

Use of flow-based assays to monitor drugs with antithrombotic, anticoagulant or anti-inflammatory potential

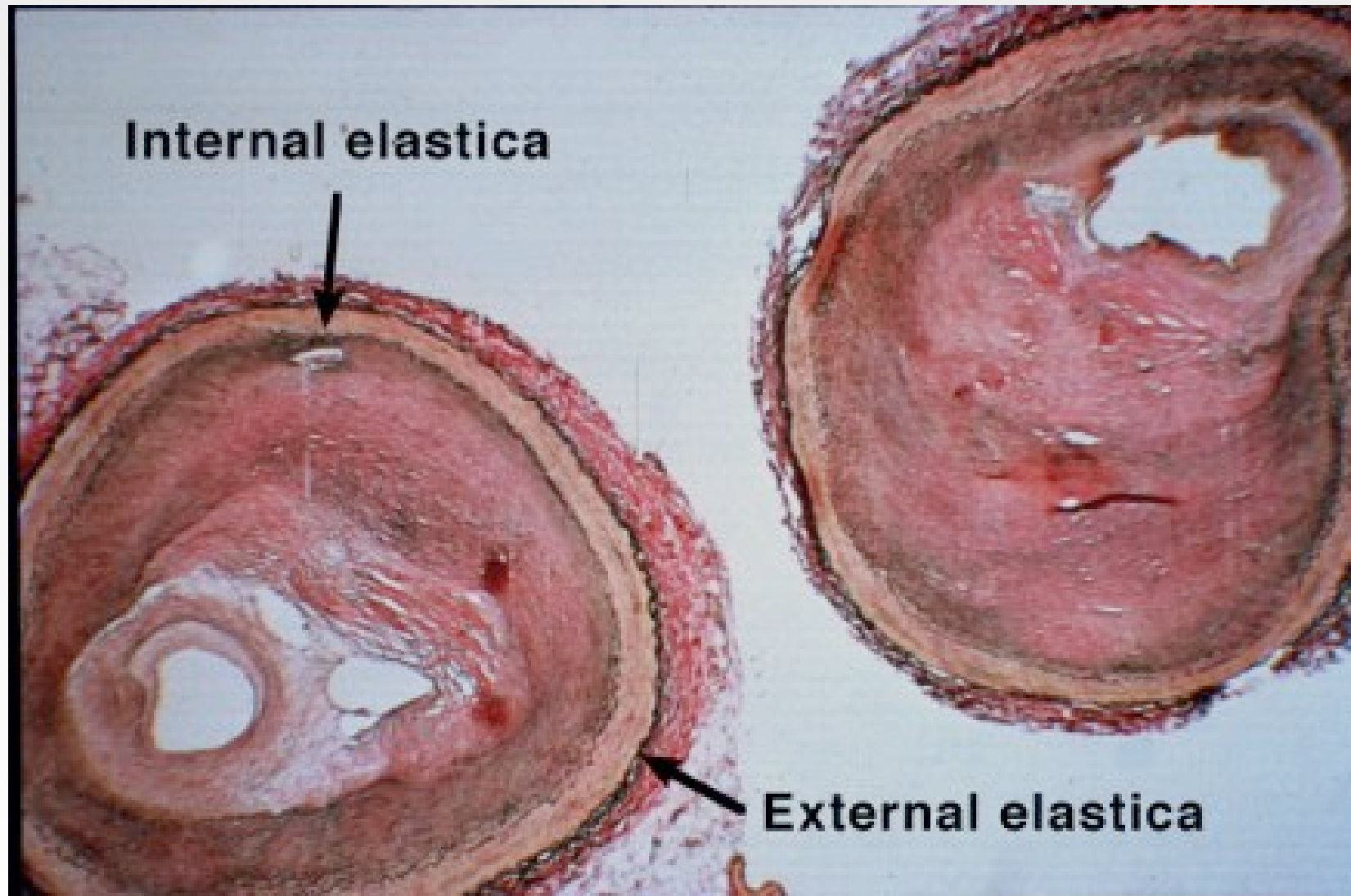
J. Heemskerk, J. Cosemans

jwm.heemskerk@bioch.unimaas.nl

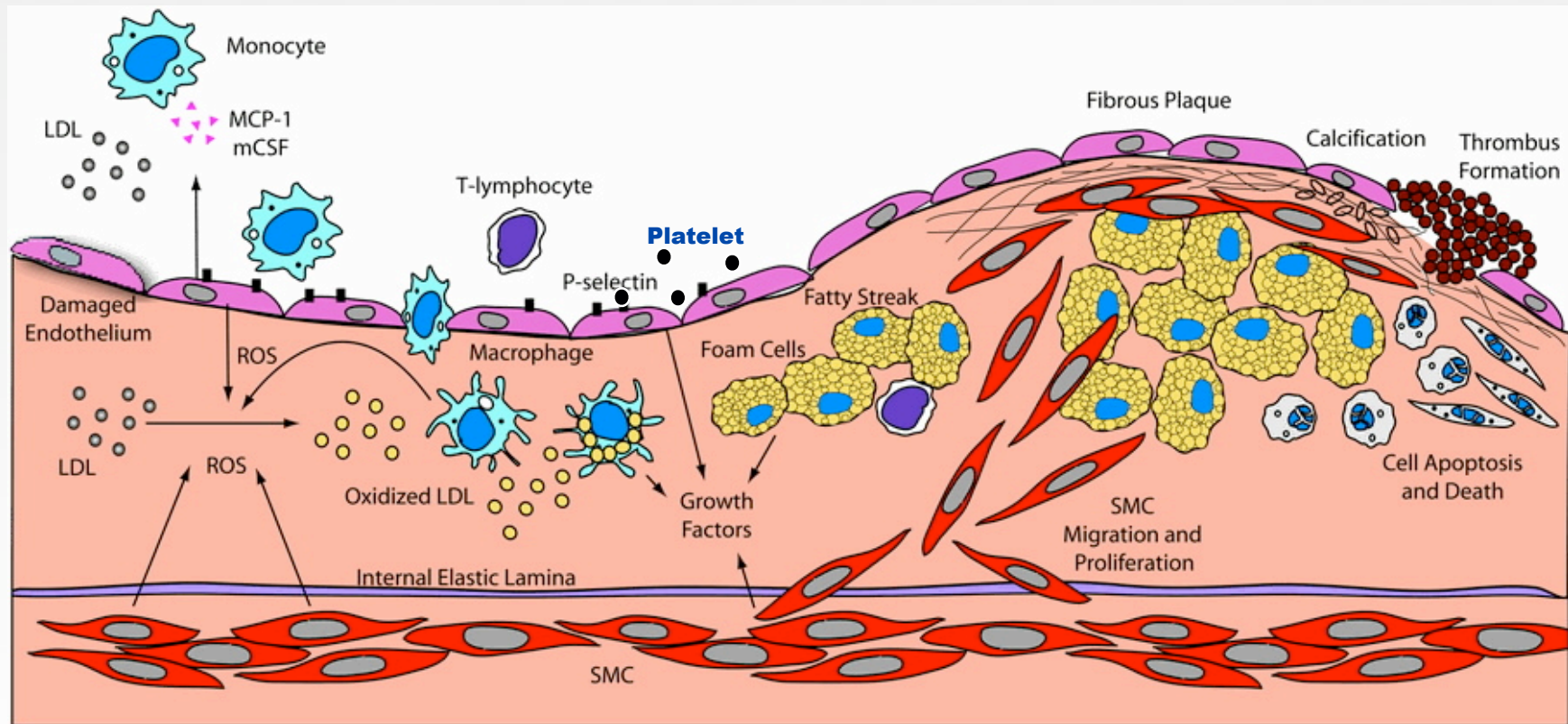
Dept. of Biochemistry
Cardiovascular Research Institute Maastricht (CARIM)
Maastricht University Medical Centre⁺, The Netherlands



Atherosclerosis and thrombosis



Atherosclerosis and thrombosis



Atherosclerosis and thrombosis

Primary and secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease

antithrombotic therapies, all with risk of bleeding

Antiplatelet drugs and biopharmaceuticals

COX (aspirin)

ADP receptor blockers (clopidogrel)

integrin blockers (peptides, mAb)

Anticoagulant drugs

oral anticoagulants (coumarins)

heparins

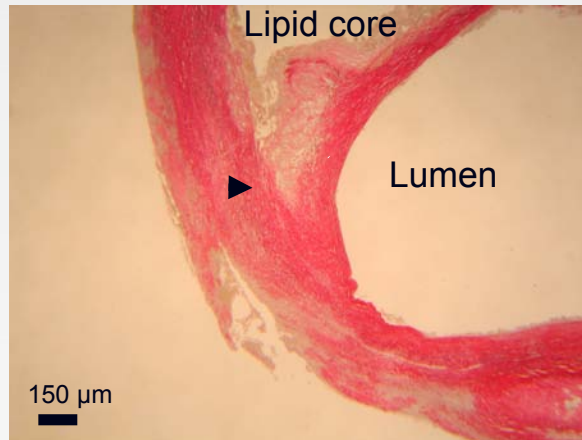
factor inhibitors

=> **Validated laboratory assays**, testing only platelet or coagulation function

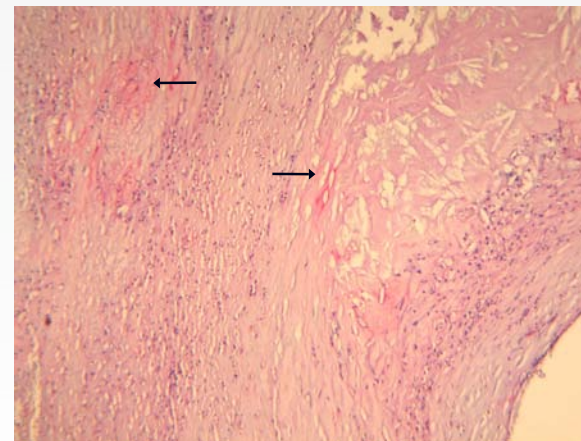
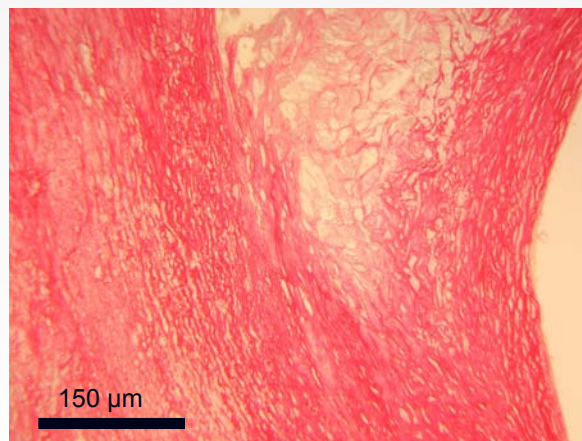
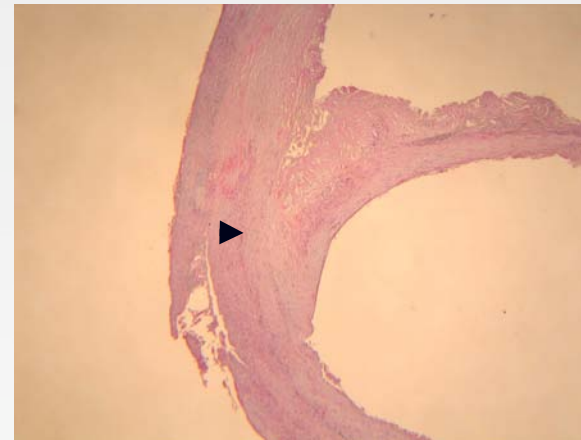
- no integrative assays
- no bedside assays
- no tests incorporating blood flow

Atherosclerosis and thrombosis

Collagen (Sirius Red)



Tissue factor staining



Atherosclerosis and thrombosis

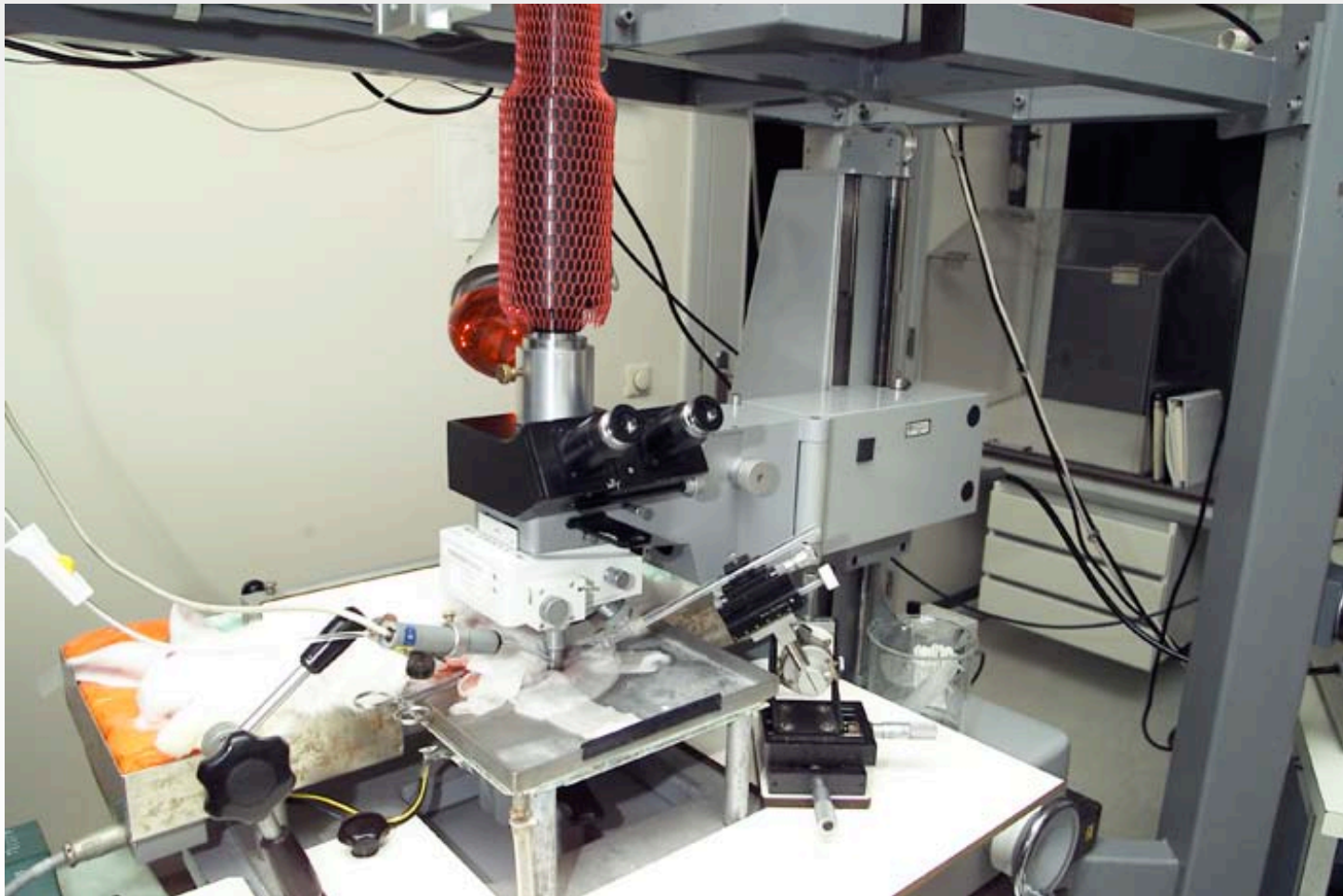
Question 1:

Which are the main thrombogenic components on a ruptured plaque?

- collagen
- von Willebrand factor
- tissue factor (coagulation)
- fibrin
- ...

Thrombus formation in animal models
in vivo

Mechanical puncture of rabbit mesenteric arteriole
haemostasis model: thromboembolic process (1999)



Mechanical puncture of rabbit mesenteric arteriole

haemostasis model: thromboembolic process (1999)

Vehicle control

*Infused thrombin inhibitor
(melagatran)*

Calcium response
(Fluo-3-loaded platelets)

Free radical-induced damage of mouse mesenteric arteriole

arterial thrombosis model (2003)

- Bengal rose / illumination
- Laser irradiation
- FeCl_3 application

Venule

Arteriole (5 min)

Free radical-induced damage of mouse mesenteric arteriole

arterial thrombosis model (2003)

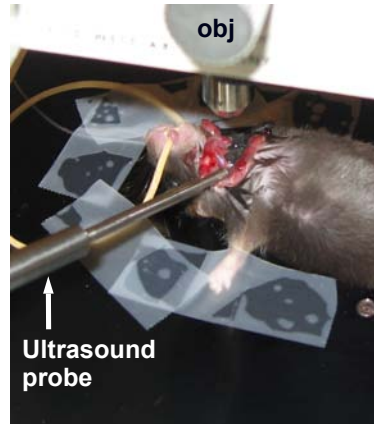
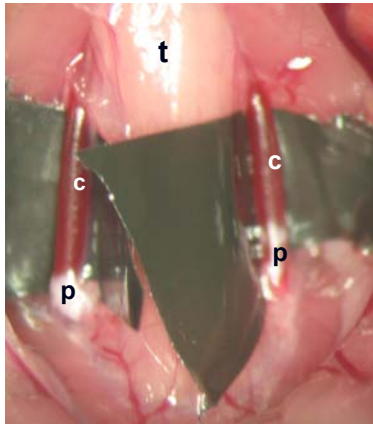
- Bengal rose / illumination
- Laser irradiation
- **FeCl₃ application**

Collagen-R $\alpha 2\beta 1^{-/-}$ (5 min)

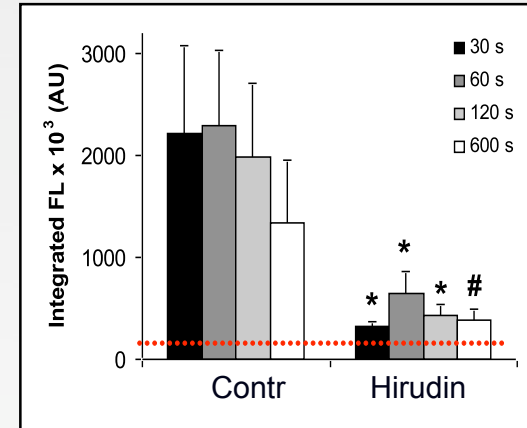
wildtype (5 min)

Ultrasound-induced rupture of carotid plaque in apoE^{-/-} mice

atherothrombosis model in mouse carotid artery (2007)



Control mouse



Thrombus formation in mouse models *in vivo*

- small / large arteries
- healthy / atherosclerotic arteries
- mechanical, laser, ligation damage
- free radical induced damage

Question 2:

Which are the main thrombogenic components of the damaged vessel wall?

- collagen
- von Willebrand factor
- tissue factor (coagulation)
- membrane phospholipids (coagulation)
- ...

Thrombus formation in mouse models *in vivo*

- small / large arteries
- healthy / atherosclerotic arteries
- mechanical, laser, ligation damage
- free radical induced damage

Question 3:

Which are the main prothrombotic factors in the blood?

platelet activation:

- (collagen), von Willebrand factor, fibrinogen
- autocrine ADP, ATP, Gas6, TxA₂
- thrombin, ...

coagulation activation:

- (tissue factor), coagulation factors
- platelet membrane phospholipids
- thrombin, fibrin(ogen), ...

Thrombus formation in mouse models *in vivo*

- small / large arteries
- healthy / atherosclerotic arteries
- mechanical, laser, ligation damage
- free radical induced damage

Question 4:

By which interventions or genetic changes is the thrombotic process affected?

platelet activation:

- (collagen receptors), von Willebrand factor, fibrinogen
- autocrine ADP, ATP, Gas6, TxA₂
- thrombin, ...

coagulation activation:

- (tissue factor), coagulation factors
- platelet membrane phospholipids
- thrombin, fibrin(ogen), ...

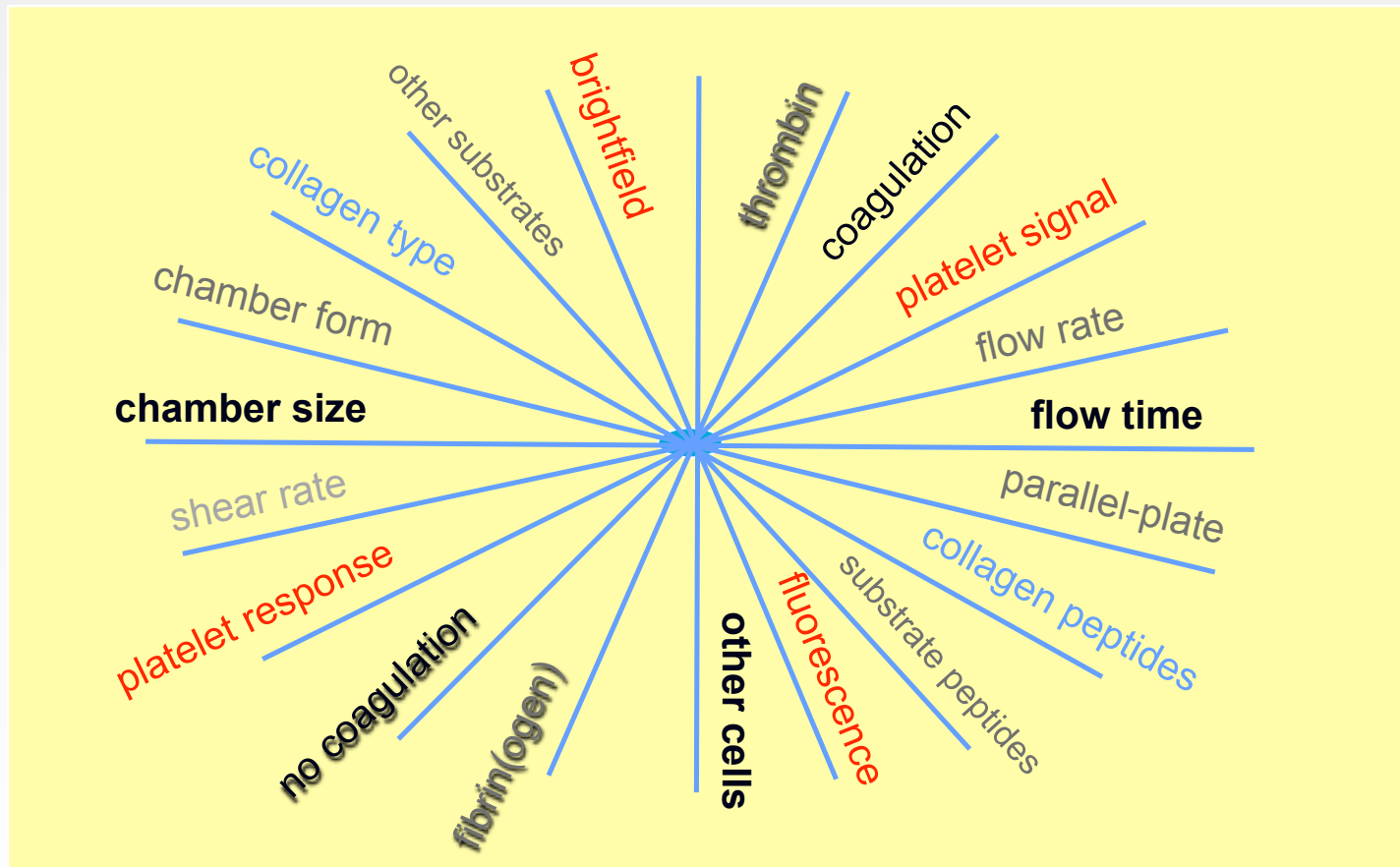
integrin block
ADP-R block
aspirin

oral
anticoagulation
heparins
thrombin inhibitor

**Use of flow chambers for *ex vivo* measurement
of thrombus formation**

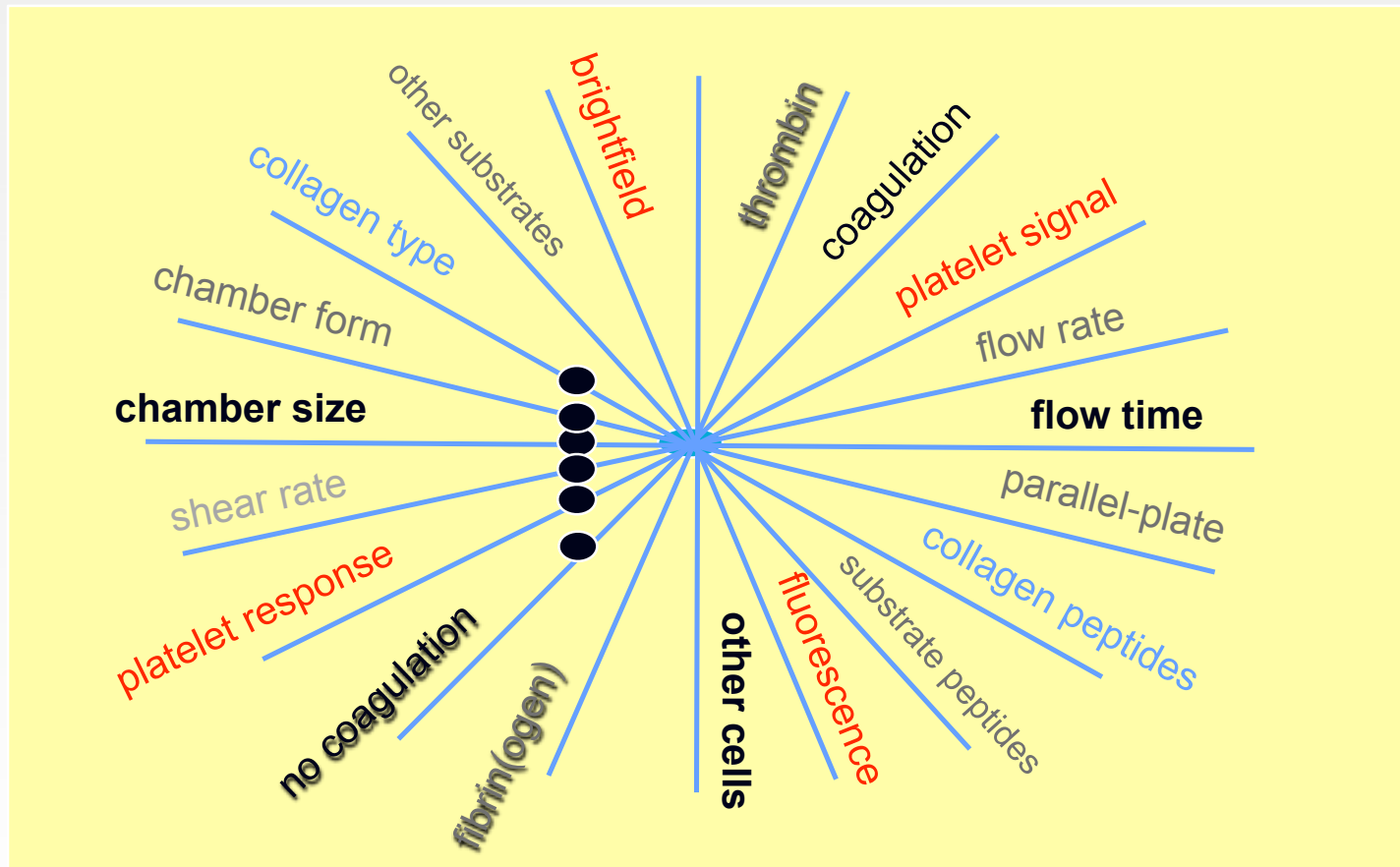
Thrombus formation in flow chambers

multiple choices in design, substrate and measurement



Thrombus formation in flow chambers

multiple choices in design, substrate and measurement



Pulse-free flow of whole blood over collagen type I

Imaging of thrombi by conventional microscopy
or by multiphoton laser-scanning microscopy



Whole
blood

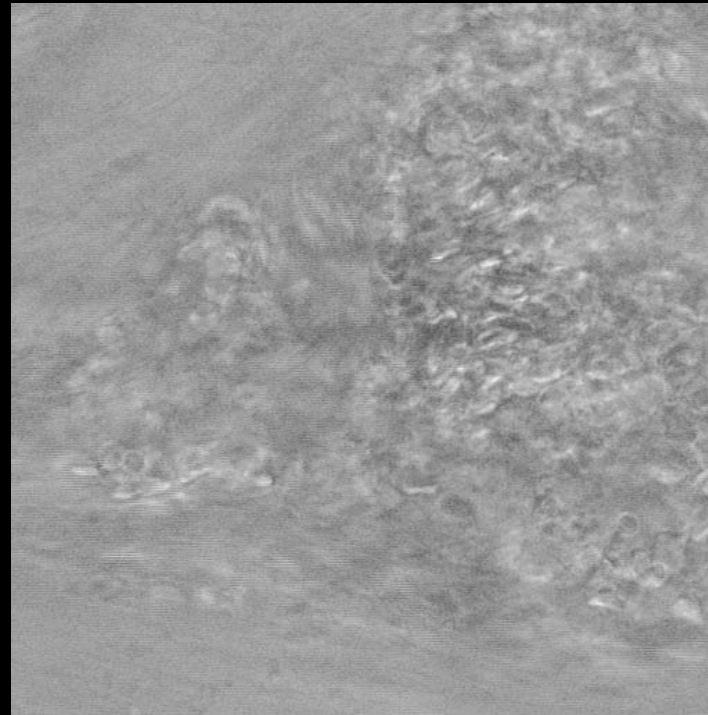
Rinse or
probe

flow chamber
3 mm x 50 μ m

TPLSM: 3 fluorescent colours

Collagen-induced thrombus formation at arterial shear rate (1000 s^{-1})

no coagulation



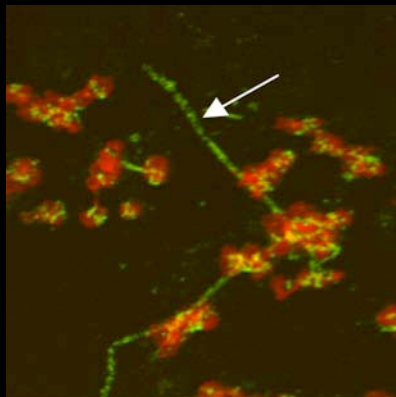
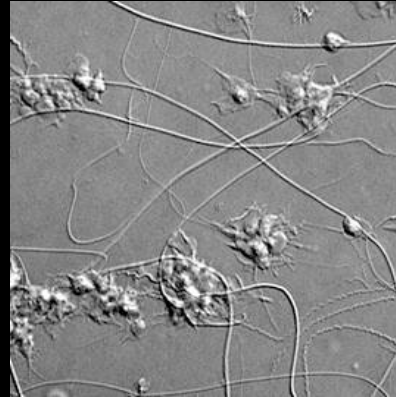
coagulation

Collagen-induced thrombus formation at arterial shear rate (1000 s^{-1})

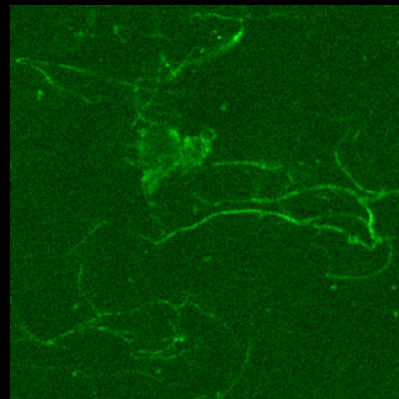
calcein-labeled platelets

fibrinogen label

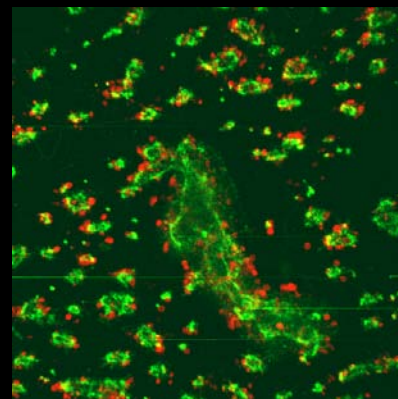
Collagen-induced thrombus formation at arterial shear rate (1000 s^{-1})



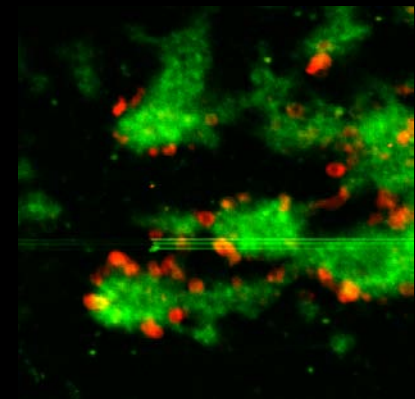
vWF



factor XII



integrin $\alpha\text{IIb}\beta 3^*$



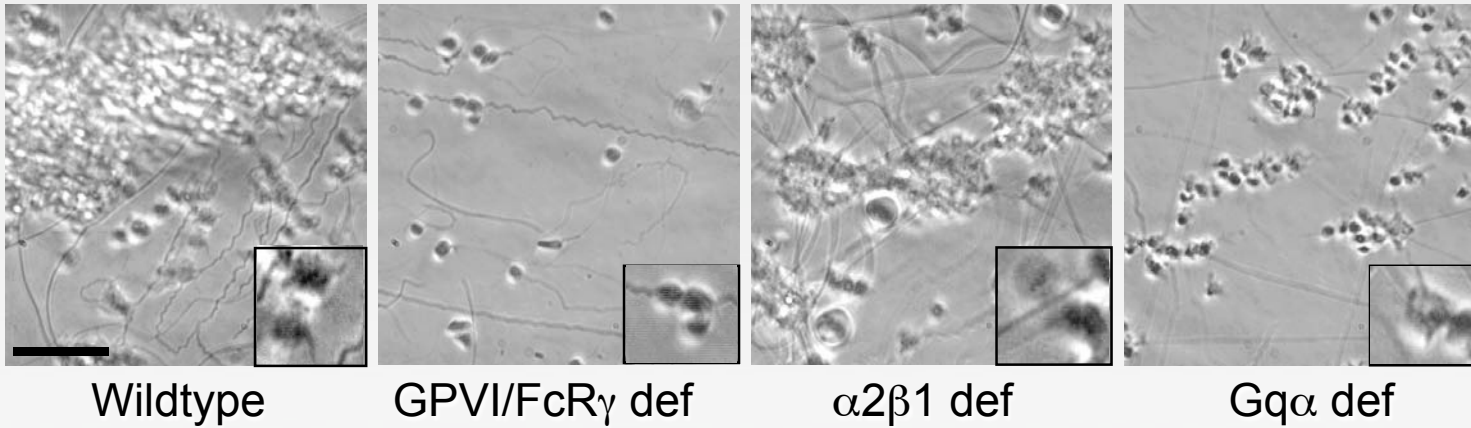
P-selectin

**Role of immunoglobulin-type collagen
receptor GPVI on platelets**

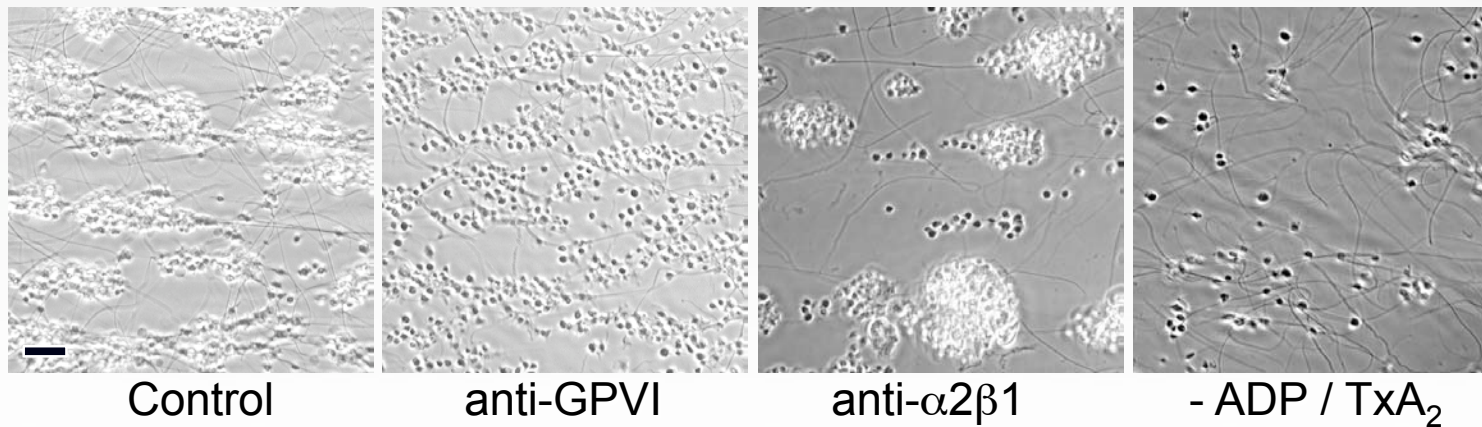
Collagen-induced thrombus formation at arterial shear rate (1000 s^{-1})

role of platelet collagen receptors and autocrine agonists

Mouse



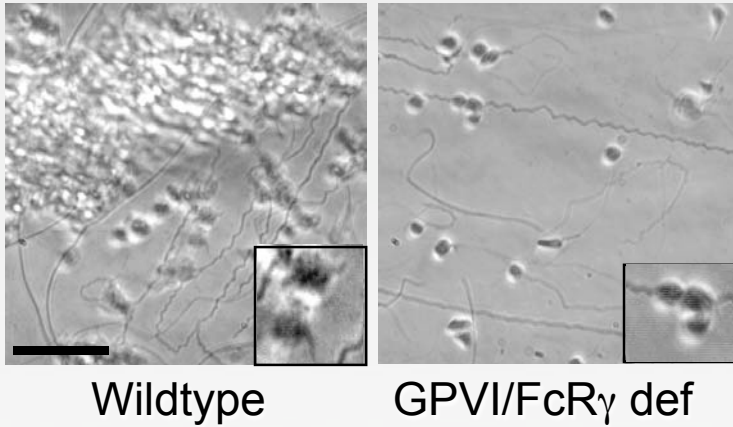
Human



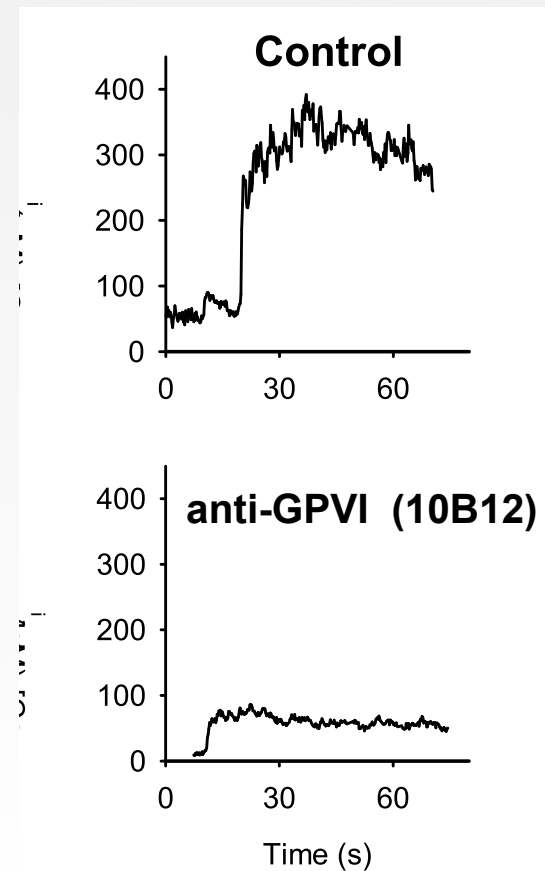
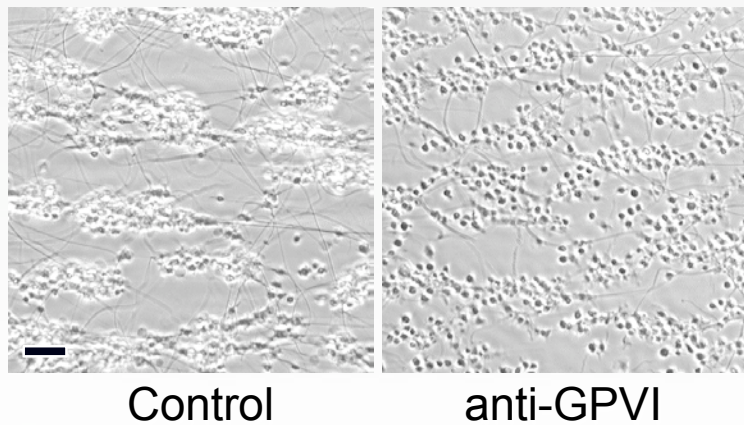
Collagen-induced thrombus formation (1000 s^{-1})

role of platelet collagen receptors and autocrine agonists

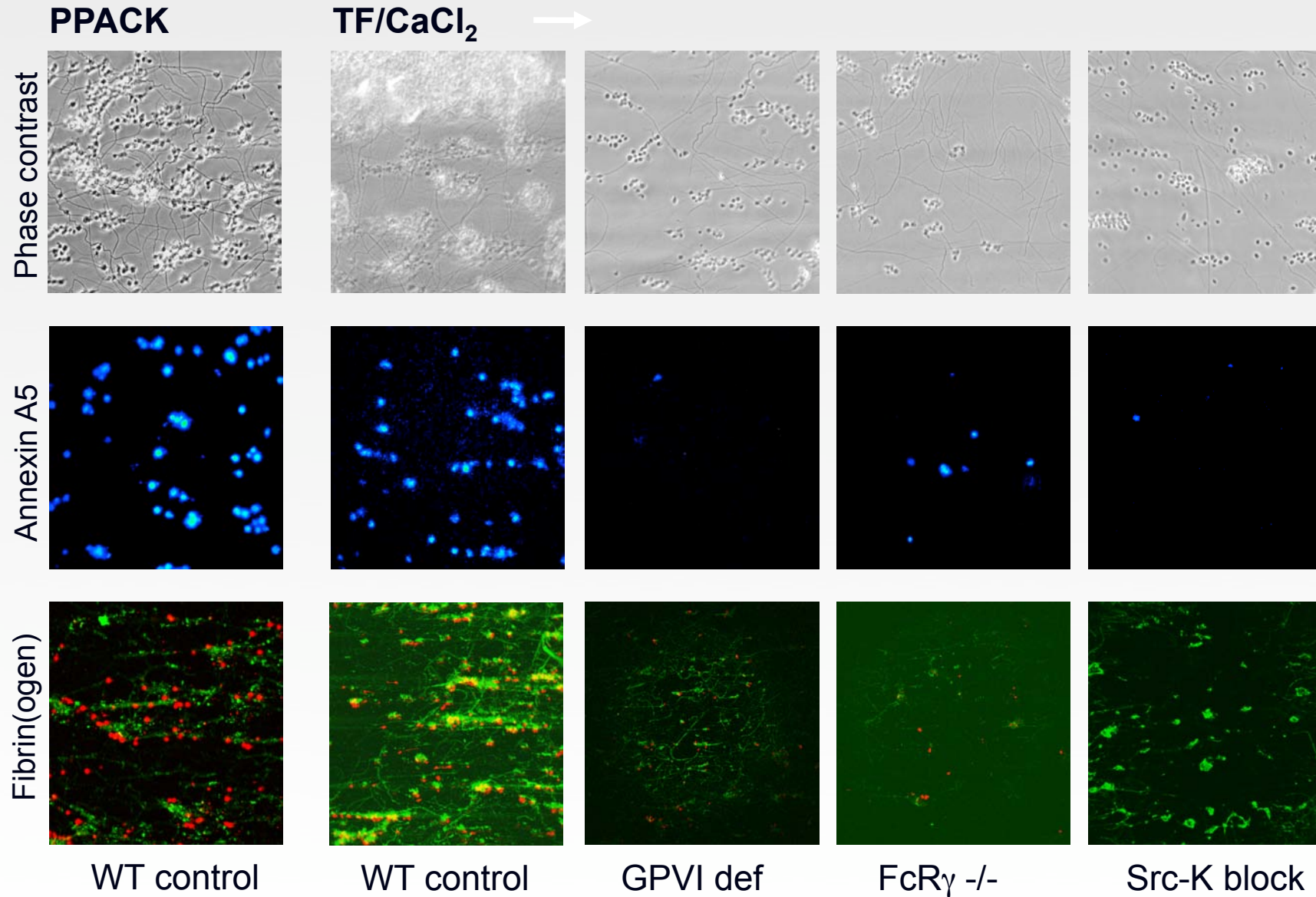
Mouse



Human



GPVI signalling in thrombus formation on collagen blood from wildtype mice, coagulation with TF (1000 s^{-1})



Mouse proteins and factors contributing to thrombus formation under flow condition there are many more

Positive (platelet)

GPIIb-V-IX, GPVI, $\alpha 2\beta 1$, $\alpha \text{IIb}\beta 3$, P2X₁, P2Y₁, P2Y₁₂, Par4, TP, Axl, Sky, Mer, CD36

Gi2, G13, Gq, FcR γ chain, LAT, Fyn, Lyn, Src, Syk, Erk, Rho-K, MLCK, Orai1, STIM1

PLC γ 2, PLC β , PKC α , PKC β , PI3K α , PI3K β , PI3K γ , Rab1b, Rac1, talin, kindlin-3

Negative (platelet)

IP, EP, PECAM-1, Gs

PKC δ , PKC θ , AC

Plasma

Fibrinogen, vWF, Gas6, prothrombin, factors V, VII, VIII, X, XI, XII, XIII, TFPI, AT

Thrombus formation in flow chambers

- human or mouse blood
- low or high shear rate
- suitable staining and detection

Questions 5:

Using flow assays to find novel prothrombotic proteins and factors?

- platelet activation
- coagulation activation

Testing pharmaceuticals for antithrombic properties?

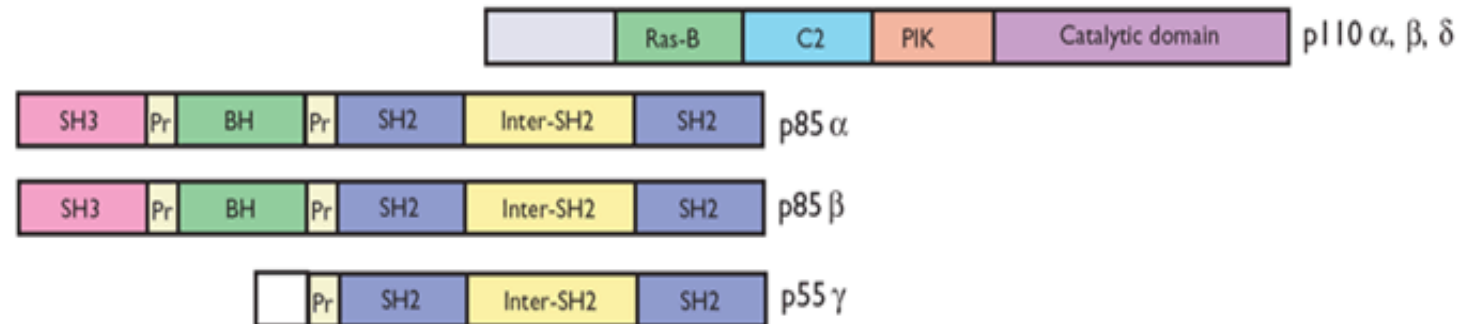
Monitoring the efficacy of (novel) antithrombotic drugs in patients?

**Role of phosphoinositide 3-kinase
(PI3K) isoforms in platelets**

PI3K isoforms present in platelets

- PI3K isoforms have a catalytic and regulatory subunit
- Platelets express various PI3K isoforms
 - Class Ia: p110 α , β and little p110 δ
 - Class Ib: p110 γ

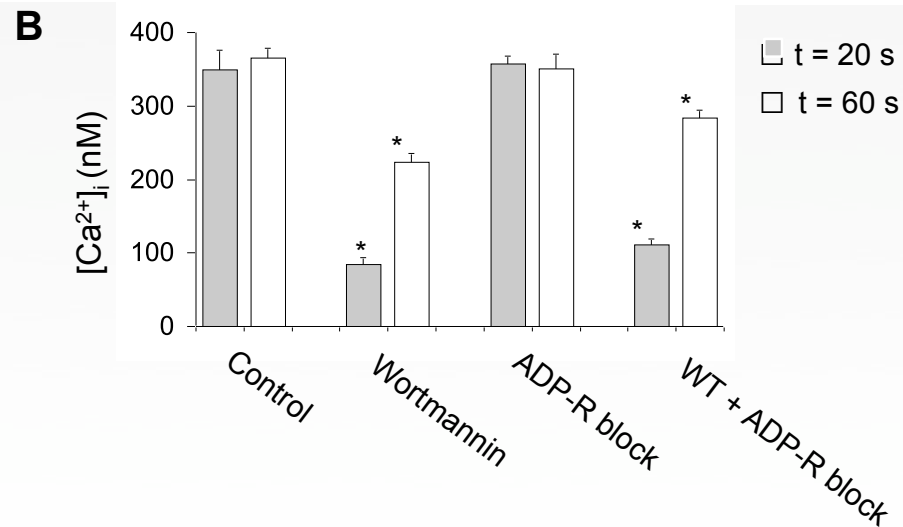
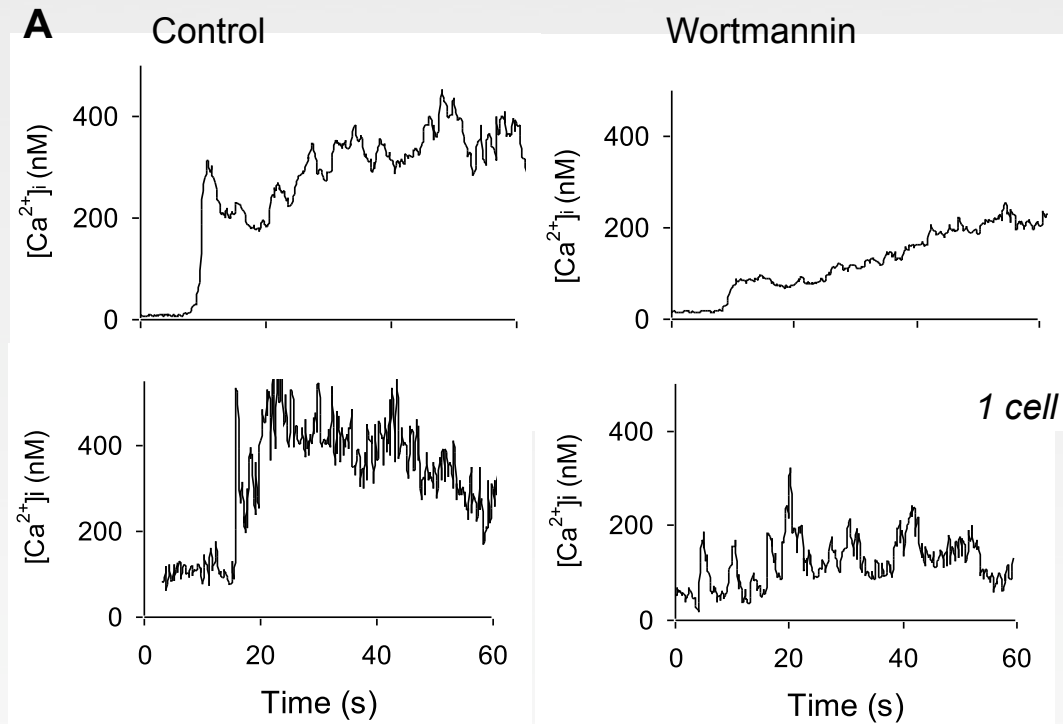
Class I_A



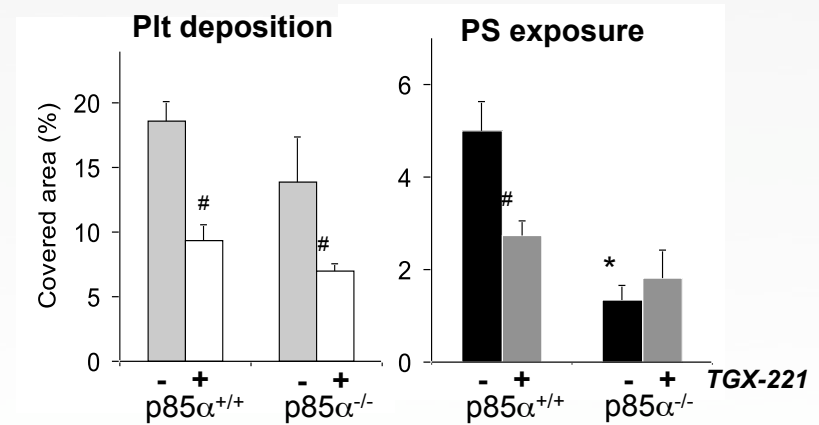
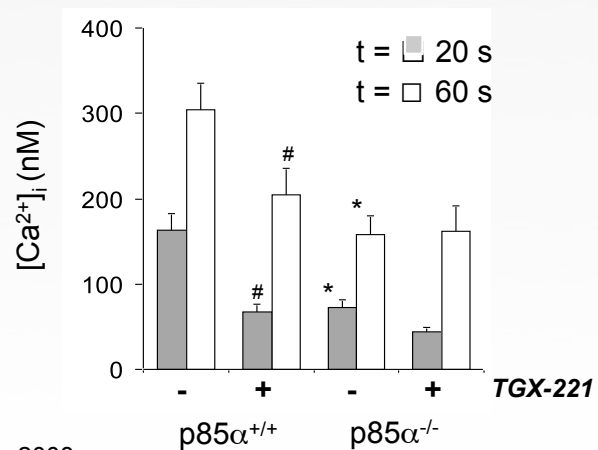
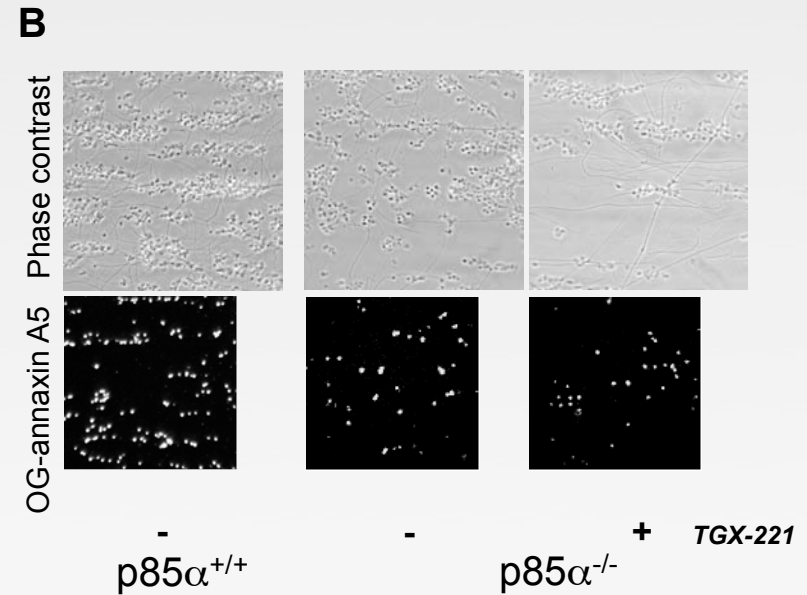
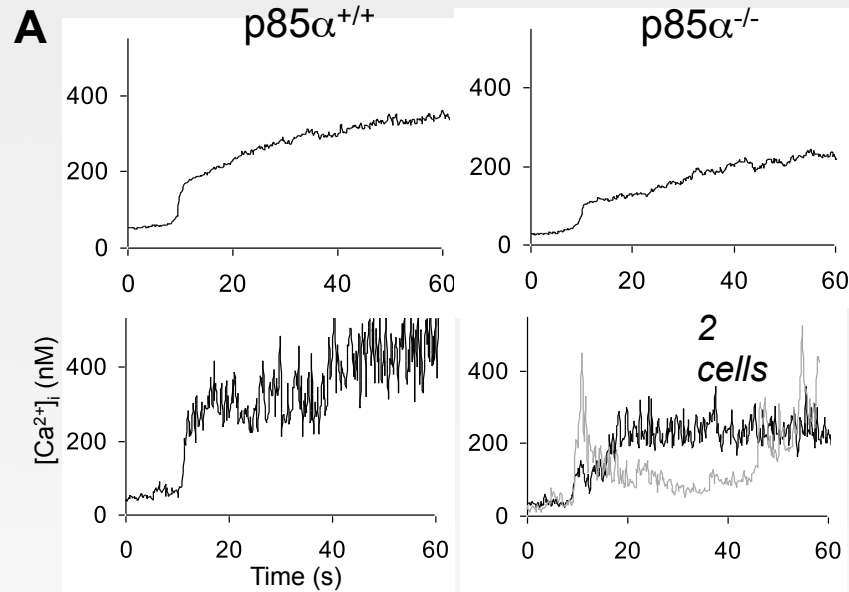
Class I_B



Effect of PI3K inhibition on human platelet Ca^{2+} responses under flow



Mouse PI3K α and PI3K β contribute to GPVI-induced thrombus formation under flow



Mouse PI3K β and PI3K γ contribute to ADP-dependent thrombus stability under flow

- Collagen-dependent thrombus formation
- Shear rate 1000 s⁻¹

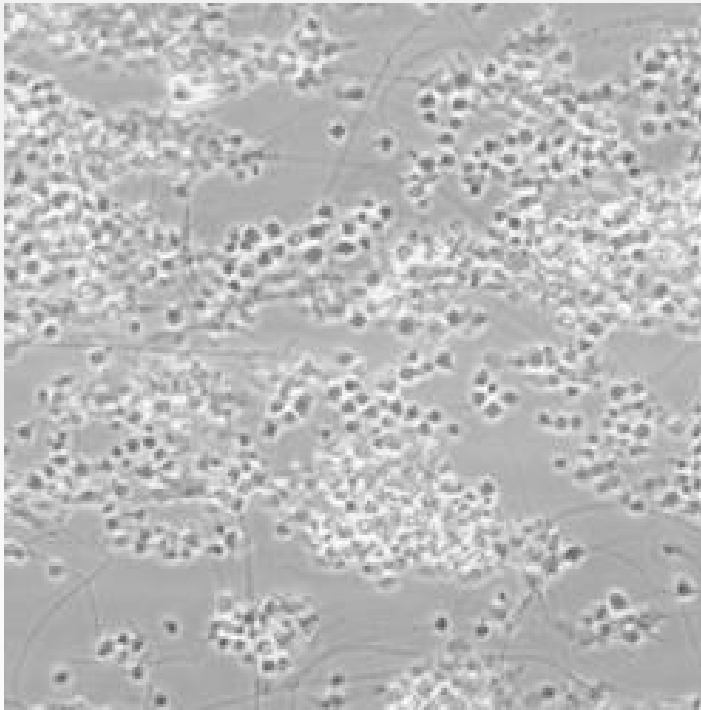
Wildtype

PI-3K γ -/-

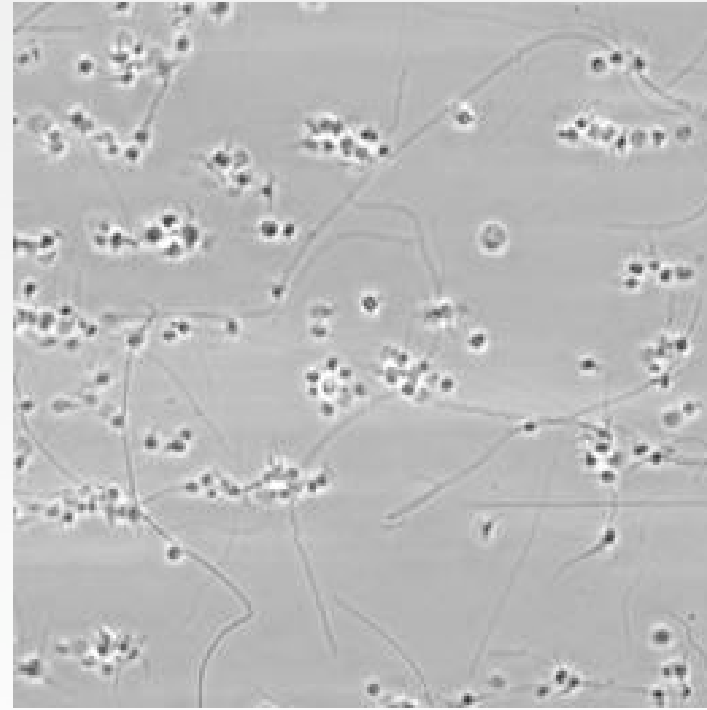
**Role of protein kinase C
(PKC) isoforms in platelets**

Human PKC is required for thrombus formation under flow

Phase contrast

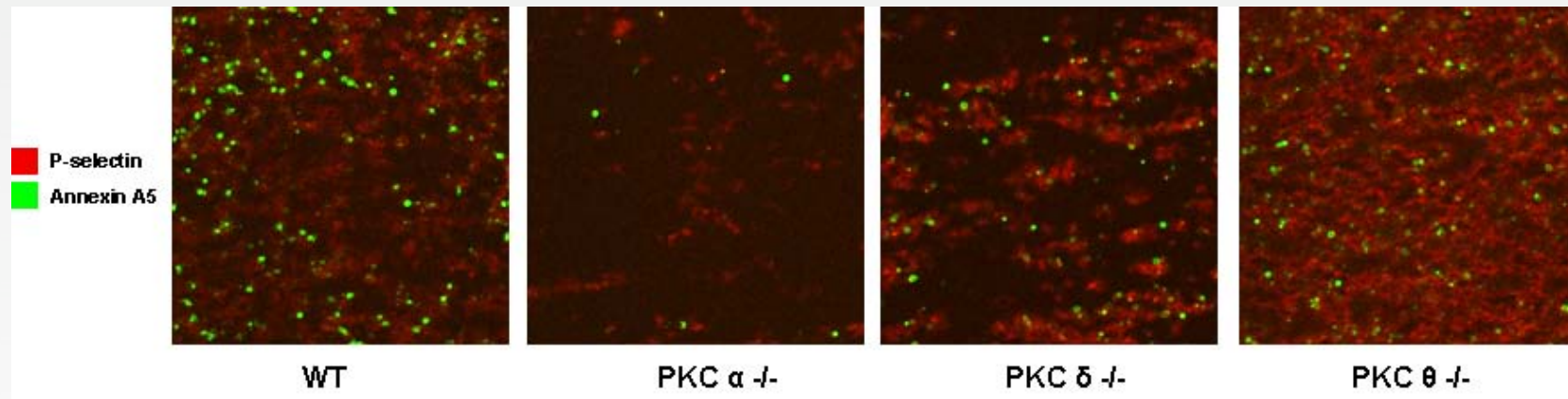


Vehicle



RO318425

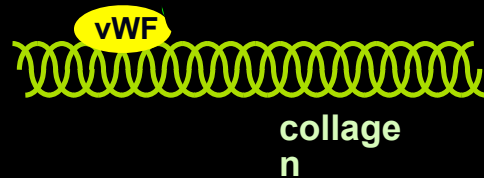
Thrombus formation under flow is differently regulated by PKC α and PKC δ/θ isoforms



The stages of thrombus formation

tethering and stable adhesion

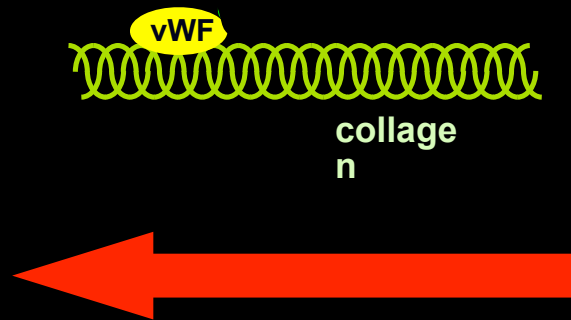
tethering



The stages of thrombus formation

tethering and stable adhesion

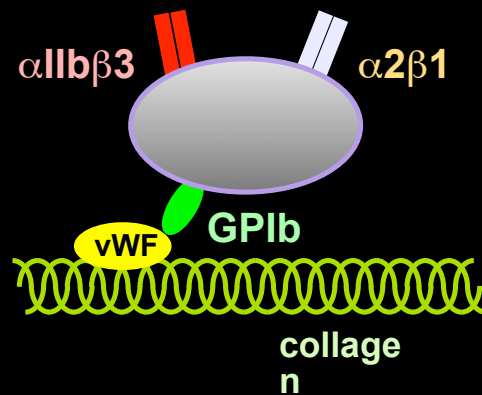
tethering



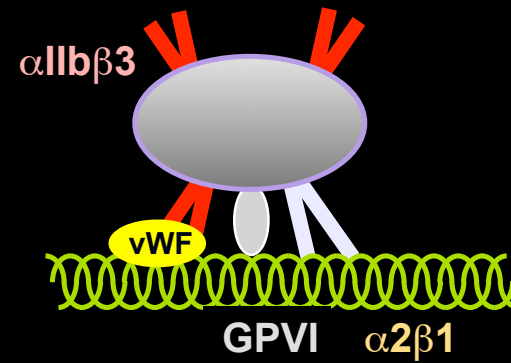
The stages of thrombus formation

tethering and stable adhesion

tethering



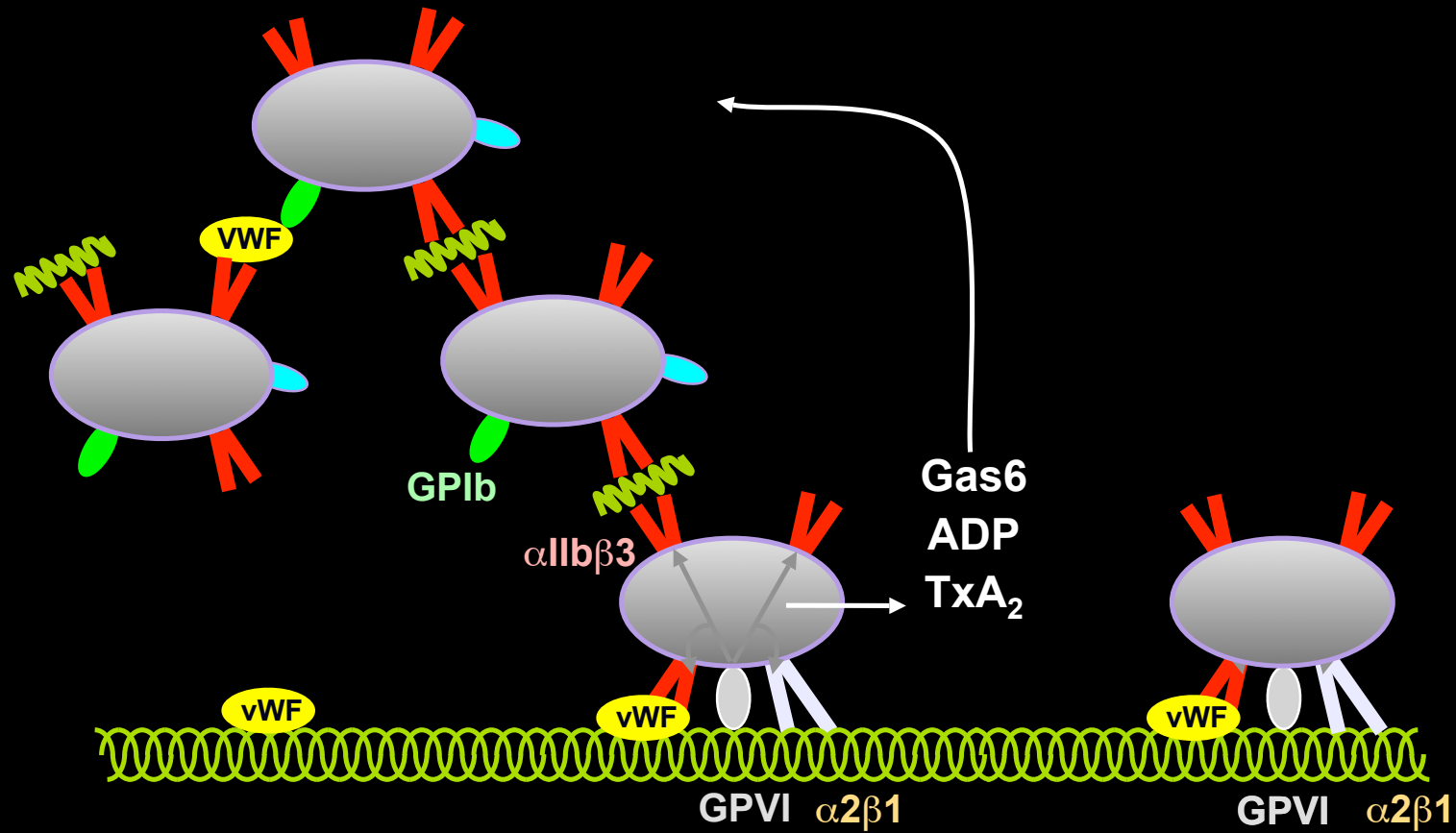
stable adhesion



The stages of thrombus formation

activation and aggregation

proaggregatory

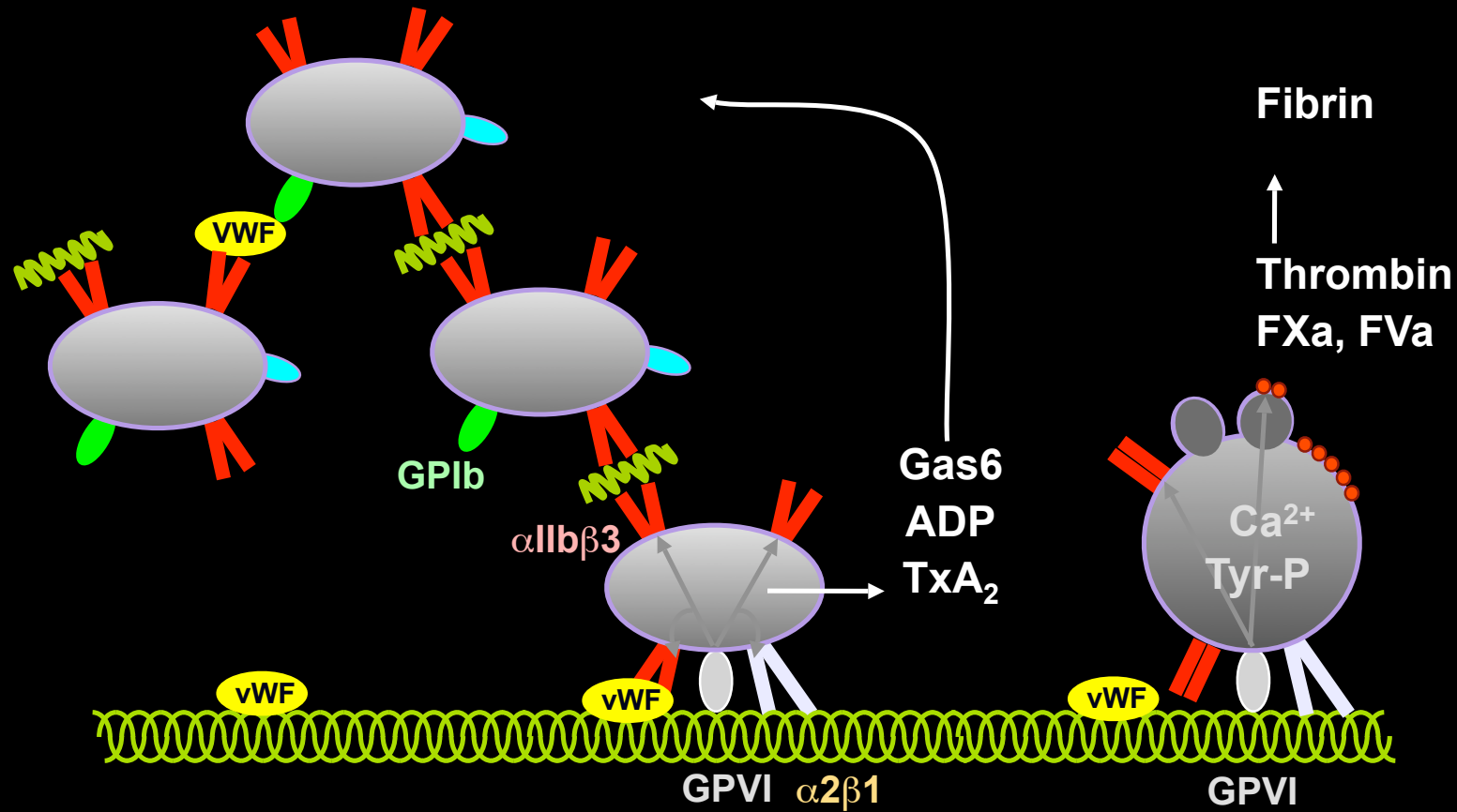


The stages of thrombus formation

aggregation and coagulation

proaggregatory

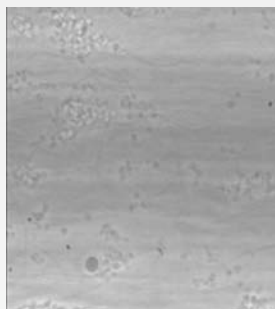
procoagulant



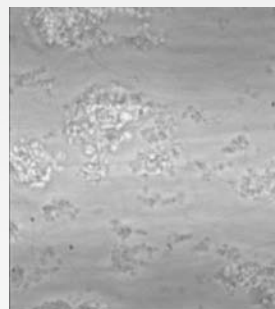
**New possibilities:
contribution of thrombin and coagulation**

Thrombus formation and clotting on collagen under flow recalcification of citrated blood (no tissue factor)

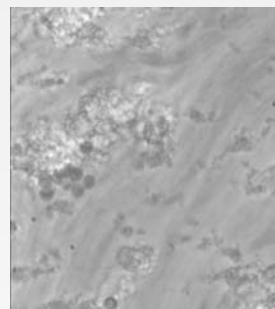
Wildtype mouse



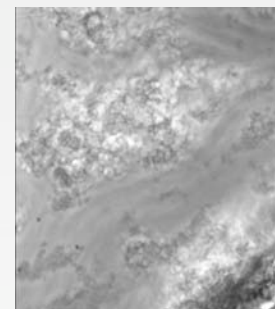
1 min



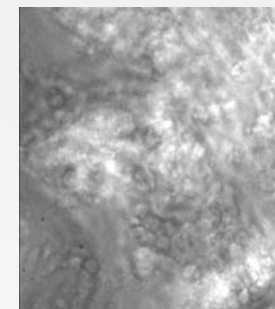
2 min



3 min

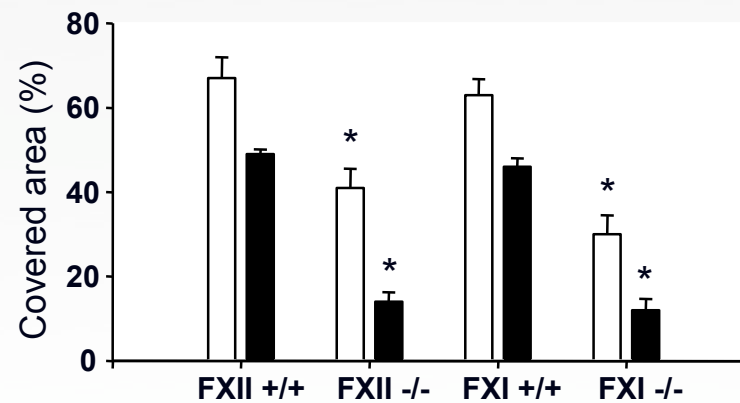
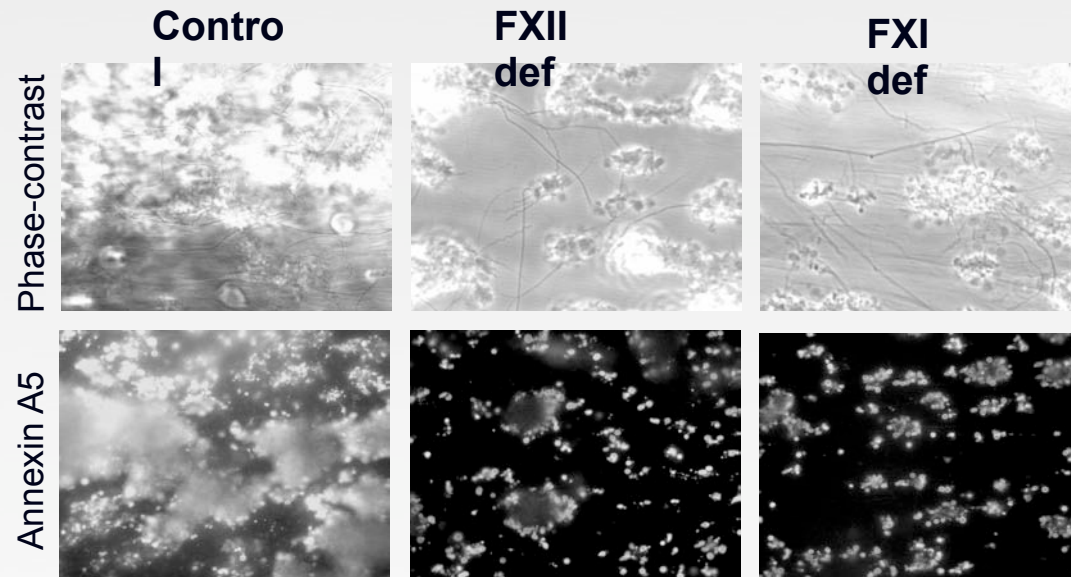


4 min



5 min

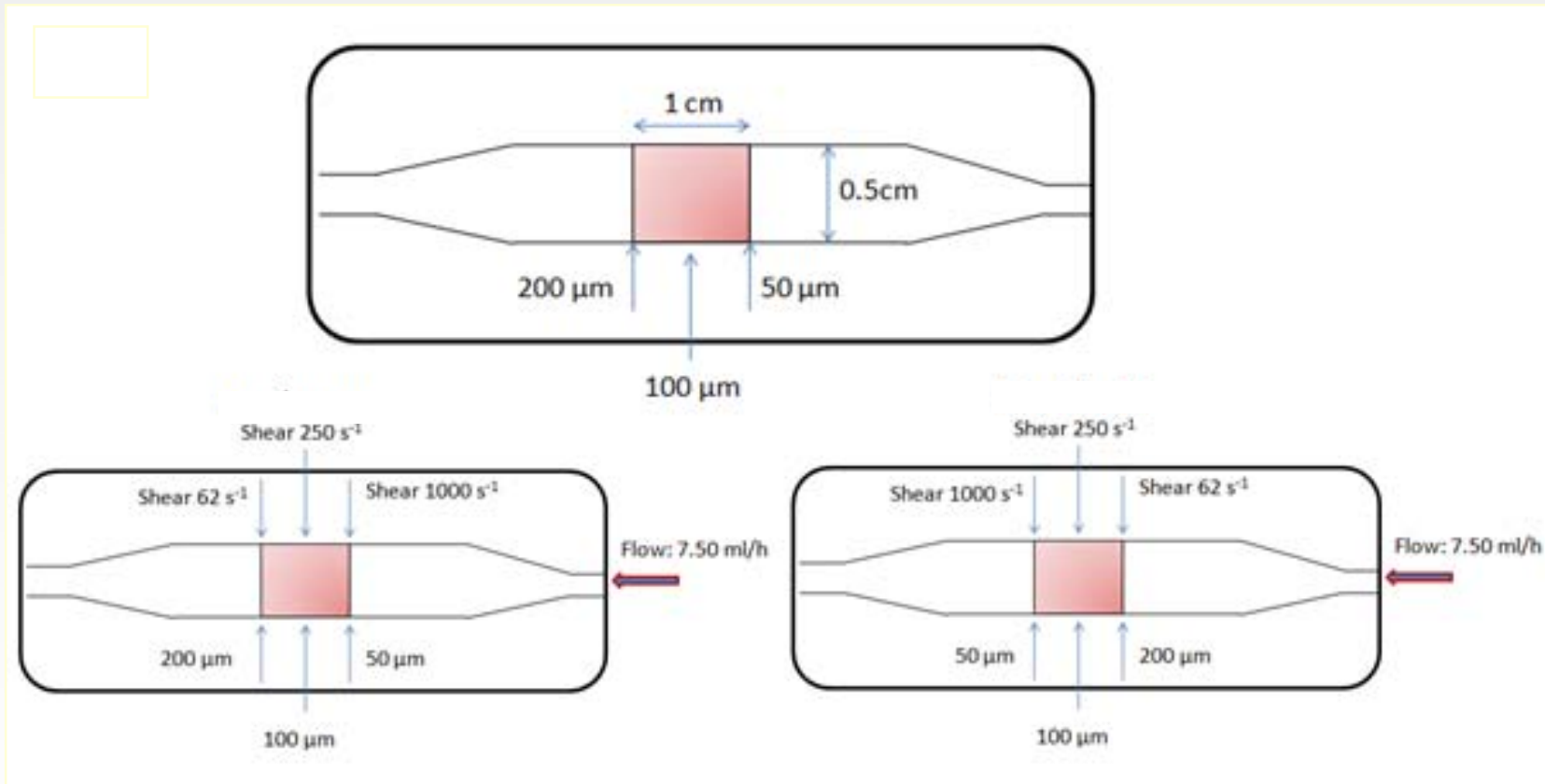
Thrombus formation and clotting on collagen under flow recalcification of citrated mouse/human blood (no tissue factor)



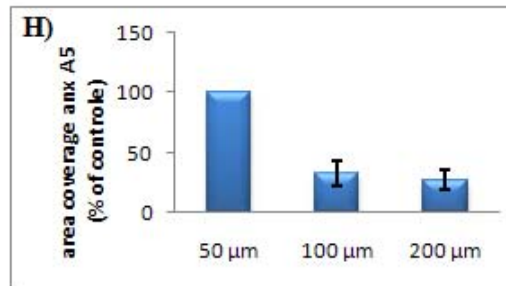
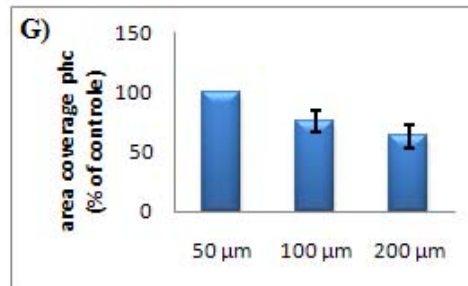
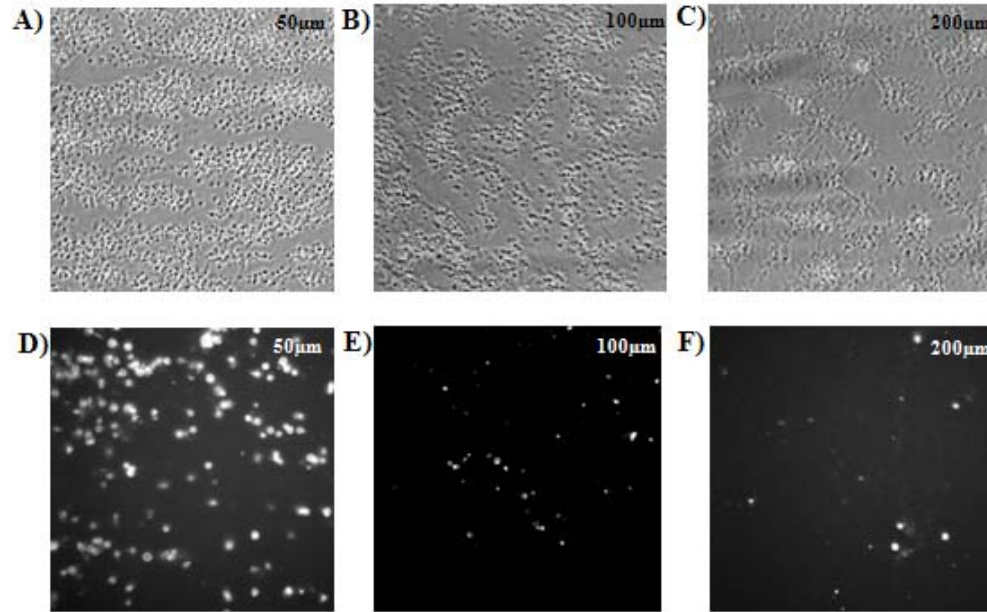
New possibilities:

simultaneous testing at multiple flow rates

Stenotic-type of flow chamber

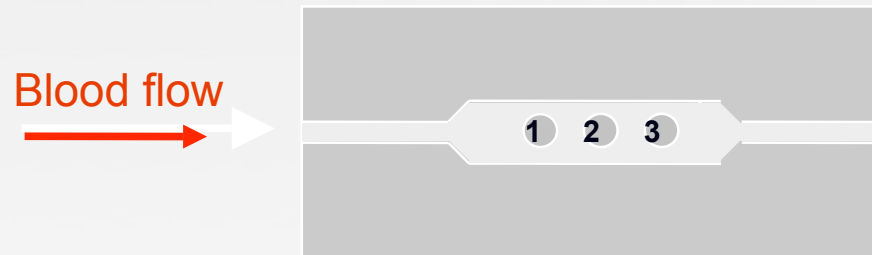


Thrombus formation decreases with flow chamber height

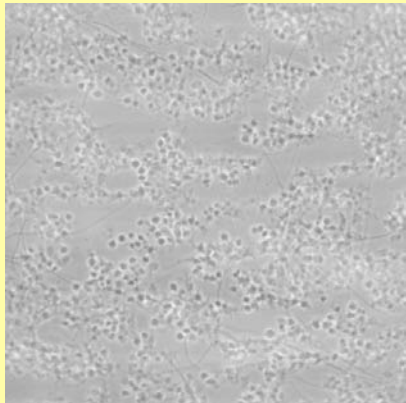


**New possibilities:
multiple thrombogenic substrates**

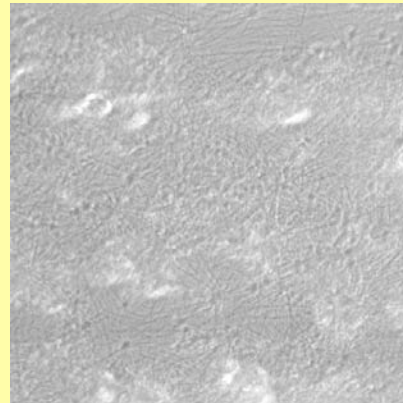
Multiple coatings: immobilized tissue factor synergizes with collagen to trigger fibrin formation



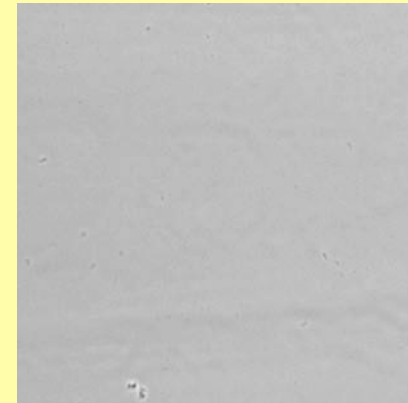
Collagen (spot 1)



Collagen + tissue factor (spot 2)



Tissue factor (spot 3)



New possibilities:

Inflammatory leukocytes on thrombus

Other blood cells

Conclusions

- There is a need for physiologically relevant integrative assays (bedside assays) to quantify the prothrombotic activity of blood.
- Flow chambers with collagen coating are valuable for measuring the multifactorial process of thrombus formation. This markedly resembles thrombus formation in vivo.
- Such flow chambers have a high potency for monitoring the efficacy of old and new antithrombotic drugs.
- They make it possible to test drug interactions, etc.

Conclusions (3R)

- Blood from GM animals can be tested *in vitro* instead of *in vivo*.
- Human blood instead of animal blood can be used for drug testing.
- Still limitations in analysis power.
- Higher capacity test systems need to be developed for 3R purposes.



Acknowledgements

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