

You are what you eat!
**Targeting Cholesterol Metabolism as a
Liability in clear cell Renal Cell Carcinoma
(ccRCC)**

Romain RISCAL, Ph.D

11-23-2023

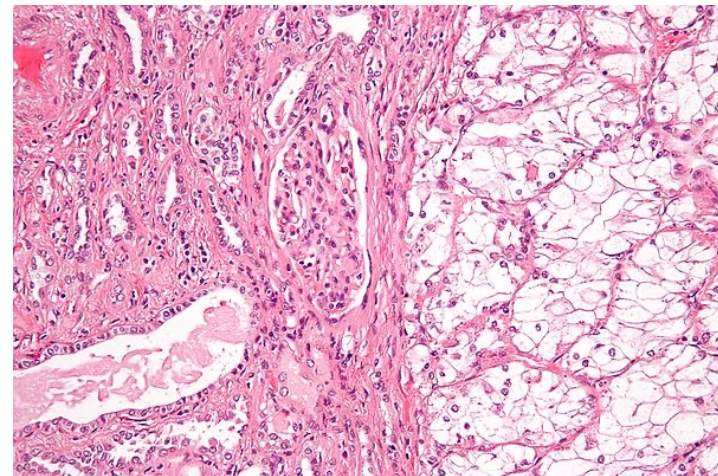
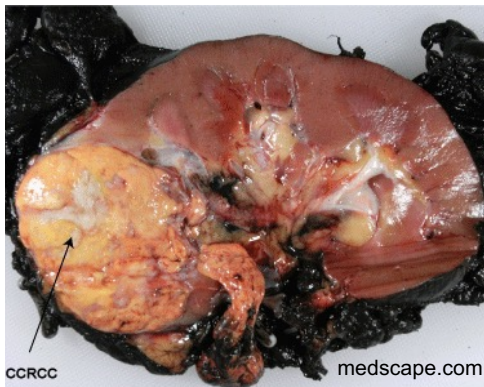
Kidney Cancer at a Glance

- **Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma (ccRCC)** is the predominant subtypes of Kidney cancer.

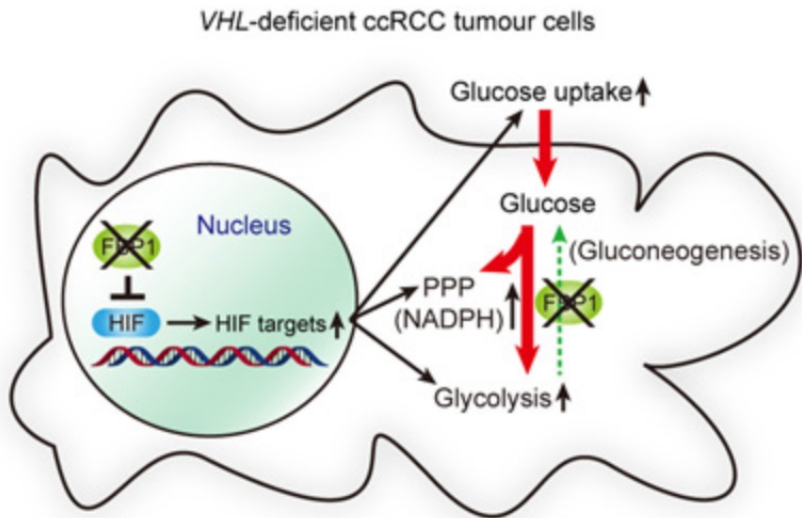
- **Clear cell renal cell carcinoma (ccRCC: 70-75%)**
- Papillary (10%)
- Chromophobe (5%)
- Cystic-solid (1-4%)
- Collecting ducts (1%)
- Medullary (<1%)
- Xp11 translocation (<1%)
- Mucinous tubular and spindle cell (<1%)
- Associated with neuroblastoma (<1%)
- Non-classified (4-6%).

- **ccRCC genetic alteration (>90%)**: 3p deletion or translocation (**VHL**), leading to HIF stabilization.

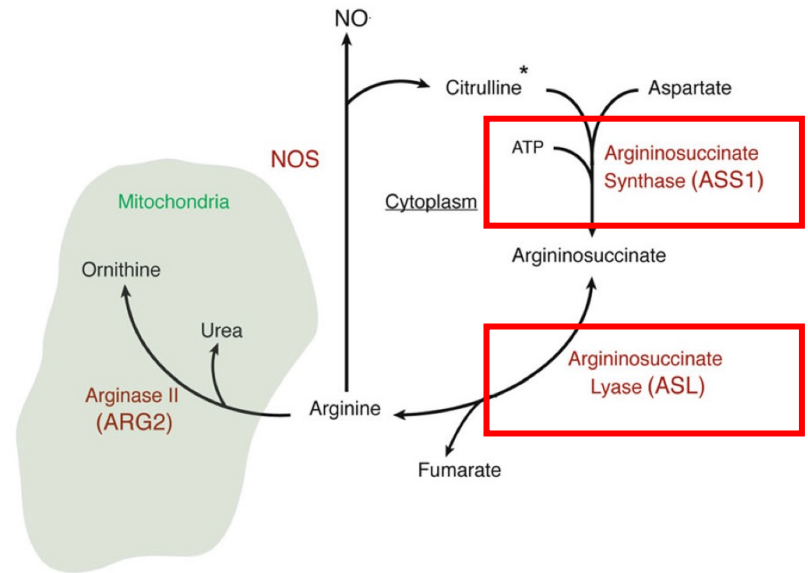
- **ccRCC morphology**: "clear cell" due to lipids and glycogen accumulation.



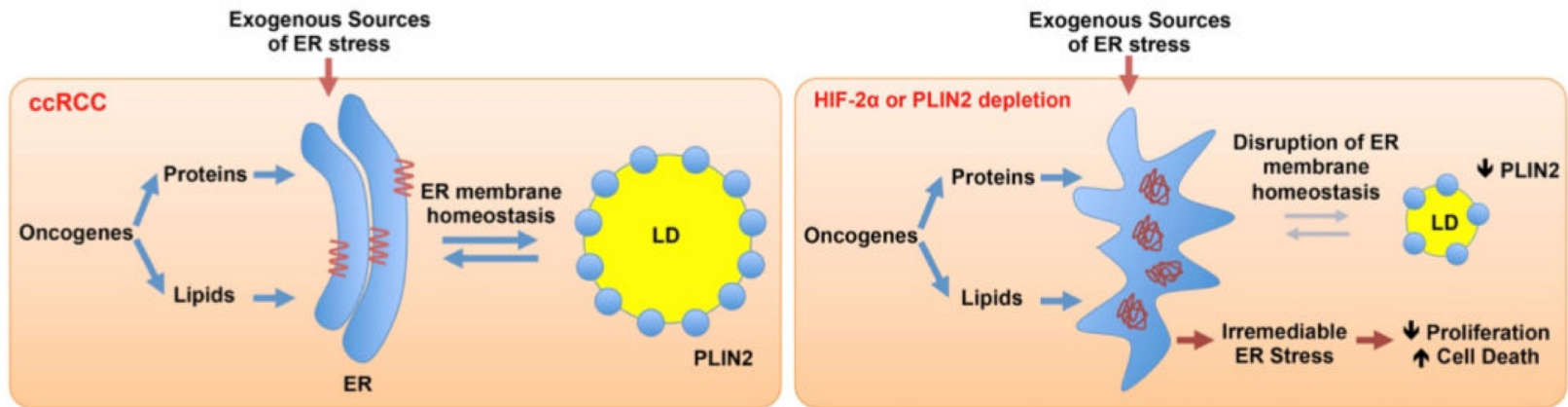
Deregulated Metabolism: Hallmark of ccRCC



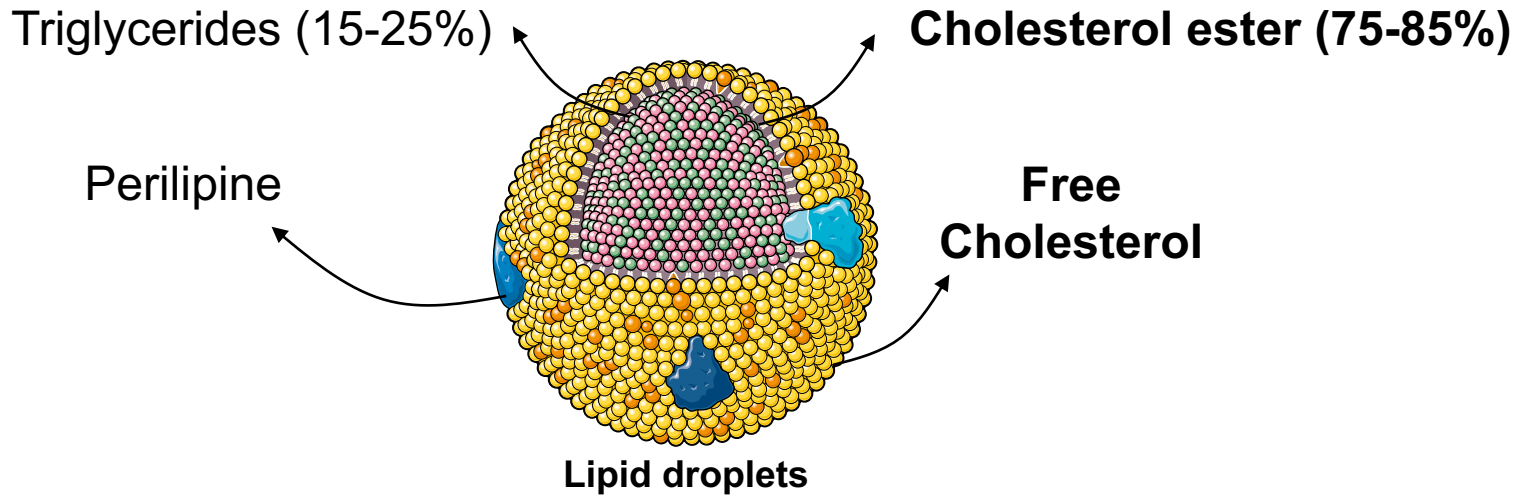
Bo Li et al., Nature. 2014



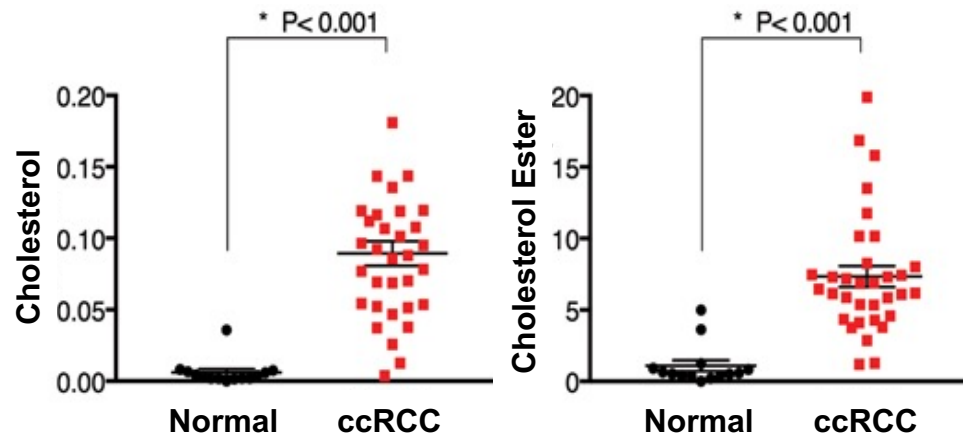
Khare et al., Cancer & Metabolism. 2021



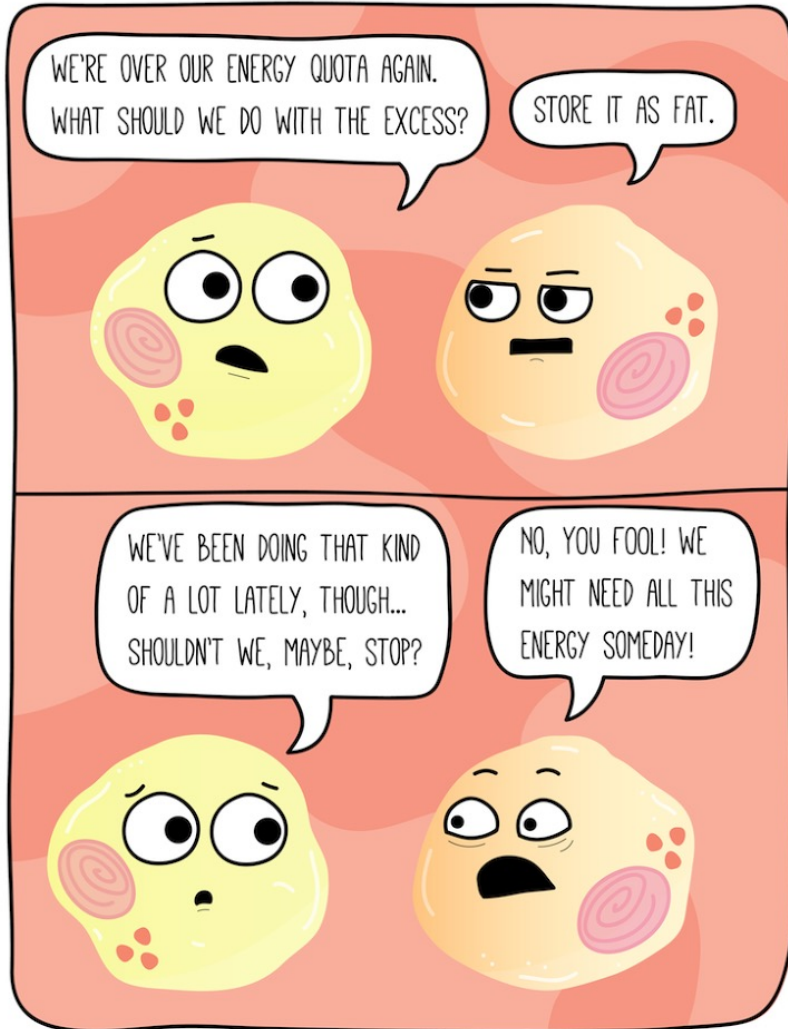
Bo Qiu et al., Cancer Discovery. 2015



- **Roles:** sources of lipids, energy storage, avoid toxicity...
- **High Cholesterol (3-8x) and Cholesterol Ester (20/100x) levels.**



Does excess cholesterol contribute to ccRCC?



**Targeting
Cholesterol
Metabolism?**



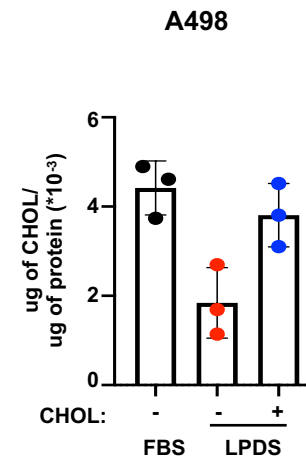
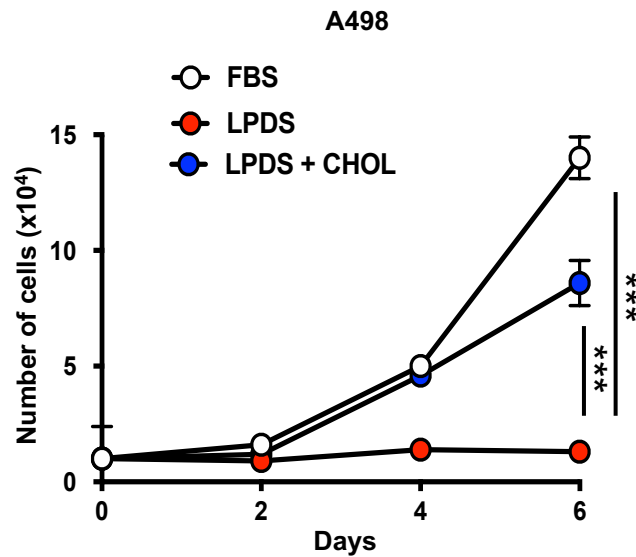
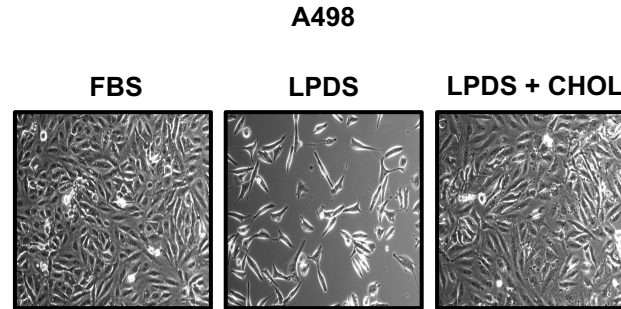


**Cholesterol Auxotrophy as a Targetable
Vulnerability in Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma**

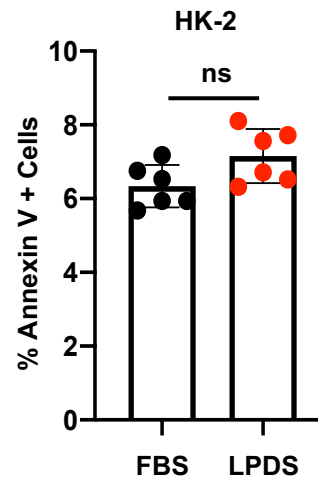
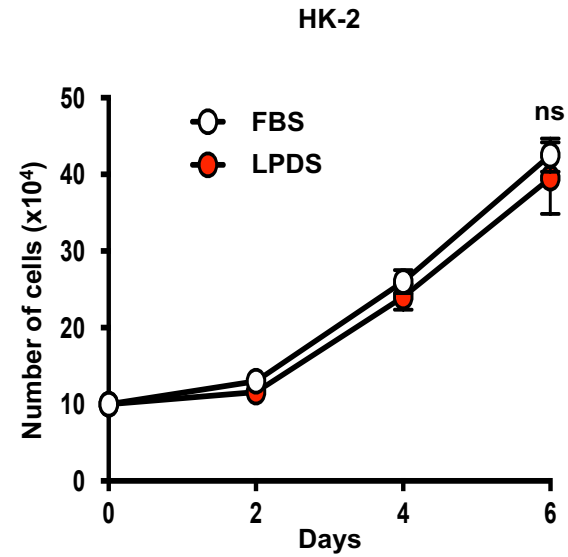
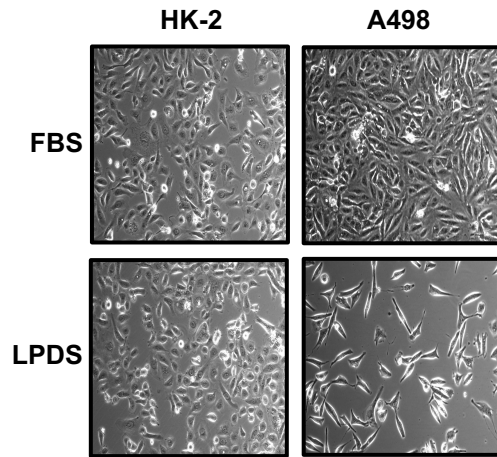


**Re-activation of the Bile Acid Pathway
Confers Growth Advantages to ccRCC**

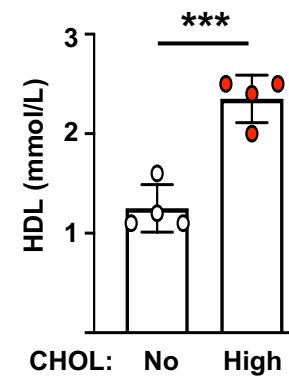
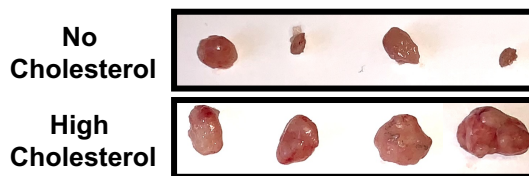
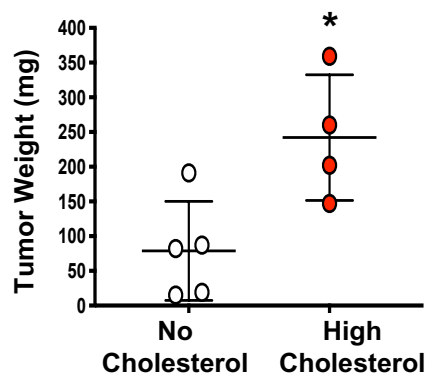
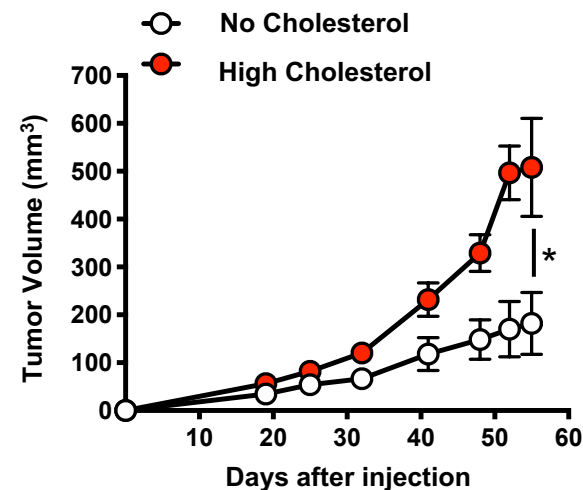
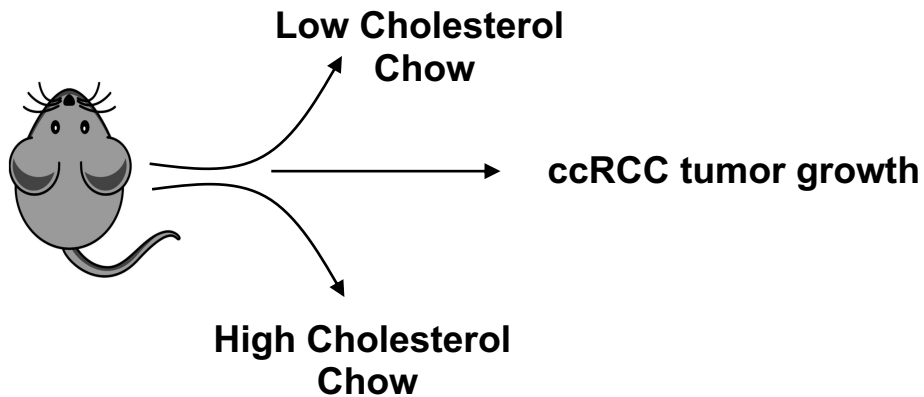
Exogenous Cholesterol is Essential to Mediate ccRCC Cells Proliferation *in vitro*



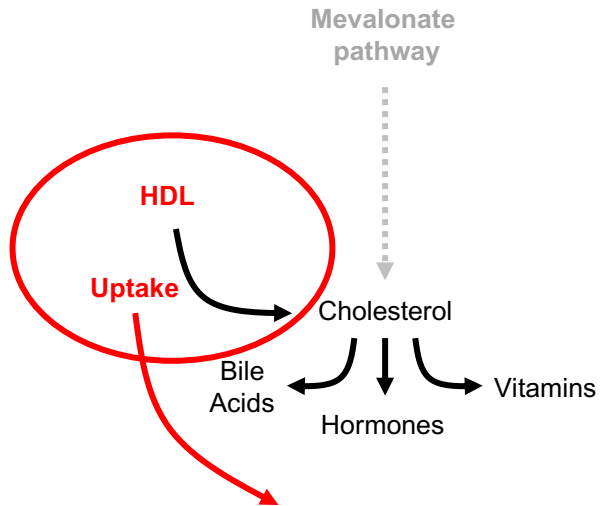
Normal Kidney Cells are not Affected by Exogenous Lipid Deprivation



Consequence of Cholesterol deprivation on ccRCC xenografts



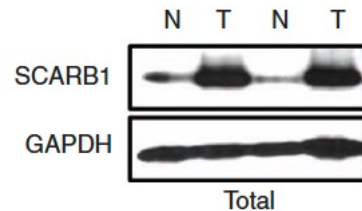
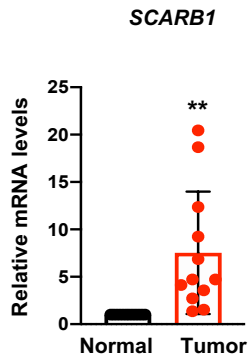
How ccRCC cells end up loaded with high cholesterol content



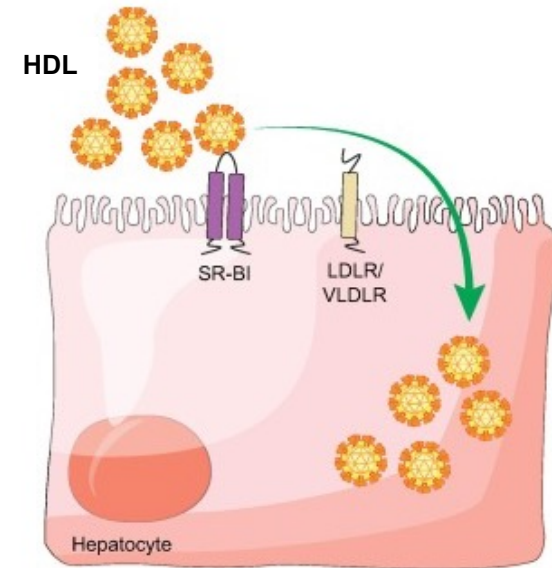
- Mainly expressed in the liver for Reverse Cholesterol Transport (RCT)
- Uptake of Cholesterol Ester from HDL
- Cholesterol efflux
- Involved in viral infection (HBV & COVID19)

Gene involved in Cholesterol uptake

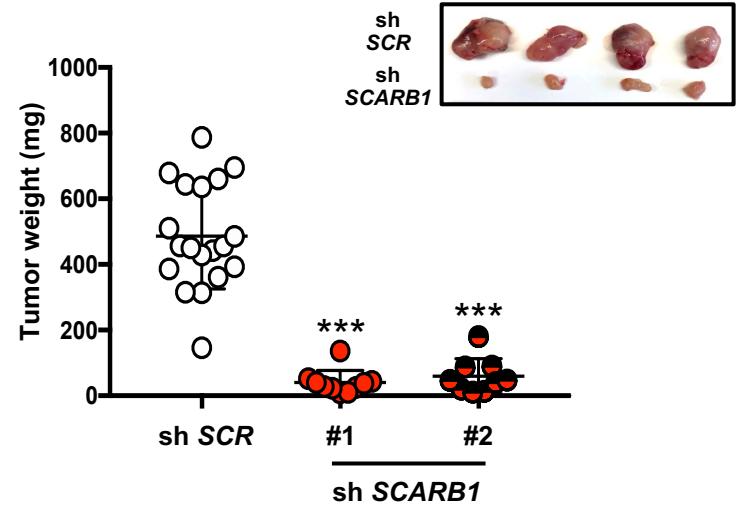
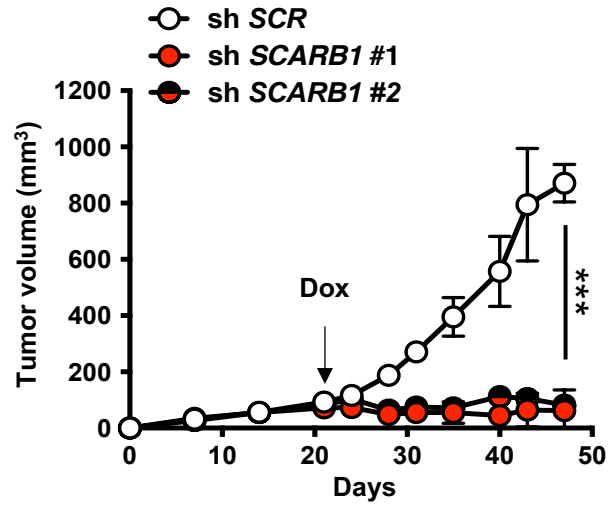
Gene	Gene expression changes in tumor vs normal tissue	p-adj
SCARB1	16.80653	4.66E-208
LDLR	-2.39152	9.65E-14
VLDLR	1.55408	4.29E-11
CD36	2.16743	3.87E-44



N : Normal kidney tissue
T : ccRCC tissue

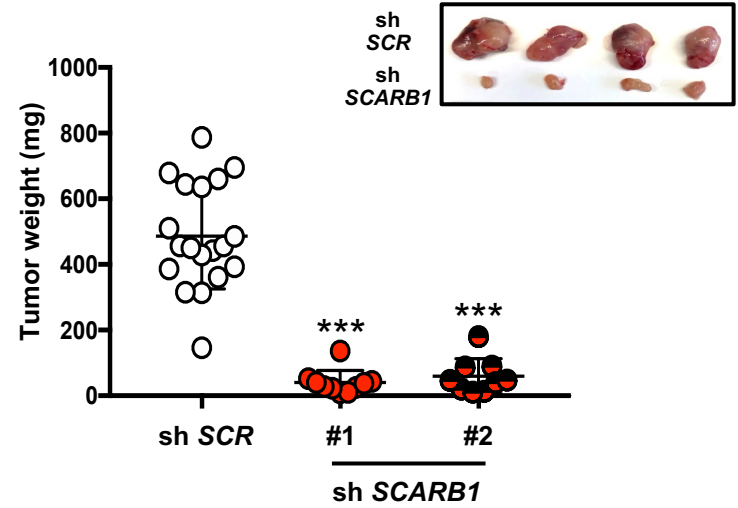
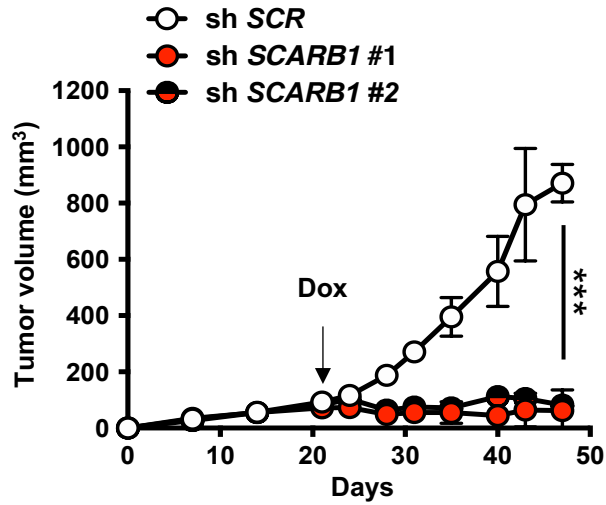


Targeting *SCARB1* impairs Tumor Growth *in vivo*



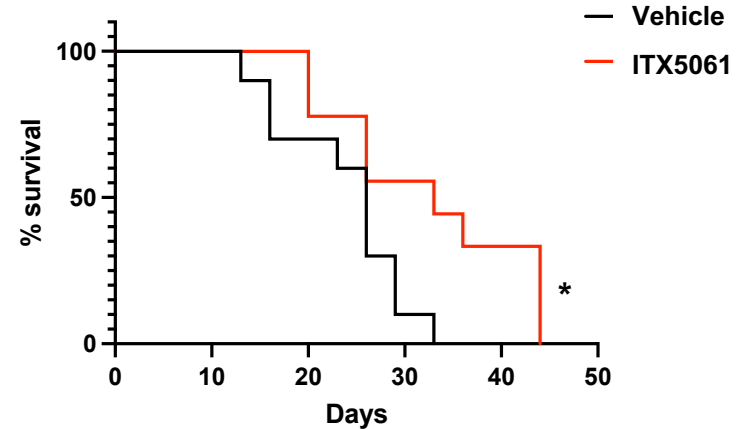
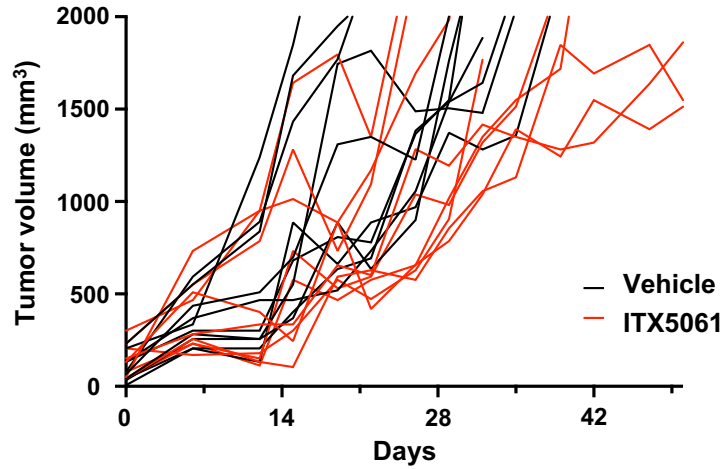
Riscal R. et al., *Cancer Discovery*. 2021

Targeting SCARB1 impairs Tumor Growth *in vivo*

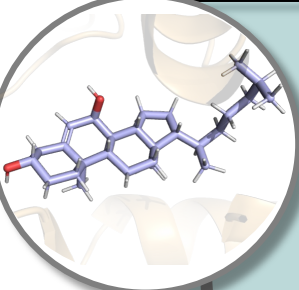


Riscal R. et al., *Cancer Discovery*. 2021

ccRCC PDXs



Unpublished data – do not post

A circular inset showing the chemical structure of cholesterol, a steroid molecule with a hydroxyl group, a branched hydrocarbon side chain, and a fused ring system.

**Cholesterol Auxotrophy as a Targetable
Vulnerability in Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma**

A circular inset showing a 3D ribbon diagram of a protein structure in blue, with a yellow and red ligand molecule bound to it.

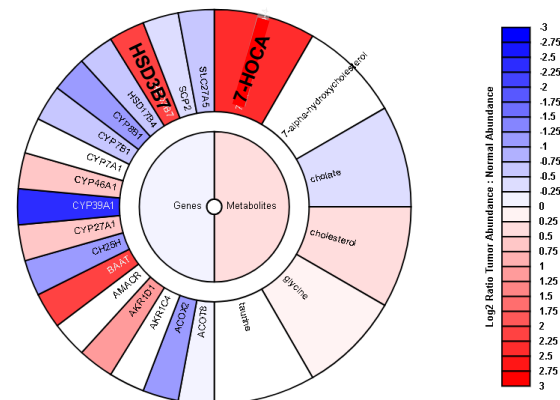
**Re-activation of the Bile Acid Pathway
Confers Growth Advantages to ccRCC**

Bile Acid Linked with ccRCC Patients

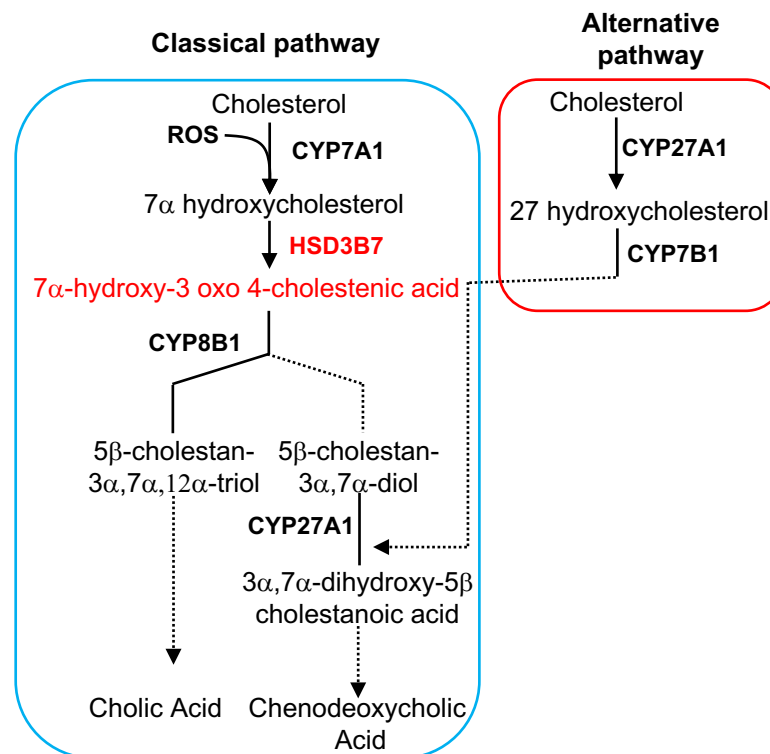
Metabolite	δ_H ppm ^a (multiplicity)	% variation (\pm uncertainty)	ES (\pm ES _{SE})	p-value
Metabolite variations in controls > 60 yr (n = 29) vs. controls \leq 60 yr (n = 20)				
2-KG ^b	2.45 (t)	74.3 (6.1)	2.08 (0.52)	1.47×10^{-12}
2-Py	8.33 (s)	32.3 (12.2)	0.54 (0.43)	8.15×10^{-3}
3-methylhistidine ^b	8.11 (s)	4.9 (13.3)	0.08 (0.42)	
3-HIBA ^b	1.36 (s)	4.7 (5.6)	0.18 (0.42)	
3-HIVA	2.37 (s)	3.0 (5.1)	0.13 (0.42)	
4-DTA	1.24 (d)	-19.9 (11.0)	-0.41 (0.43)	
4-hydroxyhippurate	7.76 (d)	-51.3 (11.3)	-1.17 (0.45)	2.95×10^{-9}
4-hydroxyphenylacetate ^b	6.88 (d)	-13.9 (6.6)	-0.47 (0.32)	5.09×10^{-3}
Acetate	1.93 (s)	-63.2 (37.2)	-0.45 (0.43)	
Acetone	2.24 (s)	-6.6 (7.7)	-0.21 (0.42)	1.54×10^{-4}
Allantoin ^c	5.40 (s)	6.4 (7.2)	0.19 (0.42)	
Ascorbate	4.53 (d)	-14.4 (7.0)	-0.47 (0.43)	
Bile acid ^f	0.54 (s)	75.5 (13.7)	0.92 (0.44)	5.51×10^{-6}
Bile acid ^f	0.57 (s)	101.0 (15.2)	1.04 (0.45)	1.61×10^{-7}

Monteiro et al., Scientific reports, 2016

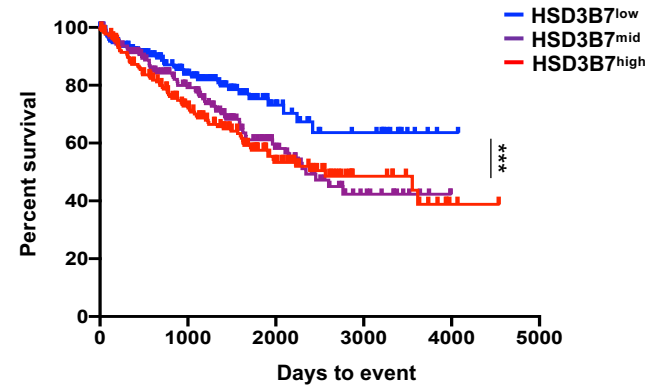
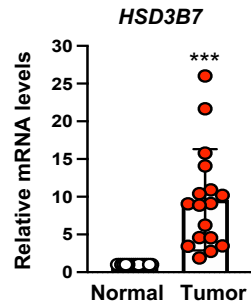
Primary Bile Acids Biosynthesis



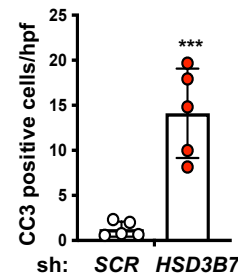
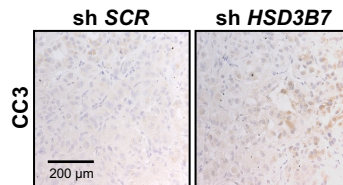
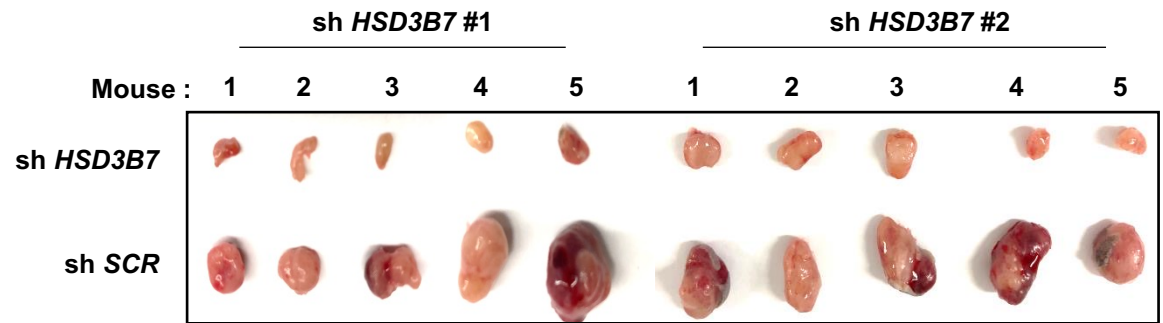
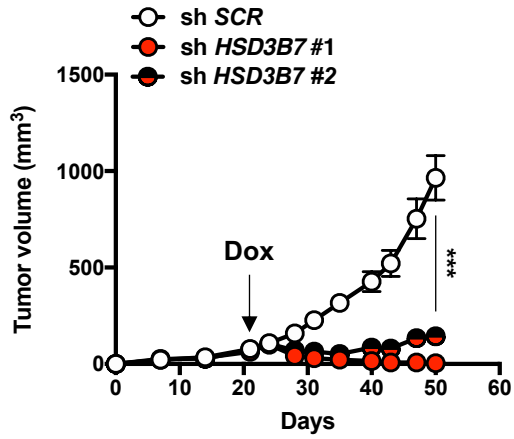
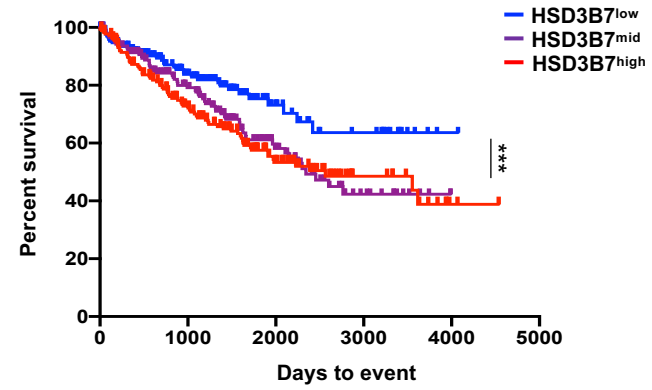
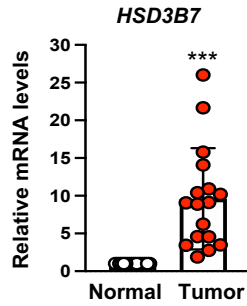
Hakimi et al., Cancer Cell, 2016



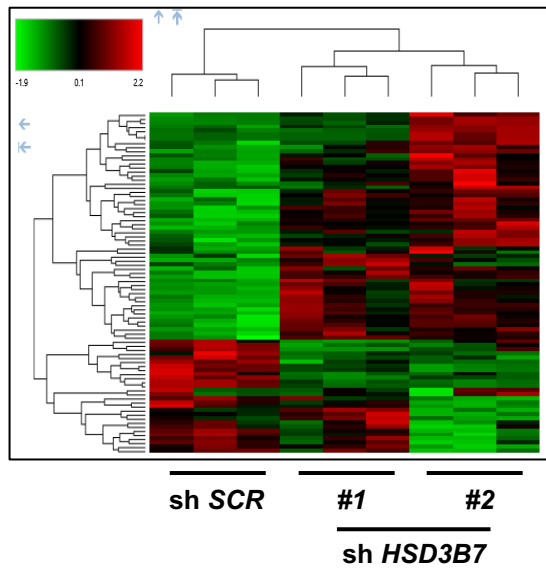
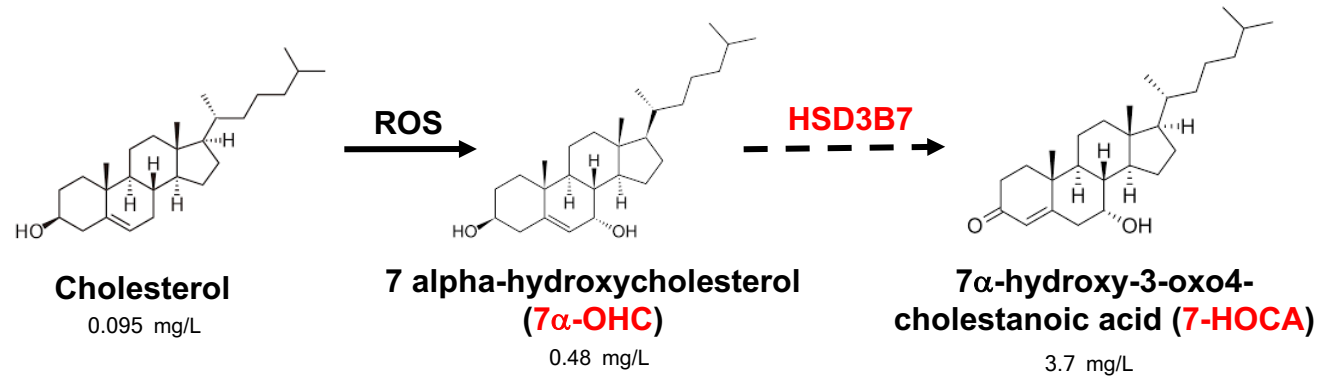
HSD3B7, a Promising Target in ccRCC



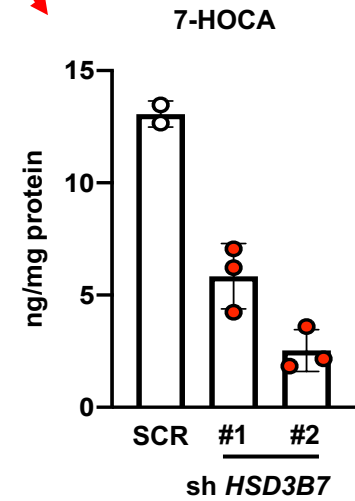
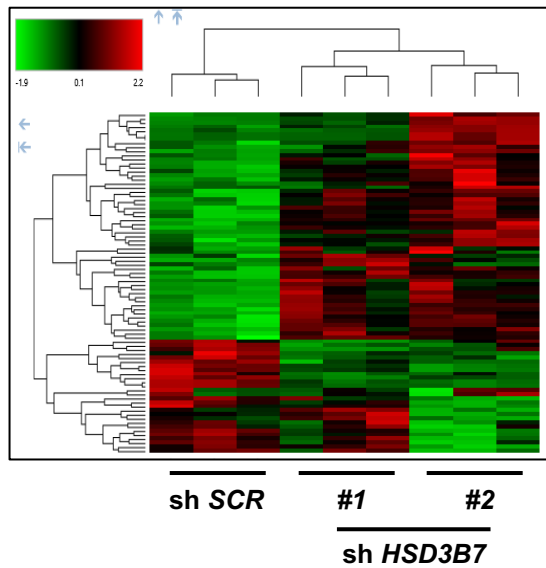
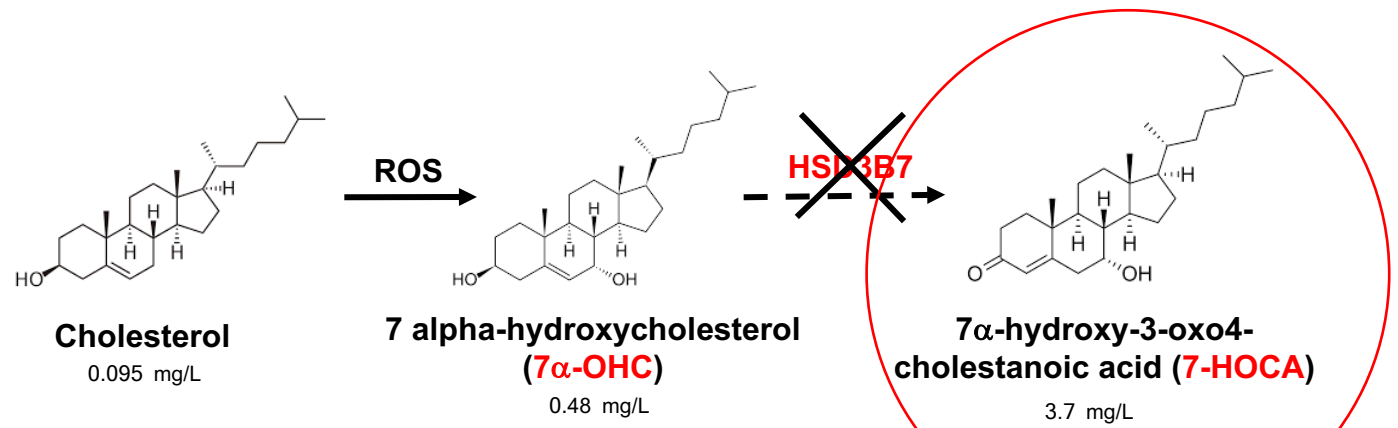
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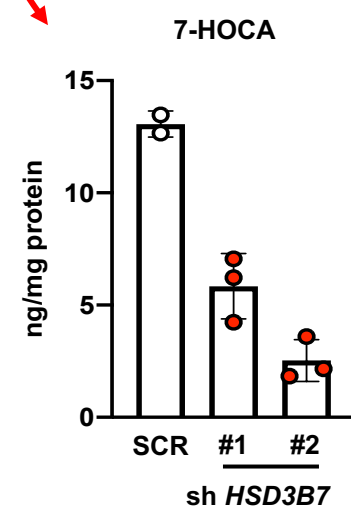
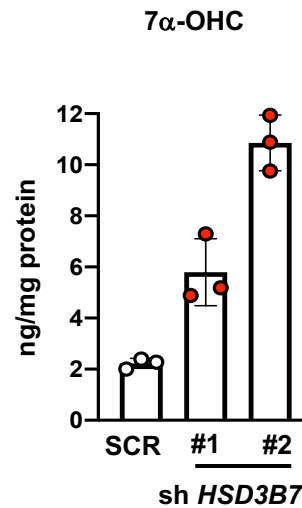
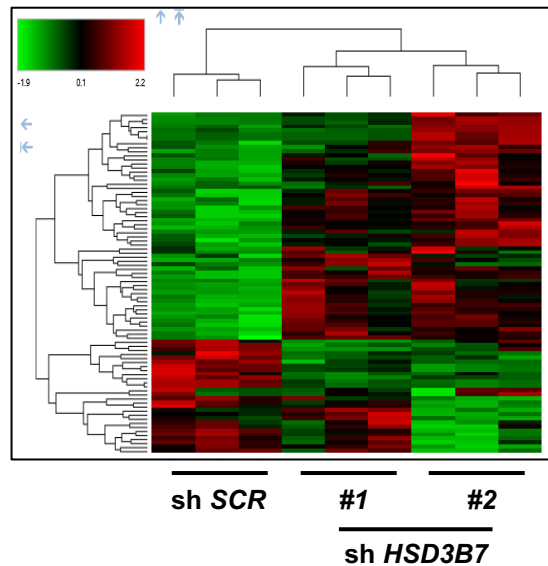
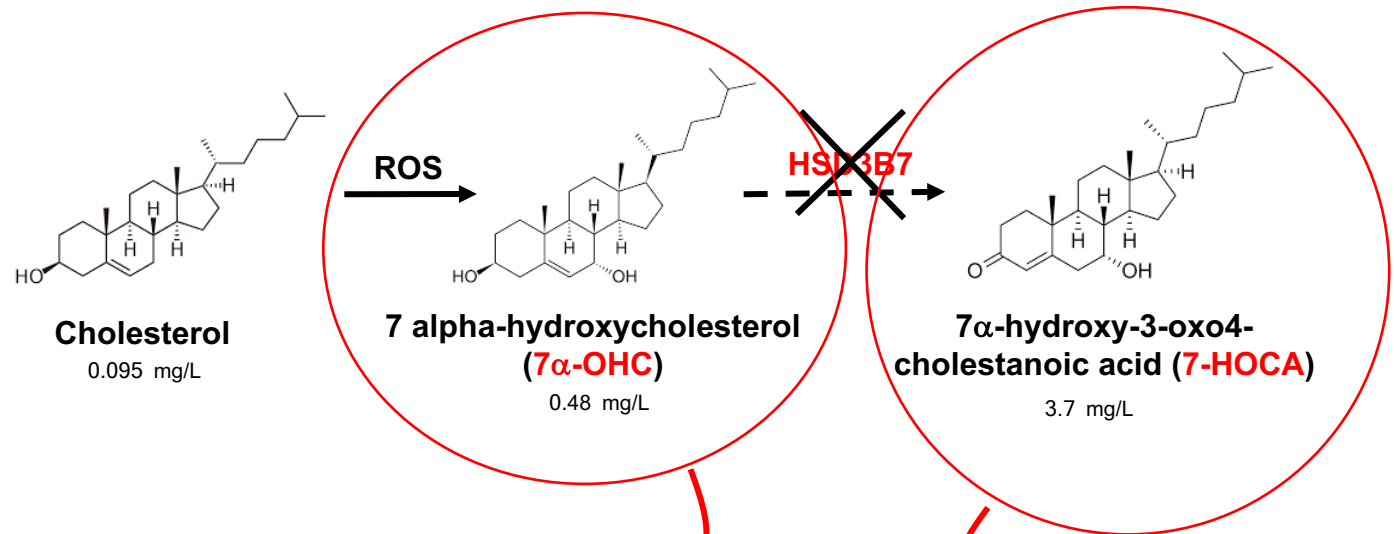
HSD3B7 Knock Down Lead to 7 α -OHC Accumulation



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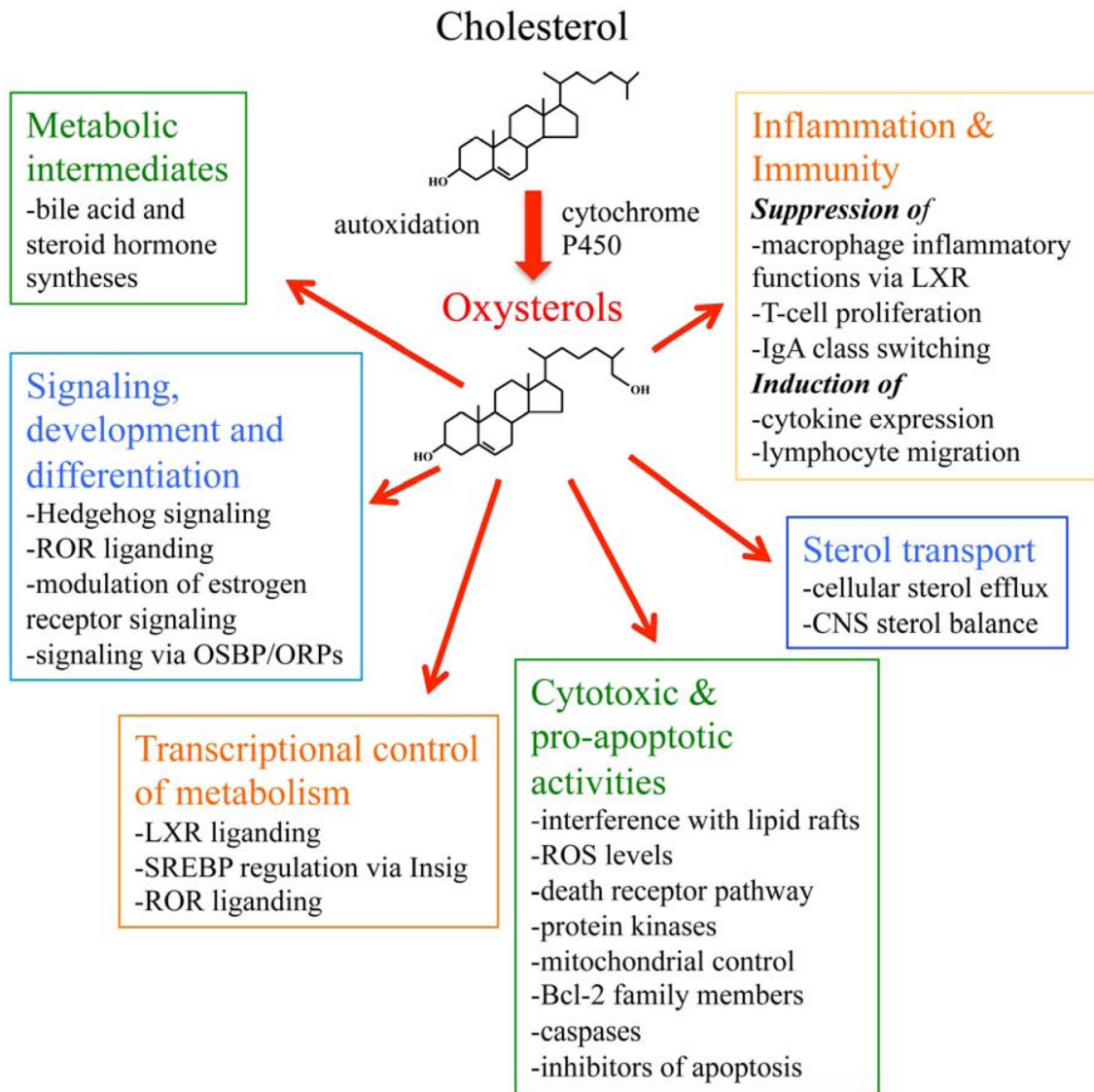


HSD3B7 Knock Down Lead to 7 α -OHC Accumulation

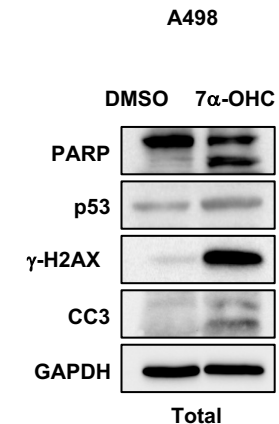
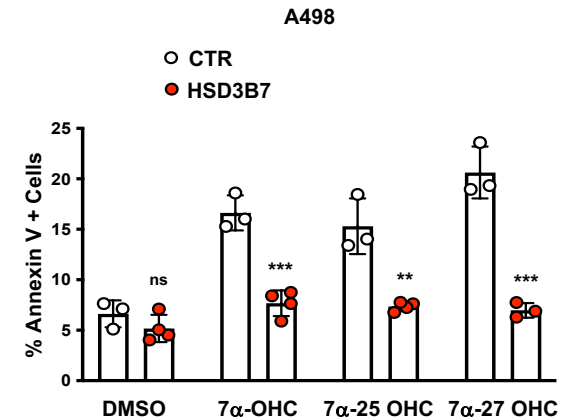
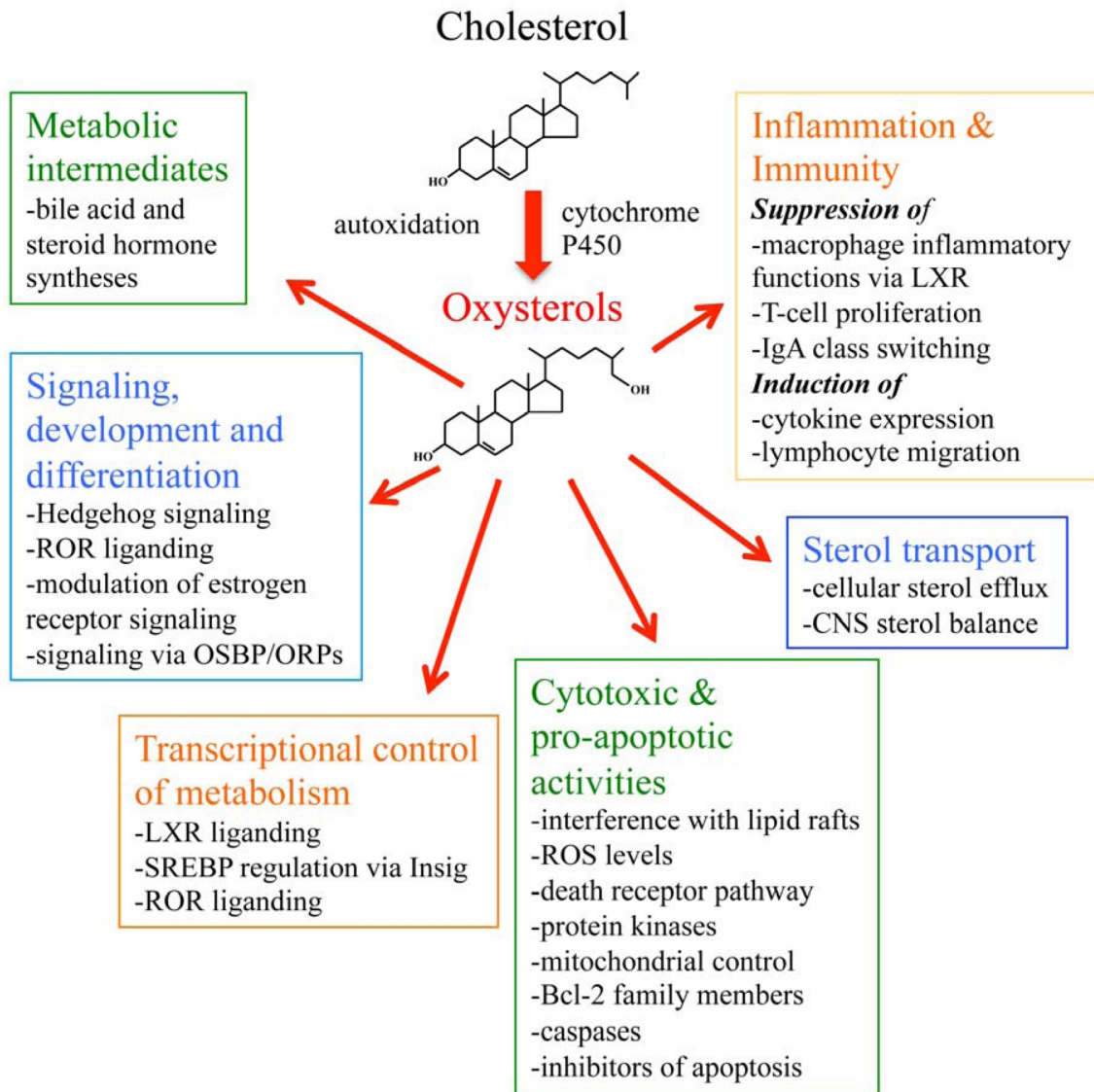


Is accumulation of oxysterols toxic for ccRCC cells ?

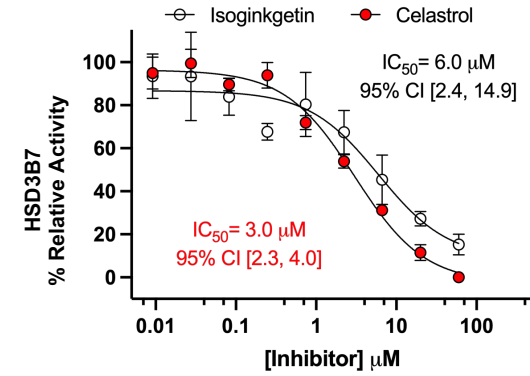
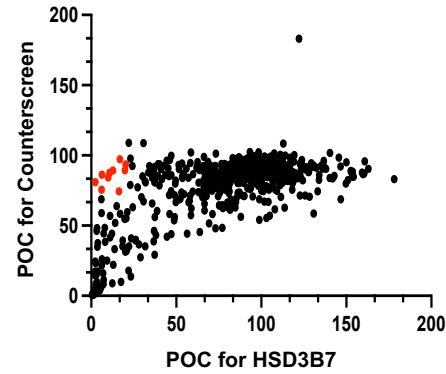
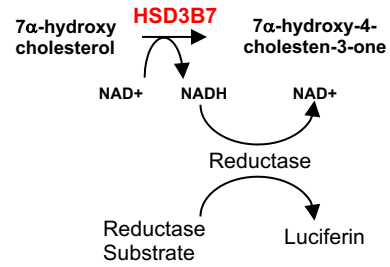
7 α -OHC Accumulation Induces ccRCC Cell Death



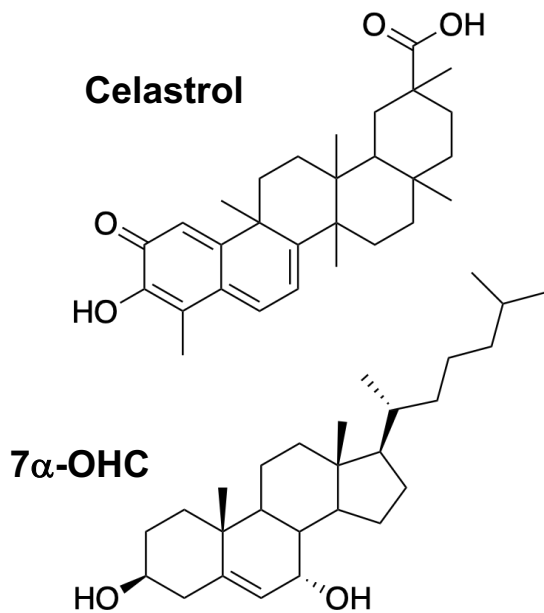
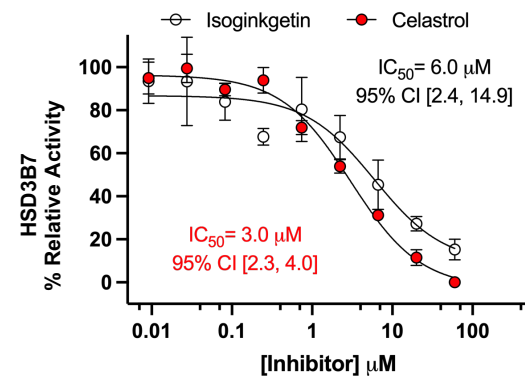
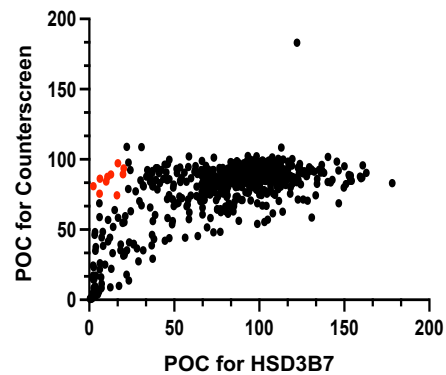
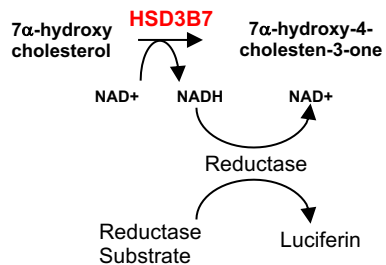
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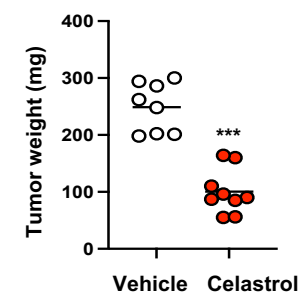
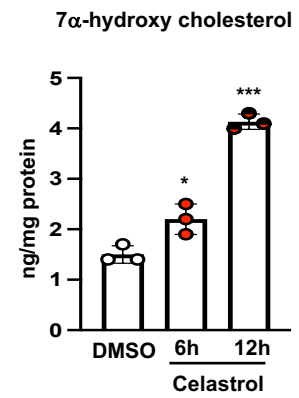
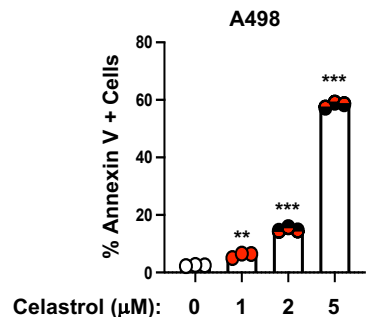
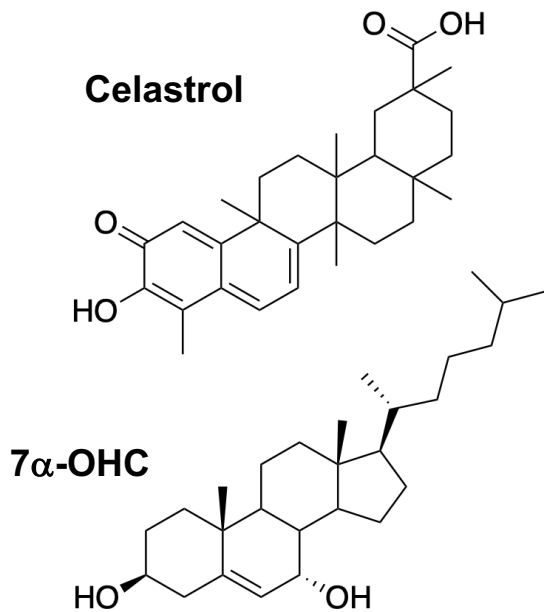
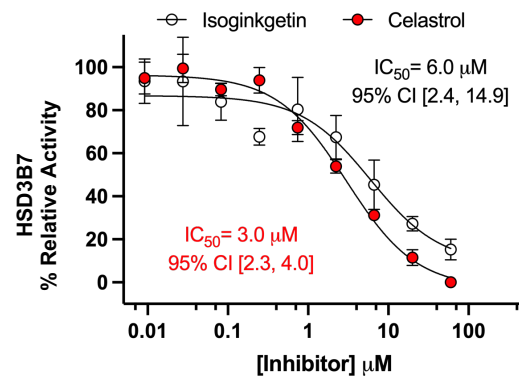
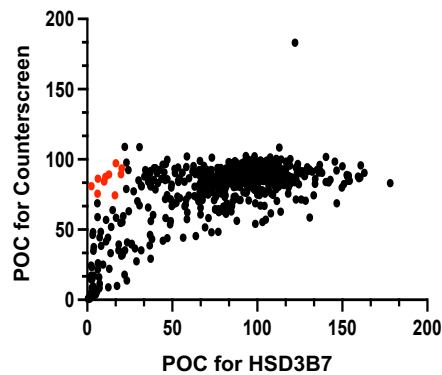
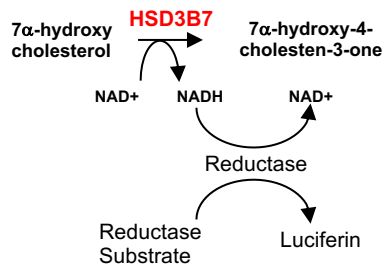
Natural Library Inhibitor Screening Reveals Celastrol as a Potent HSD3B7 Inhibitor



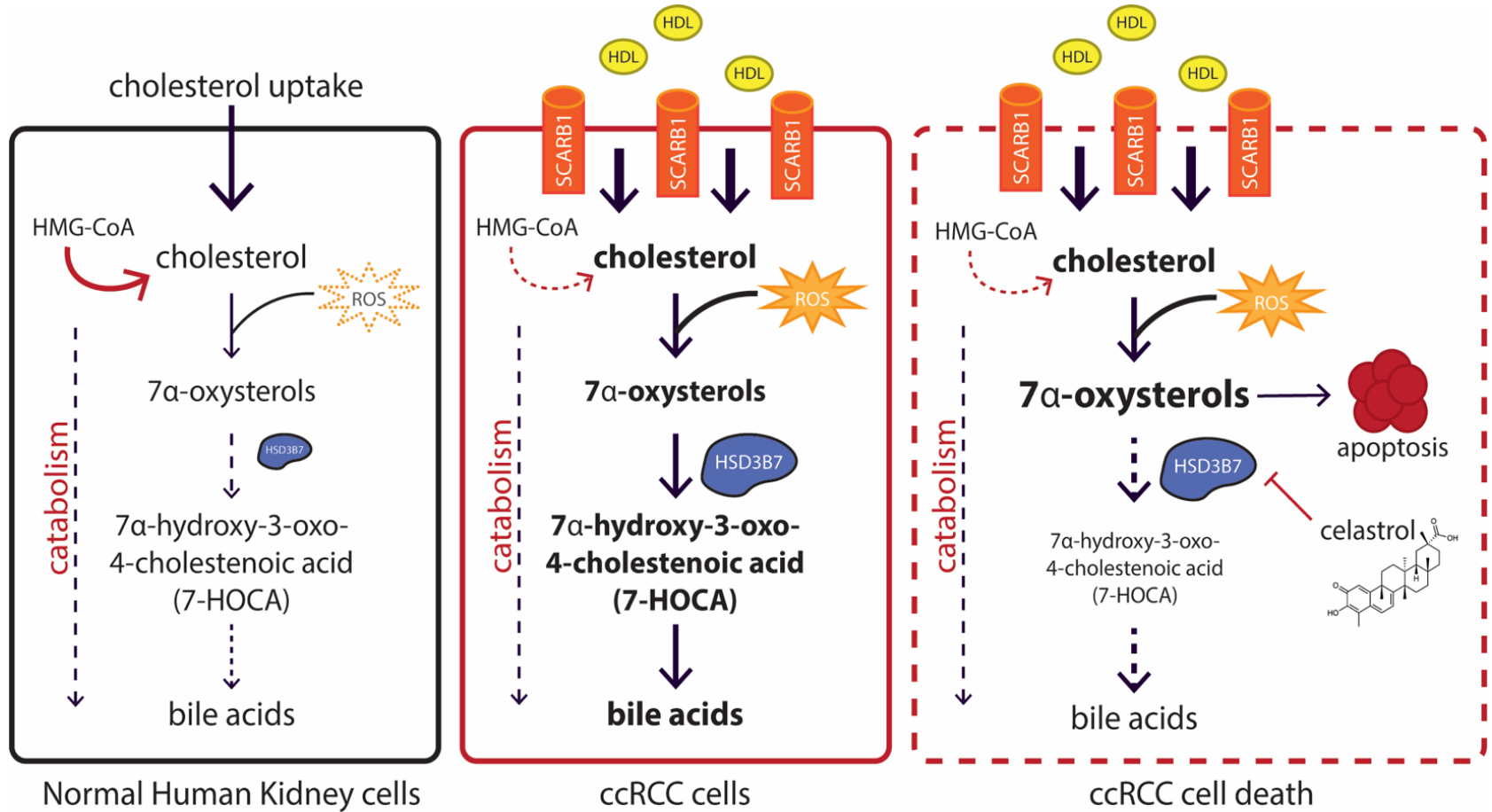
Natural Library Inhibitor Screening Reveals Celastrol as a Potent HSD3B7 Inhibitor



Natural Library Inhibitor Screening Reveals Celastrol as a Potent HSD3B7 Inhibitor



Take Home Message



M. Celeste Simon

Brian Keith

Nicole Anderson

Michelle Burrows

Madeleine Carens

Nathan Coffey

Xu Han

Christine Yang

Nicholas Lesner

Graham Lobel

Bailey Nance

Laura Kim

Nicolas Skuli

Fran Tucker

Rico Tucker



Blair Lab

Clementina Mesaros

Jimmy Xu

Marmorstein Lab

Sarah Gardner

Austin Vogt

John Tobias

Vincent Lab

Emma Vincent

Caroline Bull



Damon Runyon
Cancer Research
Foundation