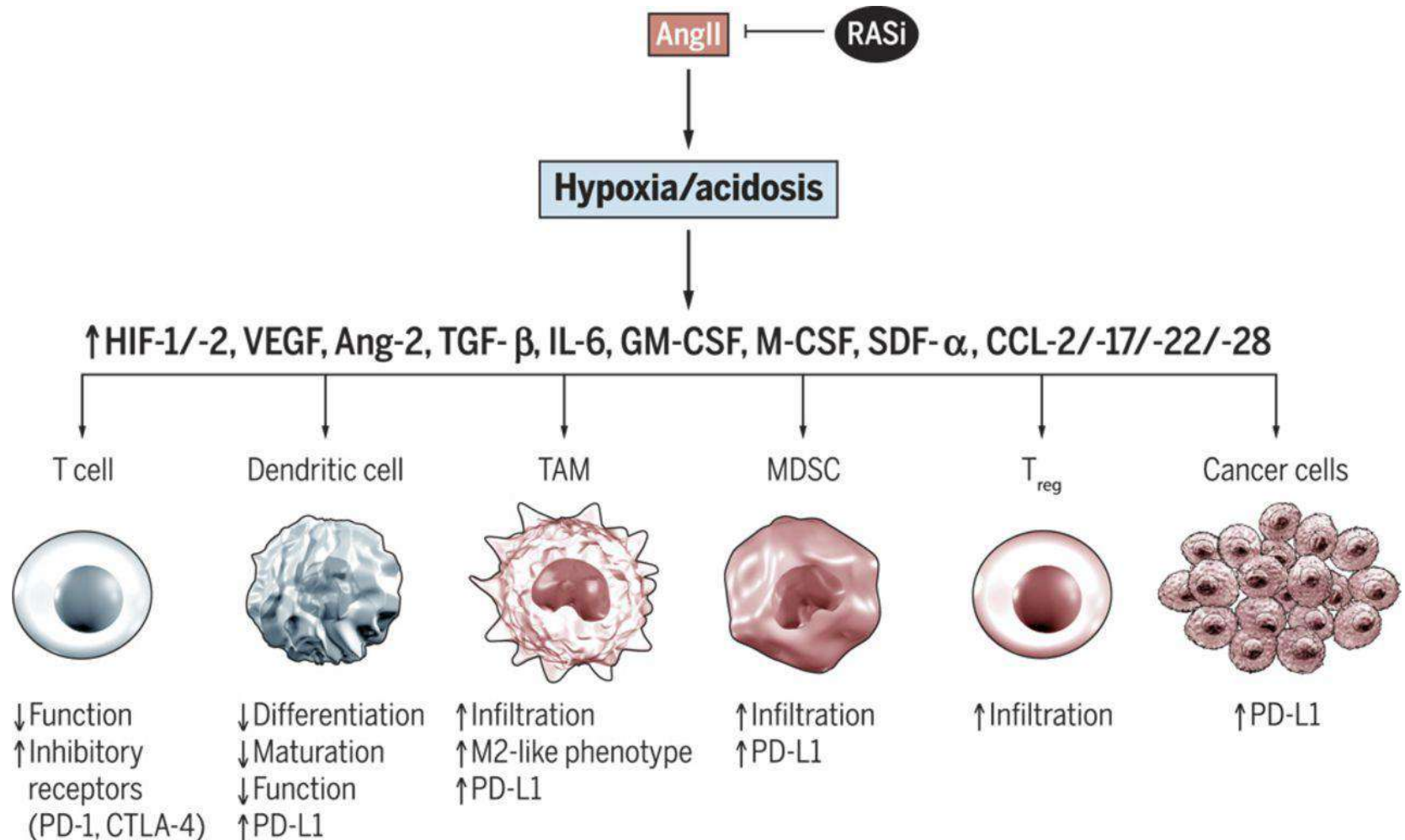
Renin-Angiotensin System (RAS)



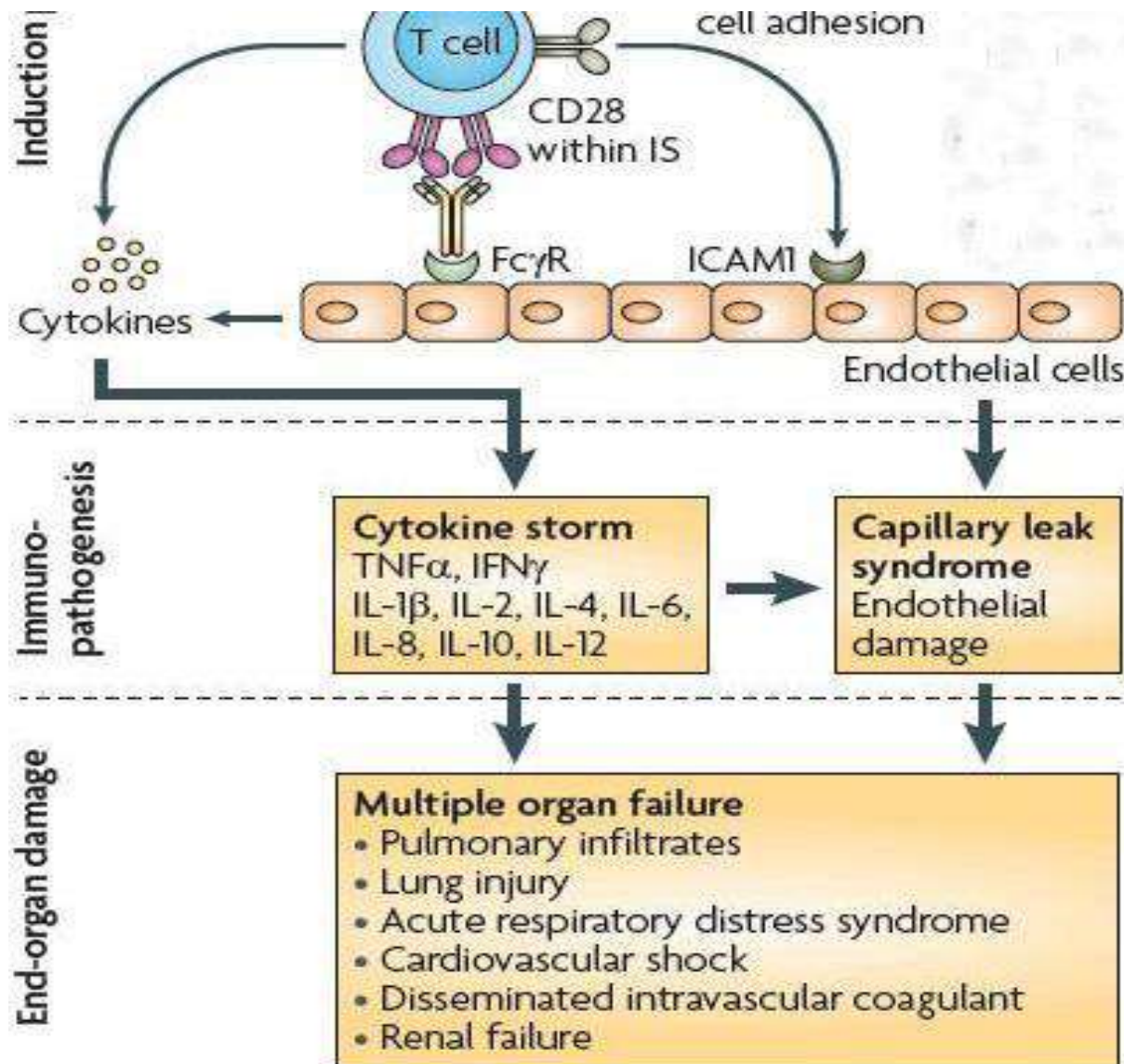
- RAS is a complex network that plays a major role in maintaining blood pressure, fluid and salt balance.
- Angiotensin II is the central biological effector of the RAS and the most potent constrictor of blood vessels.
- Angiotensin II is inflammatory in nature and its levels are linked to disease severity

Cytokine storm

Uncontrolled Angiotensin II



Cytokine storm & consequences



Molecular Medicine Reports



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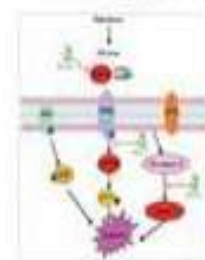
Vitamin D alleviates lipopolysaccharide-induced acute lung injury via regulation of the renin-angiotensin system

Open Access

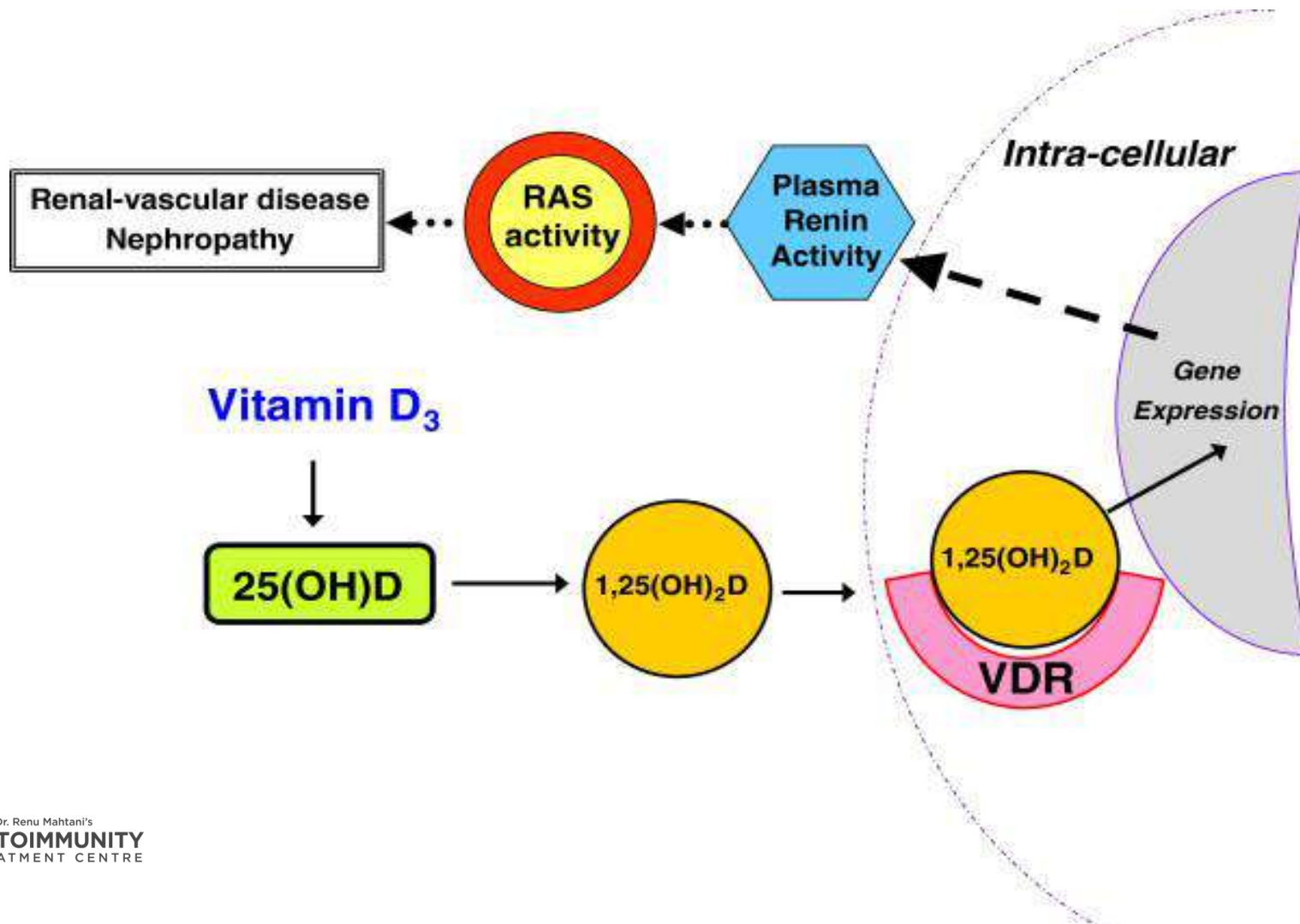
Authors: Jun Xu, Jialai Yang, Jian Chen, Qingli Luo, ✉ Qiu Zhang, ✉ Hong Zhang

[View Affiliations](#)

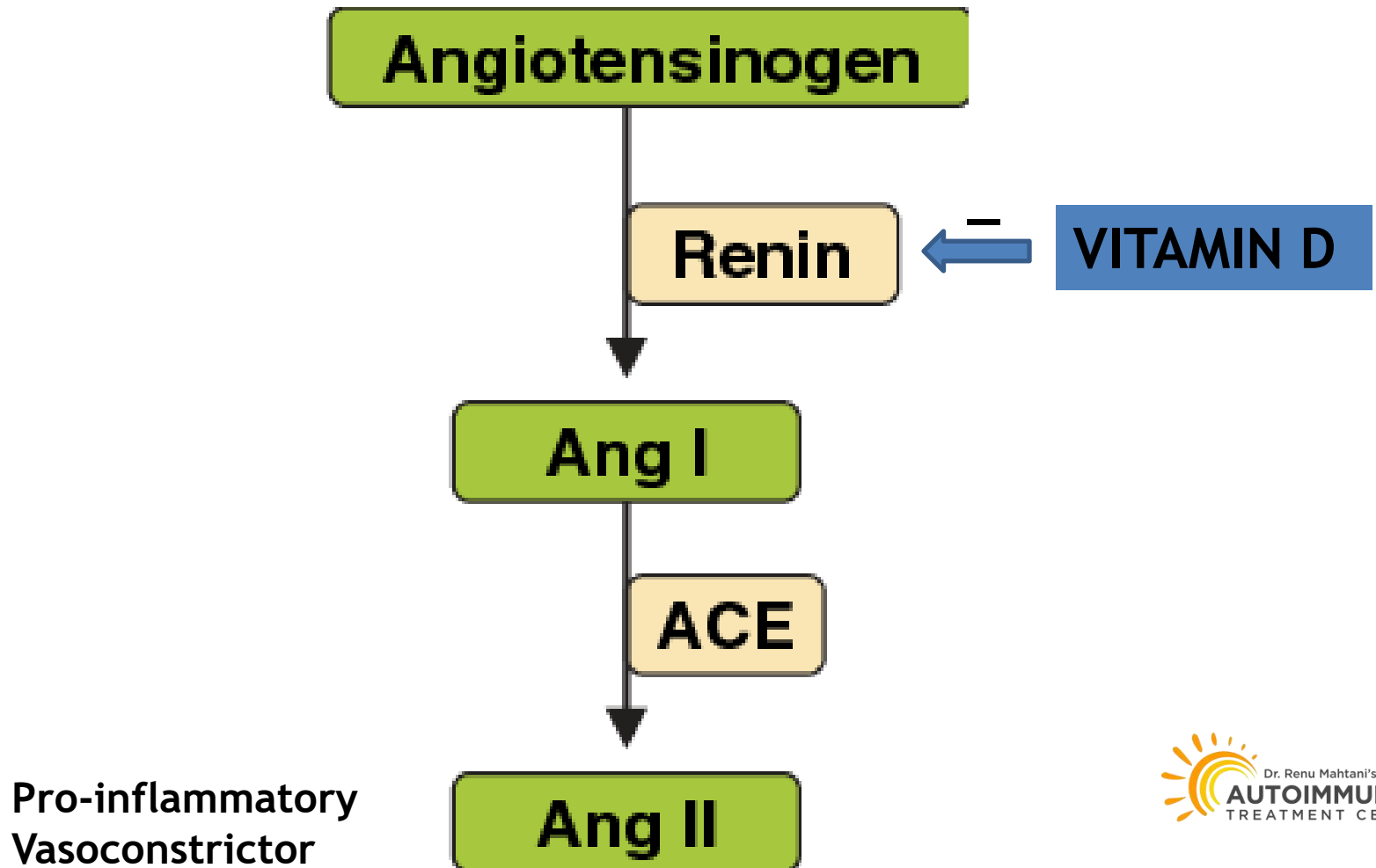
**Molecular
Medicine
Reports**



Vitamin D suppresses Renin production through it's nuclear receptors (VDR)



Vitamin D down regulates the RAS



Angiotensinogen

Renin

Angiotensin I (Ang I)

ACE

Angiotensin II (Ang II)

ACE2

Angiotensin 1-7 [A(1-7)]

Angiotensin AT1a receptor

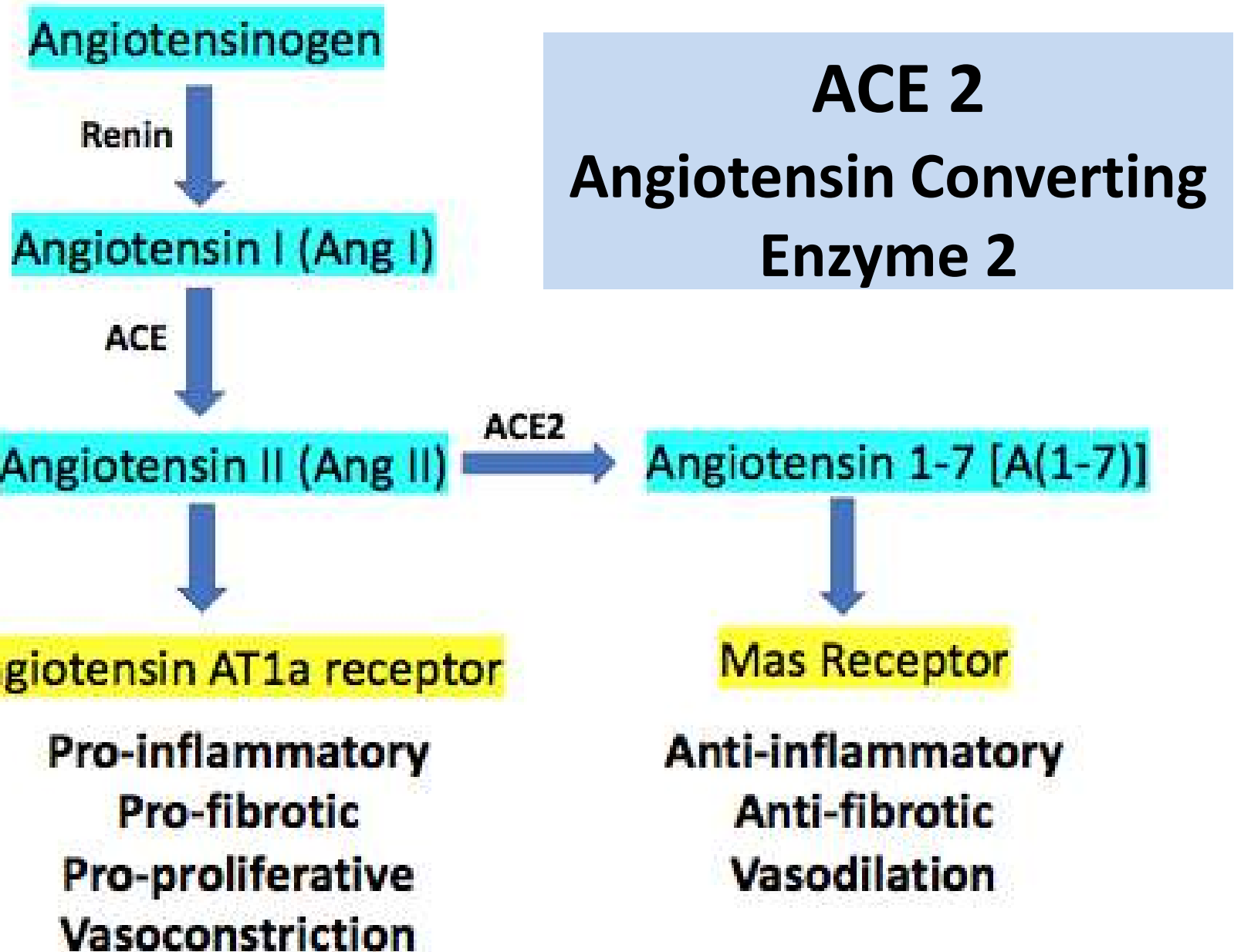
Pro-inflammatory
Pro-fibrotic
Pro-proliferative
Vasoconstriction

Mas Receptor

Anti-inflammatory
Anti-fibrotic
Vasodilation

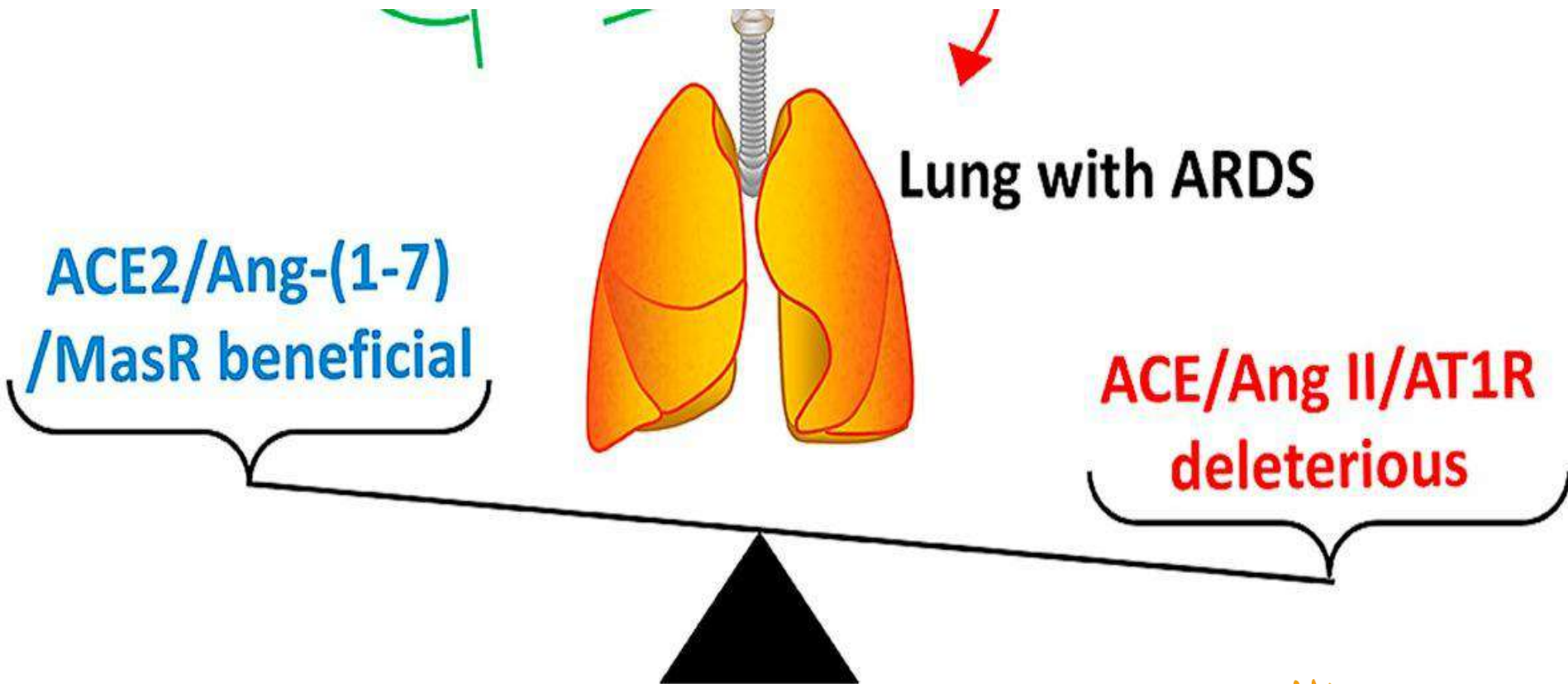
ACE 2

**Angiotensin Converting
Enzyme 2**



ACE2 nullifies Angiotensin II

Is protective towards ARDS and lung injury



Angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 protects from severe acute lung failure

Yumiko Imai^{1*}, Keiji Kuba^{1*}, Shuan Rao², Yi Huan², Feng Guo², Bin Guan², Peng Yang², Renu Sarao¹, Teiji Wada¹, Howard Leong-Poi³, Michael A. Crackower⁴, Akiyoshi Fukamizu⁵, Chi-Chung Hui⁶, Lutz Hein⁷, Stefan Uhlig⁸, Arthur S. Slutsky⁹, Chengyu Jiang² & Josef M. Penninger¹

Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), the most severe form of acute lung injury, is a devastating clinical syndrome with a high mortality rate (30–60%) (refs 1–3). Predisposing factors for ARDS are diverse^{1,3} and include sepsis, aspiration, pneumonias and infections with the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) coronavirus^{4,5}. At present, there are no effective drugs for improving the clinical outcome of ARDS^{1–3}. Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) and ACE2 are homologues with different key functions in the renin-angiotensin system^{6–8}. ACE cleaves angiotensin I to generate angiotensin II, whereas ACE2 inactivates angiotensin II and is a negative regulator of the system. ACE2 has also recently been identified as a potential SARS virus receptor and is expressed in lungs^{9,10}. Here we report that ACE2 and the angiotensin II type 2 receptor (AT₂) protect mice from severe acute lung injury induced by acid aspiration or sepsis. However, other components of the renin-angiotensin system, including ACE, angiotensin II and the angiotensin II type 1a receptor (AT_{1a}), promote disease pathogenesis, induce lung oedemas and impair lung function. We show

(Fig. 1b) and the development of pulmonary oedema (Fig. 1c). Acid aspiration resulted in increased alveolar wall thickness, oedema, bleeding, inflammatory cell infiltrates and formation of hyaline membranes (Fig. 1d). Notably, acid-treated *Ace2* knockout mice⁸ showed significantly greater lung elastance compared with control wild-type mice, but there were no differences in lung elastance between saline-treated *Ace2* knockout and wild-type mice (Fig. 1a). Moreover, loss of *Ace2* resulted in worsened oxygenation (Fig. 1b), massive lung oedema (Fig. 1c), increased inflammatory cell infiltration and hyaline membrane formations (Fig. 1d) in response to acid aspiration. It should be noted that ACE2 protein expression is typically downregulated in wild-type mice following acid challenge (Fig. 1e).

Sepsis is the most common cause of acute lung injury/ARDS^{1–3}. We therefore examined the effect of *Ace2* gene deficiency on sepsis-induced acute lung injury using caecal ligation and perforation (CLP)²⁰. CLP causes lethal peritonitis and sepsis, a microbial infection that is accompanied by acute lung failure²¹.



AMERICAN
SOCIETY FOR
MICROBIOLOGY

Journal of
Virology®

VIRUS-CELL INTERACTIONS

Coronavirus targets ACE2

Entry of Human Coronavirus NL63 into the Cell

Aleksandra Milewska,^{a,b} Paulina Nowak,^{a,b} Katarzyna Owczarek,^{a,b} Artur Szczepanski,^{a,b} Mirosław Zarebski,^c
Agnieszka Hoang,^c Krzysztof Berniak,^c Jacek Wojarski,^d Sławomir Krzysztof Pyrc^{a,b}

Angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 is a functional receptor for the SARS coronavirus

Wenhui Li¹, Michael J. Moore¹, Natalya Vasilieva², Jianhua Sui³,
Swhee Kee Wong¹, Michael A. Berne¹, Mohan Somasundaran⁵,
John L. Sullivan⁵, Katherine Luzuriaga⁵, Thomas C. Greenough⁵,
Hyeryun Choe² & Michael Farzan¹

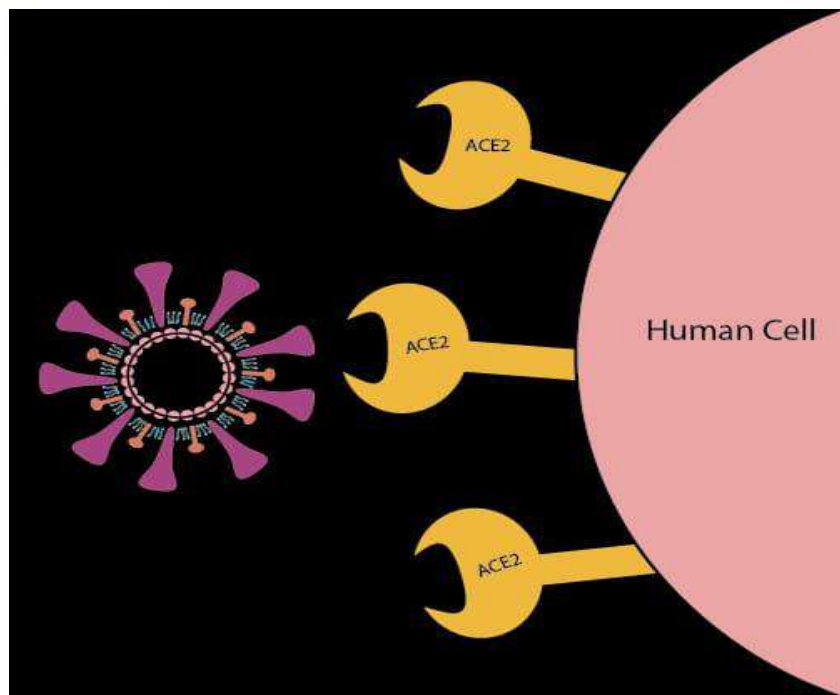
¹Partners AIDS Research Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Department of Medicine (Microbiology and Molecular Genetics), ²Perlmutter Laboratory, Pulmonary Division, Children's Hospital, Department of Pediatrics,

³Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Department of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts 02115, USA

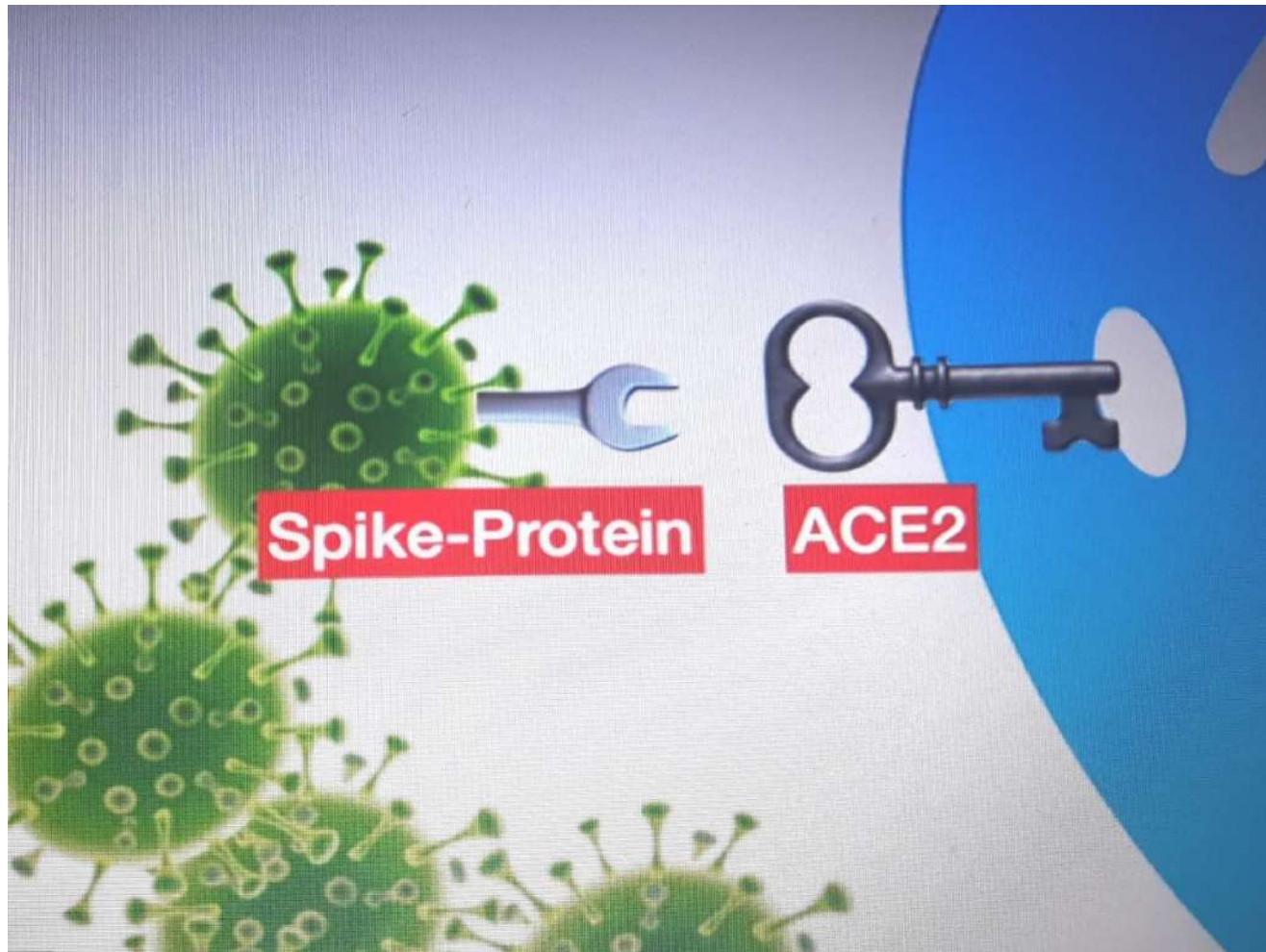
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⁵Program in Molecular Medicine, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts 01605, USA

Spike (S) proteins of coronaviruses, including the coronavirus that causes severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), associate with cellular receptors to mediate infection of their target cells^{1,2}. Here we identify a metallopeptidase, angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2)^{3,4}, isolated from SARS coronavirus (SARS-CoV)-permissive Vero E6 cells, that efficiently binds the S1 domain of the SARS-CoV S protein. We found that a soluble form of ACE2, but not of the related enzyme ACE1, blocked association of the S1 domain with Vero E6 cells. 293T cells transfected with ACE2, but not those transfected with human immunodeficiency virus-1 receptors, formed multinucleated syncytia with cells expressing S protein. Furthermore, SARS-CoV replicated efficiently on ACE2-transfected but not



Spike Protein inactivates ACE2



ACE2 & ARDS

- The corona virus through its S spike – protein uses the ACE2 receptor of the cell surface to enter the cell. This deactivates ACE2.
- ACE2 is the enzyme that inactivates the inflammatory AT2 (angiotensin 2).
- Virus-blocked ACE2 with a storm of Angiotensin 2 is the cause of pulmonary edema with shock lung.
- In order to avoid ARDS (acute respiratory distress syndrome) regulation of the angiotensin system is necessary.

[Lessons From SARS: A New Potential Therapy for Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) With Angiotensin Converting Enzyme 2 (ACE2)]

Effect of vitamin D on ACE2 and vitamin D receptor expression in rats with LPS-induced acute lung injury

DOI

Vernacular Title: 维生素D对脂多糖致急性肺损伤大鼠肺组织血管紧张素转化酶2和维生素D受体表达水平的影响

Author: Jialai YANG¹, Jun XU, Hong ZHANG
⊕ Author Information

Keywords: Vitamin D (Vit D); Calcitriol; Vitamin D receptor (VDR); Lipopolysaccharide (LPS); Acute lung injury; Angiotensin converting enzyme 2 (ACE2)

From: *Journal of Clinical Pharmacy and Therapeutics*, 2020, 45(1), 1-8

Country

Language

Abstract

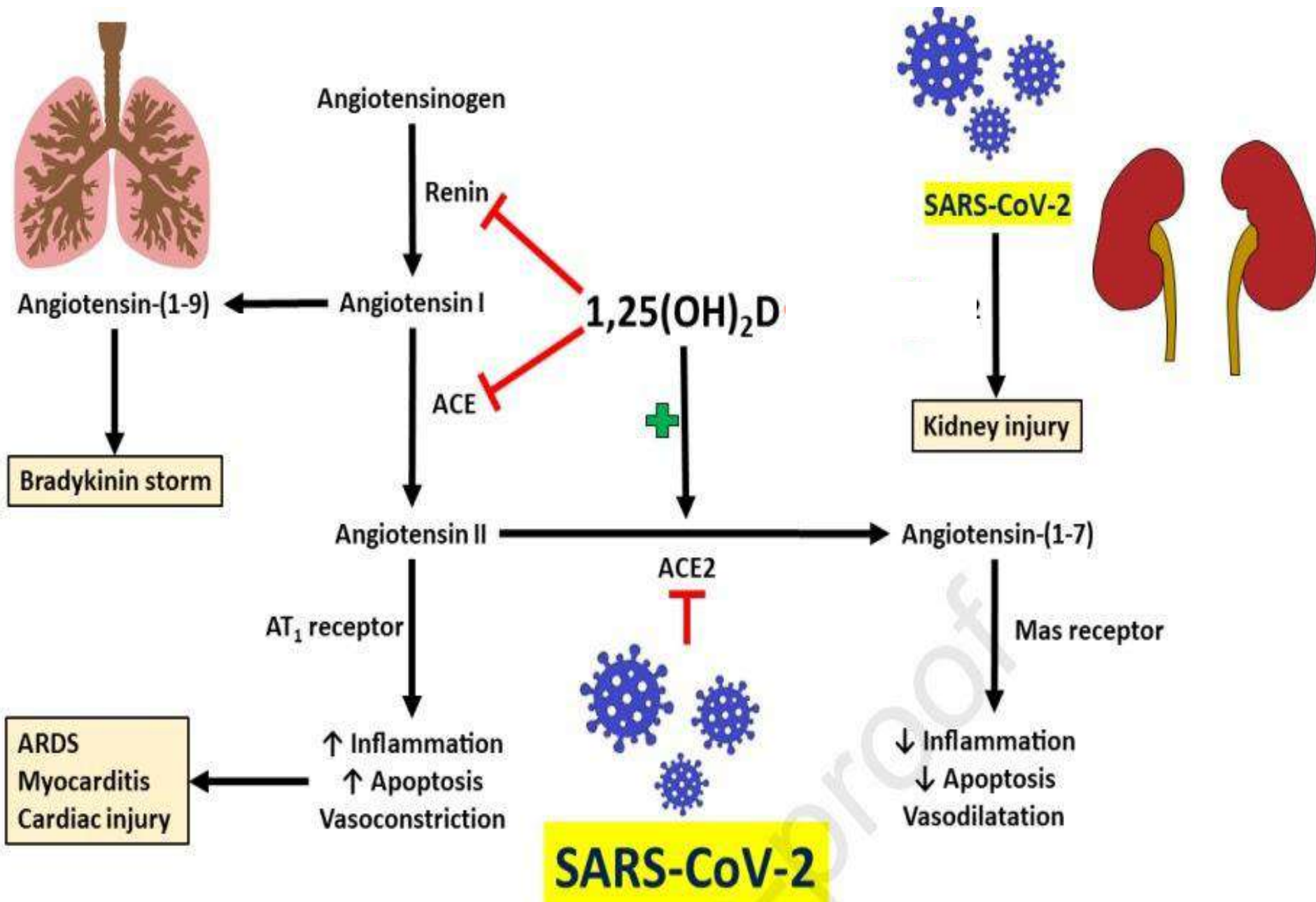
Calcitriol (Vitamin D) increases the expression of ACE2 suggesting that ACE2 plays a role in protection against the development of ALI (Acute Lung Injury)

shallow breathing, listlessness, the oral and nose hemorrhage) in LPS group were obvious, and the clinical manifestations and

Vitamin D

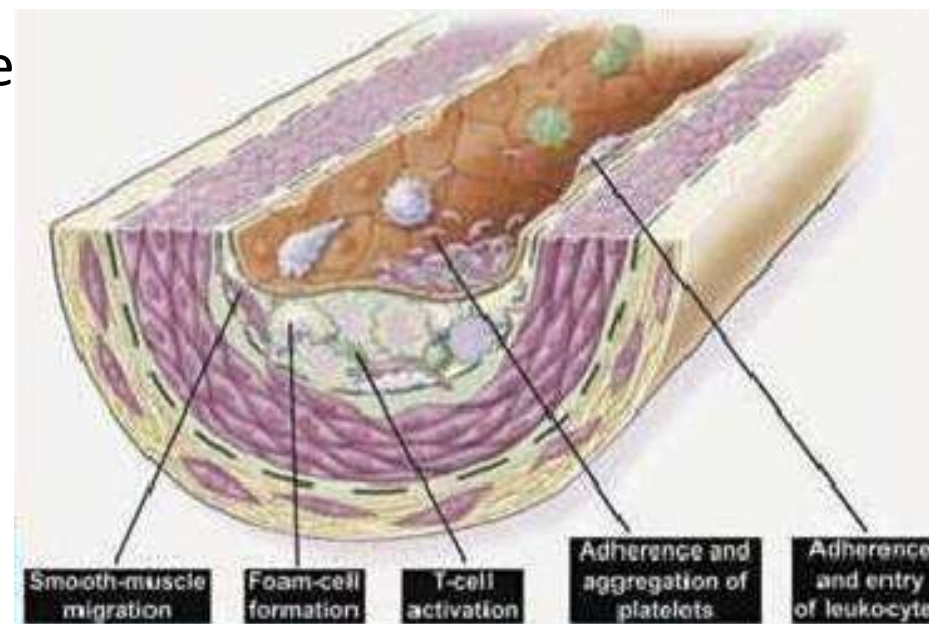
How can it protect

ENZYME	QUALITY & TARGET	CAN VITAMIN D HELP
Angiotensin II	Bad - reduce it	YES
ACE2	Good – Increase it	YES
Spike Protein	Bad – nullify it	YES



Vitamin D – Effects on Vascular Endothelium

- VDR present in the endothelium, vascular smooth muscles and cardiomyocytes
- Protects via -
 - Inhibition of macrophage cholesterol uptake & foam cell formation
 - Reduced vascular smooth muscle proliferation
 - Reduced expression of adhesion molecules
 - Reduce cytokine release from lymphocytes



Review

Emerging Role of Vitamin D and its Associated Molecules in Pathways Related to Pathogenesis of Thrombosis

Syed Mohammad, Aastha Mishra and Mohammad Zahid Ashraf *

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Dietary Vitamin D and Its Metabolites Non-Genomically Stabilize the Endothelium

Christopher C. Gibson^{1,2,3*}, Chadwick T. Davis^{1,3,4*}, Wei-quan Zhu¹, Jay A. Bowman-Kirigin¹, Ashley E. Walker⁵, Zhengfu Tai⁶, Kirk R. Thomas^{1,3}, Anthony J. Donato⁵, Lisa A. Lesniewski⁵, Dean Y. Li^{1,3,4,6,7,8,9*}

¹ Program in Molecular Medicine, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84112, United States of America,

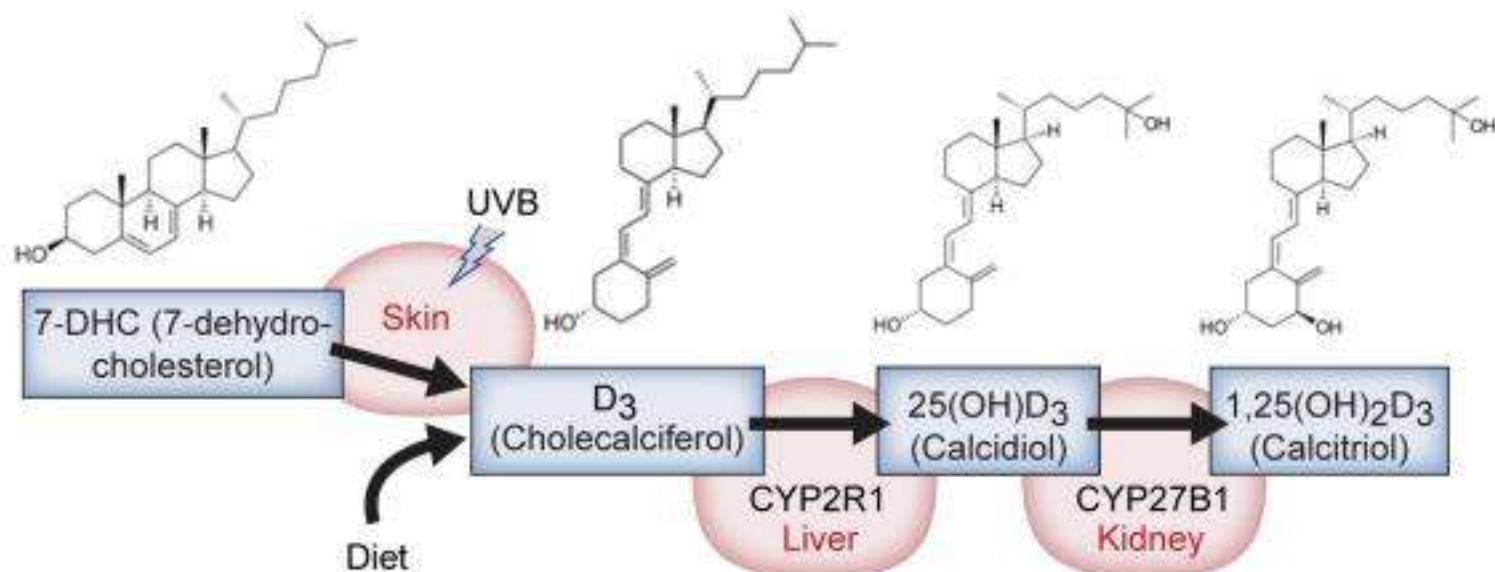
² Department of Bioengineering, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84112, United States of America,

³ Recursion Pharmaceuticals, LLC, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84108, United States of America, ⁴ Department of Human Genetics, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84112, United States of America, ⁵ Division of Geriatrics, Department of Medicine, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84112, United States of America, ⁶ The Key Laboratory for Human Disease Gene Study of Sichuan Province, Institute of Laboratory



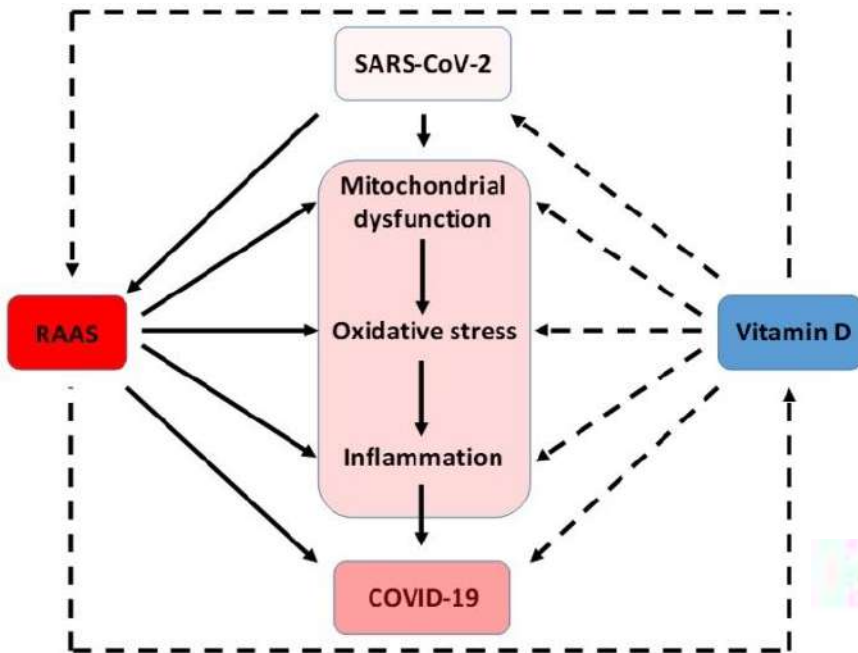
Endothelial stabilisation

Vit D3 > 25 OH D3 > 1,25 (OH)₂ D3



Normal circulating levels*	NA	1-90 nM	30-80 nM	50-100 pm
Enhancement of endothelial stability (minimum active dose)	NA	<100 pM	100 nM	1 nM
Enhancement of endothelial stability	Inactive	Active	Active	Active

Mitochondrial dysfunction & Oxidative Stress



Vitamin D Mechanisms Prevent Covid-19 Disease

- Immune Response
 - Innate Immunity
 - Adaptive Immunity
- Renin-Angiotensin System Regulation
 - Cytokine Storm
 - Bradykinin Storm
- Endothelial Vascular Stabilisation
- Lung Fibrosis & Inflammation Suppression
- Oxidative Stress & Mitochondrial Dysfunction

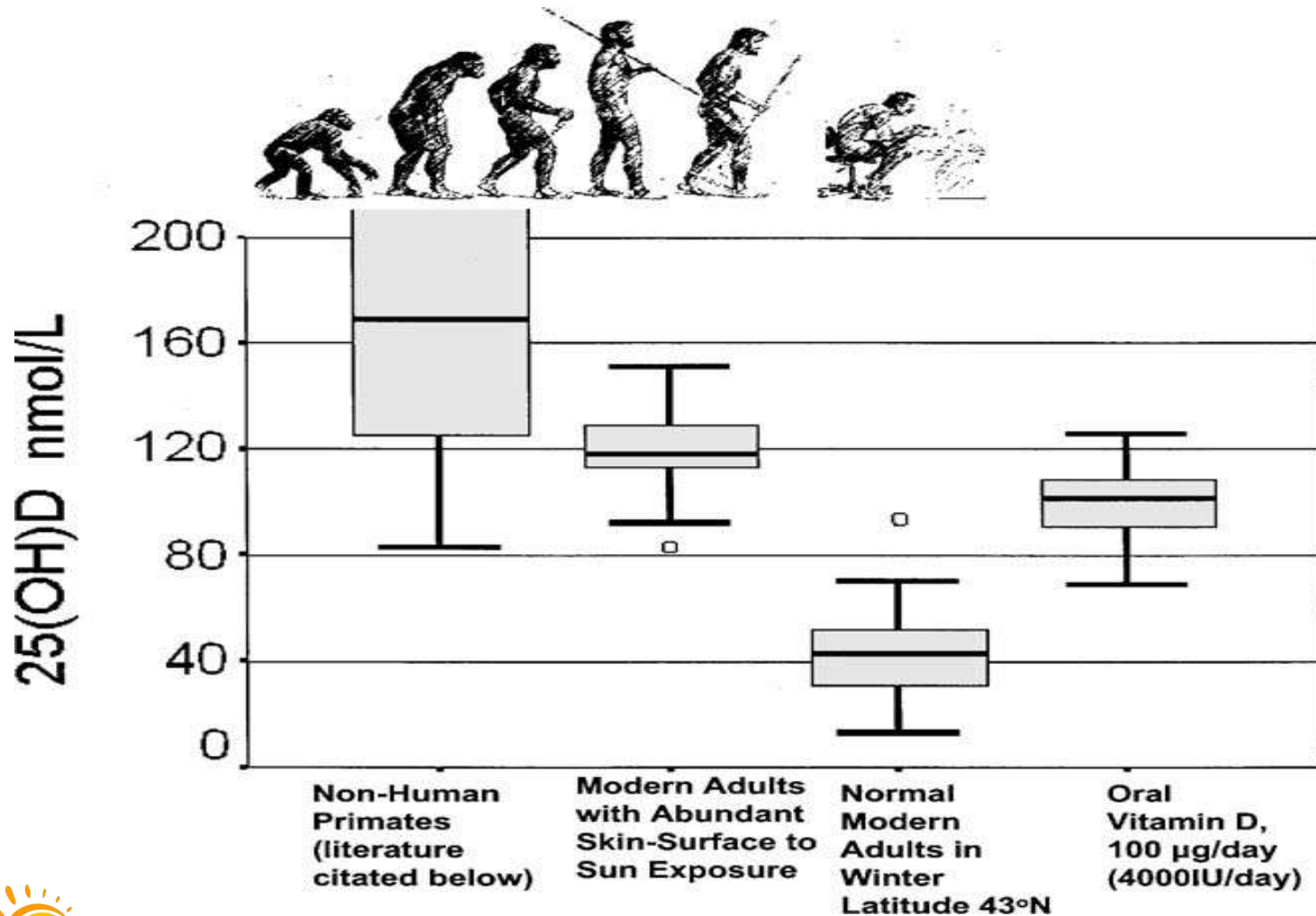
Vitamin D is not an optional supplement. It is a non negotiable cellular necessity. It is your life health support system.

Vitamin D



Are you getting enough?

The physiological range for circulating D3 in humans extends to beyond 80 ng/ml



Vitamin D levels (ng/ml)



Causes of Vitamin D Deficiency

- Lack of adequate healthy sun exposure – Lifestyle & Pollution
- Lack of vitamin D in diet (vegetarian food is devoid of Vitamin D)
- Inability to absorb adequately from intestines
- Inability to process vitamin D
 - Unhealthy liver & kidney
 - Widespread Magnesium deficiency
 - Endocrine disruptors
- Genetic polymorphisms in VDR (Vitamin D receptor)
- Low RDA's

Perspective

J Prev Med Public Health 2017;50:278-281 • <https://doi.org/10.3961/jpmph.16.111>

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The Big Vitamin D Mistake

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²Pediatric-Adolescent Endocrinology and Diabetes, Athens Medical Center, Athens, Greece

Since 2006, type 1 diabetes in Finland has plateaued and then declined with cholecalciferol. The role of vitamin D in innate and adaptive immunity and the recommended dietary allowance (RDA) for vitamin D was recently determined. In a recent study, it was found that 8895 IU/d was needed for 97.5% of individuals. In another study, 6201 IU/d was needed to achieve 75 nmol/L and 9122 IU/d was needed to achieve 100 nmol/L. A meta-analysis of studies published between 1966 and 2013 showed that higher vitamin D levels were associated with higher all-cause mortality, demolishing the previous notion that low vitamin D levels were associated with higher all-cause mortality. Since all-disease mortality is reduced to 1.0 with seasonal variations in vitamin D levels.

**20 ng/ml blood levels are
sub-optimal**

**40 ng/ml is the minimal
desired level**

Vitamin D₃ supplementation in patients with frequent respiratory tract infections: a randomised and double-blind intervention study

Peter Bergman,^{1,2,3} Anna-Carin Norlin,^{2,4} Susanne Hansen,²
Rokeya Sultana Rekha,⁵ Birgitta Agerberth,⁵ Linda Björkhem-Bergman,⁶
Lena Ekström,⁶ Jonatan D Lindh,⁶ Jan Andersson³

To cite: Bergman P, Norlin A-C, Hansen S, *et al*. Vitamin D₃ supplementation in patients with frequent respiratory tract infections: a randomised and double-blind intervention study. *BMJ Open* 2012;2:e001663. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2012-001663

ABSTRACT

Background: Low serum levels of vitamin D₃ are associated with an increased risk of respiratory tract infections (RTIs). Clinical trials evaluating the effect of vitamin D₃ against various infections have been inconclusive. The data are so far not conclusive. The aim of this additional randomised controlled trial was to evaluate the effect of vitamin D₃ on infections.

Objective: To investigate if supplementation with vitamin D₃ could reduce infectious morbidity and antibiotic consumption among patients with frequent respiratory tract infections.

Maintenance of Vit D serum concentration of 40 ng/ml or higher reduces acute viral respiratory tract infections

Editorial – Vitamin D status: a key modulator of innate immunity and natural defense from acute viral respiratory infections

A. FABBRI¹, M. INFANTE^{1,2}, AND C. RICORDI²

¹Endocrine Unit, CTO Hospital – ASL Roma 2, Department of Systems Medicine, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, Rome, Italy



²Diabetes Research Institute (DRI), University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, FL, USA

Key Words:

Vitamin D, Vitamin D deficiency, Innate immunity, Viral respiratory infections, Covid-19.

‘Maintenance of circulating 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels of 40-60 ng/mL would be optimal.....

What is the healthy vitamin D level for 2021

	Recommendations by Vitamin D Council	Recommendations by The Endocrine Society	Recommendations by Testing Laboratories
Deficient	0-30 ng/ml	0-20 ng/ml	0-31 ng/ml
Insufficient	31-39 ng/ml	21- 29 ng/ml	
Sufficient	40-80 ng/ml	30- 100 ng/ml	32-100 ng/ml
Toxic	>150 ng/ml	 Aim for this!	
			

Like a volcano ... less Vitamin D = more Corona

Institut VitaminDelta
www.vitaminDservice.de

CORONA-
POSITIVE
TESTS

13 %

11 %

9 %

7 %

5 %

n= 190 000

Korrelation = 0.96

Kurve: ★
Kaufman HW,
Holick MF et al.
SARS-CoV-2
positivity rates
associated with
circulating 25-
hydroxyvitamin
D levels.
2020 PLOS ONE
15(9): e0239252.
[https://doi.org/
10.1371/
journal.pone.02
39252](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0239252)

Vitamin D [ng/ml]

20

30

40

50

60

... no doubt about the direction of escape:

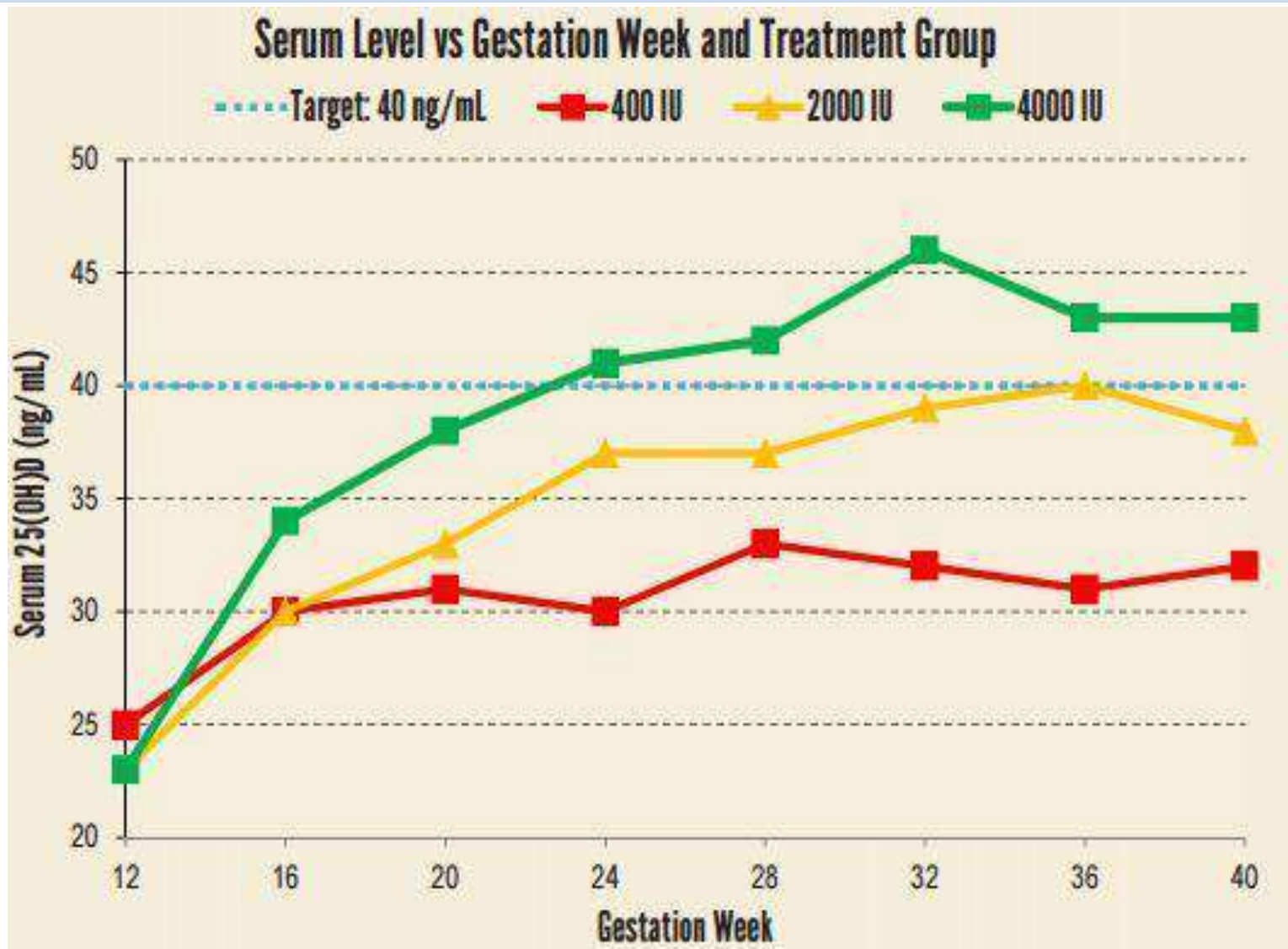


Reports seen commonly in 2021....

REPORT Tel No: 917387488800 PID NO: 2029673 Age: 36.03 Years Sex: FEMALE		25-05-20 25-05-20 25-05-20
Test Description TEST NAME 25 - OH Vitamin D, serum by CMIA	Observed Value <div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> < 3.10 </div>	Biological Reference Interval Severe deficiency : < 10 ng/mL Mild to moderate deficiency : 10 to 19 ng/mL Optimum levels : 20 to 50 ng/mL Increased risk of hypercalciuria : 51 to 80 ng/mL <div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Toxicity possible : > 80 ng/mL </div>
Tel No: 917387488800 PID NO: 2029673 Age: 37.09 Years Sex: FEMALE	Sample Collected At: Disha Diagnostic Centre Flat No-1, Disha Apartment, Sanghvinagar, Near State Bank Of India, Aundh Pune- Zone CA	22-11-20 22-11-20 22-11-20

Test Description TEST NAME 25 - OH Vitamin D, serum by CMIA	Observed Value <div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> 8.90 </div>	Biological Reference Interval Severe deficiency : < 10 ng/mL Mild to moderate deficiency : 10 to 19 ng/mL Optimum levels : 20 to 50 ng/mL Increased risk of hypercalciuria : 51 to 80 ng/mL Toxicity possible : > 80 ng/mL These reference ranges represent clinical decision values, based on the 2011 Institute of Medicine report
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Without loading dose it takes 5 months (20 weeks) to get adequate vitamin D levels



Perspective

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The Big Vitamin D Mistake

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¹Third Department of Pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Endocrinology

²Pediatric-Adolescent Endocrinology and Diabetes, Athens Medical School

Since 2006, type 1 diabetes in Finland has plateaued and the role of vitamin D in innate and adaptive immunity. The recommended dietary allowance (RDA) for vitamin D was recently revised. In a recent study, it was found that 8895 IU/d was needed for 97.5% of the population. In another study, 6201 IU/d was needed to achieve 75 nmol/L and 9122 IU/d was needed to achieve 100 nmol/L. A meta-analysis of studies published between 1966 and 2013 showed that higher vitamin D levels were associated with lower all-cause mortality, demolishing the previous notion that higher levels were associated with higher mortality.

D levels. Since all-disease mortality is reduced to 1.0 with serum vitamin D levels ≥ 100 nmol/L, we call public health authorities to

**40 ng/ml is the minimal
desired level**

**9000 IU/day intake is
needed to reach
40 ng/ml**



Vitamin D intake observed to produce noted 25(OH)D serum levels in 90% of adults (age 18 years and older), weighing 150 lbs. (N=7324)

RECOMMENDED RANGE: 40-60 ng/ml

WHAT TO DO

- 1 Test
- 2 Establish recommended intake level
- 3 Test again in 3-6 months

(For supplements, vitamin D3, cholecalciferol may be used.)

Individuals should consult with a health care practitioner to develop a custom plan.

Change in Serum Level Based on Intake (IU/day) for 90% of Adults* (N=7324)

Expected Level (ng/ml)		20	30	40	50	60
Current Level (ng/ml)	10	2000	4000	6000	10,000	10,000
	15	1000	3000	6000	9000	10,000
	20		2000	5000	8000	10,000
	25		1000	4000	7000	10,000
	30			3000	6000	10,000
	35			1000	5000	9000
	40				3000	8000
	45				2000	6000
	50					4000

* values rounded to the nearest 1000 IU; highest recommended intake is 10,000 IU/day

Example: With a starting serum level of 20 ng/ml, an additional intake of approximately 5000 IU/day would be sufficient for 90% of adults (age 18 years and older, weighing 150 lbs) to achieve a serum level of at least 40 ng/ml.



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Nutrition

journal homepage: www.nutritionjrn.com



Review

A 21st century evaluation of the safety of oral vitamin D

Michael J. Glade Ph.D. *

The Nutrition Doctor, Skokie, Illinois, USA

Outdoor workers can make 10000 to 25000 IU vitamin D daily

Long-term intakes of up to 10 000 IU/day of vitamin D maximize physiologic benefits and are safe.

The NOAEL – No Observed Adverse Effect Level for Vitamin D

- 10000 IU/day for adults
- 4000 IU/day for young adolescents (11 – 17 yrs)
- 2000 IU/day for children (1-10 yrs)



EFSA Journal 2012;10(7):2813

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

Scientific Opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of vitamin D¹

EFSA Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies (NDA)^{2,3}

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy

ABSTRACT

Following a request from the European Commission, the Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies was asked to re-evaluate the safety in use of vitamin D and to provide, if necessary, revised Tolerable Upper Intake Levels (ULs) of vitamin D for all relevant population groups. The ULs for adults including pregnant and lactating women, children and adolescents were revised. For adults, hypercalcaemia was selected as the indicator of toxicity. In two studies in men, intakes between 234 and 275 µg/day were not associated with hypercalcaemia, and a no observed adverse effect level (NOAEL) of 250 µg/day was established. Taking into account uncertainties associated with these studies, the UL for adults including pregnant and lactating women was set at 100 µg/day. Despite a continuing paucity of data for high vitamin D intakes in children and adolescents, the UL was adapted to 100 µg/day for ages 11-17 years, considering that owing to phases of rapid bone formation and growth this age group is unlikely to have a lower tolerance for vitamin D compared to adults. The same applies also to children aged 1-10 years, but taking into account their smaller body size, a UL of 50 µg/day is proposed. For infants, the UL of 25 µg/day based on previously available data relating high vitamin D intakes to impaired

No fear of toxicity with vitamin D supplementation @ 10000 IU/day (adults)

- Level - 40 – 60 ng/ml blood levels
- Dose – 10000 IU daily or 60000 IU once a week for 3 months followed by maintenance of half the dose

Vitamin D for influenza

Gerry Schwalfenberg, MD CCFP FCFP

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This article has been cited by other articles in PMC.



Vitamin D for influenza

I thank Dr Korownyk and colleagues for their interesting review on the neuraminidase inhibitors.¹ Having spent some time looking at the reviews on these drugs myself, I agree that they are not very useful and the risk

A colleague of mine and I have introduced vitamin D at doses that have achieved greater than 100 nmol/L in most of our patients for the past number of years, and we now see very few patients in our clinics with the flu or influenzalike illness. In those patients who do have influenza, we have treated them with the *vitamin D hammer*, as coined by my colleague. This is a 1-time 50000 IU dose of vitamin D3 or 10000 IU 3 times daily for 2 to 3 days. The results are dramatic, with complete resolution of symptoms in 48 to 72 hours. One-time doses of vitamin D at this level have been used safely and have never been shown to be toxic.⁸ We urgently need a study of this intervention. The cost of vitamin D is about a penny for 1000 IU, so this treatment costs less than a dollar.

—Gerry Schwalfenberg MD CCFP FCFP
Edmonton, Alta

Competing interests

**Treated influenza with
50000 IU vitamin D
daily for 2 to 3 days**


Immediate Protection

Target – 40-60 ng/ml blood levels

- Not taking any Vit D for more than 6 months
 - Blood levels - 10 - 20 ng/ml
-
- Vitamin D hammer - 50-60k IU daily for 3 days. After 1 week, 60k IU weekly or 10k IU daily for 3 months
 - Blood test ideally to decide maintenance dose (usually 5k IU)
-
- Taking any Vit D 1000 - 5000 IU per day
 - Blood levels - 25 - 35 ng /ml or less
-
- Replace with 50-60K IU once a week or 10k IU daily for 3 months and then the maintenance dose (5k IU)

Article

Vitamin D Deficiency and Outcome of COVID-19 Patients

Aleksandar Radujkovic ¹, Theresa Hippchen ², Shilpa Tiwari-Heckler ², Saida Dreher ², Monica Boxberger ² and Uta Merle ^{2,*} 

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Journal of Endocrinological Investigation
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40618-020-01370-x>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

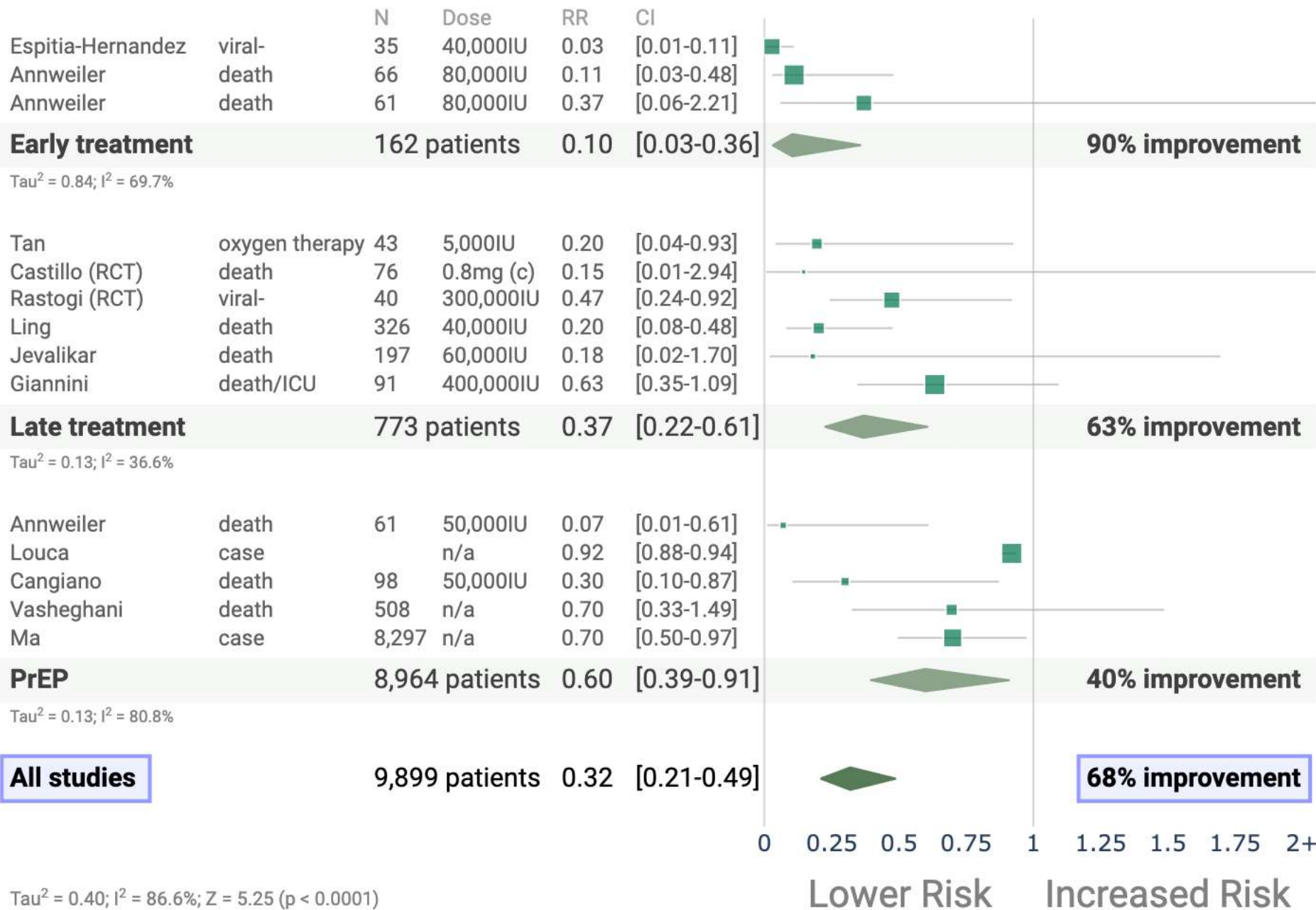


Vitamin D deficiency as a predictor of poor prognosis in patients with acute respiratory failure due to COVID-19

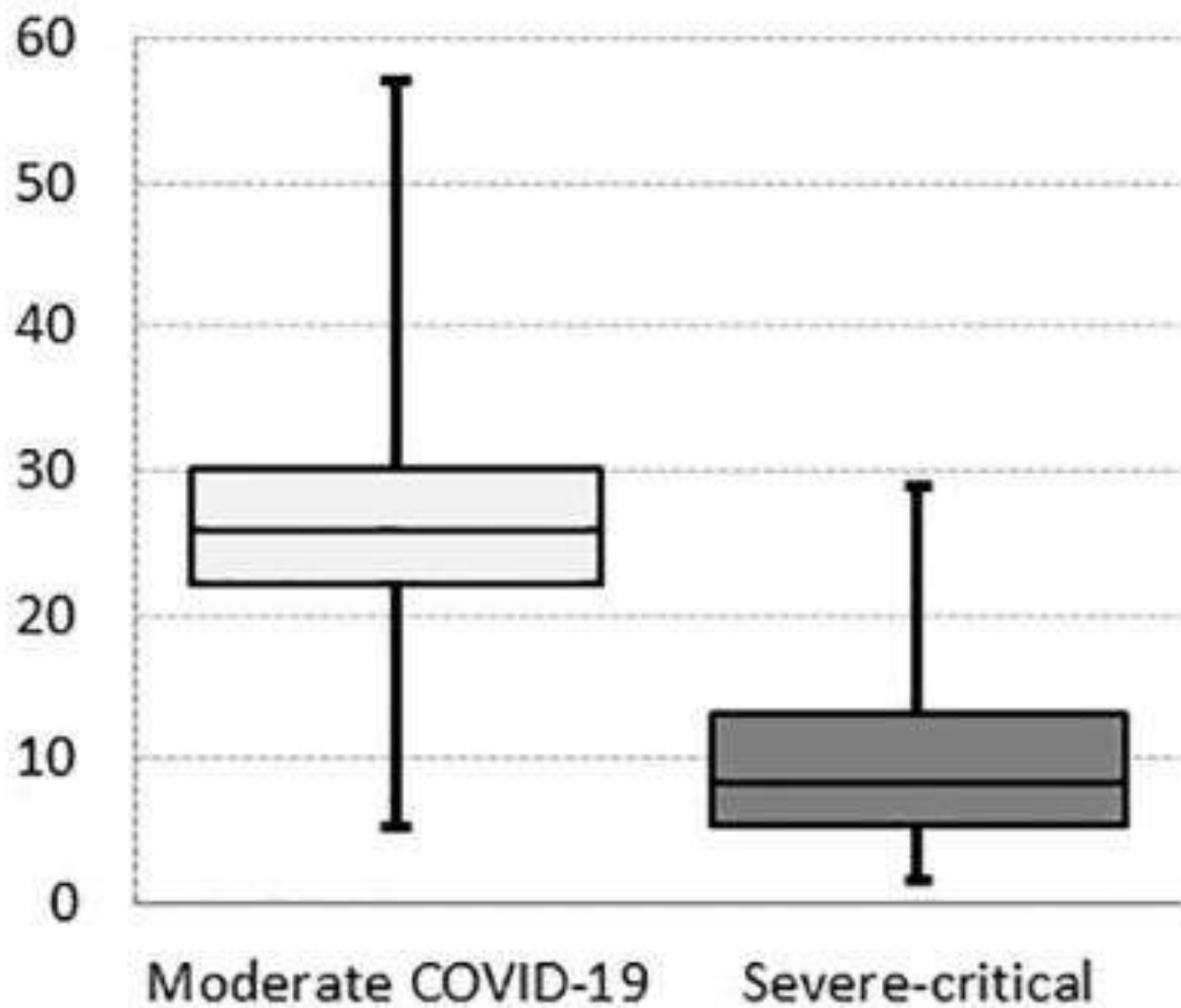
G. E. Carpagnano ¹ · V. Di Lecce ¹ · V. N. Quaranta ² · A. Zito ³ · E. Buonamico ¹  · E. Capozza ¹ · A. Palumbo ¹ · G. Di Gioia ¹ · V. N. Valerio ¹ · O. Resta ¹

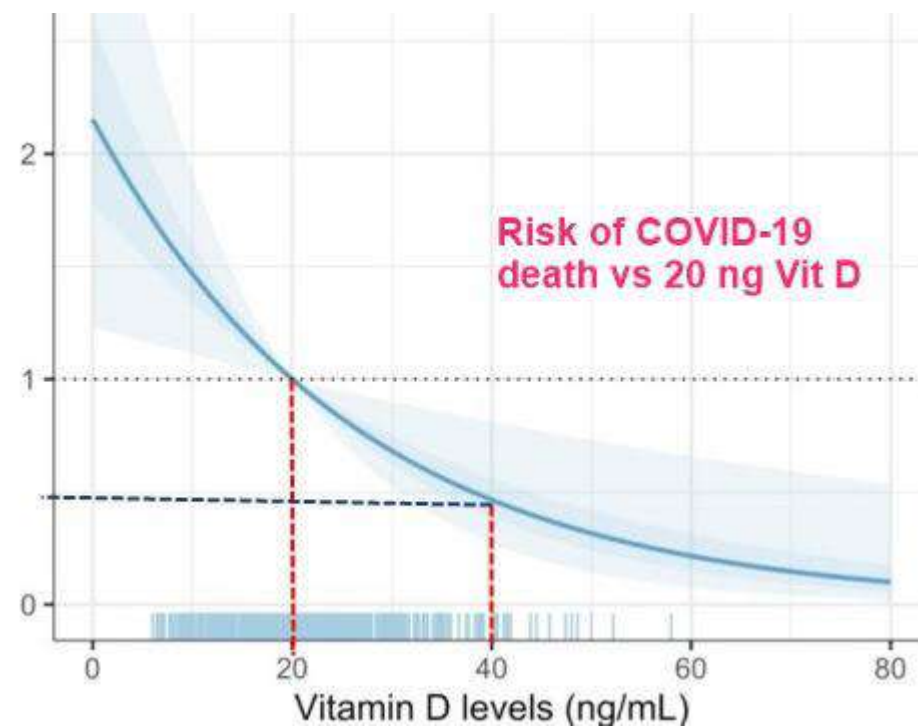
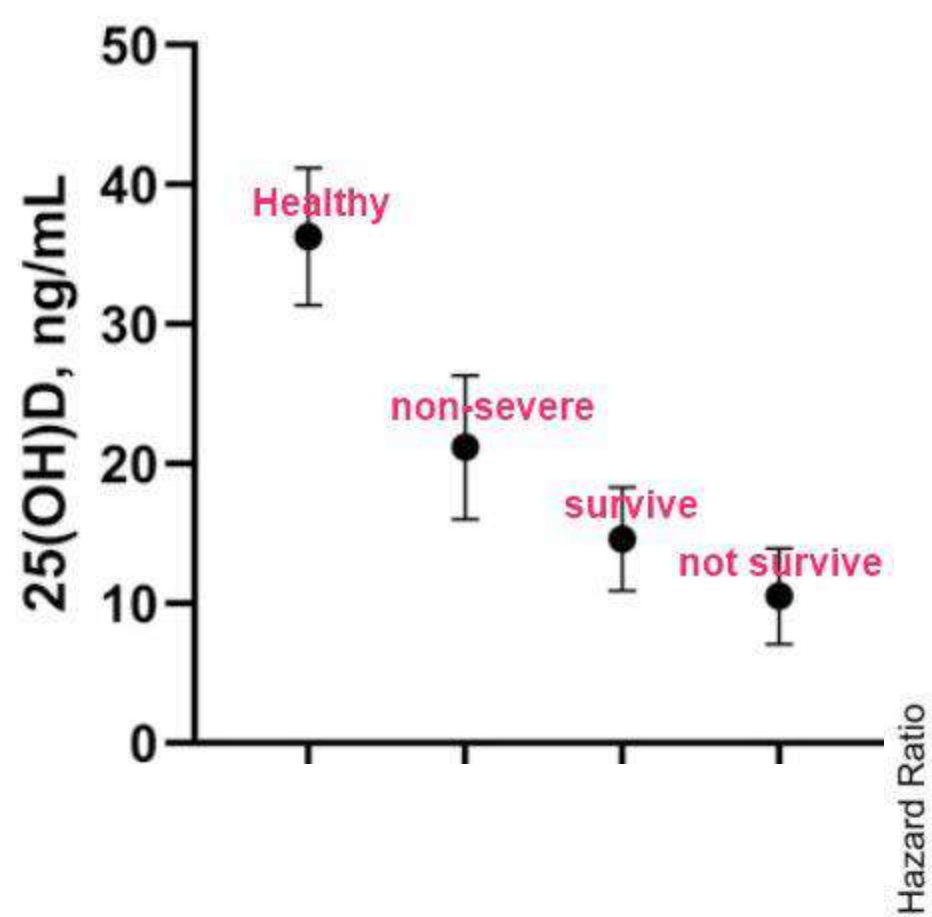
Vitamin D COVID-19 treatment studies with exclusions

vdmeta.com 2/7/21

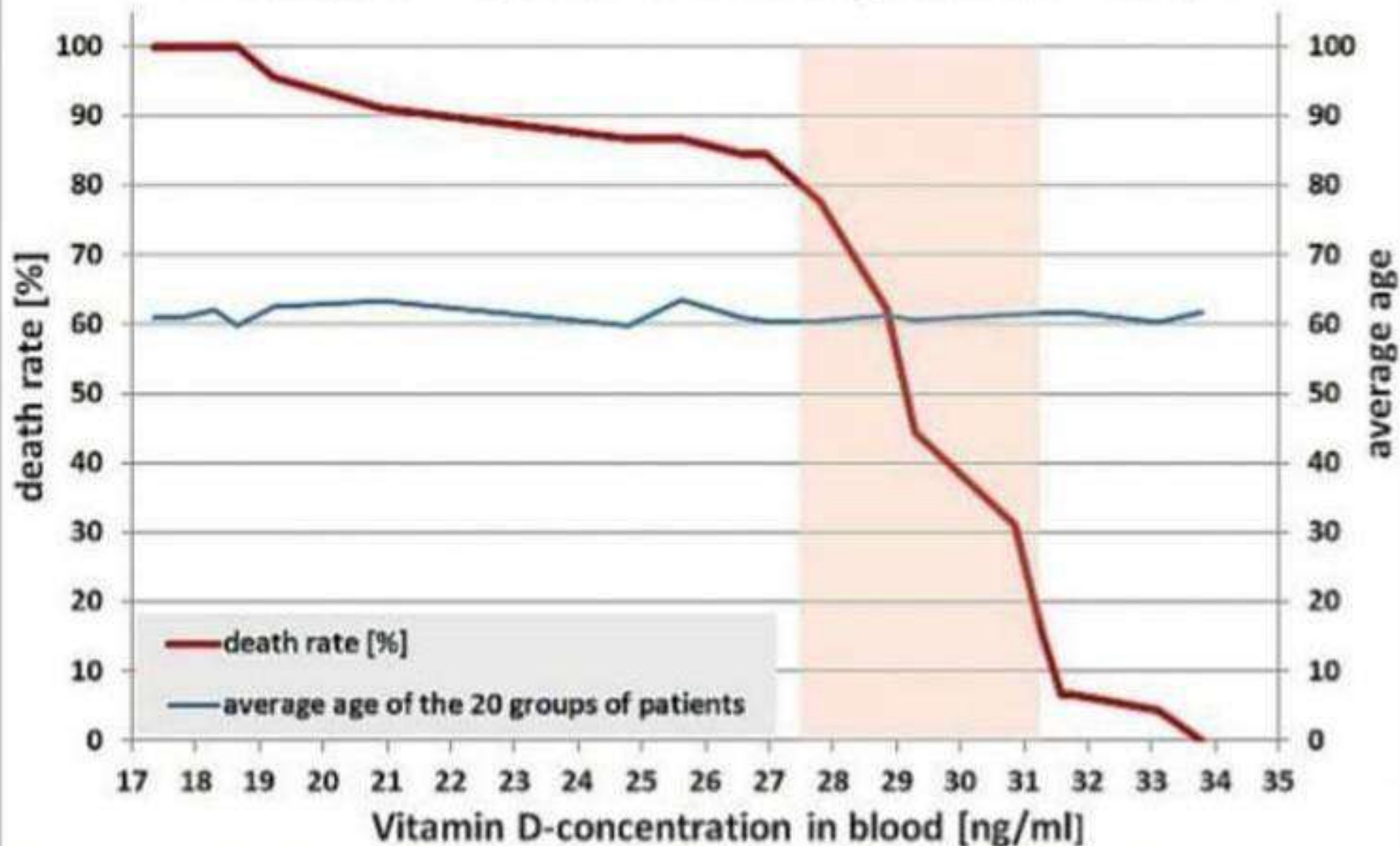


25(OH) Vitamin D level (ng/mL)





Correlation Covid-19 death rate / Vitamin D-level



Intensive Care Unit Admission and Death Among Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients

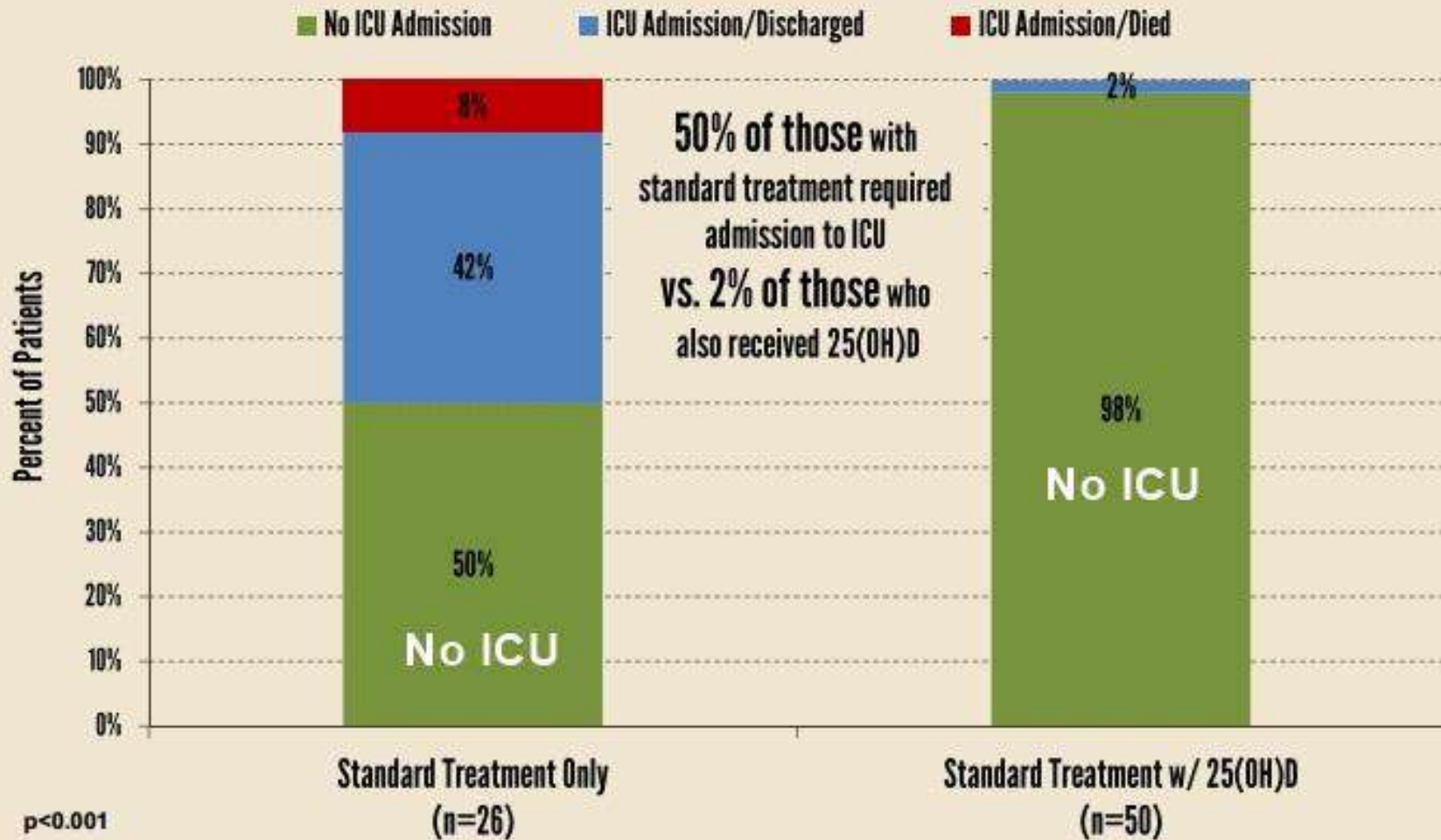


Chart Date 9/2/2020

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Castillo et al., *Journal of Steroid Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*, 2020.



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COVID-19 Trials using Vitamin D			VitaminDWiki			https://is.gd/COVIDMedia			Jan 5, 2021		
	Country - City	IU	Dose	Place	# people	Placebo	Treat	Age	Completion	Comments, results highlighted	Trial ID
38	India - Mumbai	180,000	Vit D & 45 mg Zinc daily	Hospital	700	yes	Treat	>18	Jan 2022	Far too late	NCT04641195
37	Belgium - Liege	100,000	total in 5 days, then maint. dose	Hospital	100	yes	Treat	>18	Feb 2021	might be enough	NCT04636086
36	UK - Manchester	300,000	none; maint. loading	3 hospitals	986	no	Obs.	senior	Oct 2020	2X fewer deaths	NCT04386044
35	Spain -	21,000	only if <30 ng	Hospital	108	yes	Treat	all	Dec 2020	far too little	NCT04621058
34	UK - London	no loading	3,200 IU daily	Home	5,440	800 IU	Treat	>16	Jul 2021	far too little, too late Martineau	NCT04579640
33	Jordan	no loading	weekly 50,000 IU (8 weeks)	Hospital	100		Treat		Dec 2020		NCT04476745
32	Spain, Oviedo	100,000	Given when diagnosed	Hospital	80		Treat	>18	Jan 2021	too few, too late	NCT04552951
31	Mexico- Mexico	4,000	for 30 days to workers	Hospital	400	yes	Prevent		Jul 2021	far too little	NCT04535791
30	Switzerland - Basel	140,000		Hospital	80	yes	Treat		Jul 2021	too little, too late, too few	NCT04525820
29	UK - London	-	Observe, no intervention	Hospital	27,000	-	Obs.	1-100	Dec 2020	a little late, should be interesting	NCT04519034
28	Iran - Mashhad	50,000	weekly	Hospital	210		Treat	30-60	Jan 2021	too little, too late	IRCT20110726007117N11
27	US - Columbus	100,000	Load + Resveratrol 4X daily	Home	200	yes	Treat	>45	Nov 2020	Res. gets more D into cells	NCT04400890
26	US - Cleveland	200,000	Load + 200K in 2 week	Home	110	yes	Treat		Aug 2020	monitor at home	NCT04489628
25	Mexico - Mexico City	2,000	daily (1,000 IU if <1 year)	Hospital	40	no	Treat	0-17	April 2021	too late, too little, too few	NCT04502667
24	Canada - Montreal	100,000	Load +10,000 /week (too little)	Hosp - staff	2,414	yes	Prevent	18-69	April 2021	too late	NCT04483635
23	Iran - Sabzevar	350,000	50,000 daily for a week	Hospital	30	no	Treat	15+	?		
22	Iran - Shahroud	1,200,000	Injection, repeated in 1 week	Hospital	100	no	Treat		?	injection has slow response	IRCT20200411047024N1
21	Iran - Mashhad	50,000	then 10,000 IU daily	Hospital	70	no	Treat	30-60	?		
20	Iran - Tehran	600,000		ICU	60	no	ICU	20-60	Aug?	1 week	46838
19	India - Chandigarh	420,000	60,000 daily nano for a week	Home?	30	yes	Treat	18+	Jul 2020	no longer test positive 2X faster	NCT04459247
18	Brazil - Sao Paulo	200,000	once	Hospital	200	yes	Treat	18+	Nov 2020	NOT help if wait 10 days	NCT04449718
17	Spain - Cordoba	100,000	532 ug. + 532 ug in first week Calcidiol	Hospital	1,008	yes	Treat	18-90	Aug 2020	pre-trial for 50: Aug 29 10.1016/j.jsbmb.2020.10575	NCT04366908
16	Iran - Tehran	~5,000	25 ug Calcidiol daily	Home	1,500	yes	Prevent	18-75	March 2021	too late, too little, Hollick	NCT04386850
14	Iran - Tehran	1,000	daily 2 months	Hospital	1,500		Treat	adult	Mar 2021	too late*, too little	NCT04386850
13	France - Lille	2,000	daily for 2 mon. +2 Zinc daily	Nurse Home	3,140	no	Treat	>59	?	too little, Test positive?	NCT04351490
12	Argentina - Mendoza	500,000	5 capsules of 100,000	Hospital	200	yes	Treat	>45	Dec 2020	too late*	NCT04411446
11	US - New Orleans	50,000	weekly, +daily aspirin	Hospital	1,080	Aspirin	Treat	adult	Dec 2020	too little, too late	NCT04363840
9	Canada - Alberta	100,000	50K twice in first week	Hospital	64	1,000	Treat	adult	Dec 2020	too late*	NCT04385940
8	US - Arizona	10,000	daily, but 5,000 when > 30 ng	Hospital	100	No	Treat	adult	May 2021	too little, too late*	NCT04407286
7	US - Boston	19,800	plus maint = 3,200 IU daily	Home	2,700	Yes	Treat	30-50	Jan 2021	Manson, too little, too late	NCT04536298
5	France - Angers	400,000	once	Hospital	260	50,000	Treat	>70	May 2021	too late, Annweiler	NCT04344041
4	Spain	25,000	once	Hospital	200	?	Treat	40-70	July 2020	too little	NCT04334005
3	US - South Carolina	60,000	over 3 days, then 6,000 daily	home	140	yes	Prevent	>50	Dec 2021	Hollis, too few, too late	NCT04482673
2	UK - Leeds	1,000	daily - blood test every 3 wk	College	4,400	Yes	Prevent	18-30	May 2021	too little, too late*	NCT04476680

Short term, high-dose vitamin D supplementation for COVID-19 disease: a randomised, placebo-controlled, study (SHADE study)

Ashu Rastogi,¹ Anil Bhansali,¹ Niranjana Khare,² Vikas Suri,² Narayana Yaddanapudi,³ Naresh Sachdeva,¹ G D Puri,³ Pankaj Malhotra ²

ABSTRACT

Background Vitamin D has an immunomodulatory role but the effect of therapeutic vitamin D supplementation in SARS-CoV-2 infection is not known.

Aim Effect of high dose, oral cholecalciferol supplementation on SARS-CoV-2 viral clearance.

Design Randomised, placebo-controlled.

Participants Asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 RNA positive vitamin D deficient (25(OH)D < 20 ng/ml) individuals.

Intervention Participants were randomised to receive daily 60 000 IU of cholecalciferol (oral nano-liquid droplets) for 7 days with therapeutic target 25(OH)D > 50 ng/ml (intervention group) or placebo (control group). Patients requiring invasive ventilation or with significant comorbidities were excluded. 25(OH)D levels were assessed at day 7, and cholecalciferol

millions of individuals globally and severely



Check for updates

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To cite: Rastogi A, Bhansali A, Khare N, et al. *Postgrad Med J* Epub ahead of print: [please include Day Month Year]. doi:10.1136/postgradmedj-2020-139065

significantly decreased with cholecalciferol supplementation (intergroup difference 0.70 ng/ml; P=0.007) unlike other inflammatory biomarkers.

Conclusion Greater proportion of vitamin D-deficient individuals with SARS-CoV-2 infection turned SARS-CoV-2 RNA negative with a significant decrease in fibrinogen on high-dose cholecalciferol supplementation.

Trial register number NCT04459247.

INTRODUCTION

Coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome-associated coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) has affected the lives of

Impact of Pulse D Therapy on The Inflammatory Markers in Patients With COVID-19.

Dr. Maheshwar Lakkireddy

Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences

Dr. Srikanth Goud Gadiga

Gandhi Medical College & Hospital

Dr. R.D. Malathi

Gandhi Medical College & Hospital

Dr. Madhu Latha Karra (✉ madhu.harini123@gmail.com)

Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences

D is a known
ulse D therapy in reducing

ere evaluated for
inflammatory markers (N/L ratio, CRP, LDH, IL6, Ferritin) along with vitamin D on 0th day and 9th / 11th day as per their respective BMI category. Subjects were randomised into VD and NVD groups. VD group received Pulse D therapy (targeted daily supplementation of 60,000 IUs of vitamin D for 8 or 10 days depending upon their BMI) in addition to the standard treatment. NVD group received standard treatment alone. Differences in the variables between the two groups were analysed for statistical significance.

Results: Eighty seven out of one hundred and thirty subjects have completed the study (VD:44, NVD:43). Vitamin D level has increased from 15.65 ± 5.54 ng/ml to 88.96 ± 31.55 ng/ml after Pulse D therapy in VD group and highly significant ($p < 0.01$) reduction of all the measured inflammatory markers was noted. Reduction of markers in NVD group was insignificant ($p > 0.05$). The difference in the reduction of markers between the groups (NVD vs VD) was highly significant ($p < 0.01$).

Conclusions: Therapeutic improvement in vitamin D to 80-100 ng/ml has significantly reduced the inflammatory markers associated with COVID-19 without any side effects. Hence, adjunctive Pulse D therapy can be added safely to the existing treatment protocols of COVID-19 for improved outcomes.

	Pre (n=44)		Post (n=44)		Pre vs Post	
Variable	Mean \pm SD or Median (IQR)	95% CI of Mean / Median	Mean \pm SD or Median (IQR)	95% CI of Mean / Median	t or z statistic	p value
Vit.D (ng/ml)	15.65 \pm 5.54 [#]	13.96- 17.33*	88.96 \pm 31.55 [#]	79.40- 98.52*	15.53	<0.0001
CRP (mg/L)	81.31 \pm 66.38 [#]	61.13- 101.49*	16.48 \pm 41.99 [#]	3.72- 29.26*	-5.98	<0.0001
LDH (U/L)	369.46 \pm 159.34 [#]	321.02- 417.91*	274.4 \pm 114.8 [#]	239.50- 309.30*	-4.58	<0.0001
IL6 (pg/ml)	15.2 (5.30-56.65)	8.95- 28.62	2.95 (0.90-7.55)	1.70-4.79	4.29	<0.0001
Ferritin (ng/ml)	430.65 (189.9-835.7)	261.76- 708.01	333.95 (153.8-508.0)	202.77- 432.69	3.52	0.0004
N/L Ratio	5.49 (3.08-10.99)	4.14-7.72	3.32 (2.35-5.26)	2.69-4.78	3.66	0.0003

TABLE 2. PREDICTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DEATH FROM COVID-19, UNIVARIATE ANALYSIS.

	<i>OR (95% CI)</i>	<i>p-value (unadjusted)</i>	<i>OR_{adj} (95% CI)</i>	<i>p-value (adjusted)</i>	<i>n</i>
Age >74 years	2.84 (2.13-3.79)	1.51x10 ⁻¹²	2.88 (2.16-3.85)	9.43x10 ⁻¹³	935
Treatment with vitamin D	0.59 (0.43-0.80)	0.001	0.48 (0.35-0.67)	1.36x10 ⁻⁵	904
High-flow O ₂	3.88 (2.82-5.34)	9.7x10 ⁻¹⁷	5.96 (4.10-8.66)	7.32x10 ⁻²¹	927
Asthma	0.29 (0.16-0.50)	1.3E-05	0.41 (0.23-0.74)	0.003	940
IHD	2.63 (1.85-3.74)	8.28E-08	1.90 (1.31-2.75)	0.001	940
Vitamin D booster therapy	0.49 (0.29-0.84)	0.010	0.46 (0.26-0.81)	0.006	338
Vitamin D maintenance therapy	2.02 (1.18-3.44)	0.010	2.16 (1.24-3.77)	0.006	338
Admission SpO ₂ <96%	1.62 (1.21-2.18)	0.001	1.52 (1.11-2.09)	0.009	846
CRP >77.5 mg/L	1.67 (1.26-2.21)	3.84x10 ⁻⁴	1.72 (1.27-2.33)	4x10 ⁻⁴	914
Creatinine >83 µmol/L	2.42 (1.82-3.22)	1.38x10 ⁻⁹	1.76 (1.28-2.41)	4.6x10 ⁻⁴	928
Glucose >6.8 mmol/L	1.36 (1.02-1.82)	0.035	1.39 (1.02-1.89)	0.035	848

2X fewer
deaths

2X more
deaths

Vitamin D Toxicity

**"WORRYING ABOUT VITAMIN D
TOXICITY IS LIKE WORRYING
ABOUT DROWNING
WHEN YOU'RE
DYING OF THIRST."**



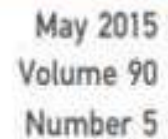
**-DR. JOHN CANNELL,
VITAMIN D RESEARCHER**

Hypercalcemia is the hazard criterion for vitamin D

Vitamin D Toxicity, Policy, and Science

Reinhold Vieth

ABSTRACT: The serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D [25(OH)D] concentration that is the threshold for vitamin D toxicity has not been established. Hypercalcemia is the hazard criterion for vitamin D. Past policy of the Institute of Medicine has set the tolerable upper intake level (UL) for vitamin D at 50 μg (2000 IU)/d, defining this as “the highest level of daily nutrient intake that is likely to pose no risks of adverse health effects to almost all individuals in the general population.” However, because sunshine can provide an adult with vitamin D in an amount equivalent to daily oral consumption of 250 μg (10,000 IU)/d, this is intuitively a safe dose. The incremental consumption of 1 μg (40 IU)/day of vitamin D₃ raises serum 25(OH)D by ~ 1 nM (0.4 ng/ml). Therefore, if sun-deprived adults are to maintain serum 25(OH)D concentrations >75 nM (30 ng/ml), they will require an intake of more than the UL for vitamin D. The mechanisms that limit vitamin D safety are the capacity of circulating vitamin D-binding protein and the ability to suppress 25(OH)D-1- α -hydroxylase. Vitamin D causes hypercalcemia when the “free” concentration of 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D is



Vitamin D Is Not as Toxic as Was Once Thought: A Historical and an Up-to-Date Perspective

In the current issue of *Mayo Clinic Pro-* rheumatoid arthritis and massive doses of **See also page 577**

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There is enough evidence that vitamin D toxicity is one of the **rarest medical conditions** and is typically due to intentional or inadvertent intake of extremely high doses of vitamin D (usually in the range of >50,000-100,000 IU/d for months to years) without monitoring for hypercalcemia

Facts and Rationale 2021

- Vitamin D deficiency is a global pandemic
- Vitamin D is a powerful immuno-modulator
- When checked first time without any supplementation, very low vitamin D levels found in 90% (3 – 20 ng/ml)
- Nobody has been found with the minimal desired level 40 ng/ml unless taking Vit D supplements
- We lose nothing by improving the global vitamin D status
- Correcting a deficiency is our duty, responsibility & obligation as a doctor

Points to Consider....

- It is advisable to maintain serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D in the range of **40 – 60 ng/mL** to minimize the risk of COVID-19 infection and its severity.
- We must **check the vitamin D (25 OH D3) blood levels in Covid 19 positive patients** (hospitalised and those advised tests for inflammatory markers)
- We should not hesitate in giving **bolus dose** to immediately boost up the levels
- **If not now, then when????**



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protection...**

- Dr. Renu Mahtani

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THANKS

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