

# Ruolo delle piastrine nella patogenesi dell'asma bronchiale allergico

Marco Cattaneo

*Università degli Studi di Milano*

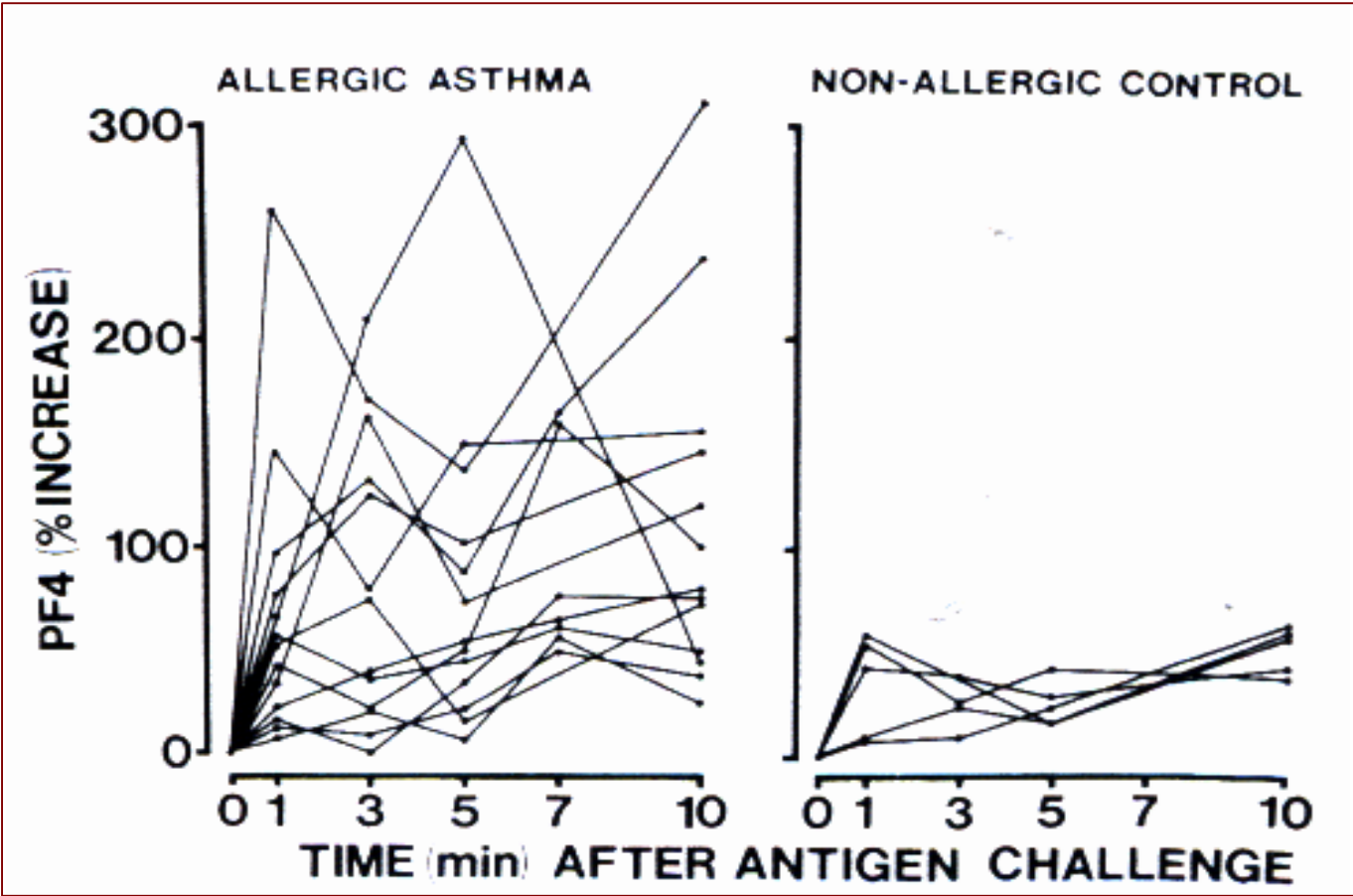
# Inflammation and bronchial asthma

- Asthma is characterised by paroxysmal and reversible obstruction of the airways
- It is increasingly understood as a chronic inflammatory condition combined with bronchial hyper-responsiveness
- Allergic asthma is the consequence of a specific, IgE-mediated, immune response to an exogenous allergen

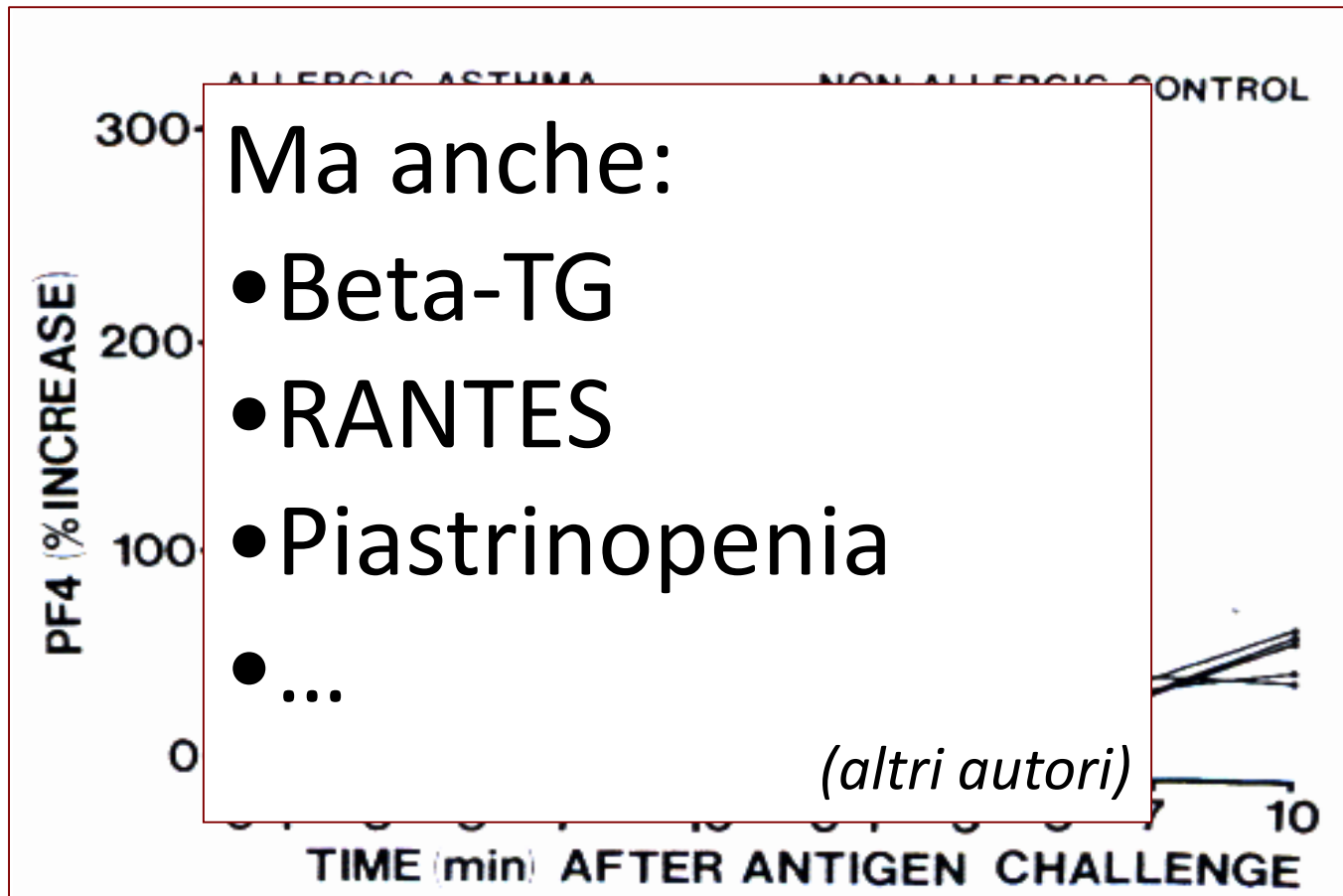
# Platelets express IgE receptors

- Joseph M, Gounni AS, Kusnierz JP, et al. Expression and functions of the high-affinity IgE receptor on human platelets and megakaryocyte precursors. *Eur J Immunol* 1997;27:2212-8.
- Capron M, Joseph M. The low affinity receptor for IgE on eosinophils and platelets. *Monogr Allergy* 1991;29:63-75.

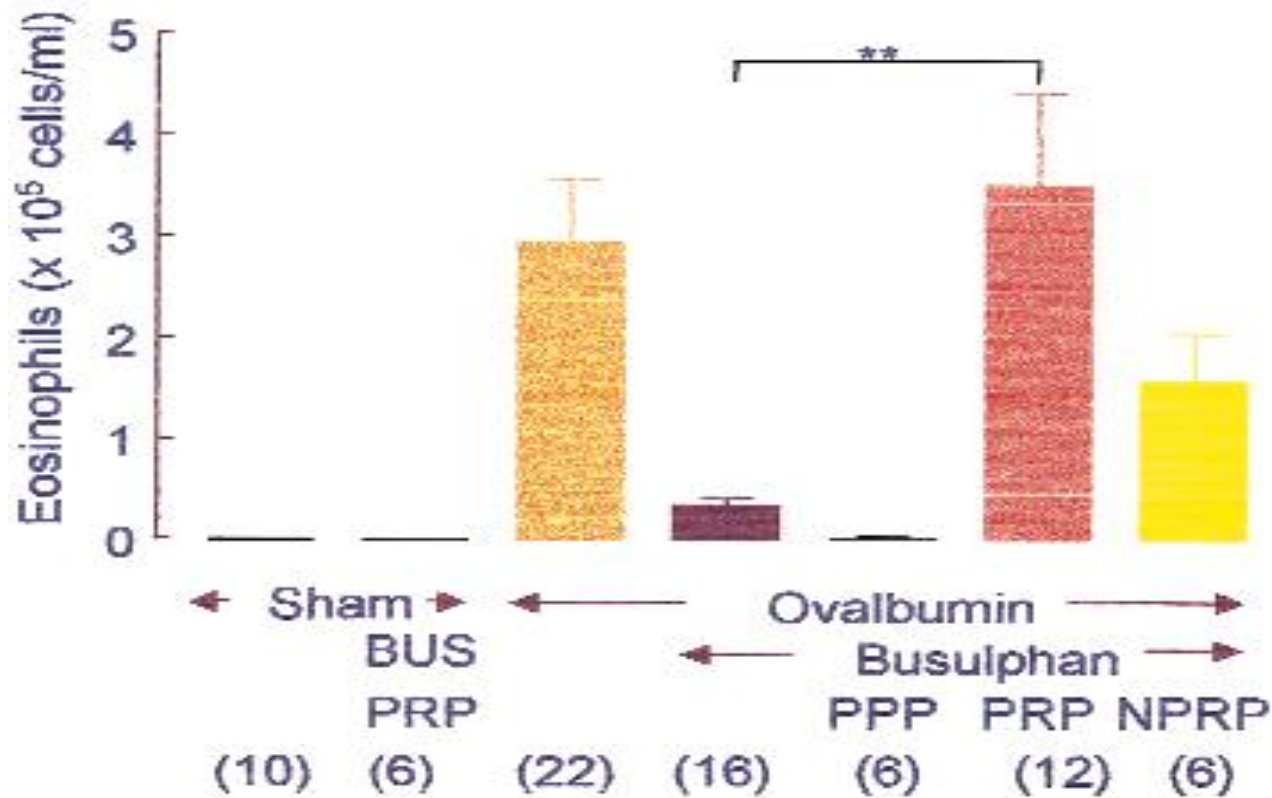
# Increase of Platelet Factor 4 in allergic asthma



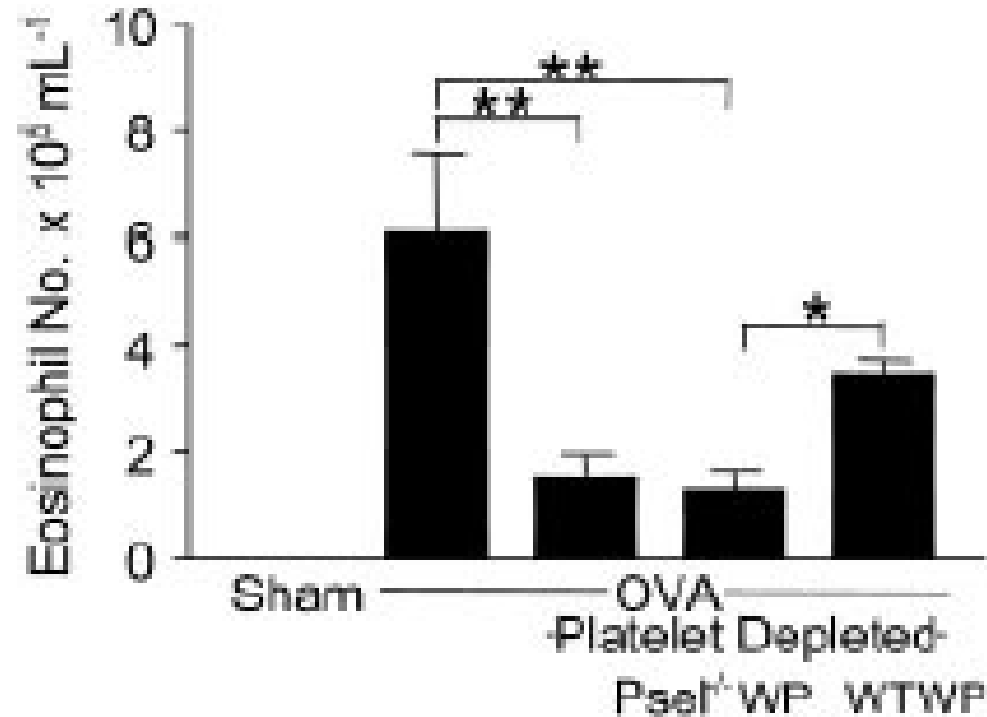
# Increase of Platelet Factor 4 in allergic asthma



# Effect of platelet depletion and restoration on pulmonary eosinophil recruitment in allergic mice



# Platelet P-selectin is required for pulmonary eosinophil recruitment in allergen-sensitized mice



# [Some of] The Players

1. P2Y receptors
2. Cysteinyl Leukotriens (Cys-LT)



# [Some of] The Players

1. P2Y receptors
2. Cysteinyl Leukotriens (Cys-LT)

# Cysteinyl leukotrienes

- Cysteinyl leukotrienes (cys-LT) [LTC<sub>4</sub>, LTD<sub>4</sub>, LTE<sub>4</sub>] are lipid inflammatory mediators generated in vivo by 5-lipoxygenase of mast cells, eosinophils, basophils, macrophages
- Cys-LTs abound in mucosal inflammation, play a validated role in human asthma, and are important mediators in mouse models of pulmonary inflammation, remodeling, and fibrosis

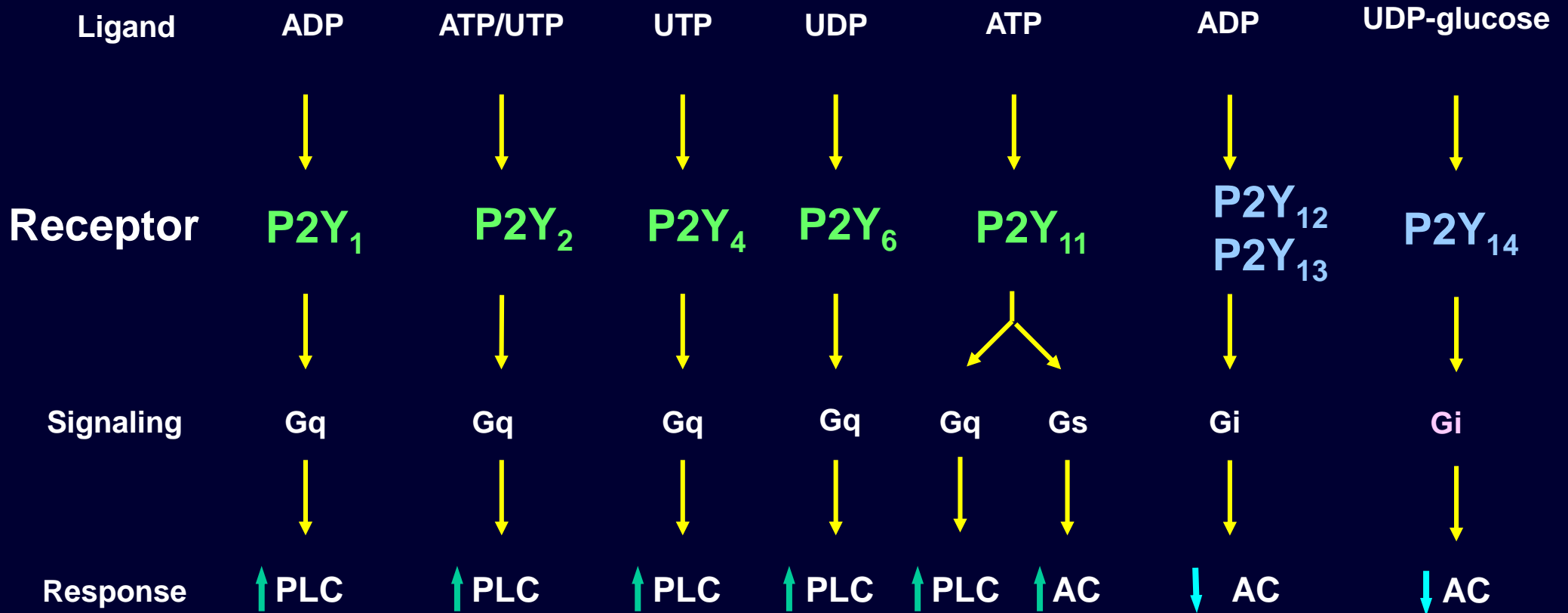
# Receptors for cys-LT

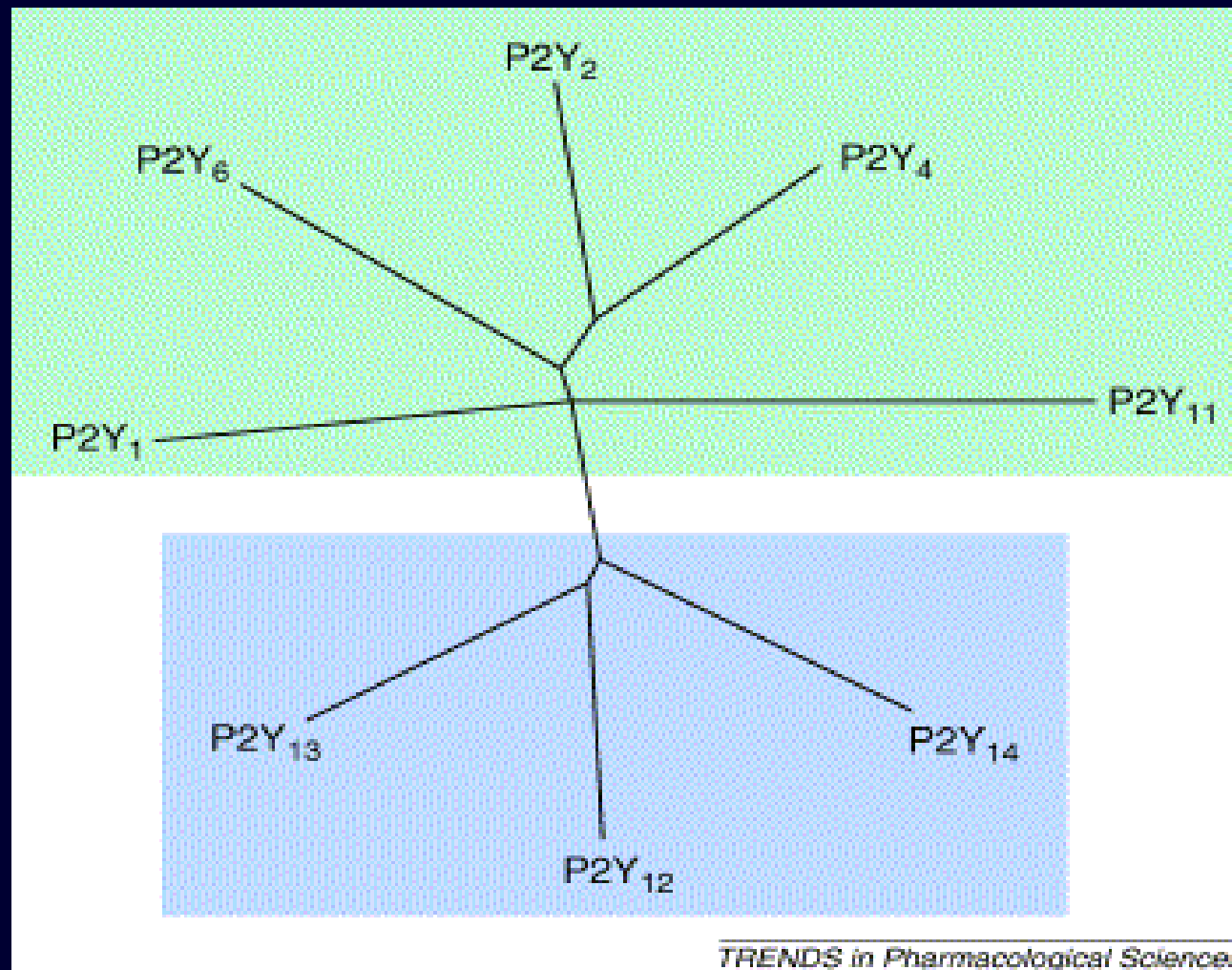
- Two G protein–coupled receptors for cys-LTs, termed type 1 and type 2 cys-LT receptors (CysLT1R and CysLT2R), have been cloned and characterized, which share 38% aminoacid identity

# [Some of] The Players

1. P2Y receptors
2. Cysteinyl Leukotriens (Cys-LT)

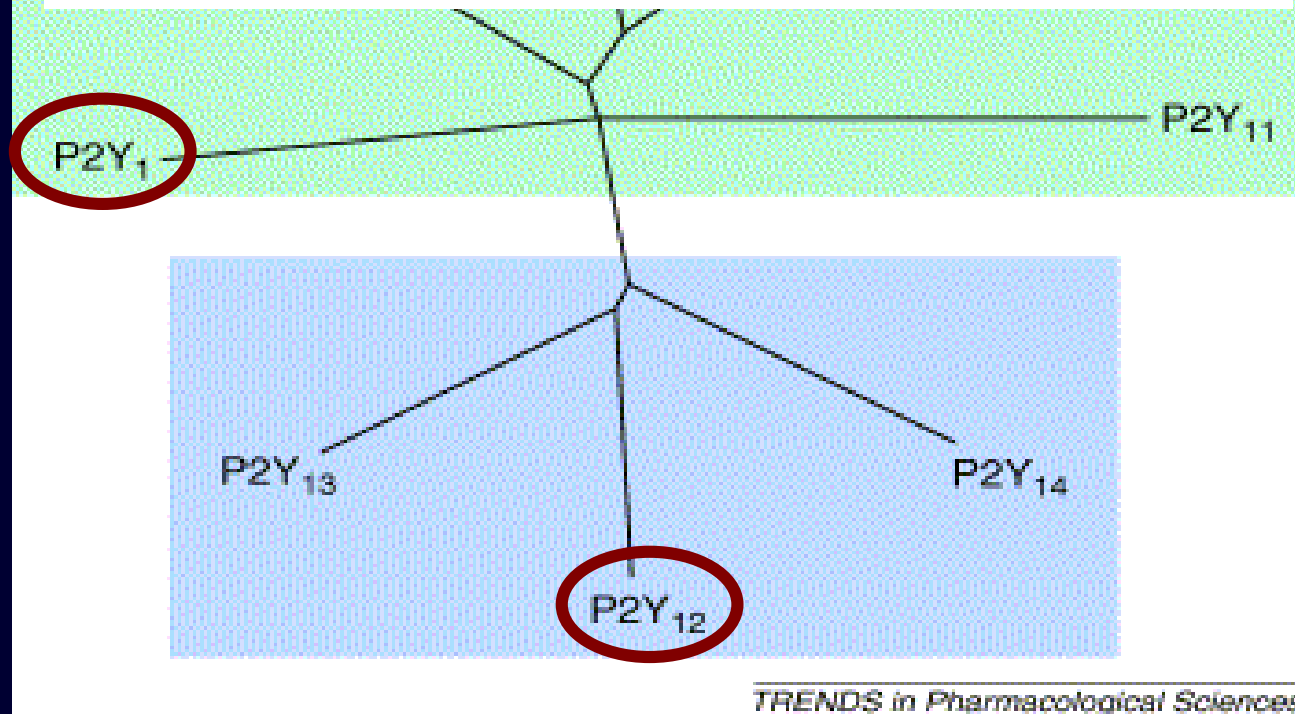
# Mammalian G Protein-Coupled P2Y Receptors





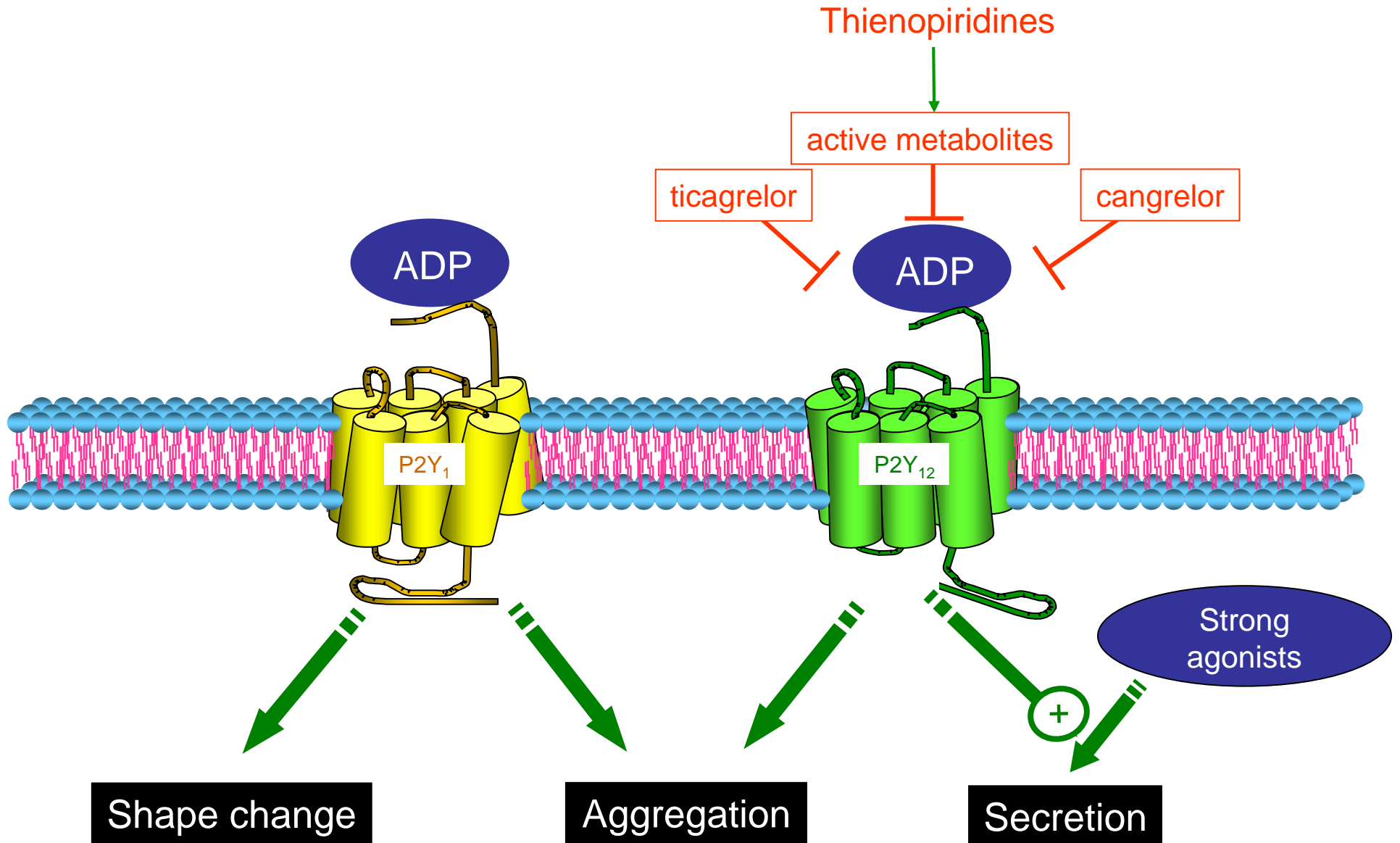
A phylogenetic tree (dendrogram) showing the relationships among the current members of the P2Y receptor family (human P2Y<sub>1</sub>, P2Y<sub>2</sub>, P2Y<sub>4</sub>, P2Y<sub>6</sub>, P2Y<sub>11</sub>, P2Y<sub>12</sub> and P2Y<sub>13</sub>, and P2Y<sub>14</sub> receptor). The P2Y receptors can be divided into two subgroups shown with green and blue backgrounds. Sequences were aligned using Image and the tree was built using the Image software.

# P2Y recettori nelle piastrine



A phylogenetic tree (dendrogram) showing the relationships among the current members of the P2Y receptor family (human P2Y<sub>1</sub>, P2Y<sub>2</sub>, P2Y<sub>4</sub>, P2Y<sub>6</sub>, P2Y<sub>11</sub>, P2Y<sub>12</sub> and P2Y<sub>13</sub>, and P2Y<sub>14</sub> receptor). The P2Y receptors can be divided into two subgroups shown with green and blue backgrounds. Sequences were aligned using Image and the tree was built using the Image software.

# Platelet Receptors for ADP





Mechanisms of allergy and clinical immunology

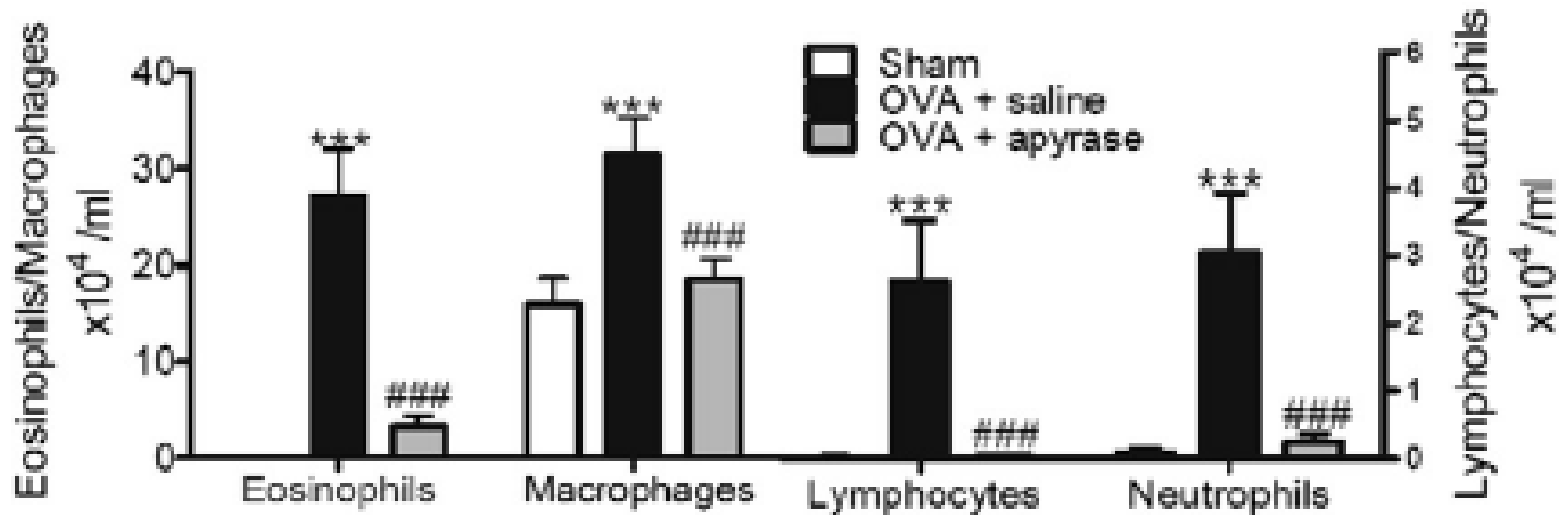
---

## **RhoA signaling through platelet P2Y<sub>1</sub> receptor controls leukocyte recruitment in allergic mice**

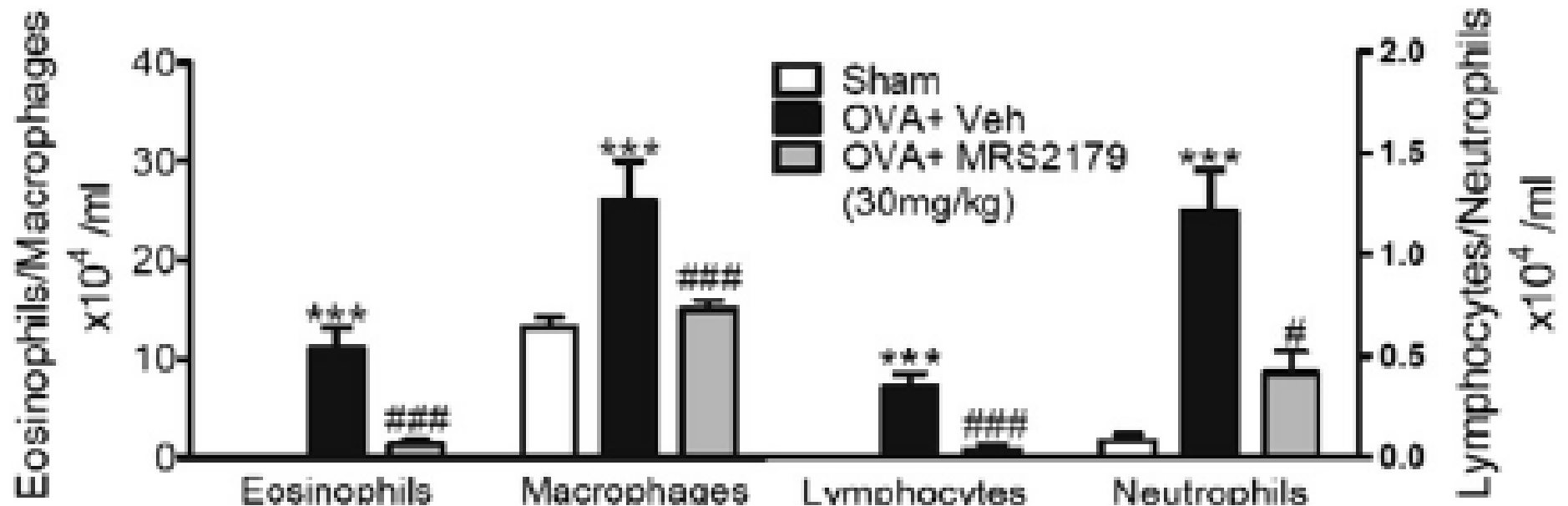
---

Richard T. Amison, MSci,<sup>a</sup> Stefania Momi, PhD,<sup>b</sup> Abigail Morris, PhD,<sup>a</sup> Giorgia Manni, BSc,<sup>b</sup> Sandra Keir, PhD,<sup>a</sup> Paolo Gresele, MD,<sup>b</sup> Clive P. Page, PhD,<sup>a</sup> and Simon C. Pitchford, PhD<sup>a</sup> *London, United Kingdom, and Perugia, Italy*

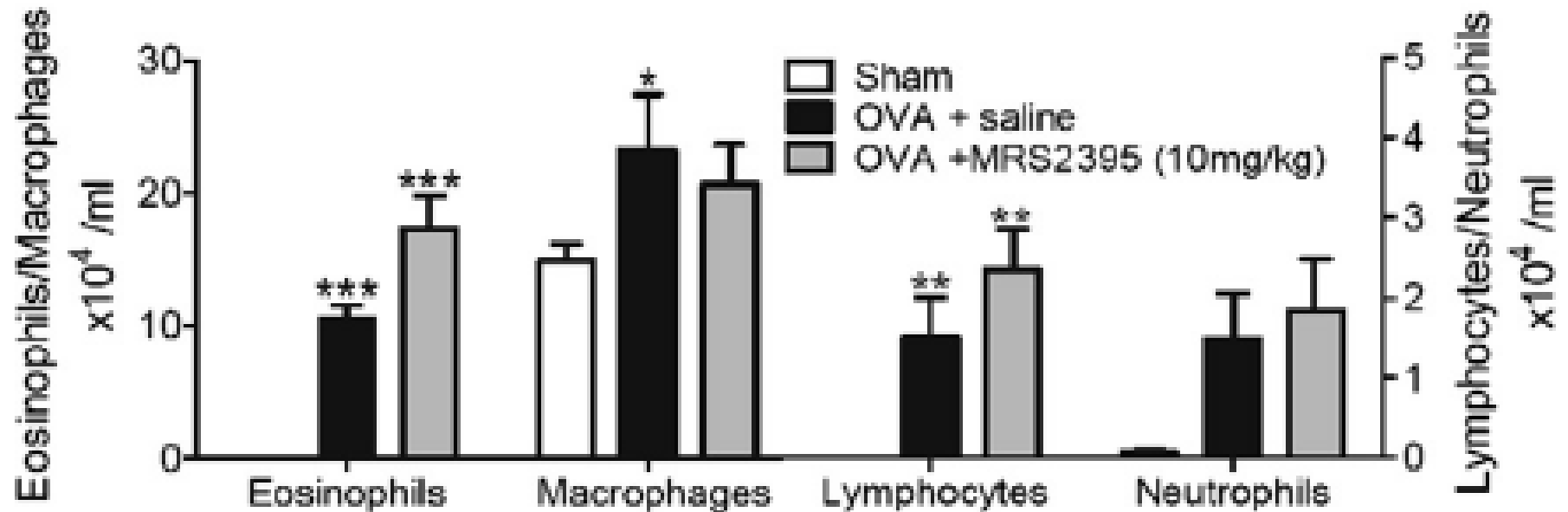
## Effects of **apyrase** on pulmonary leukocyte recruitment in OVA-sensitized and challenged mice



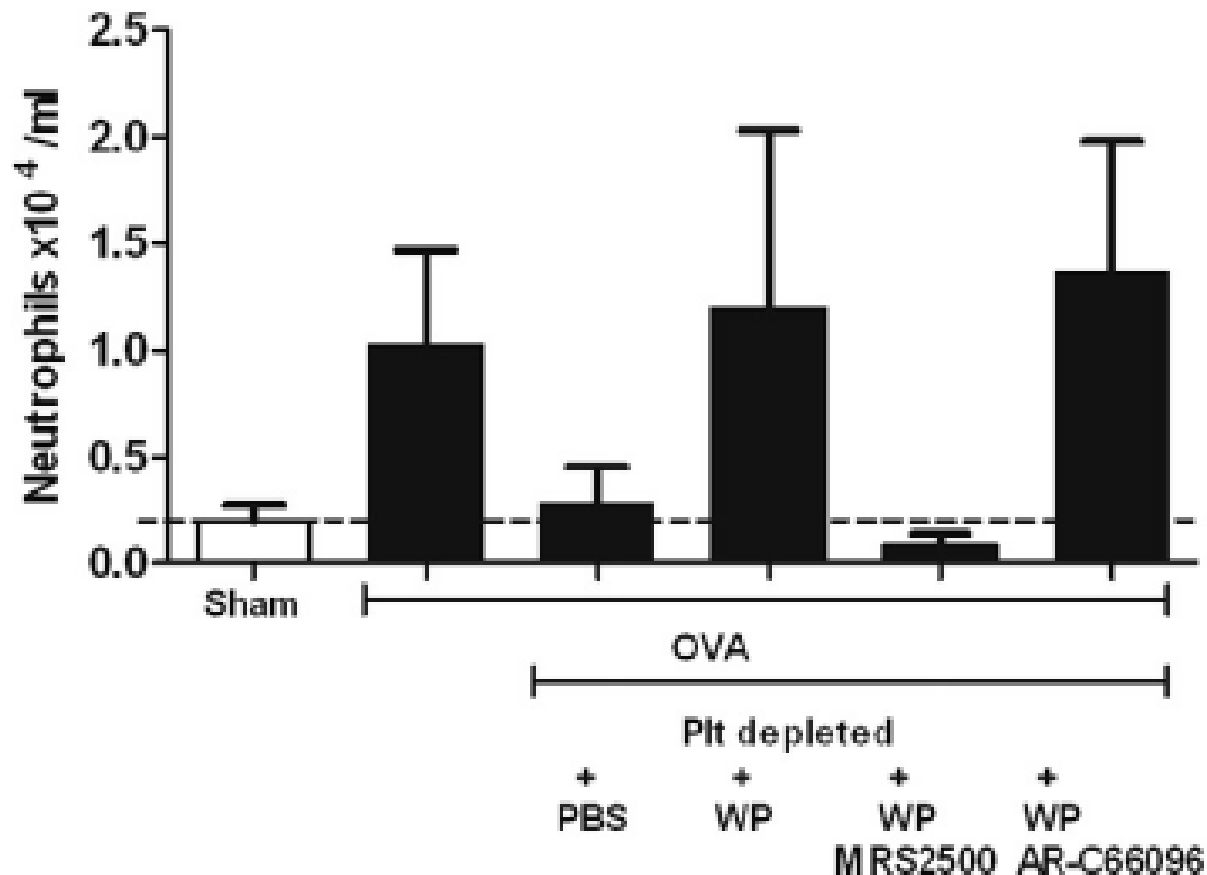
## Effects of P2Y<sub>1</sub> antagonism on pulmonary leukocyte recruitment in OVA-sensitized and challenged mice



## Effects of $P2Y_{12}$ antagonism on pulmonary leukocyte recruitment in OVA-sensitized and challenged mice



The effect of P2Y<sub>1</sub> on pulmonary leukocyte recruitment in OVA-sensitized and challenged mice is platelet-specific



# Leukotriene E<sub>4</sub>-induced pulmonary inflammation is mediated by the P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor

Sailaja Paruchuri,<sup>1,3</sup> Hiroyuki Tashimo,<sup>1,3</sup> Chunli Feng,<sup>3</sup> Akiko Maekawa,<sup>1,3</sup>  
Wei Xing,<sup>1,3</sup> Yongfeng Jiang,<sup>1,3</sup> Yoshihide Kanaoka,<sup>1,3</sup> Pamela Conley,<sup>4</sup>  
and Joshua A. Boyce<sup>1,2,3</sup>

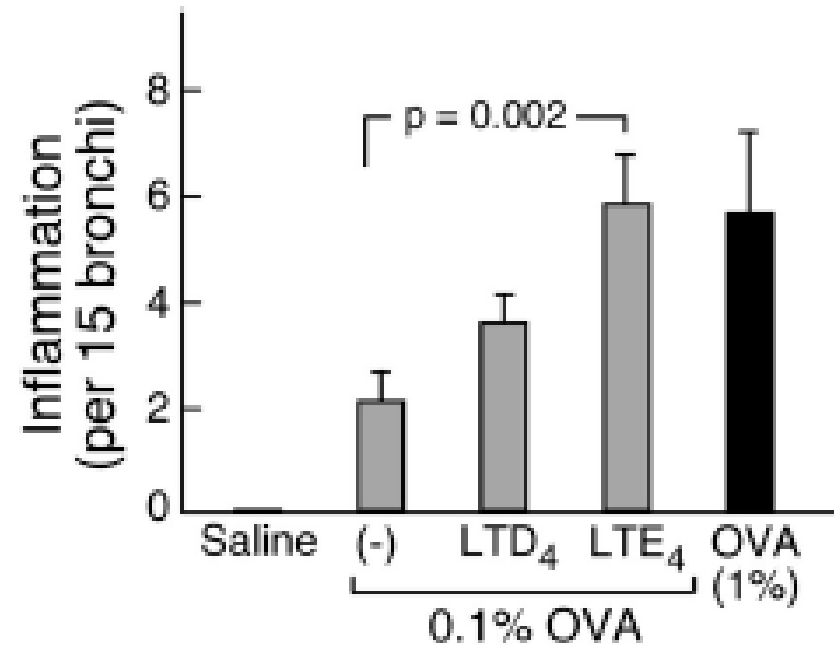
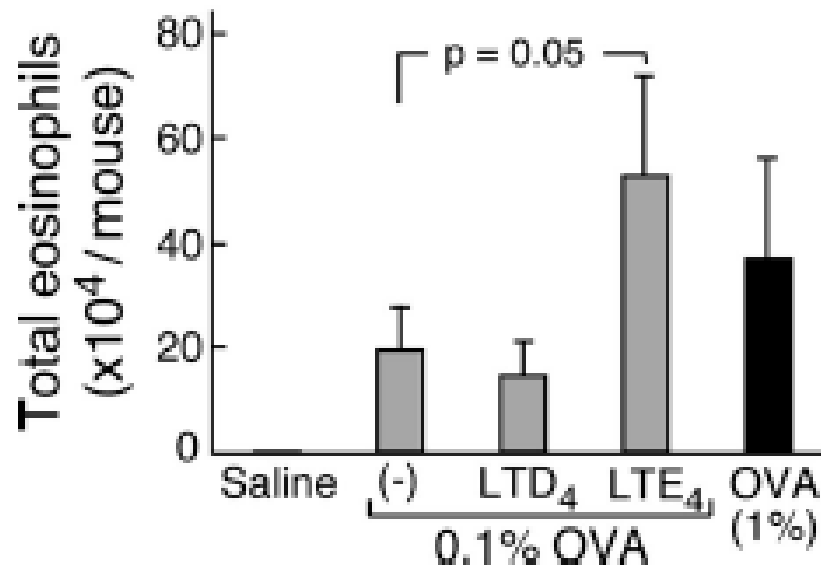
---

<sup>1</sup>Department of Medicine and <sup>2</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02115

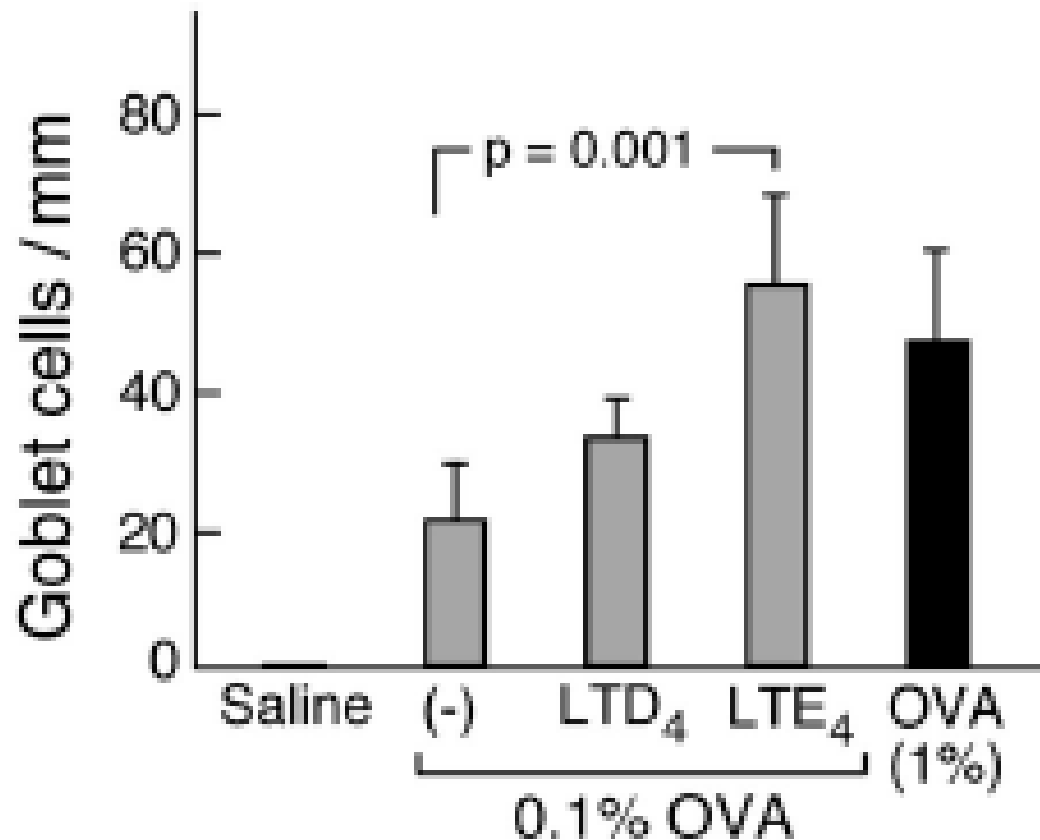
<sup>3</sup>Division of Rheumatology, Immunology, and Allergy, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA 02115

<sup>4</sup>Portola Pharmaceuticals, San Francisco, CA 94127

# LTE<sub>4</sub>-mediated amplification of allergen-induced eosinophil recruitment and pulmonary inflammation

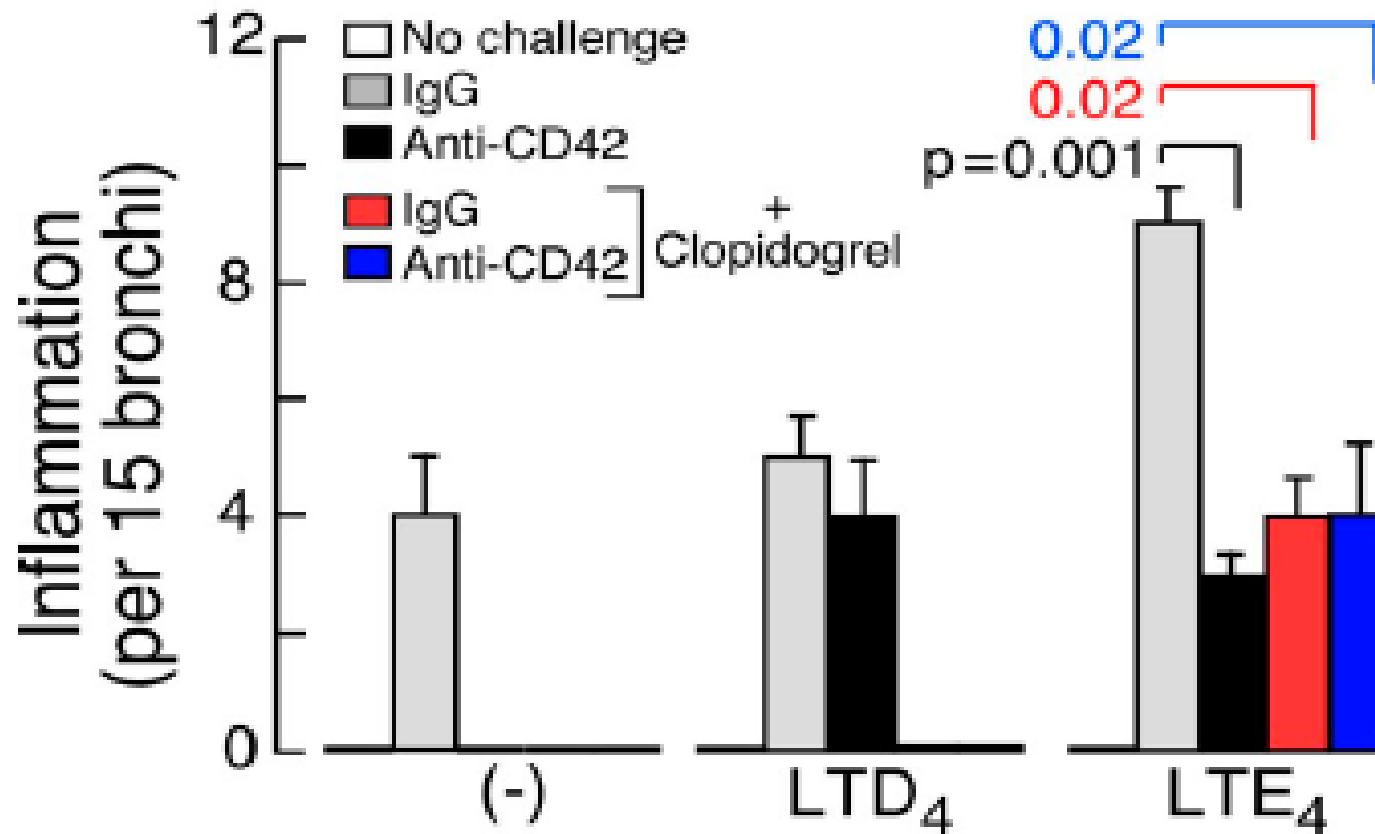


# LTE<sub>4</sub>-mediated amplification of allergen-induced goblet cell metaplasia

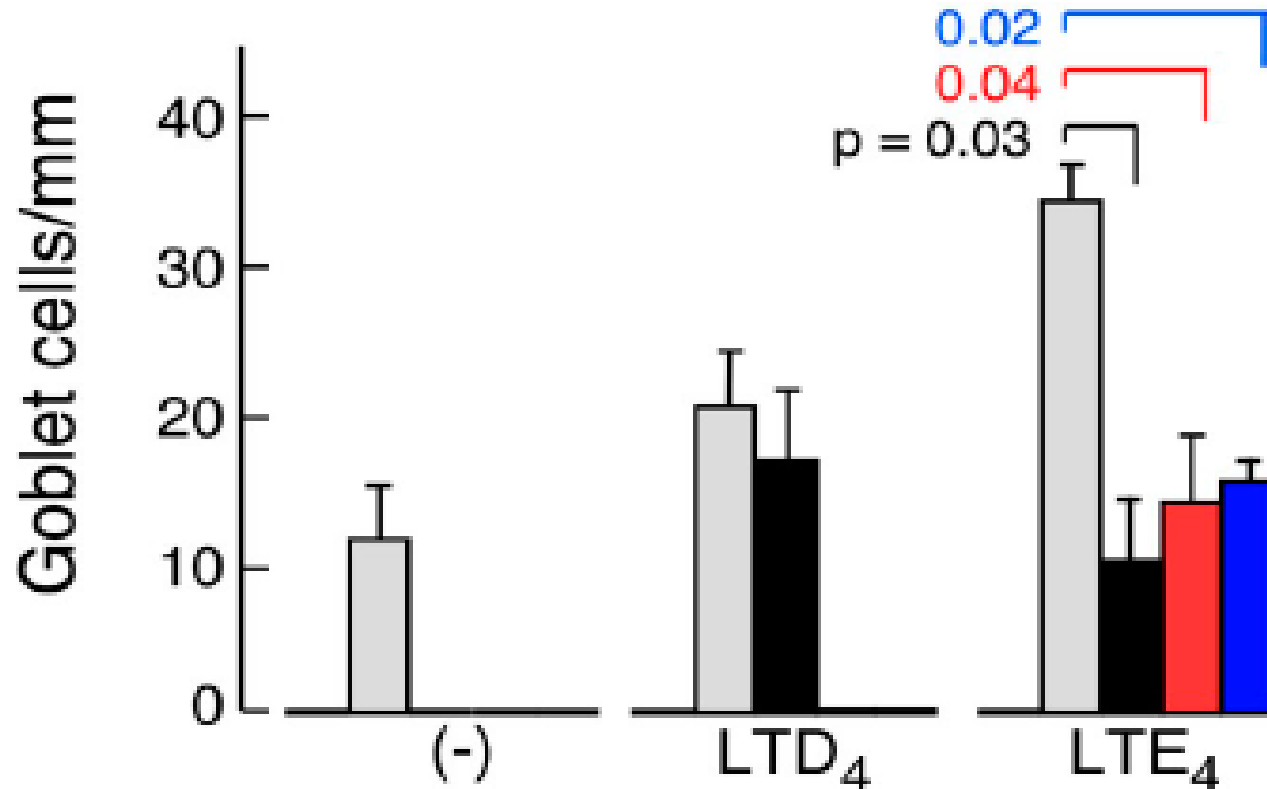




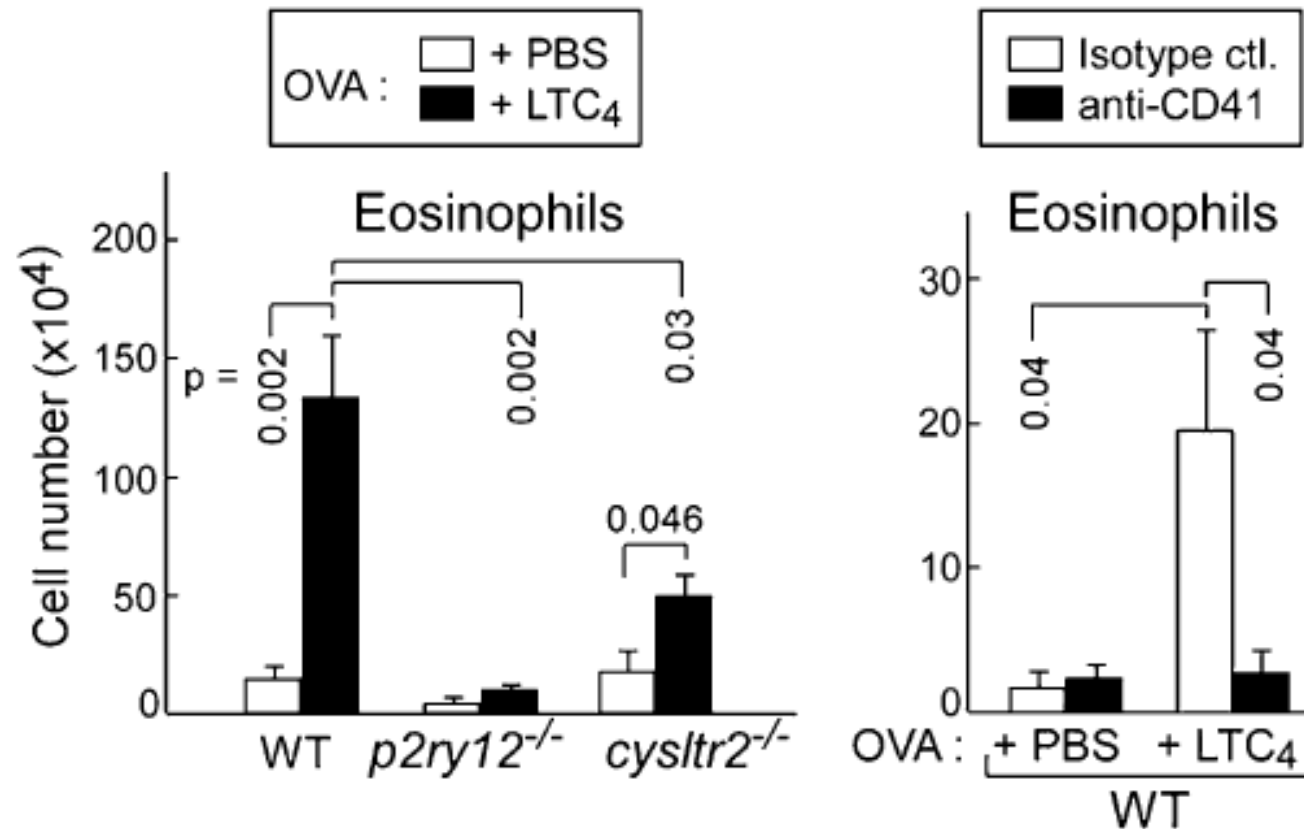
# Platelet P2Y<sub>12</sub> dependence of the LTE<sub>4</sub> effect on bronchial inflammation



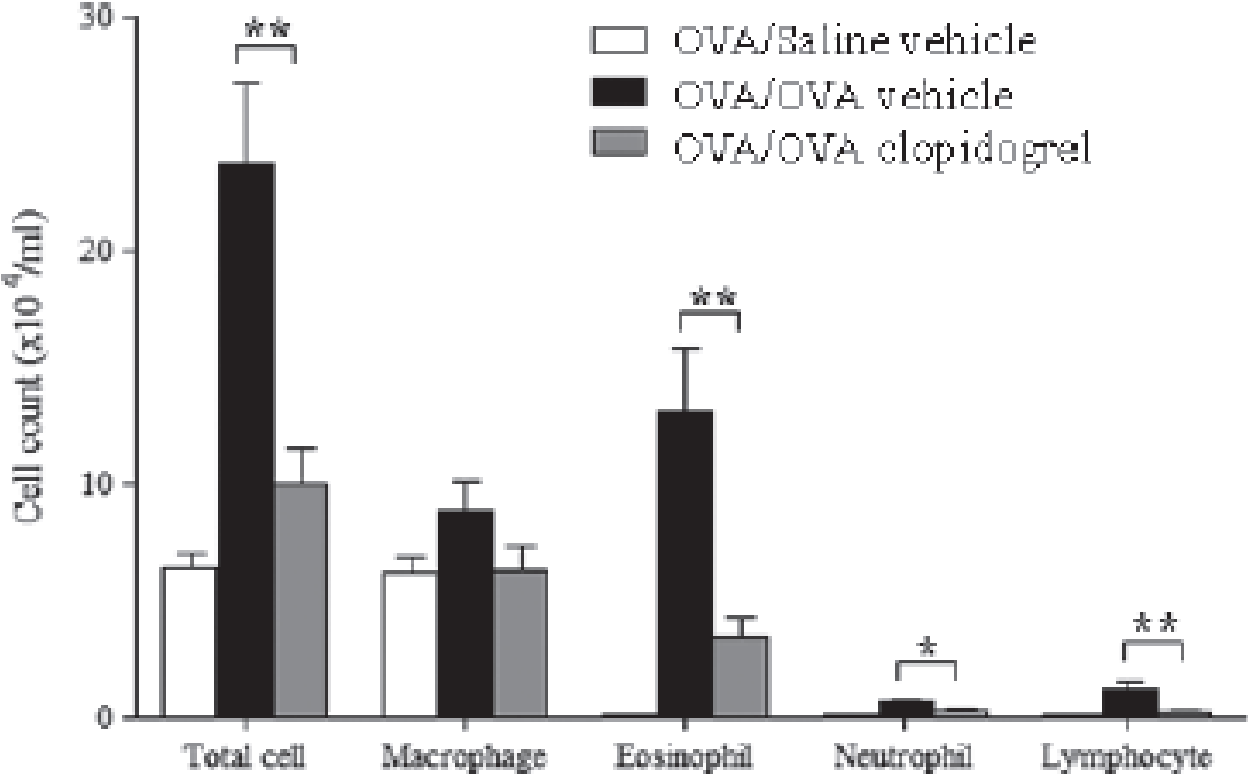
# Platelet P2Y<sub>12</sub> dependence of the LTE<sub>4</sub> effect on goblet cell metaplasia



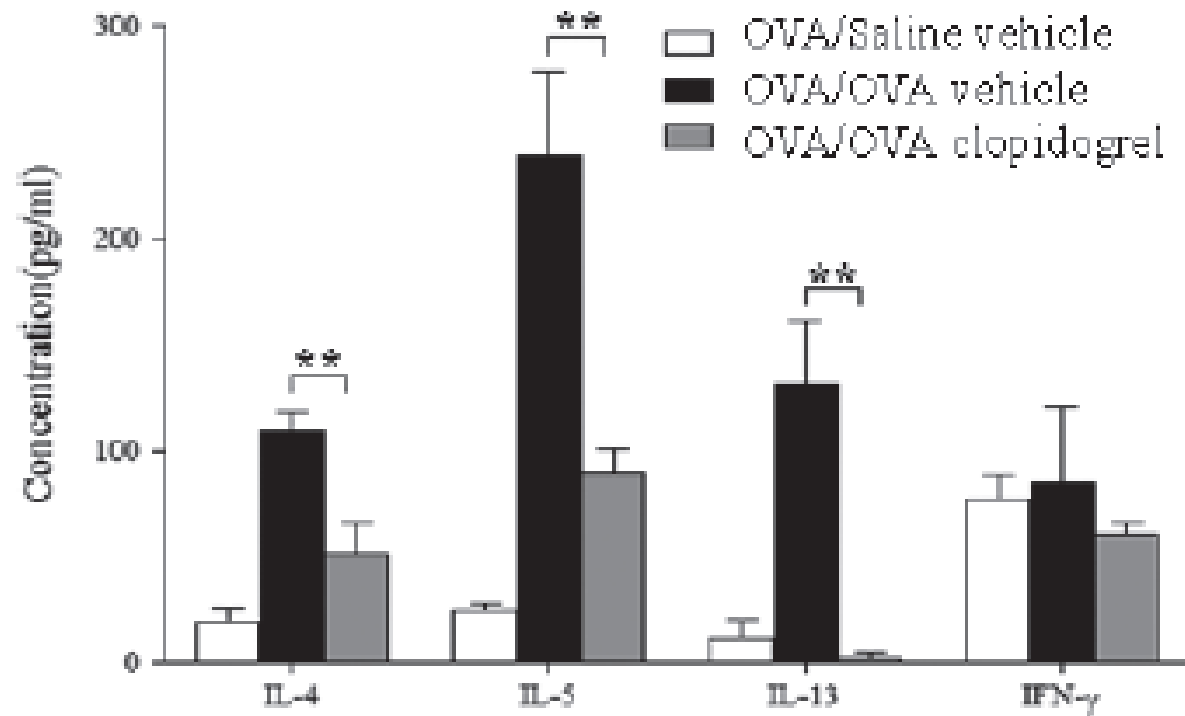
LTC<sub>4</sub> amplifies allergen-induced pulmonary eosinophil recruitment in a platelet, CysLT<sub>2</sub>R and P2Y<sub>12</sub>-dependent manner



# Effect of clopidogrel treatment in a mouse model of asthma

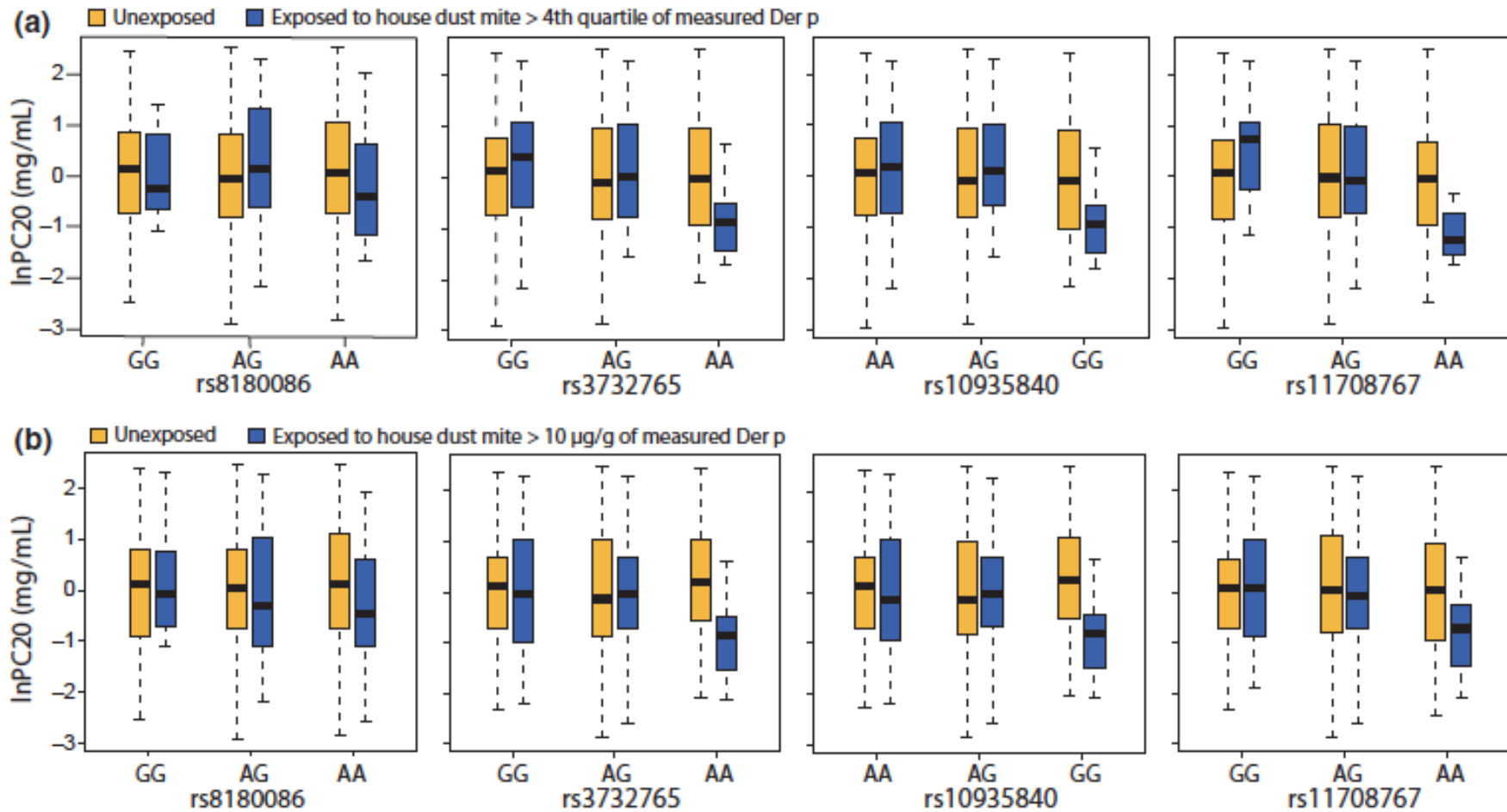


# Effect of clopidogrel treatment in a mouse model of asthma



And in humans?

# Relationship between P2Y<sub>12</sub> single nucleotide polymorphisms and airways responsiveness stratified by house dust mite exposure in children with bronchial asthma



# QUESTION

Does the inhibition of P2Y<sub>12</sub> decrease bronchial hyper-reactivity in patients with allergic bronchial asthma?



**BRIEF REPORT**

## Effect of prasugrel in patients with asthma: results of PRINA, a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, cross-over study

F. LUSSANA,\*† F. DI MARCO,‡ S. TERRANEO,‡ M. PARATI,‡ C. RAZZARI,\* M. SCAVONE,\*  
E. A. FEMIA,\* A. MORO,§ S. CENTANNI‡ and M. CATTANEO\*

\*Divisione di Medicina Generale III, Ospedale San Paolo, Dipartimento di Scienze della Salute, Università degli Studi di Milano, Milan;

†Divisione di Ematologia, Azienda Ospedaliera Papa Giovanni XXIII, Bergamo; ‡Divisione di Pneumologia, Ospedale San Paolo, Dipartimento

di Scienze della Salute, Università degli Studi di Milano; and §U.O.C. di Anatomia Patologica, Ospedale San Paolo, Dipartimento di Scienze della Salute, Università degli Studi di Milano, Milan, Italy

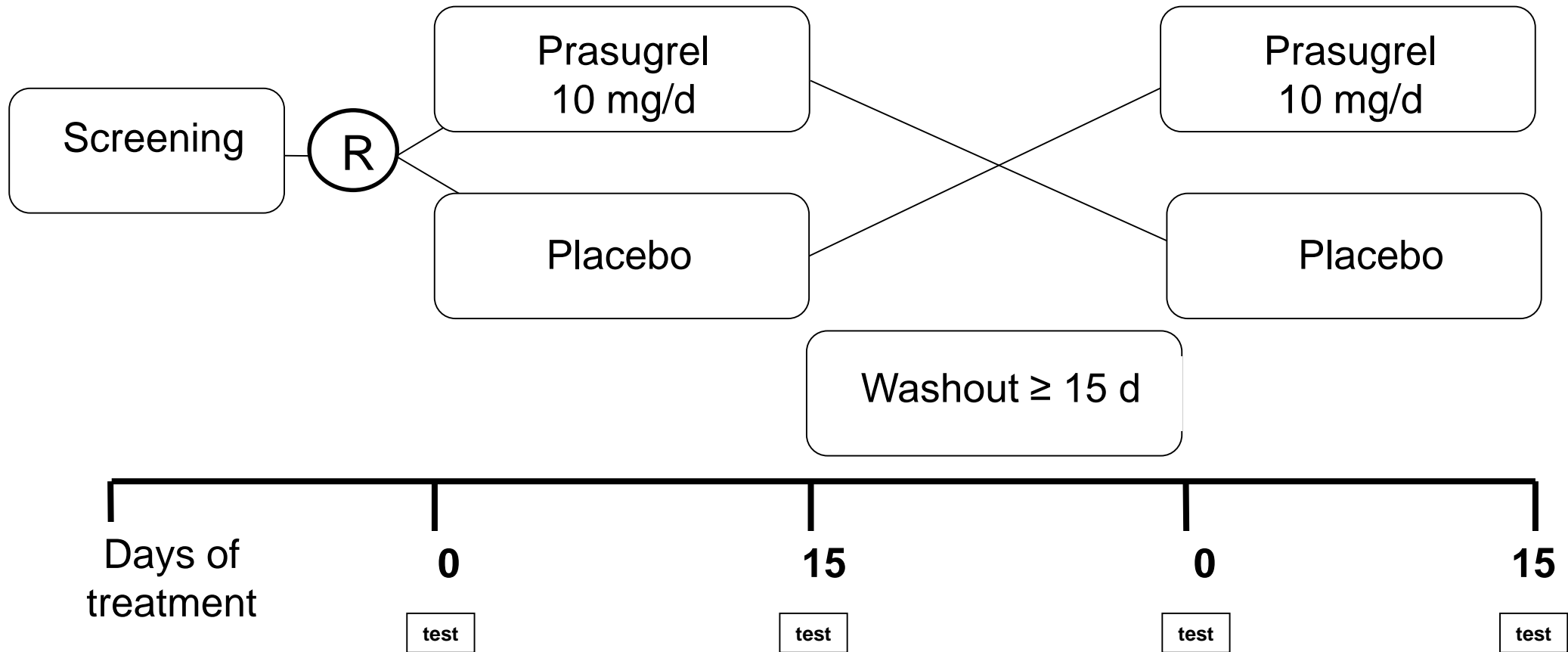
Unrestricted grant by Eli Lilly and Daiichi Sankyo

# Aim of the study

- The primary objective of this “proof of concept” study was to test whether or not the inhibition of the platelet P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor by prasugrel reduces the bronchial hyper-reactivity in patients with chronic asthma

# Study design

double-blind, placebo-controlled, cross-over study



# Inclusion criteria

- Patients with **chronic allergic asthma**, diagnosed based on the occurrence of episodic wheezing, chest tightness and/or dyspnoea and objectively confirmed according to standard criteria, such as methacholine airway hyper-responsiveness (PC20 FEV1 < 16mg/ml) and positivity of skin test to common allergens (prick test)
- **Positivity of bronchial challenge testing with mannitol**
- Age range of **18-74 years**
- Duration of **asthma >1 year**
- **Mild and stable asthma without chronic medication**, except for the use of inhaled low dose of steroids or the use of inhaled beta2-agonist on demand
- Written informed consent

# Patients

---

Gender, women/men	11/15
Age, mean $\pm$ SD (y)	43 $\pm$ 13
Number of dropouts *	2

---

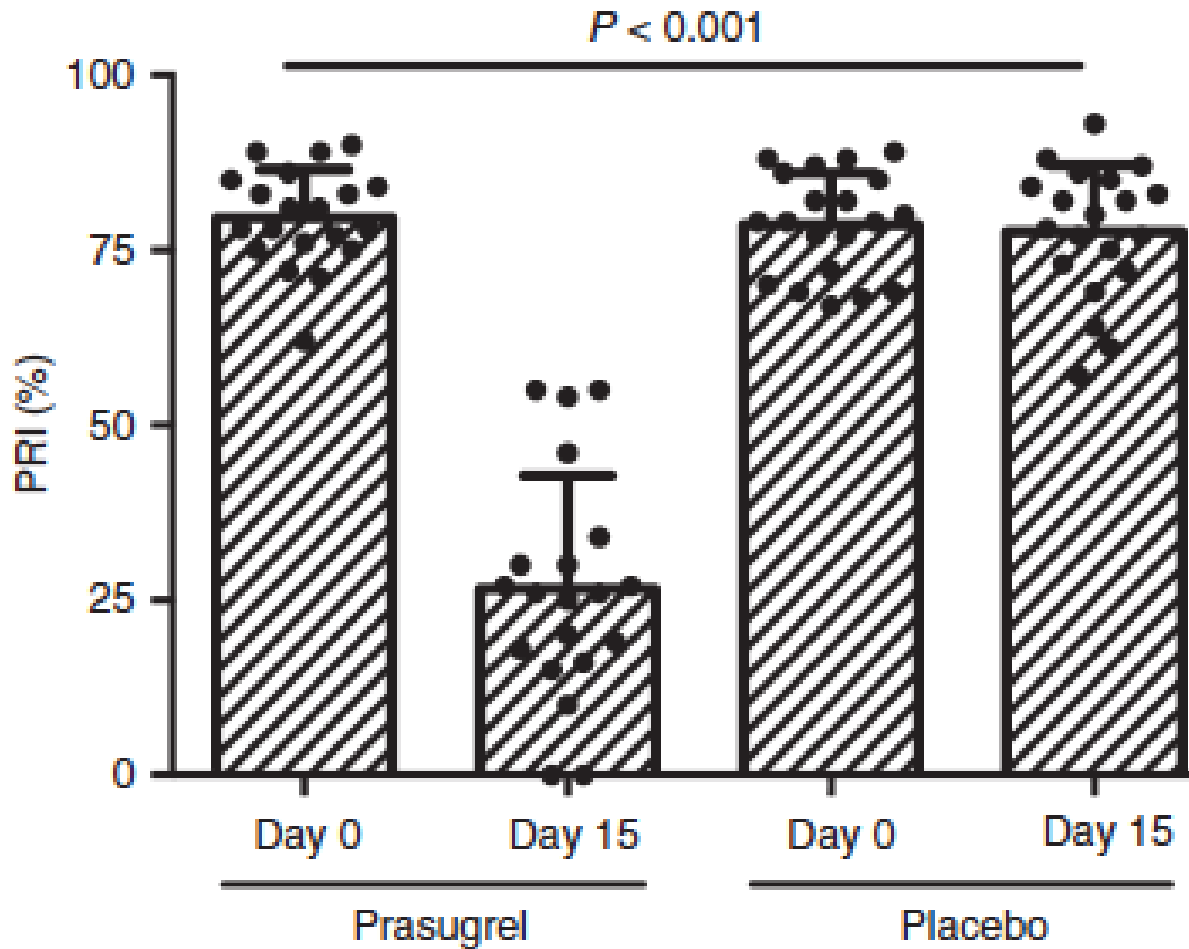
\* due to asthma exacerbation: 1 during placebo treatment, 1 during prasugrel treatment

# Methods

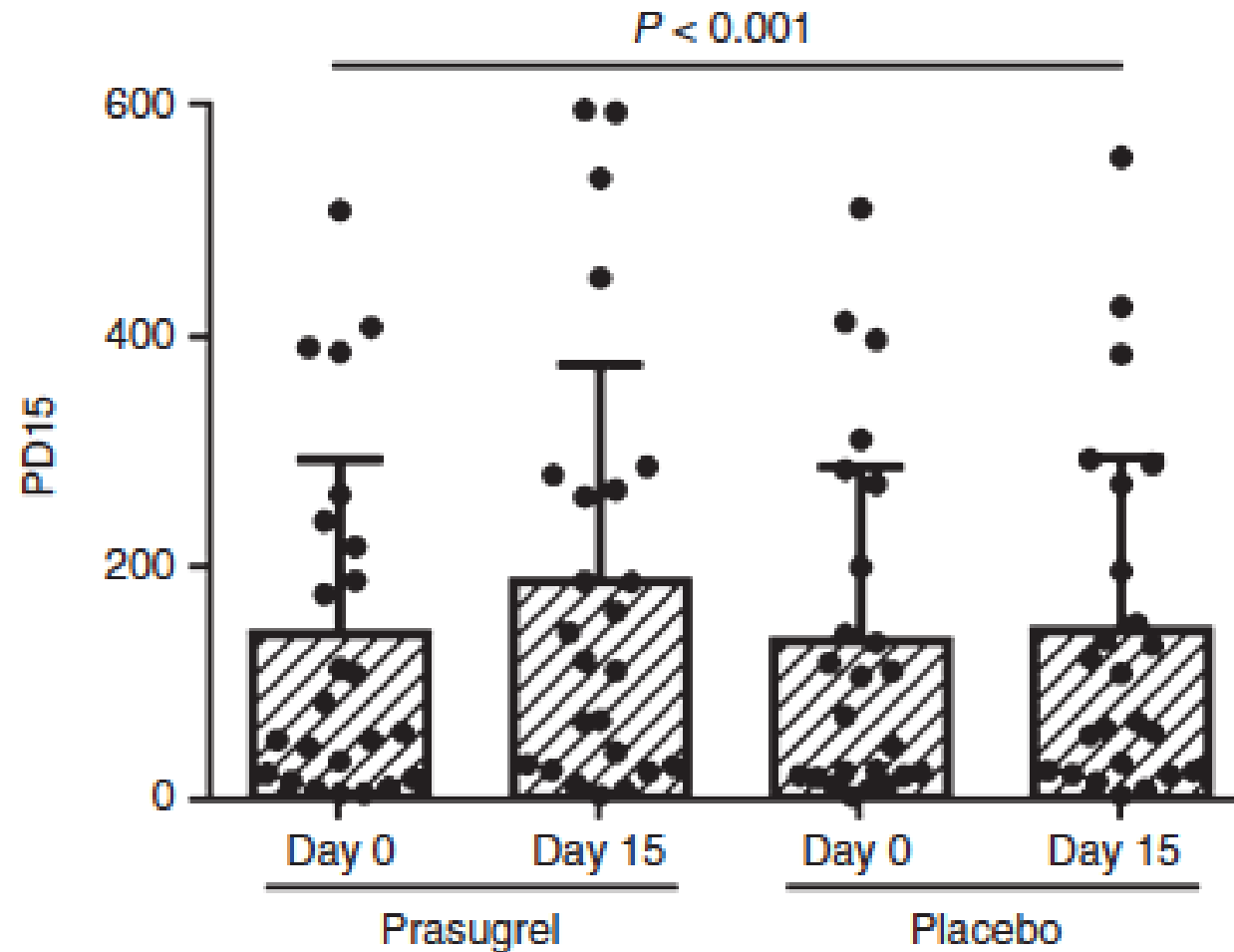
## Mannitol bronchial challenge test

- Airway hyperresponsiveness was measured by bronchial provocation with dry powder mannitol (Osmohale™)
- The test was terminated when the fall in forced expiratory volume in 1-s (FEV1) reached at least 15% of baseline or after a cumulative mannitol dose of 635 mg.
- The provocative dose of mannitol causing a 15% or greater fall in FEV1 (PD15) was calculated by linear interpolation.

# VASP-P on day 14 of treatment with placebo or prasugrel in patients with allergic bronchial asthma



# PD15 before and after 14 days treatment with placebo or prasugrel in patients with allergic bronchial asthma





# Conclusion

1. Our proof-of-concept study suggests that inhibition of the (platelet) P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor by prasugrel may be clinically useful in the treatment of patients with chronic allergica asthma
2. This hypothesis should now be tested in randomized controlled clinical trials, using clinical end-points

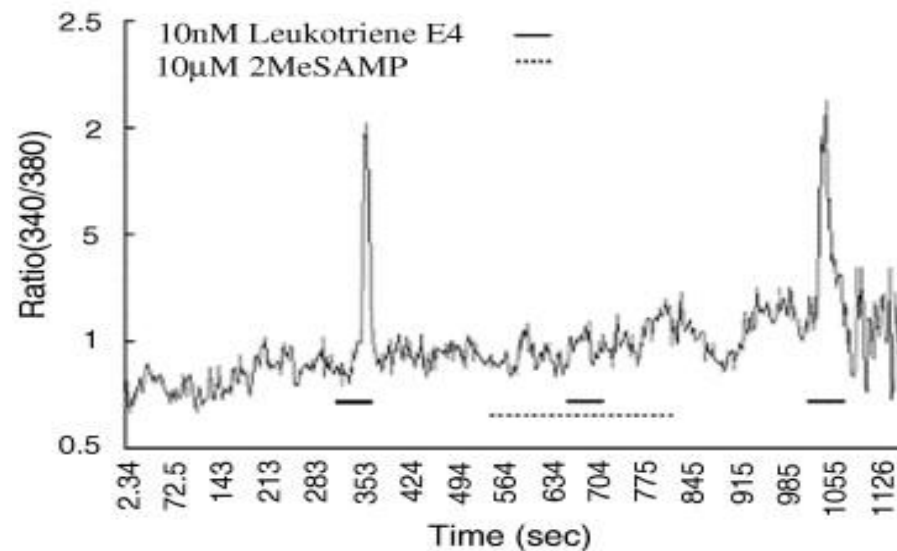
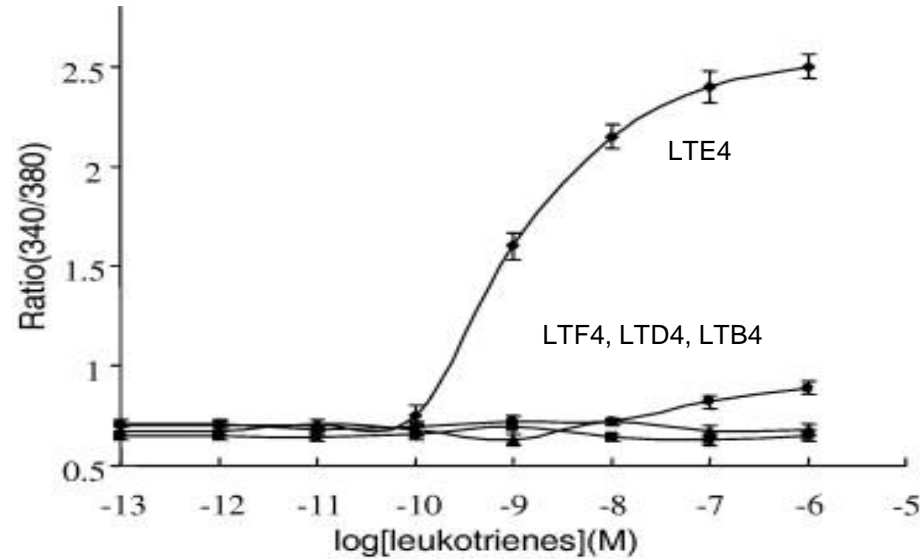
# Receptors for cys-LT

- Two G protein–coupled receptors for cys-LTs, termed type 1 and type 2 cys-LT receptors (CysLT1R and CysLT2R), have been cloned and characterized, which share 38% aminoacid identity
- Each of them is 24–32% identical to the purinergic (P2Y) class of GPCRs, suggesting a phylogenetic relationship between these two GPCR classes

# How many receptors for LTE4?

- Among the 3 Cys-LTs, only LTE4 is stable and abundant in vivo
- Although LTE4 shows negligible activity at CysLT1R and CysLT2R, it is a powerful inducer of mucosal eosinophilia and airway hyper-responsiveness in humans with asthma
- The existence of an additional cys-LT receptor with a preference for LTE4 has long been suspected

# Dose-response curves for leukotriene-evoked $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ increases via the expressed hP2Y<sub>12</sub>-hG<sub>16</sub>α fusion proteins



## Reports:

### Identification of GPR99 Protein as a Potential Third Cysteinyl Leukotriene Receptor with a Preference for Leukotriene E<sub>4</sub> Ligand

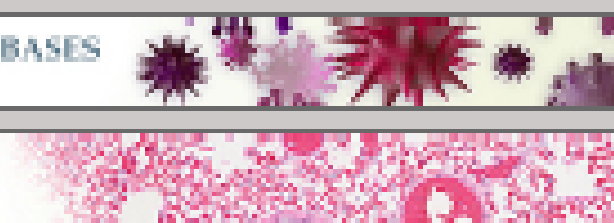
Yoshihide Kanaoka, Akiko Maekawa and K. Frank Austen

*J. Biol. Chem.* 2013, 288:10967-10972.

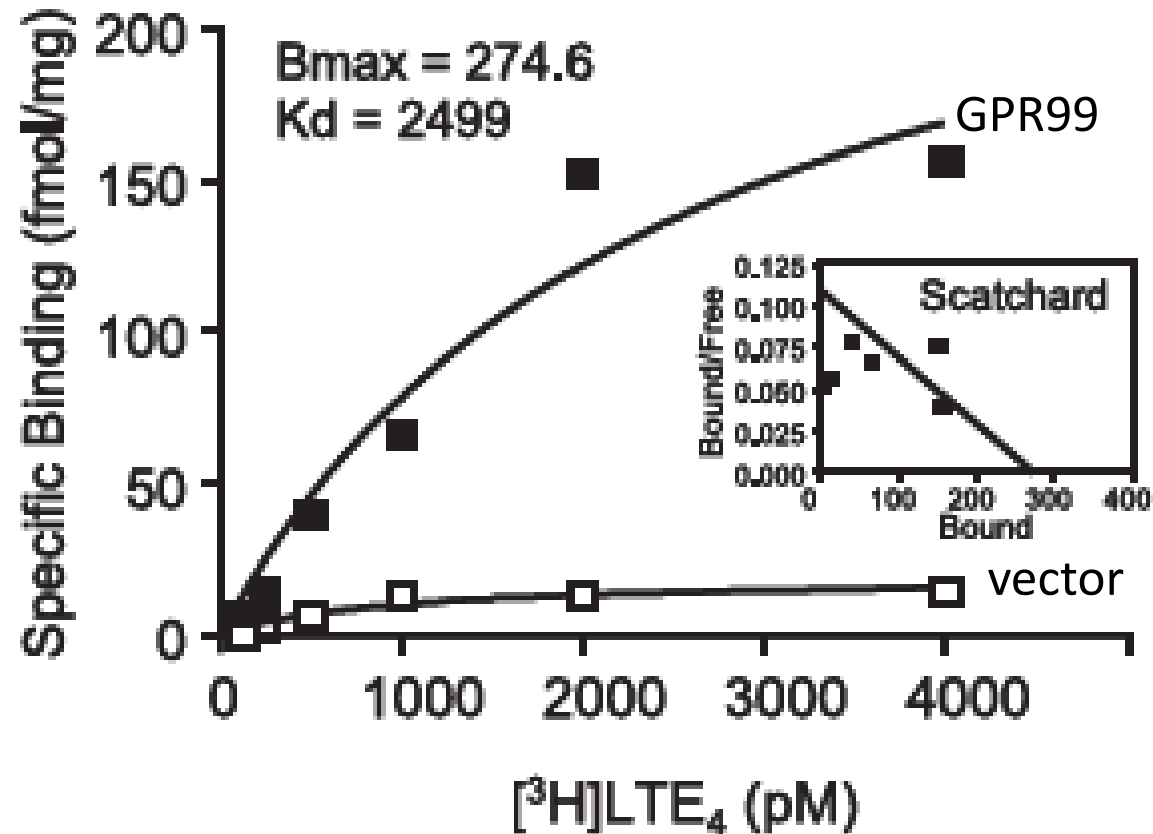
doi: 10.1074/jbc.C113.453704 originally published online March 15, 2013

MOLECULAR BASES  
OF DISEASE

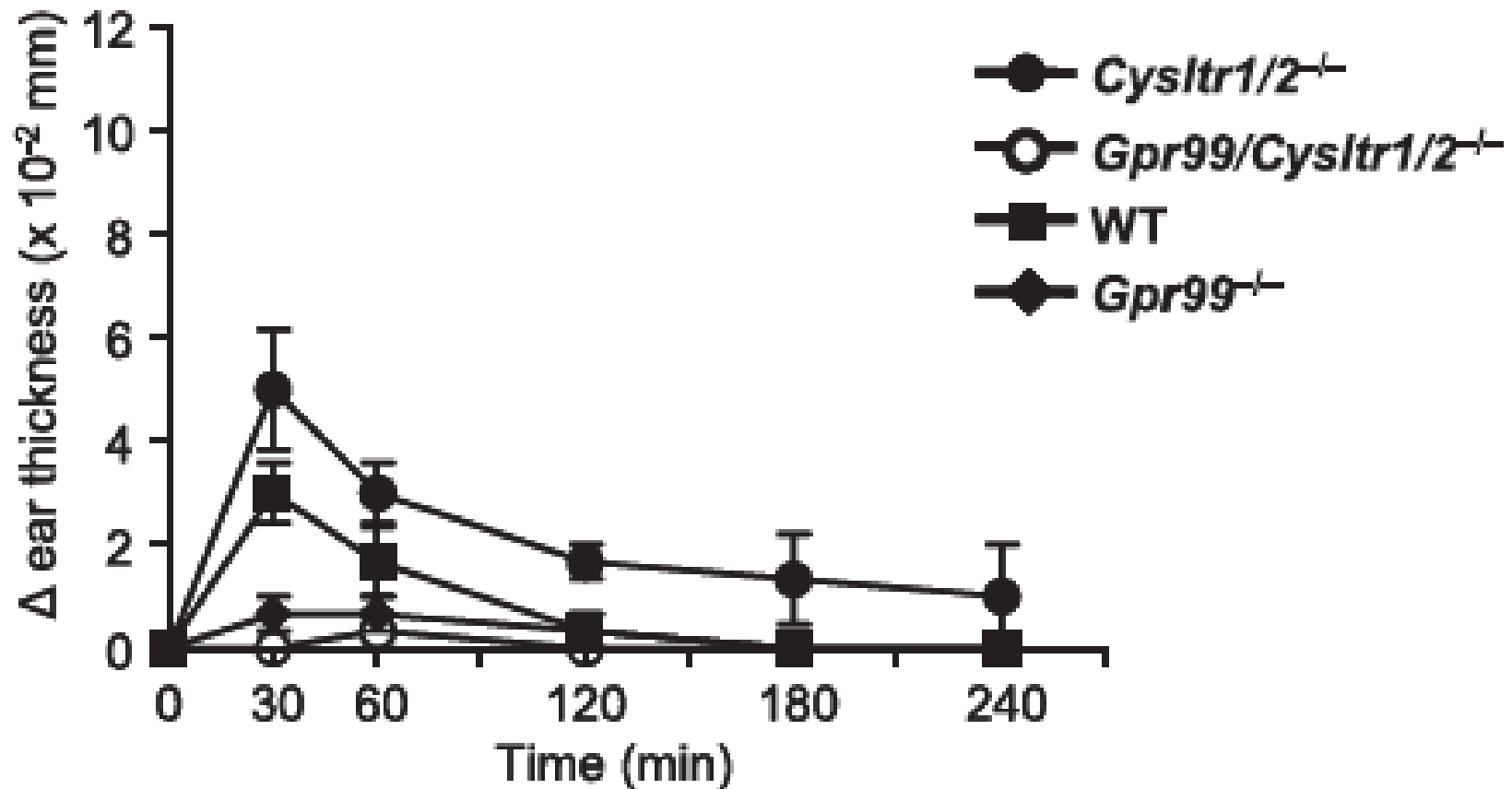
LIPIDS



# Binding of [<sup>3</sup>H]LTE<sub>4</sub> to microsomal membrane proteins from GPR99 and vector control transfectants



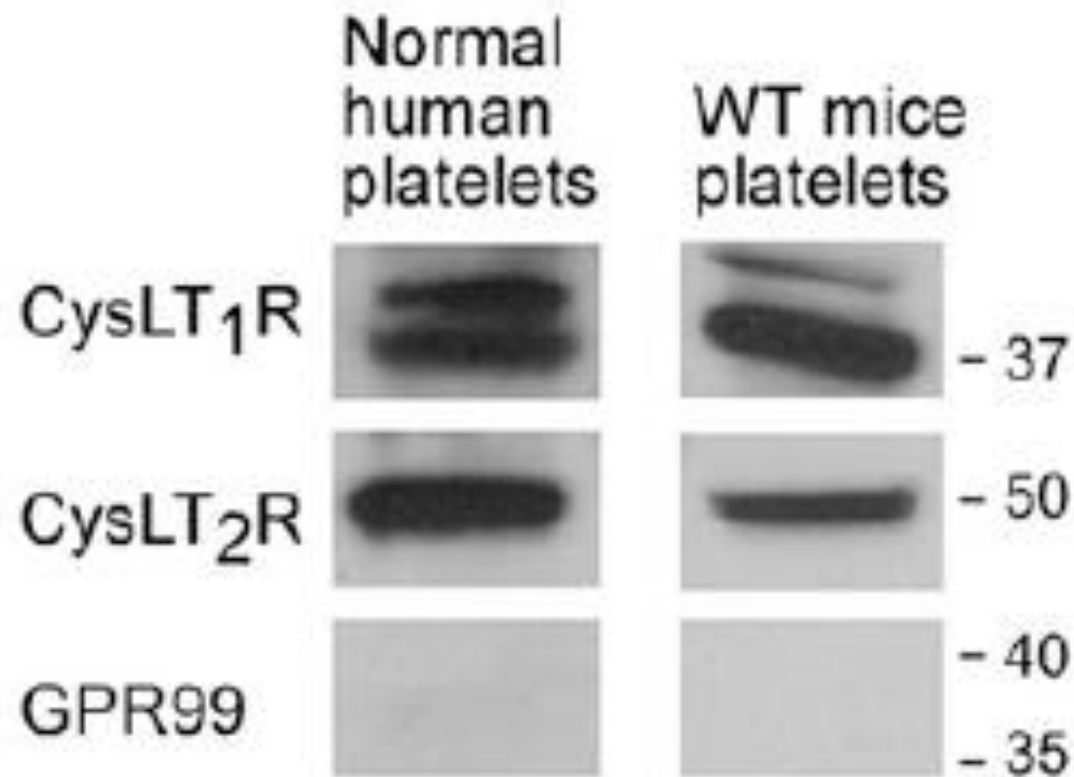
# Effect of subcutaneous injection of LTE<sub>4</sub> on ear edema in mice



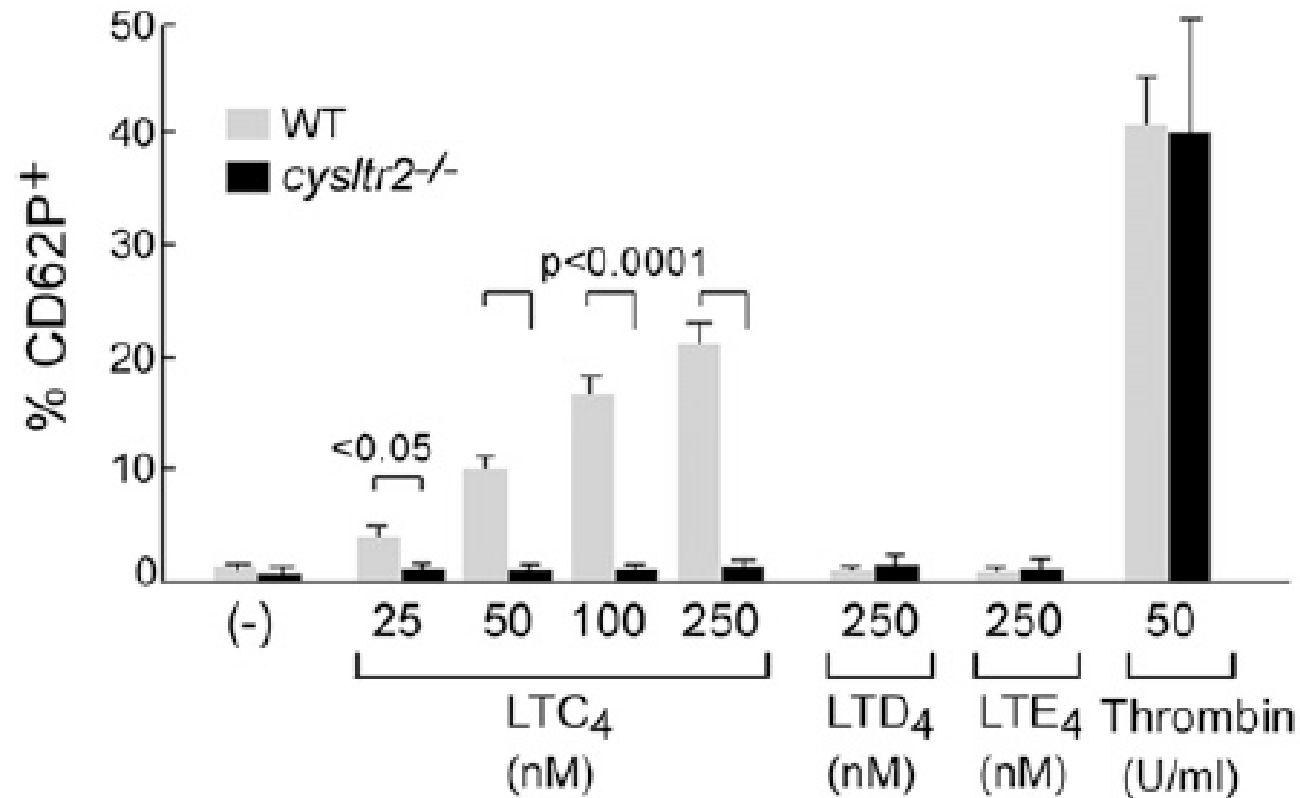
What receptors for cysLTs are expressed on platelets?

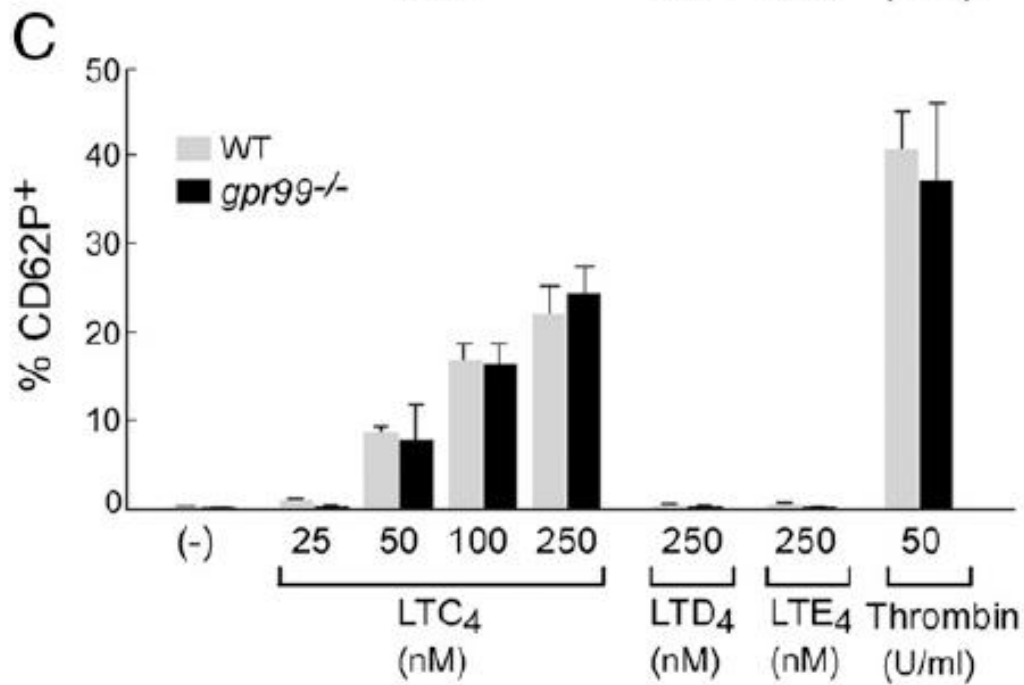
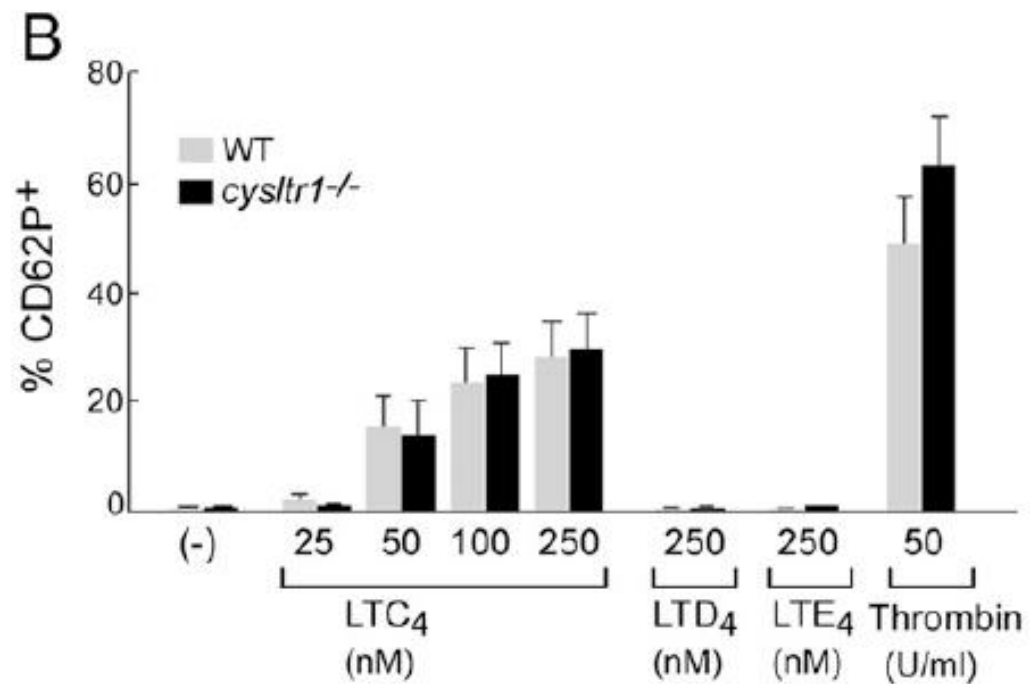
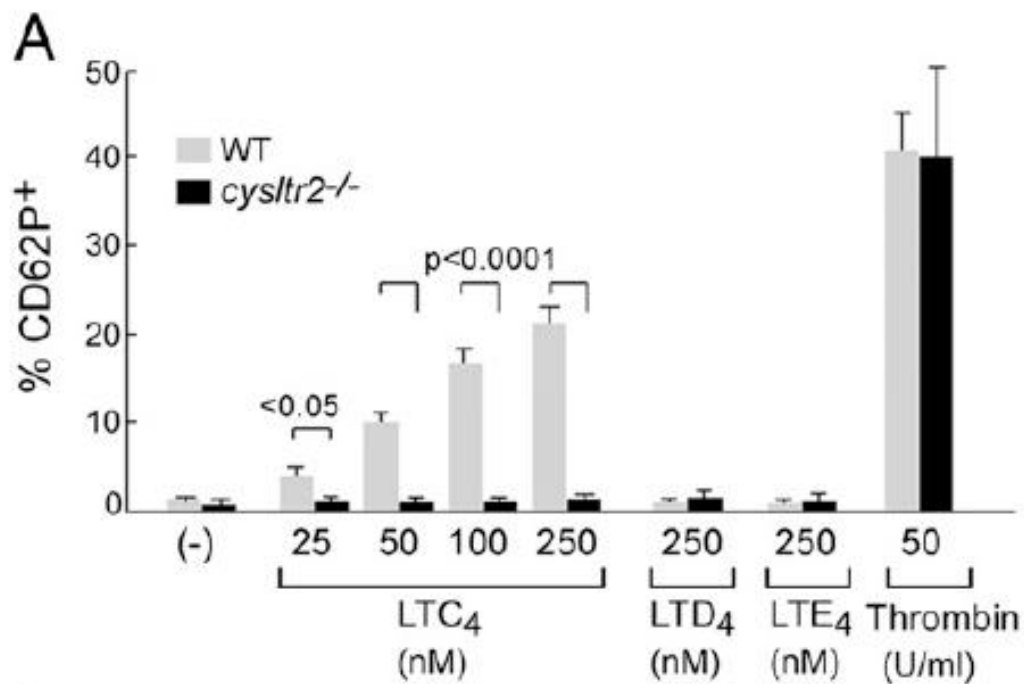


Human and mouse platelets express CysLT<sub>1</sub>R and CysLT<sub>2</sub>R but not GPR99



# CysLT<sub>2</sub>R is involved in LTC<sub>4</sub>-induced mouse platelet activation





CysLT<sub>2</sub>R is involved in LTC<sub>4</sub> –induced mouse platelet activation

# General Conclusion

- Platelets play a role in the pathogenesis of allergic asthma
- Platelet released ADP and P2Y receptors are involved (P2Y1 and P2Y12?)
- Prasugrel slightly decreased bronchial hyper-responsiveness in a prove-of-concept RCT
- CysLT do not activate human platelets directly, but likely through ADP secretion by cells other than platelets (?)

# Ringraziamenti

- V. Caroppo, C. Cheng, E.A. Femia, F. Lussana, C. Razzari, M. Scavone
- S. Centanni, F. Di Marco, M. Parati, S. Terraneo  
*(Unità di Pneumologia, ASST SS Paolo e Carlo, Università degli Studi di Milano)*
- **A. Moro** *(Unità di Anatomia Patologica, ASST SS Paolo e Carlo, Università degli Studi di Milano)*