



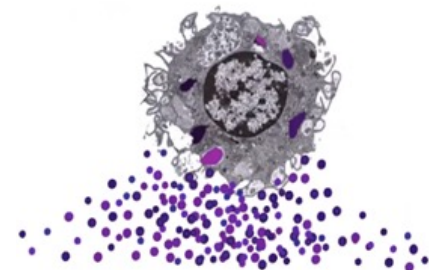
# METABOLISM & CANCER

22-24 Nov 2023, Nice, FR

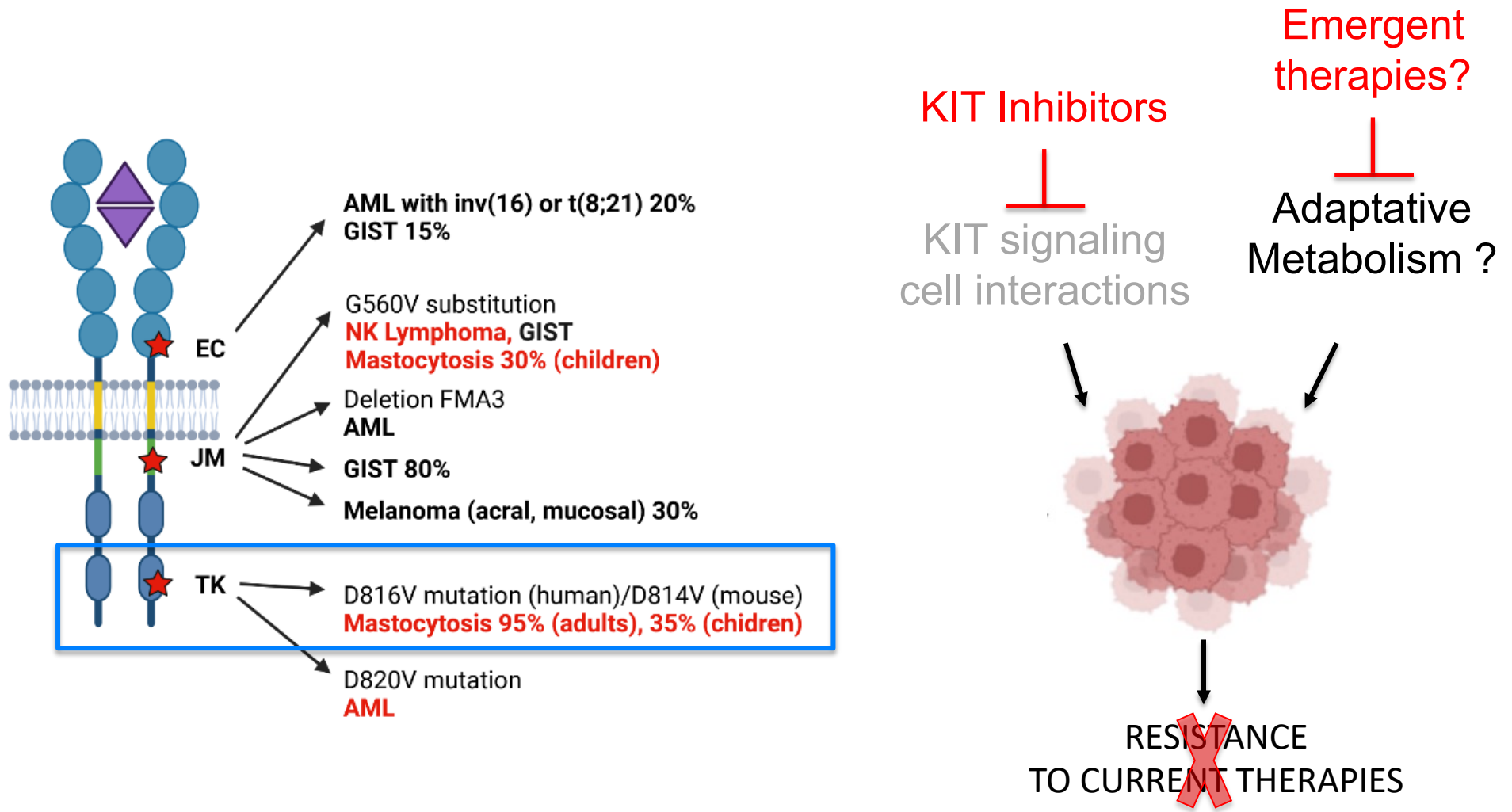
## Importance of metabolism in mast cells regulation: from allergy to leukemia

**Fabienne Brenet, Ph.D.**

Cancer Research Center of Marseille (CRCM) – U1068

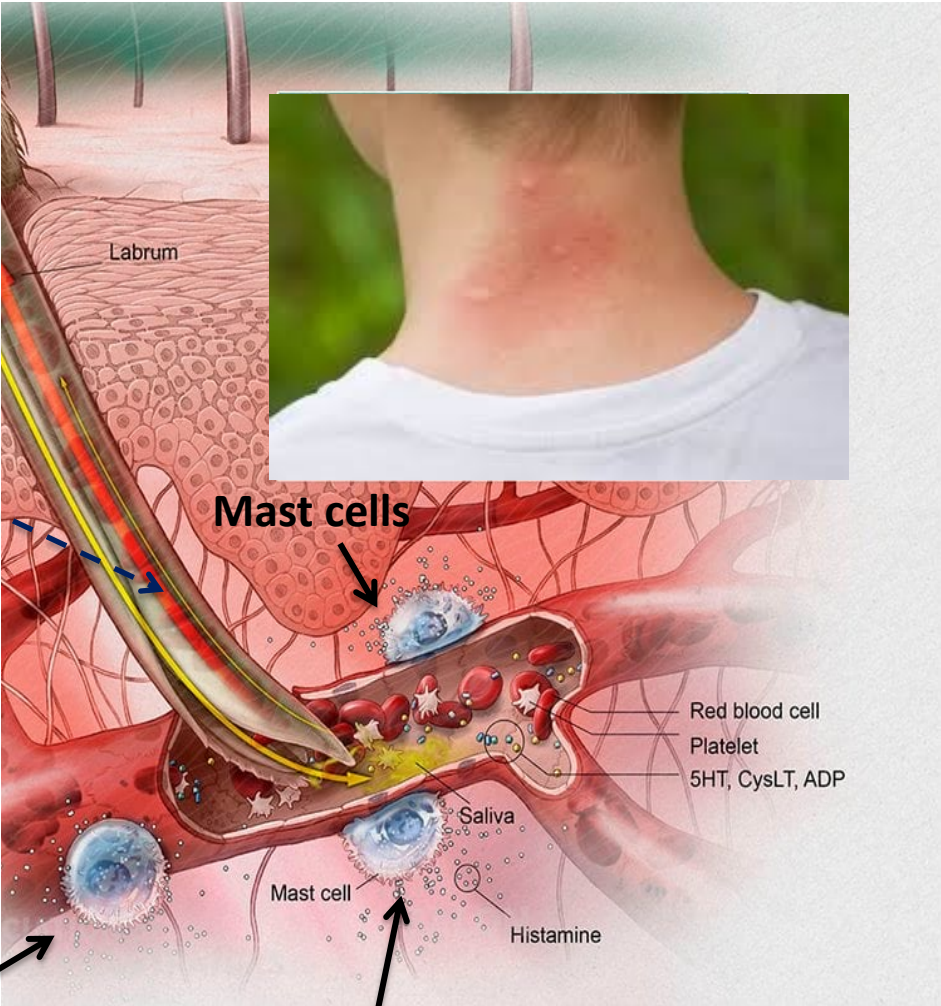


# Research gap: the specific metabolic underpinnings of KIT-driven oncogenic progression are largely undefined



Development of strategies to leverage KIT-driven metabolic dependencies when KIT inhibitors treatment fails.

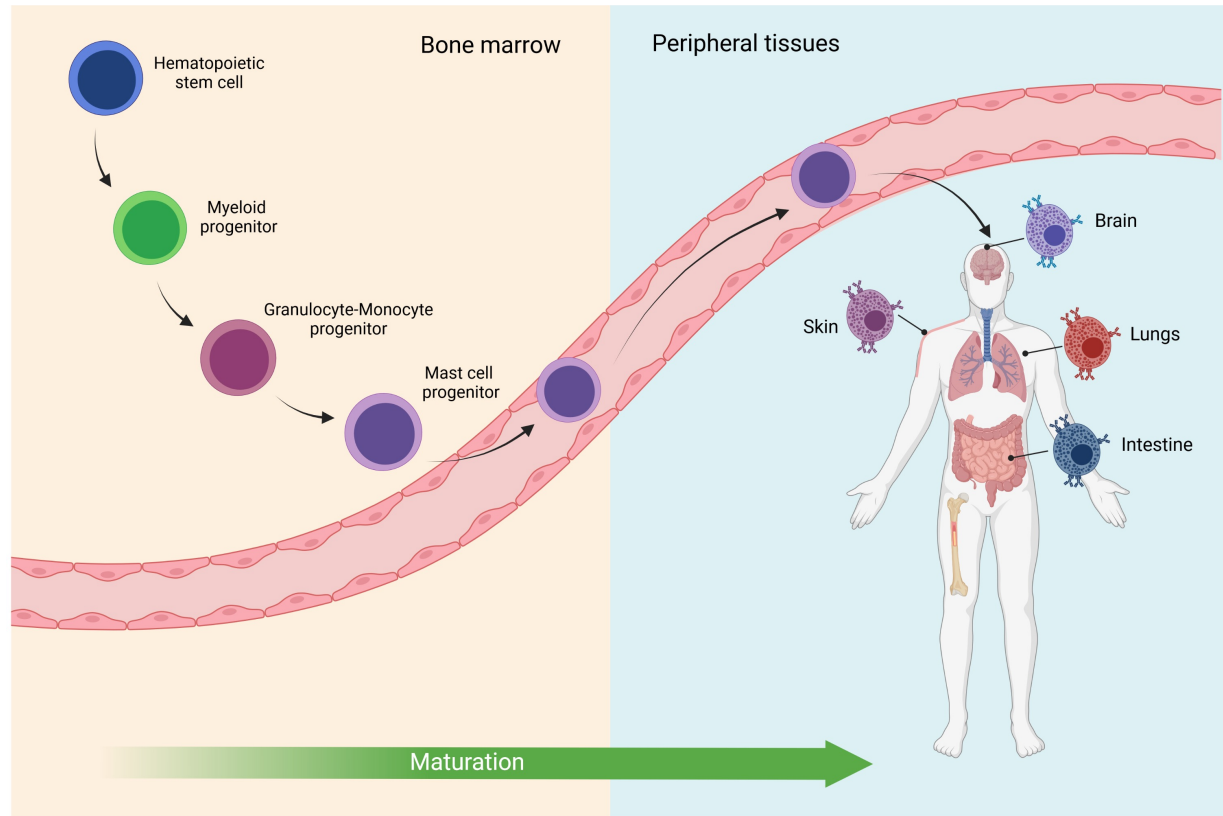
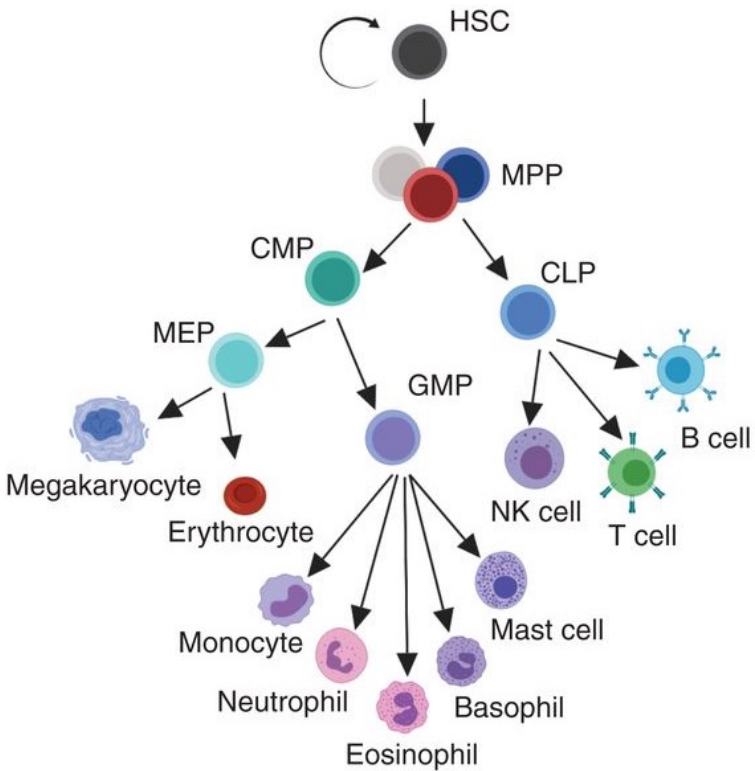
# Mast cells are sentinels of the innate immune system



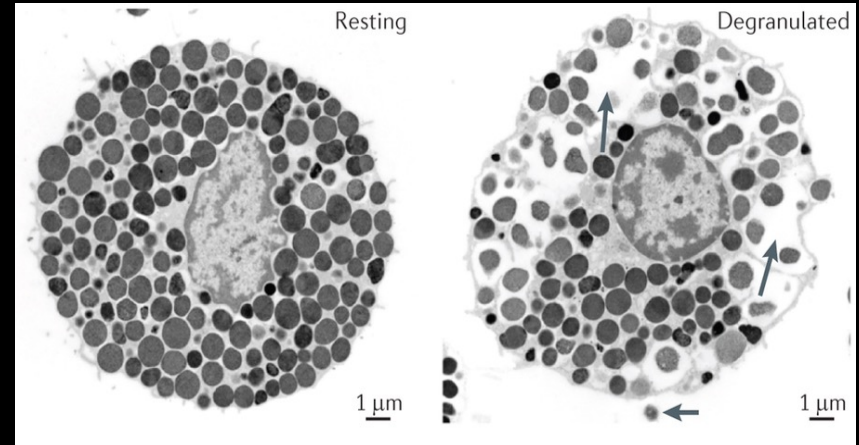
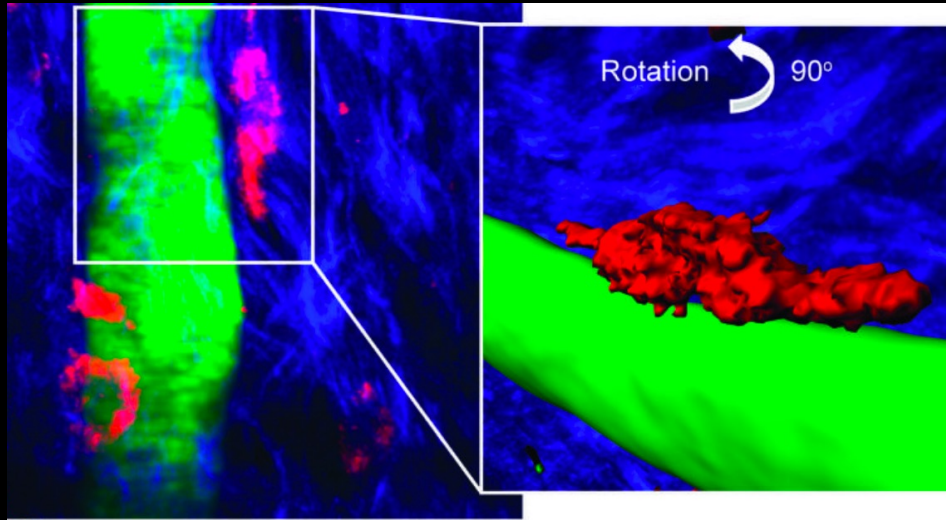
Mast cells

Mast cells

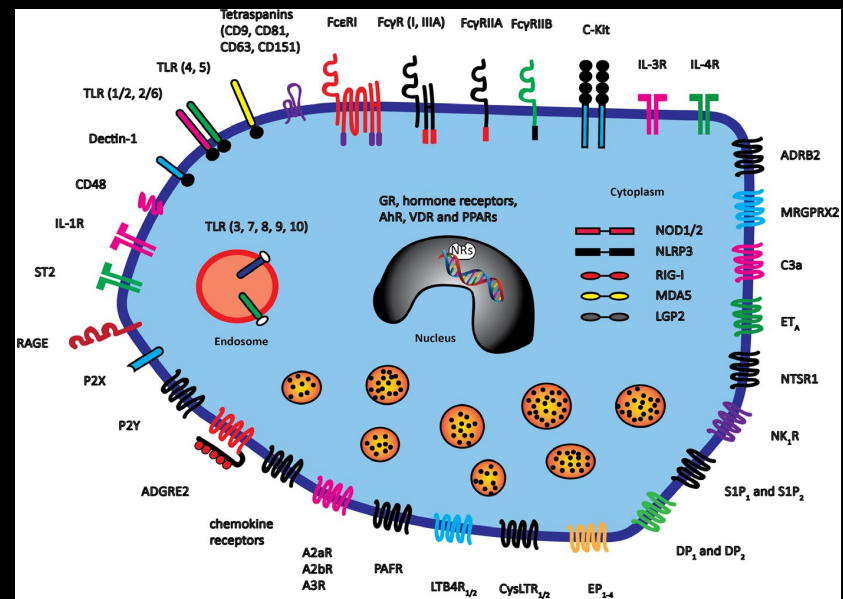
# Mast cells differentiate from hematopoietic stem cells in the bone marrow



# Mast cells are sentinels with strategic location

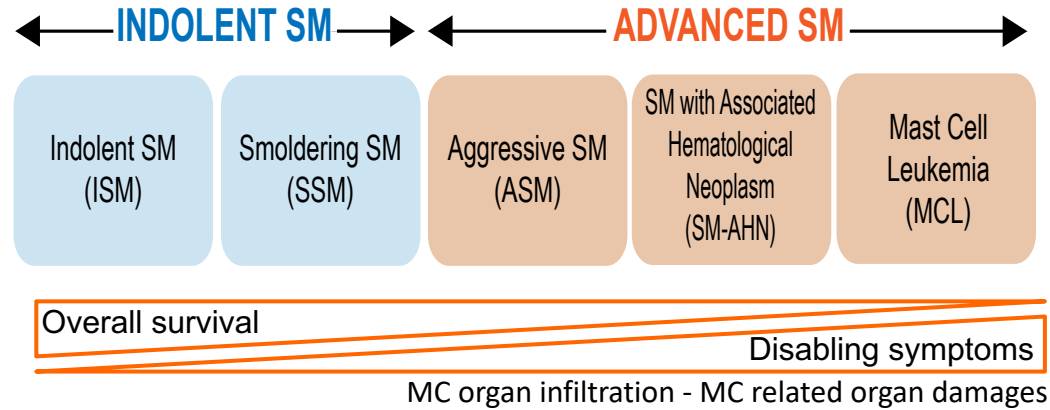
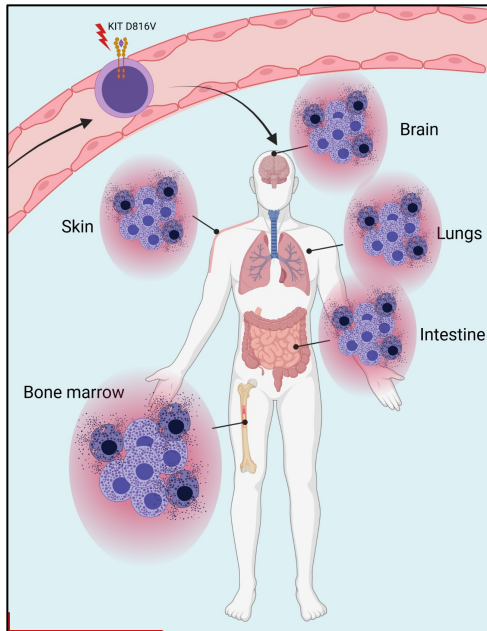


Redegeld F et al., Immunol Reviews, 2018  
Gaudizio N et al., J Clin Invest, 2016



# WHO classification: Systemic mastocytosis spectrum

Abnormal accumulation and activation of neoplastic mast cells in one or more organs, mostly the bone marrow.

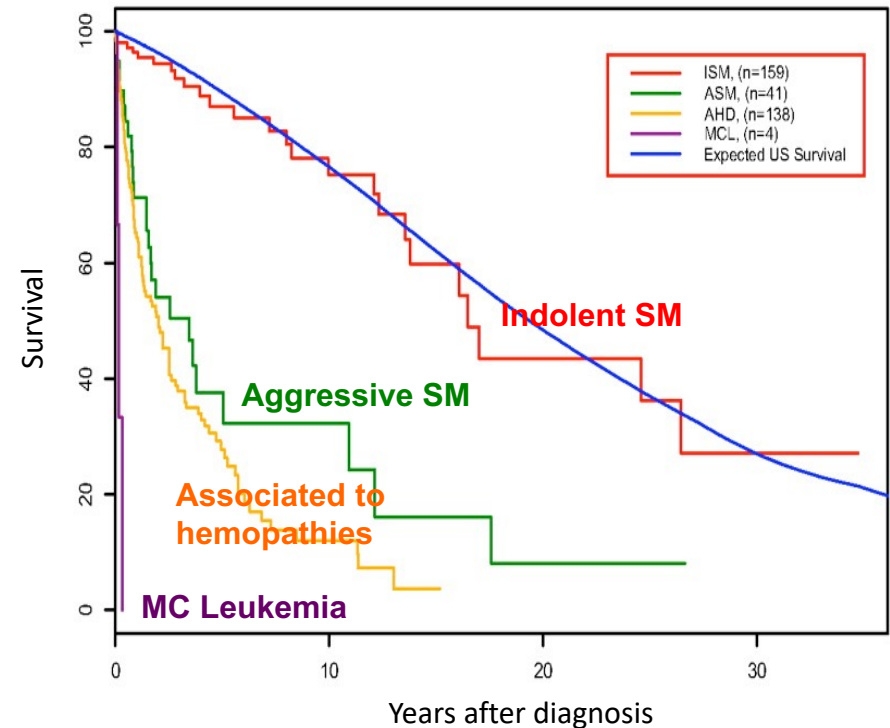


## Tyrosine kinase inhibitors



Partial efficacy of TKIs

(Lübke et al., 2019; Laine, et al. 2011)

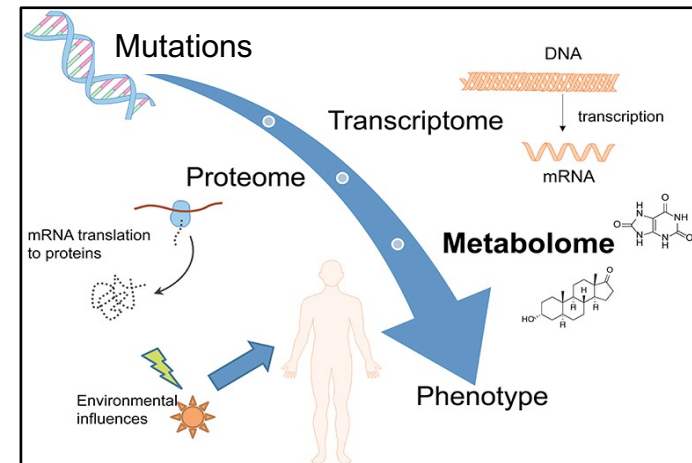
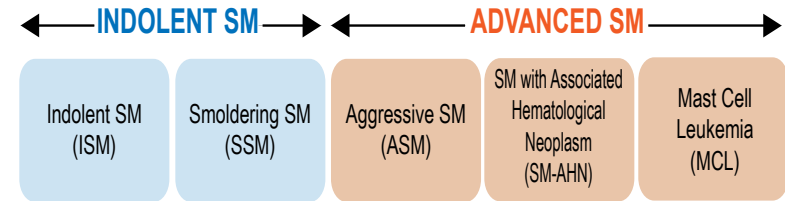
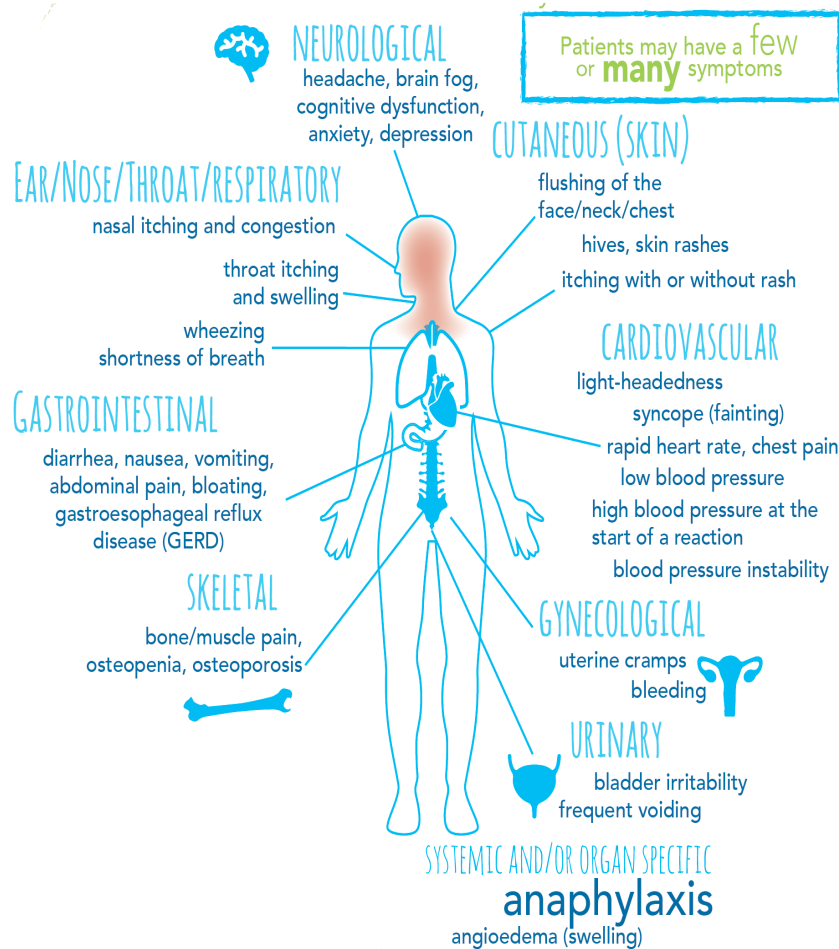


(Animesh Pardarani, 2021)

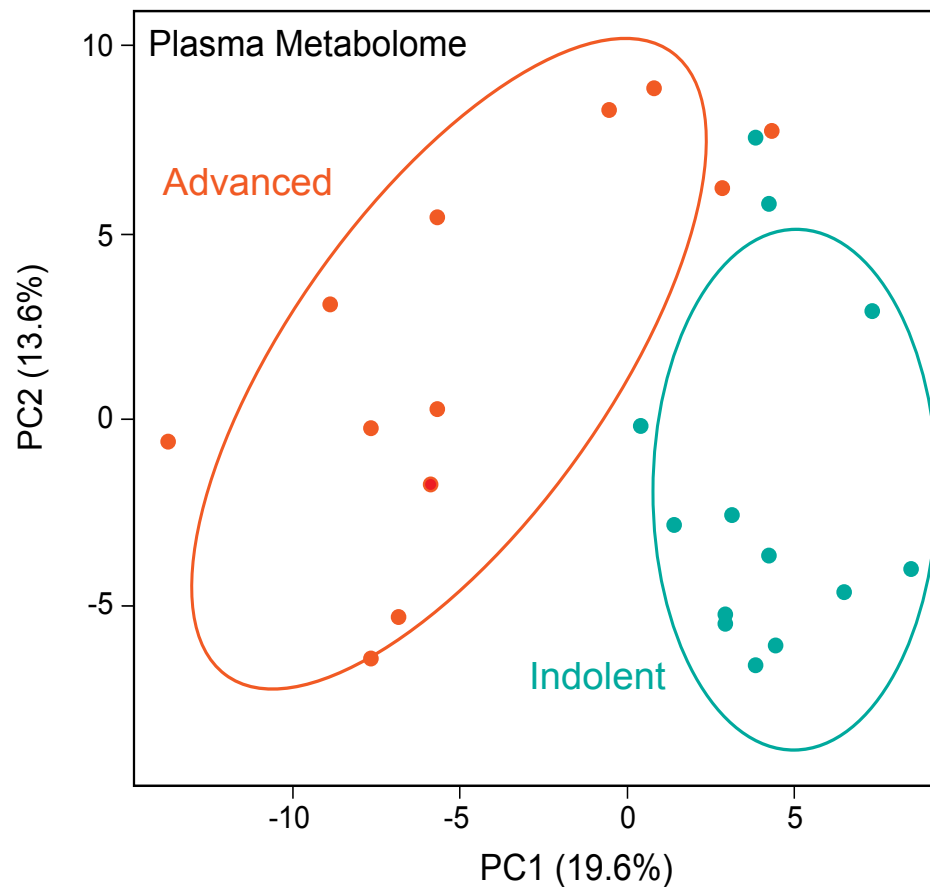
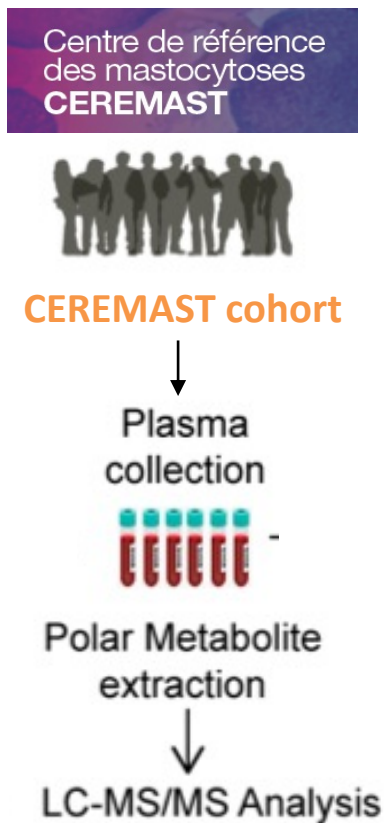
There is a need to find new therapies not KIT-centered.

# Mastocytosis is a systemic disease: is it possible to stratify patients according to their diagnosis by a metabolomic approach?

Hypothesis: Altered metabolism could be a good approach to study this systemic disease.



## A plasma metabolomic profiling is able to discriminate SM patients according to disease aggressiveness

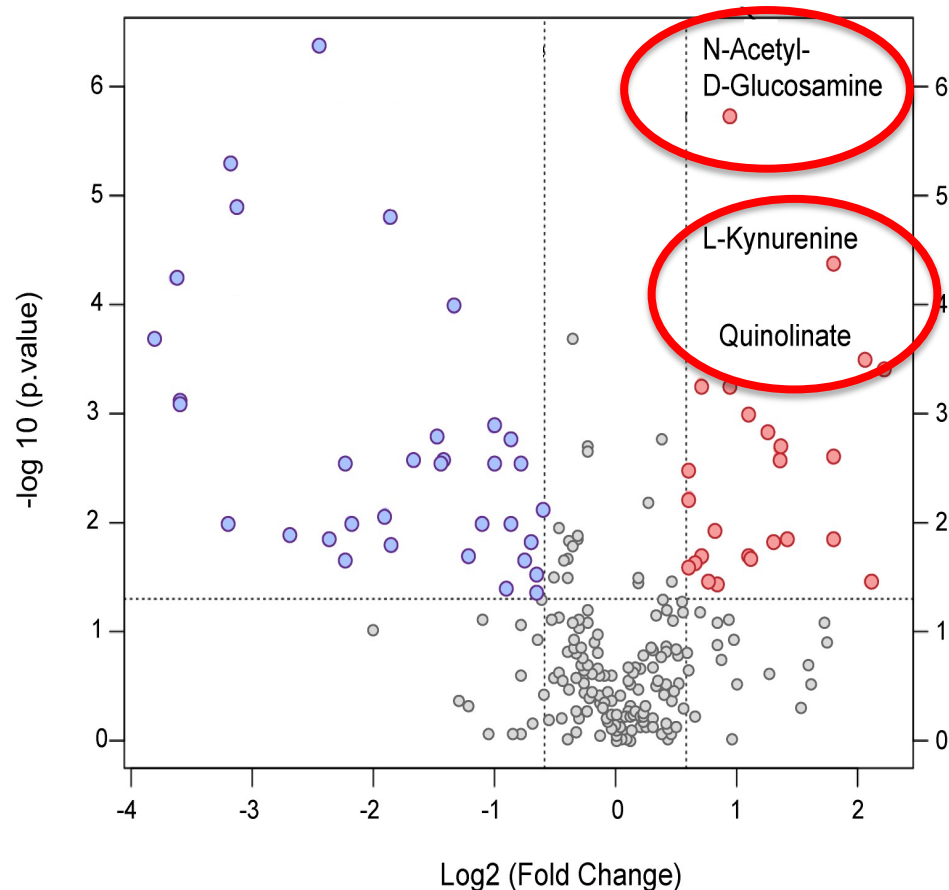


**Collaboration:** John M Asara (BIDMC, Boston)  
BIDMC-Harvard Mass Spectrometry Facility.



# Most discriminant metabolites between indolent and advanced SM

Patient plasma metabolome  
SM Indolentes/Avancées



GlcNAc is a mast-cell chromatin-remodeling oncometabolite that promotes SM aggressiveness by TF glycosylation.

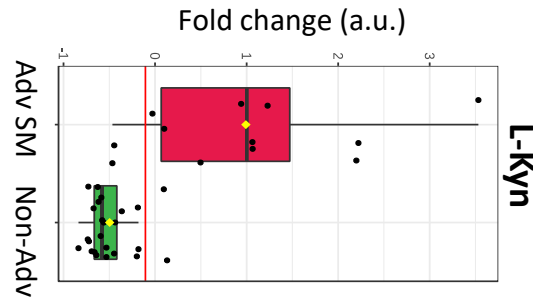
*Agopian J et al, Blood, 2021*

*Brenet F, Patent WO2022/180236*

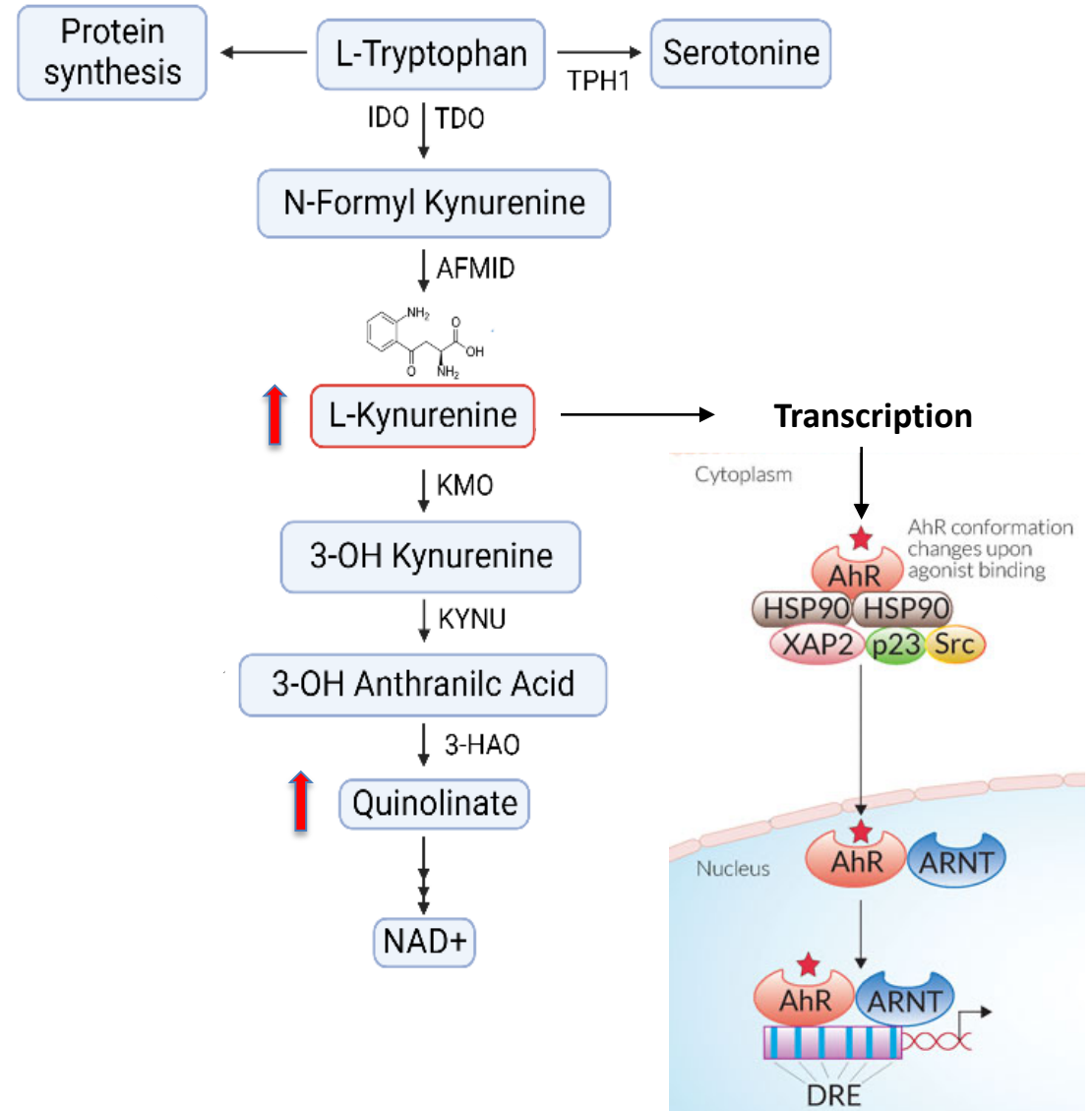
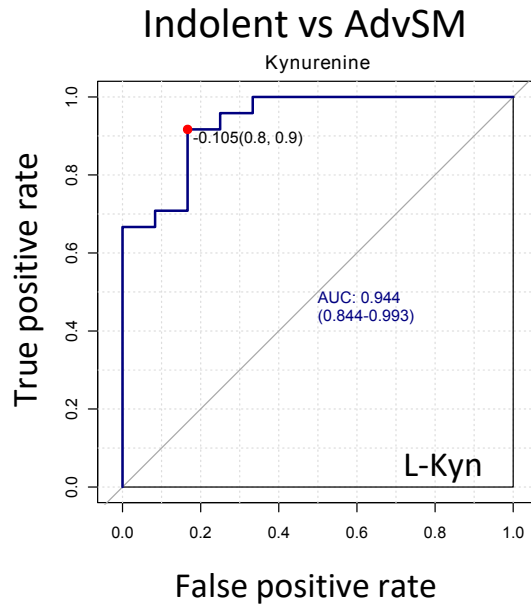
What is the impact of the kynurenine pathway on MC functions?

# The L-Kyn pathway: Tryptophane catabolism

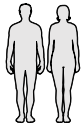
## FOLD CHANGE



## ROC CURVE



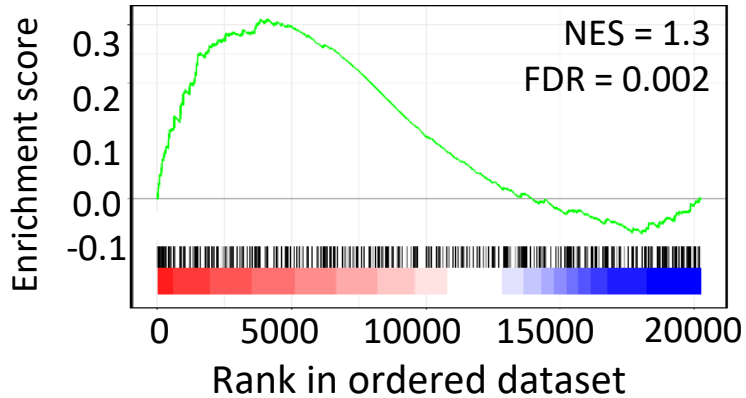
# Is the L-Kyn pathway active in patients bone marrow mast cells?



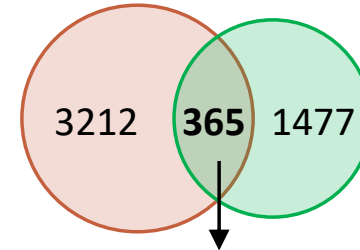
**FACS sorted patient BM mast cells**  
 (CD117<sup>hi</sup>/CD34<sup>-</sup>/CD45<sup>+</sup>/CD14<sup>-</sup>)  
 ISM vs CTRL/Adv SM vs CTRL



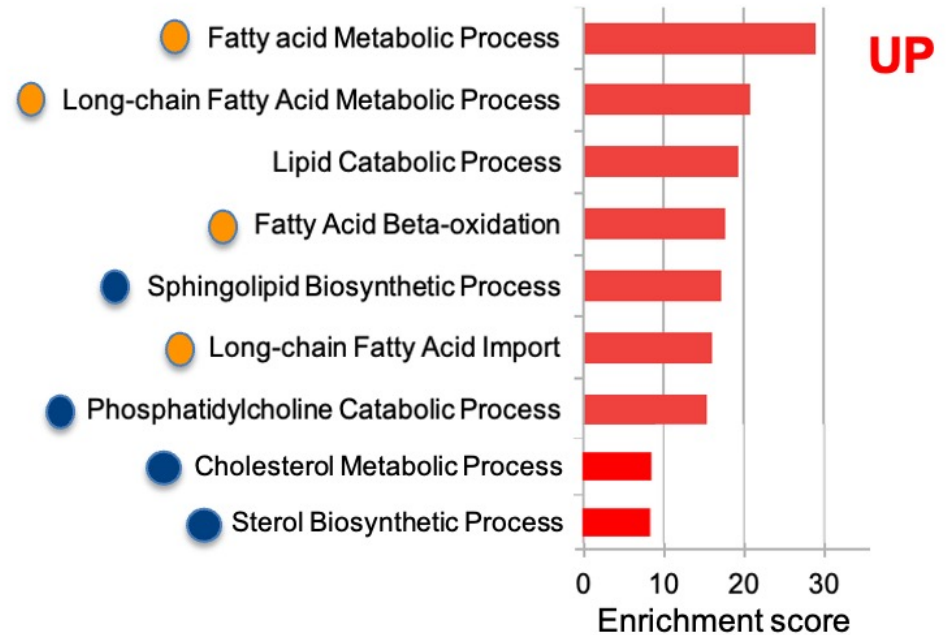
**AHR signature in Adv. SM**



SM metabolic Genes      AHR targets Genes



*Metabolic AHR signature*



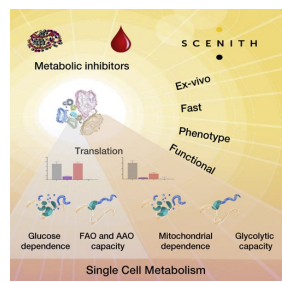
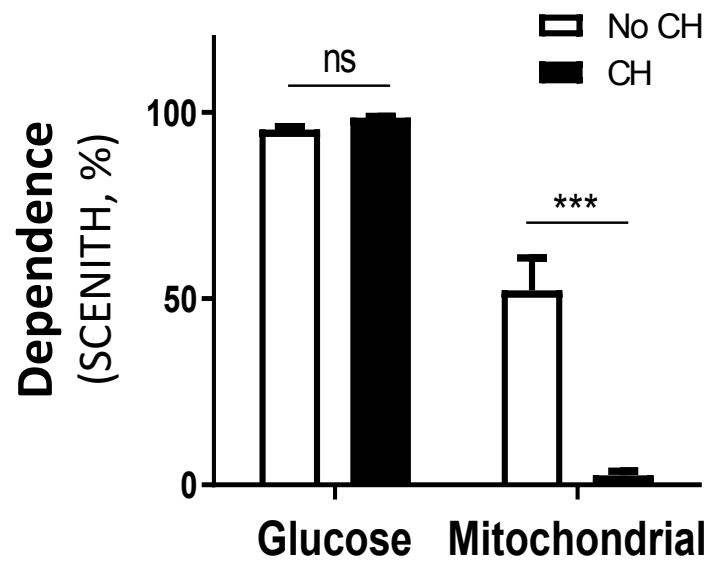
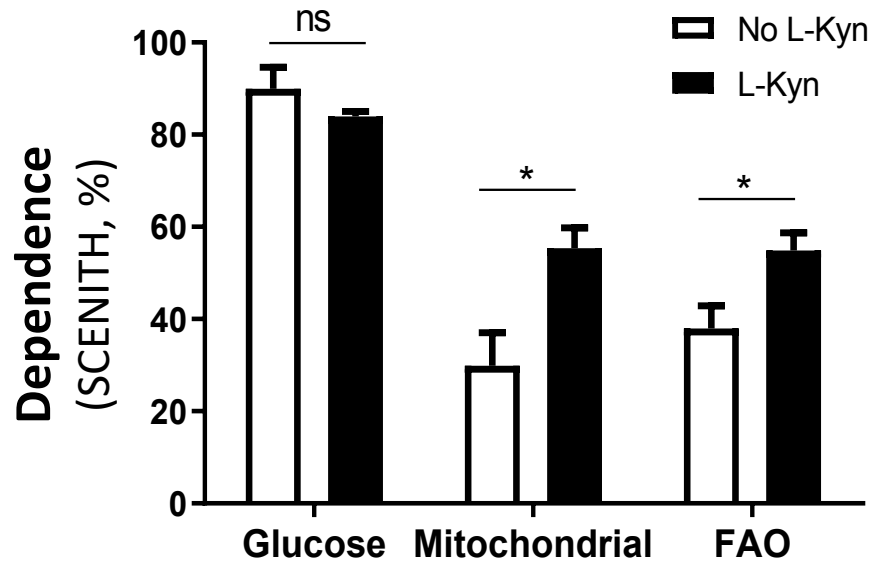
- Fatty acid catabolism/Import
- Membrane lipids

**Activation of L-Kyn/AHR axis has 2 types of impact on lipid metabolism.**

# **Impact of L-Kyn on MC metabolism and functions?**

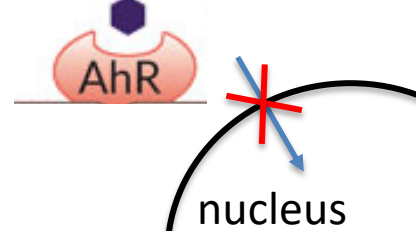
# Function 1: MC metabolism

## L-Kyn induces an AHR-metabolic dependence to fatty acids catabolism in human neoplastic mast cells

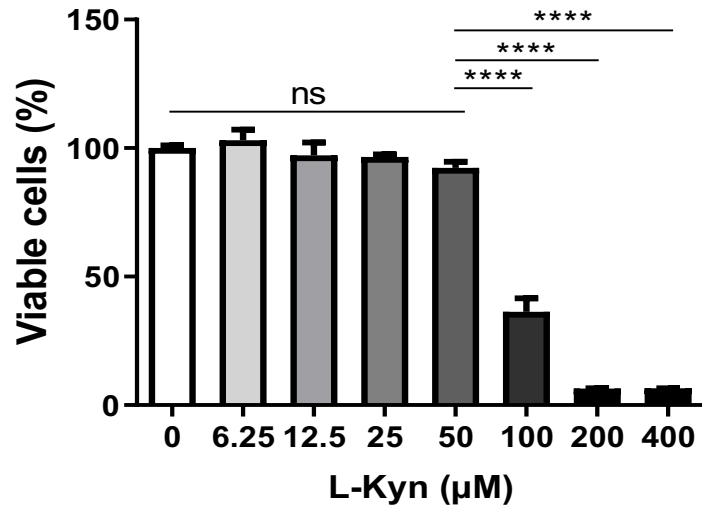


**Collaboration:** Rafael Argüello (CIML, Marseille)  
 SCENITH: Argüello RJ et al., Cell Metabolism, 2020.

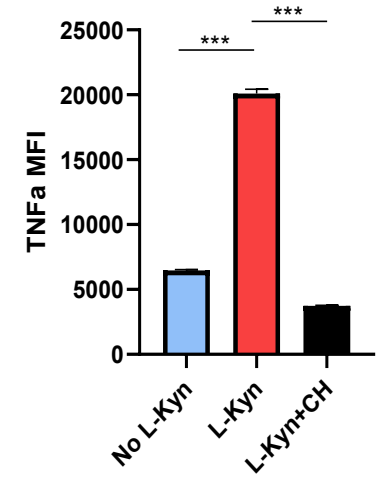
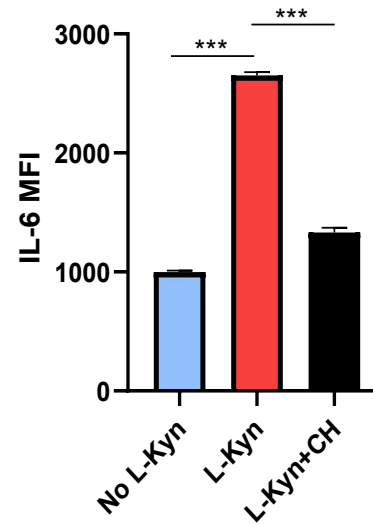
CH-223191



## PROLIFERATION



## RELEASE OF INFLAMMATORY CYTOKINES



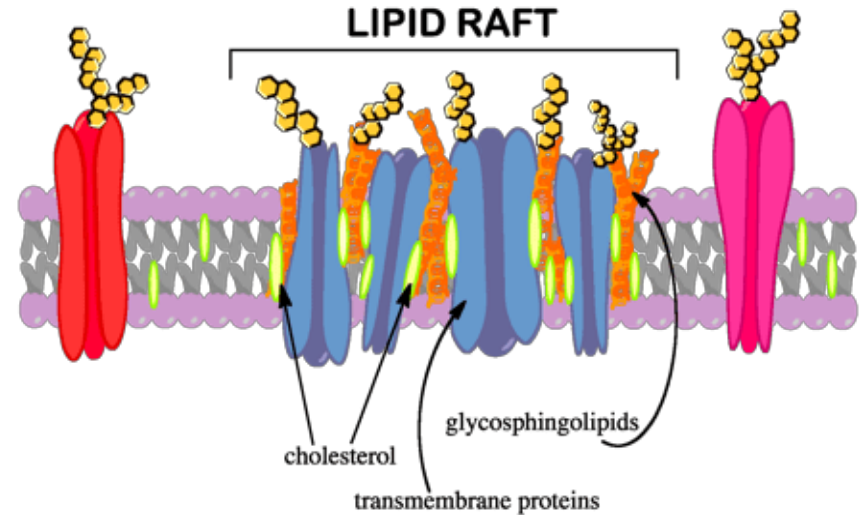
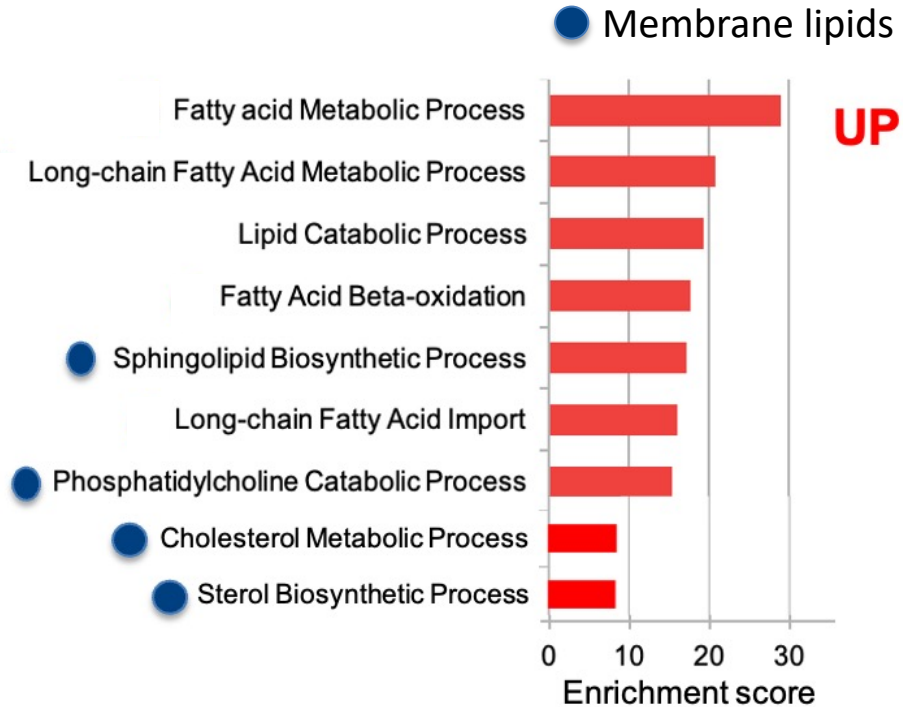
IL-6

TNF-a

L-Kyn increases acute inflammatory responses *in vitro*

**Impact of L-Kyn  
on membrane lipid composition?**

# Metabolic AHR signature

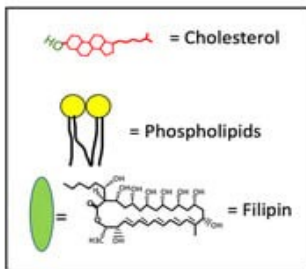
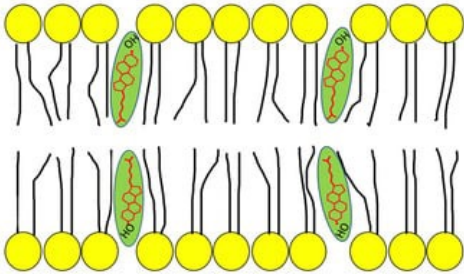


***L-Kyn/AHR axis promotes the formation of these specialized microdomains?***

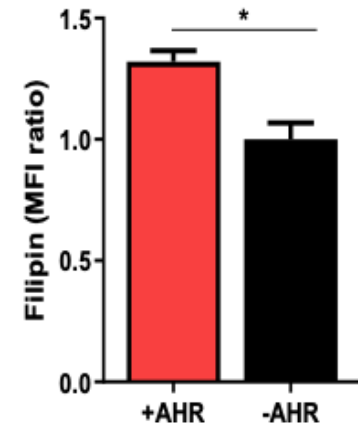
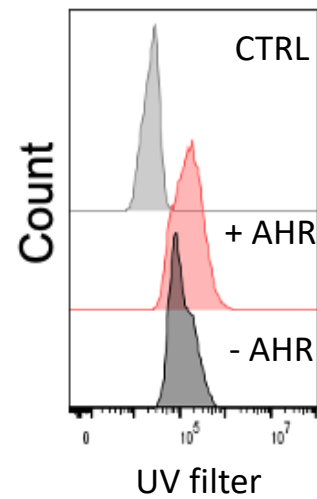
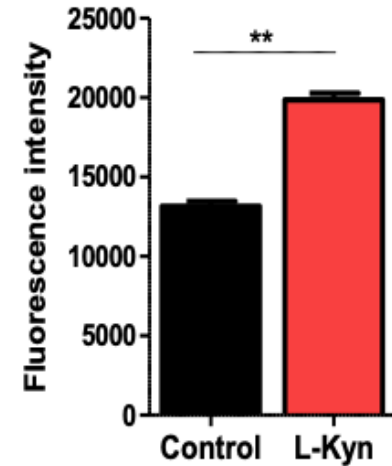
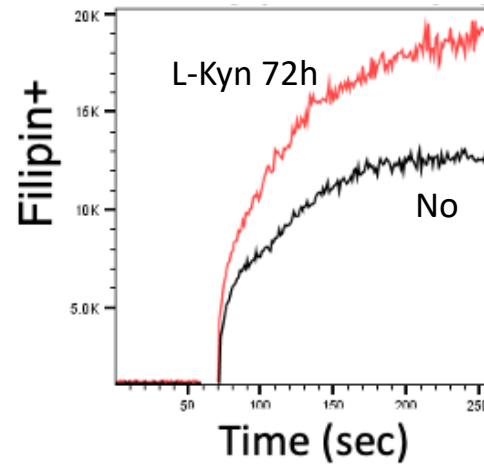


# The L-Kyn/AHR axis increases cholesterol levels in neoplastic MC membranes

## Filipin labeling

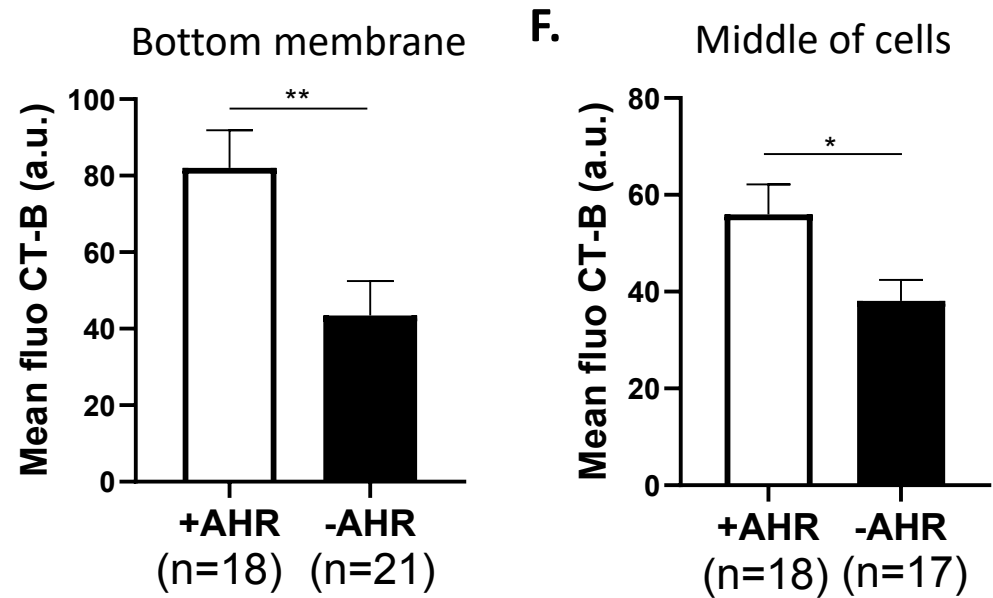
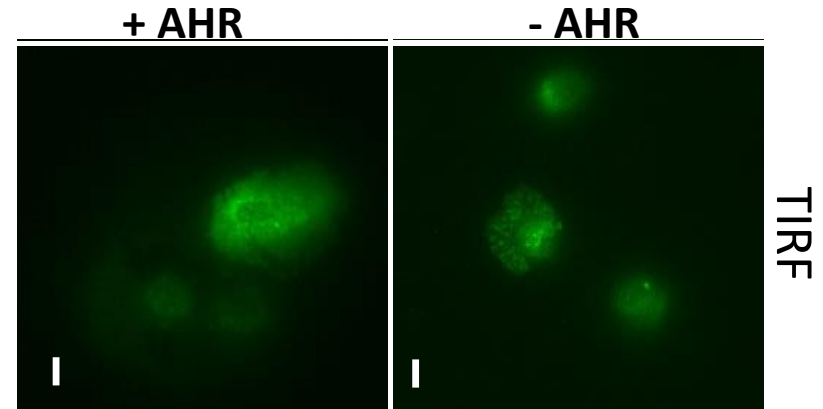
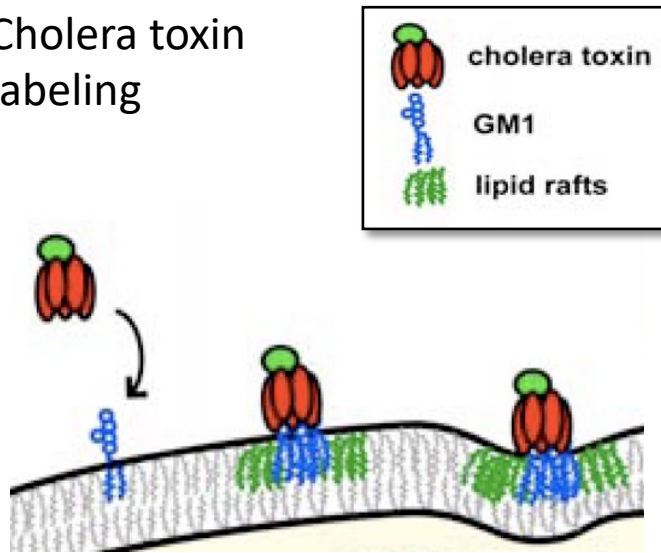


## hKIT D816V MC



# The L-Kyn/AHR axis increases sphingolipid (GM1) levels in neoplastic MC membranes

Cholera toxin labeling

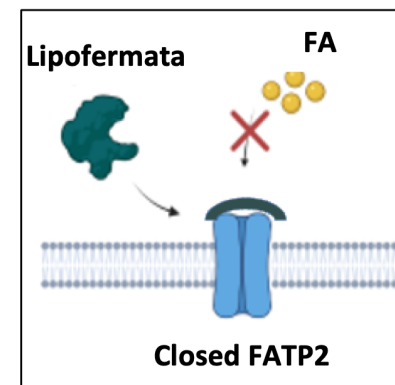
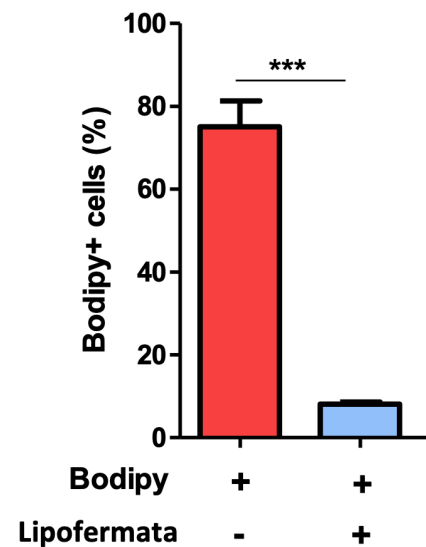
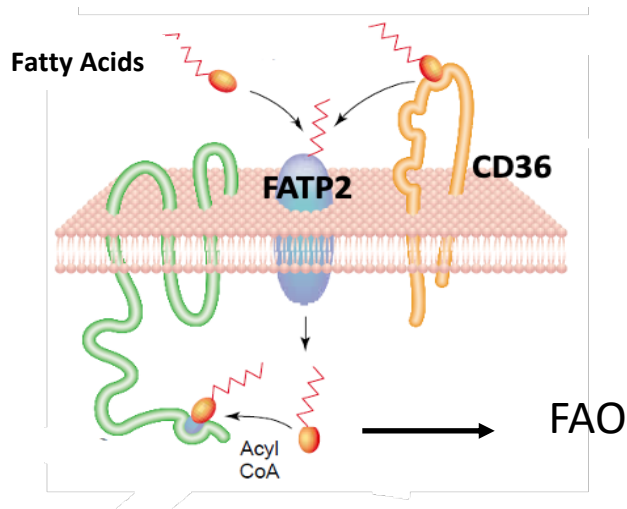
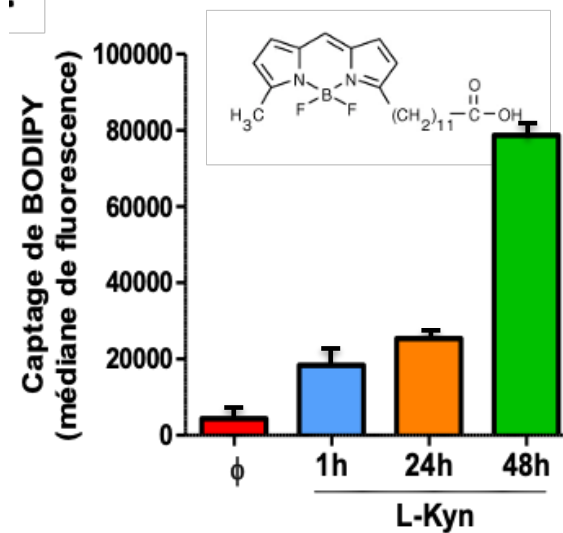
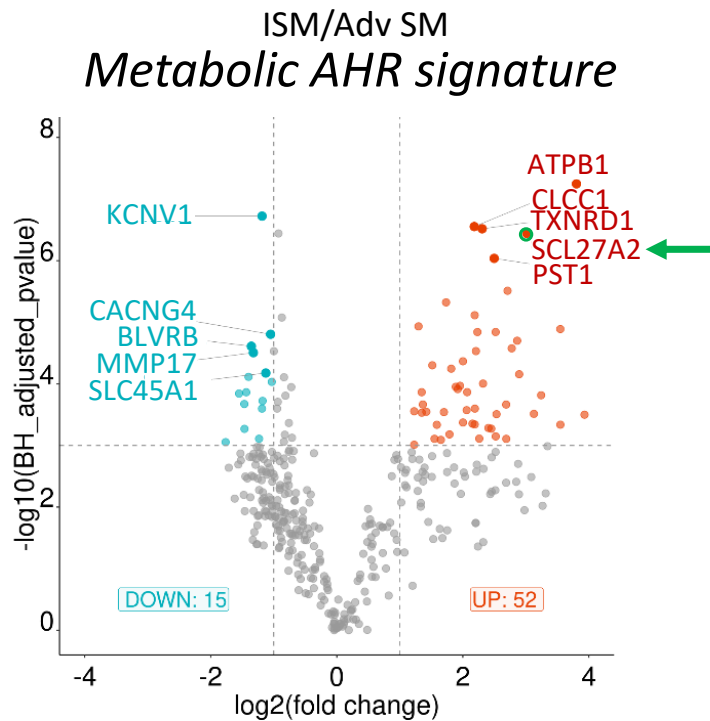


**Collaboration:** Arnaud Sergé, Loriane Maillot (LAI, Marseille)

Total internal reflection fluorescence (TIRF) microscopy

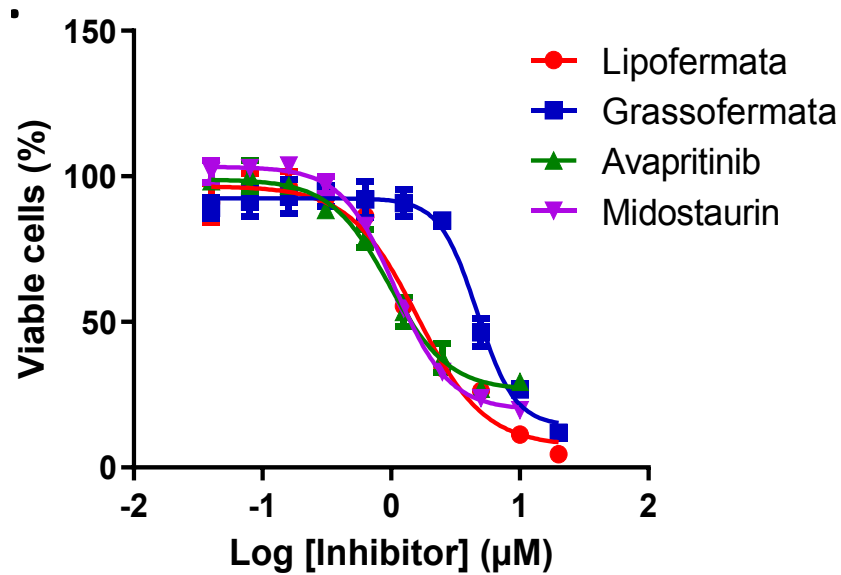
**Is it possible to find a relevant potential therapeutic target that would be related to lipid raft and FAO?**

# SCL27A2 (FATP2) regulates L-Kyn-mediated fatty acid uptake in neoplastic MC

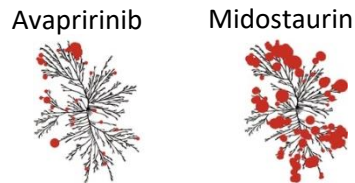


# Impact of FATP2 inhibition on mast cell proliferation and degranulation

## PROLIFERATION

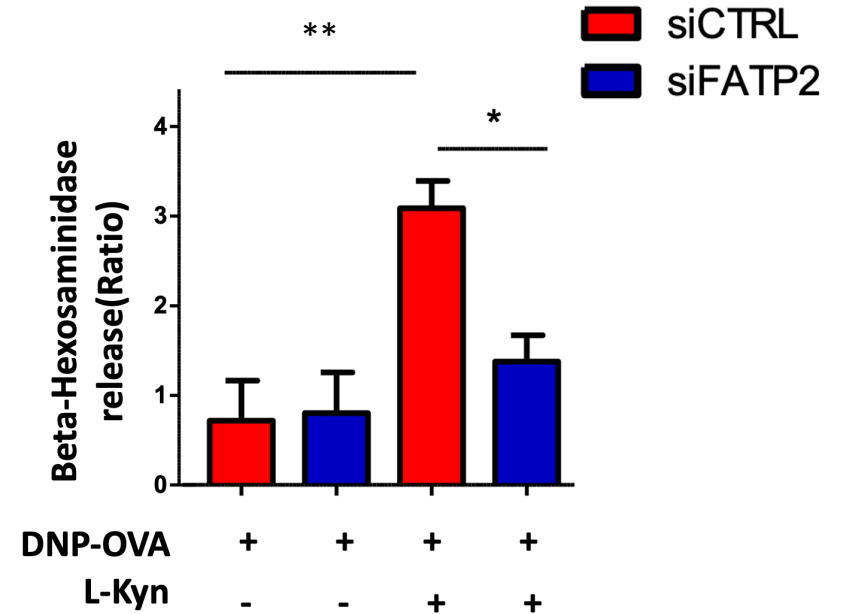


IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	Lipofermata	Grassofermata	Avapritinib	Misostaurin
HMC1.2	1,62	4,67	0,97	1,08



KIT inhibitors

## DEGRANULATION



# Take home messages and perspectives

## How does L-Kyn contribute to SM aggressiveness?

- L-Kyn is a circulating **biomarker of SM aggressiveness** that modulates MC functions.
- L-Kyn induces an **AHR-metabolic dependence to FA catabolism** in neoplastic MC as well as **unrestrained inflammatory responses**.
- L-Kyn induces a significant **shift in the lipid composition of mast membranes** suggesting **an increase of lipid rafts** and membrane rigidity that enhances membrane receptor signaling (FATP2, KIT, FcεRI).
- L-Kyn increases FATP2 expression and **FA uptake in MCs**.
- FATP2 inhibition is a potential therapeutic target that has additive effect with KIT inhibitors (ongoing in pre-clinical mice models and patients samples).

# THANK YOU

## COLLABORATIONS

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